

DELEGATES CALL

JULY 31-AUGUST 4, 2024

SHERATON NORFOLK

WATERSIDE HOTEL

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

2024



US CHESS MISSION

Empower people, enrich lives,
and enhance communities through chess.



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US CHESS VISION

Chess is recognized as an essential tool that promotes
inclusiveness and benefits education, rehabilitation,
recreation, and friendly competition.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT

RANDY BAUER

president@uschess.org

VICE PRESIDENT

KEVIN PRYOR

vp@uschess.org

VP FINANCE

CHUCK UNRUH

chunruh@aol.com

SECRETARY

MIKE HOFFPAUIR

secretary@uschess.org

MEMBER AT LARGE

LEILA D'AQUIN

chessnola@gmail.com

MEMBER AT LARGE

JOHN FERNANDEZ

john.fernandez@gmail.com

MEMBER AT LARGE

DAVID HATER

dhater1@aol.com

MEMBER AT LARGE

LAKSHMANA "VISH" VISWANATH

vish@viswanath.us

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RANAE BARTLETT

ranae.bartlett@uschess.org

To contact Executive Board members via regular mail, send to:

P.O. Box 775308

St. Louis, Missouri 63117

DELEGATES CALL PRODUCTION

DANIEL LUCAS

Senior Director of Strategic Communication

MELINDA MATTHEWS

Managing Editor

NATASHA ROBERTS

Art Director

JOHN HARTMANN

Chess Life/CLK Editor

NICOLE ESALTARE

Graphics Assistant

ROSE MC MAHON

Governance Coordinator

2024 DELEGATES CALL

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ADVANCE AGENDA 2024 US CHESS BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, Norfolk, Virginia
August 3-4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Moment of silence for the reading of the names of the dearly departed members of our chess community.

ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES

ADM 24-01 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

The Delegates re-elect as Delegates-at-Large those whose terms are expiring or have expired and are present at this meeting. The term of these Delegates-At-Large will expire at the end of the 2027 Annual Delegates Meeting.

Those whose terms are expiring 8-4-24 are: Dewain Barber (CA), Randall D. Hough (CA), Robert John McCrary (SC), Allen Priest (KY), Beatriz Marinello (NY), and Timothy P. Redman (TX).

ADM 24-02 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

The Delegates re-elect as Delegates-at-Large those whose terms have previously expired and are present at the meeting. Those eligible include: Frank A. Camaratta (AL), Anthony P. Cottell (FL), Frank B. Elley Jr. (AR), Helen E. Warren (IL), Leroy W. Dubeck (NJ), Edward Steven Doyle (NJ), William Goichberg (NY), Timothy Redman (TX), Maxim Dlugy (PA), Albert J. Lawrence (NY), Gary L. Walters (OH), and Jim Berry (OK).

ADM 24-03 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Move that Andrew Rea be appointed parliamentarian.

ADM 24-04 (RANDY BAUER, IA)

The Delegates appoint Leila D'Aquin, Randy Bauer, and Kimberly Doo as the Conflict-of-Interest committee.

REPORT BY THE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST COMMITTEE

ADM 24-05 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Move that the minutes of the 2023 Delegates Meeting as available to the Delegates present in Norfolk, Virginia be accepted.

ADM 24-06 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2024 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.

DM 23-50

Report of D.C. State Chapter Committee.

(See D.C. State Chapter Committee report that includes the D.C. Interim

Board's report in *Delegates Call*.)

Executive Board recommendation on D.C. State Chapter:

The Executive Board recommends to the Board of Delegates that the Delegates approve the DC Chess Association (DCCA) as the DC State Chapter.

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS TO BE THE D.C. STATE CHAPTER

CONSIDERATION OF CHALLENGE TO THE RHODE ISLAND STATE CHAPTER

ADM 24-07 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

The Delegates have reviewed the financial information about expenditures and the status of funds in the Professional Players Health and Benefit Fund and approve the report on those items, a report required by DM11-51.

ADM 24-08 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Approve the US Chess Budget for 2024-2026.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Report of the President (Randy Bauer)

Report of the Vice President of Finance (Chuck Unruh)

REPORTS OF STAFF

Report of the Executive Director (Ranae Bartlett)

Report of the Senior Director of Strategic Communication (Daniel Lucas)

Report of the Director of Events (Boyd Reed)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

All available Committee Reports are accessible through the US Chess website at <https://new.uschess.org/information-2024-annual-meeting-norfolk-virginia>

ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Audit Committee

LMA Trust

Election Committee

Bylaws Committee

Ethics Committee

Nominating Committee

OLD BUSINESS

DM 23-26/ADM 23-18 (DAVID DAY, UT)

Amend Rule 41B in the US Chess Rules of Chess by adding the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph: The corner squares of the chessboard (a1, a8, h1, and h8) may contain logos, the name of the event, and other similar items. Chess boards which contain logos or similar markings in the middle of the board or in a non-corner square are nonstandard.

REFERRED to Rules.

Response: The Rules Committee discussed the motion, had no opinion, and decided it was for the Delegates to vote on the matter.

DM 23-28/ADM 23-19 (DAVID DAY, UT)

Amend the US Chess Code of Ethics to remove 6(h) and renumber 6(i) to become 6(h).

REFERRED to Ethics.

Response: The Ethics Committee voted to reject the motion and retain 6(h) code as is with no changes.

DM 23-34/ADM 23-25 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; DAN ROHDE, NY; SOPHIA ROHDE, NY)

Acknowledgement Of Tournament Directors As Other TDs On US Chess Rating Report.

The Chief Tournament Director is permitted to list non-FIDE-certified US Chess TDs as "Other TDs" in the global portion of the US Chess Tournament Rating Report on MSA, for tournaments with FIDE-rated sections, as long as those TDs do not make any rulings in any FIDE-rated games. The Chief Tournament Director shall attest to this if requested by a US Chess official.

REFERRED to the Tournament Directors Certification Committee, the Executive Board, and the Office.

Response from TDCC: It is proposed to include this in the imminent system redesign.

Response from EB/Office: Recommend implementation after new ratings system is ready in early 2025.

DM 23-35/ADM 23-27 (STEVE IMMITT, NY)

Working Towards Reducing The Creation Of Multiple US Chess IDs For The Same Individual

The Delegates request that the Executive Board establish a working group, comprised of the individuals with experience in reviewing and submitting US Chess memberships, to work with the website development team, for the purpose of recommending procedures

which will avoid creating multiple IDs for the same person, while also respecting the privacy concerns of US Chess members.

REFERRED to the Executive Board.

Response: Working Group established by EB24-059.

DM 23-37/ADM 23-26 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; DAN ROHDE, NY)

Crediting US Chess TDs Who Work At Chess Control

In an effort to expand the opportunities for advancement in the ranks of US Chess tournament directing, the Delegates support the principle of adding the category of working at Chess Control as source of gaining tournament experience credit for Assistant TDs. The category of Chess Control should specifically be added to the current options of Backroom TD and Floor TD on the US Chess rating report and TDs should be able to earn credit as such in tournaments of at least 200 players.

REFERRED to the Tournament Directors Certification Committee, the Executive Board, and the Office.

Response from TDCC: It is proposed to include this in the imminent system redesign.

Response from EB/Office: The ratings system upgrade can include adding Chess Control to the options of those listed as working at the tournament. Recommend implementation when new system is ready in early 2025. Need further consideration by TDCC as to the effect of the credit for working at Chess Control after it is operational.

DM 23-38/ADM 23-36 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Move that Article V, Section 9 of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

Section 9. Additional Delegates. The US Chess Membership Meeting may elect up to 5 Additional Delegates for a term that expires on June 1 of the following year at the start of the Membership Meeting from persons who are present and have previously served as Delegates in at least one of the last five years. **The Membership Meeting may also elect a number of Additional Delegates for the same term from persons who are present and are presently serving as Alternate Delegates or Additional Alternate Delegates; provided that the number so elected shall not exceed the number of Delegate seats unfilled at the close of the day before the Membership Meeting.**

REFERRED to Bylaws.

Response: This motion was referred to bylaws for consideration. The bylaws committee had no support for the motion as referred. We discussed an alternative under which the eligibility for appointment to one of the possible five additional delegate spots made at the members meeting would be expanded to include those appointed as alternate delegates for the current bylaws meeting even if they had not served as a delegate within the last five years. While that option had some support, six members of the committee voted in favor of making no changes compared to three supporting an expansion of the eligibility for appointment at the members meeting.

DM 23-42/ADM 23-41 (DAVID DAY, UT; RANDY BAUER, IA; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA; CHUCK UNRUH, OK)

The Bylaws and Elections Committees are directed to revise Section 11 of Article VI of the Bylaws to allow candidates nominated for election to submit statements and photographs that will be published on the US Chess website with a reference to the webpage in *Chess Life*.

REFERRED to Bylaws and Elections.

Response from Bylaws: By a vote of 6-3 the Bylaws committee supports the removal of candidates' statements from Chess Life. In the months when these statements have been printed in Chess Life the magazine would have a statement directing readers to the location of the statement posted on the US Chess website. Registered voters will be contacted by the office when each set of statements is posted with either the statements or a link to the statements on the US chess website.

Response from Elections: Proposed language,

"Section 11. Candidate statements and advertising. Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to submit a 150-word statement and photograph for publication on the US Chess website, which will be referenced in the issue of Chess Life to be published no later than April 10 of the election year. Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to two 500-word statements published on the US Chess website on May 10 and June 10. The purchase of additional campaign space in other US Chess publications is prohibited. Any candidate for the US Chess Executive Board who is currently a party against US Chess in a lawsuit must disclose that fact in their April statement. Failure to disclose such a lawsuit would be grounds for immediate recall. The candidate will be allowed an additional 50 words in their first candidate's statement for this purpose."

DM 23-46/ADM 23-45 (DAVID DAY, UT; DAVID HATER, GA; MIKE HOFFPAUIR, VA)

Replace US Chess Bylaw Article VI, Section 2, Subsection E with the following text:

Has not been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or other crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment 1) involving violence, abuse of a minor or other vulnerable individual, fraud, embezzlement, dishonesty, misrepresentation, illicit trafficking, child pornography, or involuntary servitude, or 2) within the last 15 years. Any felony conviction must be disclosed during the candidate vetting process and in a candidate statement published by US Chess.

REFERRED to Bylaws and Elections.

Response from Bylaws: The Bylaws committee did not support the referred motion as submitted, but could not reach consensus on an alternative. Four members preferred no change to the bylaws which would leave a strict prohibition on EB service. Seven supported some form of limiting language that would prohibit from EB service those convicted or pleading no contest to more serious crimes as referred motion suggests. The limiting language with the most support was:

Replace US Chess Bylaw Article VI, Section 2, Subsection E with the following text:

"Has never been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or other crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment involving violence, abuse of a minor or other vulnerable individual, fraud, embezzlement, dishonesty, misrepresentation, illicit trafficking, child pornography, or involuntary servitude, ..."

Response from Elections:

Original text: *Has never been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.*

Proposed: **Has not been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or other crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.**

Any felony conviction must be disclosed and explained during the candidate vetting process and in a candidate statement published by US Chess.

NEW BUSINESS

Any motions passed at the Membership Meeting will be discussed as first order of New Business.

ADM 24-09 (LEILA D'AQUIN, LA ; ALLEN PRIEST, KY; CHUCK UNRUH, OK; PETER TAMBURRO, NJ)

Amend the Bylaws to move the dues details to the federation list of policies and procedures as follows:

Delete Article III sections 1-9.

Article III: Membership.

Section 1. Adult Memberships. Any person may become an Adult member of US Chess upon payment of \$45 for one year, or \$87 for two years.

Section 2. Youth Memberships. Any person under 19 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Youth Member of US Chess upon payment of \$20 for one year, or \$37 for two years.

Section 3. Young Adult Memberships. Any person under 24 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Young Adult Member of US Chess upon the payment of \$27 for one year, or \$51 for two years.

Section 4. Senior Membership. A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday may become a Senior Member of US Chess upon payment of \$40 for one year, or \$77 for two years.

Section 5. Special Membership. A blind person, or any person who is incarcerated in a penal institution in the United States, may become a Special member of US Chess for \$18 for one year.

Section 6. Family Membership Plans:

- A. Family Plan 1: \$85, includes parents and their children under age 19 in the household living at one address. Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.
- B. Family Plan 2: \$55, includes all children under age 19 in the household living at one address.

Section 7. Life Memberships. Any person may become a Life Member of US Chess upon payment of \$1500 dues. Any person age 65 years or older may become a Life Member upon payment of \$750 dues. Any blind person may become a Life Member upon payment of \$375 dues. US Chess may require reasonable confirmation of eligibility from time to time as a continuation of Life membership.

Section 8. Affiliate Commissions. There shall be a \$3 affiliate commission on all Adult, Senior, Youth, Young Adult, Family, and Life Memberships.

Section 9. Promotional Memberships. In order to facilitate the development of membership promotion, the Executive Board may

authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time to determine their feasibility by trial; such terms and rates shall be subject to review annually by the Board of Delegates.

Add new Section 1. **Membership types, which shall include individual adult, young adult, youth, senior, and life memberships as well as other membership types that may be recommended by the Executive Director, and the dues level corresponding to each membership type, shall be as recommended by the Executive Director, and approved by the Executive Board. The Executive Director may from time-to-time review and recommend adjustments to dues levels based on fluctuations in the Consumer Price Index since their last adjustment. Following any adjustment to be effective on or after January 1, 2025, dues may be decreased at any time but shall not be increased more frequently than every 5th year.**

Then renumber current sections 10-13 as sections 2-5.

RATIONALE: It is not a common practice for organizations like US Chess to have all the dues details in the Bylaws. This limits the ability of management to respond to changes in the economy and to inflation. This proposal establishes a maximum frequency of dues increases to every five years and ties any such increases to fluctuations in the Consumer Price Index. The dues detail will be listed in US Chess policies and procedural rules where such details more properly belong.

ADM 24-10 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Adjust fiscal year for US Chess to end on June 30. Proposed revision:

Article IX: Sundry Bylaws.

Section 6. Fiscal period. The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31 ~~June 30~~.

RATIONALE: US Chess hosts spring scholastic nationals, with one always occurring in May. Closing the books for the end of the fiscal year becomes even more challenging with SuperNationals 2025 expected to draw approximately 7,500 competitors, if not more. This Bylaws amendment will allow operations additional time to review and settle bills from spring national events. Delegates will still receive an estimated financial statement at the annual meeting, and the audited financial statements will be made available online to accompany the quarterly financial statements that are already provided online. Members and Delegates receive adequate updates to see the financial stability of the organization not only on the website, but through recorded Executive Board meetings where monthly financial reports are discussed.

ADM 24-11 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Approve the revised US Chess Budget for 2024-2026. (Contingent on ADM 24-10 passing)

ADM 24-12 (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Modify Article IV, Section 4 as such:

Section 4. Membership Requirement. In order to vote in a regular election, registered Voting Members must be US Chess members on May 5th ~~June 1st~~ of the election year, for the entire day Central Time.

RATIONALE: The May 5th date was a cutoff to allow for the printing of the snail mail ballots. They are no longer needed so the cutoff date for eligible voters can be later. Emails announcing the opening of the voting period will be early June, so June 1 seems right.

ADM 24-13 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Resolved that Article IV, Section 3 of the Bylaws be amended as follows:

Section 3. Registration. Eligible members who are not already registered as Voting Members must register with the US Chess office by May 1 ~~June 1~~ to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election, except that all members who are selected as US Chess Delegates, Alternate Delegates, or Executive Board members are automatically registered as Voting Members. There is no registration fee. Once registered, a member's status as a Voting Member continues as long as he or she is a member. When a membership lapses, Voting Member status ceases and the member must, after rejoining, again register by May 1 ~~June 1~~ to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election.

RATIONALE: This motion is intended to supplement the Election Committee's motion to move the membership requirement deadline to June 1. If that motion passes it no longer makes sense to require members to register by May 1.

ADM 24-14 (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Remove Article IV, Section 6 and renumber Section 7 as Section 6.

~~**Section 6. Electronic Voting:** If US Chess implements an electronic voting system, voting members may request a paper ballot by writing to the US Chess office prior to May 1st for a regular election or the equivalent cutoff date for a special election.~~

RATIONALE: Paper ballots are no longer being used.

ADM 24-15 (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Delete the last sentence of Article VI, Section 14.

~~**Section 14. Website Access.** ... The Election Committee may, at its discretion and convenience, post all candidate statements as they appear in *Chess Life* on the US Chess website.~~

RATIONALE: This last sentence is now unnecessary as it is dealt with in Article VI, Section 11.

ADM 24-16 (ELECTIONS COMMITTEE)

Remove the section of Article VI, Section 8 below the first paragraph.

Section 8. Terms of Office. The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting. No individual shall serve more than eleven (11) consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as US Chess President more than four (4) consecutive years.

~~To implement the transition of term lengths from three to four years, the following will apply to those elected in the 2021 regular Executive Board election and thereafter. The terms of those elected prior to the adoption of this implementation schedule will be observed as they were defined by the Bylaws at the time of their election:~~

~~**2021:** Two Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms that expire in 2025. One will be elected to a two-year term that expires in 2023.~~

~~**2022:** Two Executive Board members will be elected to three-year terms that expire in 2025.~~

~~**2023 and odd-numbered years thereafter:** Four Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms.~~

RATIONALE: We are now past the 2023 election cycle and these items are no longer needed in the bylaws.

ADM 24-17 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX; KEVIN PRYOR, FL)

Resolved that the Board of Delegates appoint Franc Guadalupe (TX) as a Delegate-at-Large.

RATIONALE: Franc Guadalupe has rendered distinguished service to the chess community for many years at multiple levels. Previously he has served as an interim US Chess Executive Director, US Chess Director of Events and FIDE Zonal President. He is currently finishing his fourth year as President of the Texas Chess Association and has previously served as President of the Florida Chess Association. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in 2019 and has served as a Delegate for many years.

ADM 24-18 (LAWRENCE COHEN, IL)

Blitz at national events.

Require that any blitz tournament run at, or in conjunction with, a US Chess national tournament use blitz ratings. Quite often the regular ratings will be used for pairing, and prizes, for blitz tournaments. This could in theory affect the pairings, but more importantly it creates more work at the US Chess offices to properly rate those events. To keep the blitz ratings accurate (if that is not done, then why even have blitz ratings!) the players have to have the blitz rating entered into the tournament information before it can get rated correctly. US Chess should encourage the use of blitz ratings (when available for players) at all blitz rated events, but especially at those events that are US Chess national events.

ADM 24-19 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX; MICAH SMITH, OR)

Resolved that Chapter 11 of the Official Rules of Chess be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 11: Blitz Chess

Blitz chess is a variant defined by a single, sudden death time control with a minimum primary time control of three minutes and total playing time of five to ten minutes. This chapter is not exhaustive. Rather, it establishes special rules reflecting the fast-paced nature of blitz games. Where these rules are silent, the regular rules apply.

1. **The time control shall be stated in any advance publicity and announced onsite. All rounds shall use the same time control. If the time control is not stated in advance publicity, the time control shall be five minutes with no delay.**
2. **Before play begins, both players should inspect the position of the pieces and the setting of the clock, since once each side has completed a move the position on the board and the time on the clock remain as set.**
 - a. **If the king and queen are set up incorrectly, it is legal to castle short on the queenside and long on the kingside.**
 - b. **If an illegal position is created or an illegal move made without the opponent making a claim, the position stands and a claim is not allowed when the opponent has determined the next move.**
3. **In addition to the grounds for which a game is decisively decided under the regular rules, a game is won by a player who, after an illegal move is completed by the opponent, captures the king or claims a win and stops the clock before the player determines a move; provided that the game shall be drawn if the player has insufficient mating material as defined by 14E of**

the regular rules. A player who moves the king adjacent to the opponent's king and then attempts to claim a win under this rule based on the opponent's failure to notice the check shall lose the game. An illegal move shall not negate the right of a player to claim on time as long as it is made before the claim of the illegal move. If the claims are made simultaneously, the player who made the illegal move loses.

4. **A game shall be drawn as provided in the regular rules except that: 14C8 and 14F4 also apply if a player has five or more minutes remaining.**

All two-minute penalties shall be one minute.

If Variation 14H is allowed, the player must have one minute or less to claim a draw by insufficient losing chances.
5. **If a player makes an illegal move and it is not corrected before the opponent determines a move, the illegal move cannot be corrected afterwards. An illegal move is completed when the player presses the clock.**
6. **A legal move is completed when the hand leaves the piece.**
7. **Scorekeeping shall not be required.**
8. **The standard penalty shall be to add one minute to the opponent's clock. This section shall not affect the discretion of the tournament director to access other penalties as required by the circumstances.**
9. **Subject to the right of appeal to US Chess, the decision of the chief tournament director shall be final.**

The current version of the blitz rules is as follows:

Chapter 11: Blitz Chess

Blitz Chess (also known as Speed Chess, 5-minute Chess, Lightning Chess (2-minute), and Bullet Chess (1-minute) is a variant defined as a single, sudden death time control from 1 to 10 minutes. Blitz games typically are set at five minutes and do not use time delay. Since each game takes only about 10 minutes, it has long been popular for fun games where time is limited, such as lunch breaks or between rounds of other tournaments. Some clubs will host Blitz events that may have as many as 20 rounds in a single evening.

Information regarding FIDE Blitz chess can be found in the FIDE Handbook: <https://handbook.fide.com/>

Take note that Blitz is not Quick Chess with a 5 minute time control (which follows standard sudden death rules.)

Blitz rating system: Blitz has its own rating system. To be rated, the time controls require from 5 to 10 minutes total playing time, and have a minimum primary time control of 3 minutes. All rounds must use the same time control. Hence G/3 inc/2 is rated under the Blitz system. Currently, Lightning and Bullet are not included in any rating system. See also 5C. Ratable time controls.

