

CSCA Approves Adult and Scholastic Tournaments for 2017-18, New Events and Format Changes

(released October 15, 2017)

On October 1, 2017, the Connecticut State Chess Association Board of Directors, meeting in West Haven, Connecticut, approved the following adult and scholastic tournaments for the 2017-18 cycle:

Adult

2017-18 Connecticut State Blitz Championship (December 2017), organized by the New Britain Chess Club at New Britain Chess Club, New Britain

2018 Connecticut State Championship (anticipated in March 2018), organized by New Britain Chess Club

2018 Connecticut State Quick Championship (April 2018), organized by Educational Technologies at West Haven Police Department, West Haven

2018 Connecticut State Rapid Championship (April 2018), organized by Educational Technologies at West Haven Police Department, West Haven

Scholastic Championship Series

2017-18 Connecticut National Nominations Grand Prix, Leg 1 (October 28, 2017), organized by Hall High School Chess Club at Hall High School, West Hartford

2017-18 Connecticut State Scholastic Blitz Chess Championships (December 2, 2017), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at Farmington Main Library, Farmington

2017-18 Connecticut National Nominations Grand Prix, Leg 2 (December 16, 2017), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at University of New Haven, West Haven

2018 Connecticut State Scholastic Chess Grade Championships (January 13, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at Sacred Heart University, Fairfield

2018 Connecticut State Girls' Scholastic Chess Championships (January 20, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at Farmington Main Library, Farmington

2017-18 Connecticut National Nominations Grand Prix, Leg 3 (January 20, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at Farmington Main Library, Farmington

2017-18 Connecticut National Nominations Grand Prix, Leg 4 (February 10, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization and UConn Chess Club at University of Connecticut, Storrs

2018 Connecticut State Scholastic K-12 Championships (March 3, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at University of New Haven, West Haven

2018 Connecticut State Scholastic Quick Championships (March 31, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at University of New Haven, West Haven

2017-18 Connecticut National Nominations Candidates' Tournament (March 31, 2018), organized by Connecticut Chess Organization at University of New Haven, West Haven

Event Changes

There are no changes made or anticipated to the adult events as organized in prior year. Venue for the State Championship is not determined at this time. It is possible that Hall High School will host this event for a second consecutive year.

For scholastic events, the following changes will apply for the 2017-18 school year:

1. Grade Championships

This will be the inaugural year of the Grade Championships. The event will be organized into thirteen K-12 sections by grade, allowing players within each grade to compete against one another for their grade champion title. State grade champions will be recognized through this event, and not, as was done in past years, through the State K-12 Championships, which will no longer include the determination of these titles. Among other prizes to top finishers, grade winners will receive the annual grade champion's plaque.

This tournament will be unrated to allow all players to compete with or without USCF membership. It is planned to be held at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, which will host a CSCA sanctioned scholastic tournament for the first time.

2. National Nominations Grand Prix and Candidates' Tournament

The Open section of the Grand Prix, which determines the NNGP point distribution for candidates' selection will remain virtually undisturbed. The only modification to the upper section of the Leg events is that organizers may choose to offer a G/45 d10 or G/45 d5 time control within the format of four Swiss System rounds.

Point distribution will remain the same as prior year. State Champions will receive automatic nomination as per prior year format.

2017-18 NNGP Leg events are currently scheduled for October 28, 2017, December 16, 2017, January 20, 2018 and February 10, 2018.

However, the following change will apply: Leg 3 of the event will be organized together with the Girls' Championship on January 20, 2018, and as a result Leg 3 will not provide grand prix

points in the NGTC category. Girls competing for the NGTC nomination will not have to choose between the two events and are expected to compete in the Girls' Championships.

The Lower section(s) formats will allow organizers to choose a time control between 5SS G/25 d5 and 4 SS G/45 d10. An unrated K-12 section will also be offered in each event with a format identical to the Lower section(s). Organizers will also have a choice of rating cut offs for the Lower section(s).

There are no notable changes to the Candidates' Tournament.

Please see updated NNGP and NNCT rules and description here:

<http://www.ctchess.com/new/Uploads/NNGP1718.pdf>

3. Other Events

As mentioned above, the State Scholastic K-12 Championships will not include the Grade Champions' titles, which will be reserved for the 2018 Grade Championships on January 13, 2018.

An unrated K-12 section will be offered in all CSCA and CCO rated scholastic events to allow non-USCF members to participate in these tournaments.

The Scholastic Team Championships will not be organized this year.

Please visit www.ctchess.com for a full listing of the 2017-18 Connecticut State Championship Tournaments.

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Submitted by

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