

# Constitution of the Highlander's Chess Club

## Preamble

We, the students of New Jersey Institute of Technology (hereafter referred to as "NJIT"), do hereby form this organization in an effort to provide an opportunity to learn about chess and its benefits.

## Article I: Name of Organization

Let it be known that this organization shall be named the Highlander's Chess Club, hereafter referred to as "The HCC."

## Article II: Purpose

The purpose of The HCC shall be to benefit the university community of NJIT by providing a means of competition that is non-athletic and friendly, stimulating the ego as well as the mind.

## Article III: Membership

### Section 1: Applicants and Applications

All members of the university community of NJIT are eligible of active membership. Students may apply for voting membership if, and only if:

- They are a full-time (12 or more credits) student enrolled at NJIT, and;
- They are an undergraduate student.

All other members of the university community of NJIT may apply for active membership so long as they are enrolled at NJIT.

### Section 2: Membership Process

To become a member of The HCC, whether voting or active, the applicant must attend at least one meeting per term.

### Section 3: Membership Status

- Members are to be considered "*active*" when they play a role in the club by attending meetings or club events.

- Members are to be considered "*voting*" when they attend at least two meetings per term and meet the requirements for application (listed in Article III, Section 1).
- Members are to be considered "*inactive*" should they fail to meet the requirements for active members (listed in Article III, Section 3A).
- Members are to be removed from the roster should they be "*inactive*" at the end of a semester.

## **Article IV: Meetings**

- Meetings will be held on a weekly basis at a prearranged location chosen by the executive officers.
- Executive meetings will be held on a monthly basis. All executive officers are required to attend.
- Special events will also be held at the discretion of The HCC.

## **Article V: Officers and Duties**

### **Section 1: Eligibility**

A student may become an officer of The HCC if, and only if:

- That student is a voting member, and;
- That student has been a member of The HCC for at least one semester.

### **Section 2: Executive Positions**

The positions of executive office shall be:

- President;
- Vice President, and;
- Treasurer.

### **Section 3: Duties of Executive Officers**

All officers must maintain an active role in the general functions of The HCC. In addition to this:

- The duties of the President shall be:
  1. To represent the club at all NJIT student and departmental occasions.
  2. To call for and lead executive meetings.
  3. To ensure that activities are organized and accomplished successfully.
  4. To take ultimate responsibility for all group activities.
  
- The duties of the Vice President shall be:
  1. To maintain an accurate record of all executive meetings.
  2. To maintain an accurate record of all members and what each is responsible for.
  3. To contact members for regular meetings and advertise club events.
  
- The duties of the Treasurer shall be:
  1. To represent the group in all financial matters.
  2. To order and buy things for the best available prices.
  3. To maintain an accurate report of all financial transactions.

#### **Section 4: Terms of Office**

Officers shall assume their respective duties and positions starting on the seventh day following general elections and ending on the seventh day following the next general election.

#### **Article VI: Elections**

Unless conditions require it sooner, election procedures shall begin each year at the first meeting following Spring Break. Should conditions require an earlier date, an emergency election may be called only by unanimous decision of the current officers. The Election Procedure, in either case, shall be as follows:

- At the first two meetings following Spring Break, nominations for all offices shall be held. All active members, whether they hold voting status or not, may nominate any other voting member for office.
  
- At the third meeting following Spring Break, general elections shall be held. Nominees may, at this time, choose to make a short speech to the members. Upon completion, all voting members shall vote for each office, starting with President and ending with the Treasurer.

## **Article VII: Voting Procedure**

### **Section 1: Voting for Executive Office**

Voting in this manner shall be done by secret ballot. In the event of a tie, another vote by secret ballot shall be taken and repeated until a nominee has been elected by a simple majority of the votes.

### **Section 2: General Voting**

In all cases except that of executive office, voting shall be done by show of hands with simple majority taking precedence. In the case of a tie vote, a tiebreak vote shall be taken by secret ballot. Should this generate a second tie, a coin toss shall make the decision.

## **Article VIII: Resignations**

An officer may resign at any time, and is officially removed from duty when a suitable replacement is found to permanently take the office for the remainder of the term. Until a successor is found, the remaining executive members may choose to temporarily fill the position with another member so long as this temporary officer also meets the eligibility requirements for office as described in Article V, Section 1. At the meeting following the resignation, a special nomination and election shall be held to elect a permanent successor to the resigned officer. The member selected to be the temporary successor may be elected at this time. This election process shall follow the voting procedure stated in Article VII, Section 2.

## **Article IX: Impeachment**

An officer may be impeached if, and only if:

- A petition for impeachment is signed by at least 1/4 of the voting members and;
- All of the remaining officers, or;
- 3/4 of the voting members.

## **Article X: By-laws**

If necessary, by-laws shall be drafted each year by the acting officers prior to the fall semester.

## **Article XI: Amendments**

Amendments to this constitution shall be submitted to the executive officers during an executive meeting and voted on by the voting members at the next general meeting with 2/3 majority passing the amendment.