ARTICLE 37

CHESS

37.1 **CHESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** – The Chess Advisory Committee, an ad hoc advisory committee of the AIA Executive Board, shall be comprised of nine members consisting of the following:

37.1.1 State Executive Director of Arizona Chess Coaches Association (ACCA).

37.1.2 State Recording Secretary of ACCA.

37.1.3 State Treasurer of ACCA.

37.1.4 State Newsletter Editor of ACCA.

37.1.5 Regional Directors – Five members.

37.2 **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS** – Arizona State Chess Sponsors Association

37.2.1 Member schools of each Region will elect a Director who must be a certified teacher in an AIA member school. The term of office shall be two years.

37.2.2 Upon recommendation of the ACCA and approval of the AIA Executive Board, a non-voting representative shall be selected from the Chess Association of Arizona, an affiliate of the U. S. Chess Federation, to serve as a consultant in the area of chess. The term of office shall be two years.

37.2.3 The State Executive Director will be elected from the ACCA. The term of office shall be two years.

37.3 **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

37.3.1 It shall be the duty of the State Executive Director to supervise the administration of all phases of chess activity at the state level and preside at meetings of the ACCA.

37.3.2 It shall be the duty of the Regional Director to supervise the administration of all phases of chess activity at Region tournaments, attend all meetings called by the State Executive Director, and forward all necessary information from the Regional Director to the State Executive Director.

37.4 **PURPOSE** – To establish a framework, which will provide the opportunity for AIA members to participate in Region and State Chess Tournaments with the following educational values in mind:

- Provide the skills for playing chess.
- Develop an appreciation for the game of chess.
- Develop principles of self-discipline, logic and concentration for a lifelong carry-over activity.

37.5 **MEMBERSHIP** – Any member school is eligible to participate in chess activates sponsored and sanctioned by the AIA.

37.6 **ORGANIZATION** – The state will be divided into five regional areas. Any exception to this alignment must be recommended by the Arizona State Chess Sponsors Association (ACCA) Executive Committee and approved by the AIA Executive Board.

37.7 **FINANCES**

37.7.1 The State Treasurer shall be responsible for the accounting of the funds and records for all state-sponsored chess contests. The records shall be audited annually by the AIA.

37.7.2 The Regional Director shall be responsible for the accounting of all funds and records for all Region sponsored chess contests. These records shall be audited annually by the AIA.

37.7.3 As far as feasible, the cost of all regional and post-season contests shall be fairly distributed among the participating schools.

37.8 ELIGIBILITY

37.8.1 All students participating in chess contests sponsored by the AIA must meet domicile and academic requirements.

37.8.2 In order to compete in a tournament, each participating student must be at the tournament site at the start of the first round unless the tournament director is notified in advance by the student's coach.

DETERMINATION:
Q: May a coach of the chess team be a non-certified person?
A: A coach of a chess team may be either a classified or certified person employed in that district (Ex. Bd. 5/77)

37.8.3 To be eligible to play in qualifiers for the Post-Season Team Tournament or the Post-Season Individual Chess Tournament, a player must play at least six games of AIA chess competition, varsity or junior varsity, within the Region or individual tournament.

37.8.4 In a given calendar year, a chess player attending chess tournaments shall not receive more in awards than the tournament expenses expended in attending chess tournaments.

37.9 RULES – Unless otherwise stated herein, the official rules for chess matches shall be those of the U.S. Chess Federation.

37.10 SEASON OF CHESS – the season of practice is the school year and the season of competition shall begin the third weekend of August and conclude no later than the third weekend of December.

37.11 SCHEDULES

37.11.1 Each Region will develop its own schedule as provided for in the AIA Bylaws. Region schedules are recommended when feasible.

37.11.2 All Region schedules shall be in the AIA office 30 days prior to the first match.

37.12 INTERSCHOOL COMPETITION

37.12.1 Any school, regardless of Conference or membership classification, may compete with any other school in the state.

37.12.2 Competition is open to both boys and girls.

37.12.3 Teams shall consist of five players seeded on boards one through five. Junior varsity players will be seeded beginning with board six.

37.12.4 When a regular team member is declared unable to participate in his/her established position by the Tournament Director, that position shall be filled by the advancing all team member below. When a player misses a round or a tournament, it will be handled within USCF rules.

