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In this issue

Our world has changed drastically since the last issue of *Chess Life Kids*. But one thing hasn't changed—chess! Even though you can't go to over-the-board tournaments right now, you still have plenty of online options. Jamaal Abdul-Alim gives you some ideas about how to improve your skills and have fun while staying safe. Also in this issue, our current U.S. Women's Champion, WGM Jennifer Yu, teaches you all about the knight's tour—a form of chess you can play all by yourself! And meet WGM Tatev Abrahamyan in this month's My First Move and Chess Adventures.

Like the rest of the world, *Chess Life Kids* has been affected by the pandemic. So, we are temporarily reducing the page count in *Chess Life Kids*—but we promise to keep our content fun and interesting!

Cover art by Jacob Thomas. See page four for more about our cover—and a contest!

IT'S YOUR **MOVE!**



Superheroes come in many forms! Rook-E is thrilled to announce that this issue of *Chess Life Kids* is funded in part by a bequest from Jerome Flowers to the U.S. Chess Trust to use in support of US Chess activities. **THANK YOU!**



COVER CONTEST!

Artist Jacob Thomas created our cover to embrace a positive aspect of sheltering in place: improving your chess skills by playing online with your friends. And check out the board position! It's from a famous game. Do you know which one? Tell us who played this game, and you could win a \$25 gift certificate from US Chess Sales. We'll randomly select one winner from all correctly submitted entries. Send the answer, your name, age, and your parent's name to mmatthews@uschess.org. Put "CLK Cover Contest" in the subject line.

CHESS FOR ONE!

By WGM Jennifer Yu

Here's a fun challenge: place a knight anywhere on the chessboard. Can you find a way for the knight to move to every single square on the chessboard? But ... wait! There's a catch: the knight can land on each square only once!

This is the famous knight's tour, first discovered in the ninth century A.D., more than a millennium ago! A thousand years later, it's still a tough nut to crack.

There are two kinds of knight's tours: closed and opened.

A closed knight's tour ends on a square that can reach the first square, creating a closed loop going on and on

again. For example, imagine the knight started on a1. A closed knight's tour would end on either b3 or c2.

On the other hand, an open knight's tour ends on a square that can't reach the first square of the tour. Many people think that for something that requires so much precision, only a few solutions exist to "solve" the knight's tour. But, guess the number of possible closed knight's tours that exist ... 26,534,728,821,064! And the number of open tours? We don't know! There are too many possibilities to count.

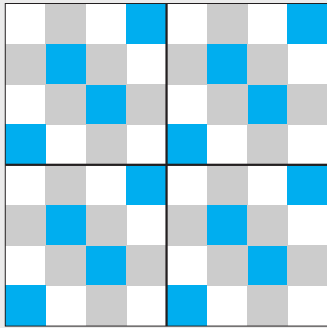
So what does this all mean? The knight is a tricky, tricky piece. Its unique ability as the only chess piece that can jump over others gives it amazing geometrical abilities. Not to mention, knight moves sometimes aren't obvious, often leading to crazy and dangerous forks.

Now here's a method on how you can solve the knight's tour on any square. No memorization needed!

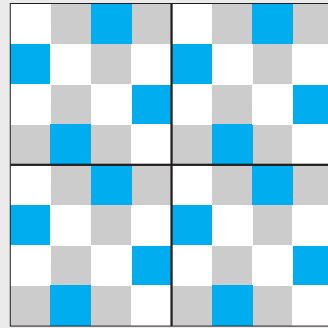
Mentally divide the chessboard into four quadrants, each with 16 squares. We will have four different patterns to view in each quadrant.

Diagram 1:

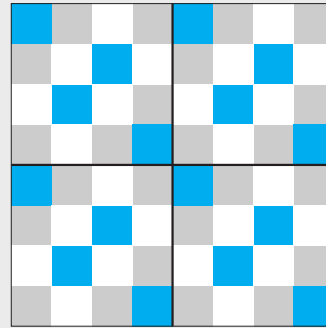
Right diamond

**Diagram 2:**

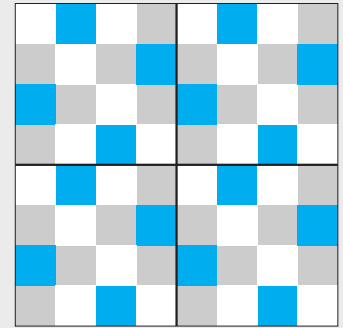
Left square

**Diagram 3:**

Left diamond (It's exactly the same as the right diamond, but flipped!)

**Diagram 4:**

Right square



The key idea is to fill out every highlighted square in the quadrant from the pattern before moving to the next quadrant and following the same pattern. This continues until all four quadrants are filled. Then, switch into another pattern. For example, let's look at the left diamond. (Diagram 3, above) If the knight is on any of these highlighted squares, the knight should travel through and hit every highlighted square in each quadrant. For example, if the knight is on a8, it can follow the path a8→b6→d5→c7→e8→f6 ... and so on.

Now let's see this in action!

Say the knight is on a1. First, we need to figure out what pattern it's a part of. Right diamond! (Diagram 1). So now we know that the squares we need to hit in this quadrant are b3, c2, and d4.

1. Na1-b3 Nb3-d4 2. Nd4-c2

Okay done with this quadrant, on to the next. Which square in the next quadrant is also part of the right diamond?

2. ... Nc2-e1

Wait, don't move too quickly! We need to be careful. If we choose to go to f3, we'd be forced to move the knight to h4 and g2 next. This would leave the knight stranded on g2, where it can't move into the third quadrant and complete the pattern. A little bit of calculation is needed to find the right square to move to.

3. Ne1-g2 Ng2-h4 4. Nh4-f3 Nf3-e5 5. Ne5-g6 Ng6-h8 6. Nh8-f7 Nf7-d8 7. Nd8-c6 Nc6-a5 8. Na5-b7

All right diamonds in each quadrant have been covered! Now we have the option to move to a new pattern. For example, let's pick the left square. (Diagram 2)

8. ... Nb7-d6 9. Nd6-c8 Nc8-a7 10. Na7-b5 Nb5-a3 11. Na3-b1 Nb1-d2 12. Nd2-c4 Nc4-e3 13. Ne3-f1 Nf1-h2 14. Nh2-g4 Ng4-h6 15. Nh6-g8 Ng8-e7 16. Ne7-f5

Time for another new pattern! What about the left diamond? (Diagram 3)

16. ... Nf5-g3 17. Ng3-h1 Nh1-f2 18. Nf2-e4 Ne4-f6 19. Nf6-h5 Nh5-g7 20. Ng7-e8 Ne8-c7 21. Nc7-a8 Na8-b6 22. Nb6-d5 Nd5-c3 23. Nc3-d1 Nd1-b2 24. Nb2-a4 Na4-c5

Finally, the right square! (Diagram 4)

25. Nc5-a6 Na6-b8 26. Nb8-d7 Nd7-f8 27. Nf8-h7 Nh7-g5 28. Ng5-e6 Ne6-f4 29. Nf4-h3 Nh3-g1 30. Ng1-e2 Ne2-c1 31. Nc1-a2 Na2-b4 32. Nb4-d3

All done! Here's a visual of the squares and the order of the tour.

42	51	18	13	40	53	30	11
19	16	41	52	31	12	39	54
50	43	14	17	56	37	10	29
15	20	49	44	9	32	55	38
48	63	24	3	36	57	28	7
21	2	45	64	25	8	33	58
62	47	4	23	60	35	6	27
1	22	61	46	5	26	59	34

Happy knight-hopping!

YOU CAN DO IT!

BY SIM JON EDWARDS

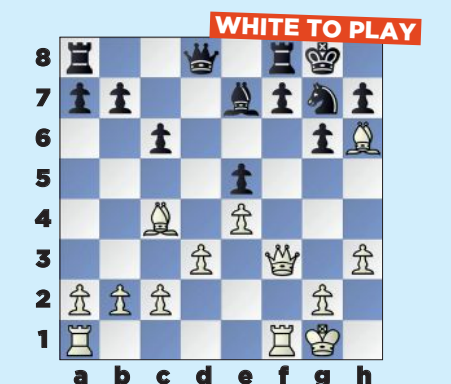
10TH U.S. CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CHAMPION

I love playing through master games. There are often interesting opening ideas and fun tactical surprises. Here's one that I played through recently.

(see diagram next column)

In this position, White played **16. Qxf7+**, a neat sacrifice that wins in all lines. The game finished up with **16. ... Rxf7 17. Rxf7 Qd4+ 18. Kh1 Nh5 19. Rf8 mate**.

In honor of that game, I offer here six quiz positions that all involve queen sacrifices on the f7-square.



