

VOL. 1 ISSUE 12 · JANUARY 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 meeting will be held on **February 4.**

Forest Public Library - 9 to 11 a.m. (210 S. Raleigh St.)

Everyone at every skill level is welcome!



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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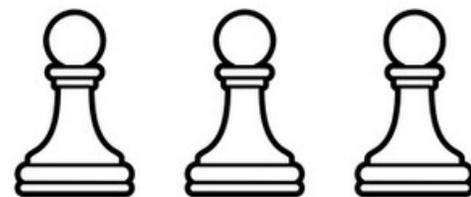
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www.scottcountychessclub.org



Chess News Highlights

A great year closes, new opportunities ahead in '23

The Scott County experienced a lot of growth in 2022 which we are very proud to have accomplished. We have a long way to go to return to pre-COVID conditions, but the gains made in 2022 will provide tremendous advantages for our future opportunities.

You might have noticed the numbering of this edition as being in the first volume. We started the journal in February so its numbering calendar will be slightly off with each volume holding 12 issues, starting a new one in the same beginning month. Likewise, the January issues will be look-backs as well as planning ahead - just as the month is named for the Roman god Janus, of beginnings and endings.

As we look back on our achievements and milestones, consider how far we have come and achieved in bringing chess to Scott County. Through our activities, we have made a name for ourselves in the chess community around the state.



As we look ahead, consider all of the opportunities before us to continue growing the game in our community and the positive difference that playing chess can make in our lives. We invite you to be part of that experience. We also invite you to share any ideas you may have in suggesting ways we can promote the game and create more opportunities for people to join in the fun.

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





Chess News Highlights

2022 - What a year!

The year 2022 was one of many achievements for the Scott County Chess Club. We appreciate everyone who has participated in our monthly meetings and our major tournaments and other events. We could not do any of this without you.

We also appreciate our wonderful partners and sponsors who have contributed numerous in-kind resources as well as financial donations to support our activities. We would not have come this far without you and we look forward to continuing our relationships with you.

Here are some of the highlights:

* **January** - Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association held its team tournament at Roosevelt State Park after seeing our first tournament in action in 2021. On a trial basis, we also added a second meeting time and location at Foothills at 1 p.m. We had to later suspend it, but the door is open to start again.

* **February** - SC Chess Club starts a newsletter. This is a way to provide information in the monthly emails in a more efficient manner.

* **March** - Club leader and director became a licensed tournament director with the U.S. Chess Federation. We also obtained SwissSys computer program for tournament operations.

* **April** - Club continued to promote its new individuals tournament at Roosevelt State Park.

* **May** - Continuing the momentum from the previous fall tourney, the club successfully hosted its first spring tournament with more than 30 players participating in the Bienville Chess Classic. This will include individuals only and become a regular major event.

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Chess News Highlights

* **June** - The June newsletter featured the Club's leader's second appearance on the SuperTalk radio network show "Good Things with Rebecca Turner" talking about the growth of chess in Mississippi. Rebecca has been a great supporter and partner in giving us this opportunity to spread our message about chess.

* **July** - The Club announced the opening registration process of the 2nd annual Roosevelt Chess Classic tournament for November - giving players a chance to register early.

* **August** - The Club participated in the Forest Library's Back to School Bash event to spread the word about the club.

* **September** - The Club had a booth set up at the Wing Dang Doodle festival in Forest for promotion and saw much interest. In the same month, we also launched our new web site to provide information 24-7 about the club.

* **October** - The Club hosted its first Merit Badge workshop to help Boy Scouts learn the game and earn the badge.

* **November** - The Club hosted its third tournament with the 2nd annual Roosevelt Chess Classic with 69 players participating. Two Club members traveled to the Hood Scout Reservation to teach more Boy Scouts and help them earn their chess merit badges.

