**VA CHESS FEDERATION EVENTS - COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

**Washington Dulles Airport Marriott, Dulles, Virginia**

**Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to COVID-19**

***Electronic acceptance of the following is required and considered completed during Registration. A signed hardcopy will also be required by every player prior to their first round play.***

The VA Chess Federation (VCF) recognizes the challenges presented by COVID-19. Precautionary measures will be in place to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 among players and tournament staff, however VCF (including the Tournament Directors and Registration Staff) cannot guarantee that you (or those you come in close contact with) will not become infected with COVID-19. By registering and attending this event, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume all risk that you may be exposed to or if infected by COVID-19.

We are implementing several requirements to be followed onsite (this includes the Tournament playing hall, any Skittles rooms, and all the common areas of the Hotel where participants are in contact with others). For the safety of all, we ask our attendees to strictly follow the following best-practice suggestions for attendees at this event.

Players who appear to be ill may be removed from the tournament. Removals will be made without a refund.

If you show sign of COVID or fail consecutive temperature checks (fever and/or temperature over 100.4, per the CDC guidelines), you will be given the option to go to a rapid COVID testing center and request a test or to be withdrawn from the tournament immediately. If a player’s test results are positive, the player will be removed from the tournament. If you play someone who has failed a temperature check and/or been removed from the tournament, you will be notified and/or asked to do a temperature check.

**PLAYER/SPECTATOR/PARENT REQUIREMENTS**

**·       SPECTATORS: Spectators are not allowed at this event.**No exceptions.

**·        MASKING: Face Masks must be worn in the Tournament Hall and are recommended to be worn in all other public spaces of the Hotel.**This includes not just players with games in progress but also everyone associated with the tournament, including tournament staff. Please supply your own mask/face covering. VCF will provide face masks on request.

**·        LIMITED MASKING EXCEPTION:** **Masks may be removed by players once seated at their playing board and upon agreement between BOTH players in a game**. Both players must agree that masks can be removed for the game before either or both may do so. No one will be forced to play an unmasked opponent. No one will be forced to play without a mask. Finally, masks must be worn upon leaving the board and while still in the tournament hall. Again, masks are recommended but not required to be worn in other hotel spaces.

·        **PAIRINGS & WALLCHARTS:** **All pairings, results and related information will ONLY be provided on the tournament website.** VCF will post pairings on the official tournament website. We will NOT be posting hard copies of the pairings, standings and wallcharts. **Players must be able to check pairings and standings online. Players must check their pairings Online and know this info prior to entering the playing hall.**

·        **Players, family and spectators will not be permitted to congregate outside the doors to the Tournament Halls.**This will be enforced by tournament staff.

·        **Social distancing markers must be respected.**Please follow these strictly!

**Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in removal from the tournament and/or playing site, without refund. VCF does not wish to cancel an in-progress tournament, but we will do so without hesitation if enough attendees do not respect these safety requirements.**Please help us avoid either of these unfortunate outcomes by respecting these rules, which are in place for your safety as well as the safety of those around you!

**ASSISTANCE**

·        **Face coverings provided upon request. All players must wear masks in the tournament room (see exception above).** You are strongly encouraged to bring your own mask/face covering.

·        **Pairings and standings will be available online only.**VCF will not post physical copies of the pairings or standings. All pairings, wallcharts and standings, will be available on the official tournament website (see bottom of that webpage). Please be sure to have a computer, tablet, smartphone, or other Internet-capable device that can check for pairings! Please make sure you know your board number and color for the round before you enter the tournament room!

·        **Hand sanitizer and wipes available upon request.**See Tournament Director’s desk.

·        **The tournament halls will have increased spacing between games in a row and increased spacing between rows.**This will ensure as much distance as reasonably possible between games.

·        **All boards, pieces & clocks will be provided. Please do not bring or expect to use your own chess equipment. Scoresheets provided.**

·        **All Boards, pieces & clocks will be sanitized between rounds.**This task will be undertaken by tournament staff.

**BEST PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS**

Your cooperation in following the best practices sets a great example for everyone and to create a safe environment for players!

·        **Please be considerate and do not bring spectators/family to the tournament.**

·        **For local players, in between rounds please get some fresh air outside the hotel or at home.** It is strongly advisable that after your game finishes, that players leave the tournament hall immediately (unless staying at the Hotel). Then please return just prior to the start of the next round.

·        **If before or during the tournament, you experience or display any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please do NOT attend.**These symptoms include, but are not limited to, fever, respiratory distress, and shortness of breath and other flu-like symptoms.

·        **If you have any close or direct contact with anyone who is either confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19, please do NOT attend.**This includes close or direct contact with anyone who is experiencing or displaying any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

·        **If you have/will travel from areas of substantial community spread requiring quarantine by the Virginia Department of Health, travel from an international location that is in the current US Department of State travel advisory, or travel on a cruise ship or river cruise, please do NOT attend.**

With your help, we will have a safer, more enjoyable experience all around. VCF appreciates your help in promoting that safer, more enjoyable environment!