Some of these are challenging, but 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



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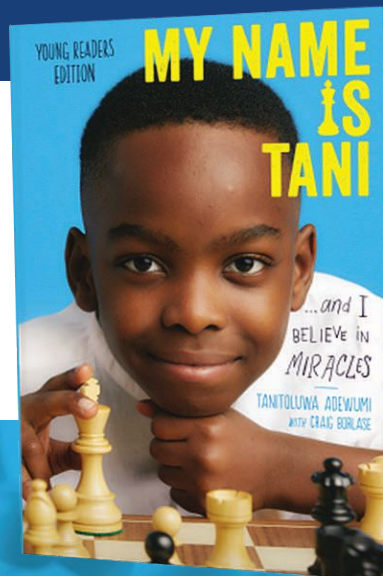


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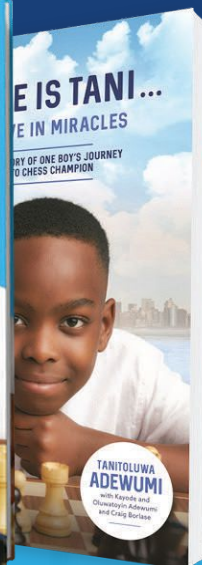
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Adult Edition

CHESS KIDS

ACROSS THE



BY AL LAWRENCE

Celebrating *Chess Life Kids*
from across the country.

Jayda Washington-Boothe

Coral Springs, Florida

Helping NASA get to Mars

Jayda is a sixth-grade chess player who is going to Space Camp!

At the camp, she'll participate in six days of space activities that show kids what it takes to be an astronaut. They meet and train with space scientists and real-life astronauts.

Jayda is a top student at Sawgrass Spring Middle School in Coral Springs, Florida. She and her mom Annejeanette were excited to be at Jayda's National Junior Honor Society ceremony, when suddenly mom's cell phone "pinged." The new email from the U.S. Space Camp began, "Jayda has been selected to receive a full tuition scholarship to attend the Robotics Academy six-day



program." The evening turned into a double celebration.

Jayda's dad Major Collins taught her to play chess. The two play to keep in practice during this time when people need to stay at home because of the virus outbreak. She also solves puzzles on *chess.com* and plays blitz. Jayda follows her favorite grandmaster, Hikaru Nakamura, on *YouTube*. "Chess has helped me to think more creatively," Jayda said. Her mom has seen "a growth in Jayda's ability to think critically and to strategize to achieve what she wants"—including earning her scholarship to Space Camp!

As a double honor, Jayda has been invited to the Space Camp's Hall of Fame ceremony.

She's reported to have one of the highest-ever scores on her Space Camp application, which included not only academics but also volunteer work. Jayda helps feed hungry people and distributes back-to-school supplies and backpacks to kids in her

community through organizations like HandsOn Broward.

Some Space Campers have gone on to become real astronauts. Dr. Kate Rubins attended the camp when she was in seventh grade. She became the third camp graduate to travel in



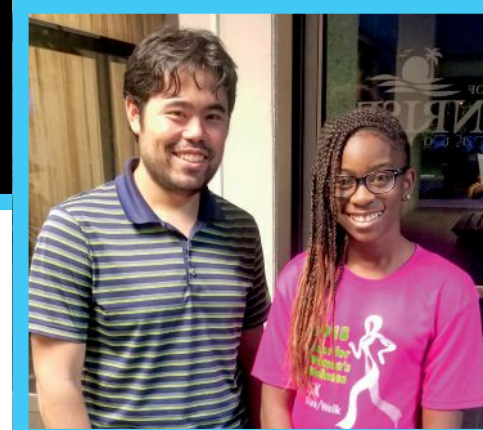
Jayda is involved in many activities. In addition to chess (where she's met her favorite grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura!), she also volunteers with several organizations. She likes to cook and is active in robotics, soccer, and track. All photos courtesy of subject.



space, rocketing to the International Space Station in 2016.

Jayda has studied robotics since the second grade. She can write computer code that controls robots to do jobs like stacking materials, something a robot in space may have to do. She can also control robots remotely in real time.

Jayda has many interests besides chess, robotics, and space. She made both the soccer and track team at her school. But she probably won't one day rocket around space like Dr. Rubins. Jayda wants to be a software engineer.



And just maybe she'll make time to be a part-time chef, since she loves turning her heritage Jamaican and Bahamian dishes into works of art.

But her plans would keep her in the space race: "I want to develop robots to help NASA get to Mars."



AVOID THE by Bruce Pandolfini TRAP!

THE UNDERMINING KNIGHT SAC

This column teaches you openings by helping you learn to avoid opening traps. Set up your board and pieces and play through the game below. Have paper and pen by your side. When you reach a question, write down your answer. After you have answered all 10 questions, check them against the scoring scale at the end. Each answer is worth 10 points—try to score at least 80 points!

From the start of a game the weakest point in either camp is the king-bishop-two square (f7 for Black, f2 for White). This square is especially vulnerable since at first its only defense is the king. Naturally, before the defender has castled, the attacker keeps an eye on possibilities to take advantage of that sensitive point. (After the defender has castled kingside, however, it's suddenly less weak because then KB2 is also guarded by the kingside rook.) One such tactic that might lead to exploiting the KB2 weakness of an uncastled king's position is an undermining knight sacrifice. Once that f-pawn is destroyed, a follow-up with the attacking queen and kingside-bishop (or other supportive pieces) could result in a winning breakthrough at K6. Let's examine the idea more concretely.

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4

The exchange of Black's d-pawn for White's e-pawn is to be expected. After taking back, White has a slight advantage.

Q1) How should White answer 3. ... Ng8-f6? (10 points)

4. Nxe4

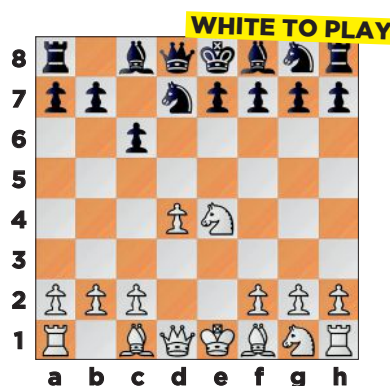
With a centralized knight and a pawn at d4, White has the edge in space and the greater chances for attack. But Black's position is fine.

Q2) How should White respond to the challenging 4. ... Ng8-f6? (10 points)

4. ... Nd7

Q3) Why does Black play 4. ... Nb8-d7? (10 points)

Clearly, Black prefers the avoidance of doubled f-pawns when he plays ... Ng8-f6.



5. Bc4

White develops the king-bishop, zeroing in on f7, the square in question.

Q4) Where else might this bishop have logically gone? (10 points)

5. ... e6

This blocks the c4-bishop's diagonal while clearing a diagonal for the f8-bishop.



INSIDE STRATEGIES

By Jamaal Abdul-Alim

When it comes to king safety, International Master Jeremy Silman, a prolific chess author, believes that not castling your king is something that should “usually be avoided like the plague.”

At least that’s what he said in one of his most famous books, *How to Reassess Your Chess*.

Castling like you’re running from the plague is a good way to think about the COVID-19 crisis that we have been dealing with in the United States and around the world for the past few months.

Of course, for most people, the new coronavirus will be known as the fast-spreading contagion that caused our government leaders to shut down our schools, close businesses, and make us all stay at home. And when we do go out, we have to stay six feet away from everyone through this thing called “social distancing.”

But if you’re a true chess player, you wouldn’t think of COVID-19 merely as something that made you stay home. Instead, you would think of hunkering down at home as the real-life version of castling your king.

I’m not the only one who thinks this way.

My good friend, David Bennett, a national master, Washington, D.C. chess coach, and operator of a *YouTube* channel called “Chess on the Brain,” also believes players should apply the principles of the royal game to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The challenges we’ve faced recently with the pandemic have forced all of us to adapt to a new reality, including chess players and coaches,” Coach Bennett says. “But quick adaptation is one of the traits we develop from chess.

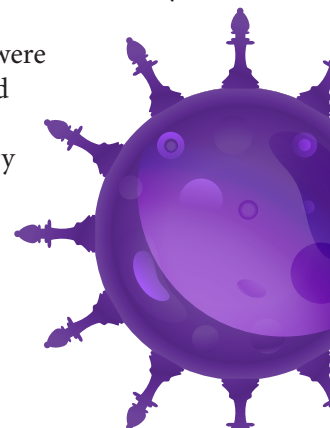
“For instance, we may have a strong plan, and yet our opponent may have a thing or two to say about that,”

Coach Bennett explains. “They will do everything they can to spoil our plans and we have to adjust to the hurdles they place in front of us.”

It wasn’t hard to find readers of *Chess Life Kids* who were adjusting their plans to keep up their chess development even though COVID-19 forced their schools and chess programs to close down.

For instance, Joshua Sibblies, a fifth grader at Harlem Academy in New York City, told me how much more time he’s had to study chess since all New Yorkers were ordered to stay at home in March.

Before schools were closed, Joshua said he was already playing chess every single day. But after COVID-19 forced schools to shut down



throughout the U.S., Joshua said he's had a lot more time to watch chess videos and study tactics.

"Like all day," Joshua said when asked how often he studies chess now that school is shut down. "After we finish all of our work, I'm practicing chess all day.

"My goal is to reach grandmaster," Joshua says. "But since the coronavirus made us have to stay in our homes, that cuts down on all the tournaments for our ratings, so I just have to keep on practicing for the next tournaments so I can make sure I win a lot of my games."

