

October 14, 2025

**SUBJECT: Minutes of US Chess Federation Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 14, 2025**

1. **Purpose.** This document captures the minutes of the Executive Board (EB) Meeting held on the subject date. This meeting was held via Zoom. All times listed are ET.

2. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** President Kevin Pryor called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM. Executive Director (ED) Ranae Bartlett recorded the Open Sessions of the meeting. President Pryor called the roll, and the following board members were present, unless indicated otherwise:

1. Kevin Pryor (FL), President
2. John Fernandez (MO), Vice President (VP) absent
3. Daniel Serna (NM), Vice President for Finance (VPF)
4. John Rockefeller (MD), Secretary
5. Leila D'Aquin (LA), Member-at-Large
6. Anand Dommalapati (VA), Member-at-Large
7. David (Dave) Hater (GA), Member-at-Large
8. Lakshmana (Vish) Viswanath (TX), Member-at-Large absent
9. Ranae Bartlett, Executive Director
10. Francisco (Franc) Guadalupe, Interim Executive Director

3. **Conflicts of Interest.** No new conflicts of interest were reported.

4. **September, 2025 Finance Meeting—Vice President of Finance Daniel Serna's Notes**

- First time in many years that Q1 was a positive number for revenue.
- Both revenue and expenses are coming in under budget YTD. We're running leaner, but we have room for improvement.
- Cash equivalents over the last 6 months have decreased. We're breaking even for expenses, but spending on large projects is depleting the Reserve Fund.
- We have \$67,000 in our rainy day fund after recent payment to Leago.
- We have a lot riding on Grade Nationals in Spokane, WA for positive cash flow numbers for Q2.
- There are concerns of rising IT costs, which are far exceeding our budgeted IT costs for the year. This needs to be reviewed ASAP to ensure that we are not overspending, as this will directly affect our fiscal year positive revenue.
- Our FIDE travel costs are also another area of concern. We have far exceeded our budgeted FIDE travel costs and stipends. We need to keep an eye on this as we continue to make decisions on future FIDE events.

5. **Motions.**

The Executive Board made 7 motions:

1. **EB26–029** The Executive Board moves to update and approve the attached resolution and assignment of the Bank of America account ownership and related matters for the US Chess Federation by revising the signatories to its accounts with Bank of America as follows: Francisco Guadalupe, Korey Kormick, Kevin Pryor, and Daniel Serna as new signatories.

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

2. **EB26–030** The Executive Board moves to update and approve the attached resolution and assignment of the Regions account ownership and related matters for the US Chess Federation by revising the signatories to its accounts with Regions as follows: Christine Green, Francisco Guadalupe, and Korey Kormick as new signatories.

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

3. **EB26–031** The Executive Board moves to suspend the minor’s US Chess membership for 6 months, effective October 14, 2025, for violations of Section III (Prohibited Conduct), subparagraphs D. (Harassment) and E. (Emotional Misconduct) of the *US Chess Safe Play Policy*, followed by 1 year of probation. During the period of probation, if the minor has an incident in which the minor harasses or intimidates any US Chess member in connection with a US Chess sanctioned event, rated or unrated, then the Executive Board might remove the probation and impose additional sanctions. The minor has 30 days to appeal the suspension.

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

4. **EB26–032** The Executive Board moves to ban Kelly Blouet from entering any tournament hall connected with a US Chess sanctioned event, rated or unrated, for 6 months, effective October 14, 2025, for violations of Section III (Prohibited Conduct), subparagraph B. (Bullying) of the *US Chess Safe Play Policy*, followed by 12 months of probation. During the probation, if Kelly Blouet were to violate the *US Chess Safe Play Policy*, then the Executive Board might remove the probation and prohibit Kelly Blouet from entering any tournament hall connected with a US Chess sanctioned event, rated or unrated, for at least 12 months, beginning the date the Executive Board were to vote to remove the probation. This decision by the Executive Board to impose the ban and probation on Kelly Blouet is final and may not be appealed.

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

5. **EB26–033** The Executive Board moves to revoke permanently the US chess membership of Robert M Snyder (ID # 10462738).

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

6. **EB26–034** Cesar Bercilla Tamondong Jr. (ID # 12439091) filed an appeal by letter requesting that his 6-month suspension be reduced to a 5-month suspension. The Executive Board met on October 14, 2025, and considered the appeal and reasons provided by letter from Mr. Tamondong. Upon consideration, the Executive Board moves to deny the appeal of Cesar Tamondong, and its original decision to suspend Tamondong’s membership for 6 months stands; however, the effective date is now October 14, 2025.

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

Committee List

7. **EB26–035** The Executive Board moves to accept the revised Committee List, as uploaded, with these changes:

Additions

Scholastic

- Mike Hoffpauir (Scholastic Council)

Subtractions

Scholastic

- Dewain Barber

PASSED 6-0. Absent: John Fernandez & Vish Viswanath.

8. **Adjourn.** With no further business to conduct, the Executive Board voted to adjourn at 10:47 PM.

John D. Rockefeller V
Secretary
US Chess Executive Board