



美東中文學校協會

Association of Chinese Schools

53rd Association of Chinese Schools (ACS)

Chess Contest

Contest Objective: To promote excellent traditional Chinese culture, popularize the game of Chinese chess, develop students' intelligence, cultivate concentration, logical thinking, and strategic planning skills, and provide a healthy platform for cultural, recreational, and educational exchange where students can learn and interact through competition.

Organizer: 53rd Association of Chinese Schools (美東中文學校協會).

Undertaking Unit (Host): New Jersey Chinese School Association (新澤西中文學校協會).

Contest Date and Time: Saturday, 5/23/2026, 2 pm to 6 pm (Check-in at 2pm)

Contest Location: Sheraton, Edison @125 Raritan Center Pkwy, Edison, NJ 08837.

Eligibility and Grouping

Contest Age Groups:

- **Elementary Level (低年級組):** Ages 5 to 9.
- **Intermediate Level (中年級組):** Ages 10 to 13.
- **Senior Level (高年級組):** Ages 14 to 18.
- Age cut-off date is 9/1/2026.

Participant Requirements:

- Contestants must be enrolled students at an ACS member school during the 2025 September to 2026 June school year.
- Contestants in the Middle and Senior Groups must have continuously resided in the United States for six years or more and have been enrolled at an ACS member school for three years or more.
- Contestants who moved to a foreign area after the age of five and lived there for more than two years are ineligible.
- Contestants who immigrated to the U.S. from a Chinese-speaking region after the age of seven are ineligible.

- o A Chinese-speaking region (外地) refers to regions where Chinese is the primary language, such as Taiwan, China, and Hong Kong.
- The eligibility of every student must be reviewed and verified by the Chinese school and confirmed by the principal.
- Each school is limited to two students per group.

Registration and Rules

Registration Fee and Method:

- The registration fee is **\$70**.
- Make the check payable to “**ACS**”.
- Please ensure you note the following in the check's Memo section: **ACS 2026, the participating school, the event, and the group/division**.
- Recipient: “**ACS**”.
- Check Mailing Address: **90 Keats Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920**
- The registration deadline is **4/12/2026 (Sunday) at 11:59 pm**.
- For any inquiries regarding registration, please **text Bright Lin at 201-892-2118** or email bright.lin@acsusa.org

Pre-Contest Drawing and Team Leader Meeting:

- The organizing district will hold an online team leader meeting before the contest and draw the order of appearance at the meeting.
- If there are too many contestants in a group, the order will be drawn before the meeting and announced via a YouTube video.

Check-in and Contest Order:

- The school team leader and contestants must check in 30 minutes before the start of the contest.
- After entering, participating students should take their assigned seats according to their name tags.
- Late arrivals will be considered as forfeiting their eligibility.
- Entry and exit will be controlled while the contest is in progress.

Judging & Scoring:

Unless otherwise specified, the rules of the Chinese Xiangqi Association (中華民國象棋協會) will be adopted.

- The competition will adopt a double-elimination system.
- The draw and scoring for participants will be processed by a computer program.
- For the 'Ming Qi' (明棋) format, each player has a time limit of twenty minutes per game. If a player exceeds the time limit, they will be declared the loser.

- In the event of a draw (平手), for games with one win, one loss, and one draw (一勝一負一和之局), the player who had the Black pieces in the final drawn game will be declared the winner.
- In the 'Ming Qi' competition, the order of play (先後順序) is determined by rock-paper-scissors. The winner takes the red pieces and moves first. For the second game, the other player will take the red pieces and move first, and this will alternate. The player who captures the opponent's 'General' ('將') or 'Marshal' ('帥') first is the winner.

Miscellaneous: Any matters not covered by these competition regulations may be corrected at any time.

Copyright and Image Usage Authorization: Submission of the registration form by all participants shall be deemed as consent for ACS to own the rights to photograph, use, publicly display, and use for non-commercial promotional purposes, the participant and their entry (including but not limited to the finished wall poster, creation process, exhibition photos, and related event footage).

Rewards and Final Authority

Awards for Each Group:

- First Place: \$100 prize money.
- Second Place: \$70 prize money.
- Third Place: \$50 prize money.
- All contestants will receive one certificate of participation.
- The top three winners in each age group will receive one medal and one certificate from the association.

Final Authority:

- Any disputes regarding these contest rules shall be subject to the interpretation of the organizer.
- The organizer reserves the final right to amend these contest rules.