



# International Schools Online Chess League 2020-2021





ISOCL DOSSIER | SCA 2020–2021

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# Introduction and objectives

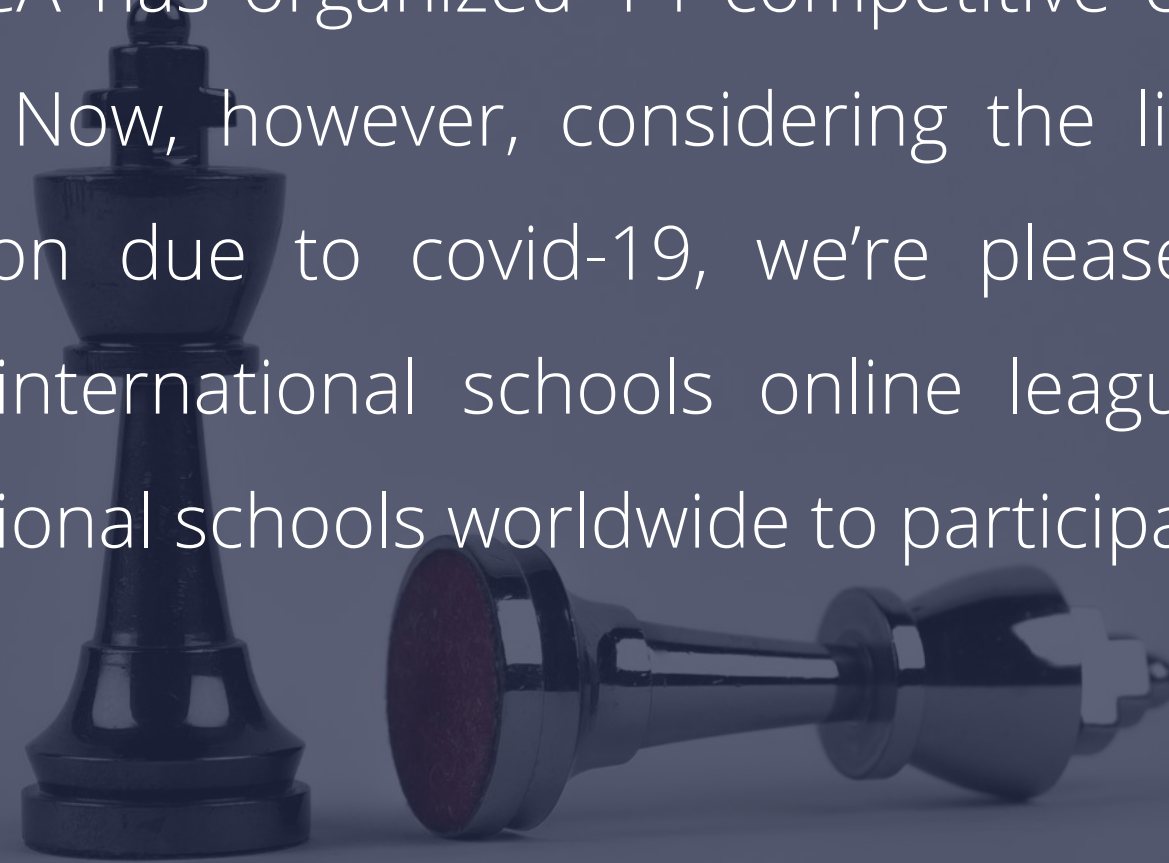
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Chess is the world's number one thinking sport, played by millions of people every day. Although the exact origins of the game are still something of mystery, what is known is that playing chess helps youngsters and adults alike to maintain healthy cognitive functioning. The increase of attention, focus and concentration, not to mention improved memory, creative thinking and visualization capabilities that playing chess develops is widely recognised for improving academic results, yet the benefits of chess run even deeper. Playing and studying chess develops numerous positive character traits which benefit young learners throughout their lives, including perseverance, sportsmanship, good manners, respect, team spirit, and learning to embrace their failures as the route to future successes.

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Structured learning and competitive playing opportunities are needed to realize the maximum potential benefits. Kids must be able to practice what they learn. To realize that aim, SCA has organized 14 competitive chess tournaments in Shanghai since 2015. Now, however, considering the limitations on holding face-to-face competition due to covid-19, we're pleased to announce the inaugural 2020-2021 international schools online league, and we welcome teams from all international schools worldwide to participate and compete.





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# Organiser Introduction

SCA Chess Academy provides professional international chess instruction in Shanghai. We teach chess in English at more than 15 international schools, and at centres, prestigious venues and homes all around the city. Our coaches are all professional foreign chess coaches and include chess masters and expert instructors. SCA also organizes competitive chess tournaments where kids can put their skills to the test.

All interested International Schools and Bilingual Schools may enter the league, provided that they have the minimum technological requirements for participating in the competition (details below).

