



84th Virginia Closed Chess Championships



A HERITAGE EVENT! A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT!

SEPT. 3-4 OR 3-5, VIRGINIA

INCLUDING OUR VA CHESS FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING AT 9 AM ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 3RD

\$5,000 in prizes based on 90 paid players, with 1st-3rd places are guaranteed in all three sections!!

Hotel & Playing Site: Hilton Garden Inn Innsbrook, 4050 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA. Call the hotel at (804)521-2901 **by Friday August 12th** and request the "Virginia Closed Chess Rate." Rates are \$109/night-King and 119/night-Double Queen, plus taxes.

Format: Swiss System (this is not an elimination tournament). All sections are US chess rated.

- **Championship and Amateur Sections:** 6 Rounds of play with **two event Schedules**, a Long Schedule for players wanting to start at 1 pm on Saturday, and a Short Schedule for players whose other commitments do not allow them to start until 5 pm Saturday.

- **Novice Section:** 5 Rounds, with all games on Saturday and Sunday only. [Click here](#) to learn about a Swiss System chess tournament.

Eligibility: The Main Tournament is open only to Virginia residents, military stationed in Virginia, and students attending any Virginia school or college (must show student ID or other proof of Fall 2022 school enrollment). The Blitz tournament on Friday evening is open to ANYONE, see the separate Tournament Announcement at www.vachess.org or www.uschess.org.

Sections and Prizes: Choose one of these 3 Sections based on your playing strength and your competitive desires. Each Section crowns a "state champion" and ensures your name becomes part of Chess History in the Commonwealth!

- **Championship:** 1st-\$900+Champion's Plaque; 2nd-\$650; 3rd-\$450; Top Expert and Top Class A, \$200 each + Trophy. Unrated players cannot compete in this section. The Chief TD is the final authority on who is (or is not) Unrated.

- **Amateur (Under 1800):** 1st-\$600+Champion's Plaque; 2nd-\$400; 3rd-\$300; Top Class C & Class D, \$150 each + Trophy. Unrated winnings limited to \$250.

- **Novice (Under-1200):** 1st-\$400+Trophy; 2nd-\$300; 3rd-\$200; Top Unrated-\$100; Trophies to Top U-1000, U-800, and U600. Unrated winnings limited to \$250.

Entry Fee:

- \$90 through Saturday Aug. 27th
- \$110 starting Sunday Aug. 28th
- \$125 starting Thursday Sept. 1st
- The VA Chess Federation will retain \$5 from any player who withdraws before Round 1

3 Ways to Register for and Enter the Tournament:

- **Online:** www.vachess.org
- **US Mail:** Check payable to VA Chess Federation or "VCF", please include Name, Address, Email, Phone Number, US Chess ID, Section Playing In, and your Bye selections if any. Mail by Saturday Aug. 27th to Mike Hoffpauir, ATTN: VA Closed, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693
- **Onsite:** Friday, Sept. 2nd, 3 pm to 6:45 pm. Round 1 of Blitz will start at 7:30 pm (see separate TLA for Virginia Closed Blitz). Registration open Saturday, Sept. 3rd, 8 am – Noon. Long Schedule entries received after 12-noon may have to wait until Round 2 to play. Short Schedule players can register from 1:30 pm to 4 pm on Saturday afternoon.

Optional Byes & Re-Entry:

- **Championship & Amateur Sections:**
 - + Byes: Up to two (2) half-point byes allowed per player, must declare bye(s) during Registration or at least 60 minutes before the start of Rounds 1 and 2. Requests made later than 60 minutes before Round 2 are treated as Zero-point Byes. After this deadline, a zero-point bye request for the final round is considered a withdrawal and the player will not be eligible for prizes. Only one Bye allowed on Day 3 of the tournament.
 - + Re-Entry: Players who lose in Round 1 can Re-Enter the tournament for \$40 after Round 1, player gets a half-point Bye. As an alternative, a player in the Long Schedule who loses in Round 1 can also opt to enter the Short Schedule for the same re-entry fee. The Short Schedule's players merge with the Long Schedule players for the Sunday morning round of the tournament.