Joshua is a protege of James Jeffrey, the owner and operator of Kings County Chess. Coach Jeffrey, who teaches chess to over 600 students at three schools in New York City and through private lessons, said when the COVID-19 outbreak hit New York City, he only had two choices: "Evolve, or run the risk of becoming extinct."

He wasn't about to let COVID-19 shut his business down.

"I'm online now. I'm using Zoom to do my lessons," Coach Jeffrey told *Chess Life Kids*. "My new normal is teaching chess online."

Coach Bennett has also embraced online coaching. He says studying chess online makes it possible for kids and coaches to collaborate "in a very effective way" on websites such as *chess.com* and *lichess.org*.

"We can immediately analyze games we have just played or that my student has played recently," Coach Bennett says. "We can learn how to borrow from the chess engine's ideas—without allowing it to take away from our independent thinking.

"We can do a screen share and I can demonstrate how to use chess opening trees to determine a good chess opening to play, and more importantly, to see games in that opening by top players and to take away essential ideas like how to handle different pawn structures or the types of endgames that arise from a given opening.

"We can also use training tools for tactics, strategy, or endgames on *chess.com* or *chesstempo.com*.

"Of course, I always encourage over-the-board (OTB) collaboration, as this is the best training for live tournaments, but we have to work with what we've got," Coach Bennett adds. "So I'm making the most of it. I don't want this situation to leave my students behind"

It will be interesting to see if all the kids who kept up their chess studies during the COVID-19 lockdown will experience ratings jumps later this year or whenever OTB chess tournaments resume.

It's easy to conceive such a scenario. Just think about all the kids cooped up at home for several months with all sorts of extra time to watch every single chess video that has ever been made or to review every single game that their favorite chess player has ever played.

At the same time, don't get discouraged about your prospects of winning games when OTB chess comes back. I've interviewed some of the best chess players in the nation who've won tournaments and did so after not playing much chess because they were focused on school.

For instance, after he won the National Congress in December 2019, GM Andrew Tang told me the interesting thing about winning first place is that he hasn't really been studying chess since he began his studies at Princeton University that fall.

"It's funny because since college started, I haven't looked at chess much but my results have been fabulous," Tang told me at the time. "It's strange. Maybe taking a break was good."

Of all the foul and nasty things that I've seen at chess tournaments, one of the things that bothers me the most is when players go to the restroom and then rush back to the chessboard without ever washing their hands.

And it's not just kids who do this. I've seen adults do this as well. One time

I even saw a tournament director come out of a bathroom stall where he had just flushed the toilet, and not once did he stop by the sink to wash his hands before he went back out to finish paying out prize money. And to think this guy is shaking the winners' hands after he gave them a check. Eww. Gross.

Just send me my prize money by CashApp or Venmo.

Andrew Rea, a good friend of mine and a veteran tournament director, says there's good reason to believe that COVID-19 will improve chess player's hygiene.

Mr. Rea says he noticed when he helped run the Eastern Open back in December 2019, hardly anyone was washing their hands very much.

But when he helped run the Virginia Scholastic and College Chess Championships in early March when COVID-19 pandemic was beginning to hit the U.S.—and a few days after the Centers for Disease Control started reminding people to wash their hands to avoid spreading germs and the coronavirus—more tournament players were using hand sanitizer "and just being more conscious," Mr. Rea said.

"That is probably something that will carry over," Mr. Rea said. "We cannot predict the future, but I do think that in general after having better social and personal hygiene, I think it is something that will carry over when we resume our chess tournaments."

Let's hope so. It's bad enough we have to have tournament directors seated outside the bathroom at tournament venues to make sure people don't take their cellphones in the bathroom to cheat. Hopefully we won't have to put tournament directors inside the bathroom to make sure players are washing their hands as well.

Speaking of cheating, now that chess tournaments have moved

online, some people have come to think that they can get away with cheating since there's no tournament directors looking over their shoulder.

"That's a problem with online events," says Stephen Jablon, chief organizer of the DMV Chess League. (DMV stands for D.C., Maryland and Virginia, which are all close to one another).

Not long after the DMV moved its chess tournaments online, Mr. Jablon and his fellow organizers caught someone cheating.

"It was someone who was very low rated who was winning like all of the games," Mr. Jablon explains. "That's the thing that created suspicion."

Mr. Jablon said another thing that caused organizers to become suspicious is that "there were no mistakes" in the suspected cheater's games.

"It's a real problem with detecting online cheating," Mr. Jablon says. "It's mostly done through game analysis."

But it can be done.

For instance, if you use the *lichess.org* engine, Mr. Jablon says your moves will match up to the engine, "so that would be a foolish way of cheating and an easy way to get caught."

Hopefully, the fear of getting caught isn't the only reason you have to not cheat. The real motivation to play fair should be because you know deep down that it's wrong. It's wrong because it gives you an unfair advantage and it causes you to overlook the value of study and hard work.

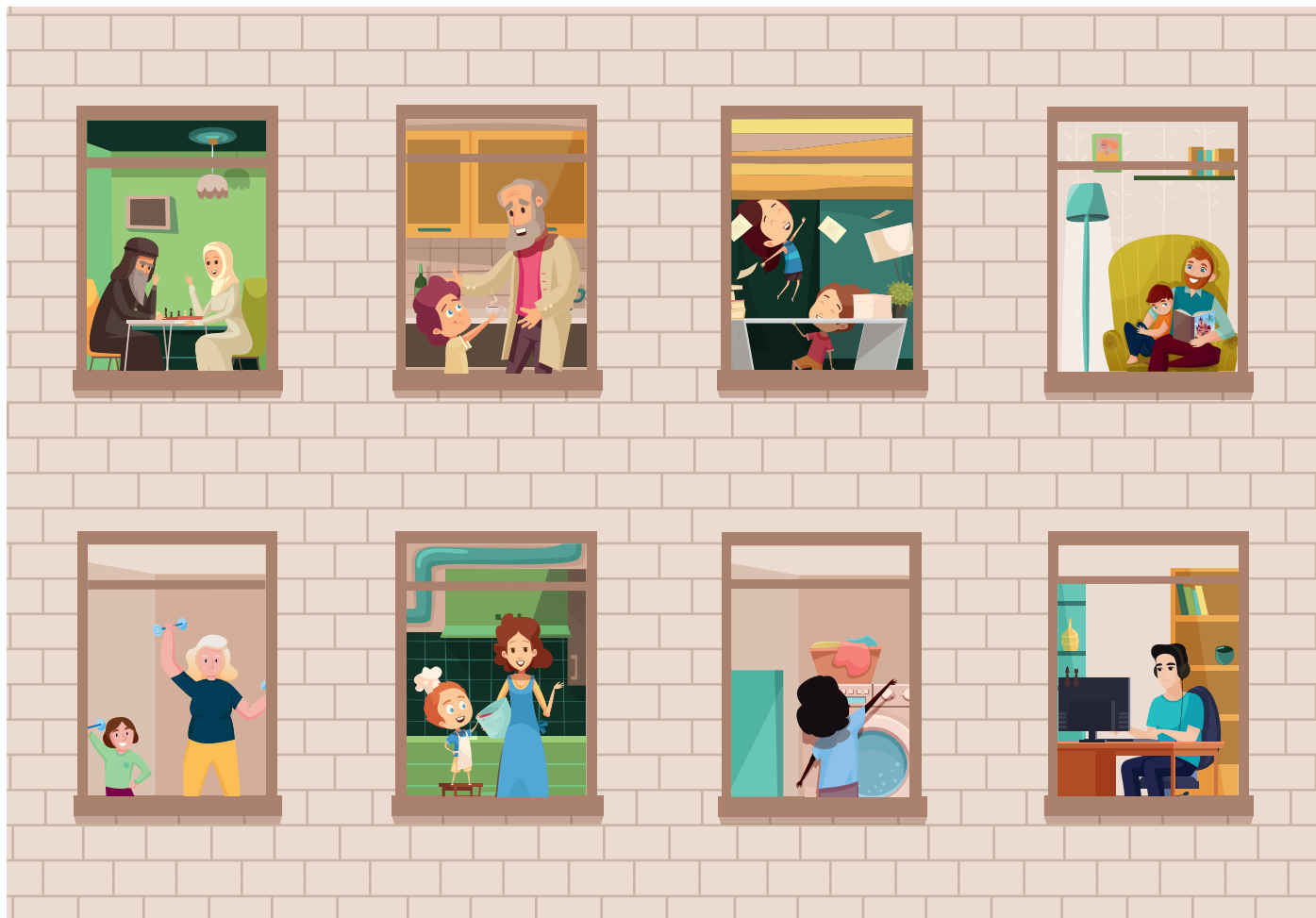
Besides, you won't always be able to cheat and when you can't cheat and you lose because you're playing at your true strength, people will figure out that you're a fraud and your reputation will be ruined.

Of all the chess championships, one of the most interesting is the Final Four of Chess.

But just like COVID-19 killed the Final Four of college men's basketball for 2020, it also put a halt to the Final Four of Chess, which is essentially the championship for college chess teams.

