

Florida Chess Association Candidate Information.

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> **(ALL GOOD)**

Note: The entire form will be placed on the FCA website under the Governance/Election Headquarters page. Save and return a fully completed form to the Elections Committee Chair at this email address: elections@floridachess.org.

NAME (First Last): Bryan Tillis

Florida Resident since (year): 2014

US Chess ID # US Chess Expiration Date: 7/31/2022

Board Status: New, Returning or Incumbent: Incumbent

Years: 2017-Present

If Incumbent, Positions held: Secretary/Vice President

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

In addition to my previous accomplishments from my statement two years ago. My pledge during the last election as the Vice President of the FCA was to assure that all major tournaments took place in order to have representatives to the USCF tournament of champions events. That did take place during the COVID19 shutdown. In the past year, I initiated and ran as chief TD a series of online tournaments for Elementary, Middle School, High School, Girls, Blitz, and Quick Championships online for the FCA.

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:

NM Bryan Tillis

Highest USCF Rating, 2274
USCF National Master, (2012)
USCF Original Life Master, (2016)

Education & Certifications:

Bachelors Degrees in Sociology & Psychology, (2010)
Masters in Sociology course work completed, (2011)
Certified Educator (2016-2021) Florida Department of Education (K-6, 6-9 Social Science)
Full-Time Chess Teacher at Franklin Academy (2014 – Present)
Florida Chess Association Board Member (Vice President), (2017 – Present)
USCF Delegate Representing Florida (2019 - Present)
FIDE Trainer, (2017)
USCF Senior TD (2019)
FIDE Online Arena Grand Master (2020)
FIDE National Arbiter (Three of Four Norms Completed to become FIDE Arbiter)
USCF Certified Level V Coach (Pending)

Tournament Accomplishments:

US Amateur South Champion, (2011)
Mississippi State Chess Champion, (2011)
Alabama State Chess Champion, (2012)
Florida State Blitz Chess Champion, (2018)

Author:

Editor of *The Antics* Alabama Chess Federation State Magazine (2013 – 2015)
Authored Curriculum Text: *Become A Chess Champion*, (2017)
Authored *Become A Chess Champion Definitive Edition*, (2018)
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 Queens Gambit Declined* (2020)
Chess Life Online & Magazine Contributing Author ([Click for Articles](#))

Chess Projects & Partnerships:

Instructor, Counselor, **Castle Chess Camp** at Emory University – (2007 – Present)

Board Member, **Castle Chess** 2021-Present
Partnership in running camps in conjunction with **Chess Educators** in FIDE
World Junior Chess Championship for the Disabled (2016)
Founder of Chess.com Pro Chess League Team: **Miami Champions** (2016 -
2020)
Created Chess events & partnership with **NHL Florida Panthers** (2016 – 2020)
Organized in partnership with Florida Chess Association & Bocachess the **2019
Arnold Denker Florida State Chess Championship**
Partnership with the **Norton Museum of Art** for chess events.

Team Coaching Accomplishments:

(5th) Grade Level National Chess Championship 10th Place (2016)
(K - 5 or K - 8) Palm Beach County District Chess Champions (2017 - 2019)
(K - 5 or K - 8) South Florida Regional Chess Champions (2017 - 2019)
(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)

Why are you running for the FCA board?

To continue the work I have been doing with my fellow board members to promote chess in Florida. We have made great strides during the pandemic and I am optimistic about the future continuing with our board.

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.

It is an issue with states having representatives at the delegates meeting at the US Open. I am making the commitment to represent Florida at the delegates meeting as long as I am a board representative.

I will continue to stay open to feedback from FCA members and represent their interests.