



US CHESS

# National K-12 Grade Championships

# 2021

December 3-5  
Orlando



“  
What is your favorite  
chess opening?  
”



## US CHESS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Carol B. Meyer

*Schliemann  
Deferred*

## DIRECTOR OF EVENTS

Boyd M. Reed

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EVENTS

Pete Karagianis

*English  
Opening,  
King's English  
Variation*

### CHIEF TD

NTD Jon Haskel

### FLOOR CHIEF

Karen Pennock

### SECTION CHIEFS

Rudolph Abate  
Kevin Hyde  
Steve Immitt

Stephen Lampkin  
Sam Shoykhet  
Martha Underwood

*Ruy Lopez,  
Marshall  
Counter-attack*

Aiya Cancio  
Brian Costella  
Timotey Gospodinov  
Todd Guthrie  
Enrique Huerta  
Renaud Lajoie  
Mariah McGreen

Beenmati McGreen  
Maya Myers  
Nicholas Ostroski  
Usha Raghavan  
Andrew Rea  
William Riley  
Gregory Vaserstein

*Max Lange*

Joanne Haskel

### SCOREKEEPERS

Joan Priest

*King's Gambit*

### BACKROOM CHIEF

William Buklis

### PAIRING CHIEFS

Roy-Allen Bumpers  
Allen Priest

Lori Riley  
John Simons

### DGT OPERATOR

Frank Johnson

*Sicilian or  
French as Black;  
Italian as White*

### CHESS CONTROL MANAGER

Kim Cramer

*Caro-Kann  
Defense*

### CHESS CONTROL STAFF

Stephanie Berk  
Korey Kormick

Michelle Martinez

### GUEST GM

GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy

### ANALYSTS

GM Elshan Moradiabadi  
WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor

*London System.  
I used it to beat  
Magnus Carlsen every  
game we played!*

### SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Robert McKenzie

*Scotch*

## PROGRAM BOOK STAFF

### Senior Director of Strategic Communication

Dan Lucas

### Publications Editor

Melinda Matthews

### Creative Content Coordinator

Natasha Roberts

### Program Design

Frankie Butler



*Smith-Morra  
Gambit*



## NEW TO NATIONAL EVENTS?

National scholastic championships can be overwhelming for first-timers. If you, your child, or your team are attending a US Chess national event for the first time, scan the QR code at left to learn how to have a positive tournament experience.

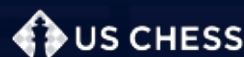


## THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTORS

Thank-you for being the sustaining force behind all our initiatives, and for making all of our programs possible.



For a full list of our Benefactors please visit  
<https://new.uschess.org/benefactor-members>



## GIRLS CLUB ROOM

**All female players,** along with their families and coaches, are invited to come to the Girls Club Room!

**Gatlin E4**  
Friday -Sunday

**\*Masks required**



**SPECIAL GUESTS:**  
WGM Jennifer Shahade  
IM/WGM Rusa Goletiani

**WIM Carolina Blanco**  
Coach Krista Alton  
Coach Arthur Alton

Friday, December 3

3:00 P.M. - **Welcome and Q+A with Jen**

4:30 P.M. - **Holiday Card Craft with Krista**

Saturday, December 4

11:00 A.M. - **Chess & Spanish with Carolina**

11:30 A.M. - **Human Chess Game with Arthur and Krista**

4:00 P.M. - **Lecture and Q+A with Rusa**

5:00 P.M. - **Holiday Card Craft and Tower building with Krista**

Sunday, December 5

10:00 A.M. - **Town Hall meeting (hosted by women's committee)**

11:00 A.M. - **Tandem simul/group game with Jen and Carolina**

**\*Also look for Game Analysis/Beginner Lessons for Moms/Madwoman Book Club reading material.**

**\*Please check onsite and @USChessWomen on Twitter for any schedule updates.**

# Welcome

## ...to the 2021 National K-12 Grade Championships!

US Chess is pleased to be hosting the 2021 National K-12 Grade Championships in Orlando, Florida. Orlando has something for everyone — from its legendary theme parks to a burgeoning cultural and culinary scene — so we hope you'll find time to explore safely while you're here. Thank you for attending and for supporting our national scholastic events!

### COVID-19 Procedural Changes

Because of the challenges presented by COVID-19, US Chess has implemented special requirements and is providing safety-related assistance for this event. Find details and best practices suggestions for both US Chess and Rosen Shingle Creek at the tournament website: <http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2021/k12/>. US Chess appreciates your help in promoting this safer environment!

### Latest updates

Use your smart phone to scan here for the latest updates!



INFORMATION



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RESULTS

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### Share with us!

We want to know all about your tournament experience. Share your stories and photos on social media using **#K12ChessChamps**.





# Welcome to the 2021 National

It's my privilege to be part of the team that will make this a quality experience for all players, parents, coaches and spectators.

We're proud to be partnering again with Rosen Shingle Creek. This amazing facility has hosted several US Chess National Events, and we know you will enjoy the outstanding hospitality and service that are Rosen Hotels hallmarks.

US Chess is taking all reasonable steps to help ensure the safety and well being of our players, parents, and coaches. Anyone wearing an official US Chess badge at this event — even the vendors — will be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. We will be disinfecting all pieces between each round. We are providing hand sanitizer for every player, and masks for attendees. Masks are required to be worn, covering the nose and mouth, during any round of this event, and in all US Chess meeting spaces. We are reducing the number of public postings and encouraging all players and parents to check pairings and standings online. Similar measures were employed successfully at the 2021 U.S. Open and reflect the classroom mitigation practices currently employed by many school districts around the country.

We've assembled a first-rate team of directors, led by NTD Jon Haskel (chief tournament director), NTD Karen Pennock (floor chief), and NTD William Buklis (backroom chief). They will ensure that the tournament is conducted with full observance of all US Chess rules. Kim Cramer and her staff at Chess Control will be happy to assist with any questions you have.

GM Maxim Dlugy, founder of Chess Max Academy, is our Guest Grandmaster. "Max," who was also the 1985 World Junior Champion, will be conducting a simultaneous exhibition, a lecture, and three "take-on-all-comers" blitz sessions. He will also appear as a guest analyst on our live stream.

We will be broadcasting live analysis of the top boards in Grades 2 through 12 on the US Chess Twitch feed. Our analysts are GM Elshan Moradiabadi and WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor. This live analysis will occur in rounds five through seven. Please check the schedule of events in this program for the exact times. We welcome you to follow the action on all boards at <http://www.uschess.live>, and watch the stream on Twitch at <http://www.twitch.tv/uschess>. Pete Karagianis, Assistant Director of Events, is the driving force behind our streaming operations.

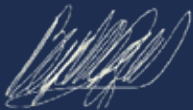
US Chess wants you to have fun and really enjoy yourselves at this event. Of course, we also want you to do so safely. Be aware of your surroundings, and keep in mind that you're sharing space with several thousand people this weekend. Remember, safety is no accident.

We are also offering two lectures this weekend that are free and highly informational. We encourage you to attend at least one of them. Please check the schedule of events in this newsletter for the subjects, times, and location.

Under the strategic direction of our Executive Director, Carol Meyer, we are constantly looking for ways to improve our national events. I welcome any ideas or comments you have in that regard.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and successful tournament.

Sincerely,



Boyd M. Reed  
Director of Events

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# K-12 Grade Championships



Dear Friends in Chess,

Welcome to Orlando! We are thrilled for the return of scholastic over-the-board chess with the 2021 National K-12 Grade Championships.

