

USCF Executive Board Objection Procedure Motions:

The following motions were sent out for passage by Objections Procedure:

EB06- 003 June 29, 2005: (Marinello) Guidelines for Acquiring Sponsorships for Scholastic Chess Events June 23, 2005

Purpose: This document defines the process to be used by the US Chess Federation in approving potential sponsorships for scholastic chess events and programs.

Such sponsorships must come from sponsors whose products or services are beneficial to our youth. Any sponsor associated with a product or activity detrimental to youth should be disregarded immediately. A list of products that would disqualify a sponsor if they are affiliated with any items would include but not limited to:

- " Alcohol
- " Drugs
- " Gambling
- " Pornography/Exploitation
- " Tobacco/Smoking
- " Weapons

In addition, sponsors involved with any of the following activities shall be disqualified as sponsors:

- " Political
- " Religious
- " Violence

If in doubt, the USCF Scholastic Council shall have final review of any and all potential sponsors for USCF events and programs involving youth. **PASSED** Without Objection

EB06 – 004 August 24, 2005: (Goichberg) World Team:

1. Invitations for the 2005 World Team Championship will be based on the Olympiad formula (average of USCF rating, FIDE rating, and peak published USCF rating in the 24 months prior to invitation).
2. The latest USCF rating on MSA as of Thursday, Aug 25, 2005 will be used for the invitational calculation.
3. The Olympiad activity requirement will be in effect (10 games played in the 12 months prior to the date of the invitations).
4. The players will be offered the following honoraria:

Minimum \$2000 each.

If the team wins the bronze medal (3rd place), an additional \$500 each over the minimum, for a total of \$2500 each.

If the team wins the silver medal (2nd place), an additional \$1000 each over the minimum, for a total of \$3000 each.

If the team wins the gold medal (1st place), an additional \$2000 each over the minimum, for a total of \$4000 each.

5. The players will be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses.

6. A contract shall be enclosed with the letter of invitation. The contract shall include a requirement that the player play in all matches when requested to by the captain, and state that violation of this provision without

adequate cause may result in the player losing eligibility to represent the U.S. at future Olympiads, World Team Championships, and any other international team events that the U.S. may enter.

7. The Executive Director is asked to email a list of the top nine qualifiers in order of computed invitational rating, along with a copy of the invitational letter, to the Executive Board at least three hours before sending invitations to the players. Board approval of these details is not required, but this will allow for the possibility of the Board suggesting corrections or changes.

8. The USCF office shall mail invitations to qualified players by next day air on August 25. After sending this mail, the office shall attempt to contact the players by email or phone on August 25 to insure speedy receipt of the message that they have been invited.

9. The first six players invited will be given one week (until Sept 1) to accept or decline their invitations. Any requests for additional time shall be handled at the discretion of the Executive Director.

10. On August 25 the office shall also send a letter by next day air to the players ranked 7th, 8th and 9th in invitational rating, notifying them of the possibility that they will be invited to play in this event and asking whether, in the event that they qualify due to others declining invitations, they are interested. The office shall follow up with these backup invitations, and others as necessary, as the Executive Director believes is appropriate.

PASSED Without Objection

EB06 – 005 September 9, 2005: 05-00 (Marinello) The following changes proposed by the Scholastic Council shall be implemented as soon as possible:

- a) A list of changes in the Scholastic Regulations approved by the Scholastic Council in July-August 2005.
- b) A copy of the revised Scholastic Regulations which include the proposed changes.

According to our current procedures, the Executive Board has 30 days to ratify changes in the Scholastic Regulations.

Proposed USCF National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulation Changes July-August 2005

- 1) Change first sentence of 18.3 from “Players from the same team will not be paired together unless more than half of the players in a score group are from the same team.” to “Players from the same team will not be paired together unless a reasonable pairing cannot be made.” **Passed**
- 2) Add a new section 18.9.6 that reads “**National Bughouse Championship** on Thursday before all Spring Nationals. Round times: 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:15, 2:00, and 2:45.” **Passed**
- 3) Add a new section 18.9.7 that reads “**National Blitz Championship** on Thursday before all Spring Nationals. Round times: 5:00, 5:45, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, and 8:45.” **Passed**
- 4) In section 22.2 replace “Scholastic Director” with “Scholastic Director and/or Events Director.” **Passed**

- 5) Add 22.5.1.4 **National Bughouse Championship:**
National High School: K-12 section
National Junior High/Middle School: K/9 section
National Elementary: K-6 section
SuperNationals: K-12 section, K-9 Section, and K-6 sections

Passed

- 6) Add 22.5.1.5 **National Blitz Championship:**
National High School: K-12 section
National Junior High/Middle School: K/9 section
National Elementary: K-6 section
SuperNationals: K-12 section, K-9 Section, and K-6 sections

Passed

- 7) Insert a new 23.4 and renumber the rest of the section by adding this: Whenever possible a coaches forum for the open exchange of coaching ideas among those present will be scheduled. Once during round 2 and again during round 5 would be ideal. This meeting will be chaired by a member of the Scholastic Council. This forum is not to replace any other scheduled meeting involving the coaches. **Passed**

- 8) Replace Appendix A with the following: **APPENDIX A
National Scholastic Blitz Championship Regulations**

A1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Blitz Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Blitz Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

A2.0 Rules

A2.1 All games will be played under Game-5 time control.

A2.2 Each player will play each opponent twice, once as white and once as black. The lower rated player has choice of color for the first game.

A2.3 The Chief Tournament Director has the discretion of Touch Move or Clock Move. However, whichever is used it must be listed on the USCF website in an appropriate easy-to-find location. Clock Move is recommended.

A3.0 Tournament Format

A3.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

National High School: K-12 Championship and K-8 section

National Junior High/Middle School: K-9 Championship and K-6 section

National Elementary: K-6 Championship

SuperNationals: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship.

A3.2 It is recommended that the tournament be a six round double-swiss tournament.

A3.3 No round is to begin after 9:30pm.

A3.4 Entries are to be online (*when available*) and are also allowed onsite up to 10:00am on the tournament day.

A3.5 Round I shall begin at 5:00 on Thursday.

A3.6 The National Championship should be decided over the board, provided that there are only two or three players tied with the top score. There will be extra round(s) only between those two or three at a time to be determined by the Chief Tournament Director. If there are four or more players in the top score group then tiebreaks shall determine the National Champion and all of

those tied will have the title ³National Champion² even though tiebreaks will determine trophy presentation.

A4.0 The individual and team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in A3.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance. **Passed**

8a) Add a 'K-3 Championship' to the National Elementary and SuperNationals. **Passed**

9) Replace Appendix B with the following: **APPENDIX B
NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC BUGHOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS**

B1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Bughouse Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Bughouse Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

B2.0 Tournament Format

B2.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

National High School: K-12 Championship and K-8 section

National Junior High/Middle School: K-9 Championship and K-6 section

National Elementary: K-6 Championship

SuperNationals: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship.

B2.2. The tournament will begin at 11:00am on Thursday.

B2.3. All entries are to be onsite on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, with registration stopping at 10:00am.

B2.4. The rules that are to be followed for a National Bughouse tournament are to be displayed at an appropriate easy-to-find location on the USCF website.

B3.0 The team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in B2.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance. **Passes**

10) Delete Appendix C and re-label Appendices D and E to C and D. **Passed** *but I replaced Appendix C with Parents and Friends Tournament information (#14) so the later appendices don't need to be changed.*

11) Change section 18.4.2 such that the top the K-8 Under 1250 section becomes "K-9 Under 1250" at the National Junior High School event. **Passed**

12) Let unrateds players play in any section with the following stipulation: "they are part of a team that has only four players with no more than one unrated player on that team of four." **Passed**

13) Split the K-6 Unrated section at the National Elementary into a K-3 Unrated and a K-6 Unrated. **Passed**

14) Add additional trophies at all Spring Nationals that hold a Parents & Friends Tournament for the following pairs:

- a. Father – Child
- b. Mother – Child
- c. Brother – Child

- d. Sister – Child
- e. Aunt – Child
- f. Uncle – Child
- g. Cousin – Child
- h. Coach – Child
- i. Grandfather – Child
- j. Grandmother – Child

where ‘Child’ refers to a player in any section of the National Championship. Players in the Parents and Friends Tournament shall be solely responsible for informing the TD of that section of all relationships that they qualify for including the section the ‘Child’ is playing in. Prizes will be awarded based on the sum of the Parents and Friends Tournament participant and their ‘Child’ based on an equal number of rounds. If there are five rounds in the Parents and Friends Tournament, the “Child’s” score after the first five rounds is taken. Awards will be handed out at Chess Control the last day of the main tournament. A pair of trophies will be awarded to the winners of each pairing. **Passed**

- 15) Virtual Schools: Need someone to volunteer to review and write up a policy regarding virtual schools at all Nationals **Passed**
-

The following changes were voted on by the Scholastic Council in January, 2005 and included in this list for completeness and EB approval.

