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Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to International Travel and SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19

The novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is caused by SARS-CoV-2. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend social distancing. Additionally, some foreign governments have prohibited the congregation of groups of people.

The United States Chess Federation ("US Chess") recommends taking all reasonable precautions. These include, but are not limited to, full vaccination as defined by the CDC, use of N95 or KN95 face masks, and maintaining international health insurance. US Chess cannot guarantee that you or anyone in your traveling party will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending international chess events could increase your risk and your traveling party's risk of contracting COVID-19.

By agreeing to represent US Chess at an international tournament, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19. You voluntarily assume the risk that you may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending this event. You acknowledge that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. You understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at this event may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself and others, including, but not limited to, US Chess employees, other competitors representing US Chess, foreign competitors, and anyone traveling with any of the foregoing. You voluntarily agree to assume all the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to yourself. You acknowledge these risks include, but are not limited to, personal injury, disability, death, illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that you may experience or incur in connection with your attendance at this event ("Claims").

US Chess will monitor conditions related to the pandemic in the host country, as well as throughout the United States. US Chess reserves the right to cancel participation in the event if US Chess determines those conditions foreclose the ability to hold the event without excessive difficulty or risk.

You hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless US Chess, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. You understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of US Chess, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in this event you are attending. You understand and agree that this release further includes responsibility for any additional costs associated with a stay in a foreign country that exceeds the travel window for the event.