



# Alaska Chess Federation

**BYLAWS OF THE ALASKA CHESS FEDERATION (ACF)**

Date Adopted by the Board of Directors: December 7, 2024

Date Revised by the Board of Directors: March 8, 2025



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Reilly O'Hara, President & Treasurer



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Olivia Kavanaugh, Secretary

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## ARTICLE I: NAME AND LOGO

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Alaska Chess Federation, commonly known as the ACF or the Federation.
- B. The logo of the ACF shall be the moose-knight unless changed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE II: PURPOSE, MISSION, AND VISION

### A. Purpose

The purpose for which the Alaska Chess Federation is organized shall be to promote the game of chess in Alaska; hold tournaments for its members, and specifically to:

- a. Promote the play of chess and tournament chess;
- b. Promote and encourage the study and play of the game of chess as a means of developing the intellectual powers;
- c. Coordinate with schools, colleges, hospitals, military bases, community centers, and other groups and institutions in teaching chess, conducting tournaments and other activities;
- d. Cooperate with the United States Chess Federation (US Chess or USCF) as its designated Alaska State Chapter, and with other state or international chess organizations in projects beneficial to chess promotion;
- e. Select Alaska delegates and voting members to represent the ACF at the United States Chess Federation meetings;
- f. Pledge that no part of its funds shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional programs shall not be so construed, and that the ACF shall be operated on a non-profit basis and neither the principal nor income of its funds may ever be used to influence legislation;
- g. Limit the ACF to exclusively operate under NAICS Code 711320 - *Promoters of performing arts, sports, and similar events without facilities*; and
- h. Make distribution to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under the Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of the future Tax Code.

### B. Mission

- a. Our mission is to be the leading organization and US Chess State Chapter Affiliate that enables all Alaskans to play chess over the board across the state.

### C. Vision

- a. Our vision is that through clubs, tournaments, teaching, and advocacy, the game of chess can become a pillar of Alaskan culture and community.

## ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1. Voting Membership Categories

- A. **Adult Memberships.** Any Alaska resident aged 19-64 may become an Adult member of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$25.00** for one year.

- B. **Collegiate Memberships.** Any student with a valid Alaska college ID may become a Collegiate Member of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$20.00** for one year.
- C. **Youth Memberships.** Any Alaska resident aged 0-18 may become a Youth Member of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$15.00** for one year.
- D. **Senior Memberships.** Any Alaska resident aged 65+ may become a Senior Member of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$20.00** for one year.
- E. **Military/First Responder Memberships.** Any member of the United States Armed Forces stationed in Alaska or First Responders (law enforcement, EMT/EMS, paramedics, firefighters, search and rescue) with a valid ID may become a Member of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$10.00** for one year.
- F. **Teacher Memberships.** Any public, private, or charter school teacher in Alaska may become a Member of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$10.00** for one year.
- G. **Special Memberships.** Any blind Alaska resident, any Alaska resident with a communicated disability, or any Alaska prisoner may become a Member of the Alaska Chess Federation for **\$10.00** for one year.
- H. **Other Memberships.** Other membership categories and membership rate will be determined by the Secretary or Treasurer on a case-by-case basis.
- I. Such terms and rates shall be subject to annual review by the Board of Directors.

## Section 2. Non-voting Membership Categories

- A. **Non-resident.** Any person residing in a country or state other than Alaska may become a Non-resident Member at the corresponding dues rate established for members who are Alaska residents. This excludes non-resident students enrolled in an Alaska college or members of the US Military who are stationed in Alaska.
- B. **Club Affiliate.** Any chess club in Alaska may become an Affiliate of the Alaska Chess Federation upon payment of **\$15.00** for one year.
  - a. Club sponsor must have a current individual ACF membership at time of registration.
  - b. The club or organization will not have voting privileges, but any club members that have individually purchased ACF memberships are eligible to vote and receive membership benefits.
    - i. Benefits to the club include increased visibility for the club through ACF social media channels, ability to hold ACF sanctioned tournaments, including Grand Prix events, priority pre/post tournament publicity on ACF social media and website, and a digital ACF Affiliate logo.

## Section 3. Payment of Membership

- A. Memberships can be purchased/renewed on the ACF website or in-person at any ACF sponsored event with commerce permissions granted by the venue.
- B. If a member advises an ACF Board Member that his/her dues have been paid and can produce a receipt, check, or other proof of payment, the person shall be listed on the website list of current members. In the absence of proof of payment, the Secretary or the

Treasurer or a majority of the Board of Directors may decide to honor or deny the player's request.

