

D.C. Chess League Constitution and By-Laws

updated June 2002

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the D.C. Chess League.

Article II: Purpose

The purposes of the D.C. Chess League are:

- to enable its members to play the game of chess;
- to conduct tournaments, matches, and other forms of chess competition;
- to play matches with other organizations;
- to provide instruction, entertainment, and competition in chess for the members;
- to promote the popularity of the game of chess; and
- to encourage the growth of the game of chess by programs of participation in cooperation with schools, prisons, public institutions, the armed services, the underprivileged, and the handicapped.

Article III: Membership

Membership shall consist of teams, as defined in the League Playing Rules, which compete in the regular team tournaments of the League. At League meetings, a representative of each team which has completed a League tournament during the previous year and announces its intention to compete in the following League tournament shall be entitled to one vote. Representatives of new teams or teams which competed previously without completing their schedule shall be entitled to one vote upon payment of the required entrance fee for the coming League tournament.

In the event that any member of this organization shall be guilty of conduct which, in the judgment of three-fourths of the membership, shall tend to bring the game of chess into disrepute, the member's membership may be revoked.

Individual memberships shall be sold by the D.C. Chess League at a price to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Article IV: Organization

The elected officers of this organization shall be: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Executive Director, a Membership Secretary, the King's File Editor, and a Director at Large. Officers shall be elected at each fall organizational meeting and serve for a term of one year. Should a vacancy occur between elections, it shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. No person shall hold more than one of the above offices, except to fill a vacancy which occurs between elections. The Director at Large shall be elected from among the team representatives present at the annual fall meeting.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the League and shall conduct the business of the League in the intervals between membership meetings. Each member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to one vote at meetings of the League and meetings of the Board Of Directors. No Individual at any meeting shall be entitled to more than one vote.

Article V: Duties of Officers and Board of Directors

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the League and of the Board of Directors; and appoint any such administrative officers as the Board of Directors might deem necessary.
2. The Vice-President shall assist the President in special reference to external affairs of the League; preside at meetings in the absence of the President; and succeed to the office of President should that office become vacant.
3. The Secretary shall
 - a. keep the minutes of meetings;
 - b. carry on the correspondence of the League; and
 - c. send notices of meetings to the members.
4. The Treasurer shall
 - a. collect and deposit all authorized dues and other funds received by him for the League;
 - b. make disbursements authorized by the Board of Directors; and
 - c. furnish a financial statement to the Board of Directors when requested.
5. The Executive Director shall arrange and direct the tournaments among the members conducted by this organization under the rules and conditions as promulgated by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall not simultaneously be a team captain.
6. The Membership secretary shall keep the records regarding individual membership of the D.C. Chess League and shall aid in the distribution of the King's File.
7. The Kings' File Editor shall edit and publish the official publications of the League under rules and conditions as promulgated by the Board of Directors.
8. The Director at Large shall
 - a. represent the membership at meetings of the Board of Directors and
 - b. perform such other duties as shall be designated by the Board of Directors.
9. The Board of Directors shall formulate a program of activities for the organization including cooperative efforts with other organizations, formulate additional duties for any officers as might be deemed necessary by the Board of Directors, and under the designation "Executive Committee" preside over conflicts between members, unless satisfactorily resolved by the Executive Director.

Article VI: Dues

The dues for membership in this organization shall consist of the entrance fees or other fees required under the League Playing Rules (see 7.0 in Tournament Rules) for participation in the regular League Tournaments.

Article VII: Meetings

The regular annual meeting of the members and the Board of Directors shall be held on such a day and at such a place as shall be decided upon by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. Upon written request of one third of the members, a special meeting shall be called by the President within twenty days. The Secretary shall notify all members and officers ten days prior to any regular or special meeting. The Board of Directors may meet at any reasonable time and place upon call of the President or upon written request of any three members of the Board of Directors.

Article VIII: Amendments

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended for a temporary period of one year by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a regular or special membership meeting. The amendments shall become permanent upon ratification by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the next regular or special meeting which occurs at least one year after the temporary adoption. Should the membership fail to ratify the temporary amendments at the designated meeting, the amendments shall become null and void.

Article IX: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a number of team representatives and Board of Director members equal to one third of the number of team representatives and Board of Directors members present at the previous annual meeting and including a quorum of the Board of Directors.

A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the Board of Directors and at least one of the President or Vice President.

Article X: Impeachment

Impeachment proceedings may be initiated by petition to the Board of Directors by two officers or submission to the Board of Directors of a petition signed by a number of members equal to a quorum.

The Board of Directors shall set a hearing date.

The officers and members will hear arguments from a representative of the petitioners; then the officer being impeached shall respond.

Members and officers may ask questions of both sides.

When satisfied both sides have been given a complete and fair hearing, the officers and members shall convene privately to discuss and then vote.

A two-thirds majority is necessary to impeach the officer in question.

Article XI: Delegates and Voting Members

The delegates and voting members representing D.C. shall be chosen by popular vote of all adult D.C. members of the U.S.C.F. The Board of Directors of the D.C.C.L. shall be responsible for the conduct of these elections.