

COMPLIANCE REPORT

2024 US CHESS DELEGATE MOTIONS

Quick Reference Chart

Motion	Disposition	Subject	Basic Action
DM 24-01	Passed	Appointment of DALs	Dewain Barber (CA), Randall D. Hough (CA), Robert John McCrary (SC), Allen Priest (KY), Beatriz Marinello (NY), and Al Lawrence (NY) appointed until 8-8-2027.
ADM 24-02	Withdrawn	Re-election of DALs	
DM 24-02	Passed	Appointment of Parliamentarian	Action occurred during meeting
DM 24-03	Passed	Approval of Conflict-of-Interest Committee	Action occurred during meeting
DM 24-04	Passed	Approval of the 2023 US Chess Annual Meeting minutes	Action occurred during meeting
DM 24-05	Passed	Approve the 2024 Advance Agenda and standing rules	Action occurred during meeting
DM 24-06	Passed	Approve the PPHBF Report	Action occurred during meeting
DM 24-07	Passed	Approve the US Chess Budget for 2024-2025	Action occurred during meeting
DM 24-08	Passed	Audit Committee personnel requirements in Bylaws	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-09	Passed	Audit Committee appointments	Committee updated in US Chess system
DM 24-10	Passed	LMA Trustee Appointments	Committee updated in US Chess system
DM 24-11	Passed	Election Committee Appointments	Committee updated in US Chess system
DM 24-12	Passed	Bylaws Committee Appointments	Committee updated in US Chess system
DM 24-13	Passed	Ethics Committee Appointments	Committee updated in US Chess system
DM 24-14	Passed	Nominating Committee Appointments	Committee updated in US Chess system
DM 23-26	Passed	Logos on chess boards	To be voted on again in 2025
DM 23-28	Failed	Amend the US Chess Code of Ethics to remove 6(h) (infringement	The Ethics Committee voted to reject the motion and retain the 6 (h) code as is with no changes

		of personal rights) and renumber 6(i) to become 6(h).	
DM 23-34	Withdrawn	Acknowledgement of Tournament Directors as Other TDs on US Chess Rating Report	
DM 23-35	Working Group Established	Reduce multiple US Chess IDs for individuals	See EB24-059
DM 23-37	Withdrawn	Add working at Chess Control as gaining tournament experience credit for Assistant TDs	
DM 23-38	Failed	Amend Article V, Section 9 of the Bylaws	
DM 23-42	Passed	Revise Bylaws to allow EB candidates to publish statements, etc., on US Chess website	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 23-46	Passed	Removal of the felony exclusion for EB candidates	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-15	Referred	Challenges to state chapters	Referred to Bylaws and States and Affiliates
DM 24-16	Passed	Age requirement for Delegates	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-17	Passed	Amend Rule 18 of Chapter 11 of the Rules of Chess	To be voted on again in 2025
DM 24-18	Referred	In person Rules Committee Workshop during the Annual Meeting	In Person Rules Workshop scheduled for 2025
DM 24-19	Passed	Amend the Bylaws to move the dues details to policies and procedures	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-20	Passed	Amend Bylaws Article IX Section 6 to adjust fiscal year to end June 30	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-21	Passed	Amend Bylaws so members are of voting age on June 1	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-22	Passed	Amend Bylaws Article IV, Section	Bylaws updated and posted on website

		3 so voting members must be registered by June 1	
DM 24-23	Passed	Remove Bylaws Article IV, Section 6 about paper ballots and renumber Section 7 as Section 6	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-24	Passed	Amend Bylaws re. Election Committee posting candidates' details on website Delete the last sentence of Article VI, Section 14	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-25	Passed	Remove the section of Bylaws Article VI, Section 8 below the first paragraph re. EB terms	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-26	Passed	Appoint Franc Guadalupe (TX) as a Delegate-at-Large	To be voted on again in 2025
DM 24-27	Referred	Amend Chapter 11 of the Official Rules of Chess	The Rules Committee does not support the motion
DM 24-28	Referred	Change to Blitz Rule 7e	This motion is supported by the Rules Committee.
DM 24-29	Passed	Increase publicity for the Professional Players Health and Benefit Fund (PPHBF)	A CLO article will be published in August 2025 and CL stands ready to publicize PPHB criteria for eligibility and an application once the process has been developed.
DM 24-30	Passed	Amend Bylaw Article IX, Section 8 to substitute "financial statements" for "accounts"	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-31	Passed	Amend DACI 1975-01 EB members and paid directorships	DACI updated and posted on website
DM 24-32	Passed	Amend motion 1978-01	Motion amended.
DM 24-33	Passed	Amend motion 1997-52 as BINFO is no longer used	Motion amended.

