



US CHESS



2019 DELEGATES CALL

**AUGUST
7 - 11, 2019**

**ROSEN CENTRE
HOTEL**

**ORLANDO,
FLORIDA**



US CHESS **MISSION**

Empower people, enrich lives,
and enhance communities through chess.



US CHESS **VISION**

Chess is recognized as an essential tool that is inclusive, benefits education and rehabilitation, and promotes recreation and friendly competition.

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AUGUST 7-11, 2019
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AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS SCHEDULE



ADVANCE AGENDA - 2019 US CHESS BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL 32819, August 10-11, 2019

CALL TO ORDER BY US CHESS PRESIDENT—ALLEN PRIEST

APPEAL FOR DONATIONS BY THE US CHESS TRUST

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

ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES

ADM 19-01 (Allen Priest, KY)

The Delegates re-elect as Delegates at Large those Delegates at Large who are present and whose terms have expired or are expiring.

Delegates at Large with expiring terms: Frank A. Camaratta

DISPOSITION OF THE ALASKA STATE AFFILIATE REQUEST

REPORT ON THE CONNECTICUT STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION STATUS

REVIEW OF DELEGATE SELF-REPORTED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND STANDING RULES, MINUTES OF THE 2018 DELEGATES MEETING AND APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN.

ADM 19-02 (Harold Winston, IL; Robert Messenger, MA)

Moved that the minutes of the 2018 Delegates meeting, as available to the Delegates present in Orlando, Florida be accepted.

ADM 19-03 (Allen Priest, KY)

Move that Ken Ballou is appointed parliamentarian.

ADM 19-04 (Allen Priest, KY)

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2019 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the *Delegates Call*.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 19-05 (Ken Ballou, MA; Election Committee)

The Delegates certify the Executive Board election results. The new Executive Board members elected to full three-year terms will take office at the conclusion of this meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Report of the President (Allen Priest)

Report of the Vice President of Finance (Chuck Unruh)

ADM 19-06 (Executive Board)

The 2019-2020 budget as presented by the Vice President of Finance is adopted.

REPORTS OF STAFF

Report of the Executive Director (Carol Meyer)

Report of the Senior Director of Strategic Communication (Daniel Lucas)

Report of the Director of Events (Boyd Reed)

REPORT OF THE FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to time constraints all committee reports will be included in this year's *Delegates Call* or distributed as handouts, with the following exception:

Report from the Governance Task Force as required by DM 18-47.

OLD BUSINESS

ADM 19-07 (DM 18-43/NDM 18-06) (Kenneth Ballou, MA; Harry Sabine, TN)

Repeal DACI 40 which requires the counting of votes in elections by region.

REFERRED TO ELECTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEES

Responses:

The Election Committee recommends that the delegates accept DM 18-43/NDM 18-06. Bylaws is split: 6 Yes, 6 No, 1 needs more thought.

If ADM 19-07 fails, the following is submitted as a substitute:

ADM 19-07A (Randy Hough, SCA; Harold Winston, IL; Allen Priest, KY)

Add to DACI 40 "Votes will not be counted by regions when candidates are unopposed."

RATIONALE: There is no need for a regional count when candidates for the Executive Board are unopposed.

ADM 19-08 (DM 18-40/NDM 18-03) (John Hartmann, NE)

Any advertising on behalf of a candidate/candidates for the Executive Board shall require disclosure of the persons/companies/organizations who pay for those advertisements on said materials. This includes in-kind contributions from publishers or businesses.

RATIONALE: We have seen in recent cycles an increase in paid advertising—postcards, flyers, advertisements—on behalf of candidates

for the US Chess Executive Board. It is not always clear who is paying for the advertising nor is it clear who the source of the advertisement is. A requirement that candidates or supporters of candidates disclose who is paying for their advertisements is a non-onerous method of increasing transparency in our election system.

REFERRED TO ELECTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEES

Responses:

The Election Committee recommends that the delegates reject DM 18-40/NDM 18-03. Bylaws: 0 in favor, 11 NO, 2 needs more thought. Bylaws is opposed.

ADM 19-09 (DM 18-45/NDM 18-08) (Kenneth Ballou, MA)

Amend the bylaws as follows. Replace the second and third sentences of Article VIII Section I with the following:

"Credentials of affiliates applying for designation as State Chapter for any state without a current State Chapter submitted before June 1, or for any state with a current State Chapter submitted before March 1, shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. Credentials submitted after the deadline shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year."

REFERRED TO BYLAWS

Response:

Bylaws is in favor: 12 YES, 1 Needs More Thought.

ADM 19-10 (DM 18-35/ADM 18-23) (Steve Immitt, NY)

The current US Chess Transgender Policy adopted by the Executive Board on May 22nd reads as follows:

"The Executive Board moves to adopt the following transgender policy as provided by legal counsel: Allow a person to identify as they choose, and allow each person one change to their gender identification. If an individual attempts a second change to gender identification, at that time the individual must provide US Chess a birth certificate, and the birth gender indicated on the birth certificate will be used to determine gender for US Chess purposes."

REFERRED TO WOMEN'S COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

Response:

The Women's committee provided little input and left this to the Executive Board to consider. The Executive Board made changes to the policy that the Board believes addressed the concerns raised in the referred motion. The Board made these changes through motion EB 19-060.

ADM 19-11 (NDM 18-14 Substitute for ADM 18-24) (Steve Immitt, NY; Jeff Wiewel, IL)

Chess is game played by kids and adults for enjoyment. Bullying from non-playing spectators detracts from that experience. The EB is requested to create a **spectator code of conduct** that can be presented at the 2019 US Open delegates meeting. The code should include giving the tournament director and/or organizer both the empowerment and encouragement to take action against violators of the **spectator code of conduct** and explicitly allow such actions to include ejection from the tournament site.

REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Response:

The Executive Board considered a spectator code of conduct. The Board had been working on a broader set of "Safe Play" guidelines for child protection. The Board adopted Guidelines on Safe Play and Conduct at US Chess National Events at its June 2019 meeting.

ADM 19-12 (DM 18-37/ADM 18-25) (Steve Immitt, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY; Daniel Rohde, NY)

Requests for official US Chess certification of tournament equipment are to be made to the Executive Board, which shall then refer the request to an appropriate committee comprised of individuals with expertise and experience with similar equipment. The committee shall adopt a protocol for evaluating equipment and apply these standards in making its recommendations to the Executive Board regarding the product.

REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Response:

The Executive Board directed the current review committee to submit any recommendations regarding any piece of equipment to the office for final review and approval by the Executive Board. The review committee was directed to refrain from sending any approval or similar communication to any applicant.

The Executive Board passed a revised checklist for approving such devices to be effective for submissions after August 1, 2019. The Executive Director and members of the Executive Board have inquired as to the cost of independent testing of certain properties of proposed equipment, but such review has not been finalized for scope or cost.

ADM 19-13 (DM 18-39/NDM 18-02) (Eric Golf Vigil, IA)

Proposed to have a regular prison membership available for \$7.00 for the purpose of playing OTB tournaments behind bars.

REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Response:

The Executive Board adopted through EB 19-032 a promotional prison group membership after consultations with interested parties. The Executive Board believes the intent of the motion has been met.

ADM 19-14 (DM 18-38/ADM 18-26) (Steve Immitt, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY)

The Delegates recommend that the Executive Board add and advertise for a staff position of Technical Director, if it determines that such an additional staff expense is financially viable.

REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Response:

The Executive Director discussed this with the Executive Board. Funding for this type of position had not been included in the budget approved by the Executive Board and the delegates. Other team members are filling many of those roles now and that appears to be working. The Executive Board officers agreed to take on the role of advising the office as to the appropriate committee to consider any specific complaint submitted. There was no funding provided for this position in the 2019-2020 budget and there are no plans to hire a technical director at present.

NEW BUSINESS

Any motions passed at the Membership Meeting will be discussed as first order of New Business.

ADM 19-15 (Harold Winston, IL; Robert Messenger, MA)

Pursuant to Article III, Section 10 of the Bylaws, the Delegates have reviewed the promotional memberships offered by the Executive Board in 2018 and authorize their continuation.

ADM 19-16 (Harold Winston, IL; Robert Messenger, MA)

The Delegates have reviewed the financial information about expenditures and the status of funds in the Players Health and Benefit Fund and approve the report on those items, a report required by DM 11-51.

ADM 19-17 (Harold Winston, IL; Allen Priest, KY; Janelle Losoff, NV)

Amend the final sentence of Article 2 of the Bylaws to replace the words “handicapped individuals” twice and “handicapped” once by “individuals with disabilities.”

RATIONALE: This results from discussions on the Accessibility Committee.

ADM 19-18 (Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL; Bylaws Committee)

Amend Article VI, Executive Board Section 7, Terms of office, to read: The terms of office of the Executive Board members shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for three years, except as provided in Section 9 of this article. The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for two years, except that the term of an officer who leaves the Board after one year would expire. No individual shall serve more than three consecutive terms on the Executive Board, not counting partial terms of less than half of a full term.

No person shall serve as USCF President more than four consecutive years.

RATIONALE: This keeps most of the current wording of the first paragraph, but eliminates transitional wording that is now outdated that deals with elections from 2011-2019. It deletes everything after the first paragraph, the last 8 words in the current first sentence, referring to the transition implementation, and the now unneeded words “effective with those elected in the 2011 regular election” which are also in the first sentence. This change deletes obsolete wording.

ADM 19-19 (Harold Winston, IL; Allen Priest, KY)

Amend Article VI Executive Board Section 7 Terms of Office to delete the sentence “The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for two years, except that the term of an officer who leaves the Board after one year would expire.”

RATIONALE: This is also obsolete, has not been followed in practice, and contradicts Art VI, Sec. 6 which provides for a one year term.

ADM 19-20 (Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL; Bylaws Committee)

Amend Art. VI, sec. 3: Remove the requirement to make printed copies of EB minutes available upon request. The sentence currently states: “Delegates and Alternate Delegates may receive printed copies of minutes upon request and upon payment of a reasonable fee ...”

RATIONALE: The EB minutes are up on the website so people can make their own copies.

ADM 19-21 (Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL; Bylaws Committee)

Revise the last sentences in Art. VI, sec. 6 and Art. VII, sec. 1 to read: “The Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a person to fulfill the functions of Secretary.”

RATIONALE: The current sections both require the Secretary to be appointed. We should give the Executive Board the option of selecting a Secretary.

ADM 19-22 (Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL)

Repeal Delegate Action of Continuing Interest 2

RATIONALE: DACI 2 refers to USCF exerting influence to coordinate and schedule sanctioned tournaments, but this is not done in practice.

ADM 19-23 (Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL; Bylaws Committee)

Repeal Delegate Action of Continuing Interest 19

RATIONALE: Dealing with investment of Life Membership Assets, this contains a rule for the LMA Committee which no longer exists and has been replaced by the LMA Trust thus is obsolete.

ADM 19-24 (Harold Winston, IL; Allen Priest, KY)

Executive Board votes on resolutions will be available to the Delegates in printed form at the annual Delegates meeting.

RATIONALE: This is proposed as a Delegate Action of Continuing Interest (DACI). The Delegates should be fully informed as to votes taken by the Executive Board.

ADM 19-25 (Harold Winston, IL)

Replace the Sentence in Art. VI sec. 3 of the Bylaws allowing Delegates and Alternate Delegates to receive printed copies of minutes upon request and payment of a reasonable fee” by “Executive Board minutes will continue to appear on the US Chess website and in the Delegates Call.”

RATIONALE: The EB minutes are currently on the website but the Delegates should have a hard copy available to them. This motion may be withdrawn if the ADM above passes.

ADM 19-26 (Myron Lieberman, AZ; Rachel Lieberman, AZ)

When there are only two people at the microphones and one is there to call the question and the other has not yet spoken re: the issue currently being discussed, the question is not to be called or any vote taken on calling the question until that person is allowed to speak.

RATIONALE: We are well aware of how many times Delegates line up over and over in the same discussion. There is a need to keep meetings on schedule. Unfortunately no distinction has been made between someone who wants to be heard multiple times and someone who wants to make a single first comment. All Delegates should have the right to be heard and it is understandable that in the course of conversation new ideas are discussed, which can justify repeated appearances, but if someone has not been heard even once on the topic he or she should be allowed to comment.

ADM 19-27 (Executive Board)

To replace Article 4, Section 6 of the bylaws regarding the electronic voting process to read:

If US Chess implements an electronic voting system, voting members may request a paper ballot by writing to the US Chess office prior to May 1st for a regular election or the equivalent cutoff date for a special election.

RATIONALE: Current language references members who receive Chess Life by mail. However, paper ballots have not been bound into Chess Life for some time. Further, the current language seems to create a default of mailing paper ballots. If we have an electronic voting system the default ought to be to use the electronic voting system.

ADM 19-28 (Neil Dietsch, AL)

Resolved: The US Chess Federation hereby recognizes the value of “chess in education” (CIE), wherein CIE is defined as the use of chess

as an educational tool in the service of educational goals, and supports the efforts of organizations engaged in its cause. That support shall include:

- a. Engaging constructively with international CIE commissions and US non-profit organizations providing CIE services
- b. Supporting US Chess Federation member candidates for office or board membership put forth by such organizations unless rejected by a formal vote by the Executive Committee
- c. Allowing use of its communication channels (e.g., affiliate mailings, forums) to be used for promotion and discussion of CIE topics and events (subject to existing policies regarding review of content)
- d. Reporting annually to delegates and USCF members on its CIE engagement and activities.

RATIONALE: “Education” features prominently in the **US Chess Goals and Core Values** on the website. Educational programs are an important aspect of fulfilling the organization’s obligations as a 501(c)(3) organization and presumably to potential donors.

While US Chess does an admirable job promoting competitive chess in schools, its efforts for CIE have been minimal, occasionally even opposing initiatives of US and international CIE proponents. In January 2019 US Chess disbanded its Chess in Education Committee. It opposed the nomination of a US CIE proponent to an international CIE commission.

The US continues to fall behind Europe and Asia in the area of CIE. Both the European Chess Union (ECU) and FIDE have robust Education Commissions actively sponsoring programs and CIE conferences. They promote awareness of what works and what does not. ECU estimates there are 5,000,000 children playing chess in schools. Only 5% are rated. CIE brings educational benefits to the other 95%. As a 501(c)(3), more needs to be done for the 95% if we are to have a credible case for fundraising as an educational institution.

This motion does not require US Chess to take on an active role in CIE. It simply asks for support of the CIE mission by US Chess and at least passive support for those member organizations engaged in its cause.

ADM 19-29 (Steve Immitt, NY; Daniel Rohde, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY)

The Delegates request to be advised in advance if the Executive Board is in favor of granting provisional U.S. Chess certification of tournament equipment.

RATIONALE: The purpose of this advisement would be to allow for a trial period to field test the equipment thoroughly under various tournament conditions, to determine if there are any obvious flaws or defects, before the equipment receives full approval for U.S. Chess certification.

ADM 19-30 (Steve Immitt, NY; Bill Goichberg, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY)

The Delegates Amend Rule 11D (7th Edition) as follows:

11D. Illegal move. If a player completes an illegal move by pressing the clock, in addition to the usual obligation to make a legal move with the touched piece if possible, the standard penalty specified in rule 1C2a applies (i.e. two minutes added to the opponent’s clock). See also 11J, Deliberate illegal moves and 16D1, Illegal moves. 11D1. Illegal move in time pressure. Time pressure is defined as a situation where either player has less than five minutes left in a time control and the time control does not include an increment or delay of 30 seconds or more. A director should not call attention to illegal moves in time

pressure, only the players may make that claim. If, during the game, in time pressure, a player’s claim that one of either player’s last two moves was illegal is upheld by the TD, the position shall be reinstated to what it was before the illegal move and the procedure in rule 11A shall be followed, with no adjustment to the time on the clocks,

BY INSERTING THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE HERE:

“other than the standard two-minute penalty (1C2a). However, there is no time penalty if a player has completed a move after the opponent’s illegal move, before making a claim of an illegal move having been made.”

See also 16D1, Illegal moves; 11H, Director corrects illegal move in non-sudden death; and 11J, Deliberate illegal moves. TD TIP: When the illegal move is a king left in check see the TD TIP after rule 11A.

AND BY INSERTING THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE HERE:

“TD Tip: A player should make sure to claim an illegal move made by his opponent before completing his next move, in order to be eligible to receive the additional time.”

RATIONALE: A player should be required to make a claim of an illegal move before completing his own move; otherwise he forfeits the privilege of receiving a penalty. Requiring an immediate claim rewards the player for keeping on top of the game and refusing to allow an illegal position to be used as a basis for continuing the game. Imposing a time penalty after the opponent’s move has been completed can become more disruptive to the players’ time management the later it’s done, especially if one of the players is in time pressure.

Regardless of the time remaining on the clocks, however, the position should be restored within the limits of the Rules.

ADM 19-31 (Bob Messenger, MA)

Amend rule 11D1, Illegal move in time pressure, to add “other than the standard penalty (1C2a)” after “with no adjustment to the time on the clocks”.

RATIONALE: Some directors have misinterpreted the phrase “with no adjustment to the time on the clocks” in rule 11D1 to mean that there is no time penalty if a player makes an illegal move in time pressure. This rule change clarifies that the standard penalty specified in rule 11D applies in this situation as it does when there is no time pressure.

ADM 19-32 (Steve Immitt, NY; Bill Goichberg, NY; Daniel Rohde, NY)

The Delegates request greater U.S. Chess input into the selection of the members of the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame.

RATIONALE: The Delegates, as well as the members of the U.S. Chess Federation, through their representation on the U.S. Chess Executive Board, have no vote in the selection process of membership in the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. The sponsor believes that such an arrangement is inherently unfair to the U.S. Chess Federation members and the members of the Executive Board and the Delegates who represent those members’ interest. What is the basis for the name, “U.S. Chess Hall of Fame,” if U.S. Chess does not have a vote on the inductees? The sponsor hopes that the Executive Board and the U.S. Chess Trust can develop and refine a mutually collaborative process for inclusion in this landmark institution of U.S. Chess heritage.

The basis for the authority of the Delegates to request US Chess inclusion into the selection process of the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame derives from the current Restated Articles of Incorporation of the United States of America Chess Federation (filed August 2, 2013 with the State of Illinois), page 2:

The Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the USCF. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of the Federation to determine the policies that shall govern the USCF in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the USCF Official Rules of Chess, approve the sale, exchange or other transfer of real estate owned by the USCF, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by the USCF, approve the annual budget, establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of the USCF. The Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors. It is the administrative and managing body of the USCF and is vested with full power to conduct all business of the Federation, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates.

ADM 19-33 (Steve Immitt, NY)

The Delegates recommend that the creation of U.S. Chess national closed championships be done with a concomitant view of the costs involved to the state associations of sending their representatives to participate in these events.

RATIONALE: Not every state can afford to send its representatives to all the national closed championships, even more so as the number of such closed events grows. Rather than confining the solution to these funding concerns purely to limiting the number of such events, the sponsor also hopes that funding these costs can be looked at from the national level as well. The establishment of a program to cover some of these costs, similar to the long-discontinued State Affiliate Support Program, may be one way to help increase state participation in these events.

ADM 19-34 (Bill Goichberg, NY; Steve Immitt, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY)

Moved that a new category of affiliation is established, called Basic Affiliation. This category shall be free and include the following conditions:

- 1) Listing of meeting place and times on the USCF website (may be in smaller type than regular affiliates).
- 2) The right to hold up to four USCF rated tournaments per year of up to 20 players. These tournaments would pay regular rating fees and have regular TD certification requirements. If any such event draws over 20 players, there would be an additional fee of \$1 per player. This fee may be avoided by paying \$40 to convert to a 1 year regular affiliation.
- 3) Basic Affiliates would not receive a magazine.
- 4) Basic Affiliates would not be entitled to a commission on USCF memberships.

Objectives of this new category of affiliate include:

- A) Currently, most chess clubs are not USCF affiliates, so are not listed on the USCF website. Offering such listing free should greatly increase the number of clubs listed, promoting chess and increasing USCF membership.
- B) USCF would obtain many new addresses and email addresses for chess clubs. These could be used to market USCF memberships, tournaments, publications, merchandise, affiliate email blast sales, mailing label sales, etc.
- C) This idea should be beneficial even without the right to hold tournaments, but work better with that right. Some of the new affiliates may try holding small events, which would promote USCF membership and could lead to more or larger future events.
- D) The main downside of this idea is that some clubs will switch from \$40 affiliation to free, costing USCF \$40 minus the cost of supplying magazines, and decreasing magazine circulation. However, the cost to

USCF should not be much, and it should be outweighed by the benefit of initiating contact with new clubs and players.

ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

LMA COMMITTEE/TRUST ELECTION:

ADM 19-35 (Chuck Unruh, OK)

Nomination of Life Member Assets Grantor Trust Trustees for 2019-20. The LMA Trust Chairman nominates the following individuals for volunteer Trustee service on the USCF Life Member Asset Grantor Trust: Mike Hoffpauir, Steve Doyle, Jim Bedenbaugh, Leroy Dubeck, Dov Gorman, Beatriz Marinello, Allen Priest, Tim Redman, Peter Dyson, Alex Relyea, and Chuck Unruh. The Chairman respectfully requests the Delegates to affirm all of the nominations.

RATIONALE: Trustee nominees are dedicated, proven and experienced leaders within US Chess. Several of the US Chess Ex-Presidents and financial leaders serve on the eleven (11) member Trustee board. The entire committee has worked well together and the Chair thanks all of the Trustees for their many decades of US Chess volunteer service.

ETHICS COMMITTEE ELECTION:

ADM 19-36 (Hal Terrie, NH)

The Ethics Committee nominates the following:

Ken Ballou (10022550, MA)
 Hal Terrie (10025265, NH)
 Paul Kolojeski (12734090, NH)
 David Hater (12234630, GA)
 Harold Stenzel (10095824, NY)
 Noreen Davisson (13685502, NJ)
 Christina Schweiss (15192660, VA)
 Anand Dommalapati (13778420, VA)
 David Day (12526705, UT)
 Randy Hough (10461138, CA)
 Jim Mennella (11066241, CA)

AUDIT COMMITTEE ELECTION:

No motion listing nominees submitted.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE ELECTION:

No motion listing nominees submitted.

ELECTION COMMITTEE ELECTION:

No motion listing nominees submitted.

PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

VOLUNTEER AND LEGAL EXPENSES

VOLUNTEER EXPENSES 6/1/18 - 5/31/19

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Mike Hoffpauir	Executive Board	\$1,476.21
Ryan Velez	Executive Board	\$ 858.34
Hal Sprechman	Executive Board	\$1,923.23*
Anjelina Belakovskaia	Executive Board	\$ 484.01
Mike Nietman	Executive Board	\$1,598.62*

*Mike Nietman & Hal Sprechman were reimbursed for EB expenses and they returned the money to US Chess as a donation.

LEGAL EXPENSES 6/1/18 - 5/31/19

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Personnel	Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.	\$ 585.00
Governance & Misc.	Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.	\$6,772.50
	Lucas & Mercanti, LLP	\$ 825.00
	Feigeles & Haimo	\$2,500.00
	Quarles & Brady LLP	\$5,971.50

Total Legal Expenses 2018-2019

\$16,654.00

Donate to US Chess

Your Tax-Deductible Contribution
Will Help US Chess Grow the Game

US CHESS counts on donors to support initiatives that further our mission of empowering people through chess, one move at a time.

Membership dues cover the basic operating costs for US Chess.

Our goals are to grow the game by funding initiatives to improve diversity in chess, sending top players to compete in international events, and growing and retaining women chess players in the game.

With your support, we can elevate chess to be a game for life.

Every dollar counts. Make your contribution today. uschess.org/donate

MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2018-2019

KEY: C = PHONE CONF. CALL, E = E-MAIL, M = PHYSICAL MEETING, I = INTERNET CONF. CALL, O = OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

MOTION #	SPONSOR	DATE/METHOD	SUBJECT	DISPOSITION
EB19-001	Board	08/05/18 M	Officers Named	PASS 7-0
EB19-002	Board	08/05/18 M	Committee Changes	PASS 7-0
EB19-003	Board	08/05/18 M	Committee Chairs and Liaisons	PASS 7-0
EB19-004	Board	08/05/18 M	Committee Membership Changes	PASS 7-0
EB19-005	Board	08/05/18 M	Endorse Nigel Short Ticket in FIDE Election	PASS 7-0
EB19-006	Priest	08/06/18 E	Add Anjelina Belakovskaia to Women's Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-007	Nietman	08/08-9/18 E	Approve 2018-2019 Scholastic Regulations	PASS 7-0
EB19-008	Hoffpauir	08/10-15/18 O	Add Dr. Mike Regan to the Ratings Committee	PASS no obj
EB19-009	Unruh	08/10-15/18 O	Add James R. Thoune to the A&SCC	PASS no obj
EB19-010	Unruh	08/14-19/18 O	Add Philip Linninger to the A&SCC	PASS no obj
EB19-011	Nietman	08/16-21/18 O	Changes to Senior Committee	PASS no obj
EB19-012	Hoffpauir	08/19-24/18 O	Add Steve Immitt to Competition Integrity Comm.	PASS no obj
EB19-013	Unruh	08/26/18 O	Committee Changes (See Comments)	Not Voted
EB19-014	Velez	08/28-09/02/18 O	Remove Michael Lenox from the A&SCC	PASS no obj
EB19-015	Priest	08/30-09/11/18 E	Appeal of Ethics Committee Recommendations	PASS 7-0
EB19-016	Priest	09/06-09/11/18 E	Re-elect Ruth Haring as our FIDE Zonal President	PASS 7-0
EB19-017	Unruh	09/06-09/23/18 E	Name Judit Sztarary Vice Chair of the A&SCC	PASS 7-0
EB19-018	Unruh	09/23-09/24/18 E	Remove Will Barela and Philip Linninger from A&SCC	PASS 7-0
EB19-019	Unruh	10/08-09/18 E	Clock Royalty Endorsement Agreement	PASS 6-0
EB19-020	Meyer	10/09/18 E	Update Bank Signatories	PASS 7-0
EB19-021	Hoffpauir	10/15-16/18 E	Change In Chair of Military Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-022	Priest	10/16-21/18 E	Extend Nationwide Insurance Affinity Contract	PASS 7-0
EB19-023	Priest	10/19-21/18 E	Suspend Steve Shutt from Committee Services	PASS 7-0
EB19-024	Nietman	10/21/18 E	Approve August EB Meeting Minutes	PASS 7-0
EB19-025	Priest	10/22-23/18 E	Name Chair of Development Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-026	Hoffpauir	10/18-23/18 O	Add Members to the Development Committee	PASS no obj
EB19-027	Nietman	11/06-10/18 E	Kelly Bloomfield College Chess Committee Chair	PASS 7-0
EB19-028	Priest	11/10/18 M	Transfer Funds to Reserve Fund	PASS 6-0
EB19-029	Priest	11/10/18 M	Appoint Reserve Fund/PPHBF Investment Committee	PASS 6-0
EB19-030	Priest	11/10/18 M	Transfer PPHBF CD to Investment Account	PASS 6-0
EB19-031	Priest	11/10/18 M	Reserve Fund/PPHBF Investment Plan	PASS 6-0
EB19-032	Priest	11/11/18 M	Promotional Prison Group Membership	PASS 7-0