As if the return of national scholastic play wasn't enough to celebrate, we are in a beautiful setting and in the season where we enjoy family and the chance to make lasting memories together.

The K-12 Grade Championships will look a little different this year. Not surprisingly, the COVID-19 pandemic has made us hyper-focused on your safety. We are using several tools to reduce the spread of viruses by requiring that all players and accompanying persons wear face masks in our contracted spaces. While I will miss seeing the smiles of our players when sharing their joy after winning a game, the mask requirement is a key element of our strategy in promoting a safe environment for all. Another tool we are using is requiring all US Chess employees, including contractors and volunteers, working this event to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. There are no exceptions to this policy. Finally, we have added electrostatic sprayers (think Ghostbusters!)

so that we can spray every board setting and table space with disinfecting spray before every round. These measures, taken together with other common-sense practices of handwashing and social distancing, will increase your safety at the event.

We are doing our part to minimize the risk to you, the players, and the staff working the event. We request your cooperation in complying with the mask rule so that everyone can have a fun and safe chess event. If you have questions about these mitigation efforts, please visit Chess Control for more information. Or if you or your player becomes sick during or after the event, please email [events@uschess.org](mailto:events@uschess.org) to let us know. We will protect your identity but will notify others who attended the event that there could have been exposure.

Thank you for being part of our return to scholastic chess after the long hiatus. We appreciate your support for your chess player, for US Chess, and for being part of our community. If you see me around during the tournament, please stop me and say hello. I hope you have a great tournament and a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol B. Meyer".

Carol B. Meyer  
US Chess Executive Director

# Welcome to Orlando, Flo



**RON DE SANTIS**  
Florida State Governor

Dear Friends,

As Governor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Florida for the 2021 National K-12 Grade Championships. I understand US Chess has been connecting chess players around the world since 1939.

As a father of three, I understand the importance of teaching children about sportsmanship and friendly competition. I hope that during your time in Orlando you will be able to enjoy some of our state's local businesses and world class attractions that make Orange County unique.

Best wishes to all participants and attendees. Enjoy your time in Florida.

Sincerely,  
Ron DeSantis  
Governor



**JERRY L. DEMINGS**  
Orange County Mayor

Greetings!

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 2021 National K-12 Grade Chess Championships hosted by the US Chess Federation!

I applaud the US Chess Federation for your ongoing support to promote chess among our youth and connect players from around the world for the past 82 years. It is through these tournaments that both amateurs and professionals come together for an enriching experience and friendly competition.

Orange County is proud to be one of the top destinations in the world for visitors. We are known for the finest hospitality, exciting theme parks, arts and cultural attractions, sports venues, and one of the largest convention centers in the nation. On behalf of the over 1.4 million residents who call Orange County home, we value your decision to select Central Florida as your tournament destination. During your stay, I hope you take time to enjoy all that Orange County has to offer.

Once again, welcome, and I wish you all the best for a successful tournament. Good luck to all competitors!

Jerry L. Demings  
Orange County Mayor



# Orlando — The City Beautiful



**BUDDY DYER**  
Orlando City Mayor

Welcome!

On behalf of the City of Orlando, it is my pleasure to welcome you to The City Beautiful for the US Chess National K-12 Grade Championships. We are thrilled to be hosting this event and the nation's top scholastic chess players and their families in our community.

The last several months have been incredibly difficult as the pandemic has impacted us all. I am grateful that our community is now able to safely host events like this and I appreciate the actions that the US Chess Federation have taken to ensure the safety of all involved.

Your event is set in one of the country's most dynamic cities. With a vibrant dining scene, first-rate hotels, diverse arts and cultural opportunities, endless shopping options, and many outdoor activities, Orlando has so much to offer.

I invite you to explore our community during your visit. You probably know that Orlando is America's most-visited destination, but there is so much more. We're proud that our city is diverse, inclusive and welcoming, which is reflected in our 10 Orlando Main Streets districts, which are filled with unique restaurants and shops.

Downtown Orlando is experiencing an entertainment and sports renaissance thanks to venues like the Amway Center and Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, plus our community's crown jewel, Lake Eola Park.

I hope you have a safe and rewarding time at the championships, but also take some time to discover the other half of Orlando!

Sincerely,  
Buddy Dyer  
City of Orlando Mayor

## NEED A BITE?

Searching out quick and convenient meals can be challenging at national scholastic tournaments. Fortunately, you don't even need to leave the building to find food at **Rosen Shingle Creek**, which offers multiple dining options just an elevator ride away — or delivered to your door any time between 6:30 a.m. and 10 p.m. Visit <https://www.rosenshinglecreek.com/dining/restaurants-lounges/> or scan the QR code on the right.



# What's On

## National K-12 Grade Championships

### Tournament highlights



#### SCHOLASTIC MEETING

Join **ROBERT MC KENZIE** for the Scholastic Council meeting at 2:15 p.m. Saturday, December 4, in Gatlin E2/E3, to learn more about our scholastic programs.

**SATURDAY at 2:15PM in GATLIN E2/E3**



#### EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

New to scholastic tournaments or just want to learn more about them? Join **KOREY KORMICK**, Technical & Ratings Manager, for “My First Tournament,” or check out “The Benefits of Chess as an Educational Tool” to learn about integrating chess in and out of the classroom. See schedule on page 14 for times and locations.

**SEE SCHEDULE at PAGE 14**



#### MEET GM DLUGY!

We're offering **five exciting opportunities** to interact with **GUEST GM MAXIM DLUGY**, FOUNDER, CHESS MAX ACADEMY!

On Friday, December 3, GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy, will kick off his appearances with a simul exhibition at 9:00 a.m. in Gatlin E5. On Saturday, December 4, GM Dlugy will lecture at 11:30 a.m. in Gatlin E2/E3. And you'll have three chances to challenge him in “All Comers” blitz: Friday and Saturday at 2:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m., held in Gatlin A.

**SIMUL on FRIDAY at 9:00AM in GATLIN E5**

**LECTURE on SATURDAY at 11:30AM in GATLIN E2/E3**

**BLITZ on FRI & SAT at 2:30PM and on SUN at 2:00PM in GATLIN A**



#### FRIENDS & FAMILY

Why should tournament play be limited to the kids? Get your game on and join the Friends and Family tournament on Saturday, December 4, in Gatlin E1 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Visit Chess Control to sign up, and see the schedule on page 15 for round times.

**SATURDAY beginning at 10:30AM in GATLIN E1**





## LIVESTREAM MANIA

Hosts **GM ELSHAN MORADIABADI** and **WGM SABINA-FRANCESCA FOISOR** livestream the decisive final rounds at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, December 4, and at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Sunday, December 5. Tune in on our Twitch channel or at [uschess.live](https://uschess.live) to follow the action!

**SATURDAY at 6:00PM**  
**SUNDAY at 9:00AM & 1:00PM**  
 on **USCHESS.LIVE**



## AMERICA'S GOT TALENT

One of the highest national honors that a young chess player can attain is to be selected for the All-America team. This year's team, sponsored by Trophies Plus, will be announced prior to the start of round six. Find the complete team list on page 25.

**SUNDAY at 8:50AM** in  
**GATLIN B/C/D**



## SKITTLES ROOM

For pickup play, post-mortems, and making new friends, visit the skittles room in Gatlin A. Check the schedule onsite for times.

SEE ONSITE SCHEDULE FOR TIMES in **GATLIN A**



## GIRLS CLUB

The popular Girls Club room is located in Gatlin E4 and, as usual, will be jam-packed with events and special guests. Don't miss it! See page 4 for the complete schedule.

