

BYLAWS OF THE WASHINGTON STATE CHESS FEDERATION

Section 1. MEMBERSHIP DUES. The NWC Board, in consultation with affiliated Federations shall set membership rates. NWC shall retain not less than 80% or more than 85% of memberships to cover publication costs. Affiliated federations shall endeavor to maintain uniform membership rate structures and shall recognize one another's members at official tournaments.

Section 2. PRESIDENT. The President shall set policy and provide direction in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws. The President shall chair all meetings, appoint committees, set time and date and serve as chairperson for all meetings, and serve as official spokesperson for the WCF.

Section 3. VICE PRESIDENT. The Vice President shall assume the office of President when the position becomes vacant. The Vice-President shall also be responsible for the state-wide development of an educational program and other purposes set forth in Article 3 of the WCF Constitution.

Section 4. TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR. The Tournament Coordinator shall be responsible for the annual Washington State Invitational Championship, for other events as determined by the WCF officers, and for the general scheduling of WCF title events on the regional calendar.

Section 5. TREASURER. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the following. (A) Maintaining a bank account for WCF Funds. Expenditures will be approved at the official meetings of the WCF Officers and Directors. WCF Funds will not include subscriptions collected for NORTHWEST CHESS magazine. (B) Preparing a financial statement showing all revenues and expenses of the WCF. This financial statement shall be presented at the annual meeting and published in NORTHWEST CHESS MAGAZINE following the meeting. (C) Presenting at the WCF annual meeting, a statement listing any loans or outstanding debts owed to the WCF which exceed \$50.00. The names of any persons or organizations owing such amounts shall be listed, together with whether the amounts are past due or have been defaulted upon, and the terms for repayment. This report shall be published as provided above.

Section 6: SECRETARY. The Secretary will keep the minutes at all official WCF meetings, and provide copies of those minutes for publication in NORTHWEST CHESS magazine. The Secretary will also notify the editor of the date, place, and time of the annual meeting. Such notification will be published in at least one issue of NORTHWEST CHESS magazine prior to the meeting.

Section 7: WCF ANNUAL MEETING. An annual open meeting of the WCF shall be held at a time and place to encourage maximum attendance by the individual members. (NOTE: The annual meeting is usually held at the Washington Open over the Memorial Day weekend at a time and place to be designated.)

Section 8: WCF TOURNAMENTS. All state-wide chess events, such as the following, which use the name "Washington," "Washington State," or similar designation are the responsibility of the WCF. The WCF Officers and Directors, through the WCF Tournament Coordinator or other designated individual, will exercise general supervisory responsibility to establish and maintain the standards of the competition, and to insure the continuity of the event: (A) The Washington Open, (B) The Washington Invitational Championship, (C) The Washington High School Team &/or Individual Championships, (D) The Washington Junior Open Championships, (E) The Washington Junior Invitational Championship, (F) The Washington Class Championships, (G) The Washington Action/Rapid Championship, (H) The Washington Speed Championship, (I) The Washington Challengers Cup Tournament, (J) The Washington Elementary Team &/or Individual Championships, (K) The Washington Chess League, (L) The Washington Junior High School Team &/ or Individual Championship. Some of these events may be held on a biennial schedule.

Section 9: WASHINGTON STATE INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

(A) The WCF ~~will~~ shall organize two concurrent round-robin events annually, The Invitational Championship and a Premier Qualifying event. Each event ~~will~~ shall consist of 10 players. All Players in each event must be current residents and have been residents of the State of Washington for at least 183 days during the calendar year preceding the tournament, and all must meet the activity requirement (see section {E}). WCF memberships ~~are~~ shall be required of all players in the ~~State~~ Championship, Premier, and all qualifying events.

(1) CHAMPIONSHIP: The Championship ~~will~~ shall be invitational to the DEFENDING CHAMPION, THE PREVIOUS CHAMPIONSHIP RUNNER-UP, THE WASHINGTON JUNIOR CHAMPION, THE WINNER OF THE PREVIOUS PREMIER, THE HIGHEST FINISHING WASHINGTON RESIDENT (HFWR) IN THE WASHINGTON OPEN, and THE HFWR IN THE WASHINGTON CHALLENGERS CUP. After the invited players have confirmed their participation, additional players will be selected on the basis of their December 31 USCF online rating, ~~as of the Annual Rating List~~. The date for determining a player's December 31 USCF online rating shall be no earlier than the Saturday three weeks prior to the start of the Championship.

(2) PREMIER: After all Championship participants have been selected, the Premier event ~~will~~ shall be filled. The Premier ~~will~~ shall be invitational to the PREVIOUS PREMIER RUNNER-UP, THE WASHINGTON JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPION, THE THIRD PLACE FINISHER FROM THE PREVIOUS CHAMPIONSHIP, THE HFWR in tournaments designated as qualifying events by the WCF, and the CHAMPION of WCF designated chess clubs. Tournaments and clubs shall be designated based on size and history, at the discretion of the officers of the WCF. The remaining positions ~~will~~ shall be filled ~~on the basis of USCF ratings as of the Annual Rating List~~ in the same manner as the Championship. Players who decline invitations to the Championship event may not choose to play in the Premier.

