

Victoria Chess Festival 2008
21-24 March (Easter Weekend)

Come play chess on an island in the Pacific! It doesn't get better than this. Escape the harsh Canadian winter. Come to Victoria for the Easter Weekend.

The main event of the Festival, the **Grand Pacific Open** (GPO) will be a 6 round Swiss with a **guaranteed prize fund of \$2000!** In addition, there will be a Bughouse Tournament following the GPO on Monday March 24th planned to start at 2pm. Other events will be planned for March 21st. Check www.victoriachessclub.pbwiki.com for updates and more information.

The event will be CFC and FIDE rated. In addition, the top B.C. finisher will qualify for the BC Closed.

Playing Site. Pender Island Ball Room, Grand Pacific Hotel
www.hotelgrandpacific.com

Playing Schedule. On site registration is from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM on Friday March 21st. Late arrivals will be paired on an opportunity basis. Round One – Friday, March 21st at 6:00 PM. Rounds Two and Three – Saturday, March 22nd at 12:00 noon and 6:00 PM. Rounds Four and Five – Sunday, March 23rd at 12:00 noon and 6:00 PM. Round Six – Monday March 24th at 10:00 AM. Half point byes are available for Rounds 1 to 5.

Prizes. 1st 500, 2nd 300, 3rd 200, 4th 100. U2000 300, 150, 100. U1600 200, 100, 50. U1200 Trophies. Trophies for 1st and 2nd place in all categories. Unrated players are not eligible for section prizes. CFC, USCF, FQE, FIDE ratings in order of priority will be used for pairings and class prize eligibility.

Entry Fees. \$45 if pre-registered before Feb 1st, \$50 before Mar 1st, \$60 after Mar. 1st. US cheques accepted at par. Non-CFC members will be charged an additional \$10 tournament fee. Send cheques to Brian Raymer, 2386 Dalhousie St. Victoria BC V8R 2H6 - payable to the Victoria Chess Club.

Time Control. Game in 90 minutes plus 30 second per move increment.

Accommodation. The organizing committee has arranged an excellent rate for you at the Hotel Grand Pacific. Luxury 5 Star Hotel - \$95/night based single or double occupancy. Children under 18 stay free in same room with accompanying adult(s). The hotel is ideally situated on the beautiful inner harbour and includes free high speed internet, free access to health club and ozonated 25m pool and many other amenities for hotel guests. The special rate is available for rooms until February 21st, 2008 subject to availability. Special event rates are also available for harbour view rooms. We expect the rooms will sell out at this rate well before February 21st. Book early to avoid disappointment

by calling toll free **1-800-663-7550**. Quote: **Victoria Chess** when booking. Many other hotels are available within a reasonable distance from the playing site. Contact the organizing committee for more information.

Travel. There are ferries from Vancouver (Tsawassen) and Seattle (Victoria Clipper) and Port Angeles (Black Ball). The playing site is just across the street from the Victoria Clipper and Black Ball Terminals on the Inner Harbour. The Clipper arrives from Seattle in plenty of time for round one and departs not long after round six. Round trip fare is approximately \$107. There is direct public transport from the Swartz Bay ferry terminal to downtown. No Passports are required for US or Canadian born travelers arriving by boat or other surface travel from the United States. Victoria is serviced by float planes direct to Victoria Harbour from Vancouver and Seattle and there are direct flights to Victoria International Airport (YYJ) from Vancouver, Seattle, Kelowna, Calgary, and Toronto.

Welcome to out of province and out of country players The organizing committee will help with travel planning and can arrange pick up at the airport or ferry if requested. Please call for any assistance. For information contact:
Brian Raymer 250-595-0025 braymer@telus.net
Paul Leblanc 250-388-5187 pc-leblanc@shaw.ca
Roger Patterson victoria_chess@shaw.ca

We hope to see you at the 2008 GPO and Victoria Chess Festival! Please spread the word about this event. The end of March is a great time to visit Victoria. Bring your family and spend an extra day or two. The Hotel Grand Pacific is extending the \$95 rate for 3 days before and after the event.

.....

ENTRY FORM 2008 GRAND PACIFIC OPEN

Name: _____
CFC Membership Number (if applic) _____
Rating: _____ (CFC) _____ (USCF) _____ (FIDE) _____ (FQE)
Address: _____
e-mail or phone _____
Amount Enclosed (\$45 before 1 Feb, \$50 before 1 Mar. \$60 after 1 Mar. Non-CFC members add \$10) _____
Byes Requested (indicate round numbers) _____

Payable to Victoria Chess Club. Mail to Brian Raymer, 2386 Dalhousie St. Victoria, BC V8R 2H6