



^{49th}
**Scarborough
Chess Congress
&
Club Championship**

23rd - 25th October 2026

At the Spa Complex, South Bay, Scarborough. YO11 2HD

5 round Swiss tournament

6 Sections

Open | U2050 | U1900 | U1750 | U1600 | U1450

All sections ECF rated | Open & Challengers FIDE rated

OVER £7000 IN PRIZE MONEY

OPEN 1ST PLACE PRIZE £1000

Club Championship

**£500 for the best performing Club determined from their
best scoring 6 players**

Sponsored by

ChessPick
Pick your perfect Chess coach



**Offering coaching credits for the best
performing 3 players in each section**



An ECF International Series Event

Sections

Open
Challengers (U2050)
Major (U1900)
Intermediate (U1750)
Minor (U1600)
Foundation (U1450)

<i>Prizes</i>			<i>Entry fee</i>
1 st £1000	2 nd £400	3 rd £200	£45
1 st £600	2 nd £300	3 rd £100	£40
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1 st £400	2 nd £200	3 rd £100	£35

£100 rating prizes will be awarded in each section subject to the number of entries

No tie breaks used - prizes will be shared equally

Players eligible to win both a main prize and a rating prize will only receive the highest prize

Timetable

Opening ceremony	Fri 23 rd October	18:50
Round 1	Fri 23 rd October	19:00
Round 2	Sat 24 th October	09:30
Round 3	Sat 24 th October	14:30
Round 4	Sun 25 th October	09:30
Round 5	Sun 25 th October	14:30

Games defaulted after 30 minutes

Rate of play

110 minutes with a **10 second** increment for all moves.

All moves must be recorded on the provided score sheets until your clock goes under 5 minutes remaining.

Club Championship

A minimum of 6 players are required, if a Club is represented by more than 6 players then the top scoring 6 players will be used to determine the Club's score. The winning Club will receive £500.

Only ECF registered Clubs are allowed but 2 Clubs can combine to share any winnings.

You can represent any Club you want and your choice won't affect your ECF details.

The current Club Champions from 2025 are Ilkley's **The Chess Centre**

Bookstall

Chess Essentials

Chess Essentials will be providing the book stall and are also **sponsoring** this years event.

They will be selling playing equipment such as plastic boards of various types and colours plus folding, roll-ups and silicone mats. Wooden boards & pieces. Chess beakers and coasters. Badges, pens, scoresheets and score books. Plus Chess Ties and a vast selection of books.

If you wish to pre-order contact chessbooksuk@hotmail.co.uk or message 07594896591

Ratings

All games will be ECF rated so all players **must** be **Gold** members or above otherwise the 'pay to play' fee is payable. Bronze members would be upgraded to Gold after paying this fee.

Players without a rating must provide evidence of their playing ability. Online accounts with chess.com or lichess.com would suffice but your username would be required.

The published '**July 2026**' ratings can be used to determine the section to be played in but the '**October 2026**' ratings will be used for pairing. Players with a provisional rating are most likely to be moved should their October rating take them outside the selected section rating band.

The Open & Challengers sections are FIDE rated. Players with both a FIDE and ECF rating, the highest will be used. **Non ENG players must have a FIN.**

The Team

Director & Organiser

Nigel Hepworth (tel.no. 07903 548675)
nigel@scarboroughchess.uk

Arbiters

Lara Barnes(chief), Matthew Carr,
Nigel Hepworth, Peter Ackley,
Jim Burnett, Neil Lowther

Facilities

The Spa offers a good selection of food and beverages including a bar but eating whilst playing will **not be permitted**

Entries

Entry fees

Open - £45, Challengers / Major / Intermediate / Minor - £40, Foundation - £35

Free entry for GM's and WGM's

Juniors (under 18 on 1/9/26) & Seniors (over 65 on 1/9/26) -£5 discount

Additional fees

- Bronze and non ECF members - 'pay to play' fee +£15 for adults, +£6 for juniors

Entries only accepted upon receipt of payment.

Withdrawals

Entries received before 1st July 2026 will receive a full refund, otherwise a £5 admin fee may be deducted from the fee paid.

Closing Date

No entries will be accepted after Thursday 22nd October 2026 and restrictions will occur when levels start to exceed 500.

Website



www.scarboroughchess.uk

Here you will find our online entry form which is the preferred method of entry, a list all the entries received along with any other news relating to the congress.

Entry Form - 2026

- ☐ Open
☐ Challengers (U2050)
☐ Major (U1900)

- ☐ Intermediate (U1750)
☐ Minor (U1600)
☐ Foundation (U1450)

First name			
Surname			
Date of birth (dd/mm/yy)		<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
Telephone number			
Address			
Postcode			
Email			
Club to compete for			
Any special needs			

Byes	<input type="checkbox"/> Round 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Round 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Round 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Round 4
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Current rating		Source (eg ECF)	
ECF Rating code		FIDE ID code	
Username (if online rating)			

ECF membership	<input type="checkbox"/> None / Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold / Platinum
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Entry Fee	Open £45, Foundation £35, Others £40 Free entry for GM's and WGM's	+ £
Pay to play	Players below Gold ECF membership Adults +£15, Juniors +£6	+ £
Discounts	Juniors (aged under 18 on 1/9/26) - £5 Seniors (over 65 on 1/9/26) - £5	- £
Donations	Will go towards 2027 event & received with thanks	+ £
TOTAL		= £

Entries only accepted with full payment

Cheques - payable to 'Scarborough Chess Congress' and posted to Nigel Hepworth, 71 Fixby Road, Huddersfield. HD2 2JB

Bank Transfer - Sort Code 30-96-15, Account no. 02531526
Please provide your full name as reference.

Thank you