

GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE 2016-2017 RULES

SECTION 1 – ADMINISTRATION

- 1.0 The president is the chief organizer of the league.
 - 1.01 The president is elected for a term of two years, in odd numbered years, by a majority of eligible faculty sponsors present at the annual meeting.
 - 1.02 The president shall chair the annual meeting of faculty moderators during September or October
 - 1.03 The president has the authority to issue necessary directives, and is the final authority on rulings.
 - 1.04 The league shall be affiliated with the United States Chess Federation.
- 1.1 The vice-president is the chief assistant to the president.
 - 1.11 The vice-president is elected for a term of two years, in odd numbered years, by a majority of eligible faculty sponsors present at the annual meeting.
 - 1.12 The vice-president shall assume the duties of the president in the event that the president is unable to perform such duties.
 - 1.13 The vice-president shall serve as the primary consultative assistant to the president.
 - 1.14 The vice president shall perform administrative duties as directed by the president.
- 1.2 The secretary is the recording officer for the league.
 - 1.21 The secretary is elected for a term of two years, in odd numbered years, by a majority of eligible faculty sponsors present at the annual meeting.
 - 1.22 The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings for the annual meeting and any additional meetings scheduled by the president.
 - 1.23 The secretary shall present at each meeting a copy of the previous meeting's minutes to those members in attendance.
 - 1.24 The secretary shall assist the president in the preparation and posting of meeting agendas.
 - 1.25 The secretary shall assist the president in the preparation, posting and mailing of league correspondence.
 - 1.26 The secretary shall maintain a regularly updated mailing list for the league.
 - 1.27 The secretary shall maintain a list of the league's standing committees.
- 1.3 The treasurer is the fiscal officer for the league.
 - 1.31 The treasurer is elected for a term of two years, in odd numbered years, by a majority of eligible faculty sponsors present at the annual meeting.
 - 1.32 The treasurer shall maintain a record of all league expenses and league income.
 - 1.33 The treasurer, when available, shall assist in the completion of a tournament accounting sheet at league sponsored tournaments.
 - 1.34 The treasurer shall present a detailed report at the annual meeting.
 - 1.35 The treasurer shall maintain the league checking account and make payments as directed by the president and the vice-president.

SECTION 2 – MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Saint Louis area schools who sponsor one or more students who compete in one or more Gateway Chess League events are Gateway Chess League members.
- 2.2 Member high schools may enter an A-team in Senior High League competition for the entry fee of \$100. Each high school that enters an A-team may enter one Senior High League B-team for no additional charge.
- 2.3 Schools must indicate the intention to field a B-team before matches have been scheduled for the season.
- 2.4 Member schools may enter one or more teams, based on Junior High League competition details, in Junior High League competition for the entry fee of \$10 per student.
- 2.5 Member schools may each designate one voting member to represent the school at the annual meeting.

SECTION 3 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Players in grades six through twelve, who attend the same school, are eligible to play on the senior high league team.
- 3.2 Players who change schools become ineligible for the remainder of the current season. The president may declare a player, who changes schools, eligible if the faculty moderator furnishes sufficient reason for the change of schools.

SECTION 4 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE SCHEDULES

- 4.1 The president shall divide the schools into conferences and make the senior high league schedule.

SECTION 5 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE MATCHES

- 5.1 A senior high league match consists of five games, played by five different players from a school. The best player, identified using official United States Chess Federation ratings where possible, must be assigned to board one, the second best player must be assigned to board two, and so forth.
- 5.2 All matches shall be played on school grounds, unless a different place is acceptable to both faculty moderators.
- 5.3 Senior high league matches shall be played on Wednesdays.
- 5.4 Senior high league matches shall begin at 4:00 unless a different time is acceptable to both moderators.
- 5.5 Matches may be postponed only for legitimate reasons such as school holidays, student examinations or emergencies such as inclement weather. The president shall be notified immediately of postponements.
- 5.6 Postponed matches shall be played the first Monday or the first Tuesday that both schools are in session.
- 5.7 Except in the cases of emergencies, faculty moderators must notify opponent faculty moderators of postponements one week prior to the date of the match.
- 5.8 The president shall forfeit matches of teams who do not follow postponement guidelines.

- 5.9 In senior high league matches, the visiting team plays white on board one, board three and board five. In senior high league playoff matches, the home team moderator shall flip a coin. If the result is heads, then the home team plays white on board one, board three and board five.
- 5.10 In Senior High League matches games between extra players are encouraged.
- 5.11 The time control is game in 60 minutes with a 5 second time delay.

