

US Chess Accepting Chess Store Vendor Bids For National Events

December 15, 2025

The US Chess Federation (US Chess) is soliciting Chess Store Vendor (Vendor) bids for the following FY 2025-2026 through FY 2028-2029 National events. The US Chess fiscal year starts on July 1 and ends on June 30. This will be a one-year agreement, with three optional one-year agreements based on performance and mutual consideration. The successful bid will include the following National events*:

- **2025 U.S. Open**
- **2025 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2026 National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **2026 National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **2026 National Elementary (K-6) Championship**
- **2026 U.S. Open**
- **2026 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2027 National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **2027 National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **2027 National Elementary (K-6) Championship**
- **2027 U.S. Open**
- **2027 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2028 National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **2028 National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **2028 National Elementary (K-6) Championship**
- **2028 U.S. Open**
- **2028 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2029 SuperNationals IX**

See the National Events Calendar at <http://new.uschess.org/national-events-calendar> for dates and locations for these events. If the event is not listed, the date and location are TBA.

**Dates and locations are subject to change.*

The US Chess Federation will:

1. Provide adequate space for the Vendor with tables and chairs.
2. Provide the Vendor with the contact name at the event venue so they may make necessary arrangements for product delivery.
3. Provide a US Chess Federation point of contact person at the event.

The successful bid will include:

1. Per player fee, percentage of sales, or both.
2. Percentage of sub-vendor fees to be paid to US Chess.
3. Information on range of products to be offered at each event.
4. Any additional concessions offered to US Chess.
5. Clear policies for return of merchandise purchased at events.

The bidder will acknowledge that:

1. Gift certificates issued will be charged to US Chess Federation at 80% of value.

2. Vendor must obtain US Chess Federation approval for any sub-vendors, including any book signings.
3. The space layout design will be provided to US Chess not later than 30 days prior to the start of the event.
4. The Vendor is responsible for obtaining electrical power and internet service from the venue.
5. It is the responsibility of the Vendor to arrange the delivery or pick up of products with the venue.
6. The Vendor must pay any drayage fee associated with its operation.
7. The expected arrival and departure dates for products must be provided 30 days prior to the start of the event.
8. The Vendor must provide US Chess its primary point of contact 30 days prior to the start of each event.
9. The Vendor must provide US Chess its store hours 30 days prior to the start of each event.
10. US Chess retains the rights to contract with an Apparel Vendor.
11. US Chess retains the rights to contract with other Vendors offering products and services which are not normally offered by the bookstore.
12. The Chess Store will provide the chess sets and boards for the events. The bookstore is free to sell these sets after the event.
13. The inventory for sale must include a wide variety of books, chess sets and clocks.
14. US Chess retains full control and ownership of its logos and trademarks.

Competitive bids will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Completeness of bid pursuant to requirements listed above.
2. Financial terms that benefit US Chess.
3. Past performance (if any) at US Chess events.
4. Special offerings that enhance the experience of the chess tournament.

The selected Vendor shall be bound by the relevant specifications of the US Chess Safe Play Policy. Failure to adhere the Safe Play Policy shall be grounds for termination of the awarded contract. The Safe Play Policy is available for review at the US Chess Safe Play Hub: <https://new.uschess.org/us-chess-safe-play-hub>.

Either party may elect to discontinue the agreement for future fiscal years, by notifying the other party not later than June 30, 2026 for the first extension, or June 30 for subsequent years' extensions.

The bid process is a sealed process. No bid will be reviewed until the deadline for submission has passed. Bids must be submitted to eventbids@uschess.org not later than January 13, 2025.

Please direct all questions to US Chess Director of Events, Boyd Reed, boyd.reed@uschess.org. DO NOT SUBMIT FINAL BIDS TO THIS EMAIL.