

DELEGATES CALL

AUGUST 2-6, 2023

AMWAY GRAND PLAZA HOTEL

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

2023



US CHESS

US CHESS **MISSION**

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



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US CHESS **VISION**

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

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2023 DELEGATES CALL

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ADVANCE AGENDA – 2023 US CHESS BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI
August 5-6, 2023

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 23-01 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

The Delegates re-elect as Delegates-at-Large those whose terms are expiring or have expired and are present at this meeting. The term of these Delegates-At-Large will expire at the end of the 2026 Annual Delegates Meeting.

Those whose terms are expiring 8-6-23 are: Frank A Camaratta (AL), Anthony P Cottell (FL), Leroy W Dubeck (NJ), Beatriz Marinello (NY), and Timothy P Redman (TX).

ADM 23-02 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

The Delegates re-elect as Delegates-at-Large those whose terms have previously expired and are present at the meeting. Those eligible include: Frank B Elley Jr (AR), Helen E Warren (IL), Edward Steven Doyle (NJ), William Goichberg (NY), Albert J Lawrence (NY), Gary L Walters (OH), and Jim Berry (OK).

ADM 23-03 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT; JAMES EADE, CA-N)

The Delegates appoint Kenneth Sloan (AL) and Mike Nietman (WI) as Delegates-at-Large.

RATIONALE: This fulfills the Bylaws second vote requirement for both candidates as Delegates-at-Large.

ADM 23-04 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Move that Andrew Rea be appointed parliamentarian.

RATIFICATION OF SENECA AS THE RECOGNIZED STATE CHAPTER FOR RHODE ISLAND

ADM 23-05 (RANDY BAUER, IA)

The Delegates approve the following delegates as the current Conflict of Interest Committee: Leila D'Aquin, Kimberly Doo, David Day.

REPORT BY THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMITTEE

ADM 23-06 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Move that the minutes of the 2022 Delegates Meeting as available to the

Delegates present in Grand Rapids, Michigan be accepted.

ADM 23-07 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2023 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.

CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 23-08 (MIKE NIETMAN, WI)

The Delegates certify the results of the 2023 Executive Board election.

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO BE THE D.C. STATE CHAPTER

CONSIDERATION OF CHALLENGE TO THE RHODE ISLAND STATE CHAPTER

ADM 23-09 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

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

ADM 23-10 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Approve the US Chess budget for 2023-2025.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Report of the President (Randy Bauer)

Report of the Vice President of Finance (Chuck Unruh)

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

Committee Reports, which have historically appeared in the *Delegates Call*, have been moved online due to space constraints. They can be found at <https://new.uschess.org/2023-annual-meeting-information> or by scanning the QR code on page 38.

ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Audit Committee
LMA Trust
Election Committee
Bylaws Committee
Ethics Committee

OLD BUSINESS

ADM 23-11 (DM22-25/ADM22-17) (ROBIN FLOYD RAMSON, DC)

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

REFERRED to Executive Director to seek legal advice

Response: ADM 23-25 offered in 2023 by the Executive Board to address this issue.

ADM 23-12 (DM22-27/ADM22-19) (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.

REFERRED to the Executive Board, the Scholastic Council, and the Chess in Education committee with authority to implement.

Response: The Executive Board, Scholastic Council, and the Chess in Education Committee have worked collaboratively to reach more local school-based chess programs through a series of monthly webinars.

ADM 23-13 (DM22-30/ADM22-22) (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.

REFERRED to Rules Committee with power to implement on 1/1/2023 (the referral passed with more than 85% approval as required for a Rules change)

Response: Rules Committee acted, and rule took effect on 1/1/2023.

ADM 23-14 (DM22-32/ADM22-24) (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.~~

REFERRED to Executive Board for legal review, then Elections and then Bylaws

Response: Sent for legal review and to Bylaws Committee with suggested language change. There is now a Substitute Motion (ADM 23-24) for consideration under New Business.

ADM 23-15 (DM22-34/ADM22-26) (STATES & AFFILIATES COMMITTEE)

Article VIII: Organizational Units.

Section 1. State Chapters.

A. Designation. Every state and recognized territory, referred to hereafter as “state,” including the District of Columbia, Northern California and Southern California, shall be entitled to have an organization designated as its State Chapter. States with more than 5,000 US Chess members may have two State Chapters with designation divided along defined geographic lines.

B. Application. An organization seeking State Chapter designation for any state without a current State Chapter must submit its application and credentials before June 1. An organization seeking 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 Annual Meeting of the same year. An application and credentials submitted after deadline shall be presented the following year.

C. Agency. State Chapters are not agents of US Chess for any purpose.

D. Duties and Responsibilities.

(1) Administration. A State Chapter shall comply with all applicable laws; comply with 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 Delegates and Alternates; maintain Bylaws, Articles of Association or an equivalent document that includes, at minimum: (a) the purpose of the State Chapter, (b) a formal organizational structure, (c) specifications for governance, (d) selection of chapter members for positions of authority in the governance mechanism, (e) frequency and mode by which the governance mechanism meets, and (f) opportunities for membership or affiliation in the State Chapter; provide US Chess all new or amended governance documents within thirty (30) days of effective date; and timely pay State Chapter's annual Affiliate fee of \$40.

(2) Communication. A State Chapter shall respond promptly to requests for information or assistance from US Chess; maintain current contact information with US Chess; and disseminate information about Chapter activities, including, but not limited to: governance, tournaments, recognitions and initiatives.

(3) Guidance and Service. A State Chapter shall guide, encourage, promote and support state chess activity fairly and responsibly for all groups and individuals within the chess community.

(4) Tournaments and Nominations. A State Chapter shall timely respond to the US Chess request for nominations to the US Chess National Invitational Tournaments; organize or arrange an annual US Chess rated State Championship tournament; annually consider organizing or arranging other US Chess rated state title tournaments; and utilize available US Chess Tournament Clearinghouses applicable to their state.

(5) Responsibility to Board of Delegates. A State Chapter shall fulfill other duties and responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may direct.

E. Rights and Privileges. Each State Chapter shall receive a subscription to *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Kids*; be entitled to conduct US Chess rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess Rules; 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; receive access to the Delegates Call; and have exclusive rights to organize and operate or sanction any state titling events for their state.

F. 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 2. Affiliates.

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

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

C. Duties and Responsibilities. Each Affiliate shall comply with all applicable laws; consider utilizing available US Chess Tournament Clearinghouses applicable to their tournaments and other events; timely pay their annual Affiliate fee; respond promptly to requests for information or assistance from US Chess; maintain current contact information with US Chess; and fulfill other duties and responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may direct.

D. Rights and Privileges. Each Affiliate shall receive a subscription to *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Kids*, except that Prison affiliates shall not receive *Chess Life Kids*; be entitled to conduct US Chess rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules; and 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. Affiliates are not required to affiliate with State Chapters to maintain their US Chess Affiliate status.

E. 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.

REFERRED to the Executive Board for legal review; if passes, then immediate implementation

Response: Counsel advised keeping DACI and Article VIII provisions separate. The Executive Board will present a motion at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

ADM 23-16 (DM22-40/NDM22-11) (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT; RICHARD KOEPCKE, CA-N)

The Bylaws Committee moves the Board of Delegates to amend Bylaws Article V Section 8, as follows:

[Article V] ...

Section 8. Delegates at Large.

A. Former Presidents. Any former US Chess President who served at least two consecutive years as President and expresses interest in serving on the Board of Delegates may be elected as a Delegate at Large by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at an Annual Meeting.

B. Members with Distinguished Service. Any US Chess member who rendered distinguished service to chess and demonstrates activity in US Chess governance and an interest in serving on the Board of Delegates may be elected as a Delegate at Large by a three quarters (3/4) vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at two consecutive Annual Meetings. At no time shall the total number of active Delegates elected under this subsection exceed twenty (20).

C. Term and Subsequent Election. The term of any Delegate at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting their Delegate at Large status is achieved and continue for three more Annual Meetings. Any Delegate at

Large whose term is expiring upon the conclusion of an Annual Meeting or expired at a past Annual Meeting may be elected to a new term of four Annual Meetings by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at an Annual Meeting.

D. Additional Alternate Delegates. Any Delegate at Large who completes a term of service but is not elected to a new term becomes an Additional Alternate Delegate. Any Additional Alternate Delegate is eligible for election to a new term as a Delegate at Large by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at an Annual Meeting.

E. Limited Term Delegates at Large. At any meeting, the Board of Delegates may elect upon specified motion the following individuals, if present and not otherwise made Delegate, to a vacant seat under Section 8(B) for a term commencing upon election and terminating at the opening of the subsequent Annual Meeting: (1) Additional Alternate Delegates by motion of an Executive Board member or Bylaws Committee chair, (2) persons actively involved in US Chess governance since the prior Annual Meeting by motion of an applicable committee chair or lead, (3) prior year Delegates not renewed and exhibiting continued interest in US Chess governance by motion of an Executive Board member or Bylaws Committee chair. No state may have more than one Delegate pursuant to Section 8(E)3.

F. Effect on Quorum. For quorum at any Board of Delegates meeting, only Delegates at Large present are applied to the Delegates total.

REFERRED to Bylaws

Response: Report to Delegates at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

ADM 23-17 (DM22-42/NDM22-13) (LOUIS REED, TX)

I move that US Chess shall reinstate the issuance of printed membership cards to US Chess members which hold a valid US Chess membership and/or reinstate the mechanism on the US Chess website for members and/or Tournament Directors to print a membership card.

REFERRED to the Executive Board

Response: The office has deployed a membership card feature in the member dashboard.

NEW BUSINESS

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

ADM 23-18 (DAVID DAY, UT)

Amend Rule 41B in the US Chess *Rules of Chess* by adding the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph: The corner squares of the chessboard (a1, a8, h1, and h8) may contain logos, the name of the event, and other similar items. Chess boards which contain logos or similar markings in the middle of the board or in a non-corner square are nonstandard.

RATIONALE: Commemorative and other decorative boards are a valuable aspect of chess. The ill-founded objection that these boards are not standard is at present arguably ambiguous in the rules. This ADM is intended to clear up the ambiguity and make it clear to organizers that they can use boards with pictures/logos in the corner squares.

ADM 23-19 (DAVID DAY, UT)

Amend the US Chess *Code of Ethics* to remove 6(h) and renumber 6(i) to become 6(h).

RATIONALE: 6(h) reads as follows: 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.

This ADM would remove 6(h) completely and would allow organizers to decide who gets to play in their events. Candidly, this is a “no jerks” rule. Most organizers and TDs can tell you that a very small percentage of the players cause most of the problems and this allows organizers to turn those players away without first having to show that the person violated the rules of chess or the code of ethics.

ADM 23-20 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; TIM JUST, IL; RULES COMMITTEE)

Amend Rules 14C9, 14F4 and 15D of the US Chess *Rules of Chess* as follows:

14C9. Claimant's scoresheet.

Except for 14C8, the claimant must have a scoresheet adequate (13C7) to demonstrate the validity of the claim.

14F4. Director may count moves in sudden death.

