Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest
(as of August 2, 2025)

1960-01. Sites of USCF-Sponsored Tournaments.
Since the U.S. Chess Federation is open to all players, regardless of race, sex, creed, religion, or national origin, and is interested in promoting chess among all groups, all tournaments sponsored by USCF are to be conducted at sites accommodating the right to play of all USCF members. *(Previously 2019 DACI 1)*

1971-01. Speed of Rated Games.
Any change in the speed of rated games requires approval by the Board of Delegates. *(Previously 2019 DACI 3)*

1972-01. Rating Lists and Supplements. The Executive Board is required by the Delegates to publish annually the ratings of active players and to make available by download a bimonthly or monthly Supplement. Rating lists (annual lists and supplements) can be received via electronic media.
Amended 2006-39, 2011-27 *(Previously 2019 DACI 4)*

1972-02. Annual U.S. Championship.
It is the intent of the Board of Delegates that a U.S. Championship be held annually.
Amended 1982-03, 1983-33 *(Previously 2019 DACI 5)*

1978-01. Unfinished Delegate Business.
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 by acted upon by the Board. These actions shall be reported in the *Executive Board Newsletter* and at the next year's Delegates Meeting. *(Previously 2019 DACI 6)*

1998-22. Smoking.
Smoking is prohibited at the following National Tournaments: U.S. Open, National Open, U.S. Amateur, U.S. Junior Open, U.S. Class. There shall be no smoking permitted in any contract areas of all national scholastic tournaments.
Amended 2016-45 *(Previously 2019 DACI 7)*

1991-27. State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations.
The first four items of the following list are required of each State Chapter and the remaining items are recommendations for each State Chapter:

1. Pay its affiliate membership when due and payable;
2. Certify in writing to the USCF Secretary by the authorized date (May 1st) the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s), who shall be USCF members, and report how they were selected (i.e., appointed, elected);
3. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship;

4. Have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or articles of association which includes but is not limited to specifying the governing authority and their selection, meeting schedule and purpose of the State Chapter, and provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the State; Each State Chapter shall submit a copy of their current bylaws or articles of association, and any amendments, as specified herein. This may be in written or electronic form.

5. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) annual USCF rated Scholastic State High School, Junior High or Middle School and Elementary School Championships;

6. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) other chess tournaments throughout the State and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the USCF Tournament Clearinghouse Representative. State Chapters are to support chess throughout the state and exhibit geographical representation in its tournament sponsorship. Examples include but are not limited to statewide or geographically rotating; Rated Beginner Open tournaments, Senior tournaments, weekend Swisses, tornados, quads as well as: participation in National Chess Day Activities, Regional and/or National Championships;

7. Disseminate a periodical that serves as a State chess journal preserving a record of chess activities, promotion events, identifying state officers and, in general, providing a regular mechanism for communicating with its membership. Examples include but are not limited to: State Bulletins, Newsletters or Magazines;

8. Promote and publicize chess activities through various media, including but not limited to newspaper articles, television and radio coverage, flyers or notices at libraries, schools and veteran hospitals. Examples include but are not limited to: chess exhibitions and simultaneous, tournaments, chess lectures, chess lessons, chess columns and articles in local and statewide newspapers, chess clubs and meeting lists and announcements; and

9. Responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide. The State Chapter affirms its intention to comply with the duties and responsibilities of credentialed State Chapters.

10. Designate a coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state.

Amended 2010-32, 2016-42, 2016-71, 2017-42, 2022-33 *(Previously 2019 DACI 8)*

1975-01. Paid Tournament Directors at National Tournaments.

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.

Amended 1984-41, 1993-41, 1994-37 *(Previously 2019 DACI 10)*

1979-45. Tournament Cancellation.
Tournaments announced in *Chess Life* may not be cancelled unless the cancellation notice appears in *Chess Life.* Cancellations which occur too late to appear in *Chess Life* are permitted only if it is physically impossible to hold the tournament (for example, in the case of extreme weather conditions). Cancellations for any other reasons without notice are not permitted. Disappointing
advance entries do not constitute a valid reason for cancellation. Organizers violating this rule shall be prohibited from listing their tournaments in "Tournament Life" or advertising in *Chess Life* for 3 years. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances.
Amended 2002-35 *(Previously 2019 DACI 11)*

