COMPLIANCE REPORT
2025 US CHESS DELEGATE MOTIONS

Quick Reference Chart

Motion	Disposition	Subject	Basic Action
ADM 25-01	Withdrawn	Re-election of DALs	No DALs present
DM 25-01	Passed by Acclamation	Appoint Franc Guadalupe as DAL	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-02	Passed by Acclamation	Appointment of Andrew Rea as Parliamentarian	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-03	Passed	Appointment of Conflict-of-Interest Committee	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-04	Passed	Approval of 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-05	Passed	Amendment to Advance Agenda (LMA Trust)	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-06	Passed	Amendment to Advance Agenda (Additional Delegates from Membership Meeting)	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-07	Passed	Approval of Advance Agenda as modified	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-08	Passed	Approval of Additional Delegates	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-09	Passed by Acclamation	Approval of the Alaska State Federation as the state affiliate	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-10	Passed by Acclamation	Approval of Riley O'Hara as delegate for the Alaska state affiliate	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-11	Passed	Approval of the PPBH Report	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-12	Passed	2025-2026 Budget	Action occurred during meeting

DM 25-13	Passed	Ratification of 2025 Election	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-14	Passed	Increase in number of LMA Trustees from 11 to 12	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25–15	Passed	Appointment of Audit Committee	Committee Updated in US Chess system
DM 25–16	Passed	Appointment of LMA Trustees	Committee Updated in US Chess system
DM 25–17	Passed	Appointment of Election Committee	Committee Updated in US Chess system
DM 25–18	Passed	Appointment of Ethics committee	Committee Updated in US Chess system
DM 25–19	Passed	Appointment of Bylaws Committee	Committee Updated in US Chess system
DM 25–20	Passed	Table motion (DM24-15/MM 24-02) on state chapter challenges for consideration with a later motion	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25–21	Passed	Rule change from 2024 (DM 24–17/MM 24–06)	To appear in next edition of the *US Chess Rules of Chess*
DM 24–27	Withdrawn	Amend Chapter 11 of the Official Rules of Chess	
DM 24–28	Withdrawn	Amend Blitz Rule 7	
DM 24–36	Withdrawn	Add field online for forfeit time	
DM 24–39	Failed	Amend Variation 13D1 of Official Rules of Chess	
DM 24–41		Analyze and present Chess Life costs and present at 2025 Annual Meeting	No Action Required
DM 24–42		Publicize free email blasts for new Women's and Senior Only Tournaments in *Chess Life*	No Action Required
DM 24-43		Mandating the 1000-point rule	No Action Required
DM 24-44		Deconflict FIDE events and US National and State Championships	No Action Required
DM 25-22	Passed	Modify Bylaws Article V Section 9	Bylaws Updated and posted on website

DM 25-23	Referred	Amend *Rules of Chess* Chapter 1, Rule 15A and Blitz Chess Chapter 11	The Rules Committee supports this change.
DM 25-24	Passed	Amend Bylaws Article III, Section 4 and remove Section 7(d) Code of Ethics	Bylaws and Code of Ethics Updated and posted on website
DM 25-25	Passed	Extend current Nominating Committee's term to 1-1-2027	Nominating Committee's term extended to 1-1-2027
DM 25-26	Passed	Divide ADM 25–09 into two parts	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-27	Passed	Universal Voting Registration Approval	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-28	Passed	The Executive Board to establish a task force on universal voter registration	EB26-071 Appointment of Task Force re. automatic voter registration
DM 25-29	Failed	Listing Nominating Committee's recommendations presented separately on ballot	
DM 25-30	Passed	Amend Section 1d of the Invitational Guidelines	Web page updated
ADM 25-12	Withdrawn		
DM 25-31	Passed	Bylaws change Article V, Section 2	Bylaws Updated and posted on website
DM 25-32	Passed	Amend DACI 1994-16	DACIs updated and posted to website
DM 25-33	Fewer than 85% (48) of the vote	Amending Correspondence Chess Rules	Motion returns to delegates in 2026
DM 25-34	Passed	Divide ADM 25–16	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25-35	Referred	Replace the language in 7e	The Rules Committee supports this change
DM 25-36	Failed	Use of USA designation	
ADM 25–18	Withdrawn		
ADM 25–19	Withdrawn		
DM 25–37	Referred	Adoption of State Chapter Status Policy	Referred to Executive Board

DM 25-38	Passed	Remove DM 24–15 from table	Action occurred during meeting
DM 25–39	Failed	Three-year moratorium on challenges to state chapters	
DM 25–40	Referred	Logos on chess boards	The Rules Committee opposes this motion
DM 25–41	Passed	Amend DACI 1999-09	DACIs updated and posted to website
DM 25–42	Failed	Refer DM 25–41 to US Open and National State Invitational Committees	
DM 25–43	Referred	Rule change re. pawns	The Rules Committee does not support this change
DM 25–44	Referred	Use of state name in tournaments	Referred to States and Affiliates
DM 25–45	Passed by acclamation	Congratulatory motion	Action occurred during meeting

The information in bold can be found on the Governance Hub of the US Chess Website:

The **2025 Annual Meeting Minutes** on the 2025 Annual Meeting Information page.

