

MENSA DIPLOMACY SIG NEWS

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1. Nine people voted on the proposed By-laws. Most of the points were approved either unanimously or by a wide margin. "Diplomensa" was selected as the choice for the name of our SIG by a vote of 7-1, with one write-in. This will be our official name from now on. Some very good proposals were made to improve the document. A final version of the By-laws with these additions and corrections is attached for your files. Please vote "Yes" or "No" on the document as a whole.
2. We are also simultaneously calling for nominations for the offices of Chairman and two Committee members. Please send your nominations to Joe Antosiak, who has volunteered as Election Commissioner, no later than August 21, 1974. Joe will then run the election. His address is: 422 East Ave., LaGrange, Ill. 60525.
3. The second Mensa game in CLAW & FANG has now received its Boardman Number; 1974 CV. (Let's think up a meaning for those initials).
4. Scott Hightower, 3118 Lamar Dr., Lexington, Ky. 40502, has volunteered to GM the next Diplomensa SIG game. I am suggesting to Scott that he organize the game around the SIG members who are not currently engaged as players in either of the Mensa games now in progress. That is, priority should be given to those people not actually holding a position, although they may be otherwise involved as stand-bys or GM's. (We're still expecting to pick up a few more new members). If there are less than seven people interested from among this group, the third game can then be filled with other members of the SIG.
5. We received a good plug for the SIG in MC², the Mensa Canada national magazine. This has already resulted in two Canadian M's joining us, with the prospect of more to come.
6. Other Mensa GM Game Openings: Scott Hightower is also interested in getting players for a Space Variant he's planning to run in his new 'zine. You can get the details from him. Positions in non-Mensa regular Diplomacy games are available from Don Horton in his CLAW & FANG. Stand-bys in variant games "Atlantica" and "1885" are needed by Fred Davis in BUSHWACKER.
7. One member asked why we were limiting the holding of office in our SIG to U.S. and Canadian players. The reasons are:
 - a. Our credentials to form a SIG come from American Mensa, Ltd. We do not have international recognition.
 - b. There is already a British Mensa Diplomacy SIG. The British Mensa game is running in Mick Bullock's 1901 AND ALL THAT. We will be glad to coordinate with Mick. He's getting copies of most of this material, anyway.
 - c. We would have difficulty ascertaining whether anyone from outside the U.S. and Canada is a bona fide Mensan. It can be done by requesting photocopies of membership cards. We are not preventing Overseas players from playing in our Mensa SIG games; we're just saying that there is a British Mensa SIG and an American Mensa SIG, with Canada in association with the latter.
 - d. As a practical matter, International games require four-week deadlines. CLAW & FANG runs on 2½ week deadlines, and most other American 'zines have 3-week deadlines. While my BUSHWACKER has 4-week deadlines, I run only variant games, and never more than 3 games at one time. Therefore, we do not contemplate any great rush of Overseas Mensans to join our SIG. But, we repeat, they are welcome to join as members.

Fred Davis
Fred Davis, Acting Chairman