

VOL. 3 ISSUE 8 · SEPTEMBER 2024

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 **September 7** 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



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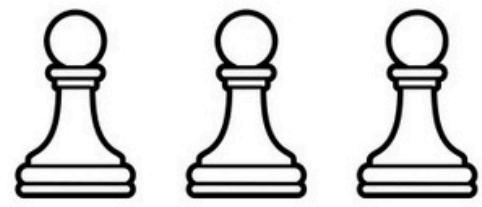
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Chess News Highlights

Newest tourney scores big

Forest Chess Challenge becomes annual event

A small group of chess players from across the state gathered on August 17 to participate in the first Forest Chess Challenge which featured a faster style of playing the game.

The Challenge included two tournaments, one for Quick play and one for Blitz play.



The event, held at Penn’s restaurant in Forest, attracted 15 registered players in its first outing. The Quick tournament ran five Swiss paired rounds with a time control of G/15+3. The Blitz tournament ran six Swiss paired rounds with a time control of G/5+3.

Both sessions included two sections, Open and U1000, and cash prizes were awarded to first and second place winners respectively.

Chris Allen Baker, founder and coordinator of the Scott County Chess Club, said the launch was successful and plans are underway for the next one.

“It was a good day for chess in Scott County and I appreciate everyone who traveled across the state to participate in our event. It was a small group, but that is ok as I was expecting that. We hit the goal of 15 registrations which was good for our first time out,” Baker said. “Everyone said they had a great time and enjoyed the chance to play the game.”

The Forest Challenge is different from the two tournaments already offered including the Bienville Classic in the spring and Roosevelt Classic in the Fall, both which use G/45+5.

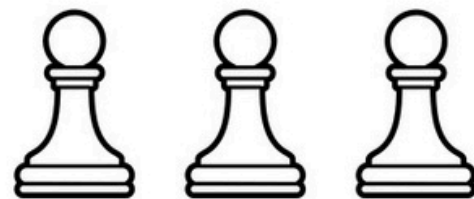
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Sponsors

- 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



Highlights in Chess

“While looking at the year’s chess calendar, I realized there are very few opportunities for playing Quick and Blitz. We had one of the only two planned events of this nature. Other clubs and groups offer sporadic chances to play Blitz or Quick. I wanted to offer a set event where players can make plans and count on at least one event like this.”

The first Forest Challenge was a trial run to test the waters, and the result was good enough to continue. “I wasn’t sure at first about hosting this kind of tournament because my own Blitz experience is limited. Watching one other tournament this summer, I realized the strength of the segment of our chess community that enjoys speed chess is significant, so I wanted to get into the game,” Baker said. “Whereas I had hosted six tournaments in Morton, I had also wanted to hold an event here in Forest so this is the perfect opportunity.”

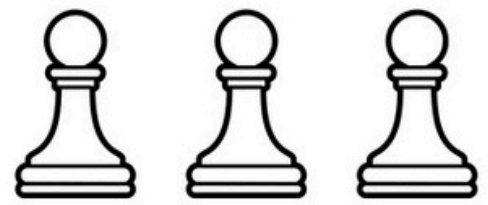
Baker said the Forest Challenge will always be held in August.

For the results, visit scottcountychessclub.org

'Life is full of important choices.'



2025 Forest Chess Challenge - Aug. 16



Highlights in Chess

Wing Dang Doodle is Sept. 28

The Scott County Chess Club will make its third appearance at the annual festival

It's that time of year again when fall festivals come around in Scott County and the Scott County Chess Club will be in the thick of the action starting with the Wing Dang Doodle Festival at Gaddis Park in Forest.

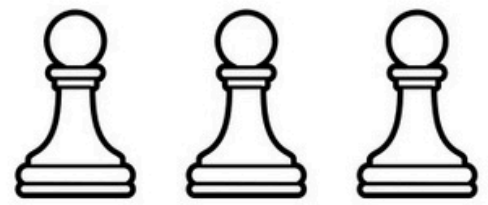
Originally known as the Broiler Festival, the event was rebranded to its new name to feature all things poultry and includes fun, fellowship, music, arts and crafts, great food, and more.

The Scott County Chess Club will have an information booth set up where people can stop by for details about how to get involved in chess. There will also be an opportunity to play the game on boards set up under our tent. **Come by to see us!!**



'Life is full of important choices.'





Highlights in Chess at Roosevelt Park

Kids chess camp planned

*2nd annual Randy Richardson Memorial Chess
Camp is set for October 12*

The Scott County Chess Club is looking forward to its second 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. 12 at the Forest Public Library. Participants will have the opportunity to learn the basics of the game and play a small tournament-style event to try their new or existing skills.



The camp was first made possible 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.

