



Inclusivity, byes and prize eligibility

Inclusivity

AlphaChess aims to be people-centred and inclusive. We offer flexibility so that players can choose to play a single game, a single day or in the rounds that suit them. We also try to manage the flexible entries to ensure an even number of players in each section for each round, minimising the number of involuntary byes.

Byes

We provide a maximum of two voluntary half-point byes to players in five-round tournaments (only zero-point byes in the final round). However, if a player only wants to play in the two rounds on the Sunday, we will consider giving them **three** half point byes (based on their rating) for Round 4 pairing purposes. However, players who only enter for two games are not eligible for any prizes.

As stated, we want to avoid involuntary byes. If a player does not turn up for the first round after pairings have been made and we cannot re-pair their opponent, we will give that opponent £10 from the absent-without-notice player's fee.



Prizes

Players may win only one financial prize per tournament.

AlphaChess offers random prizes so that it is not only the players who perform best who are rewarded. To include more people, no player may win random prizes in consecutive events of the same type.

It is common practice for players who do not play the final round to be considered “withdrawn” and not to be eligible for prizes. This is because the final round will often be the most difficult for those in prize-winning positions.

However, when AlphaChess is offering a third prize in a section, a player who withdraws (or can only join on the first day, for example) may be eligible for that prize - and no higher - with the proviso below.

To be eligible for **any** prize (including random prizes), a player must have entered any section for half of the games or more.

Junior Prizes

Juniors who score at least 2.5 at a five-round classical will win a plaque (one time only per section). Differentiated certificates will be available (on request) for all under-14s in all sections.