

Scholastic Chess of Indiana

By-Laws

Adopted July 22, 2024

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SECTION ONE NAME AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 The organization shall be known as Scholastic Chess of Indiana, (or SCI).
- 1.2 The purpose of this organization is to promote scholastic chess (kindergarten through twelfth grade) throughout the state of Indiana. We feel that chess aids in the teaching of discipline, logic and problem solving techniques our students need when they become adults.
- 1.3 SCI is a state-wide organizer and promoter of scholastic chess championships.
- 1.4 SCI presents scholastic chess tournaments in the state of Indiana. SCI tournaments, or sections of tournaments, may be rated by the United States Chess Federation (USCF). However, SCI may offer tournaments, or sections of tournaments, that are not rated by USCF in order to encourage more children to participate in chess. The final rounds of statewide SCI tournaments will be rated by USCF so players must meet USCF eligibility requirements. See SECTION FOUR, below, for more details on SCI tournaments.
- 1.5 A copy of these By-Laws will be made available via the website, www.scichess.org.
- 1.6 The website, www.scichess.org, will be the official website of SCI and contain information related to the SCI events and other scholastic events. Other scholastic chess events that may be of interest to players, parents, and coaches, may be listed on the site by members of the SCI board.
- 1.7 Upon dissolution of SCI, any remaining assets will be used exclusively for 501 (c) (3) exempt purposes.
- 1.8 The SCI fiscal year will align with Indiana's school year, beginning on July 1st of one calendar year and ending on June 30th of the following calendar year.

SECTION TWO ORGANIZATION

- 2.1 A policy board (SCI Board) of Directors for SCI shall be established and set policies pertinent to all SCI activities and guidelines for the SCI sanctioned State Championships.
- 2.2 The SCI Board of Directors shall be composed of four Officers and five At-Large Board Members. The Officers will consist of one President, one Vice President, one Treasurer, and one Secretary. All SCI Board Members and Officers shall have the right to bring an issue to discussion, make a motion, second a motion, and vote on motions that are brought to vote.
- 2.3 The President will be the highest ranking member of the Board of Directors; Vice President 2nd highest; Treasurer 3rd highest; and Secretary 4th highest.

- 2.4 The terms of office for all SCI Board members shall be for as long as they are active organizers, coaches or sponsors of scholastic chess within the state of Indiana.
- 2.5 When a vacancy on the SCI Board occurs, the President shall ask the SCI Board for suggestions to fill the vacancy. The SCI Board will make efforts to have representation from various areas of the state of Indiana. A majority of the board votes is needed to confirm the addition to the SCI Board.
- 2.6 When a vacancy occurs on the SCI Board that requires the replacement of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary, the highest ranking officer remaining will call for suggestions for replacement. Upon a motion and second, the vacancy will be filled with a majority vote of the SCI Board remaining. In the event of a tie, the result will be considered a non-majority.
- 2.7 The SCI Board shall meet at least once a year either in person or virtually via Zoom or similar video conference. Additional meetings will be announced by the President. All other official business will be conducted via email, phone, or video conference.
- 2.8 Amendments to these By-Laws shall be made only by a two-thirds vote of the full SCI Board.
- 2.9 The responsibilities of the President shall be:
- A. To oversee day-to-day operations of SCI and delegate responsibilities to the Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and At-Large Board Members. Any of the below responsibilities may be delegated to SCI board members.
 - B. To arrange the sites and oversee the facility staffing of Regional and Finals competitions for the SCI Team Championships, SCI Individual Championships, and SCI Girls' Championships.
 - C. To organize SCI sponsored tournaments, including determining locations and ensuring they are properly supported.
 - D. To work closely with the Treasurer to maintain the SCI accounts and to write checks to pay vendors.
 - E. To lead the SCI Board discussions and tally votes from official motions.
 - F. To ensure the organization's website and social media presence is properly maintained.
 - G. To coordinate the trophies and other awards for SCI events.
 - H. To ensure the responsibilities of Officers and Board Members are delegated to the remaining Officers and Board Members when a vacancy occurs.
 - I. To lead or convene an investigation if a suspected violation of SCI Conflict of Interest or Whistleblower policy has been reported. This responsibility is delegated to the Vice President if the President is suspected of this violation.
- 2.10 The responsibilities of the Vice President shall be:
- A. To lead the organization in the interpretation of USCF rules of chess as they are to be applied to SCI tournaments.
 - B. To maintain a list of tournament directors that can oversee SCI chess tournaments.
 - C. To appoint the chief tournament director for each SCI tournament and assist each tournament director to appoint their assistant tournament directors.
- 2.11 The responsibilities of the Treasurer shall be:
- A. To maintain the accounts of SCI.

