

Dear Good People,

Welcome to the 2021 US Amateur National Championship organized by Chess Weekend, BayAreaChess, and ChessStream, and licensed by US Chess Federation! The tournament directors for this tournament are National TD Glenn Panner (12417641), National TD Tom Langland (USCF ID 11236219), National TD Jordan Langland (12998998), Senior TD Salman Azhar (12448551), and Chacha Nugroho (12780191).

1. After Registering:
 - a. Please check <https://bayarea.chess.stream/usamat/preentries> ASAP to confirm that your registration is processed correctly.¹
 - b. Report errors or request changes using <https://forms.gle/Unf8tFtsZGi7KLUYA>.²
 - c. If you see "Waiting for Payment" next to your name, please click and pay.
 - d. If you are not a current USChess, please purchase at <http://www.bayareachess.com/my/membership> and play without worries.
 - e. Review instructions at <https://bayarea.chess.stream/usamat/HowToPlay>
2. Make plans to play based on the [schedule](#) for your section(s). (Tip: Keep this schedule handy, physically or electronically, for the tournament day.)
3. On the tournament day:
 - a. Plan your day based on your section's [schedule](#).^{3 4 5 6}
 - b. **30 minutes before the tournament starts, join zoom at zoom.us/j/91847146324.**
 - i. **Update your screen name to read (section - firstname lastname).⁷**
 - ii. **Players in the non-scholastic section: Connect a side-rear view zoom camera showing the player in their playing environment with view of the screen. This video must be on during the game to be eligible for all prizes (in the non-scholastic section).**
 - iii. **Players in the scholastic sections do not need to have a camera on, but should join the zoom chat for help during the tournament.**
 - iv. **You may contact the TD staff via zoom chat only.**
 - c. **Shortly before each game's scheduled start time:**

¹ Q: When would the sections be finalized like OTB live tournaments? And would that be available/final the morning off?

A: The sections will be finalized on the morning of the tournament.

² Q: When I registered-its forced me to select 2 groups to participate before letting me go to the payment section. my son is registered under the k-8 beginner and k-8 varsity sections. our intention was to register for only k-8 beginner.

A: Please use <https://forms.gle/Unf8tFtsZGi7KLUYA>.

³ Q: What is the time control for the games?

A: The time Control for all non-Championship sections is G/15 +2 (15 mins/game +2 secs/move for both players). The time Control for all Championship sections is G/25 +5 (25 mins/game +5 secs/move for both players). See <https://bayareachess.com/events/21/usamat/#schedule> for details.

⁴ Q: How many rounds?

A: All sections will have 5 rounds.

⁵ Q: Will there be any breaks in between rounds? Can the kid take a recess break and come back for the next round?

A: Generally, yes most players will likely be about 30 or more minutes between games. Please see the schedule for the timings of each round.

⁶ Q: Do we need to click on anything like pairings to get into the tournament and or does the pairings just pop up on our screen?

A: The pairings for each section will be available at <https://bayarea.chess.stream/usamat/pairing> at or around the scheduled round time for that section.

⁷ Click on the "Participants" in the Zoom window; then, hover your mouse over your name; then click "More" and on "Rename".

- i. Find your section at <https://bayarea.chess.stream/usamat/pairing>
 - ii. Check your pairing
 - iii. Select "Click Here To Play" to start your game
- d. After joining your game:
 - i. Do not close (or X) a board for any reason (such as an absent opponent) because the TDs may not be able to recreate your virtual board.
 - ii. (Only the players paired on a given board can play on that board.)
- e. After every round, check the results at the following links and report any errors immediately:
 - i. <https://bayarea.chess.stream/usamat/standing>
 - ii. There are no team standings for this event.
- f. There are no knockouts and every player should play all rounds, regardless of results.
- g. Please, inform us ASAP if you can't play in any round (or the tournament) using <https://forms.gle/Unf8tFtsZGi7KLUYA>.
 - i. Absence (without sufficient notice) is inconsiderate and there are no refunds for no-shows without sufficient notice.
 - ii. Furthermore, repeated offenses may result in further negative consequences, such as penalties and sanctions.

Please check <https://bayareachess.com/usamat> for more information and attend the virtual town hall meeting at 7pm on the Thursday before the tournament (using zoom invite sent to registered emails). We will share the recording of the town hall meeting in case you miss it.

We will post the results at <https://bayareachess.com/ratings-results-photos/> and rate the tournament after all fairplay checks.

Much love to everyone, especially those who have helped us stay alive and reopen...

Glenn, Tom, Salman, and Friends