

CHESS LIFE

February 2019 | USChess.org

Kids

TOURNAMENT 101

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO
TOURNAMENTS

WORLD CADET:

YUVRAJ CHENNAREDDY TAKES THE GOLD



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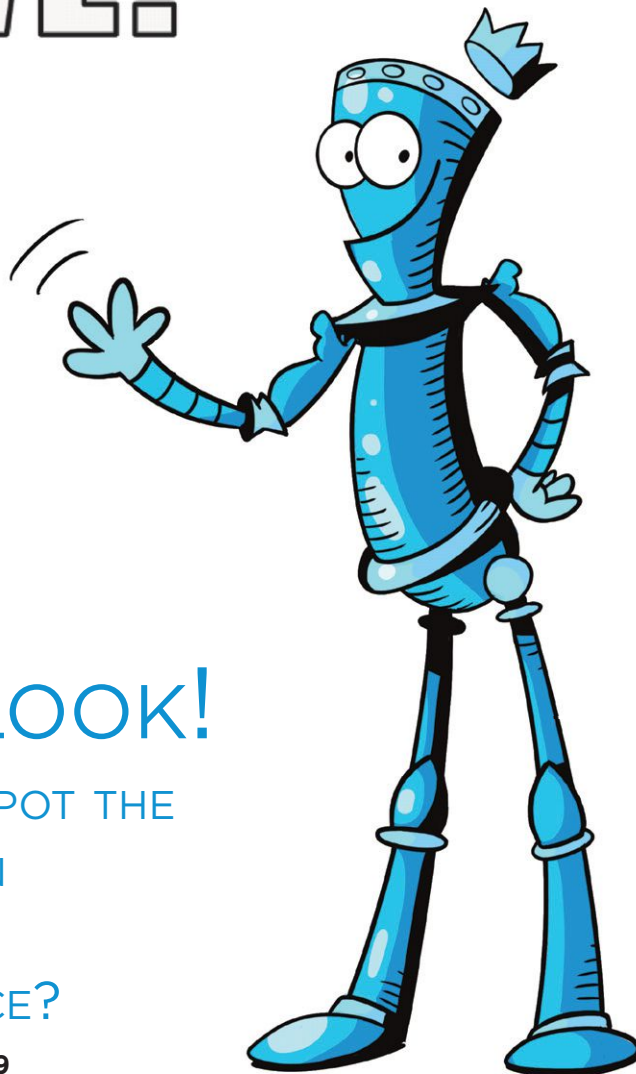


ON THE COVER

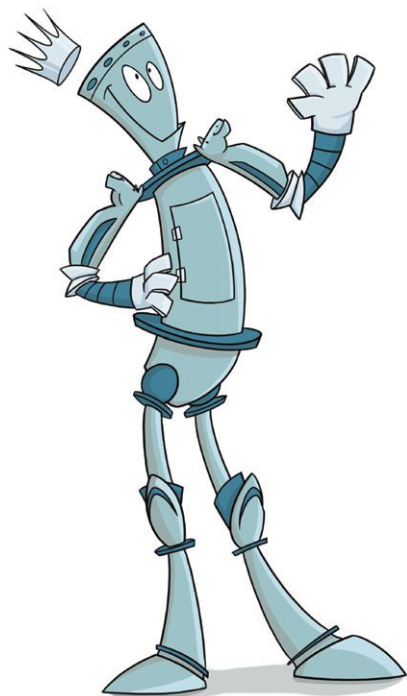
While most of the chess world was focused on the World Championship showdown in November, some of America's most talented youth were concurrently competing on an international stage. This month we feature the World Cadet Chess Championship, an annual event for players age 12 and under. Team USA won four medals, with Yuvraj "Raj" Chennareddy bringing home the gold.

Photo: Grant Oen for US Chess

IT'S YOUR MOVE!



ROOK-E HAS A



NEW LOOK!

CAN YOU SPOT THE
CHANGES IN
ROOK-E'S
APPEARANCE?

Answers on page 19

And did you notice a change on this page? Your favorite columns have gotten makeovers, too! Check out the new headers throughout this issue and let us know what you think. Email your comments to mmatthews@uschess.org.

2019
SPRING
NATIONALS

2019 National High School (K-12)
March 15 - 17
Renaissance Schaumburg
Hotel & Convention Center
1551 N. Thoreau Drive,
Schaumburg, IL 60173

2019 National Junior High (K-9)
April 26 - 28
Gaylord Texan Resort
and Convention Center
1501 Gaylord Trail,
Grapevine, TX 76051

2019 National Elementary (K-6)
May 10 - 12
Gaylord Opryland Resort
and Convention Center
2800 Opryland Drive,
Nashville, TN 37214

New this year! All events will feature a Twitch
livestream with analysis of top games in progress.
For complete information, see
www.uschess.org/content/view/full/10015/95 for hotel details
and links to all of our national events.

YOU CAN DO IT!

BY SIM JON EDWARDS

10TH US CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CHAMPION

When I first started playing chess, one of my first opponents opened with 1. g3 with White and 1. ... g6 with Black. I found those fianchettoes very tough to beat. My opponent's king would hide behind the bishop, which itself seemed to control the whole board. I later came to understand that the early advance of the g-pawn and the placement of the bishop on g2 or g7 creates weaknesses that you can attack. Trading off the bishop is

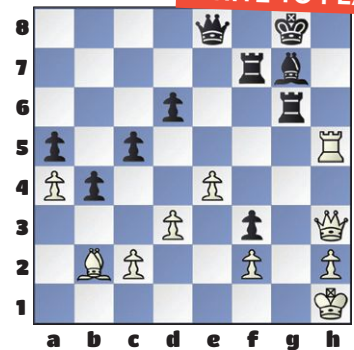
part of the solution. Advancing the h-pawn is often important to soften up the h2-g3-f2 (or h7-g6-f7) defensive shell.

In this month's quiz, the defender's kingside has already been shattered. The beauty and power of the fianchetto has already been marred. Your job is pretty easy to explain. Just find the final mate in two! Give each position a long look before committing to a move. I know that You Can Do It!

Answers on page 19

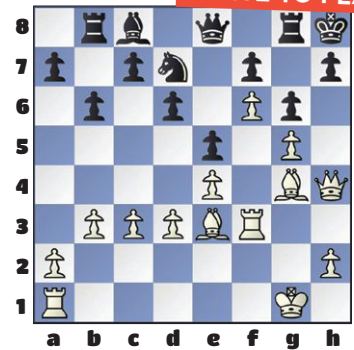
QUIZ #3

WHITE TO PLAY



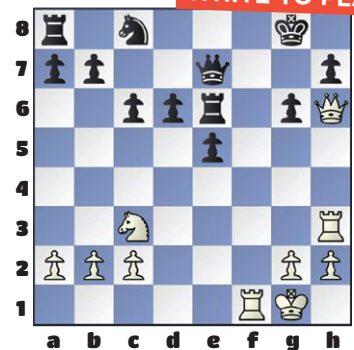
QUIZ #4

WHITE TO PLAY



QUIZ #5

WHITE TO PLAY



QUIZ #1

WHITE TO PLAY



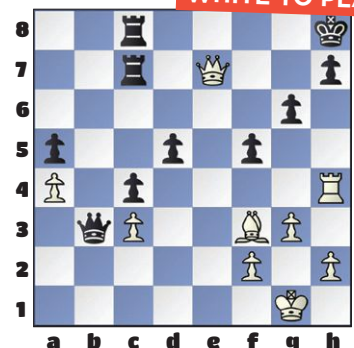
QUIZ #2

WHITE TO PLAY



QUIZ #6

WHITE TO PLAY



CHESS KIDS

ACROSS THE

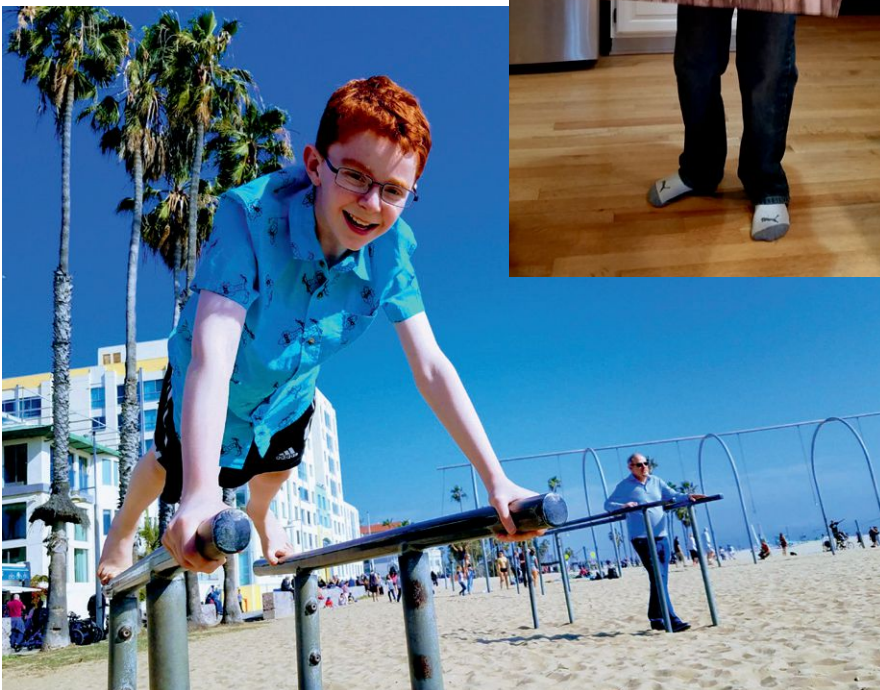
BOARD

BY AL LAWRENCE



Tobias Rizzo

Pittsford, New York



Toby is one of the top 11-year-old chess players in the U.S. “I just like playing—it’s a fun game!” he says. Last summer, his family traveled to London, England, where he found playing partners. Chess is played all over the world. “It was really cool to play in a different country.”

Toby got good by studying and playing. “I have an hour-long lesson with my coach Clif Kharroubi most every week. I also play rated games two or three times a week” at the Rochester Chess Center. “I just study when I feel like it. I play a lot of online chess and sometimes play my dad.” He thinks his biggest chess accomplishment so far is “breaking 1900” in the US Chess official rating system. Next, he wants to reach 2100, getting close to the title of national master—“That’s my goal for now.” Chess develops concentration. “One time, my tooth fell out while I was playing. I wound up winning the tournament, even down a tooth!”

This page, top: One of Toby’s chess-themed Halloween costumes. This page, bottom: Spring break on Venice Beach. Right page, right: Chess is part of the fun at Toby’s parties. Right page, left: Finding a chess game on a London street.



“LOST A TOOTH BUT WON THE TOURNAMENT!”

Toby even got to play World Chess champion Magnus Carlsen. Carlsen played against 10 players at once, walking from board to board in what’s called a simultaneous exhibition. The other players were very smart people. One was the senior engineer at Google. Another was the president of The George Washington University. But they had to give up before Toby did! “I

was the ‘last man standing,’” Toby said. “It was pretty neat.”

He’s a busy sixth-grader at Barker Road Middle School. He likes math and science, plays violin in the orchestra, and sings in chorus. “I do Dungeons & Dragons Club after school. Outside school, I play soccer two or three times a week. At home, I play a lot of Minecraft and Yu-Gi-Oh with my brother Simon. I also really enjoy coding.”

Toby loves chess so much that he has made his own chess-themed Halloween costumes for three years in a row. Once he even dressed as the chess super-computer “Deep Blue,” famous for beating a world champion. But Toby lost some chess pieces in front yards as he trick-or-treated. At least it wasn’t another tooth!

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www.chessclub.com/uschess





AVOID THE by Bruce Pandolfini TRAP!

The Overextended Knight

From the initial position, knights are the only pieces that don't need pawn moves to come into play. They can unstoppably jump over the front line of pawns to their third rank. While various openings and defenses rely on early knight developments, knights must be careful not to venture too riskily into enemy territory. For one, they become objects of aggression. At times, beset knights may have few if any retreat squares. Even when such targets can be defended, they can easily succumb to direct pawn attacks. It doesn't matter how many times a knight is guarded if it can be captured by a single pawn. One would still lose material. The following is a representative example of this typical mistake.

1. e4

White begins with a king-pawn opening. Black can now respond symmetrically, 1. ... e7-e5, or asymmetrically, say 1. ... c7-c5 (for example).

1. ... Nf6

Black counters with Alekhine's Defense, named after the fourth world

chess champion, Alexander Alekhine (1892-1946). This defense immediately challenges White's e-pawn.

Q1) If White were to defend his e-pawn, should he play 2. Nb1-c3 or 2. f2-f3? (10 points)

2. e5

White turns Black's attack around. Now the attacking knight is itself attacked.

Q2) How should Black answer the threat to his knight? (10 points)

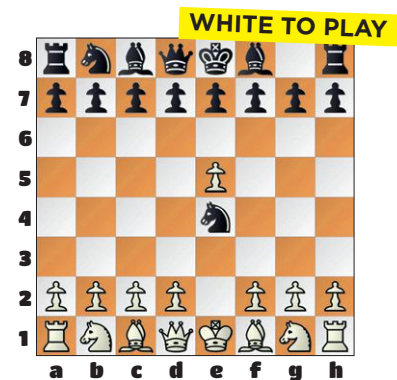
Q3) Would 2. ... Nf6-g8 be a good way to save the knight? (10 points)

2. ... Ne4

This move is too adventurous. As a general rule, if you enter the lion's den, make sure you can get out.

Q4) Should White now challenge Black's knight by the developing move, 3. Nb1-c3? (10 points)

(see diagram top of next column)



3. d3

Q5) Would 3. f2-f3 be just as good as 3. d2-d3? (10 points)

Q6) Would 3. d2-d4 be a better way to go about trying to trap the knight? (10 points)

Black now has but one move to save the knight.

3. ... Nc5

For now, Black's knight is safe. But it's still a target. White naturally looks to gain time by attacking it in a practical manner.

4. d4

White hits the knight again, and once again, it must move to safety.

4. ... Ne4

Q7) Who would have the advantage after 4. ... Nc5-a6? (10 points)

5. f3

This attacks the trapped wayward knight. It has no safe place to go.

Q8) Could White win the knight by instead first playing 5. Bf1-d3? (10 points)

So, Black resigns.

Q9) Although the knight is still lost, does Black have enough counterplay after 5. ... e7-e6? (10 points)

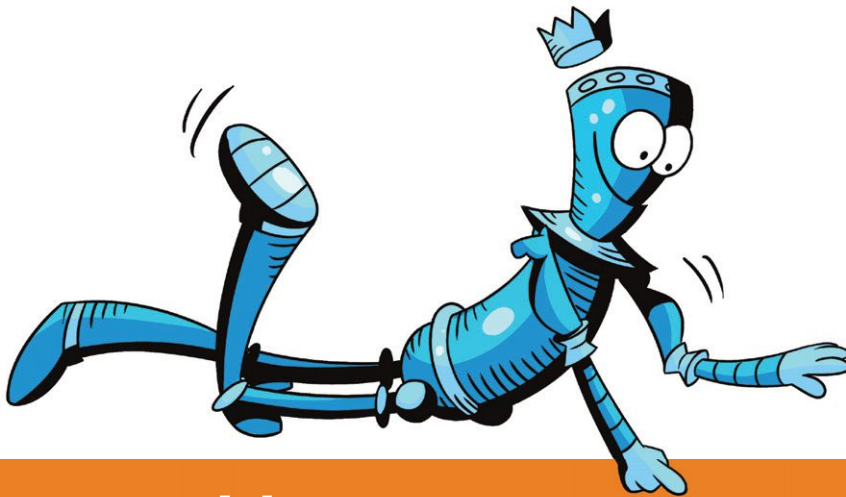
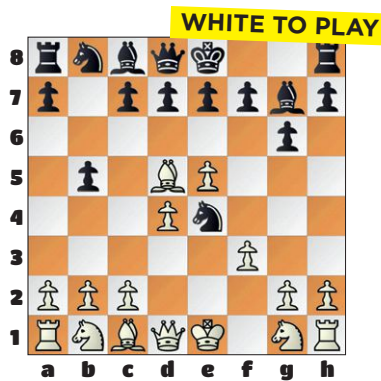


Q10) Where was the last place Black could have avoided the trap? (10 points)

**ILLUSTRATIVE GAME:
MODERN DEFENSE (B06)**

**P.J. Voss
O. Martin
Auckland, 2000**

1. d4 g6 2. e4 Bg7 3. Bc4 Nf6
(better is 3. ... d7-d6) **4. e5 Ne4**
(Black can avoid material loss by the ugly retreat 4. ... Nf6-g8) **5. f3 b5 6. Bd5, Black resigned.**
White wins a full knight.



