

# NEWS

# NATIONAL OPEN JUNE 12-15, 2014

#2

## National Open Underway



Welcome to the 2014 edition of the [Las Vegas International Chess Festival](#) and the [National Open](#). We want to especially welcome the talented kids who are playing in the National Open and the [International Youth Championship](#). They are the future of Chess! Take a few moments to look over the schedules on the back page to make sure you don't miss anything. Our staff is here to help in any way we can.

Alan Losoff, Organizer

The 3-day schedule of the National Open got underway on Friday with 485 players contending in eight class sections. Current U.S. Champion and top rated Gata Kamsky heads up the 72-player Open Section which includes eight GMs, 7 IMs, and 12 FMs.

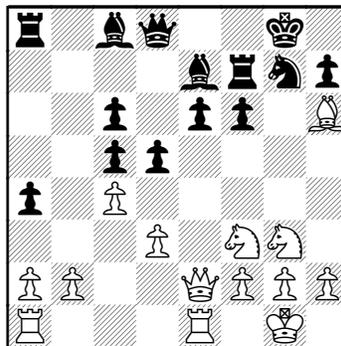
The first two rounds proceeded pretty much according to form for the GM field (all winning both) with the only blemish being a draw given up by GM Ben Finegold to 2318-rated Joshua Sheng in round 2.

### Sheng - Finegold

*National Open (2)*

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙b5 e6 4.♙xc6 bxc6 5.d3 d5 6.c4 ♘f6 7.♘bd2 ♙e7

8.♞e2 0-0 9.0-0 a5N 10.♞e1 a4 11.e5 ♘e8 12.♘f1 f5 13.exf6 gxf6 14.♘g3 ♘g7 15.♙h6 ♞f7



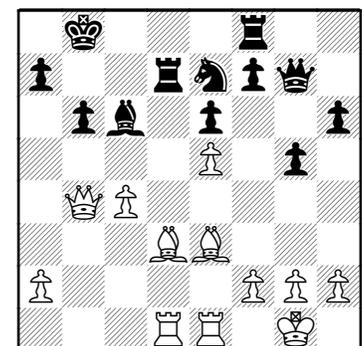
16.d4 a3 17.b3 ♞b6 18.♙xg7 ♞xg7 19.♘h5 ♞f7 20.cxd5 cxd5 1/2-1/2

Grandmaster Walter Browne was justifiably pleased with this smooth first-round effort over FM Nachum Salman.

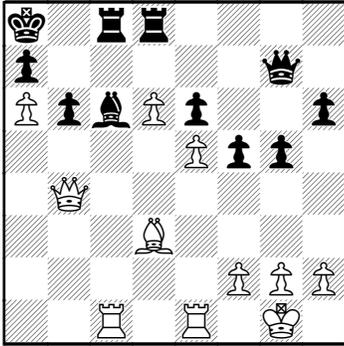
### Browne - Salman

*National Open (1)*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘d2 dxe4 4.♘xe4 ♘f6 5.♘xf6+ ♞xf6 6.♘f3 h6 7.♙d3 ♘c6 8.0-0 ♙d7 9.c3 ♙d6 10.♞e1 0-0 11.b4 g5 12.b5 ♘e7 13.♞a4 ♖b8 14.♘e5 ♙xe5 15.dxe5 ♞g7 16.♙e3 b6 17.♞ad1 ♞hf8 18.c4 c5 19.bxc6 ♙xc6 20.♞b4 ♞d7



21.♙c5! f5 22.a4 ♖a8 23.♙d6 ♜fd8  
24.a5 ♜c8 25.c5 ♜xd6 26.cxd6 ♜b8  
27.a6 ♜dd8 28.♞c1 ♜bc8



29.♙xf5! exf5 30.e6 ♙d7 31.♞c7  
♞xc7 32.dxc7 ♞c8 33.♞c4 1-0



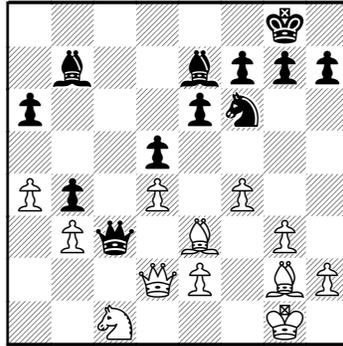
GM Walter Browne

However, the surprise of the tournament thus far has been USCF Candidate Master John Funderburg. The 2177-rated Mr. Funderburg started with a nice win over FM Nick Raptis (2411).