- The **Bylaws**, **DACI**, and **Code of Ethics** on the Documents and Policies page.
- The **2025-2026 Board Motions** document and monthly board minutes on the 2025-2026 Executive Board Documents page.
- The **2025-2026 Committee List** on the Committees page.
- A list of Current Delegates on the Delegates page.

Additional relevant links:

The 2025-2026 Executive Board.

The Rule Book. https://new.uschess.org/news/7th-edition-rule-book-free-chapters-updated-2025

DM 25-01 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

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

DM 25-02 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Move that Andrew Rea be appointed parliamentarian.
PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

DM 25-03 (KEVIN PRYOR, FL)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

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

DM 25-04 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Move that the minutes of the 2024 Delegates Meeting as available to the Delegates present in Norfolk, Virginia be accepted.
PASSED

DM 25-05 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

A motion came out of the Membership Meeting to increase the number of trustees on the LMA Trust. This needed to be placed directly after the committee reports as it affected the election of the LMA trustees immediately following this item.
PASSED

DM 25-06 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Motion to add the appointment of the Additional Delegates at the Membership Meeting so they can be considered by the Conflict-of-Interest Committee.
PASSED

DM 25-07 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Move the Delegates approve the Advance Agenda as modified for the 2025 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.
PASSED

DM 25-08 (MIKE NIETMAN, WI)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

As per Article V, Section 9, 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. Therefore, be it resolved that the 2025 US Chess Membership Meeting elect as Additional Delegates to the US Chess Delegates Meeting the following: Sandra Hoffman, (WI), David Kuhns (MN).
PASSED

DM 25-09 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICATION TO BE THE ALASKA STATE CHAPTER
Riley O'Hara, the President and Treasurer of the Alaska Chess Federation was present.
PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

DM 25-10 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Now we have approved Alaska's State Chapter, I move that we add Riley O'Hara to the list of delegates for this meeting.
PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

DM 25-11 (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.
PASSED

DM 25-12 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Approve the US Chess Budget for 2025-2026.
PASSED

DM 25-13 (MIKE NIETMAN, WI)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

The Delegates ratify the 2025 Executive Board election.
PASSED

DM 25-14 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Move that the Life Member Asset Trust be amended to increase the number of trustees from not more than 11 to not more than 12.
PASSED

DM 25 –15 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Committee updated in US Chess system.

As the Chair of the Audit Committee, the sponsor named the members of the audit committee, with a request that John D. Rockefeller V be named a board liaison: Allen Priest, Doug Eckert, Jon Haskel, and Fun Fong.
PASSED

DM 25–16 (CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

Action: Committee updated in US Chess system.

The maker, as chair of the LMA Trust, named the following members: Chuck Unruh, Leroy Dubeck, Beatriz Marinello, Jim Bedenbaugh, Steve Doyle, Peter Dyson, Dov Gorman, David Grimaud, Mike Hoffpauir, Allen Priest, Tim Redman.
PASSED

DM 25–17 (MIKE NIETMAN, WI)

Action: Committee updated in US Chess system.

The maker, as the Elections Committee Chair, proposed no change to the members named last year: Mike Nietman, Kimberly Doo, Josh Sinanan, and Kenneth Sloan.
PASSED

DM 25–18 (ANAND DOMMALAPATI, VA)

Action: Committee updated in US Chess system.

The maker spoke to the motion, thanking those who had acted as case managers, and recommended the following as the Ethics Committee: Rob Getty, Bob Greer, Charles Hatherill Steve Lampkin, Tom Langland, Jim Mennella, Jeff Smith, Harold Stenzel, Hal Terrie, Martha Underwood, Mike Hoffpauir, and Louis Reed.
PASSED

DM 25–19 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Committee updated in US Chess system.

As a co-chair of the Bylaws Committee, the maker of the motion named: Guy Hoffman, David Day, Randy Hough, Richard Koepcke, Kenneth Sloan, Alex Lumelsky, John McCrary, Robert Messenger, Andrew Rea, Allen Priest, Randy Bauer.
PASSED

DM 25–20 (DANIEL ROHDE, NY)

Action: Action occurred during motion.