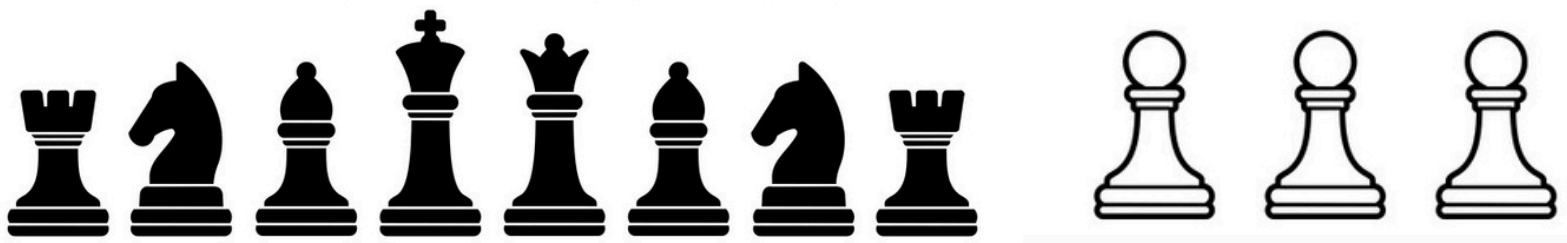
Hawkins said he wished for the funds to be used to obtain whatever materials the library needed to educate and promote chess in the community, particularly among children. The donation was also used to buy chess books and sets.

The classmate Hawkins referred to is the late Randy Richardson who, with Hawkins, was a 1960 graduate of Forest High school. Chess was among many activities they were involved in during their school years.

“He taught me the game and I just became hooked. I love it so much. We played 24 straight games with him winning all of them before I was able to beat him on the 25th try,” Hawkins said. “It was a great experience. I appreciated the opportunity Randy gave me to learn the game and I still play it whenever I can.”

'Life
is full
of
important
choices.'





Scott County Chess Club sponsored tournament

4th annual Roosevelt Chess Classic

MORTON – The 4th annual **Roosevelt Chess Classic tournament** is set for **Saturday, November 9, 2024**, 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. Last year's tournament attracted 59 players. Our combined turnout for the three Roosevelt Classic events and the spring Bienville event is now 309 players, including those returning and new players.

Registration is open! We are blessed to join forces with King Registration in offering an efficient and easy way to register for all of our events online.

Before we go any further, recognition goes to our past sponsors who generously donated funds to help make our first three 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+5

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

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

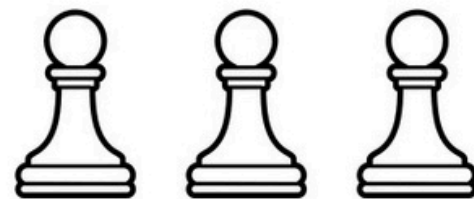
Players may form teams with any number of players above the minimum of four.

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 teams are welcome as well as independent teams.

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



2024 Roosevelt Chess Classic - continued

REGISTRATION

Early Bird Discount: \$35 per player

Discount expires at 11:59 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2. **Regular rate: \$40 per player begins**

Late and Onsite Registration: **\$45 per player begins 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8**

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

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

Use coupon code TEAMROOSEVELT to receive \$2 discount per team member

All teams should be registered by noon, Friday, November 8;

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

*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)*

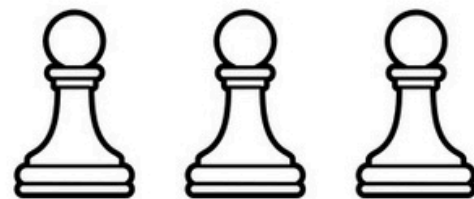
Byes due to inability to pair = 1.0

Requested byes = 0.5 (except Round 4; 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.



2024 Roosevelt Chess Classic - concluded

Important Tournament Notes

Roosevelt State Park enforces a daily admission fee for persons entering the park and this will apply to those attending our tournament. *Visitors will be given a hang tag to place on your rear view mirror. This will allow re-entry during the same day.*

The park admission fee is \$2 per person.

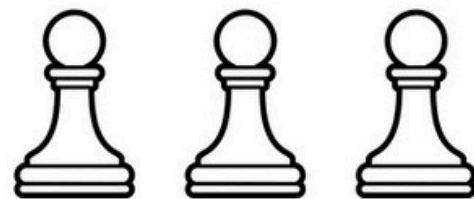
Children age 5 and under are allowed free.

- 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.
- If possible, please submit any requests for change of section by 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8.

More information is available on our website scottcountychessclub.org

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





Chess Calendar

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

Editor's Note: There are more events in the planning stages that have not been announced. They will be added to future editions of this calendar when they are announced.

* **Scott County Chess Club** will hold a regular meeting
Saturday, September 7, 9-11 am, Public Library, Forest
This will be our regular meeting - everyone is welcome.

* **2nd Sunday Chess League**
Second Sunday, September 8, 2 p.m. - Food Court, Outlets of
Mississippi, Pearl

* **Mississippi Women's State Championship**
Saturday, September 14 - Nissan Training Center, Canton

* **Mississippi State Fair Blitz (unrated)**
Saturday, October 13 - Mississippi Trade Mart, Jackson

* **Scholastic Central Jamboree**
Saturday, September 28 - Jackson Prep, Flowood

* **Mississippi State Championship**
Saturday-Sunday, October 19-20 - CSpire Headquarters, Ridgeland

* **Roosevelt Chess Classic** - Scott County Chess Club hosting
Saturday, November 9 - Roosevelt State Park, Morton

* **Capital City Chess Club** - NEW LOCATION ANNOUNCED!
Tuesdays from 5:30 until 8:30 p.m., Scholtzky's, Flowood
Club tournaments and league games will continue at the Food Court
at the Outlets of Mississippi mall in Pearl.

