

**CANTON SCHOLASTIC CHESS LEAGUE
(CSCL)
BYLAWS**

1. COVERAGE

- 1.1. The CSCL bylaws and competition regulations apply to all individuals and schools participating in CSCL sponsored activities.

2. INTERSCHOLASTIC CHESS COMPETITION

- 2.1. Interscholastic chess competition is competition in which students from one or more member schools compete.
- 2.2. Interscholastic chess competition shall be conducted using contest rules as established by the U S CHESS FEDERATION and specifically identified by the most recently published edition of THE U S CHESS FEDERATION RULES OF CHESS, and any modifications or changes in competition rules as established by the CSCL Executive Board.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY

- 3.1. The Principal of each member school shall be ultimately responsible in all matters pertaining to interscholastic chess involving the member school.
- 3.2. The Principal of each member school shall designate the individual at the school who is responsible for all matters pertaining to the conduct of interscholastic chess for that member school.
- 3.3. The parent of home schooled students shall be held responsible for all matters pertaining to interscholastic chess involving their child.
- 3.4. The CSCL cannot be held liable in any way for the irresponsible and/or harmful behavior of any player, parent, spectator, coach, volunteer, or official. However, the CSCL will strive to protect the safety and welfare of the players and coaches in our program.

4. LEAGUE TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

- 4.1. Each player shall be placed into one of three scholastic divisions:
 - 4.1.1. The Elementary School division will be for students enrolled in grades K-5.
 - 4.1.2. The Middle School Division will be for students enrolled in grades 6-8.
 - 4.1.3. The High School Division will be for students enrolled in grades 9-12.

- 4.2. Teams or individual participants may compete in the next higher division if these participants have adequate ability and/or USCF rating to do so.

5. SPORTSMANSHIP

- 5.1. Good sportsmanship is viewed by the CSCL as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior, and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all related chess activity. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.
- 5.2. All, participating players, coaches, volunteers, parents, spectators, officials, and other interested parties, must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with normal school rules and behavior. Violations of good conduct shall be reported to the President for further consideration and possible disciplinary action.
- 5.3. All CSCL players, parents, coaches, volunteers, spectators, and any other interested parties are required to follow the USCF Code of Ethics as set forth in the most recently published edition of THE USCF OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

6. PLAYER CONDUCT CODE

- 6.1. Violations of the CSCL conduct code may subject the player to disciplinary action which may include denial of privileges, forfeiture of games, probation, or other penalties as the President may deem appropriate. Violations of this conduct code may also result in some type of disciplinary action on the part of the player's home school.
- 6.2. These infractions include but are not limited to the following:
 - 6.2.1. The violation of any regulation regarding school bus transportation.
 - 6.2.2. Smoking or possession of tobacco, tobacco products, or tobacco paraphernalia on property owned by the home or host school, or at any CSCL sanctioned activity.
 - 6.2.3. Under the influence, use, possession or distribution of any mind altering chemicals / substances on any school property or at any CSCL sanctioned activity.
 - 6.2.4. Possession of weapons/ammunition on any school property or at any CSCL sanctioned activity. This includes look-a-like weapons.
 - 6.2.5. Fighting on any school property or at any CSCL sanctioned activity.
 - 6.2.6. Physical reaction to a teacher, coach, volunteer, official, and/or other player (striking, kicking, pushing, or threatening with fists or weapons).

- 6.2.7. Verbal disrespect, obscene gestures, or threatening a teacher, coach, volunteer, official, and/or other player.
- 6.2.8. Theft or damage to any school or private property.
- 6.2.9. Dress code violation of home school.
- 6.2.10. Gambling of any kind.
- 6.2.11. Distribution and/or possession of any material not approved by the home or host school or the CSCL
- 6.2.12. Obstruction of justice: lack of cooperation with school or CSCL coaches or officials.
- 6.2.13. Harassment, hazing, or initiation of players.
- 6.2.14. Sexual harassment of any type is prohibited. This includes such things as suggestive comments of a sexual nature, unwanted physical touching, sexual pictures and jokes.
- 6.2.15. Failure to comply with any home or host school rules or rules of the CSCL or the USCF.
- 6.2.16. Public display of affection.
- 6.2.17. Outside of school building or CSCL activity site unauthorized.
- 6.2.18. Unauthorized occupancy of any classrooms, offices, locker rooms, hallways of the home or host school or CSCL activity site.
- 6.2.19. Profanity of any type.
- 6.2.20. Use of racial remarks of any type.
- 6.2.21. Writing or possession of any written materials that are disrespectful, vulgar or obscene is not permitted.
- 6.2.22. General misconduct and/or failure to comply with reasonable rules and regulations.

7. USCF MEMBERSHIP

- 7.1. CSCL encourages all of its players to become USCF members. Some tournament sections will require USCF membership in order to assist in pairings, while beginner or novice sections may be open to all players without a rating.

- 7.2. The CSCL will help to defray the cost of USCF memberships as much as possible for those players whose Principal has identified them as economically underprivileged.