US Chess Blitz Rules

Each player must make all his moves in the time specified for the game.

- 1a.) Standard time control (TC) for blitz is G/5 with no delay.
- 1b.) Time controls, including the use of delay or increment, are to be stated in any advance publicity and must also be announced or posted at the site.

All the clocks must have a special device, usually called a “flag,” either a regular flag or some device on a digital clock that indicates a flag fall.

Standard timer for Blitz chess:

- 2a.) Whatever timer is used (analog or digital), a standard timer must continue to run for both sides even if one side’s time has expired (See 8c).
- 2b.) A digital timer (given it meets the requirements of 2a) is preferred over an analog timer due to the precision of setting and the accuracy of timing. If no digital timer is available, then an analog timer may be considered standard.
- 2c.) The player with the black pieces chooses the standard timer.

Before play begins, both players should inspect the position of the pieces and the setting of the clock, since once each side has completed a move the position on the board and the time on the clock remain as set.

- 3a.) If the king and queen are set up incorrectly, it is legal to castle short on the queenside and long on the kingside.
- 3b.) If an illegal position is created or an illegal move made without the opponent making a claim, the position stands and a claim not allowed when the opponent has determined a next move.

Each player must press the clock with the same hand that moves the pieces, using one hand to both move the pieces and to press the clock.

The tournament director may state at the start of the event the direction the clocks are to face, and the player with the black pieces then chooses the side of the table on which to sit.

Except for pressing the clock, neither player should touch the clock except:

- 6a.) To straighten it.
- 6b.) If a player knocks over the clock a penalty may be assessed.
- 6c.) If your opponent’s clock does not tick you may press his side down and re-press your side; however, if this procedure is unsatisfactory, please call for a director.
- 6d.) Each player must always be allowed to press the clock after their move is made.
- 6e.) A player should not keep a hand on or hover over the clock.

Defining a win: A game is won by the player:

- 7a.) Who has legally mated his opponent’s king.
- 7b.) Whose opponent resigns.
- 7c.) Who correctly points out that the opponent’s flag has fallen

first, at any time before the game is otherwise ended, provided the player has mating material. Mating Material consists of (at a minimum) two minor pieces, a pawn, a rook, or a queen provided it isn’t a position where one could claim a draw under rule 8. If a player who claims a time forfeit states the claim with claimant’s flag still up, but then fails to stop the clock in time to avoid also exceeding the time limit, the claim will be void; unless the flag fall was observed by a director or independent witness:

- 7d.) Who, after an illegal move is completed by the opponent, takes the king (if the king is in check) or claims the win and stops the clock, before the player determines a move and provided the player has sufficient mating material as defined in rule 7c. A player who moves his king adjacent to the opponent’s king and then attempts to claim a win under this rule based on the opponent’s failure to notice the check shall lose the game.
- 7e.) An illegal move doesn’t negate a player’s right to claim on time, provided it is made prior to the opponent’s claim of an illegal move. If the claims are simultaneous, the player who made the illegal move loses.

Defining a draw. Except as listed here, draw claims allowed under the regular rules are also allowed under the blitz rules:

A game is a draw:

- 8a.) If one of the kings is stalemated.
- 8b.) By agreement between the players.
- 8c.) If the flag of one player falls after the flag of the other player has already fallen and a win has not been claimed, unless either side mates before noticing that both flags are down.
- 8d.) If one player has insufficient mating material when the opponent’s flag falls or makes an illegal move. “Insufficient Losing Chances” (ILC) claims are not allowed.

If a player accidentally displaces one or more pieces, they shall be replaced on the player’s own time. If it is necessary, the opponent may press the clock without making a move. If the player presses the clock after displacing pieces, then a penalty may be assessed:

If a player touches one piece, then moves another; and presses the clock, the opponent may press the player’s clock to force the player to move the piece touched; or may stop the clock to claim a violation. A penalty may be assessed:

In case of a dispute either player may stop the clock while the tournament director is being summoned. In any unclear situation the tournament director will consider the testimony of both players and any reliable witnesses before rendering a decision:

The tournament director shall not pick up the clock except in the case of a dispute when it is necessary to do so in order to assess penalties or adjust time:

Spectators and players in another game are not to speak or otherwise interfere. If a spectator interferes in any way that may affect the result of the game (e.g., calling attention to a flag fall or an illegal move), the tournament director may cancel the game and rule that a new game be played in its stead and expel the offending party from the playing

room. If the offending party is participating in the event, penalties at the discretion of the tournament director may be assessed up to expulsion from the event.

A player who has played an illegal move must retract it and make a legal move with the piece touched prior to pressing the clock. If no legal move exists with that piece, then he may make any legal move. Illegal moves unnoticed by both players cannot be corrected afterwards. An illegal move is completed when the player presses the clock.

A legal move is completed when the hand leaves the piece.

If a player is promoting a pawn and the desired piece is not available, the player may stop both clocks in order to locate the piece and place it on the board. It is improper for the player to press the clock to start the opponent's time with the pawn still on the last rank. If this is done, the opponent may immediately restart the player's clock without moving.

Standard penalty for first offense is to add one minute to the opponent's clock. There may be circumstances where a penalty assessed may not be standard (e.g. repeat offenses, unsporting behavior, etc..) and is left to the discretion of the tournament director.

The decision of the tournament director is final.

RATIONALE: Presently, the blitz rules are confusing because they combine what makes the blitz rules unique with reminders about regular rules that also apply to blitz. If reminders are needed those belong in the TD Tips, not the blitz rules. This rewrite would resolve this issue by condensing the blitz rules into only what is special about blitz. It would also clarify the rules in a few places to reflect current practice (like ensuring that the Chief TD's decision is appealable to US Chess which is currently only stated in a TD Tip).

ADM 24-20 (STEVE IMMITT, NY; SOPHIA ROHDE, NY)

The Delegates move to make the following change to Blitz Rule 7.) Defining a win:

Replace section 7e.), which currently reads:

7e.) An illegal move doesn't negate a player's right to claim on time, provided it is made prior to an opponent's claim of an illegal move. If the claims are simultaneous, the player who made the illegal move loses.

with the following language:

7e.) A player whose opponent's time has expired can claim a win on time if the player's last completed move was a legal move. A player who completes an illegal move cannot claim a win on time unless and until the opponent determines a subsequent move. If it is not possible to establish whether the opponent determined a move before or after the player claimed a win on time, or if they both happened simultaneously, the player who completed the illegal move loses, provided the opponent has sufficient mating material as defined in rule 7c.).

RATIONALE: The sponsors believe that you should not be subject to losing the game on time if your opponent's illegal move results in your flag falling.

White should not be allowed to make an illegal move and cause Black's clock to run, which could then result in Black's flag falling. The advantage White would gain is that the time taken to disrupt a position by making an illegal move and to distract Black in the process, could be enough time to allow Black's flag to fall in the meantime.

If Black's flag is down, White should claim the win. White doesn't need to claim a win on time and then also make an illegal move. White has already won without making a move. Causing Black's clock to run can only obscure which happened first: Black's flag falling or White's completing an illegal move. If White has completed an illegal move and then wants to claim a win a time, the sponsors believe that White has lost the standing to make such a claim, as a result of completing the illegal move.

But, most importantly, if Black's flag is not down, White should not be allowed to make an illegal move, start Black's clock, cause Black's flag to fall, and then claim that Black loses on time.

The advantage White would gain by making an illegal move is that he has caused a disruption in the position by creating an illegal position. This distraction could last long enough to result in Black's flag falling before he can claim a win by White making an illegal move. In essence White would be rewarded by creating an illegal position and then capitalizing on that by winning that game on time.

White would not gain this same advantage of making such a distraction if White made a legal move instead. In that case all of Black's time would be spent considering how to reply to White's legal move.

The time Black spends on seeing and making a claim that White has completed an illegal move should not be at the expense of Black's flag falling.

A player should not be able to gain an advantage by making an illegal move — especially a winning result.

Thank you, everyone, for your consideration.

ADM 24-21 (LAWRENCE COHEN, IL)

National Event for People with Disabilities

US Chess to create a national tournament (every one or two years) for people with disabilities.

The mission and goal is to include everyone in this wonderful game of chess that we play. Strides are being made, but there are still accessibility issues for those people with disabilities. This tournament would give recognition to those players and the extraordinary efforts they put forth to play.

US Chess does have the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. FIDE has the Disabled Commission and the FIDE Olympiad for people with disabilities (disabilities being define as hearing impairment, physical disability, & visual impairment). There is also the FIDE "Infinite Chess Project," which does not list the U.S. as being part of said project.

US Chess could leave the U.S. Blind Chess Championship as a separate event or incorporate it into the U.S. Chess Championship For People With Disabilities. If incorporated, then there would be special separate prizes for the top blind player(s) and that person would be the National Blind Chess Champion. Ideally this should be an in-person OTB tournament, but it also could be run online if needed to defray costs to the players and US Chess.

ADM 24-22 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Resolved that Article VII, Section 3, Subsection A1 of the Bylaws be amended as follows:

1) Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall consist of ~~four persons~~; the Vice President for Finance as a non-voting member and **no less than three nor more than** five members elected by the Delegates from among the

Delegates and Alternate Delegates who are knowledgeable in accounting matters such as (but not limited to) a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), a Certified Management Accountant (CMA), or someone who has substantial experience in the public or private sectors. No other member of the Executive Board may be a member of the Audit Committee. **The committee shall choose its own chair.** The duties of the committee shall be:

To advise the **Executive Board** on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors, and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.

To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.

To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)

To consider and advise the **Executive Board** on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.

To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management's response and to promote coordination between the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the **Executive Board** and the Delegates accordingly.

To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors' Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses and to advise the **Executive Board** accordingly.

To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.

To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.

To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the implementation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports and management letters and to advise the **Executive Board** accordingly.

To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.

To advise the Executive Director, as requested.

To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.

To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates.

RATIONALE: At the last annual meeting, the Delegates elected five members to the Audit Committee. Under the bylaws, however, they only have authority to elect three members, which means that the committee as then constituted was contrary to the Bylaws. This motion would resolve this problem by authorizing the Delegates to elect up to five members to the committee. It would also clarify that the committee elects its own chair, which is stated for all committees listed in the Bylaws except the Audit Committee.

ADM 24-23 (CALEB S. BROWN, TX)

Resolved that the Board of Delegates recognizes the need for more publicity about the Professional Players Health and Benefit Fund and

requests that the Executive Board take all appropriate measures which would further awareness of this fund among eligible players. The Board of Delegates encourages cooperation with the state chapters and other affiliates in these efforts as appropriate.

RATIONALE: Both this year's and last year's reports of the PPH&BF Committee noted that "the Committee received no new applications for financial assistance." This is likely caused in part because eligible players are unaware of this fund due to the relatively minimal publicity it receives. Indeed, as far as I am aware, it is only discussed on the US Chess website in the governance section (such as the DACIs or the charter for the PPH&BF Committee). If there was more publicity about this fund, however, more people would apply and in so doing the fund could help more of the deserving chess players it was created to serve.

ADM 24-24 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Amend Article IX, Section 8 Accountants to change the word review to audit and accounts to financial statements as follows:

Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to **review audit** US Chess' accounts **financial statements that are prepared** in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

RATIONALE: A review and an audit are very different services. An audit is a much higher level of service which results in an audit opinion being rendered by the independent accounting firm. For at least the last 15 years US Chess has had an independent audit, and the bylaws should require this higher level of service. The second change is to conform to the professional wording used in the accounting profession — financial statements are audited or reviewed and not accounts. And financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

ADM 24-25 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)

Amend motion 1975-01 (as previously amended in 1984,1993,1994)

Delete the first paragraph, leaving the remaining wording as is:

~~No Executive Board member shall serve as the paid TD of more than one USCF National Tournament or International Tournament during a calendar year unless the same opportunity has been declined by all non-members of the Executive Board who are qualified to direct the tournament.~~

No Executive Board member shall be awarded a paid directorship or concession at a National Tournament on which he/she participated in the award vote, except in the case of an uncontested bid. An Executive Board member will not be restricted in the number of awarded paid directorships or concessions received at any National Tournament when the award vote and the acceptance of a paid directorship or concession for the National Tournament occurred before the Executive Board member was elected to office.

RATIONALE: Executive Board members are already prohibited in the bylaws from serving as the Chief Tournament Director at any event other than the U.S. Open for the period of their term in office plus one year. Back when this was first passed, there were far fewer paid director opportunities at US Chess national events. Since that time the operation of US Chess has become much more professionalized. There is a national event organizing staff, and Executive Board members are not involved in micro-management of US Chess team members. The EB does not appoint nor supervise the national events team.

With the growth in the number and size of US Chess events, now the need for experienced tournament directors can outstrip the supply. For example, the 2024 National Elementary Championship had a staff of around 70. And that is one of six major events that US Chess will directly organize in 2024. Executive Board members have continued to serve on these events teams in tournament director positions, just without any compensation, because their skills and expertise have been needed. Executive Board service already comes at a considerable cost to members in both time and personal funds. The compensation for serving as a tournament director as any of these events is frequently less than the individual director might make at their regular job, and many must give up vacation or personal time from those jobs to serve US Chess. It is a matter of simple fairness that if the US Chess national events team decides they need the expertise of these Board members on an event staff, these Board members should be compensated like other event staff.

ADM 24-26 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)
Amend motion 1978-01 Unfinished Delegate Business

Amend motion 1978-01 by striking the language referencing a publication that has not been prepared in years, and add a qualification on the timing of the reporting of board action, as follows:

All motions not acted on by the Delegates at the Annual Meeting that deal with matters which the Executive Board can act on under the Bylaws, shall be acted upon by the Board. These actions shall be reported ~~in the Executive Board Newsletter and at no later than~~ the next year's Delegates Meeting.

RATIONALE: There has not been an Executive Board Newsletter published in more than 15 years. The Executive Board now produces a motions list on the website and produces a periodic report of what it has done with referred motions from the Delegates meeting. Stipulating the method of reporting is micro-management of the Board and does not allow for changes in technology — or results in changes being made anyway that result in technical but trivial violations of Delegates' motions.

ADM 24-27 (ALLEN PRIEST, KY)
Amend motion 1997-52 Personnel

Amend motion 1997-52 Personnel to remove reference to a system no longer used by US Chess as follows:

All Board-approved changes to employee compensation will be subject to a vote of the full Board and the vote will be recorded in open session. ~~The text of any Board approved change to employee compensation will be recorded as a confidential BINFO item.~~

Any Board-approved change to an employee incentive plan must be finalized no later than 90 days after the plan has been approved. Any Board-approved employee contract must have the signature of no fewer than one officer and one other Board member. Board-conducted employee reviews must be discussed and written before presented.

RATIONALE: There is no longer any "BINFO" system. Board motion files are posted on the US Chess website. Stipulating the method of reporting is micro-management of the Board and does not allow for changes in technology — or results in changes being made anyway that result in technical but trivial violations of Delegates' motions.

ADM 24-28 (EDGARDO ACOSTA, TX)

I move to immediately restore the ability of US Chess Tournament Directors and Affiliates to advertise and organize US Chess rated tournaments to be held or hosted in the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI), and

anywhere else within the sovereign territory of the United States of America, its territories and its possessions.

RATIONALE: In March of this year the US Chess Executive Board, at the request of FIDE, voted to suspend US Chess activity in the U.S. Virgin Islands. They did this because FIDE recognizes the U.S. Virgin Islands as a separate nation. But it is an undisputed fact that the U.S. Virgin Islands is not a separate nation, it is a part of the United States of America and has been since 1917.

Several of these "pretend nation" federations have long been recognized by FIDE. Until very recently this was a win-win situation for everyone in the USA and in the "pretend nations," as there was no harm done and it actually provided an opportunity for more Americans to participate in the Olympiads and other foreign events. So, everyone went along. The strongest players participated on the USA team, and other much weaker players (basically chess tourists) participated on the U.S. Virgin Islands team, Puerto Rico's team, etc. No harm was being done and it was mutually beneficial.

But then the FIDE recognized "U.S. Virgin Island Chess Federation" demanded that US Chess cease holding US Chess rated events on their "sovereign territory," and US Chess agreed to their ridiculous demand, so now serious harm is being done to US Chess players who now have to travel over 1,000 miles to play in a US Chess event.

All U.S. citizens and residents on U.S. soil should be able to participate in local US Chess events.

Children especially are harmed by the current policy as they are now denied the possibility of obtaining many USA training opportunities and chess scholarships and fellowships, most of which have in their qualifications a US Chess rating requirement. Having to travel over 1,000 miles to play in tournaments to get their rating up to a specifically required level is not fair for these American kids and is not financially feasible for most people. US Chess should provide chess services and opportunities to all of the USA, equally.

If FIDE wants to continue to recognize the USVI, and others, as national federations and allow them to continue to send teams to the Olympiads, and other international events, that is perfectly okay. Nothing in this motion denies anyone anywhere from participating in FIDE events. All this motion does, if approved, is to require US Chess to rate events held anywhere in the USA. Please, do the right thing and vote to pass this motion.

Free the U.S. Virgin Islands!

ADM 24-29 (HAL TERRIE, NH)

The US Chess Safe Play training mandate shall be modified as follows. The mandate shall remain in effect for all TDs directing at events run directly by US Chess; for all other TDs, the training shall be optional. All TDs whose credentials have been suspended for failure to meet the June 1, 2024 deadline shall have them restored by the US Chess office within 14 days after the end of the 2024 U.S. Open. To conform to the requirements of this motion, Section IV of the Safe Play Policy (dated January 1, 2024) shall be amended as follows:

Current:

~~IV. MANDATORY TRAINING & EDUCATION~~

~~US Chess requires all US Chess-certified Tournament Directors (TDs) to take the authorized core training from the U.S. Center for SafeSport~~

before they can be certified by US Chess. Annual refresher training will then be required to continue their certification. This policy applies to people who already hold Tournament Director credentials and those who are seeking certification. No training substitutes will be considered. US Chess reserves the right to require additional individuals or groups of people to complete this training.

Proposed:

IV. MANDATORY AND OPTIONAL TRAINING & EDUCATION.

US Chess requires all US Chess-certified Tournament Directors (TDs), who wish to direct at events directly run by US Chess, to take the authorized core training from the U.S. Center for SafeSport before they can be certified by US Chess as eligible to work at such events. Annual refresher training will then be required to continue their eligibility to direct at events run directly by US Chess. This policy applies to people who already hold Tournament Director credentials and those who are seeking certification, if they wish to direct at US Chess run events. No training substitutes will be considered. For all other TDs, who plan only to direct events run by other affiliates, the training will be optional.

RATIONALE: The training mandate for all TDs seems to be an over-reaction to bad publicity related to an isolated safe play incident. The incident in question did not involve an open tournament or any certified TDs. There is no great crisis suddenly on the scene which requires such a dramatic change in TD certification rules. In over 40 years of organizing and directing tournaments, the motion sponsor has seen exactly one incident (about 25 years ago) which would likely fall under the Safe Play Guidelines. Further, a discussion with several TDs who have taken this training reveals that most of it is entirely irrelevant to the actual skills required of TDs. The whole thing seems mostly to be a window-dressing response to severe (and mostly unwarranted) criticism from outside parties.

The original Safe Play policy document was circulated to several committees for comment in 2019, before its adoption. It specified training only for TDs planning to work at events run directly by US Chess. The decision to expand the training requirement to all TDs was apparently mentioned only at a couple of workshops in 2023 and then announced to the Delegates as a whole only during the final minutes of the 2023 Delegates Meeting, when there was no time for discussion. Such a significant change to the entire tournament eco-system should have been presented to the Delegates, for debate and a vote. Whether you favor this motion or not, this is the opportunity for a discussion and vote which you were denied last year.

ADM 24-30 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

This ADM proposes amending Article VII (Other Officers, Appointees, and Committees), Section 3 (Committees) and Article III (Membership) to create a new, Delegate-appointed committee of five (5) members to hear appeals of sanctions imposed by the Executive Board upon another member or an affiliate for violations of US Chess Safe Play policy.

Add the following new language as subparagraph A5 under Article VII, Section 3:

5) Safe Play Appeals Committee (SPAC). The SPAC shall be responsible for hearing the appeal of any US Chess member or affiliate sanctioned by the Executive Board for violations of the US Chess Safe Play policy. The SPAC shall consist of 5 US Chess members appointed by the Delegates. The appointees shall choose the SPAC's chair. Members of the Executive Board or Ethics Committee are not eligible to serve on the SPAC.

Add the following new language as Section 13 under Article III:

Section 13. Sanctions for Violations of Safe Play Policy affecting Membership or Affiliation. If the Executive Board sanctions a US Chess member or affiliate for violations of the US Chess Safe Play Policy, the member or affiliate has the right, within 30 days of being notified in writing of the sanction, to appeal the sanction to the Safe Play Appeals Committee as established under Article VII, Section 3, subparagraph A5 of the Bylaws. The decision of the Executive Board will only be reversed or modified by SPAC for clear error. Decisions of the Safe Play Appeals Committee are final and unappealable.

Re-number current Section 13. Annual Membership Meeting to Section 14. Annual Membership Meeting.

RATIONALE: Upon completion of an investigation for alleged Safe Play violations, Section 11 of Article III authorizes the Executive Director (ED) to temporarily suspend the membership of a member for up to 90 days. If the ED takes such action, the Bylaws require the Executive Board to review the suspension under the authority of Section 12 of Article III. In addition, Section 5 of Article VIII authorizes the Executive Board to revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause. The proposed addition to the Bylaws serves two purposes — to establish the Safe Play Appeals Committee, and to provide a sanctioned member or affiliate with the ability to appeal a sanction imposed by the Executive Board without having to wait for the next annual meeting to do so.

Given the sensitive nature of these cases and in order not to deter victims from coming forward, an appeal to a 5-person committee approved by the Delegates is recommended. The appeal hearing should be confidential and protective of the privacy rights of both the accused and the victim. The decision of the Executive Board should only be reversed or modified for clear error — a standard recommended by counsel for appeals that ensures SPAC members do not substitute their judgment for that of the Executive Board.

