

# 2025 US Shogi Championship Tournament SAN FRANCISCO

= SPECIAL GUESTS =



**Akio  
Ishikawa**  
*Pro 7-Dan*



**Hirotaka  
Nozuki**  
*Pro 8-Dan*



**Mana  
Watanabe**  
*Woman's Pro 3-Dan*

Sponsored  
by

**TEIKOKU** PHARMA USA  Kinokuniya  
**Lasertec** TAKARA SAKE USA INC.

Hosted & organized by: SF Shogi Club & US Shogi Federation

## = DATES =

April 26 & 27, 2025 (Sat & Sun).

\* Additional pre-tournament event  
will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> (Fri). See  
AGENDA page for more details.

## = VENUE =

The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of  
Northern California (JCCCNC) 1F Issei Memorial Room

1840 Sutter Street  
San Francisco, CA 94115

## = REGISTRATION =

- Adults: \$180
- Students: \$130
- Children (12 & under): \$80

\*Lunch for both days are included.

Register here: <https://usshogi25sf.eventbrite.com>



Scan this QR  
code to enter!

## = ELIGIBILITY =

Amateur shogi players meeting any of the following  
qualifications are eligible to participate:

- Individuals who have been residing in the United States  
for one year or more as of the date of the event, or those  
who have a permanent residence in the U.S.
- Individuals holding a permanent visa, citizenship, or an  
equivalent status that allows them to reside in the U.S.
- Individuals who have been granted special eligibility by  
the tournament organizer (ex: former participants that no  
longer reside in the U.S. etc.).

# 2025 US Shogi Championship Tournament **SAN FRANCISCO**

## AGENDA

Hosted & organized by: SF Shogi Club & US Shogi Federation

### PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE

**DAY 0 – April 25<sup>th</sup> (Fri)** \*Participation is optional.

Time: 5 pm – 9 pm

Venue: JCCNC 2F

1840 Sutter Street San Francisco, CA 94115

Fee: \$20

At this pre-tournament event, you'll get a sneak peek at the competition that awaits! Prepare for the main event by playing practice games with other participants, or challenge yourself with instructional matches against guest shogi professionals visiting from Japan. Light food and refreshments will be provided.

### TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

**DAY 1 – April 26<sup>th</sup> (Sat)**

- 8:00 AM Venue setup and preparation
- 8:15 AM Registration & check-in begins
- 8:45 AM Opening ceremony and welcome address by organizers and guest professionals
- 9:00 AM A/B classification preliminaries (Swiss style)
  - ❖ 9:00 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Round
  - ❖ 10:00 AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Round
  - ❖ 11:00 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Round
- 12:00 PM Lunch Break
- 1:00 PM A/B Championship individual tournament (Swiss style) 1<sup>st</sup> Round
- 2:00 PM Team tournament (Round robin): R1 – R6 (approx.)\*
- 5:30 PM Announcement of team tournament results
- 6:00 PM End of Day 1
- 6:30 PM Welcome Party (see below)

**DAY 2 – April 27<sup>th</sup> (Sun)**

- 8:30 AM A/B Championship individual tournament (Swiss style)
  - ❖ 8:30AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Round
  - ❖ 9:30AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Round
  - ❖ 10:30AM 4<sup>th</sup> Round
- 12:00 PM Lunch Break
- 1:00 PM A/B Championship semi-finals
- 2:00 PM A/B Championship finals and third place matches
- 3:00 PM (if time permits) Commemorative exhibition game  
*A-class champion vs guest professional*
- 5:00 PM Award ceremony and Closing ceremony
- 5:30 PM Photo session and cleanup
- 6:00 PM End of Day 2

\*The number of rounds in the team tournament will vary depending on the number of participants and the resulting number of teams that can be formed.  
Disclaimer: Schedule may be subject to change without prior notice.

