

## FOUR DCCA INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES UP FOR GRABS!

We are delighted to announce that the following trophies will be awarded at the 2026 East Devon Chess Congress, in partnership with the Devon County Chess Association (DCCA):

- Highest-placed Devon player in the Open: The **Winter-Wood Championship Cup**
- Highest-placed Devon player in the U-1900 Major: The **Festival of Britain Trophy**
- Highest-placed Devon player in the U-1650 Minor: The **E J Winter-Wood Trophy**

(In the event of a tie on points, the trophy will be shared by the players concerned.)

In addition, the **Ladies Championship Challenge Cup** will be awarded to the female Devon player achieving the highest TPR in any section of the 2026 East Devon Chess Congress, provided that they have scored at least 1 point in played games.

**Definition of 'Devon player'** – Visit [www.eastdevonchesscongress.org/dcca-trophies](http://www.eastdevonchesscongress.org/dcca-trophies) to read the official definition of 'Devon player' that will be used. In brief, this definition requires all four of the following criteria to be satisfied: (1) current residence within Devon; (2) current membership of a DCCA-affiliated club; (3) an official (not partial) standard-play rating in the February 2026 ECF rating list; and (4) at least three 'qualifying' rated games (played within or for a club, or at DCCA / County level) between January 2024 and January 2026.

## ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

A selection of local hotels and guesthouses appears below. For further options, please see TripAdvisor or Booking.com.

HOTELS	Exeter Rougemont Hotel	Queen Street	01392 410237
	Queens Court Hotel	6-8 Bystock Terrace	01392 272709
NEW!	Hotel Indigo	3 Catherine Street	01392 301801
	City Gate Hotel	1 Iron Bridge	01392 495811
NEW!	The Turks Head	202 High Street	01392 706013
	Mercure Exeter Southgate	Southernhay East	01392 412812
	Southernhay House Hotel	Southernhay East	01392 439000
	Premier Inn City Centre	Southernhay Gardens	0871 5279570
	White Hart Hotel	66 South Street	01392 279897
	Hotel du Vin	Magdalen Street	01392 790120
	Leonardo Hotel (Jurys Inn)	Western Way	01392 312400
	Premier Inn St Davids	Bonhay Road	0871 5279278
	Holiday Inn Express City Centre	Tudor Street	0800 8778987

GUESTHOUSES	Bendene	15-16 Richmond Road	01392 213526
	Park View	8 Howell Road	01392 271772
	Townhouse	54 St Davids Hill	01392 494994
	Oakcliffe	73 St Davids Hill	01392 258288
	Telstar	77 St Davids Hill	01392 272466

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS! 1976 – 2026 THE EAST DEVON CHESS CONGRESS *at Exeter*

**Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd March 2026**  
**Exeter Rougemont Hotel by Sunday, Queen St, Exeter**

- ★ *One of the most popular and long-running congresses in the SW*
- ★ *Elegant city-centre venue, just a minute's walk from Exeter Central*

## FEATURING THIS YEAR...

- ★ **Saturday night simul by GM Keith Arkell [£6 add-on]**
- ★ **JackPot bullet competition vs IM Jack Rudd**
- ★ **Puzzle contest [with prizes]**   ★ **Coaching zone**

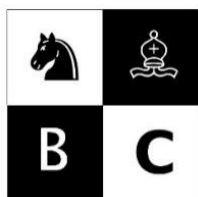
**New website: [www.eastdevonchesscongress.org](http://www.eastdevonchesscongress.org)**

**REGISTER SOON – ENTRY LIMITED TO 110 PLAYERS!**

## THREE SECTIONS AVAILABLE:

OPEN	Any player can enter
U-1900 MAJOR	For players rated under 1900 [Feb 2026]
U-1650 MINOR	For players rated under 1650 [Feb 2026]

All tournaments are five-round Swiss, with play sessions of 3 hours 50 minutes approximately



**Congress Equipment by  
Bude Chess Centre**

[chess@budechess.co.uk](mailto:chess@budechess.co.uk) Tel: 01288 353070  
[www.budechess.co.uk](http://www.budechess.co.uk)

*Chess books (new and used), trophies, and much more!*

## CONGRESS DETAILS

### PRIZES

**All prizes are conditional on the number of entries received.** The organisers may increase the prize fund further if entry numbers are particularly high.

<b>OPEN</b>	<b>1st £220, 2nd £150, 3rd £90, plus rating prizes</b>
<b>U-1900 MAJOR</b>	<b>1st £180, 2nd £130, 3rd £80, plus rating prizes</b>
<b>U-1650 MINOR</b>	<b>1st £180, 2nd £130, 3rd £80, plus rating prizes</b>

Maximum of one prize per player. Only entrants with an ECF standard-play rating are eligible to win a rating prize. An unrated player may not win more than the value of the 3rd prize, except in the Open section. Prizes will be paid by bank transfer or cheque after the Congress.

