

US CHESS STATE CHAPTER SURVEY
SUMMARY OF RESPONSES AND KEY FINDINGS

Prepared by the
States and Affiliates Committee

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Executive Summary

The US Chess States and Affiliates Committee (SAC) conducted a survey of State Chapters to identify future educational materials that address their roles and responsibilities. Specifically, we asked each State Chapter how they approached the ten items listed in the Delegates Action of Continuing Interest (DACI) 1991-27 State Chapter Requirements and Responsibilities.

SAC was very pleased to have 44 State Chapters respond. We were impressed with the quality and depth of some of the activities that many of the State Chapters were performing. Not unexpectedly, there were also duties from the DACI that some State Chapters admittedly were struggling with. Finally, there are perhaps some duties listed in the DACI that are no longer current with the contemporary tools and practices that State Chapters are utilizing.

SAC's complete assessment of the State Chapter DACI responses are identified within the full report. In our learning of State Chapter performance, responses to these three DACI requirements and recommendations were the most informative.

State Chapter Bylaws

The Importance of robust State Chapter Bylaws was most evident in the strongest, most active affiliates. We observed more struggles in State Chapters where bylaws were general, such as with a "purpose statement." Well-written purpose statements included objectives such as "work with schools and affiliates," "organizing statewide tournaments," and "educating players about chess" compared to "promote chess" and "grow chess," which are less actionable. Similarly, we also saw some State Chapters with very active boards and membership that included specific meeting schedules within their bylaws.

Tournament Promotion and Coordination

DACI Item 6 recommends that State Chapters sponsor and hold (or arrange for) other chess tournaments throughout the State, which we saw very positive actions across all responses. However, the latter part of this DACI recommendation is for State Chapters to be involved in tournament coordination within the State and with the USCF Tournament Clearinghouse. Here we saw quite varied responses to the "clearinghouse" approach where some states only focus on the larger events, some states work together regionally, and yet other states primarily rely on tournament posting sites such as the US Chess TLAs, State Chapter websites, and/or tournament registration websites. Again, State Chapters with bylaws addressing the responsibility for this duty seem to have the most well throughout approaches. This is an area where the DACI may need to be updated to reflect current innovative practices.

Women's Chess Coordinator

The final recommended practice on the DACI list is to designate a coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state. We definitely saw an impressive effort by State Chapters to implement practices to achieve this goal and many combinative efforts have proven successful. While it seems intuitive to do so, the person does not have to be female. Persons filling the position may have another role within the State Chapter such as the President or the Scholastic Coordinator. We read of one state that has a women's chess advisor to the state board and another affiliate coordinating with a 501c(3) to fund women's and girls' chess.

Future SAC Actions

SAC is committed to using this highly valuable input from State Chapters to develop future educational materials. We intend to share and review this report with State Chapters to gain further clarification on the survey responses. With that, we are hopeful to learn of many more best practices that were not communicated through the survey. SAC will then seek to prioritize the greatest needs and develop a 2025 work plan to build educational materials aligned with those needs. This includes recognizing best practices that can be shared with other State Chapters where appropriate.

SAC also would like to pursue interest with the US Chess Delegates and Executive Board in "modernizing" some of the requirements and recommendations as written in the DACI, the specifics of which have been identified in this report.

US CHESS STATE CHAPTER SURVEY

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES AND KEY FINDINGS

Purpose

The Charter for the States and Affiliates Committee (SAC) lists several duties. Historically, this has been seen as a committee that hears complaints against state and local affiliates of US Chess. But SAC also has a very important duty to educate as well. SAC's charter (Appendix A), approved by the US Chess Executive Board, also directs SAC to, "Lead the development of educational materials to affiliates that address roles and responsibilities, best practices, and general guidelines related to organizing and running tournaments, and the common pitfalls affiliates need to avoid." (EB Motion 18-025)

Our first step in developing educational materials was to first understand what is needed. Rather than rely solely on anecdotal information, or even just complaints, SAC sought to be proactive and ask all State Chapters how they are functioning. While there are certainly many duties of a state chapter, SAC focused our inquiry by asking how State Chapters were approaching the DACI 1992-27 Requirements and Recommendations. From there we looked for areas of best practice among State Chapters to share and areas where State Chapters may have specific needs that SAC could offer assistance.

Survey Approach

The SAC Workgroup developed a survey asking how State Chapters approached the 10 requirements and recommendations specified in the DACI 1992-27 Requirements and Recommendations (hereafter referred to as State Chapter duties). This survey was sent out by US Chess staff on behalf of the States and Affiliates Committee (SAC). Responses were collected by the US Chess staff, vetted, and then forwarded to SAC for our review.

