

## MOTIONS OF THE USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2012 – 2013

Note: M = Meeting, C = Conference Call, E = E-Mail, I = Internet Conference, O = Objections Procedure

Motion #	Sponsor	Date/Method	Subject	Disposition
EB13-001	Atkins	08/12/12 M	Add Brennan Price (VA) to the TDCC	PASSED 7-0
EB13-002	Nietman	08/12/12 M	Add Jon Haskel (FL) to the Denker Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-003	Priest	08/12/12 M	Hire Auditors for three years	PASSED 7-0
EB13-004	Priest	08/12/12 M	Add Boyd Reed (PA) to Finance Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-005	Board	08/22/12 E	Committee Changes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-006	Board	08/22/12 E	Committee Liaison Changes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-007	Atkins	08/23/12 E	Blitz Grand Prix Events	PASSED 5-1-1
EB13-008	Nietman	10/26/12 E	Acceptance of August EB Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-009	Atkins	11/09/12 M	TD Certification – Blitz experience	PASSED 7-0
EB13-010	Nietman	11/09/12 M	Accept Pan Am Rules Revision	PASSED 7-0
EB13-011	Atkins	11/09/12 M	Mike Hoffpaur is Chair of Military Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-012	Walters	11/10/12 M	Book and Eqpmt Contracts to be approved by EB	PASSED 7-0
EB13-013	Nietman	11/10/12 M	Changes to the College Chess Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-014	Nietman	11/10/12 M	Change to the Denker Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-015	Berry	11/10/12 M	Ramon Hernandez is chair of Publications Comm	PASSED 7-0
EB13-016	Nietman	11/10/12 M	Accept Revisions to Scholastic Tmt Regulations	PASSED 7-0
EB13-017	Nietman	11/10/12 M	Additions to the Barber Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-018	Priest	11/10/12 M	Approve Three Year IT Plan	PASSED 7-0
EB13-019	Hall	11/10/12 M	Membership Promotion	PASSED 7-0
EB13-020	Hall	11/10/12 M	Foreign Membership	PASSED 7-0
EB13-021	Atkins	11/10/12 M	FIDE Protest	PASSED 6-0
EB13-022	Haring	11/10/12 M	Amend USCF Invitational Requirement Rules	PASSED 6-0
EB13-023	Nietman	11/27/12 E	Add Elliot Neff to the Scholastic Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-024	Hall	01/19/13 E	Signatories on PPHBF Money Market Account	PASSED 7-0
EB13-025	Haring	01/19/13 E	Rules and Budget for Girls Invitational	PASSED 7-0
EB13-026	Walters	01/25/13 E	Website Advisory Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-027	Priest	02/02/13 EC	Oberweis Account	PASSED 7-0
EB13-028	Priest	02/02/13 EC	Oberweis Account	FAILED 3-3-1
EB13-029	Priest	02/02/13 C	IT System	PASSED 7-0
EB13-030	Nietman	02/02/13 C	Approve November EB Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-031	Goichberg	02/04/13 CE	Rating Formula – Effective Number of Games	PASSED 7-0
EB13-032	Goichberg	02/04/13 CE	Rating Formula – K for dual rated games	PASSED 7-0
EB13-033	Board	02/04/13 CE	FIDE Academies - Application	PASSED 6-0-1
EB13-034	Board	02/04/13 CE	FIDE Academies - Plan	PASSED 6-1
EB13-035	Haring	02/04/13 CE	FIDE Letter of Protest re: Player Registration	PASSED 7-0
EB13-036	Hall	02/04/13 E	Line of Credit account closure	PASSED 7-0
EB13-037	Haring	02/04/13 E	Update USCF Invitational Requirements	PASSED 7-0
EB13-038	Priest	02/04/13 E	Oberweis Account Signatories	PASSED 6-0
EB13-039	Walters	03/01/13 E	Website Advisory Committee	PASSED 6-0
EB13-040	Nietman	03/06/13 E	World Youth Selection Criteria	PASSED 7-0
EB13-041	Nietman	03/14/13 E	Revision to World Youth Minimum Ratings	PASSED 7-0
EB13-042	Hall	03/26/13 E	Online National Championships	PASSED 7-0
EB13-043	Atkins	04/08/13 E	National Chess Day - 2013	PASSED 7-0
EB13-044	Atkins	04/18/13 E	National Chess Day Addition	PASSED 7-0
EB13-045	Nietman	05/02/13 E	Approval of February 2013 EB Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-046	Walters	05/02/13 E	EB Personnel and Appraisal Subcommittee	PASSED 6-1
EB13-047	Haring	05/06/13 E	Signatory Changes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-048	Walters	05/09/13 M	Resolution to thank Bill Hall for his service as ED	PASSED 6-0
EB13-049	Nietman	05/11/13 M	World Youth and Pan Am Selection Criteria	PASSED 7-0
EB13-050	Walters	05/11/13 M	Accept Bill Hall resignation	PASSED 7-0
EB13-051	Haring	05/11/13 M	Prison Chess Committee	PASSED 7-0
EB13-052	Atkins	05/11/13 M	Senior Grand Prix	PASSED 7-0

EB13-053	Haring	05/13/13 M	Outstanding Player Achievement Award	PASSED 7-0
EB13-054	Board	05/13/13 M	Awards for 2013	PASSED 6-0
EB13-055	Priest	05/13/13 M	Senior Accountant	PASSED 6-0
EB13-056	Goichberg	05/13/13 M	2014 Grand Prix	PASSED 6-0
No Motion	Board	05/13/13 M	Franc Guadalupe named Interim ED	Unanimous
EB13-057	Nietman	05/20/13 E	Pan Am Youth	PASSED 7-0
EB13-058	Nietman	06/11/13 E	Acceptance of May EB Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB13-059	Nietman	07/14/13 E	Selection Policy for Int'l Youth Coaching	PASSED 6-1
EB13-060	Guadalupe	08/01/13 M	New Promotional Membership	PASSED 6-1
EB13-061	Nietman	08/01/13 M	Pan Am Int'l, World Youth Delegation	PASSED 7-0
EB13-062	Walters	08/01/13 M	USCF, US Chess Trust Relationship	PASSED 7-0
EB13-063	Nietman	08/01/13 M	Prize Money at Pan Am Intercollegiate	PASSED 6-0-1

The following four motions were voted at the first meeting of the 2013 EB, which took place on Sunday, August 12, 2012, at the Vancouver, WA, Hilton.

**EB13-001 – Atkins** – Moved, that Brennan Price (VA) be added to the TDCC. **PASSED 7-0.**

**EB13-002 – Nietman** – Moved, that Jon Haskel (FL) be added to the Denker Committee. **PASSED 7-0.**

**EB13-003 – Priest** – Moved, that the Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to sign the proposal from Bible Harris Smith to serve as auditors for the USCF for three years. **PASSED 7-0.**

**EB13-004 – Priest** – Moved, that Boyd Reed (PA) be added to the Finance Committee. **PASSED 7-0.**

The Executive Board moved by e-mail on August 17 to make changes to the committee structure and to committee liaisons. Any committee that is not mentioned in these motions will continue and will have the same Board Liaison as in 2012. The voting was completed on August 22.

**EB13-005 – Board** - The USCF Executive Board moves that the following changes be made:

1. The **Governance Task Force** be dissolved with its mission moved to **Bylaws**
2. The **Survey Committee** be dissolved.

The motion **PASSED 7-0.**

**EB13-006 – Board** - The USCF Executive Board moves that the following changes to Board Liaisons be made: **Hall of Records:** - Jim Berry, **Ratings:** - Bill Goichberg and Ruth Haring, **Senior:** Ruth Haring

The motion **PASSED 7-0**

The Executive Board discussed and voted on a proposal that certain blitz events be eligible for Grand Prix points. Mike Atkins moved the following by e-mail on August 17. The vote was completed on August 23.

**EB13-007 – Atkins** – Moved, that once the new USCF Blitz Rating system is in effect, that properly organized blitz events shall be eligible for Grand Prix points under the current structure of Grand Prix tournaments. **PASSED 5-1-1** with Gary Walters opposed and Ruth Haring abstaining.

Secretary Mike Nietman moved the acceptance of the August EB Minutes by e-mail on October 20. They were accepted by unanimous vote on October 26.

**EB13-008 – Nietman** - I move that we accept the minutes of the August 9 and August 12 Executive Board Meetings as presented. **PASSED 7-0.**

The Executive Board met November 9-10, 2012, in Mason, Ohio. The following motions came out of that meeting.

**EB13-009 - Atkins** - Effective immediately; in the TD certification rules make Blitz chess TD experience equivalent to Quick chess TD experience by appropriately replacing the wording Quick chess with Quick/Blitz chess. **PASSED 7-0**. Please see Appendix A.

**EB13-010 - Nietman** - Accept the 2012 Pan Am Rules Revision. **PASSED 7-0** Please see Appendix B.

**EB13-011 - Atkins** - Col. Mike Hoffpaur (US Army - retired) be named chair of the Military Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

The following motions arose from the closed session on Saturday, November 10:

**EB13-012 - Walters** - Effective immediately, the primary Books and Equipment contract and the contracting process for all national tournaments organized by the USCF will be approved by the Executive Board. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-013 - Nietman** - Add Al Lawrence and remove Rich Rice from the College Committee. **PASSED 7-0**.

**EB13-014 – Nietman** - Remove Shelby Lohrman from the Denker Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-015 – Berry** - Ramon Hernandez is named chair of the USCF Publications Committee replacing Jonathan Hilton. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-016 – Nietman** - Accept the revisions to the Scholastic Tournament Regulations as presented by the Scholastic Council. **PASSED 7-0**. Please see Appendix C

**EB13-017 – Nietman** - Add Sunil Weeramantry and Tom Brownscombe to the Barber Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-018 - Priest** - The EB approves the concept of the three year IT plan submitted by Phil Smith and authorizes him to develop an implementation plan with contracts to be submitted to the EB for approval. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-019 – Hall** - The Executive Board approves a membership promotion for the month of November for adult memberships where an adult premium membership for three years may be purchased at the two year premium price. Alternatively a one year premium membership may be available for the regular adult price, or the purchase of a one year premium adult membership may result in an upgrade to premium from regular adult for the balance of a current regular adult membership. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-020 – Hall** - The Executive Board approves the Foreign Membership as a promotional membership available for \$20 for members with a foreign address only and to be purchased through the TD/Affiliate area of the website. **PASSED 7-0**

The following motions were made in Open Session on Saturday, November 10:

**EB13-021 – Atkins** - The USCF Executive Board authorizes President Ruth Haring to contact the Dutch Federation in order to join their protest of the way FIDE handled the implementation of the Arbiter's License Fee program. She will also send the letter to FIDE. **PASSED 6-0** with Gary Walters absent and not voting.

**EB13-022 – Haring** - Amend the USCF Invitational Requirement rules effective immediately to change the invitational rating adjustment for the activity criteria from three invitational rating points deducted to one invitational rating point deducted. **PASSED 6-0** with Gary Walters absent and not voting.

Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on November 27, 2012, to add Elliot Neff to the Scholastic Committee. The motion passed on December 1, 2012.

**EB13-023 – Nietman - Add Elliott Neff (WA) to the Scholastic Committee. PASSED 7-0**

Bill Hall moved on Jan 11, 2013, to update signatories to the PPHBF money market account, which is the distribution account for the fund. The vote was completed on Jan 19.

**EB13-024 – Hall - The USCF Executive Board directs the Bank of Putnam County to list Bill Hall, Peggy Eberhart, and Pat Smith as the signatories for the Professional Players Health and Benefits Fund money market account. PASSED 7-0.**

Ruth Haring moved the rules and budget for the Girls Invitational by e-mail on Jan 17, 2013. The vote was completed on Jan 19.

**EB13-025 – Haring – Move that the following Rules and budget commitment for the 2013 Girls Invitational be approved.**

- 1) If eligible, the 2013 National Girls Invitational Champion will be a qualifier for the World Youth Championship provided there is space available and sections have not been otherwise limited. In the event of a tie, the player finishing highest on tie-breaks will be the qualifier.
- 2) All participants in the 2013 Girls National Championship are eligible for FREE entry into the 2013 US Open upon completion of the event.
- 3) USCF will budget for a \$6,000 expense for the 2013 event. (This amount is based on the past experience holding the Denker and Barber tournaments with an \$8000 budget and factoring in our known sponsorship commitments from the Chess Trust and Trophies Plus for \$1000 each.)
- 4) The USCF will be the official sponsor of the event. Other sponsors include US Chess Trust and Trophies Plus. The organizing committee will continue to look for additional sponsors.
- 5) The prize fund is 1st \$800, 2nd \$500, 3rd \$300 (all players who tie for 3rd will be guaranteed a minimum of \$300).
- 6) If a celebrity appearance is scheduled, USCF will host a reception event if no outside sponsor is found.

**PASSED 7-0.**

Gary Walters moved the formation of a website advisory committee by e-mail on January 22, 2013. The vote was completed on January 25, 2013.

**EB13-026 – Walters - I move that the Executive Board immediately solicit Member volunteers for, and select and constitute as soon as possible, a USCF Web Site Advisory Committee (WSAC), which will have the charge to report back to the Executive Board within 120 days (but not later than June 1, 2013) to present the EB with advice and a proposed action plan for the upgrade/improvement of the USCF Web site. The form of the advice may include more than one option based on budgetary considerations. The Committee will be chaired by a volunteer Member named by the Executive Board, but who is not on the Executive Board or the staff of the USCF. The Executive Board will be represented by President Haring and Secretary Nietman, and will include at least two members of the USCF staff. To the extent possible, the WSAC will have one-half of its members who are not on the Executive Board or the USCF staff.**

**PASSED 7-0.**

The following two motions were presented by e-mail on December 11, 2012 with the vote finalized during the February 2-3 conference call.

**EB13-027 – Priest - : The Board approves the resolution submitted in September 2012 authorizing Tim Redman, Leroy Dubeck, and Joe Nanna as signatories on the Oberweis account. PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-028 – Priest** - The Board authorizes the Executive Director to execute a new authorization form for the Oberweis account. The new form will require 2 signatures to authorize transactions on behalf of the USCF and will include the following approved signatories: Tim Redman, Leroy Dubeck and Peggy Eberhart. **Failed 3-3-1** with Allen Priest, Mike Atkins and Jim Berry in favor; Ruth Haring, Gary Walters and Mike Nietman against and Bill Goichberg abstaining.

Note: The dissenters wished to have two office employees named for backup purposes.

The following motions were voted during the Executive Board conference call on Saturday, February 2, 2013:

**EB13-029 – Priest** - The IT director is authorized to complete the negotiations of a four year lease agreement for a Dell based IT system in accordance with the DataSource proposal presented to the EB at the 2/2/13 phone meeting. The lease agreement will provide for transfer of ownership of the equipment to the USCF at the end of the lease term at a price not to exceed \$1. The monthly lease price shall not exceed the monthly amount presented to the board of \$2,663.67. The Executive Director will present the final contract to the EB for final approval before signing the contract. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-030 – Nietman** - Accept the minutes of the November 2012 Executive Board meeting that were distributed via e-mail. **PASSED 7-0**

The following two motions were submitted Saturday, February 2 with the final version voted on by e-mail February 3-4.

**EB13-031 – Goichberg** - USCF revises the formula for determining the effective number of games to the following:

$$N_{eff}(r) = \begin{cases} 50 / \sqrt{0.662 + 0.00000739(2569 - r)^2} & \text{if } r \leq 2355 \\ 50.0 & \text{if } r > 2355 \end{cases}$$

where N(r) is the effective number of games, and r is the pre-tournament rating. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-032 – Goichberg** - USCF reduces the K factors for the regular rated part of dual rated play for players rated over 2200, which will cause these ratings to change more slowly at time controls of G/30 to G/65. The formula enacted to implement this change is as follows:

$$K_{new}(r) = \begin{cases} K(6.5 - 0.0025R) & \text{if } 2200 < R < 2500 \\ K/4 & \text{if } R \geq 2500 \end{cases}$$

where K is the starting K factor, K(r) is the new K factor, and R is the pre-tournament rating. **PASSED 7-0**

The following three motions were discussed in closed session Sunday, February 3 and voted on by e-mail February 3-4.

**EB13-033 – Board** - Because the authority outlined for FIDE academies would grant them powers that have long been reserved for national federations, the USCF does not approve the application for a FIDE academy made by Sevan Muradian. **PASSED 6-0-1** with Mike Atkins abstaining.

**EB13-034 – Board** - Because the authority outlined for FIDE academies would grant them powers that have long been reserved for national federations, the USCF will establish any future FIDE academy in the United States. The Executive Board directs the Executive Director to develop a plan to establish such an academy for review and approval at the May EB meeting. **PASSED 6-1** with Mike Atkins voting No.

**EB13-035 – Haring** - The board strongly endorses the common letter of protest authored by Mr. Hamers from the Royal Dutch Chess Federation addressed to the FIDE Presidential board on the subject of new regulations for registration and licensing of players. **PASSED 7-0.**

The following motions were submitted by e-mail from Friday, February 1 – Sunday, February 3 and finalized on February 4.

This is an old housekeeping item for Cumberland County Bank for our unsecured Line of Credit. It was accessed for \$50,000 and was paid back in December.

**EB13-036 – Hall** - Mr. Bill Hall was authorized to sign on behalf of the US Chess Federation for a loan with Cumberland County Bank. The loan was a line of credit in the amount of \$50,000.00. The loan was closed on 10/10/2012. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-037 – Haring** - Update the document "USCF Invitational Requirements" in accordance with the recommendations of the invitation requirements advisory committee. Changes recommended are:

1) Change the first bullet under 2. Federation listed USA at FIDE to eliminate the phrase, "if not a US Citizen" at the end of the sentence. New wording is: "Player must be registered with FIDE as a USA player to participate in these events."

2) Remove the entire section entitled, "Medal Bonuses Adjustments: Olympiad and World Team:"

**PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-038 – Priest** – Moved, that it is resolved that the Executive Board authorizes the following as signatories on the Life Member Asset account at Oberwies Securities:

Leroy Dubeck, Tim Redman, Peggy Eberhart

This serves to remove Joe Nanna as an authorized signer on this account.

The Executive Board authorizes the office staff to execute whatever documents are required by Oberwies to effect this change. **PASSED 7-0**

Gary Walters moved to establish a Website Advisory Committee on February 20, 2013. The vote was completed on March 1.

**EB13-039 – Walters** - I move that the Website Advisory Committee (WSAC) be constituted by the Executive Board with the below listed 10 members, that the WSAC be charged to develop a recommendation for a comprehensive plan for the improvement of the USCF website, including phases if necessary, that the WSAC develop a timeline and recommended working budget as part of its plan, that the chair and WSAC work with the EB for the inclusion of some portion of its recommended budget in the next fiscal year (understanding that the budget meeting for next year will be held on May 10, 2013) that a working meeting open to all members and delegates be scheduled for Madison (2013) on the Friday before the Annual Meeting, that the WSAC receive 15 minutes at the 2013 Annual Meeting for a preliminary report to be rendered by the chair (or his designated representative) to the Executive Board and delegates, that the chair (or his designated representative) receive \$500 to defray expenses incurred at the 2013 Annual Meeting, that the aspirational date for completion of the WSAC's initial plan will be on or before the 2013 Annual Meeting, but in no event will a final initial plan and report be recommended and submitted to the Executive Board later than October 1, 2013, and the WSAC will continue in existence beyond the completion of the initial website plan indefinitely or until such time as the Executive Board decides that it is no longer needed. The WSAC shall consist of:

Boyd Reed— WSAC Chair

Ruth Haring—President, EB, Mike Nietman—Secretary, EB

Bill Hall—Executive Director

Phil Smith—Director of Information Technology

Robert McClellan—Director of Marketing

Brennan Price, Joshua Rofrano, Jared Collins, and Alex Evers—Volunteers

**PASSED 6-0** with Bill Goichberg not voting

Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on March 6, 2013, to adopt the revised World Youth Selection Criteria presented by the Scholastic Council with some modifications (EB13-039). The vote was completed on March 14, 2013. An additional adjustment was moved and passed unanimously on March 14, 2013 (EB13-40). Please note: The revised World Youth Selection Criteria as modified by motions EB13-039 and EB13-40 can be found as Appendix D in the 2013 Appendices file.

**EB13-040 – Nietman** - I move that the Board accept the revised World Youth Selection criteria as presented by the Scholastic Council and modified by Mike Nietman. This process will be in effect for the 2013 World Youth. **PASSED 7-0.**

Michael Khodarkovsky and the Scholastic Council amended their recommendation for the minimum ratings for the Boys and Girls <8 World Youth categories. Mike Nietman moved acceptance of these changes to the selection criteria passed in motion EB13-039.

**EB13-041 – Nietman** - I move that the following ratings be adjusted: Boys U8 from 1500 to 1600, Girls U8 from 1100 to 1200 **PASSED 7-0**

Bill Hall made the Board aware of an opportunity to have the Online Under 10 and the Online Girls Under 13 National Championships organized by Chess.com/Chesskid.com and broadcast live on Chesskid.com at no expense to USCF. The participants will play at a public venue with a USCF Certified TD as a proctor. After extensive discussion the vote was completed on March 26, 2013.

**EB13-042 – Hall** - I move the USCF Executive Board establishes the Online Under 10 National Championship and the Online Girls Under 13 Online National Championship. These tournaments will be organized this year by chesskid.com in conjunction with the U8 and U12 Online National Championships established last year. **PASSED 7-0**

Michael Atkins moved by e-mail on April 5, 2013, a plan to promote National Chess Day. Voting was complete by April 8, 2013.

**EB13-043 – Atkins** - Moved that this year's National Chess Day, Saturday Oct 12th, be promoted in Chess Life and CL Online by a program of free TLAs for tournaments with National Chess Day in the title and free rating fees as established in a recent motion. National Chess Day 2013 will be Saturday, October 12th. In order to promote National Chess Day as a day for special activities and promotion of chess throughout the country, the following is proposed:

Any Rated Beginner Open that includes "National Chess Day" in its TLA title gets both a free TLA and free rating fees.

Any 1-day event for Oct 12 which has "National Chess Day" in its TLA title gets a free TLA

Any 2-3 day event held over a period which encompasses Oct 12-13, which has "National Chess Day" in its TLA title, will get a free TLA and free rating fees

For organizers/affiliates, In the TLA, be sure to mention National Chess Day in the title and that it actually happens on Saturday Oct 12, and then expect to receive an e-mail from the office explaining how to get the free rating fee.

Organizers are encouraged to submit articles and photographs for publication for Chess Life Magazine and Chess Life Online.

Affiliates are encouraged to plan a tournament or an event of any kind in order to promote chess on National Chess Day.

The USCF will send out at least one e-mail blast to all TDs and Affiliates before April 22 to enable organizers to have 6 weeks to plan events before the June 10 TLA deadline for getting Chess Life TLA's in August and September. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Nietman moved approval of the minutes of the February, 2013, EB minutes by e-mail on April 11, 2013. The vote was completed on May 2, 2013.

Mike Atkins proposed a change to the National Chess Day motion passed earlier (EB13-043) in which one day events would also get free rating fees. The change was moved by e-mail on April 16, 2013. The vote was completed on April 18, 2013.

**EB13-044 – Atkins** - I am proposing a slight change to the National Chess Day motion that was passed on Monday April 8. The change below is in red. It allows one day events to also get free rating fees. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-045 – Nietman** - I move that we accept the minutes of the February 2-3 Executive Board Meeting. **PASSED 7-0**

Gary Walters moved by e-mail on April 20, 2013, the formation of an EB Personnel and Appraisal subcommittee. The vote was completed on May 2, 2013.

**EB13-046 – Walters** - I move to form the Executive Board's Personnel Appraisal and Communications Committee (the "Sub-Committee"). Specifically, this Sub-Committee will be responsible for overseeing the appraisal of and communications to any on the USCF staff over whom the bylaws provide for a level of EB oversight, including but not limited to the Executive Director, Publications Director, and CFO. The purpose of this Sub-Committee is not to assume and perform the roles and responsibilities of the entire Executive Board, but rather to streamline discussions and to provide for clear communications to the staff of the USCF where required by the bylaws, and in particular, to the Executive Director. The Sub-Committee's actions and communications will be approved by the full Executive Board as may be required, including any hiring decisions, termination decisions, and performance appraisals. The Committee shall keep the full Executive Board apprised of all significant events and issues involving staff members. The members of this Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, and Vice President for Finance, or as may be determined by a majority vote of the Executive Board. **PASSED 6-1** with Mike Atkins opposed.

Ruth Haring moved changes to the signatories for a number of different accounts by e-mail on May 5, 2013. The vote was completed on May 6, 2013.

**EB13-047 – Haring** - Move that the Executive Board of the US Chess Federation makes the following signatory changes to the US Chess Federation accounts at Cumberland County Bank in Crossville, Tennessee: **PASSED 7-0**

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Operational Account  
Checking Account  
2 Signatures Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Judith Misner, Director of Quality Control  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

Office Account  
Checking/Debit Cards  
1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Judith Misner, Director of Quality Control  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

Crenshaw Account  
Money market investment



1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Judith Misner, Director of Quality Control  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

Scholarship Account  
Money market investment  
1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Judith Misner, Director of Quality Control  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

PPHB Account  
Money market investment  
1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Judith Misner, Director of Quality Control  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

Line of Credit  
1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

LMA CD  
1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

PPHB CD  
1 Signature Required  
Patricia K. Smith, Chief Operations Officer  
Jerry Nash, Director of Titles and Certification

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The Executive Board met in St. Louis, MO, on May 9-13, 2013. The following motions were voted:

**EB13-048 – Walters - UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE BOARD  
BOARD RESOLUTION  
EXPRESSION OF THANKS FOR THE SERVICES OF BILL HALL  
AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE USCF  
MAY 10, 2013**

WHEREAS, the United States Chess Federation is the governing body of chess in the United States, and the representative organization to the world chess governing body, the Fédération Internationale Des Échecs;

WHEREAS, Bill Hall served honorably, with diligence, skill, and enthusiasm as the Executive Director of the United States Chess Federation from 2005 to 2013;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the United States Chess Federation Executive Board extends its formal appreciation to Bill Hall for his extraordinary service and dedication as the United States Chess Federation's Executive Director.

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the United States Chess Federation, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Executive Board of the United States

Chess Federation on May 10, 2013, at which a quorum was present and voted.  
**PASSED 6-0** with Jim Berry not present.

**EB13-049 – Nietman** - Amend the WY and PanAm Youth selection criteria to use peak post tournament rating. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-050 – Walters** - Accept the resignation letter of USCF Executive Director Bill Hall dated 7 pm May 9, 2013. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-051 – Haring** - Create a Prison Chess Committee with the chair and members to be determined with Ruth Haring as EB Liaison. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-052 – Atkins** - Mike Atkins moves that the USCF study and report back to the EB by the US Open the creation of a Senior Grand Prix starting in 2014. **PASSED 7-0**

The following two motions came out of the closed session on Sunday, May 12, 2013, and were read into the record on Monday, May 13, 2013.

**EB13-053 – Haring** – Create an Outstanding Player Achievement Award. **PASSED 7-0**

**EB13-054 – Board** – The winners of the 2013 awards awarded at the Awards Luncheon at the 2013 US Open on Saturday, August 3, 2013, are: **PASSED 6-0** with Jim Berry not present.

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**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**: Walter Brown (TN)

**OUTSTANDING CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**: Garrett Scott (IL), Luke Ludwig (WI), Mike Selig (WI), David Kuhns (MN), Curt Brasket (MN)

**SPECIAL SERVICES AWARD**: Bill Williams (WI)

**MERITORIOUS SERVICES AWARD**: Peter Webster (WI), Henry Meifert (WI) (Posthumously), Stephen Dillard (KY)

**COMMITTEE OF THE YEAR**: Bylaws

**CITY OF THE YEAR**: Chicago, IL

**KOLTANOWSKI AWARDS (Gold and Silver)**:

Gold: Rex and Jeanne Siquefield and the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis

Gold: Garry Kasparov and the Kasparov Chess Foundation

Silver: Trophies Plus

**SCHOLASTIC SERVICE AWARDS (Individual)**: Elizabeth Spiegel (NY)

**ORGANIZER OF THE YEAR**: Mike Regan (MD)

**FRANK J. MARSHALL AWARD**: William Martz (WI) (Posthumously)

**GRANDMASTER OF THE YEAR**: GM Hikaru Nakamura (MO) and WGM and IM Irina Krush (NY)

**HONORARY CHESS MATES**: Olga Ashurkina (TX)

**CHESS CLUB OF THE YEAR**: Franklin-Mercantile Chess of Philadelphia (PA)

**COLLEGE OF THE YEAR:** Princeton University (NJ)

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR:** Wayne Clark (IL)

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** Harry Sabine (TN)

**OUTSTANDING PLAYER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** Erik Karklins (IL), GM Alex Onischuck (TX) and GM Gata Kamsky (NY)

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**EB13-055 – Priest** – The Interim ED is authorized to proceed with the hiring of a senior accountant and not with the hiring of a CFO at this time. **PASSED 6-0** with Jim Berry not present.