#### Section 4. Verification of Membership

- A. All ACF memberships will be reviewed and approved by the ACF before activation.
- B. Any members who are registered under Collegiate, Senior, Military/ First Responder, or Teacher will be required to show valid ID to obtain a discounted membership rate. If the ACF cannot verify these special statuses, the member will be required to pay for full rate in their applicable membership section or refunded and not given membership status.
- C. Once membership is verified, dues are non-refundable.
- D. All verified ACF members will receive a Membership Card that provides their ACF member number, and expiration date. Membership Cards may be digital or physical.

#### Section 5. Renewals

- A. Memberships are valid for one calendar year from the date of creation.
- B. Memberships are not automatically renewed. Memberships must be renewed in order to retain membership benefits and voting rights.
- C. The ACF will aim to notify members of expiration at least 14 days in advance, but renewal of membership is the responsibility of the member.

#### Section 6. Change in Rates

- A. Annual dues, including any necessary increases, are established by the Board of Directors.

#### Section 7. Rights and Privileges of Members

ACF members in good standing shall be given the following privileges:

- A. Vote on elections of the Board of Directors (Officers and Board Members).
- B. Discuss proposed amendments to the bylaws.
- C. Hear reports from the Board of Directors.
- D. Ask questions and raise concerns.
  - a. Any ACF member(s) that wishes to add an item to the agenda shall submit the request in writing to the Secretary no later than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- E. Run for election to be on the ACF Board of Directors (must be at least 18 years old).
- F. Participate in ACF sponsored tournaments and ACF Grand Prix at qualifying events.
- G. Receive \$5 off of entry fees at ACF sponsored tournaments, excluding the Alaska State Championship.
- H. Compete for the title of Alaska State Chess Champion or Alaska State Scholastic Champion.
- I. Listed on the ACF website.

#### Section 8. Promotional Memberships

- A. The Board of Directors may authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time.

- B. Any previous memberships are not eligible for price matching with current reduced promotional memberships.

## Section 9. Revocation of Membership and Expulsion

- A. Membership may be revoked and/or expelled from the ACF by majority vote of the Board of Directors for any one of the following reasons:
  - a. Failure to observe any of the standards of conduct listed in the Code of Ethics section of the current edition in force of the U.S. Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess.
  - b. Refusal to comply with the rules of chess and tournament play.
  - c. Repeated and/or egregious violation of the standards of conduct of players and spectators in the Rules of Play section of the current edition in force of the U.S. Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess.
  - d. Repeated unsuccessful payment (2 times or more) of entry or ACF membership fees with payment returned for insufficient funds.
- B. Notification of Revocation of Membership and Expulsion
  - a. Any individual who is expelled from the ACF will be notified in writing by the Board of Directors within ten (10) calendar days of the decision. This notification will include the reason for the expulsion.
  - b. Expelled members will forfeit the membership privileges listed in Article III, Section 7) and will not be permitted to rejoin the ACF unless an appeal is granted.
- C. Appeal of Revocation of Membership
  - a. Any individual who is expelled may appeal the decision.
  - b. Appeals must be submitted in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of notification of the revocation. In the appeal, the appellant must include a clear explanation of the reasons for the appeal, an acknowledgment of any mistakes or misunderstandings, and a sincere request for reconsideration, or a chance to remedy the situation.
  - c. The Board of Directors will render its decision based on the evidence contained in the written notification which levied the expulsion and on the individual's written appeal. By majority vote of the Board of Directors, the appeal will be either granted or denied. The decision of the Board of Directors is final. If the appeal is granted, full membership rights are restored.

## Section 10. Compensation

- A. Members shall not receive any stated salary for their services. The Board of Directors shall have power in its discretion to contract for and compensate members rendering unusual and special services to the ACF. The amount of said compensation shall be appropriate to the value of the services as determined by the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Section 1. Composition

- A. At minimum, the elected Board of Directors shall consist of four (4) Officers and up to seven (7) General Board Members.

- Officers
    - a. President
    - b. Vice President
    - c. Secretary
    - d. Treasurer
  - General Board Members
    - e. General Board Member (1)
    - f. General Board Member (2)
    - g. General Board Member (3)
    - h. General Board Member (4)
    - i. General Board Member (5)
    - j. General Board Member (6)
    - k. General Board Member (7)- seat may be closed if an Officer holds more than one position (a-d).
- B. It is not required that all General Board Member seats must be filled.
- C. The President and Secretary positions cannot be held by the same individual.
- D. The President and Vice President cannot be related or live in the same household unless voted upon by the Board of Directors.
- E. The President shall be Chairman of the Board.
- F. While ACF Members in good standing are able to participate in Board Meetings and vote on the election of the Board of Directors, ACF Members who have not been elected are not considered Board Members.

