



CINCINNATI SCHOLASTIC CHESS SERIES 2019-20 SEASON



The Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series (CSCS) is entering its 13th season of monthly Swiss tournaments, sanctioned by the US Chess Federation, for players in grades K–12 from October through March.

For this special season our November tournament is the 2019 Ohio Grade Level Championships! For anyone who plays in the Series and the Grade Level, his or her score in the Grade Level will count toward Series trophies, and he or she could get a \$20 rebate on the Series entry fee! There is a separate flyer and separate entry for the Grade Level. Information on this flyer is for the other tournaments in the Series.

Sections

- **Championship (Rated):** Open to all players in grades K–12, rated or unrated. Players rated 1000 or more must play in this section. USCF membership required. All players are required to take notation in this section.
The strongest players play in this is the section. It is usually not the section for players who are playing in their first tournament.
- **U1000 (Rated):** Only players in grades K–12 who are rated less than 1000 or unrated may play in this section. USCF membership required. All players are required to take notation in this section.
We recommend that only players who have tournament experience and a rating of 600 or more play in this section.
- **U700 (Rated):** Only players in grades K–12 who are rated less than 700 or unrated may play in this section. USCF membership required. All players are required to take notation in this section.
We recommend that only players with tournament experience and a rating over 300, or older unrated players, play in this section.
- **U400 (Rated):** Only players in grades K–12 who are rated less than 400 or unrated may play in this section. USCF membership required. Players are encouraged but not required to take notation in this section.
We generally recommend that players new to rated chess play in this section. Experienced players rated under 400 play in this section.
- **K–6 Non-Rated:** Open only to unrated players in grades K–6. Players will not earn a rating by playing in this section. US Chess Federation membership not required. Players are encouraged but not required to take notation.

Time Control

G/30; d5 (each player has 30 minutes for the entire game, with a 5-second delay)

Schedule and Venues

- October 12, 2019 **Fairfield High School**, 8800 Holden Boulevard, Fairfield, OH 45014
- [November 9, 2019 **2019 Grade Level Championships** — see separate flyer, separate entry]
- December 7, 2019 **Lakota West High School**, 8940 Union Centre Boulevard, West Chester, OH 45069
- January 11, 2020 **Walnut Hills High School**, 3250 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207
- February 1, 2020 **Lakota East High School**, 6840 Lakota Ln, Liberty Township, OH 45044
- March 7, 2020 **Princeton High School**, 100 Viking Way, Cincinnati, OH 45246

Players must check in by 8:45 am to be paired in round 1 (see “Onsite Check-In” below). Round 1 begins at 9:00 am. Later rounds will begin in each section as soon as possible after the previous round ends. Play in the Championship section typically ends no later than 1:30 pm; lower sections usually finish earlier.

Byes

Players may take one half-point bye in each tournament. (See also “Onsite Check-In” for additional pertinent information.) A player who gets paired out (meaning that the player is left without an opponent because the section has an odd number of players to be paired) will be given a full-point bye for that round. Byes may be requested in advance or onsite if requested before pairings are posted for the round for which the bye is requested.

See other side for more information.

Onsite Check-In

Lists of players who are entered will be posted at each tournament. Players check off their names upon arriving at the tournament to indicate that they are present. At 8:45 am these lists are taken down, and those players whose names are checked off will be paired for the first round. Players who neglect to check off their name or arrive after the lists have been taken down may be paired at the chief tournament director's discretion. Players who do not check in on time and consequently are not paired in round 1 will be given a half-point bye for round 1.

Equipment

The organizers will provide boards, pieces, clocks and scoresheets for all players as required. Players must use clocks in all sections. Players are free to use their own scoresheets or scorebooks, and should bring their own pens or pencils.

US Chess Federation Membership and Ratings

A rating is a numerical measure of a player's playing strength calculated by the US Chess Federation based on the player's game results. An unrated player is one who has not yet played four or more rated games. Players need not already have a rating to play in these tournaments and will earn one as a result of playing in any rated section.

USCF membership is required to play in any rated section. USCF dues are additional to entry fees. To purchase or renew a membership online, visit the "Join/Renew" page at www.uschess.org. Participants may also purchase or renew USCF memberships through Cincinnati Scholastic Chess as part of entering any Series tournament.

Prizes

At each tournament and in every section, *medals* are awarded to those who finish in the top five places and to anyone else scoring 3.0 or more. Standard tie-breaks will determine winners among tied players.

For the series as a whole, *class trophies* will be awarded to every player in a rated section who scores 7 or more points, counting the best five tournament scores out of six tournaments for each player. Players will score 1 point for every win or full-point bye, and ½ point for every draw or half-point bye. Players who initially play in the K-6 Non-Rated section and later move to a rated section might be able to apply some points scored in the K-6 Non-Rated toward a trophy; see the *CSC Participant Handbook for 2019-20* or the CSC Series page at www.chesscincinnati.com for details.

The *Ron Giffin Trophy* will be awarded to the Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series Champion, the player scoring the most points for the series exclusively in the Championship section. Tie-breaks will be used to determine places among tied players; for details see the *CSC Participant Handbook 2019-20* or the CSC Series page at www.chesscincinnati.com.

Tournament results and cumulative point totals will be posted throughout the year on www.chesscincinnati.com.

Entry and Entry Fees

Enter a player online at www.chesscincinnati.com/csc_series, paying the entry fee and, if applicable, USCF dues through PayPal using a PayPal account or credit card. Online entries must be submitted no later than noon on the day prior to the earliest tournament being entered.

To enter a player by mail, complete an entry form (download from www.chesscincinnati.com/csc_series) and mail it to Cincinnati Scholastic Chess, 9180 Pinewood Drive, Loveland, OH 45140-8234, along with a check payable to *Cincinnati Scholastic Chess* to pay for the entry fee and, if applicable, USCF dues. Entries by mail must be received by Cincinnati Scholastic Chess no later than on the Thursday prior to the earliest tournament being entered.

The entry fee is \$15 for each tournament — October, December, January, February and March. Anyone who enters all five of these tournaments (total entry fee \$75) *and* the Grade Level (separate transaction) will receive a partial refund of \$20, which reduces the total entry fee for the five regular Series tournaments to \$55.

Players must specify tournament dates on the entry form but may change dates later. A player who misses a tournament that he or she entered may transfer the entry for the missed date to any future date in this season.

See the *CSC Participant Handbook for 2019-20* or www.chesscincinnati.com/csc_series for more information about the Series, including our entry fee refund policy. If you have questions or need additional information, please email info@chesscincinnati.com, or call/text Alan Hodge at 513-600-9915.