VIU Chess Club Charter



# History

Founded in 2012 by Sahara Shaik, the VIU Chess Club has continued a small but visible presence on campus through student media and social media, supplying news of “what’s going on” in the chess world, and providing a forum for beginners and regulars to learn and play.

The mission of the VIU Chess Club varies year after year, with the renewal of club members through the VIU student union, and the presence of new students wishing the lead the club. Passing the club-reigns from previous generations to the new generations has not been fluent, leading to a greater burden on leadership to overcome knowledge barriers and build on the successes of the previous generations of leaders.

# Vision

To establish a sustainable chess organisation, capable of winning the Canadian University Chess Championships, and developing local interest and talent.

# Mission

To provide a supportive environment for students to learn and enjoy chess, and attract strong leadership potential which will cultivate the resources needed to develop VIU’s Chess competencies. Establishing reciprocal relationships with Vancouver Island University, the Student Union, and the actual and potential chess community, will align other organisations interests with VIU Chess Club’s cause, and facilitate the effective use of leadership, to the benefit of the wider community.

In order to realistically win at the national level, a 4 person team of average strength 2200 is required. An individual personal can grow from 1700 to 2000, with focused commitment in 1 year. Therefore, in order to reach 2200, acquiring 1700+ talent (that plans to remain at VIU for several years is necessary), or 2200 directly is necessary. An active chess school at the VIU will help bridge the learning gap and develop young talent in the area before they become students, creating a greater pool of talent ready for the nationals.

# Strategy

At the heart of the chess club, is its leadership. Acquiring, retaining, and facilitating leadership is the single most important strategy. Stability of active leadership creates trust between all stakeholders and facilitates effective action.

## **Develop Leadership Capacity**

1. Recruit and retain externally focussed individuals, with an interest in leading the VIU Chess Club to provide excellent value – and position them with authority and resources to do so.
2. Recruit and retain people with the ability to connect with leaders and players to generate enjoyment and shared ownership of club vision and mission.
3. Develop the administrative infrastructure to easily run the club, and the social climate that rewards leaders for their efforts.

## **Generate Interest and Build Stability**

1. Target students to communicate and participate with the events of the VIU Chess Club, building a reputation of a lively club, with the trust to generate the belief that we’re worth investing the time and money to create relationships, learn chess, build talents and create great experiences.

## **Acquire Competencies**

1. Develop a Chess training resources and develop a learning culture for the VIU Chess Club, with an aim to develop talent locally, and help existing talent through the 1700-2200 learning gap to be ready for nationals.
2. Acquire intellectual capital regarding training methods, and transfer it to leadership.
3. Improve the prestige of the University and VIU Chess Club, to make it more attractive for potential chess enthusiasts visit and participate with VIU Chess Club at VIU.
4. Promote local Chess clubs, especially in regions where youth become potential VIU students, and collaborate with other University Chess Club’s in British Columbia to stimulate local interest.