

2022

DELEGATES CALL

AUGUST 3-7, 2022

WESTIN MISSION HILLS

GOLF RESORT & SPA

RANCHO MIRAGE, CALIFORNIA



US CHESS

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, 12th Edition, ISBN-13: 978-1-5417-3669-6.

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2022 DELEGATES CALL

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ADVANCE AGENDA - 2022 US CHESS BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa, Rancho Mirage, CA
August 6-7, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Moment of silence for the reading of the names of the dearly departed members of our chess community.

ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES

ADM 22-01 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N)

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

ADM 22-02 (James Eade, CA-N)

The Delegates appoint Kenneth Sloan (Alabama) a Delegate-At-Large.

RATIONALE: Each year Kenneth Sloan must go to the member's meeting to get himself appointed as a Delegate. In light of his many contributions to US Chess over the years, it would be best to spare him this procedure and simply appoint him to be a Delegate-at-Large.

ADM 22-03 (Executive Board)

Move that Andrew Rea be appointed parliamentarian.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMITTEE

REPORT BY THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMITTEE

ADM 22-04 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N)

Move that the minutes of the 2021 Delegates Meeting as available to the Delegates present in Rancho Mirage, California be accepted.

ADM 22-05 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N)

Move that the minutes of the March 2022 Special Delegates Meeting as available to the Delegates present in Rancho Mirage, California be accepted.

ADM 22-06 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N)

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2022 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 22-07 (David Hater, GA)

The Delegates certify the results of the 2022 Executive Board Election.

ADM 22-08 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N)

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.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Report of the President (Mike Hoffpauir)

Report of the Vice President of Finance (Chuck Unruh)

ADM 22-09 (Executive Board)

Approve the US Chess Budget for 2022-2024.

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)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to time constraints all committee reports will be included in this year's Delegates Call or distributed as handouts.

ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Audit Committee

LMA Trust

Election Committee

Bylaws Committee

Ethics Committee

Nominating Committee

OLD BUSINESS

ADM 22-10 (DM21-18/ADM 21-13) (Dewain Barber, CA-S; Steve Morford, CA-S; Dylan Quercia, CA-S; Sean J. Manross, CA-S; Brian Glover, CA-S; Jim Mennella, CA-S; Alan Kantor, TN)

The US Chess Federation (US Chess) shall sanction and organize an annual National Tournament of State Champions of the Disabled, which offers an online option.

REFERRED to the National State Invitationals Committee and the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee.

Response:

The ASCC's statement:

"Our sub-committee of 10 members took great care and time in considering this motion. At this point, we cannot recommend passing motion 21-1 due to the incompatibility of a new tournament such as this with the US Chess mission of empowering players through accommodations and inclusivity, and the numerous logistical issues.

"The majority of our committee feels strongly that organizers who want to

host separate events can do so, but that US Chess should not be the organizer, or sanction a national tournament of state champions specifically for players with disabilities.”

The National State Invitationals Committee concurred with the statement of the ASCC.

ADM 22-11 (DM21-19/ADM 21-14) (Beatriz Marinello, NY; Dr. Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Sean Manross, CA-S; Dewain Barber, CA-S; Tom Langland, CA-N; Jim Eade, CA-N; Alan Kantor, TN; Blaine Webb, AK)

US Chess Federation Delegates who are senior citizens over 65 years old and Delegates with underlying health conditions may attend the Delegates Meetings virtually.

Requests for this accommodation should be sent to the US Chess office by June 1 of the year of the meeting.

REFERRED to the Executive Board to create a task force to study, investigate, and issue a report and recommendation regarding the feasibility of hybrid Delegates Meetings that would allow remote participation.

Response:

The Executive Board is appointing a small task force to examine the feasibility of this proposal.

ADM 22-12 (DM21-22) (Chris Prosser, TN)

The US Chess Federation will initiate a State Scholastic Zoom Conference consisting of the Executive Director of US Chess or her designee, the US Chess Executive Board Liaison(s) to the Scholastic Committee, the Scholastic Council, and the Scholastic Coordinator(s) from each State Affiliate.

REFERRED to the Executive Board, the Executive Director and the Scholastic Council with the power to implement

Response:

The Executive Board, Executive Director, and the Scholastic Council discussed this action during its semi-annual meeting. The Scholastic Council is to work with the maker of the motion to create an online forum that will assist teachers new-to-chess and others with navigating the creation of their programs.

ADM 22-13 (DM21-25/ADM 21-19) (Fun Fong, GA)

Title: Sections

Purpose: To create an organizational component known as “Sections,” essentially special interest groups within US Chess. This structure would allow people of different chess interests a suborganization for the purposes of networking and representation within US Chess. Sections (or similar suborganizations) exist in many other larger organizations. Unlike committees, Sections have no direct line responsibilities, and typically perform functions that are not mission-critical to US Chess.

Add at the end of Article V, Section 3, sentence 1:

“Sections will be allotted one Alternate Delegate, exclusive of the 125 Alternate Delegate total.”

Add after “Each state with 1,000 or more US Chess members must have at least two delegates ...” as a new, independent paragraph:

“Each chartered section shall be entitled to one Delegate as representative of all of the members of such chartered section if the number of section dues paying and complimentary candidate members meets the minimum number established by the Executive Board for the charter of that section based on the membership rolls of US Chess on December 31 of the preceding year.”

Add paragraph to Article V, Section 4:

“Sections shall designate the initial Delegate and Alternate Delegate as provided for in Article V, Sections 2 and 3, submitting the appointment of Delegates and Alternate Delegates. Sections 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.”

Renumber Article VIII, Section 5 to Section 6:

Add as Article VIII, Section 5:

Section 5: Sections

The Section may have one or more groups of members known as sections to provide for members who have special areas of interest within the game of Chess, and its associated variants.

Upon the petition of 100 or more members of the Section, the Executive Board may charter such a section of the Section. Minimum dues and procedures to be followed by a section shall be determined by the Board of Directors.”

REFERRED to the Executive Board to study further and potentially implement without Bylaws changes

Response:

The Executive Board is working on a framework to pilot this concept.

ADM 22-14 (DM21-26/ADM 21-20) (Mike Hoffpauir, VA; Bob Messenger, MA; Kevin Pryor, FL; Fun Fong, GA)

Purpose: To move elements of DACI 1991-27 (State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations) from the DACI to Article VIII (Organizational Units), Section 2 (Functions) of the Bylaws and to change the Title of Section 2 to “Functions and Responsibilities of State Chapters.”

DACI 1991-27. State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations, currently reads:

The first four items of the following list are required of each State Chapter and the remaining items are recommendations for each State Chapter:

1. Pay its affiliate membership when due and payable;
2. Certify in writing to the USCF Secretary by the authorized date (November 1st) the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s), who shall be USCF members, and report how they were selected (i.e., appointed, elected);
3. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship;
4. Have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or articles of association which includes but is not limited to specifying the governing authority and their selection, meeting schedule and purpose of the State Chapter, and provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the State; Each State Chapter shall submit a copy of their current bylaws or articles of association, and any amendments, as specified herein. This may be in written or electronic form.
5. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) annual USCF rated Scholastic State High School, Junior High or Middle School and Elementary School Championships;
6. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) other chess tournaments throughout the State and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the USCF Tournament Clearinghouse Representative. State Chapters are to support chess throughout the state and exhibit geographical representation in its tournament

sponsorship. Examples include but are not limited to statewide or geographically rotating: Rated Beginner Open tournaments, senior tournaments, weekend Swisses, tornados, quads as well as: participation in National Chess Day activities, regional and/or national championships;

7. Disseminate a periodical that serves as a state chess journal preserving a record of chess activities, promotion events, identifying state officers and, in general, providing a regular mechanism for communicating with its membership. Examples include but are not limited to: state bulletins, newsletters, or magazines;
8. Promote and publicize chess activities through various media, including but not limited to newspaper articles, television and radio coverage, flyers or notices at libraries, schools, and veteran hospitals. Examples include but are not limited to: chess exhibitions and simultaneous, tournaments, chess lectures, chess lessons, chess columns and articles in local and statewide newspapers, chess clubs, and meeting lists and announcements; and
9. Responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide. The State Chapter affirms its intention to comply with the duties and responsibilities of credentialed State Chapters.
10. Designate a coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state.

Amended 2010-32, 2016-42, 2016-71, 2017-42 (Previously 2019 DACI 8)

Article VIII: Organizational Units, Section 2. Functions, currently reads:

Section 2. Functions. Each State Chapter shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chess players 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.

PROPOSED REVISION to the text of Article VIII, Section 2. of the US Chess Bylaws:

Section 2. Functions and Responsibilities of State Chapters. Each State Chapter shall:

1. Be a current US Chess Affiliate.
2. Responsibly act in the best interests of its State Chapter membership and chess players across the state, including players who are not members of the chapter or US Chess.
3. Nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws.
4. Comply with state and federal laws, regulations, and statutes for non-profit or for-profit organizations.
5. Have Bylaws, Articles of Association, or the equivalent document that include as a minimum: the purpose of the State Chapter; a formal organizational structure; specifications for governance; selection of Chapter members for positions of authority in the governance mechanism; frequency and mode by which the governance mechanism meets; and opportunities for membership in the State Chapter.
6. Provide, no later than November 1st each year, US Chess a current copy of the State Chapter's approved Bylaws, Articles of Association, or equivalent document.
7. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual US Chess rated State Championship and annual US Chess rated State Scholastic Championship(s) for players K-12. Use these events or other selection methods approved by the Chapter to identify

players to potentially represent their state at prestigious US Chess national events for various ages and other groups. Such events may be in-person or online events.

8. Encourage organizers across the state to hold tournaments, and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the US Chess Tournament Clearinghouse representative.
9. Regularly provide chess players in the state with information about the Chapter's activities in areas such as, but not limited to, governance, tournaments, player recognition, and chapter initiatives. The means for accomplishing this function is the State Chapter's decision.
10. Promote membership in the US Chess Federation and participation in local, state, regional, and national US Chess rated tournaments.
11. Respond in a timely manner to information requests or requests for assistance from US Chess.

PROPOSED REVISION to the Text for DACI 1991-27, State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations.

Purpose: These recommendations supplement the functions and responsibilities of State Chapters given in the Bylaws.

Recommended Actions for State Chapters. Each State Chapter should:

1. Support chess throughout the state and exhibit geographical representation in tournament sponsorship.
2. Designate a coordinator for scholastic chess to promote participation in local, state, regional, and national scholastic events.
3. Designate a coordinator for women and girls to promote participation in local, state, regional, and national women's and girls events.

REFERRED to States and Affiliates Committee for further study

Response:

The States and Affiliates Committee will present a motion at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

ADM 22-15 (DM21-30/NDM21-04) (Leila D'Aquin, LA)

Move to Amend Bylaw Art. V, Section 2 to provide that the Board of Delegates shall be composed of the EB, the DAL, and 130 Delegates; each state with 100 or more members must have two Delegates; each with 500 or more must have three Delegates; the remaining Delegate seats shall be apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident US Chess membership as of May 31.

Add:

Delegates must be appointed by their State Associations no later than February 1st. Any Delegate seats not filled by appointment by that date shall become additional seats for single year Delegates at Large who may be appointed at the Membership meeting.

REFERRED to Bylaws Committee for study

Response:

There was some discussion, but no further action was taken by the committee.

ADM 22-16 (DM21-31/NDM21-05) (Lawrence Cohen, IL)

The USCF publish (and send out to organizers) a stated policy for refunding Entry Fees.

REFERRED to Rules Committee for further study

Response:

The Rules Committee's position is that this motion needs no further action because this situation is already addressed in the Rulebook by Rule 23A3.

NEW BUSINESS

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

ADM 22-17 (Robin Floyd Ramson, DC)

Amend the Bylaws to strike Article VI, Section 2E, preventing those with felony records from serving on the Executive Board.

ADM 22-18 (James Eade, CA-N)

In light of the decision to move to St. Louis, the Delegates wish to thank Beatriz Marinello and Harry Sabine for their work in securing Crossville, Tennessee, as our organization's home for these many years. We wish to also express our appreciation to the Tennessee State Affiliate and all the people who have made us feel welcome in Tennessee.

ADM 22-19 (Chris Prosser, TN)

The Delegates of US Chess will create a standing "State Affiliate Scholastic Chess Advisory Committee" consisting of the state affiliate scholastic coordinators. The committee will meet by Zoom and be co-chaired by the scholastic liaison from the US Chess Executive Board and a Delegate-appointed co-chair. The purpose of the committee is to elicit information, concerns, and suggestions concerning scholastic chess and to solicit assistance from the state scholastic coordinators in assisting US Chess fulfill its 501(c)(3) mission and vision as it relates to scholastic chess. The committee co-chairs will present a written report to the US Chess Executive Board, US Chess Scholastic Council and Committee, and US Chess Delegates by April 30 each year.

RATIONALE: Scholastic members make up the majority of US Chess membership. The second core value of US Chess is "...to be responsive, adaptive and proactive in providing services to our customers." This committee is not meant to compete or interfere with the US Chess Scholastic Council and Committee. On the contrary, it is meant to be a valuable resource to US Chess by reaching out to our state affiliates and their appointed/elected scholastic coordinators in gathering information and ideas and soliciting assistance in fulfilling its 501(c)(3) mission and vision as it pertains to scholastic chess.

ADM 22-20 (Steve Immitt, NY; Jim Eade, NC; Sophia Rohde, NY)

The Delegates resolve to amend DACI 2009-30, amended 2015-62 (Previously 2019 DACI 46) as follows:

2009-30. Procedures for applications for benefits from the Professional Players' Health and Benefits Fund (PPHBF):

1. Applicants must be US citizens who hold the GM, IM, WGM, **re-insert "FM" here, as FM titleholders were added by the Delegates several years ago (FMs have already received donations from the PPHBF).**

or WIM titles as granted by FIDE.

The following language is appended to the above:

"In special situations, applicants may also be considered who do not hold these qualifications but who have nevertheless given extraordinary service to US Chess in their lifetimes."

2. Applicants must provide

Insert here the word "adequate"

documentation that they have serious financial difficulties resulting from their own medical or psychiatric

The above word is replaced by

"psychological"

conditions.

The following language is appended to the above:

"or other exigent circumstances."

3. Applicants must give signed consent for the consideration, discussion, and review of all medical, psychiatric,

The above word is replaced by

"psychological"

and financial information

they submit in support of their application,

The above is replaced by the following language:

"they choose to submit in support of the application"

by any officials of the US Chess Federation (USCF) who are designated by USCF to make recommendations or decisions regarding their application. Such signed consent by applicants must expressly allow

PPHBF committee members,

Replace the above language with:

"Professional Players' Health And Benefits Claims Committee members"

the USCF Executive Director, and members of the Executive Board, or others designated by the Executive Board, the right to review and discuss any information submitted by the applicant in support of his/her application.

The following language is appended to the above:

"US Chess will work with the recipients and/or the recipient's representatives to comply with governmental regulations while also striving not to jeopardize the recipient's eligibility to receive any additional grants or entitlements ((such as Medicaid, SSI, etc.). US Chess must also always be vigilant in safeguarding all of the applicants' rights to privacy when reviewing the supporting documentation."

4. The USCF Executive Board shall appoint a

PPHBF committee

Replace the above language with

"Professional Players' Health And Benefits Fund Claims Committee (PPHBFCC)"

which shall review all applications for benefits, and forward recommendations from such review to the Executive Board for final decision regarding the applications. The USCF Executive Board has sole discretion over the granting or failing to grant any benefits from the

PPHBF

Replace the above word with

"Professional Players' Health And Benefits Fund"

to applicants.

5. Applicants must agree in writing at the time of their application that they will accept the decisions of the USCF Executive Board, and shall hold harmless all persons involved in the review and decision process, and shall not initiate any legal actions concerning any such review and recommendations at any time.

6. A lifetime limit of \$10,000 to any applicant will be in effect.

The following language is appended to the above:

"In extraordinary circumstances, the PPHBF Claims Committee

may recommend increasing this amount, subject to approval by the Executive Board.”

7. Applications which do not fully comply with these procedures will not be considered.

The following language is appended to the above:

“unless the Committee determines that exigent circumstances in the case of the specific applicant warrant consideration of the application as submitted.”

The text of the amended DACI will be as follows.

2009-30. Procedures for applications for benefits from the Professional Players’ Health and Benefits Fund (PPHBF):

1. Applicants must be U.S. citizens who hold the GM, IM, WGM, WIM, or FM titles as granted by FIDE. In special situations, applicants may also be considered who do not hold these qualifications but who have nevertheless given extraordinary service to US Chess in their lifetimes.
2. Applicants must provide adequate documentation that they have serious financial difficulties resulting from their own medical or psychological conditions, or other exigent circumstances.
3. Applicants must give signed consent for the consideration, discussion, and review of all medical, psychological, and financial information they choose to submit in support of the application, by any officials of the US Chess Federation (USCF) who are designated by USCF to make recommendations or decisions regarding their application. Such signed consent by applicants must expressly allow Professional Players’ Health And Benefits Claims Committee members, the USCF Executive Director, and members of the Executive Board, or others designated by the Executive Board, the right to review and discuss any information submitted by the applicant in support of his/her application. US Chess will work with the recipients and/or the recipient’s representatives to comply with governmental regulations while also striving not to jeopardize the recipient’s eligibility to receive any additional grants or entitlements ((such as Medicaid, SSI, etc.). US Chess must also always be vigilant in safeguarding all of the applicants’ rights to privacy when reviewing the supporting documentation.
4. The USCF Executive Board shall appoint a Professional Players’ Health and Benefits Fund Claims Committee (PPHBFCC) which shall review all applications for benefits, and forward recommendations from such review to the Executive Board for final decision regarding the applications. The USCF Executive Board has sole discretion over the granting or failing to grant any benefits from the Professional Players’ Health And Benefits Fund to applicants.
5. Applicants must agree in writing at the time of their application that they will accept the decisions of the USCF Executive Board, and shall hold harmless all persons involved in the review and decision process, and shall not initiate any legal actions concerning any such review and recommendations at any time.
6. A lifetime limit of \$10,000 to any applicant will be in effect. In extraordinary circumstances, the PPHBF Claims Committee may recommend increasing this amount, subject to approval by the Executive Board.
7. Applications which do not fully comply with these procedures will not be considered, unless the Committee determines that exigent circumstances in the case of the specific applicant warrant consideration of the application as submitted.

