

WASHINGTON JUNIOR INVITATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Sat-Sun, January 10-11, 2026

Grand Knights Chess Academy
13620 NE 20th St, Suite K, Bellevue, WA 98005

Format:

An invitation-only junior chess tournament in four sections:

Caruana Closed: A FIDE-rated, 6-player Round Robin. TC: G/90; +30.

So Premier: A FIDE-rated, 5-round, G/90; +30 Swiss.

Aronian Challengers and

Mishra Rising: 5-round, G/45; +15 Double Swiss. Play two games – one as White and one as Black – against each opponent.

Entry Fee:

\$125 by Jan 03, \$150 after.

Schedule:

Rd 1 – Sat @ 9am

Rd 2 – Sat @ 1:30pm

Rd 3 – Sat @ 6pm

Rd 4 – Sun @ 10am

Rd 5 – Sun @ 3pm

Awards – Sun @ 7pm or asap.

Late start available for players if previous game runs long. To resolve potential ties for 1st place in the Caruana Closed and So Premier sections, pairs of G/5; +2 blitz playoff games will be conducted on Sunday shortly after the final round.

Eligibility:

Open to WA players under age 21 as of Jan 1, 2026. The top 60 WA juniors will be admitted, based on the higher of Jan 2026 USCF or current NWSRS ratings, who register and pay by the **deadline of Wed, Jan 7th**. Of those 60, the top 5 by rating, plus the previously seeded winner of the 2025 WA Junior Open, qualify for the Caruana Closed section. The next 18 are seeded in the So Premier section, the following 18 in the Aronian Challengers section, and the remaining 18 in the Mishra Rising section.

Prizes:

Caruana Closed (guaranteed by WCF)

1st \$350 + seed into Championship section of 2026 WA State Championship. 2nd \$320, 3rd \$280.

So Premier (based on 18 paid entries)

1st \$250 + seed into Invitational section of 2026 WA State Championship. 2nd–4th: \$235, \$220, \$200.

Aronian Challengers and **Mishra Rising**

(based on 18 paid entries each)

1st–4th: \$175, \$160, \$145, \$130.

Special Prizes (per section): Biggest Upset Win: \$15/rd., Best Dressed: \$10/day, Best Female Player (by TPR): \$50.

Rating & Memberships:

Dual NWSRS + US Chess rated, Caruana Closed and So Premier sections also FIDE rated. US Chess & WCF membership required in all sections.

Byes:

No byes allowed in Caruana Closed section. Up to 2 half-point byes available in other sections, if requested before the end of round 2.



The Details:

Procedure: Pairings and standings posted near the playing area before each round.

Registration:

nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration (pay online by Zelle / SettleKing), or write a check to Washington Chess Federation and mail to: Washington Chess Federation c/o Orlov Chess Academy 4174 148th Ave NE, Building I, Suite M, Redmond WA, 98052.

Payment deadline:

Wed, Jan 7th @ 5pm.

No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster after the deadline, and players from the Waitlist will be offered a spot. No on-site entries.

Questions? Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206.769.3757, WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

