

# **CONSTITUTION OF JOHANNESBURG CENTRAL CHESS CLUB:**

## **Title:**

The Club shall be known as the Johannesburg Central Chess Club, hereafter referred to as the Club.

## **Mission:**

The Johannesburg Central Chess Club is a non-profit organization with the following mission;

- a) To bring together all people, young and old, interested in chess and to provide a platform for all interested parties to meet regularly and enjoy chess.
- b) To promote the highest possible standards of chess.
- c) To promote the interest of chess amongst all its members.
- d) And to re-invest back into the community by using chess as a tool to make a positive impact in the lives of youngsters, especially amongst the disadvantaged communities of central Johannesburg.

## **Affiliations:**

The club, upon formation will affiliate to the regional chess council, the regional sports council and any other associations that the Club Executive Committee deem necessary.

## **Members and Membership:**

- a) The Club shall consist of an unlimited number of members.
- b) Membership shall be open to any person (without discrimination) who can play or who wants to learn how to play chess.
- c) Applications for membership shall be made to the committee via the Secretary on the prescribed form.
- d) Membership shall be at the discretion of the committee; the committee has the right to refuse membership or to expel any member on grounds considered sufficient by the committee.
- e) Members have no rights in the property or other assets of the organisation solely by virtue of their being members
- f) All paid up Members shall be entitled to vote at meetings. Members shall be classified into one of the following categories:
  1. Honorary Members, who shall pay no subscription, but shall enjoy all the privileges of the Club,

2. Ordinary Members, who have paid the annual subscription, shall enjoy all the privileges of the Club.
3. Pensioners shall be regarded as Ordinary Members but shall pay a reduced annual subscription as decided at the AGM.
4. Junior Members, who have paid the annual subscription, shall enjoy all the privileges of the Club.
5. Development members (as determined by the Club Executive) may not be subjected to a membership fees alternatively a reduced membership fee as determined by the club committee, from time to time.

### **Subscriptions:**

Annual subscriptions shall be decided at the AGM.

Annual subscriptions are payable before the end of January each year for that year.

Members who join the Club after the last day March of each year may be required to pay a pro-rata subscription as decided by the Chairperson and Treasurer jointly.

Members who have not paid their membership fee upon the due date shall be deemed as not being in good standing with the club, unless exempt from such membership fees by the club committee.

### **Club Privileges:**

Members of the Club will be entitled to the following privileges;

- a) Beginner chess lessons will also be available on Saturday morning from 9:30 till 11:30 at the clubhouse or venue determined by the Club Executive or on a different day as determined appropriate by the Club Executive.
- b) More advanced chess lessons will also be available every on Saturday morning from 9:30 till 11:30 at the clubhouse or venue determined by the Club Captain or on a different day as determined appropriate by the Club Executive.
- c) These lessons are aimed at improving the current playing strength of the clubs members and participation may impact on selection to represent the club/regional/province in inter-club, regional, provincial and national chess activities. Activities will include;
  - a. Workshops by experts (i.e. chess champions/qualified chess coaches/coaching assistants/qualified arbiters/etc.)
  - b. Analysis of games (master games and the games of the players)
  - c. Tactics drills
  - d. Opening discussions
  - e. Blindfold chess, solitaire chess and other visualization exercises.
  - f. Any other activities as decided by the Club Executive.

- d) The Club shall automatically register all paid up members to the Regional Chess Council and CHESS SA (Chess South Africa). Subscriptions and annual fees due to the Regional Chess Council and CHESS SA will be for the members cost, unless otherwise determined by the Club Executive.
- e) Regular Club events and tournaments will be arranged by the Tournament Organizer. Members will be kept up to date with other chess events and tournaments being played and will be entitled to enter under the Club's name.
- f) Members are permitted to participate in open chess event and tournaments upon their own choice within the region, province and country.
- g) Closed chess events and tournaments will be limited to eligible members from within the club. Other players may only participate in these events upon written invitation by the executive committee of the club.
- h) Chess literature aimed at improving the chess knowledge of the player will be made available to all Chess Club members free of charge, whenever available.
- i) Enjoyment of Chess! The Chess Club will meet every Saturday just after the coaching sessions where all players are welcome to come and enjoy chess. These open chess sessions are not just limited to chess members and are open to all people interested in chess.