ADM 24-31 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

Election of Delegate Appointed Safe Play Appeals Committee (SPAC). (Contingent on ADM 24-30 passing)

ADM 24-32 (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

This ADM proposes amending Section 12, Article III of the US Chess Bylaws to remove the ability of members or affiliates to appeal to the Delegates when their membership has been revoked or suspended by the Executive Board for violations of the US Chess Code of Ethics.

Existing Language:

~~Section 12. Revocation of Membership or Affiliation. In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 11, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of US Chess, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or~~

revocation of a member through application of the US Chess Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

Proposed Replacement for Section 12.

Revocation of Membership or Affiliation for Violations of the US Chess Code of Ethics. If the Executive Board affirms a recommendation of the Ethics Committee that a US Chess member's or affiliate's membership be suspended or revoked for violation of the US Chess Code of Ethics, the Executive Board shall, before taking such action, give the member or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within this 30-day period the member or affiliate shall have the right to appeal the Executive Board's decision. The member's or affiliate's appeal shall be in writing and shall state the reasons why the Executive Board's decision is in error and that sanctions should not be imposed. The Executive Board shall act upon the written request and set a date to hear the member's or affiliate's appeal. The date of the hearing shall be set within 30 days following the Executive Board's receipt of a timely filed written appeal. After hearing the appeal, the Executive Board shall sustain, reduce, or remove the sanctions and notify the individual or affiliate in writing of the decision. The decision of the Executive Board is final and unappealable.

RATIONALE: The US Chess ethics complaint process provides a respondent with at least two opportunities to provide the Ethics Committee with evidence supporting their case before the committee completes its review and provides a recommendation to the Executive Board. Upon receiving the Ethics Committee's recommendation, the Executive Board renders a decision that the Office communicates to the respondent and informs the respondent of their right to appeal the board's decision within 30 days. This means the respondent has had at least three opportunities to ensure their case has received appropriate due diligence. After the Executive Board has heard the appeal and rendered a decision there is no need to provide the member/affiliate with another opportunity to appeal by taking their case to the Delegates at the Annual Meeting.


BECKER APPEAL OF EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION

GAREYEV APPEAL OF EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



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REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMITTEE

April 19, 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After meeting with the three principal affiliates, the committee reached out to the entire US Chess membership in the District of Columbia for volunteers willing to help establish a new state chapter. There were 14 respondents with 13 who booked interviews. All 14 were offered an opportunity to be a part of the process, but soon afterward two people were removed for disciplinary reasons. The D.C. Chess Interim Board (DCIB) was created and Marc Rotenberg offered his services to facilitate all meetings after onboarding. After weeks of work, including guidance from the committee, the DCIB put forth the District of Columbia Chess Association (DCCA) as the best organization to become the new state chapter. The DCCA's board voted to accept the recommendations to incorporate a multi-level membership structure, hold open elections for at-large board seat(s), and expand to include all members of the DCIB.

BACKGROUND

The committee was formed after DM23-50 was passed during the 2023 Delegates Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. It is important to note that this action was taken after one organization (DCCA) received the most votes during the three-way election but lost overall when an unscheduled vote versus "none of the above" led to the creation of the District of Columbia Committee.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Carol Meyer, US Chess Executive Director (Removed)

James Hodina, Delegate (IA), States & Affiliates chair, and former state chapter president

David Grimaud, Delegate (SC) and current state chapter president

Kevin Pryor, Delegate (FL), Executive Board, and former state chapter president

Ranae Bartlett, US Chess Executive Director (Added)

EARLY COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Several committee members initially met in D.C. with the leaders of the affiliates that made presentations in Grand Rapids as a follow-up action. The committee determined that more community involvement would help gain additional perspectives. Consequently, an open request was circulated to all US Chess members, and 14 people responded. Thirteen interviews were conducted, and all 14 candidates were offered the opportunity to become the D.C. Chess Interim Board that would work

together with the District of Columbia Committee to form/recommend a new state chapter affiliate.

Unfortunately, two individuals (S. Jablon & V. Bennett) had to be removed very early for not adhering to agreed-upon behavioral expectations. The infractions were: 1) Attempting to conduct meeting(s) with the newly named DCIB before the initial meeting called by the committee (S. Jablon), and 2) Using email to broadcast content with intent to impugn the character and reputation of fellow DCIB member M. Rotenberg, who is an attorney in the community (V. Bennett).

The committee led the initial meeting and began the work to create a collaborative chess governance organization for the D.C. area with the remaining 11 members.

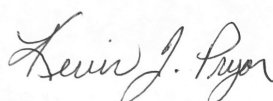
D.C. INTERIM BOARD ACTIONS

From the onset, the DCIB was comprised of members from active US Chess affiliates, chess parents, chess coaches, local players, and organizers. After our initial meeting, Marc Rotenberg came forward to assist with meeting facilitation. He is a well-recognized D.C. area chess person who has supported all affiliates and has worked to broker good relations between multiple groups. After eight sessions, they have put forward a well-detailed report of their activities and agreed to recommend the District of Columbia Chess Association with updated bylaws, a membership focus, and expanding their board with all DCIB members who stayed on and contributed during/through the conclusion of the project.

COMMITTEE CONCLUSION

The D.C. area chess environment has its share of complexities and both the committee and DCIB had to work through many challenges. The members of the interim board greatly appreciated having multiple current and former state chapter presidents providing credibility and wise counsel to the members of the interim board. As a committee, it is our opinion that the work and results of the DCIB represents the best solution for D.C. because they truly desire to represent the entire community. Still, they need time to stabilize and grow into operating as a state chapter, with the full support of the US Chess Board of Delegates. We support their decision to move forward with the DCCA as the new state chapter affiliate for Washington, D.C. and US Chess.

On behalf of the committee,



Kevin Pryor, Chair

REPORT OF THE D.C. CHESS INTERIM BOARD

Oladapo Adu, Reginald Luckett, Robin Ramson, Salvador Rosario, Marc Rotenberg, and Siddarth Sharma
April 2024

SUMMARY

The D.C. Chess Interim Board (DCIB) was created by a resolution of the US Chess delegates at the August 2023 annual meeting to establish a new state affiliate for Washington, D.C. Members of the DCIB were selected by board members of US Chess following an open call for participation. The DCIB met biweekly over several months to address the tasks in the US Chess resolution.

After extensive discussion, the DCIB supported selecting the District of Columbia Chess Association (DCCA or DC Chess Association) as the new D.C. state affiliate. However, the DCIB required certain changes to the DCCA bylaws, including (1) the creation of members with representation on the DCCA board of directors, (2) the creation of a board position elected by members, and (3) the enlargement of the board to include more participation from across Washington, D.C.

The DCCA board of directors adopted the DCIB's recommendations. *All participants in the DCIB process who expressed interest in joining the new state affiliate were unanimously elected to the DCCA board of directors.*

CREATION OF DCIB

Following applications and interviews, US Chess Vice President Kevin Pryor wrote to 14 individuals who expressed interest in the D.C. The D.C. Chess Interim Board to invite them to join the DCIB. Mr. Pryor explained the duties of the US Chess delegate-appointed committee, the duties of the interim board, and the duties of the new D.C. state chapter. One person failed to respond and an offer to one person was withdrawn.

A preliminary meeting was held to review the process and mandate for the DCIB. Participants were asked: *What do you want to see happen as a result of your involvement in this process?*

Following the announcement of the DCIB, two of the participants launched an aggressive attack on one other member of the DCIB. Their actions led to their removal from the DCIB and delayed the start of the committee. Eventually, things settled down and work got underway.

The DCIB established a process to:

- Establish biweekly meetings
- Survey the interim board members
- Create board committees

DCIB MEETINGS

DCIB PRELIMINARY MEETING (DECEMBER 5, 2023)

The first meeting of the DCIB was held on December 5, 2023, with US Chess Vice President Kevin Pryor presiding. The agenda included the following items:

1. Call to Order/Welcome
2. Roll call (bios sent separately)
3. Ground rules
4. US Chess Article VIII and DACI 1991-27
5. The mission

Following the meeting, there was some confusion about how the DCIB would move forward. Marc Rotenberg, who had been active in the Washington chess scene for many years, had lengthy discussions with representatives from DMV Chess, the DC Chess Association (DCCA), and the DC State Chess Federation (DCSFC), and came back to the US Chess representatives on the DCIB with a proposal to facilitate the work as the interim chair of the DCIB until May 1, 2024, when the work was expected to be completed. In the proposal to the DCIB, Marc emphasized:

- Biweekly meetings
- A survey of the interim board members
- The creation of the board committees

Marc also said there were at least two big challenges to resolve before the D.C. Chess proposal was finalized. Marc wrote:

Bylaws - Both the DCCA and the DCSFC have created viable organizations that could be the next D.C. affiliate. Both are functional non-profit organizations, properly incorporated in Washington, D.C., with an active board of directors. Both have also obtained non-profit status and have appropriate names for a US Chess D.C. state affiliate. A lot of time and effort could be saved if we could build on one or both of these structures rather than start over. This ad-hoc bylaws committee should assess the various options and make a proposal to the interim board.

Membership - US Chess has also urged us to create a membership structure. For various reasons, this may not be a realistic expectation. But if there is support for a membership organization, then we will need to work through the administrative requirements. The ad-hoc membership

committee should assess the various options and make a proposal to the interim board.

There followed a remarkably vicious attack on Marc by representatives of the DC State Chess Federation and DMV Chess. Both Vaughn Bennett (DCSCF) and Steven Jablon (DMV Chess) were eventually removed from the DCIB, and the work got underway.

DCIB MEETING #1 (JANUARY 7, 2024)

The DCIB reviewed the sources of the DCIB mission. These are:

- US Chess Delegates resolution, Aug. 2023
- US Chess Bylaws, Art. VIII, Sec. 2 (Functions of a State Chapter)
- US Chess DACI 1991-27 (Responsibilities of a state affiliate)
- US Chess VP Kevin Pryor email, Nov. 22, 2023 (Establishment of D.C. chess)

The DCIB reviewed the US Chess Delegates' resolution and identified three key objectives as indicated below.

"In the interests of the District of Columbia chess players and community, the Delegates appoint a four (4) member committee consisting of David Grimaud (SC), James Hodina (formerly IA, now SC), Kevin Pryor (FL), and Executive Director Carol Meyer to work with and guide the three Applicant-organizations for a new D.C. State Chapter, and others through cooperative efforts. The Committee will involve players and other organizations in an effort to (1) *improve the overall quality and quantity of chess activities and services in D.C.*, and (2) *heal the chess community through cooperation, promotion and activity.*

"In cooperation with the existing State Chapter for D.C., the Committee will facilitate the performance of duties and responsibilities of the D.C. State Chapter for 2023-24, including the provisions of US Chess Bylaws Article VIII Section 2, Article V and DACI 1991-27. Not later than May 1, the Committee will conclude its work and issue a report to the Board of Delegates for publication in the Delegates Call. The Delegates shall take further action as appropriate. The goal of this Committee will be to (3) *facilitate consensus on a new state chapter that is representative of the broader interests of the chess playing community in the District of Columbia.*" — US Chess Delegates, Aug. 2023

The DCIB reviewed US Chess Bylaws, Art. VIII, Sect. 2.

The DCIB Reviewed the activities of a state chapter (DACI 1991-27). Those are:

Required Activities

1. Pay affiliate membership
2. Select a US Chess delegate
3. Sponsor state championship
4. Establish bylaws to promote opportunities for participation and membership

Optional Activities

1. Sponsor state scholastic championships

2. Promote chess tournaments in the state
3. Disseminate a periodical
4. Promote chess activities
5. Act responsibly
6. Designate a coordinator for women's chess

The DCIB reviewed the message sent to all DCIB members from US Chess Vice President Kevin Pryor:

"The Committee cannot stress enough how important it is to work cooperatively and to look to serve the best interest of the chess community of your city/state over any personal agendas." — Kevin Pryor, US Chess Vice President, Nov. 27, 2023

The DCIB identified several participants in the process.

After reviewing all of these materials — and revising the second goal provided by the Delegates to be more positive — the DCIB adopted a mission statement:

1. Improve the overall quality and quantity of chess activities and services in D.C.
2. Promote an active, inclusive, and positive D.C. chess community
3. Facilitate consensus on a new state chapter that is representative of the broader interests of the chess playing community in the District of Columbia
4. Work cooperatively and serve the best interests of the D.C. chess community over any personal agendas

The DCIB agreed to complete work by April 15, 2024, so that the committee could prepare a final report by May 1, 2024.

The DCIB also adopted meeting ground rules:

- We will pursue our mission.
- We will treat one another with respect.
- We will listen thoughtfully to others.
- We will encourage diversity and new voices. No person should dominate the discussions.
- Our comments and our work will be positive and constructive.
- We will focus on the future. The past is past.

DCIB MEETING #2 (JANUARY 23, 2024)

At the second meeting of the DCIB, there was a presentation concerning the lack of chess tournaments in Washington, D.C. As of the date of the meeting, there were 10 listings for Maryland, 27 for Virginia, and zero for Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C. had only six affiliates listed by US Chess, whereas Maryland had 12 and Virginia had 26. D.C. also had fewer active tournament directors (15) than Maryland (37) or Virginia (45).

Insight from the presentation:

- D.C. chess is not providing chess tournaments in D.C.
- This impacts chess players generally and scholastic chess players.
- The anticipated number of tournaments is approximately equal to the number of clubs and affiliates in the state.
- D.C. chess should have about six tournaments posted at this time; about three would be scholastic events.
- Challenge: to organize and promote more tournaments in D.C.

What are the obstacles to organizing chess tournaments in D.C.?

- Finding a TD
- Finding a location
- Managing registrations
- Promotion
- Parking and transportation

What can we all do to promote D.C. chess tournaments?

- Notify US Chess
- Send email blasts through US Chess (\$\$)
- Send to mailing lists
- Post on websites, Instagram, Facebook

The participants in the meeting agreed to do more to promote D.C. chess activities. The participants also identified the need to finalize the state title events.

DCIB MEETING #3 (FEBRUARY 6, 2024)

There were nine participants in the third DCIB meeting.

Robin Ramson reported on the 2024 state title tournaments, including the Rockefeller, Barber, Denker, Haring, and state championship. Locations and dates were confirmed. TLA was sent to US Chess.

The DCIB also created committees and asked individuals to take responsibility for individual committees:

- Community (Reginald)
- Finance (Salvador, Aaron)
- Scholastics (Robin, David)
- Tournaments (Oladapo, Sal)
- US Chess (Zev, Robin)
- Women (Ruth)

There was discussion about the need to engage the Hispanic community.

DCIB MEETING #4 (FEBRUARY 20, 2024)

The fourth meeting of the DCIB focused on membership management.

This was the issue that posed a challenge for all of the applicants for the D.C. state affiliate, as none of the organizations were operating as membership-based organizations.

US Chess VP Kevin Pryor provided an overview of Wild Apricot, the membership management program used by the Florida Chess Association (FCA). The participants were impressed by the program and how well it integrated functions for the FCA.

There was also discussion about membership eligibility, with several people recommending that the new D.C. state affiliate should welcome all as members but could limit voting and board participation to those who were actually D.C. residents.

There was also discussion of dues levels, with the FCA again providing a model for the new D.C. affiliate.

DCIB MEETING #5 (MARCH 5, 2024)

At the fifth meeting of the DCIB, the group took action on two specific proposals following discussion at the preceding meeting. The DCIB unanimously adopted two resolutions:

Proposed Recommendation #1. We recommend that the new D.C. chess affiliate adopt Wild Apricot for membership management. The program works well for state chess associations, is reasonably priced, and the FCA model could be adapted over time to serve the needs of the D.C. chess community.

Proposed Recommendation #2: We recommend that the new D.C. chess affiliate require all active members to (1) be current with dues payments and (2) comply with a code of conduct. We also welcome non-D.C. residents to join as members but recommend that only current D.C. residents should be eligible to vote.

There were several committee reports.

There was also an extensive bylaws discussion on the following topics:

- Who are members and who should be eligible to vote?
- How do we select board members going forward?
- Should we have a dues requirement?
- Should we add committees to the bylaws?
- Are there other topics we should cover in the bylaws?

The DCIB members looked at the DC Chess Association's bylaws as a starting point. There were several suggestions to include new provisions for:

- Filing vacant board positions
- Establishing committees
- Collecting dues
- Providing for the election of board members

DCIB MEETING #6 (MARCH 19, 2024)

The DCIB received a report from US Chess VP Pryor, who explained that there will be a Special Delegates meeting on June 1, 2024, to designate a D.C. state chapter, pursuant to motion DM23-50. The work of the DCIB

must therefore be completed by April 15, 2024, to ensure that a report can be prepared by May 1, 2024, and circulated to the Delegates.

The DCIB received reports on the recent D.C. scholastic events and updates to the website of the DC Chess Association, which now includes a blog with D.C. tournament results, a listing of D.C. chess instructors, and information about a dozen chess organizations based in Washington, D.C.

The DCIB unanimously adopted a resolution.

Proposed Recommendation #3: The DCCA bylaws, as the basis for the new D.C. state affiliate, should be modified to include specific provisions for (a) filling terms for vacant board seats, (b) creating committees, (c) collecting dues, and (d) allowing dues-paying members to select a representative on the board of directors.

The DCIB also considered, if the DCCA were to become the D.C. state chapter, how to ensure broad participation from the participants of the DCIB. Salvador Rosario and Sharma Siddarth, two active members of the DCIB, expressed interest in serving on the board of the DCCA.

The DCCA board meeting, originally scheduled for April 23, 2024, was subsequently rescheduled for April 9, 2024, to (1) consider the nominations of Salvador Rosario and Sharma Siddarth and (2) consider proposed bylaws changes that would be recommended by DCIB.

DCIB MEETING #7 (APRIL 2, 2024)

At the seventh meeting of the DCIB, the participants discussed detailed amendments to the DCCA bylaws that would be required. The topics covered included:

- Board composition
- Board vacancy
- Board quorum
- Officers
- Committees
- Membership
- Code of Conduct
- (Renumbering)

There was extensive discussion of the proposals, and some changes were made during the DCIB discussion.

After the seventh meeting of the DCIB, the DCCA held a separate and independent board meeting in which the DCCA:

1. Adopted bylaws amendments, as proposed by the DCIB, to expand the size of the board of directors, to create an at-large board member who will be elected by the members, as well as other clarifying changes proposed by the DCIB.
2. Added three new members to the board of directors, all of whom are D.C. residents and active participants in the DCIB. The DCCA board is now remarkably diverse, representing different regions of Washington D.C., different age groups, and different communities. The list of the DCCA board members is available here:

DCChessAssociation, Board of Directors: <https://dchessassociation.org/about-us>

3. Adopted a dues resolution to set dues for Regular, Youth, Senior, and Life members similar to other state affiliates.

DCIB MEETING #8 (APRIL 16, 2024)

At the eighth and final meeting of the D.C. Chess Interim Board, the group first reviewed the mission statement, which was based on the original US Chess resolution that established the DCIB. DCCA President Robin Ramson then presented a report to the DCIB.

She explained that the DCCA, meeting independently, had adopted all the recommendations presented at the seventh meeting of the DCIB. These included:

1. Bylaws amendments to craft membership levels for the organization.
2. New board members
3. A fees structure similar to other state affiliates

The DCIB welcomed this report and thanked Robin and the DCCA for adopting the recommendations that the DCIB had proposed.

There followed a presentation and discussion of the draft DCIB report. The aim of the report, as Marc explained, was to provide a summary of the work of the DCIB, the steps that were taken to address the objectives set out in the US Chess resolution of August 2023, and the outcome that resulted. The group thanked Marc for the report and also made various suggestions. Marc said he would incorporate the changes and then send the final version to Kevin prior to the May 1 deadline.

There was a brief reminder about the upcoming D.C. state title events.

The final meeting of the D.C. Chess Interim Board concluded on the evening of April 15, 2024.

OUTCOME

The mission set out by the DCIB at its first formal meeting was:

1. Improve the overall quality and quantity of chess activities and services in D.C.
2. Promote an active, inclusive, and positive D.C. chess community
3. Facilitate consensus on a new state chapter that is representative of the broader interests of the chess playing community in the District of Columbia
4. Work cooperatively and serve the best interests of the D.C. chess community over any personal agendas

After extensive meetings, discussion, and outreach, we believe we have accomplished our mission.

ABOUT THE DC CHESS ASSOCIATION

The DC Chess Association (DCCA) was formally established by Washington, D.C. residents who are active organizers, players, and

D.C. CHESS INTERIM BOARD

promoters of chess in the nation's capital. Our board of directors includes the founder of Chess Girls DC and current and former D.C. chess champions. The mission of the DCCA is to promote chess in the Washington, D.C area through classes, tournaments, and events for players of all abilities, fostering a love of the game and its educational and social benefits. The DCCA is a non- profit, educational organization and a recognized 501(c)(3) charity. The DCCA is a fully accredited US Chess affiliate and maintains a current D.C. Certificate of Good Standing.

- Identified and promoted all chess clubs and organizations in Washington, D.C.
- Identified and promoted all chess tournaments held in Washington, D.C.

DCCA PROMOTES D.C. CHESS (2024)

- Hosted the D.C. state title and the D.C. scholastic championships
- Sponsored chess instruction at libraries and community centers in Washington, D.C.
- Launched a new website and blog: *dchessassociation.org*
- Created a new logo and new slogan: "U knighting the community"
- Preserved the history of D.C. chess champions (Barber, Rockefeller, Denker, Haring, Irwin, and state champions)
- Identified and promoted all titled chess instructors in Washington, D.C.

MEETING PARTICIPATION - DCIB

See table below.

