

Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series: 2011-12

The Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series is a series of six tournaments for scholastic players. These are four-round Swiss tournaments: players are grouped in sections and play only other players in their own section. The tournaments are sanctioned by the US Chess Federation (USCF) and governed by USCF rules.

New for Season Five:

- **Five sections instead of four; rating ceilings added in three sections**
- **Team competition and team trophies eliminated — more individual trophies and medals will be awarded**
- **Revised entry fee schedule; *advance* entry fees discounted**
- **Credit card payments now accepted (VISA, MasterCard, Discover)**
- **A first-time venue for November — Fairfield High School**

Sections and Time Controls

- **K–3 U500:** Only players who are in kindergarten through 3rd grade *and* whose rating is less than 500 may play in this section. Any player eligible to play in this section may choose to play in the K–6 U800, K–6 Open, or K–12 Open section.
- **K–6 U800:** Only players who are in kindergarten through 6th grade *and* whose rating is less than 800 may play in this section. Any player eligible to play in this section may choose to play in the K–6 Open or K–12 Open section.
- **K–6 Open:** Any player in kindergarten through 6th grade may play in this section, regardless of rating. Any player eligible to play in this section may choose to play in the K–12 Open section.
- **7–12 U1100:** Any player in 7th grade through 12th grade whose rating is less than 1100 may play in this section. Any player eligible to play in this section may choose to play in the K–12 Open section.
- **K–12 Open:** Any scholastic player (kindergarten through 12th grade) may play in this section. Scholastic players who are in grades 7 through 12 and whose rating is 1100 or more *must* play in this section.

The time control for the **K–12 Open** section is game/45 (each player has 45 minutes for the entire game). The time control for **all other sections** is game/30 (each player has 30 minutes for the entire game). When a time delay clock is used, the time delay is 5 seconds, and the time control is reduced by 5 minutes.

Players may choose to play in their “natural” section (the section designated for their grade and rating) or to “play up” (meaning to play in any section higher than their natural section). A player’s natural section will change from tournament to tournament as his or her rating rises above or falls below a section ceiling. Except when notified of a request to play up, the tournament directors will assign each player to his or her natural section for each tournament. A player who wants to play up may so indicate on the registration form, or notify Doug Dysart before the tournament date, or notify the registration staff during onsite registration.

Dates, Venues and Schedule

- October 15, 2011 **Sycamore High School**, 7400 Cornell Road, Montgomery, OH 45242
- November 5, 2011 **Fairfield High School**, 8800 Holden Boulevard, Fairfield, OH 45014 (*New site!*)
- December 10, 2011 **Lakota West High School**, 8940 Union Centre Boulevard, West Chester, OH 45069
- January 7, 2012 **Walnut Hills High School**, 3250 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207
- February 11, 2012 **Seven Hills Upper School**, 5400 Red Bank Road, Cincinnati, OH 45227
- March 3, 2012 **Sycamore High School**, 7400 Cornell Road, Montgomery, OH 45242

Round 1 for the K–12 Open section will begin at 8:30 am, all other sections at 9:00 am. *All players must be present for roll call ten minutes prior to round 1 start time; players arriving late should not expect to be paired in round 1.* Later rounds will begin as soon as possible after the previous round ends. Tournaments normally end by 1:30 pm for all sections except the K–12 Open section, which should end by 3:00 pm.

Registration and Entry Fees

Players may register for one or more tournaments in any of three ways:

- By mailing a completed registration form to Doug Dysart, PO Box 499006, Cincinnati, OH 45249-9006. A registration form is included in this flyer and may also be downloaded from www.chessinnati.com. Include a check payable to **Cincinnati Scholastic Chess** or credit card information for payment of entry fees and dues (if applicable). (*Note: Checks payable to the US Chess Federation cannot be accepted.*)
- By emailing a completed registration form to dougdyart@hotmail.com. Go to www.chessinnati.com for a registration form template. Include credit card information for payment of entry fees and dues (if applicable).
- In person at any tournament between 8:00–8:30 am. Make payment for entry fees and dues (if applicable) by cash, check payable to **Cincinnati Scholastic Chess** (not to the US Chess Federation), or credit card. (*Note: if you are registering onsite for the K–12 Open section, you must register by 8:15 am to be paired in round 1.*)

CSCS 2011-12 Season Entry Fee Schedule				
	Advance Registration			Onsite Registration Entry Fee
	Entry Fee	Postmark/Email Deadline	Tournament Date	
Any one tournament	\$15	October 11, 2011	October 15, 2011	\$25
Any two tournaments	\$30	October 31, 2011	November 5, 2011	\$40
Any three tournaments	\$40	December 5, 2011	December 10, 2011	\$50
Any four tournaments	\$45	January 3, 2012	January 7, 2012	\$55
Any five tournaments	\$50	February 6, 2012	February 11, 2012	\$60
All six tournaments	\$60	February 27, 2012	March 3, 2012	\$70

Advance Registration entry fees apply only to entries postmarked or emailed on or before the Monday (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) preceding the earliest tournament for which a player is registering. Specific deadlines are listed in the table above. Onsite Registration entry fees apply both to entries received at the tournament site and to entries postmarked or emailed after the applicable deadline indicated above.