SEE SCHEDULE FOR TIMES in **GATLIN E4**



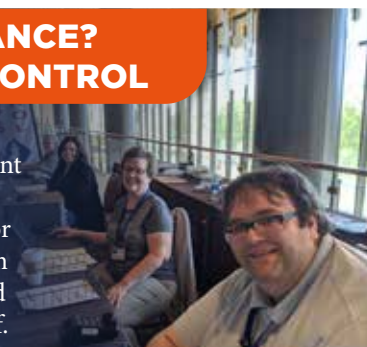
## BUGHOUSE & BLITZ

No scholastic event would be complete without the popular bughouse and blitz tournaments. Bughouse begins on Thursday, December 2, at 11:00 a.m., and K-12 and K-6 blitz take off that same evening at 5:00 p.m., both in Gatlin B/C/D. Be sure to sign up at least a half hour prior at Chess Control.

**BUGHOUSE** on **THURSDAY at 11:00AM**  
**BLITZ** on **THURSDAY at 5:00PM**  
 both in **GATLIN B/C/D**

## NEED ASSISTANCE? VISIT CHESS CONTROL

Chess Control is the heart of your tournament experience. If you have questions, comments, or concerns, stop by Gatlin Registration Desk 1 and talk to our friendly staff.



Located at **GATLIN REGISTRATION DESK 1**



# Special Guests

Meet our distinguished visitors!

## LIVESTREAM HOSTS



WGM SABINA-  
FRANCESCA FOISOR

### WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor: 2017 U.S. Women's Champion

Sabina is a Romanian-American chess player who learned the game when she was four years old. She earned numerous national and international championship titles and became a Woman Grandmaster in 2007. After coming to the United States to study on a full scholarship, Sabina joined Team USA for both the Women's Olympiad (2010-2018) and the Women's World Team Championships (2013-2019). She won the U.S. Women's Championship in 2017. Find her on Twitter, Instagram, and Twitch: [@sabinafoisor](#).

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GM ELSHAN  
MORADIABADI

### GM Elshan Moradiabadi: Active coach and competitor

Originally from Iran, Elshan came to the United States in 2012 for graduate school and to join Texas Tech's chess program. His many accomplishments include winning the 2017 US Chess Grand Prix and the 2016 Washington International. In March 2019, Elshan coached Team USA at the World Team Championships in Kazakhstan. Also in 2019, after qualifying through the U.S. Open, Elshan was seeded into the 2020 U.S. Championship — something he hopes to achieve again. Find him online: [@eli\\_1985\\_mor](#) (Twitter); [@moradiabadi](#) (Instagram); and [@GM\\_Elshan1985](#) (Twitch).

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## GUEST GRANDMASTER MAXIM DLUGY

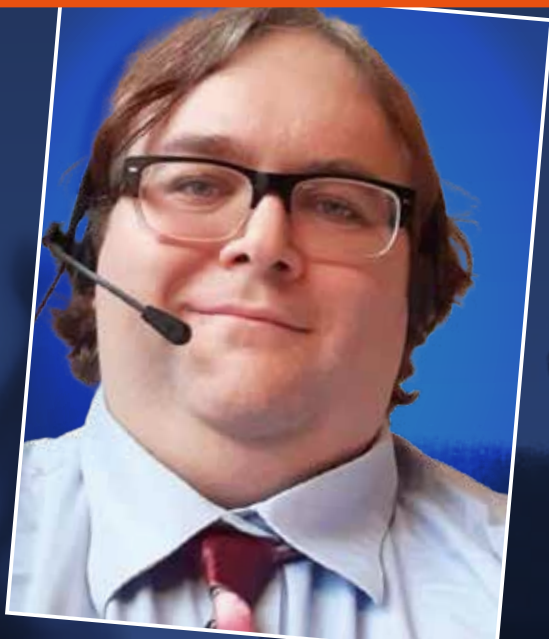
### Founder, Chess Max Academy

GM Maxim Dlugy, born in Russia, moved to the United States with his parents when he was 11. Taught by the legendary Jack Collins and Vitaly Zaltsman — who Bobby Fischer called one of the best positional chess players in the world — GM Dlugy quickly became a top junior player, winning the U.S. Junior Championship in 1983 and 1985, followed by winning the World Junior Championship. He has won the New York Open, World Open (twice), National Open (twice), and Cardinal Open. He's also won hundreds of blitz tournaments worldwide and was the highest-rated blitz player in the world from 1988-1993. In 2015, after a career in finance, GM Dlugy returned to chess to establish Chess Max Academy, an online and in-person chess school for all levels of young chess players. Since its founding, his students have won over 20 national scholastic titles, one World Youth title, and numerous continental championships.





## EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PRESENTER KOREY KORMICK



### Technical & Ratings Manager

KOREY KORMICK joined the US Chess staff full time in March 2021 after having worked several years in both the Tournament Director Certification and Ratings departments. He has been involved in the chess industry for most of his professional career, because he believes that “chess is an activity that encourages you to rise to the occasion — to analyze a situation and synthesize a solution.” A student of history, he still enjoys learning by watching documentaries and taking continuing education classes at his alma mater, Rhodes College. His favorite chess quote comes from the philosophy of the second World Chess Champion, Dr. Emanuel Lasker, “Chess teaches us how our life might have turned out, given equal opportunities and an absence of chance.” Korey will present the My First Tournament seminar.

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## SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL REP ROBERT MC KENZIE



### Using chess to educate

Robert McKenzie began his teaching career at Castle Hill Elementary School in Lauderhill, Florida, a Title I school, where he developed a thriving chess club that won several local and regional tournaments. His most audacious move, however, was when he entered a team in the 2014 All-Girls National Championship (U12). The girls — two of whom had never played in a tournament before — overcame the odds to finish in second place. Robert currently teaches chess and intensive math at Lauderdale Lakes Middle School in Lauderdale Lakes, Florida. He is a US Chess Certified Chess Coach and Tournament Director, and a Certified Senior Instructor for the National Scholastic Chess Foundation.

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## GIRLS CLUB SPECIAL GUESTS



WGM JENNIFER  
SHAHADE



WIM CAROLINA  
BLANCO

### Meet WGM Jennifer Shahade, WIM Carolina Blanco, and IM/WGM Rusadan Goletiani

Our Girls Club will be hosting several special guests, including WGM Jennifer Shahade, US Chess Women's Program Director and two-time U.S. Women's champion; WIM Dr. Carolina Blanco, 15-time Women and Girls Champion of Venezuela; and IM/WGM Rusadan Goletiani, the 2005 U.S. Women's champion. Popular chess coaches Krista and Arthur Alton also will be running activities at the Girls Club. Be sure to check out page 4 for the schedule and times.

