

## CHESS TEAM CONSTITUTION

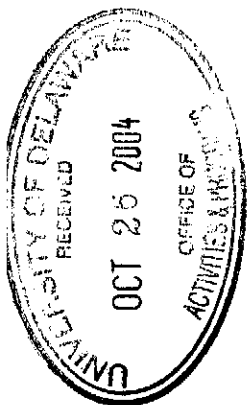
### Preamble

We, the undersigned, hereby agree to form The University of Delaware Chess Team for the purpose of competitive chess-playing, the exploration of chess-techniques, and the general encouragement of competitive chess as an avocation in the Newark area.

### Articles

The Chess Team is formed upon and agrees upon the following parameters:

- 1) Our group shall be known as "The University of Delaware Chess Team."
- 2) Our group agrees to fulfill the purposes and aims aforementioned in the preamble by:
  - A) Meeting each week to play competitive chess and/or learn about techniques and strategies.
  - B) Actively seeking the opportunity to play in local and/or regional tournaments.
  - C) Organizing on-campus tournaments for the benefit of denizens and local chess players.
- 3) The University of Delaware Chess club is not affiliated with any external organizations. The University of Delaware Chess Club does, on occasion work in partnership with the Newark Chess Club to establish and encourage participation in tournaments. Joining The University of Delaware Chess Team, however, entails no obligation, fiscal or otherwise to Newark Chess Club.
- 4) Membership is to be restricted to full-time undergraduate matriculated students at the University of Delaware who agree to the constitution and restrictions of the group. Chess Team shall be limited to 30 members. Members are strongly encouraged, but not required to attend weekly chess meetings, and participate in tournaments. Members will be dismissed from Chess Team if they fail to comply with University Behavioral requirements or the chess team constitution and restrictions thereunto contained, or in cases of extreme truancy or in order to meet the maximum group capacity of 30 members.
- 5) University of Delaware Chess Team agrees to adhere to all policies and procedures of the University and all local, state, and federal laws. Members will become acquainted with policies and procedures in the Official student handbook and other policies and procedures provided by the University. Chess Team is a viable, functioning organization, composed of at least six full time undergraduate students and we do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, veteran, handicap status, or sexual orientation.
- 6) **Duties and Privledges of Membership:** All members are required to participate, whenever possible in recreational and compctitive meetings, to perform duties regarding the formation of meetings and tournaments when those duties are thereunto assigned and agreed upon, and to remain in contact with Chess Team Officers regarding



meeting attendance and club activities. All members are equally entitled to the privilege of attending and participating in meetings, tournaments, and are entitled to vote and otherwise voice their opinion on matters of club activities.

- 7) Non students, or other persons not meeting membership requirements may be admitted to Chess Team as non-voting graduate, alumni, or honorary members, if two thirds of existing members stipulate to their membership. The following privileges will be denied these members:
  1. Voting in any Chess Team elections of officers, programs, or policies.
  2. Registering Chess Team with the University.
  3. Representing Chess Team to the University.
  4. Reserving University facilities on behalf of Chess Team.
  5. Requesting University services for Chess Team.
  6. Staffing tables or distributing materials on campus on behalf of Chess Team.
  7. Soliciting funds on behalf of Chess Team.
  8. Participating in certain sponsored activities and tournaments as a Chess Team representative.
- 8) **Absence Policies:** Regular attendance at meetings is strongly encouraged but not required. If, however, a member is absent from meetings and tournaments for more than eight consecutive weeks he may be removed from Chess Team, following a 2/3 majority vote.
- 9) Members will not be removed from the Chess Team except in cases of extreme truancy, violations of state or federal laws, university behavioral restrictions, or Chess Team bylaws, following a 2/3 majority vote. Former Members will be allowed to appeal their removal to the President, the University, and apply for readmittance.
- 10) **OFFICERS :** Chess Team is to be made up of the following officers to be responsible for the duties hereafter described.

**Section 1: President** – The President is in charge of calling and running meetings and handling day-to-day affairs. The President shall be responsible for the registration of Chess Team and all required paperwork for the continuation of Chess Team, including the End of the Year report (Annual Report), Summer Contact Information, Annual Survey, and RSO Questionnaire. The President will receive all information from the Activities and Programs Office from an undisclosed email database. The president will also help to appoint all standing and special committees.

