



Washington Winter Classic

Sat-Sun, December 19-20, 2026

EMBASSY SUITES BELLEVUE

3225 158TH AVE SE, BELLEVUE, WA 98008

Highest finishing WA player in the Elite and Advanced sections seeded into the Premier and Invitational sections, respectively, of the 2027 WA State Championship.

Format: A 5-round Swiss in four sections:

**Elite (2000+), Advanced (1700-1999),
Challengers (1300-1699) & Prodigies (U1300)**

Maximum of 150 players total. A section with <10 players may be merged with the nearest section.

Note: In case of a tie for 1st place in Elite/Advanced sections, blitz (G/5; +2) and possibly Armageddon (G/6 vs G/4) playoff games after the final round will decide the seeds for the Premier & Invitational sections of the 2027 WA State Championship.

Time Controls:

- Elite, Advanced, & Challengers: G/90; +30 sec. Late default: 60 minutes.
- Prodigies: G/45; +15 sec (Double Swiss: two games with opposite colors vs each opponent)

Entry Fees: \$120 by Sat, Dec 12; \$140 after. Free entry into Elite for GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs, contingent upon proper completion of the event. Play-up into Premier & Challengers (\$75 fee) allowed if USCF rating is within 100 points of the section's lower limit. No play-ups into Elite.

Schedule: Sat @ 9am, 2pm, 6:30pm;
Sun @ 10am, 3pm. Games that go long may request a late start for the following round.

Prizes: \$6,700 (based on 110 paid entries)

Elite: 1st-3rd: \$500-\$400-\$300,

1st-2nd U2100: \$250-\$200

Advanced: 1st-4th: \$350-\$300-\$250-\$200,

1st-2nd U1850: \$200-\$170

Challengers: 1st-4th: \$300-\$270-\$230-\$180,

1st-2nd U1500: \$180-\$150

Prodigies: 1st-4th: \$250-\$220-\$180-\$150,

1st U1100 / U800 / Unrated: \$130

Special Prizes (per section):

Biggest Upset Win (max 2 per player): \$20/rd.,

Best Female Player (by TPR): \$75, Best Senior Player (50+) (by TPR): \$75.

Byes: Two half-point byes available. If interested, request before the end of round 2.

Memberships: Current US Chess and WCF membership / Northwest Chess subscription required. Memberships must be paid at time of registration.

Rating: Dual USCF + NWSRS rated. Elite, Advanced, and Challengers sections also FIDE rated. Dec 2026 USCF ratings used to determine sections (but a player's Live USCF rating may be used upon their request before the event), pairings & prizes, except in the Elite section Dec 2026 FIDE ratings used for pairings & prizes. Higher of USCF and CFC ratings used for Canadian players. Other foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating, or at TD discretion.

Registration: Online: nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration
Pay by SettleKing (Washington Chess Federation), Zelle (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com), cash, or write a check to Washington Chess Federation (see address below). **Registration & payment due by Fri, Dec. 18 @ 5pm.** No registrations or refunds after the deadline.

Info/Entries: If paying by check, make payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Washington Chess Federation,
4174 148th Ave NE, Building I, Ste. M, Redmond, WA 98052

Contact: Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757

Email: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Winter Holidays Blitz

Time: Sun, Dec 20 @ 7:30pm-9:30pm (after Main event).

Format: An 8-round Single Swiss in one section; 2 half-

point byes available. **TC:** G/3; +2. **Entry Fee:** \$30.

Rating: Dual USCF Blitz + FIDE Blitz rated. Higher of Dec 2026 USCF Regular / Blitz ratings used for pairings & prizes. **On-site Registration:** 6:30pm-7:15pm.

Schedule: Sun @ 7:30pm, 7:45, 8, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9, 9:15pm. Closing Ceremony ~9:30pm or asap.

Membership: Current US Chess membership required.

Prize Fund: \$900 (based on 60 paid entries)

1st-5th: \$170-\$130-\$100-\$80-\$60,

1st U2100 / U1900 / U1700 / U1500 / U1300 / U1100 /

Unr.: \$40. Biggest Upset Win (max 2 per player): \$10/rd.