



JOHN T. IRWIN ▲

8TH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
OF SENIOR STATE CHAMPIONS



WIM RUTH HARING

13TH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
OF GIRLS STATE CHAMPIONS ►



US CHESS

PROUDLY PRESENTS
THE 2025 INVITATIONALS



▲ **GM ARNOLD
DENKER**

41ST NATIONAL TOURNAMENT OF
HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS



**JOHN D.
ROCKEFELLER III**

6TH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STATE
CHAMPIONS ▼



◀ **DEWAIN BARBER**

15TH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT OF
MIDDLE SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS



**FM SUNIL
WEERAMANTRY**

6TH NATIONAL BLITZ TOURNAMENT
OF STATE CHAMPIONS ▼



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Thank you to all the U.S. Open
Invitationals sponsors.

Anonymous

Chessclub.com (ICC)

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John D. Rockefeller V

US Chess

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U.S. Chess Trust

US Chess expresses special thanks to Dwight
Barber, the Ursula Foster Family, and Jon
Haskel for their support.

US Chess is pleased to announce the
1st annual GM Maurice Ashley National
Tournament of K-3 State Champions, to
begin in 2026 in Grand Rapids, Mich.

2025 INVITATIONALS AWARDS

Opening Ceremony

July 28, 2025 | Convention Center
Superior/Michigan/Wisconsin rooms | 3 p.m.

WELCOME REMARKS

Mike Nietman

NATIONAL ANTHEM

WEERAMANTRY BLITZ AWARDS

US CHESS BOARD AND STAFF

Ranae Bartlett, Executive Director

THE GM ARNOLD DENKER LEGACY

Dewain Barber

THE DEWAIN BARBER LEGACY

Dewain Barber

THE WIM RUTH HARING LEGACY

Maureen Grimaud

THE JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER III LEGACY

John D. Rockefeller V

SPONSOR RECOGNITION

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIEF ARBITER REMARKS

Bill Buklis

GROUP PHOTOS

College/University Scholarships

The first-place finisher in each event will receive a \$5,000 college/university scholarship. Second- through fifth-place finishers will receive \$4,000, \$3,000, \$2,000, and \$1,000, respectively. If there is a tie, then the scholarship will be awarded to the highest finisher, based on tiebreaks; the scholarship will not be split. A recipient may use the scholarship at any school of higher learning. To redeem the scholarship, a recipient must provide proof of enrollment in an institution of higher learning, prove standing as at least a half-time student, and claim the scholarship before their 26th birthday. See event websites for redemption information.

Chessclub.com (ICC) Membership

Each participant who completes all six rounds (including the host state's alternate, if available for all six rounds) will receive a free, one-year ICC membership valued at \$70. If a participant is already a current ICC member, then they will receive a one-year membership extension.

Rockefeller 8 and Under Chess Award

A \$500 Rockefeller 8 and Under Chess Award will be presented to the highest finisher eight years old or younger as of the first day of the tournament. If there are fewer than two participants eight years old or younger, the award will go to the top finisher nine years old or younger. There must be at least two eligible players for the award to be given. If there is a tie, the award will go to the highest finisher based on tiebreaks. The award will not be split.

Barber 11 and Under Chess Award

A \$500 Barber 11 and Under Chess Award will be presented to the highest finisher 11 years old or younger as of the first day of the tournament. If there are fewer than two participants 11 years old or younger, the award will go to the top finisher 12 years old or younger. There must be at least two eligible players for the award to be given. If there is a tie, the award will go to the highest finisher based on tiebreaks. The award will not be split.

Ursula Foster Memorial Awards (Haring and Denker)

Two \$500 Ursula Foster Memorial Awards will be presented: one to the highest Haring finisher 12 years old or younger as of the first day of the tournament, and the other to the highest Denker finisher 15 years old or younger as of the first day of the tournament. If fewer than two participants are 12 years old or younger in the Haring, the award will go to the top finisher 13 years old or younger. If fewer than two participants are 15 years old or younger in the Denker, the award will go to the top finisher 16 years old or younger. There must be at least two eligible players for each award to be given. If there is a tie, each award will go to the highest finisher based on tiebreaks. Neither award will be split.

REDUCE WASTE

Please retain this program for the Closing Ceremony. A PDF is also available on all event websites.

State versus State Championship

The state whose representatives have the highest combined score will be recognized. Gift certificates for the U.S. Open Chess Store will be awarded to each player from the three highest-scoring states. In addition, gift certificates will be awarded to each player of the highest-scoring state whose players' average rating is Under 2100, Under 1900, or Under 1600. A total of \$400 in gift certificates per invitational (\$2,000 total) will be awarded. States must have at least three players from the five simultaneous national state champions invitationals to be eligible for team prizes. Each state's Irwin representative will be the state's honorary team captain.

Additional Prizes

CASH PRIZES

The top five finishers in each scholastic event will receive cash prizes of \$800 (first place), \$500 (second place), \$400 (third place), \$300 (fourth place), and \$200 (fifth place). Each player tied for fifth place will receive \$100. **Cash prizes will be sent in accordance with the U.S. Open prize distribution system** (see https://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2025/usopen_old/billcom-prizes.pdf for details).