1991-49. Chess Life.
GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION.
The goal of Chess Life shall be to promote the United States Chess Federation and chess in the United States and the world. *Chess Life* shall be the journal of record of chess play in the U.S.
As the Federation's most important means of communication to its members, and as the Federation's most visible service, the magazine should be as attractively and professionally produced as resources allow, making use of photography, artwork, cartoons, and other graphic devices, as warranted.
Mindful of our members and potential members, the wide range of playing strengths and interests represented therein, and our overall goal, *Chess Life* should present a comparable range of subject matter. Instructional analysis (aimed at a variety of skill levels), correspondence chess, reader opinion, non-technical (i.e., historical articles, fiction) and human-interest material (i.e., interviews), rules changes, national and international news, and providing coverage of international, national, and regional events, are suggested, but do not delimit areas of concentration.
Consistent with our stated goal, advertising in *Chess Life* is a service to readers as well as a significant source of revenue.
The editor and publisher (Executive Director) will be responsible for ensuring that the overall advertising content in *Chess Life* and subject matter are appropriate. The editor and publisher, in their best judgment, have discretion to refuse any advertisement.
COMPOSITION OF CHESS LIFE.
The following items shall be required *Chess Life* content:
Chess Life should provide a regular section for announcements of upcoming tournaments. This Tournament Life section should be well-organized, informative, and as helpful as possible in order to encourage participation in USCF-rated events, particularly USCF titled events, Grand Prix events, and American Classic events.
RESPONSIBILITY.

Journalism is a public trust, which is best served by the protection of the public interest and the preservation of the credibility of the publication. The reader's right to know is best served when given accurate and complete, unbiased, and factual reporting. Opinion must never be confused with fact. Criticism must be supportable by factual evidence. The purpose and nature of such criticism must be demonstrably in the public interest and not serve merely to harass or discredit. Fairness dictates that a person whose actions are criticized must be given the timely opportunity to explain those actions or reply to the criticism, although practical considerations may not permit concurrent response.
The editor is hired by the USCF Executive Board. The editor will be accountable to the publisher for the performance of his duties in a timely, responsible, and professional manner.
The performance of the editor, with respect to the stated goal of *Chess Life*, will be subject to periodic review by the Executive Board.

DELEGATE INFO

(*Chess Life* Publication).
The March, April or May issue of Chess Life shall be the yearbook issue and shall contain general information about the USCF and about chess governance including the names and contact information of current USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates. Suggested content includes, but is not limited to, such things as names and addresses of significant individuals and organizations, top and busiest lists, and historical data.
Amended 2016-45, 2016-46 *(Previously 2019 DACI 12)*

1980-37. Free Membership to Grandmasters and Woman Grandmasters.
USCF memberships shall be awarded upon request to International Grandmasters, including Women Grandmasters, when it is determined by the Executive Director that a player is registering with FIDE as an American player; or when an American player is awarded the title by FIDE.
Amended 1991-77 *(Previously 2019 DACI 13)*

1998-18. Profits from Scholastic Tournaments.
Any profits generated by National Scholastic Tournaments that are earned by USCF will be retained by USCF and earmarked for Scholastic Chess. *(Previously 2019 DACI 14) (Previously 2019 DACI 14)*

1993-06. Calling the Question.
At USCF Delegates meetings, the practice of a speaker calling the question immediately after speaking to the merits of a motion shall not be permitted. *(Previously 2019 DACI 15)*

1993-36. Review of DMs.
At every Executive Board meeting, the Executive Board shall review the resolutions passed by the last annual Delegates' meeting to make certain those resolutions are being enforced. *(Previously 2019 DACI 16)*

1994-13. Choosing Committees.
It is the sense of the Delegates that committee chairmen shall be fully consulted prior to selection of committees and there shall be continuing consultation concerning committee membership and work through the liaison. *(Previously 2019 DACI 17)*

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.
Amended 2018-28 *(Previously 2019 DACI 18)*
Amended DM 25-31

1997-52. Personnel.
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. *(Previously 2019 DACI 20)*

