

Hong Kong Interschool and Open Team Chess Championship 2026

March 28-29

Organized by Scholastic Chess

Supported by Hong Kong China Chess Federation Limited

1. Introduction and Invitation

Scholastic Chess Hong Kong is pleased to invite all schools, chess clubs and independent teams to participate in the Hong Kong Interschool and Open Chess Championship 2026, a major team-based chess competition promoting strategic thinking, teamwork, and sportsmanship among students. The championship continues the strong tradition of Hong Kong's chess tournaments, with divisions structured similarly to previous editions organized by local chess institutions.

Teams are free to participate in any division they choose. Each institution may be represented in one division only, or in as many divisions as they wish.

2. Divisions and Eligibility

There are five divisions in the 2026 Championship:

- Under-7 (U7): Students born on or after Jan 1st 2019
- Under-9 (U9): Students born on or after Jan 1st 2017
- Under-11 (U11): Students born on or after Jan 1st 2015
- Under-13 (U13): Students born on or after Jan 1st 2013
- Under-18 (U18): Students born on or after Jan 1st 2008

Notes:

- All divisions are **Open** categories; both boys and girls are eligible and welcome to compete.



- *Participation in divisions is optional.* Schools, clubs and independent teams are **not required** to enter teams in all age divisions and may register teams **only in the divisions of their choice**, subject to eligibility and capacity limits.
- A player may “play up”, but not “play down.” Younger students *may* play in a higher division at the school’s discretion.
- Schools, clubs and independent teams may enter up to three teams per division. If capacity remains after that, additional teams may be accepted.

3. Tournament Format

- The event is a team tournament with 4 boards per team.
- Each division will be run as a 7-round Swiss system competition. If the number of participating teams in a division is below 10, a round-robin format may be used.
- Time control:
 - U7, U9 - 10 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move
 - U11, U13, U18 - 15 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move
- Default time: 10 minutes after the scheduled start of each round.
- The tournament will be governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess (latest edition).

4. Venue and Dates

Venue: Lee Wai Lee College

Dates: 28-29 March 2026

- U7, U9 - March 28 from 9am to 4.15pm
- U11, U13, U18 - March 29 from 9am to 6.30pm

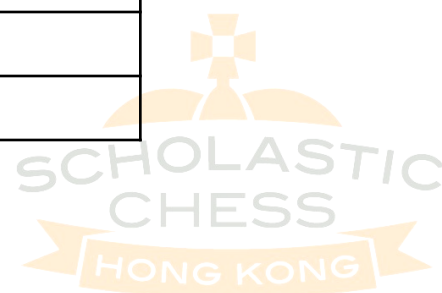
Rounds schedule is presented on the next page.



28 March 2026 - Day 1	Tournaments U7, U9,
9.00-9.30	Opening ceremony (U7, U9)
9.30-9.45	Technical briefing
10.00	Round 1 (U7, U9)
10.45	Round 2
11.30	Round 3
12.15	Round 4
Lunch	Lunch break
13.45	Round 5
14.30	Round 6
15.15	Round 7
15.45-16.15	Prize-Giving

Minor delays may occur in case of technical issues, or other force majeure circumstances.

29 March 2026 - Day 2	Tournaments U11,U13, U18
09.00-09.30	Opening ceremony (U11, U13, U18)
9.30-9.45	Technical briefing
10.00	Round 1 (U11, U13, U18)
11.00	Round 2
12.00	Round 3
13.00	Round 4
Lunch	Lunch break
14.30	Round 5
15.30	Round 6



16.30	Round 7
17.45-18:30	Prize-Giving & Closing Ceremony

Minor delays may occur in case of technical issues, or other force majeure circumstances.

5. Registration and Fees

- Registration opens: December 8 2025
- Deadline: March 20 2026
- Registration should be at <https://www.scholasticchess.hk/interschool>
Payment instructions must be followed fully to ensure registration is complete.
- Entry fee:
 - Early bird: HKD 1,600 per team (before February 15, 2026)
 - Standard: HKD 2000 per team (February 1st until registration closes on March 20th 2026)
- Entry fees are non-refundable once registration is confirmed.
- Participation is capped in each age group (first-come, first-served).
- Registration information and the registration form can be found in the Appendix.

6. Scoring, Tie-Breaks and Awards

Team Rankings

Team standings will be determined according to the following criteria, in order:

1. Match Points (Win = 3 points, Draw = 1 point, Loss = 0 points)
2. Game Points (sum of all individual board scores)
3. Direct Encounter (head-to-head result of the teams)



4. Greater number of wins
5. The result on the first board;
6. The result on the second board, and so on.

Individual Board Prizes

To recognize individual excellence, the Top 3 players on each board (Boards 1 to 4) will receive prizes.

