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**January 5 for the February issue;**  
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## Front Cover

WCF President Josh Sinanan makes his opening remarks at the 2024 SPFNO behind a wall of sparkly trophies.  
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

## Back Cover

Sharks were circling on and off the board at the 2024 SPFNO for this young fellow with his pirate facepaint!  
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

## Submissions

Submissions of games (PGN format is preferable for games), stories, photos, art, and other **original** chess-related content are encouraged! Multiple submissions are acceptable; please indicate if material is non-exclusive. All submissions are subject to editing or revision. Send via U.S. Mail to:

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## WCF Membership Rates Rise January 1

Dear WCF Members and *Northwest Chess* Subscribers,

These past few years, chess in the Pacific Northwest has grown and thrived, with record-breaking attendance at many events. As chess activity has grown, unfortunately so have expenses and rising costs in the economy. By increasing dues by about 10% across the board, we hope to ensure that Washington Chess Federation and *Northwest Chess* can continue to run high quality events and cover the rising printing and mailing costs in the years to come.

Thank you for supporting chess in the Pacific Northwest. The new rates effective January 1, 2025, can be found below.

- **Adult** - \$33 or \$88 for 3 years
- **Young Adult** (age 19-24) - \$30 or \$54 for 2 years
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Yours in Chess,

Josh Sinanan  
President  
Washington Chess Federation

# 2024 SPFNO

## SPFNO Organizers

The 19th Annual Susan Polgar Foundation National Open for Girls and Boys was held at the Hilton Bellevue in Bellevue, Washington on the weekend of October 26-27, 2024. Scholastic chess players in grades K-12 participated from throughout the west coast, from states including

Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, and California. A total of 488 players, a SPFNO record, competed across eleven sections parsed by grade level and rating: K-1 U700, 2-3 U700, 4-6 U700, K-3 Open, 4-6 Open, 7-12 Open, K-5 Girls, K-5 Open, K-8 Open, K-12 Girls, and K-12 Open.

The two-day chess festival was co-hosted by the Susan Polgar Foundation (SPF) and the Washington Chess Federation (WCF). SPF Founder Grandmaster Susan Polgar and SPF co-Founder Paul Truong were the guests of honor, having just recently returned from the recent FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest! The fantastic team of WCF President Josh Sinanan (Chief Organizer), Jacob Mayer (Chief Tournament Director), Ben Radin (Registration and Pairings Director), and Eddie Chang (Events Manager) organized the event and coordinate the weekend's busy slate of activities.

The amazing group of dedicated volunteers, judges, and tournament directors included Norm May, Adam Porth, Ani Barua, Rekha Sagar, Valentin Razmov, Stani Vlasseva, Kai Pisan, Siva Sankrithi, Peter Zou, Haiyong Wang, Millie Runion, Daniel Shubin, David Hirschowitz, Walter Guity, Max Schmidt-Warnecke, Chouchan Airapetian, Angela Agaian, Detective Denise "Cookie" Bouldin, Larry Greenawalt, Gelareh Golanbar, Alex Byelashov, Sridhar Seshadri, Face Painter Gabby Carrillo, and many others. Amazing photographs and video footage were taken throughout the weekend by Meiling Cheng.

During the opening announcements, players and their parents were treated to a visit by 9th District Congressman Adam Smith, who offered a few words of praise and encouragement to the packed room of young chess players.

Along with the one-day Scholastic and two-day Championship sections, several fun side events enhanced the immersive weekend chess experience. Saturday's busy schedule of events included a Parents and Coaches Seminar, Face Painting, SPFNO Girls Workshop, the Susan Polgar Book Sale & Signing, FM Megan Lee game analysis, All-comers blitz with FM Megan Lee, the SPFNO Puzzle Solving Competition, and the SPFNO Blitz Championship.



*A competitor sports his tiger face paint at the 2024 SPFNO.  
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.*



Sunday featured the 19-player Susan Polgar Simul as well as the final three rounds of the high-stakes two-day Championship sections!

This year's 488-player attendance shattered all previous records for the SPFNO, which previously had peaked in the mid 400's when the event was held in Lexington, Kentucky. The addition of longer, FIDE-rated games in the two-day K-12 Championship sections no doubt contributed to the stronger attendance, up 80 players from last year. The organizers hope to continue the trend and are aiming for 500+ players next year, with a prospective venue in the Bellevue area already in the works! The two-day Championship sections, which

feature both open and girls-only sections, typically attract the strongest local players given the prestige of the event.

This year's two-day K-12 Open featured a star-studded lineup of several of the Northwest's strong players, including FM Stephen Willy, NM Nikash Vemparala, NM Advaith Vijayakumar, NM Ted Wang, NM Ryan Min, Gordon Xu, Alan Peng, and Vihaan Jammalamadaka. Top seeds in the K-12 Girls section included Bonnie He, Ella Guo, Emel Bayrambeyli, Selina Cheng, and Lily Deng. On the line in both the Open K-12 and Girls K-12 Championship sections were scholarships to Webster University, each valued at over \$50,000!



Detective Cookie Chess Club student Sophia Michael with a color-coordinated T-shirt and purple face paint design at the 2024 SPFNO. Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

*Special congratulations to the following 2024 SPFNO winners:*

**K-1 U700:**

*First Place – Ziyou Qu (5.0/5!!)*

**2-3 U700:**

*=First/Second Place – Satvik Verma + Andy Sang (4.5/5! – Co-Champions)*

**4-6 U700:**

*=First/Second Place – Michael Wernsing + Mithran Anbuselvam (5.0/5!! - Co-Champions)*

**K-3 Open:**

*First Place – Ayyaan Roy Chowdhury (5.0/5!!)*

**4-6 Open:**

*First Place – Avery Kwan-Uchiyama (5.0/5!!)*

**7-12 Open:**

*First Place – Alexander Lebedinsky (5.0/5!!)*

**K-5 Girls:**

*=First/Second Place – Darya Byelashova + Elina Khudyev (4.0/5! – Co-Champions)*

**K-5 Open:**

*First Place – Bright Weng (5.0/5!!)*

**K-8 Open:**

*= First/Second Place – Yash Syal + Viraj Dhawan (4.0/5! - Co-Champions)*

**K-12 Girls:**

*First Place – Emel Bayrambeyli (5.0/5!!):*

***Webster University Scholarship Winner!***

**K-12 Open:**

*First Place – Stephen Willy (5.0/5!!):*

***Webster University Scholarship Winner!***

**SPFNO Team Awards**

SPFNO Team Awards		
<b>K-3 Top Teams:</b>		
		<b>Score</b>
1	<a href="#">Somerset Elementary</a>	13.5
2	<a href="#">Open Window School</a>	13.5
3	<a href="#">Samantha Smith Elementary</a>	13
4	<a href="#">Medina Elementary</a>	13
<b>4-6 Top Teams:</b>		
		<b>Score</b>
1	<a href="#">Samantha Smith Elementary</a>	16
2	<a href="#">Detective Cookie Chess Club</a>	13
3	<a href="#">Tye Middle School</a>	12
4	<a href="#">Medina Elementary</a>	11.5
<b>7-12 Top Team:</b>		
		<b>Score</b>
1	<a href="#">Evergreen Middle School</a>	8

## Games

Stephen Willy (2263) –

Alan Peng (2051) [B12]

SPFNO 2024 (R4), October 27, 2024

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.dxc5 e6

Black chooses to transpose into an Advance French, at least temporarily down a pawn (and, arguably, minus a tempo, though that is less clear). 5...Bg4 is more common and more practically successful here, getting that light-square bishop out of its prison. 6.c3 e6 7.Be3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Nxe5 9.Bb5+ Nc6 10.0-0 is unbalanced.

6.Be3 Qc7

6...Nge7, heading to g6 or f5, is a bit more flexible.

7.c3 a6?!

I would prefer development with 7...Bd7, only meeting 8.Na3 with 8...a6.

8.Bd3 Nxe5 9.Nxe5 Qxe5 10.0-0 Nf6 11.Bd4 Qc7 12.b4 Be7 13.f4±

White has chosen not to try to hang onto the extra pawn, instead converting the material into positional lockdown on the e5-square, cementing a space advantage.

13...Bd7 14.Nd2 h6 15.Qf3 Bc6 16.Rae1 0-0 17.Re3

17.f5!?

17...Bb5 18.Qh3 Bxd3 19.Rxd3 Kh7 20.g4 Nd7?

I'm not sure what to try with Black to defend the position, but I am sure this isn't it.

21.g5 Rg8 22.Qh5 Raf8



Position after 22...Raf8

23.Bxg7!!

This is the sort of move breathless commentators wonder, “will he find it?” Well, of course he will: he’s been

planning this kind of tactic on the dark squares since move 11, and this specific one since move 20 or so. But it’s still pretty nice, no?

1-0

Advaith Vijayakumar (2213) –

Stephen Willy (2263) [A47]

SPFNO 2024 (R5), October 27, 2024

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 b6 4.Bd3 Bb7 5.0-0 g6 6.b3 Bg7 7.Bb2 d6 8.c4 Nbd7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.b4?!

I'm not a big fan of this attempt to expand on the queenside. More to the point, I think, is central action with 10.e4. Black may be OK after 10...e5 11.d5, but White always has space.

10...e5 11.Be2 exd4 12.exd4 a5 13.a3 axb4 14.axb4 Rxa1 15.Bxa1 Ne4 16.Nxe4 Bxe4 17.Nd2 Bb7 18.Bf3 Bxf3 19.Nxf3 Re8 20.Re1?!

White is just trying to exchange off pieces (with some success so far), but the three-abreast pawns are going to be weakened with...b5 or...d5. Exchanging rooks appears to favor Black. After 20.Qc2∞, the black rook has no entries along the e-file, while White's rook may find some use along the a-file or backing queenside pawns, and it definitely serves to defend the back rank.

20...Qa8



Position after 20.Re1



K-12 Open Champion, FM Stephen Willy, enjoys every moment spent at the board.  
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.



20...Rxe1+ first is a bit more accurate.

21.Bc3

21.Rxe8+ Qxe8 22.Qd3 limits the damage.

21...Rxe1+ 22.Nxe1

22.Bxe1

22...Qa2

22...c5 is another way to exploit the weakened pawns, working the pin along the long diagonal.

23.Qd3 Qb3 24.Kf1 d5! 25.cxd5 Qxd5 26.Qf3 Nf6 27.Nc2 Qc4+ 28.Ke1 Nd5 29.Bd2 Bxd4+



Position after 29...Bxd4

The pressure exerted by well-placed pieces yields a pawn. Now the game enters its technical phase.

30.Na3

30.Qe4?? Bxf2+

30...Qa2 31.Qd3 c5 32.bxc5 bxc5 33.Nc2 Bf6 34.Qe4 Kg7

34...Qb1+ 35.Ke2 Nb4

35.Ke2 c4 36.Kf3 Ne7

36...h5

37.Be3

37.g4!?

37...Nf5 38.Bc5 Qb3+ 39.Ke2 Qb5! 40.Ba3 c3+ 41.Kf3

41.Qd3 Qe5+ 42.Kf1 Qxh2

41...Qb1! 42.Bc5 Qd1+ 43.Kf4 g5+ 44.Kxf5 Qd7+

0-1

Aiden Yin (1719) –  
Vihaan Jammalamadaka (2045) [B29]  
SPFNO 2024 (R4), October 27, 2024  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5 4.exd5 Nxd5 5.Bb5+ Bd7 6.Bxd7+ Qxd7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.b3 e6 9.Bb2 0-0-0

Northwest Chess



Position after 9...0-0-0

Black really has no problems here. White embarks on the standard plan when there's nothing obvious to do: push the a-pawn.

10.a4 Rg8

Black decides to counter with some g-pawn action, and starts by getting the rook off that long diagonal.

11.a5 g5 12.a6 b6 13.Qe2 g4

13...Bg7

14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.Qxe5 Bd6

15...Bg7

16.Qe4 f5 17.Qc4



Position after 17.Qc4

17...Qc6?

