



*ST.VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES CHESS FEDERATION*



*Kingstown*

*St. Vincent*

*Tele: 1-784-457-1355/1-784-434-0907*

*P.O. BOX 699*

*Email: [svgchessf@yahoo.com](mailto:svgchessf@yahoo.com)*

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20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Ms. Sava Stoisavljevic  
Chief Operations Officer  
Chess International Federation (FIDE)  
1007 Lausanne, Switzerland  
Avenue de Rhodanie 54  
Tel: + (41) 21 6010039  
[office@fide.com](mailto:office@fide.com)

Dear Madam C.O.O,

Greetings from the sunny Caribbean Island of Saint Vincent & the Grenadines. I trust that you and your families both biological and sporting are doing fine on the European side of the world.

In the year 2019 FIDE mission to the Caribbean ably supported by Mr. Nigel Short and Mr. Ian Wilkinson saw St. Vincent & the Grenadines as one of the stops.

There were several meetings held including that with the Hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, then Hon Minister of Sports Mr. Cecil Mc Kie and Then Hon Minister of Education Mr. St Clair Prince. Further meetings were held with Hon. Leader of the Opposition Dr. Godwin Friday and MP. St Clair Leacock.

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Chess Federation (SVGCF) was therefore officially launched in 2019 during this very successful visit by both Mr. Short and Mr. Wilkinson.

Between then and now we focused on building administrative capacity, Public Relations & Marketing and Development and Training.

We have finally ratified our constitutional instrument and are set to host our first championship in the month of December 2021 (**TYRONE JACK CHALLENGE CUP**). We are set to then intensify training in schools and push our membership programme aggressively.

The SVGCF hereby express our interest in being assigned provisional or full membership in the international body FIDE. We are assured that with this acceptance it will raise our national profile and attract many many more Vincentians to the sport.

St. Vincent & the Grenadines gained its independence from Great Britain on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 1979, knowing that FIDE Executive Committee will meet on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 ware respectfully of the view that this would be a most fitting way to say Happy Independence to St. Vincent and the Grenadines by accepting the SVGCF into the international family of Chess. Chess will have a calendar place on our national celebrations each year due to this possible coincidence.

My team and I eagerly await your confirmation of such membership.

We are committed to abide by all rules and regulations of the FIDE, promote and support all and every events organized or stipulated by the FIDE and upkeep the integrity of the sport of Chess in our Country.

I wish the FIDE Executive Committee a very successful meeting and on behalf of the Managing Council of the SVGCF await the hailing of our international acceptance.

Respectfully Yours,

*Israel R. Bruce*  
.....

Hon. Israel R. Bruce

President, St. Vincent & the Grenadines Chess Federation

**CC: Mr. Keith Joseph, General Secretary SVG National Olympic Committee**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Olympic Committee  
Commonwealth Games Association

P. O. Box 1644, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
Tel: 784-457-2970 ~ Cell: 784-533-0869 ~ Fax 784-485-6412  
Email: [admin.sec@svgnoc.org](mailto:admin.sec@svgnoc.org) ~ Website: [www.svgnoc.org](http://www.svgnoc.org)



**AFFILIATES:**

*Athletics, Aquatics, Basketball, Boxing, Cricket, Cycling  
Football, Gymnastics, Netball, Rowing, Rugby, Sailing, Squash,  
Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Tennis, Volleyball, Sports Medicine*

***President: Trevor Bailey, General Secretary: Keith Joseph, Treasurer: Jacintha Ballantyne***

26 October 2021

Mr Sava Stoisavljevic  
Chief Operating Officer  
International Chess Federation  
1007 Lausanne  
Switzerland

Dear Sava

This letter serves to confirm that the St Vincent and the Grenadines Chess Federation is an organisation in our country that has been formed and officially launched on 22 October 2019. This was prompted by the initiatives being undertaken by FIDE which had Vice President, Mr Nigel Short visit our country.

