



**US CHESS**  
FEDERATION

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

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**2023**



"The U.S. Open is like an annual pilgrimage for a lot of people. ... **Every year we see old faces, new faces.**

Once people have experienced the U.S. Open, they usually want to come back as often as they can."  
-Chris Bird



"So I decided to host a tournament. I was hoping that a few people would come. It was insane – we had run out of spots. And I was like, '**Oh my gosh, I wish I had more boards.**' We were on the front page. Two Alaska State Senators sent me letters. That was so cool."  
-Evelyn Mills



"People know me as **the nice guy** who brings people together and loves chess. Now I want to be the nice guy that **you don't want to sit across the board from.**" -Seth Dousman

"If you know Hialeah [Florida] – it's a really tough neighborhood. And you would never think of these kids under the cherry trees, but that's what we did and that's what they liked the most. **It's life changing.** Some of them have never been outside of Florida. Some of them just arrived from Cuba. So they need to have the opportunity to see this." -Kristina Zogovic



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## **US CHESS MISSION**

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



## **US CHESS VISION**

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

# US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD

The US Chess Federation (US Chess) is the official governing body and non-profit 501(c)(3) organization for chess players and chess supporters in the United States. Our mission is to empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess. Our vision is that chess is recognized as an essential tool that promotes inclusiveness and benefits education, rehabilitation, recreation, and friendly competition.

US Chess represents the United States in the International Chess Federation (FIDE), connecting our members to chess players around the world. Founded in 1939 with the merger of the American Chess Federation and the National Chess Federation, US Chess reached 100,000 members for the first time in February 2023.

US Chess sanctions and rates over 12,000 tournaments and over 800,000 games annually. We host over 50 national championships and award titles to both amateurs and professionals, ranging from elementary school students to senior citizens.

*This is the 2022-2023 Executive Board. For the current 2023-2024 Executive Board, please see [new.uschess.org/about/board](https://new.uschess.org/about/board).*



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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Chess is on the Rise

US Chess continues to grow. With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions and the desire for players to once again be able to participate in over-the-board events, US Chess was poised for a very strong 2022-2023. The results have been outstanding.

Paid memberships have accelerated to record heights and for the first time ever, US Chess reached 100,000 paid members. Membership continues to grow — from 104,000 in March to 107,000 in June and nearly 109,000 in July. April, May, and June of 2023 all recorded record highs for over-the-board games played.

Chess is on the rise. In the past year, major news publications have written stories about how much time kids are spending playing chess on their phones, to the point where some teachers are collecting phones prior to class. In short, much has occurred in the last year that was positive for our organization and in fulfillment of our charitable mission.

Unfortunately, there were also negative occurrences. I was shocked to learn that a well-known chess player, coach, and commentator was the subject of a US Chess investigation relating to sexual misconduct. When US Chess received a written complaint against Alejandro Ramirez, a law firm was hired to conduct an independent investigation. While that was underway, additional details surfaced, primarily in a news article in the *Wall Street Journal*, quoting women

who had not come forward to make complaints with US Chess.

Based on the investigation and these additional allegations, the Executive Board (EB) voted a lifetime ban from US Chess for Mr. Ramirez. Many of these allegations are criminal acts that should involve the police. If comfortable, I hope that victims pursue this recourse.

The EB takes these allegations seriously and has put in place steps to provide greater protection for all players. They include:

1. Extending the existing Safe Play guidelines now in effect at national events to all US Chess rated events.
2. Increasing awareness of the guidelines and the mechanism for reporting a violation.
3. Publishing the names of all US Chess members who have been sanctioned for violations.
4. Entering into a contract with the U.S. Center for Safe Sport to provide training for all US Chess staff and, eventually, all US Chess certified tournament directors.

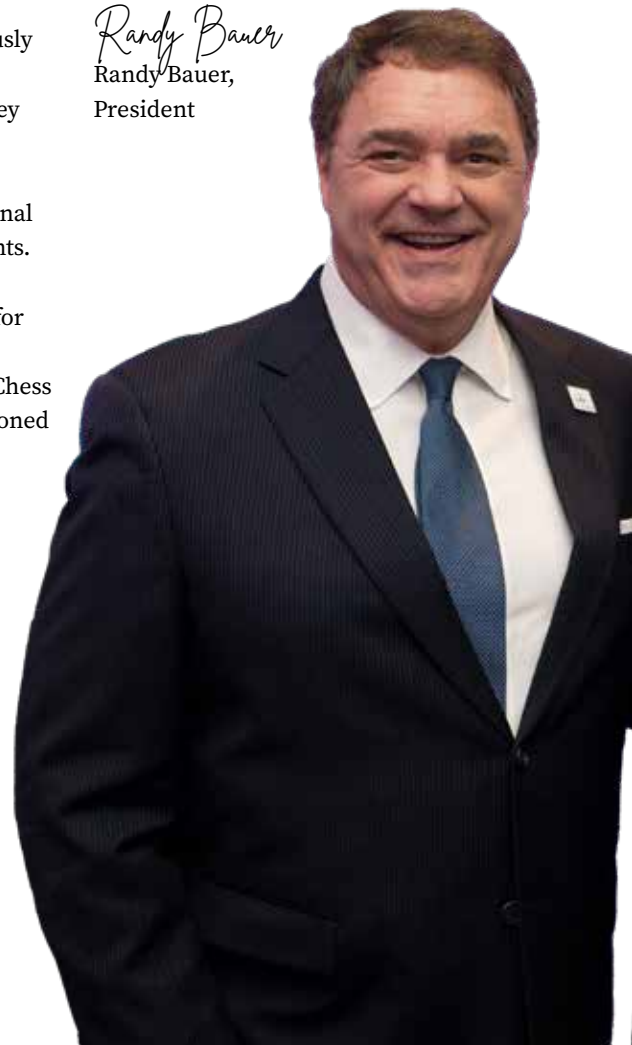
Sexual harassment and misconduct are significant problems. The EB has acted, both in this and other instances, to suspend or revoke memberships as needed, and we will continue to do so.

Beyond this very important issue, there are organizational improvements that have been put in place in recent years, with the support of the Delegates. Over a decade ago, the Bylaws were changed so the EB is the Board of Directors. More recently, changes were made to increase the EB to eight voting members from seven, and to increase the terms to four years. That allowed us to go to a schedule of elections every other year.

What some find remarkable is that, for several years, most EB motions pass on unanimous votes. The EB has continually sought to reach consensus on our Board actions, which serves us well.

We have a great opportunity to make the next year for US Chess its best ever. Let's all focus on accomplishing that over the year to come.

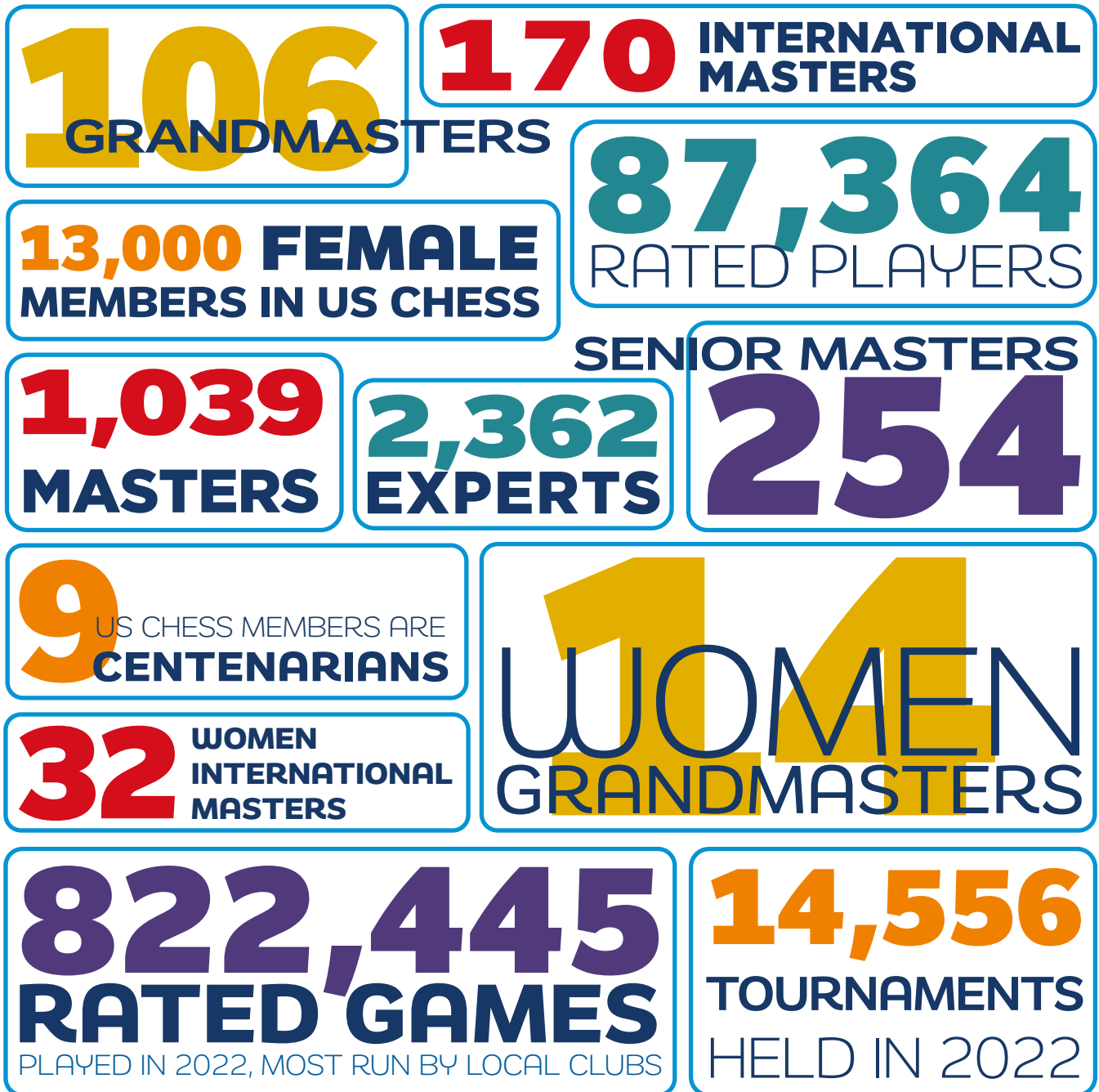
*Randy Bauer*  
Randy Bauer,  
President