17...Nc7 unpins the c-pawn and keeps the knight for useful defense of b5 and e6. Black's pawn storm looks the more dangerous.



(L) K-12 Open Webster Scholarship winner FM Stephen Willy with SPF Founder GM Susan Polgar at the 2024 SPFNO. Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

18.Nb5! Bb8 19.Be5! h5 20.Rfe1 Rg6 21.d4

21.b4!?! Nxb4 22.Bxb8 Kxb8 23.Qf4+ Ka8 24.Nc7+ Kb8 25.Nxe6+ Rd6 26.Nd8 Qd7 27.Nb7 is cute, but not trivial to calculate. Nor is the line finished: 27...Nxc2 28.Nxd6 Rxd6 (28...Qxd6 29.Re8+ Kc7 30.Qxf5) 29.Re8+! Qxe8 (29...Kc7 30.Ra8 Qe6 31.Rxa7+ Kb8 32.Rb7+ Ka8 33.Rb1) 30.Qxd6+±

21...Rd7 22.dxc5 Bxe5

22...Qxc5

23.Rxe5 bxc5 24.Rae1 Qxa6 25.Qxc5+ Kb7 26.c4 Qb6?! 27.Qf8! Nf4



Position after 27...Nf4

28.Ra1

28.Nd6+! Rxd6 (28...Qxd6 29.Rb5+ Kc7 30.Qb8+ Kc6 31.Qa8+ Kc7 32.Rb7+ Kc6 33.Rxa7+ Kc5 34.Qc8+; 28...Kc6 29.Qa8+ Kxd6 30.c5+) 29.Rb5

28...a6 29.Nc3 Qc6

Last chance: 29...Qd4 30.Qb4+ Qb6±

30.Rb5+! axb5 31.Qa8+ Kc7 32.Nxb5+ Qxb5 33.cxb5 Kd6 34.Qb8+ Ke7 35.Qxf4 Kf6 36.g3 Rd5 37.b6 e5 38.Qc4 Rd4 39.Qc6+ Kg5 40.Qc7 Rf6 41.b7

1-0

Emel Bayrambeyli (1796) –

Selina Cheng (1782) [C52]

SPFNO 2024 (R3), October 27, 2024

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 Bxb4 5.c3 Ba5 6.d4 exd4 7.Qb3!?

7.0-0 is the most common continuation, though Black isn't doing too badly in the main lines.

7...Qe7 8.0-0 Nf6

8...Bb6 is book.

9.Ba3 d6 10.e5

10.cxd4

10...Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Bxf7+



Position after 12.Bxf7+

12...Kf8

12...Kd8 looks a little safer.

13.Nd2 dxc3

13...Bxc3 14.Rae1

14.Rae1 Qf5

14...Qxe1! 15.Rxe1 cxd2∞

15.Nc4 g6 16.Re5 Qf4 17.Bc1 Qh4

18.Bg5 Qh5 19.Bxf6 dxe5 20.Qa3+ Kxf7 21.Qe7+

1-0

Emel Bayrambeyli (1796) –

Lily Deng (1715) [C52]

SPFNO 2024 (R4), October 27, 2024

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 Bxb4 5.c3 Ba5 6.d4 exd4 7.Qb3 Qe7 8.0-0 h6?

8...Bb6 may not be the only move here (yeah, maybe it is), but Black can't really afford to leave that bishop hanging around the edge of the board for long.

9.cxd4± Nf6 10.e5 Nh7

An awkward placement for the knight, but 10...Ne4 11.Ba3 d6 (11...Bb4 12.Bxb4 Nxb4 13.Re1 Ng5 14.Nxg5 hxg5 15.d5±) 12.Bd5 Ng5 13.Nxg5 hxg5 14.Bxc6+ bxc6 15.Qa4 is definitely no fun for Black.



K-12 Girls Champion Emel Bayrambeyli at the 2024 SPFNO.

Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.



11.Ba3 d6 12.exd6 cxd6 13.d5



Position after 13.d5

13...0-0

White wins material, since knight moves lose the a5-bishop to a queen fork. 13...Ne5 14.Nxe5 Qxe5 15.Qb5+ Bd7 16.Qxa5 Qxa1 17.Re1+ Kf8 18.Bxd6+ Kg8 19.Be5+-

14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Nbd2 Ng5 16.Rad1?!

White starts making things a little more complicated than necessary, though it's still good enough. 16.Nxg5 hxg5 17.Rad1 Bg4 18.Nf3

16...Bg4 17.Qd3?! Rfd8

17...Bxd2 seems to set the hardest technical problems, as White must return some material or weaken the king position. 18.Nxd2 (18.Rxd2 Bxf3 19.gxf3 Qf6 20.Kg2 d5 21.Bb3) 18...Bxd1 19.Rxd1±

18.Nxg5 Qxg5 19.Ne4 Qg6 20.Nxd6! Qxd3 21.Rxd3 Be2 22.Bxf7+ Kh7 23.Rg3 Bxf1 24.Kxf1



Position after 24.Kxf1

White has returned some material, but here there are no extra black pawns or weakened white king to confuse the issue. Two dominant minor pieces against a relatively passive rook equals lots more fun for White.

24...g5 25.Re3 Rd7 26.Be6 Rdd8 27.Bf5+ Kg8 28.Re7 Bc3 29.Bh7+

Better 29.Be6+ Kh8 (29...Kf8 30.Rh7)

30.Nf7+ Kg7 31.Nxd8+ with two extra pieces and attack.

29...Kh8 30.Nf7+ Kxh7 31.Nxd8+

OK, one extra piece and attack isn't too bad, either.

31...Kg6 32.Nxc6 a5 33.Re3 Bd2 34.Rd3 Bf4 35.g3 Bc7 36.Ne7+ Kh5 37.h3 Bxg3 38.fxg3 Rf8+ 39.Kg2 Rf6 40.g4+ Kh4 41.Bc5 Rf4 42.Ng6#

1-0

**Nikash Vemparala (2244) – Darsh Verma (1812) [C55]**

SPFNO 2024 (R3), October 27, 2024

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3

Whether it's better understanding or just opening fads, the way these Italian game (Giuoco Piano) positions are reached now is quite different than it was a few decades

ago. Where previously Black would play 3...Bc5 and White would generally attempt 4.c3 and 5.d4, now White prefers the quieter maneuvering lines with 4.d3 (or 4.c3 and 5.d3). And Black's preferred (though not universal) entry into the Giuoco Pianissimo is no longer 3...Bc5, but rather through the Two Knights Defense, 3...Nf6.

This in turn used to be met almost exclusively with either 4.Ng5 or 4.d4, the former putting immediate pressure on the weak f7-point, generally causing Black to gambit a pawn after blocking the attack with 4...d5 5.exd5 Na5 (though other options exist).

Now those direct attacks against f7 or central play with 4.d4 are hardly ever played at high levels, with White preferring to steer back into the "very quiet" variations of the Italian.

4...h6



(L) K-12 Girls Webster Scholarship winner Emel Bayrambeyli with GM Susan Polgar at the 2024 SPFNO. Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

Already slightly unusual, though not dangerous for Black as there is little direct tension in the position. Most chess teachers and coaches frown on these little rook-pawn moves, as they are seen as unnecessary time-wasters, defending against non-threats such as Bg5, pinning the knight, or Ng5, attacking f7. That's not the only reason to play them, though.

**5.c3 d6 6.Nbd2**

6.0-0 is certainly fine.

**6...g5!?**

6...g6 is more often played and scores reasonably well for Black, but the more aggressive 6...g5 is Stockfish approved.

**7.Nf1**



*Position after 7.Nf1*

**7...Bg7**

7...g4 dislodging the knight is a consistent follow-up, planning 8...d5.

**8.Ng3 a6 9.a4 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nh5± 0-0 12.Nxg7**

There doesn't seem to be any need to rush this capture. 12.h4 Nf4 (12...g4 13.Bxd5 Qxd5 14.Bxh6!± is a nice little tactic.) 13.hxg5 hxg5 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.d4 Re8+ 16.Kf1 Bf5 17.Bd3 and that open h-file could prove dangerous for the black king.

**12...Kxg7 13.0-0 Nb6**

13...Bg4

**14.Bb3 Bg4 15.a5 Nc8**

15...Nd5, though Black has lost a small amount of time compared with playing...Bg4 directly two moves ago.

**16.h3 Bh5 17.Qe2**

17.g4 Bg6 18.d4 and the position is opening up to the benefit of the bishop-pair.

**17...Qf6**

17...f5!?

**18.Bd5**

18.g4 Bg6 19.Re1

**18...N8e7 19.Be4 Qd6 20.h4**

20.b4

**20...g4**

20...f5 21.Bxc6 Nxc6 and White can't safely grab the g-pawn: 22.hxg5 hxg5 23.Bxg5 Qg6 with multiple ways to win a piece.

**21.Nd2 f5 22.Bxc6 Nxc6 23.Ne4 Qf6 24.Re1 Rae8 25.g3 Re7**



*Position after 25...Re7*

No need for this much preparation. Swarm the kingside with 25...f4± directly.

**26.Ne3**

26.b4 Rfe8 27.Rb1±

**26...Rd8 27.Qc2 f4 28.Ng2 Bg6 29.gxf4 Rxd3 30.Qb3?!**

30.Qa4±

**30...Bf7**

30...Nd4!

**31.Qxb7 Bd5 32.Qxa6 Rh3 33.Qf1 Qxh4 34.f3 Rh1#**

**0-1**

**Ted Wang (2161) –**

**Ryan Min (2142) [C54]**

SPFNO 2024 (R5), October 27, 2024

[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 a6 7.a4 Ba7 8.Nbd2 h6 9.Re1 g5 10.a5 g4 11.Nh4 Nh5 12.g3 Nf4 13.Rf1 Qf6 14.Nf5?**

Logical, natural, and apparently not best. White should wait, unpinning the f-pawn and removing the check from a black knight hitting h3: 14.Kh1

**14...Nh3+ 15.Kg2 Bxf5!?**

No, no. Taking free things isn't right. One must wait patiently. 15...h5± (Stockfish)

**16.exf5**



*Position after 16.exf5*

**16...Qxf5?!**

16...0-0-0 17.Qxg4 Nf4+ 18.Kh1 d5±, and at least Stockfish thinks it knows what's going on, and claims a small edge for White. I lack the moral certitude of an engine and will call this unclear.

**17.f3 gxf3+?**

17...Ng5 18.fxg4 Qh7 (18...Qg6 19.Ne4!± with tactics against f7.) 19.Qe2 and White seems better coordinated.

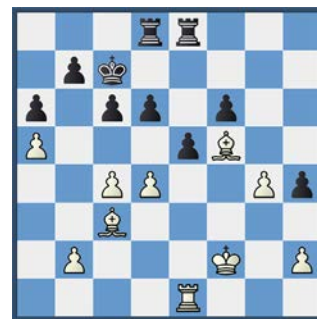
**18.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 19.Nxf3 Nf2±**

This is now best, though it's pretty much winning for White. The alternative 19...Ng5 20.Nxg5 hxg5 21.Bxf7+ is hopeless for Black, as the opponent's bishop-pair will quickly shepherd the soon-to-be-extra passed pawn down the board.

