CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Otago Chess Club Championships are held every year. There are three sections: The Senior Club Championship, the Intermediate Club Championship and the Junior Club Championship. Players score Club Championship points by competing in one or both of the legs of the Standard or Rapid Championship for that year.

To take part in a rated club tournament a player must be a current financial member of the Otago Chess Club.

The Senior Club Championship is open to all financial club members. The Intermediate Club Championship is open to all players whose NZCF rating at the start of the first leg is less than 1800 (standard) or 1700 (rapid) or Perpetual rating 440 if not NZCF rated. The Junior Club Championship is open to all players whose NZCF rating at the start of the first leg is less than 1500 (standard) or 1400 (rapid) or Perpetual rating 220 if not NZCF rated.

Each year the Club hold The Standard and Rapid Championship over a number of legs – currently two. Each player who competes in a leg gets a total score for that leg made up of a base score plus an adjusted score for the leg.

The base score is designed to compensate for players who play a tougher set of opponents through being seeded in a higher grade. Base scores are calculated as follows: Bottom grade 0. The next lowest grade gets a base score dependent on the typical number of rounds in the leg (usually 5 for the standard championship and 6 for the rapid championship) and the difference between the expected score for the average nzcf rating of the participants in each grade rounded up to the nearest half point. The next lowest grade gets the base score for the grade below it plus the difference between the expected score between it its average nzcf rating and that of the grade below. This continues up until the A grade is reached. The base score is set once the field is known for each grade using the most up to date nzcf rating list before play starts and added to the score table to allow players to know their base score during the competition. If a player withdraws having played no games then the base score may be adjusted using the average rating of the remaining players in the grade. Expected elo scores can be obtained from the ratings calculator on the FIDE website ratings.fide.com or the NZCF Handbook Rating Regulations chapter.

The adjusted score is designed to compensate for the changing numbers of participants in a grade from round to round. When there are five games in a standard leg or six games in a rapid leg there is no adjustment. If there are less (or more) games in a leg, the players' scores are adjusted to an equivalent player score over five (standard) or six (rapid) games.

Example 1: A player scores 2½ /5 in a six player C (bottom) grade standard leg. (Five games therefore no adjustment).

0	+	2½	=	2½
(base)		(score from round)		(total score)

Example 2: A player scores 2½ /4 in a five player B grade standard leg. The average nzcf rating for the B grade 1699 and the C grade is 1475. The difference of 224 equates to an expected score of 0.78 for the higher grade against the lower, which is a difference of 0.28 (less 50%) between the two

if they played the same field. Over 5 games 5 x 0.28 = 1.4. Round up to nearest half point and add the C grade base score of 0 = 1½. The adjusted score for four standard games is to multiply by 5 and divide by 4. 2½ /4 x 5/4 = 3.125. Round to nearest half point = 3.

1½	+	3	=	4½
(base)		(adjusted score)		(total score)

Example 3: A player scores 2½ /4 in a three player A grade rapid leg. The average nzcf rating for the A grade is 1995 and the B grade is 1584. The difference of 411 equates to an expected score of 0.92 for the higher grade against the lower, which is a difference of 0.42 (less 50%) between the two if they played the same field. Over 6 games 6 x 0.42 = 2.52. Round up to nearest half point and add the B grade base score of (say) 1½ = 4½. The adjusted score for four rapid games is to multiply by 6 and divide by 4. 2½ /4 x 6/4 = 3.75. Round to nearest half point = 4.

4½	+	4	=	8½
(base)		(adjusted score)		(total score)

For the purposes of calculating adjustments a player is held to have taken part in a round if they play at least one game, unless they formally withdraw from the round by notifying the Match Committee. Each players total scores from the legs of the Championship are added together to give their final Club Championship score. The player with the highest final score is the Club Champion (Senior Champion) for the year. They receive the Club Championship Trophy for twelve months. The player with the highest final score out of those eligible for the Intermediate (respectively Junior) Championship is the Intermediate (respectively Junior) Champion for the year and received the Intermediate (respectively Junior) Championship Trophy for twelve months. In the event of a tie, the relevant trophy is shared.