

# CalChess State Scholastic Championship 2009 - 34<sup>th</sup> Year

Dear Good People,

I am relying on CDC and professionals, not media, concerning 'swine flu.' At this time, based on professional advice, we are taking precautions, but not considering canceling the tournament. They recommend washing hands frequently, using hand sanitizer, not touching own face, and avoiding physical contact with others. I will have hand sanitizer available and request you bring some as well. We will also instruct the players not to shake hands (wave as a courtesy) and to keep the pencils we give out to record the games with them for the entire tournament. The tournament directors and volunteers are also directed to use hand sanitizer frequently. As a father, I am bringing my children to the tournament and teaching them on how to make decisions with knowledge, wisdom, fortitude, and temperance. If you have any symptoms, please stay at home. We will proactively send sick kids home. Having said that, you have every right to make the best decision for your family and I will respect that. You may read more about prevention at [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/fluallery/2008-09/pdf/parents\\_guide\\_flu\\_bw\\_8x11.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/fluallery/2008-09/pdf/parents_guide_flu_bw_8x11.pdf).

## Cancellation Policy

This tournament has its own budget and the tournament policy stated a [calchessscholastics.org/register.php](http://calchessscholastics.org/register.php) says no refunds in the last month. Even if I wanted to give refunds, the tournament budget is running in the red by a few thousand dollars.

## I have registered, now what?

1. Before you come, please check your entries at [www.calchessscholastics.org/entries.php](http://www.calchessscholastics.org/entries.php) to confirm that you are registered in the correct section and your team, byes, and all other information is accurate. In case of any errors, please email [contact@BayAreaChess.com](mailto:contact@BayAreaChess.com) ASAP with the name and section of the current registration and the corrected information. You should receive a response within 12 hours. If you don't, please email again.
2. All sections are in Parkside Hall except the Varsity sections are in Crowne Plaza ballroom.
3. Please review your schedule below (or see [www.calchessscholastics.org/rounds.php](http://www.calchessscholastics.org/rounds.php) for detailed schedule):
  - a. **Saturday** only: KG, 1-3 Rookie (unrated), 1-3 Novice (u500), 1-3 JV (u800) => Players seated by 8:45am. Awards about 4:30-5:30 pm.
  - b. **Sunday** only: K-6 Rookie (unrated), K-6 Novice (u600) => Players seated by 8:45 am. Awards about 4:30-5:30 pm.
  - c. **Saturday & Sunday**: All Varsity/Champ sections and Jr Varsity sections for 4-6, 7-8, and 9-12 => Games 9am-6pm approx. Awards 5:30-6:45pm.

## Getting there!

1. The tournament site is San Jose Parkside Hall in the Convention Center complex at [Parkside Convention Center](http://www.parksideconventioncenter.com) (at [180 Park Ave., San Jose, CA 95113](http://www.parksideconventioncenter.com)). This is across San Carlos Street, north of previous location in the same block as the Tech Museum and Crowne Plaza, encapsulated by San Carlos, Almaden, Market, and Park Avenue.
2. See [www.sidowntownparking.com](http://www.sidowntownparking.com) for 7 free garages in the area. Hotel discount parking is \$9 for hotel guests only.
3. If you need to miss a round, please request a bye via email ([contact@BayAreaChess.com](mailto:contact@BayAreaChess.com)) so you are not dropped.

## I am here, now what?

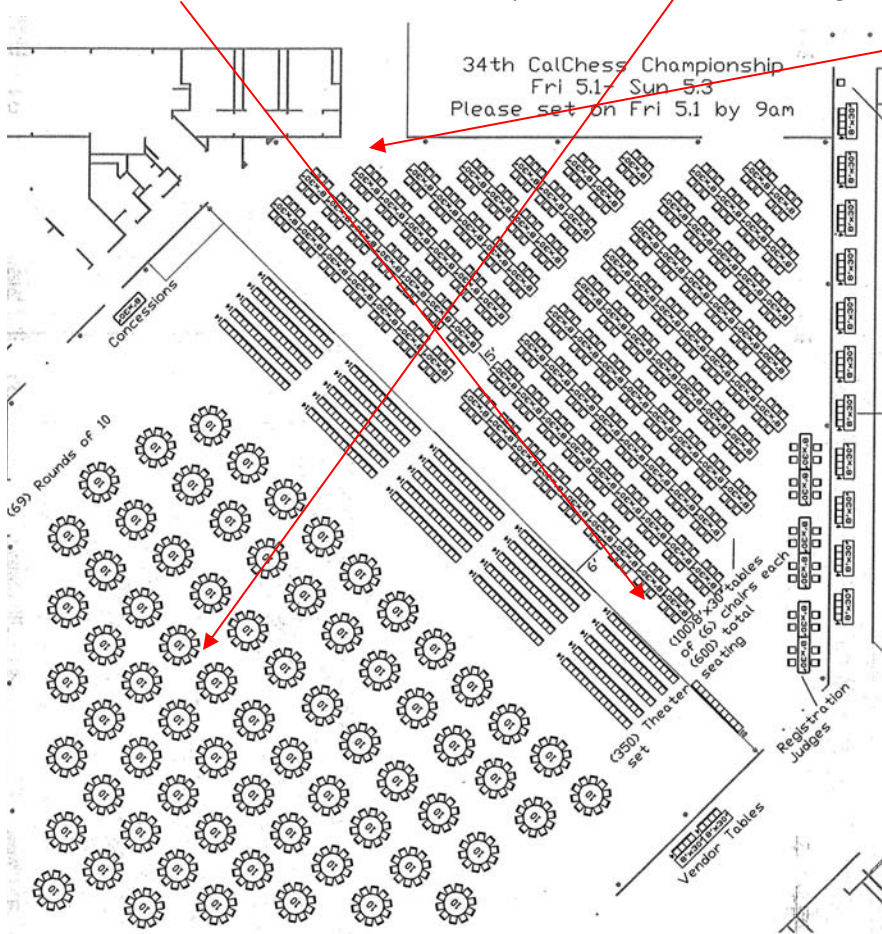
1. If you need help at any time, please stop by at Chess Control near the playing hall entrance.
2. I am attaching a map below to help you navigate.
3. Look for the pairings and standings area and locate the section and board the player is playing. This will also contain a sample of the board number color (e.g., red, blue, green, etc.)
  - a. There will be two postings outside the hall where your child is scheduled to play.
  - b. We will attempt to post pairing and standings at [www.bayareachess.com/states](http://www.bayareachess.com/states) starting Friday 10pm.
  - c. If you forget your section name, panic! ☺ No, seriously, look for the master alphabetical list to find your section.
4. The posted pairing chart will look something like the one on the right.
  - a. Look for your name in the first column
  - b. This tells you the color of your pieces, your opponent's name (and possibly rating), and the game's board number.
  - c. One player is asked to "See TD" because the section has an odd number of players. If you

