



THE POISON PAWN GRAND PRIX

Grand Prix Season

The Poison Pawn Grand Prix for 2016 officially begins on January 1st, 2016, with Congress, and ends with the final Grand Prix event, which will be Congress at the end of 2016/beginning of 2017. Congress is both the first event and the last event of the Grand Prix.

Tournament Categories

There are four tournament categories, based on the total prizefund offered.

- ♟ Super Class – prizefund \$4,000 or more
- ♟ Class 1 – prizefund \$1,400 to less than \$4,000
- ♟ Class 2 – prizefund \$700 to less than \$1,400
- ♟ Class 3 – prizefund \$300 to less than \$700

Notes:

- ♟ The prizefund may include items such as books, wine, etc, which will be deemed to contribute towards the fund at their published retail value. The cost of cups and medals provided as one-offs for the event can be included, subject to a scan of the invoice or quote being sent to the Administrator. If the organiser pays for engraving, this can also be included towards the prizefund (note that NZCF usually pays for the engraving of official NZCF trophies).
- ♟ The following Championships qualify for (at least) class 1 GP points for the appropriate category, even if the prize money (and the GP fee paid) only qualifies them for a lower class: NZ Championship/Major Open, North Island Championship (not Rapid), South Island Championship (not Rapid), NZ Seniors/Veterans, NZ Juniors (not Rapid), and NZ Women's.
- ♟ Events which are held for the purposes of fund-raising, and have prizefunds below the stated class 3 limit (eg, memorabilia and donated items), will be allowed to register as class 3 events so long as the profits go to some general fund-raising cause, eg 'the NZ Olympiad team' or 'the next Queenstown Chess Classic' or 'World Youth travel expenses.' Fundraisers for individual players will not normally be accepted as GP events (special cases may be considered).
- ♟ An internal club tournament may earn Grand Prix points under the following conditions: it is open to anyone in the country and publicised to all clubs (and advertised on the Calendar page of www.newzealandchess.co.nz), it can only be a class 3 event, and the appropriate Grand Prix levy must be paid. A club may hold a maximum of two internal Grand Prix events during the year.

Grand Prix Points

Grand Prix points are awarded as follows:

- ♟ Super Class: 1st 25, 2nd 20, 3rd 15, 4th 12, 5th 9.
- ♟ Class 1: 1st 20, 2nd 15, 3rd 12, 4th 9, 5th 6.
- ♟ Class 2: 1st 15, 2nd 12, 3rd 9, 4th 6, 5th 4.
- ♟ Class 3: 1st 12, 2nd 9, 3rd 6, 4th 4, 5th 3.

In the case of ties, Grand Prix points will be shared and rounded to two decimal places.

Notes:

- ♟ For the categories Senior, Veteran, Female, and Junior, points will be reduced in lower sections of a multi-section event. 100% of the points detailed above will be awarded in an Open or A-grade, 80% in a B-Grade, 60% in a C-Grade, D-Grade, or below.
- ♟ In a multi-section event, points for a lower grading category will not be awarded in higher sections. For example, in a tournament with A-Grade (1800 and over), B-Grade (under 1800), and C-Grade (under 1500), there will be no u-1800 category points awarded in the A-Grade, and no u-1500 category points awarded in the B-Grade. For the NZ Championship and the Major Open

(where there is some overlap and also problems introduced by the requirement to promote people to make up Championship numbers), u-2100 category points will be awarded in both (but no u-1800 points or below in the Championship). Points specific to a higher category (e.g. Open) will not be awarded in lower sections (e.g. B-Grade). Note that when Congress is run as an Open plus a Major (rather than a Championship with an under-2000 rating cut-off and a Major with a 2100 cut-off), points for all categories will be awarded in the Open.

Grand Prix Prizes

These have been calculated on the basis of a total prizefund for 2016 of \$5470.

♟ Open:	1 st \$700 2 nd \$450 3 rd \$300
♟ Under 2100:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Under 1800:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Under 1500:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Junior:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Female:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Senior:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Veteran:	1 st \$250 2 nd \$150 3 rd \$100
♟ Under 12 & U1200:	1 st \$70 2 nd \$50 3 rd \$30

Special prizes:

♟ Best non-prize-winning North Islander outside Auckland and Wellington	\$80
♟ Best non-prize-winning South Islander	\$80
♟ Best non-prize-winning North Island Junior outside Auckland and Wellington	\$80
♟ Best non-prize-winning South Island Junior	\$80

Eligibility

- ♟ Grand Prix points are only awarded to New Zealand players (see Handbook for definition).
- ♟ A player can win only one prize, but may compete in any number of divisions for which he/she is eligible.
- ♟ He/she will be allocated the largest prize won at the end of the season or, in the case of prizes of equal value, the prize for the division where he/she finished in the higher placing. If the eligible prize and placing are equal, the player shall be awarded the prize from the division contested by fewest players.
- ♟ To be eligible for one of the four “special” prizes, a player must have been awarded Grand Prix points in at least three events.

