

**THE CONSTITUTION AND BYE LAWS OF
ALL INDIA CHESS FEDERATION
(Regd. No.125 of 1958)
(Regulated by the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975)**

Amended as on 5th October, 2022

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1. The Name of the Society :

All India Chess Federation shortly called as "AICF". The word Federation shall not be used in their name by any State Association or Unit.

2. The Address of the AICF:

The AICF has its registered address at Hall No.70 Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Periamet, Chennai 600 003.

The AICF shall have it headquarter at #101-102, First Floor, A Block, Naurang House, 21, KG Marg, New Delhi – 110001.

3. The formation of the Society:

All India Chess Federation was formed on 12th December 1958 and registered as a Society under Societies Registration act 1860 bearing Regn. No.125 of 1958 with the Registrar of Assurances, Madras - Chingleput. As per Section 53 of Act 27 of 1975, the Society is now regulated by the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975.

4. The Society is within the Jurisdiction of Registrar of Society:

The Society is now functioning under the jurisdiction of the Registrar of societies Chennai Central". The Jurisdiction shall be as decided by Registration Department, Government of Tamil Nadu" from time to time.

5. The business hours of the Society:

Between 10.30 A.M. to 6.30 P.M. on all Working days except Sundays and Government holidays.

6. The objects of the Society:

The objects of All India Chess Federation shall be –

- (a) To promote the game of Chess to inculcate a sense of discipline amongst the players, to increase their proficiency, to foster brotherhood among the players and to promote a chess culture.
- (b) To maintain general control over the chess activities in India in accordance with this Constitution and the Rules and Regulations of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in force from time to time.

- (c) To promote formation of Organizations to promote the game of Chess within the jurisdiction of the Federation.
- (d) To act as the Apex Body of the affiliated Members and to co-ordinate their activities and organize and cause to organize National and International Championships, Technical Conferences and Coaching Camps.
- (e) To receive and spend funds to promote the game of Chess in accordance with the Bye Laws of the Federation.
- (f) To select the teams to represent India and to promote, control and if necessary, finance the visits by such teams, players and officials.
- (g) To promote, control and if necessary, finance the visits of foreign teams or coaches or individual players to India.
- (h) To prepare and maintain a National Rank List of players.
- (i) To seek affiliation with other National and International Organisations, if necessary; and
- (j) To generally do such other acts and things as may be necessary or conducive for achieving the objects of the Federation.
- (k) The activities would be confined to the territory of India.
- (l) The activities would be purely charitable in nature and not motivated for profit.
- (m) The benefit of objects would be available to the general public irrespective of caste, creed, religion or sex.

7. Definitions and Explanations:

(a) Affiliated Members :

The affiliated members of AICF are the State Chess Associations functioning in the States/Union Territories of India duly recognized and affiliated to AICF as per the Bye Laws.

(b) Association :

Shall mean the State Association which is affiliated to the Federation.

(c) Championship :

State, National and International, Chess Championship for any category or Age Group recognized by AICF and FIDE.

(d) Federation :

Federation shall mean in so far as the game of Chess in India is concerned All India Chess Federation.

(e) Flag :

The Flag of the Federation is Tricolour Orange on top, White in middle and Green at Bottom with the logo in center.

(f) FIDE :

Federation International Des Echecs - The International Chess Federation / World Chess Federation.

(g) Financial Year :

1st of April to 31st of March of succeeding year the period in which the accounts of the registered Society are maintained and Audited as required under the Bye laws.

(h) The General Body :

The General Body of All India Chess Federation shall consist of Office Bearers of AICF and its affiliated members.

(i) Institution Member :

Shall mean the Sports bodies of the Statutory bodies functioning in the whole of India and of the Departments of the Government of India duly recognized and affiliated to the AICF as per the Bye Laws.

(j) Logo :

Logo of the Federation is the symbolic sign of Queen bearing "AICF"

(k) Memorandum :

Means the Memorandum of Association of a registered society as originally framed and as amended, from time to time, in pursuance of the provisions of this Act;

(l) Player :

The Chess player duly registered with the AICF.

(m) Tournament :

Any competition, recognized by AICF or by FIDE, conducted by any affiliated Member on behalf of AICF.

