

Constitution of the Otago Chess Club Incorporated

The following shall be the rules of the Otago Chess Club Incorporated. These rules, which are adopted with effect from 8/2/ 2022, repeal all former rules.

1. Name

The name of the Society shall be "The Otago Chess Club incorporated".

2. Definitions

In these rules, unless otherwise indicated, "Club" means "The Otago Chess Club Incorporated"; "Committee" means the committee appointed at the time under rule 13 of these rules; "Year" means the financial year of the Club.

3. Objectives

- (a) To promote and cultivate the game of chess.
- (b) To provide clubhouses and encourage social interaction between members.
- (c) To establish and maintain a library of literature on the game of chess.
- (d) To acquire real and personal property for the purpose of the Club and to dispose of property no longer required.
- (e) To act in co-operation with the Government or the Local Bodies or with any other club, committee, society, or institution for the promotion of the above objectives.

4. Membership

The qualifications and annual subscriptions for membership including (1) senior membership, (2) honorary membership, (3) junior membership (that is, membership confined to members under the age of 21 years), (4) student (full-time tertiary) / unwaged membership, (5) country membership (that is, membership confined to players resident in Otago, but outside of Dunedin and suburbs), (6) social membership (that is membership confined to players not competing in rated events) and (7) life membership shall be as follows:

- (a) The name of any candidate for senior membership of the Club should be proposed and seconded at a meeting of the Committee and may be elected by the votes of two-thirds of those present and voting at such meeting. Unsuccessful candidates shall not again be proposed as member until after the next annual meeting of the Club. No election shall take place unless eight members of the Club are present.
- (b) Any person desirous of becoming a junior, student/unwaged, country, or social member of the Club shall be elected in the same manner as a senior member, and the same rule as to exclusion of the nominees for senior membership shall apply to persons nominated for junior, student/unwaged, country, or social membership.
- (c) Anyone who has been duly elected shall be deemed to be a member of the Club until they send in their resignation in writing to the Secretary.

J. Soudgah - (Secretary) 22.2.23
[Signature] (Treasurer) 22/2/2023
[Signature] 22/2/2023

5. Honorary Members

The Committee may elect any person with their consent to be an honorary member of the Club. Honorary members shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership including the right to vote at any meeting or in the election of any officers or in any other matter affecting the Club, without payment of the annual subscription. The period of such membership shall be decided by the Committee.

6. Life Members

On the recommendation of the Committee, life membership may be conferred on any person as recognition of special services tendered to the Club. Life Members may only be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Club. Life Members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Club including the right to vote at any meeting or in the election of any officers or in any other matter affecting the Club but shall not be liable for any subscriptions.

7. Financial Year

The financial year of the Club shall date from the 1st day of January to the 31st day of December.

8. Subscriptions

The annual subscription for each class of membership may be altered only at an Annual General Meeting. The annual subscription shall be for a full year but may be reduced at the discretion of the Committee if membership is applied for after the commencement of the financial year. No refund of subscription shall be payable in the event of resignation. The annual subscription for each financial year shall become due on opening night and be payable within one calendar month.

9. Default in Payment of Subscription

If any member shall fail to pay their annual subscription by the first day of April after it has come due, notice shall be sent to them calling such to their attention. If the subscription is not paid within one calendar month after such notice, the Committee is empowered to remove the name of the defaulter and they shall cease to be a member of the Club, but if at any time they give a satisfactory explanation to the Committee they may upon payment of all arrears be readmitted to membership.

10. Resignation

Any member may resign their membership by giving notice in writing to the secretary. Such member shall nevertheless be liable for any subscription or other fees due on the date of resignation.

11. Expulsion

The Committee shall have the power to call before them any member guilty of conduct that is in their opinion detrimental to the interests of the Club and, subject to the right of appeal to a general meeting of the Club, to expel such offender from membership.

12. Management

The management of the Club shall be vested in the Committee.

13. Committee

The Committee shall consist of a President, a Vice-President or a Co-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Director of Junior Play, a Club Captain, the Retiring President and five other members. The Committee

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shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and all retiring members shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee has the power to co-opt suitable members to fill any casual vacancy during the year. The Committee shall remain in office until their successors are appointed but a member of the Committee who absents themselves from three consecutive Committee meetings shall cease to be a member of the Committee. The Committee may be removed from office by a three-fifths majority vote of the members of the Club at a special meeting of members called for the purpose of considering such removal. A meeting of the Committee of the Club shall be held at least once a month.

14. Committee Quorum

Four committee members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Committee, one of whom shall be the President, Vice-President, or Immediate Past President.

15. Vacancies

The Committee may fill any vacancies caused by death, resignation, or otherwise amongst its office bearers and members. The persons appointed to fill such vacancies shall hold office, however, only for the remainder of the term for which the person whose seat they fill would otherwise have filled the same respectively.

16. Complaints and Suggestions

Any complaints or suggestions shall be made in writing to the Secretary and shall be brought before the Committee for consideration at the first opportunity.

17. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Club shall be held as soon after the end of the financial year as the Committee may decide but no later than the last day of February of that year, for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report, Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet, electing the Committee and Auditor, and conducting such other business as may have been notified to members in the notice calling the Annual General Meeting.

18. Special General Meeting

Special General Meetings of members shall be held at such time as the Committee may determine, for the purpose of discussing any matter in which the Club may be interested. A Special Meeting of members may be convened by the Committee, or the Secretary if the latter is requested by at least five ordinary members.

19. Notice of General Meetings

A week's notice of either a General or a Special Meeting shall be given by email to every member, or by advertisement in "The Otago Daily Times" newspaper, and the said week's notice shall not include the day of the meeting. In the case of a Special General Meeting, such notice shall specify the nature of the special business intended to be transacted.

20. Quorum at General Meeting

Ten ordinary members present at any General Meeting of the Club shall constitute a quorum, one of whom shall be President, Vice-President or Immediate Past President.

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21. Chair

All meetings shall be presided over by the President, or in their absence by the Vice-President, or in the absence of the President and of the Vice-President, by a Chairperson to be elected by the meeting.

22. Voting

Voting shall be decided by the voices, or by show of hands, unless a ballot is demanded by any five ordinary members present at a General Meeting. All questions arising at any General Meeting of the Club, or the meeting of the Committee, or other Special Advisory Committee, shall be determined by a majority of those entitled to vote. At all meetings in the event of the voting being equal, the Chair shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted. Any member being twelve months in arrears in the payment of the annual subscription shall be disqualified from voting or taking part in any meeting.

23. Appointment of Scrutineers

At any meeting where voting by ballot is required the meeting shall appoint two of their number as scrutineers.

24. Powers of the Committee

- (a) The business of the Committee shall be to discuss and determine all matters in which the Club is interested and to carry the same into effect, subject only to such directions as may be given by any General Meeting of the Club.
- (b) To do all such acts and things as are or may be incidental to the attainment of all or any of the objects for which the Club is established.
- (c) The Committee may appoint Special Advisory Committees to investigate or take action in any matter relating to the objects or business of the Club and may require such committees to report and may dissolve such committees whensoever it may think fit. The members of such committees must be members of the Club but need not be members of the Committee.

25. Treasurer

The control of the funds of the Club shall be vested in the Treasurer for the time being, who shall deposit the Club's monies to its credit in such institutions as may, from time to time, be approved by the Committee, and shall not withdraw the whole or any portion of the said monies from such institutions without the sanction of the Committee first being given and obtained by resolution duly minuted. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to present the accounts for inspection at each Committee meeting and at the Annual General Meeting. All cheques shall be signed or endorsed in such a manner as the Committee shall, from time to time direct.

26. Honorary Solicitor

There may be an Honorary Solicitor appointed from among the members of the Club, who shall not be deemed a Committee member but who shall transact the Club's legal business and attend any Committee meeting to tender legal advice to the members present when requested by any office bearer to do so.

27. Honorary Reviewer

There shall also be an Honorary reviewer, who shall not be deemed a Committee member, but whose duty it shall be to audit the Club's accounts prior to the Annual General Meeting each year and to submit

the result of their audit to the Annual General Meeting.

28. New Zealand Chess Federation

The rules of the *Federation Internationale Des Echecs*, as adopted by the New Zealand Chess Federation shall be adhered to in so far as the same are not inconsistent with or repugnant to the rules here set forth.

29. Common Seal

The Common Seal of the Club shall be kept by the Secretary and shall not be affixed to any document except by the resolution of the Committee and in the presence of two members of the Committee and the Secretary.

30. Club Badge

The Committee may approve of a Club Badge and from time to time approve of a new design or a variation of the old design.

31. Alteration of Rules

These rules may be repealed, altered or added to by a resolution at a General Meeting, the notice of which shall have specified the proposed repeal, alteration or addition but nothing in this Rule shall prohibit the amendment by the General Meeting of any proposal which has been specified in the notice.

32. Notice of Motion

No vote shall be taken on any motion concerning rules and finance at any General Meeting unless notice shall be given in writing to the Secretary fourteen clear days before such meeting.

33. Compliance with Rules

These Rules shall be printed, and a copy shall be sent to any member on request, but no member shall be excused for non-compliance or with non-observance of the Rules on any allegation that they have not been received by them. As the payment of subscription and fees entitles a member to all the privileges of the Club, such payment shall be a distinct acknowledgement of submission to and acquiescence in the Rules of the Club; but such payment shall not confer upon a member any separate proprietary interest in any of the property of the Club.

34. Winding Up or Dissolution

The voluntary dissolution of the Club shall not take place unless and until such dissolution has been decided upon by a two-thirds majority vote of members at a Special Meeting of the Club called for the purpose of considering the question of dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, all its real and personal property, after payment of debts shall forthwith vest in the Dunedin Public Library, to be used for the promotion of the game of chess.

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