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Ads and submissions must be received by the fifth of the
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Front Cover

Pi Nouveau. Two thousand miles in the rearview, twenty
feet to go. The 2026 US Open awaits just across the street.
Photo credit: Sujoy Chowdhury.

Back Cover

Sacred ground for grandmasters and novices alike. A young
chess pilgrim (Pi Nouveau) stands in awe at the chess
temple for the 2026 US Open, the DeVos Place, Grand
Rapids, Michigan.

Photo credit: Sujoy Chowdhury.

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
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or via e-mail to:

editor@nwchess.com

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Washington's Newest National Master!

News Flash!

Josh Sinanan

News Flash!



*William Summerfield.
Photo credit Steven Summerfield.*

Congratulations to William Summerfield of Mercer Island, Washington, who recently became Washington State's newest National Master!

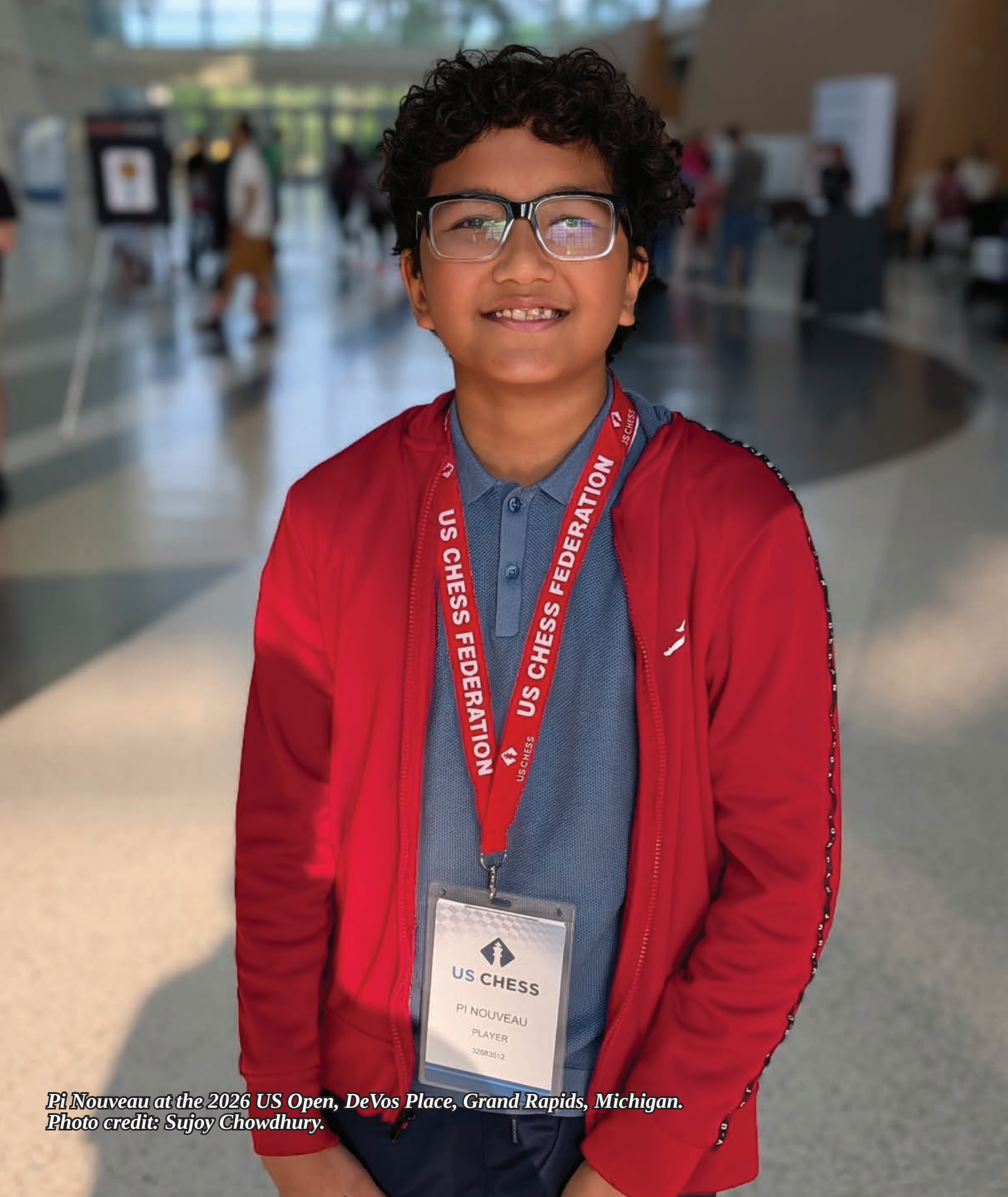
To achieve the title, William strung together a brilliant set of performances in the span of just two weeks playing in local events hosted in the Seattle/Bellevue area!

Summerfield gained momentum at the August 15-16 Bellevue Chess Classic, where he finished undefeated with wins against Bayrambeyli (1877), Dhingra (1993), and Lim (2089) in addition to draws against Joseph (2030), Wang (1922), and GM Belous (2536): <https://ratings.uschess.org/event/202608160733>

He then continued his amazing streak with two wins and a draw at the August 22 Seattle Chess Club Quads with victories against Palathingal (2172) and Kaelin (2031) and a draw against Joseph (2040): <https://ratings.uschess.org/event/202608220633?section=1>

To clinch the National Master title, William achieved a USCF rating of 2200 as a result of drawing two games and winning one at the August 29th Grand Knights Saturday Quads with an undefeated 2/3 score. Here is a link to the Grand Knights Saturday Quads crosstable: <https://ratings.uschess.org/event/202608290933?section=2>

Congratulations William!