### Raptis - Funderburg National Open (2)

1.d4 d5 2.♜f3 ♜f6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 c6  
5.♙g2 ♙e7 6.0-0 0-0 7.♜c3 ♜bd7  
8.♞d3 b6 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.♙f4 ♜h5  
11.♙d2 ♙b7 12.♞ac1 a6 13.♜e5

♜hf6 14.f4 b5 15.a4 b4 16.♜a2 ♞b6  
17.♙e3 ♜fd8 18.♜fd1 ♞ac8 19.♞xc8  
♞xc8 20.♜xd7 ♜xd7 21.♞c1 ♞xc1+  
22.♜xc1 ♞c6 23.b3 ♜f6 24.♞d1  
♞c3 25.♞d2



25...♜g4 26.♞xc3 bxc3 27.♙f2 ♜xf2  
28.♖xf2 ♙a3 29.♜d3 c2 30.♖e3  
c1♞+ 31.♜xc1 ♙xc1+ 32.♜d3 a5  
33.♖c3 ♙a3 34.♙f3 ♖f8 35.♖c2  
♖e7 36.e3 ♙a6 37.♜d1 ♜d6 38.♙e2  
♙xe2+ 39.♖xe2 f6 40.g4 e5 41.f5  
♙b2 42.♜d3 ♙a1 43.h3 ♙b2 44.h4  
h6 45.h5 ♙a1 46.dxe5+ ♖xe5  
47.b4 axb4 48.a5 ♜d6 49.e4 dxe4+  
50.♖xe4 ♖c5 0-1

Mr. Funderburg followed that up with a draw vs. IM Shahin Mohandesi (2383), giving him a performance rating thus far of almost 2600!

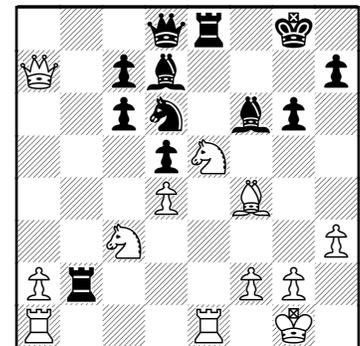
Top seed Gata Kamsky is, unsurprisingly, among the players on 2.0/2. In the second round he won the following game, which saw a pretty finish. White simply ignores what the opponent's bishop is doing to his kingside!

### Kamsky - Manvelyan National Open (2)



GM Gata Kamsky

1.e4 e5 2.♜f3 ♜c6 3.♙b5 g6 4.0-0  
♙g7 5.c3 ♜ge7 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4  
d5 8.♙xc6+ bxc6 9.e5 0-0 10.h3 f6  
11.exf6 ♙xf6 12.♙h6 ♞e8 13.♜c3  
♜f5 14.♙f4 ♞b8 15.♞a4 ♞xb2  
16.♜fe1 ♙d7 17.♞xa7 ♜d6 18.♜e5

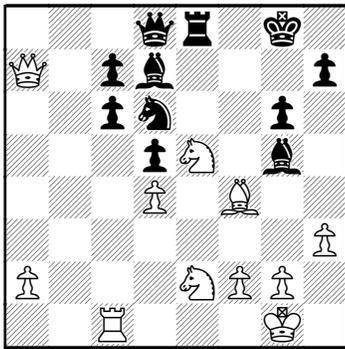


Black is doing reasonably OK, but his next move is too passive.