INITIAL MEMBERS - DCIB

Oladapo Olutola Adu	Reginald E. Lockett
<i>Ruth Adu-Gyamfi</i>	Robin Ramson
<i>David Alpert</i>	Salvador A. Rosario
<i>Vaughn Bennett</i>	Marc Rotenberg
Zev Burton	Siddarth Sharma
Michael Joseph Carr	
Joseph Golding	
<i>Stephen Eric Jablon</i>	
Aaron Lemon-Strauss	

Meeting Participation - DCIB

Name	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8
Oladapo Adu	X	X	X		X		X	X
Ranae Bartlett	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Zev Burton	X			X				
Michael Joseph Carr	X							
Joseph Golding	X							
David Grimaud		X	X		X	X	X	X
James Hodina	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Aaron Lemon-Strauss	X	X		X				
Reginald Lockett		X	X	X	X			X
Kevin Pryor	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Robin Ramson	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Salvador Rosario	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marc Rotenberg	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Siddarth Sharma	X		X	X		X	X	

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHESS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

Adopted January 22, 2023

As amended April 9, 2024

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization is the District of Columbia Chess Association, hereinafter referred to as the "Organization." The Organization may also be referred to as the "DC Chess Association" and the "DCCA."

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The DC Chess Association shall guide, encourage, promote and support chess activity fairly and responsibly for all groups and individuals within the Washington, DC chess community.

ARTICLE III: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 - Composition. The Organization shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of no fewer than five (5) and no more than nine (9) members. The Board shall be elected by the Directors of the Organization at the annual meeting, with the inclusion of one member of the Board who shall be elected by the Members of the Organization, who will be designated as an At Large Board Member. Additional At Large Board Members may be added annually. The initial Board shall be those who filed the Articles of Incorporation.

Section 2 - Term of Office. The members of the Board shall serve a two-year term, with approximately half of the Board members being elected each year. The initial Board members shall be elected for either two or three year terms.

Section 3 - Responsibilities. The Board shall be responsible for all policy decisions of the Organization, and shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Organization.

Section 4 - Meetings. The Board shall meet at least quarterly, or as necessary, to conduct the business of the Organization. Board members shall receive at least one week notice of all board meetings.

Section 5 - Vacancies. Vacancies existing by reason of resignation, death, incapacity or removal before the expiration of a term shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining directors. Such replacement shall fill the term of the vacant board member.

Section 6 - Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the total number of Board members in office. All decisions will be by majority vote of those present at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1 - The Officers of the Organization shall include a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Sections 2 - The President shall be responsible for setting the agenda for board meetings, for overseeing the activities of the Organization, and for representing the Organization to outside parties.

Section 3 - The Vice President shall be responsible for assisting the President and for taking on additional tasks as assigned by the President.

Section 4 - The Secretary shall be responsible for taking minutes at board meetings, maintaining records, and preparing reports managing membership.

Section 5 - The Treasurer shall be responsible for paying bills, collecting receipts, and preparing financial reports.

Section 6 - The term of office for the Officers shall be one year.

Section 7 - The Officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors.

Section 8 - Vacancies existing by reason of resignation, death, incapacity or removal before the expiration of a term shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining directors. Such replacement shall fill the term of the vacant board member.

ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES

Section 1 - There shall be standing Committees for Finance, Scholastic, Tournaments, and Women.

Section 2 - The Board may establish such other committees to assist the Board.

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Eligibility. Any person may be a member of the DC Chess Association.

Section 2 - Eligibility to Vote. Only current adult residents of Washington, DC, may vote for board members or serve on the Board of Directors.

Section 3 - Dues. Members shall pay dues as determined by a resolution of the Board of Directors. The dues structure shall encourage the

DC CHESS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

participation of young chess players and seniors in the activities of the DC Chess Association.

Section 4 - State Title Events. All participants in state title events must be current paid members of the DC Chess Association.

Section 5 - Conduct. Any Member may be removed by a majority vote of the Board. The Board shall be guided by the Code of Conduct established by US Chess.

ARTICLE VII: FINANCIAL MATTERS

Section 1 - Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Organization shall be January 1-December 31.

Section 2 - Payments. All checks, orders for the payment of money, and insurance certificates shall be signed or endorsed by an officer or officers of the Organization and in a manner as shall be determined by resolution of the Board.

Section 3 - Contracts. The President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer shall all be authorized to execute contracts on behalf of the Organization. Unless otherwise expressly determined by the Board, no other individuals shall be authorized to bind the corporation to any contract.

Section 4 - Deposits and Accounts. All funds of the Organization, not otherwise employed, shall be deposited in general or special accounts in the banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board may determine.

Section 5 - Annual Financial Statements. Complete financial statements shall be presented to and reviewed by the Board after the close of each fiscal year.

ARTICLE VIII: INDEMNIFICATION

Any Eligible Person made a party to or involved in a Matter by reason

of his or her position with or service to the Organization shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, be indemnified by the Organization against all liabilities and all expenses reasonably incurred by him or her arising out of or in connection with such Matter. An "Eligible Person" shall mean any person who at any time was or is a director, a member or any committee or subcommittee, an officer, employee, or volunteer of the Organization. "Matter" shall mean any actual or threatened civil, criminal, or administrative action, arbitration proceeding, claim, suit, proceeding, or appeals therefrom, or any criminal, administrative, or Congressional (or other body's) investigation, hearing, or other proceeding.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X: CODE OF CONDUCT

All Board members, members, paid contractors, and volunteers of the Organization shall adhere to a code of conduct established by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, all assets of the Organization shall be liquidated and the proceeds shall be distributed to a charitable organization as determined by the Board of Directors.

These bylaws were ratified by a unanimous vote of the Incorporators present at the board meeting following the filing of the Articles of Incorporation in Washington, DC.

Adopted this 22nd day of January, 2023. Amended, April 9, 2024.

NOTES



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government Entities
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHESS ASSOCIATION
C/O MARC ROTENBERG
3230 WOODLAND DR NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20008

Date:
January 31, 2023
Employer ID number:
92-1919865
Person to contact:
Name: Customer Service
ID number: 31954
Telephone: (877) 829-5500
Accounting period ending:
December 31
Public charity status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:
Yes
Effective date of exemption:
January 04, 2023
Contribution deductibility:
Yes
Addendum applies:
No
DLN:
26053430013483

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
CORPORATIONS DIVISION



C E R T I F I C A T E

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that all applicable provisions of the District of Columbia Business Organizations Code have been complied with and accordingly, this **CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION** is hereby issued to:

District of Columbia Chess Association Association

Effective Date: 1/6/2023

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of this office to be affixed as of 1/6/2023 2:05 PM

Business and Professional Licensing Administration



Rebecca Janovich

REBECCA JANOVICH
Deputy Superintendent of Corporations,
Corporations Division

Muriel Bowser
Mayor

Tracking #: mNZQefmZ

2023-24 US CHESS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

AUDIT

Allen Priest, Chair
allen@allenpriestcpa.com

BYLAWS

Guy Hoffman, Co-Chair
schachfuhrer@hotmail.com

Allen Priest, Co-Chair
tyron316@hotmail.com

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

N/A

ELECTION

Mike Nietman, Chair
mike.nietman@charter.net

ETHICS

Anand Dommalapati, Chair
adommalapati@yahoo.com

DELEGATE APPOINTED LIFE MEMBER ASSET TRUST

Chuck Unruh, Co-Chair
chunruh@aol.com

Leroy Dubeck, Co-Chair
ldubeck@aol.com

Beatriz Marinello, Secretary
beatriz@chesseducators.com

COMMITTEE PARTIALLY EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTED (2) AND PARTIALLY DELEGATE APPOINTED (6)

NOMINATING

David Grimaud, Chair
dwgrimaud@aol.com

Sophie Rohde, Vice Chair
littlehouseofchess@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTED COMMITTEES

CHESS IN EDUCATION

Christina Mullinax, Co-Chair
clmullinax@lenoircityschools.net

Mark Indermaur, Co-Chair
mark_indermaur@yahoo.com

CLUBS

Nick Lewis, Co-Chair
nicholas.lewis.usa@gmail.com

Paul Covington, Co-Chair
paul@covingtoncomputers.com

COLLEGE CHESS

Andrew Schley, Chair
andrewschley@gmail.com

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Abhinav Suresh, Chair
abhinav.suresh1@gmail.com

Robin Ransom, Vice Chair
chessgirlsdc@gmail.com

ENDOWMENT FUND TRUST

Chuck Unruh, Chair
chunruh@aol.com

FIDE EVENTS

John Fernandez, Co-Chair
john.fernandez@gmail.com

David Hater, Co-Chair
dhater1@aol.com

FINANCE & RESERVE FUND

Chuck Unruh, Chair
chunruh@aol.com

MILITARY

Robert Getty, Chair
chess@gettyfamily.com

NATIONAL STATE INVITATIONALS

Mike Nietman, Chair
mike.nietman@charter.net

PPHBF CLAIMS

David Day, Chair
davidchessday@gmail.com

RATINGS

Mark Glickman, Chair
mg.math.mirror@gmail.com

RECOGNITIONS

John McCrary, Chair
chessrjm@gmail.com

RULES

Myron Thomas, Chair
myron@myronthomas.com

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL & COMMITTEE

John D. Rockefeller V, Chair
johndrockefeller@icloud.com

Danny Rohde, Vice Chair
daniel.g.rohde@gmail.com

SENIOR

Michael Mulford, Chair
mmulfish@yahoo.com

Paul Covington, Co-Vice Chair
paul@covingtoncomputers.com

David Grimaud, Co-Vice Chair
dwgrimaud@aol.com

STATES AND AFFILIATES

Fun Fong, Co-Chair
fun.fong.jr@gmail.com

Jim Hodina, Co-Chair
jim.hodina@gmail.com

TOP PLAYERS

Tatev Abrahamyan, Co-Chair
t Abrahamyan88@gmail.com

Robert Hess, Co-Chair
rlh21291@gmail.com

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION

Jeff Wiewel, Chair
jwiewel@ntnusa.com

Karen Pennock, Vice Chair
kpennock_83@yahoo.com

US CHESS DEVELOPMENT

Michael Shuman, Chair
michael@4f.io

John D. Rockefeller V, Vice-Chair
johndrockefeller@icloud.com

U.S. OPEN

Hal Terrie III, Chair
halterrie@comcast.net

WOMEN'S CHESS

Kimberly Doo, Co-Chair
kimberlydoo@yahoo.com

Maureen Grimaud, Co-Chair
lakemmo@aol.com

Due to space constraints, committee reports have been moved online and can be found here: <https://new.uschess.org/information-2024-annual-meeting-norfolk-virginia>

2024 DELEGATE/ALTERNATE LIST

ALABAMA 2,2

DAL Ken Sloan
Del Todd Guthrie
Del Michael Porcelli
Alt
Alt
AAD Frank Camaratta

ALASKA 1,1

Del
Alt

ARIZONA 2,2

Del Michelle Martinez
Del Martha Underwood
Alt
Alt
AAD Frank B. Elley, Jr.

ARKANSAS 2,2

Del Steven E. Elkins
Del David Morgan
Alt
Alt

CALIFORNIA-NORTH 6,6

Del Salman Azhar
Del Richard Koepcke
Del Jim Eade
Del Thomas P. Langland
Del Dana Langland
Del Jordan Langland
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt

CALIFORNIA-SOUTH 5,5

DAL Dewain Barber
DAL Randall Hough
Del Frank Lee
Del Dedian Guo
Del Jim Mennella
Del Alaa-addin Moussa
Del Brian Glover
Alt Jonathan Machtig

Alt

Alt

Alt

Alt

COLORADO 2,2

Del Duwayne Langseth
Del Earle Wikle
Alt Dean W. Brown
Alt

CONNECTICUT 2,2

Del Mikhail Koganov
Del Alexander Lumelsky
Alt
Alt

DELAWARE 2,2

Del Garry Quell
Del
Alt Sumit Bose
Alt

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2,2

Del Robin Ransom
Del Marc Rotenberg
Alt
Alt

FLORIDA 6,6

EB Kevin Pryor
Del Bryan Tillis
Del Jon Haskel
Del George Foote
Del Andrew Rea
Del Charles Hatherill
Del
Alt Garrett Foote
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
Alt
AAD Anthony P. Cottell

GEORGIA 3,3

EB David Hater

PEB Fun Fong

Del Tiffany Harris

Del Henry Hopson

Del Sierra Smith

Alt

Alt

Alt

HAWAII 2,2

Del

Del

Alt

Alt

IDAHO 2,2

Del Adam Porth

Del

Alt

Alt

ILLINOIS 5,5

Del William Broich

Del Stephen Plotnick

Del Lawrence Cohen

Del Tim Just

Del Jeff Wiewel

Alt

Alt

Alt

Alt

Alt

AAD Helen E. Warren

INDIANA 2,2

Del Robert Banta

Del Lester L. Van Meter

Alt Jay A. Carr

Alt Nikhil Murugan

IOWA 2,2

EB Randy Bauer

Del Ben Bratz

Del Eric Vigil

Alt

Alt

KANSAS 2,2

Del CJ Armenta

Del

Alt

Alt

KENTUCKY 2,2

DAL Allen Priest

Del Daro Mott

Del

Alt

Alt

LOUISIANA 2,2

EB Leila D'Aquin

Del Adriana Schneider

Del Andrew Squitiro

Alt James Eryk Hargrove

Alt Matthew Billings

MAINE 2,2

Del Michael Dudley

Del Jacoby Adam Grotton

Alt

Alt

MARYLAND 3,3

Del Michael Regan

Del John D. Rockefeller V

Del Chris Y. Kim

Alt Grishmeshwar Sinha

Alt Brent Howard Layer

Alt Satish R. Nath

MASSACHUSETTS 3,3

Del Wayne Powers

Del Frank DelBonis

Del Robert Messenger

Alt

Alt

Alt

MICHIGAN 2,2

Del Jeff Aldrich

Del Stan J. Jarosz Jr.

Alt Michael D. Brooks

Alt Ray Garrison

MINNESOTA 2,2

Del Jenny Bourne

Motion Into Action

The inaugural U.S. Senior Women's Championship

EDITED AND EXCERPTED FROM AN APRIL 2024 CHESS LIFE ARTICLE BY **JULIA O'NEILL**

Sitting through a delegates meeting requires patience, fortitude, and (sometimes) a bladder of steel. After days of meetings and workshops, you might start wondering if the effort is worth it and what really happens after the final gavel falls. So, to demonstrate why your input matters, we thought we'd share portions of a Chess Life article that highlights putting a motion into action. In just 14 months — after the Executive Board passed EB23-019 on September 13, 2022 — the inaugural U.S. Senior Women's Championship kicked off on November 3, 2023, in Berkeley, California. The culmination of an idea turned into a motion turned into reality is just one example of how your time, energy, and voices are critical to our organization's growth and success. Please enjoy!

CHESPLAYERS ARE all the same ... *only some of them are women.*

The first U.S. Senior Women's Championship was held November 3-5, 2023, at the Berkeley Chess School in Berkeley, California. This inaugural event came to fruition through the efforts and cooperation of the Eade Foundation, the Berkeley Chess School, and US Chess.

What does it take to implement something great that is also long overdue? It takes a spark to light the fire, along with teamwork and perseverance to fan the flames and bring the idea to fruition. The first seeds for the tournament were planted in 2019, when the idea was brought up to the US Chess Executive Board by Dr. Alexey Root, WIM, and FM Jim Eade.

At the annual delegates meeting in 2022, Jim made a motion to start a women's senior championship

and it passed. Then, in September 2023, the Executive Board approved EB23-019 and the championship was officially born. The Eade Foundation and Elizabeth Shaughnessy, who started the Berkeley Chess School, bid on the tournament and it was awarded to them.

This invitational championship brought together 12 of the top women players in the country, ranging in age from 54 to 82, to compete in

Below: The participants in the inaugural U.S. Senior Women's Chess Championship



2023 U.S. Senior Women's Championship

BEREKLEY, CA | NOVEMBER 3-5, 2023

Pairing Number	Player	Rating	Round						Total Points
			1	2	3	4	5		
1	WGM Anjelina Belakovskaia	2218	W 6	W 8	W 2	D 3	W 4		4½
2	WFM Olga Sagalchik	2100	W 4	W 12	L 1	W 8	W 3		4
3	WIM Beatriz Marinello	2200	W 10	D 7	W 5	D 1	L 2		3
4	Varinia Cabrera	1815	L 2	W 11	W 9	W 7	L 1		3
5	WFM Natalya Tsodikova	2181	L 8	W 6	L 3	W 11	D 7		2½
6	WIM Vesna Dimitrijevic	1907	L 1	L 5	W 12	D 9	W 10		2½
7	WIM Alexey Root	2000	W 9	D 3	L 8	L 4	D 5		2
8	WCM Natasha Christiansen	1821	W 5	L 1	W 7	L 2	U		2
9	Julia O'Neill	1800	L 7	W 10	L 4	D 6	D 11		2
10	WIM Shernaz Kennedy	1900	L 3	L 9	D 11	W 13	L 6		1½
11	WIM Dorothy "Dolly" Teasley	2000	L 12	L 4	D 10	L 5	D 9		1
12	WCM Mary Kuhner	1738	W 11	L 2	L 6	F	U		1
13	WFM Ivona Jezierska	2097	U	U	U	L 10	U		0

the five-round Swiss system tournament. The women, who came from all walks of life, had one thing in common: love of the game.

The tournament featured an \$8,000 prize fund with no entry fees. The time control was G/90+30. FIDE Arbiter and Life Master Richard Koepcke directed the event.

Aside from being the first of its kind, the tournament was special in many ways. The camaraderie between the players was amazing. Those of us who had not played in tournaments for a while were once again bitten by the chess bug. We were reminded why we initially fell in love with the game. And Elizabeth Shaughnessy was truly the "hostess with the mostest." The playing venue was well lit and comfortable, food and lodging were provided, as well as transportation between the hotel and the playing site. Jim and Elizabeth could not have done more to make us feel welcome and comfortable.

THE OPENING

US Chess Executive Director Carol Meyer addressed the group at the opening ceremony and introduced Executive Board member Leila D'Aquin and Women's Committee Chair Kimberly Doo. Jim Eade and Elizabeth Shaughnessy also shared some thoughts with us and Richard Koepcke reviewed the rules. Commemorative baseball caps were given to all participants as well, which was a much-appreciated gesture.

THE MIDDLE GAME

WGM Anjelina Belakovskaia was the pre-tour-

namment favorite and in the end she prevailed. It was not clear sailing and she faced a few obstacles along the way, but with her resourcefulness and a little luck, she persevered and took clear first place.

THE ENDGAME

Celebration time! On Sunday evening, after the final moves were played, US Chess and Jim Eade generously hosted a dinner for the players and presented monetary awards to the winners, most notably the \$4,000 first place prize to Anjelina. Glasses were raised and toasts were made.

To commemorate the event, we each signed 12 chess boards, and everyone received one to keep as souvenirs. In addition, Jim presented everyone with commemorative t-shirts. There were hugs all around and promises to meet up again.

As a result of this tournament, good things are continuing to evolve as US Chess has agreed to send a 50+ women's team to the 2024 World Senior Team Chess Championships, scheduled to be held in Krakow, Poland in July.

A TOAST TO THE "SUPER SENIORS"

There has never been a 65+ U.S. Senior Women's Championship. There were very few women playing chess in the early 1970s, and many consider those women to be trailblazers for a future generation of women.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "A woman is like a tea bag, you never know how strong she is until she gets into hot water." Our trailblazers faced

adversity and chauvinism, and they persevered. Well done, ladies! ♠

You can read the entire article, including game analyses, in the April 2024 **Chess Life**. Click on "Chess Life Magazine" at [uschess.org](https://www.uschess.org) for the digital version.



