

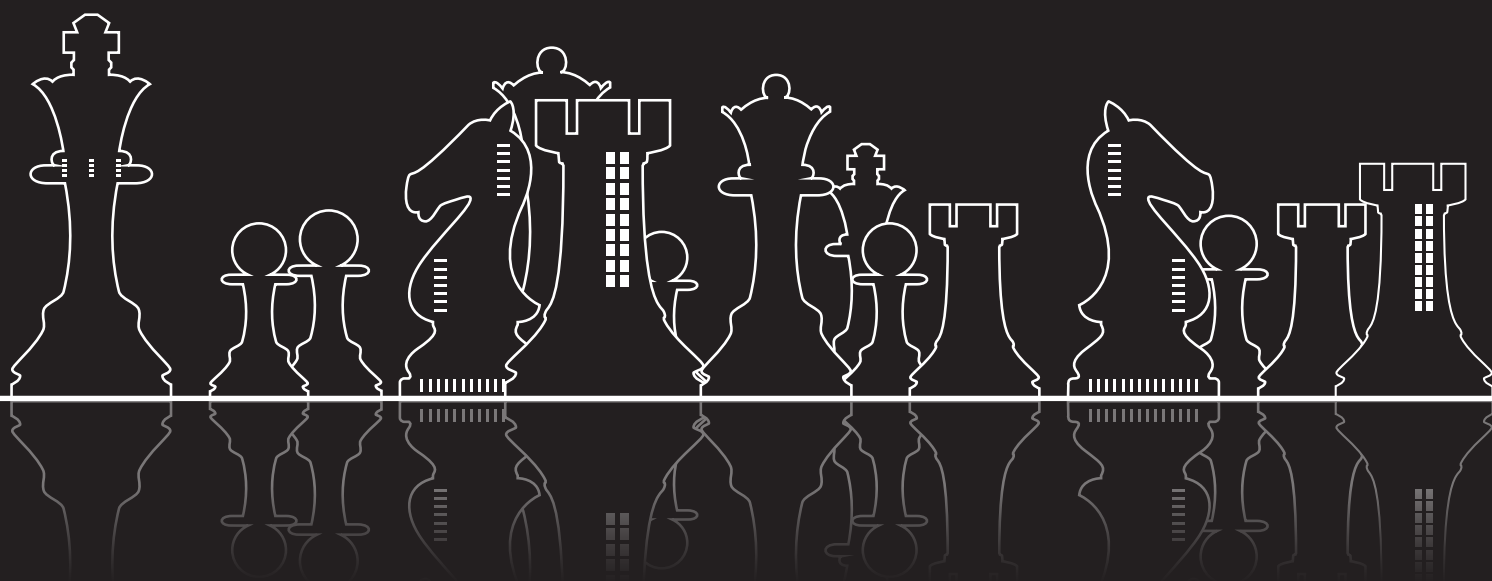
2021

DELEGATES CALL

AUGUST 4-8, 2021

CROWNE PLAZA CHERRY HILL

CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY



US CHESS **MISSION**

Empower people, enrich lives,
and enhance communities through chess.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF SAINT LOUIS CHESS CLUB

US CHESS **VISION**

Chess is recognized as an essential tool that is inclusive, benefits education and rehabilitation, and promotes recreation and friendly competition.

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2021 DELEGATES CALL

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ADVANCE AGENDA - 2021 US CHESS BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

Crowne Plaza Philadelphia-Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ,
August 7-8, 2021

CALL TO ORDER BY US CHESS PRESIDENT — MIKE HOFFPAUR

A moment of silence for the reading of the names of the dearly departed members of our chess community.

ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES

ADM 21-01 (Executive Board)

Approve the following Delegates-at-Large (DALs) whose terms have expired or are expiring this year:

- Dewain Barber
- Randall Hough
- Albert Lawrence
- Rachel Lieberman
- Robert John McCrary
- Mike Nolan
- Allen Priest
- Gary Walters

ADM 21-02 (Mike Hoffpaur, VA)

Move that Mike Nolan be appointed parliamentarian.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMITTEE

REPORT BY THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMITTEE

ADM 21-03 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N; Robert Messenger, MA)

Move that the minutes of the 2020 Special Delegates Meeting, as available to the Delegates present in Cherry Hill, New Jersey be accepted.

ADM 21-04 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N; Robert Messenger, MA)

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2021 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 21-05 (David Hater, GA)

The Delegates certify the results of the 2021 Executive Board Election.

ADM 21-06 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N; Robert Messenger, MA)

Pursuant to Article III, Section 9 of the Bylaws, the Delegates have

reviewed the promotional memberships offered by the Executive Board in 2020 and authorize their continuation.

ADM 21-07 (Richard Koepcke, CA-N; Robert Messenger, MA)

The Delegates have reviewed the financial information about expenditures and the status of funds in the Players Health and Benefit Fund and approve the report on those items, a report required by DM 11-51.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Report of the President (Mike Hoffpaur)

Report of the Vice President of Finance (Chuck Unruh)

ADM 21-08 (Executive Board)

Approve the US Chess Budget for 2021-2022.

REPORTS OF STAFF

Report of the Executive Director (Carol Meyer)

Report of the Senior Director of Strategic Communication (Daniel Lucas)

Report of the Director of Events (Boyd Reed)

REPORT OF THE FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT

Allen Priest

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to time constraints all committee reports will be included in this year's Delegates Call or distributed as handouts.

ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

ADM 21-09 (VP of Finance Chuck Unruh, OK)

I move that the Delegates approve and elect the following individuals to continued service on the Audit Committee: Allen Priest, Jon Haskel, Randy Bauer, and Chuck Unruh.

ADM 21-10 (Chuck Unruh, OK)

I move that the Delegates approve and elect the following individuals for Trustee service on the Life Member Asset Trust: Allen Priest, Beatriz Marinello, Chuck Unruh, David Grimaud, Dov Gorman, Jim Bedenbaugh, Leroy Dubeck, Michael Hoffpaur, Peter Dyson, Steve Doyle, and Tim Redman.

ADM 21-11 (Myron Lieberman, AZ; David Hater, GA)

Move that the Delegates approve and elect the following individuals to the Election Committee:

Myron Lieberman, Mike Nietman, Kenneth Sloan, Andrew Thall.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE ELECTION

ETHICS COMMITTEE ELECTION

Note: The Nominating Committee does not require election this year. Their members serve for two years.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Any motions passed at the Membership Meeting will be discussed as the first order of New Business.

ADM 21-12 (Randy Bauer, IA)

Section 7. Special Delegates Meeting. Special Delegates Meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting.

Additional notification may be provided by e-mail or FAX. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the US Chess website at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The Special Delegates Meeting has authority to act upon advance agenda items but does not have the authority to take action unrelated to the advance agenda items.

All Executive Board members shall have at least 7 days' advance notice before the notice of the meeting is sent. Items can only be placed on the advance agenda by the President or any two Executive Board members.

A quorum shall consist of one third of all Delegates and Delegates will be certified in the same manner as at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

If the meeting notice so provides, the meeting can take place by video teleconference at advance designated sites announced in the call of the meeting; for purposes of establishing a quorum and voting. Delegates must be present in person at a meeting site and visible on the video teleconference.

RATIONALE: The use of video conferencing technology makes the old requirement that Delegates gather at designated sites for a Special Delegates Meeting unnecessary. This removes FAX as a method of notification and provides that the meeting will be conducted by video teleconference.

ADM 21-13 (Dewain Barber, CA-S; Steve Morford, CA-S; Dylan Quercia, CA-S; Sean J. Manross, CA-S; Brian Glover, CA-S; Jim Mennella, CA-S; Alan Kantor, TN)

The US Chess Federation (US Chess) shall sanction and organize an annual National Tournament of State Champions of the Disabled, which offers an online option.

RATIONALE: The administration and technical orchestration of the event shall follow similar guidelines of other national invitational championships and be governed by the National State Invitationals Committee and the Executive Board, with expert direction from the Programs Committee's Accessibility and Special Circumstances Subcommittee and support from US Chess staff. With the governance apparatus already in place, such an event would provide maximum empowerment through chess to US Chess members, while placing a minimum burden upon the administrative and legislative mechanisms of US Chess.

ADM 21-14 (Beatriz Marinello, NY; Dr. Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Sean Manross, CA-S; Dewain Barber, CA-S; Tom Langland, CA-N; Jim Eade, CA-N; Alan Kantor, TN; Blaine Webb, AK)

US Chess Federation Delegates who are senior citizens over 65 years old

and Delegates with underlying health conditions may attend the Delegates Meetings virtually.

Requests for this accommodation should be sent to the US Chess office by June 1 of the year of the meeting.

RATIONALE: The COVID-19 and its variants may be with us for years to come. Senior citizens and those with underlying health conditions are more likely to have serious illness if exposed to any virulent virus. This ADM will allow them to remotely and safely participate as Delegates.

ADM 21-15 (LMA Trust Trustees)

Transfer of Life Member dues received to the Life Member Asset Trust.

Effective immediately, Operations shall retain a one-year equivalent of the adult membership dues for each new US Chess Life Membership sold, with the residual funds transferred to the Life Membership Asset Trust on a quarterly basis.

ADM 21-16 (Chris Prosser, TN)

The US Chess Federation will re-institute a Chess In Education Committee as a stand-alone committee.

RATIONALE: Scholastic memberships make up the majority of US Chess membership. The first goal listed for US Chess is to "Increase the use of chess in education." A Chess In Education Committee is a necessary and indispensable component to reach that goal. The purpose of the Scholastic Council is to "...review and monitor the scholastic regulations that govern the conduct of major national scholastic events." In any given year, 80% or more of our scholastic members are not involved in national events. Therefore, the Chess In Education Committee needs to be separate from the Scholastic Council.

ADM 21-17 (Fun Fong, GA)

Title: "Tag-Team" voting privilege for Alternate Delegates

Purpose: To allow Alternate Delegates to substitute for Delegates for the purpose of debate and vote on one or more issues as allowed by a Delegate.

Renumber Article V, Section 5 (B) to Section 5 (C)

Add Article V, Section 5 (B):

"A properly credentialed Alternate Delegate may substitute for a designated Delegate not seated on the Board of Delegates meeting floor. Substitutions between designated Delegates and alternates may only take place once debate and voting on the current motion under consideration has been completed. A Delegate or an Alternate Delegate may not serve simultaneously as an Alternate Delegate for more than one component body. A Delegate may reclaim his voting privilege on the meeting floor any time debate and voting on a current motion under consideration has been completed.

If the number of Alternate Delegates is insufficient to fill all Delegate positions for a component body, then a member of that component body may be seated as a Delegate pro-tem by either the concurrence of an officer of the component body or upon written request to the Board of Delegates' presiding officer with a majority vote of the Board of Delegates. Disputes regarding the assignment of Delegate pro-tem positions will be decided by the presiding officer.

A Delegate representing one Organizational Unit may not simultaneously represent another Organizational Unit as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate."

RATIONALE: Allowing an Alternate Delegate to have the prospect of serving actively on the Board of Delegates debate floor provides multiple benefits: 1) The Alternate Delegate will gain some representative experience with Board of Delegate meetings. 2) The Alternate Delegates will be more likely

to attend with the prospect of being able to vote on an issue (as determined by the allowing Delegate). 3) More members trained to serve as delegates will enrich the US Chess governance process. 4) The Board of Delegates may have fewer attendance issues with Alternate Delegate substitution allowed. 5) The better utilization of Alternate Delegates will assist US Chess in growing its leadership base within the Board of Delegates more easily.

ADM 21-18 (Fun Fong, GA)

Purpose: The US Chess Correspondence Chess Working Group and US Chess staff have obtained consensus in updating and streamlining US Chess Correspondence Rules for the 21st century. The Working Group is submitting revised US Chess correspondence rules to the Board of Delegates for approval.

Some of the other major rule changes are:

- References to the US Chess Correspondence Chess Director now refer to "TD."
- Specific references to US Correspondence Chess events have been removed.
- Rules dedicated to postal correspondence chess now relate to both postal and electronic correspondence chess.
- Removal of the Executive Director as the appeals process to now follow the appeals process provided in the US Chess Rulebook.
- An addition of an allowable time control section incorporating the Daily Chess method found on popular chess servers and the

addition of a "maximum of 10 days for any one move" to the US Chess standard time control for our events. This is to potentially speed up the games and reduce the number of "time complaints" received.

- Penalties for impossible, ambiguous, illegible moves or failing to confirm opponent's last move are now at the discretion of the TD and each event can specify whether these rules will be in effect.
- The main rule for overstep of time now results in loss of game. However, a variation was added to allow the TD to provide a less severe penalty for their events.
- Repeats should now be sent after 14 days instead of 10 days. Time complaints file with the TD after 28 days instead of 20 days.
- Significant changes were made to the withdrawal/forfeit section to allow a TD to rule a silent withdrawal if a player does not respond within a reasonable amount of time to the TD's enquiries.
- Games submitted as forfeit wins/losses will be based on the number of moves completed and the amount of time a game has been in progress. No such definition was included in the previous rules or rating regulations for CC events.

RATIONALE: These changes envision a future where any affiliate/TD can organize and rate US Chess CC events rather than just US Chess and the progression to more CC events being held using electronic methods, email, or chess servers.

CURRENT US CHESS CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RULES (REVISED DECEMBER 31, 1991)

US CHESS CORRESPONDENCE RULES

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 1991

These rules superseded previous versions and apply to all Correspondence Chess tournaments and matches starting after December 31, 1991.

Your Pledge:

I undertake to conform to the rules and objectives of US Chess Correspondence Chess, to respond promptly to all chess correspondence and to maintain a high standard of courtesy, sociability, and good fellowship at all times in my contacts with other members. I also understand that I have a responsibility to complete my games.

Your Responsibilities as a Player

1. You must be a US Chess member for the duration of your play in any tournament. You must abide by the latest edition of the US Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess, except when inappropriate for correspondence play. In case of conflict, correspondence rules take precedence. You are responsible for knowing the rules. By entering correspondence events, you agree to follow directions of the correspondence chess director (CCD), to respond to any legitimate inquiry, and to provide requested information. Players must enter tournaments only in their own names, unless approval for other action is granted by the CCD. A player who withdraws may be denied entry to new events. If you withdraw without proper notice to your opponent and the CCD, it will be the decision of the CCD as to whether or not you will be allowed to play in another CC event.
2. You are expected to act courteously toward opponents. The CCD will forfeit players who use abusive or insulting language or who

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE US CHESS CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RULES

US CHESS CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RULES

2021 PROPOSED REVISIONS

These rules supersede previous versions and apply to all US Chess Correspondence Chess rated tournaments.

Your Pledge:

I undertake to conform to the rules and objectives of US Chess Correspondence Chess (CC), to respond promptly to all chess correspondence and to maintain a high standard of courtesy, sociability, and good fellowship at all times in my contacts with other members. I also understand that I have a responsibility to complete my games.

Your Responsibilities as a Player

1. You must be a US Chess member for the duration of your play in any tournament. You must abide by the latest edition of the US Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess, except when inappropriate for correspondence play. In case of conflict, correspondence rules take precedence. You are responsible for knowing the rules. By entering correspondence events, you agree to follow directions of the Tournament Director (TD), to respond to any legitimate inquiry, and to provide requested information. Players must enter tournaments only in their own names, unless approval for other action is granted by the TD. A player who withdraws may be denied entry to new events. If you withdraw without proper notice to your opponent and the TD, the TD may provide this information to the US Chess Correspondence Chess Director (CCD) who may determine whether you will be allowed to enter future US Chess CC events.
2. You are expected to act courteously toward opponents. The TD will forfeit players who use abusive or insulting language or who

are disruptive. In case of conflict, you should try to come to an agreement with your opponent.

3. You may consult chess books and periodicals but not other players. You cannot use a computer or computer program (chess playing algorithms) to evaluate a game, but you may use computers for record keeping and databases.
4. In case of appeals, retain all game records (including move cards) for at least four months after receiving notice of a game result. Otherwise, you may find yourself without a defense to an opponent's claim.

Reflection Time

5. Every day counts as reflection time including Sundays and holidays. For each 10 moves (1-10, 11-20,...) you have 30 days of reflection time.

You may carry unused time over into the next 10-move series. Reflection time is calculated for postal from the date the move is received until the date it is posted. For email it is calculated from the date your opponent posts his/her move to the date you post a reply. You are charged a day of reflection time for each 24-hour period from the time the move was posted. Example, if your opponent posts a move at 11:50 PM on March 22nd, you have until 11:49 PM March 23rd to post a reply without being charged a day's reflection time. If your reply is posted at 11:55 PM on March 23rd, you are charged with one day of reflection time. If you post a reply at 11:55 PM on March 24th, you are charged with two days reflection time, etc. If you post or send your reply at 11:48 PM March 24th, you are charged with one day of reflection time. There is no transit time in email games.

6. You must advise the CCD and your opponents of address changes in advance or at the latest within seven days of vacating previous premises. Also email address changes. If you don't, five days will be charged as reflection time.

Transmitting Moves

7. You must use English algebraic notation unless you and your opponent agree on another system. All games shall be conducted using written or typed correspondence unless otherwise indicated. Transmitted moves, including conditional moves, are binding if the moves are legal. If an illegal or ambiguous move is transmitted as part of a conditional move set, the moves immediately proceeding the illegal or ambiguous move are binding. Missing or mistaken announcement of check, capture, or "e.p." does not invalidate a move. Diagrams or commentary have no significance in disputes over move legality.
8. You can purchase convenient postcards for sending moves through the mail at <https://www.uscfsales.com/correspondence-chess-move-mail-card-50-pack.html>. Your move card must contain:

are disruptive. In case of conflict, you should try to come to an agreement with your opponent.

3. You may consult chess books and periodicals but not other players. You cannot use computer programs or chess playing algorithms to evaluate a move, but you may use computers for record keeping and databases.
4. In case of appeals, retain all game records (move cards or emails) for at least four months after receiving notice of a game result. Otherwise, you may find yourself without a defense to an opponent's claim.

Reflection Time

5. The following time controls are allowable for US Chess CC events:
 - a. 30 days reflection time for each 10 moves, with a maximum of 10 days for any one move. You may carry unused time over from one time period into the next time period.
 - b. A set number of days per move, with a minimum of at least 3 days.

For postal chess, reflection time is calculated from the date the move is received until the postmarked date of your response. For example, if your move is received on March 22nd and your response is postmarked on March 22nd (the same date) you will have used zero days reflection time. However, if your response is postmarked on March 23rd, you will have used one day reflection time.

For email or correspondence chess servers, reflection time is calculated from the date and time it is received until the date and time it is emailed or sent. For example, if your move is received at 11:00AM on March 22nd and your response is sent at 10:59AM on March 23rd, you will have used zero days reflection time. However, if your response is sent at 11:00AM on March 23rd, you will have used one day reflection time. There is no transit time in email or correspondence chess server games.

6. Every day counts for reflection time, including Sundays and holidays.
7. You may take up to 30 days of excused time a calendar year. Additional emergency time may be granted at the discretion of the TD. You must take excused time for all games in a section. To take excused time, simply notify your opponents and the TD in advance. If you send a move, your excused time ends immediately. If your opponent takes excused time, you should respond to unanswered moves normally because your reflection time is still counted.
8. You must advise the TD and your opponents of address changes (postal or email) in advance or at the latest within seven days of vacating previous premises. Five days will be charged as reflection time for failure to comply.

Postal or E-mail Transmission of Moves

9. You must use English algebraic notation unless you and your opponent agree on another system. All games shall be conducted using written or typed correspondence unless otherwise indicated. Transmitted moves, including conditional moves, are binding if the moves are legal. If an illegal or ambiguous move is transmitted as part of a conditional move set, the moves immediately preceding the illegal or ambiguous move are binding. Missing or mistaken announcement of check, capture, or "e.p." does not invalidate a move. Diagrams or commentary have no significance in disputes over move legality.
10. Your move card or email must contain:

- a. Names and addresses of both players;
- b. Section and game numbers;
- c. The previous move sent and your response;
- d. For conditional moves, the move sent immediately prior to the conditional move(s), all conditional moves you accept, and your response;
- e. Receipt and postmark dates of your opponent's previous move and the date of your reply;
- f. Time used on current move by you and your opponent;
- g. Current reflection time totals.

If you do not include "f." and "g." with your moves, you cannot claim a win on time.

In the Golden Knights Finals, Absolute Championship, and other events deemed appropriate by US Chess, there is also a five-day penalty for:

- a. Impossible, ambiguous or illegible move(s);
 - b. Failing to confirm your opponent's last move. An impossible move is a move which cannot be played as recorded. Notify your opponent immediately of your finding. An impossible move or an illegible move in no way obliges the player to move the piece in question. In a case of an ambiguous move, the ambiguous move must be clarified and executed. For example, if your opponent writes Nd2 and either Nbd2 or Nfd2 can be made, the person writing the ambiguous move must execute Nbd2 or Nfd2. Clerical errors are binding and once posted, can in no way be taken back.
9. To offer conditional moves, send them as a series of consecutively numbered moves. To accept conditional moves, acknowledge them as you would other moves. You can accept a series of conditional moves in whole or in part. Conditional moves are binding only until the next reply.

Example: you are responding to your opponent's second move, 2. Nf3. You want to reply 2. ... Nc6 and offer two conditional moves. Your card should have the following appearance:

1. e4 e5
2. Nf3 Nc6

If 3. Bb5, then 3. ... a6

If 3. Bc4, then 3. ... Nf6

A typical opponent's reply might be:

2. Nf3 Nc6
3. Bb5 a6

4. Bxc6 ...

(or 4. Bc6 ...

or 4. B:c6 ...)

There is no penalty for misrecording an "if" move by the sending player.

10. If you intend to use more than 10 days on a single move, you must tell your opponent within one week of receiving his move. If you don't receive your opponent's reply within normal transmission time plus 10 days, send a repeat. Repeat moves must be labeled as such and must include all information from the original move. If no reply after one repeat see Rule 13.