MOTION #	SPONSOR	DATE/METHOD	SUBJECT	DISPOSITION
EB19-033	Priest	11/11/18 M	2018 Profit Sharing	PASS 7-0
EB19-034	Unruh	11/11/18 M	Denker, Barber, NGTOC Sponsorship agreement	PASS 6-1
EB19-035	Nietman	11/11/18 M	2019 NGTOC Rules	PASS 7-0
EB19-036	Velez	11/11/18 M	A&SCC membership change	PASS 7-0
EB19-037	Meyer	11/11/18 M	Committee Charters Approved	PASS 7-0
EB19-038	Board	11/11/18 M	Prison Chess Committee Disbanded	PASS 7-0
EB19-039	Priest	11/11/18 M	Revised Forum Acceptable Use Guidelines	PASS 7-0
EB19-040	Hoffpauir	11/16-21/18 O	Changes to States and Affiliates Committee	No Objections
EB19-041	Hoffpauir	12/05-10/18 O	Add Bill Smythe to Rules Committee	No Objections
EB19-042	Velez	01/02-04/19 E	Judit Sztaray Chair of Clubs Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-043	Nietman	01/01-12/19 E	Approve Minutes of 11/13/18 EB Meeting	PASS 6-0-1
EB19-044	Nietman	01/13/19 M	College Chess Committee changes	PASS 7-0
EB19-045	Nietman	01/13/19 M	National Rapid and Blitz Championships	PASS 7-0
EB19-046	Unruh	01/13/19 M	Increase Cash Deposit Allocation	PASS 7-0
EB19-047	Priest	01/13/19 M	Name Franc Guadalupe FIDE Zonal President	PASS 7-0
EB19-048	Meyer	01/13/19 M	Cleaning Service Contract	PASS 7-0
EB19-049	Board	01/13/19 M	Finance Committee Charter	PASS 7-0
EB19-050	Board	01/13/19 M	Chess in Education Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-051	Board	01/13/19 M	Steve Shutt Restriction	PASS 7-0
EB19-052	Board	01/13/19 M	Steve Shutt Membership	PASS 7-0
EB19-053	Unruh	01/16-19/19 E	National Senior Invitational (Also See EB19-062)	PASS 7-0
EB19-054	Sprechman	01/17-21/19 E	John McCrary Chair of Awards Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-055	Meyer	01/23-31/19 E	Donor Search Contract	PASS 7-0
EB19-056	Board	02/01-02/19 E	Rules Committee Appeal	PASS 6-0-1
EB19-057	Board	02/04-05/19 E	Approve Mission and Vision Statements	PASS 7-0
EB19-058	Board	02/04-05/19 E	Approve Goals	PASS 7-0
EB19-059	Nietman	02/12-14/19 E	Approve Minutes of January 2019, EB Meeting	PASS 7-0
EB19-060	Meyer	02/27-03/05/19 E	Transgender Policy	PASS 7-0
EB19-061	Nietman	03/05-09/19 E	Scholastic Council Changes	PASS 7-0
EB19-062	Unruh	03/12-13/19 E	Revision to EB19-053	PASS 7-0
EB19-063	Meyer	03/12-13/19 E	Creative Director Contract	PASS 7-0
EB19-064	Hoffpauir	03/09-14/19 O	Add Danny Rohde to Development Committee	No Objections
EB19-065	Board	03/29-30/19 M	Affirm Ethics Committee Ruling	PASS 6-0-1
EB19-066	Velez	03/30-31/19 M	JTP Program Language	PASS 7-0
EB19-067	Priest	03/30-31/19 M	Endowment Fund Creation	PASS 7-0
EB19-068	Priest	03/30-31/19 M	Endowment Fund Funding	PASS 7-0
EB19-069	Board	03/31/19 M	US Chess Gift Acceptance Policy	PASS 7-0
EB19-070	Board	03/31/19 M	Eliminate Communications Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-071	Board	03/31/19 M	Eliminate Hall of Fame Committee	PASS 7-0
EB19-072	Nietman	04/20-21/19 E	Approve Minutes of March EB Meeting	PASS 7-0
EB19-073	Unruh	05/03-08/19 E	VP of Finance named Reserve/ PPHB Investment Committee Chair	PASS 7-0

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MOTION #	SPONSOR	DATE/METHOD	SUBJECT	DISPOSITION
EB19-074	Unruh	05/03-08/19 O	Add Randy Bauer and Ryan Velez to Investment Committee	No Objections
EB19-075	Priest	05/12-14/19 E	Order of List for World Youth Invitations	PASS 6-1
EB19-076	Board	06/01/19 M	Rules of Chess and Functional Device Review	PASS 5-1
EB19-077	Board	05/31-06/01/19 M	2019 Award Winners	PASS 6-0
EB19-078	Board	06/01-02/19 M	Rename National Girls Tournament of Champions	PASS 6-0
EB19-079	Board	06/01-02/19 M	All Girls National Tournament Agreement with KCF	PASS 6-0
EB19-080	Unruh	06/01-02/19 M	Approve 2019-2020 Budget	PASS 6-0
EB19-081	Board	06/01-02/19 M	FIDE Ethics Commission Recommendation	PASS 6-0
EB19-082	Board	06/01-02/19 M	Electronic Voting ADM	PASS 6-0

The first meeting of the 2018-2019 US Chess Executive Board took place on August 5, 2018, at the Madison Marriott West Hotel in Middleton, WI. Welcome to incoming EB members Randy Bauer and Ryan Velez. Thanks to outgoing EB members Anjelina Belakovskaia and Vish Viswanathan for their service.

The following five motions arose from closed session and were voted in open session later the same day:

EB19-001 – Board

The Executive Board names the following officers for 2018-2019: **PASSED 7-0**

President	Allen Priest
Vice President	Randy Bauer
Vice President of Finance	Chuck Unruh
Secretary	Mike Nietman

EB19-002 – Board

The Executive Board moves the following committee changes: **PASSED 7-0**

- a. Rename Publications to Communication
- b. Rename Anti-Cheating to Competition Integrity
- c. Remove National Event Advisory
- d. Remove Membership Acquisition Task Force
- e. Remove Information Technology Advisory
- f. Remove Clock Working Group
- g. Merge States and Affiliates into States and Affiliates

EB19-003 – Board

The Executive Board names the following committee liaisons and chairs for 2017-2018: **PASSED 7-0** (Please see Appendix A for the list of committee chairs and liaisons named in this motion. It will be updated throughout the year as needed).

EB19-004 – Board

The Executive Board makes the following committee membership changes: **PASSED 7-0**

- a. Competition Integrity: Remove Sunil Weeramantry
- b. Barber: Remove Sunil Weeramantry

c. Clubs: Add Charles M. Unruh, Augustine Valverde, Paul Covington, Dr. Judit Sztaray, Abel Talamantez, Lakshmana Viswanath, Steve Morford, Kevin Pryor, Robin Ramson and Sean Manross

d. College: Remove David Mbonu and Jack Hutton

e. Denker: Remove Sunil Weeramantry

f. Finance: Remove Frank Camaratta. Add Ruth Haring

g. Forum: Remove Terry Winchester

h. Prison: Remove Shawn Johnson. Add David LeClair

i. Scholastic Council: Move Eric Vigil to the Scholastic Committee. Move Steve Shutt from the Committee to the Council

j. Scholastic Committee: Remove Luis Salinas. Add Charles M. Unruh and Jeff Bulington

k. States and Affiliates: Remove Ed Conway. Add Lakshmana Viswanath and Stephen Plotnick

l. Top Players: Remove Alisa Melekhina and Yury Shulman

m. Accessibility & Special Circumstances: Remove Sean Manross and Beatriz Marinello. Add Dr. Stephanie Beth Berk

n. Awards: Add Walter Brown

o. Chess in Education: Remove Saul Ramirez and Ryan Velez

EB19-005 – Board

The Executive Board moves that the US Chess Federation endorses the candidacy of GM Nigel Short and his ticket for the Presidency of FIDE. **PASSED 7-0**

Allen Priest moved by e-mail on August 6, 2018, to add Anjelina Belakovskaia to the Women's Committee. It passed unanimously the same day.

EB19-006 – Priest

I move that Anjelina Belakovskaia be added as a member of the Women's Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Nietman indicated that the Scholastic Council has completed the 2018-2019 Scholastic Regulations and focused on the need to have the regulations in place by no later than September 1 each year. He moved their approval by e-mail on August 8, 2018, by e-mail with the regulations attached. The vote was completed the next day. President Allen Priest noted that "I would like it to be noted in the minutes the appreciation of the EB to the scholastic committee/council and the EB liaison Mike Hoffpauir for their work in getting this done in time for the start of school and months earlier than the last few years."

EB19-007 – Nietman

I move that the 2018-19 Scholastic Regulations be approved. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Hoffpauir moved by e-mailed objections procedure on August 10, 2018, to add Dr. Mike Regan to the Ratings Committee.

EB19-008 – Hoffpauir

Under our 5-day “by exception” procedure for adding new members to committees, I hereby move that Dr. Mike Regan (NJ) be added to the US Chess Ratings Committee per the request of Committee Chair, Dr. Mark Glickman. There is no need to respond to this request unless there is an objection. Allen will “call the vote” after 5 calendar days, e.g. next Wednesday, Aug. 15th. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Chuck Unruh moved on August 10, 2018, to add James R. Thoun to the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee (A&SCC) by e-mailed objections procedure. No objections were received by August 15.

EB19-009 – Unruh

I move that James R. Thoun 12423385 Life Member become a member of the A&SCC in 5 days if there are no objections. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Chuck Unruh moved on August 14, 2018, to add Philip Linninger to the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee (A&SCC) by e-mailed objections procedure. No objections were received by August 19.

EB19-010 – Unruh

I move that Philip Linninger USCF# 14895972 become a member of the A&SCC by request of the Chairperson in 5 days if there are no objections. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Mike Nietman noted by e-mail on August 16, 2018, that he received a request for several changes to the Senior Committee from its chair David Grimaud and moved their adoption by objections procedure. They will pass automatically if no objections are received by August 21.

EB19-011 – Nietman

I move by 5 days objection procedure to make the following changes to the Senior Committee: **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Remove (Per Chair David Grimaud the reason was that he received no response to his willingness-to-serve queries from them)

Charles Hatherill
Gregory Kearse
William L. Pursel
Gordon Simons

Add

Paul Covington (CO), 12044640
Haraldur “Hal” Karlsson (TX), 12884053
Kevin Pryor (GA), 12544760
Renate Otterbach (CA), 14565208
Carl Haessler (OR), 10503892
Michael Mulford (NV), 10510376
Danny Rohde (NY), 12622575

Mike Hoffpauir moved on August 19, 2018, by e-mailed objections procedure the addition of Steve Immitt to the Competition Integrity Committee. If no objections are received by August 24 the motion would pass at that time. It did.

EB19-012 – Hoffpauir

Under our 5-Day without objections process, I move to add Steve Immitt (NY) to the Competition Integrity Committee (formerly known as the Anti-Cheating Committee). **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Chuck Unruh offered a motion by e-mail objections procedure on August 26, 2018, to remove Philip Linninger and Will Barela from the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee (A&SCC) at the request of the committee chair and to make Judit Sztarary a vice chair of that committee. Three things were unusual about the motion that eventually resulted in further discussion and new motions.

The first issue was that it would reverse motion EB19-010 (See above), which only nine days earlier added Philip Linninger to the A&SCC. Discussion centered around whether to include both motions or simply remove the earlier motion. Both motions need to be documented.

The second issue was that it would name a Vice Chair by objections Procedure (which is currently not allowed). Ryan Velez offered a motion on September 3, 2018, to name Sean Manross Vice Chair of the Clubs Committee by objections procedure and resubmitted his motion by objections procedure on September 4 to name Judit Sztarary Vice Chair of the A&SCC. Please note that any changes in Chairs, Co-chairs or Vice Chairs will also affect the Committee Appendix.

During discussion Mike Nietman pointed out that Mike Atkins’ Motion EB16-044, which is still in effect, is worded “Moved, that in between scheduled meetings of the EB, that appointments of regular committee members (non-chair or co/vice chair) will be presented by an EB member by e-mail who posts ‘Mr/Ms.’ will become a member of committee in 5 days with no objections.” Please note that the reason for this is that the objections procedure is to be used only where there is little chance for needed discussion or objections. The naming of Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs or Vice Chairs can sometimes require discussions that can be sensitive enough that they are usually named in closed session EB meetings. Objections procedure motions preclude such discussions. Allen Priest pointed out on the same day that “The EB appoints chairs of EB committees through regular voting procedures, not through objections procedures. The appointment of chairs is not up to committees, nor is it up to the liaison, which is what the objections procedures basically allows.” He also clarified the current status, saying “There is no pending appointment of any chair or vice-chair for either Accessibility or Clubs.” Ryan Velez withdrew his motion. Primary liaison Chuck Unruh moved replacement motions on September 6, 2018, and September 23, 2018 (See motions EB 19-017, 018).

The third issue was that it was actually two separate motions submitted as one and could have the unintended consequence of an objection to one affecting the other. The motion itself was not voted and ultimately withdrawn.

EB19-013 – Unruh

I move to remove Will Barela USCF# 12592643 and Philip Linninger USCF# 14895972 from service on the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee if there are no objections within the next 5 days. I move that Judit Sztarary USCF# 14708926 become the A&SCC Vice Chairperson if there are no objections within the next 5 days.

Ryan Velez moved by e-mail objections procedure on August 28, 2018, to remove Michael Lenox from the A&SCC at the request of the committee chair. He noted that this is part of a committee reorganization.

EB19-014 – Velez

I move to remove Michael Lenox ID# 12734131 from service on the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee if there are no objections within the next 5 days.

Allen Priest replied to an appeal of the Ethics Committee recommendations with the following detailed motion. The motion was made by e-mail on August 30, 2018. Voting was completed the next day; however it contained a factual error which resulted in an amendment to the wording. The amended motion was submitted by e-mail on

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August 31, 2018, and voting was completed on September 11, 2018. The final wording is presented here.

EB19-015 – Priest

I move to amend the motion regarding the appeal of Ethics Committee recommendations to correct a factual error as follows:

In the matter Weideman vs Young, Cusi, Cartegena, Silvestre, Castro and NorCal House of Chess, The US Chess Executive Board takes the following actions in response to various appeals: **PASSED 7-0**

Ronald Cusi: Mr. Cusi submitted a written appeal of the Ethics Committee recommendations. He was offered the opportunity to address the Executive Board by phone. He declined that opportunity by email response.

After considering the written appeal of Ronald Cusi, the Executive Board upholds the recommendation of the Ethics Committee. The US Chess membership of Ronald Cusi is suspended for three years. The tournament director certification of Mr. Cusi is permanently revoked.

Omar Cartegena: Mr. Cartegena submitted a written appeal of the Ethics Committee recommendations. He was offered the opportunity to address the Executive Board by phone. He declined that opportunity by email response.

After considering the written appeal of Omar Cartegena, the Executive Board upholds the recommendation of the Ethics Committee. The US Chess membership of Omar Cartegena is suspended for three years.

Ted Castro: Mr. Castro submitted a written appeal of the Ethics committee recommendations. He was offered the opportunity to address the Executive Board by phone, which he chose to do.

After considering both the written appeal and the phone appeal of Ted Castro, the Executive Board upholds the recommendations of the Ethics Committee in part and amends in part.

The tournament director certification of Ted Castro is permanently revoked. The US Chess membership of Mr. Castro is suspended for three years.

The Executive Board upholds the Ethics Committee recommendation that the NorCal Team be stripped of their 2018 US Amateur Team West championship title.

Mr. Castro's appeal extended to the affiliate NorCal House of Chess. After considering both the written appeal and the phone appeal of Ted Castro on behalf of the affiliate NorCal House of Chess, the Executive Board rejects the Ethics Committee recommendation to permanently revoke the affiliate status of NorCal House of Chess. In recognition of the substantial educational activities of this affiliate, the Executive Board places the NorCal House of Chess on probation for a period of three years. Any violation of the Code of Ethics or of US Chess affiliate standards by the affiliate, any officer of the affiliate, or any tournament director at an event submitted by the affiliate will result in the permanent revocation of the NorCal House of Chess affiliate status. Further, as a condition of the probation, NorCal House of Chess must appoint a tournament director who is certified by US Chess at the Senior level or higher to oversee all tournament activity and tournament rating report submissions by the affiliate. NorCal House of Chess will notify US Chess of the appointment which will be confirmed by US Chess with that tournament director. Failure to maintain the appointment of such a tournament director in this oversight role will result in the immediate suspension of the affiliate status of NorCal House of Chess, until an appropriately credentialed tournament director accepts such appointment.

Note: Angelo Young did not appeal the Ethics Committee recommendation suspending his US Chess membership for three years. Guerrero

Silvestre did not appeal the Ethics Committee recommendation suspending his US Chess membership for five years and assigning him a rating floor of 1800. Those recommendations take effect without action by the Executive Board.

Allen Priest moved on September 6, 2018, by e-mail to reappoint Ruth Haring as our FIDE Zonal President. This can be done since the US is the only country in our FIDE Zone.

EB19-016 – Priest

I move that US Chess reappoint Ruth Haring as our FIDE Zonal President. **PASSED 7-0**

Chuck Unruh moved by e-mail on September 6, 2018, to make Judit Sztaryar Vice Chair of the A&SCC. The vote was completed on September 23, 2018.

EB19-017 – Unruh

I move that Judit Sztaryar USCF# 14708926 become the A&SCC Vice Chairperson. **PASSED 7-0** Please note: This is documented in a revision to Appendix A.

Chuck Unruh moved by e-mail on September 23, 2018, to remove Will Barela and Philip Linninger from the A&SCC. Voting was completed the next day.

EB19-018 – Unruh

I move to remove Will Barela USCF# 12592643 and Philip Linninger USCF# 14895972 from service on the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

Chuck Unruh moved by e-mail the approval of an agreement regarding royalties for US Chess endorsement of a clock on October 08, 2018. The vote was completed the following day.

EB19-019 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve the Clock Royalty Endorsement Agreement between House of Staunton, Inc. and US Chess. The final version of the agreement is now date marked as 10/8/2018. **PASSED 6-0** with Ryan Velez recusing himself due to a possible conflict of interest.

Thanks to Kathleen Collins, who is retiring, for all that she has done for US Chess and for being willing to continue until such time that a replacement could be trained in her responsibilities. We wish Kathleen Collins the best for the future. Executive Director Carol Meyer moved by e-mail on October 09, 2018, that the signatories on the bank account be updated to reflect the transition. The vote was completed the same day.

EB19-020 – Meyer

I move that the Executive Board authorize the removal of Kathleen Collins as signatory to US Chess bank accounts and that Christine Green be added as a signatory to same. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Hoffpuir moved by e-mail on October 15, 2018, the replacement of the chair of the Military Committee. He noted that "the 'Chair' of the Military Committee rotates each year. It does this in order to align with the Service hosting the coming year's US Armed Forces Open (USAFO). In October 2019 during Columbus-Day weekend, the USAFO will be hosted by the US Marine Corps, at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. Accordingly, Ms. Sara Walsh has stepped up and provided her name as Chairperson for the next year. Sara has long been involved in Military Chess in her capacity working for the Morale Welfare and Recreation department at Camp LeJeune. She is an active tournament player in NC whose rating hovers around 1900. She also served ably as "House Man"

during the 2018 NATO Chess Championships held at Texas Tech University. As a part of this process of rotating the Chair, the current Chairperson, US Navy Captain Thomas Belke, has submitted his resignation to be effective the date his successor is approved by the Executive Board." The vote was completed the next day.

EB19-021 - Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board (EB) accept the resignation of Captain Thomas Belke, US Navy (Retired) from his position as Chairperson of the US Chess Military Chess Committee, and that the EB approve the nomination of Ms. Sara Walsh (USCF 12457717, exp. 3/2019) as Chairperson. As Chairperson, Sara will serve as the Principal Organizer for the 2019 US Armed Forces Open Chess Championships being planned for October 2019 at Camp LeJeune, NC. **PASSED 7-0**

Allen Priest moved by e-mail on October 16, 2018, a five year extension of the affinity contract with Nationwide Insurance. Voting was completed on October 21.

EB19-022 - Priest

After the recommendation of Executive Director Carol Meyer, I move that US Chess authorize Carol Meyer to execute an extension of the Nationwide insurance affinity contract for five years. The contract terms and obligations remain largely unchanged; there are minor changes in language recommended by the US Chess corporate counsel which have been accepted by Nationwide. **PASSED 7-0**

Allen Priest moved by e-mail on October 19, 2018, the suspension of Steve Shutt from service on US Chess committees until allegations against him are resolved. After a brief discussion period to perfect the wording the motion was worded as shown below. Voting was completed on October 21, 2018.

EB19-023 - Priest

Due to recent published reports of serious accusations related to potential child abuse, in accordance with US Chess policy regarding committee service, I move to suspend Steve Shutt from service on the Chess in Education Committee, Denker Tournament Committee, Barber Tournament Committee, the Scholastic Committee, and the Scholastic Council. The suspension from committee service will remain in effect until the allegations can be resolved. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Nietman moved the approval of the minutes of the August EB meetings on by e-mail on October 21, 2018. Voting was completed the same day.

EB19-024 - Nietman

I move to accept the previously distributed minutes of the August 2, August 4 and August 5, 2018 Executive Board meetings. **PASSED 7-0**

The Development Committee, which had been inactive in the last two years, is now active thanks to John D. Rockefeller V, who volunteered to chair the committee the committee in an informal discussion at the Madison meeting. The Executive Board did not make a motion at that time to name him as chair. He has since requested that two members be added to the committee. The next two motions document the committee's current status.

EB19-025 - Priest

I move that John Rockefeller be appointed chair of the Development Committee. **PASSED 7-0** Please note that the primary EB liaison is Randy Bauer and the Alternate EB liaison is Mike Hoffpauir.

As liaison to the Development Committee and at the request of Committee Chair John D. Rockefeller, Mike Hoffpauir moved the

addition of Sunil Weeramantry and Kimberly Doo McVay to the Development Committee by e-mailed five day objections procedure.

EB19-026 - Hoffpauir

Under our 5-day objections procedure I move that Sunil Weeramantry (USCF 11155189, exp. 7/2019) and Kimberly Doo McVay (USCF 16085728, exp. 8/2019) be added to the Development Committee per the request of Chairperson John Rockefeller. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

The US Chess Executive Board met in New Orleans, LA, on November 10-11, 2018. The following motions arose from that meeting. Please note that motion EB19-027 originated as an e-mail motion. By November 10 the count was 6-0. The voting was completed at the meeting when the one member who had not yet voted cast his vote.

The College Chess Committee voted to name Kelly Bloomfield of Ohio State as its new chair, effective 12/01/18. Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on November 06, 2018, to name Kelly Bloomfield Chair of the College Chess Committee. He made the motion at the start of the meeting since the vote was 6-0 and only one vote remained to be counted. The motion passed 6-0 and the remaining vote was received by e-mail on November 12 to complete the 7-0 result.

EB19-027 - Nietman

I move to name Kelly Bloomfield chair of the College Chess Committee effective December 1, 2018 and to thank Al Lawrence for his service as chair. **PASSED 7-0**

Allen Priest made four motions on Saturday, November 10 which involved setting up an investment committee for the Reserve Fund and the Professional Players Health and Benefit Fund (PPHBF), transfer funds to the Reserve Fund/PPHBF, and specify an investment plan for it. VP of Finance Chuck Unruh was appointed Chair of the committee by President Allen Priest. Please note that this will be a separate standing committee to handle investments for both the Reserve Fund and the PPHBF. It does not replace the PPHBF Management Committee, which will continue as is.

EB19-028 - Priest

In accordance with the original motion (EB17-021) which set up the reserve fund, I move to transfer \$200,000 from the Regions Bank account to the Reserve Fund to increase that Fund to \$1.2 million.

PASSED 6-0 with Randy Bauer absent and not voting

EB19-029 - Priest

I move to appoint a Reserve Fund/PPHBF investment committee. The current members will be: **PASSED 6-0** with Randy Bauer absent and not voting

VP of Finance Chuck Unruh
Ruth Haring
Jim Bedenbaugh
Peter Dyson
Allen Priest

Myron and Rachel's note: We were saddened to hear of the passing of Ruth Haring, who was a great friend of chess and a personal friend for decades. She was an exceptional US Chess President and EB member as well as an excellent player. She has been effective in all aspects of chess and brought women's chess to prominence. Although she will not be able to serve on this committee, Ruth can live on as a remarkable role model for future generations. Please help preserve her legacy.

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EB19-030 – Priest

I move to transfer the PPHB CD, once it matures, to the Reserve Fund/PPHB investment account. The PPHBF checking account will remain intact at present. **PASSED 6-0** with Randy Bauer absent and not voting

EB19-031 – Priest

I move that we authorize the Reserve Fund/PPHB investment committee to invest the Reserve Fund/PPHB investment account in accordance with the investment plan outlined by Chuck Unruh. The committee will have the authority to buy and sell investments within the portfolio and can grant the portfolio manager trading authority within the investment plan. **PASSED 6-0** with Randy Bauer absent and not voting

Allen Priest moved at the meeting on Sunday, November 11, 2018, to create a prison group membership program.

EB19-032 – Priest

I move that US Chess establish a promotional prison group membership program. The memberships will be regular 1 year adult memberships. Any affiliate can purchase group membership vouchers under this program. Unused vouchers will expire one year after purchase. The minimum order quantity is five. The price per voucher is \$12. If purchased in quantities equal to or exceeding 100 in one transaction the price per voucher will be \$10. Vouchers must be redeemed through the office in the same way that individual prison memberships are processed. The definitions applicable to the individual prison membership will all be applicable to this program. **PASSED 7-0**

The following motions were made in closed session and read in open session at the meeting on November 11, 2018.

EB19-033 – Priest

I move that the Executive Board approves a one-time profit sharing contribution to the US Chess 401K Plan for calendar year 2018 in the amount of 2% of compensation for all eligible employees. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-034 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve the revised Dewain Barber, US Chess sponsorship agreement as it pertains to the three invitational events. **PASSED 6-1** with Randy Bauer opposed.

EB19-035 – Nietman

I move to accept the Women's Committee report item #4 dealing with updated rules for the 2019 NGTOC Information and Rules. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-036 – Velez

I move to remove Bruce Davis from the Accessibility & Special Circumstances committee. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-037 – Meyer

I move that the following committee charters be approved as amended: **PASSED 7-0**

- a. Accessibility & Special Circumstances
- b. Barber
- c. College Chess
- d. Competition Integrity
- e. Denker
- f. International Affairs

- g. Military
- h. Outreach
- i. PPHB
- j. Scholastic Council/Committee
- k. States & Affiliates
- l. US Chess Development
- m. US Open
- n. Women's Chess

EB19-038 – Board

The Executive Board moves that the Prison Chess Committee be disbanded. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-039 – Priest

I move that the Executive Board adopt the revisions to the Forum Acceptable Use Guidelines (AUG) proposed by the Executive Director. The effective date of the new AUG is November 11, 2018. The revised AUG document is attached and the Executive Director will see that the new AUG replaces the prior document on the US Chess website forums. **PASSED 7-0** Please note: The new AUG can be found in Appendix B

At the request of States and Affiliates Committee (SAC) Co-Chairs Alex Relyea and Guy Hoffman, liaison Mike Hoffpauir moved by e-mailed objections procedure on November 16, 2018 to add and remove specified SAC members. The motion passed automatically without objection five days later.

EB19-040 – Hoffpauir

Under the 5-day objections procedure I move that we add Glenn Panner and Thad Rogers to the SAC and remove Stephen Plotnick, Robert Tanner and Jim Gray from the SAC. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

At the request of Rules Committee chair Ken Ballou, Mike Hoffpauir moved the addition of Bill Smythe to the Rules Committee by e-mailed Objections Procedure. No objections were received and the motion passed automatically.

EB19-041 – Hoffpauir

I move that under the "5-day no objections" process that Bill Smythe (US Chess ID 10339022) be added to the Rules Committee. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Ryan Velez, as liaison to the Clubs Committee, moved by e-mail on January 2, 2019, to make Judit Sztarary the Clubs Committee Chair. Voting was completed on January 4.

EB19-042 – Velez

I move that Judit Sztarary USCF# 14708926 become the Clubs Committee sole Chairperson. **PASSED 7-0**

Secretary Mike Nietman moved the acceptance of the minutes of the November, 2018, EB meeting by e-mail on January 1, 2019. Voting was completed on January 12, 2019.