RATIONALE: While the eligibility for receiving donations has thus far been restricted to the aforementioned U.S. citizen FIDE titleholders,

the sponsors believe that there can possibly arise situations where other individuals who have given extraordinary service to chess in their lifetimes will warrant consideration as well, and this possibility should not automatically be excluded from consideration.

While we should expand the pool of eligible recipients, US Chess funds are not unlimited. We should prioritize our resources to serve first those who are beset with medical expenditures, but also allow for consideration of other worthy recipients who find themselves in grave financial circumstances, on a case-by-case basis.

It is likely that applicants who are in dire financial circumstances will also need to protect their eligibility for other governmental programs of assistance, such as Medicaid, SSI, etc. US Chess should work with these individuals and/or their representatives to protect such eligibility while securing financial assistance from US Chess. It would hardly benefit someone to receive a grant from US Chess, if that person’s eligibility for much greater financial coverage from Medicaid, for example, were jeopardized.

The \$10,000 lifetime limitation on financial support from US Chess to a specific individual made sense when the PPHBF Fund was first established. In the ensuing years, the cost for medical procedures has increased dramatically. However, the balance of the Fund has also increased as well, and it should be possible to address increasing the lifetime limit in cases where it is warranted by the specific circumstances.

US Chess wants applicants to submit a proper application for financial support. However, there may be special circumstances, such as the applicant’s hospitalization status, which may prove problematic for the applicant prior to the review by US Chess of his or her specific situation. The committee and/or Executive Board may need to review the application at the time when it is submitted by the applicant, even if it may not be complete, to decide if consideration of the application’s situation is warranted.

It might also be appropriate to consider giving a different name for the committee to reflect its expanded scope of review.

US Chess is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Our support of those who have provided extraordinary service to chess in their lifetimes is well justified. We do not want to close our doors to an otherwise worthy applicant.

ADM 22-21 (Steve Immitt, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY)

The Delegates recommend that the office re-establish the ability for members and affiliates to communicate with the membership by mail. To safeguard the privacy of members’ information, it may be necessary to work with a trusted third-party mailing service to send out such mailings at a reasonable cost to those wishing to do so.

RATIONALE: Being able to contact the membership directly is important, whether it be an affiliate wishing to promote a new tournament or a member wishing to advocate his or her positions on issues important to the general membership. While members do have the right to expect that their contact information is safeguarded, this should not be instead used as the basis of a policy change for disallowing those members the opportunity to receive important information.

ADM 22-22 (Steve Immitt, NY)

Rule 28I. Opponents of expelled players, is amended as follows:

If a player is removed from an event or section because of being made ineligible by a corrected rating (28H)

Insert here the following language (in boldface italics):

“or because the Tournament Director has determined that there is reason to believe that the player may have received assistance in previous game(s) in that event,”

the following adjustments shall be made to that player's opponents:

28I1. Expulsion before last round of a tournament is paired.

Append the following language (in boldface italics):

"a. Variation (to be announced prior to the second round of the tournament): If two or more rounds remain when a player is expelled, all opponents of the expelled player shall receive a win by forfeit (unless those opponents defeated the expelled player, in which case the result is unchanged). If one round remains, the last opponent of the expelled player shall receive a win by forfeit and other players shall have their scores adjusted as in 28I2."

28I2. Expulsion after last round of a tournament is paired.

Append the following language (in boldface italics):

"c. Variation (to be announced prior to the second round of the tournament): If the tournament has concluded, the last opponent of the expelled player shall receive a win by forfeit (unless that opponent defeated the expelled player, in which case the result is unchanged). Other opponents shall have their results changed as in sections a. and b."

28I3. Extra rated games.

Append the following language (in boldface italics):

If, however, the Director expels a player because there is reason to believe that the player has received assistance in the player's previous game(s), the results of those games shall be adjusted to change these results to unrated games as per above, except that the results of games which the expelled player lost shall be unchanged.

After these proposed revisions, the rule would read as follows.

28I. Opponents of expelled players.

If a player is removed from an event or section because of being made ineligible by a corrected rating (28H), or because the Tournament Director has determined that there is reason to believe that the player may have received assistance in previous game(s) in that event, the following adjustments shall be made to that player's opponents:

28I1. Expulsion before last round of tournament is paired.

Use the same procedure outlined in 28I2.

- a. Variation (to be announced prior to the second round of the tournament): If two or more rounds remain when a player is expelled, all opponents of the expelled player shall receive a win by forfeit (unless those opponents defeated the expelled player, in which case the result is unchanged). If one round remains, the last opponent of the expelled player shall receive a win by forfeit and other players shall have their scores adjusted as in 28I2.

28I2. Expulsion after last round of tournament is paired.

Earlier opponents of the expelled player shall have their results adjusted for tournament scoring purposes (see also 28I3) as follows:

- a. A player who lost to the expelled player shall instead receive a half-point bye.
- b. A player who drew the expelled player shall instead receive a win by forfeit.
- c. Variation (to be announced prior to the second round of the tournament): If the tournament has concluded, the last opponent of the expelled player shall receive a win by forfeit (unless that opponent defeated the expelled player, in which case the result is unchanged). Other opponents shall have their results changed as in sections a. and b.

28I3. Extra rated games.

The actual result of each opponent vs the expelled player shall be transferred to an "extra rated games" chart for US chess rating purposes (28M4). If, however, the Director expels a player because there is reason

to believe that the player has received assistance in the player's previous game(s), the results of those games shall be adjusted to change these results to unrated games as per above, except that the results of games which the expelled player lost shall be unchanged.

RATIONALE: The same principles which protect the opponents of an improperly rated player (and preserve their chances for prizes) should also apply to the opponents of players whom the TD has expelled because he or she believes that those players may have received assistance in their games. Deliberate care must be taken, however, when adjusting opponents' scores. Automatically and summarily converting all losses into forfeit wins would have the unintended consequence of propelling some players into the top prizes who were never in contention for them, and who were never paired correctly as such, even finishing ahead of legitimate rivals for those prizes who had been correctly paired throughout the tournament.

ADM 22-23 (Steve Immitt, NY; Sophia Rohde, NY)

The Delegates wish to emphasize their interest in assisting the US Chess website development team in expanding the capabilities of the US Chess website, and especially the Membership Batch Submission program so that it better accommodates the various and diverse needs of our members and affiliates.

Specifically,

1. The Membership Batch Submission program should be able to process many memberships (more than the current limit of 15) in a single upload from organizers to the Tournament Director/Affiliate Area. As was the case with this previous TD/Affiliate Area, affiliates should be able to submit the upload membership batch information from their own records through the TD/Affiliate Area, in a preset format that the TD/Affiliate Area can accept. Currently the batch membership submission process requires the affiliate to retype and/or copy and paste the affiliate's memberships to be submitted into the membership batch, one membership at a time.
2. As was the case with the previous membership batch submission process, the Membership Batch Submission program needs to process updates in a member's address as well as updates in the member's renewal membership type. A member who has paid for a subscription to *Chess Life* but who changed his address from Europe to the U.S., for example, needs to receive his magazine at the new address, without a long delay. If there is a problem processing the member's new address, the affiliate or member should be notified, with the ability to correct this.
3. As was the case with the previous membership batch submission process, the new program should review new memberships submitted to indicate if there might be a potential member with the same or similar last name. This review would help in reducing the submission of multiple memberships with multiple rating histories and expiration dates for the same member.
4. As was the case with the previous membership batch submission process, the new Membership Batch Submission program should provide an email receipt itemizing the name, ID, membership type, and amount paid for each membership submitted in the batch, along with a correct total of all the membership dues, commissions, and charges in that batch. The Memberships Submitted function on the current dashboard provides some, but not all, of this information, and this can take several days to update. It would also be helpful to note if a member's information had changed from the previous membership payment, in order to help flag members whose updated information might need to be checked for obvious errors (such as a member moving to a different state, for example, while the old state is not updated in MSA).

RATIONALE: Affiliates provide US Chess with the large-scale ability to promote memberships and rated activity. It is important to help organizers

achieve these objectives by making the membership batch submission process easy to use in general and to facilitate the submission and record-keeping of large batches of memberships in particular.

Affiliates are often the initial point of interaction between a member and US Chess. When something goes wrong with a member who has paid the required dues in order to play in a tournament, the customer will complain to the affiliate, whom he or she paid, to investigate and fix the problem. In this way the affiliate also serves as a messenger to US Chess — one who is trying to help address customer service issues with members, the affiliate and other affiliates.

Organizers have substantial institutional knowledge of what works in running tournaments, especially large tournaments. US Chess and its team of website developers can benefit from this collective, hands-on experience with members and affiliates, not only to obviate the need to reinvent the wheel, but to build a better one.

While the Delegates understand that the pandemic has caused significant setbacks for everyone, including US Chess, we nonetheless also believe that now is the time not only to prepare for higher levels of affiliate activity and memberships, but to welcome them with open arms.

ADM 22-24 (Election Committee)

Modify Article VI Section 6 to read as follows (without the crossed out text):

Section 6. 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 will be used in addition to mailed ballots or ballots in Chess Life. The US Chess office in consultation with the Election Committee shall establish the mechanism to conduct the secure electronic balloting. 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, and establishing 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.~~

RATIONALE: US Chess has the mechanism to conduct an all electronic ballot for Executive Board elections. The current procedure of split

electronic and direct mail balloting requires finding an election teller, contracting for a local post office box, and renting a facility to conduct the count of the direct mail ballots. Approving this motion would allow for a completely electronic vote. Since there is not currently a scheduled vote in 2024, the Election Committee recommends that the motion be referred back to the Election Committee, the Bylaws Committee, and the office (for recommendations) for refinements and adoption by the Delegates in 2023 for the 2025 election.

ADM 22-25 (Guy Hoffman, WI)

Replace Article V, Section 4 with the following:

State Chapters shall designate the initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates for their states, as provided 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 by March 1 prior to the Annual Meeting, or as soon thereafter as feasible. The term of each Delegate shall commence on March 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year.

RATIONALE: I deliberately left out the “until a successor is selected” as the Chapter is supposed to fill the slots. This makes it unnecessary for the office to seek resignations of Delegates or Alternates. The November 1 date does not fit with current practice and is rarely followed.

ADM 22-26 (States & Affiliates Committee)

The listed Delegates on behalf of the States & Affiliates Committee move the Board of Delegates to Amend Article VIII of the Bylaws of the US Chess Federation in accordance with the below Proposed Amendment.

Current Text:

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 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.

Section 2. Functions. Each State Chapter shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chess players 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 chess players may affiliate with US Chess upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chess players 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 chess players 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 US Chess for any purpose.

Section 4. Rights and privileges. Each affiliate shall: A. Receive a subscription to *Chess Life*. B. Be entitled to conduct US Chess-rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules. C. Be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and

to collect and forward to the US Chess 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.

Proposed Amendment (with markings): (Markings in BOLD, not part of the text of the Amendment)

Article VIII: Organizational Units.

Section 1. State Chapters.

(Grammatical and clarity changes and separation of Section 1 into two distinct parts: A. Designation and B. Application)

A. Designation. Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all US Chess purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all US Chess purposes) shall be entitled to have an organization designated as the State Chapter. States having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines.

B. Application. An organization applying for State Chapter designation for any state without a current State Chapter must submit its application and credentials before June 1. An organization applying for such designation in any state with a current State Chapter must submit its application and credentials before March 1. The organization's application and credentials shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. An application and credentials submitted after deadline shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.

C. State Chapters are not agents of US Chess for any purpose. **(Formerly included in Section 3)**

Section 2. State Chapter Duties and Responsibilities.

(NEW, reflects former Section 2 items, referred ADM 21-20 proposals, DACI items, and States & Affiliates Committee recommendations and modifications)

State Chapters shall:

A. Governance. **(NEW)**

1. Legal. Comply with all applicable laws.
2. Delegates. Nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates, pursuant to Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws, and certify in writing to the US Chess Secretary the names and selection method—i.e.: appointment, election, etc.—of the selected individuals. **(Formerly part of Section 2)**
3. Governance Document(s).
 - a. Maintain Bylaws, Articles of Association or an equivalent document that includes, at minimum: (i) the purpose of the State Chapter, (ii) a formal organizational structure, (iii) specifications for governance, (iv) selection of chapter members for positions of authority in the governance mechanism, (v) frequency and mode by which the governance mechanism meets, and (vi) opportunities for membership or affiliation in the State Chapter.
 - b. Provide US Chess all updated Governance Documents within thirty (30) days of effective date.
3. Chapter Fee. Pay annual State Chapter fee. Fee is \$40. **(Formerly part of Section 3)**

B. Communication. **(NEW)**

1. Timely respond to requests for information or assistance from US Chess.

2. Regularly provide chess players, affiliates and Tournament Clearinghouses in the state with information about Chapter activities, including, but not limited to: governance, tournaments, recognitions and Chapter initiatives. Methods of communication can include websites, newsletters, bulletins and email.

C. Guidance and Service. **(NEW)**

1. Guide state chess activity fairly and responsibly for all groups and individuals within the chess community. **(Modified, formerly part of Section 2)**
2. Encourage organizers across the state to hold tournaments and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the US Chess Tournament Clearinghouse Representative.
3. Promote membership in US Chess and participation in local, state, regional and National US Chess rated tournaments.

D. Tournaments and Nominations. **(NEW)**

1. Timely nominate players to represent the Chapter at all established annual US Chess National Invitational Tournaments of Champions using tournaments or other selection methods approved by the Chapter.
2. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual US Chess rated State Championship tournament.
3. Organize or arrange for other US Chess rated state title tournaments as the Chapter's ability allows.
4. Nominate US Chess member(s) of the State Chapter for positions in appropriate Tournament Clearinghouse(s) inside their state.

E. Responsibility to Board of Delegates. Fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may designate. **(Formerly part of Section 2)**

Section 3. State Chapters Rights and Privileges. **(NEW, separate from Affiliates)**

Each State Chapter shall:

- A. Receive a subscription to *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Kids*.
- B. Be entitled to conduct US Chess rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess Rules.
- C. Be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and collect and forward to the US Chess headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.
- D. Receive access to the Delegates Call.
- E. Have exclusive rights to organize and operate or sanction any state titling events for their state.

Section 4. State Chapter Revocation. **(NEW, formerly part of Section 5)**

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, revoke or suspend a State Chapter for good cause shown.

Section 5. Affiliates. **(Formerly Section 3)**

- A. Formation. Any organization of chess players may affiliate with US Chess upon proper payment.
 1. Regular Affiliate is any organization of chess players not otherwise categorized below. Fee is \$40.
 2. Scholastic Affiliate is an organization of exclusively scholastic players. Fee is \$40.
 3. Prison Affiliate is an organization of chess players incarcerated in a penal institution. Fee is \$15.
- B. Affiliates are not agents of US Chess for any purpose.

Section 6. Affiliate Duties and Responsibilities. **(NEW)**

Each Affiliate:

- A. Is encouraged, when planning to schedule a US Chess rated tournament, to communicate in advance with the local US Chess Tournament Clearinghouse.
- B. Shall pay the appropriate affiliate annual fee.
- C. Shall provide updated contact information to US Chess headquarters when applying for or renewing the affiliation.

Section 7. Affiliate Rights and Privileges. (Formerly Section 4)

Each Affiliate shall:

- A. Receive a subscription to *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Kids*, except that Prison affiliates shall not receive *Chess Life Kids*.
- B. Be entitled to conduct US Chess rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules.
- C. Be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the US Chess headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.
- D. Not be required to be a member affiliate of a State Chapter. (NEW)

Section 8. Affiliate Revocation. (Formerly Section 5)

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

Proposed Amendment (without markings):

Article VIII: Organizational Units.

Section 1. State Chapters.

- A. **Designation.** Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all US Chess purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all US Chess purposes) shall be entitled to have an organization designated as the State Chapter. States having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines.
- B. **Application.** An organization applying for State Chapter designation for any state without a current State Chapter must submit its application and credentials before June 1. An organization applying for such designation in any state with a current State Chapter must submit its application and credentials before March 1. The organization's application and credentials shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. An application and credentials submitted after deadline shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.
- C. State Chapters are not agents of US Chess for any purpose.

Section 2. State Chapter Duties and Responsibilities.

State Chapters shall:

- A. Governance.
 - 1. Legal. Comply with all applicable laws.
 - 2. Delegates. Nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates, pursuant to Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws, and certify in writing to the US Chess Secretary the names and selection method—i.e.: appointment, election, etc.—of the selected individuals.
 - 3. Governance Document(s).
 - a. Maintain Bylaws, Articles of Association or an equivalent document that includes, at minimum: (i) the purpose of the State Chapter, (ii) a formal organizational structure, (iii) specifications for governance, (iv) selection of chapter members for positions of authority in the governance mechanism, (v) frequency and mode by which the governance mechanism meets, and (vi) opportunities for membership or affiliation in the State Chapter.

- b. Provide US Chess all updated Governance Documents within thirty (30) days of effective date.

- 4. Chapter Fee. Pay annual State Chapter fee. Fee is \$40.

