

VOL. 4 ISSUE 10 · OCTOBER 2025

CHESS JOURNAL

Official Newsletter of the Scott County Chess Club

Come join us for Chess!

Our meetings are usually held on the **first Saturdays**
of **each month** so everyone can plan ahead to join us.

***** Special Meeting Date *****

The **NEXT regular meeting** will be held on **November 8** at the
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)



scottcountychessclub



@scott_chess



Scott County Chess



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scottcountychessclub.org



Chess News Highlights

Chess camp coming up

***3rd annual Randy Richardson Memorial Chess Camp
is planned for October 11***

The Scott County Chess Club is looking forward to its third chess camp designed for youth and children interested in becoming chess players through providing an introduction to the game.

The one day camp will be part of celebrating National Chess Day on Oct. 11 at the Forest Public Library. Participants will have the opportunity to learn the basics of the game and practice their new or existing skills.



The camp will be structured a little differently this year with the instructional phase on October 11 and a follow up phase on November 8 to include a mock tournament activity.

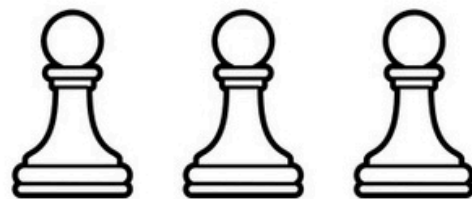
Next week's activity will include classroom style instruction of the basics of the game. Parents are welcome to remain in the room with the participants and learn the game as well. This will be followed by actual playing. The camp will run from 9 a.m. until noon.

On November 8, participants are invited to return to play in a tournament style activity that provides actual competition similar to a real chess tournament. That part will also run from 9 until noon at the Forest Library.

All activities are free of charge. Participants just need to show up and be ready to learn the game of chess.

The camp was first made possible in 2023 through a gifted a \$1,000 donation to support chess and activities promoting chess education. Former Forest resident and native retired Lt. Col. Michael Hawkins donated the funds in memory of a former classmate who taught him how to play chess.

The camp is part of a partnership between the Scott County Chess Club and the library.

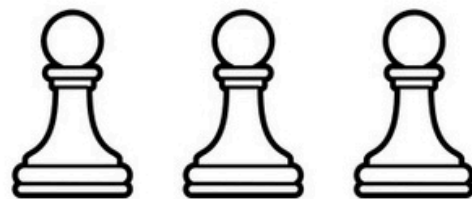


Sponsors

Community Bank
Cox Chevron
Bank of Commerce (Morton)
Tom Miles
Priority One Bank
French's Pharmacy
Fountain ACE Hardware
Bank of Forest
Jack Batte and Sons Lumber Mill
Joe McGee Construction

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
Forest Baptist Church
Andrew Jackson Council - BSA
Community Bank
SwissSys
MS Trophy
Larchwood Designs
MS Secretary of State
Go Daddy (web hosting)
Ingram Printing
Scott County Times
The Spirit of Morton
SuperTalk MS
WLBT - Studio 3
Forest Chamber of Commerce
Town of Lake
City of Morton
Town of Sebastopol
King Registration
Friends of Roosevelt State Park



Chess Celebration

National Chess Day

October 11, 2025 - 46 years and counting

In 1976, President Gerald Ford declared October 9 as National Chess Day.

He considered chess a king's game and was an avid follower.

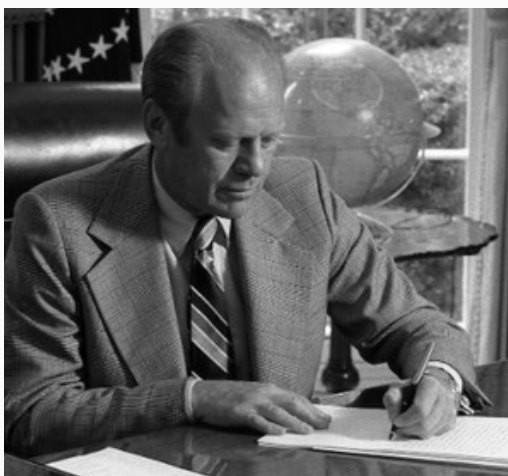
This annual observance has taken place **on the second Saturday of October** since 1979, with millions of beginners and experts delving into the unique world of chess.



From President Gerald R. Ford:

"I welcome this opportunity to greet America's chess players and to give special recognition to a game that generates challenge, intellectual stimulation, and enjoyment for citizens of all ages."

"This national observance focuses on the champions who have mastered the intricate skills of this exciting game as well as the countless fans who find it a constructive way to spend their leisure hours."

