

Chess Club

-Chapter Charter-

- I. Name:** The name of this organization shall be Swainsboro High School Chess Club.
- II. Statement of Purpose:** The purpose of this organization shall be to:
- A. Promote an interest in playing the game of chess through both simple enjoyment and playing in tournaments.
 - B. Challenge all students to learn analytical skills and necessary tactics associated with playing the game of chess.
 - C. Pursue higher level thinking skills required of increasing a students learning base.
 - D. Organize a highly competitive team that will be able to compete at all levels in tournaments.
- III. Affiliation:** The Swainsbro High School Chess Club and Competitive Team will have a direct link to the Ogeechee River Scholastic Chess Association, Georgia Chess Association, and the United States Chess Federation. (established levels of organization for competition basis)
- A. The UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION (USCF) is the governing organization for chess in America. not-for-profit corporation, it has approximately 90,000 paid members. Its membership spans every state and territory of the U.S and beyond. There are nearly 2,200 USCF-affiliated chess clubs, and more than 100,000 chess players participate in USCF events every year. The official publication, *Chess Life*, has a monthly readership of approximately 250,000.
 - 1. The USCF sanctions thousands of chess tournaments with a half-million rated games each year. It is the organizer of 25 national championship events including the Amateur, Junior and Senior championships. The USCF sponsors the National Scholastic Championships, which annually draw approximately 7,000 players. In fact, the 2002 Spring National Scholastic tournaments all broke previous attendance records. USCF also sponsors American participation in international events. Fifty-three of the world's 415 grandmasters are Americans.
 - 2. As a not-for-profit membership organization, the USCF applies its revenue to services and programs benefiting its members and chess in America. The US Chess Trust, a charitable trust administered by the USCF, supports chess programs for schools, veterans, hospitals, and prisons worldwide.

3. The USCF national office is located at 65 East St., Crossville, TN 38557. The mailing address for the national office is: PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. The office can be reached by phone at 931-787-1234. Fax number is: 931-787-1200. Memberships can be ordered by calling 1-800-903-USCF (8723) and orders for product, call 800-388-KING (5464) or through their online store, located at <http://www.shopuschess.org>. For additional department phone numbers/email address, see the Contact Directory

B. The Georgia Chess Association (GCA)

1. The Georgia Chess Association is the official Georgia state affiliate of the United States Chess Federation (USCF); the ruling chess body in the United States. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the statewide promotion of chess in Georgia.
2. In meeting the needs of the diverse chess community, the principal activities of GCA include active sponsorship of scholastic chess; publication of Georgia Chess magazine; sanctioning, scheduling and oversight of official state championship events; and generally working to help maximize the involvement, coordination and success of the many individuals and organizations involved in chess throughout Georgia.

C. Ogeechee River Scholastic Chess Association (ORSCA)

1. ORSCA provides regional competitions for all school levels in the Bulloch County and surrounding areas to foster an interest in playing the game of chess.
2. Normally four tournaments are sponsored by ORSCA to facilitate competitions that might involve preparing for state and national competitions.

IV. Membership.

- A. Any student who is actively enrolled at Swainsboro High School can become a member free of charge.
- B. Only registered USCF registered members can play in the local, state, and national tournaments. Fees are paid by the individual that are determined annually by the USCF.

V. Events, meetings, and promotion of views.

- A. The Swainsboro High School Chess Club will meet weekly on a day chosen by the lead coach at the beginning of the school year.
- B. The first meeting of the year will be held during the first week of September to recruit, organize, and prepare for competitions.
- C. The chess club promotes itself and its views to the campus by placing on the announcements the weekly meeting time and place as well as upcoming tournaments of interest.