Player	Color	Opponent	Board
Azhar, Aamir	White vs.	Yieh, Pierson (580)	on board 4
Azhar, Yousef	Black vs.	Hsu, Kevin (1384)	on board 3
Hsu, Kevin	White vs.	Azhar, Yousef (957)	on board 3
Kwok, Eugene	White vs.	Leong, Kevin (1263)	on board 2
Bush, George W		See TD	
Leong, Kevin	Black vs.	Kwok, Eugene (1100)	on board 2
McCain III, John	Black vs.	Obama, Barack (unr)	on board 1

see this next to your name, please go and wait next to the last board in your section and alert a Director in green shirt.

Obama, Barack	White vs.	McCain III, John (unr)	on board 1
Yieh, Pierson	Black vs.	Azhar, Aamir (1600)	on board 4

5. Once you know what board you are playing on, please sit at that board and be sure you are in the correct section/division and with the correct color pieces (white or black) – double check everything!.
6. Adults will be asked to leave the playing room once the round is ready to begin.
  - a. Inform the player (your child) where you will meet him or her when s/he is done with the game.
  - b. Please exit the room immediately after wishing your child well. Please do not crowd the exit doors.
  - c. Kindergartners children will be asked to remain in a holding area inside the hall until an adult picks them up. So, please stay in the hall.
7. I have provided more information about the tournament in the program.
  - a. Please write your name and section on the front cover in case you misplace the program at any time.
  - b. The program also includes sheets to write your games down.
8. If there are any problems, please go to the chess control right outside the playing hall. They will attempt to resolve all issues if you are nice to them.
9. If your team has a team room, you will find it outside the playing hall in the convention center or in the hotel.
10. The parent waiting areas are adjacent to playing hall.
11. Parents may be inside the playing hall but must observe pin-drop silence. The slightest of noise level will prompt immediate removal.
12. If you pre-ordered a T-shirt, you will be able to pick it up at the table next to chess control. Pre-ordered shirts are \$16, otherwise they are \$20. We have limited edition shirts with extra features for a \$5 more.
13. In Parkside waiting area, you will find ChessPalace, International Master Ricardo de Guzman, National Masters Arjoe Loanzon, and others who will analyze your games (free).
14. National Master Eric Schiller may be near the chess control outside the main hall.
15. The trophy ceremonies will be in Parkside Hall Parents Area after all the games in a section are complete.
16. Please consult the map of the Parkside playing area below. All KG, rookie, novice, and junior varsity sections will be located. KG will be near the entrance (positioned in the bottom right of the map) and the 7-8 Jr. Varsity section will be farthest from the entrance.



17. The Varsity sections will be across the open plaza in the Crowne Plaza ballroom, about 100-200 feet from Parkside Hall.
18. If you see the Directors in green shirts and the staff in yellow, please thank them for making this event possible.

I thank you for attending this event and am honored to organize this with the help of many volunteers and tournament directors. After comfortably retiring from chess during my Ph.D. at Duke, I had no idea that I would ever be playing chess again, let alone organizing such a monstrous event. I thank CalChess for the confidence placed in me and ask the guests to excuse my mistakes in my sophomore year. If things go well it is due to all the godsend help and if they don't then it is my responsibility and I apologize in advance...

Enjoy & Good Luck!  
 Salman Azhar, Ph.D., Chief Organizer for  
 CalChess Scholastic State Championships  
 2008-2012.