### WELCOME PARTY

Location: Harborview Restaurant & Bar

4 Embarcadero Center San Francisco, CA 94111

Fee: Adults \$100  
Students \$80  
Children (12 or under) \$60

We will host a welcome party after the first day of the tournament. Participation is optional but highly encouraged! It will be a great opportunity to connect with fellow shogi enthusiasts from all over America as well as with guest shogi professionals while enjoying the amazing food that San Francisco has to offer. We will be taking Waymo, the world's first autonomous ride-hailing service, to and from the welcome party location (included in the fee). We hope this will be a memorable part of your experience at the tournament!

## TOURNAMENT INFO

Hosted & organized by: SF Shogi Club & US Shogi Federation

### FORMAT

#### A/B Championship individual tournament (Swiss style)

- ❑ 10 minutes of thinking time will be given to each player. After 10 minutes, a 40-second "byo-yomi" will be applied per move. (For finals and 3rd place matches, players will have 20 minutes of thinking time.)
- ❑ All participants will first compete in a three-round Swiss-style preliminary tournament. Based on the results, the top half of the standings will advance to Class A, while the lower half will proceed to Class B.
- ❑ The main tournament will consist of four additional rounds for each Class.
- ❑ Following these four rounds, the top four ranked players in each Class will compete in a knockout tournament to determine first, second, and third place.

#### Team tournament (Round robin)

- ❑ The team tournament will follow a round-robin format, with teams formed based on the regions represented by the participants.
- ❑ Matches will be played in a 12-minute sudden-death format.
- ❑ Three professional players will also form a team and participate.
  - ❑ Rounds against the professional team will also count towards the final result.
  - ❑ Games against professionals will be handicapped ("koma ochi"). Players may choose up to a two-piece handicap ("2 mai ochi") against professionals and up to a rook ("hisha ochi") handicap against woman's professionals.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

- ❑ Who moves first ("sente") will be decided by a random drawing ("furigoma").
- ❑ Whoever moves second ("gote") can choose the position of the clock (left or right side).
- ❑ Illegal moves or exceeding the time limit will result in a loss.
- ❑ If a game cannot be completed within the allotted time, it will be paused, and a professional will decide the winner based on his/her evaluation of the game's position.
- ❑ The same hand must be used to move the pieces and operate the clock. Repeated violations of this rule may result in the organizers declaring the game a loss for the violator.
- ❑ In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the matter will be resolved at the discretion of a professional.



# 2025 US Shogi Championship Tournament **SAN FRANCISCO**

## LOGISTICS

Hosted & organized by: SF Shogi Club & US Shogi Federation

### REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

- ❑ If you are interested in participating in this tournament, please apply from our Eventbrite page:

<https://usshogi25sf.eventbrite.com>  
(or scan the QR code on the right →)



- ❑ The registration fee can be paid at the venue.
- ❑ If you wish to pay the registration fee at the venue, please select "Pay at the door" on Eventbrite once you reach the payment page.
- ❑ We will accept cash/check, credit or debit card on-site.
- ❑ Applications will be accepted until April 18, 2025 (11:59pm PST).

### CONTACT

If you have any other questions, please contact:

- ❑ Noriyuki Shimoda (San Francisco Shogi Club – President)  
EMAIL: [n.shimoda@us-shogi.org](mailto:n.shimoda@us-shogi.org)

See also:  
<https://sites.google.com/view/shogi-us-tournament/home>  
<https://www.us-shogi.org/>

### RECOMMENDED HOTELS

#### Kimpton Hotel Enso

- ❑ 1800 Sutter St, San Francisco, CA 94115

#### Hotel Kabuki - JDV by Hyatt

- ❑ 1625 Post St, San Francisco, CA 94115

#### Other hotels

The following options are more affordable, but are located a bit farther away from the venue. (approx. 15~20 minutes away on foot)

#### Courtyard San Francisco Downtown/Van Ness Ave.

- ❑ 1050 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 94109

#### Holiday Inn San Francisco-Golden Gateway

- ❑ 1500 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 94109

For Non-locals: While you are free to stay at any hotel or AirBNB, we particularly recommend these hotels for their proximity to the venue (<5 min walking distance).



\*Schedules, details, and other information on this pamphlet may be subject to change without prior notice.