**EB13-056 – Goichberg** – Moved, that for the 2014 USCF Grand Prix, tournaments limited to seniors, juniors, woman or college students shall be eligible, providing they satisfy the other Grand Prix requirements (sufficient guaranteed prizes, all rated 2200 or over are eligible, etc.) **PASSED 6-0** with Jim Berry not present.

The Board offered the Interim ED position to Franc Guadalupe at the meeting. He accepted. Ruth Haring provided the following official statement as no motion was made.

**Statement - Ruth Haring for the Board** - The Executive Board offered Mr. Franc Guadalupe the position of Interim Executive Director on May 13, 2013 and the offer was accepted on that date. It was agreed that his start date would be June 1, 2013. The contract ends when a permanent Executive Director is hired and available to begin work, and the term is not expected to extend past December 31, 2013.

Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on May 20, 2013, the implementation of an administrative fee for the Pan Am Youth. The vote was completed on May 28.

**EB13-057 – Nietman** - I move that starting with the 2014 PanAm Youth Championships:

- 1) all PanAm players be charged a \$100 administration fee,
- 2) only the official representatives (one per section of the event) and anyone with a personal right to participate be provided coaching and
- 3) if the onsite coaches determine that another US player is in medal contention in the last round, that they be allowed to provide coaching for that player.

The administration fee is for processing the paperwork and forwarding the entries with the organizer. Only providing coaches for the official representatives saves money as this is an open event and any number of players can participate. If non-official players do well and are in medal contention, they should be assisted late in the tournament. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Nietman moved the acceptance of the minutes of the May, 2013 EB meeting by e-mail on June 11, 2013. The vote was completed on June 16, 2013, after correction of two spelling typos in the text of the minutes.

**EB13-058 – Nietman** - I move that we accept the minutes to the May EB meeting. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on July 14, 2013, the adoption of a selection process for coaching International youth tournaments. The vote was completed on July 23, 2013

**EB13-059 – Nietman** - I move that we accept the attached document entitled “Selection Policy for US Coaching Staff at International Youth Events” as policy for guiding the selection process for our coaching delegations primarily for the World Youth and PanAm Youth events but for any international youth event in which we send a team with coaches. I further move that we accept the attached document “Duties and Responsibilities of International Youth Coaches” that outline expectations for those named as coaches to these events. In addition, by October, 1, 2013, the Scholastic Council and USCF office are asked to develop a process to review the coaches in each delegation. **PASSED 6-1** with Mike Atkins opposed.

The Executive Board met in Middleton, WI, on Thursday, August 1, 2013. The following motions were considered at that meeting:

**EB13-060 - Guadalupe** - The USCF allow a promotional premium membership for \$33 to be made available to all current USCF affiliates. The promotional membership will last for 64 days from the announcement date and will only be available to former USCF members whose USCF membership expired over two years prior to the announcement of this promotional membership. This promotional membership may be used with other affiliate incentives. **PASSED 6-1** with Gary Walters opposed.

**EB13-061 – Nietman** - Per the “SELECTION POLICY FOR US COACHING STAFF AT INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EVENTS” document approved at the last EB meeting, Michael Khodarkovsky and Aviv Friedman be named as Head of Delegation for four years for the World Youth and Pan Am International Youth events. **PASSED 7-0.**

**EB13-062 – Walters** - I move the USCF approve in principle the memorandum of understanding regarding the ongoing relationship between the USCF and the US Chess Trust for the two-year period beginning August 1, 2013. **PASSED 7-0** – Please note: A Similar motion was passed by the US Chess Trust.

**EB13-063 – Nietman** - The USCF remove the prize money requirement from the Pan Am Intercollegiate Championships. **PASSED 6-0-1** with Bill Goichberg abstaining.

## APPENDICES TO 2013 USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

### Contents:

Appendix A – Revised TD Certification Rules	(EB13-009)	01
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Please note: Some of these documents contain their own Appendices. Those appendices are parts of their respective documents and are not separately indexed here.

### APPENDIX A – REVISED TD CERTIFICATION RULES - Effective 1/2013

#### **Purpose**

The USCF certifies tournament directors in order to standardize procedures and ensure a competent tournament director (TD) for each level of USCF-rated tournament.

#### **General Qualifications**

##### **1. USCF Membership.**

All certified TDs must be current members of USCF. If a TD allows his or her membership to lapse, his or her TD certification is canceled and is not automatically restored upon payment of membership dues.

##### **2. Established Rating.**

Except for the club level, all TDs taking a test for certification must have an established USCF rating as an over-the-board player. TDs are encouraged to remain active as players to maintain proper perspective when directing.

**TD TIP:** Currently the Ratings Committee has set the number of games that must be played to obtain an established rating at 26; however, that number is subject to change.

##### **3. Training.**

All TDs are encouraged to work with and assist other directors with greater experience and expertise to increase directing knowledge and understanding. All TDs are likewise encouraged to provide opportunities for less experienced directors to share in their philosophical understanding of tournament direction.

##### **4. Rules.**

Every TD should own a copy of USCF's Official Rules of Chess. TDs should become thoroughly familiar with these rules, and any rules changes or rulings by the Rules Committee effectively changing these rules, and administrative procedures regarding the sale of memberships, reporting formats and deadlines, basic rating formulas, and a variety of other subjects.

#### **TD Testing Procedures**

##### **5. Exams.**

Tests are written by the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC) and administered by the USCF business office. These tests are generally mailed to qualified applicants to be completed with the assistance of any

printed matter, but applicants are bound by honor not to discuss specific questions with other persons. Applicants must return all testing materials within two months. An applicant must first satisfy all experience requirements for the TD certification for which they are applying before taking an exam for that level of certification. The applicant may apply to the TDCC for a variance on this procedure.

#### **6. Applicants.**

Applicants for promotion of TD certification level shall provide the technical director with the names, dates, and number of entrants of the tournaments that satisfy the experience requirements. Upon request, applicants will present written verification of their claimed experience requirements.

#### **7. Unsuccessful Senior And Local Applicants.**

Applicants who fail the test for local or senior level of TD certification must wait two months before taking the test a second time. Applicants who fail the second attempt must wait six months before taking the test a third or subsequent time. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

#### **8. Unsuccessful ANTD And NTD Applicants.**

Applicants who fail the test for associate national or national level of TD certification must wait three months before taking the test a second time. Applicants who do not pass the second attempt must wait one year before taking the test a third or subsequent time. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

#### **9. Documents And Tests.**

All documents, including completed tests, shall be submitted to the U.S. Chess Federation via e-mail (<http://main.uschess.org>).

#### **Chief TDs, Assistant TDs, and Tournament Aides**

#### **10. Chief TD.**

The Chief TD has the ultimate authority and responsibility for the tournament. In general, the Chief TD must be physically present during play and should not himself be a player in a tournament he or she directs.

#### **11. Co-Chief TD.**

In unusual circumstances two directors may jointly function as co-Chief TDs. Each co-chief receives USCF credit for one tournament with one-half the total number of entries.

#### **12. Assistant TD.**

An assistant TD serves under the Chief TD performing assigned tasks relevant to tournament direction. Assistant TDs gain USCF credit for their experience when their duties include pairings and rules enforcement. Such credit is limited to 1 assistant per 50 players or fraction thereof. Assistant TDs must be certified TDs. A chief assistant TD is distinguished from a regular assistant TD by added duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Chief TD.

#### **13. Tournament Aides.**

Tournament aides serve under the Chief TD performing primarily clerical tasks, such as entering results on pairing cards and wall charts. Aides do not possess the authority to make pairings or enforce rules, and they do not need to be certified TDs.

#### **Tournament Categories**

#### **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.

## 15. Category N.

A tournament that awards a national title. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or "floor," problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory N1:** Any national tournament that averages over 150 players in the previous five-year period plus the U. S. Championship, U. S. Women's Championship, and U. S. Junior Championship.

**Subcategory N2:** Any national tournament that averages 150, or less, players in the previous five-year period, excluding the U. S. Championship, U. S. Women's Championship, and U. S. Junior Championship.

**Subcategory N3:** One section of a N1 tournament where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD). Examples: The K-3 section of the National Elementary Championship or the Reserve section of the National Open.

**Subcategory N4:** One section of a N1 tournament where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD). Examples: The K-3 section of the National Elementary Championship or the Reserve section of the National Open.

## 16. Category A.

A USCF-rated Swiss system tournament or section of a tournament, except Category I or N, that regularly draws more than 300 entrants and awards \$5,000+ in cash prizes. Examples: World Open, New York Open, Atlantic Open, and Chicago Open. Such tournaments may be directed by associate national TDs. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or "floor," problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory A1:** A Category A tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements.

**Subcategory A2:** A Category A tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements.

**TD TIP:** *A, A1 or A2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category A tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category A tournament.*

## 17. Category B.

A USCF-rated Swiss system tournament, except Category I, N, or A, drawing 100 or more entrants. Such tournaments or sections of tournaments may be directed by senior TDs. See also 32, Limitations. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or "floor," problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory B1:** A Category B tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements. .

**Subcategory B2:** A Category B tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements.

**TD TIP:** *B, B1 or B2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category B tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category B tournament.*

### **18. Category C.**

A USCF-rated Swiss system tournament or section of a tournament, except Category I or N, drawing 50 to 99 entrants. Such tournaments or sections of tournaments may be directed by local TDs. For more information see 28, Limitations. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or "floor," problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory C1:** A Category C tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements.

**Subcategory C2:** A Category C tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements.

**TD TIP:** *C, C1 or C2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category C tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category C tournament.*

### **19. Category D.**

Any USCF-rated Swiss system tournament or section of a tournament, except Category I or N, drawing fewer than 50 entrants. Club TDs may direct such tournaments or sections of tournaments. See also 24, Limitations.

**Subcategory D1:** A Category D tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements.

**Subcategory D2:** A Category D tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements.



**TD TIP:** *D, D1 or D2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category D tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category D tournament.*

## **20. Category R.**

A USCF-rated round robin tournament of eight or more rated entrants with a mean rating of at least 1800, with the mean being calculated by using the ratings of the players in the applicable ratings supplement on the starting date of the event.

## **21. Category T.**

A USCF-rated team-vs.-team, or scholastic individual/team, Swiss system tournament involving at least twelve teams of four or more players. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or “floor,” problem solving procedures.*

### **The Club Director**

## **22. Experience Requirement.**

An applicant for club TD accreditation must sign a statement indicating that he or she has read, has access to, and will abide by the rules contained in USCF’s Official Rules of Chess.

## **23. Testing Requirement.**

None for the first three year term. Each three-year term thereafter an objective test of moderate difficulty that must be passed at the 70% level.

## **24. Limitations.**

A club TD may not be the Chief TD for USCF Grand Prix, Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A, B, or C tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 50 players. Computer assisted club TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 60 players with the aid of one assistant TD. IA and FA experience credit of any kind is unavailable at Category I tournaments.

## **25. Expiration.**

Three-year renewable term. Every three years, the club TD may apply to extend the Club TD Certification for an additional three years. This three-year renewal requires that the applicant pass an objective test of moderate difficulty designed to measure the applicant’s knowledge of basic rules at the 70% level. Except for the first exam, which may not be waived, the testing requirement for re-certification is waived for a Club TD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of three tournaments or a minimum of a single section at three different tournaments during the three-year term. Club TDs meeting the rating and directing experience requirements are encouraged to take the Local TD exam. Club TDs passing the Club TD exam at the 80% level that also meet the experience and rating requirements for Local TD certification may have their Club TD certification automatically upgraded to a Local TD certification.

### **The Local Director**

## **26. Experience Requirements.**

- a. A total of three Category D tournament experience credits are required, as listed below in a1 –a3, with the total number of players for all three tournaments summed together being 50 or greater:
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of one Category D tournament, no substitutions are allowed for this TD credit.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD of second additional Category D tournament of at least three rounds, no substitutions are allowed for this TD credit.

a3. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD of a third additional Category D tournament of at least three rounds. A one-time substitution for this single TD experience credit is allowed as outlined in b1 – b4 below.

b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirement a3 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b3:

b1. Satisfactory performance as a TD at either a Category D1 or D2 tournament can be used as a single one-time substitute for a requirement (a3) category D tournament.

b2. Satisfactory performance as a TD at any combination of two (2) Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1, or D2 tournaments can be used as a single one-time substitute for a requirement (a3) category D tournament.

b3. Attendance at any TDCC, or USCF approved, problem solving and discussion workshop (not a TDCC business meeting workshop) typically, but not exclusively, offered at a U.S. Open Championship. This TD credit can be used as a single one-time substitute for a requirement (a3) category D tournament.

b4. For any applicant who takes and passes the local TD test (closed book) under supervision at a Category N tournament, the sole experience requirement is satisfactory performance as a Chief TD at one Category D tournament, requirement (a1), of at least three rounds. No substitutions may be made for the Category D tournament. Applicants must contact the USCF two weeks in advance of the tournament to request this option.

c. Only one experience credit as a section chief or chief assistant section chief or assistant section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.

## **27. Testing Requirement.**

Objective test of moderate difficulty designed to measure the applicant's knowledge of basic rules. Or, if the Local TD experience requirements (a-c) are met by a Club TD, scoring 80% or higher on a Club TD test.

## **28. Limitations.**

A local TD may not be the Chief TD for Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A or B tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 100 players. Computer assisted local TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 120 players with the aid of one assistant TD.

**TD TIP:** *FA (not IA) norm experience credit may be available at Category I tournaments to Local TDs that act as assistant TDs under the direct supervision of a chief TD who is either an IA or FA and is on site throughout the event. Contact the USCF for details.*

## **29. Expiration.**

Four-year renewable term: The testing requirement for re-certification is waived for a local TD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of four tournaments or a minimum of a single section at four different tournaments during the four-year term.

## **The Senior Director**

## **30. Experience Requirements.**

- a. A total of ten Category C tournament experience credits, as listed below in a1 – a3, are required with the total number of players for all ten tournaments summed together being 400 or greater:
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of five Category C tournaments of at least four rounds, no substitutions are allowed for these five TD credits.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or chief assistant TD of one Category C tournament of at least four rounds, no substitutions are allowed for this TD credit.
  - a3. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or chief assistant TD at four Category C tournaments of at least four rounds, substitutions for each of the four TD experience credits is allowed as outlined in (b) below.
- b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirement a3 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b8:
  - b1. Attendance at any TDCC, or USCF approved, problem solving and discussion workshop (not a TDCC business meeting workshop) typically, but not exclusively, offered at a U.S. Open Championship. This TD credit can be used as a single one-time substitute replacing only one of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b2. Satisfactory performance as a chief assistant TD to a national TD or associate national TD at one Category A, A1, A2, B, B1, or B2 tournament of at least four rounds. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b3. Satisfactory performance as a chief assistant TD to a national TD or associate national TD at any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category A, A1, A2, B, B1, or B2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The two Quick/Blitz Chess events count as only a single TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b4. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD at any combination of two Category C1 or C2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The two Category C1 or C2 tournaments together count as only one single TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b5. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD at any combination of four Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1 or C2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The four Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1 or C2 tournaments combined count as only one single TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.

b6. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD at any combination of regular rated or Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1 or D2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The total number of players combined for the entire Regular rated and/or the entire Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1, D2 tournaments must be at least 100 players. The entire number of Regular rated or Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1 or D2 tournaments combined count as only one single requirement a3 Category C tournament TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only once as a replacement for a single requirement a3 category C tournament.

b7. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of one Category R tournament, this type of TD credit cannot be used if a b8 TD Credit has already been used. This TD credit can be used as a substitute only once as a replacement for a single requirement a3 category C tournament.

b8. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category R tournaments, this TD credit cannot be used if a b7 TD Credit has already been used. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only once as a replacement for a single requirement a3 category C tournament.

- b9. For any applicant who takes and passes the Senior TD test (closed book) under supervision at a category N tournament, experience requirements are reduced to satisfactory performance as a Chief TD at three category C tournaments of at least four rounds (either a Category C1 or C2 tournament may be substituted for one of the three Category C tournaments or two Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1 or C2 tournaments may be substituted for one of the three Category C tournaments) and three additional Swiss system tournaments of at least four rounds (two Quick/Blitz Chess Swiss system tournaments may be substituted for one of the three additional Swiss system tournaments) with at least 2 tournaments, of any size, having been successfully submitted for a rating on-line. Applicants must contact the USCF two weeks in advance of the tournament to request this option.
- c. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.
  - d. At least 3 tournaments, of any size (including substitutions), having been successfully submitted for a rating on-line.
  - e. A current International arbiter (IA) or FIDE arbiter (FA) meets Senior TD experience requirements if:
    - 1. The IA or FA status is verified by FIDE.
    - 2. The IA or FA states they are relocating to the United States from a foreign country.

3. The IA or FA is an USCF member.
4. The IA or FA is at least certified as a USCF Club TD.
5. The IA or FA has satisfactorily assisted at a minimum of three USCF Category C tournaments under the supervision of a Senior TD totaling at least 200 players.
6. The IA or FA has been the chief of at least one Category D tournament and satisfactorily submitted the rating report on-line.
7. The IA or FA has an established USCF rating.

### **31. Testing Requirement.**

Difficult objective examination designed to evaluate the applicant's knowledge and judgment in situations not clearly addressed by the rules.

### **32. Limitations.**

A senior TD may not be the Chief TD for Category N tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 300 players. Computer assisted senior TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 360 players with the aid of one assistant TD.

### **33. Expiration.**

Five-year renewable term: The testing requirement for re-certification is waived for a Senior TD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of five tournaments or a minimum of a single section at five different tournaments during the five-year term.

### **The Associate National Director (ANTD)**

### **34. Experience Requirements.**

- a. FIRST, a total of ten Category B tournament experience credits, as listed below in a1 – a4, are required:
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at four Category B tournaments, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category B tournament which awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a3. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant TD at two additional Category B tournaments which each awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, substitutions are allowed.
  - a4. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at three Category B tournaments, substitutions are allowed.
- b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirements a3-a4 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b2 :
  - b1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournament (or any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit) which each awarded \$1000 in cash prizes. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing at most two of the requirement a3 category B tournaments.
  - b2. One TD experience credit can be earned with the satisfactory performance as Chief TD at any combination of three Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments (or any combination of six Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit). This single type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only three times replacing at most three of the requirement a4 category B tournaments.

- c. SECOND, satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national TD at a Category N, N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 tournament or any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category N, N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 tournaments.
- d. THIRD, satisfactory performance as Chief TD of a Category R tournament or two Quick/Blitz Chess Category R tournaments.
- e. At least 4 tournaments, of any size (including substitutions), must have been successfully submitted for a rating on-line.
- f. Only one experience credit as a section chief or chief assistant section chief or assistant section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.

### **35. Testing Requirement.**

Essay examination of substantial difficulty designed to measure the applicant's understanding of the rules as they relate to complex problems. An experienced national TD grades the examination. If the NTD gives the exam a failing grade, the applicant may request that the exam be regraded by two additional experienced NTDs. A regrade will automatically occur if the applicant scored between 70%-79%. The final result of the grading process will then be the result given by at least two of the three graders. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

### **36. Limitations.**

An associate national TD may not be the Chief TD of Category N1 tournaments.

### **37. Expiration.**

Six-year renewable terms: The testing requirement for re-certification is waived for an ANTD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of six tournaments or a minimum of a single section at six different tournaments during the six-year term.

### **The National Director (NTD)**

### **38. Experience Requirements.**

- a. FIRST, a total of fifteen Category B tournament experience credits, as listed below in a1 – a4, are required
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at eight Category B tournaments, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category B tournament which awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a3. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant TD at two additional Category B tournaments each which awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, substitutions are allowed.
  - a4. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at four Category B tournaments, substitutions are allowed.
- b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirements a3-a4 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b2 :
  - b1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournament (or any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit) which each awarded \$1000 in cash prizes. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing at most two of the requirement a3 category B tournaments.
  - b2. One TD experience credit can be earned with the satisfactory performance as Chief TD at any combination of three Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments (or any combination of six Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit). This single type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only four times replacing at most four of the requirement a4 category B

tournaments.

- c. SECOND, Satisfactory performance as Chief Assistant to a national TD at a Category N1 tournament (the following may be substituted for one Category N1 tournament: a combination of one Category N3 tournament plus one Category N4 tournament).
- d. THIRD, Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national TD at an additional Category N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 or satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national TD at any combination of two additional Quick/Blitz Chess Category N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 tournaments.
- e. FOURTH, Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of a Category R tournament or satisfactory performance as Chief TD at two Quick/Blitz Chess Category R tournaments.
- f. FIFTH, Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national or associate national TD at a Category T tournament of at least four rounds or satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national or associate national TD at two Quick/Blitz Chess Category T tournaments of at least four rounds.
- g. Only one experience credit as a section chief or chief assistant section chief or assistant section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.
- h. At least 5 tournaments, of any size (including substitutions), must have been successfully submitted for a rating on-line.

### **39. Testing Requirement.**

A rigorous essay examination designed to measure the applicant's understanding of the philosophies behind the rules. An experienced national TD grades the examination. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant. If the NTD gives the exam a failing grade, the applicant may request that the exam be regraded by two additional experienced NTDs. A regrade will automatically occur if the applicant scored between 70%-79%. The final result of the grading process will then be the result given by at least two of the three graders. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

### **40. Limitations.**

None.

### **41. Expiration.**

Life.

### **The International Arbiter (IA) And FIDE Arbiter (FA)**

**42. Title.** The titles of international arbiter and FIDE arbiter are awarded by the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

### **43. Qualifications.**

The USCF will submit a title application for the International arbiter and FIDE arbiter titles for current USCF members who are certified at the Senior, ANTD, or NTD level and meet all the following requirements. FIDE requires that an IA applicant must already hold the title of FA. Applicants will pay all fees regarding this process:

- a. Thorough knowledge of the *Laws of Chess* and the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions;
- b. Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his or her activity as an arbiter;
- c. Sufficient knowledge of at least one official FIDE language for FA and obligatory knowledge of the English language, minimum at conversation level, and of chess terms in other official FIDE languages, for IA.

- d. Experience: USCF Senior TD and chief or deputy arbiter in at least four category I events documented by the appropriate title norm certificate signed by a current IA or FA and governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess and Rules of Play such as the following:
  - d1. The final of the National Adult Championship (not more than two);
  - d2. All official FIDE tournaments and matches;
  - d3. International title tournaments and matches;
  - d4. International chess festivals with at least 100 contestants.

#### **44. Testing Requirement.**

Contact USCF.

#### **45. Limitations.**

International Arbiters may direct all Category I tournaments. In order to submit the tournament as a USCF rated tournament, the IA must also have a level of USCF TD certification appropriate to the USCF Category into which the tournament fits.

***TD TIP:** Contact the USCF office BEFORE any FIDE tournament is run to make sure all USCF/FIDE current requirements for both the tournament and TD qualifications (experience requirements, fees, ...) are met.*

#### **46. Expiration.**

The expiration of IA certification is determined by FIDE. Currently (as of the adoption of these standards), International arbiters are certified for life.

### **Waivers**

#### **47. Special Consideration.**

The TDCC reserves the right to give special consideration to applicants in extraordinary situations. Requests detailing the extraordinary circumstances must be submitted in writing to the TDCC chairperson through the technical director.

### **Certification Restrictions**

#### **48. Restrictions.**

The USCF may impose restrictions on a TD's certification upon documentation of technical incompetence, partiality, professional misconduct, or inefficiency.

#### **49. Due Process.**

Allegations of these offenses will be investigated by the TDCC or the executive director. The accused will be afforded due process. In every investigation the TDCC or executive director will consider the past accomplishments of the TD in service to chess and other substantiated complaints against the TD.

#### **50. Penalties.**

Imposed restrictions may include warnings, probations, requirements of additional experience or testing to maintain or advance level, demotions of level, limitations on the types of tournaments that may be directed, temporary suspensions of directing certification, or permanent de-certifications.

#### **51. Appeals.**

Any imposition of TD restrictions made by the executive director may be appealed to the TDCC. Any decision made by the TDCC may be appealed to the Executive Board. Any decision made by the Executive Board may be appealed to the Board of Delegates. All appeals should be filed within 30 days of notice of action taken. Restrictions will generally remain in effect during the appeals process.



## **Uniform Code of Discipline**

### **52. Technical Incompetence.**

In cases in which technical incompetence on the part of the TD has been demonstrated, the TDCC will normally impose additional testing requirements for the TD to maintain his or her level of certification. In extreme cases the TDCC may demote the TD's level of certification or suspend his or her certification until greater competence is demonstrated. Technical incompetence is typically demonstrated by gross misapplication of USCF's Official Rules of Chess.

### **53. Partiality.**

In cases in which partiality on the part of the TD has been demonstrated, the TDCC will normally impose a suspension of directing privileges for a period not less than three months and not greater than three years. In extreme cases the TDCC may recommend permanent de-certification to the Executive Board. Bribery, fraudulent reports, deliberately unfair pairing or scoring practices, deliberately inconsistent rules enforcement, and even minor irregularities that benefit the TD as a player in an event in which he or she is eligible for a prize typically demonstrates partiality.

### **54. Professional Misconduct.**

In cases in which professional misconduct on the part of the TD has been demonstrated and reconciliation between the complainant and the TD cannot be achieved, the TDCC will normally issue a warning to the TD. Extreme cases of professional misconduct, especially when representing the USCF at a national tournament, may warrant certification demotion or suspension. Professional misconduct is typically demonstrated by denigration of a player, arrogance, rude behavior, and failure to respond to official inquiries by the executive director, his or her designee, or the TDCC.

### **55. Inefficiency.**

In cases in which inefficiency has been demonstrated as the cause of a poorly directed tournament, the TDCC will normally issue a warning to the TD. In extreme cases certification may be suspended until the TD demonstrates improved procedural techniques. Inefficiency is typically demonstrated by lack of adherence to an announced tournament schedule, untimely or inaccurate posting of pairings and results, and untimely or inaccurate calculation of tournament-prize distributions.

## **APPENDIX B – REVISED PAN AM RULES**

### **PAN-AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS: OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES**

2012

Revision

By

USCF College Chess Committee

*1/24/2012*

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**1. Bidding Guidelines:**

***1a. Date of Event:***

The Pan-Am has been held every year over the Christmas vacation, December 27 (or 26) to December 30 (less frequently Dec. 29), since 1945. This is because this is the only period during which all colleges and universities are on vacation at the same time.

**1b. Bidding overview:**

1. The bidding deadline is November 15 of the previous year. This allows for timely examination by the CCC and approval by USCF, in order to announce the site and other details at the Pan-Am one year in advance.
2. The winning bid will be announced at the previous-year's Pan-Am. Final arrangements and publicity should be completed before April. In this way, students may begin planning and fundraising in their spring semester for the fall semester of the next academic year.
3. Bids must conform to the National Bid requirements. Copies of the bids are to be sent to USCF and to the CCC Chairperson.
4. In the event that no bids are submitted, the CCC must find a willing organizer. USCF will assist in targeting possible bidders, but will play no role in organizing the tournament.
5. In the event that multiple bids are submitted, the USCF staff will make a decision based on consultation with the CCC. CCC criteria, in order of importance, include:
  - Turnout
  - Finances (profit, stability, low EF, adequate prizes)
  - Geographic accessibility
  - Playing site and accommodations (low room rates)
  - Publicity
  - Geographic rotation
  - Organizer's experience
  - Availability of backup organizers

**1c. Site Criteria:**

1. The Pan-Am must be in a location that is geographically accessible by air and car.
2. A number of types of sites are acceptable for the Pan-Am, including hotels with convention facilities, schools, colleges, public buildings, and convention centers.
3. The site should be adequate for anticipated entries, allowing 15 to 20 square feet of useable space per player.
4. The site must have an adequate skittles area.
5. Special team areas should be available to coaches or captains who need a private area to counsel team members.
6. Toilet facilities must be adequate for large numbers of participants, and must be cleaned and maintained throughout the tournament.

7. Water must be made available in the playing hall throughout the duration of the tournament.
8. Pictures and descriptions of the tournament site, including size, lighting, available sanitary facilities, or any physical equipment available, should be included with each bid.
9. Reasonable inexpensive food should be available at or within easy walking distance of the site. Some nearby eating facilities should be open at least as late as midnight.

