

VOL. 2 ISSUE 5 · JUNE 2023

CHESS JOURNAL

Official Newsletter of the Scott County Chess Club

Come join us on first Saturdays!

Our meetings are usually held on the **first Saturdays** of each month so everyone can plan ahead to join us. The **NEXT regular meeting** will be held on **June 3**.
Forest Public Library - 9 to 11 a.m. (210 S. Raleigh St.)

Everyone is welcome! All ages and skill levels
NO membership fee to participate



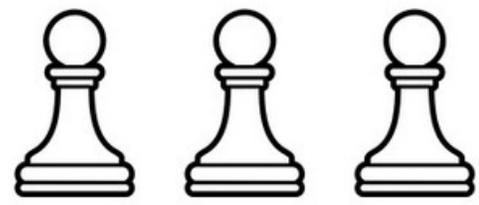
*Players may bring their own chess set if they have one.
We have boards and sets to use.
(provided by Friends of Forest Library group)*



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scottcountychessclub.org



Chess News Highlights

We're back on the airwaves

The Scott County Chess Club returned to a statewide radio audience again to talk about our beloved game.

Chris Baker was a guest on the "Good Things with Rebecca Turner" on SuperTalkMS to discuss current chess activities in the state. The episode aired Thursday, June 1. You can also watch online by clicking **SHOWS** and select "Good Things" at supertalk.fm. A video of the show will appear on our website as soon as it can be uploaded.

This was the third appearance of the Scott County Chess Club on the program. The first featured an introduction to the game in December 2021. The second focused on tournaments.

This week's appearance also included Beth Thrasher who talked about the growth of chess, particularly among school students. Topics also included how to become more involved, efforts to increase chess activity in public schools, among other points.

"We appreciate the opportunity to come on the air and talk about chess to people across the state who listen each day. This is a great way to let people all over Mississippi to know how strong chess is and continues to grow," said Chris Baker, Scott County coordinator. "We want to thank our partner Rebecca Turner for her support and assisting us in spreading our message about how great chess is and how easy it is to get involved."

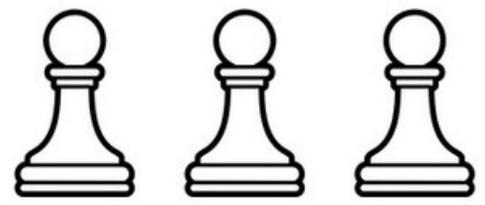
Sponsors

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- Fountain ACE Hardware
- Bank of Forest
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Partners

- Central MS Regional Library System
- Forest Public Library
- Friends of Forest Library
- U.S. Chess Federation
- MS Chess Association
- MS Scholastic Chess Association
- Capital City Chess Club
- Roosevelt State Park
- Bienville National Forest
- Forest Baptist Church
- Andrew Jackson Council - BSA
- Community Bank
- SwissSys
- MS Trophy
- Larchwood Designs
- Go Daddy (web hosting)
- MS Secretary of State
- Billy Freeman Photography
- Ingram Printing
- Scott County Times
- SuperTalk MS
- Forest Chamber of Commerce
- Town of Lake
- City of Morton





Chess News Highlights

Chess @ Children's Summer Reading Program

The Forest Public Library will host its annual summer reading program on Tuesdays and one Thursday during June, and we will be on hand as a supporting partner.

While the library features a wide variety of activities, the Scott County Chess Club will have a display set up and be available to answer questions about the game. *The Tuesday programs start at 6 p.m. and one Thursday program at 2 p.m.*

Tuesdays

June 6 - Freedom Ranch

June 13 - Forest Fire Dept. Splash Down

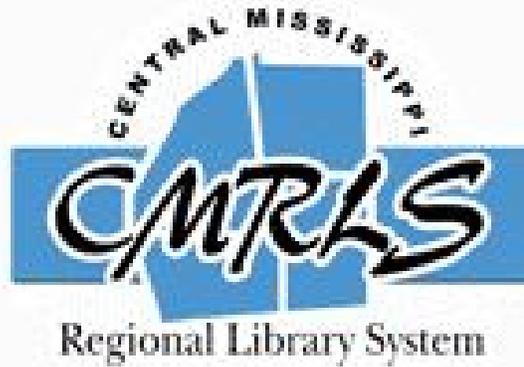
June 27 - Dorian the Magician

Thursday

June 22 - Hattiesburg Zoo

In between the activities, before, and afterward - come visit our table.