How Did You Score?

The score is based on the US Chess rating system and is intended only as a fun way to monitor your progress each issue as you Avoid The Trap!

- 100: 1800+
- 90: 1600
- 80: 1400
- 70: 1200
- 60 or lower: 1000

ANSWERS

A1) The developing move 2. Nb1-c3 is far better than the weakening 2. f2-f3. As far as defenses go, also better than 2. f2-f3 would be 2. d2-d3 or 2. Qd1-e2.

A2) Black should play 2. ... Nf6-d5, keeping his knight centralized and safe enough.

A3) Not really. The retreat does save the knight, but after 3. d2-d4, White would have a big advantage in the center, with more space and a growing initiative.

A4) No. Although 3. Nb1-c3 is quite playable, Black could just trade knights, 3. ... Ne4xc3, getting rid of his overextended piece and coming away with the next free move.

A5) No it wouldn't be. It drives back Black's intrusive knight, as does 3. d2-d3, but it doesn't open useful lines and it unnecessarily weakens White's king's position.

A6) White would also get the advantage by playing 3. d2-d4, but Black could then try to save the knight, say with 3. ... h7-h6, giving the knight a possible escape route at g5.

A7) White would still have a big edge because of his strong center and great attacking potential.

A8) Yes. After defending the knight, say with 5. ... d7-d5, White would still have 6. f2-f3. Again, the knight would have no safe retreat.

A9) Black gets a couple of checks after 6. f3xe4 Qd8-h4+ 7. Ke1-e2 Qh4xe4+. Nevertheless, after 8. Ke2-f2, Black has a pawn for the knight, but he'd still be lost. White should be able to find safety for his king and would soon complete development.

A10) Black could have avoided the trap by playing other knight moves (say to a6, e6, or a4) on move four. But even so, White would still have a great advantage in mobility and attack.

TOURNAMENT



PHOTOS BY ERIC ROSEN

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO TOURNAMENTS

By Jennifer Vallens

So you've discovered a love for chess and want to enter the world of tournament play. Now what?

To make this the best positive experience, here are some tips that will help prepare you and your parents for your first tournament.

FINDING A TOURNAMENT

US Chess lists its national scholastic tournaments on their website at uschess.org. Almost every state lists their state tournaments on their websites, and chess clubs often post local tournament flyers at their clubs.

HOW DO TOURNAMENTS WORK?

At most scholastic tournaments, you will typically play anywhere from three to nine games, also called rounds. These rounds can all take place in one day or over several days—a lot depends on the time control, or how much time you get to use for your game. After each round you'll receive one point if you win the game, a half point if you draw (tie) the game, and zero points if you lose the game.

WHAT ARE PAIRINGS?

When you arrive at a tournament, look for a posted pairing sheet. This will tell you who you will play, what color you will play, and what your board number is. All players also are listed by rating in descending order—from the highest rated to the unrated players—on a standings sheet. For the first round at most tournaments, the standings list is cut in half so the top player in the first half of the list plays the top player in the second half, and so on. After the first round, players are paired against other players with similar scores. If you win your first round (game), you will play another player who has also won his or her game.

WHAT IS A RATING?

A rating is an estimate of a person's chess playing strength and typically ranges from 100-2000+. This number goes up and down depending on the results of each game you play and how well you do against other players. If you want to receive a rating, you'll need a US Chess membership. Your initial rating, which you can find on the US Chess website, will be provisional and may fluctuate

ADVICE FOR PARENTS:

DO encourage your child to play their best. **DON'T** focus on the win.

After each round, **DO** ask if he or she played a good game.

DON'T ask if they won or lost.

DO offer a hug whether they win or lose. **DON'T** offer suggestions or advice.

DO make friends with other parents and encourage play with other kids. **DON'T** talk about your child's chess rating, their games, or challenges with other parents.

DO discuss chess etiquette with your child. Remind them to shake hands before starting the clock and to say, "Good game" after the game ends regardless of who won.

wildly until 25 rated games are played. After 25 games, you will settle in to a more accurate measurement of your playing strength.

WHAT IS A TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR?

The tournament director (TD) is responsible for the entire tournament. The TD pairs the players for each round, makes announcements, and serves as a "referee." If there is a dispute or question of any kind, players need to pause the clock, raise their hands, and wait for a TD to resolve the issue. When the game is over, both players raise their hands and turn in their scoresheets to the TD or a designated volunteer.

HOW DO I PREPARE FOR A TOURNAMENT?

First and foremost, make sure you get a good night's sleep the night before a tournament. Tournaments can last most of the day and stamina is the key to performing well. Eat a healthy breakfast and stay hydrated. Avoid heavily salted and fatty foods as well as sugary drinks. Before each round, make sure you have used the bathroom.

KNOW THE RULES!

If you are playing in a rated section, you will be required to use a clock and record your moves. Make sure

you have practiced and are comfortable setting your clock for the correct time control and are well versed in chess notation.

In tournament play, rules will be enforced. Make sure you know what the rules are and always practice playing by the rules. These include touch move, using the same hand to make your move and punch your clock, and making your move **BEFORE** you notate in your scorebook. Other game rules you must know are castling, *en passant*, and stalemate.

Take your time and look at each move before you touch a piece!

WHAT SHOULD I BRING WITH ME?

For the playing hall: For national tournaments, chess sets, boards, scoresheets, and scoresheets are provided. You'll need to bring in a chess clock, a sweater (the tournament hall can get chilly), and perhaps a small snack. If you have a phone to text or call your parent, you can bring it in the room, but it must be shut off and concealed out of view (usually in a pocket or chess bag). You also may use an approved electronic chess notation device in lieu of the provided scoresheet.

For in-between rounds: It's a good idea to bring your own chess set, as you may want to review your games after your round—plus you can play lots of

chess and bughouse with new friends while you wait for your next round. You'll also want some snacks and interesting diversions like a book, iPad, ball, or frisbee to play outside.

WHAT TO EXPECT

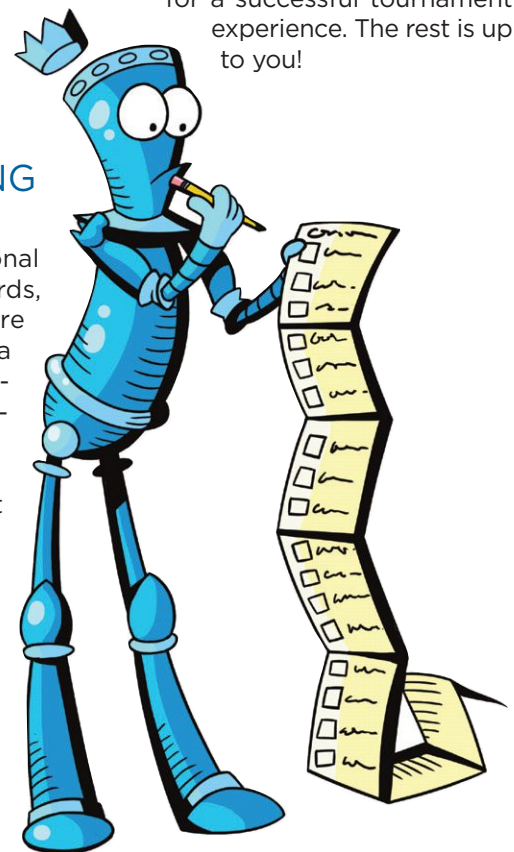
At national scholastic tournaments, parents will not be allowed in the playing hall after a round has started. Since the host hotel will be filled with people, you and your parent should have a designated meeting place.

Each tournament has a "Skittles" room. No, there is no candy in this room. This room is a place for parents and coaches to wait, and it's where players often hang out and play chess between rounds.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Your parents can help you get situated at your board, but they will be escorted out of the room before the round begins. That's why it's important that you and your parent agree on a meeting spot before you enter the playing hall.

I hope this guide helps set you up for a successful tournament experience. The rest is up to you!





WORLD CADET

*By GM Mesgan Amanov
Photos by Grant Oen for US Chess*

The World Cadet Chess Championship is an international chess competition for girls and boys under age 12. Each year, players from all over the world compete for their countries in six different categories: Under 12 Open and Girls, Under 10 Open and Girls, and Under 8 Open and Girls.

The most recent World Cadet Chess Championship was held in Santiago, Spain, from November 3-16, 2018. A record number of 851 participants from 86 federations competed. Thanks in part to a generous sponsorship from Two Sigma, 75 players represented the United States.

Team USA won four medals at the Championship! Congratulations to Yuvraj “Raj” Chennareddy (gold, Under 8 Open), Evelyn Qiao (bronze, Under 8 Girls), Erick Zhao (silver, Under 10 Open), and Nico Chasin (bronze, Under 12 Open).

The breakout star of the event was Raj Chennareddy, who clinched his gold medal before the final round. As his coach, I knew from my first meeting with Raj in 2016 that he had potential. Raj asked a lot of good questions and was just fascinated by chess. But it was not just that. After six months of regular private and group lessons, I understood that Raj not only loves chess but is also capable of working hard. Not many will dedicate four hours a day to chess at the age of six!

After the tournament ended, Raj said, “I feel on the ninth cloud ever since my last game finished! My plan is to work on chess studies and to catch up with school stuff. My next goal is to become the youngest to win the World Cadet Championship Under 10.”

Here Raj annotates his favorite game from the World Cadet:

(see game next column)

RETI OPENING (A07)
CM Khumoyun Begmuratov
(FIDE 1880, UZB)
Yuvraj Chennareddy (FIDE 1497, USA)
World Cadet Chess
Championship U-08 Open 2018
Santiago, Spain, 11.29.2018
Notes by Chennareddy.

1. Nf3 d5 2. g3

First surprise; we were preparing an e3 and b3 type setup.

2. ... Bg4

I decided to use the same piece development as I would against e3 and b3. Incidentally, it works very well here too.

3. Bg2 Nf6 4. O-O e6 5. d3 c5 6. Nbd2 Nc6 7. c3 Bd6

I am not sure whether the bishop developed better here or e7, but my plan was to control the center and the e5-square.

8. Qe1

This move looked a little weird. I think the idea is to push e4-e5 and remove the queen from the potential pin on the d1-h5 diagonal.

Probably better was 8. Re1 0-0 9. e4 Qc7 10. Qe2. Now I have to deal with e5.

8. ... 0-0 9. e4 Qc7

I like my position here as I don't see how my opponent can push e5. The light square bishop went out and is not blocked on c8 as it usually happens in these positions.

10. h3 Bh5 11. b3

He probably wants to develop his bishop on b2 and do something with an e5 push.

11. ... Rad8

Strengthening the center and developing my rook.

12. a3

I think he is trying to setup some kind of a wall? Or to push b4.

12. ... b5

Trying to get some space.

13. Bb2 dxe4

I didn't know what else I could have done, because of that pawn wall, so I just wanted to break it and open the file for my rook.

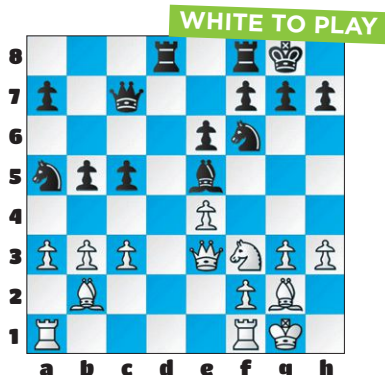
14. dxe4 Be5

This was the main idea of trading the pawns. It took me a lot of time to come up with this idea. I calculated that taking my bishop to obtain the two bishop advantage is not good for my opponent, because I get my knight on e5 and then to d3!

15. Qe3 Bxf3

Another time offering two bishops for my opponent, but this time I have a target weakness on b3.

16. Nxf3 Na5



I liked this a lot, as I didn't see how easily my opponent can defend b3. If Nd2, then I have ... Rxd2 tactics, followed by ... Nxb3.

17. Nxe5 Qxe5 18. Rab1

This is a tricky way to defend the pawn. I can't take on b3 because of c4 and then I have to play Nd4 and he takes on b5 and some f4 things.

18. ... c4

I like this move as it closes his bishop and I get new weak squares to control in d3, b3 and a4.

19. b4 Nb3 20. Rbd1

The a7-pawn wasn't hanging as ... Nd2 was forking two rooks.

20. ... Qc7

Defending a7 and getting my queen away from the f4-pawn push with tempo.

21. f4 Nd7

Maneuvering my knight to a4 to control the queenside. It took me around 10 minutes to calculate it as I was thinking about it in my previous moves.

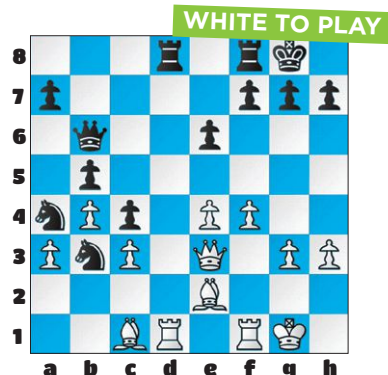
22. Bc1 Nb6 23. Bf3

I thought this was a mistake during the game, but I have no idea what else my opponent could have done.

23. ... Na4 24. Be2

This pretty much blunders because of my next move.

24. ... Qb6!



25. Kf2

I don't think there was a way to defend the pawn. I had about six minutes here, but it felt easy.

25. ... Nxc3 26. Rxd8 Rxd8 27. Qxb6 axb6 28. Ke3 Nd4

I think after this it's completely winning.

29. Bd1 Nxd1+ 30. Rxd1 Nf5+

This was simple; it wins me another two pawns.

31. Ke2 Nxc3+ 32. Ke1 Rxd1+ 33. Kxd1 Nxe4 34. Kc2



Raj credits his coach, GM Mesgen Amanov, for teaching him what's important. "I think it was four months after my one-on-one tutoring that I played my first nationals and got a super-huge trophy for tying for second place in kindergarten. I went to my coach feeling proud about my accomplishment. He reviewed my games and told me, 'Raj,

you were just lucky to get this trophy; you did not play a good tournament.' He was honest and always truly wanted me to play a good game."

For more on GM Amanov's training techniques, check out his CLO article, "A Golden Triangle: Mesgen Amanov on Coaching Raj Chennareddy." Go to uschess.org, click on "CLO," and search "Mesgan Amanov."

There is no 34. Be3 because I had 34. ... Nc3+ and 35. ... Nd5.

34. ... Nf6

I still want to go to d5 and defend the b6 weakness.

35. h4 Nd5 36. Bd2 f6 37. h5 g6
38. hxg6 hxg6 39. Kd1 Kf7 40.
Ke2 e5

This is just an easy win from here.

41. fxe5 fxe5 42. Kf3 Ke6 43.
Ke4 Nf6+ 44. Kf3 Kf5 45. Bc3
g5 46. Bd2 Nd5 47. Bc1 e4+ 48.
Ke2 c3 49. Kf2 e3+ 50. Ke2 Ke4
51. Ke1 Nf4 52. Kd1 Kd3 53. Ke1
g4 54. Kf1 e2+ 55. Kf2 Ng2 56.
Kxg2 e1=Q 57. Bf4 Qe4+ 58.
Kg3 Qf3+ 59. Kh4 Qxf4 60. Kh5
c2 61. Kg6 c1=Q 62. Kg7 g3 63.
Kh7 g2 64. Kg7 g1=R+

I just had some fun promoting.

65. Kh7 Qh6#, White resigned.

After winning this game against a good opponent, I gained more confidence and continued to win more games.

Team USA medal winners Erick Zhao, silver, U-10 Open (top right); Nico Chasin, bronze, U-12 Open (bottom right); Evelyn Qiao, bronze, U-8 Girls (bottom)



2018 US CHESS JUNIOR GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

The top prize for 2018 is a *Chess.com* one-year Diamond membership valued at \$100, a *Chess.com* gear/merchandise package valued at \$100, a US Chess award, free entry into the 2019 U.S. Open, and \$1,000 of expense money from US Chess to offset the trip. For the top five players on the overall list and to each state winner, *Chess.com* also awards a choice of a one-year *ChessKid.com* gold membership (valued at \$50/annually) or a one-year *Chess.com* Gold membership (valued at \$40/annually). US Chess gratefully acknowledges the participation of *Chess.com*!