In sudden death, a player with fewer than five minutes remaining and a simplified position in which no pawn moves or captures seem likely may stop both clocks, declare to a director an intention to invoke the 50-move rule when possible, and ask for assistance in counting moves. A director who agrees this is appropriate may count moves or use a deputy or a clock with a move counter to do so.

a. If the director or the deputy will count moves, the count should begin by crediting moves already made and listed on the scoresheet of the player intending to claim. An opponent who believes a different number of moves have been made should present this case if and when the count reaches 50.

b. The director or deputy may either keep score, make check marks, or combine the two.

c. After the count by the director or deputy begins, neither player has a right to know the count until 50 moves are reached. At that point the game is declared drawn unless the opponent successfully challenges the move count.

d. The opponent may challenge either the moves on the claimant's scoresheet before the director/deputy count, the count itself, or both, but must have a scoresheet adequate (13C7) to support the challenge.

e. If the challenge is upheld, the game shall continue with the director or deputy resuming from the corrected count. If the claimant's scoresheet is responsible for the wrong count, two minutes shall be added to the remaining unused time of the claimant's opponent. If the director/deputy count was wrong, there shall be no time adjustment.

f. The director may insert a clock with a move counter that shows the remaining time of both players, set the move counter to zero, and order play to resume. When the clock indicates that both sides have completed 50 further moves, either player may claim a draw. If this method is used, the director should inform the players that if a move

is erroneously not counted or double counted, the players should stop the clock and notify the director.

15D. Use of opponent's scoresheet for assistance.

A player who has an incomplete scoresheet (13C7) and wishes to consult the opponent's scoresheet for assistance may ask to borrow it from the opponent under the following conditions:

RATIONALE: Motion to amend **Rules 14C9 Claimant's scoresheet, 14F4 Director may count moves in sudden death and 15D Use of opponent's scoresheet for assistance.** This motion removes the parenthetical reference and link to **Rule 13C7 Definition of reasonably complete scoresheet.** Tournament directors often misinterpret the 13C7 reference to mean scoresheets used in a **14C Triple occurrence of position draw claim** or a **14F The 50-move rule draw claim** must meet the standard of a reasonably complete scoresheet. Scoresheets used for Rule 14C9 and Rule 13C7 should be judged by completely different standards: reasonably complete vs. adequate. Stating that Rule 13C7 applies to Rule 14C9 or 14F4 creates unintended situations.

ADM 23-21 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; TIM JUST, IL; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; RULES COMMITTEE)

Amend Rules 15B and 15C of the US Chess *Rules of Chess* as follows:

15B. Scorekeeping in time pressure, non-sudden death time control.

If either player has less than five minutes remaining in a non-sudden death time control and the time control includes less than 30 seconds of time increment or time delay, then ~~does not have additional time (increment) of 30 seconds or more added with each move;~~ both players are excused from the obligation to keep score until the end of the time control period. Doing so, however, may make it impossible to claim a draw by triple occurrence of position (14C) or the 50-move rule (14F) or a win on time forfeit (13C). When the time increment or time delay is 30 or more seconds, players must keep score through the end of the time control period. Scorekeeping by both players must resume with the start of the next time control period, and missing moves should be filled in (15F).

15C. Scorekeeping in time pressure, sudden death time control.

If either player has less than five minutes remaining in a sudden death time control and the time control includes less than 30 seconds of time increment or time delay then, ~~does not have additional time (increment) of 30 seconds or more added with each move;~~ both players are excused from the obligation to keep score for the remainder of the game. When the time increment or time delay is 30 or more seconds, players must keep score through the end of the game. A scoresheet is not required to win on time in a sudden death control (13C).

RATIONALE: Motion to amend **Rule 15B Scorekeeping in time pressure, non-sudden death time control and Rule 15C Scorekeeping in time pressure, sudden death time control.** This motion clarifies the requirement for players to keep score when a game is being played with 30 or more seconds of time increment or time delay.

ADM 23-22 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; TIM JUST, IL; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; RULES COMMITTEE)

Amend Rules 18G1, 20H, 20H1, and 20N of the US Chess *Rules of Chess* as follows:

18G1. Example of emergency.

An *emergency* situation could arise, for example, if a player with

substantial time remaining and a poor position disappears for more than 15 minutes or is present but shows little interest in considering the position. Such behavior is unsportsmanlike and the director is encouraged to adjudicate, possibly after a warning. **See also** 1C2, Director discretion; 20H, ~~Long Absence~~ during play; 21F, Player requests for rulings; and 21K, Use of director's power.

20H. ~~Long Absence~~ during play.

Players with games in progress should not leave the playing room for more than 15 minutes without permission ~~from~~ **of** the director. A first offense usually does not warrant a forfeit unless there is additional evidence suggesting a further rules violation during the absence. **For further information** see 18G1, Example of emergency.

Players are not allowed to leave the playing venue without the permission of the director. The playing venue is defined as the playing area, restrooms, refreshment and smoking area, adjacent hallways and other areas as designated by the director. For further information see 18G1, Example of emergency.

20H1. Quitting without resigning.

It is rude and unsportsmanlike to abandon a lost position without resigning. Any player with a bad position who is absent without permission for over 15 minutes risks having the game adjudicated. **See also** 18G1, Example of emergency and 20H, ~~Long Absence~~ during play.

20N. Electronic communication devices.

~~Players are not allowed to leave the playing venue without permission from the arbiter. The playing venue is defined as the playing area, restrooms, refreshment and smoking area, adjacent hallways and other places as designated by the arbiter/TD.~~

Without the permission of the ~~director arbiter/TD~~ a player is forbidden to have a mobile phone or other electronic means of communication in the playing venue, unless they are completely switched off.

RATIONALE: Motion to amend **Rule 20H Long absence during play** and **Rule 20N Electronic communication devices** and to amend other affected rules. This motion moves the first paragraph of rule 20N to be the second paragraph of rule 20H. A player with a game in progress who leaves the playing venue without the permission of the director has nothing to do with electronic communication devices. This motion also changes Long absence to Absence to avoid confusion as to long is the same as 15 minutes and keeps the terminology consistent.

ADM 23-23 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; TIM JUST, IL; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; RULES COMMITTEE)

Amend Rules 20D, 28M1, 35B and 36 of the US Chess *Rules of Chess* as follows:

20D. Use of additional chessboard or computer prohibited.

A player who analyzes a game in progress on another chessboard or consults a computer about the position is guilty of a serious violation of the rules. Though the director still has discretion, the usual penalty is loss of the game. **See also** 1C2, Director discretion; 21K, Use of director's power; and 36H, Consultation.

28M1. The house player.

Sometimes a spectator will agree to play a game against a player who

would otherwise expect a bye. It is desirable that this spectator has a rating approximately within the range of the lowest score group, but this is not required. The player is voluntarily giving up a free point to play, so no one can legitimately claim the opponent is too weak.

Sometimes the player would rather play an unusually strong opponent than receive a bye. This also is acceptable, but if the strong opponent is rated too high for the section, the director may consider retaining the original bye and listing both players for a rated game in a higher section or an *extra rated games* section. **See also** 28M4, Extra rated games.

If a permanent house player is available, this is the best solution. Such a player is paired normally whenever there is an odd number, not paired when there is an even number, and may even receive half-point byes if the tournament allows them.

It is not required that a house player be paired against the player who would otherwise receive the bye. Sometimes it is more appropriate to insert a relatively strong house player into a higher score group. In this case, neither the player paired against the house player nor the one who otherwise would have received the bye has the right to refuse to play.

~~A US Chess-rated commercially available computer may be used as a house player only if computer participation for the tournament was advertised in advance (36C).~~

Usually, a player whose full-point bye is replaced by a temporary house player should be assigned no additional full-point byes in the tournament. An exception may be appropriate if the house player was strong and the player is competing for a class prize against others who have received full-point byes.

35B. Equality of treatment.

Players with temporary or permanent disabilities that prevent them from fulfilling certain conditions of the *Official Rules of Chess* shall have special consideration in meeting those rules. Their opponents shall be offered the same, or equivalent in the judgment of the TD, consideration. The tournament director is responsible for seeing that both opponents know about and understand any special rules for that particular game. No player may refuse to play a disabled or assisted human opponent. ~~For rules regarding computers see 36, Rules and Regulations For Computer Participants.~~ For Internet rules regarding disabled players see **Rule 14. Players with Disabilities (Chapter 10)**.

36. Rules and Regulations for Computer Participants

36A. Membership:

~~The originator or the legal owner of a computer program may register the computer program as a member of US Chess. The dues for computers are the same as for regular members. The rights of computer members are: the right to play in US Chess-rated tournaments, subject to possible restrictions; the right to acquire an official US Chess rating; and a subscription to Chess Life magazine. Specific identification and registration procedures shall be determined administratively.~~

36B. Purchase of membership:

~~Computer program owners may purchase memberships only directly from US Chess office. Owners are required to sign a statement agreeing to specific rules. The memberships are available only for experimental programs, and owners are required to sign a noncommercial-use agreement.~~

36C. Computer participation must be advertised in advance.

Computers may not participate in rated tournaments unless that participation is prominently advertised in all pre-tournament publicity. Tournament announcements in Chess Life must specify that computers are eligible to participate by using the symbol "C" for computer participation. If this symbol does not appear, computers may not enter. Entries must be arranged in advance with the director's or organizer's consent.

36D. Player may not object.

A player may not object to being paired against a chess-playing computer program in a tournament that advertised computer participation.

TD TIP: Because computer participation must be advertised in advance, players will know before they decide to enter a tournament that there is a possibility that they will be paired against a computer program; therefore, by entering the event they have given their implied consent to being paired against any possible computer program. It would be wise to post this at the site and to give players an opportunity to withdraw from the event if they do not wish to give their consent to such a pairing.

36E. Computer vs. computer.

Computers shall not be paired against each other unless the event is for computers only.

36F. Prize eligibility.

Computers may win only prizes specifically designated for them. Other prizes shall be distributed as though computers were not entered.

36G. Commercial computers.

Commercially available computers and computer programs may acquire ratings only through US Chess's Computer Rating Agency. Interested manufacturers should write to US Chess for details.

36H. Consultation.

Players who consult a computer for advice about their games shall be subject to the same penalties that would be imposed for asking advice from another person. *See also 20D, Use of additional chessboard or computer prohibited.*

36I. Rules for play involving computers.

Following are rules for US Chess-rated tournaments in which one player is a computer. In matters not governed by these rules, play is governed by applicable human rules, as interpreted by the director. In the following, the term *computer* refers to a chess program running on a computer. The term *opponent* refers to the computer's opponent. The term *operator* refers to the person running the computer.

36I1. Parameter settings.

Before play begins, the operator shall do all initial setting up of the computer. At that time, the operator may freely specify any operating parameters, such as rate of play, suggested openings, value of a draw, etc. After play begins, the role of the operator is passive. During the game, the operator is not allowed to alter any parameter settings that might affect the course of the game.

36I2. Communication of moves.

During play, the operator is to communicate the opponent's moves to the computer.

36I3. Execution of moves.

The operator is to execute the computer's specified move on the chessboard. Touch rules do not apply to the operator, but excessive handling of pieces may violate other rules, such as those against distracting the opponent. A piece shall be deemed touched by the computer when a move involving that piece has been communicated by the program to its output device, except that displays of moves it is considering shall not be considered communication of a move. A move for the computer shall be deemed completed when the operator, in accordance with normal rules, has executed it on the board.

36I4. The clock.

After the computer's move is executed, the operator is to start the opponent's clock.

36I5. Reconciliation of positions.

If different positions should arise on the playing chessboard and the computer's representation of same, such difference shall be corrected with the assistance of the director. The director may choose either to accept the playing chessboard as official or retrace the moves to the point of departure. If the director chooses to back up the game, then clocks shall be adjusted accordingly. The director shall penalize the computer if the score indicates that the computer or its operator has caused the discrepancy of position.