1. Class Trophy Awards

Change sections 22.5.1 and 22.5.2 such that class trophies are for a 200 point rating class except for the lowest class which remains an “Under” section.

Rationale: Although a 790 rated youth may take the “3rd Place Under 1000” trophy, they’d rather take home the “1st Place 600-799” trophy. It’s bigger! This rule is easier to administer and easier for parents to understand than the current rule. **Passed 4-0**

2. Additional Scholastic Regulation Changes

- a) Change section 16.7 from “The individual award presentation should begin with the top five individual winners before announcing remaining awards. The team award presentation should begin with the top five teams before announcing remaining awards.” To “Individual and team award presentations will be from lowest to highest place.” **Passed 4-0**

Rationale: This is how it has been done because the lowest trophies are set up in front of the higher trophies. Doing the top five first is cumbersome to collect.

- b) Add to the bottom of Appendix E (Guide to Spectator Conduct) “This guide shall be prominently posted at multiple locations.” **Passed 4-0**

Rationale: In case of trouble TD’s and staff should be able to point to this posted guide and know where it is. Spectators, especially non-chess playing spectators will read it.

- c) Add section 1.1.1 that states: “Revisions to these regulations shall be effective September 15 of each year.” **Passed 4-0**

Rationale: Coach’s have asked to standardize the affectivity date of changes to the regulations.

- d) Add section 16.3.1 that states: “In order to minimize errors and when practical, the blitz and bughouse awards lists shall be posted sufficiently ahead of the award’s ceremony to allow for errors to be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director and to allow for corrections to be made. The award’s lists will then be re-posted before the award’s ceremony. This procedure shall be printed in the tournament book.” **Passed 4-0**

Rationale: To avoid (some) confusion as to the procedure to appeal result entry errors. I believe this will codify the new practice.

USCF NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC CHESS **TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

USCF Official Version

For use in the following chess tournaments:

(Spring Nationals)

National Elementary (K-6) Chess Championship

National Middle School/Junior High (K-9) Chess Championship

National High School (K-12) Chess Championship

(Fall Nationals)

National Scholastic K-12/Collegiate Championships

(Youth Events)

National Youth Action Championship

U.S. Junior Chess Congress

U.S. Junior Open

Originated 1984

Revised May, 2003

Revised January, 2005

Revised August, 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Cover</i>	1		9.2	Printers	8
	<i>Table of Contents</i>	2		9.3	Set-Up	8
1.0	<i>Introduction</i>	4		9.4	Approved Programs	8
1.1	Basic Principles	4		9.5	Disposal	8
1.2	Expressions of Interest	4		9.6	Copier	8
1.3	Contracts	4	10.0		<i>Publicity</i>	8
1.4	State Organization Adoption	4		10.1	Attracting New Players	8
2.0	<i>Dates</i>	4		10.2	Announcements	8
2.1	National Scholastic Events	4		10.3	National Scholastic Flier	8
2.2	National Youth Events	4		10.4	Local Media	8
2.3	Conflicts	5		10.5	Press Release	8
3.0	<i>Site</i>	5		10.6	Program Book	8
3.1	Quality	5	11.0		<i>Entry Fee and Registration</i>	8
3.2	Location	5		11.1	Customary Entry Fees	8
3.3	Acceptable Playing Sites	5		11.2	Early Entry Deadline	8
3.4	Contract Approval	5		11.3	On-Site Registration	8
3.5	Playing Site Requirements	5		11.4	Section Changes	8
4.0	<i>Lodging Accommodations</i>	6		11.5	Byes	8
4.1	Primary Considerations	6		11.6	Check-In	8
4.2	Cost	6	12.0		<i>Eligibility Requirements</i>	9
4.3	Complimentary Rooms	6		12.1	USCF Membership Req.	9
4.4	Contract Approval	6		12.2	General Eligibility	9
4.5	Hotel Agreement	6		12.3	Age Eligibility	9
4.6	Hotel Information	6		12.4	Applicable Rating Supplement	9
4.7	Additional Hotels	6		12.5	Unrated Players	9
5.0	<i>Transportation</i>	6	13.0		<i>Team Requirements/Scholastic</i>	9
5.1	Travel Agent	6		13.1	Individuals Allowed	9
5.2	Local Transportation	6		13.2	National Scholastic Events	9
6.0	<i>Finances</i>	6		13.3	Home Schools	10
6.1	Partnership	6		13.4	Virtual Schools	10
6.2	Financial Statements	6		13.5	Colleges	10
6.3	Profit Sharing	6		13.6	Team Size Minimum	10
6.4	Contract Approval	6		13.7	Team Size Maximum	10
6.5	Final Budget	6		13.8	Club Teams	10
7.0	<i>Concessionaire</i>	6		13.9	Point Transfers	10
7.1	Right of First Refusal	6		13.10	Coach's Responsibilities	10
7.2	Outside Vendors	7		13.11	USCF Affiliate Req.	10
7.3	Financial Arrangements	7	14.0		<i>Team Requirements/Youth</i>	10
8.0	<i>Staffing</i>	7		14.1	Club Teams	10
8.1	Chief TD	7		14.2	Point Transfers	10
8.2	Assistant TDs	7		14.3	Coach's Responsibilities	10
8.3	Compensation	7		14.4	USCF Affiliate Req.	11
8.4	Volunteers	7	15.0		<i>Opening Ceremony</i>	11
9.0	<i>Computers</i>	8		15.1	Opening Ceremony	11
9.1	Quantity	8	16.0		<i>Awards Ceremony</i>	11

16.1	Responsibility	11	22.2	Approval	14
16.2	Length	11	22.3	Individual Award Limit	14
16.3	Prize Lists	11	22.4	Trophy Size	14
16.4	Order of Presentation	11	22.5	Minimums	14
16.5	Presentation	11	23.0	<i>Meetings</i>	16
16.6	Scores and Ties	11	23.1	Tournament Procedure	16
16.7	Beginning	11	23.2	USCF Scholastic Programs	16
16.8	Photography	11	23.3	Tournament Evaluation	16
17.0	<i>Health and Safety</i>	11	23.4	Coaches Forum	16
17.1	Contact Hospital & Police	11	23.5	Additional Meetings	16
17.2	Local Contact	11	23.6	Other Meetings	16
17.3	No Alcohol or Tobacco	11	24.0	<i>Internet Coverage</i>	16
17.4	Medical Personnel	11	24.1	Tournament Web Page	16
18.0	<i>Tournament Format</i>	11	24.2	Availability	16
18.1	Pairing System	11	24.3	Relevance	16
18.2	Team Score	11	24.4	List of Players	16
18.3	Team Member Pairings	11	25.0	<i>Special Considerations</i>	16
18.4	Spring National Sections	12	25.1	Map	16
18.5	K-12/C Grade Level	12	25.2	Banners	16
18.6	National Youth Action	12	25.3	Team Information	16
18.7	Junior Chess Congress	12	25.4	Crosstables	16
18.8	US Junior Open	12	25.5	Other Activities	16
18.9	Round Times	12	25.6	Social Hour	16
18.10	Time Controls	12	25.7	Side Events	16
18.11	Deviations	13	26.0	<i>Super National Bids</i>	16
19.0	<i>Chess Notation</i>	13	26.1	Specifications	16
19.1	Recognized Forms	13	26.2	Deadline	16
19.2	Requirements	13	26.3	Frequency	17
19.3	Exceptions	13	26.4	On-Site Visit	17
19.4	Large Scoresheets	13	26.5	Concerns	17
19.5	Scoresheets	13	Appendix A - Blitz Championship		18
20.0	<i>Tie-breaks</i>	13	Appendix B - Bughouse Championship		19
20.1	Use of Computers	13	Appendix C - Parents and Friends Tnmt.		20
20.2	Manual Calculation	13	Appendix D - Forms		21
20.3	National Champions	13	Appendix E - Guide for Spectator Conduct		25
20.4	Use of Tie-breaks	13			
20.5	Individual Systems	13			
20.6	Team Systems	13			
21.0	<i>Conduct of the Tournament</i>	13			
21.1	Highlighting Top Boards	14			
21.2	Demonstration Boards	14			
21.3	Spectator Access	14			
21.4	Spectator Access (K-1)	14			
21.5	Tournament Director Conflict	14			
21.6	Reporting Results	14			
21.7	Announcements	14			
21.8	Photography	14			
21.9	Team Lists	14			
22.0	<i>Trophies & Awards</i>	14			
22.1	Quality	14			