B. Communication.

- 1. Timely respond to requests for information or assistance from US Chess.
- 2. Regularly provide chess players, affiliates and Tournament Clearinghouses in the state with information about Chapter activities, including, but not limited to: governance, tournaments, recognitions and Chapter initiatives. Methods of communication can include websites, newsletters, bulletins and email.

C. Guidance and Service.

- 1. Guide state chess activity fairly and responsibly for all groups and individuals within the chess community.
- 2. Encourage organizers across the state to hold tournaments and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the US Chess Tournament Clearinghouse Representative.
- 3. Promote membership in US Chess and participation in local, state, regional and National US Chess rated tournaments.

D. Tournaments and Nominations.

- 1. Timely nominate players to represent the Chapter at all established annual US Chess National Invitational Tournaments of Champions using tournaments or other selection methods approved by the Chapter.
- 2. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual US Chess rated State Championship tournament.
- 3. Organize or arrange for other US Chess rated state title tournaments as the Chapter's ability allows.
- 4. Nominate US Chess member(s) of the State Chapter for positions in appropriate Tournament Clearinghouse(s) inside their state.

- E. Responsibility to Board of Delegates. Fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may designate.

Section 3. State Chapters Rights and Privileges.

Each State Chapter shall:

- A. Receive a subscription to *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Kids*.
- B. Be entitled to conduct US Chess rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess Rules.
- C. Be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and collect and forward to the US Chess headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.
- D. Receive access to the Delegates Call.
- E. Have exclusive rights to organize and operate or sanction any state titling events for their state.

Section 4. State Chapter Revocation.

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, revoke or suspend a State Chapter for good cause shown.

Section 5. Affiliates.

- A. Formation. Any organization of chess players may affiliate with US Chess upon proper payment.
 - 1. Regular Affiliate is any organization of chess players not otherwise categorized below. Fee is \$40.
 - 2. Scholastic Affiliate is an organization of exclusively scholastic players. Fee is \$40.
 - 3. Prison Affiliate is an organization of chess players incarcerated in a penal institution. Fee is \$15.

B. Affiliates are not agents of US Chess for any purpose.

Section 6. Affiliate Duties and Responsibilities.

Each Affiliate:

- A. Is encouraged, when planning to schedule a US Chess rated tournament, to communicate in advance with the local US Chess Tournament Clearinghouse.
- B. Shall pay the appropriate affiliate annual fee.
- C. Shall provide updated contact information to US Chess headquarters when applying for or renewing the affiliation.

Section 7. Affiliate Rights and Privileges.

Each Affiliate shall:

- A. Receive a subscription to *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Kids*, except that Prison affiliates shall not receive *Chess Life Kids*.
- B. Be entitled to conduct US Chess rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules.
- C. Be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the US Chess headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.
- D. Not be required to be a member affiliate of a State Chapter.

Section 8. Affiliate Revocation.

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

RATIONALE: The States & Affiliates Committee was tasked with review and revision of ADM 21-20 and attempted to include the referred ADM within the format of the current Article VIII and the related DACI proposed to be added. However, due to the multiple formats being combined, number and substance of the changes, and the additional items raised by the Committee, the States' Town Hall meeting and the recent cases before us, keeping the current Article VIII format proved unattainable. Thus, the Committee decided to reshape Article VIII, logically, and present this Proposed Amendment, instead.

In addition to incorporating the referred ADM, the original Article and related DACI, the Proposed Amendment, unlike its predecessor, makes the vital distinction between State Chapters and other Affiliates. It is important to both realize and summarize within our Bylaws that State Chapters are not just any Affiliate and that their duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges must be discussed and addressed separately, now and in the future. The separation of the two organizational units also permits the Bylaws and US Chess to provide guidance more precisely to State Chapters and/or Affiliates, taking into account both their similar and unique or different qualities, purposes and functions. Additionally, as future issues arise, whether for State Chapters or Affiliates, the proposed more flexible and reorganized Article VIII format permits policy changes to be prescribed more clearly, accurately and, when applicable, separately, depending on the substance and subject of the policy need.

ADM 22-27 (Chris Kim, MD)

Delete 10I2. (Variation 1) **Rook touched first:**

Note: 10I2. **Rook touched first** is left intact.

RATIONALE: There is no place for this variation in the chess rule book at this time.

In USCF Rule 8A2: castling is a single move of the king and either rook that starts with the king moving two squares towards either rook on the same Rank, then that rook is transferred over the king to the square adjacent to the king on the same rank. This is also mirrored in Rule 9C (Castling) - In the case of legal castling, the move is determined with no possibility of change when the player's hand has released the king, which has moved

two squares toward a rook, and completed when that player, having legally transferred the rook to its new square, pressed the clock.

Nowhere do the rules of castling in USCF or FIDE state that castling starts with the rook move. Therefore, if a player touches the rook first, that player is only allowed to move that rook if a legal move exists. Therefore, this Variation 1 should be deleted from the Rule Book.

If a tournament organizer / director wishes to allow a rook first move in their tournament, then they can use Rule 1B1 and announce this rule variation in advance.

ADM 22-28 (Chris Kim, MD)

Replace Rule 13C1 with the following:

13C1. Only players or tournament directors may call flag. A flag is considered fallen (5G)

Note: The second paragraphs starting "Spectators, including players of Other games, ..." may be kept along with the TD tip that follows.

RATIONALE: This rule mirrors the FIDE Laws of Chess 6.8: as noted in the last sentence of the TD Tip that follows this rule. Players should not be allowed to have more time than allocated. In every major sport with a clock, a referee calls the end of the game when time runs out; there is no justification now for the TD not to have the same authority when the flag falls. If chess were like golf in this case, where the players referee themselves and call penalties on themselves, the honor code would have the player whose flag fell to call his own flag (which in real life doesn't happen often). Just because a player's opponent does not notice a player's flag has fallen shouldn't mean that player be entitled to additional time. This will also prevent situations where two players continue to play ignoring the clock and the TD has to invoke 14G2 only when both flags are down or 18G2 (Director declares game over).

In the Introduction page xxv last paragraph, the USCF rules were modified in 1972 to have the time forfeits called by players only in order to address the unfairness of directors claiming on behalf of some players and not others.

Now in 2022 (50 years later), the first counterpoint is that those rules were made in the era of analog clocks - we are now in an era where digital clocks are the standard. If the argument is made that there are too many games to be observed by the TD for flag fall, then a counterargument can be made that digital clocks (now standard) can be set to halt on end / freeze [some digital clocks (eg DGT brand) have this as default], so that it is clear which player's flag has fallen first, and the clocks stop at that point. A second counterpoint is that only in a small number of large tournaments are there multiple games with flag fall for directors to watch - this can be mitigated to some extent by requiring players to have their clock in same direction for easier observation for the TD. The third counterpoint is that it is expected that a TD would make time forfeit claims fairly for all players.

Finally, introducing "TD's may call flag" along with using clocks that do not run after flag fall, will eliminate the awkward situation when a player's teammate or spectator points out a flag fall. A player cannot forget this information, but the tournament director could still penalize the offending teammate or spectator.

Other affected rules:

2a) Replace Rule 16B2b. with the following:

Rule 16B2b, Clock of player not out of time freezes in sudden-death time control.

If possible, digital clocks must be set so that when one player runs out of time in a **non-sudden death** time control, the opponent's clock continues to run normally. **However, when one player runs out of time in a sudden-death time control, the opponent's clock must freeze or halt.** This capability is variously called "**FIDE mode**," "Halt on end" or "freeze." A digital clock that can be set to satisfy the requirement of this rule is preferable to a clock that cannot.

Note: in title, replace “Clock of player not out of time continues to run” with

“Clock of player not out of time freezes in sudden-death time control”

Note: Added different behaviors for sudden-death vs non-sudden-death time controls. In last sentence, added “FIDE mode” used for ZMF and “Tap ‘N Set” official USCF clocks and eliminated “claim mode” – not sure which commonly used digital clocks. “halt on end” is used with Chronos clocks, and “Freeze” is with certain DGT clocks that can be halted on end (eg DGT 3000).

RATIONALE: If tournament directors are allowed to call flag fall, then the digital clocks should freeze in a sudden-death time control, so that the opponent with time has the time frozen and cannot run out of time. This prevents the player who has run out time to be able to claim a draw when opponent’s clock runs out. This will allow the TD to have the time to make a flag fall ruling if previously occupied at another board at the time of the flag fall. I modified the explanation to include the 3 most common clock manufacturers available in the US currently (Chronos, DGT, ZMF).

2b) Replace Rule 16E with the following:

Rule 16E: When flag is considered down

The flag is considered to have fallen when either player **or tournament directors** point this out. **See also** 5G. The flag and 13C1. Only players may call flag.

RATIONALE: Tournament directors may call flag fall.

2c) Replace Rule 16Y

16Y. Assisting players with time management prohibited.

No one, except a player’s opponent, may call that player’s attention to the fact that a flag is down, the opponent has moved, or the player has forgotten to press the clock after moving. Only the last two prohibitions also apply to the director, as the director may call a flag is down.

Note: Eliminate the end of the Rule from “For a rare exception regarding calling flags in sudden death... and 21K, Use of director’s power.”

RATIONALE: The director may call a flag is down, so that should be corrected in this rule if ADM 22-28 is passed. The rare exceptions may be eliminated, as calling the flag would be now allowed for tournament directors.

2d) Replace Rule 14G2

14G2. Players apparently unaware of situation

If a sudden death game continues with both flags down, the director may rule it a draw. **See also** 14J, Draw declared by director; 16T, Both players exceed time control; 16Y, Assisting players with time management prohibited; 18G, Adjudications; and 21D, Intervening in games.

Note: Second sentence eliminated: “This exception to the standard rule that only players may call flags down is justified by the need to avoid delaying the tournament.”

RATIONALE: Second sentence would not be needed if ADM 22-28 is passed.

2e) Replace Rule 18G2

18G2. Director declares game over.

18G does not prevent a director from declaring the result of a game that has ended without the players noticing this. For example, if the games has been decided by checkmate (13A), **only players or tournament directors may call flag (13C1)**, late arrival for adjournment resumption (13E), stalemate (14A), or insufficient material to continue (14D), the director may declare the game over. **See also** 1C2, Director discretion; 13C1 Only players **or tournament directors** may call flag; 14G2, Players apparently unaware of situation; 14J, Draw declared by director; 16Y, Assisting players with time management prohibited; 21D, Intervening in Games; 21F, Player

requests for rulings; and 21K, Use of director’s power.

RATIONALE: added language in bold assuming ADM 22-28 passes. Tournament directors is added to 13C1 title and amended here.

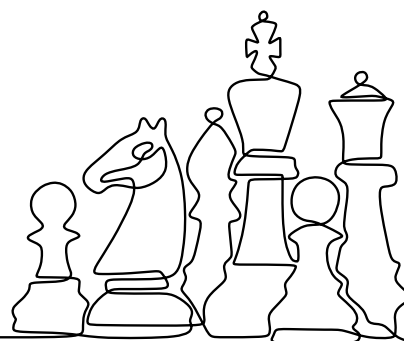
2f) Revise TD Tip after 42E.

TD Tip: Check the clock manufacturer’s manual. Ideally clocks add the increment time to a player’s side of the clock once he has completed the move by pressing his clock (know as : add-after) – some clocks may work differently. The player’s total playing time, including the added increment, should now be displayed. Some clocks wait until their opponent presses their side of the clock for the increment time to be added to the player’s display (know as: add-before). The TD TIP for rule 16B2 explains the procedure to use if the increment time is not automatically given at the start of move one. Either function is considered standard, and are, in fact, equivalent. If unsure, ask your opponent when the time is added, and observe that function early in the game when the clock is in use. Time expires when the clock reaches 0:00 **in a sudden-death time control**. Most clocks freeze time (do not add the increment) of a player who has expired (always reads 0:00, but **should freeze the time** for the player who does not). This is considered standard. In this case, it is not possible for a player to “unflag”, but it is **also not** possible for both players to run out of time. **See also** 16T. Both players exceed time control. Clocks that do not freeze time (run negative time or pause at zero), continue to run and adds back the increment at the completion of a move are still considered preferable to a clock that does not have increment capability. This function should be explained to an opponent prior to the game, and claims of expired time should be made in accordance with 13C. In this case, a claim may still be made after the player whose time has expired has completed a move (time added) if the displayed time is equal to or less than the increment. Such a claim (in accordance with 13C5) must be made before the claimant has completed the next move. It is possible, with the next or subsequent moves that the displayed time is greater than the increment without a claim being made. In this case there is no evidence that time has expired, and therefore the player may have “unflagged”. With this type of clock function, you lose your right to claim the win on time if you complete your next move and your opponent’s clock now **shows** positive time with his own clock running.

RATIONALE: This is a TD tip, so it a suggestion to the Editor of the Rule Book. The bold print are suggestions to make if ADM 22-28 is passed. The editorial suggestions are in bold if the ADM 22-28 is passed. Note at least with DGT clocks (eg North American, and DGT 3000 with Freeze on by default), the player with time remaining when opponent runs out of time in a sudden-death time control will have his time frozen, so there is no chance of the opponent obtaining extra time from increment nor being able to draw by having player with time remaining run out of time when a tournament director observes the fact or when either player has made a valid claim to that fact.

INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT



ART: SHUTTERSTOCK

MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2021-2022

KEY: C=PHONE CONF. CALL, E=ELECTRONIC PORTAL, M=PHYSICAL MEETING, I=INTERNET VIDEO CONFERENCE, O=OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

Motion #	Sponsor	Date/Method	Subject	Disposition
EB22-001	Fernandez	08/8/21 M	President Named	PASSED 7-0
EB22-002	Hoffpauir	08/8/21 M	Vice President Named	PASSED 7-0
EB22-003	Bauer	08/8/21 M	Vice President of Finance Named	PASSED 7-0
EB22-004	Hoffpauir	08/8/21 M	Secretary Named	PASSED 7-0
EB22-005	Hoffpauir	08/8/21 M	Committee Chairs Named	PASSED 7-0
EB22-006	Meyer	08/17-25/21 E	College Rapid & Blitz as Championships	PASSED 8-0
EB22-007	Hoffpauir	09/9-14/21 E	US Chess Trust Agreement	PASSED 8-0
EB22-008	Board	09/14/21 I	Privacy Policy	PASSED 8-0
EB22-009	Hoffpauir	09/14/21 I	US Open 7-Day Schedule Starting 2025	PASSED 8-0
EB22-010	Meyer	09/17-23/21 E	2023 K-12 Grade Championship Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB22-011	Hoffpauir	09/22-29/21 E	2021-22 National Scholastic Regulations	PASSED 8-0
EB22-012	Unruh	09/29-10/2/21 E	Approval of Van Purchase for Events	PASSED 8-0
EB22-013	Hoffpauir	10/12/21 I	Approval of September Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB22-014	Hoffpauir	10/12/21 I	Approval of Committee List	PASSED 7-0-1
EB22-015	Hoffpauir	10/21-29/21 E	2022 Online Scholastic Quick Rules	PASSED 8-0
EB22-016	Hoffpauir	10/26-11/9/21 E	2021-2022 Pan-Am Rules	PASSED 8-0
EB22-017	Unruh	10/30-11/25/21E	Senior Committee Revised Charter	PASSED 8-0
EB22-018	Pryor	11/8-10/21 E	Add Kantor to States & Affiliates Comm.	PASSED 8-0
EB22-019	Fong	11/9-24/21 E	Approval of 8/5/21 & 8/8/21 Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB22-020	Hoffpauir	11/9/21 I	Approval of October Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB22-021	Hoffpauir	11/9/21 I	Khodarkovsky as FIDE Delegate	PASSED 7-0
EB22-022	Hoffpauir	11/10-25/21 E	Add Onischuk to Scholastic Committee	PASSED 8-0
EB22-023	Hoffpauir	11/17-23/21 E	Extend Chess Coach Certification	PASSED 8-0
EB22-024	Hoffpauir	11/17-23/21 E	Extend TD Certification	PASSED 8-0
EB22-025	Meyer	11/23-25/21 E	Correspondence Chess Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB22-026	Unruh	11/29-12/4/21 E	Add members to Senior Committee	PASSED 8-0
EB22-027	Hoffpauir	12/4/21 M	Approve November Minutes	PASSED 7-0-1
EB22-028	Hoffpauir	12/5/21 M	Approve TDCC & Clubs Comm. Charters	PASSED 8-0
EB22-029	Bauer	12/5/21 M	Approve 2021-2022 Strategic Goals	PASSED 8-0

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

EB22-030	Hoffpauir	12/15/22-1/11/2022 E	Approving Tornado's Fair Play Method	PASSED 8-0
EB22-031	Board	12/27/21-1/1/22 I	Moving office to St. Louis, MO	PASSED 8-0
EB22-032	Hoffpauir	01/11/22 I	Dissolve Corresp. Chess Working Group	PASSED 8-0
EB22-033	Board	01/11/22 I	Special Delegates Meeting Date & Time	PASSED 8-0
EB22-034	Board	01/11/22 I	Town Halls for Special Delegates Meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB22-035	Fernandez	01/13-23/22 E	Chess in Education Wkg Group Charter	PASSED 8-0
EB22-036	Meyer	01/18-21/22 E	Cloud Management Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB22-037	Meyer	01/18-21/22 E	CFO Contract (Altruic)	PASSED 8-0
EB22-038	Board	01/20-24/22 E	TD Certification Specification Updates	PASSED 8-0
EB22-039	Board	01/21-22/22 E	PPHB Claim Authorization	PASSED 8-0
EB22-040	Fernandez	01/25-02/6/22 E	Requirement for Coaches	PASSED 8-0
EB22-041	Board	01/28-02/6/22 E	2025 K-12 Event Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB22-042	Fong	02/3-6/22 E	Approve Dec 4-5 Meeting Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB22-043	Fong	02/3-6/22 E	Approve Jan 11 Meeting Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB22-044	Fernandez	02/3-28/22 E	Invitational Rules Update	PASSED 8-0
EB22-045	Board	02/8/2022 I	Change to Scholastic Committee Charter	PASSED 8-0
EB22-046	Meyer	02/17-28/22 E	Update US Chess Fair Play Guidelines	PASSED 8-0
EB22-047	Meyer	02/24-03/9/22 E	US Chess Publications Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB22-048	Board	03/8/2022 I	Approve Feb 8 Meeting Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB22-049	Board	03/17-18/2022 E	Substitute Motion for HQ Sale	PASSED 8-0
EB22-050	Meyer	03/24-30/2022 E	Renew Donor Search Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB22-051	Unruh	03/29-30/2022 E	Contract for Listing—Century 21	PASSED 8-0
EB22-052	Board	04/13-14/2022 E	Lease for St. Louis Office Space	PASSED 8-0
EB22-053	Board	04/28-5/6/2022 E	Approval Digitization Proposal	PASSED 8-0

MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2021-2022 - APPENDICES: Due to length, the Appendices to the Motions of the US Chess Executive Board have been moved from the *Delegates Call* and have been posted at <https://new.uschess.org/executive-board-information>

The first meeting of the 2021-2022 US Chess Executive Board took place on August 8, 2021, at the U.S. Open in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

The following five motions came out of closed session and were voted on in open session later the same day:

EB22-001 – Fernandez

I nominate Mike Hoffpauir for President. **PASSED 7-0** (Fun Fong absent and not voting)

EB22-002 – Hoffpauir

I nominate Randy Bauer as US Chess Vice President. **PASSED 7-0** (Fun Fong absent and not voting)

EB22-003 – Bauer

I nominate Chuck Unruh as US Chess Vice President of Finance. **PASSED 7-0** (Fun Fong absent and not voting)

EB22-004 – Hoffpauir

I nominate Fun Fong as US Chess Secretary. **PASSED 7-0** (Fun Fong absent and not voting)

EB22-005 – Hoffpauir

The Executive Board moves to appoint the following people as committee chairs.

