



# Code of Conduct

Issue 1 Dated 29 November 2014

## **Part I: Introduction**

### **1.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure that the members, players and visitors of the Club, conduct themselves in a fair and sporting manner, while participating in Club activities or visiting the Club premises.

### **1.2 Definitions**

In this Code of Conduct, unless the contrary intention appears:

- (a) "Analysis Room" means the room where post-game analysis and friendly games are played.
- (b) "Arbiter" means the person duly appointed by the Committee to enforce the conduct of play during tournaments, or any other person authorised to act as the arbiter.
- (c) "Club" means the Noble Park Chess Club Inc.
- (d) "Club premises" means the area used by the Club during play and activities endorsed by the club. This includes all rooms that the members, players and visitors have access to in the Paddy O'Donoghue Centre.
- (e) "Committee member" means the persons duly elected to the Noble Park Chess Club Committee.
- (f) "FIDE Laws of Chess" means the Laws of Chess, under Article E.I of the Handbook, published by the world's governing chess body, Fédération Internationale Des Échecs.

### **1.3 Application**

1.3.1 This Code incorporates the following, and is to be read:

- (i) As subject to the FIDE Laws of Chess;
- (ii) In conjunction with the Noble Park Chess Club Tournament Rules; and
- (iii) By reference to The Code of Ethics of the Australian Chess Federation.

1.3.2 This Code is taken to be understood by and binding on:

- (i) All members of the Club;
- (ii) Any player competing in tournaments organised by the Club;
- (iii) All Committee members; and
- (iv) Any visitor on the Club premises, including a parent, friend or accompanying person of a member or player.



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## **Part II: Conduct of Players, Members and Visitors**

### **2.1 Standard of Behaviour**

At all times, the highest standards of courtesy, chess etiquette and fair play are to be observed.

### **2.2 General Prohibited Conduct**

- 2.2.1 A person must not harass, abuse, threaten to abuse, threaten violence, or act violently towards any other person.
- 2.2.2 A person must not act in a way that endangers the wellbeing of others.
- 2.2.3 A person must not consume alcohol on the premises or attend the premises in an intoxicated state.
- 2.2.4 A person must not insult, slander or engage in verbal dialogue that is intended to offend another person, whether or not they are present.
- 2.2.5 Excessive, loud or distasteful swearing on the club premises is prohibited, and is particularly undesirable around children.
- 2.2.6 A person must not engage in conduct that fails to observe ordinary standards of courtesy, etiquette and socially-acceptable behaviour.
- 2.2.7 A player must not withdraw from an event without approval from the Arbiter.
- 2.2.8 A player must not make an unjustified accusation towards another player, Arbiter or Committee member.

### **2.3 Respect for the Arbiter**

Players are to recognise the decision of the Arbiter as binding on them, irrespective of whether they agree with the decision. The Arbiter is knowledgeable in the FIDE Laws of Chess and the players recognise that enforcement of these rules requires discretion of the Arbiter.

### **2.4 Conduct during Play**

- 2.4.1 Players must comply with the FIDE Laws of Chess, this Code of Conduct, the Noble Park Chess Club Tournament Rules, and other rules applicable to the tournament.
- 2.4.2 Players must show respect and courtesy to their opponent at all times.
- 2.4.3 Players must show respect and courtesy to other players, spectators and visitors.



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- 2.4.4 A player must not cheat, attempt to cheat, or assist other players in cheating. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: receiving advice about a game in progress, using computer engines to assist during play, and reading chess books or other material that could assist during play.
  - 2.4.5 A player must not distract or annoy the opponent during play, whether deliberately or otherwise.
  - 2.4.6 Players must, as far as reasonable, refrain from reacting too overtly when they have a losing position, or too enthusiastically when they have a winning position.
  - 2.4.7 Players, spectators and visitors must not distract or annoy other players. This may include talking loudly, making too much noise or standing too near a player.
  - 2.4.8 Discussion of a game in progress is strictly prohibited, when one of the players is involved in that game. Other players, spectators and visitors must take the greatest care to avoid the players involved in a game overhearing such discussion.
  - 2.4.9 During play, a player must not speak with other person in a language other than English, as far as practicable.

## **2.5 Conduct before and after Play**

- 2.5.1 Players must shake hands before and after play. The handshake is a symbolic sign of respect and sportsmanship, and is traditionally observed in all chess tournaments.
- 2.5.2 Players are encouraged to accept a loss gracefully and to refrain from excessive celebration after winning.
- 2.5.3 Analyses and friendly games must be conducted in the Analysis Room, to avoid distracting players who are still playing.
- 2.5.4 During analysis or a blitz or friendly game, respect for other players and visitors should be maintained. It is forbidden to engage in unwelcome, insulting, abusive or threatening dialogue with other players and visitors.
- 2.5.5 Players and visitors must respect the equipment and the facilities supplied by the Club.



## **Part III: Enforcement**

### **3.1 Breaches of the Code**

3.1.1 A person may be found to have breach of this Code of Conduct by:

- (a) Breaching of one or more of the provisions of Part II;
- (b) Failing to comply with conditions of a penalty under provision 3.3; or
- (c) Acting in a manner that isn't explicitly covered by a provision but is clearly contrary to the stated purpose of the Code under provision 1.1.

3.1.2 The severity of a breach of the Code will be determined by regard to:

- (a) The nature of the conduct and effect on other members, players and visitors of the Club;
- (b) The intent of the person when engaging in prohibited conduct;
- (c) Any past breaches of the Code, or warnings issued thereof; and
- (d) The likelihood of the person breaching the Code in the future.

### **3.2 Power of Enforcement**

3.2.1 This Code will be enforced by the Arbiter and the Committee members of the Club.

3.2.2 The Arbiter is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Code before, during and after play.

3.2.3 A penalty under provision 3.3 may be issued on discretion of the Club Committee, by a resolution of the Committee members.

### **3.3 Penalties**

3.3.1 If found in breach of the code, a person may be subject to one or more of the following penalties, as the Club Committee deems fit:

- (a) A warning in writing;
- (b) Suspension from play or visiting the Club premises for a specified period;
- (c) Termination of membership;
- (d) Indefinite suspension; or
- (e) A special condition, such as a formal apology or any other requirements the Club Committee considers fair in the circumstances.

3.3.2 The Club Committee will exercise its discretion having regard to:

- (a) Ordinary principles of fairness to the person in breach of the Code and other persons involved;
- (b) The severity of the breach under 3.1.2; and
- (c) The interests of the members of the Club.