

CSCA Board Approves Tournaments for 2018-19 Cycle **NNGP Renewed with 3 Legs in 2019, Senior Championship Added**

On December 24, 2018, the new CSCA Board approved the final tournament cycle for 2018-19. The tournament schedule is as follows:

- January 2, 2019 – Adult Blitz Championships @ NBCC (New Britain)
Organizer: New Britain Chess Club
- January 19, 2019 – Scholastic Grade Championships @ Hopkins School (New Haven)
Organizer: Chess Haven
- January 26, 2019 – Scholastic Girls' Championships @ East Hartford Library
Organizer: Connecticut Chess Organization
- January 26, 2019 – National Nominations Grand Prix Leg 1
(CCO Northern CT Championships) @ East Hartford Library
Organizer: Connecticut Chess Organization
- February 10, 2019 – NNGP Leg 2 (Hartmayer Memorial) @ University of Connecticut
Organizer: UConn Chess Club
- March 2, 2019 – Scholastic (K-12) State Championships @ “to be determined”
Organizer: Connecticut State Chess Association
- March 2, 2019 – State Senior (50 and over) Open @ NBCC
Organizer: New Britain Chess Club
- March 16, 2019 – NNGP Leg 3 @ Hall High School (West Hartford)
Organizer: Hall High School
- March 30, 2019 – Scholastic Speed Championships @ East Hartford Library
Organizer: Connecticut Chess Organization
- March 30, 2019 – National Nominations Candidates' Tournament @ East Hartford Library
Organizer: Connecticut Chess Organization
- May 4, 2019 – Adult State Championship @ NBCC (New Britain)
Organizer: New Britain Chess Club

The Adult Rapid and Quick Championships and Scholastic Team Championships may still be added to the cycle.

NNGP Updates and Changes

As part of event approval, the Board adopted and renewed the National Nominations Grand Prix, previously organized as a bid event by the Connecticut Chess Organization. The

NNGP becomes an official CSCA annual tournament series. The 2018-19 rules for the NNGP and the Candidates' Tournament (NNCT) are published here: http://www.chessct.org/csca/Uploads/NNGP_Rules_2018-19.pdf. The NNGP will start with Leg 1 on January 26 at the East Hartford Library, organized by Connecticut Chess Organization.

Some changes to the NNGP this year include a three-Leg series (January 26, February 10 and March 16), rather than four, with the final on March 30. Similar to the third leg last year, Leg 1 will be organized in parallel with the annual Girls' Championships, and will not offer points in the national Girls' (NGTC) category, permitting all girls to compete in the Connecticut Girls' tournament without concern for NNGP standings.

Another change to the NNGP for this cycle is the replacement of the nominee travel stipends with a prize fund distributed among all of the Candidates, upon completion of all rounds. The prize fund is set at \$200-100-75-50 and is largely sponsored by an anonymous donor.

The Candidates' Tournament will be played on March 30, parallel to the new Scholastic Speed Championships.

Adult Events: New Senior Open & Late Spring State Championship Date

The Board also added an independently organized Senior Championship for players age 50 and over. The inaugural event will be organized by NBCC on March 2. The winner of this tournament will be the CSCA's Connecticut Nominee to the National Senior Tournament of Champions.

Additionally, the annual adult State Championship will be played later in the year on May 4. It will be organized and hosted by the New Britain Chess Club.

New Scholastic Speed Chess Championships

Finally, the Scholastic Blitz and Quick Championships have been combined, and together with the Scholastic Bullet Championships will be organized as the 2019 Scholastic Speed Chess Championships. It is anticipated that the event will recognize and award the State Champions for each of these events and one overall State Speed Chess Champion.

In all, the CSCA was able to set an Association record with six organizers taking part in state-level organization this cycle year. This may be expanded upon further with a few events still remaining open for organizer interest.

For tournament-related inquiries, please contact the CSCA Tournaments Coordinator.

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