

TCHess Knights

Tri-Cities Home Educators' Chess Club



This document is for parents/students who are interested in participating in the Tri-Cities Home Educator's Chess Club. This document contains:

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Meeting Time and Place

The TCHess Knights meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Chester library.

Directions to Chester Library

11800 Centre Street
Chester, VA 23831-1781
(804) 748-6314

FROM THE WEST, starting at the intersection of Iron Bridge Road (State Route 10) and Courthouse Rd. in Chesterfield, VA:

1. **Proceed EAST on Iron Bridge Road (State Route 10) until you reach the town of Chester. Iron Bridge Road becomes W. Hundred Road in Chester.**

2. Turn **LEFT** onto Centre Street (hint--a sharp right turn at this intersection will be Harrowgate Rd.) and proceed **NORTH** approximately 0.2 miles.
3. The Chester Library is immediately visible ahead on the **LEFT**.

FROM THE EAST, starting at the intersection of W. Hundred Road (State Route 10) and U. S. Highway 1-301 in Chester, VA:

1. Proceed **WEST** on W Hundred Road (State Route 10) approximately 2.2 miles to the intersection of Harrowgate Rd. (to the left) and Centre Street (to the right).
2. Turn **RIGHT** onto Centre Street and proceed **NORTH** approximately 0.2 miles.
3. The Chester Library is immediately visible ahead on the **LEFT**.

FROM THE SOUTH, starting at the intersection of Harrowgate Rd. (State Route 145) and U. S. Highway 1-301 in Colonial Heights, VA:

1. Turn left from U. S. Highway 1-301 onto Harrowgate Rd. (State Route 145)
2. Proceed **NORTH** on Harrowgate Rd (State Route 145) for approximately 5 miles to the intersection of State Route 10 (W. Hundred Rd.). Proceed almost straight ahead (bear to the **LEFT**) through the intersection, where the road becomes Centre Street.
3. Proceed **NORTH** approximately 0.2 miles.
4. The Chester Library is immediately visible ahead on the **LEFT**.

Rules of Conduct

The following rules were derived from several other chess clubs as well as issues that are particular to our group and meeting place. Please review these rules with your students prior to our first meeting if possible.

Conduct During Periods of Instruction

Participants will be expected to conduct themselves in the same manner as if in a classroom environment. This includes being attentive and not annoying to other participants. If a student has a question, they

will be required to raise their hand and wait to be acknowledged by the instructor. Students are encouraged to participate by answering questions from the instructor.

Conduct During Playing Periods

Fair play and good sportsmanship will be stressed at all times.

Because chess is a game that requires a high degree of concentration, players are to conduct themselves in a manner that does not annoy or distract their opponents or other players in the room. This includes **quiet and attentive** play at all times. Questions concerning rules or other matters during play are to be brought to the attention of the instructor or monitor. Arguing with an opponent is strictly prohibited.

If a student is not involved in a game, he/she should find a game to monitor instead of walking around the room.

Interference in the games of others is prohibited. Students may not offer advice or comment on games in which they are not participating. This includes, but is not limited to, pointing out possible moves, pointing out when a player's clock time has elapsed (timed games), and any other form of comment on the game that can be overheard by other students.

At all times:

- **Walk** while in the library and meeting room
- **Be polite!** Saying disrespectful things to other club members will not be tolerated. Remember, these are your teammates.
- **Be quiet!** Respect other players who are trying to concentrate on their games. Also remember that we are meeting in a Library.
- There is **no eating or drinking** in the meeting room. This is not a library rule, but something simply for the good order of our club. There is a water fountain immediately outside the meeting rooms.
- **Please do not bring other games** such as Gameboy, Connect Four, Pokemon cards, etc.. to the chess club.

Belittling another student will not be tolerated. "That's an awful move", "What a stupid thing to do", etc has NO PLACE at our chess club. The judges/arbitrators are aware of this problem, and if a student is caught belittling another student they will forfeit their game and be sent to me for an initial contact. If it happens again they will be sent to their parent and sit out the rest of the meet. A third violation is cause to be dismissed from the chess club. Please emphasize to your children the importance of respecting one another, treating others in the same manner in which they would like to be treated. Please remind them of the chess etiquette that is required at the club. Do not speak to your opponent during the game except to say "check", "checkmate", "good game", etc. If another player is repeatedly talking/discussing moves/telling the other player what they should do, etc - please call a judge to explain the problem so it can be handled accordingly. Parents, we will need your help. We have three arbitrators for 20+ games. Please be quick to bring the issues to us so they can be handled right away.

Cheating will not be tolerated. This will have the same consequences as above. If a student is caught cheating they will forfeit their game and be sent to me for an initial contact. If it happens again they will be sent to their parent and sit out the rest of the meet. A third violation is cause to be dismissed from the chess club. Cheating is the equivalent of a lie (defined as "the intent to deceive"). Please stress to your children the importance of being honest in all their dealings. Please stress to them the sobering reality that we will all have to give an account for our actions and thoughts- seen and unseen.

Meeting Format and Itinerary

Our schedule for each chess meet is as follows:

3:00 - 3:15 Sign Ups

3:15 - 3:45 Instructional Time

3:45 – 5:00 Competition Time

At the beginning of each meet there will be sheets of all the students listed with their ratings. When you arrive at the meet, please circle your name. This lets us know who is present and enables us to make up the match sheets for each round.

All students will participate in the instructional time. Currently, we will be working through material from American Champion Yasser Seirawan. This is done using a PowerPoint presentation- utilizing a projector and the screen

in the room. The students can sit anywhere they like, but are asked not to play chess until after pairings are posted.

After the instructional time, the pairings will be posted. The students will be dismissed from the instructional time and will need to find who their first match is against. This can be done by finding which TABLE he/she is playing and waiting for their opponent to also come to the table.

After the game is over, tell the record keeper who won. Then play the next game in your quad in the same manner as the first. If your opponent for round two is not finished their game, please wait patiently till he/she is finished. Every meet will consist of three rated rounds. Additional time can be spent in free play.

Advanced Players

Advanced students are considered the top half of the playing quads. They will be required to use a chess clock during play. Each game is timed for 15min of playing time for each player. Advanced student are also encouraged (not required) to document their games for review and improvement.

What to do if I'm new to the club

Please contact Me. I'll need to get some basic information as to the skill level of your children so I can give them an initial rating. You can fill out the registration sheet when you get to the meet. A cost of \$10/family is required at sign up.

At the moment I'm writing this, we have an excess of students in the chess club and have restricted membership. This is chiefly because the size of the library room. I anticipate as time goes on that there will be a decrease in club attendance, so please don't hesitate to ask if your interested.

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