

# 2011 Delegates' Call

Delegates' Workshops & Meetings

AUGUST 3-7 | HYATT REGENCY | ORLANDO, FLORIDA



# 2011 U. S. Open Schedule

JULY 30 - AUGUST 7

	SATURDAY, JULY 30	SUNDAY, JULY 31	MONDAY, AUGUST 1	TUESDAY, AUGUST 2
10:00 AM	Weekend Swiss Rd. 1 other rounds 1 pm, 3:30 pm, 7:30 pm			
11:00 AM				Barber K-8 Tournament of State Champions, Rd. 6 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior, Rd. 6 Denker Tournament of High School Champions, Rd. 6
12:00 NOON		Barber K-8 Tournament of State Champions, Rd. 2 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior, Rd. 2 Denker Tournament of High School Champions, Rd. 2	Barber K-8 Tournament of State Champions, Rd. 4 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior, Rd. 4 Denker Tournament of College Champions, Rd. 4	
4:00 PM	Denker/Barber Opening Ceremonies			Denker/Barber Award Ceremony
7:00 PM	Denker Tournament of High School Champions, Rd. 1 Barber K-8 Tournament of State Champions, Rd. 1 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior, Rd. 1 U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Rd. 1	Barber K-8 Tournament of State Champions, Rd. 3 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior, Rd. 3 Denker Tournament of College Champions, Rd. 3 U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Rd. 2	Barber K-8 Tournament of State Champions, Rd. 5 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior, Rd. 5 Denker Tournament of High School Champions, Rd. 5 U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Rd. 3	U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Rd. 1 U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Rd. 4

	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3	THURSDAY, AUGUST 4	FRIDAY, AUGUST 5
EARLY AM		Golf Tournament	
9:00 AM	Denker and Barber Committee Meeting FIDE Trainer's Seminar Fischer Random Lecture	FIDE Trainer's Seminar Executive Board Meeting (closed)	WORKSHOP: Bylaws/GTF
10:00 AM	WORKSHOP: College Chess	Executive Board Meeting (open)	U.S. Open 4-day Schedule, Rd. 4
12 NOON	U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Rd. 2	U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Rd. 4	U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Rd. 6
12:30 PM			
1:00 PM	WORKSHOPS: Outreach, Women's Chess	WORKSHOPS: Chess Trust, Rules Workshop, Chess in Education U.S. Open 4-day Schedule, Rd. 1	U.S. Open 4-day Schedule, Rd. 5 WORKSHOP: Finance/LMA Committee
2:00 PM	WORKSHOP: States		WORKSHOP: Clubs Committee
3:00 PM	WORKSHOPS: TDCC, Scholastic Committee	WORKSHOP: USCF Legal	WORKSHOP: Publications/CJA
3:30 PM			U.S. Open 4-day Schedule, Rd. 6
4:00 PM	WORKSHOPS: TDCC/Problem Solving	WORKSHOPS: Ratings Committee, International Affairs U.S. Open 4-day Schedule, Rd. 2	Staff Forum & Membership Meeting
5:30 PM			Executive Board Reception
7:00 PM	U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Rd. 3 U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Rd. 5	U.S. Open, Traditional Schedule Rd. 6 U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Rd. 5 U.S. Open 4-day Schedule, Rd. 3	U.S. Open, Rd. 7 All three Schedules merged.

	SATURDAY, AUGUST 6	SUNDAY, AUGUST 7
9:00 AM	Delegates' Meeting	Delegates' Meeting
12 NOON	USCF Awards Luncheon	
2:00 PM	Delegates' Meeting resumes	
3:00 PM		U.S. Open, Rd. 9 Executive Board Meeting (open)
6:00 PM		Executive Board Meeting (closed)
7:00 PM	U.S. Open, Rd. 8	

# 2011 Delegates' Call

AUGUST 6-7 | HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO | ORLANDO, FLORIDA

## Executive Board

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## Mission Statement

*USCF is a not-for-profit membership organization devoted to extending the role of chess in American society. USCF promotes the study and knowledge of the game of chess, for its own sake as an art and enjoyment, but also as a means for the improvement of society. It informs, educates, and fosters the development of players (professional and amateur) and potential players. It encourages the development of a network of institutions devoted to enhancing the growth of chess, from local clubs to state and regional associations, and it promotes chess in American society. To these ends, USCF offers a monthly magazine, as well as targeted publications to its members and others. It supervises the organization of the U.S. Chess Championship, an open tournament held every summer, and other national events. It offers a wide range of books and services to its members and others at prices consistent with the benefits of its members. USCF serves as the governing body for chess in the United States and as a participant in international chess organizations and projects. It is structured to ensure effective democratic procedures in accord with its bylaws and laws of the state of Illinois.*

# President's Report

## Jim Berry, USCF President

Your USCF provides chess tournament opportunities that run the full gamut. We have a 15% increase in TLAs from year to year. We have top teams, both women's and men's, traveling throughout the world. Our scholastic teams have never been larger or more active as they compete successfully around the globe.

In the world-ranking's, the USA's GM Hikaru Nakamura is rated #8 and GM Gata Kamsky is #18. On the women's side, IM Anna Zatonskih is #7 and IM Irina Krush is #28. GM Robert Hess is #15 in the junior rankings.

In 2008 in Tulsa, GM Yuri Shulman told me that the main purpose of every national chess federation in the world should be to provide a national championship each year for the top players. Here in the USA, the St. Louis Chess Club has stepped forward in 2009, 2010, 2011 and next year 2012 as sponsor for our U.S. National Championship—Thank You St. Louis.

Last year I said we were 18 months from being lawyer-fee debt free, and by April 2012 your USCF is scheduled to pay off our last of the lawyer fees incurred during our defense of the infamous frivolous lawsuit.

The Executive Board (EB) is made up of a wide array of USCF members. They come from coast to coast and are united by their love of the game. Their leadership allows everyone to benefit from playing chess. We meet four times a year to discuss issues and make plans for progress.

Our pursuit of IRS code 501(c)3 status is progressing so more sponsorships can be available. The advance delegate motions that the 170 delegates will face in Orlando are very crucial for the near future. The ruling body of the USCF for a non-profit Illinois entity needs to be smaller than 170 and maybe larger than 7. Let's talk about these issues at workshops in Orlando and at the Delegate's meeting in August.

Recently the elected USCF EB members have actually been completing their terms of office for the first time in many, many, years. It has been a pleasure to be president these past two years. Since becoming president, I have played 97 rated games at weekend tournaments and two U.S. Opens. I play these games in order to make new friends and greet old friends. I know our next president will continue to marshal USCF's assets constructively.

I thank out-going USCF VP of Finance Randy Bauer for his time, dedication and valuable leadership—but we are all replaceable and new blood is the lifeline of a healthy EB.

Working with Executive Director Bill Hall, *Chess Life* Editor Dan Lucas, and omnipresent Mike Nolan make all our tasks easier.

Your EB is VP Ruth Haring, Mike Atkins, Secretary Mike Nietman, Gary Walters and Bill Goichberg, myself, Randy Bauer and Bill Hall (non-voting). Come visit us at the EB reception during the U.S. Open.

Thank you everyone for your trust in us.

# New Membership Options

PREMIUM AND REGULAR USCF MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

## PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP

PRINTED COPY of *Chess Life* (monthly)  
or *Chess Life for Kids* (bimonthly) plus all  
other benefits of regular membership.

OR

## REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Online-only access to *Chess Life* or *Chess Life for Kids*; TLA Newsletter will be mailed to you  
(adults: bimonthly, scholastic: 3 per year)

### WHAT YOU GET AS A REGULAR USCF MEMBER:

The right to play in USCF-sanctioned tournaments  
and be assigned an official rating

Access to member-only content  
on [uschess.org](http://uschess.org), including our USCF  
forum discussion group. (9)

Online access to *Chess Life* & *Chess Life for Kids*.

### WHAT YOU GET AS A PREMIUM USCF MEMBER:

All of the above plus a printed copy of  
*Chess Life* or *Chess Life for Kids*!



## PREMIUM USCF MEMBERSHIP RATES

CATEGORY	1 YEAR	2 YEAR	3 YEAR
ADULT (PAID ONLINE)	\$42	\$78	\$113
ADULT (PAID MAIL/PHONE)	\$49	\$85	\$120
SCHOLASTIC (1) (6 ISSUES <i>CL4K</i> )	\$23	\$42	\$60
YOUTH (2) (6 ISSUES <i>CL</i> )	\$27	\$49	\$70
YOUNG ADULT (3)	\$32	\$59	\$85

## REGULAR USCF MEMBERSHIP RATES

CATEGORY	1 YEAR	2 YEAR	3 YEAR
ADULT (PAID ONLINE)	\$34	\$63	\$91
ADULT (PAID MAIL/PHONE)	\$41	\$70	\$98
SCHOLASTIC (1)	\$16	\$28	\$39
YOUTH (2)	\$20	\$36	\$51
YOUNG ADULT (3)	\$24	\$43	\$61

## OTHER USCF MEMBERSHIP RATES

CATEGORY	1 YEAR	2 YEAR	3 YEAR	4 YEAR
SUSTAINING (4, 8) (started prior to 2003)	\$95	\$190	\$285	\$380
SUSTAINING (4, 8) (started after 2002)	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$480
SENIOR (5) (paid online)	\$36	\$65	\$93	N/A
SENIOR (5) (paid by mail or phone)	\$43	\$72	\$100	N/A
FAMILY PLAN 1 (6)	\$70	N/A	N/A	N/A
FAMILY PLAN 2 (7)	\$44	N/A	N/A	N/A
SENIOR LIFE (5, 8)	\$750	(one time charge)		
LIFE (8)	\$1,500	(one time charge)		
BENEFACTOR (8, 10)	\$3,000	(one time charge)		
BENEFACTOR, EXISTING LIFE MEMBER (8, 10)	\$1,500	(one time charge)		

(1) 13 and under at expiration. (2) 16 and under at expiration. (3) 25 and under at expiration. (4) New sustaining memberships will not be allowed after 11/30/08. (5) 65 and over. (6) Parents and children younger than 25 at expiration living in one household with one address. (7) All younger than 25 at expiration living in one household. Both Family Plans include one monthly *Chess Life*. (8) Life and sustaining members have the option of choosing either Premium or Regular benefits. This selection may be changed at any time. USCF intends to contact these members approximately every three years to ask for confirmation of this choice. (9) Age restrictions apply. (10) Includes Life Membership, a special membership card, and recognition on a Benefactor page of our website and periodically in *Chess Life*. (\$25 foreign surcharge applies for magazine (not applicable to Canada or Mexico).

PAY ONLINE AND SAVE! See [uschess.org](http://uschess.org) for all of your membership options.

# Executive Director's Report

Bill Hall, USCF Executive Director

WHEN FACED WITH ADVERSITY, YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS: meet the challenge and become better for it, or let it destroy you. Over the last few years, the USCF has faced its share of adversity. I believe the results of this year stand to show that we as an organization are meeting those challenges and that we are all better for it. I am happy to report that we are ending the fiscal year with a surplus that is significantly higher than budgeted. I would like to thank the members of the USCF staff for all contributing to make this happen. We have accomplished this largely due to controlling expenses. With previous extraordinary expenditures, we are still digging out of a hole, but at least now we can see that we are in the process of making it out.

When we last met in Irvine, California, I said that we have to think summer when it is winter and that we have to think winter when it is summer. At that time, I said that financially we were in an early spring and that things were improving. Now we are into summer organizationally. What do animals in nature do when it is summer? They begin preparing for winter. Now that we survived a bleak winter we have to take steps to ensure that we are prepared should we find winter once again on our doorstep.

As our Vice-President of Finance pointed out, much of our survival was born on the backs of our employees. This can work for short-term survival, but is not a formula for long-term success. Similarly, we had to delay investments into computer and other infrastructure. Again, this eventually becomes a serious problem. We are now able to make some minor improvements for the employees and have begun replacing some of our computers and other systems. We have a long way to go to fully retire the ill-effects of previous lawsuits and we have to be cautious until we are completely recovered.

Continuing our progress will be a challenge. We cannot continue to make cuts without beginning to intrude on the value of the services we bring to our membership. I believe we have a perceived value problem with our membership, already. We cannot hope to grow our organization without changing this; however, at the same time, we have to do so with very limited resources. The focus here is in online services and online community building. With online play and USCF-run online leagues, I hope to see us begin to change our retention rates and build excitement about an online U.S. Chess community. Through changes to our web-

site, we can further the community experience while improving our ability to efficiently communicate with our membership. As we get this in place, we will have an advertising campaign to bring back former members and we are currently working to redesign our renewal reminder notification system to make it more efficient and effective. Also included, we are working to develop a social media strategy so that we can effectively remain a viable organization into the future.

The ability to survive by making cuts is coming to an end. Now we must begin to grow revenue in the short term with some minor dues increases and in the long term by growing our membership and other revenue streams. If we continue only by cutting, the perceived value problem will become a real value problem and we will simple lose members until there is little left. The seventy-plus year history of the USCF deserves better, our members deserve better, and chess deserves better.

In addition to online services and social media initiatives, we also are working on partnership with organizations like the Boy Scouts of America. This, coupled with other relationships, offer us a chance to expose millions of children to the opportunity to learn and play chess. I am very excited about all of the potential that we have for growth. Now we have to take advantage of those opportunities with creative approaches considering the limits on our resources.

In closing, I would like to thank Randy Bauer for his service on the Executive Board. His leadership as VP of Finance has been invaluable and his ability to work to make the Board a cohesive team has been extraordinary. You will be missed in that role. In 2007 at the Delegate's Meeting in New Jersey, I addressed the leadership speaking about how it was critical that we as an organization clean up our politics. Although a very difficult period followed, now I am pleased with how the Executive Board is able to effectively work together. A significant portion of our current successes is due to this, and I hope this will continue well into the future. Remember, many of us have differing opinions of the details of how to proceed or what is a priority, but we all come together for the common goal of furthering chess. While we debate our differences, let us not forget what unites us. If we can put the individual egos aside, we can do great things of which we can all be proud.

I look forward to seeing you in Orlando.

# VP of Finance Report

By Randy Bauer

As my term on the Executive Board and as Vice President of Finance nears an end, it is rewarding to be able to end on something of a high note: for the first time in several years, the USCF budget is balanced and, subject to audit, shows a surplus of approximately \$200,000. This can be attributed to, among other things, extraordinary austerity measures by the Executive Board, Executive Director and USCF office staff. The USCF was able to achieve this surplus while paying down nearly two-thirds of its outstanding accounts payables for legal fees associated with the now-settled lawsuits involving Susan Polgar.

To be sure, the USCF continues to face significant challenges: membership in key categories, particularly adults, continues to erode, and there is still a significant outstanding accounts payable balance. The USCF's employees have shouldered a significant financial burden—with frozen salaries, significant furloughs and erosion in employee benefits. Going forward, we have to address these issues, and the budget for the coming year does that by providing modest raises for our employees.

On the budget, the USCF continues to be able to accurately forecast key revenue categories. This has been a primary area of focus during my term as Vice President of Finance. During the recently concluded fiscal year, for example, total membership revenues were within \$2,000 of the estimate on an overall base of over \$1.6 million—a phenomenal performance based on any standard revenue estimating benchmark. Overall, revenues were about \$57,000 higher—about 2.6 percent.

The USCF has also done a reasonable job of controlling expenses—the Executive Director and the office have been able to reduce expenditures, although these have largely been accomplished through furloughs and other staff cost reductions that can probably not be maintained in the long run. As an example, the budget was based on personnel expenditures of just over \$800,000, and actual expenditures totaled just over \$797,000. All told, total operating expenses were within \$2,000 of the budgeted amount.

This year, for the first time, tournament revenues and expenses were calculated separately for purposes of the Income Statement. In this area, tournament profit was approximately \$24,000 higher than the budgeted amount. All told, the USCF total change in net assets from operations was a positive \$194,376, compared to a budgeted amount of \$102,806.

Going forward, the Executive Board recognizes the need to further stabilize finances. I believe that the budget we have recommended maintains the conservative and realistic revenue estimates from recent years. At the same time, we are building into the budget strategies that will grow revenues and reduce expenses. We believe many of the current Board and Office initiatives provide an opportunity for the USCF to grow, rather than reduce, its level of service in the future.

Without a doubt, the USCF faces significant financial challenges. That said, we appear to be moving beyond the extraordinary expenditures associated with the lawsuits of the past and the reduction in accounts payable is a reason to be more optimistic for the future. At the same time, the USCF needs to grow its top-line revenues if it is going to have a reasonable opportunity to expand its level of service and better further its mission. That is the challenge for all of us.

## VOLUNTEER EXPENSE REPORT

*Paid during the fiscal year ending May 31, 2011*

NAME	CAPACITY	TOTAL AMOUNT
MICHAEL NIETMAN	EXECUTIVE BOARD	109.03
MICHAEL ATKINS	EXECUTIVE BOARD	400.00

## LEGAL EXPENDITURES 2010-11

### SLOAN ISSUES

GIFFIN, WINNING, COHEN & BODEWES, P.C.	17,223.00
<b>TOTAL SLOAN LEGAL FEES</b>	<b>17,223.00</b>

### GOVERNANCE

GIFFIN, WINNING, COHEN & BODEWES, P.C.	8,656.17
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### MISCELLANEOUS

HIRSCH & WESTHEIMER, P.C.	272.31
RIDER, WEINER & FRANKEL, P.C.	180.00

<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS LEGAL FEES</b>	<b>452.31</b>
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**GRAND TOTAL LEGAL FEES 2010-2011** **\$26,331.48**

# U.S. Chess Trust Report

By Chairman Harold J. Winston

Your contributions to the Trust benefit American chess in many ways. The U.S. Chess Trust supports chess nationwide and is a federally tax exempt 501(c)(3) Massachusetts Trust included in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). We welcome Rex Sinquefield as a new trustee: he is a dynamic force for chess in St. Louis, which has held many national events recently. We appreciate all the contributions Shane Samole made over the years as Trust President (our number two position); he is now President Emeritus.

The big news in 2011 is that thanks to the generous support of Rex and Jeanne Sinquefield, the World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum will reopen in St. Louis in September. The public opening date is September 9, 2011; there will be a private VIP opening the night before. I visited St. Louis in the fall to discuss plans with Rex and his associates and I expect to visit again this July. I thank Shane Samole, his family, Al Lawrence and all others who helped in Miami for all the work done in running the museum there from 2001 through 2009 and also the late Sid Samole for initiating the plans for an extensive museum to showcase chess.

Our thanks to Booz Allen Hamilton for their continued enthusiastic support for the Collegiate Final Four event and for the Armed Forces Championship and to Mike Hoffpauir of the Virginia Chess Federation (VCF) and USCF College Chess Chairman Jim Stallings for keeping that donation continuing. The Trust is proud of the recent successes of U.S. players in the World Youth, as the Trust has for many years supported American players in that event.

The Trust was pleased to support the North American Youth Championship organized by trustee Beatriz Marinello. Earlier the Trust had hoped to support a USA-Iran youth match but a series of unexpected events made that not possible. Trustee Beatriz Marinello worked long and hard to make the Iran match work, with the help of Trust President Jim Eade.

This year the Trust is supporting a new event: the Dewain Barber K-8 Tournament of Champions, which was authorized by the USCF Delegates at the 2010 meeting. This will be held at the same time as the Denker tournament and also include players representing states around the nation.

The Trust is proud that our Scholar Chessplayer Program, aided by the generous assistance of Scholastic Vice President Sunil Weeramantry and his National Scholastic Chess Foundation, awarded five \$1,500 college scholarships for a total of \$7,500, based on both academic and chess achievement. Our goal continues to be to obtain a corporate sponsor. The Scholastic Council, who serve on our advisory board, are a key part of this award program. Sunil announced the 2011 winners at the National High School in Nashville, Tennessee: Chaz Daly (FL), Andrew Ng (NJ), Eigen Wang (NY), Kevin Zhang (AZ), and Andrew Shvartsman (NJ).

Our own website, [www.uschesstrust.org](http://www.uschesstrust.org), has stayed current thanks to webmaster, Dora Leticia, and our web editor, Beatriz Marinello. We have continued our online newsletter, which highlights the Trust's activities. I thank Beatriz and Dora for their hard work and also Jim Eade, Chairman of the Trust Website Committee. Online donations to the Trust can be made at [www.uschesstrust.org](http://www.uschesstrust.org). Our finances are open to the public.

The Chess Trust supports school and junior chess nationwide, by donating chess sets and boards to schools, providing some free

USCF memberships to needy students, and by backing American participants in recognized international junior and youth competitions. The Trust also contributes to the Collegiate "Final Four" and the College Tournament of Champions, as well as the Olympiad and the U.S. Blind Championship. With the generous assistance of the Denker family, now from trustee Mitchell Denker, the Trust supports the Arnold S. Denker Tournament of High School Champions. We continue to send chess sets to Americans serving in our armed forces abroad, with the help of USCF, and to cooperate with the Sets for Vets program of the New Jersey State Chess Federation (NJSCF).

All Trustees serve without compensation. Last summer I represented the Trust at the opening ceremony for the Denker Tournament of High School Champions in Irvine, California and participated in awarding the Denker prizes at the closing ceremony. In December, I visited the Pan American Intercollegiate in Milwaukee to discuss the work of the Trust.

Congratulations to our new Samford Fellowship winner, Aleksandr Lenderman of Brooklyn, New York. The Trust is also pleased to continue to administer the Schein Friedman Scholarship Program, aimed at players ages 7-17.

The Trust continues to benefit from the counsel of our Chairman Emeritus Harold Dondis of Massachusetts and of our President Jim Eade of northern California. Treasurer Leroy Dubeck of New Jersey and our Finance Committee have carefully monitored our investments in a continued difficult economic time. We benefit from the expertise of Jim Oberweis' investment company.

Our managing director, independent contractor Barbara DeMaro, solicits donations and matching grants, maintains financial records, administers the Samford Fellowship fund, processes requests for chess sets and free memberships and coordinates with our supplier, USCF, and processes donations. Barbara has successfully worked on having our donors remembering to include the Trust in their wills. This is our legacy program and new donors should contact Barbara directly. Our legacy donors include Dr. George Whatley, Stan Weglarski, Deborah Doll and Arnold Denker.

I thank President Jim Eade (N. CA), Chairman Emeritus Harold Dondis (MA), President Emeritus Shane Samole (FL), Treasurer Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Secretary Myron Lieberman (AZ), and all the other trustees and officers: Chess in Education Vice President Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Vice President Sunil Weeramantry (NY), Steve Doyle (NJ), Mitchell Denker (FL), Mark Fins (MA), Beatriz Marinello (NY), Rex Sinquefield (MO) and Joe Ippolito (NJ) for their help in the past year. The Trustees represent all sections of our nation.

Our annual meeting is open to the public. Everyone is welcome at the annual Trust meeting on Thursday afternoon August 4, 2011, at 1:00 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport Hotel in Orlando, Florida. To contact the Trust, e-mail our Managing Director Barbara DeMaro at [bduscf@aol.com](mailto:bduscf@aol.com) or e-mail me at [HJWinston@aol.com](mailto:HJWinston@aol.com). Donations should be made out to U.S. Chess Trust and can be sent to U.S. Chess Trust, P.O. Box 838, Wallkill, NY 12589, Attention: Barbara DeMaro. I will also collect donations in person at the U.S. Open and at the Delegates meeting. To make sure your full donation goes to the Trust use a check.

# USCF Executive Board (EB) Motions

## Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011

NOTE: M = Meeting, C = Conference Call, E = E-mail, I = Internet Conference, O = Objections Procedure

The 2011 Board first met in closed session on Sunday, August 8, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Irvine in Irvine, CA, at 3:30 PM and met again in open session at 6:00 PM. The two new Board members were introduced. Two motions from the closed session were read and voted in open session. They were:

**EB11-001 - Board** The Board elects the following officers:

President – Jim Berry  
Vice President – Ruth Haring  
Vice President for Finance – Randy Bauer  
Secretary – Mike Nietman (Please note: This was the only change from the 2010 EB)

**PASSED 7-0**

**EB11-002 - Board** The Board appoints the following committee liaisons and chairs:

**PASSED 7-0**

The list of committee chairs and liaisons appointed appears below as Appendix A with the intent to update it whenever there is a change during the 2010-2011 year.

THE EB voted by e-mail on August 9, 2010, to accept the names requested by the TDCC to be added to the Committee. The motion passed unanimously on August 10, 2010.

**EB11-003 - Atkins** At the request of the TDCC, Tom Langland, Ken Ballou, and Alex Relyea are added as new members of the TDCC.

**PASSED 7-0.**

The Board voted to add additional rules for Grand Prix prizes. The motion was made by Bill Goichberg by e-mail on August 15 and passed on August 17, 2010.

**EB11-004 - Goichberg** Effective with TLAs submitted by November 10, 2010, the following additional rules apply to Grand Prix tournaments:

- 1) The guaranteed first prize must be at least \$150.
- 2) No more than one prize under \$100 may count towards the Grand Prix point total.
- 3) Prizes below the maximum entry fee do not count towards the Grand Prix point total.

**PASSED 6-1 with Mike Nietman opposed.**

Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on August 24, 2010, the creation of a Committee for the new K-8 Tournament of State Champions.

**EB11-005 - Nietman** I'd like to move that we create a K-8 Tournament of State Champions Committee composed of Dewain Barber—Chair,

Ralph Bowman and Harold Winston. I suggest I be named liaison.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Mike Nietman moved the acceptance of the minutes of both the August 5 and August 8 EB Meetings by e-mail objections procedure on September 8. A minor revision was made on September 9. There were no objections and the motion passed without objection. Please note that ordinarily the 2011 Board (August 8) would not vote to accept the minutes of the 2010 Board (August 5), but since everyone on the 2010 Board is on the 2011 Board and it was done by objections procedure it is proper for this instance. Furthermore, the two new Board members did attend the August 5 meeting and therefore would be able to notice if there was a problem.

**EB11-006- Nietman** I move by the 5 day objections procedure that we accept these minutes as distributed.

**PASSED 7-0.**

The Board met on October 30-31 in Crossville, TN. The following six motions were passed at that meeting.

**EB11-007 - Board** The EB appoints a new FIDE subcommittee of Ruth Haring, Franc Guadalupe and Michael Khodarkovsky.

**PASSED 7-0.**

**EB11-008 - Board** (on recommendation of the Scholastic Council) The following is forwarded from the Scholastic Council to make a change to the National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations: The following is to replace the current regulation 12.3.1 and add 12.3.2 and 12.3.3.

12.3.1 There shall only be one year of eligibility per grade level unless one of the situations listed below applies.

12.3.2 Pre-schoolers may play as a Kindergartener and may continue to play as a Kindergartener in subsequent years until starting first grade.

12.3.3 Players who are repeating a grade in school may have a second year of eligibility in that grade if they are still age eligible for that grade.

**PASSED 7-0**

**EB11-009 - Walters** A committee be formed to address membership growth and retention. The committee will consist of all interested Executive Board members who choose to participate and selected other USCF members as appointed by the board.

**PASSED 7-0**

MOTION #	SPONSOR	DATE/METHOD	SUBJECT	DISPOSITION
EB11-001	Board	08/08/10 M	Officers Named	PASS 7-0
EB11-002	Board	08/08/10 M	Committee Chairs and Liaison Named	PASS 7-0
EB11-003	Atkins	08/10/10 E	Three new members added to the TDCC	PASS 7-0
EB11-004	Goichberg	08/17/10 E	Additional Grand Prix Prize Rules	PASS 6-1
EB11-005	Nietman	08/24/10 E	K-8 State Championship Tournament Committee	PASS 7-0
EB11-006	Nietman	09/08/10 O	Accept Minutes of August EB Meetings	PASS 7-0
EB11-007	Board	10/31/10 M	Appoint New FIDE Subcommittee	PASS 7-0
EB11-008	Board	10/31/10 M	National Scholastic Tournament Eligibility	PASS 7-0
EB11-009	Walters	10/31/10 M	Membership Growth and Retention Committee	PASS 7-0
EB11-010	Goichberg	10/31/10 M	Victory Points	PASS 7-0
EB11-011	Board	10/31/10 M	Congratulations to World Youth Team	PASS 7-0
EB11-012	Atkins	10/31/10 M	Tournament Director – Lifetime Achievement Awd	PASS 6-0-1
EB11-013	Atkins	11/06/10 O	Franc Guadalupe named FIDE Zonal President	PASS 7-0
EB11-014	Atkins	11/18/10 E	John Farrell to chair Military Chess Committee	PASS 7-0
EB11-015	Nietman	12/05/10 O	Russell Harwood to chair College Chess Comm	PASS 7-0
EB11-016	Nietman	12/05/10 O	Add Tony Rich to the Denker Committee	PASS 7-0
EB11-017	Haring	01/10/11 E	Join Protest/Appeal of FIDE VP Appointments	PASS 6-0-1
EB11-018	Bauer	01/15/11 E	PPHBF Benefit for Asa Hoffmann	PASS 7-0
EB11-019	Atkins	02/01/11 E	Add Tracey Vibbert to TDCC	PASS 7-0
EB11-020	Walters	02/05/11 C	Approve October Minutes	PASS 6-0
EB11-021	Board	02/05/11 C	Congratulate Hikaru Nakamura on his Tata Result	PASS 6-0
EB11-022	Nietman	02/05/11 C	Change in K-8 Invitational Committee Chair	PASS 5-0
EB11-023	Berry	02/07/11 E	Reduce a member's suspension from 36 to 33 mo.	FAIL 2-2-1
EB11-024	Nietman	02/15/11 E	Dewain Barber tournament of K-8 State Champions	PASS 7-0
EB11-025	Nietman	02/27/11 E	New World Youth Selection Criteria	PASS 7-0
EB11-026	Hall	04/07/11 E	Refinance USCF HQ Bldg Mtg	PASS 7-0
EB11-027	Board	04/15/11 M	Clarification on 2011 World Team Championship	PASS 6-0
EB11-028	Board	04/15/11 M	Clarification on 2011 World Team Championship	PASS 6-0
EB11-029	Bauer	04/16/11 M	Accept Minutes of February Meeting	PASS 7-0
EB11-030	Bauer	04/16/11 M	Approve Budget	PASS 7-0
EB11-031	Board	04/17/11 M	2011 Award Winners	PASS 7-0
EB11-032	Bauer	04/17/11 M	PPHBF Benefits for FM Eric Schiller	PASS 7-0
EB11-033	Nietman	04/17/11 M	Use of Communication Devices	PASS 4-3
EB11-034	Atkins	04/17/11 M	Proposed TD Certification Rule Change	PASS 7-0
EB11-035	Walters	04/26/11 E	Expansion of Governance Task Force	PASS 7-0
EB11-036	Goichberg	05/03/11 E	Add Russell Miller to US Open Committee	PASS 7-0
EB11-037	Nietman	05/15/11 E	Add Two Awards to those in Motion EB11-031	PASS 7-0
EB11-038	Atkins	05/20/11 E	National Chess Day 2011	PASS 7-0
EB11-039	Nietman	06/05/11 E	Add Clemente Rendon to College Chess Committee	PASS 7-0
EB11-040	Nietman	06/09/11 E	Approve Minutes of April, 2011 EB Meeting	PASS 7-0

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**EB11-010 - Goichberg** Effective with tournaments ending after 12/31/2010—Victory Points were previously approved but have not yet been implemented. The Board approved the amended proposal documented in an e-mail from Bill Goichberg 9/13/2010.

**PASSED 7-0**

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**EB11-011 - Board** Resolved that the USCF Executive Board congratulates Steven Zierk (CA) for winning the gold medal in the Under 18 Open section of the 2010 World Youth Championships. The Executive Board also congratulates Jeffrey Xiong (TX) for tying for first in the Under 10 Open. Jeffrey took the silver medal on tiebreaks. Congratulations also to Kayden Troff (UT) for his silver medal performance in the Under 12 Open. The Executive Board congratulates and thanks all members of the 2010 World Youth team on their outstanding performances and to our coaches for their outstanding efforts with this year's team.

**PASSED 7-0.**

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**EB11-012 - Atkins** The EB moves that an award be created for "Tournament Director—Lifetime Achievement" to be presented at the US Open.

**PASSED 6-0-1 (Bill Goichberg abstains)**

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Bill Hall moved by e-mail objections procedure on November 1, 2010, that Franc Guadalupe be named FIDE Zonal President. As there were no objections the motion passed on November 6.

**EB11-013 - Hall** I move by objections procedure that the USCF Executive Board confirm Franc Guadalupe as FIDE Zonal President for Zone 2.1.

**PASSED without objection.**

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Mike Atkins moved by e-mail on Nov. 18, 2010, to name a new Military Committee Chair per the procedure outlined below. It passed on Nov. 19, 2010. He noted that the current procedure for the Military Committee Chair is for the organizer of the next U.S. Armed Forces Open Championship to be the chair until the tournament is over. Lt. Col. Doug Taffinder was the chair for the Air Force sponsored tournament at Andrews AFB last month. It is now the Marines turn to organize and John Farrell (Delegate from Virginia) is the Marine organizer.

**EB11-014 - Atkins** I move that John Farrell be named Military Chess Committee chair until the next USAFO is complete.

**PASSED 7-0.**

**Please note: Appendix A has been modified to reflect this change.**

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The College Chess Committee normally picks its own chair and the EB confirms that selection. Mike Nietman moved by objections procedure on 12/01/10 to confirm the College Chess Committee's selection of Russell Harwood. There were no objections and the motion passed on 12/05/10.

**EB11-015- Nietman** I move by objections procedure that the USCF Executive Board confirm Russell Harwood (TX) as the new College Chess Committee Chair.

**PASSED 7-0. Please note: Appendix A has been modified to reflect this change.**

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Committee Chair Dewain Barber requested that Tony Rich be added to the Denker Committee. Mike Nietman moved to do so by objections procedure on 12/01/10. There were no objections and the motion passed on 12/05/10.

**EB11-016 - Nietman** I move by objections procedure that the USCF Executive Board add Tony Rich to the Denker Committee.

**PASSED 7-0.**

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On the final day of the 2010 Khanty-Mansiysk FIDE Congress, FIDE President, Mr. Ilyumzhinov appointed five Vice Presidents in violation of FIDE Statue, Article 9.6 and FIDE Electoral Regulations.

Ruth Haring moved by e-mail on January 04, 2011, to join the appeal of the appointment of five Vice Presidents by FIDE. The motion passed on January 05, 2011. She provides the following background. The text of the letter of appeal is shown below as Appendix C.

BACKGROUND: On October 25, 2010 a protest letter was sent to FIDE by ECU President Mr. Silvio Danilov. The original protest letter was signed by fourteen federations including the Albanian Chess Federation, Croatian Chess Federation, English Chess Federation, Faroe Islands Chess Federation, French Chess Federation, Georgian Chess Federation, Iceland Chess Federation, Luxembourg Chess Federation, Montenegro Chess Federation, Nicaraguan Chess Federation, Norwegian Chess Federation, Polish Chess Federation, Swedish Chess Federation, Ukrainian Chess Federation.

On November 10, 2010 FIDE Deputy President, Georgios Makropoulos responded by e-mail and declared that the appointments of the increased Vice-Presidents was valid. There will be an early February 2011 FIDE Presidential Board Meeting, and at that meeting this matter will be raised to the Presidential Board.

**EB11-017 - Haring** I move that USCF join the protest, by signing the appeal to the FIDE Presidential Board objecting to the improper appointment of FIDE Vice Presidents in violation of FIDE Statue and Electoral Regulations.

