



HOBSONS BAY
CHESS CLUB
EST. 1974

TOURNAMENT RULES

2026 Honourable Bob Open

Club	Hobsons Bay Chess Club Est. 1974
Date	04 January 2026
Tournament	2026 Honourable Bob Open
Venue	Hobsons Bay Chess Club, 108 Queen Street Altona
Entry	\$30 (members only price) \$50 (non- members)
Rating	FIDE / ACF Classical Rating
Contact	Steven Hogan (hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com)
Chief Arbiter	NA Truong Nguyen
Schedule	7:30 PM- Tournament starts. Playing dates per HBCC Portal registration and ChessChat.
Format	5 rounds, 90 minutes + 30 seconds per move (1 round per week)



Tournament Rules

- **Standard FIDE Rules:** All games will be played according to the standard FIDE rules.
- **Time Control:** Each player will have **90 minutes with an additional 30 second increment per move** starting from the first move.
- **Default time** for each round is 30 minutes from the scheduled start time.
- **Half Point Bye:** Players are allowed a maximum of 1 half-point byes for 5 round tournaments. No half-point byes are permitted for the final 2 rounds. Bye requests must be submitted in writing to hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com by the commencement of tournament (round 1) or 1 week in advance (rounds onwards)
- **Advance Notice for Absence:** If you become unable to attend a round, please inform the Chief Arbiter (hobsonbaychessclub@gmail.com) at least 24 hours in advance, or at earliest opportunity in case of an emergency. This courtesy helps avoid situations where an opponent makes the trip to the club only to find no match awaiting them.
- **Policy on Repeated Absences:** Please be advised that any player who is absent from the tournament at least twice without prior notification to the organizers will be removed from the tournament roster. While we understand that unforeseen circumstances can occur, we kindly ask for your cooperation to communicate with us in advance whenever possible. This policy helps us ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for all participants.
- **Illegal Moves:** A player making an illegal move will incur a penalty of 2 minutes (Classical) or 1 minutes (Rapid/Blitz) for the first offense. The game will be forfeited if it's the player's second illegal move.
- **Appeal Committee:** Players can appeal against Chief Arbiter (CA) decisions. An appeal must be submitted in writing along with a \$100 deposit. If the appeal is successful, the deposit will be returned. An Appeal Committee comprising **three appointed individuals** will review appeals

1. IA Casey Goh
2. NA Truong Nguyen



3. NA Steven Hogan
 4. FA Tony Davis
 5. FA Matthew Whitford
 6. FA Kuanysh Batyrbekov
- **Unpaired BYEs:** In the case of an odd number of players on the day, one player may receive an unpaired BYE, awarding them 1 point. We aim to notify affected parents in advance, whenever possible.

Prizes

Cash prizes are as below

1. 1st Place - \$300
2. 2nd Place - \$150
3. 3rd Place - \$100
4. Rating Group 1 (Under FIDE 1800) - \$100
5. Rating Group 2 (Under FIDE 1500 and Unrated) - \$100

Players are only able to win **one prize per tournament**. If a player is eligible for multiple prizes, they will receive the prize of highest value.

In the event of multiple players tying in a prize category, the prize will be shared. **No tie breaks will be used to determine prizes.**

Qualification for end of the year Club Championship

8 players will qualify for the Club Championship at year end. Players in the Club Championship MUST be a financial member of HBCC.

The 4 qualification events are:

1. Honourable Bob
2. Purdy Cup
3. Hobsons Bay Cup
4. Koshnitsky Cup



Players can qualify one of two ways:

1. Point accumulation in qualification events. Players best 3 tournaments will count towards qualification. In event of a tie, Sum of Progressive across the 3 best tournaments will count, followed by direct encounters with player(s) tied.
2. Winning a qualification event outright OR joint winner with no more than one other.

Winning the prior year Reserves Championship will earn entry to the following year championship, subject to the player completing at least 2 qualification events in the current year. This only applies if the Reserves Championship is won outright. Players who jointly win the reserves championship will receive 1 bonus point towards qualification.