# US CHESS by the numbers

US Chess membership reached **112,000**. That number includes:



**71,000,000\*** estimated number of chess enthusiasts in the U.S. who have not yet joined US Chess.

\*YouGov study



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## The Inevitability of Change

### Dear Friends in Chess,

US Chess is thriving. During the past year, our membership numbers and rated events skyrocketed, fueled by a record-breaking number of new adults and youth entering the chess world. Individual membership numbers rose 25%, while affiliate memberships grew 17.2%.

Rated play continued its rebound in the fiscal year ending May 31, 2023, with a dramatic transition from online to over-the-board (OTB) play:

Percentage Change in OTB Play (Prior Year Change)	Percentage Change in Online Play (Prior Year Change)
Regular +63% (-2%)	Regular -53% (NA)
Quick +90% (38%)	Quick -25% (+700%)
Blitz +42% (22%)	Blitz - 4% (+167%)

National event attendance recovered last year as well, with increased numbers at all events except the 2022 U.S. Open.

US Chess continues to build its mission-based programs, first introduced in 2018. The Executive Board's commitment to broadening the chess community — beyond a singular focus on competition — has resonated.

The **At-Risk Youth/Title I School Support program** has especially captured the imagination of our community. Our outreach to Title I schools, providing them with chess sets and memberships, has proven particularly popular. Since our program began in 2019 (with a pandemic hiatus), we have provided free memberships and equipment to schools in 45 states.

In the past year, we:

- Donated 845 chess sets
- Donated 1,306 memberships to students





We also sponsored several programs that enabled selected under-resourced schools to attend the spring national scholastics. In all, six school programs received funding that provided an enriching experience for players who might not otherwise be able to experience travel or national championship competition.

The **US Chess Women's program** resumed its in-person activities at scholastic nationals and select other events. Women's Committee co-chairs Kimberly Doo and Maureen Grimaud offered a range of activities, including chess instruction, simultaneous exhibition (also known as "simuls"), crafts, and community building. Online activities continued

Director, I have spoken about and worked to improve the sometimes-toxic culture that permeates our community. In 2022, I stood before the Board of Delegates and spoke about zero tolerance for all forms of abusive behavior. While we have taken many steps forward, sadly, misconduct that happened long ago recently came to light for US Chess to address.

As a result of recent Safe Play investigations, US Chess has:

- Appointed a Safe Play Advisory Working Group
- Signed a training agreement with the U.S. Center for SafeSport
- Released a continuously updated list of sanctioned members
- Updated the selection process for team coaches/captains

## ... the Executive Board has stated its commitment to providing a safe place for all chess players.

post-pandemic, especially related to the cross-cultural program, with girls representing several African nations and top players from across the globe making guest appearances. Six grants to programs advancing women's chess were funded last fiscal year under the women's program.

The new **Chess in Education (CIE)**

**Committee** enjoyed a robust launch.

Co-chaired by Ranae Bartlett and John Galvin, this active group offered a series of webinars for teachers from January–May, stood up a resources page for the education community, and held informal town hall sessions at two scholastic spring nationals.

They also held a joint webinar with the Scholastic Council, a new annual feature of the academic year.

The past year has not been without its challenges. From the time I arrived as US Chess Executive

With more to do, we will be:

- Reviewing and updating the Safe Play Policies (in process)
- Reviewing and updating Member Terms and Conditions
- Providing community resources and seminars about Safe Play (see [new.uschess.org/us-chess-safe-play-hub](https://new.uschess.org/us-chess-safe-play-hub))
- Performing ongoing review of US Chess policies and procedures

It is worth noting that the Executive Board has stated its commitment to providing a safe place for all chess players. Just one example is our Transgender policy, released in 2018.

In conjunction with Safe Play training, the Executive Board has worked with the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC) to update Club and Local TD exams, with Senior TD exams next, all intended to reinforce our rule and policy changes.

The close of this fiscal year emphasizes the inevitability of change. I am proud of the work we have done, especially programmatically, and we are positioned for a bright future.

Warmest regards,



Carol B. Meyer, Executive Director

# VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE'S REPORT

## The Trend Is Your Friend

Age-old Wall Street wisdom states the “The trend is your friend,” but sometimes the advice is lost in the month-to-month financial reports. After the national setbacks during the recent pandemic, the US Chess membership trend wasn't obvious at the time of the budget process. The reasonable assumption was a slow return to pre-COVID membership numbers. The financial team likely endured something called “Recency Bias,” a cognitive bias that causes us to assume that future events resemble recent experiences. This year's cascade of new memberships was a welcome surprise.

Membership revenues followed the trend and the preliminary financial results indicate a year of significant surplus. The financial results were very good when considering a year of investment headwinds from the 10-year interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve and inflationary pressures in the economy. Fortunately, some of the increased travel costs did not negatively impact the attendance at national events.

During August 2022, operations and the Life Member Asset Trustees sold the Crossville headquarters building and property. The process was quite involved but the result was worth the effort. US Chess posted a surplus on sale of the building and property. Funds from the sale were transferred to the Life Member Asset Trust. The Trustees have invested these funds with the goal to reimburse operations for future Life Member expenses.

A major financial goal delayed by the pandemic is the website and IT system upgrade. Leadership proposes a capital budget for the upcoming fiscal year to address and complete the Phase II upgrades. This upcoming year, financial leadership will submit two budgets, one operational and the other for capital improvements to the aging information technology, including the core database information and rating system.





The US Chess balance sheet is solid and posts a new record amount of positive net worth. The below graph is impressive when considering the gains were without new funds from major endowments. The net worth trend, started in 2014, tells the story of US Chess growth and fiscal management by leadership, staff, and volunteers. Dedicated volunteer members are an important part of the US Chess financial success. Besides tournament directors and event sponsors, the behind-the-scenes volunteers provide structure, experience, and guidance in this successful chess mission. For example, the Trustees and investment committees guide the US Chess investment portfolios. Staying on the multi-year investment trend that began in 2016 is a challenging goal for the Trustees and Investment Committees.

On the expense side of 2022-23, operations were again understaffed during a time of amazing membership and event growth. Leadership helped by approving significant across the board payroll increases and the hiring outreach to fill positions for fiscal 23-24. Cost controls in the last year were important as the budgeted expense side held few surprises. Larger events did generate increased expenses but were offset by the additional revenues. When reading the income statements, note the Phase I upgrades that integrate US Chess membership revenues

automatically into the financial reports distort the membership revenues. The treatment of some deferred membership numbers should settle out in the next fiscal year. For now, the revenues are overstated but other tracking methods indicate a record year.

Fiscal year 2023-24 holds financial challenges in meeting our ever-growing chess mission. National interest in competitive OTB chess, which exploded along with the internet on-line play, is a main source of primary growth for the year. US Chess benefits from the increased activity that promises record attendance at national events.

In summary, I stated in the 2019 report “we are dreaming big while achieving reasonable goals with each passing year.” Big has arrived with all of its challenges to remain on trend. Financially, we had a very solid year owing to the dedicated service of staff, sponsors, organizers, volunteers, leadership, and our membership.



Chuck Unruh, Vice President of Finance



# US CHESS DONORS

## 2022-2023

Due to space limitations, only donors of \$50 or more are listed from the most recent fiscal year. Every gift to US Chess plays an important role in continuing our mission to “Empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess,” and we are grateful for each and every donation. US Chess is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations to US Chess are tax deductible. If you would like to make a donation to US Chess, please visit us at [uschess.org/donate](https://uschess.org/donate). We also thank those who have donated to US Chess using payment methods offered through third-party chess events or various social media platforms. We regret being unable to recognize those donors individually.

