

NSDCA Constitution

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE & DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

1) NAME

The league shall be called "The North Staffordshire and District Chess Association".

2) OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the association shall be :-

- a) to encourage the study and practice of chess in the area;
- b) to institute and maintain championship contests between member clubs and individual players;
- c) to promote representative matches with leagues in other areas;
- d) to promote and foster chess generally throughout the area.

3) MEMBERSHIP

- a) Any club whose venue is within 30 kilometres **twenty five miles** of Hanley bus station shall be eligible for membership of the Association.
- b) There shall be no limit to the number of teams that any club may enter in the league, subject to the approval of the Annual General Meeting.

4) SUBSCRIPTION

- a) Each team shall pay a fee to be decided by the Annual General Meeting as a subscription to the Association.
- b) Every player must be registered with the Staffordshire Chess Association before the thirtieth of April at the end of the season, with the exception of players from clubs registered with other County Associations, in which case a minimum of five players per team must be registered with the Staffordshire Chess Association.

5) OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall be :-

- a) a President **Chairman**;
- b) a Chairman **General Secretary**;
- c) a General Secretary **Treasurer**;
- d) a Treasurer **Results Secretary**.

In addition to these, an honorary President shall be appointed for a term of three years by the Annual General Meeting. His/her duties shall be to take the chair at any meeting which the Chairman is unable to attend and to chair any meeting of the disputes committee. He/she shall be considered an ex officio member of the League Executive Committee.

6) GOVERNMENT

a) The Association shall be governed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Officers of the Association and the following three **two** Officials :-

- i) a Results Secretary; **Publicity Secretary/Webmaster**
- ii) a Publicity Secretary; **Tournament Secretary**
- iii) a Tournament Secretary;

together with other elected members to a total of eleven. **a nominated member from each club not already represented by an officer or an official.**

b) The Executive Committee shall meet at least three times a year. **as deemed necessary by the Chairman.** Other committees and sub-committees may be formed to deal with specific aspects of League management at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

c) The League General Council shall consist of the four Officers of the Association together with one representative of each member club.

d) The League General Council shall meet as deemed necessary by the executive committee to debate the general running of the league.

e) All Officers, Officials and Executive Committee members shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

c) The honorary President shall be elected every three years and all Officers and Officials shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. In the case of the honorary President, he/she shall be elected at the first AGM after the position becomes vacant.

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- f) **d)** All retiring Officers, **and** Officials and Executive Committee members shall be eligible for re-election.
- g) **e)** An auditor shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting to examine the Association's accounts prior to their presentation at the next Annual General Meeting.
- h) **f)** Six members of the Executive Committee shall be understood to constitute a quorum for any meeting.
- i) **g)** A special meeting of the League General Council may be requested by three members representing at least three clubs. **The Executive Committee shall have the right to call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the League.** The general secretary shall give all clubs fourteen days notice of such a meeting.

7) **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the month of July.
- b) At least twenty-one days notice of the Annual General Meeting must be given in writing to all clubs **by the General Secretary.**
- c) Any proposal to be put to the Annual General Meeting must be submitted in writing **to the General Secretary** at least twenty-eight days before the meeting is to take place, and must be circulated to all clubs with the notice of the meeting.
- d) Any registered member of any club in the membership of the Association is entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.
- e) The four Officers of the association, together with **the Honorary President and** two accredited representatives of each member club, are eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

8) **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to the Constitution may be brought about by the following procedures :-

- a) Any proposed change of the Constitution must first be approved by a two-thirds majority at a meeting of the League Executive Committee specially convened for that purpose.
- b) If the proposed change of the Constitution is approved by a two-thirds majority of the League Executive Committee, then it shall be placed before the Annual General Meeting as a League Executive Committee recommendation.
- c) If the proposed change of the Constitution is approved by a two-thirds majority at the Annual General Meeting, then it shall be written immediately into the Constitution and become operative from that time.

9) **CHANGE OF RULES**

- a) Proposed changes of the rules may be submitted to any meeting of the Executive Committee.
- b) Any proposed change of rule approved by a simple majority of the Executive Committee shall be placed as an Executive Committee recommendation before the Annual General Meeting.
- c) Any proposed change of rule approved by a simple majority at the Annual General Meeting shall be written immediately into the League Rules and become operative from that time.

10) **DISSOLUTION**

- a) In the event of the Executive Committee approving a proposal that the Association, as constituted, be no longer a viable organisation, then an Extraordinary General Meeting of the association shall be called, which all members of all clubs shall be entitled to attend.
- b) The only item on the agenda of such an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be the dissolution the Association.
- c) All decisions of this Extraordinary General Meeting shall be submitted in writing by the League General Secretary or by his/her accredited agent to the members of the League Executive Committee and to the Secretary of each member club within one calendar month of such a meeting.
- d) A second Extraordinary General Meeting shall then be called, to take place within two calendar months of the first such meeting.
- e) All decisions of this second Extraordinary General Meeting shall prove to be binding on the Association, and shall be put into operation immediately subsequent to such a meeting.
- f) **On dissolution, the remaining assets of the Association shall be transferred to the Staffordshire County Chess Association or donated to a local charity if the Staffordshire County Chess Association no longer exists. Exceptionally, the records of the Association may instead be passed for safe keeping to a local museum, library or historical society that expresses an interest in them.**