A team member may be declared unable to participate by the Tournament Director when he/she has missed a round and is not present to participate at the start of the next round.

When a player misses a round of a tournament in team competition, that position in the starting line-up will be filled by advancing each player one board spot and filling in board five with an alternate player. If a player, who has missed one or more rounds, returns to play in a subsequent round, that player will be placed in his/her original board position, and the alternate player will be dropped from board five and re-enter the alternate section. All of this must be arranged with the tournament director in advance, in accordance with USCF rules.

37.12.5 A current ranking board order must be presented by the sponsor at each interschool competition.

37.12.6 Composite teams should be ranked in order of rating and play "exhibition" for rating only unless the composite has three members from the same school.

37.12.7 Pre-tournament publicity must be published at least twenty-eight (28) days in advance of state events or seven (7) days in advance of region events. The publicity must include the date, time, location, and registration instructions for the event. The publicity may specify deadlines that need to be met to participate in the event and the penalties that may be assessed if deadlines are missed.

37.13 RATINGS

37.13.1 AIA chess ratings are based on the Thomas Rating System. Non-USCF new players to AIA chess start with a rating of 400. The Coach and Region Director may establish a more appropriate AIA rating if the AIA player has a "Current Published USCF Rating." The Coach may change any new AIA player's rating one time, to more clearly reflect that player's "Current Published USCF Rating." Prior to the start of each AIA season, the Coach may petition the Region Director for an adjustment to the AIA rating of any returning player based on that player's "Current Published USCF Rating." To make a rating change of a returning player, the Coach must submit USCF rating verification to the Region Director. The formula should be: the student's last published USCF rating times .4+125. Provisional USCF ratings are not eligible. If two high school players agree to play their scheduled AIA game for a U.S.C.F. (U.S. Chess Federation) rating, they must make their request in writing to a U.S.C.F. Tournament Director at the tournament site before the start of the round. The players' U.S.C.F. rated game will not affect AIA pairings or results. No player rating shall fall below "300" which is established as the "Floor Rating" for all AIA players.

37.13.2 Individual player ratings shall be updated prior to each major tournament.

37.13.3 All team members are to be placed in board order according to ratings and must play in that order throughout the tournament. Players may be out of rating order by the following points:

August/September	75
October/November/December	50

37.14 POST-SEASON TOURNAMENTS – INTER-REGIONAL / INVITATIONAL

37.14.1 Dates and Sites

37.14.1.1 The time, dates and sites for the regional qualifying tournament and the post-season tournament will be recommended by the ACCA Committee and approved by the AIA Executive Board.

37.14.1.2 A schedule of recommended chess tournaments for the following school year shall be submitted to the AIA by the ACCA Committee no later than August 1.

37.14.1.3 A school desiring to host a tournament for the following school year shall apply to the ACCA Executive Committee by May 1.

37.14.1.4 In recommending a tournament(s), the ACCA Executive Committee will consider regional areas.

37.14.1.5 The post-season individual and team tournaments must be concluded by the third weekend in December.

37.14.2 Registration Fees and Records

37.14.2.1 Registration fees shall be recommended by the ACCA Committee and approved by the AIA Executive Board.

37.14.2.2 Permanent records shall be maintained for team and individual results.

37.14.3 Match and League Regulations

37.14.3.1 Schedule – ACCA recommends the scheduling of quadrangular chess matches to be held on Saturdays.

Dual matches need not be cleared with the AIA but must be submitted in writing to a Regional Director and postmarked prior to the match.

37.14.3.2 Limitations – No school shall be involved in more than 12 Saturdays of competition, excluding the post-season tournament.

37.14.3.3 Leagues – Leagues must be formed within a Region.

37.14.3.3.1 ACCA recommends a home-away schedule to count for League Championships or a league meet format.

37.14.3.3.2 Trophies may be awarded for League Championships and runner-up.

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37.14.3.3.3 If trophies are to be awarded, the League must be assessed the expense equally and the monies collected and distributed by the Regional Director or his/her designee.

37.14.3.4 Match Play Regulations – No adjudications shall be made.

37.14.3.4.1 Time Control – Game to be 60 minutes total "for each player", 55 minutes with a five second time delay clock.