## Section 2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Board

### A. Officers

#### a. *President*

- i. The President shall preside at all quarterly or special meetings of the Board of Directors.
- ii. The President shall call quarterly and special meetings of the Board of Directors.
- iii. The President shall carry out all requirements of these Bylaws, represent the Federation officially on occasion, and shall have the authority to act as the Chief Executive Officer of the Federation.
- iv. The President may authorize up to three hundred dollars (\$300) in quarterly discretionary spending (not including venue costs) without approval from the Board of Directors. The expenditure must be reported to the Treasurer within seven (7) calendar days. If the President also holds the Treasurer position, expenditure must be reported to the Secretary within seven (7) calendar days.

#### b. *Vice President*

- i. During the absence or incapacitation of the President, the Vice President shall assume and discharge all duties and responsibilities of that office.
- ii. The Vice President shall work towards adding more ACF members and US Chess members in Alaska.



- iii. In the event of a Director vacating their position, the Vice President shall take over the duties of the vacant position until a replacement is formally appointed.
- iv. The Vice President shall be the State Tournament Clearinghouse if no other Board of Director assumes this responsibility.

*c. Secretary*

- i. The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the ACF and the custodian of its records.
- ii. The Secretary shall maintain a current list of all members in good standing and complete minutes of all Board of Director meetings.
- iii. The Secretary shall transcribe all minutes of Board of Directors meetings into a permanent minute book, which shall be kept on record and posted on the ACF website within fourteen (14) calendar days of the meeting.
- iv. The Secretary shall maintain the official historical records of the ACF, including the names of the Directors, the names of major tournament winners, and the records of any other action or event deemed noteworthy.
- v. The Secretary shall serve as the primary ACF Webmaster. The ACF Webmaster is responsible for the appearance, functionality, relevance, and content of the ACF website. If the Secretary is no longer able to complete these duties, the President shall appoint a Webmaster.
- vi. The Secretary shall maintain the affiliation of the Alaska Chess Federation with the United States Chess Federation.
- vii. The Secretary shall confirm with the appointed US Chess State Delegate by May 1st to ensure they are planning to attend the US Chess Delegates Meeting and inform the delegate that if they cancel, they will need to formally resign so an alternate may be assigned in their place.

*d. Treasurer*

- i. The Treasurer shall be the officer entrusted with the custody of ACF funds.
- ii. The Treasurer shall handle the receipt of all dues and other funds received by the ACF; may distribute membership cards to members in good standing upon request; and may forward the current membership list to any Board member upon request.
- iii. The Treasurer shall provide the Board of Directors with quarterly financial statements listing the financial status of the ACF including income, expenses, assets, liabilities, and net worth. A full annual financial report will be provided at the 4th Quarterly Meeting (in December).
- iv. ACF Members in good standing may request a copy of the annual financial report. All requests must be made in writing to the Secretary. Annual reports for the previous year shall be available by January 15th.
- v. Any expenditure that has not been approved by the Board of Directors (excluding the President's \$300 quarterly allotment) must be immediately reported to the Board of Directors.

#### B. General Board Members

- a. The purpose of General Board Members is to provide guidance and support in the development and implementation of programs that promote chess in Alaska.
- b. General Board Members contribute to decision-making processes regarding events, funding, and initiatives that align with the ACF's mission.
- c. General Board Members help advocate for the growth of chess by fostering relationships with local organizations, schools, and stakeholders.

#### C. Special Coordinators

- a. The United States Chess Federation recommends that State Chapters have the following coordinators on their Board:
  - i. *Women's Chess Coordinator*: The Women's Chess Coordinator shall promote participation and events for women and girls in Alaska.
  - ii. *Scholastic Chess Coordinator*: The Scholastic Chess Coordinator shall organize and oversee chess programs, tournaments, and events for schools and youth participants, while promoting the growth of chess among students in Alaska.
- b. Special Coordinator positions are not required on the ACF Board of Directors, but any elected General Board Member can fulfill a Coordinator role with majority approval by the Board of Directors.
- c. Additional Coordinator positions may be added with majority vote by the Board of Directors.
- d. Special Coordinators are not required to be a voting member of the Board of Directors. In this case, the Special Coordinator is not granted voting rights on matters related to the ACF, but is expected to fulfill the duties of the Coordinator position. Exceptions may be made with a majority vote by the Board of Directors.
- e. Any General Board Member that wishes to fill a Coordinator position shall notify the Secretary in writing at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the next scheduled Board Meeting.