**20.Rxf2 Bxf2 21.Kxf2 Ne7 22.Bb3 f6 23.Bd2 Kd7 24.Re1 h5 25.d4 Raf8 26.Nh4 Re8 27.Bf7 Ref8 28.Bb3 Re8 29.Bc2 c6 30.Ng6 Nxg6 31.Bxg6 Rhg8**

I'm not sure I trust the score here, as 31...Reg8 doesn't hang a rook, and therefore White's failure to take it makes sense as well. So either way, zip ahead to move 36, and the position will be the same. 32.Bf5+ Kc7 33.c4 h4 34.g4 Rd8 35.Bc3 Rhe8

**32.Bf5+ Kc7 33.c4 h4 34.g4 Rd8 35.Bc3 Rge8**



*Position after 35...Rge8*



36.dxe5 dxe5 37.b4 c5 38.b5 axb5  
 39.cxb5 Rd6 40.g5 fxg5 41.Rxe5 Rd2+  
 42.Ke3 Rdd8 43.Kf3 Kd6 44.Rxe8

44.Ke4

44...Rxe8 45.Be4 g4+ 46.Kf4 g3 47.hxg3  
 hxg3 48.Bxb7 Re2 49.a6 g2 50.Be5+  
 Kd7

50...Rxe5 51.Bxg2 Re7 52.b6+-

51.Bc6+ Kc8

51...Ke6 52.Bxg2! Rxg2 (52...Rxe5  
 53.a7) 53.b6

52.a7 Ra2 53.b6 Rf2+

53...g1Q 54.b7+ Kd8 55.b8Q+ Ke7  
 56.Qe8#

54.Ke3 g1Q 55.a8R#

1-0

## Gabby Smiley Face Painting:

To enhance the joyous ambience of the event and provide entertainment during the marathon day of intense chess competition, several fun side activities were scheduled simultaneously throughout the day. Face painter extraordinaire Gabby Carrillo was on-site on the Hilton foyer from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM performing her fantastically colorful and brilliant face painting designs, much to the delight and satisfaction of kids and adults alike! Gabby's dedication and detailed craftsmanship, which she performed non-stop for four hours, is simply remarkable.

Many happy players could be seen showing off their on-fleek masterpieces, which graced their faces, arms, and occasionally legs! As is typical when Gabby is around, the line for a complimentary face paint was never-ending!

## SPFNO Puzzle Solving Competition:

A total of 29 brave contestants were given a maximum of 30 minutes to solve 20 checkmate puzzles. An original set of challenging puzzles, which included four mates in one, four mates in two, six mates in three, four mates in four, and two mates in five, was personally designed by GM Susan Polgar herself especially for this competition. Contestants wrote their solutions on paper and were evaluated



A young puzzle solver racks his brain during the intense 30-minute SPFNO Puzzle Solving Competition. Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

based on accuracy, completeness, and speed. An especially talented group of puzzle-solvers competed in this year's edition, with six players earning a perfect score!

Especially impressive performances were achieved by Zachary Chua (1345) and Lucas Yao (1589), both of whom scored a perfect 20 points and demonstrated amazing tactical calculation and vision for their ratings.

Congratulations to the winners!

Last Name	First Name	Rating	Score	Time (min.sec)	Prize
Vemparala	Nikash	2244	20	7.43	1st 1000+
Willy	Stephen	2308	20	9.22	2nd 1000+
Yondon	Odbayar	1791	20	14.50	3rd 1000+
Palathingal	Rafael	1962	20	17.18	4th 1000+
Chua	Zachary	1345	20	19.08	5th 1000+

Last Name	First Name	Rating	Score	Time (min.sec)	Prize
Xu	Augus	753	11	30.00	1st U1000
Madsen	Levi	505	9	30.00	2nd U1000
Pingale	Sharanya	669	9	30.00	3rd U1000
Walton	Cara	517	8	30.00	4th U1000
Razmov	Siana	852	8	30.00	5th U1000

## Parents and Coaches Seminar:

The first side event to kick off the weekend's action-packed schedule was the Parents and Coaches Seminar, which took place in the Redmond Room on Saturday, October 26 from 9:30-10:30 AM. The one-hour seminar, which was led by Susan Polgar, provided an opportunity for parents and coaches to learn how to effectively guide children on their chess journey. The informal atmosphere was conducive for parents and coaches to ask questions and hear tips from Grandmaster Susan Polgar, who is herself a chess parent and former coach of the successful Webster University Chess Team.

## SPFNO Girls Workshop:

The SPFNO Girls Workshop was held on Saturday from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM in the Redmond Room. Special guests FM Megan Lee, WFM Chouchan

Airapetian, and Rekha Sagar hosted the special one-hour workshop that focused on empowering girls through chess.

Those attending the workshop enjoyed the interactive presentation and engaging discussion designed to support and grow chess for women and girls on a local, national, and global scale. Despite the workshop being intended mostly for a female audience, several chess dads could also be seen taking part, seeking advice from the panel of experts on the best ways to help their chess-playing daughters continue to grow and thrive.

## Megan Lee Game Analysis & All Comers Blitz:

On Saturday afternoon from 2:30-4:30 PM, players and parents were treated to a special appearance by two-time Washington State Chess Champion and newly minted FM Megan Lee, who conducted game review and analysis from 2:30-3:30 PM followed by All Comers Blitz from 3:30-4:30 PM in the Redmond Room! Several ambitious students of the game, who were eager to pick up practical tips and valuable strategies from Washington State's strongest active female player, had their games reviewed and analyzed by FM Megan Lee, fresh back from St. Louis, where she was playing in the 2024 US Women's Championship. After a short break, a few courageous players had a chance to challenge Megan Lee to a thrilling game of five-minute speed chess! Megan is an avid speed chess player who also enjoys bughouse. Despite playing as Black in most games and facing several tough opponents, Megan emerged unscathed and remained undefeated throughout the afternoon!

## Susan Polgar Book Sale & Signing:

The Susan Polgar Book Signing occurred on Saturday from 1:30-2:30 PM in the Redmond Room. GM Susan Polgar, who has authored several books throughout her playing and teaching careers, was on site to sign autographs and take pictures.

A variety of books written by Susan Polgar and well suited for all levels of players were available for purchase: *Learn Chess the Right Way, Vols. 1-5*, *Breaking Through*, and *A World Champion's Guide to Chess*.

Those who purchased three books or more received a complimentary copy of the newly released bestseller *May the Best Player Win*, by Kyla Zhao.

The book sale and signing were immensely successful, and we eagerly await the release of Susan Polgar's newest book, *Rebel Queen*, set to be released in March of 2025!



GM Susan Polgar during her book signing.  
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

## SPNFO Blitz Championship:

The 2024 SPNFO Blitz Championship attracted 42 players and took place on Saturday at 6:30 PM in the Bellevue Grand Ballroom. The eight-round Single Swiss in two sections, K-5 and 6-12, was directed by Idaho Chess Association President Adam Porth and Chess Mates Foundation President Ben Radin.

The games were US Chess Blitz Rated with a time control of game in five minutes with no delay or increment. In the K-5 section, Rafael Palathingal, a fifth grader from Kokanee Elementary School in Woodinville, emerged victorious with an impressive 7.0/8 score!

Other top finishers included Imai Maharaja (6.5, second place), and Siddharth Bhaskaran, Sambuddha Sekhar Das, and Vihaan Pai (5.0, =third-fifth). In the 6-12 section, Overlake High School powerhouse NM Nikash Vemparala topped the field with seven points from eight games, recovering well after a first-round loss and winning his last seven games in a row!

Second place was awarded to NM Ted Wang, a fifth grader from St. Thomas Elementary School in Medina, who scored six points. Stoller Middle School eighth grader Karthik Bimod finished in third place with 5.5 points. A quintuplet of up-and-comers shared =fourth/fifth place honors a half-point back: NM Stephen Willy of Sammamish, Harishkumar Karthikeyan of Redmond, Varun Iyengar of Portland, Albert Eksarevskiy of Redmond, and Gavin Shi of Seattle.

Congratulations to the winners!

## The Inland Classic

February 22-23, 2025

**Location:** Lakeland Jr. High School,  
15601 N. Highway 41, Rathdrum, Idaho.

**EF:** \$30 adults; \$25 under 19; cash or check only

**Format:** Five-round Swiss system; **TC:** G/115;d5

**Prizes:** \$1750 guaranteed.

**Registration closes February 20 (10:00 PM):**

[Click here \(or scan QR Code to the right\) for details.](#)

**Email or Phone only**

**Entries:** [kmkorsmo@comcast.net](mailto:kmkorsmo@comcast.net) or (509) 270-1772

**Misc.:** John Donaldson lecture and simul: 6:00 PM February 21 (Spokane)





## GM Susan Polgar Simul:

The Susan Polgar Simul took place on Sunday afternoon from 1:00-3:20 PM in Salon C of the Bellevue Grand Ballroom. A mix of 19 intrepid scholastic and adult chess players took their seats with the black pieces against GM Susan Polgar.

For most of the contestants, it was their first time playing against a Grandmaster! After only two hours and 20 minutes of play, all games had finished in favor of Susan Polgar, a clean sweep! Although, no wins or draws were achieved this time, the last man standing was young Julian Chen (1119) of Bellevue, who managed to outlast several much more experienced adults! Congratulations to the 19 fearless players who took part:

Congratulations to all players and chess families who contributed to this year's SPFNO. We look forward to continuing to grow this event in the years to come!

### Results:

Final Score: **GM Susan Polgar 19 - Simul Players 0**

	Duration: 2hr, 20min		
	Name	Rating	Result
1	Cedric Davies	1655	1-0
2	Allan Joseph Ong	1613	1-0
3	William Dann	1583	1-0
4	Paul Fredette	1350	1-0
5	Oliver Wakeman	1235	1-0
6	Troy Chabot	1162	1-0
7	Aaron Hsiao	1151	1-0
8	Julian Chen	1119	1-0
9	Adrina Berjis	1017	1-0
10	Addison Dahlke	968	1-0
11	Damien Davies	827	1-0
12	Millie Runion	636	1-0
13	Maxwell Xiong	605	1-0
14	Lucas Shing	540	1-0
15	Theo Lew	186	1-0
16	Tianxiang Chen	unr.	1-0
17	Ankush Goyal	unr.	1-0
18	Hsien-kai Hsiao	unr.	1-0
19	David Lew	unr.	1-0



*GM Susan Polgar contemplates her next move during her simul.  
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.*

# Washington Junior Open

## CHESS TOURNAMENT

Martin Luther King Day Monday, Jan. 20, 2025

Interlake High School

16245 NE 24<sup>th</sup> St. Bellevue, WA 98008



### CLASSICAL SECTIONS

#### Open 1500+, Rising U1500

A 4-round G/50; +5 Swiss in two sections. Longer time control for Intermediate to Advanced players. Players rated 1400+ may play up into Open section for an additional \$20. Rounds: 9:15am, 11:15am, Lunch Time, 1:30pm, 3:30pm. Awards ~ 5:45pm. Armageddon playoff if needed to break tie for 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Open section immediately following the last round: G/10 white, G/8 black with draw odds.

### RAPID SECTIONS

#### K-1 U700, 2-3 U800, 4-6 U900, 7-12 U1000, K-3 Open, 4-12 Open

A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss in six sections. Shorter time control for players of all levels. Rounds: 9:15am, 10:45am, Lunch Time, 12:45pm, 2:15pm, 3:45pm. Awards ~ 5:15pm.

### ALL SECTIONS

Dual NWSRS and US Chess rated, with US Chess membership required. Establish or update your national rating! Chess clocks will be used from the beginning in all games. Chess notation required in all sections except for K-1 U700 and 2-3 U800. All equipment is provided courtesy of WCF.

### ELIGIBILITY

Open to all juniors under age 21 years of age as of the tournament date. Out-of-state players welcome!

**ENTRY FEE** \$50 by Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, \$60 after. Room for 320 players.

### AWARDS

**Section Prizes:** Amazon Gift Cards awarded in each section:  
1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>: \$65-\$60-\$55-\$50-\$45-\$40-\$35-\$30-\$25-\$20.

**Team Prizes:** Amazon Gift Cards awarded to the top 4 players from the top 5 finishing teams (top 4 scores from same school comprise team score) across all sections:  
1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>: \$30-\$25-\$20-\$15-\$10.

**Special Prizes (per section):** Medals for first-time players, best female player (by TPR), best dressed, and biggest upset win.

### RATING

Highest of January US Chess Regular or current NWSRS rating used to determine section and pairings.

**WA State Elementary Qualifier!**

### THE DETAILS

#### Online Registration:

[NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/](http://NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/)  
Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing. For credit, debit, and PayPal payments, a processing fee of 4% will be added on, so consider saving by using Zelle or SettleKing instead.

**100% pre-registered, no on-site entries or payments. Entry + payment deadline Sun. Jan 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm.**

No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline. Unpaid players by the deadline will be withdrawn from the tournament.