Name	State	Pts.	State Leaders	State	Pts.	State Leaders	State	Pts.
GANGAVARAPU, SREEKAR	IL	12858	MU, GRANT	IN	5357	HENDERSON, JORDAN	OR	4269
KUNAMNENI, MEGHANA	MA	12082	ZENG, SHEENA	KS	5705	LIU, ENMON	PA	6734
SHANKAR, PRANAV	NJ	11868	SHAWKAT, SAIF	KY	6254	VAIJAEPPAY, VAISHNAVI	RI	5038
FAN, JERRY	NY	10297	MAYEUX, BENJAMIN THOMAS	LA	4682	WEBB, NIKOLAI	SC	1943
PHAM, LINDA	IL	10224	KUNAMNENI, SUJAY	MA	6732	TAO, ARTHUR	SD	1366
State Leaders	State	Pts.	GUO, ANDREW	MD	6759	LI, ADAM	TERR	2913
BRUNI, XAVIER	AL	3119	KALLOOR, DENNIS	ME	3842	ZHAO, ERIC	TN	4600
ORTIZ, PAULO	AR	3518	SONG, JUSTIN	MI	7781	OBEROI, SHELEV	TX	7475
REMPE, LENNIK	AZ	5914	KONEZNY, STUART	MN	3936	RAY, UJAN	UT	5581
RAJARAM, ANIKA	CA-N	6660	ZHOU, CELINA	MO	8633	TAY, BRIAN	VA	8400
ANDRANIGIAN, ARMEN	CA-S	7678	GRIFFIN, GABRIEL	MS	4693	COLLINS, ALEXANDER	VT	3238
AL-ADSANI, SAMI W	CO	2543	WALTHALL, THOMAS KASEY	MT	4450	VEMPARALA, NIKASH	WA	6239
SU, JASMINE ZHIXIN	CT	5524	DURBHA, ANTARA	NC	6931	PHIPPS, DANIEL	WI	6911
STEINER, ADAMSON	DC	7205	WICKLUND, JOHN	ND	852	ELLIS, ANYA	WV	2182
LUO, TERRY	DE	8081	KOLLI, SAI	NE	4009	MARES, ISAIAH	WY	501
WU, DERRICK K	FL	8566	TIRUVEEDHULA, SUHAVI	NH	2899			
MYDUKUR, AMIT	GA	8053	SURALIK, DIANA SOPHIA	NJ	9272			
CHEN, MARK Y A	HI	4669	LUO, DANIEL	NM	2190			
LODH, ANJALI	IA	5458	BAO, CHRIS	NV	2559			
SHEPARD, RIVER CHARLES	ID	3278	CHEUNG, RYAN	NY	9936			
CHIFLUKYAN, MICHAEL	IL	9236	SONI, ARJUN GORAKH	OH	7664			
			BARNES, MAXWELL	OK	3276			



Official standings for events received and processed by January 8, 2019.

Tournament Life Announcements

FEBRUARY 15 THROUGH APRIL 14

Scholastic Members:

As a service to you, we are listing upcoming National US Chess rated events, and requested events of possible interest to you. You can always log in to www.uschess.org, and click on "Clubs & Tournaments." Then click on "Upcoming Tournaments" for a complete listing of upcoming rated events and details. As always, you can check out the TLA section of *Chess Life*.

Organizers and Tournament Directors:

If you would like your tournament listed here in *Chess Life Kids* for April 2019 (events to be held after April 14), the deadline for submitting your announcements is February 10th. The deadline for the June 2019 issue is April 10th. The processing fee is \$1.00 per line for the first eight lines, \$2.00 for every line thereafter. Send your announcements to Joan DuBois, tda@uschess.org. Display advertising is also available. Advertising rates are posted on the US Chess website, www.uschess.org, or you may email: tda@uschess.org for complete details.

ABBREVIATIONS & TERMS

All tournaments are non-smoking with no computers allowed unless otherwise advertised.

BLZ:	Blitz rated.
QC:	Quick Chess events.
\$\$\$Gtd:	Guaranteed prizes.
\$\$b/x:	Based-on prizes, x = number of entries needed to pay full prize fund. At least 50% of the advertised prize fund of \$501 or more must be awarded.
Bye:	Indicates which rounds players who find it inconvenient to play may take 1/2-point byes instead. For example, Bye 1-3 means 1/2-point byes are available in Rounds 1 through 3.
CC:	Chess club.
dx:	Time delay, x = number of seconds.
+xx:	Time increment, xx = number of seconds added after each move.
EF:	Entry fee.
Ent:	Where to mail entries.
FIDE:	Results submitted to FIDE for possible rating.
G/:	Game in. For instance, G/75 means each side has 75 minutes for the entire game.
GPP:	Grand Prix Points available.
HR:	Hotel rates. For example, 60-65-70-75 means \$60 single, \$65 twin, \$70/3 in room, \$75/4 in room.
JGP:	Junior Grand Prix.
Memb. req'd:	Membership required; cost follows. Usually refers to state affiliate.
Open:	A section open to all. Often has very strong players, but some eligible for lower sections can play for the learning experience.
Quad:	4-player round robin sections; similar strength players.
RBO:	Rated Beginner's Open.
Rds:	Rounds; scheduled game times follow. For example, 11-5, 9-3 means games begin 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. on the first day, 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. on the second day.
Reg:	Registration at site.
RR:	Round robin (preceded by number of rounds).
SD/:	Sudden-death time control (time for rest of game follows). For example, 30/90, SD/1 means each player must make 30 moves in 90 minutes, then complete the rest of the game in an hour.
SS:	Swiss-System pairings (preceded by number of rounds).
Unr:	Unrated.
W:	Site is accessible to wheelchairs.
WEB:	Tournaments that will use a player's online rating.

NATIONALS

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Feb. 15-17 or 16-17, Illinois

2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - North

Open: SSS, G/90+30/increment, 2-day: rd.1-2 G/60 d5. Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173. 847-605-1234, \$100.00 chess rate single-double-triple-quad until 2/4/19, Free WiFi included with Room! Please reserve early. Open to 4 player teams with one optional alternate. **Team average (4 highest ratings - January Rating List) must be under 2200.** EF: 3-day \$160, per team if received USPS or online 6 PM by February 1st, \$180 if received USPS or on-line 6 PM by Feb. 9, \$200 on-line until Feb. 15 6 PM and at door. Individuals wishing to play (note: we can guarantee you will play, but won't guarantee which schedule or the ratings of your team), send \$50 and request to be put on a team by USPS and on-line by 2/10 6 PM, \$60 thereafter. Team changes on site or after 2/15 6 PM \$20. **Check out official website www.chessweekend.com for more info and complete prize list.** Prizes: Awards to top 3 teams, top teams with average rating u1900, u1600, u1300, and U1000. Winning team qualifies for national play-offs. Awards for Best Team Name, best team composed of juniors (high school and younger), Top College team, Top HS team, Top Senior team (50 and over), Top Mixed doubles team, Best costume or theme. Prizes to top score on each board. Prizes are Amazon gift cards. **Rounds: 3-day:** onsite registration/check-in 5:30-6:30pm, rds.: 7pm, 10:00am & 4:00pm, 10:00am & 3:30pm. **2-day:** on-site registration/check-in from 8:00-9:30am, rds. 10:00am & 1:00pm then merge with 3-day. **Midwest Blitz Championship on Saturday night,** \$550 b/30 entries, \$25 by 2/13 USPS or on-line, \$30 at site. First round 8 PM, 2 games with each opponent, 5 rounds, see www.chessweekend.com for details. **All: Register at www.kingregistration.com** after 11/15/18. Checks made payable to and sent to: ChessWeekend, 21694 Doud Ct., Frankfort, IL 60423. Please include team's name and roster (plus ID#), captain's email and phone number, and desired schedule. **Info:** www.chessweekend.com, glenn@chessweekend.com no phone calls please. Boards and Sets will be provided, please bring clocks.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Feb. 16-18, New Jersey

World Amateur Team & 2019 U.S. Team East Championship

6SS, 40/2, SD/30 delay 5. Parsippany Hilton 1 Hilton Ct., Parsippany, NJ 07054. **Chess Rate valid until 1/17. Reserve early 973-267-7373 or 1-800-HILTONS.** Morris/Essex train to Morris Plains 1.5 miles. Open to 4-player teams with one optional alternate. Team average (4 highest ratings—2019 January Rating list) must be under 2200. EF: \$199 postmarked by 2/5/19. ALL-\$240 after at door— all teams, any changes at site \$25 charge. **ENTRY MAXIMUM IS 325 TEAMS. Enter early!** Check out official website www.njsccf.org. Prizes: 1-5th Place teams, plaque and 4 digital clocks; Top Team (**Denis Barry Award**) U2100, 2000, 1900, 1800, 1700, 1600, 1500, 1400, 1300, 1200, 1000 each plaque and 4 Digital Clocks; Top college team (same school) 4 Digital Clocks & plaque; Top HS team (grades 9-12 same school), Top Middle School (grades 5-9 same school), Top Elementary School (grades K-6 same school), Top 2 Scholastic Teams (mixed schools okay) (**Collins Award**), Mixed Doubles (2 males, 2 females-no alternates), Seniors (all players over age 50), Military, each plaque & 4 Digital Clocks to top team; Company Team (same employer), Family (4 family members), State teams—CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, NY (**Benjamin Award**), PA, VA, each plaque top team; Special Plaque: **Top Future team**, (all players under age 10), **Top Military College**, **Top Parent/Child** (2 pairs, one parent, one child), **Best Player 1-4 and top alternate**, All 6-0 scores each Digital clock. Biggest Individual upset each round Engraved Cross pen; Entry fee refunded to team with Best "Chess related" name, Sunday night—Best "Chess Related costumes or gimmick"—1st-gourmet dinner for four. 2nd—Gourmet dinner for 4. **Reg. 9-12 Sat 2/16: Rds. 1-7:30, 11-6 9-3:30. Surprises and special give-aways each round.** Sunday night—Bughouse \$20 per team. Cash prizes. HR: Parsippany Hilton **NEWLY RENOVATED!** NEW LIGHTS! HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING! Chess rates expire 1/17/2019. Rates \$123(Single, Double) \$125 (Triple, Quad) 2nd hotel attached to Hilton \$130 per night (Single-Double) \$132 (Triple, Quad)-Hilton Inn—includes breakfast each day. For help forming teams and more information contact: norencchess@gmail.com. Chks payable to NJSCEF, mail by 2/05/19 to: **NJSCEF, 17 Stonehenge Road, Morristown, NJ 07960.** (Include Team name, Captain, players full names, USCF Expiration, ID numbers and ratings in board order). No team can include more than two GM's. Include SASE for confirmation if wanted. No registered or certified mail accepted. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Feb. 16-18 or 17-18, California, Northern

2019 (35th Annual) U.S. Amateur Team Championship - West

Scholastic on Feb. 16 only, Blitz on Feb 18 only. Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Pkwy. Free Parking! **Teams:** Four-player teams plus optional alternate, average rating of four highest must be under 2200, difference between ratings of board 3 & 4 must be less than 1000. January 2018 Supplement, CCA min, & TD discretion used to place players accurately. **Main Event Prizes:** Special 4 commemorative clocks and team trophy to the team for Top 3 overall teams, top team u2000, u1800, u1600, u1400, and u1200. Trophies to all players of the top "Female" team, top "College" team, top "High School" team, top "Elementary School" team, top "Club" team, and top "Family" team. Clocks to top scorer on each board (1-4), trophy to top reserve as well as second and third scorers on each board (1-4). Gift certificates for best 3 team names. **Main Event EF:** \$299/team or \$79/player by 2/10. 2/11-15: \$20 extra per player or \$80 per team & Onsite. A change fee equal to the late fee will apply for any changes, other than bye requests within 3 days of the tournament. **3-day Sched:** Onsite Registration @ Sat 9-10a, Round Times @ Sat & Sun 11a 4:30p, Mon 10a 3:30p. Time Control: 40/120 SD/30 d5. **2-day Sched:** Onsite Registration @ Sun 8-8:30a, Round Times @ Sun 9a 11:30a 2p 4:30p; Mon 10a 3:30p. Time Control: G/61 d5 in Rounds 1-3, 40/120 SD/30 d5 in Rounds 4-6 (merge in Round 4 with 3-day schedule). **Info/flyer:** www.BayAreaChess.com/usatw. **Scholastic Event Prizes:** Trophies to each player in Top 3 teams overall, top u1200 team, u900 team, u600 team, u300 team. Trophies to top "Girls" team, top "School" team, and top "Club" team. Trophies to top two scorers on each board (1-4). Commemorative medals to all others.

Scholastic Event EF: \$179/team or \$49/player by 2/11. 2/12-17: \$15 extra per player or \$60 per team & Onsite. **Sched:** Onsite Registration: Sat 8-9a | Games @ Sat 10a 11:30a 1p 2:20p 3:40p. **Info/flyer:** www.BayAreaChess.com/usatw. **Blitz Event:** Registration Mon 6-7pm, Rounds 7:30-9:30pm. EF: \$14, \$16 onsite. 75% of entry fees returned as prizes. **Contact:** Organized by Judith Sztaryk. Directed by Tom Langland, John McCumiskey, and others. Sponsored by Bay Area Chess. Online entry at www.BayAreaChess.com/my/usatw or mail to Bay Area Chess, 2050 Concourse Drive #42, San Jose, CA 95131. For questions or help in forming teams email ask@BayAreaChess.com. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Feb. 23-24, California, Southern

2019 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

SSS, G/90 d5. Cypress Community Center; 5700 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 **6 Sections.** 6 & Under, 8 & Under, 10 & Under, 12 & Under. 14 & Under, 16/18 & Under (merged but with separate awards). February 2019 Rating Supplement will be used. Only one 1/2-point bye available, any round except Round 5, if requested prior to the start of Rd. 1. Team score = total of top three (minimum two) finishers from each club. First place individual and team, including ties, will be the National Champion for their grade. **Schedule:** Opening ceremony Saturday 9am. Rds.: Saturday 9:30am, 1pm, 4:30pm, Sunday 9:30am, 1:30pm. Awards Ceremony: Approximately 5 minutes after completion of final game in that section. **EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 12/20/19, \$75 postmarked or online from 12/21/18 - 2/9/19, \$90 on 2/10/19 or after; \$10.00 extra for all phone registrations; \$20 fee for roster or section changes after 2/20/19 or any onsite changes. Onsite registration Saturday 2/23/19 from 8am - 8:45am. **Awards:** Trophies to top individuals & top clubs in each grade. Every player receives a commemorative medal! Full list of trophies on tournament info page. **Side Events: 1. Blitz Tournament:** 18 & Under, 12 & Under, G/5 d0, Saturday 8pm, Reg. onsite until 7:30pm. **Blitz EF:** \$20 by 2/9/19, \$25 on 2/10/19 or after. **Trophies:** Top 5 in each section. **2. Calculation Exercises Tournament:** Saturday 8pm, Sections: Open and Under 1200. Reg. onsite until 7:30pm. **EF:** \$25 by 2/9/19, \$30 on 2/10/19 or after. **Puzzle Solving Awards:** Trophies to top 5 in each section. **3. Saturday K/8 Non-Rated Capture The King Tournament (For Beginning Players):** For players never playing in a tournament, or maybe 1 tournament but not sure they are ready to compete in Main Event. No USCF membership req'd. 5 Rd-DSS (Play each opponent twice). Rounds: 9:30am, 10:45am, 12:45pm, 2pm, 3:15pm. **Trophies:** Top 5 Individual + 1st Place Club (2 players needed, top 2 scores count). **EF:** \$30 by 2/9/19, \$40 on 2/10/19 or after. **4. Sunday Under 800 USCF Rated Tournament:** Grades K/12, USCF membership req'd. Ratings on 2/20/19 will be official ratings used for this tournament. G/30 d5. 5 Rounds: 9:30am, 10:45am, 12:45pm, 2pm, 3:15pm. **Trophies:** Top 5 Individual, 1st and 2nd Place Under 400, + 1st Place Club (2 players needed, top 2 scores count). **EF:** \$35 by 2/9, \$45 on 2/10/19 or after. **General Questions:** **Joe Hanley at 714-925-3195. Registration:** <https://www.hanleychessacademy.com/2019NJCC.html>. See website for all information, rules & notes about the event, advance entries, awards, tournament rules/notes, and flyer. <https://www.hanleychessacademy.com/2019NJCC.html>

