

2024 Toronto Blitz

Rules and Regulations

I. Organizer

Annex Chess Club is the organizer of the 2024 Toronto Blitz on August 12, 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 tournament is a 7 double-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 200 players. 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 3 minutes for the game with 2 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 3 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

FIDE Blitz (August 2024) ratings will be used for pairings. Players without FIDE ratings will be seeded as unrated FIDE players in order of their CFC Quick (August 8) 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

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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.

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

The tournament will be FIDE- and CFC-rated.

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

Byes are not available in this tournament.

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.

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

V. **Draws**

Players are permitted to draw by mutual agreement before move thirty.

VI. **Schedule**

The schedule for all sections is as follows:

Registration	Monday 12 August	5:30 – 6:30 pm
Round 1	Monday 12 August	7:00 pm
Round 2	Monday 12 August	7:30 pm

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Round 3	Monday 12 August	8:00 pm
Round 4	Monday 12 August	8:30 pm
Round 5	Monday 12 August	9:00 pm
Round 6	Monday 12 August	9:30 pm
Round 7	Monday 12 August	10:00 pm

VII. Location

918 Bathurst St, Toronto, ON, M5R 3G5

VIII. Registration Fees

Early Bird (before August 1): \$50

Regular (before August 11): \$75

On-site: \$100

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 and choose “I’ll pay later.”

Discounts of \$10 for juniors, women, and seniors. ACC members enjoy an additional \$20 discount.

Registration link: [ChessManager](#)

Online registration closes on Sunday, August 11 2024 at 11:59 pm.

On-site registration ends at 6:30 pm on August 12, 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 9, no refunds will be given.

IX. Prizes

\$2100 prize fund based on 100 entrants. \$700 guaranteed for first place.

1st - \$700, **2nd** - \$500, **3rd** - \$300

Top Woman - \$200, **Top Junior (U20)** - \$100, **Top Girl (U20)** - \$100, **Top 65+** - \$100

Top ACC Member - \$100

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 will be announced at a later date. The Organizers 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 5 minutes 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 put on silent mode and stored in the player's backpack, bag, or kept face down on the playing table, and may not be accessed during play. 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 four double rounds. Official event photographers and accredited media are exempted. Accreditation must be obtained prior to **August 11, 2024** by writing in to: tournaments@annexchessclub.com.

Players requesting to stream their games must write to the organizer at info@annexchessclub.com AND at tournaments@annexchessclub.com by **August 9, 2024**.

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.