The survey purpose was stated in our cover letter to the State Chapter affiliates.

"On behalf of the US Chess Federation (US Chess) States and Affiliates Committee, we are reaching out to the State Chapter affiliates to identify needs in the State Chapter community

Our first step in developing educational materials is to first understand what is needed. To know that, we seek to understand how State Chapters are functioning with respect to the US Chess Bylaws and DACI 1991-27. From there we will look for areas of best practice among State Chapters to share. While this will certainly be valuable to all State Chapters, we hope that those State Chapters with a gap in meeting a specific State Chapter Requirement or

Recommendation will have an identified pool of state chapter best practices to draw upon.”

US Chess staff first sent this survey to all state chapters on November 22, 2023. Over the next few months, US Chess sent reminder emails until March 10, 2024, when we closed the survey to begin analysis. SAC was very pleased to receive a total of 44 state chapter responses including the two state chapter affiliates from California and the one state chapter from the District of Columbia. We did receive multiple responses from a few states by different officers and anecdotally heard from one state officer that they had submitted although we did not have a record of the response. Also, not every question received a response from each state chapter. So, although 44 State Chapters responded, not all questions received 44 responses.

Survey Questions

While listed as 10 requirements and recommendations, several of the duties listed in the DACI actually have multiple parts. So, where appropriate, these parts were broken out so that the State Chapter could respond separately to each part. The questions remained numbered one through ten and each subpart was identified alphanumerically. This created a total of 21 questions albeit many questions required only a “yes/no” response. The complete survey questionnaire is included in Appendix B.

Analysis

With the large number of responses received to the ten State Chapter duties, a five-person SAC subcommittee was formed and supported by US Chess staff.

Review of the responses was divided by question so that each subcommittee member reviewed all responses to a specific response. After summarizing the individual State Chapter responses, the reviewer then created a short summary identifying up to three strengths, three opportunities, and any best practices that other state chapters may benefit from. The review summary was then returned to the subcommittee chair, compiled, and shared with the entire subcommittee for review and comment. Subcommittee members were asked to identify anything stated in the responses of their assigned questions that may contribute to another question. This was particularly relevant when a question may have been divided into parts or otherwise came out in later related DACI specified state chapter duty. The additional comments were then reviewed, accepted or rejected, until a final summary with Strengths, Opportunities, and Notable Practices were agreed upon.

Approach

SAC highlights the primary strengths of the State Chapter affiliates as a system of governance for each DACI listed duty. We made every attempt not to identify individual state chapters with

the exception of notable practices that we wanted to recognize. The one exception where a notable practice may be called out.

We break out State Chapter requirements and recommendations under separate headings, emphasizing the importance of the DACI requirements. Finally, our conclusions are based solely on those State Chapters who responded. We did not in any way count missing responses toward or against conformance with the DACI. So, percentages stated are in general values (e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, etc.) of only of those 44 responses received.

Implementation of State Chapter Duties

A Delegate Action of Continuing Interest (DACI) was originally approved by the membership in 1991 specifying State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations. Abbreviated as DACI 1991-27, it has subsequently been amended in 2010, 2016, 2016, 2017, and 2022. The current DACI 1991-27, as amended is included in Appendix C.

DACI Requirements (Q1 - Q4)

The first four items of the DACI are listed as required duties of each State Chapter.

Dues (Q1)

Is the affiliate current on its membership dues?

Strengths

All but one state responded that they were up-to-date on their payment of dues with one state chapter identifying as “pending.”

Delegates (Q2)

Has the affiliate certified in writing to the USCF Secretary by May 1 (prior to the Annual Delegates' Meeting)? Are the delegates US Chess Members? Was the delegate selection process identified in the letter to US Chess?

Strengths

Ninety percent stated that they have or are in the process of certifying in writing their delegates to the USCF Secretary. As this survey was completed well before the May 1 deadline, we find that this requirement was met despite the “pending” status.

Areas to Further Support

Interestingly, nearly half of the state chapters could not state that their delegates were current US Chess members. Additionally, more than half of the states did not identify the delegate selection process letter in the certification letter to US Chess (many left this question unanswered).

State Championship (Q3)

Does the affiliate directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship? What was the starting date of the most recent State Championship?

Strengths

All reporting state affiliates indicated they either hold or sponsor state championship events. All State Affiliates believe they have a responsibility to arrange a process for selecting a State Champion each year. Although the means of doing so varies, most State Chapter affiliates are successfully executing their plans. COVID was a disruptive intrusion but that problem is now in the past.

