

**KANSAS CHESS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**  
**(As amended and approved July 2006)**

**PREAMBLE**

Section 1: The purpose of the KCA shall be to broaden and develop chess as a significant cultural art in Kansas.

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be the Kansas Chess Association, hereafter referred to as the KCA.

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Membership privileges:

- A. A member has the right to play in all tournaments in Kansas requiring KCA membership.
- B. A member will receive issues of the KCA newsletter, *Plains Chess*
- C. A member will be allowed to vote in the annual meeting
- D. Any Kansas resident member will be allowed to hold office in the KCA.
- E. A member has the right to have applicable articles and/or games published, when space is available, in *Plains Chess*.
- F. A member may not have his membership revoked, except through unanimous vote of the policy board.

Section 2: There shall be several types of memberships available.

- A. Junior membership
  - (1) The cost of this membership shall be \$5.00, if purchased from July through December, from January through June the cost shall be \$2.50
  - (2) This membership is only for those age 18 and under
  - (3) This member receives all membership privileges.
- B. Regular Adult membership
  - (1) The cost of this membership shall be \$7.00, if purchased July through December, from January through June the cost shall be \$3.50.
  - (2) The member receives all membership privileges.
- C. Patron membership.
  - (1) The cost of this membership shall be \$50.00 (changed at 2003 annual meeting)
  - (2) This member shall have their name published in each issue of *Plains Chess* in the Patron Members section.
  - (3) Only an elected official of KCA may sell this membership.
  - (4) This member has one full page of *Plains Chess* each year available to them for the publishing of Chess games or Chess articles.
  - (5) This person is entitled to a two years membership with privileges of this KCA membership (added in 2003).

- D. Contributor membership (added at 2003 annual meeting).
  - (1) The cost of this membership is \$25.00
  - (2) This member shall have their name published in each issue of *Plains Chess* in the Contributor Members section.
  - (3) This person will be entitled to a two year membership with privileges of this KCA membership.
- E. Family membership.
  - (1) The cost of this membership shall be \$10.00, if purchased from July through December, from January through June the cost shall be \$5.00.
  - (2) This family membership is for families of three and living in the same residence.
    - (a) Additional family members, living at the same residence, may be added for \$3.00 each.
  - (3) This membership receives all the privileges, except they receive only one copy of *Plains Chess* for the family.

Section 3: The cost of memberships shall be determined by the Policy Board by and with the approval of the membership at the annual membership meeting.

- A. All increases in cost of membership shall go into effect immediately following the annual meeting where the increase is approved.
- B. All membership fees sold at a tournament, including Tournament memberships, are to be forwarded to the proper officer of KCA within ten days of the conclusion of a tournament.

Section 4: All annual memberships shall cease to be valid on the last day prior to the Kansas Open.

### **ARTICLE III: OFFICERS**

Section 1: KCA Policy Board

- A. The policy board shall consist of seven members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Editor, and three other members appointed by the President.
  - (1) It is recommended that the Delegate, Voting Member #1 (i.e. Alternate Delegate), and Voting Member #2 be these three.
  - (2) The immediate past president shall only serve, unofficially only, during the first year after he has left office.
- B. The duties of the KCA Policy Board will be to serve as the governing body of KCA between annual meetings.
- C. The term of office shall be from one annual meeting to another (changed in 2006)
- D. The President, Vice-President, and Secretary will be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting.
- E. All members of the Policy Board must be current members of KCA and retain their membership during their term of office.
- F. No member of the Policy Board may receive a Complementary membership while they are on the policy board.
- G. No member of the Policy Board may receive any monies from the KCA treasury, with the following exceptions.

- (1) Reimbursement for expenses incurred for the good of KCA and with the Policy Board approval.
- (2) When financially possible, the Delegate or Alternate delegate, and any KCA member serving as Regional Vice-President shall receive an amount determined by the Policy Board toward expenses at the annual United States Chess Federation (hereafter known as USCF) Board of Delegates meeting.
- H. The Policy Board shall make sure the KCA abides by all USCF directives.
- I. Whenever possible, there shall not be more than two members of the Policy Board from the same metropolitan area.
- J. The Policy Board has the right to delegate some of the President's to a Policy Board member by majority vote.