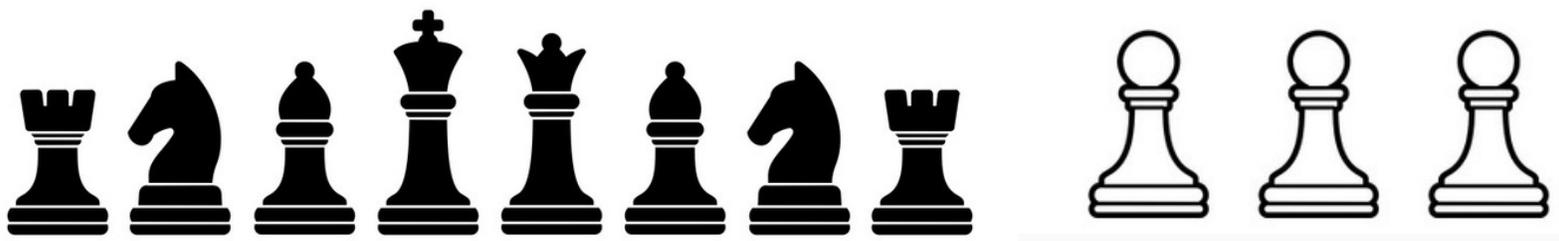
* **December** - The Club participated in the Forest and Lake Christmas parades with a vehicle holding signage to promote the club.

Looking to 2023 . . .

As for looking forward to the new year, we will continue with the programs we started, tournaments, Scout events, and more. We will also work toward new programs in bringing more people into the game of chess. Come join the fun!!

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Scott County Chess Club sponsored tournament

2nd Annual Bienville Chess Classic is set

MORTON – The first anniversary of our second tournament is set for **April 1, 2023** - the 2nd annual **Bienville Chess Classic tournament**. Like the first one, this event will feature only individuals.

Our first Bienville Classic in May 2022 attracted 32 players from around Mississippi and we had players come from Louisiana and Florida. The player from Florida won the grand championship after driving 17 hours to play. In our three tournaments combined so far, we have had 147 players participate from Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Florida.

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. We are getting noticed around the state with strong showings of players visiting Scott County to play this great game. There is so much potential to make our community a chess destination in Mississippi.

2023 Individual Tournament

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 for rated games**

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

U1200 (Trophy for 1st and medals for 2nd and\ 3rd)

U800 (Trophy for 1st and medals for 2nd and\ 3rd)

Unrated (Trophy for 1st and medals for 2nd and\ 3rd)

Federation membership is **not required** for this section only.

This section is designed for players just starting out in tournament participation.

Results will not be sent to Federation but will be posted on our website.

Clocks will be used and notation is strongly encouraged.

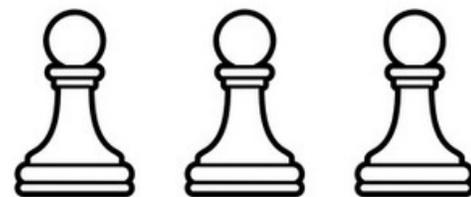
\$30 entry fee through Saturday, March 25, 2023 (after midnight, \$40)

To Register: Players must provide their NAME, Active Chess Federation ID#, desired SECTION, and desired METHOD of PAYMENT

to the following email address: scottcountychessclub@gmail.com

An email response will be sent within 24-48 hours after first contact to finalize registration and make payment arrangements.

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2023 Bienville Chess Classic - continued

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

These payment methods are strongly preferred in advance:

PayPal, Venmo, CashApp

but cash or check can be accepted on site

**Skittles rooms will be available for casual play between rounds.*

Everyone is encouraged to bring chairs for lounging.

Updates will be provided by email during the final month leading up to the event.

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

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

Round 1 - 9:30 a.m.

Round 2 - 11:30 a.m.

Round 3 - 1:30 p.m.

Round 4 - 3:30 p.m.

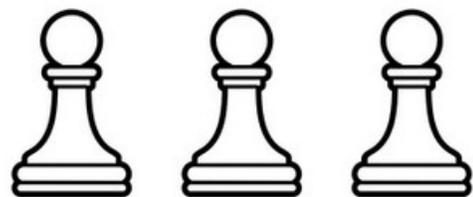
Awards - *To be presented after all games are completed.*

**Byes due to inability to pair = 1.0 *Requested byes = 0.5*

Please make requests before start of desired round.