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Martin Dean  
Kenneth Duffy

Tom Durbin  
E. Tomlinson Fort  
Michael Fry  
Gregory Gliner  
William Goichberg  
Bernard Goodman  
Calvin Halsey  
Robert E. Hux  
David Kaplan  
David M. Kochman  
Vincent Kreutz, Jr.  
David Lazarus  
Andrew Lerner  
Warren Lerner  
Christopher Lewis  
Jennifer S. Liu  
Edward Martin  
William McClain  
John McCrary  
Kenton McNall  
Robert D. Messenger  
Andrew Metrick  
Timur Milgrom  
David C. Miller  
Daniel Mohamed Mohid  
Parker G. Montgomery  
Brian Mullis  
Ross Nickel  
Bernard Novatt  
Scott R. Parker  
William E. Perry III  
Kevin Pryor  
David H. Raymond  
Timothy P. Redman  
Danny Rosa  
Timothy Michael Sawyier  
Michael Schulte  
Edward Seid  
Daryl Skinner  
Phillip R. Smith  
Christopher P. Snell  
Adam Christopher Snow  
Joe Strang  
Aaron Straub  
Henry L. Terrie  
Henry J. Thompson

Harmon D. Throneberry, Sr.  
Thomas N. Thrush  
Harold Torrance  
Charles (Chuck) D. Unruh  
John Walton  
Bill Witmer  
Edward Wycoff  
Brian Yang  
\*List is current through  
7/15/2023

### TRIBUTE GIFTS

Arthur Bocian - In Memory  
of Frank Nothaft  
Carol Holder - In Memory of  
Jerrold Neugarten  
Maryanne Magoon - In  
Memory of Ruth Haring

### GIFTS IN KIND

GM Maurice Ashley  
GM Pontus Carlsson  
Leila D'Aquin  
Kimberly Doo  
Maureen Grimaud  
*Juga of Jugamusica.com*  
Judy Kiragu  
Dr. Phillip Mwashe  
Robin Ramson  
U.S. Women's Champion  
Jennifer Yu

**US Chess also thanks  
its many volunteers  
who tirelessly serve  
on committees and at  
events, as well as various  
other capacities within  
the organization. Their  
commitment to US Chess  
and to the larger chess  
community is greatly  
appreciated.**

# CELEBRATING



# MEMBERS

After 83 years, US Chess marks a magical milestone.

When it comes to US Chess membership numbers, 100,000 (100K) represents a notable and exciting symbol for our organization, as it has taken 83 years to hit this number. February 19, 2023 — the day we passed this historic mark and ultimately reached 100,179 members — will now enter the US Chess annals alongside other significant dates such as September 1, 1972 (Fischer's World Championship) and December 27, 1939 (US Chess' founding). The membership has continued to rise since mid-February, and by the summer we exceeded 110,000 members.

Preparations to celebrate the 100K milestone began in early spring 2020, when we passed 97,000 members. Unfortunately, the pandemic had other ideas. Our membership crashed to 52,000 during the COVID-19 period, a level not seen since 1983 — almost half the organization's lifetime ago. The fact that we have rebounded and almost doubled our number so soon since emerging from the depths of the pandemic is a testament to our membership. We are grateful to all of you and your efforts to promote the game of chess as we work to advance our educational mission to *"Empower people,*

*enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess."*

To celebrate, we thought it would be fun to identify member 100,000. This person turned out to be a third grade, nine-year-old girl in Salt Lake City, Utah: Luna Thomas.

In many ways, Luna represents the growing diversity of US Chess. A scholastic-aged female — 22% of elementary school members are girls — who is relatively new to the game, she joined so she could play in her first tournament. Not only did we make her our April 2023 *Chess Life* cover subject, but we sent her a gift package of women's chess items from US Chess Sales: a hat, a shirt, a board, and the book *Play Like a Girl*.

Luna, who first learned the game at about age six utilizing the "Magnus Kingdom of Chess" app, says she plays because "I just like chess. It's really fun. It's complicated but not too complicated. So, it's just right." Goldilocks couldn't have said it better.

Luna's parents are Silvia Castro, president of the non-profit Suazo Business Center, and Jason Thomas, a data engineer. Both learned chess as children, but neither has an extensive history with our game.



# FIRST ANNUAL

# MEMBERS

# ONLY

US CHESS

## Blitz Tournament

To help celebrate the milestone, the First Annual Members Only Blitz Tournament took place on the evening of March 10, online at *Chess.com*, with 433 players turning out to compete in nine rounds of blitz action. US Chess and *Chess.com* memberships were awarded to the top five players overall as well as the top five U1800 and U1200 competitors.

Castro says that learning chess has been a positive experience for Luna because “... it really builds resiliency, that mental stamina. I’m looking forward to her next tournament to see what she has applied from [her first tournament experience].”

Luna attends chess class as part of the regular curriculum at The Waterford School, a private liberal arts school in Salt Lake City, where she’s taught by Alexander Gustafsson, a US Chess expert who has been building and cultivating the chess program for the last five years. About our cover subject Gustafsson says, “I’m very pleased with Luna’s progress and character; this being her first year in my class, she always sits in the front, is attentive, participates, learns well, and plays well with her classmates. She accepted the challenge to compete in her first tournament and, as difficult and as nerve-racking as those can be, she played well.”

When asked about the benefits he’s seen in students learning chess, the coach replied, “I notice that students who have difficulties in behavior or academics seem to thrive in chess and it eventually transfers positively into other aspects of their school-

ing. Perhaps it is because chess is so intellectually stimulating, exciting, and complex it grabs their interest and attention. Chess is a discipline; there are rules which must be followed and there is an exactness to it.”

Luna’s membership was submitted by former US Chess Executive Board member David Day on behalf of the Utah Chess Association. US Chess awarded Utah 50 membership vouchers for them to use as they see fit as a thank you.

So where do we go from here? We know from a YouGov study we commissioned before the pandemic that some 70 million Americans have at least a passing interest in chess. Obviously, the growth potential for us is huge. With our focus on increasing opportunities for under-represented segments of society — for example, building female membership, which currently stands at 12% — it seems reasonable to expect a big membership bump in the near future.

But in the meantime, we celebrate our current achievement and thank Luna Thomas — and every member who made 100K possible — for your positive contributions to the US Chess community.



# OUR MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THE YEARS

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

A look at US Chess membership on  
**April 1, 2023:**

Total Membership: **104,645**

Youth (17 and under):

**61,420** or **58%** of all members

Females represent **12%** of all members

While they represent **21.5%** of members 10 and under

We have **197** Members under the age of 1 and **9** over the age of 100

**1972 ■ 30,884**

Shelby Lyman's televised commentary — perhaps foreshadowing today's livestreaming — draws rapt audiences as Bobby Fischer wins the 1972 World Championship, igniting a firestorm of interest in chess throughout the nation.



**1952 ■ 1,127**

The United States Chess Federation forms in 1939 through the merger of the American Chess Federation and National Chess Federation. In 1944, *American Chess Bulletin* reports that membership stands at only 299 as of October 31, 1943. US Chess hires its first Business Manager in 1952 (a position that later becomes Executive Director) and membership numbers begin to be tracked officially.

**1958 ■ 2,668**

Membership growth remains steady but moderate until 1958, when Bobby Fischer wins the U.S. Championship at age 14, kicking off the "Fischer era." Membership numbers begin to escalate.



**1974 ■ 59,779**

Membership in US Chess nearly doubles between 1972-1974 following Bobby Fischer's 1972 World Championship victory.

**1985 ■ 54,599**

Attention again turns to scholastic chess. GM Arnold Denker establishes the Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions in 1984, with Alex Fishbein winning the inaugural event in Hollywood, Florida, in 1985.

**1997 ■ 83,122**

The first SuperNationals is held in Knoxville, Tennessee, and attracts 4,298 players.

**1977 ■ 46,179**

Membership numbers trend downwards as the effects from the "Fischer Boom" begin to fade.

**1968 ■ 11,202**

From the late 1960s-mid 1970s, new national scholastic and youth tournaments, including the U.S. Junior Championship (1966), the National High School Championship (1969), the National Junior High Championship (1973), and the National Elementary Championship (1976), contribute to membership growth.

**2005 ■ 83,547**

SuperNationals III, held in Nashville, Tennessee, sets a world record with 5,270 entries. (This record was broken in 2017.)

**2018 ■ 91,195**

US Chess establishes the Women's Program and seeks to promote and retain more females in chess.

**2-19-2023 ■ 100,179**

US Chess's membership tops 100,000 for the first time in its history.


**2008 ■ 80,201**

The Saint Louis Chess Club opens in 2008, with the World Chess Hall of Fame joining the campus in 2011. The "Sinquefeld Effect" — efforts led by Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld to support chess in the United States — contributes to this period of growth for US Chess membership.

**2021 ■ 51,777**

COVID-19 impacts the world starting in 2020. While the Netflix series, "The Queen's Gambit," fuels intense interest in chess during lockdown, US Chess memberships plummet as over-the-board tournaments cease and players move online.

**2022 ■ 82,949**

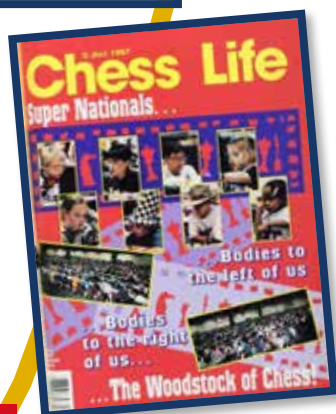
The 2021 U.S. Open and Invitational tournaments kick off US Chess's return to over-the-board play. Membership numbers begin to spike sharply as more OTB opportunities arise.