1997-15. Standards of Conduct for the USCF Executive Board.
The USCF Board of Delegates establishes the following standards of conduct for Executive Board members in the performance of their duties:
GENERAL PRINCIPLES.
Members of the USCF Executive Board have responsibilities of the highest order for the promotion of chess and for stewardship of the resources of the USCF. In the execution of these responsibilities, they are expected to act lawfully and in accordance with USCF policy, and to adhere consistently to the principles of fairness, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. They are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner throughout the performance of all duties, contributing thereby to maximum effectiveness in the achievement of the goals of the USCF.
(1) Executive Board members are expected to contribute to the functioning of the Board as a cohesive unit, with information flowing comfortably among all its members. Actions that interfere with comfortable and open communication among all Board members should be avoided.
(a) All Board members have the right to receive all information pertinent to the making, monitoring, and implementation of USCF policy. Board member(s) should not withhold full and accurate information from other Board members, when that information is relevant to Board decisions or potential decisions. Where decision-making authority has been given to a specific officer by the Board or the Bylaws, that officer must keep all Board members fully and accurately informed of all decisions made and factors influencing those decisions.

(b) All Board members have the right to be involved in the determination of all Board decisions. A Board majority has no authority except as a majority vote within the context of a properly called Board meeting. Board decisions must result from discussions in which all Board members have had the opportunity to participate.

(c) Board members are responsible for contributing to constructive communication within the Board. Board members are responsible to communicate directly with each other whenever there is misunderstanding or ill will, making strenuous efforts to resolve the issue amicably through such communication, before making the dispute public.

(2) The Executive Board is responsible for conducting business in an efficient, constructive, and open manner.

(a) All actions taken by the Executive Board must be consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF, and with all policy established by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(b) Executive Board members must respect the dignity of all persons in all statements and actions. Any derogatory and/or sarcastic statements attacking an individual in a personal manner, or intended to bring scorn or ridicule on an individual, shall be considered out of order at any and all times in an Executive Board meeting, whether in open or closed session. Any angry and heated exchanges in a Board meeting should be considered out of order. The Chair of the meeting shall be responsible for promptly ruling such utterances out of order, or any member may raise a point of order to that effect. Personal differences must be privately resolved without disturbing the efficient conduct of USCF business in a Board meeting.

(c) A closed session should be held only when the best interests of the USCF are definitely served by doing so. Examples of when closed sessions are proper would include the discussion of matters that are legally sensitive, issues involving sensitive negotiations, or matters in which the privacy rights of any individual may be at risk. Closed sessions should not be scheduled to permit the airing of heated or derogatory comments, which should be out of order in any meeting discussion, or to avoid the necessity of Board members' dealing with unpopular issues publicly. The Board may invite other persons into the closed session if such persons possess special information or expertise needed by the Board, but a certified Executive Board candidate who is not currently on the Board should not be included in a closed session unless all Board candidates present at the meeting are also invited.

(d) Board members should be sensitive to the feelings of volunteers and staff members whose names may be mentioned, or whose work may be criticized, during Board discussion.

(e) All Board members must strictly observe confidentiality of closed sessions. In the case of a conference call, the Board members must clearly understand what portions of the call are considered open or closed, for the purpose of determining what information in the call must be considered confidential.

(f) When appointed by the Delegates, the USCF Ethics Committee may consider an allegation by any USCF member that an Executive Board member has committed significant violations of this code of conduct. The Ethics Committee may, if it determines that such violations have occurred, either warn the Board member or

recommend actions, such as recall of the member, to the Board of Delegates in accordance with the Bylaws of the USCF.
Amended 1999-75 *(Previously 2019 DACI 21)*

1997-16. The Code of Ethics of the United States Chess Federation.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. The purpose of this code of ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct that does not conform to such standards; and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.

2. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of USCF membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of the USCF.

3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to: (a) actions and behavior by members of the USCF that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF; and (b) individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of the USCF. Each member of the USCF and each participant in a USCF activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

THE USCF ETHICS COMMITTEE

4. The USCF Ethics Committee is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF. The committee exists to consider allegations of unethical conduct at or in connection with events sanctioned by the USCF, and allegations of unethical conduct involving the USCF and its activities, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code. The committee will exercise all other duties as may be assigned by the Bylaws or by action of the USCF Board of Delegates.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

5. The actions and behavior of individuals participating in USCF activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, shall be lawful and in accordance with all USCF rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates USCF rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, may be considered to fall within the scope of this code of ethics.

(a) Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to USCF activities and goals, particularly after being warned.

(b) Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.

(c) Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.

(d) Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.

(e) Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified rating report.

(f) Participating in a tournament while under suspension.

(g) Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by the USCF.

(h) Attempting to interfere with the rights of any USCF member, such as by barring someone from entering a USCF-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a USCF-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.