Players must indicate on the registration form which dates they are registering for but may change dates later if they wish. A player who misses a tournament for which he or she registered may transfer the registration to any future date in this season. Notify Doug Dysart of any desired date changes. **No entry fees will be refunded.**

US Chess Federation Membership

USCF membership is a requirement for participation in CSCS tournaments. USCF dues are additional to entry fees. Details of membership options are provided on the entry form. For additional information and to purchase or renew a membership, see the “Join/Renew” page of the USCF website, www.uschess.org. Participants may also purchase or renew USCF memberships by way of the CSCS registration form.

Player Ratings

All CSCS tournaments are *rated events*, meaning that the results are reported to the USCF, which calculates a rating for each player based on outcomes of his or her games. A rating is a numerical measure of a player’s relative playing strength. It is not necessary that a player already have a rating in order to play in these tournaments; players who do not have a rating will earn one as a result of playing in any CSCS tournament.

Byes

The only byes permitted in CSCS tournaments are full-point byes when a player gets “paired out” (meaning that because the section has an odd number of players, one player necessarily is left without an opponent). *No half-point byes are allowed* for any games that players choose not to play or are not present to play. Players who arrive late at a tournament and are not paired in round 1 will not be given a half-point bye for round 1.

Sets and Clocks

Boards and pieces will be provided for all players. The organizers will provide some clocks, but *all players who own clocks are requested and encouraged to bring them*. Clocks with a time-delay feature should be set to a 5-second delay and the time control reduced by 5 minutes.

Players must use clocks in all sections except for the K-3 U500 section, where the use of clocks is optional except in certain circumstances. In the K-3 U500 section, if players are not using a clock and their game is still in progress 40 minutes after the round was started, a tournament director will place a clock on the game allowing each player ten minutes to complete the game.

Points and Prizes

Series prizes will be awarded based on points. Players will score one point for every game played (regardless of the game's outcome), one point for every win, and one-half point for every draw. A player who is paired out will score two points for that round — thus, for scoring purposes, getting paired out is equivalent to winning a game. No player will be paired out more than once in any tournament.

Each player's best five scores out of six tournaments will count toward series prizes. For purposes of competing for prizes, the maximum number of points that can be earned during the series by a player is 40. A player may miss one tournament and still potentially score the maximum number of points. Tournament results and cumulative point totals will be posted throughout the year on www.chessinnati.com.

The following prizes will be awarded for CSCS tournaments:

- *Tournament individual medals* will be awarded to the top three players in each section at each tournament. Medal winners will be decided by a blitz playoff tie-breaker as necessary.
- *Series place trophies* will be awarded to the top five players in each of four grade categories: K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Trophies will be awarded based on the total number of points scored during the series, taking into account the best five tournament scores (out of six tournaments) for each player. Place trophy winners will be decided by a tie-breaker as necessary. Note that the grade categories for trophies do not correspond to the playing sections; all the points a player accumulates will count toward a place trophy regardless of what section he or she scored the points in.
- *Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Championship trophy* will be awarded to the player who scores the most points for the series, taking into account the best five tournament scores (out of six tournaments) for each player in the K-12 Open section. The trophy winner will be decided by a tie-breaker as necessary.

Adult Side Event

The CSCS organizers realize that many of the parents of our scholastic players also play chess and might enjoy an opportunity to play some rated or unrated games themselves while their children are competing. Format, time control, and other details would be determined at each tournament depending on participation. There will be no advance registration for this event. For rated games, USCF membership would be required for participation and a nominal entry fee of \$5.00 would be collected from each player at the time of the event.

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For more information: A *Participant Handbook* providing complete tournament information will be sent to players by email upon receipt of their registration and is also available on www.chessinnati.com. Anyone wishing to contact the tournament directors with questions or for another reason should contact either Doug Dysart at 513-484-3768 (mobile), dougdyart@hotmail.com, or Alan Hodge at 513-697-6930, a.hodge195@gmail.com.

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- Six tournaments: October 15 – Sycamore High School • November 5 – Fairfield High School • December 10 – Lakota West High School • January 7 – Walnut Hills High School • February 11 – Seven Hills Upper School • March 3, 2012 – Sycamore High School
- Five redefined sections redefined: K–3 U500, K–6 U800, K–6 Open, 7–12 U1100, K–12 Open
- Four-round Swiss system, game/30 except for K–12 Open game/45 (game/25 or game/40 with 5-second delay)
- Onsite registration 8:00–8:30 am except that players entering the K–12 Open section must register by 8:15 am. K–12 Open round 1 begins at 8:30, all other sections at 9:00. *All players must be present for roll call ten minutes prior to round 1 start time; players arriving late should not expect to be paired in round 1.* Later rounds start as early as possible.
- *Medals* to top three players in each section at each tournament. *Place trophies* to top five players in each grade category (K–3, 4–6, 7–9, 10–12) for the series. *Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Champion trophy* to the player scoring the most points for the series in the K–12 Open section. Best five scores out of six tournaments count toward trophies.
- Entry fees still as low as \$10 per tournament; discounted entry fees for advance registration
- USCF membership required; all tournaments are USCF-rated — unrated players welcome

See inside for more information and registration form!

Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series
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