(n) Special Resolution :

A Resolution passed by a majority of not less than three fourths of the members of the Society entitled to vote as or present at a General Meeting convened specifying the intention to propose the Resolution as a Special Resolution has been duly given.

(o) Office Bearers of AICF :

The AICF shall have the following Office Bearers:

The President - 1
The Vice Presidents - 6
The Secretary - 1
The Treasurer - 1
The Joint Secretaries - 6

All these posts are Honorary without any salary or honorarium.

(p) Official of AICF :

Shall mean Coach, Instructor, Manager, Arbiter or functionaries recognized by AICF.

8. The General Body:

(a) The General Body of the All India Chess Federation shall consist of :

- (i) All Office bearers of the AICF.
- (ii) Two Representatives nominated by the State Associations affiliated as Members of the AICF. There shall be only one State Association from each State/UT of India which may be granted affiliation as permanent member of AICF.
- (iii) One Representative nominated by Institutional Members affiliated with AICF. The representative sent by the Institution Members shall be a regular employee of the concerned institution.
- (iv) 6 Player members which shall include Senior National Men Chess Championship Winner & Runner up and Senior National Women Chess Championship Winner & Runner up. Further, 2 Indian players 1 men and 1 woman who have the highest rating as per the international standards. In the event that the highest rated player is either a Senior National Champion or Runner Up then the second highest rated player shall be made a Player Member. In the event that the second highest rated player is also either a Senior National Champion or Runner Up then the third highest rated player shall be made a Player Member.

Category (i), (iii) and (iv) shall have no voting rights during Elections of the office bearers of AICF. Category (iii) shall have no voting right in the General Body of AICF. All the 6 members in Category (iv) shall have voting rights in the General Body of AICF.

(a) Quorum of General Body

The Quorum for any meeting of the General Body, other than a Special Meeting requisitioned by the members of AICF, shall be one fourth of its members. The members who could not attend the meeting can send their decisions by E-mail, post or by fax duly signed by the concerned Secretary. The casting of votes by E-mail or post by the Members shall be taken into account for the purposes of quorum. If sufficient quorum is not there, the meeting shall be adjourned. After an interval of an hour the convened meeting shall be held again at the very same place. If even after such adjournment, there is no quorum, then those present at the meeting shall be reckoned to constitute the requisite quorum and the business in the Agenda shall be transacted.

In the case of a Special Meeting of the General Body requisitioned by the members of AICF, the Quorum shall be at least 10 members. If the requisitioned meeting lacks quorum, it shall stand cancelled and the requisition will be treated as lapsed.

9. Powers and duties of the General Body :

- (a)** To elect the office-bearers of the Federation;
- (b)** To appoint Auditors and fix their remuneration;
- (c)** To consider and approve the Annual Report;
- (d)** To consider and approve the audited statement of accounts and the budget;
- (e)** To acquire, hold, control, administer and dispose of the property and funds of the Federation.
- (f)** To make and amend the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Federation as and when necessary, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting provided further that for amending the Constitution the quorum of the General Body shall not be less than three-fourth of the strength of General Body;
- (g)** To consider and decide any matter related to Chess.
- (h)** To take such other steps as may be necessary or expedient for carrying out the objects of the Federation.
- (i)** To prescribe the Annual Subscription to be paid to the Federation Executive Council.

- (j) To borrow funds when necessary for the purpose of the Federation;
- (k) To frame Rules and Regulations for proper conduct of the functioning and administration of All India Chess Federation and its Affiliated Members.
- (l) To grant affiliation to State Associations and Institutions.
- (m) To disaffiliate State Associations and Institutional members from the Federation.
- (n) To take disciplinary action against its members, the office bearers, officials and players recognized by the federation or of any recognized Members.
- (o) To exercise all or any of the powers of the Executive Council and to amend or annul its decisions.
- (p) The World Chess Federation (FIDE) had accorded separate Zone (Asian Zone 3.7) Status to the All India Chess Federation in the Asian Continent. Accordingly, the General Body shall nominate the President (& other office bearers in case of need) of Asian Zone 3.7. The Executive Council is also empowered to nominate, subject to the ratification of the GB. The GB will also have the powers to cancel such nominations.