MOTIONS OF THE US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD IN FY 2023-2024

KEY: C=PHONE CONF. CALL, E=ELECTRONIC PORTAL, M=PHYSICAL MEETING, I=INTERNET VIDEO CONFERENCE

MOTION #	Sponsor	Date/Method	Subject	Disposition
EB24-001	Pryor	8-6-2023 M	President Named	PASSED 8-0
EB24-002	Bauer	8-6-2023 M	Vice President Named	PASSED 8-0
EB24-003	D'Aquin	8-6-2023 M	Vice President of Finance	PASSED 8-0
EB24-004	Bauer	8-6-2023 M	Secretary Named	PASSED 8-0
EB24-005	Board	8-6-2023 M	Partner with CCA to organize the 2024 Pan American Youth Festival/Competition	PASSED 8-0
EB24-006	Board	8-6-2023 M	Approve initial 2023-2024 Committee List	PASSED 8-0
EB24-007	Board	8-15-2023 M	Approve Rosen Shingle Creek contract	PASSED 8-0
EB24-008	Hoffpauir	8-16-2023 E	Approve the minutes from 8-3-2023	PASSED 8-0
EB24-009	Hoffpauir	8-16-2023 E	Approve the minutes from 8-6-2023	PASSED 8-0
EB24-010	Hoffpauir	8-16-2023 E	Approve the minutes from 8-15-2023	PASSED 8-0
EB24-011	Board	8-18-2023 E	Approval of the Scholastic Regulations	PASSED 8-0
EB24-012	Board	9-12-2023 I	Appointment of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee	PASSED 8-0
EB24-013	Board	9-12-2023 I	Approval of contract with the Hyatt Regency Baltimore for the 2026 National Elementary Championships	PASSED 8-0
EB24-014	Board	9-12-2023 I	Approval of agreement between US Chess and Element 3 Health	PASSED 8-0
EB24-015	Board	9-15-2023 E	Addition of Paul Swaney to the Chess in Education (CIE) Committee	PASSED 8-0
EB24-016	Board	9-20-2023 I	Appointment of David Hater as US Chess FIDE Delegate	PASSED 7-0
EB24-017	Board	9-22-2023 I	Adoption of the EB meeting minutes from 9-12-2023	PASSED 8-0
EB24-018	Fernandez	10-1-2023 I	Addition of Bill Brioch to FIDE Events Committee	PASSED 8-0

EB24-019	Board	10-18-2023 I	Permanent ban for IM Alexey Diulger, US Chess ID 14584110	WITHDRAWN
EB24-020	Board	10-18-2023 I	Nominees for induction to US Chess Hall of Fame	PASSED 7-0
EB24-021	Board	10-23-2023 E	Approve minutes from the special board meeting 9-20-2023	PASSED 8-0
EB24-022	Board	11-14-2023 I	Approval of the Minutes for the EB meeting on 9-12-2023	PASSED 8-0
EB24-023	Board	11-14-2023 I	Approval of the Minutes for the EB meetings on 10-18-2023	PASSED 7-0
EB24-024	Board	11-14-2023 I	Reconsider EB23-019	PASSED 8-0
EB24-025	Board	11-14-2023 I	Permanent ban for IM Alexey Diulger	PASSED 8-0
EB24-026	Board	11-14-2023 I	Approve updating the Endowment Fund Trust's documents	PASSED 8-0
EB24-027	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Approve 11-14-2023 Executive Board minutes	PASSED 8-0
EB24-028	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Recommendation to FIDE to remove Alejandro Ramirez from their list of USA players	PASSED 8-0
EB24-029	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Revocation of Timur Gareyev's membership with a permanent ban on him from anything endorsed by US Chess	PASSED 8-0
EB24-030	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Recommendation to FIDE to remove Timur Gareyev from their list of USA players	PASSED 8-0
EB24-031	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Establishment of Governance Task Force	PASSED 8-0
EB24-032	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Authorization to the ED to approve contract with the Hilton Anatole, Dallas, for the April 2028 Middle School Championships	PASSED 8-0
EB24-033	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Authorization to the ED to approve contract with the Hilton Anatole, Dallas, for the 2027 U.S. Open	PASSED 8-0
EB24-034	Board	12-02/03-2023 M	Authorization to the ED to approve contracts worth less than \$25,000 and bring attention of EB to any significant contracts of lesser value	PASSED 8-0
EB24-035	Board	12-4-2023 E	Minutes from the EB meeting (Open Session) in St. Louis	PASSED 8-0
EB24-036	Meyer	12-10-2023 E	Skvare Contracts for Hosting/Bulk Email/Maintenance/Development	PASSED 8-0
EB24-037	Board	12-18-2023 E	Agreement with Bestow Accounting (Formerly Altruic)	PASSED 8-0
EB24-038	Board	12-20-2023 E	Approve revised Safe Play Policy	PASSED 8-0
EB24-039	Hoffpauir	12-29-2023 E	Approve event rules for six state scholastic championships	PASSED 8-0
EB24-040	Board	1-9-2024 E	Approve 2026 U.S. Open contract	PASSED 8-0
EB24-041	Board	1-9-2024 I	Establish a Governance Task Force	PASSED 7-0
EB24-042	Board	1-9-2024 I	Resignation of US Chess Executive Director Carol Meyer	PASSED 7-0
EB24-043	Board	1-9-2024 I	Appoint Ranae Bartlett, the US Chess Director of Operations, as US Chess's Interim Executive Director	PASSED 7-0

EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

EB24-044	Board	1-9-2024 E	Approve Minutes of January 2024 EB meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB24-045	Board	1-18-2024 E	2026 U.S. Open Hotel Contracts	PASSED 8-0
EB24-046	Bauer	1-18-2024 E	Add members to Governance Task Force	PASSED 8-0
EB24-047	Board	1-29-2024 E	Hyland Regency Orlando for 2028, 2030, and 2032 K-12	PASSED 8-0
EB24-048	Board	1-31-2024 E	Contracts for Rosen Shingle Creek (Orlando, FL) 2029, 2031, 2033 K-12 Grade Nationals	PASSED 8-0
EB24-049	Board	2-13-2024 E	Approval of updated Membership Terms and Conditions	PASSED 8-0
EB24-050	Board	2-13-2024 I	Denial of Timur Gareyev's appeal	PASSED 8-0
EB24-051	Board	2-13-2024 I	Revised signatories on Bank of America accounts	PASSED 8-0
EB24-052	Board	2-13-2024 I	Revised signatories on Regions Bank accounts	PASSED 8-0
EB24-053	Board	2-13-2024 I	Approve Assurance Dimensions to provide audit and tax filing services for the next three fiscal years	PASSED 8-0
EB24-054	Board	2-14-2024 E	Approval of proposal for new rating system	PASSED 8-0
EB24-055	Hoffpauir	2-26-2024 E	Minutes, Feb 13, 2024, Executive Board Meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB24-056	Board	3-8-2024 E	Hargrove contract for 2024 Nationals HS	PASSED 8-0
EB24-057	Bauer	3-16/17-24 M	Confirmation of Ranae Bartlett as Executive Director	PASSED 8-0
EB24-058	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Working group established in support of DM23-35	PASSED 8-0
EB24-059	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Calling a Special Delegates Meeting 6-1-2024	PASSED 8-0
EB24-060	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Remove temporary COVID-19 restrictions from the Grand Prix rules	PASSED 8-0
EB24-061	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Expansion of tournaments eligible for the US Chess Federation Grand Prix	PASSED 8-0
EB24-062	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Approve Certification of Incumbency	PASSED 8-0
EB24-063	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Top woman finisher in the U.S. Senior Open shall receive an invitation to the U.S. Women's Senior Championship from 2024	PASSED 8-0
EB24-064	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Paid Family Leave	PASSED 8-0
EB24-065	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Flag on Logan Moore's record	PASSED 8-0
EB24-066	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	David Hater reappointed US Chess's FIDE Delegate	PASSED 7-0
EB24-067	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Parity in appearance fees	PASSED 8-0
EB24-068	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Appropriation for World Senior Team Championships	PASSED 8-0

EB24-069	Board	3-16/17-2024 M	Suspension of US Chess rated tournaments in the US Virgin Islands (USVI)	PASSED 8-0
EB24-070	Hoffpauir	3-21-2024 E	Minutes March 16/17, 2024, Executive Board meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB24-071	Board	3-22-2024 E	2029 Super Nationals hotel contract	PASSED 8-0
EB24-072	Board	3-22-2024 E	2029 Super Nationals hotel, food, and license agreements	PASSED 8-0
EB24-073	Board	3-29-2024 E	Ratings System Software Agreement	PASSED 8-0
EB24-074	Board	4-9-2024 E	Approve ED's contract	PASSED 8-0
EB24-075	Board	4-9-2024 E	Approve US Chess Whistleblower policy	PASSED 8-0
EB24-076	Board	4-9-2024 I	Establishment of Data Quality Project	PASSED 6-0
EB24-077	Hoffpauir	4-18-2024 E	Approve Minutes of April 9, 2024, EB Meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB24-078	Board	4-23-2024 E	Approve US Chess Sales Inc contract extension	PASSED 8-0
EB24-079	Board	4-23-2024 I	Approve final report of D.C. State Chapter Committee	PASSED 8-0
EB24-080	Board	4-23-2024 I	Appeal of Arnaldo Ferragut – Denied	PASSED 8-0
EB24-081	Board	4-23-2024 I	Tyrell Harriott – revocation of membership	PASSED 7-0-1
EB24-082	Board	5-5-2024 E	Approve minutes of 4-23-2024, Special Executive Board Meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB24-083	Board	5-14-2024 I	Cancellation of Special Delegates Meeting 6-1-2024	PASSED 8-0
EB24-084	Board	5-14-2024 I	Amendment to EB24-081	PASSED 8-0
EB24-085	Board	5-14-2024 I	Suspension of TD Gerardo Anaya Rodriguez's certification	PASSED 8-0
EB24-086	Board	5-14-2024 I	Suspend Mr. Pejman Sagart's US Chess membership	PASSED 8-0
EB24-087	Board	5-15-2024 E	Approve Minutes of May 14, 2024, EB monthly meeting	PASSED 8-0
EB24-088	Board	5-16-2024 E	Approve the awardees for the 2024 Annual Meeting	PASSED 8-0

FOR THE MOST CURRENT VERSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS IN FY 2023-2024 WITH APPENDICES, VISIT <https://new.uschess.org/2023-2024-executive-board-documents>

The first meeting of the 2023-2024 US Chess Executive Board took place on August 6, 2023, at the U.S. Open in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

EB24-001 – PRYOR

I nominate Randy Bauer (IA) as President of US Chess. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-002 – BAUER

I nominate Kevin Pryor (FL) as Vice President of US Chess. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-003 – D'AQUIN

I nominate Chuck Unruh (OK) as Vice President of Finance of US Chess. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-004 – BAUER

I nominate Mike Hoffpauir (VA) as Secretary. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-005 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves that US Chess, in partnership with the Chess Confederation of the Americas (CCA), organize and host the 2024 Pan American Youth Chess Festival/Championships in Orlando, FL, in July 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-006 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the initial appointments as listed for EB-appointed committees for 2023-24. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-007 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt the contract with the Rosen Shingle Creek for the 2024 Pan American Youth Chess Championship. **PASSED 8-0**

Context: US Chess will organize and host the tournament in Orlando at the Rosen Shingle Creek in mid-July 2024.

EB24-008 – HOFFPAUIR

I move that the Executive Board (EB) approve the meeting minutes from the EB Open Session held in Grand Rapids, MI, on Thursday, August 3, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-009 – HOFFPAUIR

I move that the Executive Board (EB) approve the meeting minutes from the EB Open Session held in Grand Rapids, MI, on Sunday, August 6, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-010 – HOFFPAUIR

I move that the Executive Board (EB) approve the meeting minutes from the EB Open Session held via Zoom on Tuesday, August 15, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-011 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the 2023-24 National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations with an effective date of September 1, 2023.

Context: The Scholastic Council drafted these regulations in collaboration with EB Liaisons Mike Hoffpauir and David Hater. They were reviewed by Boyd Reed and Pete Karagianis, with slight modifications recommended. The Scholastic Council and Pete Karagianis resolved the differences and produced the final draft that is ready for EB voting. Vote is needed ASAP so the Director of Events can use the Regulations to plan for the 2023 K-12 Grade Nationals. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-012 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to appoint Michael Aigner (CA), Louis Reed (TX), Martha Underwood (AZ), Christina Schweiss (VA), Saiya Karamali (WA), Daaim Shabazz (FL), Abhinav Suresh (NE), and Robin Ramson (DC) to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-013 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the contract with the Hyatt Regency Baltimore for guest rooms to support the 2026 National Elementary Championships. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-014 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt the agreement between US Chess and Element 3 Health. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-015 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to add Paul Swaney to the Chess in Education Committee. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-016 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to appoint David Hater as the USA Chess Federation Delegate to FIDE effective immediately through Dec 31, 2023. **PASSED 7-0** with David Hater abstaining.

EB24-017 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the Executive Board

meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-018 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to add Bill Broich (IA) to the FIDE Events Committee. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-019 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to permanently ban IM Alexey Diulger, US Chess ID 14584110 (a/k/a Alex Dugler and Alexey Diulgher), from membership in the US Chess Federation for violations of US Chess Safe Play Guidelines; to permanently ban IM Diulger, FIDE ID 13900730, from using his International Master title to gain entry into any US Chess-rated event; and, to permanently bar him from attending any US Chess-rated tournaments or activities sanctioned by the US Chess Federation. The Executive Board further moves to report IM Diulger's activities to FIDE (the World Chess Federation) and the Moldovan Chess Federation. **WITHDRAWN**

EB24-020 – BOARD

The Executive Board accepts the recommendations of the US Chess Recognitions Committee to nominate IM Jeremy Silman, Charles Henry Stanley, and Bruce Pandolfini for induction into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. The Executive Board further recommends two-time U.S. Champion GM Patrick Wolff and Correspondence World Champion Jonathan Edwards for induction into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. **PASSED 7-0** with David Hater not present.

EB24-021 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the Special Executive Board meeting of September 20, 2023. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-022 – BOARD

The Board moved to approve the September 2023 minutes of the Executive Board meeting. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-023 – BOARD

The Board also moved to approve the October 2023 minutes of the Executive Board meeting. **PASSED 7-0** with David Hater abstaining as he was not present at the meeting on 10-18-23.

EB24-024 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to reconsider EB24-019 regarding IM Alexey Diulger, US Chess ID 14584110, that was PASSED at the October 18 Executive Board meeting. **PASSED 8-0**. As a result of EB24-024 motion EB24-019 is hereby withdrawn.

EB24-025 – BOARD

Under the authority of Article III, Section 12 of the US Chess Bylaws, the Executive Board moves to revoke the US Chess membership of IM Alexey Diulger, US Chess ID 14584110 for being a threat to the safety of US Chess members. The Executive Board further moves to permanently ban IM Diulger, FIDE ID 13900730, from using his International Master title to gain entry into any US Chess-rated event; to permanently bar him from attending any US Chess rated tournaments or activities sanctioned by the US Chess Federation; and to report IM Diulger's activities to FIDE (the World Chess Federation) and the Moldovan Chess Federation. In accordance with the US Chess Bylaws the Executive Board is providing IM Diulger with 30 days of written notice to respond to these proposed actions before the specifications take effect. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-026 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the Endowment Fund Trust Trustee's restated Investment Policy Statement and the First Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust that updates the incorporation documents of the Endowment Fund Grantor Trust. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-027 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023, Executive Board Meeting. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-028 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to recommend that FIDE remove GM Alejandro Ramirez, FIDE ID 6500617, from the list of FIDE players flagged as USA. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-029 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to revoke the US Chess Federation membership of GM Timur Gareyev, US Chess ID 13262157, and to permanently ban him from appearing at, attending, or participating in any events or activities organized, sanctioned, or to be rated by the US Chess Federation or any of its affiliates. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-030 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to recommend that FIDE remove GM Timur Gareyev, FIDE ID 14200937, from the list of FIDE players flagged as USA. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-031 – BOARD

Under the authority of DM 23-44, the Executive Board moves to establish a Governance Task Force with membership to be determined by the Executive Board for a first meeting no later than January 15, 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-032 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to approve the contract with the Hilton Anatole (Dallas, TX) as the host site for the 2028 Middle School Championships in April 2028. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-033 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to approve the contract with the Hilton Anatole (Dallas, TX) as the host site for the 2027 U.S. Open. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-034 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to approve all contracts less than \$25,000 and to bring to the attention of the Executive Board lesser value contracts of significance. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-035 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the EB Meeting held 2-3 December 2023, in St. Louis, MO. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-036 – MEYER

The Executive Board moves to approve the Hosting/Bulk Email/Maintenance/Development contracts with Skvare.

Rationale: Skvare has been our CiviCRM/Drupal partner providing the above-mentioned services. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-037 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the Consulting Agreement with Bestow Accounting (formerly Altruic) for CFO, audit support, budget support and monthly financial reporting services. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-038 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt the revised Safe Play Policy document, to take effect upon passage on January 1, 2024.

Rationale: The Safe Play Policy document replaces the Safe Play Guidelines, extending they scope of the Policy to all US Chess rated events and other US Chess activities (e.g. committee meetings, Delegates'

meeting). The Executive Board recognizes that this is a living document, which will continue to evolve. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-039 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the Event Rules for the following six (6) National Scholastic and Senior Invitational Tournaments of State Champions: Denker (High School), Barber (Middle School), Rockefeller (Elementary), Haring (Girls), Irwin (Senior), and Weeramantry (Blitz) as updated by the US Chess National State Invationals Committee. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-040 – BOARD

The Executive Board approves the Devos Place contract and accompanying policy for the 2026 U.S. Open in Grand Rapids, Michigan. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-041 – BOARD

In accordance with DM23-42, the Executive Board moves to appoint a Governance Task Force (GTF) to create a policies and procedures document and to examine and revise the existing DACI as part of that document. The GTF will provide recommendations to the Executive Board who will then make recommendations to the Delegates at a future meeting. As members of the GTF the Executive Board moves to appoint Randy Bauer (IA), Leila D'Aquin (LA), Lakshmana (Vish) Viswanath (TX), Steve Doyle (NJ), John McCrary (SC), and Kimberly Doo (NY), with the option to add additional members.. **PASSED 7-0** with VP Kevin Pryor not present for the vote.

EB24-042 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to accept the resignation of US Chess Executive Director Carol Meyer and that her final day as Executive Director is Friday, February 9, 2024. **PASSED 7-0** with VP Kevin Pryor not present for the vote.

EB24-043 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to appoint Ranae Bartlett, the US Chess Director of Operations, as US Chess's Interim Executive Director effective Saturday, February 10, 2024. **PASSED 7-0** with VP Kevin Pryor no present for the vote.

EB24-044 – BOARD

The Executive Board (EB) moves to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, January 9, 2024, meeting of the EB conducted over Zoom. The minutes of the meeting contain three (3) motions developed during the EB's closed session. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-045 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the hotel contracts with the Amway Grand and Courtyard Hotels for the 2026 U.S. Open in Grand Rapids, Michigan. These contracts are companions to the Devos Place contract, the site of the U.S. Open tournament. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-046 – BAUER

I move that the Executive Board add the following members to the Governance Task Force, which is tasked with creating a policies and procedures documented to examine and revise the existing DACI as part of that document. The additional members will be David Day (Utah) and Robert Greer (West Virginia). **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-047 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the hotel contracts with the Hyatt Regency Orlando for the 2028, 2030, and 2032 K-12 Grade Nationals in Orlando, Florida. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-048 – BOARD

The Executive Board approves contracts for the 2029, 2031, 2033 K-12 Grade Nationals with the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel in Orlando, Florida. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-049 – BOARD

The Executive Board approves updates to the Membership Terms and Conditions as attached. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-050 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to deny the appeal of GM Timur Gareyev, US Chess ID 13262157, which he filed in response to Executive Board motions passed on December 3, 2023 (EB24-029), to permanently ban him from US Chess membership under the authority of Article III, Section 12 of the US Chess Bylaws, and to recommend that FIDE deregister him from the USA federation. US Chess will notify GM Gareyev in writing of this denial and inform him of his right to appeal the Executive Board's decision to the Board of Delegates at the next Annual Meeting in early August 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-051 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to update and approve the assignment of the Bank of America account ownership and related matters for the US Chess Federation by revising the signatories to its accounts with Bank of America as follows: 1) to remove the existing signatories Randy Bauer, Chuck Unruh, Carol Meyer, and Korey Kormick; and, 2) to replace them with Randy Bauer, Chuck Unruh, Korey Kormick, and Ranae Bartlett as new signatories. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-052 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to update and approve the assignment of the Regions Bank account ownership and related matters for the US Chess Federation by revising the signatories to its accounts with Regions Bank as follows: 1) to remove the existing signatories Christine Green, Carol Lenhardt, and Korey Kormick; and 2) to replace them with Christine Green, Korey Kormick, and Ranae Bartlett as new signatories. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-053 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the firm of Assurance Dimensions for the next three fiscal years to provide audit and tax filing services beginning with fiscal year 2023-24. The motion is based on a recommendation from the Financial Committee that reviewed and interviewed various audit firms in response to an earlier Request for Proposal. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-054 – BOARD

The Executive Board approves accepting the proposal submitted by LeaGo to rebuild the current ratings system by building a comprehensive system architecture, rebuilding the current rating engine, rebuilding the current player/game database and website (Member Services Area), and migrating player/game database to the new system. Terms of the engagement and contract will be considered by the Executive Board at a subsequent meeting. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-055 – HOFFPAUIR

I move that the Executive Board approve the minutes of the board's meeting at 8 p.m. (Eastern) on Tuesday, Feb 13, 2024. The meeting was held using the Zoom teleconference platform. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-056 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the Hargrove contract for carpeting at 2024 National HS. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-057 – BAUER

Effective March 16, 2024, the Executive Board moves to appoint Ranae Bartlett to the position of Executive Director, US Chess Federation. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-058 – BOARD

In support of DM23-35 (Avoiding Duplicate US Chess IDs), the Executive Board moves to establish a working group consisting of VP Kevin Pryor (FL) and EB members Leila D'Aquin (LA), David Hater (GA), Mike Hoffpauir

(VA), and Lakshmana Viswanath (TX) to work with the office and the website development team. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-059 – BOARD

In support of DM23-50 (Establish DC State Chapter Committee), the Executive Board moves to convene a Special Delegates Meeting on June 1, 2024, to hear the report prepared by the committee formed by the DM. Meeting materials provided to the Delegates for this Special Meeting will include the report prepared by the committee, enabling the Delegates to take further action as appropriate regarding the new state chapter. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-060 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to remove, effective April 30, 2024, the temporary change to US Chess Grand Prix rules implemented during the Covid-19 Pandemic and to return to previous Grand Prix Requirements. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-061 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to allow tournaments limited to seniors, juniors, women, or college students to be eligible for the US Chess Federation Grand Prix, provided they satisfy the other Grand Prix requirements. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-062 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the Certificate of Incumbency requested by the Estate of Bernard Goodman. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-063 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves that the top woman finisher in the U.S. Senior Open (using tie-breaks if necessary) shall receive an invitation to the U.S. Women's Senior Championship beginning in 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-064 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to adopt a Paid Family Leave Policy for its employees. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-065 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to place a flag on the official record of former US Chess member Logan Moore, US Chess ID #30203399, to prohibit his ability to renew his membership or otherwise rejoin US Chess until such time as he is cleared of the criminal charges against him. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-066 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to re-appoint David Hater as the US Chess Federation Delegate to FIDE. The term of this appointment is through the end of the 2026 FIDE Olympiad. **PASSED 7-0** with David Hater abstaining.