**Highest finishing WA resident in the Open section seeds into the Closed section of the 2025 WA Junior Invitational.**

This event is a qualifier for the WA State Elementary Championship on April 26, 2025, in Tacoma. Players scoring 2.5+ points in the 4-round sections or 3.0+ points in the 5-round sections will qualify for the Championship sections of State.

Pizza lunch and other concessions will be available for purchase on site.

**Questions?** Contact Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206.769.3757  
[washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com)



# WASHINGTON PRESIDENT'S CUP



SAT-SUN, JAN 25-26, 2025

BLAKELEY HALL

2550 NE PARK DR., ISSAQUAH, WA 98029

***Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open section seeded into the 2026 Washington State Championship – Invitational section.***

**Format:** A 5-round Swiss in two sections:

**Washington (1600+):** NWSRS, US Chess & FIDE Tri-Rated.

**Jefferson U1600:** NWSRS & US Chess Dual-Rated.

**Schedule:** Saturday 10 AM, 1 PM, 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM, 3:30 PM. Closing Ceremony: Sunday ~ 8pm or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

**Time Control:** Rd. 1: G/60; +15. Rds. 2-5: 40/100, SD/30, +15. Late default: 60 min.

**Prize Fund:** \$3,500 (based on 100 paid entries)

**Washington:** 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: \$450-375-300-225-150-125.  
1<sup>st</sup> U2000/U1800: \$100

**Jefferson:** 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>: \$325-250-175-125.  
1<sup>st</sup> U1400/U1200/U1000: \$100; 1<sup>st</sup> Unrated: \$70

**Special Prizes** (per section): **Biggest Upset Win:** \$10/round, **Best Female Player** (by TPR): \$25, **Best Dressed:** \$20/day, **Best Senior Players** (50+ & 65+, by TPR): \$25, **Biggest USCF Rating Gain:** \$25, **Best Annotated game:** \$25. Minimum of 3 qualifying players per section for best female/senior player to be awarded.

**Entry Fee:** \$70 by 1/18, \$80 after. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs & WIMs. Players rated 1400+ (in both NWSRS + USCF) and wishing to play up into the Washington section may register for an extra \$40 play-up fee. 100 players max – please sign up early!

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

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

**Rating:** US Chess and NWSRS Rated. Washington section is also FIDE Rated. Higher of January US Chess Regular or current NWSRS rating used to determine section, pairings, and prizes.

**Registration:** Online at:  
[nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration](http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration).

(pay by credit / debit / PayPal / Zelle / SettleKing) or write a check to Washington Chess Federation. For credit, debit, and PayPal payments, a processing fee of 4% will be added on, so consider saving by using Zelle or SettleKing instead. Registration and payment **deadline: Fri. 1/24 @ 5pm.**

*In case of a tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place, a future follow-up playoff match will determine the seed for the Invitational section of the 2026 Washington State Championship.*

**Info/Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation. Mail to: Washington Chess Federation - c/o Orlov Chess Academy, 4174 148<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Building I, Ste. M, Redmond, WA 98052

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

**Email:** [WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com](mailto:WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com)

# OWS Fall Tornado

Josh Sinanan

The 2024 Open Window School Fall Tornado took place on Saturday, October 5, at Open Window School in Bellevue. The OWS Fall Tornado is traditionally the first school-sponsored scholastic chess tournament of the State Qualifier season, which runs from early September to late April each year.

A strong turnout of 145 scholastic chess players in grades K-8 competed across five sections parsed by grade level and rating: K-1 U700, 2-3 U700, K-3 Open, 4-8 U900, and K-8 Open. For thirteen courageous chess bobcats, the OWS Fall Tornado was their first ever chess tournament. This was reflected in the starter rating assigned to each new player based on their grade in school (as of the 2024-25 school year) multiplied by 100 to determine their starting rating.

The rural independent school located in Cougar Mountain right next to Lakemont offers a nice change of pace from events taking place in more urban areas, as is the case for most other scholastic events hosted in the greater Seattle area.

The tournament featured a dual format that included both rapid and classical sections to appeal to players of all ages and experience levels; the younger and less experienced chess warriors played the standard five rounds of G/25; +5, while 46 ambitious youngsters opted for the K-8 Open, in which they played four rounds of G/45; +5. This longer time control allows for more thought and planning on their end and helps many to prepare for the transition to “Open” events with both kids and adults, where longer time controls are the norm. Despite a few slow starts in the first rounds which saw

players wearing off the rust and getting their “chess legs” back after a summer hiatus, most players put forth their best effort and played up to their full potential in each game.

There was no shortage of daring attacks, adventurous gambits, wild sacrifices, unbelievable blunders, and sneaky defenses concocted by the tricky cast of characters taking part in the proceedings! As observed by tournament directors Ben Radin, Coach Mike, and Coach Josh, most players were kind, courteous, and respectful, demonstrating genuine sportsmanship and integrity throughout the tournament. The event was hosted by Open Window School, paired by Chess Mates Foundation President Ben Radin, and directed by OWS Chess Coaches Michael Hosford (K-8 Open) and Josh Sinanan (K-1 U700, 2-3 U700, K-3 Open, and 4-8 U900). OWS Chess Club parent co-chairs Michelle and David Lew organized the event, ran the concessions, and took many wonderful photos throughout the day! OWS Chess Coach and Grand Knights Chess Academy Founder Sloan Setiadikurnia was on-site reviewing games with curious and knowledge-hungry students all day and graciously shared his vast chess knowledge and experience as he reviewed more than 50 games!

Students were honored by a special visit from OWS Auxiliary Programs Manager Michelle Doiron and Director of Auxiliary Programs Euan Oswald, who helped to handle logistics and ensured that everything ran smoothly. We’d also like to thank the amazing team of volunteer judges, scorekeepers, parents, coaches, and chess families that made this fantastic event possible. We were treated to sunny and mild weather for the tournament this year, with many kids taking full advantage of the school’s sports field to exercise in between the rounds.

Congratulations to the winners!



Reigning Washington State Kindergarten Co-Champion Skyler Qin (R) considers his options at the 2024 OWS Fall Tornado. Photo credit: Jenny Yanjun.



Individual Trophy Winners					
Place	K-1 U700	2-3 U700	K-3 Open	4-8 U900	K-8 Open
1st	Ryan Zhang	Aaron Wang	Anyi Li	Charles Du	Viraj Dhawan
2nd	Advait Sairam	Joyce Gui	Mikhail Lagzdin	Jamie Hong	Rudran Srimurugan
3rd	Ryan Hu	Ryan Lingjun Li	Austin Lai	Jethro Xia	Riaan Babbar
4th	Avyukt Goyal	Akshay Gupta	Skyler Qin	Sartaj Malhotra	Avery Kwan-Uchiyama
5th	Ari Hasson	David Zhang	Jayden Wu	Sourish Panda	Soham Sharma
6th	Austin Chiang	Sanyukt Singhal	Bihe Liu	Viraj Gattamneni	Peter Luo
7th	Edwin Niu	Maxwell Xiong	Richard Rogov	Trinath Aashish Arvapalli	Sambuddha Sekhar Das
8th	Savitru Kulkarni	Dilraj Malhotra	Eason Chen	Aarav Kukreja	Rishabhdeva Patnaik
9th	Kheiron Chin	Anna Spataro	Easton Ren	Garu Tao	Jimmy Yang
10th	Ethan Zhang	Caroline Ma	Matvei Ivanov	Mila Kuo	Arjun Moghe
11th	Xander Ragno	Louis Liu			
12th	Kyle Zhang	Jaxson Ta			
13th	Max Wang	Mika Papyan			
14th	Ryder Li	Pin-Ruei Su			
15th	Yisu Chen	Sebastian Lam			
16th	Siddharth Abimanyu	Pax Dai			
17th	Emmett Chen	Brian Li			
18th	Gavin Tao	Josephine Armstrong			
19th	Iris Hou	Kristina Velichko			
20th	Rishan Sharma	Harry Deng			

Team Trophies		
Place	School	Score
1st	Open Window School	15
2nd	Somerset Elementary School	14
3rd	Chestnut Hill Academy	12.5

# Presidential Blitz Championship



Sunday, January 26, 2025

Blakeley Hall

2550 NE Park Dr., Issaquah, WA 98029

**Contact:** Josh Sinanan,  
WCF President, 206-769-3757  
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

**Registration:** Online at [nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration](http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration) (pay by credit / debit / PayPal / Zelle / SettleKing) or write a check to Washington Chess Federation. For credit, debit, and PayPal payments, a processing fee of 4% will be added on, so consider saving by using Zelle or SettleKing instead. Online registration and payment **deadline @ 5 PM on Saturday, January 25**, or else register at site.

**Format:** A 7-Round single Swiss in one section.

**Eligibility:** Open to all junior + adult players.

**Time Control:** G/3; +3 sec. increment.

**Schedule:** At-site registration: Sun. 7:15-8:00 PM. Rounds: 8:15 PM, 8:30, 8:45, 9, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45. Awards ~ 10 PM.

**Prize Fund:** \$670 (based on 50 paid entries).

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>: \$130-\$100-\$70. 1<sup>st</sup> Unrated: \$50.

1<sup>st</sup> U2000/U1800/U1600/U1400/U1200: \$50.

Biggest Upset Win: \$10/round.

**Entry Fee:** \$20 if postmarked or online by 1/19, \$30 by 1/25, \$40 at-site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs.

**Byes:** Three half-point byes available; if interested, request before end of round 2.

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

**Rating:** US Chess Blitz Rated. Higher of January US Chess or current NWSRS rating will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

# Monroe National Chess Day Rapid Championship

Josh Sinanan

The Inaugural Monroe National Chess Day Rapid Championship took place on National Chess Day, Saturday October 12, at the Monroe Community Senior Center in Monroe, Washington. For those unfamiliar with Monroe, it's a charming city with a population of around 20,000 located 30 miles northeast of Seattle. WCF Co-Vice President Rekha Sagar, a Monroe resident, scouted out the Monroe Community Senior Center and found

that it is quite suitable for hosting chess tournaments for up to 100 players. Rekha recently founded the Monroe Chess Club to provide more opportunities for Monroe players of all ages and levels to deepen their knowledge of the royal game by playing in tournaments and attending regular chess classes.

The 50-player event co-hosted by WCF and Monroe Chess Club, was held in celebration of National Chess Day,

which occurs on the second Saturday of October each year. In 1976, President Gerald Ford, himself an avid chess fan, declared the second Saturday of October to be henceforth known as "National Chess Day," to honor chess as a national pastime ignited by Bobby Fischer winning the World Chess Championship four years earlier.

Participants in the Monroe National Chess Day Rapid Championship ranged

## Monroe National Chess Day Rapid Championship

Prize Fund - \$1,150 based on 46 paid entries.

Megan Lee Championship: \$154-115-77-58.

Josh Sinanan U1300: \$115-77-62-46.

Jim McCormick U700: \$115-77-62-46.