*Pi Nouveau at the 2026 US Open, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
Photo credit: Sujoy Chowdhury.*

Reflections of a First-Time US Open Player

Pi Nouveau (Fifth Grader)

Hi! Have you wondered what it's like to play in the US National Open? Well, I did too! Until like a month ago, when despite only being a USCF 974-rated player, I got an opportunity to play there. Before the trip I was really excited because this would be my first time flying to a chess tournament.

My dad told me that we were going to Grand Rapids, Michigan about a week before the tournament was about to start. I figured my dad really wanted to give me some experiences that I could not possibly have gotten simply by playing at the local tournaments. I now understand why my dad took me to the Nationals. There are so many different things I learned, and new experiences I went through, that I don't know where to begin. When I arrived at the DeVos Convention Center, the playing halls were the largest venues where I have ever played. The main event had nine rounds, but there were a ton of side events.

During my trip to the 2026 US Open, I learned a lot and had a lot of experiences. Starting off with playing the bughouse. You can expect to get plenty of breaks between your games at the US Open, even if you played in the most time-compressed version of the US Open (i.e the four-day format). Out of the many rooms in the DeVos Convention Center there were only two rooms for analysis (skittles). But people still found ways to play chess. On my second day I noticed that some people were playing chess on the floor without a board. That just shows you how passionate people are about chess. One thing I really liked during the US Open was the Chess Control booth.

Chess Control is basically an information center and a place where you collect the trophies/prize-money you have won during the main event or side events. It is also the place where you collect your badge. At big events like this, you get a badge to show you are a player and not an unauthorized guest. I think another reason they give you badges is to have a souvenir to take home.

The reason I spent so much time at Chess Control is because of the puzzles. I made a friend who ran the Chess Control desk, and he had a board where he always

set up puzzles. I had spent so much time there that at one point he first printed me a badge that said "LEAVE ME ALONE." He also printed me a second badge later. He told me not to read the badge, wait until 10:00 PM that day and that I couldn't come to him before I did that. Forgive me but I am a ten-year-old kid and I did open it before 10:00 PM. Well it said, "I knew you were gonna read this." So obviously I immediately confronted him, and all he said was "I knew you were gonna read this before 10:00 PM." We had a laugh about it afterwards.



*Pi Nouveau with two rare USCF souvenir badges from the 2026 US Open.
Photo credit: Sujoy Chowdhury.*



Which pawn to push? Pi Nouveau vs Akshita Sondkar at the 2026 US Open — National Scholastic Championship (Elementary Under 1000 section). Photo credit: Sujoy Chowdhury.

On my third day at the US Open, I played in the National Blitz tournament. The blitz was really fun because you got to play 14 games (seven double rounds). Since there were so many people, each round took around 30 minutes. That left a lot of time to play blitz and bughouse on the extra boards.

One of the highlights of my trip was playing “one second two delay” with FM Stephen Willy. When I play blitz, I usually play it for fun. One thing I will try differently in future games is try to not

make any illegal moves. I am fine with flagging as long as I am thinking, because when you are making illegal moves it is indicating that you are not thinking. During the US Open National Blitz tournament I made three illegal moves. One of them was where I had seven seconds on the clock and was winning, but I didn’t see my opponent had put me in check. The other two were both pins on the f-pawn and I didn’t see the pin and I recaptured a piece with the f-pawn and they captured my king. One tip I

learned from my games was to make moves that don’t hurt your position (i.e. h3, h6, a3). This tip really helped me put some higher-rated opponents in time pressure and most of them led to me winning.

As the tournament went on, I learned some valuable lessons. Some of them were from my own games and others were from my peers. One of the lessons I learned was finding three candidate moves and calculating the full line for each candidate move. I found this method helpful because I usually only think of one move, then I get over confident. When I get overconfident about a move, I make blunders. I found this pretty helpful even in my Rapid and Blitz games.

On my first day at the US Open, I signed up for a daily Quad (it was a side-event). The last round of that Quad conflicted with the first round of the main event of the US Open I was participating in. So, I requested a Bye at the Quad, so that I could play the first round at the main event. I learned at that point that there were no Byes allowed for the Quad, so I had to accept a ‘Bye’ at the first round of the US Open instead.

After the Quads, I played some Blitz games in the skittles room. Since I had to take a ‘Bye’ for the first round of the main event, I had a lot of time left.

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A lesson in off-the-board strategy: Learning to think sideways for Chess and Life, with WGM Jennifer Shahade. Photo credit: Sujoy Chowdhury.

In the second round (which was the first official game in the main event), I had a close game with a 1900-rated player. In the end, my opponent won because of a strong passed-pawn. In the third round, my opponent was a 1700+ rated player. I didn't get scared, and I WON! You can see how happy I was by looking at my use of capital letters. An annotated version of that game is covered at the Chess Friends

column of the current issue.

My win taught me an important lesson: never over/under estimate your opponent. I took part in the US Open Scholastic tournament, which was a side event. On the day of that Scholastic event, I was a bit nervous. I was playing in the U1000 section and I was the second-highest-rated player in my section, however, we should never judge our

opponent by their rating. For example, in the first round of the scholastic event, I was against a 500-rated player and I was the one who lost a minor piece first!

I did go on to win the game later on, but that's not the point. I did something very wrong and that was underestimating my opponent and judging them by their rating.

Something I noticed while watching the top players play was that they were very focused. As I watched GM Jianchao Zhou play, it appeared to me that he wouldn't notice even if an earthquake occurred. Or maybe he would notice but he would not care.

The Scholastic side-event ended up being a great tournament for me. I had a rough start but went on to win all four games. At the award ceremony I tied for first place as co-champion and got a big trophy. After the tournament ended, we went back to the hotel. While winning the big trophy was fun, an even more exciting part was the disassembly of it. We had to find a Stanley wrench at a nearby store. We took the whole trophy apart in the middle of the store! We had to take the trophy apart because it wouldn't fit in our carry-ons. If we took it by hand, we were worried that the airport security might not let us bring it to Seattle.