DM 24-34	Failed	Modify the US Chess Safe Play training mandate	
DM 24-35	Passed	Amend Bylaw Section 12, Article III re. member appeals on removal of membership	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-36	Referred	The Office shall add a required field to the online TLAs stating the forfeit time	TDs can already advertise this in the text of their online TLA if they are so inclined. Adding an additional field will only complicate the process and the ability to include this information is already present and unused.
DM 24-37	Passed	Change to Rule 14F1	To appear in the next edition of the <i>US Chess Rules of Chess</i>
DM 24-38	Passed	Addition to Bylaw Article VII of the Bylaws re. composition of Nominating Committee	Bylaws updated and posted on website
DM 24-39	Referred	Change to Variation 13D1	This motion is not supported by the Rules Committee.
DM 24-40	Out of Order	Amend and modify DM 23-26	
DM 24-41	Referred	Request to Executive Board analyze projected revenue impact of increasing the price of <i>Chess Life</i>	<i>Chess Life</i> is currently just under the \$1 per issue mark, while <i>Chess Life Kids</i> is well under the \$1 per issue standard. With both paper and postal rates rising in FY 25-26, we estimate that <i>Chess Life</i> will exceed the \$1 per issue fee currently paid by print subscribers.
DM 24-42	Referred	New Senior Only tournaments and new Women's Only tournaments be given one free TLA and one free e-blast	Notice of the free TLA for new Senior and Women's only tournaments announced in <i>Chess Life</i>
DM 24-43	Referred	Mandate the "1000 point rule" from the Amateur Team East for all four amateur team events	The EB recognizes there are some inconsistencies but sees no reason to impose this type of rule and will leave it to the event organizer to state the rules for their events.
DM 24-44	Referred	Implement procedures so proposed FIDE events do not conflict with the U.S. National Championship/ State Championships in dates or vicinity	The Executive Board does not support the motion.

The information in bold can be found on the [Governance Hub](#) of the US Chess Website:

- The **2024 Annual Meeting Minutes** on the [2024 Annual Meeting Information page](#).
- The **Bylaws, DACI, and Code of Ethics** on the [Documents and Policies page](#).
- The **2024-2025 Board Motions** document and monthly board minutes on the [2024-2025 Executive Board Documents page](#).
- The **2024-2025 Committee List** on the [Committees page](#).
- A list of Current Delegates on the [Delegates page](#).

Additional relevant links:

The [2024-2025 Executive Board](#).

The Rule Book. <https://new.uschess.org/news/7th-edition-rule-book-free-chapters-updated-2023>

DM 24-01 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Dewain Barber (CA), Randall D. Hough (CA), Robert John McCrary (SC), Allen Priest (KY), Beatriz Marinello (NY), and Al Lawrence (NY) appointed until 8-8-2027.

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 2027 Annual Delegates Meeting.

PASSED

DM 24-02 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting

Move that Andrew Rea be appointed parliamentary.

PASSED

DM 24-03 (RANDY BAUER, IA)

Action: Action occurred during meeting

The Delegates appoint Leila D'Aquin, Randy Bauer, and Kimberly Doo as the Conflict-of-Interest committee.

DM 24-04 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting

Move that the minutes of the 2023 Delegates Meeting as available to the Delegates present in Norfolk, Virginia be accepted.

DM 24-05 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2024 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.

PASSED

DM 24-06 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting

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.

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PASSED

DM 24-07 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Action: Action occurred during meeting

Approve the US Chess Budget for 2024-2025.

PASSED

DM 24-08 (Caleb S. Brown, TX)

Action: Bylaws updated and posted on website

Resolved that Article VII, Section 3, Subsection A1 of the Bylaws be amended as follows:

- 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~~ **and no more than five members elected by the Delegates from among US Chess members** 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 committee shall choose its own chair.** The duties of the Committee shall be:
 - a) To advise the Executive Board 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 Executive Board 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 Executive Board 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 Executive Board 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 Executive Board 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.

PASSED

DM 24-09 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Committee updated in the US Chess system

As the Chair of the Audit Committee, the sponsor named the same members of the existing audit committee: Allen Priest, Doug Eckert, John Rockefeller, Jon Haskel, Fun Fong. Messrs. Priest, Eckert, and Haskel are CPAs.

