

Greetings folks! The Meridian Chess tournament is this Saturday, so I've typed up a few last-minute comments and reminders....

All pertinent tournament information can be found at <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/929>. Please re-read the tournament description and familiarize yourself with the round times.

If you have kids playing as well, please review the [Parent Responsibilities](#). By registering your player for a tournament hosted by Rocks & Rocks, you as a parent/guardian/coach/chaperone have agreed to abide by these guidelines. You may want to have another adult available for your child in case your games go long.

No bye changes or section changes are available for round 1 after 9am on Friday. Please do NOT email requests after 9am. Make them onsite. You have until the end of round 2 to request or remove other byes.

If your plans have changed and you will not be attending, please email me asap!!! **Refunds for withdrawals are no longer available, but it still helps to know if you cannot attend.** If your entry is unpaid on Friday morning and you have not made special arrangements with the organizer, you will NOT be paired for the 1st round. You may reactivate your entry for round 2 by paying onsite.

What to bring:

A PEN or PENCIL for notation. NOT provided!

A chess clock (few provided. PLEASE bring your own!)

Chess set (for going over games between rounds)

Snacks/Drinks (keep it healthy, see below for more information)

The Meridian Class of 2020 will be providing concessions. Bringing snacks or food is always a good idea, because Open Section games are often long, with little space in between. But **please consider supporting the Meridian**. All food must remain in the cafeteria or outdoor areas (patio or field). Absolutely no food in the playing room. Water only.

ALL games will be played in the Middle School Building. The open section starts at 9:00am sharp. The Open will play in two classrooms, M1.33 and M1.34 ([MAP](#)) The Open section currently has 33 players and is split into two sections, competing for separate prizes.

All phones must be turned off during the round and may not leave the playing room during the round. Earphones are allowed at the TD's discretion, but only connected to devices with no internet capability.

Pairings should be online throughout the event. Links to those pairings are posted on both [Meridian Scholastic Tournament page](#) as well as the [Meridian Open Section page](#). Remember, no pairing is final until the round actually begins. If you are listed as having a forced bye, we still might be able to find you a game.

It is your responsibility to make sure you are on time for each game. No announcements will be made inside or out. We will be following the posted [round-schedule](#). Even if the scholastic tournament runs behind, the open section will stay on schedule. You will be paired for every round unless you request a bye or withdraw. See your chief TD, Drew Sarkisian, for onsite byes or withdrawal requests.

Last of all – **Parking!** The majority of parking is available between the two school buildings. We are playing in the Middle School Building, the furthest school building away from I-35.

See you Saturday!

Lori Balkum

Registrar, Computer Room

Drew Sarkisian

Open Section Chief TD

Gary Gaiffe

Organizer, Tournament Chief TD

Rocks & Rooks

www.AustinChessTournaments.com