36I6. Resetting the computer.

If the computer is unable to accept a legal move because of discrepancies, communication trouble, or computer trouble, then the operator may reset the current board position and status on the computer, along with clock times. Other parameters set must be the same as those in effect at the start of the game. The clocks are not stopped during the resetting of the computer nor for any other "down time" (time when the computer is unable to function despite the efforts of its operator).

36I7. Clock times.

There shall be a clock at the chessboard whether or not there is an internal clock in the computer. The operator and the opponent shall use the external clock, which shall be the official timer for the game.

The operator may communicate the clock times to the computer only if the computer initiates the request.

36I8. Memory-unit exchange.

The operator may change or insert memory units when the computer requests this and identifies the unit to be inserted, by description or by generating a coded signal or message with a single, predetermined meaning. Diskettes, disk cartridges, tapes, ROM cartridges ("program modules" in commercial machines), and the like are all considered equivalent forms of memory units.

36I9. Draw offers and resignation.

The operator may offer a draw, accept a draw, or resign on behalf of the computer, either with or without consulting the computer or humans of any playing strength about the decision. Humans so consulted should be

disinterested as to the result of the game.

36I10. Time forfeits.

The operator may claim a win on time (13G) if the opponent has exceeded the time limit.

36I11. Adjournments.

The operator shall carry out the necessary adjournment formalities.

36I12. Score.

The operator and/or the computer must keep a score of the game.

36I13. FIDE warning.

An event with a non-FIDE registered computer cannot be FIDE-rated even for humans who are not paired against the computer.

RATIONALE: Motion to remove **Rule 36 Rules and Regulations for Computer Participants** from the US Chess *Rules of Chess* and to amend other affected rules. This motion deletes Rule 36 and all paragraphs including 36A through 36I13. US Chess should only rate games played by humans paired to play other humans, not humans vs. computers or computers vs. computers.

ADM 23-24 (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 for all Executive Board elections, except for the secret ballot vote described in this paragraph 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, and the voting procedures shall comply with the applicable laws of US Chess' state of incorporation.~~ 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. 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.

A 2023 legal review added the two clauses in bold and was fine with the proposed changed language.

ADM 23-25 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; DAN ROHDE, NY; SOPHIA ROHDE, NY)

Acknowledgement Of Tournament Directors As Other TDs On US Chess Rating Report

The Chief Tournament Director is permitted to list non-FIDE-certified US Chess TDs as "Other TDs" in the global portion of the US Chess Tournament Rating Report on MSA, for tournaments with FIDE-rated sections, as long as those TDs do not make any rulings in any FIDE-rated games. The Chief Tournament Director shall attest to this if requested by a US Chess official.

RATIONALE: The US Chess status quo is unfair to US Chess TDs who are being denied any acknowledgement in US Chess records for TDs who work in tournaments with FIDE-rated and non-FIDE sections and who are only directing or assisting in non-FIDE-rated sections.

A specific example of this occurred at the New York State Girls Championship last November. This tournament had eight main sections: one FIDE-rated and seven non-FIDE-rated sections. One of our aspiring TDs worked at Chess Control in the building where the games in the lower grades were being played. She did a fantastic job, and she should be acknowledged on the rating report. Unfortunately, there was only room on the rating report for the floor TDs and Section and Assistant Section Chiefs for those grades, in the non-FIDE-rated sections and it would not be right to exclude those TDs from receiving proper credit for their work either.

Instead, the place to acknowledge her work would be in the Other TDs section of the overall rating report, with the understanding that she was not involved in the one section of the tournament which was FIDE rated (which was played in a separate building).

The argument that listing a non-FIDE-certified Arbiter as an "Other TD" on the US Chess Rating Report (**not** the FIDE Rating Report, but the US Chess Rating Report) will somehow mislead FIDE into assuming that unlicensed arbiters were making rulings in FIDE-rated sections, is not supported by such claims from FIDE. The "Other TDs" listed on the rating report do not purport to refer to the FIDE-rated section(s), and the US Chess Rating Report already lists unlicensed arbiters as Tournament Directors in non-FIDE-rated sections of tournaments anyway.

Furthermore, the Chief TD of a FIDE-rated tournament would be able to attest to US Chess, if necessary, that no unlicensed arbiters made rulings in FIDE-rated sections. To further emphasize this and to avoid possible misinterpretations, under the listing of “Other TDs” in the global portion of the US Chess Rating Report, it could also state that US Chess does not permit non-licensed arbiters to make rulings in FIDE-rated events.

Continuing to deprive US Chess TDs of any official recognition for their work, when they have done nothing wrong and have not violated any rules, is inconsistent with the US Chess Mission of empowering people through Chess.

ADM 23-26 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; DAN ROHDE, NY)

Crediting US Chess TDs Who Work At Chess Control

In an effort to expand the opportunities for advancement in the ranks of US Chess tournament directing, the Delegates support the principle of adding the category of working at Chess Control as source of gaining tournament experience credit for Assistant TDs. The category of Chess Control should specifically be added to the current options of Backroom TD and Floor TD on the US Chess rating report.

RATIONALE: Chess Control is usually the place where players can go to learn important details about the tournament. Especially in scholastic tournaments when the players are busy with their games, parents and coaches use Chess Control as a resource for important information. Directing at Chess Control is a **very** challenging job, especially in a large tournament with many sections. In some cases it's one of the hardest positions to run. To fulfill the myriad responsibilities successfully, a TD needs to be knowledgeable about different rules and when they do and don't apply (which often depend on the specific section), and it's necessary to pay careful attention to detail. TDs working at Chess Control also must be prepared to answer a wide range of questions, ranging from how to set a plethora of different types of clocks, different time controls, rules and restrictions on byes, how tiebreaks work (and when they don't apply), how prizes are distributed, etc. And they need to be able to interact with a very diverse group of people, many of whom are very inexperienced with US Chess rated tournaments.

A TD who works hard and does a good job at Chess Control should be able to receive official credit for this. This encourages more TDs to advance through the ranks, and is consistent with the US Chess mission of empowering people through chess.

ADM 23-27 (STEVE IMMITT, NY)

Working Towards Reducing The Creation Of Multiple US Chess IDs For The Same Individual

The Delegates request that the Executive Board establish a working group, comprised of individuals with experience in reviewing and submitting US Chess memberships, to work with the website development team, for the purpose of recommending procedures which will avoid creating multiple IDs for the same person, while also respecting the privacy concerns of US Chess members.

RATIONALE: Creating multiple US Chess IDs for the same person not only distorts and unnecessarily complicates the organization's records, it also is a serious problem which degrades the accuracy of our rating system. When the same player has multiple ratings and independent rating histories under the same rating system, the value and predictive ability of those individual ratings is corrupted, because each independent history excludes important tournament data from the other(s).

A method of checking for a player's possible previous or current US

Chess ID number needs to be developed when the membership is submitted online, before the membership is accepted as a genuinely new and unrated player, rather than a player with an existing rating history. The previous membership batch processing system would flag a new membership submission if it appeared to be a duplicate membership of an already existing membership in the database with the same or a similar name.

Our new membership batch processing system needs to develop and have put in place a similar capability, while also protecting members' privacy.

Our rating system is one of US Chess's greatest assets. Its significant and long-standing value to our members is precisely because of the reliability of its data. It is incumbent upon us to protect the integrity of our ratings by preventing the bad data from multiple IDs and rating histories from entering the database.

ADM 23-28 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT)

Amend Bylaws Article V Section 1, as follows:

“Section 1. Responsibility. In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, US Chess shall be governed by the Board of Delegates, whose powers and authority are declared in the Articles of Incorporation.”

Or, in the alternative, a precise restatement of the Articles of Incorporation, as follows:

“Responsibility. Pursuant to 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 US Chess Official Rules of Chess, approve the sale, exchange or other transfer of real estate owned by US Chess, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by US Chess, approve the annual budget, establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of US Chess.”

Current Article V Section 1:

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.

RATIONALE: This section of the Articles of Incorporation is inaccurately restated in the Bylaws and is thus misleading and invalid. The section may either refer to the Articles of Incorporation or, in the alternative, restate it verbatim.

ADM 23-29 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT)

Amend Bylaws, Article V to add as follows: “Section 10. Other than as prescribed elsewhere in these Bylaws and in the Articles of Incorporation, the Delegates may legislate by a majority vote of the members present.”

RATIONALE: The voting requirement for passing legislation is not stated in the Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation.

ADM 23-30 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT; JAMES EADE, CA-N)

Remove the “adjacent state” requirement under Bylaws Article V Section 5(B), specifically the language “providing the persons added at that time reside in the state being represented or in a state adjacent to it.”

RATIONALE: This provision treats states and members unequally, depending on their number of neighboring states and those states Delegate seats.

ADM 23-31 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT; JAMES EADE, CA-N)

Establish a Standing Legislative Committee to assist the Board of Delegates in the performance of its legislative duties as established in the Article of Incorporation, including, but not limited to, assisting Delegates in reviewing the effectiveness of legislation, preparing background reports and information for legislative consideration and evaluation, drafting and supporting the drafting of policy and legislative acts, standardizing and codifying legislation, maintaining record of legislation and keeping legislation current and accessible to the Delegates.

RATIONALE: The Articles of Incorporation designate the Board of Delegates as the legislative and authoritative body of US Chess. However, the Delegates do not have a committee that focuses specifically on its legislative functions and provides support for its legislative duties and responsibilities. This committee is required by our Article of Incorporation as part of the Delegates’ governance function.

ADM 23-32 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT)

Establish a Standing Article VIII Committee to assist the Board of Delegates in its Article VIII responsibilities, including developing and maintaining policies affecting the relationship between US Chess and State Chapters, US Chess and Affiliates, and State Chapters and Affiliates.

RATIONALE: Pursuant to Article VIII, as well as Article III, the relationship and policies between US Chess and Affiliates, including State Chapters, is under the authority and responsibility of the Board of Delegates. This committee is needed to fulfill the Delegates duties and responsibilities in this area, which has long been neglected.

ADM 23-33 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT)

Allocate or otherwise amend the US Chess Budget to allocate \$200,000, just \$2 per member, to be distributed to each State Chapter on or before December 1 in proportion to their US Chess membership for the purpose of (1) developing new state and local chess programs, (2) assisting or expanding existing programs and (3) performing State Chapter services and activities as established by the Board of Delegates. Each Chapter accepting to receive such funding will file an accounting with US Chess on or before May 16 of the following year, to exhibit that funds were used for the designated purpose. Any unused or unclaimed funding shall be added to the State Chapters allocation for the subsequent year. To receive funds, State Chapters must be in compliance with Article VIII and associated legislation and not subject of Article III Section 12 proceedings.

RATIONALE: State Chapters that perform and maintain state and local chess communities and activities should be supported by US Chess, creating a virtuous cycle through this reinvestment, growing state and local chess communities and in turn expanding and increasing its membership and influence.

ADM 23-34 (ALEXANDER LUMELSKY, CT)

Adopt the following Proposed US Chess Committee Members Bill of Rights.

PROPOSED US CHESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS BILL OF RIGHTS

1) All Committees must adopt and from time to time revise a committee Charter to guide its Members. The Charter should at least state the authority of the committee, the purpose of the committee, the duties and responsibilities of its members, how and when committee leadership is selected, and any procedures and documents committee members should know to participate on the committee.