PASSED

DM 24-10 (Chuck Unruh, OK)

Action: Committee updated in the US Chess system

As chair of the LMA trust, Mr. Unruh thanked all 11 trustees for a wonderful year and recommended their reappointment: Jim Bedenbaugh, Tim Redman, Mike Hoffpauir, Steve Doyle, Leroy Dubeck, Beatriz Marinello, David Grimaud, Allen Priest, Peter Dyson, Dov Gorman, Charles D. Unruh.

PASSED

DM 24-11 (Mike Nietman, WI)

Action: Committee updated in the US Chess system

As chair of the Elections Committee, Mr. Nietman renominated the same people from last year: Mike Nietman, Kenneth Sloan, Josh Sinanan, Kimberly Doo.

PASSED

DM 24-12 (Allen Priest, KY)

Action: Committee updated in the US Chess system

As a co-chair of the Bylaws Committee, Mr. Priest recommended the following:

Guy Hoffman, Allen Priest, Randy Hough, David Day, Richard Koepcke, Alex Lumelsky, John McCrary, David Mehler, Robert Messenger, Andrew Rea, Marc Rotenberg.

PASSED

DM 24-13 (Anand Dommalapati, VA)

Action: Committee updated in the US Chess system

The Ethics Committee chair, Mr. Dommalapati, recommended the following names: Noreen Harkins Davisson (NJ, 13685502), Anand Dommalapati (VA, 13778420), Robert Getty (VA, 20069095), Robert Greer (WV, 13937687), Charles Hatherill (FL, 12215430), Stephen F Lampkin (FL, 12139080), Tom Langland (CA, 11236219), James Mennella (CA, 11066241), Jeffrey L Smith (IL, 12816255), Harold Stenzel (NY, 10095824), Hal Terrie (NH, 10025265), Myron Thomas (OH, 14223636), Martha Underwood (AZ, 14383723).

PASSED

DM 24-14 (David Grimaud, SC)

Action: Committee updated in the US Chess system

Nominating Committee Chair, David Grimaud, said the following named would serve a two-year term: David Grimaud (SC, 12529854), Sophia Rohde (NY, 12455001), Michelle Martinez (AZ, 14966162), Daaim Shabazz (FL, 11487408), Richard Koepcke (CA-N, 10493269), Kalanithi Bagley (OH, 15231670). Two other members are appointed by the Executive Board.

PASSED

DM 23-26 (DAVID DAY, UT)

Action: To be voted on again in 2025

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.

PASSED

DM 23-35 (STEVE IMMITT, NY)

Action: Working Group established. See EB24-059

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 the 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.

REFERRED to the Executive Board.

DM 23-42 (DAVID DAY, UT; RANDY BAUER, IA; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

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*.

PASSED

DM 23-46

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Replace US Chess Bylaw Article VI, Section 2, Subsection E (the past conviction exclusion provision) with the following:

~~E. — Has never been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.~~

E. — Complies with the requirements established by the Nominating Committee:

Delete US Chess Bylaw Article VI, Section 5, Subsection D (the write-in candidate provision).

~~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.~~

PASSED

DM 24-15 (Executive Board)

Action: Referred to Bylaws and States Affiliates

Amend Section 1 (State Chapters) of Article VIII (Organizational Units) in the US Chess Bylaws by adding the following text to the end of, or at an appropriate place within, Section 1 of Article VIII. "When an existing State Chapter's status is challenged and that challenge is rejected by the Delegates, no one may re-challenge the existing State Chapter's status for three (3) years except upon recommendation to the Delegates by the Executive Board that the new challenge is based on previously unheard substantive and relevant evidence that the Delegates should hear."

Referred to Bylaws and States Affiliates

DM 24-~~16~~ (Executive Board)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Amend Article IV (Voting Members) Section 2 (Definition) and Article V (Board of Delegates) Section 2 (Number) of the US Chess Bylaws to correct a problem with the age requirements for Delegates and Alternate Delegates:

- Remove the last sentence of Article IV, Section 2 that currently reads: “~~All Delegates and Alternate Delegates are voting members.~~”
- Move the above language, modifying it as follows, to become the last sentence of Article V, Section 2: “**The age of Delegates-at-Large and Delegates shall conform to the specifications for voting members provided in Article IV, Section 2.**”

PASSED

DM 24-~~17~~ (Caleb S. Brown, TX; Micah Smith, OR)

Action: To be voted on again in 2025

Resolved that Rule 18 of Chapter 11 of the Rules of Chess be amended as follows:

18.) Subject to the right of appeal to US Chess, the decision of the chief tournament director is final.

