

2021 U.S. Chess Class Championships, July 23 – 25, 2021
DoubleTree by Hilton, 15747 John F. Kennedy Blvd, Houston, TX 77032

Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to COVID-19

The organizers of the 2021 US Class Chess Championships recognize the challenges presented by COVID-19. Precautionary measures will be in place to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 among players and limited spectators/parents allowed at the event, however we cannot guarantee that you (or those you come in close contact with) will not become infected with COVID-19. By registering and attending this event, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume all risk that you may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19.

We are implementing several requirements to be followed onsite - This includes Tournament playing hall, Vending and Skittles rooms, where players are in contact with other players/participants/members of family/friends. We are asking all the attendees to strictly abide by these protocols and follow the below best-practice suggestions at this event, so as to keep everyone including yourself safe. In addition, the staff of the hotel have taken precautions to include the mandatory use of face masks.

ONLY REGISTERED PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED INSIDE THE PLAYING VENUE, EXCEPT THAT AN ADULT ACCOMPANYING A MINOR MAY ALSO GO IN TO HELP THE PLAYER FIND THE BOARD. BUT, ONCE THE ROUND BEGINS, THE ACCOMPANYING ADULT MUST LEAVE THE PLAYING AREA.

PLAYER/SPECTATOR/PARENT REQUIREMENTS

Players are required to be at the Board at least 10 mins prior to the start of each Round for Announcements and Temperature Screening checks as necessary.

- **Spectators are not allowed at this event.** One parent of a minor child who is playing at the event will be allowed before the round begins. Other Spectators/Parents will need permission from the Organizer and/or Chief TD.
- **Face Masks must be worn in all public spaces of the Hotel site for the event (this includes the Playing hall and Skittles rooms) – NO EXCEPTIONS.** This is required by both the organizers and the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Management. This includes everyone participating in the tournament, not only to the player's games in progress, but also the tournament staff, and others who have been granted access. You may bring your own face covering and is strongly recommended due to the limited supply. The organizers will provide face masks as well on request but, again, these will be limited in quantity, so please bring your own.
- **Players need to be prepared for Temperature screening checks using a Digital Thermometer Scanner at the beginning of each round or as needed.**
- **You must be able to check pairings and standings online. Pairings must be known to the player prior to entering the playing hall.** We will post pairings in the tournament hall for reporting results and, if necessary, to check pairings for those who may not have access to a computer or "smart" cell phone between rounds. Pairings and standings will be posted on the Dallas Chess Club website, <http://dallaschess.com/>. This link will also be posted in several places near and in the playing area. Capital Area Chess will be posting pairings on the official tournament website. We will NOT be posting pairings, standings, and wallcharts in the hallways. This is to avoid large gathering of players trying to find their pairings or look at standings.
- **Players and/or any limited spectators/parents will not be permitted to congregate outside doors of the playing halls without keeping a Safe distance from each other.** Face Masks are required in all the Public spaces of the Hotel as well as Ballrooms/Meeting/Skittles rooms.
- **Social distancing markers must be respected.** Please follow these strictly!
- **No Food or Drink is allowed in the Playing room, with the exception of Bottled Water or Liquids in tightly closed containers.** Keep your personal items to a minimum, including your Chess sets, board, and clock.

Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in removal from the tournament and/or site, without refund.
Please help us avoid this by respecting these rules, which are in place for your safety as well as the safety of those around you!

ASSISTANCE BY ORGANIZER

- **We will have a limited supply of face coverings which will be provided to participants who do not have them, but it is best if you bring your own.**
- **Pairings and standings will be online.** Please be sure to have a computer, tablet, smartphone, or other Internet-capable device that can check for pairings! Please make sure you know your board number and color for the round before they enter the playing hall! Do not, however, bring such device into the playing area.
- **Hand sanitizer will be available in the hallways and playing area, but it is always best if participants bring one for their own use.**
- **The tournament halls will have increased spacing between rows.** This ensures as much distance as reasonably possible between games.
- **Boards and pieces provided by the organizer will be sanitized between rounds.** This task will be undertaken by tournament staff.
- **Seating will be adjusted in public areas and skittles to follow the safety protocols and social distancing guidelines.** All attendees must strictly follow the safety guidelines posted in the skittles and public areas.

BEST PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS

Your cooperation in following the best practices sets a great example for everyone and to create a safe environment for players!

- **If possible, have only parent come with a minor child under 16 years.** By limiting the number of travelers in your party, you will help promote a safer environment for all.
- **Get some fresh air outside the hotel.** We have adjusted the time controls, allowing sufficient time to sanitize the sets and also minimize the time players and parents will be spending in the ball room and skittles. Its advisable players, children and parents leave the tournament site to get some fresh air and come back just before the start of the next round on Sat and Sun. This will also allow the Hotel staff to clean the rooms in between rounds.
- **If you have had, experienced, or displayed any symptoms consistent with COVID19, please do NOT attend unless you have been cleared by medical authorities.** These symptoms include, but are not limited to, fever, respiratory distress, and shortness of breath.
- **If you have had any close or direct contact with anyone who is either confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19, please do NOT attend, unless the time has passed when you are no longer at the risk of having it. This normally is more than 14 days prior to the event.** This includes close or direct contact with anyone who is experiencing or displaying any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- **If you have or will, any time after July 8, 2021, traveled from areas of substantial community spread requiring quarantine by the Texas Department of Health, traveled from an international location that is in the current US Department of State travel advisory, or traveled on a cruise ship or river cruise, please do NOT attend.**

With your help, we will have a safer, more enjoyable tournament experience. The organizers of the 2021 U.S. Class Chess Championships appreciate your help in promoting that safer, more enjoyable environment!

By signing below, I _____ confirm that I have read the above protocols and agree to strictly abide by them. I understand that failure to do so may result in forfeiture of games and/or being barred from playing at the tournament. By signing below, I also confirm that I accept the inherent risk of playing over-the-board chess in close proximity to others during a global pandemic, and I will not hold the organizers of the 2021 U.S. Class Chess Championships and their Staff liable should I become ill as a result of playing in the Tournament.

Participant's Name

Participant's Signature

Date

For Minors, parent/guardian sign here

Date