### Section 3. Eligibility

- A. Alaska resident with intent to stay in Alaska for the entirety of the term.
  - a. Residency will be determined based on the individual's physical address in Alaska, where they primarily live and intend to return.
- B. At least 18 years of age at the time of election.
- C. ACF Member in good-standing.

### Section 4. Elections

- A. All members of the Board of Directors shall be elected into their positions with a majority vote by the current Board of Directors and present eligible voting ACF Members.
- B. Regular elections will occur during the 4th Quarterly Board Meeting (see Article V Section 1).
- C. Intent to run for election must be submitted to the Secretary via email no later than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the next scheduled Board Meeting.

- D. In the event of an Emergency Board Meeting to fill any Officer position, notification will be sent out to eligible ACF members within ten (10) calendar days of the meeting. Intent to run for election must be submitted to the Secretary via email no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the Emergency Board Meeting.

## Section 5. Terms

- A. The Officers will serve two (2) year terms, with no term limits.
  - a. The President and Treasurer positions shall be elected during even numbered years.
  - b. The Vice President and Secretary shall be elected during odd numbered years.
- B. The General Board Members will serve one (1) year terms, with no term limits.
- C. Each term shall begin on January 1st and end on December 31st.

## Section 6. Resignation of a Member of the Board of Directors

- A. Any Board Member may resign from their position.
- B. A Letter of Resignation must be submitted to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to their last day of service or the next scheduled Board Meeting. See Article V Section 3 for procedures for an Emergency Board Meeting to fill Officer positions on the Board of Directors.

## Section 7. Removal of a Member of the Board of Directors

- A. Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office for nonfeasance, malfeasance, or misfeasance, for conduct detrimental to the interest of the Alaska Chess Federation, or for refusal to render reasonable assistance in carrying out the purposes of the ACF, as determined by the Board of Directors.
- B. Such removal from the Board of Directors is contingent upon the affirmative vote by majority vote of the membership present at the Board Meeting, providing a quorum is present as defined in Article V, Section 4, of these Bylaws.
- C. Any Board of Directors member proposed to be removed shall be entitled to at least ten (10) calendar days of notice in writing from the President or Vice President before the meeting of the membership at which such removal is to be voted upon.
- D. The Board of Directors member proposed to be removed shall be entitled to appear before and be heard by the members at such meeting.
- E. Notice of proposed removal to the Board of Directors member shall be sent by the President or Vice President using certified US mail. Notification solely by email or telephone is not permitted.

## Section 8. Voting Power

- A. Each elected Officer and General Board Member of the Board of Directors shall receive one (1) vote for all voting related matters.
- B. If two positions are held by the same individual, they shall only receive one (1) vote.

## Section 9. Compensation

- A. Members of the Board of Directors, people who serve in Appointed Positions, and committee members shall not receive any stated salary for their services. By resolution

of the Board, a fixed reasonable sum or expenses shall be allowed for services rendered. The Board of Directors shall have the power, exercised with discretion, to contract for and to pay appropriate, special compensation to members of the Board of Directors, persons in Appointed Positions, or committee members who render unusual and exceptional service to the corporation.

#### Section 10. Benefits

- A. All members of the Board of Directors shall have their individual annual membership dues waived for the duration of their term on the Board.
  - a. The waiver of membership dues shall expire on December 31st of the year in which the Board Member's term ends.
  - b. If a member of the Board of Directors resigns or is removed, the waived membership expires on their last day of service.
  - c. Any member of the Board of Directors who wishes to establish their chess club as an Official ACF Club Affiliate shall not receive a waiver for any applicable affiliate club membership fees. These fees must be paid separately by the Member in order to maintain affiliate status for their club.

### **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### Section 1. Regular Quarterly Meetings

- A. The Board shall meet quarterly and have a minimum of four (4) regularly scheduled Board Meetings per year.
  - a. Example: March, June, September, December
- B. The 4th quarterly meeting shall be considered as the Annual Meeting. Regular biennial elections of Officers and General Board Members shall occur during the last quarterly Board Meeting of the year.
- C. Notice of regular meetings shall be posted on the ACF website at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- D. The Secretary must be notified of all requested agenda items no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- E. The Secretary shall post meeting agendas on the ACF website no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting.

#### Section 2. Special Meetings

- A. If necessary, the President may call special meetings to coincide with any major ACF sponsored tournament, or other important matters related to the ACF that occur prior to the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting.
- B. Notice of any special meeting shall be posted on the ACF website at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- C. The Secretary must be notified of all requested agenda items no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting.
- D. The Secretary shall post meeting agendas on the ACF website no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting.

