

CONSTITUTION OF THE WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION

Article 1: NAME.

The name of this organization shall be the Washington Chess Federation, hereinafter referred to as WCF.

Article 2: NONPROFIT.

WCF shall be nonprofit and shall not have nor issue stock nor pay dividends.

Article 3: PURPOSE AND GENERAL NATURE OF ACTIVITIES.

WCF shall be organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes according to Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The WCF shall support and promote chess related activities throughout the State of Washington. These activities shall include, but shall not be limited to, chess instruction, publications, exhibitions, lectures, courses of study, inter-scholastic youth, and senior adult competitions. The WCF shall distribute a periodic publication to its members, officers, and directors describing all such activities.

Article 4: MEMBERSHIP.

Membership shall be open to all persons residing in Washington State. Membership shall not be open to machines, computers, or computer programs. Membership dues shall be established as set forth in the BY-LAWS.

Article 5: OFFICERS.

The affairs and business of the WCF shall be managed by seven (7) Officers, who shall be members during their full term in office. The positions are as follows:

(1) President, (2) Vice-President, (3) Secretary, (4) Treasurer, (5) Scholastic Coordinator, (6) Tournament Coordinator, and (7) The-Director-at-Large to the NORTHWEST CHESS Executive Board.

(A) The term **in office** for WCF officers shall be **two (2) years** from the time of their election at the Annual Membership Meeting. **The term in office shall be staggered as follows: (1) President, Secretary, and Scholastic Coordinator shall be elected in even-numbered years; and (2) Vice-President, Treasurer, Tournament Coordinator, and the Director-at-Large to the NORTHWEST CHESS Executive Board shall be elected in odd-numbered years.**

(B) An individual shall not hold more than one WCF Officer position simultaneously.

(C) Specific responsibilities of the WCF Officers shall be set forth in the BY-LAWS.

(D) All officers shall have one (1) vote at the business meetings at which they are present. The Chair **shall not** vote, except to break a tie.

(E) Any WCF Officer position vacancy, excepting the President, shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term, by a majority vote of the remaining Officers. The Vice-President **shall** automatically fill a vacancy in the office of President.

Article 6: VOTING RIGHTS.

All WCF members shall be entitled to one (1) vote at the annual membership meeting and one (1) vote on special election ballots. Permissible methods of voting shall be set forth in the BY-LAWS.

Article 7: AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be amended by any proposition receiving a TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE of the total members submitting the special election ballot that contains the proposition. Any such proposition for amendment must be first published in NORTHWEST CHESS magazine and a minimum of FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS allowed for discussion and consideration by the membership before the special election ballot is taken.

Article 8: LEGAL LIMITATIONS.

(A) No part of the net earnings of the WCF shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, Officers, Directors, or other private shareholder or individual, except that the WCF is authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payment and distribution in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article 3 hereof.

(B) No substantial part of the activities of the WCF shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the WCF shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.

Article 9: DISSOLUTION.

Upon dissolution of the WCF, the Officers shall, after paying or making provisions for payment of all the liabilities of the organization, dispose of all the assets of WCF exclusively for the purposes of the WCF in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as the Officers and Directors shall determine.