

Constitution

(Agreed at AGM 14 March 2012, amended at AGM 9 June 2021)

A Establishment

1. The Canberra Chess Club is hereby established to consist of those persons who at the relevant time are members of the Club in accordance with this Constitution.

B Objects and Powers

2. The objects and powers of the Club are to -
 - a. foster and encourage interest in the game of chess in the Australian Capital Territory;
 - b. provide a venue and equipment for the playing of chess by members or for contests between members;
 - c. organise tournaments and other chess events within the Club; and to
 - d. conduct tournaments on behalf of the ACTCA.
3. The Club shall be affiliated with the ACTCA.
4.
 - (1) The FIDE Laws of Chess and the ACF by-laws shall apply to all tournaments, matches and games played under the auspices of the Club.
 - (2) The Committee may determine if it is impracticable for those laws, or any of them, to apply.
 - (3) The Committee may prescribe additional laws for particular tournaments or other contests provided that those additional laws are clearly notified to all participants before the event.

C Membership

5.
 - (1) A person interested in the game of chess may become a member on payment of the prescribed fee.
 - (2) A member is to give to the Secretary information sufficient to enable the member to be contacted. At a minimum, this would be a contact phone number and, if available, an email address.
6. The Committee may suspend or terminate a person's membership if the person -
 - a. breaches the ACF Code of Ethics;
 - b. is irresponsible, troublesome or disruptive; or
 - c. fails to comply with a law prescribed under clause 4(3).
7. A decision to suspend or terminate membership under clause 6 is not to be made unless the member has first been given written notice of the allegation against him and a reasonable time in which to respond to the allegation.
8. A member whose membership is suspended or terminated under clause 6 may appeal to a general meeting by notice in writing given to the Secretary and is entitled to be heard at that meeting in relation to the appeal.

D Government

9. The Committee is responsible for the day to day management of the affairs of the Club.
10. The Committee consists of -
 - a. the Office Bearers, and
 - b. not more than two other members.
11. The Office Bearers are the -
 - a. President;
 - b. Vice-president;
 - c. Secretary, and
 - d. Treasurer.
12. The Committee is to be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
13. Nominations for election to the Committee are to be taken at the Annual General Meeting.
14. The Committee may appoint a person to fill a vacant position on the Committee occurring because the position was not filled at the election or later became vacant.
15. The Committee is to appoint an auditor.

E Finance

16. The Club will operate as a non-profit organisation. The assets and income of the club will be applied solely in furtherance of its objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to Club members except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Club.
17. The calendar year is the Club's financial year.
18. Accounts.
 - (1) The Club is to have such bank accounts as are necessary.
 - (2) The Committee is to appoint three Committee Members with authority to operate the accounts with two of the three to sign any necessary documents.
19. Fees.
 - (1) The Committee may prescribe such fees as it thinks fit in relation to membership of the Club.
 - (2) Fees prescribed under subclause (1) include but are not limited to -
 - a. an annual membership fee;
 - b. a fee for competing in an event;
 - c. a fee for combined membership and event entry, and
 - d. discounted fees.

F General Meetings

20. The Club is to hold an Annual General Meeting at a time of its choosing.
21. A Special General Meeting may be convened by the Committee or the President.

22. A Special General Meeting is to be convened upon the petition to the committee of at least 10 members.
23. At least 7 clear days notice of a general meeting including the nature of the business to be transacted is to be given to each member.
24. The quorum for a general meeting is 8 members.
25. A person is not entitled to vote at a general meeting if -
 - a. the person's membership has been terminated or is suspended under clause 6; or
 - b. the person has not paid all moneys owed by him to the Club.

G Committee Meetings

26. Committee Meetings are to be held as determined by the Committee or the President.
27. The quorum for a Committee meeting is 4 Committee members.

H Dissolution

28. (1) The Club may be dissolved by a three-fourths majority of votes cast at a general meeting if notice of the motion for dissolution is given with notice of the meeting.
- (2) In the event of the club being dissolved, the financial assets that remain after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, and all physical assets of the Club, shall be transferred to the ACTCA.

I Amendment

29. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members voting at a general meeting of which at least two weeks notice including the proposed amendment has been given to each member.

J Interpretation

30. In this Constitution unless the contrary intention appears -
 - **ACF** means the Australian Chess Federation Inc." incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* of the Australian Capital Territory;
 - **ACTCA** means the Australian Capital Territory Chess Association Inc incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* of the Australian Capital Territory;
 - **Club** means the Canberra Chess Club established by clause 1;
 - **Committee** means the Committee referred to in clause 10;
 - **FIDE** means the Fédération Internationale des Echecs that governs world chess;
 - **general meeting** means the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting convened under this Constitution;
 - **member** means a member of the Club;
 - **prescribed fee** means the fee prescribed by the Committee under clause 19;
 - words in the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
 - words in the masculine gender include the feminine gender and vice versa.