



SW Florida Chess Club

Rules of Conduct

The following policies of the SW Florida Chess Club set standards for good sportsmanship and define proper conduct expected of its members at Club meetings.

All members agree to abide by these “Rules of Conduct.”

Rules of Conduct

Players shall participate in the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship, and must observe the USCF Code of Ethics, and USCF rules of chess!

1. Food and drinks are allowed, but be respectful of our host and clean up after yourself.
2. Cell phones should be very low, preferably on vibrate.
3. Loud insults, racial slurs, foul language or talking at a volume loud enough to be disruptive to other people at the Club or meeting place are prohibited.
4. Trash talking, chest pounding, bragging, or calling other members over to witness “your masterpiece” is rude to your opponent and will not be tolerated.
5. Gambling is strictly prohibited by the SW Florida Chess Club and will not be tolerated.
(Note competing for a cash prize during a tournament is NOT gambling)
6. Kibitzing (a third party offering advice to one of the players during a game) is impolite and against the rules, which state that chess is a game between two players. The time for analysis or suggestions is after the game is over!
7. The “Touch Move” rule is to be assumed enforced, unless stated otherwise and agreed to by each player, prior to the start of the game. It is always strictly enforced in tournaments, and it’s a good idea to get into good habits.
8. When a piece has been released on a square, it cannot then be moved to another square. Once released, the move is completed. Also, do your thinking in your head don’t hold the piece in the air over the board.
9. The French term “j’adoube” (or English equivalent “I adjust”) is to be used when adjusting the placement of a piece or touching a piece inadvertently.
10. A player wishing to offer a draw shall do so after having made a move on the Chess board and before stopping his clock and starting his opponent’s clock. the offer cannot be withdrawn and remains valid until the opponent accepts it, rejects it orally, or makes his move. The game is drawn upon a correct claim by the player having the move.
11. Spectators and players in other games are not to speak about or otherwise interfere in another game.

* The Club President has a copy of the USCF Official Rules of Chess 5th edition, for further clarification and reference.