EB24-067 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to establish parity in the appearance fees offered to the Open and Women's Teams officially representing the USA in the Senior World Team Championship and the Senior Women's World Team Championship. The level of funding shall be set by the EB annually. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-068 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to provide a total of \$15,000 in appearance fees to the Open Official Representative (OR) team (50+) or teams (50+ and 65+) and \$15,000 in support to the Women's OR team (50+) or teams (50+ and 65+) for the 2024 World Senior Team Championships. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-069 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to suspend indefinitely the ability of US Chess Tournament Directors and Affiliates to advertise or organize US Chess

rated tournaments to be held or hosted in the US Virgin Islands (USVI). This policy shall be reviewed annually or when necessary for continuation, change, or removal. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-070 – HOFFPAUIR

These are the proposed minutes of our EB meeting in St. Louis for your approval. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-071 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the attached contract with Hilton for the 2029 Super Nationals. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-072 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the attached contract with Hilton for the 2029 Super Nationals. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-073 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the attached agreement for a new Ratings System Software. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-074 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the contract to hire the Executive Director effective March 16, 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-075 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the US Chess Whistleblower Policy for employees of the US Chess Federation. This policy is effective immediately. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-076 – BOARD

In support of DM23-49 (Review information accessible to members, TDs, and other individuals and organizations), the Executive Board moves to establish a Data Quality Project with members consisting of VP Kevin Pryor (Chair), Josh Sinanan (Scholastic Council), Christina Schweiss (DEI), Larry Cohen (TDCC), and Jon Haskel to work with the office and the website development team. **PASSED 6-0** with President Bauer and VP Pryor not present.

EB24-077 – HOFFPAUIR

I move that the Executive Board approve the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-078 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the attached First Amendment to Amended and Restated Outsourcing Agreement and extend the term from May 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-079 – BOARD

The Executive Board has reviewed and moves to approve the final report of the “DC State Chapter Committee” created by the Delegates under DM23-50 at the 2023 Annual Meeting. The Executive Board further moves to recommend to the Board of Delegates that the Delegates approve the DC Chess Association as the DC State Chapter. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-080 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to deny the appeal of Arnaldo Ferragut (US Chess ID 16244264) and to uphold the five (5) year suspension of his US Chess membership for intentional violations of the US Chess Code of Ethics. The Board also upholds all other elements. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-081 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to revoke the US Chess Federation membership of Tyrell Harriott (US Chess ID 12677159) for violations of the US Chess Safe Play policy. In accordance with Section 12 of the Bylaws, Mr. Harriott has 30

days to appeal this decision in writing to the Executive Board. Throughout this period the 90-day suspension imposed by the Executive Director on March 18, 2024, shall remain in effect. If Mr. Harriott declines to appeal, whether by notifying US Chess or by not responding within 30 days to the Notification of Revocation and Advisement of the Right to Appeal, then the Board's motion to revoke his membership shall take effect and supersede the Executive Director's 90-day suspension of membership. **PASSED 7-0-1** with David Hater abstaining.

EB24-082 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the special meeting of the board held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-083 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to cancel the June 1, 2024, Special Delegates Meeting and instead the Delegates will hear the report from the DC State Chapter Committee at the Annual Meeting in August 2024. In addition, the Delegates shall receive the credentials of affiliates which have applied for designation as the DC State Chapter in accordance with Article VIII (Organizational Units), Section 1 (State Chapters) of the US Chess Bylaws, along with US Chess Executive Board recommendations at least one month before the Annual Meeting in August 2024. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-084 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to amend EB24-081, the denial of the appeal of Arnaldo Ferragut (US Chess ID 16244264), by adding the recommendation of the Tournament Director Certification Committee to suspend Mr. Ferragut's US Chess Tournament Director credentials for five (5) years beyond the end of his 5-year membership suspension. The membership suspension shall end December 8, 2028, and the suspension of Tournament Director credentials shall end December 8, 2033. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-085 – BOARD

Having heard and denied the appeal of Mr. Arnaldo Ferragut (US Chess ID 16244264) in response to the complaint filed against Mr. Ferragut by Mr. Nicolas Alejandro De la Colina (US Chess ID 14936616), and having gained an understanding of the negligence of Mr. Gerardo Anaya Rodriguez (US Chess ID 16744331, FIDE ID 3515850) with regard to his responsibilities as Chief Arbiter for the CCBF Miami GM/IM Norm Invitational held Jan 19-25, 2023, the Executive Board moves to suspend Mr. Rodriguez's US Chess membership for 5 years (until April 23, 2029) and to also suspend his certification as a Tournament Director an additional 5 years (until April 23, 2034) beyond the suspension of his US Chess membership. Mr. Rodriguez is granted 30 days in which to appeal the Executive Board's decision. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-086 – BOARD

Having reviewed the results of the Safe Play investigation of a complaint brought forth against Mr. Pejman Sagart (US Chess ID 12536658) the Executive Board moves to suspend the US Chess membership of Mr. Sagart for two (2) years effective May 15, 2024, but to withhold implementation of the suspension during this two (2) year period. If, during these two (2) years, another credible accusation is brought forth against Mr. Sagart, the Executive Board reserves the right to activate the two (2) year suspension with an effective date beginning the day of the Executive Board's approval to suspend. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-087 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2024, meeting of the US Chess Executive Board. **PASSED 8-0**

EB24-088 – BOARD

The Executive Board moves to approve the names on the attached list for recognitions and awards at the 2024 Annual Meeting. **PASSED 8-0**

2024 U.S. CHESS TRUST ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DELEGATES

By E. Steven Doyle, U.S. Chess Trust Chairman

THIS YEAR SAW ANOTHER MILESTONE IN the cooperation between the U.S. Chess Trust and US Chess. After curating the Barber Fund since its beginning without administrative charges, the Trust transferred these holdings to US Chess so that, combined with further donations from Susan and Dewain Barber, the Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions can be funded in perpetuity.

For more than half a century, the Trust has supported many US Chess programs. Annual events include the GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions, the WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions, the Ursula Foster Awards, the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championships, the President's Cup college playoff, and the U.S. Blind Championship.

THE WORLD CHESS HALL OF FAME ATTENDANCE EXCEEDS 200,000!

The U.S. Chess Trust also partners with the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis. Our trustees elect new members to the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame after receiving nominations from US Chess. In 2023, Lisa Lane, Yury Shulman, and William Shinkman joined the legends in the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame.

The efforts of Chief Curator Shannon Bailey and Curator Emily Allred have made the WCHOF likely the most-visited chess destination in American history. Its permanent and special exhibitions have now drawn more than 200,000 attendees of all ages. Try to visit

to see the current special exhibitions *Donna Dodson: Match of the Matriarchs and other Amazonomachies* (ending September 15, 2024) and *Clash for the Crown: Celebrating Chess Champions* (ending January 12, 2025). And be sure to cross the street to visit the famous Saint Louis Chess Club, another part of the famous Saint Louis Chess Campus.

In the years ahead, in an innovative effort to showcase the benefits of chess and foster an interest in its history, the Trust and US Chess are partnering to take the World Chess Hall of Fame "on the road" to thousands of viewers with special exhibitions at the national scholastic championships.

SUCCESSFUL "LEARN CHESS AT YOUR LIBRARY" PILOT PROGRAM

The Trust funds its own time-proven programs and innovates with new ideas. This year, our pilot library program offered free basic chess lessons. By partnering with the National Scholastic Chess Foundation, the Connecticut Chess Association, and libraries in half a dozen localities, the Trust brought chess to new players of all ages. The success confirmed another practical and effective way to "partner up" to promote the benefits of chess.

FRANK P. SAMFORD, JR., FELLOWSHIP

In 1987, the Samford Chess Fellowship was created by the late Frank P. Samford Jr. of Birmingham, Alabama, to advance the game he loved by identifying and assisting the most promising young chess masters in the United States. Joel Benjamin was the first recipient. Since then, the Samford has invested millions of dollars in support of American chess talent. As a measure of its effectiveness, each annual invitational U.S. Chess Championship includes 10 or more Samford Fellows or former Fellows. Leadership of the Fellowship program is provided by Mr. Samford Jr.'s grandson, Paul Samford of Atlanta, Georgia, with the assistance of IM John Donaldson and GM Yury Shulman.

SCHOLAR CHESS PLAYER AWARDS

Since 2008, the U.S. Chess Trust, in conjunction with the National Scholastic Chess Foundation and generous support from Trust VP for Scholastics Sunil Weeramanthy, has provided



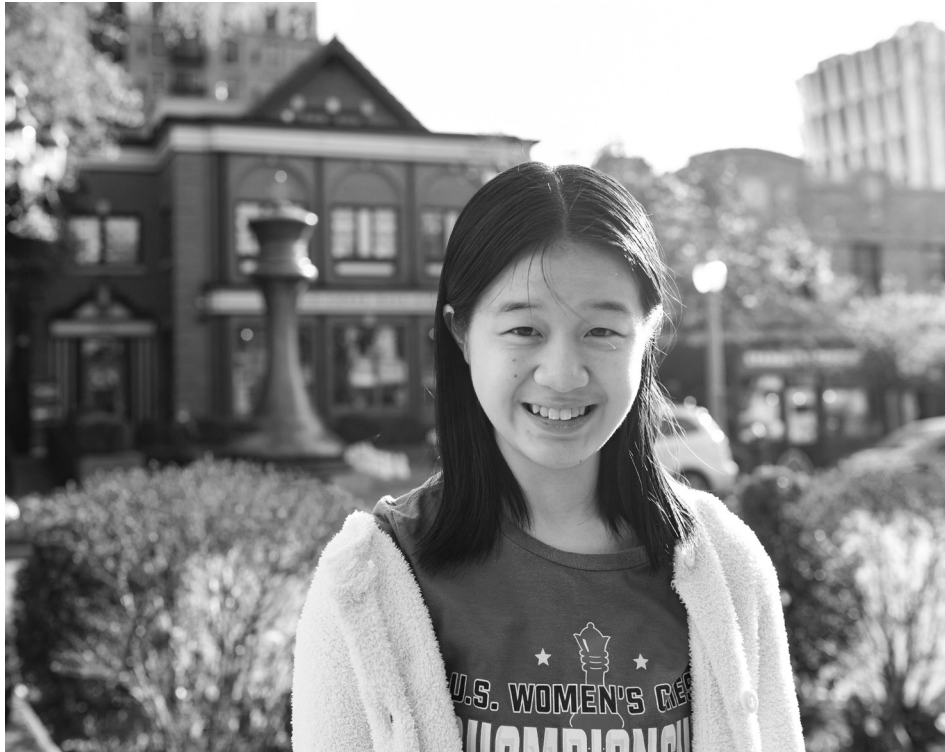
five annual scholarships to high school juniors and seniors who excel in academics, chess, and leadership – in order to promote a positive image of chess. Recently, a sixth category was added, that of "Chess Ambassador," opening up a college scholarship for those outstanding students who are lower rated. This year's SCP winners are: CM Jack Heller, 12th grade, Chicago, Illinois; IM Ming Lu, 11th grade, San Diego, California; Alexander Rutten, 11th grade, Johns Creek, Georgia; IM Sandeep Sethuraman, 12th grade, Chandler, Arizona; WIM Ellen Wang, 11th grade, The Bronx, New York; and Ambassador Laurel Aronian, 11th grade, North Salem, New York.

CHESS FOR YOUTH, SETS FOR VETS, SETS FOR SENIORS

The Trust supplies free, tournament-quality chess sets and boards, along with club demo boards, to qualifying programs that serve Title I schoolkids, and to military veterans, elder-care programs, and public libraries. This year, the Trust has so far sent a record 752 sets to programs across the USA.

The U.S. Chess Trust is a 501(c)3 Massachusetts Trust separate from US Chess. Our Trustees take no compensation. Managing Director Al Lawrence ably handles our day-to-day operations. My thanks go to all our trustees for their involvement and ideas: President Beatriz Marinello (NY), Treasurer Leroy W. Dubeck (NJ), Chess in Education VP Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Chess VP Sunil Weeramanthy (NY), Secretary Alex Kerford (MO), President





ALICE LEE, 2024 WOMEN'S AMERICAN CUP CHAMPION AND SAMFORD FELLOW.

Emeritus Shane Samole (FL), Stuart Chagrin (NY), Rex Sinquefield (MO), Dr. Norman Saba (AZ), Dov Gorman (NJ), and Leo Dubler III (NJ). We all appreciate the work of Webmaster Dora Leticia.

Please come to our annual informational meeting at the U.S. Open. It's open to all on Thursday, August 1 at 3 p.m. in Brandon. Contact Al Lawrence at al@uschesstrust.org to request chess sets or to share your ideas.

To learn more about the good works of the Trust, please visit our website at uschesstrust.org. We thank all our donors, who make the good work possible. Their help changes lives through chess.

All of the Trust's activities support its vision that, "One day, every American, from schoolkid to senior citizen, will have the opportunity to learn chess and enjoy its many mental and social benefits."

U.S. CHESS TRUST

"I'd like to thank the U.S. Chess Trust for their support in my chess career. I have had the honor of receiving the prestigious Samford Fellowship, which has given me encouragement and support for my chess."

U.S. Chess Trust Samford Fellow & Ursula Foster Award Winner



Alice Lee



US CHESS TRUST
www.uschesstrust.org

The Trust is a separate 501(c)(3) organization operating independently of US Chess.

PHOTO: COURTESY SLCC

Chess Life and Chess Life Kids

Included with your US Chess membership!

All US Chess members have **free access** to digital editions of US Chess' award-winning magazines, **Chess Life** and **Chess Life Kids**.

Printed copies of **Chess Life** or **Chess Life Kids** can be added on to any membership for a nominal fee, currently \$12/year (12 issues) for *Chess Life* and \$6/year (6 issues) for *Chess Life Kids*.



FIDE ZONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Allen Priest

What exactly does the Zonal President do? The main responsibility of the Zonal President is to make sure the Zonal Championship is held. Most zones cover several national federations. The USA is a single nation zone. That means the U.S. Championship can, and does, double as the Zonal Championship every other year. The Zonal Championship also qualifies players for the FIDE World Cup. Each zone is allocated World Cup slots for its Open championship and for its Women's championship.

A part of my role is advocating for our players in international play. Retaining or expanding the number of World Cup slots we have is one of those tasks. I also serve as a liaison between FIDE and US Chess, and as an advocate for our players when there are issues. An example is helping resolve problems in title applications or dealing with the FIDE Qualifications Committee.

There is also a FIDE Zonal Council. The Zonal Presidents and the Continental Presidents meet periodically to discuss matters of common interest. The Zonal Council's role has been diminished under the new FIDE charter that was approved in 2020. But it still serves as a sounding board for the FIDE governing officials in between FIDE General Assembly meetings.

The Zonal President attends FIDE General Assembly meetings and can speak to issues that concern the zone. This gives the USA an added voice in addition to our FIDE delegate.

The Zonal President also participates in the Continental meetings. FIDE is divided into four continental organizations. The entire western hemisphere is in one group. We join our colleagues from North, Central, and South America each year to work together to develop the game regionally. This group coordinates the Continental Championship as well as additional events like the Pan-American Youth, which US Chess will host in July before the 2024 U.S. Open. The Continental organization also oversees the North American Youth and other international competitions. It is a way for us to coordinate with nearby national federations in cooperative events and programs as well. The Continental organization has been undergoing notable change as its long-time leader Jorge Vega stepped down in 2022 and then passed in 2023. Jorge helped open the Continent to the English-speaking countries and we are working with the new leadership to make sure this continues.

Since the USA is a single nation zone, the positions that the FIDE Delegate and I take in



international meetings are set by the US Chess Executive Board. We work closely together to make sure U.S. interests are heard in FIDE. We do not win every debate, but we make our voices heard. It is important that we continue to engage with FIDE so that we can maximize the opportunities for our players at every level, arbiters, organizers, and others to access international play. FIDE governance is much like US Chess governance. If you want a say in what goes on you must consistently show up and participate. I appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve US Chess in this way.

US CHESS GOALS

- ▶ Expand the educational, social, recreational and rehabilitative applications of chess.
- ▶ Increase the visibility of chess on mainstream communications channels.
- ▶ Develop the depth and breadth of our partnerships.
- ▶ Use chess to increase opportunities for under-represented segments of society.
- ▶ Continuously improve internal operations and member services.

CODE OF ETHICS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION (US CHESS)

The Code of Ethics is Item 1997-16 (previously 2019 DACI 22) in the Delegates Actions of Continued Interest which can be found online at https://new.uschess.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/2022-daci_full-text_jp_5-24-2023.pdf

(REVISED AUGUST 2018)

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. The purpose of this code of ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the United States Chess Federation (US Chess), including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct that does not conform to such standards; and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.
2. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of US Chess membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of US Chess.
3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to actions and behavior by:
(A) members of US Chess, that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess; and **(B)** individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of US Chess. This code shall not apply to actions or behavior by employees of US Chess acting in the scope of their duties. Such actions fall instead under the province of the Executive Board.
4. Each member of US Chess and each participant in a US Chess activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

THE US CHESS ETHICS COMMITTEE

5. The US Chess Ethics Committee is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the bylaws of US Chess. The committee exists to consider allegations of unethical conduct at or in connection with events sanctioned by US Chess, and allegations of unethical conduct involving US Chess and its activities, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code. The committee will exercise all other duties as may be assigned by the Bylaws or by action of the US Chess Board of Delegates.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

6. The actions and behavior of players, tournament directors,

sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in US Chess activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess, shall be lawful and in accordance with all US Chess rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates US Chess rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, may be considered to fall within the scope of this code of ethics.

- (a)** Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to US Chess activities and goals, particularly after being warned.
- (b)** Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.
- (c)** Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.
- (d)** Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.
- (e)** Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified rating report.
- (f)** Participating in a tournament while under suspension.
- (g)** Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by US Chess.
- (h)** Attempting to interfere with the rights of any US Chess member, such as by barring someone from entering a US Chess-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a US Chess-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and then only for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.

- (i) Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with US Chess.

PROCEDURES

7. Any US Chess member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the US Chess Ethics Committee. A good-faith deposit must be submitted by the complainant. The amount of the deposit shall be set by the US Chess Executive Director, who shall review it from time to time in consultation with the Ethics Committee. The deposit shall be returned unless the Committee rules that the case is frivolous. The Committee may determine whether to return the deposit even before it determines jurisdictional and merit questions. The Committee may also, by a two-thirds vote, accept complaints submitted without the deposit. Complaints submitted by a US Chess employee as a result of actions related to official US Chess activities shall not require the payment of the deposit.

In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the Standards of Conduct above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

- (a) A factual inquiry shall be made by the Ethics Committee, assisted as necessary by the US Chess staff. Previous findings of the Ethics Committee or other US Chess entities may be included among the evidence considered by the Ethics Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.
- (b) When issuing a decision, the Ethics Committee will provide a rationale for its decision to the parties involved and to the Executive Board.
- (c) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended to the Executive Board by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other US Chess entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed of this fact. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified. If appeals are filed, the Ethics Committee shall be promptly notified.
- (d) Except as specified in 7(f) sanctions recommended to the Executive Board shall be deemed final unless appealed to the Executive Board by the person or persons upon whom the sanctions have been imposed, or upon the initiative of any member of the Executive Board. Such an appeal must be made within thirty days of the date that notification of recommended sanctions occurred, except that the Executive Board may extend the deadline for appeal if in its judgment an unavoidable delay in communications or other valid cause prevented a timely appeal. If an appeal has not been filed by the deadline the recommended sanctions shall be placed into effect. No appeals shall be permitted in cases where the

Ethics Committee has found in favor of the respondent and has recommended no sanctions.

- (e) Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom the sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence from the record. Any person appearing before the Executive Board upon appeal may be represented by counsel with the permission and at the sole discretion of the Executive Board. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.
- (f) If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the US Chess Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board but may appeal to the US Chess Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.
- (g) If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the US Chess Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

SANCTIONS

8. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.
- (a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
- (b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
- (c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.

- (d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.
- (e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the US Chess Executive Board or by the US Chess Board of Delegates.
- (f) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the US Chess Executive Board or by the US Chess Board of Delegates.
- (g) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting

abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.

9. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the US Chess Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend to the Executive Board no sanctions other than censure or reprimand but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.
10. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in US Chess or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by US Chess.
11. The US Chess Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official determinations by the Ethics Committee and shall record any recommendations of any sanctions. The US Chess Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any sanctions recommended.

DOCUMENTS ON THE WEB

The following forms and reports can be found online at <https://new.uschess.org/information-2024-annual-meeting-norfolk-virginia> or scan the QR code at bottom.

2023 DELEGATE MOTIONS COMPLIANCE REPORT

In order to maintain accountability and transparency to its members, US Chess adopted DM01-77 in 2001. The motion requires that a report on compliance or non-compliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions be included in the Delegates Call. Due to length, the report can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code at right.

DELEGATE ACTIONS OF CONTINUING INTEREST

Due to length, the Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest have been moved from the Delegates Call and can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code at right.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In 2018, the Delegates approved a Conflict of Interest policy for all Delegates. This recognizes the importance of declaring potential conflicts of interest for evaluation by a committee before the Delegates Meeting. Use the above link or QR code at right to access both the policy for you to refer to and a form for declaring any potential conflicts you may have. Note that if you have a situation that seems to fall in a gray area, it is best to declare it on the form and let your fellow Delegates decide if it is, in fact, a conflict of interest.

MINUTES: 2023 DELEGATES MEETING

Minutes for the 2023 Delegates Meeting can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code below.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to space constraints, committee reports have been moved online and can be found at the above link or by scanning the QR code below.



BYLAWS OF THE US CHESS FEDERATION

Includes amendments adopted at the 2023 Delegates' Meeting

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the corporation shall be the United States Chess Federation also known as the United States of America Chess Federation, commonly known as US Chess.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

SECTION 1.

The purpose of US Chess shall be educational and instructional, to broaden and develop chess as art and recreation, as a significant element of culture in America. US Chess shall cooperate with schools, colleges, hospitals, military bases, community centers, recreation departments, and other groups and institutions, in teaching chess, conducting tournaments, and other activities. US Chess shall disseminate information through its publications and representatives, and US Chess shall select the official USA representatives in all international chess affairs. US Chess shall encourage and support chess programs for individuals with disabilities and the participation of individuals with disabilities in chess activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities in all chess competition.

