

Venue



The TRAC Center (<http://www.traconline.com>) is located directly off I-182 in Pasco, WA and has about 90,000 square feet of contiguous space on one level in the arena, atrium, and exhibition hall. The 38,000 sq. ft. Exposition Hall will be the area for team tables, vendors and displays separate from the playing area.

The conference rooms will be used for the kindergarten section, volunteer hospitality, pairing, and coaches' meetings. The 39,000 sq. ft Arena contains adequate floor space for the playing area. There is free parking for this event with over 900 parking spaces excluding the hotel parking lots.

Tournament

The tournament will be a five round Swiss format. The time control will be Game/30 (maximum one hour for each game) or Game/25 with 5-second time delay. Standard USCF rules will be enforced. Grade-level divisions will be used in accord with current WSECC rules. In order to increase the chances of single champions per grade level, we will implement accelerated pairings through the first two rounds. Players with perfect 5.0 scores will be designated co-champions. The traditional Washington scholastic tiebreak scheme will break all other ties (Solkoff, Cumulative score, Cumulative scores of the opposition "SCO"). Team trophies for grades 1-3 and 4-6 will be determined by the top five players' cumulative scores from each team.

The "I Love Chess Too" tournament will continue as in previous years. We may host a "Bughouse tournament" on a low-cost, non-rated, no trophy basis on Friday night.

Costs

Registration fee will be no more than \$40/\$50/\$65 (\$40 by Mar 1, \$50 by March 15 and \$65 for March 16 to April 15). "I Love Chess Too" registration fee will be \$25/\$35/\$50 (\$25 by March 1, \$35 by March 15 and \$50 March 16-April 15. Free "Team Tables" will be available with at least 2 chairs per registered player! There is a pass through fee, however, for a single power outlet for your team table which must be arranged in advance (by April 1, 2018) and will cost \$50 per table for one outlet. (Bring your own power strip).

Awards

WECC intends to provide a trophy for all participants who score 3.0 or higher. Team trophies will be provided for the top 25 teams in the 1-3 and 4-6 sections. We will also provide each kindergarten participant with a vinyl chess board which was used in the tournament. The trophies for scores of 3.0, and 3.5 will be handed out by the score keeper at the end of round 5.

Lodging

There will be 3 hotels adjacent to the TRAC parking lot.



Other hotels within a 15 minute drive will provide more than sufficient space for participants. According to the Tri-Cities Visitors and Convention Bureau, there are about 3400 hotel rooms in the Tri-Cities. WECC will negotiate a chess rate before the event and post links to participating hotels on their website www.chesschampions.org. There is also an RV park adjacent to the TRAC facility with hookups and WiFi. The hotels adjacent to the airport advertise that they can shuttle guests to the TRAC as well as the airport.

Food

Food within the center will be provided exclusively by the on-site catering service and their partner vendors. Because the arena is used for sporting events, their kitchen is accustomed to serving thousands of people during a twenty-minute intermission. We have asked them to provide a variety of lunch options as well as coffee and snack kiosks throughout the tournament time.

There are also numerous restaurants and grocery options within sight of the front door that are either a long walk or a short drive from the TRAC Center. Besides a variety of sit-down (IHOP, Applebee's, Cousins, Teriyaki Grill, Pizza, Bruchi's sandwich shop) and fast-food (Sonic, Arby's, McDonald's, Starbucks, Panda Express, Quizno's, Jack in the Box, Subway) there are also Wal-Mart and Yoke's Fresh Market for food.

Other Vendors

We will accept applications for vendors for non-food items and expect to have some sales of chess-related items and official tournament T-shirts.

Communications

The TRAC provides free WiFi. Early announcements such as lodging links, and preliminary pairings, will be provided on the WECC website, "www.chesschampions.org". Before Jan 2018, the tournament registration will be functional and will include registration and tournament information. Prior to the tournament, preliminary pairings will be posted on the WECC website. During the tournament, pairings will be posted on the WECC website and in the playing area on color-coded posters. Standings after round 3 will be available on the WECC website along with paper postings. Pairings will show each player's current score, so that scores may be verified.

Organizers and Team

Washington Elementary Chess Champions is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose charter is to support chess programs in the Tri-Cities and surrounding area, and has provided dozens of schools with equipment and teaching resources. It also hosts free summer chess lessons and coordinates local scholastic chess tournaments.

The tournament team will include Dr. Loren Schmidt, one of the top 10 rated players in Washington as well as the tournament director for the 1999, 2003, 2006 and 2012 state tournaments, and David Merrill, tournament organizer for the 2003, 2006, and 2012 tournaments. The other volunteer coordinators will be identified closer to the time of the tournament. We will recruit people from prior state tournaments and the local community.

WECC appreciates its sponsors but has primarily been supported by the many hours donated by the volunteer chess community of central and eastern Washington. If you want to be part of the 2018 team or have suggestions or questions about the bid, contact the WECC team at

weccboard@chesschampions.org

David Merrill, President
Stan Kuick, Vice-President
Cathy Kuwamoto, Secretary
David Criswell, Treasurer
Bill Rausch, Webmaster

2018 Washington State Elementary Chess Championships

April 21, 2018

Tri-Cities, WA

bid proposal by:



A 501 c 3 Nonprofit Corporation

Introduction

Washington Elementary Chess Champions (WECC), organizers of the 2003, 2006 and 2012 Washington State Elementary Chess Championships, has been hosting scholastic tournaments in the Tri-Cities area since its incorporation in 2002 and currently coordinates a schedule of about 6 local tournaments per year. The scheduled date of April 21 is similar to past events and should not impact timing of qualifying tournaments.

Bid also available on line at www.chesschampions.org