**The Committee:**

- a) The committee shall consist of the following: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Club Captain and Additional committee members. The committee members shall be individually elected at the elective AGM, and any person may hold more than one post on the committee. Committee members shall eligible for re-election at each Elective AGM.
- b) The committee shall be responsible for the management of the club, subjected to the provisions of the constitution.
- c) The committee shall meet as and when required to discuss the business of the Club, A quorum of three members is required.
- d) The committee shall have the power to fill any vacancies that may occur, to co-opt anyone when necessary and to appoint sub-committees.
- e) The committee shall be responsible for the selection of representatives' teams and the appointment of team captains.
- f) The committee shall be responsible for arranging tournaments and matches.
- g) At every meeting, each member of the committee shall have a vote and the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

**Meetings:**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held within 3 months of the club's financial year end, each year.

Special General Meetings (SGM) may be held at any time at:

- a. the discretion of the committee or;
- b. by a minimum of 50% of bona fide members to discuss specific matters should the occasion arise. Only the specific matter for which the SGM is held may be discussed at the meeting.
- c. Notice of any such meeting shall be posted or least three weeks prior to the date of the meeting. The required quorum at any meeting shall be 50% + 1 member of bona fide members.

**The President:**

- a) The president shall be elected every 2nd year at every odd year AGM.
- b) The president may not serve more than two consecutive terms as the president of the Cub.
- c) The president shall be the chairperson at all Club and committee meetings. In his absence a deputy shall be chosen by those present to act as Chairperson.
- d) The president or a suitable alternative delegated by the president shall represent the club at schools/inter-club/regional/provincial structures as and when required to.
- e) The president shall have alternative signing powers, with the treasurer or secretary, for the withdrawal of moneys from the Club's bank account.

**The Treasurer:**

- a) The treasurer shall be elected every 2nd year at every odd year AGM.
- b) The treasurer shall keep an accurate and faithful record of the Club's income and expenditure.
- c) The treasurer is responsible for the collection all fees, subscriptions and any other income generated by the club and its members.
- d) The treasurer shall prepare a financial statement each year for scrutiny and approval at the AGM.
- e) The treasurer shall have joint signing powers, with the secretary, for the withdrawal of moneys from the Club's bank account.

**The Secretary**

- a) The treasurer shall be elected every 2<sup>nd</sup> year at every odd year AGM.
- b) His duties is to:
  - i. To keep in his custody all available records of the Club.

- ii. To keep accurate minutes of all meeting and to distribute such minutes as required.
- iii. To receive and keep the committee informed of, all correspondence.
- iv. To maintain communication between the club members and the committee.
- v. To perform all secretarial work of the Club and to carry out directions give to him by the committee.
- vi. To maintain an assets register.
- vii. The secretary shall have joint signing powers, with the treasure, for the withdrawal of moneys from the Club's bank account.

**The Club Captain:**

- a) The Club Captain shall be elected every 2nd year at every odd year AGM
- b) He shall be captain of the Club first team, if he is selected for this team.
- c) Together with the Tournament Organiser he shall be the adjudicator (or arrange adjudication where necessary) when required in all club matches.

**The Additional Committee Member:**

- a) The additional committee member shall be elected every year at the AGM.
- b) His duties shall be determined by the committee as required and could include acting as vice president when necessary.

**The Tournament Organizer:**

- a) The Tournament Organizer shall be appointed be the committee every 2<sup>nd</sup> year within 30 days of every odd year AGM.
- b) He shall be responsible for arranging all tournaments and matches as decided by the committee.
- c) He shall be responsible for and safe keeping of all the equipment and assets of the club.
- d) If qualified he shall act as tournament director or arrange this accordingly.
- e) He shall be responsible for collating tournament results and presenting these to the committee.

