

Charter: US Chess States and Affiliates Committee

Background:

On August 5th, 2018, the Executive Board established the States and Affiliates Committee (SAC).

Mission:

The mission of the SAC is to advise the EB on matters related to the activities of US Chess State Chapters and all US Chess affiliates to enhance their ability to serve US Chess members. When necessary, the committee reviews claims or appeals submitted to US Chess involving allegations against State Chapters or affiliates, making recommendations on appropriate resolution to the EB.

Activities, Duties, and Responsibilities:

- ***Collaborate with the ByLaws Committee*** with regard to the functions, duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of State Chapters and affiliates.
- ***Review claims or appeals submitted to US Chess involving allegations of State Chapter or affiliate misconduct*** to determine whether the issue requires further examination. Where warranted, examine such matters independently, or in collaboration with other US Chess committees. After considering a case, provide findings and recommendations to the EB. The method for handling such cases should parallel procedures already in use by the Ethics, Rules and Tournament Director Certification committees.
- ***Define the roles and responsibilities of an affiliate, helping to articulate them in future editions of the Rules of Chess*** or other appropriate US Chess publications. Lead the development of educational materials for affiliates that addresses roles and responsibilities, best practices, and general guidelines related to organizing and running tournaments, and the common pitfalls affiliates need to avoid.
- ***Provide guidance to State chapters and affiliates*** when they pose questions to US Chess or to the committee.
- ***Organize and host an annual “States & Affiliates Committee Workshop”*** during the US Open.
- ***Submit an annual report*** to US Chess in time for publication in, or distribution with, the annual Delegates Call.

Structure:

The committee shall consist of no more than thirteen (13) members, two of whom serve as Co-Chairs. The EB will appoint (or reappoint) Co-Chairs annually, and will consider the committee’s recommendation for both positions. The committee may appoint its own Secretary. No more than 2 committee members shall be from the same state. At least half of the SAC members shall meet one of the following minimum qualifications at the time of their appointment to the committee:

- Owner of an active US Chess Affiliate for 5 of the past 7 years, or
- An active member of one or more affiliates as a tournament director, organizer or board member for 5 of the past 7 years

Operations:

The Co-Chairs shall set meeting topics and times, using email as the primary means of communication. Matters for decision shall be voted upon by the committee. In general, the SAC shall strive to complete matters under investigation within 120 days from the date the committee “accepts jurisdiction,” unless resolution is tied to the completion of investigations in other US Chess committees or the respondents provide reasonable rationale for additional response time. All SAC operations are considered “confidential” and shall not be discussed outside the committee with any persons other than the Chairs of committees with which the SAC must coordinate, the US Chess Executive Board (EB) Liaison(s), the EB President, or the Executive Director. The committee shall maintain and archive its materials using cloud forums such as Yahoo or Google Groups, or a similar capability provided by US Chess.

Budget and Resources:

The SAC does not have an operating budget. 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.