Clubs	Abel Talamantez, Chair
Competition Integrity	Brian Yang, Chair
Correspondence Chess WG	Michael Buss, Chair
Endowment Fund Trust	Charles D. Unruh, Chair
FIDE Events	Tony Rich, Chair
National State Invitationals	Jon Haskel, Chair
Clubs	Abel Talamantez, Chair

Competition Integrity	Brian Yang, Chair
Correspondence Chess WG	Michael Buss, Chair
Endowment Fund Trust	Charles D. Unruh, Chair
FIDE Events	Tony Rich, Chair
National State Invitationals	Jon Haskel, Chair
PPHB Claims	Steve Immitt, Chair
Programs	Bill Brock, Chair
(see subcommittees below)	Leila D'Aquin, Vice Chair
Accessibility & Special Circumstances	Stephanie Berk, Chair
	Judit Sztaray, Vice Chair
College Chess	Alex Onischuk, Chair
Military	Jim Hollingsworth, Chair
Senior	Paul Covington, Co-Chair
	David Grimaud, Co-Chair
Women's	Adia Onyango, Co-Chair
	Kimberly Doo, Co-Chair
Ratings	Mike Regan, Chair
Recognitions	John McCrary, Chair
Reserve Fund/PPHB Investment	Charles D. Unruh, Chair
Rules	Myron Thomas, Chair
Scholastic Council & Committee	Sunil Weeramantry, Chair
	John D. Rockefeller V, Vice Chair
States and Affiliates	Lakshmana Viswanath, Co-Chair
	Co-Chair (to be confirmed)
Top Players	Tatev Abrahamyan, Co-Chair
	Robert Hess, Co-Chair
Tournament Director Certification	Maret Thorpe, Chair
	Jeff Wiewel, Vice Chair
US Chess Development	Michael Shuman, Chair
	John D. Rockefeller V, Vice Chair
U.S. Open	Hal Terrie III

PASSED 7-0 (Fun Fong absent and not voting)

(For a current committee list, see Appendix A at <https://new.uschess.org/executive-board-information>)

EB22-006 – Meyer

I move to allow the 2021 Online College Rapid and Blitz be named a national championship. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The ongoing effects of the COVID pandemic has caused the OTB College Rapid and Blitz to be canceled by SLU, its host. Another host has stepped forward to run the event Sept. 25-26 online. Continuing with the need to be flexible with events that would be run online, the EB should allow this exception for 2021 and permit this event to be a national championship event.

EB22-007 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board authorize the President, US Chess, to sign the *US Chess - Chess Trust agreement* and to send the signed document to the Chess Trust for Steve Doyle's signature. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-008 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the privacy policy and website terms of use policy as drafted. We would like to further note that there are different policies for U.S.-based residents versus those living elsewhere. The practical result of this is manifested by U.S. residents being able to opt out of mailings while GDPR nations having to opt in for mailings. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-009 – Hoffpauir

The Executive Board moves that starting in 2025 the U.S. Open shall transition from a nine-day to a seven-day schedule with day one being Monday and day seven being Sunday. Invitational events will be held on Monday through Wednesday, days one through three. Selected committee workshops will be held onsite on Thursday and Friday, days four and five, with most workshops occurring online, one to three weeks before the U.S. Open begins. Online workshops cannot be scheduled before publication of the Delegates Call. Side events will be scheduled at the discretion of the Director of Events. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-010 – Meyer

I move that the Executive Board approve the Hyatt Regency Orlando contract for the 2023 K-12 Grade National Championships. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess has had to seek a new property for the 2023 K-12 Grade National Championships due to the bankruptcy filing of the Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. This is the location previously contracted. This contract was reviewed by US Chess counsel and amendments made and accepted by the Hyatt Regency Orlando.

EB22-011 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the *2021-22 National Scholastic Chess Regulations* for publication and implementation (see Appendix B). **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The draft document has been reviewed by the Director of Events and the EB Liaisons to the Scholastic Committee — Mike Hoffpauir, David Hater, and David Day. All comments have been addressed by and in collaboration with the Scholastic Council. The product adds one new event, the Online National Scholastic Quick Chess Championships, to be held in the mid-Jan. to mid-Feb. 2022 timeframe and bid-out externally (e.g., it will not be run directly by US Chess).

EB22-012 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve the purchase of a new van for operations and the national events mission in an amount less than \$50,000. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess hauls a considerable amount of necessary equipment to national events. In the past, US Chess has leased vehicles for such purposes. Recently, vehicle liquidity and reliability on necessary dates has tightened in the marketplace for vans. Leasing is no longer a reliable option in and around the Crossville area. Operations have located a new van for purchase at a dealership on the East Coast with three-year warranties. The timing is not the best for purchasing new vehicles. However, the van purchase is a long-time commitment to future events and likely holds good value.

EB22-013 – Hoffpauir

I move that the minutes from the September meeting be approved. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-014 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board approve the final committee rosters for the Executive Board appointed committees as presented to the Executive

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

Board this evening on 12 October. **PASSED 7-0** with David Day abstaining

EB22-015 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board approve the proposed Rules for the 2022 Online National Scholastic Quick Chess Championships. These rules were passed by the Scholastic Council and reviewed by the Director of Events (see Appendix C). **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-016 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board approve the rules for the 2021-22 Pan-American Intercollegiate Chess Championships. The College Chess Committee has reviewed the rules and recommends approval (see Appendix D). **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-017 – Unruh

The Senior Committee requests approval of the attached charter. Paul Covington, Co-Chair, has submitted a charter that aligns with Executive Board's approved present and future projects and programs tasked to the committee (see Appendix E). **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-018 – Pryor

This is a correction to an oversight. Alan was originally presented to the board back in our Cherry Hill discussions to be a member of the States & Affiliates Committee but was omitted from the official list when approved last month. The committee chairs would like for him to be approved as soon as possible. They are ready to proceed with committee business but did not want to exclude him. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-019 – Fong

I move that we accept the minutes of the open session August 5 and August 8 meetings that were held during the U.S. Open. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-020 – Hoffpauir

I move that the minutes from the October meeting be approved. **PASSED 7-0** with Randy Bauer absent and not voting

EB22-021 – Hoffpauir

The Executive Board moves to reappoint Michael Khodarkovsky as the USA FIDE Delegate through August 31 of 2022. **PASSED 7-0** with Randy Bauer absent and not voting

EB22-022 – Hoffpauir

I move the EB approve the addition of GM Alex Onischuk to the Scholastic Committee per the request of the Scholastic Council Vice Chair. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-023 – Hoffpauir

In view of the continuing impacts of the pandemic on certified chess coaches, I move that the Executive Board authorize the office to extend expiration dates for all Chess Coach Certifications scheduled to expire in 2021 to June 30, 2022. In effect, this motion adds six months to the Dec. 31, 2021, expiration date specified in EB Motion 21-049. The EB shall revisit this motion before the end of April 2022. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: In EB21-049 the Executive Board approved (7-0) to authorize the office to extend until December 31, 2021, the expiration dates for all Chess Coach Certifications scheduled to expire in 2021. The motion further stated, "The EB shall revisit this motion before the end of 2021 to determine if further extension is warranted." Given the reports from Chess Coaches about how the pandemic continues to negatively impact their coaching activities, as well as the impending formation of

a "Chess Coach Certification Working Group" by the Executive Board, I recommend we extend the expiration date another six months to June 30, 2022.

EB22-024 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board authorize the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC) to extend the end of the December 2021 deadline specified in Motion EB20-84 to the end of June 2022 for all affected Tournament Directors. All other conditions and requirements specified in EB20-84 are extended as part of this motion. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: In Motion EB20-084, which passed 7-0, the Executive Board authorized the TDCC to extend expiring Tournament Director (TD) certifications by one year from the current month of expiration for all members holding active Local, Senior, or Associate National TD whose certifications expire before the end of December 2021. *The Chair of the TDCC, in consultation with the US Chess Office, recommends extending this deadline by six months until June 30, 2022. EB20-084 further states, and this new motion directs to continue, that "Club Directors who reach the end of their three-year term without applying for and achieving Local TD status in accordance with the Official Rules of Chess will not have their Club TD certifications extended for one year. For example, a Senior TD whose certification expires in November 2020 would see his/her certification extended one year through November 2021. In a similar way, a Local TD whose certification expires in August 2021 would receive a one-year extension through August 2022. However, a Club TD who has not passed the exam required to become a Local TD before his/her Club TD certification expires will not receive the one-year extension."*

EB22-025 – Meyer

The Executive Board moves to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement for the US Chess Correspondence Chess program with Michael Buss. The contract will begin December 1, 2021 and run through December 31, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-026 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve the addition of Chris Kim (ID 12084660) and Harold Scott (ID 12393953) for volunteer service on the US Chess Senior Committee effective December 1st, 2021. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-027 – Hoffpauir

I move that the minutes from the November meeting be approved. **PASSED 7-0-1** with Vice President Bauer abstaining since he had been absent from the November meeting.

EB22-028 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board approve the charters for the Tournament Director Certification Committee and the Clubs Committee as reviewed by the Executive Board during today's closed sessions (see Appendix F). **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-029 – Bauer

I move that those five goals be the 2021-2022 US Chess goals. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-030 – Hoffpauir

The Executive Board moves to endorse the Fair Play Method used by the Tornelo platform (see Appendix G). **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The Ratings Committee's subcommittee reviewed Tornelo's methodology and found it able to "flag" possible fair play violations after only one round of play. The Ethics Committee urged caution, noting that a single game was not likely to provide sufficient evidence of violating the

Code of Ethics without other supporting evidence. The Ethics Committee's sentiment has been captured in the Letter of Endorsement.

EB22-031 – Board

The Executive Board moves to relocate the US Chess headquarters from Crossville, Tennessee, to the St. Louis, Missouri, metropolitan area. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The City of Crossville, Tennessee served US Chess well for the past almost two decades. In considering the best interests of US Chess, the Executive Board carefully considered the following two-part question set in its decision to relocate US Chess headquarters:

- Should US Chess maintain its headquarters in Crossville, Tennessee?
- If not, where should US Chess locate its headquarters?

In considering the first question, the Executive Board recognizes that US Chess is a fundamentally different organization in 2021 than it was in 2003 when the decision to move to Crossville was made. In the ensuing years since moving to Crossville, US Chess has evolved substantially. This is primarily due to the US Chess change from a 501(c)(4) membership organization to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. This change broadened the organization's mission, while preserving its traditional services to members. This change resulted in different business needs to carry out US Chess' mission. A new chapter for US Chess has been started and Crossville is no longer able to support our human resources needs with specialized skills that will help US Chess grow.

In considering the second question, the Executive Board keyed in on several attributes that would benefit the organization and its mission:

- Affordable cost of living
- Central U.S. locations
- Superior transportation access
- Large and diverse population from which to draw a skilled staff
- Chess culture

Taken together with the synergy of St. Louis as the chess capital of the United States, Missouri's second-largest city became the obvious choice.

US Chess is forever grateful for the support provided by the City of Crossville, the Crossville community, Crossville businesses, and the State of Tennessee over the past 18 years. They will always be acknowledged as a valued part of our organization's history and embraced as dear friends of chess.

EB22-032 – Hoffpauir

I propose a motion to the Executive Board to formally close out or dissolve the Correspondence Chess Working Group and that the Executive Board thank Fun Fong and the group members for their excellent work. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-033 – Board

The Board recommends that the special delegates meeting to discuss the sale of the US Chess headquarters be at 8:30 p.m. Eastern time on the evening of Wednesday, March 23rd. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-034 – Board

The Executive Board moves that US Chess organize and hold two town halls, one on March 12th, one on March 21st, to allow opportunities for delegates to test their technology, to practice voting, and to discuss issues related to the upcoming special delegates meeting. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-035 – Fernandez

I move that the Executive Board endorse the Chess In Education Working Group Charter, as approved by the Working Group on January 6, 2022 (see

Appendix H). **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The Executive Board drafted a charter for the newly formed Chess In Education Working Group as it was getting underway in Fall of 2021. The Executive Board did so to provide some operational guidance and structure to the Working Group.

EB22-036 – Meyer

I move that the Executive Board approve the services contract for AWS cloud management services. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess continues to support its legacy systems through a variety of contracts. One long-overlooked piece has been the US Chess installation on AWS, housing much of our legacy website. This contract provides monitoring and emergency services for the AWS installation until such time that US Chess successfully completes its systems migration.

EB22-037 – Meyer

I move to approve the Altruic Contract for CFO Consulting Services for 2022. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The initial contract period of performance with Altruic ended on 12/31/2021. This agreement has the same scope of services as we previously agreed to. It is just updating the period of performance for 2022.

EB22-038 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the recommended changes to Tournament Director (TD) certification standards. The proposed changes are in three groups: 1) Updating tournament category definitions to include the number of rounds instead of referring to the number of rounds in the certification levels every time a category is mentioned; 2) Whenever a certification level includes a listed substitution with multiple quick/blitz events for a category, explicitly state that the category requirement is for regular- and dual-rated events; and, 3) Elevate the significance of "backward compatibility" by making it a Rule instead of a TD Tip (e.g., a category B event can satisfy a category C requirement). The updates would replace language found in the current certification criteria that were last approved in August of 2020 (see Appendix I). **PASSED 8-0**

Supporting Information: The proposed changes were unanimously supported by the TDCC. The current version of the certification criteria can be found on the US Chess website <https://new.uschess.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/certification-rules-2020.pdf>. The proposed updates are in the attachment to this motion.

EB22-039 – Board

The US Chess Executive Board authorizes payment for medical expenses for a member whose claim has been recommended for approval by the PPHB Claims Committee. Payment is authorized for the maximum allowable expense based on receipts for medical expenses. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-040 – Fernandez

I move to extend the activity requirements for the US Chess Certified Coach Program, Invitational Lists, and Top 100 Lists through December 31, 2022. This motion provides that current experience earned by March 1, 2019 will not expire until December 31, 2022. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess honors and certifications are linked to activity requirements from over-the-board (OTB) play. With few OTB opportunities due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, affected members should not be penalized for their lack of opportunities to play. This motion extends the activity window as was done in 2021.

EB22-041 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the 2025 K12 Grade Nationals

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

event contracts. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The set of contracts related to this motion have been reviewed by staff and counsel. The CVB will honor the incentive letter, despite having missed the deadline while the package was under review and negotiation. This is a rare opportunity to have a scholastic event in the West at a cost comparable to locations we typically utilize.

EB22-042 – Fong

I move to approve the minutes of the EB meetings of Dec. 4-5 in Orlando FL. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-043 – Fong

I move to approve the minutes of the EB meeting on Jan. 11, 2022 (virtual). **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-044 – Fernandez

With the following rationales, we need to make a few modifications to the US Chess Invitational Rules (see Appendix J):

RATIONALE for 2a & 2c: With the U.S. Championship planning to move from the spring to the fall (October most likely), this will change which U.S. Championship year will qualify players in the years in which our U.S. Championship is a FIDE Zonal. This used to be in even-numbered years (2022, 2024, etc.) but will change to odd-numbered years (2023, 2025, etc.) moving forward.

RATIONALE for 5a:

The annual U.S. Senior Open is now called the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions.

The regulations currently state a player must play at least 30 regular rated games, which is not true as the existing 5b. then goes on to say they will be penalized (1) point for every game less than 30 they have played. Regulation 5a2. stated that dual-rated games do not count but these are in fact considered regular-rated games and have counted towards invitational ratings. The revised 5a1. that also incorporates the wording in 5b. will help clarify that a player is allowed to play fewer than 30 games but they will have their invitational rating adjusted if they do so.

There is currently no minimum strength of opponent for senior players on the invitational rating lists. This regulation adds some consistency to the current regulations.

