

The Notator

A quarterly publication of Wood Chess of Central PA
Editor: Mark M. Wood - National USCF Coach

Vol. 1 No. 3 <http://woodchess.org> Fall 2018



Awards and Honors

Each year, we two special awards for outstanding students. Each of these players receive an individual plaque and have their name added to our team award board. The awards will be given at our 10th annual fall tournament in New Holland.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER: An active player with at least one year of tournament experience and a regular non-provisional rating is eligible for this award. In 2018, our most improved player award goes to **Daniel Bright-Walck** of our Elizabethtown club. Dan improved 230 points since January of this year.

MOST DEDICATED PLAYER: Our most dedicated player is given yearly to a player who works hard at his game, helps others, and attends many of our tournaments and clubs and fairs. This year, congratulations goes to **Craig Hinkley** our winner for 2018. Craig plays in both the Berks Suburban and Lancaster Clubs. Craig received over 50 hours of club instruction and has participated in 14 tournaments, including two national and one state championship.

Coaches' Corner



Learning Chess Notation by Mr. Wood

In order to study a game, it is important to record moves in writing. Not only is this a good learning experience, but it is required in all tournaments. There are many ways to record, but algebraic notation is the most popular. In all notation, white and black moves are recorded unless either player has less than 5 minutes on the clock.

1. Each piece is represented by a capital letter.
K= King, Q=Queen, N=Knight, B=Bishop, R=Rook.
A pawn is designated by no letter at all.
2. The square a piece moves to is designed by a small letter and number represented by a grid. (Example Bd4)
3. When capturing a piece, use an "x". (Example Bxd4)
4. Castling is recorded as "0-0-0" or "0-0".
5. A "+" symbol is for check, "#" is a symbol for mate.

Here is an example of a notation:

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 f6 3. Nxe5 fxe5 4. Qh5+ Ke7
5. Qxe5+ Kf7 6. Bc4+ d5 7. Bxd5+ Kg6 8. h4 h5
9. Bxb7 Bxb7 10. Qf5+ Kh6 11. d4+ g5 12. Qf7
Qe7 13. hxg5+ Qxg5 14. Rxh5# 1-0

Our Clubs at a Glance



This fall, we are concentrating on developing school clubs and correlating them with our program. We are working with the Hershey Middle School, the Kennard-Dale High School and the Resurrection School. Many of our students participate in school clubs but do not have the time for instruction, which we provide.

Our current fall club list is shown below. Do to current demands, we are now back in Chester County. We started a club in Malvern. We meet in homes in the Atwater Development, right off the turnpike at Route 29.

Group	Players	Hours	Club Time
Mechanicsburg	15	2	Sun 5:30- 7:30 PM
Elizabethtown	7	2	Mon. 6:00 -8:00 PM
Berks	12	2	Tues. 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Malvern (ends Dec)	7	1	Wed. 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Buck	8	2	Fri. 5:30- 7:30 PM
Lancaster	19	3	Sat. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Holiday Club at Wood Chess	TBA	2	Sat. 9:30 AM - 11:30 PM 4 sessions Thanksgiving through Christmas.

Website Upgrade

After ten years, we finally upgraded our website and made it mobile friendly. Everyone is encouraged to use the site for any information. Online registration is now required for most tournaments and clubs. Our direct site can be found at either <https://woodchess.org> or <https://woodchess.net>.

Special Fall Dates

September: Lampeter/Strasburg Fair -- September 26-28

November: Tri-County Chess Extravaganza. Bughouse & Swiss Tournaments, and awards on 11/18 at Yoder's in New Holland.

December - National Championships - Orlando, FL 12/13 -12/16