**Section 2: Vice-President** - The Vice-President shall serve the role of President if the President is absent, unable to serve the duties of President, or if the President resigns. The Vice President will also be responsible for checking the organizations mailbox and for disseminating information about other activities offered by the other Registered Student Organizations and

business promotions. The Vice President will receive information from other Registered Student Organizations and the Activities and Programs Office through the email database.

**Section 3: Treasurer** - The Treasurer shall be responsible for all Chess Team expenditures and revenues. The Treasurer shall sign any checks written by Chess Team and maintain all group ledgers. The treasurer will also be responsible for requesting funds from the allocation board. The Treasurer will have checks so-signed by the appropriate administrator.

**Section 4: Secretary** - The Secretary shall record the events of all Chess Team meetings and shall maintain minutes of those meetings. The secretary shall take attendance of those present at group meetings as necessary. The secretary will also be responsible for recording each players win-loss record and will help keep score, if necessary, at tournaments.

**Qualifications for Officers** - All Officers must be full time matriculated undergraduate students at the University of Delaware.

**Election of Officers** – All officers will be chosen by a simple majority vote. Vote will be by secret ballot—e.g. a folded napkin or something. In case of a tie, a chess match between the two parties who are tied will determine the officer. Elections will be held once every academic year, at the end of fall semester, or whenever a vacancy occurs—e.g., a resignation, graduation, etc. Any member can be nominated or nominate himself for office.

**Procedure For Disciplining and Removing Officers**—If an officer proves truant, negligent in his duties, demonstrates markedly poor leadership abilities, or violates any University or Chess Team bylaws, he is eligible to be impeached from his office and/or removed from the group. In the case of any of these violations, the officer will be notified as soon as the violation is discovered and agreed upon. He will be given two weeks to defend himself before Chess Team. After he has defended himself, or after the two weeks have elapsed, Chess Team will vote. A 2/3 majority will be needed to remove the officer from his office. If he is removed, Chess Team will vote again to determine if he will be allowed to remain in the group. A 2/3 majority is needed for all evictions.

**Meetings** - There will be four, rather informal meetings per month, i.e. to play casual chess. Attendance, nonetheless, is strongly encouraged. There will be one serious meeting per month to talk about chess team affairs and plan activities and tournaments, which will be scheduled on an agreed upon basis. Meetings will usually take place at Perkins or the Trabant center. Location and time of meetings may change week to week. All members, therefore, will be notified in advance of every meeting.

**Dues** – There shall be no dues required to join Chess Team. If funds are needed, however, officers may collect dues, following a 2/3 majority stipulation.

**By Laws** – Chess Team shall obey the following operational by laws:

1. No member shall throw a chessboard at his opponent, knock over the pieces, or commit any other acts of unsportsmanlike conduct following a loss.
2. The victor of a chess match shall say, “good game” and shake his opponent’s hand following a victory.
3. All members shall be treated with the same respect and allowed the same privileges, regardless of skill level.
4. Chess shall be played according to current UFC rules, unless an amendment to those rules is agreed upon by both parties (e.g. bughouse).
5. Members should treat fellow members and all other persons with the civility, respect and decorum not aforementioned that polite society demands of them.
6. Bylaws can be changed, and new bylaws can be added following a 2/3 majority vote.

**Procedures of Decision Making** – The Roberts Rules of Order handbook shall be consulted for all decisions not here-mentioned, provided that the decision that entails is not in violation of the constitution, bylaws, or University policy.

**Establishment of Committees** - Chess Team may establish a temporary committee to carry out certain duties, following a simple majority vote, on an as needed basis. Members assigned to committees must agree to carry out their duties or face disciplinary action. In addition Chess Team may establish permanent committees, following a 2/3 majority vote, and the approval of the University.

**Choosing an Advisor** – Chess Team shall choose an advisor by a 2/3 majority vote. Advisors will be nominated on a volunteer-basis.

**Disbursal of organizational assets should the group become defunct** - The University of Delaware shall inherit the assets of Chess Team Organization should the group become defunct.

**Quorum** –  $\frac{3}{4}$  of members, and all officers, must be present in order for any decision to made. Absent members may appeal any decision made in their absence.

**Rules for Ratifying the Constitution** - Requires a 2/3 majority vote and approval by the Activities and Programs Office.

**Rules for amending the Constitution** - Requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership and advance notice to all members of the proposed change.