**PASSED 6-0-1 with Mike Atkins abstaining.**

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The Professional Player Health and Benefit Fund (PPHBF) Committee recommended that FIDE Master Asa Hoffman receive benefits from the Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund as follows: Payments of \$500 per month, until the allowed lifetime maximum of \$10,000 is reached. In the event of Asa's unexpected demise during the payment period, the payments to cease (Thus, no claims by his estate for the remaining balance.). Randy Bauer moved by e-mail to accept the recommendation on January 15, 2011, and the motion passed later on January 15.

**EB11-018 - Bauer** Based on a review of the confidential medical information provided by the PPHBF, I move to approve the recommendation.

**PASSED 7-0.**

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Tim Just, chair of the Tournament Direction Certification Committee (TDCC), requested that Tracey Vibbert be added to the TDCC. Michael Atkins moved to do so on February 1, 2011. The vote was completed on February 3, 2011.

**EB11-019 - Atkins** Add Tracey Vibbert to the TDCC.

**PASSED 7-0.**

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A meeting of the Board was held by telephone conference call on February 5-6, 2012. Randy Bauer was not present. These motions were made at that meeting.

**EB11-020 - Walters** Approve the minutes of the October 30-31, 2010 Executive Board Meeting as previously distributed to the Board.

**PASSED 6-0 with Randy Bauer not present.**

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**EB11-021 - Board** The USCF and the Executive Board congratulates Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura on his fantastic finish at the Tata Steel Chess 2011 Tournament.

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**PASSED 6-0 with Randy Bauer not present.**

**EB11-022 - Nietman** The Executive Board accepts the resignation of Dewain Barber as the chairman of the Barber K-8 Invitational Committee and that the Executive Board names Tony Rich as chair of the committee.

**PASSED 5-0 with Randy Bauer and Gary Walters not present.**

A discussion took place in closed session at the meeting regarding a member's three year membership suspension that was instituted in 2009 and was due to end in April, 2012. The Board was reviewing a written appeal from the suspended member. One item discussed was the possibility of reducing that suspension to 33 months, which would reinstate the member January 31, 2012. Jim Berry then moved the following motion by e-mail on February 7. The vote was completed on February 11 and the motion failed. Bill Goichberg and Mike Atkins recused themselves because of their involvement with the issue.

**EB11-023 - Berry** The suspension be reduced to 33 months and end on Jan. 31 2012. FAILED 2-2-1 with Jim Berry and Gary Walters voting in favor, Mike Nietman and Ruth Haring opposed, and Randy Bauer abstaining. Bill Goichberg and Mike Atkins recused themselves.

The Delegates in 2010 referred the creation of the Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 State Champions to the Scholastic Council, U.S. Open Committee, and Denker Committee with implementation by the Executive Board and Executive Director. Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on February 13, 2011, to create the event by accepting the final proposal. The vote was completed on February 15.

**EB11-024 - Nietman** I move that we accept the attached proposal for the creation of the Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 State Champions. PASSED 7-0. Please note that the rules and regulations are outlined in Appendix D below.

The Scholastic Council has been working on revising the rules for qualifying for the World Youth, which FIDE has expanded to include additional players. Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on February 20 to accept the new selection criteria proposed by the Scholastic Council effective for the 2011 World Youth. The vote was completed on February 27, 2011. The new criteria are presented in Appendix E.

**EB11-025 - Nietman** The new World Youth Chess Championship Selection Criteria replace the posted criteria effective for the 2011 World Youth.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Bill Hall moved by e-mail on April 06 that the EB confirm that the ED was authorized to sign the papers for the refinance of the mortgage for the USCF Headquarters building. This was requested by the bank, approved by the LMA Committee and was discussed at the February EB meeting. The motion passed unanimously the next day.

**EB11-026 - Hall** I move that the Executive Board confirms that I as the Executive Director was authorized to be the signer for the refinance of the mortgage on the headquarters that occurred in February of this year.

**PASSED 7-0.**

There was a special meeting of the Executive Board held in St. Louis, MO, on April 15, 2011, in order to clarify two points regarding the 2011 World Team Championship. The following motions were passed:

**EB11-027 - Board** The 2011 U.S. Woman's Champion will be a member of the 2011 U.S. Team for the 2011 Woman's World Team Championship. If the 2011 Champion was not a member of

the 2010 Woman's Olympiad Team, the alternate will be replaced. The alternate, or the next in line due to a player declining their invitation, is determined by the Olympiad selection criteria. The August 2011 USCF and FIDE rating lists will be used in this selection.

**PASSED 6-0 with Gary Walters not present.**

**EB11-028 - Board** The 2011 U.S. Team for representation in the 2011 World Team Championship will be selected by using the current Olympiad Invitational Regulations. The USCF ratings will be determined as the post-tournament rating from the 2011 U.S. Championship. The FIDE rating will be determined from the May FIDE supplement. The 2011 U.S. Champion will be invited to be a member of the team.

**PASSED 6-0 with Gary Walters not present.**

The Executive Board held their regularly scheduled meeting in St. Louis, MO, on April 16 and 17, 2011. The following motions were voted:

**EB11-029 - Bauer** Accept the minutes of the February 2011 Executive Board Conference Call Meeting previously distributed by e-mail.

**PASSED 7-0.**

**EB11-030 - Bauer** The Board approves the budget presented by the CFO as amended during the Finance Workshop and Executive Board meeting including proposed changes to the dues structure that will be submitted by EB ADM.

**PASSED 7-0.**

**EB11-031 - Board** The Board moves that the winners of the 2011 awards awarded at the Award's Ceremony of the U.S. Open, Saturday, August 6 are (Please note that this list now includes two awards that were voted by e-mail motion EB11-037):

1. Meritorious Service Awards: David Causey, Caesar Lawrence and Barbara Reed
2. Outstanding Career Achievement: Scott Parker, Frank Berry, Tom Martinak, Bob Smith and Mike Zacate
3. Special Services Award: Andy Ansel, Jeff Smith and Mark Herman
4. Grandmaster of the Year: Hikaru Nakamura and Gata Kamsky
5. Organizer of the Year: Ankit Gupta
6. George Koltanowski Award: *Gold:* Rex Sinquefeld  
*Silver:* Doyle Engelen and Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.
7. Frank J. Marshall Award: Dean Ippolito
8. Honorary ChessMate: Ami Hall
9. Lifetime Tournament Director Achievement Award: Myron Lieberman
10. TD of the Year: Luis Salinas
11. Distinguished Service Award: Judy Misner and Joan DuBois
12. Chess Club of the Year: Metropolitan Chess Club of Los Angeles
13. Chess City of the Year: St. Louis, MO
14. Special Friend of the USCF: Alexandra Kosteniuk
15. Outstanding Team Performance Award: U.S. Woman's Olympiad Team
16. Committee of the Year: Scholastic Committee
17. Scholastic Service Award: Bruce Pandolfini & NY Chess in the Schools
18. Lifetime Achievement Award: Allen Kaufman (See Motion 11-037)
19. Chess College of the Year: University of Maryland Baltimore County (See Motion 11-037)

**PASSED 7-0.**

**EB11-032 - Bauer** I move that the EB approve the recommendation

by the PPHBF committee that FIDE Master Eric Schiller receive benefits as follows: \$1,000 initially, to be paid in connection with his discharge from his rehab facility into any form of independent and/or apartment living. Then \$500/monthly, until the Delegate-established lifetime limit of \$10,000 is reached. Any outstanding portion of the benefit is not transferable to Mr. Schiller's estate or heirs.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Due to an incident that occurred at the National Junior High School Championships that were held concurrently with this meeting, at the request of the Scholastic Council Mike Nietman moved the following:

**EB11-033 - Nietman** Effective immediately for National Scholastic Events: No cell phone or other devices capable of sending or receiving signals may be used by a player during tournament play without the express permission of a tournament director. The tournament director has the right to observe and monitor the communication. Any player violating this rule may be forfeited. After some discussion, **Ruth Haring moved to table the motion. This failed 3-4 with Ruth Haring, Randy Bauer and Mike Atkins in favor. The main motion then passed with Jim Berry, Bill Goichberg, Gary Walters and Mike Nietman in favor.** It should be noted that approved electronic scorekeeping devices are not included in this ban and that the dissenters desired more specific information before casting a vote.

**PASSED 4-3 as above.**

**EB11-034 - Atkins** The Board create an ADM regarding a TD certification rule change. Motion—Inaccurate and confusing language in Tournament Director Certification Rule 14 has led to misunderstandings and confusion in the meaning. The following bullets are corrective

- There is no concept of FIDE endorsement as they assume that a U.S. tournament submitted for FIDE rating has already met our requirement.
- FIDE does not require IA/FA to direct a non-title FIDE rated tournament.
- FIDE does not require any level of USCF director to direct FIDE rated tournaments.-
- Offsite supervision by IA for title events is no longer allowed by FIDE.
- Federation Arbiter is not a title; FIDE Arbiter is the correct title.

Therefore, the new 14 should say:

14. Category I.

A Tournament held in the United States that will be submitted to both FIDE and the USCF for rating.

a. FIDE events that award title norms for GMs, IMs, WGMs and WIMs and will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by an onsite International Arbiter (IA) or FIDE Arbiter (FA).

b. U.S. events that are also FIDE rated should be directed by an onsite USCF Senior TD or higher, or IA/FA that meets USCF requirements for Senior TD and for the expected size of the event.

Present rule below for comparison

Tournament Categories

14. Category I.

A Tournament held in the United States that will be submitted to both FIDE and USCF for rating.

a. FIDE events that award title norms for GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs and will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by an International Arbiter (IA), Federation Arbiter (FA), or a Senior, or higher, certified TD, supervised by an IA.

b. FIDE events that do not award title norms but will be submit-

ted to FIDE for rating must be directed by a TD certified at the Senior level or higher who has the FIDE endorsement and whose level is appropriate for the expected size of the event.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Gary Walters wanted to get more diverse input on the Governance Task Force (GTF) by expanding the GTF. He noted that the GTF may not have the authority to expand itself and therefore made the following EB motion by e-mail on April 23, 2011. The motion passed on April 26.

**EB11-035 - Walters** I move that the GTF be authorized to add up to three members to the task force by a simple majority vote of the GTF.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Hal Terrie, Chair of the U.S. Open Committee, requested that Russell Miller be added to the committee. Bill Goichberg moved his addition by e-mail on May 01, 2011. The motion passed unanimously on May 03, 2011.

**EB11-036 - Goichberg** At the request of chair Hal Terrie, I move that Russell Miller of Vancouver, WA (site of the 2012 U.S. Open), be added to the U.S. Open Committee.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Mike Nietman noted that there were two more awards that should be on the 2011 Award Winners list that were not voted at the meeting. He proposed the following motion by e-mail on May 09, 2011. Voting was completed on May 15, 2011. Please note: The list of award winners that appears with motion EB11-031 has been modified to include the two additional award winners.

**EB11-037 - Nietman** I move that we supplement the Awards List with 1) Allen Kaufman for the Outstanding Career Achievement Award, and 2) The University of Maryland-Baltimore County (UMBC) for the Chess College of the Year Award.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Mike Atkins moved by e-mail on May 15, 2011, the following proposal for the 2011 National Chess Day. It passed on May 20, 2011.

**EB11-038 - Atkins** Proposal and motion for National Chess Day 2011

**PASSED 7-0**

- 1.) National Chess Day 2011 will be Saturday, October 8th, as per the pending Senate Resolution for this year.
- 2.) In order to promote National Chess Day as a day for special activities and promotion of chess throughout the country, the following is proposed:
- 3.) Any Rated Beginner Open that includes "National Chess Day" in it's TLA title gets both a free TLA and free rating fees
- 4.) Any 1-day event for Oct. 8 which has "National Chess Day" in it's TLA title gets a free TLA
- 5.) Any 2-3 day event held over a period which encompasses Oct. 8, which has "National Chess Day" in it's TLA title, will get free TLA and free rating fees
- 6.) Organizers are encouraged to submit articles and photographs for publication for *Chess Life* magazine and *Chess Life Online*.
- 7.) The USCF will send out at least one e-mail blast to all TDs and Affiliates before June 1 to enable tournaments to make the June 1 deadline for two issues of *Chess Life* TLA—Aug and Sept 2011

Russell Harwood, College Chess Committee chair, requested that Clemente Rendon be added to the College Chess Committee. Mike

Nietman moved by e-mail on June 2, 2011, to make this addition. The motion passed on June 5, 2011.

**EB11-039 - Nietman** At the request of the chair of the College Chess Committee I move that Clemente Rendon be added to the College Chess Committee.

**PASSED 7-0**

After the Board had a chance to review the minutes of the April, 2011, meeting Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on June 05, 2011, to accept the minutes. The motion passed without objection on June 9, 2011.

**EB11-040 - Nietman** I move that we accept the minutes to our April meeting.

**PASSED 7-0.**

**APPENDIX A – Committee Chairs and Board Liaisons**  
*DEL=Delegate Appointed*

COMMITTEE	LIAISON (Board/Office)	CHAIR
AUDIT (DEL)	To be selected by committee	
BYLAWS (DEL)	Goichberg, Walters	Harold Winston and Allen Priest co-chairs
CHESS IN EDUCATION	Nietman	F. Leon Wilson
COLLEGE	Nietman	Russell Harwood
CORRESPONDENCE	Walters	Harold Stenzel
CRAMER AWARDS	Berry	Frank Brady
DENKER INVITATIONAL	Nietman	Dewain Barber and Matt Lodge co-chairs
ELECTION (DEL)	Berry	Myron Lieberman
ETHICS (DEL)	Walters	Richard "Buck" Buchanan
FINANCE	Bauer	Charles Unruh
HALL OF FAME	Goichberg	Harold Winston
HALL OF RECORDS	Goichberg	Steve Immitt
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	Haring	Michael Khodarkovsky
K-8 TMT of STATE CHAMPIONS	Nietman	Tony Rich
LMA MANAGEMENT (DEL)	Bauer	To be selected by committee
MILITARY	Atkins	John Farrell
OUTREACH	Haring	Myron Lieberman
PROFESSIONALPLAYERS' HEALTHAND BENEFITS (PPHBF)	Bauer	John McCrary
PUBLICATIONS	Haring	Jon Hilton
RATINGS	Goichberg	Mark Glickman
RULES	Atkins	David Kuhns
SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL/COMM	Nietman	Beatriz Marinello and Tom Brownscombe co-chairs
SENIOR	Atkins	Charles Hatherill
STATES	Walters	Guy Hoffman
SURVEY	Haring	Tony Pabon
TOP PLAYERS	Haring	Jesse Kraai
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION (TDCC)	Atkins	Tim Just
U.S. OPEN	Goichberg	Hal Terrie
WOMEN'S CHESS	Haring	Polly Wright

**APPENDIX B – Victory Points**

The Executive Board passed motion EB10-17 in November, 2009 to approve in principle a Victory Point system, to be implemented no earlier than six months after the implementation of the Life Titles system. Sponsor Bill Goichberg suggested some modifications at the 10/31/2010 EB meeting and motion EB11-010 approved the amended version for implementation for tournaments ending after 12/31/2010. Please note that Bill Goichberg's comments are presented in all caps.

This would be a relatively simple cumulative system that could coexist with ratings and titles. It would have no effect on either, but would offer the prospect of increased credit to all players, even those who are declining. It would reward not only activity and success, but also aggressive play (no credit for draws). And though it would not show current strength, most with high point totals would be high rated players. Here is how it might work:

2. For Events with some or all games slower than G/60
  - a. A win over a 1401-1600 opponent earns 1 Victory Point
  - b. A win over a 1601-1800 opponent earns 2 Victory Points
  - c. A win over a 1801-2000 opponent earns 4 Victory Points
  - d. A win over a 2001-2200 opponent earns 8 Victory Points
  - e. A win over a 2201-2400 opponent earns 16 Victory Points
  - f. A win over a 2401 and up opponent earns 32 Victory Points

THE BOARD WANTED THE AWARDS TO GO DOWN TO THE 1000 LEVEL, SO MORE PLAYERS AND ESPECIALLY NOVICE SCHOLASTIC PLAYERS WOULD HAVE A SHOT AT POINTS. I AGREE, AND ALSO, WE PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE A 2601 LEVEL AS THIS WILL GIVE OUR TOP PLAYERS MORE IMPRESSIVE TOTALS WHICH ADDS CREDIBILITY TO THE SYSTEM. I LIKE THE SIMPLICITY OF DOUBLING FROM ONE CLASS TO THE NEXT, BUT ALSO FOR SIMPLICITY AS WELL AS EASIER DISPLAY, WOULD RATHER HAVE AS FEW AWARDS AS POSSIBLE IN TWO DIGITS. THE BRIDGE MASTER POINT SYSTEM HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITH MOST AWARDS IN FRACTIONS. SO I NOW SUGGEST:

- WIN OVER 1001-1200 1/8 POINT
- WIN OVER 1201-1400 1/4 POINT
- WIN OVER 1401-1600 1/2 POINT
- WIN OVER 1601-1800 1 POINT
- WIN OVER 1801-2000 2 POINTS
- WIN OVER 2001-2200 4 POINTS
- WIN OVER 2201-2400 8 POINTS
- WIN OVER 2401-2600 16 POINTS
- WIN OVER 2600/ABOVE 32 POINTS

3. For Events with all rounds G/30 to G/60
  - a. No credit for a win over a 1401-1600 opponent
  - b. Other credits are half of those listed above

WE COULD STILL DO THIS, BUT I NOW SUGGEST THAT VICTORY POINTS BE AVAILABLE ONLY IN EVENTS SLOWER THAN G/60. ONCE VICTORY POINTS ARE ESTABLISHED AND ENOUGH PLAYERS WANT THEM, WE MIGHT SET UP A SEPARATE SYSTEM FOR QUICK G/5-G/60 VICTORY POINTS. THE LATTER MIGHT DO SOMETHING LIKE FULL POINTS FOR G/30-G/60, HALF RATE FOR G/10-G/29, AND QUARTER CREDIT FOR FASTER THAN G/10.

4. The G/30-G/60 win over a 1401-1600 could count as a half point, but I would rather avoid decimals in the totals. Or it could count for a point with everything else being doubled, but maybe we should keep most of the numbers low for easier calculation and display. And encouraging kids anxious to score their first Victory Point or Points to play at a fairly slow time control doesn't seem a bad idea.

THE FRACTIONS SHOULD HELP NEWER AND WEAKER PLAYERS GET GOING, BUT I SUGGEST NOT BOTHERING WITH THEM FOR HIGHER TOTALS. WE DON'T REALLY NEED THINGS LIKE A MASTER OR EXPERT GOING FROM 2955 1/4 TO 2955 3/8 BY BEATING AN 1100 PLAYER, AND THIS TAKES SPACE TO DISPLAY WHICH IS UNDESIRABLE, EVEN FOR ONLINE DISPLAYS. AND IT WILL BE NICE TO DISPLAY THE NATIONAL LEADERS, WHO MAY BE IN 5 DIGITS, WITHOUT RELATIVELY MEANINGLESS FRACTIONS. SO I SUGGEST THAT FRACTIONAL

POINTS BE AVAILABLE ONLY TO PLAYERS WHO HAVE LESS THAN 100 LIFETIME VICTORY POINTS. ANY EXCESS FRACTIONAL POINTS WOULD BE ROUNDED DOWN, FOR EXAMPLE A PLAYER WITH 100 OR MORE POINTS WHO SCORES TWO HALF POINTS IN AN EVENT WOULD GET A POINT, BUT THREE HALF POINTS WOULD ALSO GET ONE POINT, AND A SINGLE HALF POINT WOULD GET ZERO.

5. Note that floored players would count as the class below for generating Victory Points. It only takes a 1 point adjustment to do this, so we might as well avoid the possibility that in small tournaments someone could pile up a lot of Victory Points by facing the same overrated player(s) repeatedly. Not all players with ratings ending in 00 are floored, but the cutoff has to be somewhere, so that seems the best place to put it.

6. What would a player get for Victory Points? To start with, we would publish lists on occasion in *Chess Life*, and more often and in more detail on the web, lifetime totals and annual totals for the national Victory Points leaders, the leaders who live in each state, the most Victory Points scored in each state (not the same thing), and there could be other categories such as largest number of states in which the player scored at least 5 or 10 or 20 Victory Points playing in each state, etc. There would be special awards for players with 1000 or 10,000 or whatever Victory Points in a year or lifetime. We don't need to decide now what these awards will be called, but it wouldn't be the same name as anything in the rating system or title system.

7. Another possible use for Victory Points is, as with titles, to award class prizes. Once we see how many players in each class have how many lifetime Victory Points, organizers could offer class prizes to players in each class who have a certain minimum number of points (it should be a number no more than half the players in the section are likely to have). Like the Mike Regan idea with titles, such class prizes will favor the older players, who tend to be winning little now, and probably even more so than titles. Players will want Victory Points not only for the recognition, but also the added prize eligibility.

8. Duplicate bridge has long used a relatively simple system of amassing "Master Points" with great success, despite lacking an Elo type system to show current strength. When I used to play duplicate bridge in clubs several times a week, I would see the same players, mostly seniors with over 50% women, appearing regularly and on occasion when they placed high they seemed very happy to receive their Master Point certificates. The entry fees were about \$5 with no prizes other than the certificates; I imagine they are higher today, and some bridge clubs had 14 games per week, an afternoon game and an evening game every day, with about 40-50 people participating in the afternoon and 60-80 at night.

This structure allowed full time bridge clubs to prosper, while most chess clubs meet just one night per week, are expected by the players to return a substantial percentage of any entry fees as prizes, can afford only the lowest cost sites, and offer no business opportunity for their manager.

9. It's not the best timing introducing two systems at once, but we don't need to do that, and implementation of past changes has been slow; even if we don't specify it, there would probably be a gap between announcing titles and implementing Victory Points. I just hope that gap is not more than a year. The Victory Point system seems desirable as it does some important things that the title system doesn't:

- a. Even most declining players can easily add to their total.
- b. No one, after reaching a goal, will feel that further progress is impossible.
- c. Most players will see progress immediately online after each tournament.
- d. The point system format is suitable for simple promotional breakdowns by state, year, age, etc. or rivalries between club or team members.
- e. Rewards aggressive play.

f. Encourages play at relatively slow time controls, which is good for the development of young players.

g. Credits will be available even in short events such as quads and team matches, or for house players.

h. Allows a desirable new type of class prize, one limited to players who have scored a certain minimum number of Victory Points. The offering of such prizes would likely increase opportunity for players who are not improving, and promote the Victory Point system.

### **APPENDIX C Letter of Appeal to the FIDE Presidential Board re: Appointment of VPs**

Dear Sirs,

We are in receipt of Mr. Makropoulos' 10 November 2010 e-mail response to the 25 October 2010 letter from fourteen FIDE member federations protesting the appointment by FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov of five FIDE Vice Presidents at the 2010 FIDE Congress in Khanty-Mansiysk, in clear violation of the FIDE Statutes, FIDE Electoral Regulations and Swiss law.

Mr. Makropoulos' response reflects in our view an incorrect understanding of FIDE's obligations under the FIDE Handbook and Swiss law. As the letter makes clear that FIDE management is unwilling to correct this palpable violation of applicable rules and regulations, we wish to appeal the nomination of the five Vice Presidents.

The FIDE Presidential Board is the appropriate body for the appeal. According to Article 9.4 of the FIDE Statutes, every party concerned may appeal against the decisions of the President to the General Assembly. FIDE has just completed the 2010 General Assembly. We cannot wait two years until all member-federations gather again at the next General Assembly as this would lead to deciding on the impropriety of the nominations only after the Vice Presidents had already served half their terms.

Article 4.1 of the FIDE Statutes, among other things, transfers the powers of the General Assembly to the Executive Board when the General Assembly is not in session. But the Executive Board has itself just met at the 2010 FIDE Congress and will not convene in the ordinary course for nearly another year. This is also too long a period to wait for a decision regarding the improper appointment by the FIDE President of five Vice Presidents over the acknowledged protest of a member-federation. The Presidential Board is charged with the day-to-day management of FIDE and exercises the rights of the General Assembly and the Executive Board between meetings of the General Assembly and Executive Board respectively, and is thus the proper forum for the appeal.

A Court of Arbitration for Sport arbitral tribunal recently confirmed the interim decision-making power of the FIDE Presidential Board in decision CAS 2010/O/2166. The reasoning of the arbitral tribunal in that case is equally applicable here where no higher FIDE body is available for nearly one year.

We understand that the next Presidential Board meeting will be held in Antalya, Turkey, from 3 to 6 February 2011. Please inform us by [a date two weeks after the letter is sent to FIDE] of the deadline and procedure for filing our appeal papers and placing the item on the agenda for that meeting.

We look forward to your prompt response to this matter of great concern to the FIDE Family.

### **APPENDIX D – DEWAIN BARBER TOURNAMENT OF K-8 STATE CHAMPIONS (Draft Revision Feb 6, 2011) Rules and Regulations**

#### **General Information**

This invitational tournament will be played during the 2011 U.S. Open in Orlando, Florida from July 30, 2011 to August 2, 2011. The Barber Tournament of K-8 State Champions attracts

State Champions from across the United States and the District of Columbia. The winner of the tournament shall receive the title of Barber Champion of K-8 State Champions. In case of ties, co-champions shall be recognized.

#### Eligibility

Each state shall be allowed one Representative as determined by the USCF State Affiliate. Alternates may be substituted as the official Representative. If there are an uneven number of entrants in the tournament, the host state is allowed to enter an additional qualified player. The additional player is eligible for prize monies. Should any of the USCF state affiliates fail to respond to the notice for this tournament by June 15, the K-8 Invitational Chairman may determine the candidate from that state. Representatives must be residents of the state they are representing.

All players including home schooled students must be under the age of 16 as of the first day of the tournament. They must have been enrolled in at least three [3] Grade 8 or below courses, during the previous Spring using the grade appropriate curriculum. The Representative may not have been a full-time student in grade 9 or above during the previous school year. Proof of eligibility shall be the responsibility of the players and the USCF state official certifying the Representative or Alternate.

It is the goal of the K-8 Invitational Committee to have all fifty states and the District of Columbia represented. Consequently, we strongly encourage each USCF state affiliate and the District of Columbia to identify or hold an appropriate Championship tournament to determine its qualifier. Failing this, rating or some other criteria will be acceptable.

#### Playing Schedule

The Opening Ceremony, 6-round Swiss and Awards Ceremony will consist of the following dates and times:

**Opening Ceremony** – 4 PM Saturday, July 30, 2011 (REQUIRED ATTENDANCE AND CHECK-IN). All participants are required to attend for player introductions, awarding of medallions, introduction of dignitaries and photo session.

**Saturday, July 30, 2011 Round 1** – Same time as evening round of the U.S. Open.

**Sunday, July 31, 2011 Round 2** – 12:30 PM. **Round 3** – Same time as evening round of the U.S. Open.

**Monday, August 1, 2011 Round 4** – 12:30 PM. **Round 5** – Same time as evening round of the U.S. Open.

**Tuesday, August 2, 2011 Round 6** – 11 AM and **Awards Ceremony** – 4 PM.

This playing schedule is especially convenient, because it allows players an opportunity to participate in the U.S. Open. This is possible because you can now enter the U.S. Open's four or six day schedule upon completion of the event. Please note that the USCF Executive Board voted to provide a 50% entry fee for all Barber participants who choose to enter the U.S. Open after the Barber is concluded.

#### Rules

1. Players are required to play all six rounds of the tournament. A proportion of a player's expense money will be withheld for each forfeited game. Players expelled from the tournament, or who withdraw without contacting the Tournament Director forfeit all expense money.

2. Player shall be required to furnish the TD with a legible and complete score sheet at the conclusion of each round.

3. The time control will be determined by the Chief Tournament Director of the U.S. Open.

#### Prize Fund:

Dewain Barber, American Chess Equipment, The United States Chess Federation, The U.S. Chess Trust and Dwight Barber will award a total of \$2,200 in scholarships (1st place: \$800, 2nd place \$500, 3rd place \$300, 4th place \$300 and 5th place \$300). Scholarships are designated for college expenses and will be sent to winners only upon proof of college enrollment (copies of paid bills, or official letters, etc.) by the Chess Trust. In some cases, prizes will be held in escrow pending receipt of paper documentation.

**Expense money:** Through the generosity of Dewain Barber,

American Chess Equipment, each participant and the alternate will receive a minimum of \$100 to help defray travel expenses, plus a share of the remaining funds after tournament expenses. Expense money will be paid in check or cash at the conclusion of the event. A proportion of a player's expense money will be withheld for each forfeited game. Players expelled from the tournament, or who withdraw without contacting the Tournament Director forfeit all expense money.

**Travel & Accommodations:** Players are responsible for their own travel and accommodations. Please note that registration in a hotel room will require a person 18 years of age or older to be present.

**Contact Information:** Each player must provide the K-8 Invitational Chairman with a phone number of a parent or other responsible adult who will be onsite throughout the event.

#### K-8 Chairman:

**Tony Rich**

**Executive Director**

**Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis**

**P: 314.361.CHESS (2437)**

**F: 314.361.5465**

**trich@saintlouischessclub.org**

#### APPENDIX E

##### FIDE World Youth Chess Championships Selection Criteria:

The World Youth is an annual tournament held traditionally between June and November. Players must be selected by their individual federations in order to participate. The age categories are currently U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18 (Subject to change by the host country and FIDE). In the event that any FIDE rules or regulations are determined to be in contradiction with these selection criteria, FIDE rules and procedures will supersede these criteria. (REVISED February 2011 to take effect for the 2011 World Youth.)

**A.** Within each age and gender category, players may qualify to represent the USA under any of the following criteria:

**1.** be established as one of the three highest rated candidates by peak post-tournament rating in the previous 12 months, ending with events included in the May Rating Supplement;

**2.** The minimum rating requirement within the age and gender categories for players who do not qualify for this event by some other means is the following:

Girls Under 18 Minimum Rating 1900

Girls Under 16 Minimum Rating 1900

Girls Under 14 Minimum Rating 1800

Girls Under 12 Minimum Rating 1700

Girls Under 10 Minimum Rating 1500

Girls Under 8 Minimum Rating 1100

Boys Under 18 Minimum Rating 2400

Boys Under 16 Minimum Rating 2300

Boys Under 14 Minimum Rating 2200

Boys Under 12 Minimum Rating 2000

Boys Under 10 Minimum Rating 1800

Boys Under 8 Minimum Rating 1400

Players whose peak post-tournament rating equals or exceeds this minimum rating will be able to participate in the World Youth.

**3.** have earned a personal right to compete by virtue of one's performance at this event or the previous Pan American Youth Festival—see below "Qualifying by Personal Right":

**4.** win the U.S. Cadet Championship.

**5.** win clear first place in a championship section of the National Elementary Championship, the National Junior High Championship, or the National High School Championship.

The USCF office may set a reasonable participation fee to cover administrative and coaching expenses for the players who are not in the top three and yet qualify based upon a national championship or based upon their rating.

**B.** the top qualified player in each category will be considered the official representative and will be entitled to receive whatever financial assistance is offered towards the cost of participation. If a player who has earned a personal right also qualifies as the top qualified player by rating in their category, the next player in line will be considered the official representative in that category and will be entitled to receive whatever financial assistance is offered towards the cost of participation.

**C.** If the top qualified player declines the invitation, the next player in line will be entitled to the financial assistance described above.

**D.** If a qualified player is unable to attend, that place will not be offered to a non-qualified player ranked lower on the rating list.

**E.** All qualified players will have the right to participate and will be considered to be part of the national team.

**F.** The Scholastic Council Chair shall review the rating history of all qualified players before approving the final selection. Irregularities in a player's rating history may be grounds for disqualification.

**G.** Qualifying by personal right—Players may earn a personal right to compete in the World Youth by earning a gold medal in one of the following ways:

- A player who receives the gold medal at the World Youth will be qualified by personal right for the World Youth (as well as the Pan-American Youth) for the next year based on maintaining the activity requirement in that year.

- A player who receives the gold medal at the Pan-American Youth Festival will be qualified by personal right for the next World Youth and will qualify for whatever financial assistance is offered towards the cost of participation.

- The minimum activity requirement will be 30 rated games (either USCF or FIDE-rated—if FIDE-rated, submitted to the USCF for verification) in the 12 month qualification period.

# ACTIVITY MEANS MEMBERS

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

## Adult Dues Options! >>

NEW FREE TLA CATEGORIES ADDED!

### RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS FALL!

Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of *Chess Life*, for any tournament between October and December 2010, if no TLA for such an event appeared in 2009, and the TLA is e-mailed by the appropriate deadline. The 8 free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs.

### SPECIAL CATEGORIES QUALIFY FOR FREE TLAS!

Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines for events in the following categories, if submitted by e-mail. The free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs:

**NEW CATEGORY! SENIOR.** For age 50 or above, or a higher minimum age.

**NEW CATEGORY! UNRATEDS FREE.** Any tournament that offers free entry to unrated players. If your prizes are based on entries, say "paid entries."

**USCF BOOSTER TOURNAMENT.** A tournament that offers at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

**CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.** A tournament playing only on

one or more weekday evenings.

**RBO.** Open to Under 1200/Unr or Under 1000/Unr. Tournament name must include "Rated Beginners Open" or "RBO."

**BLITZ.** Time control of Game/5. TLAs such as "USCF-rated Blitz every Friday 7 pm" are accepted.

**COLLEGIATE.** A tournament limited to college students.

**JUNIOR.** For age 20/below (age 20 must be eligible).

**NON-SCHOLASTIC WITH SCHOLASTIC.** A tournament for all ages held concurrent (same location) with a scholastic tournament that in its previous year drew at least 50 players. We encourage organizers of scholastics to hold open or collegiate events on the side.

**SPECIAL RATES FOR CLUB ADS.** Up to 5 lines \$180 per year, \$100 for 6 months for unchanged club ads in the TLA section. Announce meeting dates & times, activities, contact info, etc.

**USCF DISCUSSION GROUPS.** See [www.uschess.org/forums](http://www.uschess.org/forums) for four groups: Tournament Organization, Chess Club Organization, Tournament Direction, USCF Issues.

## Ages 21-24 dues lower than Adult dues!

The membership category once called "Youth" has been renamed "Young Adult," and eligibility has changed from under 21 to under 25. **Annual dues for this category are only \$32 with paper *Chess Life* or \$24 with the online version!**

## One-year membership with *Chess Life*:

If purchased online at [uschess.org](http://uschess.org), now only \$42 for Premium Membership, which includes a copy of *Chess Life* every month. Regular Memberships are available for \$34 and give online-only access to *Chess Life* and a mailed *TLA Newsletter* (bi-monthly). (Note to affiliates: If you collect a \$49 membership, you may submit it online to USCF for \$42, in effect creating a \$7 commission. If you submit it by mail or phone the affiliate commission is \$3.)



# Advance Agenda for the 2011 USCF Board of Delegates Meeting

Hyatt Regency Orlando | August 6-7, 2011

*Note: All motions in this advance agenda have been taken verbatim from the submissions of individual delegates. The publications of any motion herein does not constitute an endorsement, agreement, or position by the USCF of anything included or implied in any such motion.*

## CALL TO ORDER BY USCF PRESIDENT - JIM BERRY

Moment of silence for those of the chess community who have passed on.

## ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES

### **ADM 11-01 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL):**

The Delegates re-elect as Delegates At Large those whose terms are expiring or have expired and are present in person at this meeting.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND STANDING RULES, MINUTES OF THE 2010 DELEGATES' MEETING AND APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN.

### **ADM 11-02 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL):**

Move that the minutes of the 2010 Delegates meeting as distributed to the Delegates present in Orlando be accepted.

### **ADM 11-03 (Bill Goichberg, NY)**

Move that Mike Nolan be appointed parliamentarian.