- a. Names and addresses of both players.
- b. Section and game numbers.
- c. The previous move sent and your response.
- d. For conditional moves, the move sent immediately prior to the conditional move(s), all conditional moves you accept, and your response.
- e. Receipt and postmark dates of your opponent's previous move and the date of your reply.
- f. Time used on current move by you and your opponent.
- g. Current reflection time totals.

If you do not include "f." and "g." with your moves, you cannot claim a win on time.

11. The TD may impose a five-day penalty for:

- a. Impossible, ambiguous, or illegible move(s).
- b. Failing to confirm your opponent's last move. An impossible move is a move which cannot be played as recorded. Notify your opponent immediately of your finding. An impossible move or an illegible move in no way obliges the player to move the piece in question. In a case of an ambiguous move, the ambiguous move must be clarified and executed. For example, if your opponent writes Nd2 and either Nbd2 or Nfd2 can be made, the person writing the ambiguous move must execute Nbd2 or Nfd2. Clerical errors are binding and once sent, can in no way be taken back.

12. To offer conditional moves, send a series of consecutively numbered moves. To accept conditional moves, acknowledge them as you would other moves. You can accept a series of conditional moves in whole or in part. Conditional moves are binding only until the next reply.

Example: you are responding to your opponent's second move, 2. Nf3. You want to reply 2... Nc6 and offer two conditional moves. Your card should have the following appearance:

1. e4 e5
2. Nf3 Nc6

If 3. Bb5, then 3... a6

If 3. Bc4, then 3... Nf6

A typical opponent's reply might be:

2. Nf3 Nc6
3. Bb5 a6

4. Bxc6 ...

There is no penalty for misrecording an "if" move by the sending player.

Loss on Time Overstep

11. In Golden Knights Finals, the Absolute Championship, and other

Loss on Time/Repeats/Time Complaints

13. If a player oversteps the time control, he or she will forfeit the game.

events deemed appropriate by US Chess, if a player oversteps the time control (rule #5), he or she will forfeit the game. In Golden Knights Preliminary and Semi-final rounds and all other US Chess Correspondence Chess events (excluding the Golden Knights Finals, the Absolute Championship, and other events deemed appropriate by US Chess), a player who oversteps the time control on the first occurrence will be given a warning and penalized five days reflection time on the succeeding 10 moves/30 day time control. If a player violates the time control the second time, he or she will forfeit the game.

The following is an example of calculating a player's reflection time after a time control overstep: A player has 30 days to make moves 1-10 inclusive, 60 days to complete moves 11-20, 90 days to complete moves 21-30. A player makes move 18 but uses 61 days, thus overstepping the second time control. He or she is penalized five days reflection time. The five days are added to the reflection time he or she has used (61+5) and the player has 24 days to make moves 19-30.

Excused Time

12. You may take up to 30 days of excused time a calendar year. Additional emergency time may be granted at the discretion of the CCD. You must take excused time for all games in a section. To take excused time, simply notify your opponents and the CCD in advance. If you send a move, your excused time ends immediately. If your opponent takes excused time, you should respond to unanswered moves normally because your reflection time is still counted.

Submitting Time Complaints

13. You may submit a time complaint when your opponent has exceeded his or her allotted reflection time or has failed to respond to a repeat move within 10 days, excluding transmission time. Time complaints should include a full explanation of the facts.
14. Any dispute you cannot resolve or any claim of repeated or willful rule violation must be submitted to the CCD. Relevant evidence must be included. Whenever possible, continue play while the complaint is being considered. Your complaint should include:
 - a. Section and game numbers;
 - b. Names, ID numbers, and addresses of both players;
 - c. Game score;
 - d. Supporting documentation (photocopies are acceptable unless the CCD asks for originals).

Any complaint must be postmarked within seven days of the time a person becomes aware of the alleged infraction. Failure to comply with the above, including a, b, c, and d, negates your claim.

Reporting Game Results

15. The winner must report the result to the CCD immediately upon conclusion of the game. In case of draws, White must report result. It is a good idea for the other player to submit the result, labeling it "duplicate report." Reports must include section and game numbers as well as the names and ID numbers of both players.

Thirty-Month Limit and Adjudications

16. A US Chess correspondence game must end after thirty (30) months from when the event begins. Either player may submit the game for adjudication postmarked one week after the tournament's end date. The player submitting the adjudication must provide the following to the CCD:
 - a. The score of the game;

Variation 13a. The TD may impose a 5-day reflection time penalty for the first occurrence of a player who oversteps the time control. If a player violates the time control a second time, they will forfeit the game.

14. If an opponent fails to reply to a move within 14 days a player must send a repeat move. If another 14 days has elapsed without a reply to the repeat move, file a time complaint with the TD and send no more repeats. The complaint must include:
 - a. The violator's name and address.
 - b. The Tournament Section.
 - c. Date of last move sent.
 - d. Date of repeat move sent.
 - e. Reflection time usage.

Once filed, a valid time complaint may not be withdrawn by a complainant and must be answered by the alleged violator. The disposition of time complaints is the responsibility of the TD, not the players. In email events, the repeat move must be sent by email.

15. Upon receipt of a time complaint, the TD shall send an official inquiry to the opponent named. Should the TD receive a valid explanation, he will order the game resumed (if needed) and no action will be taken. If the explanation is not satisfactory, the TD may impose an appropriate penalty, as provided for in Rule 20. If no answer is received by the TD within 14 days from the date the complaint was filed by him, the game(s) may be forfeited. The complainant shall, in all instances, receive written disposition of any valid time complaint filed.

Disputes

16. Any dispute you cannot resolve or any claim of repeated or willful rule violation must be submitted to the TD. Relevant evidence must be included. Whenever possible, continue play while the complaint is being considered. Your complaint should include:
 - a. Section and game numbers.
 - b. Name of both players.
 - c. Game score.
 - d. Reflection time usage.
 - e. Supporting documentation (photocopies are acceptable unless the TD asks for originals).

Any complaint must be sent within seven days of the time a person becomes aware of the alleged infraction. Failure to provide all the necessary information requested above, negates your claim.

Reporting Game Results

17. The winner must report the result to the TD immediately upon conclusion of the game. In case of draws, White must report the result. It is a good idea for the other player to also submit the result, labeling it "duplicate report." Reports must include section and game numbers as well as the names and ID numbers of both players.

Thirty-Month Limit and Adjudications

18. A US Chess CC game must end after thirty (30) months from when the event begins. Either player may submit the game for adjudication, sent no later than one week after the tournament's end date. The player submitting the adjudication must provide the following to the TD:
 - a. The score of the game.

- b. Diagram of the position before adjudication;
- c. Claim of win or draw;
- d. Any analysis to support claim (optional).

If neither player submits the adjudication material within one week after the tournament's end date, the game is scored as a ratable draw. The CCD is not required to provide the basis for the adjudication result.

Ratings

17. Once play begins, games are rated whether they conclude normally or by forfeit. If your rating decreases by one or more rating classes as a result of forfeits or withdrawals, you will be required to enter prize tournaments in the rating class you occupied before the forfeits.

Penalties

18. The CCD may assess penalties for violations of these rules. Penalties include, but are not limited to, informal reprimands, warnings, reflection time reduction, forfeitures, or withdrawal. Warnings are usually issued before more severe penalties, but the CCD may skip this step. Smooth and timely completion of games is the main consideration. Penalties will be assessed as necessary to accomplish this purpose.

Appeals

19. You may appeal the CCD's ruling to the Executive Director. Your appeal must be made in writing within seven days of the ruling. US Chess, Attn: Carol Meyer, Executive Director, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557.

Player Replacements

20. A withdrawn player may be replaced at the option of the CCD. There will be no replacement for a withdrawn player against whom a win, loss, or draw has been scored in actual play. A withdrawn player will not be replaced 60 days after the tournament start date.

- b. Diagram of the position before adjudication.
- c. Claim of win or draw.
- d. Any analysis to support the claim (optional).

If neither player submits the adjudication material within one week after the tournament's end date, the game is scored as a rated draw. The TD is not required to provide the basis for the adjudication result.

Withdrawals/Forfeits

19. If a player forfeits games against two opponents in the same section, all uncompleted games in that section shall also be forfeited.

If a player goes silent in all his games, the player's remaining games will be declared a silent withdrawal by the TD. A mass withdrawal occurs when a player withdraws from all play and notifies the TD of his intentions. If a player dies, all remaining games of the deceased player will be treated as a mass withdrawal.

All uncompleted games from either a silent withdrawal or mass withdrawal are recorded as unrated forfeit losses for the withdrawing player if the game has less than 10 moves completed for both players and has been in progress for less than 6 months. However, a player may file for adjudication within 14 days of being notified of the silent withdrawal or mass withdrawal to claim a rated result by following the adjudication procedures set in Rule 18.

If an uncompleted game has at least 10 moves completed by both players or has been in progress for at least 6 months, it is recorded as a rated loss for the withdrawing player.

Penalties

20. The TD may assess penalties for violations of these rules. Penalties include, but are not limited to, informal reprimands, warnings, reflection time reduction, forfeitures, or withdrawal. Warnings are usually issued before more severe penalties, but the TD may skip this step. Smooth and timely completion of games is the main consideration.

Appeals

21. Any decision of the Chief TD of an event may be appealed to US Chess.

Appeals in writing must be postmarked within seven days of the end of the tournament to the US Chess office. Appeals submitted after the seven-day deadline may be considered at the discretion of the committee hearing the appeal. Appeals may be submitted via e-mail, but the business office or the committee(s) hearing the appeal may require a signed statement. The office will refer an appeal to the appropriate committee(s) but may immediately reject obviously groundless appeals. A good-faith deposit must be included with the appeal. The deposit will be returned unless the ruling authority finds the appeal to be groundless and rules that the deposit is to be forfeited. US Chess reserves the right to make final decisions concerning the rules and procedures that govern its competitions.

Player Replacements

22. A withdrawn player may be replaced at the option of the TD. There will be no replacement for a withdrawn player against whom a win, loss, or draw has been scored in actual play. A withdrawn player will not be replaced 60 days after the tournament start date.

GLOSSARY

adjudication: A judge's determination of a game's result, based on best play by both sides.

ambiguous move: A move in which two chess pieces of the same kind can be transferred to a new square and the player does not specify which chess piece. Example, knights on b1 and f3 can be moved to d2. The move "Nd2" is ambiguous because it does not specify which knight is being transferred. The correct transmission is either "Nbd2" or "Nfd2."

conditional or "if" moves: An attempt to save time and postage by offering a plausible continuation beyond the required response. Conditional moves are binding if the recipient accepts the continuations. The game must then follow the indicated continuation, or any part accepted in sequence.

correspondence chess director (CCD): Official responsible for the supervision and direction of a correspondence chess tournament.

English algebraic: Conventional algebraic notation with abbreviations of the English names for the pieces: for example, Nf3 or Ng1-f3 or Bc1-f4; "x" or ":" for capture is standard. A full explanation of this system is available from the US Chess office. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

excused time: Time-outs when play is suspended for leaves or for special circumstances with the approval of the CCD.

illegal move: A move which violates the rules of chess.

impossible move: A move which cannot be played as recorded.

Official Rules of Chess: 7th edition, available online at <https://new.uschess.org/news/7th-edition-rule-book-chapters-now-available-download>.

reflection time: The time between a player's receipt of a move and the postmarking of his response.

time control: Each player must make 10 moves in 30 days of reflection time. Time saved in a control carries forward. Unusual delays within this limit warrant advanced notice to the opponent(s).

transmission time: The time a move is in the custody of the Postal Service, that is, from the postmark date to date of delivery at the recipient's address.

GLOSSARY

adjudication: A judge's determination of a game's result, based on best play by both sides.

ambiguous move: A move in which two chess pieces of the same kind can be transferred to a new square and the player does not specify which chess piece. Example, knights on b1 and f3 could be moved to d2. The move "Nd2" is ambiguous because it does not specify which knight is being transferred. The correct transmission is either "Nbd2" or "Nfd2."

conditional or "if" moves: An attempt to save time and postage by offering a plausible continuation beyond the required response. Conditional moves are binding if the recipient accepts the continuations. The game must then follow the indicated continuation, or any part accepted in sequence.

English algebraic: Conventional algebraic notation with abbreviations of the English names for the pieces: for example, Nf3 or Ng1-f3 or Bc1-f4; "x" or ":" for capture is standard. A full explanation of this system is available from the US Chess office. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

excused time: Time-outs when play is suspended for leaves or for special circumstances with the approval of the TD.

illegal move: A move which violates the rules of chess.

impossible move: A move which cannot be played as recorded. A blank or missing move shall be treated as an impossible move.

Official Rules of Chess: 7th edition, available online at <https://new.uschess.org/news/7th-edition-rule-book-chapters-now-available-download>.

reflection time: The time between a player's receipt of a move and the postmarking or sending of his response.

transmission time: The time a move is in the custody of the Postal Service, that is, from the postmark date to date of delivery at the recipient's address. There is no transmission time in email or correspondence chess server games.

ADM 21-19 (Fun Fong, GA)

Title: Sections

Purpose: To create an organizational component known as "Sections," essentially special interest groups within US Chess. This structure would allow people of different chess interests a suborganization for the purposes of networking and representation within US Chess. Sections (or similar suborganizations) exist in many other larger organizations. Unlike Committees, Sections have no direct line responsibilities, and typically perform functions that are not mission-critical to US Chess.

Add at the end of Article V, Section 3, sentence 1:

"Sections will be allotted one Alternate Delegate, exclusive of the 125 Alternate Delegate total."

Add after "Each state with 1000 or more US Chess members must have at least two delegates ..." as a new, independent paragraph:

"Each chartered section shall be entitled to one Delegate as representative of all of the members of such chartered section if the number of section dues-paying and complimentary candidate members meets the minimum number established by the Executive Board for the charter of that section based on the membership rolls of US Chess on December 31 of the preceding year."

Add paragraph to Article V, Section 4:

"Sections shall designate the initial Delegate and Alternate Delegate as provided for in Article V, Sections 2 and 3, submitting the appointment of Delegates and Alternate Delegates. Sections must designate their initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, by November 1 of that year, or as soon thereafter as feasible. The term of each Delegate shall commence on January 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year and thereafter until a successor is selected and qualified."

Renumber Article VIII, Section 5 to Section 6:

Add as Article VIII, Section 5:

Section 5: Sections

The Section may have one or more groups of members known as sections to provide for members who have special areas of interest within the game of Chess, and its associated variants.

Upon the petition of 100 or more members of the Section, the Executive Board may charter such a section of the Section. Minimum dues and procedures to be followed by a section shall be determined by the Board of Directors."

RATIONALE: Sections will energize US Chess with members passionate with different chess interests. It would be expected that a “Blitz,” “Bughouse,” “Scholastic,” or “960 Chess” Section could well be started from this Bylaws addition. A “Chess Streaming” Section could provide networking opportunities for those interested in chess streaming. A “Chess Movies” Section could facilitate US Chess members being aware of chess movie trivia and personal connections to these movies. The vote is an important incentive in the formation of Sections. Members with a passion for specific chess interests will be more motivated to form and participate within a Section. It would take a long time (and many, many Sections) before they would be a significant voting block within themselves.

Sections would also constitute an alternate pathway for the development of US Chess governance leadership. Section leaders which are recognized for superior leadership may be tapped for other roles within US Chess governance.

Sections with the same subject matter as an existing committee will not have a direct conflict with the committee, as a committee would always have primary responsibility for subject matter content. Committees usually handle mission-critical roles as commissioned either by the Board of Delegates or the Executive Board. Sections typically ask permission to perform projects and do not have automatic jurisdiction over subject matter.

ADM 21-20 (Mike Hoffpauir, VA; Bob Messenger, MA; Kevin Pryor, FL; Fun Fong, GA)

Purpose: To move elements of DACI 1991-27 (State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations) from the DACI to Article VIII (Organizational Units), Section 2 (Functions) of the Bylaws and to change the Title of Section 2 to “Functions and Responsibilities of State Chapters.”

DACI 1991-27. State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations, currently reads:

The first four items of the following list are required of each State Chapter and the remaining items are recommendations for each State Chapter:

1. Pay its affiliate membership when due and payable;
2. Certify in writing to the USCF Secretary by the authorized date (November 1st) the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s), who shall be USCF members, and report how they were selected (i.e., appointed, elected);
3. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship;
4. Have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or articles of association which includes but is not limited to specifying the governing authority and their selection, meeting schedule and purpose of the State Chapter, and provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the State; Each State Chapter shall submit a copy of their current bylaws or articles of association, and any amendments, as specified herein. This may be in written or electronic form.
5. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) annual USCF rated Scholastic State High School, Junior High or Middle School and Elementary School Championships;
6. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) other chess tournaments throughout the State and be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the USCF Tournament Clearinghouse Representative. State Chapters are to support chess throughout the state and exhibit geographical representation in its tournament sponsorship. Examples include but are not limited to statewide or geographically rotating; Rated Beginner Open tournaments, Senior tournaments, weekend Swisses, tornados, quads as well as: participation in National Chess Day Activities, Regional and/or National Championships;

7. Disseminate a periodical that serves as a State chess journal preserving a record of chess activities, promotion events, identifying state officers and, in general, providing a regular mechanism for communicating with its membership. Examples include but are not limited to: State Bulletins, Newsletters or Magazines;
8. Promote and publicize chess activities through various media, including but not limited to newspaper articles, television and radio coverage, flyers or notices at libraries, schools and veteran hospitals. Examples include but are not limited to: chess exhibitions and simultaneous, tournaments, chess lectures, chess lessons, chess columns and articles in local and statewide newspapers, chess clubs and meeting lists and announcements; and
9. Responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide. The State Chapter affirms its intention to comply with the duties and responsibilities of credentialed State Chapters.
10. Designate a coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state.

Amended 2010-32, 2016-42, 2016-71, 2017-42 (Previously 2019 DACI 8)

Article VIII: Organizational Units, Section 2. Functions, currently reads:

Section 2. Functions. Each State Chapter shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chess players within its state. Each State Chapter shall nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws. Each State Chapter shall fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may from time to time designate.

PROPOSED REVISION to the text of Article VIII, Section 2. of the US Chess Bylaws:

Section 2. Functions and Responsibilities of State Chapters. Each State Chapter shall:

1. Be a current US Chess Affiliate.
2. Responsibly act in the best interests of its State Chapter membership and chess players across the state, including players who are not members of the chapter or US Chess.
3. Nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws.
4. Comply with state and federal laws, regulations, and statutes for non-profit or for-profit organizations.
5. Have Bylaws, Articles of Association, or the equivalent document that include as a minimum: the purpose of the State Chapter; a formal organizational structure; specifications for governance; selection of Chapter members for positions of authority in the governance mechanism; frequency and mode by which the governance mechanism meets; and opportunities for membership in the State Chapter.
6. Provide, no later than November 1st each year, US Chess a current copy of the State Chapter’s approved Bylaws, Articles of Association, or equivalent document.
7. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual US Chess rated State Championship and annual US Chess rated State Scholastic Championship(s) for players K-12. Use these events or other selection methods approved by the Chapter to identify players to potentially represent their state at prestigious US Chess national events for various ages and other groups. Such events may be in-person or online events.
8. Encourage organizers across the state to hold tournaments, and be

involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the US Chess Tournament Clearinghouse Representative.

9. Regularly provide chess players in the state with information about the Chapter's activities in areas such as, but not limited to, governance, tournaments, player recognition, and chapter initiatives. The means for accomplishing this function is the State Chapter's decision.
10. Promote membership in the US Chess Federation and participation in local, state, regional, and national US Chess rated tournaments.
11. Respond in a timely manner to information requests or requests for assistance from US Chess.

PROPOSED REVISION to the Text for DACI 1991-27, State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations.

Purpose: These recommendations supplement the functions and responsibilities of State Chapters given in the Bylaws.

Recommended Actions for State Chapters. Each State Chapter should:

1. Support chess throughout the state and exhibit geographical representation in tournament sponsorship.
2. Designate a coordinator for scholastic chess to promote participation in local, state, regional, and national scholastic events.
3. Designate a coordinator for women and girls to promote participation in local, state, regional, and national women's and girls events.

RATIONALE: Moving selected elements of the DACI to the Bylaws benefits US Chess members by elevating the importance of the primary roles and responsibilities of the State Chapters. It also helps align the roles and responsibilities of the State Chapters with US Chess's Goals and Core Values.

PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

Look closely at the skyline on our cover: it's a stylized representation of this position, taken from a recent game between GMs Shakhriyar Mamedyarov and Jeffery Xiong. Many thanks to *Chess Life* editor John Hartmann for selecting the game and writing the annotations.

BENKO GAMBIT (A57)

GM Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (2764)

GM Jeffery Xiong (2709)

PNWCC Super SOS (6), *Chess.com*, 07.17.2020

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 b5 4. Nd2 bxc4 5. e4 e6 6. dxe6 dxe6 7. Bxc4 Bb7 8. Ngf3 Be7 9. O-O O-O 10. Qe2 Nc6 11. Rd1 Qc7 12. b3 Nd4 13. Nxd4 cxd4 14. Bb2 e5 15. Rac1 Bb4 16. Bd3 Qe7 17. Nc4 a5 18. a3 Bc5 19. Qe1 Ba6 20. Nxa5 Bxd3 21. Rxd3 Bxa3 22. Nc6 Qe6 23. Bxa3 Rxa3 24. Qb4 Rfa8 25. f3 h6 26. Qb5 Nd7 27. h3 Ra2 28. Nb4 Rb2 29. Qd5 Ra3 30. Rc7?



Under pressure, both on the board and on the clock, Mamedyarov brings a second attacker to the once-defended piece on d7. Unfortunately for him, there's a tactical flaw with his plan.

30. ... Nf6?!

A 'good-enough' move, but Xiong missed a couple of crushers!

The spectacular 30. ... Qxh3!! 31. gxh3 Ra1+ mates, while the 'mundane' 30. ... Ra1+ also works after 31. Kh2 Rxg2+! 32. Kxg2 Qg6+ 33. Kf2 Qg1+ 34. Ke2 Qg2 mate.