10. Annual Meeting of the General Body of AICF:

Annual General Body Meeting of the Association shall be held before 30th of June every year. The Hon'y. Secretary shall give notice of the above meeting with a copy of the Agenda at least 21 clear days before the meeting.

The Agenda for the meeting shall inter alia include appointment of Auditors, consideration of the Annual Report, Audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Receipts and Expenditures, Budget estimates for the following year and other matters if any.

Only the Members who have paid their Annual Subscription between 1st and 15th of April or with a fine of Rs.100/- before 30th of April of that year are eligible to attend the Annual General Body Meeting of the AICF.

Such defaulted members who have not paid the Annual Subscription shall be temporarily disaffiliated and are not eligible for the rights and benefits of the Affiliated Members entitled to in the affairs and functioning of AICF. Such defaulted members are not eligible to attend the Annual General Body Meeting or participate in the election of Office Bearers.

The Secretary shall forward the Notice of the Annual General Body Meeting along with the Agenda of the Annual General Body Meeting to the Active Affiliated Members by R.P.A.D./Speed Post/E-mail.

On receipt of the Notice of the Annual General Body Meeting, the Active Affiliated Members with voting rights shall forward the names of Two Representatives conferred with voting rights by the General Body or Executive Body nominated and in the case of Institutional Members by the competent Authority to represent the Member at the Annual General Body Meeting, at least 15 clear days before the date of the Annual General Body Meeting.

11. Special Meeting of the General Body:

A Special Meeting of the General Body may be called at any time by the Resolution of the Executive Council or on the requisition in writing at least by 10 members of the Federation or by the President to consider such matters mentioned in the Agenda.

The Secretary shall give 14 clear days' notice of such meetings to all members with a copy of the proposed agenda.

The Special Meeting requisitioned by the Resolution of the Executive Council or on requisition in writing by 10 members shall be called within 30 days of the receipt of the Resolution/Requisition/Direction of the President.

In the event that a Special Meeting of the General Body of AICF cannot be conducted physically due to any reason, the same can be conducted virtually via video conferencing.

12. Urgent Meeting of the General Body:

In the event of any emergency the President at his discretion may convene an Urgent Meeting of the General Body of AICF by giving notice prescribing a period even shorter than the one prescribed for the Special Meeting.

13. Office Bearers of AICF and their Term and Tenure :

The General Body of AICF shall by a majority of Votes elect the President, 6 Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and 6 Joint Secretaries.

Term and Tenure:

(a) All the aforesaid office bearers shall be elected for a term of 3 years.

(b) The President can hold office for a maximum period of 12 years with or without a break.

(c) The Secretary and the Treasurer shall hold office only for 2 successive/consecutive terms of 3 years each after which a minimum cooling off period of 4 years shall apply to seek fresh election to either post.

(d) Other Office bearers will be eligible for re-election for any like term/terms.

All the office bearers of AICF shall cease to hold that post on attaining the age of 70 years.

No office bearer of AICF shall hold office simultaneously, in any other recognized National Sports Federation, excepting the Indian Olympic Association.

Further, holding of elective office in various Sports Bodies by Central Govt. Servant is regulated in terms of the provisions contained in the Central Civil Services (Conduct Rules), 1964 and the Circular dated 30.12.2020 of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. A Central Government Servant may hold an elective post in the AICF for a period of two terms or for a period of 5 years, whichever is earlier, for which prior sanction would be required when a Central Government Servant contests an election in AICF.

On the expiry of the term of 3 years of the office bearers of AICF, they shall cease to hold office. The office bearers shall surrender all the letterheads on the expiry of the tenure of the office bearers. After the completion of the term of 3 years, the term of the office bearers of AICF may be extended for a maximum period of 3 months with the approval of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

In the exceptional event that fresh elections of AICF are not conducted even after the expiry of the aforesaid period of 3 additional months, the General Body of AICF may hold a meeting within 7 days of the expiry of the 3 additional months and it may appoint a 5-member ad-hoc committee to overlook and take care of the day to day affairs of AICF. This ad-hoc committee shall only have the power to take decisions regarding the day to day functioning of AICF in order to ensure its smooth functioning till fresh elections take place and new office bearers are elected.

