



THE BIMONTHLY BLITZ

DALLAS CHESS CLUB NEWSLETTER | VOL. II NO. I | JAN / FEB 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday Swiss – Feb 2,9,23/Mar 2
Saturday Increment – Feb 10
Sunday Semi-Slow – Feb 25
DCC FIDE Open II – Feb 3-4
DCC Fundraiser FIDE I – Feb 10-11
DCC FIDE Open III – Mar 3-4

Refer to the calendar on the DCC website link below for any updates and event details.

www.dallaschess.com

9th Annual Southwest Class – Feb 15-19
Southwest Collegiate at UT Dallas – Feb 24
So. Texas Scholastic Chess Championships – Mar 2-4
2018 North/Central Texas Scholastic Championships (Houston, TX) – Mar 9-11

DCC BOARD

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Articles/Assignments Editor.....Cole Frutos

MEMBERSHIP

Use the link below to renew your membership

[Online Membership Renewal](#)

SUBMIT SUGGESTIONS

Please submit outstanding accomplishments or other noteworthy information about our members, for inclusion in the newsletter.

To submit articles, ideas, feedback or content suggestions, please email us, using the link below:

frutosbrothers@chessmovesinc.org

2017 K-12 National Grade Chess Championships

by Cole Frutos

The 2017 K-12 National Grade Chess Championships were held on December 8-10 in the picturesque Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Dallas Chess Club members always have a nice showing at this prestigious event and as typical of our players, continue to perform very competitively. NM Tianming Xie, finished in 4th place out of 71 players in the 10th grade section; Rudransh Rajaram, tied for 8th place out of 130 players in the 8th grade section, I finished in a tie for 4th place out of 169 players in the 7th grade section and Sri Avishkar Raghuraja tied for 8th place out of 205 players in the 4th grade section.

The 2018 All American Chess Team was announced during the tournament, with DCC members GM Jeffery Xiong and GM Ruifeng Li making the team again this year.

21st Annual North/Central Texas Grade Championships

In addition to the previously announced DCC winners in the last Bimonthly Blitz, we also want to congratulate siblings Sri Avishkar Raghuraja, the 4th Grade Champion and Sri Yashvi Raghuraja, the 1st Grade Champion.

New at the DCC

Want to get some longer time control experience? Come to the new Sunday Semi-Slow on February 25!

- 3 round SS, G/50 +5
- Round 1 at 12:05pm; rest ASAP
- Prize \$\$ 65% of entry fees

Want to get some extra play time in before the next State Scholastics in March and/or the next National Championships in May?

- Come play Friday Swiss at the regular rate
- Get the next night Saturday Increment at \$5 off!
- Starts Friday, January 26 and ends on Saturday, May 6

Newsletter Submissions

We want to hear from you. Please submit accomplishments or other noteworthy information about our members for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Courtney Jamison

by Chase Frutos

Courtney Jamison began playing chess at the young age of five years old. Her mom taught her and her two brothers all how to play the game of chess. She actively played at the Dallas Chess Club. She loved the game and continued to enhance her skills.

In 2005, she visited the World Youth Chess Championships in France. She loved her experience there and said that it was more about the people that she made friends with than the actual competition. She learned about the cultures there and loved the experience of representing her country. She once again visited the World Youth Championships in Turkey in 2008.

From her successes in chess as a youth, Courtney was able to be a part of the UTD chess team as well as receiving a scholarship. There, she received her Bachelor of Art in Biology and Criminology. She said that being part of the team was a great opportunity for her. It allowed her to keep up with chess, make new friends, and later on, to become a Tournament Director for tournaments.

Courtney said that she learned many life skills from playing chess, including critical thinking and problem solving. What she loved most about the game, was the many different patterns and possibilities that chess offered. She loved the satisfaction of solving a problem or looking for the best move in a position. She continued to say that the best part of chess was the people you meet. Because chess is a universal language, she was able to make many friends, such as Gayatri Vempati and Stephanie Ballom, whom she still keeps in touch with today. She went on to say that without chess, she would have never been able to make the friends she has and never received the opportunities she received. "DCC is a really special place. There are consistent tournaments, as well as a hard- working staff," Courtney said.

Courtney is currently working on her graduate degree at Louisiana State University (LSU), Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience.

The Benefits of Chess

by Cole Frutos



I play chess for many reasons but mainly because it is fun. Chess has allowed me to travel the world and experience new interesting cultures, meet wonderful people from all around the world, and increase my analytical skills by calculating moves in a game. I researched the benefits of chess and the following lists some of my favorites:

- Chess can help increase your IQ. A study showed that students improved their IQ scores by playing chess in as little as four months. Chess requires you to think hard, analyze, plan, and execute.
- Chess promotes brain growth (works out your brain).
- The New England Journal of Medicine found that people over 75 that play chess reduce their chances of getting Alzheimer's. As we age our brain needs to be worked out just like our bodies.
- Chess improves creative and analytical thinking (you can come up with strategic plans).
- Chess increases your attention span (during school or work).
- Chess improves problem solving (thinking about a problem in a game helps your problem-solving skills).
- Chess improves memory (memory is required to visualize during a game).
- Chess improves logical thinking (thinking about what your opponent will play and how to counter it; helps logical thinking).
- Chess improves visualization (in chess you calculate moves in advance which helps you visualize things).

The benefits of chess are fantastic. With so many advantages to chess why doesn't everyone play? Chess is for everyone!

Sources:

Revolution, Health Fitness. "The Top 10 Health Benefits of Chess." *Health Fitness Revolution*, 26 Oct. 2017, www.healthfitnessrevolution.com/top-10-health-benefits-chess/.
(Princeton), Princeton Rester. "7 Surprising Health Benefits of Playing Chess." Chess.com, 7 <http://www.onlinecollegecourses.com>, OnlineCollegeCourses.com-. "10 Big Brain Benefits of Playing Chess." OnlineCollegeCourses.com, 25 Mar. 2012, www.onlinecollegecourses.com/2012/03/25/10-big-brain-benefits-of-playing-chess/.

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