31. Qd8+?

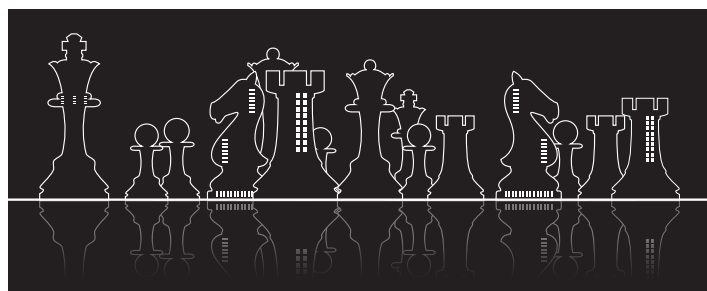
Forcing the king to safety.

31. ... Kh7 32. Kh2 Nh5

The dark squares beckon the knight forward.

33. Nc2 Nf4 34. Rd2 Raxb3 35. Re7 Qf6 36. Qd7 d3 37. Rxf7 Qg6, White resigns.

A solid win over a very strong GM for Jeffery Xiong.



MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2020-2021

KEY: C = PHONE CONF. CALL, E = ELECTRONIC, M = PHYSICAL MEETING, I = INTERNET CONFERENCE, O = OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

Motion #	Sponsor	Date/Method	Subject	Disposition
EB21-001	Bauer	08/16/20 I	President Named	ACCLAMATION
EB21-002	Unruh	08/16/20 I	Vice President Named	ACCLAMATION
EB21-003	Bauer	08/16/20 I	Vice President of Finance Named	ACCLAMATION
EB21-004	Bauer	08/16/20 I	Secretary Named	ACCLAMATION
EB21-005	Board	08/18-19/20 E	Special Delegate Meeting in September	PASSED 6-0-1
EB21-006	Velez	08/20-21/20 E	St. Louis U.S. Championships Proposal	PASSED 7-0
EB21-007	Board	08/25-26/20 E	Date & Time for Sept. Special Delegates Mtg	PASSED 7-0
EB21-008	Board	08/25-26/20 E	FIDE Zonal President	PASSED 7-0
EB21-009	Velez	08/31-9/2/20 E	National Tournament Entry Fee Increase	PASSED 7-0
EB21-010	Meyer	09/01-02/20 E	Reduction in Scholarship Prizes	PASSED 7-0
EB21-011	Meyer	09/08/20 E	Accept August Meeting Minutes	PASSED 6-0-1
EB21-012	Meyer	09/08/20 E	U.S. Amateur Team Online	PASSED 7-0
EB21-013	Hoffpauir	09/08/20 E	Extend Top 100 List Cut-off	PASSED 7-0
EB21-014	Meyer	09/09-16/20 E	K-12 Grades Nat'l Scholastic Regulations	PASSED 6-0
EB21-015	Velez	09/16-26/20 E	2020-2021 Scholastic Regulations	PASSED 5-0
EB21-016	Unruh	09/17-27/20 E	Flowers Trust Investment	PASSED 7-0
EB21-017	Meyer	09/18-26/20 E	U.S. G/10, G/30, G/60 Championships Online	PASSED 7-0
EB21-018	Meyer	09/25-10/01/20 E	National Open Online	PASSED 7-0
EB21-019	Unruh	09/26-27/20 E	Reserve Fund Distribution	PASSED 7-0
EB21-020	Hoffpauir	09/30-10/12/20 E	US Chess Rating Systems Paper Update	PASSED 7-0
EB21-021	Velez	10/01-12/20 E	2020-2021 Committee List	PASSED 7-0
EB21-022	Meyer	10/05-12/20 E	Online U.S. Amateur Team East	PASSED 6-0
EB21-023	Meyer	10/12-19/20 E	Online U.S. Amateur Team North	PASSED 6-0
EB21-024	Meyer	10/12-19/20 E	Online U.S. Amateur Team West	PASSED 6-0
EB21-025	Velez	10/19-26/20 E	Grade Level Championship 2020	PASSED 6-0
EB21-026	Velez	11/02-09/20 E	Approving October Meeting Minutes	PASSED 6-0
EB21-027	Meyer	11/09-16/20 E	National Event Bidding Temp. Changes	PASSED 6-0
EB21-028	Hoffpauir	11/10/20 I	Hackett Ethics Decision	PASSED 7-0
EB21-029	Hoffpauir	11/10/20 I	McNall Rules Decision	PASSED 7-0

EB21-030	Hater	11/13-16/20 E	Wrona-Lytwyn Appeal	PASSED 7-0
EB21-031	Meyer	11/15-25/20 E	Suspending International Event Delegations	PASSED 7-0
EB21-032	Board	11/25-12/3/20 E	FIDE General Assembly Initiatives	PASSED 7-0
EB21-033	Velez	11/30-12/5/20 E	College Chess Appendix	PASSED 7-0
EB21-034	Velez	12/21-31/20 E	Approval of December 2020 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB21-035	Velez	12/21/20-1/1/21 E	College Chess Eligibility Requirements	PASSED 6-0
EB21-036	Meyer	12/22-30/20 E	Extension of Activity Requirements	PASSED 6-0
EB21-037	Hoffpauir	12/31/30 O	Add Rich to Competition Integrity Comm	NO OBJECTION
EB21-038	Hoffpauir	01/04/21 I	Giannatos TDCC Appeal	PASSED 6-0-1
EB21-039	Hoffpauir	01/04/21 I	Oen Ethics & TDCC Appeal	PASSED 3-3-1 & 6-0-1
EB21-040	Meyer	01/05-9/21 E	Invitational Rules Update	PASSED 7-0
EB21-041	Meyer	01/06-09/21 E	Suspend Invitational Rules Due to Pandemic	PASSED 7-0
EB21-042	Meyer	01/07-09/21 E	Correspondence Chess Charter	PASSED 7-0
EB21-043	Meyer	01/13-21/21 E	Development Comm Charter Update	PASSED 5-0
EB21-044	Meyer	01/14-21/21 E	Nominating Committee Charter	PASSED 7-0
EB21-045	Velez	01/14-21/21 E	Scholastic Council Charter	PASSED 7-0
EB21-046	Hoffpauir	01/18-19/21 E	US Chess-Chess Trust Agreement	PASSED 7-0
EB21-047	Unruh	01/19-23/21 E	Payroll Protection Plan Application	PASSED 7-0
EB21-048	Board	01/20-02/04/21 E	Chair & Vice Chair for Correspondence Chess	PASSED 6-0
EB21-049	Hoffpauir	02/03-10/21 E	Chess Coach Certification Extensions	PASSED 7-0
EB21-050	Velez	02/04-10/21 E	Approval of January 2021 Minutes	PASSED 6-0
EB21-051	Hoffpauir	02/11-13/21 E	Supnationals Replacement Event	PASSED 7-0
EB21-052	Velez	02/19-21/21 E	Approval of February 2021 Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB21-053	Velez	02/20-21/21 E	2021 Nat'l Online Schol Chess Championships	PASSED 7-0
EB21-054	Fong	02/22-27/21 E	Restructuring Correspondence Chess Events	PASSED 6-0
EB21-055	Hoffpauir	03/11-16/21 E	Lichess Fair Play Method	PASSED 7-0
EB21-056	Unruh	03/16-21/21 E	Reserve Fund Allocation Change	PASSED 7-0
EB21-057	Meyer	03/16-18/21 E	FIDE Fees Update	PASSED 7-0
EB21-058	Meyer	03/17-21/21 E	Nat'l Online Schol Champ Backroom Contract	PASSED 7-0
EB21-059	Meyer	03/19-28/21 E	Approve Contract with Muck Media	PASSED 7-0
EB21-060	Meyer	03/24-28/21 E	T-Shirt Vending Award	PASSED 7-0
EB21-061	Hoffpauir	04/13/21 I	Approve March Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB21-062	Board	04/13/21 I	2021 President's Cup	PASSED 7-0
EB21-063	Board	04/13/21 I	Research Data Requests	PASSED 7-0
EB21-064	Board	04/13/21 I	Third Party Event Fundraising	PASSED 7-0
EB21-065	Board	04/13/21 I	Herbert B. Jacklyn Program	PASSED 7-0
EB21-066	Board	04/13/21 I	Bookstore Vending	PASSED 6-0-1
EB21-067	Board	04/13/21 I	Correspondence Chess Online Event	PASSED 7-0
EB21-068	Board	04/19-23/21 E	Creation of Annual Dan Heisman Award	PASSED 7-0

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

EB21-069	Board	04/22-23/21 E	NOSC Weekend Rules	PASSED 7-0
EB21-070	Board	04/22-23/21 E	Regan's Fair Play Endorsement Letter	PASSED 7-0
EB21-071	Meyer	05/05-08/21 E	Modify NOSC Pairing Rules	PASSED 7-0
EB21-072	Board	05/11/21 I	Approve April Minutes	PASSED 7-0
EB21-073	Board	05/11/21 I	Changes to Nominating Committee Charter	PASSED 7-0

MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2020-2021 - APPENDICES: Due to length, the Appendices to the Motions of the US Chess Executive Board have been moved from the *Delegates Call* and have been posted on [uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org) at this link: <http://www.uschess.org/index.php/Governance/Executive-Board-Meetings-Related-Documents.html>

The first meeting of the 2020-2021 US Chess Executive Board took place on August 16, 2020, online via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following five motions came out of closed session and were voted on in open session later the same day:

EB21-001 - Bauer

I nominate Mike Hoffpauir as US Chess President. **PASSED BY ACCLAMATION**

EB21-002 - Unruh

I nominate Randy Bauer as US Chess Vice President. **PASSED BY ACCLAMATION**

EB21-003 - Bauer

I nominate Chuck Unruh as US Chess Vice President of Finance. **PASSED BY ACCLAMATION**

EB21-004 - Bauer

I nominate Ryan Velez as US Chess Secretary. **PASSED BY ACCLAMATION**

EB21-005 - Board

The Executive Board moves to call a Special Delegates Meeting in accordance with Article V, Section 7 of the US Chess Bylaws to vote for members of the US Chess Nominating Committee. **PASSED 6-0-1 with David Day abstaining**

EB21-006 - Velez

I move that the EB accept the St. Louis proposal to run the U.S. Championships as written. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-007 - Board

The Executive Board moves to call a Special Delegates Meeting at 12 PM (noon) EDT, Saturday, September 26, 2020, for the sole purpose of allowing the Delegates to cast ballots for up to 6 persons from among the nominees for the US Chess Nominating Committee. The US Chess office will send the official Letter of Notification to all Delegates on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, thereby providing Delegates with the minimum 30 days of notification in accordance with Article V, Section 7 of the US Chess Bylaws. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-008 - Board

The Executive Board moves to appoint Allen W. Priest (KY) as the FIDE Zonal President for Zone 2.1 to replace Francisco (Franc) Guadalupe (TX). The board deeply appreciates Franc's service in this capacity as he came out of retirement to serve in late 2018 following the untimely death of then Zonal President and former US Chess President Ruth Haring. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-009 - Velez

I move that the Executive Board increase the entry fee to over the board US Chess national tournaments that US Chess specifically runs itself by \$10 for the expressed purpose of purchasing PPE and related materials. Furthermore, if the funds raised by this fee exceed the cost of PPE, those monies will be directed toward our scholastic teams and scholastic chess individuals who represent us in FIDE events. Finally, if the need to purchase PPE ever goes away, we will remove the \$10 fee. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-010 - Meyer

I move to approve a 40% reduction in the scholarship prize level for the 2020 U.S. Cadet, U.S. Junior, and U.S. Junior Girls events that are rescheduled to be run online. US Chess and Dewain Barber will equally share in the funding of the scholarships. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-011 - Meyer

Accept the minutes of the August 16, 2020, Executive Board meeting. **PASSED 6-0-1**

EB21-012 - Meyer

Accept a bid to move the U.S. Amateur Team Playoff on the ICC platform with a 2-camera setup. It will be online rated without a requirement to have TDs at each site. A warning about fair-play violations will be provided. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-013 - Hoffpauir

Extend the participation cut-off date for the Top 100 list. The ratings window will be extended retroactively back to March 1, 2020 and through December 31, 2020. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-014 - Meyer

Regarding the December 2020 K-12 Grades Nationals, I move to waive selected portions of the Scholastic Regulations related to:

1. Pairings/wallcharts posted on site
2. Opening/closing ceremony
3. Other as-yet-unspecified measures as deemed necessary. The Director of Events will consult with the ED, the Chair of the Scholastic Council, and the US Chess President for time sensitive matters requiring quick decisions that arise during the course of the event.

PASSED 6-0

EB21-015 - Velez

I move that the EB approve the scholastic regulations for this year. **PASSED 5-0**

EB21-016 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board authorize and request the US Chess Trust Investment Trustees to invest a portion of funds in the Flowers Trust according to the attached Exhibit “A” of investment selections and allocations. It is understood when the investments are in whole shares, that dollar allocations approximate targeted allocations. US Chess furthermore holds US Chess Trust harmless for any and all of the investments recommended in the attached Exhibit “A.” Exhibit “A” emailed separately to the members of the Executive Board. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-017 – Meyer

I move to accept the proposal from the Charlotte Chess Center to move the U.S. G/10, G/30, G/60 National Championships Online. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-018 – Meyer

Vegas Chess Festivals and Chess Weekend propose to run the 2020 National Open Online at ICC.

The dates would be November 20-22 and the format would be similar to the Chicago Open on ICC but with the National Open flair.

Organizer

- Shall pay US Chess \$5 per paid entry.
- Shall provide a National Tournament Director approved by US Chess
- Guarantees all prizes and expenses.
- Retains all profit or loss.
- Shall process all entry fees and pay prizes and expenses.

US Chess

- Shall provide complimentary TLA.
- Shall announce the event on the US Chess website.
- Shall provide 1 free email blast to all potential players.
- Shall provide complimentary rating fees for the National Open and branded side events.
- Shall recognize the winner of the Open section as the 2021 National Open Champion.

PASSED 7-0

EB21-019 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve a \$150K transfer from the “Rainy-Day” Reserve TD Ameritrade Account to the US Chess Operational bank account. The funds are necessary to meet general obligations during a significant decline in membership revenue. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-020 – Hoffpauir

I move the Executive Board approve the update to the US Chess Rating System paper as proposed by the Ratings Committee on September 2, 2020. If approved, the updated Rating System paper will supersede the version dated June 20, 2020, and the Office will apply the updated formulas to the US Chess ratings database. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-021 – Velez

I move that the Executive Board accept the committee list as is with the understanding that we may make changes as necessary throughout the year. **PASSED 7-0**

THE FOLLOWING FOUR MOTIONS (EB21-022 THROUGH EB21-025) ARE IN RESPONSE TO THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT.

EB21-022 – Meyer

I move to accept the proposal from Steve Doyle, NJ Chess Federation Organizer, that moves the 2021 U.S. Amateur Team East to an online format. **PASSED 6-0 with David Day not voting**

EB21-023 – Meyer

I move to allow the organizer of the U.S. Amateur Team North to move that event online for 2021. **PASSED 6-0 with Fun Fong not voting**

EB21-024 – Meyer

I move to allow the organizer of the U.S. Amateur Team West to move that event online for 2021. **PASSED 6-0 with Fun Fong not voting**

EB21-025 – Velez

I move that the EB allow the Director of Events and office staff to change the 2020 National Grade Level Championship into an event that meets the current standards for online play. I also move that guidance from the Scholastic Council be given special consideration as many on the council are gaining expertise in online event organization. **PASSED 6-0 with David Day not voting**

EB21-026 – Velez

I move that we accept the attached minutes from our 2020 October Board meeting. **PASSED 6-0 with Fun Fong not voting**

EB21-027 – Meyer

I move to allow prospective organizers to submit bids for available US Chess National Events that occur November 10, 2020 through June 30, 2021, as either an Over-the-Board (OTB) or Online event, subject to review and approval by the US Chess Director of Events. For events during this period that have already been awarded, I move to allow the Director of Events to review and approve modified proposals to move events from OTB to online formats. **PASSED 6-0 with Randy Bauer not voting**

EB21-028 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board place a flag on the official record of former US Chess member Trent Elias Hackett (US Chess ID 16755524, TX) to prohibit his ability to renew his membership or otherwise rejoin US Chess until such time as he is cleared of the criminal charges against him. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-029 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board uphold the decision made by the Rules Committee to deny the complaint made by the parents of a minor player who alleged the Chief Tournament Director, Mr. Kent McNall (US Chess ID 12153660, WA), had improperly reversed the game results of an online tournament. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-030 – Hater

I make the following motion: The Executive Board has considered the appeal of Nicholas Wrona-Lytwyn US Chess ID # 16967612 regarding the Ethics Committee decision. After reviewing the entire case and hearing from Mr. Wrona-Lytwyn, the Executive Board vote to uphold the finding of guilty and the membership suspension. However, the Executive Board reduces the suspension from 24 to 18 months. The period of suspension commences on August 24, 2020 which is the date he admitted to the offenses. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-031 – Meyer

In light of the increase of COVID-19 cases worldwide, the Executive Board re-affirms EB20-064: Due to U.S. State Department Level 4 travel warnings

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

US Chess will not authorize delegations for any international events until further notice. US Chess will not provide financial support to any participants for international competition until further notice. The Executive Board will review this policy as new information becomes available. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-032 – Board

The Executive Board (EB) moves that at the 6 December 2020 FIDE Online General Assembly the US Chess Federation vote in support of the following items:

1. The English Chess Federation's resolution about the Iranian Chess Federation
2. The Hungarian Chess Federation's bid for the 46th FIDE World Chess Olympiad in 2024
3. The Jamaica Chess Federation's proposal that FIDE adopt the Olympic Creed and Values of Olympism.

PASSED 7-0

EB21-033 – Velez

I move the Executive Board approve Appendix A (attached) of the College Chess Rules. This requires EB approval because it contains information about standards for online play at the college chess level. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-034 – Velez

I move that we accept the minutes as written from the December 8th, 2020 EB meeting. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-035 – Velez

The College Chess Committee voted 10 in favor and 1 abstaining on the attached document outlining a new eligibility requirement to participate in the 2020 - 2021 Online Pan American Intercollegiate Championships (Pan Am).

This rule is necessary because the current College Chess Rules state that participants must be attending their respective colleges and universities in person. This new rule helps address the issue by allowing participants to sign a letter of commitment to attend their college or university in person as soon as is feasible.

The language they passed is attached as Appendix D. **PASSED 6-0**

EB21-036 – Meyer

I move to extend the activity requirements for the US Chess Certified Coach Program, Invitational Lists, and Top 100 Lists through December 31, 2021. This motion provides that current experience earned by March 1, 2020 will not expire until December 31, 2021. **PASSED 6-0**

RATIONALE: US Chess honors and certifications are linked to activity requirements from over-the-board (OTB) play. With few OTB opportunities due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, affected members should not be penalized for their lack of opportunities to play. This motion extends the activity window. Executive Director Meyer also mentioned that the motion is a revised posting of a prior motion that was withdrawn to remove the All America Team from the list.

EB21-037 – Hoffpauir

This motion was submitted under the 5-day objection rule: I hereby nominate Tony Rich, Executive Director of the Saint Louis Chess Club, for service on the EB-appointed Competition Integrity Committee. Tony has agreed to serve. **PASSED NO OBJECTION**

EB21-038 – Hoffpauir

On Jan 4, 2021, the Executive Board (EB) met to hear the appeal by

Peter Giannatos (US Chess ID 13055966) of a ruling against him by the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC). The EB voted 6-0-1 on the TDCC ruling, so the ruling is upheld. **PASSED 6-0-1 with Fun Fong recusing himself from the appeals process**

EB21-039 – Hoffpauir

On Jan 4, 2021, the Executive Board (EB) met to hear the appeal by Grant Oen (US Chess ID 12926610) of rulings against him by the Ethics Committee and the Tournament Director Certification Committee (TDCC).

The EB voted **3-3-1 on the Ethics Committee's ruling, so the ruling is upheld.** Bauer, Unruh and Day voted against and Hoffpauir, Velez and Hater voted for.

The EB voted **6-0-1 on the TDCC ruling, so the ruling is upheld.**

EB member Fun Fong recused himself from the Oen appeals process.

EB21-040 – Meyer

I move to update the US Chess Invitational Rules as noted below:

Proposed 1.c.

c. FIDE Federation Transfers. In order to be eligible for participation in International FIDE events, transferred players must fulfill all FIDE transfer fee requirements prior to invitation to these events. See <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/B042018> for federation transfer information and <https://ratings.fide.com/transfers.phtml> to show transfers approved, including dates when players become USA players with FIDE and when they may represent the USA at International FIDE events fee free.

Proposed 2.a.

a. U.S. Championships. In even-numbered years, players must meet all the requirements listed in Section 1, with the exception of transfer fees (required for USA representation at International FIDE events). Players must still be listed as USA federation in FIDE. In odd-numbered years, when the U.S. Championships are also the USA Zonal Tournaments, players must also meet the transfer fee requirements as explained in 1.c. above.

When the U.S. Championships are also the USA Zonal Tournaments, per the FIDE regulations for Zonal Tournaments at <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/D0101> and <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/D0102>, these events will qualify players for the next stage of the World Championship cycle. Any additional nominated player spots US Chess is awarded will be filled in order of the finishing positions in the USA Zonal Tournaments of those players not already qualified through other paths. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: This motion was introduced to update Invitational Rules to harmonize with FIDE transfer regulations:

EB21-041 – Meyer

I move to suspend the odd-numbered year Invitational Requirement 2.a. and replace it with the even-numbered year requirement from the same section of the Invitational Requirements for 2021. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: The ongoing effects of the Coronavirus pandemic are forcing the delay of the U.S. Championships past the deadline for qualifying for the Zonal Championships. The US Chess Zonal President will issue guidance on the selection method for the zonal spots available to US Chess players.

EB21-042 – Meyer

I move to approve the draft Correspondence Chess Working Group Charter.