### Section 3. Emergency Meetings

- A. The President may call an emergency meeting when deemed necessary.
- B. No notice to the Membership will be necessary, but a quorum of the Board of Directors will still be required if business is to be transacted.
- C. Any motions of a non-legal nature passed at an Emergency Meeting will be included in the meeting minutes to be posted on the ACF website.

### Section 4. Quorum

- A. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a majority of the Officers shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

### Section 5. Meeting Minutes

- A. The Secretary shall record minutes for each Board Meeting, regardless of meeting type.
- B. If the Secretary is unable to record minutes or is absent from the meeting, the Vice President shall assume responsibility for recording minutes.
- C. Meeting minutes shall be made available to the Board within seven (7) calendar days from the meeting.
- D. Meeting minutes shall be approved by the Board within seven (7) calendar days of receipt.
- E. The Secretary shall post all meeting minutes on the ACF website within fourteen (14) calendar days from the meeting.

## ARTICLE VI: TOURNAMENTS

### Section 1. ACF Sponsored Tournaments

- A. At a minimum, the ACF shall hold at least one (1) ACF sponsored tournament per calendar year (Alaska State Championship- See Article VI, Section 4).
- B. All ACF sponsored tournaments shall be run and marketed exclusively by the ACF. Individuals and/or clubs shall not include individual marketing on tournament marketing, paperwork, and other tangible items. Inclusion of acknowledgements for the hosting venue and applicable paid sponsorships is permissible.
- C. The ACF shall make arrangements, provide a Tournament Director, and absorb any loss, while retaining any profit, from ACF sponsored events. See Article VIII, Section 4 for information on allocation of tournament profits.
- D. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, the ACF may sponsor other tournaments run by individuals or groups.

### Section 2. ACF Sanctioned Tournaments

- A. Individuals and groups wishing to conduct tournaments are encouraged to offer them as ACF sanctioned events, with written approval by the ACF.
- B. Tournament sponsor and club must have an active ACF membership and be in good standing. ACF membership is not required for players during ACF sanctioned tournaments.
- C. The ACF has no responsibility, other than advertising the tournament and publishing results. The organizers of ACF sanctioned events bear the responsibility for conducting the tournament, including absorbing losses and retaining profits.

- a. The ACF may provide Tournament Directors for ACF sanctioned tournaments if requested by the organizer. Tournament Director fees/travel costs will be determined on a case-by-case basis and no profit shall be retained by the ACF.
- D. ACF sanctioned tournaments may qualify as ACF Grand Prix scoring (see Article VI, Section 3). If qualifying for Grand Prix scoring, the tournament must have a minimum of 3 rounds and 8 players and the tournament sponsor must submit Grand Prix points to the Secretary within seven (7) days of the tournament concluding. Exceptions may be made with written approval from the ACF President.
- E. May be advertised on the ACF website (contact the Secretary for listing at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the event).
- F. Must provide the Secretary with a list of the results within seven (7) calendar days from the event.
- G. Must conform to the conditions of tournament play specified in the current edition in force of the U.S. Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess.

### Section 3. ACF Grand Prix Point System

- A. The purpose of the Grand Prix System is to promote participation from ACF members in qualifying events across Alaska.
- B. Only the ACF and current ACF Club Affiliates can hold ACF Grand Prix events. For qualifying ACF sanctioned events:
  - a. The tournament sponsor must have written approval by the ACF President to advertise their event as a Grand Prix event.
  - b. The tournament sponsor must submit tournament standings to the ACF Secretary within seven (7) calendar days of the tournament concluding.
- C. Any Grand Prix events (ACF sponsored or sanctioned) must have a minimum of 3 rounds and 8 players. Exceptions may be made with written approval from the ACF President.
- D. Any player wishing to collect Grand Prix points during a qualifying event must have a valid ACF membership prior to the start of the first round of the event. Exceptions may be made with written approval from the ACF President.
- E. The annual Grand Prix cycle shall begin at the State Championship (Open) each year, and conclude with the last ACF sponsored or qualifying sanctioned tournament prior to the following year's State Championship (Open).
- F. The top 3 ACF members with the highest Grand Prix scores will be announced at the State Championship. The type and amount (of prizes) shall be determined by the Board of Directors prior to the tournament.
  - a. In the event of a tie at the end of the Grand Prix cycle, the tie breaks will be determined by the following process:

Level 1 tie break: The player with the highest number of completed Grand Prix qualifying events wins the tie break.

2.00	2.00								4.00
-	4.00								4.00

(Player 1 wins the tie break)

Level 2 tie break: If there is still a tie after the Level 1 tie break, the player with the highest individual Grand Prix points at any event wins the tie break.

1.67	1.33								3.00
2.33	0.67								3.00

(Player 2 wins the tie break)

Level 3 tie break: If there is still a tie after the Level 2 tie break, the winner will be decided by a coin toss.