EB19-043 – Nietman

I move to accept the November 2018 EB Meeting Minutes as were previously distributed. **PASSED 7-0**

The US Chess Executive Board met in Orlando, FL on January 13, 2019. Motions EB19-044 through 47 were voted in open session at that meeting.

EB19-044 – Nietman

I move to add Alex Onischuk to the College Chess Committee and remove Rade Milovanovic as Rade is retiring from UT-Dallas. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-045 – Nietman

I move to add the National Collegiate Rapid and Blitz Championships to the list of national events and directs the College Committee to draft a set of guidelines to run the event. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-046 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve the recommendation of the Reserve Fund Committee to increase the cash deposit allocation with FDIC banks from 25% to 35% of the entire fund. The new purchase allocation is accomplished through cost averaging FDIC Insured Cash Deposits with expiration dates between one and three years. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-047 – Priest

I move to name Franc Guadalupe as our FIDE Zonal President. **PASSED 7-0**

Motions EB19-048 through 052 were made in closed session and read into the record in open session.

EB19-048 – Meyer

I move that T's Cleaning Service be awarded a 3-year contract beginning 1/1/2019 to perform janitorial services at our Crossville office. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-049 – Board

The Executive Board moves to accept the Finance Committee charter as presented. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-050 – Board

The Executive Board moves that the Chess in Education Committee be eliminated as it is presently constituted. The Executive Board will review the tasks presently assigned to the current committee and decide how best to accomplish those organizational needs. That may include the formation of several smaller more narrowly focused groups, the assignment of tasks to other existing committees, or assignment to US Chess team members. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-051 – Board

The Executive Board moves that Stephen Shutt be banned from the sites of US Chess organized and contracted events. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-052 – Board

The Executive Board moves that the US Chess membership of Stephen D Shutt (10159504) is suspended pending further resolution of published allegations of misconduct at US Chess events and in conjunction with chess education. **PASSED 6-0-1** with Mike Nietman abstaining.

The Saint Louis Chess Club has offered to sponsor a new National Invitational for Seniors, starting with this year. Liaison to the Senior Chess Committee moved by e-mail to create the event on January 13, 2019. Voting was completed on January 17, 2019.

EB19-053 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board create a new annual national event known as the U.S. Senior Championship with the 1st tournament held 2019 in Saint Louis at the Saint Louis Chess Club, 4657 Maryland

Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63108. Format for the invitational event becomes a 10-player round robin with player selections by US Chess ratings (7), the previous year's winner of the U.S. Senior Open Championship (1), the previous year's winner of the National Senior Tournament of Champions (1) and a Wildcard selection by the sponsor (1). Time limits, tournament direction and other venues, will adhere to standard US Chess practices for a national event. **PASSED 7-0**

Hal Sprechman, Liaison to the Awards Committee, moved by e-mail on January 17, 2019, to name John McCrary Chair of the Awards Committee. Voting was completed on January 21, 2019.

EB19-054 – Sprechman

I move to name John McCrary as chairman of the Awards Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

Executive Director Carol Meyer moved by e-mail on January 23, 2019, the approval of the Donor Search contact that was presented to the EB at its January meeting. Voting was completed on January 31, 2019.

EB19-055 – Meyer

I move to approve the 3-year Donor Search contract as presented to the Executive Board at its January 13, 2019 meeting. **PASSED 7-0**

On behalf of the US Chess Executive Board, Mike Hoffpauir moved by e-mail on February 1, 2019, to uphold the ruling of the Rules Committee in the Chen vs Perkins appeal. Voting was completed the next day.

EB19-056 – Hoffpauir for Board

In the matter of Chen vs. Perkins, the Executive Board upholds the ruling of the US Chess Rules Committee that the games played by Mr. Chen in Rounds 1, 2, 3 and 5 of the 7th ChessKid.com Nationals in June 2018 shall be rated as wins for Mr. Chen. **PASSED 6-0-1** with Allen Priest abstaining.

On behalf of the US Chess Executive Board, Mike Hoffpauir proposed the following two motions that arose from the EB strategy workshop in Orlando on January 11. The motions were proposed by e-mail on February 4, 2019, and voting was completed the next day.

EB19-057 – Hoffpauir for Board

I move to approve the Mission and Vision Statements for US Chess as developed by the Executive Board during the strategy workshop on January 11, 2019:

- **Mission:** Empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess.

- **Vision:** Chess is recognized as an essential tool that is inclusive, benefits education and rehabilitation, and promotes recreation and friendly competition. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-058 – Hoffpauir for Board

I move to approve the following five (5) US Chess Goals developed by the Executive Board during the strategy workshop on January 11, 2019:

- Increase the use of chess in education
- Expand the social, recreational and rehabilitative applications of chess
- Develop the depth and breadth of our partnerships
- Use chess to increase opportunities for under-represented segments of society
- Continuously improve internal operations and member services.

PASSED 7-0

Secretary Mike Nietman moved by e-mail on February 12, 2019, the approval of the minutes of the January EB Meeting. The vote was completed two days later.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

PLEASE NOTE: Chuck Unruh moved to adopt a revised set of guidelines for US Chess Invitational Requirements on February 18, 2019, which included the US Chess Senior Invitational. After discussion led to a need for additional consideration, the sponsor withdrew the motion the next day. When a new motion is voted it will be numbered and documented.

EB19-059 – Nietman

I move to accept the minutes that were previously distributed for review and edited. **PASSED 7-0**

Executive Director Carol Meyer moved by e-mail on February 27, 2019, to approve a revision to the US Chess Transgender Policy to be consistent with the new US Chess mission statement after legal review. The essential difference is to add, “A request to change gender must be done at least two weeks prior to participating in a US Chess rated event. US Chess policy is subservient to applicable laws.” The vote was completed on March 5, 2019.

EB19-060 – Meyer

I move that the Executive Board approve the updated Transgender Policy that now reads:

The Executive Board moves to adopt the following transgender policy as provided by legal counsel: *Allow a person to identify as they choose, and allow each person one change to their gender identification. If an individual attempts a second change to gender identification, at that time the individual must provide US Chess a birth certificate, and the birth gender indicated on the birth certificate will be used to determine gender for US Chess purposes. A request to change gender must be done at least two weeks prior to participating in a US Chess rated event. US Chess policy is subservient to applicable laws.* **PASSED 7-0**

Rusty Harwood will be leaving the US and has resigned his seat on the US Chess Scholastic Council. He has been very valuable to US Chess and the cause of scholastic chess. We wish him all the best. His resignation leaves two open seats on the Scholastic Council. The Scholastic Committee elected Danny Rohde and Eric Vigil in a special election to fill those seats. Mike Nietman moved to accept Rusty Harwood’s resignation with thanks and name the Scholastic Council’s choices to terms that will expire in August 2020. Voting was completed March 9, 2019.

EB19-061 – Nietman

I move to accept the resignation of Rusty Harwood from the Scholastic Council and name Danny Rhode and Eric Vigil to the Scholastic Council. The EB thanks Rusty for his service on the Scholastic Council. **PASSED 7-0**

Chuck Unruh moved by e-mail on March 12, 2019, a revision to motion EB19-053, which added the sentence “The invitational rating list for the event will be computed with the same formula used for the US Championship.” Voting was completed the next day.

EB19-062 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board create a new annual national event known as the U.S. Senior Championship with the 1st tournament held 2019 in Saint Louis at the Saint Louis Chess Club, 4657 Maryland Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63108. Format for the invitational event becomes a 10-player round robin with player selections by US Chess ratings (7), the previous year’s winner of the U.S. Senior Open Championship (1), the previous year’s winner of the National Senior Tournament of Champions (1) and a Wildcard selection by the sponsor (1). Time limits, tournament direction, and other venues will adhere to standard US Chess practices for a national event. The invitational rating list for the event will be computed with the same formula used for the US Championship. **PASSED 7-0**

Creative Director Frankie Butler has been working on an expired contract and has been very valuable. Executive Director Carol Meyer moved by e-mail on March 12, 2019, to approve a new contract for her services. Voting was completed the next day.

EB19-063 – Meyer

I move that the EB approve a one-year contract extension for Francesca Butler, US Chess Creative Director, effective March 15, 2019 and expiring March 14, 2020. **PASSED 7-0**

At the request of Development Committee Chair John D. Rockefeller V, Mike Hoffpauir moved by five day objections procedure the addition of Danny Rohde to the Development Committee.

EB19-064 – Hoffpauir

At the request of the Committee Chair, John Rockefeller, and under the terms of the Executive Board’s 5-day no objections process, I move to add Danny Rohde to the US Chess Development Committee. **No Objections** were received.

The Executive Board met in Nashville March 29-31, 2019. Motion EB19-065 was made in closed session on March 29 and documented in open session on March 30.

EB19-065 – Board

The Executive Board moves to affirm the Ethics Committee’s ruling in the case of Goichberg vs. Diaz and permanently revokes Mr. Alain Diaz’s (ID#: 13244888) US Chess membership. **PASSED 6-0-1** with Randy Bauer unable to attend during the appeal call and abstaining.

Ryan Velez moved in closed session on March 30, 2019, to accept a draft document of the language for the JTP program. The vote was documented in open session on March 31, 2019. The wording of the document is in Appendix C

EB19-066 – Velez

I move to accept the JTP Program Language draft document. **PASSED 7-0**

Allen Priest moved two motions in closed session on March 30, 2019 which established an Endowment Fund. They were documented in open session on March 31, 2019.

EB19-067 – Priest

I move that the US Chess Executive Board creates the US Chess Endowment Fund (the Fund). The Fund’s purpose is to be a vehicle for the long-term management of gifts, donations and other funds that either have donor restrictions or board-imposed restrictions that limit the ability of US Chess to spend the principal of the funds. The Fund may accept gifts subject to the general gift acceptance policy of US Chess. Donor-restricted gifts may have restrictions that do allow for the invasion of principal of that gift for the stated purpose of the gift, but the intention is that the gift provides for benefits over multiple years. The Fund will be managed initially with the internal committee that is managing the US Chess Reserve Fund. Management of the Fund will have a longer-term focus than the Reserve Fund. The Fund will be established with a separate investment account at TD Ameritrade. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-068 – Priest

I move that the US Chess Endowment Fund (the Fund) will be initially funded by the transfer of an amount equal to the benefactor portion of all benefactor membership paid to date. The estimate of this is 44 members at \$1,500 or \$66,000. The Executive Board directs that the benefactor portion of future benefactor memberships be added to the

Fund. The Fund will accumulate money until it reaches a minimum of \$100,000 before any earnings will be spent from the Fund. The exception will be if the Fund accepts a gift that requires the expenditure of earnings for a specific program upon receipt. **PASSED 7-0**

The Executive Board passed three Board motions in closed session on March 31, 2019, and documented them in open session the same day. All three passed 7-0.

EB19-069 – Board

The Executive Board moves to accept the US Chess Gift Acceptance Policy as presented. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-070 – Board

The Executive Board moves to eliminate the Communications Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

EB19-071 – Board

The Executive Board moves to eliminate the Hall of Fame Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

Mike Nietman moved the approval of the minutes of the March EB meeting by e-mail on April 20, 2019. The vote was completed the next day.

EB19-072 – Nietman

I move to accept the previously distributed minutes of the March 30-31, 2019 Executive Board Meeting in Nashville, TN. **PASSED 7-0**

Chuck Unruh moved by e-mail on May 3, 2019, to name the VP of Finance (by title) the chair of the Reserve Fund and PPHB Investment Committee. Please note that this is not the same committee as the PPHB Committee. Voting was concluded on May 8, 2019.

EB19-073 – Unruh

I move that the presiding Vice President of Finance serves as the Chairperson for the Reserve Fund & PPHBF Investment Committee. **PASSED 7-0**

Chuck Unruh moved by 5 day e-mail objections procedure the addition of Randy Bauer and Ryan Velez to the Reserve Fund & PPHBF Investment Committee on May 3, 2019. No objections were received by May 8.

EB19-074 – Unruh

I move to add Randy Bauer USCF#10320372 and Ryan Velez USCF#12792845 as members of the Reserve Fund & PPHB Committee under the 5 day without objections process. **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

The order of the list for invitations to the World Youth was appealed. Allen Priest moved by e-mail on May 12 to approve the order created by the US Chess office. After a correction to a typo, the vote was completed by May 14.

EB19-075 – Priest

In the matter of the Yoo appeal of the order of the invitational list for the World Youth, I move the Executive Board approve the ordering of that list as created by the US Chess office team. **PASSED 6-1** with Mike Nietman opposed.

The US Chess Executive Board met in Augusta, MO, on the weekend of June 01-02, 2019. Motion EB19-076 was voted in open session on June 01 and motion EB19-077 was voted in closed session the previous day and read into open session at a later time on June 01. Motions EB19-078 through EB19-082 were passed in closed sessions on June 01 and June 02 and read into open session later on June 02.

EB19-076 – Board

The Executive Board moves to accept the US Chess Federation Rules of Chess and Functional Device Review to be effective August 1, 2019. **PASSED 5-1** with Randy Bauer opposed and Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

EB19-077 – Board

The Executive Board names the following 2019 award winners: **PASSED 6-0** with Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

- a. Distinguished Service Award – Francisco Guadalupe (TX), Dr. Mark Glickman (MA)
- b. Outstanding Career Achievement Award – Stephen Schneider (GA), Fred Wilson (NY), Richard Koepcke (NCA)
- c. Meritorious Services Award – Dr. Clyde Smith (SC), Dr. Jeanne Sinuefield (MO)
- d. Special Services Award – Peter Dyson (FL), Sam and Miller Copeland (SC), Robert Simpson (NY)
- e. Tournament Director Lifetime Achievement Award – Steve Immitt (NY)
- f. Accessibility and Special Circumstances Person of the Year – Alex Relyea (NH)
- g. Chess City of the Year – Philadelphia, PA
- h. Chess Club of the Year – The Charlotte Chess Center (NC)
- i. Chess College of the Year – University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley
- j. Committee of the Year – Ethics Committee
- k. Frank J. Marshall Award – GM Melikset Khachiyan (CA)
- l. Grandmaster of the Year – GM Hikaru Nakamura (NY), GM Sam Shankland (NCA)
- m. Honorary Chess Mate – Carolyn Weeramantry (NY)
- n. Koltanowski Awards
 - i. Gold – The Saint Louis Chess Club (MO), Two Sigma
 - ii. Silver – Dewain and Susan Barber (SCA), Richard and Barbara Schiffrin (PA), David and Maureen Grimaud (SC)
- o. Organizer of the Year – Jon Haskel (FL)
- p. Outstanding Team Performance Award – 2018 Olympiad Team, 2018 World Senior Team
- q. Scholastic Service Award
 - i. Individual – Jon Haskel (FL), Russell Harwood (TX)
- r. Outstanding Player Achievement Award – GM Alex Onischuk (TX)
- s. Tournament Director of the Year – David Hater (GA)
- t. Woman Chessplayer of the Year Award – Jennifer Yu (VA)

EB19-078 – Board

The Executive Board moves to rename the National Girls Tournament of Champions the Ruth Haring National Girls Tournament of Champions. **PASSED 6-0** with Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

EB19-079 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the resolution (attached) codifying the terms of agreement between the Kasparov Chess Foundation and US Chess for the annual All Girls National tournament. **PASSED 6-0** with Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

EB19-080 – Unruh

I move to accept the 2019-2020 budget as presented. The budget must be presented to the delegates for approval. **PASSED 6-0** with Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

EB19-081 – Board

The Executive Board recommends David Hater for a seat on the FIDE Ethics Commission and directs our President and FIDE Delegate to promote that candidacy. **PASSED 6-0** with Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

EB19-082 – Board

The Executive Board moves to submit the following ADM: **PASSED 6-0** with Mike Hoffpauir absent and not voting.

To replace Article 4 Section 6 of the bylaws regarding the electronic voting process to read If US Chess implements an electronic voting system, voting members may request a paper ballot by writing to the US Chess office prior to May 1st for a regular election or the equivalent cutoff date for a special election.

RATIONALE: Current language references members who receive *Chess Life* by mail. However, paper ballots have not been bound into *Chess Life* for some time. Further, the current language seems to create a default of mailing paper ballots. If we have an electronic voting system the default ought to be to use the electronic voting system.

APPENDIX A – US CHESS COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

See motion EB19-003. Please note that some Delegate appointed committees name their own chairs and the chair was listed as TBD (To Be Determined) in the motion. The list includes those chairs that became known after the motion passed. Please note: The list of Chairs and Liaisons may be modified by subsequent motions (These are indicated by a *) and will be updated throughout the year as needed.

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	PRIMARY LIAISON	ALTERNATE LIAISON
ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES (A&SCC)	Janelle Losoff, Chair, Judit Sztarary, Vice Chair*	Chuck Unruh	Ryan Velez
AUDIT (DEL)	Jon Haskel	Chuck Unruh	Allen Priest
AWARDS	John Mc Crary*	Hal Sprechman	Randy Bauer
BARBER TOURNAMENT OF K-8 CHAMPIONS	Jon Haskel*	Mike Nietman	Mike Hoffpauir
BYLAWS (DEL)	Harold J. Winston, Co-Chair Guy Hoffman, Co-Chair Richard Koepcke, Vice-Chair	Allen Priest	Randy Bauer
CHESS IN EDUCATION (Disbanded)*	Renate Otterbach	Ryan Velez	Mike Nietman
CLUBS	Judit Sztarary*	Hal Sprechman	Ryan Velez
COLLEGE CHESS	Kelly Bloomfield*	Mike Nietman	Mike Hoffpauir
COMMUNICATIONS (Disbanded)*	John Hartmann	Allen Priest	Chuck Unruh
COMPETITION INTEGRITY	Gary Walters	Mike Hoffpauir	Hal Sprechman
CRAMER AWARDS	Frank Brady	Randy Bauer	Chuck Unruh
DENKER INVITATIONAL	Jon Haskel*	Mike Nietman	Mike Hoffpauir
ELECTION (DEL)	Ken Ballou	Mike Nietman	Allen Priest
ETHICS (DEL)	Hal Terrie III	Mike Hoffpauir	Hal Sprechman
FIDE EVENTS	Carol Jarecki	Mike Hoffpauir	Hal Sprechman
FINANCE	Jim Bedenbaugh	Chuck Unruh	Randy Bauer

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	PRIMARY LIAISON	ALTERNATE LIAISON
FORUM	Robert Messenger	Randy Bauer	Allen Priest
HALL OF FAME (Disbanded)*	Harold J. Winston, Chair	Ryan Velez	Mike Hoffpauir
	John Donaldson Vice-Chair*		
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	Michael Khodarkovsky	Allen Priest	Ryan Velez
MILITARY	Capt. Thomas Belke U.S.Navy (Ret)	Mike Hoffpauir	Chuck Unruh
OUTREACH	Myron Lieberman	Ryan Velez	Hal Sprechman
PPHB FUND MANAGEMENT	John Donaldson	Randy Bauer	Allen Priest
PRISON (Disbanded)*	TBD	Chuck Unruh	Randy Bauer
RATINGS	Mark Glickman	Mike Hoffpauir	Mike Nietman
RESERVE FUND / PPHB FUND INVESTMENT*	VP of Finance is Chair	N/A	N/A
RULES	Ken Ballou	Mike Hoffpauir	Allen Priest
SCHOLASTIC CHESS	Sunil Weeramantry*	Mike Nietman	Ryan Velez
SENIOR	David Grimaud	Hal Sprechman	Chuck Unruh
STATES AND AFFILIATES	Guy Hoffman, Alex Relyea Co-Chairs	Hal Sprechman	Chuck Unruh, Mike Hoffpauir
TOP PLAYERS	Tatev Abrahamyan, Robert Hess Co-Chairs	Allen Priest	Randy Bauer
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION (TDCC)	Alex Relyea	Mike Hoffpauir	Allen Priest
US CHESS DEVELOPMENT*	John D. Rockefeller V	Randy Bauer	Mike Hoffpauir
US OPEN	Hal Terrie III	Hal Sprechman	Mike Nietman
WOMEN'S CHESS	Maureen Grimaud	Ryan Velez	Chuck Unruh

A&SCC – Judit Sztarary was named Vice Chair of the A&SCC on motion EB19-017

Stephen Shutt was suspended from all committee service on motion EB19-023. This affects his co-chairmanship of the Barber and Denker Invitational Tournament Committees.

Development – John D. Rockefeller V was named Chair of the Development Committee on motion EB19-025

College Chess – Kelly Bloomfield was named chair of the College Chess Committee on motion EB19-027

Prison – The Prison Chess Committee was disbanded on motion EB19-038 after a Prison Group Membership was created on motion EB19-032.

Reserve Fund/PPHB Fund Investment – This committee was created by motion EB19-029 to handle investments for both the Reserve Fund and the PPHB Fund. The PPHB Fund Management Committee remains unchanged as a separate committee which is concerned with qualifications, processing and evaluating applications for support, and other matters not including investment. Vice President of Finance Chuck Unruh was appointed Chair and no EB liaisons were named.

Clubs – Judit Sztarary was named Chair of the Clubs Committee on motion EB19-042.

Chess in Education – Per Motion EB19-050 the Chess in Education Committee in its current structure is eliminated.

Awards – John McCrary was named Chair of the Awards Committee on motion EB19-054.

Scholastic – Russell (Rusty) Harwood is moving and has resigned his Scholastic Council seat and his position as Scholastic Committee Co-Chair. Per motion EB19-061 Danny Rohde and Eric Vigil were added to the Scholastic Council to fill their vacant seats. Rusty Harwood has not been replaced as Co-Chair of the Scholastic Committee. Sunil Weeramantry will continue as sole Chair of the Scholastic Committee.

Communication Committee – The Executive Board eliminated the Communication Committee with motion EB19-070 at their meeting on March 31, 2019.

Hall of Fame Committee – The Executive Board eliminated the Hall of Fame Committee with motion EB19-071 at their meeting on March 31, 2019.

Reserve Fund and PPHBF Investment Committee – The chairmanship of the committee was changed from Chuck Unruh to the VP of Finance (by title) on motion EB19-073.

APPENDIX B - US CHESS FORUMS

ACCEPTABLE USAGE GUIDELINES (AUG)

1. Preamble. The AUG governs the US Chess Forums to create a cordial and productive discussion of the game of chess and US Chess concerns. Certain portions of the Forums are open to the general public, while other portions may be limited to US Chess members. The Forums are not a right or a privilege of membership. The Forums are a service provided by US Chess to increase the enjoyment of, and to advance the game of chess, for all. The Forums are controlled exclusively by US Chess. The Forums will be civil and benefit the game. Communications that are not civil, or not reasonably calculated to benefit chess, may be removed without further explanation by US Chess or its moderators. US Chess values freedom of expression, but governmental constitutional standards have no application to these private Forums.

2. The Poster is Responsible. By accessing the Forums, you understand that all information, data, text, software, music, sound, photographs, graphics, video, messages, tags, or other materials (hereinafter “Content”), whether publicly posted or privately transmitted, are the sole responsibility of the person from whom such Content originated on these Forums. If you use (read or post on) these US Chess Forums you are indicating that you agree that US Chess is not responsible for the Content found here. Only the Executive Director, or the Executive Director’s designees, including members of the Executive Board have the authority to post on these Forums on behalf of US Chess. Executive Board members and Delegates exclusively represent their own opinions and positions when posting on the Forums. Moderators may take actions on behalf of US Chess in conformance with this AUG, but they do not otherwise communicate on behalf of US Chess. To the extent that this AUG requires clarification, it will be construed by the Executive Director.

3. US Chess is NOT Liable for Content Posted on These Forums. The above, among other things, means that you, and not US Chess, are entirely responsible for all Content that you upload, post, email, link, transmit or otherwise make available via these Forums. US Chess does not control the Content posted on these Forums and, as such, does not guarantee the accuracy, integrity or quality of uploaded or posted Content. You understand that by using these Forums, you may be exposed to Content that is offensive, indecent or objectionable to your own personal beliefs. You may also be liable for any Content that you post that runs afoul of any law. While the Forums’ moderators will attempt to remove all materials that violate this AUG, under no circumstances will US Chess be liable in any way for any Content, including, but not limited to, any errors or omissions in any Content, or any loss or damage of any kind incurred as a result of the use of any Content posted, emailed, transmitted or otherwise made available via these Forums.

4. Precluded Activity. You agree to NOT use the US Chess Forums to:

a. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any Content that is unlawful, harmful, threatening, abusive, harassing, tortious, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, libelous, invasive of another’s privacy, hateful, or racially, ethnically or otherwise objectionable;

The AUG also applies to US Chess Private Messages (PMs), which are accessed through US Chess Forums software. Under most circumstances,

moderators will be expected to briefly explain the removal of a post or thread to its originator. In some circumstances, the violation of this AUG may be so apparent or egregious that no explanation is necessary.

b. harm any person (minor or adult) in any way;

c. impersonate any person or entity, including, but not limited to, US Chess administrators, a moderator, or falsely state or otherwise misrepresent your affiliation with a person or entity;

d. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any Content that you do not have a right to make available under any law or under contractual or fiduciary relationships (this includes, but is not limited to inside information, proprietary and confidential information learned or disclosed as part of employment relationships or under nondisclosure agreements);

e. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any Content that was authored in a private communication by another person unless you have the author’s express written permission to do so;

f. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any Content that represents a fact that is detrimental to an entity or another person unless you can substantiate the fact(s) relied upon;

g. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any Content that infringes any patent, trademark, trade secret, copyright or other proprietary rights (hereinafter “Rights”) of any party;

h. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any unsolicited or unauthorized advertising, promotional materials, “junk mail,” “spam,” “chain letters,” “pyramid schemes,” “charitable requests” or any other form of solicitation or self promotion, whether directly or indirectly;

i. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any material that contains software viruses or any other computer code, files or programs designed to interrupt, destroy or limit the functionality of any computer software or hardware or telecommunications equipment;

j. disrupt the normal flow of posting or otherwise act in a manner that negatively affects other users’ ability to engage in accessing and using the site;

k. intentionally or unintentionally violate any applicable local, state, national or international law and any regulations having the force of law while using the Forums;

l. post advertising materials, directly or indirectly, whether your own or that of another;

m. use the poster’s signature line to carry on substantive discussion, convey an ongoing complaint, circumvent these rules, antagonize other posters or moderators, proselytize, or provide links to other Internet addresses;

n. “stalk” or otherwise harass another; and/or

- o. collect or store personal data about other users in connection with the prohibited conduct and activities set forth in paragraphs a. through m. above;
- p. discuss how to perform, elude capture, or profit from illegal activities;
- q. post nudity or graphic descriptions of sex;
- r. post links to sites with grotesque, gruesome or disgusting pictures/videos;
- s. insult/attack other users;
- t. use vulgarities or obscenities;
- u. taunt the moderators;
- v. start threads about “why was my thread deleted?” Private message a moderator to resolve any issue;
- w. post inappropriate images;
- x. post repetitively;
- y. try to bypass the censors;
- z. spam, self promotion, and referral links are not allowed. Such links (including url shortener links such as bit.ly) may be automatically stripped;

aa. upload, post, email, link, Private Message, transmit or otherwise make available any Content that calls the integrity of another person into question, states or suggests a person is a liar, or that contains deliberately insulting language, including but not limited to calling into question a person’s loyalty, diligence appearance, intelligence, or sincerity.