# Thursday

Chess Control	9:00 am - 9:00 pm	Gatlin Registration Desk 1
Bughouse Tournament	11:00 am - 2:00 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
Blitz Tournament, K-12 & K-6	5:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
T-Shirts	Thursday-Sunday*	Gatlin Prefunction
Skittles, Other Vendors, DGT Projection	Thursday-Sunday*	Gatlin A
Chessable Room	Thursday-Sunday*	Gatlin E5
K-1 Parents Waiting Area	Thursday-Sunday*	Panzacola F3/F4

# Friday

Girls Club	Friday- Sunday*	Gatlin E4
Chess Control	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	Gatlin Registration Desk 1
Simultaneous Exhibition - GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy	9:00 am - 11:00 am	Gatlin E5
My First Tournament Seminar	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Gatlin E2/E3
Bookstore	11:00 am - 9:00 pm	Conway
Opening Ceremony	12:45 am - 1:00 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
<b>ROUND 1, GRADES 2-12</b>	1:00 pm - 4:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
<b>ROUND 1, GRADES K-1</b>	1:30 pm - 4:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
"All Comers" Blitz - GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy	2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Gatlin A
<b>ROUND 2, GRADES K-1</b>	5:30 pm - 8:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
<b>ROUND 2, GRADES 2-12</b>	6:00 pm - 9:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D

\* see posted hours on site



# Saturday

Chess Control	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	Gatlin Registration Desk 1
Bookstore	8:00 am - 9:00 pm	Conway
Presentation of Top 5 K-12 & K-6 Blitz Individual Winners	8:50 am - 9:00 am	Gatlin B/C/D
<b>ROUND 3, GRADES K-1</b>	9:30 am - 12:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
<b>ROUND 3, GRADES 2-12</b>	10:00 am - 1:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
The Benefit of Chess as an Educational Tool Seminar	10:00 am - 11:00 am	Gatlin E2/E3
ROUND 1 FRIENDS AND FAMILY	10:30 am - 11:40 am	Gatlin E1
Lecture - GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy	11:30 am - 12:30 am	Gatlin E2/E3
ROUND 2 FRIENDS AND FAMILY	12:30 pm - 1:40 pm	Gatlin E1
<b>ROUND 4, GRADES K-1</b>	1:30 pm - 4:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
Presentation of Top 5 Bughouse Winners	1:50 pm - 2:00 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
<b>ROUND 4, GRADES 2-12</b>	2:00 pm - 5:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
Scholastic Meeting	2:15 pm - 3:15 pm	Gatlin E2/E3
"All Comers" Blitz - GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy	2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Gatlin A
ROUND 3 FRIENDS AND FAMILY	2:30pm - 3:40 pm	Gatlin E1
ROUND 4 FRIENDS AND FAMILY	4:30 pm - 5:40 pm	Gatlin E1
<b>ROUND 5, GRADES K-1</b>	5:30 pm - 8:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
Presentation of Top 5 K-12 & K-6 Blitz Team Winners	5:50 pm - 6:00 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
<b>ROUND 5, GRADES 2-12</b>	6:00 pm - 9:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
Round 5 - Livestream of top boards, Grades 2-12	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<i>uschess.live</i>

# Sunday

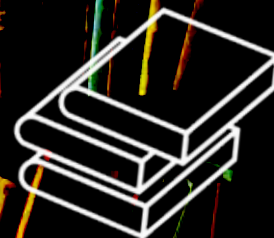
Chess Control	8:00 am - 2:30 pm	Gatlin Registration Desk 1
Bookstore	8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Conway
Presentation of Trophies Plus All-America Team	8:50 am - 9:00 am	Gatlin B/C/D
<b>ROUND 6, GRADES 2-12</b>	9:00 am - 12:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
Round 6 - Livestream of top boards, Grades 2-12	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	<i>uschess.live</i>
<b>ROUND 6, GRADES K-1</b>	9:30 am - 12:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
<b>ROUND 7, GRADES 2-12</b>	1:00 pm - 4:10 pm	Gatlin B/C/D
Round 7, Livestream of top boards - Grades 2-12	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<i>uschess.live</i>
<b>ROUND 7, GRADES K-1</b>	1:30 pm - 4:40 pm	Panzacola F1/F2
"All Comers" Blitz - GM Maxim Dlugy, Founder, Chess Max Academy	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Gatlin A

End times are approximate

Awards Ceremony, Grades K-3: approximately 4:30 pm at Panzacola F3/F4  
Awards Ceremony, Grades 4-12: approximately 5:00 pm at Gatlin B/C/D

## BOOKSTORE

Be sure to visit the bookstore while you're here!  
Located in Conway, the bookstore opens on  
Friday morning. *See the schedule for times.*



OPENING FRIDAY IN CONWAY



## 2021 National K-12 Grade Championships — Tournament Rules

*Note: Posted procedures at the site supersede these published procedures.*

The 2021 National Scholastic K-12 Grade Chess Championships are sanctioned by the United States Chess Federation and conducted by its rules. The 7th Edition of the U.S. Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess, as amended, and the US Chess National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations are the basis for all the rules and regulations. We include the following rules here to answer players, parents and coaches most frequently-asked questions, to highlight changes that are different than the rule book, and to remind players of useful information.

### Special Rules for COVID-19

Every person on the playing floor will be required to wear a face covering that covers their nose and mouth. You may briefly lower your covering to take a sip of a drink, but must replace it immediately when finished. If you do not have your own mask, Chess Control will supply you one.

Players are not permitted to bring food into the playing halls — not even small snacks.

Each player will receive a bottle of hand sanitizer at their seat before the first round. Use of the sanitizer in public areas is encouraged.

### Tournament Directors (TDs)

TDs will be on the tournament floor at all times to assist players in the event of any problem or question. To summon a director, raise your hand and keep it in the air until a TD comes to assist you. Remember that a TD will generally not interfere with your game. ***It is up to you to make a claim.*** If you think a TD has ruled incorrectly concerning your game, you should ask for another TD and make an appeal immediately.

### Clocks and Time Controls

The time control is game-in-90 minutes with 5-second delay (G/90, d5). Digital clocks with delay capability must have the 5-second delay set. Analog clocks should be set at 4:30. The game must be either won or drawn before the flag falls at 6:00. The player whose flag falls first loses the game unless the opponent has insufficient mating material or both flags have fallen. In either of those exceptions, the game is drawn. ***The TD will tell you which way your clock should face.*** A digital clock with time delay set is preferable to any other clock. Therefore, if White has such a clock available and Black does not, White's clock should be used. If a time delay clock is used, it must be set with the time delay in force from move

one. When using the time delay feature, set the clocks at 90 minutes, or 1 hour and 30 minutes with a five-second "delay," or "Bronstein."

### Start of the Game

White's clock must be started as soon as the TD announces that the round has begun. Black's clock may not be started before White has made a move. If a clock is not available at the start of a round, any elapsed time before one becomes available will be evenly split between players. If both players are late for the start of a round, the first to arrive must split the elapsed time before starting the clock.

### Recording Moves

Except for the Kindergarten and 1st grade sections, each player is required to record the moves, move after move. Neither player is required to keep score if either player has less than five minutes at the end of the game.

### Electronic Devices

Players must not have on their person in the playing area any cell phone, smart watch, tablet, laptop, or other Internet-enabled device, unless a prior written exception has been granted by the Director of Events. If such a device is brought into the playing hall, it must be completely powered off and placed either on the table, face up, or closed in a bag that is not opened until the game is over. **We strongly encourage players to leave their cell phones, smart watches, tablets or other communications devices with their parents and/or coaches.** Any player found in a bathroom with such a device — regardless of intent — may be subject to penalties ranging up to removal from the tournament, at the discretion of the Chief TD. If you have a question about whether your device falls under this definition, please ask a tournament director. Please see Section 21.5 of the Scholastic Regulations, as well as the US Chess Electronic Device Policy, for more information.

### Electronic Recording Devices (ERD)

ERDs are not permitted at this tournament, unless you have received prior written approval from the Director of Events to use one. Those players using an approved ERD must always play the intended move on the board first, before recording it on the device. ***Further, the ERD must be kept on the table throughout the game; players may not take an ERD outside the tournament hall while a game is in progress. Also, no electronic devices may be taken to the restrooms.*** Failure to follow these procedures may result in penalties, if observed by a TD, even without a claim from the opponent.

