

2024 Toronto Open

Rules and Regulations

I. Organizer

Annex Chess Club is the organizer of the 2024 Toronto Open from August 31, 2024 to September 2, 2024. The Chief Organizer is Keith Denning. Other organizers include, but are not limited to, board members of the Annex Chess Club.

II. Tournament Format

The event will be split over five tournament sections: Crown, U2200, U1900, U1600, U1300. Players must play in their assigned section. A \$20 play-up fee may be paid on-site if a player's rating is within 100 points of the rating floor of the next section.

The tournament is a 6-round Swiss tournament, with the following tiebreak criteria in order of priority: Buchholz Cut 1, Buchholz, direct encounter, average rating of opponents, greater number of wins including forfeits, greater number of wins with Black pieces, greater number of games with Black (unplayed games shall be counted as played with White), Sonneborn-Berger, drawing of lots.

There is a limit of 300 players across all sections. The language of the tournament is in English, with interpretation in French available upon request.

III. Time Control

The time control for all sections is 90 minutes for the game with 30 seconds of increment starting from the first move. There is no alternate time control and the use of clocks other than those provided by the organizer is forbidden.

Clocks will start at the specified time on the game schedule. The default time is 30 minutes from the round's start time. An unjustified absence may result in expulsion from the tournament.

IV. Rules and Pairings

Registration for the tournament implies acceptance of the rules and regulations presented in this document. For issues not covered, the Laws of Chess and other applicable rules and regulations as presented in the most up-to-date version of the FIDE Handbook will apply.

Pairings / sections

The highest of CFC Regular (August 29) and FIDE Standard (August 2024) ratings will be used for section placements. FIDE ratings will be used for pairings in Crown, U2200, and U1900

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sections. CFC ratings will be used for pairings in the U1600 and U1300 section. Players without FIDE ratings will be seeded as unrated FIDE players in order of their CFC ratings.

FQE ratings will be taken at par with CFC if a player does not have a CFC rating. USCF and other foreign ratings will only be considered if a player does not have a FIDE, CFC, or FQE rating. Ratings in other time controls and online ratings will not be considered. The Chief Arbiter's decision concerning the rating used to pair a player is final and cannot be appealed.

Pairings will be done using ChessManager, a FIDE-approved computer-assisted web-based pairing program. Pairings are made using the FIDE Swiss system. There will be no forbidden pairings. Pairings will not be altered for a player to obtain a certain ranking or title.

Pairings that have been posted publicly will not be changed, unless two players have been paired together for the second time in the tournament.

Rating

All sections are CFC-rated. The Crown, U2200, and U1900 sections will also be FIDE-rated. Players are required to have a valid CFC or FQE membership through the duration of the tournament.

Reminder: As the CFC does not have the authority to issue FIDE IDs to foreign players, it is the player's responsibility to obtain a FIDE ID from their country of residence. This request must be made to the National Federation of the country of which the player is a citizen or permanent resident. Foreign players will not be paired if they do not have a FIDE ID. Canadian residents who do not have a FIDE ID will be issued a FIDE ID after the tournament.

Byes

A maximum of two half-point byes may be requested for rounds one through four; any additional byes will be zero-point byes. Bye requests must be submitted **in writing** at the Pairing Arbiter's table or by email to tournaments@annexchessclub.com before the end of the previous round (e.g. a Round 3 bye request must be made before the end of Round 2). Failure to do so will result in the player being paired, a forfeit loss being issued, and that player's withdrawal from the tournament. Players may ask the Chief Arbiter to reinstate them in the tournament if they have a valid reason for not providing sufficient notice.

Equipment

The organizer will supply all chess pieces, chess boards, and clocks. The use of the chess boards, chess pieces, and clocks provided by the organizer is mandatory for all players. Pens

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and scoresheets will be provided by the organizer. Players are permitted to bring a pen or pencil to record the game. Players must use the scoresheets supplied by the organizer.

Players are not permitted to adjust chess pieces or chess clocks in the playing area in between rounds.

V. Draws

Players are not permitted to draw by mutual agreement before move thirty. All draws before thirty moves have been played must be validated by an arbiter (e.g. threefold repetition, stalemate, dead position).

VI. Schedule

The schedule for all sections is as follows:

Technical Meeting	Saturday 31 August	9:30 am
Round 1	Saturday 31 August	10 am
Round 2	Saturday 31 August	4 pm
Round 3	Sunday 1 September	10 am
Round 4	Sunday 1 September	4 pm
Round 5	Monday 2 September	10 am
Round 6	Monday 2 September	4 pm
Closing Ceremony*	None	

*Prize-winning players who wish to receive their certificates are welcome to stay and wait; results may take a few hours to verify. Upon request, we will send an e-copy.

