

US Chess Clubs Committee Charter

Approved 12/2021

Purpose

Chess clubs form among groups of people with interests ranging from purely social and recreational, to educational and competitive. US Chess recognizes new clubs need information and guidance. The Clubs Committee exists to support the starting and sustaining any type of chess club. This committee exists to help fulfill the mission of US Chess to enrich lives and enhance communities through chess.

Mission

The mission of the Clubs Committee is to support the *creation, growth, and sustainment of community-based chess clubs*.

Goals

The Goals of the committee are to:

- Advise the US Chess Executive Board on matters concerning community-based chess clubs around the nation.
- Work with state chapters to understand the diverse needs of clubs, regardless of whether those clubs are (or become) US Chess affiliates.
- Provide information and guidance to people who want to form or grow their clubs.
- Introduce and expose clubs to the benefits of being a US Chess affiliate.
- Collaborate with the US Chess Office and other US Chess Committees—e.g., Scholastics, Senior, States and Affiliates, TD Certification, Women's, Accessibility and Special Circumstances, etc.—to satisfy clubs' requests for information.

Objectives for 2021-22

No later than June 15, 2022, the Clubs Committee shall:

- Organize a virtual Clubs Committee Workshop as part of the US Chess ramp-up to the U.S. Open and Delegates Meeting. Hold the workshop during the virtual meeting period distributed by the US Chess Office.
- Work with the Executive Board Liaisons to provide a verbal report to the Executive Board on these objectives by the second week of February and a written report by the end of May 2022.
- Update Guide to Scholastic Chess.
- Publish club-oriented material in Chess Life Online (CLO) and/or Chess Life for publication with the goal of 3-5 times per year.
- Complete the establishment of the committee charter.
- Have the *Guide to Starting a Successful Chess Club* as a presence in the majority of state affiliate websites.

Committee Composition

The committee shall consist of no more than 11 members (an odd number is strongly preferred). The structure of the committee shall include a Chair, and up to 10 members at large. All members and positions are subject to Executive Board approval. The Executive Board shall appoint two liaisons to the committee and the Executive Director shall appoint an office liaison.

Committee Operation:

The committee will discuss its business using a group collaboration/discussion forum provided by US Chess for the exclusive use of the committee. The use of social media by the committee for outreach or promulgation of committee matters is not authorized without the approval of the Executive Director. All committee members must be members in good standing with US Chess throughout the business year and the members shall have at least five years of practical experience in at least two of the following areas: forming and growing a chess club, obtaining and maintaining affiliate status, organizing club-based and intra-club play for recreational and/or competitive reasons, and tournament direction and organization. The committee shall meet virtually for periodic meetings as set by the Chair. The Chair shall coordinate dates/times for these meetings with all committee members at least two weeks in advance and provide an agenda at least 5 days before the meeting. The Chair shall invite the EB and Office liaisons to all committee meetings and shall include them in the committee's discussion forum.

Budget and Resources:

This committee does not have an operating budget and committee members shall not receive financial compensation for their activities. Any requests for funds to support the committee must be submitted to and approved by the US Chess Executive Director.