Chess Ladder Rules



- 1. A lower number is a higher rank on the ladder, (better position). The goal of the competition is to move up the ladder, potentially to the number one position.
- 2. A player (the challenger) may challenge another player with a higher rank (the defender) to play.
- 3. The difference between the defender and challenger ranks must be no more than 4. (for example: rank #5 can challenge #1, but #6 can only challenge up to #2)
- 4. All challenges must be accepted unless the defender has already accepted a different challenge or are currently playing a game, or there is less than 20 minutes left to play in the session.
- 5. Refusing a valid challenge is counted as a loss for the defender.
- 6. Two players may not challenge each other in two consecutive games.
- 7. Players that are absent for two consecutive sessions lose one position on the ladder.
- 8. In a ladder challenge game, the defender always plays with the black pieces.
- 9. If the defender wins the challenge game, there is no change in player positions.
- 10. If the players draw (tie) the challenge game, the challenger moves up to the spot just below the defender. (for example, if #7 challenges #3 and draws, #3 stays at #3 and #7 moves up to #4. Positions 4, 5, and 6 would be bumped down in the process).
- 11. All draws must be approved by the Ladder Game Supervisor.
- 12. If the challenger wins, they take the defender's position on the ladder. The defender (and those below them) are all bumped down one position on the ladder. (for example, if #7 challenges #3 and wins, #3 is bumped to #4 and #7 becomes the new #3. Positions 4, 5, and 6 would be bumped down in the process).
- 13. When a game is finished, the players must turn in a Ladder Challenge card to the Ladder Game Supervisor.
- 14. New members are added to the bottom of the ladder.
- 15. All disagreements and questions will be resolved by the Challenge Game Supervisor.