GM Alejandro Ramirez, coach of the chess team at Saint Louis University, which was one of the four teams expected to compete in the Final Four, said tournament organizers tried to save the tournament by moving it from New York City—where the COVID-19 outbreak was wreaking havoc and devastation—but it wasn't possible to move it on such short notice. He said they also thought about holding it online, "but even that proved to be impossible."

"We needed a TD in a room full of players and of course that now violates stay at home orders," Ramirez told *Chess Life Kids*. "We had to cancel the event, which is quite sad because all of our players were greatly



RAPID ACCELERATION

By Steven Potter

The first time we played chess was at a coffee shop. He pulled the chessboard out of a pile of board games they had. At first, he thought the pieces were just intricately designed, fancy checkers. I showed him how a few of the pieces moved and he seemed intrigued. (He still thinks it's lame that the queen can't also move like a knight—I agree.) I don't think we finished a full game that day.

After that, I ordered a cheap magnetic chess set online for \$10. The pieces are plastic but shiny. I figured if he didn't want to pursue it more, I could donate it to the local thrift shop.

Before the stay-at-home order was issued here because of the coronavirus, he and I would play chess infrequently—maybe once every week or two. But since we're stuck at home together now, we've started playing much more—about every other day or so.

We usually play chess or Othello. We have other games, of course, but we got tired of the chance and luck games quickly—we wanted more of a challenge, more of a competition, something with more strategy.

It's been great to watch him progress through the pieces, each becoming his favorite for a game or two until he mastered their movements and then switched to the next one.

He and I learned the game together, really. When I was unsure of an answer to his questions, we went to Google for an answer. We learned things like castling that way—I would have a general idea on the rule and we looked online for specifics.

Another great part of it is watching him calculate and see how he counts forward a few moves. The way he's learned to have a few options available no matter what I do shows he's learning far more than just how each piece moves.

Before last Sunday, he'd never beaten me, but he'd come close and was getting better every single game. I'm no pro and would rate myself below average as a chess player but I honestly thought I would hold out as the house champion against an eight-year-old longer than a dozen games. I was wrong.

The day he beat me wasn't much of a surprise. I never let him win at anything and this day was no different. He simply played more aggressively than in games past. I think he finally learned he had to sacrifice a few of his pieces to draw mine out into traps. Before I knew it, he had whittled my army down to just a bishop, a rook and the king. Then, he moved a pawn down the board, eventually promoting the piece. Once he had the two dueling ladies, I was toast. He ended up pinning my king against one side with his queen and a rook.

With no end in sight for the spread of the coronavirus or Wisconsin's stay-at-home order, I'm sure we'll play a lot more chess—especially now that he's tasted victory. I just hope I can get a few more wins before he surpasses me and moves on to better players.



The author's eight-year old son's chess skills are improving fast! Photo courtesy of author

looking forward to it, not to mention training very hard.”

“Because some players are graduating and will be gone from the country after they finish their spring semester, it is not possible to reschedule this one.”

So there will be no collegiate chess champions for 2020.

Still, like every other chess coach and player I interviewed for this

article, Coach Ramirez was very upbeat about making the best of a bad situation.

“I would say this is a boom time for chess!” Coach Ramirez says. “It is easier nowadays to get lessons online with grandmasters, play games, or take time to look at videos—or your own games! Chess is the perfect avenue to spend some productive mental time while in quarantine.”

WGM Jennifer Yu, our 2019 U.S. women's champion, also encouraged kids to make the most of their time under COVID-19 restrictions.

Asked what advice she would give to younger players, Yu says, “My advice for younger kids is to stay safe and do something productive during quarantine—maybe study and prepare for the next tournament!”



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PLAY



LEARN



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2020 US CHESS JUNIOR GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

The top prize for 2020 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 2021 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.
ARNSON, ODIN	NV	3736	ZENG, SHEENA	KS	1261	MOORE, ELI	SC	466
DESAI, VED	NJ	3698	SAMMONS, EVAN	KY	216	DAVIDSON, RYAN	TN	1770
GRIFFITH, MELANIE D	TX	3500	TRAN, NGUYEN NAM	LA	361	PULI, MAHASVIN	TX	3156
GORJALAR, AARYA A	CA-N	3350	WU, JACOB QIIE	MA	2150	GANDHI, AIDEN SHAH	UT	650
MUTHU, KAMATCHI	PA	3294	BASTIANI-FONCK, CLAUDIO	MD	2537	NGUYEN, XANDER	VA	2828
			AMAR, BENJAMIN HOVER	ME	181	ZHANG, MICHAEL	VT	2470
State Leaders	State	Pts.	ZHANG, MULAN JIEMIN	MI	1296	MELKE, JOSIAH	WI	1797
BORBRIDGE, WALTER	AK	1400	NARAYANAN, SAMRUG	MN	480	ELLIS, MATTHEW Q	WV	1050
FRIEDMAN, JOEL NICK	AL	828	NEMMALI, PRATEEK R	MO	769	FICK, BRADLEY	WY	700
RAM, JAIRISHNAN	AZ	1890	GRIFFIN, GABRIEL	MS	737			
SELVAM, SWAGATHA	CA-N	3226	WALTHALL, THOMAS KASEY	MT	2033			
BORSE, TANVI PRASANNA	CA-S	2929	YANG, LILLIAN H	NC	1810			
KRISHNA, ADITYA	CO	1048	GARSDIE, FINN G	NH	734			
TERANCE JOE HESTON, NITISH	CT	1698	PARMAR, SEEMA	NJ	3150			
PRESSMAN, DANIEL PRESTON	DC	1066	CONTRERAS, ANDRES	NM	221			
WANG, KEVIN	DE	1505	CHONDRO, ROBERT	NV	1702			
BARKETT, COLE	FL	2350	DE DONA, CHRISTOPHER	NY	2304			
KUMAR, SANJAY	GA	1760	MEHTA, ADITYA	OH	1968			
BUJAKOWSKI, STAN	IA	700	JIANG, RAYMOND JUNYANG	OK	1349			
PORTH, DARWIN ALBERT	ID	700	WANG, JALEN	OR	2088			
MANANDHAR, RAMAN	IL	2754	SENTHILVEL, SIDHARTH	PA	2999			
LIM, TIMOTHY CHIEN EN	IN	1525	BEREZOVSKY, ALEXANDER K	RI	741			

Official standings for events received and processed by May 6, 2020.



Tournament Life Announcements

JUNE 15 THROUGH AUGUST 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 August 2020 (events to be held after August 14), the deadline for submitting your announcements is June 10th. The deadline for the October 2020 issue is August 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

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

June 24-28, 25-28, 26-28 or 27-28, Nevada

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 300 (Enhanced)

CANCELED: 2020 National Open

Open Section June 24-28: 9-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30. GM & IM norms possible. **Under Sections June 25-28, 26-28 or 27-28:** 7-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30 (3-day rounds 1-2 G/60, +10, 2-day rounds 1-4 G/30, +5). **Beginners Sections June 26, 27 and 28:** 6-SS G/30, +5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino. **\$\$\$100,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund** will not be reduced! In 8 sections, top 3 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:** 3000-1500-700-350-300-250-250-250-250-250. **Under 1300:** \$2000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250, 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 1300 or lower); 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. **Freddie Award** and \$400 in cash prizes (4 rounds) for top 3 in all other sections. CCA minimum prize: \$150 more for players not rated 2200. **EF:** \$239 by 4/30, \$259 by 5/31, \$279 later. **Beginners:** \$129 1 day, \$129 2 days, \$229 3 days. \$30 more after 5/31. **All:** Early Bird Loyalty discount \$40 less for players who have played in any of the last 10 National Opens and enter before 1/31; Senior (over 65) \$40 less by 5/31; \$21 more on site. 5-day schedule: **Reg.:** Wednesday 4-5 p.m. **Rds.:** 6:30, 12-6:30, 12-6:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30. 4-day schedule: **Reg.:** Thursday 2-5 p.m. **Rds.:** 6:30, 12-6:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30. 3-day schedule: **Reg.:** Friday 9-10:30 a.m. **Rds.:** 11:30-2:30 then merge with 4-day in round 3 at 6:30. 2-day schedule: **Reg.:** Saturday 8-8:30 a.m. **Rds.:** 9:30-11-2:30 then merge with 4-day in round 5 at 4:30. Half point byes available in any round if requested at least 2 days in advance; Sunday byes must be requested before the start of round 4 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** Wednesday and Thursday. **Walter Browne Memorial Blitz** Sunday 10:30 p.m. **Action Quads** Thursday. **Blitz** Sectionals Friday & Saturday. **Poker Tournament** Monday Morning. **Don't be shut out** - make your reservations early and be sure to ask for the **CHESS** group (SVCFOR) rates — \$70 single or double (\$97 Friday and Saturday nights) guarantees a premium room with new furniture, refrigerator, flat screen TV and more. The discounted \$15 resort fee includes access to the Fitness Center, free Wi-Fi, in-room safe, and shuttle to Downtown and the Strip. **Cutoff for special hotel rate is June 3; 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. FIDE. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

July 4-5, Pennsylvania

2020 U.S. Blind Chess Championship

4 SS, G/135 d0. Holiday Inn Express Hotel, 5311 Campbells Run Road (near airport), Pittsburgh, PA 15277, (412) 788-8400. Free shuttle to/from airport. **EF:** \$1. **Reg:** Onsite - Sat. 4 July: 9-9:45am or online at website: www.relyeachess.com. **Rds.:** Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4. **Prize Fund:** \$1,400 GTD: 1st: \$400, 2nd: \$300, 3rd: \$200, 4th: \$100, \$100-Best player U1400, \$100- Class E (1000-1199), \$100- Under 1000, \$100- Upset Prize. **NOTE:** All players must be classified as Legally Blind and bring proof. You must also be a current member of US Chess for \$18 a year. You can join US Chess at the event! **HR:** \$99 night + tax; mention US Blind Chess Championship. **Contact:** Nita Patel, tda@relyeachess.com. Phone: 603-716-3040 or Joan DuBois, tda@uschess.org, (c) 931-200-3412 and leave message.