RATIONALE for 5b: There is currently no limit to the amount of inactivity a player may have. The office currently uses 10 years as the period to go back in terms of reviewing players for the U.S. Championship and U.S. Women's Championship invitational rating lists and 20 years for reviewing players for the U.S. Senior Championship. This causes many inactive players to consistently be on the invitational lists and receive invitations for events for which they always decline. The addition of this regulation will prevent this, and also formally adopt the practice currently used by the office when producing the monthly invitational rating lists. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-045 – Board

The Board moves to accept the recommendation of the Scholastic Council to change the language in the Scholastic Committee charter describing the procedures for electing council members (see Appendix K). **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-046 – Meyer

The Executive Board moves to update the Safe Play Guidelines as advised by counsel (see Appendix L). **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: As the guidelines are operationalized, procedures and roles are clarified in this amended version. See Section VII, Reporting and Responding, D. Handling Incidents or Reports of a Non-Sexual Nature, Paragraphs 4 and 5 that highlight the proposed changes (in red).

EB22-047 – Meyer

The Executive Board moves to approve the contract for magazine, tournament books, delegate calls, and other printed materials from 2022-2027. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess is happy with the quality of Royle Printing's work. Their bid was most competitive among the bids received. In addition, Royle demonstrated great flexibility with US Chess during the pandemic and this contract is essentially the same as the previous contract. Legal has reviewed and signed off on it.

EB22-048 – Board

The Executive Board moves for the approval of the minutes from the meeting in February. **PASSED 8-0**

EB21-049 – Board

The Executive Board moves to replace the original motion for sale of the US Chess HQ that was contained in the advance information packet for the Special Delegates Meeting with the language in the following substitute motion.

Substitute: Under the authority of Section 7.6 of the LMA Trust, the Board of Delegates moves to authorize the LMA Trust to sell the US Chess headquarters building located at 137 O'Brien Drive, Crossville, Tennessee 38555 (the "Premises"). The Board of Delegates further authorizes the trustees or their designee(s) to execute and deliver such agreements and documents as they, in their sole and absolute discretion, deem necessary or advisable to effectuate the sale of the Premises. All proceeds from the sale of the Premises will be deposited in the LMA Trust account.

Further, the trustees or their designee(s) are authorized and directed to take any and all actions in order to effectuate the intent and purposes of the foregoing paragraph. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-050 – Meyer

I move that the Executive Board approve the contract for services with DonorSearch. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: DonorSearch is a screening tool that assists development professionals with information about prospective donors. We just completed a multi-year agreement with DonorSearch and the new agreement is for five years, at a slightly reduced cost/month than the previous contract.

EB22-051 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board affirm the LMA Trust Trustee approval and instructions for the Executive Director to sign contracts with the Crossville Century 21 commercial realtor to list the proposed sale of the Crossville headquarters' building and property. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The LMA Trust Trustees have approved the 8% Century 21 commission with an asking price of \$1,080,000 for the building and property. Century 21 has prospective buyers ready and willing to immediately view the building and property. The Executive Director should have approval by US Chess leadership before signing a contract with significant costs above \$10,000.

EB22-052 – Board

The Executive Board authorizes Executive Director Carol Meyer to enter into a lease contract for space in St. Louis, Missouri, to house the US Chess operation. The terms of the lease are for approximately 2,291 rental square feet located in Suite 210 in Post Office Annex at Union Station. The lease will commence on June 1, 2022 and will have a term of five years. The full-service rental rate will be \$17.00 per square foot,

with \$0.50 increases per square foot every two years. Operating expenses and property taxes above the 2022 base year will be passed on to US Chess based its share of the total rentable square footage of the building. US Chess will also have the ability to park up to five employee cars in the gated parking lot next to the premises at monthly rates, which are currently \$90.00 per car per month. US Chess will only pay for parking used. US Chess employees will also have full membership to the on-site fitness facility for no additional charge through the entire term of the lease. **PASSED 8-0**

EB22-053 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the digitization proposal from Global Solutions. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess has many physical records that require preservation. Among the items to be preserved are the photo archive, old cross tables not yet digitized, and various publications. This project not only preserves important historical records but is timed with the pending move to St. Louis, Missouri.

US CHESS MISSION

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



US CHESS VISION

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

FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Allen Priest



Since my last report, the international chess world has continued to be impacted by COVID-19 virus outbreaks and travel restrictions. Some international play returned, but there are still limitations, especially on youth events.

The chess world has been thrown into turmoil by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The result has been the suspension of the national federations of Russia and Belarus, as well as related ethics cases against certain players. The 2022 Olympiad was moved from Russia to India on short notice, and FIDE sponsorship contracts with various Russian entities have been terminated. With a FIDE presidential election set of this year, the politics of the General Assembly (GA) will be a challenge. One of my roles is to serve on the Zonal Council, which will meet during the GA, and which will keep me away from the US Chess Delegates meeting for the first time in many years.

Another international change is in the works. The long-time president of the FIDE Confederation of Chess for Americas (CCA), Jorge Vega, has decided not to seek reelection. Mr. Vega has been a good friend to US Chess for many years and worked with Ruth Haring, Franc Guadalupe, and Michael Khodarkovsky to make the CCA much more hospitable to the English-speaking countries. We will work with the new leadership to continue to improve opportunities for chess in the western hemisphere.

One positive result of COVID-19 for chess has been the broader acceptance of hybrid tournaments for international play. Combining internet connectivity with local playing sites that are monitored by arbiters removes much of the travel costs that may limit opportunities for some players. One of our challenges is to make hybrid play sites readily available given the size of the United States.

And the last change is a proposal to permanently shift the U.S. Championships to later in the year. This change necessitates changing the year in which we conduct our zonal championship. One advantage may be that our players will know their status earlier and have longer to prepare for international play for which they qualify.

I appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve US Chess and our many outstanding players.

VOLUNTEER AND LEGAL EXPENSES

Volunteer Expenses 6/1/21 - 5/31/22

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
David Day	Executive Board	721.73

Total Volunteer Expenses 2021 - 2022 721.73

Legal Expenses 6/1/21 - 5/31/22

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Personnel	Spencer Fane LLP	4,280.00
Goverance & Misc	Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.	16,785.00
	Lucas & Mercanti, LLP	3,641.47
	Quarles & Brady LLP	13,290.00

Total Legal Expenses 2021 - 2022 37,996.47

US CHESS TRUST REPORT

E. Steven Doyle, Trust President

An emblematic donation of one dollar by the late Harold Dondis and Ed Edmondson in 1967 began the US Chess Trust. From that time on, donations big and small helped the USCT serve our mission to widen worlds, challenge minds, and improve lives through chess. We remain committed to working with US Chess to promote and encourage American chess.

A major, ongoing project of the USCT is its partnership with the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis, which marked its 10-year anniversary with a celebration this April. The Trust annually elects new members of the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame after receiving nominations from US Chess. In August 2021, during the U.S. Open in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, I inducted Frank Brady and IM James Sherwin into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. In October, Trust Vice President of Education Sunil Weeramantry helped induct Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld in a ceremony in St. Louis.

The World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis does much more than immortalize both World and U.S. hall of famers. As of May 5, 2022, the exhibitions there have drawn more than 150,000 visitors! Chief Curator Shannon Bailey and Curator Emily Allred bring the public to chess in a manner never achieved before by any chess museum anywhere. Try to visit for the special exhibition beginning August 18: "1972 Fischer/Spassky: The Match, its Origin, and Influence."

The Trust significantly co-sponsors US Chess' National Invitational tournaments held in conjunction with the U.S. Open Championship, with generous support from Dewain and Sue Barber. We also co-sponsor the U.S. Blind Championship, the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship (the "PanAms"), and the Final Four of College Chess. In addition, the Trust funds its own unique programs:

Frank P. Samford, Jr., Fellowship

Since 1987, the Fellowship has supported the most promising U.S. players — more than 40

Samford Fellows, selected by a committee well led by IM John Donaldson — with a year-long fellowship. As a measure of its effectiveness, each annual U.S. Chess Championship sees some 10 Samford Fellows or former fellows in competition.

Chess for Youth, Sets for Vets, Sets for Seniors

The Trust supplies free, tournament-quality chess sets and boards, along with club demo boards, to qualifying programs that serve Title I schoolkids, military veterans, elder-care programs and public libraries. As America climbs out of the pandemic, the Trust has resumed these programs. Please spread the word.

Scholar-Chessplayer Awards

Since 2008, the US Chess Trust, in conjunction with the National Scholastic Chess Foundation and generous support from USCT Trustee Sunil Weeramantry, has provided five annual scholarships to high school juniors and seniors who excel in academics, chess, and leadership — in order to promote a positive image of chess. This year a sixth category was added, that of "Chess Ambassador," opening up a college scholarship for those outstanding students who are lower rated.

Koltanowski Conference on Chess in Education

Before the 2021 U.S. Open in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, the Trust sponsored a two-day international conference bringing together presenters eminent in their field, organized by Trustee Beatriz Marinello, Treasurer Leroy Dubeck, Webmaster Dora Martinez, and Managing Director Al Lawrence.

We note with sadness the death of Myron Lieberman, long-serving Trust secretary. His death was too quickly followed by that of his wife and life's companion Rachel. Both were lifelong advocates for chess. They are irreplaceable. But their examples inspire us.

The US Chess Trust is a 501(c)3 Massachusetts



Trust. US Chess Trustees take no compensation. Managing Director Al Lawrence handles our day-to-day operations. My thanks go to all our trustees for their involvement and ideas: Treasurer Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Chess in Education Vice President Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Chess Vice President Sunil Weeramantry (NY), Beatriz Marinello (NY), Stuart Chagrin (NY), Rex Sinquefeld (MO), Dr. Norman Saba (AZ), Dov Gorman (NJ) and President Emeritus Shane Samole (FL). We all appreciate the work of Webmaster Dora Leticia.

Please join our efforts. Our annual informational meeting is open to all on Thursday, August 4 at 4:00 p.m. Contact our Managing Director Al Lawrence at al@uschesstrust.org to request chess sets or memberships for Title I schoolkids. View more details about our good works and how you can help at www.uschesstrust.org.

Thank you to our supporters who make the good work possible. You help change lives through chess.



US CHESS TRUST

2022 DELEGATE/ALTERNATE LIST

ALABAMA 1,1

DAL Frank Camaratta
Del Todd Patrick Guthrie
Alt Jonathan Rasberry

ALASKA 1,1

Del Camilla Malchoff
Alt

ARIZONA 2,2

Del Michelle Martinez
Del Martha Underwood
Alt
Alt
AAD Frank Elley

ARKANSAS 1,1

Del Larry Weston
Alt

CALIFORNIA-NORTH 7,7

Del Judit Sztaray
Del Abel Talamantez
Del Richard Koepcke
Del Tom Langland
Del Jim Eade
Del Salman Azhar
Del Chris Torres
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH 6,6

DAL Dewain Barber
DAL Randall Hough
Del Steven Morford
Del Charles Ensey
Del James Mennella

Del Sean Manross
Del Brian Glover
Del James Harrell
Alt Dylan Quercia
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

COLORADO 1,1

Del Paul Covington
Alt

CONNECTICUT 2,2

Del Karen Aronian
Del John Aronian
Alt Alex Lumelsky
Alt Mikhail Koganov

DELAWARE 1,1

Del John Anderson
Alt

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 1,1

Del Robin Floyd Ransom
Alt

FLORIDA 6,6

EB Kevin Pryor
DAL Anthony Cottell
Del Jon Haskel
Del Bryan Tillis
Del Paul Leggett
Del Daa'im Shabazz
Del Matt Kolcz
Del Andrew Rea
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

Alt

GEORGIA 3,3

EB Fun Fong
EB David Hater
Del Thad Rogers
Del Maureen Grimaud
Del David Blair
Alt
Alt
Alt

HAWAII 1,1

Del Robert Keough
Alt

IDAHO 1,1

Del Adam Porth
Alt

ILLINOIS 5,5

Del William Brock
Del Timothy Just
Del Eric Ortega
Del Stephen Plotnick
Del Rachel Schechter
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Helen Warren

INDIANA 2,2

Del John Roush
Del Lester VanMeter
Alt
Alt

IOWA 1,1

EB Randy Bauer
Del Rob Schebel

Alt Eric Vigil

KANSAS 1,1

Del Brian Yang
Alt

KENTUCKY 1,1

DAL Allen Priest
PEB Ryan Velez
Del Richard Williams
Alt

LOUISIANA 1,1

Del Leila D'Aquin
Alt

MAINE 1,1

Del Michael Dudley
Alt

MARYLAND 2,2

Del Chris Kim
Del John D. Rockefeller V
Alt Michael Regan
Alt Brent Layer

MASSACHUSETTS 3,3

Del Bob Messenger
Del Jeffrey Caruso
Del Paul Arond
Alt Oleg Poliannikov
Alt Latanya Sweeney
Alt

MICHIGAN 2,2

Del Brad Rogers
Del Raymond Garrison
Alt
Alt

MINNESOTA 2,2

Del

US CHESS COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

STEPHANIE BERK, CHAIR

Current Members:

Stephanie Berk, Chair

Judit Sztaray, Vice Chair

Janelle Losoff, Michael Aigner, Martha Underwood, David Day, Jim Thouné, Louis Reed, John Fernandez

What we are currently working on:

- Online-play section for the Accessibility Guidelines and Toolkit.
- Analysis of advantages, disadvantages, limitations, logistics, and meeting mission goals for US Chess-organized national events for players with disabilities.
- What “inclusivity” and “seat at the same table” mean in regard to equity and best practice for players, tournament directors and organizers, and families of players, in the context of US Chess and in the world of competitive play.
- Creating a knowledge base of articles on accessibility, disability, accommodations, and other related topics that can be made available to those who are interested.

What we are additionally planning to work on in this coming year:

- Increasing awareness of what reasonable accommodations are and how to request them.
- Defining the responsibility of the player with a disability, the tournament director/organizer, and the timeframe needed for good communication to effect accommodations.
- Outreach via training modules, and visibility via creating Accessibility Liaison points of contact at tournaments for both staff and players.

What we are thinking about starting (needs more discussion and possibly Board approval):

- Town Hall discussions and community forums about how to request accommodations, and what kinds are considered “reasonable.”
- Creating learning modules that are roughly 15 minutes in length on the aspects such as respect, communication, accommodation, engagement, etc., and how people with different disabilities can be offered what they need to play chess in a fair and comfortable playing environment.

BYLAWS

GUY HOFFMAN AND RICHARD KOEPCKE, CO-CHAIRS

The Bylaws Committee spent considerable time discussing the wording of the motion to sell the property in Crossville. After consultation with corporate attorneys, it was determined that the LMA Trust owned the building. More

discussion was made to fine tune the wording that finally was presented to the Delegates at the Special Delegate Meeting on March 23, 2022..

There was some preliminary discussion on an ADM that was referred to us, but no final vote was taken.

We would like to thank our committee members: Sandeep Alampalli, Leila D'Aquin, Randy Hough, Gerald Larson, Alexander Lumelsky, John McCrary, David Mehler, Bob Messenger, Allen Priest, and Andy Rea.

Please join us at the Bylaws workshop in Rancho Mirage, CA on August 5.

CLUBS

ABEL TALAMANTEZ, CHAIR

The US Chess Clubs Committee has been very actively engaged in ways to promote the mission of US Chess to “empower people, enrich lives and enhance communities through chess” via clubs by promoting and supporting the growth of grassroots chess clubs through four important strategic plans of action.

- First, building on work conducted previously, we updated the Clubs Committee charter. We also made some updates to the *Guide to a Successful Chess Club*. <https://new.uschess.org/news/guide-successful-chess-club-updated>
- Second, we reached out to all state affiliates to encourage promotion of the *Guide to Starting a Chess Club* as a resource for people looking to either start a chess club or for existing clubs to maintain and grow their member base. Many affiliates have added the resource to their website.
- Third, we have been promoting chess clubs and engaging the public through media sources like *Chess Life Online*, and we have personally fielded questions and provided support for individuals looking for help in establishing a chess club. Some of the chess clubs we have worked to help develop include the Menlo Park Chess Club (Menlo Park, CA), Franklin and Marshall Chess Club (Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA), Bernal Heights Chess Club (San Francisco, CA), and Kingsmen South Shore Chess Club (Porter, IN). We are also working on a follow up article with updates from the chess clubs that have reached out. <https://new.uschess.org/news/listening-and-learning-how-chess-clubs-build-community>
- Finally, we are creating a question-and-answer video resource, to be conducted in a town hall format, where we invite a discussion on chess clubs and talk about some of the challenges and successes in starting a club in the hopes it will inspire new clubs to develop. The intent is to make this available through US Chess, using the *Guide to a Successful Chess Club* to guide the discussion.

With the return of live participation in chess events and the need for individuals to connect with each other in person, we feel that conditions are perfect to use chess to bring communities together, and we have updated and are promoting the tools and resources for people to empower themselves and their communities through chess. Through the work of

this committee, we have made ourselves available to provide the resources to those interested and we are working to increase the number of resources so we can make a wider impact.

I would like to thank the members of this committee for their service and support: Dr. Judit Sztaray, Sophia Rohde, Steve Immitt, Paul Covington, Adam Porth, Lakshmana “Vish” Viswanath, and Alan Kantor. I would also like to thank our Executive Board liaisons, Kevin Pryor and David Day, for their advice and support.

COLLEGE CHESS

ALEX ONISCHUK, CHAIR

The year of 2021/22 was challenging, yet successful, for collegiate chess. Collegiate chess moved back to over-the-board, conducting several face-to-face events.

2021 U.S. Collegiate Online Rapid and Blitz Championships

From September 25-26, Texas Tech University organized the 2021 U.S. Collegiate Online Rapid and Blitz Championships.