14. Mode of Elections of Office Bearers:

The elections of AICF shall be conducted in strict compliance of the Model Election Guidelines which are appended as Annexure XXXVIII to the National Sports Code, 2011 as amended by Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India from time to time. Elections of AICF can be conducted only in the Annual General Body Meeting of AICF called under Clause 10 of these By-Laws. No elections can be conducted at a Special Meeting of the General Body of AICF. The Representatives nominated to represent a Member State Association at the elections of AICF shall be elected members of the executive body of the concerned Member Association.

For the elections of AICF, the President and Secretary of the member state association should be the representatives. In the event that either the President or the Secretary are unable to represent a member state association, the member state association shall be represented by a

member authorised by the President or Secretary General/Secretary of the affiliated Permanent Member State/Union Territory; however, in case President/Secretary General/Secretary nominate different person(s), then the person(s) authorised by the President shall be deemed to be the duly authorised person(s), irrespective of the date.

In the election of the office bearers of AICF, the two representatives of each affiliated member state association shall have the right to cast one vote each. Voting in the election of AICF shall be done by secret ballot. In the elections, no proxy voting shall be permissible.

15. Powers and duties of the Office Bearers :

(a) President :

The President shall preside over the meetings of the General Body, Executive Council, and of any Committee of which he is a member and in case of equality of votes, he shall have a casting vote.

If, in the opinion of the President, any emergency has arisen in the affairs of AICF which requires immediate action should be taken, he may take such action deemed necessary and report the same to the next Meeting of the Executive Council or General Body.

(b) Vice Presidents :

In the absence of the President for any Meeting, one of the Vice President present shall be proposed to the Chair. In the absence of any Vice President any one of the eligible members shall be proposed to the chair.

(c) Secretary :

He shall be the Secretary to the General Body, the Executive Council and all other Committees of the Federation and will issue Notices of the meetings of General Body, Executive Council and the Committees and record the Minutes of these Meetings. He shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and custody of the above Minutes of the General Body, Executive Council and the Committees duly recorded in the Minute Books kept for the said purposes. He shall carry out all resolutions and decisions of the General Body, Executive Council and the Committees.

He shall exercise all such powers conferred on him by the General Body and Executive Council and shall be in charge of the day to day administration of the Federation assisted by the Secretariat of AICF.

All subscriptions, donations, Grant in Aid, other like payments and amounts sent to the Secretariat of the Federation shall be received under proper Receipts and all disbursements made on behalf of the Federation shall be under proper Vouchers.

He will be in charge of all correspondence received and sent on behalf of the Federation and maintain proper records of the same.

The Secretary shall be empowered to incur contingent expenditure of Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Only) at a time.

He shall be competent to submit proposals to the Governments in respect of National and International Tournaments and also appoint Officials for such Tournaments.

The Secretary along with Treasurer will be responsible for the Funds of the Federation and for preparation of the Annual Budget, Annual Report, Audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Receipts and Expenditures and place the same for the consideration of Executive Council and for the approval of General Body in the Annual General Body Meeting.

After the conclusion of the Annual General Body Meeting, the Secretary shall before 30th of September file the Statutory Returns stipulated under Section 16 (3) of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act;

(i) An authenticated copy of such Receipts and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Report.

(ii) A statement of the names, addresses and occupations of the persons who, at the expiry of the financial year, were members of the registered society; and

(iii) A declaration to the effect that the society has been carrying on business or has been in operation during the financial year.

With the Registrar of Societies under whose jurisdiction the Federation is functioning. The Secretarial staff will function under the administrative control of the Secretary. He will be competent to appoint such secretarial staff and take disciplinary action including termination of their services and report the same to the Executive Council.

(d) Treasurer :

The Treasurer along with Secretary shall exercise general supervision over the funds of the Federation and advise the General Body as regards its financial policy.

The treasurer shall along with Secretary submit to the General Body at its annual meeting a statement of receipts and expenditure, the balance sheet audited, and the budget for the ensuing year as approved by the Executive Council.

(e) Joint Secretaries :

Joint Secretaries shall assist the Secretary in discharging of his duties and carry out the work of the Federation as may be assigned to them by the Executive Council.

(f) Any Office bearer who abstains from three consecutive meetings of either the General Body or the Executive Council without prior intimation shall stand automatically removed from his position as office bearer of the Federation. The General Body and the Executive Council have the powers to condone the absence on valid reasonings.