SECTION 2. US CHESS IS PLEDGED:

- A. To operate exclusively for educational, recreational, and social welfare purposes;
- B. That no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional program shall not be so construed;
- C. That US Chess is not operated for profit and that neither principal nor income of any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation;
- D. To promote the study and knowledge of the scientific game of chess;
- E. To foster the development of players and to help those who seek to become masters;
- F. To encourage the formation of chess groups, clubs, and associations;
- G. To hold a tournament no less often than once every two years for the Chess Championship of the United States and to confer upon the winner of such tournament the title "United States Chess Champion"; and,
- H. To hold an open tournament every summer in the United States.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person may become an Adult member of US Chess upon payment of \$45 for one year, or \$87 for two years.

SECTION 2. YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 19 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Youth Member of US Chess upon payment of \$20 for one year, or \$37 for two years.

SECTION 3. YOUNG ADULT MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person under 24 years of age at expiration and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits membership through a US Chess affiliate) may become a Young Adult Member of US Chess upon the payment of \$27 for one year, or \$51 for two years.

SECTION 4. SENIOR MEMBERSHIP.

A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday may become a Senior Member of US Chess upon payment of \$40 for one year, or \$77 for two years.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP.

A blind person, or any person who is incarcerated in a penal institution in the United States, may become a Special member of US Chess for \$18 for one year.

SECTION 6. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PLANS.

- A. Family Plan 1: \$85, includes parents and their children under age 19 in the household living at one address. Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.
- B. Family Plan 2: \$55, includes all children under age 19 in the household living at one address.

SECTION 7. LIFE MEMBERSHIPS.

Any person may become a Life Member of US Chess upon payment of \$1500 dues. Any person age 65 years or older may become a Life Member upon payment of \$750 dues. Any blind person may become a Life Member upon payment of \$375 dues. US Chess may require reasonable confirmation of eligibility from time to time as a continuation of Life membership.

SECTION 8. AFFILIATE COMMISSIONS.

There shall be a \$3 affiliate commission on all Adult, Senior, Youth, Young Adult, Family, and Life Memberships.

SECTION 9. PROMOTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS.

In order to facilitate the development of membership promotion, the Executive Board may authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time to determine their feasibility by trial; such terms and rates shall be subject to review annually by the Board of Delegates.

SECTION 10. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each Life member shall have an opportunity to receive a monthly printed copy of *Chess Life*. Each member who provides an email address can access electronic copies of both *Chess Life* and *Chess Life for Kids* magazines. Members may purchase subscriptions to either or both magazines for a price to be no greater than 105% of printing and mailing costs. Each member shall be entitled to have his or her tournament play officially rated, to participate in the Annual Membership meeting, and to enjoy all other rights and privileges of membership in accordance with the membership terms and conditions. Members and Affiliates with mailing addresses outside the United States may be charged an additional fee to cover extra costs.

SECTION 11. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

The Executive Board, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, may revoke or suspend the membership of any member for good cause. The US Chess Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in the US Chess Code of Ethics. The Executive Director may, on an emergency basis, suspend the membership of any person or their related affiliate who has engaged in any activity that potentially endangers the health or safety of US Chess employees, volunteers, or members. Such suspension will be in effect immediately and will be in effect for no more than 90 days. If the Executive Director suspends any membership under this provision, the Executive Director will contact the suspended person or affiliate within 72 hours to inform them of the decision. The Executive Director will also contact the Executive Board within 72 hours which will then review the suspension and follow the provisions of Article III, Section 12. The emergency suspension will stay in effect while the provisions of Article III Section 12 are being followed unless the Executive Board lifts the suspension sooner.

SECTION 12. REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR AFFILIATION.

In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 11, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of US Chess, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or revocation of a member through application of the US Chess Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

SECTION 13. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the membership, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purpose of hearing reports and making suggestions to the Board of Delegates. Twenty-five members present in person shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting. Participation and voting by members at the Annual Membership Meeting shall be limited to those members physically present. Participation through the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE IV: VOTING MEMBERS

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY.

The Voting Members are responsible for electing the Executive Board. Information regarding nominees and voting instructions shall appear in an appropriate issue of *Chess Life* and on the US Chess website.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION.

Members with memberships of less than one year duration at their start are not eligible to become voting members. All other US Chess members are entitled to register as a voting member provided that any voting member must be age 16 or older as of June 30 of the election year. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates are voting members.

SECTION 3. REGISTRATION.

Eligible members who are not already registered as Voting Members must register with the US Chess office by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election, except that all members who are selected as US Chess Delegates, Alternate Delegates, or Executive Board members are automatically registered as Voting Members. There is no registration fee. Once registered, a member's status as a Voting Member continues as long as he or she is a member. When a membership lapses, Voting Member status ceases and the member must, after rejoining, again register by May 1 to be eligible to vote in that year's regular election.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT.

In order to vote in a regular election, registered Voting Members must be US Chess members on May 5th of the election year, for the entire day Central Time.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

1. The eligibility dates for voting in the election shall be part of the call for the special election and should use cutoff dates equivalent to the above based on when the ballots are expected to be received by the voting members.
2. The registration deadline for those not already registered shall be the same as the deadline for the submission of nominating petitions.

SECTION 6. ELECTRONIC VOTING.

If US Chess implements an electronic voting system, voting members may request a paper ballot by writing to the US Chess office prior to May 1st for a regular election or the equivalent cutoff date for a special election.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the approval of the Voting Members is required to amend the Articles of Incorporation. The Board of Directors must present any such amendment for discussion at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates before submitting such amendment to the Voting Members. Amendments will be approved if supported by a 2/3 majority of the Voting Members who cast a vote on the amendment in an election that is called in accordance with the election provisions in the bylaws of US Chess.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DELEGATES

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBILITY.

Pursuant to the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of US Chess. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of US Chess to determine the policies that shall

govern US Chess in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and US Chess Official Rules of Chess, approve the sale, exchange or other transfer of real estate owned by US Chess, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by US Chess, approve the annual budget, establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of US Chess.

SECTION 2. NUMBER.

The Board of Delegates shall be composed of the Executive Board, the Delegates-at-Large, and 140 Delegates; each state with 30 or more members must have at least 1 Delegate; each state with 300 or more members must have at least 2 Delegates; the remaining Delegate seats shall be apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident US Chess membership as of May 31, except that no state shall have more than 10 Delegates. In addition, any Executive Board member-elect who is not already a Delegate becomes a Delegate immediately upon certification of the election result.

SECTION 3. ALTERNATE DELEGATES.

There shall be 140 Alternate Delegates, with each state having one Alternate Delegate for each Elected Delegate. All Life Voting Members under previous editions of these Bylaws shall automatically become Additional Alternate Delegates if they are not elected as Delegates.

SECTION 4. SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES.

State Chapters shall designate the initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates for their states, as provided in Article V, Sections 2 and 3, submitting the Delegates and Alternate Delegates in ordered lists. State Chapters must designate their initial Delegates and Alternate Delegates by May 1 prior to the Annual Meeting, or as soon thereafter as feasible. The term of each Delegate shall commence on May 1 for the year for which selected and continue for one year.

SECTION 5. MISCELLANEOUS.

- A. Vacancies.** If one or more Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates from any state are not present or are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, they can be replaced by Alternate Delegates only if the Delegates and higher-ranked Alternate Delegates resign in writing, except that for each state, if Alternate Delegates are available to attend the Annual Board of Delegates Meeting, those Delegates who have not picked up their credentials by 9:30am of the first day of the Delegates' meeting will be deemed to have resigned as Delegates and the available Alternate Delegates will become Delegates per the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate gives advance notice of a delay in arrival by signed fax or email or telephone call to the US Chess President or Secretary, such a Delegate or Alternate is not deemed to have resigned unless their credentials are not picked up by 2pm on the first day of the Delegates' meeting. The Delegates deemed to have resigned will only be those equal in number to the available Alternate Delegates and will start with the lowest ranked Delegate on the ordered list per Article V, Section 4.
- B. Additions to Ordered List.** The state president or senior state officer present may add names to the end of the ordered list for that state for the purpose of seating Delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates, providing the persons added at that time reside in the state being represented or in a state adjacent to it.

If a Delegate dies or resigns during the term of office, the vacancy shall be filled for the duration of the term of office in accordance

with the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate moves from the state of residence, that person shall be deemed to have resigned as Delegate unless the State Chapter indicates otherwise.

Vacancies in the position of Delegate or Alternate Delegate for any state chapter, including those resulting from the promotion of an Alternate Delegate to Delegate, may be filled by the state chapter for the remainder of the term, provided that such appointments are placed at the end of the ordered list for that state chapter.

If no Delegates or Alternate Delegates are elected by a state, vacancies exist which can be filled by the State Chapter.

- C. Executive Board Members as Delegates.** Any Executive Board member who completes his or her term without re-election to the Executive Board, remains a Delegate until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates in the year following the completion of the Board term, except that if he has Delegate status for that period under another provision of these Bylaws, this provision shall not apply. Any former Executive Board member receiving Delegate status by the provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be a Delegate on the ordered list of any state and shall not be replaced if he dies or resigns the position.
- D. US Chess Membership requirement.** Delegates and Alternate Delegates must be members in good standing throughout their terms of office with a grace period of 28 days for renewing a lapsed membership. Notwithstanding, the Delegate must be a member in good standing throughout the Delegates Meeting. A member in good standing is a member whose dues are paid and is not suspended.
- E. Current US Chess employees may not serve as Delegates.** US Chess employees are accorded the right to speak at the annual Delegates' Meeting.

SECTION 6. ANNUAL MEETING.

The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purposes of hearing annual reports, installing officers, and considering other US Chess business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit motions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Advance Delegate Motions. Participation via the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

SECTION 7. SPECIAL DELEGATES MEETING.

Special Delegates Meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting.

Additional notification may be provided by e-mail. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the US Chess website at least 30 days in

advance of the meeting. The Special Delegates Meeting has authority to act upon advance agenda items but does not have the authority to take action unrelated to the advance agenda items.

All Executive Board members shall have at least 7 days' advance notice before the notice of the meeting is sent. Items can only be placed on the advance agenda by the President or any two Executive Board members.

A quorum shall consist of one third of all Delegates and Delegates will be certified in the same manner as at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

If the meeting notice so provides, the meeting can take place by video teleconference for purposes of establishing a quorum and voting. Delegates must be present and visible on the video teleconference.

SECTION 8. DELEGATES AT LARGE.

- A. Former Presidents.** Any former US Chess President who served at least two consecutive years as President and expresses interest in serving on the Board of Delegates may be elected as a Delegate at Large by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at an Annual Meeting.
- B. Members with Distinguished Service.** Any US Chess member who rendered distinguished service to chess and demonstrates activity in US Chess governance and an interest in serving on the Board of Delegates may be elected as a Delegate at Large by a three quarters (3/4) vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at two consecutive Annual Meetings. At no time shall the total number of active Delegates elected under this subsection exceed twenty (20).
- C. Term and Subsequent Election.** The term of any Delegate at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting their Delegate at Large status is achieved and continue for three more Annual Meetings. Any Delegate at Large whose term is expiring upon the conclusion of an Annual Meeting or expired at a past Annual Meeting may be elected to a new term of four Annual Meetings by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at an Annual Meeting.
- D. Additional Alternate Delegates.** Any Delegate at Large who completes a term of service but is not elected to a new term becomes an Additional Alternate Delegate. Any Additional Alternate Delegate is eligible for election to a new term as a Delegate at Large by a majority vote of the Board of Delegates via motion on the advance agenda at an Annual Meeting.
- E. Effect on Quorum.** For quorum at any Board of Delegates meeting, only Delegates at Large present are applied to the Delegates total.

SECTION 9. ADDITIONAL DELEGATES.

The US Chess Membership Meeting may elect up to 5 Additional Delegates for a term that expires on June 1 of the following year at the start of the Membership Meeting from persons who are present and have previously served as Delegates in at least one of the last five years.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION.

The Executive Board shall consist of eight members elected for staggered terms of four years. The Executive Director serves as an additional member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but

without the right to vote. All members, with the exception of the Executive Director, shall meet the eligibility criteria of section 2 of this Article. All Executive Board members are national officers of US Chess.

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY.

A person shall be eligible to serve, or be nominated as, a member of the Executive Board provided he or she:

- A.** Is 18 years of age or older upon taking office.
- B.** Holds a current US Chess membership.
- C.** Submits to a background check by US Chess.
- D.** Is not a full-time or part-time hourly or salaried employee of US Chess, nor a currently paid contractor or consultant working on behalf of or serving US Chess.
- E.** Has never been convicted of or pleaded no contest to a felony or crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.
- F.** Has not served more than 11 consecutive years as a member of the Executive Board.
- G.** Can serve the entire term to which he or she is nominated for without exceeding 11 consecutive years of service on the Executive Board.
- H.** Does not share one or more of the following relationships with another member of or candidate for the Executive Board:
 - 1.** Direct descendant or ancestor
 - 2.** Spouse or partner in a civil union
 - 3.** Sibling by birth, marriage, or adoption
 - 4.** Adopted children or parent
 - 5.** Stepchild or stepparent

SECTION 3. RESPONSIBILITY.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors which is the administrative and managing body of US Chess and is vested with full power to conduct all business of US Chess, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates. The Executive Board's direction to the staff shall generally be given by the US Chess President.

SECTION 4. MEETINGS.

The Executive Board shall meet at least twice per year, the day and place to be fixed by vote of that Executive Board. Special meetings, including conference telephone calls or Internet conference meetings, may be called by the President or upon the written request of any three members of the Executive Board. Reasonable efforts to notify all Executive Board members of the meeting shall be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail, or other means approved by the Executive Board. The Minutes of all Executive Board meetings shall be posted on the US Chess website within six weeks of each meeting. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the elected members of the Executive Board present in person or participating in a conference telephone call or Internet conference meeting. The affirmative votes of at least three different Executive Board members will be required to approve any action, as long as there are at least four members on the Executive Board.

All open meetings of the Executive Board, including conference calls, shall be recorded in their entirety with a clear record by a means determined by the Executive Board and preserved for six years. All Executive Board members shall receive copies of any recordings of meetings within two weeks of those meetings. Any person wishing to obtain copies of recordings may do so at cost. The public portion of the permanent record will be available on the website within a month of the meeting record.

Executive Board votes may be taken by email provided at least five days are allowed for discussion. As soon as all Executive Board members vote, or the five days have passed, the Board vote is official.

SECTION 5. NOMINATION.

A. Any person who meets the eligibility criteria in Section 2 of this Article is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission to the Election Committee, by December 31 immediately preceding an election, of the following:

1. A valid nominating petition containing the signatures of fifty (50) or more members who meet the requirements specified in Article IV Section 2 to be eligible to register to vote, of whom, at least fifteen (15) shall be Delegates at the time of signing the petition. The fifteen (15) Delegates must represent at least five (5) different states. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.
2. A filing fee of \$100 made payable to US Chess.
3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.
4. A signed form consenting to a background check to be conducted by US Chess, provided such background check has not already been conducted by a US Chess Nominating Committee.

B. The Election Committee shall have advertised a call for nominations in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than November 20 of the year prior to an election year and shall publish a list of all duly-submitted nominations in the issue published not later than April 10 of an election year.

C. Once a candidate is nominated, the candidate may purchase email addresses and/or mailing labels of Voting Members at the same rate as affiliates. Each purchase is for onetime use and only for one email or one postal mailing per Voting Member. Emails shall be transmitted to Voting Members by the US Chess office using Blind Courtesy Copy protocols. Mailings to Voting Members through U.S. postal mail or the equivalent shall be executed only by a competent third-party professional mailing house under direct contract with US Chess. The terms of the US Chess contract with the third-party mailing house shall contain specifications to prohibit the mailing house from using the Voting Members' information for any other purpose, from sharing the Voting Members' information with other parties, and from retaining the information beyond the time required to complete the mailing process.

D. Any person who meets the eligibility requirements in Section 2 of this article may run as a write-in candidate for the Executive Board provided, prior to May 1 of an election year he or she submits to the Executive Director:

1. Notification, in writing, of their intent to run as a write-in candidate.

2. A filing fee of \$100.
3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and will serve if elected.
4. A signed form consenting to a background check to be conducted by US Chess.

The Executive Director shall forward the names of such candidates to the Election Committee for certification of eligibility to serve as an Executive Board Member. Upon certification by the Election Committee, said candidates are certified as official write-in candidates, and may pay US Chess to send emails or postal mailings to Voting Members as specified in Article VI, section 5C of the Bylaws. Upon certification of official write-In candidates, the Election Committee shall promptly notify all nominated candidates of the official write-in candidates.

SECTION 6. ELECTIONS.

A. Regular Elections. Executive Board members shall be elected by the Voting Members. The ballot instructions shall include this information plus other election regulations. For a special election, the time and place shall be determined prior to issuing the call for the special election. Electronic voting will be used for all Executive Board elections, except for the secret ballot vote described in this paragraph. The US Chess office in consultation with the Election Committee shall establish the mechanism to conduct the secure electronic balloting, and the voting procedures shall comply with the applicable laws of US Chess' state of incorporation. The ballot shall list all duly submitted nominations. Each voting member may vote for as many persons as there are Executive Board positions to be filled. The persons receiving the largest vote totals shall be elected to the available Executive Board positions. Ties, if any, shall be broken by a secret ballot vote of the Delegates present in person at that year's Delegates meeting, taken at the time that election results are certified.

B. Special Elections. The Election Committee will decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election, calling for nominations, and establishing the date for candidate petition filings. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Executive Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election

C. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of voting member information to be provided on the ballots. All properly authenticated ballots that have been received by the date designated for counting the ballots shall be counted.

SECTION 7. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS.

At an organizational meeting immediately following the conclusion of the Delegates' Meeting at which regularly scheduled Executive Board election results are certified, the Executive Board shall elect among itself the following officers: President, Vice President, and Vice President for Finance. The term of each officer shall be for one year, except that upon a vote of 2/3 of its membership, the Executive Board may at any time meet in person or by teleconference and elect new officers. A vacancy in the office of President shall be immediately filled by the Vice President. A vacancy in another office elected by the Executive Board shall be filled by majority vote either temporarily until the Executive Board meeting following the next Delegates' Meeting or for the full unexpired portion

of the office's term as the Executive Board shall choose. The Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a person to fulfill the functions of Secretary.

SECTION 8. TERMS OF OFFICE.

The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting. No individual shall serve more than eleven consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as US Chess President more than four consecutive years.

To implement the transition of term lengths from three to four years, the following will apply to those elected in the 2021 regular Executive Board election and thereafter. The terms of those elected prior to the adoption of this implementation schedule will be observed as they were defined by the Bylaws at the time of their election.

- A. 2021:** Two Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms that expire in 2025. One will be elected to a two-year term that expires in 2023.
- B. 2022:** Two Executive Board members will be elected to three-year terms that expire in 2025.
- C. 2023 and odd numbered years thereafter:** Four Executive Board members will be elected to four-year terms.

SECTION 9. DUTIES.

- A. President.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, and Executive Board; carry out all requirements of these Bylaws, represent US Chess officially on occasion, and report annually to the Board of Delegates.
- B. Vice President.** The Vice President shall execute the duties of the President when the President is unable to serve and perform such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or the President on its behalf.
- C. Vice President for Finance.** The Vice President for Finance shall obtain records of the financial affairs of US Chess, report to the Board of Delegates, and counsel and assist the Executive Board on financial affairs. The Vice President for Finance shall review and have the right to comment on all financial reports, including all financial information presented in interim and annual reports, prior to publication and release.
- D. Members at Large.** Members-at-Large of the Executive Board shall have such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or by the President on behalf of the Executive Board or as prescribed by these Bylaws.

SECTION 10. VACANCIES.

If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Board, the Executive Board may decide to fill the vacancy by a Special Election in accordance with Art. VI, Section 6B. If three or more vacancies occur, the Executive Board will instruct the Election Committee to hold a Special Election in accordance with Section 6B.

SECTION 11. CANDIDATE STATEMENTS AND ADVERTISING.

Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to submit a 150-word statement and photograph for publication in the issue of *Chess Life* to be published no later than April 10 of the election year. Election supplements shall accompany or be inserted in issues of *Chess Life* published no later than May 10 and June 10 of the election year.

Each candidate nominated for election pursuant to Section 5A is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other US Chess publications is prohibited. Any candidate for the US Chess Executive Board who is currently a party against US Chess in a lawsuit must disclose that fact in their *Chess Life* statement. Failure to disclose such a lawsuit would be grounds for immediate recall. The candidate will be allowed an additional 50 words in their first candidate's statement in *Chess Life* for this purpose.

SECTION 12. RECALLS.

- A.** The Delegates may initiate a recall of an elected Executive Board member by a 2/3 majority vote of a motion on the advance agenda of an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting, by a 3/4 majority vote of a motion not on the advance agenda of an Annual Delegates Meeting, or by petitions signed by 2/3 of the Delegates in lieu of a meeting of the Board of Delegates. Each signature on a recall petition must be dated and no signature can be dated more than five months before the date that the petitions are submitted to the US Chess Secretary for validation.
- B.** Recall of an elected Executive Board member may be initiated by petitions signed by 10% of the registered voters based on the number of registered voters at the end of the most recent fiscal year, i.e., May 31. The US Chess Secretary shall have one week from the date the petition is received by the US Chess Office to determine if a recall petition is valid. A recall may not be initiated on a Board member during the last six months of that member's term of office. Once a recall motion has been passed or a recall petition certified as valid, a recalled Executive Board member shall be given 15 days to decide whether to resign or to be the subject of a recall election. If the recalled Executive Board member resigns, the recall motion or petition becomes moot upon the resignation of the Board member.
- C.** The recall motion must give the reasons for recall in a total, motion plus reason, of no more than 500 words. The motion and reasons, together with an optional statement of no more than 500 words by the Board member being recalled, shall be mailed by US Chess to all registered voters along with the recall ballot.
- D.** To be affirmed, the recall shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the registered voters participating in a recall election, such election to be held under conditions similar to those for regular or special Executive Board elections. Only voters who vote for or against the recall are considered to be participating. At least 500 Voting Members must participate in the recall election in order for the results to be valid. If the Board member being recalled is serving as the US Chess Secretary, the Executive Board shall appoint another Board member to serve as the Secretary for the purposes of conducting the recall election.
- E.** If the motion or petition recalling the Board member does not specify a date for the recall election voting to begin, the Executive Board shall schedule such an election to commence no more than 60 days after the recall motion is passed by the Delegates or the recall petitions are certified. The date for counting the votes in the recall election shall be no more than 35 days after the day that voting is expected to begin. Until the votes in the recall election are counted, the recalled Executive Board member retains all rights and privileges of a Board member.

