

## **Chess Club Constitution**

### **Article I.**

Name: The name of this organization shall be The Chess Club at Ohio State.

Purpose: The purpose of our club is to provide the Ohio State University students with opportunities through chess. These include weekly meetings (informal chess playing), tournaments, and community service opportunities to teach chess. The chess club intends to participate in tournaments at the local, state, and national level as well as holding tournaments at the university.

Non-Discrimination Policy: This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

### **Article II.**

Membership: Membership for the club shall consist of anyone interested in playing chess, who attends a minimum of one meeting per month. Voting rights for the club are limited to members that are currently enrolled as Ohio State students. Other people including faculty, alumni, community members, etc. are encouraged to join the club but as non-voting members.

### **Article III.**

Leadership Organization: The officers of the Chess Club at Ohio State must include the club's President, Vice President, and Treasurer. The Outreach Officer, First Board, and Secretary are available positions for club members to take, but do not have to be filled. Officer succession shall be determined by discussion among present officers and emeriti officers when they intend to cede their positions by evaluation of the credentials of officer candidates. All officers must be enrolled as Ohio State University students and their duties are as follows:

- The Club President will be charged with the inception of each meeting, performing overall management of the club, determining any potential meets or competitions, communicating information in a timely manner to club members, and helping introduce players to the game of chess.
- The Vice President will be charged with fulfilling the duties of the President if he/she becomes unable or unwilling to fulfill his/her duties, to update membership lists, and any other such duties that the President so charges him/her with.
- The Treasurer must periodically provide to the officers an update of club funds and work with the President on planning any trips or competitions. The Treasurer will have planning and writing authority over the budget and have principal control over the club

bank account and usage of the funds thereof. In the event that both the President and the Vice President are unable or unwilling to fulfill the duty of President, the Treasurer shall be charged with fulfilling the duty of President.

- The Secretary is a position which can have a wide range of responsibilities. Duties may include social media account management, helping to plan events, and completing other tasks as agreed up by the officers. In the event that the President, Vice President, and Treasurer are all unable or unwilling to fulfill the duty of President, the Secretary shall fulfill the duty of President.
- The Outreach Officer will have responsibility over the various social media accounts of the club, including but not limited to the club Facebook page, the club Twitter feed, the club Instagram account, and the club Discord server. They will also be charged with organizing and carrying out community service and other outreach events as so agreed upon by the officers. In the event that the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary are all unable or unwilling to fulfill the duty of President, the Outreach Officer shall fulfill the duty of President.
- The First Board is determined by the highest student's rating in the USCF. His/her duties will be to represent the club at competitions and to help the President introduce players to the game of chess. The person who obtains this position, as it is due solely to skill and not leadership quality, may also have one of the other officer positions. If, however, the President is unable or unwilling to perform his/her duties and neither the Vice President nor the Treasurer nor the Secretary nor the Outreach Officer is willing or able to intervene, the First Board may assume the role of the Presidency.

When an officer's position is vacant, any club member may nominate himself for that position who meets membership requirements from the previous Spring semester. The officers, including any emeriti officers, shall by evaluation of the qualifications and talents of the nominees select new officers in order to fill the vacant positions. The new officers shall then be inducted during the next meeting.

#### **Article IV.**

Adviser Qualification Criteria: Any adviser of the Chess Club must be a full-time member of the Ohio State University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. The adviser should be kept up to date on the club's current activities, available for dispute resolution, and should assist in event/meeting planning if needed.

#### **Article V.**

Member and/or Officer Removal: Any member or officer can be removed from the position or the club when a two thirds majority of members or a majority of officers feel that removal is an appropriate course of action. Officers can be asked to step down if, in the opinion of a two thirds majority of the members or a majority of the remaining officers, they are unfit to lead and/or are

failing in their duties as an Officer. A member may be dismissed with a two thirds majority vote or a majority of officers if the members feel their behavior or actions warrant a dismissal. Two thirds majority applies to the total number of active club members.

#### **Article V.**

Meeting Requirements: One general meeting a week for each academic year (excluding summer) is required by each member of the club. The numerical equivalent is also acceptable if deemed appropriate by any officer.

#### **Article VII.**

Constitutional Amendments: Amendments to this constitution may be implemented by achieving approval from the club's faculty adviser and with a 2/3 ratification from the club's membership or a majority of officers. If the faculty advisor rejects a proposal, an amendment may still be added with all four of the officer's approval and a 3/4 approval from the club's membership or a unanimous approval of officers.

#### **Article VIII.**

Dissolution of Organization: The dissolution of the club should be based on the voting of all active members, and the number of votes necessary for dissolution must exceed three fourths. Disposing of assets is to be based on the amount gained through sale and should be divided equally among active members of the organization. The amounts of debts are also to be divided equally among active members of the organization.

#### **Article IX.**

Student Conduct: The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct applies to the team and its individual members.

#### **Article X.**

Continuity in Case of Suspension: If the team is suspended for violating the Code of Student Conduct, Competitive Sports will appoint an Interim President and an Interim Treasurer. The Interim President and Interim Treasurer may (1) transfer signatures and check writing authority for the organization's bank account to themselves within thirty days of suspension, (2) pay existing financial obligations out of the organization's current funds, and (3) when the period of suspension ends, take appropriate steps with Student Activities to re-register as a student organization. Further, the Interim President and Interim Treasurer shall inventory the organization's equipment and write a plan for its storage and safekeeping during the suspension period. This plan must be submitted to Competitive Sports within the first thirty days of the suspension. During this suspension no new coaches or staff should be hired during this time. All club assets are frozen during this suspension period meaning nothing may be bought or sold

during this time. Should the Interim President or Interim Treasurer wish to take any additional actions, they must seek advance approval from Competitive Sports.

**Article XI.**

Return to Competitive Sports: In order to return as a recognized Sports Club team, the Interim President must provide Competitive Sports with documentation that the team is a recognized student organization. The Interim President must also provide a roster of at least 15 students to Competitive Sports along with a written plan to hold elections. This plan should, to the extent possible during terms, length, and timing of the suspension, resemble the provisions contained in Article X.