

Dear 122nd US Open participant:

Starting with this year's US Open Championship, US Chess is now paying all major event prizes electronically. That will be the standard cash prize payment method going forward for national events.

This year, we will be using Bill.com to distribute prizes. The procedure to receive your prize is very easy. Of the steps below, only a few require you to do anything at all.

1. Shortly after all games are finished in Round 9, tournament staff will determine and verify who won prizes.
2. The final prize list will be posted online, at the "Results and Pairings" link on the US Open tournament website: <http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2022/usopen>. The list will also be posted near Chess Control.
3. If you already have a valid email address on file with US Chess, skip directly to Step 5. If you do **not** have a valid email address on file with US Chess, proceed to Step 4.
4. Send email to nationalevents@uschess.org with your name, US Chess ID number, and the email address you would like to use for receiving communication about your prize.
5. Within 1 to 3 business days, you will receive an email, inviting you to join Bill.com. **THAT EMAIL IS NOT SPAM.** Please do NOT delete it! Instead, open it and follow the simple instructions to join Bill.com.
6. Once you have joined Bill.com, US Chess will send your prize directly to the bank account you designated when you joined. That's it!

Please note the following.

- ***If you win \$600 or more***, US Chess must report your prize as taxable income to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
- You will need to complete an IRS Form W-9 (if a US citizen) or Form W-8BEN (if a foreign national) to receive your entire prize. Otherwise, US Chess must hold a large percentage of the prize for remission to the Treasury Department.
 - IRS Form W-9 (fillable): <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>
 - IRS Form W-8BEN (fillable): <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw8ben.pdf>
- If you win ***less than*** \$600, you do not need to submit an IRS form. US Chess does *not* need to report your prize.
- If you've previously won a large prize at US Chess national event in the last several years, or have received any payment in excess of \$600, we likely have this information on file for you already. Contact Debra Robison at debra.robison@uschess.org to confirm.
- Bill.com requires that all payees set up for its service be 18 years or older. So, if you are a parent or guardian of a player under 18 who has won a prize, you will need to provide your banking information to have the prize sent. If your child wins \$600 or more, you will need to put **the player's** name and Social Security number on the W-9 form. You will then need to declare the income on next year's federal tax return.
- US Chess staff will all be traveling home from the event between Monday and Wednesday. Despite that, we will be working to get all the invitations sent, starting Sunday night. **If you have not received your Bill.com invitation by the end of Wednesday, August 11, please email nationalevents@uschess.org. We will follow up promptly.** Your patience in the interim is greatly appreciated!

If you have questions about the prize calculations or other matters directly related to the US Open, please contact the Events Department at nationalevents@uschess.org. If you have questions about the Bill.com process specifically, please contact our senior accountant, Debra Robison, at debra.robison@uschess.org.

Thank you for joining us for the 122nd US Open Championship! See you next year in Grand Rapids, Michigan!