#### ***1d. Sleeping Accommodations:***

1. The primary consideration for accommodations is that they be reasonably inexpensive and accessible to the playing site.
2. A price per room, rather than per person, should be negotiated with the hotel. If this is not possible, then rates for two and four per room should be made as low as possible.
3. An agreement should be negotiated with the hotel whereby the total room-nights sold is directly related (e.g. on a sliding scale) to the costs of the playing rooms. The best contract occurs when the hotel agrees to provide the playing room free in exchange for the opportunity of hosting the event at the facility. If not, then the sliding scale should be constructed such that the hotel provides the playing room free if a certain level of total room-nights has been reached.
4. The sliding scale should be built around total number of room- nights, not nightly occupancy. Example: playing hall free above 150 room-nights. If on the three nights 51, 50, and 49 rooms are taken up, the organizer should not be penalized for falling below 50 on the third night, as the total is still 150. This method is useful as it includes people who come/leave a day early/late. Organizers should be sure the contract allows room-nights used by tournament attendees before and after the tournament to be counted toward the tournament total, and that they are available at the tournament rate.
5. Bidders should negotiate complimentary rooms (perhaps one per 25 room-nights sold, with a minimum of three) with the hotel. These are commonly used for the TDs, organizational staff, and the USCF representative.
6. The organizer and the hotel should agree upon a block of hotel rooms to be apportioned for tournament entrants. This block is reserved until filled up by those connected with the event. Estimate 50-200 blocked off rooms per night, or about two per expected team. (Of course, the sliding scale is based on a much lower figure). This prevents the hotel from selling all of its rooms to occupants who are not connected with the event. Also, the hotel should agree to increase the number as entries are received and numbers become available to the organizer, in case of overflow.
7. The organizer and the hotel should agree upon a publicized cutoff-date for reservations and an actual cutoff-date after which the special chess rates are no longer available. Ideally, the published cutoff-date is two to three weeks before the event (possibly to coincide with the deadline for early entry fees). This will give the organizer time to calculate room occupancy. The actual cutoff-date ideally should be the last date of the event; i.e. if individuals ask for the chess rate after the publicized cutoff-date they should still obtain the chess rate, based on availability.

#### ***1e. Transportation:***

Organizers must make sure that transportation is available between the host hotel and the nearest commercial airport. The organizer must ensure transportation between the host hotel and the playing site if they are not located within walking distance of each other. Transportation arrangements should be publicized in advance. The hotel and playing site should have adequate parking facilities nearby. Ideally, the hotel should provide either free on-site parking or parking validation stickers for free parking off-site for all those connected with the event.

### ***1f. Staffing:***

National Tournament Director Certification is required of the chief TD. The chief TD should also have experience in administering (a) national events, (b) FIDE events, (c) intercollegiate events, (d) scholastic events, (e) team events, and (f) Pan-Am events, if possible.

The organizer, in consultation with the chief TD, will provide a sufficient number of certified assistant TDs to help administer the event. The TD or at least one assistant TD should be devoted exclusively to the main section.

A number of volunteers should be available to help the organizer. Their responsibilities include (a) receiving entries, (b) entering registrations (c) checking ratings, (d) checking colleges and schools of players, (e) checking in players and teams on-site, (f) setting up playing room, (g) checking wallchart area, (h) preparing a tournament information pamphlet, (i) managing publicity and promotion, (j) providing an awards ceremony, (k) assisting the TDs and organizer during their tournament duties, and (l) run Mon Roi Controller.

### ***1g. Finances:***

The Pan-Am is a partnership between USCF and the local organization. USCF has veto power over major decisions. All contracts must be approved-by the USCF staff before signing.

Certain services and purchases including the book concession should normally be bid out. Vendors should receive requests for proposals. USCF must be contacted about all concession plans.

The organizer must be able to accept checks and write checks. No bid will be accepted from an individual or group without this capability. A local checking account is recommended of organizers.

Since 1989, the Pan-Am has been run with the organizer accepting 100% of all profit and 100% of all loss. Changes in this structure must be negotiated by the organizer, the CCC, USCF office, and the PB.

Entry fees are to be sent to the local organizer, and prizes must be paid out immediately after the event by the organizer.

### ***1h. Publicity:***

1. Publicity is an important part of attracting new participants to the Pan-Am and attracting more colleges to chess and the USCF. Many college chess clubs are unaware of the Pan-Am, and many college students are unaware of the existence of the USCF. Organizers must include plans for publicity in their bids. Fliers should list the host and USCF as co-sponsors.
2. The Pan-Am will be announced in the TLA section of Chess Life, in at least three issues (October, November, and December).
3. Chess Life will give the CCC space for one free article announcing the upcoming Pan-Am. For the December 27-30 event, notification no later than the October issue (comes out September 1) is ideal. Since the deadline for this and the October TLA is August 10, the organizer must be prepared in his/her spring semester of the previous academic year to begin publicity.
4. The organizer must prepare a flier publicizing the event. The flier should be mailed to as many local, regional, and national college affiliates as can be budgeted, and to state and regional chess magazines in nearby states.

5. Organizers should make efforts to reach as many local colleges as possible (this includes non-USCF affiliates) . Phone and E-mail advertising are highly encouraged.
6. Organizers should arrange publicity with the local media prior to, during, and immediately after the event.
7. A press release should be prepared listing major winners after the conclusion of the tournament. This release, along with game scores, should be given to the USCF representative or emailed/faxed to the USCF immediately after the event. The USCF will send its own release to media sources.

## **2. Format & tournament rules:**

### ***2a. Tournament Format and Rules:***

1. The preferred schedule is a six-game, four-day event, (December 27-30), with the number of rounds per day 1-2-2-1. Changes in this format must be negotiated by the organizer, the CCC, and the USCF staff.
2. The tournament will be conducted using USCF rules for all players (including non-U.S. participants), except as modified in this document.
3. The event is a Swiss System, paired strictly team vs. team. Board one of team A plays board one of team B, through board four (see IX.3 for substitution practice of alternates).
4. Pairings are done by considering each team an individual entity. Each team gets one match point if the combined scores of the four players in a round is 2 1/2 or greater, one-half match point if the combined score is 2, and zero match points if the combined score is 1 1/2 or less. Teams are grouped by their match points and then ranked within the group by their ratings. Byes, defaults, lateness, and so forth are treated as in individual tournaments.
5. The number of match points (not total game points) determines the final standings. (Note: In Europe and in the Olympiad, game points are used to determine standings. In America and throughout most of the history of the Pan-Am, match points were and are used.)
6. If a school enters multiple teams, these teams may not face one another unless the TD views the pairing as the best possible choice. For instance, if the A and B teams of a college are undefeated after four rounds, then they must be paired in the fifth round to avoid a sixth or last round pairing.
7. A team that is assigned "white" has white on boards 1 and 3, black on 2 and 4; conversely, a team that is assigned "black" has black on boards 1 and 3, white on 2 and 4.
8. The rule regarding color in a series (popularly known as "the three blacks in a row rule") is less important in team play, because each team has two whites and two blacks per round.
9. There may be no more than two rounds per day. At least seven hours must be placed between the start of each round. The suggested round times are 6pm, 10am, 5pm, 10am, 5pm, and 9am, respectively.
10. The primary time control may be no faster than G/90 with 30 second increment. Sudden death time controls may not be used. Games may be adjourned at the TD's discretion. If provided for both players, Mon Roi units must be used.

## **2b. Entry Fees and Registration:**

1. The advance team entry for the intercollegiate section will be determined by the organizer. In each section, the late fee (or on-site entry) should be no more than 25% above the advance entry fee.
2. The deadline for early entry should be two to three weeks before the event (possibly to coincide with the date by which hotel reservations should be made). It is preferred that the deadline be of the type "post-marked no later than" rather than "received no later than." This prevents hostility by players to the organizer for not getting the mail, and offers written proof of dates. In the event that a team's entry is postmarked before the deadline yet not received until after the start of the event (i.e. misdirected mail), the organizer may require the team to pay the entry, including the late fee, at the door. When the early entry is then received, the door entry and late fee would then be refunded.
3. Door entries must be permitted up to a certain cutoff time before the first round (generally 1-2 hours, enough to allow for first round pairings). Any entry after this cutoff time may be required to take a bye or play against a specially paired group of other late entrants.

## **2c. Intercollegiate Eligibility Requirements:**

### **Rule 1**

For college and university teams, titled players (International Masters, International Grandmasters, International Woman Masters and International Woman Grandmasters) are eligible to participate if they satisfy at least one of the following stipulations: #1 or all three conditions listed in #2.

1. Are less than 26 years old as undergraduate students, or under 30 years old as graduate students, as of September 1 of the academic year in which the tournament takes place.
2. Satisfy all of the following three conditions:
  - a) Are full-time, degree-seeking students (e.g., at least 12 semester credit hours for undergraduate students and 9 semester credit hours for graduate students)
  - b) Have a grade-point average of at least B (e.g., at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale)
  - c) Have satisfied conditions 1 and 2 for at least one full semester at their team's college or university prior to the event.

Rule 1 applies to all college events — individual or team. There are no age restrictions on players not having the four above-mentioned international titles.

### **Rule 2**

College and University players shall be enrolled at least half-time (e.g. 6 semester credit hours) during the semester of eligibility. For the Pan American Intercollegiate Team Championship, traditionally held between Christmas and New Year's each year, players must be enrolled in the fall semester preceding the event.

### **Rule 3**

College and university players shall be eligible to play for a total of six years, where a year is defined as being either a traditional academic year of a fall and spring term or a fall term or a spring term, e.g., a player enrolled in spring of 1998, spring of 1999 and fall of 1999 is considered enrolled for three years under this rule.

### **Rule 4**

College and university players shall be enrolled in a degree-seeking program with a cumulative grade point average of at least a C.

### **Rule 5**

College and university players shall be resident at their campuses either in on-campus housing or in housing within reasonable commuting distance from campus, e.g., a player taking distance learning courses from another country shall not be eligible to play.

### **Rule 6**

Colleges and universities offering chess-related scholarships shall maintain records about the individuals awarded such scholarships, their time of attendance, the degrees received if any, and the grade point average attained.

### **Rule 7**

Faculty, staff and alumni are not eligible to compete in the National Collegiate Chess League Team Championship conducted over the internet each spring.



The following are suggestions offered for guidance:

Faculty conflicts. A faculty member serving as a consultant or director to a university or college chess program should adhere to the following guidelines:

- To admit no player to their program who does not, in their judgment, demonstrate a serious likelihood of achieving a degree.
- To not offer independent study courses to members of the chess team.
- To not recruit players from other chess programs.
- To scrutinize carefully undergraduate students applying for a second baccalaureate.

Non-compliance:

1. Winning teams should file a report to document compliance with these regulations with the USCF.

2. Any team's standing may be challenged for non-compliance by a competing team through a written complaint sent within 30 days to the Executive Director or the Scholastic Director of the U.S. Chess Federation. That official shall gather the relevant documentation of the complaint, make a recommendation as to disposition, and send it to the USCF Executive Board for resolution.

### ***2d. Team Requirement:***

1. The Pan-Am Intercollegiate Team event is a strict team-on-team competition. Pairings are done by considering each team an individual entity.
2. A team is made up of four players plus up to two optional alternates.
3. When alternates play, they must do so starting on the lowest boards. Any regular team member may sit out when an alternate plays; other team members move up accordingly.
4. Teammates must play in descending rating order, except that 50-point transpositions are allowed. Board order must remain the same throughout the event. Each team must submit a roster before the close of registration indicating the fixed lineup.
5. Teams are ranked in order of the average of four highest individual ratings – this includes the alternates. The team average rating is used for wall chart ranking and class-prize eligibility.
6. Unrated players must be placed below rated players.
7. A team must have a minimum of three players to compete for prizes. In the event that only two players arrive from a school before round 1, they will be allowed to compete provided their teammates are expected to arrive. If these teammates do not arrive, then the two who did arrive are ineligible for all prizes.
8. There may be no mixed teams. For example, if two schools arrive with only two players, the four may not form a team, even if they volunteer to forego prize eligibility.
9. A school may send an unlimited number of teams. There is no rule regarding the composition of multiple teams (e.g. they may be balanced or in order from highest to lowest rated), only that individual members of each team must be in strict descending rating order. Multiple teams will be designated as "A," "B," "C," etc., with "A" designating the team with the highest average rating.
10. All teams must designate a coach or captain (he/she need not be a competitor, just affiliated with the team's school). The role of the coach/captain is:
11. To turn in his team line-up to the TD at least one hour before the round begins.

- To see that his/her team arrives on time for each match.
- To see that his/her team plays in correct board order.
- To advise his/her players whether or not to accept or offer a draw.
- To report the result of the match to the TD.
- To check the wall charts for accuracy.

Note: "Package deals," such as offering draws on boards 1 and 4 to the opposing team captain, are not permitted.

### ***2e. Ratings of Players:***

1. American players use their USCF ratings reflected in the December Rating Supplement, which is made available before the Pan-Am. TDs should have access to the online USCF rating supplements.
2. Unrated players do not affect the team average.
3. Foreign players who have national or FIDE ratings must present evidence of this rating, and then the rating will be converted. The conversion table is as follows:
  - Canada (CFC): Add 50
  - Quebec (FQE): Add 100
  - Most other nations: Add 200
  - New USCF/FIDE conversion formulas:
    - FIDE Under 2000,  $USCF = FIDE \text{ rating} \times 5/8 + 720$
    - FIDE 2000 and above =  $FIDE \text{ rating} \times 1.16 - 350$
4. If a foreign player has two or more ratings (USCF, FIDE, national, etc.), the highest rating after conversion will be chosen. There is no rule that states a team must use the same rating system on each board (e.g. all FIDE or all national).

### ***2f. Conduct of the Tournament:***

A team may not deviate from its given roster after sign-up. If it is found that players were placed out of order, and the error was the TD's, the proper order will be established in the next round. In this case, previous results will count, both for the team and for individuals. If players were placed, or played out of order, and the error was the team's, then the team may face forfeiture.

To the extent possible, the top boards should be roped off to highlight the top contestants and also to prevent congestion. Some events have highlighted these boards by isolating them in a central area.

Organizational announcements should be made just prior to the beginning of each round.

### ***2k Tie-breaks:***

Tie-breaks are used to award places and trophies only. Cash prizes are divided equally in any tie.

If two teams are tied for first, they are considered co- champions. Tie-breaks are used to determine which team name

"goes first" in articles, and which team gets the larger trophy. The recipient of the second place trophy can have it send it for a new engraving declaring that team "co- champion." If three or more teams tie, tie-breaks are used to determine first, second, third, etc. places. If two teams or individuals tie for a prize other than first place team, tie-breaks are used for place plus trophy allocation (no new engraving need be sent).

When team match points are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used: U.S. Amateur Team East (USATE). In the USATE system, you multiple your wins against each individual opponent's final score. Thus, if you defeated a 1st round opponent by a 3-1 score and they ultimately scored 2-4 in the Pan-Am, your team would then get 6 tie-break points (3x2). If you drew 2-2 in round two against a team that would ultimately score 5.5-.5, then you get 11 tie-break points (2x5.5).

For individual board prize determinations, the tie-break procedure is total points scored, then

- Winning percentage
  
- Median
  
- Solkoff
  
- Sonnenborn-Berger
  
- Cumulative
  
- Kashdan
  
- Result between tied players
  
- Most Blacks
  
- Result between teams of tied players
  
- Coin flip

### **3. Ceremonies:**

#### ***3a. Opening Ceremony:***

The organizer is encouraged to arrange a brief opening ceremony an hour prior to the start of the first round. A reception should be prior to the opening ceremony. A minimum of \$1000 is required to fund this function. Local dignitaries, deans or faculty from the host school, and the press should be invited. Past experience has shown that local officials have great interest in participating in such ceremonies. Proclamations from a host college, mayor, county executive, and governor might be available upon request from their respective offices.

#### ***3b. Awards Ceremony & Prizes:***

The organizer is responsible for an awards ceremony in keeping with the stature of a national championship. The list of prize winners must be posted as soon as possible. The awards presentation order should be announced at the start of the ceremony.

Money prizes shall be given out in the form of checks by the organizer to the proper team recipient (or affiliate) at the awards ceremony if the winner is present. Prizes may be awarded early if the winner has to leave before the awards ceremony. In the event that prize winners have to leave and games are still in progress affecting the prize, the organizer may choose to send all or part of the prize by mail.

The recommended minimum prize fund in the intercollegiate section is \$4,000. Division prizes are based on average team rating. Guaranteed prizes are preferred, though based-on prizes are acceptable. Division ratings are as follows:

Division I	2200 and above	Division III	1800-1999
Division II	2000-2199	Division IV	Under 1800

Trophies, plaques, or clocks should be given out in addition to all cash prizes for top board scores and top foreign teams (non-USA).

An additional prize for each of boards 1-4, called "class board prizes," should be awarded. Prizes are determined by the highest number of points scored.

#### **4. Miscellaneous:**

##### **4a. Chess Notation:**

Chess notation (or use of a Mon Roi unit) must be kept consistently and legible by all players.

The organizer should provide carbon scoresheets for all games. These are the property of the organizer, and clean copies must be turned in.

Organized side events add to the attractiveness of the Pan-Am. Such activities traditionally include the Pan-Am Speed, Chess Championship. A Pan-Am Open (a regular, open event), and simuls or lectures by famous players are highly recommended.

##### **4b. Posting of rules:**

A copy of the Pan-Am Rules should be posted on the College Chess Website.

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## **APPENDIX C - CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS**

Please note: The EB approved these changes unanimously on motion EB13-016

1. **Purpose and Background.** The purpose of this information paper is to provide an overview of proposed changes the Scholastic Council recommends to the USCF's National Scholastic Regulations (NSR). We have attached an edited version of the NSR with proposed additions highlighted in **red text**, and deletions shown using ~~black strike-through text~~. The start point for our proposed changes was the September 2011 edition of the NSR created by Mike Nietman and provided by Pat Smith (with all changes accepted from previous editions). We propose the new edition be dated November 2012.
2. **Summary of Proposed Changes.** Our recommended changes have the following effects:
  - a. Page 6: Suspends Rule 12.5 for the 2012-2013 school year (e.g. the rule that required players to play at least 8 USCF-rated games in the preceding 6 months). Replace it with Rule 12.6, an adaptation of Advance Delegate Motion 12-16C passed at the US Open in August 2012. ADM 12-16C, and the proposed Rule 12.6, require players entering "Under" sections in USCF National Scholastic events to disclose ratings at the time of registration that they have in other over-the-board rating systems, thereby enabling the Federation and/or the tournament staff to ensure such players are playing in the appropriate section. The rule only affects sectioning—the ratings from other systems are not going to be used for pairing purposes.
  - b. Page 12: Updates Rule 21.12 on Electronic Devices (EDs), which contains specifications for players and spectators. The revision puts all player-related aspects of this matter in Rule 21.12, and adds a Rule 21.13 for spectators. Rule 21.12 directs players to turn-off their EDs during play. Rule 21.13 allows spectators to have EDs in the playing hall, but limits use to the authorized seating area. It also has instructions about the use of photographic equipment.

- c. Appendix A (Blitz Regulations): Updates the appendix to reflect that “touch-move” will be used in National Scholastic Tournaments effective Jan 1, 2013. This update ensures that Blitz games at the SuperNationals will be rated. The Appendix specifically states that this change is NOT in effect until Jan 1, 2013.
  - d. Appendix E (Spectator Conduct): Updated to align with the proposed Rule 21.13 mentioned in paragraph 2b above.
3. The Scholastic Council unanimously recommends the EB accept our proposed changes.

Jay Stallings and Sunil Weeramantry, Co-Chairs - USCF Scholastic Council

PLEASE NOTE: THE APPENDICES LISTED IN THESE RULES, WHICH FOLLOW, ARE APPENDICES TO THE SCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS AND ARE NOT PART OF THE EB MOTION APPENDIX SEQUENCE IN THIS DOCUMENT.

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**For use in the following Chess Tournaments:**

**USCF SuperNationals**

**USCF Spring Nationals**

National Elementary (K-6) Chess Championship

National Middle School/Junior High (K-9) Chess Championship

National High School (K-12) Chess Championship

**USCF Fall Nationals**

National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship

**USCF Youth Events**

National Youth Action Championship

U.S. Junior Chess Congress

U.S. Junior Open

Originated 1984, Revised November 2012

Revisions since the September 2011 edition are highlighted using ~~Strike-through~~ and **Red text**

PLEASE NOTE: THE APPENDICES LISTED IN THESE RULES, ARE APPENDICES TO THE SCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS AND ARE NOT PART OF THE EB MOTION APPENDIX SEQUENCE IN THIS DOCUMENT. THE REGULATIONS CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The **USCF National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations** are intended to fulfill the special needs and expectations of players, coaches and parents at our **national scholastic events**. These **Regulations** are a reference to the special rules that govern these events, along with some suggestions to help the event run smoothly. They are designed to insure that the dignity and significance of national scholastic events are maintained, promoted, preserved and enhanced. The USCF wishes to thank past and present members of its Scholastic Committee along with the coaches and parents who helped to compile the initial set of **Regulations**. These **Regulations** carry the weight of history and hands-on experience. But no regulations should be held inviolate when better ideas arise. Proposed changes should be referred to the USCF office and the Scholastic Council. After all, the main principle of these **Regulations** is simply: **Our youngsters deserve the best!**

1.1.1 Revisions to these regulations shall be effective September 15 of each year.

1.2 USCF and the Scholastic Council will review proposals for the following tournaments: National Elementary (K-6), National Middle School/Junior High (K-9), National High School (K-12), National Youth Action Championship, and the National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship. The USCF will solicit interest in site selection and then negotiate with the local organizer details of the proposed tournament. The Scholastic Council will be part of the final selection process. Expressions of interest by affiliates are indeed welcome, since in all cases USCF wishes to partner with a local organization(s) for local arrangements (e.g. securing local TDs), in coordination (and agreement) with USCF. However, site selection and all contracting for these events will be handled by USCF.

1.2.1 Whenever USCF is the organizer the USCF office shall be responsible for all details listed herein as the organizer.

1.3 Many chess tournaments and chess activities are organized under the USCF name, yet are managed fully by other organizations and/or individuals. Such organizations may enter into contracts for facilities, goods, services, etc, though USCF must approve these contracts first. Such organizations are not representatives of USCF management, and are independent contractors.

1.4 All state scholastic organizations are encouraged to adopt these regulations for state scholastic championships.

## **2.0 DATES**

### **2.1 National Scholastic Events**

#### **2.1.1 Fall Nationals** - National K-12 Grade Championship:

2.1.1.1 Should be played between November 15 and December 15.

2.1.1.2 Must not be scheduled on Thanksgiving Day weekend.

#### **2.1.2 Spring Nationals** - National Elementary (K-6), Middle School/Junior High (K-9) and High School (K-12) Championships:

2.1.2.1 Should be held between and to include the third weekend in March and the second weekend in May.

2.1.2.2 Must not be scheduled on:

2.1.2.2.1 Easter

2.1.2.2.2 Passover

2.1.2.3 Try to avoid:

2.1.2.3.1 Daylight Savings Time weekend (first Sunday in April)

2.1.2.3.2 Scholastic Aptitude and Advanced Placement Test dates (High School only).

2.2 National Youth Events – National Youth Action and U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2.2.1 National Youth Action

2.2.1.1 Should be held between November 1 and December 1.

2.2.1.2 Must not be scheduled on Thanksgiving Day weekend.



2.2.2 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2.2.2.1 Whenever possible.

2.2.3 U.S. Junior Open

2.2.3.1 Should be held in the summer.

2.3 Dates should not conflict with any other National Tournament or the World Youth Festival.

**3. SITE**

3.1 Our primary concern is assuring the quality of national scholastics.

3.2 USCF will make every reasonable effort to rotate these events geographically from year to year.

3.3 Acceptable sites include, but are not limited to: hotels with convention facilities, schools, colleges, and convention centers.

3.4 All tournament-related playing and meeting space proposals must be approved by USCF before they are signed.

3.5 The USCF shall be responsible for making sure all of the following are implemented:

3.5.1 The playing hall(s) must allow for a minimum of 25 sq. ft. of usable space per player. This should include space for spectators. The top 20 boards of all Championship sections, except for primary grades, should have no more than two boards per six or eight foot table. Bids must include a playing hall(s) to accommodate the maximum number of expected players.

3.5.2 The site should have a large skittles area at least half the size of the playing hall(s). The skittles area should be in the immediate vicinity of the playing site, indoors, and easily accessible from the playing room. It is recommended that the skittles area be 3/4 of the size of the playing area(s).

3.5.3 Special team rooms (especially for the Elementary and Middle School/Junior High events) should be available to coaches needing a more private area to instruct and counsel team members. Teams will pay reasonable charges for the use of such space. Whenever possible the team rooms should be under the same roof or in a building connected to the playing site. Team room location will be provided at the time of reservation.

3.5.4 Toilet facilities must be adequate for large numbers of youngsters and must be inspected, cleaned and maintained every hour during rounds. Restrooms for players only should be easily accessible to the playing room.

3.5.5 Water should be provided in the playing hall(s) and maintained every hour during rounds.

3.5.6 Pictures and descriptions of the tournament site, including size, lighting, available sanitary facilities, or any physical equipment available should be included with each contract.

- 3.5.7 A map of the area should be available showing inexpensive restaurants and attractions near the site. This should be done on the website site and available on paper at chess control.
- 3.5.8 For the National Middle School/Junior High (K-9) and National Elementary (K-6) Tournaments a play area should be provided that allows the children an acceptable area to run and play.
- 3.5.9 A centrally located information booth (i.e. Chess control) should be provided near the playing area. The information booth will provide directions to ~~at~~ local restaurants, transportation, interesting sites, and other non-tournament information.
- 3.5.10 A message center should be provided at chess control to receive emergency information for players and/or families. This message center should have a pre-advertised phone number and/or email address.
- 3.5.11 There should be food available on site that is priced comparably to fast food pricing. There should be ample food services available that, if necessary, all of the anticipated participants may be fed within a two hour period. They should be open from at least 60 minutes before the first round starts each day and closed no earlier than 60 minutes before the last round is scheduled to end.
- 3.5.12 The site must be handicapped accessible.
- 3.5.13 It is recommended that a photographer be available throughout the tournament.
- 3.5.14 Ample signage should be on display at numerous locations throughout the facility a minimum of twelve hours prior to the first scheduled event of the tournament.

#### **4.0 LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS**

- 4.1 Lodging should be inexpensive and accessible to the playing site.
- 4.2 A single price for 1-4 people per room should be negotiated.
- 4.3 If the hotel(s) is providing the playing site, the cost of meeting space should be directly related to total room-nights sold (such as on a sliding scale). Free meeting space is generally negotiable with most hotels.
- 4.4 If the hotel(s) is not providing the playing site, the hotel(s) contract(s) may be structured to provide the tournament a rebate of \$3 to \$10 per room night sold, to help defray playing site and other tournament costs. Rebates are considered tournament income. When the USCF is not the organizer, any amount higher than \$10 per night may not be accepted without the prior written consent of the USCF office.
- 4.5 The organizer should provide, at least 6 months prior to the start of the event, a list of all recommended hotels, rates, addresses, phone numbers, distance from playing site, and contact information on the USCF website.

## **5.0 TRANSPORTATION**

5.1 Organizers should ensure the availability of transportation between the headquarters hotel and nearest commercial airport, railroad, and bus terminals and shuttle service between playing site and headquarters hotel if they are beyond walking distance of each other. All such travel arrangements should be publicized at least six months in advance for the benefit of players, coaches and parents.

## **6.0 FINANCES**

6.1 When the USCF is not the principal organizer, the local organizer is contractually responsible for the execution of these Regulations (with USCF oversight) before, during and after the tournament.

6.2 The USCF will provide financial statements from previous events to the organizer upon request.

6.3 The USCF share of the profits from the National scholastics will go to the U.S. Chess Federation. Tournament income includes, but is not limited to: entry fees, book and equipment sales, food and beverage sales, sale of chess pieces and boards used in the tournament, advertising income, fees paid by promoters and exhibitors, hotel room night rebates, team room rentals, rebates, etc.

6.3.1 The USCF will negotiate an agreement with the local organizer, which will define roles, responsibilities, and the financial arrangements between the two parties. The financial arrangements may be a share of the profits, a per-head fee, or some combination thereof.

6.4 All contracts must be approved and signed by the USCF when the USCF is undertaking full management responsibility for the event. When the local organizer is undertaking full management responsibility, the USCF need only review and approve all contracts, though it need not be a signatory thereon, as the local organizer is acting as an independent contractor and is fully responsible and liable for all activities or actions pursuant to the contract(s).

## **7.0 CONCESSIONAIRE**

7.1 The USCF has the right of first refusal to sell chess books, chess equipment, T-shirts, commemorative boards and sets and other chess paraphernalia at any USCF national event.