### **ADM 11-04 (Jim Berry, OK, Executive Board Member)**

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2011 Delegates' Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates' Call.

## CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

### **ADM 11-05 (Myron Lieberman, DAL-AZ)**

Move that the Executive Board election results be certified. The new board members will take office at the conclusion of this meeting.

## RATIFICATION

**ADM 11-06 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL)** The Delegates ratify all actions of the Executive Board made available to the Delegates present in Orlando in the form of either Executive Board Resolutions or Executive Board Minutes since the conclusion of the 2010 Delegates meeting.

## REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STAFF

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT (JIM BERRY)

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (BILL HALL)

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF FINANCE (RANDY BAUER)

### **ADM 11-07 (Executive Board)**

The 2011-2012 budget as presented by the Vice President of Finance is adopted.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS (DANIEL LUCAS)

## REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. CHESS TRUST

## REPORT OF THE FIDE DELEGATE AND ZONAL PRESIDENT

FIDE DELEGATE (MICHAEL KHODARKOVSKY)

FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT (FRANCISCO GUADALUPE)

FIDE VICE PRESIDENT (BEATRIZ MARINELLO)

## ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

AUDIT COMMITTEE ELECTION

BYLAWS COMMITTEE ELECTION

ELECTION COMMITTEE ELECTION

ETHICS COMMITTEE ELECTION

LMA COMMITTEE ELECTION

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to time constraints all committee reports will be included in this years' *Delegates' Call* or distributed as handouts at the meeting.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **ADM 11-08 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL)**

Pursuant to Article III, Section 10 of the Bylaws, the Delegates have reviewed the promotional memberships offered by the Executive Board in 2010-2011 and authorize their continuation.

**ADM 11-09 (Frank Camaratta, AL)**

Replace the first sentence in Article IV, Section 2 by “There shall be 500 voting members apportioned among the states in proportion to their USCF membership as of May 31 of the prior year, except that each state with ten or more members shall have at least one voting member, each state with 100 or more members shall have at least two voting members, and each state with 300 or more members shall have at least three voting members. In addition, Executive Board members, Delegates at Large, and Additional Alternate Delegates shall be Voting Members.

**Postponed to 2011.**

**ADM 11-10 (DM10-058, NDM10-27) (Frank Camaratta, AL; Tony Pabon, N-CA; Franc Guadalupe, TX)**

The Executive Board can and does pass motions relating to Ethics, Scholastics, Rules and Ratings.

The Delegates have directed the Executive Board to seek input from the chairs of those committees on substantive matters affecting their respective areas.

Be it resolved that in those cases where the Executive Board acts in contradiction to the recommendations from one of the named committees, the issue and the Executive Board’s reasoning, shall be published in the *Delegates’ Call*.

REFERRED TO BYLAWS COMMITTEE

**ADM 11-11 (DM10-035; ADM10-20) (Larry Cohen, IL)**

State Affiliate Duties

1.) AMEND for “an annual USCF rated State Championship” to read as follows:

State Affiliate shall run, organize, and/or sponsor an annual USCF rated state championship and an annual USCF rated state scholastic championship.

2.) AMEND to include: The State Affiliate shall have included in its Bylaws and/or Charter [i.e. Constitution] that one of the (many) purposes of the State organization is to promote chess to the general public. The State Affiliate should try to spell out some, if not all, of the means that it does/will use to achieve these ends. Should the State Affiliate fail to follow its own ‘ways and means’ in its Bylaws, Charter, and/or general statements (of actions and intentions); then sanctions can be imposed by the USCF upon the State Affiliate.

2A. ADD: Sanctions can include any or all of the following; A written reprimand by the USCF, a flat fine [\$20-\$100] to be paid to the USCF, suspension of State Affiliate privileges [i.e. Such as the 1 free mailing list per year] received from/by the USCF, suspension of recognition as the State Affiliate, removal of status of being the USCF recognized State Affiliate. Any imposed sanction can be appealed by the State Affiliate to the USCF Executive Board for reduction or elimination. This list is not inclusive of all possible sanctions that can be imposed. It is suggested that there be a limit of 3 written reprimands within a 10 year period, and that after the 3 written reprimands [maximum] that fines be imposed.

3.) ADD: Recognition and detailed rights of non-resident members.

Each State Affiliate shall have established a membership category for non-resident members for their organization. The rights and privileges of this membership category shall be clearly spelled out. Any proposed changes to the rights and privileges of this membership category shall require a 6-month notification prior to any vote taken on changing these rights and privileges. Each State Affiliate may set the rights and privileges of the “non-resident” membership as they see fit, up to and including the exact same rights and privileges of resident members

**RATIONALE:** Just as the USCF is not only an adult or only a scholastic organization, so too should the USCF State Affiliates not be solely focused on only 1 area or level of chess within a

state. Being USCF recognized State Affiliate should mean that the State Affiliate will run at least 1 statewide tournament at both the adult and scholastic level that is USCF rated. As the State Affiliate is in some ways an extension of the USCF at the state level they should reflect some of the values that the USCF stands for; and so it seems reasonable to expect and insist that the State Affiliate include among their state goals the USCF mission of bringing chess to the general public. Currently there is no list of what measures the USCF can and/or will take against a State Affiliate in violation of USCF rulings. Such a list needs to be developed. Finally, recognizing that there has been occasion in the past over the issue of non-resident State Affiliate members (and memberships) it is felt that it would be a good idea for State Affiliates to have a class of membership specifically for non-resident members.

REFERRED TO STATES COMMITTEE

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADM 11-12 (Myron Lieberman, DAL-AZ; Rachel Lieberman, DAL-AZ)**

We elect Dewain Barber (Southern California), ID # 10467454, to be a Delegate at Large.

**RATIONALE:** Dewain Barber has spent his money and time for decades to help USCF and chess in many ways and especially in his work with scholastics. He is cutting back his activities but we want to assure that the Delegates will continue to have his advice and counsel as a resource.

**ADM 11-13 (John McCrary, SC; Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL)**

Replace the current Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest (DACI) 24 and 31 by the following wording:

“The U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) endorses the concept of a strong world organization of chessplayers, which supports a system of competitions for the strongest players in the world culminating in a valid world championship. The USCF also firmly embraces the principles of freedom of action and freedom of speech. The USCF cannot accept any regulation that limits journalistic freedom or freedom of expression, or interferes with the efforts of free enterprise to promote chess. The USCF endorses the principles of compromise in helping to maintain a universally-accepted world championship.”

**RATIONALE:** The older wording dealt with specific problems in FIDE and the efforts to reunite the world championship, which has already occurred. The newer wording, drafted by John McCrary, maintains USCF support for free speech and free journalism which are key principles.

**ADM 11-14 (Harold Winston, IL; Allen Priest, KY) Add to Art. V, Sec. 4:**

“If no acceptance is received by March 31 of the year for which a Delegate or Alternate Delegate has been selected, they will be deemed to have declined their selection and the State Chapter shall resubmit a selection accompanied by an acceptance.”

**RATIONALE:** This year some delegate acceptances came in very late, about 13 total in 5 states were missing plus one whole state. It is unfair to a State chapter to let its Delegates wait until the last minute before accepting as the State may not know whether that Delegate has any plans to attend.

**ADM 11-15 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL, and Allen Priest, KY)**

**Technical Amendment to Art. V, Sec. 4**

Change the sentence reading “The term of each Delegate shall commence on January 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year and thereafter until a successor is selected” by adding the words “and qualified” at the end to include the acceptance provision.

**RATIONALE:** If USCF keeps the acceptance requirement for Delegates this amendment should be made to be consistent.

**ADM 11-16 (Harold Winston DAL-IL and Allen Priest) Substantive Amendment to Art. V, Sec. 5:**

It currently reads "To serve as a Delegate, an individual must have a current membership as of the first day of the Delegates' Meeting." We propose adding a prior sentence: "Only current USCF members may serve as Delegates."

**RATIONALE:** We believe Delegates should not let their membership lapse during a year.

**ADM 11-17 (Allen Priest, KY and Harold Winston, DAL- IL) Technical Amendment to Art. V, Sec. 5**

Label the first section B be titled "ADDITIONS TO ORDERED LIST," the second current section B will be labeled "C. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS AS DELEGATES," and the current section C will become section D, and the current section D will become section E.

**RATIONALE:** We should not have two sections both labeled as B.

**ADM 11-18 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL and Allen Priest, KY):**

Delete DACI 11: "Teller's Procedures. Unless some independent agency handles the election, provision shall be made to allow the tellers to properly fulfill their duties unencumbered by the burdens of a large-scale public meeting."

**RATIONALE:** We believe this no longer needed, as the EB vote count no longer takes place at the U.S. Open; observers can still be present.

**ADM 11-19 (Harold Winston, DAL-IL and Allen Priest, KY):**

Combine two DACI dealing with U.S. Open Scheduling (25 and 27) so that the first will read:

"U.S. Open Scheduling: No rounds of the U.S. Open may be scheduled to conflict with the Delegates Meeting. The U.S. Open shall finish no later than August 15th. (1999,2001,2010)"

**RATIONALE:** Now that the language in the first resolution about the dates of the Delegate meeting have been removed it makes sense to combine these in one motion.

**ADM 11-20 (Allen Priest KY and Harold Winston DAL-IL): RATING LISTS AND SUPPLEMENTS:**

Modify DACI 4 by deleting the current last sentence and replace it by:

"Rating lists (annual lists and supplements) can be received via electronic media." Delete DACI 43.

**RATIONALE:** Both DACI 4 and 43 deal with Rating lists and supplements. Almost all such lists are now made available electronically and the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest should be changed to reflect that.

**ADM 11-21 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N) Modify Article IX for the bylaws to add the following section:**

**Section 19: Modification of the Official Rules of Chess**

The U.S. Chess Federation's *Official Rules of Chess* may be modified by a majority vote of the Delegates or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates advanced agenda shall require a 2/3 majority vote to pass."

**ADM 11-22 (Allen Priest, KY; Guy Hoffman, WI; Richard Koepcke, CA-N; Myron Lieberman, DAL-AZ; Sevan Muradian, IL; Gary Walters, OH; Bill Goichberg, NY; Ruth Haring, CA-N; Brian Mottershead, MA)**

The Articles of Incorporation are to be amended to state that the Executive Board of the United States Chess Federation is the board of directors of the organization. The Executive Director is authorized to execute whatever documents are required by the Illinois Secretary of State to accomplish this revision of the Articles.

The following amendments to the bylaws are made to be consistent with the designation of the Executive Board as the Board of

Directors.

DACI 57 shall be amended to remove the first sentence. The revised DACI 49 would read: Delegates & Financial Reports. Any Delegate has the right to access the official monthly financial reports. The USCF may charge Delegates for the costs incurred in accessing and copying the official monthly financial reports.

Article V, section 1, is amended to read: The Board of Delegates shall formulate general policy under the Bylaws, approve the annual budget, amend the Bylaws and the USCF *Official Rules of Chess*, and supervise the ethics compliance process of the Federation.

Article VI, section 2 is amended to read: The Executive Board shall have direction of, and be the board of directors of, the Federation and shall manage the Federation's affairs, giving due priority to the missions, goals and policies established by the Board of Delegates according to these Bylaws.

The remaining items are to be consistent with the above changes.

Article IX, section 8 is amended to read: Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review the Federation's accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Article IX, section 12 is amended to read: Each member of the Board of Delegates, Executive Board, national officer (hereinafter "officer"), and employee of the corporation now or hereafter serving as such, shall be indemnified by the corporation against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such delegate, director, officer, or employee or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him or her as such a director, officer, or employee; and the corporation shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any such liability, provided, however, that indemnification shall be limited to cases in which such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal act or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and provided further, however, that as a member of the Board of Delegates such a person shall only be indemnified for his or her acts or omissions at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Board of Delegates and not for any local or other activities.

To the extent that a delegate, director, officer, or employee of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Any indemnification against any and all claims (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the delegate, director, officer, or employee, is proper in the circumstances because he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Such determination shall be made (A) by the Board of Delegates by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of delegates who were not parties to such action, suit, proceeding, or claim, or (B) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable, a quorum of disinterested delegates so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

The right of indemnification herein above provided for shall not be

exclusive of any rights to which any delegate, director, officer, or employee of the corporation may otherwise be entitled by law, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a delegate, director, officer, or employee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a delegate, director, officer, or employee, or agent of the corporation, against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this article.

Article IX, section 13 is amended to read: Any transaction questioned in any suit brought by any member on the grounds of lack of authority, defective or irregular execution, adverse interest of any director, officer, employee, or member, nondisclosure, miscomputation, or the application of improper principles or practices of accounting may be ratified before or after judgment by the Board of Directors -and, if so ratified, shall have the same force and effect as if the questioned transaction had been originally duly authorized, and said ratification shall be binding upon the corporation and its members and shall constitute a bar to any claim or execution of any judgment in respect of such questioned transaction.

Article IX, section 14 is amended to read: Each director, officer, delegate, or employee shall in the performance of his or her duties be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or reports made to the corporation by any of its officials, or by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care by the Board of Delegates, or in relying in good faith upon other records of the corporation.

**NOTE**—no other rights duties or obligations of the Delegates or the Executive Board are changed in this proposal.

**SPONSORS RATIONALE:** The current USCF structure with the Delegates as the legal board of directors is unwieldy. The delegates meet infrequently, are not elected under OMOV, and change often due to resignations. This proposal changes the legal structure of the USCF, but maintains Delegate control of the

**ADM 11-23** bylaws and certain committee appointments.

#### **(Brian Mottershead, MA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS POWERS TRANSFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Be it resolved by the Board of Delegates that:

1. Article V, Section 1 of the Bylaws shall be amended to read: “The Board of Delegates is responsible for formulating general policy, making recommendations to the Board of Directors, assenting to the annual budget, writing the Bylaws and the USCF *Official Rules of Chess*, and supervising the ethics and rules compliance processes of the Federation.
2. Wherever the term “Executive Board” appears in the Bylaws, it shall be replaced by the term “Board of Directors”.
3. Bylaws Article VI, Section 2 shall be amended to read, in full: “The Board of Directors shall direct and manage the affairs of the Federation, giving due priority to the missions, goals and policies established by the Board of Delegates according to these Bylaws.”
4. Bylaws Article VII, Section 3, part A, paragraph 1) shall be deleted. In the same section, the references to the Audit Committee in parts D and E shall be deleted.
5. In Bylaws Article IX, Section 8, “Accountants”, the last sentence shall be deleted.
6. In Bylaws Article IX, Section 12, “Indemnification of Directors and Officers”, wherever “Board of Delegates” appears, replace it

with “Board of Directors.”.

7. Bylaws Article IX, Section 13 “Ratification of Voidable Acts” shall be deleted.

8. In Bylaws Article IX, Section 14 “Reliance on Records”, replace the words “Board of Delegates” with “Board of Directors”.

9. The Board of Delegates shall cease to be the Board of Directors of the Federation, and all powers that are required by law to be vested in the board of directors of a corporation organized under the Illinois General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986 (805 Illinois Compiled Statutes 105), as amended, shall be transferred to, and shall henceforth be vested in, the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall be restyled as the Board of Directors and shall assume the powers and responsibilities set out in these Bylaws, as amended, for the Board of Directors. The Board of Delegates shall retain those powers set out in these Bylaws, as amended, for the Board of Delegates.

10. This resolution and the Bylaws amendments for which it provides shall be effective immediately upon adoption of resolution.

**RATIONALE:** The Board of Delegates is legally the Board of Directors of the USCF. A 125+-person Board of Directors is unworkable, exposes the members of the Board of Delegates to unacceptable liability, and gives them responsibilities which they cannot practically fulfill in one annual meeting of two days.

#### **ADM 11-24 (John Farrell, VA)**

Our Active Duty Armed Forces personnel who serve our country with honor, courage, and commitment should be afforded some type of discount membership to the United States Chess Federation.

It is moved that Armed Forces Active Duty personnel be provided the same membership discount as the Premium and Regular Young Adult Memberships (ages 16-24).

**JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THIS ADM:** For years on the Military Chess discussion boards the subject pops up every now and then asking why is the military not given a discount to the USCF. I believe a few of the previous Military Chairs to the USCF had asked the question about the possibility of receiving a military discount, but their request was turned down. I also believe that a previous Military Chair had asked the USCF to somehow provide us some assistance to track Armed Forces personnel that are USCF members which was also turned down. I'd like to bring this discussion to the *Delegates' Call* as a motion this year so that it may receive the proper attention.

I submit to you the following fact; approximately 44% of the Active Duty Armed Forces already receives the proposed membership discount as they are in between the ages of 17-24. With this being said, the discount in all reality would only affect the remaining Active Duty Armed Forces personnel that are aged 25 and above.

I'm proposing that the USCF direct those seeking an Armed Forces Active Duty discount to one of the Military Chess Committee members with an USCF affiliate to process their USCF membership(s). By this occurring, we will then be afforded the opportunity to track the Active Duty portion of our own Armed Forces personnel. This will help us provide assistance to our Moral, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) activities in the various branches of service by being able to identify their target audience when it comes to their own various Chess Championships, and ultimately the Inter-Service Chess Championship.

It's a win-win-win situation as the USCF will look good as they are providing a Military discount (which only really applies to those Active Duty personnel aged 25 and above), the Active Duty military folks will see and appreciate that a Military Discount is provided by the USCF, and we on the Military Chess Committee

will then have the opportunity to better track our own personnel.

Details on how to make this amendment function can be worked out between the USCF and the Military Chess Committee once and if approved.

**ADM 11-25 (Executive Board)**

The membership categories and dues below are revised as follows, effective Jan. 1, 2012:

**Premium Adult**

Now: \$42 online, \$49 mail or phone, no affiliate commission. Change to \$46 for all with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Regular Adult**

Now: \$34 online, \$41 mail or phone, no affiliate commission. Change to \$41 for all with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Senior**

Now: \$36 online, \$43 mail or phone, no affiliate commission. Change to \$40 for all with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Premium Young Adult (25 or under at expiration)**

Now: \$32 with \$3 affiliate commission. No change.

**Regular Young Adult (25 or under at expiration)**

Now: \$24 with \$3 affiliate commission. No change.

**Premium Youth (16 or under at expiration)**

Now: \$27 with \$3 affiliate commission. Bimonthly *Chess Life*. Merge into Young Adult category, \$32 with \$3 affiliate commission. Monthly *Chess Life*.

**Regular Youth (16 or under at expiration)**

Now: \$20 with \$3 affiliate commission. Merge into Young Adult category, \$24 with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Premium Scholastic (13 or under at expiration)**

Now: \$23 with \$3 affiliate commission. Change to \$24 with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Regular Scholastic (13 or under at expiration)**

Now: \$16 with \$3 affiliate commission. Change to \$17 with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Family Type 1 (including at least one adult)**

Now: \$70 with \$3 affiliate commission. Change to \$75 with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Family Type 2 (no adults)**

Now: \$44 with \$3 affiliate commission. Change to \$47 with \$3 affiliate commission.

**Tournament Membership**

Adult: Now \$12 with 1 issue of *Chess Life*.  
Young Adult/Youth: Now \$7 with 1 issue of *Chess Life* or *Chess Life for Kids*.

**Change to the following:**

Tournament Memberships are replaced by 3 month memberships, as follows.

Adult: \$15 with 3 issues of *Chess Life*.  
Young Adult/Youth: \$10 with 3 issues of *Chess Life*.  
Scholastic: \$8 with 2 issues of *Chess Life for Kids*.  
3 month memberships are sold only at tournaments.

Note: the Executive Board has the option of implementing the 3 month memberships as soon as possible, however existing Tournament Memberships will remain available until Jan. 1, 2012.

**Junior Tournament Players (JTPs)**

Now: no charge  
Change: JTPs for grades K-3 are discontinued.  
JTPs for K-12 in school tournaments limited to students from

that school continue unchanged.

**New multiyear rates (each with \$3 affiliate commission):**

Premium Adult: 2 years \$84, 3 years \$122.  
Regular Adult: 2 years \$74, 3 years \$107.  
Senior: 2 years \$72, 3 years \$104.  
Premium Young Adult: 2 years \$59, 3 years \$85 (unchanged).  
Regular Young Adult: 2 years \$43, 3 years \$61 (unchanged).  
Premium Scholastic: 2 years \$43, 3 years \$61.  
Regular Scholastic: 2 years \$40, 3 years \$42.

**ADM 11-26 (Sevan Muradian, IL) Patron Membership**

**PROPOSAL:** Create a Patron level membership at \$150 per year with the option of receiving *Chess Life* physically or not receiving one with the difference in price of this membership versus a Premium or Regular membership being forwarded to the USCF General Operations Account. USCF to actively promote through *Chess Life*, *Chess Life Online*, and e-mail blasts.

**RATIONALE:** For all intents and purposes the Benefactor Membership program is a failure. While the USCF thanks those that did provide into the Benefactor program, it has not generated any level of significant financial impact to the USCF. The hurdles of the Benefactor Program (Life Membership plus another \$1,500, and miserable promotion of the program by the USCF) are too much to overcome. As such a much lower and appropriately priced program with proper promotion to the membership has a greater chance of success.

**ADM 11-27 (Sevan Muradian, IL) Simplification of non-Adult/Senior Dues Structure**

**PROPOSAL:** Reduce non-adult memberships to a Student version memberships at a price of \$20 with no physical copy of either *Chess Life for Kids* or *Chess Life* but with electronic access to both *Chess Life for Kids* and *Chess Life*.

**RATIONALE:** Currently the USCF maintains 9 individual membership plans, 2 family plans, 2 Life plans, and 1 Benefactor plan. The numerous plans, 6 of which are for non-adult players, are confusing to members, more work to organizers and TDs to explain on-site and more administrative work for the USCF office.

The Student Membership will greatly simplify the confusing structure and provide students with access to *Chess Life* starting from a young age.

**ADM 11-28 (Sevan Muradian, IL) Chess Life for Kids e-publication only**

**PROPOSAL:** Migrate *Chess Life for Kids* to purely an electronic publication and provide Scholastic Newsletter to all non-adult membership classes.

**RATIONALE:** Kids are of the digital age. They do not require a physical edition of a magazine and are more comfortable with electronic reading than adults are. USCF can provide hard copy purchases to be made available through print on demand services such as Amazon or Barnes and Noble for those that wish to receive a hard copy. This ADM does NOT call for the reduction of the *Chess Life for Kids* publication staff.

**ADM 11-29 (Executive Board)**

“Motion—Inaccurate and confusing language in Tournament Director Certification Rule 14 has led to misunderstandings and confusion in the meaning. The following bullets are corrective

- o There is no concept of FIDE endorsement as they assume that a U.S. tournament submitted for FIDE rating has already met our requirement.
- o FIDE does not require IA/FA to direct a non-title FIDE rated tournament.
- o FIDE does not require any level of USCF director to direct FIDE rated tournaments.
- o Offsite supervision by IA for title events is no longer allowed by

FIDE.

- o Federation Arbiter is not a title; FIDE Arbiter is the correct title.

Therefore, the new 14 should say:

#### 14. Category I.

A Tournament held in the United States that will be submitted to both FIDE and the USCF for rating.

- a. FIDE events that award title norms for GMs, IMs, WGMs and WIMs and will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by an onsite International Arbiter (IA) or FIDE Arbiter (FA).
- b. U.S. events that are also FIDE rated should be directed by an onsite USCF Senior TD or higher, or IA/FA that meets USCF requirements for Senior TD and for the expected size of the event.

Present rule below for comparison

#### Tournament Categories

#### 14. Category I.

A Tournament held in the United States that will be submitted to both FIDE and USCF for rating.

- a. FIDE events that award title norms for GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs and will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by an International Arbiter (IA), Federation Arbiter (FA), or a Senior, or higher, certified TD, supervised by an IA.
- b. FIDE events that do not award title norms but will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by a TD certified at the Senior level or higher who has the FIDE endorsement and whose level is appropriate for the expected size of the event.

#### **ADM 11-30 (Mike Atkins, VA)**

Proposed change to Chapter 11 blitz rules. To make it simpler and less confusing, since blitz is played with a separate set of rules, Blitz should only be 5-0, 5 minutes with no delay. G/6-29 is quick chess and played under quick rules. Right now, G/10 could be both blitz or quick chess and this confusion doesn't have to happen.

#### **ADM 11-31 (Ken Ballou, MA)**

Modify blitz rule 7d by inserting the phrase "provided the player has sufficient mating material as defined in rule 7c" at the end of the last sentence.

**RATIONALE:** Blitz rules 7d and 8d are inconsistent with each other. Rule 7d makes no mention of mating material being required to claim a win if the opponent makes an illegal move. However, rule 8d says that the game is drawn if a player does not have sufficient mating material.

#### **ADM 11-32 (Michael Atkins, VA)**

There is currently in the USCF blitz rules a rule that seems oddly out of place relating to blitz.

Current USCF -

- 4.) Each player must press the clock with the same hand that moves the pieces.
- 4a) When castling a player may use both hands.
- 4b) When capturing or completing a promotion both hands may be used if it is clear that the clock is pressed after the move is determined.

The original WBCA #4 rule, and part of the rules submitted by motion in 2007

- 4. Each player must push the clock with the same hand he uses to move his pieces. Also, when capturing, only one hand may be used. Exception: during castling a player may use both hands. The first infraction will get a warning, the second a one-minute penalty, and the third will result in loss of the game.

Somehow, the rule was changed to allow capturing and promoting with 2 hands. This tends to create chaos on the board with hands flying, increasing the potential for knocking over pieces. The rule was designed by experienced blitz players to minimize chaos on the board. It is moved that the original WBCA rule be modified and now state:

- 4.) Each player must press the clock with the same hand that moves the pieces. One Exception: When castling, a player may use both hands. The first infraction will get a warning, the second a one-minute penalty, and the third will result in loss of the game.

#### **ADM 11-33 (John Farrell, VA)**

Several years ago, the practice of tournament directors playing in a National event was prohibited. The problem of tournament directors playing in their own events continues to be an issue with both the appearance and fact of impropriety in pairings, rulings, and judgments in other games affecting a playing TD's status, and with the reality that the more prize money that is involved the more potential problems there could be.

It is moved that the Tournament Directors of Grand Prix events cannot play in their own event with the possible exception of Club Championships.

#### **ADM 11-34 (Brian Mottershead, MA) SOFIA RULES ALLOWED**

Be it resolved by the Board of Delegates that the USCF *Official Rules of Chess* shall be amended by adding a new paragraph to the end of Rule 14B, as follows:

Variant 14B7. Draw Agreements Prohibited or Limited ("Sofia Rules").

The rules for a tournament may prohibit draw agreements, or set limits on when draw agreements may be made. For example, the rules of a tournament may allow draws only after a certain number of moves have been made, or require the consent of a tournament director for draw agreements. This variant is considered a major variant. It shall suffice to announce this variant by stating in advance publicity that tournament shall use "Sofia Rules".

**RATIONALE:** Clarifies that Sofia Rules are an allowed variant in tournaments conducted according to the USCF *Official Rules of Chess*.

#### **ADM 11-35 (John Farrell, VA and Military Chess Committee)**

**In the absence of a team scoring method in a regular tournament, whereas team members can play one another, the following is submitted for consideration to be added to the Rule Book:**

**31A Combined individual, team tournaments.** As the name suggests, these are not true team tournaments. They are particularly popular as scholastic events because they allow schools to enter any number of players instead of a team with a fixed roster. The tournament is played as a normal Swiss, except that efforts are made to avoid pairing teammates (i.e. players from the same school) with each other. See also 28A, Pairing cards or programs and 28N, Combined individual team tournaments.

**31A.1 The Rollins (Military) Scoring system for combined events.** This system offers a means to determine team and individual champions from a single event (usually a Swiss). The individual champion is determined using the normal rules and announced tiebreaks for the event. The number of eligible team members (ex, 4, 5 or 6) is determined as announced in the event promotion. Eligible teams are then selected by identifying the respective highest scoring players for each team. Based on the total number of players, each player receives a score that is the inverse of his overall placing. Ex. The top player in a 100 player event receives 99 points, second place receives 98 points, etc. Individual scores for eligible team members are then com-

bined to derive the team score. The highest team score is declared the Team Champion.

**A WORKING MODEL** The following scoring happens in a fictional tournament that is a 6 round Swiss event consisting of 100 players and four teams. In this example, the Top Individual player (determined from the 6 round Swiss tournament) was from the Army and the Army won the Team Championship as well (determined from the standings from the individual tournament).

	Army Team	Points	Navy Team	Points	Air Force Team	Points	Marine Team	Points
<b>Player 1</b>	1st	99	3rd	97	2nd	98	4th	96
<b>Player 2</b>	5th	95	7th	93	8th	92	10th	90
<b>Player 3</b>	6th	94	9th	91	11th	89	12th	88
<b>Player 4</b>	13th	87	14th	86	16th	84	15th	85
<b>Player 5</b>	17th	83	18th	82	22nd	78	23rd	77
<b>Player 6</b>	19th	81	20th	80	21st	79	24th	76
<b>Place/Total</b>		<b>539</b>		<b>529</b>		<b>520</b>		<b>512</b>

**Table 31A.1 Rollins System for Combined Events**

\* This is the official scoring system of the U.S. Armed Forces Open Chess Tournament.

**(USCF Rules Committee) PROPOSED RULE to replace**

**ADM 11-36 the ratable time controls of Rule 5C:**

For the purposes of rating G/minutes and inc/seconds (or d/seconds), add minutes and seconds for total playing time for each player. (i.e. total time equals minutes plus (seconds times 60))

e.g.: G/60 d/5 = 60+5 = 65 minutes total playing time for each player.

Multiple time controls add all mm for each control: mm = mm(1) + mm(2) + ...

Regular only: total playing time for each player is greater than 65 minutes.

Dual (both regular and quick): total playing time for each player is from 30 to 65 minutes.

Quick only: total playing time for each player is less than 30 minutes and Blitz (see chapter 11)

in all cases the primary time control (mm in minutes) must be at least 5 minutes.

**TD TIP**

Examples of standard time controls:

40/90, SD/30, inc/30	Regular (standard FIDE)
40/120, SD/60 d/5	Regular
40/115, SD/60 d/5	Regular (FIDE allowed—2 rds/day)
G/120, inc/30	Regular
G/120, d/5	Regular
G/115, d/5	Regular (FIDE allowed—3 rds/day)
G/90, inc/30	Regular (standard FIDE)
G/90, d/5	Regular
G/60, inc/30	Regular
G/60, d/5	Dual
G/30, d/5	Dual
G/25, d/5	Dual
G/25, d/3	Quick
G/15, d/3	Quick
G/10, d/3	Quick
Blitz G/5 (d/0)	Quick

When used, standard increment is 30 seconds (Regular). Standard delay is 5 seconds (regular or dual); and 3 seconds (quick).

Standard blitz uses no delay or increment (see chapter 11).

Although these are not all of the possible time controls,

organizers are encouraged to select one of the above (or very similar) so that all participants are clear as to what to expect and under which system the event will be rated.

**ADM 11-37 (Steve Immitt, NY) Standard Timer For Sudden Death**  
The Delegates resolve that Rule 5F, Standard Timer For Sudden Death, be modified to read as follows:

“Variation 5Fa. The Tournament Director has the right to shorten the basic time control, up to the number of minutes equal to the time delay used in seconds. Examples: Time-delay clocks for G/60 with a 5-second time delay (t/d5) may be set starting at 55 minutes through 59 minutes instead of 60; G/30 with a 5-second delay (t/d5) may be set starting at 25 minutes through 29 minutes and still be dual-rated as G/30; G/10 with a 3-second time delay (t/d3) may be set starting at 7 minutes through 9 minutes.

A notation shall be used in any *Chess Life* TLAs and other advance publicity to denote this deduction (e.g., “G/30 (G/25 + td/5)”) to indicate that the time control for that tournament is G/30 with an analog clock and Game/25 plus a 5 second delay each move for time-delay clocks), and any TLAs and advance publicity for tournaments using this variation must indicate the time control and the time-delay for clocks using time-delay.

In order to have tournaments rated in the regular rating system, the minimum basic time control must be at least 30 minutes for clocks not using time-delay and at least 25 minutes for clocks using time-delay, and the minimum amount of the time-delay each move must be at least five seconds.

**EXPLANATION**

The practice of deducting time from the base time control for time-delay clocks would, under this proposal, now be considered to be a significant variation, and would be required to be announced in the TLA and any advance publicity. The parameters and limits for such deductions would also be reaffirmed (i.e., non-time-delay clocks would be required to have at least 30 minutes, time-delay clocks would be required to have at least 25 minutes, as is currently the rule in order to be rated regularly, and the time-delay is at least five seconds).

Players should have a right to know in advance whether or not their time-delay clocks (standard equipment for Sudden Death tournaments) will be allowed to use the full base time control, as some players might feel that they were misled about the time control, and may have chosen not to enter the tournament if they had known that a deduction were going to be made for time-delay clocks. Others might decide to bring their analog clocks to use instead, in the event that their opponent does not have a time-delay clock, in order to avoid the time deduction for delay clocks.

On the other hand, time delay clocks have been a staple of Sudden Death tournaments for at over a decade now, and their popularity parallels the popularity of regularly-ratable Sudden Death. In order for a tournament to be rated in the regular rating system, and not the Quick Rating System, it must have a base time control of Game/30 or slower.

Since its inception in 1987, Game/30 (“Action Chess”) has proven to be an enormously popular time control—the USCF rates more Game/30 tournaments than any other time control, demonstrating a clear demand for action chess tournaments. Game/30 lends itself especially well to tournament venues with a fixed or limited amount of time for a tournament, or even as side events between rounds of slower tournaments.

The chief reason for the appeal of Game/30 was that these tournaments would affect the players’ regular ratings. When compared to Game/29 (Quick-rated only) tournaments with similar or identical conditions, the Game/30 tournament invariably outdraws its Game/29 cousin, and the margin of ictory is usually not close. With other details virtually the same, the only difference responsible for the marked contrast in attendance is the inclusion of the Game/30 results in the players’ regular ratings. This should hardly be a surprise, as most players

evidently view something that's important enough to merit their time, effort, attention and money, such as serious tournament play, should also be important enough to merit being included in their regular ratings as well.

The other main reason for Game/30's popularity was the development of time-delay clocks. Time-delay clocks have virtually eliminated the inevitable conclusion of an action game into a clock smash-fest, which would have destroyed the popularity of the fast time control. But time-delay is a double-edged sword, and the extra time it would add to the length of the tournament would also be a real drawback. This especially becomes a concern when the amount of time available is fixed or limited, such as in cafeterias, churches, classrooms, school gymnasiums, etc., or when the tournament must be over at a specific time. It was to address these very concerns that Rule 5Fa, which allowed the TD to compensate for the delay by making a corresponding deduction to the time control, was developed in the first place.

The solution to this dilemma was time-delay for Game/30, to avoid the smash-clock games, and also to shorten the time control by five minutes, to compensate for the time-delay. This has resulted in the creation of a new tournament niche: entire four, five or six-round tournaments could now be held in a day, an afternoon or even in one evening. The entire-tournament-in-a-few-hours-on-a-tight-schedule format has proven to be so popular that some of these events have been running on a monthly and weekly basis for several years, some even for decades. This would not be possible were it not for Game/30 and time delay, coupled with a five-minute deduction for time-delay. Adding an extra 40 to 50 minutes or more to an afternoon or evening tournament is a luxury which many sites, as well as many busy players, do not have.