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



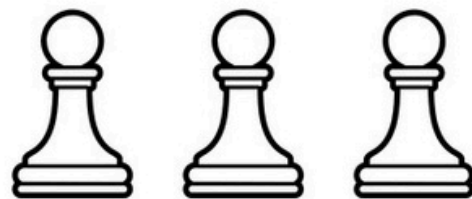
TOP TO BOTTOM CHESS:

* **Memphis Chess Club**

Weekly chess tournaments on Saturdays

* **Mississippi Coast Chess Club**

Thursdays- Newk's, Gulfport



Highlights in Chess

Women's State Championship

*The first state event just for women's chess
is set for September 14*

The Mississippi Chess Association is hosting its first state championship event solely designated for women on Sept. 14 at Nissan Training Center (300 Nissan Drive, Gate 1) in Canton.

The tournament is open to players from all states, but only Mississippi residents may win titles/trophies. Prize funds will be split in the case of ties. Plaque and titles will be settled by tiebreaks if required.

SPECIAL OFFER: For any new USCF member in this event playing in their first tournament we will offer a free entry fee. We will make the same offer to any player in this event rejoining after at least a 3 year absence.

The tournament will feature four rounds of Swiss format with game time control of 45+15.

The entry fee of \$20 is due by September 1. After that date, entry fee increases to \$25. Payment accepted on site (Cash or Check) before Check In. Register online at

<https://www.kingregistration.com/register/2024MSWomens>

Registrants will be posted at www.mcachess.org.

All chess equipment will be provided. All players are required to take manual notation using scoresheets provided by the tournament director.

Three sections, Open, Reserve, and Under 12 (age). All players are eligible to play in the Open section. The Reserve section is open only to players with ratings under 600. A one half point bye is available for all but last round. Must declare before the start of the 2nd round.

Schedule: 9 am, 11:15 am, 2:15 pm, 4:30 pm

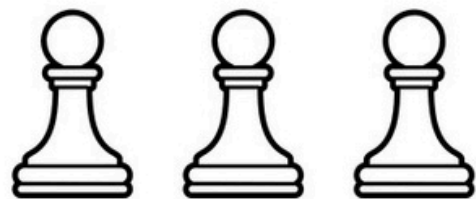
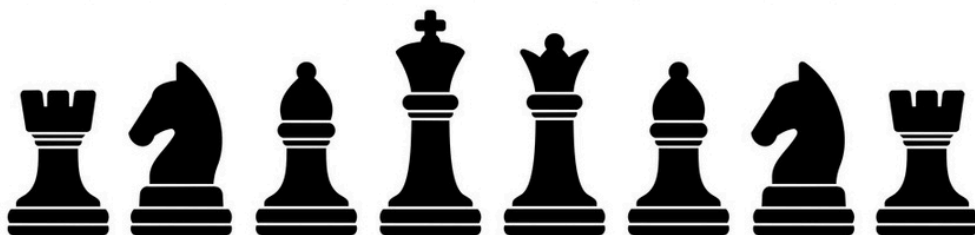
Awards Ceremony to follow last round or tiebreaks. Plaques or trophies will be given for the top 3 finishers.

For more information, visit King Registration on the Internet at

<https://www.kingregistration.com/event/2024MSWomens>

'Life
is full
of
important
choices.'





State Fair Blitz

Sunday, October 13, 2024

Mississippi Trade Mart
State Fairgrounds, Jackson
Take High Street Exit from Interstate 55

Unrated/ Open to all players

Swiss System; *Notation is not required.*

2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

*Please arrive by 1:30 p.m. for check in
Rules briefing 1:45 p.m.; First Round 2 p.m.*

4 rounds – G/10+3

*Each round starts after previous round ends;
pairings are posted; and players are seated and ready*

Prizes

Trophies for 1st, 2nd, 3rd places

*For new and returning players:
Complimentary memberships in U.S. Chess Federation and
Mississippi State Chess Association*

NO ENTRY FEE
NO OFFICIAL PRE-REGISTRATION

Although you are welcome to let us know in advance that you plan to participate

There is an admission fee to enter the State Fair

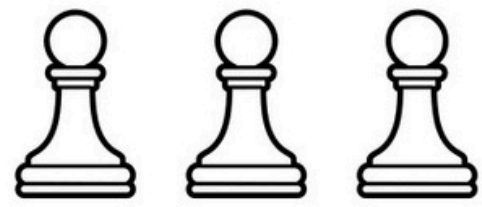
For more information, visit <https://authentigate.lickets/store/msstatefair/1068>

Pre-Sale rate is \$8 until October 2

For more information, email chris@mcachess.org

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





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 9 and our website for more information!

scottcountychessclub.org

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