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The **USCF National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations** are intended to fulfill the special needs and expectations of players, coaches and parents at our **national scholastic events**. These **Regulations** are a reference to the special rules that govern these events, along with some suggestions to help the event run smoothly. They are designed to insure that the dignity and significance of national scholastic events are maintained, promoted, preserved and enhanced. The USCF wishes to thank past and present members of its Scholastic Committee along with the coaches and parents who helped to compile the initial set of **Regulations**. These **Regulations** carry the weight of history and hands-on experience. But no regulations should be held inviolate when better ideas arise. Proposed changes should be referred to the USCF Scholastic Director and the Scholastic Council. After all, the main principle of these **Regulations** is simply: **Our youngsters deserve the best!**
1.11 Revisions to these regulations shall be effective September 15 of each year.
- 1.2 USCF and the Scholastic Council will review proposals for the following tournaments: National Elementary, National Middle School/Junior High, National High School, National Youth Action Championship, and the National Scholastic K-12/Collegiate Championships. The USCF will solicit interest in site selection and then negotiate with the local organizer details of the proposed tournament. The Scholastic Council will be part of the final selection process. Expressions of interest by affiliates are indeed welcome, since in all cases USCF wishes to partner with a local organization(s) for local arrangements (eg. securing local TDs), in coordination (and agreement) with USCF. However, site selection and all contracting for these events will be handled by USCF.
- 1.21 Whenever USCF is the organizer the USCF Scholastic Director and/or USCF Events Manager shall be responsible for all details listed herein as the organizer.
- 1.3 Many chess tournaments and chess activities are organized under the USCF name, yet are managed fully by other organizations and/or individuals. Such organizations may enter into contracts for facilities, goods, services, etc, though USCF must approve these contracts first. Such organizations are not representatives of USCF management, and are independent contractors.
- 1.4 All state scholastic organizations are encouraged to adopt these regulations for state scholastic championships.

2.0 DATES

- 2.1 National Scholastic Events
- 2.1.1 Fall Nationals - National K-12/Collegiate Championships:
- 2.1.1.1 Should be played between November 15 and December 15.
- 2.1.1.2 Must not be scheduled on Thanksgiving Day weekend.
- 2.1.2 Spring Nationals - National Elementary (K-6), Middle School/Junior High (K-9) and High School (K-12) Championships:
- 2.1.2.1 Should be held between and to include the first weekend in April and the second weekend in May.
- 2.1.2.2 Must not be scheduled on:
- 2.1.2.2.1 Easter
- 2.1.2.2.2 Passover
- 2.1.2.3 Try to avoid:
- 2.1.2.3.1 Daylight Savings Time weekend (first Sunday in April)
- 2.1.2.3.2 Scholastic Aptitude and Advanced Placement Test dates (High

School only).

2.2 National Youth Events – National Youth Action and U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2.2.1 National Youth Action

2.2.1.1 Should be held between November 1 and December 1.

2.2.1.2 Must not be scheduled on Thanksgiving Day weekend.

2.2.2 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

2.2.2.1 Whenever possible without

conflict with other National events.

2.2.3 U.S. Junior Open

2.2.3.1 Should be held in the

summer.

2.3 Dates should not conflict with any other National Tournament or the World Youth Festival.

3.0 **SITE**

3.1 Our primary concern is assuring the quality of national scholastics.

3.2 USCF will make every reasonable effort to rotate these events geographically from year to year.

3.3 Acceptable sites include, but are not limited to: hotels with convention facilities, schools, colleges, and convention centers.

3.4 All tournament related playing and meeting space proposals must be approved by USCF and reviewed by a designated Scholastic Council representative before they are signed. The **National Tournament Agreement** (see Appendix D) must be signed prior to approval of any such contracts.

3.5 The USCF Scholastic Director shall be responsible for making sure all of the following are implemented:

3.5.1 The playing hall(s) must allow for a minimum of 25 sq. ft. of usable space per player. This should include space for spectators. The top 20 boards of all Championship sections, except for primary grades, should have no more than two boards per six or eight foot table. Bids must include a playing hall(s) to accommodate the maximum number of expected players.

3.5.2 The site should have a large skittles area at least half the size of the playing hall(s). The skittles area should be in the immediate vicinity of the playing site, indoors, and easily accessible from the playing room. It is recommended that the skittles area be 3/4 of the size of the playing area(s).

3.5.3 Special team rooms (especially for the Elementary and Middle School/Junior High events) should be available to coaches needing a more private area to instruct and counsel team members. Teams will pay reasonable charges for the use of such space. Whenever possible the team rooms should be under the same roof or in a building connected to the playing site. Team room location will be provided at the time of reservation.

3.5.4 Toilet facilities must be adequate for large numbers of youngsters and must be inspected, cleaned and maintained every half hour during rounds. Restrooms for players only should be easily accessible to the playing room.

3.5.5 Water should be provided in the playing hall(s) and maintained every

- half hour during rounds.
- 3.5.6 Pictures and descriptions of the tournament site, including size, lighting, available sanitary facilities, or any physical equipment available should be included with each proposal.
 - 3.5.7 A map of the area should be available showing inexpensive restaurants and attractions near the site. This should be done on the website site and available on paper at chess control.
 - 3.5.8 For the National Middle School/Junior High and National Elementary Tournaments a play area should be provided that allows the children an acceptable area to run and play.
 - 3.5.9 A centrally located information booth (i.e. Chess control) should be provided near the playing area. The information booth will provide directions to all local restaurants, transportation, interesting sites, and other non-tournament information.
 - 3.5.10 A message center should be provided at chess control to receive emergency information for players and/or families. This message center should have a pre-advertised phone number and/or email address.
 - 3.5.11 There should be food available on site that is priced comparably to fast food pricing. There should be ample food services available that, if necessary, all of the anticipated participants may be fed within a two hour period. They should be open from at least 60 minutes before the first round starts each day and closed no earlier than 60 minutes before the last round is scheduled to end.
 - 3.5.12 The site must be handicapped accessible.
 - 3.5.13 It is recommended that a photographer be available throughout the tournament.
 - 3.5.14 Ample signage should be on display at numerous locations throughout the facility a minimum of twelve hours prior to the first scheduled event of the tournament.

4.0 LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS

- 4.1 Lodging should be inexpensive and accessible to the playing site.
- 4.2 A single price for 1-4 people per room should be negotiated.
- 4.3 Complimentary rooms (one per 25-50 room-nights sold) should be negotiated with the hotel(s). Complimentary rooms are normally used to lodge the TDs and organizational staff. If possible, complimentary suites and rooms for the organizer, USCF Scholastic Council representative and USCF office representative(s) should be negotiated with the headquarters hotel.
- 4.4 All tournament-related lodging contracts must be reviewed by the Scholastic Council representative and approved and signed by USCF. USCF must receive a signed copy of its **National Tournament Agreement** prior to its approval of any such contracts.
- 4.5 If the hotel(s) is providing the playing site, the cost of meeting space should be directly related to total room-nights sold (such as on a sliding scale). Free meeting space is generally negotiable with most hotels.
- 4.6 If the hotel(s) is not providing the playing site, the hotel(s) contract(s) may be structured to provide the tournament a rebate of \$3 to \$10 per room night sold, to help defray playing site and other tournament costs. Rebates are considered tournament income. When the USCF is not the organizer, any amount higher than \$10 per night may not be accepted without the prior written consent of the USCF Scholastic Director.
- 4.7 The organizer should provide, at least 6 months prior to the start of the event, a list of

all recommended hotels, rates, addresses, phone numbers, distance from playing site, and contact information on the USCF website.

5.0 TRANSPORTATION

- 5.1 The use of a travel agent is recommended to help facilitate travel arrangements for players and teams. It would be more convenient for USCF to contract with one travel agent for all nationals.
- 5.2 Organizers should ensure the availability of transportation between the headquarters hotel and nearest commercial airport, railroad, and bus terminals and shuttle service between playing site and headquarters hotel if they are beyond walking distance of each other. All such travel arrangements should be publicized at least six months in advance for the benefit of players, coaches and parents.