### ENTRY

**Entry fee for Gold / Platinum ECF members: Open £45, Major £43, Minor £43.**

This is a registered ECF Game Fee event. Players who are not ECF members at Gold or Platinum level (or the equivalent Junior levels) on the start date of the Congress must add **£16** (or **£6.50** for a Junior) to the above entry fee, to cover the 'pay to play' fee charged by the ECF.

An entry fee discount of **£3** applies for all Juniors. (A 'Junior' is any player who was under 18 years of age on 1st September 2025.)

Online entry is very strongly preferred – please follow the link shown on the opposite page.

Late entries (received after 13th March 2026) will be accepted only at the organisers' discretion and will cost an extra **£5** – or an extra **£15** if received after 18th March 2026.

The East Devon Chess Congress is not sponsored, and we again invite your kind donations. Many thanks for helping to support the future of the Congress!

The February 2026 ECF standard-play rating list (specifically, the final 'Revised' ratings at the end of February) will be used to determine section eligibility and seedings. Conversions from other rating systems and estimates of unrated players will be decided by the organisers.

The Committee reserve the right to transfer an entrant to another section or to refuse entry without giving a reason. The decisions of the Committee and arbiters are final in all matters.

All games will be submitted for rating. It is a condition of entry that players agree to their details being used for rating and mailing purposes. Details of all entries received will be displayed on the 'Entries' page of our new website: [www.eastdevonchesscongress.org](http://www.eastdevonchesscongress.org)

**DCCA INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES** *[Awarded at the East Devon Congress once again this year]*

Please see the back cover of this leaflet for full details of this year's partnership with the DCCA.

### FOOD & DRINK

Players may bring food and drink into the venue for consumption on the premises. Food and drink will also be available for purchase at the venue throughout the weekend.

**TEAM COMPETITION** *[Free of charge]*

A team prize will be awarded for the best total score by four players from the same club, university, or league (who may compete in any combination of sections). Entry is free, but you must submit your team list by 8pm on the Friday evening. A player may only participate in one team. Additional prizes may be offered depending on entry.

## SCHEDULE OF PLAY

Please visit our website [www.eastdevonchesscongress.org](http://www.eastdevonchesscongress.org) for current information on all our '50-year' celebration events, including the Saturday night simul by GM Keith Arkell.

Friday (20th March):	Saturday (21st March):	Sunday (22nd March):
18:50 Opening	10:00 Round 2	10:00 Round 4
19:00 Round 1	15:00 Round 3	15:00 Round 5

Time limit: Each player receives 105 minutes plus 10 seconds increment per move. Default and re-pairing time will be 30 minutes after the start of play, unless the arbiter decides otherwise. Half-point byes are available in rounds 1-4 only, and must be indicated at the time of entry.

## ENTERING THE CONGRESS

**To streamline the entry process, the organisers would be delighted if all entrants could register for the Congress via our easy-to-use online entry form:**

**[www.cognitoforms.com/EastDevon2026/EntryForm](http://www.cognitoforms.com/EastDevon2026/EntryForm)**

You will not be asked for any bank details – instead, payment can be made either by direct bank transfer or by cheque. Full details will be provided once you have submitted your entry. If you have any further queries, please email [eastdevonchesscongress@gmail.com](mailto:eastdevonchesscongress@gmail.com).

**PAPER ENTRY FORM – For entrants without internet access only**

**Please note: If you have internet access, we'd hugely appreciate it if you could enter the Congress via our online entry form (above), rather than a paper form. Online entries are far easier for the organisers to process, and much less error-prone! Thank you.**

I wish to enter the \_\_\_\_\_ section and accept the conditions of the Congress.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a 'Devon player'? (see back cover) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

ECF Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ ECF Rating Code \_\_\_\_\_

Latest Rating \_\_\_\_\_ Round for bye (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are unrated, please attach detailed information to indicate your current playing level, including estimated rating (if available), results achieved at your last three tournaments, last known rating (with year), and any other ratings (e.g. online, FIDE, Welsh).*

Entry Fee – Add £16 if not a Gold / Platinum ECF member £ \_\_\_\_\_

Junior discount – Subtract £3 if aged under 18 on 1st Sep 2025 – £ \_\_\_\_\_

GM Arkell simul – Add £6 if you wish to register for this event + £ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation – Thank you so much for your generosity! + £ \_\_\_\_\_

Remittance enclosed for: TOTAL £ \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to 'East Devon Chess Congress' and post to: The EDCC Entry Secretary, 12 Elvis Road, Exmouth, EX8 2QB. Email: [eastdevonchesscongress@gmail.com](mailto:eastdevonchesscongress@gmail.com)  
Emergency contact during the Congress: Sean Pope, 07443 493141 (before 10pm, please).