



Dean of Chess Academy US Chess Federation Online Rated Scholastic Tournaments Grades K - 12 scholastic players via ChessKid.com

The US Chess Federation (USCF) is now allowing for online tournaments to be officially rated with the USCF. There is a separate rating system for online events and these events do not affect regular USCF ratings. We do recommend playing these events as it is a gauge on how well the student is progressing. Dean of Chess Academy will be running online USCF rated events this school year. We have been running 2 free weekly blitz tournaments for members of our club (those who are in class). These events have not been USCF rated. These will continue.

We will also be running our 17th annual Grand Prix. We are scheduling the tournaments for the fall which will count for the Grand Prix season (2020-2021). All players that compete in any and all of our Sunday scholastic tournaments will automatically be entered into our 2020-2021 Grand Prix season. In the event that it becomes safe to hold tournaments in person during the season, we will do so and the remaining tournaments will count toward the Grand Prix.

[Trophies can be collected at our next over the board event, as soon as it is safe to run in person tournaments.](#)

Rules:

Our online tournaments will be held on the chesskid platform, which our students have become accustomed to. **All players must be members of the US Chess Federation.** You can register directly for membership directly at www.uschess.org

USCF membership fees: Scholastic (age 12 & under) **\$17**
Youth (age 15 & under) **\$22**

This year, **all online events will include one big K-12 section regardless of age/rating.** There will be trophies based rating categories. In the event that we are able



to hold tournaments in person during this school year, we will immediately return to our 4 section tournaments as in the past.

The events will be run at a time control of 15 minutes with a 1 second increment per move. Our first tournament of the 17th annual Grand Prix season will be held October 25th beginning at 10am. The tournament will take approximately 2 - 2.5 hours.

All players must be able to play on chesskid.com

We have been using chesskid.com for our non-USCF rated tournaments and play part of classes since the Spring as it is a safe and fun platform for our students to learn and play. There are also other activities such as lectures, puzzles, etc.

Event Schedule:

108th Dean of Chess Scholastic: Sunday October 25th 10am:

This is a 4 round event with a time control of 15 minutes per person with a 2 second increment added to the remaining time per move.

Players must register with us beforehand to participate in the event. We will be giving out extra awards this season for winning individuals and teams. The entry fee will also be less than in the past (\$20 pre-entry) and \$30 after 8PM on the Friday before the event.

Players who wish to play must have a USCF membership and be able to play on Chesskid.com

Players will be emailed instructions on how to participate once they are registered.

Event Format:

The event is a 4 round swiss system tournament with a 15 minutes +1 second increment.

All rounds will begin immediately following the completion of all games from the previous round. Please note that all games must finish in order to re-pair for the next round.

The games will be paired based on swiss tournament rules and will be generated automatically by chesskid.com based on their chesskid.com rapid rating.

At the conclusion of the tournament, all games will be submitted to the USCF to be US Chess Online quick rated.

Mr. I will be showing students how they can look up their official USCF ratings. The tournament will be submitted 5-7 days after the tournament to allow all games to be



screened for fair play rules. Chesskid.com has a full team of programmers who do nothing but screen games for possible cheating, namely computer assisted cheating. Their computer algorithms are excellent at spotting moves that are computer generated.

Prizes – Trophies:

Top 5 overall players

Top 3 under 800*

Top 3 under 400*

Top 3 players in their first tournament

Top 3 Schools Overall (all players from the same school will count toward the final score)

* based on USCF regular rating (over-the board rating)

Trophies can be collected at our next over the board event, as soon as it is safe to run in person tournaments.

Grand Prix Rules:

The total score of each individual player will be added together and the 5 students with the most points at the end of the year will receive their Grand Prix trophies (most of you know from past years that these tend to be much larger than individual tournament trophies as it reflects a year long commitment). Every player from every schools score counts toward the year long Grand Prix.

There are bonus points for the top 3 teams in each tournament as well (5 for first, 3 for second, 1 for third). At the end of the season, the top 3 school teams will receive Grand Prix trophies, as in previous years.

We will be posting the leaderboard on social media with the top individuals and teams after each event is checked for **Fair Play**.

Fair Play:

Online USCF tournaments have the same rules as in person tournaments when it comes to cheating. There cannot be any outside assistance such as help from another person. All browsers must be closed during the tournament. Parents are strongly encouraged to monitor their kids' activity during the tournament to ensure fair play.

All games will be carefully reviewed by chesskid.com and Mr. I during and after the event. While algorithms and programmers can decipher computer assistance, Mr. I has spent nearly 30 years analyzing with computer engines and will easily spot moves that are strong and not human.



Players violating fair play are not eligible for a prize and their Chesskid account will be removed by Chesskid.com as part of their fair play policy.

Players who are confirmed to be using outside assistance will be reported to US Chess and restricted from future online and over-the-board events.

[Parents - Please talk to your child about the importance of Fair Play!](#)

Entry Fee:

\$20 entry fee – you can register online at www.deanofchess.com
Register by 8pm on Friday night before the Sunday event to receive the early registration amount.

Entry fee will increase to \$30 after that up until 8pm the Saturday night before the event. Registration will close at 8pm on the evening before the tournament.

FAQ's:

What do time controls mean?

The time control is how much time is allowed for a game. In the Grand Prix tournaments, each player has 15 minutes and 1 second added at the finish of each turn to complete the game. This means it is unlikely games will go much beyond 30 minutes, and most will end in much less time.

How many games are played?

Every player will play 4 rounds as these events aren't elimination. The only exception is if there is an odd number of players, in which case one player will get a full point bye (the equivalent of winning, but without playing the game).

Once the first round is started, no new players will be allowed to join. If someone leaves the tournament, that counts as withdrawn and the player will not be allowed to rejoin. Please try to play all of the rounds as it makes the tournament more enjoyable for everyone.

Sections:

In the past, we separated our events into 4 sections. This is much more difficult with online events so we currently will have all players in one section. As it is a swiss style tournament, the games are intended to get more evenly matched as the tournament goes on. Players who win in round one are likely going to play others players who won. Players with a 2-0 score are likely to play others with a 2-0.



Start time: Round 1 will begin at 10am and the tournament should finish between 12pm and 12:30. Official final standings will be posted after a fair play review. Then the tournament will be rated and players will be able to check their online ratings at uschess.org.

Tips on tournament play:

Please note that we are unable to do anything about a disconnection during a game.

If a player gets disconnected, try to reconnect as soon as possible. In many cases, the game will continue from there. Unfortunately, disconnections happen at all levels and even the Chess Olympiad had several teams/players lose due to disconnection. Team India was even disconnected in the finals against Russia.

Pre-Move: Please also be aware that if a player clicks on a piece or square when not on move, that move may be made as soon as the opponent completes their move. We recommend keeping the mouse away from the board part of the screen when it is not your turn. In the event that you accidentally click on a piece, press on the piece again and it will undo that last click.