



**59<sup>th</sup> Begonia Open**  
**8 to 10 March 2025**  
*Presented by Ballarat Chess Club Inc.*



<b>Venue</b>	Ballarat Tech School, Federation University 136 Albert Street, Ballarat Central.					
<b>Round Times</b>	Saturday	8 March	Registration	12 noon	Opening ceremony	1.30 pm
			Round 1	1.45 pm	Round 2	7.30 pm
	Sunday	9 March	Round 3	9.30 am	Round 4	2.30 pm
			Round 5	7.30 pm		
	Monday	10 March	Round 6	9.30 am	Round 7	2.30 pm
<b>Rate of Play</b>	All moves in 90 minutes per player plus an increment of 30 seconds per move from move 1. A forfeit will be awarded if a player is 30 minutes late for a game.					
<b>Entry Fees</b>	GM's, WGM's, IM's and WIM's					Free
	Adults					\$150
	Concession (unemployed and full-time students)					\$130
	A reduction of \$20 is available if entry fee is paid by 21 February 2025					
<b>Prizes</b>	<b>Outright</b>		<b>3 Rating Groups</b>		<b>Unrated Players</b>	
	1 <sup>st</sup>	\$3,000	1 <sup>st</sup>	\$1,000	1 <sup>st</sup>	\$300
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$1,500	2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$500	2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$200
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$1,250	players rated under 2000			
	4 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,000				
<b>Special Prizes</b>	<b>For members of Box Hill Chess Club not winning another prize</b>					
	Top Adult \$200		Top Female \$200		Top Junior \$200	
<b>How to enter and pay</b>	Entries and payments can be completed online via the <a href="#">TryBooking link</a> on the tournament website at <a href="http://begoniaopen.com">begoniaopen.com</a> There will be a maximum of 250 players.					
<b>Entries Close</b>	Entries will close on Thursday 6 March 2025.					
<b>Grandmasters &amp; International Masters</b>	GM's, WGM's, IM's and WIM's are entitled to free entry to the Tournament. They must however, contact the tournament manager at <a href="mailto:treasurer@ballaratchess.com">treasurer@ballaratchess.com</a> to register their intention to play before entries close and get their complimentary entry code for TryBooking <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/CXGPO">https://www.trybooking.com/CXGPO</a>					
<b>Half Point Byes</b>	Players may request the Arbiter for up to 2 half point byes in rounds 1 to 5. This must be done in writing prior to the tournament or before the start of the previous round.					
<b>Rating Groups and Unrated Players</b>	There will be 3 separate sections for players rated under 2000 and a separate section for unrated players. The 3 rated player groups will be determined by dividing the number of rated players under 2000 by 3. The unrated players will not be included in this calculation and will only be eligible for outright prizes and those shown above for unrated players.					
<b>General</b>	The tournament will be rated by both the ACF and FIDE. Draws under 15 moves will not be accepted by the Arbiter.					
<b>Covid-19 matters</b>	The committee will follow all Government regulations relating to Covid-19. We ask if anybody has tested positive to Covid-19 in the 3 days prior to the event that they do not attend, and a refund of entry fee will be arranged.					
<b>Sponsorship</b>	The club appreciates the generous support of PPT Financial, Federation University, Northern Star Chess, Box Hill Chess Club and the Friends of Begonia.					
<b>Further Information</b>	Visit the tournament website at <a href="http://begoniaopen.com">begoniaopen.com</a> where further information is listed. Alternatively call Tournament Manager Kevin Perrin on 0418 533 517, President Peter Stickland on 0408 115 778 or email inquiries to <a href="mailto:president@ballaratchess.com">president@ballaratchess.com</a>					