

# 20<sup>th</sup> Annual SPICE Cup Open



November 4-9, 2026

Hilton Bellevue

A US Chess Grand Prix Event



*Co-hosted by the Susan Polgar Foundation and the WA Chess Federation.*

A 9-round, dual USCF and FIDE-rated Swiss. One section; minimum rating 2000 FIDE or 2200 USCF required.

## Entry fee:

- GMs: Free entry.
- Foreign IMs: \$245 by 9/4, \$345 by 10/4, \$445 after.
- US Flag IMs: \$345 by 9/4, \$445 by 10/4, \$545 after.
- Foreign FIDE-rated players (2000+): \$445 by 9/4, \$545 by 10/4, \$645 after.
- US players 2200+ FIDE: \$795 by 9/4, \$895 by 10/4, \$995 after.
- US players 2000-2199 FIDE: \$995 by 9/4, \$1,095 by 10/4, \$1,195 after.

## Schedule:

Wednesday 11/4: Arrival & Check-in – 3:00-4:30 PM, Rd. 1 – 5:00 PM.

Thursday 11/5: Rd. 2 – 10:00 AM, Rd. 3 – 4:00 PM.

Friday 11/6: Rd. 4 – 10:00 AM, Rd. 5 – 4:00 PM.

Saturday 11/7: Rd. 6 – 11:00 AM.

Saturday 11/7: SPICE Cup Blitz Championship (9SS, G/3; +2, FIDE + USCF Blitz rated) – 7:00 PM.

Sunday 11/8: Rd. 7 – 11:00 AM

Sunday 11/8: SPICE Cup Rapid Championship (5SS, G/15; +5, FIDE Rapid + USCF Quick rated) – 5:00 PM.

Monday 11/9: Rd. 8 – 10:00 AM, Rd. 9 – 4:00 PM, Closing Ceremony – 8:00 PM or ASAP.

**Prize Fund: \$12,500 Guaranteed! GM, IM, WGM, and WIM norms are possible.**

**1st – 3rd: \$5000-3000-2000, Top U2450: \$500-250, Top U2300: \$500-250.**

**Special Prizes** (which can be won in addition to a place or class prize):

**Top Female: \$500, Top Senior (50+): \$500, Brilliancy Prize: \$100.**

**Time Control:** G/90; +30. Late default: 60 minutes.

**Byes:** Players may request up to two half-point byes in rounds 1-7 if announced by the start of the tournament. Zero-point byes are available for any round.

**Rating:** Dual USCF and FIDE rated. November 2026 FIDE ratings will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

**Memberships:** A current US Chess membership is required at the time of the tournament.

**Hotel:** Hilton Bellevue: 300 112<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98004. \$239 for a King room or 2 Queens. Complimentary guest room Wi-Fi and event day parking. Discounted overnight parking of \$20 per vehicle per night. Many restaurants are within 1-2 miles of the hotel. For online hotel reservations, use the [booking link](#). Group Code: CHESRL. For phone reservations, call 425-455-1300 and reference the 2026 SPICE Cup. Cut-off date for discounted hotel reservations is **October 14, 2026**.

**Registration:** Online at [nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration](http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration) or send registration form and payment to: Washington Chess Federation, 4174 148th Avenue NE, Building I, Suite M, Redmond, Washington 98052. Limited space available; please register early. Registration will stay open until capacity is reached or by the **deadline of 11/3** at 12:00 PM PT. Partial refunds (less PayPal fees + \$20 processing fee) are available until the registration deadline.

**Miscellaneous:** Limited free hotel accommodation available for GMs. Players receiving conditions may not take any byes without express permission from the organizer. All equipment is provided. Anti-cheating measures will be strictly enforced.

**Questions** – Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, [WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com](mailto:WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com)