In a recent Delegates Meeting, one of the proposals being debated was an addition to the tiebreak rules to include a recommendation for a speed playoff in the event that two or more players finish with perfect scores. One of the arguments repeatedly made against including such a recommendation in the actual rules (it was instead made a "TD Tip") was that it would be unfair to tie the hands of the TD or organizer who may have a limited amount of time available at the site for the tournament, not to mention the players who likely have their own commitments later on as well. Yet how much more unfair than a recommendation to have a speed playoff is it to instead tie the hands of the TD or organizer to a tournament schedule which would be likely to exceed the time limit available, let alone interfere with the players' later plans for the day?

Some have expressed concern about the "slippery slope" argument: If today the line between Regular-rated and Quick-Rated is 30 minutes for analog clocks (or the corresponding 25 minutes plus 5-second delay), then what's to stop the line from moving to 20 minutes for analogs (or 15 minutes plus 5-second delay) tomorrow, and then to 10 minutes (presumably with 5 minutes plus delay) the next day, or even faster?? But 30 minutes for analog clocks (with the corresponding 25 minutes plus 5-second delay) has been regularly-ratable for many years. It has served consistently as the accepted demarcation between Regular and Quick for all that time, and not as just the next step down the path to tournament rating debauchery. Why would the line in the sand between Regular and Quick need to be made any faster than it has been for many years? But why should the same line suddenly need to regress any further back in the opposite direction, only to ignore the existing demand of those USCF members who want tournaments which are compatible with their own limited schedules?

**ADM 11-38 (Steve Immitt, NY) Variation 11H1. Director As Witness Only**

The Delegates resolve that the following language be added to the end of Rule 11H1, Director As Witness Only: "This variation does not need to be announced in advance."

**EXPLANATION:** Many Tournament Directors refrain from correcting

illegal moves played in non-Sudden Death time controls which the TD has observed, unless the opponent of the player who made the illegal move has first pointed this out to the TD. This proposal serves to codify this practice, by explicitly stating that this practice does not need to be announced in advance. Without such a specific advance disclaimer to the contrary, players may believe that the TD will initiate claims of illegal moves which may occur in their games.

**ADM 11-39 (Steve Immitt, NY) Changes Or Amendments To USCF Section—Rules Of Play**

The Delegates resolve that Rule 25 be added to the "USCF Section—Rules of Play" of the USCF Rulebook:

"25. Changes Or Amendments To USCF Section—Rules Of Play. Any changes to the USCF Rules listed in Chapter One of the USCF Rulebook: "USCF Section—Rules of Play" (and any subsequent renumbering thereof) shall require approval of a majority of the Delegates of two consecutive Delegate Meetings, or the approval of at least two-thirds of the Delegates at any single Delegate Meeting. Once enacted, any changes, amendments or rescissions to this rule are subject to the same restrictions."

**EXPLANATION:** While it is true that the process to amend the USCF's own Bylaws is a less restrictive one than this proposal to change the USCF Tournament Rules (approval of a majority of the Delegates in one meeting if the Bylaws change is included on the Advance Agenda of the Delegates Meeting), so what? The Delegates have previously enacted widescale and sweeping changes to the Tournament Rules in the past, sometimes without having taken the time to consider all the ramifications or to consider the likely unintended consequences of the proposed rule changes. Rule changes which require players and/or Tournament Directors to follow new procedures which are significantly different than those currently followed are likely to cause more than a little confusion and consternation to those affected, and perhaps engender ill will on the part of the players and TDs who may misunderstand them. Such changes should require a super-majority of those Delegates to enact, or give the Delegates time until the next meeting to solicit feedback from other members who are likely to be affected by the proposed changes.

**ADM 11-40 (Richard Koeppke, CA-N)**

Modify Article IX for the bylaws to add the following section:

**Section 19: Modification of the Official Rules of Chess**

The U.S. Chess Federation's *Official Rules of Chess* may be modified by a majority vote of the Delegates or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates advanced agenda shall require a 2/3 majority vote to pass."

**ADM 11-41 (Steve Immitt, NY) Right Of All Players To Furnish And Use Time-Delay Clocks**

The Delegates approve changing Rule 42-D to read as follows:

"A properly set clock with time delay capability is preferable to any other clock in a game with any sudden death time control. Therefore, if White has such a clock available and Black does not, White's clock should be used. If either player arrives late for the start of the game, and a clock without time delay has already been started, the player has the right to furnish and substitute a properly set time-delay clock, before he has completed his first move. The player substituting the time-delay clock must also transfer the elapsed times shown on the non-delay clock to the delay clock, without any additional adjustments (except to correct any errors in the display of the elapsed time). The player substituting the delay clock must have arrived at the board before the grace period for forfeit loss of the game by non-appearance (13-D) has expired. Notwithstanding the above, the only occasions where Black retains the right to use his/her non-time-delay clock are in games with no sudden death time control, in cases where both players have the same type of non-time-delay clock, or if the delay mode were not being used in a sudden death time control

game, and if, in all these cases, Black has arrived in time for the start of the game (or if White is late, before White has arrived). In any particular game, if the delay clock cannot be properly set, then the opponent of the player providing the delay clock may choose which legal clock is to be used (5F).

**EXPLANATION:** There are many situations where players may be unavoidably delayed from arriving before the start of the round, through no fault of their own. Not everyone who arrives late for the game does so out of negligence. New USCF Rule 14H6 (“No Claim of Insufficient Losing Chances In Sudden Death”) allows the individual TD to opt to disallow any draw claims by Insufficient Losing Chances, and such a variation is not required to be announced in the advance publicity.

It would be very unfair and against the basic principles of USCF-rated Sudden Death if a late-arriving player were not only denied the current relief of Rule 14H against an opponent playing out a drawn or lost position solely to win on time, but also denied the opportunity to use a time-delay clock at all. The player, the rest of the players in the room, and the TD would then all be forced to endure the spectacle of the game, which might otherwise be decided over the board using time-delay, instead degenerating into a duel of “clock-punching monkeys.” To ensure that the position in the game does not influence whether or not the delay clock is used, the substitution must occur before the player furnishing the time-delay clock has completed his first move.

**ADM 11-42 (Bob Messenger, MA)**

Amend the USCF tournament rules to state that it is not necessary for a player to physically move the pawn to the last rank when promoting a pawn.

In Rule 8F6, after “The promotion piece is placed on the eighth-rank square to which the pawn was moved.” add:

It is not necessary for the player to physically move the pawn to the last rank as long as the pawn is removed from the board and the new piece is placed on the promotion square, in either order.

In Rule 9D, after “If the player has released the pawn on the last rank, the move is not yet determined, but the player no longer has the right to play the pawn to another square.” add:

If the pawn is still on the board when the player’s hand has released the new piece on the promotion square, the move is not yet determined but the player cannot promote to a different piece or on a different square.

**RATIONALE:** This rules change recognizes the fact that many players remove the pawn from the board and place the new piece on the promotion square without actually moving the pawn to the last rank. Players should not be penalized for doing this. The proposed amendment to Rule 9D clarifies the situation when the new piece has been released on the promotion square but the pawn has not yet been removed by saying that although the move has not yet been determined (since, for example, there might be two pawns which can promote on the same square), the player can’t change his or her mind and promote to different piece or on a different square.

**ADM 11-43 (Bob Messenger, MA)**

In Chapter 11 (Blitz Chess) of the USCF’s *Official Rules of Chess*, as amended, replace the current rule 17 with the following:

17.) If a player is promoting a pawn and the desired piece is not available, the player may stop both clocks in order to locate the piece and place it on the board. It is improper for the player to press the clock to start the opponent’s time with the pawn still on the last rank. If this is done, the opponent may immediately restart the player’s clock without moving.

**RATIONALE:** The existing rule 17 reads: “If the player promotes a pawn and leaves the pawn on the board, the opponent has the option of stopping the clocks while a replacement piece is found.” The intent of this rule appears to be to legitimize the practice of a player moving a pawn to the last rank, announcing “Queen”, and

subsequently moving the pawn as if it were a queen, without replacing the pawn with a physical queen as required by rules 8F6 and 8F7. This is clearer when looking at the WBCA rule 17 on which it is based, which continues, “up until the end of the game”.

Rules should be stated clearly and unambiguously, so that their meaning can be understood by all players and TDs. It’s not fair if some players know about a rule and others don’t. The current version of USCF blitz rule 17 is ambiguous and open to misinterpretation because it doesn’t explicitly say that a promoted pawn can move and capture as if it were the new piece, although this becomes more obvious when looking at the WBCA history of the rule. The rule also doesn’t say whether the player promoting the pawn can simply announce the new piece, such as by saying “Queen” or “Knight”, or if an unexchanged pawn can only be a queen. A verbal announcement of the new piece might be misunderstood, which could lead to a dispute.

The proposed amendment makes it illegal for a player to promote a pawn and then press the clock without replacing the pawn with the new piece, as it is in regular and quick chess. The text of the proposed new rule is a shortened version of rule 8F7 in the regular USCF rules. Promoting a pawn and leaving the pawn on the board instead of replacing it with the new piece isn’t an illegal move, as it is under FIDE blitz rules, but the opponent can restart the player’s clock without moving.

**ADM 11-44 (Tim Just, IL)**

The U.S. Chess Federation’s *Official Rules of Chess*, 5th Edition, will be available in e-format by June 1, 2012.

**REASONING:** It is the 21st century, get with the program.

**ADM 11-45 (Tim Just, IL)**

The U.S. Chess Federation’s *Official Rules of Chess*, 5th Edition, with all current rulebook updates will be available in e-format by June 1, 2013.

**REASONING:** It is the 21st century, get with the program.

**ADM 11-46 (Timothy Redman, DAL-TX; Roger Inglis, NJ; Michael Somers, NJ; James Mennella, NJ)**

The Executive Board shall not initiate any lawsuit against any foreign national chess federation or against FIDE without the prior approval of the Board of Delegates.

**ADM 11-47 (Timothy Redman, DAL-TX; Roger Inglis, NJ; Michael Somers, NJ; James Mennella, NJ)**

The USCF office shall report annually to the Board of Delegates the following financial information about the Players Health and Benefits fund:

- (1) Any expenditures made during the fiscal year ending the prior May 31 including the amount awarded to each player
- (2) The status of the funds as of the prior May 31 including any encumbrances against these funds.

Justification for ADM 2: the Life Member Assets Committee provides this information to the Delegates and the same information should be provided for the Players Health and Benefits fund.

**ADM 11-48 (Brian Mottershead, MA) Access to USCF Membership Addresses by State Affiliates**

Be it resolved by the Board of Delegates that, upon request, not more than twice per year, a State Chapter shall be furnished a copy, in electronic form, of the current names, postal addresses, and e-mail addresses of USCF members resident in the state of the State Chapter, to be used for the purpose of contacting those members regarding USCF governance and participation in State Chapter activities and governance.

**RATIONALE:** State Chapters currently are responsible for representing USCF members in USCF governance (such as by appointing Delegates) but have no means to identify USCF members or to directly contact them, or to seek to involve them in

State Chapter governance.

**ADM 11-49 (Brian Mottershead, MA) USCF SALES TRADEMARK**

Be it resolved by the Board of Delegates that:

1. The structure and content of the USCF website, publications, and e-mails shall make it clear that "USCF Sales" and "USCFSales.com" are trademarks of the USCF which have been licensed to a third-party business, namely House of Staunton, but that the business operating under the "USCF Sales" and "USCFSales.com" marks are not businesses of the USCF.

2. The USCF shall not take any action which would lead a USCF member or member of the public to believe that the USCF is responsible for, or endorses, the policies and business practices of House of Staunton (HoS), including those carried out by HoS under the "USCF Sales" trademark, or that the USCF operates "USCF Sales".

3. The USCF shall not permit HoS to imply, on the USCFSales.com website, in marketing materials, e-mails, or otherwise, that it is equivalent to the USCF or that it is other than a licensee of the USCF Sales and USCFSales.com trademarks, and if necessary shall require House of Staunton to cease and desist from implying that USCF Sales is a business of the USCF, or is operated by the USCF.

**RATIONALE:** The USCF should tell the truth and should not deliberately mislead its members.

**ADM 11-50 (Sevan Muradian, IL) Hiring Processes**

**PROPOSAL:** Prior to hiring any paid employee or contract worker, USCF will publicly solicit from the membership and general public resumes or applications, and provide a full description of the position including duties, hours per week, where work is to be performed, pay range, and experience requirements. Should an emergency situation occur requiring an expedited hiring process, the Executive Director must provide a written request to the Executive Board on why the situation is deemed an emergency. The Executive Board at that time, in writing, may authorize the Executive Director to perform an expedited hiring to address the

emergency.

**RATIONALE:** The USCF needs a fully transparent hiring process which begins with openly announcing available positions. Currently if someone is not within the USCF friends and family circle, they don't know about a potential opening. In the past 6 months (since April 2011) a part-time webmaster was hired, a part-time membership associate was hired, and a contractor was hired all without announcements being made of the position and its requirements.

**ADM 11-51 (Sevan Muradian, IL) Hire Program Manager – Electronic Communications**

**PROPOSAL:** The USCF to hire a Program Manager (employee, contract, or contract-to-hire) to oversee the overall and long term management of electronic communications for the USCF which includes but is not limited to: the USCF website reboot, social media immersion, and website content management. The Executive Director is to create or seek assistance in the creation of a complete job description, including duties, hours per week, where work is to be performed, pay range, and experience requirements along with USCF will publicly soliciting from the USCF membership and general public resumes or applications.

**RATIONALE:** The USCF website, for all intents and purposes, is in shambles. The USCF has spent tens of thousands of dollars with nothing to show for it. This is the first impression a potential member, media professional, or sponsor has of the USCF. It's where our affiliates perform a variety of tasks that furthers the mission of the USCF and drives revenue. It's where our members come to for information and to utilize membership services. The website needs to be functional and unified, which today it's somewhat functional but not unified at all.

**INSTALLATION OF NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**CHECK OUT USCF'S CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RATED EVENTS!**

**2011 Open Correspondence Chess Golden Knights Championship**

**USCF's 64<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**  
**\$1,000 FIRST PRIZE**  
(plus title of USCF's Golden Knights Champion and plaque)  
**2nd place \$600 • 3rd place \$400 • 4th place \$300 • 5th place \$200**  
**6th thru 10th place \$100 each • ENTRY FEE: \$25**

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members who reside on the North American continent, islands, or Hawaii, as well as those USCF members with an APO or FPO address. USCF members who reside outside of the North American continent are welcome to participate in e-mail events. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Those new to USCF Correspondence Chess, please estimate your strength: **Class A:** 1800-1999 (very strong); **Class B:** 1600-1799 (strong); **Class C:** 1400-1599 (intermediate); **Class D:** 1399 and below (beginner level). **Note:** Prize fund based on 300 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

**CORRESPONDENCE CHESS MATCHES (TWO PLAYERS)**  
Two or six-game options. **ENTRY FEE: \$5.**

**Win A Correspondence Chess Trophy**  
Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings.  
1st-place winner receives a trophy.  
**ENTRY FEE: \$10.**

**Victor Palciauskas Prize Tournaments**  
Seven-player class-level pairings, one game with each of six opponents.  
1st-place winner receives \$130 cash prize and a certificate signed by Victor Palciauskas.  
**ENTRY FEE: \$25.**

**John W. Collins Memorial Class Tournaments**  
Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings (unrateds welcome).  
1st-place winner receives a John W. Collins certificate.  
**ENTRY FEE: \$7.**

**E-MAIL RATED EVENTS (NEED E-MAIL ACCESS):**

**Lightning Match**  
Two players with two or six-game option. **ENTRY FEE: \$5.**

**Swift Quads**  
Four-player, double round-robin format.  
1st-place prize merchandise credit of \$30.  
**ENTRY FEE: \$10.**

**Walter Muir E-Quads (webserver chess)**  
Four-player, double round-robin e-mail format tournament with class-level pairings.  
1st-place receives a certificate.  
**ENTRY FEE: \$7.**

Please circle event(s) selected.

**NOTE:** Except for Lightning Matches, Swift Quads, Walter Muir E-Quads & Electronic Knights, players will use post office mail, unless opponents agree to use e-mail.

**2011 E-mail Correspondence Chess Electronic Knights Championship**

**USCF's 8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**  
(Seven-player sections, one game with each of six opponents.)  
**\$700 FIRST PRIZE**  
(plus title of USCF's Electronic Knights Champion and plaque)  
**2nd place \$400 • 3rd place \$300 • 4th thru 10th place \$100 each • ENTRY FEE: \$25**

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members with e-mail access. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten. **Note:** Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

**TO ENTER: 800-903-USCF(8723) OR FAX 931-787-1200 OR ON-LINE AT WWW.USCHESS.ORG**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ USCF ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Est. Rating \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit card # (VISA, MC, Disc., AMEX) \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

If using VISA, need V-code \_\_\_\_\_  Check here if you do not wish to have an opponent who is incarcerated.  
\*Note: This may slow down your assignment.

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO U.S. CHESS AND MAIL TO: JOAN DUBOIS, USCF, PO BOX 3967, CROSSVILLE, TN**





# Bylaws of the U.S. Chess Federation

Includes all changes passed at the 2010 Annual meeting

Approved 10 December 2010

## Article I: Name

The name of the corporation shall be the United States Chess Federation (USCF) also known as the United States of America Chess Federation, commonly known as US Chess.

## Article II: Purposes

### Section 1.

The purpose of the Federation shall be educational and instructional, to broaden and develop chess as art and recreation, as a significant element of culture in America. The Federation shall cooperate with schools, colleges, hospitals, military bases, community centers, recreation departments, and other groups and institutions, in teaching chess, conducting tournaments, and other activities. The Federation shall disseminate information through its publications and representatives, and the Federation shall select the official USA representatives in all international chess affairs. The Federation shall encourage and support chess programs for handicapped individuals and the participation of handicapped in chess activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by handicapped individuals in all chess competition.

### Section 2.

The Federation is pledged:

- A.** To operate exclusively for educational, recreational, and social welfare purposes;
- B.** That no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional program shall not be so construed;
- C.** That the Federation is not operated for profit and that neither principal nor income of any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation;
- D.** To promote the study and knowledge of the scientific game of chess;
- E.** To foster the development of players and to help those who seek to become masters;
- F.** To encourage the formation of chess groups, clubs, and asso-

ciations;

- G.** To hold a tournament no less often than once every two years for the Chess Championship of the United States and to confer upon the winner of such tournament the title "United States Chess Champion"; and
- H.** To hold an open tournament every summer in the United States.

## Article III: Membership

### Section 1. Adult Memberships.

Any person may become an Adult (also known as Regular) Member of the Federation upon payment online of \$34 for one year, \$63 for two years or \$91 for three years, or a Premium Adult (also known as Premium) Member upon payment online of \$42 for one year, \$78 for two years or \$113 for three years. If paid by mail or phone, each of these amounts is \$7 additional.

### Section 2. Young Adult Memberships.

Any person under 26 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Young Adult Member of the Federation upon payment of \$24 for one year, \$43 for two years or \$61 for three years, or a Premium Young Adult Member upon payment of \$32 for one year, \$59 for two years or \$85 for three years.

### Section 3. Youth Memberships.

Any person under 17 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Youth Member of the Federation upon payment of \$20 for one year, \$36 for two years or \$51 for three years, or a Premium Youth Member upon payment of \$27 for one year, \$49 for two years or \$70 for three years.

### Section 4. Scholastic Memberships.

Any person under 14 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Scholastic Member of the Federation upon payment of \$16 for one year, \$28 for two years or \$39 for three years, or a Premium Scholastic member upon payment of \$23 for one year, \$42 for two years or \$60 for three years.

### Section 5. Senior Membership.

A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday may become a Senior Member of the Federation upon payment online of \$36 for one year, \$65 for two years or \$93 for three years. If paid by mail or phone, each of these amounts is \$7 additional.

#### **Section 6. Special Membership.**

A blind person, or any person who is incarcerated in a penal institution in the United States, may become a Special member of the Federation for \$18 for one year.

#### **Section 7. Family Membership Plans.**

FAMILY PLAN 1: \$70, includes parents and their children under age 24 in the household living at one address. Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.

FAMILY PLAN 2: \$44, includes all children under age 24 in the household living at one address.

The spouse of a Life or Sustaining member may be included in the Family Membership Plan, however in that case, only the Life or Sustaining member will receive *Chess Life*.

#### **Section 8. Life Memberships.**

Any person may become a Life Member of the Federation upon payment of \$1,500 dues. Any person age 65 years or older may become a Life Member upon payment of \$750 dues. Any blind person may become a Life Member upon payment of \$375 dues. The Federation may require reasonable confirmation of eligibility from time to time as a continuation of Life membership.

#### **Section 9. Affiliate Commissions.**

There shall be a \$3 affiliate commission on all Youth, Scholastic, Young Adult, Family, Sustaining, and Life Memberships. There shall be a \$3 affiliate commission on all Adult and Senior memberships paid by mail or phone.

#### **Section 10. Promotional Memberships.**

In order to facilitate the development of membership promotion, the Executive Board may authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time to determine their feasibility by trial; such terms and rates shall be subject to review annually by the Board of Delegates.

#### **Section 11. Rights and Privileges.**

Each Premium, Premium Young Adult, Senior, and Special member shall be entitled to receive a monthly paper copy of *Chess Life*. Each Premium Youth membership shall be entitled to receive a paper copy of *Chess Life* every other month. Each Premium Scholastic member shall be entitled to receive a bimonthly paper copy of *Chess Life* for Kids. Each Regular, Young Adult and Youth member shall be entitled to receive a bimonthly paper bulletin, as well as (if providing an e-mail address) a password enabling access to the online version of *Chess Life* magazine. Each Scholastic member shall be entitled to a paper bulletin issued each four months, as well as (if providing an e-mail address) a password enabling access to the online version of *Chess Life* for Kids magazine. Each Family Membership shall provide one hard copy *Chess Life* to the household, plus one hard copy *Chess Life for Kids* if any Family Member is under 14. Each member shall be entitled to have his or her tournament play officially rated, to participate in the Annual Membership meeting, and to enjoy all other rights and privileges of membership not herein enumerated. Members and Affiliates with mailing addresses outside the United States may be charged an additional fee to cover extra costs.

#### **Section 12. Revocation of Membership.**

The Executive Board, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, may revoke or suspend the membership of any member for good cause. The USCF Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in

the USCF Code of Ethics.

#### **Section 13. Revocation of Membership or Affiliation.**

In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 12, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of the Federation, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or revocation of a member through application of the USCF Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

#### **Section 14. Annual Membership Meeting.**

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the membership, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purpose of hearing reports and making suggestions to the Board of Delegates. Twenty-five members present in person shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting. Participation and voting by members at the Annual Membership Meeting shall be limited to those members physically present. Participation through the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

### **Article IV: Voting Members**

#### **Section 1. Responsibility.**

The Voting Members are responsible for electing the Executive Board. Information regarding nominees and voting instructions shall appear in an appropriate issue of *Chess Life* and on the USCF website.

#### **Section 2. Definition.**

Any USCF member is entitled to register as a voting member provided that any voting member must be age 16 or over as of June 30 of the election year. For the 2011 elections only, all Delegates credentialed for the 2009 or 2010 annual meeting are voting members. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates are voting members.

#### **Section 3. Registration.**

Eligible members who are not already registered as Voting Members must register with the USCF office by March 31 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election, except that all members who are selected as USCF Delegates, Alternate Delegates or Executive Board members are automatically registered as Voting Members. There is no registration fee. Once registered, a member's status as a Voting Member continues as long as he or she is a member. When a membership lapses, Voting Member status ceases and the member must, after rejoining, again register by March 31 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election.

#### **Section 4. Membership Requirement.**

In order to vote in a regular election, registered Voting Members must be USCF members on May 5th of the election year, for the

entire day Central Time.

### **Section 5. Special Elections.**

1. The eligibility dates for voting in the election shall be part of the call for the special election and should use cutoff dates equivalent to the above based on when the ballots are expected to be received by the voting members.

2. The registration deadline for those not already registered shall be the same as the deadline for the submission of nominating petitions.

### **Section 6. Electronic Voting:**

Should the USCF implement an electronic voting system as an alternate to using paper ballots, voting members who do not receive *Chess Life* by mail every month will only be entitled to vote using the electronic voting system unless they request a paper ballot by writing to the USCF office prior to May 1st for a regular election or the equivalent cutoff date for a special election.

## **Article V: Board of Delegates**

### **Section 1. Responsibility.**

The Board of Delegates is responsible for the management of the USCF. It shall formulate general policy, adopt the annual budget, and write the Bylaws.

### **Section 2. Number.**

The Board of Delegates shall be composed of the Executive Board members, the Delegates at Large, and 125 Delegates, apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident USCF membership as of May 31 of the year prior to Delegate elections, except that each state with thirty or more members must have at least one Delegate. Each state with 1000 or more USCF members must have at least two Delegates. In addition, any Executive Board member-elect who is not already a Delegate becomes a Delegate immediately upon certification of the election result.

### **Section 3. Alternate Delegates.**

There shall be 125 Alternate Delegates, with each state having one Alternate Delegate for each Elected Delegate. All Life Voting Members under previous editions of these Bylaws shall automatically become Additional Alternate Delegates if they are not elected as Delegates.

### **Section 4. Selection of Delegates and Alternate Delegates.**

State Chapters shall designate the initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates for their states, as provided for in Article V, Sections 2 and 3, submitting the Delegates and Alternate Delegates in ordered lists. State Chapters must designate their initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, by November 1 of that year, or as soon thereafter as feasible. The term of each Delegate shall commence on January 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year and thereafter until a successor is selected.

All Delegates and Alternate Delegates appointed by state affiliates shall submit a written statement to USCF acknowledging their acceptance of said appointment upon notification of same, by the state affiliate. (Email statements shall be construed to be a written statement for this purpose.) Delegates and Alternate Delegates will not be deemed to be officially appointed as such until USCF receives said statement.

### **Section 5. Miscellaneous**

**A. VACANCIES.** If one or more Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates from any state are not present or are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, they can be replaced by Alternate Delegates only if the Delegates and higher-ranked

Alternate Delegates resign in writing, except that for each state, if Alternate Delegates are available to attend the Annual Board of Delegates Meeting, those Delegates who have not picked up their credentials by 9:30am of the first day of the Delegates' meeting will be deemed to have resigned as Delegates and the available Alternate Delegates will become Delegates per the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate gives advance notice of a delay in arrival by signed fax or email or telephone call to the USCF President or Secretary, such a Delegate or Alternate is not deemed to have resigned unless their credentials are not picked up by 2pm on the first day of the Delegates' meeting. The Delegates deemed to have resigned will only be those equal in number to the available Alternate Delegates and will start with the lowest ranked Delegate on the ordered list per Article V, Section 4.

**B.** The state president or senior state officer present may add names to the end of the ordered list for that state for the purpose of seating Delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates, providing the persons added at that time reside in the state being represented or in a state adjacent to it.

If a Delegate dies or resigns during the term of office, the vacancy shall be filled for the duration of the term of office in accordance with the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate moves from the state of residence, that person shall be deemed to have resigned as Delegate unless the State Chapter indicates otherwise.

Vacancies in the position of Delegate or Alternate Delegate for any state chapter, including those resulting from the promotion of an Alternate Delegate to Delegate, may be filled by the state chapter for the remainder of the term, provided that such appointments are placed at the end of the ordered list for that state chapter.

If no Delegates or Alternate Delegates are elected by a state, vacancies exist which can be filled by the State Chapter.

**B. Executive Board Members as Delegates.** Any Executive Board member who completes his or her term without re-election to the Executive Board, remains a Delegate until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates in the year following the completion of the Board term, except that if he has Delegate status for that period under another provision of these Bylaws, this provision shall not apply. Any former Executive Board member receiving Delegate status by the provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be a Delegate on the ordered list of any state, and shall not be replaced if he dies or resigns the position.

**C.** USCF Membership requirement. To serve as a Delegate, an individual must have a current membership as of the first day of the Delegates' Meeting.

**D.** Current USCF employees may not serve as Delegates. USCF employees are accorded the right to speak at the annual Delegates' Meeting.

### **Section 6. Annual Meeting.**

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purposes of hearing annual reports, installing officers, and considering other USCF business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit motions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in

the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Advance Delegate Motions.. Participation via the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted

### **Section 7. Special Delegates Meeting.**

Special Delegates meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting. Additional notification may be provided by e-mail or FAX. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the USCF website at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The special Delegates meeting has authority to act upon advance agenda items but does not have the authority to take action unrelated to the advance agenda items.

All Executive Board members shall have at least 7 days advance notice before the notice of the meeting is sent. Items can only be placed on the advance agenda by the President or any two Executive Board members.

A quorum shall consist of one third of all Delegates and Delegates will be certified in the same manner as at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

If the meeting notice so provides, the meeting can take place by teleconference at advance designated sites announced in the call of the meeting. Delegates must be present in person at a meeting site.

### **Section 8. Delegates at Large.**

Delegates at Large shall consist of the following:

- A.** All USCF Presidents who have served at least two consecutive years, upon completion of their term and are so elected by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates.
- B.** Those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to chess and who are elected by at least a 3/4 vote of the Board of Delegates at two consecutive Annual Meetings by a motion on the advance agenda for both meetings. The number of individuals in this category shall not exceed twenty. The term of the Delegates at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting at which they achieve Delegate at Large status and continue for three more Annual Meetings. A Delegate at Large whose term is expiring or has expired may be elected to a new term.

### **Section 9. Additional Delegates.**

The USCF Membership Meeting may elect up to 5 Additional Delegates for a term of one year expiring at the start of the next Membership Meeting from persons who are present and have previously served as Delegates in at least one of the last five years.

## **Article VI: Executive Board**

### **Section 1. Composition.**

The Executive Board shall consist of seven members elected for staggered terms of four years. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but without the right to vote. All Executive Board members are national officers of the USCF. No Executive Board member may be a full time or part time salaried or hourly USCF employee except for the USCF Executive Director serving as a non-voting member. All serving Executive

Board members must have a current USCF membership.

### **Section 2. Functions.**

The Executive Board shall manage the affairs of the Federation, including employment and other contracts, between meetings of the Board of Delegates and shall perform other duties as specified in these Bylaws. The Executive Board shall be subject to the authority of the Board of Delegates, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the Board of Delegates. The Executive Board's direction to the staff shall generally be given by the USCF President.

### **Section 3. Meetings.**

The Executive Board shall meet at least twice per year, the day and place to be fixed by vote of that Executive Board. Special meetings, including conference telephone calls or Internet conference meetings, may be called by the President or upon the written request of any three members of the Executive Board. Reasonable efforts to notify all Executive Board members of the meeting shall be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail, or other means approved by the Executive Board. The Minutes of all Executive Board meetings shall be posted on the USCF website within six weeks of each meeting. Delegates and Alternate Delegates may receive printed copies of Minutes upon request and upon payment of a reasonable fee, set by the Executive Director, sufficient to offset the printing and mailing costs of such printing and mailing. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the elected members of the Executive Board present in person or participating in a conference telephone call or Internet conference meeting. The affirmative votes of at least three different Executive Board members will be required to approve any action, as long as there are at least four members on the Executive Board.

All meetings of the Executive Board, including conference calls, shall be recorded in their entirety with a clear, permanent record by a means determined by the Executive Board. All Executive Board members shall receive copies of any audio tapes or video tapes of meetings within two weeks of those meetings. Any person wishing to obtain copies of audiotapes may do so at cost. The public portion of the permanent record will be available on the website within a month of the meeting record.

Executive Board votes may be taken by e-mail provided at least five days are allowed for discussion. As soon as all Executive Board members vote, or the five days have passed, the Board vote is official.

### **Section 4. Nomination.**

Any USCF member not a current employee of the USCF is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission to the Election Committee of the following by December 31 of the year before an election year:

- 1.** A valid nominating petition containing the signatures of fifty (50) or more Voting Members, of whom at least fifteen (15) shall be Delegates. The fifteen (15) Delegates must represent at least five (5) different states. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.
- 2.** A filing fee of \$250 made payable to the USCF
- 3.** A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.

An employee of the USCF may not be nominated for election to the Executive Board. Currently paid contractors/consultants working as *Chess Life* Editor, Events Coordinator, or Computer Consultant may not be a candidate for the USCF Executive Board.

The Election Committee shall have advertised a call for nominations in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than November 20 of the year prior to an election year and shall publish a list of all duly-submitted nominations in the issue published not later than April 10 of an election year.

Once a candidate is certified, the candidate may purchase labels of Voting Members at the same rate as affiliates. These labels may only be used for campaign purposes.

## Section 5. Elections

**A. Regular Elections.** Executive Board members shall be elected by the Voting Members. At the discretion of the Executive Board, ballots for that purpose shall either be mailed directly or included in an issue of *Chess Life*, and mailed prior to June 10. The Election Committee shall, by January 31st of an election year, select the time and place for the counting of the ballots. The ballot instructions shall include this information plus other election regulations. For a special election, the time and place shall be determined prior to issuing the call for the special election. Electronic voting may be used in addition to the ballot in *Chess Life*. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of official mailing labels provided with the ballots. The ballot shall list all duly submitted nominations. Each voting member may vote for as many persons as there are Executive Board positions to be filled. The persons receiving the largest vote totals shall be elected to the available Executive Board positions. The ballots shall be returned by mail to an independent agency, and counted by an independent agency, or by the Election Committee, or by tellers appointed by the Election Committee prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. Ties, if any, shall be broken by a secret ballot vote of the Delegates present in person at that year's Delegates meeting, taken at the time that election results are certified.

**B. Special Elections.** The Election Committee will decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for candidate petition filings and the date for mailing the ballots via *Chess Life* or direct mail. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.

**C.** The Election Committee shall, by January 31st of an election year, select the time and place for the counting of the ballots. The ballot instructions shall include this information plus other election regulations. For a special election, the time and place shall be determined prior to issuing the call for the special election. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of voting member information to be provided with or printed on the ballots. All properly authenticated ballots that have been received by the date designated for counting the ballots shall be counted. The Election Committee shall designate an address for the return of ballots at the time the date of counting ballots is set.

## Section 6. Election of Executive Board Officers.

At an organizational meeting immediately following the conclusion of the Delegates' Meeting at which regularly scheduled Executive Board election results are certified, the Executive Board shall elect among itself the following officers: President, Vice President, and Vice President for Finance. The term of each officer shall be for two years, except that upon a vote of 2/3 of its membership, the Executive Board may at any time meet in person or by teleconference and elect new officers. A vacancy in the office of President shall be immediately filled by the Vice President. A vacancy in another office elected by the Executive Board shall be filled by majority vote either temporarily until the Executive Board meeting following the next Delegates' Meeting or for the full unexpired portion of the office's term as the Executive Board shall choose. The office of Secretary should not be an elected office, but rather the Executive Board should designate a person to fulfill the functions of the Secretary.

## Section 7. Terms of Office.

The terms of office of the Executive Board members shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and effective with those elected in the 2011 regular election shall continue for three years, except as provided in Section 9 of this article and in the implementation schedule in this article. The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for two years, except that the term of an officer who leaves the Board after one year would expire. No individual shall serve more than nine consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as USCF President more than four consecutive years.

For the purpose of implementation of the terms of this Section, the following will apply to those elected in the 2011 regular Executive Board election and thereafter. The terms of those elected prior to the adoption of this implementation schedule will be observed as they were defined by the Bylaws at the time of their election.

**2011:** Three Executive Board members will be elected to three-year terms.

**2013:** Four Executive Board members will be elected, with the top two to receive three-year terms, and the next two to two-year terms.

**2014, 2017, etc.** Three Executive Board members are elected to three-year terms.

**2015, 2018, etc.** Two Executive Board members will be elected to three-year terms.

**2016, 2019, etc.** Two Executive Board members are elected to three-year terms.

## Section 8. Duties

**President.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, and Executive Board; carry out all requirements of these Bylaws, represent the Federation officially on occasion, and report annually to the Board of Delegates.

