

Aloha Hawaii Chess Ohana!

Thank you for signing up for our Hawaii chess tournament

Preparing for the Tournament:

For new players, here are some great, short videos to help you and your child prepare for a tournament atmosphere. (Players in the K-2 division do not need to write down moves.)

<https://www.chess.com/lessons/your-first-tournament>

Team & Family Setup:

We encourage chess teams and families to bring a pop-up shade tent and tables/chairs and a cooler to set up in the courtyard. There might not be a lot of room for families inside the cafeteria, depending on the number of players. Those without an outside tent should bring a seat cushion because the cafeteria benches are hard. Players might want cushions too. Wherever you sit, please help us keep kids quiet during the games. Loud voices are heard easily inside the cafeteria.

Check in:

When you arrive at Washington Middle School, go to the Cafeteria. Please do not delay to check in, as any check ins beyond the allotted time will not be paired for round 1 with a bye.

Please check in at the chess control table with Josh White or Damian Nash near the stage in the Cafeteria. If you need to register, or if there are any issues with your payment, USCF membership, bye requests that were not requested during registration, or any other questions/issues, please inform the tournament director at this time.

Once you have checked in, please relax and enjoy some casual chess with your friends and teammates, if you like.

Required player meeting:

There is a required player meeting 15 minutes before the start of round 1. At the announcement of the meeting, please pause all games and move to the front of the cafeteria. General announcements and rules for the tournament will be given at the meeting. Pairings will be posted once the meeting is complete.

Round times and lunch break:

Some tournaments may have pre-posted start times for all rounds, as well as a set lunch break time. Other tournaments may only post the start time for round 1, with the remainder of the rounds and lunch time TBA (to be announced) as the day progresses. This is done to accommodate certain sections (especially the younger kids) who may play their rounds much faster than other sections. The round and lunch times will be announced by the TD, and posted in the cafeteria. There are a number of eateries located nearby. You are welcome to bring food or drink into the playing hall, because it is a cafeteria. However, *no food at the chess boards*, please.

Pairings and Results:

Pairings and results will be printed throughout the day, and posted on the walls of the cafeteria.

Communicating with players:

Communicating with players during tournament games is strictly prohibited. Often parents and teammates may feel they are supposed to coach players to follow rules, like reminding them to press their clock, or write their moves, or they may think it is their duty to intervene if they see an illegal move or checkmate/stalemate. NO. Even in these situations, there is no communication allowed! If an illegal move takes place, the players must notice it, pause their clocks, and raise their hands.

Parents, coaches, and other players are welcome to observe games at a reasonable **STANDING** distance of at least a few feet. Do not sit at the table with them, even if a few feet away. No verbal or non-verbal communication (sign language, baseball like signals,

facial ticks, weird body language, etc.) of any kind is allowed. If parents need to send a player a message, please ask one of the tournament directors to relay the message for you.

Silence!

Please turn off your cell phone ringers as soon as you arrive at the tournament. We deputize all parents, coaches and chess players to remind people to use library voices during the rounds because noise accumulates quickly in the cafeteria. Repeated reminders to lower voices may result in individuals being asked to leave the cafeteria. Shhh! :)

Device Policy for players:

Unfortunately, due to the potential for cheating, the chess rules over the years have become increasingly strict for devices that have an internet or cellular connection. We recommend all scholastic players leave their devices with their parents/guardians during their active games. If you must have your device on you, please observe the following rules.

- The device must be placed openly on the table and visible to the opponent and tournament director at all times.
- The device must be turned off. Not on silent or vibrate, OFF.
- If the device rings or buzzes during the game, the first offense will be a warning and a time penalty bonus added to your opponent's clock. A second offense will be loss of game. If you answer the phone call or use the device in any way, the result is a loss of game.
- If a player needs to leave the playing hall for any reason, to use the bathroom or otherwise, DO NOT take your device with you. You must either leave it at the table, or give it to chess control, and the tournament directors will hold it for you until you return.
- If a player is seen with the device on their person during an active game, in or out of the playing hall, the result will be loss of game.
- If you need any special considerations for use of a device, whether it be a required "on call" work situation, ongoing family emergency, disability, or any other special accommodation, please inform the tournament directors before the tournament begins. We will do our best to work with you, if possible.

Awards Ceremony:

The awards ceremonies will take place after all games in a section are complete. The K-2 students tend to play very fast, and their ceremony will likely begin between 2pm and 3:30pm. The 9-12 students usually finish last, and their ceremony will likely begin between 5:30pm and 6:30pm. Please take photos and share the best ones with us (email address below).

Contact info:

For any questions related to

- Scholastic tournaments, scholastic fundraising, or trophies, contact Joshua White HCF Scholastic Director scholastic@hawaiiichess.com
- Cash prizes, payments, or all HCF financial issues, contact Mike Lewis HCF Treasurer lewismb00@gmail.com
- Non-scholastic tournaments, please contact whoever is listed as the tournament organizer on the registration page
- All other Hawaii Chess Federation business, please contact Damian Nash HCF President kauaichessclub@gmail.com