Eligibility requires that a player has participated in at least five games, including byes or defaults.

Rankings for board prizes will be determined by:

1. Total game points
2. Final team ranking

Team and Overall Awards

- Division Team Trophies

Trophies will be awarded to the Top 3 Teams in each division (extended to Top 6 Teams if 20 or more teams participate in that division). These awards are open to both school teams and club teams.

- Overall School Trophy

The Best School Overall Trophy will be awarded to the top-performing school across all divisions, based on the combined results of all school teams entered. This trophy is exclusive to schools and reflects the interschool focus of the championship.

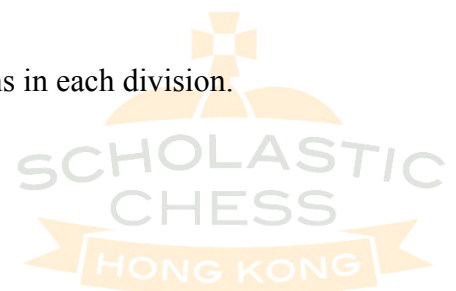
- Overall Club Trophy

The Best Club Overall Trophy will be awarded to the top-performing chess club across all divisions, based on the combined results of all club teams entered.

- Team Medals

Medals will be awarded to all players from the prize-winning teams in each division.

- Certificates



Certificates of participation will be presented to each participating school or club. Individual player certificates are available upon request and subject to an administrative charge of HKD 50 per certificate.

7. Team Composition and Participation Rules

- A match shall be considered valid if at least 50% of the registered team members take part.
- The team line-up is fixed for the entire tournament. Players must be assigned to boards according to the order specified in the official entry form.
- If a registered team player is absent for a round, the remaining players must **move up** to fill the vacant board (i.e. if board 1 is absent, board 2 plays on board 1, board 3 plays on board 2 and board 4 plays on board 3).
- Each player may represent only one team and may not play for another during the same competition.
- After each round, the Team Captain must sign the scoresheet confirming the results of all team boards and submit it to the arbiter immediately.
- The first-named team in a pairing shall have the white pieces on the odd-numbered boards, the black pieces on the even-numbered boards.

8. Fair Play and Conduct

- Players must not bring mobile phones or electronic devices to the playing area.
- Parents, teachers, and spectators are not permitted in the playing area during games.
- Players must behave respectfully toward opponents, arbiters, and organizers.
- Players should follow FIDE chess rules during the tournament.
- No players with inappropriate cloth (e.g. dirty, ripped) shall be permitted entry to the playing area.

9. Contact Information

Organizer: Scholastic Chess

Website: www.scholasticchess.hk

Email: info@scholasticchess.hk

Instagram: @scholasticchesshk



Tournament Director: Oliver Conran (tel. +852 6629 5092)

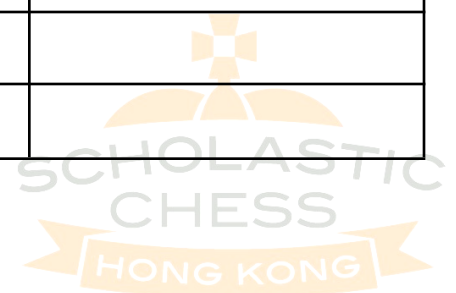
10. Notes

- The organizer reserves the right to amend these regulations if necessary.
- Final results and photos will be published on the official website and social media. By participating in the tournament, all players (and their legal representatives, in the case of minors) acknowledge and agree that the Organizers have the right to photograph, record, and livestream the event, including all participants, accompanying persons and others without the need for any additional consent or compensation. The resulting photos, videos, and other media materials may be used by the Organizers for promotional, educational, informational, or any other purposes across all media platforms (including print, digital, and social media), both during and after the tournament without any restrictions.
- By submitting a registration, schools confirm that all players and representatives have read, understood, and agree to abide by these regulations.

Application

Registration form

Team name			
Division (age group)			
Team Captain (name, surname, phone, email)			
Play order	Surname	Given name	Date of birth
1			
2			
3			
4			



Notes for Registration Form:

- Absent a FIDE Rating, institutions must make every effort to ensure players are listed in order of their playing strength, with the strongest player on top (Board 1).
- By registering a non-playing captain or any accompanying person, team confirm that these individuals are suitable and eligible to perform their roles.
- The registration form should be submitted through our website:
<https://www.scholasticchess.hk/interschool>

After submitting the form, you'll receive the fee payment details and team sign-up information by email.

