

# About USChess and USCF-rated tournament

## 1. What is a USCF-rated tournament?

A USCF-rated tournament is a tournament that has been sanctioned by US Chess and in which the results of the games played are submitted to US Chess for rating purposes. US Chess assigns a rating to each player based on their performance in these tournaments, and this rating is used to determine a player's strength and eligibility for future tournaments.

## 2. How do I become a US Chess member?

To participate in US Chess-rated tournaments, you must be a member of US Chess. You can become a member by [visiting the US Chess website](#) and signing up for a membership. There are different types of memberships available, including adult, young adult, youth, and senior. Youth (or Scholastic) membership is for players under 19 years of age, the membership of youth is \$20 / year.

## 3. How do I find USCF-rated tournaments?

You can find USCF-rated tournaments on the [US Chess website](#), which maintains a calendar of upcoming tournaments throughout the country. You can search for tournaments by state, date, or type of tournament. You can also check with your local chess club or chess federation for information about upcoming tournaments in your area. As a US Chess affiliate, ICEA Chess is committed to providing top-quality USCF-rated tournaments in the Los Angeles area. For more information on upcoming tournaments hosted by ICEA Chess, please visit our website at <https://iceachess.org>. ICEA Chess also publishes [a chess calendar](#) for our members to look up mostly reachable local chess tournaments and events/classes hosted by ICEA Chess.

## 4. What are the different types of USCF-rated tournaments?

There are several types of USCF-rated tournaments, including regular, rapid, and blitz tournaments. Regular tournaments are the most common and are played at a slower time control, the duration of the first time-control must be at least 30 minutes for each player. Rapid tournaments have a faster time control, usually around 15 minutes per player, and are popular for players who want to play more games in a shorter amount of time. Blitz tournaments have an even faster time control, usually around 5 minutes per player, and are very fast-paced and exciting.

## 5. What should I bring to a US Chess-rated tournament?

Make sure you bring your chess set, chess clock, and scorebook to the tournament. These items are essential for playing chess in a tournament setting. You should also bring snacks, water, and anything else you might need to stay comfortable during the tournament.

