

Greetings folks! The Del Valle Scholastic Chess tournament is this Saturday !

Please re-read the tournament details: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/2024-spring-del-valle-scholastic-chess-tournament/>

To know ahead of time:

Know your player's section name (find it on the [advance entry/pre-registration list!](#))

Please review our list of [Parent Responsibilities](#). By registering your player for a tournament organized by Rocks & Rocks, you as a parent/guardian/coach/chaperone have agreed to abide by these guidelines.

[Email Lori \(registrar@austinchestournaments.com\)](mailto:registrar@austinchestournaments.com) by requests for round 1 asap (include the name of your player and section)! Your bye requests are listed on the [advance entry](#) page. **No bye changes or section changes are available for round 1 after 9am on Friday!**

Bye requests are made for **specific rounds** (times are listed below). You may request byes for other rounds onsite. You have until the end of round 2 to request or remove half-point byes. (Unsure of what a bye is? [Read our FAQs!](#)) **Your player will be paired every round unless you request otherwise.** If your chess player needs to leave for any reason before the last round, you **must** come by **Chess Control** before the end of the last round in which your player will compete to let us know (if you have not already requested a bye.) If you leave without withdrawing, you will pay a \$25 penalty before being allowed to play in another event. Officially withdrawing is common courtesy to your prospective opponents. If your plans have changed and your player will not be attending, [please email Lori \(registrar@austinchestournaments.com\)](mailto:registrar@austinchestournaments.com) asap! **Refunds for withdrawals were only available until online registration closed (9am, Friday 04/26/2024).**

Plan what to bring:

A PENCIL (for taking notation and signing your results)

Cash or Venmo access for purchasing a pencil at Chess Control to replace the one your chess player loses

A chess clock (recommended, especially for advanced players)

Chess set (for going over games between rounds)

Activities (for between rounds for chess players)

Activities (to keep the waiting parent occupied)

Lunch/Snacks/Drinks (keep it healthy!)

A positive attitude!

A smile!

Concessions:

We have not been informed of any concessions for Saturday. Please bring lunch and snacks!!! There will be absolutely no food allowed in the playing rooms. Water bottles are ok. PLEASE PICK UP YOUR TRASH! Players are also asked to wash their hands FREQUENTLY. Hand sanitizer will be available in each tournament room.

The day of the tournament :

Find links to the information you need on the [event website](#).

Building doors open for chess players and parents at 8:00. When you arrive, there is **NO NEED TO CHECK IN**. Chess Control will be open all day and is the place to go for all issues. Fixing the issue at chess control before round 1 will not fix it for round 1. Round 1 is usually paired on Friday. You should go to chess control to remove any unwanted byes when you arrive on Saturday.

Skittles (official waiting area for parents and players) will be in the Cafeteria. Bring activities for waiting family and friends and for players between rounds.

Most Scholastic Section are located in the gym. The **K-12 Elite** will either play in the gym or in room 371. That decision will be made on Saturday morning .

Chess Control will be near the Cafeteria, for your convenience.

Please arrive early, familiarize your player with the location of his/her playing room and restrooms, and **make sure your player knows where to find you when the round is finished**. The playing areas will be off limits to all waiting parents. **Whereas pairings will posted on the wall before each round, Wall Charts and Team Standings will be [online](#) only**. Pairings will be available online as well. To avoid the crush at the wall, bookmark this link. Before each round refresh your screen and the new pairing links will appear. You are responsible for checking Wall Charts regularly and bringing any inaccuracies to the attention of Chess Control for further investigation.

Players will need to be in their seats no later than 8:40 for announcements. If your player is not seated at the start of round 1 (9:00am), the game will be reassigned, and the player may be withdrawn from the tournament. **Please arrive early for announcements! We would like to start on time!** Please be aware that **NO SPECTATORS** are allowed in the gym. Gary will hold an **announcement and Q/A session in the Cafeteria for parents**.

We will post pairings each round [online](#) as well as posting it on the wall. Remember, **no pairing is final until the round actually begins**. If you are listed as having a 1-point bye (because of an odd number in your section), report to your TD (and wait) in your tournament room. We will still try to find you a game.

Last of all – **Parents and coaches, it is your responsibility to make sure your chess player is on time for their next game.** Walking in at the start of the round is NOT acceptable. Players should be seated at least 5 minutes before the round begins. We will be following the **posted round schedule.**

rd 1 – 9:00am

rd 2 – 11:00am

puzzle contest – 12:05pm,

rd 3 – 12:45 pm

rd 4 – 2:30 pm

rd 5 – 4:00 pm

awards ceremony –in the Cafeteria as soon as each section finishes

We are offering a free puzzle contest (with awards!) for all players participating in the tournament. It will be held at 12:05pm in the Gym, between rounds 2 and 3.

We have quite a few new players at this tournament. If you don't know the answer, please ask a TD or go to Chess Control. Experienced parents, please be willing to help us answer questions.

Lori Balkum
Registrar, Computer Room
Austin Chess Tournaments

Gary Gaiffe
Organizer, Chief TD
Rocks & Rooks

<https://www.austinchestournaments.com/>