

## **Grandmaster Steering Committee (GMSC) Statutes**

The following statutes of the GMSC were approved during the 2002 Bled Olympiad by those Grandmasters voting and in attendance.

**Mission Statement:** *The GMSC exists to support the views of the majority of its members and to protect the rights and interests of chess Grandmasters worldwide.*

### **Article 1.0: Membership of the GMSC**

**1.1: GMSC Members: All over-the-board FIDE-titled Grandmasters, Men (IGM) and Women (WGM), are eligible to become members of the GMSC.**

**1.1.1:** All over-the-board FIDE-titled Grandmasters, Men and Women, are eligible for election to the GMSC Board.

**1.2: Voting Members:** Only FIDE-titled Grandmasters on FIDE's list of the top 200 rated players have the right to vote at meetings of the GMSC and to elect its Board.

**1.2.1:** Board Members of the GMSC will also be voting members in the case that a GMSC Board Member is not ranked on FIDE's list of the top 200 rated players.

**1.2.2:** Voting Members may give their proxy votes to other Voting Members as well as the GMSC Board.

**1.2.3:** A maximum of five proxy votes of any person.

**1.3: GMSC Statutes:** The present Statutes can be amended by a two-thirds majority of the votes of all of the Voting Members.

### **2.0: The Board of the GMSC**

**2.1:** The GMSC Board will be composed of FIDE-titled Grandmasters elected by its Voting Members to terms of two years.

**2.1.1:** Two-year terms are the period between FIDE Chess Olympiads.

**2.1.2:** The GMSC Board will comprise a maximum of twelve members and not less than seven members.

**2.2:** The composition of the GMSC Board should cover a broad geographical range.

**2.2.1:** A maximum of one member per national federation may serve on the GMSC Board at any given time.

**2.3:** The world's top ten rated players (as determined by the FIDE rating list in force when elections are held) are ineligible to serve on the GMSC Board.

**2.4:** The GMSC Board should endeavor to meet once a year.

**2.4.1:** A quorum of the GMSC Board will be four members.

**2.5:** The GMSC Board will elect from among its members a President, Vice-President and Secretary.

**2.5.1:** The duties of the President will include:

- Convoking GMSC meetings;
- Chairing the meetings of the Board and the GMSC;
- Appointing a teller or tellers before a meeting to tally ballots;
- Working with the Secretary to prepare an agenda for the meeting;
- Insuring that all meetings of the GMSC are open to its members;
- Working in the best interests of the GMSC;
- Working in the best interests of GMSC members;
- Working in the best interests of the GMSC Board

**2.5.1.2:** The President will have the right to exclude unruly members as well as unruly spectators from GMSC meetings.

**2.5.2:** The GMSC Vice-President will be responsible for the duties of the GMSC President in his absence from meetings of the GMSC Board and of the GMSC.

**2.5.3:** The GMSC Secretary will be responsible for:

- Written reports of the Board Meetings and GMSC meetings;
- Insuring that written reports of the meetings of the GMSC are widely circulated;
- Insuring that written reports of the meetings of the GMSC are posted on the Internet;
- Working with the President to prepare the agenda for meetings.

**2.5.4:** Members of the GMSC Board will conduct meetings with GMSC members during their travels and solicit feedback from them.

**2.5.4.1:** GMSC Board members will create a written record of the meetings held with their colleagues and forward such records to the GMSC Secretary for posting on the Internet.

**2.6:** The GMSC Board may appoint a committee of three persons, when appropriate to be tasked with a specific issue.

**2.7:** The GMSC Board may hire advisors to help it fulfill its duties.

**2.7.1:** The GMSC Board will fix the remuneration for its advisors.

### **3.0: Members of the GMSC**

**3.1:** Members of the GMSC will be welcome to attend all GMSC meetings.

**3.2:** Members of the GMSC, with the exception of the top ten rated players, are eligible to become members of the GMSC Board.

**3.3:** Members are entitled to submit motions to the GMSC Secretary for inclusion on the agenda of meetings held by the GMSC Board.

**3.3.1:** Members are entitled to submit motions to GMSC meetings for discussion and to request a vote if a quorum exists.

**3.4:** Members are entitled to state their views on the GMSC Internet site, provided that such views are neither libelous nor vulgar.

**3.4.1:** Members are encouraged to be business-like in their postings and to use positive language.

### **4.0: GMSC Meetings:**

**4.1:** All meetings of the GMSC will be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

**4.2:** Meetings are open to all those with proper business interests in the GMSC.

**4.2.1:** Voting at the meetings is restricted to the world's 200 top-rated players, as well as the GMSC Board Members.

**4.3:** All votes held on issues and motions at meetings are carried by majority decision. However, changes to the present Statutes require a two-thirds majority of the Voting Members and the GMSC Board Members.

### **5.0: GMSC Finances**

**5.1:** The GMSC Board and its President will endeavor to secure the finances necessary to hold its meetings.

**5.2:** The GMSC Board will fix its own reimbursement of time and expenses and report such costs to the Voting Members.

**5.3:** Organizers of chess events are encouraged to host GMSC Board meetings. The GMSC Board will recompense such organizers by agreeing to participate in children's simultaneous exhibitions. These exhibitions will be completed within 90 minutes from the start of play.

**5.4:** The GMSC Board will endeavor to establish a GMSC health and benefits fund to support all Members of the GMSC.

These Statutes of the GMSC are ratified by the majority votes of the Voting Members, this day, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002, Bled, Slovenia.