6.0 FINANCES

- 6.1 When the USCF is not the principal organizer, the local organizer is contractually responsible for the execution of these Regulations (with USCF oversight) before, during and after the tournament.
- 6.2 USCF will provide financial statements from previous events to the organizer upon request.
- 6.3 The USCF share of the profits from the National scholastics will go to the U.S. Chess Federation. Tournament income includes, but is not limited to: entry fees, book and equipment sales, food and beverage sales, sale of chess pieces and boards used in the tournament, advertising income, fees paid by promoters and exhibitors, hotel room night rebates, team room rentals, rebates, etc.
 - 6.3.1 USCF will negotiate an agreement with the local organizer, which will define roles, responsibilities, and the financial arrangements between the two parties. The financial arrangements may be a share of the profits, a per head fee, or some combination thereof.
- 6.4 All contracts must be approved and signed by the USCF when the USCF is undertaking full management responsibility for the event. When the local organizer is undertaking full management responsibility, the USCF need only review and approve all contracts, though it need not be a signatory thereon, as the local organizer is acting as an independent contractor and is fully responsible and liable for all activities or actions pursuant to the contract(s).
- 6.5 The Scholastic Council's designated representative(s) shall have the right to review and make recommendations on the final tournament budget.

7.0 CONCESSIONAIRE

- 7.1 USCF has the right of first refusal to sell chess books, chess equipment, T-shirts, commemorative boards and sets and other chess paraphernalia at any USCF national event.
- 7.2 Any outside vendor must be approved by the USCF Scholastic Director.
- 7.3 In any event for which USCF is not the principal organizer, the USCF Scholastic Director must approve all concession agreements.

8.0 STAFFING

- 8.1 The Chief TD for all national scholastics should be certified at the "National Tournament Director" level. Additionally, the chief TD must have strong experience in administering large scholastic events, especially those using computer pairing programs. The Chief TD must be acceptable to the USCF Scholastic Director and Scholastic Council.

- 8.2 The Chief TD and/or organizer is responsible for appointing an adequate number of certified assistant TDs to help administer each event. The organizer himself should not serve on the directing staff.
- 8.2.1 A minimum of four TDs, including the Chief TD, with strong computer pairing program experience, should be on staff. Knowledge of computers and computer pairings is essential, as these TDs are expected to generate pairings, standings, team results, etc., round by round, as well as handling inevitable problems.
- 8.2.2 Each event must have a Chief Floor TD with a sufficient number of assistants.
- 8.2.2.1 The ratio of TDs to players should be as follows: High School: 1/100 players; Middle School/Junior High: 1/75 players; Elementary: 1/50 players. For the National K-12/Collegiate Championship grades K-6 shall have the same ratio as the Elementary, grades 7-9 shall have the same ratio as the Middle School/Junior High, and grades 10-12 and the collegiate section shall have the same ratio as the High School.
- 8.2.2.2 Floor TDs should be permanently stationed in a specific section in the tournament rooms during play and must wear distinctive identifying apparel.
- 8.2.2.3 Floor TDs will handle disputes and make rulings, although appeals are permitted. Appeals are to be made first to the Section TD, then the Chief Floor TD, and then the Chief TD.
- 8.2.2.4 A minimum of two experienced floor TDs should be present in large tournament rooms and one floor TD in small tournament rooms at all times.
- 8.2.2.5 Volunteers who are not certified TDs may assist floor directors to keep order; however, they cannot make rulings on their own and must direct all questions regarding rules to certified floor directors.
- 8.2.2.6 All staff should wear identification stating their name and duty. The TD certification level should be listed on the name tag.
- 8.3 The TD staff is expected to be appropriately compensated. Such compensation should include, but not be limited to, housing and free food being made available during the tournament. Each TD should be compensated enough to cover any transportation costs.
- 8.4 A large number of *well trained* volunteers is essential to the success of these events. The organizer is responsible for training the volunteers. They may be responsible for such duties as:
- 8.4.1 Receiving entries
- 8.4.2 Entering registrations into a data base
- 8.4.3 Checking ratings of players
- 8.4.4 Checking schools of players
- 8.4.5 Checking in players and teams on-site
- 8.4.6 Setting up the playing room
- 8.4.7 Manning results-tables (two people per section each round)
- 8.4.8 Controlling access at doors (when necessary)
- 8.4.9 Providing for the needs of the TD staff
- 8.4.10 Preparing a tournament information pamphlet
- 8.4.11 Managing publicity and promotion
- 8.4.12 Providing an awards ceremony
- 8.4.13 Providing for an information, lost and found, and message booth at chess control

9.0 COMPUTERS

- 9.1 One computer and printer should be provided for each section. A backup computer and printer shall also be available.
- 9.2 Fast printers are very important. Dot matrix printers are not acceptable. Fast ink-jet or laser printers are preferred.
- 9.3 The computer room should be assembled at least one day before the tournament to make sure there are no problems.
- 9.4 The large size of these events necessitates pairing by computer. A list of approved computer programs may be obtained from USCF.
- 9.5 If any computer equipment is acquired or donated for the tournament, such equipment will be considered assets of the tournament. Assets may not be disposed of without the express consent of the USCF Scholastic Director.
- 9.6 At least one computer and printer shall be available for non-pairing/technical purposes by authorized staff.

10.0 PUBLICITY

- 10.1 Publicity is an important part of attracting new participants to National scholastic events. Many scholastic chess programs are not aware of the existence of the USCF or these national championships. Organizers should include plans for publicity in their proposals. The organizer should coordinate with the USCF office to produce press releases and publicity for the event.
- 10.2 These events will be announced in **Chess Life**.
- 10.3 Fliers advertising National Scholastic and youth events will be mailed to all USCF affiliates except prison affiliates.
- 10.4 Organizers should arrange publicity with local news media, prior to, during, and immediately after these events.
- 10.5 The organizer should prepare a press release listing major winners immediately upon conclusion of the tournament. Ideally, this release should be available during the awards ceremony.
- 10.6 A tournament program book should be prepared, including:
 - 10.6.1 Schedule of events
 - 10.6.2 List of past winners
 - 10.6.3 Prize list
 - 10.6.4 Rules specific for the tournament
 - 10.6.5 List of tournament directors
 - 10.6.6 Volunteer staff
 - 10.6.7 Scoresheets - extra scoresheets must also be prepared
 - 10.6.8 Local information about restaurants and attractions.
 - 10.6.9 The awards presentation, location, time, and order.
 - 10.6.10 Player procedures and the acceptable conduct of the spectators, players, and

coaches.

11.0 ENTRY FEE & REGISTRATION

- 11.1 The entry fee shall be kept as economical as practical and set in accordance with the approved budget. The USCF Scholastic Director and the Scholastic Council must approve the entry fee.
- 11.2 Early entry deadline(s) should be used for each event.
- 11.3 Players registering the day of the event may be paired or receive a half point bye, at the discretion of the chief tournament director.
- 11.4 Any section changes are subject to a change fee and should be made as soon as possible.

- 11.5 Half-point byes will be available for the first round, if requested with an advance entry. 0 point byes shall be available for all rounds. The Chief Tournament Director shall have the ability to grant an 1/2 point bye for any round based on unusual circumstances, except the last round.
- 11.6 Check-In Procedures. It is important that this is a smooth process allowing those with problems to resolve them.
 - 11.6.1 A complete list of the advance entry players shall be posted periodically on the tournament web page. This web page should be updated every other day.
 - 11.6.2 Two lists of participants per section should be posted prior to round one: alphabetical and school. A complete team roster for all schools shall be posted on site. It is the responsibility of the players and/or coaches to report mistakes or needed corrections to the TD staff.
 - 11.6.3 Rules specific to the tournament and side events will be available in advance of the event.

12.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 12.1 All players must be USCF members.
- 12.2 The following students are eligible:
 - 12.21 Full-time students enrolled in school in the United States or its territories for the entire semester in which the event is held.
 - 12.22 U.S. citizens attending school abroad.
 - 12.23 Home schooled students who do not exceed the age requirements listed below.
- 12.3 Age requirements: the following ages are as of September 1 of the school year in which the competition takes place:
 - Kindergarten: under age 7
 - 1st Grade: Under age 8
 - 2nd Grade: Under age 9
 - 3rd Grade: Under age 10
 - 4th Grade: Under age 11
 - 5th Grade: Under age 12
 - 6th Grade: Under age 13
 - 7th Grade: Under age 14
 - 8th Grade: Under age 15
 - 9th Grade: Under age 16
 - 10th Grade: Under age 17
 - 11th Grade: Under age 18
 - 12th Grade: Under age 19
 - Collegiate: Under age 26
- 12.3.1 There shall only be one year of eligibility per grade level, except for pre-schoolers who may play for more than one year as a Kindergartener or college or university students who may play for more than one year in the collegiate section as long as all requirements are met.
- 12.4 Those Spring Nationals beginning April 15 or earlier shall use the February rating supplement. Those Spring Nationals beginning April 16 or later shall use the April rating supplement.
- 12.5 The Chief Tournament Director will make every reasonable effort to assign a rating to an unrated player. Unrated players who are not assigned a rating may play only in the unrated section or a championship section *unless, in a Spring National, a team in an 'Under' section needs one additional player to complete a four person*

team, an unrated player may play in the 'Under' section.

