

## CSC SERIES CHANGES FOR 2019-20

**Ohio Grade Level Championships:** The 13th season of the CSC Series will be truly special because on November 9, 2019 Cincinnati Scholastic Chess will be hosting the Ohio Grade Level Championships, which will consequently take the place of our usual November tournament. The Grade Level, of course, is a major event in and of itself, and it will have its own a registration process, entry fee, and conditions for play separate from the Series; but **anyone who plays in the Grade Level and also plays in the Series will be able to count his or her Grade Level score toward a Series trophy** just as with any other Series tournament. And because the Grade Level is a five-round tournament, it offers an opportunity for players to score a “bonus” point for the Series. Information about the Grade Level, including mail-in and online entry forms, is on our website, [www.chesscincinnati.com](http://www.chesscincinnati.com).

**Entry fee structure:** Because we are incorporating the Grade Level into the Series for scoring purposes, we have modified our entry fee structure somewhat. For the other five Series tournaments (October, December, January, February and March) the entry fee will be \$15 per tournament. This is equal to the per tournament entry fee that we had in 2018-19. In past years we have discounted the total entry fee by \$20 for anyone who entered all six Series tournaments at one time. In order to preserve this discount, we have adopted the following policy: Anyone who enters all five regular Series tournaments at one time (paying an entry fee of \$75) *and* plays in the Grade Level will receive a partial refund of \$20 for the Series, reducing the total entry fee for the five regular Series tournaments to \$55. This refund will be issued to all eligible players after the completion of the Grade Level.

**Championship Scoring:** Incorporating the Grade Level requires another change with respect to scoring for the CSC Series Championship. Contenders for the championship who play in different Grade Level sections (in the Grade Level every grade is its own exclusive section) will certainly not play each other, and even those in the same Grade Level section will be less likely to play each other due to the number of players in the section. Accordingly, Grade Level scores will *not* count toward the Series Championship. Only the October, December, January, February and March scores will count toward the championship, and because this leaves only five scores to count, all five scores will count (none of these scores will be dropped).

**Scoring points for Series trophies:** We simplified our method of scoring for trophy purposes so that it is now based entirely on actual game results. Accordingly a player scores one point for each win or full-point bye (for being paired out of a round), a half-point for each draw or half-point bye, and zero for each loss, zero-point bye or forfeit. We modified the thresholds for the different trophy classes correspondingly as follows: gold class 15.0 points or more, silver class 12.5 points or more, bronze class 10.0 points or more, and honorable mention 7.0 points or more.

**Venue changes:** The Grade Level and other factors have required us to make some changes to our lineup of venues. Dates and locations for the 2019-20 season are as follows:

October 12, 2019	<b>Fairfield High School</b> , 8800 Holden Boulevard, Fairfield, OH 45014
November 9, 2019	<b>Grade Level</b> , Embassy Suites Hotel, 4554 Lake Forest Drive, Blue Ash, OH 45242
December 7, 2019	<b>Lakota West High School</b> , 8940 Union Centre Boulevard, West Chester, OH 45069
January 11, 2020	<b>Walnut Hills High School</b> , 3250 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207
February 1, 2020	<b>Lakota East High School</b> , 6840 Lakota Ln, Liberty Township, OH 45044
March 7, 2020	<b>Princeton High School</b> , 100 Viking Way, Cincinnati, OH 45246