

Florida Chess Association Candidate Information and Campaign Statement

Deadline: July 1st

Requirements for board candidates: Per the FCA Bylaws, all candidates must have been a continuous member of the FCA and US Chess since before March 1st of the election year (see By-Laws Article III Section 3). They must also be a voting member of the FCA . Each candidate must have minimum one-year of Florida residency and in good standing with the FCA (Article VIII Section 10). All potential candidates will be reviewed against the criteria in the By-Laws. See

<https://www.floridachess.org/By-Laws>

Note: All information presented will be placed on the FCA website, but only a condensed bio will be included in the Summer edition of the floridaCHESS newsletter. Save and send this form to the Elections Committee Chair at this email address: elections@floridachess.org.

NAME (First Last): Matthew Kolcz

US Chess ID # 15278821

Florida Resident since (year): 1992 (birth)

US Chess Expiration Date: 4/30/2020

Board Status: New, Returning or Incumbent: New/Incumbent **Years:** 2019

If Incumbent, Positions held: Director at Large

If Incumbent, your accomplishments of note while on the board: Appointed for collegiate chess work.

Chess Bio: (Player Accomplishments, Current Rating/Peak Rating, Coaching, Author, Organizer, Parent, Tournament Director, other applicable info):

- Won clear 1st in the “8th Summer Solstice Open – 2016” in the U1450 with a perfect 5/5.
- Won 1st in the “UF Spring Blitz 2019.”
- Tied for 2nd in the “10th Summer Solstice Open – 2019” in the U1800 with a 4/5.
- My peak and current rating is 1773 as of 6/28/19.
- I have coached 8 private students from various areas of Florida over 4 years, and currently active with 2, them achieving various placements in the top 3.
- I am currently working under the direction of NM Bryan Tillis for Palm Beach Chess, through which I am coaching the beginner’s group at the Southern Christian Academy in West Palm.
- I have written articles on chesscom for Florida collegiate chess.
<https://www.chess.com/blog/ChessScholar1>.
- I have founded, organized, and directed the Florida College Chess Foundation.
<https://flccf.weebly.com/> from 2015 – 2019.
- I have been the chess club president of Broward College Central (2011-2013), Florida State University (2013-2015), and Florida Atlantic University (2015-2016).
- Temporarily taught for the “Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend” in Tallahassee, FL in 2015.

Please list skills or experience of benefit to board service:

- Use of chess.com and their article/blog making, including embedding on website.
- Data entry and computer troubleshooting.
- Streamed content on services such as Twitch.tv and Youtube.
- Actively seeking out college clubs to include in the FLCCF.
- Am proficient at writing, math, and problem solving.
- Can assist in most tasks, including financial and secretarial work.

Why are you running for the FCA board? To be as involved in the chess scene as possible while expanding chess in schools, homes, and public meeting places.

Campaign statement: If elected, what will I seek to accomplish for the Florida Chess Community?

As board member, I will seek an ever-growing and self-sustaining chess community in the state of Florida. Those who are also just as serious will work together tossing ideas, creating events, researching better advertising and sponsorships, all while becoming the strongest community in all the US. With the combined efforts of serious and passionate members, we will be able to accomplish a lot in little time. We will set the example that others will follow in creating their own chess bases.