



Scholastic Chess of Indiana – 2018 State Championships

333 players from across the state of Indiana converged at Pike High School in Indianapolis to compete in the 2018 SCI Individual State Championships on Saturday, January 27, 2018. Each player earned the right to take part in this year's event by qualifying at one of five regional competitions over the past three weeks. \$4000 in scholarships were awarded in the championship divisions.

In the 12th grade and under division, senior Carson Pocock trailed Aidan Kaczanoski by a half point entering the final round and needed a victory to claim clear first place. He defeated Kaczanoski to win the Paul "Teddy" Jacobi \$2000 scholarship and claim his first SCI State Championship. Shared below is Carson's third round victory by using a clever, queen-sacrifice tactic, leading to a quick checkmate.

In the 8th grade and under division, Max Egan won his second SCI State Championship and the \$1000 Billy Colias Scholarship. Egan also needed a victory in the final round over Bill Qian after drawing with runner-up finisher Braydon Povinelli in round three. Egan and Povinelli both finished with 3.5 out of 4 points, with Egan winning on tiebreaks. Max shares his final round game below that features an aggressive King-side assault.

Third-seeded Timothy Lim was undefeated in the 6th and under division, winning his first SCI State Championship and the \$1000 Brian Yamin Scholarship. Early upsets by the top two seeds shook up the section and Lim prevailed with a perfect, 5-0 score. Edward Chen recovered from an early draw to claim 2nd place at 4.5 out of 5 points.

In the 3rd grade and under division, a last round draw between the final two unbeaten players, Roshan Raman and Gavin Lass, left both players with 5.5 out of 6 points. Raman was crowned champion on tie breaks.

The Junior Varsity sections were all won with perfect scores this year. Ankush Dhawan, the top seen in the 12th grade and under JV section for players rated below 1300, was a perfect 5-0 on the day. In the 8th grade and under JV section for players rated under 1000, Henry Adams was crowned champion with another 5-0 score. Luke Waters won the 6th grade and under section for players rated under 750 by winning all 6 games.

The Chief Organizer of the event was Jerry Ritchie. Chief Tournament Director was Scott Reisinger, assisted by Joe Riegsecker, Roger Norris, John Pimentel, Jeff Spitler, and Paul Washington. Full results can be found at scichess.org.



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White: Carson Pocock (1790)

Black: Samuel Campbell (1434)

1. d4 Nf6 2. C4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 c5 5. dxc5 Na6
6. a3 Bxc3 7. Qxc3 Nxc5 8. B4 Nce4 9. Qb3 0-0
10. f3 Nd6 11. e4 Nfe8 12. c5 Nxe4 13. fxe4 Qh4
14. Qg3 Qxe4 15. Qe3 Qh4 16. g3 Qf6 17. Ra2 b6
18. Bg2 Rb8 19. Rf2 Qa1 20. Ne2 bxc5 21. Qxc5 Ba6
22. 0-0 Rc8

(Diagram)

23. Qxf8 Kxf8 24. Rxf7 Kg8 25. Rf8#



White: Max Egan (1981)

Black: Bill Qian (1744)

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6
6. f3 e6 7. Be3 Be7 8. Qd2 0-0 9. 0-0-0 Nc6 10. g4 Bd7
11. h4 Nxd4 12. Bxd4 Ne8 13. f4 Bc6 14. g5 f6
15. Bc4 Qc8 16. f5 Bd7 17. Bb3 Kh8 18. g6 h6
19. Be3 exf5 20. Bxh6 fxe4

(Diagram)

21. h5 Be6 22. Bxg7 Kxg7 23. h6 Kg6 24. h7 Rh8
25. Qh6 Kf7 26. Rdg1 Bf8 27. Qh5 Ke7 28. Nd5 Bxd5
29. Bxd5 Qc7 30. Rg8 Bg7 31. Qf7 Kd8 32. Qe8#