18...♙e7?! 19.♞ab1!

White is trading Black's only active piece.

19...♞c2 20.♞ec1 ♞xc1+ 21.♞xc1  
♙g5 22.♜e2



22...♙xh3?!? 23.♖xc6!

The point was 23.gxh3? ♙xf4 24.♗xf4 ♖g5+ 25.♗g2 ♖xc1+

23...♙xg2 24.♖xc7!

White keeps ignoring Black's bishop!

24...♖f6 25.♗g4 ♖f5

Allowing a mate in six.

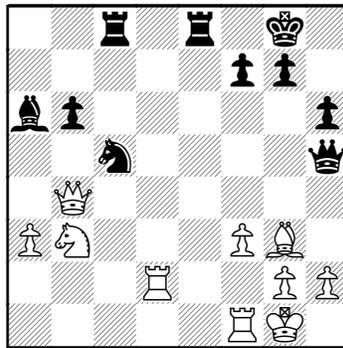
26.♖g7+ ♗f8 27.♙xd6+ ♙e7

28.♙xe7+ ♗xg7 29.♙f6+ 1-0

Second seeded Lazaro Bruzon Batista of Cuba also started with two wins. In the second round things were not so clear when his opponent suddenly fell for a tactic that was hard to see.

**Brown - Bruzon**  
*National Open (2)*

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♙b4 4.♖c2 0-0 5.a3 ♙xc3+ 6.♖xc3 d6 7.♙g5 ♗bd7 8.e3 b6 9.♙d3 c5 10.♗e2 ♙a6 11.b4 cxd4 12.exd4 ♖c8 13.♖b3 h6 14.♙h4 e5 15.b5 ♙b7 16.0-0 d5 17.cxd5 exd4 18.♖b4 ♗c5 19.♖ad1 ♖xd5 20.f3 ♗xd3 21.♖xd3 ♖fe8 22.♗xd4 ♗d7 23.♖d2 ♖h5 24.♙g3 ♗c5 25.♗b3 a5 26.bxa6 ♙xa6



27.♖c1?

27.♖fd1 is about equal.

27...♗xb3 28.♖xc8 ♖xc8 29.♖xb3

**Chess in Film**

| Saturday   |                                    |     |
|------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| 10:05 a.m. | <i>Geri's Game</i>                 | PG  |
| 10:10 a.m. | <i>Searching for Bobby Fischer</i> | PG  |
| Noon       | <i>Brooklyn Castle</i>             | PG  |
| 6:00 p.m.  | <i>Chess in Concert</i>            | ALL |
| 10:00 p.m. | <i>Fresh</i>                       | R   |

♖c1+ 30.♖d1 ♖b5!

and White resigned as he suddenly loses a rook.



GM Lazaro Bruzon Batista

Another Cuban player, Yunesky Quesada Perez, got a highly theoretical line of the French in which Black sacrifices a knight in the opening.

It's not clear whether Quesada knew that his 28th (!) move was a theoretical novelty, but he surely knew enough about this line to win convincingly.

**Quesada - Chow**  
*National Open (1)*

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.e5 ♗fd7 5.f4 c5 6.♗f3 ♗c6 7.♙e3 ♖b6

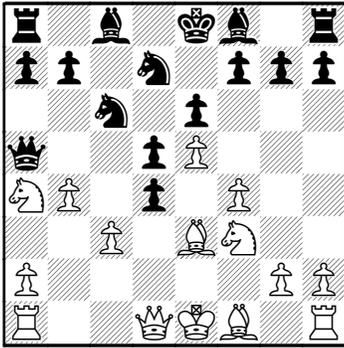
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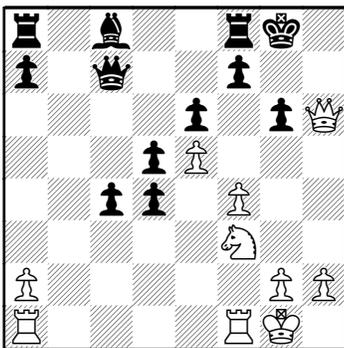