The body has been officially promoting the sport of Chess since it has been launched and the process of developing its operational structure and membership. Attention has also been paid to conducting demonstration games on a large scale, training sessions for youth players, administrative capacity-building exercises as well as public relations activities.

Mr Short recently paid a visit to St Vincent and the Grenadines and further encouraged u to move forward, having recognized the eagerness of the interim leadership to be officially part of the international Chess family.

Our National Olympic Committee is pleased to support the Chess Federation in its application for full membership of your organization. We are confident that the members will commit to building a strong foundation that will ensure the sustainability of Chess as an attractive sporting option for Vincentians of all ages.

Yours in Olympism

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Joseph', written in a cursive style.

.....  
Keith Joseph

**QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**for national Federation applying for FIDE Membership**

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1. Exact name of the chess Federation: **CHESS FEDERATION OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**
  
2. Year founded: **2019**
  
3. Postal address: **P.O. BOX 699, KINGSTOWN ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES**
  
4. Telephone: **1-784 434-0907 / 1784 528-8099**
  
5. E-mail: [svgchessf@yahoo.com](mailto:svgchessf@yahoo.com)
  
6. Telex: Cable Address: **N/A**
  
7. Full name of President (Chairman): **Mr. Hon. Israel R. Bruce (L.L.B)**
  
8. Full name of Secretary-Treasurer: **Mrs. Ronnia Durham-Balcombe (L.L.B.)**
  
9. What is (are) your national language(s)? **ENGLISH**
  
10. Which of the following FIDE languages\* do you prefer and what is your second choice? **1. ENGLISH (preference) 2. SPANISH (second choice)**
  - *English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Portuguese are FIDE languages. FIDE Minutes are published in English.*

11. How many individual members (players) do you have? **45**
12. How many competitions for individuals did you have last year? **Nil (Covid restrictions)**
13. How many of these were for players under 16 years of age? **(N/A)**
14. Name your National individual champion : **(N/A)**
15. How many affiliated clubs do you have? **(N/A)**
16. How many team competitions do you organize in a year? **4 proposed for 2022**
17. Are you the only national organization for chess in your country? **YES**
18. Name others (if any) : **(N/A)**
19. Name your player(s) with FIDE titles (if any) : **(N/A)**
20. What is the name of your official chess magazine (if any and please enclose a copy)?  
**SOON TO BE ANNOUNCED**
21. Will your Federation have the opportunity to take part in the activities of FIDE (for example, to organize international tournaments, send representatives to official FIDE competitions)? **YES**
22. Do you receive any government support? **MORAL SUPPORT TO DATE**
23. If yes, give details, stating cash subsidy given last year or recently? **(N/A)**

24. What government department is in charge of chess? **MINISTRY OF SPORTS  
WORK WITH ALL SPORTING DISCIPLINES IN COUNTRY.**

25. Does your country have a National Olympic Committee that is affiliated to the International Olympic Committee? **YES**

26. What is your relationship with your National Olympic Committee? **WORKING  
RELATIONSHIP. (Our efforts are duly supported by the SVGNOC)**

27. Do you receive any subsidy from your National Olympic Committee? (N/A) (**this  
will come on-stream soonest, working progress**)

28. If yes, give details, stating cash subsidy given last year or recently? (N/A)

29. Are there restrictions on membership in your Federation (on national, political, racial, social or religious grounds or on account of sex)? **NO**

30. Does your Federation acknowledge the Charter of FIDE and develop activities in accordance with the Statutes? **WE DO and WE INTEND TO ALWAYS**

31. Is your country an independent state with its own constitution? **YES**

32. If not, is it fully autonomous in the administration of sport? **YES/YES**

33. Is your country a member of the United Nations, or do you have an Observer status in the United Nations? (If so, state year) **FULL MEMBER /1980**