16. Executive Council:

The Executive Council shall be the Executive Body of the Federation and invested with all powers to administer the Federation.

(a) Composition:

The Executive Council shall consist of the Office Bearers of AICF and Player Members.

At least 25% of the strength of the Executive Council shall consist of prominent chess players. In the event such number is not achieved, the Executive Council shall nominate as many prominent chess players to form part of the Executive Council.

For the purpose of the aforesaid sub-clause, a prominent chess player shall be a player who has:

- represented India in an international chess tournament, or
- participated in the National Men/Women Senior Championship, or
- a FIDE rating.

(b) Powers of the Executive Council :

- (i) To sanction expenditures upto Rs.50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty lakhs only) at a time.
- (ii) To hear and decide the issues referred to it by the Office Bearers or Affiliated Members.
- (iii) To grant provisional affiliation to new members dedicated for the development and promotion of Chess activities in any newly formed areas or newly formed Organizations exercising control over whole of India and refer the same to the General Body in the next available meeting for its decision.
- (iv) To disaffiliate any Member of the AICF for the attributed misconduct defined in the Constitution or otherwise and refer the same to the General Body in the next available meeting for its decision.
- (v) To constitute Sub Committees for any specific requirements.
- (vi) To institute/discontinue/rename and enact Rules and Regulations for the Organization's smooth and successful conduct of various National Championships and Tournaments, Seminars, Technical Conferences, Coaching Camps and the Code of conduct of Players / of Organisers of Championships/Tournaments.

- (vii) To conduct or cause to conduct National and International Championship and other Chess related activities and to permit conduct of other Chess Tournaments/Events conducted by the affiliated members.
- (viii) To levy capitation, registration, recognition and other like fees.
- (ix) To fix salaries and other allowances to the secretarial staff of the federation.
- (x) To fix Travelling and Other Allowances incurred by the Office Bearers of AICF in discharging their duties in the affairs of AICF.
- (xi) To prescribe remuneration and Travelling and Other Expenses of Boarding and Lodging payable to Arbiters, Officials and Observers appointed to All India Tournaments and National level Championships.
- (xii) To frame seeding criteria and prescribe the Norms for rating Open Tournaments.
- (xiii) To enquire into the misconduct attributed to the Affiliated Members and take necessary and appropriate decision.
- (xiv) Entertain the Appeals preferred by the aggrieved members of the Affiliated State Units and the Secretarial Staff of AICF.
- (xv) To take disciplinary action against members, Officials and Players concerning the charges leveled. After receiving the findings of the proceedings in writing, appeal shall lie within 30 days on receipt of the order, to the next General Body against such order of the Executive Council.
- (xvi) To frame and or amend the code of conduct for Organisers of Teams, Coaches, Instructors, Tournaments, Players, Managers of Arbiters and other Officials.
- (xvii) To nominate President (& other office bearers in case of need) of Asian Zone 3.7., subject to the ratification of the GB. The Executive Council however will also have the powers to cancel such nominations, which shall be ratified by the GB.
- (xviii) The Executive Council shall constitute an Internal Complaints Committee to prevent and address sexual harassment of women in sports. The said committee shall be known as Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women. The composition of the said Committee must be approved by the General Body in its next meeting. In addition to all the relevant laws, rules and regulations promulgated by the Government of India from time to time, the provisions mentioned in the National Sports Development Code of India for prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports i.e. Annexure XVII to the Sports Code shall be applicable

- (xix) The Executive Council shall constitute a Players Grievance Committee to prevent and address concerns of the players. The composition of the said Committee must be approved by the General Body in its next meeting. In addition to all the relevant laws, rules and regulations promulgated by the Government of India from time to time, the provisions mentioned in the National Sports Development Code of India for age fraud i.e. Annexure XVI to the Sports Code shall be applicable.
- (xx) The Executive Council shall ensure that the participants in the tournaments being conducted or organised by the All India Chess Federation or its member State Associations do not indulge in any age fraud, impersonation or any other sports fraud. Such matter shall be dealt with by the Executive Council in consonance with the applicable Government Guidelines and also the age fraud regulations formulated by the AICF from time to time. All players shall present themselves for Medical Test to determine their age at any time when called upon to do so by All India Chess Federation of its affiliates. The AICF will have the powers to arrange for Medical test to determine the age of any player at any time if there is a suspicion, particularly for those who wish to participate in age group tournaments abroad. In addition to all the relevant laws, rules and regulations promulgated by the Government of India from time to time, the provisions mentioned in the National Sports Development Code of India for anti- doping i.e. Annexure XX to the Sports Code shall be applicable.
- (xxi) The Executive Council shall ensure that strict action against any case of doping by a player. Such matters shall be dealt with in consonance with applicable Government rules, regulations, laws and guidelines, World Anti-Doping Code and any other guidelines formulated by the General Body of All India Chess Federation with regard to anti- doping.
- (xxii) The Executive Council of AICF shall constitute an Athletes Commission comprising only of chess players. The said Athletes Commission shall address and cater to all the grievances of the chess players.