(B) In the event that ~~one~~ a player qualifies from more than one event, or that a qualifier declines or is ineligible to play, the vacant position ~~will~~ shall revert to rating qualification. In the event of a tie for a qualifying position, standard tie-breaks ~~will~~ shall apply. ~~Even if~~ If one of the tied players declines, ~~to qualify is ineligible to play~~, or has qualified by another method, standard tie-breaks still apply, and if the declining player wins, the position ~~shall~~ reverts to rating qualification.

(C) The event ~~will~~ shall be organized according to the highest and best standards consistent with available facilities, equipment, and financial sponsorship.

(D) Any player who fails to complete all scheduled games in any WCF sponsored invitational event shall be barred from play in any other WCF sponsored invitational event for 1 year from the ending date of the violated

event; and in any case ~~may~~ shall not play in the same event the following year.

(E) There is an "activity requirement" which includes a minimum of three USCF rated tournaments played in the State of Washington without withdrawal or default. The tournaments must have a minimum of three rounds and a time control no faster than game/30. All of these events tournaments satisfying the activity requirement and all qualifying events must occur and be reported to be included for rating in the USCF Annual Rating List by December 31 of the year preceding the year of the Championship. For tournaments that begin in one year and end in the following year, the tournament end date shall determine the year for purposes of the activity requirement. In the event that a qualifying event cannot be held until the year of the Championship for which the player would qualify, the event shall still satisfy the activity requirement for the previous year, but shall not satisfy the activity requirement for year it was held.

(F) Exceptions: Exceptions to the activity or residency requirement may be granted by the WCF board for reasons such as military service or extended illness. Applications for exception must be made in writing by the candidate ~~by at least~~ no later than the 15th of the month prior to the event.

Section 10: QUARTERLY MEETINGS. The Officers of the WCF shall meet at least four (4) times a year to manage the business of the organization. A quorum shall be fifty percent (50%) of all Officer positions occupied at the beginning of the meeting.

Section 11: SCHOLASTIC BRANCH. There will be a Scholastic Branch of the WCF composed of three members: The High School Director, the Junior High School Director, and the Elementary School Director, each of whom shall be designated by the annual meeting of their respective constituencies.

Section 12: NORTHWEST CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD. The Executive Board of Northwest Chess magazine shall consist of the following members:

(A) Two directors for each affiliated federation, one of whom is the federation president, or next highest officer of the federation in case the

president is unwilling or unable to serve. The other is a director-at-large, selected by the state federation. (B) One Business Manager, who shall be hired by the other directors. Once selected, the Business Manager shall be a full voting member of the Board. (C) One Editor, who shall be hired by the Board. The Editor shall be a non-voting member of the Board.

Responsibilities:

(A) EDITOR OF NORTHWEST CHESS. The Editor will approve all content, lay-out, and set-up of the magazine. Reasonable space will be allocated to the official chess organizations of Washington, Oregon, and any other state organization, which may become affiliated. The Editor is responsible for delivery of layout sheets to the printer.

(B) BUSINESS MANAGER The Business Manager is responsible for the prompt payment of bills, the collection of subscriptions, disbursement of membership monies to the state federations, prompt monthly distribution of the magazine, and its general financial health. Overall trends should be noted and reported to the Board. The Business Manager should work closely with the Editor, rendering or arranging assistance as needed.

(C) DIRECTORS Each director should take an active interest in the quality of the magazine, and should attend Board meetings. The directors shall elect a Chairman, hire a Business Manager and Editor. They shall maintain Bylaws, subject to approval by two-thirds of the affiliated federations.

(D) The Board shall set advertising and membership rates. The Board is ultimately responsible for the production of the magazine. A quorum shall be more than 50% of the Board members. Members shall receive advance notice of Board meetings.

Section 13: VOTING REPORT. The WCF Officers shall have an obligation to publish in NORTHWEST CHESS the results of the final voting on any substantive issue coming before the body. The Officer who records the vote, or other designated person, shall send to NORTHWEST CHESS magazine the text of the issue voted on and tallied. "Substantive" will include, but not be limited to, major items of expenditure and the election of replacement officers.

Section 14: AMENDMENTS. These Bylaws shall be amended by majority vote of WCF members present at the WCF Annual membership meeting, or by unanimous vote of all current WCF Officers, or by majority vote of those participating in a special mail ballot. A mail ballot to amend the Bylaws may be called when a majority of the WCF Officers supports an amendment, or if 15 or more WCF members sign a petition supporting an amendment, which does not otherwise pass.