



Queens Park CHESS CLUB

Queens Park Chess Club – Club Championship Schedule of rules and operating principles.

Definitions:

The Club means:	Queens Park Chess Club comprising all of its Members.
The Club Championship means:	The series of 7 games of played during the 2024/25 Season of Queens Park Chess Club open exclusively to Members. This may also be referred to as “ The Tournament. ”
Set Club Night means:	The Tuesday night allocated by the competitions manager for each round to be played at The Bungo, as detailed in Appendix 1 to this Schedule.
Member means:	A person who has paid the full membership fee to Queens Park Chess Club, or the discounted membership fee, or has been gifted a membership for no charge.
Default means:	To be awarded a score of 0 for a game of chess in The Tournament.
Disqualify means:	To be removed from the tournament entirely.
The Laws of Chess means:	The rules as described in the document FIDE LAWS of CHESS.

The Rules:

The Club Championship is open to all Queens Park Chess Club Members only. If you'd like to join the Club Championship, you should opt in when you become a member of The Club. Members can join the tournament until Round 3.

The 2024/25 tournament consists of 7 rounds over the season.

Matches will be paired using Swiss pairings and will all be played according to The Laws of Chess. This means that after Round 1, players are paired based on their scores i.e. a player with 1 plays against someone else with 1. The time control is 60+10. This means that each player starts with 60 minutes to make their moves, and they receive an additional 10 seconds for each move they make starting from move 1.

All games will begin at 7pm unless otherwise agreed by the players.

Pairings for each round will be made shortly after the Last date to ask for a bye as defined in Appendix 1 to this Schedule. Pairings will be published on The Club's website. By entering The Tournament you are agreeing that your name, grading / ELO and the results of your matches can be published here and on the Chess Scotland Website.

If there is a tie for first place after 7 rounds, the winner will be decided by a tiebreak using Chess Scotland's Tournament Performance Rating (TPR). Tournament Performance Rating is the rating you would have received if you were an ungraded player in the event, so it does not disadvantage either graded or ungraded players.

This event is graded by Chess Scotland.

Arranging Matches

There is a Set Club Night for each match so players can complete their games in silence. Matches start at 7pm at The Bungo on each date. It is recommended that even if you can make the Set Club Night that you check that your opponent can too, in order to avoid surprise defaults or misunderstandings.

What if I can't make the Set Club Night?

If one or both players cannot make the Set Club Night, they must contact their opponent to reschedule. Most players can use the Club WhatsApp; if a player has not given permission for their contact details to be shared, this rescheduling can be done in person or through the Committee.

When can members play their rescheduled matches?

Members can play their matches up to twelve days after the Set Club Night. In round 7 only, there will be a 15 day window starting on the Set Club Night and including the following 2 Tuesdays.

If players schedule a game one week after the Set Club Night and one of the players can't attend due to an emergency/unforeseen circumstances, then the game may be played at some point later in the week, subject to agreement from the Committee and the players. Please note that this may not always be possible, for example, if pairings for the next round have to be done immediately after the current round is finished.

Where can members play their rescheduled matches?

The Committee recommends that members either arrange to play at the following Club night (with no guarantee of noise levels) or at a different chess club. The Committee can arrange for your match to be played at a different chess club upon request. The details of local clubs can be found on appendix 2 to this Schedule. Games can also be played in a public space. Club Championship matches cannot be played online or in private residences.

If members wish to play at the Thursday night group in Corona or any other such venue the Thursday group move to, then they should contact Marianne first to confirm that she can accommodate this. Please note that players will be expected to either use their own clocks and score sheets for games played outside the club, or to ask a Committee member to borrow the supplies at the Club night prior to their match.

Please note that at the Set Club Night, a committee member will act as arbiter for the games. If you rearrange your match, especially outside the club, we won't be able to provide an arbiter and disputes will have to be settled between the players.

If Members request to borrow supplies from the club to play a club championship match, then they would be expected to reimburse the club in full for any loss of, or damage to, equipment.

In the event that a Member shows up to play their club championship match, but their opponent doesn't show up, then an effort will be made by the committee to arrange a graded friendly match on the same night.

What if I contact my opponent but they don't respond?

If players do not communicate with their opponent or The Club at all before the Set Club Night then they may be defaulted and can be Disqualified.

If your opponent doesn't respond to you, contact a Committee member as soon as possible.

What if I can't find a suitable alternative date with my opponent?

If one player cannot make the Set Club Night and the other player cannot make an alternative date, the player who cannot make the Set Club Night will default the match. If players agree on an alternative date, this becomes the new set date and any further rescheduling will favour the player who can make the new set date, as written before.

If I reschedule a match, who do I tell?

If you are rescheduling a game according to the standards above, you should do so in writing and both players should inform the committee, ideally on The Club WhatsApp or by emailing contact@queensparkchessclub.com .

Results of rescheduled games must be submitted to the Committee immediately following the conclusion of the game.

Default & Disqualification

As Members of The Club we have a responsibility to each other to behave in a manner conducive to the orderly running of The Tournament. Nobody takes any pleasure in defaulting or disqualifying a player, however it's important that all players understand what the outcomes can be.

If players do not communicate with their opponent or the Committee at all during the run-up to a Set Club Night about their availability, they may be defaulted regardless of whether they show up or not. This is to avoid players coming to a club night and waiting around in case the player no-shows.

If a player is in communication with their opponent or the Committee but doesn't show up, a default will be called if a player hasn't arrived after 30 minutes.

If players default on a round and/or do not contact the Club, we reserve the right to remove them from The Tournament. A second instance of a player defaulting will result in the player being Disqualified from The Tournament unless there are significant mitigating circumstances.

Can I take a bye for one of the rounds?

To avoid having any matches defaulted, players are allowed to take a bye **in advance of round pairings**. Each player will have one half point bye that they can use in any of the first 6 rounds in The Tournament at the players' discretion.

If players have used their half point bye but still won't be able to play a round of the club championship (for example due to holidays, long term illness etc), players should contact the committee in advance to receive a loss bye and avoid pairings for that round. If players don't communicate with the club or their opponents and then miss a fixture then the Club reserves the right to remove that player from The Tournament for future draws.

Byes must be requested by the Last day to ask for a bye for every round as detailed in appendix 1 to this schedule.

No half point byes will be permitted in round 7.

Am I able to withdraw from the club championship?

If a player no longer wishes to partake in the club championship in the middle of the season, they are free to leave the tournament without any repercussions/consequences and their membership status will stay active. The Committee requests that withdrawals should be intimated to the Competitions Manager before the Last day to ask for a bye entry in Appendix 1 to this Schedule.

Additionally, as stated above, players can choose to miss specific rounds if they want by contacting the Committee before the draw for that round and requesting a loss bye.

Appendix 1

Round	Set Club Night	Last day to play the round. (12 days following the Set club Night.)	Last day to ask for a bye. (Either half point or a loss)
Round 1	24 th Sept 2024	6 th October 2024	16 th September 2024
Round 2	Oct		
Round 3	Nov		
Round 4	Jan		
Round 5	Feb		
Round 6	March		
Round 7	April		

Appendix 2*

Club	Day of week	Venue
Cathcart	Monday	The Park Parish Church, Ravenscliffe Drive
Strathclyde Uni	Monday	Graham Hills Building, George Street
Phones	Wednesday	St Andrew Bridge Club, Woodside Crescent
Hamilton	Wednesday	Hamilton Bowling Club, Strathmore Road
Polytechnic	Thursday	Wellington Church, University Avenue

*If you wish to play at another club please, get in touch with the committee to arrange this for you.