July 17, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10

2020 U.S. G/10 Championship (BLZ)

6 rounds, G/10 d0. Hilton Charlotte University Place Hotel, 8629 JM Keynes Rd., Charlotte, NC — 704-547-7444 and mention chess tournament, or reserve online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid. Hotel rooms \$109-\$109, reserve by July 5. Free parking, free internet. **\$1000 guaranteed prize fund** in one section. **G/10 National Championship:** \$300 — 200 — 100, top Under 2200 \$100, top Under 1900 \$100, top Under 1600 \$100, top Under 1300/Unrated \$100. Plaque and 2020 U.S. G/10 National Champion title to first place. 2019 U.S. G/10 Champion (Charlotte): GM Ilia Nyzhnyk (2752). US Chess Blitz rated, July USCF regular ratings used for pairings and prizes. Up to 3 byes available, request at registration. Rounds Friday 7:30pm then ASAP. **Registration:** \$30 online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid or check mailed to Charlotte Chess Center, 10700 Kettering Dr., Suite E, Charlotte, NC

28226 by Tuesday July 14. \$40 after 7/14 or on-site. GMs, IMs, WGMs free, \$30 from prize. Boards and sets provided, please bring clocks. Info and registration: www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid, grant@charlottechesscenter.org.

July 18, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20

2020 U.S. G/30 Championship

5 rounds, G/30 d5. Hilton Charlotte University Place Hotel, 8629 JM Keynes Rd., Charlotte, NC — 704-547-7444 and mention chess tournament, or reserve online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid. Hotel rooms \$109-\$109, reserve by July 5. Free parking, free internet. **\$3000 guaranteed prize fund** in three sections. **G/30 National Championship:** \$600 — 300 — 200, top Under 2000 \$100. **Under 1800:** \$500 — 250 — 150, top Under 1600 \$100. **Under 1400:** \$400 — 200 — 100, top Under 1200 \$100. **Under 800 Scholastic (K-12):** Entry Fee \$30, Trophies to top 8, same playing schedule as main tournament. Plaque and 2020 U.S. G/30 National Champion title to first place in Championship section. 2019 U.S. G/30 Champion (Charlotte): GM Alexander Ipatov (2713). Rated players may play up if within 100 points of next section, unrated players must play Under 1400 or U800 Scholastic section. Up to 2 byes available, request at registration. Rounds Saturday 10am, 11:30am, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:30pm. **Registration:** \$60 online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid or check mailed to Charlotte Chess Center, 10700 Kettering Dr., Suite E, Charlotte, NC 28226 by Tuesday July 14. \$10 early discount if also entering G/60 Championship Sunday, \$10 discount if staying at official hotel. \$75 after 7/14 or on-site. U800 Scholastic \$30 entry fee. GMs, IMs, WGMs free, \$50 from prize. Boards and sets provided, please bring clocks. Info and registration: www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid, grant@charlottechesscenter.org.

July 19, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20

2020 U.S. G/60 Championship

4 rounds, G/60 d5. Hilton Charlotte University Place Hotel, 8629 JM Keynes Rd., Charlotte, NC — 704-547-7444 and mention chess tournament, or reserve online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid. Hotel rooms \$109-\$109, reserve by July 5. Free parking, free internet. **\$4000 guaranteed prize fund** in four sections. **G/60 National Championship:** \$700 — 400 — 200, top Under 2100 \$100. **Under 1900:** \$500 — 250 — 150, top Under 1750 \$100. **Under 1600:** \$400 — 200 — 100, top Under 1450 \$100. **Under 1300:** \$400 — 200 — 100, top Under 1100 \$100. Plaque and 2020 U.S. G/60 National Champion title to first place in Championship section. 2019 U.S. G/60 Champions (Charlotte): GM Ilia Nyzhnyk (2752), GM Alexander Ipatov (2713), GM Mackenzie Molner (2545). Rated players may play up if within 100 points of next section, unrated players must play Under 1300 section. Up to 2 byes available, request at registration. Rounds Sunday 10am, 1pm, 3:30pm, 6pm. **Registration:** \$60 online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid or check mailed to Charlotte Chess Center, 10700 Kettering Dr., Suite E, Charlotte, NC 28226 by Tuesday July 14. \$10 discount on early entry fee if also entering G/30 Championship Saturday, \$10 discount if staying at official hotel. \$75 after 7/14 or on-site. GMs, IMs, WGMs free, \$50 from prize. Boards and sets provided, please bring clocks. Info and registration: www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzrapid, grant@charlottechesscenter.org.

GRAND PRIX

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

June 6-7, California, Northern

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 15

Elizabeth Shaugnessy Championship (SSS, G/90 +30)

Santa Clara Convention Center, CA 95054. Park free. **Prizes:** \$6,000 b/117. 4 sets. **2000+ (FIDE):** \$1,000-400-100, u2100 \$200. **1700-1999:** \$1000-200 u1800 \$300-100. **1400-1699:** \$800-200 u1500 \$300-100. **u1400:** \$800-100 u1600 \$300-100. Unr max \$200 exc Open. Jun 20 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** Sat 9-9:15a. **Rds.:** Sat 9:30-1:50-6:10, Su 10-2:30. **EF:** 99, Econ EF: 79 w 1/2 prz. (+15 after 5/20, +21 onsite); play up +20, GMs/IMs = \$0 by 5/27. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/champs.W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

June 20-21, California, Northern

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 15

Joe Lonsdale Championship (SSS, G/90 +30)

Four Points, 5115 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94588. Park Free. **Prizes:** \$6,000 b/117. 4 sets. **2000+ (FIDE):** \$1,000-400-100, u2100 \$200. **1700-1999:** \$1000-200 u1800 \$300-100. **1400-1699:** \$800-200 u1500 \$300-100. **u1400:** \$800-100 u1600 \$300-100. Unr max \$200 exc Open. Jun 20 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** Sat 9-9:15a. **Rds.:** Sat 9:30-1:50-6:10, Su 10-2:30. **EF:** 99, Econ EF: 79 w 1/2 prz. (+15 after 6/17, +21 onsite); play up +20, GMs/IMs = \$0 by 6/4. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/champs.W.

June 24-28, 25-28, 26-28 or 27-28, Nevada

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 300 (Enhanced)

CANCELED: 2020 National Open

See Nationals.

July 17, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10

2020 U.S. G/10 Championship (BLZ)

See Nationals.

July 18, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20

2020 U.S. G/30 Championship

See Nationals.

July 19, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20

2020 U.S. G/60 Championship

See Nationals.

REGIONAL

California, Northern

June 6, Sacramento Chess4Less Kids and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
Courtyard Marriott, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 33 (+10 play up), Quads 27. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 47 (7 games & 2 awards!). **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 6, Sacramento Chess4Less CashDay Swiss75 (3SS, G/75 d5)
Courtyard Marriott, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Park Free. **Prizes:** \$600 b/28. Players may be split into 2 sections based on rating. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-12-3. **EF:** 43, Econ 33 w 1/2 prz. (+9 after 6/3, +15 onsite); play up +10, GMs/TMs = \$0 by 5/27. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/cashday. W.

June 6, Palo Alto Kids Midday Quads (PK-12, 3RR, G/30 d5)
Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94306. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Check-in 11:30-11:45 or no game;** Games 12-2:45. **EF:** 33 (+9 after 6/3, +15 onsite). **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 6-7, Elizabeth Shaughnessy Championship (5SS, G/90 +30)
See Grand Prix.

June 7, San Jose Chess4Less Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
2050 Concourse Dr. #42, San Jose, CA 95131. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 33 (+10 play up), Quads 27. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 47 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 6/4, +15 onsite. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 14, Cupertino CashDay Swiss75 (3SS, G/75 d5)
Cupertino Juniper Hilton, 10050 S. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. Park free. **Prizes:** \$51,100 b/39. 3 sects. **A+ (1800+):** \$220-60 u2000 100. **BC (1400-1799):** \$200-60 (u1600 \$100). **DEU (under 1400):** \$200-60 (u1200 \$100). **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-12-3. **EF:** 55, Econ 43 w 1/2 prz. (+9 after 6/11, +15 onsite); play up +10, GMs/TMs = \$0 by 6/4. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/cashday. W.

