

# **CHESS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC**

## **TOURNAMENT BY-LAWS**

*Version: 20 December 2025*

**1. The following titles shall be awarded by the Association to the highest scoring Queensland resident:**

2. Queensland Champion
3. Queensland Reserves Champion
4. Queensland Junior Champion
5. Queensland Cadet Champion
6. Queensland Women Champion
7. Queensland Girl Champion
8. Queensland Disabled Champion
9. Queensland Senior (50 years and older) Champion
10. Queensland Senior (65 years and older) Champion

**11. The winner (s) of the following CAQ tournaments shall be declared champion (s):**

12. Queensland Open

**13. ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS FOR CAQ TITLE EVENTS**

**14. Queensland Championship**

15. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association.

~~16. The current Queensland Champion shall have right of entry.~~

~~17. The current Queensland Junior Champion shall have right of entry.~~

~~18. The current Queensland Reserves Champion shall have right of entry.~~

19.

- (a) Players are to be rated at least an Australian Chess Federation (ACF) rating of 1600 or a Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE) rating of 1700 as of the most recently published ACF or FIDE classical rating list; but
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of By-Law 19 (a), in circumstances where the Queensland Championship is combined with another tournament (the hosting

tournament) then: -

- (i) where the hosting tournament rating prerequisites for entry is greater than that disclosed in 19 (a) the rating prerequisites of that hosting tournament shall be used as the rating eligibility of players to enter the Queensland Championship; and
- (ii) there shall be no discretion in permitting any player not meeting the rating prerequisite from participation in the Queensland Championship.

20. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

21. Should a vacancy occur at the commencement of the event, the vacancy shall be filled by the highest-rated available reserve.

**22. Queensland Reserves Championship**

23. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association.

24. Entrants shall be rated below 1700 on the current ACF rating list.

25. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

**26. Queensland Junior Championship**

27. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association.

28. On 1st January of the Championship year, entrants shall be under the age of eighteen years, and under the age specified in each age division to be eligible for the following titles:-

29. Queensland Junior Champion (Under 18)

30. Queensland Under 16 Champion

31. Queensland Under 14 Champion

32. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

**33. Queensland Cadet Championship**

34. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association.

35. On 1st January of the Championship year, entrants shall be under the age of twelve years, and under the age specified in each age division to be eligible for the following titles:-

36. Queensland Cadet Champion (Under 12)

37. Queensland Under 10 Champion

38. Queensland Under 8 Champion

39. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

**40. Queensland Women's Championship**

41. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association.

42. Entry is restricted to female members.

43. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

**44. Queensland Girls Championship**

45. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association

46. Entry is restricted to female members

47. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date

48. On 1st January of the Championship year, entrants shall be under the age of eighteen years

49. Girl Champion titles may be awarded in the same classes as those described in the Queensland Championship or the Queensland Junior Championship.

**50. Queensland Disabled Championship**

51. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association

52. Entry is restricted to members in receipt of a disability pension

53. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

**54. Queensland Seniors Championship**

55. Entrants shall be financial members of the Association

56. On 1st January of the Championship year, entrants shall be over the age of fifty years

57. Entrants shall nominate not later than the notified closing date.

**61. CHAMPIONSHIP FORMATS**

**62. Queensland Championship:**

63. Nine round Swiss, or, if entries are less than eleven, a round robin.

64. One of the following time controls shall be used:

- 40 moves in 90 minutes, followed by 30 minutes, with a 30 second increment from

move one until the end of the game.

- 40 moves in 100 minutes, followed by 50 minutes, followed by 15 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until the end of the game.

- All moves in 90 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until the end of the game.

65. Submitted to FIDE for rating if eligible.

**66. Queensland Open**

67. Six *or* seven *or* eight round Swiss, with the number of players being unlimited.

68. Depending on the format of the tournament, one of the following time controls can be used:

- 40 moves in 90 minutes, followed by 30 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until end of the game.

- All moves in 90 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until the end of the game.

- All moves in 60 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until the end of the game.

- All moves in 60 minutes, with a 10 second increment from move one until the end of the game.

69. Submitted to FIDE for rating if eligible

**70. Queensland Blitz Championship**

71. Eleven round Swiss, with the number of players being unlimited. If entries are less than 21, a round robin may be used, or the number of rounds may be reduced.

72. Time control: 3 minutes plus 2 seconds per move

**73. Queensland Reserves Championship:**

74. Six *or* seven round Swiss, with the number of players being unlimited

75. Depending on the format of the tournament, one of the following time controls can be used:

- All moves in 90 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until the end of the game.
- All moves in 60 minutes, with a 30 second increment from move one until the end of the game.
- All moves in 60 minutes, with a 10 second increment from move one until the end of the game.

**76. Queensland Junior Championship:**

- 77. Eight round Swiss tournament, with the number of players being unlimited
- 78. Time control: 90 minutes per player plus a 30 second increment per move.
- 79. Submitted to FIDE for rating if eligible.

**80. Queensland Cadet (Under 12) Championship:**

- 81. Eight Round Swiss tournament, with the number of players being unlimited.
- 82. Time control: 60 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.

**83. Queensland Women's Championship:**

- 84. Six *or* seven round Swiss tournament, with the number of players being unlimited.
- 85. Time control: 60 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.

**86. Queensland Girls Championship:**

- 87. Six *or* seven round Swiss tournament, with the number of players being unlimited.
- 88. Time control: 60 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.
- 89. Can be combined with the Queensland Women's Championship if deemed appropriate by the organisers.

**90. Queensland Disabled Championship:**

- 91. Six round Swiss tournament, with the number of players being unlimited.
- 92. Time control: 60 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.
- 93. This tournament can be held in conjunction with the Queensland Open, subject to there being four or more participants.

**94. Queensland Seniors Championship:**

- 95. Six round Swiss tournament, with the number of players being unlimited

96. Time control: 60 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.

97. **VARIATIONS**

98. The following variations may be adopted for the Under 10 and Under 8 Championships:

- Under 10: 25 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.

- Under 8: 15 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment per move.

99. Tournament organisers may elect to use a round robin format if the tournament logistics are suitable.

100. Further variations may be granted with the approval of the Council.

101. **ARBITERS**

102. Arbiters should be Association-approved arbiters.

103. **TIE BREAKS**

104. In the event of a tie for the title of Qld Champion, Qld Reserves Champion or Qld Junior Champion, the title shall be shared.

105. **In the event of a tie for the title of Qld Blitz Champion, play-offs will be held immediately at the conclusion of the Qld Blitz Championship.**

106. The tie break method is as follows:

107. **For two player play-offs:**

108. Four game play-off at 3 minutes plus 2 seconds per move.

109. If still tied, an Armageddon playoff will be played.

110. **For three or more players:**

111. Double Round Robin at 3 minutes plus 2 seconds per move. If two or more players are still tied:

112. An Armageddon playoff will be played.

## **113. APPENDIX: QUEENSLAND INTER-SCHOOL RULES**

### **2020 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 (Federal through to Hervey Bay and West to Kingaroy)
- 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.