**Vice President.** The Vice President shall execute the duties of the President when the President is unable to serve and perform such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or the President on its behalf.

**Vice President for Finance.** The Vice President for Finance shall obtain records of the financial affairs of the Federation, report to the Board of Delegates, and counsel and assist the Executive Board on financial affairs. The Vice President for Finance shall review and have the right to comment on all financial reports, including all financial information presented in interim and annual reports, prior to publication and release.

**Members at Large.** Members-at-Large of the Executive Board shall have such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or by the President on behalf of the Executive Board or as prescribed by these Bylaws.

## Section 9. Vacancies.

If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Board, the Executive Board may decide to fill the vacancy by a Special Election in accordance with Art. VI, Section 5B. If two or more vacancies occur, the Executive Board will instruct the Election Committee to hold a Special Election in accordance with Section 5B.

## Section 10. Candidate statements and advertising.

Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to a 150 word statement plus photo in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than April 10 of the election year. Election supplements shall accompany or be inserted in issues of *Chess Life* published no later

than May 10 and June 10 of the election year. Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other USCF publications is prohibited. Any candidate for the USCF Executive Board who has been convicted of an adult felony in the U.S. must disclose that fact in their *Chess Life* statement. The Candidate will be allowed an additional 100 words in the candidate's statement in their first statement in *Chess Life* for this purpose. Failure to disclose a felony (conviction) would be grounds for immediate recall.

Any candidate for the USCF Executive Board who is currently a party against the USCF in a lawsuit must disclose that fact in their *Chess Life* statement. Failure to disclose such a lawsuit would be grounds for immediate recall. The candidate will be allowed an additional 50 words in the candidate's statement in their first candidate's statement in *Chess Life* for this purpose.

#### **Section 11. Recalls.**

**A.** The Delegates may initiate a recall of an elected Executive Board member by a 2/3 majority vote of a motion on the advance agenda of an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting, by a 3/4 majority vote of a motion not on the advance agenda of an Annual Delegates Meeting, or by petitions signed by 2/3 of the Delegates in lieu of a meeting of the Board of Delegates. Each signature on a recall petition must be dated and no signature can be dated more than five months before the date that the petitions are submitted to the USCF Secretary for validation.

**B.** Recall of an elected Executive Board member may be initiated by petitions signed by 10% of the registered voters based on the number of registered voters at the end of the most recent fiscal year, i.e., May 31. The USCF Secretary shall have one week from the date the petition is received by the USCF Office to determine if a recall petition is valid. A recall may not be initiated on a Board member during the last six months of that member's term of office. Once a recall motion has been passed or a recall petition certified as valid, a recalled Executive Board member shall be given 15 days to decide whether to resign or to be the subject of a recall election. If the recalled Executive Board member resigns, the recall motion or petition becomes moot upon the resignation of the Board member.

**C.** The recall motion must give the reasons for recall in a total, motion plus reason, of no more than 500 words. The motion and reasons, together with an optional statement of no more than 500 words by the Board member being recalled, shall be mailed by USCF to all registered voters along with the recall ballot.

**D.** To be affirmed, the recall shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the registered voters participating in a recall election, such election to be held under conditions similar to those for regular or special Executive Board elections. Only voters who vote for or against the recall are considered to be participating. At least 500 Voting Members must participate in the recall election in order for the results to be valid. If the Board member being recalled is serving as the USCF Secretary, the Executive Board shall appoint another Board member to serve as the Secretary for the purposes of conducting the recall election.

**E.** If the motion or petition recalling the Board member does not specify a date for the recall election voting to begin, the Executive Board shall schedule such an election to commence no more than 60 days after the recall motion is passed by the Delegates or the recall petitions are certified. The date for counting the votes in the recall election shall be no more than 35 days after the day that voting is expected to begin. Until the votes in the recall election are counted, the recalled Executive Board member retains all rights and privileges of a Board member. Once the recall votes are counted, if the recall is affirmed the Board member is immediately removed from the Executive Board

and a vacancy exists on the Executive Board.

#### **Section 12. Restrictions.**

Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as paid USCF employees, paid consultants or as vendors of goods or services to the USCF during their actual tenure on the Executive Board and for a period of one year after the board service ends.

Except as noted below, this shall not affect a board member's ability to organize or direct USCF-rated events or to serve as an officer or owner of a USCF affiliate. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as the chief TD of USCF National events during their tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends. Elected members of the Executive Board may not be awarded the bid to serve as the organizer of a USCF national event (or as an officer or owner of a USCF affiliate serving as the organizer of a USCF national event) during their actual tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends unless the agreement to serve as the organizer of that national event was signed prior to that person's becoming a candidate for election to the Executive Board. State chapter and not-for-profit Affiliates with Board members who are also on their board are exempt from this restriction. In unusual circumstances, elected Executive Board members may be assigned tasks dealing with day-to-day operations of the USCF. No compensation for these tasks beyond the reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses may be paid.

An Executive Board member who is a party to litigation or arbitration filed by that Executive Board member against the USCF or by the USCF against that Executive Board member, shall abstain from voting on any action concerning the litigation or arbitration, shall have no right to be present during any portion of an Executive Board meeting in which the litigation or arbitration is discussed, and shall have no right to access attorney-client or work-product privileged information concerning or relating to that litigation or arbitration, regardless of whether the litigation or arbitration is still pending.

Unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law, each member of the Executive Board waives any right to file a lawsuit (including but not limited to a lawsuit seeking a jury trial) against the USCF, the USCF Executive Board members or USCF employees, and must instead submit a mandatory arbitration to be conducted by the American Arbitration Association. The arbitration award will be final and binding upon the parties to that arbitration. The location of any such arbitration shall be solely in the city in which the USCF is headquartered at the time of filing of the arbitration notice.

#### **Section 13. Website Access.**

Executive Board members and candidates for the Executive Board are subject to the same rules, restrictions and sanctions as other USCF members with regards to information posted by them on the USCF website, such as in the USCF Forums. This includes the option of temporarily or permanently banning an EB member or candidate from posting. The Elections Committee may, at its discretion and convenience, post all candidate statements as they appear in *Chess Life* on the USCF website.

#### **Section 14. Nepotism.**

No two or more individuals may serve on the Executive Board concurrently who share one or more of the following relationships:

1. One is the direct descendant of the other.
2. They are spouses or partners in a civil union.
3. They are siblings, by birth, marriage, or adoption.
4. They are adopted children and parent or stepparent and stepchild.

## Article VII: Other Officers, Appointees, and Committees

### Section 1. Officers appointed by the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall appoint an Executive Director and a Publications Director. The Executive Board shall also give approval to the hiring of a chief financial officer (CFO) by the Executive Director. The office of Secretary should not be an elected office, but rather the Executive Board designates a person to fulfill the functions of the Secretary.

**A. Secretary.** The Secretary shall review Minutes of all Executive Board meetings, Delegates' meetings, and Membership meetings. The Secretary shall post these Minutes, after Executive Board review, on the USCF website within six weeks for each meeting and shall mail the Minutes to all the Delegates and Alternate Delegates who request such mailing and pay a printing and mailing fee, set by the Executive Director, sufficient to offset the costs of printing and mailing. Printed copies of the Minutes of the Membership Meeting and Delegates' Meeting of the previous year, and of all Special Delegates' meetings and Executive Board meetings held thereafter, shall be available at the Delegates' meetings. The Executive Board shall determine a means of recording all meetings. The Secretary shall act as the custodian of the corporate seal, ensure that the annual report is filed with the Secretary of State of the state of Illinois, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Bylaws.

### Section 2. Duties of Appointees.

The duties of Officers appointed by the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and other Executive Board appointees shall be set forth in written memoranda by the Executive Board. Copies of said memoranda shall be added to the minutes for dissemination to the Delegates.

### Section 3. Committees.

**A.** The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

**1. Audit Committee.** The Audit Committee shall consist of four persons; the Vice President for Finance as a non-voting member and three members elected by the delegates from among the delegates and alternate delegates who are knowledgeable in accounting matters such as (but not limited to) a certified public accountant (CPA), a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) or someone who has substantial experience in the public or private sectors. No other member of the Executive Board may be a member of the Audit Committee. The duties of the Committee shall be:

- a.** To advise the EB on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.
- b.** To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.
- c.** To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)
- d.** To consider and advise the EB on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.
- e.** To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management's response and to promote coordination between

the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the EB and the Delegates accordingly.

- f.** To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors' Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses and to advise the EB accordingly.
- g.** To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.
- h.** To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.
- i.** To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the implementation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports and management letters and to advise the EB accordingly.
- j.** To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.
- k.** To advise the Executive Director, as requested.
- l.** To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.
- m.** To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates.

**2. Bylaws Committee.** The Bylaws Committee shall choose its own chair.

**3. Election Committee.** The Election Committee shall consist of 4 members appointed by the Delegates. Alternate members may also be appointed who would replace any member of the committee who resigns or otherwise leaves the committee. The committee is responsible for the conduct of and shall preside over Federation elections. No member of the Election Committee may be a candidate for the USCF Executive Board during his or her service on the Election Committee or may campaign on behalf of or make an endorsement for or against any candidate for the Executive Board. The Committee shall choose its own Chair.

**4. Ethics Committee.** The Ethics Committee shall choose its own chair.

**5. Life Member Assets Management Committee (LMAC).** The LMAC is responsible for managing the Life Member Assets. The LMAC shall consist of the Vice President for Finance plus up to eleven other members elected by the Delegates. The LMAC shall choose its own Chair and may appoint other committees to assist it in its work.

- B.** The Delegates may appoint any other committees as needed. The Executive Board may appoint such subcommittees of the Board or committees as it deems appropriate.
- C.** Except as provided elsewhere, in the event of a vacancy on a Delegate-appointed Committee, the committee and Executive Board may appoint a replacement. Such appointment requires a 2/3 majority of each of the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.
- D.** No individual member can chair more than one of the following committees at the same time: Audit, Finance, or LMA.
- E.** No individual other than the VP for Finance can serve on more than two of the following committees at the same time: Audit, Finance, or LMA.

### Section 4. Counsel.

Legal Counsel shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

## **Section 5. Eligibility.**

None of the National Officers (including members of the Executive Board and Executive Director) shall be officers of other sports organizations recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as a national governing body.

## **Article VIII: Organizational Units.**

### **Section 1. State Chapters.**

Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all Federation purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all Federation purposes) shall be entitled to have an affiliate designated as the State Chapter, provided that any state having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines. Credentials of affiliates applying for designation as State Chapters submitted before June 1 shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. Credentials submitted after June 1 shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.

### **Section 2. Functions.**

Each State shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chessplayers within its state. Each State Chapter shall nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws. Each State Chapter shall fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may from time to time designate.

### **Section 3. Affiliates.**

Any organization of chessplayers may affiliate with the Federation upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chessplayers who are exclusively scholastic players may affiliate with the Federation as a Scholastic Affiliate upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chessplayers who are incarcerated in a penal institution may affiliate with the Federation as a Prison Affiliate upon the payment of the fee of \$15 per year. Affiliation does not constitute the affiliate as an agent of the USCF for any purpose.

### **Section 4. Rights and privileges.**

Each affiliate shall:

- a. receive a subscription to *Chess Life*.
- b. be entitled to conduct USCF-rated tournaments in accordance with USCF tournament rules;
- c. be privileged to issue Federation memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the USCF headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.

### **Section 5. Revocation.**

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

## **Article IX: Sundry Bylaws**

### **Section 1. Authority.**

These Bylaws have been adopted by the Delegates under the

authority of the charter issued to the United States of America Chess Federation by the State of Illinois.

### **Section 2. Amendment.**

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates' advance agenda shall require a 2/3 majority vote to pass.

### **Section 3. Office.**

The registered office of the Federation shall be at such address in the State of Illinois as is designated by the Executive Board.

### **Section 4. International Affairs.**

The Federation is the official USA unit of FIDE and shall be represented officially in all FIDE affairs by a Permanent Delegate appointed by the Executive Board.

### **Section 5. Publications.**

*Chess Life*, a periodical, or its successor publication, is designated an official publication.

### **Section 6. Fiscal period.**

The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31.

### **Section 7. Fund Depositories and Disbursements.**

All funds, other than Life Member Assets, shall be deposited in one or more federally insured depositories, or other vehicles approved by the Executive Board, disbursable only by withdrawal authorized by two or more of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director, and such senior staff as the Executive Board shall designate. The Executive Board may authorize petty cash accounts, whose amounts may not exceed \$500.00, and disbursable only by check signed by one of the above, or any two employees approved by the Executive Board.

### **Section 8. Accountants.**

Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review the Federation's accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The choice of accountants shall be subject to ratification by the Board of Delegates.

### **Section 9. Encumbrance.**

- A. No asset of the Federation may be encumbered without the approval of the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, except as provided in Section 10 below, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director.
- B. Any land and/or buildings, owned by the USCF cannot be sold, encumbered, liened, or mortgaged, in any fashion, without approval by the Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, except as provided in Section 10 below.

### **Section 10. Life Member Assets Management.**

Borrowing from or encumbering from LMA is possible only when:

1. The Executive Director certifies that there is a need for such borrowing,
2. The Executive Board approves of the borrowing, and
3. A majority of the Life Member Asset Management Committee approves of such borrowing.

### **Section 11.**

The Federation will publish an annual report within four months of the end of the fiscal year. The report will contain, among other things, a complete presentation of the audited financial statements.

#### **Section 12. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

Each member of the Board of Delegates, national officer (hereinafter "officer"), and employee of the corporation now or hereafter serving as such, shall be indemnified by the corporation against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such director, officer, or employee or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him or her as such a director, officer, or employee; and the corporation shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any such liability, provided, however, that indemnification shall be limited to cases in which such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal act or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and provided further, however, that as a member of the Board of Delegates such a person shall only be indemnified for his or her acts or omissions at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Board of Delegates and not for any local or other activities.

To the extent that a director, officer, or employee of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Any indemnification against any and all claims (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director, officer, or employee, is proper in the circumstances because he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Such determination shall be made (A) by the Board of Delegates by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to such action, suit, proceeding, or claim, or (B) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable, a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

The right of indemnification herein above provided for shall not be exclusive of any rights to which any director, officer, or employee of the corporation may otherwise be entitled by law, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, or employee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, or employee, or agent of the corporation, against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this article.

#### **Section 13. Ratification of Voidable Acts.**

Any transaction questioned in any suit brought by any member on the grounds of lack of authority, defective or irregular execution, adverse interest of any director, officer, employee, or member, nondisclosure, miscomputation, or the application of improper principles or practices of accounting may be ratified before or after judgment by the Board of Delegates and, if so ratified, shall have the same force and effect as if the questioned transaction had been originally duly authorized, and said ratification shall be

binding upon the corporation and its members and shall constitute a bar to any claim or execution of any judgment in respect of such questioned transaction.

#### **Section 14. Reliance on Records.**

Each officer, member of the Board of Delegates, or employee shall in the performance of his or her duties be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or reports made to the corporation by any of its officials, or by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care by the Board of Delegates, or in relying in good faith upon other records of the corporation.

#### **Section 15. Parliamentary Authority.**

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be used at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, Executive Board, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules which have been adopted.

#### **Section 16. Eligibility for International Competition.**

Eligibility criteria for international competition may not be more restrictive than the eligibility criteria established by the internationally recognized Chess Federation.

#### **Section 17. Non-Discrimination.**

Participation in chess shall be open to athletes, coaches, trainers, team captains, managers, seconds, and analysts without discrimination.

#### **Section 18. National Tournament Directors as USCF Employees.**

For purposes of the bylaws, a tournament director at a National Tournament who is not already a USCF employee shall not be considered a USCF employee.

#### **Section 19. Severability.**

If a court of competent jurisdiction shall hold a portion of these Bylaws to be invalid, the remainder of the Bylaws not so held invalid shall remain in full force and effect.

Revision Date: 02/17/11



# Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest

- 1. Sites of USCF-Sponsored Tournaments.** Since the U.S. Chess Federation is open to all players, regardless of race, sex, creed, religion, or national origin, and is interested in promoting chess among all groups, all tournaments sponsored by USCF are to be conducted at sites accommodating the right to play of all USCF members. (1960)
- 2. Tournament Coordination.** The USCF shall exert its influence through Officers to coordinate and schedule sanctioned tournaments sponsored by regional or state chess organizations (without conflict of time and place). (1964)
- 3. Speed of Rated Games.** Any change in the speed of rated games requires approval by the Board of Delegates. (1971)
- 4. Rating Lists and Supplements.** The Executive Board is required by the Delegates to publish annually the ratings of active players and to make available by download a bi-monthly or monthly Supplement. By request any member or affiliate who wishes to pay may receive a copy of the supplements via mail at cost. (1972)(2002)(2006)
- 5. Annual U.S. Championship.** It is the intent of the Board of Delegates that a U.S. Championship be held annually. (1972) (1982) (1983) (1997)
- 6. Unfinished Delegate Business.** All motions not acted on by the Delegates at the Annual Meeting that deal with matters which the Executive Board can act on under the Bylaws, shall be acted upon by the Board. These actions shall be reported in the *Executive Board Newsletter* and at the next year's Delegates Meeting. (1978) Motions limiting the Executive Board or disagreeing with the decisions made by the Executive Board shall automatically retain their place on next year's Delegates Agenda. (1980)
- 7. Smoking.** Tournaments which prohibit smoking in the playing room of a USCF-rated tournament shall be so indicated in the Tournament Life Announcement in *Chess Life*. Smoking is prohibited at the following National Tournaments: U.S. Open, National Open, U.S. Amateur, U.S. Junior Open, U.S. Class. There shall be no smoking permitted in any contract areas of all national scholastic tournaments. (1998)
- 8. State Chapter Recommendations.** Each State Chapter should:
  1. pay its affiliate membership when due and payable;
  2. certify in writing to the USCF Secretary by the authorized date (November 1st) the state voting member(s) and alternate(s), who shall be USCF members, and report how they were selected (i.e., appointed, elected);
  3. directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship;
  4. have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or articles of association which includes but is not limited specifying the governing authority and their selection, meeting schedule and purpose of the State Chapter, and provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the State;
  5. directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) annual USCF rated Scholastic State High School, Junior High or Middle School and Elementary School Championships;
  6. directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) other chess tournaments throughout the State and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the USCF Tournament Clearinghouse Representative. State Chapters are to support chess throughout the state and exhibit geographical representation in its tournament sponsorship. Examples include but are not limited to statewide or geographically rotating; Rated Beginner Open tournaments, weekend Swisses, tornados, quads as well as: participation in National Chess Day Activities, Regional and/or National Championships;
  7. disseminate a periodical that serves as a State chess journal preserving a record of chess activities, promotion events, identifying state officers and, in general, providing a regular mechanism for communicating with its membership. Examples include but are not limited to: State Bulletins, Newsletters or Magazines;
  8. promote and publicize chess activities through various media, including but not limited to newspaper articles, television and radio coverage, flyers or notices at libraries, schools and veteran hospitals. Examples include but are not limited to: chess exhibitions and simultaneous, tournaments, chess lectures, chess lessons, chess columns and articles in local and statewide newspapers, chess clubs and meeting lists and announcements; and
  9. responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide. The State Chapter affirms its intention to comply with the duties and responsibilities of credentialed State Chapters. (2010)

**9. USCF Regions.**

- I. MA, CT, RI, NH, ME, VT
- II. NY, NJ
- III. PA, MD, VA, WVA, DE, DC
- IV. FL, GA, NC, SC
- V. OH, MI, IN, KY
- VI. MN, WI, ND, SD
- VII. IL, MO, IA, NE
- VIII. TN, AL, LA, MS, AR
- IX. CO, UT, KS, WY
- X. TX, OK, NM
- XI. SCA, NCA, AZ, NV, HI
- XII. WA, OR, ID, MT, AK

**10. Paid Tournament Directors at National Tournaments.** No Executive Board member shall serve as the paid TD of more than one USCF National Tournament or International Tournament during a calendar year unless the same opportunity has been declined by all non-members of the Executive Board who are qualified to direct the tournament. (1975) No Executive Board member shall be awarded a paid directorship or concession at a National Tournament on which he/she participated in the award vote, except in the case of an uncontested bid. An Executive Board will not be restricted in the number of awarded paid directorships or concessions received at any National Tournament when the award vote and the acceptance of a paid directorship or concession for the National Tournament occurred before the Executive Board member was elected to office. (1984, 1993, 1994)

**11. Teller's Procedures.** Unless some independent agency handles the election, provision shall be made to allow the tellers to properly fulfill their duties unencumbered by the burdens of a large-scale public meeting.

**12. Tournament Cancellation.** Tournaments announced in *Chess Life* may not be cancelled unless the cancellation notice appears in *Chess Life*. Cancellations which occur too late to appear in *Chess Life* are permitted only if it is physically impossible to hold the tournament (for example, in the case of extreme weather conditions). Cancellations for any other reasons without notice are not permitted. Disappointing advance entries do not constitute a valid reason for cancellation. Organizers violating this rule shall be prohibited from listing their tournaments in "Tournament Life" or advertising in *Chess Life* for 3 years. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. (1979) (2002)

**13. Chess Life.**

**GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION.**

The goal of *Chess Life* shall be to promote the United States Chess Federation and chess in the United States and the world. *Chess Life* shall be the journal of record of chess play in the U.S.

As the Federation's most important means of communication to its members, and as the Federation's most visible service, the magazine should be as attractively and professionally produced as resources allow, making use of photography, artwork, cartoons, and other graphic devices, as warranted.

Mindful of our members and potential members, the wide range of playing strengths and interests represented therein, and our overall goal, *Chess Life* should present a comparable range of subject matter. Instructional analysis (aimed at a variety of skill levels), correspondence chess, reader opinion, non-technical (i.e., historical articles, fiction) and human-interest material (i.e., interviews), rules changes, national

and international news, and providing coverage of international, national, and regional events, are suggested, but do not delimit areas of concentration.

Consistent with our stated goal, advertising in *Chess Life* is a service to readers as well as a significant source of revenue. The editor and publisher (Executive Director) will be responsible for ensuring that the overall advertising content in *Chess Life* and subject matter are appropriate. The editor and publisher, in their best judgment, have discretion to refuse any advertisement.

**COMPOSITION OF CHESS LIFE.**

The following items shall be required *Chess Life* content:

*Chess Life* should provide a regular section for announcements of upcoming tournaments. This Tournament Life section should be well-organized, informative, and as helpful as possible in order to encourage participation in USCF-rated events, particularly USCF titled events, Grand Prix events, and American Classic events.

In contested elections to the Executive Board, *Chess Life* shall publish a campaign statement of up to 110 words for each candidate in the July issue.

The January issue of *Chess Life* shall contain an annual rating list for over-the-board players.

The April issue of *Chess Life* shall be the yearbook issue, containing general information about the USCF and about chess governance and activity in the U.S. Suggested content includes, but is not limited to, such things as names and addresses of significant individuals and organizations, top and busiest lists, and historical data.

**RESPONSIBILITY.**

Journalism is a public trust which is best served by the protection of the public interest and the preservation of the credibility of the publication. The reader's right to know is best served when given accurate and complete, unbiased, and factual reporting. Opinion must never be confused with fact.

Criticism must be supportable by factual evidence. The purpose and nature of such criticism must be demonstrably in the public interest and not serve merely to harass or discredit. Fairness dictates that a person whose actions are criticized must be given the timely opportunity to explain those actions or reply to the criticism, although practical considerations may not permit concurrent response.

The editor is hired by the USCF Executive Board. The editor will be accountable to the publisher for the performance of his duties in a timely, responsible, and professional manner. The performance of the editor, with respect to the stated goal of *Chess Life*, will be subject to periodic review by the Executive Board. (1991)

**YEARBOOK**

(Annual Yearbook in *Chess Life*).

The Annual Yearbook be restored to either March, April, or May issue of *Chess Life*. (2001)

**DELEGATE INFO**

(*Chess Life* Publication).

The issue of *Chess Life* that appears in the March, April, or May shall contain the names and contact information of current USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates. (2001)

**14. Free Membership to Grandmasters and Woman Grandmasters.**

USCF memberships shall be awarded upon request to International Grandmasters, including Women Grandmasters, when it is determined by the Executive Director that a player is registering with FIDE as an American player; or when an American player is awarded the title by FIDE. (1980, 1991)

15. **Profits from Scholastic Tournaments.** Any profits generated by National Scholastic Tournaments that are earned by USCF will be retained by USCF and earmarked for Scholastic Chess. (1998)
16. **Calling the Question.** At USCF Delegates meetings, the practice of a speaker calling the question immediately after speaking to the merits of a motion shall not be permitted. (1993)
17. **Review of DMs.** At every Executive Board meeting, the Executive Board shall review the resolutions passed by the last annual Delegates' meeting to make certain those resolutions are being enforced. (1993)
18. **Choosing Committees.** It is the sense of the Delegates that committee chairmen shall be fully consulted prior to selection of committees and there shall be continuing consultation concerning committee membership and work through the liaison. (1994)
19. **Presenting Committee Reports.** All annual committee reports not published in the annual report will be presented to the Delegates after the published committee reports have been presented to the Delegates and will be limited to a ten-minute presentation. (1994)
20. **Investment of Life Membership Assets.** The LMA Committee shall establish an investment policy that is expected to produce an aggregate return equaling or exceeding 6% on its invested assets (excluding the USCF office building). (2002)
21. **Personnel.** All Board-approved changes to employee compensation will be subject to a vote of the full Board and the vote will be recorded in open session. The text of any Board-approved change to employee compensation will be recorded as a confidential BINFO item.  
Any Board-approved change to an employee incentive plan must be finalized no later than 90 days after the plan has been approved. Any Board-approved employee contract must have the signature of no fewer than one officer and one other Board member. Board-conducted employee reviews must be discussed and written before presented. (1997)
22. **Standards of Conduct for the USCF Executive Board.** The USCF Board of Delegates establishes the following standards of conduct for Executive Board members in the performance of their duties:

#### **GENERAL PRINCIPLES.**

Members of the USCF Executive Board have responsibilities of the highest order for the promotion of chess and for stewardship of the resources of the USCF. In the execution of these responsibilities, they are expected to act lawfully and in accordance with USCF policy, and to adhere consistently to the principles of fairness, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. They are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner throughout the performance of all duties, contributing thereby to maximum effectiveness in the achievement of the goals of the USCF.

**(1) Executive Board members are expected to contribute to the functioning of the Board as a cohesive unit, with information flowing comfortably among all its members. Actions that interfere with comfortable and open communication among all Board members should be avoided.**

(a) All Board members have the right to receive all information pertinent to the making, monitoring, and implementation of USCF policy. Board member(s) should not withhold full and accurate information from other Board members, when that information is relevant to Board decisions or potential decisions. Where decision-making authority has been given to a specific officer by the Board

or the Bylaws, that officer must keep all Board members fully and accurately informed of all decisions made and factors influencing those decisions.

(b) All Board members have the right to be involved in the determination of all Board decisions. A Board majority has no authority except as a majority vote within the context of a properly called Board meeting. Board decisions must result from discussions in which all Board members have had the opportunity to participate.

(c) Board members are responsible for contributing to constructive communication within the Board. Board members are responsible to communicate directly with each other whenever there is misunderstanding or ill will, making strenuous efforts to resolve the issue amicably through such communication, before making the dispute public.

**(2) The Executive Board is responsible for conducting business in an efficient, constructive, and open manner.**

(a) All actions taken by the Executive Board must be consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF, and with all policy established by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(b) Executive Board members must respect the dignity of all persons in all statements and actions. Any derogatory and/or sarcastic statements attacking an individual in a personal manner, or intended to bring scorn or ridicule on an individual, shall be considered out of order at any and all times in an Executive Board meeting, whether in open or closed session. Any angry and heated exchanges in a Board meeting should be considered out of order. The Chair of the meeting shall be responsible for promptly ruling such utterances out of order, or any member may raise a point of order to that effect. Personal differences must be privately resolved without disturbing the efficient conduct of USCF business in a Board meeting.

(c) A closed session should be held only when the best interests of the USCF are definitely served by doing so. Examples of when closed sessions are proper would include the discussion of matters that are legally sensitive, issues involving sensitive negotiations, or matters in which the privacy rights of any individual may be at risk. Closed sessions should not be scheduled to permit the airing of heated or derogatory comments, which should be out of order in any meeting discussion, or to avoid the necessity of Board members' dealing with unpopular issues publicly. The Board may invite other persons into the closed session if such persons possess special information or expertise needed by the Board, but a certified Executive Board candidate who is not currently on the Board should not be included in a closed session unless all Board candidates present at the meeting are also invited.

(d) Board members should be sensitive to the feelings of volunteers and staff members whose names may be mentioned, or whose work may be criticized, during Board discussion.

(e) All Board members must strictly observe confidentiality of closed sessions. In the case of a conference call, the Board members must clearly understand what portions of the call are considered open or closed, for the purpose of determining what information in the call must be considered confidential.

(f) When appointed by the Delegates, the USCF Ethics Committee may consider an allegation by any USCF member that an Executive Board member has committed significant violations of this code of conduct. The Ethics Committee may, if it determines that such violations have occurred, either warn the Board member or recommend actions, such as recall of the member, to the Board of Delegates in accordance with the Bylaws of the USCF. (1997)

## 23. The Code of Ethics of the United States Chess Federation.

### PURPOSE AND SCOPE

**1.** The purpose of this code of ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct that does not conform to such standards; and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.

**2.** The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of USCF membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of the USCF.

**3.** The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to: (a) actions and behavior by members of the USCF that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF; and (b) individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of the USCF. Each member of the USCF and each participant in a USCF activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

### THE USCF ETHICS COMMITTEE

**4.** The USCF Ethics Committee is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF. The committee exists to consider allegations of unethical conduct at or in connection with events sanctioned by the USCF, and allegations of unethical conduct involving the USCF and its activities, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code. The committee will exercise all other duties as may be assigned by the Bylaws or by action of the USCF Board of Delegates.

### STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

**5.** The actions and behavior of individuals participating in USCF activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, shall be lawful and in accordance with all USCF rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates USCF rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, may be considered to fall within the scope of this code of ethics.

**(a)** Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to USCF activities and goals, particularly after being warned.

**(b)** Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.

**(c)** Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.

**(d)** Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.

**(e)** Participating in a tournament under a false name or

submitting a falsified rating report.

**(f)** Participating in a tournament while under suspension.

**(g)** Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by the USCF.

**(h)** Attempting to interfere with the rights of any USCF member, such as by barring someone from entering a USCF-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a USCF-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.

**(i)** Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with the USCF.

### PROCEDURES

**6.** Any USCF member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the USCF Ethics Committee. In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the "Standards of Conduct" above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

**(a)** A factual inquiry shall be made by the Ethics Committee, assisted as necessary by the USCF staff. Previous findings of the Ethics Committee or other USCF entities may be included among the evidence considered by the Ethics Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.

**(b)** Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other USCF entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified.

**(c)** Except as specified in 6(e) recommended sanctions shall be deemed final unless appealed to the Executive Board by the person or persons upon whom the sanctions have been imposed, or upon the initiative of any member of the Executive Board. Such an appeal must be made within 30 days of the date that notification of recommended sanctions occurred, except that the Executive Board may extend the deadline for appeal if in its judgment an unavoidable delay in communications or other valid cause prevented a timely appeal. If an appeal has not been filed by the deadline the recommended sanctions shall be placed into effect.

**(d)** Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect

until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.

**(e)** If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the USCF Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board, but may appeal to the USCF Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.

**(f)** If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the USCF Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

#### **SANCTIONS**

**7.** The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.

**(a)** Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

**(b)** Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

**(c)** Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.

**(d)** Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.

**(e)** Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the USCF Executive Board or by the USCF Board of Delegates.

**(f)** Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.

**8.** If the person being sanctioned is a member of the USCF Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend no sanctions other than censure or reprimand, but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.

**9.** In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in the USCF or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF.

**10.** The USCF Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official recommendations by the Ethics Committee, and shall record any recommendations. The USCF Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any

sanctions recommended.

**24. FIDE Policy.** The U.S. Chess Federation adopts the following position:

The U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) endorses the concept of a strong world organization of chessplayers, which supports a system of competitions for the strongest players in the world culminating in a valid world championship. The USCF also firmly embraces the principles of freedom of action and freedom of speech that are the foundation of the American way of life. In accordance with these principles, the USCF adopts the following position with respect to the FIDE Commerce proposal as it has been presented:

**1.** The USCF cannot accept any regulation that limits journalistic freedom or freedom of expression for any individual, or interferes with the efforts of free enterprise to promote chess. The USCF cannot recognize a censure, boycott, sanction, or other restrictive or punitive action that contradicts our principles of freedom of action, speech, or the press, or that is imposed for behavior that does not violate the USCF's Code of Ethics.

**2.** The USCF must reserve the right to recognize or withhold recognition of any world championship event or title, in accordance with the principles established by our Board of Delegates regarding the validity of the world championship title. The USCF endorses the principle of compromise in helping to bring about a universally accepted world championship.

**3.** The USCF endorses working toward a more logical program of high-profile tournaments and toward cooperative Internet ventures, and might be willing to consider entering contractual arrangements toward those ends. Questions of open accounting and of legitimacy of funding must be addressed prior to any such arrangement and as part of any such arrangement.

**4.** The USCF considers that conflict-of-interest issues must be satisfactorily addressed in any plan to grant economic interest in any venture to any person or organization within FIDE, or any organization affiliated with FIDE, or to give voting rights to any individual or organization whose financial gain would be affected by the exercise of such voting rights.

**5.** The USCF considers that any plan to be put into effect must have the approval of the FIDE General Assembly and must not be inconsistent with the principles in this position statement.

**6.** The USCF Delegate or representative to FIDE is instructed to act in accordance with this motion.

**25. U.S. Open Round Schedule.** No rounds of the U.S. Open may be scheduled to conflict with the Delegates Meeting. (2001) (2010)

**26. Binfo System.** In the interest of both history and accountability, the Board information (BINFO) system should be maintained and used in the following manner:

**1.** The Executive Board and Executive Director will place documents relating to their decisions and discussions in this record system.

**2.** An effort will be made to include all relevant documents bearing on the making of USCF policy and other decisions.

**3.** At the request of any single Executive Board member or the Executive Director, a document will be placed in the system.

**4.** BINFO documents may be classified as confidential, using strict, documented criteria.

**5.** Classified BINFO's will be reviewed periodically for declassification. This will include but not be limited to documents now in the system and placed there by previous Boards.

