



Event Regulations

1. **Conduct:** Participants are required to maintain a professional demeanor throughout this competition and adhere to the US Chess Code of Ethics, US Chess Safe Play Policy, and FIDE Laws and Regulations. Any violations of these policies or established decorum will prompt the Saint Louis Chess Club to take necessary actions. This may involve reporting the incident to FIDE and US Chess, potentially affecting the player's eligibility for future invitations.
2. **Format:** The Event shall be a 10-player tournament paired as a Round Robin.
3. **Prompt Arrival:** Players are expected to arrive promptly for their games. Players not at their board at the beginning of each round may receive a fine of 10% of their prize winnings, to be deducted from their prize for each occurrence. Players more than 10 (ten) minutes late for a round shall forfeit that round. Players who withdraw or forfeit a game may not receive any prize money.
4. **No Personal Items:** No "unauthorized devices" or personal items are permitted in the tournament area without prior approval from the Chief Arbiter. Violation of this policy will result in forfeit of the round and may lead to expulsion from the event.
5. **No Draws:** A "no draw" rule will be in effect throughout the Event, including any playoff games. No player may offer nor accept a draw. In the event of a claim for a draw under Article 9.2 of the FIDE Laws of Chess (three-fold repetition) or under Article 9.3 of the Laws (50 move rule), one of the Event Arbiters must be asked by the players to verify the claim.
6. **Schedule of Events:** Each round shall begin at the start times listed in the Schedule of Events.
7. **Pairings & Scoring:**
 - 7.1 Round Robin: Players will be randomly seeded and paired according to the standard FIDE Berger Tables.
 - 7.2 Games shall be worth one point for a win, half a point for a draw, and zero points for a loss.
8. **Time Control:** The time control shall be forty moves in ninety minutes, followed by the rest of the game in thirty minutes, with an additional thirty second increment from move one (40/90; G/30; +30).

9. **Prizes:** The total prize fund shall be \$250,000 (Two Hundred Fifty Thousand US Dollars, distributed according to the table below and the terms described herein.

Place	2025 Prize Fund
1	\$60,000
2	\$50,000
3	\$40,000
4	\$30,000
5	\$20,000
6	\$11,000
7	\$10,000
8	\$9,000
9	\$8,000
10	\$7,000
Winner's Bonus	\$5,000
Total	\$250,000

- 9.1. Where there is a tie for any position, the Event prize money shall be divided equally amongst all the tied players.
- 9.2. For any indivisible prizes, the following math tiebreaks will be used: Most wins, most blacks, direct encounter, SB (Sonneborn-Berger), and TPR (Tournament Performance Rating).
- 9.3. The Winner's Bonus is awarded to the outright winner of the event or the winner determined by playoffs.

10. Arbitration

- 10.1. The tournament shall be played according to the FIDE Laws of Chess. Games shall be submitted for rating to FIDE, US Chess and URS.
- 10.2. The tournament shall be supervised by the Chief Arbiter (the "CA").
- 10.2.1. The CA shall be responsible for ensuring fair play and implementing any anti-cheating measures.
- 10.2.2. Any player wishing to appeal a decision made by an arbiter must notify the CA of their intention to appeal no later than 15 minutes after the end of their game

impacted by the decision and before the start of any subsequent rounds scheduled for the same day. A written appeal must then be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the end of the last game on the day of the decision. There shall be no fee unless the Appeals Committee considers the appeal to have been frivolous or vexatious.

10.2.3. The Chief Organizer (the "CO") shall appoint a three (3)-person Appeals Committee consisting of at least two (2) arbiters and one (1) players representative. The CO shall be Richard Pointer, IA, IO.

10.2.4. Decisions of the Appeals Committee are final.

10.3. In the event of an unexpected occurrence, the CA reserves the right to make all decisions in conjunction with or on behalf of the CO.

11. Playoffs

11.1. In the event of a tie for first place in the Event, there shall be a playoff amongst all the players involved in the tie. The playoff shall determine the winner of the Event.

11.2. If at any stage there are only two players in a remaining tie, they shall contest a Double Rapid Round Robin (a mini-match consisting of two games) at the relevant time limit specified below.

11.3. The players in the tie(s) shall initially contest a Rapid Round Robin, with the pairing numbers determined in the following tie-break order, with player 1 having the best tie-breaks: Most wins, most blacks, direct encounter, SB (Sonneborn-Berger), and TPR (Tournament Performance Rating). The time limit shall be game in 15 minutes with a 10 second increment per move from move 1 (G/15+10).

11.4. If there is still a tie after the Rapid Round Robin is complete, the players in the remaining tie(s) shall contest a Blitz Round Robin, with the pairing numbers determined by lot. The time limit shall be game in 3 minutes with a 2 second increment per move from move 1 (G/3+2).

11.5. If there is still a tie after the Blitz Round Robin is complete, further Blitz Round Robins shall take place with the players still in the remaining tie(s), until every tie has been resolved, subject to the provisions of Regulation 11.6 below.

11.5.1. If all the players in the subsequent Round Robin are the same as in the previous Round Robin, then that Round Robin shall take place with colors reversed. Otherwise, new pairing numbers determined by lot will be used.

11.6. If any tie remains unresolved after four Round Robins have been held (one Rapid and three Blitz), the Chief Arbiter shall be empowered, after consulting with the players, to direct that the tie be resolved by other means.

Schedule of Events

Date	Start Time	End Time	Activity
6/8/2025			Player Arrival
6/9/2025	10:00 AM	4:00 PM	Hair & Makeup For Players
6/9/2025	12:30 PM	4:00 PM	Headshots & Interviews
6/9/2025	12:00 PM	4:00 PM	Merchandise Signing
6/9/2025	4:45 PM	5:15 PM	Players Meeting at World Chess Hall of Fame
6/9/2025	5:30 PM	7:30 PM	Opening Dinner at Brasserie
6/10/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 1
6/11/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 2
6/12/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 3
6/13/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 4
6/14/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 5
6/15/2025			Rest Day
6/16/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 6
6/17/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 7
6/18/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 8
6/19/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Round 9
6/20/2025	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Playoff
6/20/2025	5:30 PM	7:30 PM	Closing Dinner at Tenderloin Room