UPSET PRIZES & CLASS PRIZES

Gift Certificates to the U.S. Open Chess Store will be awarded for Best Game (\$100), Biggest Upset overall (\$50), and Biggest Upset in each round (\$50). The following class prize winners will each receive \$100 cash awards from Jon Haskel, in memory of Joanne Haskel: 1st place, U2000 (Denker); 1st place, U1800 (Barber); 1st place, U1600 (Haring); and 1st place, U1500 (Rockefeller).

Gift certificates must be picked up during the awards ceremony and redeemed with the U.S. Open Chess Store onsite.

Weeramantry Blitz Awards

The top five finishers in each section (Championship: 2100+, 1800-2099, 1500-1799, 1200-1499, Under 1200) will receive gift certificates to the U.S. Open Chess Store in the amounts of \$240 (first place), \$200 (second place), \$160 (third place), \$120 (fourth place), and \$80 (fifth place). If there is a tie, then the prize will go to the highest finisher based on tiebreaks.

Irwin Awards

For information on Irwin prizes, awards, and gift certificates, visit <https://new.uschess.org/irwin> or scan the QR code at right.



MANY THANKS

TO OUR AWARDS PRESENTERS

Dewain Barber, Maureen Grimaud, Mike Nietman, John D. Rockefeller V, and FM Sunil Weeramantry

Closing Ceremony

July 31, 2025 | Windsor Ballroom Salons A-D | 4 p.m.

WELCOME REMARKS

Mike Nietman

ROUND SIX UPSET AWARDS

BIGGEST OVERALL UPSET AWARDS

BEST GAME AWARDS

DENKER PRIZES

Dewain Barber, Presenter

1st Place: Plaque & \$5,000 College Scholarship

2nd Place: Plaque & \$4,000 College Scholarship

3rd Place: Plaque & \$3,000 College Scholarship

4th Place: \$2,000 College Scholarship

5th Place: \$1,000 College Scholarship

Ursula Foster Memorial Award

Joanne Haskel Memorial Under 2000 Award

HARING PRIZES

Maureen Grimaud, Presenter

1st Place: Plaque & \$5,000 College Scholarship

2nd Place: Plaque & \$4,000 College Scholarship

3rd Place: Plaque & \$3,000 College Scholarship

4th Place: \$2,000 College Scholarship

5th Place: \$1,000 College Scholarship

Ursula Foster Memorial Award

Joanne Haskel Memorial Under 1600 Award

BARBER PRIZES

Dewain Barber, Presenter

1st Place: Plaque & \$5,000 College Scholarship

2nd Place: Plaque & \$4,000 College Scholarship

3rd Place: Plaque & \$3,000 College Scholarship

4th Place: \$2,000 College Scholarship

5th Place: \$1,000 College Scholarship

Barber 11 and Under Award

Joanne Haskel Memorial Under 1800 Award

ROCKEFELLER PRIZES

John D. Rockefeller V, Presenter

1st Place: Plaque & \$5,000 College Scholarship

2nd Place: Plaque & \$4,000 College Scholarship

3rd Place: Plaque & \$3,000 College Scholarship

4th Place: \$2,000 College Scholarship

5th Place: \$1,000 College Scholarship

Rockefeller 8 and Under Award

Joanne Haskel Memorial Under 1500 Award

STATE TEAM AWARDS PRESENTATION

CLOSING REMARKS

Mike Nietman

THE 2025 U.S. OPEN INVITATIONALS

ROLL CALL

(confirmed participants as of July 17, 2025)