6. Non-classified documents will be supplied to members on request; a reasonable duplication fee may be charged.
7. Binders of non-classified documents will be maintained at the USCF office and will be available on request to visiting adult members to examine while in the office.
8. Updated, descriptive indexes of the BINFO system will be available on the USCF website in the most expeditious manner possible, and available in hard copy on request for a reasonable duplication fee. (2000)
9. Non-confidential BINFOs are to be made available electronically without cost to any Delegate or Alternate Delegate that asks to receive them. This is to be done by making them available on the USCF website in a public area and/or setting up a read-only mailing list and adding to the list anyone who wants to receive the BINFO's via e-mail. (2001)
27. **U.S. Open Scheduling.** The U.S. Open shall finish no later than August 15th. (1999)
28. **Scholastic Chess.** The USCF shall have a full-time Scholastic Director, working in consultation with the Scholastic Committee. The job description and workload priorities of the Scholastic Director will be developed jointly by the Scholastic Committee and the Executive Director.
- The Finance Committee shall include at least one member recommended by the Scholastic Committee.
- The USCF shall implement an income and expense system, which separately identifies scholastic chess activities. (1999)
29. **ADM votes on the Website.** The final decision of the Board of Delegates on ADMs shall be recorded and published on the USCF website. All available information regarding the vote shall be included. (1999)
30. **Ballots.** Ballots shall contain only a candidate's name and state. No titles, credentials or other honors shall appear on ballots. (1999)
31. **World Championship.** The U.S. Chess Federation officially recognizes the following principles regarding the World Championship of Chess:
1. The title of World Champion is a symbol of the recognition given by the chessplayers of the world to the most skilled chess competitor at any point in time. As such it cannot logically be an object of property subject to ownership.
  2. It follows from point one that the title of World Champion, to be valid, must be conferred by an organization representing the world's chessplayers. The Championship must be awarded as the result of a system of competition, which is fairly and objectively organized to determine the strongest competitor at that point in time. Such a competition must eliminate, to the extent possible, the effects of luck or other factors irrelevant to skill.
  3. The U.S. Chess Federation directs its leadership and its representatives to strive to help create a unified system of competition for the World Championship that is fully consistent with principles one and two. (1998)
32. **Committee Actions.** USCF Committees, excepting those appointed by the Delegates, exist to advise and recommend, but may not make any ruling that affects the status of any member without ratification by the Executive Board, Office or Delegates. (1998)
33. **Delegate Committees.** All newly-created Delegates Committees must have a statement of purpose defining their function. (1998)
34. **LMA Annual Report.** The LMA Management Committee shall publish an annual report showing the performance of the fund's investments, the investments owned, the investment strategy, and an assessment of investment risks. (1998)
35. **Based on Prizes.** Effective January 1, 1999, all tournaments without exception advertised in *Chess Life*, Tournament Life, or elsewhere shall be required to pay at least 50% of any based-on prize advertised if the prize fund is over \$500. Based-on prizes in tournaments with an advertised total prize fund of \$500 or less must be paid in proportion to turnout. Minimum penalty for violation of this rule shall be disqualification from advertising in *Chess Life* for one year. Additional penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the Executive Director. If a tournament is affected by an act of God, then the organizer may appeal to the Executive Board. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. *Chess Life* shall print no display ads for "based-on" tournaments which mention the "based-on" prize fund without indicating that this prize fund is based on entries. (1998) (2002)(2004)
36. **Volunteer Expenses.** A summary of all reimbursements to each member of the Executive Board, International Delegations, and all other volunteers shall be published in the *Executive Board Newsletters* and on the USCF website. (1990, 1998)
37. **Membership Accounting.** 90% of the income from life memberships and 50% from sustaining memberships shall be deposited directly in to the LMA. Services provided to life and sustaining members shall be funded quarterly. (1996, 1999)
38. **Bylaws Committee.** To aid the Delegates and the Executive Board in informed decision making, the Bylaws Committee shall advise the Executive Board and the Delegates concerning both the substance and the wording of proposed bylaws changes. (1987)
39. **Drug Testing.** The Delegates believe that drug testing is unnecessary in chess and urge FIDE to limit testing only to events where it is absolutely essential for qualification into the Olympic Games. (2001)
40. **Candidate Disclosure (Executive Board Candidate Disclosure).** Executive Board candidates are asked to disclose if they are employed full time or are a candidate for full-time employment with any organization that is a vendor for the USCF, a competitor to USCF in any area, or has any significant other business interest (including substantial ownership of a business) that could be affected by decisions made by the USCF. Failure to disclose these interests would not disqualify a candidate from running, but could affect the voters' evaluation of the candidate. (2001)
41. **Delegates Call (Report in Delegates Call).** A report on compliance or noncompliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions will be provided in the *Delegates Call* each year. (2001)
42. **Committees (No Pay for Committee Members).** Members of USCF Committees shall not be paid for committee work without authorization of the Delegates. They may continue to receive reimbursement for expenses. (2001)
43. **Rating Lists (Via Hard Copy or Electronic).** Rating Lists (annual lists and supplements) can be received via hard copy or electronic media at the discretion of the affiliate or subscriber at no additional cost. (2001)
44. **USCF Regions.** Executive Board election results shall once again be tabulated by region, beginning in 2003. There shall be twelve regions, each consisting of the same states that the region included before the discontinuation of regions. (2002)
45. **Financial Reports on Website.** Comprehensive USCF financial reports including at least a balance sheet and statement

of all activities will be posted on the USCF website on at least a quarterly basis. (2002)

- 46. California Borders.** The border between Northern and Southern California shall be set along county lines. Where San Luis Obispo, Kern and Inyo are the northern most counties of Southern California, and Monterey, Kings, Tulare, Fresno and Mono are the southernmost counties of Northern California. The USCF may use zip codes to approximate this border. The two California state affiliates are responsible for maintaining the zip code mapping used for this border approximation. (2005)
- 47. TDCC Changes.** Changes in the Tournament Director certification program proposed by the TDC Committee may be approved by the Executive Board without approval of the delegates. (2006).
- 48. USCF National Scholastic Events.** The following USCF

Scholastic Championships shall not be outsourced, sold or part of any contractual agreement to organize the tournament with any third parties or any other organization without the prior review of the Scholastic Council and approval of the USCF Board of Delegates:

National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship  
National Elementary Grade Championship  
National Junior High- Middle School Championship  
National High School Championship  
SuperNationals  
(2007) (2010)

- 49. Delegates & Financial Reports.** The Board of Delegates is the Board of Directors of the U.S. Chess Federation. Any Delegate has the right to access the official monthly financial reports. The USCF may charge Delegates for the costs incurred in accessing and copying the official monthly financial reports. (2008)

## GOLD AFFILIATES

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**Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis**  
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**Shore HS Chess League**  
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**PaperClip Pairings**  
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**Tri-State Chess The Chess Exchange**  
325 East 88th Street  
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**Village Chess Shop of NYC**  
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www.chess-shop.com

**Western PA Youth Chess Club**  
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412-422-1770  
catnipper99@yahoo.com  
www.youthchess.net

## SILVER AFFILIATES

**Bay Area Chess (CA)**  
www.BayAreaChess.com

**Beverly Hills Chess Club (CA)**  
www.bhchessclub.com

**En Passant Chess Club (TX)**  
td\_edg@sbcglobal.net

**Indiana State Chess Association**  
www.indianachess.org

**Long Island Chess Nuts (NY)**  
516-739-3907

**Marshall Chess Club (NY)**  
www.marshallchessclub.org

**Michigan Chess Association**  
www.michess.org

**Oklahoma Chess Foundation**  
www.OKchess.org

**Silver Knights (PA)**  
www.silverknightschess.com

**Sparta Chess Club (NJ)**  
www.spartachessclub.org

## GOLD & SILVER AFFILIATES

### GOLD

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 50 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Gold Affiliate. Gold Affiliates are honored in a special list in larger type in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and website. Gold Affiliation costs \$350 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract \$3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation, or \$20 for each month remaining on their Silver Affiliation. **As of August 6, 2007, by paying an annual payment of \$500 (instead of \$350), Gold Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.**

### SILVER

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 25 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Silver Affiliate. These affiliates will be recognized in a special list in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, state, and choice of either phone number, e-mail address, or website. Silver Affiliation costs \$150 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract \$3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation. **As of August 6, 2007, by paying an annual payment of \$250.00 (instead of \$150), Silver Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.**

# Committee Chairpersons

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**Awards:**

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**Top Players:**

to be determined

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**Women's Chess:**

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## USCF Representatives to FIDE

*FIDE Vice President* Beatriz Marinello, P.O. Box 160, New York, NY 10028

*Delegate* Michael Khodarkovsky, 80 Jesse Court, Montville, NJ 07045

*Zonal President* Francisco Guadalupe, 305 Willow Pointe Drive, League City, TX 77573

# Committee Reports

## Audit Committee

CHAIR, ALLEN PRIEST

The Audit Committee is a delegate appointed committee whose task is to assist in the oversight of the financial audit of the Federation. Most of that work is done between the deadline for the submission of committee reports and the annual delegates meeting.

In 2010 the Audit Committee issued a request for proposals and recommended a change in the USCF auditor. The Executive Board engaged the recommended auditor who completed the May 31, 2010 audit in a timely manner. Since the audit firm was just changed last year and the office finance team was happy with the interaction with the audit firm, the committee this year did not recommend any change in the audit firm. We are working with the CFO and the auditors to review correspondence from the auditors to the committee and will make any necessary recommendations to the EB based on that review. This will not occur until the audit is completed in late June or early July.

## Bylaws Committee

CO-CHAIRS, HAROLD J. WINSTON AND ALLEN PRIEST  
(REPORT PREPARED BY HAROLD WINSTON)

The Bylaws Committee reports on both the substance and form of proposed bylaws changes. (DM 87-21). Also, the committee traditionally makes recommendations on governance issues. Allen Priest (KY) and I are the co-chairs. We mourn the untimely death of John Hillery (SCA), who was very active last year.

This year we had two referrals from the Delegates meeting and took a total of 12 votes on these referrals and new proposals brought to our attention. We first considered DM 10-25, which would reduce the electorate in Executive Board elections back to 500 voting members, selected by the state chapters, in place of USCF adult members who register. At the 2010 meeting a former Vice President suggested a legal opinion be obtained, but none was on the specific issue of whether the number of voting members for the Executive Board could be reduced. However, our committee, impressed by almost 4,000 USCF members registering to vote is opposed to this change by a vote of 2-10. One member believes the legal opinion still needs to be obtained.

Next, we considered DM 108-58, proposing that if the Executive

Board “acts in contradiction to the recommendations of” the Ethics, Scholastics, Rules or Ratings committees “The issue and the Executive Board’s reasoning shall be published in the Delegates Call.” While the motion usefully reminds the Executive Board it should seek input from those committees on substantive matters in their areas, our committee believes this wording is not needed since areas of disagreement can be brought up by committee reports, in workshops, and by Delegate resolutions. We voted unanimously against it, 0-13.

Third, we considered the new provision requiring acceptance of selection by state Delegates. There have been problems this year; as of May 8, 15 delegates had not yet accepted and in addition a whole state was missing. Topics the committee discussed included whether to keep the acceptance provision, whether it should have a March 31 cutoff to alert state chapters if persons were not interested in serving as Delegates, and whether some technical changes were needed. On the question of whether to keep the acceptance provision the committee split 4-5 with 2 abstentions, 1 saying more discussion was needed and 1 either abstaining or wanting more discussion. Our committee endorsed a March 31 cutoff date by a vote of 11-1-1. We also endorsed a technical amendment to clear up wording by a vote of 13-0. On a related point, we also supported a bylaws amendment to add the words “and qualified” to Article V, sec. 4, to conform with the acceptance provision, 12-0-1, one member wants more discussion.

The topic of requiring year long USCF membership for Delegates during their term came up and we voted in favor 11-1; 9 wanted no grace period, and 2 preferred a 28-day grace period. Mike Nolan pointed out that our current Article V, Section 5 has two sections labeled part B. We voted 13-0 for a technical amendment to correct this.

Our Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest (DACI) contain some obsolete provisions. The committee voted 12-0-1 to endorse John McCrary’s suggested wording that combines two sections dealing with FIDE and the world championship and makes them much more succinct. Also by a vote of 10-2-1, we voted to delete a provision concerning tellers at vote counts which was put in when the Executive Board votes were counted during the U.S. Open, which no longer occurs. By a vote of 11-0-2 we supported combining two DACI concerning U.S. Open scheduling. Finally we voted 12-0-1 to shorten and combine two resolutions relating to rating lists.

When the committee is informed of all bylaw, governance, and DACI resolutions on the advance agenda we will take a second round of votes and inform those Delegates at the annual meeting

of the results.

I thank Allen Priest and the other committee members for their participation: Myron Lieberman (AZ), John McCrary (SC), Ernie Schlich (VA), Guy Hoffman (WI), Richard Koepcke (NCA), Gary Kitts (MI), Ken Ballou (MA), David Mehler (MD), Gerald Larson (AL), Joe Lux (NJ), and Robert Persante (FL).

Everyone is invited to our Combined Bylaws and Governance Task Force Workshop on Friday August 5, 2011, at 9 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Orlando Intl. Airport Hotel in Florida. We will discuss these proposals and other new Delegate proposals relating to bylaws or governance. To contact our committee, e-mail me at [HJWinston@com](mailto:HJWinston@com).

### Chess in Education Committee

CHAIR, F. LEON WILSON

The USCF Chess in Education Committee has had a relatively quiet transition, from the co-chairmanship of John Buky and Dr. Joseph Eberhard to a single chairmanship.

Mr. Buky and Dr. Eberhard have turned over an energetic and cohesive committee. Mike Nietman is the USCF Executive Board liaison and Patricia K. Smith the USCF Office liaison. With the exception of the appointment of two students, Brianna N. Conley and Alexandra F. Wiener, the committee membership has remained unchanged.

My predominant focus has been to locate, organize and create a central web based repository of information related to chess in education. This website would make it easy for anyone interested in the various topics associated with chess in education, chess in education research, chess research bibliography, chess and a school curriculum to quickly access or contribute information. Although several websites provide outstanding hyperlinks and information, there is no one web portal which acts as an index to these websites. An individual could spend hours searching only to find redundant information by the same authors in different places.

The USCF Chess in Education Committee website would be enhanced and differentiated by adding real world models of both successful and unsuccessful ventures into getting chess into a school curriculum and other areas of interest. Additionally, e-mail queries will be answered in a timely manner.

This topic will be an agenda item during our Chess in Education Committee meeting during the U.S. Open. A consensus will determine the direction and scope of our activities.

In addition to the USCF website of <http://main.uschess.org/content/view/7863/131/>, the USCF Chess in Education Committee has a website at [www.thechessacademy.org/USCF\\_Chess\\_Education\\_Committee.htm](http://www.thechessacademy.org/USCF_Chess_Education_Committee.htm)

The USCF Chess in Education Committee members, as well as completed events (including Chess in Education workshops), are all updated by John P. Buky at this website.

The 2011 Chess in Education Committee workshop will be held at the U.S. Open on Thursday, August 4th from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

#### Student Appointments:

The Committee chairman appointed two students, **Brianna N. Conley** and **Alexandra F. Wiener**, to the USCF Chess in Education Committee. Both students have demonstrated outstanding over-the-board chess play winning at both the state and national levels. However, it is their involvement in "chess education" that warrants special notice.

Brianna N. Conley has organized and instructed chess seminars for teachers and faculty members wishing to establish chess clubs in their schools. Brianna has become a local resource and consultant for schools and organizations desiring to introduce a youth chess program. Brianna was a key organizer for the "After School All Stars" which held a Sports Olympics at The Ohio State

University. The chess pavilion attracted over 200 students. Brianna played over 75 blitz games and went undefeated.

Alexandra Wiener is in her junior year of high school. Nonetheless, she participated in the Brown University Leadership Institute; developed an action plan to promote chess in disadvantaged communities to give children, who are not exposed to chess, the opportunity to learn chess and reap its many educational and social benefits. Alexandra also attended the Brown University Leadership Institute-Symposium on Social Change. This was a symposium to share experiences and discuss ideas regarding Chess Action Plan (November 5-7, 2010).

Alexandra was instrumental in a program called "Scholarships for Kids," which raised funds with fellow chess champions at Connecticut's K-8 Chess Championships, by offering autographs, photos and the opportunity to play a five minute blitz game. Tournament quality chess sets were purchased and donated to the Connecticut State Chess Association. The Association is establishing a scholarship program, in which Alexandra is mentoring twenty children in Bridgeport; who will receive free lessons, a donated chess set and entry into a local chess tournament (April 2011). Alexandra is slated to present at the August, 2011 Chess in Education Committee workshop.

#### 2nd Koltanowski International Conference on Chess and Education

On November 18-20, 2011, thousands of children, parents and chess coaches will arrive in Dallas for the National K-12. While children play their rounds, anyone interested in chess and education may attend the Second Koltanowski International Conference on Chess and Education (nicknamed the Koly conference) on Friday and Saturday. The National K-12 and the Koly conference will be at the Hilton Anatole. Conference participants may choose from over 25 presentations and will receive free books.

The Koly conference is sponsored by the U.S. Chess Trust and UT Dallas, and co-sponsored by the Texas Chess Association. Additional support is provided by the USCF. The link for more information, and to register for \$50.00 per day, is: [www.utdallas.edu/chess/education-camp/second-koltanowski-conference.html](http://www.utdallas.edu/chess/education-camp/second-koltanowski-conference.html)

#### University of Texas at Dallas offers college-credit.

The University of Texas at Dallas offers college-credit, chess in education courses in the fall and spring semesters. Dr. Alexey Root, author of five books on chess in education including *Children and Chess: A Guide for Educators* is the instructor.

For more information about the courses, go to: [www.utdallas.edu/chess/education-camp/chess-in-education.html](http://www.utdallas.edu/chess/education-camp/chess-in-education.html).

The above two items were submitted by Dr. Alexey Root and Dr. Tim Redman. Please feel free to contact them for additional information.

If there are any questions or you would like more information, please do not hesitate to e-mail or telephone (614-231-9591).

### College Chess Committee

CHAIR, RUSSELL HARWOOD

The 2010 Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championships was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this past Dec. 27-30. There were 28 teams fighting for the championship, which represented 19 different universities. These numbers have been fairly consistent for about the past 10 years. The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) A team went an impressive 6-0 against very strong competition to reclaim the championship. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) A team and The University of Texas and Texas Southmost College (UTB/TSC) A team tied for 2nd place with 4½ points, with UMBC taking 2nd on tiebreaks. Texas Tech University (TTU) A, UMBC-B, UTD-B, UTB/TSC-B, Stanford University, and University of Toronto-A teams all tied for 4th place with 4 points, but Texas Tech A took 4th place on tiebreaks. For the second

straight year, the four universities qualifying for the 2011 President's Cup (Final Four) were UTD, UMBC, UTB/TSC and TTU. The other Division Champions were:

Division II Champion (Under 2200): Texas Tech University B

Division III Champion (Under 2000): Miami Dade College

Division IV Champion (Under 1800): Yale University

Division V Champion (Under 1600): Reed College

The 2011 Pan Ams will be hosted by The University of Texas at Dallas at a DFW airport hotel.

The 2011 President's Cup (Final Four) was held in the Washington DC-area, at the beautiful Herndon, Virginia offices of the prestigious consulting firm, Booz Allen Hamilton. In their first year as sponsors of this tournament, Booz Allen Hamilton put on an excellent event. Jim Stallings and Mike Hoffpauir, with the assistance of the U.S. Chess Trust, are to be commended for working out the agreement to bring Booz Allen's corporate sponsorship to the Final Four at a time when the future of this event as an over-the-board tournament was in doubt. This year's tournament was the strongest and most evenly-matched Final Four ever, with an average rating for the top four boards of approximately 2580! Each of the teams had three grandmasters and at least one international master. The parity was reflected in the match scores ... the greatest margin of victory in any match was 2½ to 1½. The tournament championship was in doubt until the final game, and for the first time ever, someone other than UMBC or UTD won the President's Cup. Texas Tech, with a score of 7 points, won the Final Four. UTD was a close second with 6½ points, UTB/TSC was just behind with 6 points, and two-time defending champs UMBC finished with 4½ points. The College Chess Committee is very pleased that Booz Allen Hamilton will be sponsoring and hosting the Final Four again next year!

In the spring online team event, UT Dallas A won 1st place with 3½ out of 4, and UTD B tied for second place with Bard College at Simon's Rock with 3 points, with UTD-B placing 2nd on tiebreaks. The fall online tournament was not held this year, but plans are underway to make it a blitz-type tournament next fall, which would make the event much shorter and hopefully attract more participants. Jon Haskel continues to do a great job as Chief tournament director for our online tournaments and as the webmaster for the College Chess website, which is [www.collegechess.org/](http://www.collegechess.org/).

The College Chess Committee recommended The University of Maryland, Baltimore County for the Chess College of the Year award. This selection was merit based ... UMBC won both the Pan Ams and the President's Cup (Final Four) the previous academic year.

The World Chess Live Tournament of College Champions (TOC) was held this past summer in Irvine, California, in conjunction with the Denker and U.S. Open. It was a strong tournament, with one grandmaster, four international masters, one FIDE master, and two national masters. GM Timur Gareyev from The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College was a clear first with 5½ out of 6, giving him the title of 2010 Individual College Champion. This was the third year of a three-year sponsorship agreement with World Chess Live. Since we don't have a sponsor for the prize fund, the TOC will not be held this summer. In the three years the TOC was held, the TOC was a strong event, but attendance was just fair. The College Chess Committee will be discussing options for an individual collegiate championship, including looking for a new sponsor and trying to boost attendance.

### Correspondence Chess

CHAIR, HAROLD G. STENZEL

The following international titles have been awarded to ICCF-US Federation members in the past year:

**Grand Master:** Stephen E. Ham, John Ostriker

**Sr. International Master:** Thomas Biederman, David R. Myers

**International Master:** Thomas Biederman, John R. Menke Sr., Dr. Carl Siefiring, Mehran Divanbaigzand

The U.S. Federation is submitting a proposal to hold a Walter Muir Memorial Invitational in two sections to honor the "Dean of American Correspondence Chess" who passed away in 1999. It is anticipated that the top section will be a 15-person Category X tournament with international players making up approximately 2/3 of the field. The planned start is December 2011.

The ICCF-US Federation has started friendly matches with the following countries: The Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Ukraine and Argentina.

The USA has qualified for the 16th Olympiad Final. This is being held as a four-board event with 13 teams. The U.S. squad is made up of GM Alik S. Zilberberg, GM Edward Duliba, SIM Keith Holzmueller and SIM Jerry Weisskohl.

Alex Dunne has completed a book on the USCF Absolute Championships.

Committee member Robert Rizzo assisted with the writing of this report.

### Denker Committee

CHAIR, DEWAIN BARBER

The 26th Annual Denker Tournament of High School Champions at the U.S. Open in Irvine was won by the favorite Steven Zierk (CA-N). Scoring 5½ out of 6 points gave him clear first and the full academic scholarship provided by the University of Texas at Dallas. Alex Guo (WA) had clear second with 5 points and third place was a tie between Deepak Aaron (NY) and Kevin Mo (PA) with 4½ points. The Ursula Foster Memorial scholarship for best performance for under age 16 was won by Quentin Moore (VA). Thanks again to Mitchell Denker, The Chess Trust, American Chess Equipment and TD Tony Rich.

Steven Zierk (CA-N), the 26th Annual Denker Champion of Champions followed up his Denker performance with a gold medal World Youth finish.

GM Arnold Denker would have been proud of the young high school players who competed for the title. More than 1,000 have played in the Denker since its inception. A new website: [denkerchess.com](http://denkerchess.com) has been created to honor the gentleman who started it all.

Finally, this year there will be a new event that came out of the desire of GM Denker to "want to do something for the kids". The Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions (website: [barberchess.com/joomla](http://barberchess.com/joomla)) will invite a representative from each state who is in grade 8 or below. The Barber K-8 event will use the same format as the Denker.

From the article, "The Denker Legacy," I would like to quote:

"It is with great pleasure and reverence that I say it has been an honor to meet and greet the young people who can proudly say, 'I played in the Denker!' It is a legacy that the entire chess community can be proud of. As we move into the next quarter century, it will continue to shine as an example of the best we can offer from Alaska to Maine, Michigan to Texas, Florida to Hawaii and from California to Virginia. I say from the deepest part of my heart: 'Thank you, Arnold, for the legacy you have bestowed upon the chess community.'"

### Election Committee

CHAIR, MYRON LIEBERMAN

Thanks to Ken Ballou, Roger Gottschall, Woody Harris, and Ernie

Schlich for their service on the committee, to Harry Sabine for his advice and for his acceptance to serve as chief teller; to Mike Nolan for his advice, for providing membership and registration information and for his setting up the voter registration page, MSA modifications, and the committee mailing list. Thanks to Dan Lucas for his patience in getting the information he needed for publication and for working with us to be sure he had everything that he needed. Thanks also to Bill Hall, Cheryle Bruce, Patricia K. Smith and others in the office for their assistance.

Mike Nolan prepared the voter registration article for the November issue of *Chess Life*. It stated:

“Effective with the 2011 Executive Board election, voting members will have to be registered in order to be eligible to vote. Only registered eligible voting members will be sent a ballot.

“In order to be qualified to register as a USCF Voting Member and vote in the 2011 USCF Executive Board election, you must be a current USCF member who will be 16 or older on June 30th, 2011.

“You must register as a voting member by March 31st, 2011, in order to be eligible to vote in the 2011 Executive Board election, and you must also be a current USCF member for the entire day on May 5th, 2011. (This means that if your USCF membership is due to lapse on or before April 30th, you must renew or rejoin no later than May 4th.)

“Your voter registration will lapse if your USCF membership lapses for more than 28 days, and you will need to re-register as a voting member again after you rejoin the USCF. (And you must re-register by March 31st to be eligible in 2011.)”

Ken Ballou adapted the previous call for nominations to include the changes made by the Delegates in 2010. The draft stated:

### Call for 2011 USCF Executive Board Election

The U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) will hold an election in 2011 for three at large positions on the USCF Executive Board. Each position is for a term of three years.

Any current USCF member who is not a current USCF employee or designated contractor (as defined in USCF bylaws) can be nominated for election to the USCF Executive Board.

Nominations must be made by petitions containing the signatures of fifty (50) or more Voting Members of the USCF of whom at least fifteen (15) are USCF delegates representing at least five (5) states, and by payment of a filing fee of \$250 to the U.S. Chess Federation. The petition to nominate a candidate and the filing fee must be received at the USCF office by Friday, December 31, 2010. (Send nominations and the filing fee to Cheryle Bruce, U.S. Chess Federation, PO Box 3967, Crossville TN 38557-3967.)

The nomination petitions must contain the dated signatures, printed names and USCF IDs of each voting member, and should contain the following text: “We, the undersigned Voting Members of the U.S. Chess Federation, nominate \_\_ (candidate name goes here) \_\_ as a candidate for election to the USCF Executive Board in the 2011 election. We also consent to having our names and USCF IDs published as having signed this petition.”

A sample nomination form will be made available on the USCF website. Candidates must consent to be on the ballot, either by signing their own nominating petition or by separate notice to the USCF.

A Voting Member for this election is any current USCF member (active as of May 4, 2011) whose membership expires on or after June 30, 2011, and who will be age 16 or older by June 30, 2011.

Ballots will be distributed to Voting Members who are registered to vote as of March 31, 2011. Ballot distribution will occur around June 1st, and returned ballots will be counted in July. The terms will begin at the conclusion of the 2011 Delegates Meeting and will run through the conclusion of the 2014 Delegates Meeting.

### Online voter registration started October 2, 2010.

The committee was asked to certify candidates for the election based on the new criteria. The following motion passed: “RESOLVED, that the election committee certifies Gary Walters, Mike Nietman, Sevan Muradian, and Allen Priest as candidates for the 2011 USCF Executive Board election.” Sam Sloan also submitted a petition, however his petition was found to have an insufficient number of Delegates to be certified.

The deadline for receiving ballots in Crossville was set at 3 p.m. CDT July 20, 2011 at the suggestion of Chief Teller Harry Sabine.

The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by a double blind drawing at the office. The results were Allen Priest, Sevan Muradian, Mike Nietman, and Gary Walters would be listed in that order.

The ballot will be mailed out this year rather than being included in *Chess Life* as it was determined that a first class mailing would be less expensive.

### Ethics Committee

CHAIR, RICHARD BUCHANAN

The USCF Ethics Committee has had a relatively quiet year. We only had three cases presented to us, mostly dealing with the behavior of players in tournaments.

Again, we welcome people interested in joining our Committee. Anyone interested in getting more information is welcome to contact me at buckpeace@pcsisys.net.

### Finance

CHAIR, CHUCK UNRUH

From the review of the monthly financial reports to representation at the recent budget summit, the Finance Committee had a busy year. My thanks to the professional team serving on the committee.

With help from the committee, CFO Joe Nanna and his office staff have continuously improved the monthly reports of the USCF’s financial condition. The committee appreciates the attention to detail and timeliness of the reports.

The committee and office continue to work through many complex financial issues. One such issue is the change made to the monthly profit and loss reports for tournament financial results. Overshadowed only by membership dues, tournament revenues are a significant percentage of the Federation’s income statement. The goal is clarity in the profit/loss profile of USCF-sponsored tournaments.

Work continues for the active Finance Committee with every monthly report. I recommend the current committee volunteers for service in the upcoming year.

### Governance Task Force Committee

CHAIR, ALLEN PRIEST

The Governance Task Force (GTF) was re-authorized for another year by the Executive Board (EB). Joe Lux was appointed as the chair. The members were essentially the same as were originally appointed to the GTF the prior year with the addition of new members of the EB. The GTF began meeting through e-mail in early March to explore additional changes to the governance structure of the Federation. We began tackling the question of the USCF board of directors. While it has been established that the delegates are the board of directors, there were concerns that the present structure simply does not work well. The GTF began

discussions and then stalled when Chair Lux resigned on March 25. Efforts were stalled for several weeks as the GTF sought leadership. Allen Priest was elected chair of the committee April 20.

We continued to explore what changes needed to be made to provide for a more coherent governance structure while preserving the rights of the delegates to oversee key areas of the Federation. The EB authorized adding three new members to the GTF. Wayne Praeder had expressed interest but declined to serve. Brian Mottershead, Sevan Muradian, and David Quinn joined the committee and we spent a very active six weeks discussing and debating various changes. We posted several of those proposals on the Forums to gather member feedback and considered that feedback as we shaped a proposal.

The GTF as a whole was concerned with maintaining a balance between the existing duties and rights of the delegates while still providing for a clearly and more easily managed governance structure. While all GTF members recognized the significant role that the delegates have played, and should continue to play, there was significant debate over how control should be divided between the delegates and the EB, while maintaining the EB as the board of directors. There continue to be disagreements over the nature of the wording of the proposed changes in the bylaws as a result of the concerns of some committee members.

Mr. Quinn expressed a minority view that the delegates should remain the board of directors and efforts should be made to employ the use of modern technology (an online forum, or a Google group, or e-mail) to engage the delegates in electronic meetings throughout the year. He believes that the delegates are USCF's most reliable decision-making body and that, if the delegates had these means to communicate at their disposal and the bylaws were changed to allow them to call their own meetings and meet for regular business online, the delegates could serve effectively as the board of directors. He believes that this is a less radical change than the main GTF proposal, and if it does not work out well, the delegates could pass their powers to the EB in the future. He proposed somewhat diminishing the powers of the EB while expanding the powers of the delegates, but he did not determine a division of responsibilities, because GTF concerns with the proposal highlighted other issues. The GTF considered these views, but decided that the technology for such electronic meeting is not viable at this time and furthermore, that the delegates have not demonstrated that they desire an expanded role as contemplated by Mr. Quinn.

The GTF submitted an Advanced Delegate Motion co-sponsored by most members of the GTF. This proposal will be discussed in our workshop at the annual members' meeting. The GTF will continue to discuss it up until that meeting as well and may propose changes in wording. We will continue to post reports on the USCF Member Issues Forum. There may be additional areas that need to be considered for change. A significant open item that remains is a resolution of the status of Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest.

The GTF proposal would transfer the legal responsibilities of the board of directors of the Federation to the Executive Board. This will make it easier for our governmental reporting of the directors and remove potential questions as to the status of EB decisions between meetings of the delegates. Our proposal leaves the delegates with the sole authority to approve the bylaws, the rules of chess and the budget, appoint committees that have traditionally been appointed by the delegates and oversee the ethics compliance process.

As a late-arriving chair I appreciate the hard work and cooperation of the committee members. They include Bill Goichberg, Ruth Haring, Guy Hoffman, Gary Kitts, Richard Koepcke, Myron Lieberman, Brian Mottershead, Sevan Muradian, David Quinn, Gary Walters and Harold Winston.

## Hall of Fame Committee

CHAIR, HAROLD J. WINSTON

The World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum will reopen in St. Louis this September, thanks to the generosity of Rex Sinquefield. There will be a VIP private opening on the evening of September 8, 2011, at which time the new inductions to the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame will occur. The public opening will be September 9, 2011 at 9 a.m.

Acting on the recommendation of our committee, the trustees of the U.S. Chess Trust voted the following two deserving people into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame:

Our first inductee, Boris Gulko, has been one of America's top players since he arrived in this country in the 1980s. He is the only person to have won both the Soviet and the U.S. championships. He has been a top contender at many U.S. championships and a star for our teams at the chess Olympiad. He became a grandmaster in 1976, shared the USSR Championship in 1977 and emigrated to the U.S. in 1986. He won the U.S. Championship in 1994 and 1999 and has played in 10 Olympiads, including nine for the USA from 1988-2004. GM Gulko also represented the USA in World Team Championships in 1993, 1997, and 2005.

Our second inductee, Andrew (Andy) Soltis, is not only a grandmaster but one of our most accomplished chess writers and journalists. His award winning "Chess to Enjoy" column has been a mainstay of *Chess Life* for many years. He has written many fine books about chess, including *Pawn Structure Chess* (1976), *Rethinking the Chess Pieces* (2004), *Why Lasker Matters* (2005), and *Studying Chess Made Easy* (2010). He was inducted into the Gallery of Distinguished Chess Journalists in 2005 and named Chess Journalist of the Year by the Chess Journalists of America in 1988. He is also a longtime chess columnist for the *New York Post*.

Last year's committee report in the *Delegate's Call* inadvertently omitted two of the 2010 inductees: past U.S. Champions Jackson W. Showalter, "the Kentucky Lion," a rival of Harry Nelson Pillsbury, and Herman Steiner, one of the top U.S. players in the first half of the twentieth century. Herman Steiner's son Eugene, with his family, attended the induction as did Showalter's great granddaughter, Amy Showalter. A full story appeared in the April 2011 *Chess Life* on page 8: "Three Champions Enter Hall of Fame," which I authored.

My thanks to the other members of the committee: John Donaldson, John McCrary, John Hilbert, Al Lawrence, Shane Samole, Joel Benjamin, Arthur Bisguier, and Jennifer Shahade. All of us mourn the death of committee member and Hall of Fame honoree Jeremy Gaige, America's greatest chess archivist.

## LMA Committee

CHAIR, TIM REDMAN

The LMA is one of three committees appointed by the USCF Board of Delegates. It reports directly to the Delegates. USCF accounts fall under two separate areas of responsibility, Operations and LMA. You might think of Operations as managing the Federation's checkbook, and LMA managing the Federation's savings account and its property in Crossville.

LMA undertook one significant initiative last year. In Spring of 2010, when Joe Nanna was preparing to transfer the last two LMA CDs from a local bank to our Oberweis account, I told him that it was my intent to keep that money in a local bank, for ease of access and to build relations with that bank. Last August, in Irvine, entirely on his own initiative, Joe approached me with an intriguing proposal. He suggested that by keeping the money local, the Federation could renegotiate both the terms of our

mortgage and the terms of our line of credit. He anticipated that by so doing, the USCF could save up to \$7,000 a year.

I pointed out some problems with his initial proposal, he revised it, and I asked the Vice-Chair of the LMA, Dr. Leroy Dubeck, to help in this effort. Joe's proposal went through at least three further iterations before Leroy, the bank, Joe, and I were satisfied that it could go forward. The LMA approved it unanimously January 27, Harry Sabine reviewed it, and Bill Hall signed it on behalf of Operations and the LMA. It went into effect on February 7, 2011.

