

2024 U.S. Armed Forces Open & Veterans Open --- 12-14 Oct 2024



US CHESS
FEDERATION

The meeting will start a couple of minutes after 7:30 PM ...

It will be recorded ...

**at the
United States Naval Academy – Annapolis, MD**

Topics We Will Cover this Evening ...

- **Tournament Website**
 - Wait-listed Players
- **The Naval Academy**
 - Access & Location of our Event
- **Round Times and Time Control**
- **Refresher on US Chess & FIDE Rules**
- **Pairings and Ratings**
- **Reporting Your Game Results**

Tournament Website

www.vachess.org

- Who's signed up to play
- Pairings for the next round
- Results from completed rounds
- Standings



www.vachess.org



Scan this QR-Code with your phone to see:

- **Participating Player's List**
- **For the Main Event:**
 - *Pairings & Standings for each round*

2024 USAFO & Vets Open

Summary of Entries Received

Entries Summary	
USAFO:	82 *
Vets Open:	13 *
Blitz:	47
TOTAL:	95

* 1 Wait-Listed Player in each Section

Veterans:	13
Active:	23
Cdt/Mid:	34
ROTC:	1
Retired:	23

Academies & ROTC	
USMA	9
USNA	7
USAFA	8
ROTC	1
USMMA	10

Procedures for Wait Listed Players

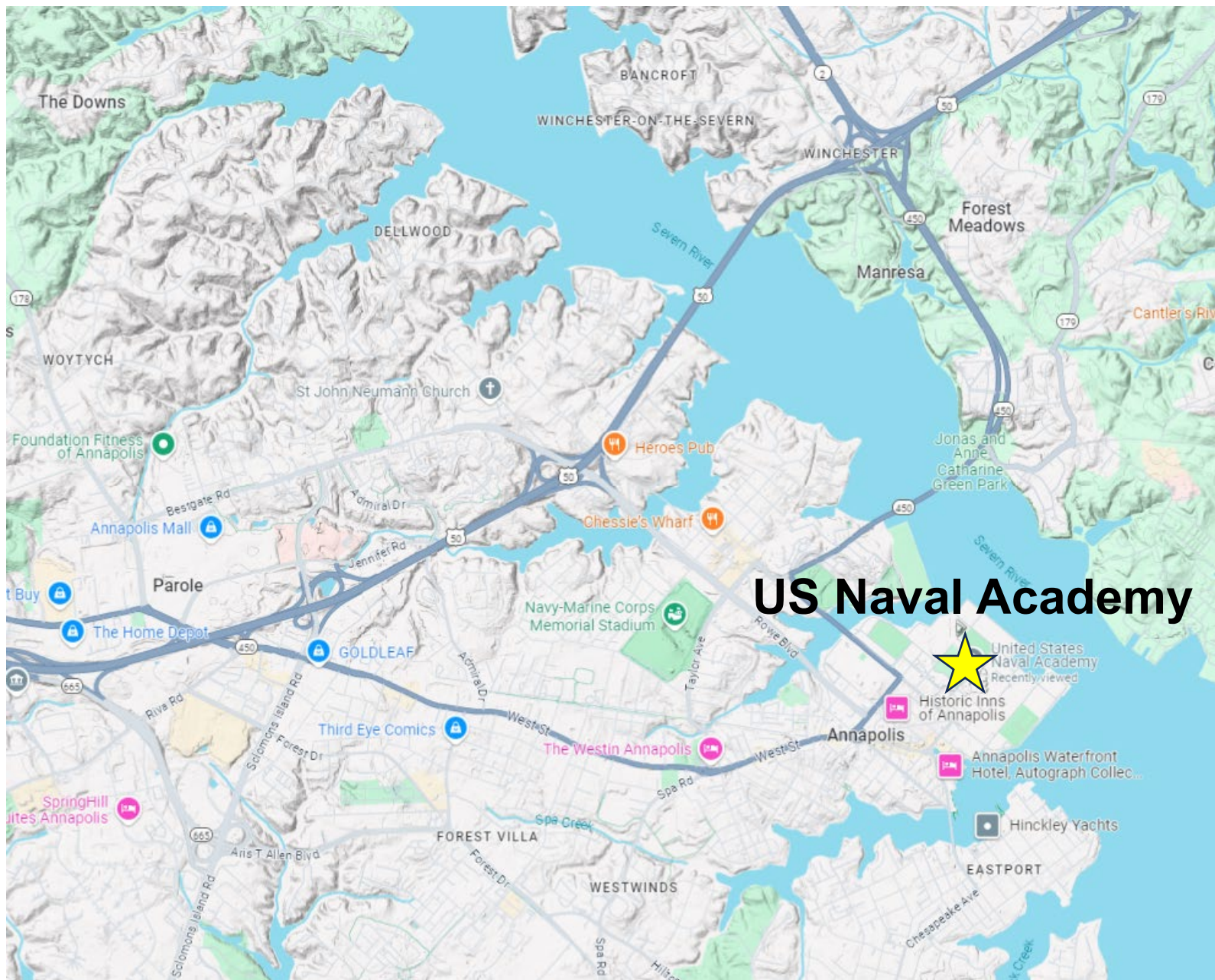
- **We have reached the capacity of our playing venue at the Naval Academy**
- **Starting this past Friday, we began Wait-listing players who registered who are not Cadets or Midshipmen attending one of the nation's academies**
- **Currently there are two (2) players on the Wait List. Two other players who were the Wait List have been entered into the Tournament after we had a couple of withdrawals.**

