



Scholastic Chess Championship

Individual



To crown the best chess players in Bahamian Schools

The Bahamas Chess Federation is pleased to invite all schools in the Bahamas to participate in the 2024, National Scholastic Chess Tournament – Individual. This tournament will determine the best student chess players in six categories: Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18. It will also serve as a Qualifier towards choosing six (6) absolute players and six (6) female players to represent the Bahamas at the 2024 CAC Youth Championship in El Salvador, August 1st – 8th, 2024.

TOURNAMENT NOTICE AND REGULATIONS

1. **Venue** – To be announced

2. **Date and Schedule**

The Tournament will be held on **Sunday, March 24th, 2024** at the following times:

Round 1: 1:00 pm

Round 2: 2:00 pm

Round 3: 3:00 pm

Round 4: 4:00 pm

Round 5: 5:00 pm

Awards Presentation: 6:00 pm

3. **Format**

- The FIDE Laws of Chess will govern the tournament.
- Swiss format of 5 rounds; game time 15 mins.

4. **Participation**

The Scholastic Individual Championship 2024 is organized for school students under the age of 18.

- A player must be enrolled as a full-time student at a brick-and-mortar public or private school, or home school in the Bahamas. Any Bahamian student living in the Bahamas and enrolled in an online school is also eligible.
- A player must be an actual full-time student of the school which he represents.
- Each school can enter any number of players in any of the six age categories subject to payment of registration fees.
- A player may be entered in any age group that is correct for his age or a higher age group. For example, for a player born after January 1st, 2014 the correct age category is Under 10. This player may not register for the Under 8 category but can register for any other category.

5. Registration

- Each player may pre-register online. <https://www.bahamaschessfederation.org> before 5 pm on March 23rd.
- Additionally, Schools and Coaches may register their players by emailing an official list of their players to bahamaschessofficial@gmail.com by 5 pm on March 23rd.
- Please note that any player registered online but not included on an emailed list from their school will need to show proof via an email or printed and signed letter from their school coach or principal.
- For players who are homeschooled or attend school online, a parent must email bahamaschess@gmail.com by 5 pm on March 23rd confirming their consent for their child to participate.

6. **Entry Fee** – \$20 per player, payable by cash by 12:30 pm on March 24th, at the tournament venue.

7. Categories

This is an absolute tournament in which each of the Under 18, Under 16, Under 14, Under 12, Under 10, and 8 categories will be played. If any one or more categories have insufficient participants the organizers may merge two or more for pairing of players.

Under 8 – Any player who has not reached the age of 8 before January 1st, 2024

Under 10 - Any player who has not reached the age of 10 before January 1st, 2024

Under 12 - Any player who has not reached the age of 12 before January 1st, 2024

Under 14 - Any player who has not reached the age of 14 before January 1st, 2024

Under 16 - Any player who has not reached the age of 16 before January 1st, 2024

Under 18 - Any player who has not reached the age of 18 before January 1st, 2024

8. Attire

Players are required to wear their school uniform.

Players who attend schools that don't require uniforms must adhere to the following dress code, no slippers, shorts, sunglasses, sports hats, hoodies, ripped jeans, camouflage, or revealing attire.

9. Prizes

Tournament Winners: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies plus a gift

The overall winner will be recognized as the Scholastic Individual Chess Champion for 2024

Category Winners: 1st place trophy

The Under 8 winner will be recognized as the Under 8 age group Champion for 2024

The Under 10 winner will be recognized as the Under 10 age group Champion for 2024

The Under 12 winner will be recognized as the Under 12 age group Champion for 2024

The Under 14 winner will be recognized as the Under 14 age group Champion for 2024

The Under 16 winner will be recognized as the Under 16 age group Champion for 2024

The Under 18 winner will be recognized as the Under 18 age group Champion for 2024

Certificates to all participants

10. Qualification

All age group winners will be invited to represent the Bahamas at the 2024 CAC Youth Festival. Please note that an invitation does not guarantee a spot on the CAC Youth Festival Team. Please see the BCF Qualification Criteria for the 2024 CAC Youth Festival on www.bahamaschessfederation.org

The top female in each age category will be invited to represent the Bahamas at the 2024 CAC Youth Festival as a member of the female team.

11. Tie-Break System

The final placings will be decided based on the total points obtained by each player. The player who obtains the most points will be declared the champion. In the case of ties, the winner will be decided based on the following tie-break system, in the order listed.

- Direct encounter – once all the players tied have played each other
- Buchholz Cut 1
- Buchholz
- Sonneborn-Berger
- Cumulative system - Sum of Progressive Scores
- The highest number of wins, including by default
- The highest number of victories with black pieces

12. Additional Regulations

- Pairings will be done automatically by the FIDE -Online Arena playing platform according to the FIDE -Swiss Rules
- The default time is 5 minutes after the round has started. If a player defaults two games in the event, they may be withdrawn from the tournament at the Arbiter's discretion.
- The highest standards of behavior and fairness are expected from players, parents, and coaches
- Each player must be chaperoned by a coach/teacher or parent.
- Mobile phones, laptops, tablets, and other smart devices must be switched off and cannot be used at any time during the match.

13. Other

- The Federation will not be held responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of personal property on the premises.