Basically, the Federation has a line of credit with Cumberland County Bank of \$250,000, which is fully utilized. \$100,000 of it is secured by, Leroy and I believe, the Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund. \$150,000 was unsecured. The changes are as follows: 1) The two \$50,000 LMA CDs held locally were combined into a single \$100,000 CD at the current rate of 1.25%. That CD will secure an additional \$100,000 of the USCF line of credit. 2) Cumberland County Bank will charge USCF Operations a blended interest rate of 4.29% calculated as a combination of the current rate of 2.25% on the secured line of credit and 6.50% on the unsecured line of credit. These may vary in the future in accord with prevailing market rates. 3) The USCF entered a new mortgage with Cumberland at 5.5% for seven years or less. Although the rate on the LMA CD is typical of current dismal CD rates, the added savings on the interest rate for the line of credit and the mortgage made this an attractive arrangement for the Federation.

As an integral part of this financial restructuring, Operations and LMA agreed to a repayment plan for the approximately \$100,000 still owed to the LMA by Operations as a result of a previous incentive plan to pay down the mortgage with part of the LeCornu bequest. Any loan must take into account two factors, credit worthiness and interest-rate risk. The former consideration does not apply as we are all in this together. However, the LMA, representing the long-term investment made by life members in the USCF, does have the responsibility of guarding against interest-rate risk while at the same time giving Operations maximum flexibility in its ongoing successful plans to restore the Federation to financial health.

To achieve these goals, LMA offered, and Operations accepted, the following terms for repayment of the \$100,000: \$1,000 a month minimum towards the repayment of principal with interest monthly calculated at the previous month's prime rate. In addition to the monthly payments of life-member dues collected sent to Oberweis, these payments will be recorded and sent separately. Both the Executive Director and the Chief Financial Officer fully approved of these arrangements; the Executive Board was kept completely informed of these agreements. The first loan repayment of \$1,283.77 was sent to Oberweis on May 3. The loan will be fully repaid no later than September 2019.

An additional benefit from the new mortgage was that the USCF received a new appraisal on its Crossville property. Although not as high as we had hoped, it was in line with prices in the current depressed real estate market. Joe Nanna and Leroy Dubeck can report the appraisal figure and the current value of the LMA in Orlando.

The LMA considered an investment plan, but due to a cogent objection from one of our members, I postponed consideration of it.

The LMA would like to thank Jim Oberweis for his company's key role in maintaining our investment account.

We would like to thank our Executive Board liaison, Randy Bauer, and our Office liaison Joe Nanna. Joe especially deserves commendation for his outstanding initiative in our debt restructuring.

LMA members all helped with these efforts. They are Jack Adamo, Frank Camaratta, Steve Doyle, Leroy Dubeck, Peter Dyson, Beatriz Marinello, Allen Priest, Tim Redman, Fred Townsend, and Chuck Unruh.

I recommend that the entire LMA Committee be reelected by the Delegates. If Allen Priest is elected to the Executive Board, I

recommend that Randy Bauer be elected to take his place.

### Military Committee

CHAIR, JOHN F. FARRELL, SSGT, USMC RETIRED

The Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force are currently fielding teams for the Inter-Service Chess Championship that will take place 13-17 June 2011, at the Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar (San Diego), CA. The Services will send top six finishers (to include at least one participant from each service to form a "purple" team) to the NATO Chess Championship to be held in Lithuania 8-12 August 2011. Special thanks to the MWR/MCCS POC's from each of the Services for making these events possible.

The 2010 U.S. Armed Forces Open Chess Championship (AFOCC) was held at Andrews Air Force Base, MD over the Columbus Day weekend. Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Taffinder, USAF (the previous Military Chair to the USCF) organized the event with help from Master Sergeant Steven Rollins, USMC retired, and Colonel Mike Hoffpauir, USA retired, whom directed the event. ET1 Larry Larkins, USN retired, earned top honors having now won his 3rd AFOCC in 2010.

The AFOCC is the nation's largest, free, military-oriented chess tournament that is open to all active duty, retired, reserve, U.S. Military Academy cadet/midshipmen chess players. The U.S. Chess Federation's Military Chess Committee is the supervising body for this event, which is always held in the national capital region on a rotating schedule between volunteer representatives (usually retirees) from each branch of the Armed Forces. The event typically draws between 60 to 70 participants.

In conjunction with the AFOCC, the seventh U.S. Military Service Academy Championship took place to compete for the Commander in Chief's Trophy in which the Air Force Academy won the 2009 event. The cadets/midshipmen also represent their respective service in the overall AFOCC. The annual Armed Forces Blitz event which is also conducted over the weekend was won by Captain Samuel Perez, USA. The AFOCC is a full weekend of chess that offers the unique opportunity to meet and compete with previous, current, and future U.S. Armed Forces champions.

The next AFOCC will convene at Henderson Hall (Arlington), VA over the 2011 Columbus Day weekend (8-10 October 2011). Along with the traditional events, the 2011 AFOCC will also conduct a Warm-Up tournament on Friday night as well as the 2nd U.S. Armed Forces Bughouse Championship on Saturday. Details are available at <http://www.timbeeck.com/afocc.html>. Special thanks goes out to Col. Hoffpauir for agreeing to direct the event once again this year. I would also like to thank MCCS Henderson Hall, USCF, USO, Monroi, and The House of Staunton at this time for providing their unwavering support to make this tournament happen.

I will step down as the chair of the Military Chess Committee to the USCF upon conclusion of the 2011 AFOCC, and I believe that Captain Thomas Belke, USNR retired, will pick up the reins at that time.

### Outreach Committee

CHAIR, MYRON LIEBERMAN

Anyone can help with outreach at any level, locally, regionally, nationally, or even internationally. Now the time is right with the new resources available through online social networks, mobile communication (tablets and smart phones), and even the "cloud".

One thing anyone can and should do is to contact local press whenever they, their child, or their student plans to compete in a chess event, even at a local level. Broadcasters and city desks are

always looking for local news and often features can evolve from the original contact. Especially if a group from a school or club goes to an event it is essential to not pass up the opportunity to get as much recognition as possible for the players, the event, and the group involved. If everyone on the team contacts the local media there is strength in numbers.

Another thing anyone can and is encouraged to do is work with libraries. Libraries are always looking for events to hold that can make a positive difference in someone's life and most recognize the value of chess in that regard, especially for youth, but don't know where to get appropriate volunteers. Their budgets have been cut and many currently are receptive to proposals that involve volunteers. It is very possible that a library would also be receptive to hosting a chess club if an organizer is looking for a club site.

Organizers should consider writing articles about their chess activities. Consider submitting them to *Chess Life*, *Chess Life Online*, *Chess Life for Kids (CLAK)*, and local or state chess publications. Also consider submitting them to *The Chess Journalist* magazine. *The Chess Journalist*, published by the Chess Journalists of America (CJA), reaches a large number of journalists, some of whom may help provide additional publicity. The CJA also presents awards for a wide range of categories. Winning a CJA award may help focus national attention on local publications. This is one form of networking that can be used much more than it has been.

Social networking sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Google Buzz, Twitter, etc., are good for advance promotion of events and clubs.

Do you have extra *Chess Lifes* or *CLAKs*? Think about donating them to hospitals, especially children's hospitals. You can make both the staff and the patients happy by doing so.

Chess has come a long way in terms of media recognition and respect but the goal is to make it bigger and better.

We applaud Beatriz Marinello's Chess for Prevention efforts with FIDE and stand ready to provide additional help when we can.

Thanks also to Tim Redman for organizing the second Koltanowski Conference on Chess in Education, to be held in November in conjunction with the National K-12 in Dallas, TX. This is an international conference. That will be a good place to exchange ideas.

Thanks to each of you for what you've done. Keep up the good work.

## Ratings Committee

CHAIR, MARK E. GLICKMAN, PH.D.

The Ratings Committee (RC) had a variety of tasks that it worked on throughout the year. The main tasks involved testing changes to the rating system, but given resource constraints only a minimal amount of testing was accomplished. Several minor tasks were carried out to completion, as we describe below.

The RC was asked to examine several potential changes to the rating system. First, the committee was charged with investigating approaches to increase the K-factor for players in the 1800-2200 rating range. The basic method the RC proposed was to modify the formula for the "effective number of games" in the rating formula that would result in larger values of K in the desired rating range. After submitting a concrete proposal in October 2010, the Board suggested different formulas in December to consider. To date, no further testing has been performed. The RC has also been asked to test approaches to aligning regular and Quick Chess (QC) ratings, but the feeling was that decisions about the K-factor needed to be made prior to working on the regular/QC alignment. These two tasks are at the front of the queue of issues the RC will be addressing in the coming months.

In what has become a related issue, the Executive Board had been in discussions about the possibility of creating a master invitational rating system. The invitational system, which would have

run in parallel with the current rating system, was designed for top players to produce reliable ratings that could be used to select players for invitational events. From the standpoint of ratings accuracy, the RC chair saw no problems with the proposal. The proposal then morphed into the USCF Invitational Rating system (UIR), which was also intended to be run in parallel with the current rating system. Ultimately, these systems were abandoned, and instead a modification to the existing rating system was proposed. The gist of the proposal is to lower the K-factor for players with ratings over 2400 for games played with time controls of G/60 to G/30, which is intended to minimize the results of quicker games that are regular-rated. The RC plans to address this as a component of the QC/regular rating modification testing.

While the norm/title system is fully implemented, the RC addressed two outstanding issues related to titles over the past year. First, the RC had a vigorous discussion last year about norm eligibility in the case where a player competing in a 4-round event only plays three games. Some RC members argued that, to be eligible for a norm, a player must have played four games, and others argued that the player could play fewer than four games if the performance met the norm criterion acting as though the unplayed games were losses to low-rated players. The final decision was to create an exception whereby a player who was scheduled to play 4 games may have played only three, and the fourth unplayed game was either a bye or a forfeit win, then the player earn a norm if the score based on the three played games exceeded the usual criterion score by 2.0 points. This is equivalent to acting as though the fourth unplayed game was a "worst-case scenario," that is, a loss against a player with an infinitely negative rating. From inspecting tournament results from the prior year, this exception only affected one player, so we expect this exception will apply extremely infrequently going forward.

The second norm/title issue involved crediting players with appropriate norms and titles based on imperfect tournament and rating information prior to 1991. The RC chair performed some analyses based on post-1991 event results to determine the ratings at which there was a specified probability (such as 80%) of achieving norms/titles simply based on the player's rating alone, or based on the rating plus the frequency of competing. While it was understood that such information was generally useful, ultimately the problem was more complicated because players who might want to seek pre-1991 tournament credit were those who also have competed after 1991 as well. To our knowledge, the USCF is addressing this issue by responding to players who want credit for pre-1991 tournament results on a case-by-case basis, charging a research fee in instances where USCF staff needs to research tournament results.

In March, 2011, the RC chair performed analyses to recompute the FIDE-to-USCF rating conversion based on the most current data available (consisting of players who have played 10 or more games on the FIDE list since January 2010, and 10 or more USCF regular games since January 2010). The analyses involved deriving a statistical relationship predicting average USCF ratings given players' FIDE ratings. The relationship was carried out separately for players under 20 years old, and over 20 years old. It was noted how poorly FIDE and USCF ratings correspond at lower FIDE ratings, so that the RC chair recommended not relying on the formulas to estimate a player's USCF rating based on low FIDE ratings. Based on these results, the Executive Board is in discussions about not USCF-rating players in foreign FIDE events unless their FIDE rating is at least 2200.

The RC and the RC chair considered a number of minor issues throughout the year. Two issues are mentioned here. In July, 2010, the RC was asked its opinion on using the QC system to rate Chess 960 events. This question was motivated by what appeared to be a mistaken U.S. Open ad that claimed Chess 960 games would be rated. The RC unanimously agreed that Chess 960 games should not be rated under an existing rating system. A second minor issue related to correspondence with the RC chair

pointing out that the documentation providing approximation formulas to the implemented rating system misspecified the criteria for bonus point eligibility. The document was corrected and re-posted in December, 2010.

Over the coming year, the RC chair will begin testing and optimizing a rating system that is closely related to the Glicko-2 rating system. This system is being analyzed for possible adoption by the USCF to address many of the ongoing problems with the current system. While thorough testing will be necessary and essential, the advantages of such a system include the following: (1) Each player would have not only a rating, but a measure of its reliability—players with reliable ratings will typically not change by large amounts, and players with unreliable ratings could undergo larger rating swings before stabilizing; (2) results against opponents with unreliable ratings would have very little impact on one's own rating; and (3) if a player had an unusually strong performance relative to his/her rating, the player's rating would be estimated to be less reliable, and the player's rating would increase by larger-than-normal amounts—in effect, a bonus-type mechanism would be an essential feature of the system. Testing is planned to begin over the summer.

Each year the RC performs a set of diagnostic analyses to monitor trends in the rating pool. Overall rating levels have deflated from the mid-1990s through 2000 when rating floors were decreased by 100 points without a counteracting inflationary mechanism. With the new rating system implemented in 2001, ratings started to re-inflate. The RC has the goal of restoring rating levels back roughly to where they were at the end of 1997. The focus of RC work has been on players with established ratings who have been active over the current and previous three years and who are aged 35-45 years old in the current year. Based on the continued decline in ratings for this group, the RC recommended three years ago lowering the bonus point threshold from B=10 to B=6 to accelerate the re-inflation of the rating pool. This change was applied retroactively to the beginning of 2008. Over the past three years, the average rating for this group has increased 20 points in 2008, about 20 points in 2009, and only about 3 points in 2010. The average rating is currently about 40 points lower than the average rating at the end of 1997. Based on the modest increase in ratings for this group, the RC recommends keeping the bonus threshold at B=6 and continuing to monitor rating movement in this subset of players.

### Rules Committee

CHAIR, DAVID KUHNS

From the 2010 Delegate's meeting:

The delegates voted to remove rule 5Fa (deduct 5 minutes from the clock if digital clock is used), but implementation was delayed until January 2012 in order for the Rules Committee to come up with a firm proposal that allow the practice of G/25 d/5 to be employed as dual rated, and to remove difficulty in the current system.

Current Rule 5C

Quick chess vs. regular (for rating purposes):

**Regular only:** Primary time control greater than G/60 OR increment or delay greater than 15 seconds per move.

**Dual:** Primary time control G/30 to G/60 AND increment or delay less than or equal to 15 seconds per move.

**Quick only:** Primary time control G/5 to G/29 AND increment or delay less than or equal to 15 seconds per move.

*TD Tip:* For the purposes of calculating G/MM, if multiple time controls are applied (e.g. 30/30; SD/30 the total minutes (30+30=60) is considered equivalent (G/60) for this purpose. Although Quick Chess was designed to be a single time control (G/MM), it is possible to apply multiple controls for dual rated events. At no time should the

basic, primary (first) time control be less than 5 minutes.

Quick Chess was expanded to include G/5 to G/9. In games less than G/10 rule 5Fa (shorten the basic time control) was not intended to be applied.

The Rules Committee proposes the following to replace the above:

\*\*\* ADM \*\*\*

### PROPOSED RULE to replace the above in Rule 5C:

For the purposes of rating G/minutes and inc/seconds (or d/seconds), add minutes and seconds for total playing time for each player. (i.e. total time equals minutes plus (seconds times 60)) e.g.: G/60 d/5 = 60+5 = 65 minutes total playing time for each player.

Multiple time controls add all mm for each control: mm = mm(1) + mm(2) + ...

**Regular only:** total playing time for each player is greater than 65 minutes.

**Dual (both regular and quick):** total playing time for each player is from 30 to 65 minutes.

**Quick only:** total playing time for each player is less than 30 minutes and Blitz (see chapter 11) in all cases the primary time control (mm in minutes) must be at least 5 minutes.

### TD TIP

Examples of standard time controls:

40/90, SD/30, inc/30	Regular (standard FIDE)
40/120, SD/60 d/5	Regular
40/115, SD/60 d/5	Regular (FIDE allowed—2 rds/day)
G/120, inc/30	Regular
G/120, d/5	Regular
G/115, d/5	Regular (FIDE allowed—3 rds/day)
G/90, inc/30	Regular (standard FIDE)
G/90, d/5	Regular
G/60, inc/30	Regular
G/60, d/5	Dual
G/30, d/5	Dual
G/25, d/5	Dual
G/25, d/3	Quick
G/15, d/3	Quick
G/10, d/3	Quick
Blitz G/5 (d/0)	Quick

When used, standard increment is 30 seconds (Regular).

Standard delay is 5 seconds (regular or dual); and 3 seconds (quick).

Standard blitz uses no delay or increment (see chapter 11).

Although these are not all of the possible time controls, organizers are encouraged to select one of the above (or similar) so that all participants are clear as what to expect and under which system the event will be rated.

\*\*\* end of ADM \*\*\*

Rulebook: The Rules Committee endorses the revision and publication of U.S. Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess 6th edition.

### Scholastic Committee Report

CO-CHAIRS, TOM BROWNSCOMBE AND BEATRIZ MARINELLO

Scholastic chess is still growing. The scholastic membership category is the USCF's largest membership category. Current USCF scholastic and youth memberships exceed the combined total memberships of all other USCF membership categories. This is largely due to the efforts of our scholastic affiliates and various

non-profit organizations. There are more than 300 not-for-profit and non-profit organizations that promote scholastic chess, including organizations such as the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis which promote chess at all levels. Yet the number of young people who are playing in scholastic chess tournaments in the United States is much greater than the number of USCF scholastic members. If we want to see substantial membership growth, we need to find a way to convince the parents of all young chess players that joining the USCF is worth the membership fee.

During the 2010-2011 year the members of the Scholastic Council, in conjunction with the Scholastic Committee, have been working on the following issues:

A subcommittee of the scholastic committee selected Chaz Daly (FL), Andrew Ng (NJ), Eigen Wang (NY), Kevin Zhang (AZ), and Andrew Schwartsman (NJ) as the winners of the 2011 Scholar-Chessplayer Awards. The Council would like to thank the members of the subcommittee for their time and efforts, and we would also like to thank the National Scholastic Chess Foundation and the U.S. Chess Trust for their support of these awards.

The Council proposed changes to the invitation requirements for the U.S. delegation to the World Youth Chess Championships, and these changes were approved by the EB. These changes allow winners of selected national championships and players who have achieved high ratings to represent the U.S. at the World Youth, regardless of their ranking within their age group. Previous rules only allowed a few of the very highest rated players to participate. Reigning national scholastic champions and other highly rated young players who were not among the top three rated players in their age group were often excluded from participation under the old rules. 2011 will be the first year in which these new rules will be in effect, and we anticipate that some adjustments will be necessary for 2012.

FIDE has changed the invitation policy for the World Junior Championship. In view of this development, the Scholastic Council decided to open this event to additional American players.

The Scholastic Council and Ralph Bowman, administrator of the Chess Coach Certification Program, have been considering upgrades to this program. There is a growing interest in this type of certification. The USCF needs to make sure that there are reasonable standards in place to ensure that qualified applicants will be able to earn a level of certification that is commensurate with their achievements.

There was an accusation that some young players were texting moves to one another at one of our 2011 national scholastic tournaments. Upon recommendation by members of the Scholastic Council, the EB has recently passed a motion addressing the controversial issue of using electronic devices to cheat at national scholastic tournaments.

For the most recent Spring national scholastic championships, the USCF implemented a new policy to address rating issues for scholastic players who have a regional or state rating that is much higher than their USCF rating. In 2011, the USCF reviewed various state and regional rating systems and adjusted national scholastic championship participants' ratings for the purpose of pairings and section eligibility if there was a discrepancy of 100 or more points between a player's USCF rating and another rating of which the USCF was aware. Council representatives were prepared to address this issue at the tournaments' scholastic meetings, but nobody expressed any objection to this new procedure. Nonetheless, this procedure is mathematically suspect (at best), since many regional and state rating systems are inflated by more than 100 points relative to the USCF rating system. This new procedure also does not address the basic problem.

The basic problem that the USCF faces is that many local tournament organizers and state associations apparently do not perceive value in the USCF rating system. There are many parts of the country in which the vast majority of scholastic tournaments are not USCF rated and the vast majority of active scholastic tournament chess players are not USCF members. The USCF needs to figure out

how to promote or improve its rating system so that scholastic tournament organizers will perceive value in having their tournaments USCF rated. In an age in which it is possible for anyone who has a website and a personal computer to start their own chess rating system, the number of tournament organizers and chess associations that choose to establish their own rating system is growing. This is very bad news for the future of the USCF rating system. This issue is probably the number one challenge that the USCF currently faces in scholastic chess. And this issue will probably start to affect non-scholastic chess tournaments in the near future if the USCF fails to address this issue successfully.

The Scholastic Council and Committee welcome any and all comments and feedback. The 2010-2011 Council members are: Garrett Scott, Aviv Friedman, Steve Shutt, Tom Brownscombe, and Beatriz Marinello.

### Tournament Director Certification Committee

CHAIR, TIM JUST

TDCC Members 2010-2011: Tim Just (Chair), Guy Hoffman, Carol Jarecki, Alan Losoff, Joe Lux, John McCumiskey, Mike Somers, Ernie Schlich, Jeff Wiewel, Edward Conway, Charles Hatherill, Francisco Guadalupe, Randy Hough, Ken Ballou, Alex Relyea, Tom Langland, Tracey Vibbert

One new member joined the TDCC in 2011, Tracey Vibbert. One member of the TDCC resigned due to his new contracted duties with USCF, Al Losoff.

So far this year the TDCC has ruled on two cases. Both cases were resolved in favor of the tournament director (TD). The \$25 good faith deposit was not returned.

1. A dispute over the position on the board not matching the complaining scholastic player's score was resolved in favor of the opponent, whose score matched the board position, by the TD. The TD's decision was upheld.

2. A scholastic game in the last round of a tournament went unreported. The floor TD interviewed other players near the game and one of the players while scoring a win for Player A (Player B could not be found). Later (after the awards ceremony), Player B claimed the game was a draw. Player B claimed a draw offer was accepted when both players shook hands. Player A claims Player B resigned with a handshake in a lost position after a move by Player A. The Chief TD interviewed both players and went over the game score. The Chief TD ruled Player A had won. The TD's decision was upheld.

Three waivers were granted. One involved a substitution for an NTD experience requirement (two slightly smaller RRs for the larger RR requirement, and only if all other requirements were met). The other two waivers involved partial waivers allowing TDs with a certification lower than NTD to be the chiefs of national tournaments as long as an NTD was available for consultation for the event (The U.S. Blind and the U.S. G/15 Chess Championship).

The chair continued to field questions regarding TD certification from TDs seeking advice on upgrading their TD status. Further, the chair worked with the USCF office in dealing with the procedures for most of the duties regarding TD certification being assigned to a different staff member after the departure of Phil Smith (Phil still has some limited duties in that area).

***The following committees have not submitted a written report as of deadline; an oral report may be given at the Delegates Meeting:***

***Awards, Cramer Awards, Hall of Records, International Affairs, Professional Players Health and Benefits, Publications, Seniors, States, Survey, Top Players, U.S. Open, Women's.***

# 1979-2011 Award Recipients

*Note: All motions in this advance agenda have been taken Verbatim from the submissions of individual Delegates. The Publications of any motion herein does not constitute an endorsement, agreement, or position by the USCF of anything included or implied in any such motion.*

## **CHESS CITY OF THE YEAR**

1983 Pasadena, California  
 1984 New York, New York  
 1985 Foxboro, Massachusetts  
 1986 Charlotte, North Carolina  
 Somerset, New Jersey  
 1987 Pulaski, Virginia  
 Terre Haute, Indiana  
 1988 Albuquerque, New Mexico  
 Memphis, Tennessee  
 Southfield, Michigan  
 1989 Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Peoria, Illinois  
 Seattle, Washington  
 Tempe, Arizona  
 Lexington, Kentucky  
 1993 Durango, Colorado  
 Reno, Nevada  
 1994 Bloomington, Illinois  
 New York, New York  
 1995 Chicago, Illinois  
 Key West, Florida  
 1996 Tucson, Arizona  
 New York, New York  
 1997 Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
 1998 Peoria, Arizona  
 1999 San Francisco, California  
 Gilbert, Arizona  
 2000 Louisville, Kentucky  
 Dallas, Texas  
 2001 Kansas City, Missouri  
 2002 Miami, Florida  
 New York City  
 Seattle, Washington  
 2003 Nashville, Tennessee  
 2004 Lindsborg, Kansas  
 2005 Minneapolis, Minnesota  
 2006 Crossville, TN  
 Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
 2007 Stillwater, OK  
 2008 Tulsa, OK; Lubbock, TX  
 2009 St. Louis, MO  
 2010 Nashville, TN  
 2011 **St. Louis, MO**

## **CHESS CLUB OF THE YEAR**

1999 Pittsburgh Chess Club  
 2001 Rochester Chess Club  
 Dumont Chess Mates  
 2002 Metrowest Chess Club (MA)  
 2003 Rochester Chess Club  
 Miami International Chess  
 Academy  
 2004 Marshall Chess Club  
 2005 Mechanic's Institute  
 East Bay Chess Club  
 2006 St. George, UT, Chess Club  
 2007 Atlanta Chess Center  
 2008 Dallas Chess Club  
 2009 Fresno Chess Club  
 2010 Chess Club and  
 Scholastic Center of  
 Saint Louis  
 2011 **Metropolitan Chess Club  
 of Los Angeles**

## **CHESS COLLEGE OF THE YEAR**

2000 University of Maryland  
 Baltimore County (UMBC)  
 2001 University of Texas at  
 Dallas (UTD)  
 2002 University of Maryland  
 Baltimore County (UMBC)  
 Rhode Island College  
 St. Johns University  
 2003 Stanford University  
 2004 Miami Dade Community  
 College  
 2005 U. Cal at Berkeley  
 2006 U. of CT School  
 of Engineering  
 Texas Tech University  
 2007 U. of Texas at Brownsville  
 2008 U. of Texas at Dallas  
 Texas Tech University  
 2009 University of Utah  
 Miami University (Ohio)  
 2010 El Centro Community  
 College, Dallas  
 2011 **University of Maryland  
 Baltimore County**

## **COMMITTEE OF THE YEAR**

1982 Computer Committee  
 1988 Hall of Fame Committee  
 1989 Scholastic Committee  
 1990 Tournament Direction  
 Certification  
 1993 Special Committee on  
 Rulebook  
 1994 Ratings Committee  
 1995 Computer Communications  
 1996 Chess in Education  
 Committee  
 1997 Finance Committee  
 1998 Internet Committee  
 1999 Finance Task Force  
 Rules Committee  
 2000 Scholastic Committee  
 2001 Internet/Computer  
 Committee  
 Outreach Committee  
 2002 FIDE Advisory  
 2003 Women's Chess  
 Committee  
 2004 College Chess Committee  
 2005 Finance Committee  
 2006 International Affairs  
 2007 Financial Review  
 Committee  
 2008 Bylaws  
 2009 LMA  
 2010 Tournament Director  
 Certification Committee  
 2011 **Scholastic Committee**

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

1979 George Cunningham,  
 Arpad Elo,  
 Burt Hochberg,  
 George Koltanowski  
 1980 Ed Edmondson,  
 Isaac Kashdan,  
 Paul Webb  
 1981 John Collins,  
 Marshall Rohland,  
 Frank Skoff

1982 Fred Cramer,  
 Lina Grumette,  
 Gary Sperling  
 1983 Arnold Denker,  
 Bill Goichberg,  
 Van Vandenburg  
 1984 Lynne Babcock,  
 Pearle Mann,  
 George Tiers  
 1985 Denis Barry,  
 Harold Dondis,  
 Tim Redman  
 1987 Leroy Dubeck  
 1988 Gerard Dullea  
 1989 Myron Lieberman,  
 Don Schultz  
 1990 Steve Doyle  
 1991 Harry Sabine,  
 Yasser Seirawan  
 1992 Harold Winston  
 1993 Robert Erkes,  
 Carol Jarecki,  
 Helen Warren  
 1994 C. Norman Peacor,  
 Fred Townsend  
 1995 Jerry Hanken,  
 Martin Morrison  
 1996 Woodrow Harris  
 1997 Anthony Cottell,  
 Frank Camaratta  
 1998 Glenn Petersen,  
 Faneuil Adams  
 1999 Jerry Spann  
 (posthumously)  
 2001 Sid Samole  
 (posthumously)  
 2002 Randall Hough,  
 Rachel Lieberman  
 2003 Dr. Lee Hyder  
 2004 Dr. Joseph Wagner  
 2005 Shane Samole  
 2006 Mike Nolan  
 2007 Fred Gruenberg  
 2008 Al Losoff  
 2009 John McCrary,  
 Beatriz Marinello

2010 Steve Shutt,  
Dr. Frank Brady

**2011 Judy Misner,  
Joan DuBois**

### FRANK J. MARSHALL

1994 Albert Sandrin  
1995 GM Arthur Dake  
1996 GM Arnold Denker

1997 IM Maurice Ashley  
IM John Donaldson

1998 GM Arthur Bisguier

1999 Faneuil Adams  
(posthumously)

2001 GM Pal Benko

2002 GM Lev Alburt

2003 GM Sam Palatnik  
GM Yasser Seirawan

2004 John Curdo

2005 IM Igor Ivanov

2006 Ambassador Shaun  
Alexander

2007 GM Gregory Kaidanov

2008 John Watson

2009 John Fedorowicz

2010 Michael Aigner

**2011 Dean Ippolito**

### GRANDMASTER OF THE YEAR

1997 Alexander Yermolinsky

1998 Joel Benjamin

1999 Nick de Firmian

2001 Yasser Seirawan

2002 Larry Christiansen

2003 Maurice Ashley,  
Susan Polgar

2004 Alexander Shabalov

2005 Hikaru Nakamura

2006 Ildar Ibragimov,  
Anna Zatonskih

2007 Gata Kamsky

2008 Gata Kamsky

2009 Yury Shulman

2010 Hikaru Nakamura

**2011 Hikaru Nakamura,  
Gata Kamsky**

### HONORARY CHESS MATES

1998 Ethel Collins,  
Nina Denker,  
Nancy Edmondson,  
Leah Koltanowski,  
Carrie Marshall

2001 Norma Reshevsky

2002 Madge Byrne

2003 Baiba Mednis

2004 Bernadette Doyle,  
Brenda Goichberg,  
Teresa Schultz

2005 Doris Barry,  
Phyllis Benjamin,  
Carol Weinberg

2006 Jim Warren,  
Delores Wagner,  
Elizabeth Tanner

2007 Donna Gruenberg,  
Jan Rogers

2008 Janelle Losoff,  
Annette Buckendorf

2009 No award

2010 Phil Smith,  
Joan Schlich

**2011 Ami Hall**

### KOLTANOWSKI MEDAL

1979 *Gold:* Bill Church  
Jacqueline Piatigorsky,  
Louis Statham

1980 *Gold:* Thomas Emery,  
Lessing Rosenwald

1981 *Gold:* Fred Cramer  
*Silver:* Howard Gaba  
Fred Gruenberg  
Al Hansen

1982 *Gold:* Rea Hayes  
*Silver:* Nibert Leopoldi

1983 *Silver:* Stephen Jones  
Don Richardson  
John Rylowski  
Ralph Slottow

1984 *Gold:* Jose Cuchi  
*Silver:* M. Vacheron

1985 *Gold:* Frank Normali  
*Silver:* R. W. Twombly

1986 *Gold:* Shelby Lyman,  
NCR Corp.  
*Silver:* Faneuil Adams, Jr.  
Paul Arnold Associates  
Equitable Life  
Assurance  
Prudential Insurance

1987 *Gold:* Frank Samford

1988 *Gold:* Sid Samole

1989 *Gold:* Novag Industries

1990 *Gold:* Arnold Denker  
Helen Warren

1991 *Gold:* Ted Field  
*Silver:* Neil Falconer

1992 *Gold:* Banker's Trust  
1994 *Silver:* Dr. Martin Katahn

1996 *Gold:* Saitek Industries, Ltd.  
*Silver:* Zamagias Properties

1997 *Gold:* Interplay Productions  
*Silver:* Wizards of the Coast  
Novag Industries

1998 *Gold:* Chess in the Schools  
*Silver:* Internet Chess  
Club (ICC)

2000 *Gold:* The University of Texas  
at Dallas (UTD)

*Silver:* The University of Texas  
at Dallas (UTD)

2001 *Gold:* Seattle Chess  
Foundation

2002 *Gold:* Floyd and Bernice  
SarisohnDato' Tan  
Chin Nam

2003 *Gold:* Dr. Martin (Dick)  
Katahn

*Gold:* Tennessee Tech  
University

2004 *Gold:* Kasparov Chess  
Foundation

2005 *Gold:* Al Blowers (from HB  
Foundation)

2006 *Gold:* America's Foundation  
for Chess (AF4C)

2007 *Gold:* Frank K. Berry

2008 *Gold:* Hanon Russell

2009 *Gold:* Rex Sinquefeld

2010 *Gold:* Rex Sinquefeld,  
Phil LeCornu

**2011 *Gold:* Rex Sinquefeld  
*Silver:* Doyle Engelen, Booz  
Allen Hamilton, Inc.**

### LIFETIME TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**2011 Myron Lieberman**

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE

1980 Robert Tanner

1985 Joseph Wagner

1986 Lincoln Chess Foundation,  
Glenn Meachum,  
Ben Munson,  
Sunil Weeramantry

1987 Don Maddox,  
Charles Pashayan,  
Jules Stein

1988 Harry Lyman

1991 Imre Konig, George  
Leighton

1992 David Mehler

1993 Dale Brandreth, Allen  
Kaufman

1994 Randall Hough,  
Paul Shannon

1995 Frank Brady, Billy Colias,  
Ernest Marx

1996 Paul Gold,  
Myron Lieberman

1997 Alan Sherman,  
Randall Swanson,  
Jim Warren

1998 James Bolton,  
Richard Verber

1999 Selby Anderson,  
Erv Sedlock,  
Ken Smith (posthumously)

2000 No award

2001 Gary Prince

2002 Joe Ippolito,  
Ollie LaFreniere,  
Beatriz Marinello

2003 Mike Nolan, Harry Sabine

2004 Sunil Weeramantry

2005 Herman Drenth

2006 Jim Brotsos, Jon Haskel,  
Wilder Wadford,  
Jon and Barbara Fortune

2007 Richard Shorman, John  
Hilbert, Dan Heisman, Grant  
Perks

2008 Luis Salinas, Gary Dorfner,  
Lloyd Hunter

2009 Jennifer and Mike  
Skidmore, Steve Steppe

2010 Jim Stallings,  
Dewain Barber,  
Richard Buchanan,  
Alan Anderson,  
Danny Rensch

**2011 David Causey,  
Caesar Lawrence,  
Barbara Reed,  
Scott Park**

### ORGANIZER OF THE YEAR

1994 Bill Goichberg

1995 Al Losoff

1996 Nick Conticello,  
Manhattan Chess Club

1997 Jose Cuchi,  
E. Steven Doyle

1998 Robert Tanner

1999 John Donaldson,  
De Knudson

2002 Yasser Seirawan and  
America's Foundation  
for Chess (formerly  
the Seattle Chess  
Foundation)

2003 Arden Dilley,  
Phillip Simpkins

2004 Michael Korenman

2005 Maurice Ashley

2006 Cris Collinsworth  
Foundation

2007 Sevan Muradian

2008 Jerry Weikel,  
Tom Braunlich

2009 Tony Rich

2010 Tony Rich

**2011 Ankit Gupta**

### OUTSTANDING CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

1986 Allen Hinshaw,  
Helen Hinshaw,  
Bob Dudley,  
Robert Erkes,  
George Mirijanian

1987 Alan Benjamin,  
Phyllis Benjamin

1989 Peter Lahde,  
Alina Markowski,  
Larry Paxton,  
Glenn Petersen

1990 Roger Blaine,  
Lee Hyder,  
Russell Miller

1991 Mike Goodall,  
Ira Lee Riddle,  
Fjola Vandenburg

1993 Robert Karch,  
Robert P. Smith

1994 Clarence Callaway

1995 Pete Nixon,  
Warren Pinches

1996 Burt Hochberg

1997 Leroy Dubeck,  
Bill Snead,  
J.C. Thompson

1998 Steve Frymer

1999 Robert Fischer,  
James Hurt,  
Stuart Laughlin,

2000 Harold Dondis

2001 John Collins

2002 Robert Ferguson,  
Jerry Hanken,  
Carol Jarecki

2003 John Donaldson,  
Thad Rogers

2004 Jay Bonin

2005 Ralph Bowman

2006 Gus Gosselin,  
Fred Goldhirsch/  
Doug Bellizzi,  
David McEnulty,  
Jerry Weikel

2007 Fred and Carol Kleist,  
Gordon Barrett,  
Stephen Dann

2008 Selby Anderson,  
Glen Buckendorf,  
John Hillery

2009 Tim Sawmiller,  
Gary Fox,  
Tim Just

2010 Val Zemitis,  
Hal Terrie,  
Check Ensey,  
Mike Nagaran

2011 **Frank Berry,  
Tom Martinak,  
Bob Smith,  
Mike Zacate**

#### OUTSTANDING TEAM PERFORMANCE AWARD

2011 **U.S. Women's Olympiad Team**  
IM Irina Krush,  
IM Anna Zatonskih,  
SM Tatevi Abrahamyan,  
WGM Camilla Baginskaite,