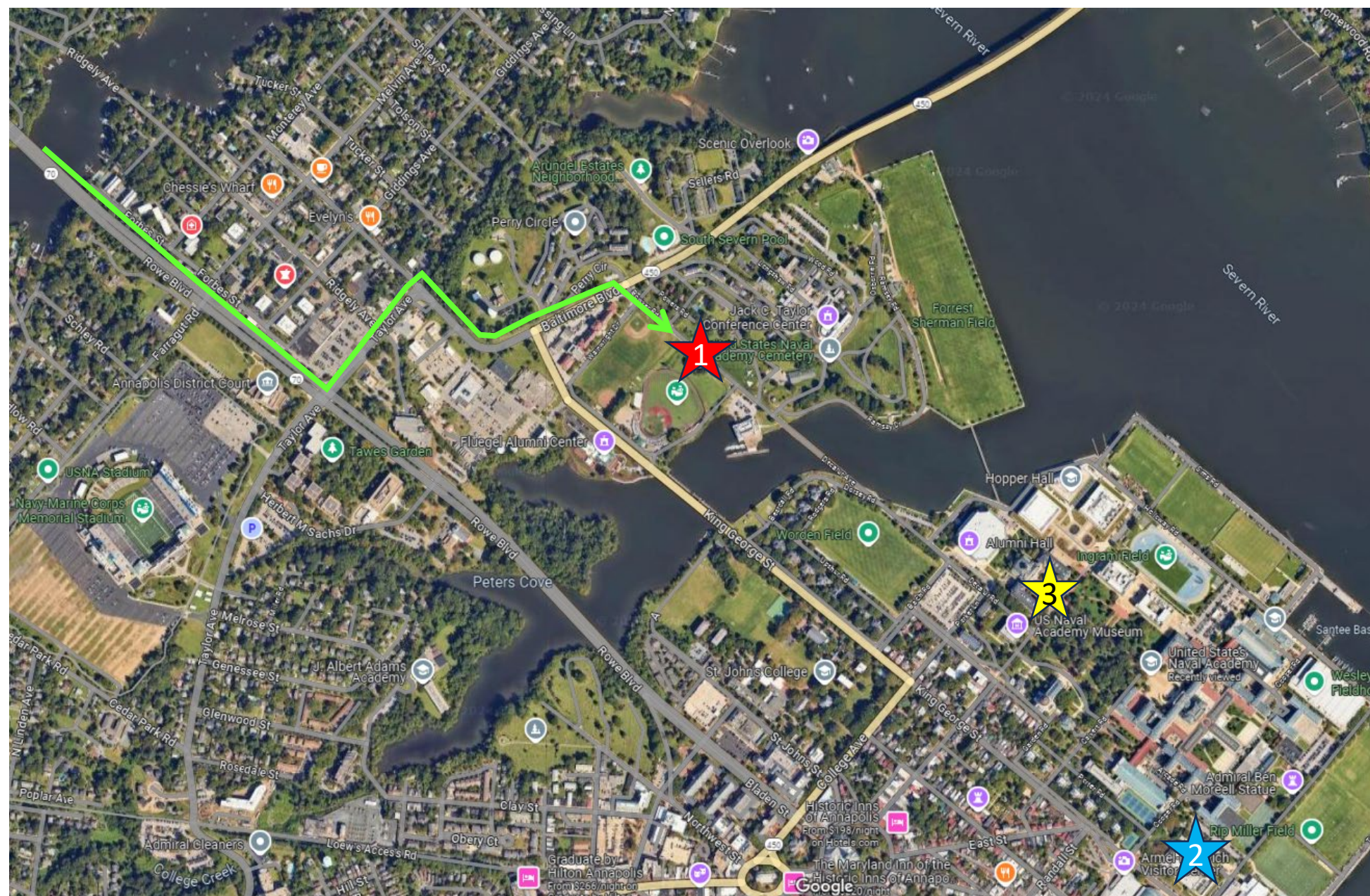
Access to the U.S. Naval Academy

US Naval Academy

Annapolis, MD

- Active Duty, Cadets/Midshipmen, and Retired Military may use their Military ID cards to access the Naval Academy. They also may “escort” non-military onto the Naval Academy grounds.
- For the Veteran’s Section, the names of the Registered Players have been turned into the base police as of Sept 30. Those players will be able to DRIVE onto the installation.
- SEE NEXT SLIDE for more details.





- You want to enter through the Decatur Ave / Bowyer Road entrance (Red Star #1) off of Baltimore Blvd. DO NOT GO TO THE VISITOR'S CENTER (Blue Star #2).
- All games are being played a MAHAN HALL. (Yellow Star #3)
- From Hwy 50, take ROWE BLVD., then Turn Left on TAYLOR AVE.
- When Taylor Ave runs into Baltimore Ave, TURN RIGHT.
- Follow Baltimore Ave. passed the intersection with King George St. There will be a big sign pointing to the right for the Visitor's Center (Blue Star #2). DO NOT TURN HERE. Continue straight to the next intersection (Bowyer Rd / Decatur Ave) then turn right and you will see the military checkpoint/entrance (Red Star #1).
- Players in the VETS Section are on an Access List at this location (not at the Visitor's Center) and will be allowed to drive onto the base. You need your Picture ID.