5. The Moderation Queue; Suspension; Expulsion. US Chess’ Executive Director and moderators have broad discretion to supervise the forums and Private Messages (PMs). If a member, or non-member in certain forums, violate this AUG, any two moderators may agree to place a poster in the “Queue” for up to 30 days. While in the Queue, a poster may continue to read and post in the forums; however, posts must be released by a moderator before they will be seen by other forum participants. Moderators may place a poster in the Queue twice within any twelve-month period year for up to 30 days on each occasion. If a third AUG violation warranting action in the moderators’ view occurs within any twelve-month period, after placing the poster into the Queue for a third time, and then for every subsequent time thereafter, the moderators must immediately refer the poster to the Executive Director for possible additional action. Upon referral, the moderators may recommend any sanction available to the Executive. The Executive Director may place the poster in the Queue for any period of time, suspend the poster’s Forum privileges for a definite time, or expel the poster from the Forums indefinitely. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to prevent the moderators from referring serious violations to the Executive Director before being placed into the Queue three times. The Executive Director is free to impose sanctions without a recommendation or referral from the moderators.

6. Appeal of Sanctions Greater than 60 Days. Any US Chess member (in good standing throughout the time of the incident and the appeal) who has been sanctioned for a period of more than 60 days or indefinitely (in one sanction), may appeal the sanction to the US Chess Executive Board. The appeal will be made in writing within 30 days of the imposition of the sanction to the US Chess Executive Board, addressed to the care of the US Chess Executive Director. The initial notification of appeal will contain a succinct recitation of facts and circumstances to be reviewed by the Executive Board. If the Executive Board needs additional facts, it will obtain them from the Executive Director, third parties, and/or the sanctioned member. The Executive Board will within sixty days of the appeal affirm the sanction, overturn

the sanction, or modify the sanction. The member will be notified of the Board’s decision by the Executive Director in writing.

7. US Chess May Delete Content. You acknowledge that US Chess may or may not pre-screen Content, but that US Chess and its moderators shall have the right (but not the obligation) in their sole discretion to pre-screen, refuse, delete, or move any Content that is available via the Forums. Without limiting the foregoing, US Chess and its moderators shall have the right to remove any Content (including off-topic posts) that violates this AUG or is otherwise objectionable at their sole discretion. You agree that you must evaluate, and bear all risks associated with, the use of any Content, including any reliance on the accuracy completeness, or usefulness of such Content. In this regard, you acknowledge that you may not rely on any Content created by US Chess or submitted to US Chess, including without limitation information in all parts of the Forums.

8. US Chess Right of Disclosure. You acknowledge, consent and agree that US Chess may access, preserve and disclose your IP address, and Content if required to do so by law or in a good faith belief that such access preservation or disclosure is reasonably necessary to: (a) comply with legal process; (b) enforce this AUG; (c) respond to claims that any Content violates the rights of third parties; (d) respond to your requests for customer service; or (e) protect the rights, property or personal safety of US Chess, its users, and the public.

9. Use of these Forums Is at the Discretion of US Chess. Membership use and permissions on this site are at the sole discretion of US Chess. US Chess reserves the right to remove, edit, move or close any thread or to bar any person, in its sole discretion. Some, any or all permissions to view and/or use this site are subject to change, for no reason and with no advance notice.

10. Your Promises. By accessing and using these Forums, you warrant that you will not post any messages that are obscene, vulgar, sexually-orientated, hateful, threatening, violate any of the listed additional rules, or are otherwise violative of any laws. In addition, you also warrant that you will not hold US Chess or any of its affiliates responsible for any post, image, or link posted from a Forum user as the moderators are not full-time employees or volunteers and cannot immediately catch everything.

11. Although the administrators and moderators of these Forums will attempt to keep all objectionable messages off the Forums, it is impossible for them to review all messages at the time they are posted. All messages express the views of the author, and US Chess will not be held responsible for the content of any message.

Please keep in mind that whenever you give out personal information online—for example, via message boards or chat—that information can be collected and used by people you don’t know. While US Chess strives to protect your personal information and privacy, US Chess cannot guarantee the security of any information you disclose online; you make such disclosures at your own risk. However, if you violate the rules, US Chess reserves the right to disclose any and all user activity to the public, third parties, and or law enforcement agencies.

The rules that we have put in place are guidelines that our staff and moderators use to ensure that our website remains orderly. It is impossible to write a rule for every conceivable circumstance and situation. Thus the “rules” are in fact guidelines: Our moderators will look at every situation individually and try to apply those guidelines and look at the “spirit” and intent of the rule. If it is not an immediately clear and obvious situation, they will do their best to make a judgment call. Moderators are subject to continual review by the Executive Director and serve solely at the discretion of the Executive Director.

Adopted by US Chess Executive Board: November 11, 2018

APPENDIX C - US CHESS' JUNIOR TOURNAMENT PLAYER (JTP) PROGRAM

JTP Event Purpose

JTP events allow affiliates to run rated tournaments for groups of scholastic players where US Chess membership is not required.

JTP Event Structure

There are 3 types of JTP event participation levels:

1. Primary JTP events – where each participant is third grade or lower.
2. K12 JTP events – An accredited school with a scholastic affiliate may run a K12 JTP event as long as each participant attends the school with the accreditation.
3. Home School JTP Events – Home school students may participate in either the Primary JTP events or the K12 JTP events. To determine a home schooler's event participation level, consult the age-grade chart in 12.2.1 of the **Scholastic Regulations** (see below). The home school students in question must also meet the definition of a school in the scholastic regulations. Lastly, home school students forming a specific team must be from the same home school cooperative or individual group as per the scholastic regulations:

a. SR13.2.1 – A school is defined as an institution which is under one Head of School and serves one student body. A school may be located in one or more buildings, and on one or more campuses. A school must provide core curricular instruction as defined by state or local law or regulation. Schools with students on multiple campuses must seek prior approval from the US Chess Director of Events at least two weeks before the start date of the tournament to compete in a US Chess national scholastic event.

b. SR13.2.1.1 – 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. For example, the local public school for a 3rd grade home schooled or virtual school student is the local public elementary school whose geographic footprint, as defined by the applicable local department of education authorities, encompasses the student's home residence address.

c. SR13.2.1.2 – 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.

JTP

GRADE	AGE LIMIT
Kindergarten	6 years old
1st Grade	7 years old
2nd Grade	8 years old
3rd Grade	9 years old
4th Grade	10 years old
5th Grade	11 years old
6th Grade	12 years old
7th Grade	13 years old
8th Grade	14 years old
9th Grade	15 years old
10th Grade	16 years old
11th Grade	17 years old
12th Grade	18 years old

Requirements

All participants must have a US Chess Member ID to participate. In order to generate the US Chess Member ID, you'll need to collect each participant's birthdate and mailing address information. For some schools, this may require a parental consent form. Instructions on generating a US Chess Member ID for the participants who are not already US Chess members can be found in the **TD/Affiliate FAQ** support area. Whomever oversees rating the event will need to code the JTP event as a Primary JTP Event or K-12 In-School JTP Event. To change the Participant Coding, use the edit form in the TD/Affiliate Support Area. Note the K-12 JTP type will only be offered if the affiliate is a scholastic affiliate. Until the Participant Coding is changed to a JTP Event, any non-members will be flagged as errors.

JTP Restrictions

No adult players can participate in JTP events as formal participants or house players. This includes parents, coaches, and teachers. If a cross-section pairing is possible, ensure that the participants are both JTP eligible. If necessary, use the grade-age chart in 12.2.1 of the **Scholastic Regulations**.

Approved by US Chess Executive Board, March 31, 2019

Memorandum of Agreement
Between Kasparov Chess Foundation
And US Chess

Whereas, the Kasparov Chess Foundation (KCF) and the United States Chess Federation (US Chess) have a shared interest in growing chess among girls and women;

Whereas, KCF created the KCF All Girls National (AGN) tournament and has continuously supported it since inception;

Whereas, KCF and US Chess have been working together since 2003 to support the AGN;

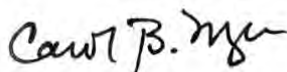
Whereas, KCF and US Chess, both 501(c)3 charitable organizations, mutually agree to continue their collaboration in support of the annual AGN tournament; and

Whereas, in light of informal agreements of the past, this Resolution codifies the shared understanding of the relationship and formalizes it for the future.

Be it resolved that the following terms are agreed to by KCF and US Chess with respect to the annual AGN:

- KCF will run the AGN annually until such time it cannot do so. At that time, US Chess will be given the right to run the AGN;
- The AGN will be a qualifier for each age for the FIDE World Cadet and World Youth Chess Championships;
- The AGN will follow US Chess Scholastic Regulations;
- KCF will provide 2 nights' lodging for the US Chess Scholastic Representative at the AGN;
- US Chess will provide economy airfare and event per diem for the US Chess Scholastic Representative to the AGN;
- US Chess will provide KCF free advertising in Chess Life and on USChess.org;
- KCF will highlight US Chess with banners on site during the event and free space for the US Chess Women's Committee; and
- US Chess formally names the KCF All Girls National as a US Chess National Event

Passed by a motion of the US Chess Executive Board on June 2, 2019.



US Chess Authorized Signature

Executive Director
Title

Accepted by the Kasparov Chess Foundation on 3rd June 2019



KCF Authorized Signature

Executive Director
Title

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR BENEFACTORS!

US Chess Benefactor Members as of June 1, 2019:

Paul M Albert Jr | Jim Bedenbaugh | Michael Belovesick | Jim Blackwood | Robert J Borel
Joseph Boyle | John J. Brendel | David E. Carter | Fabiano Caruana | Carl Cohen | Jonathan Crumiller
Jeffrey Davidson | Martin Dean | Kenneth Duffy | Gregory Gliner | Bill Goichberg | Calvin Halsey
Robert E. Hux | In Memory Of: David Kaplan | David Kochman | David Lazarus | Andrew Lerner
Christopher Lewis | Jennie S Liu | David C. Miller | Parker Montgomery | Ross Nickel | Bernard Novatt
William E. Perry III | David H. Raymond | Timothy P. Redman | Timothy M. Sawyer | Daryl Skinner
Phillip Smith | Christopher P. Snell | Adam Christopher Snow | Henry L. Terrie
Harmon D Throneberry Sr | Thomas N. Thrush | Harold Torrance | Charles Unruh | John Walton
Bill Witmer | Edward Wycoff | Brian Yang

Membership Appreciation Program (MAP)

The MAP program continues in 2019. See details at main.uschess.org/go/MAP. Top standings will appear every two months in *Chess Life*.

Overall Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	634
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	533
PAPERCLIP PAIRINGS	TX	221
THE BERKELEY CHESS SCHOOL	CA	196
BOCA RATON CHESS CLUB	FL	148
EN PASSANT CHESS CLUB	TX	122
LITTLE HOUSE OF CHESS INC	NY	109
SAN DIEGO CHESS CLUB	CA	105
NEW YORK CITY CHESS INC	NY	105
ROCKS & ROOKS CHESS CLUB	TX	101
LONG ISLAND CHESS NUTS	NY	101

Small State Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
JOHN BAPST MHS CHESS CLUB	ME	73
ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL CC	ME	49
METRO AREA CHESS	DC	46
WVSCA	WV	25
BANGOR AREA CHESS ASSOCIATION	ME	16
TOURNAMENT IN A BOX	NH	11
RELYEA CHESS	NH	8
OMAHA CHESS COMMUNITY	NE	8
PROVIDENCE CHESS ASSOCIATION	RI	6
AIRLINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	ME	5
MAINE HIGHLANDS CHESS LEAGUE	ME	5
HARRISON COUNTY CHESS CLUB	WV	5

State Chapter Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
MARYLAND CHESS ASSOCIATION	MD	258
MICHIGAN CHESS ASSOCIATION	MI	94
WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION	WA	91
PENNSYLVANIA ST CHESS FED	PA	90
NEVADA CHESS INC	NV	51
NEW JERSEY ST CHESS FED	NJ	47
MASSACHUSETTS CHESS ASSOC	MA	41
MINNESOTA ST CHESS ASSN	MN	28
IOWA STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION	IA	17
NEW HAMPSHIRE CHESS ASSN	NH	14

Adult Membership Standings

Name	State	Count
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	463
CHESS CLUB AND SCHOLASTIC CTR	MO	76
SAN DIEGO CHESS CLUB	CA	76
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	71
ROCHESTER CHESS CENTER	NY	58
JERSEY SHORE HS CHESS LEAGUE	NJ	53
LOS ANGELES CHESS CLUB	CA	41
JOHN BAPST MHS CHESS CLUB	ME	39
BOCA RATON CHESS CLUB	FL	38
MARSHALL CHESS CLUB	NY	35

Scholastic and Youth Membership Standings

Name	State	Count
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	462
PAPERCLIP PAIRINGS	TX	206
THE BERKELEY CHESS SCHOOL	CA	184
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	171
EN PASSANT CHESS CLUB	TX	119
BOCA RATON CHESS CLUB	FL	110
LITTLE HOUSE OF CHESS INC	NY	109
NEW YORK CITY CHESS INC	NY	101
LONG ISLAND CHESS NUTS	NY	100
ROCKS & ROOKS CHESS CLUB	TX	94

Member Standings

Name	State	Count
STALLINGS, JAY	CA	49
LUNA, GILBERTO, II	FL	19
HAILE, NADEW	UT	19
KRANICH-RITTER, TANIA	FL	16
TUSING, TIMOTHY A	FL	15
SYGIEL, CHET	KY	12
FAY, BRYAN	WI	11
HAMILTON, SCOTT	WV	10
CAMPBELL, TIM V	MO	8
WOLF, TODD W	ND	8

PCT Gain Standings

State	Dec17	May19	PCT	State	Dec17	May19	PCT	State	Dec17	May19	PCT	State	Dec17	May19	PCT
AK	59	80	35.6	DC	337	375	11.3	ME	525	555	5.7	IL	4467	4624	3.5
OK	340	390	14.7	CT	1316	1422	8.1	RI	228	237	3.9				
KS	431	481	11.6	WA	1325	1408	6.3	MS	468	486	3.8				

GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE

By Gary L. Walters, Chair



US Chess shall re-institute the Governance Task Force (GTF) to explore how the structure and selection of the Board of Directors might be changed to better serve US Chess and its members as a 501(c)(3) charitable/educational organization. The Task Force shall file a report at the 2019 Delegates Meeting.

RATIONALE: When the prior version of the Governance Task Force explored the governance system, US Chess was still a 501(c)(4) organization. Since then, the IRS approved our application to be a 501(c)(3) educational organization. We need to consider if our present structure is the best way to accomplish the mission of US Chess as stated in the Articles of Incorporation. The Task Force may well decide that the present system is fine—there are no specific expectations of any changes. The Task Force product is simply a report—if changes are proposed those would be outlined in the report and then the Task Force life would be extended to refine those proposals, if any, before any possible changes were presented to the delegates. It is likely that any significant changes would require a member vote as well. So, this would be a multi-year process if any changes are proposed.

It has been a busy year for the Governance Task Force (GTF) as we set out to explore whether any Executive Board (EB) structural changes might be beneficial to US Chess, as well as how any additional EB members should be chosen. As we began, we considered a wide variety of possible restructure options. These options ranged from doing nothing up through and including adding four members to the EB for a total of eleven. We also considered a variety of means of seating these potential additional EB members. In general, two basic models emerged: if needed (a controversial matter), whether additional EB members should be added by election or by appointment. No one proposed that the core of seven EB members selected by the members should be disturbed.

As a matter of review, the impetus for restructuring the EB has been an increasing sense that US Chess is unable to entice all the talent it needs. This “sense” is not universal. Examples of the talent needed include specialty business skills, 501(c)(3) fundraising experience, and 501(c)(3) programming experience. Many of the skills needed are scarce within the membership,

and particularly within those active in governance, which is where we get most of our EB members.

Respecting election or appointment, there is substantial energy on both sides as to how to seat any additional EB members. For example, should we appoint a joint-delegate and -EB committee to find and appoint these candidates, or should we find candidates to present to the membership for election? This dialogue was intense.

In my opinion, we were not prepared to bring any of these issues or any other to the delegates this year. But I anticipate we will bring ADMs to the delegates next year, even perhaps in the form of competing ADMs arising from a split committee. This does not bother me, and I hope that it doesn’t bother you. In short, these are weighty issues that represent either a false step or a step forward. These are issues for the delegates.

We also conducted a preliminary review of the Bylaws and Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest (DACI) for the purposes of deter-

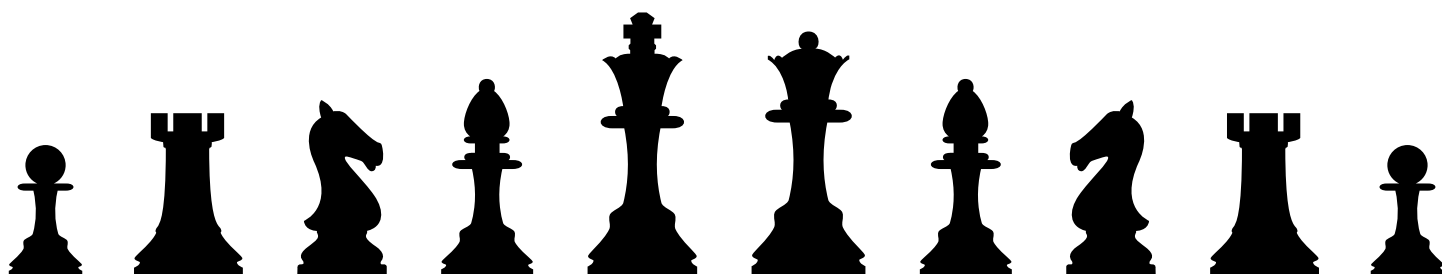
mining whether each is consistent with the changed mission and vision of US Chess arising from our transition to a 501(c)(3) organization. Much of that work has been left to next year, but a good cleanup process is underway. Finally, there was a substantial discussion of whether we should have three-year or four-year terms for our EB members. This may seem like recent, settled news, but it’s not. We now have ten plus years of experience under our belt for the three-year terms, and it’s time to formally review how we’re doing.

The GTF perhaps set a record for communications during its eight active months. More than 3,000 emails and Slack posts were exchanged. As you might guess from the personalities involved, there was more than a little heat on many of the topics. The GTF recessed for the summer on June 10, and we plan to recommence on September 9, if the delegates are willing. There will likely be at least a couple of spots open on this committee for next year. Please let me know if you’re interested.

The GTF will make a presentation at this year’s Annual Meeting, and we have a substantial workshop scheduled for Thursday, August 8, at 2:00 p.m. Please make this workshop a priority, if possible.

For the Game,

Gary

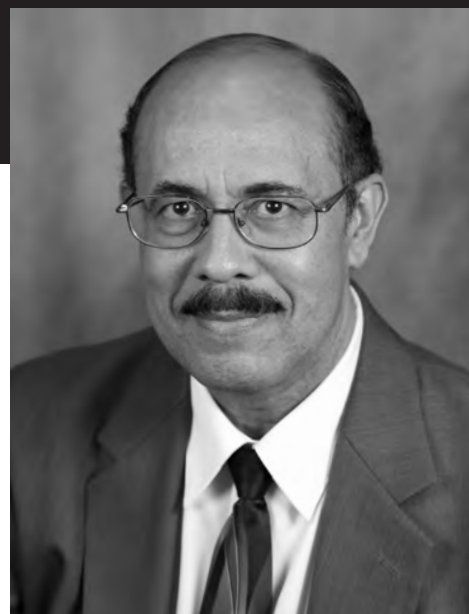


FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Franc Guadalupe, IA, NTD

I had previously performed duties as Zonal President, from October 2010 until August 2016, and this is, by far, the most difficult report I have presented to our Delegates, and its difficulty has nothing to do with the chess events or players. I assumed the duties of Zonal President again earlier this year, after our dear friend Ruth Haring passed away on November 29, 2018. It has been said many times, and it bears repeating: Ruth's contributions to US Chess were many, and we miss her tremendously. It is with great sadness, and with her in my mind, that I submit this report.

During the past year, our players have made great contributions and impact in World, Continental, and Continental Regional events. This report includes events that concluded after July 31, 2018. I am also including a list of players who earned FIDE titles, US Chess members who earned arbiter titles and players who were granted FIDE federation transfers during that same period.



WORLD EVENTS

2ND WORLD JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE DISABLED

CHERRY HILL, NJ, AUGUST 8 - 12, 2018

Eight players, three from the United States, competed in this small but very important event. Our players were Griffin McConnell who finished in third place (bronze), Pranav Shankar, and Robert Eggleston. The USA team earned silver. The next event is scheduled to take place at the same location, July 9-15, 2019.

2018 WORLD JUNIOR AND GIRLS U20 CHAMPIONSHIP

GEBZE, TURKEY, SEPTEMBER 4 - 16, 2018

Two USA players, GM Awonder Liang (28th place) and GM Andrew Tang (98th place), were among the 165 players to participate in the Open division. FM Akshita Gorti (14th place) was our only player in the Girls division among 98 participants. The next event is scheduled to take place in New Delhi, India, October 14-26, 2019.

43RD WORLD CHESS OLYMPIAD

BATUMI, GEORGIA, SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 6, 2018

Our team members were:

OPEN

GM FABIANO CARUANA
GM WESLEY SO
GM HIKARU NAKAMURA
GM SAM SHANKLAND
GM RAY ROBSON
IM JOHN DONALDSON (CAPTAIN)
GM ALEKSANDR LENDERMAN (COACH)

WOMEN

IM ANNA ZATONSKIY
GM IRINA KRUSH
WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN
WGM SABINA-FRANCESCA FOISOR
FM JENNIFER YU
GM MELIKSET KHACHIYAN (CAPTAIN)
GM ROBERT HESS (COACH)

Our defending champion USA team won the silver medal, losing the gold to China on tiebreaks. GM Fabiano Caruana won the individual silver medal for board one. Our USA women's team was the 10th seed in the women's division but finished in seventh place. GM Irina Krush won the individual silver medal for board two while FM Jennifer Yu won the individual bronze medal on board five. The next World Chess Olympiad is scheduled to be held in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, August 1-15, 2020.

PHOTO: BETSY ZACATE

2018 WORLD YOUTH (U18, U16 & U14) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

HALKIDIKI, GREECE, OCTOBER 20 – 30, 2018

The USA delegation consisted of 29 players who competed in five divisions. There was no USA representative in the U16 Open. FM Aviv Friedman was the Head of Delegation. None of our players medaled, but two finished in the top 10 in their respective division. In the U16 Girls, WFM Thalia Cervantes Landeiro finished in ninth place, while in the U14 Girls, WIM Evelyn Zhu finished in 10th place. The next World Youth Chess Championship is scheduled to be held in Mumbai, India, October 1-13, 2019.

2018 WORLD CADET (U12, U10 & U8) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN, NOVEMBER 3 – 16, 2018

The USA delegation consisted of 74 players. FM Aviv Friedman was the Head of Delegation for this event as well. USA players earned four medals: Yuvraj Chennareddy (U8 Open gold), Erick Zhao (U10 Open silver), Evelyn Qiao (U8 Girls bronze) and FM Nico Chasin (U12 Open bronze). The next World Cadet Chess Championship is scheduled to take place in Weifang, China, August 20-September 2, 2019.

2018 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (KNOCK-OUT TOURNAMENT)

KHANTY-MANSIYSK, RUSSIA, NOVEMBER 3 – 23, 2018

Our two USA representatives were WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor, 2017 U.S. Women's Champion, and GM Irina Krush, who finished in third place at that event. IM Nazi Paikidze, by virtue of her second-place finish at our championship, had earned the right to play but was not able to participate in the World event; therefore, she was replaced by GM Krush. WGM Foisor suffered a tough first round loss after two draws against GM Antoaneta Stefanova of Bulgaria, while GM Krush lost in the second round to the eventual champion, GM Ju Wenjun of China. The next event, now renamed Women's World Cup, is scheduled to be held in Minsk, Belarus, September 21-October 15, 2020.

2018 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH BETWEEN DEFENDING WORLD CHAMPION MAGNUS CARLSEN AND THE CHALLENGER, GM FABIANO CARUANA

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, NOVEMBER 9 – 28, 2018

World #2 GM Fabiano Caruana was the first USA player to compete in the finals of the World Championship since 1996, when GM Gata Kamsky lost to World Champion GM Anatoly Karpov. In last year's match, Fabiano drew the world champion in all 12 scheduled (standard) games, but eventually lost 0-3 in the Rapid games play-off. Nevertheless, it was a great accomplishment for our USA player.

2018 WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (50+, 65+)

BLD, SLOVENIA, NOVEMBER 17 – 30, 2018

Three USA players were among the 103 participants in the 50+ section: FM Nathan Resika (31st place), Michael Gilbert (82nd), and David Jones (84th). Two USA players were among the 180 players in the 65+ section: Leonid Bondar (98th) and Mariano Acosta (111th). The two women's sections, 50+ and 65+, had 24 and 20 players, respectively, but no USA player participated. The next World Senior Championship is scheduled to take place in Bucharest, Romania, November 11-24, 2019.

2018 WORLD YOUTH U16 CHESS OLYMPIAD

KONYA, TURKEY, NOVEMBER 24 – DECEMBER 3, 2018

The USA Team consisting of IM David Brodsky, IM Hans Niemann, FM Josiah Stearman, FM Wesley Wang, and FM Akshita Gorti placed 10th among the 46 teams. IM Niemann earned individual bronze on board two. The next World Youth U16 Olympiad is scheduled to be held in Turkey, October 28-November 6, 2019.

2019 WORLD TEAM AND WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN, MARCH 4 – 15, 2019

OPEN

GM DARIUSZ SWIERCZ
GM SAMUEL SEVIAN
GM ALEXANDER ONISCHUK
GM ALEKSANDR LENDERMANN
GM ZVIAD IZORIA
IM JOHN DONALDSON – TEAM CAPTAIN
GM ELSHAN MORADIABADI – TEAM COACH

WOMEN

WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN
WGM KATERINA NEMCOVA
FM CARISSA YIP
WGM SABINA-FRANCESCA FOISOR
WCM ROCHELLE WU
GM MELIKSET KHACHIYAN – TEAM CAPTAIN
GM ALEJANDRO RAMIREZ – TEAM COACH

Our open team finished in fifth place while our women's team finished in seventh place. There were 10 teams in each event. GM Samuel Sevian was our sole individual medal winner, taking the bronze for board two. The site and dates for the 2021 World Team Championships have not been announced.

2019 WORLD SENIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

RHODES, GREECE, APRIL 15 - 25, 2019

Our 50+ team successfully defended the gold medal they earned last year! The USA team members were GMs Alexander Shabalov (first board and team captain), Joel Benjamin, Igor Novikov, Jaan Ehlovest and Alex Yermolinsky. All team members also won individual medals, with Shabalov (board one) and Yermolinsky (board five) earning gold, while Benjamin (board two), Novikov (board three) and Ehlovest (board five) earned bronze. There was no USA team in the 65+ championship, nor was there a USA women's team in either category. The next World Senior Team Championship is scheduled to take place in Prague, Czech Republic, March 4-15, 2020.

FIDE-AMERICAS CONTINENTAL (PAN AMERICAN) AND REGIONAL EVENTS

2018 WOMEN'S CONTINENTAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

ENVIGADO, COLOMBIA, NOVEMBER 16 - 26, 2018

WIM Thalia Cervantes Landeiro, who finished in 11th place, was the lone USA participant among the 32 players at this event. The next Women's Continental Championship will be held in either Mexico or Peru later this year, but as of the writing of this report, nothing has been finalized.

2018 NORTH AMERICAN JUNIOR U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO, NOVEMBER 16 - 21, 2018

Eight USA players were among the 15 players who participated in the Open division, and the medalists were all from USA: IM Bryce Tiglon (gold), FM Annie Wang (silver) and FM Anthony He (bronze). In the Girls division there were two USA players among the 10 participants: WCM Rochelle Wu and WFM Kimberly Liu. They were equal first with 8/9 but Rochelle beat Kimberly in their game and took gold on tiebreaks while Kimberly won the silver. The next North American Junior U20 will take place in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 25-30, 2019.