WGM Sabina Foisor,  
Captain: FST Michael  
Khodarkovsky  
Coach: GM Melikset  
Khachiyan

#### SCHOLASTIC SERVICE

1994 Harry Sabine

1995 Ron Lohrman

1996 Lee LaFrese

1997 Robert Ferguson

1998 Sunil Weeramantry

1999 Faneuil Adams  
(posthumously)

2000 Jack Mallory

2001 Beatriz Marinello

2002 Dewain Barber

2003 Ralph Bowman

2004 GM Arnold Denker  
Gilbert Unified School  
District #41,  
Gilbert, Arizona

2005 Elizabeth Tejada

2006 Tim Redman

2007 GM Susan Polgar;  
Brownsville,  
Texas School District

2008 Steve Shutt,  
Michael Khodarkovsky,  
Southern Arizona Chess  
Association

2009 Aviv Friedman,  
After School Activities  
Partnership

2010 Greg Shahade,  
Berkeley Chess School

2011 **Bruce Pandolfini,  
NY Chess in the Schools**

#### SPECIAL SERVICES

1983 Hal Bogner,  
Arnold Denker,  
Thad Rogers,  
Hyman Rogosin,  
Eric Schiller,  
Don Schultz

1985 Lackland Bloom,  
Martin Morrison

1986 Fred Gruenberg,  
Richard O'Keefe,  
C. Norman Peacor,  
Ron Warnicki

1988 Fred Townsend,  
David Welsh

1991 Lev Alburt,  
Larry Evans

1992 Ron Lohrman,  
Les Leroy Smith

1993 Jeremy Gaige,  
John Varis

1994 John McCrary,  
Warren Pinches,  
Garrett Scott

1995 Jo Eglan,  
Doris Thackrey

1996 Herb Hickman,  
Hanon Russell,  
Helen Warren

1997 Denis Barry,  
Robert John McCrary,  
Jim Pechac

1998 Harold Stenzel,  
Gary and Addie Prince

1999 Tim Just,  
Mike Carr,  
Alice Loranth  
(posthumously)

2000 Ken Horne (posthumously),  
Rachel Lieberman,  
Sid Samole

2001 Tom Doan,  
Pat Hoekstra,  
Myron Lieberman

2002 Dewain Barber,  
Ralph Bowman,  
Mark Glickman,  
Al Lawrence,  
Mike Nolan

2003 Lynne Chapman,  
Kelly Jacobs,  
Ken Sloan

2004 Don Mihokovich,  
Bob Persante

2005 Neil Falconer

2006 Kim Cramer,  
John Donaldson,  
Mikhail Korenman,  
Greg Shahade

2007 Steve Doyle,  
Ernie Schlich

2008 Hal Karlsson,  
Tim Tobiason,  
Alexey Root,  
Jim Stallings,  
Russell Harwood,  
Kerry Lawless

2009 Calvin Olsen,  
David Moeser

2010 Jay Stallings,  
John Blackstone

2011 **Andy Ansel,  
Jeff Smith,  
Mark Herman**

#### SPECIAL TASK FORCE

2000 President's Special  
Committee on Finances,  
Computer Evaluation  
Task Force

2003 Rulebook Revision  
Task Force

#### TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

2004 Carol Jarecki

2005 Steve Immitt

2006 Walter Brown

2007 Mike Atkins

2008 Frank K. Berry

2009 Francisco Guadalupe

2010 Jon Shacter

2011 **Luis Salinas**

#### U.S. CHESS HALL OF FAME

1986 Reuben Fine,  
Robert Fischer,  
Isaac Kashdan,  
George Koltanowski,  
Frank Marshall,  
Paul Morphy,  
Harry Pillsbury,  
Sammy Reshevsky

1987 Sam Loyd,  
Wilhelm Steinitz

1988 Arpad Elo,  
Hermann Helms

1989 I.A. Horowitz

1990 Hans Berliner

1991 John Collins,  
Arthur Dake

1992 Arnold Denker,  
Gisela Gresser,  
George MacKenzie

1993 Pal Benko,  
Victor Palciauskas

1994 Arthur Bisguier,  
Robert Byrne,  
Larry Evans

1995 Ed Edmondson

1996 Fred Reinfeld

1997 Kenneth Harkness

1998 Dr. Milan Vukceвич

1999 Benjamin Franklin

2000 Edmar Mednis

2001 Lubomir Kavalek

2002 Donald Byrne

2003 Lev Alburt,  
Walter Browne

2004 Anatoly Lein,  
Leonid Shamkovich

2006 Yasser Seirawan

2007 Irving Chernev,  
Jeremy Gaige

2008 Joel Benjamin,  
Larry Christiansen,  
Nick de Firmian

2009 Burt Hochberg,  
John Fedorowicz

2010 Diane Savareide,  
Herman Steiner,  
Jackson Showalter

2011 **Andy Soltis  
Boris Gulko**

#### SPECIAL FRIEND OF USCF

2006 Phil Haley

2007 Garry Kasparov

2011 **Alexandra Kosteniuk**

# A Guide to Robert's Rules of Order for USCF Delegates

Written by Mike Nolan, USCF Parliamentarian. Revised June 2001. Reference: *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 10th Edition* (published in 2000), edited by Robert, Evans, Honemann and Balch, Perseus Publishing, 0-7382-0307-6. (List price \$17 in paperback.) This is a simplified selection of some key points from *Robert's Rules of Order*, with a few explanatory remarks and examples and some exceptions and extensions that have come into general use by the Delegates.

## Definitions

### Parliamentarian

The Parliamentarian serves as a resource to the chair, offering advice on rulings and other matters to assist the chair in keeping the meeting orderly and productive. The Parliamentarian never 'rules' on a question, the chair has that privilege and may ignore or not solicit the advice of the Parliamentarian before making any ruling. The Parliamentarian also serves as a resource to Delegates, to advise them on proper parliamentary procedure.

### 2nd

Indicates a willingness to have the Delegates consider the motion, not any support for it. Except for motions on the advance agenda, motions arising from a committee and motions arising from the Membership Meeting, all main and subsidiary motions and most privileged or incidental motions require a 2nd in order to be considered by the Delegates further. While the maker of a motion is expected to argue in favor of it during debate, the seconder is under no such requirement.

### Debatable

Discussion of the merits of the motion is permitted. An undebatable motion must be voted upon immediately without discussion unless an amendment or higher-ranking motion is in order and offered.

### Majority

A simple majority means that more people vote 'yes' than 'no.' A 2/3 majority means that at least twice as many people vote 'yes' as 'no.' To abstain from voting means to yield to the will of the majority that does vote, whatever that majority is. It does not matter whether the number of 'yes' and 'no' votes adds up to a quorum or not, as long as a quorum is present. Although a count of abstaining Delegates is sometimes requested of the chair, it is not mandatory under *Robert's Rules*.

### Reconsider

A motion to reverse an earlier vote. A motion to reconsider may only be offered by someone who voted on the prevailing side on the earlier vote. A motion to reconsider always requires a simple majority, even if the motion being reconsidered required a larger majority to succeed. When a motion to reconsider is successful, the matter becomes active again, although it might not be the current order of business if some other business is also pending. Some motions may not be reconsidered, such as a failed motion to postpone indefinitely.

### Chair

The person running the meeting. The chair assigns the floor during debate and recognizes members, including responding to points of order or privilege (and making rulings as required), parliamentary inquiries, and to request whether a speaker will yield to a point of information. All questions should be addressed to the chair, not to other members, including the member who currently has the floor. The chair is expected to remain impartial and must refrain from debate on the merits of any issue. A chair who wishes to speak to the merits should yield the chair by passing the gavel to another person for the duration of the debate on that issue.

### Agenda

The agenda is the order in which business is to be conducted. Many organizations have adopted a standard agenda for meetings, indicating in which order officer and committee reports are to be given, etc. It is also common for organizations to prepare an advance agenda of matters likely to come before the body. Sometimes the Bylaws specify that certain matters cannot be enacted unless pre-announced in the advance agenda, or require a different majority to pass if not pre-announced, such as amendments to the Bylaws. But the advance agenda is an informational document only until such time as it is adopted by the body during the meeting once a quorum is established.

## The 13 Ranking Motions

*(Larger numbers indicate motions that take precedence over lower-ranking ones.) Except where indicated, none of these motions are in order when someone else has the floor:*

### 1. Main motion.

Requires a 2nd (except for motions on the advance agenda or arising from a committee), debatable, amendable, may be reconsidered, passes by a simple majority unless the subject matter requires a higher majority, such as Bylaws changes which were not in the advance agenda. A main motion may not be made when some other motion is pending. The chair will call up as main motions items printed in the advance agenda in the order in which they appear, though motions may be called up by a committee out of the preprinted order if the motion was sponsored by or referred to the committee. Motions may be brought up in any order either by unanimous consent of the Delegates or by suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority.

The following are subsidiary motions, and generally apply only to a main motion or a motion relating to a main motion. These motions are in order of increasing priority. For example, a motion to commit takes precedence over a motion to amend, and a motion to table takes precedence over all other subsidiary motions.

### 2. Postpone indefinitely.

Requires a 2nd, debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may only be reconsidered in the affirmative. If successful, the main motion to which it applies is killed for the duration of the meeting and may not be reintroduced. Because of its low ranking, this motion may only be made when the main motion is under discussion, not when any amendments or other motions are pending.

### 3. Amend.

Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is debatable, amendable (but an amendment to an amendment is not further amendable, because it gets too confusing to keep track of things), may be reconsidered, requires a simple majority. (See below on the 'friendly amendment'.)

### 4. Commit (refer).

Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may be reconsidered. If successful, the current main motion including all pending motions such as amendments, is referred to the designated committee(s) and the order of business is now the next item on the agenda. With some exceptions, such as a motion to amend the Bylaws, the Delegates may refer a matter to the Executive Board or to a committee with the power to implement it. Motions may also be referred to the Executive Board or to a committee with instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting. By convention, unless otherwise indicated a referral to a committee includes instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting, but referrals to the Board do not include instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting, unless the Board does not have the authority to implement and that power is not attached in the motion to refer.

### 5. Postpone to a definite time.

Requires a 2nd, debatable, amendable, generally requires a simple majority, may be reconsidered. (If made a special order, requires a 2/3 majority. See 'call for the orders of the day'.)

### 6. Limit debate.

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a 2/3 majority to pass, may be reconsidered if still possible. Used to limit the rights of the Delegates to debate an issue, such as placing a time limit on an item of business, limiting the length of individual speeches, or the number of times a Delegate can speak on any one issue during debate on a motion.

### 7. Previous question (call the question).

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a 2/3 majority to pass, may be reconsidered. Used to end debate on a motion and proceed to an immediate vote on it. In its basic form it applies only to the current pending motion (such as an amendment), but may also be applied to motions below that one in order, all the way back to the current main motion.

### 8. Lay on the table.

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority to pass, may not be reconsidered. Often used improperly to kill a motion, but more properly used to permit the Delegates to set aside a subject in order to move on to a more pressing one, since the tabled matter may be brought back to the floor by a simple majority vote later on, whereas one that is postponed indefinitely may not be brought to the floor later in the meeting. Tabled matters that are still tabled at the end of the meeting are automatically referred to the Executive Board, which may act upon a motion, refer it to appropriate committees, or place it on the agenda for the next year's meeting, although the EB is not required to take any of these actions. Motions for which the Executive Board does not have the authority to take final action, such as a Bylaws change, may still be referred by the Executive Board to committees or placed on next year's agenda, but unlike motions specifically referred to the Board this is not mandatory.

The following motions are privileged, may be made at any time, and do not refer to a pending main or subsidiary motion.

### 9. Call for the orders of the day.

*Does not require a 2nd, may be made when someone else has the floor, not debatable, not amendable, does not require a vote, may not be reconsidered.* The orders of the day are any motions that have been passed calling for consideration of a particular subject at a particular time as a special order. When the appointed time arises, any member may call the chair's attention to the matter by calling for the orders of the day, and the current pending matter must be set aside and the subject of the special order brought to the floor immediately.

### 10. Raise a question of privilege.

*Does not require a 2nd, may be made when someone else has the floor, not debatable, not amendable, is acted upon by the chair without a vote, and may not be reconsidered.* A question of privilege deals with the rights of the Delegates or an individual Delegate to participate in the business at hand or correct the record on previous business. For example, if the speaker system isn't working and a Delegate can't hear the debate, that would be a question of privilege. Similarly, a loud disturbance from elsewhere would be a question of privilege. A question of personal privilege is often invoked when a member's name is mentioned in debate, but this is not proper unless this has been done in such a fashion as to incorrectly place into the record the member's participation or lack of participation in matters previously dealt with or to circulate a charge against that member's character. (The more proper motion to deal with an imprudent remark about you made by the speaker during debate is to raise a point of order to 'call the member to order,' that is to have the chair request that the speaker refrain from making further improper personal comments about other members.)

### 11. Recess.

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. Once a motion to recess is passed, the Delegates are in recess until the time specified for the meeting

to resume, at which time the chair may resume the meeting as soon as a quorum is present.

## 12. Adjourn.

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. Properly used as it applies to the Delegates meeting, this motion is only used to end the meeting. A motion to

adjourn to 9 AM tomorrow morning should actually be made as a motion to recess until 9 AM, and the chair should rephrase it as such.

## 13. Fix the time to which to adjourn.

This motion has no practical application to the Delegates meeting, since the meeting is short and of a fixed duration and except in special circumstances would not continue beyond that time frame.

## Other motions

*The following motions are restorative, they bring a matter back before the Delegates that had previously been tabled or voted upon:*

### A. Take from the table

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. (But a new motion to take the matter from the table may be offered later on.) This motion is only in order when there is no main motion pending, and it brings a matter before the Delegates that had been tabled earlier in the meeting, in the exact form it was in at the point at which it was tabled. See discussion above as to the disposition of motions left on the table at the end of the meeting.

### B. Reconsider

Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is also debatable, may not be amended, requires a simple majority, may not be made a 2nd time if unsuccessful. If a vote is reconsidered, any earlier disposition is reversed and whatever action is taken on the motion after reconsideration overrides any earlier action. If an action is irreversible, the matter cannot be reconsidered. This motion must be made by someone who voted on the prevailing side of the motion being reconsidered.

The following are some incidental motions that may arise, there is no order to these motions.

### A. Suspend the rules.

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a 2/3 majority, may not be reconsidered. This is a motion to suspend *Robert's Rules* or any standing rules or customs. The Bylaws may not be suspended, they must be amended. Suspending the rules is often requested to change the order of business to consider something ahead of its place in the agenda. Although not debatable, the maker of the motion generally offers a short explanation as to why the rules should be suspended or what action will be taken once the rules are suspended. If a motion to suspend the rules for a particular purpose is unsuccessful, it may not be renewed without unanimous consent of the Delegates.

### B. Point of Order.

*May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable, is not amendable, may not be reconsidered, and is ruled upon by the chair rather than voted upon by the Delegates. A point of order is a request for the chair to enforce the rules under which the Delegates operate, such as dealing with a motion or member being out of order. For example, if an amendment to an amendment is offered, it would be out of order and if the chair doesn't rule it out of order, a Delegate should raise a point of order to have the chair enforce the rules and declare the amendment out of order. A ruling by the chair is made, possibly after consulting with the Secretary or Parliamentarian, and once made the ruling may be appealed by any two Delegates (an appeal requires a 2nd), a simple majority being needed to reverse the ruling of the chair. A point of order can also be made to enforce the rules on decorum in debate, to enforce a time limit on debate or the number of times a speaker is recognized, or to clarify the status of the motion(s) currently before the Delegates.

### C. Parliamentary Inquiry.

*May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,*

is not debatable. Similar to a point of order, but generally limited to inquiring as to the proper motion to make under some circumstance or to ascertain the effect of such a motion or any pending motion. The chair answers the inquiry and may consult with others, such as the Parliamentarian or Secretary, for advice before answering. Since this is not (yet) a ruling, it may not be appealed.

### D. Point of Information.

*May be made when someone else has the floor.* This is not a motion, per se, but a request for permission to seek further information about the pending matter from the current speaker or for a brief answer from someone else with expertise in the subject, generally another Delegate or a USCF staff member. The speaker is not obliged to yield the floor to hear the question. This motion is often improperly used to interrupt a speaker just to rebut the speaker's debate, and in proper usage the interrupter should not make the rebuttal argument immediately but limit the interruption to a request that the speaker yield for a question, since the proper means for rebuttal in debate is to gain the floor through the usual means.

### E. Object to the consideration of a question.

*May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable, is not amendable, requires a 2/3 majority, may not be reconsidered. This motion may only be applied to a main motion when it is first introduced, its purpose is to prevent *any* discussion or debate on the motion, including any discussion as to why the question should not be considered. Another way to think of it is as the opposite of a 2nd, it indicates a lack of willingness to have the motion considered by the Delegates. An immediate vote on the objection should be taken and, if successful, the motion is killed and may not be reintroduced during the remainder of the meeting.

### F. Division of a question.

Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. This is a request to split a motion into several parts, and is only in order when the motion is easily severable.

### Division of the assembly.

*May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable, is not amendable, may not be reconsidered, does not require a vote. Used to request a tabulated vote when the vote announced by the chair is disputed by the Delegates. A first request for a division should almost always be granted, as should a second request for a very close vote, but repeated requests for recounts of a close vote are a stalling tactic and after a vote has been carefully tabulated twice unless there is still a reasonable doubt as to the outcome the chair may ignore further requests for a division of the assembly and declare the vote concluded. Though it has been done on occasion, there is no specific provision in *Robert's Rules* or in the USCF Bylaws for ordering a roll call vote, and due to the time involved such an order should be used sparingly.

## Appeal.

*May be made when someone else has the floor, requires a 2nd, is debatable if applied to a question which was debatable, requires a simple majority. Decisions of the chair regarding points of order, points of privilege, or assignment of the floor during debate may be appealed. Such an appeal must occur immediately after the*

*ruling to which it applies, and the motion to appeal takes precedence over the motion which was pending at the time the decision was made. Rulings regarding decorum in debate or the priority of business are not debatable, and a ruling made while a nondebatable motion is pending is also nondebatable. However, the chair is entitled to explain the ruling even if an appeal is nondebatable.*

## Standing rules or customary rules

*Used by the USCF Delegates at past meetings, including procedural rules initially developed by the USCF President for use at the 1998 Delegates meeting:*

**A.** A speaker may not move the previous question (call the question) after speaking to the merits of a question in that turn at the microphone. [Passed by the Delegates as a standing rule.]

**B.** Except for motions arising from the USCF Membership Meeting, if the sponsor or co-sponsor of a motion is not present at the time it is reached in the agenda, it goes to the end of the agenda, after all other advance motions and motions filed with the Secretary before or during the meeting but not included in the advance agenda. A request for unanimous consent or a motion to suspend the rules may be offered to bring the motion back to the floor ahead of then. (Congratulatory motions generally made at the end of the meeting are usually deferred until all other Delegate motions are dealt with, including those moved to the end of the agenda.) Motions on the advance agenda do not require a second, a Delegate who objects to such a motion should raise an objection to consideration of the question, either during adoption of the advance agenda or when the motion is reached in the meeting. Delegate motions not printed in the advance agenda do require a second.

**C.** A Delegate may withdraw a motion as long as it is still in its original form, even during debate, but once a motion has been revised from its initial form it may only be withdrawn by unanimous consent. All co-signers to the original motion must also consent to its withdrawal. (The person who seconded the motion does not need to consent to its withdrawal, since seconding a motion does not express an opinion on the merits of the motion, and the seconder is always free to attempt to gain the floor to make the motion again, at which time it requires another Delegate to second it.) When a motion is divided into multiple questions, each of the parts is now a separate motion and such a separated motion may be withdrawn if it is still in its original form.

**D.** The maker of a motion may accept as an improved version a 'friendly amendment' from another Delegate. Such a motion is still considered to be in its original form. The seconder does not have to consent to the friendly amendment, since the person offering the improvement is obviously willing to have the motion considered, which is the point of requiring a second. [This is a deviation from *Robert's Rules*, which now has a reference to the friendly amendment in the 10th edition, but in a much more restricted sense than found in common practice, including at USCF Delegates Meetings.]

**E.** Committee chairs may only bring to the floor during their reports motions that were referred to them by the previous or current Delegates meeting, motions referred to them by the Executive Board and printed in the Executive Board Newsletter or (preferably) placed on the advance agenda, or motions that the committee, or the committee chair on the committee's behalf, placed on the advance agenda. In specific, motions from workshops have no special standing with the Delegates, though they may be brought to the floor as main motions later in the meeting in the usual manner or offered as amendments during debate.

**F.** Straw polls may be made at the sole discretion of the chair, although the speaker may request them of the chair. The chair will conduct all

straw polls and votes. [Because they neither advance nor defeat the issue, the use of straw polls is not sanctioned by Robert's Rules, which suggests that a form of 'committee of the whole' be used instead.]

**G.** All main motions and amendments not appearing in the advance agenda should be submitted to the Secretary in written format, to assist the chair in the orderly conduct of the meeting and the Secretary in preparing an accurate set of minutes.

Pro and Con microphones will be placed on the floor. All Delegates wishing to debate a motion should stand in line at the appropriate microphone and wait to be assigned the floor by the chair. If an amendment or other debatable motion is offered, the Pro and Con microphones will now refer to that motion, and Delegates wishing to speak on that subject should move to the appropriate microphone, others should stand aside or sit down.

A podium may be provided for committee chairs to make their committee reports from. A committee chair or other Delegate at the podium is not entitled to any preference in debate but may be called upon to answer points of information regarding a committee's views on motions referred to it, in the advance agenda, or arising from the committee workshop. Makers of main motions may also be requested to present their motions from the podium and to remain at the podium to answer points of information.

Motions introduced and passed at the USCF Membership Meeting for consideration by the Delegates are entered on the agenda as the first items under New Business, and are brought to the floor in order at that point in the agenda. These motions do not require a second. The maker of the motion during the Membership Meeting, if not a Delegate, is not entitled to speak at the Delegates meeting without the unanimous consent of the Delegates.

Delegates who have already spoken to the merits of a pending question are requested to defer to Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merit of that question. The chair may recognize Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merits of a pending question ahead of those who have already spoken on it. Where possible the chair will alternate between speakers for and speakers against the pending question. The maker of a motion is always entitled to the first opportunity in debate to speak to the merits of that motion. The chair assigns the floor, a Delegate may not yield the floor to another Delegate without the unanimous consent of the Delegates. Except for committee chairs giving their report, the Parliamentarian (if not a Delegate) and USCF staff members presenting a staff report or answering a point of information, non-Delegates are not entitled to speak to the Delegates without unanimous consent.

As indicated above, motions not reached by the Delegates or motions tabled by the Delegates are automatically referred to the Executive Board at the conclusion of the Delegates Meeting, but without the power to implement (where applicable) and without instructions to report back to the Delegates, so they will not appear on the advance agenda of the next Delegates Meeting except by specific action of the Executive Board, nor does progress on these motions need to be reported upon in the *Executive Board Newsletter*.

# 2010-2011 Delegates and Alternate Delegates

Delegate at Large (DAL) or Additional Alternate Delegates. \*Current EB Members. +Former EB members (These do not count toward State allocations.)  
(NR) No response—has not acknowledged selection

<b>ALABAMA</b> 1,1	<b>DAL FRANK CAMARATTA</b> Del Gerald Larson Alt Kenneth Sloan	<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</b> 1,1	Del Salvador Rosario Alt Ralph Mikell (NR)	<b>KENTUCKY</b> 2,2	Del W. Allen Priest Thomas Priest Alt
<b>ALASKA</b> 1,1	Del Alt	<b>FLORIDA</b> 6,6	<b>DAL DON SCHULTZ</b> Del Harvey Lerman Jon Haskel Charles S. Hall Ben Cody Steve Lampkin Paul Tomaino Alt Robert Persante Peter Dyson Joel Channing Steve Kaufman Michael Hutsko Teresa Schultz	<b>LOUISIANA</b> 1,1	Del Patrick Hardy Alt James P. MacManus
<b>ARIZONA</b> 3,3	<b>DAL MYRON LIEBERMAN</b> <b>DAL RACHEL LIEBERMAN</b> <b>DAL ROBERT TANNER</b> Del Marty Schneider Ramie Jimenez Enrique Huerta Alt William Wharton	<b>GEORGIA</b> 2,2	Del Mike Mulford L. Thad Rogers Alt Gavin Francis Mark N. Taylor	<b>MAINE</b> 1,1	Del Steven Abrahams Alt Dan Fishbein (NR)
<b>ARKANSAS</b> 1,1	Del Alt	<b>HAWAII</b> 1,1	Del Lawrence Reifurth Alt Guy Ontai	<b>MARYLAND</b> 3,3	Del Larry Kaufman Denis Strenzwick Ed Westing Alt Julius Wade
<b>N. CALIFORNIA</b> 7,7	<b>RUTH HARING*</b> Del Tony Pabon Richard Koepcke Salman Azhar Theo Blyiasas Jim Eade Tom Langland John Donaldson Alt Mark Pinto (NR) Ken Zowal Roger Poehlmann (NR) John McCurniskey	<b>IDAHO</b> 1,1	Del Kevin Patterson Alt Hugh S. Myers	<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b> 3,3	Del Kenneth R. Ballou Robert D. Messenger Brian Mottershead Alt Stephen A. Dann George Mirjanian
<b>S. CALIFORNIA</b> 6,6	Del Randy Hough Charles Ensey Steven Morford (NR) Philip Chase Isabelle Minoofar Michael R. Carr Alt	<b>ILLINOIS</b> 6,6	<b>DAL HAROLD J. WINSTON</b> Del Tim Just Sevan Muradian Lawrence Cohen Mark Nibbelin Garrett Scott Jim Egerton Alt Tom Sprandel William H. Brock	<b>MICHIGAN</b> 3,3	Del Bradley K. Rogers Stan Beckwith Jennifer Skidmore Alt Michael Smith
<b>COLORADO</b> 1,1	Del Dean Brown Alt Richard Buchanan	<b>INDIANA</b> 2,2	Del Gary Fox Nate Criss Alt	<b>MINNESOTA</b> 2,2	Del David Kuhns Sisira Amarasinghe (NR) Alt Shuman Lee (NR)
<b>CONNECTICUT</b> 2,2	Del Jim Celone Richard Chang (NR) Alt	<b>IOWA</b> 1,1	<b>RANDY BAUER*</b> Del Roger W. Gotschall Alt	<b>MISSISSIPPI</b> 1,1	Del Stephen Curry Alt Ralph McNaughton
<b>DELAWARE</b> 1,1	Del Alt	<b>KANSAS</b> 1,1	Del Tom Brownscombe Alt Ralph Bowman	<b>MISSOURI</b> 2,2	Del Thomas R. Rehmeier Bob Howe Alt Bob Holliman Selden Trimble
				<b>MONTANA</b> 1,1	Del Dan McCourt Alt

<p><b>NEBRASKA</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>NEVADA</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>NEW JERSEY</b> 5,5</p> <hr/> <p><b>NEW MEXICO</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>NEW YORK, DOWNSTATE</b> 7,7</p> <hr/> <p><b>NEW YORK, UPSTATE</b> 3,3</p> <hr/> <p><b>NORTH CAROLINA</b> 3,3</p>	<p><b>DAL MIKE NOLAN</b> Del Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del Charles Hatherill Alt Milivoj Filipas</p> <hr/> <p>Del Alexander Relyea Alt Henry (Hal) Terrie</p> <hr/> <p>Del Roger Inglis Mike Somers Joe Lux Bill Bluestone (NR) James Mennella Alt Noreen Davisson Ken Thomas (NR) Aaron Kiedes (NR) Steve Ferrero (NR)</p> <hr/> <p>Del Rod Avery Alt Arthur Byers</p> <hr/> <p><b>DAL BEATRIZ MARINELLO</b> Del Polly Wright (NR) Sunil Weeramantry (NR) Harold Stenzel (NR) Steve Immitt Ed Frumkin (NR) Joe Felber (NR) Alt Phyllis Benjamin (NR) Carol Jarecki (NR) Sophia Rohde (NR) Dr. Frank Brady (NR)</p> <hr/> <p>Del <b>BILL GOICHBURG*</b> Brenda Goichberg Shelby Lohrman (NR) Ashok Aaron (NR) Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del Jeff Jones Walter High Gary Newsom Alt</p>	<p><b>NORTH DAKOTA</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>OHIO</b> 4,4</p> <hr/> <p><b>OKLAHOMA</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>OREGON</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>PENNSYLVANIA</b> 5,5</p> <hr/> <p><b>RHODE ISLAND</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b> 1,1</p> <hr/> <p><b>TENNESSEE</b> 2,2</p> <hr/> <p><b>TEXAS</b> 11,11</p>	<p>Del Dan McClintic Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del <b>GARY WALTERS*</b></p> <hr/> <p>Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del <b>JIM BERRY*</b> Jim Gray Alt Charles M. Unruh</p> <hr/> <p>Del Carl Haessler Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del</p> <hr/> <p>Del</p> <hr/> <p>Del Frank Vogel Alt Frank DeBonis</p> <hr/> <p><b>DAL JOHN MC CRARY</b> Del David Grimaud Alt Mickey Lauria</p> <hr/> <p>Del</p> <hr/> <p>Del <b>HARRY SABINE</b> Del Chris Prosser Angela McElrath-Prosser Alt Victor Suich (NR) Leonard Dickerson (NR)</p> <hr/> <p><b>DAL TIMOTHY REDMAN</b> Del Francisco Guadalupe Clemente Rendon Michael Langer James A. Stallings Lori Balkum (NR) Russell Harwood</p>	<p>Selby K, Anderson (NR) Rob B. Jones Luis B. Salinas Ivan Wijetunge</p> <hr/> <p>Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del</p> <hr/> <p>Del</p> <hr/> <p>Del <b>MICHAEL ATKINS*</b> John Farrell Ernest Schlich Helen Hinshaw Mike Hoffpauir Alt Andrew Rea</p> <hr/> <p>Del Fred Kleist Alt Murlin Varner</p> <hr/> <p>Del Marvin Barker Alt Carl Kiser</p> <hr/> <p>Del <b>MIKE NIETMAN*</b> Guy Hoffman Sandra Pahl Alt</p> <hr/> <p>Del Brian Walker Alt Richard W. Cohen (NR)</p>
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# National Events

## 2011

### NATIONAL K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP

November 18-20, 2011

Hilton Anatole Dallas, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 75207 214-748-1200  
\$120 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL YOUTH ACTION - EAST

December 9-11, 2011

DoubleTree Miami Mart/Airport Hotel and Exhibition Center  
711 NW 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33126 888-353-1995  
\$129 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL YOUTH ACTION - WEST

December 9-11, 2011

Hyatt Regency Irvine, 17900 Jamboree Boulevard, Irvine, CA 92614 949-975-1234  
\$109 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

## 2012

### NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP

APRIL 13-15, 2012

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, 1300 Nicolett Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403 612-370-1234  
\$125 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH CHAMPIONSHIP

April 27-29, 2012

Town and Country Resort, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108 1-800-772-8527  
\$125 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL ELEMENTARY CHAMPIONSHIP

May 11-13, 2012

Gaylord Opryland, 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214  
615-889-1000 or 888-777-6779 \$139 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP

November 30-December 2, 2012

Marriott Orlando World Center Resort, World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821  
1-800-564-3181 \$119 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

## 2013

### SUPERNATIONALS V

April 5-7, 2013

Gaylord Opryland, 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214  
615-889-1000 or 888-777-6779

### NATIONAL K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP

December 13-15, 2013

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, 1000 W. Buena Vista Drive  
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830-1000 407-939-1000  
\$133 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

## 2014

### NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP

April 4-6, 2014

Town and Country Resort, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108 800-772-8527  
\$125 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH CHAMPIONSHIP

April 25-27, 2014

Hyatt Regency Atlanta, 265 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-557-1234 or 800-233-1234 \$125 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL ELEMENTARY CHAMPIONSHIP

May 9-11, 2014

Hilton Anatole Dallas, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 75207 214-748-1200  
\$120 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP

December 12-14, 2012

Marriott Orlando World Center Resort, World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821  
1-800-564-3181 \$119 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

## 2015

### NATIONAL ELEMENTARY CHAMPIONSHIP

May 8-10, 2015

Gaylord Opryland, 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214  
615-889-1000 or 888-777-6779 \$152 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

### NATIONAL K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP

December 5-7, 2015

Marriott Orlando World Center Resort, World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821  
1-800-564-3181 \$132 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

## 2016

### NATIONAL ELEMENTARY CHAMPIONSHIP

May 6-8, 2016

Gaylord Opryland, 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214  
615-889-1000 or 888-777-6779  
\$148 Single/Double/Triple/Quad

# Schedule for 2011 U.S. Open

## Workshops & Committee Meetings

TIME	9AM	10AM	11AM	NOON	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM
<b>Wednesday August 3</b>	Fischer Random	College Chess		LUNCH	Women's Chess	States	TDCC	TDCC/ Problem Solving
	Denker H.S. & Barber K-8				Outreach	Scholastic Committee		
	FIDE Trainers Seminar				FIDE Trainers Seminar			
<b>Thursday August 4</b>	Executive Board (closed)	Executive Board (open)		LUNCH	Chess in Education			
	Senior Chess				Rules Workshop	USCF Legal		
					Chess Trust			Ratings
	FIDE Trainers Seminar				FIDE Trainers Seminar			International Affairs
<b>Friday August 5</b>				LUNCH	Finance / LMA			Staff Forum/ General Member- ship Meeting
	Bylaws/GTF					Clubs	Publications/ CJA	
<b>Saturday August 6</b>	Delegates Meeting			AWARDS LUNCHEON		Delegates Meeting		
<b>Sunday August 7</b>	Delegates Meeting							
Denker Tournament of High School Champions and Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions Opening Ceremony <b>SATURDAY, JULY 30, 4 PM</b>								
Executive Board Reception <b>FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 5:30 PM</b>								
Executive Board Meetings <b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 3:00 PM OPEN AND 6:00 PM CLOSED</b>								

**\*\*Schedule subject to change - check [www.uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org) for updates\*\***