

Charter: US Chess Committee for Military Chess

Implemented on (11-11-18)

Background: The Military Chess Committee is appointed by the US Chess Executive Board (EB). Military Chess has a long-time association with the US Chess Federation (US Chess) and has covered activities within and among the military services, as well as events at the national and international levels.

Purpose: The purpose of this committee is to develop and implement initiatives that promote chess and grow the game among active duty service men and women, reservists, retirees, military academy and college ROTC cadets, and former members (veterans) of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Objectives:

- Advise the EB on all military chess related activities.
- Advocate military chess in all US Chess activities as appropriate.
- Organize execution of the annual US Armed Forces Open Chess Championships (USAFO), which shall rotate annually among the Army, Navy, Air Force and US Marine Corps, including timely designation of an appropriate organizing committee chairperson for the next USAFO.
- Organize US representation in international military chess events such as, but not limited to, the annual NATO Chess Championships.
- Develop and promulgate guidance applicable to all chess associated with the US Armed Forces.

Committee Composition: The committee shall consist of at least 5 persons (an odd number is strongly preferred), with at least one member representing each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces—e.g. U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force. A representative from the U.S. Coast Guard is desired, as is one representative from each of the Service Academies (Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard). Representatives may be active duty, reservists, retired, or academy cadets. Persons nominated to serve must be willing to participate in email discussions, phone conferences, and a Yahoo/Google communications group. Participation in the “Military Chess Workshop” during the annual US Open (in person or by phone) is strongly desired. The structure of the committee shall include:

- A Chairperson, who usually is from the lead service for the calendar year’s USAFO.
- A Co-Chair, who represents any service other than the service represented by the Chairperson.
- At least 3 persons from the services (incl. Coast Guard) to represent military branches other than the two represented by the Chair and Co-Chair.

Members of the Committee do not speak for or act as agents of US Chess.

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

Committee Operations: The Committee shall elect its own Chair each year during the week of the U.S. Open. The Chair shall serve for a minimum of one year and can be re-elected, but shall not serve more than 3 consecutive years. The Chair sets meeting agendas and times for committee meetings. As appropriate, committee business shall adhere to the norms of Roberts Rules of Order, with matters for decision being voted upon by the committee. The Chair shall submit an annual report to US Chess through the EB Liaison(s) in time for publication in or distribution with the annual Delegates Call. The Chair shall work with the appointed EB Liaison(s) and Office Liaison to communicate military chess issues with US Chess. Except as authorized by the Chairperson, committee members shall not discuss or otherwise share information about ongoing committee business with persons external to the committee.