7.2 Any outside vendor must be approved by the USCF.

7.3 In any event for which USCF is not the principal organizer, the USCF must approve all concession agreements.

## **8.0 STAFFING**

8.1 The Chief TD for all national scholastics must be certified at the "National Tournament Director" level. Additionally, the Chief TD must have strong experience in administering large scholastic

events, especially those using computer pairing programs. The Chief TD must be acceptable to the USCF.

8.2 The Chief TD and/or organizer is responsible for appointing an adequate number of certified assistant TDs to help administer each event. The organizer himself should not serve on the directing staff.

8.2.1 A minimum of four TDs, including the Chief TD, with strong computer pairing program experience, should be on staff. Knowledge of computers and computer pairings is essential, as these TDs are expected to generate pairings, standings, team results, etc., round by round, as well as handling inevitable problems.

8.2.2 Each event must have a Chief Floor TD with a sufficient number of assistants.

8.2.2.1 The ratio of TDs to players should be as follows: High School: 1/100 players; Middle School/Junior High: 1/75 players; Elementary: 1/50 players. For the National K-12 Championship grades K-6 shall have the same ratio as the Elementary, grades 7-9 shall have the same ratio as the Middle School/Junior High, and grades 10-12 shall have the same ratio as the High School.

8.2.2.2 Floor TDs should be permanently stationed in a specific section in the tournament rooms during play and must wear distinctive identifying apparel.

8.2.2.3 Floor TDs will handle disputes and make rulings, although appeals are permitted. Appeals are to be made first to the Section TD, then the Chief Floor TD, and then the Chief TD.

8.2.2.4 A minimum of two experienced floor TDs should be present in large tournament rooms and one floor TD in small tournament rooms at all times.

8.2.2.5 Volunteers who are not certified TDs may assist floor directors to keep order; however, they cannot make rulings on their own and must direct all questions regarding rules to certified floor directors.

8.2.2.6 All staff should wear identification stating their name and duty. The TD certification level should be listed on the name tag.

8.3 The TD staff is expected to be appropriately compensated. Such compensation should include, but not be limited to, lodging and free food being made available during the tournament. Each TD should be compensated enough to at least cover any transportation costs.

8.4 A large number of *well-trained* volunteers is essential to the success of these events. The organizer is responsible for training the volunteers. They may be responsible for such duties as:

8.4.1 Receiving entries

8.4.2 Entering registrations into a data base

8.4.3 Checking ratings of players

8.4.4 Checking schools of players

- 8.4.5 Checking in players and teams on-site
- 8.4.6 Setting up the playing room
- 8.4.7 Manning results-tables
- 8.4.8 Controlling access at doors (when necessary)
- 8.4.9 Providing for the needs of the TD staff
- 8.4.10 Preparing a tournament information pamphlet
- 8.4.11 Managing publicity and promotion
- 8.4.12 Providing an awards ceremony
- 8.4.13 Providing for an information, lost and found, and message booth at chess control

## **9.0 COMPUTERS**

- 9.1 Fast ink-jet or laser printers are preferred.
- 9.2 The computer room should be assembled at least one day before the tournament to make sure there are no problems.
- 9.3 The large size of these events necessitates pairing by computer. A list of approved computer programs may be obtained from USCF.
- 9.4 If any computer equipment is acquired or donated for the tournament, such equipment will be considered assets of the tournament. Assets may not be disposed of without the express consent of the USCF.
- 9.5 At least one computer and printer shall be available for non-pairing/technical purposes by authorized staff.

## **10.0 PUBLICITY**

- 10.1 Publicity is an important part of attracting new participants to National Scholastic events. Many scholastic chess programs are not aware of the existence of the USCF or these national championships. Organizers should include plans for publicity in their proposals. The organizer should coordinate with the USCF office to produce press releases and publicity for the event.
- 10.2 These events will be announced in **Chess Life and Chess Life for Kids (CL4K)**.
- 10.3 Fliers advertising National Scholastic and Youth events will be mailed to all USCF affiliates except prison affiliates.

- 10.4 Organizers should arrange publicity with local news media, prior to, during, and immediately after these events.
- 10.5 The organizer should prepare a press release listing major winners immediately upon conclusion of the tournament. Ideally, this release should be available during the awards ceremony.
- 10.6 A tournament program book should be prepared, including:
  - 10.6.1 Schedule of events
  - 10.6.2 List of past winners
  - 10.6.3 Prize list
  - 10.6.4 Rules specific for the tournament
  - 10.6.5 List of tournament directors
  - 10.6.6 Volunteer staff
  - 10.6.7 Scoresheets (extra scoresheets also must be prepared)
  - 10.6.8 Local information about restaurants and attractions.
  - 10.6.9 The awards presentation, location, time, and order.
  - 10.6.10 Player procedures and the acceptable conduct of the spectators, players, and coaches.

## **11.0 ENTRY FEE & REGISTRATION**

- 11.1 The entry fee shall be kept as economical as practical and set in accordance with the approved budget.
- 11.2 Early entry deadline(s) should be used for each event.
- 11.3 Players registering the day of the event may be paired or receive a half point bye, at the discretion of the USCF Director of National Events or the organizer (if the event is outsourced).
- 11.4 Any section changes are subject to a change fee and should be made as soon as possible.
- 11.5 Half-point byes will be available for the first round, if requested with an advance entry. 0 point byes shall be available for all rounds. The Chief Tournament Director shall have the ability to grant a ½-point bye for any round based on unusual circumstances, except the last round.
- 11.6 Check-In Procedures. It is important that this is a smooth process allowing those with problems to resolve them.

11.6.1 A complete list of the advance entry players shall be posted periodically on the tournament web page. This web page should be updated regularly.

11.6.2 Two lists of participants per section should be posted prior to round one: alphabetical and school. A complete team roster for all schools shall be posted on site. It is the responsibility of the players and/or coaches to report mistakes or needed corrections to the TD staff.

11.6.3 Rules specific to the tournament and side events will be available in advance of the event.

## **12.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

12.1 All players must be USCF members.

12.2 The following students are eligible:

12.2.1 Full-time students enrolled in school in the United States or its territories for the entire semester in which the event is held.

12.2.2 U.S. citizens attending school abroad.

12.2.3 Home schooled and virtual schooled students must be schooled in the United States or be United States citizens.

12.2.4 Home schooled and virtual schooled students who do not exceed the age requirements listed below.

12.3 Age requirements: the following ages are as of September 1 of the school year in which the competition takes place. The age requirements are considered upper bounds for each grade and should not be used for home school and virtual school students. Our national events are grade based and require all players to play in a section that allows for their current grade.

Kindergarten: under age 7

1st Grade: Under age 8

2nd Grade: Under age 9

3rd Grade: Under age 10

4th Grade: Under age 11

5th Grade: Under age 12

6th Grade: Under age 13

7th Grade: Under age 14

8th Grade: Under age 15

9th Grade: Under age 16

10th Grade: Under age 17

11th Grade: Under age 18

12th Grade: Under age 19

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 Kindergartner and may continue to play as a Kindergartner 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.

12.4 If any of the spring nationals begins before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, the previous month's rating supplement will be used. If any of the spring nationals begins on or after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, that month's rating supplement will be used. The intent is that the earliest entry deadline will be about a week after the publication of the new rating supplement or when MSA is updated.

~~12.5 USCF ratings are only accurate if they are based on recent games. In order to insure that players are entered in an appropriate section, a player who has not played in at least 8 USCF regular rated games during the six month period ending with the cutoff date for the rating supplement that is being used for the tournament will not be eligible for the lowest rating based section for which that player would qualify if his or her rating were based upon recent games. For example: a high school player with a rating of 1100 who has not played at least 8 USCF regular rated games within the six month period would not be eligible to play in the U1200 section at the National High School Championship. Such a player could only play in the U1600 section or the Championship section. *(Suspended until further notice and replaced by Rule 12.6 below.)*~~

**12.6 Players entering an "Under" section** in a USCF National Scholastic tournament **shall disclose at the time of registration whether they have one or more ratings in another over-the-board rating system(s).** The USCF may use this rating information to determine section and prize eligibility in accordance with USCF rules 28D and 28E. This **rule will be in effect for the 2013 SuperNationals** and future USCF National Scholastic Tournaments that have one or more "Under" sections.



### 13. TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC EVENTS

13.1 National Scholastic events are both individual and team events. Players are allowed to compete as individuals and not as a member of any team. A student who does not qualify to represent a team under rules 13.2, 13.3, or 13.4 may not compete as a member of a team but is encouraged to compete as an individual.

13.2 In national scholastic events (i.e., the Spring Nationals and the K-12) teams are comprised of students who attend the same school.

13.2.1 A school is defined as an institution which has **one name**, is located in **one building** or **connected adjacent buildings**, and is under **one administrator** and which provides core curricular instruction in English, math, science, and social studies. A 'local public school' for a home schooled or virtual school student is defined as the public school the student would attend if attending public school. The local public school for a third grade home schooled or virtual school student is the local public elementary school the child would attend if going to public school. A 'public school district' is a grouping of public schools (most usually within a city or county but may be a single school in a small city) recognized and designated as being a public school district by that state's department of education. A 'local public school' is not the entire district but is the area that a single public school covers.

2. A student will be considered to attend a school if and only if he or she physically attends classes at that school building and receives more than 50% of his or her core curricular instruction during those classes.

13.2.3 Each school may enter **only one team per section**.

3. Teams may also be comprised of home schooled students.

13.3.1 A home schooled student is defined as a student who receives at least 50% of his or her core curricular instruction at home.

13.3.2 Home school students have the following options with regard to forming and/or participating on a scholastic team.

1. A home schooled student may represent his or her local public school when access to extracurricular activities is permitted and the student resides within the boundaries of the local public school as defined in 13.2.

2. A home school student may join with other home schooled students who reside within the boundary of the local public school as defined in 13.2.

3. All the students attend home school sites located within the boundary of the local public school as defined in 13.2.

3. There may be more than one home school team per recognized public school district.

4. Teams may also be comprised of virtual school students.

- 13.4.1 Virtual school students are students who receive more than 50% of their core curricular instruction on-line, but not in the school building.
2. Virtual school students may form scholastic teams using rule 13.3.2.1 or 13.3.2.2.
- 13.5 A scholastic team must contain a minimum of two players to be eligible for team prizes.
- 13.6 There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a team, but only the top 4 scores in any section count for team score in the **Spring Nationals**, and the top 3 scores in the **K-12 Grade event**.
- 13.7 **No club teams are allowed in National Scholastic events.**
- 13.8 Bonus points will not be added to team or individual scores. Points cannot be transferred between sections unless the player has changed sections.
- 13.9 The coach is responsible for assuring that all of his or her players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of his or her team.
10. USCF Affiliate Membership is encouraged for all teams.

### **13. TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH EVENTS**

- 14.1 Team requirements for National Youth events, which are the U.S. Junior Chess Congress, the National Youth Action Championship, and the U.S. Junior Open:
- 14.1.1 Teams will represent chess clubs and consist of youth meeting the age requirements, as defined in section 12.3, who are members of the club represented and residents of the United States.
- 14.1.2 Club members must attend at least six regularly scheduled club meetings over a period of at least three months immediately preceding the tournament and must be verified by the club president or designated club official. Club members cannot count more than two attendances for any seven consecutive days for purposes of this regulation.
- 14.1.3 A club team must contain a minimum of three players to be eligible for team prizes.
- 14.1.4 There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a club team, but only the top four scores in any one section of the National Youth Action or the top three scores in any one section of the US Junior Open or US Junior Chess Congress will count toward the team score.
- 14.1.5 School teams will be considered as club teams representing that school. Players need not attend the same school; however, they must meet the requirements of sections 14.1.1 and 14.1.2.
- 14.2 Bonus points will not be added to team or individual scores. Points cannot be transferred between sections unless the player has changed sections.

14.3 The Coach is responsible for assuring that all of his or her players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of his or her team.

14.4 USCF Affiliate Membership is encouraged for all teams.

## **15.0 OPENING CEREMONY**

15.1 The organizer will arrange a brief (maximum 15 minutes) but impressive opening ceremony, a half hour prior to the start of the first round. Arrangements will be made for a USCF representative to be present who, along with the organizer, will welcome all participants and guests. Local dignitaries (mayor, county executive, congressmen, school superintendent, etc.) will be invited to attend, as well as the press. Past experience has shown that local officials have a strong interest in participating in such ceremonies. While they may not always be able to attend, an invitation to the USCF President and USCF Executive Director to participate in the Opening and/or Closing Ceremonies should be formally extended. Official proclamations from the mayors, county executives, and governors are often obtainable. These proclamations may welcome visiting teams and even designate a "chess week." The presentation of the National Anthem is strongly encouraged.

## **16.0 AWARDS CEREMONY**

16.1 The organizer is responsible for one or more awards ceremonies in keeping with the stature of a national championship.

16.2 The ceremony should last no longer than an hour and a half.

16.3 The list of prize winners should be posted as soon as possible.

16.3.1 In order to minimize errors and when practical, award lists shall be posted sufficiently ahead of the awards ceremony to allow for errors to be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director and to allow for corrections to be made. The awards lists will then be re-posted before the awards ceremony.

16.4 The awards presentation order should be announced at the beginning of the ceremony.-

16.5 It is recommended that the USCF office representative, Chief Tournament Director and USCF Scholastic Council representative announce prize winners. A minimum of three assistants should be available to hand out trophies. Trophies should be displayed in awarding order (this saves time and prevents mistakes and confusion). Award winners should be called up to the stage in an orderly fashion for trophy presentation. Walk them across the stage and read their names.

16.6 The scores of winners should be mentioned and ties acknowledged.

16.7 Individual and team award presentations will be from lowest to highest place.

16.8 A separate area for photography should be provided.

## **17.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 17.1 The local hospital and police department should be informed of the event.
- 17.2 All teams should be encouraged to leave a local phone number and/or hotel room number with tournament personnel so they can be contacted in case of emergency.
- 17.3 No alcohol or tobacco products are to be allowed in any hotel or convention space which is contracted for the event.
- 17.4 For all tournaments where the anticipated attendance is above 1,000 the organizer must supply trained medical personnel on site.

## **18.0 TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

- 18.1 These events are paired as individual Swiss system tournaments. Whenever a section has more than  $2^{(N+1)}$  players where “N” is the number of rounds, the section will use accelerated pairings (e.g. 7 rounds, more than 256 players; 9 rounds, more than 1024 players).
- 18.2 The combined total of the top four scoring players from the same school determines that team’s score in the **Spring Nationals** and the **National Youth Action Championship**, the top three scoring players in the **K-12 Grade Championship**, the **U.S. Junior Open** and the **Junior Chess Congress**.
- 18.3 Players from the same team will not be paired together unless no other reasonable pairing can be made. Players from the same state will not be paired together during the first two rounds unless more than 25% of the players in a section or a score group are from the same state. Players from the same state shall not be paired together in the first round unless more than 50% of the players in a section are from the same state. It is strongly recommended that for national tournaments only pairing programs that can accommodate these requirements be used. A waiver from the USCF is required for the use of non-compliant programs.
- 18.4 The sections of **Spring Nationals** shall be as follows:
- 18.4.1 **High School:** K-12 Championship; K-12 Under 1600; K-12 Under 1200; K-12 Under 800; K-12 Unrated
- 18.4.2 **Middle School/Junior High:** K-9 Championship; K-8 Championship; K-9 Under 1250; K-8 Under 1000; K-8 Under 750; K-9 Unrated
- 18.4.3 **Elementary:** K-6 Championship; K-5 Championship; K-6 Under 1000; K-5 Under 900; K-6 Unrated
- 18.4.4 **Primary:** K-3 Championship; K-3 Under 800; K-1 Championship; K-3 Unrated
- 18.5 **K-12 Grade Championship**

18.5.1 There will be one section for each grade K through 12.

18.6 **National Youth Action Championship**

18.6.1 High School: K-12

18.6.2 Middle School/Junior High: K-9

18.6.3 Elementary: K-6

18.6.4 Primary: K-3

18.7 **Junior Chess Congress**

18.7.1 Age 6 and Under

18.7.2 Age 8 and Under

18.7.3 Age 10 and Under

18.7.4 Age 12 and Under

18.7.5 Age 14 and Under

18.7.6 Age 16 and Under

18.7.7 Age 18 and Under

18.7.8 Age 20 and Under

18.8 **U.S. Junior Open**

18.8.1 Under age 21

18.8.2 Under age 15

18.8.3 Under age 11

18.9 The starting time for each round should be as follows:

18.9.1 **Spring Nationals**

Rounds 1-2: Friday 1 pm & 7:00 pm

Rounds 3-4-5: Saturday 9 am, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Rounds 6-7: Sunday 9 am & 2:00 pm

18.9.1.1 The K-1 section may have different round times.

18.9.2 **K-12 Grade Championship**

Rounds 1-2: Friday 1:00 pm, 6:00 pm

Rounds 3-4-5: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm & 6 pm

Rounds 6-7: Sunday 9 am & 1 pm

18.9.3 **National Youth Action Championship**

Rounds 1-2-3-4-5: Saturday 10:00 am, 12 noon, 2:00 pm, 3:30 pm & 5:00 pm

Rounds 6-7-8-9: Sunday 10:00 am, 12 noon, 2:00 pm, & 3:30 pm

18.9.4 **Junior Chess Congress**

Rounds 1-2-3: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm

Rounds 4-5: Sunday 9 am & 1 pm

18.9.5 **U.S. Junior Open** round times to be determined by the organizer

18.9.6 **National Bughouse Championship** (at all Spring Nationals)

Rounds 1-2-3-4-5-6: Thursday 11 am, 11:45 am, 12:30 pm, 1:15 pm, 2 pm and 2:45 pm

18.9.7 **National Blitz Championship** (at all Spring Nationals)

Rounds 1-2-3-4-5-6: Thursday 5 pm, 5:45 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:15 pm, 8 pm and 8:45 pm

18.10 Time controls:

18.10.1 **Spring Nationals:** G/120.

18.10.1.1 The K-1 section shall have a time control of Game/90.

18.10.1.2 The rule (11D) about two extra minutes for illegal moves will not be imposed during the first hour for each player for all sections.

18.10.2 **K-12 Grade Championship:** G/90

18.10.3 **National Youth Action Championship:** G/30

18.10.4 **Junior Chess Congress:** G/90

18.10.5 **U.S. Junior Open:** G/120

18.11 Any deviations from the above (18.1-18.10) must be reviewed by the USCF Scholastic Council's representative and approved by the USCF prior to any advertising of the event.

## **19.0 CHESS NOTATION**

- 19.1 The recognized forms of notation are algebraic and descriptive.
- 19.2 Recording of chess notation is required in the K-5 and K-6 Championship sections of the National Elementary, and all sections of the National Middle School/Junior High and the National High School. Chess notation shall be required in Grades 4-12 of the K-12 tournament and the K-12, K-9 and K-6 sections of the National Youth Action Championship.
- 19.2.1 The use of electronic scorekeeping devices is permitted and the rules governing their use are outlined in Appendix F.
- 19.3 Although strongly encouraged, the recording of chess notation is **not required** in the non-championship sections of the Elementary at the **Spring Nationals**, nor any of the Primary school sections grades K-3 in **any national scholastic event**. However, those not keeping score give up the right to claim draws requiring the corroboration of a score sheet.
- 19.4 Specially designed large score sheets (available from USCF) must be available for the Elementary events.
- 19.5 Score sheets must be printed in the tournament program booklet.

## **20.0 TIE-BREAKS**

- 20.1 Computer programs are now used to determine pairings, standings and **tie-breaks** for all national scholastic events.
- 20.2 If tie-breaks are done by hand, they should be calculated at the end of the next-to-last-round. Careful preparation for manually calculating tie-breaks is necessary, even when using a computer.
- 20.3 **All** players tied for first place are considered co-winners, but trophies will be awarded based on tie-breaks. In the Spring Nationals, only the winners of a championship section shall be designated **National Champion**. In the National K-12 Grade Championship, all section winners shall be designated **National Champion**.
- 20.4 Tie-breaks are used only to award trophies. Players or teams with like scores are equal and may change the plate on their trophy to reflect this (at their own cost).
- 20.5 When individual scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate individual awards:
- 20.5.1 Modified Median
- 20.5.2 Median
- 20.5.3 Solkoff

20.5.4 Sonneborn-Berger

20.5.5 Cumulative

20.5.6 Coin flip

20.6 When team scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate team awards:

20.6.1 Total individual Median

20.6.2 Total Solkoff

20.6.3 Total Sonneborn-Berger

20.6.4 Total Cumulative

20.6.5 Coin flip

## **21.0 CONDUCT OF THE TOURNAMENT**

21.1 The top boards should be roped off to highlight the top contestants and also to prevent congestion. Some events have highlighted these boards by isolating them in a central area.

21.2 The use of demonstration boards, internet transmission, or closed circuit TV to display the top boards is recommended. If closed circuit TV is used, place the monitors in a separate room.

21.3 The intent is to allow spectators to see the players. Access should not be denied to any person who conducts him or herself properly. The Chief TD and/or the organizer may limit spectator access only for the following two conditions: entries exceed predictions to the point that space limitations prevent full access or unforeseen emergency situations threaten the integrity of the tournament. The tournament staff may clear spectators from the playing hall prior to the start of each round to guarantee that the players have found their places and can hear the signal to start clocks. Once that signal is given, spectators should be allowed to return to the playing hall(s) as soon as possible. No spectators (including players with finished games) should be allowed to sit in any area where tournament games are in progress. Only players and tournament staff are allowed in the aisles between the tables. See the Guide for Spectator Conduct (Appendix E).

21.4 The K-1 section of the Elementary event must be closed to everyone except the players and tournament staff (always be prepared to restrict access when necessary).

21.5 Relatives and coaches of players are not allowed to serve as TDs or volunteers in the same section as participating players.

21.6 Players must fill out and sign the result form indicating the result of the game. A TD will pick up the form at the board.



- 21.7 Except in the event of an emergency, announcements may only be made prior to the start of each round.
- 21.8 Photography using cameras with flash or audible shutters is restricted to the first ten minutes of each round. Silent, unobtrusive photography will be allowed at all times, unless the tournament staff determines that it is a distraction.
- 21.9 A list of pairings by team should be provided to coaches as soon as possible prior to the start of each round. All players from the team should be listed alphabetically regardless of section. The team pairing lists should be distributed alphabetically by team.
- 21.10 In the interest of player security, at all elementary sections of national events, certain doors will be identified as player exits according to the physical layout of the facility.
- 21.11 Whenever space permits, a designated parent waiting area shall be set up in the playing hall where parents and other responsible adults can meet players who are exiting the playing area after the conclusion of their game. Adults may remain in this area from the start of the round until all games have been completed. This does not apply to K-1 sections. (See 21.4)
- ~~21.12 Except for chess clocks and approved electronic scorekeeping devices (see Appendix F) all electronic devices that a player or spectator brings into the playing room must be turned off at all times. A spectator who brings any electronic device into the playing room without turning the device off will be asked to leave immediately. Any player who brings an electronic device (other than a chess clock or an approved electronic scorekeeping device) without turning that device off may be penalized. Player penalties for using or possessing an electronic device that has not been turned off may include game forfeiture and/or expulsion from the tournament.~~

*(Replaced by 21.12 and 21.13 below.)*

- 21.12 **While a player's game is in progress, all electronic devices in his/her possession must be turned off at all times.** This includes music-playing devices and electronic noise-cancelling headphones/earbuds. The only exceptions to this rule are chess clocks, approved electronic scorekeeping devices (see Appendix F), necessary medical devices, and any other device approved by the Section Chief. Penalties for using or possessing any electronic device that has not been turned off may include game forfeiture and/or expulsion from the tournament. Players also must understand that once their game is complete, they are now considered "spectators" for the remainder of the current round (see Rule 21.13).
- 21.13 **Spectators who bring electronic devices such as laptop/tablet computers or music-players may use them only in the designated Seating Area of the Playing Hall as long as such use of a device does not disrupt the tournament.** Spectators may not talk on cell phones or walkie-talkies anywhere in the Playing Hall while a round of play is in progress. Spectators who abuse these rules, or whose cell phones ring, may be told by the Tournament Staff to leave the Playing Hall for at least 15 minutes during the current round, longer for repeat offenses. Spectators may use photographic equipment in all areas authorized for Spectators in the Playing Hall, but no flash photography is permitted. The Chief TD has the authority to limit photography to specific times during the round (e.g. in the first 10 minutes). See Also Appendix E (Guide for Spectator Conduct).

## **22.0 TROPHIES & AWARDS**

22.1 Trophy size, looks, weight and quality should display the prestige and importance of a *National Chess Championship* event.

22.2 Trophies should have chess figures and must be approved by the USCF.

22.3 Players can win only one individual trophy. Place trophies take precedence over all other trophy awards.

22.4 Trophy sizes in each **Championship section** will be the same size. They will also be larger than the trophies in the other sections. Team and individual trophies in Championship sections must be the same size and be graduated from a **minimum** 48" in height (for first place) down to a **minimum** of 24" (for the lowest place). Team and individual trophies in other sections must be the same size and graduated from a **minimum** 42" in height (for first place) down to a **minimum** of 20" (for the lowest place). Rating class trophies should be smaller than the lowest place trophies, but no smaller than 14".

22.5 Minimum number of trophies:

22.5.1 For **each section** of **Spring Nationals**: a minimum of 1 individual trophy per 10 players and 1 team trophy per 15 players in each section (average attendance in the past two years); plus plaques for 4 players and coach of top five teams; and trophies for the top 3 places in each of the following class sections:

22.5.1.1 **High School:**

**K-12 Championship:** 1900-1999, 1800-1899, 1700-1799, 1600-1699, 1500-1599, 1400-1499, 1300-1399, 1200-1299, U1200, UNR

22.5.1.2 **Middle School/Junior High**

**K-9 Championship:** 1400-1599, 1200-1399, 1000-1199, U1000, UNR

**K-8 Championship:** 1500-1599, 1400-1499, 1300-1399, 1200-1299, 1100-1199, 1000-1099, U1000, UNR

22.5.1.3 **Elementary**

**K-6 Championship:** 1300-1399, 1200-1299, 1100-1199, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, U800, UNR

**K-5 Championship:** 1300-1399, 1200-1299, 1100-1199, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, U800, UNR

**K-3 Primary Championship:** 1100-1199, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, 700-799, 600-699, U600, UNR

**K-1:** All players in this section receive a trophy.

22.5.1.4 **National Bughouse Championship**

**National High School:** K-12 section

**National Junior High/Middle School:** K-9 section

**National Elementary:** K-6 section

**SuperNationals:** K-12 section, K-9 section and K-6 section

22.5.1.5 **National Blitz Championship**

**National High School:** K-12 section

**National Junior High/Middle School:** K-9 section

**National Elementary:** K-6 section and K-3 section

**SuperNationals:** K-12 section, K-9 section, K-6 section and K-3 section

22.5.2 Each grade level of the **K-12 Grade Championship: Top ten individuals and five teams** per 100 players in each section (averaged over the past two years); and following class awards:

<b>Grade</b>							
<b>12</b>	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
<b>11</b>	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
<b>10</b>	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
<b>9</b>		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
<b>8</b>		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
<b>7</b>		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
<b>6</b>			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated

<b>5</b>			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
<b>4</b>			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
<b>3</b>			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
<b>2</b>			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
<b>1</b>				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
<b>K</b>				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated

22.5.3 Each section of the **National Youth Action Championship**: 10 individual and 5 team trophies per 100 players in each section (average attendance in the past two years); plus plaques for 4 players and coach of top five teams.

22.5.4 Each age group of the **Junior Chess Congress**: Top 10 individual finishers in each section and top 5 teams.

22.5.5 In addition to the minimum number of trophies listed above extra trophies should be awarded based on the following calculation: Add the total number of players who have participated in each section over the last two years and divide the average number by 6. These trophies should be awarded only in the case that the final number exceeds the minimum requirement. These additional trophies may be allocated to those tied with place trophy winners.

22.5.6 Ribbons and certificates for each participant have been used effectively at these events. Such items need no ceremonies and may be handed out at the results table. Organizers should be aware that tangible awards of some nature are recommended for the enhancement of these nationals. Plans for awards should be included in the bid and in advance publicity for the event.

22.5.7 Special trophies (gender specific trophies, etc.) are prohibited. Grade trophies are prohibited at all Spring Nationals.

22.5.8 Do not accept donations of extra trophies without the approval of the USCF.

22.5.9 For all Side Event tournaments the minimum awards will be equal to the minimum offered in the championship section of that tournament. See Appendices for specific information on the Blitz and Bughouse.

