



CONFEDERATION
OF CHESS FOR
AMERICAS

CCA Statutes

STATUTES OF THE **CONFEDERATION OF CHESS FOR AMERICA**,
APPROVED BY THE 1998 FIDE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND MODIFIED BY
THE 1999, 2011 AND 2016 CONTINENTAL ASSEMBLY.

CHAPTER I: STATUTES AND ELECTORAL REGULATIONS.

- 1.1 The Confederation of Chess for America, hereinafter referred to as CCA, is the organization established by the World Chess Federation (FIDE) on October 13th 1998, as the supreme body in the domain of chess in the Americas, strengthening the links between America's national federations and establishing mutual goals and representation.

The CCA is responsible in the Americas for the organization of continental and zonal championships and qualifying events under the auspices of FIDE as well as its own events. The CCA shall be governed by the FIDE statutes, except where they are overridden by the CCA statutes.

- 1.2 CCA is concerned exclusively with chess activities. CCA is democratically established and bases itself on the principles of equal rights of its members. CCA is a non-profit making organization. It rejects discriminatory treatment for national, political, racial, social or religious reasons or on account of gender. It observes strict neutrality in the internal affairs of the national chess federations.
- 1.3 The purpose and aim of CCA are the diffusion and development of chess among federations on the American continent, under the regulations of FIDE, as well as the raising of the level of chess culture and knowledge on a sporting, scientific, creative, educational and cultural basis.
- 1.4 To facilitate the administrative work of CCA, each CCA member federation is assigned to a Zone. These Zones were created by FIDE and the CCA can recommend to FIDE the division of Zones into Subzones



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CHAPTER 2: MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Any national federation in the Americas, as defined in FIDE statutes, is considered a member of the CCA. Only one federation of each country can be a member of CCA. A new member can fully participate in all meetings of CCA, including the right to vote, from the moment it is accepted for membership by the Continental Assembly. The vote for acceptance of new members takes place after all other elections have been _concluded.
- 2.2 National Federations have a seat and vote in the Continental Assembly. They are entitled to make use of the right to vote and can submit proposals to CCA. They are entitled to participate in CCA events according to the regulations, can also scrutinize through the elected Auditors, the financial management of the CCA.
- 2.3 The members must acknowledge and observe the statutes, resolutions and decisions of FIDE and CCA. They are also obliged to pay the membership fees and other FIDE and CCA contributions fixed by FIDE General Assembly and the Continental Assembly at the designated time. They are obligated to actively support FIDE and CCA chess activities.
- 2.4 Associated membership status may be granted to a territory which does not have membership of FIDE or only has observer status in the United Nations.
- A) Should the territory of the applicant for associated membership be a part of an existing FIDE federation member, the application must be accompanied by the consent of the FIDE federation member.
- B) If the parent federation is not a FIDE member; in order to qualify, the applicant and its parent federation must not have common borders.
- C) Associated members may attend the Continental Assembly meetings as observers but have no voting rights and may only speak with the consent of the meeting.
- 2.5 Any International chess association can be accepted as an affiliated member with observer status. Affiliated members have no voting rights in the Continental Assembly.
- 2.5 1 International chess associations are as defined in the FIDE statutes



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2.5.2 Affiliated members may participate in CCA events that have no qualification to FIDE events, normally CARIFTA events or similar.

2.5.3 No player may represent a member federation and an affiliated member at the same time. A player wishing to transfer from a member federation to an affiliated member or vice-versa must have the consent of both organizations. The exchange shall be effective one year after the date of approval, subject to meeting the FIDE transfer rules.

2 5 4 Affiliated and associated members shall pay the membership fee and entry fees as established in the CCA financial regulations for member federations

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS are:

- A) Honorary Members of CCA who are nominated for their special contribution to chess in the Americas.
- B) America Chess Friends and most esteemed America chess friends are persons who have made a financial contribution to CCA, as decided in the financial regulations.

The annual Continental Assembly decides on all individual members. Individual members may attend the Continental Assembly but do not have a right to vote and may speak only with the consent of the meeting.



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CHAPTER 3: CCA OFFICIALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

3.1 The CCA officials and organs are:

- A) The Continental President
- B) The Deputy President
- C) The General Secretary
- D) The Treasurer
- E) The three elected Board members on the Presidential ticket
- F) The 4 representatives to FIDE Executive Board
- G) The Zonal Presidents for the Americas
- H) The Commission Chairman (if any)
- I) The Auditors

Organs:

- J) The Continental Assembly
- K) Continental Board

3.2 The President and all other CCA Board members are elected by the Continental Assembly for a period of four years. If the Continental Meeting in the election year is held before or after the 4year period expires, the term of office is equally shortened or prolonged.

