

2021 Official Queensland Inter-School Chess Championships – Rules and Regulations

The Queensland Inter-School Chess Championships are coordinated by Gardiner Chess on behalf of the Chess Association of Queensland (CAQ) under a licensing agreement running from 2018 to 2022.

Zones:

There are 12 zones based in regional Queensland with another 9 located in South East Queensland (Brisbane and Gold Coast).

Regional:

- Sunshine Coast (Beerburrum to Pomona)
- Wide Bay South (Bauple through to Hervey Bay)
- Gympie (Federal through to Bauple)
- Wide Bay North (Childers to Agnes Water)
- Central QLD South (Miriam Vale to Gladstone and Banana)
- Central QLD North (Rockhampton out to Emerald and to Marlborough)
- Mackay/Whitsundays (Sarina to Bowen and out to Clermont)
- North Queensland (Bowen to Cardwell and out to Hughenden)
- Far North Queensland (Cardwell to Cooktown and including Cairns Hinterland)
- North West Queensland (Region surrounding Mount Isa)
- Central West Queensland (Region surrounding Longreach)
- South West Queensland (Region surrounding Roma and Charleville)
- Darling Downs (Region surrounding Toowoomba)

South-East Queensland:

- Brisbane Secondary
- Brisbane Primary North (North of river, to Caboolture, and across to Suncorp and The Gap)
- Brisbane Primary West (From Toowong to Graceville, Oxley, Durack and West)
- Logan Primary (South of Kessels Road to Beenleigh)
- Brisbane Inner South (South of river through to Kessels road as west as Oxley road)
- Gold Coast Secondary
- Gold Coast Primary North (Yatala down to Smith Street and across to coastline)
- Gold Coast Primary Coastal (East of Heavy rail from Smith Street to Tweed Heads)
- Gold Coast Hinterland (West of Heavy rail from Smith Street to Tweed Heads)

Schools (and students) will play in their designated zones.

Schools close to borders may permanently move to the other zone if it is significantly easier to get to – not for the reason of it being an easier zone. These changes must be applied for in writing and must be approved by the Inter-School Director.

A school with multiple campuses is subject to the following conditions:

- If a school has two (or more) campuses, one with Prep to Year 5 at one and year 6 at the other, the students may all play as one school.
- Where a school has two (or more) campuses, each with the same year levels, the campuses are considered to be separate entities and must play separately.

Player Eligibility:

- Students must be bona fide students of the school being represented.
- Students must be in the appropriate year level for the tournament (e.g. primary students cannot participate in secondary events).
- If a student splits time between two campuses, the campus represented must be the campus at which the student received the majority of their schooling.
- Breaches of the above will result in disqualification of that team.
- Students may be suspended from future events pending behavioural issues.

Tournament Divisions:

- Wherever possible, there will be separate tournament for Primary and Secondary students.
- Wherever possible, a Premier Division, consisting of between 8 and 20 (preferably 12) teams will be held.
- Premier Divisions will not be held in term 1, will be run as an individual Swiss in term 2 and a team v team competition in term 3.
- The Premier Divisions will consist of the strongest teams in each division, with a maximum of 2 teams per school allowed (except in exceptional circumstances).
- Below the Premier Divisions, Open Divisions will be held for all remaining players.
- Qualification for Premier Divisions are subject to the scores of teams from the previous term, with each year starting afresh. A promotion and relegation system is in place at the discretion of the Tournament Directors.

State Final Qualification:

- Schools must participate in 2 of the 3 term tournaments in order to qualify for the State Finals, held in term 4.
- The number of teams qualifying from each region can be found in the table set out in appendix 2.
- Qualifiers will come from the highest possible division in each zone.
- Participants must represent the school at least once in a qualifying event and be attending the school from no later than the first day of term 3.

Australian Schools Teams Championship Qualifiers:

- The winning team from each of the four divisions from the Queensland Inter-School State Finals, held in term 4.
- CAQ will not endorse any teams made up of players from multiple campuses.

Team Composition:

- Teams will comprise 4 players, eligible as per the 'player eligibility' section above.
- When playing in a team v team format, players will play in Queensland Junior Rating order, with variation allowed if players are within 100 points.
- For regions with a low accuracy of rating, the rating variation may be expanded at the discretion of the arbiter/organiser.
- To compete in a Premier division, the team must contain the full 4 players.
- In Open divisions, there is no requirement to field a full team. Part team will always be accepted – though may not have a realistic chance of a team prize.

Media:

- Gardiner Chess will undertake to contact media within each region where possible. Students who DO NOT have media permission must be sent through to Gardiner Chess in advance of the tournament.
- Students who DO NOT have media permission will be given a coloured band for their wrist.
- Photos will be taken at events and will be published on the Gardiner Chess Facebook page, and could subsequently be shared onto the CAQ page.
- Results will be added to the Gardiner Chess page at the conclusion of each event.
- Names that require suppression online must be notified in writing to Gardiner Chess.

Entering Events:

- Schools must send through their list of player names complete with dates of birth and team name, no later than 5pm the day before the tournament for their region.
- Entries should be sent through on an excel spreadsheet.
- Schools failing to do so may be excluded from the tournament.