13.0 TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC EVENTS

- 13.1** National Scholastic events are both individual and team events. Players are allowed to compete as individuals and not as a member of any team. *A student who does not qualify to represent a team under rules 13.2, 13.3, 13.4 or 13.5 may not compete as a member of a team but is encouraged to compete as an individual.*
- 13.2** In national scholastic events (i.e. the Spring Nationals and the K-12/ Collegiate) teams are comprised of students who attend the same school.

 - 13.2.1** A school is defined as an institution which has **one name**, is located in **one building** or **connected adjacent buildings**, and is under **one administrator** and which provides core curricular instruction in English, math, science, and social studies.
 - 13.2.2.** *A student will be considered to attend a school if and only if he or she physically attends classes at that school building and receives more than 50% of his or her core curricular instruction during those classes.*
 - 13.2.3** Each school may enter **only one team per section**.
- 13.3** Teams may also be comprised of home schooled students.

 - 13.3.1.** A home schooled student is defined as a student who receives at least 50% of his or her core curricular instruction at home.
 - 13.3.2** Home school students have the following options with regard to forming *and/or participating on a* scholastic team.

 - 13.3.2.1** A home schooled student may represent his or her local public school when access to extra curricular activities is permitted *and the student resides within the boundaries of the local public school as defined in 13.2.*

 - 13.3.2.1.1** A home school student may join with other home schooled students who reside within the *boundary of the local public school as defined in 13.2.*
 - 13.3.2.1.2** *All the students attend home school sites located within the boundary of the local public school as defined in 13.2.*
 - 13.3.2.2** There may be more than one home school team per recognized public school district.
- 13.4** *Teams may also be comprised of virtual school students.*

 - 13.4.1** *Virtual school students are students who receive more than 50% of his or her core curricular instruction on-line, but not in the school building..*
 - 13.4.2** *Virtual school students may form scholastic teams using rule 13.3.2.1.1 or 13.3.2.1,*
- 13.5** *A collegiate student may only qualify to represent a team under rule 13.2.*

 - 13.5.1** *Players are eligible to participate only if they are less than 26 years old as of September 1 of the academic year in which the tournament is taking place.*
 - 13.5.2** *Eligible players shall be enrolled at least half-time during the semester of eligibility.*
 - 13.5.3** *College and University players shall be resident at their campuses either in on-campus housing or in housing within reasonable commuting distance from campus, e.g., a player taking distance learning courses shall not be eligible to play.*
- 13.6** A scholastic team must contain a minimum of two players to be eligible for team

- prizes.
- 13.7 There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a team, but only the top 4 scores in any section count for team score in the **Spring Nationals**, and the top 3 scores in the **K-12/Colligate event**.
 - 13.8 **No club teams are allowed in National Scholastic events.**
 - 13.9 Bonus points will not be added to team or individual scores. Points cannot be transferred between sections unless the player has changed sections.
 - 13.10 The Coach is responsible for assuring that all of his players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of his team.
 - 13.11 USCF Affiliate Membership is encouraged for all teams.

14.0 TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH EVENTS

- 14.1 Team requirements for National Youth events, which are the U.S. Junior Chess Congress, the National Youth Action Championship, and the U.S. Junior Open:
 - 14.1.1 Teams will represent chess clubs and consist of youth meeting the age requirements, as defined in section 12.3, who are members of the club represented and residents of the U.S.
 - 14.1.2 *Club members must attend at least six regularly scheduled club meetings over a period of at least three months immediately preceding the tournament and must be verified by the club president or designated club official.*
 - 14.1.3 A club team must contain a minimum of three players to be eligible for team prizes.
 - 14.1.4 There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a club team, but only the top four scores in any one section will count toward the team score.
 - 14.1.5 School teams will be considered as club teams representing that school. Players need not attend the same school; however, they must meet the requirements of sections *14.1.1 and 14.1.2.*
- 14.2 *Bonus points will not be added to team or individual scores. Points cannot be transferred between sections unless the player has changed sections.*
- 14.3 *The Coach is responsible for assuring that all of his players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of his team.*
- 14.4 *USCF Affiliate Membership is encouraged for all teams.*

15.0 OPENING CEREMONY

- 15.1 The organizer will arrange a brief (maximum 15 minutes) but impressive opening ceremony, a half hour prior to the start of the first round. Arrangements will be made for a USCF representative to be present who, along with the organizer, will welcome all participants and guests. Local dignitaries (mayor, county executive, congressmen, school superintendent, etc.) will be invited to attend, as well as the press. Past experience has shown that local officials have a strong interest in participating in such ceremonies. While they may not always be able to attend, an invitation to the USCF President and USCF Executive Director to participate in the Opening and/or Closing Ceremonies should be formally extended. Official proclamations from the mayors, county executives, and governors are often obtainable. These proclamations may welcome visiting teams and even designate a "chess week." The presentation of the National Anthem is required.

16.0 AWARDS CEREMONY

- 16.1 The organizer is responsible for one or more awards ceremonies in keeping with the

stature of a national championship.

16.2 The ceremony should last no longer than an hour and a half.

16.3 The list of prize winners should be posted as soon as possible.

16.3.1 In order to minimize errors and when practical, the blitz and bughouse awards lists shall be posted sufficiently ahead of the award's ceremony to allow for errors to be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director and to allow for corrections to be made. The award's lists will then be re-posted before the award's ceremony. This procedure shall be printed in the tournament book.

16.4 The awards presentation order should be announced at the beginning of the ceremony and be included in the tournament book.

16.5 It is recommended that the USCF office representative and USCF Scholastic Council representative announce prize winners. A minimum of three assistants should be available to hand out trophies. Trophies should be displayed in awarding order (this saves time and prevents mistakes and confusion). Award winners should be called up to the stage in an orderly fashion for trophy presentation. Walk them across the stage and read their names.

16.6 The scores of winners should be mentioned and ties acknowledged.

16.7 Individual and team award presentations will be from lowest to highest place.

16.8 A separate area for photography should be provided.

17.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

17.1 The local hospital and police department should be informed of the event.

17.2 All teams should be encouraged to leave a local phone number and/or hotel room number with tournament personnel so they can be contacted in case of emergency.

17.3 No alcohol or tobacco are to be allowed in the tournament contract area.

17.4 For all tournaments where the anticipated attendance is above 1,000 the organizer must supply trained medical personnel on site.

18.0 TOURNAMENT FORMAT

18.1 These events are paired as individual Swiss system tournaments.

18.2 The combined total of the top four scoring players from the same school determines that team's score in the **Spring Nationals** and the **National Youth Action Championship**, the top three scoring players in the **K-12/Collegiate Championship**, the **U.S. Junior Open** and the **Junior Chess Congress**.

18.3 Players from the same team will not be paired together unless more *a reasonable pairing cannot be made*. Players from the same state will not be paired together during the first two rounds unless more than 25% of the players in a section or a score group are from the same state. Players from the same state shall not be paired together in the first round unless more than 50% of the players in a section are from the same state. It is strongly recommended that for national tournaments only pairing programs that can accommodate these requirements be used. A waiver from the USCF Scholastic Director is required for the use of non-compliant programs.

18.4 The sections of **Spring Nationals** shall be as follows:

18.4.1 **High School:** K-12 Championship; K-12 Under 1500; K-12 Under 1200; K-12 Under 900; K-12 Unrated

18.4.2 **Middle School/Junior High:** K-9 Championship; K-8 Championship; K-9 Under 1250; K-8 Under 1000; K-8 Under 750; K-9 Unrated

18.4.3 **Elementary:** K-6 Championship; K-5 Championship; K-6 Under 1000; K-5 Under 900; K-6 Unrated

