

2019 National Senior Tournament of Champions Information and Rules

Revised July 26, 2019

General Information

The National Senior Tournament of Champions invites the winners of the US Chess State Affiliate Senior Championships to compete for the title of 2019 National Senior Champion of Champions. In case of ties in this tournament, co-champions shall be recognized. This year's invitational tournament will be held from August 3 to August 6 during the 2019 US Open.

The location will be the Rosen Centre Hotel, 9840 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32819
Phone: (407) 996-9840 or (800) 204-7234. The hotel rate will be \$129
Single/Double/Triple/Quad. Please mention "US Chess" when you call, website at:
<https://www.rosencentre.com/contact-us/>

Winner to New U.S. Senior Championship (Invitational)

The Executive Board of U.S. Chess has added the National Senior Tournament of Champions to its list of qualifiers for the newly created annual national event known as the U.S. Senior Championship (Invitational) with the 1st tournament to be held July 10-21, 2019 at the Saint Louis Chess Club, 4657 Maryland Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63108. The format for the invitational event will be a 10-player round robin with player selections by US Chess ratings (7), the previous year's winner of the U.S. Senior Open Championship (1), the previous year's winner of the National Senior Tournament of Champions (1) and a Wildcard selection by the sponsor (1).

State Affiliate Requirements

Each State Affiliate (which shall include Washington, D.C., for purposes of this Tournament) shall be allowed one Representative as determined by its US Chess State Affiliate. The exception is California, which sends two players, one representing Northern California and the other Southern California. We strongly encourage each State Affiliate to identify a tournament to determine its Senior Champion. State Affiliates must permit players age 50 or older (or reaching age 50 by or before August 3, 2019) to participate in the state qualification tournament. If no open tournament is held, then a State Affiliate invitational composed of the highest rated senior players may be used. If that is not possible, then the highest rated senior player should be offered the opportunity to play by the State Affiliate.

If the official representative is unable to compete, the State Affiliate may substitute its next most qualified player, etc. Each State Affiliate should make every effort to send a representative to this prestigious event.

Jon Haskel, Senior Tournament Coordinator, will mail the Senior Nomination Form to each authorized State Affiliate official. The official must then email the form back to Jon by June 20th. The Senior Committee reserves the right to appoint a representative for any State Affiliate that fails to meet this deadline. To eliminate byes, the host State Affiliate (State Affiliate in which the tournament is held) may provide an alternate who will only play in rounds that have an odd number of players. The alternate is eligible for prizes and if s/he does not play a round, s/he will receive free entry into a side event and/or be given a pairing into the US Open that round.

Eligibility

All participants must be residents of the State Affiliate they represent for 30 days prior to the date of their qualifying tournament. They must be 50 years of age or older. Proof of eligibility shall be the responsibility of the players and the US Chess State Affiliate official certifying the Representative or Alternate. Current US Chess membership is required during this event.

Opening Reception

There will be an opening reception at 2:00PM on Saturday, August 3rd at the hotel.

Playing Schedule

The 6 round Swiss tournament will consist of the following dates and times:

Round 1-Saturday, August 3rd, 2019–7 PM Same time as round of the US Open.

Round 2-Sunday, August 4th, 2019–12:00 Noon.

Round 3-Sunday, August 4th, 2019–7 PM Same time as round of the US Open.

Round 4-Monday, August 5th, 2019–12:00 Noon.

Round 5-Monday, August 5th, 2019–7 PM Same time as round of the US Open.

Round 6-Tuesday, August 6th, 2019–10 AM.

Senior Awards–Tuesday, August 6th, 2019–4 PM.

Players who complete all six rounds of this tournament may enter the US Open with a 50% discount. This discount will be available for onsite registrations at Chess Control

on Tuesday after completion of the Senior sixth round. To avoid online registration fee refunds, please register onsite. The host State Affiliate's alternate may only receive this discount as long as he/she was available to play during all rounds of the National Senior Tournament of Champions.

Rules

Players are required to play all six rounds. Players unable to play because of illness or other emergency must notify the TD staff so that the host State Affiliate's alternate can be substituted if needed. Players who withdraw or are expelled forfeit all prizes. Each player is required to furnish a complete and legible scoresheet at the conclusion of each round. The time control will be 90 minutes per player with a 30-second increment added after each move. This event will be FIDE rated.

Prizes

Cash Prizes and gift certificates are awarded during the Closing Ceremony. Cash prizes are given for the purpose of reimbursing players for expenses incurred in the participation of this tournament. Players must be in attendance to receive their Prizes 1st Place –\$2,500, 2nd Place –\$1,500, 3rd Place –\$1,000, 4th Place –\$600, 5th Place –\$300. Plaques to Top Senior Over 50, 60, 70, and 80.

Gift Certificates

A gift certificate will be awarded for Biggest Upset for each round. This can only be redeemed with the 2019 US Open Bookstore vendor before the end of the US Open.

Special Senior Award

There will be a \$500 Special Senior Award to the highest finisher (age 75 or older). If there are fewer than two participants (age 75 or older), the award will go to the top finisher over the age of 70. There must be at least two eligible players for the award to be given.

Sponsors

The sponsors are US Chess and the Internet Chess Club.

Each of our participants will receive a two-year free membership to the Internet Chess Club and if a current participant is already a member then they will receive an extension of two years on their current membership. This two-year membership will become available upon completion of the six rounds of this year's National Senior Tournament of Champions.

Contact Information--Confirmation of Participation

Each State Affiliate must request and complete the Nomination Form from the Senior Coordinator, Jon Haskel. Participants are required to confirm participation with Jon Haskel--jon@bocachess.com. Senior Coordinator: Jon Haskel, 2385 NW Executive Center Dr. #100, Boca Raton, FL 33431 Cell-(561) 302-4377.