

# 6<sup>th</sup> Cornwall Spring Congress 2026

## Rules

It is a condition of entry that players agree to abide by the following Congress rules.

1. The organisers reserve the right, without giving a reason, to transfer or refuse an entry.
2. All fees must be paid before play starts. Late entries at the venue are at the discretion of the organisers and subject to a compulsory first round bye.
3. ECF Standard play Ratings from the March 2026 rating list will be used to determine tournament and seeding.
4. Conversions from other rating systems and estimates for ungraded players will be decided by the organisers.
5. Seeded Swiss pairings will be made by Controllers using ECF rules or computer programs based on ECF or comparable rules.
6. Rate of play is all moves in 75 minutes per player with increments of 30 seconds from move 1.
7. Players arriving more than 30 minutes late for a round may be deemed to have lost by default unless the Controller can re-pair them satisfactorily. Players present whose opponents have not arrived must expect to be re-paired 30 minutes after the start of the round, where possible.
8. An ungraded player may not win a grading prize or any trophy in any section, nor a sum of money higher than half the full value of their prize in the Major or Minor.
9. If a player qualifies for more than one cash prize, he/she shall be paid the higher amount and the Congress Director will decide the fairest manner of re-distributing any balance. Trophies will be awarded as soon as possible after all games have finished. Money prizes will be sent after the congress.
- 10) Only persons meeting at least one of the following criteria are eligible to be awarded the title of Cornwall Champion and/or the Emigrant, Falmouth or Penwith Cup.
  - a) Birth in Cornwall
  - b) Current residence in Cornwall and for the previous 12 months
  - c) Seven years continuous previous residence in Cornwall
  - d) Current attendance at a school or other educational establishment in Cornwall
  - e) Notwithstanding (b), current membership of a club affiliated to the Cornwall County Chess Association.
11. Congress equipment may not be removed from the playing or analysis areas.
12. Smoking and vaping are not permitted inside the venue.
13. Electronic equipment must be switched off. Failure to do so, or if electronic equipment in a player's possession makes a sound, will result in the loss of the game.
14. Players agree to abide by the decisions of the Controllers and accept that in all matters relating to the Congress the decisions of the organisers are final.
15. Any photographs taken at the event may be used for publicity purposes. Any entrant who objects to this must inform the Congress Organiser.
16. Players' personal details will be held electronically for the purposes of administering and marketing the Cornwall Open Chess Congresses; their entries will be published on the Cornwall Chess website; and congress games and results will be made available to the English Chess Federation (ECF) for grading purposes and may be published online. Players not wishing to have their details published on the ECF Website should contact the ECF Office directly.
17. All personal entry information is required for either player identification or communication purposes and will be either safely removed when no longer required or securely retained for the purpose of this and future Cornwall Open Chess Congresses only.
18. Bank details of prize winners will be deleted immediately after payment.
19. We will not share your personal details with third parties.