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Mar. 15-17, Illinois

2019 National High School (K-12) Championship

7SS, G/120 d5. Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Convention Center, 1551 N. Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, IL 60173. Hotel Chess Rate \$139 single/double, \$159 triple/quad. Guest rooms may be booked, NLT 2/19/2019 by calling (847) 303-4100 or (800) 468-3571, mention "US Chess", or online at: <https://book.passkey.com/go/USChess2019>. 6 Sections: K-12 Championship, K-12 U1900, K-12 U1600, K-12 U1200, K-12 U800 and K-12 Unrated. March Rating Supplement will be used. One 1/2-point bye available (limit one) any round if requested prior to the start of Rd. 1. Team score = total of top four (minimum two) finishers from each school per section. K-12 Championship first place individual and team, including ties, will be the National High School Champion. **Schedule:** Opening ceremony Fri. 12:45 pm. Rds.: Fri. 1 pm and 7 pm, Sat. 9 am, 2 pm and 7 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm. Awards Ceremony Sun., approx. 7 pm. **EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 2/25, \$80 postmarked or online by 3/4, \$95 online by 3/13, \$100 on site; \$10.00 extra for all phone registrations; \$30 fee for roster or section changes after 3/3 or any onsite changes. Onsite registration Thurs. 9 AM - 9 PM & Fri. 8 AM - 11 AM. Players who register or change sections after 11 am on Friday will receive a 1/2-point bye for Rd.1. Players must disclose any other, non-US Chess over-the-board (OTB) ratings. Awards: Trophies to top individuals & top teams in each section. Every player receives a commemorative item! Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **Side Events:** Bughouse: Thurs. 11 am, Reg. onsite until Thurs. 9-10 am, \$25/team. K-12 Blitz: Thurs. 5 pm, Reg. onsite until 4 pm. **Blitz EF:** \$20 by 3/26, \$25 after or at site. Class trophies will be awarded in main event and in Blitz. Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **General questions:** Contact Susan Kantor at 931.787.1234 ext. 136 or by email: skantor@uschess.org. **Team Room questions:** Contact Pete Karagianis at 931.200.9477 or by email: pete.karagianis@uschess.org. **Entries:** U.S. Chess Federation, Attn.: 2019 HS Championship, P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557 or online at www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/hs. See web site for additional information about the event, advance entries, awards, meetings, team rooms, updates, corrections, and registration forms.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Apr. 12-14, Illinois

2019 All-Girls National Championships presented by the Kasparov Chess Foundation in association with the Renaissance Knights Chess Foundation & US Chess

Any player that achieves a perfect 6-0 score or wins the first place trophy, in each age category, qualifies to represent the USA at the 2019 World Cadets (U/8, U/10, U/12) / World Youth (U/14, U/16, U/18) Championships GSS, G/90 d5. Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, 2233 S. Martin Luther King Dr., Chicago, IL 60616, (Free Wi-Fi). **6 Sections/Trophies:** **Age as of 1/1/2019 Under 8** top 15 individuals, top 500 - 799, top U500, top 6 schools, **Under 10** top 16 individuals, top 700 - 999, top U700, top 6 schools, **Under 12** top 16 individuals, top 900 - 1199, top U900, top 6 schools, **Under 14** top 12 individuals, top 1100 - 1399, top U1100, top 4 schools, **Under 16** top 8 individuals, top 1300 - 1599, top U1300, top 3 schools, **Under 18** top 8 individuals, top 1500 - 1799, top U1500, top 3 schools, (top 3 players added for team scores). **EF:** \$65 mail/online by

Tournament Life

3/11 \$85 by 4/1, \$95 after. Do not mail after 4/5. \$20 fee for roster or section changes after 4/5. \$10 fee for refunds. **Onsite Registration** Fri 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Sat 7:30 - 8:30 AM. **Opening Ceremony:** Fri 2:30pm. **Rounds:** Rd. 1 - Fri 3:00pm Rounds 2-4 - Sat 10:00am, 2:30pm, 6:30pm; Rounds 5-6 - Sun 9:00am & 1:00pm. **Awards:** 5:00pm. **Bye:** One 1/2 point bye available for any round, except round 6, if requested at least 2 hours before the start of the round 1. **Side Events: Bughouse Tournament** - Fri. 11:00 am, EF \$35/team. **Blitz Tournament** - Fri. 7pm, G5,d0, EF \$25 by 4/5, \$30 after or on site. **HR:** single - quad \$165 Reservations: (888) 421-1442. Reserve early rate may increase / sell out. **Entries:** online/info at: www.rknight.org/allgirls or mail to RKnight, attn: All-Girls, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065, include name, section, rating, USCF ID#, date of birth, grade, school name city & state.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Apr. 26-28, Texas

2019 National Junior High School (K-9) Championship

75S, G/120 d5. Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX 76051. Hotel Chess Rate \$155. Guest rooms may be booked, NLT 4/4/2019 by calling (877) 382-7299 or (817) 778-2000, mention "US Chess" or see www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/jhs/ to book now! **6 Sections:** K-9 Championship, K-9 U1250, K-9 Unrated, K-8 Championship, K-8 U1000 and K-8 U750. April Rating Supplement will be used. Maximum one 1/2-point bye available any round if requested prior to the start of Rd. 1. Team score = total of top four (minimum two) finishers from each school per section. K-9 Championship first place individual and team, including ties, will be the National Junior High School Champion. **Schedule:** Opening ceremony Fri. 12:45 pm. Rds.: Fri. 1 pm and 7 pm, Sat. 9 am, 2 pm and 7 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm. Awards Ceremony Sun., approx. 7 pm. **EF:** \$60/participant postmarked or online by 3/25, \$80 postmarked or online by 4/15, \$95 online by 4/24, \$100 on site; \$100.00 extra for all phone registrations; \$30 fee for roster and section changes after 4/12 or any onsite changes. Onsite registration Thurs. 9 AM - 9 PM & Fri. 8 AM - 11 AM. Players who register or change sections after 11 am on Friday will receive a 1/2-point bye for Rd. 1. Players must disclose any other, non-US Chess, over-the-board (OTB) ratings. **Awards:** Trophies to top individuals & top teams in each section. Every player receives a commemorative item! Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **Side Events:** Bughouse: Thurs. 11 am, Reg. onsite only Thurs. 9 - 10 am, \$25/team. K-9 Blitz: Thurs. 5 pm, Reg. onsite until 4 pm. Blitz EF: \$20 by 4/4, \$25 after or at site. Class trophies will be awarded in main event and in Blitz. Full list of trophies on tournament Info Page. **General questions:** Contact Susan Kantor at 931.787.1234 ext. 136 or by email: skantor@uschess.org. **Team Room questions:** Contact Pete Karagianis at 931.200.9477 or by email: pkaragianis@uschess.org. **Entries:** U.S. Chess Federation, Attn.: 2019Gay JHS Championship, P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557 or online at www.uschess.org/tournaments/2019/jhs/. See web site for additional information about the event, advance entries, awards, meetings, team rooms, updates, corrections, and registration forms.

An American Classic! A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

June 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16, Nevada

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 300 (Enhanced)

2019 National Open

Open Section June 12-16: 9-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30. GM & IM norms possible. **Under Sections June 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16:** 7-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30 (3-day rounds 1-2 G/60, +10, 2-day rounds 1-4 G/30, +5). **Beginners Section June 14, 15, and 16:** 6-SS G/30, +5. Westgate Resort & Casino, 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas 89109. **+\$10,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund** will not be reduced! In 8 sections, top 2 FIDE rated. **Open:** \$8,000-4,000-2,000-1,000-600-500-400-300-300-300, top under 2500 \$2,500, top under 2400 \$2,400, **Extra** \$2,500 divided among GMs, WGMs and foreign IMs winning less than \$250 and playing 9 rounds. The winner of the Open section also receives a replica of the Edmondson Cup. **Under 2300:** \$6,000-3,000-1,500-750-400-350-300-250-250-250. **Under 2100:** \$6,000-3,000-1,500-750-400-350-300-250-250-250. **Under 1900:** \$5,000-2,500-1,250-600-350-300-250-250-250-250. **Under 1700:** \$4,000-2,000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250-250-250. **Under 1500:** \$3,000-1,500-750-350-300-250-250-250-250. **Under 1300:** \$2,000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250, top under 1000 (no provisional) \$900. Provisionally rated players may not win an amount greater than 40% of top prize in any under section; balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Beginners** (unrated or provisionally rated under 1300): 3 schedules with 6 rounds per day \$200-125-75 each day plus \$300 overall (best 2 results). Unrated players may play only in Beginners or Open Section. **Plus-Score Bonus:** (\$12,000 guaranteed) in addition to any other prizes, every player with a plus score wins a \$50 gift certificate. Plus score certificates will be awarded on site only. **Mixed Doubles:** best male/female combined 2-player team score: \$1,500-750-350-250-150. Average rating below 2200, teammates may play in different sections, only rounds 1-7 count for Open Section or best day for Beginners. **The Freddie:** Players age 14 and under are eligible for best game prizes including the Freddie Award and \$400 in cash prizes (donated by Fred Greenberg). CCA minimum ratings or other ratings may be higher than US Chess June Supplement. **EF:** Open: \$239 by 4/30, \$259 by 6/11, \$280 later. \$125 more for players rated below 2200. GM, WGM & foreign IM free. \$80 less for IM, WIM, foreign FM/WFM. Under sections: \$239 by 4/30, \$259 by 6/11, \$280 later. Beginners: \$125 1 day, \$189 2 days, \$229 3 days, \$30 more after 6/11. All: Early Bird Loyalty discount \$40 less for players who have played in 2 of the last 10 National Opens and enter before 1/31. Senior over 65 \$40 less by 6/11. **Open Reg:** 5-6 p.m. Wednesday. **Rds.:** 7:30, 1-7:30, 11-5:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30, 4-day schedule: **Reg.:** 2-6 p.m. Thursday. **Rds.:** 7:30, 11-5:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30, 3-day schedule: **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30 a.m. Friday. Rds. 10:30-1:30 then merge with 4-day in round 3 at 5:30. 2-day schedule: **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. Saturday. **Rds.:** 9:30-11-1-2:30 then merge with 4-day in round 5 at 4:30. Half point byes available in rounds 1-7; Sunday byes must be requested before the start of round 2 and may not be cancelled. Chess sets and boards provided for tournament play only, not for skillies. Please bring digital chess clocks! **THE LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL** features the National Open, the U.S. Women's Open, the International Youth Championship, and other events. **Many free extras and surprises!** Free parking. Free raffles with great prizes. Free GM Lectures. Free GM analysis of your games. Free Daily

Bulletins. **Grandmaster Simuls and Chess Camp** for all ages on Thursday, **U.S. Women's Open** Tuesday and Wednesday. **Walter Browne Memorial Blitz** Saturday 10:30 p.m. **Youth Tournaments:** Friday, Saturday & Sunday. **Blitz** Sectionals Friday & Sunday. **Poker Tournament** Monday Morning. **Don't be shut out** - make your reservations early and be sure to ask for the **CHESS group (SVCF9-R)** rates — \$69 single or double (\$95 Friday and Saturday nights) guarantees a premium room with new furniture, refrigerator, flat screen TV and more. The resort fee including access to the Fitness Center, free WI-FI, and more is substantially discounted for our group. **Cutoff for special hotel rate is May 23; after that rates will increase significantly and there may not be any rooms available.** (800) 732-7117 or www.VegasChessFestival.com/hotel. **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925, online at www.VegasChessFestival.com. **Info:** (702) 930-9550 and leave a message. FIDE. VV.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

June 28-30, Illinois

2019 U.S. Junior Open

6SS, G/90 +30. North Central College, Wentz Science Center—Ratio Hall, 125 S. Loomis St., Naperville, IL 60540. \$55 chess rate dorm single, \$100 doubles; \$145 triple by 5/31, \$10 more per person thereafter. (No taxes/tips for dorm rooms) see www.cavemanchess.com/events for info on nearby hotels (23 within 2.5 miles). Reserve early! June supplement. **EF:** \$60 rec'd by USPS or online by 12/31 7:00 p.m. CT; \$70 rec'd by USPS or online by May 31, 7:00 p.m. CT; \$80 rec'd by USPS or online until June 14, 7:00 p.m. CT; \$95 rec'd by USPS or online until July 27, 7:00 p.m. CT & at door. **Sections (based on age as of 1/1/19):** U21, U15, U11, U8. www.cavemanchess.com/events for more info and complete details. **Prizes:** U21 \$300 plus, for firstmost only, if eligible, entry in the 2020 U.S. Jr. Closed Championship including \$200 cash; plaques to top 5 overall; & to top age 18, 17, 16, 15, U15; U15 plaques to top 10 overall, top age 14, 13, 12, 11, U11; U11 plaques to top 10 overall, & to top age 10, 9, 8, U8; U8 plaques to top 10 overall, plaques to top age 7, 6, U6. **Team Prizes:** Plaques to top 3 school teams in each section, top 3 scores count as team score. One Bye 1-6, must commit by end of rd. 2. **Reg:** 11-12:30. **Rds.:** 1:1 00pm & 6:00pm; Sat 9:30am & 3:00pm; Sun 8:30am & 2:00pm. Side events: Thu eve, GM Simul, GM Lecture, Saturday Blitz after R4. See website for details & more possible events. (Possible adult events, possible meal plan.) Free WiFi on campus. Caveman Chess Camp 6/23-28; premier camp see website for details. **Ent:** Caveman Chess, LLC, 27 Morris St., Park Ridge, IL 60068, see online form, or send name, address, phone, email and birthdate, or online at www.cavemanchess.com; Checks payable to: Caveman Chess, LLC. No checks after 6/14. **Info:** www.cavemanchess.com. 847-430-6798. Caveman Chess provides sets, boards; please bring clocks. See website for terms and conditions.

GRAND PRIX

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Feb. 16-17 (NOT Feb. 9-10), Alabama

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10

Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (NOTE DATE CHANGE)

5SS, TC: G/120 d5. **AUM Taylor Center**. 7401 East Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117. **PREMIERE** (PF: \$950 - \$SGTD): \$350-225-A-200-U1800-175; **RESERVE** (PF: \$650 - \$SGTD): \$250-150-125-U1200-125. **EF:** \$50; if mailed by FEB 9th: \$60 at site. **Late REG.:** FEB 16th, 8-8:30am. **Rds.:** 9-2-7; 9-2. **SCHOLASTIC (K-12):** **NOVICE (6SS. TC: G/20 d5; NOT Rated):** **EF:** \$20; if mailed by FEB 9th: \$30 at site. **Trophy:** Top 3; **Medal:** 4th-6th. **Rds.:** 9-10-11-12-30-1:30, 2:30. Checks payable to: **Caesar Chess. ENT:** Caesar Chess LLC, 5184 Caldwell Mill Road, Suite 204, 202, Birmingham, AL 35244 or email your entry form information before **FEB 13th** and pay at site. **Info:** CaesarChess@gmail.com; www.AlabamaChess.org.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

Feb. 23, Pennsylvania

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 6

2019 PA State Game/75 Championship

4SS, G/75 d5. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **3 Sections**, \$5 (695G): Championship: EF: \$30 by 2/15, \$40 later. \$200-100, U2000 \$75, U1800 \$50. Premier: U1600. EF: \$25 by 2/15, \$35 later. \$90-60, U1400 \$50, U1200 \$40, U1000 \$30; Trophies to Top 2, Top 2 U1400, Top 2 U1200, Top 2 U1000. Scholastic: Grades K-12 U900. EF: \$15 by 2/15, \$25 later. Trophies to Top 7, 1-3 U600. **ALL:** Teams of 4 to 7 combined from all sections, Trophies 1st-2nd clubs, schools. PSCF \$5, OSA. Reg ends 9:30am. **Rds.:** 10-1-4-7. **Ent/Info:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freepost St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223, 412-908-0286, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com.

A State Championship Event!

