

Final Four Tournament Rules

Eligibility: Each player must satisfy the eligibility requirements established by the USCF College Chess Committee (CCC). The requirements are the same as those for the Pan-American. An eligibility letter on University letterhead stationery must be presented with the team roster to the Tournament Director on Friday evening.

Teams: Each team has four players and up to two alternates. Board-order based on March ratings (50-point transpositions allowed) is also the same as for the Pan-American.

Scoring: The President's Cup is a Team Round Robin scored by total individual points. In the event of a tie, the teams are declared Co-champions. The following tie-breaking systems are for sole possession of the President's Cup and will be applied in this order:

1. Total team match wins.
2. Head-to-head outcome.
3. Armageddon (5-4 minute "shootout"). White must win with 5 minutes, and Black must win or draw with 4 minutes. There is no delay or increment time. Winner of a coin toss chooses color. Each team selects one team member to represent them.

Team rosters: Official team roster must be presented to the Tournament Director on Friday before the pairings. Team lineup for each round must be submitted to the Tournament Director at least one hour prior to the beginning of the round. Otherwise, the initial roster (for round one) or prior round's lineup is used for rounds two and three.

Pairings: The team pairings/seeds are predetermined by March USCF ratings. There will be a drawing for Round 1 and Round 3 colors on Board 1 at the Friday evening meeting before the tournament.

Rd 1: 1 vs. 4; 2 vs. 3

Rd 2: 1 vs. 3; 2 vs. 4

Rd 3: 1 vs. 2; 3 vs. 4

Official Time Controls: Game 90 with a 30-second increment each move.