3.3 Only the Continental Assembly may create additional CCA official positions and organs.

3.4 CCA officials may not simultaneously hold another position within the organization that creates a conflict of interest.

3.5 When an elected CCA position becomes vacant for any reason during the course of a term, the Continental Board may make an appointment to fill the office until the next ordinary elections, except in case of the Continental President, where the power is exercised by the Deputy President until the next Continental Assembly when an election must be held. The person elected holds the position of Continental President for the remaining term until the next ordinary elections.



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CHAPTER 4: THE CONTINENTAL ASSEMBLY.

4.1 The Continental Assembly being the highest authority of CCA exercises the legislative and also the executive power. It supervises the activities of the Continental Board, the Continental President and the other CCA officials and organizations, approves the budget and determines the schedule of CCA activities.

When the Continental Assembly is not in session its power is transferred to the Continental Board. However, the Continental Board cannot take decisions on:

- A) Election of officials
- B) Change of statutes

All decisions taken by the Continental Board can be reviewed by the next Continental Assembly.

4.2 The Continental Assembly is composed of:

- A) The representatives of the member federations and their counsellors
- B) The members of the Continental Board

The representatives of the associated and affiliated chess organizations

- C) The representatives to the ROE Executive Board
- D) Presidents of the CCA FIDE Zones
- E) The Chairmen of Commissions
- F) Individual members

4.3 Each member federation is represented by a permanent delegate or by another person, (proxy), as set out in the FIDE statutes. The FIDE proxy procedure established in FIDE statutes applies to the Continental Assembly.

4.4 Each member federation has one vote. In the case of a tie the Continental President has a casting vote except during the electoral process. The other participants in the Continental Assembly have a consultative voice only.

4.5 A representative may have a proxy for only one additional federation beside his own





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- 4.6 At least once a year a Continental Assembly will be held. The Continental Assembly will be held during the FIDE Congress in Olympiad years. In non-Olympiad years the Continental Assembly will be convened by the Continental President with 4 months of notice. Proposals from member federations to be included in the agenda must reach the Secretariat not later than three months before the start of the Continental Assembly.
- 4.7 The Continental Assembly agenda must be sent to member federations by e-mail, fax or regular mail 6 weeks prior to the meeting. This should include the report by the Auditors.
- 4.8 The Continental Assembly is permitted to pass resolutions if it has been convened according to the statutes. A quorum of 50% of the member federations, including proxies, is required for votes on elections and changes of statutes. If the quorum is not fulfilled, an Extraordinary Assembly automatically convened within 24 hours after this Continental Assembly may decide on the subjects of the previous agenda, regardless of the number of represented federations.
- 4.9 Votes are made orally, unless a secret ballot is agreed by the majority. Resolutions are approved by a majority of votes, without counting abstentions, except for cases whereby the statutes require special majority votes
- 4.10 Votes on elections are cast by secret ballot
- 4.11 The Continental Assembly has the following duties that cannot be delegated to another body:
- A) Election of the Continental President ticket
 - B) Election of the other members of the Board and the auditor(s)
 - C) Approval of the FIDE Executive Board representatives, selected by the Board
 - D) Approval of the annual budget
 - E) Vote on financial regulations
 - F) Change of statutes
 - G) Change of tournament regulations. However, if FIDE changes regulations that affect CCA qualifying competitions, then the Continental Board can make similar changes if the Continental Assembly will not meet in the meantime.



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- H) Vote on new individual, associated or affiliated members.
 - I) Exclusion of members acting against CCA interests.
 - J) Other duties specified by the CCA Or its statutes.
- 4.12 Statutes may only be changed by the Continental Assembly convened according to art.4.8. Two thirds of the votes delivered without taking into account abstentions are required to effect such changes.
- 4.13 The final minutes shall be sent to members no later than eight weeks after the meeting is closed.

Chapter 5: THE BOARD.

- Si. The affairs of the CCA are managed by the Board in the periods between Continental Assemblies, insofar as they are not delegated to another body, without possibility of further delegation. The issues mentioned in article 4.11 are outside the competence of the Board
- 5.2 The Board consists of the Continental President, the Deputy President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer and three elected members.
- 5.3 The members of the Board must belong to different federations.
- 5.4 The Board meets whenever the President deems necessary or when 3 members call for a meeting.
- 5.5 The Board can make decisions by teleconference, letter, fax or e-mail.
- 5.6 Minutes of the decisions taken have to be made in all cases
- 5.7 Decisions of the Board require a majority of votes, with at least 4 Board members taking part in the voting. The Continental President or in his absence the Deputy President has a second or casting vote to establish a majority.



