



## Divisions

The Gold Coast Open 2025 will be split into 3 different sections.

### 1. Premier Division

- Players must have a minimum 1800 FIDE rating to participate in this division.
- Runs from Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July (evening round) to Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July.
- Rating will be eligible from the May/June/July lists.

### 2. Major Division

- Players must be rated under 1800 ACF in order to participate in this event.
- Where no ACF rating is available, any other rating a player has will be used. For example if a FIDE rating is available, this will be used to determine eligibility in lieu.
- Runs from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July (evening round) to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

### 3. Minor Division

- Players must be rated under 1200 ACF in order to participate in this event.

## Tournament Rules

### Chief Arbiters:

- Premier – IA Michael D'Arcy
- Major/Minor – IA David Esmonde

### Player Pairing and Sign-In:

- It is aimed for the draws for Round One of each division to be published as early as possible prior to Round One.
- If you have paid your entry fee, you will be in the draw for the first round unless you have advised the organisers of needing a bye.
- Players are expected to be at the venue prior no later than 15 minutes prior to Round One for announcements to happen.
- If you and your opponent from the published pairings are both at the board at the start of the round you will play each other.
- Should one or both players be missing at this time, players may be repaired or given a bye as determined by the Chief Arbiter and organisers.
- Organisers cannot cater and plan for every contingency however will aim to be as flexible as possible, whilst still aiming to begin each round at the specified time.

### Additional and Late Entries:



- Gardiner Chess reserves the right to accept additional entries after the official closure if it assists the event overall.
- These players will be added manually and paired as necessary.

#### **Byes:**

- A total of two half point byes are available to take in this tournament, apart from the last two rounds where only zero point byes may be taken.
- Bye requests should be emailed to [events@gardinerchess.com.au](mailto:events@gardinerchess.com.au) prior to the tournament if known.
- If requesting a bye during the event, byes must be requested PRIOR to the previous round starting (e.g. A round 6 bye needs to be requested prior to round 5 starting).

#### **Forfeit Time:**

- A 30 minute forfeit time from the start of the round applies.

#### **Rating of Events:**

- The Premier and Major divisions will be FIDE, ACF and QJ rated. The Minor division will be ACF and QJ rated.

#### **Time Controls:**

- Premier – 90 minutes + 30 seconds per move
- Major – 60 minutes + 30 seconds per move
- Minor – 60 minutes + 30 seconds per move

#### **Recording of Moves:**

- Players must record their moves for the duration of the game.
- Scoresheets must remain legible and be available for the arbiter to see at any stage

#### **Prize Money:**

- Shared in all cases. A player may only win 1 cash prize.
- Unrated players may only play in the Minor division and win the prize for Unrated players / the lowest rating group.
- Premier prizes determined on FIDE ratings.
- Major/Minor determined on ACF ratings.

#### **Pairings:**

- Premier – done by FIDE Rating.



- Major – done by ACF Rating. If no ACF, then FIDE will be used.
- Minor – done by ACF Rating

#### **Tie-Breaks Used (to decide trophies):**

1. Direct Encounter – games between the players involved in any tie
2. Median Bucholz – sum of opponents scores, minus the highest and lowest scores
3. Bucholz Cut 1 – sum of opponents scores, minus the lowest score
4. Bucholz – sum of opponents scores

#### **Mobile Phones and other Electrical Devices:**

- Mobile phones and other communication devices must be turned off within the playing hall. There will be a collection point at the arbiter's table for such devices. Smart watches are included in this policy.
- All tablets, PDA's, and music devices are also required to be switched off.
- Electronic devices are not to be on a person's body or in their bag – please hand in at the collection point at the arbiter's table. Devices will be stored in an orderly manner via a ticketing system, similar to a cloakroom.
- All electronic communication devices (including phones, smart watches, tablets, PDS, music devices, etc) are not to be on a person's body.
  - In the Premier division, all devices must be handed in to the arbiters table (where clear bags will be available)
  - In the Major/Minor divisions, items may be stored either as per Premier division or within bags under the table (devices must be switched off!!)
- A breach of this rule will result in a forfeit (if during a game in progress), exclusion from the playing room until the beginning of the next round if a player that has finished their game, or the remainder of the day if a spectator.
- Medical devices are acceptable with consultation with the Chief Arbiter.

#### **Appeals:**

- In the case of an appeal against the arbiter's decision, the tournament organiser will convene an appeals committee comprising three members. Members of the appeals committee will be selected based upon their impartiality and knowledge of the laws of chess.
- An appeal fee of \$200 is applicable. This will be refunded should the appeal be successful, or should the committee decide the fee should be refundable after hearing the appeal.
- Appeals are required to be submitted in writing, prior to the next round starting, and no more than one hour after the players game has finished.

#### **FIDE laws of Chess:**

- The FIDE laws of chess shall apply.

#### **Chess Association of Queensland Code of Conduct:**



- All players, spectators and officials are bound by the Chess Association of Queensland's [Code of Conduct](#).
- Where no ACF rating is available, any other rating a player has will be used. For example if a FIDE rating is available, this will be used to determine eligibility in lieu.
- Runs from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July (evening round) to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

Unrated Players (who do not have a FIDE or ACF rating) may only play in the Minor division, and will only be eligible to win the lowest of the rating groups/bands.

Please note that in the case of a player not having an ACF or FIDE rating, any applicable rating that can be comparably used shall be used.