

Southampton Chess Club

Founded 1883



Lightning Championship Rules

September 2023

1. The Championship title and the H.L. Parsons Memorial Trophy shall be played across three tournaments: one in September, one shortly before Christmas, and one in May (near the end of the season). The rate of play for each tournament is noted below.
2. The Championship shall be awarded to the player with the highest percentage score, combining their highest two scores across the three tournaments. Players must compete in at least two of the tournaments to be eligible for the Championship.
3. Only Southampton club members qualify for the Championship although visitors may, at the discretion of the Committee, enter a tournament.
4. ECF Laws of Chess will apply except as amended hereunder and all three tournaments will be organised using the Swiss system of pairings.
5. One point shall be awarded for a win and half a point for a draw. Results must be reported by the winner or in the event of a draw by the player with the white pieces.
6. A player making an illegal move loses the game.
7. Draws by three-fold repetition of the position or by the 50-move rule do not apply.
8. Mistakes in setting up the pieces can be rectified after each player has made no more than one move.
9. The Christmas tournament rate of play shall be 3 minutes for all moves, with a 2-second increment. 8 rounds shall be played unless agreed by a majority of those competing.
10. With the September and May tournaments, moves will be made at ten second intervals. Players must make a move when the buzzer sounds for their turn. A player delaying his move may be penalised after one warning by the controller.
11. Each round will last 25 minutes (approx. 75 moves each) unless all games have concluded earlier.
12. If players cannot agree a result, games unfinished after the 25 min limit shall be adjudicated by the

Controller.

13. There will be a minimum of 5 rounds played, with a sixth round if the fifth is concluded by 9.25 p.m.
14. The decision of the controller is final on all matters.