

## **Honourable Bob Rookies and Juniors 2026**

Venue: Salvation Army, 108 Queen Street Altona

Entry: \$45 (members only price) \$65 (non-members)

Rating: FIDE/ ACF Classical Rating

Contact: NA Kuaynsh Batyrbekov [hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com](mailto:hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com)

Chief Arbiter: FA Myiesha Maunders

Deputy Chief Arbiter: Venkat Ganesan

Early Bird ends: 7 March 2026 (THURSDAY), Late Entry adds \$10.

Last Day to Register: 12 March 2026

Schedule: 6:00 PM- Tournament starts

Format: 5 rounds, 60 minutes + 30 seconds per move (1 round per week)

### **Tournament Rules**

1. **Standard FIDE Rules:** All games will be played according to the standard FIDE rules.
2. All HBCC Rookies and Juniors Tournaments are FIDE Classical and ACF Classic Rated, unless stated otherwise.
3. Eligibility
  - Unrated (rating by Close of tournament registration) or
  - ACF below 1500 (rating by Close of tournament registration) or
  - FIDE rating below 1700 (rating by Close of tournament registration)
  - Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident OR FIDE ID (registered with home country chess federation)

- Non Citizen or PR holders are required to register your FIDE ID with your home country. No exception to this.
- 4. **Time Control:** Each player will have **60 minutes with an additional 30 second increment per move** starting from the first move.
- 5. **Default time** for each round is 30 minutes from the start time.
- 6. **Half Point Bye:** Players are allowed a maximum of 2 half-point byes (7 round tournaments) or 1 half-point byes for 5 round tournaments. No half-point byes are permitted for the final 2 rounds. Bye requests must be submitted in writing to [hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com](mailto:hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com) at least 24 hours before the intended eligible round.
- 7. **Advance Notice for Absence:** If your child is unable to attend their match, please inform the Chief Arbiter ([hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com](mailto:hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com)) at least 24 hours in advance. This courtesy helps avoid situations where an opponent makes the trip to the club only to find no match awaiting them.
- 8. **Policy on Repeated Absences:** Please be advised that any player who is absent from the tournament at least twice without prior notification to the organizers will be removed from the tournament roster, and potentially future tournaments. While we understand that unforeseen circumstances can occur, we kindly ask for your cooperation to communicate with us in advance whenever possible. This policy helps us ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for all participants.
- 9. **Illegal Moves:** A player making an illegal move will incur a penalty of 2 minutes (Classical) or 1 minute (Rapid/Blitz) for the first offense. The game will be forfeited if it's the player's second illegal move.

## 10. Arbiters

See event website

11. **Appeal Committee:** Players can appeal against Chief Arbiter (CA) decisions.

An appeal must be submitted in writing along with a \$100 deposit. If the appeal is successful, the deposit will be returned. An Appeal Committee comprising **three appointed individuals** will review appeals

- IA Casey Goh
- NA Truong Nguyen
- NA Steven Hogan
- FA Tony Davis
- FA Matthew Whitford
- NA Kuanysh Batyrbekov

12. **Unpaired BYEs:** In the case of an odd number of players on the day, one player may receive an unpaired BYE, awarding them 1 point. We aim to notify affected parents in advance, whenever possible.

13. **Notation** is mandatory for all moves, even if the player's time goes below 5 minutes.

14. **Schedule and Published Time** as below

- 6:00 PM – Start of Tournament

15. **LiveView of the DGT board** is available in the club website (<https://hobsonsbaychess.com/live-broadcast-games/>)

16. **Game database** for players to upload their PGN files. See club's website at <https://hobsonsbaychess.com/juniors-hbcc/junior-games-database/>. Please see step by step guide how to upload your games to club database at <https://hobsonsbaychess.com/2024/04/06/how-to-upload-your-game-to-club-game-database/>

Any questions related to this, please approach Truong.

## **Prizes**

1. Players must have a minimum of 1.5 points to qualify for a prize, which can be earned through half-point byes or forfeits or from a win or draw. A player must play a minimum of
  - 5 games (7 round tournaments) to be eligible for a prize.
  - 3 games (5 round tournaments) to be eligible for a prize.

Games played include winning by forfeits and paired BYEs.

2. HBCC will be using the ACF Classic Rating Category to separate and award the players. Organisers reserve the right to change the prizes and rating category based on the final number of participants in the tournament.
3. For some tournaments, ACF may publish ACF ratings in the middle of the tournament. We will be using the latest ACF rating for the prize category.
4. HBCC will be following ACF Rules on prize  
<https://auschess.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/By-Law-3-Australian-Junior-Chess-Championships.pdf>
5. A player shall only be awarded one title and any associated trophy from each tournament, that being the rating group title he/she is eligible for.
6. Notwithstanding 5, a female player may be awarded one girl's title as well as one rating group title.
7. Tiebreakers will be used to determine medal/trophy winners. Tiebreakers will be used in the following order: Buchholz (BH), Buchholz-1 (BH1), and then Sonneborn-Berger (SB).
8. A minimum of 5 players is required for a category to qualify for prizes.
9. Prize Group Order:
  - Rating Category
  - Unrated Category
  - Girls

These rules aim to ensure fair play, timely conduct of the tournament, and clear guidelines for prize distribution. Players are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these rules before participating.

Cash prizes are as below

- First Prize Rating Group 1: \$200
- Second Prize Group 1: \$100
- Third Prize Group 1: \$50
- Rating Group 2 Winner: \$50
- Rating Group 3 Winner: \$50
- Rating Group 4 Winner: \$50

Subsequent lower Rating Group is not eligible for cash prize. Cash prizes are divided equally if there are any ties.

## **Qualification for end of the year Club Junior Championship**

1. 1 If a player/players comes clear first or tied first for one of the 4 open swisses (not counting tiebreaks)
    - a. Purdy Cup Rookies and Juniors
    - b. Honorable Bob Rookies and Juniors
    - c. Hobsons Bay Cup Rookies and Juniors
    - d. Koshnitsky Cup Rookies and Juniors
  2. 2 the combined score of 3 of the 4 open swisses
  3. 3 if 2 is tied the combined progressive score of the rounds qualifying tournaments added together.
  4. 4 the players 4th tournament
- Juniors could also score points towards the Juniors Club Championship.

## 1. The winner of the tournament

- Over the year we have 4x Swiss tournaments. This **will not include** our blitz tournaments, weekend rapid
- 2x 5 round
- 2x 7 round
- The winner will be the player who ends on the highest score not including tiebreakers
- If 2 players end on the same highest score both qualify
- While unlikely it is possible all 8 players qualify through this method if 2 different players came tied first in each tournament
- If someone who has already qualified through a tournament wins again this will not allow for additional qualification

## 2. End of year score

- This will be used to get to 8 players after accounting for the players who qualified through path 1
- It is the combined score of the players 3 best tournaments
- Byes both requested and unrequested will be used in calculating this score
- If there are players who have the same score 3 and 4 will be used until we get 8 players
- The reasoning of this system is it benefits players who are consistent without overly punishing players if they miss 1 tournament.