# 2023 Bedfordshire Individual Chess Championship

Entries are invited for the 2023 Bedfordshire Individual Chess Championship.

The tournament is open to players who meet any of the following criteria:

* Members of clubs that are affiliated to the Bedfordshire Country Chess Association
* Players born in Bedfordshire
* Players currently resident in Bedfordshire

The tournament will be a 6 round Swiss-system, with the following schedule:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Round | Date & Time | Venue | Deadline date |
| Rd.1 | Thurs 5th Jan, 19:30 | Milton Keynes CC | Sat 21st Jan |
| Rd.2 | Tues 7th Feb, 19:30 | Luton CC | Sat 18th Feb |
| Rd.3 | Tues 7th Mar, 19:30 | Leighton Buzzard CC | Sat 18th Mar |
| Rd.4 | Thurs 13th Apr, 19:30 | Bedford CC | Sat 22th Apr |
| Rd.5 | Sun 14th May, 10:00 | Open University | Sun 14th May |
| Rd.6 | Sun 14th May, 14:00 | Open University | N/A (played at venue) |

Players may between themselves agree an alternative date and venue, provided the tournament controller is informed in advance and that the game is played by the deadline date.
Players will need to follow any COVID-19 protocols required at the venue they are playing at.

Players may request a half point bye for any round except the last, provided it is made before the deadline date of the previous round (Rd.1 byes must be requested before the entry deadline).

The time control is the same as in the Bedfordshire Chess League: 35 moves in 70 minutes, followed by all remaining moves in 10 minutes, with a 10 second increment from move 1.

Pairings will be made based on ECF Standardplay ratings as of 1st December 2022, provided they are in categories A or K (an explanation of categories is [here](https://www.ecfrating.org.uk/v2/help/help_profile.php)). For players without such a rating, the tournament controller may assign a rating by other means.

There will be cash prizes for at least the top 2 finishers (amount and number of prizes dependent on entries), plus a slow starter prize (for players on 1 point or fewer after round 3). If there are sufficient entries, a rating prize will also be offered.

The entry fee is £5, with a £20 additional surcharge for non-ECF members. Entry fees will be collected on the night of the first round.
Entries should be emailed to the tournament controller, giving their name and club.

The deadline for entries is Friday 23rd December, with the Round 1 draw being published on the 24th December.

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Tournament Controller
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