### Touch-Move

If you intentionally touch a piece when it is your turn, that piece must be moved if you can do so legally. If you intentionally touch an opponent's piece when it is your turn to move, the opponent's piece must be captured if you can do so legally. You must clearly say, "I adjust" before touching a piece

# TOURNAMENT RULES

if you want to adjust that piece on the board. You may do so only when it is your turn. If you accidentally release a piece on an unintended but legal square, you must leave it on that square. You may not touch any pieces on the board when it is not your turn.

## Illegal Moves

If a player discovers that one of his/her or the opponent's last 10 moves was illegal, the player should summon a tournament director immediately. The TD can reinstate the position to what it was before the illegal move, and the game shall continue by applying the touch-move rule to the move replacing the illegal move. Clocks will not be reset. If neither player has used one hour, there will be no time penalty assessed for an illegal move. If either player has used one hour, then any illegal move will result in two minutes being added to the opponent of the player making the illegal move. A player must raise his/her hand and claim an illegal move. The TD will not do so; neither may parents, coaches, nor other spectators.

## Check

Announcing check is not necessary. It is the responsibility of the opponent to notice the check. A player who does not notice the check may suffer serious consequences (see the touch-move rule).

## Time Forfeits

Only the players involved in a game may claim a Time Forfeit in that game. No parent, coach, spectator, other players or TD may make such a claim or bring the fall of a flag to the attention of the players. A player may claim a Time Forfeit only if he/she stops the clocks before the claimant's own time runs out. If both flags are down, the game is a draw.

## Late Arrivals

A player who is more than one hour late for a scheduled round loses the game by forfeit and will not be paired for the next round unless reinstated by the Chief TD. The hour is measured from when the round was started. Request for reinstatement, if desired, must be made by the player, coach or parent, to the Chief Tournament Director or Floor Chief.

## Draws

If you want to offer a draw to your opponent, you should do so after you make a move but before you start your opponent's clock. Your opponent may decline the draw by saying so or by moving a piece. A draw offer is valid, and may not be retracted, until it is accepted or declined by your opponent. If both players agree to a draw, then the game is over regardless of previous checkmate, stalemate or illegal positions. A reasonably complete and accurate scoresheet is required to claim a draw by triple occurrence of position or under the 50-move rule. If such a claim is found to be incorrect, two minutes will be added to the opponent's remaining time.

## Claims of Insufficient Losing Chances

No claim of insufficient losing chances can be made if time delay is already in force on the clock being used. However, if the game clock cannot be set in delay mode, a player on the move who has no more than two minutes left may stop the clock and ask the TD to declare the game a draw on the grounds that the player has insufficient losing chances. Such a claim is also a draw offer. The TD may, at his discretion, place a digital clock, set with time-delay at five seconds, on the game. If this is done, the claimant gets half of his remaining time up to but not exceeding one minute, while the opponent's time is not adjusted and the game continues until a result is achieved. If the claim is obviously correct, the TD should grant the draw. If the claim is obviously incorrect, the TD may deduct up to one minute from the claimant's time and the game should continue. If the claim is unclear, but no time-delay clock is available to insert on the game, the TD may reserve a decision while he watches the continuation of the game or may ask the players to re-claim after restarting the game.

## Analysis of Games

Players may not analyze their games in the tournament room. Analysis should be conducted in the skittles area or elsewhere.

## Reporting Results

Immediately upon completion of the game, the players should carefully complete and sign the results sheet at their board, without disturbing the position, and hold the results sheet up in the air until a TD comes to get it. **Players should not sign the results sheet until the correct result has been recorded! Both players must remain at their board until a TD takes the results sheet.** Only after the TD has done so should both players set up the pieces and leave the playing area.

## Pairings

The WinTD pairing program will be used for this tournament. Players will generally be paired with other players who have the same score each round. Players should not be assigned the same color three times in a row unless there is no other way to pair the score group or unless necessary to equalize colors. Every reasonable effort will be made to avoid pairing players from the same school together. One exception is the last round when more than half of the players in the top group are from the same school. In this case, some might be paired together. You can find other situations in Paragraph 18.1 of the Scholastic Regulations. If you believe there is a pairing error, report it to a TD immediately! Once the round starts, it will probably be too late to make any changes. Parents and coaches should check the correctness of the wallcharts every round. Errors in scores reported after two or more rounds would most likely not be corrected.

## Conduct of Players

Please try to keep as quiet as possible on the tournament floor so that you do not disturb other players. **You may not speak to**

**anyone while your game is in progress unless you have asked a TD to be present.** If there is a problem of any kind during your game, call a TD immediately. If you wait until after your game is over, the result probably cannot be changed even if your claim was correct. Be careful what you sign — once you have signed your result sheet, and agreed to the result on it, it is very difficult to change later on. You may not consult notes, chess books, computers, or other materials during the game. You may not bring food or soda into the tournament hall at any time. If you need to go to the bathroom while your game is in progress, you must use the bathrooms designated for tournament players. You do not need to ask permission from the TD for this. You may not leave the tournament room during your game other than to go to the restroom if it is outside the tournament room. Exceptions can be made only if you have permission and are accompanied by a TD.

## Half-Point Bye

One half-point bye will be available during any round, if requested by 11am on Friday, the first day of the event. On-site registrations after 11am will receive a ½-point bye for the first round unless otherwise determined by the Chief TD. The Chief TD may grant a ½-point bye during any round, even after the cut-off, for unusual circumstances.

## Interference

No interference in any game by spectators or other players will be tolerated. Penalties include expulsion from the tournament. Only the player involved may point out irregularities. This should be done by raising your hand to summon a TD.

## Other Rules

This is an individual tournament with team scoring. In each section, a team may have as many players as desired, but **only the top three scores count for team results and tiebreaks.** A school must have at least two players in a section in order to be eligible for team awards in that section. Players and coaches/parents are responsible for confirming the accuracy of all player information.

## Penalties

Penalties for rules violations are at the discretion of the TD and may vary from warnings and time penalties to forfeitures and expulsion from the tournament.

## Cell Phones

Cell phone use is not permitted in the tournament hall by the players. **CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF IN THE PLAYING HALLS.** If a cell phone rings, a player will be assessed a time penalty on the first offense, and loss of game declared for each repeat offense during the tournament. A player using his cell phone for calling, answering a call, sending a text message, or reading text messages while the game is in progress may be forfeited instantly. **We strongly encourage players to leave their cell phones with their parents or coaches.** If a player brings a cell phone into the

Playing Hall, it must be turned off and stowed in a backpack, purse or chess bag for the duration of the game. Once the game begins, the cell phone must remain stowed away. Until the game ends, the player may not carry the cell phone in your hand, pocket or anywhere else. **The player must not take it to the bathroom or anywhere else.** We refer players, parents and coaches to Section 21.5 of the Scholastic Regulations.

## What Award Did I Win?

In cases of ties, trophies or medals cannot be split. We will use tiebreaks to award both individual medals and team trophies. Tied individuals and teams are considered National Co-Champions for their grade, but will be given awards based on tie-breaks. Players can win only one individual medal. Overall place medals take highest precedence.

## Tie-Breaks

Below is the tiebreak order in which individual ties are broken in this event and an explanation of how to calculate the tiebreak total.

Individual ties are broken by Modified Median, Median, Solkoff, Sonnenborn-Berger, Cumulative, and Coin Flip, in that order. The team tie-breaks are Total Individual Median, Total Solkoff, Total Sonnenborn-Berger, Total Cumulative, and Coin Flip in that order.

