

The Notator

Wood Chess Club Winter 2020

A seasonal publication of Wood Chess

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Awards and Honors

Our group was selected to participate in a Disney Channel documentary on chess. Five of us were interviewed for over two hours in Orlando Florida. It may be a year before the documentary is shown on television. The major themes we conveyed were diversity and team leadership. We will keep you posted.

Our student tournament director, Ben Fredrickson, was given a backroom tour of the inner workings of the pairing system at the National Scholastics. Ben is planning to take the director's exam in the spring so he can advance to the next level.

We had 11 students that went to the National Championship in Orlando, FL. We had three bughouse teams and four players played blitz. Everyone won about half of their games. The main tournament was one of the most challenging with average ratings above 1600. We had three class prize trophies which are listed below.

NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP		
NAME	DIVISION	PLACE
ZINING FAN	GRADE 4	1 ST PLACE - U1200
SID SETHILDEL	GRADE 9	2 nd PLACE - U 1200
GORDON RUSSELL	GRADE 10	3 rd PLACE- UNRATED

Coaches' Corner



How Parents Can Help Their Child

Over the past twenty years, we have worked with many parents in many situations. Past research and experience helped develop successful players. The following strategies have been found to encourage success in the students.

1. Players must develop their own goals and be independent. Parents need to stand back and be an advocate and never tell their child how to play or who to play. Ask leading questions.
2. Players have the right to know everything about their opponent before they play. They should be able to look up all ratings needed. Having knowledge of the competitor is essential for success. Knowledge is power if used correctly.
3. Listen to the coaches. Coaches are available to work on strategies and can see situations that are not obvious to others. Master coaches do more than teach chess. Their strategies and experience are very successful at breeding great thinkers.
4. Do not become emotionally involved in the player's progress. Heavily involved parents have been known to lower self-esteem and add pressure to the player.
5. Completely read the website with your child. Philosophies, goals, chess lessons and schedules are available for use. The handbook can answer a lot of questions before being asked.

Our Clubs at a Glance



In order to provide individualized learning, we have started several advanced small groups (ASG). These groups are designed to develop in-depth instruction to a small group while eliminating the large cost of tutoring

Group	Club Time	Location and Information
Mechanicsburg	Sun. 5:30- 6:30	Wegmans on Carlisle Pike
Mechanicsburg ASG	Sun. 6:30- 7:30	Wegmans on Carlisle Pike, \$10/hr. maximum of 4 players.
Hershey Christian	Mon. 3 - 4 PM	New Life Church, Hummelstown (Private School)
Elizabethtown	Mon. 5:30 - 7:30 PM	Hoss's on 743
Cocalico	Tues. 6 - 8 PM	Castaneda's Restaurant in Denver
Chex Homeschoolers	Wed. 11:00 -1:30	Homeschool Cooperative at Lampeter Baptist (Private)
Chester County Malvern-Paoli	Wed. 4 - 8 PM	Tutoring at the Atwater Development (Private)
Buck	Fri. 5:30- 7:30 PM	Rosie's Pizza on 272.
Lancaster	Sat. 9:00 - Noon	Wood Chess on Delp Rd
Lancaster ASG	Sat. Noon - 1:30	Wood Chess on Delp Road \$10/hr. maximum of 4 players.

Rule Check: Illegal Moves

Players who make an illegal move must be questioned by his opponent. If the illegal move is found before the 10th succeeding move, then the situation needs to be corrected. Illegal moves usually cause a two-minute addition to the clock of the opponent. During blitz and bughouse, illegal moves are an automatic loss for the offending player.

Important Dates

March 1 - Central PA Championships at Yoder's Restaurant
March 6-8 - PA State Championships in Gettysburg.
March 9 - COVID Cancellation of all future activities.