



NEWSLETTER

January CYCC Qualifier



ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT

The Toronto Chess Centre (TCC) kicked off the 2025 chess calendar with an exciting CYCC Qualifier at St. Robert Catholic High School on January 12, 2025. The event drew a turnout of 108 young players competing across four sections: U8, U10, U12, and a combined section for U14, U16, and U18. This diverse group of talented players showcased the depth and enthusiasm of the local chess community, making it a strong start to the year for TCC and its commitment to fostering youth chess development.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The most prestigious junior chess event in the province is the Ontario Youth Chess Championship (OYCC).

Each year, dozens of young players compete to become provincial champions and receive a bursary to represent their province in the nationals. This year's OYCC will be hosted by the TCC on May 10-11!



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The success of the CYCC Qualifier would not have been possible without the incredible efforts of our dedicated staff.

Alercio Faria played a crucial role in ensuring a lively atmosphere by bringing the speaker and capturing photos and videos throughout the day.

Suen Chan, our official photographer, documented the event beautifully, and the photos have already been shared publicly via email and on Instagram (@torontochesscentre).

Women FIDE Master (WFM) **Cindy Qiao** once again brought her expertise to the skittles room, engaging and entertaining the young participants between games with videos, puzzles, games and simuls. This time, she was generously assisted by Ontario Youth Chess Champion in the U18 age category, **Yifu Cai**, whom we would like to thank for his volunteering.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to **Anthony Paraskeva** for sharing all the photos and videos that Alercio and Suen captured throughout the event. We appreciate Anthony's efforts in ensuring everyone could relive the highlights.

Up-and-coming high school teenagers **Jasper Xie**, **Amy Sun**, and **Gordon Zeng** served as arbiters for the U12, U8, and U10 sections, respectively. Natoya Anderson oversaw the U14-16-18 section, whilst **Elizabeth Brown** was the Assistant to the General Floor Arbiter. Their contributions were invaluable in ensuring the event ran smoothly and professionally.

We would, finally, like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of **Yilin**, **Linxuan**, and **Yunhui**. Their assistance, dedication and hard work ensured everything went smoothly, and we are incredibly grateful for their support.

SECTION WINNERS

The **U8 section** saw thrilling competition, with **Do Trong Nhan** and **Jayden Hylton** both achieving an impressive 4.5/5 score to share the gold. **Dhwani Sandeep** also made her mark, finishing as the top girl in the U8 section, earning gold with a commendable 3.5/5 performance. An honourable mention is owed to **Caleb Guo**, whose medal-deserving performance was undercut by the ambiguity of a non-verbal draw offer



The **U10 section** featured strong performances, with **Gregory Romanov** securing clear first place with an outstanding 4.5/5 score. **Kevin Zhang** followed closely, earning silver with 4/5 after a series of impressive games. **Alyna Paul** shone brightly as the top girl in the U10 category, also achieving a stellar 4/5, claiming gold.



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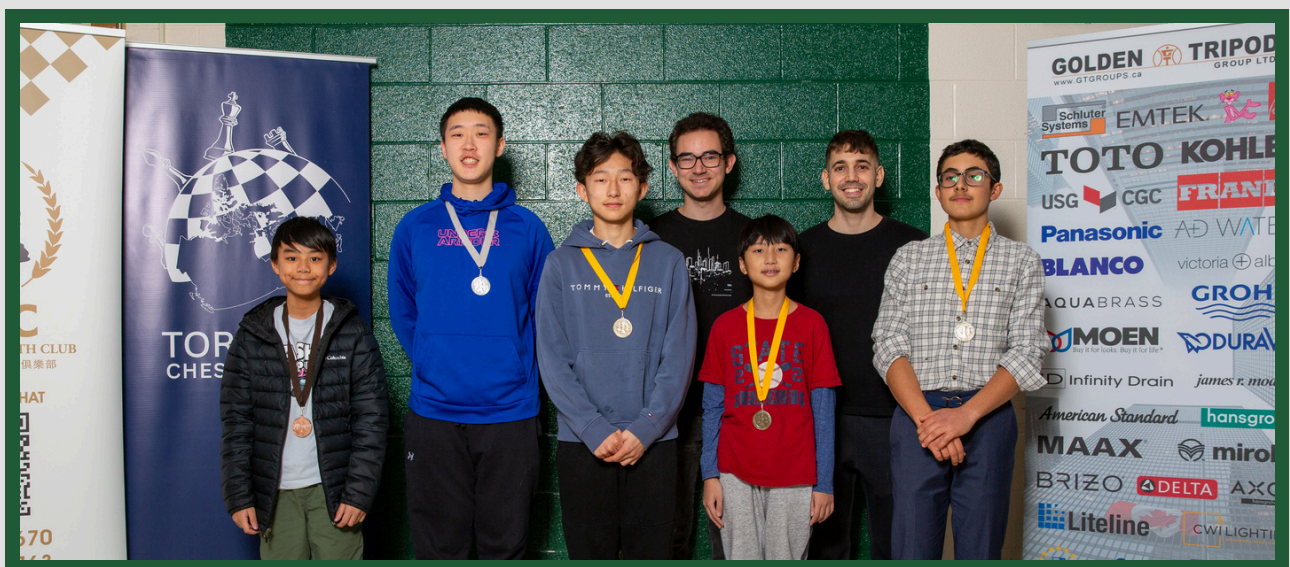
The **U12 section** witnessed a dominant performance by **Arianna Yuan**, who emerged as both the top girl and the overall winner with a flawless 5/5 score. **Chloe Huang** and **Bowen Wang** also delivered commendable performances, each scoring 4/5 to share the silver medal. Their only losses came at the hands of Arianna.



In the **U14 section**, congratulations to **Ryan Zhang** and **Eric Wang**, who both earned gold with impressive scores of 4/5. **Jayden Twin** and **Lu Lu Wai Yan** secured the bronze, each finishing with 3.5/5. **Ayla Maslov** claimed the top girl spot in the U14 section, finishing with 3/5 and earning a well-deserved gold.

In the **U16 section**, **Ryan Yang** and **Brian Aytac-Kuliev** both earned gold with solid scores of 3.5/5.

In the **U18 section**, **Larry Chen** took first place with a perfect score of 5/5. Hanting Bai scored silver with 4/5, his only loss coming at the hands of Larry Chen.





We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Bronze Sponsors, **Sunrise Mandarin School** and **Golden Tripod Groups**, for their generous support in making this event a success. The Toronto Chess Centre deeply appreciates their commitment to fostering youth chess development in our community.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENT

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that **our next event will also be a CYCC Qualifier**, continuing the momentum of this year's chess season. Scheduled for **February 2, 2025**, the tournament will once again take place at St. Robert Catholic High School.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/mrynkn3>

