



CAYMAN
CHESS
CLASSIC
2024

International Open
Chess Tournament
May 4—6 2024

JGHS Gymnasium
George Town, Grand Cayman
Cayman Islands

The Cayman Island Chess Federation is delighted to invite international chess players to the Cayman Chess Classic international open tournament on 4-6 May 2024 with a prize fund worth in excess of **US\$15,000**

Tournament Brief

Open — US\$8,650 in cash prizes

Under 1800 Absolute — US\$1,800 in cash prizes

Under 1800 Female Sections — US\$1,800 in cash prizes
(all FIDE-rated)

6 round Swiss @ G90+30s (4-6 May)

Beginners (non-rated)

6 round Swiss @ G60+30s (5-6 May)

We will use player rating based on FIDE May 1st listing.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN
VISIT WWW.CICF.KY
TO REGISTER



Introduction

Venue

We are thrilled to host the Cayman Chess Classic at the state-of-the-art John Gray High School Gymnasium, a jewel in the crown of the Cayman Islands' newest government buildings. The venue boasts cutting-edge facilities that provide the perfect setting for chess battles. With spacious playing areas and modern amenities, this venue ensures a comfortable and focused environment for all participants. There will also be ample seating for spectators, ensuring everyone has an optimal view of the chessboards. The comfortable and ergonomic design of the seating arrangement adds to the overall enjoyment of the tournament.

Direct Flights

Cayman Airways provides direct flights to New York, Miami, Los Angeles, Tampa, Denver, Barbados, Panama, Havana, Kingston, Montego Bay and La Ceiba. British Airways provides direct flights to Nassau, Bahamas. Other airlines including American Airlines, United Airlines and Jet Blue also provide direct flights to US cities including New York, Miami, Philadelphia and Atlanta.

Free Entry For GMs

Free entry for the first 10 Grandmasters and the first 5 International Masters to register.



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Introduction

Experience Cayman Islands' Hospitality

As you embark on your journey to the Cayman Chess Classic, we are thrilled to offer you not just a chess experience but an immersive cultural adventure. This tournament is not just about the battle on the board; it is an opportunity to share the warm hospitality and unique culture of the Cayman Islands. From the moment you arrive on 3 May at Owen Roberts International Airport in George Town Grand Cayman, until the tournament's conclusion and your departure, we promise you an unforgettable stay.

Indulge your taste buds in the rich flavours of Caymanian cuisine. From fresh seafood, jerk chicken, and conch fritters to traditional dishes like turtle stew and fish rundown, our diverse culinary offerings will tantalise your senses. Guests may join us for a complimentary welcome dinner and savour Caymanian-style dishes while overlooking the picturesque waterfront. Explore the diverse dining options daily, from beachside grills to upscale establishments, showcasing the culinary excellence that defines our island.

The Cayman Islands boasts beautiful beaches, wonderful marine life — swim with stingrays and starfish in the open sea, enjoy fine cuisine and a warm and vibrant local community. Why not extend your stay and turn it into a vacation?

Experience the renowned CaymanKind culture, where hospitality is not just a gesture but a way of life. Our people take pride in making visitors feel like family. Don't be surprised if you find yourself embraced by the genuine kindness and friendliness of the locals, creating an atmosphere of warmth and camaraderie.



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Introduction

Our Purpose

Support Local Chess Development

The Cayman Chess Classic is a significant initiative aimed at fostering the growth and development of the Cayman Islands chess community. With a passionate commitment to the game, the event is also a fundraiser to support the Chess in Schools/Education programme, a cause close to our hearts.

Proceeds from the tournament will contribute directly to the Chess in Schools/Education programme, which introduces chess to Caymanian youth in schools across the islands. The Cayman Island Chess Federation (CICF), as a non-profit organisation, is dedicated to the sustainable growth of chess in the community. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all participants, sponsors, and supporters, as your involvement directly contributes to the advancement of our shared vision.

One of our overarching goals is to form a female team to represent the Cayman Islands in the 2024 Chess Olympiad. By supporting this event, which has a female section, you will directly contribute to the realisation of this vision, promoting gender diversity and excellence in chess representation on the international stage.



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Our Purpose

Structure + Rules

Tournament Format

The Cayman Chess Classic will follow a 6-round Swiss system format. This format is widely recognised for its fairness and flexibility, ensuring that participants are paired against opponents with similar scores after each round.