Use promo code VEGAS14 at <http://shop.chessvibes.com>

8. ♖a4 ♜a5+ 9. c3 cxd4 10. b4



10... ♗xb4 11. cxb4 ♙xb4+ 12. ♗d2 ♙xd2+ 13. ♗xd2 0-0 14. ♗d3 b5 15. ♗b2 ♗b6 16. 0-0 16. ♗h5 g6 17. ♗e2 ♗c4 18. ♗d1 ♗d7 19. h4 f5 20. h5 ♖g7 21. g3 ♙e8 22. hxg6 ♙xg6 23. ♖h2 h5 was Karjakin-Andreikin, Moscow 2010. 16... ♗c4 17. ♗bxc4 bxc4 18. ♙xh7+ ♗xh7 19. ♗h5+ ♗g8 20. ♗f3 g6 21. ♗h6 ♗c7



22. f5! exf5

A better try is 22... f6 23. fxg6 ♗g7 as in Van Delft-Louis, Naujac 2012 when White should probably play 24. ♗h4! when 24... fxe5 fails to 25. ♗xe5!

23. ♖ae1 f6

23... ♙a6 24. e6 also wins for White.

24. exf6 ♗h7 25. ♗f4 ♗f7 26. ♖e7 ♗xf6 27. ♖fe1 ♖f7 28. ♖e8+N

Only this is a new move! 28. ♖xf7 ♗xf7 was Gajsin-Ismagambetov, Tiumen 2010 and now e.g. 29. ♗d6 wins.

28... ♖f8 29. ♖xf8+ ♗xf8 30. ♗c7 1-0



GM Yuniesky Quesada Perez

But there's also some great chess being played in the class sections. Check out this sparkling gem turned in by 10-year-old Jonathan Martinez in the U1800 section, in which he displays both tactical and strategic skills well above his experience level and 1529 USCF rating.

Martinez - Deutscher

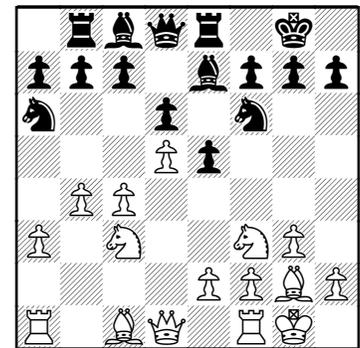
National Open U1800 (1)

1. c4 e5 2. g3 ♗f6 3. ♗g2 ♙e7 4. ♗f3 ♗c6 5. 0-0 0-0 6. ♗c3 d6 7. d4 ♖b8 8. d5 ♗b4 9. a3 ♗a6 10. b4 ♖e8

## Free memberships

for kids 14 & under

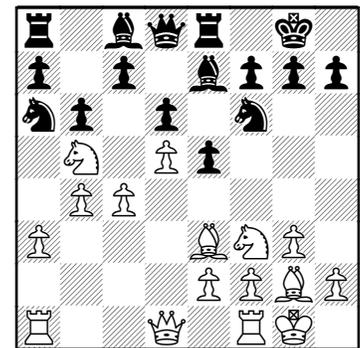
Both the Internet Chess Club (in Grande F) and Chesskid.com (at the registration desk) are giving free memberships to kids 14 & under!



11. ♙e3!

Normal would be 11. e4 but Martinez finds a weak spot in the opponent's camp.

11... b6 12. ♗b5 ♖a8



13. ♗xe5! dxe5 14. d6 cxd6

14... ♖b8 15. dxe7 ♗xe7 16. ♗xa7.