34. Does your country have a national flag and national anthem? **YES TO BOTH.**

35. Are there in principle restrictions for issuing visas to foreigners? **YES**

36. Do you have a copy of your Federation Statutes or Constitution? **YES**

37. If yes, please forward a copy with this questionnaire. **ATTACHED**

38. Are your Statutes approved by your government? **NOT APPLICABLE**

39. If so, by which government entity? the ministry of sports and culture **NOT APPLICABLE**

National Chess Federation Authorized Official:

Name: **HON. ISRAEL RONDOLPH BRUCE**

Position: **PRESIDENT**

Signature: *Israel R. Bruce*  
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Date: **15, OCTOBER 2021**

# CONSTITUTION



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## SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## CHESS FEDERATION

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES CHESS FEDERATION**

#### **1. NAME**

The Federation shall be called the St. Vincent & The Grenadines Chess Federation (hereafter called the “**SVGCF**”).

#### **2. LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION**

The SVGCF shall take all the steps necessary to be affiliated to the following entities – **(a)** the local Olympic governing body and/or such other body responsible for sports in St. Vincent & The Grenadines; and **(b)** the World Chess Federation (hereafter “**FIDE**”) any other body recognized internationally as the governing body for chess.

#### **3. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the SVGCF shall be as follows:-

- a. To secure the adoption and maintenance in St. Vincent & The Grenadines of the Laws of Chess as approved by FIDE or any other body recognized internationally as controlling chess.
- b. To protect and advance the interest of the sport in St. Vincent & The Grenadines.
- c. To act as the sole controlling and governing body of the sport of chess in St. Vincent & The Grenadines and take the course deemed necessary in the areas of promotion, discipline and development.
- d. To promote Chess-in-Schools and Chess-in-Communities.
- e. To apply solely to the promotion of the foregoing objects all income and property of the SVGCF from whatever source received.

#### 4. **DEFINITIONS**

The following words and phrases shall throughout the Rules and Regulations of the Federation shall have the meaning assigned to them by this Rule:-

- |     |                                |  |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|
| (a) | The Federation                 | The St. Vincent & The Grenadines Chess Federation<br>("SVGCF")   |
| (b) | General Secretary:             | For the purpose of these Rules, this Shall include any person duly elected as such at the Annual General Meeting of the SVGCF.                       |
| (c) | Junior:                        | A person fitting the definition of "Junior" as stipulated by FIDE or, alternatively, any definition which the SVGCF shall approve from time to time. |
| (d) | Member:                        | Any person or any official, player, body, organization or other affiliated to he SVGCF.  |
| (e) | Affiliate:                     | A member recognized by the SVGCF whose application or affiliation has been duly approved.  |
| (f) | Organization in Good Standing: | An organization which has been given due official recognition by the SVGCF.  |

#### 5. **MANAGEMENT**

The management of the SVGCF shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, PRO and Committee Member shall be duly elected at the Annual General Meeting.

#### 6. **QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Any citizen of St. Vincent & The Grenadines, or anyone ordinarily resident in St. Vincent & The Grenadines, is eligible to apply for membership in the SVGCF. Additionally, any Parish Association or Club playing the game under the Laws approved by the SVGCF, or any other body recognized internationally as controlling chess, shall be eligible for affiliation.

## 7. **AFFILIATION**

Application for membership of the SVGCF shall be made on a form approved by the Federation's Council and should be addressed to the General Secretary of the Federation and should state the names and addresses of the officers of the Parish Association or Club applying for affiliation. The Managing Council of the Federation shall have power to refuse any application without giving reasons.

- A. At the time of application for membership, a copy of the Constitution of the Parish Association or Club concerned must also be sent to the General Secretary: failure to do so will render the application ineligible for consideration.
  
- B Parish Associations or Clubs accepting membership in the SVGCF do so on the absolute basis that they are bound by decisions and rulings of the Managing Council, which has final powers in the matter of disciplining affiliates and/or their members in areas falling under the umbrella of the administration of the game in St. Vincent & The Grenadines.