RATIONALE: Committee Members must at least know the purpose of the established Committee and their duties and responsibilities thereon.

2) The Committee Chair(s) or other selecting authority shall publish to the Delegates and the current and future committee members, no later than 3 p.m. on Friday ahead of the Annual Meeting, the list of proposed committee members for subsequent year.

RATIONALE: Committee Members should at all times be aware of the composition of their committee and the status of their position on the Committee. Removing or adding Members without notice is inappropriate.

3) Committee Members are volunteers and, as such, are entitled to be treated with courtesy and respect by the selecting authority and fellow committee members.

RATIONALE: A degree of proper conduct should be stated and maintained.

4) Committee Members are entitled to at least one group video conference or in person meeting with the entire committee per year.

RATIONALE: Committee Members should see each other and meet together “in person” at least once per year.

5) Committee Members are entitled to each other’s contact information and that of their Chair(s) or other selecting authority.

RATIONALE: Committee Members should have access to communication with one another and their supervisors.

6) Committee Members may not serve in excess of eight (8) consecutive years on any Committee. Committee Chair(s) may not serve in excess of two (2) consecutive years as Chair on any Committee. No Committee Member may serve on more than two (2) committees at one time.

RATIONALE: Committee services is not a lifetime appointment, and for the benefit of US Chess as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that must constantly adjust and change with the times, committees should take advantage of new opinions, new ideas and new active participants. The perpetual repetition of the same committee leadership and membership is a detriment to any committee and to US Chess as a whole, resulting in the eternal persistence of the status quo, as well as the decline of committee usefulness.

ADM 23-35 (CALEB BROWN, TX)

Move that Article IX, Section 18 of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

Section 18. Modification of the Official Rules of Chess. A change of U.S. Chess Federation’s Official 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 **if a separate motion to that effect is approved by 85% of**

Delegates present.

RATIONALE: It may sometimes occur that some Delegates may want to support a rule change or a waiver of the waiting period but not both. Yet, this desire cannot be fulfilled at present because both questions are considered in one vote. This simple amendment would resolve this problem by splitting the question into two votes: (1) Yea or nay on the rule change; and; (2) If it passes, a vote on whether to waive the one year wait or not. To give yourself more flexibility and choice when voting on rule changes, vote yes.

ADM 23-36 (CALEB BROWN, TX)

Move that Article V, Section 9 of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

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. **The Membership Meeting may also elect a number of Additional Delegates for the same term from persons who are present and are presently serving as Alternate Delegates or Additional Alternate Delegates; provided that the number so elected shall not exceed the number of Delegate seats unfilled at the close of the day before the Membership Meeting.**

RATIONALE: It is inevitable that, as Delegate seats are apportioned among the states, some states will have more people interested in delegate service than their allocation while others will have fewer people than their allocation. For instance, as of May 16, 17 states had not fully exhausted their allocation (leading to 22 unfilled Delegate seats) while 23 states exceeded their allocation (leading to 42 Alternate Delegates and Additional Alternate Delegates who are not filling otherwise vacant Delegate seats). As a result, even though there are unfilled seats and people to fill them, they will likely go unfilled.

The solution to this problem is to provide Alternate Delegates and Additional Alternate Delegates with the opportunity to be elected as Additional Delegates at the Membership Meeting. Fixing this problem would provide at least three benefits: (1) With fewer unfilled seats, the risk of lacking a quorum would be reduced; (2) With more people participating in the Delegate experience, a greater body of Delegate experience and future leaders would be developed; and; (3) Due to a greater level of participation in Delegate meetings, a larger body of knowledge would inform decisions and more new ideas would be brought to the table. To unlock all of these benefits for US Chess, vote yes.

ADM 23-37 (CALEB BROWN, TX)

Move that Article V, Section 7 of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

Section 7. Special Delegates Meetings. Special Delegates Meetings can be called by the President, or by more than half the members of the Executive Board, **or one third of all Delegates.** 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. **If the meeting is called by Delegates, the advance agenda shall also include such items as may be specified by one-third of all Delegates.**

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.

RATIONALE: It is a customary matter of good governance that a deliberative body can call itself into special session when necessary. Even the voting members of a number of our state chapters have that right. Yet, in a seemingly accidental omission, the Board of Delegates lacks that capacity.

It is important that the Delegates themselves, in addition to the President and Executive Board, have the flexibility to call a special meeting if needed. Who knows what might happen in our uncertain world. Maybe a nuclear attack or some other dark deed wipes out the whole Executive Board and the only way that the organization could be reconstituted is through the remnants of the state chapters. Maybe, far in the future, an Executive Board unknown to us lacks the will to call a special meeting to address urgent business that cannot wait for the annual meeting. Anything could happen and it will most likely strike without warning.

Even if this capability is not needed very often, there may come a time in the future when it is critical that the Delegates have a speedy, unambiguous, and undisputed way of calling themselves into special session. At no immediate cost, your vote can secure for US Chess a critical safeguard in case the worst happens.

ADM 23-38 (CALEB BROWN, TX)

Move that the Rules 11A and 11B of the *Official Rules of Chess* be amended to read as follows:

11A. Illegal move during last ten three moves.

If, during a game, it is found that one of either player's last **ten three** moves was illegal and neither player is in time pressure (11D1), the position shall be reinstated to what it was before the illegal move. The players do not recover the time used after the illegal move. The game shall then continue by applying Rule 10, The Touched Piece, to the move replacing the illegal move. If the position cannot be reinstated, then the illegal move shall stand. Move counters on clocks that have them may be readjusted.

11B. Illegal move prior to last ten three moves.

If it is found that an illegal move was made prior to each player's last **ten three** moves, the illegal move shall stand and the game shall continue.

RATIONALE: Under today's rules, if a player accuses his opponent of making an illegal move, the tournament director can be required to playback the game as many as ten moves to test the veracity of this claim. Yet, tournament directors do not have an unlimited supply of time. Not only does this distract directors from their other duties, but it also has the potential to delay the start of the next round. There is also the risk that a player might intentionally make an illegal move, or fail to call it out, in the hopes of cancelling out a bad move in the future. This last risk is all the greater with longer lookback periods.

If passed, this motion would reduce the statute of limitations on correcting illegal moves from ten to three moves. To save the valuable time of tournament directors, make the embarrassing possibility of a delayed round less likely and reduce the temptation for cheating, vote yes.

ADM 23-39 (CALEB BROWN, TX)

Move that the Board of Delegates requests that the Executive Board appoint a standing committee for the study of memberships, including the promotion, dues, and benefits thereof. Said committee should be known as the Membership Committee.

RATIONALE: US Chess has nearly thirty committees, according to the official committee list. Some of them are entrusted with a sweeping jurisdiction, such as the Bylaws and Scholastic Committees, while others are assigned a narrower role, such as the U.S. Open and Top Players Committees. Yet, despite there being so many committees, one critical subject lacks a committee of its own: US Chess Memberships. This is odd considering that memberships represent the largest source of revenue for US Chess and directly connect the organization with more than a hundred thousand chess enthusiasts. In light of the importance of the subject matter and considering that committees have been created for other subjects of lesser significance, it follows that a Membership Committee should be formed without dither or delay.

ADM 23-40 (JOHN FERNANDEZ, MO; RANDY BAUER, IA; DAVID DAY, UT; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; KEVIN PRYOR, FL; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

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 5,000 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.

Add the following at the end of Article VIII ("Organizational Units"), **Section 1:**

Subject to approval by the US Chess Executive Director, affiliates may choose how they are named, with the exception that the name of the form "[State Name] Chess Association" or "[State Name] Chess Federation" is restricted only to the designated State Chapter for that particular state. The phrase "[State Name]" includes the state's full name, any abbreviations, or commonly understood nicknames.

ADM 23-41 (DAVID DAY, UT; RANDY BAUER, IA; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

The Bylaws and Elections Committees are directed to revise Section 11 of Article VI of the Bylaws to allow candidates nominated for election to submit statements and photographs that will be published on the US Chess website with a reference to the webpage in *Chess Life*.

RATIONALE: Several pages in *Chess Life* are currently devoted to candidate statements and that space could be freed up to be used for other purposes. Only a portion of the electorate receives *Chess Life* in

printed form. Moving candidate statements online will benefit the voters, the candidates, and the publications department.

ADM 23-42 (DAVID DAY, UT; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

The Executive Board will appoint a task force to create a policies and procedures document and will revise and update the existing DACI as part of that document. The task force will make recommendations to the Executive Board who will then make recommendations to the Delegates at a future meeting. The Bylaws committee will review the other proposed revisions to the Bylaws contained in ADM 22-26 and make a recommendation regarding the same, such recommendation to be consistent with the advice received from legal counsel.

The background here is that our compliance report on ADM 22-26 will be substantially as follows:

This proposal to amend Article VII of the Bylaws was referred to the Executive Board for legal review. Among other things, the proposed amendment inserts a re-written portion of DACI 1991-27, State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations, directly into the Bylaws. Legal counsel reviewed the proposed amendment and opined that the DACI language is not typically included in bylaws and suggested that the language be contained in some type of policies and procedures governance instrument rather than the bylaws. Counsel also suggested that including the amount of the affiliate fee in the bylaws is also likely cumbersome since fee amounts can typically be changed without requiring a bylaw amendment. The Executive Board will present a motion at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

ADM 23-43 (RANDY BAUER, IA; DAVID DAY, UT; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

Amend Article IX: Sundry Bylaws as follows:

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 2/3** 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 3/4** majority vote to pass.

ADM 23-44 (RANDY BAUER, IA; DAVID DAY, UT; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

Revise Article III: Membership. 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. **This membership includes a printed copy of Chess Life.**

RATIONALE: Special Memberships were created to provide consideration to members who may have difficulty accessing the benefits of US Chess membership. Prison members do not have routine access to digital resources, thus, missing an important benefit of members, *Chess Life* magazine.

ADM 23-45 (DAVID DAY, UT; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA)

Replace US Chess Bylaw Article VI, Section 2, Subsection E with the following text:

Has not been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or other crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment 1) involving violence, abuse of a minor or other vulnerable individual, fraud, embezzlement, dishonesty, misrepresentation, illicit trafficking, child pornography, or involuntary servitude, or 2) within the last 15

years. Any felony conviction must be disclosed during the candidate vetting process and in a candidate statement published by US Chess.

ADM 23-46 (FRANK VOGEL, RI)

The Delegates vote that the Southeast New England Chess Association (SENECA) will be and remain the official US Chess State Chapter of record for the State of Rhode Island going forward.

RATIONALE: A Rhode Island State Chapter challenge was submitted on February 28, 2023, by a competing organization (Ocean State Chess Association). SENECA has submitted its State Chapter credentials to the US Chess office in response to this challenge under the procedures governing State Chapter challenges. As demonstrated in SENECA's submitted credentials, SENECA has consistently satisfied the

requirements for a State Chapter and remains committed to fulfilling its obligations as the Rhode Island State Chapter going forward. SENECA accordingly should remain the Rhode Island State Chapter via a confirmatory vote of approval by the Delegates.

PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

**as needed*

INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

NOTES

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

MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2022-2023

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

MOTION #	SPONSOR	DATE/ METHOD	SUBJECT	DISPOSITION
EB23-001	Fernandez	08/07/22 M	Section 1.2 of Invitationals Requirements	PASSED 6-0
EB23-002	Fernandez	08/07/22 M	Amend motion EB22-044	PASSED 6-0
EB23-003	Fernandez	08/07/22 M	Create Chess in Education Committee	PASSED 6-0
EB23-004	Board	08/07/22 M	Nominating Committee appointments	PASSED 6-0
EB23-005	Hoffpauir	08/07/22 M	President named	PASSED 6-0
EB23-006	Bauer	08/07/22 M	Vice President of Finance named	PASSED 6-0
EB23-007	Bauer	08/07/22 M	Secretary named	PASSED 6-0
EB23-008	Unruh	08/09/22 I	Vice President named	PASSED 8-0
EB23-009	Bauer	08/09/22 I	Committee appointments	PASSED 8-0
EB23-010	Bauer	08/09/22 I	Thanks to representatives at FIDE General Assembly	PASSED 7-0-1
EB23-011	Board	08/09/22 I	Authorizing a Bank of America account	PASSED 8-0
EB23-012	Fernandez	08/10-16/22 E	Invitational Rules Update	PASSED 8-0
EB23-013	Board	08/18-22/22 E	Committee Assignments	PASSED 8-0
EB23-014	Board	08/19-22/22 E	Appoint FIDE Delegate	PASSED 8-0
EB23-015	Fong	09/13/22 I	Approve August 4, 2022 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB23-016	Fong	09/13/22 I	Approve August 7, 2022 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB23-017	Fong	09/13/22 I	Approve August 9, 2022 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB23-018	Fernandez	09/13/22 I	Chess in Education Committee Charter	PASSED 8-0
EB23-019	Board	09/13/22 I	U.S. Senior Women's Championship	PASSED 8-0
EB23-020	Fong	10/11/22 I	Approve September 13, 2022 Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB23-021	Hoffpauir	10/11/22 I	ChessNoteR Letter of Certification	PASSED 8-0
EB23-022	Board	10/11/22 I	Create task force for hybrid delegates meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB23-023	Board	10/11/22 I	Legal services contract	PASSED 8-0

EB23-024	Board	10/11/22 I	Appointing Chess in Education members	PASSED 8-0
EB23-025	Board	10/11/22 I	Activity requirements for Top 100 lists	PASSED 8-0
EB23-026	Board	10/20-11/2/22 E	Scholastic Committee/Council Charter	PASSED 8-0
EB23-027	Fong	11/08/22 I	Approve October 11, 2022 Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB23-028	Board	11/08/22 I	FIDE hybrid events	PASSED 8-0
EB23-029	Bauer	12/03/22 M	Approve November Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB23-030	Board	12/04/22 M	FIDE Delegate appointed	PASSED 8-0
EB23-031	Board	12/04/22 M	2026 K-12 Contract	PASSED 8-0
EB23-032	Board	12/04/22 M	Hosting and Maintenance Agreement	PASSED 8-0
EB23-033	Fong	01/10/23 I	December 2022 Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB23-034	Board	01/10/23 E	Nominations to U.S. Chess Hall of Fame	PASSED 8-0
EB23-035	Board	01/11/23 E	Appoint EFT Members for terms expiring Jan. 2023	PASSED 8-0
EB23-036	Board	01/23/23 E	Baltimore Convention Center Contracts for 2024 HS and 2026 ES	PASSED 8-0
EB23-037	Fernandez	02/14/23 I	January 2023 Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB23-038	Day	02/14/23 I	Adoption of Denker Invitational rules	PASSED 8-0
EB23-039	Board	02/23/23 E	Approve 2025 U.S. Open Contract (Madison, WI)	PASSED 8-0
EB23-040	Fong	03/14/23 I	Approve the February 2023 Minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB23-041	Board	03/14/23 I	Contract with APCO International	PASSED 8-0
EB23-042	Day	03/14/23 I	Uphold Thomas Connelly's suspensions	PASSED 8-0
EB23-043	Fong	04/11/23 I	Accept March 2023 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB23-044	Board	04/11/23 I	Increase PPHB grant by \$5,000 to IM Jay Bonin	PASSED 8-0
EB23-045	Board	04/16/23 M	Hater v. Valderrama	PASSED 7-0-1
EB23-046	Board	04/16/23 M	Authorization to the Executive Director re: APCO	PASSED 8-0
EB23-047	Board	04/16/23 M	Authorization to the Executive Director re: bank accounts	PASSED 8-0
EB23-048	Board	04/25/23 E	Approve Carpeting & Tables Contract: 2023 Elementary National	PASSED 8-0
EB23-049	Fong	05/09/23 I	Approve the April 2023 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB23-050	Board	05/09/23 I	Lifting of suspensions	PASSED 8-0
EB23-051	Board	05/09/23 I	Alejandro Ramirez's permanent ban	PASSED 8-0
EB23-052	Board	05/09/23 I	FIDE rated hybrid events	PASSED 8-0
EB23-053	Board	05/09/23 I	Approval of contract with Hargrove	PASSED 8-0
EB23-054	Board	05/09/23 I	Approval of contract with Courtyard Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI	PASSED 8-0

FOR THE MOST CURRENT VERSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS IN FY 2022-2023 WITH APPENDICES, VISIT <https://new.uschess.org/2022-2023-executive-board-documents>

The first meeting of the 2022-2023 US Chess Executive Board took place on August 7, 2022, at the U.S. Open in Rancho Mirage, California.

EB23-001 – FERNANDEZ

I move to amend section 1.2 of the Scholastic National Invitational Event and Award Requirements as follows:

1.2. The winner of the preceding U.S. Junior Open and the winner of the preceding Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions shall be directly seeded, if still eligible by age. Only players who finish clear first or tied for first are eligible for seeding. Should no player who was tied for first be both eligible and available, the spot will be replaced by the next player in the rating list as per 1.1.1. **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-002 – FERNANDEZ

I move to amend motion EB22-044 from:

“RATIONALE for 5a: The annual U.S. Senior Open is now called the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions.”

to:

“RATIONALE for 5a: The annual U.S. Senior Open is being replaced by the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions as a U.S. Senior Championship qualifier.” **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-003 – FERNANDEZ

I move to create a Chess in Education committee. **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-004 – BOARD

Executive Board moves to appoint Hal Sprechman and Joy Bray to the Nominating Committee for a two-year term. **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-005 – HOFFPAUIR

I nominate Randy Bauer as President. **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-006 – BAUER

I nominate Chuck Unruh for Vice President of Finance. **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-007 – BAUER

I nominate Fun Fong for Secretary. **PASSED 6-0** (Chuck Unruh and David Hater absent and not voting)

EB23-008 – UNRUH

I move to nominate Kevin Pryor. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-009 – BAUER

The appointments as listed for committees for the 2022-2023 year are approved. **PASSED 8-0**

See Appendix A for the initial board committee assignments.

EB23-010 – BAUER

The Executive Board thanks David Hater, Michael Khodarkovsky, and

Allen Priest for their presence at and participation in the FIDE General Assembly in Chennai, India. **PASSED 7-0-1** with David Hater abstaining.

EB23-011 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the resolution to open a new operating bank account with Bank of America. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-012 – FERNANDEZ

I move to modify Section 2 of the Invitational Information as follows:

The following will be automatically seeded into the U.S. Championship, U.S. Women's Championship and U.S. Senior Championship:

1. Previous year's respective champions
2. U.S. Open Champion (for U.S. Championship)
3. U.S. Junior Champion (for U.S. Championship)
4. U.S. Junior Girl's Champion (for U.S. Women's Championship)
5. U.S. Senior Open Champion (for U.S. Senior Championship)
6. John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions Champion (for U.S. Senior Championship) — For the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Champions Champion to qualify for the U.S. Senior Championship, they must satisfy the above residency requirements and earn clear first or a tie for first. In the case of a tie, the playoff results or the tournament tiebreaks will be used. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The U.S. Senior Open was inadvertently removed in a previous update. The 2022 U.S. Senior Open Champion will be eligible to qualify for the U.S. Senior Championship alongside the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions Champion as long as they fulfill the other eligibility requirements.

EB23-013 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to add the following people to:

FIDE Events Committee: Chris Kim

Recognitions Committee: Jon Crumiller

Scholastic Committee: Dewain Barber

Senior Committee: Chris Kim, Robin Ramson, Harold Scott

PASSED 8-0

EB23-014 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to re-appoint Michael Khodarkovsky as the US Chess FIDE Delegate through December 31, 2022. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: Michael served as delegate to the recent FIDE General Assembly. With the continental association meeting this fall, we need his Delegate title to be current to allow his representation at the meeting.

EB23-015 – FONG

Motion to approve the August 4, 2022 Executive Board minutes. **PASSED 7-0** (Hater joined the meeting after the vote)

EB23-016 – FONG

Motion to approve the August 7, 2022 Executive Board minutes. **PASSED 7-0** (Hater joined the meeting after the vote)

EB23-017 – FONG

Motion to approve the August 9, 2022 Executive Board Minutes. **PASSED 7-0** (Hater joined the meeting after the vote)

EB23-018 – FERNANDEZ

I move that the Executive Board approve the Chess in Education Committee Charter as approved by the Chess in Education Committee in September. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-019 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to create a U.S. Senior Women's Championship envisioned as:

1. A Round Robin event.
2. Eligibility requirements will be determined by November 15th by the Director of National Events.
3. The event will be bid out.
4. The event is expected to commence in 2023 if a suitable bid is found. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-020 – FONG

Motion to approve the minutes of September 13, 2022. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-021 – HOFFPAUIR

I move that the Executive Board approve the Letter of Certification for the software upgrade made to the ChessNoteR electronic chess notation device produced by Black Mirror Studio. Board approval authorizes the President to sign the Letter of Certification. **PASSED 8-0**

See Appendix B for the document related to EB23-021.

EB23-022 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves 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. The Executive Board appoints the following members to that task force: John Fernandez (Chair), Mike Hoffpauir, Hal Terrie, John Rockefeller, Beatriz Marinello, and Dewain Barber. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-023 – HOFFPAUIR

The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Wagenmaker & Oberly LLC for legal services. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-024 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to modify the membership of the Chess in Education Committee to the following: Ranae Bartlett and John Galvin as co-chairs, Jeff Bulington, Ursula Byrd, Victor Flores, Gabrielle Moshier, Richard Pointer, Sophia Rohde, Abel Talamantez, Brian Tillis, Mark Indermaur, Christina Mullinax, Adam Porth, and Shaun Smith. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-025 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to restore activity requirements for player eligibility for Top 100 lists effective January 1, 2023. The activity requirement links to each rating category for which a player might qualify **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-026 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the revised Scholastic Committee/Council charter as shown in the motion's attachment. **PASSED 8-0**

See Appendix C for the document related to EB23-026

EB23-027 – FONG

Motion to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2022 meeting. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-028 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves that, effective November 9, 2022, any new FIDE hybrid events (e.g., online tournaments with Arbiters present at all playing locations) held under the jurisdiction of FIDE Zone 2.1 (USA) will not be registered with FIDE.

Further, any rating reports or title norms arising from such events shall not be submitted by US Chess to FIDE for rating and the games shall not be rated by US Chess except as online play.

For a hybrid-style event to be rated as online play by US Chess, all directors must be certified by US Chess.