Webster University won the rapid championship. GM Jose Alcantara and WGM Stavroula Tsolakidou became the individual U.S. men's and women's champions, respectively.

In the blitz tournament, The University of Texas at Dallas won the championship. GM Grigory Oparin won the individual championship and WGM Stavroula Tsolakidou became the U.S. collegiate blitz women's champion.

https://collegiate.chess.stream/2021_US_Collegiate_Rapid_And_Blitz_Championships/standings

<https://www.chess.com/news/view/st-louis-wins-2022-pan-american-intercollegiate-team-championship>

2021/2022 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship

The 2021/22 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship was held in Dulles Virginia from January 6-9, 2022, and was organized by Capital Area Chess. The chief organizer, Anand Dommalapati, did an incredible job in securing a safe environment during the rise of the omicron variant in the United States.

Saint Louis University won the championship, with Texas Tech University finishing second and The University of Texas at Dallas finishing third. The B team from Saint Louis University won the top women's team award. The University of Virginia-A won Division 2. Georgia Institute of Technology won Division 3. The University of Texas at Austin's C team won Division 4. California Institute of Technology won the small college award.

http://vachess.org/Tournaments-NON-VCF/PanAm_IntercollegiateCh/Team-Standings.html

2022 President's Cup: The Final Four of College Chess

The Final Four was held April 2-3 2022, in Lubbock, Texas, and was hosted by Texas Tech University. Saint Louis University won the event.

Rank	Team	1	2	3	4	Points
1.	Saint Louis University	*	2	2	3½	7½
2.	Webster University	2	*	2	3	7
3.	Texas Tech University	2	2	*	1½	5½
4.	University of Texas at Dallas	½	1	2½	*	4

The College Chess Committee, under the leadership of Jim Stallings, is currently working on combining the rules for the three major national collegiate events: the U.S. Collegiate Rapid and Blitz Championships, the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship, and the Final Four. It is a large project, as many rules need to be updated and all three tournaments have different formats. Thanks to a mostly positive experience in playing online during the past two years, we will keep the option of organizing some of these events online.

DEVELOPMENT

MICHAEL SHUMAN, CHAIR

US Chess fundraising efforts are going well. This fiscal year, giving has increased and our donor base continues to grow. At a time when many nonprofits are struggling in the wake of the pandemic, US Chess has been fortunate to experience a year of growth. There are a few possible reasons for this: maybe we have benefited from a community that is celebrating the return of over-the-board chess by giving to US Chess, or maybe word is getting out about the important programs and initiatives that US Chess has started. What we do know is that US Chess is supported by a very dedicated constituency, committed to advancing our mission to “empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess.”

FY 2021-2022 Year-to-Date Fundraising

- Total funds raised last fiscal year (June 1, 2020-May 31, 2021) = \$712,002.06
- Funds raised (so far) this fiscal year (June 1, 2021, through May 20, 2022 = \$818,730.61

FY 2021-2022 Giving Highlights (\$)

- \$250,000 Endowment Fund (Planned Gift)
- \$202,950 Irwin Endowment
- \$ 60,000 Women's Grant Program
- \$ 29,750 2021 Invitationals
- \$ 27,000 At-Risk Youth
- \$ 20,000 At-Risk Youth
- \$ 20,000 At-Risk Youth
- \$ 10,000 General Fund
- \$ 10,000 General Fund
- \$ 10,000 Ukrainian Fund
- \$ 10,000 Endowment Fund (Planned Gift)
- \$ 5,000 General Fund (Memorial Gift)
- \$ 5,000 General Fund
- \$ 5,000 Denker Tournament
- \$ 5,000 Women & Girls Chess
- \$ 4,855 General Fund
- \$ 4,500 2022 Invitationals
- \$ 3,755 General Fund
- \$ 3,000 Haring Tournament
- \$ 3,000 General Fund
- \$ 3,000 General Fund
- \$ 2,500 At-Risk Youth
- \$ 2,500 General Fund

Our Donor Base

Our donor base has been steadily increasing these past few years. One

COMMITTEE REPORTS

metric we use to gauge donor base growth is the number of gifts that we receive annually. Here are the number of gifts we've received for each fiscal year since 2017:

Fiscal Year	Number of Gifts Received
2017-2018	278
2018-2019	423
2019-2020	841
2020-2021	834
2021-2022	1,423

As you can see, the growth has been steady — with the exception of FY 2020-2021, which was the height of the pandemic. When you consider that US Chess over-the-board tournament play ceased, and that US Chess membership fell significantly, we were fortunate to meet the previous year's number of gifts received, and to have raised more money than the previous year. There is probably no better example of why it is critical to grow a broad base of support: the number of donors we acquired prior to the pandemic made it possible to weather the pandemic's negative impact.

Note the increase in number of gifts received this year from last year. This could be the result of a restless community of supporters, brimming with optimism as we emerge from the pandemic, or a year-end appeal campaign (direct mail) that continues to grow. It is probably a combination of both. While we did raise more money than last year, the significant increase in number of gifts received suggests we brought in a lot of smaller gifts in the \$10-\$50 range. This would be consistent with the average gift we receive through our year-end appeal. This is a very good thing. It is worth repeating: In the long run, relying on the many, rather than the few, makes for a more stable development program.

What are US Chess Donors Supporting?

Fund or Program	Number of Gifts	Amount Raised (\$)
USCF General Fund	911	\$100,445.83
At-Risk Youth	201	\$ 98,000.32
Ukrainian Fund	179	\$ 42,916.80
2021 Invitationals	5	\$ 34,750.00
2022 Invitationals	3	\$ 10,000.00
Women & Girls in Chess	40	\$ 4,810.75
Benefactor Memberships	2	\$ 3,000.00
Military Chess	10	\$ 1,670.00
Seniors	27	\$ 1,580.00
Gift Memberships	21	\$ 670.00
Olympiad	4	\$ 150.00
Scholarships	5	\$ 95.00

Summary

FY2021-2022 has been a good year for US Chess and the chess community at large: over-the-board chess is back, US Chess membership is on the rise, and our partners and friends have been very generous in their support. We hope to finish the year strong by continuing to expand our donor base by connecting and engaging with US Chess members and affiliates.

Thanks to the committee members who volunteered their time: Bill Brock (IL), David Day (UT; EB), Kimberly Doo (NY), Fun Fong (GA; EB), Sherlock Grigsby (MD), Maureen Grimaud (SC), Joseph T. Lonsdale IV (TX), John D. Rockefeller III (MD), Danny Rohde (NY), Michael Shuman (NY), Jay Stallings (CA), and Chuck Unruh (OK; EB).

ELECTION

MIKE NIETMAN, CHAIR

There were no ADMs referred to the Elections Committee from the 2021 Delegates Meeting.

Candidates for the 2022 election and composition of the Executive Board:

The committee received nomination petitions from two individuals. The committee certified the following candidates for the two Executive Board seats to be filled in this year's election for three-year terms:

- Mike Hoffpauir
- Chuck Unruh

The current Executive Board membership is as follows.

- Terms expiring in 2022: Mr. Mike Hoffpauir (continuous service since 2016), Mr. Chuck Unruh (continuous service since 2016)
- Terms expiring in 2023: Mr. David Day (continuous service since 2020), Mr. Fun Fong (continuous service since 2020), Mr. David Hater (continuous service since 2020), Mr. John Fernandez (continuous service since 2021)
- Terms expiring in 2025: Mr. Randy Bauer (continuous service since 2018), Mr. Kevin Pryor (continuous service since 2021)

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. No member currently serving would be term limited until 2025. Starting in 2023 regularly scheduled elections will be conducted in odd numbered years only.

The committee encourages all eligible voters to register and vote. The committee is also looking into necessary bylaws changes to allow for solely online voting instead of a hybrid of mail-in and online voting. This would not be in place for 2023 but hopefully for 2025.

ETHICS

HAROLD STENZEL, CHAIR

The Ethics Committee had another busier than average year. We have, as of this writing, worked on 17 different cases during the 2021-22 term. A high number of these cases were from online tournaments in which there were accusations of using computer assistance to win. Unfortunately, many of the accused were young players. For respondents under 13, those cases were handled by the committee's ombudsman.

Based on a recommendation at the 2021 workshop, the committee shortened the length of stages three and four for accepted cases from 30 to 14 days. The 30-day limit was a holdover from years ago when cases were usually done by USPS. Today, almost 100% of cases are done by email.

The committee reviewed the Tornelo online play site, which reported the evaluation of their methodology for reviewing players' games for fair play in online tournaments

The committee is interested in recruiting a few new members willing to do more tasks than just commenting and voting on cases. These would include (after a year's training) a willingness to accept the chair position or at least occasionally to serve as a case manager.

I wish to express my thanks to the members of the committee for their efforts during the past year.

LMA TRUST

CHUCK UNRUH, CHAIR

The Life Member Asset Trust (LMAT) trustees invest and manage the funds from the sale of US Chess Life Memberships. Trustees approve the

investment strategy that provides dividends and capital gains. In turn, the dividends reimburse annual operational Life Membership expenses. The LMAT has eleven volunteer trustees appointed by the delegates at the annual meeting. LMAT trustees have a combined US Chess leadership experience measured in decades.

LMAT is a Grantor Trust. The trust assets and funds are separate from operational accounts. In the last fiscal year, trustees and operations presented Advance Delegate Motion (ADM) 21-15 for approval at the annual meeting. The motion set the annual payment formula for Life Member expenses from the trust.

Important in the reimbursement formula is the number of active Life Members. Operations sent a survey letter to each Life Member address during the last year. The Life Member survey focused on inclusion and several notifications over six months. The survey data was collected over six months and indicates approximately 7,500 Life Members with good addresses. US Chess membership is approximately 82,000 and Life Members represent 9% of the general membership. During the year, operations reported 86 new Life Memberships and the welcome reactivation of 22 Life Members with formerly unknown addresses or lost survey responses.

US Chess headquarters for the last two decades became Crossville, Tennessee, after the move from New York. The small town extended a hand in friendship when US Chess struggled with financial turmoil. US Chess flourished in the last decade and leadership has led the way to relocate the headquarters to meet the expanded mission. US Chess will always be thankful for the help of this town and local leadership. The LMAT is the beneficial owner of the Crossville headquarters building and property. Operations and LMAT trustees are closely working together in divesting the building and property.

Over the last six years, LMAT trustees have set investment strategy and tactics for portfolio distributions adequate to meet the future Life Member expenses. The investment program has cost averaged into diversified and conservative holdings. The 2022 markets to date have been choppy at best, yet the longer-term results continue to meet the goals and guidance of the original investment plan.

Each year, the trustees approve a strategic investment plan for the LMAT funds under management named after the city of the next delegates annual meeting. Rancho Mirage is the current LMAT investment plan. Meanwhile, the trustees begin a review this June of the proposed Grand Rapids Investment Plan. Like Rancho Mirage, the Grand Rapids Investment Plan focuses on defensive equity and fixed income. Currently, the LMA Trust portfolio is 70% invested in public securities and 30% U.S. dollars.

The trustees will present the new investment plan for the 2022-23 fiscal year at the Friday Finance workshop during the Delegates Annual 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 Trust Assets Under Management as of April 30th, 2022:

	2020	2021	Gain/(Loss)
Land	\$264,000	\$264,000	-0-
Building net depreciation	\$360,545	\$360,545	-0-*
TD Ameritrade Securities	\$637,836	\$821,722	\$183,886
Total:	\$ 1,262,381	\$1,446,267	\$183,886

(*April 30th balance sheet)

MILITARY CHESS

JIM HOLLINGSWORTH, CHAIR

The 62nd US Armed Forces Open Chess Championship (USAFOCC) was held over Columbus Day Weekend (8-11 October 2021) at great Wolf

Lodge in Grapevine, Texas. The event featured 71 chess-playing warriors from 20 states who represented all service branches, including the Coast Guard and the Space Force, with one out of every three players from Army. Also, one out of three were Texans. The turnout threatened to surpass the attendance record set in 2004, when Navy hosted 83 players.

The 62nd USAFOCC was an epic championship adventure. Few will ever experience: A father and son sharing top honors in a legacy going back 46 years. The Naval Academy winning the Commander's Cup. Two players honored with lifetime awards for selfless service. The American Legion Post 379's Color Guard leading the opening ceremony. Welcoming remarks by local politicians. A 24x7 slideshow featuring players, staff, VIPs, and other information. A veterans banquet. Dinner speakers. Crowning military champions from four states. FIDE Rapid and Blitz tournaments. Drawings, door prizes, and gifts donated by generous sponsors and individual donors. The largest group of chess-playing (not retirees or active duty) veterans to ever play in a USAFOCC. And much more.

Because of space and time constraints, I am limited in writing about everything that happened in the 62nd USAFOCC. However, the Texas Armed Forces Chess website will eventually be updated to include massive amounts of information. For this article I will focus on the 2022 NATO Championship, our military chess champions, key staff, and the 63rd USAFOCC (October 7-10, 2022).

The Journey to NATO Begins with the USAFOCC

The 62nd USAFOCC's main event, a five-round FIDE-rated championship, consisted of two sections, the Armed Forces Open (AFO) and the Veterans Open Championship (VOC). The AFO is a "feeder" event for the annual NATO military championships, normally held in Europe. The exception was in 2018, when Texas Tech University hosted the 29th NATO Chess Championships. Selection of U.S. military chess representatives for the NATO Championships is highly competitive. Because NATO rules do not allow VOC players, the USAFOCC tradition is for two separate sections. This ensures a VOC player does not spoil an AFO player's chances for representing the U.S.

As I write this, the 32nd NATO Chess Championship is scheduled for June 26 to July 2, 2022, at the Estonian Military Academy in Tartu, Estonia.

USA Team Captain: retired Col. David Hater, U.S. Army (LTM)

USA Team Administrator: retired Staff Sgt. John Farrell, USMC (LTM)

USA Team Representatives: 1st Lt. Eigen Wang, USAF; Information Systems Tech. 2nd Class Andrew Peraino, USN; Maj. Gordon Randall, USAF; Petty Officer 1st Class Enrico Balmaceda, USN; Tech. Sgt. Andrew Duren, USAF; Airman 1st Class Charles Unruh, USAF.

Extra Players: retired Master Sgt. Robert Keough, USAF (LTM); Spc. Edward Wendler, USA; Mr. Hernandez (retired Navy, GS employee for the Army).

Unruh Family Sweeps the 62nd USAFOCC Champion Titles

Deciding the 62nd USAFOCC Championship was about as close to a family affair as one can get. US Chess Executive Board member Chuck Unruh won the U.S. Armed Forces Chess Championship in 1975. This time he topped the VOC section with a 4½/5 score to win his second military chess national title. Meanwhile his son, Airman 1st Class and chess expert Charles M. Unruh, swept the 49-player AFO section with a perfect 5/5 score. The icing on the cake was both being present to watch and enjoy each other's accomplishment.

Navy Wins the Commander's Cup

The Naval Academy chess team was recognized at the veterans banquet for their exemplary collective chess skills while winning the 2021 Commander's Cup. Maj. Gen. John Wood, USAF, presented the Commander's Cup and

commemorative coins to the team members: Midshipmen Nicholas Clark, Daniel Ruggiero, Wesley Nygard, Everett Stenberg, and Ethan Borst.

Army Sweeps the Top Military Team Awards

AFO Top Military Team (Army): Mike Donovan, Kenneth Nguyen, Englebert Querol Roy, Aldo Mendoza, and Gregory Risk.

VOC Top Military Team (Army): Jhanel Baniel, Nathan Woods, Daniel Mattson, Charles Fricks, and Darryl West.

Military Champions Crowned for Four States

Four state chess associations accepted our offer to crown their state champions at \$25 (our cost is \$25 per plaque). Since we offered two titles, the extra costs were funded by targeted private donations, rather than the 62nd USAFOCC's General Fund. This is something the USAFOCC has offered for years.

Louisiana	Ernesto Lizarondo (AFO)	Alec Bridgemen (VOC)
North Carolina	Gregory Risk (AFO)	
Oklahoma	Charles Unruh (AFO)	Chuck Unruh (VOC)
Texas	Englebert Roy (AFO)	Darryl West (VOC)

Other Military Chess Champions

FIDE Rapid: US Chess Candidate Master (norms-based) Edward Wendler swept the 38-player field with a perfect 4/4 score.

FIDE Blitz Sectionals (6):

Blitz Section A	Rob Keough, 8/10
Blitz Section B	Andrew Periano, 9½/10
Blitz Section C	Anthony Witt, 9/10
Blitz Section D	Ian Barruel, 8½/10
Blitz Section E	Thomas Boyd, 7/10
Blitz Section F	Eric Osgood, 8/10

Harmon D. Throneberry Chess Legacy Award Winners

The 62nd USAFOCC story would not be complete without mentioning retired Command Sgt. Maj. Harmon D. Throneberry, U.S. Army. For years he was known as "Mr. Chess" in the San Antonio area and was a top organizer and tournament director in Europe, the Washington D.C. area, and Texas. He is a US Chess benefactor, a US Chess life member, a Texas Chess Association life patron, and founder of many chess clubs. He is also an American Legion Paid Up for Life (PUFL) member. Texas Knights published an article about him, "A Chess Player Seven Feet Tall," in its January-February 2003 issue, found at this link: <https://texaschess.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Texas-Knights-Jan-Feb-2003.pdf>

Harmon D. Throneberry Armed Forces Chess Legacy Award winner: John Farrell

Harmon D. Throneberry Veterans Chess Legacy Award winner: Chuck Unruh

Key Staff

For me, the 62nd USAFOCC was a three-year labor of love. I received numerous personal laudatory comments, but really, I could not have accomplished anything without the people on this list: John Farrell, co-organizer; Louis Reed, chief arbiter and *Texas Knights* editor; Gary Gaiffe, deputy chief arbiter; Chris Wood, logistics chief and Arlington (Texas) Chess Club president; Larry Tipperreiter, support staff; retired Master Sgt. Dale Chaney, USAF, adjutant; Troy Gillispie, planning committee and director of outreach for the Arlington (Texas) Chess Club; Robert "Doc" Shearer, planning committee and chess journalist; Doug Stephens, games judge; Jocelyn Stephens, graphic artist; Carmen

Chairez and Mike Donovan, awards committee; Daniel James Fallon, chief photographer; Maj. Gen. John Wood, USAF, awards presenter; Robert McQueen, Tammy Matta, and Bob Curtis, special staff.