(c) Meetings of the Executive Council:

The Executive Council shall meet four times a year or as often as necessary.

On the requisition in writing by at least one fourth of the members of the Executive Council or on the direction of the President, the Secretary shall convene the meeting of the Executive Council.

The secretary shall convene the meeting of the Executive Council giving 15 clear days Notice along with the Agenda of the Meeting to all the members of the Executive Council.

The members are entitled to place the subjects for the consideration of the Executive Council and such subjects shall be sent to the Secretary well in time so that the same can be included in the Agenda of the Meeting.

(d) Quorum of the Meeting

The Quorum for the meeting of the Executive Council shall be one fourth of its members. The members who could not attend the meeting can send their decisions by E-mail, post or by fax duly signed by the Secretary. The casting of votes by E-mail or post by the Members shall be taken into account for the purposes of quorum. If sufficient quorum is not there, the Meeting shall be adjourned. After an interval of an hour the convened meeting shall be held again at the very same place. If even after such adjournment, there is no quorum, then those present at the meeting shall be reckoned to constitute the requisite quorum and the business in the Agenda shall be transacted.

If the requisitioned meeting lacks quorum, then it shall stand cancelled and the requisition will be treated as lapsed

The decisions of the Executive Council shall be decided by a majority of votes.

In the event that a physical meeting of the Executive Council of AICF cannot be conducted due to any reason, the same can be conducted virtually via video conferencing.

17. Amendments to the Constitution and Bye Laws:

The amendment to the Constitution and the Bye Laws of the All India Chess Federation in relation to the Objects of the Society and to carry on its administration shall be made by Special Resolution.

On the suggestion of the Executive Council or by one fourth of the members, the Secretary shall convene the Special Meeting of the General Body to consider the proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bye Laws and such Resolutions on being passed by majority of not less than three fourth of members present at the Special Meeting.

The adopted amendment to the Constitution or the Bye Laws shall be registered with the jurisdictional Registrar of Societies and on such registration the amendment shall take effect from the date of passing of the amendment by the Special General Body Meeting.

18. Requirements to be complied with by the Member State Associations to continue Affiliation with AICF :

The Member State Association affiliated with AICF to continue the affiliation shall pay the Annual Subscription before 15th of April and with the fine of Rs.100/- before 30th of April.

The Member State Association shall hold their Annual General Body Meeting before 15th of May and holding the elections of Office Bearer, if it is required and submit the certified Xerox copies of the Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting, Audited Balance Sheet with Auditors Report, Annual Report, Annual Budget for the ensuing year, calendar of events, List of Office Bearers and present condition, with the Secretary of the All India Chess Federation before 31st of May to establish that the Member State Association remain active.

Members who have defaulted by not paying the fees and other dues to the Federation will have no right to participate in the meetings of the Federation and the AICF will have the right to deny any Secretarial services to them, including debarring their players from participating in National Championships. Further the Federation will be free to invoke Section 23 of the Constitution and Bye laws.

The State Associations can have different categories of members. However, the District Chess Associations alone shall have the right to vote. Each District Chess Association may be permitted to send two delegates to all the General Body Meetings of the State Associations and allowed to vote.

Minimum of 50% of the District Associations should be the affiliated with the State Association. In case of State Associations / Union Territories where there are very few Districts - Municipality / Panchayat level / TalukLevel Associations may be affiliated to the State Association.

For the Executive Committee / Managing Committee Meetings one delegate from each district shall be allowed to attend and to vote.