Further, the Executive Board moves that the US Chess FIDE Events Committee and Rules Committee collaborate before the 2023 Delegates Meeting to develop an appropriate rule to cover this situation. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-029 – BAUER

Move to approve the November minutes. **PASSED 7-0** (Day joined the meeting after the vote)

EB23-030 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to re-appoint Michael Khodarkovsky as FIDE Delegate through December 31, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-031 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt the contract with the Rosen Shingle Creek for the 2026 K-12 Grade Nationals. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-032 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt the Hosting and Maintenance Agreement with Skvare. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-033 – FONG

Move to approve the December minutes. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-034 – BOARD

The Executive Board has received nominations to the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame from the Recognitions Committee and forwarded them to the Chess Trust. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-035 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to appoint Randy Bauer, Peter Dyson, and Mike Nietman to 6-year terms on the Endowment Fund Trust. Terms commence with passage of this motion. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The Endowment Fund Trust was created in January 2020 to provide oversight to the US Chess Endowment Fund. Three members' terms are expiring in January 2023. This motion reappoints 2 members (Dyson and Nietman) and appoints 1 new member (Bauer).

EB23-036 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt the contracts for the 2024 High School and 2026 Elementary School Championships at the Baltimore Convention Center.

The contracts have been reviewed and approved by US Chess counsel. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: Hotel contracts were signed years ago and the pandemic

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

stopped all conversations with the BCC, the playing venue for the 2024 and 2026 events. All staff points of contact changed in the ensuing years and as such, there was a delay getting things back on track.

EB23-037 – FERNANDEZ

Move to approve the January 2023 minutes. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-038 – DAY

I move that the Executive Board adopt the rules for the Denker Invitational in the form presented to the Board and that that same form be used to create the rules for the other invitational events. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-039 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the contract with the Marriott Madison West Hotel (Madison, Wisconsin) for the 2025 U.S. Open. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-040 – FONG

Proposed to accept the February 14, 2023 minutes as presented. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-041 – BOARD

The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a consulting contract with APCO International. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-042 – DAY

I make a motion that the Executive Board vote to uphold the membership suspension of Thomas Connelly that was recommended by the Ethics Committee. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-043 – FONG

Moved to accept the March 2023 minutes. **PASSED 7-0** (Fernandez joined the meeting after the vote)

EB23-044 – BOARD

The Executive Board approves the US Chess Professional Players Health and Benefits (PPHB) Claims Committee's recommendation to extend the PPHB grant by \$5,000 to IM Jay Bonin. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-045 – BOARD

The Executive Board has considered the recommendation of the Ethics Committee in the case of Hater v. Valderrama. The Executive Board upholds the decision of the Ethics Committee for a 5-year suspension. Further, the Executive Board pursuant to Section Article III, Section 11 of the Bylaws votes to revoke the membership of Daniel Solorio Valderrama (US Chess ID 16229362). **PASSED 7-0-1** with David Hater abstaining.

EB23-046 – BOARD

The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to further engage APCO at her discretion up to a limit of \$25,000. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-047 – BOARD

The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to open accounts with U.S. Bank and to close all accounts at One Bank of Tennessee. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-048 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the carpeting & extra tables contract for the 2023 Elementary National Championship in Baltimore, Maryland. **PASSED 8-0**

RATIONALE: The convention center is partially carpeted, with additional carpet needed for the playing hall. Visit Baltimore has offered an offset for much of this cost. Additional tables might be necessary as well given the expected large increase in attendance at this event.

EB23-049 – FONG

I move the adoption of the April 2023 minutes **PASSED 7-0** (Pryor joined the meeting after the vote)

EB23-050 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves that suspensions be lifted on all expired member records without a suspended 'til date. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-051 – BOARD

The US Chess Executive Boards moves to ratify the resignation of GM Alejandro Ramirez from the US Chess Federation as communicated on March 10, 2023. Further, the Executive Board moves to permanently ban GM Ramirez from being a US Chess member. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-052 – BOARD

Effective immediately: any FIDE rated hybrid event registered does not have the endorsement of the National Federation Zonal 2.1 USA to be used as a playing venue. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-053 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the contract with Hargrove for tables at the 2023 National Elementary. **PASSED 8-0**

EB23-054 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the contract with the Courtyard Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan for additional hotel rooms for the 2023 U.S. Open. **PASSED 8-0**

VOLUNTEER AND LEGAL EXPENSES

VOLUNTEER EXPENSES 6/1/22 - 5/31/23

David Day	Executive Board	1,848.82
Mike Hoffpauir	Executive Board	352.20
Kevin Pryor	Executive Board	3,328.94

TOTAL VOLUNTEER EXPENSES 2022 - 2023 5,529.96

LEGAL EXPENSES 6/1/22 - 5/31/23

Personnel	Spencer Fane LLP	720.00
Goverance & Misc	Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.	27,867.53
	Polsinelli PC	90,087.00
	Wagenmaker & Oberly	15,849.00

TOTAL LEGAL EXPENSES 2022 - 2023 134,523.53

FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Allen Priest

The year in international chess has been interesting. International play returned after COVID-19 restrictions, but then the chess world has been thrown into turmoil by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The suspension of the national federations of Russia and Belarus as well as related ethics cases against certain players changed the 2022 Olympiad. The event was conducted in India on short notice. The FIDE presidential election held at the General Assembly in India was the first conducted under the new FIDE charter. The new charter changed the structure of presidential tickets. Only the president and the deputy were elected while the other positions that were formerly part of the ticket were appointed by the president after the election. The FIDE president was re-elected to a second and final four-year term. The terms of the elected commissions were extended for two years. Those positions will stand for election in 2024.

Several U.S. representatives serve on FIDE elected and appointed commissions. The goal

is to both represent U.S. interests, but also to help FIDE grow into a more professional organization. The revision of the charter was an important step. FIDE finances have become more transparent with more details posted on the FIDE website. And U.S. representatives played an important role in codifying FIDE rules for online play.

The long-time president of the FIDE Americas continental organization, Jorge Vega, decided not to seek reelection. He passed away earlier in 2023. Mr. Vega was a good friend to US Chess for many years. We are working with the new leadership to continue to improve opportunities for chess in the western hemisphere. One of the results is the Pan-American Youth event will be held in the U.S. in both 2023 and 2024.

We have maintained the World Cup spots that are assigned through our Zonal Championship. In addition, several U.S. players qualified for the World Cup by other means. We did not send some of our youth teams to FIDE events as those were held in areas that our State Department



had designated as high risk for U.S. travel. This is a long-time US Chess policy. Hopefully future events will be held in areas in which we will not have such concerns.

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

THANK YOU TO OUR ♥ BENEFACTORS ♥

Thank-you for being the sustaining force behind all our initiatives, and for making all of our programs possible.



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U.S. CHESS TRUST ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DELEGATES

By E. Steven Doyle, U.S. Chess Trust Chairman

The U.S. Chess Trust (USCT) supports many US Chess programs and has for more than 50 years. In addition, the Trust funds its own unique programs. All of the Trust's activities support its vision that "One day, every American, from schoolkid to senior citizen, will have the opportunity to learn chess and enjoy its many mental and social benefits." Not so many years ago, this grandiose goal may have seemed like a fantasy.

Nowadays, compelling webcasts from the Saint Louis Chess Club reach everywhere. Online streamers capture the attention of millions of gamers — and dozens of sponsors. Modernized, inclusive US Chess programs welcome women and children to the game on all levels. School programs as well as independent chess teachers flourish across the country. The "fantasy" is now visible on the horizon, not so far out to sea. With all oars pulling in the same direction, we'll get there. The U.S. Chess Trust will continue to pull one of those oars.

COMPLETING A COMMITMENT TO A DREAM IN BOSTON

Half a century ago, the late Harry Lyman and Harold Dondis seeded a fund to support the Boylston Chess Club. Under the administration of the Trust, the special fund grew to more than \$59,000. This year, the Trust transferred all of the longtime fund to help the Boylston Chess Club secure its new quarters in downtown Boston. At a brief ceremony during the World Amateur Team Championship, which I organize, USCT President Beatriz Marinello and I presented a check for the full amount to

Boylston Chess Club board member Natasha Christiansen. It was another illustration that small steps in the right direction often lead to something very big in chess.

SUPPORT OF US CHESS PROGRAMS

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 Chess Championship, and the Final Four of College Chess.

FRANK P. SAMFORD, JR., FELLOWSHIP

A unique U.S. Chess Trust program has supported the most promising U.S. players with a year-long fellowship, beginning in 1987. Joel Benjamin was the first. This year Christopher Yoo was number 55. Samford Fellows are selected by a committee well led by IM John Donaldson. The Samford Chess Fellowship was created by the late Frank P. Samford, Jr., of Birmingham, Alabama. As a measure of its effectiveness, each annual U.S. Invitational Championship includes some 10 Samford Fellows or former Fellows. FM Alice Lee, GM Abhimanyu Mishra, FM Hans Niemann, IM Carissa Yip, and GM Christopher Yoo won the Samford this year.

SCHOLAR-CHESSPLAYER AWARDS

Since 2008, the U.S. Chess Trust, in conjunction with the National Scholastic Chess Foundation and generous support from USCT Vice President for Scholastics, 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. Recently, a sixth category was added, that of "Chess Ambassador," opening up a college scholarship for those outstanding students who are lower rated. This year's SCP winners are: IM Arthur Guo, Aditya Gupta, IM Maximillian Lu, FM Jason Wang, and Eugene Yoo. The new Scholastic Chess Ambassador is Binoj Gaayathri.

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, and to military veterans, elder-care programs, and public libraries.

THE WORLD CHESS HALL OF FAME

The U.S. Chess Trust is partners with the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis, electing new members of the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame after receiving nominations from US Chess. In October, GM James Tarjan, IM John Watson, and Daniel Willard Fiske joined the immortals in St. Louis. The World Chess Hall of Fame does much more than immortalize both World and U.S. Hall of Famers. The fascinating exhibitions there have drawn 175,000 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 to see the current special exhibitions, "Sound Moves: Where Music Meets Chess" (ending January 28, 2024) and "T.S. Eliot: A Game of Chess" (ending January 21, 2024). And, of course, while you're at the WCHOF, cross the street to visit the famous Saint Louis Chess Club.