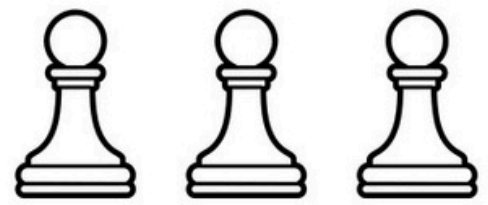


"For both professionals and amateurs, chess is a game that sharpens the mind, tests human faculties, and encourages healthy competition. It has captivated the attention of players and spectators worldwide and will continue to do so as long as competition and excellence challenges mankind."

'Every Chess master was once a beginner.'

'When you see a good move, look for a better one.'

'The willingness to take risks is essential for a player to improve.'



State Fair honors Chess



State Fair Chess

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Mississippi Trade Mart

State Fairgrounds, Jackson

Take High Street Exit from Interstate 55

Come play MCA President Mark Nicholas

in a simultaneous game with other players
2 p.m.

MCA officers will be on hand to answer questions about chess
for new and prospective players

Boards will be available for the general public to play the game **Free of Charge!**

We invite experienced players to come and play to help showcase the game

Information will be available about what is going on in chess
across Mississippi

It's NEVER too late to learn CHESS!!

Sponsored by the Mississippi Chess Association

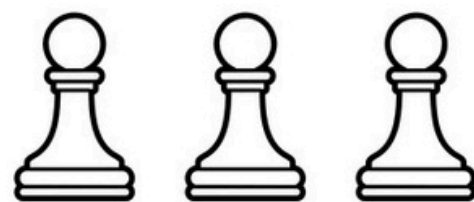
There is an admission fee to enter the State Fair

For more information about the State Fair, visit <https://www.msstatefair.com/>

For more information about chess, email chris@mcachess.org

'Chess is like
life.
There are
rewards for
good choices,
consequences
for the bad
choices.'





Chess Calendar

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

* **Scott County Chess Club** will hold its next regular meeting

Saturday, November 8, 9-11 am, Public Library, Forest

Everyone is welcome. This will also coincide with the second half of the annual chess camp.

* **Mississippi State Fair chess exhibition**

Saturday, October 12 - Mississippi Trade Mart, Jackson

* **2nd Sunday Chess League**

Second Sunday, October 12, 2 p.m. - Food Court, Outlets of Mississippi, Pearl

* **Mississippi State Championship**

Saturday-Sunday, October 18-19 - Nissan, Canton

* **A Knight of Chess**

Thursday, October 23 - Humphreys County High School, Belzoni

* **ERDC Individual and Team Chess Clash**

Saturday, October 25 - Workforce Development Center, Vicksburg

* **Roosevelt Chess Classic - Scott County Chess Club hosting**

Saturday, November 1 - Roosevelt State Park, Morton

* **Mississippi Scholastic Team Jamboree**

Saturday, November 8 - St. Andrews Episcopal School, Ridgeland

* **Mississippi Chess Festival**

Saturday-Sunday, November 15-16 - Mississippi College, Clinton

* **Chess Battle**

Saturday, November 22 - Public Library, Vicksburg

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



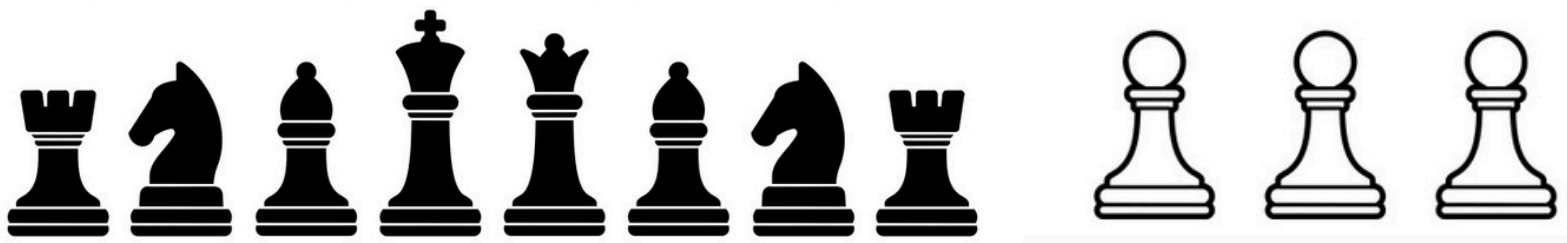
TOP TO BOTTOM CHESS:

* **Memphis Chess Club**

Weekly chess tournaments on Saturdays

* **Mississippi Coast Chess Club**

Thursdays- Newk's, Gulfport



Scott County Chess Club sponsored tournament

5th annual Roosevelt Chess Classic

MORTON – The 5th annual **Roosevelt Chess Classic tournament** is set for **Saturday, November 1, 2025**, at Roosevelt State Park in Morton. This event will feature individuals and teams playing rated games.