Mar. 1, Pennsylvania

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 6

2019 PA Quick Chess Championship (QC)

6SS, G/8 d3. Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17235. **3 sections**, EF rec'd by 2/16: **Open:** \$12. **U1500:** \$11. **U1100:** \$10. **\$5 (750G):** **Open:** 175-100-50, U1800 \$45, U1600 \$40. **U1500:** 125-75-50, U1300 \$40, U1200 \$30, Unr \$20. **U1100:** Trophies: 1-12, U800, U700, U600, 1-3 Unr. **ALL: EF:** \$20 after 2/16, PSCF \$5 OSA. **Reg:** 5:30-6:15pm. **Rd. 1:** 7pm. Feb 2019 Reg rating. **Bye:** limit 1, ask by rd. 2. **HR:** Mention "Chess Journey": 717-334-8121 \$89 by 1/31. **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freepost St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223-2245. **Info:** 412-908-0286, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, pscfchess.org/pascholastic_champ/.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Mar. 2-3, Maryland

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 15

UMBC Open - Alvin S. Mintzes Chess Tournament

5SS, G/90, +30incr. University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore (in Commons, 3rd floor). Held concurrently with Maryland "Sweet 16" (Invitational)—winner to receive in-state fixed-dollar tuition scholarship to UMBC. **Open:** (All) \$31260: \$400-300-200 Gtd., Class prizes \$120 ea. to top U2300, U2100, U1900. Free entry to GMS, \$50 deducted from any prizes. **U1800:** (U1800/Unr.) \$31080 b/40: \$350-250-150, Class

prizes \$110 ea. to top U1600, U1400, U1200 (b/4). No Unr. player may win more than \$250 in this section. **Al:** EF: \$50 if postmarked by 2/15, \$60 later, \$10 less if under age 20. **Reg:** 8:30-9:30am Sat, Rds: 10-3-7-30pm Sat, 10:30-3:30pm Sun. **Byes:** Up to three 1/2-pt. byes avail. in Rds. 1-5 if req'd at least 1 hr. before Rd. 2 for any Rd. 4-5 bye), but only at most one 1/2-point bye in Rds. 4-5. **HR:** La Quinta Inn and Suites, 1734 West Nursery Road, Linthicum, MD 21090, 410-859-2333, www.lq.com (From I-95, take Exit 47A onto I-195 towards BWI Airport. Take Exit 2A onto 295 north towards Baltimore; take first exit, bearing right onto West Nursery Road.) **Directions to UMBC:** Take Exit 47B off I-95 & follow signs to UMBC. Park in Commons Drive garage. **Ent:** Register online at <http://mdchess.com> (email questions to dewyerj@umbc.edu), or mail to Joel DeWyer, UMBC, Attn: Open, 1000 Hilltop Circle, The Commons, Rm. 335, Baltimore, MD 21250. Make out check to Maryland Chess Association. **For more information:** www.umbc.edu/chess.w.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

A State Championship Event!

Mar. 2-3, Pennsylvania

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10

2019 Ira Lee Riddle Memorial PA State Championship & PA Collegiate Championship

5SS, G/90 d5. Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg PA 17235. **3 sections: \$5 (1875G):** **Open:** 350-150, U2200 \$125, U2000 \$100. **U1800:** 200-150, U1650 \$125, U1500 \$100. **U1400:** 200-150, U1200 \$90, U1000 \$75, Unr \$60. **All:** College Tr: 1-2 in each section, 1-2 team (top 4 over all sections). **EF:** \$40 rec'd by 2/16, \$50 after, PSCF \$5 OSA. **Reg.:** 8:45-9:30 am. **Rds.:** 10-2-5-30, 9-1. Feb 2019 ratings used. **Bye:** limit 1, ask by rd. 2. **HR:** Mention "Chess Journey": 717-334-8121 \$89 by 1/31. **Ent:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freepost St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223-2245. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286, pscfchess.org/pascholastic_champ/.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Mar. 2-3, Texas

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 2 (Enhanced)

DCC FIDE Open III

5SS, G/90 inc/30. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. Two sections: Open and Reserve. **Open:** \$8875G. FIDE and US Chess rated but uses FIDE rules. Use US Chess ratings and rules for pairings and for awarding prizes. Default late forfeiture time is one hour. TD may extend this time at TD's discretion. Note that Foreign players must disclose their FIDE ID number before 1st round in order to play. Note that USA Players with no FIDE ID must disclose their email address. \$\$ \$500-\$250-\$125. EF: 2400 + \$125, 2000-2399 \$90, 1600-1999 \$99, U1600 \$125, Senior/Birthday during tournament/Additional Family Member \$55. Dallas Chess Club membership required or pay \$20 non-member fee. Small Minimum prize to the First three GM/IM's who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get minimum prize (entry fee may be deducted from prize). **Reserve:** Open to players rated below 2000 USCF. This section is not FIDE Rated but is US Chess rated and uses US Chess rules. EF: \$40. 105 non Dallas Chess Club membership fee. The Reserve give back 10% in prizes and if at least 8 paid entries and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free entry to next DCC FIDE Open. In the reserve section, Tournament reserves the right to use Fide rules on electronic devices and on starting White's clock at start of a round and to use FIDE pairing rules. Also clocks will be set to 'halt at end'. Both: Reg.: Saturday from 9:45-10:15 am. Rds.: Sat 10:45 am-3:10pm-7:16pm, Sun 9:45 am-2:10pm. One half point Bye allowed if requested before end of round 2 and before getting full point bye. Withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. Note that house players (if required) must pay \$5 per round and be US Chess members. **Ent:** Make/mail Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719. **Info:** 214-632-9000. FIDE.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Mar. 30-31, California, Northern

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 15

2019 North Bay Chess Festival by Novato Checkmates

Novato Downtown Recreation Center, 950 7th St., Novato, CA 94945. FREE parking! Novato Checkmates club members - discounted entry fees! **Sat, Mar 30 only:** Rising Star PK-12; 3xG/30 d5 - non rated, Onsite Reg.: 9-9:30a, Rounds 10a-lp; EF: \$10/\$5(memb) **Kids Quads:** PK-12; 3xG/30 d5, Trophies: players w+ score. Sched: Reqr. Check-in 1:30-2p. Games: 2:30-5p. EF: \$20/\$15(memb) **Simultaneous Exhibition:** 20-boards simul, Onsite reg: 5-5:30p, Simul starts 6p, EF \$15/10(memb). **March 30-31 (2-day):** 1st Novato Open Prizes: Prize: \$3500/b100. **Open (2000+, FIDE):** \$1000-500-200 u2200: \$200-100-50; **AB (1600-1999):** \$500-200-100 u1800: \$100-50, **CDEu (u1600):** \$300-100-50 u1400: \$50. March 2019 Suppl. CCCsMat & TD disc. **Open/FIDE-2-day:** 4SS G/90 +30inc Reg.: 9:30-9:45a. **Rds.:** Sat 11a, 2p, Sun 11a, 3p. **AB/CDEu G/61 d5:** Reg.: 8:30-8:45a. **Rds.:** Sun: 9a, 11:30a, 2p, 4:30p. **EF:** \$45/\$35(memb). After 3/26 +15, player +15, re-entry: \$20, GMS/IMS - \$0 by 3/23. **Info:** www.novatocheckmates.org. Special disc rooms at Novato Courtyard Marriott, to reserve call 415-883-8950. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Mar. 30-31, Texas

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20 (Enhanced)

DCC FIDE Open IV

5SS, G/90 inc/30. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. Two sections: Open and Reserve. **Open:** \$8875G. FIDE and US Chess rated but uses FIDE rules. Use US Chess ratings and rules for pairings and for awarding prizes. Default late forfeiture time is one hour. TD may extend this time at TD's discretion. Note that Foreign players must disclose their FIDE ID number before 1st round in order to play. Note that USA Players with no FIDE ID must disclose their email address. \$\$ \$500-\$250-\$125. EF: 2400 + \$125, 2000-2399 \$90, 1600-1999 \$99, U1600 \$125, Senior/Birthday during tournament/Additional Family Member \$55. Dallas Chess Club membership required or pay \$20 non-member fee. Small Minimum prize to the First three GM/IM's who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get minimum prize (entry fee may be deducted from prize). **Reserve:** Open to players rated below 2000 USCF. This section is not FIDE Rated but is US Chess rated and uses US Chess rules. EF: \$40. 105 non

Dallas Chess Club membership fee. The Reserve give back 10% in prizes and if at least 8 paid entries and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free entry to next DCC Fide Open. In the reserve section, Tournament reserves the right to use Fide rules on electronic devices and on starting White's clock at start of a round and to use FIDE pairing rules. Also clocks will be set to 'halt at end'. Both: Reg.: Saturday from 9:45-10:15 am. Rds.: Sat 10:45 am-3:10pm-7:16pm, Sun 9:45 am- 2:10pm. One half point Bye allowed if requested before end of round 2 and before getting full point bye. Withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. Note that house players (if required) must pay \$5 per round and be US Chess members. ENT: Make/mail Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719. Info: 214-632-9000. FIDE.

A State Championship Event!

Apr. 13, Pennsylvania

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 6

2019 PA State Game/29 Championship (QC)

5SS, G/29 d0. O'Hara Student Center, Univ. of Pitt., 4024 O'Hara St., Pittsburgh PA 15213. **2 Sections: Championship:** EF: \$25 by 4/5, \$35 later. \$\$ (690G): \$200-100, U2000 \$90, U1800 \$80, U1600 \$70, U1400 \$60, U1200 \$50, U1000 \$40. Trophies: 1-3 U1400, 1-3 U1200, 1-3 U1000. **Scholastic:** Grades K-12 unrated or U900. EF: \$15 by 4/5, \$25 later. Trophies to Top 7, 1-3 U600. **ALL:** Trophies: 1-2 Schools, 1-2 Clubs, Teams of 4-7 players from both sections. PSCF \$5, OSA. **Reg.:** 10-10:30am. **Rds.:** 11-12:30-1:45-3-4:15. Ent: PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Apr. 13-14, Texas

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20 (Enhanced)

DCC FIDE Open V

5SS, G/90 inc/30. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. Two sections: Open and Reserve. **Open:** \$8875G. FIDE and US Chess rated but uses FIDE rules. Use US Chess ratings and rules for pairings and for awarding prizes. Default late forfeiture time is one hour. TD may extend this time at TD's discretion. Note that Foreign players must disclose their FIDE ID number before 1st round in order to play. Note that USA Players with no FIDE ID must disclose their email address. \$\$ \$500-\$250-\$125. EF: 2400 + \$125, 2000-2399 \$90, 1600-1999 \$99, U1600 \$125, Senior/Birthday during tournament/Additional Family Member \$55. Dallas Chess Club membership required or pay \$20 non-member fee. Small Minimum prize to the First three GM/IM's who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get minimum prize (entry fee may be deducted from prize). **Reserve:** Open to players rated below 2000 USCF. This section is not FIDE Rated but is US Chess rated and uses US Chess rules. EF: \$40. 10\$ non Dallas Chess Club membership fee. The Reserve give back 10% in prizes and if at least 8 paid entries and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free entry to next DCC Fide Open. In the reserve section, Tournament reserves the right to use Fide rules on electronic devices and on starting White's clock at start of a round and to use FIDE pairing rules. Also clocks will be set to 'halt at end'. Both: Reg.: Saturday from 9:45-10:15 am. Rds.: Sat 10:45 am-3:10pm-7:16pm, Sun 9:45 am- 2:10pm. One half point Bye allowed if requested before end of round 2 and before getting full point bye. Withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. Note that house players (if required) must pay \$5 per round and be US Chess members. ENT: Make/mail Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719. Info: 214-632-9000. FIDE.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

May 11-12, Texas

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20 (Enhanced)

DCC FIDE Open VI

5SS, G/90 inc/30. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. Two sections: Open and Reserve. **Open:** \$8875G. FIDE and US Chess rated but uses FIDE rules. Use US Chess ratings and rules for pairings and for awarding prizes. Default late forfeiture time is one hour. TD may extend this time at TD's discretion. Note that Foreign players must disclose their FIDE ID number before 1st round in order to play. Note that USA Players with no FIDE ID must disclose their email address. \$\$ \$500-\$250-\$125. EF: 2400 + \$125, 2000-2399 \$90, 1600-1999 \$99, U1600 \$125, Senior/Birthday during tournament/Additional Family Member \$55. Dallas Chess Club membership required or pay \$20 non-member fee. Small Minimum prize to the First three GM/IM's who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get minimum prize (entry fee may be deducted from prize). **Reserve:** Open to players rated below 2000 USCF. This section is not FIDE Rated but is US Chess rated and uses US Chess rules. EF: \$40. 10\$ non Dallas Chess Club membership fee. The Reserve give back 10% in prizes and if at least 8 paid entries and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free entry to next DCC Fide Open. In the reserve section, Tournament reserves the right to use Fide rules on electronic devices and on starting White's clock at start of a round and to use FIDE pairing rules. Also clocks will be set to 'halt at end'. Both: Reg.: Saturday from 9:45-10:15 am. Rds.: Sat 10:45 am-3:10pm-7:16pm, Sun 9:45 am- 2:10pm. One half point Bye allowed if requested before end of round 2 and before getting full point bye. Withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. Note that house players (if required) must pay \$5 per round and be US Chess members. ENT: Make/mail Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719. Info: 214-632-9000. FIDE.

June 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16, Nevada

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 300 (Enhanced)

2019 National Open

See Nationals.

REGIONAL

Alabama

Feb. 16-17 (NOT Feb. 9-10), Queen of Hearts - 47th Annual (NOTE DATE CHANGE)
See Grand Prix.

California, Northern

Feb. 16-18 or 17-18, 2019 (35th Annual) U.S. Amateur Team Championship - West

See Nationals.

Mar. 30-31, 2019 North Bay Chess Festival by Novato Checkmates

See Grand Prix.

California, Southern

The Los Angeles Chess Club

The Most Active Club on the West Coast! (310) 795-5710. * LACC: www.LAChessClub.com; VCC: www.ValleyChessClub.com; Contact: Mick@LAChessClub.com; Saturday & Sundays: 10 am-10 pm (Novice & Interm. classes + 3 Tournaments). Sundays: 11 am - 7 pm (Novice & Interm. classes class + 2 Tournaments. FIDE & USCF tournaments. Details on our web site. Tuesdays: 7:30-9:30 pm (Advance lecture). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025. (4 blocks W of 405, SW corner of Santa Monica & Butler * 2nd Floor - above Javan Restaurant) Group Classes * Tournaments * Private (1:1) Lessons. Note our monthly major tournaments. Also, we have the best Weekly BLITZ tournament on Saturday nights at 6:30 pm!!

Feb. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, Every Saturday & Sunday Chess 4 Juniors

8 separate events- 5SS, G/30 d0, 11514 Santa Monica Blvd. & Butler, LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blocks West of 405. EF: \$30 (\$20 LACC memb. No prize 1/2 EF, siblings 1/2, Free new LACC members). **Reg.:** 12-1 pm. **Rds.:** 1pm & asap; done by 4. FREE BUGHOUSE afterwards; **Prizes:** Trophies & medals; All players receive prizes! **Parking:** Free on streets & BoA. Free healthy refreshments. **Info:** (310) 795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com or Mick@LAChessClub.com.

Feb. 23-24, 2019 U.S. Junior Chess Congress

See Nationals.

Mar. 1-3 or 2-3, 26th annual Western Class Championships

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Connecticut

Mar. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)

See New York.

Apr. 17-21, 18-21 or 19-21, 13th annual Open at Foxwoods

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Delaware

Feb. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)

See Maryland.

District of Columbia

Feb. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)

See Maryland.

Florida

Boca Raton Chess Club

Friday night tournament games, one game a week for 4 weeks. www.bocachess.com, 561-302-4377.

The Stormont Kings Chess Center in Miami, FL

We have a beautiful office with multiple rooms located in the Kendall/Falls/Pinecrest Area. We offer Private and Group Lessons, Homeschool Activities, Tournaments, Camps, Family Game Nights, Parents Night Out, Casual Chess Play TSK Rated and more! Chess Sets and equipment for sale. Complimentary Bottled Water, Ample Parking, Comfortable Waiting Room with legos, and other activities for siblings while waiting. Located at 8353 SW 124 St, Suite 201-A, Miami, FL 33156. Contact Chris Stormont, Phone: 786-303-2437, E-mail: chris@stormontkingschess.com, Web: www.StormontKingsChess.com

Mar. 15-17 or 16-17, 17th annual Southern Class Championships

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Georgia

Feb. 16, 2019 Atlanta Winter Congress Scholastics

4-SS, Interactive College of Technology, 5227 New Peachtree Rd., Chamblee, GA 30341. 3 sections. **Middle School** (Open to players in grades K thru 8). **Elementary School** (Open to players in grades K thru 6). **Primary School** (Open to players in grades K thru 3). **PRIZES (each class):** Trophies to Top Five Places; Highest Placed Unrated; Highest Placed Female. Sections may be combined at the discretion of the Chief TD with all prizes awarded as advertised. **All:** Participants who do not win a trophy will receive a Participation Medal. **Entry Fee:** \$29, if rec'd by 15-FEB; \$33 at site. **Schedule:** Registration ends 11:00am. Rounds: 11:30am, 1:00am, 2:30pm, 4:00pm. **Time Control:** G/30 d5 (not d10). **1/2-Pt. Byes:** Available any round (limit one) — must request 1/2-Pt. Byes before Round One (no changes afterwards). **Bring Set, Board, and Clock** — None Are Supplied By The Tournament Promoters. **Entries and Info:** americanchesspromotions.com, (478) 973 - 9389. PHONE CALLS ONLY AFTER 15-FEB - no e-mails or TEXT messages, please.