2018 NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO, NOVEMBER 16 - 21, 2018

Fifty-nine USA players participated in this event. The medalists were:

GOLD

ROJAN RAJARAM (U8)
JOCELYN CHEN (U8G)
BRYAN XIE (U10)
SARAH GUPTA (U10G)
ADRIAN KONDAKOV (U12)
MELINA LI (U12G)
WCM AASA DOMMALAPATI (U14G)
MINDA CHEN (U16G)
FM LADIA JIRASEK (U18)
WFM JOANNA LIU (U18G)

SILVER

ALEXANDRA PHUNG (U8G)
CM NITISH NATH (U10)
CM ERIC LI (U12)
ELLIE ZHANG (U12G)
JEFFREY CHOU (U14)
APARNA YELLAMRAJU (U14G)
BRANDON XIA (U16)
WFM SANJANA VITTAL (U18G)

BRONZE

ELENA ZHANG (10G)
VYOM VIDYARTHI (U12)
FM MAXIMILLIAN LU (U16)

The next North American Youth Championships are scheduled to take place in Ontario, Canada, August 16-20, 2019.

2018 PAN AMERICAN SENIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

SAINT CROIX, USVI, DECEMBER 7 - 14, 2018

Seven USA players were among the 14 participants and Julie O'Neal from Tucson, Arizona was the only female. Paul Fields, who finished in fourth place, was the top USA player. The next Pan Am Senior is scheduled to take place in Peru sometime in October 2019.

2019 CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, JULY 5 - 13, 2019

The previous Continental Championship concluded on June 10, 2018 and its results, with GM Sam Shankland winning the event, were covered at the Delegates Meeting last year. For this year's event, our official representatives will be GM Dariusz Swiercz, GM Robert Hungaski, and FM Gregory Markzon.

FIDE ZONE 2.1 (USA) CHAMPIONSHIPS

In odd-numbered years, our national championships double as the zonal championships and, therefore, both events lead into the World Championship cycles. For the 11th straight year, the U.S. Championships were sponsored by the Saint Louis Chess Club (STLCC), March 20-31, 2019, and I join the US Chess leadership in thanking the STLCC for their contributions.

Based on the results of the event, our qualifiers for the 2019 World Cup to be held in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, September 9-October 2, 2019, are GMs Hikaru Nakamura, Leinier Dominguez Perez, Fabiano Caruana, Sam Sevian, and Jeffery Xiong. In addition, GMs Wesley So (semi-finalist at the 2017 World Cup) and Samuel Shankland (2018 Continental Championship winner) had also qualified.

Our qualifiers for the 2020 Women's World Cup scheduled to be held in Minsk, Belarus, September 21-October 15, are FM Jennifer Yu and WGM Tatev Abrahamyan.

FIDE TITLES EARNED (NEW TITLE SHOWN)

GM MICHAEL BROWN
GM NICOLAS CHECA

IM BRANDON JACOBSON
IM HANS NIEMANN
IM ANDREW HONG
IM JUSTIN WANG
IM CHRISTOPHER YOO
IM AARON GRABINSKY *
IM BEN LI *
IM TIANQI WANG *
IM JENNIFER YU *

IA DAVID KUHNS
FA BRYON DOYLE
FA ROBERT HUNGASKI
FA MARTHA UNDERWOOD

* Conditional on achieving 2400 FIDE rating.

The following named individuals have met all norm requirements and title applications, already submitted, will be considered at the next FIDE Congress:

FOR WGM - ANNIE WANG

FOR FA - LAWRENCE COHEN, JUDIT SZTARAY, AND ABEL TALAMANTEZ

DIRECT TITLES EARNED AT YOUTH EVENTS:

WFM ANNE-MARIE VELEA - PAN AM U14 GIRLS GOLD MEDAL
CM RUSHAAN MAHAJAN - PAN AM U12 BRONZE MEDAL
CM ADRIAN KONDAKOV - NAYCC U12 GOLD MEDAL - FM TITLE CONDITIONAL 2100 RATING
CM JEFFREY CHOU - NAYCC U14 GOLD MEDAL
CM BRANDON XIA - NAYCC U16 SILVER MEDAL
WFM MINDA CHEN - NAYCC U16 GIRLS GOLD MEDAL
IM LADIA JIRASEK - NAYCC U18 GOLD MEDAL
WIM ROCHELLE WU - NAYCC U20 GIRLS GOLD MEDAL
YUVRAJ CHENNAREDDY - WORLD U8 GOLD MEDAL - CM TITLE CONDITIONAL 2000 RATING
ERICK ZHAO - WORLD U10 SILVER MEDAL - CM TITLE CONDITIONAL 2000 RATING
JED SLOAN - PAN AM U10 SILVER MEDAL - CM TITLE CONDITIONAL 2000 RATING
CRYSTAL GU - PAN AM U8 GIRLS BRONZE MEDAL - WCM TITLE CONDITIONAL 1800 RATING
SHAWNAK SHIVAKUMAR - PAN AM U10 BRONZE MEDAL - CM TITLE CONDITIONAL 2000 RATING
SARA GUPTA - PAN AM U10 GIRLS BRONZE MEDAL - WCM TITLE CONDITIONAL 1800 RATING

FIDE TRANSFERS TO USA

GM LEINIER DOMINGUEZ PEREZ (2739, FROM CUBA)
GM DARIUSZ SWIERCZ (2636, FROM POLAND)
IM ALI FARAHAT (2415, FROM EGYPT)
FM SHUNKAI PENG (2297, FROM CHINA)*
RONALD HERNANDEZ PLACERES (1867, FROM CUBA)*
VERONIKA ZILJAEVA (1855, FROM LATVIA)
RYO CHEN (1547, FROM JAPAN)*
AGARWALLA MOHAK (1191, FROM INDIA)*

FIDE TRANSFERS FROM USA

FM DYLAN MCCLAIN (2297, TO FRANCE)
WGM CAMILLA BAGINSKAITE (2136, TO LITHUANIA)
SHOW KITAGAMI (2054, TO JAPAN)
VIDAR ANDREASSEN (1694, TO NORWAY)

* Under 18

U.S. CHESS TRUST REPORT

By Harold J. Winston, Trust Chairman

The U.S. Chess Trust is committed to working with US Chess to promote and encourage American chess. We honor the three-year agreement we made last year with US Chess. The Trust is a 501(c)(3) Massachusetts Trust, led for a long time by the late Harold Dondis. This year we welcomed three new trustees: John D. Rockefeller V of West Virginia, Dov Gorman of New Jersey, and GM Patrick Wolff of northern California.

Our mission is to widen worlds, challenge minds, and improve lives through chess. We support chess nationwide by donating chess sets and boards and US Chess memberships to American schools. In our current fiscal year we distributed a total of 651 sets, boards, and demonstration boards to 72 schools in 29 states. Over the last three years, the Trust has sent sets and boards to groups in 43 states.

Whatever their backgrounds and economic status, children taught chess do better in school and better in life. Chess helps develop valuable reading, research, decision-making and social skills. Therefore, the Trust is proud to sponsor the Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions, with the aid of the Denker family, and the Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions, with the aid of the Barber family. We also donate the cash prizes to the newly-named Ruth Haring National Girls Tournament of Champions (NGTOC), held the same time as the Denker and Barber at the U.S. Open.

The Trust donates a \$5,000 college scholarship to the winner of the Denker Tournament and Dewain Barber donates a similar scholarship through the Trust to the winner of the Barber event. The Trust works with Dewain Barber, Jon Haskel, and Maureen Grimaud in the Denker, Barber, and Ruth Haring NGTOC events. I speak at their opening ceremony and present prize checks at their closing ceremony.

The Trust also aids the National Senior Tournament of Champions and the U.S. Blind Championship and supports the World Junior Championship for The Disabled when held in the United States.

This year the Trust received another anonymous \$5,000 donation to aid women's chess. In consultation with the US Chess Women's committee, we decided to support regional women's and girls' events by donating \$1,000 to each of them

while the donation lasts. So far, we have made two donations: the Southeast All-Girls Regional Championship, and the Northeast Regional Women and Girls Chess Championship.

The Trust works with the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis and elects new members of the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame after nominations from the Hall of Fame committee. As Trust chairman, I inducted GM Bill Lombardy, Max Judd, and GM Susan Polgar into the Hall of Fame on March 18, 2019 at the opening ceremony of the U.S. Championship and U.S. Women's Championship in St. Louis. Trustee Rex Sinquefeld and his wife, Dr. Jeanne Sinquefeld, were present as sponsors of the events. That same day Trust president Jim Eade, Trust managing director Al Lawrence, and I met with museum officials, including Chief Curator Shannon Bailey and Associate Curator Emily Allred, and toured the current three museum exhibits.

The Trust continues to be the main sponsor of the Scholar-Chessplayer Awards, with the support of Sunil Weeramantry's National Scholastic Chess Foundation. For 2018 the award winners are Forest Chen of Knoxville, Tennessee; Albert Liang of Marietta, Georgia; Emily Nguyen of Austin, Texas; Jennifer Yu of Ashburn, Virginia; and Howard Zhong of Norman, Oklahoma. Each will receive a \$1,500 college scholarship. Trust Scholastic Vice President Sunil Weeramantry announced the winners at the National High School (K-12) Championship in Schaumburg, Illinois. I announced Emily Nguyen and Jennifer Yu at the opening ceremony of the U.S. Women's Championship in which they were competing.

The Trust is also proud to administer the Samford Fellowship program, well led by IM John Donaldson. We salute the newest Samford Fellow: Christopher Yoo of Dublin, California. Awonder Liang of Madison, Wisconsin and Samuel Sevan of Holden, Massachusetts are about to start their second year as Samford Fellows. The U.S. Chess Trust Samford Fellowship gives developing American players a stipend and training expenses to allow them to reach their full potential. Al Lawrence points out that 10 of the 12 grandmasters in the 2019 U.S. Championship were past or present Samford Fellows.

The Trust also appreciates the continued commitment of Two Sigma to support the



Collegiate Final Four and the work of Mark Herman of New York.

As usual, I rely on the advice of Trust president Jim Eade (NCA) and Trust treasurer Leroy Dubeck (NJ), as well as on Managing Director Al Lawrence. Secretary Myron Lieberman (AZ) does a fine job keeping track of all resolutions passed and handles the minutes. I thank them and all the other trustees for their involvement and ideas: Chess in Education vice president Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Chess vice president Sunil Weeramantry (NY), President Emeritus Shane Samole (FL), Steve Doyle (NJ), Beatriz Marinello (NY), Stuart Chagrin (SC), Rex Sinquefeld (MO), Dr. Norman Saba (AZ), John D. Rockefeller V (WV), Dov Gorman (NJ), and Patrick Wolff (NCA). The work of webmaster Dora Leticia, web editor Beatriz Marinello, and website chair Jim Eade is highly appreciated.

Contact our Managing Director Al Lawrence at al@uschesstrust.org to request chess sets or memberships. For more information on all the good work of the U.S. Chess Trust, please go online to www.uschesstrust.org. If you want to contact us by regular mail, write to U.S. Chess Trust, P.O. Box 838, Wallkill, New York 12589. You can contact me at HJWinston@aol.com.

Our annual meeting is open to all on Thursday, August 8, at 5:30 p.m. in the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida.



BYLAWS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION

Includes all changes passed at the 2018 Annual meeting.

Article I: Name

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

Article II: Purposes

SECTION 1.

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

SECTION 2. US CHESS IS PLEDGED:

- A. To operate exclusively for educational, recreational, and social welfare purposes;
- B. That no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional program shall not be so construed;
- C. That US Chess is not operated for profit and that neither principal nor income of any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation;
- D. To promote the study and knowledge of the scientific game of chess;
- E. To foster the development of players and to help those who seek to become masters;
- F. To encourage the formation of chess groups, clubs, and associations;
- G. To hold a tournament no less often than once every two years for the Chess Championship of the United States and to confer upon the winner of such tournament the title "United States Chess Champion"; and
- H. To hold an open tournament every summer in the United States.

Article III: Membership

SECTION 1. ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person may become an Adult (also known as Regular) Member of US Chess upon payment of \$40 for one year, or \$75 for two years,

or a Premium Adult (also known as Premium) Member upon payment of \$49 for one year, or \$95 for two years.

SECTION 2. YOUNG ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 26 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Young Adult Member of US Chess upon payment of \$26 for one year, or \$48 for two years, or a Premium Young Adult Member upon payment of \$35 for one year, or \$65 for two years.

SECTION 3. YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 17 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Youth Member of US Chess upon payment of \$22 for one year, or \$40 for two years, or a Premium Youth Member upon payment of \$30 for one year, or \$55 for two years.

SECTION 4. SCHOLASTIC MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 14 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Scholastic Member of US Chess upon payment of \$17 for one year, or \$30 for two years, or a Premium Scholastic member upon payment of \$25 for one year, or \$45 for two years.

SECTION 5. SENIOR MEMBERSHIP.

A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday may become a Senior Member of US Chess upon payment of \$40 for one year, or \$75 for two years.

SECTION 6. SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP.

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

SECTION 7. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PLANS.

Family Plan 1: \$80, includes parents and their children under age 24 in the household living at one address. Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.

Family Plan 2: \$50, includes all children under age 24 in the household living at one address.

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

SECTION 8. LIFE MEMBERSHIPS.

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

SECTION 9. AFFILIATE COMMISSIONS.

There shall be a \$3 affiliate commission on all Adult, Senior, Youth, Scholastic, Young Adult, Family, and Life Memberships.

SECTION 10. PROMOTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS.

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

SECTION 11. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

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

SECTION 12. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

The Executive Board, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, may revoke or suspend the membership of any member for good cause. The USCF Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in the USCF Code of Ethics. The Executive Director may, on an emergency basis, suspend the membership of any person or their related affiliate who has engaged in any activity that potentially endangers the health or safety of US Chess employees, volunteers, or members. Such suspension will be in effect immediately and will be in effect for no more than 90 days. If the Executive Director suspends any membership under this provision, the Executive Director will contact the suspended person or affiliate within 72 hours to inform them of the decision. The Executive Director will also contact the Executive Board within 72 hours which will then review the suspension and follow the provisions of Article III, Section 13. The emergency suspension will stay in effect while the provisions of Article III, Section 13 are being followed, unless the Executive Board lifts the suspension sooner.

SECTION 13. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR AFFILIATION.

In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 12, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of US Chess, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at

the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or revocation of a member through application of the USCF Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

SECTION 14. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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

Article IV: Voting Members

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY.

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

SECTION 2. DEFINITION.

Members with memberships of less than one year duration at their start are not eligible to become voting members. All other USCF members are entitled to register as a voting member provided that any voting member must be age 16 or older as of June 30 of the election year. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates are voting members.

SECTION 3. REGISTRATION.

Eligible members who are not already registered as Voting Members must register with the USCF office by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election, except that all members who are selected as USCF Delegates, Alternate Delegates or Executive Board members are automatically registered as Voting Members. There is no registration fee. Once registered, a member's status as a Voting Member continues as long as he or she is a member. When a membership lapses, Voting Member status ceases and the member must, after rejoining, again register by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT.

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

SECTION 5. SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

1. The eligibility dates for voting in the election shall be part of the call for the special election and should use cutoff dates equivalent to the above based on when the ballots are expected to be received by the voting members.
2. The registration deadline for those not already registered shall be the same as the deadline for the submission of nominating petitions.

SECTION 6. ELECTRONIC VOTING.

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

SECTION 7. AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the approval of the Voting Members is required to amend the Articles of Incorporation. The Board of Directors must present any such amendment for discussion at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates before submitting such amendment to the Voting Members. Amendments will be approved if supported by a 2/3 majority of the Voting Members who cast a vote on the amendment in an election that is called in accordance with the election provisions in the bylaws of the USCF.

Article V: Board of Delegates

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the USCF. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of US Chess to determine the policies that shall govern USCF in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the USCF Official Rules of Chess, approve the annual budget, approve the sale of real estate owned by the USCF, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by the USCF, establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of US Chess.

SECTION 2. NUMBER.

The Board of Delegates shall be composed of the Executive Board members, the Delegates at Large, and 125 Delegates, apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident USCF membership as of May 31 of the year prior to Delegate elections, except that each state with thirty or more members must have at least one Delegate. Each state with 1,000 or more USCF members must have at least two Delegates. In addition, any Executive Board member-elect who is not already a Delegate becomes a Delegate immediately upon certification of the election result.

SECTION 3. ALTERNATE DELEGATES.

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

SECTION 4. SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES.

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

SECTION 5. MISCELLANEOUS.

- I. Vacancies.** If one or more Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates from any state are not present or are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, they can be replaced by Alternate Delegates only if the Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates resign in writing, except that for each state, if Alternate Delegates are available to attend the Annual Board of Delegates Meeting, those Delegates who have not picked up their credentials by 9:30am of the first day of the Delegates' meeting will be deemed to have resigned as Delegates and the

available Alternate Delegates will become Delegates per the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate gives advance notice of a delay in arrival by signed fax or email or telephone call to the USCF President or Secretary, such a Delegate or Alternate is not deemed to have resigned unless their credentials are not picked up by 2pm on the first day of the Delegates' meeting. The Delegates deemed to have resigned will only be those equal in number to the available Alternate Delegates and will start with the lowest ranked Delegate on the ordered list per Article V, Section 4.

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

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

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

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

- K. Executive Board Members as Delegates.** Any Executive Board member who completes his or her term without re-election to the Executive Board remains a Delegate until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates in the year following the completion of the Board term, except that if he has Delegate status for that period under another provision of these Bylaws, this provision shall not apply. Any former Executive Board member receiving Delegate status by the provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be a Delegate on the ordered list of any state, and shall not be replaced if he dies or resigns the position.
- L. USCF Membership requirement.** Delegates and Alternate Delegates must be members in good standing throughout their terms of office with a grace period of 28 days for renewing a lapsed membership. Notwithstanding, the Delegate must be a member in good standing throughout the Delegates Meeting. A member in good standing is a member whose dues are paid and is not suspended.
- M.** Current USCF employees may not serve as Delegates. USCF employees are accorded the right to speak at the annual Delegates' Meeting.

SECTION 6. ANNUAL MEETING.

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purposes of hearing annual reports, installing officers, and considering other USCF business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit mo-

tions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Advance Delegate Motions. Participation via the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

SECTION 7. SPECIAL DELEGATES MEETING.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 8. DELEGATES AT LARGE.

Delegates at Large shall consist of the following:

- A.** All US Chess Presidents who have served at least two consecutive years, upon completion of their term and are so elected by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates.
- B.** Those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to chess and who are elected by at least a 3/4 vote of the Board of Delegates at two consecutive Annual Meetings by a motion on the advance agenda for both meetings. The number of individuals in this category shall not exceed twenty.

The term of the Delegates at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting at which they achieve Delegate at Large status and continue for three more Annual Meetings. A Delegate at Large whose term is expiring or has expired may be elected to a new term.

SECTION 9. ADDITIONAL DELEGATES.

The USCF Membership Meeting may elect up to 5 Additional Delegates for a term that expires on June 1 of the following year at the start of the Membership Meeting from persons who are present and have previously served as Delegates in at least one of the last five years.

Article VI: Executive Board

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION.

The Executive Board shall consist of seven members elected for staggered terms of three years. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but without the right to vote. All Executive Board members are national officers of the USCF. No Executive Board member may be a full time or part time salaried or hourly USCF employee except for the USCF Executive Director serving as a non-voting member. All serving Executive Board members must have a current USCF membership and be at least 18 years of age.

SECTION 2. RESPONSIBILITY.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors which is the administrative and managing body of the USCF and is vested with full power to conduct all business of US Chess, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates. The Executive Board's direction to the staff shall generally be given by the USCF President.

SECTION 3. MEETINGS.

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

All open meetings of the Executive Board, including conference calls, shall be recorded in their entirety with a clear record by a means determined by the Executive Board and preserved for six years. All Executive Board members shall receive copies of any recordings of meetings within two weeks of those meetings. Any person wishing to obtain copies of recordings may do so at cost. The public portion of the permanent record will be available on the web-site within a month of the meeting record.

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

SECTION 4. NOMINATION.

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

1. A valid nominating petition containing the signatures of fifty (50) or more members who meet the requirements specified in Article IV Section 2 to be eligible to register to vote, of whom, at least fifteen (15) shall be Delegates at the time of signing the petition. The fifteen (15) Delegates must represent at least five (5) different states. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.
2. A filing fee of \$100 made payable to the USCF.
3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.

An employee of the USCF may not be nominated for election to the Executive Board. Currently paid contractors/consultants working as *Chess Life* Editor, Events Coordinator, or Computer Consultant may not be a candidate for the USCF Executive Board. No person can be nominated for the Executive Board for more than three consecutive terms. Partial terms of less than half a full term shall not be counted when applying this restriction.

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

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

A candidate wishing to run a write-in campaign for the Executive Board shall notify the Executive Director of their intent and pay a filing fee of \$100 by May 1 of the election year. The Executive Director shall forward the names of such candidates to the Election Committee for certification of eligibility to serve as an Executive Board Member. Upon Certification, said candidate is designated an Official Write-in candidate, and may purchase mailing labels as specified in Article VI, section 4 of the bylaws. No person can be elected unless they have notified the Executive Director of their willingness to serve by May 1 of an election year.

Only votes for current US Chess members shall be counted.

Upon certification of Official Write-In Candidates, the Election Committee shall promptly notify all nominated candidates of the Official Write-in Candidates.

SECTION 5. ELECTIONS

- A. Regular Elections.** Executive Board members shall be elected by the Voting Members. At the discretion of the Executive Board, ballots for that purpose shall either be mailed directly or included in an issue of *Chess Life*, and mailed prior to June 10. The Election Committee shall, by January 31st of an election year, select the time and place for the counting of the ballots. The ballot instructions shall include this information plus other election regulations. For a special election, the time and place shall be determined prior to issuing the call for the special election. Electronic voting may be used in addition to mailed ballots or ballots in *Chess Life*. The ballot shall list all duly submitted nominations. Each voting member may vote for as many persons as there are Executive Board positions to be filled. The persons receiving the largest vote totals shall be elected to the available Executive Board positions. The ballots shall be returned by mail to an independent agency, and counted by an independent agency, or by the Election Committee, or by tellers appointed by the Election Committee prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. Ties, if any, shall be broken by a secret ballot vote of the Delegates present in person at that year's Delegates meeting, taken at the time that election results are certified.
- B. Special Elections.** The Election Committee will decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for candidate petition filings and the date for mailing the ballots via *Chess Life* or direct mail. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Executive Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.
- C.** Ballots shall be authenticated by use of voting member information to be provided with or printed on the ballots. All properly authenticated ballots that have been received by the date designated for counting the ballots shall be counted. The Election Committee shall designate an address for the return of ballots at the time the date of counting ballots is set.

SECTION 6. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS.

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

SECTION 7. TERMS OF OFFICE.

The terms of office of the Executive Board members shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and effective with those elected in the 2011 regular election shall continue for three years, except as provided in Section 9 of this article and in the implementation schedule in this article. The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for two years, except that the term of an officer who leaves the Board after one year would expire. No individual shall serve more than three consecutive terms on the Executive Board, not counting partial terms of less than half of a full term. No person shall serve as USCF President more than four consecutive years.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 8. DUTIES

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

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

Vice President for Finance. The Vice President for Finance shall obtain records of the financial affairs of US Chess, report to the Board of Delegates, and counsel and assist the Executive Board on financial affairs. The Vice President for Finance shall review and have the right to comment on all financial reports, including all

financial information presented in interim and annual reports, prior to publication and release.

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

SECTION 9. VACANCIES.

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

SECTION 10. CANDIDATE STATEMENTS AND ADVERTISING.

Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to a 150 word statement plus photo in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than April 10 of the election year. Election supplements shall accompany or be inserted in issues of *Chess Life* published no later than May 10 and June 10 of the election year. Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other USCF publications is prohibited. Any candidate for the USCF Executive Board who has been convicted of an adult felony in the US must disclose that fact in their *Chess Life* statement. The Candidate will be allowed an additional 100 words in the candidate's statement in their first statement in *Chess Life* for this purpose. Failure to disclose a felony (conviction) would be grounds for immediate recall.

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

SECTION 11. RECALLS.

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 12. RESTRICTIONS.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 13. WEBSITE ACCESS.

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

SECTION 14. NEPOTISM.

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

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

Article VII: Other Officers, Appointees, and Committees

SECTION 1. OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

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

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

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF APPOINTEES.

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

SECTION 3. COMMITTEES.

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

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

of the Audit Committee. The duties of the Committee shall be:

- a)** To advise the EB on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.
- b)** To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.
- c)** To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)
- d)** To consider and advise the EB on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.
- e)** To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management's response and to promote coordination between the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the EB and the Delegates accordingly.
- f)** To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors' Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses and to advise the EB accordingly.
- g)** To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.
- h)** To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.
- i)** To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the implementation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports and management letters and to advise the EB accordingly.
- j)** To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.
- k)** To advise the Executive Director, as requested.
- l)** To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.
- m)** To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates.

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

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

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

B) The Delegates may appoint any other committees as needed. The Executive Board may appoint such subcommittees of the Board or committees as it deems appropriate.

C) Except as provided elsewhere, in the event of a vacancy on a Delegate-appointed Committee, the committee and Executive Board

may appoint a replacement. Such appointment requires a 2/3 majority of each the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.

D) No individual member can chair more than one of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

E) No individual other than the Vice President–Finance can serve on more than two of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

SECTION 4. COUNSEL.

Legal Counsel shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY.

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

Article VIII: Organizational Units.

SECTION 1. STATE CHAPTERS.

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

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS.

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

SECTION 3. AFFILIATES.

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

SECTION 4. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each affiliate shall:

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

SECTION 5. REVOCATION.

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

Article IX: Sundry Bylaws

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY.

These Bylaws have been adopted by the Delegates under the authority of the charter issued to the United States of America Chess Federation by the State of Illinois.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.

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

SECTION 3. OFFICE.

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

SECTION 4. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

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

SECTION 5. PUBLICATIONS.

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

SECTION 6. FISCAL PERIOD.

The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31.

SECTION 7. FUND DEPOSITORIES AND DISBURSEMENTS.

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

SECTION 8. ACCOUNTANTS.

Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review US Chess' accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

SECTION 9. ENCUMBRANCE.

A.) No asset of US Chess may be encumbered without the approval of the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, except as provided in Section 10 below, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director.

B.) Any land and /or buildings, owned by the USCF cannot be sold, encumbered, lien, or mortgaged, in any fashion, without approval by the Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, except as provided in Section 10 below.

SECTION 10. LIFE MEMBER ASSETS MANAGEMENT.

When a trust has been established for the management of Life Member assets, the trust can only be revoked or amended by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or Special Delegates' Meeting provided that a proposal to revoke is included in the

Delegates' advance agenda. Upon revocation all assets will revert to the USCF.

SECTION 11.

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

SECTION 12. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 13. RATIFICATION OF VOIDABLE ACTS.

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

SECTION 14. RELIANCE ON RECORDS.

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

SECTION 15. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

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

SECTION 16. NON-DISCRIMINATION.

US Chess shall comply with all laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law with respect to chess tournaments sponsored by the organization.

SECTION 17. NATIONAL TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS AS USCF EMPLOYEES.

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

SECTION 18. MODIFICATION OF THE OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

A change of U.S. Chess Federation's Rules of Chess shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the Delegates present to pass. All rule changes must be approved at two consecutive delegates meetings. No amendments may be made at the second meeting. The one year waiting period can be overridden by an 85% vote.

SECTION 19. SEVERABILITY.

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

Revision Date: 12/20/2018

CODE OF ETHICS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION (US CHESS)

The Code of Ethics is Item 22 in the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest which can be found online at http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/Delegate_Actions-of_Continuing_Interest-DACI.pdf.

(Revised August 2018)

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

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

3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to actions and behavior by:

(A) members of US Chess, that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess; and (B) individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of US Chess. This code shall not apply to actions or behavior by employees of US Chess acting in the scope of their duties. Such actions fall instead under the province of the Executive Board.

