

2026 Harry D. Sabine Tennessee State Scholastic Team Chess Tournament

(Open to Tennessee Students or Residents Only)



Tennessee Chess Association

Regional Qualifiers - Saturday, February 28, 2026

Region 1
Lenoir City High School
1485 Old Hwy 95
Lenoir City, TN 37771

Region 2
Glenn Martin Elementary
1362 Miller Ave
Crossville, TN 38555

Region 3
St. Paul Christian Academy
5033 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37215

February 21

Region 4
Lausanne Collegiate School
1381 West Massey Dr
Memphis, TN 38120

Sections:

High School (grades 12 and below)
Middle School (grades 8 and below)
Elementary (grades 5 and below)
Primary (grades 3 and below)

NO ON-SITE
REGISTRATION

Entry Fee: \$50 per Championship team; \$30 per Junior Varsity Team if received by Feb 20 (Feb 13 Region 4). Online registration \$2 more.

Late Entry: \$60 per Championship team; \$40 per JV Team

All team rosters must be finalized and registered by the **MONDAY 7pm before their regional event**. No changes in team composition or line-up will be permitted.

Mandatory coaches meeting at 8:15am. All teams should have a representative present.

Check-In: 7:30-8:15am. Individual players do not check in. Coaches or a representative will check in the entire team once they have confirmed they are present.

Rounds: 4 Rounds* Team Swiss. 1st Rd 9:00am. Other rounds will start as announced.

*Rounds may be adjusted based on attendance.

Time Control: G/45;d5

Awards: Top 5 teams in each section. Plaques to top team in each section.

Only one Championship team allowed per school per section. For schools with more players, you may submit additional teams to play in Junior Varsity Division.

Junior Varsity Division (SEE RULES FOR MORE INFORMATION)

State Team Finals - Saturday, March 21, 2026

TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
Roaden University Center
1000 N Dixie Ave
Cookeville, TN 38505

Tennessee Tech University will award four-year Tennessee State Scholastic Chess Championship Scholarships to four members of the first place team and to four members of the second place team of the High School Section as follows: \$2,000 per year (first place), and \$1,000 per year (second place). For more information about scholarship opportunities at Tennessee Tech, visit www.tntech.edu/scholarships.

Qualification: Top 4 teams from each championship section in each region may play.

Format: Same as Regionals except G/60;d5

Entry Fee: None; **US Chess membership is required.**

Registration: All teams must be registered with Regional Coordinator by 5pm CT on **Saturday Mar 14**. NO CHANGES in a team line-up will be permitted after that time. MUST have USCF up-to-date before registering.

Awards: Top 6 teams in each section. Plaques to top 4 players & coach of top team in each section. See scholarship information above.

Check-in: 7:30 to 8:15am CST. Individual players do not check in. Coaches or a representative will check in the entire team once they have confirmed they are present. If not checked in by 8:15 they will not be paired for Round 1.

Coaches meeting to be held at 8:15am. All teams should have a representative present.

HOW TO ENTER YOUR TEAM INTO THE REGIONAL QUALIFIER

<p>Only coaches or team leaders will register their team. Each coach or team leader must send the following information to the regional scholastic coordinator.</p> <p>Contact your coordinator for their preferred method of registration.</p>	<p>For each team: School Full Name, School Short Name/Nickname, Section Entered, Fee Enclosed, Coach Contact Information</p> <p>For each player: Name, Address, Phone, Date of Birth, Sex, Grade, US Chess ID, Email</p>
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ENTRIES BY MAIL SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO YOUR REGIONAL COORDINATOR (See Counties)

Checks payable to TCA. Must be postmarked by February 15, 2026 (February 8 for Region 4)

Region 1
Christina Mullinax
193 Caramel Lane
Loudon, TN 37774
tca.region1scholastic@gmail.com

Region 2
Michael Ake
1004 17th St. NW
Cleveland, TN 37311
make@mccallie.org

Region 3
Chris Prosser
733 Long Hunter Court
Nashville, TN 37217
regioniii@aol.com

Region 4
Arlene Kleiman
1614 Vance Ave
Memphis, TN 38104
midsouthchess@hotmail.com

COUNTIES IN EACH REGION

Region 1: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Carter, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Scott, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, Union, Washington.

Region 2: Bledsoe, Bradley, Clay, Coffee, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Franklin, Grundy, Hamilton, Jackson, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Morgan, Overton, Pickett, Polk, Putnam, Rhea, Roane, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren, White

Region 3: Bedford, Cannon, Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Giles, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Marshall, Maury, Montgomery, Moore, Perry, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, Stewart, Summer, Trousdale, Wayne, Williamson, Wilson

Region 4: Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Lake Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Obion, Shelby, Tipton, Weakley

1. General Rules. Each team will play a 4-board match against a different team each round. Two players on each team will play the white pieces and two will play the black pieces. Color will alternate, with boards 1 and 3 having one color while boards 2 and 4 have the other color. Each team will score 1 point, $\frac{1}{2}$ point or 0 points each round. A game score of 2 points for each team is a draw and each team will receive $\frac{1}{2}$ point. More than 2 game points per round wins the match for the team, while less than 2 points loses. All teams will play 4 rounds unless the number of rounds in a section is changed because there are less than five teams.

2. Schools. A school may enter only one team in each Championship Section. Schools MUST play in their geographic region. Team members MUST all attend the same school.

3. Teams. A Team consists of 4 players from the same school. Up to 2 substitutes are allowed for a maximum of 6 players per team. A team must have at least 2 players to participate. For info on Home School Teams see tnchess.us.

4. JV Division. A school may not enter a team in the JV Division unless it has a team in the corresponding section of the Championship Division. Otherwise, schools may enter as many teams as they wish in the JV Division.

5. Team Rating. Calculated by setting all unrated players to 300, taking the highest ratings up to 4, and dividing by 4, regardless of the numbers of players on the team.

6. Substitutes. Up to 2 substitutes are allowed per team. All substitutes must be registered (in board order) with their team by the end of registration.

7. Board Order. Board order cannot be changed after registration ends. The team must play in the same board order each round. A team with only 3 players must forfeit Board 4 each round. If a board is to forfeit any round, all remaining players must close ranks to Board 1 for that round. Players rated over 800 must play in rating order within 100 points.

8. Tie Breaks. If two or more teams tie for 1st place, a 10 minute playoff match will be held to determine the champion. Otherwise, tie-break Systems used to break ties for teams tying for trophies or to qualify for the State Finals will be (1) US Team; (2) Median; (3) Solkoff; (4) Cumulative; (5) Total game points for the team; and (6) coin toss.

9. Dues. No dues shall be required for any students to play in the regional tournaments. USCF dues will be required for all students at the State Finals.

10. Equipment. All teams should bring clocks if available.

11. Miscellaneous. Unusual situations not covered by these rules will be dealt with by the Tournament Director at the site.