

# **Mountain Valley Conference Chess League Rules**

## **(November 2004)**

### **Section I**

Chess Rules will be observed from the Official Chess Handbook with the following additions:

- a. Staunton sets must be used
- b. Time clocks are to be used. Time control will be game 60.
- c. A player must make his move before hitting the clock
- d. A player must record his game according to USCF rules.

### **Section II**

There will be nine (9) players representing a varsity team and five (5) players representing a junior varsity team. The players may be students in grades 9-12. Ninth graders must be scheduled to attend the high school they are representing. By coaches' consensus, players in grades 7 and 8 are eligible to participate only when there are insufficient board players from grades 9-12.

### **Section III**

The varsity and junior varsity visiting team will have white on odd numbered boards.

### **Section IV**

The team's better players are to play the top boards (1,2,3,...) with the weaker players on the lower boards (...5,6,7). If a board is to be forfeited, it is to be the bottom board(s).

### **Section V**

When two teams meet to play a match, lineups (which are kept in a book) will be exchanged between the advisors. The advisors should sign the opponents' lineup and the lineup should be posted on a board in the playing room where results can be recorded.

### **Section VI**

The lineup of a team may change in the following manner:

- a. Once someone has played in a match, a player may advance ahead or drop below only one of his teammates from the previous lineup in which he was involved.
- b. A player playing in his first match for the season may not be placed higher than the bottom board unless coaches agree.

### **Section VII**

If a team plays a match with an illegal lineup, the team forfeits the match.

### **Section VIII**

Once the match begins, only the players shall remain in the room of play. As each game is completed, the participants of the game shall leave the room. No player may reenter the playing room during the match without permission of both coaches. There will be quiet at all times in the room of play. There will be no discussion about any teammates' game. If a player or non-player does not adhere to these rules, a point may be awarded each and every time the rule is violated. Violations must be called to the attention of the coaches immediately after the infraction.

### **Section IX**

One point will be awarded for each game won, ½ point for a draw.

### **Section X**

If a match is postponed (due to weather, transportation, illness of the coach, or school closed for the day), the coaches/athletic directors should try to find a suitable date for the makeup match.

### **Section XI**

If a delay in arrival is anticipated, the visiting team should tell the host team as soon as possible. If no call is made, the host team may start the clocks at 4:00 p.m.

### **Section XII**

If two or more teams are tied for the League Championship at the end of league play, a playoff(s) shall be conducted.

- a. The Mountain Valley Conference League officers shall determine the site of the playoffs, the pairing of the teams if more than two teams are involved, and the board colors.
- b. All previous rules will be observed.
- c. If the result of the match is a tie, the contest will be replayed with the board colors changed.

### **Section XIII**

A permanent team trophy will be awarded to the League Champion at the end of the season.

### **Section XIV**

An Individual's Tournament (1 day) will be held at the end of the season. It will consist of five (5) rounds. If an underclassman does not play out the tournament without good reason (illness, death in the family, etc.), he will not be eligible to play in future Individual's Tournaments. (Open to anyone on team or in club.)

### **Section XV**

Headsets are prohibited in the playing area in all Mountain Valley Conference Chess League matches and League Tournaments.

### **Section XVI**

All school rules will be in effect and enforced.

## **MVC Chess Pre-Season Meeting Minutes**

Pleasant Valley High School  
November 11, 2004 5:00 PM

We reviewed the by laws that were in place since March 22, 1995. There were a number of changes that were made since then that were not included. We also made some minor changes to the language throughout the rules. I also eliminated certain sections that were no longer practiced in the MVC.

- \*Section I: eliminated “Use a clock setting of 5:00 so that time expiration is at 6:00”
  
- \* Section II: Changed it to read 9 players representing varsity and 5 players representing JV. Note: many coaches wanted to change this to 9 and 7, but I told them it was voted down by AD’s last year.
  
- \* Section III: Added the words Varsity and Junior Varsity
  
- \* Section VI: Letter b: changed 7<sup>th</sup> to bottom
  
- \* Section VIII: Removed sentence “The President of the MVC chess league must be notified of the violations.”
  
- \* Section X: Please see section X
  
- \* Section XII: Letter A: Changed to read “The MVC league officers shall determine the site of the playoffs,.....”
  
- \* Section XIII: Eliminated the sentence, “Each member of the winning team will receive appropriate recognition. (Max. 10) Criteria – Must have played at least 1 match.”
  
- \* Section XIV: Changed: 2 day tourn. to 1 day tourn. Added: It will consist of five (5) rounds. Eliminated: Notes section.