SECTION 6 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE INDIVIDUAL SCORING

- 6.1 In senior high league matches, the board one winner earns eight individual points, the board two winner earns seven individual points, the board three winner earns six individual points, the board four winner earns five points and the board five winner earns four points; and in cases of draws, both players earn one-half of the indicated individual points.
- 6.2 A team with less than the required number of players must forfeit the lowest boards.

SECTION 7 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE TEAM SCORING

- 7.1 The team score is the sum of the individual scores. The team that earns the most individual points is the match winner, and earns one match point. In cases where both teams earn equal individual points, the match is tied and both teams earn one-half match point.
- 7.2 If a school withdraws from competition, matches played shall be considered nonconference matches and shall not be considered in determining standings.
- 7.3 The conference champion is the school that scores the most team points.

SECTION 8 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

- 8.1 At the end of the season, the president shall invite eight or more senior high league teams to the Senior High League playoffs.
- 8.2 The Senior High League playoff winner is the Senior High League champion.

SECTION 9 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE AWARDS

- 9.1 The president shall determine the number of individual and team awards.

SECTION 10 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE COMMUNICATION

- 10.1 Both faculty moderators are responsible for necessary communication prior to the match.
- 10.2 Both faculty moderators are responsible for posting match results on the Gateway Chess League website, gatewaychess.org.
- 10.3 Both faculty moderators are responsible for informing the president when matches are postponed and rescheduled.

SECTION 11 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE FORFEITS

- 11.1 Schools that forfeit more than twenty percent of the scheduled games in one season shall be placed on probation for one year.
- 11.2 Schools that forfeit more than twenty percent of their games while on probation shall be suspended from league play for one year.
- 11.3 Appeals concerning probation and suspension shall be addressed to the president.

SECTION 12 – SENIOR HIGH LEAGUE B-TEAMS

- 12.1 On or before the date of the first match, sponsors of schools that enter a B-team must designate, to the league secretary, the roster of five players for A-team, which are expected to be the best five players from that school. The five players listed on the A-team roster may only play on the A-team for the season. Other players may play on the B-team or may play on A-team if a A-team player is unavailable.
- 12.2 The A-team will play in that school's "home" conference, and team B will play in the other conference.
- 12.3 Players, who compete in both conferences, will be considered for board trophies in both conferences, but may win only one trophy.
- 12.4 It is permissible for two teams from one school to play each other in the League championship, provided that each has won its respective conference championship.

SECTION 13 – JUNIOR HIGH LEAGUE COMPETITION

- 13.1 Junior High League competition is scheduled for six Thursday evenings.
- 13.2 Registration, required each Thursday, is from 3:45 to 4:30.
- 13.3 Competition begins at 5:00.
- 13.4 The numbers of awards shall be based on the numbers of competitors and teams.

SECTION 14 – RULES OF PLAY

- 14.1 The most recent edition of OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS, fifth edition, as published by the United States Chess Federation, are the rules of play except as herein modified.

SECTION 15 – RULES OF COURTESY

- 15.1 Only players and faculty moderators are allowed in the playing area.
- 15.2 Talking, noise making, crude language and profanity are prohibited.
- 15.3 Faculty moderators are responsible for enforcing the rules of chess and the rules of courtesy.
 - 15.31 If rules violations occur, then both faculty moderators shall confer, concur and enforce penalties as outlined in the OFFICIAL RULES OF CHESS fifth edition.
 - 15.32 If faculty moderators concur, then players must abide by the decision. Players who challenge the decision shall forfeit all games in question.
 - 15.33 If faculty moderators cannot concur, then each faculty moderator must describe the situation in writing and mail the description to the president immediately.
 - 15.34 After reading both descriptions, the president shall make a ruling.
- 15.4 Rules that do not involve the official rules of chess may be amended by mutual consent of the faculty moderators involved in a particular match or competition.

SECTION 16 – TOURNAMENTS

- 16.1 The league shall sponsor tournaments approved by the faculty moderators.
- 16.2 Home schooled players shall represent their local public school in tournament competitions when local guidelines permit them to participate as a member of the school in extracurricular activities. Home schooled players from districts that do not permit such participation shall be allowed to form teams under their local Home School Association. All members of a home school team must reside within the same local public school district boundaries.
- 16.3 A tournament accounting sheet, listing all tournament income and expenditures, shall be completed at each tournament and signed by the tournament director and one of the league officers. The league treasurer shall keep a record of such.
- 16.4 Players may not compete in sections including grades higher than the highest grade in the school the player represents.
- 16.5 Tournament competition shall include a high school division, a grade 9 and under division, a grade 8 and under division, a grade 6 and under division, a grade 5 and under division and a grade 3 and under division.