Rating Regulations

- ♟ GP events must be NZCF-rated (note that NI, SI, Seniors/Veterans and Women’s are FIDE-rated at NZCF’s expense). Organisers are reminded that all players must be NZCF-registered.
- ♟ Ratings for grade divisions are based on players’ standard ratings in the most recently published official NZCF list prior to the start of the Grand Prix, i.e. November 2015. Even if a player’s rating goes up or down in subsequent lists and affects his/her qualification for sections of multi-section events, the categories in which he/she can score points will not change.
- ♟ Grand Prix points will be awarded in qualifying rating divisions, regardless of whether players win prizes at an individual tournament.
- ♟ A player’s best five scores in events of any class are counted towards his/her totals; these cannot include more than three rapid events.
- ♟ There is no differentiation between points offered at standard and rapid events.
- ♟ Juniors are under 20 on 1 January, 2016, ie anyone born in 1996 or later is a Junior.
- ♟ A player becomes a Senior on 1st January of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 50 (ie all those born in 1966 or before are Seniors).
- ♟ A player becomes a Veteran on 1st January of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 65 (ie all those born in 1951 or before are Veterans).
- ♟ Tournaments where entry is restricted by factors other than rating are not eligible for GP points, except where there is a specified Grand Prix category, e.g. Female, Junior, Senior/Veteran, U12/U1200.

- ♟ In divisions where fewer than five qualifying events are held during the year, no prizes will be paid out.
- ♟ Players are awarded points in all categories that they qualify for.

Grand Prix Levies:

Tournaments included in the Grand Prix pay the following levies to NZCF:

Auckland or Wellington:

- ♟ Super Class: \$200
- ♟ Class 1: \$150
- ♟ Class 2: \$100
- ♟ Class 3: \$ 50

All other areas:

- ♟ Super Class: \$180
- ♟ Class 1: \$130
- ♟ Class 2: \$ 80
- ♟ Class 3: \$ 30

These discounts recognise that Auckland and Wellington can claim a significant preponderance of New Zealand's chess population. They aim to encourage maximum participation in the Grand Prix.

Multi-section Events

Where tournaments are effectively several different restricted events, only one levy is payable, based on the total prizefund. For example, the New Zealand Championship and Major Open attract only one levy, as they run concurrently and cater for different rating groups. They are both regarded as being in the same category, based on the combined prizefund. However, the New Zealand Rapid Championship is regarded as a separate tournament, as it is run at a different time and is open to all players. It attracts a separate levy, as do the North and South Island Rapid Championships.

Official NZCF Tournaments

All official NZCF Tournaments held during 2016 are automatically included in the 2016 Grand Prix (the appropriate levy, determined by prizefund and location, must be paid). These are:

- ♟ The New Zealand Championship
- ♟ The New Zealand Major Open
- ♟ The New Zealand Rapid Championship
- ♟ The North Island Championship
- ♟ The North Island Rapid Championship
- ♟ The South Island Championship
- ♟ The South Island Rapid Championship
- ♟ The New Zealand Junior Championship
- ♟ The New Zealand Junior Rapid Championship
- ♟ The New Zealand Seniors/Veterans Championship
- ♟ The New Zealand Women's Championship

Tournament Organisers' Responsibilities

- ♟ To advise the Grand Prix Administrator **at least one month** before a tournament that it will be a Grand Prix event, pay the relevant NZCF levy and provide the name and contact details of a person responsible for ensuring a tournament report and games are forwarded to the "NZ Chess" magazine **within a fortnight** of the completion of the event.
- ♟ To ensure the Grand Prix and its sponsor Poison Pawn Ltd are mentioned on tournament entry forms. The official logo can be downloaded from the web page.
- ♟ To endeavour to publicise the Grand Prix in any media coverage

- ♤ To make the most recent Grand Prix standings available to tournament participants at the start of the event.
- ♤ To advise the Grand Prix Administrator of the complete results **within a fortnight** of the completion of the tournament (the sooner the better)

Grand Prix Administrator

The Grand Prix administrator for 2016 is Helen Milligan, email heligan@newzealandchess.co.nz. Please use email; telephone is inconvenient for a number of reasons. She will be responsible for:

- ♤ Updating the Grand Prix standings as soon as possible after each tournament.
- ♤ Making the current Grand Prix standings available to organisers prior to the start of their tournaments.

Grand Prix standings, and results of tournaments, will be made available on the website www.newzealandchess.co.nz. Additional photos of prizewinners can often be found at www.facebook.com/NZChessFederation, which is open to the public and does not require a Facebook login. An Update in pdf format will also be circulated to clubs every few weeks by email.