The States and Affiliates committee has come forward with a new motion later in the agenda. I move to table this entire motion (DM24-15/MM 24-02) until we hear that full motion from the States and Affiliates committee later in the meeting.
PASSED

DM 25–21 (CALEB BROWN, TX; MICAH SMITH, OR)

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

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.

The motion was passed in 2024 and was passed in 2025 by two thirds of delegates present to go into the rule book.

For: 64 delegates
Against: 5
PASSED

DM 25–22 (MIKE NIETMAN, WI)

Action: Bylaws updated and posted on website.

Modify Article V Section 9 to remove ~~On June 1 of the following year~~ to **At the start of the next membership meeting.**
PASSED

DM 25–23 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Action: The Rules Committee supports this change. Currently the statement about scorekeeping not being required at quick rated time controls is only a TD Tip but should be codified in the rules.

Resolved that the Rules of Chess be amended as follows:

Rule 15A of Chapter 1 shall become:

In the course of play each player is required to record the game (both the player's and the opponent's moves), move after move, as clearly and legibly as possible, on the scoresheet prescribed for the competition. Algebraic notation is standard, but descriptive or computer notation is permitted. The player must first make the move and then record it on the scoresheet. The scoresheet shall be visible to the arbiter (tournament directors) and the opponent throughout the game. **Scorekeeping is not required in time controls that are quick rated but not dual rated.**

The following section shall be added to the end of Chapter 11, Blitz Chess:

19). Scorekeeping is not required.

REFERRED TO RULES

DM 25-24 (MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA)

Action: Bylaws and Code of Ethics Updated and Posted on Website.

Part 1) Move to amend Article III (Membership), Section 4 (Revocation of Memberships), first paragraph of the U.S. Chess Bylaws by replacing Section 4, which reads:

"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."
with the following:

"If the Executive Board votes to affirm a recommendation of a committee **that a US Chess member's or affiliate's membership be suspended or revoked, the action shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Executive Board and, if the Executive Board votes to approve the Executive Director's suspension of a US Chess member's or affiliate's membership, the suspension shall continue in effect under the terms of the Executive Director's decision. In either instance, the Executive Board shall provide written notice to the member or affiliate within five (5) days of its decision and shall give the member 30 days to appeal the decision.**"

Part 2) To implement the motion to change Article III, Section 4, of the Bylaws, also move to amend the Procedures in the US Chess Code of Ethics by removing Section 7(d), which reads:

"7(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.~~"

with the following:

7(d): Except as specified in 7(f) sanctions recommended to the Executive Board by the Ethics Committee shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Executive Board. The member or members shall have thirty days from the date of notification to submit an appeal, 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. No appeals shall be permitted in cases where the Ethics Committee has found in favor of the respondent and has recommended no sanctions.
PASSED

DM 25–25 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Action: Nominating Committee's term extended to 1-1-2027

Move that the term of the current Nominating Committee to expire January 1, 2027.
PASSED

DM 25-26 (MIKE NOLAN, NE)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

Motion to divide the amendment into two parts.
PASSED

DM 25-27 (BYLAWS COMMITTEE)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

The delegates approve the concept of universal voter registration.
PASSED

DM 25-28 (BYLAWS COMMITTEE)

Action: EB26-071 Appointment of Task Force re. automatic voter registration

The delegates direct the Executive Board to create a task force to develop the necessary bylaw amendment[s] and implement procedures for delegate approval at the 2026 annual delegates meeting or a special delegates meeting called for this purpose.
PASSED

DM 25-30 (JOHN FERNANDEZ, MO; SUNIL WEERAMANTRY, NY)

Action: Webpage updated.

Resolved that Section 1d of the Invitational Guidelines be amended as follows:

d. U.S. residency. Non-US citizens, including those who have an approved FIDE federation transfer, must provide documentation of U.S. residency. ~~Documentation includes I-94, work, refugee or humanitarian visas~~. In accordance with ADM 14-31 approved at the 2014 Delegates Meeting, a student or tourist visa is not sufficient for eligibility to play in US Chess Invitational events. Students and tourists desiring invitation to such events must demonstrate their commitment to the U.S. by providing a Green Card ~~or properly processed Green Card application~~.
PASSED

DM 25–31 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Action: Bylaws updated and posted on website.

Resolved that Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws be amended as follows:

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. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates are voting members. The age of Delegates-at-Large**,** ~~and~~ Delegates **and Alternate Delegates** shall conform to the specifications for voting members provided in Article IV, Section 2.