### **23.0 COACHES, PARENTS AND SPECTATORS MEETINGS**

- 23.1 A coaches, parents and spectators web page will be created which will include but is not limited to information on the tournament rules, regulations, and procedures to be followed during the tournament.
- 23.2 The USCF representative and Scholastic Committee Chairperson (or designee) will co-chair a meeting concerning USCF scholastic programs and discussion of national scholastic issues. The Scholastic Chairperson will prepare the agenda for the meeting and have it available at the meeting. This meeting should last no longer than an hour and is usually scheduled for Saturday starting a half hour after the afternoon round begins.
- 23.3 The USCF Director of National Events will have a comment area provided on the USCF Web Site for feedback or suggestions.
- 23.4 The USCF will hold a Certified Chess Coach meeting at one or more of the National Scholastics every year. In addition a Coaches Information page will be available online which will address FAQ's.
- 23.5 Additional meetings and seminars are encouraged.
- 23.6 No other meetings of any kind will be scheduled at the same time as the meetings above.

### **24.0 INTERNET COVERAGE**

- 24.1 The organizer must set up a web page for each national event.
- 24.2 The web page should be available on-line at least six months prior to the event and link to the USCF website.
- 24.3 The information posted on the web page must be exclusively relevant to the event.
- 24.4 A complete list of all players registered online will be available as participants register.

### **25.0 RECOMMENDED SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 25.1 Provide a large map of the United States, with the number of players from each state indicated on the map.
- 25.2 Provide coaches with a copy of the USCF tournament crosstable as soon as it is available online.
- 25.3 Organized activities for players add to the attractiveness of these events. Such activities, including simultaneous exhibitions or lectures by famous players, are recommended.

25.4 It is strongly recommended that side events (blitz tournaments, etc.) be completed on the day before the start of a national scholastic.

## **26.0 SUPERNATIONALS**

26.1 A SuperNational is a concurrent, co-located, single tournament that includes all three Spring Nationals.

26.2 SuperNationals must follow all of the specifications in the previous sections of these regulations in addition to the regulations in this section.

26.3 SuperNationals may be held no more frequently than every four years. The first SuperNational was held in 1997.

## APPENDIX A

### National Scholastic Blitz Championship Regulations

A1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Blitz Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Blitz Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

#### A2.0 Rules

A2.1 All games will be played under Game-5 time control.

A2.2 Each player will play each opponent twice, once as white and once as black. The lower rated player has choice of color for the first game.

A2.3 The Chief Tournament Director (TD) has the discretion of Touch Move or Clock Move. ~~However, whichever is~~ ~~The Chief TD's~~ decision must be listed on the USCF website in an appropriate easy-to-find location. Touch move is recommended. *(Beginning January 1, 2013, this rule is superseded by A2.4 below.)*

**A2.4 Effective January 1, 2013, all games will be played using Touch-Move in all sections of the Blitz tournament. This rule will be in effect for the 2013 SuperNationals. The USCF Scholastic Blitz Rules will be modified to reflect this change and posted to the USCF Website by January 1, 2013 to allow SuperNationals participants to practice Blitz using Touch-Move.**

#### A3.0 Tournament Format

A3.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

**National High School**: K-12 Championship

**National Junior High/Middle School**: K-9 Championship

**National Elementary**: K-6 Championship and K-3 Championship

**SuperNationals**: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship, K-3 Championship

A3.2 It is recommended that the tournament be a double-swiss tournament with a number of rounds appropriate for the number of participants.

A3.3 No round is to begin after 9:30pm.

A3.4 Entries are to be online (when available) and are also allowed onsite up to 4:00pm on the tournament day. Contestants in line at 4pm will be allowed to register. Additional entrants may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief TD and Tournament Organizer.

A3.5 Round 1 shall begin at 5:00pm on Thursday.

A4.0 The individual and team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in A3.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance.



## APPENDIX B

### National Scholastic Bughouse Championship Regulations

B1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Bughouse Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Bughouse Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

#### B2.0 Tournament Format

B2.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

**National High School**: K-12 Championship

**National Junior High/Middle School**: K-9 Championship

**National Elementary**: K-6 Championship

**SuperNationals**: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship.

B2.2 The tournament will begin at 11:00am on Thursday.

B2.3 All entries are to be onsite on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, with registration stopping at 10:00am. Contestants in line at 10am will be allowed to register. Additional entrants may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief TD and Tournament Organizer.

B2.4 The rules that are to be followed for a National Bughouse tournament are to be displayed at an appropriate easy-to-find location on the USCF website.

B3.0 The team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in B2.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance.

## APPENDIX C

### Parents and Friends Tournament

As a means to include adults in the National Scholastic Championships, the organizer is encouraged to conduct a "Parents and Friends Tournament". The format, schedule and prize fund shall be up to the organizer with the exception of the following additional trophies for the following pairs:

- a. Father – Child
- b. Mother – Child
- c. Brother – Child
- d. Sister – Child
- e. Aunt – Child
- f. Uncle – Child
- g. Cousin – Child
- h. Coach – Child
- i. Grandfather – Child
- j. Grandmother - Child

Note: The word "Child" refers to a player in any section of the National Championship. Players in the Parents and Friends Tournament shall be solely responsible for informing the Section TD of all relationships awards they qualify for including the section in which their "Child" is playing. Prizes will be awarded based on the sum of the Parents and Friends Tournament participant and their "Child" based on an equal number of rounds. If there are four rounds in the Parents and Friends Tournament, the "Child's" score after the first four rounds is taken. Awards will be handed out at Chess Control the last day of the main tournament. A pair of trophies will be awarded to the winners of each pairing.

**APPENDIX D - FORMS**

**National Tournament Proposal**

**Please note: The National High School, National Junior High, National Elementary, National K-12 Grade Championship as well as the SuperNational Tournaments are organized by the USCF Director of National Events and are not bid out to other organizers.**

Tournament: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Sq. Ft. \_\_\_\_\_

Location: City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Organizer: \_\_\_\_\_

Organizer's Telephone #'s: H (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ W (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Chief TD: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief TD's Telephone #'s: H (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ W (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

**Area history of national and large non-national events:**

Year No. of Players Event

---

---

---

**Organizer's experience:**

Year No. of Players Event

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---

---

**Chief TD's experience:**

Year No. of Players Event

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---

---

**Prize Distribution** (list any prizes to be awarded other than those listed in the National Tournament Regulations - please be specific):

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**PLANNING BUDGET**

**Expenses:** Administrative supplies..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Advertising..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Commemorative boards & sets..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Computer/printer rental..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Computer/printer supplies..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Copier rental..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Copier supplies..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Playing site rental..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Postage..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Rating Fees..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Security..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tables & Chairs..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Director expenses..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trophies/Awards (Main Tourn)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trophies/Awards (Side Tourn)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirts..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Expenses**..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Income:** Commemorative Boards & Sets..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Concessionaire Fees..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donatations & Contributions..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Main Tourn. (Advance).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Main Tourn. (On-site)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Side Tourn. (Advance)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Side Tourn. (On-site)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Program Advertising..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirts..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Income**..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Net Income**..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SITE EVALUATION CHECKLIST

### Location:

1. In safe area..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
2. Accessible to public transportation..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
3. Accessible to handicapped..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
4. Food available near by..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

### Playing Site:

1. Playing site free..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
2. Based on hotel room occupancy..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
3. Available 24 hours per day..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
4. Has minimum required sq. ft. per player..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
5. Adequate lighting throughout playing rooms..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
6. Ample tables (w/ table cloths) and chairs..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
7. Adequate climate control..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
8. Carpeted or other sound cushioning material..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
9. Adequate climate control..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
10. Frequent water service provided..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
11. Room setup free or part of site fee..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
12. Adequate number of restrooms nearby..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
13. Sufficient wall space available nearby..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
14. Separate analysis area available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
15. Securable TD room..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
16. Securable Concessionaire Room..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
17. Large & accessible registration area..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

- 18. Photocopier available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 19. Outside contractors allowed..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 20. Adequate skittles area available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 21. Adequate spectators area..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

Guest Rooms:

- 1. At or near playing site..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 2. Adequate block of rooms reserved..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 3. Alternate lodging near playing site..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 4. Reduced room rates..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 5. Guests responsible for own charges..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 6. Complimentary room(s) available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 7. Complimentary suite(s) available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 8. Recreational facilities available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

Site Arrangements:

- 1. Management easily accessible..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 2. Hotel rebates per room-night available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 3. Hotel(s) to provide post-convention report..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 4. Hotel(s) agreement contract enclosed..... YES [ ] NO [ ]



## PROPOSAL AGREEMENT WITH USCF

I \_\_\_\_\_ agree to fulfill the terms of this proposal and to abide by the USCF National Tournament Regulations. As the organizer, I will make every effort to ensure the integrity and success of this event:

---

(Proposed Event)

We request that USCF provide concessions for this event.

We request that other concessionaire options be discussed.

---

Signature Date

Playing site agreement included.

Hotel agreement included.

Hotel brochures included.

Playing area diagram included.

## APPENDIX E

### Guide for Spectator Conduct

#### 1. Unacceptable Conduct:

- a. Do NOT stand in front of or make eye contact with the player whose game you are observing.
- b. **Do NOT talk on cell phones or walkie-talkies anywhere in the Playing Hall.**
- c. Do NOT “camp out” at one game.
- d. Do NOT make faces or gestures or convey in any graphic way an opinion of a game being observed.
- e. Do NOT discuss or even whisper opinions of a game being observed.
- f. Do NOT speak privately with any player at or away from the board while his/her game is in progress.
- g. Do NOT assume the role of Tournament Director (TD) and intervene for any reason such as pointing out illegal moves, etc.
- h. Do NOT make any noise, such as opening a bag of potato chips, within earshot of a game in progress.
- i. Do NOT discuss a game at its conclusion if other games are being played in the vicinity, and do NOT analyze a game at a board in the tournament room.
- j. Do NOT take pictures after the first ten minutes when using flash or a camera with an audible shutter.
- k. Do NOT take pictures at any time from a location which makes you an obvious distraction to the players.
- l. Do NOT attempt to enforce rules yourself.
- m. Do NOT discuss instances of cheating or rules violations with the perpetrators.
- n. **Do NOT stand in front of the doors to the Playing Hall, or open them to look inside. During times when the TD has asked for the doors to remain closed, PLEASE HELP US KEEP THEM CLOSED.**

#### 2. Permissible Conduct:

- a. **Within the Playing Hall, spectators may use their laptop/tablet computers or music-players only in the designated Seating Area(s)** as long as such use of a device does not disrupt the tournament.
- b. DO report instances of cheating or rule violations by players or other spectators to the TD staff.
- c. DO comply with any requests or instructions issued by tournament staff.

**Spectators who abuse these rules, may be told by the Tournament Staff to leave the Playing Hall for at least 15 minutes during the current round or longer for repeat offenses.**

This guide shall be prominently posted at multiple locations.

## APPENDIX F

### Approved Electronic Recording Devices

#### Introduction:

Approved handheld recording devices are in common use at USCF Scholastic Events. The USCF no longer requires players to “register” their device with the Tournament Director (TD) before game play. Players who own these devices are responsible for setting and operating them according to the instructions below. Further, players who do not own one of these devices should expect they may be paired against players who do.

#### Device Owners should:

1. Set the device in the appropriate mode for recording moves.
2. Turn off or disable any setting(s) that could alert the player of illegal moves.
3. Make the move on the board before recording the move on the device.
4. Keep the device on the table (or immediately above the table) in plain view of the opponent at all times during the game.
5. Touch the device only when recording moves.
6. Never input “variations” in the device at any time during a game.
7. If asked by the opponent to see the player’s device to enter missing moves on their scoresheet, the player will set the device mode to algebraic (or the appropriate mode that allows the opponent to see all previous moves) and turn the device around so the opponent can view the display screen. The device will remain on the table (or immediately above the table) at all times.
8. Never take their device with them if they leave the board while the game is still in progress.
9. Be prepared to take written notation if their device malfunctions (if notation is required during game play in this section). If this happens, the player should begin notation with the next move and fill-in missing moves when the player is on move by borrowing the opponent’s scoresheet or device.
10. Summon a TD when questions arise.

#### Opponents:

1. May ask the player who owns the device to show them the device, explain its use, and ensure it is correctly set for game play for this tournament.
2. May not ask the device owner to take written notation instead of using the device.
3. May ask the device owner to see the player’s device for the purpose of entering missing moves on his/her own scoresheet. When this occurs, the device will remain on the table.

4. Should summon a TD when questions arise.

**Coaches/Parents:**

1. Are strongly encouraged to assist their players in understanding proper tournament etiquette regarding these devices before tournament play begins.
2. Should summon a TD when questions arise before the start of a game.

**Tournament Directors:**

1. Should check a player's device to verify that it is correctly set when requested to do so by a player.
  2. Circulate among the players during competition ensuring proper usage of the device.
  3. Are not responsible for knowing how to operate each type of device.
- 

**APPENDIX D (REVISED WORLD YOUTH SELECTION CRITERIA)**

World Youth Regulations - Revisions **in Red and Blue**

6. 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). **The age cutoff is based on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of the tournament.** 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. **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 (See A, #1). The 30 game activity requirement applies to the World Youth with the exception of the winners of USCF national scholastic events (see below under A, #4).**

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

1. **Achieve the minimum rating requirement within the age and gender categories. These are peak published Supplement ratings achieved in the previous 12 months prior to the Rating Supplement used for the event. The Rating Supplement used**

will be the one 6 months prior to the month of the tournament (for example, if the tournament is in December the June Rating Supplement will be used – please note on the USCF website the dates that Supplements are run):

- Girls Under 18 Minimum Rating 2000
- 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 1200
- Boys Under 18 Minimum Rating 2400
- Boys Under 16 Minimum Rating 2300
- Boys Under 14 Minimum Rating 2200
- Boys Under 12 Minimum Rating 2050
- Boys Under 10 Minimum Rating 1900
- Boys Under 8 Minimum Rating 1600

Players whose peak published Supplement rating equals or exceeds this minimum rating will be able to participate in the World Youth. Should FIDE or the tournament organizer in any way restrict our delegation's overall size, players who qualified by rating and not personal right or national champion status and whose registration fees were received last by the USCF office will be excluded from the team and their registration fee promptly returned.

2. Have earned a personal right to compete by virtue of one's performance at the previous World Youth Championship or the previous Pan American Youth Festival – see below “Qualifying by Personal Right”:

3. Win the US Cadet Championship, the Denker Tournament of High School Champions, the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions or the National Girl's Invitational Tournament. Players winning one of these events qualify for the next available World Youth competition.

4. Achieve a perfect 7-0 score or win the first place trophy in a championship section of the National Elementary Championship, the National Junior High Championship, or the National High School Championship in the same year of the World Youth competition.

5. Achieve a perfect 6-0 score or win the first place trophy in any section of the All-Girls National Championships in the same year of the World Youth competition.

**NOTE: The USCF office may set an administrative fee for the players who qualify by rating. [This fee is approximately \$1000.00 per player but is subject to change.]** Players who are designated as the official representative in their category, players who qualify by personal right (as described below), and players who qualify via a national championship (as described above) will not be required to pay this fee.

B. The top qualified player **based on the Rating Supplement (used for that year's World Youth)** in each category 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. **In case of a tie, the player with the highest Regular Rating at the time of the Rating Supplement (used for that year's World Youth) will be considered the top qualified player.** 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 **and the USCF office** 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 medal in one of the following ways:

- A player who receives a 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.

H. Players must meet the current qualification requirements. Players who qualified in the past must still meet the current requirements, regardless of their previous

achievements.

## APPENDICES TO 2013 USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

### Contents:

Appendix A – Revised TD Certification Rules	(EB13-009)	01
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Please note: Some of these documents contain their own Appendices. Those appendices are parts of their respective documents and are not separately indexed here.

### APPENDIX A – REVISED TD CERTIFICATION RULES - Effective 1/2013

#### **Purpose**

The USCF certifies tournament directors in order to standardize procedures and ensure a competent tournament director (TD) for each level of USCF-rated tournament.

#### **General Qualifications**

##### **1. USCF Membership.**

All certified TDs must be current members of USCF. If a TD allows his or her membership to lapse, his or her TD certification is canceled and is not automatically restored upon payment of membership dues.

##### **2. Established Rating.**

Except for the club level, all TDs taking a test for certification must have an established USCF rating as an over-the-board player. TDs are encouraged to remain active as players to maintain proper perspective when directing.

**TD TIP:** Currently the Ratings Committee has set the number of games that must be played to obtain an established rating at 26; however, that number is subject to change.

##### **3. Training.**

All TDs are encouraged to work with and assist other directors with greater experience and expertise to increase directing knowledge and understanding. All TDs are likewise encouraged to provide opportunities for less experienced directors to share in their philosophical understanding of tournament direction.

##### **4. Rules.**

Every TD should own a copy of USCF's Official Rules of Chess. TDs should become thoroughly familiar with these rules, and any rules changes or rulings by the Rules Committee effectively changing these rules, and administrative procedures regarding the sale of memberships, reporting formats and deadlines, basic rating formulas, and a variety of other subjects.

#### **TD Testing Procedures**

##### **5. Exams.**

Tests are written by the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC) and administered by the USCF business office. These tests are generally mailed to qualified applicants to be completed with the assistance of any



printed matter, but applicants are bound by honor not to discuss specific questions with other persons. Applicants must return all testing materials within two months. An applicant must first satisfy all experience requirements for the TD certification for which they are applying before taking an exam for that level of certification. The applicant may apply to the TDCC for a variance on this procedure.

#### **6. Applicants.**

Applicants for promotion of TD certification level shall provide the technical director with the names, dates, and number of entrants of the tournaments that satisfy the experience requirements. Upon request, applicants will present written verification of their claimed experience requirements.

#### **7. Unsuccessful Senior And Local Applicants.**

Applicants who fail the test for local or senior level of TD certification must wait two months before taking the test a second time. Applicants who fail the second attempt must wait six months before taking the test a third or subsequent time. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

#### **8. Unsuccessful ANTD And NTD Applicants.**

Applicants who fail the test for associate national or national level of TD certification must wait three months before taking the test a second time. Applicants who do not pass the second attempt must wait one year before taking the test a third or subsequent time. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

#### **9. Documents And Tests.**

All documents, including completed tests, shall be submitted to the U.S. Chess Federation via e-mail (<http://main.uschess.org>).

#### **Chief TDs, Assistant TDs, and Tournament Aides**

#### **10. Chief TD.**

The Chief TD has the ultimate authority and responsibility for the tournament. In general, the Chief TD must be physically present during play and should not himself be a player in a tournament he or she directs.

#### **11. Co-Chief TD.**

In unusual circumstances two directors may jointly function as co-Chief TDs. Each co-chief receives USCF credit for one tournament with one-half the total number of entries.

#### **12. Assistant TD.**

An assistant TD serves under the Chief TD performing assigned tasks relevant to tournament direction. Assistant TDs gain USCF credit for their experience when their duties include pairings and rules enforcement. Such credit is limited to 1 assistant per 50 players or fraction thereof. Assistant TDs must be certified TDs. A chief assistant TD is distinguished from a regular assistant TD by added duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Chief TD.

#### **13. Tournament Aides.**

Tournament aides serve under the Chief TD performing primarily clerical tasks, such as entering results on pairing cards and wall charts. Aides do not possess the authority to make pairings or enforce rules, and they do not need to be certified TDs.

#### **Tournament Categories**

#### **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.

## 15. Category N.

A tournament that awards a national title. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or “floor,” problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory N1:** Any national tournament that averages over 150 players in the previous five-year period plus the U. S. Championship, U. S. Women’s Championship, and U. S. Junior Championship.

**Subcategory N2:** Any national tournament that averages 150, or less, players in the previous five-year period, excluding the U. S. Championship, U. S. Women’s Championship, and U. S. Junior Championship.

**Subcategory N3:** One section of a N1 tournament where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD). Examples: The K-3 section of the National Elementary Championship or the Reserve section of the National Open.

**Subcategory N4:** One section of a N1 tournament where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD). Examples: The K-3 section of the National Elementary Championship or the Reserve section of the National Open.

## 16. Category A.

A USCF-rated Swiss system tournament or section of a tournament, except Category I or N, that regularly draws more than 300 entrants and awards \$5,000+ in cash prizes. Examples: World Open, New York Open, Atlantic Open, and Chicago Open. Such tournaments may be directed by associate national TDs. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or “floor,” problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory A1:** A Category A tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements.

**Subcategory A2:** A Category A tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category A requirements.

**TD TIP:** *A, A1 or A2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category A tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category A tournament.*

## 17. Category B.

A USCF-rated Swiss system tournament, except Category I, N, or A, drawing 100 or more entrants. Such tournaments or sections of tournaments may be directed by senior TDs. See also 32, Limitations. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or “floor,” problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory B1:** A Category B tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements. .

**Subcategory B2:** A Category B tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category B requirements.

**TD TIP:** *B, B1 or B2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category B tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category B tournament.*

### **18. Category C.**

A USCF-rated Swiss system tournament or section of a tournament, except Category I or N, drawing 50 to 99 entrants. Such tournaments or sections of tournaments may be directed by local TDs. For more information see 28, Limitations. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or "floor," problem solving procedures.*

**Subcategory C1:** A Category C tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements.

**Subcategory C2:** A Category C tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category C requirements.

**TD TIP:** *C, C1 or C2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category C tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category C tournament.*

### **19. Category D.**

Any USCF-rated Swiss system tournament or section of a tournament, except Category I or N, drawing fewer than 50 entrants. Club TDs may direct such tournaments or sections of tournaments. See also 24, Limitations.

**Subcategory D1:** A Category D tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements, where the TD is limited to solving problems and making rulings on the floor only (floor TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements.

**Subcategory D2:** A Category D tournament, or any one section considered as a stand alone event, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements, where the TD is limited to the duties of pairings in a backroom capacity using a pairing program (backroom TD) for the entire tournament or any one section, of any tournament, that by itself meets the Category D requirements.

**TD TIP:** *D, D1 or D2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category D tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category D tournament.*

## **20. Category R.**

A USCF-rated round robin tournament of eight or more rated entrants with a mean rating of at least 1800, with the mean being calculated by using the ratings of the players in the applicable ratings supplement on the starting date of the event.

## **21. Category T.**

A USCF-rated team-vs.-team, or scholastic individual/team, Swiss system tournament involving at least twelve teams of four or more players. *It is strongly recommended that for these types of tournaments, TDs have experience with computer pairing programs, back room pairing procedures, and on site player contact, or “floor,” problem solving procedures.*

### **The Club Director**

## **22. Experience Requirement.**

An applicant for club TD accreditation must sign a statement indicating that he or she has read, has access to, and will abide by the rules contained in USCF’s Official Rules of Chess.

## **23. Testing Requirement.**

None for the first three year term. Each three-year term thereafter an objective test of moderate difficulty that must be passed at the 70% level.

## **24. Limitations.**

A club TD may not be the Chief TD for USCF Grand Prix, Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A, B, or C tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 50 players. Computer assisted club TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 60 players with the aid of one assistant TD. IA and FA experience credit of any kind is unavailable at Category I tournaments.

## **25. Expiration.**

Three-year renewable term. Every three years, the club TD may apply to extend the Club TD Certification for an additional three years. This three-year renewal requires that the applicant pass an objective test of moderate difficulty designed to measure the applicant’s knowledge of basic rules at the 70% level. Except for the first exam, which may not be waived, the testing requirement for re-certification is waived for a Club TD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of three tournaments or a minimum of a single section at three different tournaments during the three-year term. Club TDs meeting the rating and directing experience requirements are encouraged to take the Local TD exam. Club TDs passing the Club TD exam at the 80% level that also meet the experience and rating requirements for Local TD certification may have their Club TD certification automatically upgraded to a Local TD certification.

### **The Local Director**

## **26. Experience Requirements.**

- a. A total of three Category D tournament experience credits are required, as listed below in a1 –a3, with the total number of players for all three tournaments summed together being 50 or greater:
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of one Category D tournament, no substitutions are allowed for this TD credit.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD of second additional Category D tournament of at least three rounds, no substitutions are allowed for this TD credit.

a3. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD of a third additional Category D tournament of at least three rounds. A one-time substitution for this single TD experience credit is allowed as outlined in b1 – b4 below.

b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirement a3 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b3:

b1. Satisfactory performance as a TD at either a Category D1 or D2 tournament can be used as a single one-time substitute for a requirement (a3) category D tournament.

b2. Satisfactory performance as a TD at any combination of two (2) Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1, or D2 tournaments can be used as a single one-time substitute for a requirement (a3) category D tournament.

b3. Attendance at any TDCC, or USCF approved, problem solving and discussion workshop (not a TDCC business meeting workshop) typically, but not exclusively, offered at a U.S. Open Championship. This TD credit can be used as a single one-time substitute for a requirement (a3) category D tournament.

b4. For any applicant who takes and passes the local TD test (closed book) under supervision at a Category N tournament, the sole experience requirement is satisfactory performance as a Chief TD at one Category D tournament, requirement (a1), of at least three rounds. No substitutions may be made for the Category D tournament. Applicants must contact the USCF two weeks in advance of the tournament to request this option.

c. Only one experience credit as a section chief or chief assistant section chief or assistant section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.

## **27. Testing Requirement.**

Objective test of moderate difficulty designed to measure the applicant's knowledge of basic rules. Or, if the Local TD experience requirements (a-c) are met by a Club TD, scoring 80% or higher on a Club TD test.

## **28. Limitations.**

A local TD may not be the Chief TD for Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A or B tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 100 players. Computer assisted local TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 120 players with the aid of one assistant TD.

**TD TIP:** *FA (not IA) norm experience credit may be available at Category I tournaments to Local TDs that act as assistant TDs under the direct supervision of a chief TD who is either an IA or FA and is on site throughout the event. Contact the USCF for details.*

## **29. Expiration.**

Four-year renewable term: The testing requirement for re-certification is waived for a local TD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of four tournaments or a minimum of a single section at four different tournaments during the four-year term.

## **The Senior Director**

## **30. Experience Requirements.**

- a. A total of ten Category C tournament experience credits, as listed below in a1 – a3, are required with the total number of players for all ten tournaments summed together being 400 or greater:
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of five Category C tournaments of at least four rounds, no substitutions are allowed for these five TD credits.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or chief assistant TD of one Category C tournament of at least four rounds, no substitutions are allowed for this TD credit.
  - a3. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or chief assistant TD at four Category C tournaments of at least four rounds, substitutions for each of the four TD experience credits is allowed as outlined in (b) below.
- b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirement a3 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b8:
  - b1. Attendance at any TDCC, or USCF approved, problem solving and discussion workshop (not a TDCC business meeting workshop) typically, but not exclusively, offered at a U.S. Open Championship. This TD credit can be used as a single one-time substitute replacing only one of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b2. Satisfactory performance as a chief assistant TD to a national TD or associate national TD at one Category A, A1, A2, B, B1, or B2 tournament of at least four rounds. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b3. Satisfactory performance as a chief assistant TD to a national TD or associate national TD at any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category A, A1, A2, B, B1, or B2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The two Quick/Blitz Chess events count as only a single TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b4. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD at any combination of two Category C1 or C2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The two Category C1 or C2 tournaments together count as only one single TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.
  - b5. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD at any combination of four Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1 or C2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The four Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1 or C2 tournaments combined count as only one single TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing only two of the four requirement a3 category C tournaments.

b6. Satisfactory performance as a Chief TD or chief assistant TD at any combination of regular rated or Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1 or D2 tournaments of at least four rounds. The total number of players combined for the entire Regular rated and/or the entire Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1, D2 tournaments must be at least 100 players. The entire number of Regular rated or Quick/Blitz Chess Category D, D1 or D2 tournaments combined count as only one single requirement a3 Category C tournament TD credit. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only once as a replacement for a single requirement a3 category C tournament.

b7. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of one Category R tournament, this type of TD credit cannot be used if a b8 TD Credit has already been used. This TD credit can be used as a substitute only once as a replacement for a single requirement a3 category C tournament.

b8. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category R tournaments, this TD credit cannot be used if a b7 TD Credit has already been used. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only once as a replacement for a single requirement a3 category C tournament.

- b9. For any applicant who takes and passes the Senior TD test (closed book) under supervision at a category N tournament, experience requirements are reduced to satisfactory performance as a Chief TD at three category C tournaments of at least four rounds (either a Category C1 or C2 tournament may be substituted for one of the three Category C tournaments or two Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1 or C2 tournaments may be substituted for one of the three Category C tournaments) and three additional Swiss system tournaments of at least four rounds (two Quick/Blitz Chess Swiss system tournaments may be substituted for one of the three additional Swiss system tournaments) with at least 2 tournaments, of any size, having been successfully submitted for a rating on-line. Applicants must contact the USCF two weeks in advance of the tournament to request this option.
- c. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.
  - d. At least 3 tournaments, of any size (including substitutions), having been successfully submitted for a rating on-line.
  - e. A current International arbiter (IA) or FIDE arbiter (FA) meets Senior TD experience requirements if:
    - 1. The IA or FA status is verified by FIDE.
    - 2. The IA or FA states they are relocating to the United States from a foreign country.