18.4.4 **Primary:** K-3 Championship; K-3 Under 800; K-1 Championship; *K-3*

Unrated

- 18.5 **K-12 Grade** events
17.5.1 There will be one section for each grade K through 12 and one collegiate section.
- 18.6 **National Youth Action Championship**
18.6.1 High School: K-12
18.6.2 Middle School/Junior High: K-9
18.6.3 Elementary: K-6
18.6.4 Primary: K-3
- 18.7 **Junior Chess Congress**
18.7.1 Age 6 and Under
18.7.2 Age 8 and Under
18.7.3 Age 10 and Under
18.7.4 Age 12 and Under
18.7.5 Age 14 and Under
18.7.6 Age 16 and Under
18.7.7 Age 18 and Under
18.7.8 Age 20 and Under
- 18.8 **U.S. Junior Open**
18.8.1 Under age 21
18.8.2 Under age 15
18.8.3 Under age 11
- 18.9 The starting time for each round should be as follows:
18.9.1 **Spring Nationals**
Rounds 1-2: Friday 1 pm & 7:00 pm
Rounds 3-4-5: Saturday 9 am, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Rounds 6-7: Sunday 9 am & 2:00 pm
18.9.2 **K-12/Collegiate Championships**
Rounds 1-2: Friday 1:00 pm, 6:00 pm
Rounds 3-4-5: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm & 6 pm
Rounds 6-7: Sunday 9 am & 1 pm
18.9.3 **National Youth Action Championship**
Rounds 1-2-3-4-5: Saturday 10:00 am, 12 noon, 2:00 pm, 3:30 pm & 5:00 pm
Rounds 6-7-8-9: Sunday 10:00 am, 12 noon, 2:00 pm, & 3:30 pm
18.9.4 **Junior Chess Congress**
Rounds 1-2-3: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm
Rounds 4-5: Sunday 9 am & 1 pm
18.9.5 **U.S. Junior Open** round times to be determined by the organizer
18.9.6 **National Bughouse Championship** (at all Spring Nationals)
Rounds 1-2-3-4-5-6: Thursday 11 am, 11:45 am, 12:30 pm, 1:15 pm, 2 pm and 2:45 pm
18.9.7 **National Blitz Championship** (at all Spring Nationals)
Rounds 1-2-3-4-5-6: Thursday 5 pm, 5:45 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:15 pm, 8 pm and 8:45 pm
- 18.10 Time controls:
18.10.1 **Spring Nationals:** G/120.
18.10.1.1 The K-1 section shall have a time control of Game/90.
18.10.1.2 The rule (11D) about two extra minutes for illegal moves will not be imposed during the first hour for each player.
18.10.2 **K-12/Collegiate events:** G/90
18.10.3 **National Youth Action Championship:** G/30

18.10.4 **Junior Chess Congress:** G/90

18.10.5 **U.S. Junior Open:** G/120

18.11 Any deviations from the above (18.1-18.10) must be reviewed by the USCF Scholastic Council's representative and approved by the USCF Scholastic Director prior to any advertising of the event.

19.0 **CHESS NOTATION**

19.1 The recognized forms of notation are algebraic and descriptive.

19.2 Recording of chess notation is required in the K-5 and K-6 Championship sections of the National Elementary, and all sections of the National Middle School/Junior High and the National High School. Chess notation shall be required in Grades 4-12 of the K-12/Collegiate tournament and the K-12, K-9 and K-6 sections of the National Youth Action Championship.

19.3 Although strongly encouraged, the recording of chess notation is **not required** in the non-championship sections of the Elementary at the **Spring Nationals**, nor any of the Primary school sections grades K-3 in **any national scholastic event**. However, those not keeping score give up the right to claim draws requiring the corroboration of a score sheet.

19.4 Specially designed large scoresheets (available from USCF) must be available for the Elementary events.

19.5 Scoresheets must be printed in the tournament program booklet.

20.0 **TIE-BREAKS**

20.1 Computer programs are now used to determine pairings, standings and **tie-breaks** for all national scholastic events.

20.2 If tie-breaks are done by hand, they should be calculated at the end of the next-to-last-round. Careful preparation for manually calculating tie-breaks is necessary, even when using a computer.

20.3 **All** players tied for first place are considered co-winners, but trophies will be awarded based on tie-breaks. In the Spring Nationals, only the winners of a championship section shall be designated **National Champion**. In the National K-12/Collegiate Championships, all section winners shall be designated **National Champion**.

20.4 Tie-breaks are used only to award trophies. Players or teams with like scores are equal and may change the plate on their trophy to reflect this (at their own cost).

20.5 When individual scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate individual awards:

20.5.1 Modified Median

20.5.2 Solkoff

20.5.3 Sonneborn-Berger

20.5.4 Cumulative

20.5.5 Kashdan

20.5.6 Game result between tied players

20.5.7 Most Blacks

20.5.8 Coin flip

20.6 When team scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate team awards:

20.6.1 Total individual cumulative

20.6.2 Total Solkoff

20.6.3 Total Sonnenborn-Berger

20.6.4 Total Kashdan

20.6.5 Coin flip

21.0 CONDUCT OF THE TOURNAMENT

- 21.1 The top boards should be roped off to highlight the top contestants and also to prevent congestion. Some events have highlighted these boards by isolating them in a central area.
- 21.2 The use of demonstration boards or closed circuit TV to display the top boards is recommended. If closed circuit TV is used, place the monitors in a separate room.
- 21.3 The intent is to allow spectators to see the players. Access should not be denied to any person who conducts him or herself properly. The Chief TD and/or the organizer may limit spectator access only for the following two conditions: entries exceed predictions to the point that space limitations prevent full access or unforeseen emergency situations threaten the integrity of the tournament. The tournament staff may clear spectators from the playing hall prior to the start of each round to guarantee that the players have found their places and can hear the signal to start clocks. Once that signal is given, spectators should be allowed to return to the playing hall(s) as soon as possible. No spectators (including players with finished games) should be allowed to sit in any area where tournament games are in progress. Only players and tournament staff are allowed in the aisles between the tables. See the Guide for Spectator Conduct (Appendix E).
- 21.4 The K-1 section of the Elementary event must be closed to everyone except the players and tournament staff (always be prepared to restrict access when necessary).
- 21.5 Relatives and coaches of players are not allowed to serve as TDs or volunteers in the same section as participating players.
- 21.6 Opposing players must fill out and sign the result form indicating the result of the game. A TD will pick up the form at the board.
- 21.7 Announcements may only be made prior to the start of each round.
- 21.8 Photography using cameras with flash or audible shutters is restricted to the first ten minutes of each round. Silent, unobtrusive photography will be allowed at all times, unless the tournament staff determines that it is a distraction.
- 21.9 A list of pairings by team should be provided to coaches at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each round. All players from the team should be listed alphabetically regardless of section. The team pairing lists should be distributed alphabetically by team.

22.0 TROPHIES & AWARDS

- 22.1 Trophy size, looks, weight and quality should display the prestige and importance of a *National Chess Championship* event.
- 22.2 Trophies should have chess figures and must be approved by the USCF Scholastic Director *and/or Events Director*. When the Scholastic Director *and/or Events Director* is the organizer, then a designated Scholastic Council representative should approve the trophies. A sample of the 25th place individual/team trophy and the smallest class trophy should be sent to the USCF Scholastic Director *and/or Events Director* for approval a minimum of 90 days prior to the tournament.
- 22.3 Players can win only one individual trophy. Place trophies take precedence over all other trophy awards.
- 22.4 Trophy sizes in each Championship section will be the same size. They will also be larger than the trophies in the other sections. Team and individual trophies in Championship sections must be the same size and be graduated from a **minimum** 48" in height (for first place) down to a **minimum** of 24" (for the lowest place).

Team and individual trophies in other sections must be the same size and graduated from a **minimum** 42” in height (for first place) down to a **minimum** of 20” (for the lowest place). Rating class trophies should be smaller than the lowest place trophies, but no smaller than 14”.

22.5 Minimum number of trophies:

22.5.1 For **each section** of **Spring Nationals**: The greater of Top **25 individual** and **team** or 10 individual and 5 team trophies per 100 players in each section (average attendance in the past two years); plus plaques for 4 players and coach of top five teams; and following class trophies:

22.5.1.1 **High School:**

K-12 Championship: 1600-1799, 1400-1599, U1400, UNR

22.5.1.2 **Middle School/Junior High**

K-9 Championship: 1400-1599, 1200-1399, 1000-1199, U1000, UNR

K-8 Championship: 1400-1599, 1200-1399, 1000-1199, U1000,

UNR

22.5.1.3 **Elementary**

K-6 Championships: 1200-1399, 1000-1199, 800-999, U800,

UNR

K-5 Championships: 1200-1399, 1000-1199, 800-999, U800,

UNR

K-3 Primary Championships: 800-999, 600-799, U600, UNR

K-1: All players in this section receive a trophy.