MOTION PASSED WITH A 2/3RDS MAJORITY

DM 25–32 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Action: DACIs updated and posted to website.

Resolved that DACI 1994–16 be amended as follows:

1994-16. Presenting Committee Reports. All annual committee reports not published in the Delegates Call will be distributed at the Delegates meeting **or posted on the website**.
PASSED

DM 25-33 (Tim Just, IL)

Action: To be voted on again in 2026.

US Chess Correspondence Chess Rules 2025 Revised Edition

These rules, effective **October 1, 2025** supersede previous versions and apply to all US Chess Correspondence Chess rated tournaments.

Your Pledge:

I undertake to conform to the rules and objectives of US Chess Correspondence Chess (CC), to respond promptly to all chess correspondence and to maintain a high standard of courtesy, sociability, and good fellowship at all times in my contacts with other members. I also understand that I have a responsibility to complete my games.

Your Responsibilities as a Player

1. You must be a US Chess member for the duration of your play in any tournament. You must abide by the latest edition of the US Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess, except when inappropriate for correspondence play. In case of conflict, correspondence rules take precedence. You are responsible for knowing the rules. By entering correspondence events, you agree to follow directions of the Tournament Director (TD), to respond to any legitimate inquiry, and to provide requested information. Players must enter tournaments only in their own names, unless approval for other action is granted by the TD. A player who withdraws may be denied entry to new events. If you withdraw without proper notice to your opponent and the TD, the TD may provide this information to the US Chess Correspondence Chess Director (CCD) who may determine whether you will be allowed to enter future US Chess CC events.

2. You are expected to act courteously toward opponents. The TD will forfeit players who use abusive or insulting language or who are disruptive. In case of conflict, you should try to come to an agreement with your opponent.

3. ~~**You may consult chess books and periodicals**~~ **You may consult chess books, periodicals, and videos**, but not other players. You cannot use computer programs or chess playing algorithms **(aka chess engines)** to evaluate a move, but you may use computers for record keeping and databases.

4. In case of appeals, retain all game records (move cards or emails) for at least four months after receiving notice of a game result. Otherwise, you may find yourself without a defense to an opponent's claim.

Time Control & Reflection Time

5. The following time controls are allowable for US Chess CC events:
a. 30 days reflection time for each 10 moves~~**, with a maximum of 10 days for any one move.**~~ You may carry unused time over from one time period into the next time period.
b. A set number of days per move, with a minimum of at least 3 days.
c. International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) (www.iccf.com) time controls in accordance with ICCF rule 2.4.1 Time Allowed and Penalties and Tournament Announcements.

For postal chess, reflection time is calculated from the date the move is received until the postmarked date of your response. For example, if your move is received on March 22nd and your response is postmarked on March 22nd (the same date) you will have used zero days reflection time. However, if your response is postmarked on March 23rd, you will have used one day reflection time.

For email or correspondence chess servers, reflection time is calculated from the date and time it is received until the date and time it is emailed or sent. For example, if your move is received at 11:00AM on March 22nd and your response is sent at 10:59AM on March 23rd, you will have used zero days reflection time. However, if your response is sent at 11:00AM on March 23rd, you will have used one day reflection time. There is no transit time in email or correspondence chess server games.

6. Every day counts for reflection time, including Sundays and holidays.

7. You may take up to 30 days of excused time a calendar year. Additional emergency time may be granted at the discretion of the TD. You must take excused time for all games in a section. To take excused time, simply notify your opponents and the TD in advance. If you send a move, your excused time ends immediately. If your opponent takes excused time, you should respond to unanswered moves normally because your reflection time is still counted.

8. You must advise the TD and your opponents of address changes (postal or email) in advance or at the latest within seven days of vacating previous premises. Five days will be charged as reflection time for failure to comply.

Postal or E-mail Transmission of Moves

9. You must use English algebraic notation unless you and your opponent agree **on ~~another system~~ another authorized notation, such as International Numeric or English Descriptive notation.** All games shall be conducted using written or typed correspondence unless otherwise indicated. Transmitted moves, including conditional moves, are binding if the moves are legal. If an illegal or ambiguous move is transmitted as part of a conditional move set, the moves

immediately preceding the illegal or ambiguous move are binding. Missing or mistaken announcement of check, capture, or "e.p." does not invalidate a move. Diagrams or commentary have no significance in disputes over move legality.