(i) Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with the USCF.

PROCEDURES

6. Any USCF member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the USCF Ethics Committee. In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the "Standards of Conduct" above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

(a) A factual inquiry shall be made by the Ethics Committee, assisted as necessary by the USCF staff. Previous findings of the Ethics Committee or other USCF entities may be included among the evidence considered by the Ethics Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.

(b) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other USCF entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must

be informed. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified. If appeals are filed, the Ethics Committee shall be promptly notified. When Issuing a decision, the Ethics Committee will provide the rationale for its decision to the parties involved and the Executive Board.

(c) Except as specified in 6(e) recommended sanctions 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 30 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.

(d) Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.

(e) If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the USCF Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board, but may appeal to the USCF Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.

(f) If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the USCF Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

SANCTIONS

7. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.

(a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

(b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of

another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

(c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.

(d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.

(e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the USCF Executive Board or by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(f) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.

8. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the USCF Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend no sanctions other than censure or reprimand, but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.

9. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in the USCF or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF.

10. The USCF Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official recommendations by the Ethics Committee, and shall record any recommendations. The USCF Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any sanctions recommended.

Amended 1998-71, 1999-75 *(Previously 2019 DACI 22)*

2011-20. FIDE Policy.

The U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) endorses the concept of a strong world organization of chessplayers, which supports a system of competitions for the strongest players in the world culminating in a valid world championship. The USCF also firmly embraces the principles of freedom of action and freedom of speech. The USCF cannot accept any regulation that limits journalistic freedom or freedom of expression, or interferes with the efforts of free enterprise to promote chess. The USCF endorses the principles of compromise in helping to maintain a universally-accepted world championship. *(Previously 2019 DACI 23)*

1999-09. U.S. Open Scheduling.

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.

Amended 1999-09, 2001-66, 2010-34, 2018-23 *(Previously 2019 DACI 24),* DM 25-40

2000-44. BINFO System.
In the interest of both history and accountability, the Board information (BINFO) system should be maintained and used in the following manner:

1. The Executive Board and Executive Director will place documents relating to their decisions and discussions in this record system.

2. An effort will be made to include all relevant documents bearing on the making of USCF policy and other decisions.

3. At the request of any single Executive Board member or the Executive Director, a document will be placed in the system.

4. BINFO documents may be classified as confidential, using strict, documented criteria.

5. Classified BINFO's will be reviewed periodically for declassification. This will include but not be limited to documents now in the system and placed there by previous Boards.

6. Non-classified documents will be supplied to members on request; a reasonable duplication fee may be charged.

7. Binders of non-classified documents will be maintained at the USCF office and will be available on request to visiting adult members to examine while in the office.

8. Updated, descriptive indexes of the BINFO system will be available on the USCF website in the most expeditious manner possible, and available in hard copy on request for a reasonable duplication fee.

9. Non-confidential BINFOs are to be made available electronically without cost to any Delegate or Alternate Delegate that asks to receive them. This is to be done by making them available on the USCF website in a public area and/or setting up a read-only mailing list and adding to the list anyone who wants to receive the BINFO's via e-mail.
Amended 2001-29 *(Previously 2019 DACI 24)*

1999-19. Scholastic Chess.
The USCF shall have a full-time Scholastic Director, working in consultation with the Scholastic Committee. The job description and workload priorities of the Scholastic Director will be developed jointly by the Scholastic Committee and the Executive Director.
The Finance Committee shall include at least one member recommended by the Scholastic Committee.
The USCF shall implement an income and expense system, which separately identifies scholastic chess activities. *(Previously 2019 DACI 26)*

1999-30. ADM votes on the Website.
The final decision of the Board of Delegates on ADMs shall be recorded and published on the USCF website. All available information regarding the vote shall be included. *(Previously 2019 DACI 27)*

1999-73. Ballots.
Ballots shall contain only a candidate's name and state. No titles, credentials or other honors shall appear on ballots. *(Previously 2019 DACI 28)*

1998-35. Committee Actions.
USCF Committees, excepting those appointed by the Delegates, exist to advise and recommend, but may not make any ruling that affects the status of any member without ratification by the Executive Board, Office or Delegates. *(Previously 2019 DACI 29)*

1998-36. Delegate Committees.
All newly-created Delegates Committees must have a statement of purpose defining their function. *(Previously 2019 DACI 30)*

