



P.O. BOX 3967
CROSSVILLE, TN 38557
(931) 787-1234
www.uschess.org

Rulebook changes since the 7th edition

Rulebook Changes

Compiled by Tim Just

(2020)

Since the publication of the 7th edition of the US Chess rulebook, changes have been made in US Chess rules. Below is a collection of those changes. Any additions or corrections can be sent to US Chess.

A FREE on-line and downloadable version of the rules, chapters 1+2+10+11 only, digested from the 7th edition rulebook are available [HERE](#).

Summary of 2020 US Chess Rules Changes

11D: Added wording regarding the timing of the claim and when the 2-minute penalty does or does not apply. Deleted a “See also” reference to a no longer existing rule and a TD TIP was added.

11D1: Deleted extraneous wording and a “See also” reference to a no longer existing rule.

Chapter 7 TD Certification added online certification rules.

Chapter 10 Internet Chess is all new.

Rules Changes 2020

11D. Illegal move.

If a player completes an illegal move by pressing the clock, in addition to the usual obligation to make a legal move with the touched piece if possible, the standard penalty specified in rule 1C2a applies (~~i.e. two minutes added to the opponent's clock~~). **If the opponent has completed a move subsequent to the illegal move, the standard penalty shall not apply. See also 11J, Deliberate illegal moves and 16D1, Illegal moves.**

TD TIP: *A player should make sure to claim an illegal move made by his opponent before completing his next move, in order to be eligible to receive the additional time.*

Rules Changes Effective starting on 8-21-20 and beyond

11D1. Illegal move in time pressure.

Time pressure is defined as a situation where either player has less than five minutes left in a time control and the time control does not include an increment or delay of 30 seconds or more. A director should not call attention to illegal moves in *time pressure*, only the players may make that claim. If, during the game, in time pressure, a player's claim that one of either player's last two moves was illegal is upheld by the TD, the position shall be reinstated to what it was before the illegal move and the procedure in rule [11A](#) shall be followed ~~with no adjustment to the time on the clocks.~~ **See also** ~~16D1, Illegal moves;~~ 11H, Director corrects illegal move in non-sudden death; and 11J, Deliberate illegal moves.