June 14, Cupertino Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
Cupertino Juniper Hilton, 10050 S. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 39 (+10 play up), Quads 33. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 59 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 6/11, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 14, San Jose Chess4Less Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
2050 Concourse Dr. #42, San Jose, CA 95131. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 33 (+10 play up), Quads 27. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 47 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 6/11, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 20-21, Joe Lonsdale Championship (5SS, G/90 +30)
See Grand Prix.

June 21, Pleasanton Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
Four Points, 5115 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94588. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 39 (+10 play up), Quads 33. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 59 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 6/18, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 21, San Jose Chess4Less Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
2050 Concourse Dr. #42, San Jose, CA 95131. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 33 (+10 play up), Quads 27. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 47 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 6/18, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 27, SJC Airport Chess4Less Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
Fairfield Inn, 1755 N. 1st St., San Jose, CA 95112. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 33 (+10 play up), Quads 27. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 47 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 6/24, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

June 27, SJC Airport Chess4Less CashDay Swiss75 (3SS, G/75 d5)
Fairfield Inn, 1755 N. 1st St., San Jose, CA 95112. Park Free. **Prizes:** \$600 b/28. Players may be split into 2 sections based on rating. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-12-3. **EF:** 43, Econ 33 w 1/2 prz. (+9 after 6/24, +15 onsite), GMs/TMs = \$0 by 6/17. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/cashday. W.

June 28, San Jose Chess4Less CashDay Swiss90 (3SS, G/90 d5)
2050 Concourse Dr. #42, San Jose, CA 95131. Park Free. **Prizes:** \$600 b/28. Players may be split into 2 sections based on rating. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-12-3-4. **EF:** 43, Econ 33 w 1/2 prz. (+9 after 6/25, +15 onsite), GMs/TMs = \$0 by 6/18. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/cashday. W.

July 4, Cupertino CashDay Swiss75 (3SS, G/75 d5)
Cupertino Juniper Hilton, 10050 S. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. Park free. **Prizes:** \$51,100 b/39. 3 sects. **A+ (1800+):** \$220-60 u2000 100. **BC (1400-1799):** \$200-60 (u1600 \$100). **DEU (under 1400):** \$200-60 (u1200 \$100). **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-12-3. **EF:** 55, Econ 43 w 1/2 prz. (+9 after 7/1, +15 onsite); play up +10, GMs/TMs = \$0 by 6/24. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/cashday. W.

July 4, Cupertino Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
Cupertino Juniper Hilton, 10050 S. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 39 (+10 play up), Quads 33. **Cash**

Back \$13 for Swiss & Quads both 59 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 7/1, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

July 4, San Jose Chess4Less Kids Swiss and/or Quads (G/30 d5)
2050 Concourse Dr. #42, San Jose, CA 95131. Park Free. **Trophies:** players w + score, medals to others. **Swiss:** Reg.: 9-9:15a; Games: 9:30a-1:30p. **Quads: Check-in 1:30-2 or no game;** Games 2:15-5. **EF:** Swiss 33 (+10 play up), Quads 27. **Cash Back \$13** for Swiss & Quads both 47 (7 games & 2 awards!), +9 after 7/1, +15 onsite. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/signature. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
July 5, San Jose Chess4Less CashDay Swiss61 (4SS, G/61 d5)
2050 Concourse Dr. #42, San Jose, CA 95131. Park Free. **Prizes:** \$600 b/28. Players may be split into 2 sections based on rating. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. **Rds.:** 9-11-3-2-4-30. **EF:** 43, Econ 33 w 1/2 prz. (+9 after 7/2, +15 onsite), GMs/TMs = \$0 by 6/18. **Info:** www.BayAreaChess.com/cashday. W.

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 (INTERMEDIATE class [10:30-11:30 am], NOVICE class [12-1 pm]+ 3 Tournaments). Sundays: 11-7 pm (NOVICE class [12-1 PM] + 2 Tournaments). FIDE & USCF tournaments. Details on our web site. Tuesdays: 7:30-9 pm (Advance lecture). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025. (4 blocks W of 405, SW corner of Santa Monica & Butler * 2nd Floor. Group Classes * Tournaments * Private (1:1) Lessons. Note our monthly major FIDE events. We also have the best Weekly FIDE BLITZ tournament on Saturday nights at 6:30 pm.

The South Bay Chess Club

The Only Junior Chess Club in South Bay! (310) 795-5710. * LACC: www.SouthBayChessClub.com; Contact: Mick@SouthBayChessClub.com; Sundays: 11am-4 pm (Novice & Intern. classes + a Junior Tournaments). Details on our web site. 22753 Hawthorne Blvd Torrance, CA 90505. Group Classes * Tournaments * Private (1:1) Lessons. 5% off everything with online sign ups.

July 24-26 or 25-26, 25th Annual Pacific Coast Open
See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Connecticut

July 17-19 or 18-19, 25th annual Bradley Open

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Florida

Boca Raton Chess Club

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

July 24-26 or 25-26, 28th Annual Southern Open
See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Idaho

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

July 12, 19, 26, 2020 July Chandra Alexis Chess Club
Weekly July rated tournaments. Scott Hayhurst DMD Building, 7337 W. Northview St., Suite 4, Boise, ID. Entrance on North side of building, downstairs. Please use street parking. Every Saturday 9am-8pm. USCF rated G/60 d5, Qualifying FIDE G/90 +30. **EF:** \$25. Prizes: \$200 b/10. **Reg.:** chandraalexischessclub.org. For information please contact: USCF Senior ID; FIDE National Arbitrator-US; George Lundy (208) 375-1211.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020 August Chandra Alexis Chess Club
Weekly August rated tournaments. Scott Hayhurst DMD Building, 7337 W. Northview St., Suite 4, Boise, ID. Entrance on North side of building, downstairs. Please use street parking. Every Saturday 9am-8pm. USCF rated G/60 d5. **EF:** \$25. Prizes: \$200 b/10. **Reg.:** chandraalexischessclub.org. For information please contact: USCF Senior ID; FIDE National Arbitrator-US; George Lundy (208) 375-1211.

Illinois

July 17-19 or 18-19, 13th annual Chicago Class

See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

Aug. 25-30, 2020 North American Youth Championships presented by the Renaissance Knights Chess Foundation, International Chess School, US Chess, & FIDE America
FIDE & USCF Rated - FIDE Titles and Norms will be awarded. 9 SS, G/90 + 30 second increment per move. Hilton Chicago - 720 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605. **Open & Girls Sections: Age as of 1/1/2020.** Under 8, Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 18. **EF:** \$150.00 thru May 31, \$175.00 thru Jun 30, \$200.00 thru Jul 31, \$225.00 thru Aug 23, \$250.00 onsite. **Blitz EF:** \$25 by 7/31, \$30 after/on-site. **Schedule:** Aug 25 - 5 pm Blitz, Aug 26 - 9 am Opening Ceremony, 10 am Rd. 1, 4 pm Rd. 2, Aug 27 - 10 am Rd. 3, 4 pm Rd. 4, Aug 28 - 10 am Rd. 5, 4 pm Rd. 6, Aug 29 - 10 am Rd. 7, 4 pm Rd. 8, Aug 30 - 10 am Rd. 9, 3 pm Closing Ceremony. **Awards:** Trophies for top 10 players in each section, plus FIDE Titles & Norms. **HR:** \$165 single/double, \$189 triple, \$214 quad. **Reservations:** Online or 1-312-922-4400 Reserve early rate may increase / sell out. **Byes:** No half-points byes, only zero-point byes. **Entries/Info:** online at: www.naycc2020.com

Maryland

Maryland Chess Tournaments

Maryland Chess runs 21+ annual K-12 tournaments every other Saturday from September through June & 12+ annual 1-day or multi-day open tournaments for adults & K-12 players on weekends. See www.MDChess.org for tournament announcements, registration for tournaments, updated wallcharts, live standings, sign up for K-12 & open e-newsletters, lists of coaches & clubs, camp announcements, & news. K-12 MD players who compete in the Varsity section (for players rated 1600+) of 1 of 8+ annual MD-Sweet-16 Qualifiers can qualify for the \$48,000+ scholarship to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County awarded annually. UMBC is a perennial top-10 contender for the collegiate national chess championship.

Massachusetts

June 14, 30th Massachusetts G/60 Championship

See Chess Life or www.MassChess.org.

Aug. 5-9, 6-9, 7-9 or 8-9, 50th annual Continental Open
See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

Nevada

June 24-28, 25-28, 26-28 or 27-28, CANCELED: 2020 National Open
See Nationals.