4. Each member of US Chess and each participant in a US Chess activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

THE US CHESS ETHICS COMMITTEE

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

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

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

- (a) Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to USCF activities and goals, particularly after being warned.
- (b) Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.
- (c) Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.
- (d) Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.
- (e) Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified rating report.
- (f) Participating in a tournament while under suspension.
- (g) Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by US Chess.
- (h) Attempting to interfere with the rights of any US Chess member, such as by barring someone from entering a US Chess-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a US Chess-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and then only for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.
- (i) Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with US Chess.

PROCEDURES

7. Any US Chess member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the US Chess Ethics Committee. A good-faith deposit must be submitted by the complainant. The amount of the deposit shall be set by the US Chess Executive Director, who shall review it from time to time in consultation with the Ethics Committee. The deposit shall be returned unless the Committee rules that the case is frivolous. The Committee may determine whether to return the deposit even before it determines jurisdictional and merit questions. The Committee may also, by a two-thirds vote, accept complaints submitted without the deposit. Complaints submitted by a US Chess employee as a result of actions related to official US Chess activities shall not require the payment of the deposit.

In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the *Standards of Conduct* above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within

the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

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

When issuing a decision, the Ethics Committee will provide a rationale for its decision to the parties involved and to the Executive Board.

- (c) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended to the Executive Board by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other US Chess entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed of this fact. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified. If appeals are filed, the Ethics Committee shall be promptly notified.
- (d) Except as specified in 7(f) sanctions recommended to the Executive Board shall be deemed final unless appealed to the Executive Board by the person or persons upon whom the sanctions have been imposed, or upon the initiative of any member of the Executive Board. Such an appeal must be made within thirty days of the date that notification of recommended sanctions occurred, except that the Executive Board may extend the deadline for appeal if in its judgment an unavoidable delay in communications or other valid cause prevented a timely appeal. If an appeal has not been filed by the deadline the recommended sanctions shall be placed into effect. No appeals shall be permitted in cases where the Ethics Committee has found in favor of the respondent and has recommended no sanctions.
- (e) Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom the sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence from the record. Any person appearing before the Executive Board upon appeal may be represented by counsel with the permission and at the sole discretion of the Executive Board. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.
- (f) If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the US Chess Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board but may appeal to the US Chess Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.
- (g) If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the US Chess Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

SANCTIONS:

- 8. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appro-

priate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.

- (a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
 - (b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
 - (c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.
 - (d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.
 - (e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the US Chess Executive Board or by the US Chess Board of Delegates.
 - (f) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.
9. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the US Chess Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend to the Executive Board no sanctions other than censure or reprimand but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.
10. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in US Chess or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess.
11. The US Chess Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official determinations by the Ethics Committee and shall record any recommendations of any sanctions. The US Chess Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any sanctions recommended.

Implementation and modification history: the previous Code of Ethics was replaced in its entirety with the above Code by DM 97-16/ ADM 97-24 and passed as amended at the 1997 Annual Meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM 98-71/ ADM 98-80 and the amendments were passed at the 1998 Annual Meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM 99-75/ NDM 99-68 and the amendments were passed at the 1999 Annual Meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM 04-22/ ADM 04-16, DM 04-23/ ADM 04-17 and DM 04-25/ ADM 04-19 and the amendments were passed at the 2004 Annual Meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM 15-20/ NDM 15-05 and the amendments were passed at the 2015 Annual meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM16-31/ ADM 16-32, DM 16-51/ ADM 16-49, DM 16-52/ ADM 16-50, DM 16-53/ ADM 16-51, DM 16-54/ ADM 16-52, DM 16-59/ ADM 16-58 and the amendments were passed at the 2016 Annual Meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM 17-32/ NM 17-02, DM 17-43/ ADM 17-36, DM 17-44/ ADM 17-37 and the amendments were passed at the 2017 Annual Meeting. This Code of Ethics was further amended by DM 18-29/ ADM 18-17 and the amendments were passed at the 2018 Annual Meeting.

2019 DELEGATES & ALTERNATE DELEGATES

Delegates at Large (DAL), Additional Alternate Delegates (AAD), Current Executive Board members (EB), Past Executive Board members (PEB) (These do not count toward State allocations.).

ALABAMA 1,1

DAL Frank Camaratta
Del Neil Dietsch
Alt Michael Ciamarra

ALASKA 1,1

Del
Alt

ARIZONA 3,3

DAL Myron Lieberman
DAL Rachel Lieberman
PEB Anjelina Belakovskaia
Del Michelle Martinez
Del Martha Underwood
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt

ARKANSAS 1,1

Del Larry Weston
Alt Tony Davis

N. CALIFORNIA 7,7

Del Tom Langland
Del Richard Koepcke
Del Elizabeth Shaughnessy
Del Judit Sztaray
Del James Eade
Del John McCumiskey
Del Abel Talamantez
Alt John Donaldson
Alt Mark Pinto
Alt Jordan Langland
Alt Michael Aigner
Alt Theodore Biyiasas
Alt
Alt

S. CALIFORNIA 5,5

DAL Dewain Barber
DAL Randall Hough
Del Sean Manross
Del Steven Morford

Del Jennifer Vallens
Del James Mennella
Del Brian Glover
Alt Dylan Quercia
Alt Philip Chase
Alt
Alt
Alt

COLORADO 2,2

Del Richard Buchanan
Del Paul Covington
Alt Dean Brown
Alt Alaa-Addin Moussa

CONNECTICUT 2,2

Del Fred Townsend
Del Alexander Lumelsky
Alt Suhas Kodali
Alt Matthew Meredith

DELAWARE 1,1

Del William Trueman
Alt

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 1,1

Del Robin Floyd Ramson
Alt Ralph Mikell

FLORIDA 5,5

Del Jon Haskel
Del Kevin Pryor
Del Bryan Tillis
Del William Bowman
Del Daa'im Shabazz
Alt Paul Leggett
Alt Krista Alton
Alt George Foote
Alt Miguel Ararat
Alt Harvey Lerman
AAD Anthony Cottell

GEORGIA 3,3

Del Thad Rogers
Del David Hater
Del Amrita Kumar
Alt Scott Parker
Alt
Alt

HAWAII 1,1

Del
Alt

IDAHO 1,1

Del Adam Porth
Alt Jeffrey Roland

ILLINOIS 5,5

DAL Harold Winston
Del Tim Just
Del Garrett Scott
Del Stephen Plotnick
Del Rachel Schechter
Del Bill Brock
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Helen Warren

INDIANA 2,2

Del Mathew Leach
Del Craig Hines
Alt Roger Norris
Alt Benjamin Pitchkites

IOWA 1,1

EB Randy Bauer
Del Eric Vigil
Alt

KANSAS 1,1

Del Brian Yang
Alt CJ Armenta

KENTUCKY 2,2

EB Allen Priest
EB Ryan Velez
Del Randas Burns
Del
Alt
Alt

LOUISIANA 1,1

Del Leila D'Aquin
Alt James Eryk Hargrove

MAINE 1,1

Del Michael Dudley
Alt Daniel Deluca

MARYLAND 3,3

Del Chris Kim
Del Michael Regan
Del John D. Rockefeller V
Alt Michael Atkins
Alt Brent Leyer
Alt Grishmeshwar Sinha

MASSACHUSETTS 3,3

Del Kenneth Ballou
Del Robert Messenger
Del Dmitriy Barash
Alt
Alt
Alt

MICHIGAN 2,2

Del John Whitworth
Del Bradley Rogers
Alt Tahira-Chandra Yanish
Alt

MINNESOTA 2,2

Del
Del
Alt
Alt

MISSISSIPPI 1,1

Del Jeffrey Bulington
Alt

MISSOURI 2,2

Del
Del
Alt
Alt

MONTANA 1,1

Del
Alt

NEBRASKA 1,1

Del Venkata Kolli
Alt
AAD Michael Nolan

NEVADA 1,1

Del Alan Losoff
Alt Janelle Losoff

NEW HAMPSHIRE 1,1

Del Alex Relyea
Alt Hal Terrie

NEW JERSEY 4,4

EB Hal Sprechman
Del Michael Somers, Jr
Del
Del
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Edward Steven Doyle
AAD Leroy Dubeck

NORTH CAROLINA 4,4

Del Debs Pedigo
Del Walter High
Del Wayne Spon
Del Rudolph Abate
Alt Kevin Hyde
Alt Cahyono Nugroho
Alt Venkataraja
Shanmugavadivel
Alt

NEW MEXICO 1,1

Del Andrew Flores
Alt

NEW YORK-DOWNSTATE 7,7

DAL Beatriz Marinello
Del Bill Goichberg, AAD
Del Harold Stenzel
Del Kimberly Doo
Del Daniel Rohde
Del Sophia Rohde
Del Brenda Goichberg
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Maxim Dlugy

NEW YORK-UPSTATE 4,4

DAL Al Lawrence
Del Dr. Sreenivas Alampalli
Del Sandeep Alampalli
Del Steve Immitt
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

NORTH DAKOTA 1,1

Del Todd Wolf
Alt Vasantha Soori

OHIO 3,3

DAL Gary Walters
Del Kelly Bloomfield
Del Kel Utendorf
Del John Miller
Alt
Alt
Alt

OKLAHOMA 1,1

EB Chuck D Unruh
Del James Gray
Alt Charles M Unruh
AAD Jim Berry

OREGON 1,1

Del Carl Haessler
Alt

PENNSYLVANIA 4,4

Del Stanley Booz
Del Leteef Street
Del Daniel Heisman
Del Tom Martinak
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

RHODE ISLAND 1,1

Del Frank Vogel
Alt Benjamin Swiszscz

SOUTH CAROLINA 1,1

DAL John McCrary
Del David Grimaud
Alt Daniel Smith

SOUTH DAKOTA 1,1

Del
Alt

TENNESSEE 2,2

DAL Harry Sabine
Del Korey Kormick
Del Chris Prosser
Alt Angela McElrath-Prosser
Alt

TEXAS 14,14

Del Thomas Crane
Del Jeffrey French
Del Lonann French
Del Troy Gillespie
Del Lakshmana Viswanath
(PEB)
Del Eddie Rios
Del Louis Reed
Del Wendy Reed
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Timothy Redman

UTAH 1,1

Del David Day
Alt

VERMONT 1,1

Del David Carter
Alt Parker Montgomery

VIRGINIA 4,4

EB Mike Hoffpauir
DAL Woodrow Harris
Del Adam Chrisney
Del Ernie Schlich
Del Andrew Rea
Del Anand Dommalapati
Alt Christina Schweiss
Alt Paul Swaney
Alt
Alt

WASHINGTON 2,2

Del Frederick Kleist
Del Murlin Varner
Alt
Alt

WEST VIRGINIA 1,1

Del Edward Garner
Alt Lewis Sanders

WISCONSIN 2,2

EB Mike Nietman
Del Guy Hoffman
Del Sandra Hoffman
Alt Jeffrey Peck
Alt

WYOMING 1,1

Del Brian Walker, Sr.
Alt

US CHESS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibility and Special Circumstances

JANELLE LOSOFF, CHAIR; JUDIT SZTARAY, VICE CHAIR

Mission

The mission of this committee is the fulfillment of Article II, Section 1 of the Bylaws of US Chess in accordance with ADM 15-27. In addition, this committee takes on an outreach mission to increase the number of underrepresented players who participate in US Chess events and who have disabilities and/or impairments and/or who may need special and reasonable accommodations made to the mode of play so they may play a legal and fair game of chess.

In order to attract more players and keep our current players with disabilities playing, we resolve to educate tournament directors and event organizers about how to make reasonable accommodations to the mode of play. We resolve to make the game of chess safer, more comfortable, dignified, and reasonably fair for all players with impairment/disabilities within an integrated open tournament, club, school and/or match setting. We further resolve to educate players with disabilities, so they may know how and when to ask for reasonable accommodations. By our efforts we hope to create a more accessible and inviting chess culture that in turn will permit an organic growth of membership and participation.

Objectives

- Research credible sources for disability information and accessibility support;
- Research and develop written accessibility and inclusion policy, guidelines, and procedures for review/approval by the Executive Board, committees and/or delegates;
- Work in cooperation with other organizations as directed by the Executive Board or the Executive Director;
- Work with other US Chess committees (e.g. Rules, TDCC, Scholastic, Ethics) to:
 - 1) Develop accessibility and inclusion policies, guidelines, and procedures that US Chess may use to increase participation by players with disabilities;
 - 2) Clarify and update existing accessibility policy;
 - 3) Review and revise best practices for reasonable accommodations to the mode of play made by organizers and TDs to assure safe, comfortable, dignified, and fair play for all players;
 - 4) Write accessibility guidelines to be used to train chess tournament direction officials, chess teachers, chess coaches, players' aides, and player advocates. This is our most important and most urgent work. This will remain an on-going, living document of US Chess governance. We are also creating a Toolkit to help the organizer with using the guidelines;
 - 5) Support participation by players with disabilities in integrated US Chess rated events;

- 6) Monitor instances of accessibility and inclusion failures or abuse of accommodations in order to help US Chess improve policy and best practices for accessibility and inclusion, in anticipation of emerging issues to US Chess.

Our Main Goal for Year 2018-2019: The Creation of Accessibility Guidelines

In August of 2018 we were asked by the Executive Board and the Executive Director to make writing the **accessibility guidelines** the committee's sole task for 2018-2019. As a result, we suspended all other unrelated committee activity and created a new four-member subcommittee called **The Subcommittee for the Creation of Accessibility Guidelines**. The subcommittee members are Vice Chair Judit Sztaray, Ph.D.; Stephanie Berk, Ph.D.; Martha Underwood, Ph.D., and Chairman Janelle Losoff.

After almost 400 man-hours of collaboration over nine months, two versions of these guidelines have already been submitted to the Executive Board for review by the subcommittee. The current working title for the guidelines document is the *US Chess Federation Guidelines for Conducting Accessible and Successful Chess Events for All Players*. The latest version is now under review by the Executive Board, the US Chess office, its consultants and relevant committees, our own committee members, and other stakeholders.

The *US Chess Federation Guidelines for Conducting Accessible and Successful Chess Events for All Players* is intended to be a resource for all US Chess tournament organizers (TOs) and tournament directors (TDs) seeking the accessible tournament label, Access Enabled (AE). The guidelines have been specifically developed by members of the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee (ASCC). They reflect current "best practices" for holding Access Enabled (AE) chess tournaments, which successfully include players who have chronic disabilities, temporary impairments, and/or specific circumstances that may require particular supports, adaptations or accommodations in order to make chess play available for all players.

Timeline:

August 2016 - November 2018:

Research phase

September 2018 to Current:

Collaborative writing by subcommittee

March 1, 2019:

Submission of first version for Executive Board review

April 1 - April 29, 2019:

Collaboration on document revisions

April 30, 2019:

Submission of second version for Executive Board review

April 30, 2019:

Partial committee reactivation for document review

May 5, 2019

Full committee reactivation

June 5, 2019 to current:

Review by Executive Board, relevant US Chess committees and office

The Future We Envision for the US Chess Federation Guidelines for Conducting Accessible and Successful Chess Events for All Players

1. The guidelines will be continually and perpetually updated by this committee to include new information as needed and directed by US Chess, and in line with best practice.
2. They will eventually appear in print and in an accessible and searchable format online. It's possible that a video training series will be produced that will permit organizers and tournament directors to learn US Chess accessibility policies and how to apply them without undue burden on event organizers and tournament directors.
3. They will become the foundation of a new US Chess system that supports both players and chess officials within US Chess.

The Development of an Organizers Toolkit

While working on the guidelines, the subcommittee started to build a large collection of tools and resources for organizers and TDs to help them run accessible events. We started calling this "**The Organizers' Toolkit**" and that is now this collection's working title. The toolkit contains sample forms, sample TLA language, promotional letters, website language, accessibility signs, badges, recommended procedures, safeguards, TD tips, links to reference websites and supports for players and their assistants and aids. It is the intention of the subcommittee that the "The Organizers' Toolkit" be given as a gift to organizers and TDs who choose to run accessible events.

The first draft of the Toolkit was submitted to the Executive Board for review on March 1 and was sent back to the committee for further work.

Committee Philosophy

The current leadership and subcommittee members subscribe to the **Social Model of Disability** as described by Professor Mike Oliver, Emeritus Professor of Disability Studies at the University of Greenwich, UK. The Social Model of Disability identifies systemic barriers, negative attitudes, and exclusion by society (purposely or inadvertently) that means **society is the main contributory factor in disabling people**. While physical, sensory, intellectual, or psychological variations may cause individual functional limitations or impairments, these do not have to lead to disability unless society fails to take account of and include people regardless of their individual differences. **The Social Model focuses on changes requisite in society to empower and increase ability in people with physical, mental, or emotional impairments.**

Access-Enabled

The term "Access-Enabled" is a term coined by Janelle Losoff, chairman of this committee, in 2017. **The combination of two positive words (a "double-positive") embraces the Social Model of Disability** mentioned above. According to Janelle Losoff, an Access-Enabled event is physically accessible, it is inclusive, the environment is **safe and comfortable, the treatment is dignified, and the play is fair for all chess players, no matter their impairments or disabilities. The focus here is on our responsibility to enable and empower players to play their best games in an integrated event.** An integrated Access-Enabled and US Chess rated event is the ideal.

Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions

JON HASKEL, CHAIR

We ask all delegates to help pass the word to their state scholastic coordinators that their state's Denker, Barber, and the WIM Ruth Haring National Girls Tournament of Champions representatives should register for their hotel room at the U.S. Open as early as possible. It has become increasingly more frequent for hotels to sell out their chess room block early. Often there is not a nearby hotel and it is not advisable for a young person to walk through unknown neighborhoods late at night after a long day of chess. For some states the availability of rooms runs out before the state holds its scholastic championships. In those instances, perhaps a state scholastic person could reserve rooms in advance for his state's youthful representatives.

2018 BARBER RESULTS

Congratulations to NM Andy Huang (VA), rated 2276, who scored 5½/6 for clear first place. He received the \$5,000 college/university scholarship to the school of his choice. Following Andy was FM Anthony Bi He (WA), rated 2337, who had only two draws to capture clear second place. Third place was a three-way tie among FM Arthur Guo (GA), rated 2315; NM Alexander Costello (CA-S), rated 2271; and FM Vincent Tsay (NY), rated 2273. Eight players tied for sixth place. There was a field of seven masters and eleven experts among the fifty-one participants, which was the largest group to ever compete for the Barber Champion of Champions title. FM Arthur Guo (GA) was the winner of the \$500 chess scholarship for best result under the age of 13.

Further details can be found here: <http://www.barberchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Barber-Standings-2018.pdf>

Virginia clear first in State Team Competition

Congratulations to Virginia on their first-place finish (14½/18), ending any doubt that their state team average (2213) was strong enough to take the top spot. Their team was led by Denker representative, IM Praveen Balakrishnan (5½/6), rated 2496. Barber representative, NM Andy Huang (5½/6), rated 2276, and National Girls representative Vivian Cao-Dao (3½/6), rated 1866, completed the effort. The second-place team was Washington State, which had a team average of 2310 and was one point behind Virginia. There was a two-way tie for third place between southern California and Massachusetts.

State team winners in the Under Sections: Arizona (Under 2100), Connecticut (Under 1900), and Indiana (Under 1700).

Complete results can be found here: <http://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2018-State-Team-Standings.pdf>

Bylaws

HAROLD WINSTON, CO-CHAIR

The Bylaws Committee advises the delegates and Executive Board on bylaws and governance issues. When votes are listed, the first number is in favor, the second opposed, the third abstentions, and the last means needs more thought.

This year the Delegates referred three motions to our committee. The first was a proposal by John Hartmann (NE) requiring that any advertising for Executive Board candidates disclose "the persons/companies/organizations who pay for those advertisements on said materials." It was referred to both Elections and Bylaws. Elections informed us that such a change was not needed. Bylaws agreed, voting 0-11-0-2. Harold Winston (IL) suggested an alternative to the committee to include wording on the ballot stating that endorsements that do not list names

of the endorsees should not be considered, but Bylaws also voted heavily against that idea: 1-8-1-3.

One of the most debated proposals was the idea of Harry Sabine (TN) and Ken Ballou (MA) to repeal DACI 40, which requires vote counting in Executive Board elections by region. The Bylaws Committee deadlocked 6-6-0-1. Advocates maintain regions are obsolete and it could take longer to count and might cost more to count by region. Bill Goichberg sent in an email opposing the proposed change, arguing regional counting is transparent, increase interest in election results and “reduces the chances of election fraud, both real and perceived.”

The third motion proved less controversial. This is a proposal by Ken Ballou (MA) to modify Article VII, section 1 of the Bylaws to provide that credentials of affiliates applying to be state chapters have to be submitted before June 1 if there is no current state chapter, or submitted before March 1 if there is a current state chapter, and then presented to the delegates “one month before the next annual meeting.” That is to make sure both the Executive Board and delegates have enough time to consider these matters. The committee strongly favored this motion by a vote of 12-0-0-1.

Other matters the committee considered arose from the work of the Governance Task Force. The first proposal, from Allen Priest (KY) and Harold Winston (IL), would remove outdated transitional wording dealing with elections from 2011-2019. The committee voted in favor 11-0-0-2. The next proposal by Allen Priest (KY) would remove bylaws wording that delegates and alternate delegates can receive printed copies of Executive Board minutes on request and “upon payment of a reasonable fee.” The committee strongly favored this by 11-1-1-0.

Harold Winston (IL) proposed keeping Executive Board minutes on the website and in the *Delegates Call*, which the committee approved by a vote of 10-1-1-1; however he may modify that motion to simply require votes on Executive Board resolutions be in the *Delegates Call*. Allen Priest (KY) and Harold Winston (IL) favor amending the bylaws to allow the Executive Board to elect one of its members as secretary or designate a person to be secretary, which would allow the Executive Board to elect one of its members, as they have recently done. The committee approved 12-1-0-0.

The most vigorous discussion included whether to keep three-year terms for Executive Board members or change to four years. The two liaisons, both Executive Board members, and a recent president, Gary Walters, argued for four years as giving more consistency and fewer transitions. However, it was pointed out that when we had four-year terms from 1999-2010, there were eight resignations and two persons were removed from the Executive Board before their terms expired. That led to a number of one-year terms to fill vacancies. There has been only one resignation since three-year terms were restored effective 2011. The committee voted strongly to keep three-year terms by 9-3-0-1.

Remaining topics the committee discussed were less controversial. The committee favored a proposal by Allen Priest (KY) and Harold Winston (IL) to repeal Delegate Action of Continuing Interest (DACI) 2 providing that US Chess will coordinate and schedule sanctioned tournaments since this is not done in practice. The vote was 9-0-1-3. The committee also agreed to another proposal of Allen Priest (KY) and Harold Winston (IL) to repeal DACI 19, dealing with investment of Life Membership Assets by an LMA committee that no longer exists. The vote was 12-0-1-0.

Two other votes were also not controversial. A compromise suggestion by Randy Hough (SCA) that regional vote counting should not be done if elections were uncontested was endorsed 10-1-0-1. A proposal to

remove obsolete wording about a two-year term of Executive Board officers (a relic of four-year terms) was endorsed 11-0-0-0.

My thanks to all committee members, starting with Co-Chair Guy Hoffman (WI), and including Vice Chair Richard Koepcke (NCA), Gary Walters (OH), Robert Messenger (MA), Myron Lieberman (AZ), John McCrary (SC), Randy Hough (SCA), David Mehler (MD), Steve Immitt (NY), Gerald Larson (AL), Jim Mennella (SCA), Sreenivas Alampalli (NY), Gary Kitts (MI), and our liaisons Allen Priest (KY) and Randy Bauer (IA).

Everyone is welcome at the annual bylaws workshop, which will be held in the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida on Friday, August 9, at 9 a.m., at the playing site of the 2019 U.S. Open. If you have any other proposals dealing with governance or bylaws, please contact me as soon as possible at HJWinston@aol.com.

Clubs

DR. JUDIT SZTARAY, CHAIR

The Chess Club Committee underwent a leadership change in January 2019 and is shaping to a new format, goals, objectives, and projects with the purpose of engaging communities to start, support, and develop active chess clubs throughout the United States.

Often, many may want to start a club, but they lack crucial informational resources and guidance to see the club develop to fruition. This committee will offer the proper guidance to simplify the process of starting a chess club, as well as offer a forum for all chess clubs to stay engaged and connected with US Chess and its community. The efforts of this committee ties closely to the mission of US Chess to empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess.

The mission of the Chess Club Committee is to support the creation, growth and development of chess clubs across the country.

We have established **three objectives** that the committee is dedicated to:

- 1) To empower people by supporting them to establish chess clubs that provide a positive space for recreational play, tournament play, and/or social engagement for all players.
- 2) To help chess clubs succeed via various means and channels in order to promote chess in education, and promote the social, recreational, and rehabilitative benefits of chess.
- 3) To increase opportunities for underrepresented segments of society to participate in chess by supporting clubs that are serving those populations.

The main goal for spring 2019 was to create the committee charter and get it approved by the Executive Board, which was successfully done in February 2019. The charter gives a clear direction for what members can expect and the work ahead of us is now defined. The committee also established work groups to start working on projects that support the three objectives. With the help of a few active members of the committee, such as Robin Ramson, Sophia Rohde, Paul Covington, Sean Manross, Abel Talamantez, and others, we are set to revitalize the community of the US Chess clubs. The Clubs Committee is dedicated to giving any chess clubs the support they need to successfully become affiliates, and to growing chess in any local area in the United States. Stay tuned for some exciting developments starting summer of 2019!

College Chess

KELLY M. BLOOMFIELD, CHAIR

This past year has seen more continuous growth in the competitive college chess scene with the addition of a new national college tournament.

U.S. Collegiate Rapid and Blitz

The inaugural U.S. Collegiate Rapid and Blitz Championships was organized and hosted by the Saint Louis Chess Club from March 16-17, 2019. Previous chair Al Lawrence and the US Chess College Chess Committee spearheaded the creation of this tournament to create more opportunities for college students to compete in general and on a national level. The Saint Louis Chess Club was the perfect host for this event and did an amazing job, as they do with all of their events.

The first annual U.S. Collegiate Rapid and Blitz drew 49 players from across the country. Competition was fierce, with over half of the field being either a grandmaster or international master—29 titled players in all. The Rapids were six rounds with a time control of game in 15 minutes with a 10 second increment. GM Vladimir Belous from University of Texas Rio Grande Valley won clear first with a score of 5½ out of 6. GM Kamil Dragun, GM Pavlo Vorontsov, and GM Sergei Matsenko tied for second with each scoring 5 out of 6. The Blitz tournament, featuring the same star-studded field, was nine rounds with a game in three-minute time control and two-second increment. When the dust settled, GM Dariusz Swiercz from Saint Louis University had won clear first with an amazing score of 8½ out of 9. GM Benjamin Bok and IM Guillermo Vazquez tied for second, with each scoring 7 out of 9.

Pan-American Intercollegiate Chess Championships

In December 2018 our annual Pan-American Intercollegiate Chess Championships (PanAms) were held on the west coast for the first time since 1979. The idea was simple in that we were trying to encourage more west coast teams to participate in the PanAms. Although only four west coast teams played in the PanAms, it was a great success this year, with 53 teams in all competing. It's no accident that the 2018 PanAms drew universal praise for its organization and direction, as organizer Judit Sztaray was named 2017 Organizer of the Year by US Chess. She's the executive director of Bay Area Chess, the sponsoring US Chess affiliate, which earned the 2018 Chess Club of the Year award. The tournament directing crew of a national team event always has a challenging technical job, and this year's blue-ribbon team, led by Chief Tournament Director (NTD and IA) Tom Langland, was flawless and friendly. Floor TD was NTD Glenn Panner, Assistant TD was Jordan Langland, and Pairings TD was NTD John McCumiskey.

