

Southwest Suburban Chess By-Laws

I. Goals/Objectives

Individual players will learn to recognize the importance of their own thought processes. The individual learns to accept the consequences of personal decisions and the outcome of the game as a measure of self-development in a thinking skill. Competition in chess encourages self-motivation.

II. Activities/Structure

Chess shall be a competitive team activity consisting of division meets. Blue and Red Division Championships will be awarded at the end of the season.

Blue Division: Homewood-Flossmoor, Lincoln-Way East, Lincoln-Way West, Lockport, Sandburg

Red Division: Andrew, Bolingbrook, Bradley-Bourbonnais, Lincoln-Way Central, Stagg

Division Selection

All schools shall be eligible to declare for Chess competition for the (23-24) season. The declaration deadline date shall be the Chess Pre-Meeting. Any school that fails to declare shall be ineligible for competition for that season.

The SWSC Varsity Chess teams will be divided into two divisions, Blue and Red. If there are an even number of teams, then each division will have an equal number of teams. If there are an odd number of teams, then the Blue Division will have an even number of teams and the Red Division will have an odd number of teams.

Division Alignment

As a conference, varsity teams will be seeded according to their win percentage, using a combined record from SWSC Division Competitions and the IHSA State Tournament Series.

A team that did not participate in the SWSC Division Competitions and/or the IHSA State Tournament the previous season will automatically receive 0 wins for their respective competitions and their IHSA State Record.

Teams will be assigned to the Blue and Red Divisions based on their seeds.

Blue Division: Seeds 1, 4, 5, 8, 9

Red Division: Seeds 2, 3, 6, 7, 10

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Facilities

Duals

(8 boards)(2 competitors)(2 schools) = 32 maximum participants

(32 maximum participants) / (32 participants per room) = 1 competition room

The Home team is responsible for supplying notation and results sheets for both themselves and the visiting team.

Players playing black, regardless of home or away, shall provide a board, chess set, and clock. Equipment should adhere to IHSA guidelines.

All schools will compete at a single host school for the last meet of the season.

III. Eligibility

Students shall be enrolled students of the school and eligible to compete interscholastically under the IHSA Activity By-Law Section 4.

Team membership is open to all high school students with rules that enable disabled students to represent their school as a contributing member.

There is no limit to the number of players on a team roster.

Competition between schools permits a maximum of 8 players per contest.

IV. Terms & Conditions

The SWSC Activities Handbook and SWSC Activities Directors govern SWSC Chess.

Unless modified by the SWSC Terms and Conditions, the IHSA Rules will be used.

V. Rules

An adult shall be designated by each school to perform the duties of coach at each conference event or no student from that school may participate in the event.

If a team does not have 8 players, the boards forfeited must start from Board 8 and continue upward for as many boards as are being forfeited.

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The coach with less than 8 players will call the host coach before they leave for the match.

The Home team has Black pieces on boards numbered 1, 3, 6, and 8.

The Home team has White pieces on boards numbered 2, 4, 5, and 7.

Time Control is 55+5 delay per player for the game. Coaches may elect, by mutual agreement, to shorten the time control to 45+5 delay per player in special circumstances such as adverse weather conditions or when a team plays more than one game on the same day. Time-Delay clocks (5 second delay, non-Fisher) may be chosen by either player. Games without time-delay clocks at the beginning of the game follow IHSA rules for games without time-delay clocks.

Coaches must declare their line-up before the start of the match. After the third week of the season, players must be played in order of their average playing positions. A player may only be moved 1 board out of position to allow for player growth and development. If a coach wishes to move a player more than 1 board out of position, they must present the proposed movement to the opposing coach (or tournament director) before the start of the match (or tournament). It is at the discretion of the opposing coach (or tournament director) to accept the proposed lineup or require that the player be placed according to his playing position. The Online Reporting Form may be used for this purpose during dual matches. No changes may be made once the match has started. Refer to the website <http://swscchess.org> for more information.

Refer to the IHSA Terms and Conditions for more guidance.