PASSED

DM 24-~~18~~ (Steve Immitt, NY)

Action: In Person Rules Workshop scheduled for 2025.

Notwithstanding any scheduled online workshops, the delegates are in support of having an in-person rules committee workshop during the normal period of workshops preceding the annual delegates meeting.

REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

DM 24-~~19~~ (LEILA D'AQUIN, LA; ALLEN PRIEST, KY; CHUCK UNRUH, OK; PETER TAMBURRO, NJ)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Amend the Bylaws to move the dues details to the federation list of policies and procedures as follows:

Delete Article III sections 1-9.

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.~~

Add new Section 1. **Membership types, which shall include individual adult, young adult, youth, senior, family, and life memberships as well as other membership types that may be recommended by the Executive Director, and the dues level corresponding to each**

membership type, shall be as recommended by the Executive Director, and approved by the Executive Board. Any dues adjustment will be effective on or after January 1 after the preceding year's Delegates Meeting.

Then renumber current sections 10-13 as sections 2-5.

PASSED

DM 24-~~20~~ (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Adjust fiscal year for US Chess to end on June 30. Proposed revision:

Article IX: Sundry Bylaws.

Section 6. Fiscal period. The Fiscal period shall be the year ended ~~May 31~~ **June 30**.

PASSED

DM 24-~~21~~ (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Modify Article IV, Section 4 as such:

Section 4. Membership Requirement. In order to vote in a regular election, registered Voting Members must be US Chess members on ~~May 5th~~ **June 1st** of the election year, for the entire day Central Time.

PASSED

DM 24-~~22~~ (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Resolved that Article IV, Section 3 of the Bylaws be amended as follows:

Section 3. Registration. Eligible members who are not already registered as Voting Members must register with the US Chess office by ~~May 1~~ **June 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~~ **June 1** to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election.

PASSED

DM 24-~~23~~ (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Remove Article IV, Section 6 and renumber Section 7 as Section 6.

~~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.~~

PASSED

DM 24-~~24~~ (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Delete the last sentence of Article VI, Section 14.

~~Section 14. Website Access. ... The Election Committee may, at its discretion and convenience, post all candidate statements as they appear in Chess Life on the US Chess website.~~

PASSED

DM 24-~~25~~ (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Action: Bylaws amended and posted on website.

Remove the section of Article VI, Section 8 below the first paragraph.

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 (11) consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as US Chess President more than four (4) 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.~~

~~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.~~

~~2022: Two Executive Board members will be elected to three-year terms that expire in 2025.~~

Four Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms in odd-numbered years.

PASSED

DM 24-**26** (CALEB S. BROWN, TX; KEVIN PRYOR, FL)

Action: To be voted on again in 2025

Resolved that the Board of Delegates appoint Franc Guadalupe (TX) as a Delegate-at-Large.
PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

DM 24-**27** (CALEB S. BROWN, TX; MICAH SMITH, OR)

Action: The Rules Committee does not support the motion.

Resolved that Chapter 11 of the Official Rules of Chess be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 11: Blitz Chess

Blitz chess is a variant defined by a single, sudden death time control with a minimum primary time control of three minutes and total playing time of five to ten minutes. This chapter is not exhaustive. Rather, it establishes special rules reflecting the fast-paced nature of blitz games. Where these rules are silent, the regular rules apply.

1. The time control shall be stated in any advance publicity and announced onsite. All rounds shall use the same time control. If the time control is not stated in advance publicity, the time control shall be five minutes with no delay.

2. Before play begins, both players should inspect the position of the pieces and the setting of the clock, since once each side has completed a move the position on the board and the time on the clock remain as set.

a. If the king and queen are set up incorrectly, it is legal to castle short on the queenside and long on the kingside.

b. If an illegal position is created or an illegal move made without the opponent making a claim, the position stands and a claim is not allowed when the opponent has determined the next move.

3. In addition to the grounds for which a game is decisively decided under the regular rules, a game is won by a player who, after an illegal move is completed by the opponent, captures the king or claims a win and stops the clock before the player determines a move; provided that the game shall be drawn if the player has insufficient mating material as defined by 14E of the regular rules. A player who moves the king adjacent to the opponent's

king and then attempts to claim a win under this rule based on the opponent's failure to notice the check shall lose the game. An illegal move shall not negate the right of a player to claim on time as long as it is made before the claim of the illegal move. If the claims are made simultaneously, the player who made the illegal move loses.