For the General Body Meeting and EC / MC, apart from the district delegates the office bearers are entitled to vote. However, for the elections to the office bearers, only the two delegates may be allowed to vote.

Each State Association shall be a legally existing society registered under the relevant statutes governing it. Every State Association must be legally permitted to represent its respective State/Union Territory.

19. Finance of All India Chess Federation:

All moneys received by the Federation form whatever source shall form the Federation Fund. The Federation Fund shall be under the control of the General Body and shall be spent as provided under this Constitution and as per the decisions of General Body.

The revenue of the Federation will include;

- (i) Membership/Subscription Fees paid by the affiliated Member State Associations/Institutional Members.
- (ii) Players' Entry fee for Championships and Tournaments.

- (iii) Non-refundable EMD to be paid by the Organisers of International Tournaments.
- (iv) Refundable EMD to be paid by the Organisers of National Tournaments.
- (v) Recognition fee for Championships/Tournaments.
- (vi) Fee for conducting/organizing International Tournaments.
- (vii) Fee for award of titles/certificates.
- (viii) Players Registration fee.
- (ix) Fees received for services rendered or rights granted by Federation.
- (x) Other Contributions
- (xi) Such other receipts as may be incidental or mandatory to the above.

20. Deposit and disbursement of the funds of the All India Chess Federation :

All the moneys given to the Federation at its Secretariat, shall be received by the Secretary and duly brought into the accounts of AICF issuing proper Receipts. The General Body or the Executive Council shall decide such Bank or Banks in which the funds of the AICF has to be deposited. On such decision of the General Body or the Executive Council the Secretary and the Treasurer shall open the Account or Accounts in the name of All India Chess Federation and such Account or Accounts of the AICF shall be operated by Hon'y. Secretary, along with the Treasurer or the Vice President. All payments made in the name of the Federation by cheques shall be signed by the Secretary along with the Treasurer or with a Vice President.

All receipts and disbursements made by the Secretary and the Treasurer on behalf of AICF during the interregnum period of the preceded and convened Meeting shall be submitted to the Executive Council for its guidance and approval.

a) The funds of the Institution would be utilized only towards the objects and no portion of it would be distributed in any manner to the trustees or persons defined in Section 13 (1) (c) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

b) Not more than 5% of the Income of the trust / Institution would be applied for any religious purposes or given to religious Institutions.

21. Ethics Commission:

There shall be an Ethics Commission which shall be duly appointed by the General Body of AICF in its meeting. The Ethics Commission shall receive complaints of all sorts and take decisions in consonance with the AICF Code of Ethics and the Constitution of AICF. The Ethics Commission shall adopt the procedure and constitution as formulated by the General Body of AICF. The General Body of AICF shall promulgate the AICF Code of Ethics.

22. Vacancies :

The vacancies of Office Bearers that may arise by resignation, death or otherwise shall be filled by the President and such nominated person shall hold the office till the next General Body Meeting. The next General Body Meeting can either continue the arrangement or elect a person among the General Body to the vacant office for the remaining period of the full term. In case of vacancy of the President, the Executive Council / General Body shall fill the vacancy (could be anybody and not necessarily from Executive Council / General Body) for the remainder of the term.

23. Misconduct on the part of Members / Special Members / Office Bearers:

The following acts will be construed as Misconduct on the part of the Members/Special Members/ Office Bearers.

- (i) Any act against the aims and objects of the Federation and detrimental to the interests of AICF.
- (ii) Fraud, Cheating, embezzlement, theft, willful damage to or dishonesty in connection with Federation's property, funds or records.
- (iii) Willful disobedience of the directives of the Executive Council or the General Body or the Competent Office Bearers of AICF.
- (iv) Willful breach of the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Orders of the Federation.
- (v) Non-payment of the fees and other dues to the Federation.
- (vi) Not holding Annual General Meetings for two years in row.
- (vii) Offers or attempts to offer or receiving or attempts to receive any consideration in kind, cash or otherwise to influence the results of games, tournaments, elections or any chess events of the Federation.
- (viii) Failure to perform the functions and duties in an impartial and responsible manner.
- (ix) Failure to comply with normally accepted standards and Chess etiquette.