- B. To prepare a report on SCI accounts for each board meeting.
 - C. To provide investment statements to board members for the annual meeting.
 - D. To make payments on behalf of SCI as directed by the President or Vice President.
 - E. To lead the organization in the discussion and determination of financial investments that help fund SCI's future activities.
- 2.12 The responsibilities of the Secretary shall be:
- A. To maintain the written records of SCI and ensure those records are available to board members as needed.
 - B. To assemble the agendas for SCI board meetings.
 - C. To keep minutes for SCI board meetings and make them accessible to board members.
- 2.13 SCI will pay a stipend to the President and Vice President at the end of the fiscal year based on a percentage of entry fees collected from SCI tournaments within that fiscal year. The President will receive an amount equal to 10% of the entry fees and the Vice President will receive an amount equal to 5% of the entry fees.

SECTION THREE AFFILIATION

- 3.1 SCI is an affiliate member of the United States Chess Federation (USCF).
- 3.2 SCI is licensed by the Indiana State Chess Association (ISCA) to be the official sanctioning body for scholastic chess championships in the state of Indiana. SCI will determine Indiana's representation at USCF national tournaments of champions based on strength of finish in SCI Championship tournaments.

SECTION FOUR SCI TOURNAMENTS

- 4.1 SCI presents and operates three state championship tournaments for K-12 students in the state of Indiana. These tournaments are:
- A. The SCI Team Championships
 - B. The SCI Individual Championships
 - C. The SCI Girls' Championships
- 4.2 SCI has the option to present and operate additional chess tournaments for K-12 students in the state of Indiana at the discretion of the SCI Board.
- 4.3 The rules for SCI tournaments are contained in a separate document called "Scholastic Chess of Indiana Tournament Rules." This document is posted on the SCI website.
- 4.4 Players, Parents, Coaches, and Chess Tournament Directors have rights and responsibilities when participating in SCI tournaments. These rights and responsibilities are outlined in the "Scholastic Chess of Indiana Tournament Rules" document posted on the SCI website.

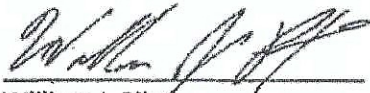
- 4.5 The SCI President will determine the entry fee schedule, including late fees and refund policy, for each SCI tournament. Entry fees should be reasonable and consistent with other scholastic chess tournaments in Indiana. The entry fees will be published in the flyers publicizing each tournament, which are posted on the SCI website.

SECTION FIVE ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 Players in SCI tournaments must be in grades K-12 and must be residents of the state of Indiana or be full time students at a public or private school in the state of Indiana. Each SCI tournament has unique eligibility rules that determine who can enter and who cannot. Those rules are found in the "Scholastic Chess of Indiana Tournament Rules" posted on the SCI website.
- 5.2 SCI expects that parents and coaches will ensure that any player who participates in SCI events will be in good academic standing.
- 5.3 The SCI Board has the final authority to determine eligibility of any player. If a decision is required concerning student eligibility, the President shall be notified before the student participates in a tournament. The President will gather a decision from the SCI Board before that tournament begins, if possible, or as soon as possible in order to minimize tournament disruption.
- 5.4 If a player is found to be ineligible, that player will be disqualified from the tournament and must forfeit any prizes won. If a disqualified player is a member of a chess team, then all playing members of that team are disqualified. Disqualified teams forfeit any prizes won. Players or teams who are disqualified in regional rounds of tournament play cannot play in the state finals of that tournament.

ADOPTION OF THESE BY-LAWS

These by-laws for Scholastic Chess of Indiana were approved by the SCI board on July 22, 2024. The signatures of SCI officers, below, indicate the official adoption of these by-laws.



William J. Pilat
President, SCI



Joe Riegsecker
Vice President, SCI



Robert Fischer
Treasurer, SCI



Todd Walatka
Secretary, SCI