Once the recall votes are counted, if the recall is affirmed the Board member is immediately removed from the Executive Board and a vacancy exists on the Executive Board.

SECTION 13. RESTRICTIONS.

Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as paid US Chess employees, paid consultants, or as vendors of goods or services to US Chess during their actual tenure on the Executive Board and for a period of one year after the board service ends.

Except as noted below, this shall not affect a board member’s ability to organize or direct US Chess-rated events or to serve as an officer or owner of a US Chess affiliate. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as the chief TD of US Chess National events during their tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends for all national events except for the U.S. Open. Elected members of the Executive Board may not be awarded the bid to serve as the organizer of a US Chess national event (or as an officer or owner of a US Chess affiliate serving as the organizer of a US Chess national event) during their actual tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends unless the agreement to serve as the organizer of that national event was signed prior to that person’s becoming a candidate for election to the Executive Board. State chapter and not-for-profit Affiliates with Board members who are also on their board are exempt from this restriction. In unusual circumstances, elected Executive Board members may be assigned tasks dealing with day-to-day operations of US Chess. No compensation for these tasks beyond the reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses may be paid.

An Executive Board member who is a party to litigation or arbitration filed by that Executive Board member against US Chess or by US Chess against that Executive Board member, shall abstain from voting on any action concerning the litigation or arbitration, shall have no right to be present during any portion of an Executive Board meeting in which the litigation or arbitration is discussed, and shall have no right to access attorney-client or work-product privileged information concerning or relating to that litigation or arbitration, regardless of whether the litigation or arbitration is still pending.

Unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law, each member of the Executive Board waives any right to file a lawsuit (including but not limited to a lawsuit seeking a jury trial) against US Chess, the US Chess Executive Board members or US Chess employees, and must instead submit a mandatory arbitration to be conducted by the American Arbitration Association. The arbitration award will be final and binding upon the parties to that arbitration. The location of any such arbitration shall be solely in the city in which US Chess is headquartered at the time of filing of the arbitration notice.

SECTION 14. WEBSITE ACCESS.

Executive Board members and candidates for the Executive Board are subject to the same rules, restrictions and sanctions as other US Chess members with regards to information posted by them on the US Chess website, such as in the US Chess Forums. This includes the option of temporarily or permanently banning an EB member or candidate from posting. The Election Committee may, at its discretion and convenience, post all candidate statements as they appear in *Chess Life* on the US Chess website.

ARTICLE VII: OTHER OFFICERS, APPOINTEES, AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board shall appoint an Executive Director. The Executive Board shall also give approval to the hiring of a chief financial officer

(CFO) and a communications director by the Executive Director. The Executive Board can elect one of its members as Secretary or designate a person to fulfill the functions of Secretary.

- A. Secretary.** The Secretary shall review Minutes of all Executive Board meetings, Delegates’ meetings, and Membership meetings. The Secretary shall post these Minutes, after Executive Board review, on the US Chess website within six weeks for each meeting. Printed copies of the Minutes of the Membership Meeting and Delegates’ Meeting of the previous year, and of all Special Delegates’ meetings and Executive Board meetings held thereafter, shall be available at the Delegates’ meetings. The Executive Board shall determine a means of recording all meetings. The Secretary shall act as the custodian of the corporate seal, ensure that the annual report is filed with the Secretary of State of the state of Illinois, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Bylaws.

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF APPOINTEES.

The duties of Officers appointed by the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and other Executive Board appointees shall be set forth in written memoranda by the Executive Board. Copies of said memoranda shall be added to the minutes for dissemination to the Delegates.

SECTION 3. COMMITTEES.

- A.** The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following Standing Committees:
 - 1. Audit Committee.** The Audit Committee shall consist of four persons: the Vice President for Finance as a non-voting member and three members elected by the delegates from among the delegates and alternate delegates who are knowledgeable in accounting matters such as (but not limited to) a certified public accountant (CPA), a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) or someone who has substantial experience in the public or private sectors. No other member of the Executive Board may be a member of the Audit Committee. The duties of the Committee shall be:
 - a.** To advise the EB on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors, and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.
 - b.** To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.
 - c.** To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)
 - d.** To consider and advise the EB on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.
 - e.** To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management’s response and to promote coordination between the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the EB and the Delegates accordingly.
 - f.** To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors’ Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses, and to advise the EB accordingly.

- g. To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.
- h. To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.
- i. To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the implementation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports, and management letters and to advise the EB accordingly.
- j. To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.
- k. To advise the Executive Director, as requested.
- l. To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.
- m. To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates.

2. Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee shall choose its own chair.

3. Election Committee. The Election Committee shall consist of 4 members appointed by the Delegates. Alternate members may also be appointed who would replace any member of the committee who resigns or otherwise leaves the committee. The committee is responsible for the conduct of and shall preside over Federation elections. No member of the Election Committee may be a candidate for the US Chess Executive Board during his or her service on the Election Committee. No member of the Election Committee may serve on a Nominating Committee, sign nominating petitions for any candidate for the Executive Board, campaign on behalf of any candidate, or make an endorsement for or against any candidate for the Executive Board. The Committee shall choose its own Chair.

4. Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee shall choose its own chair.

B. The Delegates may appoint any other committees as needed. The Executive Board may appoint such subcommittees of the Board or committees as it deems appropriate.

C. Except as provided elsewhere, in the event of a vacancy on a Delegate-appointed Committee, the committee and Executive Board may appoint a replacement. Such appointment requires a 2/3 majority of each the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.

D. No individual member can chair more than one of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

E. No individual other than the Vice President–Finance can serve on more than two of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

SECTION 4. COUNSEL.

Legal Counsel shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY.

None of the National Officers (including members of the Executive Board and Executive Director) shall be officers of other sports organizations recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as a national governing body.

ARTICLE VII: ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS

SECTION 1. STATE CHAPTERS.

Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all Federation purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all Federation purposes) shall be entitled to have an affiliate designated as the State Chapter, provided that any state having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines. Credentials of affiliates applying for designation as State Chapter for any state without a current State Chapter submitted before June 1, or for any state with a current State Chapter submitted before March 1, shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. Credentials submitted after the deadline shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS.

Each State Chapter shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chess players within its state. Each State Chapter shall nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws. Each State Chapter shall fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may from time to time designate.

SECTION 3. AFFILIATES.

Any organization of chess players may affiliate with US Chess upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chess players who are exclusively scholastic players may affiliate with US Chess as a Scholastic Affiliate upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chess players who are incarcerated in a penal institution may affiliate with US Chess as a Prison Affiliate upon the payment of the fee of \$15 per year. Affiliation does not constitute the affiliate as an agent of US Chess for any purpose. Subject to approval by the US Chess Executive Director, affiliates may choose how they are named, with the exception that the name of the form “[State Name] Chess Association” or “[State Name] Chess Federation” is restricted only to the designated State Chapter for that particular state.

SECTION 4. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Each affiliate shall:

- A.** receive a subscription to *Chess Life*.
- B.** be entitled to conduct US Chess-rated tournaments in accordance with US Chess tournament rules.
- C.** be privileged to issue US Chess memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the US Chess headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.

SECTION 5. REVOCATION.

The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

ARTICLE IX: SUNDRY BYLAWS

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY.

These Bylaws have been adopted by the Delegates under the authority of the charter issued to the United States of America Chess Federation by the State of Illinois.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.

These Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates' advance agenda shall require a 3/4 majority vote to pass.

SECTION 3. OFFICE.

The registered office of US Chess shall be at such address in the State of Illinois as is designated by the Executive Board.

SECTION 4. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

US Chess is the official USA unit of FIDE and shall be represented officially in all FIDE affairs by a Permanent Delegate appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. PUBLICATIONS.

Chess Life, a periodical, or its successor publication, is designated an official publication.

SECTION 6. FISCAL PERIOD.

The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31.

SECTION 7. FUND DEPOSITORIES AND DISBURSEMENTS.

All funds, other than Life Member Assets, shall be deposited in one or more federally insured depositories, or other vehicles approved by the Executive Board, disbursable only by withdrawal authorized by two or more of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director, and such senior staff as the Executive Board shall designate. The Executive Board may authorize petty cash accounts, whose amounts may not exceed \$500.00, and disbursable only by check signed by one of the above, or any two employees approved by the Executive Board.

SECTION 8. ACCOUNTANTS.

Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review US Chess' accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

SECTION 9. ENCUMBRANCE.

- A. No asset of US Chess may be encumbered without the approval of the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, except as provided in Section 10 below, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director.
- B. Any land and/or buildings, owned by US Chess cannot be sold, encumbered, liened, or mortgaged, in any fashion, without approval by the Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, except as provided in Section 10 below.

SECTION 10. LIFE MEMBER ASSETS MANAGEMENT.

When a trust has been established for the management of Life Member assets, the trust can only be revoked or amended by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or Special Delegates' Meeting provided that a proposal to revoke is included in the Delegates' advance agenda. Upon revocation all assets will revert to US Chess.

SECTION 11.

US Chess will publish an annual report within four months of the end of the fiscal year. The report will contain, among other things, a complete presentation of the audited financial statements.

SECTION 12. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Each member of the Board of Delegates, Executive Board, national officer (hereinafter "officer"), and employee of the corporation now or hereafter serving as such, shall be indemnified by the corporation against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such delegate, director, officer, or employee or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him or her as such a director, officer, or employee; and the corporation shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any such liability, provided, however, that indemnification shall be limited to cases in which such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal act or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and provided further, however, that as a member of the Board of Delegates such a person shall only be indemnified for his or her acts or omissions at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Board of Delegates and not for any local or other activities.

To the extent that a delegate, director, officer, or employee of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Any indemnification against any and all claims (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the delegate, director, officer, or employee, is proper in the circumstances because he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Such determination shall be made (A) by the Board of Delegates by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of delegates who were not parties to such action, suit, proceeding, or claim, or (B) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable, a quorum of disinterested delegates so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

The right of indemnification herein above provided for shall not be exclusive of any rights to which any delegate, director, officer, or employee of the corporation may otherwise be entitled by law, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a delegate, director, officer, or employee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a delegate, director, officer, or employee, or agent of the corporation, against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this article.

SECTION 13. RATIFICATION OF VOIDABLE ACTS.

Any transaction questioned in any suit brought by any member on the grounds of lack of authority, defective or irregular execution, adverse interest of any director, officer, employee, or member, nondisclosure,

miscomputation, or the application of improper principles or practices of accounting may be ratified before or after judgment by the Board of Directors and, if so ratified, shall have the same force and effect as if the questioned transaction had been originally duly authorized, and said ratification shall be binding upon the corporation and its members and shall constitute a bar to any claim or execution of any judgment in respect of such questioned transaction.

SECTION 14. RELIANCE ON RECORDS.

Each director, officer, Delegate, or employee shall in the performance of his or her duties be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or reports made to the corporation by any of its officials, or by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care by the Board of Delegates, or in relying in good faith upon other records of the corporation.

SECTION 15. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be used at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, Executive Board, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules which have been adopted.

SECTION 16. NON-DISCRIMINATION.

US Chess shall comply with all laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law with respect to chess tournaments sponsored by the organization.

SECTION 17. NATIONAL TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS AS US CHESS EMPLOYEES.

For purposes of the bylaws, a tournament director at a National Tournament who is not already a US Chess employee shall not be

considered a US Chess employee.

SECTION 18. MODIFICATION OF THE OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

A change of U.S. Chess Federation’s Rules of Chess shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the Delegates present to pass. All rule changes must be approved at two consecutive delegates meetings. No amendments may be made at the second meeting. The one year waiting period can be overridden by an 85% vote.

SECTION 19. SEVERABILITY.

If a court of competent jurisdiction shall hold a portion of these Bylaws to be invalid, the remainder of the Bylaws not so held invalid shall remain in full force and effect.

Revision Date: 12-13-2023

RECORD OF REVISIONS - 2023

- Article V, Section 8 has been changed as per DM23-24. Amendment: Section E stricken; Section F becomes Section E.
- Article VI, Section 6 has been changed to enable the change to election by universal electronic ballot as enshrined in DM23-33.
- Article V, Section 1 dealing with the Responsibility of the Board of Delegates has been changed in line with DM23-36.
- Wording added to Article VIII, Section 3, as per DM23-40.
- Article IX, Sections 1 and 2 changed as per DM23-43.
- Added this Record of Revisions as a continuous log of changes going forward.

VOLUNTEER AND LEGAL EXPENSES

VOLUNTEER EXPENSES 6/1/23 - 5/31/24

David Day	Executive Board	2,727.26
Mike Hoffpauir	Executive Board	1,467.38
Kevin Pryor	Executive Board	516.00
Lakshmana Vishwanath	Executive Board	1,125.25
Leila D’Aquin	Executive Board	558.77

TOTAL VOLUNTEER EXPENSES 2023 - 2024 6,394.66

LEGAL EXPENSES 6/1/23 - 5/31/24

Personnel	Polsinelli PC	50,874.50
	Keeney, Cooper, Mohan & Jackstadt, P.C.	16,717.00
Goverance & Misc	Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.	17,738.00
	Lucas & Mercanti LLP-refund	(4,641.47)
	Haynes and Boone LLP	22,208.75
	Wagenmaker & Oberly	470.00

TOTAL LEGAL EXPENSES 2023 - 2024 103,366.78

STANDING RULES OR CUSTOMARY RULES

Used by US Chess Delegates at past meetings, including procedural rules initially developed by the US Chess President for use at the 1998 Delegates meeting.

- A.** A speaker may not move the previous question (call the question) after speaking to the merits of a question in that turn at the microphone. [Passed by the Delegates as a standing rule.]
- B.** Except for motions arising from the US Chess Membership Meeting, if the sponsor or co-sponsor of a motion is not present at the time it is reached in the agenda, it goes to the end of the agenda, after all other advance motions and motions filed with the Secretary before or during the meeting but not included in the advance agenda. A request for unanimous consent or a motion to suspend the rules may be offered to bring the motion back to the floor ahead of then. (Congratulatory motions generally made at the end of the meeting are usually deferred until all other Delegate motions are dealt with, including those moved to the end of the agenda.) Motions on the advance agenda do not require a second; a Delegate who objects to such a motion should raise an objection to consideration of the question, either during adoption of the advance agenda or when the motion is reached in the meeting. Delegate motions not printed in the advance agenda do require a second.
- C.** A Delegate may withdraw a motion as long as it is still in its original form, even during debate, but once a motion has been revised from its initial form, it may only be withdrawn by unanimous consent. All co-signers to the original motion must also consent to its withdrawal. (The person who seconded the motion does not need to consent to its withdrawal, since seconding a motion does not express an opinion on the merits of the motion, and the seconder is always free to attempt to gain the floor to make the motion again, at which time it requires another Delegate to second it.) When a motion is divided into multiple questions, each of the parts is now a separate motion and such a separated motion may be withdrawn if it is still in its original form.
- D.** The maker of a motion may accept as an improved version a 'friendly amendment' from another Delegate. Such a motion is still considered to be in its original form. The seconder does not have to consent to the friendly amendment, since the person offering the improvement is obviously willing to have the motion considered, which is the point of requiring a second. [This is a deviation from Robert's Rules, which now has a reference to the friendly amendment in the 10th edition, but in a much more restricted sense than found in common practice, including at US Chess Delegates Meetings.]
- E.** Committee chairs may only bring to the floor during their reports motions that were referred to them by the previous or current Delegates meeting, motions referred to them by the Executive Board and printed in the Executive Board Newsletter or (preferably) placed on the advance agenda, or motions that the committee, or the committee chair on the committee's behalf, placed on the advance agenda. In specific, motions from workshops have no special standing with the Delegates, though they may be brought to the floor as main motions later in the meeting in the usual manner or offered as amendments during debate.
- F.** Straw polls may be made at the sole discretion of the chair, although the speaker may request them of the chair. The chair will conduct all straw polls and votes. [Because they neither advance nor defeat

the issue, the use of straw polls is not sanctioned by Robert's Rules, which suggests that a form of 'committee of the whole' be used instead.]

- G.** All main motions and amendments not appearing in the advance agenda should be submitted to the Secretary in written format, to assist the chair in the orderly conduct of the meeting and the Secretary in preparing an accurate set of minutes.

Pro and Con microphones will be placed on the floor. All Delegates wishing to debate a motion should stand in line at the appropriate microphone and wait to be assigned the floor by the chair. If an amendment or other debatable motion is offered, the Pro and Con microphones will now refer to that motion, and Delegates wishing to speak on that subject should move to the appropriate microphone; others should stand aside or sit down.

A podium may be provided for committee chairs to make their committee reports from. A committee chair or other Delegate at the podium is not entitled to any preference in debate but may be called upon to answer points of information regarding a committee's views on motions referred to it, in the advance agenda, or arising from the committee workshop. Makers of main motions may also be requested to present their motions from the podium and to remain at the podium to answer points of information.

Motions introduced and passed at the US Chess Membership Meeting for consideration by the Delegates are entered on the agenda as the first items under New Business, and are brought to the floor in order at that point in the agenda. These motions do not require a second. The maker of the motion during the Membership Meeting, if not a Delegate, is not entitled to speak at the Delegates meeting without the unanimous consent of the Delegates.

Delegates who have already spoken to the merits of a pending question are requested to defer to Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merit of that question. The chair may recognize Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merits of a pending question ahead of those who have already spoken on it. Where possible the chair will alternate between speakers for and speakers against the pending question. The maker of a motion is always entitled to the first opportunity in debate to speak to the merits of that motion. The chair assigns the floor; a Delegate may not yield the floor to another Delegate without the unanimous consent of the Delegates. Except for committee chairs giving their report, the Parliamentarian (if not a Delegate), and US Chess staff members presenting a staff report or answering a point of information, non-Delegates are not entitled to speak to the Delegates without unanimous consent.

As indicated above, motions not reached by the Delegates or motions tabled by the Delegates are automatically referred to the Executive Board at the conclusion of the Delegates Meeting, but without the power to implement (where applicable) and without instructions to report back to the Delegates, so they will not appear on the advance agenda of the next Delegates Meeting except by specific action of the Executive Board, nor does progress on these motions need to be reported upon.

ROBERT'S RULES SUMMARY

Activity	You Say This	May you interrupt speaker?	Must you be seconded?	Is motion debatable?	What vote is required?
Introduce Business	I move that	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	I move that this motion be amended by....	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have something studied further	I move we refer this matter to committee	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
Postpone consideration of something	I move we postpone this matter until....	No	Yes	Yes	Majority
End debate in order to vote	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Suspend further consideration of something	I move that we table....	No	Yes	No	Majority
Complain about something (noise, room temp., etc.)	Point of privilege	Yes	No	No	No vote
Recess the meeting	I move that we recess until ...	No	Yes	No	Majority
Adjourn the meeting	I move that we adjourn	No	Yes	No	Majority
Object to procedure	Point of order	Yes	No	No	No vote; Chair decides
Request information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No vote
Ask for vote by actual count to verify a voice vote	I call for a division of the house	No	No	No	No vote
Object to considering some undiplomatic matter	I object to consideration of this question	Yes	No	No	2/3 vote
Take up a matter previously tabled	I move to take from the table...	No	Yes	No	Majority
Reconsider something already disposed of	I move we reconsider our action relative to	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	I move we suspend the rules and consider ...	No	Yes	No	2/3 vote
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	I appeal the chair's decision	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The complete document, "Robert's Rules of Order: A Guide for US Chess Delegates," can be found at this link: https://new.uschess.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/roberts_rules_summary_4pgs.pdf and is a simplified selection of key points from *Robert's Rules of Order*, Newly Revised, 12th Edition, ISBN-13: 978-1-5417-3669-6.

SCHEDULE

31
WED

SENIOR COMMITTEE
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

NATIONAL STATE INVITATIONALS
COMMITTEE
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

U.S. OPEN COMMITTEE
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL & COMMITTEE
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

01
THUR

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (CLOSED)
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (OPEN)
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

US CHESS DEVELOPMENT
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

CHESS JOURNALISTS OF AMERICA
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

U.S. CHESS TRUST
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SAFE PLAY ADVISORY GROUP
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

02
FRI

ETHICS COMMITTEE
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

CHESS IN EDUCATION
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

MILITARY CHESS COMMITTEE
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

FINANCE, INVESTMENTS, AND LMA TRUST
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

COLLEGE COMMITTEE
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

STAFF FORUM/GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

AWARDS RECEPTION — OPEN TO ALL
4:00 p.m.

03
SAT

DELEGATES MEETING
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LUNCH BREAK AT NOON

04
SUN

DELEGATES MEETING
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (CLOSED)
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (OPEN)
6:00 p.m.

Workshop schedule subject to change. For updates, please visit: new.uschess.org/information-2024-annual-meeting-norfolk-virginia

ONLINE WORKSHOPS: States & Affiliates Committee, Rules Committee, Ratings Committee, Scholastic Committee, Tournament Director Certification Committee

Watch for more information about when these events will be held here: new.uschess.org/information-2024-annual-meeting-norfolk-virginia-meeting-information