Webster University won their seventh straight victory at the Pan-American Intercollegiate Chess Championships. Webster's A-team, with GMs Illia Nyzhnyk, Lazaro Bruzon Batista, Yuniesky Quesada Perez, and Jorge Cori won first place, and the B-team placed second! The other three teams that made the Final Four were The University of Texas at Dallas, Harvard University, and University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Final Four (President's Cup)

During the weekend of April 6-7, 2019, four of the nation's best college teams gathered inside of the historic Marshall Chess Club hoping to bring home the 2019 President's Cup. The Final Four of College Chess (as the event has come to be known) saw last year's champions, the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), mount a successful title defense. This two-year mini-streak comes at the expense primarily of Webster University, which had been on a record five-year run from 2013-2017 and was the top-seeded team at both the 2018 and 2019 events. Webster was hungry to reclaim their place at the top of college chess, but by the end of day one, UTRGV enjoyed a 6½-5 lead, with UTD (3) and Harvard (1½) having no chance at the top spot. This was a new experience for the Webster squad: Never before had they been trailing going into the final round.

Ultimately, they endured another first: their first-ever match loss in the Final Four as UTRGV managed to defeat them 2½-1½ in the last round, with three draws and a victory on board three by GM Hovhannes Gabuzyan over GM Vasif Durarbayli. The final team scores were: UTRGV—9, Webster—6½, UTD—5½, Harvard—3. Many thanks to Mark Herman and Two Sigma for organizing and sponsoring this year's Final Four once again.

Future

The 2019 PanAms will be held December 27-30 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Peter Giannatos of the Charlotte Chess Center will be our host and organizer. Details for the U.S. College Rapids and Blitz as well as details for the Final Four will follow in the coming months. The committee has several rules and eligibility requirements we are considering changing that will enhance our events.

In my first year as committee chair (11 years in all on the committee), I would like to thank all of the committee members. A special thank you goes to Al Lawrence and Jim Stallings for always taking my calls and for the invaluable advice you gave me. This committee works very hard to promote and grow college chess each year and with everyone's contributions we can continue this upward trend. Many thanks to all committee members: Michael Aigner, Constantine Ananiadis, Al Lawrence, Ana Maria DeMahy, Russell Harwood, Jon Haskel, Hal Karlsson, Beatriz Marinello, Claudia Munoz, Alex Onischuk, Andrew Schley, Alan Sherman, Jonathan Singler, and James Stallings.

Denker Tournament of H.S. Champions

JON HASKEL, CHAIR

We ask all delegates to help pass the word to their state scholastic coordinators that their state's Denker, Barber, and WIM Ruth Haring National Girls Tournament of Champions representatives should register for their hotel room at the U.S. Open as early as possible. It has become increasingly more frequent for hotels to sell out their chess room block early. Often there is not a nearby hotel and it is not advisable for a young person to walk through unknown neighborhoods late at night after a long day of chess. For some states the availability of rooms runs out before the state holds its scholastic championships. In those instances, perhaps a state scholastic person could reserve rooms in advance for his state's youthful representatives.

2018 DENKER RESULTS

Congratulations to IM Praveen Balakrishnan (VA), rated 2496, who scored 5½/6 for clear first place. He received the \$5,000 college/university scholarship to the school of his choice. Following Praveen was IM Joshua Sheng (CA-S), rated 2507, and FM Carissa Yip (MA), rated 2408, who both scored 5/6 to tie for second place. Forest Chen (TN), rated 2272, scored 4½/6 and took clear fourth place. Twelve players tied for fifth place. This twelve-way tie included FM Maggie Feng (OH), FM Yoon-Young Kim (CT), FM Ben Li (MI), FM David Peng (IL), Joshua Lynch (AZ), FM Sahil Sinha (MD), NM Andrew Titus (MN), Diddharth Banik (CA-N), NM Emmanuel Carter (NC), NM Jack Easton (KS), NM Arshaq Saleem (IA), and FM Roland Feng (WA). The field included four international masters, seven FIDE masters and 12 national masters. FM Carissa Yip (MA) was the winner of the \$500 Ursula Foster Chess Scholarship for best result under the age of 16.

Further details can be found here: <http://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/Denker-Standings-2018.pdf>

Virginia clear first in State Team Competition

Congratulations to Virginia on their first-place finish (14½/18), ending any doubt that their state team average (2213) was strong enough to

take the top spot. Their team was led by Denker representative, IM Praveen Balakrishnan (5½/6), rated 2496. Barber representative, NM Andy Huang (5½/6), rated 2276, and National Girls representative Vivian Cao-Dao (3½/6), rated 1866, completed the effort. The second-place team was Washington State, which had a team average of 2310 and was one point behind Virginia. There was a two-way tie for third place between southern California and Massachusetts.

State team winners in the Under Sections: Arizona (Under 2100), Connecticut (Under 1900), and Indiana (Under 1700).

Complete results can be found here: <http://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2018-State-Team-Standings.pdf>

Election

KEN BALLOU, CHAIR

Motions referred by the 2018 Delegates Meeting

The delegates referred two motions to the Election Committee at the 2018 Delegates Meeting: NDM 18-03 and NDM 18-06.

NDM 18-03 calls for disclosure of the source of funding for advertising on behalf of candidates for the Executive Board. The committee recommends that the delegates reject this motion. The committee sees this as a solution in search of a problem and also points out that there is no answer to the “or what” question. That is, how is this enforced? US Chess has no authority over nonmembers who may pay for such advertising.

The committee understands that the Bylaws Committee will suggest amending NDM 18-03 by entirely replacing it with text similar to:

Add to DACI and to statement going out with the ballots the following wording:

Any candidate endorsements that do not contain the names of individuals sending out the endorsements should be ignored.

The committee finds this to be entirely unacceptable and in fact, much worse than the original motion. Several reasons to defeat this motion spring to mind:

1. The ballots are mailed in June. Endorsements are made throughout the campaign season, which usually starts early spring.
2. The instructions sent with the ballot letter are already lengthy.
3. Who are we to be telling voters what to pay attention to and what to ignore? It is up to the individual voter to make that determination.

NDM 18-06 call for repeal of DACI 40, which requires counting election results by region. The committee recommends the delegates approve this motion. Regions are an anachronism dating back to the days of regional vice presidents. The nature of campaigning for the Executive Board has changed substantially since those days, with social media (such as Facebook and the US Chess forums) playing increasing roles in how candidates promulgate their message. Geography is simply a much less important factor. As one committee member wrote during deliberation, “If we were setting up our governance system today with the speed, versatility, and connectivity that prevail today, we would want to set up regions, and if so, would we count votes by region?”

Candidates for the 2019 election and composition of the Executive Board

The committee received nomination petitions from two individuals. The committee certified the candidacies of Mr. Mike Hoffpauir and

Mr. Charles D. Unruh for the two Executive Board seats to be filled in this year’s election.

The current Executive Board membership is as follows.

- Terms expiring in 2019: Mr. Mike Hoffpauir (continuous service since 2016), Mr. Charles D. Unruh (continuous service since 2016)
- Terms expiring in 2020: Mr. Mike Nietman (continuous service since 2010), Mr. Allen Priest (continuous service since 2011), Mr. Hal Sprechman (continuous service since 2017)
- Terms expiring in 2021: Mr. Randy Bauer (continuous service since 2018), Mr. Ryan Velez (continuous service since 2018)

Article VI, Section 7 of the US Chess Bylaws limits Executive Board members to no more than three consecutive terms of service, excluding partial terms of less than half a full term. Mr. Nietman and Mr. Priest will be term limited from running for reelection in 2020. Mr. Nietman will have served three full terms (2011-2014, 2014-2017, and 2017-2020) as well as a partial term of one year (2010). Mr. Priest will have served three full terms (2011-2014, 2014-2017, and 2017-2020). Neither member whose term expires in 2021 will be term limited from running for reelection.

Ethics

HAL TERRIE, CHAIR

Cases Considered in 2018-19

In the last several years, there has been a dramatic increase both in the number and complexity of cases submitted to the committee. Here is a summary for the last three terms.

2016-17 14 cases; committee exchanged 906 e-mails.

2017-18 10 cases; committee exchanged 1268 e-mails.

2018-19 22 cases; as of May 3, 2019, committee has exchanged 2,456 e-mails.

Part of the e-mail increase can be attributed to the expansion of the committee from seven to 11 members after the 2016-17 term. However, you can see that number of messages jumped again between the last two terms, both of which included committee membership of 11.

Here is a breakdown of the cases from this term:

15 new cases accepted for review.

3 carry-over cases from the previous term.

1 case jurisdiction declined.

2 cases jurisdiction deferred; complaints sent back to complainant for more documentation.

1 case awaiting a jurisdiction decision.

The cases fell into four categories.

1. Eight cases involved computer or cell phone cheating at tournaments. Seven of these cases had respondents who were teenage or younger; most (but not all) made a sudden, impulsive decision to cheat, without advance planning. Several of these cases have been completed and the young offenders are now serving significant membership suspensions of varying durations. Only one of these cases involved an adult, who was found to have orchestrated a sophisticated scheme involving a team of confederates and hand signals to relay computer moves. His US Chess membership has been permanently revoked.

2. Eight cases alleged “bad behavior” of various sorts, mostly at tournament locations.

3. Three cases alleged sandbagging or other rating manipulation. Two of these cases have been completed by the committee but, as of this writing, one has respondents who have appealed to the Executive Board and the other is still within the 30-day window for filing such appeals.

4. Three cases that alleged violation of various US Chess rules and regulations by affiliates and their officers. One of these cases was subsequently withdrawn by the complainant. Jurisdiction was rejected in the second of these cases; the third is under discussion by the committee now.

Ten cases have been completed with decision letter sent. Seven cases remain active as of this date. Three of these cases are in various stages of document collection, three completed case packets are awaiting a decision, and one complaint is awaiting a jurisdiction decision.

Chair Work Load

The Ethics Committee elects a new chair every year. When a new complaint is received from the US Chess office, he is responsible for posting it to the ethics e-mail group for the other committee members. He then guides the discussion, calls and tallies all the votes, and writes the first draft of the decision letter. He also handles all communications with the US Chess office, the Executive Director and the Executive Board. Frequently, there are also procedural inquiries from parties in the cases. The chair writes all the responses to those individuals.

Although it is more work to be the chair of the committee than just to be a member, for many years it has not been an excessive amount of extra work. However, the huge increase in the number of cases over the last several years—and the number of such cases involving multiple respondents and complicated charges—has led to a nearly intolerable burden on the chair. For this reason, the committee is considering a change in its procedures for the next term, suggested by our Executive Board liaison.

Under the new procedure, the committee would elect a chair as usual each year. However, the chair would then appoint case managers, who would perform the chair duties for their assigned cases, including writing the decision letters. The chair would still manage some cases himself and would also handle all communications with the office. This change should spread the work load enough to ease some of the pressure on the chair.

Time for Completion of Cases

It has been suggested by some that the committee takes far too long to complete cases. However, this is not accurate when the extensive requirements for due process are taken into account. Given the serious consequences that respondents may face, adequate time must be allowed for all parties to write their statements. The committee employs a four-stage process, the first stage being the initial complaint. In each of the following three stages, parties are permitted up to 30 days to submit their statements. When one factors in all the time needed for the committee to discuss and vote on the case, another couple of months may be needed to finish. Of the ten cases completed this term, nine went through the full four-stage process. The quickest case took four months; the longest, nine months. The average for all nine cases was 5.4 months.

Confidentiality

For decades, the confidentiality of ethics proceedings has been a very high priority. Members of the committee are bound by a formally adopted internal procedure to make no public comments on ethics cases. Decision letters are never published but occasionally (including this year) one is released by one of the parties. The committee has not

generally approved of this but cannot prevent it; such publication is not a violation of the Code.

The recent surge in ethics cases, including a near epidemic of cell phone cheating cases, has led the Executive Board to consider publishing many (or even all) details of ethics cases on a US Chess web page. The idea would be to deter those who have the impression that there are no consequences for ethical violations. With some reservations, the committee is in favor of this idea. Our understanding is that no decision on proceeding with this has yet been made. A legal opinion will likely be sought by the Executive Board on the advisability of publishing the names of offenders—especially juniors.

Ombudsman Procedure

At the 2017 Delegates Meeting, there was an extensive discussion of the proper handling of complaints involving junior respondents. An ADM dealing with this issue was referred to the committee; in response, the committee formally adopted this internal procedure:

“The committee shall annually appoint an ombudsman from among its members who shall have responsibility for reviewing complaints in which the potential respondent is below thirteen years of age. The ombudsman will examine the complaint and shall have authority to dismiss it outright, refer it to the full committee for a formal jurisdiction review, refer it to another committee or to seek an informal, negotiated settlement by communicating directly with the complainant and the respondent. The complainant shall have the right to appeal the ombudsman’s decision to the full committee, in which case the normal jurisdiction procedure will apply.”

This procedure was used twice during the current term. In the first case in which it was used, it did not go well. The parents of two potential respondents, aged 12, did not recognize the committee’s ombudsman as an official US Chess representative and did not respond in a helpful way. This led to a different approach being employed when a second use of the procedure was needed.

In the second case, the committee’s Executive Board liaison made the first contact with parents of the potential respondent, aged 12. They were very responsive to the suggestion of a phone conference with the ombudsman. Subsequently, the committee’s 2018-19 ombudsman (David Hater), spoke to the parents and reached an informal agreement that avoided any formal ethics proceedings. So, this method of handling the ombudsman procedure was very successful and will be continued going forward.

Committee Referrals

When the Ethics Committee first receives a complaint, instead of accepting jurisdiction, the committee sometimes refers the case to another of the disciplinary committees. This is a normal occurrence. However, occasionally at the conclusion of an ethics case, the committee may wish to refer some element of the case to another committee. Here there has been a problem.

Some of the other committees have procedures that restrict who can file cases with them. This has led, at least twice, to instances in which referrals from Ethics to TDCC were refused for lack of standing to file. The Ethics Committee strongly disapproves of this. We think all the disciplinary committees should have the right to refer cases—or certain parties or elements of cases—to other committees, as part of the recommendations at the end of their review. We urge these other committees—and the Executive Board, which has authority over them—to revise their filing procedures to make this possible.

Other Matters

At this time (May 3, 2019), I am not aware of any potential ADMs that may impact the Code or the work of the committee. If any are

subsequently proposed, they will be discussed at the Ethics Committee workshop, scheduled for Friday, August 9, before the Delegates Meeting.

FIDE Events

CAROL JARECKI, CHAIR

2018 was a turnover year for FIDE.

General elections were held during the Olympiad in Batumi, the beautiful Black Sea resort in Georgia. There were three candidate teams running for office, one headed by IM Giorgios Makropoulos, who has long been part of the FIDE administration; one by GM Nigel Short, with little support; and finally, Arkady Dvorkovich, who was strongly supported by the Russian Chess Federation as well as the Russian government. Dvorkovich was the Russian Deputy Prime Minister until May 2018, is a trained Economist (Duke University), and was the chief organizer of the 2018 FIFA World Cup. After many months of the usual contention, it was little wonder that Dvorkovich won the election.

Now FIDE has moved its office from Athens to Lausanne to share office space in the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), within the Maison du Sport International (MSI). The address is Avenue de Rhodanie 54, 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland; +41 21 348 1104. Email address remains office@fide.com.

Of particular interest to US Chess is that Mike Hoffpauir has been appointed to the FIDE Rules Commission as Councillor and Tony Rich as member of the Arbiters Commission. Michael Khodarkovsky is a FIDE Vice President, Jorge Vega remains as Continental President for the Americas, and Franc Guadalupe as Zone 2.1 President. GM Alex Onischuk is a member of Chess in Education, Dora Martinez is a Councillor and Margaret Murphy is a member of the Commission for the Disabled, Executive Director Carol Meyer is a member of the Commission for Women's Chess, Gary Walters is on the Constitutional Commission, Ken Rogoff is a Councillor for the Global Strategy Commission, Peter Doggers (chess.com) is a Councillor and Jen Shahade is a member of the Online Commission, Walter Brown is a Councillor of the Qualification Commission, Beatriz Marinello is Honorary Chairperson of the Social Commission, Alex Relyea is a member of the Systems of Pairings and Programs, Grant Oen is a Councillor in the Technical Commission, and Allen Priest and Margaret Murphy are members of the Verification Commission. Margaret Murphy is also a member of the Executive Board. That is a huge increase in appointments for US Chess.

Since Laws may be changed only every four years the interim years are assigned to Competition Rules. In 2018 changes were made to the General Regulations for Competitions that became effective July 1, 2019. These can be found on the FIDE website under Rules Commission. Most changes were grammatical or structural with some renumbering. There are now three levels of competitions instead of four; L2 includes all norm tournaments whereas L3 covers all other rated events. "Unless the rules of the competition specify otherwise," one half-point bye is allowed per tournament and may be in any round provided sufficient notice is given. Players should not eat at the chessboard during the game! (Love that rule.)

Some updates to the World Championships: The World Championship (WC) match will be extended to 14 games with tiebreak games if necessary. Agreed draws only after 40 moves; prior to that, the arbiter must agree to them (repetitions). Women's WC knock-out will be replaced with a standard Candidates' tournament with eight players in a double round robin format. It is scheduled to begin May 29th in Kazan, Russia. There will be no American participants.

The Arbiters Commission will be working on developing an international standardized exam to be given at FIDE Arbiters seminars.

Regarding issues specific to the US Chess FIDE Events Committee, there is only one, which is a cheating incident that occurred early this year at a norm tournament in South Carolina. The complaint has been taken up by the Ethics Committee and the only action taken by this committee was to have the tournament arbiter/organizer complete Forms A & B as required by FIDE and forward the complaint to the FIDE office.

Members of the Committee: Michael Atkins, Ken Ballou, Chris Bird, Jon Haskel, Steve Immitt, Tom Langland, Ken Regan, Alex Relyea, Thad Rogers, Sophia Rohde, Tracey Vibbert. Scholastic Council Liaison: Sunil Weeramantry.

Forum

BOB MESSENGER, CHAIR

The US Chess Forums are a discussion area on the uschess.org website provided by US Chess to increase the enjoyment of and to advance the game of chess to both members and non-members. The US Chess Issues forum is restricted to US Chess members, while the Announcements, All Things Chess, Chess Clubs, Running Chess Tournaments, and *Chess Life* Articles forums are open to the general public.

Most comments on *Chess Life* articles are posted through WordPress, although the *Chess Life* Articles forum is still available for commenting on older articles. No progress has been made over the past year on the plan recommended by the Website Advisory Committee and approved by the Executive Director and the Executive Board to replace the existing forums with WordPress forums.

Terry Winchester returned to the moderation team in October 2018. Tom Langland and I are the other moderators. Forum Administrator Mike Nolan has retired from US Chess but is continuing to help on an as-needed basis.

The Executive Board approved a new version of the Acceptable Usage Guidelines (AUG), which became effective November 1, 2018. Changes included removing the footnote about relaxing posting standards for candidates in Executive Board elections and at all times for Executive Board members, and allowing moderators to remove off topic posts.

The following table summarizes monthly forum usage between January 2016 and April 2019 for US Chess Issues, Running Tournaments, Chess Clubs, and All Things Chess:

Year	Posts per month	New topics per month	Posters (average/mo)
2016	782.3	43.9	45.8
2017	733.4	43.1	45.7
2018	802.7	41.5	47.5
2019	627.3	41.5	35.0

Hall of Fame

HAROLD J. WINSTON, CHAIR

On March 18, 2019, the opening ceremony of the 2019 U.S. Championship and U.S. Women's Championship held at the St. Louis Zoo, I inducted three new members into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame: GM William Lombardy, Max Judd, and GM Susan Polgar.

GM William Lombardy (1937-2018) played a key role in bringing four world titles to the U.S. He won the 1957 World Junior Championship

with a perfect 11-0 score and in 1960 led the team that won the World Student Team Championship, where he went undefeated. He played on our Olympiad gold medal team in 1975 and was Bobby Fischer's second at the 1972 World Championship match.

Max Judd (1851-1906) was one of our country's top players in the era from 1875-1904. He won the Western Chess Association Championship (forerunner of the U.S. Open), and defeated rivals Jackson W. Showalter and Albert Hodges in matches. He also founded the Saint Louis Chess Club.

GM Susan Polgar (1969-) came to the U.S. from Hungary in 1994. She has been the top-rated woman in the world, was one of the first women to earn the FIDE grandmaster title, and won the Women's World Championship in 1996. She also won the Women's World Blitz and Women's World Rapid championships. She led the U.S. Women's team to the silver medal at the 2004 Olympiad and has coached college championship teams.

At the same ceremony, FIDE VP Mikhail Khodarkovsky inducted three people into the World Chess Hall of Fame. GM Akiba Rubinstein was one of the best players in the world from 1907-1922 and won four major tournaments in 1912. GM Mark Taimanov played in 23 Soviet chess championships, sharing first twice, and played in two World Championship Candidates cycles. GM Xie Jun of China was four times Women's World Champion. After both the U.S. and World inductions, there were illuminating commentaries by GMs Yasser Seirawan and Maurice Ashley, and WGM Jennifer Shahade.

Tournament sponsors Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld and US Chess President Allen Priest spoke at the opening ceremony. Hall of Fame committee members Jennifer Shahade, John Donaldson, and Al Lawrence attended.

Finally, last May, in a brief ceremony at the Chicago Open, I presented Bill Goichberg with his 2018 induction plaque.

I thank all the committee members: Vice Chairman John Donaldson, John McCrary, John Hilbert, Al Lawrence, Joel Benjamin, Andy Soltis, Jennifer Shahade, Sophia Rohde, and Frank Camaratta. The U.S. Chess Hall of Fame committee nominated members for the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame and the final vote was by the trustees of the U.S. Chess Trust. FIDE chooses members for the World Chess Hall of Fame.

This year the World Chess Hall of Fame celebrated its eighth year of operation in St. Louis (2011-2019). In 2018, the museum had 17,518 visitors and 31 school tour groups with 708 students. Current exhibits include *US Chess: 80 Years- Promoting the Royal Game in America*, which celebrates US Chess since its 1939 founding, and *M.C. Escher: Infinite Variations*, which examines Escher's graphic arts inspired by the infinity of chess and the intricacies of nature. I thank General Manager Joy Bray, Chief Curator Shannon Bailey, Associate Curator Emily Allred, and the rest of the fine staff at the museum.

LMA Trust

CHUCK UNRUH, CHAIR

In December of 2016, the Trustees for the Life Member Assets set out an investment income strategy with the goal of reimbursing the yearly Life Members operational expenses. Under the plan, LMA Trustees, in coordination with US Chess leadership, advanced four years of expense reimbursements in June of 2017. Advance or pre-payments were transferred into the new US Chess Reserve rainy-day account. The Trustees are glad to report the success of the asset management and investment portfolio strategy during the last two and a half years. We are meeting our investment goals.

Each year, the Trustees review and approve an investment plan named after the city of the next Delegates Annual Meeting. Orlando is our

current investment plan while the Trustees start a review of the proposed St. Louis Investment Plan. Like Orlando, the St. Louis Investment Plan focuses on defensive equity and fixed income. Both previous investment plans have returned on average 6.42% annually in dividend distributions on the invested funds. Each quarter, the Trustees invest approximately \$50K into the current investment plan. The LMA Trust anticipates full investment in marketable securities over the next two quarters.

The last market correction recorded a 19.2% decrease in the S&P 500 index during December of 2018. On a monthly basis, the defensive LMA Trust Portfolio also lost \$6K of value in the correction on an original investment of \$500K or less than 2% in the brief market downturn. Trustees held fast to a cost averaging plan into times of great fear in the markets with the continued quarterly purchases. March 2019 found the LMA Trust TD America Portfolio at \$553K, a sum that includes dividends of \$39K. When fully invested, the LMA Trust Portfolio has an investment profile that exceeds \$30K of annual dividend distributions according to the reports from TD Ameritrade.

The Trustees will present a new investment plan, with the name "St. Louis," for the 2019-20 year at the Friday Finance Workshop during the annual Delegates Meeting. Investment results for the previous year and a brief strategy discussion are on the agenda, along with a short question and answer period.

LMA Trustee Assets Under Management as of April 30th, 2019:

	2018	2019	Gain/(Decrease)
Oberweis Account	\$12,600	-0-	(\$12,600)
Land	\$264,000	\$264,000	-0-
Building net Depreciation	\$380,000	\$363,327*	(\$16,673)
TD Ameritrade Securities	\$507,000	\$553,306	\$46,306
Pre-payments	\$143,915	\$87,319	(\$56,596)
Total:	\$1,307,515	\$1,267,952	(\$39,563)

(*March 31st, Balance Sheet)

I thank all of the Trustees for their dedicated volunteer service over the past year.

Outreach

MYRON LIEBERMAN, CHAIR

Thanks to the US Chess Executive Board for approving the Outreach Committee charter.

GOOGLE ALERTS

Thanks to Massachusetts journalist Stephen Dann, who suggested that setting up a Google Alert for US Chess would be a good way to be informed about US Chess events and issues. He is certainly correct on that point. Please note that a USCF Google Alert is not as effective since it also includes other users of the USCF acronym such as the U.S. Cycling Federation. We have always advocated for setting up a more general Google Alert for chess. There is, of course, no reason not to do both, which we encourage. Google Alerts for "chess" provide a wide variety of chess-related articles on a daily basis, including ideas and results for chess promotion, scholastic issues and events, and news from around the world.

WHAT ABOUT THE WEST?

Questions have been raised about what can be done to improve the availability of chess in the western states. We had attempted on two

occasions to hold a physical meeting that would involve at least four Outreach committee members and a Clubs committee member. This year was interrupted by unexpected interferences from life and the meetings did not happen. The West may be a possible item for discussion at the Outreach workshop during the U.S. Open.

MAILING LIST?

It has been our practice in the past to write or forward emails that might be of interest to those on the Outreach Committee as well as to other people or committees. The idea was to share ideas or contacts with organizers across the U.S. who might benefit from the contents of the emails and who might try to adapt them to their local or regional efforts. While the response has generally been positive, one responder this year asked us not to send such emails to them unless the work was the result of our own efforts. We have operated under the premise that if an idea worked for someone else, we should help make it available to anyone who might benefit from it, even if it was not our idea at first. However, we certainly do not want to clutter anyone's inbox with mail they don't want, so we are considering setting up a mailing list open to anyone who wants outreach ideas or news of successful outreach projects regardless of their origin. Anyone would be able to opt in or out of the list. This may be another item for discussion at the Outreach workshop. We are willing to do it, but not if it isn't wanted.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Chess in the media is no longer news. Nonetheless there are applicable news items even in the major media that may not be seen. Yes, they can be found on Google Alerts for chess. *The New York Times* published articles on March 16, 2019 and March 23, 2019 by Nicholas Kristof about Tanitoluwa Adewumi (Tani for short), an eight-year old homeless boy from Nigeria who won the N.Y. State Chess Championship for his age group. Kristof noted that talent is universal, even if opportunity is not. The second article, a follow up to the original one, pointed out, "After my column about this hard-working family, a GoFundMe drive raised more than \$200,000 for Tani, his parents and his brother. A half-dozen readers offered housing—in a couple of cases, palatial quarters. Immigration lawyers offered pro bono assistance to the Adewumis, who are in the country legally and seeking asylum. Three film companies are vying to make movies about Tani."

The article continued, "An anonymous donor paid a year's rent on a two-bedroom apartment near Tani's current school. The Adewumis have decided that they will not spend a cent of the \$200,000 GoFundMe money on themselves. They will take out a 10 percent tithe and donate it to their church, which helped them while they were homeless, and the rest will be channeled through a new Tanitoluwa Adewumi Foundation to help African immigrants who are struggling in the United States the way they were a week ago."

More details can be found at <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/23/opinion/sunday/homeless-chess-champion-tani.html>. We are sure to hear more in the future. Hopefully he will get a chance to participate in the Barber tournament.

Thanks to committee members Eric Vigil, Fernando Moreno, Janelle Losoff, Rachel Lieberman, Sean Manross and all others for their outreach work this year.