Our first Roosevelt Classic in November 2021 attracted nearly 50 players from around Mississippi and we had players come from Louisiana, Tennessee, and Florida. In 2022, the tournament included 69 players from Mississippi and Louisiana. We had 59 players in 2023 and we set a new record last year with 75 players. Our combined turnout for all tournaments is now 457 players, including those returning and new players.

Registration is open! The listing is on King Registration with initial information which may have some changes. All details are now final.

Before we go any further, recognition goes to our past sponsors who generously donated funds to help make our tournaments successful. Most of, if not all, of them have expressed an interest to continue this year and we may even have some new sponsors added. This is a tremendous benefit because their contributions help keep the registration fees and expenses as low as possible which means funds left over after all bills are paid can be carried over to the next event. We really appreciate the support from the community and the businesses who have helped make these tournaments possible.

Roosevelt State Park, Alfreda-Harris Lodge, 2149 MS Highway 13, Morton

Exit 77 on Interstate 20

4 rounds – Swiss System – Game control: 45+3

active U.S. Chess Federation membership and notation **required; All games are rated**

All Rated Sections - Open, U1200, U800, U400

INDIVIDUALS

Open (Cash - \$200 & trophy for 1st, \$100 & medal for 2nd; \$50 & medal for 3rd)

U1200 (Cash \$50 and trophy for 1st; medals for 2nd and 3rd)

U800 (Cash \$50 and trophy for 1st; medals for 2nd and 3rd)

U400 (Cash \$50 and trophy for 1st; medals for 2nd and 3rd)

TEAMS

Players may form teams with any number of players above the minimum of four.

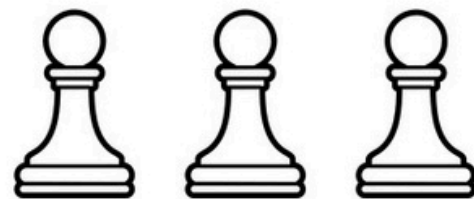
Each team player will compete in their respective section according to their rating, or play up.

The four players with the best scores among their team members are used to calculate their team score.

The first place team will win championship and those four members will receive medals and \$100 collectively.

School sponsored and independent teams are welcome.

**** Please check your membership status with the U.S. Chess Federation to make sure your status is active and renew if necessary before registering. ****



2025 Roosevelt Chess Classic - continued

REGISTRATION Online: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/Roosevelt2025>

Early Bird Discount: \$35 per player

*Discount expires at 11:59 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25. **Regular rate: \$40 per player begins***

*Late and Onsite Registration: **\$45 per player begins 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31***

No registrations accepted after 9 a.m. Nov. 1

TEAM REGISTRATION

Players wishing to form teams should designate a team captain who will register members together in one transaction.

School teams - Coaches should register players in same transaction

All teams should be registered by noon, Friday, October 31;

Individuals' final deadline is 9 a.m. Nov. 1

*King Registration utilizes **PayPal, Venmo, and credit/debit card payment methods**. King Registration is preferred, but if different payment method is needed, please contact tournament director via email at scottcountychessclub@gmail.com. In email, provide name, active USCF #, desired section, desired payment method, Other electronic options include CashApp and Zelle. Paper check and cash on site methods are available. Make checks payable to the Scott County Chess Club.*

Schedule

Registration and Check-in 8 a.m. until 9 a.m.

All players must arrive by 9 a.m. so tournament can start on time.

Welcome and Briefing of Rules 9:15 a.m.

Round 1 – 9:30 a.m.

Round 2 – 11:30 a.m.

Round 3 - 2 p.m.

Round 4 - 3:30 p.m.

Awards – To be presented after final round

(Please try to plan to stay for awards if possible)

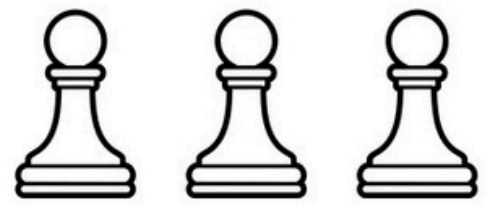
Byes due to inability to pair = 1.0

Requested byes = 0.5 (make requests before start of round)

Players who have byes in the same round may request to play extra rated game.

Tiebreakers Ties will be settled by SwissSys computer program. Cash prizes will be split per USCF rules.

Computer tiebreakers will determine trophy and medal recipients.



2025 Roosevelt Chess Classic - concluded

Important Tournament Notes

The park entry fee is already handled. Advise gate personnel that you are participating in the chess tournament.

- Registered players will receive a pre-event email on Wednesday prior to tournament including important last minute details.
- Everyone is encouraged to bring chairs for lounging between rounds, lobby seating is limited; an outdoor patio is available.
- Concession food options will be available on site. Cash and electronic payments (CashApp) accepted
- Skittles rooms will be available.
- Please submit any requests for change of section by 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31.