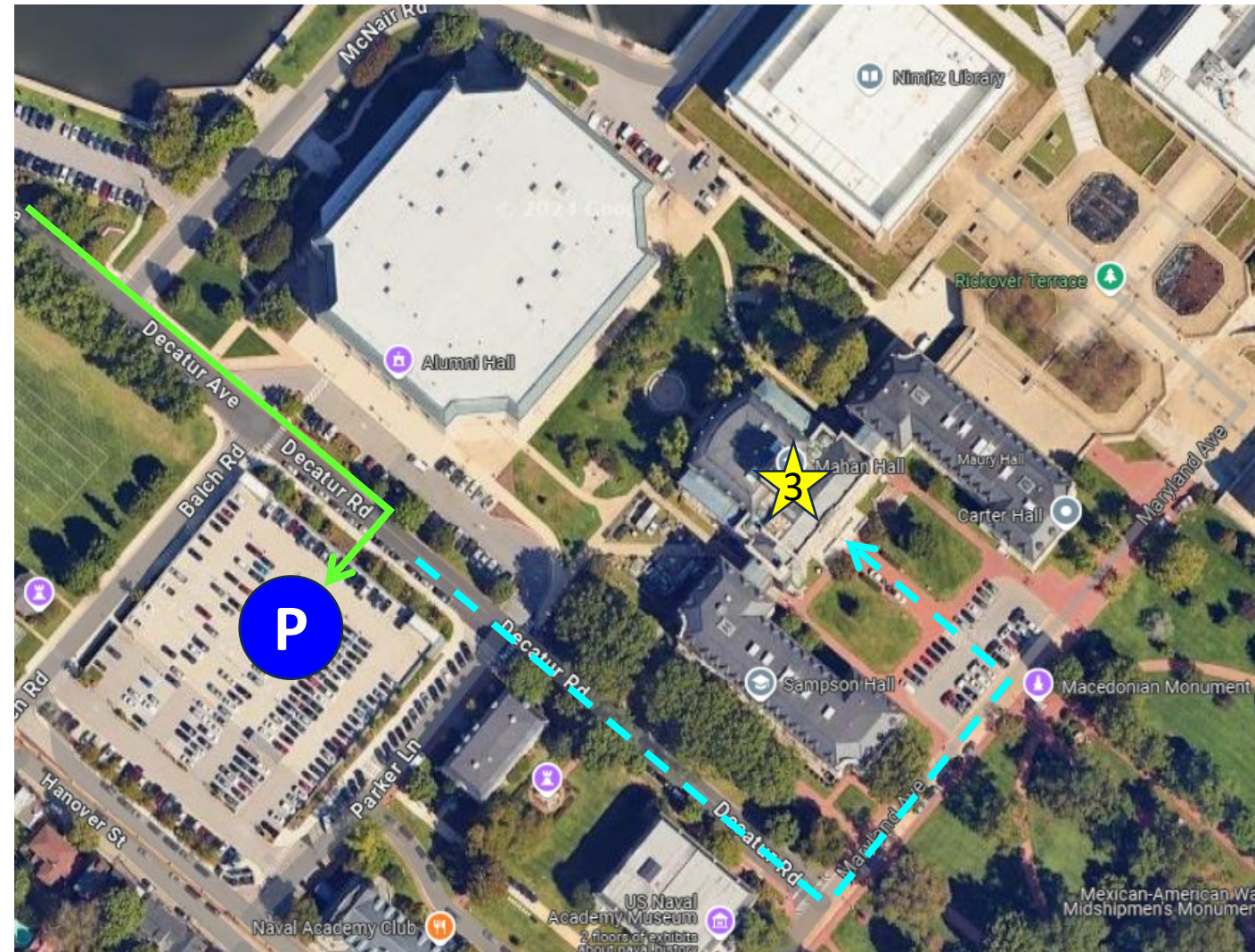
• SEE NEXT SLIDE



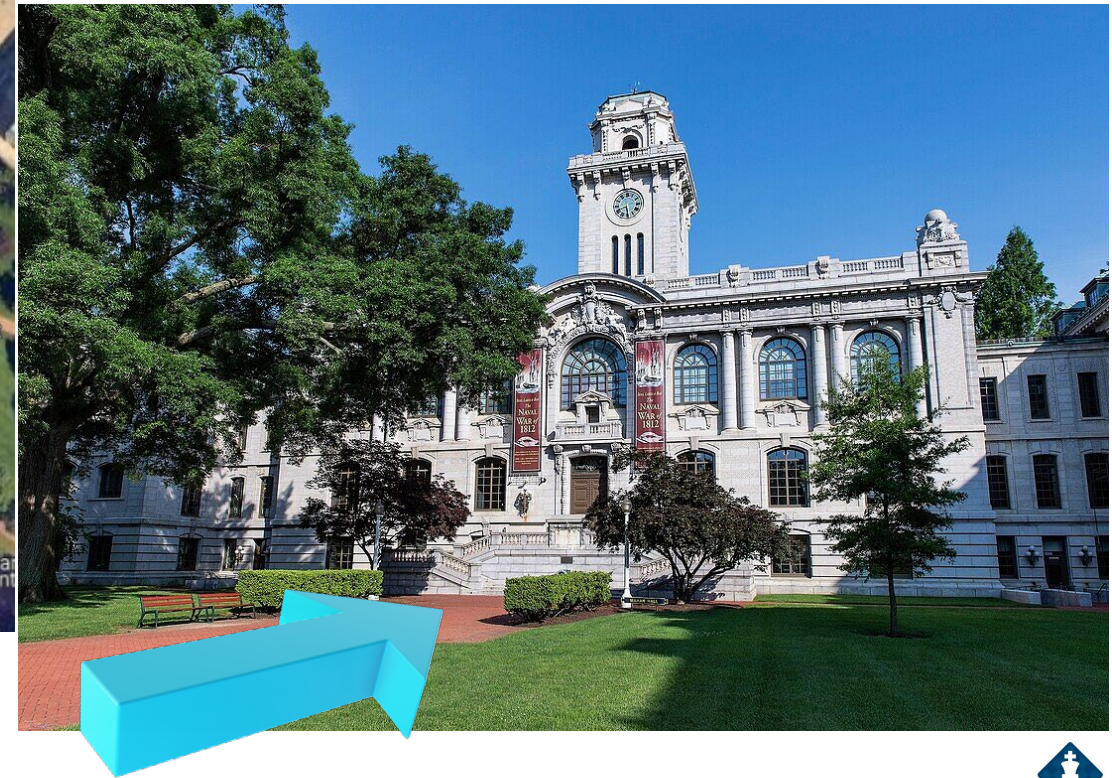


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- Players in the VETS Section are on an Access List at this location and will be allowed to drive onto the base.
- Park (for free) at the Parking Garage across from the Alumni Hall. You also can park along Decatur St.
- SEE NEXT SLIDE





- After you park, walk to Mahan Hall (follow the Light Blue Dashed Line on the map on the left).
- Enter through the FRONT of Mahan Hall (see picture below, there are no side entrances).
- We are on the 2nd Floor. We'll put up a few signs to point the way once you reach Mahan Hall.