VI. Judging

In dual matches, the officials will consist of one coach from each team.

Only the player of the game may call win on time. Officials (coaches) are obligated to call draw when BOTH clocks expired, resulting in a drawn game.

Team positions (boards) will be weighted in scoring. A team must score a majority of points to win a match. When both teams score the same number of points, the match is a tie. Each match counts as a point in the conference standings. In the case of match ties, each team receives one-half point in the conference standings. When ties occur in the conference standings, the teams will be listed in order of the team's point differential. Ties are not broken in deciding places or determining trophy, medal, or ribbon winners.

See the SWSC Chess Results Reporting Sheet

The protocol to submit results is as follows: The home coach will submit to the Statistician within 24 hours of a match the match results via the web or by email. If any coach is unable to accomplish this task, he/she will notify the Statistician of their situation and should copy the Activity Resource Director to alert that individual of their need for help.

Points will be awarded for boards and matches as specified by the SWSC Chess Coaches during the Spring Coaches Meeting prior to the start of the season.

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State points will be used for matches starting with the (12-13) season.

Win = 1pt, Draw = 0.5pts, Loss = 0pts Division matches will not be weighted.

Blue and Red Division Champions are determined by the combined points earned from Divisional Matches.

Blue and Red Division Champions will be determined by points earned from divisional meets.

1 point for a win

½ point for a draw

0 points for a loss

0 points for a forfeit

The following format will be used to break ties between 2 teams:

Step 1: Winner of head to head SWSC matches.

Step 2: The team with the highest point differential.

In the case of 3 or more teams, the format will be repeated until there is one winner.

An Appeals Board will address any disputes and will be comprised of coaches from the top two teams (excluding the Statistician/Webmaster) in each division based on the previous year.

Chairperson (Statistician/Webmaster): Aron Kopera - Stagg

Blue Division Representative: Matt Johnson - Lincoln-Way East

Blue Division Alternate: Tiffany White - Homewood-Flossmoor

Red Division Representative: Shawn Nussbaum - Andrew

Red Division Alternate: Catherine Tallon - Bolingbrook

Refer to the IHSA School Manual and Rule Book for more guidance.

VII. Awards

Each SWSC member school has determined how they will recognize conference champions within their school.

[10 Large SWSC Blue Division Varsity Chess Medals 1st - 10th Place](#)

[10 Large SWSC Red Division Varsity Chess Medals 1st - 10th Place](#)

SWSC All-Conference Activity Certificates Criteria

Students who played 70% of the matches in a given season and meet 1 of the 3 criteria below.

*Top 10 individual scorers in each division

*Top 3 individual scorers per Board (Boards 1-8) per the division

Students midway between boards will move to the higher board

Ex. John Smith (3.5) will be considered a Board 3

*Top individual scorer per school

The Secretary/Statistician will submit all recipients to the Resource Activities Director.

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VIII. Host Rotations

The current format does not require a tournament host rotation.

IX. Cancellation & Rescheduling Procedures

Delay Procedure

If a school is unable to make the starting time, then the visiting coach will contact the host coach by cell phone, email, or text no later than 4pm on the day of the match to let him/her know their ETA. A contact list with cell numbers will be shared at the Chess Pre-Meeting.

Reschedule Procedure

Change in match time or date must be by mutual consent. When changed for other than “adverse environment”, the coach requesting the change must allow the other coach, within reason, to name the day, date, time, and site of the make-up. Such make-up is to be rescheduled within two weeks of the original day and the Secretary-Statistician notified of the date change.

Cancellation Procedure

Cancellation procedures sent via e-mail if unable to make the contest by 3:30pm. Everyone will respond with an affirmative receipt to the cancellation email.

Online Competitions:

If one of the two schools has their school day cancelled and/or all after school events cancelled by the administration, as long as both coaches agree, the Chess Match will take place virtually using LiChess.org.

X. Historian and History Criteria

Historian: Aron Kopera

Criteria: Division Champion and Medalists per Respective School