PPHB Fund Management

JOHN DONALDSON, CHAIR

The past few years have been quiet ones for the Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund and 2019 continued this trend. This has allowed

the PPHBF to replenish its reserves after many years of providing assistance to individuals who have dedicated their lives to chess.

The resources of the Fund are not large enough to provide health care for all titled players, but they allow grants of up to \$10,000 per person for those truly in need. This amount has made a difference in many ways, from providing physical therapy not covered by medical insurance to supplying a safety net for those in danger of being forced to live on the street. The aim with the latter has been not only to meet a short-term need, but also to find a long-term solution. This has included assisting individuals apply for veterans benefits, SSI, or state and county programs as appropriate. All those granted assistance were able to get back on their feet and lead productive lives.

The Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund is grateful to the many tournament organizers who have provided support throughout the years. The \$1 per player per event voluntary donation in return for enhanced Grand Prix status has provided much good.

As of April 30, 2019, the checking balance is \$30,295.08 and the CDs held for the PPHBF total \$105,884.47. For final year end balances, see the Vice President of Finance's report.

PPHBF Committee members: Jim Eade, Steve Immitt, Dr. Anthony Sady, and John Donaldson (Chairman).

Ratings

MARK E. GLICKMAN, PH.D., CHAIR

The Ratings Committee (RC) was involved in several challenges this past year. Two of our main tasks were in response to issues brought up on previous occasions. First, the ratings committee was tasked in 2018 with proposing a method to characterize uncertainty in chess ratings which could then be reported as part of rating computations. As of now, a proposal is being considered by the RC and the Executive Board (EB). The second is a follow-up on awarding the master title to tournament players who had last competed prior to December 1991 when tournament crosstables were available only as hard copies. In addition to these two main tasks, we also continue to monitor the rating system for systematic changes, and we describe below the results of this year's analyses.

Going back to the 2016 U.S. Open, interest was expressed at the ratings workshop and elsewhere that ratings should be accompanied by a simple measure of ratings uncertainty. In early 2018, the EB charged the ratings committee with the task of proposing a method to develop a concrete proposal. The goal was to produce a measure that would highlight whether a player's rating was a reliable indicator of his/her playing strength and could be used by players and tournament directors to refine the information available about player strength. The RC chair guided an independent study with a senior undergraduate student at Harvard University during the fall 2018 semester to develop a proposal. After some refinements during the spring of 2019, a proposal was shared with the RC and the EB liaison to the committee. The proposal itself can be accessed at <http://www.glicko.net/ratings/uncertainty.pdf>. The proposed method reflects the following three guiding principles: (1) the greater the frequency of games played, the less uncertainty (typically) in the rating, (2) the more time that has elapsed since the last time a player has competed, all else being equal, the greater the uncertainty in the player's rating, and (3) the greater variation in a player's rating over time, the greater the uncertainty in the player's rating. Over the following year, we expect to work with the EB to determine whether the specific proposal, possibly with any suggested refinements, can be implemented for use by US Chess.

Periodically the US Chess office has been receiving petitions to retroactively award the life master title based on tournament activity

prior to 1992, when crosstables were not saved in computer-readable form. The office typically works with the player to find tournament crosstables, often stored as hard copies or saved on microfiche, to be able to reconstruct past results. Over the years, various computational algorithms have been proposed by the RC to approximate the requirements for a life master title, as well as other performance-based titles, so that the search for pre-1992 crosstables could be avoided, but none of these proposals gained any traction. In April 2019, Mike Nolan suggested an approach that was subsequently refined by the RC chair and then presented to the RC for evaluation. The recommendation was that players who have been inactive since the start of 1992 can use 75 pre-1992 rating supplements where the player's rating is above 2200 as evidence for being awarded the original life master title. Also, a player can earn the life master title if their rating is 2400 or above in 25 pre-1992 rating supplements. These specific proposals are in addition to the current approach used by the office to determine whether players should retroactively earn the life master title through finding relevant crosstables. The rationale for the 75 supplements with a rating of 2200 or above is that on average this means that a player's rating would remain above 2200 for (typically) 350+ games, well over the needed 300 for a life master. For the criterion of having a rating 2400 or above over 25 supplements, Mike Nolan determined that for recent players who have had a rating of 2400 or above over 25 bimonthly intervals, every one without exception had the current life master title based on the norm/title system. The proposal was shared with the entire RC, and a majority were in favor. Those who were against objected not on the technical merits, but because they preferred not to retroactively award titles without exact data and using the exact specifications for the award. The proposal was shared with the EB liaison to the RC as well as the US Chess Executive Director.

The RC chair was asked by the EB liaison in early December 2018 whether the RC had an opinion on whether online games played at regular time controls, and under proper tournament director supervision, negatively impacted the integrity of the US Chess over-the-board rating system. The RC was not generally aware that this practice is being carried out for some online events, especially because US Chess already has a rating system for online-only competition. The unanimous reaction of the RC was that it is an ill-advised idea to rate both online game results with over-the-board results under one rating system. Several reasons were cited for why rating online games under the over-the-board system is a poor idea. First, there are serious arguments about whether chess strength is the same when playing on a physical board with actual pieces versus playing a chess game on a computer screen. Second, some of mechanics of online play are sufficiently different than over-the-board games. It would be easier to avoid detection of shady behaviors such as clicking on a piece and moving it to a square without releasing the piece, and thereby gaining a half-ply advantage of a position relative to what occurs in over-the-board games. Finally, a suggestion was made that, to the extent there has been fraudulent behavior by some tournament directors in over-the-board events, the ability to detect such activity by tournament directors in online play would be much more difficult.

Each year the RC performs a set of diagnostic analyses to monitor trends in the rating pool. Overall rating levels deflated from the mid-1990s through 2000 when rating floors were decreased by 100 points without a counteracting inflationary mechanism. With the new rating system implemented in 2001, ratings started to re-inflate. The RC's goal has been to re-inflate and then maintain rating levels roughly where they were at the end of 1997. Our analyses have focused on players with established ratings who have been active over the current and previous three years and who are aged 35-45 years old in the current year. Based on our analyses of rating changes, recent increases in average ratings have leveled off to a large extent. The current bonus

point threshold is B=14 and, given that rating levels have mostly stabilized, we recommend no change to this value. Some of the RC members observed that the variation in ratings among this "stable" group of players, particularly at the extremes of the distribution, has been increasing over the last few years. This is a feature we will examine further if the increase in variation continues.

Rules

KEN BALLOU, CO-CHAIR; AL LOSOFF, VICE CHAIR

The committee handled two appeals in the past year. One case concerned the ability of a player accused of cheating in a regular rated online event to see the evidence against the player (although that was not the original question raised in the complaint). The committee upheld the complaint. The other appeal concerned a tournament held in New England during the winter in which the organizer decided to allow players to take half-point byes in the final round in order to leave early with a National Weather Service snow warning in effect. The committee denied the appeal, ruling that the *Official Rules of Chess* grant the organizer and the chief tournament director considerable flexibility to exercise common sense to deal with emergency situations. (The committee ruled that the situation documented in the appeal did qualify as such a situation.)

The committee received an inquiry from a tournament director about the wording of rule 11D1 (illegal move in time pressure). The question was whether the phrase "with no adjustment to the time on the clocks" meant that the standard two-minute penalty (as defined in rule 1C2a) did not apply to this situation. The committee agreed that the wording was ambiguous and that the standard penalty does apply. The committee also received an inquiry whether a specific set of chess pieces sold by USCF Sales met the requirements of rule 40 and whether the set should be advertised as "tournament regulation." The pieces were determined to meet the requirements of rule 40.

Scholastic Council and Committee

SUNIL WEERAMANTRY, CHAIR, SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL

The Scholastic Committee is composed of 34 members who are recommended by the committee co-chairs and appointed by the Executive Board on an annual basis. Committee members are eligible to run for seven seats on the Scholastic Council, an elected body that serves as an advisory group to the Executive Board on matters relating to scholastic issues. Council members serve two-year terms. Election to the Council is staggered, with four members being elected in even numbered years, and three in odd numbered years.

Council members at the start of the 2018-19 period were Sunil Weeramantry and Rusty Harwood, co-chairs; Robby Adamson; Joe Lonsdale; Beatriz Marinello; Elliott Neff; and Steven Shutt. Rusty and Steve resigned in mid-term for personal reasons. A special election was held in March 2019, and they were replaced by Daniel Rohde and Eric Vigil.

One of the primary responsibilities of the council is to review and revise the scholastic regulations on an ongoing basis. The council has agreed to submit any recommended revisions to the Executive Board after the scholastic meeting at the annual conference. If approved, the revised regulations are to be published on September 1.

A significant action taken in 2018-19 was the full implementation of adjusted ratings at all national scholastic championships. Adjusted ratings are now used not only for section placement but also for pairings and awards.

In further efforts to ensure a fair and equitable playing field, all entries are now screened by a "sniffer" program that identifies any player who

COMMITTEE REPORTS

has exceeded the section rating cap within the previous year. The rating history of these players is then examined by a committee of three to determine whether a player should be re-sectioned. A player who is re-sectioned is given the opportunity to appeal that decision prior to the event. Current statistics indicate that most re-sectioned players are performing at better than 50% in the higher section.

Another action that was implemented in 2018-19 was the reduction in the size of trophies in all non-championship sections. Together with an earlier decision not to designate winners of under sections as "national under ... champions," offering smaller trophies in under sections has given the top section greater recognition and prestige. Feedback from participants in this year's events has been positive.

Among the many issues that the council is actively considering this year are the following: streamlining the award ceremony; recognition of schools and coaches who have supported US Chess national events for many years; non-traditional awards at national events; unrated sections and adjusting current sections based on the distribution of players; eligibility requirements for playing on a school team; qualification for international youth events; and creating a template for submitting Scholar Chess Player Award applications online. The council intends to propose revisions to existing regulations as appropriate.

Senior

DAVID GRIMAUD, CHAIR

The 2018-19 chess season saw the successful completion of the first National Senior Tournament of Champions (NSTOC) in Middleton, Wisconsin. This was the fourth prestigious side tournament of the U.S. Open's National Tournament of Champion series, being modeled after, and sitting alongside, the Denker Tournament of High School Champions, the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions, and the WIM Ruth Haring National Girls Tournament of Champions.

The NSTOC was a resounding success, with 42 state affiliates sending a total of 24 masters (four grandmasters, three FIDE masters, 17 national masters). Cash prizes totaling \$6,400 were awarded. Commemorative NSTOC boards were offered to the players, along with complimentary two-year ICC memberships. Gift certificates to the US Chess store in the amount of \$50 were awarded as upset prizes. The results are listed in the table below.

Finally, the committee would like to recognize Yuri Barnakov for winning the 2108 U.S. Senior Open held in New Orleans, Louisiana. The 2019 U.S. Senior Open will be held June 28-30 in Naperville, Illinois. The results weren't available at the time this report was submitted.

NATIONAL SENIOR TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (NSTOC) RESULTS

TITLE (by tiebreak)	NAME	A W A R D
1st	GM Alex Fishbein (NJ), 5 pts.	\$2,000
2nd	GM Alonso Zapata (GA), 5 pts.	\$2,000
3rd	FM Karl Dehmelt (PA), 4½ pts.	\$633
4th	GM Michael Rohde (NY), 4½ pts.	\$633
5th	GM Enrico Sevillano (CA-S), 4½ pts.	\$633
Top 75+	NM Klaus Pohl (SC), 3½ pts.	\$500
Top U90	Stuart Varden (MD), 2 pts.	plaque
Top U80	NM Sergey Berchenko (OH), 3 pts.	plaque
Top U70	NM Wilson Gibbins (NM), 4 pts.	plaque
Top U60	NM Tony Davis (AR), 4 pts.	plaque
Upset Rd. 1	Bryan Lilly (WI)	\$50 certificate

Upset Rd. 2	Ramon Tagorda (LA)	\$50 certificate
Upset Rd. 3	Kenneth Sloan (AL)	\$50 certificate
Upset Rd. 4	Keith Prosterman (NE)	\$50 certificate
Upset Rd. 5	Ignacio Perez (WA)	\$50 certificate
Upset Rd. 6	Michael Presutti (ID)	\$50 certificate
1st Team	Virginia - 18 pts. (NM Marcelino)	Bragging Rights
2nd Team	California - S, 17½ pts. (GM Sevillano)	Bragging Rights
3rd/4th Team	New York - 17 pts. (GM Rohde)	Bragging Rights
3rd/4th Team	Washington - 17 pts. (NM Perez)	Bragging Rights

COMPARISON OF RATINGS WITH THE OTHER THREE TOURNAMENTS

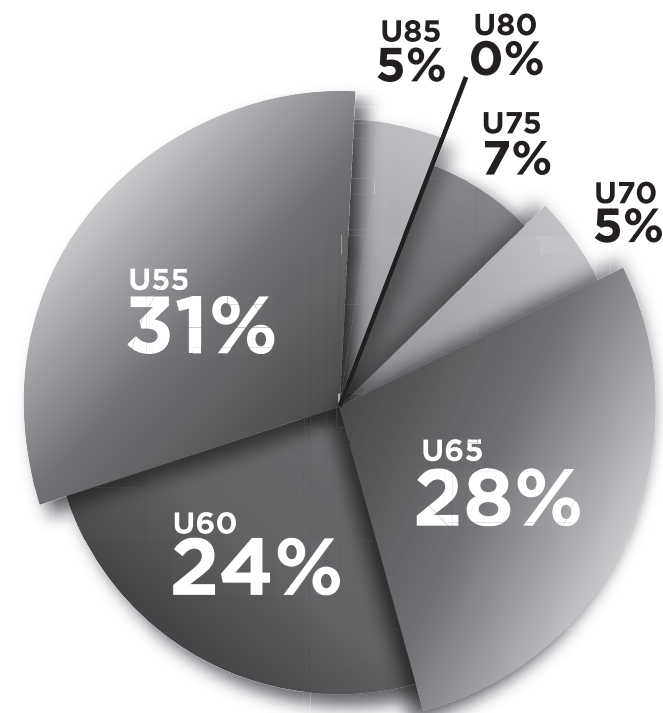
RATINGS					
TOURNEY	SAMPLE	AVG.	MEDIAN	MIN	MAX
NSTOC	41	2078	2166	1532	2572
NGTOC	43	1563	1685	190	2208
Barber	49	1839	1934	856	2377
Denker	47	2016	2155	1079	2570

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF NSTOC PLAYERS

Ages of the players are shown on the following table, broken out in slices of 5 years. (i.e. U85 = signifying "under 85, but older than 79.") A pie chart showing the percentages of these slices is also included.)

AGE GROUP	NUMBER
U85	2
U80	0
U75	3
U70	2
U65	12
U60	10
U55	13
TOTAL	42

AGE OF PARTICIPANTS - FIVE YEAR SLICES



TDCC

JEFF WIEWEL, VICE CHAIR

This past year the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC) was consulted on one membership suspension, considered six appeals, upheld three appeals without recommending a tournament director certification suspension, denied two appeals (the portion applicable to the TDCC was deemed frivolous in one of them), and recommended multi-year tournament director certification suspensions for another appeal. Judy Misner handled the appeals communications. There are three more appeals being reviewed. Four appeals against organizers and/or players were redirected to other committees. Members of the TDCC helped proofread the rulebook's seventh edition.

The TDCC was again given the task to nominate individuals for the Tournament Director of the Year and Lifetime Tournament Director Achievement awards.

The chair coordinated with the US Chess office testing liaison, Boyd Reed, and then Pete Karagianis, and with the Executive Board liaisons Mike Hoffpauir and Allen Priest.

There were 770 e-mails sent to the group mailbox (1,087 last year).

Thanks to the TDCC members for their service:

Rudy Abate, NTD, FA
Mike Atkins, NTD, FA
Ken Ballou, NTD, IA
Franc Guadalupe, NTD, IA
Charles Hatherill, ANTD
Guy Hoffman, ANTD
Carol Jarecki, NTD, IA
Tim Just, NTD, NA
Tom Langland, NTD, IA
John McCumiskey, NTD, FA
Brennan Price, ANTD, FA
Thad Rogers, NTD, IA
Alex Relyea, NTD, IA (chair)
Ernie Schlich, NTD, NA
Maret Thorpe, NTD, NA
Jeff Wiewel, NTD, NA (vice chair)
Brian Yang, NTD, FA

U.S. Open

HAL TERRIE, CHAIR

At the 2018 U.S. Open, attendance certificates were awarded to eighteen players, including one for 40 years of attendance, to Jim Mennella of California. Among those who are still active players, Mennella leads all others, though he still has a way to go before he equals the all-time record of 51, set by GM Arthur Bisguier.

Following the announcement of all U.S. Open locations through 2022, the committee has not had much to discuss. However, a decision was reached to adopt an increment time control. After surveys had indicated that players favored this change, such a control was considered for the 2018 tournament but shelved when I could not reach an agreement with then-US Chess Director of Events about the details. I had hoped to get more than 30 minutes base time for the second control but both he (and his successor in 2018) opposed that as it might lead to games lasting too long in the six-day schedule. In the end, I accepted a compromise offer of 40/100 instead of 40/90 for the first control, with SD/30 in the second control and a 30 second increment from move one. With this time control, a 60-move game will tend to last about five hours, as opposed to six hours for a similar game played at 40/120, SD/60 d5.

US Chess Development

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER V, CHAIR

In 2014, US Chess transitioned from a 501(c)(4) to a 501(c)(3) organization, which enabled it to start accepting tax-deductible donations. In 2016, the US Chess Development Committee was formed, charged with the mission of broadening financial support for US Chess. During its first two years, the committee convened only intermittently; however, this year the committee came into full swing. In 2018, the Executive Board approved the committee's charter, approved its first chair, approved the hiring of US Chess' first full-time Director of Development (Geoff Isaak), and voted to adopt US Chess' Gift Acceptance Policy. Subsequently, the committee decided to meet six times annually: three in person (at the National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championships, the National Elementary (K-6) Championships, and the U.S. Open) and three by phone.

At the National Elementary (K-6) Championships, committee members undertook development training and helped run US Chess' inaugural hospitality suite. Open to the public for 16 hours from Friday through Sunday, the hospitality suite seeks to cultivate potential personal and corporate donors at all levels of giving. The hospitality suite is being considered for all four of US Chess' annual scholastic national championships (K-12 Grade, Elementary School, Junior High School, and High School), as well as the U.S. Open.

Work continues on US Chess' Planned Giving Booklet and Case for Support.

Thanks to all committee members for volunteering their time: Bill Brock (IL), Maureen Grimaud (SC), Kimberly Doo McVay (NY), John Rockefeller (MD), Danny Rohde (NY), Michael Shuman (NY), Jay Stallings (CA), and Sunil Weeramantry (NY).

Women's Chess

MAUREEN GRIMAUD, CHAIR

Women & Girls Committee Members:

Chair	Maureen Grimaud
Events Directors	Leila D'Aquin Kimberly Doo
Committee Members	Sophia Rohde Harold Winston Anjelina Belakovskaia Phil Chase Elizabeth Shaughnessy Adia Onyango Claudia Munoz Heather Flewelling
EB Liaisons	Ryan Velez Chuck Unruh
US Chess Liaisons	Carol Meyer Jennifer Shahade
Meeting Dates	October 9, 2018 December 2, 2018 December 30, 2018 May 5, 2019

2018 – 2019 Tournament Season Women's Committee Accomplishments

1. The Women and Girls Committee was present at the following events with a Girls Club room, Women's Committee table, and held a town hall meeting for coaches, parents, players, and supporters:

2018 National Scholastic (K-12) Grade Championships in Orlando, Florida

2019 National High School (K-12) Championship in Schaumburg, Illinois

2019 National Junior High School (K-9) Championship in Grapevine, Texas

2019 National Elementary School (K-6) Championship in Nashville, Tennessee

The Committee passed out an All Women's and Girls' Calendar of Events, along with various individual female event flyers from around the country. We also passed out parent and player surveys, stickers, pencils, snacks and treats, gave away prizes from the local bookstore, and provided chess puzzles. Some of the Girls Club rooms included a nail salon, face painting, jewelry making, stamping hands with a queen stamp, and photo booth. Newly-added activities included giving chess lessons to moms at the beginning of each round, group tandem chess for mothers/grandmothers, crocheting, and meeting female leaders from different professions who also like to play chess.

The number of parents, players, coaches, and supporters visiting the Girls Club room has ranged from 100-400, averaging roughly 200-300 over each weekend. The number of surveys received have ranged from 10 to over 300 at each event. The town hall meetings have ranged from 20 to over 60. This year we had a Skype session at the 2019 National High School (K-12) Championship with newly-elected Utah State Representative, Stephanie Pitcher, who is an attorney, former state chess organizer, and eight-time Utah women's champion. She talked about how chess helped prepare her with her career as well as what it was like to play chess in high school and college.

From 2010 to 2018, we measured that scholastic participation at the national junior high level grew 23.7%; female participation as a percentage of the whole grew 88.6%. During that same period, participation at the national high school level grew 13.4%; female participation grew 62.4%.

2. Various Women's Committee members have organized and pioneered events in their area. For example, Kimberly Doo's daughter, Karsten McVay, created Girls to Grandmasters. Elizabeth Shaughnessy is trying to secure funding to get an all women's norm event going in California. The 2019 Women's Speed Chess Championship happened in May. Leila D'Aquin also opened a chess center in New Orleans.

3. Our biggest push as a committee has been to get organizers around the country to run what we are calling "regional events." These women's and girls' regional events allow organizers to determine the types of prizes and the numbers of prizes given out. We encourage the events to be for both girls and women simultaneously and participants must be US Chess members. We are encouraging organizers to pay the entry fee on their regional winner's behalf to any of the following events: U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open, or the All-Girls National Championships. When possible, we encourage organizers to give larger stipends to their winners as well. US Chess staff is working with the Women's Committee to offer bidding guidelines for future regional events to ensure consistency and quality of experience for the participants.

4. On the financial side, \$5,000 was donated to the U.S. Chess Trust for the purposes of women's and girls' activities. Monies have been used to help continue the regional all women's and girls' tournaments around the country. This year the tournaments included the following: All Girls Regional Mid-Atlantic Tournament, Southeast All Girls Regional Championship, Midwest Regional All Women & Girls Tournament, Western States Regional Women's Championship,

Girls K-12 Western States Regional Championship and the newly-formed Northeast Regional All Women & Girls. We are looking at the formation of potentially three additional regional all women's and girls' tournaments for 2019. They include the following: Southwest Regional All Women & Girls, Intermountain Regional All Women & Girls, and Gulf Coast Regional Women & Girls. An additional \$5,000 has been received by US Chess to support future regional women's events.

5. The \$5,000 National Girls Tournament of Champions (NGTOC) scholarship prize was generously donated again by Richard and Barbara Schiffrin. This is the fourth year the Schiffrin family has provided the NGTOC scholarship to the first-place winner. Other NGTOC sponsors include the following: US Chess, U.S. Chess Trust, American Chess Equipment, ICC, Trophies Plus, *ChessLecture.com*, and National Scholastic Chess Foundation. Family Sponsors: the Ursula Foster family and the Schiffrin family. Thank you to all who have so generously donated their resources, time, and money to this event.

6. One of the most visible things we have done this year is create Women's and Girl's chess swag, which is available through the US Chess Sales shop. This includes family-friendly boards, pieces, mugs, and baseball caps. In the future, we aim to have more products available to promote women's and girl's chess. The specially-branded items were supported in part by the US Chess Women's program grant funded by the Saint Louis Chess Club.

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DOCUMENTS ON THE WEB



2018 DELEGATE MOTIONS COMPLIANCE REPORT

In order to maintain accountability and transparency to its members, US Chess adopted DM 01-77 in 2001. The motion requires that a report on compliance or noncompliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions be included in the *Delegates Call*. Due to length, the comprehensive report has been posted on *uschess.org* at this link:

http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/2018_Delegate_Motions_Compliance_Report.pdf

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In 2018, the delegates approved a conflict of interest policy for all delegates. This recognizes the importance of declaring potential conflicts of interest for evaluation by a committee before the delegates meeting. Below is a link to a document that includes both the policy for you to refer to and a form for declaring any potential conflicts you may have. Note that if you have a situation that seems to fall in a gray area, it is best to declare it on the form and let your fellow delegates decide if it is, in fact, a conflict of interest.

http://www.uschess.org/doc/gov/reports/Delegate_Conflict_of_Interest_Form.pdf

DELEGATE ACTIONS OF CONTINUING INTEREST

Due to length, the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest has been moved from the *Delegates Call* and has been posted on *uschess.org* at this link:

http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/Delegate_Actions_of_Continuing_Interest-DACI.pdf

NOTES

Lined area for notes.

ROBERT'S RULES SUMMARY

Activity	You Say This	May you interrupt speaker?	Must you be seconded?	Is motion debatable?	What vote is required?
Introduce Business	I move that	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	I move that this motion be amended by....	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have something studied further	I move we refer this matter to committee	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Postpone consideration of something	I move we postpone this matter until....	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
End debate in order to vote	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Suspend further consideration of something	I move that we table....	No	Yes	No	Majority
Complain about something (noise, room temp., etc.)	Point of privilege	Yes	No	No	No vote
Recess the meeting	I move that we recess until ...	No	Yes	No	Majority
Adjourn the meeting	I move that we adjourn	No	Yes	No	Majority
Object to procedure	Point of order	Yes	No	No	No vote; Chair decides
Request information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No vote
Ask for vote by actual count to verify a voice vote	I call for a division of the house	No	No	No	No vote
Object to considering some undiplomatic matter	I object to consideration of this question	Yes	No	No	2/3 vote
Take up a matter previously tabled	I move to take from the table...	No	Yes	No	Majority
Reconsider something already disposed of	I move we reconsider our action relative to	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	I move we suspend the rules and consider ...	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	I appeal the chair's decision	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The complete document, "Robert's Rules of Order: A Guide for US Chess Delegates," can be found at this link: http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/Roberts_Rules_Summary.pdf and is a simplified selection of key points from *Robert's Rules of Order*, Newly Revised, 11th Edition, ISBN-13: 978-0306820205.

SCHEDULE FOR 2019 U.S. OPEN WORKSHOPS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR UPDATES, PLEASE VISIT: www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/usopen/

Time	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	NOON	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM
WEDNESDAY August 7	FIDE ARBITER SEMINAR			LUNCH	FIDE ARBITER SEMINAR			
	Senior	College Chess	Communications		FIDE Events	Ratings	TDCC	TDCC Problem Solving
	Denker H.S.& Barber K-8	International Affairs	Women's Chess		CJA	Scholastic Committee		Outreach
	Forum							
THURSDAY August 8	FIDE ARBITER SEMINAR				FIDE ARBITER SEMINAR			
	Executive Board CLOSED	Executive Board OPEN			States	Governance Task Force		
	New Delegates Seminar				Rules Workshop		Accessibility/ Special Circumstances	
FRIDAY August 9	FIDE ARBITER SEMINAR				FIDE ARBITER SEMINAR			
	Bylaws		Competition Integrity		Development	"Steps Method" Presentation		Staff Forum/ General Membership Meeting
			Ethics		Clubs	Finance/LMA Trust		
SATURDAY August 10	Delegates Meeting			AWARDS LUNCHEON		Delegates Meeting		
SUNDAY August 11	Delegates Meeting							

SATURDAY, August 3, Denker Tournament of High School Champions, Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions, and Ruth Haring National Girls Tournament of Champions **Opening Ceremony 3:00 PM**

THURSDAY, August 8, **U.S. Chess Trust Meeting 5:30 PM-7:00 PM**

FRIDAY, August 9, **Executive Board Reception 5:30 PM**

SUNDAY, August 11 **Executive Board Meeting (CLOSED) 2:00 PM and Executive Board Meeting (OPEN) 6:00 PM**

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR UPDATES, PLEASE VISIT: www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/usopen/