22.5.1.4 **National Bughouse Championship**

National High School: K-12 section

National Junior High/Middle School: K-9 section

National Elementary: K-6 section

Supnationals: K-12 section, K-9 section and K-6 section

22.5.1.5 **National Blitz Championship**

National High School: K-12 section

National Junior High/Middle School: K-9 section

National Elementary: K-6 section and K-3 section

Supnationals: K-12 section, K-9 section, K-6 section and K-3

section

22.5.2 Each grade level of the **K-12/Collegiate Championships: Top ten individuals** and **five teams** per 100 players in each section (averaged over the past two years); and following class awards:

Grade

12	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
11	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
10	1400-1599	1200-1399	1000-1199	Under 1000			Unrated
9		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
8		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
7		1200-1399	1000-1199	800-999	Under 800		Unrated
6			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
5			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
4			1000-1199	800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
3				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
2				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated
1				800-999	600-799	Under 600	Unrated

- 22.5.3 Each grade level of the **National Youth Action Championship**: Top 25 individuals in each section and top 15 teams.
- 22.5.4 Each age group of the **Junior Chess Congress**: Top 10 individual finishers in each section and top 5 teams.
- 22.5.5 In addition to the minimum number of trophies listed above extra trophies should be awarded based on the following calculation: Add the total number of players who have participated in each section over the last two years and divide the average number by 6. These trophies should be awarded only in the case that the final number exceeds the minimum requirement. These additional trophies may be allocated to those tied with place trophy winners.
- 22.5.6 Ribbons and certificates for each participant have been used effectively at these events. Such items need no ceremonies and may be handed out at the results table. Organizers should be aware that tangible awards of some nature are necessary for the enhancement of these nationals. Plans for awards should be included in the bid and in advance publicity for the event.
- 22.5.7 Special trophies (gender specific trophies, etc.) are prohibited. Grade trophies are prohibited at all Spring Nationals.
- 22.5.8 Do not accept donations of extra trophies without the approval of the Scholastic Director.
- 22.5.9 For all Side Event tournaments the minimum awards will be equal to the minimum offered in the championship section of that tournament. See Appendices for specific information on the Blitz **and** Bughouse.

23.0 COACHES', PARENTS, AND SPECTATORS' MEETINGS

- 23.1 A coaches', parents', and spectators' meeting will be held prior to the first round, so that the chief TD can brief all interested parties on the rules, regulations and procedures to be followed during the tournament (these meetings have proven invaluable to veteran as well as freshmen coaches). Participation is recommended, and such meetings should be announced well in advance to allow everyone a chance to plan their attendance. The specific location of the meeting should be well advertised in the tournament booklet and with signs in the tournament facility.
- 23.2 The USCF Scholastic Director and Scholastic Committee Chairperson (or designee) will co-chair a meeting concerning USCF scholastic programs and discussion of national scholastic issues. The Scholastic Chairperson will prepare the agenda for the meeting and have it available at the meeting. This meeting should last no longer than an hour and is usually scheduled for Saturday starting a half hour after the afternoon round begins.
- 23.3 The Scholastic Committee Chairperson (or designee) will conduct a coaches' meeting concerning the evaluation of the tournament. The tournament organizer, chief TD, and USCF Scholastic Director should attend this meeting which is usually scheduled for Sunday starting a half hour after the morning round begins. This meeting should last no longer than one hour.
- 23.4 *Whenever possible a coaches forum for the open exchange of coaching ideas among those present will be scheduled. Once during round 2 and again during round 5 would be ideal. This meeting will be chaired by a member of the Scholastic Council. This forum is not to replace any other scheduled meeting involving the coaches.*
- 23.5 Additional coaches meetings and seminars are encouraged.
- 23.6 No other meetings of any kind will be scheduled at the same time as the meetings

above.

24.0 INTERNET COVERAGE

- 24.1 The organizer must set up a web page for each national event.
- 24.2 The web page should be available on-line at least six months prior to the event and link to the USCF website.
- 24.3 The information posted on the web page must be exclusively relevant to the event.
- 24.4 A complete list of all players and additional information must be posted at least 10 days before the event and updated on a regular basis.

25.0 RECOMMENDED SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 25.1 Provide a large map of the United States, with pins or flags indicating the home town of participants.
- 25.2 The tournament site can be decorated with banners prominently displaying the names and home towns of participating schools.
- 25.3 Provide coaches with names and addresses of attending schools.
- 25.4 Provide coaches with a copy of the USCF tournament crosstable as soon as it is available.
- 25.5 Organized activities for players add to the attractiveness of these events. Such activities, including simultaneous exhibitions or lectures by famous players, are recommended.
- 25.6 A social hour to enable players from different parts of the country to meet is desirable, but not mandated.
- 25.7 It is strongly recommended that side events (blitz tournaments, etc.) be completed on the day before the start of a national scholastic.

26.0 SUPERNATIONAL BIDS

On occasion, USCF may solicit interest from local organizers interested in developing a Super National Tournament, i.e. a concurrent, co-located tournament of all three Spring Nationals.

- 26.1 Super Nationals must follow all of the specifications in the previous sections of these regulations in addition to the regulations in this section.
- 26.2 The deadline for expressions of interest will be April 1, three years prior to the event.
- 26.3 Super Nationals may be held no more frequently than every four years. The first Super National was held in 1997.
- 26.4 The site review process may include an on-site visit by a committee (to include a USCF staff representative, a disinterested member of the Scholastic Committee, and a third person to be selected by the Executive Board). The purpose of this visit is not limited to, but shall include the following:
 - 26.4.1 To review the physical layout of the tournament site, including playing, skittles, recreation, and parent waiting areas.
 - 26.4.2 To examine issues of crowd control consistent with moving very large numbers in and out of specific areas within a limited time.
 - 26.4.3 To address issues of logistics and safety, particularly the concerns of parents of young players.
 - 26.4.4 To determine the number and accessibility of non-site food service establishments which will remain open during tournament hours.
- 26.5 In the written expression of interest, the organizer shall address all of the above items as well as the following areas of concern:
 - 26.5.1 The registration process.

- 26.5.2 The recruiting, training, and level of expertise of the floor TD staff.
- 26.5.3 Provision for correcting TD errors, particularly data entry errors that affect a player's score and pairing, prior to the start of the next round.
- 26.5.4 Back-up computer systems.
- 26.5.5 Transportation from hotels to the playing site.
- 26.5.6 Availability of moderately priced lodging close to the site for all players and families.
- 26.5.7 Ensuring that players from the same team will be lodged at the same location, if a housing-type organization is used for reservations.

APPENDIX A
National Scholastic Blitz *Championship* Regulations

A1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Blitz Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Blitz Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

A2.0 Rules

A2.1 All games will be played under Game-5 time control.

A2.2 Each player will play each opponent twice, once as white and once as black. The lower rated player has choice of color for the first game.

A2.3 The Chief Tournament Director has the discretion of Touch Move or Clock Move. However, whichever is used it must be listed on the USCF website in an appropriate easy-to-find location. Clock Move is recommended.

A3.0 Tournament Format

A3.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

National High School: K-12 Championship and K-8 section

National Junior High/Middle School: K-9 Championship and K-6 section

National Elementary: K-6 Championship and K-3 Championship

SuperNationals: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship, K-3 Championship

A3.2 It is recommended that the tournament be a six round double-swiss tournament.

A3.3 No round is to begin after 9:30pm.

A3.4 Entries are to be online (when available) and are also allowed onsite up to 4:00pm on the tournament day. Contestants in line at 4pm will be allowed to register. Additional entrants may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief TD and Tournament Organizer.

A3.5 Round I shall begin at 5:00 on Thursday.

A3.6 The National Championship should be decided over the board, provided that there are only two or three players tied with the top score. There will be extra round(s) only between those two or three at a time to be determined by the Chief Tournament Director. If there are four or more players in the top score group then tiebreaks shall determine the National Champion and all of those tied will have the title "National Champion" even though tiebreaks will determine trophy presentation.

A4.0 The individual and team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in A3.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance.

APPENDIX B
National *Scholastic* Bughouse Championship *Regulations*

B1.0 It is highly encouraged to have a Bughouse Tournament as a side event at all National Scholastic events. However, the only Bughouse Tournaments that will be considered as National Championships will be those associated with the Spring Nationals.

B2.0 Tournament Format

B2.1 Sections will be divided as follows:

National High School: K-12 Championship and K-8 section

National Junior High/Middle School: K-9 Championship and K-6 section

National Elementary: K-6 Championship

SuperNationals: K-12 Championship, K-9 Championship, K-6 Championship.

B2.2 The tournament will begin at 11:00am on Thursday.

B2.3 All entries are to be onsite on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, with registration stopping at 10:00am. Contestants in line at 10am will be allowed to register. Additional entrants may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief TD and Tournament Organizer.

B2.4 The rules that are to be followed for a National Bughouse tournament are to be displayed at an appropriate easy-to-find location on the USCF website.

B3.0 The team awards for the Championship Section, as explained in B2.1 above, shall be the same as in the Championship Section for that Spring National. Other sections will have the number of awards that are deemed necessary based on projected attendance.

