



Medicine Hat and Area JUNIOR Chess Tournament – April 25, 2026

Medicine Hat Chess Club

1015 – 3rd Street N.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta, T1A 7Y4 | Phone: (403) 526-5484 (H) or (403) 529-0010 (W)

SATURDAY, April 25 | The Medicine Hat Chess Club (MCC) in partnership with Crescent Heights High School (CHHS), will be holding the 34th Annual SPRING Medicine Hat and Area JUNIOR Chess Tournament.

Divisions

- Senior High School – Grades 10–12
- Junior High School – Grades 7–9
- Elementary School – Grades 5–6
- Elementary School – Grades 1–4

Entry Fee - \$25.00 per participant

Pre-registration is encouraged, see registration form on page 3. Registration is not complete until both the form and fee are received. Both the completed registration form and the \$25 entry fee need to be submitted to Mrs. Strickland, at Crescent Heights High School for the registration to be complete. **The \$25 entry fee is payable by cheque (made out to Medicine Hat Chess Club) or exact cash.** You can drop off the completed registration form and the \$25 entry fee at the Crescent Heights High School Main office at 1201 Division Ave. N. Unfortunately E-transfers and online payment cannot be accommodated at this time. Because registration fees cannot be paid via fax or e-mail early registrants who do not pay with their entry fee will be contacted so that they have the opportunity to pay before the tournament is filled.

Walk-up entries will be accepted until 9:50 a.m. on Saturday, April 25 (space and time permitting to a maximum of 100 entries.

TOURNAMENT DETAILS

Saturday, April 25

Location: Cafeteria at CHHS (1201 Division Ave. N.)

Registration: 9 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. April 25, please arrive at least 15 minutes early.

Round 1	10 a.m.
**Round 2	10:40 a.m.
Round 3	11:20 a.m.
LUNCH	12-12:30 p.m. Pizza, juice, and a Dilly Bar will be provided for lunch (your entry fee pays for this).
Round 4	12:30 p.m.
Round 5	1:10 p.m.
Awards Presentations	2:00 p.m. or immediately after the last game is completed.
** Round 2 and subsequent rounds will be started ASAP after the completion of the previous round. The trophies and prizes are paid for by the Medicine Hat Chess Club.	

Awards

Senior High School (Grades 10-12) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st Place – Trophy + Gift (\$40)• 2nd Place – Trophy + Gift (\$30)• 3rd Place – Medal + Gift (\$20)	Junior High School (Grades 7 - 9) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st Place - Trophy and Gift (\$35)• 2nd Place - Trophy and Gift (\$25)• 3rd Place - Medal and Gift (\$15)
Elementary (Grades 5 & 6) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st Place – Medal + Gift Certificate (\$25)• 2nd Place – Medal + Gift Certificate (\$15)• 3rd Place – Medal + Gift Certificate (\$10)	Elementary (Grades 1 - 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st Place – Medal + Gift Certificate (\$25)• 2nd Place – Medal + Gift Certificate (\$15)• 3rd Place – Medal + Gift Certificate (\$10)

Tournament Rules

- (1) If 6 or fewer players enter a division, it will be organized as a Round Robin tournament, (ie. everyone will play 1 game against each other entrant). If there are seven players or more, the division will be run as a "Swiss System" tournament (in this system with many pairing rules, the goal is to pair players against other players with a similar number of points, each round of play). There will be a maximum of five rounds if the Swiss System is used.
- (2) Points for the games are awarded as follows: Win - 1 point; Draw - ½ point; Loss - 0 point.
- (3) The Tournament directors will endeavor to pair all players so that they play the white pieces two or three times during the 5 rounds. Sometimes this cannot be achieved. Please accept our apologies if this happens to your child.
- (4) The rules of chess will be the same as those that are observed at all Canadian Federation of Chess (CFC) tournaments, and that have been in common use for at least the past 30 years. We wish to draw the players' attention to the "Touch Move" rule, as it can be the source of disagreement and misunderstanding. Essentially, if it is your turn and you touch a piece that can be moved, your opponent can insist you move that piece. Although they don't have to make you move the piece, they often will. Therefore, DON'T touch a piece that you don't intend to move. Also, please note that once you have moved a piece during your turn to a legal square, and let go of it, your move/turn is finished. You cannot take your move back!
- (5) Time controls: The time control for all games is **20** minutes. Chess clocks will be provided. If they are the "analog" type (one with a clock face and the numbers 1 - 12) they should be set at **5:40**. Their correct use and operation will be demonstrated before the start of the 1st round. Each player will have 20 minutes on their clock to complete all of their moves. The first player to exceed 20 minutes will forfeit the game, and their opponent will be declared the winner. It is our observation that most junior players who have little/no experience using a chess clock play too fast in the initial phases of their game. **SLOW DOWN!!** 20 minutes is actually a lot of time, and remember, you can also think when your opponent's clock is running.
- (6) Reporting Results: Please advise one of the Tournament Directors, of the result of your game. They will do the recording. For Grades 1 - 6, please make sure your section leader sees the final game position **before** resetting the board. Thank you.
- (7) The decision of the Tournament Directors) in any dispute will be final; decisions will be fair and impartial.

Contact Information

Jayna Strickland – jayna.strickland@sd76.ab.ca

Bill Taylor, Tournament Director – (403) 529-0010 – taylorwmw@shaw.ca

Josiah Trentalance, Assistant Tournament Director – (236) 586-6006 – josiah30lances@protonmail.com

Medicine Hat and Area Junior Chess Tournament Registration Form - April 25, 2026

Participant Name:

Grade:

School:

Parent Phone Number:

Parent Email Address:

Street Address:

City/Town:

Postal Code:

Division Entering (check one)

- Senior High School (Grades 10–12)
- Junior High School (Grades 7–9)
- Elementary Boys (Grades 5 and 6)
- Elementary (Grades 1–4)

Submission Instructions

Registration forms may be delivered, mailed, faxed, or emailed to:

Crescent Heights High School

c/o Mrs. Jayna Strickland

1201 Division Avenue N., Medicine Hat, AB T1A 4Y7

Fax: 403-526-2018 | Email: jayna.strickland@sd76.ab.ca

Note: The registration is completed only when the \$25.00 fee (cash or cheque payable to the Medicine Hat Chess Club) has been received by Mrs. Strickland. If there are more than 100 entrants, only the first 100 paid registrants will be accepted. Other registrants will be put on a waiting list, in case a paid registrant drops out or doesn't show up on April 25. Because registration fees cannot be paid via fax or e-mail, early registrants who do not pay with their registration will be contacted so that they can pay before the tournament is filled. We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to your participation!