How to “Check-in” at the Tournament

- **Follow the “USAFO CHESS” signs to get to the tournament area.**
- **Please CHECK IN with us at the tournament so we know you have arrived.**
 - We will post a “Wall Chart” for at the tournament site so you can check that too ... especially, to ensure your Bye Request is accounted for.
 - You can also ensure you are signed up for Blitz, or sign up for Blitz on site
- **US Chess Membership & FIDE ID issues:**
 - **Some of you need to ensure your US Chess Membership is up to date. I can resolve these for you on-site**
 - **Same for FIDE ID numbers ... everyone needs one! The tournament is FIDE-rated, including the Blitz event.**

Rounds, Start Times and Time Control

Schedule of Play

Time Control is Game-90 with 30 seconds of time increment

Date	Activities
Saturday 12 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0900-0945: On-site Final Registration • 1000: Round 1 • 1430: Deadline to request ½-point Byes or change them • 1500: Round 2 • 1945: Blitz Registration closes • 2000: Round 1 of Blitz (FREE PIZZA!)
Sunday 13 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1200: Round 3 • 1800: Round 4
Monday 14 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0845: GROUP PHOTO (Class A, business attire, something nice) • 0900: Round 5 (final round) • TBD (1400-ish): Awards Ceremony

- For all games there is a **60-minute (1 hour) Default Rule**. A player late for his/her game by 60 or more minutes will receive a forfeit loss for that game. The player also will be **DROPPED FROM THE TOURNAMENT** unless s/he notifies Colonel Hoffpauir (Chief Arbiter) in-person or by phone, text, or email.
- **Requests to add, remove or change a Bye** (including 0-point Byes) MUST be brought to the CHIEF Arbiter's attention at least **30 minutes before Round 2**

FIDE RULES are in Effect

- **A few major differences between US Chess and FIDE Rules ... and some USAFO-specific rules**
 - **Pairings: We avoid same service (team) pairings as much as possible in Rounds 1 and 2**
 - **Chess Notation: Required throughout the entire game.**
 - **Players may not discontinue notation when there is 5 or less minutes left on either player's clock.**
 - **No Electronic Notation Devices**
 - **2nd Illegal Move? Loss of Game if claimed by your opponent.**
 - **Includes moving with two hands (castling/capturing) and Pressing the clock without moving**
 - **Arbiter (TD) can call the Flag Fall**
 - **Pawn Promotion: No upside-down Rooks!**
 - **If you press your clock before you replace the Pawn with your chosen piece, you can only select a Queen!! BE CAREFUL.**
 - **Castling ... move your KING first.**

Pairings and Ratings We are Using for Sectioning, Pairings, and Prize Eligibility

- **Pairings: “Swiss System”**
 - Unless you are taking a Bye, or the computer assigns you one, Everyone plays 5 rounds ... **this is NOT an “Elimination Event”**
 - Round 1: All players are rank-ordered according to their US Chess Rating
 - Round 2: Winners from Round 1 play each other in Round 2; Players who drew (if any) play others who drew; Players who lost play others who lost
- **Ratings: All Players will be Paired using ...**
 - The higher of their “Regular” (e.g., Slow) rating from Over-the-Board play and Online play. *We are using US Chess Ratings from the October 2024 Rating Supplement (if you have a rating)*
 - FIDE ratings are not used for pairings unless the player has no US Chess rating.
 - When the tournament gets “rated” your US Chess and FIDE ratings are both updated. The same is true for the Blitz Tournament!

Have a Problem or Question during Your Game?

- Have an issue in your game? Don't wait until your game is over to raise it!!
- **DO NOT argue** with your opponent
- **Raise your hand and summon the Arbiter** to your table
 - Pause your Clock
 - Calmly state your issue
 - If your opponent is making the claim DO NOT interrupt



Cell Phone Policy

- **TURNED OFF and PLACED FACE-DOWN OR FACE-UP ON YOUR TABLE. Do not take your phone to the Bathroom or outside of the Playing Hall until your game is FINISHED.**
 - **Leave it in your hotel room, or drop it off at the Arbiter's Desk**
- **YOU MAY NOT USE ANY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE while your game is in progress**
- **If you leave your phone on ...**
 - **And it rings ... 10 minutes off your clock (1st Offense); Loss of Game (2nd Offense)**
 - **If you answer the phone ... instant Loss of Game**
 - **If it buzzes because you received email or text ... 10 minutes off your clock**
- **If you take your phone out of the Playing Room while you are playing**
 - **Very likely to result in instant Loss of Game**



Skittles Area ??

- *The Skittles Room ... Conference Room adjacent to Playing Hall*
- *Chief Arbiter: mhoffpaur@aol.com; 757-846-4805*