USCF sudden-death rules shall apply during the last five minutes of time control.

37.14.3.4.2 Tie-Break Systems Order

- Team Tie-Breaks - U. S. Team System. For each round, the final score of the opposing team is multiplied by the number of points scored against that team. For example; if Team A scores 3.5:1.5 against Team B, which finished with three match points, Team A's tie-breaks for that round is 3.5 x 3 = 10.5 for that round. If a composite team is in the tournament, calculate team tie-breaks by multiplying the total team tie-breaks by the number of rounds versus non-composite teams.
- Game (or match) points.
- Average of the opponents' initial rating.
- The tie-break system for individual board awards at a team tournament, the first average opponent progressive ratings, second average opponents opening round ratings.

37.14.3.4.3 Team Discipline – Only coaches can notify Directors of a line change.

- Teams must identify member by colored name tags with number, by dress, or uniform.
- Tournament Directors may penalize a team for undue noise by deducting three tie-break points after the first warning. A second penalty action will be five additional tie-break points. The third penalty is the forfeiture of one game point. The fourth penalty will be team disqualification.

37.14.3.4.4 Team Tie-Breaks in Individual Tournaments

- Game points of a team's top five finishing players.
- Cumulative game points of a teams' top five finishing players.
- Total cumulative game point totals of the opponents of a team's top five finishing players.
- Final total rating points of the opponents of a team's top five finishing players.

37.14.4 Invitational Tournament

37.14.4.1 There shall be at least one team swiss-paired and at least one individual swiss-paired Open (Inter-Regional) Invitational Tournament per school year.

37.14.4.2 Each Region is limited to one open invitational per school year.

37.14.4.3 Dates for open invitationals shall be Friday evenings and Saturdays between September 10 and November 10 – rotating basis.

37.14.4.4 Regions may have closed (intra-regional) invitationals; entry fees/awards must meet ACCA/AIA criteria:

37.14.4.4.1 If an out-of-state or out-of-region team is needed to bring the tournament to a minimum of eight teams, an appeal may be made to the ACCA Executive Committee.

37.14.4.4.2 If a region starts its season with a closed individual tournament, there shall be two sections:

- Open: Any eligible AIA player.
- Alternate: Sections rated at the discretion of the tournament director.

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37.14.4.5 Officials Protests at ACCA Tournaments – The Tournament Director may be advised by an ACCA Ad Hoc Committee of any three members selected from: ACCA Executive Officers, Regional Director at the tournament sites, Tournament Registrar (host).

37.14.4.5.1 In the event one or two of the above possible committee members are involved in the protest, the remaining members shall be selected from the ACCA Regional Officers in tournament attendance.

37.14.5 Post-Season Tournament Rules – Team

37.14.5.1 Each school must have an organized program in chess.

37.14.5.2 A team must play in at least six team match games within the Region of AIA competition in order to be eligible to participate in a qualifier or post-season tournament.

37.14.5.3 Preregistration for a team plus alternates must be submitted to the host school or tournament director no later than twenty-four hours prior to the start of round one, and any individual changes may be made as necessary at the tournament director's discretion.

37.14.5.4 Teams must be accompanied by their sponsors to verify line-ups and/or substitutions.

37.14.5.5 Regional tournament play is to qualify the **26** teams for the post-season finals.

37.14.5.5.1 The top two teams from each Region shall be invited to the post-season tournament. In the event that a region has fewer than seven teams who participate during the season, said region shall have only the top team invited to the state tournament. Said region shall still qualify for at-large teams as outlined in the subsequent rules.

37.14.5.5.2 There are at-large teams who will also qualify for the post-season tournament. These teams will be prorated on the basis of the total number of teams participating in a full season of regional play and include 2 additional teams according to rank at the State Team Invitational.

- A full season shall be at least six matches within the Region, to be completed by December 1. A team playing fewer than six matches shall count as a proportional fraction.
- The total number of teams participating in the post-season finals will be **26.**
- The first place team and the runner up team from the state team invitational will be granted invitation to compete at the state championships as "wild card" teams. In the event that a team qualifies within their region, the third place team from the State Team individual invitational. Wild Card qualifications will continue in a similar manner through the Team Invitational final placing until both wild card bids are filled or the number of teams at the team invitational is exhausted. In the event that the number of teams for the state team invitational is exhausted, the remaining wild cards sports will remain vacant.