Mar. 24 NOT Mar. 17, 2019 Boris Kogan Memorial Scholastics

4-SS, Interactive College of Technology, 5227 New Peachtree Rd., Chamblee, GA 30341. 3 sections. **Middle School** (Open to players in grades K thru 8). **Elementary School** (Open to players in grades K thru 6). **Primary School** (Open to players in grades K thru 3). **PRIZES (each**

class): Trophies to Top Five Places; Highest Placed Unrated; Highest Placed Female. Sections may be combined at the discretion of the Chief TD with all prizes awarded as advertised. **All:** Participants who do not win a trophy will receive a Participation Medal. **Entry Fee:** \$29, if rec'd by 23-MAR; \$33 at site. **Schedule:** Registration ends 11:00am. Rounds: 11:30am, 1:00am, 2:30pm, 4:00pm. **Time Control:** G/30 d10. **1/2-Pt. Byes:** Available any round (limit one) — must request 1/2-Pt. Byes before Round One (no changes afterwards). **Bring Set, Board, and Clock** — None Are Supplied By The Tournament Promoters. **Entries and Info:** americanchesspromotions.com, (478) 973 - 9389. PHONE CALLS ONLY AFTER 23-MAR - no e-mails or TEXT messages, please.

Illinois

Feb. 15-17 or 16-17, 2019 U.S. Amateur Team Championship - North

See Nationals.

Mar. 15-17, 2019 National High School (K-12) Championship

See Nationals.

Apr. 12-14, 2019 All-Girls National Championships presented by the Kasparov Chess Foundation in association with the Renaissance Knights Chess Foundation & US Chess

See Nationals.

May 23-27, 24-27, 25-27 or 26-27, 28th annual Chicago Open

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

June 28-30, 2019 U.S. Junior Open

See Nationals.

Maryland

Maryland Chess Tournaments

MD Chess runs scholastic tournaments 2 Saturdays per month from September through June & open tournaments 2 Saturdays or weekends per month throughout the year. Visit www.MDChess.org to find tournament announcements, tutors, coaches, & camps; register online for tournaments; & subscribe to scholastic and/or open e-newsletters. MD scholastic players who compete in the Varsity section (exclusively for players rated 1600+) of a MD-Sweet-16 Qualifier can qualify for the \$45,000 scholarship to UMBC awarded annually. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County's chess team is a perennial top-10 contender for the national championship.

Feb. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute & Western High School, 1400 W. Cold Spring Ln., Baltimore, MD 21209. Open to all K-12 players from anywhere. **5 Sections. Championship:** 1500 +, K-12, 4SS, G/45 d5, Rds.: 9:30-11:30-1:30-3:30. **1000-1499:** 1000-1499, K-12, 5SS, G/35 d5, Rds.: 9:30-11:30-2-3:30. **U1000 HS & MS:** under 1000 or unr, 6-12, 5SS, G/30 d5, Rds.: 9:30-10:45-12-1:15-2:30. **500-999 K-5:** 500-999, K-5, 5SS, G/30 d5, Rds.: 9:30-10:45-12-1:15-2:30. **U500 K-5:** under 500 or unr, K-5, 5SS, G/25 d5, Rds.: 9:30-10:30-11:30-12:30-1:30. **Trophies** per section: top 25% of individuals; top 40% of teams. **EF:** \$30 through 02:12; \$45 through 02:14; \$60 by 8 AM, 02:16 (half-point bye possible in Rd. 1); \$80, 8-9 AM, 02:16 (on site; if space available; half-point bye likely in Rd. 1). Provided: sets, boards, scoresheets, & pencils. Bring chess clock. Food available for purchase. **Register:** www.mdchess.com. **Contact Email:** tournaments@mdchess.com.

Mar. 2-3, UMBC Open - Alvin S. Mintzes Chess Tournament

See Grand Prix.

Massachusetts

Mar. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)

See New York.

Apr. 5-7 or 6-7, 28th annual Eastern Class Championships

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Missouri

Mar. 9, March Madness

Format: Open to students enrolled in elementary, middle or high school in Fall 2018. 4 SS, G/30 d0. **Five sections:** K-12 Open, K-12 U1000, K-6 Open, K-6 U500, K-3 Open. **Rds.:** 11am, 12:15pm, 1:45pm, 3pm. Locations vary every month, all the info and registration is on our website at: https://saint-louischessclub.org/education/scholastic-tournaments

Mar. 22-24 or 23-24, 23rd annual Mid-America Open

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Apr. 6, Spring Fever

Format: Open to students enrolled in elementary, middle or high school in Fall 2018. 4 SS, G/30 d0. **Five sections:** K-12 Open, K-12 U1000, K-6 Open, K-6 U500, K-3 Open. **Rds.:** 11am, 12:15pm, 1:45pm, 3pm. Locations vary every month, all the info and registration is on our website at: https://saint-louischessclub.org/education/scholastic-tournaments

Nevada

June 12-16, 13-16, 14-16 or 15-16, 2019 National Open

See Nationals.

June 14, Youth Trophy Tournament

5-SS, G/25 d5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort. Open to players age 14 & under. **3 sections:** Open, U1000, U700. **Trophies** top 5 in each section, top 2 in each 200 point rating group and unrated. Must be 3 players eligible for each prize to be awarded. **EF:** \$39 by 5/31, \$50 later. **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m.

Tournament Life

Rds.: 10-11:30-1-2:15-3:30. **Youth Blitz:** 6:30 p.m. (\$25 by 5/31 \$35 later). www.VegasChessFestival.com.

June 15-16, International Youth Championship
6-SS, G/60 d5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort, 3000 Paradise Rd., 89109. In **4 Sections by age:** 14 & Under Open, 14 & Under Reserve (under 1000), 9 & Under Open, 9 & Under Reserve (under 800). **Trophies** to top 10 in each section plus class and team trophies. 1st Place in each section wins a **Computer** loaded with valuable Chess Software and hundreds of Videos, 2nd-4th win chess prizes valued at 250-150-100. Unrated players may not win 1st in Reserve sections. **EF:** \$89 by 5/31, \$99 by 6/20, \$120 later. Half point bye in any round (limit 2) if requested in advance. **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. **Rds.:** 10-1-3:30, 10-1-3:30. **Youth Blitz:** 6/22 6:30 p.m. (\$25 by 5/31 \$35 later). **HR:** \$69, \$92 Friday and Saturday (800) 732-7117 **Cutoff for special hotel rate is May 23; after that rates will increase significantly and there may not be any rooms available.** **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925 or www.VegasChessFestival.com.

New Jersey

Feb. 16-18, World Amateur Team & 2019 U.S. Team East Championship
See Nationals.

Feb. 23, Princeton Charter School
TOURNAMENT LOCATION: Princeton Charter School at:100 Bunn Dr., Princeton, NJ 08540. **TIME CONTROL:** G/30 d0; Swiss to 4 rounds. **SECTIONS:** Open above 1000; U1000; U700; U300/Unrated. (sections will be combined. Awards will be given to the top 3 in each section) **Parental Supervision Required:** The parents or another adult must be designated to supervise the student player between rounds. **Schedule** (will be accelerated if possible) **First Round:** 12:01 PM. **Second Round:** ASAP. **Third Round:** ASAP. **Fourth Round:** ASAP. **Award Ceremony:** ASAP (4:05 the latest). **Schedule** will be accelerated if possible. (*) **Online Registration \$35 Only if register one week before: www.ChessKidsNY.com/PCSCSSProgram.htm. (*) Fee will increase automatically if register later. On site registration the date of the event: \$40 from 11:45 am to 12:00 noon. Information:** email to Miguel Iniguez at: migini@gmail.com **Results will be posted online the same day of the event!**

A State Championship Event!
Feb. 24, New Jersey State Elementary Championship
5SS, G/30 d5. Brookdale College, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ 07738. Student Life Center, use Parking Lot #7 or #6; 5 minutes from Garden State Parkway exit 109. 2 Sections: Elementary (K-6) & Primary (K-3). **All:** Trophies to top 15 individuals, top 5 teams. Elementary & Primary: Top 5 in each grade. **Rds.:** 10 am then ASAP. Top 4 scores constitute the team score for Elementary; top 3 for Primary. **EF:** \$35 before 2/17, \$50 at site. USCF memb. req'd. **Reg.:** 8-9:00am After 9:00am 1/2 point bye for round 1. **Info:** 732 259-3881. **Ent:** Hal Sprechman, 66 Cromwell Ln., Jackson, NJ 08527 or online by Feb 23 at www.NJSCF.org. Entries must include name, grade, school, section, date of birth, USCF ID and expiration date, mailing address, email address, phone number and entry fee. Checks made out to NJSCF.

A State Championship Event!
Feb. 24, New Jersey Junior High School Championship
5SS, G/30 d5. Brookdale College, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ 07738. Student Life Center, use Parking Lot #7 or #6; 5 minutes from Garden State Parkway exit 109. Section: JHS (K-9). **All:** Trophies to top 15 individuals, top 5 teams. **Rds.:** 10am then ASAP. Top 4 scores constitute team score. **EF:** \$35 before 2/17, \$50 at site. USCF memb. req'd. **Reg.:** 8-9:00 am. After 9:00 am, half-point bye for round one. **INFO:** 732-259 3881. halsprechman@gmail.com. **ENT:** Hal Sprechman, 66 Cromwell Ln., Jackson, NJ 08527 or online by Feb 23 at www.NJSCF.org. Entries must include name, grade, school, date of birth, USCF ID #, & expiration date, mailing address, phone number & entry fee. Checks made out to NJSCF.

Mar. 2, King's Chess Club Quads
Morning quads and afternoon quads, G/30 d5, Kindergarten-undergraduate (scholastic, youth, and young adult memberships). Bethlehem Church, 758 Route 10, Randolph, NJ 07869. **EF:** None. **Reg.:** 9-9:20 am., 1st rd. 9:40. Arr. by 12:30 pm to reg. only for afternoon quads. Medal to each quad winner. **Info:** Bethlehem Church 973-366-3434 or Bob McAdams 973-694-3988.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
Mar. 2-3, New Jersey High School Championship
5SS, G/60 d10. Union County Vocational - Technical High School, 1776 Raritan Rd., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. **VARSITY (9-12):** 5 player team with one alternate allowed, coaches set order by strength, order must not be changed. Team average based on 5 highest ratings. Trophies to: top 10 Teams, top three players on boards 1-5. **EF:** \$150/team before 2/27/19. \$165 on site. **JUNIOR VARSITY (9-12):** 4 player team with one alternate allowed. Team average based on 4 highest ratings. Trophies to: top 10 teams, top 3 players boards 1-4. **EF:** \$120/team before 2/27/19, \$130 on site. **BOOSTER (K-12):** Top 4 individual players from each school constitute a team. Trophies to: top 10 players. Top 3 schools. **EF:** \$30 before 2/27/19, \$35 on site. **All ABOVE SECTIONS** USCF memb. req'd. **RDS.:** Sat 10, 12:45, 3:15; Sun 10, 12:45. **REG.:** on site 8-9:30am after 9:30 - 1/2 point bye for round 1. Please bring clocks and sets. **REG.:** JIM MULLANAPHY, 98 Baird Rd., Millstone Twp., NJ 08535. Entrees must include: name, grade, school, USCF ID# and expiration date for players; coaches need to supply: mailing address, email address, phone #. Checks made out to: NJSCF. **SIDE EVENT: MAR 3, SUNDAY, Boy Scout/Girl Scout/Non-Rated Section (K-12):** 5SS, G/15 d5. USCF Membership **Not required for this section only!** **EF:** \$20, registration 9:00 to 9:45. First Round 10am, other rounds ASAP. Limited number of Clocks and Sets available, if you have equipment please bring it. **REG.:** Same as above. Entries must include: name, age, address, phone # and Troop/Pack affiliation if any. **Online entrees accepted at: WWW.NJSCF.org** until 10pm, 2/28/19. **QUESTIONS??** Contact: Jmull@aol.com, 732-610-1357.

Mar. 9-10, 52nd Annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)
See New York.

Mar. 15, Princeton Charter School
TOURNAMENT LOCATION: Princeton Charter School at:100 Bunn Dr., Princeton, NJ 08540. **TIME CONTROL:** G/30 d0; Swiss to 4 rounds. **SECTIONS:** Open above 1000; U1000; U700; U300/Unrated. (sections will be combined. Awards will be given to the top 3 in each section) **Parental Supervision Required:** The parents or another adult must be designated to supervise the student player between rounds. **Schedule** (will be accelerated if possible) **First Round:** 12:01 PM. **Second Round:** ASAP. **Third Round:** ASAP. **Fourth Round:** ASAP. **Award Ceremony:** ASAP (4:05 the latest). **Schedule** will be accelerated if possible. (*) **Online Registration \$35 Only if register one week before: www.ChessKidsNY.com/PCSCSSProgram.htm. (*) Fee will increase automatically if register later. On site registration the date of the event: \$40 from 11:45 am to 12:00 noon. Information:** email to Miguel Iniguez at: migini@gmail.com **Results will be posted online the same day of the event!**

Apr. 14, Westfield Spring Scholastic
Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. K-12. **3 Sections:** Open, U1250, U750. Open: 3-SS, G/40 d5. **Rounds:** 12:15, 2:00, 3:45 pm. U1250 & U750: 4-SS, G/25 d5. **Rounds:** 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00 pm. **EF:** \$25, \$20 members. **Prizes:** Trophies to Top 5 in each section. Tiebreaks used. See USCF Rule 34E. **Register:** 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html

New York

Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 9, Jan. 27, Mar. 3, May 5, 6th Annual Magnus High School and Junior High Chess League!
Columbia Grammar and Prep. High School Cafeteria, 36 W. 93rd St. (bet. Central Park West & Columbus Ave., near 96th St. subways), NYC. 12-SS, G/60 d10, open to grades 7-12 born after 5/5/99. 3 sections: **1. Premier** (over 1799 and special invitees), **2. Under 1800**, **3. Under 1200**. Plaques to top 3 each section. May be limited to 60 players each date. **Individual free entry prizes:** free entry to 2 specified Continental Chess tmts. thru 12/31/19 to 1st each section. **Team prizes:** free entry to 1 CCA tmt. thru 12/31/19 to the 4-top-scoring players from same school across all 3 sections, plaques to top 3 overall team scores, limit 2 teams per school. **Mixed Doubles** (2-player male/female team, avg. rating U2200, may be in different sections and from different schools, must sign-up by 1/27) **Bonus Prize:** free entry to 1 CCA tmt. thru 12/31/19 to 1st **Mixed Doubles** team, chess sets to top 3 overall Mixed Doubles. Free entries courtesy of Continental Chess and are valid for CCA tmts. with 100% guaranteed prizes; see www.magnusleague.org, www.chesscenter.cc or www.chessour.com for details and restrictions. **Rds.:** 10 am-12:45 pm (earlier if feasible) each date. **Ent:** www.magnusleague.org. **All:** Each date's games submitted for rating prior to next date's games. Players must re-confirm before each date; official USCF rating list in effect on each date used for that date (unofficial ratings usually used if otherwise unrated or if requesting to play in Premier). Unr. may enter section 2 or 3 (or Premier by TD permission). Limit 6 byes (2 byes max. rds. 9-12), commit by Jan. 27 (by May 3 for players with minus scores). Teammate pairings avoided but possible. Ties for free entries decided by tiebreak except playoff May 5 between top 2 on tiebreak (may be fast game). See www.magnusleague.org for rules and special situations. Special Bonus Points and/or prizes may be awarded each date! **Bring clocks!** **Info:** director@magnusleague.org, chesscenter@gmail.com, **online entry** thru 6 pm the day before each date at: www.magnusleague.org. Reg. on-site by 9:30 am. School purchase orders: **Chess Center of NY, PO Box 4615, New Windsor, NY 12553, W.**