#### Section 2: The President

- A. The duties of the President shall be:
  - (1) To preside of the Policy Board meetings.
  - (2) To preside of the KCA annual meeting.
  - (3) To arrange for publication and distribution of *Plains Chess* to the membership.
  - (4) To account for KCA funds directly or through appointment.
  - (5) To insure that the Constitution and these By-Law are followed.
  - (6) To assign duties to other officers as is necessary for the efficient operation of the KCA.
  - (7) To appoint members to the Policy Board to fulfill any vacancy that may occur for whatever reason.
  - (8) To keep the Policy Board informed of all decisions.
  - (9) To serve as official liaison to the USCF.
  - (10) To appoint the Tournament Clearinghouse position to the elected officer best qualified.
  - (11) To be responsible for all new memberships or to appoint an officer to take that responsibility.
  - (12) To appoint the editor, Delegate, Alternate Delegate, and Voting Member.

#### Section 3: The Vice-President

- A. The duties of the Vice-President shall be:
  - (1) To preside over meetings in the absence of the president
  - (2) To be responsible for the KCA chess booth "Knight Moves" at the Kansas City Renaissance Festival.
  - (3) Any duties deemed necessary by the President.
  - (4) To fulfill duties of the President should that position be vacated during the President's term of office.
  - (5) To act as KCA historian.

#### Section 4: Secretary

- A. The duties of the secretary shall be:
  - (1) To keep minutes of all Policy Board meetings.
  - (2) To keep the minutes of the annual meeting.
  - (3) Any other duties deemed necessary by the President.

#### Section 5: Editor

- A. The duties of the editor shall be:

- (1) To be responsible for the editing of *Plains Chess*
- (2) Any other duties deemed necessary by the President.

Section 6: The Delegate

A. The duties of the delegate shall be:

- (1) To represent the KCA at the annual USCF Board of Delegates meeting at the US Open.
- (2) Any other duties deemed necessary by the President.
- (3) This position will be selected by a vote of the members through USCF.

Section 7: The voting member #1 (i.e. Alternate Delegate).

A. The duties of the Voting Member #1 (i.e. Alternate Delegate)

- (1) To fulfill the duties for the Delegate should the delegate be unable to attend the annual Board of Delegates meeting.
- (2) To represent the KCA in voting on ballots submitted by USCF.
- (3) Any other duties deemed necessary by the President.
- (4) This position will be selected by a vote of members through USCF.

Section 8: Voting member #2.

A. The duties of the Alternate Delegate shall be:

- (1) To fulfill the duties of the Delegate should the Delegate or Voting Member #1 be unable to attend the annual Board of Delegates.
- (2) To represent KCA in voting on ballots submitted by USCF.
- (3) Any other duties deemed necessary by the President.
- (4) This position will be selected by a vote of the members through USCF.

Section 9: The voting member #3.

A. The duties of the Alternate Delegate shall be

- (1) To fulfill the duties of the Delegate should the Delegate or Voting Member #1 or Voting Member #2 be unable to attend the annual Board of Delegates meeting.
- (2) To represent KCA in voting on ballots submitted by USCF.
- (3) Any duties deemed necessary by the President.
- (4) This position will be selected by a vote of members through USCF.

Section 10: The tournament clearing house

A. The Tournament Clearinghouse shall not be a separate office. This duty will be assigned to a policy Board member by the President.

B. The duties of the Tournament Clearinghouse shall be:

- (1) To be responsible for scheduling of tournaments for the purpose of eliminating date conflicts.
- (2) To be liaison with neighboring states for the purpose of eliminating major tournament date conflicts.

## **ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS**

Section 1: There shall be one annual meeting.

A. This meeting shall be held during the annual membership meetings.

Section 2: There shall be no scheduled Policy Board meetings.

## **ARTICLE V: QUORUM**

Section 1: There shall be no quorum necessary for the annual membership meeting.

Section 2: One-half of the Policy Board must be present to conduct a Policy Board meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: All amendments to this Constitution and these By-Laws must be submitted to the Policy Board at least one month prior to the annual meeting.

Section 2: The amendment must be approved by the majority of the Policy Board.

Section 3: The amendment must then be approved by a majority of the members present at the annual meeting.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I: NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Section 1: There shall be a nominating committee consisting of three members.

Section 2: The nominating committee shall be appointed by the President.

Section 3: The nominating committee shall present a list of nominees for each Policy Board position prior to a date selected by the *Plains Chess* editor.

Section 4: The nominating committee will attempt to have a minimum of two candidates for each position.

Section 5: The nominating committee's recommendations will appear in the May issue of *Plains Chess*.

### **ARTICLE II: NEWSLETTER**

Section 1: The KCA shall publish a newsletter called *Plains Chess*.