10. Your move card or email must contain:

a. Names and addresses of both players.
b. Section and game numbers.
c. The previous move sent and your response.
d. For conditional moves, the move sent immediately prior to the conditional move(s), all conditional moves you accept, and your response.
e. Receipt and postmark dates of your opponent's previous move and the date of your reply.
f. Time used on current move by you and your opponent.
g. Current reflection time totals. If you do not include "f." and "g." with your moves, you cannot claim a win on time.

11. The TD may impose a five-day penalty for:
a. Impossible, ambiguous, or illegible move(s).
b. Failing to confirm your opponent's last move.

An impossible move is a move which cannot be played as recorded. Notify your opponent immediately of your finding. An impossible move or an illegible move in no way obliges the player to move the piece in question. In **the** case of an ambiguous move, the ambiguous move must be clarified and executed. For example, if your opponent writes Nd2 and either Nbd2 or Nfd2 can be made, the person writing the ambiguous move must execute Nbd2 or Nfd2. Clerical errors are binding and once sent, can in no way be taken back.

12. To offer conditional moves, send a series of consecutively numbered moves. To accept conditional moves, acknowledge them as you would other moves. You can accept a series of conditional moves in whole or in part. Conditional moves are binding only until the next reply.

Example: you are responding to your opponent's second move, 2. Nf3. You want to reply 2... Nc6 and offer two conditional moves. Your card should have the following appearance:

1. e4 e5
2. Nf3 Nc6
if 3. Bb5, then 3... a6
if 3. Bc4, then 3... Nf6

A typical opponent's reply might be:

2. Nf3 Nc6
3. Bb5 a6
4. Bxc6 ...

There is no penalty for ~~misrecording~~ incorrectly recording an "if" move by the sending player.

Webserver Transmission of Moves

13. Unless otherwise specified, all moves in USCF Webserver games shall be made by committing them through the ICCF Webserver (www.iccf.com) in accordance with ICCF rule 2.3. Transmissions.

If a player should lose internet access, become ill or is otherwise unable to transmit or receive moves by server, they, or a surrogate, is expected to contact the TD regarding their situation. If a player fails to communicate his situation, his games will be subject to forfeitures when time oversteps occur, and the player risks being declared a silent withdrawal by the TD with all games closed out.

The ICCF Webserver tracks everything – moves, time, comments, and results.

Postal or E-mail Loss on Time/Repeats/Time Complaints

~~13~~.14. If a player oversteps the time control, they will forfeit the game.

Variation **~~13a~~ 14a**. The TD may impose a 5-day reflection time penalty for the first occurrence of a player who oversteps the time control. If a player violates the time control a second time, they will forfeit the game.

14b. Exceeding the time limit can neither be prevented nor caused by "if" moves. For example, if the 10th move is accepting an "if" move and the 11th move is thus required at the same time, the time limit is not applicable.

~~14~~.15. If an opponent fails to reply to a move within **~~14~~ 16** days a player must send a repeat move. If another **~~14~~ 16** days have elapsed without a reply to the repeat move, file a time complaint with the TD and send no more repeats. The complaint must include:

a. The violator's name and address.
b. The Tournament Section **and game number (if applicable).**
c. Date of last move sent.
d. Date of repeat move sent.
e. Reflection time usage.

Once filed, a valid time complaint may not be withdrawn by the complainant and must be answered by the alleged violator. The disposition of time complaints is the responsibility of the TD, not the players. In email events, the repeat move must be sent by email.

~~15~~.16. Upon receipt of a time complaint, the TD shall send an official inquiry to the opponent named. Should the TD receive a valid explanation, he will order the game resumed (if needed) and no action will be taken. If the explanation is not satisfactory, the TD may impose an

appropriate penalty, as provided for in Rule ~~20~~**.22**. If no answer is received by the TD within 14 days from the date the complaint was filed by him, the game(s) may be forfeited. The complainant shall, in all instances, receive written disposition of any valid time complaint filed.

Webserver Loss on Time

17. Players are solely responsible for ensuring they make their moves within scheduled time limits in accordance with ICCF (www.iccf.com) rule 2.6. Failure to reply.

Disputes

~~16~~**.18.** Any dispute you cannot resolve or any claim of repeated or willful rule violation must be submitted to the TD. Relevant evidence must be included. Whenever possible, continue play while the complaint is being considered. Your complaint should include:

a. Section and game numbers.
b. Name of both players.
c. Game score.
d. Reflection time usage.
e. Supporting documentation (photocopies are acceptable unless the TD asks for originals).

Any complaint must be sent within seven days of the time a person becomes aware of the alleged infraction. Failure to provide all the necessary information requested per the above, negates your claim.

