

Greetings folks! The 2024 National Chess Week tournament at Paragon is this Saturday and you have a player who is registered for the event.

Please re-read the tournament description (<https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/2024-national-chess-week-scholastic-tournament/>).

To know ahead of time:

Know your player's section name (find it on the [advance entry/pre-registration list](#))! You must know your player's section name in order to know where to go!

Playing locations (subject to change):

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>K-3 U400</i> | <i>Room 122</i> |
| <i>K-5 U600</i> | <i>Room 138</i> |
| <i>K-5 U1000</i> | <i>Room 114</i> |
| <i>6-12 U600</i> | <i>Room 121</i> |
| <i>6-12 U1000</i> | <i>Room 114</i> |
| <i>K-12 Elite</i> | <i>Room 123</i> |
| <i>Open</i> | <i>Room 123</i> |

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 \(registrar@austinchess tournaments.com\)](mailto:registrar@austinchess tournaments.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 (please do not email those on Friday). 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 \(registrar@austinchess tournaments.com\)](mailto:registrar@austinchess tournaments.com) asap! **As detailed on the [event website](#), refunds for withdrawals were only available until midnight, Wednesday 10/2/2024.****

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)

Folding chair or picnic blanket (it's going to be a gorgeous day!)

Lunch/Snacks/Drinks (keep it healthy!) ***ONLY light snacks and drinks available for purchase.

The day of the tournament :

Parking at schools is often difficult, so we suggest you consider carpooling or to at least plan on arriving early. Watch for no parking signs off campus. If you park in the shopping area across the street, please DO NOT park in front of the Doctor's office!

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

We are playing in the McGrath Building (Elementary School Building). 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 paired on Friday.

Skittles (official waiting area for parents and players) will be in the multi-purpose area('room 143'). There is covered space outside as well. Bring a chair! Games will take place in classrooms listed above. A [map of the building](#) is posted on the event website. Section locations are subject to change before the event begins. We appreciate your patience as section counts can fluctuate.

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. **Pairings will be [online](#) only.** Bookmark this link. Before each round refresh your screen and the new pairing links will appear.

Players should be in their seats no later than 8:45 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!** Because of crowding issues, **parents are asked to stay out of the playing rooms once the tournament begins.** If your player needs help finding the appropriate room and board in future rounds, we have volunteers and TDs (Tournament Directors) ready to help seat players. Immediately after round 1 begins, Gary will hold an **announcement and Q/A session in the Multi-Purpose Room for parents.**

We will post pairings each round [online](#). 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 remain in your tournament room until released by your TD). We will still try to find you a rated 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, rd 3 – 12:45 pm, rd 4 – 2:30 pm, rd 5 – 4:00 pm

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/>