Connecticut State Chess Association

a 501(c)(7) nonprofit corporation P.O. Box 370123 -- West Hartford, CT 06137

Hi, everyone:

Thank you for registering and participating in the 2023 Connecticut Girls Championships!

Here are some things you need to know for tomorrow:

Equipment

Chess sets and clocks will be provided for this event. You do not need to bring your own.

Venue

The event is being held at the beautiful Greenwich Academy (GA) campus in the cafeteria and auditorium, which are in the buildings to the right at the top of the parking circle. The auditorium will be used for play. The cafeteria will be used as the lounging and waiting space.

Directions

Access to GA is easy either via Interstate 95 or Merritt Parkway (Rte 15). Please use your GPS to arrive at the front gates of the school. The driveway has several parking areas located to the left. Please park as high up on the driveway as possible, as the event is at the very top at the turn circle to the right. Please do NOT park in the circle or the driveway. There is ample parking for everyone.

Parking

Parking is free on campus. You may park at any parking areas on the left as you proceed through the front gates. Again, by way of advice, please go through the turn circle and try to park in the parking areas as high up the driveway as possible to reduce walking time (unless you like to walk).

No "Drop Off"

Like most tournaments, this is NOT a drop off activity. Parents are responsible for their children at all times. It is understood that older players will need less supervision, and some high schoolers may drive themselves to and from the event, but always with the permission of their parents.

Spectators

Because this is a scholastic tournament, spectators are NOT permitted on the competition floor, and parents will not be permitted in the playing hall, except at the time of pre-Round 1 announcements for the upper sections. Younger children or the lower section may be ushered to their boards by staff. In addition to alleviating typical concerns of interference, this will get the rounds started faster and get the event completed quicker.

Food

Unfortunately, due to the typically limited number of players for the Girls event and overall small number of campus visitors, there will NOT be food service on site. However, there is a Whole Foods Plaza just four minutes away from the school and parents will have time during rounds to leave campus and return with purchased lunches/snacks. Everyone can also bring a packed lunch, water, snacks, etc. We may take an extended break between Round 1 and 2 or Rounds 2 and 3, depending on game end time, for lunch.

Telephones

All players must turn off or silence their phones during play and store them in a book bag or otherwise surrender them to their parents. Phone use or activation during play may result in disqualification. Please abide by these rules to prevent needless distractions and stoppages.

Trophies

Please note that there are prizes for accomplishments other than top placements. In addition to placements, there are rating-based prizes. Additionally, official event medals will be awarded to players not otherwise placing. Please do not leave ahead of the Award Ceremony if you expect to receive your prize. Prizes will not be distributed in advance of the Awards Ceremony. Please understand that we will not know most results until the tabulation is made for the Awards Ceremony. Additionally, we do NOT ship trophies or medals to players, if they decide to leave. If you leave the event ahead of the Award Ceremony, your trophy or medal will be considered abandoned.

(For more on the award ceremony, please see section below.)

COVID-19

COVID-19 is still around. Please be vigilant to wash hands and mask at your discretion. Latest CDC news was a masking recommendation due to the cold season. There are no formal GA guidelines for the event, and we will not be mandating masking. However, we **strongly recommend** that parents consider having their kids wear face masks during play. Rounds will last in excess of 20-30 minutes with players within 6' of one another.

Approximate Schedule

The **approximate** event schedule is as follows:

Arrival is by 9:40a (there is NO check-in or on-site registration)
Announcements will be at 9:50a in the play hall (auditorium) with all players seated to start
Time control is G/45 d5 with all players playing four games win or lose

Round 1 – 10:00a

Subsequent rounds are ASAP, but we expect the following APPROXIMATE schedule: LUNCH (there may be 15-30 min added at organizer's discretion to allow lunch, which may be after Round 1 or Round 2)

Round 2 - 12:00p

Round 3 - 1:45p

Round 4 - 3:30p

Award Ceremony by 5:30p in the GA cafeteria

PLEASE NOTE that we will do our best to get everyone in and out, as efficiently as possible. As soon as a section ends, if it is possible to tabulate immediately, it will be tabulated and Award Ceremony commenced in the cafeteria. Tie breaks in any section will take place after tabulation so that the rest of the section players can receive their prizes and choose to depart. Parents will not be permitted into the play hall to expedite seating and round start. Please help us stay on track and on time by cooperating with these procedures.

Also, please note that the above schedule is an approximation. We expect to use an email blast to send notifications to everyone and post updates on the <u>event page</u> on our website. So keep an eye on your emails and check the web page. We may move ahead or behind schedule as the day progresses. We will do our best to stay on schedule. Nevertheless, since Rounds after Round 1 are scheduled "ASAP", please be at all times prepared to return to the play hall and start the next round.

Award Ceremony

Your award ceremony will begin as soon as results for your section are tabulated. However, it may be necessary for sections to wait for all play to conclude. Please be patient.

Broadcast

This event will not be broadcast.

WiFi

We will inquire about WiFi network access in the morning and will provide this information to all visitors, if available.

Lounging and Space Use

Parents and players on break between games may lounge in the GA cafeteria, where there is lots of table space for those who may want it.

Nonprofit fund raiser and volunteers

This is a nonprofit tournament event of the Connecticut State Chess Association, a 501(c)(7) nonprofit corporation. All proceeds from the event are raised for nonprofit efforts in our state's chess community.

<u>No solicitation</u> is permitted during the event without the expressed consent and authorization of the CSCA.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help the CSCA, either at this event or in future programs and projects, please see CSCA President Alexander Lumelsky, who will be present throughout the event.

Emergencies, questions, concerns, etc.

If you have any of the above, please call or text Alexander Lumelsky (Alex) at (860) 593-0225.

Please DO NOT enter the play hall to speak with the Tournament Director. If you need to speak to the TD, please see a staff member at the control desk in the lobby to the play hall and relay your question/concern. If there is no one at the control desk, please see/call/text Mr. Lumelsky. This protocol is in place to cause the least disruption to the flow of the event and a timely conclusion. Please help us in this effort.

People to Know

Alexander Lumelsky, CSCA President and Chief Organizer NM Ian Harris, Senior TD and Chief TD Samuel Lumelsky, Assistant Organizer/Floor TD

If parents are willing and able to help with administrative items during the event, please see Mr. Lumelsky when you arrive. We would be delighted to have your assistance.

Thank you for your time.

CSCA Events Admin