**2014 ■ 77,138**

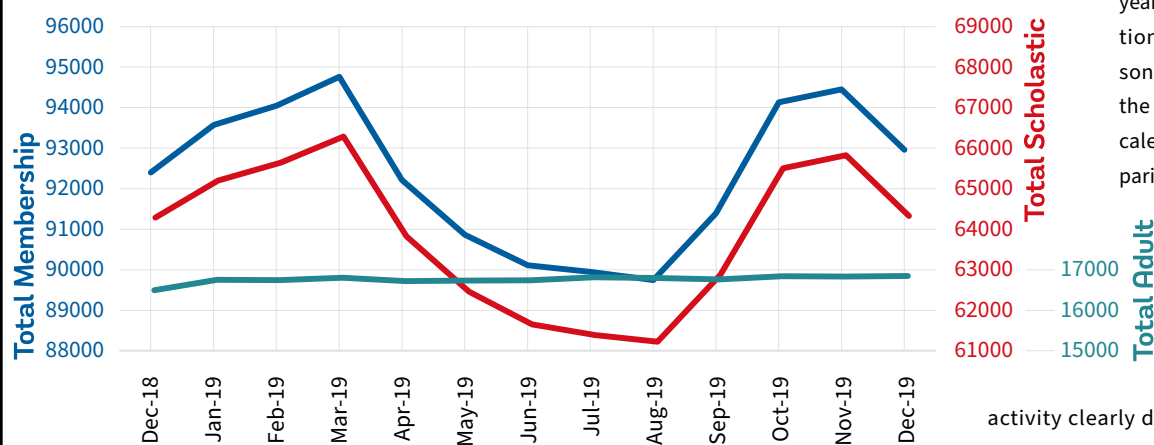
US Chess becomes a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, with a mission to "Empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess."

**1993 ■ 68,679**

The movie *Searching for Bobby Fischer*, based on the book by Fred Waitzkin, is released in 1993 and helps spark a new chess boom that sees membership numbers jump over the next several years.



## PEAKS AND VALLEYS OF ONE YEAR: 2019



US Chess membership ebbs and flows throughout the year, with particular correlation to the scholastic season. This graph represents the membership across the calendar year of 2019, comparing the variations in total membership (blue) with those in scholastic related memberships (red) and adult memberships (green). Scholastic activity clearly drives our membership patterns!

# AWARDS

## Grandmaster of the Year

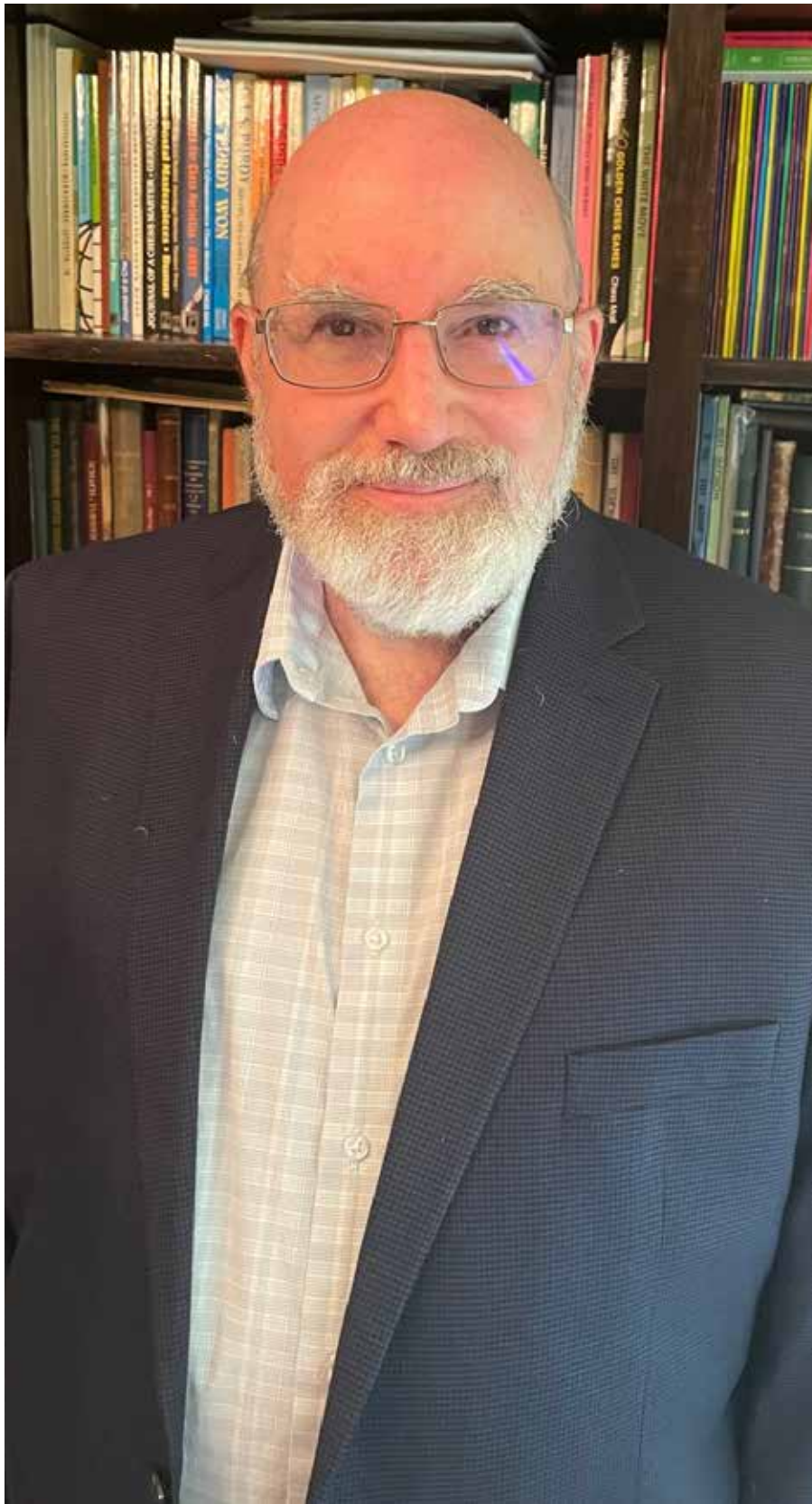
### CC-GM Jon Edwards

It is said that over-the-board chess players peak in their late 20s and that correspondence chess players peak in their late 60s. If that's true, CC-GM Jon Edwards is just peaking.

Edwards had a once-in-a-lifetime chess year, the culmination of decades of effort. In October 2022, he became the third American to win the World Correspondence Chess Championship. By winning the world title, Edwards also became the 14th American to obtain the ICCF grandmaster title.

Just a few months later, Edwards was a member of the U.S. Correspondence Chess team that won a bronze medal in the 23rd Olympiad — only the second U.S. team in history to win an Olympiad medal in correspondence chess.

Throughout, Edwards has continued to teach chess, to play in strong correspondence chess events, and to sustain his technology-aided quest to find new and worthy chess ideas.





## Woman Chessplayer of the Year

### WGM Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova

WGM Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova has played in the American Cup and the U.S. Women's Championship. She also was a key player in the FIDE Olympiad Women's Team Championship in 2022, helping the U.S. team to a 3rd-5th place finish in the 162-nation field by going undefeated with four wins and six draws.

"Chess is a game with an enormous and legendary history. It is a source of beauty, creativity, and knowledge; it is a sport where one should show excellence and compete to overcome the opponent. I got involved in chess because of my family. My three older siblings played chess a lot and I grew up watching them. Later my two older sisters decided to play chess professionally and I followed them.

"Chess means the world to me. It is my life, and it is who I am. I feel lucky that I got involved with such a magnificent game and found a community of friends I love through it."



## THE KOLTANOWSKI AWARDS

These awards are made to an individual or organization offering outstanding financial support to US Chess. It is named for IM George Koltanowski (1903-2000) who was known as the “Dean of American Chess.” The awards date to 1979.

**Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield have been supportive partners to US Chess since founding the Saint Louis Chess Club (SLCC) in 2007.**

### Koltanowski Award: Gold

Dr. Jeanne & Rex Sinquefield

Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield have been supportive partners to US Chess since founding the Saint Louis Chess Club (SLCC) in 2007. Beginning in 2009, the club has hosted our flagship championships: the U.S. Championship, U.S. Women's, U.S. Senior, U.S. Junior, and U.S. Girls' Junior championships. Additionally, the Sinquefields and the SLCC have consistently provided generous financial support, helping to fund important initiatives such as the Women's program and the U.S. Olympiad team.



## Koltanowski Award: Silver

### Lin & Robert Johnson

When Donald Johnson started playing chess at a young age, his parents, Lin and Robert Johnson, were there to support him and his dreams. As Donald matured into a top player, he began partnering with his parents in their philanthropic giving. The Johnsons have generously given to our International Youth events and At-Risk Youth program, and when the pandemic brought over-the-board chess to a halt, the Johnsons organized and executed an online fundraiser for US Chess that raised over \$16,000. Their continuing generosity to US Chess is very much a family affair.



## Koltanowski Award: Silver

### David & Maureen Grimaud

David and Maureen Grimaud are formidable partners with US Chess. David is chair of the Nominating Committee and co-chair of Senior Committee, while Maureen co-chairs the Women's Committee and serves on the Development and States & Affiliates committees. In addition to demonstrating leadership through service, the Grimauds give generously to our Women's, Seniors, and At-Risk Youth programs.



## Koltanowski Award: Silver

### John D. Rockefeller V

John D. Rockefeller V has made significant contributions to US Chess, both personally and financially. He serves as chair for the Scholastic Council, vice-chair for the Development Committee, and Scholastic Council liaison for the Rules Committee. Since 2020, Rockefeller has endowed four US Chess national scholastic tournaments and sponsored several Title I schools to compete in national scholastic events. He is a chess dad and Scholastic Director of the Maryland Chess Association.