1998-37. LMA Annual Report.
The LMA Management Committee shall publish an annual report showing the performance of the fund's investments, the investments owned, the investment strategy, and an assessment of investment risks. *(Previously 2019 DACI 31)*

1998-55. Based on Prizes.
Effective January 1, 1999, all tournaments without exception advertised in *Chess Life,* Tournament Life, or elsewhere shall be required to pay at least 50% of any based-on prize advertised if the prize fund is over $500. Based-on prizes in tournaments with an advertised total prize fund of $500 or less must be paid in proportion to turnout. Minimum penalty for violation of this rule shall be disqualification from advertising in *Chess Life* for one year. Additional penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the Executive Director. If a tournament is affected by an act of God, then the organizer may appeal to the Executive Board. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. *Chess Life* shall print no display ads for "based-on" tournaments which mention the "based-on" prize fund without indicating that this prize fund is based on entries.
Amended 2002-35, 2004-43 *(Previously 2019 DACI 32)*

1998-57. Volunteer Expenses.
A summary of all reimbursements to each member of the Executive Board, International Delegations, and all other volunteers shall be published in the Executive Board Newsletters and on the USCF website. *(Previously 2019 DACI 33)*

1996-14. Membership Accounting.
90% of the income from life memberships and 50% from sustaining memberships shall be deposited directly in to the LMA. Services provided to life and sustaining members shall be funded quarterly.
Amended 1999-70 *(Previously 2019 DACI 34)*

1987-21. Bylaws Committee.

To aid the Delegates and the Executive Board in informed decision making, the Bylaws Committee shall advise the Executive Board and the Delegates concerning both the substance and the wording of proposed bylaws changes. *(Previously 2019 DACI 35)*

2001-07. Drug Testing.
The Delegates believe that drug testing is unnecessary in chess and urge FIDE to limit testing only to events where it is absolutely essential for qualification into the Olympic Games. *(Previously 2019 DACI 36)*

2001-72. Candidate Disclosure (Executive Board Candidate Disclosure).
Executive Board candidates are asked to disclose if they are employed full time or are a candidate for full-time employment with any organization that is a vendor for the USCF, a competitor to USCF in any area, or has any significant other business interest (including substantial ownership of a business) that could be affected by decisions made by the USCF. Failure to disclose these interests would not disqualify a candidate from running, but could affect the voters' evaluation of the candidate. *(Previously 2019 DACI 37)*

2001-77. Delegates Call (Report in Delegates Call).
A report on compliance or noncompliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions will be provided in the Delegates Call each year. *(Previously 2019 DACI 38)*

2001-51. Committees (No Pay for Committee Members).
Members of USCF Committees shall not be paid for committee work without authorization of the Delegates. They may continue to receive reimbursement for expenses. *(Previously 2019 DACI 39)*

2002-42. Financial Reports on Website.
Comprehensive USCF financial reports including at least a balance sheet and statement of all activities will be posted on the USCF website on at least a quarterly basis. *(Previously 2019 DACI 41)*

2005-22. California Borders.
The border between Northern and Southern California shall be set along county lines. Where San Luis Obispo, Kern and Inyo are the northern most counties of Southern California, and Monterey, Kings, Tulare, Fresno and Mono are the southernmost counties of Northern California. The USCF may use zip codes to approximate this border. The two California state affiliates are responsible for maintaining the zip code mapping used for this border approximation. *(Previously 2019 DACI 42)*

2006-40. TDCC Changes.

Changes in the Tournament Director certification program proposed by the TDC Committee may be approved by the Executive Board without approval of the delegates. *(Previously 2019 DACI 43)*

2007-14. USCF National Scholastic Events.
The following USCF Scholastic Championships shall not be outsourced, sold or part of any contractual agreement to organize the tournament with any third parties or any other organization without the prior review of the Scholastic Council and approval of the USCF Board of Delegates:
National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship
National Elementary Grade Championship
National Junior High- Middle School Championship
National High School Championship
SuperNationals
Amended 2010-48 *(Previously 2019 DACI 44)*

2008-44. Delegates & Financial Reports.
Any Delegate has the right to access the official monthly financial reports. The USCF may charge Delegates for the costs incurred in accessing and copying the official monthly financial reports. *(Previously 2019 DACI 45)*