- G. The Secretary shall compute the Grand Prix points awarded and track the standings, arranging for those standings to be published and updated on the ACF website throughout the year.
- H. Grand Prix points shall be issued to all ACF members according to a formula which shall be established and published on the ACF website prior to the first ACF sponsored or sanctioned event of the year.
- I. The formula shall allow for tournaments of differing number of rounds, shall have a bonus multiplier to reward players for miles traveled, and shall take into account the strength of field, and the finishing position of each qualifying player. The calculated values for each term in the formula will be the same for players earning the same score, with the exception of the Travel Bonus Multiplier.
- J. Grand Prix points shall be awarded according to the following formula for all players with a positive score:

a.  $\text{Grand Prix points} = (R/5) \times (T/1500) \times M \times P$

where:

$R$  = Number of rounds in the event.

$T$  = Average rating of all players in the event.

- For the purpose of determining the average rating of all players in an event the USCF pre-tournament ratings will be used.
- For unrated events,  $T=500$

$M$  = Travel Bonus Multiplier. This value rewards players for miles traveled (one way) according to the following scale:

0-40 miles:  $M = 1.0$

41-120 miles:  $M = 1.33$

121-199 miles:  $M = 1.66$

Over 200 miles:  $M = 2.0$

- Generalized distance will be used (ex. 360 miles will be used for any players travelling from Anchorage to Fairbanks)
- Road miles will be used for any players travelling on the road system, regardless of transportation method used.
- Air miles will be used for any players travelling from off the road system.

$P$  = Place Score in order of finish among ACF members (the average place score in the event of ties).

- Place Scores are 12, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 for first through tenth and 0.5 for each other finishing position with a plus score.

b. Example:

There are 25 players participating in a 5-round Swiss rated tournament in Anchorage. The average pre-tournament rating for all players is 1200. Ashley is an ACF member who travelled from Homer to play in the tournament. She scored 3rd out of the 15 ACF members participating (6th overall).

R= 5

T= 1200

M= 2.00 (223 miles)

P= 8 (3rd place among ACF members)

$(5/5) \times (1200/1500) \times 2.00 \times 8 = \mathbf{12.80 \text{ Grand Prix Points}}$

#### Section 4. Alaska State Championship (Open and Scholastic)

- A. ACF shall hold an annual State Championship.
- B. Only the ACF can authorize a state championship event.
- C. All players participating in the State Championship must have an active ACF membership and be in good-standing. Membership verification shall occur prior to the Tournament.
- D. The ACF may organize or sanction other 'state championships' as authorized by the Board of Directors.
- E. The location of the State Championship shall be a central location, to promote participation from all Alaskans.
- F. To promote participation by all Alaskans regardless of skill level, the State Championship shall include at least two (2) sections: Note: the Open and Scholastic sections may take place at separate events.
  - a. Open Section (all ages, rated)
    - i. The Open Section shall be a USCF rated event. All participants must have an active USCF membership.
    - ii. The Open Section is open to all ages and ratings.
    - iii. The winner of the Open Section shall be given the title of "Alaska State Champion".
  - b. Scholastic Section (ages 17 and under, unrated)
    - i. The Scholastic Section shall be a rated event. USCF membership is required for this section.
    - ii. The Scholastic Section is open to ages 17 and under. Exceptions shall be made for high school students who are 18 years old.
    - iii. The winner of the Scholastic Section shall be given the title of "Alaska Scholastic State Champion".
- G. The State Champion (Open and Scholastic) must be an Alaska resident.
  - a. Expectations include: out-of-state college student enrolled in-person at an Alaska college/university, member of the Armed Forces stationed in Alaska.
    - i. For this exception, the player must change their USCF residency to Alaska prior to the tournament.



## ARTICLE VII: STATE DELEGATE

### Section 1. Purpose

- A. Delegates are named by state chapters to represent their state by voting in-person at the Annual Delegates Meeting, which is traditionally the final Saturday and Sunday of US Open week. The US Open is usually the last week of July or the first week of August. The event is rotated around the country at different venues from year to year.
- B. At the meeting, delegates vote on motions that affect the running of US Chess. Delegates also write the motions, whether ahead of time or at the Delegates Meeting. Delegate motions can be about any change a delegate, or the state they represent, would like to see in the way US Chess runs, including ethical conduct, rules, membership, etc. There is no limit to the number of motions a delegate can make.

### Section 2. Delegate Allotment

- A. Each state is allotted a specific number of delegates based on how many US Chess members reside in that state. Each state is also asked to name an equal number of alternates so that if a delegate can't attend, the alternate will take the delegate's place.
- B. The allotted number of delegates shall be determined by the current version of the US Chess Bylaws.