## Distinguished Service

### IA Harold Stenzel

IA Harold Stenzel has dedicated significant years of service to US Chess. As chair of the Correspondence Chess Committee, Stenzel helped prevent an attempt by some officials to sever correspondence chess totally from US Chess, even though it was a major membership benefit to many adult members at a time when adult membership retention was a significant concern. Stenzel also worked with staff to create new and innovative correspondence events, and he served for a number of years as a Delegate. He is a national tournament director who has directed 1,630 tournaments with 5,231 sections since 1991.

## Special Services

### Jacques Nick Pope

*(Photo not available)* Jacques Nick Pope has made an enormous range of historical documents available to chess historians free of charge over the past 20 years. These include thousands of chess columns from over 150 newspapers across the United States and Great Britain, painstakingly located at libraries, obtained through interlibrary loan, digitized, and made available to the public at his website, Chess Archaeology ([chessarch.com](http://chessarch.com)). He has created and maintained a digital library of searchable historical chess publications, written articles on historical chess matches and figures, and carried out significant independent research. Recently Pope focused on a definitive collection of over 1,450 of Harry Nelson Pillsbury's chess and checkers games, complete with citations and text, in a two-volume work of nearly 1,600 pages.

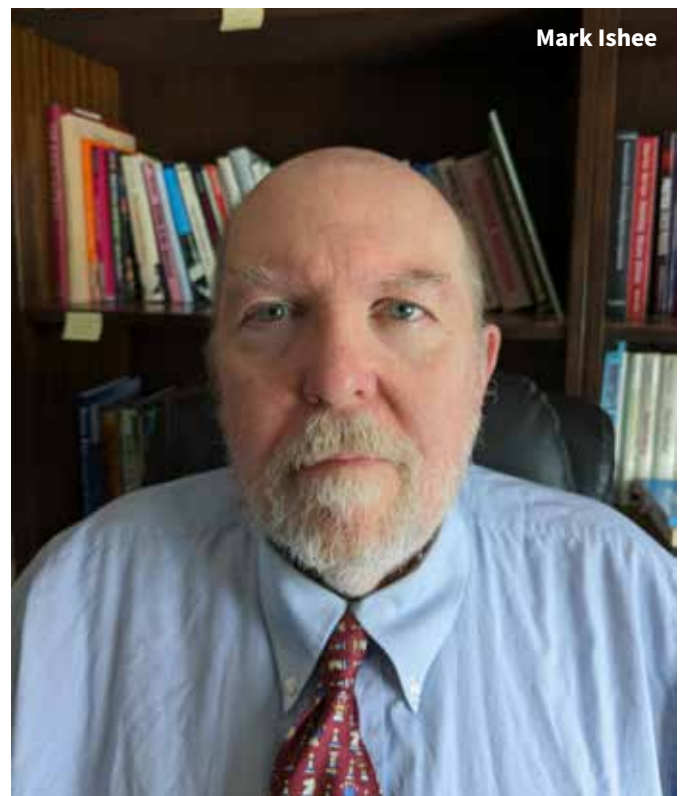
## Outstanding Career Achievement

### Mark Ishee

Mark Ishee has been active in chess since the 1970s. While many of his earlier contributions are not well known to modern volunteers, Ishee has made substantial contributions to chess in the United States, working with GMs Lev Alburt and Semon (Sam) Palatnik and with chess historians in producing numerous works on chess theory, instruction, and history. In 1975, Ishee became a tournament director and directed many tournaments before online US Chess records began in 1991. He also assisted in directing national scholastic tournaments, working with the late Harry Sabine several times. Ishee organized and directed numerous regional, state, and local tournaments as well. He became a national tournament director in 1998.



Harold Stenzel



Mark Ishee



Edward Formanek

## Frank J. Marshall

### IM Edward Formanek

IM Edward Formanek has been a positive representative of American chess for decades. Formanek represented the U.S. in the World Student Team Championship in 1968. He was one of a handful of Americans who competed regularly in Europe in the 1970s when norm tournaments in the U.S. were few and far between. During holidays from his university work as a distinguished professor of mathematics, Formanek continued to play in Europe successfully throughout the 1980s and 1990s. He has played in tournaments in England, Italy, Austria, Israel, and Canada. Like the great Frank Marshall for whom this award is named, Formanek has been an outstanding ambassador for American chess.



Jim Marfia

## Special Services

### Jim Marfia

Jim Marfia has provided a major service to chess history by translating a significant number of Russian publications into English, including the classic *Zurich International Chess Tournament, 1953* by David Bronstein. Marfia's numerous important publications include bulletins and books on several U.S. Opens.

## Meritorious Services

### Kevin Fite

Kevin Fite, a founder of the Detroit City Chess Club, was inducted into the Michigan Chess Association Hall of Fame in 2022 for his work in providing teaching and coaching services to numerous schools and organizations in the Detroit area. Fite has won multiple awards both in and outside of chess. For a detailed list of his awards and accomplishments, visit [michess.org](http://michess.org).



Kevin Fite



Larry Paxton

## Tournament Director Lifetime Achievement

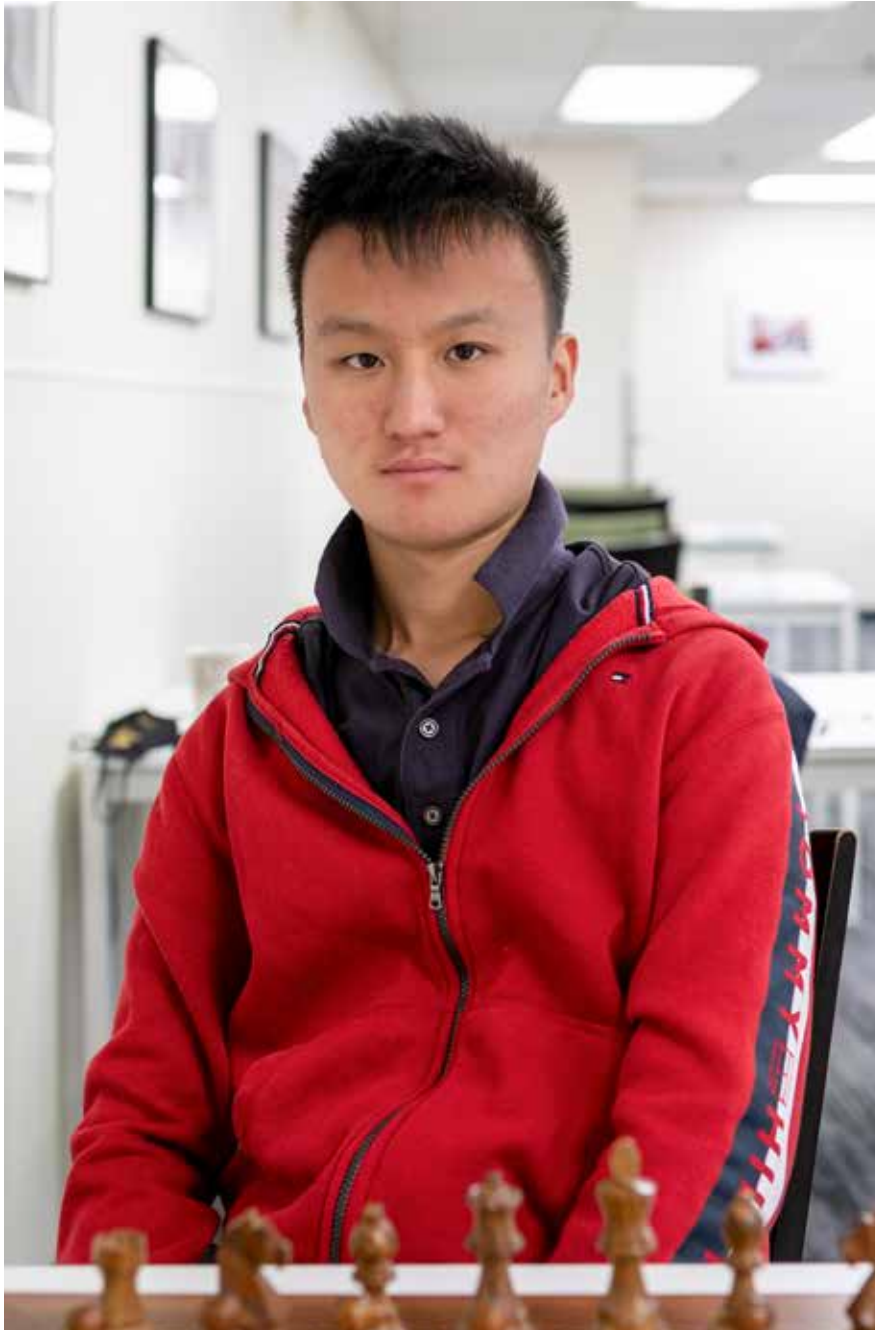
Larry Paxton



### Young Player of the Year

#### GM Christopher Yoo

Christopher Yoo, aged 16, is ranked #20 overall in the U.S. with a rating of 2681. He is a grandmaster and original life master. Yoo says, “Chess is a rich game with many interesting concepts and ideas. It can help with your patience and thought processes. I got involved in chess when my parents put me in an after-school chess class when I was almost seven years old. I had this early competitiveness, wanting to win tournaments and trophies. I won the California State 1st Grade Championship only a few months after I learned how to play. I really enjoy playing chess and the unpredictable back-and-forth nature of the game. I want to reach the top 10 in the world and play in the world championship one day.”