4. A game shall be drawn as provided in the regular rules except that:

14C8 and 14F4 also apply if a player has five or more minutes remaining.

All two-minute penalties shall be one minute.

If Variation 14H is allowed, the player must have one minute or less to claim a draw by insufficient losing chances.

5. If a player makes an illegal move and it is not corrected before the opponent determines a move, the illegal move cannot be corrected afterwards. An illegal move is completed when the player presses the clock.

6. A legal move is completed when the hand leaves the piece.

7. Scorekeeping shall not be required.

8. The standard penalty shall be to add one minute to the opponent's clock. This section shall not affect the discretion of the tournament director to access other penalties as required by the circumstances.

9. Subject to the right of appeal to US Chess, the decision of the chief tournament director shall be final.

The current version of the blitz rules is as follows:

Chapter 11: Blitz Chess

Blitz Chess (also known as Speed Chess, 5-minute Chess, Lightning Chess (2-minute), and Bullet Chess (1-minute)) is a variant defined as a single, sudden death time control from 1 to 10 minutes. Blitz games typically are set at five minutes and do not use time delay. Since each game takes only about 10 minutes, it has long been popular for fun games where time is limited, such as lunch breaks or between rounds of other tournaments. Some clubs will host Blitz events that may have as many as 20 rounds in a single evening.

Information regarding FIDE Blitz chess can be found in the FIDE Handbook:
<https://handbook.fide.com/>

Take note that Blitz is not Quick Chess with a 5 minute time control (which follows standard sudden death rules.)

Blitz rating system: Blitz has its own rating system. To be rated, the time controls require from 5 to 10 minutes total playing time, and have a minimum primary time control of 3 minutes. All rounds must use the same time control. Hence G/3 inc/2 is rated under the Blitz system. Currently, Lightning and Bullet are not included in any rating system. See also 5C. Ratable time controls.

US Chess Blitz Rules

Each player must make all his moves in the time specified for the game.

•—— 1a.) Standard time control (TC) for blitz is G/5 with no delay.

•—— 1b.) Time controls, including the use of delay or increment, are to be stated in any advance publicity and must also be announced or posted at the site.

All the clocks must have a special device, usually called a “flag,” either a regular flag or some device on a digital clock that indicates a flag fall.

Standard timer for Blitz chess:

•—— 2a.) Whatever timer is used (analog or digital), a standard timer must continue to run for both sides even if one side’s time has expired (See 8c).

•—— 2b.) A digital timer (given it meets the requirements of 2a) is preferred over an analog timer due to the precision of setting and the accuracy of timing. If no digital timer is available, then an analog timer may be considered standard.

•—— 2c.) The player with the black pieces chooses the standard timer.

Before play begins, both players should inspect the position of the pieces and the setting of the clock, since once each side has completed a move the position on the board and the time on the clock remain as set.

•—— 3a.) If the king and queen are set up incorrectly, it is legal to castle short on the queenside and long on the kingside.

•—— 3b.) If an illegal position is created or an illegal move made without the opponent making a claim, the position stands and a claim not allowed when the opponent has determined a next move.

Each player must press the clock with the same hand that moves the pieces, using one hand to both move the pieces and to press the clock.

~~The tournament director may state at the start of the event the direction the clocks are to face, and the player with the black pieces then chooses the side of the table on which to sit.~~

~~Except for pressing the clock, neither player should touch the clock except:~~

- ~~• 6a.) To straighten it.~~
- ~~• 6b.) If a player knocks over the clock a penalty may be assessed.~~
- ~~• 6c.) If your opponent's clock does not tick you may press his side down and re-press your side; however, if this procedure is unsatisfactory, please call for a director.~~
- ~~• 6d.) Each player must always be allowed to press the clock after their move is made.~~
- ~~• 6e.) A player should not keep a hand on or hover over the clock.~~

~~Defining a win: A game is won by the player:~~

- ~~• 7a.) Who has legally mated his opponent's king.~~
- ~~• 7b.) Whose opponent resigns.~~
- ~~• 7c.) Who correctly points out that the opponent's flag has fallen first, at any time before the game is otherwise ended, provided the player has mating material. Mating Material consists of (at a minimum) two minor pieces, a pawn, a rook, or a queen provided it isn't a position where one could claim a draw under rule 8. If a player who claims a time forfeit states the claim with claimant's flag still up, but then fails to stop the clock in time to avoid also exceeding the time limit, the claim will be void, unless the flag fall was observed by a director or independent witness.~~
- ~~• 7d.) Who, after an illegal move is completed by the opponent, takes the king (if the king is in check) or claims the win and stops the clock, before the player determines a move and provided the player has sufficient mating material as defined in rule 7c. A player who moves his king adjacent to the opponent's king and then attempts to claim a win under this rule based on the opponent's failure to notice the check shall lose the game.~~
- ~~• 7e.) An illegal move doesn't negate a player's right to claim on time, provided it is made prior to the opponent's claim of an illegal move. If the claims are simultaneous, the player who made the illegal move loses.~~

