

Staines Chess Club 2026 OTB Blitz Grand Prix

Format:

- The **Grand Prix** will consist of **4 individual Blitz stages/competitions** held at the club premises
- Depending on the number of entries for each stage, they will either be a **9-round Swiss**, or if numbers are small enough, an all play all. **Each individual stage will be an ECF rated blitz tournament.**
- Players will earn **Grand Prix points** based on their **final position** at each stage.
- The overall winner will be the player with the **highest cumulative score** of Grand Prix points across all 4 stages.
- **The Time Control for all games will be 5 minutes + 3 seconds increment from move one.**

Grand Prix Scoring System:

Tournament points will be awarded after each stage (**1st = 10 pts, 2nd = 8 pts, 3rd = 6 pts, 4th = 5 pts, 5th = 4 pts, 6th = 3 pts, 7th = 2 pts, 8th = 1 point**)

Points from each stage will contribute to the overall standings.

The stages of The Grand Prix will be held on club nights as advised

Please arrive by 7.30pm for set up and registration. We will start PROMPTLY at 7.45pm. Late arrivals will default round 1. If you arrive too late for round 2 then you will not be eligible to play.

No byes can be requested

Default time 5 mins 3seconds

Pairings & Tie Breaks (per stage)

- Chess Manager software will be used for pairings.
- Tie-breaks for Grand Prix points:
 1. Direct Encounter
 2. Most Wins
 3. If there is still a tie after 1 & 2 above, Grand Prix points will be shared

If there is a tie for the overall Grand Prix winner, the tie breaks used will be the same:

1. Direct Encounters
2. Most Wins
3. If there is still a tie after 1 & 2 above, the title & trophy will be shared

Prizes/Trophies (apart from the kudos!) are to be confirmed

The Committee may if required make amendments to the above