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CHAPTER 6: THE CONTINENTAL PRESIDENT AND THE DEPUTY-PRESIDENT.

- 6.1 The Continental President represents CCA officially
- 6.2 The Continental President presides over the meetings of the Continental Assembly and the Board. He executes the decisions of these organizations and offers himself as intermediary to the members in the interest and expansion of chess.
- 6.3 The Continental President represents, to the best of his ability, the interest of America within FIDE in matters concerning only the interest of the members in the continent and their Zonal Presidents, but not concerning the rights and duties of a member towards FIDE. He has equal rights and duties towards the members of the Continent and their Zonal Presidents as the FIDE president towards all members of FIOS.
- 6.4 The President prepares all meetings of which- he is the chairman and supplies the Continental Assembly with his annual report
- 6.5 Any interested party may appeal decisions of the Continental President to the Continental Assembly.
- 6.6 If the Continental President is unable to attend, he will be represented by the Deputy-President, who shall exercise the power of the Continental President.

CHAPTER 7: THE TREASURER.

- 7.1 The Treasurer is responsible for the financial management of CCA. He executes all decisions of CCA concerning financial management and reports every 6 months to the Board on the status of CCA finances.
- 7.2 The Treasurer submits to the Continental Assembly the balance sheet and the income and expenditure accounts. To finish his report the Treasurer will update the Continental Assembly with the latest financial figures.
- 7.3 Two representatives from the member federations shall be elected each year as Auditors to oversee the financial accounts of CCA. They shall be provided with the accounts by



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the Treasurer in advance of the Continental Assembly and can request any information from him. They provide an Audit report to the Continental Assembly.

- 7.3 After the examination and approval of the accounts, the Continental Assembly will discharge the Treasurer of his obligations for the financial year in question.

CHAPTER 8: THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

- 8.1 The General Secretary aids the Continental President in the accomplishment of his obligations, prepares the minutes of Board and Continental Assembly meetings and performs other tasks assigned to him by the Board, Assembly or the Continental President.

CHAPTER 9: FINANCIAL MATTERS.

- 9.1 The CCA financial year is the calendar year January 1. to December 31st.
- 9.2 The CCA budget is based on the U.S.A. dollar.
- 9.3 The main CCA bank accounts shall be in name of CCA. The Board decides on three signatories, one of whom must be the Treasurer.
- 9.4 Each year at the Continental Assembly the Treasurer shall present the final accounts for approval by the Continental Assembly.
- 9.5 The annual budget of CCA shall be prepared by the Treasurer before the annual Continental Assembly and will be subject to Continental Assembly approval.
- 9.6 For extraordinary expenses not considered in the budget, a request can be submitted to the Board. The Board may approve these expenses if they are in the interest of CCA, up to a maximum of 30% of the annual budget.



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- 9.7 The CCA revenues are generated through:
- A) Membership fees
 - B) Entry fees for tournaments organized by CCA
 - C) Fees for services provided by CCA
 - D) Marketing and Publicity
 - E) Its sources of funding, including sponsorship
- 9.8 The amount of membership and entry fees shall be fixed by special regulations that are approved by the Continental Assembly.
- 9.9 Entry fees for Continental events shall be deposited in the CCA account.
- 9.10 Members who have not paid their outstanding fees, lose their right to vote in the Continental Assembly. Also they cannot bid for events, and the federations may be suspended from the CCA. In addition, any federation member in arrears with CCA, cannot receive any economic support or travel grant from CCA either for itself or its members.
- 9.11 Officials working for the CCA have the right for reasonable expenses to be reimbursed. Reimbursement of expenses shall be governed by guidelines issued by the Board. Reimbursements going beyond these guidelines have to be approved by the Continental Assembly.
- 9.12 Additional personnel for the office may be hired if the workload makes it necessary and the financial situation allows, subject to Board approval.

CHAPTER 10: MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

- 10.1 The CCA decides on the location of a permanent office by the decision of the Board.
- 10.2 The official languages of CCA are the official languages of FIDE. In documents written in more than one language the English version is the original one.
- 10.3 Communication within CCA shall be by e-mail, fax, teleconference and letter.