In conclusion, it was an amazing trip and I had some awesome experiences. I got to play a lot of chess, make a lot of friends and fly back with a big trophy.



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Washington Women's Championship



SAT-SUN, OCTOBER 17-18, 2026

HOTEL 116 BELLEVUE

625 116TH AVE NE, BELLEVUE, WA 98004

Highest Finishing WA Resident in the Polgar section becomes WA State Women's Champion and is seeded into 2027 WA State Championship, Invitational section. If there's a tie for 1st place, G/90 playoff games will be played later in the year.

Format: A Swiss-style tournament in four sections. Sections with <6 players may be merged.

Polgar Championship: A 5-Round, G/90; +30 Swiss over two days (Sat-Sun). Tri-rated in NWSRS, USCF, and FIDE. Rounds: Saturday: 9:30am, 2pm, 6:30pm. Sunday: 10am, 3pm. Awards ~ 7:30pm.

Wenjun U1300: A 6-Round G/75; +10 Swiss over two days (Sat-Sun). Dual NWSRS + USCF rated. Rounds: Saturday: 9:30am, 1pm, 4:30pm. Sunday: 10am, 1:30pm, 5pm. Awards + **Workshop for Women & Girls** ~ 8pm.

Yip U700: A 1-day, 5-Round G/25; +5 Swiss. Dual NWSRS + USCF rated. Rounds: Sunday: 10am, 11am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 2:30pm. Awards ~ 3:45pm.

Botez Casual: A 1-day, 4-Round G/30; +10 Swiss. Open to players unrated – 999. Unrated; no memberships are required. Rounds: Saturday: 11am, 1pm, 2:30pm, 4pm. Awards ~ 5:30pm.

Rating: October 2026 USCF rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. Higher of USCF and CFC ratings used for Canadian players. Other foreign ratings are used for players with no USCF rating, or at TD discretion.

Entry Fee: Polgar/Wenjun sections: \$60 by 10/10, \$70 after. Yip/Botez sections: \$40 by 10/10, \$50 after. Free entry for WGMs, WIMs, WFM, or Chess Queens rated 2000+ USCF. Players rated 600+ and 1200+ USCF may play up one section into the Wenjun and Polgar sections, respectively. Maximum of 50 players total and 25 players per section, please register early.

Registration: nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration. **Registration + payment deadline Fri. 10/16 @ 5pm.**

Eligibility: Open to all female chess players. Out-of-state players welcome!

Memberships: Current US Chess and WCF membership required for Polgar, Wenjun, and Yip sections; other states accepted. Membership must be paid at time of registration. No membership required for the Botez section.

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

WA State Scholastic Chess Championships Qualifier!

Prize Fund: \$1,300 (based on 50 paid entries)

Polgar Championship: 1st-2nd: \$150-100. 1st U1800/U1600/U1400: \$75.

Wenjun U1300: 1st-2nd: \$80-60. 1st U1200/U1000/U800: \$50.

Yip U700: 1st-2nd: \$50-40. 1st U600/U400/U200/Unrated: \$30.

Botez Casual: 1st-3rd: \$50-40-30.

Special Prizes (per section): Biggest Upset Win: \$5/round, Best Dressed: \$5/day, Best Etiquette: \$5, Fair Play/Kindness/Spreading Joy: \$5/day, Best Mother/Daughter Team (by avg TPR, across sections): \$15.

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

WASHINGTON CHALLENGERS CUP



SAT-SUN, OCTOBER 17-18, 2026

HOTEL 116 BELLEVUE

625 116TH AVE NE, BELLEVUE, WA 98004

Highest finishing Washington residents in the Gukesh + Pragg sections seeded into the 2027 Washington State Championship + Rising Stars sections, respectively.

Format: A 5-round Swiss in three sections:

Gukesh Open, Pragg U1800, Sarin U1400.

In case of a tie for 1st place, a future playoff match will determine the seed for the Championship or Rising Stars section of the 2027 Washington State Championship.

Schedule: Saturday 9:30 AM, 2 PM, 6:30 PM; Sunday 10 AM, 3 PM. Blitz Tournament: ~7pm or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

Time Control: G/90; +30. Late default: 1 hour.

Prize Fund: \$6,000 (based on 100 paid entries)

Gukesh Open: 1st–4th: \$650–550–450–350.

1st U2100/U1900: \$300.

Pragg U1800: 1st–4th: \$400–350–300–250.

1st U1700/U1500: \$200.

Sarin U1400: 1st–4th: \$400–350–300–250.

1st U1300/U1100: \$200; 1st Unrated: \$150.

Special Prizes (per section): Biggest Upset Win: \$10/rd., Best Female Player (by TPR): \$50, Best Senior Player (50+, by TPR): \$50, Best Dressed: \$20/day.

Entry Fee: \$120 by 10/10, \$140 after. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs & WIMs and all chess Challengers rated 2300+ USCF. \$60 play-up fee if rated 1300-1399 or 1700-1799 USCF and playing in Pragg U1800 or Gukesh Open, respectively. Maximum of 150 players; please register early.

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

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

Rating: Dual USCF + NWSRS rated. Gukesh Open and Pragg U1800 are also FIDE rated. October 2026 USCF rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. Higher of USCF and CFC ratings used for Canadian players. Other foreign ratings are used for players with no USCF rating, or at TD discretion.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration. Pay by SettleKing (Washington Chess Federation), Zelle (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com), cash, or write a check to Washington Chess Federation.

Registration + payment deadline: Fri, 10/16 @ 5pm.

