

Hong Kong Inter-School Chess Championships 2023

Rules

There are three divisions in this competition: Secondary, Primary and Primary (Y1 – Y3) Divisions. Any student in a primary school may play in the Primary Division but only year 1 to year 3, or grade 1 to grade 3 as the school may name it, students can play in the Primary (Y1 – Y3) Division. All players must be full time students of the school they are representing. This is a team event with 4 boards per match and all players must sit in ascending order of their player numbers. Each team may consist of more than 4 players and all of them shall be listed in the order of their strength during registration with a player number assigned by the organizer. All players must wear the nametag provided by the organizer.

There are 7 rounds in each division, using the Swiss System to determine the opponents in each successive round. This means that you will not know whom you are playing in the next round until everyone has finished the current round. Once all the results are gathered and pairings for the next round made, the pairing will be posted together with the table number.

In every round, each team should have at least 3 players attending the match. Failing that the concerned team will not be paired for subsequent rounds unless at least 3 members of the team report in person to the pairing officer of their presence before the pairing for next round is made. In case of one missing board, all players must move up to fill Board 1 to 3, leaving the Board 4 default.

The time limit for each player in the Primary (Y1 – Y3) Division is 15 minutes and Primary Divisions is 25 minutes. In the Secondary Division, the time limit is 60 minutes. A player loses his/her game if he/she is late by 15 minutes.

Each player in the Secondary Division is required to record the moves of his/her games until he/she has less than 5 minutes on his/her clock, using algebraic notation on official scorebook provided.

All teams must fill in the players' number on the result sheet provided before the games start.

After each match is completed, the team representatives or the players of the last board finishing the match must complete their results sheets and put them in the designated box.

All spectators must stay away from the playing area during the course of the game except that they will be allowed to enter the playing area for taking photos in the first 5 minutes after the game has started.

There will be prizes for the top 6 teams in each division if there are 20 entries or more entering into that division, otherwise 3 only. If a school enters more than one team, only the best team of that school will be considered for the team prize. Rankings will be determined by Match Points (2 for wins, 1 for draws, 0 for losses) and then by the following order of tie-breaks:

- Tie Break 1: points (game-points)
- Tie Break 2: Result of teams in same point group according to Match Points
- Tie Break 3: Buchholz (0,3,N,N,0,N) (sum of team-points of opponents discarding the lowest three)
- Tie Break 4: Buchholz (0,2,N,N,0,N) (sum of team-points of opponents discarding the lowest two)

All players will also be competing for a board prize at which board (board 1 to board 4) they play in the tournament. Rankings will be determined first by game points then percentage and then the final ranking of their teams. For each board order, there will be 6 prizes when there are 20 teams or more and if a school enters more than 2 teams, only the best two performers of the school will be considered for the respective board prize. If the number of teams is less than 20, there will be 3 prizes only for each board order, and only the best performer of each school will be considered for the respective board prize. The board order of a player will be determined according to the actual boards he/she plays in the tournament.

Illegal move

Secondary and Primary Divisions - The opponent may notify an arbiter of the illegal move and the arbiter will give a warning to the player making the illegal move. After such warning, if the same player makes two more illegal moves, this player loses the game.

Primary (Y1 – Y3) Division - The opponent may notify an arbiter of the illegal move and the arbiter will give a warning to the player making the illegal move. After such warning, if the same player makes another 4 illegal moves, this player loses the game.

Tournament Director: Ms. HO Yin Ping

Note: Results and pairings for each round will also be posted on <http://chess-results.com>