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**Postal Rates Going Up Again**

**By Rocky Ramsey**

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## Postal Rates Going Up Again

Other articles by Rocky Ramsey are available online  
at <http://www.MoviesMoneyandMore.com/>

Thanks,

Rock

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Postal Rates Going Up Again  
By Rocky Ramsey

The Postmaster General wants to raise the cost of a first-class

stamp by at least 4 cents. Thankfully he doesn't want to do it until 2006, but by then he'll probably want more.

The constant raising of stamp prices causes a vicious circle. The post office raises stamp prices, people find ways to communicate without sending mail, the post office's budget goes down and they have to raise prices again. Then the whole thing starts over again.

I don't know about you, but I hardly ever mail anything anymore. I've even cut down the number of times I go to the post office to 2 or 3 times a week. About the only thing I get in the mail is bills now anyway. Who's in a hurry to see them?

Instead of mailing checks to pay bills, I have as many as I can paid through my savings account or automatically with a credit card. It saves me time and money.

Most of the stamps I use are on SASEs (Self-Addressed Stamped Envelopes) that I include with scripts I send to agents. When I receive the SASE back, I know it's bad news. I know this because if it was good news, they would've called me to tell me about my six-figure advance on my script sale, they wouldn't have sent me a letter.

I put an article (<http://MoviesMoneyandMore.com/HighHopes.html>) I wrote about a phone call I received from a production company on my website if you'd like to read it. This is closer to what I would hope would happen, but ... well, just read it for yourself.

## Postal Rates Going Up Again

If you've never gotten a rejection letter from an agent, you don't know what a treat it is. Here's an example of what to expect:

Dear No-Talent Hack,

I usually have to read at least 30 pages before I get disgusted with a script. In your case, it only took 5. I would thank you for saving me time, if those 5 pages hadn't been so dreadful to read.

Have you considered reading a book on screenwriting?

Not knowing what else to do with it, I tried to line my birdcage with your screenplay, but it was so bad my parrot didn't even want to crap on it. In the end I had to send your script to the dump where this awful thing belongs.

Have a nice day,

Pompous Agent

Okay, so maybe I exaggerated a little. Rejection letters from agents are rarely this nice.

It just seems that 41 cents to get a letter like this is too much.

The US Postal Service website is located here: [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

Rocky Ramsey publishes Movies, Money and More, A humorous site featuring movie reviews, entertainment news, save/make money and more. You don't know what you're missing if you don't take a look. <http://www.MoviesMoneyandMore.com>

### **Correspondence E-mail or Postal Chess**

**By Michael Kanehl**

### **Correspondence E-mail or Postal Chess by Michael Kanehl**

Correspondence Chess or E-mail Chess might be for you if can't spend a lot of time playing without interruptions because you also have a life

E-mail chess is an evolution from the postal chess which was very popular in the late 19th century. Both can be catogarized under the term Correspondance Chess

## Postal Rates Going Up Again

Unlike postal chess where time is measured in days, online e-mail messages can be delivered almost instantaneously

Correspondence chess allows people or clubs geographically distant to play one another without meeting in person. The length of a game played by correspondence can vary depending on the method used to transmit the moves – a game played via server or by e-mail might last no more than a few months, but a game played by post between players in different countries might last several years.

Correspondence chess differs from over-the-board play in several respects. While in OTB chess only one game is played at a time (the exception being in a simultaneous exhibition), in correspondence chess several games are usually played at once. All games in a tournament are played concurrently, and some players may have more than a hundred games continuing at the same time

The time limits in correspondence play are usually between 30 and 60 days for every 10 moves. This allows for far deeper calculation, meaning that blunders are very rare. The use of any kind of assistance including chess databases and chess programs is allowed, although many hobby players voluntarily do without them

The international governing body of correspondence chess is the International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) which organises postal and e-mail events. There are numerous national and regional bodies for postal chess, as well as a number of organisations devoted to organising e-mail play (such as the International Email Chess Group (IECG) and International E-mail Chess Club (IECC)).

Discover all aspects of chess at <http://www.art-of-chess.com>



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