VII. Location

St. Casimir's Parish Hall, 156 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, ON M6R 2L4

VIII. Registration Fees

Early Bird (before July 15): \$90

Regular (before August 15): \$110

Late (after August 15): \$130

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Payment must be made (a) online on the tournament website, (b) in person at Annex Chess Club, or (c) via e-transfer to info@annexchessclub.com.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs. Please email tournaments@annexchessclub.com to register; you can also register for your section and choose “I’ll pay later.”

Discounts of \$20 for juniors, ACC members, CIC instructors, and seniors. A maximum discount of \$20 applies during the Early Bird period, and a maximum discount of \$40 applies during the Regular and Late periods.

Registration links: [Crown](#), [U2200](#), [U1900](#), [U1600](#), [U1300](#)

Please register for the correct section. Registration closes on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 11:59 pm.

Play-up

If you would like to play up, please register for the section you would like to play in. All players need to be within 100 points of the rating floor in order to play up. If you are not eligible to play up, you will be moved to the correct section.

If your rating is above the rating floor (i.e. 1900+ for U2200), you will not be charged a play-up fee. If your rating is above the play-up threshold (i.e. 1800+ for U2200), we will email you with instructions on how to pay your play-up fee on **Friday, August 30, 2024**.

Cancellation Fees

A \$20 processing fee will be applied for any cancellation prior to August 1. After August 1, a 50% refund will be issued. After August 15, no refunds will be given.

IX. Prizes

The prize fund is estimated at \$7000 based on 250 registered players. 1st place in the Crown section is guaranteed \$1500. Class prizes include 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each section.

Miscellaneous prizes include Top Woman, Top Junior (U20), Top Girl (U20), Top ACC Member, Top 65+.

In the event of a tie, the Hort system will be used for prizes. Players are eligible for multiple prizes (e.g. 3rd + top junior). The organizers reserve the right to modify prizes based on the final number of paid entries.

X. Arbiters

The Chief Arbiter is FA Uttam Dhungel, and the Deputy Chief Arbiter and Pairings Arbiter is NA Heidi Gay. Floor arbiters include NA Michael Corrie, NA Peter Lambert, and Deepanshi Matai. The Organizer and Chief Arbiter reserve the right to modify the arbitration team at any point before or during the tournament.

XI. Appeals

If a player disputes an arbiter's ruling, they may appeal to the tournament's Appeals Committee. Appeals must be submitted in writing within one (1) hour of the completion of the game in question and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$100. Appeals must be sent to info@annexchessclub.com.

Deposits will be returned if the appeal is successful or is deemed reasonable.

The Appeals Committee will be announced at a later date.

XII. Code of Conduct

Players are expected to abide by the FIDE Code of Ethics.

XIII. Fair Play Policy

Cellphones, smart watches, tablets, and all electronic devices must be off and stored in the player's backpack, bag, or kept face down on the playing table, and may not be accessed during play. Smart watches may not be worn. If a player's device sounds, vibrates, or otherwise causes a disturbance during a game, the player loses their game. Any player found with chess-related materials or an active device on their person while a game is in progress will lose their current game, unless an explicit allowance has been made by the Chief Arbiter. A second infraction will result in ejection from the tournament.

Spectators may not peruse chess materials nor use cellphones, smart watches, tablets, and other devices that can connect to the internet in the playing hall. Spectators whose devices cause a disturbance will be asked to leave the playing hall. Players whose games are finished are deemed to be spectators.

Players that would like to lodge a Fair Play concern must speak to the Chief Arbiter.

XIV. Photography Policy and Media Disclaimer

Spectators may take photos only in the first ten minutes of any round. Official event photographers and accredited media are exempted. Accreditation must be obtained prior to **August 31, 2024** by writing in to: tournaments@annexchessclub.com.

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Players requesting to stream their games must write to the organizer at info@annexchessclub.com AND at tournaments@annexchessclub.com.

Annex Chess Club reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at the tournament, without the permission of those included within the photograph/video. Organizers may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used, or contracted by the organizers including but not limited to: websites, social media, publications, etc.

To ensure individual privacy, images will not be identified using full names or personal identifying information without written approval from the person, parent, or legal guardian. Participation in the tournament is an agreement to release, defend, hold harmless, and indemnify the organizers from any and all claims involving the use of your picture or likeness. Please notify the tournament organizers if you have concerns or don't permit the usage of your pictures. The organizers will remove your pictures upon a written request.

Any person or organization not affiliated with the organizers may not use, copy, alter, or modify the photographs, graphics, videography, or other similar reproductions or recordings without the advance written permission of an authorized designee from organizers.

XV. Privacy Policy

Participants authorize the organization to use the personal data provided for the purposes of managing the tournament. For all other matters, the Privacy Policy of Annex Chess Club will apply.