

# Virginia Scholastic Chess Association 2012 Annual Report

**Mailing address:**

Virginia Scholastic Chess Association (VSCA)

P.O. Box 29901

Richmond, VA 23242

**Email:** [president@vschess.org](mailto:president@vschess.org)

**Website:** <http://www.vschess.org/>

## I. Letter from the President

Overview: 2012 has been another superb year in the VSCA and I wish to thank the members of the Board and our Officers for their volunteer spirit! This is our first full year of activity following the unfortunate passing of VSCA co-founder, Peter Hopkins in August 2011. To honor Peter, we have been holding one tournament each year in his memory, and for the past two years that tournament has been held at Hopewell.

Financial Status: Financially, the organization continues to be in good shape. However, with that said I note that our “bottom line” has been decreasing steadily for the past two years. This is largely the result of “facilities fees” now being charged to us at almost every event we organize. Those fees typically have ranged from \$200 - \$300 per event. While we have, so far, been able to maintain our tournament entrance fees to \$7 for early entry, and \$14 for late entry, I can foresee a time, possibly for school year 2013 - 2014, where we will need to increase our entry fees to keep the organization financially sound and able to carry out its mission. Even if we went to \$10 and \$15 for early and late entry we would still be considerably less expensive than other organizations in the state offering one-day scholastic tournaments. We keep our entry fees low because our tournament staff is 100% all-volunteer, a “tradition” started by Peter Hopkins and one we do not intend to change! For most any tournament we organize, the only fees we have are the site fees, trophies/awards, event supplies (computer paper and ink, game result slips, pencils, and score sheets), and USCF Rating Fees.

Support to Chess: We also continue our practice of donating chess sets and boards to local schools starting their own clubs. In 2012 we donated about 50 sets, with the most recent being 20 sets/boards to Mike Callaham for his use in kick-starting the inner-city chess programs at several schools in the Richmond City School District. For 2013 it is my vision to expand our support to include more assistance to players/families wishing to attend

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major scholastic events such as the USCF's fall and spring national-level scholastic tournaments.

Elections: In December 2012 we held our annual Membership Meeting and elections as part of the Hopkins Memorial Tournament at Hopewell. The results of our elections are shown in Section III of this annual report. Four of our eight Board members are new to the board. It's always good to have "new blood" in the organization because it makes for a more vibrant network of ideas.

Special Thanks: I want to recognize three individuals in particular, whose volunteer spirit rises to the top in our organization. First, Bart Mebane, who has been the backbone of our tournament staff for many years. Bart provides our "backroom tournament services" by creating the pairings for each round of a tournament and taking payments during tournaments, as well as, providing all of the support for our [www.vschess.org](http://www.vschess.org) web site and online registration capabilities. Bart also pulls together our periodic *VSCA Newsletter*. Second, I want to thank Gopal Bhagavatula for his services as our Treasurer. His expertise in "watching the books" is deeply appreciated. Last, but certainly not least, I want to recognize the coaching and initiative of Mike Callahan. Mike began 2012 by reviewing games with players at local tournaments and has grown that work into a program where he frequently accepts invitations from local schools to provide chess instruction. We have received several "notes of thanks" from local schools, from Richmond to Virginia Beach, thanking VSCA for Mike's work. Mike also is the force behind the inner-city chess program now starting at several Richmond schools, something I forecast will grow wildly in 2012 and 2013.

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## II. 2012 Financial Statement

### Assets - Cash

Date	Bank Stmt Balance
January 1, 2012	\$10,831.81
December 31, 2012	\$8,107.48
Net change	\$(2,724.33)

### Cash Flow

Earnings/Expenses	Amount
1. Tournament Receipts	\$6,706.00
2. Maintenance Fees	\$(2,099.28)
3. Memberships/Rating Fees @ tournaments	\$(1,148.00)
4. Tournament supplies	\$(4,294.73)
5. Tournament maintenance fees	\$(1,888.32)
Total	\$(2,724.33)

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## III. VSCA governing and executive structure

### Board of Directors

Srini Aiyer, Henrico County

Gopal Bhagavatula, Chesterfield County

Ram Dasari, Chesterfield County

Venkat Guruvelli, Henrico County

Mike Hoffpauir, York County

Bart Mebane, Middlesex County

Christine Morales, Hampton

David Mueller, Chesterfield County

Christina Schweiss, Virginia Beach

### Officers

President: Mike Hoffpauir, York County

Vice President: Kate Brown, Henrico County

Secretary: Mike Callahan, Henrico County

Treasurer: Gopal Bhagavatula, Chesterfield County