Challengers Cup Blitz: Sunday 7-9:30pm (after rd. 5 of main tournament). **Entry Fee:** \$30. **Format:** A 9-Round Single Swiss in one section, 2 half-point byes available. Dual USCF Blitz + FIDE Blitz rated. **TC:** G/3; +2. **On-site registration:** 6:00-6:45pm. Rds. Sun @ 7pm, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9pm. Closing Ceremony ~ 9:15pm or asap. Current US Chess membership required. Higher of October 2026 USCF Regular/Blitz rating used to determine pairings and prizes.

Prize Fund: \$750 (based on 50 paid entries)

1st – 3rd: \$150-125-100, 1st Unrated: \$40, Biggest upset: \$5/rd. 1st U2200/U1800/U1400/U1000: \$75.

Questions – Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

20th 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 112th 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 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

2026 Oregon Class Championships Chess Tournament

November 7-8

Sponsored by the Oregon Chess Federation (OCF) and [Portland Chess Club](#). Registration is at [onlineregistrationl.cc](#).

FORMAT: The tournament is a 5-round Swiss paired event with three rounds on Saturday and two rounds on Sunday and is open to everyone, regardless of residency or age. Up to two half point byes are available if requested before round one.

SECTIONS: There are seven sections, **Master/Expert** (2000+), **Class A** (1800-1999), **Class B** (1600-1799), **Class C** (1400-1599), **Class D** (1200-1399), **Class E** (1000-1199), and **Class F and below** (U1000). Players may play up one section for a \$35 play-up fee (can't play up more than one section). The official November US Chess over-the-board regular ratings are generally used for section eligibility and pairings. An unofficial US Chess over-the-board regular rating based on at least four games, US Chess online regular rating, or converted foreign rating is used for players with no official US Chess over-the-board regular rating.

TIME CONTROL: G/90;+10 (ninety minutes per player with ten seconds added for each move). **PLAYERS MUST SUPPLY THEIR OWN BOARD, SET, AND INCREMENT CAPABLE DIGITAL CLOCK FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY.** A limited number of sets and boards will be available to purchase at the tournament. Players are responsible for knowing how to set their clock.

SCHEDULE: A players meeting is at 9:45am on Saturday (there is no need for registered players to "check-in" prior to round 1). The rounds start at 10am, 2:15pm, and 6:30pm on Saturday and 10am and 2:15pm on Sunday.

RATED: All sections are US Chess regular rated.

ENTRY FEE: **\$80 if registered by Saturday, October 17, \$90 from October 18 until Friday, November 6 at 1:00pm.** Free entry for GMs and IMs with up to \$80 deducted from a prize won. US Chess membership is required for all players. Oregon Chess Federation membership is required for Oregon residents. See [the OCF Membership page](#) for instructions on obtaining an OCF membership.

PRIZES: \$5600 total prize fund based on 100 players. The prize fund is adjusted proportionally if there are a different number of players except \$2800 is guaranteed. Each section has the following overall prizes: 1ST-\$400, 2ND-\$250, 3RD-\$150. Unrated players are eligible for all the prizes in their section. Prizes are combined and/or split if there is a tie. Prizes are paid via check or PayPal.

QUALIFIERS: The Master/Expert section is a qualifier for both the Championship and Challengers sections of the Oregon Closed. All sections are qualifiers for the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation (OSCF) State Championship.

LOCATION: Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah St, Portland, OR 97232. **The tournament this year is in the Pacific Northwest Ballroom (combination of Oregon, Alaska, and Idaho).** There is free parking in the hotel parking garage (parking passes to be able to leave the parking garage for free will be available at the tournament). Hotel rooms for any of the nights of November 6 - November 8 are available at a special chess rate of \$134 for a room per night, not including tax. **The hotel chess rate is not guaranteed to be available after October 1, or even earlier if the rooms are sold out.** Use [this link](#) to book a room or try calling 1-800-996-0510 and asking for the tournament rate for the Oregon Class Championships.

REGISTRATION: Register online at [onlineregistration.cc](#) (no mailed or on-site entries are allowed). **The deadline to register is Friday, November 6 at 1:00pm.** Email support@oregonchessfed.org if you encounter any issues while trying to register online, need to modify or withdraw your registration, or are unable to pay the entry fee online via credit card, debit card, or PayPal.

TOURNAMENT RULES: US Chess rules are used. The following apply to all sections: **1) You must let the tournament staff know at least thirty minutes prior to the start time of the next round if you decide to withdraw from the tournament or skip that round.** **2) Players are not allowed to have a phone or other electronic device capable of chess analysis or communication on their person during their games.** Any such device a player has with them must be turned off and stored in the player's bag (backpack, chess bag, etc.). The penalty for possessing such a device is at the discretion of the chief tournament director. **3) As a courtesy to your opponents, please show up on time for the rounds.** A player will be forfeited for a no-show one hour after the round has started. **4) Player-supplied scorebooks are not allowed; players will use tournament-supplied scoresheets for keeping notation.**

QUESTIONS: Email support@oregonchessfed.org. During the tournament, if you decide to withdraw or skip a round and are not on-site, send us an email via this address letting us know.

Co-hosted by Susan Polgar Foundation & Washington Chess Federation



21st Susan Polgar Foundation National Open for Girls & Boys



Saturday-Sunday, November 7-8, 2026

Hilton Bellevue: 300 112th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98004

Info: spfno.com Register: ChessReg.com
Email: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com
Phone: 206-769-3757

2-day Championship sections

K-5 Open **K-5 Girls**

K-8 Open **K-8 Girls**

K-12 Open **K-12 Girls**

Format: A 5-Round, G/60; +30 Swiss.
Dual NWSRS + USCF rated.
K-12 sections are also FIDE rated.