Upon approval of the Working Group Charter, the following members are appointed to the Working Group:

- Johnny Brown, US Chess ID 12531561
- Mike Buss, US Chess ID 12437668
- Larry Cox, US Chess ID 12429678
- *Timothy Harris, US Chess ID 13443503*
- Tom Langland, US Chess ID 11236219
- Chris Torres, US Chess ID 12767336
- Wilbur Tseng, US Chess ID 12692226
- Hal Sprechman, US Chess ID 12454908

PASSED 7-0

Timothy Harris subsequently requested that he be removed as a member when he was informed of his appointment to the above committee.

EB21-043 – Meyer

I move to approve the updated draft charter for the Development Committee. **PASSED 5-0**

RATIONALE: The Development Committee has evolved during its existence and the changes to this charter reflect the current state. An updated version of their charter has been added to this motion (01/17/2021).

EB21-044 – Meyer

I move that the Executive Board endorse the Nominating Committee Charter, as approved by the Nominating Committee on October 12, 2020. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: The Executive Board drafted a charter for the newly formed Nominating Committee as it was getting underway in Fall of 2020. The Executive Board did so to provide some operational guidance and structure to the Committee since none was given by the Delegates in the creation of this committee..

EB21-045 – Velez

I move that the US Chess Executive Board accept the attached and updated Charter for the Scholastic Committee and Council. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: The changes consisted of a lot of clarification and grammar. There were 2 major changes: (1) The Scholastic Council cannot have more than 2 people from the same state and (2) the Scholastic Council will meet with the EB biannually. The first change is because the EB felt there should be more geographic diversity on the council to represent other areas of the country. The second change is to help bridge any communication gaps with the SC.

EB21-046 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board approve extending the deadline for the current Letter of Agreement between US Chess and The Chess Trust from February 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: Extending the agreement allows time to form a Working Group comprised of US Chess and Chess Trust board members to discuss the agreement, develop recommended revisions, and to give consideration to one or more “joint projects” the two organizations could collaboratively pursue.

EB21-047 – Unruh

I move that the Executive Board authorize the Executive Director / US Chess Operations to apply for the second Payroll Protection Plan loan funding on behalf of US Chess. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: Congress recently approved the funding to help small businesses during the on-going pandemic. US Chess currently qualifies per

the terms of the loan and for eventual forgiveness under the government program.

EB21-048 – Board

The Executive Board moves to appoint Mike Buss as Chair and Fun Fong as Vice Chair of the Correspondence Chess Working Group. **PASSED 6-0**

EB21-049 – Hoffpauir

I move that the Executive Board authorize the office to extend until December 31, 2021, the expiration dates for all Chess Coach Certifications scheduled to expire in 2021. The EB shall revisit this motion before the end of 2021 to determine if further extension is warranted. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: The COVID-19 crisis and loss of in-person contact with students has affected chess coaches in a manner similar to how the pandemic impacts the ability of tournament directors to meet TD certification standards and retain their titles. EB Motion 20-084, which passed 7-0 in August of 2020, extended through 12/31/2021 the window for expiring TD certifications. We should do the same for our certified chess coaches.

EB21-050 – Velez

I move the EB accept the January meeting minutes as written. **PASSED 6-0 with David Hater not voting**

EB21-051 – Hoffpauir

The Executive Board (EB) moves to approve US Chess to organize and host a national-level scholastic chess tournament to replace the canceled SuperNationals VII. The event will ***crown National Online Scholastic Champions and Co-Champions for individual players and school-based teams.*** Sections for the tournament will be consistent with the grade-groups featured at the SuperNationals, e.g. K-1, K-3, K-5, K-6, K-9, and K-12. The tournament will be ***organized in two phases held over three weekends.*** Phase 1 will be two open qualification events — one weekend for selected sections, the other weekend for the remaining sections. Phase 2 is an invitational championship event (1 weekend) for 32 to 64 players selected from each section of the qualification events. Players will be invited by US Chess based on the number of players who participated in each section of the qualifiers, with competition in the championship occurring in the same sections as the qualification events. US Chess will publish Event Regulations specific to this tournament that supplement the US Chess Scholastic Regulations and US Chess Official Rules of Chess. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: Cancellation of SuperNationals VII due to COVID-19 was a significant decision for US Chess. The loss of this unique scholastic event to players is difficult to describe. To partially fill the void, US Chess organized the K12 Showdown in December 2020 (13 sections with over 2800 players in a 2-day event). It showcased what can happen when there is insufficient time for US Chess to organize a major nationwide online tournament. It also called attention to the need to spread out the schedule for a large online event, a lesson US Chess applied in the Spring of 2021 during the National Online Scholastic Championship qualification tournaments. Other key lessons learned were to reduce the number of sections conducted simultaneously, as well as to conduct active pre-event communication with participants, parents, and coaches about the event's rules, procedures, and technical requirements. The technical problems encountered during the K12 Showdown overwhelmed the event staff and frustrated the players, especially our young players in grades 6 and below. ***We have learned from those mistakes and what it takes to prevent them.*** The organization of this SuperNationals replacement tournament directly reflects the lessons US Chess learned from the K12 Showdown

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

and *our firm commitment not to repeat them*. The event outlined in the motion called heavily upon direct input from a number of experienced sources and it expresses US Chess's desire to bring the excitement of the over-the-board SuperNationals to an online national player and team championship.

EB21-052 - Velez

I move we accept the February 9th, 2021 minutes as written. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-053 - Velez

I move the EB accept the Rules for the 2021 National Online Scholastic Chess Championships as written. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-054 - Fong

I move that the Executive Board authorize the office to immediately restructure the US Chess Correspondence Chess events that are organized and run by US Chess to the following:

Postal Events:

- Golden Knights – 7 player RR, \$25 entry fee, \$2300 prize fund based on 200 entries plus \$10 correspondence chess gift certificates to players who do not forfeit any games and do not make it past the Preliminary Round.
- John W. Collins Class Tournaments – 4 player quads (double RR), \$10 entry fee, \$25 correspondence chess gift certificate prize and signed certificate to 1st place finisher.
- Matches – 2 players, either 2 or 6 games in length - \$5 entry fee per player, no prizes.

Email Events:

- Electronic Knights – 7 player RR, \$25 entry fee, \$2300 prize fund based on 200 entries plus \$10 correspondence chess gift certificates to players who do not forfeit any games and do not make it past the Preliminary Round.
- Matches – 2 players, either 2 or 6 games in length - \$5 entry fee per player, no prizes.

Correspondence Chess Server Events (ICCF):

- Walter Muir Class Tournaments – 4 player quads (double RR), \$10 entry fee, \$25 correspondence chess gift certificate prize and signed certificate to 1st place finisher.
- Victor Palciauskas Class Tournaments – 7 player RR, \$5 entry fee, signed certificate to 1st place finisher.

Class Restructure for Pairing Class Tournaments:

- Class A: 1800 and above
- Class B: 1500-1999
- Class C: 1200-1699
- Class D: 1399 and below

Events Removed from Offerings:

- Trophy Quads – postal, 4 player quad (double RR)
- Victor Palciauskas Tournament – postal, 7 player RR, event changed to ICCF electronic format
- Swift Quads – email, 4 player quad (double RR)

All players who have entered one of the above events will be offered refunds or the opportunity to move their entries to another event.

PASSED 6-0 with David Hater not voting

RATIONALE: This motion is recommended for immediate implementation by the Correspondence Chess Working Group. Some of the current postal

events take a long time to attain the appropriate number of entries, making pairing the events difficult to do within the rating restrictions for those respective events. Some postal players have been waiting approximately 2 years to get a pairing for an event. The above event list simplifies the events offered by US Chess, removing duplication of offerings, and offers more “electronic” correspondence chess offerings than we currently do, taking advantage of this newer, more technological, way to play correspondence chess. Simplifying our offerings and overlapping of the class restructuring will allow pairings to be attained much more quickly for each event, especially for incarcerated players who cannot play against each other, thereby meaning less waiting time for players awaiting to play correspondence chess.

The substance of this proposal was drafted by Chris Bird, the Interim Correspondence Chess Director. This proposal met with concurrence of the Correspondence Chess Working Group without dissent.

EB21-055 - Hoffpauir

Colleagues: As you may recall, a subcommittee reviewed the Lichess FP method and recommends endorsement by the EB. On Feb 8 I sent everyone the subcommittee's letter to the Executive Board, and I attach it to this note to refresh your memories. Bottom line, they recommended the EB endorse Lichess's approach to cheat detection. The review committee members were Ken Ballou, Brian Yang, and Dr. Bala Bala.

Also attached is the FP Endorsement Letter that has been reviewed and approved by Lichess and our own Ethics Committee.

Recommend you vote YES to approve this letter. The approval helps US Chess TDs and Affiliates feel confident that Lichess's algorithm is sound and benefits the events they run.

PASSED 7-0

EB21-056 - Unruh

I move that the Executive Board approve the addition of a 5% Reserve Fund portfolio allocation of diversified Closed-end Fund healthcare equities. Currently, the approved Reserve Fund investment allocation targets a 45% position in Cash Deposits. The motion would reduce the Cash Deposit allocation from 45% to 40% and increase financial exposure to well-known public healthcare companies. The Reserve Fund investment policy has a primary objective of capital preservation with a secondary objective of value preservation by dividend/interest returns equal to or greater than the rates of inflation in the economy. The portfolio addition of diversified Closed-end healthcare equities improves the overall yield distributions from the conservative healthcare sector in the public markets. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-057 - Meyer

I move to update US Chess rating fees charged to affiliates for processing FIDE events. The new fee structure is in response to changes made to FIDE's ratings fee structure that took effect 1/1/2021.

PROPOSED NEW FEE STRUCTURE:

Tournament Type	Fees for Affiliates	Fees for FIDE Academies
Swiss/Team Events	\$1.30/player \$60.00 minimum	\$1.20/player no minimum
Round Robins		
Avg FIDE Rating up to 2230	\$1.30/player	\$1.20/player
Avg FIDE Rating 2230-2379	\$6.50/player	\$6.00/player
Avg FIDE Rating 2380-2599	\$13.00/player	\$12.00/player
Avg FIDE Rating 2600-2699	\$19.50/player	\$18.00/player
Avg FIDE Rating above 2700	\$26.00/player	\$24.00/player

The proposed fee structure also includes an update to the exchange rate. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: FIDE's new structure can be found in the FIDE Handbook Financial Regulations at <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/FinancialRegulations2021> and the proposed fees would currently cover the rating fee costs charged to us by FIDE for such events. The fee structure will be reviewed annually to ensure US Chess is recovering all costs associated with processing FIDE ratings.

EB21-058 – Meyer

I move to approve the Hyatt Regency Columbus contract for running the backroom for the National Online Scholastic Championship (April 23-25 and May 7-9). **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: The replacement event for SNVII is an online event that plans to utilize offline pairings via SwissSys. To effectively manage the event, a backroom set up is being deployed in a hotel in support of the online event. The staff will scale from 4 to 8 to support the two weekends, based on anticipated attendance. The EB has been presented the contract in its discussion area.

EB21-059 – Meyer

I move to approve the contract between US Chess and Muck Media for rights to film upcoming National Events that build on their earlier demo reel filmed at the 2019 K-12 Grade Nationals. **PASSED 7-0**

RATIONALE: In promoting chess to a wider audience, US Chess gratefully partners with Muck Media to bring the story of competitive chess to a broader audience. US Chess involvement is limited to providing access to the film crew at national events through spring 2022.

EB21-060 – Meyer

The Executive Board moves to accept the bid submitted by Fine Designs for T-Shirt Vending at US Chess National Events beginning in August 2021 and ending in May 2025. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-061 – Hoffpauir

The Executive Board approves the March minutes as amended. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-062 – Board

The Executive Board moves to name the 2021 Presidents Cup a national championship pending fair play review. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-063 – Board

The Executive Board adopts the US Chess Policy on Research Data Requests as presented to the Executive Board. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-064 – Board

The Executive Board moves to adopt the Third-Party Event Fundraising Policy as presented to the Executive Board. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-065 – Board

The Executive Board adopts the Herbert B. Jacklyn Program for players aged 18-21 and directs the Executive Director and the US Chess office to finalize and implement the program and award application. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-066 – Board

The Executive Board moves to accept the bid submitted by US Chess

Sales for Bookstore vending at US Chess National Events beginning in August 2021 and ending in May 2025. **PASSED 6-0-1 with Ryan Velez abstaining**

EB21-067 – Board

The Executive Board moves to allow the Correspondence Chess Working Group to select, in coordination with the US Chess Office, a US Chess affiliate to run a rated online correspondence chess tournament as a pilot program for the purpose of bolstering interest in correspondence chess and to test the proposed correspondence chess updated rules. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-068 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the annual Dan Heisman Award for Excellence in Chess Instruction. **PASSED 7-0**

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE: US Chess has award categories for many of the important roles played in making chess play happen. Until now, no award was given to specifically honor Chess Instructors. FM Dan Heisman approached US Chess about creating such an award. The attached document [Appendix G] outlines the intent of the award and criteria used in selecting the winner.

EB21-069 – Board

The EB moves to approve the Championship Weekend Rules for the National Online Scholastic Championships (NOSC) as prepared by the Scholastic Council. These rules will become Appendices A and B to the NOSC Rules published earlier this year. The EB thanks the Scholastic Council for their hard work on the NOSC Championship Rules. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-070 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the US Chess Letter of Endorsement for the Fair Play Methodology designed and used by Professor Ken Regan, Univ. of Buffalo. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-071 – Meyer

Replace NOSCC Rule 3.5.1.3 with the following:

3.5.1.3. Pairing of Teammates or Players from the Same State.

3.5.1.3.1. Teammates will not be paired during the first 6 rounds of the event.

3.5.1.3.2. In Round 7 and 8, teammates might be paired if they are in a score group with a plus three score or higher. If such a pairing does occur, the TD must manually check to see whether any other reasonable pairing is available within the score group and make the appropriate adjustment.

3.5.1.3.3. There are no restrictions for players from the same state being paired.

PASSED 7-0

EB21-072 – Board

The Executive Board approves the April minutes. **PASSED 7-0**

EB21-073 – Board

The Executive Board moves to approve the Nominating Committee charter as modified and presented before the board this evening on May 11, 2021. **PASSED 7-0**

FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Allen Priest

In the fall of 2020, I had the unenviable task to try to fill the shoes of Franc Guadalupe as the new zonal president. Franc has served US Chess in so many tremendous ways and following him is quite a challenge. For the last several years, I have been representing US Chess in international governance roles, so the transition has been smooth. Franc's continued guidance is extremely valuable and welcome.

The COVID-19 crisis has played havoc with international play. From the suspension of the Candidates tournament in mid-2020 (which was just recently resumed and completed). From the abrupt stop to the World Senior Team tournament to the total cancellation of the Olympiad and World Youth/Cadet events to restrictions on travel — our players have had few opportunities for play.

As the U.S. situation seems to be improving, we will be confronted with areas of the world that have not had the same opportunity for

vaccinations. There will continue to be travel restrictions, and some countries are facing severe outbreaks of the virus. While some international play may return, we expect there to continue to be serious challenges for another year or two.

The previously scheduled Women's World Cup event was never held. FIDE has decided that players who qualified for that event will be the field for the 2021 tournament. The U.S. players who won those spots were Jennifer Yu and Tatev Abrahamyan. US Chess will nominate an additional player.

The Open World Cup was held in 2019, so there had to be new nominations for those spots. Normally the U.S. Championship serves as the zonal championship. For 2020 the U.S. Championship was scheduled for October. Rather than run an additional tournament, we secured permission from FIDE to nominate U.S. players who do not otherwise qualify by



rating in order from the US Chess invitational ratings list. U.S. players will have an additional opportunity to qualify through the Americas continental championship, and US Chess will nominate one additional player.

It remains to be seen if the 2021 World Youth/Cadet will be held as scheduled, but it looks doubtful. Still, some opportunities are slowly returning for players to earn norms and titles. For example, the North American Youth Chess Championship is scheduled for Chicago in August.

We hope the coming year will be far better than the last one.

VOLUNTEER AND LEGAL EXPENSES

Volunteer Expenses 6/1/20 - 5/31/21

There were no volunteer expenses paid to any EB members during the fiscal year 6/1/20 - 5/31/21

Legal Expenses 6/1/20 - 5/31/21

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Personnel	Bone McAllester Norton PLLC	1,780.80
Goverance & Misc	Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.	14,527.50
	Lucas & Mercanti, LLP	1,020.00
	Quarles & Brady LLP	2,204.00
Total Legal Expenses 2020 - 2021		19,532.30

US CHESS TRUST REPORT

E. Steven Doyle, Trust President

The last year was the beginning of the climb back from COVID-19. The national invitational events were held online, and many other traditional events were either canceled or moved online. But our country has moved into the vaccine era with the largest inoculation effort in mankind's history. We should soon be sitting across the board from each other again.

The vision of the US Chess Trust (USCT) is that one day, every American, from schoolkid to senior citizen, will have the opportunity to learn chess and enjoy its many mental and social benefits.

The Trust enjoys working with US Chess to help fund its programs to promote and encourage chess in America. With generous support from Dewain and Sue Barber, the Trust significantly co-sponsors the national invitational tournaments held in conjunction with the U.S. Open Championship. We also co-sponsor the U.S. Blind Championship, the Pan-Ams Intercollegiate Championship, the Final Four of College Chess, and the Armed Forces Championship. In a just-initiated program, the Trust will directly fund US Chess for at least 100 junior memberships for Title I schoolkids.

In addition, the Trust funds its own unique programs:

Frank P. Samford, Jr., Fellowship

Since 1987, the Fellowship has supported the most promising U.S. players with stipends and expenses. The total support by the Samford family has totaled millions of dollars. From its first recipient Joel Benjamin to Gata Kamsky, to Hikaru Nakamura, Irina Krush, Sam Shankland, Wesley So, and Carissa Yip — the list has grown to more than 40 Samford Fellows. Each annual U.S. Chess Championship sees some current or former Samford Fellows in the competition. We thank IM John Donaldson for his masterful work as chairman of the effort.

Chess for Youth, Sets for Vets, Sets for Seniors

The Trust supplies free, tournament quality chess sets and boards, along with club demo boards, to qualifying programs that serve Title

I schoolkids, military veterans, elder-care programs and public libraries. Although the COVID-19 pandemic caused us to suspend these activities, as America climbs out of the pandemic, the Trust will resume these programs.

Scholar Chess Player Awards

Since 2008, the US Chess Trust, in conjunction with the National Scholastic Chess Foundation and with generous support from USCT Trustee Sunil Weeramantry, has provided five annual scholarships to high school juniors and seniors who excel in academics, chess, and leadership — in order to promote a positive image of chess. This year and last year, the winners received \$3,000, double the normal scholarship, in recognition of the special difficulties students encountered during the pandemic.

The World Junior Chess Championship for Players with Disabilities

Organized by USCT Trustee Beatriz Marinello, the FIDE event has for three years been sponsored by the US Chess Trust.

World Chess Hall of Fame

The US Chess Trust is a proud partner of the World Chess Hall of Fame and elects new inductees each year. In February, the WCHOF in St. Louis celebrates its 10th successful year with a look back at Bobby Fischer's 1972 World Championship win. At the time of this writing, the Hall has attracted more than 129,000 visitors of all ages. We congratulate Chief Curator Shannon Bailey, Associate Curator Emily Allred, and their staff. Our deepest thanks go to chess philanthropists Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld, who made it all possible and will soon find themselves honored as inductees.

Last February, the US Chess Trust lost its longtime friend and chairman, and American Chess lost one of its most effective and long-term advocates, Harold Winston. The Trust will continue to pursue the inclusive goals Harold advocated throughout his life.

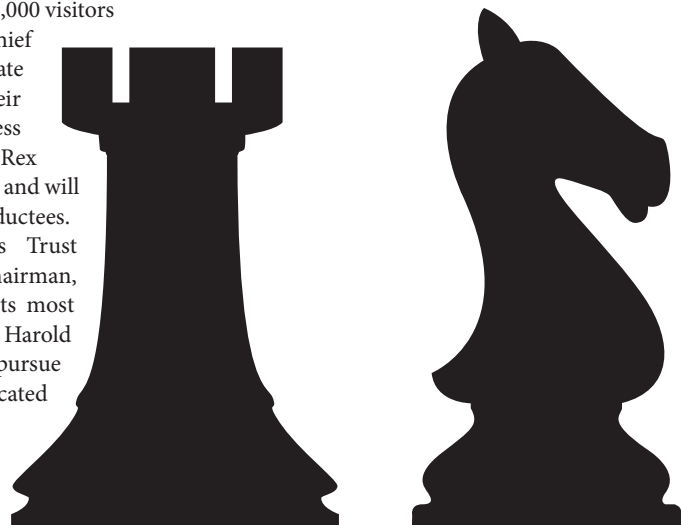
The US Chess Trust is a 501(c)(3) Massachusetts Trust. US



Chess trustees take no compensation. We all worked from home, even before the pandemic. Managing Director Al Lawrence handles our day-to-day operations and brings decades of nonprofit management and a deep love of chess to our tasks. I rely on the financial advice of Trust Treasurer Leroy Dubeck (NJ). I appreciate Secretary Myron Lieberman's (AZ) tireless accuracy, tracking our resolutions and recording minutes. My thanks go to them and to all the other trustees for their involvement and ideas: Chess in Education VP Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Chess VP Sunil Weeramantry (NY), Beatriz Marinello (NY), Stuart Chagrin (NY), Rex Sinquefeld (MO), Dr. Norman Saba (AZ), and President Emeritus Shane Samole (FL). We all appreciate the work of Webmaster Dora Leticia.

Please join our efforts. Contact our Al Lawrence at al@uschesstrust.org. View more about our good works at uschesstrust.org, where you can also make a donation. Our website acknowledges donations in memory of loved ones.

Few things feel better than helping a kid get a foot in the door to a better life.



US CHESS COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

STEPHANIE BERK, CHAIR

Current Members:

Stephanie Berk, Chair

Judit Sztaray, Vice Chair

Ryan Velez, Janelle Losoff, Michael Aigner, Jim Thoun, Martha Underwood, David Day

What we are currently working on:

- Accessibility guidelines for online chess play, with feedback from tournament directors and organizers who are currently running online tournaments.
- If and how to create a Top 100 list for players who self-select into a group of players with a disability. Part of this is making sure that we, as a committee, have a unified concept of how the Social Model of Disability best helps us create an inclusive chess experience for all interested players.
- Using our page through the US Chess website.

