

September 9, 2025

**SUBJECT: Minutes of US Chess Federation Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 9, 2025**

1. **Purpose.** This document captures the minutes of the Executive Board (EB) Meeting held on the subject date. This meeting was held via Zoom. All times listed are ET.
2. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** President Kevin Pryor called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM. Executive Director (ED) Ranae Bartlett recorded the Open Session of the meeting. President Pryor called the roll, and the following board members responded:

1. Kevin Pryor (FL), President
- ~~2. John Fernandez (MO), Vice President (VP)~~
3. Daniel Serna (NM), Vice President for Finance (VPF)
4. John Rockefeller (MD), Secretary
5. Leila D'Aquin (LA), Member-at-Large
6. Anand Dommalapati (VA), Member-at-Large
7. David (Dave) Hater (GA), Member-at-Large
8. Lakshmana (Vish) Viswanath (TX), Member-at-Large
9. Ranae Bartlett, Executive Director

3. **Conflicts of Interest.** No new conflicts of interest were reported.

4. **Motions.**

The Executive Board made 9 motions:

EB26-017 – BOARD - The Executive Board moves to update and approve the attached resolution and assignment of the Bank of America account ownership and related matters for the US Chess Federation by revising the signatories to its accounts with Bank of America as follows: Kevin Pryor, Daniel Serna, Korey Kormick, and Ranae Bartlett as new signatories.

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-018 – BOARD – The Executive Board moves to approve the Ethics Committee recommendation to suspend the US Chess membership of Justin Arnold (12667835) for 3 years, effective September 9, 2026, for violation of Sections 6(a) and 6(b) of the *US Chess Code of Ethics*. The Executive Board notes that Justin Arnold did not appeal the recommended sanction within 30 days upon receipt of notification from the Ethics Committee.

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-019 – BOARD – The Executive Board moves to approve the Ethics Committee recommendation to suspend the US Chess membership of Ram Dake (12444968) for 2 years, effective September 9, 2026, for violation of Sections 8 (a) and (b) of the *US Chess Code of Ethics*. Furthermore, the Executive Board moves to impose 5 years of probation, following the 2 years of suspension. The Executive Board notes that Ram Dake did not appeal the recommended sanction within 30 days upon receipt of notification from the Ethics Committee.

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-020 – BOARD – The Executive Board moves to suspend the US Chess membership of Cesar Bercilla Tamondong Jr's (12439091) for 6 months, effective September 9, 2026, for violation of Section III. Prohibited Conduct., B. Bullying of the *Safe Play Policy*, followed by 3 years of probation. Before the Executive Board's decision takes effect, Cesar Tamondong has 30 days from the date of receiving this notice to appeal the decision to suspend his membership.

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-021 – BOARD – The Executive Board moves to suspend the US Chess membership of Alex Silvestre (15446526) for 3 years, effective September 9, 2026, for violations of Section III (Prohibited Conduct) of the *Safe Play Policy*, followed by 10 years of probation. Before the Executive Board's decision takes effect, Alex Silvestre has 30 days from the date of receiving this notice to appeal the decision to suspend his membership.

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-022 – BOARD – The Executive Board moves to suspend the US Chess membership of Christian Silvestre (15467517) for 5 years, effective September 9, 2026, for violations of Section III (Prohibited Conduct) of the *Safe Play Policy*, followed by 10 years of probation. Before the Executive Board's decision takes effect, Christian Silvestre has 30 days from the date of receiving this notice to appeal the decision to suspend his membership.

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-023 – BOARD – After conducting an appeal hearing on September 7, 2026, the Executive Board moves to suspend the US Chess membership of Andrew Hoy (12846607) for 2 years, effective September 9, 2026, for violation of Section 6(a) of the *US Chess Code of Ethics*, followed by 3 years of probation.

PASSED 6-0-1-1. Recused: Dave Hater. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-024 – BOARD – After conducting an appeal hearing on September 7, 2026, the Executive Board moves to uphold the revocation of the US Chess membership of Joseph Cheng-Yue Wan (14023940) for violations of Section III (Prohibited Conduct), Subparagraph A1 (Sexual Misconduct involving Minors) of the *US Chess Safe Play Policy* and that a flag be placed on his official record to prohibit him from renewing his membership or otherwise rejoining US Chess under his current or an assumed name. Mr. Wan is forbidden to appear at, attend, or participate in any US Chess sanctioned events, rated or unrated. Mr. Wan may apply to the Executive Board for reinstatement of his membership no sooner than 5 years after September 9, 2026. Furthermore, the Executive Board moves to request that FIDE extends the sanction worldwide for 5 years.

PASSED 6-0-1-1. Recused: Dave Hater. Absent: John Fernandez.

EB26-025 – BOARD – The Executive Board moves to accept the revised Committee List, as uploaded, with these changes:

Additions

Chess in Education

- Paul Swaney (VA)

College

- Dylan Challenger
- Gus Huston
- Bartek Maciejka (Co-Chair)
- Julio Sadorra
- Nate Shuman

Seniors

- Venkata Pullabhotla
- Chuck Unruh

Subtractions

National State Invitationals

- Al Lawrence

College

- Constantine Ananiadis
- John Burke
- Russell Harwood
- Beatriz Marinello
- Devanshi Rathi
- Alan Sherman
- Thomas Slaten
- James Stalling

PASSED 7-0-1. Absent: John Fernandez.

5. **Adjourn.** With no further business to conduct, the Executive Board voted to adjourn at 10:48 PM.

John D. Rockefeller V (MD)
Secretary, US Chess Executive Board