While the kids are in activities, adults may visit us too! Chess is for everyone.



'In chess, there are no losers. Either you win or you learn ... sometimes both.'



Chess News Highlights

Summer Chess Camp planned for July

Children across Scott County are welcome to attend and participate in our first Summer Chess Camp set for our meeting date on **July 1** at the **Forest Public Library**. The camp will begin at **9 a.m.** and will be held in the library's main meeting room.

This will be an opportunity for children to learn how Chess works through an introduction. Activities will include how to set up a chess set properly, how the pieces move, and the rules of the game. There will also be some instruction about tournaments for the older children and any who are already playing the game.

Participants will be grouped according to skill levels such as Beginner, Intermediate, Novice, Experienced.

Experienced participants may play casual games and in a tournament setting. A limited number of boards will be provided therefore players may bring their own boards if they have one.

More details will be available in the July newsletter and on our website at scottcountychessclub.org.

'Never interrupt your opponent when they are making a mistake.'





Chess Club Memories

Chess at the Festivals - Morton, Lake

We had booths set up at two local festivals in May where we provided an opportunity for people to learn more about Chess and our activities in Scott County.

On May 6, we were in Farris Park for their annual "Morton Day in the Park" and had a good number of visitors check out our display and play the game.

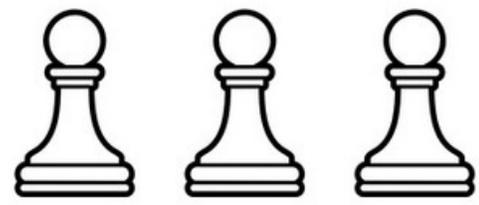
'A day without chess probably wouldn't kill me. But why risk it?'

Find us at the Wing Dang Doodle Festival at Gaddis Park in Forest in September



We saw a great turnout on May 13 at the Train Depot for LakeFest. A lot of people came by to play chess and learn about the game.





Chess Calendar

For more information about all listings:
see our website at scottcountychessclub.org

'I'm here
because I
was told
there would
be chess.'

*** Scott County Chess Club will hold a regular meeting**
Saturday, June 3, 9-11 am, Public Library, Forest
This will be our regular meeting - everyone is welcome.

*** Chess at Summer Library Programs**
Tuesdays and one Thursday, Public Library, Forest
6 p.m. Tuesdays in June

*** Summer Chess Camp - Scott County**
Saturday, July 1, 9 am, Public Library, Forest
This will be in addition to our regular meeting

*** PRCC Chess Camp - Pearl River County**
June 5-6, Poplarville
<https://prcc.edu/.../community.../kids-college-summer-camps/>

*** Dogmud Chess Camp - Madison County**
June 12-15, Ridgeland
<https://new.uschess.org/dogmud-chess-camp-june-2023>

*** Dogmud Chess Camp - Madison County**
July 10-13, Ridgeland
<https://new.uschess.org/dogmud-chess-camp-july-2023>

*** Capital City Chess Club**
Tuesdays- Food Court - Outlet Mall, Pearl
Free - casual play - 5:30 until 8 p.m.

*** Vicksburg Chess Club**
Thursdays- Newk's Eatery, Vicksburg
Free - casual play - 6 until 8 p.m.



TOP TO BOTTOM CHESS:

- * Memphis Chess Club**
Weekly chess tournaments on Saturdays
- * Mississippi Coast Chess Club**
Thursdays- Newk's, Gulfport



Benefits of playing Chess

- **Improves concentration and memory.** According to studies done at the University of Memphis, playing chess significantly improves children’s visual memory, attention span, and spatial-reasoning ability.
- **Enhances reading and math skills.** With its focus on problem solving and move variables, chess can improve math skills. Studies show that chess improves reading skills as well.
- **Fosters logic, critical thinking, and creativity.** Chess favors the “if-then” thinker. “If I move here, then my opponent may move here, here, or even here.” That’s logic and critical thinking in action! Studies also show that chess boosts creativity, most dramatically in one specific area—originality. Playing chess helps unleash your originality, since it activates the right side of the brain, the side responsible for creativity.
- **Encourages and rewards hard work.** Chess offers immediate feedback. Lose your focus, lose a piece. Practice and study the strategies, win more games. In chess, you control your destiny.
- **Promotes brain growth.** Games like chess that challenge the brain actually stimulate the growth of bodies that send out signals from the brain’s neuron cells. Communication within the brain improves and becomes faster.
- **It exercises both sides of the brain.** A study indicated that when chess players were asked to identify chess positions and geometric shapes, both the left and right hemispheres of the brain became highly active.
- **Raises your IQ.** At least one scientific study has shown that playing the game can actually raise a person’s IQ.
- **Helps prevent Alzheimer’s.** A study found that people over 75 who engage in brain-games like chess are less likely to develop dementia than their non-board-game-playing peers.
- **Increases problem-solving skills.** Chess requires fast thinking and problem-solving on the fly because your opponent is constantly changing the parameters.
- **Teaches planning and foresight.** One of the last parts of the brain to develop during adolescence is the area responsible for judgment, planning and self-control. Chess helps this area’s development and helps teenagers make better decisions in all areas of life.
- **Optimizes memory improvement.** Playing chess improves your memory, mainly because of the complex rules you have to remember, as well as the memory recall needed when trying to avoid previous mistakes or remembering a certain opponent’s playing style. Many chess players have exceptional memory performance and recall.
- **Improves recovery from stroke or disability.** Chess develops fine motor skills in individuals who have disability or have suffered a stroke or other physically debilitating accident. This form of rehabilitation requires the motion of chess pieces in different directions (forward, backward, diagonally forward motion, diagonally backward motion), which can help develop and fine tune a patient’s motor skills, while the mental effort required to play the game can improve cognitive and communication skills. Playing can also stimulate deep concentration and calm, helping to center and relax patients who are experiencing different degrees of anxiety.

Most of all - Chess is FUN!

'Life is full of important choices.'

'In chess, there are no losers.'

Either you win or you learn ...

sometimes both.'

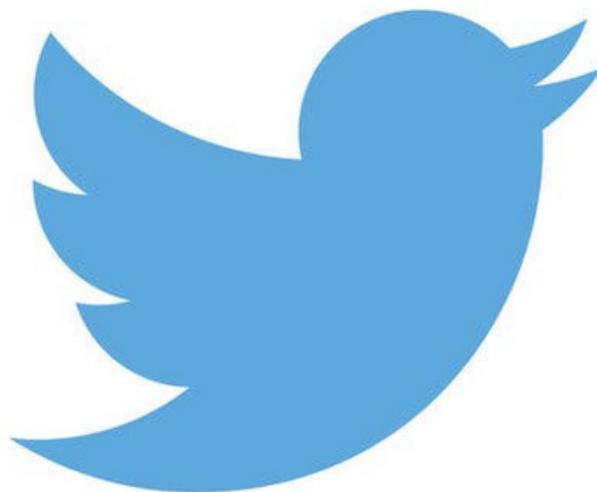


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Sign up for **GroupMe** for instant texts,
send request and other questions to: scottcountychessclub@gmail.com

scottcountychessclub.org