Areas to Further Support

DACI lists the duty for the overall state championship under Item #3 as a requirement while the duties for scholastic championships are listed as a recommendation under Item #5. This did create some confusion as to how State Chapters may have responded. While states may be offered leeway in selecting champions, we found at least one example of a prominent state chapter identifying their state champion as the highest rated player. There remain various intermittent reasons that a few states have challenges with hosting a state championship (e.g. population or geography). This leads SAC to conclude that given the importance of this duty, there may still be a need to provide some support to State Chapters holding an annual state championship.

Bylaws or Articles of Association (Q4)

Does the affiliate have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or articles of association?

Organization Structure (Q4a)

Do the bylaws specify the governing authority and their selection?

Strengths

Perhaps the most demanding of the four DACI requirements for a State Chapter is having a formal organizational structure. Most chapters established a set of by laws although a few identified a "constitution."

Of the state affiliates who discussed meeting requirements for their annual membership meeting, fifteen scheduled this meeting in conjunction with one of their larger tournaments, most typically their state championship.

Notable Practices

Although not asked, some chapters disclosed their corporate status such as a non-profit recognized by the IRS under 501c(3) of the IRS tax code.

Meeting Schedule (Q4b)

Do the bylaws specify a meeting schedule? Please describe the meeting schedule as stated in the affiliate bylaws?

Strengths

Most State Chapter Boards meet at least annually but some responded with a more frequent meeting schedule (e.g. quarterly, bimonthly, or monthly).

Areas to Further Support

While previously stated, almost all State Chapters have bylaws. It appears at least seven states (and perhaps more based on incomplete responses) affiliates may not address meeting schedules in their governing documents. Many of the respondents either discussed a schedule for their annual membership meeting or the meeting requirements for their board. Most did not address both. We recommend affiliates be reminded of this obligation.

Notable Practices

Many states hold an annual membership during their state championship tournament. In one case (South Dakota), the meeting is held in conjunction with an annual team event, which is the state's largest chess event. This demonstrates a way of making the annual meeting accessible for in-person attendance. One state (Wisconsin) conducts their annual meeting as an "on-line" event, which is an alternative way to facilitate attendance.

Purpose Statement (Q4c)

Do the bylaws specify the purpose of the state chapter? Please describe the purpose of the State Chapter as stated in the affiliate bylaws

Areas to Further Support

Most states were only partially complete as to whether they included a "purpose statement" in their bylaws - again required in the DACI. Many State Chapters listed why they wanted to exist, but they did not list any examples of how or goals. This led to vague mission purposes, such as "To promote chess", "To grow chess", and others. There were a number of affiliates with no purpose statement and this could be improved and added to give players an idea of the purpose of a state chapter instead of a normal affiliate.

Notable Practices

Although we identified many states with an incomplete purpose statement, there were some very well-written statements that outlined the purpose and listed what areas that the state chapter will work, such as "with schools and affiliates," "by organizing statewide tournaments," and "educating players about chess." These were good examples to be followed.

Membership Participation for All USCF Members (Q4d)

Do the bylaws provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the State? Please describe how the State Chapter accepts members and how members may participate in the State Chapter's governance and activities.

Strengths

Most State Chapters have open membership with a dues requirement. Some state chapters offer different membership levels for scholastic, family, senior, and lifetime memberships. Many State Chapters offer the purchase of memberships online. Membership may be awarded to those individuals who play in specified state chapter tournaments. Members typically can participate in state board meetings and run for office. Several State Chapters expressed the ability of members to contact their elected officers to relay concerns.

Areas to Further Support

Many state chapters only provided information on how to join the association, including the paying of dues. Some State Chapters expressed difficulty in finding resident chess players to serve as officers for the State Chapter or otherwise volunteer in the interest of the association.

With many State Chapters, member participation seems to be limited to playing in state championship tournaments, running for office, and attending the board meetings. Other State Chapter activities such as organizing and directing tournaments, promoting the state chapter (e.g. publications, social media, local clubs, and promoting participation by women and girls) was not mentioned.

Notable Practices

Any USCF member who is a Nevada resident with a Nevada mailing address is automatically a member of Nevada Chess. Texas offers a large variety of membership types demonstrating an inclusive and flexible membership structure. Membership types include Regular, Regular Non-Subscriber, Student, Junior, Junior Tournament, Family, Life, Blind, Foreign (e.g. U.S. or Canada) Patron, and Family Patron. Any US club, including scholastic, or organization may affiliate itself with the association.

A few State Chapters granted membership to all US Chess Members. One State Chapter required members to be US Chess Members.

DACI Recommendations (Q5 - Q10)

The remaining DACI specified duties are recommendations for each State Chapter.

