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To: All Players, Officials, Volunteers and Members

Chris Hani Chess Association Code of Conduct for Players, Officials, Volunteers and Members

PREAMBLE

The Chris Hani Chess Association (CHCA) is committed to promoting chess as a sport founded on integrity, respect, fairness, discipline, excellence, inclusivity, and service to the community.

This Code of Conduct establishes the minimum standards of behaviour expected from every member of the Association. It seeks to create a safe, welcoming, and professional environment in which all participants can enjoy and develop the game of chess.

The primary purpose of discipline within CHCA is to educate, correct behaviour, restore relationships where possible, and protect the integrity of the Association, rather than to punish members.

ARTICLE 1 — PURPOSE

This Code aims to:

- Promote ethical conduct.
- Protect the reputation of CHCA.
- Encourage sportsmanship.
- Promote accountability.
- Ensure fair participation.
- Protect children and vulnerable persons.
- Resolve disputes fairly.
- Encourage volunteerism.
- Foster transformation and equal opportunity.

ARTICLE 2 — APPLICATION

This Code applies to:

- Registered players
- Clubs affiliated with CHCA
- Coaches
- Arbiters
- Team managers
- Volunteers
- Executive Committee members
- Committee members
- Parents and guardians when participating in CHCA activities

- Any person acting on behalf of CHCA

ARTICLE 3 — CHCA VALUES

Every member shall uphold:

- Integrity
- Honesty
- Respect
- Fair Play
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Discipline
- Teamwork
- Equality
- Non-discrimination
- Service to the chess community

ARTICLE 4 — GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Every member shall:

- Respect the Constitution, policies and regulations of CHCA.
- Respect tournament officials.
- Respect fellow players.
- Respect spectators and volunteers.
- Protect CHCA property.
- Promote the good name of chess.
- Comply with lawful decisions of the Association.
- Report misconduct honestly.

ARTICLE 5 — PLAYER CONDUCT

Players shall:

- Compete honestly.
- Respect opponents before, during and after games.
- Accept the decisions of arbiters.
- Arrive punctually.
- Refrain from cheating.
- Avoid abusive language.
- Maintain good sportsmanship.
- Respect tournament equipment.
- Follow dress requirements where applicable.
- Avoid conduct that brings chess into disrepute.

ARTICLE 6 — OFFICIALS' CONDUCT

Officials shall:

- Act impartially.
- Avoid conflicts of interest.
- Protect confidential information.
- Treat all members fairly.
- Exercise authority responsibly.
- Promote development of chess.
- Avoid favouritism.
- Declare any personal interests affecting decisions.

ARTICLE 7 — VOLUNTEERS

CHCA recognises volunteers as essential partners in the development of chess. Volunteers shall:

- Perform duties diligently.
- Treat everyone respectfully.
- Promote inclusion.
- Protect CHCA resources.
- Work collaboratively.
- Act honestly.

Volunteers shall be supported through guidance, mentoring and recognition.

ARTICLE 8 — PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

Parents and spectators shall:

- Encourage good sportsmanship.
- Respect officials.
- Avoid coaching during games where prohibited.
- Avoid intimidating players.
- Support positive behaviour.

ARTICLE 9 — FAIR PLAY

Every member shall:

- Reject cheating.
- Reject match manipulation.
- Reject corruption.
- Reject bribery.
- Reject discrimination.
- Reject harassment.
- Reject violence.

ARTICLE 10 — DISTRICT REPRESENTATION

A registered player may represent only one district during an official competition season unless a lawful transfer has been approved in accordance with the applicable regulations of Chess South Africa and FIDE. No member shall:

- Represent two districts simultaneously.
- Misrepresent eligibility.
- Use fraudulent registrations.
- Encourage another player to breach eligibility rules.

ARTICLE 11 — SOCIAL MEDIA

Members shall:

- Respect fellow members.
- Avoid defamatory statements.
- Protect confidential information.
- Promote chess positively.
- Resolve disputes through official structures before using public platforms.

ARTICLE 12 — PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

Every member shall:

- Promote a safe environment.
- Report abuse.
- Respect safeguarding policies.
- Avoid inappropriate conduct.

ARTICLE 13 — CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members shall disclose any personal, financial or family interest that could influence official decisions.

ARTICLE 14 — DISCIPLINARY PRINCIPLES

Discipline within CHCA shall be:

- Fair.
- Consistent.
- Proportionate.
- Transparent.
- Educational.
- Corrective.
- Restorative where appropriate.

Each matter shall be decided according to:

- seriousness of the offence;
- intention of the member;
- previous conduct;
- impact on others;
- willingness to accept responsibility.

ARTICLE 15 — CORRECTIVE MEASURES

Where misconduct occurs, CHCA may impose one or more of the following measures:

- Advice or counselling.
- Verbal warning.
- Written warning.
- Mediation.
- Written apology.
- Community service.
- Mentorship.
- Ethics education.
- Restitution for damaged property.
- Temporary restriction from certain activities.
- Referral to a disciplinary hearing.

Suspension or expulsion shall be considered only where the misconduct is serious or repeated.

ARTICLE 16 — SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

CHCA recognises:

- Volunteers;
- Junior players;
- Underprivileged athletes;
- Members with genuine financial hardship.

Corrective measures should, where appropriate, consider the personal circumstances of the member while protecting the integrity of the Association.

ARTICLE 17 — DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

Every member has the right to:

- Know the allegation;
- Respond to the allegation;
- Present evidence;
- Call witnesses;
- Receive a written decision;
- Appeal.

No member shall be disciplined without procedural fairness.

ARTICLE 18 — APPEALS

Members may appeal disciplinary decisions in accordance with the CHCA Disciplinary Hearing Procedure Manual.

ARTICLE 19 — REVIEW

This Code shall be reviewed at least every four years or whenever required by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 20 — ADOPTION

This Code shall come into operation upon its adoption by the Executive Committee and shall be binding on all members of the Chris Hani Chess Association.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND UNDERTAKING

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and understood the CHCA Code of Conduct for Players, Officials, Volunteers and Members, and I agree to abide by its provisions as a condition of my participation in Chris Hani Chess Association activities.

Full Name (print)	Signature	Date

Yours in Chess

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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