More information is available on our website scottcountychessclub.org

Send questions or requests via email to scottcountychessclub@gmail.com



International Master

We were blessed in November 2024 with the participation of an international chess master during our 4th edition of the Roosevelt Chess Classic tournament.

Justin Sarkar flew from New York to participate in our event and left as the Open champion. It was also our largest turnout ever among our events.



Tournament action is all around

Many chess players are content to just play casually whenever the opportunity arises. This may include accepting a spontaneous invitation from a fellow chess player or attending a local chess club. However, there is another level to the game of chess - tournaments.

Tournaments are great ways to see how much progress a player is making in learning and growing in the game by discovering how they stack up against other players. It is also an opportunity to learn from other players in seeing a variety of strategies and styles of play. Like any other competitive activity, it is good to keep a healthy attitude and perspective, but playing in tournaments can reap many rewards.

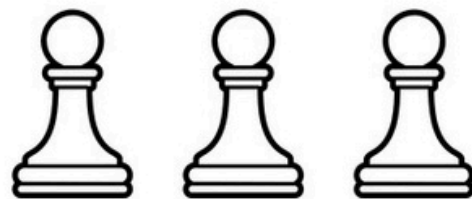
Some players enjoy just playing in a random tournament for fun and experiencing the opportunity to learn and grow. Other players are more competitive and really get into tournaments, seeking to win and advance as far as they can go. They may have aspirations for earning master, grandmaster status within the U.S. Chess Federation through their rating. It is up to each individual to determine what kind of chess life they wish to have.

In Mississippi, there are many opportunities to participate in tournaments. The Mississippi Chess Association sponsors a state tournament each fall for adults and youth. Youth may also participate in the annual scholastic tournaments. These events are precursors to representing the state on the national level at many events.

Tournaments usually include registration fees and players choose what sections they wish to participate in, based on their skill level as determined by their U.S. Chess Federation rating. Tournaments may also include team play where individual players' scores are combined and calculated for overall scores. Prizes may include cash, trophies, plaques, medals, ribbons, and certificates.

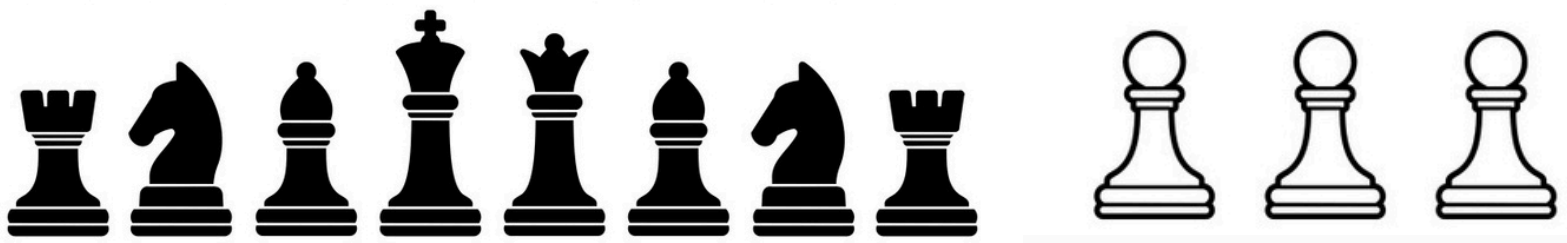
See calendar on page 5 and our website for more information!

scottcountychessclub.org



**'A day
without chess
probably
wouldn't kill
you,
but
why risk
it?'**



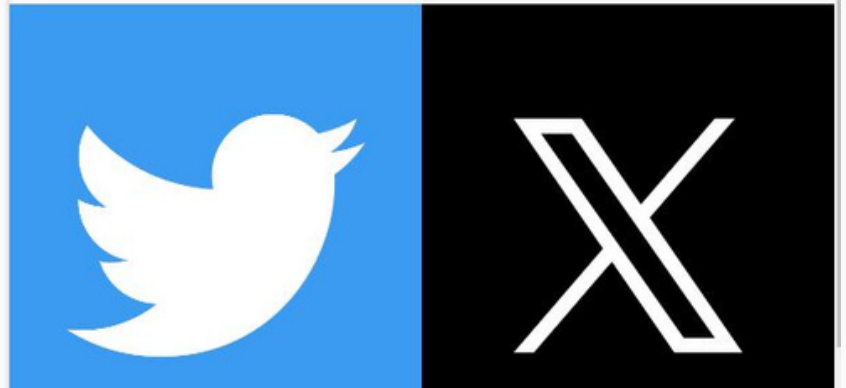


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Scott County Chess

send request and other questions to:
scottcountychessclub@gmail.com

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