What we are additionally planning to work on in this coming year:

- Expanding on the Toolkit for organizers and tournament directors.
- Creating the positions of:
 - Education and Current Events liaison: Janelle Losoff is responsible for looking out for, and sending us, documents that are then uploaded to the Useful Resources and Readings section of our page on the website.
 - Accessibility Grants and Other Potential Funding Sources liaison: Martha Underwood will volunteer to find opportunities, especially federal sources, and will then work with Executive Director Carol Meyer on draft writing. This liaison will not speak for US Chess, but will assist US Chess in finding grants for ways of making our tournaments and classes accessible for all, e.g. for ASL interpreters.

What we are thinking about starting: (needs more discussion and possibly Board approval)

- Whether one or two of our committee members can assist in reading through the US Chess website and announcements, as well as other TLAs or information, to catch and modify language that can be viewed as biased against people with disabilities, or even “human rights violations,” e.g. telling a D/deaf person that s/he must take out hearing aids during the chess game. The goal is for us to help protect US Chess, and members of US Chess, from making this kind of mistake.

COLLEGE CHESS

ALEX ONISCHUK, CHAIR

The 2020/21 school year was very active for events in college chess. In September, the 2020 Collegiate Rapid & Blitz and Rapid tournament,

sponsored by Saint Louis University (SLU) and US Chess, was held on lichess.org. Roughly 150 students played in this tournament, which is fantastic improvement since its first edition in 2019, where about 50 players participated at the same tournament face-to-face.

The rapid section of the tournament was won by SLU, followed by the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) and Webster University. Blitz was won by Webster, with UTRGV in second place and University of Missouri (Mizzou) in third.

The 2020/21 Pan American Championship took place from January 3-6, 2021, and was organized on [Chess.com](https://chess.com) by the Mechanics' Institute from San Francisco. Participation was very similar to the past few years, with almost 60 teams playing in the event. The tournament went very smoothly. There were no fair play violations and no technical issues.

Here is the list of confirmed winners:

Webster University Team A	1st Place
Saint Louis University Team A	2nd Place
Webster University Team B	3rd Place
UT Rio Grande Valley Team A	4th Place
Texas Tech University Team A	5th Place
University of Washington Team A	Top Place Div III
Yale University	Top Place Div II
California Institute of Technology	Top Four-Year Small College
University of Toronto Team A	Top International
University of Missouri Women's Team	Top Women's Team
University of Minnesota Twin-Cities	Top Place Div IV
University of Toronto Team B	Top Place Div V
Howard University Chess Club	Top Place Div VI Biggest Team Upset
Saint Louis University Team C	Top Place Mixed Doubles

The President's Cup, College Chess Final Four took place April 4-5, 2021 on ICC. Here are the results:

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (2651.3)	
Cnt: 4 L4 D2 W3 W4 D2 W3	14.5
Saint Louis University (2667.2)	
Cnt: 6 W3 D1 W4 D3 D1 D4	14.0
Webster University (2692.8)	
Cnt: 6 L2 W4 L1 D2 W4 L1	11.0
Texas Tech University (2586.2)	
Cnt: 6 W1 L3 L2 L1 L3 D2	8.5

In addition to these three official US Chess tournaments, many other collegiate events were held online, including the Texas Collegiate Superfinals (<https://chess24.com/en/watch/live-tournaments/Texas-Collegiate-Superfinals-2020>), the SW Collegiate Team Championship (<https://chess.com>).

[stream/Southwest_Collegiate_Team_Championship/default](http://chess.stream/Southwest_Collegiate_Team_Championship/default)), a collegiate tournament in Missouri, and a collegiate online league.

The Kasparov Chess Foundation organized the Kasparov Chess Foundation University Cup (http://chess.stream/KCF_University_Cup/), held on February 6-7. The tournament attracted 120 colleges from 70 countries. There are some plans to make this tournament a traditional one with the final part in person.

FIDE also held three official online events with more than 1,000 players on the Tornado platform in March.

Such interest in online collegiate tournaments shows a lot of potential for college chess.

For the next year there are hopes to have at least some of the events in person. The Pan American Championship, however, will most probably happen online since it is very risky for the organizers to bid on this event.

The CCC is working with the Women's Committee about adding another national event. The CCC should work with US Chess to find the best dates for the event and to get it approved. Here are some details:

- Name: 2021 U.S. National Collegiate Women's Team Championship
- Duration: 1 day
- Date: Fall 2021
- Roster: 2 players + 1 alternate
- System of Competition, Time Control, Number of Rounds – will depend on the number of teams registered. (I expect at least 10 teams to play the first year). Time control is going to be either 10+5 or 15+10
- Platform: could be any approved platform
- There will be a rating cap on the "B" teams of 2000 USCF

The CCC needs to continue working on improving collegiate rules, especially the online rules, as there are lots of uncovered situations and grey areas.

COMPETITION INTEGRITY

BRIAN YANG, CHAIR

Formerly known as the "Anti-Cheating" committee, this rebranded committee is now named the Competition Integrity committee (CIC) as of November 2020. The main goal of this committee is to find new ways to deter cheating in tournaments in order to protect the game. CIC also had to consider reviewing online tournaments in light of the recent online chess boom. While we are still in our early stages, we hope to be able to analyze many confirmed cheating cases from various sources in order to learn the cheater's methodology so that CIC may provide guidance for tournament organizers, directors, and players.

In addition, CIC will also look at tournament manipulations. These are not the typical cases of cheating where a player is using a chess engine to play the best move in a given position. Some examples of manipulation: a player or group of players who deliberately throw games to lower their ratings in order to be eligible for a under section; a playing tournament director who changes the pairings to favor their own or a group of players' chances of winning prizes. In all these tournament manipulations examples, the persons are not representing their true strength in chess, which ruins the experience and enjoyment of chess for all players.

The CIC hopes to provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Board by the 2022 U.S. Open as we review a year's worth of cases.

DEVELOPMENT

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER V, CHAIR

The coronavirus pandemic pushed many nonprofits to the brink of closure in 2020. Though the year started with a strong first quarter, many of these

same nonprofits saw donations continue to dwindle as the year progressed. More than 80% of nonprofits surveyed by the Wall Street Journal reported a steep decline in contributions from events, grants, and individual giving during the second quarter. The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) reports that although smaller donations (gifts below \$250) increased in 2020, mid-level and larger gifts decreased, resulting in a net loss and forcing nonprofits to cut back on services they provide.

US Chess has been fortunate that, despite the pandemic, giving increased from FY 2019 to FY 2020 (June 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021), and our donor base continues to grow. However, like every other nonprofit that solicits money and relies on the generosity of its supporters, we have had to re-think how we do business so we can be more effective and more efficient.

FY 2020-2021 Year-to-Date Fundraising

- June 1, 2020 – April 21, 2021 = \$685,456

FY 2020-2021 Giving Highlights (through April 21, 2021)

- \$196,490 Morphy: ES (K-1) Fund
- \$125,000 Women's Program Grant
- \$50,000 Endowment Fund
- \$40,000 Weeramantry: Blitz Fund
- \$31,500 Olympiad Team (online)
- \$21,700 Rockefeller: ES (K-5) Fund
- \$20,788 Events
- \$17,093 Endowment Fund
- \$17,000 Unrestricted
- \$12,382 Dan Heisman Award Endowment
- \$9,000 Scholarships
- \$7,700 Ashley: ES (K-3) Fund
- \$6,160 Women's Chess
- \$5,000 At-Risk Youth
- \$5,000 Women's Chess
- \$5,000 Unrestricted
- \$3,180 Irwin: Seniors (50+) Fund

Our Donor Base

A high percentage of the gifts we received this fiscal year are from first-time donors — which is an encouraging sign that what we're doing is working. Once a donor gives, it's highly likely the donor will give again. Growing a broad base of support is critical to our future success, and we are doing it at an exceedingly difficult time. Our Year-End Appeal letter generated a great response, which played a big role in the increase in first-time donors. Our supporters knew there was a great need and answered the call. In FY2017-2018 we received 245 gifts through April 21. This fiscal year we have received 736 gifts through April 21 — tripling the number of gifts in as many years. Last year we had a 65% increase in the number of gifts received — from 444 gifts to 736 gifts through April 21 of each year. In the long run, relying on the many, rather than the few, makes for a more stable development program.

The Herbert B. Jacklyn Program

US Chess is initiating the application process for the Herbert B. Jacklyn Program. The program is being funded by a generous bequest to US Chess from the late Dr. Herbert B. Jacklyn. It was the wish of Dr. Jacklyn that income derived from investing his gift be used to improve the chess skills of players from 18 through 21 years of age:

"It is my wish and desire that the United States Chess Federation use this gift to establish a fund in my name and that the income generated

therefrom be used for the furtherance of the chess capabilities of chess players from eighteen through twenty-one years of age.”

US Chess aims to provide opportunities for chess players who lack the economic resources to acquire chess coaching and instruction without support.

The Dan Heisman Award for Excellence in Chess Instruction

A generous gift from FM Dan Heisman has enabled US Chess to endow an award for excellence in chess instruction. Mr. Heisman intends to provide annual recognition to a chess instructor who has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to serving the chess community, as well as the broader community, by developing chess players:

“When contemplating my own legacy, it occurred to me that there was no award recognizing excellence in the field of chess instruction. The Heisman family has a long history of supporting philanthropic causes, and I thought the time was right to establish an award that celebrates and honors the people behind the players — the men and women who impart their knowledge and help students develop skills so that they can more fully understand and appreciate the game and play to a higher level of proficiency. It is my hope that acknowledging outstanding chess instructors will create a greater awareness of their indispensable contributions to the game of chess.”

AFP Donor Bill of Rights

US Chess has implemented the Association of Fundraising Professional’s (AFP) Donor Bill of Rights and is displaying it on the US Chess website. It is a list of 10 principles and best practices that are followed to better serve donors and ensure a positive experience. To learn more, go to <https://new.uschess.org/donor-bill-rights>.

Third-Party Fundraising Policy

We have created and are implementing a policy to address the occasional fundraising events that are conducted by third-parties for the benefit of US Chess. While we are always grateful when individuals or organizations want to help us by raising money for us, a policy became necessary for a few reasons:

1. To protect the reputation and brand of US Chess, we need to control how our organization’s name and logo are used.
2. To make sure there is not a conflict with our own fundraising efforts.
3. To better manage the expectations of both parties. For example, gift receipts and sharing information from our database.
4. Protect US Chess from liability.

Parties interested in conducting a fundraiser for US Chess will be required to fill out a Third-Party Fundraising Proposal Form, so that both sides are informed.

New Charter

The Executive Board approved our new charter, listed at www.uschess.org: About: Governance: Committee Charters: US Chess Development Committee Charter.

Summary

FY2020-2021 has been unusual by any standard — at times frustrating, but also rewarding. Circumstances have required the Development Committee to be innovative. Because everyone on our committee has unique and varied talents, we have had to rely on each other even more than we did prior to the pandemic. Though our committee members are scattered across the country, we have pulled together as a team and risen

to meet the unique challenges that the pandemic has presented to us. US Chess has been fortunate in its development efforts this past year, and has benefited from the tremendous support of members who believe in its mission. We finished the year strong by expanding our donor base, using direct mail strategically, promoting Planned Giving, and staying connected with our supporters.

Thanks to the committee members who volunteered their time: Bill Brock (IL), David Day (UT; EB), Fun Fong (GA; EB), Maureen Grimaud (SC), Mike Hoffpauir (VA; EB), Kimberly Doo McVay (NY), John Rockefeller (MD), Danny Rohde (NY), Michael Shuman (NY), Jay Stallings (CA), and Chuck Unruh (OK; EB).

ELECTION

AUTHORIZED BY KENNETH SLOAN

Candidates for the 2021 election and composition of the Executive Board

The committee received nomination petitions from four individuals. The committee certified the following candidates for the three Executive Board seats to be filled in this year’s election:

- Randy Bauer
- John C. Fernandez
- Kevin Joseph Pryor
- Ryan Velez

Ryan Velez subsequently resigned from the election, leaving three candidates for three open seats.

The current Executive Board membership is as follows.

- Terms expiring in 2021: Mr. Randy Bauer (continuous service since 2018), Mr. Ryan Velez (continuous service since 2018)
- Terms expiring in 2022: Mr. Michael Hoffpauir (continuous service since 2016), Mr. Chuck Unruh (continuous service since 2016)
- Terms expiring in 2023: Mr. David Day (continuous service since 2020), Mr. Fun Fong (continuous service since 2020), Mr. David Hater (continuous service since 2020)

Article VI, Section 7 of the US Chess Bylaws limits Executive Board members to no more than three consecutive terms of service, excluding partial terms of less than half a full term. No member currently serving would be term limited until 2025.

ETHICS

NOREEN DAVISSON, CHAIR

In this year of the pandemic, most of our complaints came from online play. Eight cases were filed in response to incidents that occurred at the K-12 Showdown in December of 2020. Three of those cases were handled by the ombudsman process. Three cases have been finished. The remaining two are still in discussion. Six of the nine completed cases were brought due to online cheating. In all these cases, the respondent was a minor. Two of these cases are still in process with the Ethics Committee. We have accepted jurisdiction on two additional cases.

COMPLETED CASES:

Hoffpauir v. redacted

The complainant provides a detailed summary for the basis of his conclusions that cheating occurred, including reports of the respondent’s behavior on-site, testimony about his actual playing strength based on previous play, and an analysis of the games by Dr. Kenneth Regan (a world-renowned expert on computer cheating) stating that they “... are typical of near-total computer use.”

The respondent's father answered the first stage of the complaint by stating there would be no more contact with US Chess and that the only response would be the statement provided in a previous Rules complaint. Therefore, the packet for this case contains only the complainant's original complaint. With no refutation from the respondent, the committee reached its conclusion based solely on the original complaint. The committee found the complainant's summary of the evidence highly persuasive and also found no basis for faulting the complainant's actions as TD, as claimed in the respondent's previous Rules complaint.

Theiss v. redacted

The Ethics Committee has considered the complaint by Nikolas Theiss against the respondent. Mr. Theiss's complaint is that the respondent cheated in three online US Chess-rated tournaments by using computer assistance. The respondent admits to the accusation. By a vote of 12-0, the committee has determined that the respondent has violated section 6(b) of the US Chess Code of Ethics.

While the respondent does not challenge the accusation, the committee notes that there were cheating incidents in multiple tournaments. Accordingly, by a vote of 10-1 with one not voting, the committee recommends a membership suspension of two years for the respondent.

Additionally, by a vote of 11-0 with one not voting, the committee recommends that all the respondent's results in the three tournaments be changed to unrated results except the respondent's round 12 loss.

Reed v. Directors

The complaint alleges that the respondents falsified tournament rating report records to satisfy tournament director experience requirements to test for higher level certification. Specifically, the allegation is that respondent one, after claiming a tournament for which he was reported as chief TD in 2017 to satisfy the testing requirements for National Tournament Director (NTD), three years later submitted a correction to the report for that tournament to list respondent two as the chief TD. Respondent two then attempted to use the same tournament to satisfy the testing requirement for NTD. The respondents rebut this claim by asserting that they frequently run tournaments together and share the chief TD duties interchangeably and that there is no deception intended.

Several committee members were recused. There was a very close vote with respondent one being given a reprimand.

Yagiz, Tichenor & Clancy v. Respondent one and Respondent two

The Ethics Committee has considered the complaint filed by Bora Yagiz, Andrew Tichenor, and Daniel Clancy against Respondent one and Respondent two.

The complainants accuse Respondent one of playing numerous instances of chess games over the prior three years with questionable results indicating a trend in match fixing to obtain the national master (NM) title, cheating on the Lichess platform by using computer engines, and "other issues."

The committee found in favor of the respondent, noting that the complainants put forth arguments comprising lots of accusations, rumors, and speculation but very short of substantiated factual statements. Furthermore, the complainants include no statements from independent witnesses to support their accusations, while the respondents have numerous statements from independent witnesses.

Grund v. redacted

Due to the age of the respondent, the committee initially attempted to use the ombudsman procedure, but the respondent's parents were unwilling to be involved in the process. The complainant alleged that the respondent has violated sections 6a and 6b of the US Chess Code of Ethics in a US Chess rated online event, held on ICC.

The committee found that the complainant met his burden of proof in the accusation with review by ICC Fair Play team. ICC also commissioned a report from Professor Kenneth Regan, a world-renowned chess cheating detection expert. Professor Regan's conclusion was that the respondent had cheated and could be safely banned.

Reed v. redacted

The Ethics Committee has considered the complaint made by Mr. Reed against the respondent. Mr. Reed alleges that the respondent violated section 6(b) of the US Chess Code of Ethics by using computer assistance in the 2020 US Chess/ChessKid K-12 Showdown. The respondent's father replied to the complaint by stating that the respondent admitted his guilt. The committee recommends the respondent be suspended from US Chess rated play for a period of one year.

Karagianis v. redacted

Mr. Karagianis presented evidence that the respondent used computer assistance in an online tournament rated by US Chess. The respondent's father denied the charges. The committee did not find his statement to be credible and unanimously found that the respondent violated both sections 6(a) and 6(b) of the Code of Ethics, with a recommendation for a two-year membership suspension.

Reed v. redacted

The complaint arises from the respondent's participation in an online event rated by US Chess, held in December 2020. Following the event, a fair-play analysis of the respondent's games, conducted by the host site (*Chess.com*), revealed a very high probability that he violated the fair-play guidelines in all seven of his games.

As the respondent admitted the charges, the committee found that a violation of the Code had occurred and recommended a one-year membership suspension.

Reed v. redacted

This complaint also arises from a respondent's participation in an online event rated by US Chess, held in December 2020. Here too, the respondent admitted to using computer assistance. The committee found that a violation of the Code had occurred and recommended a one-year membership suspension.

There are still two cases under review from Mr. Reed.

The committee has accepted jurisdiction on two additional cases involving juniors.

FIDE EVENTS

CAROL JARECKI, IA, CHAIR

It was a pretty quiet year for the committee.

Although both FIDE and US Chess have been extremely busy converting tournament chess from over-the-board to online events, the committee itself had only one appeal of arbiter actions. It turned out the game was changed to a US Chess-only extra rated one, so it fell out of our jurisdiction.

The FIDE website is well managed, frequently updated (daily at least), and populated with a lot of interesting articles including from the U.S.

In particular for U.S. arbiters is the new program to support the development of arbiters for online and hybrid events. FIDE is trying to establish tournaments that can support arbiter norms as well as player norms. For this purpose it has designed two levels of seminars: a Basic Course (8 hours) to cover roles and duties of Online Arbiters and Local Chief Arbiters in hybrid events, and an Advanced Course (8 hours) to cover the roles and duties of Chief Arbiters for online and hybrid events.

"Official FIDE events will soon require arbiters worldwide to supervise players

COMMITTEE REPORTS

in hybrid events. The Arbiter's Commission has proposed that FIDE covers the training of at least 1 or 2 arbiters per federation on the Basic Course and we are very happy that we got strong support from our colleagues from the FIDE Planning and Development Commission and the FIDE Management."

These seminars are currently free of charge. Each federation was asked to submit the names of two arbiters (IA or FA) to participate. Unfortunately, it appears only Jon Haskel registered (for the second seminar). The first seminar was just completed in mid-April.

I highly recommend that any U.S. arbiters frequently take a look at the FIDE webpage to keep up-to-date on news, and new issues and projects.

LMA TRUST

CHUCK UNRUH, CHAIR

The Life Member Asset Trust (LMA) Trustees set an investment strategy with the future goal to reimburse operations for the annual Life Membership expenses in December of 2016. Under the strategic plan, LMA Trustees, in coordination with US Chess leadership, advanced four years of expense reimbursements in June of 2017. We are glad to report as of March 2021, our investment strategy was successful and met the expense reimbursement goals set out over four years ago.

Each year, the Trustees review and approve a strategic investment plan for the LMA Trust funds under management named after the city of the next delegates annual meeting. Cherry Hill is the current LMA investment plan. Meanwhile, the Trustees begin a review this May of the proposed Rancho Mirage Investment Plan. Like Cherry Hill, the Rancho Mirage Investment Plan focuses on defensive equity and fixed income. Currently, the LMA Trust portfolio is fully invested in public securities.

The end of March finds the LMA portfolio at a significantly higher value during the economic recovery phase of the global pandemic. According to TD Ameritrade forecasts, the investment portfolio's estimated distribution is \$34,618 per year. The LMA portfolio gained value of \$101K when compared to this time last year.

The Trustees will present a new investment plan, with the name "Rancho Mirage," for the 2021-22 fiscal year at the Friday Finance Workshop during the delegates annual meeting. Investment results for the previous year and a brief strategy discussion are on the agenda, along with a short question and answer period.

LMA Trust Assets Under Management as of March 31st, 2021:

	2020	2021	Gain/(Loss)
Land	\$264,000	\$264,000	-0-
Building net depreciation	\$360,545	\$360,545	-0-*
TD Ameritrade Securities	\$536,875	\$637,836	\$100,961
Pre-payments	\$52,500	\$9,844	(\$42,656)
Total:	\$ 1,213,920	\$1,272,225	\$58,305

(*March 31st, balance sheet)

I thank all of the trustees for their dedicated volunteer service over the past year.

MILITARY CHESS

JIM HOLLINGSWORTH, CHAIR

Despite the pandemic, Military Chess is strong and growing stronger. On the international scene, the 31st NATO Championship (scheduled for 2020) was postponed until October 2021. The event will be held in Blankenberge, Belgium and its dates overlap the 62nd U.S. Armed Forces Open Chess Championship (USAFOCC) slated for Columbus Day weekend in Grapevine, Texas. The 62nd USAFOCC schedule has been adjusted to facilitate at least two players leaving after the first round to play at NATO.