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

1. Applicants must be U.S. citizens who hold the GM, IM, WGM, WIM, WFM or FM titles as granted by FIDE. In special situations, applicants may also be considered who do not hold these qualifications but who have nevertheless given extraordinary service to US Chess in their lifetimes.
2. Applicants must provide adequate documentation that they have serious financial difficulties resulting from their own medical or psychiatric and psychological conditions, or other exigent circumstances.
3. Applicants must give signed consent for the consideration, discussion, and review of all medical, psychological, and financial information they choose to submit in support of the application, by any officials of the US Chess Federation (USCF) who are designated by USCF to make recommendations or decisions regarding their application. Such signed consent by applicants must expressly allow Professional Players' Health And Benefits Claims Committee members, the USCF Executive Director, and members of the Executive Board, or others designated by the Executive Board, the right to review and discuss any information submitted by the applicant in support of his/her application. US Chess will work with the recipients and/or the recipient's representatives to comply with governmental regulations while also striving not to jeopardize the recipient's eligibility to receive any additional grants or entitlements ((such as Medicaid, SSI, etc.). US Chess must also always be vigilant in safeguarding all of the applicants' rights to privacy when reviewing the supporting documentation.

4. The USCF Executive Board shall appoint a Professional Players' Health and Benefits Fund Claims Committee (PPHBFCC) which shall review all applications for benefits, and forward recommendations from such review to the Executive Board for final decision regarding the applications. The USCF Executive Board has sole discretion over the granting or failing to grant any benefits from the Professional Players' Health And Benefits Fund to applicants.
5. Applicants must agree in writing at the time of their application that they will accept the decisions of the USCF Executive Board, and shall hold harmless all persons involved in the review and decision process, and shall not initiate any legal actions concerning any such review and recommendations at any time.
6. A lifetime limit of $10,000 to any applicant will be in effect. In extraordinary circumstances, the PPHBF Claims Committee may recommend increasing this amount, subject to approval by the Executive Board.
7. Applications which do not fully comply with these procedures will not be considered, unless the Committee determines that exigent circumstances in the case of the specific applicant warrant consideration of the application as submitted.

Amended 2015-62 *(Previously 2019 DACI 46)*
Amended 2022 (DM22-28/ADM 22-20)

2011-51. Annual Report of Players Health and Benefit Fund.
The USCF shall report annually to the Board of Delegates the following financial information about the Players Health and Benefits fund:
(1) Any expenditures made during the fiscal year ending the prior May 31 including the amount awarded to each person without identifying the person
(2) The status of the funds as of the prior May 31 including any encumbrances against these funds. *(Previously 2019 DACI 47)*

2012-15. USCF Life Member Asset Trust.
1. The trust shall be called the USCF Life Member Asset Trust.
2. The United States of America Chess Federation (USCF) is the beneficiary of the trust.
3. The trust may be revoked or amended by the USCF Board of Delegates by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting provided that a proposal to revoke is included in the Delegates' advance agenda.
4. Upon the dissolution of the USCF the trust is to be dissolved and the assets distributed in the same manner as provided for the assets of the USCF in its Articles of Incorporation.
5. There shall be 11 trustees. The Trustees shall elect a chair and a vice-chair.
6. The current USCF Vice President-Finance shall be one of the trustees.
7. The remaining trustees shall be appointed by the USCF Board of Delegates for a term of one year from the date of appointment or until their successors are appointed.

8. The USCF Board of Delegates may replace/remove the trustees at a special delegates meeting called in the manner prescribed in the USCF bylaws for such meetings.
9. Any vacancies amongst the Trustees may be filled by appointment made by the remaining Trustees. Such appointment will require a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Trustees.
10. The purpose of the trust is to provide income to the USCF to provide services to those who have purchased life and sustaining memberships in the USCF after December 31. 2007. The Trustees are to prudently invest the trust assets with this goal in mind.
11. The trust may own real estate that is occupied by the USCF. The Trustees need not require the USCF to pay rent for such property.
12. The Trustees may encumber any trust assets by a majority vote and only with the prior approval of the USCF Board of Directors, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two Trustees, one of whom must be the USCF Vice President-Finance.
13. The Trustees cannot sell, encumber, or mortgage, in any fashion, any land and /or buildings, owned by the trust without the prior approval by the USCF Board of Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose.
14. The Trustees may make loans to the USCF provided that the USCF Executive Director certifies that there is a need for such borrowing, the Executive Board approves of the borrowing, and a majority of the Trustees approves of such borrowing.
15. The trust shall be funded with the assets currently under the supervision of the USCF Life Member Asset Committee.
16. The trust may receive additional assets at any time from the sale of USCF Life or other multi-year memberships. The beneficiary will transfer to the trust an amount for each such membership as agreed with the Trustees no less than quarterly for memberships sold in the prior quarter.
17. The Trustees will transfer to the USCF on a monthly basis an amount sufficient to provide services to those who have purchased and sustaining memberships in the USCF after December 31, 2007.
18. In the event that the Trustees and the USCF Board of Directors fail to reach agreement as to the amounts to be transferred to the USCF, the matter shall be subject to arbitration with the costs to be borne by the USCF. *(Previously 2019 DACI 48)*

