

# **Plymouth Chess Club**

(Founded 1888)

## **GENERAL RULES**

1. The Club shall be called the Plymouth Chess Club.
2. The Club shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary and subscribing members.
3. The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Honorary Club Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Junior Secretary and Honorary Competition Secretary.
4. The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the Officers of the Club and three members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall have powers to co-opt up to two additional members with voting rights.
5. The Club shall be affiliated to the English Chess Federation, the West of England Chess Union, the Devon County Chess Association and the Torbay Chess League.
6. The Committee shall be convened by the Honorary Secretary on such occasions as he may deem necessary, or by written request of not less than four of its members.
7. The quorum for Committee meetings shall be four members, excluding co-opted members. At least two officers must be present.
8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at the Club's headquarters on the date in September or October to be decided by the Committee, for the election of Officers and members of the Committee for the ensuing year and other business. At this meeting the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall present their reports and statements of account. The Honorary Secretary shall, ten days previous to the meeting, send out agendas to the members. Any motions to be submitted for consideration at the Annual General Meeting must be sent in writing to the Honorary Secretary not later than the 31<sup>st</sup> July in each year.
9. The General Rules of the Club may only be changed at the Annual General Meeting, and such motions are subject to rule eight and will only become effective if passed by two-thirds of members voting.
10. A Special General Meeting may be called either by the Committee or upon a request to the Honorary Secretary sent by five members of the Club. Fourteen days notice specifying its object, shall be sent to each member.
11. Voting at Annual General Meetings, Special General Meetings and Committee Meetings shall be by show of hands, unless a ballot is demanded by four members, and shall be confined to subscribers. The Chairman shall have a casting vote.
12. The Annual Subscription shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. The Honorary Treasurer, at his discretion, may allow pro rata payment for a short period of membership.
13. Subscriptions shall be payable within one calendar month of the Annual General Meeting. The subscriptions of new members shall be paid within one calendar month of their acceptance of membership. The Committee shall consider all cases of members whose subscriptions are one month overdue and shall decide the steps to be taken to secure payment. The Committee shall also have power to terminate membership in such cases.

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14. Members are expected to behave as representatives of the club and show sportsmanship and good chess etiquette at all internal and external chess events. Concerns about the behaviour of a club member or potential member should be brought to the attention of the Honorary Secretary. If appropriate the committee will be asked to consider refusing or terminating an individual's membership.
15. The Club will open from a date in September or October decided upon by the Committee until a date to be decided by the Committee.
16. The Club competitions shall be conducted with the existing Competition Rules. These rules may be amended by the Committee and proposed changes to these rules may be submitted by any member throughout the season to the Honorary Secretary for consideration by the Committee and if thought fit brought for decision to the next Annual General Meeting.
17. The Committee shall be empowered to form a Tournament Sub-Committee whose duties shall be as follows:-
  - (a) Operate existing competition rules.
  - (b) Allocate members to competitions.
  - (c) Select the teams for all events.
18. The following competitions may be held:-
  - (a) The Ron Bruce Cup and Club Championship
  - (b) The Ward Cup
  - (c) The Bloodworth Cup
  - (d) The Larry Guard Cup
  - (e) The Taylor Trophy
  - (f) Additional reserve leagues if a-e are oversubscribed
  - (g) The Strong Trophy and Strong Plate
  - (h) The Nobbs Trophy
  - (i) The Challenge Cup

(See Club Competition Rules for details)

Further competitions may be held at the discretion of the Committee.
19. The Club shall enter such competitions as shall be decided by the Committee.
20. The FIDE Laws of Chess shall govern all play controlled by the Club. All disputes shall be referred to the Committee whose decision shall be final.
21. Membership may be cancelled at any time, without refund, for any breaches of behaviour deemed unfit by the committee. Appeals may be made to the Secretary of the club in writing within 7 days of notice of cancellation, with reasons for the appeal. The Club Committee's decision will be final.