### Section 3. Delegate Eligibility

- A. The USCF determines the eligibility of Delegates. Delegate eligibility shall be determined by the current US Chess Bylaws at the time of selection.

### Section 4. Delegate and Alternate Selection

- A. The State Delegate and alternates shall be voted upon at the 4th quarterly meeting.
- B. Any ACF member, who is also a USCF member in good standing is eligible for selection.
- C. Any ACF member who is interested in being the State Delegate or Alternate shall notify the Secretary at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the election meeting.
- D. The selected State Delegate and alternate shall be announced at the State Championship.
- E. If no ACF members are interested in running for election to be the State Delegate, the President may appoint a State Delegate to represent Alaska. A vote of the Board of Directors is not required if the President appoints a delegate.
- F. The President may appoint themselves or another Board Member as the delegate, if necessary.

### Section 5. Delegate Terms/Cycle

- A. The delegate's terms begin when they are named and end on May 1st of the year following the meeting at which they served.
- B. Throughout that time, the US Chess Bylaws provides for the possibility of a "Special Delegates Meeting," which may be in the form of a teleconference. This is extremely rare.

### Section 6. Travel Stipend/Reimbursement

- A. While not required, the ACF may authorize a travel stipend/reimbursement for the selected delegate.

- B. If authorized, the stipend/reimbursement may cover direct travel costs to the Annual Delegates Meeting and accommodations for the delegate only.
  - a. If authorized, reimbursement shall be in the form of an invoice to the ACF- paid within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. Proof of expense/receipt is required.
- C. The State Delegate shall not assume that travel expenses are the responsibility of the ACF.

## **ARTICLE VIII: MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Section 1. Good Standing**

- A. The ACF defines a member in Good Standing as someone who has paid their membership dues and does not have a current or pending membership revocation or expulsion.

### **Section 2. Fiscal Year**

- A. The fiscal year of the ACF shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

### **Section 3. Bank Accounts**

- A. All funds of the ACF shall be deposited in an FDIC-insured bank or an NCUA-insured credit union, in a checking account and a savings account. Funds not required for recurring costs of the ACF shall be allocated to a separate savings account.
- B. There shall be two (2) signers on the ACF bank account- the President and the Treasurer. If the President also holds the Treasurer seat, the signers will consist of the President and the Vice President. The two signers cannot reside in the same household. In the event that the President also holds the Treasurer seat and resides in the same household as the Vice President, another non-related Board Member shall be the secondary signer.

### **Section 4. ACF Earnings**

- A. ACF Tournament Directors with a primary role of directing the tournament may be compensated for their efforts following completion of an ACF sponsored tournament.
- B. All funds generated from sources other than tournament entry fees shall be 100% retained by the ACF and placed in the ACF Bank Account for future use (example: merchandise, concessions, memberships, etc.).

### **Section 5. ACF Expenses**

- A. The ACF may have recurring expenses to operate the Organization.
- B. Any recurring monthly expenses/subscriptions in excess of \$30 per month shall have approval by the Board of Directors.
- C. Any recurring annual expenses/subscriptions in excess of \$125 per year shall have approval by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 6. Agents and Representatives**

- A. The Board of Directors may appoint agents and representatives of the Corporation with powers to perform acts and duties on behalf of the Corporation as the Board of Directors may see fit, so far as may be consistent with these Bylaws, and to the extent authorized by law.

- B. The Board of Directors is specifically authorized to employ legal counsel to render opinions and to provide such services as are necessary to carry out the functions and purposes of the Corporation.

#### Section 7. Prohibition Against Sharing Corporate Earnings

- A. No Director, Officer, member, employee, or representative of the Corporation, or other private person shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the Corporation's assets upon the dissolution of the Corporation.
- B. All members of the Corporation shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that upon dissolution of the affairs of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, the assets of the Corporation, after all debts have been satisfied, then remaining in the hands of the Board of Directors, shall be distributed in such amounts as the Board of Directors may determine or as may be determined by a Court of common jurisdiction upon application of the Board of Directors, exclusively to charitable, scientific, or educational organizations as provided for in the Articles of Incorporation and by the Internal Revenue Code and its regulations as then and now exist or as they may be amended.

#### Section 8. Affiliation

- A. The ACF shall be affiliated with US Chess and is the official US Chess State Affiliate for the State of Alaska.
- B. The Board of Directors shall control use of the ACF US Chess Affiliate ID Number and account.

### ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

- A. These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by any meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority vote of all members if a quorum is present.
- B. All proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be submitted to the Secretary in writing at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the meeting.