2012-18. USCF Articles of Incorporation
Effective January 1, 2013
The Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the USCF. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of the Federation to determine the policies that shall govern the USCF in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the USCF Official Rules of Chess, approve the sale, exchange or other transfer of real estate owned by the USCF, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by the USCF, approve the annual budget , establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member

assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of the USCF.
AND:
The Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors. It is the administrative and managing body of the USCF and is vested with full power to conduct all business of the Federation, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates.
AND:
Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation that are proposed by the Executive Board must be approved by a vote of the voting members. The Board of Directors must present any such amendment for discussion at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates before submitting such amendment to the voting members. The voting procedure will be as provided for in the bylaws of the corporation. *(Previously 2019 DACI 49)*

2014-32. Endowment Fund.
The Delegates encourage the Executive Board to establish and administer a special USCF endowment fund to help sponsor USCF memberships for needy individuals. *(Previously 2019 DACI 50)*

2014-58. Tournament Recommendations.
The Delegates remind all those involved with the USCF National tournaments that these tournaments are for the benefit of the players. It is because of the support of the players, as well as the parents and coaches, that these events are even possible. Though inevitably there may arise disagreements among those involved as how best to realize this objective, the primacy of this goal must never be forgotten.
In order to increase participation, especially female participation, USCF shall encourage affiliates to offer mixed doubles prizes at tournaments. *(Previously 2019 DACI 51)*

2014-35. Invitational Requirements
Regarding the U.S. Championship and U.S. Women's Championship, Olympiad, and World Teams, USCF's invitational requirements will disallow those residing in the U.S. on student visas (currently, "F" or "M" visas) or tourist visas (currently, "B" visas). *(Previously 2019 DACI 52)*

2018-19. US Chess Conflict of Interest Policy—Delegates
Article I: Purpose. The purpose of this conflict of interest (COI) policy is to protect the US Chess Federation's (US Chess's) interest when it is entering into or contemplating a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of a delegate that might result in a possible excess benefit transaction. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interests applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations. This COI policy is separate and apart from the COI policy applying to US Chess Executive Board members.

Article II: Definitions. 1. Interested Person. Any delegate who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person. 2. Financial Interest. A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family: a. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which US Chess has a transaction or arrangement, b. A compensation arrangement with US Chess or with any entity or individual with which US Chess has a transaction or arrangement, or c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which the US Chess is negotiating a transaction or arrangement. Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial. A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. Under Article III, Section 2, a person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the COI Committee decides that a conflict of interest exists.

Article III: Procedures. 1. Duty to Disclose. In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, a Delegate who is an interested person must disclose the existence of any financial interest to, and be given the opportunity to discuss all material facts with, the Delegates' Conflict of Interest Committee. 2. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists. At each Annual Delegates Meeting, the Delegates shall elect a Conflict of Interest Committee immediately following the selection of the Parliamentarian. The Committee shall consist of three Delegates present at the Annual Meeting. After disclosure of any financial interest and material facts (Art. III, 1.), and after any discussion with the interested person, the COI Committee will expeditiously determine by a majority vote whether a conflict exists and prepare a recommendation for action to be made to the Delegates if a conflict is found. A Delegate may disclose a potential conflict of interest to the US Chess President prior to the commencement of the Annual Delegates Meeting. The President will notify the COI Committee Chair of the disclosure at the earliest possible time. The COI Committee will remain seated until the next Annual Delegates Meeting.

Article IV: Family in Article II, 2 is defined as direct descendants, spouses, or partners in a civil union, siblings by birth, marriage or adoption, or adopted children and parent or step parent and stepchild. *(Previously 2019 DACI 53)*