8. CHESS NOTATION AND CHESS CLOCKS

- 8.1. Chess notation and use of clocks (when available) are required for rated players at any and all CSCL and/or USCF sponsored competitions.
- 8.2. All CSCL team coaches are required to teach their players the correct ways to notate their games in order for these players to be able to arbitrate, adjudicate, reconstruct, and study their games.
- 8.3. Chess notation may be written in long or short algebraic notation or descriptive form and must be in accordance with the most recently published edition of THE USCF OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.
- 8.4. Chess clocks are to be used in accordance with the most recently published edition of THE USCF OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

9. VIOLATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION AND/OR BYLAWS

- 9.1. Penalties for violation of the CSCL Constitution, Bylaws, and/or regulations shall be imposed by the President.
- 9.2. Penalties include, but are not restricted to: forfeiture of games, forfeiture of team match play, forfeiture of championship rights, probation, denial of participation, or other such penalties as the President may deem appropriate as outlined in the CSCL Constitution, Bylaws, and/or the most recently published edition of THE USCF OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

10. APPEAL PROCEDURE

- 10.1. Introduction: In accordance with the CSCL Constitution, the President shall decide all questions and interpretations of the CSCL Constitution, Bylaws, and regulations and shall impose and enforce penalties.
- 10.2. Decisions: The Executive Board shall hear appeals of rulings made by the President. The Executive Board may adopt, modify, or set aside the rulings of the President.
- 10.3. Who may appeal: Appeals may be initiated by a student player, school administrator, team or school coach, parent of student player, or any other person who has a vested interest.

10.4. Appeal procedure: A written request must be submitted to the Executive Board. An Appeal Hearing will occur not more than 30 days after receipt of the written appeal.

10.5. Appeal Hearing:

10.5.1. The appeal hearing shall be informal in nature and shall not be conducted in the same manner as a trial in a court of law.

10.5.2. Information and facts previously presented shall be reviewed.

10.5.3. Additional information or facts may be presented.

10.5.4. Anyone present at the hearing shall be permitted to question witnesses and examine all documents.

10.5.5. A decision by the Executive Board may be adopted at the conclusion of the hearing or may be deferred for further consideration.

10.5.6. All decisions made by the Executive Board are final and not open for re-appeal unless new information has been obtained after the decision was made. The re-appeal must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board within 30 days of the appeal decision or no further action will be taken.

11. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

11.1. The Bylaws of the CSCL may be amended by a referendum vote of the member schools in which the official designee of the member school shall cast the vote of the school.

11.2. Any proposal for amendment shall be adopted if it receives a majority of the votes cast.

11.3. Any proposed amendment may be initiated by an Executive Board member independently or on behalf of another member school representative.

11.4. All proposed amendments must be presented to the members at a General Meeting.

Appendix to Bylaws

The items outlined in this appendix are League Policies. They may be amended from time to time by the Executive Board.

Tournament Procedures

USCF Rules

CSCL tournaments will generally be conducted in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United States Chess Federation (USCF).

CSCL encourages all players to become USCF members. In order to participate in USCF rated sections, players will be required to be USCF members.

Chess notation is required to be taught to all players by their coaches. Players in rated sections will be required to keep notation in accordance with USCF rules. Players who fail to keep notation shall lose the right to make claims for which notation would be required. Players in Novice sections will be strongly encouraged to keep notation.

The use of chess clocks is strongly encouraged. Players are required to use a clock if one is available.

Except as specified herein or otherwise determined by the Executive Board, all games and tournaments shall be conducted in accordance with the most recently published edition of the USCF OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS.

Staff

The success of the CSCL tournament relies on the volunteer support of many people. Each school is expected to provide at least one volunteer at each tournament. With many volunteers, everyone will have more free time to enjoy the tournaments. Volunteers will be assigned tasks in accordance with their abilities.

Vice President / Tournament Coordinator (TC) shall be responsible for the conduct of the tournaments. Other staff members and their responsibilities will be as follows:

Tournament Director (TD) shall oversee pairings and enforcement of USCF rules.

Tournament Sponsor (TS) is the host for the tournament.

TS shall meet with the TC to plan the tournament.

TS is responsible for securing and scheduling adequate facilities.

TS shall arrange for adequate custodial help.

TS shall provide labor to set up tables and chairs before the tournament and labor to tear down afterward.

TS shall provide food concessions and concession staff.

Facilities Coordinator

Order rental tables and chairs and arrange for their payment and delivery;

Assist TS in properly setting up for the tournament;

Manage CSCL owned property including chess sets, signs, markers, etc. Provide for storage, delivery, set up and tear down of these items at tournaments.

Concessions Coordinator

Assist TS in planning appropriate food and snacks.

Schedule and coordinate with the chess sales vendor.

Awards Chairman

Select, order, pay for, pick up and deliver awards to tournament.

Coordinate awards ceremonies at tournaments.

Section Chiefs will serve as lead monitors under the authority of the TD and TC.

One Chief for each Section (Sections may be combined).

Coordinate re-pairings in their Section(s).

Monitor the playing floor.

Monitors

At least two under each Section Chief.

Must be knowledgeable about the rules of chess.

Always at least 2 people on people on playing floor (Monitors or Section Chief)

Any questionable rulings should be directed to Section Chief or TD.

Scorekeepers

Two for each Section Chief. One on playing floor at all times.

Greeters

Welcome players and parents to the tournaments;

Direct players and parents to the pre-registration lists, registration table, skittles areas, restrooms, etc.

Compensation of Staff

All staff shall receive a food voucher for the tournament.

All Section Chiefs and Monitors are encouraged to become certified by USCF as Club Level Tournament Directors. CSCL will pay the annual USCF membership fees for those certified as Tournament Directors.

Additional compensation may be provided at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Tournament Finances

Players shall pay fees as determined by the Executive Board.

CSCL shall handle the following:

- Collect tournament entry fees from players;

- Pay for all awards;

- Pay facility rental fees, including custodian fees;

- Pay for table and chair rentals;

- Keep profits from chess sales vendor;

The Tournament Sponsor shall do the following:

- Purchase all food concession products;

- Keep all profits from food concessions.