Rounds: Sat: 10am, 1:30pm. Sun: 10am,
1:30pm, 5pm. Awards ~ Sun 8:30pm.

1-day Scholastic sections (Sat-only)

K-1 U700 **K-3 Open**

2-3 U700 **4-6 Open**

4-6 U700 **7-12 Open**

Format: A 5-Round, G/25; +5 Swiss.
NWSRS rated. Open sections are also
USCF rated.

Rounds: Sat: 9am, 10:45am, 12:15pm,
1:30pm, 2:45pm. Awards ~ 4:30pm.

All Sections: Trophies awarded to top-
scoring individuals and teams. Medals
for first-time players who do not earn a
trophy. Higher of November USCF or
current NWSRS rating will be used to
determine section and pairings.

WA State Scholastic Qualifier!

Hotel Rates: Hilton Bellevue for \$179 (1 King/2 Queen) per
night, address above. Complimentary guest room Wi-Fi and event
day parking. Many restaurants within 1-2 miles from
hotel. Phone: 425.455.1300, request SPFNO room block. Group
Code: CHESCI. [Booking link](#) for online hotel reservations. Cut-off
date for discounted hotel reservations is **October 14, 2026**.

Entry Fees: (by Oct. 7 | Oct. 8 – 31 | Nov. 1 or after)

- 2-Day Championship sections EF: \$99 | \$129 | \$159
- 1-Day Scholastic sections (Sat-only) EF: \$65 | \$80 | \$105

Registration & Payment: **Registration and payment
deadline Fri 11/6 @ 5pm at ChessReg.com** (pay by
credit/debit/PayPal).

Fun Side Events!

Parents and Coaches Seminar: Sat @ 10:15-11:15am.

SPFNO Girls Workshop: Sat @ 11:30-12pm.

GM Susan Polgar Book Sale & Signing: Sat @ 2-3pm &
Sun @ 11am-12pm.

All-Comers Blitz with FM Megan Lee: Sat @ 3:15-
4:30pm.

SPFNO Puzzle Solving Competition: Sat @ 5:30-6pm.
EF: \$25 by 11/1, \$40 after.

SPFNO Blitz Championship: Sat @ 6:30-9pm.
EF: \$35 by 11/1, \$50 after.

GM Susan Polgar Simul: Sun @ 1-4pm.
EF: \$75 by 11/1, \$100 after. Max 20 players.

Special Offer: Stay two nights or more in the Hilton
Bellevue and receive one free entry into the main
tournament!

Co-Hosted by UW Chess Club & Washington Chess Federation

W Husky Open



Saturday, Nov 14th, 2026

**University of Washington – Husky Union Building Room 250
4001 E Stevens Way NE, Seattle, WA 98195**

Format: A 5-round Swiss tournament in three sections: Rainier Open, Drumheller U1500, and Suzzallo U1000.

Entry fee: \$40 by 11/7, \$50 after or on-site. UW Students: \$20 by 11/7, \$25 after. Maximum of 150 players, please register early to reserve your spot!

Schedule: At site-registration & check-in: 9:15-9:45am. Rounds (5): 10am, 11:30am, Lunch, 1:30pm, 3pm, 4:30pm. Closing Ceremony ~ 6pm or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

Time Control: G/30; +5 sec. increment per move starting from move 1.

Rating: NWSRS Rated. Rainier Open and Drumheller U1500 also USCF Rated. Higher of current NWSRS or November 2026 USCF regular rating used to determine section, pairings, and prizes.

Memberships: US Chess membership required for Rainier Open and Drumheller U1500. No memberships required for Suzzallo U1000.

Prize Fund: \$1,400 (based on 80 paid entries)

Rainier Open: 1st – 3rd: \$250 - \$200 - \$150, 1st U1800/U1600: \$50

Drumheller U1500: 1st – 3rd: \$150-\$100-\$50, 1st U1400/U1200: \$25

Suzzallo U1000: 1st - 3rd: \$150 - \$100 - \$50, 1st U800: \$25, 1st Unrated: \$25

Special Prizes (per section): Medals for Biggest Upset Win, Best Female Player (by TPR), and Best Dressed.

Byes: Up to 2 half-point byes available if requested before the end of round 2.

Husky Blitz: Entry Fee: \$20. Format: A 7-Round Swiss in one section, 2 half-point byes available. USCF Blitz rated. TC: G/3;+2. On-site registration: 6:15pm-6:30pm. Rds.@ 6:45pm, 7, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8, 8:15. Closing Ceremony ~ 8:30pm or asap. Current US Chess membership required. Higher of November USCF Blitz or Regular rating used to determine pairings and prizes.

Prize Fund: \$550 (based on 40 paid entries)

1st - 5th: \$150 - \$100 - \$75 - \$60 - \$40.

1st U2000/U1700/U1400/U1100/Unrated: \$25.

Questions – Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com

TOURNAMENTS



new
logo!

venue & mail

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

info & events calendar

www.seattlechess.club

club & tournament inquiries

contact@seattlechess.club

*Wednesdays are for casual
play. Come anytime 7-11pm.
It's free!*

October 2, 9, 16, 23 (Fri.)

Pumpkin Spice

One U.S. Chess-rated round per night, 4 rounds per month, at 7:30pm.
Time control: 40 moves in 90 minutes w/10sec. increment, then sudden death 60 minutes w/10sec. increment. SCC members free, \$5/night others. Play in any or all rounds! **Sign up** at contact@seattlechess.club.
Venue: Seattle Chess Club, 28 players max.

October 10-11 (Sat.-Sun.)

Autumn Adult Weekend

See below.

October 24 (Sat.)

