# **SOMERSET CHESS CLUB 2015**

We are offering again a school chess club, running from January through April, which will allow kids to experience the learning and competition of chess. Students in grades K through 5 are invited to join the club. Chess is excellent at teaching kids mental discipline, to focus, to look at all their options, to compete under time pressure, to play fair, that mistakes have consequences, to not give up when behind, and many more life lessons.

**David Hendricks** is returning as the chess coach. Coach Hendricks has been coaching elementary chess clubs for 15 years. He has coached up to 10 elementary school chess clubs each year, including a team that took **1st in the nation** 5 times and 1st in Washington State. He is 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, preserve your material, improve your position, and how to compete. We will practice with chess clocks and will learn chess notation. Coach Hendricks uses a very interactive teaching style with lots of hands-on involved learning and feedback.

**Meeting Times:** Mondays **from 3:30pm to 5:00pm** (1 hour 30 minutes). We will meet in the portable classroom / Music Room. There are no tables available in this portable - kids will be playing on the carpeted floor. Please pick up your kids promptly at 5:00pm at the portable. NOTE: Parents will need to go around the building to reach the portable. The main school building will be closed.

**Enrollment**: We need a **minimum of 15** **kids** to run the club – if we can’t get the minimum, chess club may be cancelled. **Maximum is 25**, if we get more than 25 we will take kids by first come, first served. We can accept all levels, beginner to advanced. Please email completed application form to Dong Wang at [lwdong@hotmail.com](mailto:lwdong@hotmail.com) to hold your space and follow the instruction in the application form to finish the registration process.

**Dates:** 1st meeting isthe1st week in January. Last meeting is the last week of April. We follow the Bellevue School District calendar - no club during days when there is no Monday afternoon school. We have **13 sessions** – Jan 5, 12, Feb 2, 9, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Apr 13, 20, 27.

**Tournaments:** Tournament participation is optional but encouraged for those that are ready. We will target one Saturday tournament per month Jan - 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 where he is not the tournament director. The State Championship is April 25th in Spokane, WA this year - players need 3 out of 5 wins in any tournament to qualify for state.

**Website:** We will be using the **ZoomChess.com** website this year. ZoomChess.com is an improved version of the ChessMagnetSchool.com website we used previous years. This provides homework drills and tracks individual results. Students should plan to do 1 hour of chess homework per week (its fun!) from home or from any computer connected to the internet.

**Cost:** **$195 per student for the 4 month program -** this is only $15.00 per week. This includes: 13 chess club sessions, the 6 month license fee for the chess website, all the chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class rewards, and year end party. Not included: tournament registration fees (about $15-$20 per tournament), and T-shirts.

**SOMERSET CHESS CLUB**

## **2015 Registration Form**

***Write Legibly***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student’s First Name |  | Student’s Last Name |  | Grade |  |
| Sibling’s First Name |  | Sibling’s Last Name |  | Grade |  |
| Sibling’s First Name |  | Sibling’s Last Name |  | Grade |  |
| Primary Parent’s First Name |  | Primary Parent’s Last Name |  |  |  |
| Other Parent’s First Name |  | Other Parent’s Last Name |  |  |  |
| Home Address |  | | | | |
| Telephone Numbers | | | | | |
| Cell # |  | Work # |  | Home# |  |
| Email |  | | | | |
| **Most communication is done via email. Therefore, it is critical that an email address be provided**. | | | | | |

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. Fill out the registration form above, and email completed form to Dong Wang at [lwdong@hotmail.com](mailto:lwdong@hotmail.com) to hold your spot.
2. Write a check for $195 payable to Somerset PTSA with reference to **Somerset Chess Club.**  .
3. Deliver registration form and check in sealed envelope addressed to ***Somerset Chess Club*** to the PTSA Box in School Office.
4. If the minimum number of students is not reached, money will be returned in full.
5. Joining after class has started?  $15 \* number of remaining sessions..
6. The Coordinator needs volunteers to assist with the responsibilities involved in running the Club (e.g. Coordinating; MLK Tournament, Volunteers, Season Ending Celebration with Awards, Promoting the Club’s activities in the Superstar News, etc. How can you help? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. *We need at least 1 parent volunteer each week****. No chess knowledge needed – Responsibilities include; setting up work areas for coaching and games, monitoring kids and assisting coaches and coordinator as needed. Circle below all the dates when you can volunteer. You will be contacted later with a schedule for which parents are assigned to which sessions:***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January | February | March | April |
| 5, 12 | 2, 9, 23 | 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 13, 20, 27 |

I authorize my child(ren) to access the [ZoomChess.com](http://www.chessmagnetschool.com) website. I can volunteer for at least 1 session during the year. **I understand there is no refund after class begins**.

**Parent/Guardian Signature x**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chess Coach Chess Club Parent Directors

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