Pairings

Pairings for each round will be determined based on the Swiss system algorithm. Players will be matched against opponents with the closest scores. In the first round, pairings will be random. For subsequent rounds, players will be paired against others with the same or similar cumulative scores.

Time Control

In the Open, U1800 Absolute and U1800 Female sections, the time control for each game is 90 minutes per player with a 30-second increment per move. This time control aims to strike a balance between allowing players to engage in deep thought while recording every chess move.

The Beginners section will be played at a shorter time control of 60 minutes per player with a 30-second increment per move.



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Structure + Rules

Byes

Up to 2 byes are permitted in round 1—5 if notified to the chief arbiter at least one hour in advance of the round. Requested byes are worth half-point each and all requests must be made before round 3 with no byes in round 6.

Playing Schedule

Opening Ceremony – 9:15am, Saturday 4 May

OPEN

U1800 ABSOLUTE

U1800 FEMALE

Round 1	10:00am, Saturday 4 May
Round 2	3:00pm, Saturday 4 May
Round 3	10:00am, Sunday 5 May
Round 4	3:00pm, Sunday 5 May
Round 5	9:00am, Monday 6 May
Round 6	2:00pm, Monday 6 May

BEGINNERS

Round 1	10:00am, Sunday 5 May
Round 2	1:00pm, Sunday 5 May
Round 3	4:00pm, Sunday 5 May
Round 4	10:00am, Monday 6 May
Round 5	1:00pm, Monday 6 May
Round 6	4:00pm, Monday 6 May



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Structure + Rules

Fair Play and Conduct

Players are expected to adhere to FIDE rules and fair play principles and to exhibit sportsmanship throughout the tournament. In particular, no electronic devices (telephones, smart watches, etc.) will be permitted within the playing area. Any suspected instances of cheating will be thoroughly investigated, and appropriate actions will be taken.

Tiebreaks

In case of tied scores, tiebreaks will be used to determine final standings in the following order:

- 1 Buchholz Cut 1
- 2 Buchholz
- 3 Sonneborn-Berger
- 4 Cumulative System - Sum of Progressive Scores
- 5 Direct Encounter

Tournament Director / Chief Arbiter

The Tournament Director is National Master Ryan Blackwood, Youth Chess Director of the Cayman Island Chess Federation. Mr Blackwood will also serve as an arbiter.

The Chief Arbiter is Andre White (FIDE International Arbiter) and the Deputy Chief Arbiter is Angel Pride (FIDE Arbiter).

The tournament format is subject to any necessary modifications as the discretion of the Tournament Director and Chief Arbiter. Any modifications or will be communicated to participants in a timely manner.



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Structure + Rules

Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony will take place after the conclusion of the final round on 6 May, celebrating the achievements of participants and providing an opportunity for social interaction.

Awards

The tournament will recognise outstanding performances with awards for top players, including those in the Open, Under 1800, and Female Under 1800 sections. Additional awards may be presented based on the overall tournament results.



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Prizes

Open Section

1st Place	USD \$5,000
2nd Place	USD \$2,000
3rd Place	USD \$1,000
Top Female	USD \$400
Top U2200	USD \$200
Top U2000	USD \$150

U1800 Absolute Section

1st Place	USD \$1,000
2nd Place	USD \$500
3rd Place	USD \$300
Best U1600	USD \$100

U1800 Female Section

1st Place	USD \$1,000
2nd Place	USD \$500
3rd Place	USD \$300
Best U1600	USD \$100

Beginners Section

Non-cash prizes for 1st to 10th place, with special recognition for both male and female participants and for the age groups U6, U8, U10, U12 and U14.



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Prizes

Registration + Fees

All entry fees include lunch and refreshments.

Open Section

Overseas players

USD \$325 for early bird registrations by 20 March

USD \$375 for standard registrations between 21 March and 17 April

USD \$425 for late registrations between 18 April and 1 May

Members of the Cayman Islands Chess Federation

KYD \$200 for early bird registrations by 20 March

KYD \$225 for standard registrations between 21 March and 17 April

KYD \$275 for late registrations between 18 April and 1 May

Free entry for the first 10 GMs and first 5 IMs to register

U1800 Absolute & U1800 Female Sections

Overseas players

USD \$225 for early bird registrations by 20 March

USD \$275 for standard registrations between 21 March and 17 April

USD \$325 for late registrations between 18 April and 1 May

Members of the Cayman Islands Chess Federation

KYD \$125 for early bird registrations by 20 March

KYD \$175 for standard registrations between 21 March and 17 April

KYD \$225 for late registrations between 18 April and 1 May



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Registration + Fees

Beginners Section

Overseas players

KYD \$75 for early bird registrations by 20 March

KYD \$100 for standard registrations between 21 March and 17 April

KYD \$125 for late registrations between 18 April and 1 May

Registration

Visit www.cicf.ky to complete registration.