**Delegates:**

When delegates are required to attend meetings in the interest of the Club, the committee shall appoint such delegates.

**Domicile**

The domicile and seat of management of the Club shall be deemed to be situated at the residential address of the secretary, or any other physical address nominated by club committee, as published by the Club, provided that it shall always be at a place within the regional boundaries of the Club.

**Amendments to This Constitution:**

Any proposed amendment to this constitution must be handed to the Secretary who will in consultation with the committee forward copies of the proposed amendments to all members at least one month before the date of a Special General Meeting at which meeting only the proposed amendments may be discussed.

**Dissolution or Winding Up of the Club**

The club may be dissolved or wound-up, at any time, by the Members in Special General Meeting or Annual General Meeting, upon a majority vote of not less than 75% (seventy five per centum) of the total votes available to all Members at that time, regardless if the Members are represented at such Meeting or not, provided that not less than 10 (ten) working days written notification of such Meeting and of any resolution aimed at dissolving or winding-up the club shall have been given to all Members.

Upon dissolution or winding up of the club, all the property and assets of the club, after payment of all monies owing to any third parties, shall be transferred free of compensation another club in the region failing which to the Region.

Thereafter the Club shall cease to exist.

This Constitution was adopted by the Membership present at the Club General Meeting held

at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day

of \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PRESIDENT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SECRETARY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Exco Member 3**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Exco Member 4**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Witness 1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Witness 2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**





**Member Code of Conduct:**

**As a member of JOHANNESBURG CENTRAL CHESS CLUB, referred to herein as “my Club”, I undertake to abide by the following:**

1. Represent myself, my Club and my Region to the best of my ability and act in the best interests of chess and as expected from a member of my Club, Region and Province and National (“CHESS SA”) chess organisers;
2. Conduct myself in a manner of good standing, which will bring honour to myself and my Club;
3. Abide by the regulations of my Club, Region, Schools Chess, Provincial Chess and away tournament regulations;
4. Accept and abide by the decisions of the arbiters and organisers of club, school, regional, provincial, national and international activities and tournaments;
5. Abide at all times, by the FIDE Laws of Chess, as updated and amended from time to time, and by the rules of the tournaments I participate in and by team rules as laid down by my Club & Region;
6. Be bound by the decisions of the tournament disciplinary committee, such committee constituted of the Arbiter of the tournament, one Club committee member, and one adult chess player mutually nominated by the Arbiter and the player;
7. Will refer any appeal arising out of decisions in dispute by the tournament Arbiter, and not satisfactorily resolved by the tournament Arbiter, to my Club’s Appeals committee chaired by the Club President, and made up of the Club’s Captain and one adult chess player selected by the chairperson of the Club’s Appeals Committee. The decision of the appeals committee will be final and binding;
8. Details of any disciplinary proceedings be made available to the Disciplinary Committee of my Club which may result in further action from my Club;
9. Always keep the tournament Arbiter(s) and organiser informed of any matters that may arise or lead to a dispute or bring disrepute to myself and/or my Club;
10. Whilst representing my Club at tournaments and events, my team Captain’s decisions with respect to myself and the team at the event is final and binding;
11. Whilst representing my Club at tournaments and events, I will not be coerced or participate in any activities that is illegal, and contravenes any of my Club and the events/tournament rules and regulations, or that will bring my Club and myself into disrepute.

I \_\_\_\_\_; Club I.D. \_\_\_\_\_ a member in good standing of my Club, hereby acknowledge and accept the above code of conduct and agree to adhere to it at all times.

Furthermore, I accept that any contravention of the above may result:

- Losing my membership to my Club;
- in me being sent home from tournaments and events;
- in my further participation in the tournament(s) be suspended, and/or
- in me being barred from representing my Club or Region at tournaments and events;
- in me losing my Club/Regional/Provincial/National colours .

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date