The U.S. Chess Trust is a 501(c)(3) Massachusetts Trust. U.S. Chess Trust trustees take no compensation. Managing Director Al Lawrence ably handles our day-to-day operations. My thanks go to all our trustees for their involvement and ideas: President Beatriz Marinello (NY), Treasurer Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Chess in Education VP Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Chess VP Sunil Weeramantry (NY), Secretary Alex Kerford



US CHESS TRUST

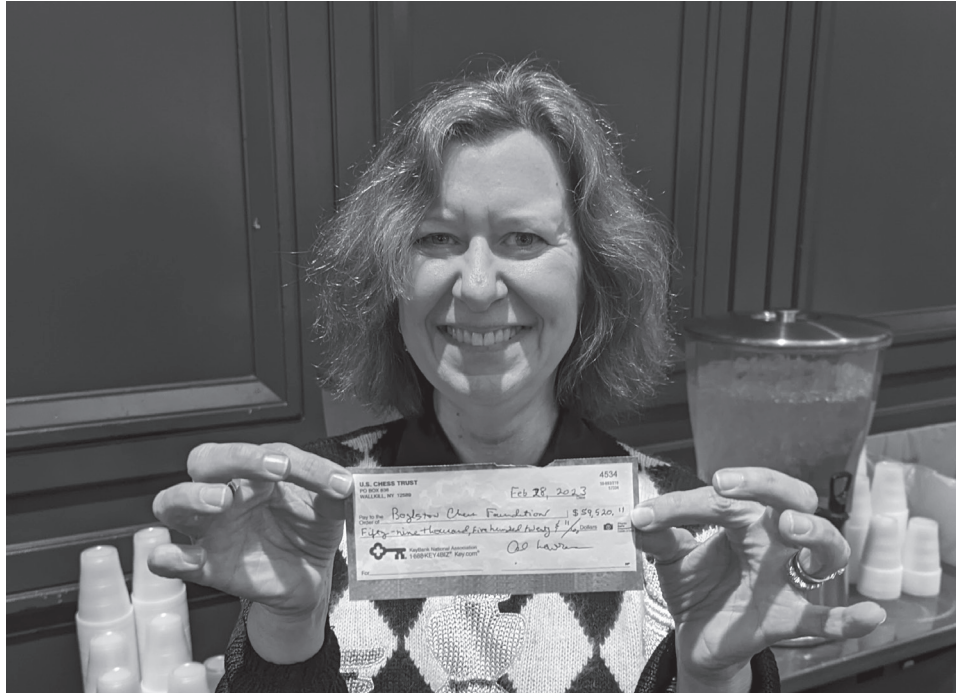
(MO), President Emeritus Shane Samole (FL), Stuart Chagrin (NY), Rex Sinquefeld (MO), Dr. Norman Saba (AZ), Dov Gorman (NJ), and Leo Dubler III (NJ). We all appreciate the work of webmaster Dora Leticia.

Please join our efforts. Our annual informational meeting is open to all on Thursday, August 3 at 3 p.m. in the Pearl room. Contact Managing Director Al Lawrence at al@uschesstrust.org to request chess sets or to share your ideas.

Please view more details about our good works and how you can help at uschesstrust.org.

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

Natasha Christiansen is all smiles as she receives a \$59,000 check from the U.S. Chess Trust on behalf of the Boylston Chess Club. Photograph By AL LAWRENCE



U.S. CHESS TRUST

"I'd like to thank the U.S. Chess Trust for their support in my chess career. I have had the honor of receiving the prestigious Samford Fellowship, which has given me encouragement and support for my chess."

**U.S. Chess Trust Samford Fellow
& Ursula Foster Award Winner**



Alice Lee



US CHESS TRUST
www.uschesstrust.org

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

Chess Life and Chess Life Kids

Included with your US Chess membership!

All US Chess members have **free access** to digital editions of US Chess' award-winning magazines, **Chess Life** and **Chess Life Kids**.

Printed copies of **Chess Life** or **Chess Life Kids** can be added on to any membership for a nominal fee, currently \$12/year (12 issues) for *Chess Life* and \$6/year (6 issues) for *Chess Life Kids*.



BYLAWS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION

Includes amendments adopted at the 2022 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 12, 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 12. The emergency suspension will stay in effect while the provisions of Article III Section 12 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 11, 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, the Delegates-at-Large, and 140 Delegates; each state with 30 or more members must have at least 1 Delegate; each state with 300 or more members must have at least 2 Delegates; the remaining Delegate seats shall be apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident US Chess membership as of May 31, except that no state shall have more than 10 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 140 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 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 May 1 prior to the Annual Meeting, or as soon thereafter as feasible. The term of each Delegate shall commence on May 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year.

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 alldellegates 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 no 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-rated 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, disbursable only by withdrawal authorized by two or more of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director, and such senior staff as the Executive Board shall designate. The Executive Board may authorize petty cash accounts, whose amounts may not exceed \$500.00, and disbursable only by check signed by one of the above, or any two employees approved by the Executive Board.

SECTION 8. ACCOUNTANTS.

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

SECTION 9. ENCUMBRANCE.

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

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: 03-28-2022

RECORD OF REVISIONS - 2022

- Article V, Section 2, was altered per DM22-22. In addition, the abbreviations initially in DM22-22 (EB and DAL) were spelled out at the prompting of the Bylaws Committee chairs.
- In Article V, Section 3, the number of alternates was adjusted to match the number of delegates in Section 2, at the prompting of the Bylaws Committee chairs as a logical extension of the change to Article V, Section 2.
- Article V, Section 4, was altered per DM22-33.
- As directed by the Executive Director and the Bylaws Chairs, internal references between Sections 11 and 12 of Article III were updated. These referential changes were neglected when Article III was changed in 2021 resulting in renumbering of some sections.
- Added this Record of Revisions as a continuous log of changes going forward.



**GIVE CHESS AND
CHANGE A LIFE**

Your Tax-Deductible Gift to **AT-RISK YOUTH** and Title I schools provides **EVERYTHING YOUNG PLAYERS WILL NEED** to compete in local and national chess tournaments. To learn more, visit our website at <https://new.uschess.org/at-risk-youth>.

Every dollar counts! Make a gift today and **CHANGE A LIFE!**

US CHESS
FEDERATION

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 <https://new.uschess.org/2023-annual-meeting-information>

(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.

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.

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,

- (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) 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.
- (g) 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.

DOCUMENTS ON THE WEB

The following forms and reports can be found online at <https://new.uschess.org/2023-annual-meeting-information> or by scanning the QR code below.

2022 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 or by scanning the QR code at right.

DELEGATE ACTIONS OF CONTINUING INTEREST

Due to length, the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest have been moved from the Delegates Call and can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code at right.

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 at right 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.

2022 DELEGATES MEETING MEETINGS

Minutes for the 2022 Delegates Meeting can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code below.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to space constraints, committee reports have been moved online and can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code below.



2022-23 US CHESS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

AUDIT

Jon Haskel, Chair
jon@bocachess.com

BYLAWS

Guy Hoffman, Co-Chair
schachfuhrer@hotmail.com

Allen Priest, Co-Chair
tyron316@hotmail.com

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
N/A

ELECTION

Mike Nietman, Chair
mike.nietman@charter.net

ETHICS

Hal Terrie, Chair
halterrie@comcast.net

DELEGATE APPOINTED LIFE MEMBER ASSET TRUST

Chuck Unruh, Co-Chair
chunruh@aol.com

Leroy Dubeck, Co-Chair
lwubeck@aol.com

Beatriz Marinello, Secretary
beatriz@chesseducators.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTED (2) AND DELEGATE APPOINTED (6) COMMITTEE

NOMINATING

David Grimaud, Chair
dwgrimaud@aol.com

Sophie Rohde, Vice Chair
littlehouseofchess@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTED COMMITTEES

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Stephanie Berk, Chair
stephanie_berk@aol.com

Judit Sztaray, Vice Chair
judit.sztaray@gmail.com

CHESS IN EDUCATION
Ranae Bartlett, Co-Chair
ranae.bartlett@gmail.com

John Galvin, Co-Chair
galvinchess@gmail.com

CLUBS
TBD

COLLEGE CHESS
Andrew Schley, Chair
andrewschley@gmail.com

ENDOWMENT FUND TRUST
Chuck Unruh, Chair
chunruh@aol.com

FIDE EVENTS
Tony Rich, Chair
trich@saintlouischessclub.org

FINANCE
Chuck Unruh, Chair
chunruh@aol.com

MILITARY
John Farrell, Chair
johnnyusmc@aol.com

**NATIONAL STATE
INVITATIONALS**
Mike Nietman, Chair
mike.nietman@charter.net

PPHB CLAIMS

Steve Immitt, Chair
chesscentr@aol.com

RATINGS

Mark Glickman, Chair
mg.math.mirror@gmail.com

RECOGNITIONS

John McCrary, Chair
chessrjm@gmail.com

RESERVE FUND/PPHB INVESTMENT

Chuck Unruh, Chair
chunruh@aol.com

RULES

Myron Thomas, Chair
myron@myronthomas.com

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL & COMMITTEE

John D. Rockefeller V, Chair
johndrockefeller@icloud.com

Dan Rohde, Vice Chair
daniel.g.rohde@gmail.com

SENIOR

Michael Mulford, Chair
mmulfish@yahoo.com

Paul Covington, Co-Vice Chair
paul@covingtoncomputers.com

David Grimaud, Co-Vice Chair
dwgrimaud@aol.com

STATES AND AFFILIATES
Lakshmana Viswanath, Co-Chair
vish@viswanath.us

Alexander Lumelsky, Co-Chair
alexander.lumelsky@gmail.com

TOP PLAYERS

Tatev Abrahamyan, Co-Chair
tatevabrahamyan88@gmail.com

Robert Hess, Co-Chair
rlh21291@gmail.com

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION

Jeff Wiewel, Chair
jwiewel@ntnusa.com

US CHESS DEVELOPMENT

Michael Shuman, Chair
michael@4f.io

John D. Rockefeller V, Vice-Chair
johndrockefeller@icloud.com

U.S. OPEN

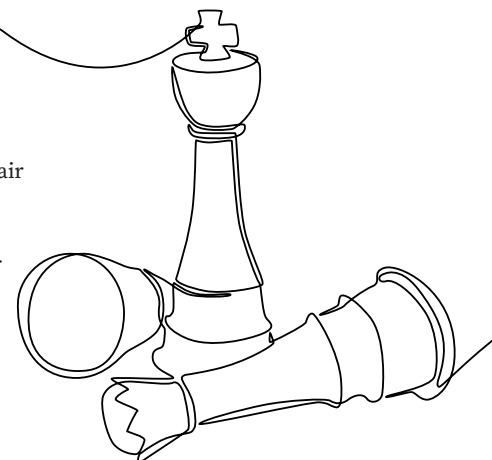
Hal Terrie III, Chair
halterrie@comcast.net

WOMEN'S CHESS

Kimberly Doo, Co-Chair
kimberlydoo@yahoo.com

Maureen Grimaud, Co-Chair
lakemmo@aol.com

Due to space constraints, committee reports have been moved online and can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-annual-meeting-information>



2023 DELEGATE/ALTERNATE LIST

ALABAMA 2,2

DAL Frank Camaratta
Del Ranae Bartlett
Del Todd Patrick Guthrie
Alt
Alt
AAD Ken Sloan

ALASKA 1,1

Del
Alt

ARIZONA 2,2

Del Michelle Martinez
Del Martha Underwood
Alt
Alt
AAD Frank B. Elley Jr.

