

2024 Birmingham Junior Open Tournament Rules

Section A: General Rules

Rating

The tournaments will be submitted to the English Chess Federation (ECF) for national rating. Additionally, Under 18 Group A will be submitted for FIDE-rating. It is a condition of playing in the 2024 Birmingham Junior Open that the data submitted at the time of entry will be forwarded to the ECF and FIDE as required to enable the games rated by the ECF and FIDE.

Allocation of Ratings in All Sections

The ratings used for the tournament will be the following in sequence until a rating is found:
ECF Rapidplay Rating (October 2024) – A, K or P categories only

Where a player has neither of these, the organisers will typically assign a player to the section with the lowest rating limit, unless otherwise requested by the entrant.

“Under 11” players must play in one of the Under 11 sections, except that if their rating is more than 1400, they may choose to enter Under 18 Group A.

Level of ECF Membership Required

All entrants must be a Silver member of the ECF.

Section B: Tournament Specific Regulations

Number of Rounds	5
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0
Time Control	Game/15 + 10'
Default Time	None: The player has until their time expires to begin their game
Schedule	Round 1 Saturday, 19th October 1300 Round 2 Saturday, 19th October 1400 Round 3 Saturday, 19th October 1500 Round 4 Saturday, 19th October 1600 Round 5 Saturday, 19th October 1700 Prize Giving Saturday, 19th October 1800
Pairings Published for each Round	1245 for Round 1, ASAP thereafter
Tournament Sections	Under 18 Group A Open (01/09/2006 or later) Group B Under 1400 Group C Under 1000 Under 11 Group A Open (01/09/2013 or later) Group B Under 1000 Group C Under 800 Group D Under 600
Entry Fee	£15
Refund Policy (Withdrawals)	Before 13 th October £5 admin fee deducted 100% refund on remaining money paid 13 th – 18 th October £5 admin fee deducted 50% refund on remaining money paid 19 th October No refund
Points Prizes (per section)	>= 4½ points Gold medal >= 3½ points Silver medal >= 2½ points Bronze medal

Section C: Prize Calculation

Entry Limit

Entry is limited to 150 players in total. Any section with more than 20 players may be split by the organisers into smaller sections.

Postal Entries

No postal entries can be accepted.

Byes

Zero Point Byes may be requested by the Organiser.

Section D: Registration, Defaults & Pairing Alterations

Re-pairings

No re-pairings will be offered in the event of a player defaulting their game, the opponent will win their game by forfeit. If the opponent who wins their game by forfeit wishes to play a game, the organiser will make every effort to find another player to play against them in a ECF Rated game.

Section E: Miscellaneous

Mobile Phones

During play mobile phones and other electronic devices (such as smartwatches and fitbits) must be left with parents in the waiting area. A player must not have any such device about their person or carry it with them during play.

A player will be immediately forfeited if during the game any such device either

- (a) makes any sound; or
- (b) is found to be switched on; or
- (c) is found to be about their person or being carried by them.

Parental Responsibility

Parents or guardians are responsible for their children during the tournament. The organisers and helpers are not able to act "in loco parentis" and are not able to take responsibility for any child's actions, or for the actions of anyone that may affect your child.

Liability

The organisers accept no responsibility for any loss, theft or accident during the tournament.

Right to Refuse Entry

The Chief Organiser reserves the right to refuse entry without being required to state a reason, and to transfer players between tournaments at any time.

Zero Tolerance to Abuse

The Chief Arbiter is empowered to expel a who shows dissent by word or action towards an arbiter, or any member of staff connected with the tournament.