October Quads

3-round round-robin. 4-player sections by close rating. **Time control:** Game/85 + 10-sec. increment. **Entry fee:** \$15 (+ \$20 day membership for non-SCC). Prepayment required. **Prizes:** winner of each 4-player quad wins free entry to next Quads played within 3 months. **Check-in:** 9:15-9:45am. **Rounds:** 10am, 2pm, 6pm. **Byes:** 0 – must play all 3 rounds! **Venue:** TBA. US Chess rated, US Chess membership req'd. **Sign up:** <https://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/>.

October 30 (Fri.)

Fifth Friday G/15

4 or 5 rounds depending on turnout, beginning at 7:30pm. **TC:** Game/15, no inc. **Entry:** free for SCC members, \$5 others. US Chess Quick rated. **Sign up** at contact@seattlechess.club. **Venue:** Seattle CC, 28 players max.

Coming up:

- **November Quads** – November 15 (Sun.); tentative, 2B confirmed
Check our events calendar periodically for confirmed dates.

AUTUMN ADULT WEEKEND

for players 18 years and older

October 10-11, 2026

ADULT QUADS

- **Time control:** Game/90, 10 sec. increment. **Pairing:** round-robin; 4-player sections by close ratings.
- **Rounds:** 10am, 2pm, 6pm
- **Entry fee:** \$25 SCC members, \$40 others
- **Prize fund:** \$280 based on 16 entries. **Prizes:** Each quad winner \$70.
- **No byes** – must play all 3 rounds!

ADULT TORNADO

- **Time control:** Game/50 + 10 sec. increment. **Pairing:** standard Swiss.
- **Rounds:** 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm, 5:30pm or ASAP
- **Entry fee:** \$30 SCC members, \$50 others
- **Prize fund:** \$350 based on 16 entries
- **Prizes:** \$140 (1st), \$100 (2nd), \$70 (U1600), \$40 (U1200)
- 1 half-point bye available.

- ❖ **Venue:** Seattle Chess Club, 7212 Woodlawn Ave. NE, Seattle 98115. **28 players max** in each tournament.
- ❖ **Register** at <https://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration>
- ❖ Register for one or both tournaments! If both: \$45 SCC members, \$80 others.
- ❖ Both tournaments are USCF rated. USCF membership required.



Washington Class Championships

Fri-Sun, Nov 27-29, 2026

Embassy Suites Seattle North / Lynnwood

20610 44th Avenue West, Lynnwood, WA 98036-7701

\$17,500 Prize Fund

(based on 200 paid entries)

Format: A 6-round Swiss event in 8 class sections. A section with <12 players may be merged w/ the nearest one.

Entry Fees (EF) (by Oct 30 / Nov 13 / Nov 26 / on-site) & **Prizes** per section:

- **Kasparov (2200+)** EF: \$170 / \$185 / \$200 / \$225
Prizes: \$800, \$600, \$400; U2300 \$250, \$200
- **Menchik (2000-2199)** EF: \$160 / \$175 / \$190 / \$215
Prizes: \$600, \$400, \$300; U2100 \$200, \$150
- **Fischer (1800-1999)** EF: \$150 / \$165 / \$180 / \$205
Prizes: \$500, \$350, \$250; U1900 \$170, \$130
- **Gaprindashvili (1600-1799)** EF: \$150 / \$165 / \$180 / \$205
Prizes: \$400, \$300, \$200; U1700 \$170, \$130
- **Capablanca (1400-1599)** EF: \$150 / \$165 / \$180 / \$205
Prizes: \$400, \$300, \$200; U1500 \$170, \$130
- **Chiburdanidze (1200-1399)** EF: \$150 / \$165 / \$180 / \$205
Prizes: \$400, \$300, \$200; U1300 \$170, \$130
- **Lasker (1000-1199)** EF: \$150 / \$165 / \$180 / \$205
Prizes: \$400, \$300, \$200; U1100 \$170, \$130
- **Yifan (under 1000)** EF: \$150 / \$165 / \$180 / \$205
Prizes: \$400, \$300, \$200; U800 \$170, \$130; U600 \$100, \$50; Unrated \$100, \$50

Seeds: Highest finishing WA resident in Kasparov, Menchik, Fischer, Gaprindashvili, and Capablanca sections seeded in the 2027 WA State Championship: Championship, Premier, Invitational, Challengers, and Rising Stars sections, respectively. Ties for a seed to be resolved by post-event playoff games.

Mixed Doubles Prizes: Best mixed gender (including male-female) two-player team's combined score: 1st \$230, 2nd \$180, 3rd \$120. Average team rating must be under 2000; may play in different sections. Register (no extra fee) before the start of round 3. Awarded in addition to other prizes.

Special Prizes (per class section):

- **Best Female Player***/** (by TPR): \$75.
- **Best Senior (50+) Player***/** (by TPR): \$75.
- **Highest (USCF) Rating Gain***: 1st \$60, 2nd \$30.
Requires an established (non-provisional) rating. May not be combined with Biggest Upset Win.
- **Biggest Upset Win (per round)*****: \$30.
- **Fair-Play, Kindness, Spreading Joy**: \$30.
- **Best Dressed (per day)*****: \$25.
- **Best Annotated Game**: 1st \$75, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$25.

Notes: * = May not combine with higher prizes.

** = Requires a minimum of 3 eligible players.

*** = Player may not win this prize repeatedly.

Hotel Info: 2 Room Suite: 1 King Bed (\$149) or 2 Queen Beds (\$159), incl. buffet breakfast and evening reception. Call 425-775-2500 to request the Washington Chess Federation block, or reserve [online](#). Cut-off date for reservations at the above rates is Fri, Oct 30.

Main Event

Note: We encourage you to play in the Main Event *and* to take part in some side events (see next page). Our schedule allows this w/ minimum or no half-point byes!