More 62nd USAFOCC Info

More information about the recent 62nd USAFOCC can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/17fr6h4puUM-_3OBR4XKFK2vPKG-MQJlj/view

<https://en.chessbase.com/post/62nd-annual-us-armed-forces-open-chess-championship>

<https://theweekinchess.com/html/twic1420.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFGmOjL9rpQ&list=PLHD4P2eKGjh3j7GTNfluG9KQR27Q5ACds&index=42&t=1276s>

The following website also will be updated: <http://texasarmedforceschess.com/>

The 63rd USAFOCC will be at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

As I write this, the TLA for the 63rd USAFOCC is only days away from publication. The tournament location will be 2503 East Arnold Avenue, McGuire AFB, NJ 08641. Final negotiations are being made to facilitate guest lodging on McGuire AFB. Point of Contact is the MCC Air Force rep, Leroy Hill (email: leroyhj@msn.com).

Future USAFOCC Events

Year	Event	Sponsor	Location	Organizer
2023	64th USAFOCC	USMC	TBA	John Farrell
2024	65th USAFOCC	USNA	Nat. Capital Reg.	Rob Getty
2025	66th USAFOCC	Army	TBA	TBA
2026	67th USAFOCC	USAF	TBA	TBA

NATIONAL STATE INVITATIONALS

JON HASKEL, CHAIR

The following national tournaments are under the jurisdiction of the National State Invitationals Committee: the GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions, the WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions, the Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions, the John D. Rockefeller III National Tournament of Elementary School State Champions, the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions, and the FM Sunil Weeramantry National Blitz Tournament of State Champions. In 2021 these tournaments returned to over-the-board play after being held online in 2020 due to the pandemic.

2021 RESULTS

GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions

GM Awonder Liang (WI) finished alone in first place and was the winner of the \$5,000 college scholarship. Sandeep Sethuraman (AZ) was the winner of the \$500 Ursula Foster stipend for the best result under the age of 16.

The full standings can be found here: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Denker-Standings.pdf>

WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions

WCM Ruiyang Yan (CA-N) and WCM Ambica Yellamraju (TX) tied for first. On tiebreaks the \$5,000 college scholarship went to Ruiyang. Kelsey Liu (MA) was the winner of the \$500 Ursula Foster stipend for the best result under the age of 13.

The full standings can be found here: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Haring-Standings.pdf>

Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions

CM Vyom Vidyarthi (CA-N) finished all alone in first place and was the winner of the \$5,000 college scholarship. Gabriel Gronski (IL) was the winner of the \$500 stipend for the best result under the age of 12.

The full standings can be found here: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Barber-Standings.pdf>

John D. Rockefeller III National Tournament of Elementary School State Champions

Henry Deng (CA-N), Austin Tang (OR), and Sepehr Golsefidy (CA-S) finished tied for first place. On tiebreaks the \$5,000 college scholarship went to Henry. Irene Fei (IA) was the winner of the \$500 stipend for the best result under the age of 9.

The full standings can be found here: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Rockefeller-Standings.pdf>

John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions

IM Igor Khmelnitsky (PA) finished all alone in first place and was the winner of \$2,500.

The full standings can be found here: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Irwin-Standings.pdf>

Team Competition

The team from Northern California finished in first place and won \$500 in US Chess Sales vouchers. Their team average was 2206. The team was composed of their Denker representative Milind Maiti, Haring representative WCM Ruiyang Yan, Barber representative CM Vyom Vidyarthi, Rockefeller representative Henry Deng, and Senior representative IM Elliott Winslow.

Complete team results can be found at: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-State-Team-Standings.pdf>

FM Sunil Weeramantry National Blitz Tournament of State Champions

In 2021 some of the section categories for the blitz tournament were changed. The 1600-2199 became the 1800-2199, a 1400-1799 section was added, and the Under 1600 became the Under 1400.

The standings, with the prizes, can be found here:

2200+ Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Weeramantry-2200-Standings.pdf>

1800-2199 Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Weeramantry-1800-2199-Standings.pdf>

1400-1799 Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Weeramantry-1400-1799-Standings.pdf>

Under 1400 Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2021-Weeramantry-Under-1400-Standings.pdf>

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS' HEALTH AND BENEFITS-CLAIMS (PPHB)

STEVE IMMITT, CHAIR

This year the committee received one application for financial assistance. The application was approved by the committee and the Executive Board. The committee recommended that the recipient be approved for the full \$10,000 lifetime benefit, and \$2,952.35 was paid to the recipient through March 1, 2022.

As of March 1, 2022, after the end of our third fiscal quarter, the Professional Players' Health and Benefits Fund had \$19,185.97 in the checking account, while the invested portion of the Fund had a value of \$151,160.40. The total value of the US Chess Professional Players' Health and Benefits Fund was \$170,346.37 as of the end of the third quarter of the current fiscal year.

The above numbers are for information purposes, as this committee only handles claims; it does not manage the funds. For details on the fund management, including year-end balances, please consult the Vice President of Finance's annual report.

Many potential applicants may not be aware of the opportunities for financial assistance that US Chess provides to professional players. Many potential donors (not just large corporations but also tournament directors and organizers of smaller events as well) most likely continue to be unaware of the sponsorship opportunities provided by US Chess to help professional chess players or might not have seriously considered the possibility before.

We clearly need to undertake a broader outreach to these groups to let people know more about us!

Funding for the committee's previous grants of financial assistance has traditionally come from organizers and tournament directors, in the form of payments made in conjunction with the tournament rating fees. These payments are primarily made for Grand Prix tournaments, in order to augment the level of Grand Prix Points awarded by the tournament to the top finishers. On occasion, additional smaller contributions have also been included with the rating fee payments for smaller events as well.

The committee's previous chairman, IM John Donaldson, summarized matters well when he reported:

"The resources of the Fund are not large enough to provide health care for all titled players but allows grants of up to \$10,000 per person for those truly in need. This amount has made the 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 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."

With the implementation of the new IT programming in conjunction with the new US Chess website, it is an ongoing hope that we may be able to identify and acknowledge some of the individuals and organizations that contribute to the Health and Benefits Fund in the future.

While these contributions are most welcome, it is also essential to seek out contributions for our important objectives on a larger scale as well.

There is also interest in expanding the scope of eligibility for recipients to include consideration of applicants in special situations who are not necessarily U.S. citizen FIDE titleholders, but who have nevertheless given extraordinary service to chess in their lifetimes. There was also interest in allowing consideration of recipients who are in serious financial difficulties not only from their own medical or psychological conditions, but also from other exigent circumstances.

It is imperative when an applicant receives a donation from US Chess that his or her eligibility for additional grants or entitlements (such as Medicaid, SSI, etc.) not be jeopardized as a result. It would hardly benefit someone to receive a grant from US Chess, if that person's eligibility for much greater coverage from Medicaid, for example, were jeopardized. To this end, the committee should work together with the Executive Board to structure a

recipient's payments so as to optimize and work in conjunction with his or her overall package of benefits. That said, it is also of paramount importance that the applicants' right to privacy be protected during the review process.

The \$10,000 lifetime limitation on a grant from US Chess to a specific individual made sense when the PPHB Fund was first established. In the ensuing years, the expenses for medical treatments have increased dramatically. However, the balance of the Fund has also increased as well. It should be possible to address increasing the lifetime limit in cases where it is warranted by specific circumstances.

Finally, applicants need to submit a complete application to US Chess in order to be considered. However, there may again be special circumstances, such as an applicant's hospitalization status, for example, which may preclude the applicant from submitting a complete application prior to the review by US Chess of the specific situation. The committee and the Executive Board may need to review the details of an application at the time when it is submitted by the applicant, even if it might not be complete at that time, in order to determine if consideration of the application and the applicant's circumstances is warranted.

It might also be appropriate to consider giving a different name to this committee to reflect its anticipated expanded scope of review.

US Chess is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Our support of those who have provided extraordinary service to chess in their lifetimes is well justified. We do not want to close our doors to otherwise worthy applicants.

An Advance Delegate Motion has been compiled for review by the delegates of the above issues.

It certainly cannot be overstated how essential it is for US Chess to look after its aging generation of professionals as well. US Chess certainly owes these players a big debt of gratitude for their collective support over the decades.

The Professional Players' Health and Benefits Claims Committee is grateful for the support of the Delegates, the Executive Board, and the US Chess office staff in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted for the US Chess Professional Players' Health and Benefits Claims Committee (John Donaldson, Sophia Rohde, Anthony Saidy, M.D.) by Steve Immitt (Chair).

RULES

MYRON THOMAS, CHAIR

The Rules Committee handled six appeals this year and considered DM21-31/NDM21-05.

This term the committee welcomed new member NTD Thomas Langland of California.

In the fourth appeal of the term, a Rule 10B Touch-Move claim, the committee considered the issue of a tournament director's responsibility to ensure players have stopped the clocks while ruling on a claim or answering player questions. While this is covered by rule 16Q, the committee encourages Tournament Directors to follow the TD tip offered in Chapter 1, page 30, as best practice.

The fifth appeal considered by the committee deals with Rule 28I, Opponents of expelled players, and Rule 28I2, Expulsion after last round of tournament is paired. The consensus of the committee is that Rule 28I applies only to players removed from an event or section due to being made ineligible by a corrected rating. US Chess rule 28I2 does not apply to all players expelled from a tournament.

In reviewing motion DM21-31/NDM21-05, referred from the 2021 Delegates meeting, the committee found that the intent of this motion is already covered in Rule 23A3. The committee therefore recommends no further action be taken on this motion.

SENIOR

MICHAEL MULFORD, VICE-CHAIR

Seniors celebrated the return to over the board chess in style! In 2021, 40 players competed in the 4th Annual John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions (the Irwin), with IM Igor Khmelnitsky defeating FM Doug Eckert in the last round to take first place. IM Doug Root recovered from a third-round loss to win his remaining games to finish clear second, while FM Eckert was clear third. Seven players shared fourth and fifth prizes. Nearly half the field had current master ratings; the median rating was 2170 and the mean rating was 2137!

The committee is pleased to note that more states are holding senior championships to select their Irwin representatives. At least 20 states have done so this year. Other states either choose the highest-finishing senior in their state championship or nominate the highest-rated player willing to go. The Senior Committee's goal is to have every state represented; the record so far is 44 out of a possible 52 players. Each year, when the deadline for states to submit their representative passes, the senior committee turns over rocks to find players for the missing states. In both of the last two years, a state has failed to submit the name of their nominees. The first time it happened, the event was online so the potential problem was relatively easily resolved. When it occurred in 2021, the situation was discovered in plenty of time to be resolved amicably and with no inconvenience to either player.

The 2021 U.S. Senior Open, originally scheduled in California along with the U.S. Junior Open, was canceled due to Covid-19, but Kevin Bachler of Caveman Chess came to the rescue at the last minute, organizing both events in Elmhurst, Illinois. Despite the late date, 47 players took part, with GM Dmitry Gurevich dominating the field, yielding only a last round draw to runner-up Robert Fischer. The 2022 event will be held at the same location on July 22-24. This will be the fourth U.S. Senior Open run by the team of Bachler and TD Glenn Panter, and their events have been well run and well attended (the other two topped 100 players).

The Senior Committee strongly supports the Alzheimer Association's annual event, The Longest Day (TLD). US Chess has encouraged all affiliates to hold TLD fundraising events and offered free rating and advertising for TLD events with a fundraising component this year. We anticipate this being a recurring event, so you've got plenty of time to make plans for 2023!

The Senior Committee would also like to recognize Kevin Bachler for creating the US Chess Senior Players Facebook page and administering it since April 2020 before handing the administration to the Senior Committee in December 2021. The committee has used this page to notify its readers of senior chess events, including, but not limited to, most of the state senior championships used to select qualifiers for the Irwin.

The committee has been involved in discussions about a tournament of Senior State Women's Champions and will continue to do so.

STATES AND AFFILIATES

LAKSHMANA VISHWANATH AND PHILLIP J. SIMPKINS JR. ESQ. (RET.), CO-CHAIRS

After the 2021 U.S. Open, the Executive Board assigned new leadership to the States and Affiliates Committee with co-chairs Lakshmana Viswanath and Phillip J. Simpkins, Jr. Our Executive Board liaisons are Kevin Pryor, Michael Hoffpauir, and Fun Fong.

The newly reformed committee was revitalized by filling vacancies and increasing the membership to 13. While filling the committee membership roster, the leadership reviewed the previous case handling procedures and created a new set of standard operating procedures (SOP) to deal with jurisdiction, conflict of interest declarations, filing sequences, deadlines, and timing of cases. This SOP is under a continuing process of improvement and will be better formalized after the backlogged cases are completed.

This team inherited a two-year five case backlog as well as receiving a returned ADM from the 2021 Board of Delegates. The committee leadership volunteered to be the test committee by working with Executive Director Carol Meyer to create a new piloting system for SAC committee work. This entailed disposing of the antiquated email chains that were ineffective, inefficient, and cumbersome to handle. The old method often led to the loss of information for historical purposes, whereas this new system, using the US Chess Dashboard, not only allows the committee to compartmentalize all of our discussion topics and internal motions, it also allows us to build and maintain a database of cases for reference and historical purposes going forward. This dashboard still needs additional useful features, but is a far cry from the previous method. As of this writing, the committee has completed three of the five backlogged cases and, at its current pace, should conclude the other two prior to the 2022 U.S. Open.

Leadership participated in US Chess President Mike Hoffpauir's States Town Hall, where the majority of states participated. An extensive discussion occurred, which allowed us to receive a great deal of input and feedback from various state chapters. This information was included in the formation of the new Article VIII that is the proposed ADM in response to the returned ADM from last year's Board of Delegates at the 2021 U.S. Open.

SAC has been reactive this past year, but we have caught up on our backlog. The year's experience and the need will help us to be more proactive this coming year. Our goals include, but are not limited to: making recommendations to update the charter of SAC to the Executive Board, creating online forms to submit SAC complaints, a better SOP for handling cases to include a timeline to complete cases, better ongoing relationships with states to include best practices, and working on improving affiliate/state relationships through organizations like the clearinghouse and SAC.

TDCC

MARET THORPE, CHAIR

This past year the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC) handled one appeal.

The TDCC was again given the task to nominate individuals for the Tournament Director of The Year and Lifetime Tournament Director Achievement awards. It also was given the new tasks of nominating Senior Tournament Director of the Year and Local Tournament Director of the Year.

Work has begun working towards overhauling the certification test questions for the Local Tournament Director and Senior Tournament Director tests.

The chair coordinated with the US Chess office testing liaison, Chris Bird and then Pete Karagianis, and with the Executive Board liaisons Mike Hoffpauir and David Hater.

The following are committee members for 2021-2022:

Rudy Abate, NTD, IA; Mike Atkins, NTD, IA; Bill Buklis, NTD, NA; Charles Hatherill, ANTD, NA; Guy Hoffman, ANTD; Tim Just, NTD, NA; Tom Langland, NTD, IA; John McCumiskey, NTD, FA; Brennan Price, ANTD, NA; Thad Rogers, NTD, IA; Ernie Schlich, NTD, NA; Mike Schulte, SrTD, NA; Maret Thorpe, NTD, NA (chair); Jeff Wiewel, NTD, FA (vice chair); Brian Yang, NTD, IA

U.S. OPEN

HAL TERRIE, CHAIR

The U.S. Open Committee had no activity during most of the 2021-22 term, though a number of developments occurred in the months leading up to the 2021 workshop and the two months following.

In July 2021, I exchanged numerous messages with members of the U.S. Open Invitationals Committee, especially John Rockefeller, who took the lead in preparing a revised schedule for the Invitationals in the proposed

one-weekend U.S. Open format. By the time of the workshops for both committees, most (but not all) details were worked out. It was basically agreed by all that a one-weekend format was inevitable, beginning in 2025. Here is a summary of the major features:

Under the revised format, the U.S. Open will start on a Monday and run through Sunday. The number of rounds will remain at nine. The Traditional schedule will have double rounds on Tuesday and Wednesday; the six-day schedule will remain the same with double rounds on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The four-day schedule will also be unchanged. The Invitationals will be reduced from six rounds to five, with the final game Wednesday morning, followed by the awards ceremony that afternoon.

At the end of the 2021 U.S. Open, US Chess Director of Events Boyd Reed asked me for a report summarizing the proceedings of the two workshops, with specific focus on how the changes would affect site requirements beginning in 2025. I sent him that report on August 26. The major conclusion is that a lot more space will be needed.

Under the current format, the Invitationals finish on Tuesday morning, so they intersect only with the Traditional schedule of the U.S. Open, with the six-day not beginning until Tuesday evening. With the revised schedule, the Traditional, Six-day, and Invitationals will all be playing at the same time both on Tuesday evening and on Wednesday morning. Over the last six U.S. Opens, the number of players in the Traditional and six-day schedules has averaged a little over 300; the five current Invitationals are a potential 250 players. While 550 players in the same room doesn't seem excessive, there are already firm plans for two additional Invitationals, which would potentially add another 100. (It is not yet clear what year they will be started, however.) There have also been discussions about other possible Invitationals. Other recommendations made by the U.S. Open Committee may also add to the amount of playing space needed, especially on the final weekend.