~~Defining a draw. Except as listed here, draw claims allowed under the regular rules are also allowed under the blitz rules:~~

~~A game is a draw:~~

~~• 8a.) If one of the kings is stalemated.~~

~~• 8b.) By agreement between the players.~~

~~• 8c.) If the flag of one player falls after the flag of the other player has already fallen and a win has not been claimed, unless either side mates before noticing that both flags are down.~~

~~• 8d.) If one player has insufficient mating material when the opponent's flag falls or makes an illegal move. "Insufficient Losing Chances" (ILC) claims are not allowed.~~

~~If a player accidentally displaces one or more pieces, they shall be replaced on the player's own time. If it is necessary, the opponent may press the clock without making a move. If the player presses the clock after displacing pieces, then a penalty may be assessed.~~

~~If a player touches one piece, then moves another; and presses the clock, the opponent may press the player's clock to force the player to move the piece touched, or may stop the clock to claim a violation. A penalty may be assessed.~~

~~In case of a dispute either player may stop the clock while the tournament director is being summoned. In any unclear situation the tournament director will consider the testimony of both players and any reliable witnesses before rendering a decision.~~

~~The tournament director shall not pick up the clock except in the case of a dispute when it is necessary to do so in order to assess penalties or adjust time.~~

~~Spectators and players in another game are not to speak or otherwise interfere. If a spectator interferes in any way that may affect the result of the game (e.g., calling attention to a flag fall or an illegal move), the tournament director may cancel the game and rule that a new game be played in its stead and expel the offending party from the playing room. If the offending party is participating in the event, penalties at the discretion of the tournament director may be assessed up to expulsion from the event.~~

~~A player who has played an illegal move must retract it and make a legal move with the piece touched prior to pressing the clock. If no legal move exists with that piece, then he may make any legal move. Illegal moves unnoticed by both players cannot be corrected afterwards. An illegal move is completed when the player presses the clock.~~

~~A legal move is completed when the hand leaves the piece.~~

~~If a player is promoting a pawn and the desired piece is not available, the player may stop both clocks in order to locate the piece and place it on the board. It is improper for the player to press the clock to start the opponent's time with the pawn still on the last rank. If this is done, the opponent may immediately restart the player's clock without moving.~~

~~Standard penalty for first offense is to add one minute to the opponent's clock. There may be circumstances where a penalty assessed may not be standard (e.g. repeat offenses, unsporting behavior, etc...) and is left to the discretion of the tournament director.~~

~~The decision of the tournament director is final.~~

RATIONALE: Presently, the blitz rules are confusing because they combine what makes the blitz rules unique with reminders about regular rules that also apply to blitz. If reminders are needed those belong in the TD Tips, not the blitz rules. This rewrite would resolve this issue by condensing the blitz rules into only what is special about blitz. It would also clarify the rules in a few places to reflect current practice (like ensuring that the Chief TD's decision is appealable to US Chess which is currently only stated in a TD Tip).

REFERRED TO RULES

DM 24-~~28~~ (STEVE IMMITT, NY; SOPHIA ROHDE, NY)

Action: This motion is supported by the Rules Committee.

The Delegates move to make the following change to Blitz Rule 7.) Defining a win:

Replace section 7e.), which currently reads:

~~7e.) An illegal move doesn't negate a player's right to claim on time, provided it is made prior to an opponent's claim of an illegal move. If the claims are simultaneous, the player who made the illegal move loses.~~

with the following language:

7e.) A player whose opponent's time has expired can claim a win on time if the player's last completed move was a legal move. A player who completes an illegal move cannot claim a win on time unless and until the opponent determines a subsequent move. If it is not possible to establish whether the opponent determined a move before or after the player claimed a win on time, or if they both happened simultaneously, the player who completed the illegal move loses, provided the opponent has sufficient mating material as defined in rule 7c.).

REFERRED TO RULES

DM 24-~~29~~ (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Action: A CLO article will be published in August 2025 and CL stands ready to publicize PPHB criteria for eligibility and an application once the process has been developed.

