

2026 ACS Chess Rules

Updated October 2024

1. The ACS Chess Competition shall be conducted under the rules of Chess Victoria unless otherwise stated hereunder or in ACS Competition Rules.
2. ACS will appoint an Arbiter to run and judge the tournament.
3. The competition will be played under the Swiss format
4. Teams will be represented by up to 10 students from Years 7-12. Should teams have fewer than 10 players, then other schools may apply for additional players. All players will play each round and according to the Swiss format will be re-ranked after each match. The tournament is capped at 80 players.
5. Players will need to listen carefully to the Arbiter as the draws are updated after each round.
6. For each round students will earn: 1 Point for a win, ½ Point for a draw and 0 Points for a loss
7. The **top 6 ranked participants** in each team will determine the final scores and ranking of teams after 7 rounds.
8. Games will be timed with clocks. Sessions are approximately 30 minutes per round (12 min per player plus 3 second increments added to a player's time each time a move is made and the clock is pressed). Players will need to be familiar with the use of clocks, but this is also explained on the day.
9. If a player runs out of time, then they shall not receive any points. However, if insufficient material is left on the board, a draw may be announced (arbiter's call).
10. The overall winning school is the team that earns the highest number of points from their top 6 players. If two or more teams finish with same amount of points, the scores for the 7th or 8th players, or however many are necessary up to 10 players will be reviewed to determine a tiebreaker.
11. Each school is required to provide one staff member per team.
12. Further instructions will be provided closer to the event.

Tournament schedule	
10.00 am sharp	Registration & welcome
10.15 am	Player briefing
10.30 am	Round 1
11.00 am	Round 2
11.30 am	Round 3
12.00 pm	Round 4
12.30 pm	Lunch break
12.45 pm	Round 5
1.15 pm	Round 6
1.45 pm	Round 7
2.15 pm	Results / Presentations
2.45 pm	Students depart

Awards:

1. ACS Chess Championship Trophy to the winning School
2. Medallions to the team members of the winning School