Reporting Game Results

~~17~~**.19**. The winner must report the result to the TD immediately upon conclusion of the game. In case of draws, White must report the result. It is a good idea for the other player to also submit the result, labeling it "duplicate report." Reports must include section and game numbers as well as the names and ID numbers of both players.

The ICCF Webserver (www.iccf.com) automatically reports all results via email to the TD.

Thirty-Month Limit and Adjudications

~~18~~**.20**. A US Chess CC game must end after thirty (30) months from when the event begins. **There are no extensions in US Chess Correspondence Chess rated tournaments.** Either player may submit the game for adjudication, sent no later than one week after the tournament's end date. The player submitting the adjudication must provide the following to the TD:

a. The score of the game.
b. Diagram of the position before adjudication.
c. Claim of win or draw.
d. Any analysis to support the claim (optional).

If neither player submits the adjudication material within one week after the tournament's end date, the game is scored as a rated draw. The TD is not required to provide the basis for the adjudication result.

Withdrawals/Forfeits

~~**19.**~~**21**. If a player forfeits games against two opponents in the same section, all uncompleted games in that section shall also be forfeited.

If a player goes silent in all his games, the player's remaining games will be declared a silent withdrawal by the TD. A mass withdrawal occurs when a player withdraws from all play and notifies the TD of his intentions. If a player dies, all remaining games of the deceased player will be treated as a mass withdrawal.

All uncompleted games from either a silent withdrawal or mass withdrawal are recorded as unrated forfeit losses for the withdrawing player if the game has less than 10 moves completed for both players and has been in progress for less than 6 months. However, a player may file for adjudication within 14 days of being notified of the silent withdrawal or mass withdrawal to claim a rated result by following the adjudication procedures set in Rule ~~**18.**~~**20.**
If an uncompleted game has at least 10 moves completed by both players or has been in progress for at least 6 months, it is recorded as a rated loss for the withdrawing player.

Penalties

~~20.~~**22.** The TD may assess penalties for violations of these rules. Penalties include, but are not limited to, informal reprimands, warnings, reflection time reduction, forfeitures, or withdrawal. Warnings are usually issued before more severe penalties, but the TD may skip this step. Smooth and timely completion of games is the main consideration.

Appeals

~~21.~~**23.** Any decision of the Chief TD of an event may be appealed to US Chess.

Appeals in writing must be postmarked within seven days of the end of the tournament to the US Chess office. Appeals submitted after the seven-day deadline may be considered at the discretion of the committee hearing the appeal. Appeals may be submitted via e-mail, but the business office or the committee(s) hearing the appeal may require a signed statement. The office will refer an appeal to the appropriate committee(s) but may immediately reject obviously groundless appeals. A good-faith deposit must be included with the appeal. The deposit will be returned unless the ruling authority finds the appeal to be groundless and rules that the deposit is to be forfeited. US Chess reserves the right to make final decisions concerning the rules and procedures that govern its competitions.

Player Replacements

~~22~~.**24.** A withdrawn player may be replaced at the option of the TD. There will be no replacement for a withdrawn player against whom a win, loss, or draw has been scored in actual play. A withdrawn player will not be replaced 60 days after the tournament start date.

GLOSSARY

adjudication: A judge's determination of a game's result, based on best play by both sides.

ambiguous move: A move in which two chess pieces of the same kind can be transferred to a new square and the player does not specify which chess piece. Example, knights on b1 and f3 could be moved to d2. The move "Nd2" is ambiguous because it does not specify which knight is being transferred. The correct transmission is either "Nbd2" or "Nfd2."

conditional or "if" moves: An attempt to save time and postage by offering a plausible continuation beyond the required response. Conditional moves are binding if the recipient accepts the continuations. The game must then follow the indicated continuation, or any part accepted in sequence.

English algebraic: Conventional algebraic notation with abbreviations of the English names for the pieces: for example, Nf3 or Ng1-f3 or Bc1-f4; "x" or ":" for capture is standard. A full explanation of this system is available from the US Chess office. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

excused time: Time-outs when play is suspended for leaves or for special circumstances with the approval of the TD.

illegal move: A move which violates the rules of chess.

impossible move: A move which cannot be played as recorded. A blank or missing move shall be treated as an impossible move.

transmission time: The time a move is in the custody of the Postal Service, that is, from the postmark date to date of delivery at the recipient's address. There is no transmission time in email or correspondence chess server games.

TD Tip:
Check https://new.uschess.org/correspondence-chess/rules for possible updates and changes.