ABOVE: YOO CELEBRATES AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 2022 U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP.





## Outstanding Player Achievement

### FM Tibor Weinberger

FM Tibor Weinberger played in five Hungarian championships from 1952 to 1956. After settling in the U.S., he became the dominant figure in Southern California chess prior to the emergence of IM Anthony Saidy. He has played in the U.S. Championship and is an original life master.

“I came to love chess in my teen years and enjoyed its competitive and artistic aspects. Even if it was a very fulfilling activity for me, I would not recommend it to anyone as a life pursuit. It’s got to be a love affair, as it was for me.”

## Outstanding Player Achievement

### George Kramer

George Kramer won the 1945 New York State championship at age 16 and represented the U.S. in the 1950 Olympiad, winning the bronze medal for third board. He won the New Jersey State championship three times as well as the Manhattan Chess Club Championship. “I was surprised and delighted to receive your letter about my receiving a 2022 Outstanding Player Achievement Award from US Chess. Most of my adventures in chess began when I lost a game to Kupchik in an intracub match between the Queens and Manhattan Chess Clubs before I entered high school. Subsequently I played for Brooklyn Tech and soon joined Robert and Donald Byrne in interscholastic matches with schools like the Bronx High School of Science, whose team featured Bisguier and Shipman. In the late 1940s the Tech team was rated as containing three of the top five players in the country.”



## I want to reach the top 10 in the world.

GM CHRISTOPHER YOO

## Outstanding Player Achievement

### Dr. Neil McKelvie

Dr. Neil McKelvie was born in England in 1930. After spending part of his childhood in the U.S. due to the war, he returned to England and was third board for England in the 1953 International Student Team Championship. McKelvie returned to the U.S. and, after earning a Ph.D. in chemistry, became one of the top 50 players in the U.S. for many years, reaching as high as #21 on the rating list. He won the Manhattan Chess Club Championship in 1975 and 1979, and earned high places in that prestigious Club championship several other times.



## Outstanding Player Achievement

### Dr. Orest Popovych, FM

Born in Ukraine, Dr. Orest Popovych, FM, earned a Ph.D. from MIT after moving to the U.S. He became a master at age 24, a senior master at 39, was an original life master, and became a FIDE Master. Popovych won the New England Championship in 1957 and 1958 (with a 7-0 score that second year), the Massachusetts championship in 1958, and finished first in the Atlantic Open in 1971. In addition, Popovych was a nine-time North American Ukrainian champion who was inducted into the Ukrainian Sports Federation Hall of Fame in 2016. In 2000 he wrote, "... I hope my 'chessical' longevity might serve as an inspiration to my fellow seniors and other fellow New Jersey players over 39, many of whom nowadays prefer to stay home on Labor Day weekends, preferring to play solitaire chess on their computers. Next year, come to the New Jersey Open swinging! You can do it!"

## Outstanding Team Performance

### U.S. Military Team

The 2022 U.S. Military team won the bronze medal at the 32nd NATO Championship held at Tartu, Estonia, from June 26-July 2, 2022. This is only the third time in 32 years that the U.S. Military team has won a medal, and the first year since 2017 where a team other than Greece (gold), Poland (silver) or Germany achieved a decoration. Even though the U.S. team was seeded fifth going into the event, they performed above expectations, pulling ahead of perennial winner Germany, one of three teams boasting an average rating over 2200 FIDE. USA's finish deprived Germany of a medal — the second time that Germany has fielded a squad and not won an award.

#### Team members:

Air Force Captain FM Eigan Wang  
Air Force Technical Sergeant Andrew Duren  
Navy Petty Officer Andrew Peraino  
Navy Petty Officer Enrico Balmaceda  
Air Force Sergeant Charles Unruh  
Air Force Captain Gordon Randall



**Air Force Captain FM Eigan Wang**  
accepted the award  
on the team's behalf.

**I hope my 'chessical' longevity might serve as an inspiration to my fellow seniors.**

DR. OREST POPOVYCH



## Outstanding Team Performance

### U.S. Women's Team

The U.S. Women's team finished tied for third (third-fifth) in the 2022 Olympiad in a field of 160 nations. The team captain was GM Melikset Khachiyan.



**WGM Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova**



**IM Anna Zatonskih**



**GM Irina Krush**



**IM Carissa Yip**



**WGM Tatev Abrahamyan**



### Chess Club of the Year

#### The Grand Rapids Chess Center

The Grand Rapids Chess Center in Michigan is an active club affiliate that offers weekly rated play; activities for kids, including online coaching and classes; and online tournaments. Their activities are summarized on their website [grandrapidschesscenter.org](http://grandrapidschesscenter.org).



**Michael Brooks representing the Grand Rapids Chess Center.**



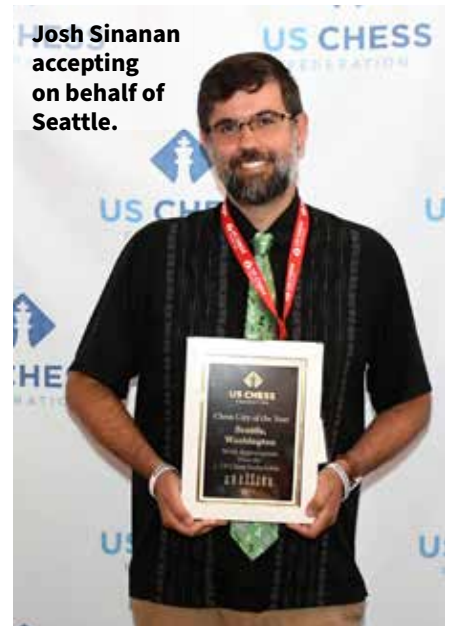
### Chess City of the Year

#### Seattle, Washington

Seattle has experienced tremendous growth in chess interest in recent years. From the grand opening of the Detective Cookie Chess Park last summer to hosting the 2023 Pan Ams in early 2023, the thriving Seattle chess scene provides opportunities for chess aficionados of all ages and experience levels to interact and build community through the game of chess. Social chess gatherings offered by multiple bars and pubs throughout the city have seen a huge surge in activity, attracting players from beginner to master level on a weekly basis. Several new chess clubs have opened in the greater Seattle area to accommodate the influx of new players, many of whom just started playing competitive chess this year. Through the efforts of the Amazon Chess Club, Seattle also has established itself as a hub for corporate and collegiate chess events on a global scale.

Long an innovator in chess, today Seattle is enviable for its full lineup of chess activity. In January 2023, Seattle played host to the PanAmerican Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship, with 83 teams competing for one of four spots in the President's Cup, or Final Four of Chess. The event itself was innovative as it was co-located with the PanAm Intercompany Team Championship, building on the existing corporate chess league that runs throughout the year in support of charity.

**Josh Sinanan accepting on behalf of Seattle.**



## Chess College of the Year

### Webster University

Webster University demonstrated this year why it has consistently been ranked as the #1 college team in the country for the past 11 years when the team won the Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship for the ninth time and the President's Cup for the sixth time. Led by Coach GM Liem Le, who is currently ranked #21 in the world, the team also took home numerous individual championships during the 2022-2023 season, including the top college women's blitz championship.



## Organizer of the Year

### Renaissance Knights

Renaissance Knights hosts the annual KCF All-Girls National Chess Championship, a significant highlight for school age girls in their scholastic chess careers. Renaissance Knights also works extensively in the Chicago Public Schools, bringing chess to students throughout the city. A highlight of their partnership with the Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Police Department is the Cops and Kids Initiative, aimed at fostering positive relationships between police and children. In 2022, Renaissance Knights hosted the North American Youth tournament and in 2023, will be hosting the Pan-American Youth Chess Festival.

Founded by David & Sheila Heiser in 2005 to bring the many educational benefits of chess to diverse communities across the City of Chicago, Renaissance Knights believe in the social, emotional, and educational benefits that chess provides, especially to school aged children, and in the power of chess as a vehicle to change lives and foster positive engagement and relationships between players, communities, the country and internationally. Some of the young players that began by playing in their monthly Knights Quest tournaments are now GMs, IMs, and influencers on Twitch.



## Tournament Director of the Year

NA Jordan Langland

NA Jordan Langland is one of US Chess' youngest national tournament directors and has been relentlessly directing tournaments every weekend for several years. During this past year, Langland served as the Chief TD for over 300 individual events, including five national championship events (OTB and online), as well as the pairing chief for the U.S. Open. At least once a month Langland also directs chess tournaments in the California Central Valley to reach out to the many at-risk kids attending low-income Title I schools.



## Senior Tournament Director

NA Jeff Aldrich

NA Jeff Aldrich first became involved in organized chess after joining the middle school chess team. He was instantly hooked. Aldrich was part of the 1988 National High School U1500 Championship and 1989 State High School Championship teams from Kearsley High School in Flint, Michigan, and credits the influence and support of his high school chess coach, MCA Hall of Famer Mike Skidmore. In the mid-1990s, Aldrich began running the Genesee County Chess Club and still runs it to this day. In the early 2000s he started organizing rated club tournaments, then began helping to direct Michigan Chess Association (MCA) events. He also started supporting the MCA organization as editor of the state magazine, then as a board member, treasurer, vice president, and now president.