Scholastic Championships (Q5)

How does your State Chapter directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) annual USCF rated Scholastic State High School, Junior High or Middle School and Elementary School Championships?

Strengths

All states responding identified that they have a process for selecting/awarding scholastic players for the National Denker/Barber/Rockefeller/Harring/Irwin tournament of state champions. Almost all states run an annual scholastic championship for the High School, Junior, High School or Middle School, and Elementary School. Many states commented that they rotate the annual tournament around the state from year-to-year, to ensure full state representation.

Areas to Further Support

There are a few states with either a small chess-playing population or cover a very large territory and have significant challenges in hosting the scholastic championships. In those situations when a tournament is not held, the highest rated player is declared the state champion. Some states expressed challenges/resistance with obtaining contacts at schools. Only a few states commented on paying directors. Some states commented that they rely on volunteers including the state scholastic coordinator and other local tournament directors.

Notable Practices

To encourage participation, some states that are geographically large hold regional qualifying tournaments for the state scholastic championship. Some states outsource the scholastic championship tournaments to other scholastic chess organizations not directly affiliated with the State Chapter.

Tournament Promotion Including Utilization of the Clearinghouse (Q6)

How does your State Chapter 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?

Strengths

Many states host or sponsor additional tournaments outside the mandated state championships including certain open & reserve (heritage) events, class, team, blitz, and action/quick chess championships. States help promote tournaments through their website, email, social media, mailings, and flyers for other local clubs/affiliates. Only some states mention that they have a formal process (e.g. Clearinghouse Coordinator) for coordinating tournament dates to avoid conflicts.

Areas to Further Support

Some states rely on informal practices to avoid conflicts such as one-on-one contacts with other organizers. Some only rely on online tournament life announcements. Undoubtedly, this duty requires some effort and State Chapters with a smaller chess membership and fewer volunteers struggle more than those with a larger volunteer base.

Notable Practices

New England and the Pacific Northwest have regional clearinghouses to help coordinate tournament scheduling. New York mentioned that they are working on a tri-state clearinghouse. Some larger states, such as Florida who have numerous affiliates, have found it better to rather rely on on-site registration portals for organizers to screen for potential conflicts rather than the clearinghouse. A few states (Montana, Iowa, and Virginia were mentioned) award qualifying points for in-state tournaments with annual cash prizes or invites to the annual closed state championship.

State Chess Journal (Q7)

How does your State Chapter 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?

Areas to Further Support

Although there were still some states that maintain a printed journal or magazine that is regularly made available to players, it seems that most states have transitioned away from print media and have embraced websites and social media for informing and staying in contact with players. Many states specifically stated that they have a lack of volunteers to create a print media or website. This seems to be a concern for smaller affiliates who may have trouble finding volunteers.

This is an area of DACI that we believe can be updated. Print media has largely fallen away and is no longer the primary source of information. Included within the stated purpose of this duty is the preservation of a record of chess activities (but for what purpose and for how long). We believe that this could be updated to include a website as a viable alternative to the periodical recommendation.

Promote and Publicize Chess Activities Through Various Media (Q8)

How does your State Chapter promote and publicize chess activities through various media regarding 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?

Strengths

Nearly half of the State Chapters promote their state chess activities through the website and/or social media. To a lesser extent, State Chapters rely on the distribution of email

and flyers. State Chapters also mentioned relying on the Newsletters, Tournament Life Announcements (TLAs), and published calendars.

Areas to Further Support

About one-fifth of State Chapters either did not respond to this question or simply said that they do not have an approach for promoting chess activities in the state. These may be smaller affiliates that may benefit from some assistance from US Chess.

The use of technology by state affiliates is probably an area which could be given more attention. There are emerging examples of affiliates using technology in a multiplicity of ways to promote chess and to engage potential players. However, not all affiliates have the technical skills to implement such strategies on their own. A simple strategy for US Chess might be to highlight examples of successful technological applications being employed by various state affiliates.

Notable Practices

We took note that a few State Chapters are able to promote their chess activities through local radio and television. One state also mentioned use of other less traditional social media such as Douba or LinkedIn.

Responsibly Act in the Best Interests of Its Entire State Chapter Membership (Q9)

In what other ways not addressed herein does your State Chapter responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide?

Strengths

With regards to those who responded to question 9 with a description of additional programs and services, the range and extent of state affiliate activities varies greatly. Five affiliates donate equipment to new scholastic clubs. A few affiliates mentioned they provide stipends for their representatives to the Tournaments of State Champions (and based on SAC experience and knowledge it is likely that many do but just did not mention it in their response).