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ELECTORAL REGULATIONS

11 The Presidential Ticket

- 11.1 The Presidential ticket shall be seven persons. Nominations for the Presidential ticket shall specify the proposed nominees for the offices of President, Deputy President, General Secretary, Treasurer and three Board members.
- 11.2 Nominations for the Presidential ticket must reach the Continental Secretariat at least three months before the opening of the Continental Assembly, each ticket must be nominated by at least five members federation Presidents. A federation President is entitled to nominate only one Presidential ticket, MSC), nominations for the position of Continental President must reach the FIDE Secretariat, 3 months prior to the opening of the FIDE General Assembly in accordance with FIDE regulations. In the event of a dispute over the date of receipt of ticket nominations, then the date of receipt of the nomination by the FIDE Secretariat shall be taken.
- 11.3 The federations' Presidents shall send the letter of nomination to CCA Secretariat by fax, email or by registered mail. CCA Secretariat shall confirm receipt of this application. Nominees shall confirm at the same time to the CCA Secretariat their acceptance of the nomination. All nominees must be eighteen years of age or over.
- 11.4 The FIDE Secretariat shall ensure that the listing of all approved nominees is included on the agenda to be sent to all member federations, six weeks prior to the Continental Assembly.
- 11.5 Elections for the Presidential ticket shall be held prior to any other elections.
- 11.6 On the day of the elections, the candidates for President on each Presidential ticket shall have a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes on stage to present their program. The order of appearance shall be decided by the drawing of lots.
- 11.7 In case one member of a Presidential ticket becomes incapable to run for the election (death, illness or similar serious reasons), he/she can be replaced on the Presidential ticket within 20 days after the unexpected event, but at the latest until the day before the election. All other conditions concerning the nominations are applicable.





12 Other elections

- 12.1 A defeated candidate from a Presidential ticket may accept nomination for any other office, immediately following the election of the Presidential ticket.
- 12.2 The Auditors and any other elections follow. Persons nominated for Auditor cannot be elected to any other official position.
- 12.3 Only one representative may be elected from each Federation to the Continental Board.

13 Electoral process

- 13.1 Three scrutineers shall be elected by the members to monitor the election.
- 13.2 Preceding the elections, there shall be a roll-call, in alphabetical order, to establish the number of possible votes.
- 13.3 Marked ballots shall be prepared for the elections with the names of the candidates if there is more than one for a given office.
- 13.4 Each Presidential slate is entitled to appoint one observer to monitor the electoral process.
- 13.5 During elections, each federation shall be called in alphabetical order to place its ballot in the ballot box, which shall have a slot on top. The box shall be openly visible to the Continental Assembly from all sides and shall be separated from any other object. The procedures of voting will be announced by the scrutineers at the meeting.
- 13.6 Each ballot paper shall contain all the names of the candidates. If possible, a list with the candidates for each office shall be circulated before the elections. Each delegate votes for up to the maximum possible number of vacant positions. If they vote for more, then the ballot is not valid. Valid votes are those where a mark has been made within the box on the ballot paper. Marks such as 'x', 'v' or '+' are acceptable.





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- 13.7 A majority of the votes cast, not counting abstentions, shall be required for the election of the officers individually and collectively where necessary. If three or more persons/slates are nominated for the same offices or office, the candidates that receive 50% plus one of the votes cast, are elected on the first ballot. If none of the candidates or slates received 50% or more of the votes then the two nominees or slates with the most votes shall contest a second round of elections.

The candidates/slates receiving most votes on the second ballot are elected to the vacant number of offices. In case of a tie, a new ballot is held between the candidates/slates that tied.

- 13.8 For the FIDE Executive Board, the Continental Board shall have the right to propose four members from the Continent.
- 13.9 The Zonal Presidents will be elected by federations of the corresponding Zone within the same process and parameters as the Continental Ticket. These elections shall take place immediately after the Continental Assembly is adjourned.
- 13.10 All elected or appointed officials will enter duty upon the close of the General Assembly at which they were elected or appointed.

14 Election conditions

- 14.1 Eligibility for office belongs only to those persons who have a current FIDE ID number.
- 14.2 The day of the Continental Assembly at which elections shall be held, shall be without adjournment until the elections are concluded.
- 14.3 Elections shall be held after the consideration of the report of the President and the Treasurer on the first day of the Continental Assembly.
- 14.4 Any elected or appointed officer in CCA can be removed from his position for cause. Cause is defined as being contrary to the spirit and text of the statutes and regulations of their office. The action requires a two thirds majority vote of the Continental Assembly.



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- 14.5 In such cases the Continental Assembly or the Continental Board can set up a committee of three persons to investigate and examine an offence (or an act against the principles of CCA); the committee shall report to the Continental Assembly.
- 14.6 All elections and appointments are valid for a period of 4 years unless otherwise specifically stated. If the FIDE Congress in the election year is held before or after the 4-year period expires, the term of CCA office is equally shortened or prolonged.
- 14.7 All other positions that were not elected, according to CCA Regulations, are appointed and approved by the Continental Board.
- 14.8 Any change in the Electoral Regulations will come in to effect on the last day of the Continental Assembly after the closing of the meeting.



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