Section	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Megan Lee Championship	Ryan W Porter \$154/-	Zane Wirkkala \$115/-	Peter Yu \$77/-	Leonid Gavrysh \$15/- Pratik Thorwe \$15/- Imai Maharaja \$15/- Veronique Joseph \$15/-
Josh Sinanan U1300	Alexander Alvarado \$115/-	Alex Nguyen \$77/-	Anyi Li \$27/- Abhishekh Gopal \$27/- Killian Bates \$27/- Sebastian Phillips-Acheson \$27/-	
Jim McCormick U700	Paul Victor \$115/-	Xander Ragno \$62/- Elliot Golan \$62/- Ryan Miller \$62/-		

Section	Best Female Player	Best Dressed	Biggest Upset Win	Best Senior Player	Kindness/Spreading Joy
Megan Lee Championship	Veronique Joseph	Jinmo Nam	Round 1: Ihsan Moha Nedumpurakkal Thahir Round 2: Daniel Polonsky Round 3: Ihsan Moha Nedumpurakkal Thahir Round 4: Imai Maharaja Round 5: Zane Wirkkala	Stephen Marsh	Dann Merriman
Josh Sinanan U1300	Catherine Liguori	Kevin Zhang	Round 1: Abhishekh Gopal Round 2: Killian Bates Round 3: Sebastian Phillips-Acheson Round 4: Alexander Alvarado	N/A	Jaya Bhavesh Devireddy
Jim McCormick U700	Navika Koul	Rhea Sagar	Round 4: Siddharth Abimanyu	Chad Foster	Phoenix Armitage-Selig



from unrated to master in grades K-12 and competed across three sections named after local Washington State chess players and parsed by rating: Jim McCormick U700, Josh Sinanan U1300, and Megan Lee Championship. Despite the significant commute for many non-Monroe area residents, the tournament attracted players from cities including Redmond, Lake Stevens, Sultan, Mill Creek, Monroe, Snohomish, Brier, Bothell, Shoreline, Seattle, Mercer Island, Lynnwood, Kennewick, Marysville, Duvall, Issaquah, Snoqualmie, Everett, Yarrow Point, Newcastle, Kirkland, Bellevue, Bremerton, and Ravensdale!

The spacious and well-lit playing hall was acknowledged and greatly appreciated by many, and we hope to continue running more events at the Monroe Community Senior Center in the coming months. The venue features a big parking lot with plenty of free parking available all day, in addition to many food options available within a five-minute drive. The event was co-hosted by the Monroe Chess Club and the Washington Chess Federation. WCF Co-Vice President and Monroe Chess Club Founder Rekha Sagar directed the event

and took wonderful photos throughout the day.

FM Ryan Porter of Bellevue topped the 16-player Megan Lee Championship section with an undefeated 4.5 points from five games, conceding only a single draw to 2024 Washington State Senior Champion Leonid Gavrysh in the third round. Ravensdale chess wizard Zane Wirkkala captured second place honors a half-point back with four points, dropping only a single point to Porter in the fourth round. FM Peter Yu of Bothell recovered well after a first-round loss against dark horse Ihsan Moha Nedumparakkal Thahir to claim the third place prize. Four players shared the fourth place prize with a solid “plus one” score: Leonid Gavrysh of Brier, Pratik Thorwe of Seattle, Imai Maharaja of Redmond, and Veronique Joseph of Seattle.

In the nine-player Josh Sinanan U1300 section, named after yours truly, Alexander Alvarado of Lake Stevens reigned supreme with an undefeated 4.5 points from five games, allowing only one draw against second place finisher Alex Nguyen in the fourth round. A quadruplet of chess warriors shared =Third/Fourth

Place with three points apiece: Anyi Li of Mercer Island, Abhishekh Gopal of Bothell, Killian Bates of Mill Creek, and Sebastian Phillips-Acheson of Yarrow Point.

A fantastic showing of 23 players turned out for the Jim McCormick U700 section, named in honor of the late seven-time Washington State Champion “Unkel Jim.” Monroe chess aficionado Paul Victor lived up to his name and won all five of his games to claim a convincing victory in the tournament’s largest section. Paul’s special wooded chess set was noticeable amongst the sea of standard plastic sets in use on all the other boards. Three chess musketeers shared =second-fourth place honors a full-point back with four points each: Xander Ragno of Kirkland, Eliot Golan of Mill Creek, and Ryan Miller of Redmond.

In addition to the overall prizes, several “special” prizes were also up for grabs in each section, for categories including Best Female Player, Best Dressed, Biggest Upset Win (per round), Best Senior Player, and Kindness/Spreading Joy. Congratulations to the winners.

## Monroe Rapid Knights Challenge



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2025  
MONROE COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER  
276 SKY RIVER PKWY, MONROE, WA 98272

CO-HOSTED BY WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION AND MONROE CHESS CLUB

**Info/Entries:** Rekha Sagar, WCF VP,  
425-496-9160,  
[Rekha4Chess@gmail.com](mailto:Rekha4Chess@gmail.com)

**Registration:** Online at  
[nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration](http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration).

Pay by  
Debit/Credit/PayPal/SettleKing.  
Registration and payment **deadline**  
**Fri. Jan. 31** @ 5pm or register at-site.

**Eligibility:** Open to all juniors +  
adults.

**Schedule:** At-site registration:  
Sat. 8:00-8:45am. Rds. @ 9am,  
10:30am, Lunch, 12:30pm, 1:45pm,  
3pm. Awards ~ 4:30pm

**WA State Elementary Qualifier!**

**Format:** A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss  
tournament in three sections. Sections  
with <6 players may be merged.

- **Orlov Championship**
- **Sankrithi U1300**
- **Dorfner U700**

### Prizes:

**Orlov:** 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>: \$200-150-100-75.

**Sankrithi/Dorfner:** Trophies awarded  
to players scoring 3 points or more.

### Special Prizes (per section):

Biggest Upset Win: \$5/rd., Best  
Dressed: \$10, Best Female Player: \$10,  
Best Senior Player: \$10, Best  
Sportsmanship: \$10,  
Kindness/Spreading Joy: \$10.

**Entry Fee:** \$50 by 1/25, \$60 after. Seniors 65+  
receive a \$25 discount. Monroe Chess Club  
Players receive 50% discount. Free entry for GMs,  
IMs, WGMs, WIMs, or US Chess 2000+. Players  
rated 1200+ & 600+ in both USCF & NWSRS may  
play up 1 section into the Orlov & Sankrithi  
sections, respectively. Max of 90 players total and  
30 players per section, please register early.

**Rating:** Dual US Chess and NWSRS rated. Highest  
of Feb. US Chess or current NWSRS rating will be  
used to determine section, pairings, and prizes.

**Memberships:** Current US Chess and WCF  
membership required, other states accepted.  
Membership must be paid at time of registration.

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

# 2024 Oregon Class Championships

Wilson Gibbins

In the [January 2024 issue](#) of *Northwest Chess* I confidently predicted that we would have 48 players in the Open section of the Master/Expert section of the Oregon Class Championships, which was played in Portland, Oregon on November 2-3.

We had 12 players in 2022, 24 players in 2023, so it was a mathematical certainty that we would have 48 players in 2024. Well, math failed me once again, as we had only 18 players in the Master/Expert section this year. But the other sections more than made up for my failed prediction. We had 118 players competing in the tournament this year, up from 88 last year. Since the prizes were based on 100 players attending, we were able to scale up the prize fund by 18%, even for the slackers in the Master/Expert section.

Austin Tang won the Master/Expert section which gave him a second qualification ticket to the Oregon Closed this coming February. He had already qualified by winning the Oregon Closed Challengers section last year. I guess this is a sibling rivalry thing – he now matches his sister Zoey Tang who also has two qualification tickets to 2025 Oregon Closed by virtue of her 2024 Oregon Closed and Oregon Open wins. Maybe they will sell their extra slots on eBay. Austin finished with four points consisting of three wins and two draws, including a last round win over runner-up Jason Cigan. Jason beat Zoey in round four, dropping her into a four-way tie for third with Derek Heath, Jesse Hutton, and your undeserving author, who could score only a draw and a half-point bye in the first three rounds. There is no justice in chess.

The Class A section was the only section with a tie for first, with the ageless Mike Morris, Michael Hosford, and Emel

Bayrambeyli splitting the prize money. Emel seems to have made a habit of winning money at OCF events – a habit more of us should try to emulate.

Class B was won by Yian Lin with 4.5 points, giving up only one draw to second-place finisher Eli Dollinger. Zach Collins and Francisco Javier Lopez tied for third.

Christopher Ade finished first in Class C, beating second place finisher Elijah Barish in round one to start a string of four victories, ending with a draw in round five to John Hart, one of the four players tied for third. The other three players tied for third were Sarterus Rowe, Hao Zou, and Aksh Singhal.

Class D was won by Jesse Yan with 4.5 points. Jimmy Yang finished clear second with four points. Cassidy Lynn, Kanishk Premchander, and Lucas Maokhampio tied for third with 3.5 points.

Mihir Palan won Class E with the only perfect 5.0/5 score. Andrew Chester finished second with four points, and Evvie Tare finished third with 3.5 points.

Brian Mack won Class F with 4.5 points. Brad Shugart and Leif Ericksen tied for second with four points each.

Thanks to Zoey Tang for organizing this event. Thanks to Milo Tang for serving as chief director and Dave Murray as assistant director. Thanks to Lilly Tang for providing additional administrative support, including the pictures for this article. Finally, thanks to Austin Tang, Mihir Palan, and Michael Hosford for providing games for publication, and extra thanks to Mike Morris, Emel Bayrambeyli, Yian Lin, Eli Dollinger, and Elijah Barish for providing games with annotations.

**Derek Heath (1997) –  
Austin Tang (2138) [D02]**  
Oregon Class Championships  
(R2), November 2, 2024  
*[Wilson Gibbins]*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6  
5.Nbd2 Nh5**

Only the fifth most popular move in the database after 5...cxd4; 5...Qb6; 5...e6; and 5...Bg4 (played by C.O.H'D Alexander, one of the codebreakers at Bletchley Park who helped crack the German Enigma machine in World War II. If you have never heard of Bletchley Park, do yourself a favor and watch the movie *The Imitation Game*. That said, 5...Nh5 is the highest scoring move in the database, and has recently been played by well-known players who include Fabiano Caruana, Ian Nepomniachtchi, Hikaru Nakamura, Anish Giri, and Austin Tang.

**6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 g5**



*Position after 7...g5*

**8.Ne5!**

The only move that allows White to maintain equality. 8.Bg3 Nxg3 9.hxg3 g4 10.Ne5 Nxe5! (10...Bg7. is the safe way to play.) 11.dxe5 Bg7 12.Bb5+ Kf8! (12...Bd7? 13.Qxg4) 13.Be2 Bxe5 14.Bxg4 Bxb2 and Black has won a pawn though there are plenty of difficult moves ahead for both sides.





In the foreground, Derek Heath (L) and Austin Tang. In the background, Gerald Larson (L) and Zoey Tang. Photo credit: Lilly Tang.

### 8...Ng7

Caruana played 8...Nxe5 but Austin's choice is fine too.

### 9.Bg3 cxd4 10.Bb5?!

10.exd4=

### 10...dxe3?!

Austin takes the risky path. 10...Qb6!♣ gives Black a slight edge.

### 11.Ndc4! exf2+

11...dxc4? 12.Qxd8+ Kxd8 13.Nxc6+ bxc6 14.0-0-0+ Bd7 15.Bxc6

### 12.Kxf2?!

Clever, but after 12.Bxf2 White stands better 12...dxc4 (12...e6 13.Qf3; 12...Bd7 13.Qxd5 Nxe5 14.0-0-0) 13.Qxd8+ Kxd8 14.Nxf7+ Ke8 15.Nxh8 and the knight on

h8 will escape, though Black does have compensation for the exchange.

### 12...e6!♣

White is better after any other Black response. 12...dxc4? loses to the same sequence of White moves described in the note to move 11, starting 13.Qxd8+

### 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.Bxc6+ Bd7 15.Bxa8

White wins the exchange, but under less favorable conditions than if he had played 12.Bxf2. Black has more than enough compensation, based partly on White's king getting caught in the center and partly on Black's active pieces. They may not look very active now but check back on move 18.

### 15...dxc4 16.Bf3

16.Qf3 Bc5+♣

### 16...Nf5 17.Qd2 Qb6+ 18.Ke2

Hoping to keep the rooks connected and perhaps castle by hand. 18.Kf1 keeps the White's king safer but also locks the rook on h1 out of the game.

### 18...Bc5



Position after 18...Bc5

What a difference three moves make. Black's active pieces make White's king quite uncomfortable.

19.Be5 Bb5 20.c3

20.Bxh8? c3+

20...0-0 21.Rad1 f6 22.Bg3 Be3 23.Qc2 Ba4 24.Qb1 Bxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Kh8 26.Rd7 Qb5 27.Rb7 Bb6 28.Bg4 Nxb3+ 29.hxg3 Qe5+ 30.Kf1 f5 31.Bf3 Qe3 32.Qe1 Qg1+ 33.Ke2 Qc5 34.Rd7 g4 35.Bb7 f4 36.Qb1

Threatening a checkmate on h7 that looks hard to stop. Black has weaknesses too. But he also has the right to make the next move.