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

Registration & Payment:

Before event: (by Thu, Nov 26 @ 5pm) NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration (pay by Zelle / SettleKing) or write a check to Washington Chess Federation.

On-site (payment by cash possible too): Fri 8:30-9:30am for 3-day schedule, or 4:30-5:15pm if entering with 1 half-point bye. Sat 8-8:30am for 2-day schedule, or 9-9:30am if entering 3-day schedule with 2 half-point byes. *Late registrations receive a half-point bye for round 1.*

Byes: Two half-point byes available; if interested, request before the end of round 2. (You may play on any two of the 3 days and take a full day off, if using 2 half-point byes.)

Rating: Dual rated USCF and NWSRS. Kasparov / Menchik / Fischer / Gaprindashvili sections also FIDE rated (except any G/55 games). Nov 2026 USCF rating used to determine class sections, pairings, and prizes. Higher of USCF and CFC ratings used for Canadian players. Other foreign ratings used at TD discretion; foreign ratings also used for players with no USCF rating. Unrated players are eligible only for 1st / 2nd / 3rd prizes in the Kasparov (2200+) section or for the Unrated prizes in the Yifan (U1000) section.

Entry Fee Adjustments: Playing up into a higher section is allowed (for \$90 extra) if the player's Nov 2026 USCF rating is within 200 points of that section's lower limit (e.g., min USCF 1600 for the 1800-1999 section). Seniors (age 50+) may subtract \$50. Free entry to GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs. Reentry for ½ of original entry fee. Canadians may pay CAD\$ at par for entry fees only.

Rounds:

3-day schedule: Fri @ 10am & 6pm; Sat @ 10am & 6pm; Sun @ 10am & 4:30pm.

2-day schedule: Sat @ 9am, 11:45am, 2:45pm, then join the 3-day schedule from round 4 @ 6pm.

Time Controls:

3-day schedule: 30/90, SD/30; +30. Late default: 60 minutes.

2-day schedule: G/55; +15 (rounds 1-3); rounds 4-6 same as in the 3-day schedule.

Miscellaneous: Current US Chess membership and WCF / OCF / ICA membership required. Other states accepted. Memberships may be paid at the time of registration. All equipment is provided courtesy of WCF. Wheelchair accessible.

Procedures: Pairings posted near the playing hall and online ~20 minutes before each round. If withdrawing or skipping a round, please inform organizers at least 30 minutes before the start of the round. Forfeiting a game without good reason carries a penalty of not being allowed to participate in the event the following year.

Washington Class Championships, Nov 27-29 (cont.)

Fun Side Events!

(many run between rounds of the Main Event)

WA Class Woodward Thanksgiving Scholastic

Fri, 11/27 @ 9 AM – 4 PM (during round 1)

Open to K-12 students. Dual sections: Open and Challengers:

- **Open:** A 4-round G/40; +5 Swiss in two sections: **K-3 Open** and **4-12 Open**. For intermediate to advanced players. Dual NWSRS and USCF rated. US Chess membership req'd. Clocks & notation req'd. Rounds: 9:15am, 10:45, lunch, 12:45, 2:15pm. Awards: ~4pm.
- **Challengers:** A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss in two sections: **K-3 U800** and **4-12 U900**. For novice to low-intermediate players. Dual NWSRS and USCF rated. US Chess membership req'd. Clocks req'd from the start. Notation req'd in 4-12 U900, and optional in K-3 U800. Rounds: 9:15am, 10:30, lunch, 12, 1:15, 2:30pm. Awards: ~4pm.

Entry fee: \$60 by Fri, 11/20; \$70 after. Room for 150 players.

Awards (per section):

- 1st-5th place: \$70-\$65-\$60-\$55-\$50 (in Amazon e-gift cards).
- Medals for first-timers, best female player, & biggest upset win.
- Top performing player (by TPR) in Open sections earns free entry into the 2-day Washington Class (Main Event) (see previous page).

Rating: Higher of Nov 2026 USCF or current NWSRS ratings used for sections & pairings.

Registration: NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/ - pay by Zelle / SettleKing / check; no on-site entries or payments. Registration & payment deadline: Thu, 11/26 @ 5pm.

WA Class Dorfner Memorial Adult Novice Swiss

Fri, 11/27 @ 11 AM – 4 PM (during round 1)

A 4-round Swiss in one section. For U1200 or unrated adults (18+). 1 half-point bye available. Unrated. TC: G/30; +5. EF: \$30. No memberships req'd. Register: 10-10:45am. Rounds: 11am, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45pm. Prizes: \$400/b20. 1st-3rd \$150 / \$100 / \$60, 1st U900 / U700 / Unrated \$30.

WA Class Chess960 Freestyle Fischer Rapid

Fri, 11/27 @ 2:15 PM – 4:30 PM (between rounds 1 & 2)

A 4-round Swiss in one section, 1 half-point bye available. Unrated. TC: G/12; +3. EF: \$25. No memberships req'd. Register: 1:30-2pm. Rounds: 2:15pm, 2:50, 3:25, 4pm. Nov 2026 USCF rating used for pairings & prizes. A new (randomized) opening position in each round. Players have 2 minutes before clocks start to examine initial positions. Prize fund: \$300/b20: 1st-3rd \$80 / \$60 / \$40, 1st U2000 / U1700 / U1400 / Unrated \$30.

WA Class Robson Puzzle Solving

Fri, 11/27 @ 4:45 PM – 5:30 PM (between rounds 1 & 2)

Solving 16 chess puzzles in 45 minutes, on paper. Evaluation based on both accuracy and completeness. EF: \$20. Register: 3:45-4:30pm. No memberships req'd. Prize fund: \$250/b30. 1st \$60, 2nd \$45, 3rd \$25, 1st U2000 / U1700 / U1400 / U1100 / U800 / Unr. \$20.