Payment

Payment of entry fees and associated costs should be made upon the registration process has been completed. Transfers shall be made in USD to the following account details.

Correspondent Bank: **BNY Mellon NY**

SWIFT BIC: **IRVRUS3NXXX**

ABA No. **021000018**

Beneficiary bank: **Butterfield Bank (Cayman) Limited**

BIC: **BNTBKYKYXXX**

Account # at Correspondent Bank: **8033265086**

For final credit to: **Account # 1361617860010**

Account Name: **Cayman Chess School**

Beneficiary Address:

Floor 4, Willow House, Cricket Square, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands



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Registration + Fees

Accommodation

To ensure a comfortable stay for all our overseas players, we are pleased to offer two tiers of accommodation options, at different price points.

Option 1 - AirBnB

For those seeking a blend of comfort and affordability, we offer beautiful and comfortable single, double and group occupancy AirBnB accommodations. These carefully selected options provide a cozy and local experience, allowing you to immerse yourself in the Caymanian culture while enjoying a restful stay.

1 bedroom unit (maximum occupancy of 2 persons) \$250 USD per night
2 bedroom unit (maximum occupancy of 4 persons) \$400 USD per night
4 bedroom villa (maximum occupancy of 8 persons) \$750 USD per night

Bookings for all AirBnB can be made with a provided link once registration has been completed.

Participants can select their preferred tier during the registration process, and our dedicated team will assist in securing your accommodation based on your choice. We are committed to providing a seamless booking experience, ensuring that you have a relaxing and enjoyable stay on the beautiful island of Grand Cayman.



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Accommodation

Option 2 - Locale Hotel — Seven Mile Beach

Locale Hotel is a local gem that combines convenience and quality. Situated in a prime location along Seven Mile Beach, Locale Hotel provides a contemporary and welcoming atmosphere. This option is perfect for those looking for a step up in comfort and amenities while remaining within a reasonable budget.

Prices (special chess rates for 3-7 May 2024, 4-night minimum booking)

Double Queen Room

Double occupancy – US\$357.19 per night

Triple occupancy – US\$375.94 per night

Quad occupancy – US\$394.69 per night

Penthouse Suite

Double occupancy – US\$413.44 per night

Triple occupancy – US\$432.19 per night

Quad occupancy – US\$450.94 per night

In each case, the prices include: daily breakfast (made to order), free wifi, free local calling, free parking, use of hotel amenities including salt-water pool, fitness station, beach towels and more.

A 50% deposit will be required. Cancellations (full refund) may be made up to 14 days prior to the arrival date.

Booking link: www.staylocale.com/book/

Booking code: CHESS2024

Reservations and enquiries: bookings@staylocale.com

Toll free 1-866-345-7829



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Accommodation

Visa + Travel

Nationals from certain countries may require a visa to visit the Cayman Islands. However entering Cayman via the United States of America waives this requirement.

Please refer to the Cayman Islands Customs & Border Control for further information: www.cbc.gov.ky/index.php/travel/visas

We will also endeavour to assist persons with respect to any visa applications upon request, in which case please contact the Secretary of the Cayman Islands Chess Federation:

Malcolm Powell — powell.malcolmr@gmail.com

Please make any visa enquiries and applications as early as possible.



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Visa + Travel

Thank You

Join Us in Making a Difference

Your participation in the Cayman Chess Classic international tournament is not only a move on the board; it is a strategic investment in the future of Caymanian youth and the broader chess community. Together, let us make every chess move count and pave the way for a brighter, intellectually enriched future.

We eagerly anticipate your participation and look forward to welcoming you to the stunning shores of the Cayman Islands.

As you participate in the Cayman Chess Classic, we invite you to embrace not only the strategic battles on the chessboard but also the rich tapestry of culture, hospitality, and kindness that the Cayman Islands have to offer. We look forward to creating unforgettable memories with you during the Cayman Chess Classic!

Contacts

For enquiries please get in touch, we are happy to help.

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Contact