**1. Modified Median:** First, the Median system sums the scores of the opponents of the player in the tie and then subtracts the high and low score. The Modified Median system for players with a plus score only removes the lowest opponent's score. For an even score, the highest and lowest opponent scores are removed, while the highest score is removed for those players with a minus score. Please note that opponents' scores are adjusted for unplayed games before being added into the sum. Unplayed game(s) of an opponent are adjusted per rule 34E1 in the rulebook.

**2. Median:** Definition above.

**3. Solkoff:** The Solkoff system is the same as the Median system except no scores are removed.

**4. Sonnenborn-Berger:** The Sonnenborn-Berger system adds the final score of all players they defeated with ½ the sum of the opponents' scores with whom the player drew. Nothing is added for losses or un-played games. Example: If you beat a player who scored 3 points, drew a player who scored 4 points and lost to a player who scored 5 points, your tiebreak would be 3 for the win, 2 for the draw (½ of 4) and 0 for the loss for a total of 5 tiebreak points.

**5. Cumulative:** The Cumulative system adds the round-by-round total score of the player. So a win-loss-win would yield 1+1+2 or four points. One point is subtracted from the total for every unplayed win or one-point bye. One-half point is subtracted from the total for every unplayed draw or half-point bye.

**6. Coin Flip**



## Safety First!

Your well-being is a top priority for US Chess. Below we have listed some items that may be of help to the players, parents, coaches, or groups who are participating in the 2021 National K-12 Grade Championships.

### **BEFORE YOU ARRIVE: MEDICAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION.**

If you are with a group, it's recommended that each participant fill out a medical form listing their parents, coach, or another adult who can allow medical treatment if necessary. All participants should have contact information on them in case of an emergency. Those who are with a group should have contact information for both their parents and the person appointed as chaperone.

### **BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT: TOUR THE PROPERTY.**

After your arrival it's a good idea to tour the property so everyone becomes familiar with the property's layout. Look for your main playing hall, skittles area, and Chess Control.

### **PICK YOUR SPOT: KNOW WHERE TO MEET.**

Determine where players should meet their groups or adult chaperone(s) after their games are finished. Remember, anyone who is lost should go immediately to Chess Control.

### **DURING THE TOURNAMENT: PLEASE MONITOR BEHAVIOR.**

Hotels as well as tournaments have safety rules that everyone must follow. Running in the halls, climbing on furniture or art work, playing outdoor games inside, such as throwing balls, is usually frowned upon and can result in injury or costly damages.

US Chess wants everyone to have a wonderful experience. You can help keep it positive by following the above recommendations. For more safety tips, see our video on YouTube (search for "Tournament Safety Tips from US Chess").

## Photography Policy for National Scholastic Events

Photos and/or videos taken at US Chess national scholastic events may be published in the following manner: US Chess print publications; US Chess digital platforms including *uschess.org*, social media, and YouTube; and within press releases.

By attending a US Chess national event, photos and videos of you or your children at the event may be published in any or all of the above-mentioned media and devices at the sole discretion of US Chess. You are consenting to photographs being taken and shared through the above-listed platform(s) unless you expressly revoke your consent by notifying the US Chess Senior Director of Strategic Communication Daniel Lucas at *dllucas@uschess.org*.

Minors will not be identified by name in photo captions unless they are competing on one of the top boards or have won a championship. Championship-section winners are generally identified in our photo captions by first and last name and hometown.

## Electronic Device Policy for National Events Organized by US Chess

The following policy has been reviewed and approved by the US Chess Scholastic Council and US Chess Executive Board.

Effective immediately, participants (upon starting their game) and spectators (where permitted) at tournaments directly organized by US Chess must not have on their person in the playing area any cell phone, smart watch, tablet, laptop, or other Internet-enabled device, except the following.

- Electronic scoresheets approved by the regulations governing the tournament.
- Other devices approved by US Chess prior to the event.

If a player with a game in progress is found to possess such a device, the game will be declared lost for the violating player, and the game will be submitted for rating purposes. A second such violation during the tournament will result in the same penalties, as well as removal from the tournament.

Exceptions to paragraph 2 may be specified for events covered by the Scholastic Regulations.



If a spectator is found to have such a device on his person, the offender will not be permitted to enter the playing hall for the remainder of the tournament.

If a player wishes to bring such a device into the tournament hall, the device must be turned off (not placed into “silent” or “airplane” mode) and placed either face-up on the table where the player has a game in progress, or placed into a bag that the player does not carry or open during the game in progress.

US Chess understands that players may not want to risk losing their devices. The recommended solution is to not bring them into the hall at all.

US Chess is not responsible for devices left in the playing hall.

Automatically exempt from this policy are the following.

- US Chess staff with badges for the event
- Tournament staff with badges for the event
- Other individuals with badges for the event or prior written approval from the US Chess Director of Events
- Any exceptions must be approved by the US Chess Director of Events, in writing, at least three weeks before the event begins.

To request an exception, contact the US Chess Director of Events at [boyd.reed@uschess.org](mailto:boyd.reed@uschess.org).

If the request involves a medical situation, additional documentation may be necessary. This allows US Chess to fully understand the situation and have enough time to ensure the proper accommodations.

*Last edited August 31, 2019*

## Spectator Policy

In 2018, the Scholastic Council and the Executive Board approved changes to the Scholastic Regulations that updated rules for spectators at the following scholastic events:

- National Elementary (K-6) Championship
- National Middle School (K-8) Championship
- National High School (K-12) Championship
- National K-12 Grade Championships

With the change in policy, playing halls at scholastic events organized by US Chess are open only to the following people while games are in progress:

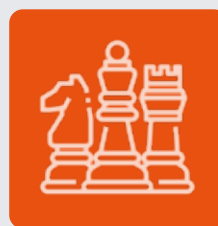
- Players with games in progress in that room
- Tournament staff
- Press and other attendees with badges authorizing their access

- Other persons directly authorized by the US Chess Director of Events

This means that parents, coaches, and other attendees who do not fall into the four categories above must leave the playing hall before the tournament director in charge of the playing hall will begin play. Once a player in that room has reported a result, that player also is considered a spectator and must leave the room for the remainder of that round. Parents and coaches should instruct their players who have completed games not to go back into the playing hall.

Attendees are strongly encouraged to use the skittles area both as a waiting room and as a meeting place after each round. Most exhibits and vendors will be housed there. Teams also can reserve a room at national scholastic events, but availability is limited and there is both a cost and a specific procedure for reserving one. Team room information will be linked on each tournament website. For parents and coaches who choose to wait in front of the main playing areas, US Chess has reconfigured its event setups to move most exhibits and vendors out of the hallways, thereby maximizing available space. Exits from the playing hall will be designated and clearly marked with signage, both inside and outside.

Please visit [uschess.org](http://uschess.org), click on CLO, and search “Spectator policy” for further details. Penalties for violating this policy are at the discretion of the chief tournament director.



## Need to miss a round?

If you need to miss a round, please report your absence at least one hour prior to the start of a round. If we don't know and you don't show, you will be dropped from the tournament! Even if late, let us know. It's not any fun getting paired and not having an opponent!

A maximum of one half-point bye is available in the first six rounds if requested by the start of the first round. Zero-point byes shall be available for all rounds and must be requested at least two hours before the start of the round they are requested for.

## Scholastic Regulations update

**Please note:** the 2019-20 Scholastic Regulations added Regulation 19, which requires the use of a paper scoresheet provided by US Chess at the tournament. The entire Scholastic Regulations can be found at [uschess.org](http://uschess.org). Click on the CLO logo, then search “Scholastic Regulations.”

## New Scholastic Notation Regulations in Effect as of September 1, 2019

As US Chess pursues its goal to “increase the use of chess in education,” we need to remind ourselves that when scholastic players notate and review their games, they are engaged in a powerful literacy activity—one that compliments learning across the curriculum. It is also a gateway into the treasures of chess literature and history.