24. Expulsion/Suspension :

(a) If an Office Bearer, affiliated unit or its Office Bearers or a player or an individual directly or indirectly connected with the Federation refuses to comply with the provisions of this Constitution,

Rules and Regulations or is guilty of such conduct which in the opinion of the Executive Council is likely to affect the character or stability or interest of the Federation, such person or affiliated Unit or its Office Bearers shall be liable for expulsion or suspension for such periods as the Executive Council may fix by a Resolution adopted by not less than two-thirds of the Members of the Council present at such Meeting. The Secretary shall cause Notice to the Organisation/Individual calling for their explanation and they shall be placed for the consideration of the Executive Council. Any refusal to accept the Notice by the party shall be treated as Notice having been served.

(b) In the event of dissolution or defunct Association or Pursuant to expulsion or Suspension under 24.A or pursuant to action taken under section 9 & 16 the Executive Council shall appoint an Ad. Hoc Committee consisting of 5 members in place of the State Association, to run the affairs of the Association, until fresh elections are held under AICF's supervision, so that the interest of Chess players are protected.

(c) Suo Moto action:

Under extra-ordinary circumstances, where a disciplinary action is necessary to protect the objects of the constitution and Bye laws of AICF, the Hon. Secretary/Executive Council shall Suo Moto take action [the action attracting Section 24(a)], against any official, Academy etc., to suspend from all chess activities, debar, impose penalties etc., with the reasons being put in writing. However, the matter shall be placed in the next Executive Council/AGM for a final decision.

25. Dissolution :

(a) Dissolution of the Federation shall take place in accordance with the provisions of Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975.

(b) In case of winding up / dissolution of the All India Chess Federation, the net funds would be transferred to Institutions having similar objects and enjoying exemption u/s 11 & 80 G of the IT Act, 1961.

26. Disputes :

(a) For any relief, whether final or interim, being sought against the AICF, recourse to ordinary courts of law shall not be permissible without first exhausting the alternative remedy of resolving the dispute before the Ethics Commission and thereafter the Appellate Authority of the AICF.

(b) In addition to the AICF Code of Ethics, any dispute between the AICF, any member of AICF, players, coaches and arbiters shall be referred to and finally settled by the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission shall not include any member or office bearer of AICF.

- (c) An appeal against the decision of the Ethics Commission shall lie with the Appellate Authority which shall be appointed by the General Body of AICF. The members of the Appellate Authority cannot be members of any chess federation at any level across India. The Appellate Authority may adopt procedure as deemed fit by it.
- (d) The decision of the Appellate Authority shall be final and the same shall be binding on all the parties. No appeal shall lie to any court of law.
- (e) The members and their affiliated associations, clubs, leagues, and all other natural or legal persons affiliated to them, agree to recognize the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission and the Appellate Authority.
- (f) The Member Associations shall insert a clause in their statutes or regulations, stipulating that it is prohibited to take disputes in the association or disputes affecting tournaments, players, and officials to ordinary courts of law, unless the statutes or binding legal provisions specifically provide for or stipulate recourse to ordinary courts of law. Instead of recourse to ordinary courts of law, such disputes shall be referred to the Ethics Commission.
- (g) The competent courts in New Delhi shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide any and all cases against the AICF. No legal proceedings can be instituted in any other jurisdiction other than New Delhi.
- (h) AICF shall sue and be sued only in the name of its Hon. Secretary.
- (i) The venue for holding the hearings of the Ethics Commission and the Appellate Authority shall be New Delhi.

27. Rules and Regulations:

All Rules and Regulations framed for relevant purposes or on any matters and adopted by the Executive Council and the General Body shall have the same force as this Constitution. The AICF may update its rules and regulations from time to time and shall upload the same on its website at the earliest.

28. Exceptional powers of AICF in the event of Force Majeure:

The AICF shall have the power to take any emergency measure in the event of any force majeure. A Force Majeure event shall encompass any event which could not be reasonably foreseen and shall include, but not limited to, fire, natural calamity, act of god, war, government rules and regulations, riot, civil commotion, strike and any other event which cannot be reasonably foreseen.

29. Conclusion :

Any matter not directly covered by this Constitution shall be decided by the General Body/Executive Council on the basis of the provisions in this Constitution most nearly applicable in accordance with the general terms and spirit of this Constitution.