37.14.5.5.3 If a Region plays a round-robin season schedule, selection of teams qualifying for the post-season tournament may be based on the ranking from the season schedule play.

37.14.5.5.4 The AIA Executive Board shall determine the dates and sites of inter-regional and post-season tournaments.

37.14.5.5.5 Opening round pairings in the Post-Season Team Tournament will be by the rating system. Subsequent rounds will pair teams of equal score groups by team entering ratings, following USCF (Harkness) pairing rules.

37.14.5.6 The location of the annual post-season team tournament will rotate between the five regions, with each region hosting the tournament once every five years. At the end of each season, the ACCA will publish the rotation for the following season. If the region assigned to host the event is unable or unwilling to do so, the tournament may be hosted anywhere in the state, at a location selected by the ACCA.

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37.14.6 Post-Season Tournament Rules – Individual

37.14.6.1 Each individual must have completed at least six games of competition, varsity or junior varsity, within the Region or invitational tournament during the school year in order to qualify for the Regional Individual Tournament.

37.14.6.2 Individuals must be accompanied by their sponsors to verify board positions.

37.14.6.3 The Regional Individual Tournament will be a swiss-style individual of a least three rounds.

37.14.6.4 Pairings will seed the players by the rating system following U.S.C.F. (Harkness) pairing rules.

37.14.6.4.1 Each Region will send its top four scorers to the post-season tournament.

37.14.6.4.2 Forty (40) at-large entrants will qualify for the Post-Season Individual Tournament.

37.14.6.4.3 The number of at-large entrants for each region in the state AIA Individual Chess Tournament will be calculated by that region's percentage of the combined regions' total number of entrants in the five regional AIA individual qualifiers in calculating which percentage of the forty (40) at-large berths each region receives, rounded off to the next nearest whole number. In case of a tie, the higher rated entrant will qualify.

37.14.6.4.4 If the prorating involves a decimal rounding-up problem, those Regions which send the most teams to the post-season tournament will get an extra man consideration.

37.14.6.4.5 The top four finishers from the State Individual Qualifier will be granted invitation to compete at the state championships as "wild card" individuals. In the event that an individual qualifies within their region, the next placed individual will be granted the invitation. Wild card qualifications will continue in a similar manner through the final placing until all wild card bids are filled or the number of individuals at the individual qualifier is exhausted.

37.14.6.5 The Post-Season Individual Tournament will be a 64-entry, swiss-style individual of six rounds.

37.14.6.6 The host school for the Post-Season Individual Tournament will be the highest ranking school in the scheduled Region from the post-season team finals of the previous year.

37.14.6.6.1 The location of the annual post-season individual tournament will rotate between the five regions, with each region hosting the tournament once every five years. At the end of each season, the ACCA will publish the rotation for the following season. If the region assigned to host the event is unable or unwilling to do so, the tournament may be hosted anywhere in the state, at a location selected by the ACCA.

37.14.6.6.2 This rotation sequence shall continue in subsequent years. In the event the scheduled school no longer has a chess program, the host school will be the next highest-ranking school in the same scheduled Region.

37.14.7 Awards – The AIA shall be responsible for the purchase and standardization of all post-season tournament awards. (*See Article 13, Section 1*).

37.14.7.1 Regional and State Team

37.14.7.1.1 Plaques will be awarded to each Region Champion.

37.14.7.1.2 Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams in the state tournament.

37.14.7.1.3 Medals will be awarded to team members of the first and second place teams at Regionals, and the first through fifth teams at the Post-Season Team Tournament.

37.14.7.1.4 Medals will be awarded to the top board one through five players at the post-season team tournament.

37.14.7.2 Regional and Post-Season Individual

37.14.7.2.1 Medals will be awarded to the top four players in each Region.

37.14.7.2.2 Certificates will be awarded to all at-large entrants who play in the post-season tournament.

37.14.7.2.3 Trophies will be awarded to the Post-Season Champion and to the runner-up. Medals will be presented to the third, fourth and fifth place individuals.