

VOL. 5 ISSUE 7 · JULY 2026

# 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.

**\*\*\* No Meeting in July \*\*\***

The **NEXT regular meeting** will be held on August 1 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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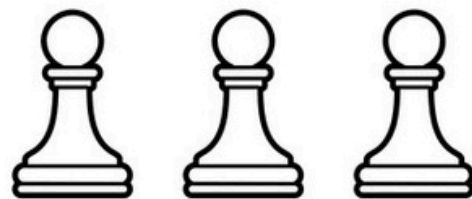
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[scottcountychessclub.org](http://scottcountychessclub.org)



## Chess News Highlights

# July 4th - Chess style

## Check us out at Roosevelt State Park

The Scott County Chess Club will have a display set up **Saturday, July 4**, at Roosevelt State Park as part of the day's many activities planned at the park by the Friends of Roosevelt group.

This will be the third time for the club to have a display at the 4th of July celebrations at the park and we are looking forward to promoting the game to the community.

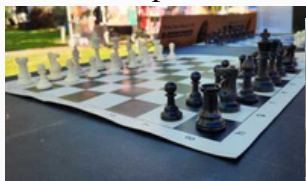
There will be a full day of many activities for the whole family to enjoy at the park in celebration of our nation's 250th birthday.



The 4th of July events planned for the day include a variety of arts and crafts vendors with displays set up offering their products for viewing and sale. **The Scott County Chess Club** will be among them with a tent housing a display of information and flyers to obtain about our activities and upcoming events. There will also be an opportunity for visitors to play chess and ask questions about the game and our club. We had many guests last year.

In addition to arts and crafts vendors, food trucks will offer a variety of meals, snacks and drinks. Live music will fill the air for entertainment as visitors browse their way through the day. Kids can take train rides through the activity area.

Visitors can also participate in old fashioned family games including 3-legged races, sack races, tugs-of-war, water melon eating contest, bingo games, and kayak racing. Kids and adults can dress up their bikes in patriotic trimmings to participate in a bike parade. Later in the evening, the park's traditional patriotic boat parade will be held on Shadow Lake.

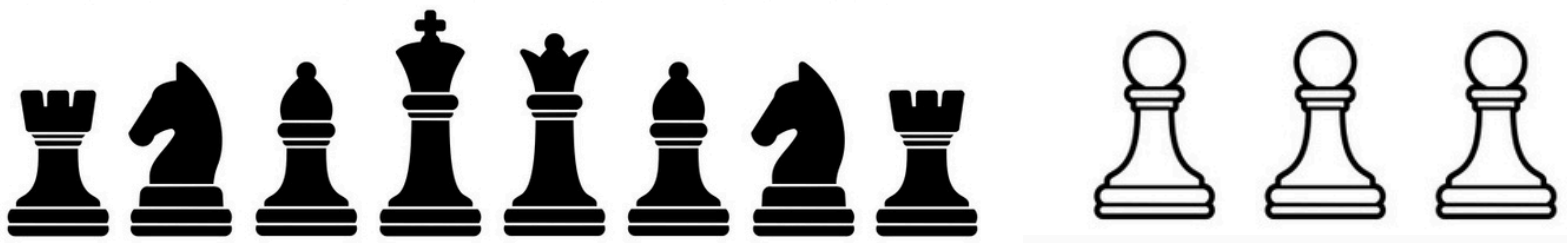


## Sponsors

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



**Scott County Chess Club sponsored tournament**

## Forest Chess Challenge returns for speed chess

FOREST – The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Forest Chess Challenge tournament** is set for **Saturday, August 15, 2026**, at Penn's Restaurant in Forest. This event will feature individuals playing rated games in quick and blitz styles of chess.

Our first Forest Chess Challenge in August 2024 attracted 15 players from around Mississippi. It is the third tournament series created by the club and contributed to a current total of 347 players who have participated in nine tournaments held in Scott County.

The tournament will feature five rounds of Quick chess in the morning, which is games played with 15 minute limits, and five rounds of Blitz in the afternoon, which is games played with 5 minute limits. Cash prizes will be offered to winners.