FEWER THAN 85% (48 in favor) OF THE VOTE, MOTION RETURNS TO DELEGATES IN 2026

DM 25–34 (ROBERT MESSENGER, MA)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

To divide the motion and voting on the motion's principle.
PASSED

DM 25–35 (STEVE IMMITT, NY)

Action: The Rules Committee supports the general idea behind the ADM.

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 25–37 (CALEB BROWN, TX)

Action: EB26-078 - The Executive Board moves to refer DM 25-37: State Chapter Policies to the States & Affiliates Committee.

Resolved that the Board of Delegates adopt the State Chapter Status Policy, as follows:

State Chapter Status Policy

1. Purpose. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the acquisition of state chapter status, including in the case of an affiliate challenging the status of the current state affiliate. This policy is in addition to, and does not replace, the provisions of the Bylaws governing state chapter status.

2a. Credentials. An affiliate may apply to be a state chapter by submitting credentials to an email address designated by the Executive Director or in such other form as the Executive Director may provide.

2b. Deadline. In accordance with the Bylaws, credentials must be submitted before March 1 if there is a state chapter and before June 1 if there is no state chapter.

2c. Content. Affiliates shall be strongly encouraged to include the following in their credentials:

- ❖ Governing documents (articles of incorporation, bylaws, etc.)
- ❖ IRS determination letter (if any)
- ❖ Mission, vision, values and goals statements
- ❖ Links to its online presence (website, social media, etc.)
- ❖ Bios of its principal officers and board members
- ❖ An explanation of why it is the best candidate to be the state chapter;
- ❖ A discussion of how it would carry out the provisions of DACI 1991-27; and
- ❖ If it is a state chapter challenge, a respectful discussion about the deficiencies in the incumbent state chapter, including any failure to carry out the provisions of DACI 1991-27.

Affiliates should also consider including letters of recommendation from local chess community members, plans for future tournaments/programming and any other materials that would support their case.

2d. Responses. In the case of a state chapter challenge, the US Chess Office shall provide the state chapter with the credentials of the challenging affiliate as soon as practicable on or after March 1. The state chapter shall have thirty days to submit a response. The challenging affiliate shall then have one week from the time of receiving the response to submit a rebuttal. The state chapter shall then have one week from the time of receiving the rebuttal to submit a final statement. If there is more than one challenging affiliate, the same rules apply but the deadline for the final statement shall be one week from the time of receiving the last timely submitted rebuttal. Any deadline in this subsection may be extended for good cause at the sole discretion of the Executive Director. All responses, rebuttals and final statements shall be provided along with the credentials to the Delegates at least one month before the annual Delegates meeting.

3a. Committee Review. The materials mentioned in Sec. 2 shall be promptly provided to the States and Affiliates Committee after the deadlines for providing materials for the state have closed. Upon receipt of these materials, the committee shall expeditiously review the materials and make recommendations to the Executive Board.

3b. Executive Board Recommendations. In accordance with the Bylaws, the Executive Board shall provide any recommendations on actions to be taken by the Delegates at least one month before the annual Delegates meeting.

4a. Delegate Consideration. The Board of Delegates shall consider any timely submitted applications to be a state chapter before the reports of officers at the annual Delegates meeting. In accordance with the Bylaws, such consideration shall not be in order at a special Delegates meeting.

4b. Deliberation. Each affiliate shall have five minutes to give a presentation to the Delegates. A period of questions shall be allowed with one minute being allowed to ask each question and three minutes for each affiliate concerned to answer. Debate shall then be allowed as in the case of a main motion, except that any Delegate who represents one of the affiliates may only speak in debate if no Delegates who have not spoken once in debate are seeking recognition. If the

Executive Board made a recommendation, then an Executive Board member designated by the chair shall have the right to speak first in debate.

4c. One Applicant Voting. If there is no state chapter and only one timely submitted application is received, a Delegate may ask the Delegates approve the application by acclamation, which shall be sufficient if there are no objections. Otherwise, the Delegates shall vote on the application as if it were a main motion and a majority vote shall be required.

4d. Contested Voting. If there is a state chapter or multiple timely submitted applications are received, an election shall be conducted at the meeting by the Election Committee. The Delegates shall vote by secret ballot. The only options on the ballot shall be each affiliate and abstain. If no option receives a majority of votes on the first ballot, all but the two affiliates with the most votes and abstain shall be eliminated and a second ballot shall be conducted. In the event of a tie vote, the chair shall toss a coin to decide the question.