Traditionally, the USAFOCC has been reserved for active duty, retirees, and military academy cadets. Recently, a second section, called the Veterans Open Championship (VOC), was opened to honorably discharged veterans. The first section, the Armed Forces Open (AFO), is still reserved for active duty, retirees, and cadets. Unlike the "traditional" US Chess-rated VOC, the AFO is FIDE rated to enhance NATO opportunities for academy graduates. This year's USAFOCC also has special nuances that I will explain shortly.

Hubzone HQ in Virginia Beach, Virginia, was the venue for the 61st USAFOCC. Expert and Petty Officer Second Class (PO2) Andrew Peraino won the title by topping the 21-player field with a 4½/5 score. FIDE Arbiter and US Chess President Mike Hoffpauir directed and was assisted by National Arbiter Jeff Forbes. Retired Navy Captain and US Chess Life Member Tom Belke did an exemplary job as Chief Organizer. He did it all, including dealing with pandemic concerns, fundraising, sponsors, donors, staffing, logistics, etc. He kept the players excited via numerous emails. He kept the Military Chess Committee informed and passed on a wealth of knowledge to future USAFOCC organizers. Well done, Tom. Well done!

As I write this, the pandemic situation is improving in Texas. The 62nd USAFOCC is well on its way to becoming an epic championship adventure few will ever experience. The current \$11,773.45 budget is ambitious and over 80 percent funded. Numerous sponsors and donors have come forward to help. To ensure none are overlooked, I am not including their names in this report; however, the growing lists are displayed on the Texas Armed Forces Chess website: <http://texasarmedforceschess.com/>

The Chief Arbiter is International Arbiter/International Organizer and TCA President Franc Guadalupe. The Deputy Chief Arbiter is National Arbiter Gary Gaiffe. Senior TD and Arlington Chess Club President Chris Wood is Chief Assistant Tournament Director. Others on staff include Dale Chaney, Tammy Matta, Bob Roberts, Robert Shearer, Senior TD Troy Gillispie, Mike Donovan, and Carmen Chairez. As needs are identified more staff may be added. Also, FIDE Arbiter/National Arbiter and Texas Knights Editor Louis Reed will be managing five or more DGT boards on loan from TCA and the Dallas Chess Club.

Fifty-two players are advance registered. This is comparable with previous USAFOCC events.

- 2020 = 21 players (the pandemic year). Sponsored by Navy (Virginia Beach).
- 2019 = 52 players. Sponsored by Marines (Camp Lejeune).
- 2018 = 55 players. Sponsored by Air Force (Andrews AFB).
- 2017 = 44 players. Sponsored by Army (West Point).
- 2016 = 48 players. Sponsored by Navy (Annapolis).
- 2015 = 26 players. Sponsored by Marines (Fort Belvoir).
- 2014 = 29 players. Sponsored by Air Force (USAF Academy).

Before I agreed to organize this USAFOCC (with greatly appreciated assistance from John Farrell), I insisted, "It's FIDE for all or FIDE for none!" Of course, with two FIDE sections it was prudent bringing more FIDE Arbiters on board. I do a lot of work promoting veterans' chess in Texas. Hiring three Arbiters only made sense.

The "Lion Shares" for demographics are Army, Texas, and Class A players.

Branch	AFO	VOC	Players	Pct.
Air Force	8	3	11	21.2%
Air Force & Army	1		1	1.9%
Air Force, Army, & Marines	1		1	1.9%
Army	15	10	25	48.1%
Marines	1	2	3	5.8%
Navy	7	4	11	21.2
Totals	33	19	52	100%

State	AFO	VOC	Players	Pct.
CA	2	2	4	7.7%
CO	1		1	1.9%
FL	2		2	3.8%
GA	1		1	1.9%
HI	1		1	1.9%
LA	1	2	3	5.8%
MD	1		1	1.9%
NC	1		1	1.9%
NJ	1		1	1.9%
NY	1		1	1.9%
OK	3	2	5	9.6%
TX	14	13	27	51.9%
VA	4		4	7.7%
Totals	33	19	52	100%

Class	AFO	VOC	Players	Pct.
X	3	1	4	7.7%
A	10	1	11	21.2%
B	3	5	8	15.4%
C	5	4	9	17.3%
D	1		1	1.9%
E	3	3	6	11.5%
F	1		1	1.9%
G	1		1	1.9%
I		1	1	1.9%
J		1	1	1.9%
UNR	6	3	9	17.3%
Totals	33	19	52	100%

The 62nd USAFOCC schedule is jam-packed with the AFO, VOC, a FIDE Rapid, a FIDE Quick, annual Military Chess committee meeting, opening and closing ceremonies, group photos, Texas Hold'em, and a veterans' banquet. The Honorable William D. Tate, Mayor of the City of Grapevine, Texas, will speak and welcome all USAFOCC players, families, and staff during the opening ceremonies on Saturday, 9 October 2021. Local media and interest are anticipated, plus we have great photographers on staff. Social distancing will not be an issue as the El Diablo Canyon could probably fit in the Texas-size tournament hall.

Our website has a FAQ page and is updated frequently. That is probably the best place to find current information: <http://texasarmedforceschess.com/faq.html>

Next year's 63rd USAFOCC: Planning is underway. Chess Expert and Air Force Rep Leroy Hill will provide details at the annual Military Chess committee meeting.

Finally, a recommendation was submitted to the Executive Board advocating membership discounts for chess-playing veterans. Benefits to US Chess include:

- Public relations boost.
- Increased revenue from online membership sales, even with a \$4 discount.
- Increased fundraising and grants from pro-military organizations and individuals.
- Increased stream of volunteers.

Respectfully,
Jim Hollingsworth

NATIONAL STATE INVATIONALS

JON HASKEL, CHAIR

The following national tournaments are now under the jurisdiction of the National State Invationals Committee: the GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions, the Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions, the John D. Rockefeller III National Tournament of Elementary School State Champions, the WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions, the National Tournament of State Senior Champions (now called the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions), and the newly-formed FM Sunil Weeramantry National Blitz Tournament of State Champions. Due to the pandemic, in 2020 these tournaments took place on *Chess.com* and the prizes were reduced.

2020 RESULTS

GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions

GM Nicolas de T. Checa (NY) finished alone in first place and was the winner of the \$2,000 college scholarship. IM Andrew Hong (CA-N) was the winner of the \$500 Ursula Foster Chess Scholarship for best result under the age of 16.

The full standings can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/denker-past-events>

Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions

Evan Park (PA) and FM Jason Liang (NY) tied for first. On tiebreaks the \$2,000 college scholarship went to Evan.

The full standings can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/barber-past-events>

John D. Rockefeller III National Tournament of Elementary School State Champions

Bryan Xie (CA-S) finished alone in first place and was the winner of the \$2,000 college scholarship.

The full standings can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/rockefeller-past-events>

WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions

IM Annie Wang (CA-S) finished alone in first place with a perfect score and was the winner of the \$2,000 college scholarship. NM Alice Lee (MN) was the winner of the \$500 Ursula Foster Chess Scholarship for best result under the age of 13.

The full standings can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/haring-past-events>

National Tournament of Senior State Champions

GM Alex Fishbein (NJ) finished alone in first place and was the winner of \$1,000.

The full standings can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/seniors-past-events>

Team Competition

The team from New York finished in first place and won \$500 in US Chess Sales vouchers. Their team average was 2420. The team was composed of their Denker representative, GM Nicolas de T. Checa, Barber representative, FM Jason Liang, Rockefeller representative, Brewington Hardaway, Haring representative, WFM Martha Samadashvili, and Senior representative GM Michael Rohde.

Complete team results can be found at: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2020-State-Team-Standings.pdf>

FM Sunil Weeramantry National Blitz Tournament of Sate Champions

GM Nicolas de T. Checa (NY) finished alone in first place in the 2200+ section and won a \$120 US Chess Sales voucher. In the 1600-2199 section Sandeep Sethuraman (AZ) and Ryan Amburgy (OK) finished tied for first and Sandeep got the \$120 US Chess Sales voucher on tiebreaks. Kyle Ching (HI) finished alone in first place in the Under 1600 section and won a \$120 US Chess Sales voucher.

The standings can be found here:

2200+ Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2020-2200-Blitz-Standings.pdf>

1600-2199 Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2020-1600-2199-Blitz-Standings.pdf>

Under 1600 Section: <https://www.denkerchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2020-U1600-Blitz-Standings.pdf>

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS' HEALTH AND BENEFITS-CLAIMS (PPHB)

STEVE IMMITT, CHAIR

This past year the committee once again had no applicants for financial assistance for healthcare expenses from titled players.

Many potential applicants may not be aware of the financial assistance opportunities provided by US Chess to professional players. Many potential donors (not just large corporations but also tournament directors and organizers of smaller events as well) may also be unaware of the sponsorship opportunities provided by US Chess to help professional chess players, or might not have seriously considered the possibility before. We clearly need to undertake a broader outreach to these groups to let people know about us!

The funding for the committee's previous grants of financial assistance has traditionally come from organizers and tournament directors in the form of payments made in conjunction with the tournament rating fees. These payments are primarily made for Grand Prix tournaments in order to augment the level of Grand Prix points awarded by the tournament to the top finishers. On occasion, additional smaller contributions have also been included with the rating fee payments for smaller events as well.

The committee's previous chairman, IM John Donaldson, summarized matters well when he reported:

"The resources of the Fund are not large enough to provide health care for all titled players, but allows grants of up to \$10,000 per person for those truly in need. This amount has made the difference in many ways, from providing physical therapy not covered by medical insurance to supplying a safety net for those in danger of being forced to live on the street. The aim with the latter has been not only to meet a short-term need, but also find a long-term solution. This has included assisting individuals apply for Veterans Benefits, SSI, or state and county programs as appropriate. All those granted assistance were able to get back on their feet and lead productive lives.

"The Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund is grateful to the many tournament organizers who have provided support throughout the years. The \$1 per player per event voluntary donation in return for enhanced Grand Prix status has provided much good."

With the implementation of the new IT programming in conjunction with the new US Chess website, it is hoped that we may be able to identify and acknowledge some of the individuals and organizations that contribute to the Health and Benefits Fund in the future.

While these contributions are most welcome, it is also imperative to seek out contributions for our important objectives on a larger scale as well.

The dramatic drop in tournament activity this past fiscal year due to the COVID-19 pandemic has made running any Grand Prix tournaments, along with their concomitant payments for Grand Prix point enhancements, very problematic.

As of March 1, 2021, after the end of our third fiscal quarter, the PPHBF Fund had \$16,202.48 in the checking account, while the invested portion of the Fund had a value of \$149,566.48. The total value of the US Chess Professional Players' Health and Benefits Fund, therefore, was **\$165,768.94** as of the end of the third quarter of the current fiscal year.

The above numbers are for information purposes, as this committee only handles claims; it does not manage the funds. For details on the fund management, including year-end balances, please consult the Vice President of Finance's annual report.

It certainly cannot be overstated how much it behooves US Chess to look after its aging generation of professionals as well. After all, no one is getting any younger these days.

The Professional Players' Health and Benefits Claims Committee is grateful for the support of the delegates, the Executive Board and the US Chess office staff in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted for the US Chess Professional Players' Health and Benefits Claims Committee (John Donaldson, Jim Eade, Sophia Rohde, Anthony Saidy, M.D.) by Steve Immitt, Chair.

STATES AND AFFILIATES

BOB MESSENGER, CHAIR

Three cases were referred to the States and Affiliate Committee in 2020 and one in 2021. The committee accepted jurisdiction over all four cases, which are pending as of the writing of this report.

First, there was a claim of discrimination where a local affiliate within a midwest state believed they were not receiving the same level of promotion by the state affiliate as other affiliates in the state. According to the complaint, the state affiliate said the change in the level of support was due to the local affiliate holding competing events too close to another affiliate's tournaments. The committee accepted jurisdiction and asked the state affiliate to answer a list of questions. The state affiliate didn't respond, and the committee voted to return the complainant's deposit.

Next was a complaint from an affiliate in the western part of the country which for several years had run scholastic championships in its state. The state affiliate had decided to run scholastic championships of its own and was refusing to promote tournaments held by the complaining affiliate that were advertised as state championship events. As in the previous complaint, the committee accepted jurisdiction and asked the state affiliate to answer a list of questions. The state affiliate didn't respond.

The third complaint was from another western state. A player alleged that his state affiliate was excluding him from its tournaments without due process. The committee accepted jurisdiction and agreed on a list of questions to be asked of the state affiliate. This case is ongoing.

The most recent case is a complaint from a player that a chess club in the northeast owes him refunds for two tournaments that he entered. The committee accepted jurisdiction and asked for a statement from the chess club, which has not yet responded.

Committee co-chair Alex Relyea resigned in October 2020 for health reasons and was replaced by Lakshmana Viswanath. We wish Alex the best.

We thank committee members for their support and service to our mission/charter. Co-Chair Bob Messenger (NH) & Co-Chair Lakshmana Viswanath (TX), Guy Hoffman (WI), Kevin Pryor (FL), Sreenivas

Alampalli (NY), Larry Cohen (IL), Richard Koepcke (NCA), Phil Simpkins (DE), Thad Rogers (GA), and Glenn Panner (IL).

U.S. OPEN

HAL TERRIE, CHAIR

Following the finalizing of contracts for the 2023 and 2024 U.S. Opens (using the current two-weekend format) and the subsequent mid-2020 cancellation of the 2020 U.S. Open, there was little for the committee to do. However, in March of 2021, the Executive Board (EB) asked the committee for a detailed study of ways to increase attendance and reduce the large financial losses the event has incurred over the last five years for U.S. Opens after 2024. That study is to be completed by early May, in time for an EB meeting — but after the deadline for submitting this report for the Delegates Call. The report to the EB will be available for delegate discussion at a potential future workshop.

Data assembled by the US Chess office and EB was presented to the committee, showing a steady decline in attendance over the last five years. A closer look revealed that there has been a significant migration from the Traditional schedule to the 6-day schedule, while entries in the 4-day remained at about the same level.

The committee will examine various versions of the one-weekend formats previously proposed by US Chess Director of Events, Boyd Reed. Formats with even fewer days or with additional sections will also be discussed, as well as various entry fee and prize fund modifications. One idea suggested by the EB is a possible schedule with partial online play, where entrants could play some games at home and then travel to the site, to finish the event OTB.

The EB has stated that reversing the large financial losses is a very high priority and that everything must be on the table for discussion. The committee will do its best to balance this requirement with the desire to retain some traditional elements of the U.S. Open.

WOMEN

ADIA ONYANGO, CHAIR

Due to the pandemic, 2020 was a very different year. There were no in-person tournaments or programs in 2020. As a result of not being able to meet in person, numerous online programs were initiated. The transition and focus on online platforms have provided us with the ability to reach even more women and girls.

In 2020 we launched numerous new virtual programs, including a weekly Girls Club Seminar, a Cross-Cultural Girls Club, the Madwoman's Book Club, and Adult Women's Beginners Classes. In addition, we increased our outreach by creating videos, which allows even more access for those not able to attend and establishes a curated, permanent record that can be accessed by all. As a result of our new online programs, we have increased our online mailing list and are able to directly reach out to many more women and girls throughout the U.S.

The Girls Club Seminars were launched in April of 2020 and are run by Women's Program Director WGM Jennifer Shahade. On average, between

70-100+ girls throughout the country participate each week. From these classes, videos are created, making them accessible to women and girls throughout the U.S. These classes have exposed girls to a range of diverse personalities in chess, including GM Irina Krush, 13th World Champion GM Garry Kasparov and "The Queen's Gambit" creator Scott Frank, WGM Tatev Abrahamyan, WGM Katerina Nemcova, WIM Sabrina Chavines, Alexandra and Andrea Botez, WGM Nadya Ortiz, Elizabeth Spiegel, WGM Sabina Foisor, John Leguizamo, GM Pontus Carlsson, NM Laura Smith, Phiona Matusi, IM Greg Shahade, artist, singer and songwriter Juga, Dr. WIM Carolina Blanco, and many more. In addition, the meetings are often attended by some of the members of the US Chess Women's committee. A catalogue of the classes can be found via this link.

(https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWz0jCeofD_HcDI_XCxyQN5Upa1_3TmW)

The Cross-Cultural Girls Club was launched in August of 2020. This initiative initially was to bring chess girls from the U.S. together with chess girls from Kenya through online meetups, seminars, and tournaments. It has expanded its outreach to now include even more countries in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Namibia, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia). This program is run in collaboration with GM Pontus Carlsson, founder of Business Meets Chess Meets Kids; Judy Kiragu, founder of Lighthouse Chess Club in Kenya; and WGM Jennifer Shahade, Women's Program Director for US Chess. US Chess also donated chess sets and boards, which were distributed to chess girls in Kenya. Video content has also been curated from these seminars (see link above), increasing our outreach and allowing girls who were not able to attend to still have access to all of the amazing speakers who visit the club.

The Adult Women's Beginner Classes were also launched in 2020. This has been a great way to create more outreach to adult women interested in improving in chess.

The Madwoman's Book Club is an initiative launched and hosted by WGM Jennifer Shahade, Women's Program Director for US Chess, and expert Adia Onyango, US Chess Women's committee chair. This club is aimed at providing more opportunity for adult women of all chess levels to come together through the discussion of very interesting and thought-provoking literature intertwined with chess. The Madwoman's Book Club launched in November of 2020. The virtual club meets monthly (fall and winter) to bi-monthly (spring and summer) and has covered *The Queen's Gambit* by Walter Tevis, *Mastermind* by Maria Konnikova, *Mind and Matter* by John Urschel and Louisa Thomas, *Queen of Katwe* by Tim Crothers, *The Eight* by Katherine Neville, and *The Disordered Cosmos* by Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein (upcoming). Sessions have included a question-and-answer segment with the author or a main character from the book, as well as a brief beginner-to-intermediate level chess segment, followed by a discussion of the book in large and small groups.

This highlights some of the new virtual programs that have been created in 2020. Women and girls on our mailing list are updated regularly with activities and programs targeting women and girls. In the next year, we expect to be able to provide more in-person programs as we hopefully get through the pandemic. However, we hope to continue all of the online programs that have been created, which have allowed us to increase our outreach to women and girls throughout the U.S.

2020-2021 US CHESS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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N/A

ELECTION

TBA

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John D. Rockefeller V, Vice Chair
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Lakshmana Viswanath, Co-Chair
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Robert Hess, Co-Chair
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Maret Thorpe, Vice Chair
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Jay Stallings, Vice Chair
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U.S. OPEN

Hal Terrie III, Chair
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DOCUMENTS ON THE WEB

2020 DELEGATE MOTIONS COMPLIANCE REPORT

In order to maintain accountability and transparency to its members, US Chess adopted DM01-77 in 2001. The motion requires that a report on compliance or non-compliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions be included in the *Delegates Call*. Due to length, the comprehensive report has been posted on *uschess.org* at this link:

http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/2020_ComplianceReport_FINAL.pdf

DELEGATE ACTIONS OF CONTINUING INTEREST

Due to length, the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest have been moved from the *Delegates Call* and has ben posted at *uschess.org* at this link:

http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/2019_DACI_FINAL_Web.pdf

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In 2018, the Delegates approved a conflict of interest policy for all Delegates. This recognizes the importance of declaring potential conflicts of interest for evaluation by a committee before the Delegates Meeting. Below is a link to a document that includes both the policy for you to refer to and a form for declaring any potential conflicts you may have. Note that if you have a situation that seems to fall in a gray area, it is best to declare it on the form and let your fellow Delegates decide if it is, in fact, a conflict of interest.

http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/Delegate_Conflict_of_Interest_Form.pdf

2021 DELEGATE/ALTERNATE LIST

ALABAMA 1,1

DAL Frank Camaratta
Del Gerald Larsen
Alt

ALASKA 1,1

Del Thomas Blaine Webb
Alt Camilla Malchoff

ARIZONA 2,2

DAL Myron Lieberman
DAL Rachel Lieberman
Del Michelle Martinez
Del Martha Underwood
Alt
Alt

ARKANSAS 1,1

Del Larry Weston
Alt

CALIFORNIA-NORTH 7,7

Del Judit Sztaray
Del Abel Talamantez
Del Richard Koepcke
Del Tom Langland
Del Jim Eade
Del
Del
Alt Jordan Langland
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH 5,5

DAL Dewain Barber
DAL Randall Hough
Del Sean Manross
Del Dylan Quercia

Del Steven Morford
Del Jim Mennella
Del Brian Glover
Alt Abhishek Kylasa
Alt Jonathan Machtig
Alt Ashley Li
Alt Keith Martin
Alt Jim Harrell

COLORADO 1,1

Del Paul Covington
Alt Richard Buchanan

CONNECTICUT 2,2

Del Alex Lumelsky
Del
Alt Norman Burtness
Alt Suhas Kodali

DELAWARE 1,1

Del John Anderson
Alt

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 1,1

Del Robin Floyd Ransom
Alt

FLORIDA 6,6

DAL Anthony Cottell
Del Jon Haskel
Del Kevin Pryor
Del Bryan Tillis
Del Daa'im Shabazz
Del Matt Kolcz
Del Paul Leggett
Alt George Foote
Alt Tim Staley
Alt Krista Alton
Alt Timotey Gospodinov
Alt William Bowman
Alt Colby Ferraro

GEORGIA 3,3

EB Fun Fong
EB David Hater
Del Thad Rogers
Del Scott Parker
Del Michael Mulford
Alt
Alt
Alt

HAWAII 1,1

Del
Alt

IDAHO 1,1

Del Adam Porth
Alt Jef Leifeste

ILLINOIS 6,6

Del William Brock
Del Tim Just
Del Eric Ortega
Del Stephen Plotnick
Del Rachel Schechter
Del Garrett Scott
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Helen Warren

INDIANA 2,2

Del John Roush
Del Terry Winchester
Alt
Alt

IOWA 1,1

EB Randy Bauer
Del Eric Vigil
Alt William Broich

KANSAS 1,1

Del Brian Yang
Alt CJ Armenta

KENTUCKY 2,2

EB Ryan Velez
PEB Allen Priest
Del Randas Burns
Del Richard Williams
Alt
Alt

LOUISIANA 1,1

Del Leila D'Aquin
Alt Eli Karp

MAINE 1,1

Del Michael Dudley
Alt Dan DeLuca

MARYLAND 2,2

Del Michael Regan
Del John D. Rockefeller V
Alt Chris Kim
Alt Brent Layer

MASSACHUSETTS 2,2

Del Jeffrey Caruso
Del Bob Messenger
Alt
Alt

MICHIGAN 2,2

Del Raymond Garrison
Del Bradley Rogers
Alt
Alt

MINNESOTA 1,1

Del David Kuhns
Alt

MISSISSIPPI 1,1

Del Jason Mitchell
Alt Douglas Stewart

MISSOURI 2,2

Del Thomas Rehmeier
Del Tony Rich
Alt
Alt

MONTANA 1,1

Del
Alt

NEBRASKA 1,1

Del Michael Mills
Alt
AAD Mike Nolan

NEVADA 1,1

Del Alan Losoff
Alt Janelle Losoff

NEW HAMPSHIRE 1,1

Del Hal Terrie
Alt

NEW JERSEY 5,5

DAL Leroy Dubeck
DAL Stephen Doyle
PEB Hal Sprechman
Del Dov Gorman
Del Kameliia Sharuda
Del Michael Khodarkovsky
Del Nicolas Carlson
Del Leo Dubler
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

NEW MEXICO 1,1

Del Andrew Flores
Alt

NEW YORK 12,12

DAL Beatriz Marinello
DAL Al Lawrence
Del Steve Immitt
Del Sandeep Alampalli
Del Bill Goichberg

Del Sunil Weeramantry
Del Danny Rohde
Del Sophia Rohde
Del Harold Stenzel
Del Carol Jarecki
Del Michael Ellenbogen
Del Kimberly Doo
Del Sreenivas Alampalli
Del Karl Heck
Alt Jabari McGreen
Alt Helen Xue
Alt Angel Lopez
Alt
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Alt

NORTH CAROLINA 4,4

Del Charles Roberson
Del John Timmel
Del Grant Oen
Del Wayne Spon
Alt Walter High
Alt
Alt
Alt

NORTH DAKOTA 1,1

Del Todd Wolf
Alt

OHIO 3,3

DAL Gary Walters
Del John Miller
Del Kalanithi Bagley
Del Stacia Pugh
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

OKLAHOMA 1,1

EB Chuck Unruh
Del James Gray
Alt Joe Dean Veal
AAD Jim Berry

OREGON 1,1

Del Carl Haessler

Alt Wilson Gibbins

PENNSYLVANIA 4,4

Del Tom Martinak
Del Leteef Street
Del Daniel Heisman
Del Bradley Crable
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Maxim Dlugy

RHODE ISLAND 1,1

Del Frank Vogel
Alt Ben Swiszc

SOUTH CAROLINA 1,1

DAL Robert John McCrary
Del David Grimaud
Alt Ernest (Gene) Nix, Jr.