- **Novice Section:** Only one (1) half-point bye allowed, must declare during Registration or at least 30 min before Round 2. [Click here](#) to learn more about Byes and Bye Requests. No Re-Entries in this section.

NOVICE (Under 1200) Section Schedule: All games are on Saturday and Sunday only. **No games on Monday**

- Saturday: Rounds 1, 2 and 3 at 10 am, 1 pm, and 5 pm. Time control is Game-60, delay 5 (each player has 60 minutes to complete all moves, with 5-seconds of time delay for each move)
- Sunday: Rounds 4 and 5 at 11 am and 3:30 pm. Time control on Sunday is Game-90, delay 5.

LONG Schedule (Championship & Amateur Sections): Time Control is 30/90, SD/1, d5 (e.g., 30 moves in the first 90 minutes per player, then complete the game in 1 hour per player, with a 5-second time delay throughout the game)

- Saturday: Rds 1 and 2 at 1 pm and 7 pm. Optional 1 or 2 Half-point Byes for Rounds 2-6 must be "locked in" by 6 pm
- Sunday: Rds 3 and 4 at 11 am and 5 pm
- Monday: Rds 5 and 6 at 10 am and 3:30 pm

SHORT Schedule (Championship & Amateur Sections): 2 rounds on Saturday evening then merges with the Long Schedule for Sunday morning. Time Control for the Saturday games is G/60, d5 (e.g., 60 minutes per player, with 5-second time delay)

- Saturday: Rds 1 and 2 at 5 pm and 8 pm. Optional 1 or 2 Half-point Byes for Rounds 2-6 must be locked in by 7:30 pm Saturday.
- Sunday and Monday: Players from the Short Schedule "merge" with the Long Schedule on Sunday for all remaining rounds.

Ratings for Sectioning, Pairings, and Prizes: For section eligibility, pairings, and prizes we will use the higher of each player's Over-the-Board Regular and Online Regular ratings from the September 2022 US Chess Rating Supplement. Established ratings have priority over provisional ratings. Players without US Chess ratings, but who have ratings in other recognized systems will have those ratings converted to a US Chess equivalent for sectioning and prize purposes. We do not recognize or consider ratings from online platforms outside of a player's US Chess Online Regular rating.

Tie-break Systems We Use: To determine winners of non-cash prizes (e.g., plaques and trophies) the Tournament Director will use the tiebreak systems shown below. [Click here](#) to learn more about Tie-break systems used in chess (warning, requires some math skills).

- Championship and Amateur Sections: Cumulative, Modified Median, Solkhoff, Cumulative of Opposition.
- Novice Section: Modified Median, Solkhoff, Cumulative, Cumulative of Opposition.

Membership Requirements:

- US Chess and VA Chess Federation memberships **are required**. Please join or renew yours before the tournament to avoid the need to pay onsite.

COVID-19 Protocols: "Face Masks optional" is our policy unless a tighter restriction is in effect per hotel management or local, state, or federal health authorities. We will have plenty of hand-sanitizer and sanitizing wipes available.

What to Bring: Chess Clock, pencils/pens. We will supply all chess sets, but we do not have enough clocks to provide to all games. US Chess-approved Electronic Notation Devices permitted (e.g., ChessNoteR, PlyCount, and Monroi).

Cell Phone Policy: Players who bring cell phones into the playing hall must turn them off and place the phone face down at the player's table or store the phone in a chess bag or purse. A cell phone on a player's person during play is grounds for loss of game. 10-minute penalty for phones that ring, half off your remaining time if you are within 10 minutes of the first or second Time Control. Your second 'phone ringing' violation results in the loss of your game. See Chief TD if you have a medical need to leave your phone on.

Chess Bookstore: The Hammer family will be our Book vendor. If you have a special request for a book or chess item you would like Todd to bring to the tournament for you, please email Todd at tha3496505@aol.com.

Info: Go to www.vachess.org or contact Mike Hoffpauir by email to mhoffpauir@aol.com, text to 757-846-4805.