While we continue to appreciate our sponsors who generously donate funds annually to help make our other two tournament series successful, this tournament series is self-supported without sponsor donations. Operation and prize funds are generated solely from registrations received.

Quick and Blitz are unique styles that challenge players' abilities to think even faster and play with greater speed. It has traditionally been a popular style within the chess community. We look forward to providing this opportunity to meet the needs of this segment of the chess family.

**Penn's Restaurant, 1550 MS Highway 35, Forest**

Exit 88 on Interstate 20 east of Jackson

**10 rounds – Swiss System (no elimination)**

**active** U.S. Chess Federation membership **required**

**ALL RATED Sections - Open and U1000**

Notation is *NOT* required; regular ratings from most recent USCF supplement used for pairings.

### **Quick**

**5 rounds** G/15 (no delay or increment)

Registration 8 until 9:30 a.m.

### **Blitz**

**5 rounds** G/5 (no delay or increment)

Registration/check-in 1:30 p.m.

**Prize funds** come from 80 percent of registrations; first and second place awards

**Registration:** <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/ForestChallenge2026>

**Early Bird Entry Fee:** Quick only - \$25, Blitz only - \$25, Both - \$30

**Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. August 8, fees increase after this deadline.

**Visit [scottcountychessclub.org](https://scottcountychessclub.org) for more information**





## Highlights in Chess

# Wing Dang Doodle is Sept. 26

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

Mark your calendar - we are already looking forward to the Wing Dang Doodle Festival at Gaddis Park in Forest.

The date is set and, with cooperation from the weather, will be a wonderful experience.

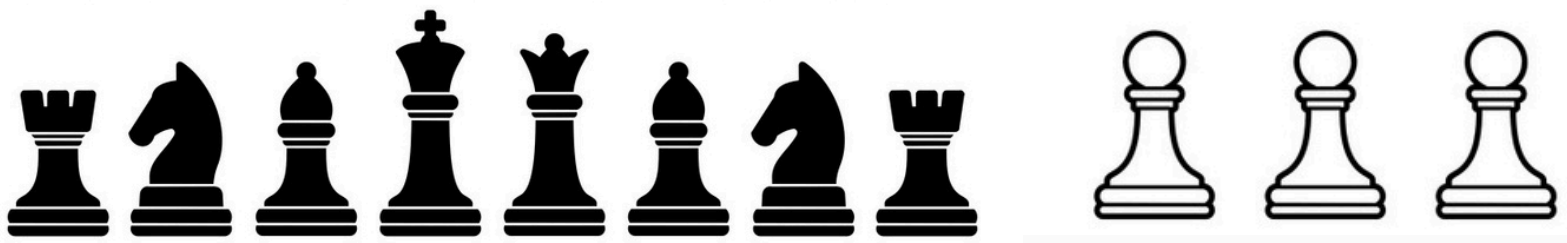
Originally known as the Broiler Festival, the event was rebranded to feature all things poultry and includes fun, fellowship, music, arts and crafts, great food, and more.

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.



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





**Scott County Chess Club sponsored tournament**

## 6th annual Roosevelt Chess Classic

MORTON – The 6th annual **Roosevelt Chess Classic tournament** is set for **Saturday, November 7, 2026**, 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 in 2024 with 75 players and we had about 50 last year. Our combined turnout for all tournaments is now 532 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 will be final after September 1.

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

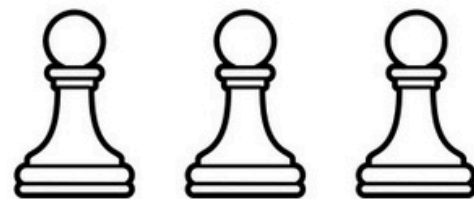
Players may form teams with any number of players above the minimum of four.