## 8. **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

The distinction of Honorary Life Members may be conferred for special or long service in connection with the sport of Chess.

The distinction shall be conferred only at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. Candidates may be nominated by any member of the SVGCF.

The distinction shall carry with it the right to attend all General Meetings and Special General Meetings of the SVGCF; the privilege of not paying any fee to be a member of the SVGCF; the privilege of not paying any entry fee to enter any tournament held in St. Vincent & The Grenadines; and shall entitle such a person to a vote and be elected to office.

## 9. **AFFILIATION FEE**

The affiliation fee shall be any amount determined by the Managing Committee and becomes due and payable on January 1.

Any affiliated organization whose affiliation fee remains unpaid after January 31 shall not participate in any tournament, Annual General Meeting or any other activity officially organized by the SVGCF.

First affiliation fees for new applicants should be paid within thirty days of notification by the Managing Council that such an affiliation has been accepted.

Any affiliated organization desiring to withdraw from the SVGCF must give notice in writing to the General Secretary prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January in the year, and in default will be liable to pay its subscription for the following year.

## 10. **MANAGING COUNCIL**

The business of the SVGCF including its financial affairs shall be determined by a Managing Council consisting of the officers – namely, the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Committee Member and P.R.O.

The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, shall in that order of priority be Chairman of all meetings of the Council. Should the President and Vice President be absent, the meetings may proceed under the Chairmanship of a member of the Managing Council named on a majority vote of those present and voting.

Every question at a meeting of the Managing Council shall be determined by a majority of the vote of the members present and voting, every member having one vote, and in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the council shall be. THREE

A member of the Managing Council shall be liable to forfeit his seat on the Council if absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the council without prior notice given to the Chairman of the Managing Council in writing.

A vacancy in any office other than that of the President which arises between the Annual General Meetings shall be filled by the Council, but if the President resigns or is unable to continue in office he shall be replaced by the Vice-President.

The Managing Council shall at its discretion have the power to elect honorary officials for a point in time and to invite such persons to attend meetings of the Managing Council if necessary. Such officials must not exceed three in number in any particular year and will have no voting power at any meetings attended.

The Managing Council shall have the power to borrow money from their bankers or from any other source whatsoever upon such terms as they deem

fit, and for this purpose the President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer, or any two of them may be empowered by the Managing Council to negotiate such

loans, and to execute any document for that purpose which shall be binding on the Association.

The Managing Council shall hold a meeting within thirty (30) days after each Annual General Meeting and should hold at least one such meeting every month and not less than eight (8) meetings for the entire year.

The Managing Council shall have the power to make such rules, regulations and by-laws for the proper and efficient administration of the day-to-day operations of the SVGCF, the organization of tournaments, and any such matters, which might require its attention.

The Managing Council shall hold at least two briefing sessions with all affiliates during each financial year.

## 11. **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

The Council may delegate any of its duties to Special Committees consisting of individuals recommended and considered suitable to constitute such committees.

These committees will be responsible for handling the affairs of the SVGCF including membership matters, arranging tournaments, fund-raising, marketing, public relations and programmes for Chess-In-Schools and Communities.

The Chairman (person) of any Special Committee must be appointed by the Managing Council. This Chairman will be responsible for selecting the members of the committee.

No committee, including the Chairman, shall have less than three (3) members who must all be paid-up members of the SVGCF.

The Chairman of Committee may appoint one of his members, Vice Chairman or Secretary and allocate specific duties to him.

A committee may set up sub-committees of its members to deal with specific areas of work.

The Chairman of a Special Committee shall submit to the Managing Committee a report of activities as prescribed by the Managing Committee.

## 12. **FINANCE**

The financial year of the SVGCF shall end on 31<sup>st</sup> December.