4e. Special Rule. In the case of a state chapter vacancy where multiple timely submitted applications are received, it shall be in order at any time before the distribution of ballots for a Delegate to move to dispense with the proceedings on grounds that none of the affiliates meet the requirements of the Bylaws and DACI 1991-27. The motion may be approved by a majority vote and may be reconsidered only if passed. Absent any other action by the Delegates at the meeting, if this motion is approved the same process for filling the vacancy shall occur the following year as if the first attempt never occurred. In any such event, the States and Affiliates Committee (or, if appointed at the meeting, a special committee created for the purpose) shall endeavor to resolve the situation informally so that the vacancy may be filled at the next Delegates meeting.

5. Other. A state chapter vacancy shall occur in the case of the dissolution, bankruptcy or resignation of the previous state chapter or when the previous state chapter shall have failed to pay its affiliate dues for more than six months. The resignation of a state chapter must be submitted to the Executive Director in writing and shall take effect upon the appointment of a new state chapter, except that for the purposes of Sec. 2b it shall be deemed to be effective immediately. References to the States and Affiliates Committee include any successor committees and subcommittees thereof. The Delegates reserve the right to amend this policy at any time without notice.
REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD

DM 25–38 (DANIEL ROHDE, NY)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

I'd like to move to take off the table the previous motion, DM 24-15, from Old Business.
PASSED

DM 25–40 (DUWAYNE LANGSETH, CO)

Action: The Rules Committee opposes this motion. The rules should not attempt to define or specify accommodations for every disability. TD discretion already covers this particular concern.

Modify Rule 39A Which reads "~~The Director is the final arbiter to whether the equipment in question is standard.~~" To "**The director is the final arbiter to whether the equipment in question is standard, except that no player shall be required to play on a board that has a symbol on a square."**
REFERRED TO RULES

DM 25–41 Daniel Rohde, NY; Daniel Serna, NM; Anand Dommalapati, VA; Sophia Rohde, NY; Sunil Weeramantry, NY; Josh Sinanan, WA)

Action: DACIs updated and posted to website.

Resolved that DACI 1999-09 be amended as follows:

1999-09. U.S. Open Scheduling. No rounds of the US Open may be scheduled to conflict with the Delegates Meeting. **Rounds of the US Open shall be flexible enough to accommodate the 7-day format for all players, even if it presents conflicts for the Delegates Meeting. The US Open shall finish no later than August 15th.** An exception is made for the 2020 US Open so that the 2020 US Open can take place near the World Chess Hall of Fame.
PASSED

DM 25–43 (ANDREW REA, FL)

Action: The Rules Committee does not support this change. If a piece is off-center, a player should be allowed to adjust it even if it was placed several moves ago. If a player is adjusting pieces in an annoying manner, that is already covered under the general rule about annoying behavior.

Move that adjusting of the opponents' pieces can only be done on the immediate move after said piece (or pawn) has been moved.
REFERRED TO RULES

DM 25–44 FRANK DELBONIS, RI; WAYNE POWERS, RI; DANIEL SERNA, NM; JOSH SINANAN, WA; SUNIL WEERAMANTRY, NY)

Action: Referred to States and Affiliates

Move the US Chess Delegates to add this motion: Any U.S. Chess rated tournament or event carrying the name of a state under USCF Bylaws Article VIII, including any state name plus terms or combination of terms implying a state level tournament, must obtain the approval from the recognized state chapter. By way of example, such event names include, but are not limited to, the state name and the terms or combination of terms "Chess", "Open", or "Championship."

If the violating organization fails to comply with this requirement, the state affiliate should make a positive effort to resolve the issue in some matter. If unsuccessful, the state affiliate should report the violation to U.S. Chess for corrective action.
REFERRED TO STATES AND AFFILIATES

DM 25–45 (ALLEN PRIEST)

Action: Action occurred during meeting.

1. Before we install our new board members, I would like to offer congratulations and thanks:

2. To the city of Middleton for hosting the US Open and Invitationals.
3. To Wisconsin Chess Association for their help in hosting the event and driving attendance.
4. To President Kevin Pryor for chairing the meeting.
5. To Andy Rea for his service as Parliamentarian.
6. To The Executive Board for their leadership and service over the last year and to the departing Executive Board members for their years of service.
7. To the committees and their chairs for their service throughout the year.
8. To the event staff for their hard work and making the US Open and the Invitational events a success.
9. To the new national event leaders Pete Karagianis and Eric Czerwin for their diligent efforts to make these events a success.
10. To Bryan Tillis for his diligent efforts to keep the meeting information on the screen before the Delegates on track
11. To Rose McMahon for her work to get all the information to the Delegates in a timely manner, answer questions from Delegates and assisting with the election
12. To Executive Director Ranae Bartlett for her leadership over the last year.

PASSED BY ACCLAMATION