

THE NORTH AMERICAN STRONG PLAYER'S ONLINE TOURNAMENT

--No Boundaries in the Kingdom of Go

Strong players in the U.S., Canada and Mexico are invited to play online in a new high level tournament with top prizes totaling \$1500. Players with AGA ratings of 5.0 and up, or Canadian/Mexican equivalents, are eligible. No requirement for a U.S. Green card or citizenship. The 26 top rated AGA players who register automatically qualify, and six places are reserved for Canadian (4) and Mexican (2) players. The registration deadline is midnight, 4/15/2010, and the first round is on the weekend of 4/24. The tournament will be on weekends, and it is scheduled for four weekends.

If your AGA rating is 5.0 or more, sign up today at
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/key.com/s/F55QNL5>.

Take your 'Sente' today. For details of the tournament, see below.

- This is a serious online tournament
- Total prizes no less than \$1500 (champion = \$1000, runner-up = \$400, and third = \$100). More if sponsors participate.
- No restriction to U.S. Green Cards or citizenship of players

ELIGIBILITY

1. AGA membership continuously for the past 12 months, or Canadian Go Association or Mexican Go Association membership for the same period.
2. If a U.S. player, must have lived in the U.S. for at least 6 of the past 12 months.
3. All players must sign up for the tournament online by midnight EST April 15, 2010 at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/key.com/s/F55QNL5>
4. AGA rating 5.0 or above, or Canadian/Mexican equivalent. Top 26 rated players automatically qualify. The remaining 6 places are reserved for Canadian and Mexican players. A total of 32 players will participate in the tournament.

5. All players must agree to have a Skype account and a web camera in order to view each other during the games.

SCHEDULE

1. First Round, Weekend 1, 4/24/2010
Double-elimination, 3 rounds, (Sat. pm, Sat. evening, Sunday pm)
2. Sweet 16 and Elite 8, Weekend 2, 5/1/2010
Single-elimination, 2 rounds (Sat pm and Sunday pm)
3. Final 4, Weekend 3, TBD
Best-of-three (Friday evening, Sat pm and Sunday pm if necessary)
4. Finals & 3rd-Place playoff, Weekend 4, TBD
Best-of-three (Friday evening, Sat pm and Sunday pm if necessary)
If players live close, a face-to-face matchup is possible with players' consent.
5. Trophy presentation at 26th U.S. Go Congress, Colorado Springs, CO

RULES

1. AGA rules. All games are even with komi of 7.5 points.
2. 1 hour of basic time, 5 periods of 1 minute byo-yomi.
3. A solid internet connection is strongly suggested. If a player gets disconnected 5 times, or is disconnected is for more than 5 minutes, the player will forfeit the game, subject to appeal to the Tournament Director.
4. Players agree to use Skype and a web camera to view each other during the games.
5. If a player is more than 15 minutes late for a game, and does not contact the partner with a satisfactory explanation by that time, the late player will forfeit the game. Either player may appeal to the Tournament Director on forfeits.

For questions please contact the Tournament Director at

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