## Scholastic Service Award: Individual

Jay Stallings

Jay Stallings says, "My father, Charles, won the Florida state championship in 1963 and was my chess coach from the time I was five years old until I made expert at 14. *Searching for Bobby Fischer* tempted me back into chess, and I told my wife after teaching my first lesson in January of 1994, 'I know what I want to do when I grow up.' Since then, I have been fortunate to teach daily in after school programs, camps, special events, private lessons, and online. I stopped counting in 2014, at which point I had taught 35,000 students. I love that chess rewards players who have grit and resourcefulness. I love the novelties, the brilliancies (even those used by my opponents to beat me!), the clever moves played, and the amazing moves that could have been played."





## Scholastic Service Award: Organization

### Detroit City Chess Club

The Detroit City Chess Club (DCCC) started 20 years ago out of the success of the Detroit Duffield Elementary & Middle School chess team in early 2000. One of the team's star players, Markiya Alexander, asked coach Kevin Fite, who started the competitive team at Duffield, "What are we going to do if we go to a high school that doesn't have chess?" Not having an immediate answer, Fite reached out to his circle of friends and family. One of his friends, Alicia Bulmer, suggested starting a club at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). Bulmer brokered a meeting between the DIA and Fite and from then on, the DCCC has met and played at the DIA.

Over the years, DCCC has grown from a few Detroit Duffield students to reaching thousands of kids from all over the metro Detroit area. "Many of my students have grown up in the museum playing chess and seeing art," says Fite. "These are students who may not otherwise ever visit the museum. The Detroit Institute of Arts is like home to our kids. They feel so comfortable and safe because the museum's staff cares for them as if they are their own kids. It's a beautiful thing to see evolving over two decades."

**Dominic Johnson**  
accepting on  
behalf of the  
Detroit City Chess  
Club.



## Dan Heisman Award for Excellence in Chess Instruction

### Todd Bardwick

Todd Bardwick is a chess teacher, educator, organizer, director, and journalist best known for writing nine instructional books in the *Chess Detective* series. Bardwick has taught over 15,000 classes and has run the Chess Academy of Denver as a full-time chess teacher for over 30 years. Bardwick has been involved in chess since kindergarten, when his father Alan, an expert rated player, taught him how to play. He believes chess is the best way to teach critical thinking and decision-making skills that help students succeed in chess, school, sports, and business.



## Accessibility and Special Circumstances Person of the Year

### IA Martha Underwood

IA Martha Underwood has shown a longstanding commitment to providing accessibility to persons with disabilities as well as to those individuals with special circumstances in need of accommodation. In addition to being an integral member of the Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee and a principal contributor to US Chess' Accessibility Guidelines, Martha has initiated programs in several local libraries providing free access to chess instruction and tournaments in public settings. Finally, as a national tournament director, an international arbiter, and an event organizer, Martha continually demonstrates how inclusivity for all players is achievable.



# NATIONAL CH





# AMPIONS

US Chess sanctions over 50 national championships in a normal year. Here is this year's distinguished list.

*Note: Listings based on our fiscal year of June 2022 to May 2023.*

## **U.S. Champion - October 2022**

**GM Fabiano Caruana**



## **U.S. Women's Champion - October 2022**

**WGM Jennifer Yu**





## NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

### U.S. Senior - July 2022

GM Alexander Shabalov

### U.S. Junior - July 2022

GM Christopher Yoo

### U.S. Junior Girls' - July 2022

WGM Jennifer Yu

### U.S. Cadet - July 2022

FM Nico Chasin

### U.S. Open - August 2022

GMs Elshan Moradiabadi\*,  
Aleksey Sorokin



GM Christopher Yoo



WGM Jennifer Yu



FM Nico Chasin



GM Alexander Shabalov



GM Elshan Moradiabadi

## National Open – June 2022

IM Semen Khanin

## U.S. Women's Open – June 2022

Badamkhand Norovsambuu,  
Carissa Angela Zheng, WCM  
Sandhya Goli

## U.S. Senior Open – July 2022

GM Dmitry Gurevich



IM Semen Khanin



Badamkhand  
Norovsambuu



GM Dmitry Gurevich



# NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

## Online Quick Scholastic Championship – November 2022

K-3: Tariq Yue  
K-6: Kishan Karthigeyan  
K-8: Luke Widjaja  
Alexander Zlodorev  
Saharsh Darsh Shetty  
Muhammad Rizky Nugraha  
K-12: FM Sandeep Sethuraman

## National K-12 Grade Championship – December 2022

K: Mihal Holcomb  
Alex Sedlock  
Darren Wu  
Daniel Zhu  
Jack Zhang  
1st: Srinash Katta  
2nd: Alice Shen  
3rd: Ted Wang  
Shawn Xu  
4th: Kyle Qiyu Dong  
5th: Roshan Sethuraman  
6th: Andrew Jiang  
7th: Eric Chang Liu  
8th: Brewington Hardaway  
9th: IM Evan Park  
Rohan Padhye  
Michael Xukun Guan  
10th: IM Eddy Tian  
FM Nico Werner Chasin  
11th: FM Sandeep Sethuramen  
12th: Raghav Venkat

## National Elementary (K-6) Championship – May 2023

K-6: Nathan Yan  
K-5: Sharath Radhakrishnan  
Krishna Rallabandi  
Anson Leong  
Andrew Wu  
K-3: Ted Wang  
Lev Shangin  
K-1: Asher Kirschbaum

## National Primary (K-3) Blitz – May 2023

Linxi Zhu

## National Elementary (K-6) Blitz – May 2023

Vihaan Jammalamadaka

## National Elementary (K-6) Bughouse – May 2023

B. Lin – T. Yue



Raghav Venkat



Nathan Yan



Sharath Radhakrishnan



L to R: Andrew Wu, Anson Leong, Krishna Rallabandi




**FM Sandeep Sethuraman**

**Eric Liu**

## **National Middle School (K-8) Championship – May 2023**

Eric Chang Liu

## **National Middle School (K-8) Blitz – May 2023**

Brewington Hardaway

## **National Middle School (K-8) Bughouse – May 2023**

Ronen Wilson-Julian Colville

## **National High School (K-12) Championship – April 2023**

FM Jason Wang  
FM Sharvesh R. Deviprasath


**IM Jason Wang**

## **National High School (K-12) Blitz – April 2023**

Aarush Vinod  
IM Nico Werner Chasin

## **National High School (K-12) Bughouse – April 2023**

Leo Jiang-Kitana Olson

## **All-Girls National Championship – April 2023**

U18: WFM Nastassja Matus  
U16: WIM Ellen Wang  
U14: WFM Chloe Gaw  
U12: Audrey Zhou  
Anvitha Penagalapati  
Anagha Sinkar  
U10: Sophie Li  
U8: Elizabeth Xia


**FM Sharvesh Deviprasath**

# NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

## U.S. Class Championships - August 2022

Open: GM Enrico Sevillano  
Expert: Jashith Karthi  
Class A: Ashkan Dehghani  
Zahedani  
Class B: Anders Thomas  
Kostrub  
Class C: Vrishank Peddireddi  
Class D: Kanishk Jain  
Class E and under:  
Yash Shah

## U.S. Junior Open - July 2022

U21: FM Tugstumur  
Yesuntumur  
Arthur Xu  
Rohit Guha  
Mitch Fishbein  
U15: Sunav Adhikari  
Andrey Dmitriev  
U11: William Ahn  
Allen Li  
U8: Lucas Silvestre

## U.S. Junior Chess Congress - July 2022

16/18 & Under: FM Hersh Singh  
14 & Under: Om Mishra  
12 & Under: Lingaadyakssh  
Venkataraja  
10 & Under: Shiva Srinivas  
Karthik  
8 & Under: Ishaan Jain  
6 & Under: Owen Li  
Lillian Han

## U.S. Blitz - August 2022

Naveen Prabhu

## U.S. Game/15 - August 2022

Stephen Willy





## U.S. Blind

Not Held - 2022

## Irwin: Seniors (50+) - August 2022

IM Douglas Root

## Denker: HS (9-12) - August 2022

IM Arthur Guo, GM Andrew Hong,  
FM Sandeep Sethuraman

## Haring: Girls (K-12) - August 2022

FM Ruiyang Yan

## Barber: MS (6-8) - August 2022

Brewington Hardaway

## Rockefeller: ES (K-5) - August 2022

Andrew Jiang  
Benjamin Benchen Tang  
Sam Luger

## Weeramantry: Blitz - August 2022

2200+: GM Andrew Hong  
1800-2199: Kaustubh Kodihalli,  
Vaseegaran Nandhakumar,  
Alexander J. Wang, Jacob Chiang  
1400-1799: Jwalanthi Ram  
U1400: Elijah Cummings



GM Andrew Hong





## NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

### **Pan-Am Intercollegiate Team – January 2023**

Webster University Team A

### **The President's Cup (Final Four) – April 2023**

Webster University

### **Pan-Am Intercollegiate Individual – January 2023**

Kevin Shen Yang

### **National Collegiate Rapid/Blitz (online), Individual\*, Team – November 2022**

Blitz: GM Mikhail Antipov\*, University of Missouri; Rapid: GM Benjamin Gledura\*, Webster University

### **U.S. Amateur Individual – September 2022**

East: Henry Pu

North: Peyton Smith

South: Mihir A.Kitbagi

West: Joshua Lu

### **U.S. Amateur Event – February 2023**

East: Bacon, Egg, and Cheese En Passant  
FM Gus Huston, Nathaniel Shuman, Sumit Dhar, Ryan Peterson

North: UChicago B  
GM Awonder Liang, GM Praveen Balakrishnan, FM Kapil Chandran, Will Eastwick, Runzhe Cui

