

# ARTICLE I. - NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization is the Gator Chess Club. This organization will utilize the acronym GCC in publicity materials and correspondence. The website of the Gator Chess Club is: <http://gatorchessclub.com>

# ARTICLE II. - ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION

As outlined in the RSO Classification Policy, Gator Chess Club is considered a University Sponsored Student Organization. As a USSO, this organization is considered an extension of the Department for Student Activities and Involvement, and operates within the scope and function of it. As such, Gator Chess Club is governed by and under the jurisdiction of internal University policies, standards, and business practices as well as gains access to exclusive university resources through our sponsoring University unit. University-sponsored student organizations are not eligible for Student Government funding.

# ARTICLE III. - PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Gator Chess Club was established for the purpose of promoting chess at The University of Florida and in Gainesville.

# ARTICLE IV. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT & UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Upon approval by the Department of Student Engagement, Gator Chess Club shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Gator Chess Club shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

## Section A. Non-Discrimination

Gator Chess Club agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act. Discrimination on the basis of the protected classes described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policies) is prohibited.

## Section B. Sexual Harassment

Gator Chess Club agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking and repeated instances of cyber abuse. Sexual harassment as described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policy) is prohibited.

#### Section C. Hazing

Gator Chess Club agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization. Hazing as defined in the University of Florida Regulation 1.0081 (Prohibition of Hazing; Procedures and Penalties) and 4.040 (Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code) is prohibited. If found responsible for hazing, sanctions may be imposed against the organization, its leaders and/or members.

#### Section D. Responsibility to Report

The University of Florida identifies Responsible Employees and Campus Security Authorities to support the health, safety, and wellbeing of campus. If Gator Chess Club becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, they are encouraged to report it immediately to staff in Student Engagement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, the University's Title IX Coordinator, or to their Student Organization Advisor, who are identified as mandated reporters.

#### Section E. Officer Eligibility

Gator Chess Club understands, acknowledges, and agrees to uphold and abide by the specific minimal requirements regarding officer eligibility as defined in the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy

## **ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff are prohibited from holding membership, office or voting powers. All members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

## **ARTICLE VI. - ARTICLE VI. BYLAWS FOR GATOR CHESS CLUB**

Gator Chess Club may elect to maintain separate bylaws document to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements sent forth by local, state, and federal laws, the university of Florida's

regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Student Engagement constitution requirements. Amendments and changes may be made to the bylaws and shall be consistent with the Student Engagement approved constitution on file and student engagement's constitution requirements. Should the organization transition leadership, all bylaws and guiding documents will be transitioned to new student organization leaders and/or advisor(s). Gator Chess Club agrees to provide all unaltered by laws and guiding documents and/or clarify its procedures in writing to any University of Florida student, faculty, or staff upon request.

## **ARTICLE VII. - STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR**

The Student Organization Advisor must be a full-time salaried employee of the University of Florida. The Student Organization Advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The Student Organization Advisor should attend executive and general meetings; however, the Student Organization Advisor may not vote in any Gator Chess Club matters. The Student Organization Advisor shall be nominated by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the officers. In the event of the Student Organization Advisor position falling vacant, the club would hold a meeting within two weeks and appoint a new Student Organization Advisor. The term of the Student Organization Advisor is one year, however the Student Organization Advisor can serve consecutive terms.

## **ARTICLE VIII. - OFFICERS**

Registered student organizations are required to have a minimum of a President, Treasurer, and Vice President as elected officers. These officers must abide by the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy.

The elected officers of the Gator Chess Club shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Social Media Director. The appointed officers of the Gator Chess Club shall be Team Captain and Secretary. Appointments shall occur with a majority vote of the four elected officers of the club. In the event of a tie, the President shall cast an additional vote to break the tie.

Part 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees. He/she is ultimately responsible for fulfilling the duties of each office described below. The term of the President's office shall be one academic year.

Part 2: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the Gator Chess Club; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall have a financial statement prepared at every meeting of the Gator Chess Club and make the

financial statement available within a reasonable period of time to any member upon request. The term of treasurer's office shall be one academic year.

Part 3: The Vice President shall assist the President with all relevant tasks and perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve. The term of the Vice President's office shall be one academic year.

Part 4: The Team Captain shall be responsible for promoting and leading members of the Gator Chess Club in rated and unrated tournaments. This includes informing members about upcoming events and being the head representative for competitions such as the Collegiate Chess League. The term of the Team Captain's office shall be one academic year.

Part 5: The Social Media Director shall manage the club's social media accounts, which include but are not limited to Facebook, Discord, Twitch, Lichess, YouTube, and Instagram. The term of the Social Media Director's office shall be one academic year.

Part 6: The Secretary shall keep attendance at and record the minutes of all club meetings. The Secretary shall also coordinate all club trips. The term of the Secretary's office shall be one academic year.

Part 7: In the event of any of the positions falling vacant, the club will hold a meeting and either appoint a new officer or hold an election. This decision would be up to the GCC President or if his/her position is vacant, then it would be up to the Vice-President..

Part 8: Any officer of Gator Chess Club may be removed from office through the following process: A written request by at least three members of the organization shall be submitted to either the President, Vice President, or Treasurer. Written notification shall be sent to the officer in question asking that officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to respond to the removal request. A two thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer. In the event of the removal of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

Part 9: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve for a term of one academic year and/or until their successors are elected/appointed.

## **ARTICLE IX. - ELECTIONS**

Section A: Nominations for all officers will take place annually by the members at least one week prior to elections in the spring, with at least one week notice given of the date on which nominations will occur. Any member may nominate any other voting member, including himself or herself. Nominations may also be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations. Voting will occur by secret ballot, with votes counted by third parties. A

majority vote (> 50%) is necessary to win the election. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the vote, there will be a run-off between two candidates until one is decided.

In the absence of clear direction on election, amendment, and /or voting procedures, Gator Chess Club agrees to follow the guidance and instruction of Robert's Rules of Order for the election or amendment process

## **ARTICLE X. - FINANCE**

As a University Sponsored Student Organization, Gator Chess Club does not receive any funding or resources from Student Government, rather, this organization is eligible to be funded by the Department for Student Activities and Involvement and/or it may raise funds by holding chess tournaments, chess lectures, simultaneous exhibitions, selling club T-shirts and other chess related activities. Members are expected to participate in these fundraising activities. The Gator Chess Club will also apply for Student Government funding. The monies will be used for chess equipment, travel and registration for tournaments, purchase of books/software on chess and other chess related expenses. Decisions on how to spend club money will be made by the majority consent of the club officers with strong input from the members.

As a USSO, Gator Chess Club will comply with UF Finance and Accounting policies on purchasing, funding and fundraising.

## **ARTICLE XI. - DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

Upon dissolution, student organizations are prohibited from leaving their organizational assets to any individual or any other student organization. Rather, student organizations may designate a specific charity that will receive such organizational assets. At the time of dissolution, after all outstanding debts are paid, Gator Chess Club will leave any assets and outstanding funds to UNICEF.

## **ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Student Engagement has established a process through which constitutions may be amended, reviewed, and approved. Student organizations wishing to amend their constitutions must utilize their constitution on file listed on GatorConnect to make amendments and submit those changes to Student Engagement

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any current officer, and propositions may be made to the club's general body at any meeting. This constitution may be amended

with two thirds majority of a vote provided that at least one third of the eligible members voted and notice of the election was provided at least one week in advance of the vote. The proposed amendment shall be subject to approval of the Department for Student Activities and Involvement.

All amended constitutions must be submitted directly to Student Engagement for review and approval.