



2022-23 NATIONAL ONLINE
SCHOLASTIC QUICK CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP

**Request for Proposal and Bidding
Guidelines**

UNITED STATES CHESS
FEDERATION

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

Events Department



P.O. BOX 3967
CROSSVILLE, TN 38557
(931) 787-1234
www.uschess.org

Organizational background

The United States Chess Federation (US Chess) is the official, nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization for chess players and chess supporters of all ages and strengths, from beginners to Grandmasters, in the United States. US Chess is the only official representative of the United States to the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

Our mission is to empower people, enrich lives, and enhance communities through chess. Founded in 1939, US Chess has grown to serve over 80,000 members and 1,500 affiliated chess clubs and organizations today.

Event Details

The National Online Scholastic Quick Chess Championships was conceived by the US Chess Scholastic Council and approved as a national online championship event by the US Chess Executive Board.

US Chess seeks an online platform partner to offer a rendition of this tournament that provides the national stage our players are accustomed to and encourages the spirit of togetherness, fun, and competition that our over-the-board events encapsulate. This online version **will** ultimately produce official individual National Champions across six divisions. Apart from the requirements listed below, the proposal should also detail how the prospective partner intends to elevate the tournament to an experience for the player that is worthy of the title "National Championship."

Event Bidding Guidelines

An ideal partner will provide a comprehensive plan to meet the challenges of online play which includes the pairing and conduct of games, player identification and eligibility verification, fair play measures, and child safety during online play.

- The successful bidder will submit a bid that fully complies with the parameters set forth in Rule 26 of the 2022-2023 US Chess Scholastic Regulations.
- The successful bidder will schedule this event to start no earlier than October 15, 2022, and end no later than November 20, 2022. Proposals for event formats will be considered, but must conform to the specifics of Rule 26.
- Please see the US Chess Scholastic Regulations at <https://bit.ly/3dBq4Be> for more information. Rule 26 begins near the bottom of page 24 and runs through the end of page 29.

In addition to the above requirements, preference will also be given to proposals that address the following elements:

- Clear, concise details as to how fair play will be enforced in an online environment
- A secure plan, proposed by the bidder, to verify the identity of players and ensure that they are current US Chess members as well as their section/grade eligibility
- Due to the large number of younger players, **simple, effective onboarding and registration instructions** are an absolute requirement
- A safe, kid-friendly and COPPA-compliant online environment
- Provisions for adequate staffing, including at a minimum US Chess certified TDs and live fair play staff to oversee the event in progress
- Clear delineation of duties between bidder and US Chess
- Server capabilities commensurate with the scale of the event
- Live pre, during, and post-tournament support
- US Chess certified NTD must act as chief tournament director
- All staff subject to approval by the US Chess Director of Events prior to the event
- Procedures for handling breaks in connectivity on the part of the player or service provider
- Promotion of the event including, but not limited to, pre-event social media campaigns and a live stream of the tournament

Who Can Submit a Bid?

Because of the prestige involved in the event, US Chess will only accept bids either directly from online platforms and host sites capable of running such a prestigious tournament and whose fair play methodology is endorsed by US Chess, or from US Chess affiliates who have reached an agreement to partner with such a platform. In the event of a partnership bid, the affiliate and the platform take on full joint responsibility for the conduct of the event and satisfaction of the requirements detailed here.

Should you have questions about whether or not you are eligible to submit a bid or general queries about the bidding process, you may contact US Chess Assistant Director of Events Pete Karagianis at pete.karagianis@uschess.org prior to submission of your bid.

Bidding Process

A bid on a US Chess National Event is a statement that your group wants to work in partnership with US Chess. If your proposal is accepted, then your group will be held accountable for all the things promised in your bid. If your group wishes to make changes to an accepted bid, you will need the prior written permission of the US Chess Director of Events.

The deadline for final bid proposals is 5:00pm Eastern time Monday, September 12, 2022. **Final bid proposals should be submitted via email to eventbids@uschess.org ONLY.** Do *NOT* submit copies of your bid to any other email address. The server timestamp on your emailed bid will determine whether it has been received by the deadline. Late bids will NOT be considered.