



Chess Ladder Rules

1. Chess Ladder is a form of competition where each player is assigned a position (rank). A lower number means higher rank on the ladder (better position).
2. The goal of the competition is to move up the Ladder, ultimately to the #1 position (highest rank). Players move up the Ladder (i.e. improve their rank) by winning Ladder games. Players move down the Ladder (i.e. lose their rank) when they lose Ladder games, and when other players move up the Ladder ahead of them.
3. Initial ranking is determined by random drawing of whoever shows up at the start of the Ladder. New players are placed at the bottom and must work their way up the Ladder.
4. Players need to play a Ladder game once every two weeks. If you miss two weeks in a row you drop 1 place on the ladder. Missing any consecutive week will cost an additional place on the ladder.
5. Players may be removed from the Chess Ladder by the coordinator if they become inactive.
6. Games will be played on Saturday between 2 and 6 PM at the NCC club house, currently at Goan Gymkhana, Ngara. Use of clocks is compulsory, and each player has a minimum of 1 hour and a maximum of 2 hours to complete the entire game.
7. Game moves and results must be recorded and are to be submitted to the Chess Ladder coordinator for processing when the game has ended.
8. You may challenge only those players up to 5 places above you. The challenger has the right to choose the color of the pieces.
9. Challenges cannot be declined, and Ladder games cannot be cancelled. However, the same chess players can only challenge one another every 2 months.

10. After each Ladder game has ended, both players are assigned new positions on the Ladder, depending on their current positions, and the result of the game:
- a. If the winning player has a lower rank than the losing player, they are moved up half the distance between their position and the losing player's position. The losing player is moved one position down. (For example, if the winning player was 10th and the losing player was 4th on the ladder, their new positions will be 7th $((10+4)/2)$ and 5th $(4+1)$ after the game)
 - b. If the winning player is directly below the losing player, their positions are swapped. (i.e. the winning player is moved one position up, and the losing player — one position down)
 - c. If the winning player has the higher position, they are moved one position up and the losing player is moved one position down.
 - d. In case of a draw, the player with the lower position is moved up by one and the other player keeps their current position. If the players are next to each other in the ladder, their positions remain unchanged.
11. Only paid-up and fully registered members of Nairobi Chess Club can participate in the Chess Ladder.