



Scholastic Chess Grand Prix Rules

Introduction

The purpose of the Saint Louis Chess Club (STLCC) Scholastic Grand Prix is to encourage young chess players to play consecutive monthly scholastic tournaments throughout the school year. We believe that actively playing in chess tournaments is the best way to improve one's chess. STLCC Grand Prix encourages and rewards that effort.

Player Eligibility:

Every USCF member who is in grades K-12 throughout the current school year will automatically be eligible for the STLCC Scholastic Grand Prix.

Event Eligibility:

- STLCC Scholastic Grand Prix is a series of 7 rated chess tournaments that are held throughout each school year.
- STLCC Scholastic Grand Prix events are monthly scholastic tournaments from the months of October to April, and they will be advertised as Grand Prix (GP) Events.
- STLCC Scholastic Grand Prix events have four or more rounds with a minimum time control of G/30.
- Playing in at least 1 round any eligible Grand Prix tournaments will automatically enter a player into Grand Prix competition.
- STLCC Scholastic Grand Prix events awards Grand Prix (GP) points for wins and draws.
- All **Open** sections of STLCC Scholastic Grand Prix tournaments are eligible for Grand Prix (GP) points and team Grand Prix (GP) points.
- If a participant plays in different sections during the season, a single total point score is accumulated for all open sections played, and that score will be compared against the lowest open section that player has played in during the season.

How To Earn Points:

Eligible chess tournament participants earn GP points just by playing in a Grand Prix tournament. Bonus points will also be rewarded for each Grand Prix tournament

GP Points:

- GP points earned in each Grand Prix Tournament are the player's final score after that tournament
- Half and full point byes count towards GP points

Bonus GP Points:

- Playing in a Grand Prix tournament - 10 points
- Playing in a Grand Prix tournament - 11 points (K-12 Open Section Only)
- Section 1st place - 3 points
- Section 2nd place - 2 points
- Section 3rd place - 1 point
- GP points are not divided amongst tied players. Ties are resolved based on USCF tiebreaks: Modified Median, Solkoff, Cumulative, Cumulative of Opposition

Team GP Points:

- Team GP points are the combined individual GP points of the top 4 players from the same team, playing in the same open section

At the end of each season, total points will be added together from the 7 eligible monthly tournaments for a cumulative individual and team score.

Prizes:

- Top 10 individual players in each open section will receive awards
- Top team in each open section will receive awards
- Individual and team Grand Prix Cups will be presented with the names of yearly top winners.
- The top player in K-12 Open section will receive automatic entry into STLCC Select Chess training program (Player must meet rating requirements)

Non-trophy awards can include:

- Grandmaster lessons
- Chess equipment/books
- Chess Club Gift cards