

2025 Warwickshire Junior Championship Tournament Rules

Section A: General Rules

Rating

The tournaments will be submitted to the English Chess Federation (ECF) for national rating. Additionally, the Under 18, Under 16, Under 14 and Under 12 sections will be submitted for FIDE-rating. It is a condition of playing in the 2024 Warwickshire Junior Championship 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 (November 2025) – 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.

Players must play in their designated age group sections. If sections are merged, players are only eligible to win the prizes for their original section.

Level of ECF Membership Required

All entrants must be a Gold member of the ECF.

Section B: Tournament Specific Regulations

Number of Rounds	7
Number of Half Point Bys Permitted	0
Time Control	Game/15 + 10'
Default Time	None: The player has until their time expires to begin their game
Schedule	Round 1 Sunday, 23rd November 1100 Round 2 Sunday, 23rd November 1200 Round 3 Sunday, 23rd November 1300 Round 4 Sunday, 23rd November 1400 Round 5 Sunday, 23rd November 1500 Round 6 Sunday, 23rd November 1600 Round 7 Sunday, 23rd November 1700 Playoff (if needed) Sunday, 23rd November ASAP Prize Giving Sunday, 23rd November 1800
Pairings Published for each Round	1045 for Round 1, ASAP thereafter
Tournament Sections	Under 18 Born 01/09/2007 – 31/08/2009 Under 16 Born 01/09/2009 – 31/08/2011 Under 14 Born 01/09/2011 – 31/08/2013 Under 12 Born 01/09/2013 – 31/08/2015 Under 10 Born 01/09/2015 – 31/08/2017 Under 8 Born 01/09/2017 or later
Entry Fee	£25
Refund Policy (Withdrawals)	Before 17 th November £5 admin fee deducted 17 th – 23 rd November £15 admin fee deducted 23 rd November No refund
Points Prizes (per section)	>= 6 points Gold medal >= 5 points Silver medal >= 4 points Bronze medal
Tie-Breaks	Playoff

Eligibility

Players in one of the following categories will be eligible to play in the Warwickshire Junior Championship:-

- (a) Born in Warwickshire
- (b) Domiciled in Warwickshire
- (c) At school in Warwickshire

For the purpose of this rule, "Warwickshire" is defined as:-

- (i) The five districts of the non-metropolitan county of Warwickshire: North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth, Rugby, Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick.
- (ii) The following three districts of the metropolitan county of West Midlands: City of Birmingham, City of Coventry, Solihull.

Section C: Prizes & Playoffs

The winner of each tournament will be the Warwickshire Champion in their age group.

In the event of a tie for 1st place, a blitz playoff will be arranged between the tied players. The time limit for the playoff games will be Game/3 + 2'. The Chief Arbiter will determine the precise format of the playoff, subject to the principles below.

The players will be sorted by the following tie-breaks:

- (a) Direct Encounter
- (b) Median-Buchholz 1
- (c) Buchholz
- (d) Sonneborn-Berger
- (e) Drawing of Lots

The playoff matches shall be sudden death, with the players seeded closer to 1 receiving any byes that may be necessary. For example, in the event of a 5-player playoff, seeds 1, 2 and 3 will receive a bye in order for 4 v 5 to be played, and reduce the number of players involved in the tie to a number of players to 4, i.e. Semi Finals.

The players seeded closer to 1 will get choice of colour in game 1 of a match against another player. In the event of a drawn game in the playoff match, the colours will alternate before the next game.

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

Entry Limit

Entry is limited to 150 players in total.

Postal Entries

No postal entries can be accepted.

Byes

Zero Point Byes may be requested by the Organiser.

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.