STATE	IRWIN	DENKER	HARING	BARBER	ROCKEFELLER
AK		Liam Callahan			
AL	Stuart Rachels	Samuel Baskarraj	Sarah Peter	Alisher Khasanov	Alandra Jackson
AR	Steve Elkins	Havish Kunchapalli	Neeli Buchireddy	Aryan Buchireddy	Kanishk Malli
AZ	Robby Adamson	Steve Wongso	Varma Danduprolu	Roshan Sethuraman	Artin Atoufi
CA-N	Tim Taylor	Eric Li	Omya Vidyarthi	Suyuan Gui	Liam Liu
CA-S	Melikset Khachiyani	Isaac Wang	Esther Jou	Benjamin Tang	Jacob Wang
CO	Earle Wikle	Grayson Manuel	Tanya Prabhu	Krish Mathimaran	Felix McMillan
CT	Mikhail Koganov	Jason Bai	Lilianna Gao	Lacey Wang	Cody Wu
DC	Oladapo Adu	Thanh Can	Grace Keefe	Lenox Serrette	Ezra Nazaryan
DE	William Trueman	Siddarth Puduper Elaiyavalli		Pratheek Madasu	Pranav Srinivasan
FL	Julio Morella	Bach Ngo	Aarna Warekar	Oscar Williams	Yi Sha
GA	James Altucher	Beiyang Ni	Evelyn Qiao	Saharsh Santosh	Joshua Chelladorai
HI	Cornelius Rubsamen	Ty Chen Dutoit	Ka'imi Kawazu-Armstrong	Kūliaikapono Shirota-Kapalu	Apollo Van Brunt
IA	Valeriy Kosokin	Niko Nixon	Irene Fei	Nehanraj Ramesh	Kelton Holm
ID	Zygmund Mayer	Linus Wannamaker	Candice Liang	Vladislav Nosarev	Roy Li
IL	Florentino Inumerable	Avi Kaplan	Rebecca Cortez	Artemii Khanbutaev	Aiden Li
IN	Lester VanMeter	Timothy Lim	Khushi Kumari	Arjun Raman	Harvey Hanke
KS	Bruce Law	Aayush Wadhwa	Anyana Wadhwa	Samuel Mehlhaff	Maria Leboeuf
KY	Jerry Baker	Chris Ping Liu	Katie Yuan	John Abraham	Magnolia Zhu
LA	Adam Caveney	Elio Sharpe	Hannah Ren	Leo Le-Tran	Roy Yuan
MA	Alex Slive	Eric Feng	Emma Zhang	Dhairya Mehta	Shawn Xu
MD	Tegshsuren Enkhbat	Anish Mariappan	Caroline Zhang	Siddharth Kurup	Steven Liu
ME	Pavel Sulyandziga	Gabe Eaton	Molly Tefft	Theodore Reichl	Dimitri Smalley
MI	Anthony Nichols	Alan Xu	Miah Guo	Marcus Zheng	Anirudh Anand
MN	Leonard Johnson	Troy Cavanah	Ayobami Olofinboba	Vivian Yang	Matthew MingMing Liu
MO	Douglas Eckert	Ayden Huang	Devanshi Chowdada	Vedant Maiti	Pritish Singhal
MS	Randal Riddle	Will Hutchins	Makayla Davis	Patrick Tabor	Owen Young
MT	Wilton Strickland	Matteo Nero		Kyler Bergman	
NC	Mark Hoshor	Vishnu Vanapalli	Isabella Yan	Andrew Wu	Celine Chen
ND	Brad Hendrickson	Kevin Schill	Hana Abeesh	Aaron Schill	Parker Betz
NE	Jerry Slominski	Luke Hengen	Mansi Adduri	Shannor Qiang	Siddharth Parthasarathy
NH	David Kochman	Noah Van Vugt	Avni Nagaraj	Hrishikesh Vedula	Arden Schran
NJ	Leonid Sokolin	Roger Zhang	Saadhanaa Ashok	Bobby Qian	Santhosh Ayyappan
NM	Nestor Sosa	Daiwik Devanand	Kyra Gurrola	Harshin Jagirapu	Aariv Agrawal
NV	Howard Lederer	Evan Howard	Jewel Era	Aastik Grover	Justin Zhou
NY	Michael Goodman	Liam Putnam	Megan Paragua	Elliott Goodrich	Linxi Zhu
OH	Jordan Henderson	Amogh Tripathi	Charithra Arvind	Arjun Soni	Ashwin Kumar
OK	Shaun Graham-Bowcaster	Joseph Zacharias	Elizabeth Braddy	Ivan Ding	Arya Roy Choudury
OR	Carl Haessler	Austin Tang	Emel Bayrambeyli	Neil Natarajan	Lucas Maokhampio
PA	Karl Dehmelt	Evan Park	Olivia Ryerson	Wesley Luo	Aimee Yang
RI	Michael P. Carey	Levon He	Nina Yang	Gustav Wernevi	Deviee Coletta
SC	Alexander Matros	Samuel Paukovitz	Diya Balamurugan	Jason Marshal	Tamaghna Roy
SD	Nels Truelson	Caleb Neff	Nadine Neff	Proverb Linder	Carter Hoellein
TN	Alexander Fishbein	James Nguyen	Sabrina Hoja	John Nguyen	Saeed Hoja
TX	Scott Elliott	Eric Liu	Yangyang Shen	Siddharth Singh	Advik Manchanda
UT	David Day	Brayden Van De Graff	Olivia Ding	Krishna Rajagopalan	Banks Bennion
VA	Robert Fischer	Aarush Vinod	Khanim Ismayilova	Kyle Zhuang	Shreyas Krishnan
VT		Roland Ekstrom		Vivek Chadive	William Clere
WA	Leonid Gavrysh	Advaith Vijayakumar	Deeksha Shankaranand	Leonardo Wang	Ted Wang
WI	Shih-Wen Chang	Nicholas Pennington-Cross	Jind Kaur	Ojas Sahoo	Ishaan Harsha
WI-ALT	Allen Becker	Sam Kuten	Aradh Kaur	Ezra Newell	Shravan Sabarish
WV	Lewis Sanders	Tristan Johnston		John Auville	Gallagher Kelsch
WY	Daniel Joelson		Anastasia Olsson		Hieronymus Olsson