June 26, CANCELED: Youth Trophy Tournament

5-SS, G/25 d5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort. Open to players age 14 & under. **4 sections:** U1800, U1100, U800, U500. **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:** \$40 by 4/30, \$50 by 5/31, \$60 later. **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. **Rds.:** 10-11-30-1-2-15-3-30. **Youth Blitz:** 6:30 p.m. (\$30 by 5/31 \$40 later). **www.VegasChessFestival.com.**

June 27-28, CANCELED: International Youth Championship
6-SS, G/60 d5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort. **In 4 Sections by age:** 14 & Under Premier (under 1800), 14 & Under Reserve (under 1000), 9 & Under Premier (under 1800), 9 & Under Reserve (under 800). **Trophies:** to top 10 and tied for 10th 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 4/30, \$99 by 5/31, \$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:** 6/26 6:30 p.m. (\$30 by 5/31 \$40 later). **HR:** \$70, \$97 Friday and Saturday (800) 732-7117. **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925 or www.VegasChessFestival.com.

New Jersey

June 20, King's Chess Club Quads

Morning quads and afternoon quads, G/30 d5, Kindergarten-undergraduate (scholastic, youth, and young adult memberships). Grace Church Bethlehem Campus, 758 Route 10, Randolph, NJ 07869. **EF:** None. **Reg.:** 9-9:20 a.m., 1st rd. 9-9:40. Arr. by 12:30 pm to reg. only for afternoon quads. Medal to each quad winner. **Info:** Email Bob McAdams at fambright@optonline.net or call at 973-694-3988.

New York

July 31-Aug. 2 or Aug. 1-2, CANCELED: 4th annual Peter Henner Memorial - POSTPONED to July 30-Aug. 1, 2021
See Chess Life or www.chesstour.com.

North Carolina

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

July 15-19, 2020 North American Junior (U20) FIDE Championships
An official FIDE Continental Championship offering **IM, FM, WIM, WFM direct FIDE titles and GM, IM, WGM, WIM norms** for winners! 2019 North American Junior, held in Charlotte, had a record 77 players. Two sections - **Open U20** and **Girls U20** (girls may enter either section). 9 rounds, G/90 inc/30, USCF and FIDE-rated, FIDE norms and titles available. Venue: **Holiday Inn Charlotte University Hotel**, 8520 University Executive Park Dr., Charlotte, NC 28262. **Hotel:** \$109/night (single/double), free breakfast, free 3-mile shuttle, free internet, free parking, fridge/ microwave in every room. \$15 discount off tournament entry fee if staying at official hotel. Open to all players from USA, Canada, and Mexico who are under 20 (19 & younger) as of 1/1/2020 (born 2000 or after). This is a completely open event for those who meet the age and eligibility requirements. **Awards:** Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals to top 3 in each section (on tiebreaks if necessary). Gold medalists win Personal Rights status at 2021 North American Junior and Pan-Am Junior Championships. **Direct FIDE Titles:** Open section - Gold medal = **IM title and GM norm**; if tie for first, top 3 on tiebreaks receive IM title, gold medalist also earns GM norm. Silver = **FM title and IM norm**. Bronze = **FM title and IM norm**. Girls section - Gold = **WIM title and WGM norm**; if tie for first, top 3 on tiebreaks receive WIM title, gold medalist also earns WGM norm. Silver = **WFM title and WIM norm**. Bronze = **WFM title and WIM norm**. **Schedule:** suggested arrival Tuesday 7/14. Players meeting 7/15 12:30pm, Rounds Wed 1pm, 7pm, Thurs 12pm, 6pm, Fri 12pm, 6pm, Sat 12pm, 6pm, Sun 10am. **Registration:** Players should register directly with the organizers online, it is not necessary to go through the federation. **Entry Fee:** \$260 paid online at www.charlottechesscenter.org/najunior until 7/20, \$300 until 7/14. No registration after 7/14. \$15 off EF if staying at official hotel. Refunds before 6/15 subject to 5% service fee. No refunds for withdrawals after 6/15. No half-point byes. All equipment provided! This event takes place at the same time as the U.S. G/10, G/30, G/60 Championships (www.charlottechesscenter.org/usblitzprize) at venues across the street from each other. FIDE Rules, July FIDE ratings used for pairings. Organizer: Charlotte Chess Center, contact: grant@charlottechesscenter.org. Info, detailed regulations, registration: www.charlottechesscenter.org/najunior

July 17, 2020 U.S. G/10 Championship (BLZ)
See Nationals.

July 18, 2020 U.S. G/30 Championship
See Nationals.

July 19, 2020 U.S. G/60 Championship
See Nationals.

Pennsylvania

July 1-5, 2-5, 3-5 or June 30-July 5, 48th Annual World Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

July 4-5, 2020 U.S. Blind Chess Championship
See Nationals.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

July 6-7, 12th annual World Open Under 13 Championship
6SS, G/60 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for location, rates). Open to all born after 7/7/07. In 4 sections. **Open Section:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 1600/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/17/20-12/31/20 to 1st. **Under 1400:** Plaques to

top 7, top 2 Under 1200/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/17/20-10/31/20 to 1st. **Under 1000:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 800/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/17/20-9/30/20 to 1st. **Under 600:** Plaques to top 7, top 2 Under 400, top 2 Unrated; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/17/20-9/30/20 to 1st. **EF:** \$48 online at chessaction.com by 7/4, \$52 mailed by 6/15, \$60 at site. **Late reg.** 7/6 to 10 am, rds. Mon 11-2-5, Tue 10-1-4. Up to 3 half point byes allowed, must commit before rd. 3. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: chesstour.com, chesstour.info, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds.

July 10-12 or 11-12, 14th annual Philadelphia Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chessevents.us.

July 24-26 or 25-26, 21st annual Pittsburgh Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Texas

Aug. 22, 2020 Waco Scholastic Chess Championship
5 Rd. G/30 d5. SS. Holiday Inn Express & Suites Waco South, 5701 Legend Lake Pkwy., Waco, TX 76712. Four Sections: **CHAMPIONSHIP, U1000, U600 and UNRATED.** **EF:** \$15 by 4/20; \$20 by 6/30; \$22 by 8/10 and \$35 thereafter. USCF membership required (except in Unrated). Prizes: Trophies for Top 3 in each section. Medals to all. Honorable mention to plus scores (who don't win trophies). **ALL:** Onsite Registration: 8:00am-8:20am. Rds.: 8:30am, 9:45am, 11:00am, 2:00pm, 3:15pm. One 1/2 point bye if requested by rd. 2. Sections may be merged if low turnout. For advance registration and more information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-waco-scholastic-chess-championship-tickets-90242679283>

Virginia

June 19-21 or 20-21, 9th annual Continental Class Championships
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Oct. 31, 2020 U. S. Class Scholastic Side Event to the 2020 U. S. Class Championship. Washington Dulles Airport Marriott, 45020 Aviation Dr., Dulles, VA 20166. 4 Sections, 4-SS G/30 d5. K-12 U1200, K-8 U1000, K-5 U800, K-3 U600 **Prizes:** Trophies to Top 5 and Other Class Trophies/Medals. **EF:** \$30 by Oct 27th online, \$35 by Oct 30th, \$40 later and Onsite until 8:30am. Rd. 1 starts 9am and subsequent Rounds asap after that section completes. Max 2 byes allowed and must commit before start of Round 2. **Note: Scholastic Players who wanted to play in Class E and Unrated Sections can take up to two 1/2 point byes for Rd. 1 & Rd. 2 and still play 4-Rounds in the Main Event.** More information/Online registration: www.cap-italareachess.com/2020USClass

The Executive Board authorizes a temporary change in the US Chess Grand Prix (GP) rules for the period March 4, 2020 through June 30, 2020 out of concern for the unforeseeable impacts the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) could have on participation in GP events. The change allows organizers with guaranteed prize funds to change the status of their prize fund without first seeking US Chess permission to make the change. More specifically, organizers who have announced "\$XXX in Guaranteed prizes" (or similar words) for their GP events shall be allowed to re-state their prize funds in their publicity as "\$XXX in Projected prizes based on ### players," where ### represents the number of players in last year's event rounded to the nearest five players. For new GP events lacking historical attendance data, the organizer shall specify a "based on" number of players as part of the Projected Prize Fund language in their publicity. This decision includes all GP tournaments that already have been advertised in *Chess Life*. For any GP events being publicly advertised (whether by TLA, another website, flyers, emails, social media, etc.), organizers shall take all necessary steps to ensure their revised pre-tournament announcements call attention to this change in prize fund status and provide the appropriate "Projected based on XXX players" in the language of their updated publicity. US Chess asks that the chess community support this temporary change in the spirit that it is intended. The Executive Board shall revisit this matter as necessary.

ANSWERS

PAGE 6/YOU CAN DO IT!

Solution #1: 1. Qxf7 Rxf7 2. Rd8 mate

Solution #2: 1. Qxf7+ Rxf7 2. Ra8+ Rf8 3. Raxf8 mate

Solution #3: 1. Qxf7+ Nxf7 2. Rxf7 mate

Solution #4: 1. Qxf7+ Kxf7 2. Rxf8 mate

Solution #5: 1. Qxf7+ Rxf7 2. Re8+ Bxe8 3. Rxe8 mate

Solution #6: 1. Qxf7+ Nxf7 2. Rxf7+ Kg8 3. Nf6+ Kh8 4. Rh7 mate

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US CHESS

MY FIRST MOVE



WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN
WOMEN'S OLYMPIAD TEAM
STALWART AND POPULAR
COMMENTATOR

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

EARLY YEARS

I learned how to play chess in Yerevan, Armenia, when I was eight years old. I was at my dad's workplace where he was cleaning out his desk. I found a chess set and asked him to teach me.

