

## Appendix A: OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES for the Online Pan American Intercollegiate Championships

1. **Purpose.** This appendix provides the rules to be used for the Online Pan American Intercollegiate Championships. This annex *only highlights the differences between the online and the OTB event*, it is not a comprehensive re-statement of the event rules.
2. **Entry Fees and Registration Process.** The tournament's Entry Fees, entry deadlines, and the specific entry mechanism shall be established, supported, and promulgated by the Organizer. The Organizer shall *collaborate with the US Chess Director of Events* on the Registration Process to ensure adequate advertisement of the tournament and the registration details.
3. **Tournament Dates, Number of Rounds, and Round Times.**
  - a. Tournament Dates: Equipment tests and pre-event meetings are scheduled for Jan 3, 2021 (see paragraphs 7a and 7e). All games will be played on Jan 4, 5 and 6.
  - b. Number of Rounds: Nine (9) rounds, with the start time for all rounds on Jan 4, 5 and 6 at 12PM, 3PM, and 6PM Eastern Standard Time (EST).
  - c. Time Control: G/25+5.
4. **Player Eligibility.** The rules listed below correspond to the rules found in *paragraph 2c* of the 2019 edition of the Pan Am rules.

**Rules 1 through 4:** No change.

**Rule 5:** Rule 5 was suspended by the US Chess Executive Board through motion EB20-088 for the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 Semesters.

**Rules 6 and 7:** No change.
5. **Ratings of Players.** The details provided here represent changes to the specifications found in *paragraph 2d* of the 2019 edition of the Pan Am rules.
  - a. For pairing purposes, each team's "team average rating" shall be based on the ratings of the highest rated players listed on the team's "Final Roster" as described in paragraph 6 (Team Requirements) below. The team average rating for a 3-player team is based on the ratings of the team's 3 players. The team average rating for a team of 4 players and 2 alternates is based on the ratings of the 4 highest rated players.
  - b. Players' ratings will be determined based on the US Chess 2020 December Rating Supplement. The Chief Tournament Director (TD) is the final authority for resolving disputes regarding players' ratings to include ratings calculated by conversion from other rating systems in accordance with the US Chess Official Rules of Chess and the 2019 Pan Am rules.
6. **Team Requirements.** The specifications listed below represent changes to those found in *paragraph 2e* of the 2019 edition of the Pan Am rules.
  - a. A team *must have at least 3 players* to register for and participate in the tournament. Any team with only 3 players shall play on Boards 1-3, with Board 4 recorded as a Forfeit-Loss.

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- b. Each team may register up to two Alternate Players, but ***each team's "Final Roster" must be locked-in by email from the Coach or Captain to the Chief TD no later than 6PM EST on Dec 30, 2020.*** For teams whose Coach or Captain fail to provide a formal "Final Roster" directly to the Organizer by the cut-off time and date the Chief Tournament Director (TD) shall create those teams' Final Rosters based on their original team and player registration information. ***After this deadline, no team is allowed to change its Final Roster.*** The Chief TD shall use the timestamp on the Coach's or Captain's email to determine compliance with the deadline.
- c. All players must be eligible to compete on the game platform selected by the Organizer for the tournament.
- d. Specification #10 listed under paragraph 2e does not apply to this tournament.
- e. Specification #11 listed under paragraph 2e is changed as detailed here. The roles of the Team Coach or Captain are to:
  - 1) Submit the team line-up one hour before the start time for each round. If no line-up is submitted, the team's line-up from the prior round stands, and players will be paired in the order they played.
  - 2) Ensure players know the start times for each round. This is especially important since players will be participating from multiple time zones throughout the world.
  - 3) Verify that their players are aware of the pairings for the next round.
  - 4) Confirm the results of previous rounds on the Standings posted by the Organizer.