Notation provides a foundation for the critical feedback loop (play-review-study) that leads to improved understanding and appreciation of the game. It empowers players to support themselves in tournament disputes and share their games with others. Children who learn to notate for such personally compelling and practical reasons do not need to be “made” to write down their moves. They will do so willingly as part of their journey toward chess improvement.

What is more, quality notation can aid tournament directors in running events more smoothly and efficiently.

With these (and other) educational benefits in mind, the US Chess Scholastic Council made the following **scholastic regulations effective September 1st, 2019 beginning with the 2019-20 scholastic nationals** (see table at right).

We understand that raising notation standards will have the most impact on students with the least experience notating. For this reason, we have left notation optional for players in sections where proficiency cannot be assumed. However, we strongly encourage all chess players to learn to notate.

Just as there are “reluctant readers” at school, there are “reluctant notators” in chess. At a recent state scholastic championship, a coach noticed that one of his kindergarteners did not have a notation sheet or pencil but was seated to begin the round. When told to notate *because it is a rule of chess*, the student hemmed and hawed before offering a compromise: “Can I just write down my moves?” The coach asked what good that would do and the student replied: “Well, I only pay attention to my own moves anyway.” The coach and the student’s parent convinced him

## Notation Regulations: A QUICK GUIDE

Notation is required in all sections of the following tournaments:

- **National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **National Youth Action Championship**
- **U.S. Junior Open**

The following tournaments have different notation rules for different age groups, as shown below:

### National Elementary School (K-6) Championship

K-1 Under 500 & Unrated .....	NO
K-1 Championship .....	NO
K-3 Unrated .....	NO
K-3 Under 700 .....	NO
All other sections.....	YES

### National K-12 Grade Championships

Kindergarten .....	NO
Grade 1 .....	NO
All other sections.....	YES

### All-Girls National Championships

Under 8 .....	NO
All other sections .....	YES

### Junior Chess Congress

Age 6 & under .....	NO
Age 8 & under .....	NO
All other sections .....	YES

that since spectators are not allowed in the tournament room, their only way of seeing the whole game would be if the student notated for both sides. The student proceeded to produce a beautifully notated thirty-plus move game.

To help parents and coaches prepare, the official notation sheets required for national events have been made available in advance and online so that coaches and parents can help students become familiar with the format.

## New Awards at US Chess National Scholastics

*US Chess has introduced new awards to be distributed at national scholastic events. These changes debuted at the 2019 K-12 Grade Championships, which was our last national scholastic event for two years. Full implementation of these changes was interrupted due to events being canceled during the pandemic, but will resume this year. This article is intended as a reminder of the changes, as well as the deliberative process that went into their implementation.*

### What has been changed?

Starting in the spring of 2022, most individual awards at national scholastic events will be custom medals. This impacts the following events and sections:

- National High School (K-12) Championship—all sections
- National Middle School (K-8) Championship—all sections
- National Elementary (K-6) Championship—all K-6 sections and all K-5 sections

By the fall of 2022, we expect all individual awards at national scholastic events will be custom medals.

Also, the first place team trophy in each regular-rated section that awards a national championship title will be custom made as well. These trophies will continue to be the only team awards with the words “National Champions” in the engraving.

### What do the medals look like?

The new individual medals are custom made, with bright finishes, and a unique design for every event. The front shows the logo for the event. The back has the US Chess logo engraved, the section, and the place. The lanyard for each medal is custom made for the specific event as well.

The top three medals for each section are gold, silver, and bronze. All other place medals are a copper color. The gold medal in the Championship sections bears the words “National Champion.”

### Why was this change made?

There are several reasons for this change.

1. There had been a trend toward more and bigger trophies at national events. This had given way to a general sense of “trophy entitlement” — that everyone should get a trophy or an award. Most national level school-age competitions — even most competitions in general — do not work that way. The focus should be on the achievement and the effort, not the talisman.

2. Most school-age extracurricular competitions offer medals for individual achievement, and trophies for team

achievement. This is true for athletics and academics.

3. US Chess has, for years, fielded complaints from parents about how difficult it is to get large trophies home. By switching to custom medals, players can wear their awards home, or to school. They still carry the same meaning and significance.

4. Of course, medals cost less than trophies. So, US Chess will save some money with the change. However, we want to use the savings to offer more features for everyone. For example, at the 2022 National Elementary, we plan to offer a seminar on chess in education. We will also have guest grandmasters offering two lectures each during the weekend, instead of just one. Finally, we have increased our number of DGT boards for broadcast — we had 12 before the pandemic, but we will now have 21! Improvements are possible in part because we can use some of the savings on awards to expand the offerings available to all.

### How was this decided?

The idea was first discussed at the 2018 U.S. Open. Subsequent discussion among members of the Executive Board and Scholastic Council, along with Trophies Plus (the official provider of awards for our national scholastic events), and senior leaders of US Chess, took place between August 2018 and August 2019. At the 2019 U.S. Open, the Scholastic Regulations for 2019-2020 were proposed, and the Scholastic Council approved language permitting the awards change. The language was subsequently ratified by the Executive Board. So, this was a deliberate process, involving numerous parts of US Chess leadership, including significant input from the Scholastic Council, which is the primary advisory body for scholastic affairs.





# Recent Winners

## National K-12 Grade Championships

### 2019 INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION, 12TH GRADE



**2019 INDIVIDUAL:** K: Lucas Yang; 1st: Mason Jin Li, Jeremy Tao; 2nd: Michael Xiao, Leo Yang, Eden You; 3rd: Rohan Rajaram, Andrew Jiang; 4th: Yuvraj Chennareddy; 5th: Erick Zhao; 6th: Bach Ngo; 7th: Wyatt Pak; 8th: Nathaniel Shuman; 9th: Raghav Venkat; 10th: Elton Cao; 11th: Hans Niemann; 12th: Ansh Shah

**2019 TEAM:** K: The Speyer Legacy School (NY); 1st: Dalton (NY); 2nd: Hunter College Campus School (NY); 3rd: NEST+m School (NY); 4th: The Speyer Legacy School (NY); 5th: Joseph A. Williams Elementary School (FL); 6th: Lincoln Middle School (FL), Westglades Middle School (FL); 7th: I.S. 318 (NY); 8th: Dalton (NY); 9th: Hunter College Campus School (NY); 10th: Jericho High School (NY); 11th: Newark Academy (NJ); 12th: Edgemont High School (NY)

For complete results, visit <http://www.uschess.org/results/2019/k12/>

### 2019 TEAM CHAMPIONS, 12TH GRADE



**EDGEMONT HIGH SCHOOL  
SCARSDALE, NEW YORK**

Due to COVID-19, the in-person 2020 National K-12 Grade Championships were canceled. To provide an alternative, US Chess, in partnership with *ChessKid.com* and *Chess.com*, offered the 2020 US Chess/ChessKid K-12 Showdown, an online event with 13 different sections, one for each grade.

For complete results from the 2020 US Chess/ChessKid K-12 Showdown, visit <http://www.uschess.org/results/2020/k12onl/>.



# 2022 All-America Team

US Chess is pleased to announce the 2022 All-America Chess Team, sponsored by Trophies Plus. Team members will receive their team jackets and plaques by mail.

The All-America Chess Team was created in 1987 to honor the very best players ages 18 and under. The team, one of the highest national honors attainable by a young chess player, is selected on the basis of age, rating, and chess activity during that year, similar to the selection process of “all conference” sports teams. This year’s candidates were selected based on their age as of January 1, 2021, and their peak post-tournament rating from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Since this award is a “post-season” selection, the minimum rating limits in each age group are reviewed annually by US Chess staff and the US Chess Scholastic Council.