15. ♙xa8 ♙e6 16. ♙c6 ♙d7 17. ♙xd7 ♗xd7 18. ♙g5 d5 19. ♙xf6 ♙xf6 20. ♗xd5 ♗g4 21. ♗b7 ♗xc4

## Commemorative boards & sets

Purchase at the Registration Desk

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Board or Set Only | \$10 |
| Board and Set     | \$15 |
| 2 Boards and Sets | \$25 |

Use your Plus Score Certificates

21...♖b8 22.♗d6+-  
 22.♙xa6 ♖xe2 23.♗c7 ♙xa6  
 24.♗xa6 e4 25.♞fe1 ♕xa1 26.♞xa1  
 and White won.

This game was recommended by GM Ron Henley (the brief annotations are his) as a strong contender for the “Freddie” prize, awarded to the top game played by an under-14 youth.

Another interesting game was the following between Michael Morris-Pearce (1680) and Robert Phillips (1772) where White's attack looked dangerous, but was nicely repelled.

Morris-Pearce - Phillips  
 National Open U1800 (2)

1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f3 g6 3.♗f4 ♗g7 4.h3  
 0-0 5.♗bd2 c5 6.e3 cxd4 7.exd4  
 ♗d5 8.♗e5 f6 9.♗h2 ♗b6 10.♗d3  
 ♗c6 11.0-0 ♗b4 12.♗e2 d5 13.a3  
 ♗c6 14.c4 e5 15.dxe5 fxe5 16.♙b3

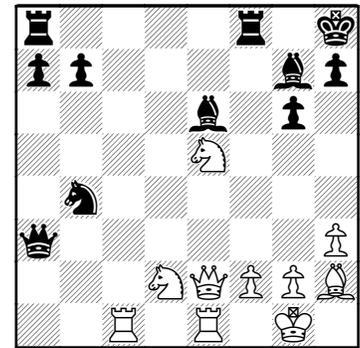


Chinguun Bayaraa, winner of recent ChessKid Online National Invitational (Under 8)

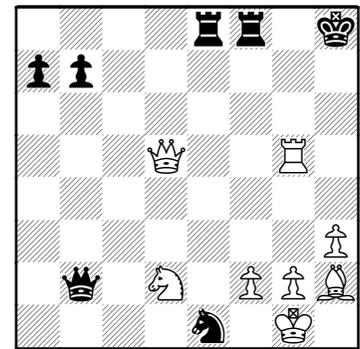
dx4 17.♗xc4+ ♗xc4 18.♙xc4+  
 ♗h8 19.♞ad1 ♖e7 20.♞fe1 ♗e6  
 21.♙e2 ♖c7 22.♞c1 ♙a5 23.b4 ♙xa3  
 24.♗xe5 ♗xb4

(diagram)

25.♗xg6+!? hxg6 26.♙xe6 ♗d3  
 27.♞c7 ♙b2 28.♙xg6 ♗xe1 29.♙h5+



29...♗g8 30.♙d5+ ♗h8 31.♞xg7  
 ♞ae8 32.♞g5



32...♗f3+! 33.gxf3 ♞g8 34.♗e5+  
 ♙xe5 35.♙xe5+ ♞xe5 36.♞xg8+  
 ♗xg8 37.♗e4 a5 38.♗f1 a4 0-1

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## Three-way Tie at U.S. Women's Open



The 5-round U.S. Women's Open concluded on Friday, resulting in a three-way tie for first among WIM Prathiba Yuvarajan, WIM Paloma Gutierrez, & Unrated Elena Rodriquez.

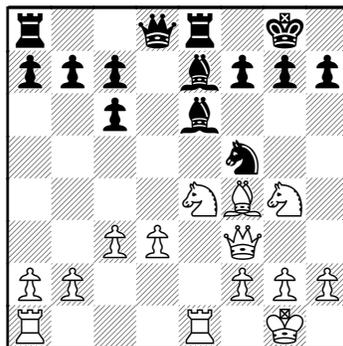
The three women shared the total \$1000 prize fund equally while WIM Yuvarajan took home the trophy on tie-breaks.

