

Blackwell Chess Club DETAILS 2015/16

We are offering again a school chess club, running from October 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: Coach Hendricks has been coaching elementary chess clubs for 16 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.



David teaches 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 will 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 the Commons. Got a conflict with Mondays? Contact the coach for options on other days at other nearby schools or small group lessons in Sammamish.

Enrollment: **Maximum is 30 kids**, if we get more than 30 we will take kids first come, first serve, and create a waiting list for the additional students. 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. *We reached our maximum of 30 last year and had to turn some away, so register early.* We accept all levels, beginner to advanced, and will direct more challenging tasks to the advanced players.

Dates: 1st meeting is the 1st week in Oct. Last meeting is the last week of Apr. We follow the Lake Washington District calendar - no club during days when there is no Monday school. We have **24 sessions** – Oct 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec 7, 14, Jan 11, 25, Feb 1, 8, 22, 29, Mar 7, 14, 21, 28, Apr 11, 18, 25.

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 in tournaments to win some team trophies. The State Championship is April 16, 2016 in Tacoma, 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 again this year. This provides homework drills and tracks individual results. Students should plan to do 1 hour of chess homework per week (it's fun!) from home or from any computer connected to the internet.

Chess Coach
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Blackwell Parent Coordinator
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Blackwell Chess Club REGISTRATION 2015/16

Chess Club Cost is as follows:

- **\$288 per student for the full year - this is only \$12.00 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 rewards and medals. **There is no refund after class begins.**
- Sibling discount, subtract \$40 for a second or third sibling in same family.
- Kindergartners, to be ready for chess, should be able to do simple math and some reading and writing. If you are not sure if your child is ready, we offer a 4 week trial for \$48 (for Kindergartners only). After 4 weeks, we can decide together whether to continue for the rest of the year (subtract \$48 from full year tuition).
- Includes membership to access <http://ZoomChess.com> web site.
- Includes the year end party.
- Registration fee does not include optional tournament fees (about \$15-\$20 per tournament), and T-shirts.

Online Registration for Chess Club, follow these directions:

- Use your browser and navigate to: <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration>
- Find the Blackwell Chess Club in the list of tournaments/clubs and click Register.
- Enter your student's last name and click Search.
- If your child was in chess club last year, or 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.
- 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, 1-5) 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.
- Now click the Register button, enter your password, and choose a section (Full year, 2nd or 3rd siblings, or Kindergarten trial). Then click Submit, and Submit again.
- It should say Congratulations; you are now registered (when payment is received).
- To pay via Credit, Debit, or Paypal, click the Buy Now button (no online convenience fees). To pay via a check, write out a check to David Hendricks and bring to the 1st day of chess club.
- If the minimum number of students is not reached your money will be returned (minus a PayPal transaction fee of \$.30).
- Joining after class has started? \$12.00 times number of remaining sessions – pay by check only.
- Parents 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.
- **You understand there is no refund after class begins.**