**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. \*\***



## 2026 Roosevelt Chess Classic - continued

**REGISTRATION Online: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/Roosevelt2026>**

**Early Bird Discount: \$35 per player**

*Discount expires at 11:59 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. **Regular rate: \$40 per player begins***

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

**No registrations accepted after 9 a.m. Nov. 7**

### 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, Nov. 6;**

**Individuals' final deadline is 9 a.m. Nov. 7**

*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](mailto: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

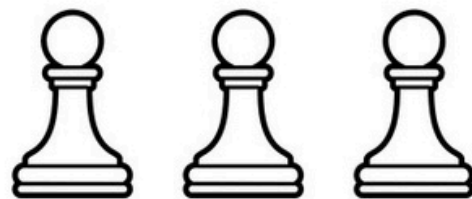
Requested byes = 0.5 (make requests before start of round)

*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.





2026 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.** \*While the tournament will still be held at Roosevelt State Park, it will be in a different building on the other side of the lake. More details will be announced later.

- 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. Seating is limited; an outdoor patio is available.
- Concession food options will be available on site. Cash and electronic payments accepted.
- Skittles areas will be available.
- Please submit any requests for change of section by 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6.

**More information is available on our website [scottcountychessclub.org](http://scottcountychessclub.org)**  
**Send questions or requests via email to [scottcountychessclub@gmail.com](mailto:scottcountychessclub@gmail.com)**

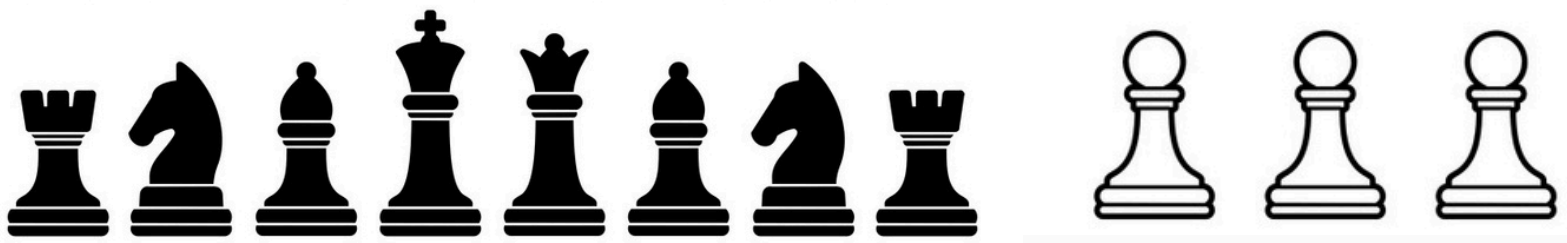


## Building on our success

We are proud of the progress we made since our first tournament in 2021. Our growth has been amazing.

In 2024, we set a new record of 75 players participating. One of those players was Justin Sarkar, an International Master, who flew from New York to participate in our tournament and left with the championship.

We welcome everyone to play with us in each of our tournaments. For more information, visit: [scottcountychessclub.org](http://scottcountychessclub.org)

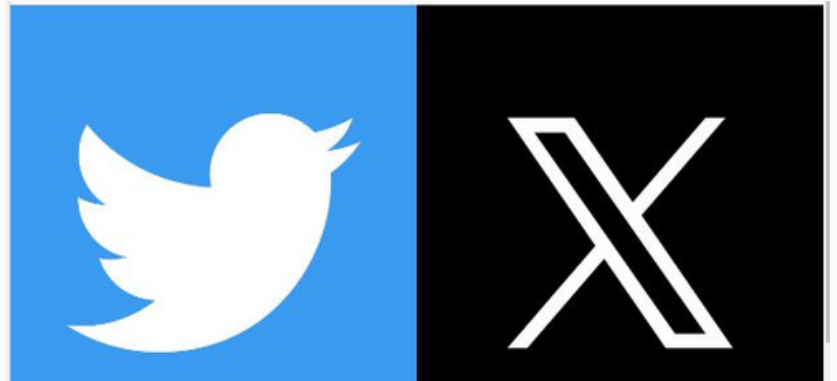


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**@scott\_chess**



**Scott County Chess**

**[scottcountychessclub.org](http://scottcountychessclub.org)**

send request and other questions to: [scottcountychessclub@gmail.com](mailto:scottcountychessclub@gmail.com)