JTP Program Language

US Chess's Junior Tournament Player (JTP) Program

JTP Event Purpose

JTP events allow affiliates to run rated tournaments for groups of scholastic players where US Chess membership is not required.

JTP Event Structure

There are 3 types of JTP event participation levels:

1. Primary JTP events - where each participant is 3rd grade or lower.

2. K12 JTP events – An accredited school with a scholastic affiliate may run a K12 JTP event as long as each participant attends the school with the accreditation.

3. Home School JTP Events – Home school students may participate in either the Primary JTP events or the K12 JTP events. To determine a home schooler's event participation level, consult the age-grade chart in 12.2.1 of the **Scholastic Regulations** (see below). The home school students in question must also meet the definition of a school in the scholastic regulations. Lastly, home school students forming a specific team must be from the same home school cooperative or individual group as per the scholastic regulations:

    a. *SR13.2.1 – A school is defined as an institution which is under one Head of School and serves one student body. A school may be located in one or more buildings, and on one or more campuses. A school must provide core curricular instruction as defined by state or local law or regulation. Schools with students on multiple campuses must seek prior approval from the US Chess Director of Events at least two weeks before the start date of the tournament to compete in a US Chess national scholastic event.*

    b. *SR13.2.1.1 – A 'local public school' for a home schooled or virtual school student is defined as the public school the student would attend if attending public school. For example, the local public school for a 3rd grade home schooled or virtual school student is the local public elementary school whose geographic footprint, as defined by the applicable local department of education authorities, encompasses the student's home residence address.*

    c. *SR13.2.1.2 – A 'public school district' is a grouping of public schools (most usually within a city or county, but may be a single school in a small city) recognized and designated as being a public school district by that state's department of education. A 'local public school' is not the entire district but is the area that a single public school covers.*

Grade	Age Limit	Grade	Age Limit
Kindergarten	6 years old	7th Grade	13 years old
1st Grade	7 years old	8th Grade	14 years old
2nd Grade	8 years old	9th Grade	15 years old
3rd Grade	9 years old	10th Grade	16 years old
4th Grade	10 years old	11th Grade	17 years old
5th Grade	11 years old	12th Grade	18 years old
6th Grade	12 years old		

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JTP Requirements

All participants must have a US Chess Member ID to participate. In order to generate the US Chess Member ID, you'll need to collect each participant's birthdate, mailing address information, **and a unique email address** for each participant.

For some schools, this may require a parental consent form. Instructions on generating a US Chess Member ID can be found on the Process Membership form.

Whomever oversees rating the event will need to code the JTP event as a Primary JTP Event or K-12 In-School JTP Event. To change the Participant Coding, use the edit form in the TD/Affiliate Support Area. Note the K-12 JTP type will only be offered if the affiliate is a scholastic affiliate. Until the Participant Coding is changed to a JTP Event, any non-members will be flagged as errors.

JTP Restrictions No adult players can participate in JTP events as formal participants or house players. This includes parents, coaches, and teachers.

If a cross-section pairing is possible, ensure that the participants are both JTP eligible. If necessary, use the grade-age chart in 12.2.1 of the Scholastic Regulations.

Approved by US Chess Executive Board, March 31, 2019