An American Classic!
A Heritage Event!
US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
Mar. 9-10, 52nd Annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome)
6SS, G/60 d10, open to grades K-12; top NYS player & team each section are NY champions. In 14 sections. **High School Sections** at Courtyard by Marriott, 11. Excelsior Ave., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (2/5 mile from Saratoga Hilton). **Other 11 sections** at Saratoga Hilton and adjacent Saratoga City Center (connected by indoor walkway), 534 Broadway (I-87 Exit 13-N, 4 miles north on US 9), Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Sections at Hilton/City Center are limited to a total of 1100 players, sections at Marriott 300 players. **Team prizes** based on top 4 scores from same school; no combined school teams allowed even if one school "feeds" another. Teams of 2 or 3 allowed, but are at a disadvantage. **Online entry fee at chessaction.com, all sections:** \$69 by 2/14, \$79 2/15-3/1, \$90 3/2 to 3/8. **EF** at site, all sections \$100. **HS Championship** (all K-12 born after 9/1/99): **EF** \$75.30 mailed by 2/14. Top NYS grade 9-12 qualifies for Denker Tournament of HS Champions. **K-12 Under 1800/Unr:** **EF** \$75.20 mailed by 2/14. **K-12 Under 1200/Unr:** **EF** \$75.10 mailed by 2/14. **JHS Championship (all K-9):** **EF** \$75 mailed by 2/14. Top NYS grade K-8 born after 9/1/03 qualifies for Barber tournament of K-8 Champions. **K-8 Under 1600/Unr:** **EF** \$74.90 mailed by 2/14. **K-8 Under 900/Unr:** **EF** \$74.80 mailed by 2/14. **Elementary Championship (all K-6):** **EF** \$74.70 mailed by 2/14. **K-6 Under 1400/Unr:** **EF** \$74.60 mailed by 2/14. **K-6 Under 1000/Unr:** **EF** \$74.50 mailed by 2/14. **K-6 Under 600/Unr:** **EF** \$74.40 mailed by 2/14. **Primary Championship (all K-3):** **EF** \$74 mailed by 2/14. **K-3 Under 800/Unr:** **EF** \$73.90 mailed by 2/14. **K-1 Championship (all K-1):** **EF** \$73.80 mailed by 2/14. **K-1 Under 400/Unr:** **EF** \$73.70 mailed by 2/14. **Postmarked 2/15-26:** All **EF** \$10 more. Do not mail entry after 2/26. **Special 1 year USCF dues** with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chessaction.com, Young Adult \$22. **Scholastic \$15.** Mailed or paid at site, Young Adult \$25, Scholastic \$17. **Trophies** to top 10 players & top 7 teams each section, top 2 unrated in U1200, U900, U800, U600 & U400, and top 2 each U1900, U1700 (HS), U1600, U1400 (HS U1800), U1000, U800, U600 (HS U1200), U1800, U1600, U1400 (JHS), U1400, U1200, U1000 (MS U1600), U700, U500, U300 (MS U900), U1700, U1500 (Elem), U1200, U1000 (K-6 U1400), U800, U700 (K-6 U1000), U500, U400, U300 (Elem U600), U1400, U1200, U1000 (Primary), U600, U500, U400, U300 (Primary U800), U800, U600, U400 (K-1), U300, U200 (K-1 U400). Speed playoff if perfect score tie. **Free entry** to NY State Championship, Labor Day weekend 2019 (Albany), to top player each section, if not already qualified for free entry from another event. **Mixed doubles prizes** (chess sets) for three HS sections combined; no extra fee; enter at Marriott by Sat 2 pm. **Schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2, 5, Sun

9, 12, 3. **Awards** 5:30 pm. **Half point byes** OK all, limit 2, must commit before rd. 2. **HR:** \$143-143 at Hilton, two nights minimum, 888-999-4711, 518-584-4000, or use link at chessour.com. Backup hotel: Courtyard by Marriott, two nights minimum, \$135-135, 866-210-9325 or use link at chessour.com. 7 days notice required to cancel room reservations at Hilton; first night at Courtyard is nonrefundable, 48 hours notice required to cancel other nights. Free parking at both. Each is likely to sell out about 3 months before the tournament, but may again have availability in the final week before the event due to late cancellations. For backup hotels see chessour.com. **Special car rentals:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #657633. **Online entry:** www.chessaction.com. **Mail entry:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Include name, rating, USCF ID, USCF expiration (non-members include dues), section, school, grade, birth date, address of each player. Checks payable to Continental Chess. **\$15 per player** service charge for refunds. **\$10 extra to switch** sections, all substitutions from advance list charged \$90. **Questions:** director@chess.us, 347-201-2269 (leave message, email is better). **Bring clock** if possible—none supplied. **Bring set & board** for HS sections; set & board supplied for other sections, but not for skittles. **March official ratings used** (except unofficial web ratings usually used if otherwise unrated). TD reserves right to assign estimated rating to players with non-USCF ratings. **Electronic devices rules:** see <http://chessour.com/devices.htm>; players are not allowed to possess cellphones during play.

Mar. 23-24, 3rd annual Bill Little Memorial
See Chess Life or www.chessour.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
Apr. 6-7 or 7, 3rd Annual NY State Girls Championship!
Open to all girls, out of state welcome, **Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School**, 36 West 93rd St. (the 1-Day sections will probably be across the street, at 3 West 93rd St.), both are between Central Park West & Columbus Ave., NYC. **Subways:** Broadway & 96th Street (1,2,3 trains), **Central Park West & 96th Street** (B, C trains). **Online entries at www.chessgirls.win**: \$60 thru 4/1/19, \$70 4/2-4, \$80 later or at site, at least 1 hour before game). **For details on mail entries see www.chessgirls.win** or www.chesscenter.cc. **In 7 sections.** Each section has its own age, (grade) and rating requirements (Championship sections open to all who are under age (and grade) limits; unrated allowed all sections). **Open Championship**, open to all girls born after 4/7/99 (top NYS K-12 girl qualifies for National Girls Tournament of Champions in Florida), **K-6 Championship** and **K-3 Championship** are each **2-days:** 6-SS, G/60 d10. **Rounds:** 10 am-1:4 pm each day. **K-12 Under 1200, K-6 Under 900, K-3 Under 600** and **K-1 Championship** are each 5-SS, G/30 d5. **Rounds:** 10 am-12-1:30-3-4:45 pm **Sunday K-1** open to grades 1/below born after 4/7/11. **Both K-3 sections** open to grades 3/below born after 4/7/09. **Both K-6 sections** open to grades 6/below born after 4/7/06. **K-12 Under 1200 section** open to grades 12/below born after 4/7/99. **Trophies** to top 12 each section and top 3 Unr. in each 1-Day section. **Grade plaques:** top 3 K/below in K-1 section, top 3 scorers below 9th Grade in K-12 U1200, top 3 below 4th grade in K-6 U900, and top 3 below 2nd grade in K-3 U600 (you can win both plaque + trophy). All players scoring 4 or more (5 or more in 2-Day sections) who *don't* win a trophy receive a medal Speed playoff for 5-0 or 6-0. **Plaques also** to top 4 teams each section (top 3 scorers from same school = team, all on team must attend same school; no combined teams, even if one school "feeds" another). **Individual free entry prizes** (in each 2-Day Championship section and in K-1): **Free entry to 2 specified Continental Chess** tournaments thru 12/31/19 to 1st! Free entries courtesy of Continental Chess and are valid for CCA tmts. with 100% unconditionally guaranteed prize funds. See www.chessour.com for complete details and restrictions. **All:** Out-of-state eligible for prizes but top NYS player and team each section are NY Champions. April 2019 official ratings used, except unofficial ratings at chessour.com usually used if otherwise unrated. TD reserves right to assign estimated ratings to players with non-USCF ratings. All substitutions from advance entry list charged late fee. Section switches subject to \$10 extra charge per player after 4/4. \$15 service charge for each player refund. TD reserves right to reassign sections for advance entries with incorrect or unclear registrations. Limit 2 byes, commit before rd. 3. **HR:** see travel websites for nearby hotels in NYC. **Info,** help with entries, parking, etc: www.chessgirls.win. **Questions:** director@chessgirls.win, chesscenter@gmail.com (or 347-201-2269: leave message, email is much better). **Team rooms:** chessgirls.win. Sets provided by Little House of Chess—bring clocks! School purchase orders payable to: **Chess Center of NY, PO Box 4615, New Windsor, NY 12553, W. NOTE:** US Chess Junior Grand Prix (Top 3 Championship Sections Only).

May 17-19 or 18-19, 27th annual New York State Open and Senior
See Chess Life or www.chessour.com.

Pennsylvania

Feb. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)
See Maryland.

Feb. 23, 2019 PA State Game/75 Championship
See Grand Prix.

Mar. 1, 2019 PA Quick Chess Championship (QC)
See Grand Prix.

Mar. 2-3, 2019 Ira Lee Memorial PA State Championship & PA Collegiate Championship
See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!
US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
Mar. 2-3, 2019 PA State Scholastic Championship
5SS. 261 Trophies! (191 Individual & 70 Team). Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Ctr., 2634 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg PA 17235. 11 sections (Sat & Sun 3/2 & 3 unless indicated): **EF:** K-3 Open: (Sat 3/2 only) \$30. K-6 U500: (Sun 3/2 only) \$26. K-6 U800: (Sat 3/2 only) \$27. K-9 U600: (Sun 3/3 only) \$26.50. K-9 U1100: (Sun 3/3 only) \$27.50. K-6 Open: \$31. K-8 Open: \$32. 7-12 U1000 & 7-12 Unrated: \$28. 7-12 U1300: \$29. K-12 Open: \$33.

Cash Scholarships: K-12 Open: 1st \$2500, Girl \$150, School \$1000. K-8 Open: 1st \$1500, Girl \$150, School \$1000. K-6 Open: 1st \$1000, Girl \$150, School \$1000. K-3 Open: 1st \$500, Girl \$150, School \$1000. **All:** EFS if rec'd by 2/16, \$10 more rec'd 2/17-2/23, \$20 more after 2/23. Feb 2019 ratings used. **Bye:** limit 1, ask by rd. 2. **Reg.:** Fri 3/1 6-10 pm, Sat 3/2 10-11 am, Saturday entries get 1/2-bye. \$5 charge for changes/refunds after 2/16. **Rds.:** (Sat 3/2 1-day sections): G/40d5; G/40d5; 9-10:45-12:30-2:15-4; (Sun 3/3 1-day sections): G/40d5; 9-10:45-12:30-2:15-4; (2-day sections): G/90 d5; 10-2-5:30, 9-1. **Bughouse:** Reg on-site only until Sat 3/2 8:30pm. Rds begin Sat 3/2 8:45pm. EF: \$20/team. **HR:** Mention "Chess Tourney": 717-334-8121 \$89 by 1/31. Info: 412-908-0286 martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, pscfchess.org/pascholasticchamp/. Ent: PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223.

Mar. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)
See New York.

Mar. 31, PCL March Quick Quads (QC)
3RR, G/15 d3. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th Ave. & Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **EF:** \$10, \$7 Jrs. \$20 to 1st/quad. **Reg.:** 11-11:15am. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286. **WV.**

Apr. 13, 2019 PA State Game/29 Championship (QC)
See Grand Prix.

Apr. 14, PCL April Quick Quads (QC)
3RR, G/15 d3. O'Hara Student Center, Univ. of Pitt., 4024 O'Hara St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **EF:** \$10, \$7 Jrs. \$20 to 1st/quad. **Reg.:** 11-11:15am. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286. **WV.**

June 28-30 or 29-30, 13th annual Philadelphia Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
July 1-2, 11th annual World Open Under 13 Championship
6SS, G/60 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for location, rates). Open to all born after 7/2/06. In 4 sections. **Open Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 1600/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-12/31/19 to 1st. **Under 1400 Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 1200/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-10/31/19 to 1st. **Under 1000 Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 800/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-9/30/19 to 1st. **Under 600 Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 400, top 2 Unrated; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/19/19-9/30/19 to 1st. **EF:** \$48 online at chesstour.com by 6/30, \$52 mailed by 6/15, \$60 at site. **Late reg.** 7/1 to 10 am, rds. Mon 11-2-5, Tue 10-1-4. Up to 2 half point byes allowed, must commit before rd. 3. **Ent:** chesstour.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: chesstour.com, chesstourinfo@chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds.

July 2-7, 3-7, 4-7 or 5-7, 47th Annual World Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Texas

Feb. 14-18, 15-18, 16-18 or 17-18, 10th annual Southwest Class Championships
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Mar. 2-3, DCC FIDE Open III
See Grand Prix.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
Mar. 8-10, 2019 Texas State Scholastic Chess Championships (Super States)

7SS, **Houston Marriott Westchase, 2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston, TX 77042.** \$99, \$99, \$99, \$99 rate includes American Breakfast Buffet, Call 1-800-452-5110 to make reservations mention group code DCC or register online thru link on web page. Reserve by 2/27/2019 or rate may not be honored. Note that the rate can sell out, so make reservations early. Tournament is open to any Kindergarten-12th grade student living in Texas or going to school in Texas. Note that if a student has played in another state's closed championship, they may not play in this tournament. Four championships: TX Primary Scholastic Championships; TX Elementary Scholastic Championships; TX Middle School Scholastic Championships; TX High School Scholastic Championships. EF: \$44 by 2/4; \$55 by 2/28; \$73 after 3/1 or on site. On Site Registration: Friday, 5:30-6:15pm, Saturday, 8-8:30am. Saturday registrants will receive a 1st Rd. 1/2-pt. bye. Two 1/2-pt. byes allowed as long as one of the byes is for round 1, if requested by the end of Rd. 2. Sections: K-1 Championship, Primary (K-3) Championship, Primary JV (K-3 w/Ratings Under 600), Elementary (K-5/6) Championship, Elementary JV (K-5/6 Under 800), Elementary Novice (K-5/6 Under 500), Middle School (6-8/9) Championship, MS JV (6-8/9 Under 900), MS Novice (6-8/9 Under 600), High School (9-12) Championship, HS JV (9-12 Under 1000). See Article IX, Section 1E, TCA Bylaws for each section's eligibility requirement, <https://texaschess.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/TCA-Bylaws-30-Aug-2015.pdf>. Note that 2019 February Supplement will be used. Note new for this year: John W. Griffin Memorial Chess Scholarship award sponsored by Belleville Capital Management. They will present certificates to the winner of the High School Championship (\$1000), Middle School Championship (\$500) and Elementary Championship (\$100). The certificate is to be used for secondary education at an accredited institution at some point in the future. We will redeem the certificate and pay directly to the institution. It is the sponsor's expectation to make this scholarship a yearly annual award in which a player may win more than once. Trophies for top 20 individuals and top 15 teams in each section plus participation medals for all, and plus Score Awards for players scoring 4 or more points that do not win an individual trophy. Top 5 Grand Champion trophies. The 3 Primary sections will be merged and using the top 15 players, a grand champion will be crowned. This will also be done for the 3 Elementary sections and the 3 Middle School Sections. For the High School the two sections will be merged and the top 10 players will be used to determine the grand champions. Note that trophies will not be given out in advance and must be picked up at awards ceremony. Please make arrangements for picking up trophies at award ceremony or to get trophy shipped. Schedule: Round times vary depending on the Section. For round times check website. Time controls: All High School and Middle School Championship Sections: Rds. 1 G/45 d5; Rds. 2-4 G/60 d5, Rds. 5-7 G/75 d5. All Elementary and Primary and K-1 sections as well as MS JV and MS Novice: rds. 1-4 G/45 d5, rds. 5-7 G/60 d5. For round times see: www.dallaschess.com/2019%20Texas%20Scholastic/index.htm. Side Events: See website for side events. Side event registration on site only. All registrations (except Side events) available online: see www.dallaschess.com/2019%20Texas%20Scholastic/index.htm and you can download flyers and entry forms. Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club. Mail entries to Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-47195. For tournament info, visit our website or contact Barbara Swafford, info@dallaschess.com or 214-632-9000. Refunds will be given only up to 3/1 with a \$10 surcharge for withdrawing, after 3/6 there will be no refunds. There will be no substitution of team members. There will be a \$10 change fee for changes after 3/1. There will be a \$5 surcharge per player for phone registrations USCF membership is required. Proof of membership is required or player must join/renew their memberships. No registration/changes or withdrawals by phone or email after 3/6/19 as we are driving to the site; after that date you must make changes at site (Houston Westchase). **W.**

Mar. 30-31, DCC FIDE Open IV
See Grand Prix.

Apr. 13-14, DCC FIDE Open V
See Grand Prix.

Apr. 26-28, 2019 National Junior High School (K-9) Championship
See Nationals.

May 11-12, DCC FIDE Open VI
See Grand Prix.