SOUTH DAKOTA 1,1

Del
Alt

TENNESSEE 2,2

Del Alan Kantor
Del Chris Prosser
Alt Angela McElrath-Prosser
Alt

TEXAS 15,15

DAL Tim Redman
Del Francisco Guadalupe
Del Jim Stallings
Del Julio Sadorra
Del Tim Steiner
Del Alexander Onischuk
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
Del
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Alt
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Alt
Alt

UTAH 1,1

EB David Day
Del Matt Crossette
Alt

VERMONT 1,1

Del
Alt

VIRGINIA 4,4

EB Mike Hoffpauir
DAL Woodrow Harris
Del Adam Chrisney
Del Anand Dommalapati
Del Andrew Rea
Del Christina Schweiss
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

WASHINGTON 2,2

Del Fred Kleist
Del Murlin Varner
Alt Josh Sinanan
Alt

WEST VIRGINIA 1,1

Del Benu Rellan
Alt Lewis Sanders

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PEB Mike Nietman
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CODE OF ETHICS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION (US CHESS)

The Code of Ethics is Item 1997-16 (previously 2019 DACI 22) in the Delegates Actions of Continued Interest which can be found online at http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/2019_DACI_FINAL_Web.pdf

(Revised August 2018)

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. The purpose of this code of ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the United States Chess Federation (US Chess), including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct that does not conform to such standards; and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.
2. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of US Chess membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of US Chess.
3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to actions and behavior by:
(A) members of US Chess, that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess; and **(B)** individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of US Chess. This code shall not apply to actions or behavior by employees of US Chess acting in the scope of their duties. Such actions fall instead under the province of the Executive Board.
4. Each member of US Chess and each participant in a US Chess activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

THE US CHESS ETHICS COMMITTEE

5. The US Chess Ethics Committee is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the bylaws of US Chess. The committee exists to consider allegations of unethical conduct at or in connection with events sanctioned by US Chess, and allegations of unethical conduct involving US Chess and its activities, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code. The committee will exercise all other duties as may be assigned by the Bylaws or by action of the US Chess Board of Delegates.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

6. The actions and behavior of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in US Chess activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess, shall be lawful and in accordance with all US Chess rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others.

The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates US Chess rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, may be considered to fall within the scope of this code of ethics.

- (a) Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to US Chess activities and goals, particularly after being warned.
- (b) Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.
- (c) Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.
- (d) Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.
- (e) Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified rating report.
- (f) Participating in a tournament while under suspension.
- (g) Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by US Chess.
- (h) Attempting to interfere with the rights of any US Chess member, such as by barring someone from entering a US Chess-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a US Chess-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and then only for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.
- (i) Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with US Chess.

PROCEDURES

7. Any US Chess member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the US Chess Ethics Committee. A good-faith deposit must be submitted by the complainant. The amount of the deposit shall be set by the US Chess Executive Director, who shall review it from time to time

in consultation with the Ethics Committee. The deposit shall be returned unless the Committee rules that the case is frivolous. The Committee may determine whether to return the deposit even before it determines jurisdictional and merit questions. The Committee may also, by a two-thirds vote, accept complaints submitted without the deposit. Complaints submitted by a US Chess employee as a result of actions related to official US Chess activities shall not require the payment of the deposit.

In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the Standards of Conduct above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

- (a) A factual inquiry shall be made by the Ethics Committee, assisted as necessary by the US Chess staff. Previous findings of the Ethics Committee or other US Chess entities may be included among the evidence considered by the Ethics Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.
- (b) When issuing a decision, the Ethics Committee will provide a rationale for its decision to the parties involved and to the Executive Board.
- (c) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended to the Executive Board by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other US Chess entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed of this fact. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified. If appeals are filed, the Ethics Committee shall be promptly notified.
- (d) Except as specified in 7(f) sanctions recommended to the Executive Board shall be deemed final unless appealed to the Executive Board by the person or persons upon whom the sanctions have been imposed, or upon the initiative of any member of the Executive Board. Such an appeal must be made within thirty days of the date that notification of recommended sanctions occurred, except that the Executive Board may extend the deadline for appeal if in its judgment an unavoidable delay in communications or other valid cause prevented a timely appeal. If an appeal has not been filed by the deadline the recommended sanctions shall be placed into effect. No appeals shall be permitted in cases where the Ethics Committee has found in favor of the respondent and has recommended no sanctions.
- (e) Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom the sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence from the record. Any person appearing before the Executive Board upon appeal may be represented by counsel with the permission and at the sole discretion of the Executive Board. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.

- (f) If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the US Chess Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board but may appeal to the US Chess Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.
- (g) If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the US Chess Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

SANCTIONS

8. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.
 - (a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
 - (b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
 - (c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.
 - (d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.
 - (e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the US Chess Executive Board or by the US Chess Board of Delegates.
 - (f) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.
9. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the US Chess Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend to the Executive Board no sanctions other than censure or reprimand but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.
10. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in US Chess or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess.
11. The US Chess Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official determinations by the Ethics Committee and shall record any recommendations of any sanctions. The US Chess Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any sanctions recommended.

BYLAWS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION

Includes amendments adopted at the 2020 Special Delegates' Meeting

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the corporation shall be the United States Chess Federation also known as the United States of America Chess Federation, commonly known as US Chess.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

SECTION 1.

The purpose of US Chess shall be educational and instructional, to broaden and develop chess as art and recreation, as a significant element of culture in America. US Chess shall cooperate with schools, colleges, hospitals, military bases, community centers, recreation departments, and other groups and institutions, in teaching chess, conducting tournaments, and other activities. US Chess shall disseminate information through its publications and representatives, and US Chess shall select the official USA representatives in all international chess affairs. US Chess shall encourage and support chess programs for individuals with disabilities and the participation of individuals with disabilities in chess activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities in all chess competition.

SECTION 2. US CHESS IS PLEDGED:

- A. To operate exclusively for educational, recreational, and social welfare purposes;
- B. That no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional program shall not be so construed;
- C. That US Chess is not operated for profit and that neither principal nor income of any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation;
- D. To promote the study and knowledge of the scientific game of chess;
- E. To foster the development of players and to help those who seek to become masters;
- F. To encourage the formation of chess groups, clubs, and associations;
- G. To hold a tournament no less often than once every two years for the Chess Championship of the United States and to confer upon the winner of such tournament the title "United States Chess Champion"; and,
- H. To hold an open tournament every summer in the United States.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person may become an Adult member of US Chess upon payment of \$45 for one year, or \$87 for two years.

SECTION 2. YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 19 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Youth Member of US Chess upon payment of \$20 for one year, or \$37 for two years.

SECTION 3. YOUNG ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 24 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Young Adult Member of US Chess upon the payment of \$27 for one year, or \$51 for two years.

SECTION 4. SENIOR MEMBERSHIP.

A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday may become a Senior Member of US Chess upon payment of \$40 for one year, or \$77 for two years.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP.

A blind person, or any person who is incarcerated in a penal institution in the United States, may become a Special member of US Chess for \$18 for one year.

SECTION 6. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PLANS.

- A. Family Plan 1: \$85, includes parents and their children under age 19 in the household living at one address. Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.
- B. Family Plan 2: \$55, includes all children under age 19 in the household living at one address.

SECTION 7. LIFE MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person may become a Life Member of US Chess upon payment of \$1500 dues. Any person age 65 years or older may become a Life Member upon payment of \$750 dues. Any blind person may become a Life Member upon payment of \$375 dues. US Chess may require reasonable confirmation of eligibility from time to time as a continuation of Life membership.

SECTION 8. AFFILIATE COMMISSIONS.

There shall be a \$3 affiliate commission on all Adult, Senior, Youth, Young Adult, Family, and Life Memberships.

SECTION 9. PROMOTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS.

In order to facilitate the development of membership promotion, the Executive Board may authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time to determine their feasibility by trial; such terms and rates shall be subject to review annually by the Board of Delegates.

SECTION 10. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each Life member shall have an opportunity to receive a monthly printed copy of *Chess Life*. Each member who provides an email address can access

electronic copies of both *Chess Life* and *Chess Life for Kids* magazines. Members may purchase subscriptions to either or both magazines for a price to be no greater than 105% of printing and mailing costs. Each member shall be entitled to have his or her tournament play officially rated, to participate in the Annual Membership meeting, and to enjoy all other rights and privileges of membership in accordance with the membership terms and conditions. Members and Affiliates with mailing addresses outside the United States may be charged an additional fee to cover extra costs.

SECTION 11. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

The Executive Board, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, may revoke or suspend the membership of any member for good cause. The US Chess Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in the US Chess Code of Ethics. The Executive Director may, on an emergency basis, suspend the membership of any person or their related affiliate who has engaged in any activity that potentially endangers the health or safety of US Chess employees, volunteers, or members. Such suspension will be in effect immediately and will be in effect for no more than 90 days. If the Executive Director suspends any membership under this provision, the Executive Director will contact the suspended person or affiliate within 72 hours to inform them of the decision. The Executive Director will also contact the Executive Board within 72 hours which will then review the suspension and follow the provisions of Article III, Section 13. The emergency suspension will stay in effect while the provisions of Article III Section 13 are being followed unless the Executive Board lifts the suspension sooner.

SECTION 12. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR AFFILIATION.

In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 12, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of US Chess, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or revocation of a member through application of the US Chess Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

SECTION 13. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the membership, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purpose of hearing reports and making suggestions to the Board of Delegates. Twenty-five members present in person shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting. Participation and voting by members at the Annual Membership Meeting shall be limited to those members physically present. Participation through the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE IV: VOTING MEMBERS

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY.

The Voting Members are responsible for electing the Executive Board. Information regarding nominees and voting instructions shall appear in an appropriate issue of *Chess Life* and on the US Chess website.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION.

Members with memberships of less than one year duration at their start are not eligible to become voting members. All other US Chess members are entitled to register as a voting member provided that any voting member must be age 16 or older as of June 30 of the election year. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates are voting members.

SECTION 3. REGISTRATION.

Eligible members who are not already registered as Voting Members must register with the US Chess office by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election, except that all members who are selected as US Chess Delegates, Alternate Delegates or Executive Board members are automatically registered as Voting Members. There is no registration fee. Once registered, a member's status as a Voting Member continues as long as he or she is a member. When a membership lapses, Voting Member status ceases and the member must, after rejoining, again register by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT.

In order to vote in a regular election, registered Voting Members must be US Chess members on May 5th of the election year, for the entire day Central Time.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

1. The eligibility dates for voting in the election shall be part of the call for the special election and should use cutoff dates equivalent to the above based on when the ballots are expected to be received by the voting members.
2. The registration deadline for those not already registered shall be the same as the deadline for the submission of nominating petitions.

SECTION 6. ELECTRONIC VOTING.

If US Chess implements an electronic voting system, voting members may request a paper ballot by writing to the US Chess office prior to May 1st for a regular election or the equivalent cutoff date for a special election.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the approval of the Voting Members is required to amend the Articles of Incorporation. The Board of Directors must present any such amendment for discussion at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates before submitting such amendment to the Voting Members. Amendments will be approved if supported by a 2/3 majority of the Voting Members who cast a vote on the amendment in an election that is called in accordance with the election provisions in the bylaws of US Chess.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DELEGATES

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of US Chess. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of US Chess to determine the policies that shall govern US Chess in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the US Chess Official Rules of Chess, approve the annual budget, approve the sale of real estate owned by US Chess, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by US Chess, establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of US Chess.

SECTION 2. NUMBER.

The Board of Delegates shall be composed of the Executive Board members, the Delegates at Large, and 125 Delegates, apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident US Chess membership as of May 31 of the year prior to Delegate elections, except that each state with thirty or more members must have at least one Delegate. Each state with 1,000 or more US Chess members must have at least two Delegates. In addition, any Executive Board member-elect who is not already a Delegate becomes a Delegate immediately upon certification of the election result.

SECTION 3. ALTERNATE DELEGATES.

There shall be 125 Alternate Delegates, with each state having one Alternate Delegate for each Elected Delegate. All Life Voting Members under previous editions of these Bylaws shall automatically become Additional Alternate Delegates if they are not elected as Delegates.

SECTION 4. SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES.

State Chapters shall designate the initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates for their states, as provided for in Article V, Sections 2 and 3, submitting the Delegates and Alternate Delegates in ordered lists. State Chapters must designate their initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, by November 1 of that year, or as soon thereafter as feasible. The term of each Delegate shall commence on January 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year and thereafter until a successor is selected and qualified.

SECTION 5. MISCELLANEOUS.

A. Vacancies. If one or more Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates from any state are not present or are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, they can be replaced by Alternate Delegates only if the Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates resign in writing, except that for each state, if Alternate Delegates are available to attend the Annual Board of Delegates Meeting, those Delegates who have not picked up their credentials by 9:30am of the first day of the Delegates' meeting will be deemed to have resigned as Delegates and the available Alternate Delegates will become Delegates per the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate gives advance notice of a delay in arrival by signed fax or email or telephone call to the US Chess President or Secretary, such a Delegate or Alternate is not deemed to have resigned unless their credentials are not picked up by 2pm on the first day of the Delegates' meeting. The Delegates deemed to have resigned will only be those equal in number to the available Alternate Delegates and will start with the lowest ranked Delegate on the ordered list per Article V, Section 4.

B. Additions to Ordered List. The state president or senior state officer present may add names to the end of the ordered list for that state for the purpose of seating Delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates, providing the persons added at that time reside in the state being represented or in a state adjacent to it

If a Delegate dies or resigns during the term of office, the vacancy shall be filled for the duration of the term of office in accordance with the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate moves from the state of residence, that person shall be deemed to have resigned as Delegate unless the State Chapter indicates otherwise.

Vacancies in the position of Delegate or Alternate Delegate for any state chapter, including those resulting from the promotion of an Alternate Delegate to Delegate, may be filled by the state chapter for the remainder of the term, provided that such appointments are placed at the end of the ordered list for that state chapter.

If no Delegates or Alternate Delegates are elected by a state, vacancies exist which can be filled by the State Chapter.

C. Executive Board Members as Delegates. Any Executive Board member who completes his or her term without re-election to the Executive Board, remains a Delegate until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates in the year following the completion of the Board term, except that if he has Delegate status for that period under another provision of these Bylaws, this provision shall not apply. Any former Executive Board member receiving Delegate status by the provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be a Delegate on the ordered list of any state and shall not be replaced if he dies or resigns the position.

D. US Chess Membership requirement. Delegates and Alternate Delegates must be members in good standing throughout their terms of office with a grace period of 28 days for renewing a lapsed membership. Notwithstanding, the Delegate must be a member in good standing throughout the Delegates Meeting. A member in good standing is a member whose dues are paid and is not suspended.

E. Current US Chess employees may not serve as Delegates. US Chess employees are accorded the right to speak at the annual Delegates' Meeting.

SECTION 6. ANNUAL MEETING.

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purposes of hearing annual reports, installing officers, and considering other US Chess business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit motions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Advance Delegate Motions. Participation via the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

SECTION 7. SPECIAL DELEGATES MEETING.

Special Delegates meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting. Additional notification may be provided by e-mail or FAX. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the US Chess website at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The special Delegates meeting has authority to act upon advance agenda items but does not have the authority to take action unrelated to the advance agenda items.

All Executive Board members shall have at least 7 days advance notice before the notice of the meeting is sent. Items can only be placed on the advance agenda by the President or any two Executive Board members.

A quorum shall consist of one third of all Delegates and Delegates will be certified in the same manner as at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

If the meeting notice so provides, the meeting can take place by teleconference at advance designated sites announced in the call of the meeting. Delegates must be present in person at a meeting site.

SECTION 8. DELEGATES AT LARGE.

Delegates at Large shall consist of the following:

- A. All US Chess Presidents who have served at least two consecutive years, upon completion of their term and are so elected by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates.
- B. Those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to chess and who are elected by at least a 3/4 vote of the Board of Delegates at two consecutive Annual Meetings by a motion on the advance agenda for both meetings. The number of individuals in this category shall not exceed twenty.
- C. The term of the Delegates at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting at which they achieve Delegate at Large status and continue for three more Annual Meetings. A Delegate at Large whose term is expiring or has expired may be elected to a new term.

SECTION 9. ADDITIONAL DELEGATES.

The US Chess Membership Meeting may elect up to 5 Additional Delegates for a term that expires on June 1 of the following year at the start of the Membership Meeting from persons who are present and have previously served as Delegates in at least one of the last five years.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION.

The Executive Board shall consist of eight members elected for staggered terms of four years. The Executive Director serves as an additional member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but without the right to vote. All members, with the exception of the Executive Director, shall meet the eligibility criteria of section 2 of this Article. All Executive Board members are national officers of US Chess.

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY.

A person shall be eligible to serve, or be nominated as, a member of the Executive Board provided he or she:

- A. Is 18 years of age or older upon taking office.
- B. Holds a current US Chess membership.
- C. Submits to a background check by US Chess.
- D. Is not a full-time or part-time hourly or salaried employee of US Chess, nor a currently paid contractor or consultant working on behalf of or serving US Chess.
- E. Has never been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.
- F. Has not served more than 11 consecutive years as a member of the Executive Board.
- G. Can serve the entire term to which he or she is nominated for without exceeding 11 consecutive years of service on the Executive Board.
- H. Does not share one or more of the following relationships with another member of or candidate for the Executive Board:
 - 1. Direct descendant or ancestor
 - 2. Spouse or partner in a civil union
 - 3. Sibling by birth, marriage, or adoption
 - 4. Adopted children or parent
 - 5. Stepchild or stepparent

SECTION 3. RESPONSIBILITY.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors which is the administrative and managing body of US Chess and is vested with full power to conduct all business of US Chess, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of

Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates. The Executive Board's direction to the staff shall generally be given by the US Chess President.

SECTION 4. MEETINGS.

The Executive Board shall meet at least twice per year, the day and place to be fixed by vote of that Executive Board. Special meetings, including conference telephone calls or Internet conference meetings, may be called by the President or upon the written request of any three members of the Executive Board. Reasonable efforts to notify all Executive Board members of the meeting shall be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail, or other means approved by the Executive Board. The Minutes of all Executive Board meetings shall be posted on the US Chess website within six weeks of each meeting. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the elected members of the Executive Board present in person or participating in a conference telephone call or Internet conference meeting. The affirmative votes of at least three different Executive Board members will be required to approve any action, as long as there are at least four members on the Executive Board.

All open meetings of the Executive Board, including conference calls, shall be recorded in their entirety with a clear record by a means determined by the Executive Board and preserved for six years. All Executive Board members shall receive copies of any recordings of meetings within two weeks of those meetings. Any person wishing to obtain copies of recordings may do so at cost. The public portion of the permanent record will be available on the website within a month of the meeting record.

Executive Board votes may be taken by email provided at least five days are allowed for discussion. As soon as all Executive Board members vote, or the five days have passed, the Board vote is official.

SECTION 5. NOMINATION.