3. The IA or FA is an USCF member.
4. The IA or FA is at least certified as a USCF Club TD.
5. The IA or FA has satisfactorily assisted at a minimum of three USCF Category C tournaments under the supervision of a Senior TD totaling at least 200 players.
6. The IA or FA has been the chief of at least one Category D tournament and satisfactorily submitted the rating report on-line.
7. The IA or FA has an established USCF rating.

### **31. Testing Requirement.**

Difficult objective examination designed to evaluate the applicant's knowledge and judgment in situations not clearly addressed by the rules.

### **32. Limitations.**

A senior TD may not be the Chief TD for Category N tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 300 players. Computer assisted senior TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 360 players with the aid of one assistant TD.

### **33. Expiration.**

Five-year renewable term: The testing requirement for re-certification is waived for a Senior TD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of five tournaments or a minimum of a single section at five different tournaments during the five-year term.

### **The Associate National Director (ANTD)**

### **34. Experience Requirements.**

- a. FIRST, a total of ten Category B tournament experience credits, as listed below in a1 – a4, are required:
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at four Category B tournaments, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category B tournament which awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a3. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant TD at two additional Category B tournaments which each awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, substitutions are allowed.
  - a4. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at three Category B tournaments, substitutions are allowed.
- b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirements a3-a4 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b2 :
  - b1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournament (or any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit) which each awarded \$1000 in cash prizes. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing at most two of the requirement a3 category B tournaments.
  - b2. One TD experience credit can be earned with the satisfactory performance as Chief TD at any combination of three Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments (or any combination of six Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit). This single type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only three times replacing at most three of the requirement a4 category B tournaments.



- c. SECOND, satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national TD at a Category N, N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 tournament or any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category N, N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 tournaments.
- d. THIRD, satisfactory performance as Chief TD of a Category R tournament or two Quick/Blitz Chess Category R tournaments.
- e. At least 4 tournaments, of any size (including substitutions), must have been successfully submitted for a rating on-line.
- f. Only one experience credit as a section chief or chief assistant section chief or assistant section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.

### **35. Testing Requirement.**

Essay examination of substantial difficulty designed to measure the applicant's understanding of the rules as they relate to complex problems. An experienced national TD grades the examination. If the NTD gives the exam a failing grade, the applicant may request that the exam be regraded by two additional experienced NTDs. A regrade will automatically occur if the applicant scored between 70%-79%. The final result of the grading process will then be the result given by at least two of the three graders. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

### **36. Limitations.**

An associate national TD may not be the Chief TD of Category N1 tournaments.

### **37. Expiration.**

Six-year renewable terms: The testing requirement for re-certification is waived for an ANTD with satisfactory performance as the chief or chief assistant TD of six tournaments or a minimum of a single section at six different tournaments during the six-year term.

### **The National Director (NTD)**

### **38. Experience Requirements.**

- a. FIRST, a total of fifteen Category B tournament experience credits, as listed below in a1 – a4, are required
  - a1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at eight Category B tournaments, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a2. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category B tournament which awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, no substitutions are allowed.
  - a3. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant TD at two additional Category B tournaments each which awarded \$1000+ in cash prizes, substitutions are allowed.
  - a4. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at four Category B tournaments, substitutions are allowed.
- b. Any of the following may be substituted for the tournaments in requirements a3-a4 as per the limitations imposed by sections b1 – b2 :
  - b1. Satisfactory performance as Chief TD at one Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournament (or any combination of two Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit) which each awarded \$1000 in cash prizes. This type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only twice replacing at most two of the requirement a3 category B tournaments.
  - b2. One TD experience credit can be earned with the satisfactory performance as Chief TD at any combination of three Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments (or any combination of six Quick/Blitz Chess Category C, C1, C2, B1 or B2 tournaments, that can be combined to count as only one TD credit). This single type of TD credit can be used as a substitute only four times replacing at most four of the requirement a4 category B

tournaments.

- c. SECOND, Satisfactory performance as Chief Assistant to a national TD at a Category N1 tournament (the following may be substituted for one Category N1 tournament: a combination of one Category N3 tournament plus one Category N4 tournament).
- d. THIRD, Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national TD at an additional Category N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 or satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national TD at any combination of two additional Quick/Blitz Chess Category N1, N2, N3, N4, A, A1, or A2 tournaments.
- e. FOURTH, Satisfactory performance as Chief TD of a Category R tournament or satisfactory performance as Chief TD at two Quick/Blitz Chess Category R tournaments.
- f. FIFTH, Satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national or associate national TD at a Category T tournament of at least four rounds or satisfactory performance as Chief TD or Chief Assistant to a national or associate national TD at two Quick/Blitz Chess Category T tournaments of at least four rounds.
- g. Only one experience credit as a section chief or chief assistant section chief or assistant section chief is allowed in multiple sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament. Dual rated tournaments count as Regular rated, not Quick rated, for TD experience credit.
- h. At least 5 tournaments, of any size (including substitutions), must have been successfully submitted for a rating on-line.

### **39. Testing Requirement.**

A rigorous essay examination designed to measure the applicant's understanding of the philosophies behind the rules. An experienced national TD grades the examination. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant. If the NTD gives the exam a failing grade, the applicant may request that the exam be regraded by two additional experienced NTDs. A regrade will automatically occur if the applicant scored between 70%-79%. The final result of the grading process will then be the result given by at least two of the three graders. The same form of the same examination may not be taken more than once by any applicant.

### **40. Limitations.**

None.

### **41. Expiration.**

Life.

### **The International Arbiter (IA) And FIDE Arbiter (FA)**

**42. Title.** The titles of international arbiter and FIDE arbiter are awarded by the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

### **43. Qualifications.**

The USCF will submit a title application for the International arbiter and FIDE arbiter titles for current USCF members who are certified at the Senior, ANTD, or NTD level and meet all the following requirements. FIDE requires that an IA applicant must already hold the title of FA. Applicants will pay all fees regarding this process:

- a. Thorough knowledge of the *Laws of Chess* and the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions;
- b. Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his or her activity as an arbiter;
- c. Sufficient knowledge of at least one official FIDE language for FA and obligatory knowledge of the English language, minimum at conversation level, and of chess terms in other official FIDE languages, for IA.

- d. Experience: USCF Senior TD and chief or deputy arbiter in at least four category I events documented by the appropriate title norm certificate signed by a current IA or FA and governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess and Rules of Play such as the following:
  - d1. The final of the National Adult Championship (not more than two);
  - d2. All official FIDE tournaments and matches;
  - d3. International title tournaments and matches;
  - d4. International chess festivals with at least 100 contestants.

#### **44. Testing Requirement.**

Contact USCF.

#### **45. Limitations.**

International Arbiters may direct all Category I tournaments. In order to submit the tournament as a USCF rated tournament, the IA must also have a level of USCF TD certification appropriate to the USCF Category into which the tournament fits.

**TD TIP:** *Contact the USCF office BEFORE any FIDE tournament is run to make sure all USCF/FIDE current requirements for both the tournament and TD qualifications (experience requirements, fees, ...) are met.*

#### **46. Expiration.**

The expiration of IA certification is determined by FIDE. Currently (as of the adoption of these standards), International arbiters are certified for life.

### **Waivers**

#### **47. Special Consideration.**

The TDCC reserves the right to give special consideration to applicants in extraordinary situations. Requests detailing the extraordinary circumstances must be submitted in writing to the TDCC chairperson through the technical director.

### **Certification Restrictions**

#### **48. Restrictions.**

The USCF may impose restrictions on a TD's certification upon documentation of technical incompetence, partiality, professional misconduct, or inefficiency.

#### **49. Due Process.**

Allegations of these offenses will be investigated by the TDCC or the executive director. The accused will be afforded due process. In every investigation the TDCC or executive director will consider the past accomplishments of the TD in service to chess and other substantiated complaints against the TD.

#### **50. Penalties.**

Imposed restrictions may include warnings, probations, requirements of additional experience or testing to maintain or advance level, demotions of level, limitations on the types of tournaments that may be directed, temporary suspensions of directing certification, or permanent de-certifications.

#### **51. Appeals.**

Any imposition of TD restrictions made by the executive director may be appealed to the TDCC. Any decision made by the TDCC may be appealed to the Executive Board. Any decision made by the Executive Board may be appealed to the Board of Delegates. All appeals should be filed within 30 days of notice of action taken. Restrictions will generally remain in effect during the appeals process.

## **Uniform Code of Discipline**

### **52. Technical Incompetence.**

In cases in which technical incompetence on the part of the TD has been demonstrated, the TDCC will normally impose additional testing requirements for the TD to maintain his or her level of certification. In extreme cases the TDCC may demote the TD's level of certification or suspend his or her certification until greater competence is demonstrated. Technical incompetence is typically demonstrated by gross misapplication of USCF's Official Rules of Chess.

### **53. Partiality.**

In cases in which partiality on the part of the TD has been demonstrated, the TDCC will normally impose a suspension of directing privileges for a period not less than three months and not greater than three years. In extreme cases the TDCC may recommend permanent de-certification to the Executive Board. Bribery, fraudulent reports, deliberately unfair pairing or scoring practices, deliberately inconsistent rules enforcement, and even minor irregularities that benefit the TD as a player in an event in which he or she is eligible for a prize typically demonstrates partiality.

### **54. Professional Misconduct.**

In cases in which professional misconduct on the part of the TD has been demonstrated and reconciliation between the complainant and the TD cannot be achieved, the TDCC will normally issue a warning to the TD. Extreme cases of professional misconduct, especially when representing the USCF at a national tournament, may warrant certification demotion or suspension. Professional misconduct is typically demonstrated by denigration of a player, arrogance, rude behavior, and failure to respond to official inquiries by the executive director, his or her designee, or the TDCC.

### **55. Inefficiency.**

In cases in which inefficiency has been demonstrated as the cause of a poorly directed tournament, the TDCC will normally issue a warning to the TD. In extreme cases certification may be suspended until the TD demonstrates improved procedural techniques. Inefficiency is typically demonstrated by lack of adherence to an announced tournament schedule, untimely or inaccurate posting of pairings and results, and untimely or inaccurate calculation of tournament-prize distributions.

## **APPENDIX B – REVISED PAN AM RULES**

### **PAN-AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS: OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES**

2012

Revision

By

USCF College Chess Committee

*1/24/2012*

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    TD TIP: C, C1 or C2 TD experience credit can be claimed for an entire tournament meeting the requirements of a Category C tournament or for any tournament section (of any category tournament) that by itself, as a stand alone section, would qualify as a Category C tournament. .... 4

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**1. Bidding Guidelines:**

***1a. Date of Event:***

The Pan-Am has been held every year over the Christmas vacation, December 27 (or 26) to December 30 (less frequently Dec. 29), since 1945. This is because this is the only period during which all colleges and universities are on vacation at the same time.

**1b. Bidding overview:**

1. The bidding deadline is November 15 of the previous year. This allows for timely examination by the CCC and approval by USCF, in order to announce the site and other details at the Pan-Am one year in advance.
2. The winning bid will be announced at the previous-year's Pan-Am. Final arrangements and publicity should be completed before April. In this way, students may begin planning and fundraising in their spring semester for the fall semester of the next academic year.
3. Bids must conform to the National Bid requirements. Copies of the bids are to be sent to USCF and to the CCC Chairperson.
4. In the event that no bids are submitted, the CCC must find a willing organizer. USCF will assist in targeting possible bidders, but will play no role in organizing the tournament.
5. In the event that multiple bids are submitted, the USCF staff will make a decision based on consultation with the CCC. CCC criteria, in order of importance, include:
  - Turnout
  - Finances (profit, stability, low EF, adequate prizes)
  - Geographic accessibility
  - Playing site and accommodations (low room rates)
  - Publicity
  - Geographic rotation
  - Organizer's experience
  - Availability of backup organizers

**1c. Site Criteria:**

1. The Pan-Am must be in a location that is geographically accessible by air and car.
2. A number of types of sites are acceptable for the Pan-Am, including hotels with convention facilities, schools, colleges, public buildings, and convention centers.
3. The site should be adequate for anticipated entries, allowing 15 to 20 square feet of useable space per player.
4. The site must have an adequate skittles area.
5. Special team areas should be available to coaches or captains who need a private area to counsel team members.
6. Toilet facilities must be adequate for large numbers of participants, and must be cleaned and maintained throughout the tournament.

7. Water must be made available in the playing hall throughout the duration of the tournament.
8. Pictures and descriptions of the tournament site, including size, lighting, available sanitary facilities, or any physical equipment available, should be included with each bid.
9. Reasonable inexpensive food should be available at or within easy walking distance of the site. Some nearby eating facilities should be open at least as late as midnight.

#### ***1d. Sleeping Accommodations:***

1. The primary consideration for accommodations is that they be reasonably inexpensive and accessible to the playing site.
2. A price per room, rather than per person, should be negotiated with the hotel. If this is not possible, then rates for two and four per room should be made as low as possible.
3. An agreement should be negotiated with the hotel whereby the total room-nights sold is directly related (e.g. on a sliding scale) to the costs of the playing rooms. The best contract occurs when the hotel agrees to provide the playing room free in exchange for the opportunity of hosting the event at the facility. If not, then the sliding scale should be constructed such that the hotel provides the playing room free if a certain level of total room-nights has been reached.
4. The sliding scale should be built around total number of room- nights, not nightly occupancy. Example: playing hall free above 150 room-nights. If on the three nights 51, 50, and 49 rooms are taken up, the organizer should not be penalized for falling below 50 on the third night, as the total is still 150. This method is useful as it includes people who come/leave a day early/late. Organizers should be sure the contract allows room-nights used by tournament attendees before and after the tournament to be counted toward the tournament total, and that they are available at the tournament rate.
5. Bidders should negotiate complimentary rooms (perhaps one per 25 room-nights sold, with a minimum of three) with the hotel. These are commonly used for the TDs, organizational staff, and the USCF representative.
6. The organizer and the hotel should agree upon a block of hotel rooms to be apportioned for tournament entrants. This block is reserved until filled up by those connected with the event. Estimate 50-200 blocked off rooms per night, or about two per expected team. (Of course, the sliding scale is based on a much lower figure). This prevents the hotel from selling all of its rooms to occupants who are not connected with the event. Also, the hotel should agree to increase the number as entries are received and numbers become available to the organizer, in case of overflow.
7. The organizer and the hotel should agree upon a publicized cutoff-date for reservations and an actual cutoff-date after which the special chess rates are no longer available. Ideally, the published cutoff-date is two to three weeks before the event (possibly to coincide with the deadline for early entry fees). This will give the organizer time to calculate room occupancy. The actual cutoff-date ideally should be the last date of the event; i.e. if individuals ask for the chess rate after the publicized cutoff-date they should still obtain the chess rate, based on availability.

#### ***1e. Transportation:***



Organizers must make sure that transportation is available between the host hotel and the nearest commercial airport. The organizer must ensure transportation between the host hotel and the playing site if they are not located within walking distance of each other. Transportation arrangements should be publicized in advance. The hotel and playing site should have adequate parking facilities nearby. Ideally, the hotel should provide either free on-site parking or parking validation stickers for free parking off-site for all those connected with the event.

### **1f. Staffing:**

National Tournament Director Certification is required of the chief TD. The chief TD should also have experience in administering (a) national events, (b) FIDE events, (c) intercollegiate events, (d) scholastic events, (e) team events, and (f) Pan-Am events, if possible.

The organizer, in consultation with the chief TD, will provide a sufficient number of certified assistant TDs to help administer the event. The TD or at least one assistant TD should be devoted exclusively to the main section.

A number of volunteers should be available to help the organizer. Their responsibilities include (a) receiving entries, (b) entering registrations (c) checking ratings, (d) checking colleges and schools of players, (e) checking in players and teams on-site, (f) setting up playing room, (g) checking wallchart area, (h) preparing a tournament information pamphlet, (i) managing publicity and promotion, (j) providing an awards ceremony, (k) assisting the TDs and organizer during their tournament duties, and (l) run Mon Roi Controller.

### **1g. Finances:**

The Pan-Am is a partnership between USCF and the local organization. USCF has veto power over major decisions. All contracts must be approved-by the USCF staff before signing.

Certain services and purchases including the book concession should normally be bid out. Vendors should receive requests for proposals. USCF must be contacted about all concession plans.

The organizer must be able to accept checks and write checks. No bid will be accepted from an individual or group without this capability. A local checking account is recommended of organizers.

Since 1989, the Pan-Am has been run with the organizer accepting 100% of all profit and 100% of all loss. Changes in this structure must be negotiated by the organizer, the CCC, USCF office, and the PB.

Entry fees are to be sent to the local organizer, and prizes must be paid out immediately after the event by the organizer.

### **1h. Publicity:**

1. Publicity is an important part of attracting new participants to the Pan-Am and attracting more colleges to chess and the USCF. Many college chess clubs are unaware of the Pan-Am, and many college students are unaware of the existence of the USCF. Organizers must include plans for publicity in their bids. Fliers should list the host and USCF as co-sponsors.
2. The Pan-Am will be announced in the TLA section of Chess Life, in at least three issues (October, November, and December).
3. Chess Life will give the CCC space for one free article announcing the upcoming Pan-Am. For the December 27-30 event, notification no later than the October issue (comes out September 1) is ideal. Since the deadline for this and the October TLA is August 10, the organizer must be prepared in his/her spring semester of the previous academic year to begin publicity.
4. The organizer must prepare a flier publicizing the event. The flier should be mailed to as many local, regional, and national college affiliates as can be budgeted, and to state and regional chess magazines in nearby states.

5. Organizers should make efforts to reach as many local colleges as possible (this includes non-USCF affiliates) . Phone and E-mail advertising are highly encouraged.
6. Organizers should arrange publicity with the local media prior to, during, and immediately after the event.
7. A press release should be prepared listing major winners after the conclusion of the tournament. This release, along with game scores, should be given to the USCF representative or emailed/faxed to the USCF immediately after the event. The USCF will send its own release to media sources.

## **2. Format & tournament rules:**

### ***2a. Tournament Format and Rules:***

1. The preferred schedule is a six-game, four-day event, (December 27-30), with the number of rounds per day 1-2-2-1. Changes in this format must be negotiated by the organizer, the CCC, and the USCF staff.
2. The tournament will be conducted using USCF rules for all players (including non-U.S. participants), except as modified in this document.
3. The event is a Swiss System, paired strictly team vs. team. Board one of team A plays board one of team B, through board four (see IX.3 for substitution practice of alternates).
4. Pairings are done by considering each team an individual entity. Each team gets one match point if the combined scores of the four players in a round is 2 1/2 or greater, one-half match point if the combined score is 2, and zero match points if the combined score is 1 1/2 or less. Teams are grouped by their match points and then ranked within the group by their ratings. Byes, defaults, lateness, and so forth are treated as in individual tournaments.
5. The number of match points (not total game points) determines the final standings. (Note: In Europe and in the Olympiad, game points are used to determine standings. In America and throughout most of the history of the Pan-Am, match points were and are used.)
6. If a school enters multiple teams, these teams may not face one another unless the TD views the pairing as the best possible choice. For instance, if the A and B teams of a college are undefeated after four rounds, then they must be paired in the fifth round to avoid a sixth or last round pairing.
7. A team that is assigned "white" has white on boards 1 and 3, black on 2 and 4; conversely, a team that is assigned "black" has black on boards 1 and 3, white on 2 and 4.
8. The rule regarding color in a series (popularly known as "the three blacks in a row rule") is less important in team play, because each team has two whites and two blacks per round.
9. There may be no more than two rounds per day. At least seven hours must be placed between the start of each round. The suggested round times are 6pm, 10am, 5pm, 10am, 5pm, and 9am, respectively.
10. The primary time control may be no faster than G/90 with 30 second increment. Sudden death time controls may not be used. Games may be adjourned at the TD's discretion. If provided for both players, Mon Roi units must be used.

## ***2b. Entry Fees and Registration:***

1. The advance team entry for the intercollegiate section will be determined by the organizer. In each section, the late fee (or on-site entry) should be no more than 25% above the advance entry fee.
2. The deadline for early entry should be two to three weeks before the event (possibly to coincide with the date by which hotel reservations should be made). It is preferred that the deadline be of the type "post-marked no later than" rather than "received no later than." This prevents hostility by players to the organizer for not getting the mail, and offers written proof of dates. In the event that a team's entry is postmarked before the deadline yet not received until after the start of the event (i.e. misdirected mail), the organizer may require the team to pay the entry, including the late fee, at the door. When the early entry is then received, the door entry and late fee would then be refunded.
3. Door entries must be permitted up to a certain cutoff time before the first round (generally 1-2 hours, enough to allow for first round pairings). Any entry after this cutoff time may be required to take a bye or play against a specially paired group of other late entrants.

## ***2c. Intercollegiate Eligibility Requirements:***

### **Rule 1**

For college and university teams, titled players (International Masters, International Grandmasters, International Woman Masters and International Woman Grandmasters) are eligible to participate if they satisfy at least one of the following stipulations: #1 or all three conditions listed in #2.

1. Are less than 26 years old as undergraduate students, or under 30 years old as graduate students, as of September 1 of the academic year in which the tournament takes place.
2. Satisfy all of the following three conditions:
  - a) Are full-time, degree-seeking students (e.g., at least 12 semester credit hours for undergraduate students and 9 semester credit hours for graduate students)
  - b) Have a grade-point average of at least B (e.g., at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale)
  - c) Have satisfied conditions 1 and 2 for at least one full semester at their team's college or university prior to the event.

Rule 1 applies to all college events — individual or team. There are no age restrictions on players not having the four above-mentioned international titles.

### **Rule 2**

College and University players shall be enrolled at least half-time (e.g. 6 semester credit hours) during the semester of eligibility. For the Pan American Intercollegiate Team Championship, traditionally held between Christmas and New Year's each year, players must be enrolled in the fall semester preceding the event.

### **Rule 3**

College and university players shall be eligible to play for a total of six years, where a year is defined as being either a traditional academic year of a fall and spring term or a fall term or a spring term, e.g., a player enrolled in spring of 1998, spring of 1999 and fall of 1999 is considered enrolled for three years under this rule.

### **Rule 4**

College and university players shall be enrolled in a degree-seeking program with a cumulative grade point average of at least a C.

### **Rule 5**

College and university players shall be resident at their campuses either in on-campus housing or in housing within reasonable commuting distance from campus, e.g., a player taking distance learning courses from another country shall not be eligible to play.

### **Rule 6**

Colleges and universities offering chess-related scholarships shall maintain records about the individuals awarded such scholarships, their time of attendance, the degrees received if any, and the grade point average attained.

### **Rule 7**

Faculty, staff and alumni are not eligible to compete in the National Collegiate Chess League Team Championship conducted over the internet each spring.

The following are suggestions offered for guidance:

Faculty conflicts. A faculty member serving as a consultant or director to a university or college chess program should adhere to the following guidelines:

- To admit no player to their program who does not, in their judgment, demonstrate a serious likelihood of achieving a degree.
- To not offer independent study courses to members of the chess team.
- To not recruit players from other chess programs.
- To scrutinize carefully undergraduate students applying for a second baccalaureate.

Non-compliance:

1. Winning teams should file a report to document compliance with these regulations with the USCF.

2. Any team's standing may be challenged for non-compliance by a competing team through a written complaint sent within 30 days to the Executive Director or the Scholastic Director of the U.S. Chess Federation. That official shall gather the relevant documentation of the complaint, make a recommendation as to disposition, and send it to the USCF Executive Board for resolution.

### ***2d. Team Requirement:***

1. The Pan-Am Intercollegiate Team event is a strict team-on-team competition. Pairings are done by considering each team an individual entity.
2. A team is made up of four players plus up to two optional alternates.
3. When alternates play, they must do so starting on the lowest boards. Any regular team member may sit out when an alternate plays; other team members move up accordingly.
4. Teammates must play in descending rating order, except that 50-point transpositions are allowed. Board order must remain the same throughout the event. Each team must submit a roster before the close of registration indicating the fixed lineup.
5. Teams are ranked in order of the average of four highest individual ratings – this includes the alternates. The team average rating is used for wall chart ranking and class-prize eligibility.
6. Unrated players must be placed below rated players.
7. A team must have a minimum of three players to compete for prizes. In the event that only two players arrive from a school before round 1, they will be allowed to compete provided their teammates are expected to arrive. If these teammates do not arrive, then the two who did arrive are ineligible for all prizes.
8. There may be no mixed teams. For example, if two schools arrive with only two players, the four may not form a team, even if they volunteer to forego prize eligibility.
9. A school may send an unlimited number of teams. There is no rule regarding the composition of multiple teams (e.g. they may be balanced or in order from highest to lowest rated), only that individual members of each team must be in strict descending rating order. Multiple teams will be designated as "A," "B," "C," etc., with "A" designating the team with the highest average rating.
10. All teams must designate a coach or captain (he/she need not be a competitor, just affiliated with the team's school). The role of the coach/captain is:
11. To turn in his team line-up to the TD at least one hour before the round begins.

- To see that his/her team arrives on time for each match.
- To see that his/her team plays in correct board order.
- To advise his/her players whether or not to accept or offer a draw.
- To report the result of the match to the TD.
- To check the wall charts for accuracy.

Note: "Package deals," such as offering draws on boards 1 and 4 to the opposing team captain, are not permitted.

### ***2e. Ratings of Players:***

1. American players use their USCF ratings reflected in the December Rating Supplement, which is made available before the Pan-Am. TDs should have access to the online USCF rating supplements.
2. Unrated players do not affect the team average.
3. Foreign players who have national or FIDE ratings must present evidence of this rating, and then the rating will be converted. The conversion table is as follows:
  - Canada (CFC): Add 50
  - Quebec (FQE): Add 100
  - Most other nations: Add 200
  - New USCF/FIDE conversion formulas:
    - FIDE Under 2000,  $USCF = FIDE \text{ rating} \times 5/8 + 720$
    - FIDE 2000 and above =  $FIDE \text{ rating} \times 1.16 - 350$
4. If a foreign player has two or more ratings (USCF, FIDE, national, etc.), the highest rating after conversion will be chosen. There is no rule that states a team must use the same rating system on each board (e.g. all FIDE or all national).

### ***2f. Conduct of the Tournament:***

A team may not deviate from its given roster after sign-up. If it is found that players were placed out of order, and the error was the TD's, the proper order will be established in the next round. In this case, previous results will count, both for the team and for individuals. If players were placed, or played out of order, and the error was the team's, then the team may face forfeiture.

To the extent possible, the top boards should be roped off to highlight the top contestants and also to prevent congestion. Some events have highlighted these boards by isolating them in a central area.

Organizational announcements should be made just prior to the beginning of each round.

### ***2k Tie-breaks:***

Tie-breaks are used to award places and trophies only. Cash prizes are divided equally in any tie.

If two teams are tied for first, they are considered co- champions. Tie-breaks are used to determine which team name

"goes first" in articles, and which team gets the larger trophy. The recipient of the second place trophy can have it send it for a new engraving declaring that team "co- champion." If three or more teams tie, tie-breaks are used to determine first, second, third, etc. places. If two teams or individuals tie for a prize other than first place team, tie-breaks are used for place plus trophy allocation (no new engraving need be sent).

When team match points are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used: U.S. Amateur Team East (USATE). In the USATE system, you multiple your wins against each individual opponent's final score. Thus, if you defeated a 1st round opponent by a 3-1 score and they ultimately scored 2-4 in the Pan-Am, your team would then get 6 tie-break points (3x2). If you drew 2-2 in round two against a team that would ultimately score 5.5-.5, then you get 11 tie-break points (2x5.5).

For individual board prize determinations, the tie-break procedure is total points scored, then

- Winning percentage
- Median
- Solkoff
- Sonnenborn-Berger
- Cumulative
- Kashdan
- Result between tied players
- Most Blacks
- Result between teams of tied players
- Coin flip

### **3. Ceremonies:**

#### ***3a. Opening Ceremony:***

The organizer is encouraged to arrange a brief opening ceremony an hour prior to the start of the first round. A reception should be prior to the opening ceremony. A minimum of \$1000 is required to fund this function. Local dignitaries, deans or faculty from the host school, and the press should be invited. Past experience has shown that local officials have great interest in participating in such ceremonies. Proclamations from a host college, mayor, county executive, and governor might be available upon request from their respective offices.