Section 2: *Plains Chess* will be mailed to each member in August, November, February, and May, if funds are available and members provide information for publication.

Section 3: The Editor of *Plains Chess* shall be appointed by the President.

Section 4: The editor has the right and authority to edit any article or comments submitted for publication in *Plains Chess*.

### **ARTICLE III: SCHOLASTICS**

Section 1: The KCA recognizes the Kansas Scholastic Chess Association, hereafter referred to as the KSCA, as the organization to be in charge of all scholastic tournaments in Kansas during the school year.

Section 2: The KSCA will provide one of their Board members to act as Scholastic coordinator to the KCA.

Section 3: The President shall appoint one Policy Board member to be liaison with the KSCA.

Section 4: The KSCA will be responsible for holding a Kansas Scholastic Championship in accordance with USCF regulations and guidelines and the KSCA shall notify the KCA of the KCA of the Kansas Scholastic Team and Individual Champions.

Section 5: The KSCA shall be responsible for determining the Kansas Representative to the Denker Tournament of High School Champions and the Policy Board Liaison shall be responsible for notifying USCF.

Section 6: Should the KSCA cease to function, all control of scholastic tournaments shall revert to the KCA.

#### **ARTICLE IV: STATE TOURNAMENTS**

Section 1: Kansas Closed Championship- Format 1.

A. Suggested dates: January-March.

B. Bidding deadline: October 1.

C. Tournament information:

(1) This tournament will be used to determine the State Champion.

(2) The primary time controls shall be a minimum of two minutes per move.

(3) This will be a 6 player Round Robin composed of the following players:

(a) The top two finishers from the Kansas Open.

(b) The top two from the immediately preceding State Closed Championship;

(c) The two top players from the Kansas Tour:

(d) If a player qualifies in more one of the above categories, he will be deemed to have qualified in the category first mentioned above.

(e) If a vacancy occurs for any reason prior to issuing of invitations, it shall be filled by the next player in line under the same seeding method as the player to be replaced.

(f) In the event of last-minute vacancies, three alternatives, selected by rating, will be invited and seeded into the Closed as need requires.

(g) Ratings used for seeding purposes shall be the most recent, official, established ratings available and most recent, official, established rating available, and must include play in a USCF rated tournament during the prior year.

(h) Ties for positions from the Kansas Open will be broken in the following order: (1) Solkoff, (2) Cumulative, (3) Modified Median and (4) Medium (changed in 2006).

(i) In the event of no Kansas Closed during the previous year, seeding will be 1) the top 2 from the Kansas Open, 2) the top 2 from the Kansas Tour, and 3) the top 2 rated players not included in the two previous categories.

(j) In the event there is no Kansas Tour, then the number of players needed will be chosen from the top rated players.

(k) Players seeded into the State Closed Championship must meet the following residency requirements:

(1) Residence in the state of Kansas for the immediate preceding six months

(2) Played in at least on Kansas tournament within the last year.

(3) Been a member, in good standing, of KCA and USCF for the immediately preceding six months.

- D. Miscellaneous: A concurrent open tournament, team event, quadrangular, etc., should be scheduled with this event, in order to defray costs, provide spectators, etc.
- E. Which format is chosen shall be the choice of the organizer submitting a bid for the tournament.
- F. The KCA Policy Board shall be responsible for determining which players meet the above requirements and will be playing in this tournament.

#### Section 3: Kansas Open

- A. Suggested dates: June-July
- B. Bidding deadline: April 1
- C. Tournament information:
  - (1) Open Section, 5 round Swiss System (changed 2006 meeting)
    - (a) If the Kansas Closed is not to be held then the Kansas Champion will be the winner of this section who meets the above residency requirements.
    - (b) Reserve section, 5 round Swiss System
- D. Miscellaneous: a bid for this tournament should include arrangements for player accommodations, such as college dormitories, for minimal costs.

#### Section 4: Kansas Team Championship

- A. Suggested dates: March-May
- B. Bidding deadline: January 1
- C. Tournament information
  - (1) 4-man team Swiss System
    - (a) Each team may have one alternate.
    - (b) Players will play in a position as dictated by their USCF rating. Exception: unrated may play in any position designated by the team captain, but must remain in that position for the remainder of the tournament.
  - (2) Teams should not exceed a maximum average rating of 1800 (suggested). Pairings will be made according to the team's average rating.
- D. Miscellaneous: Trophies, including perhaps a traveling team trophy, are suggested.