No requested byes in final round

For more information, visit scottcountychessclub.org



Chess Calendar

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

*** Scholastic Chess State Championship - Individuals**

January 14-15 - CSpire headquarters, Ridgeland

*** Capital City Chess Club - Chess League Party, Blitz Tourney**

January 22 - Dogmud Tavern

*** MHS Wildcat Clash Chess Tournament**

Saturday, Jan. 28, Meridian High School Library, Meridian

Entry fee - \$15 in advance - \$20 on site

*** Pick the Opening Clock Simul with Dave Ross (U1200)**

Wednesday, Feb. 1, Outlets of Mississippi Food Court, Pearl

Entry fee - \$40

*** Pick the Opening Clock Simul with Dave Ross (1200+)**

Thursday, Feb. 2, Outlets of Mississippi Food Court, Pearl

Entry fee - \$40

*** Ole Miss Scholastic Chess Tournament**

Saturday, Feb. 4, University of Mississippi, Oxford

Entry fee - \$15

*** Outlet Special Chess Tournament**

Saturday, Feb. 11, Outlets of Mississippi Food Court, Pearl

Entry fee - \$20 before Feb. 10; \$30 on site

*** 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.

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



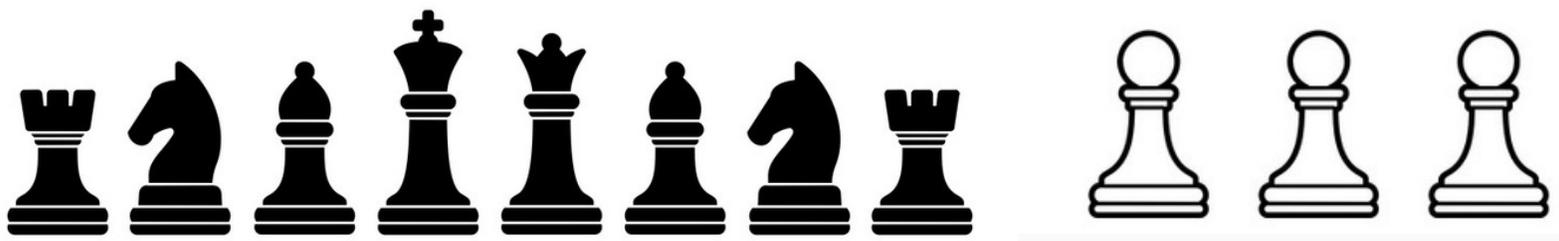
TOP TO BOTTOM CHESS:

*** Memphis Chess Club**

Weekly chess tournaments on Saturdays

*** Mississippi Coast Chess Club**

Thursdays- Newk's, Gulfport



U.S. Chess Federation

The U.S. Chess Federation regulates and governs the game in the United States. It sanctions tournaments and officials as well as oversees the ratings system that measures players' skills.

Chess is recognized as an essential tool that promotes inclusiveness and benefits education, rehabilitation, recreation, and friendly competition.

US Chess Goals

- Expand the educational, social, recreational and rehabilitative applications of chess.
- Increase the visibility of chess on mainstream communications channels.
- Develop the depth and breadth of our partnerships.
- Use chess to increase opportunities for under-represented segments of society.
- Continuously improve internal operations and member services.

US Chess Core Values

- **Education.** We promote the transformative power of chess for lifelong personal growth.
- **Customer Service.** We endeavor to be responsive, adaptive and proactive in providing services to our customers.
- **Excellence.** We strive to be the best we can be as an organization and in service to the game.
- **Integrity.** We honor, preserve and promote fair play.
- **Inclusion.** We believe everyone has a seat at the chess table.
- **Love of the Game.** We embrace chess as a historic and iconic game, and we celebrate its history, growth and evolution in our activities and services.

Players must join the Federation to obtain a membership number which is required when registering for rated tournaments and other rated events. Tournament directors submit results to the Federation which impacts a player's rating.

For more information and to join, visit <https://new.uschess.org/join-us-chess>