

Co-hosted by Western WA University & WA Chess Federation



Bellingham Open

Saturday, April 18, 2026



Western WA University – Viking Union Building: Multipurpose Room
516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

Highest finishing WA resident in the Whatcom Open seeded into the 2027 WA State Championship – Challengers section.

Format: A 5-round Swiss tournament in two sections: Whatcom Open and Fairhaven U1700.

Entry fee: \$35 by 4/11, \$40 after. Free entry for WWU students. Need-based scholarships are available upon request. Maximum of 150 players, please register early to reserve your spot!

Schedule: At-site registration & check-in: 9:15-10:15am. Rounds (5): 10:30am, 12pm, 2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm. Closing Ceremony ~ 6:30pm or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

Time Control: G/30; +10 sec. increment per move starting from move 1.

Rating: Dual USCF and NWSRS rated. Higher of current NWSRS or April 2026 US Chess Regular rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes.

Memberships: US Chess membership required.

Prize Fund: \$1,400 (based on 80 paid entries)

Whatcom Open: 1st – 3rd: \$240-\$180-\$120. 1st U1900/U1800/U1700: \$50

Fairhaven U1700: 1st – 3rd: \$140-\$100-\$80, 1st U1500/U1300/U1100/U900: \$50, 1st Unrated: \$50

Special Prizes (per section): Best Upset Win: \$25, Best Female Player (by TPR): \$25, Best Dressed: \$20.

Byes: Up to 2 half-point byes available if requested before the end of round 2.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration. **Online registration + payment deadline:**

Friday, April 17 @ 5pm. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster after the deadline, and players from the waitlist will be offered a spot. At-site registration: 9:15-10:15am. On-site payment available by cash, check made out to "WCF", SettleKing (Washington Chess Federation) or Zelle (Tag: wa-chess, ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com).

Questions – Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com