President: Peter Eales
Secretary: Graham Stuart
Affiliated: English Chess Federation
and West of England Chess Union

GENERAL RULES (1994 Revision, with amendments to June 2024)

1. **NAME:** The Association shall be known as "The Hampshire Chess Association".

2. **OBJECTS:** The objects of the Association shall be to encourage the establishment of clubs throughout the County, and to foster and encourage the game of chess generally.

3. **AFFILIATION AND MEMBERSHIP:** Affiliation and/or Membership may be obtained in the following ways:

   a) League Affiliation. A league may become affiliated to the Association by supplying a list of its clubs and the appropriate fee. (The fee shall be 5 x the base rate for each club team which plays in its league.) In this case all the clubs shall be affiliated and all their members shall be members of the Association.

   b) Club Affiliation. When a) above does not apply, a club may become affiliated to the Association by supplying a list of all its adult members and the appropriate fee. (The fee shall be the base rate, as set by the AGM, x the number of members.) In this case all the members of the club shall become members of the Association.

   c) Individual Membership. When neither a) nor b) above apply, an individual may apply direct to the Association and become a member subject to payment of the appropriate fee. (The fee payable shall be 3 x the base rate.) Juniors are affiliated free-of-charge.

4. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership of the Association shall comprise Officers, members of affiliated clubs and Private Members. Members under the age of 18 on 1st September following the Annual General Meeting shall not have voting rights and shall pay a lower subscription than adult members. See Rule 9. The Committee shall have power to refuse an application for membership or to expel an existing member if in the Committee's opinion the best interests of the Association would be served by so doing. Any such refusal or expulsion may be appealed to a Special General Meeting of the Association, whose decision shall be final. See Rule 11.

5. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The AGM of the Association shall be held not later than 30th June in each year. Not less than 14 days' notice of this meeting shall be sent to the Officers, the Secretary of each affiliated club and Private Members. Each member of the Association who has attained the age of 18 on 1st September following the Annual General Meeting and who is present in person shall have one vote, except that the Chairman of the Meeting shall only vote if there are equal numbers on each side. A quorum shall consist of 5 members.

6. **OFFICERS:** The following Officers shall be elected at each AGM to serve for the following year: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary,

Match Captain(s), Correspondence Match Captain(s), Registration Officer, Rating Officer, Junior Organiser(s), ECF/BCF Delegate, Union Delegate(s), League Conductor, Tournament Conductor(s), Webmaster, Publicity Officer, Safeguarding and Archivist. The President shall serve for a maximum of two consecutive years in office and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election. To assist continuity, the outgoing President shall be invited to accept the post of Vice-President for the following year. For the second year of a President's term of office, a new Vice-President shall be elected, to be regarded as President-elect. All positions are honorary, but Officers shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses, approved by the Committee.

Also the AGM shall appoint an Honorary Examiner for the following year. The Honorary Examiner is not an official of the Association.

7. **COMMITTEE:** The above Officers, together with one representative from each affiliated league, shall form the Committee of the Association which shall have full executive powers in the management of the Association within the constraints of these General Rules, and may co-opt such other members to serve on the Committee as considered desirable. A quorum for a Committee Meeting shall be 3.

8. **ACTIVITIES:** The Committee shall enter or organise such tournaments and activities as they deem desirable, and that comply with Rule 2. Chess Players entering such tournaments and activities agree that rating information may be collected and used for publicity purposes and be sent to the ECF for rating purposes.

9. **MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION FEES:** The base rate for fees to be paid to the Association in accordance with Rule 3 shall be determined by the AGM. All such fees shall be paid by 31st December following the AGM.

10. **ACCOUNTS:** The retiring treasurer shall present to the AGM an audited Income and Expenditure account and Balance Sheet for the preceding year.

11. **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING:** A Special General Meeting must be called upon a requisition signed by 20 or more members. Fourteen days' notice shall be given to all those entitled to notice of the AGM, specifying the object of the Special General Meeting. Each member of the Association who has attained the age of 18 on 1st September following the Special General Meeting, and who is present in person shall have one vote, except that the Chairman of the Meeting shall only vote if there are equal numbers on each side. A quorum shall consist of 5 members.

12. **ALTERATION TO GENERAL RULES:** No General Rule shall be added to, altered or rescinded, nor shall a new Rule be made save by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at a General Meeting. Notice of any proposed addition, alteration or rescission must be submitted to the secretary and shall be circulated with notice of the General Meeting. Each member of the Association who has attained the age of 18 on 1st September

following the General Meeting and who is present in person shall have one vote. A quorum shall consist of 5 members.

13. **DISTRIBUTION:** A copy of these rules and subsequent amendments shall be sent to the secretaries of all affiliated clubs and Leagues. In addition the rules are published on the HCA website.

14. **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY:** The Association shall maintain a Child Protection Policy as presently defined in Schedule CPP attached to these Rules. This schedule may be altered by a properly constituted Committee Meeting (Rule 7).