

Northern Ireland Championship

24th - 25th January 2026

Venue: The Lansdowne Hotel, 657 Antrim Rd, Belfast, BT15 4EF
Tel: 02890 772999
Web: www.thelansdownehotel.co.uk
Easy access from both Belfast airports, from motorway and nearby train stations. Contact the organiser for any help required.

Format: 15 rounds. All players participate in every round.

NEW FORMAT!

Div A (Open) will be for ratings 130 and above, plus anyone who wishes to enter this open division. 5pt penalty challenge rule will apply.

Div B for those rated 129 and below. Free challenge rule will apply.

Clocks used with 25 minutes per player per game. Event rated by ABSP/AISA and WESPA.

Accommodation

Players are required to make their own arrangements regarding accommodation, however there is a special room rate agreed with the hotel of Saturday night £108 (single) or £126 (double), with further reduced rates for the Friday night for those wishing to arrive early. To avail yourself of the discount, phone the hotel or email them on reception@thelansdownehotel.co.uk

Alternative accommodation is available nearby; *Airbnb* also has some good options. If the Lansdowne Hotel is full, they will also be happy to advise good local alternatives.

Tournament entry fee

£40 per person. This will be collected on the day (cash only).

Prizes

There will be cash prizes for the top three places, ratings prizes for others who perform well above their initial rating, plus other spot prizes. The winner will be awarded the title of Northern Ireland Champion and the perpetual trophy to engrave and to keep for one year.

To enter the tournament please contact the organiser, Stewart Holden, on 07971 634098 or email stewardholden@hotmail.co.uk

The ABSP website will contain a list of entrants (updated regularly), and information updates will also be posted on the event Facebook page.

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ABSP Membership: Membership for the year is £25. If you would like to join, or to receive further information please write to the membership secretary, Nuala O'Rourke, 22 Kestrel Road, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6BU or see www.absp.org.uk

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Saturday 24th January

9.15am	Registration opens
10.00	Round 1
11.00	Round 2
12.00	Round 3
	LUNCH BREAK
13.45	Round 4
14.45	Round 5
15.30	Tea/Coffee
16.00	Round 6
17.00	Round 7
18.00	Round 8

Sunday 25th January

9.15am	Round 9
10.15	Round 10
11.15	Round 11
12.15	Round 12
	LUNCH BREAK
14.00	Round 13
15.00	Round 14
16.00	Round 15
17.00	Prizegiving

Please retain this timetable for your own information.

It is important for a prompt start that all players (including non-residents) are accounted for before 9.50am so that we can work out the pairings for the first round. If you are running late, call Stewart Holden on 07971 634098.

