

NM MIKE SAILER



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ADULTS-ONLY CLASS 6 P.M. WEDNESDAYS

ADVANCED CLASS 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS

ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR

National Master Mike Sailer (USCF 2248 Peak) is a 17-time State Champion of North Dakota and 4-time State Champion of South Carolina. He is a three-time Denker High School Tournament of State Champions representative (1988-1990) and an Irwin Tournament of Senior State Champions representative (2023). Mike was inducted into the ND Chess Hall of Fame in 2007, and he continues to be a very active over-the-board and online player. He has nearly 40 years of playing and coaching experience and specializes in teaching students how to expand their positional understanding and simplifying the decision-making process of finding strong moves.

CLASS FORMAT

NM Mike Sailer leads a small class with an open floor for questions, fostering interactive and engaging lectures. Weekly independent assignments help prepare students for upcoming topics.

ADULTS-ONLY & ADVANCED CLASS COURSE SYLLABUS

DEC. 2025 - JAN. 2026

UPCOMING CLASSES

DECEMBER 3, 2025

Study of the London System, Part 1

A detailed study of the classical London System. The London System has become the perfect opening for weekend swiss tournaments that leads to complex positional play.

DECEMBER 10, 2025

Study of the London Jobava System Part 2

A detailed study of the wild Jobava London System. The Jobava has become a popular aggressive opening for players of all levels that leads to dynamic play.

DECEMBER 17, 2025

Study of Zurich 1953, Part 1

A detailed study of the classic Zurich 1953 is a must for any developing player. The games from this tournament changed the way we looked at various openings and middlegame strategies.

JANUARY 7, 2026

Study of Zurich 1953, Part 2

A further detailed study of the classic Zurich 1953 will continue our understanding of the historical importance of this tournament. The games from this tournament changed the way we looked at various openings and middlegame strategies.

JANUARY 14, 2026

The Carlsbad Pawn Structure

A detailed study on the dynamic play of the Queens Gambit Declined and other related openings that result in the Carlsbad Pawn Structure.

JANUARY 21, 2026

The Benoni Defense

A detailed study of the dynamic play of various Benoni systems. The Benoni is the perfect defense for weekend swiss tournaments that leads to double-edged positions.

JANUARY 28, 2026

Study of the King's Indian Defense

A detailed study of the dynamic play of various King's Indian Defense systems from both white and black's perspective. The King's Indian leads to rich, double-edged positions that are a must to study as numerous white and black openings can transpose into related positions.