The first season of ISOCL is open to Primary/Elementary Schools, it will expand in future seasons.

# Participation in the League

**INTERNATIONAL  
Schools Online  
CHESS LEAGUE**

**AUTUMN SEASON:**  
25TH SEPTEMBER, 30TH OCTOBER,  
27TH NOVEMBER

**SPRING SEASON:**  
26TH MARCH, 30TH APRIL, 28TH MAY

3:00-5:00 pm  
The last Friday of each month

Primary / Elementary  
**SCHOOLS**

International Schools Online  
**ISOCL**  
Chess League

SCAN THE QR-CODE TO REGISTER  
GET MORE INFO ON:  
[WWW.SCACHESS.ISOCL.COM](http://WWW.SCACHESS.ISOCL.COM)





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# Schedule

The International Schools Online Chess League features two seasons every school year: Autumn Season (September to November) and Spring Season (March to May).

Each season consists of three separate chess tournaments and the total standings after all three competitions will determine the overall school champion.

The online tournaments are scheduled for the last Friday of each month at 3:00 pm and will last around 2 hours.

## **AUTUMN SEASON 2020/21**

- 1st Tournament: 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
25th September
- 2nd Tournament: 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
30th October
- 3rd Tournament: 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
27th November

## **SPRING SEASON 2020/21**

- 1st Tournament: 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
26th March
- 2nd Tournament: 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
30th April
- 3rd Tournament: 3:00 – 5:00 PM  
28th May



# Tournament Details

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# Format

All the tournaments will be held online via the platform ChessKid.com on the dates and at the times listed above in the schedule section. Each tournament will last for roughly 2 hours.

Games will be played according to the FIDE Rules of Chess and the Swiss System pairings, with all the participants playing in the same group. There will be 5 rounds of games, every player will play 5 games regardless of the result of each game.

The time control for each game is 10 minutes for all the moves, with 5 seconds increment per move for each of the two players. One round will last a maximum of around 30 minutes. The next round starts immediately after the last game of the round is finished.

Each tournament is an individual competition with team standings based on the individual performance of each player on the team. Points scored by 4 players of each team are added up to a total team score.

In the event that two or more teams finish in a tournament with the same score, tie break scores will determine the final standings. A player's tiebreak score is calculated by adding the sum of the points of players they have defeated to half the sum of the player's points they have drawn against.

The organizer reserves the right to adjust the tournaments' format based on the actual number of teams participating.



# Teams

Each team will be composed of 4 first-team players, 2 reserves and 1 captain all from the same campus of the school. Players must be currently enrolled students in 2020/21 academic year.

Players and reserves list must be submitted online via the registration form available on ISOCL's webpage one week prior to each tournament (before 3:00 PM on Friday one week before the tournament date). If there are multiple teams from the same school, each team needs to be submitted separately. Players and reserves can be different for each tournament within the same season.

Within a few days following registration, the team captain will receive ChessKid account details for each registered student (more details below in the Participation Guide section).

Only 4 players from each team can enter the tournament, it means that reserves can join only to replace players who were registered for the tournament but cannot join. Any replacement needs to be communicated to the organizer at least 1 hour before the tournament begins. Reserve players can be shared by teams of the same school and campus, it means that they can replace a first-team player from any team of their school.



# Teams

The captain should be an adult delegate from the school who is also the school's contact person for ISOCL. One captain can be shared by all the teams within the same school.

There is no requirement for minimum number of girls or boys on the team, but it's recommended to make teams as balanced as possible.

Members of each team should be selected by the captain. However, SCA Chess Academy can offer to help with organizing an online qualification tournament within the school to determine the teams.





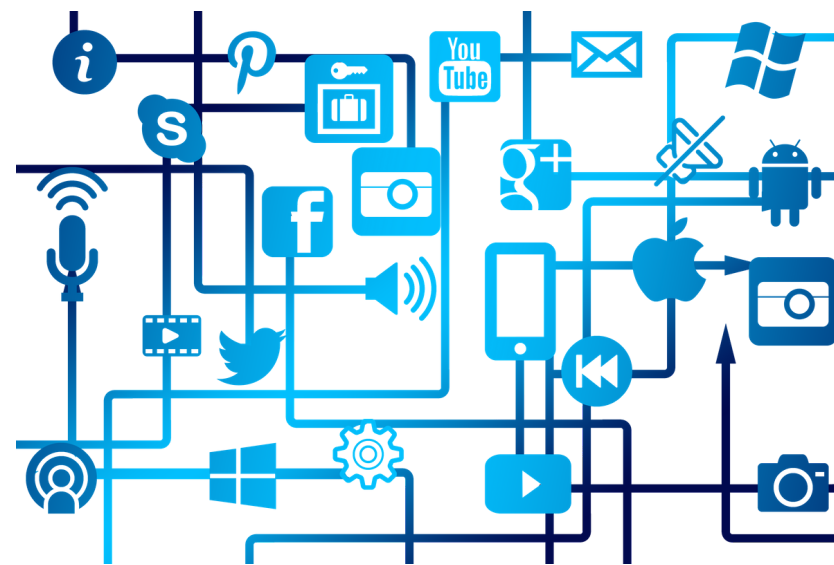
# Requirements for participation

There must be an adult from the school present and supervising students during each tournament.

