



Leinster Schools Chess Association – Constitution

Adopted June 19th, 2012.

Article 1 – Name

The name of the Association shall be the “Leinster Schools Chess Association”.

Article 2 – General Role of the Association

The Association is the governing body for primary and second level schools chess in Leinster.

Article 3 – Specific Objectives & Powers Of The Association

3.1 The Association shall have the following specific objectives:

- a. To administer, encourage, and develop chess in Leinster at school level.
- b. To fulfil Leinster’s chess obligations at school and underage levels.
- c. To ensure that the Leinster Schools Leagues are held annually.
- d. To ensure that the Leinster Junior Championships are held annually.
- e. To ensure that Leinster are represented in the Irish Junior Interprovincials annually.
- f. To obtain public and private funding for its activities.

3.2 The Association shall also have the following powers:

- a. To pursue actions and policies in the best interests of Leinster Schools Chess.
- b. To raise funds and accumulate income, and to receive subscriptions, donations, and bequests.
- c. To invest any monies of the Association in any forms of investment authorised by law as proper investments for charity funds.
- d. To enter into joint ventures for the promotion, administration or playing of youth chess.

Article 4 – Good Practice for Young Players

4.1 The Association shall endeavour to ensure young players are given due regard in its activities.

4.2 The Association shall have systems in place for child protection and ways to deal with complaints.

4.3 The Association advises all schools participating in L.S.C.A. events to have child protection policies of their own.

Article 5 – Membership

5.1 Any school which pays L.S.C.A. league fees shall be a member of the L.S.C.A. for that season. As a general guide the season shall run from September to September.

5.2 The Annual General Meeting shall set the league fees.

5.3 Paid up L.S.C.A. members will be entitled to send one voting delegate to General Meetings.

Article 6 – General Meetings

6.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held between February 1st and October 1st every year.

6.2 Not less than ten days notice shall be given to members of the Association of the date and venue of the A.G.M. The agenda, motions, and valid nominations to the Executive committee shall also be circulated at this time.

6.3 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business, the quorum shall consist of five persons entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Association.

6.4 The President of the Executive Committee or in his/her absence the League Secretary of the Executive Committee shall preside at General Meetings. If neither of these are present within twenty minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting, or are unwilling to act, those eligible to vote, who are present shall elect one of their number to act as Chair of the meeting.

6.5 Paid up members and Executive Committee members shall be entitled to receive notice, attend, speak, and vote at General Meetings of the Association.

6.6 Voting delegates must be at least fifteen years of age on January 1st of that year.

6.7 The Chair of the meeting may allow other persons to attend and speak, but not vote, at General Meetings.

6.8 Notice of at least seven days shall be available to those eligible to vote at General Meetings to put forward motions, resolutions, or nominations to the Executive Committee before the agenda is circulated.

6.9 Any motion must be seconded at the General Meeting before it may be discussed. A motion or resolution may be moved or seconded by the Executive Committee in its own name.

6.10 Emergency motions shall only be permitted at a General Meeting where:

- a. They relate solely to the conduct of the meeting; or
- b. They relate to a matter which could not reasonably have been the subject of a written motion with the appropriate notice; or
- c. In the opinion of the Chair of the General Meeting they are of a minor nature.

6.11 All matters arising at General Meetings shall be decided by a majority of eligible voters present and voting.

6.12 Votes for the election of members of the Executive Committee shall be by secret ballot. Votes on all other questions shall be cast by a show of hands, unless the presiding Chair decides otherwise.

6.13 In the event of a tied vote, (either in an election or on a motion), the presiding Chair shall have an additional casting vote.

6.14 Executive Committee Officers shall endeavour to provide reports at the A.G.M.

6.15 A statement of accounts should be available at the A.G.M.

6.16 Accidental failure to advise any fully entitled person/s of any meeting shall not invalidate the holding of that meeting.

Article 7 - Membership of the Executive Committee

7.1 Any individual may be nominated by a fully paid up member to stand for the Executive Committee.

7.2 Existing Executive Committee members can nominate themselves for re-appointment.

7.3 Election of the Executive shall take place at the Annual General Meeting.

7.4 In the event of vacancies, nominations may be accepted from the floor of the A.G.M.

7.4 Nominations for the Executive Committee require a seconder at the A.G.M.

7.5 The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, League Secretary, Treasurer, and up to 3 other committee members, who may or may not carry out specific functions.

7.6 In the event of an election, the voting system shall be Proportional Representation (stv).

7.7 Successful candidates take office at the end of the meeting.

7.8 The Executive Committee may fill vacancies arising throughout the year.

7.9 Executive Committee members only have one vote each, regardless of roles.

Article 8 – The Executive Committee

8.1 The affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Executive Committee which may exercise all powers of the Association, provided they have due regards for the rules in this constitution.

8.2 The Executive Committee shall have the power to amend, make, or repeal from time to time all policies and standing orders consistent with this constitution, as it shall think expedient for the management and wellbeing of the Union.

8.3 The members of the Executive Committee may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn, or otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall

be decided by majority vote of those present and voting. In the event of a tie the presiding Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

8.4 The Executive Committee may discuss and work on issues via internet communication.

8.5 No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Executive Committee unless three members of the Committee are present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business.

8.6 The Executive Committee may appoint persons, who are not members of the executive, to carry out specific functions or responsibilities (e.g. Team Selection, Tournament Director, Arbitration), provided that they are answerable to the committee.

8.6.1 No person given a function in this way shall be deemed to be a holder of an office and the Committee may deprive that person of his functions or responsibilities, if it considers they are not being carried out in a satisfactory way.

8.7 The Executive may also appoint sub committees to carry out specific tasks or responsibilities. Sub Committees will normally be chaired by a Member of the Executive Committee.

Article 9 - Communications

Email is the official communication tool of the L.S.C.A.

Article 10 – Indemnity

Every member of the Executive Committee and of any Sub-Committee established shall be indemnified by the Association against all actions, claims, damages, demands, and expenses (other than traveling expenses) incurred by such member in carrying out the duties assigned to him/her unless these arose as a result of any omission or unauthorised act on the part of such member.

Article 11 – Amendments to the Constitution

11.1 This constitution shall only be amended at an Annual General Meeting of the Union, or at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Union specifically called for that purpose.

11.2 The text of any amendments shall be included with the notice convening the meeting.

11.3 A 55% majority of those present and entitled to vote at any general meeting shall be necessary before any amendment is carried.