- A. Any person who meets the eligibility criteria in Section 2 of this Article is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission to the Election Committee, by December 31 immediately preceding an election, of the following:
 - 1. A valid nominating petition containing the signatures of fifty (50) or more members who meet the requirements specified in Article IV Section 2 to be eligible to register to vote, of whom, at least fifteen (15) shall be Delegates at the time of signing the petition. The fifteen (15) Delegates must represent at least five (5) different states. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.
 - 2. A filing fee of \$100 made payable to US Chess.
 - 3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.
 - 4. A signed form consenting to a background check to be conducted by US Chess, provided such background check has not already been conducted by a US Chess Nominating Committee.
- B. The Election Committee shall have advertised a call for nominations in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than November 20 of the year prior to an election year and shall publish a list of all duly-submitted nominations in the issue published not later than April 10 of an election year.
- C. Once a candidate is nominated, the candidate may purchase labels of Voting Members at the same rate as affiliates. These labels may only be used for campaign purposes.
- D. Any person who meets the eligibility requirements in Section 2 of this article may run as a write-in candidate for the Executive Board provided, prior to May 1 of an election year he or she submits to the Executive Director:

1. Notification, in writing, of their intent to run as a write-in candidate.
2. A filing fee of \$100.
3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and will serve if elected.
4. A signed form consenting to a background check to be conducted by US Chess.

The Executive Director shall forward the names of such candidates to the Election Committee for certification of eligibility to serve as an Executive Board Member. Upon certification by the Election Committee, said candidates are certified as official write-in candidates, and may purchase mailing labels as specified in Article VI, section 5C of the Bylaws. Upon certification of official write-In candidates, the Election Committee shall promptly notify all nominated candidates of the official write-in candidates.

SECTION 6. ELECTIONS.

- A. Regular Elections.** Executive Board members shall be elected by the Voting Members. At the discretion of the Executive Board, ballots for that purpose shall either be mailed directly or included in an issue of *Chess Life* and mailed prior to June 10. The Election Committee shall, by January 31st of an election year, select the time and place for the counting of the ballots. The ballot instructions shall include this information plus other election regulations. For a special election, the time and place shall be determined prior to issuing the call for the special election. Electronic voting may be used in addition to mailed ballots or ballots in *Chess Life*. The ballot shall list all duly submitted nominations. Each voting member may vote for as many persons as there are Executive Board positions to be filled. The persons receiving the largest vote totals shall be elected to the available Executive Board positions. The ballots shall be returned by mail to an independent agency, and counted by an independent agency, or by the Election Committee, or by tellers appointed by the Election Committee prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. Ties, if any, shall be broken by a secret ballot vote of the Delegates present in person at that year's Delegates meeting, taken at the time that election results are certified.
- B. Special Elections.** The Election Committee will decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for candidate petition filings and the date for mailing the ballots via *Chess Life* or direct mail. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Executive Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.
- C.** Ballots shall be authenticated by use of voting member information to be provided with or printed on the ballots. All properly authenticated ballots that have been received by the date designated for counting the ballots shall be counted. The Election Committee shall designate an address for the return of ballots at the time the date of counting ballots is set.

SECTION 7. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS.

At an organizational meeting immediately following the conclusion of the Delegates' Meeting at which regularly scheduled Executive Board election results are certified, the Executive Board shall elect among itself the following officers: President, Vice President, and Vice President for Finance. The term of each officer shall be for one year, except that upon a vote of 2/3 of its membership, the Executive Board may at any time meet

in person or by teleconference and elect new officers. A vacancy in the office of President shall be immediately filled by the Vice President. A vacancy in another office elected by the Executive Board shall be filled by majority vote either temporarily until the Executive Board meeting following the next Delegates' Meeting or for the full unexpired portion of the office's term as the Executive Board shall choose. The Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a person to fulfill the functions of Secretary.

SECTION 8. TERMS OF OFFICE.

The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting. No individual shall serve more than eleven consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as US Chess President more than four consecutive years.

To implement the transition of term lengths from three to four years, the following will apply to those elected in the 2021 regular Executive Board election and thereafter. The terms of those elected prior to the adoption of this implementation schedule will be observed as they were defined by the Bylaws at the time of their election.

- A.** 2021: Two Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms that expire in 2025. One will be elected to a two-year term that expires in 2023.
- B.** 2022: Two Executive Board members will be elected to three-years terms that expire in 2025.
- C.** 2023 and odd numbered years thereafter: Four Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms.

SECTION 9. DUTIES.

- A. President.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, and Executive Board; carry out all requirements of these Bylaws, represent US Chess officially on occasion, and report annually to the Board of Delegates.
- B. Vice President.** The Vice President shall execute the duties of the President when the President is unable to serve and perform such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or the President on its behalf.
- C. Vice President for Finance.** The Vice President for Finance shall obtain records of the financial affairs of US Chess, report to the Board of Delegates, and counsel and assist the Executive Board on financial affairs. The Vice President for Finance shall review and have the right to comment on all financial reports, including all financial information presented in interim and annual reports, prior to publication and release.
- D. Members at Large.** Members-at-Large of the Executive Board shall have such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or by the President on behalf of the Executive Board or as prescribed by these Bylaws.

SECTION 10. VACANCIES.

If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Board, the Executive Board may decide to fill the vacancy by a Special Election in accordance with Art. VI, Section 6B. If three or more vacancies occur, the Executive Board will instruct the Election Committee to hold a Special Election in accordance with Section 6B.

SECTION 11. CANDIDATE STATEMENTS AND ADVERTISING.

Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to submit a 150-word statement and photograph for publication in the

issue of *Chess Life* to be published no later than April 10 of the election year. Election supplements shall accompany or be inserted in issues of *Chess Life* published no later than May 10 and June 10 of the election year. Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other US Chess publications is prohibited. Any candidate for the US Chess Executive Board who is currently a party against US Chess in a lawsuit must disclose that fact in their *Chess Life* statement. Failure to disclose such a lawsuit would be grounds for immediate recall. The candidate will be allowed an additional 50 words in their first candidate's statement in *Chess Life* for this purpose.

SECTION 12. RECALLS.

- A. The Delegates may initiate a recall of an elected Executive Board member by a 2/3 majority vote of a motion on the advance agenda of an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting, by a 3/4 majority vote of a motion not on the advance agenda of an Annual Delegates Meeting, or by petitions signed by 2/3 of the Delegates in lieu of a meeting of the Board of Delegates. Each signature on a recall petition must be dated and no signature can be dated more than five months before the date that the petitions are submitted to the US Chess Secretary for validation.
- B. Recall of an elected Executive Board member may be initiated by petitions signed by 10% of the registered voters based on the number of registered voters at the end of the most recent fiscal year, i.e., May 31. The US Chess Secretary shall have one week from the date the petition is received by the US Chess Office to determine if a recall petition is valid. A recall may not be initiated on a Board member during the last six months of that member's term of office. Once a recall motion has been passed or a recall petition certified as valid, a recalled Executive Board member shall be given 15 days to decide whether to resign or to be the subject of a recall election. If the recalled Executive Board member resigns, the recall motion or petition becomes moot upon the resignation of the Board member.
- C. The recall motion must give the reasons for recall in a total, motion plus reason, of no more than 500 words. The motion and reasons, together with an optional statement of no more than 500 words by the Board member being recalled, shall be mailed by US Chess to all registered voters along with the recall ballot.
- D. To be affirmed, the recall shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the registered voters participating in a recall election, such election to be held under conditions similar to those for regular or special Executive Board elections. Only voters who vote for or against the recall are considered to be participating. At least 500 Voting Members must participate in the recall election in order for the results to be valid. If the Board member being recalled is serving as the US Chess Secretary, the Executive Board shall appoint another Board member to serve as the Secretary for the purposes of conducting the recall election.
- E. If the motion or petition recalling the Board member does not specify a date for the recall election voting to begin, the Executive Board shall schedule such an election to commence no more than 60 days after the recall motion is passed by the Delegates or the recall petitions are certified. The date for counting the votes in the recall election shall be no more than 35 days after the day that voting is expected to begin. Until the votes in the recall election are counted, the recalled Executive Board member retains all rights and privileges of a Board member. Once the recall votes are counted, if the recall is affirmed the Board member is immediately removed from the Executive Board and a vacancy exists on the Executive Board.

SECTION 13. RESTRICTIONS.

Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as paid US Chess employees, paid consultants or as vendors of goods or services to US Chess during their actual tenure on the Executive Board and for a period of one year after the board service ends.

Except as noted below, this shall not affect a board member's ability to organize or direct US Chess-rated events or to serve as an officer or owner of a US Chess affiliate. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as the chief TD of US Chess National events during their tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends for all national events except for the US Open. Elected members of the Executive Board may not be awarded the bid to serve as the organizer of a US Chess national event (or as an officer or owner of a US Chess affiliate serving as the organizer of a US Chess national event) during their actual tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends unless the agreement to serve as the organizer of that national event was signed prior to that person's becoming a candidate for election to the Executive Board. State chapter and not-for-profit Affiliates with Board members who are also on their board are exempt from this restriction. In unusual circumstances, elected Executive Board members may be assigned tasks dealing with day-to-day operations of US Chess. No compensation for these tasks beyond the reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses may be paid.

An Executive Board member who is a party to litigation or arbitration filed by that Executive Board member against US Chess or by US Chess against that Executive Board member, shall abstain from voting on any action concerning the litigation or arbitration, shall have no right to be present during any portion of an Executive Board meeting in which the litigation or arbitration is discussed, and shall have no right to access attorney-client or work-product privileged information concerning or relating to that litigation or arbitration, regardless of whether the litigation or arbitration is still pending.

Unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law, each member of the Executive Board waives any right to file a lawsuit (including but not limited to a lawsuit seeking a jury trial) against US Chess, the US Chess Executive Board members or US Chess employees, and must instead submit a mandatory arbitration to be conducted by the American Arbitration Association. The arbitration award will be final and binding upon the parties to that arbitration. The location of any such arbitration shall be solely in the city in which US Chess is headquartered at the time of filing of the arbitration notice.

SECTION 14. WEBSITE ACCESS.

Executive Board members and candidates for the Executive Board are subject to the same rules, restrictions and sanctions as other US Chess members with regards to information posted by them on the US Chess website, such as in the US Chess Forums. This includes the option of temporarily or permanently banning an EB member or candidate from posting. The Election Committee may, at its discretion and convenience, post all candidate statements as they appear in *Chess Life* on the US Chess website.

ARTICLE VII: OTHER OFFICERS, APPOINTEES, AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board shall appoint an Executive Director. The Executive Board shall also give approval to the hiring of a chief financial officer (CFO) and a communications director by the Executive Director. The Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a person to fulfill the functions of Secretary.

- A. Secretary.** The Secretary shall review Minutes of all Executive Board meetings, Delegates' meetings, and Membership meetings. The Secretary shall post these Minutes, after Executive Board review, on the US Chess website within six weeks for each meeting. Printed copies of the Minutes of the Membership Meeting and Delegates' Meeting of the previous year, and of all Special Delegates' meetings and Executive Board meetings held thereafter, shall be available at the Delegates' meetings. The Executive Board shall determine a means of recording all meetings. The Secretary shall act as the custodian of the corporate seal, ensure that the annual report is filed with the Secretary of State of the state of Illinois, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Bylaws.

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF APPOINTEES.

The duties of Officers appointed by the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and other Executive Board appointees shall be set forth in written memoranda by the Executive Board. Copies of said memoranda shall be added to the minutes for dissemination to the Delegates.

SECTION 3. COMMITTEES.

- A.** The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following Standing Committees:
- 1. Audit Committee.** The Audit Committee shall consist of four persons; the Vice President for Finance as a non-voting member and three members elected by the delegates from among the delegates and alternate delegates who are knowledgeable in accounting matters such as (but not limited to) a certified public accountant (CPA), a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) or someone who has substantial experience in the public or private sectors. No other member of the Executive Board may be a member of the Audit Committee. The duties of the Committee shall be:
 - a.** To advise the EB on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors, and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.
 - b.** To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.
 - c.** To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)
 - d.** To consider and advise the EB on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.
 - e.** To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management's response and to promote coordination between the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the EB and the Delegates accordingly.
 - f.** To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors' Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses, and to advise the EB accordingly.
 - g.** To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.
 - h.** To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.
 - i.** To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the implementation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports, and management letters and to advise the EB accordingly.

- j.** To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.
 - k.** To advise the Executive Director, as requested.
 - l.** To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.
 - m.** To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates
- 2. Bylaws Committee.** The Bylaws Committee shall choose its own chair.
 - 3. Election Committee.** The Election Committee shall consist of 4 members appointed by the Delegates. Alternate members may also be appointed who would replace any member of the committee who resigns or otherwise leaves the committee. The committee is responsible for the conduct of and shall preside over Federation elections. No member of the Election Committee may be a candidate for the US Chess Executive Board during his or her service on the Election Committee. No member of the Election Committee may serve on a Nominating Committee, sign nominating petitions for any candidate for the Executive Board, campaign on behalf of any candidate, or make an endorsement for or against any candidate for the Executive Board. The Committee shall choose its own Chair.
 - 4. Ethics Committee.** The Ethics Committee shall choose its own chair.
- B.** The Delegates may appoint any other committees as needed. The Executive Board may appoint such subcommittees of the Board or committees as it deems appropriate.
- C.** Except as provided elsewhere, in the event of a vacancy on a Delegate-appointed Committee, the committee and Executive Board may appoint a replacement. Such appointment requires a 2/3 majority of each the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.
- D.** No individual member can chair more than one of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.
- E.** No individual other than the Vice President-Finance can serve on more than two of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

SECTION 4. COUNSEL.

Legal Counsel shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY.

None of the National Officers (including members of the Executive Board and Executive Director) shall be officers of other sports organizations recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as a national governing body.

ARTICLE VIII: ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS.

SECTION 1. STATE CHAPTERS.

Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all Federation purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all Federation purposes) shall be entitled to have an affiliate designated as the State Chapter, provided that any state having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines. Credentials of affiliates applying for designation as State Chapter for any state without a current State Chapter submitted before June 1, or for any state with a current State Chapter submitted

before March 1, shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. Credentials submitted after the deadline shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS.

Each State Chapter shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chess players within its state. Each State Chapter shall nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V, Section 4 of these Bylaws. Each State Chapter shall fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may from time to time designate.

SECTION 3. AFFILIATES.

Any organization of chess players may affiliate with US Chess upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chess players who are exclusively scholastic players may affiliate with US Chess as a Scholastic Affiliate upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chess players who are incarcerated in a penal institution may affiliate with US Chess as a Prison Affiliate upon the payment of the fee of \$15 per year. Affiliation does not constitute the affiliate as an agent of US Chess for any purpose.

SECTION 4. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each affiliate shall:

- A. receive a subscription to *Chess Life*.
- B. be entitled to conduct US Chess-rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules.
- C. be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the US Chess headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.

SECTION 5. REVOCATION.

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

ARTICLE IX: SUNDRY BYLAWS

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY.

These Bylaws have been adopted by the Delegates under the authority of the charter issued to the United States of America Chess Federation by the State of Illinois.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates' advance agenda shall require a 2/3 majority vote to pass.

SECTION 3. OFFICE.

The registered office of US Chess shall be at such address in the State of Illinois as is designated by the Executive Board.

SECTION 4. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

US Chess is the official USA unit of FIDE and shall be represented officially in all FIDE affairs by a Permanent Delegate appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. PUBLICATIONS.

Chess Life, a periodical, or its successor publication, is designated an official publication.

SECTION 6. FISCAL PERIOD.

The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31.

SECTION 7. FUND DEPOSITORIES AND DISBURSEMENTS.

All funds, other than Life Member Assets, shall be deposited in one or more federally insured depositories, or other vehicles approved by the Executive Board, disburseable only by withdrawal authorized by two or more of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director, and such senior staff as the Executive Board shall designate. The Executive Board may authorize petty cash accounts, whose amounts may not exceed \$500.00, and disburseable only by check signed by one of the above, or any two employees approved by the Executive Board.

SECTION 8. ACCOUNTANTS.

Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review US Chess' accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

SECTION 9. ENCUMBRANCE.

- A. No asset of US Chess may be encumbered without the approval of the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, except as provided in Section 10 below, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director.
- B. Any land and/or buildings, owned by US Chess cannot be sold, encumbered, liened, or mortgaged, in any fashion, without approval by the Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, except as provided in Section 10 below.

SECTION 10. LIFE MEMBER ASSETS MANAGEMENT.

When a trust has been established for the management of Life Member assets, the trust can only be revoked or amended by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or Special Delegates' Meeting provided that a proposal to revoke is included in the Delegates' advance agenda. Upon revocation all assets will revert to US Chess.

SECTION 11.

US Chess will publish an annual report within four months of the end of the fiscal year. The report will contain, among other things, a complete presentation of the audited financial statements.

SECTION 12. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Each member of the Board of Delegates, Executive Board, national officer (hereinafter "officer"), and employee of the corporation now or hereafter serving as such, shall be indemnified by the corporation against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such delegate, director, officer, or employee or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him or her as such a director, officer, or employee; and the corporation shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any such liability, provided, however, that indemnification shall be limited to cases in which such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal act or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and provided further, however, that as a member of the Board of Delegates such a person shall only be indemnified for his or her acts or omissions at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Board of Delegates and not for any local or other activities.

To the extent that a delegate, director, officer, or employee of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Any indemnification against any and all claims (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the delegate, director, officer, or employee, is proper in the circumstances because he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Such determination shall be made (A) by the Board of Delegates by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of delegates who were not parties to such action, suit, proceeding, or claim, or (B) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable, a quorum of disinterested delegates so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

The right of indemnification herein above provided for shall not be exclusive of any rights to which any delegate, director, officer, or employee of the corporation may otherwise be entitled by law, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a delegate, director, officer, or employee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a delegate, director, officer, or employee, or agent of the corporation, against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this article.

SECTION 13. RATIFICATION OF VOIDABLE ACTS.

Any transaction questioned in any suit brought by any member on the grounds of lack of authority, defective or irregular execution, adverse interest of any director, officer, employee, or member, nondisclosure, miscomputation, or the application of improper principles or practices of accounting may be ratified before or after judgment by the Board of Directors and, if so ratified, shall have the same force and effect as if the questioned transaction had been originally duly authorized, and said ratification shall be binding upon the corporation and its members and shall constitute a bar to any claim or execution of any judgment in respect of such questioned transaction.

Notes

[illegible]

SECTION 14. RELIANCE ON RECORDS.

Each director, officer, Delegate, or employee shall in the performance of his or her duties be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or reports made to the corporation by any of its officials, or by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care by the Board of Delegates, or in relying in good faith upon other records of the corporation.

SECTION 15. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be used at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, Executive Board, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules which have been adopted.

SECTION 16. NON-DISCRIMINATION.

US Chess shall comply with all laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law with respect to chess tournaments sponsored by the organization.

SECTION 17. NATIONAL TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS AS US CHESS EMPLOYEES.

For purposes of the bylaws, a tournament director at a National Tournament who is not already a US Chess employee shall not be considered a US Chess employee.

SECTION 18. MODIFICATION OF THE OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

A change of U.S. Chess Federation's Rules of Chess shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the Delegates present to pass. All rule changes must be approved at two consecutive delegates meetings. No amendments may be made at the second meeting. The one year waiting period can be overridden by an 85% vote.

SECTION 19. SEVERABILITY.

If a court of competent jurisdiction shall hold a portion of these Bylaws to be invalid, the remainder of the Bylaws not so held invalid shall remain in full force and effect.

Revision Date: 09/30/2020

ROBERT'S RULES SUMMARY

Activity	You Say This	May you interrupt speaker?	Must you be seconded?	Is motion debatable?	What vote is required?
Introduce Business	I move that	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	I move that this motion be amended by....	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have something studied further	I move we refer this matter to committee	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Postpone consideration of something	I move we postpone this matter until....	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
End debate in order to vote	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Suspend further consideration of something	I move that we table....	No	Yes	No	Majority
Complain about something (noise, room temp., etc.)	Point of privilege	Yes	No	No	No vote
Recess the meeting	I move that we recess until ...	No	Yes	No	Majority
Adjourn the meeting	I move that we adjourn	No	Yes	No	Majority
Object to procedure	Point of order	Yes	No	No	No vote; Chair decides
Request information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No vote
Ask for vote by actual count to verify a voice vote	I call for a division of the house	No	No	No	No vote
Object to considering some undiplomatic matter	I object to consideration of this question	Yes	No	No	2/3 vote
Take up a matter previously tabled	I move to take from the table...	No	Yes	No	Majority
Reconsider something already disposed of	I move we reconsider our action relative to	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	I move we suspend the rules and consider ...	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	I appeal the chair's decision	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The complete document, "Robert's Rules of Order: A Guide for US Chess Delegates," can be found at this link: http://www.uschess.org/docs/gov/reports/Roberts_Rules_Summary.pdf and is a simplified selection of key points from *Robert's Rules of Order*, Newly Revised, 11th Edition, ISBN-13: 978-0306820205.

SCHEDULE FOR 2021 U.S. OPEN WORKSHOPS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR UPDATES, PLEASE VISIT:

<http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2021/usopen/>

Time	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM
WEDNESDAY August 4		States & Affiliates	Communications	Lunch	U.S. Open	TDCC	TDCC Exam Structuring	TDCC Problem Solving
	FIDE Events	National Invitationals			Scholastic			
THURSDAY August 5	Executive Board CLOSED	Executive Board OPEN			Senior	Accessibility & Special Circ.	Rules	
						Development		US Chess Trust
FRIDAY August 6	Bylaws		Nominating Committee Info Session		College Chess	CJA	Staff Forum / General Membership Meeting	Awards Reception
	Clubs	Programs	Ethics		Finance / LMA Trust			
SATURDAY August 7	Delegates Meeting				Delegates Meeting			
SUNDAY August 8	Delegates Meeting					Executive Board CLOSED		

THURSDAY, August 5, US Chess Trust Meeting 4:00-6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, August 6, Awards Reception Open to All 4:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, August 8 Executive Board Meeting (CLOSED) 2:00 p.m.
and Executive Board Meeting (OPEN) 6:00 p.m.**

**** Workshop Schedule Subject to Change - For updates, please visit
<http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2021/usopen/> ****