West: UC Davis Team A  
FM Derek Wu, CM Brandon Yang Xia, Manas Manu, Abhishek Handigol

### **U.S. Amateur Event – April 2023**

South: Deep Blue Devils  
IM Kevin Wang, Eduard Shamilov, Zubin M. Baliga, Alexander Tong, Luke F. Triplett

### **U.S. Masters – November 2022**

GM Christopher Yoo\*, GM Alejandro Ramirez, GM Mikhail Antipov, GM Emilio Cordova, GM Cristhian Cruz

### **U.S. Armed Forces Championship, Individual\*, Team– October 2022**

Addison Lee\*, Army



GM Mikhail Antipov



GM Benjamin Gledura



GM Christopher Yoo



Bacon, Egg, and Cheese En Passant (L to R: FM Gus Huston, Nathaniel Shuman, Sumit Dhar, Ryan Peterson)



Webster University

# 2022-2023 FIN

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MAY 31, 2023

Assets		Liabilities and Net Assets	
OPERATING ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash	\$ 1,110,192	Accounts Payable	\$ 233,568
Accounts Receivable	67,588	Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities	70,035
Prepaid Expenses	31,282	Current Portion - Operation Lease Obligation	34,812
Investments	1,183,922	Deferred Multi-Year Memberships	518,915
Furniture and Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation of \$188,875)	234,666	Deferred Sales and Tournament Income	20,572
Operating Lease Right of Use Asset	151,228	Deferred Scholarships	157,863
Total Operating Assets	2,778,878	Deferred Revenue - Life and Sustaining Memberships	493,823
		Noncurrent Portion - Operation Lease Obligation	118,896
		TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,648,484
LIFE MEMBERSHIP ASSETS		NET ASSETS	
Cash	29,356	Without Donor Restrictions	
Investments	1,512,714	With Board Designated Restrictions	1,602,571
Total Life Membership Assets	1,542,070	Without Board Designated Restrictions	813,824
		With Donor Restrictions	1,958,447
ENDOWMENT FUND		Total Net Assets	4,374,842
Cash	113,619	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 6,023,326
Investments	1,588,759		
Total Endowment Cash and Investments	1,702,378		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,023,326		



**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**

**REVENUE WITHOUT DONOR  
RESTRICTIONS**

Memberships	\$ 3,179,174
Tournaments	1,294,403
Magazine Revenues	409,782
Sales Revenues	145,000
Donations	121,094
Investment Return	(157,434)
Interest Income	151,322
Other Services	252,802
Royalties and Misc. Revenues	43,202
Gain on Disposal of Property	134,913
Employee Retention Credit	256,423
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>5,830,681</b>

**EXPENSES WITHOUT DONOR  
RESTRICTIONS**

Magazine	910,372
Tournament Expenses	1,662,555
Programming	695,154
Membership Development	28,768
Governance	92,203
General and Administrative Expenses	1,627,586
Fundraising Expenses	73,065
Depreciation	80,033
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,169,736</b>

**INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS**

WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	660,945
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	
Donations	(9,144)
INCREASE (DECREASE) - NET ASSETS	
WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	(9,144)
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	651,801
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING</b>	<b>3,723,041</b>
<b>NET ASSETS - ENDING</b>	<b>\$ 4,374,842</b>

For the full version of the 2022-2023 audited financial report, including the accompanying notes for these financial statements, please see [new.uschess.org/financials](http://new.uschess.org/financials).

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**  
**YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023 (continued on next page)**

**PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

	Magazine	Tournament	Programming	Total Program
Advertising and Promotions	-	-	-	-
Bank and Credit Card Charges	-	-	-	-
Commissions	-	-	44,628	44,628
Contract Labor	94,314	-	46,453	140,767
Development			-	-
Equipment Rental	-	-	-	-
Executive Board Meetings and Travel	-	-	-	-
FIDE International Representation	-	-	-	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-
IT Expenses				
Office Rent	-	-	-	-
Office Supplies	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
Personnel Expense	367,493	-	405,470	772,963
Printing, Mailing and Postage	448,565	-	-	448,565
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-
Programming			198,603	198,603
Property and Other Taxes	-	-	-	-
Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	-	-
Tournament Expense -	-			
International	-	356,943	-	356,943
Tournament Expense -	-			
Domestic	-	1,305,612	-	1,305,612
Travel	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses before Depreciation	910,372	1,662,555	695,154	3,268,081
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$910,372</b>	<b>\$ 1,662,555</b>	<b>\$ 695,154</b>	<b>\$3,268,081</b>

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**  
**YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023 (continued from previous page)**

**SUPPORTING SERVICES**

	Membership	Governance	G&A	Fundraising	Grand Total
Advertising and Promotions	-	-	-	\$ 73,065	\$ 73,065
Bank and Credit Card Charges	-	-	141,747	-	141,747
Commissions	-	-	-	-	44,628
Contract Labor	-	-	-	-	140,767
Development	28,768	-	-	-	28,768
Equipment Rental	-	-	4,264	-	4,264
Executive Board Meetings and Travel	-	39,399	-	-	39,399
FIDE International Representation	-	52,804	-	-	52,804
Insurance	-	-	20,263	-	20,263
IT Expenses	-	-	424,745	-	424,745
Office Rent	-	-	54,345	-	54,345
Office Supplies	-	-	27,871	-	27,871
Other	-	-	3,848	-	3,848
Personnel Expense	-	-	712,447	-	1,485,410
Printing, Mailing and Postage	-	-	-	-	448,565
Professional Fees	-	-	160,642	-	160,642
Programming	-	-	-	-	198,603
Property and Other Taxes	-	-	3,365	-	3,365
Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	3,377	-	3,377
Tournament Expense -	-	-	-	-	-
International	-	-	-	-	356,943
Tournament Expense -	-	-	-	-	-
Domestic	-	-	-	-	1,305,612
Travel	-	-	44,796	-	44,796
Utilities	-	-	25,876	-	25,876
Total Expenses before Depreciation	28,768	92,203	1,627,586	73,065	5,089,703
Depreciation			80,033		80,033

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 28,768</b>	<b>\$ 92,203</b>	<b>\$ 1,707,619</b>	<b>\$ 73,065</b>	<b>\$ 5,169,736</b>
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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**

**CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 651,801
Adjustments to Reconcile Increase in Net Assets to Net Cash	
Provided by (Used In) Operating Activities:	
Depreciation	80,033
(Gain) Loss on Disposal of Assets	(134,913)
Amortization of Right of Use Asset	33,949
Unrealized (Gain) Loss on Life Membership Investments	201,387
Unrealized (Gain) Loss on Investments	93,395
Reinvested earnings - Investments	(44,532)
Reinvested earnings - Life Membership Assets and Endowment	(105,238)
(Increase) Decrease in Assets:	
Accounts Receivable	(67,588)
Prepaid Expenses	117,889
Cash and Equivalents - Life Membership Assets and Endowment	150,196
Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	(64,258)
Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities	(31,472)
Deferred Multi-Year Memberships	(857,739)
Deferred Sales and Tournament Income	1,510
Deferred Revenue-Life and Sustaining Memberships	48,374
Deferred Scholarships	41,979
Principal Repayments of Operation Lease Obligations	(31,469)
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	83,304

## CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Purchase of Investments	(2,819,157)
Sale of Property, Plant, and Equipment 753,765	
Sale of Investments	315,000
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Investing Activities	(1,750,392)

## NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

EQUIVALENTS	(1,667,088)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING	2,920,255
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - ENDING	\$ 1,253,167

## SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES

Cash paid during the year for interest	-
Cash paid during the year for taxes	-

## NONCASH INVESTING AND FINANCING INFORMATION

Pursuant to Accounting Standards Update 2016-02, Right of Use Assets totaling \$185,177 were recorded in exchange for Lease Liabilities during the year ended May 31, 2023.



# US CHESS

## FEDERATION

### 2023 GOALS

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- 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.

### CORE VALUES

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- Education.** We promote the transformative power of chess for lifelong personal growth.
- Customer Service.** We endeavor to be responsive, adaptive and proactive in providing services to our customers.
- Excellence.** We strive to be the best we can be as an organization and in service to the game.
- Integrity.** We honor, preserve and promote fair play.
- Inclusion.** We believe everyone has a seat at the chess table.
- Love of the Game.** We embrace chess as a historic and iconic game, and we celebrate its history, growth and evolution in our activities and services.





"I'm like the Johnny Appleseed of chess, trying to spread chess to everyone ... I'm not the best player. But **nobody loves chess as much as me.** It is the only thing I can say I'm a grandmaster at. I'm a grandmaster of loving chess." -Robert McKenzie



"You don't have to beat and conquer the guy across the board from you. You can enjoy a game, have a nice, maybe even cerebral, conversation. And then just **shake hands and play again tomorrow.**"

-Eric Fischvogt



"The idea is that more scientifically sound research about chess is going to help the chess community, because individuals can say, "Hey, there's this peer-reviewed study that shows this positive benefit about chess." **That helps everyone in the chess community.**"

-Dr. Alexey Root, WIM

"I wanted to quit at that point, but ... my family helped – my dad and sister

called and encouraged me. And I got ice cream with my mom. They, **my family, made me so happy.**"

-Aiden Baker



"Which color do you like to play?" **"Pink and purple!"** -Shrika Penti







**P.O. Box 775308  
St. Louis, MO 63177**

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***uschess.org***