Gutierrez had started the tournament with a perfect 3.0/3 score, and missed a good chance to win her fourth, against Yuvarajan in round 4. She invited her opponent to play the infamous Berlin Ending, but instead the queens stayed on the board. Right after the opening, some unexpected tactics appeared on the

board which favored Black:

**Yuvarajan - Gutierrez**  
*U.S. Women's Open (4)*

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4. 0-0 ♗xe4 5.♞e1 ♗d6 6.♗xc6 dxc6 7.♗xe5 ♗e7 8.d3 0-0 9.♗c3 ♗f6 10.♗f4 ♞e8 11.♞f3 ♗f5 12.♗g4 ♗e7 13.♗e4 ♗e6 14.c3?



14...♗h4!

Winning a tempo to prepare the fork ...f5 and both knights are attacked.

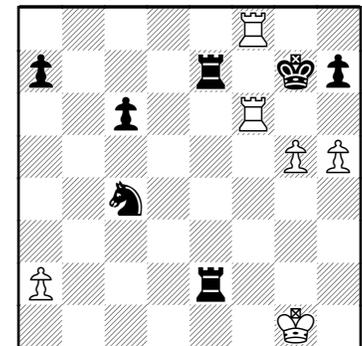
15.♗h6+!

Trying to complicate matters.

15...gxf6 16.♞g3+ ♗g6 17.♗xc7 ♞d7

But this is just a piece; there's not enough compensation. However, Yuvarajan refuses to give up and in the end her tenacity gets rewarded.

18.♗e5 ♗f5 19.d4 ♗xe4 20.♞xe4 ♗f6 21.h4 ♗xe5 22.dxe5 ♞f5 23.♞ae1 h5 24.♞e3 ♞e6 25.f3 ♗e7 26.g4 hxg4 27.fxg4 ♞g6 28.♗h2 b6 29.♞d1 ♗d5 30.♞f3 b5 31.g5 ♞ae8 32.♞de1 ♗h8 33.b3 ♞g7 34.c4 bxc4 35.bxc4 ♗b6 36.♞f4 ♗g8 37.♞f1 ♞xe5 38.♗h1 ♞e2 39.♞xf7 ♞xf3+ 40.♞1xf3 ♞e1+ 41.♗h2 ♞1e2+ 42.♗g3 ♞2e7 43.♞7f4 ♞e4 44.♞f7 ♞8e7 45.♞f8+ ♗g7 46.h5 ♗xc4 47.♞3f6 ♞e3+ 48.♗g2 ♞e2+ 49.♗g1



49...♞e1+

Now Yuvarajan escapes with a draw. Black could still play 49... h6! 50.gxf6+ ♗h7 with a winning position.

50.♗f2 ♞7e2+ 51.♗g3 ♞e3+ 52.♗f2 ♞1e2+ 53.♗g1 1/2-1/2

## Youth Trophy: Barozzi & Molotnikov Share First in Open

Eighty players, grouped into three rating classes, participated in the Las Vegas International Youth Trophy Tournament.



Steven Molotnikov (left) and Michelangelo Barozzi (right) shared

first place in the 22-player Open Section with identical 4/5 scores.

In the Reserve section, Ryan Lacy took top honors over 28 other players with a perfect 5-0 score.



And in the 30-player Booster section, Reagen Pearl secured first place on tie-breaks with 4.5/5 score.



Congratulations to the winners and all other participants on their efforts!

## Fast Hands at the Youth Blitz



The International Youth Blitz competition was conducted on Friday

in two age-based sections. Callahan McCarthy-Snead won the 18-player

Under-9 competition over with a score of 8.5/10. Jackson Wahl bested 17 other players in the Under-14 section with a perfect 10/10 score! More coverage of this event will be provided after completion of the awards ceremonies on Sunday.

### Commemorative DVD

with hundreds of games, photos, and more will be mailed free to every player shortly after the Chess Festival.