To ensure the competition operates correctly, the participating schools must guarantee that the teams entered have access to certain minimum technological resources, as follows:



Computer lab or a classroom with computers for each player;



Fast Internet connection (a strong wi-fi is recommended but if you have the option to connect directly to your internet modem, that would be best);



Computers with Google Chrome or Firefox browsers installed.



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# Registration and fees

Each School interested in participating must register by submitting a digital form available on ISOCL 's website before the deadline for each season.

The deadline for registration for the Autumn Season 2020/21 is 11 September 2020, and the deadline for the Spring Season is by 12 March 2021.

New schools cannot join during a season but can join from the start of the next Autumn or Spring Season.

Each school can be represented by multiple teams, however, members of each team are not interchangeable.

All the schools participating in ISOCL for the first time can register for both seasons in the school year of 2020/21 free of charge.



# Annex

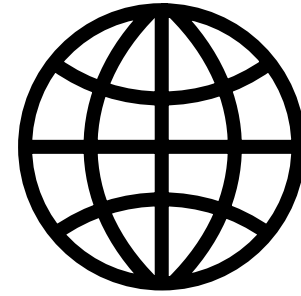
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## Participation Guide

Tournaments will be held on the online platform ChessKid.com.

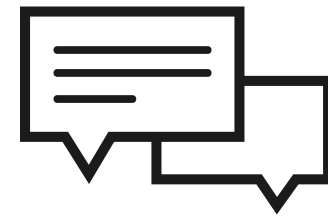
All the participating students will be given Usernames and Password to their accounts on the platform upon registration. Accounts names will start with the school name (including the campus) followed by the student's name.

# Contact us



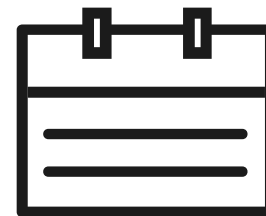
## WEBSITE

<https://www.scachess.com/isocl>



## EMAIL ADDRESS

[schools@scachess.com](mailto:schools@scachess.com)



## PHONE NUMBER

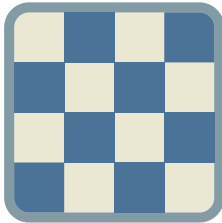
(021) 6233 2215



# HOW TO JOIN A LIVE CHESS TOURNAMENT

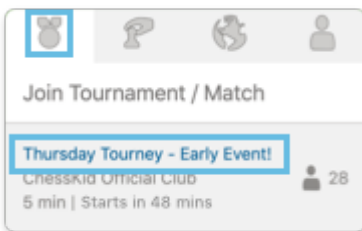


1. Click on the Fast Chess button.

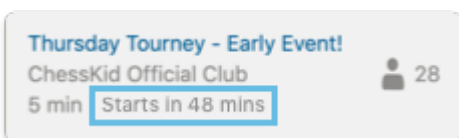


**PLAY VS KID**

2. Find the tournaments tab and click the Tournament name.



3. Tournament Start Time will be displayed. You can only click the JOIN button 15 minutes before Start Time.



4. When the button turns bright orange, you can click to join the tournament!

**JOIN**

## TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Use a computer Browser to access Live Chess, not a mobile device of any kind.



Google Chrome & Firefox have the best performance. Please do not use Microsoft Edge as you may find your games disconnecting frequently. Safari is acceptable if you are using a Mac computer, but Google Chrome is still the best overall for Macs & PCs.



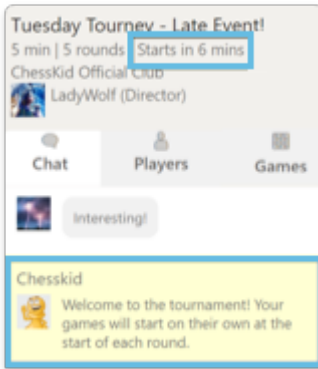
Clear out your browser cache and cookies. Browsers perform best with a little maintenance and this little "tune up" can really help!

Make sure you are not actively running any other programs or software on your computer so as to conserve your computer's resources.

Strong wi-fi is recommended but if you have the option to connect directly to your internet modem, that would be best!



- Once you have joined, wait for the game to start. The countdown to start time shows at the top.



- If you need to leave the tournament, you can do so by clicking the "x" at the top right of the tournament screen. This will remove you completely. If you click the "x" mid-tournament, you cannot rejoin. If you accidentally remove yourself during registration time, you can rejoin by going through the first steps.