36...f3+! 37.gxf3 gxf3+ 38.Bxf3 Qf2+ 39.Kd1 Qxf3+

Black will deliver checkmate in four moves or less. One example is 40.Kc2 Qe4+ 41.Kd2 Rf2+ 42.Kc1 Rf1+ 43.Rd1 Be3#

0-1

**Danny Phipps (1858) – Mike Morris (1900) [A26]**  
Oregon Class Championships (R5), November 3, 2024

[Mike Morris and Wilson Gibbins]

Notes marked MM are provided by Mike Morris. Notes marked WG are provided by Wilson Gibbins.

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.f4 f5 9.d3 Be6 10.Nd5 Qd7 11.Be3 Nd8 12.fxe5 dxe5 13.Bc5 Bxd5 14.cxd5 b6 15.Ba3

15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.exf5 threatens 17.d5-d6.–WG

15...Re8 16.Bh3 c5 17.b4 Nb7 18.Rc1 cxb4 19.Rxc8 Rxc8 20.Bxb4 Nd6 21.Qb3 Rc7 22.Nc3 Nec8 23.a4

23.exf5 wins a pawn.–MM

23...Kh8 24.Nd1 Bh6 25.d4 Nxe4 26.dxe5 Nc5 27.Bxc5 Rxc5 28.Bg2 Ne7 29.d6 Nc6 30.Bxc6 Qxc6 31.Qe6

31.Qf7!+– and either the d-pawn or e-pawn will advance decisively.–WG

31...Bg5

31...Rc2 generates enough counterplay to obtain a draw. White can defend, or can grab a perpetual starting with 32.Qf6+.–WG

32.Qf7!+–



Position after 32.Qf7

White gets back on the winning track.–WG

32...Qd5 33.Qe8+

33.Qxd5 Rxd5 34.Re1±–WG

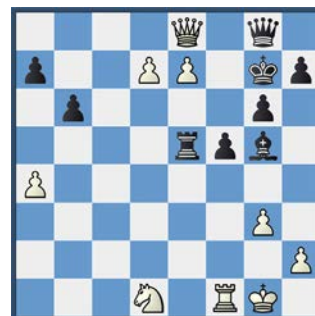
33...Qg8 34.d7! Kg7!

The best defense, but White still stands well.–WG

35.e6?

The not so obvious 35.Nf2! retains White's advantage. It threatens 36.Nd3 to prevent Black's rook coming to e5, allowing White to keep the pawns rolling forward. It also stops Black checking with his bishop, which isn't an obvious problem in this position, but it will be in a few moves.–WG

35...Re5!= 36.e7



Position after 36.e7

36...Bxe7

The move he missed.–MM

37.d8Q

37.Nf2! keeps White in the game. At this point it is more obvious why White needs to prevent bishop checks — they will discover an attack from Black's rook to White's queen.–WG

37...Qxe8 38.Qd3

38.Qxe8 Bc5+ why the knight was needed on f2.–WG

38...Bc5+ 39.Nf2 Re2 40.Qc3+ Qe5

0-1

**Emel Bayrambeyli (1796) – Charles Augustus Smith (1802) [B07]**  
Oregon Class Championships (R3), November 2, 2024  
[Emel Bayrambeyli]

I would like to start by thanking the organizers, arbiters, and everyone who worked hard to make this tournament possible. I'm also very grateful to my chess trainer, Stanislav Ilin, for his dedication, and to my family for always standing by me. Finally, a big thanks to the Green Chess Team for their trust and support throughout this journey.

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1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Bd3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7  
5.0-0 0-0 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.h3

I thought limiting the c8-bishop would be the best.

7...Nb4 8.Bc4

8.Be2 could have been better for me since it doesn't tempt the move ...d5.

8...d5

My opponent finds the best move.

9.exd5 Nbx d5 10.Ne5

Preparing a spot on f3 for my second knight.

10...c6 11.Ndf3 Bf5 12.Bb3

Protecting the c2-pawn before the threat ...Nb4.

12...Nc7 13.Re1 Be6 14.c4

Trying to trade the bishops was a very smart idea from my opponent, but it wasn't the best for me.

14...Qc8 15.Bf4

I felt like ...Bxh3 could have been a threat so I developed the bishop closer to my kingside.

15...Nh5 16.Bh2 Nf6 17.Qe2 h6



Position after 17...h6

There is a tactic after this move, see if you can spot it.

18.Nxg6! Re8

My opponent finds the best defense. 18...fxg6 if takes there's 19.Bxc7 Qxc7 20.Qxe6+ Kh7

19.Nge5 a5 20.Ba4 Ra6 21.Rac1 Qd8 22.Red1 Bf5 23.d5

After all the pieces were in, it was time to find a move that would cause Black problems.

23...Qc8 24.dxc6 b6 25.Bb5 Ra7 26.Nd7 Nxb5 27.cxb5 e5 28.Nxb6 Qe6 29.Qc4

Trying to trade the queens in order to minimize the threats from the kingside.

29...Qe7 30.Bxe5 Ne4 31.Bxg7 Kxg7 32.Nd5 Qe6 33.b6 Raa8 34.Nc7 Qg6 35.Nh4

My opponent kept threatening from the kingside, so I had to trade some pieces before taking one of the rooks.

35...Qf6 36.Nxf5+ Qxf5 37.Qd4+ f6 38.Nxe8+ Rxe8 39.Qd7+ Kg6 40.Qxf5+ Kxf5 41.c7

1-0

Michael Hosford (1821) –  
Ademidun Adebolu (1773) [D95]  
Oregon Class Championships  
(R3), November 2, 2024  
[Wilson Gibbins]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3

Looks like it will be a conservative Colle System, but

3...g6 4.c4

Michael switches to the more challenging "Sneaky Grunfeld" line recommended by Axel Smith in the book *e3 Poison*.

4...c6 5.Nc3

Transposing to the Schlechter Variation of the Grunfeld. Modern opening theory

requires players to be prepared to play many different systems.

5...Bg7 6.Qb3 0-0 7.Bd2 dxc4 8.Bxc4 b5 9.Be2 a5 10.0-0 Bf5 11.Nh4 Be6 12.Qd1 Nbd7 13.Nf3 Nb6 14.Ne5 Qd6 15.Bf3 Nfd5

Covers the attack of White's bishop on the c6-pawn but allows White's knight on c3 to get active. White has a positional edge.

16.Ne4 Qc7 17.Nd3 Bf5 18.Nec5 Bxd3 19.Nxd3 Nc4 20.Rc1 Qb6 21.a4 Rfd8 22.b3 Nxd2 23.Qxd2 e5!?

An imaginative attempt to break White's bind on the position.

24.Nxe5! Bxe5 25.dxe5 Nb4 26.Qc3 Rd3



Position after 26...Rd3

27.Qc5

Better are 27.Qb2; and 27.Qa1!? so if 27...Rxb3? then 28.e6! fxe6 29.Qf6 Re8 30.Bg4 gives White a big advantage as his queen and bishop are sufficient for an unstoppable attack. If Black plays 30...c5 to defend his pawn on e6, then White can bring up the reserves with 31.Rfd1 (or play the show-off line 31.Rxc5 Qxc5 32.Bxe6+ Rxe6 33.Qxe6+ Kg7 34.Qxb3).

27...Qxc5 28.Rxc5 bxa4 29.bxa4 Ra3 30.g3 Nd3

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30...Ra7 avoids White's trick and is close to equality.

**31.Rxc6!± Nxe5!**

The best defense

**32.Rxg6+! hxc6 33.Bxa8 Rxa4 34.Bd5**

White is better, but there is still a lot of work left to do in this endgame. Black's passed a-pawn gives him chances, and White's pawn formation makes it difficult to create a passed pawn.

**34...Rb4 35.Rc1 g5 36.f4**

Getting a passed pawn, but a step in the wrong direction. Black gets some play against White's kingside pawns and king itself.

**36...gxf4 37.exf4 Ng4**



Position after 37...Ng4

**38.Rc8+**

38.Bf3! White needs to drive Black's knight off the g4 square.

**38...Kg7 39.Bf3**

It isn't as effective as it was the move before, as Black can check on White's back rank and win a pawn.

**39...Rb1+ 40.Kg2 Rb2+ 41.Kh3 Nxb2= 42.Bg2 Ng4! 43.Kxg4 Rxg2 44.Ra8 Ra2**

Black has a draw, even if he loses his passed a-pawn.

**45.Kg5 Ra3 46.g4 a4 47.Ra7 Ra1 48.f5 Rf1**

Stockfish agrees—it is time for Black to give up his a-pawn and draw the pawn-down rook ending. But Black will have to be alert and look for opportunities to reach Philidor's position.

**49.Rxa4 f6+ 50.Kh4 Kh6 51.Ra8 Rh1+ 52.Kg3 Rg1+ 53.Kf3 53...Kg5?**

Tempting, but losing. 53...Kg7= is the most logical.; 53...Kh7= also draws, Black's king is close enough to defend his f pawn.; 53...Rf1+? 54.Kg2 Re1 55.Rg8! wins Black's f-pawn.

**54.Rg8+ Kh4**

54...Kh6 55.Rg6+ Kh7 56.Rxf6+-

**55.Rh8+ Kg5 56.Rh5#**

1-0

**Hung Le (1739) –  
Yian Lin (1790) [D13]**  
Oregon Class Championships  
(R3), November 2, 2024  
[Yian Lin]

**1.c4 c6**

I don't have theory for 1.c4, so I try to transpose it to a Slav, which I do have theory for.

**2.d4 d5 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bf4 e6 7.e3 Be7 8.h3 0-0 9.Bd3 a6 10.a3 Na5 11.Qc2?!**

I feel the queen is misplaced here, but the engine seems to be indifferent.

**11...b5 12.0-0 Bb7 13.Rfc1 Rc8 14.b4 Nc4 15.Qe2**

The game has been roughly equalized here. I didn't like 15.Ne4! due to 16.Bxe4 dxe4 17.Nd2, forcing my Nc4 to trade, but here this is the tactic 17...Nxa3!, winning material.

**15...h6 16.Ne5 Bd6 17.Bxc4?±**

The first mistake. White allows my light-squared bishop to come to life, while giving me the bishop pair.

**17...dxc4 18.e4 Qc7**

Knowing that the opponent doesn't have many options, I take it slow and try to force him to make concessions.

**19.Bg3 Qb6**

Forcing the rook to relinquish the defense of the knight.

**20.Rd1**



Position after 20.Rd1

**20...a5**

Trying to create a breakthrough on the queenside, where I have the pawn majority. Taking it slow with 20...Rfd8 would've been better, to strengthen the Bd6 and the square d7.

**21.Rab1?**


White could've retained equality with 21.Bh4, or 21.bxa5.

**21...axb4 22.axb4 Ra8**

Taking the file.

**23.f4**

This move sparks my opponent's downfall, as he weakens his king and lets my rook in, while pinning d4 to the king.



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### 23...Ra3 24.Be1 Rd8

Sacrificing was possible, but due to a lack of confidence and time to calculate deeply, I decided against it.

### 25.Nxc4

Lashing out. This tactical sequence unfortunately does not bear fruit for my opponent, as it lets too many pieces attack d4, culminating in a loss of material.

### 25...bxc4 26.e5 Be7 27.exf6 Bxf6 28.Kh1

Kh2 was better, as it prevents White from defending 28...Rxd4 with 29.Qf2.

### 28...Rxd4 29.Rxd4 Bxd4 30.Qxc4 e5

Opening the sixth rank for my queen to rotate to.

### 31.fxe5 Bxc3 32.Bxc3 Qg6

While not as good as 32...Qe3!, this move still forces White to find the combination 33.Rb2 Qg3 34.Rc2, and even then it is completely losing for White.

### 33.Rb2 Qg3 34.Bd4

Blundering mate. My opponent had five minutes or so at this move.

