

Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame Charter

1. **Authorization:** By authorization of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota State Chess Association (MSCA), the Hall of Fame Committee (HOFC) is authorized to hold an annual election for the purpose of electing Minnesota chess players and chess contributors to the *Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame*.
2. **Electors:** The HOFC will consist of four members (the electors) appointed by the MSCA Board of Directors. Each HOFC member will serve a 3-year term. These 3-year terms can be renewed by the MSCA Board at their discretion. To promote independence and avoid conflicts of interest, MSCA Board members must recuse themselves from any vote potentially appointing themselves to the HOFC.
3. **Eligible Candidates:** Minnesota chess players and chess contributors are eligible candidates for induction into the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame.

Detailed Requirements for Induction:

A. Chess players must have played over-the-board chess in Minnesota for at least 10 years. Chess players must have been noteworthy in their accomplishments. Examples of noteworthy accomplishments include state championships, national titles, USCF rating norms, USCF rating titles, team championships, participation in the state play-off championship system, and overall career chess record. Play outside of Minnesota will be considered for the players overall level of accomplishment. Additional considerations are the chess player's sportsmanship, character, and general contribution to the common good of Minnesota Chess. The HOFC will take into consideration the era in which the player competed to assess the relative success of their career within the appropriate context.

B. Chess contributors include coaches, tournament directors, promoters, editors, writers, and donors. Chess contributor noteworthy accomplishments for induction include length of service, player participation growth from promotion and financing, success of players and teams (for coaches), and literary impact for editors and writers.

4. **Method of Election:** Annual nominations for induction into the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame can be submitted in writing by any active member of the MSCA. Members can submit multiple nominations each year. Self-nominations are not permitted. The nominations are submitted to one of the four members of the HOFC by December 1 each year. The HOFC will meet, discuss the nominees, and then each member of the HOFC will cast a vote for up to three nominees. In order for a nominee to be inducted into the Hall of Fame they must be named on 75% of the HOFC member ballots. A nomination not resulting in induction will be carried forward for renewed reconsideration in the next annual voting process for up to three additional consecutive years, unless such nominee is unanimously found by the committee to be ineligible for or unworthy of consideration. Such expiration or unanimous finding terminating a nomination's renewal shall not preclude future nominations of same nominee.
5. **Timing of Election and Induction:** Annual nominations are due in writing to an HOFC member by December 1. The discussion of nominees and voting by HOFC members closes on December 15. Nominees receiving 75% of the HOFC vote must then be confirmed by the MSCA Board of Directors by December 31 using a simple majority vote. Official inductees to the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame will then be notified in early January by one of the HOFC members. The induction into the Hall of Fame will occur in mid-February each year at the Minnesota Open Chess Tournament.
6. **Induction Ceremony:** The inductee will select a person who will introduce and induct them into the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame. This person will provide an overview of the inductee's Minnesota Chess accomplishments. A member of the HOFC will then present the inductee with a plaque to honor their accomplishment. The inductee can also give an acceptance speech if they so desire. Immediately following the annual induction ceremony there will be a small celebration.
7. **Budget:** The MSCA will fund the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame with a \$300 budget per inductee. These monies will be used to purchase two plaques (one for the inductee and one for permanent display at MSCA Headquarters) and also to sponsor the small celebration following the induction ceremony.
8. **Original Inductees:** The MSCA and HOFC acknowledge the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame already includes "original inductees" George Tiers, Curt Brasket, David Kuhns, DanVoje, Louis Uedemann and E.P. Elliot.