To save on space elsewhere, the committee recommended that most workshops be moved online, to the weeks before the U.S. Open — and that this process should be started immediately, for 2022. The absolute minimum goal would be to eliminate all workshops on Wednesday, which would avoid some conflicts on that day. There will, in fact, be some workshops held online this summer, though as of this writing, how many is not yet clear.

WOMEN

ADIA ONYANGO AND KIMBERLY DOO, CO-CHAIRS

Although most of 2021 continued to be a challenging year for the chess community due to the pandemic, there were positive signs that signaled the return of some normalcy to the chess community.

Under the leadership of US Chess Women's Program Director, Jennifer Shahade, the weekly online Girls' Club Seminar program that was launched in 2020 continued to be well-attended. Special guests included GM Irina Krush, WGM Katerina Nemcova, WGM Sabina Foisor, reigning U.S. Women's Champion WGM Carissa Yip, and many others. Meetings became bi-weekly as more girls returned to in-person schooling and over-the-board (OTB) chess events returned. We hope, however, to still host occasional special online events in the coming year.

Another online program that was continued in 2021 was our Cross-Cultural Girls Club. This initiative brings together chess girls from the U.S. with chess girls from Kenya and other East African countries through online meetups, seminars, and tournaments.

Women's chess continued to receive extraordinary press coverage in 2021 following the success of "The Queen's Gambit," which was released in the fall of 2020. Additionally, an award-winning article in The Wall Street Journal (<https://www.wsj.com/articles/feminism-inclusion-chess-queens-gambit-jennifer-shahade-glass-ceiling-11626467392>) and a story by CBS

News (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nq6Ad1hl0hY>) kept girls' chess in the spotlight.

We were fortunate to have a generous grant renewed by the Saint Louis Chess Club, which will continue to provide funding for many programs to promote and encourage girls in chess. Dozens of grant applications were received from all over the United States and nine grants will be awarded.

In July 2021, the Women's Committee was invited to participate in the third International Koltanowski Conference on Chess in Education in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Women's Committee Co-Chair Adia Onyango presented on "Empowering women and girls through chess: Working towards closing the gender gap." This presentation discussed many of the US Chess initiatives aimed at fostering the growth of women's and girls' chess and plotted out the growth of women's and girls' chess in the U.S. over the last 15 years.

In March, our girls' chess community was invited to be one of 10 communities around the world to play GM Judit Polgar in a record-breaking online game, "Judit Polgar vs. the World."

The event lasted EIGHT hours and besides our U.S. chess community, other countries that participated via "communities" included Kenya, Uganda, Colombia, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Israel, Malawi, and Lebanon.

The fall of 2021 saw the return of over-the-board chess at two all-girls' regionals tournaments. The first in-person tournament since before the pandemic was the 2021 Northeastern Women and Girls Regional Championships, held in Philadelphia in September. The four-round tournament was organized and directed by Jason Bui and Gabrielle Moisher of the non-profit Philadelphia Chess Society. It attracted 38 players (including six women, three of whom were playing in their first chess tournament ever!). Robin Ramson, founder of the non-profit Chess

Girls DC, hosted the 2021 Women and Girls Regional Chess Tournament in October. Approximately 80 girls participated, and the tournament was well-received by all who took part! Both all-girls' regionals were made possible through grants by US Chess Women.

The return of OTB chess at the 2021 K-12 Grades National Championships, held in Orlando in December, marked the return of our highly acclaimed and popular Girls Club. Led by the dynamic duo of chess coaches Krista and Arthur Alton from Florida, visitors to the club were treated to a myriad of fun activities to help them make new friends and make chess more fun. Highlights in the Girls Club included chess trivia contests, human chess games, tower building with chess pieces, raffles, game analyses, crafts, a tandem simul led by WGM Jennifer Shahade and WIM Carolina Blanco, a lecture by special guest WGM Rusa Goletiani, and "Chess in Spanish" taught by Carolina Blanco. In addition, over 50 parents and female chess players attended a Town Hall meeting.

The Girls Club has become recognized as important and integral to national scholastic tournaments. Many girls and their parents look forward to spending time between games in the Girls Club. The fun activities draw the girls in, but the biggest benefit is that girl chess players have a safe and supervised environment to connect with other girls from all over the U.S., so that they can support each other both over and away from the chessboard.

The Women's Committee, in conjunction with Jennifer Shahade, looks forward to continuing our presence at all the national scholastic tournaments through the Girls Club rooms and also via online events in the future. We are currently working on our branding of US Chess Women — incorporating our logo with the official red and black colors into new banners, caps, pins, chess boards, etc., to help promote our mission of empowering women and girls through chess.

US CHESS TRUST

PROVIDES FREE SETS, BOARDS AND US CHESS MEMBERSHIPS TO AT-RISK SCHOOLKIDS!



USCT also supports:
 Scholar Chess Player Awards
 GM Denker Tournament of HS Champs
 WIM Haring National Girls Champs
 Barber Tournament of MS Champs
 U.S. Blind Championship
 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team
 Final Four of College Chess
 World Chess Hall of Fame
 And many other programs

For more information on the good work of the US Chess Trust, please go to www.uschesstrust.org. Or contact us at info@uschesstrust.org.

The Trust is a separate 501(c)(3) organization operating independently of US Chess.



US CHESS 2022 GOALS

- ▶ Expand the educational, social, recreational and rehabilitative applications of chess.
- ▶ Increase the visibility of chess on mainstream communications channels.
- ▶ 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.

2021-2022 US CHESS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

AUDIT

Jon Haskel, Chair
jon@bocachess.com

BYLAWS

Guy Hoffman, Co-Chair
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Richard Koepcke, Co-Chair
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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

N/A

ELECTION

Mike Nietman, Chair
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ETHICS

Harold Stenzel, Chair
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DELEGATE APPOINTED LIFE MEMBER ASSET TRUST

Chuck Unruh, Co-Chair
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Leroy Dubeck, Co-Chair
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Beatriz Marinello, Secretary
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COMMITTEE PARTIALLY EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTED (2) AND PARTIALLY DELEGATE APPOINTED (6)

NOMINATING

David Grimaud, Chair
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Sophie Rohde, Vice Chair
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EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTED COMMITTEES

PROGRAMS (SEE SUBCOMMITTEES BELOW)

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Leila D'Aquin, Vice Chair
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SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

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Judit Sztaray, Vice Chair
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MILITARY

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SENIOR

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Michael Mulford, Vice Chair
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WOMEN'S CHESS

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Kimberly Doo, Co-Chair
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OTHER EB-APPOINTED COMMITTEES

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John Galvin, Co-Chair
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CLUBS

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COMPETITION INTEGRITY

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STATES AND AFFILIATES

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Jeff Wiewel, Vice-Chair
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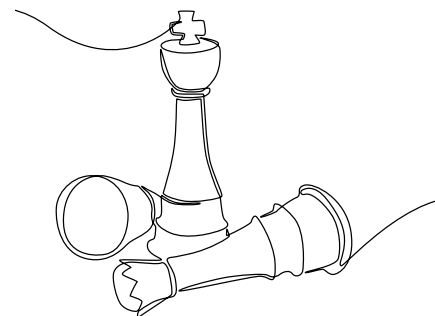
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U.S. OPEN

Hal Terrie III, Chair
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CODE OF ETHICS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION (US CHESS)

The Code of Ethics is Item 1997-16 (previously 2019 DACI 22) in the Delegates Actions of Continued Interest which can be found online at http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/2019_DACI_FINAL_Web.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 US Chess 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) 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.
- (b) 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 appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.
 - (a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
 - (b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
 - (c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.
 - (d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.
 - (e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the 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.

BYLAWS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION

Includes amendments adopted at the 2021 Delegates' Meeting

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the corporation shall be the United States Chess Federation 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 individuals with disabilities and the participation of individuals with disabilities in chess activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities 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 member of US Chess upon payment of \$45 for one year, or \$87 for two years.

SECTION 2. YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 19 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Youth Member of US Chess upon payment of \$20 for one year, or \$37 for two years.

SECTION 3. YOUNG ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 24 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Young Adult Member of US Chess upon the payment of \$27 for one year, or \$51 for two years.

SECTION 4. 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 \$77 for two years.

SECTION 5. 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 6. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PLANS.

- A. Family Plan 1: \$85, includes parents and their children under age 19 in the household living at one address. Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.
- B. Family Plan 2: \$55, includes all children under age 19 in the household living at one address.

SECTION 7. LIFE MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person may become a Life Member of US Chess upon payment of \$1500 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 8. AFFILIATE COMMISSIONS.

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

SECTION 9. 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 10. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each Life member shall have an opportunity to receive a monthly printed copy of *Chess Life*. Each member who provides an email address can access

electronic copies of both *Chess Life* and *Chess Life for Kids* magazines. Members may purchase subscriptions to either or both magazines for a price to be no greater than 105% of printing and mailing costs. 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 in accordance with the membership terms and conditions. Members and Affiliates with mailing addresses outside the United States may be charged an additional fee to cover extra costs.

SECTION 11. 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 US Chess Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in the US Chess 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 12. 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 US Chess 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 13. 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 US Chess 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 US Chess 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 US Chess office by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election, except that all members who are selected as US Chess 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 US Chess 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.

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.

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 US Chess.

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 US Chess. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of US Chess to determine the policies that shall govern US Chess in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the US Chess Official Rules of Chess, approve the annual budget, approve the sale of real estate owned by US Chess, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by US Chess, 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 US Chess membership as of May 31 of the year prior to Delegate elections, except that each state with thirty or more members must have at least one Delegate. Each state with 1000 or more US Chess 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.

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

B. 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.

C. 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.

D. US Chess 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.

E. Current US Chess employees may not serve as Delegates. US Chess 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 US Chess business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit motions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Advance Delegate Motions. Participation via the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

SECTION 7. SPECIAL DELEGATES MEETING.

Special Delegates Meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting.

Additional notification may be provided by e-mail. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the US Chess 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 video teleconference for purposes of establishing a quorum and voting. Delegates must be present and visible on the video teleconference.

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.
- C. 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 US Chess 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 eight members elected for staggered terms of four years. The Executive Director serves as an additional member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but without the right to vote. All members, with the exception of the Executive Director, shall meet the eligibility criteria of section 2 of this Article. All Executive Board members are national officers of US Chess.

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY.

A person shall be eligible to serve, or be nominated as, a member of the Executive Board provided he or she:

- A. Is 18 years of age or older upon taking office.
- B. Holds a current US Chess membership.
- C. Submits to a background check by US Chess.
- D. Is not a full-time or part-time hourly or salaried employee of US Chess, nor a currently paid contractor or consultant working on behalf of or serving US Chess.
- E. Has never been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.
- F. Has not served more than 11 consecutive years as a member of the Executive Board.
- G. Can serve the entire term to which he or she is nominated for without exceeding 11 consecutive years of service on the Executive Board.
- H. Does not share one or more of the following relationships with another member of or candidate for the Executive Board:
 - 1. Direct descendant or ancestor
 - 2. Spouse or partner in a civil union
 - 3. Sibling by birth, marriage, or adoption
 - 4. Adopted children or parent
 - 5. Stepchild or stepparent

SECTION 3. 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 US Chess 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 US Chess President.

SECTION 4. 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 US Chess website within six weeks of each meeting. 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 website 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 5. NOMINATION.

- A. Any person who meets the eligibility criteria in Section 2 of this Article is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission to the Election Committee, by December 31 immediately preceding an election, of the following:
 - 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 US Chess.
 - 3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.
 - 4. A signed form consenting to a background check to be conducted by US Chess, provided such background check has not already been conducted by a US Chess Nominating Committee.
- B. 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.
- C. Once a candidate is nominated, the candidate may purchase email addresses and/or mailing labels of Voting Members at the same rate as affiliates. Each purchase is for onetime use and only for one email or one postal mailing per Voting Member. Emails shall be transmitted to Voting Members by the US Chess office using Blind Courtesy Copy protocols. Mailings to Voting Members through U.S. postal mail or the equivalent shall be executed only by a competent third-party professional mailing house under direct contract with US Chess. The terms of the

US Chess contract with the third-party mailing house shall contain specifications to prohibit the mailing house from using the Voting Members' information for any other purpose, from sharing the Voting Members' information with other parties, and from retaining the information beyond the time required to complete the mailing process.

- D. Any person who meets the eligibility requirements in Section 2 of this article may run as a write-in candidate for the Executive Board provided, prior to May 1 of an election year he or she submits to the Executive Director:
 - 1. Notification, in writing, of their intent to run as a write-in candidate.
 - 2. A filing fee of \$100.
 - 3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and will serve if elected.
 - 4. A signed form consenting to a background check to be conducted by US Chess.

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 by the Election Committee, said candidates are certified as official write-in candidates, and may pay US Chess to send emails or postal mailings to Voting Members as specified in Article VI, section 5C of the Bylaws. Upon certification of official write-in candidates, the Election Committee shall promptly notify all nominated candidates of the official write-in candidates.

SECTION 6. 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 7. 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 Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a person to fulfill the functions of Secretary.

SECTION 8. TERMS OF OFFICE.

The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting. No individual shall serve more than eleven consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as US Chess President more than four consecutive years.

To implement the transition of term lengths from three to four years, the following will apply to those elected in the 2021 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.

- A. **2021:** Two Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms that expire in 2025. One will be elected to a two-year term that expires in 2023.
- B. **2022:** Two Executive Board members will be elected to three-years terms that expire in 2025.
- C. **2023** and odd numbered years thereafter: Four Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms.

SECTION 9. DUTIES.

- A. **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.
- B. **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.
- C. **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.
- D. **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 10. 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 6B. If three or more vacancies occur, the Executive Board will instruct the Election Committee to hold a Special Election in accordance with Section 6B.

SECTION 11. CANDIDATE STATEMENTS AND ADVERTISING.

Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to submit a 150-word statement and photograph for publication in the issue of *Chess Life* to be 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 candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other US Chess publications is prohibited. Any candidate for the US Chess Executive Board who is currently a party against US Chess 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 their first candidate's statement in *Chess Life* for this purpose.

SECTION 12. 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 US Chess 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 US Chess Secretary shall have one week from the date the petition is received by the US Chess 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 US Chess 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 US Chess 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 13. RESTRICTIONS.

Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as paid US Chess employees, paid consultants, or as vendors of goods or services to US Chess 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 US Chess events or to serve as an officer or owner of a US Chess affiliate. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as the chief TD of US Chess 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 U.S. Open. Elected members of the Executive Board may not be awarded the bid to serve as the organizer of a US Chess national event (or as an officer or owner of a US Chess affiliate serving as the organizer of a US Chess 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 US Chess. 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 US Chess or by US Chess 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 US Chess, the US Chess Executive Board members or US Chess 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 US Chess is headquartered at the time of filing of the arbitration notice.

SECTION 14. WEBSITE ACCESS.

Executive Board members and candidates for the Executive Board are subject to the same rules, restrictions and sanctions as other US Chess members with regards to information posted by them on the US Chess website, such as in the US Chess 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 US Chess website.

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 Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a

person to fulfill the functions of 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 US Chess website within six weeks for each meeting. 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 US Chess Executive Board during his or her service on the Election Committee. No member of the Election Committee may serve on a Nominating Committee, 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 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.

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS.

Each State Chapter shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chess players 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 chess players may affiliate with US Chess upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chess players 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 chess players 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 US Chess for any purpose.

SECTION 4. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each affiliate shall:

- A. receive a subscription to *Chess Life*.
- B. be entitled to conduct US Chess-rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules.
- C. be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the US Chess 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, disburseable 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 disburseable 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 US Chess 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 US Chess.

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.

Notes

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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 US CHESS EMPLOYEES.

For purposes of the bylaws, a tournament director at a National Tournament who is not already a US Chess employee shall not be considered a US Chess 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: 11/05/2021

DOCUMENTS ON THE WEB

The following forms and reports can be found online at <https://new.uschess.org/delegates> or scan the QR code at right.



2021 DELEGATE MOTIONS COMPLIANCE REPORT

In order to maintain accountability and transparency to its members, US Chess adopted DM01-77 in 2001. The motion requires that a report on compliance or non-compliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions be included in the *Delegates Call*. Due to length, the report can be found at the above link.

DELEGATE ACTIONS OF CONTINUING INTEREST

Due to length, the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest have been moved from the *Delegates Call* and has been posted at the above link.

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. Use the above link or QR code to access 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.

MINUTES: DELEGATES MEETINGS

Minutes for the 2021 Delegates Meeting and the 2022 Special Delegates Meeting can be found at the above link.

SCHEDULE

03
WED

RULES COMMITTEE

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

NATIONAL STATE INVITATIONALS COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

U.S. OPEN COMMITTEE

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

ONLINE FAIR PLAY

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL & COMMITTEE

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

04
THUR

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (CLOSED)

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (OPEN)

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SENIOR COMMITTEE

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FIDE EVENTS COMMITTEE

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

US CHESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

US CHESS TRUST

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

05
FRI

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CLUBS COMMITTEE

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

COLLEGE CHESS COMMITTEE

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FINANCE/LMA TRUST

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

CHESS JOURNALISTS OF AMERICA

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

STAFF FORUM/GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

AWARDS RECEPTION - OPEN TO ALL

4:00 p.m.

06
SAT

DELEGATES MEETING

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LUNCH BREAK AT NOON

07
SUN

DELEGATES MEETING

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (CLOSED)

2:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (OPEN)

6:00 p.m.

Workshop schedule subject to change. For updates, please visit: <https://new.uschess.org/delegates>

ONLINE ONLY WORKSHOPS: Accessibility & Special Circumstances Committee, Tournament Director Certification Committee, States & Affiliates Committee. Watch for more information about when these events will be held here: <https://new.uschess.org/delegates>