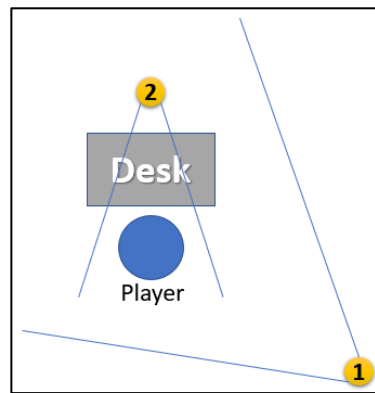
**7. Conduct of the Tournament.**

- a. Date, Time and Zoom link for the pre-Tournament Captains and Coaches Meeting. The Organizer should coordinate with the US Chess Director of Events or designated representative if a Zoom Link is required.
  - 1) ***Online meeting for Coaches and Captains on Sunday, January 3 @ 4PM EST:*** The meeting will be held online via zoom meeting with unlimited number of attendees. For security reasons, registration will be required (i.e. zoom meeting information will not be public, but only be shared with those who registered for the event).
  - 2) ***College Committee meeting Open to All on Sunday, January 3 @ 6PM EST:*** This meeting will occur after the Online meeting for Coaches and Captains and provides a platform for the College Committee to hold their annual open meeting. The event Organizer will coordinate with the committee about the setup preferences and assist the committee with distribution of the meeting agenda before the meeting. For security reasons, persons desiring to attend must register in advance for the meeting (i.e. zoom meeting information will not be public but will be shared only with persons who registered for the event).
- b. Camera requirements: Players must be logged into a tournament-specific Zoom meeting with at least two web cameras arranged as shown in Figure 1 below.
  - 1) ***Camera No. 1:*** The first webcam must provide a partial landscape view of the room in which the player is competing, while also containing a full view of the player and of the entire screen on which the player is playing. The camera will be placed at approximately a 45-degree angle to the right or left rear of the player and elevated to at least at the same height as the player's desktop (Fig. 1). Players may use a cell phone as this camera, or a separate web cam, to provide the required view of

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the player and the room. Players will need to ensure this camera has a continuous source of power and not rely on battery power alone. If Camera No. 1 becomes disconnected, the TD will impose a penalty of 10 minutes or half of the player's remaining time (whichever is less). As part of this protocol, additional webcam violations may result in more severe penalties, including forfeiture of the game and expulsion from the tournament.

- 2) **Camera No. 2:** The second webcam will provide a direct frontal view of the player from the shoulders-up. Players whose computers have a built-in webcam may use that webcam to provide the required view. A separate camera positioned as described here and shown in Fig. 1 is acceptable.



**Figure 1: Required positioning of cameras.**

- c. During game play, the TD has the authority to require a player to “share” his/her playing screen. Players who refuse to share the screen, or claim they do not have the capability, are subject to penalties as deemed appropriate by the Chief TD up to and including loss of game or expulsion from the event.
- d. No bathroom breaks are allowed except for emergencies.
- e. Play only on a device with a large screen (10+ inches) such as a laptop, desktop. Playing on a device with a small screen (<10 inches) such as a mobile phone or tablet is prohibited.
- f. An Equipment Test Session will be offered by the Organizer on January 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1PM-3PM EST.
- g. All players must be logged-in for the Zoom meeting at least 15 minutes before the start time for a round and signed in to Chess.com/live at least 5 minutes before the start time.
- h. The tournament staff will start all games manually. Players must be signed-on to Chess.com/live and remain signed on for the duration of their games. Players will not start their own games (e.g. no challenges) and will not engage in any other games. Games will pop up and start automatically for players.
- i. Players can contact the tournament staff through Zoom in the Zoom Meeting Room for the tournament. The Organizer or Chief TD will provide the contact information for this meeting room before the tournament or before each round of the tournament.
- j. The website for posting Pairings and Standings is [www.milibrary.org/chess/Pan Am](http://www.milibrary.org/chess/Pan Am).

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- k. No byes are allowed (individual or team).
  - l. Forfeit time is 25 minutes, counted from the published start time for each round as given in paragraph 3b of this appendix.
  - m. If a school enters multiple teams, those teams may be paired against each other in rounds 5, 6, 7 or 8.
- 8. Fair Play.**
- a. All player's games shall be monitored in real-time, move-by-move, by the tournament staff and the vendor's Fair Play algorithm.
  - b. After the tournament all games are subject to Fair Play Analysis by the Tournament Staff and other expertise as identified by the Organizer and Chief TD.
  - c. The Chief TD has the authority to disqualify any player determined to be in violation of Fair Play. The Chief TD ***can make this ruling while rounds are in progress and after the tournament.***
    - 1) If the Chief TD disqualifies a player or entire team while the event is in progress, that decision is final and cannot be appealed until after the tournament through the US Chess Federation's claims process. The Chief TD shall change a disqualified player's or team's game results according to US Chess rules.
    - 2) If a player is disqualified during the tournament, the affected team is not allowed to back-fill with an Alternate or any other player.
    - 3) If the loss of a player causes a team's roster to drop below 3 players, then the Chief TD shall withdraw that team from further participation in the tournament and the team will not be paired for future rounds.
  - d. After the tournament, any Standings posted by the Organizer or US Chess are considered as "Preliminary Final Standings" until they are declared official by the Chief TD. In accordance with Chapter 10 of the ***Official Rules of Chess***, this process can take up to three (3) weeks.
- 9. Tie-breaks.** No changes to the specifications of paragraph 2h of the 2019 edition of the Pan Am rules.
- 10. Awards Ceremony & Prizes.** An Awards Ceremony will be held online at 9PM EST on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> using the Preliminary Final Standings. Awards will be distributed based on the advertised list shown on the event web page. These Awards were modified from the published Pan Am rules for easier shipment to the various states and countries. The Organizer will begin distributing final awards no later than January 27<sup>th</sup>. Team Captains and Coaches are responsible for providing accurate shipping instructions to the Organizer.

Passed by US Chess Executive Board, 7-0, December 5, 2020