APPENDIX C
Parents and Friends Tournament

As a means to include adults in the National Scholastic Championships, the organizer is encouraged to conduct a “Parents and Friends Tournament”. The format, schedule and prize fund shall be up to the organizer with the exception of the following additional trophies for the following pairs:

- a. Father – Child*
- b. Mother – Child*
- c. Brother – Child*
- d. Sister – Child*
- e. Aunt – Child*
- f. Uncle – Child*
- g. Cousin – Child*
- h. Coach – Child*
- i. Grandfather – Child*
- j. Grandmother - Child*

where ‘Child’ refers to a player in any section of the National Championship. Players in the Parents and Friends Tournament shall be solely responsible for informing the TD of that section of all relationships that they qualify for including the section the ‘Child’ is playing in. Prizes will be awarded based on the sum of the Parents and Friends Tournament participant and their ‘Child’ based on an equal number of rounds. If there are four rounds in the Parents and Friends Tournament, the “Child’s” score after the first four rounds is taken. Awards will be handed out at Chess Control the last day of the main tournament. A pair of trophies will be awarded to the winners of each pairing.

APPENDIX D - FORMS

National Tournament Proposal

Tournament: _____ Dates: _____
Site: _____ Sq. Ft. _____
Location: City: _____ State: _____ Phone: (____) _____
Affiliate: _____ ID#: _____
Organizer: _____
Organizer's Telephone #'s: H (____) _____ W (____) _____
Chief TD: _____
Chief TD's Telephone #'s: H (____) _____ W (____) _____
Primary Hotel: _____
Primary Hotel Rates: Sgl: _____ Dbl: _____ Trl: _____ Qd: _____
Secondary Hotel: _____
Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: _____ Dbl: _____ Trl: _____ Qd: _____
Secondary Hotel: _____
Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: _____ Dbl: _____ Trl: _____ Qd: _____
Secondary Hotel: _____
Secondary Hotel Rates: Sgl: _____ Dbl: _____ Trl: _____ Qd: _____

Area history of national and large non-national events:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Players</u>	<u>Event</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Organizer's experience:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Players</u>	<u>Event</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Chief TD's experience:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Players</u>	<u>Event</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Prize Distribution (list any prizes to be awarded other than those listed in the National Tournament Regulations - please be specific):

PLANNING BUDGET

Expenses:	Administrative supplies.....	\$ _____
	Advertising.....	\$ _____
	Commemorative boards & sets.....	\$ _____
	Computer/printer rental.....	\$ _____
	Computer/printer supplies.....	\$ _____
	Insurance.....	\$ _____
	Miscellaneous.....	\$ _____
	Photo Copier rental.....	\$ _____
	Photo Copier supplies.....	\$ _____
	Playing site rental.....	\$ _____
	Postage.....	\$ _____
	Rating Fees.....	\$ _____
	Security.....	\$ _____
	Shipping.....	\$ _____
	Tables & Chairs.....	\$ _____
	Telephone.....	\$ _____
	Tournament Director expenses.....	\$ _____
	Trophies/Awards (Main Tourn).....	\$ _____
	Trophies/Awards (Side Tourn).....	\$ _____
	T-Shirts.....	\$ _____
	Other (list) _____	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
	Total Expenses.....	\$ _____
Income:	Commemorative Boards & Sets.....	\$ _____
	Concessionaire Fees.....	\$ _____
	Donations & Contributions.....	\$ _____
	Entry Fee - Main Tourn. (Advance).....	\$ _____
	Entry Fee - Main Tourn. (On-site).....	\$ _____
	Entry Fee - Side Tourn. (Advance).....	\$ _____
	Entry Fee - Side Tourn. (On-site).....	\$ _____
	Sponsorship.....	\$ _____
	Tournament Program Advertising.....	\$ _____
	T-Shirts.....	\$ _____
	Other (list) _____	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
	_____	\$ _____
	Total Income.....	\$ _____
	Total Net Income.....	\$ _____

SITE EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Location:

1. In safe area..... YES [] NO []
2. Accessible to public transportation..... YES [] NO []
3. Accessible to handicapped..... YES [] NO []
4. Food available near by..... YES [] NO []

Playing Site:

1. Playing site free..... YES [] NO []
2. Based on hotel room occupancy..... YES [] NO []
3. Available 24 hours per day..... YES [] NO []
4. Has minimum required sq. ft. per player..... YES [] NO []
5. Adequate lighting throughout playing rooms..... YES [] NO []
6. Ample tables (w/ table cloths) and chairs..... YES [] NO []
7. Adequate climate control..... YES [] NO []
8. Carpeted or other sound cushioning material..... YES [] NO []
9. Adequate climate control..... YES [] NO []
10. Frequent water service provided..... YES [] NO []
11. Room setup free or part of site fee..... YES [] NO []
12. Adequate number of restrooms nearby..... YES [] NO []
13. Sufficient wall space available nearby..... YES [] NO []
14. Separate analysis area available..... YES [] NO []
15. Securable TD room..... YES [] NO []
16. Securable Concessionaire Room..... YES [] NO []
17. Large & accessible registration area..... YES [] NO []
18. Photocopier available..... YES [] NO []
19. Outside contractors allowed..... YES [] NO []
20. Adequate skittles area available..... YES [] NO []
21. Adequate spectators area..... YES [] NO []

Guest Rooms:

1. At or near playing site..... YES [] NO []
2. Adequate block of rooms reserved..... YES [] NO []
3. Alternate lodging near playing site..... YES [] NO []
4. Reduced room rates..... YES [] NO []
5. Guests responsible for own charges..... YES [] NO []
6. Complimentary room(s) available..... YES [] NO []
7. Complimentary suite(s) available..... YES [] NO []
8. Recreational facilities available..... YES [] NO []

Site Arrangements:

1. Management easily accessible..... YES [] NO []
2. Hotel rebates per room-night available..... YES [] NO []
3. Hotel(s) to provide post-convention report..... YES [] NO []
4. Hotel(s) agreement contract enclosed..... YES [] NO []

PROPOSAL AGREEMENT WITH USCF

I _____ agree to fulfill the terms of this proposal and to abide by the USCF National Tournament Regulations. As the organizer, I will make every effort to ensure the integrity and success of this event:

(Proposed Event)

- We request that USCF provide concessions for this event.
- We request that other concessionaire options be discussed.

Signature

Date

- Playing site agreement included.
- Hotel agreement included.
- Hotel brochures included.
- Playing area diagram included.

APPENDIX E

Guide for Spectator Conduct

1. Do NOT stand in front of or make eye contact with the player whose game you are observing.
2. Do NOT “camp out” at one game.
3. Do NOT make faces or gestures or convey in any graphic way an opinion of a game being observed.
4. Do NOT discuss or even whisper opinions of a game being observed.
5. Do NOT speak privately with any player at or away from the board while his/her game is in progress.
6. Do NOT assume the role of TD and intervene for any reason such as pointing out illegal moves, etc.
7. Do NOT make any noise, such as opening a bag of potato chips, within earshot of a game in progress.
8. Do NOT discuss a game at its conclusion if other games are being played in the vicinity, and do NOT analyze a game at a board in the tournament room.
9. Do NOT take pictures after the first ten minutes when using flash or a camera with an audible shutter.
10. Do NOT take pictures at any time from a location which makes you an obvious distraction to the players.
11. Do NOT attempt to enforce rules yourself.
12. DO report instances of cheating or rule violations by players or other spectators to the TD staff. Do NOT discuss instances of cheating or rules violations with the perpetrators.
13. Do comply with any requests or instructions issued by tournament staff.

This guide shall be prominently posted at multiple locations.

PASSED Without Objection

EB06 – 006 September 27, 2005: 05-00 (Goichberg)

I move the following by objections procedure: Effective March 1, 2006, the half K rating option shall no longer be offered. Notice of this change shall appear in Chess Life, the rating supplements, and on the USCF website.

PASSED Without Objection

EB06 – 007 September 27, 2005: 05-00 (Channing) The following is a list of the members of the Military Committee and it's chair.

Chair

Steven Rollins

marinechess@yahoo.com

Committee Members

David Hendershot
Rank: Staff Sergeant, US Army

Matthew R. Nemmers
Rank: PN1(SW)/E-6 (Navy)

Name: Robert Keough
Rank: SSgt USAF

Name Sara Walsh
Rank Civilian

Name (tentative): Tom Belke
PASSED Without Objection

EB 06-008 (Bill Goichberg, Beatriz Marinello, Don Schultz and Robert Tanner): The name of the USCF top one hundred list be changed to "Top 100 American Players" in all categories (overall, junior, senior, etc.) and that the list be limited to those players meeting the eligibility requirements for representing the USCF in FIDE competitions. If there are no objections received by October 12, 2005, this motion will pass.
Passed Without Objection