Schedule for Event Days:

- Registration for tournaments will begin as close as possible to 8.30am.
 - Registration is to be done by the school coordinator once all students have arrived.
- Schools arriving after 9.20am may be given a round one bye and thus begin playing from round 2 (if practicable).
- Schools running late must notify Gardiner Chess via phone call as soon as possible.
- The tournament will run from 9.30am through to 2.30pm (approximately).
- Presentations will begin at 2.00pm or as close as possible. Any schools that need to leave for transport reasons must email the Inter-School coordinator as soon as possible after the event requesting merit ribbons be sent.
- The goal is to have all schools away by 2.30pm.

Scoring:

- Players will score one (1) point for a win, a half point (1/2) for a draw and zero (0) for a loss.

- Team scores are the accumulated scores for all four players in that team added together

Clocks:

- Chess Clocks will be used in Premier Divisions and on the top boards of the Open Divisions
- Chess Clocks will be set for 15 minutes per player.
- In the case of an illegal move, 2 minutes will be deducted from a player's time, or if under 4 minutes, half the remaining time will be removed.
- FIDE Quickplay rules WILL NOT apply to Inter-School tournaments.

Prizes

- Teams: Medals for members of each team finishing first, second and third.
- Individual Prizes: Medals for each division for players finishing first, second and third.
- In team events, board prizes will be awarded to the top player on each of the 4 boards.
- Merit ribbons will be awarded to players scoring at least 4.5/7 or 5/8 depending on the number of rounds.

Adjudication

- Due to the limited number of clocks that can be provided at tournaments, there comes a need for arbiters to adjudicate games once games reach approximately the 25-minute mark (given that game duration is a 30-minute maximum).
- Adjudication involves the arbiter stopping play, asking whose move it is to play, and assessing the position and declaring a winner or draw based upon the position.
- This decision is based upon the best moves the arbiters can see for both sides and NOT solely on the number of points (pieces) for each player.
- Players may appeal the decision on the spot but will have to show good reason for the appeal to be upheld. The Chief Arbiter's decision is final.

Rules of Inter-school Chess

- The touch move rule applies:
 - If you touch a piece and can legally move it, you must do so*.
 - If you touch one of your opponent's pieces and can legally capture it, you must do so*.
 - When you move a piece to a new square and take your hand off it, that is the square your piece is now on.
 - ** If the touching of a piece is obviously accidental, this is waived at the discretion of the arbiter*
 - To put a piece back in the centre of a square, players must say 'adjust' (or similar) before touching their piece. This should also be done on their own turn, not their opponents.
- Interference by players or spectators will not be accepted under any circumstances – this includes trying to help players by correcting illegal moves or pointing out a player has forgotten to press their clock.

- Players interfering in games may have points docked from both them and their team.
- For repeated cases, players may also be sat out of the next round.
- Stalling is a tactic that is not allowed for games without clocks – players experiencing this must raise their hand for an arbiter’s assistance.
- If players have any problems, they need to raise their hand and an arbiter will assist them – we can’t help after the game has finished!
- Once players shake and agree the result, the result will stand.
- Draws by threefold repetition or 50 move rule cannot be claimed unless moves are being written down, the players 100% agree or an arbiter has seen the repetition.
- To offer a draw to an opponent the procedure is; play your move, offer your opponent a draw, press your clock (if you have one). The opponent can then accept or decline the draw offer. Do not simply stick out your hand asking for a draw.
- Results must be reported to the arbiters table by the winner immediately after the game has finished. When the game is drawn, both players are required to report the result together. Failure to do so may involve the game being scored 0-0.

Parents, Coaches and Staff:

- Each school must have a supervising adult present to look after their students.
- Teachers will be required to assist with a supervision on the duty roster.
- Interference by parents, teachers or other spectators will not be accepted under any circumstances – this includes trying to help players by correcting illegal moves or pointing out a player has forgotten to press their clock.
 - Parents or teachers may be asked to leave the area immediately.
 - For second or further instances, parents, teachers or spectators may be asked to leave the playing hall completely.

Tie Break Methods

FIXED ROSTER TOURNAMENTS

- Ties Between Teams
 - Match points – 2 points for a win (2.5/4 or higher), 1 point for a draw, 0 for a loss.
 - Team Match Result – Between tied teams
 - Sonneborn-Berger Scores – Sums of opponents beaten plus half the scores of drawn opponents
 - Bucholz cut 1 (State Finals only)
 - Ties for Board Prizes
 - Individual Match Result – Between tied players
 - Sonneborn-Berger Scores – Sums of opponents beaten plus half the scores of drawn opponents

- o Number of wins

OPEN SWISS TOURNAMENTS

- Ties Between Teams
- o Median Bucholz – Sum of opponent’s scores discounting highest and lowest
- o Bucholz – Sum of opponent’s scores
- o Progressive – Sum of Progress scores
- Ties Between Individuals
- o Median Bucholz – Sum of opponent’s scores discounting highest and lowest
- o Bucholz – Sum of opponent’s scores
- Progressive – Sum of Progress scores

Please note that Swiss Perfect 98 will be the pairing program used for the 2020 Inter-school Chess Championships throughout Queensland.

Food and Drink

- Students should bring their own food and drink.
- Where possible a canteen will be arranged for extra snacks/drinks.
- Food and drink must be consumed in the designated areas that will be mentioned by the Chief Arbiter at the beginning of the day.
- Rubbish must be put into bins prior to leaving for the day. Excessive rubbish being left behind may result in disciplinary action taken against the school.