The funds of the SVGCF shall be lodged at any financial Institution selected by the SVGCF to manage its finances. All cheques, drafts, etc., drawn on any accounts of the SVGCF shall be signed by two of the following officers - the Secretary-Treasurer and any one of the following officers President or Vice President of the SVGCF.

The responsibility of protecting the finances and/or funds of the SVGCF is the chief responsibility of the Secretary-Treasurer and should only be disbursed as agreed by the Managing Council.

The Treasurer is responsible for the presentation of monthly statement of affairs to the Managing Council and ensuring that there is an Audited financial statement at the end of each Financial Year.

## 13. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Federation shall be held by March 31 each year, when the Annual Report of the Managing Council and the Statement of Accounts made up to December 31 shall be presented.

- (a) At least fourteen (14) days' notice specifying the place, the date and hour together with the agenda shall be given to each member of the SVGCF entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) Any person who is not a paid-up member of the SVGCF shall not be entitled to be represented, present or to vote at any meeting or take part in the business of the SVGCF.
- (c) The main business of an Annual General Meeting shall be to consider and:
  - adopt the Report of the Managing Council
  - the Accounts of the past year duly audited
  - to accept nominations and elect the President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary-Treasurer
  - consider resolutions, modification and amendments of the Constitution after due notice of fourteen (14) days has been given to the members.

- (d) The quorum at the Annual General Meeting shall be twenty-one (21) paid-up members and should such a quorum be lacking, no business other than the formal adjournment of the proceedings for fourteen (14) days, shall be taken. The meeting should then be reconvened no later than ten (10) days after the expiration of the said period of fourteen (14) days. Should a quorum be still lacking on resumption, the business of the SVGCF notice of which has been given, shall be transacted by those present.

#### 14. **RESOLUTION**

Any resolution proposed by any member must be presented to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. Failure to do so will mean that such resolution cannot be considered at the meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer is then responsible for notifying the members of such a resolution no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting or any special General Meeting being held to table that resolution.

A majority of two-thirds of the total persons present and entitled to vote shall be necessary to carry any resolution regarding anything to do with the Rules and Regulations of the SVGCF. Other resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority and in the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have a second or casting voice or vote.

#### 15. **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

A Special General Meeting of the Federation may be convened by the Managing Council whenever it thinks fit, or shall be convened by the I

Secretary-Treasurer within twenty-one (21) days after the receipt by him of a requisition in writing to that effect signed by at least ten members. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting. A quorum shall be twenty-one (21) paid-up members.

#### 16. **CLUBS**

Any club seeking affiliation to the SVGCF shall satisfy the Managing Council that it is properly constituted.

Each affiliated club shall provide playing facilities for its members as approved by the Managing Council.

17. **GENERAL**

In the event of any question or matter arising which is not provided for in the Rules, such matter shall be dealt with by the Managing Council, whose decision shall be final.

Individuals, clubs or other affiliates of the SVGCF must inform the General Secretary of any change in their official address.

All correspondence going out on behalf of the SVGCF to clubs or organizations must be directed to the accredited President or Secretary of those bodies and such correspondence to individual members must be channeled directly to the accredited addresses (including email) of the persons concerned or be handed to the persons themselves.

18. **AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION ETC.**

No, alterations or additions to the Constitution shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting, or an extraordinary or Special General Meeting, of the SVGCF convened for that purpose. Before such amendments can be passed or be valid, they must be supported by at least two-thirds of the total members present and voting.

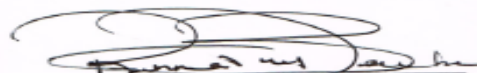
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THIS CONSTITUTION CAME INTO EFFECT ON THE **25th**DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

*Israel R. Bruce*

Signed .....

Israel R. Bruce  
PRESIDENT, SVGCF



Signed.....

Ronnia Durham-Balcombe  
SECRETARY-TREASURER, SVGCF

# CONSTITUTION



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## SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## CHESS FEDERATION

**ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES CHESS FEDERATION Photo Album**