#### Section 4: Kansas Class Championship

- A. Suggested dates. September- November
- B. Bidding deadline: August 1
- C. Tournament information:
  - (1) Class tournament in sections (Master/Expert, Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D/E/Unr suggested
  - (2) Sections will be combined in case of too few players.

#### Section 6: The Kansas Tour:

- A. Any USCF rated Kansas chess tournament which is open to all Kansas Residents may qualify for Tour status by the completion of the following requirements:
  - (1) The event must be scheduled with the Kansas Clearinghouse prior to the deadline date of the Plains Chess issue immediately prior to the tournament date. The KCA President may at his discretion, accept or deny the event's Tour status, based on conflicting dates, or an excess of Tour events for that time period.
  - (2) The tournament will be open to all Kansas residents.
  - (3) The organizer of the tournament must submit a crosstable of the event to the KCA President along with a tour event to the KCA President along with a tour fee equal to one advance adult entry fee for that event, not later than one week after the event

concludes. Failure to submit both crosstable and fees shall result in disqualification of the organizer, director, or both from directing Tour events for one year.

- (4) The tournament must require KCA membership from all entrants who are Kansas residents. Out-of-state participants must be members of their home state chess association.
- (5) The times for rounds to start shall not conflict with the maximum playing time allowed the players in any round.

B. Prizes for the Kansas Tour are awarded as follows:

- (1) At the completion of the calendar year, the player with the top combined score (excepting byes) from all tour events will be awarded a cash prize equal to 50% of all tour fees collected. The second-place finisher will receive a cash prize equal to 25% of all Tour fees collected.
- (2) The top four scorers from the Kansas Tour, who are Kansas residents, are seeded into the Kansas State Closed Championship.
- (3) Other Tour prizes may be offered at the discretion of the Policy Board.
  - (a) When financially possible, the Policy Board shall add a minimum of \$50.00 to the Kansas Tour prize fund from the KCA treasury.

Section 7: Kansas Junior Championship

- A. Open to all players under 21
- B. Suggested date: June
- C. Bidding deadline: Open
- D. Miscellaneous: A tradition should be established for this event.

## **ARTICLE V: AFFILIATION**

Section 1: The KCA shall be affiliated with the USCF, and shall select the official Kansas representatives in all affairs of USCF.

Section 2: free affiliation with the KCA is available to any chess club with the permission of the Policy Board.

Section 3: Affiliated clubs must require KCA memberships from Kansas residents when they play in USCF events.

Section 4: KCA affiliates receive an annual membership roster and free tournament advertisement in *Plains Chess*.

Section 5: Any USCF and KCA affiliate may sponsor Kansas Tour events and bid on state tournaments.

## **ARTICLE VI: TOURNAMENT BIDDING**

Section 1: Bidding is the procedure which an organization or affiliate negotiates to host a state event, listed in Article IV.

Section 2: all bids should include the following information;

- A. Tournament Name.
- B. Proposed tournament dates.
- C. Proposed tournament site, to include building, address, and city.
- D. Playing site information, to include lighting, smoking considerations, handicap access, size of playing room(s), etc.

- E. Sleeping accommodation, to include price, check in and check out times, and any extras (such as linen).
- F. Eating accommodations, number of eating establishments in close proximity.
- G. List any and all sponsors and the amount.
- H. Expenses:
  - (1) Cost of site.
  - (2) Other expenses.
  - (3) Amount of these expenses to be assumed by KCA.
- I. Player information, to include number of rounds, time controls, round times and entry fee.
- J. Local contact person, complete address, phone number.
- K. Tournament director.

Section 3: The KCA Policy Board must approve all bids, and may recommend that the bid be altered.

- A. The KCA President is the Policy Board representative for all bid negotiations.

Section 4: A bid should be made with the serious intent to host the tournament in the event of that bid's acceptance. If, for any reason, an organization finds itself unable to host an event, it should immediately inform the KCA President.

Section 5: The Policy Board can, in the event of poor bids, or not bids:

- A. Cancel that year's state event.
- B. Assume responsibility for that event.
- C. (in extreme cases) Penalize organizations which negotiate in bad faith.

## **ARTICLE VII: PURPOSES**

Section 1: The KCA is pledged to operate exclusively for educational purposes.

Section 2: The KCA is pledged that no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall be spent to the individual benefit of any individual, except:

- A. As direct compensation for expenses incurred in the service of KCA:
- B. As Trophies or prize monies awarded to competitors in the course of its educational and promotional program as specified in this Constitution and these By-Laws.

Section 3: The KCA is pledged that the KCA is not operated for profit, and that neither principal nor income from any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation.