

Florida Chess Association Candidate Information and Campaign Statement

Deadline: August 4, 2023

Requirements for board candidates per the FCA Bylaws <https://www.floridachess.org/By-Laws>
Every nominee must meet each item 1-5:

1. Been continuous member of the FCA and US Chess since before March 1st of the election year
2. Must be 16 years or older
3. Meet **one** of the following:
 - a) Have a USCF or FIDE chess rating, either over-the-board or correspondence.
 - b) Be a certified tournament director with one (1) USCF event in the previous two (2) years.
 - c) Participated in the Florida State Championship tournament or at least one (1) of its side events (G-29, G-15, G-5 championships, for example) in the previous five (5) years.
4. Minimum one-year of Florida residency
5. In good standing with the FCA (Article VIII Section 10).

Save and send this form to the Elections Committee Chair at this email address: elections@floridachess.org. You can also use this email address for any questions about the vetting criteria.

NAME (First Last): Bryan Tillis **Florida Resident since (year):** 2014

US Chess ID # 12893033 **US Chess Expiration Date:** 2024-07-31

Board Status: New, Returning or Incumbent: Incumbent **Years:** 2017-Present

If Incumbent, Positions held: Secretary, Vice President, and President

If incumbent, your accomplishments of note while on the board:

- Created modernized FCA logo as a focal point for our brand as an organization.
- Organized and directed the first Florida Women & Girls Championship
- Created the Pro Chess League Miami Champions team opening connections for the FCA to the largest chess market worldwide through chess.com.
- Created pages on the FCA website to help chess players in Florida find the active clubs in their area and collegiate clubs. <https://floridachess.org/Florida-Chess-Clubs> and <https://floridachess.org/Florida-Collegiate-Chess>
- Created Florida Chess Live Streaming platform for the FCA and managed content creation: [Live Events](#) and [Podcast Interview Segments](#).
- Created [Open Facebook Group](#) for FCA for better communication with members as well as a [chess.com group](#).

Chess Bio: (Player Accomplishments, Current Rating/Peak Rating, Coaching, Author, Organizer, Parent, Tournament Director, other applicable info) Please list skills or experience of benefit to board service:

Player Accomplishments:

- Highest USCF Rating, 2274 – USCF Original Life Master (2016)
- Mississippi State Chess Champion (2011)
- Alabama State Chess Champion (2012)
- Florida State Blitz Chess Champion (2018)

Coaching:

Franklin Academy - Palm Beach Gardens

- (5th) Grade Level National Chess Championship 10th Place (2016)
- (K - 5) Florida State Scholastic Chess Champions (2017)
- (6th) Grade Level National Chess Championship 7th Place (2017)
- (7th) Grade Level National Chess Championship 3rd Place (2018)
- (K - 8) 7th Place Junior High National Chess Championship (2019)
- (8th) Grade Level National Chess Championship 4th Place (2019)
- (K-8) Florida State Scholastic Chess Champions (2020)

The Greene School

- (K - 1, K - 8) Palm Beach County District Champions (2023)
- (K - 1, K - 3, K - 5, K - 8) South Florida Regional Champions (2023)
- (K-3) National Elementary Team Champions - Blitz (2023)

Author:

- Chess Life Online & Magazine Contributing Author ([Click for Articles](#))
- Authored Curriculum Text: *Become A Chess Champion* (2017)
- Authored *Become A Chess Champion Definitive Edition* (2018) [FREE DOWNLOAD](#)
- Authored *Master The French* with GM Alexander Lenderman (2018)
- Authored *Alekhine Defense: The Dark Knight Rises*, with GM Roman Dzindzichashvili (2019)
- Authored *Chess Coloring & Activity Book* with illustrations by Ashley Turner (2019)
- Authored *Openings Oddities* (2019)

- Authored *Aggressive Queen's Gambit Declined* (2020)
- Authored *Chess Olympiad* (2022)
- Authored *Queens of the Chess Board Part 1* with WIM Luciana Morales (2023)

Organizer/TD:

- 234 Tournaments Directed with 711 Sections worked
- Partnership in running camps in conjunction with Chess Educators in FIDE World Junior Chess Championship for the Disabled (2016)
- Created Chess events & partnership with NHL Florida Panthers (2016 – 2020)
- 2019 Arnold Denker Florida State Championship in Palm Beach Gardens.
- Organized and delivered online tournaments (Elementary, Middle School, High School, Girls, Blitz, and Quick Championships) during COVID-19 shutdown.
- 2022 Harvey Lerman Florida State Championship in Palm Beach Gardens.
- 2023 Florida State Women & Girls Championships
- 2023 Florida State Senior Championship

Chess Projects, Partnerships, Other:

- Instructor, Counselor, and/or Board Member **Castle Chess Camp** – (2007 – Present)
- US Chess States & Affiliates Committee Member (2021 - Present)
- US Chess Scholastic Chess Committee Member (2022 - Present)
- US Chess, Chess in Education Committee Member (2022 - Present)
- FIDE Trainer (2017)
- USCF Senior TD (2019)
- FIDE Arbiter (pending FIDE approval - August meeting)

Why are you running for the FCA board?

I feel that in service I can do the most to help others and feel strongly that continuing on the board is the right move for myself and the state. Florida has one of the fastest growing and well run state chapters, by keeping motivated, knowledgeable, and experienced individuals on the board that trend will continue.

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

I will continue to assure we have all major tournament for the FCA: The overall State Championship, Quick, Blitz, Women's/Girls, Elementary, Middle School, High School, and Senior Championships. I will also work to promote Collegiate and Military championships sponsored by the FCA.

I have worked the better part of five years to earn the title of FIDE Arbiter, I plan to run FIDE tournaments in Florida to combat the deflation of the FIDE rating system which will not be fixed any time soon according to this proposal: [article here](#). One way to fix the issue is to have far more rated games for players of all levels, not just the elite.