### ARTICLE X: HISTORY OF THE ACF BYLAWS

These Bylaws were adopted at the Incorporator's Meeting on Saturday, December 7, 2024, with an effective date of January 1, 2025.

On March 8, 2025 revisions were made to these Bylaws, which include:

- Revision of the distances for the Grand Prix travel bonus multiplier
- Inclusion of a clause for Grand Prix tie breaks
- Revision of the on allocation of ACF sponsored tournament profits Article VII, Section 4; removal of language on determining Tournament Director pay and leaving it up to the Tournament Directors and tournament organizers.

## **ARTICLE XI: APPENDICES**

Appendix A: Certificate of Incorporation

Appendix B: IRS Tax Exempt Status

Appendix C: ACF's Employer Identification Number (EIN)

## Appendix A: Certificate of Incorporation

Alaska Entity #10291028	
State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing	
<b>Certificate of Incorporation</b>	
The undersigned, as Commissioner of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development of the State of Alaska, hereby certifies that a duly signed and verified filing pursuant to the provisions of Alaska Statutes has been received in this office and has been found to conform to law.	
ACCORDINGLY, the undersigned, as Commissioner of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, and by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, hereby issues this certificate to	
<b>Alaska Chess Federation</b>	
	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I execute the certificate and affix the Great Seal of the State of Alaska effective <b>November 12, 2024</b> .
	
	Julie Sande Commissioner

## Appendix B: IRS Tax Exempt Status



Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
Tax Exempt and Government Entities  
P.O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

ALASKA CHESS FEDERATION  
821 N ST STE 102  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501

Date:  
12/12/2024  
Employer ID number:  
33-2138845  
Person to contact:  
Name: M. Vernon  
ID number: 5262610  
Telephone: (877) 829-5500  
Accounting period ending:  
December 31  
Public charity status:  
509(a)(2)  
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:  
Yes  
Effective date of exemption:  
November 12, 2024  
Contribution deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum applies:  
No  
DLN:  
26053745002194

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities). Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

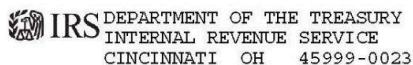
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen A. Martin".

Stephen A. Martin  
Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements

Letter 947 (Rev. 2-2020)  
Catalog Number 35152P

## Appendix C: ACF's Employer Identification Number (EIN)



Date of this notice: 11-26-2024

Employer Identification Number:  
33-2138845

Form: SS-4

Number of this notice: CP 575 E

For assistance you may call us at:  
1-800-829-4933IF YOU WRITE, ATTACH THE  
STUB AT THE END OF THIS NOTICE.ALASKA CHESS FEDERATION  
821 N ST STE 102  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501

## WE ASSIGNED YOU AN EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Thank you for applying for an Employer Identification Number (EIN). We assigned you EIN 33-2138845. This EIN will identify your entity, accounts, tax returns, tax returns, and documents, even if you have no employees. Please keep this notice in your permanent records.

Taxpayers request an EIN for business and tax purposes. Some taxpayers receive CP575 notices when another person has stolen their identity and are operating using their information. If you did **not** apply for this EIN, please contact us at the phone number or address listed on the top of this notice.

When filing tax documents, making payments, or replying to any related correspondence, it is very important that you use your EIN and complete name and address exactly as shown above. Any variation may cause a delay in processing, result in incorrect information in your account, or even cause you to be assigned more than one EIN. If the information is not correct as shown above, please make the correction using the attached tear-off stub and return it to us.

When you submitted your application for an EIN, you checked the box indicating you are a non-profit organization. Assigning an EIN does not grant tax-exempt status to non-profit organizations. Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your organization, has details on the application process, as well as information on returns you may need to file. To apply for recognition of tax-exempt status, organizations must complete an application on one of the following forms: Form 1023, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; Form 1023-EZ, Streamlined Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; Form 1024, Application for Recognition Under Section 501(a); or Form 1024-A, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Nearly all organizations claiming tax-exempt status must file a Form 990-series annual information return (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) or notice (Form 990-N) beginning with the year they legally form, even if they have not yet applied for or received recognition of tax-exempt status.

If you become tax-exempt, you will lose tax-exempt status if you fail to file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, unless a filing exception applies to you (search [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for Annual Exempt Organization Return: Who Must File). We start calculating this three-year period from the tax year we assigned the EIN to you. If that first tax year isn't a full twelve months, you're still responsible for submitting a return for that year. If you didn't legally form in the same tax year in which you obtained your EIN, contact us at the phone number or address listed at the top of this letter. For the most current information on your filing requirements and other important information, visit [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities).