

MEAD CHESS CLUB 2011-2012

We are organizing a school chess club, running from October 2011 through April 2012, which will allow kids to experience the learning and competition of chess. Students in grades K through 6 are invited to join the club.

David Hendricks will be the chess coach. Coach Hendricks has been coaching elementary chess clubs for 13 years. Last year, he coached 9 elementary school chess clubs, including a team that took **1st in the nation** 5 times and 1st in Washington State. He is also the Scholastic Director for the Washington Chess Federation, and was the Director of the Microsoft Chess Club. He plays regularly in Washington and National Chess tournaments, coaches many private chess students, and runs summer chess and sports camps. He is an electrical and software engineer and designed computer hardware and software for Microsoft and Hewlett Packard companies.

I teach chess basics, openings, middle game strategies, end game principles, tactics such as pins, forks, skewers, distraction, X-rays, decoys damming, blockades, and many others. We cover checkmates, stalemates, how to determine when a piece is in trouble, how to escape trouble, how to attack and defend, how to look at all your options, to preserve your material, to improve your position, and how to compete. We will practice with chess clocks and will learn chess notation. I use a very interactive teaching style with lots of hands-on involved learning and feedback. Chess really helps with concentration skills, and improves academics.

Meeting Times: Thursdays from 3:15pm to 4:30pm (1 hour 15 minutes) and **4:45pm to 6:00pm**. We will meet in gym and once a month spend part of the class the Computer Lab. .

Enrollment: We need a **minimum of 15 kids** – if we can't get the minimum, chess club will be cancelled. If we get **more than 30** kids we will split into 2 sessions, with the beginning class from 3:15 to 4:30 and the advanced class from 4:45 to 6:00pm. **Maximum is 60**, if we get more than 60 we will take kids first by chess rating, and then limit attendance to first come, first served. Advanced class is for those with a NW chess rating > 600 or those who have completed 2 years or more of chess club.

Dates: 1st meeting is the 2nd week of Oct 2011. Last meeting is the last week of Apr 2012. We follow the Lake Washington District calendar - no club during days when there is no afternoon school. We have **22 sessions:** Oct 13, 20, 27, Nov 3, 10, 17, Dec 1, 8, 15, Jan 5, 12, 19, 26, Feb 9 (not 23), Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Apr 12, 19, 26.

Tournaments: Tournament participation is optional but encouraged for those that are ready. We will target one tournament per month Nov - Apr in the greater Seattle area to test our skills against other schools. Tournaments usually run from 8:30am to 4:00pm – there are 5 games, each 1 hour long – kids play all 5 games win or lose. We need a good turnout to tournaments to win some team trophies. The coach will attend to review games and coach the kids. The State Championship is April 21st in Tri-Cities this year - players need 3 out of 5 wins in any tournament to qualify for state.

Website: We will be using the **ChessMagnetSchool.com** website. This website provides homework drills, and tracks individual results. Students should plan to do 2 hours of chess homework per week (its fun!) from home or from any computer connected to the internet. Once a month we will spend one class session in the computer lab where the coach can answer questions live about the chess problems.

Cost: \$242 per student for the full year - this is only \$11.00 per week. This includes: 22 chess club sessions, the license fee for the chess website, all the chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class rewards, the coach's attendance at one Sat tournament per month, and year end party. **Sibling discount – subtract \$40** for a second or third sibling in same family. **Kindergartners:** To be ready for chess, your kindergartner should be able to do simple math and some reading and writing. If you are not sure if your child is ready, I am offering a **4 week trial for \$44** (for Kindergartners only). After 4 weeks, we can decide together whether to continue for the rest of the year (just subtract your \$44 from the full year fee). Not included: tournament registration fees (about \$18 per tournament), and T- shirts for tournaments.

MEAD CHESS CLUB
2011-2012 Registration Form

New this year: online registration for chess club! Follow these directions:

1. Using your browser (Internet Explorer or Chrome or others) navigate to <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration>.
2. Find the Mead Chess Club in the list of tournaments/clubs and click Register.
3. Enter your student's last name and click Search.
4. If your child has played before in a Northwest tournament, their name should appear in the list. Select it and click Edit and make any updates needed, then Save Changes.
5. If your child has never played in a Northwest tournament, you will need to create a new database record for them. Click the New button, enter name, postal address, email address, phone, birthdate, etc. Create your own password you can remember to protect your data. Enter grade (K, 1-6) and select MME Margaret Mead Elementary School from the pull-down list of schools, then click Get Rating Data. It will say Found 0 matching names in the NWSRS database. Choose "I intend to play in a NW scholastic tournament, and this will be my first time" and click Submit, then click Save Changes.
6. Now click the Register button, enter your password, and choose a section (Beginning or Intermediate or Advanced, 1st sibling, 2nd or 3rd siblings, or Kindergarten trial). Then click Submit, and Submit again.
7. It should say Congratulations, you are now registered (when payment is received).
8. To pay via Credit, Debit, or Paypal, click the Buy Now button (no online convenience fees).
9. To pay via a check, write out a check to David Hendricks and mail or bring to the 1st day of chess club.
10. If the minimum number of students is not reached your money will be returned.
11. Joining after class has started? \$11.00 * remaining sessions – pay by check only.

Registering for chess club automatically authorizes the following:

1. Your child(ren) have your permission to access the ChessMagnetSchool.com website.
2. You can volunteer for at least 2 sessions during the year (you will be contacted with a schedule). No chess knowledge needed – you will be monitoring kids and helping run the club.
3. **You understand there is no refund after class begins.**

Chess Coach
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Chess Club Parent Director
Looking for one, any volunteers?