#### ***3b. Awards Ceremony & Prizes:***

The organizer is responsible for an awards ceremony in keeping with the stature of a national championship. The list of prize winners must be posted as soon as possible. The awards presentation order should be announced at the start of the ceremony.

Money prizes shall be given out in the form of checks by the organizer to the proper team recipient (or affiliate) at the awards ceremony if the winner is present. Prizes may be awarded early if the winner has to leave before the awards ceremony. In the event that prize winners have to leave and games are still in progress affecting the prize, the organizer may choose to send all or part of the prize by mail.

The recommended minimum prize fund in the intercollegiate section is \$4,000. Division prizes are based on average team rating. Guaranteed prizes are preferred, though based-on prizes are acceptable. Division ratings are as follows:

Division I	2200 and above	Division III	1800-1999
Division II	2000-2199	Division IV	Under 1800

Trophies, plaques, or clocks should be given out in addition to all cash prizes for top board scores and top foreign teams (non-USA).

An additional prize for each of boards 1-4, called "class board prizes," should be awarded. Prizes are determined by the highest number of points scored.

#### **4. Miscellaneous:**

##### **4a. Chess Notation:**

Chess notation (or use of a Mon Roi unit) must be kept consistently and legible by all players.

The organizer should provide carbon scoresheets for all games. These are the property of the organizer, and clean copies must be turned in.

Organized side events add to the attractiveness of the Pan-Am. Such activities traditionally include the Pan-Am Speed, Chess Championship. A Pan-Am Open (a regular, open event), and simuls or lectures by famous players are highly recommended.

##### **4b. Posting of rules:**

A copy of the Pan-Am Rules should be posted on the College Chess Website.

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## **APPENDIX C - CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS**

Please note: The EB approved these changes unanimously on motion EB13-016

1. **Purpose and Background.** The purpose of this information paper is to provide an overview of proposed changes the Scholastic Council recommends to the USCF's National Scholastic Regulations (NSR). We have attached an edited version of the NSR with proposed additions highlighted in **red text**, and deletions shown using ~~black strike-through text~~. The start point for our proposed changes was the September 2011 edition of the NSR created by Mike Nietman and provided by Pat Smith (with all changes accepted from previous editions). We propose the new edition be dated November 2012.
2. **Summary of Proposed Changes.** Our recommended changes have the following effects:
  - a. Page 6: Suspends Rule 12.5 for the 2012-2013 school year (e.g. the rule that required players to play at least 8 USCF-rated games in the preceding 6 months). Replace it with Rule 12.6, an adaptation of Advance Delegate Motion 12-16C passed at the US Open in August 2012. ADM 12-16C, and the proposed Rule 12.6, require players entering "Under" sections in USCF National Scholastic events to disclose ratings at the time of registration that they have in other over-the-board rating systems, thereby enabling the Federation and/or the tournament staff to ensure such players are playing in the appropriate section. The rule only affects sectioning—the ratings from other systems are not going to be used for pairing purposes.
  - b. Page 12: Updates Rule 21.12 on Electronic Devices (EDs), which contains specifications for players and spectators. The revision puts all player-related aspects of this matter in Rule 21.12, and adds a Rule 21.13 for spectators. Rule 21.12 directs players to turn-off their EDs during play. Rule 21.13 allows spectators to have EDs in the playing hall, but limits use to the authorized seating area. It also has instructions about the use of photographic equipment.

- c. Appendix A (Blitz Regulations): Updates the appendix to reflect that “touch-move” will be used in National Scholastic Tournaments effective Jan 1, 2013. This update ensures that Blitz games at the SuperNationals will be rated. The Appendix specifically states that this change is NOT in effect until Jan 1, 2013.
  - d. Appendix E (Spectator Conduct): Updated to align with the proposed Rule 21.13 mentioned in paragraph 2b above.
3. The Scholastic Council unanimously recommends the EB accept our proposed changes.

Jay Stallings and Sunil Weeramantry, Co-Chairs - USCF Scholastic Council

PLEASE NOTE: THE APPENDICES LISTED IN THESE RULES, WHICH FOLLOW, ARE APPENDICES TO THE SCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS AND ARE NOT PART OF THE EB MOTION APPENDIX SEQUENCE IN THIS DOCUMENT.

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**For use in the following Chess Tournaments:**

**USCF SuperNationals**

**USCF Spring Nationals**

National Elementary (K-6) Chess Championship

National Middle School/Junior High (K-9) Chess Championship

National High School (K-12) Chess Championship

**USCF Fall Nationals**

National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship

**USCF Youth Events**

National Youth Action Championship

U.S. Junior Chess Congress

U.S. Junior Open



Originated 1984, Revised November 2012

Revisions since the September 2011 edition are highlighted using ~~Strike-through~~ and **Red text**

PLEASE NOTE: THE APPENDICES LISTED IN THESE RULES, ARE APPENDICES TO THE SCHOLASTIC REGULATIONS AND ARE NOT PART OF THE EB MOTION APPENDIX SEQUENCE IN THIS DOCUMENT. THE REGULATIONS CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The **USCF National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations** are intended to fulfill the special needs and expectations of players, coaches and parents at our **national scholastic events**. These **Regulations** are a reference to the special rules that govern these events, along with some suggestions to help the event run smoothly. They are designed to insure that the dignity and significance of national scholastic events are maintained, promoted, preserved and enhanced. The USCF wishes to thank past and present members of its Scholastic Committee along with the coaches and parents who helped to compile the initial set of **Regulations**. These **Regulations** carry the weight of history and hands-on experience. But no regulations should be held inviolate when better ideas arise. Proposed changes should be referred to the USCF office and the Scholastic Council. After all, the main principle of these **Regulations** is simply: **Our youngsters deserve the best!**

1.1.1 Revisions to these regulations shall be effective September 15 of each year.

1.2 USCF and the Scholastic Council will review proposals for the following tournaments: National Elementary (K-6), National Middle School/Junior High (K-9), National High School (K-12), National Youth Action Championship, and the National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship. The USCF will solicit interest in site selection and then negotiate with the local organizer details of the proposed tournament. The Scholastic Council will be part of the final selection process. Expressions of interest by affiliates are indeed welcome, since in all cases USCF wishes to partner with a local organization(s) for local arrangements (e.g. securing local TDs), in coordination (and agreement) with USCF. However, site selection and all contracting for these events will be handled by USCF.

1.2.1 Whenever USCF is the organizer the USCF office shall be responsible for all details listed herein as the organizer.

1.3 Many chess tournaments and chess activities are organized under the USCF name, yet are managed fully by other organizations and/or individuals. Such organizations may enter into contracts for facilities, goods, services, etc, though USCF must approve these contracts first. Such organizations are not representatives of USCF management, and are independent contractors.

1.4 All state scholastic organizations are encouraged to adopt these regulations for state scholastic championships.

## **2.0 DATES**

### **2.1 National Scholastic Events**

#### **2.1.1 Fall Nationals** - National K-12 Grade Championship:

2.1.1.1 Should be played between November 15 and December 15.

2.1.1.2 Must not be scheduled on Thanksgiving Day weekend.

#### **2.1.2 Spring Nationals** - National Elementary (K-6), Middle School/Junior High (K-9) and High School (K-12) Championships:

2.1.2.1 Should be held between and to include the third weekend in March and the second weekend in May.

2.1.2.2 Must not be scheduled on:

2.1.2.2.1 Easter

2.1.2.2.2 Passover

2.1.2.3 Try to avoid:

2.1.2.3.1 Daylight Savings Time weekend (first Sunday in April)

2.1.2.3.2 Scholastic Aptitude and Advanced Placement Test dates (High School only).

2.2 National Youth Events – National Youth Action and U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2.2.1 National Youth Action

2.2.1.1 Should be held between November 1 and December 1.

2.2.1.2 Must not be scheduled on Thanksgiving Day weekend.

2.2.2 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2.2.2.1 Whenever possible.

2.2.3 U.S. Junior Open

2.2.3.1 Should be held in the summer.

2.3 Dates should not conflict with any other National Tournament or the World Youth Festival.

**3. SITE**

3.1 Our primary concern is assuring the quality of national scholastics.

3.2 USCF will make every reasonable effort to rotate these events geographically from year to year.

3.3 Acceptable sites include, but are not limited to: hotels with convention facilities, schools, colleges, and convention centers.

3.4 All tournament-related playing and meeting space proposals must be approved by USCF before they are signed.

3.5 The USCF shall be responsible for making sure all of the following are implemented:

3.5.1 The playing hall(s) must allow for a minimum of 25 sq. ft. of usable space per player. This should include space for spectators. The top 20 boards of all Championship sections, except for primary grades, should have no more than two boards per six or eight foot table. Bids must include a playing hall(s) to accommodate the maximum number of expected players.

3.5.2 The site should have a large skittles area at least half the size of the playing hall(s). The skittles area should be in the immediate vicinity of the playing site, indoors, and easily accessible from the playing room. It is recommended that the skittles area be 3/4 of the size of the playing area(s).

3.5.3 Special team rooms (especially for the Elementary and Middle School/Junior High events) should be available to coaches needing a more private area to instruct and counsel team members. Teams will pay reasonable charges for the use of such space. Whenever possible the team rooms should be under the same roof or in a building connected to the playing site. Team room location will be provided at the time of reservation.

3.5.4 Toilet facilities must be adequate for large numbers of youngsters and must be inspected, cleaned and maintained every hour during rounds. Restrooms for players only should be easily accessible to the playing room.

3.5.5 Water should be provided in the playing hall(s) and maintained every hour during rounds.

3.5.6 Pictures and descriptions of the tournament site, including size, lighting, available sanitary facilities, or any physical equipment available should be included with each contract.

- 3.5.7 A map of the area should be available showing inexpensive restaurants and attractions near the site. This should be done on the website site and available on paper at chess control.
- 3.5.8 For the National Middle School/Junior High (K-9) and National Elementary (K-6) Tournaments a play area should be provided that allows the children an acceptable area to run and play.
- 3.5.9 A centrally located information booth (i.e. Chess control) should be provided near the playing area. The information booth will provide directions to ~~at~~ local restaurants, transportation, interesting sites, and other non-tournament information.
- 3.5.10 A message center should be provided at chess control to receive emergency information for players and/or families. This message center should have a pre-advertised phone number and/or email address.
- 3.5.11 There should be food available on site that is priced comparably to fast food pricing. There should be ample food services available that, if necessary, all of the anticipated participants may be fed within a two hour period. They should be open from at least 60 minutes before the first round starts each day and closed no earlier than 60 minutes before the last round is scheduled to end.
- 3.5.12 The site must be handicapped accessible.
- 3.5.13 It is recommended that a photographer be available throughout the tournament.
- 3.5.14 Ample signage should be on display at numerous locations throughout the facility a minimum of twelve hours prior to the first scheduled event of the tournament.

#### **4.0 LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS**

- 4.1 Lodging should be inexpensive and accessible to the playing site.
- 4.2 A single price for 1-4 people per room should be negotiated.
- 4.3 If the hotel(s) is providing the playing site, the cost of meeting space should be directly related to total room-nights sold (such as on a sliding scale). Free meeting space is generally negotiable with most hotels.
- 4.4 If the hotel(s) is not providing the playing site, the hotel(s) contract(s) may be structured to provide the tournament a rebate of \$3 to \$10 per room night sold, to help defray playing site and other tournament costs. Rebates are considered tournament income. When the USCF is not the organizer, any amount higher than \$10 per night may not be accepted without the prior written consent of the USCF office.
- 4.5 The organizer should provide, at least 6 months prior to the start of the event, a list of all recommended hotels, rates, addresses, phone numbers, distance from playing site, and contact information on the USCF website.

## **5.0 TRANSPORTATION**

5.1 Organizers should ensure the availability of transportation between the headquarters hotel and nearest commercial airport, railroad, and bus terminals and shuttle service between playing site and headquarters hotel if they are beyond walking distance of each other. All such travel arrangements should be publicized at least six months in advance for the benefit of players, coaches and parents.

## **6.0 FINANCES**

6.1 When the USCF is not the principal organizer, the local organizer is contractually responsible for the execution of these Regulations (with USCF oversight) before, during and after the tournament.

6.2 The USCF will provide financial statements from previous events to the organizer upon request.

6.3 The USCF share of the profits from the National scholastics will go to the U.S. Chess Federation. Tournament income includes, but is not limited to: entry fees, book and equipment sales, food and beverage sales, sale of chess pieces and boards used in the tournament, advertising income, fees paid by promoters and exhibitors, hotel room night rebates, team room rentals, rebates, etc.

6.3.1 The USCF will negotiate an agreement with the local organizer, which will define roles, responsibilities, and the financial arrangements between the two parties. The financial arrangements may be a share of the profits, a per-head fee, or some combination thereof.

6.4 All contracts must be approved and signed by the USCF when the USCF is undertaking full management responsibility for the event. When the local organizer is undertaking full management responsibility, the USCF need only review and approve all contracts, though it need not be a signatory thereon, as the local organizer is acting as an independent contractor and is fully responsible and liable for all activities or actions pursuant to the contract(s).

## **7.0 CONCESSIONAIRE**

7.1 The USCF has the right of first refusal to sell chess books, chess equipment, T-shirts, commemorative boards and sets and other chess paraphernalia at any USCF national event.

7.2 Any outside vendor must be approved by the USCF.

7.3 In any event for which USCF is not the principal organizer, the USCF must approve all concession agreements.

## **8.0 STAFFING**

8.1 The Chief TD for all national scholastics must be certified at the "National Tournament Director" level. Additionally, the Chief TD must have strong experience in administering large scholastic

events, especially those using computer pairing programs. The Chief TD must be acceptable to the USCF.

8.2 The Chief TD and/or organizer is responsible for appointing an adequate number of certified assistant TDs to help administer each event. The organizer himself should not serve on the directing staff.

8.2.1 A minimum of four TDs, including the Chief TD, with strong computer pairing program experience, should be on staff. Knowledge of computers and computer pairings is essential, as these TDs are expected to generate pairings, standings, team results, etc., round by round, as well as handling inevitable problems.

8.2.2 Each event must have a Chief Floor TD with a sufficient number of assistants.

8.2.2.1 The ratio of TDs to players should be as follows: High School: 1/100 players; Middle School/Junior High: 1/75 players; Elementary: 1/50 players. For the National K-12 Championship grades K-6 shall have the same ratio as the Elementary, grades 7-9 shall have the same ratio as the Middle School/Junior High, and grades 10-12 shall have the same ratio as the High School.

8.2.2.2 Floor TDs should be permanently stationed in a specific section in the tournament rooms during play and must wear distinctive identifying apparel.

8.2.2.3 Floor TDs will handle disputes and make rulings, although appeals are permitted. Appeals are to be made first to the Section TD, then the Chief Floor TD, and then the Chief TD.

8.2.2.4 A minimum of two experienced floor TDs should be present in large tournament rooms and one floor TD in small tournament rooms at all times.

8.2.2.5 Volunteers who are not certified TDs may assist floor directors to keep order; however, they cannot make rulings on their own and must direct all questions regarding rules to certified floor directors.

8.2.2.6 All staff should wear identification stating their name and duty. The TD certification level should be listed on the name tag.

8.3 The TD staff is expected to be appropriately compensated. Such compensation should include, but not be limited to, lodging and free food being made available during the tournament. Each TD should be compensated enough to at least cover any transportation costs.

8.4 A large number of *well-trained* volunteers is essential to the success of these events. The organizer is responsible for training the volunteers. They may be responsible for such duties as:

8.4.1 Receiving entries

8.4.2 Entering registrations into a data base

8.4.3 Checking ratings of players

8.4.4 Checking schools of players

- 8.4.5 Checking in players and teams on-site
- 8.4.6 Setting up the playing room
- 8.4.7 Manning results-tables
- 8.4.8 Controlling access at doors (when necessary)
- 8.4.9 Providing for the needs of the TD staff
- 8.4.10 Preparing a tournament information pamphlet
- 8.4.11 Managing publicity and promotion
- 8.4.12 Providing an awards ceremony
- 8.4.13 Providing for an information, lost and found, and message booth at chess control

## **9.0 COMPUTERS**

- 9.1 Fast ink-jet or laser printers are preferred.
- 9.2 The computer room should be assembled at least one day before the tournament to make sure there are no problems.
- 9.3 The large size of these events necessitates pairing by computer. A list of approved computer programs may be obtained from USCF.
- 9.4 If any computer equipment is acquired or donated for the tournament, such equipment will be considered assets of the tournament. Assets may not be disposed of without the express consent of the USCF.
- 9.5 At least one computer and printer shall be available for non-pairing/technical purposes by authorized staff.

## **10.0 PUBLICITY**

- 10.1 Publicity is an important part of attracting new participants to National Scholastic events. Many scholastic chess programs are not aware of the existence of the USCF or these national championships. Organizers should include plans for publicity in their proposals. The organizer should coordinate with the USCF office to produce press releases and publicity for the event.
- 10.2 These events will be announced in **Chess Life and Chess Life for Kids (CL4K)**.
- 10.3 Fliers advertising National Scholastic and Youth events will be mailed to all USCF affiliates except prison affiliates.



- 10.4 Organizers should arrange publicity with local news media, prior to, during, and immediately after these events.
- 10.5 The organizer should prepare a press release listing major winners immediately upon conclusion of the tournament. Ideally, this release should be available during the awards ceremony.
- 10.6 A tournament program book should be prepared, including:
- 10.6.1 Schedule of events
  - 10.6.2 List of past winners
  - 10.6.3 Prize list
  - 10.6.4 Rules specific for the tournament
  - 10.6.5 List of tournament directors
  - 10.6.6 Volunteer staff
  - 10.6.7 Scoresheets (extra scoresheets also must be prepared)
  - 10.6.8 Local information about restaurants and attractions.
  - 10.6.9 The awards presentation, location, time, and order.
  - 10.6.10 Player procedures and the acceptable conduct of the spectators, players, and coaches.

## **11.0 ENTRY FEE & REGISTRATION**

- 11.1 The entry fee shall be kept as economical as practical and set in accordance with the approved budget.
- 11.2 Early entry deadline(s) should be used for each event.
- 11.3 Players registering the day of the event may be paired or receive a half point bye, at the discretion of the USCF Director of National Events or the organizer (if the event is outsourced).
- 11.4 Any section changes are subject to a change fee and should be made as soon as possible.
- 11.5 Half-point byes will be available for the first round, if requested with an advance entry. 0 point byes shall be available for all rounds. The Chief Tournament Director shall have the ability to grant a ½-point bye for any round based on unusual circumstances, except the last round.
- 11.6 Check-In Procedures. It is important that this is a smooth process allowing those with problems to resolve them.

11.6.1 A complete list of the advance entry players shall be posted periodically on the tournament web page. This web page should be updated regularly.

11.6.2 Two lists of participants per section should be posted prior to round one: alphabetical and school. A complete team roster for all schools shall be posted on site. It is the responsibility of the players and/or coaches to report mistakes or needed corrections to the TD staff.

11.6.3 Rules specific to the tournament and side events will be available in advance of the event.

## **12.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

12.1 All players must be USCF members.

12.2 The following students are eligible:

12.2.1 Full-time students enrolled in school in the United States or its territories for the entire semester in which the event is held.

12.2.2 U.S. citizens attending school abroad.

12.2.3 Home schooled and virtual schooled students must be schooled in the United States or be United States citizens.

12.2.4 Home schooled and virtual schooled students who do not exceed the age requirements listed below.

12.3 Age requirements: the following ages are as of September 1 of the school year in which the competition takes place. The age requirements are considered upper bounds for each grade and should not be used for home school and virtual school students. Our national events are grade based and require all players to play in a section that allows for their current grade.

Kindergarten: under age 7

1st Grade: Under age 8

2nd Grade: Under age 9

3rd Grade: Under age 10

4th Grade: Under age 11

5th Grade: Under age 12

6th Grade: Under age 13

7th Grade: Under age 14

8th Grade: Under age 15

9th Grade: Under age 16

10th Grade: Under age 17

11th Grade: Under age 18

12th Grade: Under age 19

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 Kindergartner and may continue to play as a Kindergartner 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.

12.4 If any of the spring nationals begins before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, the previous month's rating supplement will be used. If any of the spring nationals begins on or after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, that month's rating supplement will be used. The intent is that the earliest entry deadline will be about a week after the publication of the new rating supplement or when MSA is updated.

~~12.5 USCF ratings are only accurate if they are based on recent games. In order to insure that players are entered in an appropriate section, a player who has not played in at least 8 USCF regular rated games during the six month period ending with the cutoff date for the rating supplement that is being used for the tournament will not be eligible for the lowest rating based section for which that player would qualify if his or her rating were based upon recent games. For example: a high school player with a rating of 1100 who has not played at least 8 USCF regular rated games within the six month period would not be eligible to play in the U1200 section at the National High School Championship. Such a player could only play in the U1600 section or the Championship section. *(Suspended until further notice and replaced by Rule 12.6 below.)*~~

**12.6 Players entering an "Under" section** in a USCF National Scholastic tournament **shall disclose at the time of registration whether they have one or more ratings in another over-the-board rating system(s).** The USCF may use this rating information to determine section and prize eligibility in accordance with USCF rules 28D and 28E. This **rule will be in effect for the 2013 SuperNationals** and future USCF National Scholastic Tournaments that have one or more "Under" sections.

### 13. TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC EVENTS

13.1 National Scholastic events are both individual and team events. Players are allowed to compete as individuals and not as a member of any team. A student who does not qualify to represent a team under rules 13.2, 13.3, or 13.4 may not compete as a member of a team but is encouraged to compete as an individual.

13.2 In national scholastic events (i.e., the Spring Nationals and the K-12) teams are comprised of students who attend the same school.

13.2.1 A school is defined as an institution which has **one name**, is located in **one building** or **connected adjacent buildings**, and is under **one administrator** and which provides core curricular instruction in English, math, science, and social studies. A 'local public school' for a home schooled or virtual school student is defined as the public school the student would attend if attending public school. The local public school for a third grade home schooled or virtual school student is the local public elementary school the child would attend if going to public school. A 'public school district' is a grouping of public schools (most usually within a city or county but may be a single school in a small city) recognized and designated as being a public school district by that state's department of education. A 'local public school' is not the entire district but is the area that a single public school covers.

2. A student will be considered to attend a school if and only if he or she physically attends classes at that school building and receives more than 50% of his or her core curricular instruction during those classes.

13.2.3 Each school may enter **only one team per section**.

3. Teams may also be comprised of home schooled students.

13.3.1 A home schooled student is defined as a student who receives at least 50% of his or her core curricular instruction at home.

13.3.2 Home school students have the following options with regard to forming and/or participating on a scholastic team.

1. A home schooled student may represent his or her local public school when access to extracurricular activities is permitted and the student resides within the boundaries of the local public school as defined in 13.2.

2. A home school student may join with other home schooled students who reside within the boundary of the local public school as defined in 13.2.

3. All the students attend home school sites located within the boundary of the local public school as defined in 13.2.

3. There may be more than one home school team per recognized public school district.

4. Teams may also be comprised of virtual school students.

- 13.4.1 Virtual school students are students who receive more than 50% of their core curricular instruction on-line, but not in the school building.
2. Virtual school students may form scholastic teams using rule 13.3.2.1 or 13.3.2.2.
- 13.5 A scholastic team must contain a minimum of two players to be eligible for team prizes.
- 13.6 There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a team, but only the top 4 scores in any section count for team score in the **Spring Nationals**, and the top 3 scores in the **K-12 Grade event**.
- 13.7 **No club teams are allowed in National Scholastic events.**
- 13.8 Bonus points will not be added to team or individual scores. Points cannot be transferred between sections unless the player has changed sections.
- 13.9 The coach is responsible for assuring that all of his or her players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of his or her team.
10. USCF Affiliate Membership is encouraged for all teams.

### **13. TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH EVENTS**

- 14.1 Team requirements for National Youth events, which are the U.S. Junior Chess Congress, the National Youth Action Championship, and the U.S. Junior Open:
- 14.1.1 Teams will represent chess clubs and consist of youth meeting the age requirements, as defined in section 12.3, who are members of the club represented and residents of the United States.
- 14.1.2 Club members must attend at least six regularly scheduled club meetings over a period of at least three months immediately preceding the tournament and must be verified by the club president or designated club official. Club members cannot count more than two attendances for any seven consecutive days for purposes of this regulation.
- 14.1.3 A club team must contain a minimum of three players to be eligible for team prizes.
- 14.1.4 There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a club team, but only the top four scores in any one section of the National Youth Action or the top three scores in any one section of the US Junior Open or US Junior Chess Congress will count toward the team score.
- 14.1.5 School teams will be considered as club teams representing that school. Players need not attend the same school; however, they must meet the requirements of sections 14.1.1 and 14.1.2.
- 14.2 Bonus points will not be added to team or individual scores. Points cannot be transferred between sections unless the player has changed sections.

14.3 The Coach is responsible for assuring that all of his or her players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of his or her team.

14.4 USCF Affiliate Membership is encouraged for all teams.

## **15.0 OPENING CEREMONY**

15.1 The organizer will arrange a brief (maximum 15 minutes) but impressive opening ceremony, a half hour prior to the start of the first round. Arrangements will be made for a USCF representative to be present who, along with the organizer, will welcome all participants and guests. Local dignitaries (mayor, county executive, congressmen, school superintendent, etc.) will be invited to attend, as well as the press. Past experience has shown that local officials have a strong interest in participating in such ceremonies. While they may not always be able to attend, an invitation to the USCF President and USCF Executive Director to participate in the Opening and/or Closing Ceremonies should be formally extended. Official proclamations from the mayors, county executives, and governors are often obtainable. These proclamations may welcome visiting teams and even designate a "chess week." The presentation of the National Anthem is strongly encouraged.

## **16.0 AWARDS CEREMONY**

16.1 The organizer is responsible for one or more awards ceremonies in keeping with the stature of a national championship.

16.2 The ceremony should last no longer than an hour and a half.

16.3 The list of prize winners should be posted as soon as possible.

16.3.1 In order to minimize errors and when practical, award lists shall be posted sufficiently ahead of the awards ceremony to allow for errors to be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director and to allow for corrections to be made. The awards lists will then be re-posted before the awards ceremony.

16.4 The awards presentation order should be announced at the beginning of the ceremony.-

16.5 It is recommended that the USCF office representative, Chief Tournament Director and USCF Scholastic Council representative announce prize winners. A minimum of three assistants should be available to hand out trophies. Trophies should be displayed in awarding order (this saves time and prevents mistakes and confusion). Award winners should be called up to the stage in an orderly fashion for trophy presentation. Walk them across the stage and read their names.

16.6 The scores of winners should be mentioned and ties acknowledged.

16.7 Individual and team award presentations will be from lowest to highest place.

16.8 A separate area for photography should be provided.

## **17.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 17.1 The local hospital and police department should be informed of the event.
- 17.2 All teams should be encouraged to leave a local phone number and/or hotel room number with tournament personnel so they can be contacted in case of emergency.
- 17.3 No alcohol or tobacco products are to be allowed in any hotel or convention space which is contracted for the event.
- 17.4 For all tournaments where the anticipated attendance is above 1,000 the organizer must supply trained medical personnel on site.