ARKANSAS 2,2

Del
Del
Alt
Alt

CALIFORNIA-NORTH 7,7

Del Thomas P. Langland
Del Jordan Langland
Del Richard Koepcke
Del James Eade
Del Salman Azhar
Del Abel Talamantez
Del
Alt Chris Torres
Alt Dana Langland
Alt Elizabeth Shaughnessy
Alt Stephen Shaughnessy
Alt Michael Aigner
Alt
Alt

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH 6,6

DAL Dewain Barber
DAL Randall Hough
Del Dylan Quercia
Del Brian Glover
Del Srikanth Bangalore
Del James Menella
Del Sean Manross
Del Frank Lee

Alt Jonathan Machtig
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

COLORADO 2,2

Del Earle Wikle
Del Duwayne Langseth
Alt Dean W Brown
Alt

CONNECTICUT 2,2

Del Alexander Lumelsky
Del Mikhail Koganov
Alt
Alt

DELAWARE 2,2

Del
Del
Alt
Alt

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2,2

Del Robin Floyd Ransom
Del
Alt
Alt

FLORIDA 6,6

EB Kevin Pryor
DAL Anthony Cottell
Del Bryan Tillis
Del Jon Haskel
Del Andrew Rea
Del Charles Hatherill
Del George Foote
Del Garrett Foote
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

GEORGIA 3,3

EB Fun Fong
EB David Hater

Del Thad Rogers
Del Kevin Schmuggerow
Del Mohua Maity
Alt
Alt
Alt

HAWAII 1,1

Del
Alt

IDAHO 2,2

Del Adam Porth
Del
Alt
Alt

ILLINOIS 5,5

Del Lawrence Cohen
Del Tim Just
Del Jeff Wiewel
Del Stephen Plotnick
Del William Brock
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Helen Warren

INDIANA 2,2

Del Lester VanMeter
Del Robert Banta
Alt
Alt

IOWA 2,2

EB Randy Bauer
Del Michael Volz
Del
Alt
Alt

KANSAS 2,2

Del David Blair
Del
Alt
Alt

KENTUCKY 2,2

DAL Allen Priest
Del
Del
Alt
Alt

LOUISIANA 2,2

Del Leila D'Aquin
Del James Hargrove
Alt Christopher Girado
Alt Adriana Schneider

MAINE 2,2

Del Frank DelBonis
Del John Ciarrocchi
Alt
Alt

MARYLAND 2,2

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

MASSACHUSETTS 3,3

Del Robert Messenger
Del
Del
Alt
Alt Latanya Sweeney
Alt

MICHIGAN 3,3

Del Jeff Aldrich
Del Michael Brooks
Del Stanley Jarosz Jr.
Alt
Alt
Alt

MINNESOTA 2,2

Del Jenny Bourne
Del Sarah Emmons
Alt Jackson Wahl
Alt

MISSISSIPPI 2,2

Del Douglas Stewart

Del Jeff Bulington
Alt Mark Nicholas
Alt

MISSOURI 2,2

EB John Fernandez
Del Thomas Rehmeier
Del Bob Howe
Alt Martin Stahl
Alt Tony Rich

MONTANA 1,1

Del
Alt

NEBRASKA 2,2

DAL Mike Nolan
Del Abhinav Suresh
Del Nicholas Lacroix
Alt
Alt

NEVADA 2,2

Del Ron Underwood
Del Alan Losoff
Alt Janelle Losoff
Alt Marvin Raab

NEW HAMPSHIRE 2,2

Del Henry Terrie
Del
Alt
Alt

NEW JERSEY 5,5

DAL Leroy Dubeck
Del Leo Dubler III
Del Hal Sprechman
Del Kameliia Sharuda
Del Aaron Kiedes
Del Peter Tamburro
Alt Edward Steven Doyle
Alt Dov Gorman
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Edward Steven Doyle

NEW MEXICO 2,2

Del Daniel Serna
Del Christian Von Huene
Alt Kevin Zemko
Alt Heidi Fleck

NEW YORK 10,10

DAL Beatriz Marinello
Del Sophia Rohde
Del Steve Immitt
Del Dan Rohde

Del Harold Stenzel
Del Kimberly Doo
Del Michael Ellenbogen
Del Sunil Weeramantry
Del Sary Awad
Del Karl Heck
Del Jan Paragua
Alt Angela Panopoulos
Alt Shelby Lohrman
Alt Sandeep Alampalli
Alt Dr. Sreenivas Alampalli

Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

AAD William Goichberg
AAD Al Lawrence

NORTH CAROLINA 4,4

Del Charles Roberson
Del John Timmel
Del Grant Oen
Del Wayne Spon
Alt Walter High
Alt
Alt
Alt

NORTH DAKOTA 1,1

Del Todd Wolf
Alt

OHIO 3,3

Del Kalanithi Bagley
Del Stacia Pugh
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Gary Walters

OKLAHOMA 2,2

EB Chuck Unruh
Del Paul Covington
Del
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Jim Berry

OREGON 2,2

Del Carl Haessler
Del Chad Lykins
Alt
Alt

PENNSYLVANIA 4,4

Del Tom Martinak
Del Leteef Street

Del Daniel Heisman
Del Bradley Crable
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Maxim Dlugy

RHODE ISLAND 1,1

Del Frank Vogel
Alt Robert Salvas

SOUTH CAROLINA 2,2

DAL Robert John McCrary
Del David Grimaud
Del Maureen Grimaud
Alt Ernest Nix
Alt

SOUTH DAKOTA 1,1

Del
Alt

TENNESSEE 2,2

Del Alan Kantor
Del Michael Shuey
Alt Chris Prosser
Alt Angela McElrath-Prosser

TEXAS 10,10

DAL Tim Redman
Del Francisco Guadalupe
Del Lakshmana Viswanath
Del Eddie Rios
Del Regina Rios
Del Deborah Shafter
Del Caleb Brown
Del Fernando Gomez
Del Renate Garcia
Del Wendy Reed
Del Louis Reed Jr.
Alt Alexander Onischuk
Alt Bonnie Guadalupe
Alt Daniel Shafer
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

UTAH 2,2

EB David Day
Del Matt Crossette
Del
Alt
Alt

VERMONT 1,1

Del
Alt

VIRGINIA 3,3

EB Michael Hoffpauir
Del Anand Dommalapati
Del Robert Jackson
Del Michael Callaham
Alt Robert Getty
Alt Adam Chrisney
Alt

WASHINGTON 3,3

Del Dwight Barber
Del Josh Sinanan
Del Fred Kleist
Alt
Alt
Alt

WEST VIRGINIA 1,1

Del Benu Rellan
Alt Lewis Sanders

WISCONSIN 2,2

Del Guy Hoffman
Del Sandra Hoffman
Alt
Alt
AAD Mike Nietman

WYOMING 1,1

Del Brian Walker
Alt

STANDING RULES OR CUSTOMARY RULES

Used by US Chess Delegates at past meetings, including procedural rules initially developed by the US Chess President for use at the 1998 Delegates meeting.

- A.** A speaker may not move the previous question (call the question) after speaking to the merits of a question in that turn at the microphone. [Passed by the Delegates as a standing rule.]
- B.** Except for motions arising from the US Chess Membership Meeting, if the sponsor or co-sponsor of a motion is not present at the time it is reached in the agenda, it goes to the end of the agenda, after all other advance motions and motions filed with the Secretary before or during the meeting but not included in the advance agenda. A request for unanimous consent or a motion to suspend the rules may be offered to bring the motion back to the floor ahead of then. (Congratulatory motions generally made at the end of the meeting are usually deferred until all other Delegate motions are dealt with, including those moved to the end of the agenda.) Motions on the advance agenda do not require a second; a Delegate who objects to such a motion should raise an objection to consideration of the question, either during adoption of the advance agenda or when the motion is reached in the meeting. Delegate motions not printed in the advance agenda do require a second.
- C.** A Delegate may withdraw a motion as long as it is still in its original form, even during debate, but once a motion has been revised from its initial form, it may only be withdrawn by unanimous consent. All co-signers to the original motion must also consent to its withdrawal. (The person who seconded the motion does not need to consent to its withdrawal, since seconding a motion does not express an opinion on the merits of the motion, and the seconder is always free to attempt to gain the floor to make the motion again, at which time it requires another Delegate to second it.) When a motion is divided into multiple questions, each of the parts is now a separate motion and such a separated motion may be withdrawn if it is still in its original form.
- D.** The maker of a motion may accept as an improved version a 'friendly amendment' from another Delegate. Such a motion is still considered to be in its original form. The seconder does not have to consent to the friendly amendment, since the person offering the improvement is obviously willing to have the motion considered, which is the point of requiring a second. [This is a deviation from Robert's Rules, which now has a reference to the friendly amendment in the 10th edition, but in a much more restricted sense than found in common practice, including at US Chess Delegates Meetings.]
- E.** Committee chairs may only bring to the floor during their reports motions that were referred to them by the previous or current Delegates meeting, motions referred to them by the Executive Board and printed in the Executive Board Newsletter or (preferably) placed on the advance agenda, or motions that the committee, or the committee chair on the committee's behalf, placed on the advance agenda. In specific, motions from workshops have no special standing with the Delegates, though they may be brought to the floor as main motions later in the meeting in the usual manner or offered as amendments during debate.
- F.** Straw polls may be made at the sole discretion of the chair, although the speaker may request them of the chair. The chair will conduct all straw polls and votes. [Because they neither advance nor defeat the

issue, the use of straw polls is not sanctioned by Robert's Rules, which suggests that a form of 'committee of the whole' be used instead.]

- G.** All main motions and amendments not appearing in the advance agenda should be submitted to the Secretary in written format, to assist the chair in the orderly conduct of the meeting and the Secretary in preparing an accurate set of minutes.

Pro and Con microphones will be placed on the floor. All Delegates wishing to debate a motion should stand in line at the appropriate microphone and wait to be assigned the floor by the chair. If an amendment or other debatable motion is offered, the Pro and Con microphones will now refer to that motion, and Delegates wishing to speak on that subject should move to the appropriate microphone; others should stand aside or sit down.

A podium may be provided for committee chairs to make their committee reports from. A committee chair or other Delegate at the podium is not entitled to any preference in debate but may be called upon to answer points of information regarding a committee's views on motions referred to it, in the advance agenda, or arising from the committee workshop. Makers of main motions may also be requested to present their motions from the podium and to remain at the podium to answer points of information.

Motions introduced and passed at the US Chess Membership Meeting for consideration by the Delegates are entered on the agenda as the first items under New Business, and are brought to the floor in order at that point in the agenda. These motions do not require a second. The maker of the motion during the Membership Meeting, if not a Delegate, is not entitled to speak at the Delegates meeting without the unanimous consent of the Delegates.

Delegates who have already spoken to the merits of a pending question are requested to defer to Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merit of that question. The chair may recognize Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merits of a pending question ahead of those who have already spoken on it. Where possible the chair will alternate between speakers for and speakers against the pending question. The maker of a motion is always entitled to the first opportunity in debate to speak to the merits of that motion. The chair assigns the floor; a Delegate may not yield the floor to another Delegate without the unanimous consent of the Delegates. Except for committee chairs giving their report, the Parliamentarian (if not a Delegate), and US Chess staff members presenting a staff report or answering a point of information, non-Delegates are not entitled to speak to the Delegates without unanimous consent.

As indicated above, motions not reached by the Delegates or motions tabled by the Delegates are automatically referred to the Executive Board at the conclusion of the Delegates Meeting, but without the power to implement (where applicable) and without instructions to report back to the Delegates, so they will not appear on the advance agenda of the next Delegates Meeting except by specific action of the Executive Board, nor does progress on these motions need to be reported upon.

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: https://new.uschess.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/roberts_rules_summary_4pgs.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.

SCHEDULE

02
WED

**NATIONAL STATE INVITATIONALS
COMMITTEE**
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

U.S. OPEN COMMITTEE
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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

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

CHES JOURNALISTS OF AMERICA
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL & COMMITTEE
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

COLLEGE CHES COMMITTEE
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

03
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.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

US CHES DEVELOPMENT
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

U.S. CHES TRUST
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CHES IN EDUCATION (CLOSED)
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

04
FRI

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

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

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

TDCC TD SEMINAR
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

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

FINANCE/LMA TRUST
1:00 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.

05
SAT

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

LUNCH BREAK AT NOON

06
SUN

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (CLOSED)
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (OPEN)
6:00 p.m.

Workshop schedule subject to change. For updates, please visit: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-annual-meeting-information>

ONLINE WORKSHOPS: Scholastic Council & Committee, Ratings

Watch for more information about when these events will be held here: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-annual-meeting-information>