Constitution

of the
Munster Junior Chess Committee

1. Name: Munster Junior Chess Committee,
which can be abbreviated to MJCC.

The MJCC is an independent body and is not subservient to any other Organization.

2. Objectives:

a. The promotion of chess to under age 19's in the province of Munster, Ireland
b. To run annually in January or February, a Munster Junior Chess Championships for age groups u8, u10, u12, u14, u16, u18. Players must be under these age groups on the 1-January in the current year.
c. To, optionally, run annually in September to November, a Junior Chess Championships for age groups u7, u9, u11, u13, u15, u17. Players must be under these age groups on the 1-January in the current year.
d. To select players to represent Munster in Inter-provincial matches if requested.
e. To select Colleges to represent Munster in Inter-provincial matches if requested.
f. To submit results for rating purposes if possible.
g. To organise training and coaching for chess players under age 19.
h. To take on any other initiatives the Executive agrees to.

3. Powers:

In order to carry out its objectives, the MJCC may do the following...

a. raise money
b. have a bank account
c. recruit volunteers
d. rent premises or equipment
e. receive contributions through a membership fee
f. work in partnership with different organisations
g. pay for special skills; including Information Technology, Legal, Ratings, etc
h. subcontract out, or delegate out projects to a 2nd party in order to achieve its objectives
i. carry out anything else within the law necessary to achieve its objectives

4. Membership of the MJCC

To be eligible to be a member of the MJCC, any Munster-resident person over the age of 16 years is allowed to become a member of the MJCC.
Eligible members must be one of the following..

a. involved in the running of a chess club for u19's
b. involved in teaching chess to children,
c. a parent of a chess playing child who has participated in a chess competition in the previous 12 months prior to the AGM.
d. any other person the Committee decides to make a member, by majority vote

5. Executive Committee
The Committee consists of Chairperson, Secretary/Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, P.R.O., Children's Officer, and non-Officer members. No more than ten (10) in total.

Members are elected for two years or until their successors are elected.

Members of the Executive Committee cannot simultaneously be a Committee member of a similar organisation.

6. Officers
The MJCC has five Officer positions which are filled at the AGM

a. Chairperson
b. Secretary/Vice-Chairperson (two combined in one)
c. Treasurer
d. Public Relations Officer
e. Child Protection Officer

In the event of an Office not being filled at the AGM, another Officer may accept a second position, but not a third. Any Offices unfilled at the end of the AGM, may be filled at the discretion of the incoming committee.

Members are elected for two years or until their successors are elected.

Nominations for each Officer position must be submitted to the Secretary, seven clear days before the AGM. Any voting for Offices must be done by secret ballot, under the control of the Secretary and an assistant selected on the day, by the assembly. Nominations will be sought at the AGM for unfilled Officer positions.

7. Executive Meetings
Apart from the AGM, it is recommended that the MJCC should meet at least twice annually. Executive meetings must be called with at least 3 full days notice.

The ultimate authority on meeting procedure is the most recently available version of 'Roberts Rules of Order'.

Electronic meeting discussions may be held on Skype or email but no decisions can be taken unless it's for an expenditure of less than €200.

8. Annual General Meeting:
The AGM must be held between 15-May and 30-June. The 15-May date is to allow time for accounts to be prepared for the previous year, 1-May to 30-April.

It must be a meeting where members are physically present.

The quorum is 3 members.

At least 14 clear days notice must be given. This can be in the form of a notice on a website, email mailshot, or newspaper which the Munster chess playing public has a good chance of seeing. An AGM called with less notice than this is invalid.

Agenda for AGM

a. Apologies
b. Minutes of previous AGM and matters arising
c. Chairman's report
d. Secretary's report
e. Treasurers report including accounts
f. P.R.O.'s report
g. Children's Officer report
h. Motions proposed
i. Election of Officers, if due
j. Any Other Business

9. Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)

An EGM may be called in one of several ways...
a. by a majority vote of the Executive committee
b. by a signed Motion by at least 10 members
c. at the request of the Chairperson

Within two clear weeks of the request, the Secretary of the MJCC must give the same notice as for an AGM. If the Secretary fails to call the meeting, any other Officer may do so. The reason for the EGM must be communicated to the membership.

At least 14 clear days notice must be given. This can be in the form of a notice on a website, email mailshot, or newspaper which the Munster chess playing public has a good chance of seeing.

The quorum for an EGM is the same as the quorum for an AGM.

10. Finance

The MJCC is a Not for Profit organisation, and will have a Bank Account.
The MJCC financial year runs inclusively from 1-May to the following 30-April.

The Treasurer is responsible for any lodgements and payments.

Up to four committee members can be authorised on the Bank account, but at least two must sign for any withdrawals from the account.

If the account holds more than €5,000 at the end of the year, it must be audited by a qualified accountant.

The Treasurer must produce a report at the end of the year in the following format...

Opening balance on 1-May
Itemised Income for the year between 1-May and 30-April
Itemised Expenditure for the year between 1-May and 30-April
Closing balance at 30-April

If the Treasurer fails to produce this report, an assistant to the Treasurer or replacement Treasurer must be appointed.

11. Changing the Constitution
This Constitution may only be amended at an AGM or EGM and by a 2/3 majority of those present and eligible to vote.

Notice of any amendments must be made public to the membership at least 14 clear days before the meeting.

Successful Amendments are effective immediately after the meeting concludes. But not during the meeting.

12. Discipline
Occasionally, member's understanding and actions of what the Organization has been set up to do may vary critically from what is understood. In that case a membership termination may have to be considered.

This can apply to ordinary members or Officers.

An independent unbiased 3 person sub-committee may have to be set up to investigate and make recommendations to the Executive. These recommendations may or may not be accepted by the Executive. The principles of Natural Justice will apply, and Roberts Rules of Order may need to be consulted.

In the event that an elected Officer is unable to perform their duties, the appointment of an assistant must first be considered by the Executive.

13. Dissolution
If for any reason the MJCC decides to dissolve, the net assets will be given to another chess body which the remainder of the Executive decides on.

14. Miscellaneous
For any situations which have not been anticipated by this Constitution, the most recent version of 'Roberts Rules of Order' will be the official reference source.

In situations where necessity requires, the Executive will have the power to act.

Version: 1.0
Date: 14-October-2015