## **18.0 TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

- 18.1 These events are paired as individual Swiss system tournaments. Whenever a section has more than  $2^{(N+1)}$  players where “N” is the number of rounds, the section will use accelerated pairings (e.g. 7 rounds, more than 256 players; 9 rounds, more than 1024 players).
- 18.2 The combined total of the top four scoring players from the same school determines that team’s score in the **Spring Nationals** and the **National Youth Action Championship**, the top three scoring players in the **K-12 Grade Championship**, the **U.S. Junior Open** and the **Junior Chess Congress**.
- 18.3 Players from the same team will not be paired together unless no other reasonable pairing can be made. Players from the same state will not be paired together during the first two rounds unless more than 25% of the players in a section or a score group are from the same state. Players from the same state shall not be paired together in the first round unless more than 50% of the players in a section are from the same state. It is strongly recommended that for national tournaments only pairing programs that can accommodate these requirements be used. A waiver from the USCF is required for the use of non-compliant programs.
- 18.4 The sections of **Spring Nationals** shall be as follows:
  - 18.4.1 **High School:** K-12 Championship; K-12 Under 1600; K-12 Under 1200; K-12 Under 800; K-12 Unrated
  - 18.4.2 **Middle School/Junior High:** K-9 Championship; K-8 Championship; K-9 Under 1250; K-8 Under 1000; K-8 Under 750; K-9 Unrated
  - 18.4.3 **Elementary:** K-6 Championship; K-5 Championship; K-6 Under 1000; K-5 Under 900; K-6 Unrated
  - 18.4.4 **Primary:** K-3 Championship; K-3 Under 800; K-1 Championship; K-3 Unrated
- 18.5 **K-12 Grade Championship**

18.5.1 There will be one section for each grade K through 12.

18.6 **National Youth Action Championship**

18.6.1 High School: K-12

18.6.2 Middle School/Junior High: K-9

18.6.3 Elementary: K-6

18.6.4 Primary: K-3

18.7 **Junior Chess Congress**

18.7.1 Age 6 and Under

18.7.2 Age 8 and Under

18.7.3 Age 10 and Under

18.7.4 Age 12 and Under

18.7.5 Age 14 and Under

18.7.6 Age 16 and Under

18.7.7 Age 18 and Under

18.7.8 Age 20 and Under

18.8 **U.S. Junior Open**

18.8.1 Under age 21

18.8.2 Under age 15

18.8.3 Under age 11

18.9 The starting time for each round should be as follows:

18.9.1 **Spring Nationals**

Rounds 1-2: Friday 1 pm & 7:00 pm

Rounds 3-4-5: Saturday 9 am, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Rounds 6-7: Sunday 9 am & 2:00 pm

18.9.1.1 The K-1 section may have different round times.



18.9.2 **K-12 Grade Championship**

Rounds 1-2: Friday 1:00 pm, 6:00 pm

Rounds 3-4-5: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm & 6 pm

Rounds 6-7: Sunday 9 am & 1 pm

18.9.3 **National Youth Action Championship**

Rounds 1-2-3-4-5: Saturday 10:00 am, 12 noon, 2:00 pm, 3:30 pm & 5:00 pm

Rounds 6-7-8-9: Sunday 10:00 am, 12 noon, 2:00 pm, & 3:30 pm

18.9.4 **Junior Chess Congress**

Rounds 1-2-3: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm

Rounds 4-5: Sunday 9 am & 1 pm

18.9.5 **U.S. Junior Open** round times to be determined by the organizer

18.9.6 **National Bughouse Championship** (at all Spring Nationals)

Rounds 1-2-3-4-5-6: Thursday 11 am, 11:45 am, 12:30 pm, 1:15 pm, 2 pm and 2:45 pm

18.9.7 **National Blitz Championship** (at all Spring Nationals)

Rounds 1-2-3-4-5-6: Thursday 5 pm, 5:45 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:15 pm, 8 pm and 8:45 pm

18.10 Time controls:

18.10.1 **Spring Nationals:** G/120.

18.10.1.1 The K-1 section shall have a time control of Game/90.

18.10.1.2 The rule (11D) about two extra minutes for illegal moves will not be imposed during the first hour for each player for all sections.

18.10.2 **K-12 Grade Championship:** G/90

18.10.3 **National Youth Action Championship:** G/30

18.10.4 **Junior Chess Congress:** G/90

18.10.5 **U.S. Junior Open:** G/120

18.11 Any deviations from the above (18.1-18.10) must be reviewed by the USCF Scholastic Council's representative and approved by the USCF prior to any advertising of the event.

## **19.0 CHESS NOTATION**

- 19.1 The recognized forms of notation are algebraic and descriptive.
- 19.2 Recording of chess notation is required in the K-5 and K-6 Championship sections of the National Elementary, and all sections of the National Middle School/Junior High and the National High School. Chess notation shall be required in Grades 4-12 of the K-12 tournament and the K-12, K-9 and K-6 sections of the National Youth Action Championship.
- 19.2.1 The use of electronic scorekeeping devices is permitted and the rules governing their use are outlined in Appendix F.
- 19.3 Although strongly encouraged, the recording of chess notation is **not required** in the non-championship sections of the Elementary at the **Spring Nationals**, nor any of the Primary school sections grades K-3 in **any national scholastic event**. However, those not keeping score give up the right to claim draws requiring the corroboration of a score sheet.
- 19.4 Specially designed large score sheets (available from USCF) must be available for the Elementary events.
- 19.5 Score sheets must be printed in the tournament program booklet.

## **20.0 TIE-BREAKS**

- 20.1 Computer programs are now used to determine pairings, standings and **tie-breaks** for all national scholastic events.
- 20.2 If tie-breaks are done by hand, they should be calculated at the end of the next-to-last-round. Careful preparation for manually calculating tie-breaks is necessary, even when using a computer.
- 20.3 **All** players tied for first place are considered co-winners, but trophies will be awarded based on tie-breaks. In the Spring Nationals, only the winners of a championship section shall be designated **National Champion**. In the National K-12 Grade Championship, all section winners shall be designated **National Champion**.
- 20.4 Tie-breaks are used only to award trophies. Players or teams with like scores are equal and may change the plate on their trophy to reflect this (at their own cost).
- 20.5 When individual scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate individual awards:
- 20.5.1 Modified Median
- 20.5.2 Median
- 20.5.3 Solkoff

20.5.4 Sonneborn-Berger

20.5.5 Cumulative

20.5.6 Coin flip

20.6 When team scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate team awards:

20.6.1 Total individual Median

20.6.2 Total Solkoff

20.6.3 Total Sonneborn-Berger

20.6.4 Total Cumulative

20.6.5 Coin flip

## **21.0 CONDUCT OF THE TOURNAMENT**

21.1 The top boards should be roped off to highlight the top contestants and also to prevent congestion. Some events have highlighted these boards by isolating them in a central area.

21.2 The use of demonstration boards, internet transmission, or closed circuit TV to display the top boards is recommended. If closed circuit TV is used, place the monitors in a separate room.

21.3 The intent is to allow spectators to see the players. Access should not be denied to any person who conducts him or herself properly. The Chief TD and/or the organizer may limit spectator access only for the following two conditions: entries exceed predictions to the point that space limitations prevent full access or unforeseen emergency situations threaten the integrity of the tournament. The tournament staff may clear spectators from the playing hall prior to the start of each round to guarantee that the players have found their places and can hear the signal to start clocks. Once that signal is given, spectators should be allowed to return to the playing hall(s) as soon as possible. No spectators (including players with finished games) should be allowed to sit in any area where tournament games are in progress. Only players and tournament staff are allowed in the aisles between the tables. See the Guide for Spectator Conduct (Appendix E).

21.4 The K-1 section of the Elementary event must be closed to everyone except the players and tournament staff (always be prepared to restrict access when necessary).

21.5 Relatives and coaches of players are not allowed to serve as TDs or volunteers in the same section as participating players.

21.6 Players must fill out and sign the result form indicating the result of the game. A TD will pick up the form at the board.

- 21.7 Except in the event of an emergency, announcements may only be made prior to the start of each round.
- 21.8 Photography using cameras with flash or audible shutters is restricted to the first ten minutes of each round. Silent, unobtrusive photography will be allowed at all times, unless the tournament staff determines that it is a distraction.
- 21.9 A list of pairings by team should be provided to coaches as soon as possible prior to the start of each round. All players from the team should be listed alphabetically regardless of section. The team pairing lists should be distributed alphabetically by team.
- 21.10 In the interest of player security, at all elementary sections of national events, certain doors will be identified as player exits according to the physical layout of the facility.
- 21.11 Whenever space permits, a designated parent waiting area shall be set up in the playing hall where parents and other responsible adults can meet players who are exiting the playing area after the conclusion of their game. Adults may remain in this area from the start of the round until all games have been completed. This does not apply to K-1 sections. (See 21.4)
- ~~21.12 Except for chess clocks and approved electronic scorekeeping devices (see Appendix F) all electronic devices that a player or spectator brings into the playing room must be turned off at all times. A spectator who brings any electronic device into the playing room without turning the device off will be asked to leave immediately. Any player who brings an electronic device (other than a chess clock or an approved electronic scorekeeping device) without turning that device off may be penalized. Player penalties for using or possessing an electronic device that has not been turned off may include game forfeiture and/or expulsion from the tournament.~~

*(Replaced by 21.12 and 21.13 below.)*

- 21.12 **While a player's game is in progress, all electronic devices in his/her possession must be turned off at all times.** This includes music-playing devices and electronic noise-cancelling headphones/earbuds. The only exceptions to this rule are chess clocks, approved electronic scorekeeping devices (see Appendix F), necessary medical devices, and any other device approved by the Section Chief. Penalties for using or possessing any electronic device that has not been turned off may include game forfeiture and/or expulsion from the tournament. Players also must understand that once their game is complete, they are now considered "spectators" for the remainder of the current round (see Rule 21.13).
- 21.13 **Spectators who bring electronic devices such as laptop/tablet computers or music-players may use them only in the designated Seating Area of the Playing Hall as long as such use of a device does not disrupt the tournament.** Spectators may not talk on cell phones or walkie-talkies anywhere in the Playing Hall while a round of play is in progress. Spectators who abuse these rules, or whose cell phones ring, may be told by the Tournament Staff to leave the Playing Hall for at least 15 minutes during the current round, longer for repeat offenses. Spectators may use photographic equipment in all areas authorized for Spectators in the Playing Hall, but no flash photography is permitted. The Chief TD has the authority to limit photography to specific times during the round (e.g. in the first 10 minutes). See Also Appendix E (Guide for Spectator Conduct).

## **22.0 TROPHIES & AWARDS**

22.1 Trophy size, looks, weight and quality should display the prestige and importance of a *National Chess Championship* event.

22.2 Trophies should have chess figures and must be approved by the USCF.

22.3 Players can win only one individual trophy. Place trophies take precedence over all other trophy awards.

22.4 Trophy sizes in each **Championship section** will be the same size. They will also be larger than the trophies in the other sections. Team and individual trophies in Championship sections must be the same size and be graduated from a **minimum** 48" in height (for first place) down to a **minimum** of 24" (for the lowest place). Team and individual trophies in other sections must be the same size and graduated from a **minimum** 42" in height (for first place) down to a **minimum** of 20" (for the lowest place). Rating class trophies should be smaller than the lowest place trophies, but no smaller than 14".

22.5 Minimum number of trophies:

22.5.1 For **each section** of **Spring Nationals**: a minimum of 1 individual trophy per 10 players and 1 team trophy per 15 players in each section (average attendance in the past two years); plus plaques for 4 players and coach of top five teams; and trophies for the top 3 places in each of the following class sections:

22.5.1.1 **High School:**

**K-12 Championship:** 1900-1999, 1800-1899, 1700-1799, 1600-1699, 1500-1599, 1400-1499, 1300-1399, 1200-1299, U1200, UNR

22.5.1.2 **Middle School/Junior High**

**K-9 Championship:** 1400-1599, 1200-1399, 1000-1199, U1000, UNR

**K-8 Championship:** 1500-1599, 1400-1499, 1300-1399, 1200-1299, 1100-1199, 1000-1099, U1000, UNR

22.5.1.3 **Elementary**

**K-6 Championship:** 1300-1399, 1200-1299, 1100-1199, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, U800, UNR

**K-5 Championship:** 1300-1399, 1200-1299, 1100-1199, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, U800, UNR

**K-3 Primary Championship:** 1100-1199, 1000-1099, 900-999, 800-899, 700-799, 600-699, U600, UNR

**K-1:** All players in this section receive a trophy.

22.5.1.4 **National Bughouse Championship**

**National High School:** K-12 section

**National Junior High/Middle School:** K-9 section

**National Elementary:** K-6 section

**SuperNationals:** K-12 section, K-9 section and K-6 section

22.5.1.5 **National Blitz Championship**

**National High School:** K-12 section

**National Junior High/Middle School:** K-9 section

**National Elementary:** K-6 section and K-3 section

**SuperNationals:** K-12 section, K-9 section, K-6 section and K-3 section

22.5.2 Each grade level of the **K-12 Grade Championship: Top ten individuals and five teams** per 100 players in each section (averaged over the past two years); and following class awards:

<b>Grade</b>							
<b>12</b>	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
<b>11</b>	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
<b>10</b>	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
<b>9</b>		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
<b>8</b>		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
<b>7</b>		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
<b>6</b>			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated

5			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
4			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
3			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
2			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
1				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
K				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated

22.5.3 Each section of the **National Youth Action Championship**: 10 individual and 5 team trophies per 100 players in each section (average attendance in the past two years); plus plaques for 4 players and coach of top five teams.

22.5.4 Each age group of the **Junior Chess Congress**: Top 10 individual finishers in each section and top 5 teams.

22.5.5 In addition to the minimum number of trophies listed above extra trophies should be awarded based on the following calculation: Add the total number of players who have participated in each section over the last two years and divide the average number by 6. These trophies should be awarded only in the case that the final number exceeds the minimum requirement. These additional trophies may be allocated to those tied with place trophy winners.

22.5.6 Ribbons and certificates for each participant have been used effectively at these events. Such items need no ceremonies and may be handed out at the results table. Organizers should be aware that tangible awards of some nature are recommended for the enhancement of these nationals. Plans for awards should be included in the bid and in advance publicity for the event.

22.5.7 Special trophies (gender specific trophies, etc.) are prohibited. Grade trophies are prohibited at all Spring Nationals.

22.5.8 Do not accept donations of extra trophies without the approval of the USCF.

22.5.9 For all Side Event tournaments the minimum awards will be equal to the minimum offered in the championship section of that tournament. See Appendices for specific information on the Blitz and Bughouse.

### **23.0 COACHES, PARENTS AND SPECTATORS MEETINGS**

- 23.1 A coaches, parents and spectators web page will be created which will include but is not limited to information on the tournament rules, regulations, and procedures to be followed during the tournament.
- 23.2 The USCF representative and Scholastic Committee Chairperson (or designee) will co-chair a meeting concerning USCF scholastic programs and discussion of national scholastic issues. The Scholastic Chairperson will prepare the agenda for the meeting and have it available at the meeting. This meeting should last no longer than an hour and is usually scheduled for Saturday starting a half hour after the afternoon round begins.
- 23.3 The USCF Director of National Events will have a comment area provided on the USCF Web Site for feedback or suggestions.
- 23.4 The USCF will hold a Certified Chess Coach meeting at one or more of the National Scholastics every year. In addition a Coaches Information page will be available online which will address FAQ's.
- 23.5 Additional meetings and seminars are encouraged.
- 23.6 No other meetings of any kind will be scheduled at the same time as the meetings above.

### **24.0 INTERNET COVERAGE**

- 24.1 The organizer must set up a web page for each national event.
- 24.2 The web page should be available on-line at least six months prior to the event and link to the USCF website.
- 24.3 The information posted on the web page must be exclusively relevant to the event.
- 24.4 A complete list of all players registered online will be available as participants register.

### **25.0 RECOMMENDED SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 25.1 Provide a large map of the United States, with the number of players from each state indicated on the map.
- 25.2 Provide coaches with a copy of the USCF tournament crosstable as soon as it is available online.
- 25.3 Organized activities for players add to the attractiveness of these events. Such activities, including simultaneous exhibitions or lectures by famous players, are recommended.



25.4 It is strongly recommended that side events (blitz tournaments, etc.) be completed on the day before the start of a national scholastic.

## **26.0 SUPERNATIONALS**

26.1 A SuperNational is a concurrent, co-located, single tournament that includes all three Spring Nationals.

26.2 SuperNationals must follow all of the specifications in the previous sections of these regulations in addition to the regulations in this section.

26.3 SuperNationals may be held no more frequently than every four years. The first SuperNational was held in 1997.

## APPENDIX A

### National Scholastic Blitz Championship Regulations

A1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Blitz Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Blitz Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

#### A2.0 Rules

A2.1 All games will be played under Game-5 time control.

A2.2 Each player will play each opponent twice, once as white and once as black. The lower rated player has choice of color for the first game.

A2.3 The Chief Tournament Director (TD) has the discretion of Touch Move or Clock Move. ~~However, whichever is~~ ~~The Chief TD's~~ decision must be listed on the USCF website in an appropriate easy-to-find location. Touch move is recommended. *(Beginning January 1, 2013, this rule is superseded by A2.4 below.)*

**A2.4 Effective January 1, 2013, all games will be played using Touch-Move in all sections of the Blitz tournament. This rule will be in effect for the 2013 SuperNationals. The USCF Scholastic Blitz Rules will be modified to reflect this change and posted to the USCF Website by January 1, 2013 to allow SuperNationals participants to practice Blitz using Touch-Move.**

#### A3.0 Tournament Format

A3.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

**National High School**: K-12 Championship

**National Junior High/Middle School**: K-9 Championship

**National Elementary**: K-6 Championship and K-3 Championship

**SuperNationals**: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship, K-3 Championship

A3.2 It is recommended that the tournament be a double-swiss tournament with a number of rounds appropriate for the number of participants.

A3.3 No round is to begin after 9:30pm.

A3.4 Entries are to be online (when available) and are also allowed onsite up to 4:00pm on the tournament day. Contestants in line at 4pm will be allowed to register. Additional entrants may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief TD and Tournament Organizer.

A3.5 Round 1 shall begin at 5:00pm on Thursday.

A4.0 The individual and team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in A3.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance.

## APPENDIX B

### National Scholastic Bughouse Championship Regulations

B1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Bughouse Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Bughouse Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

#### B2.0 Tournament Format

B2.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

**National High School**: K-12 Championship

**National Junior High/Middle School**: K-9 Championship

**National Elementary**: K-6 Championship

**SuperNationals**: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship.

B2.2 The tournament will begin at 11:00am on Thursday.

B2.3 All entries are to be onsite on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, with registration stopping at 10:00am. Contestants in line at 10am will be allowed to register. Additional entrants may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief TD and Tournament Organizer.

B2.4 The rules that are to be followed for a National Bughouse tournament are to be displayed at an appropriate easy-to-find location on the USCF website.

B3.0 The team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in B2.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance.

## APPENDIX C

### Parents and Friends Tournament

As a means to include adults in the National Scholastic Championships, the organizer is encouraged to conduct a “Parents and Friends Tournament”. The format, schedule and prize fund shall be up to the organizer with the exception of the following additional trophies for the following pairs:

- a. Father – Child
- b. Mother – Child
- c. Brother – Child
- d. Sister – Child
- e. Aunt – Child
- f. Uncle – Child
- g. Cousin – Child
- h. Coach – Child
- i. Grandfather – Child
- j. Grandmother - Child

Note: The word “Child” refers to a player in any section of the National Championship. Players in the Parents and Friends Tournament shall be solely responsible for informing the Section TD of all relationships awards they qualify for including the section in which their “Child” is playing. Prizes will be awarded based on the sum of the Parents and Friends Tournament participant and their “Child” based on an equal number of rounds. If there are four rounds in the Parents and Friends Tournament, the “Child’s” score after the first four rounds is taken. Awards will be handed out at Chess Control the last day of the main tournament. A pair of trophies will be awarded to the winners of each pairing.

**APPENDIX D - FORMS**

**National Tournament Proposal**

**Please note: The National High School, National Junior High, National Elementary, National K-12 Grade Championship as well as the SuperNational Tournaments are organized by the USCF Director of National Events and are not bid out to other organizers.**

Tournament: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Sq. Ft. \_\_\_\_\_

Location: City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Organizer: \_\_\_\_\_

Organizer's Telephone #'s: H (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ W (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Chief TD: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief TD's Telephone #'s: H (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ W (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: \_\_\_\_\_ Dbl: \_\_\_\_\_ Trl: \_\_\_\_\_ Qd: \_\_\_\_\_

**Area history of national and large non-national events:**

Year No. of Players Event

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**Organizer's experience:**

Year No. of Players Event

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**Chief TD's experience:**

Year No. of Players Event

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**Prize Distribution** (list any prizes to be awarded other than those listed in the National Tournament Regulations - please be specific):

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**PLANNING BUDGET**

**Expenses:** Administrative supplies..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Advertising..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Commemorative boards & sets..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Computer/printer rental..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Computer/printer supplies..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Copier rental..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Copier supplies..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Playing site rental..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Postage..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Rating Fees..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Security..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tables & Chairs..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Director expenses..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trophies/Awards (Main Tourn)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trophies/Awards (Side Tourn)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirts..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**Total Expenses**..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Income:** Commemorative Boards & Sets..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Concessionaire Fees..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations & Contributions..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Main Tourn. (Advance).....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Main Tourn. (On-site)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Side Tourn. (Advance)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee - Side Tourn. (On-site)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Program Advertising..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirts..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Income**..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Net Income**..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SITE EVALUATION CHECKLIST

### Location:

1. In safe area..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
2. Accessible to public transportation..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
3. Accessible to handicapped..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
4. Food available near by..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

### Playing Site:

1. Playing site free..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
2. Based on hotel room occupancy..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
3. Available 24 hours per day..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
4. Has minimum required sq. ft. per player..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
5. Adequate lighting throughout playing rooms..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
6. Ample tables (w/ table cloths) and chairs..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
7. Adequate climate control..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
8. Carpeted or other sound cushioning material..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
9. Adequate climate control..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
10. Frequent water service provided..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
11. Room setup free or part of site fee..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
12. Adequate number of restrooms nearby..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
13. Sufficient wall space available nearby..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
14. Separate analysis area available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
15. Securable TD room..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
16. Securable Concessionaire Room..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
17. Large & accessible registration area..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

- 18. Photocopier available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 19. Outside contractors allowed..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 20. Adequate skittles area available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 21. Adequate spectators area..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

Guest Rooms:

- 1. At or near playing site..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 2. Adequate block of rooms reserved..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 3. Alternate lodging near playing site..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 4. Reduced room rates..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 5. Guests responsible for own charges..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 6. Complimentary room(s) available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 7. Complimentary suite(s) available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 8. Recreational facilities available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

Site Arrangements:

- 1. Management easily accessible..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 2. Hotel rebates per room-night available..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 3. Hotel(s) to provide post-convention report..... YES [ ] NO [ ]
- 4. Hotel(s) agreement contract enclosed..... YES [ ] NO [ ]

## PROPOSAL AGREEMENT WITH USCF

I \_\_\_\_\_ agree to fulfill the terms of this proposal and to abide by the USCF National Tournament Regulations. As the organizer, I will make every effort to ensure the integrity and success of this event:

---

(Proposed Event)

We request that USCF provide concessions for this event.

We request that other concessionaire options be discussed.

---

Signature Date

Playing site agreement included.

Hotel agreement included.

Hotel brochures included.

Playing area diagram included.

## APPENDIX E

### Guide for Spectator Conduct

#### 1. Unacceptable Conduct:

- a. Do NOT stand in front of or make eye contact with the player whose game you are observing.
- b. **Do NOT talk on cell phones or walkie-talkies anywhere in the Playing Hall.**
- c. Do NOT “camp out” at one game.
- d. Do NOT make faces or gestures or convey in any graphic way an opinion of a game being observed.
- e. Do NOT discuss or even whisper opinions of a game being observed.
- f. Do NOT speak privately with any player at or away from the board while his/her game is in progress.
- g. Do NOT assume the role of Tournament Director (TD) and intervene for any reason such as pointing out illegal moves, etc.
- h. Do NOT make any noise, such as opening a bag of potato chips, within earshot of a game in progress.
- i. Do NOT discuss a game at its conclusion if other games are being played in the vicinity, and do NOT analyze a game at a board in the tournament room.
- j. Do NOT take pictures after the first ten minutes when using flash or a camera with an audible shutter.
- k. Do NOT take pictures at any time from a location which makes you an obvious distraction to the players.
- l. Do NOT attempt to enforce rules yourself.
- m. Do NOT discuss instances of cheating or rules violations with the perpetrators.
- n. **Do NOT stand in front of the doors to the Playing Hall, or open them to look inside. During times when the TD has asked for the doors to remain closed, PLEASE HELP US KEEP THEM CLOSED.**

#### 2. Permissible Conduct:

- a. **Within the Playing Hall, spectators may use their laptop/tablet computers or music-players only in the designated Seating Area(s)** as long as such use of a device does not disrupt the tournament.
- b. DO report instances of cheating or rule violations by players or other spectators to the TD staff.
- c. DO comply with any requests or instructions issued by tournament staff.

**Spectators who abuse these rules, may be told by the Tournament Staff to leave the Playing Hall for at least 15 minutes during the current round or longer for repeat offenses.**

This guide shall be prominently posted at multiple locations.

## **APPENDIX F**

### **Approved Electronic Recording Devices**

#### **Introduction:**

Approved handheld recording devices are in common use at USCF Scholastic Events. The USCF no longer requires players to “register” their device with the Tournament Director (TD) before game play. Players who own these devices are responsible for setting and operating them according to the instructions below. Further, players who do not own one of these devices should expect they may be paired against players who do.

#### **Device Owners should:**

1. Set the device in the appropriate mode for recording moves.
2. Turn off or disable any setting(s) that could alert the player of illegal moves.
3. Make the move on the board before recording the move on the device.
4. Keep the device on the table (or immediately above the table) in plain view of the opponent at all times during the game.
5. Touch the device only when recording moves.
6. Never input “variations” in the device at any time during a game.
7. If asked by the opponent to see the player’s device to enter missing moves on their scoresheet, the player will set the device mode to algebraic (or the appropriate mode that allows the opponent to see all previous moves) and turn the device around so the opponent can view the display screen. The device will remain on the table (or immediately above the table) at all times.
8. Never take their device with them if they leave the board while the game is still in progress.
9. Be prepared to take written notation if their device malfunctions (if notation is required during game play in this section). If this happens, the player should begin notation with the next move and fill-in missing moves when the player is on move by borrowing the opponent’s scoresheet or device.
10. Summon a TD when questions arise.

#### **Opponents:**

1. May ask the player who owns the device to show them the device, explain its use, and ensure it is correctly set for game play for this tournament.
2. May not ask the device owner to take written notation instead of using the device.
3. May ask the device owner to see the player’s device for the purpose of entering missing moves on his/her own scoresheet. When this occurs, the device will remain on the table.

4. Should summon a TD when questions arise.

**Coaches/Parents:**

1. Are strongly encouraged to assist their players in understanding proper tournament etiquette regarding these devices before tournament play begins.
2. Should summon a TD when questions arise before the start of a game.

**Tournament Directors:**

1. Should check a player's device to verify that it is correctly set when requested to do so by a player.
  2. Circulate among the players during competition ensuring proper usage of the device.
  3. Are not responsible for knowing how to operate each type of device.
- 

**APPENDIX D (REVISED WORLD YOUTH SELECTION CRITERIA)**

World Youth Regulations - Revisions **in Red and Blue**

6. 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). **The age cutoff is based on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of the tournament.** 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. **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 (See A, #1). The 30 game activity requirement applies to the World Youth with the exception of the winners of USCF national scholastic events (see below under A, #4).**

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

1. **Achieve the minimum rating requirement within the age and gender categories. These are peak published Supplement ratings achieved in the previous 12 months prior to the Rating Supplement used for the event. The Rating Supplement used**

will be the one 6 months prior to the month of the tournament (for example, if the tournament is in December the June Rating Supplement will be used – please note on the USCF website the dates that Supplements are run):

- Girls Under 18 Minimum Rating 2000
- 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 1200
- Boys Under 18 Minimum Rating 2400
- Boys Under 16 Minimum Rating 2300
- Boys Under 14 Minimum Rating 2200
- Boys Under 12 Minimum Rating 2050
- Boys Under 10 Minimum Rating 1900
- Boys Under 8 Minimum Rating 1600

Players whose peak published Supplement rating equals or exceeds this minimum rating will be able to participate in the World Youth. Should FIDE or the tournament organizer in any way restrict our delegation's overall size, players who qualified by rating and not personal right or national champion status and whose registration fees were received last by the USCF office will be excluded from the team and their registration fee promptly returned.

2. Have earned a personal right to compete by virtue of one's performance at the previous World Youth Championship or the previous Pan American Youth Festival – see below “Qualifying by Personal Right”:

3. Win the US Cadet Championship, the Denker Tournament of High School Champions, the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions or the National Girl's Invitational Tournament. Players winning one of these events qualify for the next available World Youth competition.

4. Achieve a perfect 7-0 score or win the first place trophy in a championship section of the National Elementary Championship, the National Junior High Championship, or the National High School Championship in the same year of the World Youth competition.

5. Achieve a perfect 6-0 score or win the first place trophy in any section of the All-Girls National Championships in the same year of the World Youth competition.



**NOTE: The USCF office may set an administrative fee for the players who qualify by rating. [This fee is approximately \$1000.00 per player but is subject to change.]** Players who are designated as the official representative in their category, players who qualify by personal right (as described below), and players who qualify via a national championship (as described above) will not be required to pay this fee.

B. The top qualified player **based on the Rating Supplement (used for that year's World Youth)** in each category 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. **In case of a tie, the player with the highest Regular Rating at the time of the Rating Supplement (used for that year's World Youth) will be considered the top qualified player.** 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 **and the USCF office** 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 medal in one of the following ways:

- A player who receives a 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.

H. Players must meet the current qualification requirements. Players who qualified in the past must still meet the current requirements, regardless of their previous

achievements.