THE DEFINING MOMENT

I don't think I can narrow it down to one point. Chess is big in Armenia and it was a very serious activity from me from the beginning. The first time I returned to Armenia after emigrating to the U.S., I reconnected with my first coach. He told me that he knew that I was going to become a serious chess player and there was no going back for me.

THE CHESS HERO'S CHESS HERO

My chess hero has always been Judit Polgar. When the 1996 Olympiad was taking place in Yerevan, my dad would take me to watch the



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAINT LOUIS CHESS CAMPUS.



Photo, left: Tatev and her dad at the 1996 Olympiad, where she spotted Judit Polgar playing in the open section. Photo courtesy of subject. Photo, right: Courtesy of Saint Louis Chess Campus.

games every day. Judit was playing in the open section. It was the first time I ever saw her and I thought to myself, “I want to be just like her when I grow up.”

FAVORITE OPENINGS

I played some unusual openings as a kid, including the Stonewall Dutch. My favorite opening is the French Defense, which I have been playing since I was a kid.

FAVORITE BOOKS

I used to have this Russian red book that I carried everywhere with me, but I can’t remember the name! I don’t have one favorite book, but I am a big fan of Mark Dvoretsky’s books.

A DISAPPOINTMENT ...

The biggest disappointment of my chess career was my last round loss at the 2016 U.S. Women’s Championship. Going into the last round I was leading by half a point and the loss cost me the potential title. That loss still hurts to this day.

... AND A SUCCESS (OR TWO)

Getting all my international master (IM) norms is one of the highlights of my career, but my best memories are from the Olympiads; there’s just something about scoring for your team that makes you feel a certain way. My best memory is winning the last round game against India at the 2010 Olympiad, which allowed our team to tie for third place. We didn’t medal but I felt very proud to have contributed to my team in a big way.

GIRL POWER

I see more girls and women playing chess, which is great for our game! I think it’s important for girls to stick to chess if they really like it and fight hard to overcome obstacles.

TOURNAMENT PREP

I think prep highly depends on the tournament and what form I think I am in. I usually solve a lot of puzzles, but lately have been reading books with game annotations. I think doing too many tactics before a tournament can backfire as I start trying to solve every position in front of me. Openings are also a big part of preparation before round robins.

FREE TIME ACTIVITIES

My favorite activity in life is traveling and I don’t like being in one place for too long! I love exploring new places, learning about new cultures, and trying their foods. I also enjoy cooking, working out, and am getting more into yoga. I also really love penguins!

THE BEST ADVICE I’VE RECEIVED

Chess advice: don’t spend more than 10 minutes on a move.

Life advice: learn to let go.

MY BEST ADVICE

I have general advice for young people: Be gentle and patient with yourself and always give yourself room to grow and evolve as a person. Be compassionate towards others.



CHESS ADVENTURES

with
WGM
TATEV
ABRAHAMYAN

When I was a kid, the 1996 Olympiad came to my hometown in Yerevan, Armenia.

My dad took me to watch the games every day.

Wow!!
I was SO excited!

I IMMEDIATELY NOTICED

A SOLE WOMAN

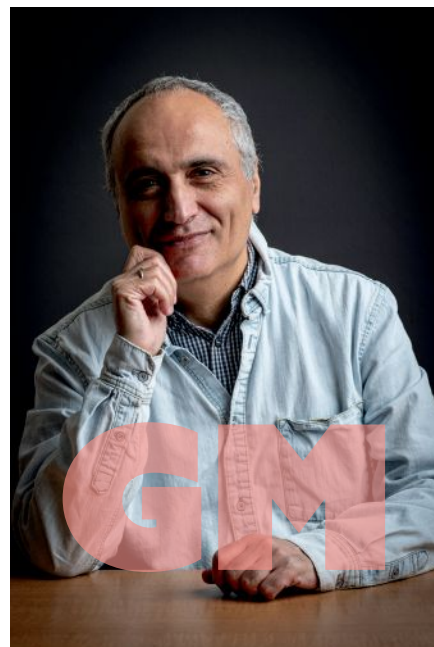
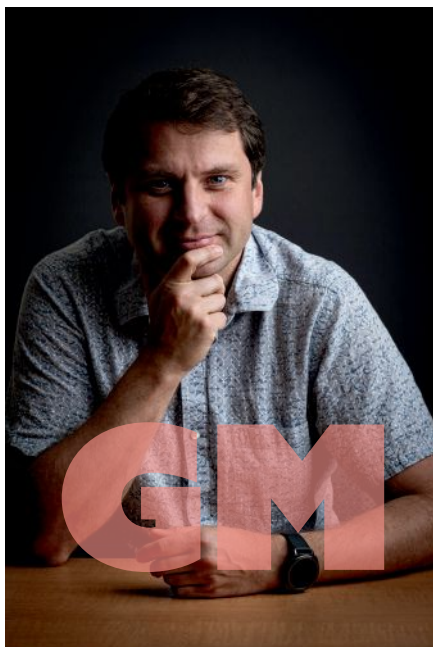
IN THE OPEN SECTION!!

It was Judit Polgar playing first board for her team.

She inspired me to become a chess player like her! I hope to inspire other female chess players like Judit inspired me.



ART BY VAL BOCHKOV



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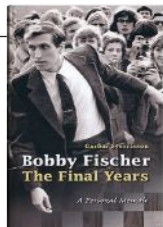


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BOBBY FISCHER – THE FINAL YEARS

by Garoar Sverrisson

B0141OB - \$39.95

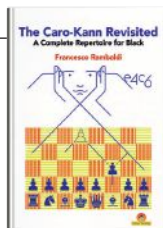
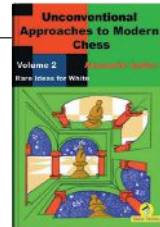
This extraordinary book describes the last years of Bobby Fischer. It is written by his close friend and confidant and tells the real story of Fischer's final years for the first time. It gives a unique insight into Fischer's personality. We encounter a passionate and complex man, a sincere and generous friend, a bookworm and a nature lover, who is both contemplative and witty when reflecting on his turbulent life, his controversial principles, exceptional career and many historic chess championships.

UNCONVENTIONAL APPROACHES TO MODERN CHESS - VOLUME 2

by Alexander Ipatov

B0070TH - \$36.95

A game as complex as chess can be approached in an infinite number of ways. Nowadays, Grandmasters generally tend to focus their preparation on looking for playable ideas rather than outright refutations. In his second volume of work, Ipatov once again shows his expertise and creative approach in this regard. He presents the reader with an abundance of interesting ideas for White which can pose real practical problems for Black. On top of that, he provides invaluable insights into his own chess opening psychology and preparation.



THE CARO-KANN REVISITED

by Francesco Rambaldi

B0069TH - \$37.95

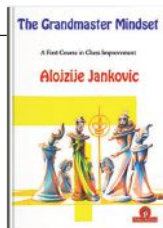
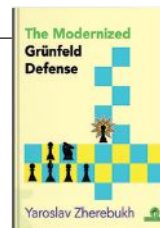
The two main replies to 1.e4 have always been 1...e5 and 1...c5, and with good "homework" it is exceedingly likely you will equalize with either. In this book, the author recommends the Caro-Kann Defense as a strong yet flexible opening for Black. Former world champion Anatoly Karpov espoused this opening throughout his career and, with his solid and positional style, inspired many players to play the Caro-Kann. As you will learn in this book, this opening offers Black many opportunities for dynamic play, despite its solid framework.

THE MODERNIZED GRÜNfeld DEFENSE

by Yaroslav Zhrebukh

B0071TH - \$35.95

The author of this book has tried everything to gain the advantage against 1. d4. It wasn't until he discovered the Grünfeld Defense that he found the weapon that he was looking for. Unlike many of black's responses, he found that the Grünfeld Defense often lead to getting good play without resorting to a long, passive defense. Plus it was much easier to learn; memorize a few lines and then go fight for the initiative from the very beginning. If you're looking to add the Grünfeld Defense to your opening repertoire, you've found the right book!



THE GRANDMASTER MINDSET

by Alojzije Jankovic

B0072TH - \$27.95

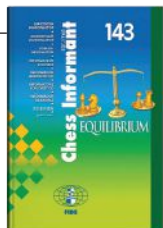
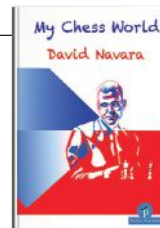
This book will help you get acquainted with what the author refers to as "Grandmaster-type thinking". It starts with being able to assess any position correctly by determining who stands better. Once the assessment has been made, this book will help you to find the best move/s based for that position upon his "candidate moves system". It will help you to determine the problem / goal of any position and identify all factors that will lead to the solution.

MY CHESS WORLD

by David Navara

B0073TH - \$38.95

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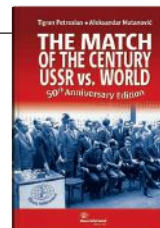
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