### 34...Ra1+ 35.Bg1 Qxh3#

0-1

**William Dwyer (1748) –  
Eli Dollinger (1728) [D36]**  
Oregon Class Championships  
(R4), November 3, 2024  
*[Eli Dollinger]*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.cxd5 exd5 4.Nc3 Nf6  
5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 c6 8.Bd3 Ne4  
9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Qc2 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Qg5  
12.Kf1

I went 11...Qg5 because I felt it would induce a weakness I could exploit. I was expecting 12.g3 or 12.f4. 12.Kf1 feels wrong to me. The engine says the move

is fine, but from a human perspective it makes White's position look a bit awkward.

### 12...0-0 13.Nf3 Qf6 14.Rb1 Nd7 15.a4

I don't like this move for White. It gives me a weakness to target, and it feels too slow.

### 15...c5

Given the slightly precarious position of the white king, I decided opening the center was to my advantage.

### 16.Bf5 b6



Position after 16...b6

### 17.e4

I dislike this move because, 1) It reduces the flexibility of the white bishop; and 2) It opens the center (which is to my advantage).

### 17...g6

White is forced to either move the bishop to a more passive square or trade itself for the knight.

### 18.Bxd7 Bxd7 19.e5

19.exd5 could not be played due to 19...Bf5.

### 19...Qf4 20.h3 cxd4

20...Bf5 fails to 21.Qc1. I played 21...cxd4 to open up the file.

### 21.cxd4

I believe this move was a mistake. 21.Rb4 was better.

### 21...Rac8 22.Qb3 Rc4

Attacking the a-pawn and preparing to double the rooks.

### 23.g3 Qf5 24.Ra1 Rfc8

Threatening a fork.

### 25.Qe3

I saw in this position a way to transition into a winning endgame.

### 25...Rc3 26.Nh4

This move is the only way to not lose a piece outright.

### 26...Qxh3+ 27.Rxh3 Bxh3+ 28.Kg1

28.Ke2 was better.

### 28...Rxe3 29.fxe3 Rc2

Activating the rook.

### 30.a5 g5 31.axb6 axb6 32.Ng6

I think 32.Nf3 was a little better, but still losing due to 32...Rg2+.

### 32...fxg6 33.Rb1 Rc6 34.e4 Be6 35.Rb5 dxe4 36.d5 Rc5

Either going into a winning rook and bishop vs rook endgame or liquidating into a winning pawn endgame. My opponent resigned.

0-1

**Abraham Tebbe (1546) –  
Elijah Barish (1398) [E11]**  
Oregon Class Championships  
(R3), November 2, 2024  
*[Elijah Barish]*

This was the third G/90;+10 game I had played that day, and it started at 6:00 PM. I am proud of my play against a much



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higher-rated opponent. Even though I nearly let the win slip, I was able to push through the fatigue to win the game, though not exactly with a steady hand. This game also put me back in competition after a difficult first round loss.

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.c4 Bb4+**

This is now a Bogo-Indian, but by an unusual move order. In the Bogo, Black plans on exchanging their dark-squared "good bishop" on either d2 or c3. Then Black will push ...d6 and ...e5 and put all their pawns on dark squares to improve their remaining bishop. The Bogo is mostly sound, but Black must be careful lest White be able to make use of their bishop pair.

**4.Bd2 Qe7 5.a3 Bxd2+ 6.Nbxd2**

Most players recapture with 6.Qxd2 and develop their knight to c3, but my opponent seemed to be a bit confused and was likely out of prep by now.

**6...d6 7.e4 e5**

This ...e5 push, which is a central theme in the Bogo, is right on time, as 8.e5 cannot be allowed. This also threatens 8...exd4 9.cxd4 Nxe4, winning a pawn.

**8.d5 0-0**

I was happy with my position here. Normally, White refrains from pushing d5, and Black must either force d5 with the weakening ...c5 or play without a good square for the b8-knight. Now, I get the c5 square for their knight.

**9.Bd3 Bg4**

This gets the bishop out of the way so I can play ...Nbd7.

**10.h3 Bh5 11.g4 Bg6**

White will win Black's light-squared bishop, but at the cost of mutilating their kingside pawn structure.

**12.h4 h6?!**

This is overly passive. Stronger was 12...h5!

**13.h5 Bh7 14.Nh4?!**

14.g5 hxg5

**14...Nbd7 15.Nf5 Bxf5 16.gxf5**

Now Black has lost the bishop pair and White has a semi-open file against Black's king. The only reason Black is still in the game is that with no g-pawn, White cannot pawn-storm the black king. In addition, Black's knight will be much better than the pathetic excuse for a bishop on d3. For these reasons, Black is equal or even slightly better.

**16...Nc5 17.Bc2 Nh7**

I am going to put my knight on g5.

**18.b4 Nd7 19.Nf3 Ng5 20.Rg1?**

20.Nxg5! Qxg5

**20...Nxf3+?!**

I missed 20...Nh3! when the knight gets a phenomenal outpost on f4. Still, my opponent made several subpar moves leading up to this, and I am slightly better despite missing a golden opportunity.

**21.Qxf3 a5!?**



*Position after 21...a5*

I am very proud of this move, no matter what the engine says. If 22.b5, my

knight gets a permanent outpost on c5. If 22.bxa5, I get a semi-open file attacking an isolated pawn, and White's chances of getting the other rook into the attack via queenside castling are gone.

If 22. 0-0-0, as happened in the game, I get an open a-file. This may not seem like much, but it turns out to be very important in the game. However, the computer claims that 22.Ba4, which both me and my opponent missed, equalizes for White.

**22.0-0-0?! axb4 23.axb4 Qf6**

This move locks my queen up defending g7, but this is only temporary, and I can maneuver my knight to g5 via Nf8-h7.

**24.Rg3 Kh8 25.Rdg1 Rg8**

Now White's attack has fizzled out, and I will have a good square for my knight in addition to that open a-file.

**26.Kb2 Nf8**

There is nothing my opponent can do to stop my knight from going to g5.

**27.Qe3 Nh7 28.Ra1 Rxa1 29.Kxa1 Ra8+**

Maintaining my death grip on the a-file.

**30.Kb2 Ng5?!**

30...Qd8 31.Rg1

**31.Rg1 Qd8**

I may want to reroute my queen at some point in the future, and this move also defends the a8 rook.

**32.f4?**

But after White's best move 32.Ra1 Black still stands significantly better-WG

**32...exf4 33.Qc3**

If 33.Qxf4? Black wins by 33...Nh3

**33...Qe7 34.Rg4 Qe5**

If White exchanges on e5, my f4 pawn

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will be protected and the rest will just be a matter of technique.

### 35.Bb1 Ra4

Threatening 36...Rxb4+! exploiting the pin on the queen.

### 36.Kc2 Qxe4+

A very risky decision in an important game, but it was hard to keep a steady hand at 8:00 PM while winning against an opponent 150 rating points higher than me.

### 37.Kb3



Position after 37.Kb3

### 37...Qxb1+!

I was debating whether to play this or 37...Rxb4+, but I figured that I would get three pawns for the exchange either way, and this way I would open the king to attack more.

### 38.Kxa4 Qa2+

Winning another pawn, as 39.Kb5?? Qa6#.

### 39.Qa3 Qxc4 40.Qb2 b5+ 41.Ka5 Qxd5

I thought for some time about this move, and though I didn't want to give up my passed pawn, I couldn't see any other way to make progress.

### 42.Rxf4 Qc6?!

This threatens 43...Qb6#, but 42...Qb7 would have been better, as it prevents Qa7 and gives the black knight a lethal square on c6.

### 43.Qd4 f6

This does damage my pawn structure, but my plan was to end the game with Nf7-e5-c4+.

### 44.Rg4 Nf7

The inexorable march of the knight begins.

### 45.Qa7 Ne5?

This is perfectly natural, but it allows

White a chance to save himself. Still, this was very difficult to see, and I do not fault my opponent for not seeing it.

### 46.Qb8+ Kh7 47.Rh4?

The only saving move was the incredible 47.Rxg7+ with the idea of 47...Kxg7 48.Qg8+! Kxg8 stalemate. 48.Qh8+! Kf7 49.Qf8+! Kxf8 and 48.Qf8+! Kh7 49.Qf7+!! Nxf7 also lead to stalemate, but they use the same idea as the first line. This double kamikaze sacrifice looks like something straight out of a puzzle book, and I distinctly remember it being labeled as a "very rare motif" in Murray Chandler's *Chess Tactics for Kids*. Even my coach didn't find it, and I doubt most players could in a practical game, when there is no "White to move and draw" attached to the board.

### 47...Nc4+! 48.Rxc4 bxc4 49.b5 Qb6+

This is the quickest way to end the game.

### 50.Qxb6 cxb6+ 51.Kb4

Checkmate is now unavoidable. Kxb6 was best. If 51.Kxb6 Black wins the pawn race after 51...c3 52.Ka7 c2 53.b6 c1Q 54.b7 and the queen versus pawn is so winning that you can even sacrifice the queen for the b7-pawn. It seems like my opponent was hoping I had overlooked his 51st move, which I had briefly calculated, but even if I had, the solution is obvious.

### 51...d5

There is no hope left for White, as if he takes the d5-pawn, the pawn on c4 will promote. Therefore, he resigned.

0-1

John Barrett –  
Mihir Palan (1025) [D33]  
Oregon Class Championships  
(R2), November 2, 2024  
[Wilson Gibbins]

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5  
3.Bg2 Nf6 4.d4 c5  
5.cxd5 exd5 6.Nc3  
Nc6 7.Nf3 Ne4?!

A little risky, moving a piece twice in the opening. 7...Be7 was once the automatic move in the Tarrasch Defense, but; 7...cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 is having a moment.

### 8.Nxe4?

The risk pays off. The calm 8.0-0, ignoring the knight, maintains the advantage for White.

### 8...dxe4 9.Ng5 Qxd4 10.Qb3?

Tempting, but it doesn't quite work. 10.Nxe4 Qxd1+ 11.Kxd1 is roughly equal.

### 10...c4! 11.Qa4 b5!?



Position after 11...b5

Trying to divert White's queen from the defense of the d1-square. 11...Bb4+ 12.Kf1 f5 is simpler. Mihir's move is more fun.

### 12.Qxb5?

But 12.Qc2 Bb4+ 13.Bd2 Bxd2+ 14.Qxd2 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 f5 is winning for White.

### 12...Bb4+ 13.Bd2

13.Kf1 Qd1# demonstrates the value of 11...b5!?

### 13...Qxd2+ 14.Kf1 Bd7 15.Nxe4 Rb8

15...Qxe2+ 16.Kxe2 Nd4+

16.Qxc4 Qxb2 17.Rd1 0-0 18.Bf3 Bh3+ 19.Bg2 Bxg2+ 20.Kxg2 Ne5 21.Qc7 Rbc8 22.Qxa7 Qxe2 23.Qb7 Rb8 24.Qd5 Rfe8 25.Rc1 Ng4 26.Rc4 Ne3+ 27.Kh3 Nxd5 28.Rhc1 Rxe4 29.Rc8+ Rxc8 30.Rxc8+ Bf8 31.a4 Qf1#

0-1

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# **PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLASTIC**

## CHESS TOURNAMENT



President's Day Monday, February 17, 2025  
Chinook Middle School  
2001 98<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

### FORMAT

A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss in 7 sections:

**Kindergarten**  
**1-2 U700**  
**3-4 U800**  
**5-12 U1000**  
**1-3 Open**  
**4-6 Open**  
**7-12 Open**

Dual NWSRS and US Chess rated, with US Chess membership required. Establish or update your national rating! Chess clocks will be used from the beginning in all games. Chess notation required in all sections except for Kindergarten, 1-2 U700 and 3-4 U800. All equipment is provided courtesy of WCF.

### SCHEDULE

Rounds: 9:15am, 10:45am, Lunch Time, 12:30pm, 1:45pm, 3:00pm. Awards presentation ~ 4:30pm or asap.

