# BLACKWELL CHESS CLUB 2011-2012

We are offering again 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** is returning as the chess coach. Coach Hendricks has been coaching elementary chess clubs for 12 years. Last year, he coached 10 elementary school chess clubs, 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 7:30am to 8:45am** (1 hour 15 minutes). We will meet in commons and occasionally in the Computer Lab. Got a conflict with Mondays? Contact the coach for options on other days at other nearby schools.

**Enrollment**: We need a **minimum of 15** **kids** to run the club – if we can’t get the minimum, chess club may be cancelled or the fee may need to be raised. **Maximum is 30**, if we get more than 30 we will take kids first by chess rating, and then limit attendance to first come, first served. We can accept all levels, beginner to advance – most weeks I will divide the group into sections by skill level and teach different material to each group.

**Dates:** 1st meeting isthe1st week in 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 Monday morning school. We have **24 sessions** – Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, 12, Jan 9, 23, 30, Feb 6, (not 13), 27, Mar 5, 12, 19, 26, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30.

**Tournaments:** Tournament participation is optional but encouraged for those that are ready. We will target one Saturday 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 in April 21st in Tri-Cities this year - players need 3 out of 5 wins in any tournament to qualify for state. **Blackwell** **is hosting a tournament at Backwell on Nov 5th this year**

**Website:** We will be using the **ChessMagnetSchool.com** website again this year. This 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 part of one class session in the computer lab where the coach can answer questions live about the chess problems.

**Cost:** **$264 per student for the full year - this is only $11.00 per week.** This includes: 24 chess club sessions,, the license fee for the chess website, all the chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class trophies and medals, 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 (subtract $44 from full year tuition). Not included: tournament registration fees (about $18 per tournament), and T-shirts.

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## **2011-2012 Registration Instructions**

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 Blackwell 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 BLW Blackwell 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 (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](http://www.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 Chess Club Parent Director

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