US Chess congratulates each of the 27 members of this year’s All-America Chess Team for receiving this prestigious award and will honor them on Sunday, December 5, at 8:50 a.m., prior to the start of round six.

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## AGE 18

### (MIN. RATING 2500)

Praveen Balakrishnan, VA  
David Brodsky, NY

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## AGE 17

### (MIN. RATING 2475)

Awonder Liang, WI  
Hans Niemann, CT  
Brandon Jacobson, NJ  
Carissa Shiwen Yip, MA  
Josiah Stearman, CA

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## AGE 16

### (MIN. RATING 2450)

Andrew Hong, CA

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## AGE 15

### (MIN. RATING 2425)

Justin Wang, TX  
Robert Shlyakhtenko, CA  
Balaji Daggupati, CA  
Anthony Bi He, WA  
Maximillian Lu, CT

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## AGE 14

### (MIN. RATING 2400)

Christopher Woojin Yoo, CA  
Arthur Guo, GA  
Jason Wang, OH  
Nico Werner Chasin, NY

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## AGE 13

### (MIN. RATING 2350)

Jason Liang, NY  
Eric Yuhan Li, CA  
Evan Park, PA

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## AGE 12

### (MIN. RATING 2300)

Liran Zhou, NY  
Dimitar Mardov, IL

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## AGE 11

### (MIN. RATING 2225)

Abhimanyu Mishra, NJ  
Brewington Hardaway, NY

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## AGE 10

### (MIN. RATING 2150)

Andy Austin Woodward, TX  
Ryo Wenyu Chen, TX  
Tanitoluwa Adewumi, NY

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## AGE 9

### (MIN. RATING 2050)

None

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## AGE 8 & UNDER

### (MIN. RATING 1950)

None

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# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

# THE 2022 SPRING SCHOLASTIC NATIONALS

2022 NATIONAL  
**HIGH SCHOOL (K-12)**  
CHAMPIONSHIP

**APRIL 8-10**

Sheraton Memphis  
Downtown Hotel  
MEMPHIS  
Tennessee

2022 NATIONAL  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL (K-8)**  
CHAMPIONSHIP

**APRIL 29-MAY 1**

Gaylord Texan Resort  
and Convention Center  
GRAPEVINE  
Tennessee

2022 NATIONAL  
**ELEMENTARY (K-6)**  
CHAMPIONSHIP

**MAY 13-15**

Greater Columbus  
Convention Center  
COLUMBUS  
Ohio

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Barber Tournament of MS Champs  
U.S. Blind Championship  
Pan-American Intercollegiate Team  
Final Four of College Chess  
World Chess Hall of Fame  
And many other programs

For more information on the good work of the US Chess Trust, please go to [www.uschesstrust.org](http://www.uschesstrust.org). Or contact us at [info@uschesstrust.org](mailto:info@uschesstrust.org).

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# What is chessable?

Chessable is a comprehensive and social learning website that offers interactive video chess courses on all aspects of the game, from the opening to the endgame.

Chessable also offers interactive versions of classic chess books built on top of its unique MoveTrainer® software.



Science based technology

## MoveTrainer® taps into the science of learning

Science can help us understand how chess learning happens. Instead of learning on your own, you have powerful allies: educators, psychologists and neuroscientists. We use the science they produce to make learning chess easier, fun and efficient! Chessable is at the forefront of chess education.

## Spaced Repetition & Scheduling

Spaced repetition theory in a nutshell means: you learn best when you review your knowledge in increasing time increments rather than regularly. At Chessable, we provide a scheduling mechanism that prompts you to review what you've learned in an efficient way. Get the chess move right, and you won't see it for a while. Get it wrong, and we know it needs some work so you will soon be tested again.



### What Chessable users say



**NM Han Schut**

“ I had prepared a lesson for my 8-year-old student about pawn endings (key squares and opposition). To my surprise he solved every endgame perfectly and immediately. I was intrigued and asked him which coach had taught him to play these endgames so well. His answer surprised me. He had learned to play these endgames by practicing '100 Endgames You Must Know' by Jesus de la Villa on Chessable, by himself. ”





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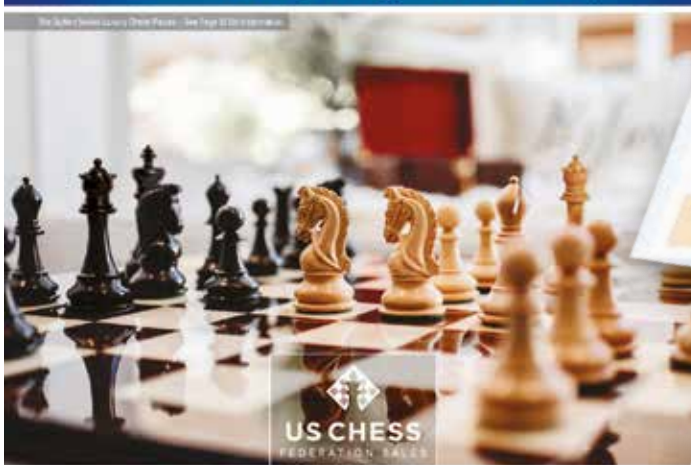
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# Future US CHESS Events

## 2022

### **National High School (K-12) Championship**

APRIL 8-10  
Memphis Cook  
Convention Center  
Memphis, Tennessee

### **National Middle School (K-8) Championship**

APRIL 29-MAY 1  
Gaylord Texan Resort  
and Convention Center  
Grapevine, Texas

### **National Elementary (K-6) Championship**

MAY 13-15  
Greater Columbus  
Convention Center  
Columbus, Ohio

### **U.S. Open**

JULY 30-AUGUST 7  
Westin Mission Hills  
Golf Resort & Spa  
Rancho Mirage, California

### **National K-12 Grade Championships**

DECEMBER 9-11  
Gaylord National Resort  
& Convention Center  
National Harbor,  
Maryland

## 2023

### **National High School (K-12) Championship**

MARCH 31-APRIL 2  
Washington Hilton  
Washington, DC

### **National Middle School (K-8) Championship**

APRIL 21-23  
Kalahari Resorts &  
Conventions  
Round Rock, Texas

### **National Elementary (K-6) Championship**

MAY 12-14  
Baltimore  
Convention Center  
Baltimore, Maryland

### **U.S. Open**

JULY 29-AUGUST 6  
DeVos Place  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

### **National K-12 Grade Championships**

DECEMBER 15-17  
Hyatt Regency Orlando  
Orlando, Florida

## 2024

### **National Elementary (K-6) Championship**

APRIL 26-28  
Greater Columbus  
Convention Center  
Columbus, Ohio

### **National Middle School (K-8) Championship**

MAY 10-12  
Hyatt Regency Atlanta  
Atlanta, Georgia

### **U.S. Open**

JULY 27-AUGUST 4  
Sheraton Norfolk  
Waterside Hotel  
Norfolk, Virginia

### **National K-12 Grade Championships**

DECEMBER 6-8  
Gaylord National Resort  
& Convention Center  
National Harbor,  
Maryland

## 2025

### **SuperNationals VIII**

MAY 9-11  
Orange County  
Convention Center  
Orlando, Florida

## 2026

### **National High School (K-12) Championship**

MARCH 27-29  
Sheraton Grand Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Please visit [uschess.org/national-events-calendar/](https://uschess.org/national-events-calendar/) for details on all events



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