Resolved that the Board of Delegates recognizes the need for more publicity about the Professional Players Health and Benefit Fund and requests that the Executive Board take all appropriate

measures which would further awareness of this fund among eligible players. The Board of Delegates encourages cooperation with the state chapters and other affiliates in these efforts as appropriate.

PASSED

DM 24-~~30~~ (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Bylaws updated and posted on website.

Amend Article IX, Section 8 Accountants to change the word review to audit and accounts to financial statements as follows:

Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to ~~review~~ **audit** US Chess' accounts ~~accounts~~ **financial statements that are prepared** in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

PASSED

DM 24-~~31~~ (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: DACI amended and posted on website.

Amend DACI 1975-01 (as previously amended in 1984,1993,1994).

Delete the first paragraph, leaving the remaining wording as is:

~~No Executive Board member shall serve as the paid TD of more than one USCF National Tournament or International Tournament during a calendar year unless the same opportunity has been declined by all non-members of the Executive Board who are qualified to direct the tournament.~~

No Executive Board member shall be awarded a paid directorship or concession at a National Tournament on which he/she participated in the award vote, except in the case of an uncontested bid. An Executive Board member will not be restricted in the number of awarded paid directorships or concessions received at any National Tournament when the award vote and the acceptance of a paid directorship or concession for the National Tournament occurred before the Executive Board member was elected to office.

PASSED with the Tournament Directors on the Executive Board abstaining

DM 24-~~32~~ (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Motion amended.

Amend motion 1978-01 Unfinished Delegate Business

Amend motion 1978-01 by striking the language referencing a publication that has not been prepared in years, and add a qualification on the timing of the reporting of board action, as follows:

All motions not acted on by the Delegates at the Annual Meeting that deal with matters which the Executive Board can act on under the Bylaws, shall be acted upon by the Board. ~~These actions shall be reported in the Executive Board Newsletter and at no later than~~ **no later than** the next year's Delegates Meeting.

PASSED

DM 24-~~33~~ (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Motion amended.

Amend motion 1997-52 Personnel to remove reference to a system no longer used by US Chess as follows:

All Board-approved changes to employee compensation will be subject to a vote of the full Board and the vote will be recorded in open session. ~~The text of any Board-approved change to employee compensation will be recorded as a confidential BINFO item.~~

Any Board-approved change to an employee incentive plan must be finalized no later than 90 days after the plan has been approved. Any Board-approved employee contract must have the signature of no fewer than one officer and one other Board member. Board-conducted employee reviews must be discussed and written before presented.

PASSED

DM 24-~~35~~ (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Action: Bylaws updated and posted on website.

This ADM proposes amending Section 12, Article III of the US Chess Bylaws to remove the ability of members or affiliates to appeal to the Delegates when their membership has been revoked or suspended by the Executive Board for violations of the US Chess Code of Ethics.

Existing Language:

~~**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.~~

Proposed Replacement for Article III Section 12.

Revocation of Membership or Affiliation for Violations of US Chess Rules or Standards. If the Executive Board proposes to affirm a recommendation of a committee (including, but not limited to, the Rules, States/Affiliates, Tournament Directors Certification, FIDE events committees) that a US Chess member's or affiliate's membership be suspended or revoked for violation of any US Chess rules or standards, the Executive Board shall, before taking such action, give the member or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Further, if the Executive Board recommends that a US Chess member's or affiliate's membership be suspended or revoked for violation of the Safe Play Policy, the Executive Board shall, before taking such action, give the member or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed recommendation.

Within this 30-day period following written notice of a proposal of the Executive Board, the member or affiliate shall have the right to appeal the Executive Board's proposal. The member's or affiliate's appeal shall be in writing and shall state the reasons why the Executive Board's proposal is in error and that sanctions should not be imposed. The Executive Board shall act upon the written request and set a date to hear the member's or affiliate's appeal. The date of the hearing shall be set within 30 days following the Executive Board's receipt of a timely filed written appeal. After hearing the appeal, the Executive Board shall sustain, reduce, or remove the sanctions and notify the individual or affiliate in writing of the decision. The Executive Board's decision regarding an appeal by a member or affiliate is final and unappealable.

PASSED > two-thirds majority

DM 24-36 (Caleb Brown, TX)

Action: TDs can already advertise this in the text of their online TLA if they are so inclined. Adding an additional field will only complicate the process and the ability to include this information is already present and unused.