Based on the range of responses, it appears some states see their state affiliate as the driving force in organizing chess within their state and other states see their state affiliate as a provider of a few required services and otherwise as a support for the efforts of local organizers and clubs. Both models of chess governance can work or not work, depending on the available leadership and local culture.

Notable Practices

Many State Chapters (Florida, Oklahoma and Wisconsin mentioned this specifically) all are actively involved in sponsoring and/or hosting an extensive number of tournaments each year. Hawaii and West Virginia are both utilizing chess.com clubs for their

residents. Virginia holds Webinars to discuss the tournament season, with a particular focus on scholastic chess.

Women's Chess Coordinator (Q10)

Has your state chapter designated a coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state? If so, please describe.

Strengths

Approximately one-quarter of the State Chapters have a designated coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state. Notably, we learned that at least one state has a designated state women's committee including an Advisor to the state board.. Use of a local 501c(3) chess association is used to fund women's and girls' chess. There are special women/girl prizes for each section.

Areas to Further Support

About three-quarters of those states that do not have a women's chess coordinator, most all made efforts to find one. In those cases, volunteers, Tournament Directors, or members of the state board fill in to help coordinate state female championships, provide active events for women and girls, include special female trophies, hold female chess camps, and include women/girls sections within their state and local tournaments.

Notable Practices

While much still needs to be done, there is a steady increase overall in women and girls participation. There are concerted efforts by most State Chapters with or without a Women's coordinator and are implementing Ingenious and creative ways to draw females to the board.

Recognition of Workgroup Members

We would like to recognize and thank those individuals who developed and distributed the State Chapter Survey, reviewed the responses, and prepared this report.

- Jim Hodina, SAC Co-Chair
- Daniel Serna, SAC Member
- Adam Porth, SAC Member
- Steve Morford, SAC Member
- Maureen Grimaud, SAC Member
- Rose McMahon, US Chess Governance Coordinator

Appendix A

Charter: US Chess States and Affiliates Committee

Background:

In accordance with Executive Board (EB) Motion 18-025, dated Nov 12, 2017, the US Chess EB directs establishment of 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 and affiliates, making recommendations on appropriate resolution to the EB.

Activities, Duties, and Responsibilities:

- Define the roles and responsibilities of an affiliate, helping to articulate them in the Rules of Chess.
- 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 needs further investigation. Where warranted, investigate issues 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 Committee.
- Lead the development of educational materials to affiliates that address 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 posing questions to US Chess or to the committee.
- Organize and host an annual “Affiliates 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 five or seven members, one person of whom serves as Chair and one of whom serves as Secretary. The EB will appoint (or reappoint) a Chair annually, and will consider the committee’s recommendation for Chair. The committee appoints 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.

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

Operations:

The Chair shall set meeting agendas and times, using email as the primary means of communication. SAC meetings shall adhere to the norms of Robert’s Rules of Order, with matters for decision being voted upon by the committee. In general, the SAC shall strive to complete matters under investigation within 90 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 asking to have additional response time. All SAC operations are considered “confidential” and shall not be discussed outside the committee with anyone other than 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 Affiliates Committee 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.

Appendix B

State Chapter Survey Questions

Question	
1	Is the affiliate current on its membership dues?
2	Has the affiliate certified in writing to the USCF Secretary by May 1 (prior to the Annual Delegates' Meeting)?
2	a Are the delegates US Chess Members?
2	b Was the delegate selection process identified in the letter to US Chess?
3	a Does the affiliate directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship
3	a What was the starting date of the most recent State Championship?
4	Does the affiliate have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or articles of association?
4	a Do the bylaws specify the governing authority and their selection?
4	a Please describe the governing authority and their selection
4	b Do the bylaws specify a meeting schedule?
4	b Please describe the meeting schedule as stated in the affiliate bylaws
4	c Do the bylaws specify the purpose of the state chapter?
4	c Please describe the purpose of the State Chapter as stated in the affiliate bylaws
4	d Do the bylaws provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the State?
4	d Please describe how the State Chapter accepts members and how members may participate in the State Chapter's governance and activities
5	How does your State Chapter directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) annual USCF rated Scholastic State High School, Junior High or Middle School and Elementary School Championships?
6	How does your State Chapter 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?
7	How does your State Chapter 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?
8	How does your State Chapter promote and publicize chess activities through various media regarding 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?
9	In what other ways not addressed herein does your State Chapter responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide?
10	Has your state chapter designated a coordinator to promote participation and events for women and girls within their state? If so, please describe.

Appendix C

Delegate Action of Continuing Interest (DACI) 1991-27, State Chapter Requirements and Recommendations.

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 (May 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, 2022-33 (Previously 2019 DACI 8)