

# CHESS960 TOURNAMENT REPORT

## TORONTO CHESS CENTRE

On the weekend of May 10–11, 2025, the Toronto Chess Centre hosted the Ontario Youth Chess Championship at St. Robert's Catholic High School. The prestigious event drew over 200 young players from across the province, making it one of the largest and most competitive youth tournaments in Ontario this year. As an addition to the weekend festivities, a Chess960 side event was held on May 10. Open to all players and featuring a 20+5 time control over 5 rounds, the tournament offered a creative twist on traditional chess. The event was sponsored by International Master Mike Ivanov, who contributed \$500 to the prizes.



The competition was fierce among the 22 participants. In the end, Mike Ivanov and Brian Jiang shared first place with an impressive 4.5/5. Geordie Derragh secured third place with 3.5/5, and Riyaan Lakhani claimed the Top U2000 prize, also with 3.5/5. The Chess960 side event was a welcome addition to the championship weekend, providing players a fun and competitive way to explore their creativity on the board. We extend our thanks to all participants, Hart House Chess Club for providing the sets, John Upper for the beautiful photo album and especially to IM Mike Ivanov for his generous support of this unique event.