

Washington State High School Individual Chess Championship



Fri-Sat, Jan 23-24, 2026

Lakeside Upper School

14050 1st Ave NE Seattle, WA 98125

Format: A Swiss-style chess tournament in three sections:

- **Vijayakumar Championship:** A 5-Round Swiss. For players rated 1500+, and any other player desiring to play for the title of Washington State High School Chess Champion. Dual NWSRS + USCF rated; USCF membership required. Time Control: G/90; +10.
- **Zhang U1500:** A 5-Round Double Swiss. Play 10 games – one as white and one as black – vs each opponent. For players rated 1000 - 1499, and any other player rated less than 1000 seeking the tougher competition. Dual NWSRS + USCF rated; USCF membership required. Time Control: G/45; +5.
- **Chad U1000:** A 5-Round Double Swiss. Play 10 games – one as white and one as black – vs each opponent. For players rated under 1000, or for new, unrated, and inexperienced players. NWSRS rated, USCF unrated; USCF membership not required. Time Control: G/45; +5.

Eligibility: Open to all students in grades 9-12 residing in Washington State. Room for 125 players.

Entry Fee: Vijayakumar Championship: \$50 if postmarked or online by 1/16, \$60 after or onsite. Zhang U1500/Chad U1000: \$25 if postmarked or online by 1/16, \$30 after or onsite. **Large Team Discounts:** *Schools bringing large teams receive the following discounts on all entries: 10+ players → 25%, 20+ players → 50%!*

Note: Players who may have received high first time and provisional ratings may request to play in a lower section. These requests will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Schedule: Arrival: 3:15-4pm on Friday, January 23. **Required check in by 4pm.** Players not checked in by 4pm risk forfeiting their first-round game(s).

Rounds: Fri: 4:15pm, 7:45pm; Sat: 10am, 2pm, 6pm. Awards ~ 9:30pm or asap.

Half Point Byes: Two half-point byes available if requested before end of round 2.

Concessions: Please bring your own snacks and drinks. Many food options nearby.

Bring: Chess set for skittles, if desired. All tournament equipment provided by WCF.

Individual Prizes: Amazon e-gift cards awarded to the top-finishing players in each section:

Vijayakumar Championship: 1st – 5th Place: \$120-100-80-70-\$60.

Zhang U1500/Chad U1000: 1st – 7th Place: \$60-50-40-35-30-25-\$20.

The winner of the Vijayakumar Championship section receives the title of Washington State High School Chess Champion. The State Champion will receive \$1000 of monetary support from the Washington Chess Federation to attend the 2026 Denker Tournament of High School Champions, held in conjunction with the US Open in late July/early August.

Special Prizes (per section): \$20 Amazon e-gift cards awarded for 1) **Biggest Upset Win**, 2) **Best Female Player** (by TPR), and 3) **Best Attacking Game** (please submit candidates in PGN).

Team Prizes: Plaques awarded to the Top 5 Teams. Team scores are comprised of the scores of the top 4 scoring players from the same school combined across all sections. Scores are weighted based on in which section the player has participated, i.e., a doubled score for the Vijayakumar Championship section to make it comparable to the scores based on 10 games in the other sections.

Note: A tie for first place in the Vijayakumar Championship section will be resolved later in the year by a playoff match, to be played within two months from the end of the tournament. A tie for first place in the Zhang U1500 or Chad U1000 sections will be resolved in a speed chess playoff (two games of G/3; +2) immediately following the last round.

Organizer: Washington Chess Federation.

Registration: All players must enter in advance via online registration at <https://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/> or email by the **deadline of Thursday, Jan. 22 @ 5pm**. 100% advance entry only. Pay by SettleKing (Washington Chess Federation), Zelle (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com), check, or cash. Coaches registering multiple students may pay via a check mailed or onsite. No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline.

Make Checks Payable To: Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Washington Chess Federation, c/o Orlov Chess Academy
4174 148th Avenue NE, Bldg. I, Ste. M, Redmond, Washington 98052

Directions/Parking: Complimentary parking can be found in the Lakeside Upper School parking lot and on the nearby residential streets. The tournament is in the Wright Community Center (WCC), located to the east of the sports field.



Questions? Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206.769.3757,
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