Resolved that the Board of Delegates requests the Office add a required field to the bottom of online TLAs stating the forfeit time chosen by the organizer if technically feasible.

REFERRED to Executive Board and Office

DM 24-37 (Louis Reed, TX)

Action: To appear in the next edition of the *US Chess Rules of Chess*

Motion to change Rule 14F1 from its current text.

From:

14F1. Explanation. ~~The game is drawn when the player on move claims a draw and demonstrates that the last 50 consecutive moves have been made by each side without any capture or pawn move. If the director wishes to allow more than 50 moves for certain positions, details must be posted at the tournament before the first round. See also 15H, Reporting of results.~~

To:

14F1. Explanation. **The game is drawn when the player on move claims a draw and demonstrates that the last 50 consecutive moves have been made by each side without any capture and without any pawn move. If the director wishes to allow more than 50 moves for certain positions, details must be posted at the tournament before the first round. See also 15H, Reporting of results.**

PASSED > 85%

DM 24-38 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N)

Action: Bylaws updated and posted on website

Add to Article VII of the Bylaws

Section 3.A.5 Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall consist of eight members, six appointed by the Delegates and two additional members appointed by the Executive Board. The Delegate appointed members shall serve for two years. The Board appointed members shall serve until their replacements have been appointed and have taken their place. The committee shall choose its own chair.

PASSED >75%

DM 24-39 (Christina Schweiss, VA)

Action: This motion is not supported by the Rules Committee.

Proposed Rulebook amendment

Variation 13D1. Equipment must be set up.

To win under 13D, a player must set up a board, a set, and a clock, start the opponent's clock, and run the clock until the opponent has one hour of elapsed time or the first or only time control period has expired, whichever comes first. If the on-time player is playing White, the player may opt to write their opening move on their scoresheet but not make it on the board before starting Black's clock and turn the scoresheet over to a Tournament Director. Upon Black's arrival, Black may press the clock to allow White to make the move written on the scoresheet. Like sealed moves in adjournment, White is obligated to play the written move. If both players are late, the first to arrive must split the elapsed time from the start of the game until the arrival time before starting the opponent's clock.

REFERRED TO RULES

DM 24-41 (Andrew Rea, FL)

Action: *Chess Life* is currently just under the \$1 per issue mark, while *Chess Life Kids* is well under the \$1 per issue standard. With both paper and postal rates rising in FY 25-26, we estimate that *Chess Life* will exceed the \$1 per issue fee currently paid by print subscribers.

Request the Executive Board to analyze the costs of *Chess Life* and analyze projected revenue impact of increasing the price of *Chess Life*; and to then present this data at the 2025 Delegate Meeting.

REFERRED to Executive Board

DM 24-42 (Lawrence Cohen, IL)

Action: Notice of the free TLA for new Senior and Women's only tournaments announced in *Chess Life*.

From January 01, 2025, until December 31, 2025, new Senior Only tournaments and new Women's Only tournaments be given one free TLA and one free e-blast. Notice of this to be listed online and in October and November *Chess Life*.

REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

DM 24-43 (Andrew Schley, WI)

Action: The EB recognizes there are some inconsistencies but sees no reason to impose this type of rule and will leave it to the event organizer to state the rules for their events.

Mandating the "1000 point rule" from the Amateur Team East for all four amateur team events (North, East, West, and South). "Teams rated over 2000 average no more than 1000 points between boards 3 and 4."

REFERRED to EXECUTIVE BOARD

DM 24-44 (Mike Hoffpauir, VA; Sophia Rohde, NY)

Action: The Executive Board does not support the motion.

The delegates request the US Chess office implement procedures to deconflict proposed FIDE events, especially Norm events, before registering them with FIDE if the proposed event is being played during the same dates and within 200 miles of a US National Championship or a State Championship.

The delegates request that US Chess reserve the right to decline jurisdiction over rating FIDE norm events if it fails to follow the following simple clearinghouse procedures.

1. A FIDE norm event and/or FIDE rated event that is scheduled for the same dates as a state championship event, or a state championship held within 200 miles of an adjacent state, without prior approval of the state affiliate.
2. A FIDE-norm and/or FIDE rated event that is scheduled for the same dates as a US Chess National Event held within 200 miles of the location, without prior approval from US Chess, the organizer if a bid-out event, and/or the local state affiliates.
3. A FIDE Round Robin Norm event that is scheduled for the same dates as another FIDE norm Swiss event already posted, without approval of the Swiss event.

REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD AND FIDE EVENTS