Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series

2026-27 Season

20th season! *4-round Swiss tournaments for grades K–12*

US CHESS AFFILIATE

Players of all skill levels are welcome provided that they know the rules of the game.

Time Control and Sections

Time control: G/30; d5 for all sections, all rounds (Each player has 30 minutes; 5-second delay at each move.)

6 Rated sections: Championship, U1200, U900, U700, U500, U300. US Chess Federation membership is required to play in any rated section. Players may play up one section. Unrated players may play in any section. Notation is required in U700 and above; it is not required in U500 and below.

2 Non-rated sections: Non-Rated 4–8, Non-Rated K–3. Only for players in grades K through 8 who are unrated. Players in these sections are not required to be USCF members and will not earn a USCF rating. Notation is not required in these sections.

USCF Regular (preferred) or Quick ratings as of the month when the tournament is played will be used for section eligibility and pairing purposes. Players who have no Regular or Quick rating will be unrated for these purposes.

All players must play with a clock. CSC provides boards, pieces, clocks and scoresheets for all players.

Dates and Venues

Oct 17, 2026	Lakota West High School	Jan 9, 2027	Mason High School
Nov 7, 2026	Sycamore High School	Feb 6, 2027	Princeton High School
Dec 5, 2026	Princeton High School	Mar 6, 2027	Cincinnati Classical Academy

Players are not obligated to play every tournament; they may play in whichever tournaments they choose.

Byes

Players may take one optional half-point bye in each tournament. Most players take no bye.

Schedule

Players are urged to be at their assigned places by 8:50 am to hear pertinent announcements in their section. Play starts in round 1 at 9:00 am sharp for all sections. Rounds 2 through 4 in each section start at scheduled times. The tournament normally ends no later than about 12:30 pm for the lowest sections and no later than about 2:30 pm for the top sections.

Prizes

Medals are awarded in all sections at all tournaments to anyone scoring 3.0 or more. For the series as a whole, *class trophies* will be awarded in all sections to everyone who scores a total of 9 or more points, counting all six tournaments. Players who play in at least 5 tournaments and do not otherwise qualify for a trophy will receive an Honorable Mention trophy. Players may play in different sections throughout the season; all points will count toward trophies. The player who scores the most points exclusively in the Championship section will win the *CSC Series Championship trophy*.

Entry

Players must enter in advance; there is no onsite entry. For each tournament the entry deadline is **12:00 noon** on the Friday before the tournament. The entry fee is $21 for each tournament. Players may enter online, but must enter each tournament separately through www.kingregistration.com/tournaments, paying through PayPal using a PayPal account or credit card.

For **complete details**, visit www.chesscincinnati.com/csc-series/

Send **questions** by email to info@chesscincinnati.com, or call/text Keith at 513-312-4543.