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702-560-0955

www.vegaschessfestival.com

**DROPPING OUT? NEED A BYE?**

Be sure to sign the sheet at the Registration Desk - nobody wants to sit at an empty board! ½ point byes for Sunday must be requested before the start of Round 2 and may not be cancelled. Other ½ point byes may be requested up to 1 hour after the start of the previous round. After hours, call 702-560-0955 and leave a voice message or use the contact page on our web site. Be sure to speak clearly and give your name, section, and contact number.

**Free Lecture**

| Sunday    | Capri 109  |
|-----------|--|
| 1:00 p.m. | <i>Understanding the Browne Ending</i><br>GM Walter Browne |

**Rochester Chess & Chess4less**

Capri 106

| Saturday               |
|------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. |
| Sunday                 |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. |


**National Open Championship**  
 Grande Ballroom A-D
**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

| Saturday   |               | Sunday     |         |
|------------|---------------|------------|---------|
| 10:00 a.m. | Round 3       | 10:00 a.m. | Round 5 |
| 10:00 a.m. | 2-day Round 1 | 4:30 p.m.  | Round 6 |
| 12:00 p.m. | 2-day Round 2 |            |         |
| 2:00 p.m.  | 2-day Round 3 |            |         |
| 4:30 p.m.  | Round 4       |            |         |

| Capri 103 |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| 8:00 p.m. | Cash Bar       |
| 9:00 p.m. | Winners Circle |

Time Controls:  
 40/90, SD/30, increment 30  
 2-day rounds 1-3 Game/45, delay 5

**International Youth Chess Championship**

Hosted by International Grandmaster Irina Krush

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - Grande Ballroom E**

| Saturday   |                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | Late Registration (to 9:00 a.m.) |
| 9:45 a.m.  | Opening Ceremony                 |
| 10:00 a.m. | Round 1                          |
| 1:00 p.m.  | Round 2                          |
| 4:00 p.m.  | Round 3                          |
| 3:00 p.m.  | Irina Krush Autograph Session    |
| 6:30 p.m.  | Puzzle Solving Competition       |
| 7:00 p.m.  | Irina Krush Simul                |
| Sunday     |                                  |
| 9:30 a.m.  | Side Event Awards                |
| 10:00 a.m. | Round 4                          |
| 1:00 p.m.  | Round 5                          |
| 4:00 p.m.  | Closing Ceremony                 |

**Analysis of your Games**  
by GM Ron Henley

| Saturday         | Capri 103        |
|------------------|------------------|
| noon - 3:00 p.m. | 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. |
| Sunday           | Capri 109        |
| noon - 3:00 p.m. | 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. |

National Open players age 14 and under who wish to have a game considered for the FREDDIE best played game prize must bring it to one of first five analysis sessions. Only rounds 1 to 5 will be considered.

**LIVE game broadcast**

VegasChessFestival.com/live

**Blitz Sectionals - Grande E**

| Saturday                               | 10:00 p.m. |
|--|------------|
| Entry Fee \$25 - Register by 9:30 p.m. |            |
| USCF Blitz Rated                       |            |

**The Spirits Of Chess - Grande A**  
Spectators Welcome!

| Saturday                       | 10:00 p.m. |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Invitational Blitz Tournament  |            |
| Formerly The Rumskey Challenge |            |

**National Open Blitz - Grande E**  
\$3,000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund

| Saturday                               | 10:00 p.m. |
|--|------------|
| Entry Fee \$40 - Register by 9:30 p.m. |            |
| USCF and FIDE Blitz Rated              |            |

**Blitz Sit and Go - Grande H**

More Chess For More Fun!

| Friday - Sunday  | 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. |
|--|------------------------|
| Entry Fee \$20, prizes based on entries. Register when you are ready to play. 4-8 player sections when enough similarly rated players sign up. |                        |
| USCF Blitz Rated   |                        |

 **POST YOUR RESULTS**

Both players are responsible for reporting results. Please post on the pairing sheet and turn in a score sheet with the result clearly marked and signed by both players.

**Results & pairings**

VegasChessFestival.com/results

