

Charter of the Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame

FOREWORD: Induction into the Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame shall take place annually at the Tennessee Open. Inductees are current or former Tennessee residents who have either distinguished themselves for outstanding achievements in the competitive chess arena and who have made significant contributions to the game of chess in Tennessee.

PURPOSE: The Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame was established to properly honor those members who have distinguished themselves through their outstanding chess achievements. Induction into the Hall of Fame is administered within the Tennessee Chess Association (TCA) by the TCA Board of Directors, with advice and recommendations from the Hall of Fame Committee, a group knowledgeable about Tennessee chess appointed by the TCA Board of Directors to recommend candidates for induction.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Strict selection criteria cannot be specified, nor are they appropriate. The following guidelines are offered in their stead:

- 1) The nominees must be Tennessee residents for a significant portion of their careers, or must have had significant and substantial periods of residency in Tennessee.
- 2) Inductees must be selected from qualified candidates either living or deceased.
- 3) Achievements should be significant with established credentials in at least three of the below categories as well as recognized contributions to the promotion of chess in Tennessee:

- Prolific chess play (local, national, international, online, or postal)
- Attainment of expert rating and higher chess titles
- State championship accomplishments
- Service on TCA Board or national chess organizations
- Tournament directing
- Tournament organizing
- Teaching in schools, clubs, or online
- Chess coaching/training
- Chess writing/authoring of books and articles
- Chess publication of articles, biographies, or books

This list is not all-inclusive and should be used for guidance only.

SELECTION PROCEDURE: The selection of inductees into the Hall of Fame is the responsibility of the Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame Committee. Their recommendations are forwarded to the TCA Board of Directors for approval. The committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, is composed of a minimum of six (6) experts on the history of Tennessee chess.

I. Call for Nominations: A call for nominations is announced to the general membership in each issue of *Tennessee Chess News*. The nominations, along with supporting documentation, must be received by the Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame Committee or the Committee Chairman no later than March 31. The nominations are transmitted to committee members by April 14 for their review and consideration.

II. Referral to Committee: After receipt of the nominations, along with the supporting documentation, the Hall of Fame Committee will review the submissions to verify their accuracy. They will then rank the nominees and make their recommendations to the TCA Board of

Directors. The Committee may elect to have no nominees for any one year or may nominate more than one person. The goal is to limit induction to one or two persons per year. The Committee must present its recommendations, along with a summary of the accomplishments of each recommended inductee, to the TCA Board of Directors no later than June 14 or earlier if required to coincide with the TCA Board's meeting schedule.

III. Selection of Inductees: The TCA Board of Directors will officially select the inductees, using the recommendations of the Hall of Fame Committee to guide their decisions. Members of the TCA Board of Directors may vote for none of the nominees, if they desire. The induction ceremonies will take place at the annual membership meeting held in conjunction with the Tennessee Open. Any information recorded and preserved in the archive will be developed in collaboration with the Hall of Fame Committee.

(Revised October 17, 2021)