WA Class Girls' & Women's Workshop

Fri, 11/27 @ 5:30 PM – 6 PM & 6 PM – 8 PM (during round 2)

A workshop led by WFM Chouchan Airapetian (chornyaa@msn.com, 206-799-6087), experienced chess coach, organizer, promoter, former US Women's Championship contender and 3rd placed at 2026 US Senior Women's Championship, WCF Girls' & Women's Chess Director. Register: 4:45-5:15pm. EF: Free! Schedule: 5:30-6pm: "How to develop & cultivate girls' and women's chess." 6-8 pm: Q&A, complimentary pizza & refreshments, and ladies' bughouse.

WA Class Piper Memorial Adult Swiss

Sat-Sun, 11/28-11/29 @ 11 AM and 4:30 PM (during rounds 3-6)

Sponsored by *Seattle Chess Club* in memory of Dr. August Piper (1944-2024), with generous support from Gerald Larsen & Henry Yan. A 4-round Swiss in two sections: Botvinnik (Open) and Korchnoi (U1500); may be merged based on entries. 1 half point

bye available. USCF rated only. TC: G/120; +30. EF: \$60 online (by Fri, 11/27) or \$70 on-site; \$20 discount for SCC members. EF waived for unrated players who purchase memberships. Register: Sat, 11/28 @ 10-10:30am (unless starting with a half-point bye). US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships req'd. Nov 2026 USCF ratings used for sections, pairings, & prizes. Gtd. prize fund: \$1,000. Botvinnik (Open): 1st \$240, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$120, 1st U1650 \$80; Korchnoi (U1500): 1st \$120, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$80, 1st U1300 \$60, 1st Unrated \$50.

WA Class Casablanca Rapid

Sat, 11/28 @ 2 PM – 4 PM (between rounds 3 & 4)

A 4-round Swiss in one section. 1 half-point bye available.

Unrated. TC: G/8; +3. EF: \$30. No memberships. Register: 1-1:45pm. Rounds: 2pm, 2:30, 3, 3:30pm. Nov 2026 USCF rating used for pairings & prizes. Each round starts in a new *middlegame* position from a historical game. Players have 2 minutes before clocks start to examine initial positions. Prize fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$110, 2nd \$85, 3rd \$60, 1st U2100 \$50, 1st U1800 \$40, 1st U1500 \$30, Biggest Upset Win: \$25.

WA Class Naroditsky Memorial Bullet

Sat, 11/28 @ 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM (between rounds 3 & 4)

A 6-round Swiss in one section. 2 half-point byes available.

Unrated. TC: G/2; +1. EF: \$20. No memberships. Register: 3:15-4:15pm. Rounds: 4:30pm, 4:40, 4:50, 5, 5:10, 5:20pm. Nov 2026 USCF rating used for pairings & prizes. Prize fund: \$250/b20. 1st \$75, 2nd \$55, 3rd \$40, 1st U2000 / U1600 / U1200 / Unrated \$20.

WA Class Carlsen Rapid Championship

Sun, 11/29 @ 2 PM – 4:15 PM (between rounds 5 & 6)

A 4-round Swiss in two sections: Kasparov (1600+) and Anand (U1600); may be merged based on entries. 1 half-point bye available. USCF Quick rated; Kasparov section is FIDE Rapid rated too. TC: G/12; +3. EF: \$35 (online, by Sat, 11/28 @ 5pm) or \$40 (on-site). Players rated 1500+ may play up (\$20 fee). Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships req'd. Register: 1-1:45pm. Rounds: 2pm, 2:35, 3:10, 3:45pm. Nov 2026 USCF regular rating used for sections, pairings, & prizes. Prize fund: \$1,000/b50. Kasparov (1600+): 1st-3rd \$140 / \$110 / \$80, 1st U2100 / U1900 / U1700 \$60; Anand (U1600): 1st-3rd \$100 / \$80 / \$60, 1st U1400 / U1200 / U1000 / Unrated \$40. Biggest Upset Win (in each section): \$25.

WA Class Aronian Bughouse

Sun, 11/29 @ 3 PM – 4:15 PM (between rounds 5 & 6)

A 7-round Single Swiss in one section. 2 half-point byes available. Max avg team rating: 1800. Unrated. TC: G/3; +0. EF: \$25/player. No memberships req'd. Register: 2:15-2:45pm. Rounds: 3pm, 3:10, 3:20, 3:30, 3:40, 3:50, 4pm. Nov 2026 USCF rating (if unrated, up to 1300 based on age) used for pairings & prizes. Team prizes: \$400 (based on 20 teams): 1st-3rd \$100-\$70-\$50; 1st-3rd K-6 \$50-\$40-\$30; Biggest Upset Win: \$30; Best Sportsmanship: \$30.

WA Class "Knight-Time" Blitz

Sun, 11/29 @ 8:30 PM – 10:15 PM (after round 6)

A 7-round Swiss in two sections: Nakamura (1600+) and Tal (U1600); may be merged based on entries. 2 half-point byes available. USCF Blitz rated; Nakamura section is also FIDE Blitz rated. TC: G/3; +2. EF: \$35 (online, by Sat, 11/28 @ 5pm) or \$40 (on-site). Players rated 1500+ may play up (\$20 fee). Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships req'd. Register: 7:30-8:15pm. Rounds: 8:30pm, 8:45, 9, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45, 10pm. Nov 2026 USCF rating used for sections, pairings, & prizes. Prize fund: \$1,000/b50. Nakamura (1600+): 1st-3rd \$140 / \$110 / \$80, 1st U2100 / U1900 / U1700 \$60; Tal (U1600): 1st-3rd \$90 / \$75 / \$60, 1st U1400 / U1200 / U1000 / Unrated \$40.

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