

CONSTITUTION
of the
SPARTANBURG CHESS CLUB

Article I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the “Spartanburg Chess Club”; hereinafter referred to as “the Club”.

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of the Club is to promote the game of chess through regular meetings and special events such as tournaments, exhibitions, etc.

Article III

Membership

Membership in the Club shall be granted to any person 18 years old or older upon payment of the annual dues. Persons under age 18 years shall be allowed to attend regular club meetings free of charge without the right to vote or hold office. However, persons under 18 may serve on committees.

Article IV

Organization

The Club shall be a nonprofit organization governed by an Executive Board consisting of the following officers: a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer whose terms of office shall be one year beginning with elections in December.

Article V

Duties of Officers

1. The President shall:
 - a. Preside at all meetings;
 - b. Chair the Executive Board;
 - c. Approve all expenditures;
 - d. Appoint all committees and committee heads;
 - e. Serve as liaison to external organizations;
 - f. Oversee the general operation of the Club.
2. The Vice President shall:
 - a. Serve as surrogate for the President in his or her absence;
 - b. Serve as program coordinator for special activities.
3. The Secretary shall:
 - a. Record the minutes of business meetings;
 - b. Maintain a membership roster;
 - c. Conduct correspondence on behalf of the Club.
4. The Treasurer shall:
 - a. Collect membership dues and provide for safekeeping of same;
 - b. Sign checks for Club expenditures;

- c. Maintain a balance sheet for Club finances;
- d. Publish an annual financial statement in the Club Newsletter;
- e. Obtain approval from the President for disbursements.

Article VI

Voting Procedures

1. Elections for officers shall be held during the first regular meeting in December of each year. Officers shall be elected by simple majority of members present.
2. The Constitution, to take effect, must be approved by a 2/3 majority of member present at an organizational meeting.
3. The Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority of members at a regular meeting provided that a quorum is present. A "quorum" is defined as 50% or more of paid-up members.
4. Any Constitutional amendment must be tabled for two weeks before substantive discussion can take place.
5. Club rules and decision deemed non-discretionary by the Executive Board shall be approved by a majority of members at a regular meeting provided there is a quorum.
6. Only paid-up members shall be allowed to vote.

Article VII

Committees

The President shall be empowered to establish new committees in addition to the following Standing Committees:

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the Club's officers. The Executive Board shall have broad discretionary powers and its decisions shall be made by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of all the officers. Any member may propose changes to the Executive Board which shall bring it to the attention of the Club as a whole if it is deemed of sufficient merit. The Executive Board shall also set annual dues which shall be paid in January. Dues paid after that date shall be prorated for new members. The Executive Board shall also be responsible for acquiring a meeting room and setting meeting dates and times.
2. The Publicity Committee shall contact local news organizations to make club announcements.
3. The Tournament Committee shall organize and direct tournaments sponsored by the Club. This committee shall be responsible for submitting advertisements to the U.S. Chess Federation and S.C. Chess Association.
4. The Newsletter Committee shall publish and distribute to members a newsletter containing club news, announcements, and other chess-related items. The newsletter shall be published at least quarterly unless insufficient funding is available.
5. Committee assignments shall have no time limit, but may be terminated by Presidential action or mutual consent.

Article VIII

Vacancies, Removal from Office, and Expulsion of Members

1. Should a vacancy occur on the Executive Board (or any other committee), the President shall be empowered to appoint someone to fill the remainder of the unexpired term.
2. If the President's position should become vacant, the Vice President shall accede to that position and appoint a new Vice President pursuant to Article VIII, Section 1, above.
3. An officer may be removed for a cause by a 2/3 vote of the members at a regular meeting provided that a quorum is present. "A cause" refers to "non-fulfillment of duties, theft, or other actions deemed detrimental to the Club."
4. Any member may be expelled from Club membership for a cause by recommendation of the Executive Board and 2/3 approval of the membership at a regular meeting provided that a quorum is present.

Article IX

Relationship to Other Organizations

1. The Club shall remain an affiliate of the U.S. Chess Federation provided that sufficient funding is available to pay the annual affiliate fee. The Club shall support the S.C Chess Association as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board.
2. The Club shall apply for membership in the Spartanburg Arts Council, and, if accepted, endeavor to become a good citizen of that organization through fund-raising efforts, participation in Arts Center Festivals, and abiding by 'Arts Council rules.

Article X

Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Club, all remaining assets, after expenses, shall be donated to the S.C. Chess Association. Dissolution may occur due to unanimous vote of all members at a regular meeting provided a quorum is present.

Ratified January 15, 1985