### ELIGIBILITY

Open to all students in grades K-12. Out-of-state players welcome!

### ENTRY FEE

\$50 by Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, \$60 after. Room for 250 players.

### AWARDS

**Section Prizes:** Amazon e-gift cards awarded in each section:  
1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>: \$70-65-60-55-50.

**Team Prizes:** Plaques awarded to: The top 5 finishing teams (top 4 scores from same school comprise team score) across all sections. The team that brings the most players across all sections wins an exclusive lesson with NM & WCF President Josh Sinanan.

**Special Prizes (per section):** Medals for first-time players, best female player (by TPR), best dressed, best sportsmanship, and biggest upset win.

### RATING

Higher of US Chess February regular or current NWSRS rating used to determine section and pairings.

### THE DETAILS

#### Online Registration:

[NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/](http://NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/)  
Pay by  
Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

For credit, debit, and PayPal payments, a processing fee of 4% will be added on, so consider saving by using Zelle or SettleKing instead.

**100% pre-registered, no on-site entries or payments. Entry + payment deadline Sun. Feb. 16th @ 5:00pm.** Unpaid players by the deadline will be withdrawn from the tournament.

#### WA State Elementary Qualifier!

This event is a qualifier for the WA State Elementary Championship on April 26, 2025, in Tacoma. Players scoring 3.0+ points will qualify for the Championship sections of State.

Pizza lunch and other concessions will be available for purchase on site.

**Questions?** Rekha Sagar, WCF Vice President: [rekha4chess@gmail.com](mailto:rekha4chess@gmail.com)



# 2025 Western States Regional Chess Championship for Girls & Women



## Format

A regional tournament open to all female chess players in three sections.

## Megan Lee Championship

A 5-round, G/60; +30 Swiss over two days (Sat-Sun). Tri-rated in NWSRS, US Chess, and FIDE. Rds.: Sat. @ OCA Seattle: 9am, 1pm, 5pm. Sun. @ Chinook: 9am, 4:30pm. Awards ~ 7:30pm.

## Divya Deshmukh U1300

A 1-day, 5-round, G/40; +5 Swiss. NWSRS & US Chess dual rated. Rds.: Sun. @ Chinook: 9am, 10:45am, 1pm, 4:30pm, 6pm. Awards ~ 7:30pm.

## Carissa Yip U700

A 1-day, 5-round, G/25; +5 Swiss. NWSRS & US Chess dual rated. Rds.: Sun. @ Chinook: 9am, 10:30am, 1pm, 4:30pm, 6pm. Awards ~ 7:30pm.

**Prize Fund: \$2,500** (Guaranteed, thanks to generous grants and donations from US Chess & My Chess World.)

## Championship:

1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>: \$400, \$260, \$180  
1<sup>st</sup> U1800/U1600/U1400: \$60

## U1300:

1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>: \$180, \$140, \$110  
1<sup>st</sup> U1200/U1000/U800: \$60

## U700:

1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>: \$140, \$110, \$80  
1<sup>st</sup> U600/U400/U200/unrated: \$60

## Special Prizes (per section):

Biggest Upset Win: \$10/round  
Best Dressed: \$10  
Best Etiquette: \$10  
Kindness & Spreading Joy: \$10  
Best Mother/Daughter Team: \$20

Sat-Sun, April 12-13, 2025

Sat - Orlov Chess Academy - Seattle  
7212 Woodlawn Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Sun - Chinook Middle School  
2001 98<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004



**Entry Fee:** \$50 if postmarked or online by 4/5, \$60 after. Free entry for WGMs, WIMs, WFM, and US Chess 2000+. Maximum of 30 players in Championship section and 150 players total, please register early.

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

**Rating:** Highest of April US Chess or current NWSRS rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

**Memberships:** US Chess membership required. Membership must be paid at the time of registration.

## WA State Elementary Qualifier!

**Registration:** [nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration](http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration)

Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

**Registration and payment deadline: Fri. 4/11 @ 5pm.**

For credit, debit, and PayPal payments, a processing fee of 4% will be added on, so please consider saving by using Zelle or SettleKing instead. Payment is also available via Zelle (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com).

**Info/Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

**Mail To:** Washington Chess Federation, c/o Orlov Chess Academy - 4174 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Building I, Suite M, Redmond, WA 98052.

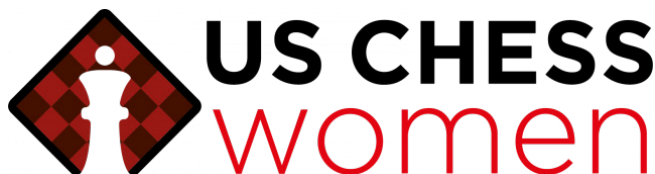
**Contact:** Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757,  
[washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com)

## Fun Side Events!

**Workshop for Girls and Women:** Sun @ 12-1pm.  
Includes complementary pizza lunch!

**FM Megan Lee Simul:** Sun @ 2:15-3:45pm.  
EF: \$25. Max 25 players, please register early.

**Puzzle Solving Competition:** Sun @ 4-4:30pm. EF: \$10.



# TOURNAMENTS



## Venue

**7212 Woodlawn Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115**

Info & events calendar  
[www.seattlechess.club](http://www.seattlechess.club)

Entries & inquiries  
SCC Tournament Director  
same address as above  
– or –

[contact@seattlechess.club](mailto:contact@seattlechess.club)

## January 4

**Format:** 3-round round-robin. 4-player sections by close rating. **Time Control:** Game/100 + 15 sec. increment. **Entry fee:** \$15 (+\$10 day membership for non-SCC). **Prizes:** winner of each 4-player quad wins free entry to next Quads played within 3 months. **Registration:** 9:15-9:45am. **Rounds:** 10am, 2:15 & 6:30pm. **Byes:** 0. US Chess membership req'd.

## January Quads

## January 11-12

See below.

## 2025 Seattle City Championship

## January 3, 10, 17, 24

One US Chess-rated round per Friday night, 4 rounds per month, at 7:30pm. **Time Control:** 40 moves/90 minutes w/10 sec. increment, followed by sudden death 60 minutes w/10 sec. increment. **Entry:** Free for SCC members, \$5/night others. Drop in for any round!

## January Thaw

## January 31

4 or 5 rounds depending on turnout, beginning at 7:30pm. **TC:** Game15, no increment. **Entry:** Free for SCC members, \$5 others. US Chess Quick rated.

## Fifth Friday G/15



## 2025 SEATTLE CITY CHAMPIONSHIP JANUARY 11-12, 2025

A 5-round Swiss in 1 section with time control of Game75 with 30-second increment

**Prize fund: \$1500** based on 40 paid entries, 3 per prize group.

<b>FIRST</b>	<b>\$450</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>\$350</b>	<b>U1800</b>	<b>\$240</b>
<b>U1600</b>	<b>\$190</b>	<b>U1400</b>	<b>\$140</b>	<b>U1200/UNR</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>BIGGEST UPSET WIN, RDS 1-3 \$10</b>					

- **Entry fees** by 1/6: SCC and Seattle University CC members \$70, others \$80. After 1/6 add \$10.
- **Rounds:** Saturday 10am, 2 & 6pm; Sunday 11am & 3pm. **Registration:** 9:00-9:45am.
- **Venue:** Seattle University, Advancement & Alumni Bldg., 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. & E. Marion St., Seattle 98122.
- **Byes:** 1 half-point bye available. Commit at registration for Sunday rounds.
- **Max 48 seats.** Sign up at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration>. US Chess membership required.

**We encourage the winners of SCC 2-day tournaments during 2024 to participate:** 2024 City Champion *Leonid Gavrysh*; Winter Adult Swiss, Spring Adult Swiss & Spring Open *Aziz Degenbaev*; Carol Kleist Memorial Adult Swiss *Paul Bartron, Paul Harwood, Michael Hosford & David Rupel*; Emerald City Open *Ryan Ackerman, Rafael Palathingal & Leonardo Wang*; Seafair Open *Aziz Degenbaev & Ray Kaufman*; Fall Open *Darsh Verma*; Autumn Adult Swiss *Bental Tagor*; August Piper Memorial Adult Swiss *Gerald Larson & Peter Yu*; and 2024 Friday Night Champion *Jason Loving*.



# 12th Annual Reno Larry Evans Memorial Open

Apr 18-20 or Apr 19-20, 2025, 3 Day or 2 Day Schedule

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**Open Section (2200 & above) EF:** \$194, (2000-2199) \$250, (1999/below) \$300; GMs and IMs free but must enter by 3/21 or pay late fee at door. Guaranteed Prizes: (1-7 in Open Section plus 1/2 of all other prizes).

**Open Section** \$2,000 - 1,000 - 900 - 800 - 700 - 600 - 500, (2399/below) \$1,000 - \$500, (2299/below) \$1,000 - \$500 (If there is a tie for 1st then a playoff for \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy).

**Section Expert** (2000-2199) EF: \$194 (2-day EF: \$190) \$2,000-1,000-500-300-200

**Section "A"** (1800-1999) EF: \$193 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,800-900-500-300-200

**Section "B"** (1600-1799) EF: \$192 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,700-800-400-300-200

**Section "C"** (1400-1599) EF: \$191 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,500-700-400-300-200

**Section "D/Under"** (1399-below) EF: \$180 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,000-500-300-200, (1199/below) \$400-200-100

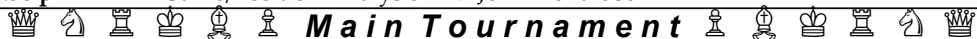
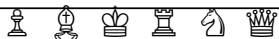
**Top Senior (65+) - \$200; Club Championship - \$600 - 300.**

**Wed. 4/16: 7:00 pm - GM Sergey Kudrin Clock Simul w/ complete analysis of YOUR Game (Only \$30!-bring clock)**

**Thursday 4/17: 6 - 7:15 pm - Lecture by IM John Donaldson (FREE)**

**7:30 pm - GM Enrico Sevillano Simul (\$20); Blitz (G/5 d0) Tourney \$25 - 80% of entries = Prize Fund**

**Saturday 4/19: 3 - 4:30 pm - FREE Game/Position Analysis - IM John Donaldson**

 **Main Tournament** 

**Registration: Thursday (4/17) 5 - 8 pm. - Friday (4/18) 9 - 10 am. - Saturday (4/19) 9 - 10 am.**

**Round Times: (3-day Schedule) Friday - 12 Noon - 7 pm; Saturday - 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday - 9 am - 4 pm (2-day Schedule) Sat.- Rd 1 - 10:30 am, Rd 2 - 12:45 pm, Rd 3 - 3 pm, Rd 4 merge with regular schedule - 6 pm**

**For more information: Call, Write or E-mail Organizer and Chief TD, N.T.D. Jerome (Jerry) Weikel, (H) 775-747-1405 OR (Cell) 775-354-8728 • 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 • wackyykl@aol.com**

**Room Reservation: Call J Resort Reno, 1-866-386-7829, Group Reservation Code: CHESS 2025**

**Hotel Rates: Sunday-Thursday \$104.01, Friday-Saturday \$138.06, all taxes and fees included. Reserve by 4/9**

**For TLA and to confirm receipt of entry see player list at: [www.renochess.org](http://www.renochess.org)**

**ENTRY FORM - 12th Annual Larry Evans Memorial Open - Reno, Nevada - Apr 18-20 OR Apr 19-20, 2025**

Mail to: WEIKEL CHESS LLC, 6578 Valley Wood Drive, Reno NV 89523

PRINT Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ USCF Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

USCF ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ All pre-registered players check in at TD desk on arrival.

ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED: (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW) BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUND(S): (circle) 

1	2	3	4	5	6
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<b>2-Day EF</b>	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	USCF Dues
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**FEES ALSO ENCLOSED FOR:**

- \$30 Wed. Clock Simul GM Kudrin
- \$20 Thu. Simul GM Sevillano
- \$25 Thursday Blitz (G/5 d0)
- \$20 Discount - Sr 65+ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**POSTMARK BY March 21, 2025.** Add \$11 after 3/21. Add \$22 on site.

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