Vermont

Mar. 9-10, 52nd annual New York State Scholastic Championships (out of state welcome) (NY)
See New York.

Virginia

Feb. 16, Kasparov Chess Foundation Presents 10th Annual Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championship (MD)
See Maryland.

Feb. 22-24 or 23-24, 4th annual George Washington Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
A State Championship Event!
Mar. 9-10, Virginia Scholastic & College Championships
5SS, Rds. 1-2 G/60 d5; Rds. 3-5 G/90 d5. Organized by the VA Chess Federation at Monticello HS in Charlottesville, VA. Blitz Championships Friday Mar. 8 at 6PM. Main tournament Saturday and Sunday, Mar. 9-10. NEW SECTIONS being introduced this year! Players must be in grades pre-K, K through 12, or College full time in Virginia as of Jan. 2019. Open to Virginia residents only, including children of Military stationed in VA. VA residency NOT REQUIRED for Friday Night Blitz. Parents & Friends tournament on Sat. and Sun. Simultaneous Exhibition on Sat. 9 Mar. by 3-Time VA State Champion FMJ Macon Shibut. **Tournament schedule, Details about new Sections, Prizes, Registration, Player Eligibility, Hotel Info and other information at:** www.vachess.org. Questions to: NTD Anand Dommalapati, adommalapati@yahoo.com.

Wisconsin

A Heritage Event!
Mar. 9, Waukesha Memorial (38th Annual)
A Wisconsin Tour Event! 4SS, G/60 d5. USCF rated (Dual rated). To obtain USCF membership, see uscf.org. Country Inn & Suites, 1250 S. Moorland RD., Brookfield, WI (1-262-782-1400) Exit 301(AB) from I-94. \$Non-monetary; traveling trophy to First, books for class winners. Open to all. **EF:** \$15 by 3/08 (\$20 at site). **Reg.:** 8:00-9:15; 1/2 point bye if registered after 9:15; groups of 4 or more must pre-register; pre-registrants check in by 9:30 to assure pairing. **Rds.:** 10:00; 1:00; 3:30; 6:00. No state memb. req'd. OSA. Mail entries to Waukesha CC, 1911 Stardust DR., Waukesha, WI 53186. Phone Info: Jim Nickell (262) 544-6266. Online info: jnickell@wi.rr.com

Mar. 9, Rated Beginners Open (RBO)
4SS, G/60 d5. Dual rated. USCF rated; for USCF membership see uscf.org. Country Inn & Suites, 1250 S. Moorland RD., Brookfield, WI (1-262-782-1400); Exit 301 (AB) from I-94. Open to players rated under 1200 or unrated. **Prizes:** Trophies to top 3, book prizes for class winners. **EF:** \$15 by 3/08 (\$20 at site). **Reg.:** 8:00-9:15, 1/2 point bye if registered after 9:15; groups of 4 or more must pre-register; pre-registrants check in by 9:30 to assure pairing. **Rds.:** 10:00; 1:00; 3:30; 6:00. Mail entries to Waukesha CC, 1911 Stardust DR., Waukesha, WI 53186. Phone Info: Jim Nickell (262) 544-6266. Online info: jnickell@wi.rr.com.

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Your Tax-Deductible Contribution Will Help US Chess Grow the Game

US CHESS counts on donors to support initiatives that further our mission of empowering people through chess, one move at a time.

Membership dues cover the basic operating costs for US Chess.

Our goals are to grow the game by funding initiatives to improve diversity in chess, sending top players to compete in international events, and growing and retaining women chess players in the game.

With your support, we can elevate chess to be a game for life.

Every dollar counts. uscf.org/donate

Answers

YOU CAN DO IT!

Solution #1: 1. Rxf7+ Kh8 2. Rxh7 mate

Solution #2: 1. Rh5+ Kg7 2. Rxf6 mate

Solution #3: 1. Rh8+ Bxh8 2. Qxh8 mate

Solution #4: 1. Qxh7+ Kxh7 2. Rh3 mate

Solution #5: 1. Rf8+ Qxf8 2. Qxh7 mate

Solution #6: 1. Rxh7+ Kg8 2. Bxd5 mate

IT'S YOUR MOVE!

Rook-E's color has been updated, to match more closely to US Chess' logo colors. He has intense shading similar to the chess pieces in the headers. His shape has been simplified, noticeably in his hands, his crown, the bishops in his legs and the knights that make up his arms. The hatch on his stomach was removed and his face was redrawn. Did we miss anything?

MY FIRST MOVE



FM ALISA MELEKHINA
FIDE & WOMAN INTERNATIONAL
MASTER, 2009 WORLD TEAM
CHAMPIONSHIP GOLD MEDALIST

In this column, we feature advice from your chess heroes and explore what shaped their development when they were Chess Life Kids like you!

HOW IT BEGAN ...

My dad, who had played chess back in the Soviet Union, taught me to play when I was five-and-a-half years old. I went on to play in my first tournament at seven years old. Back then, we used a computer software program called ChessMaster 2000 for practice games. To incentivize me, my dad used to give me a quarter if I could beat him!

HOW HER IMAGINATION WAS CAPTURED

At the chessboard, your strategy and planning immediately come to life. It is motivating to see what you studied at home lead to success on the board. As I got older, I began to appreciate chess as one of the remaining competitive forms of pure meritocracy.

FUTURE CHESS PLANS

My answer to this question would have been starkly different ten years ago. The chess rating and title systems can be a double-edged sword. On the one hand, it is easy to measure success in terms of obtaining a certain rating or achieving the next tier of master. On the other



Alisa with her father Aleksandr at the 2000 National Elementary Championships in Dallas, Texas.

hand, if you focus too much on those external metrics, you might lose your core passion for the game. Without passion, you will only get so far.

Whereas before I set goals for winning the U.S. Women's Championship or obtaining the title of international master, now my chess goals are finding a positive way to intertwine it with my life outside of chess. To that end, I recently co-organized the inaugural season of the New York City Corporate Chess League as a way to strike a balance between my law and chess careers. It was also a great way to keep in touch with old chess friends.

OPENING MOVES

I started out playing very classical openings: always 1. e4 and 1. ... e5. My very first chess opening was the Four Knights.

As I grew, I started to lean more towards gambits. My favorite opening is a new gambit line for white in the Advanced French that I had success with at top events such as the World Junior Championships and U.S. Women's Championships. I'm such a proponent of this unexplored line that some players have even colloquially referred to it as the "Melekhina line." It doesn't have a formal name, but goes: 1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Qb6 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. Bd3 cxd4 7. cxd4 Bd7 8. 0-0 Nxd4 9. Nbd2!? (see the October 2015 issue of *Chess Life* for more about this line!).

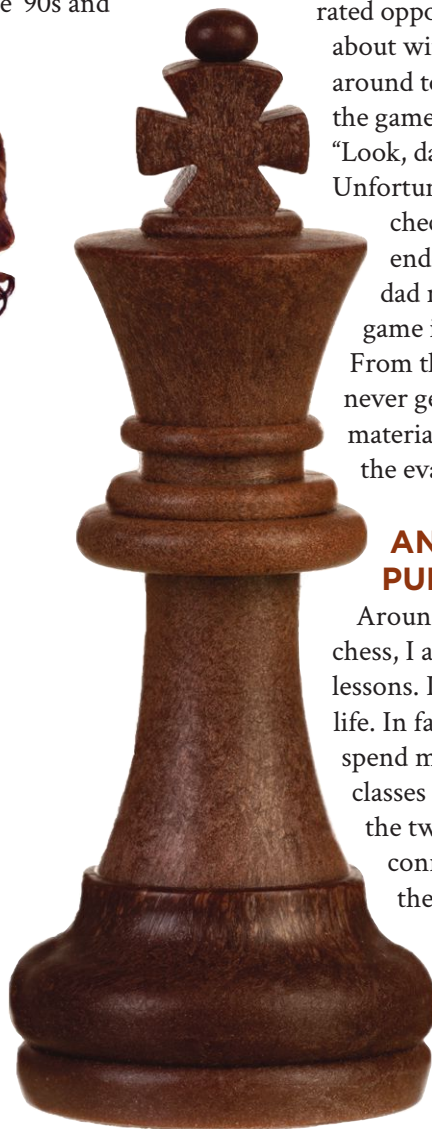
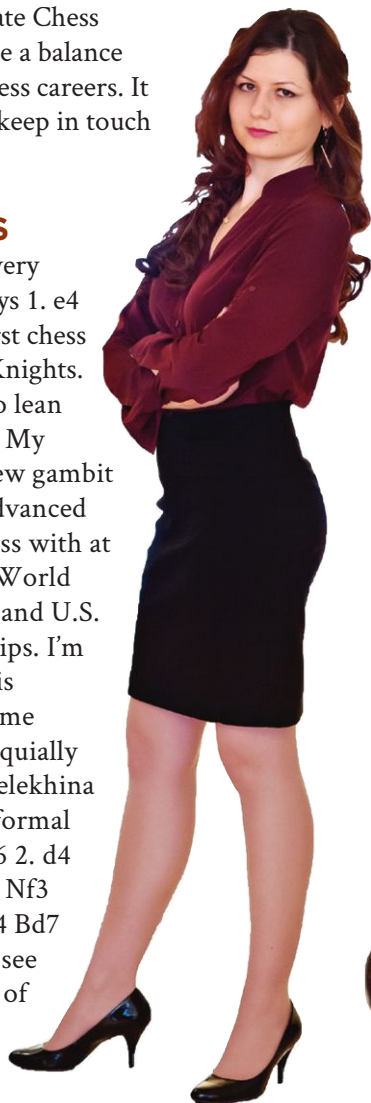
FAVORITE BOOKS

I absorbed the most lessons from GM Andy Soltis' *Grandmaster Secrets Endings* manual. The book is written in Socratic dialogue, or Q&A format. Questions are one of the best ways to learn. At the time, I wasn't too familiar with the Socratic method, but I definitely got more than enough of it during my time in law school!

Currently, I am reading *Chess Structures: A Grandmaster Guide* by GM Mauricio Flores Rios. It is an excellent break-down of the different types of structures arising in chess. Even if you play certain openings, it is important to learn how to play with and against various chess structures.

WOMEN IN CHESS

When I started playing chess in the late '90s and



early 2000s, I was often the only young girl playing among a sea of men. Now, the composition of chess tournaments has noticeably changed. The players are getting younger and younger, and there are more girls playing. Part of it seems to do with young girls being more confident in embracing the label of being smart.

Although there is still much progress to be made, women are more empowered than ever to persevere in intellectual pursuits.

LESSONS LEARNED AT THE CHESSBOARD

I will never forget this chess anecdote. During one of my first several tournaments, I happened to win a full rook against my higher-rated opponent. I was so delighted about winning the rook that I turned around to my dad, who was watching the game. I excitedly whispered, "Look, dad, I won a rook!" Unfortunately, I ultimately missed a checkmate on the board and ended up losing the game. My dad never let me forget it: "The game is not over until it's over." From that moment on, I would never get excited about winning material and kept a cool head as to the evaluation of the position.

ANOTHER SERIOUS PURSUIT

Around the same time I learned chess, I also started taking ballet lessons. I stuck with both my whole life. In fact, these days I might even spend more time taking dance classes than studying chess. I saw the two disciplines as closely connected: chess is discipline of the mind and ballet is discipline of the body.

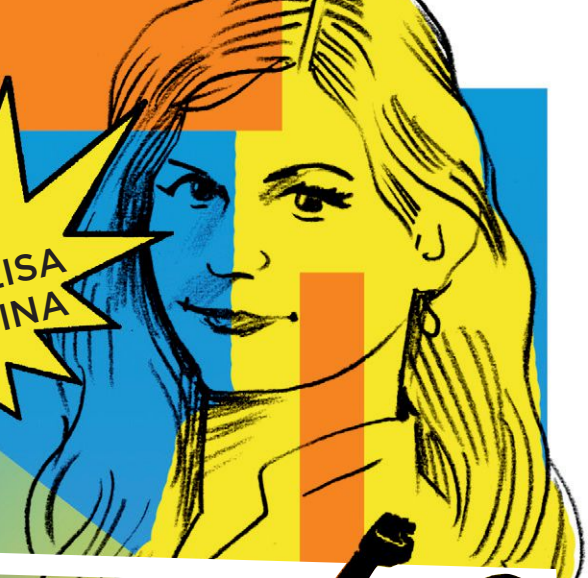
If you are going to pursue chess seriously, it is very important to have a physical exercise regimen or competitive sport to compliment all of the mental energy you are using.

MY BEST CHESS ADVICE

Don't let a tough loss faze you. They happen to everyone. What separates a good chess player from a great chess player is being able to calmly learn from your mistakes and move on with your head held high.

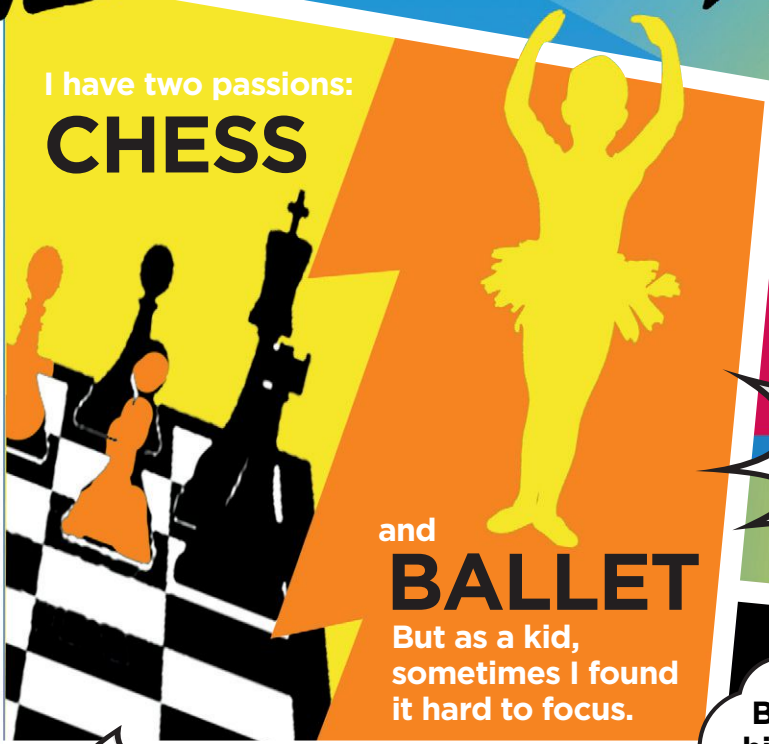
CHESS ADVENTURES

with
FM ALISA
MELEKHINA



I have two passions:

CHESS



and
BALLET

But as a kid,
sometimes I found
it hard to focus.

WOW!!

I am up a whole
rook!!

But I won
his rook! How
could I have
lost?

“Now class, here are
the steps ... Alisa, please
pay attention.”



I quickly learned
that when I didn't
focus, I paid a price.



Eventually I
learned that staying
focused helped me
achieve my goals.



US CHESS

presents

KCF's 16th Annual All-Girls National Championships

April 12-14, 2019 - HYATT MCCORMICK PLACE, CHICAGO, IL

First place winners of each section will qualify to play at the 2019 World Youth/Cadets Championships

MAIN EVENT

6-SS, G/90,d5

Friday April 12

2:30 PM Opening Ceremony
3:00 PM Round 1

Saturday April 13

10:00 AM Round 2
2:30 PM Round 3
6:30 PM Round 4

Sunday April 14

9:00 AM Round 5
1:00 PM Round 6
5:00 PM Awards Ceremony

ENTRY FEE

\$65 postmarked by 3/11, \$85 by 4/1, \$95 after/on-site.

SIDE EVENTS

Bughouse Tournament

Fri. April 12 11:00 AM
Entry fee: \$35 per team

Blitz Tournament (G/5,d0)

Fri. April 12 7:00 PM
Entry fee: \$25 4/1, \$30 after/on-site.



SECTION/AWARDS

Age as of 1/1/2019

- Under 8** top 15 individuals
top 500 – 799, top U500, top 6 schools
- Under 10** top 15 individuals
top 700 – 999, top U700, top 6 schools
- Under 12** top 15 individuals
top 900 – 1199, top U900, top 6 schools
- Under 14** top 15 individuals
top 1100 – 1399, top U1100, top 4 schools
- Under 16** top 8 individuals
top 1300 – 1599, top U1300, top 3 schools
- Under 18** top 8 individuals,
top 1500 – 1799, top U1500, top 3 schools

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