

VOL. 1 ISSUE 5 · JUNE 2022

# CHESS JOURNAL

Official Newsletter of the Scott County Chess Club

## Come join us on first Saturdays!

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

The next meetings will be held in Forest on **June 4**  
**Forest Public Library - 9 to 11 a.m.** (210 S. Raleigh St.)  
**Foothills - 1 to 3 p.m.** (1039 Highway 35 - southbound side)

**Everyone at every skill level - beginner and up  
is welcome to attend either or both meetings!**



*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)*



## This issue:

Highlights

PAGE 02

Bienville Chess Classic

PAGE 03 - 05

Calendar

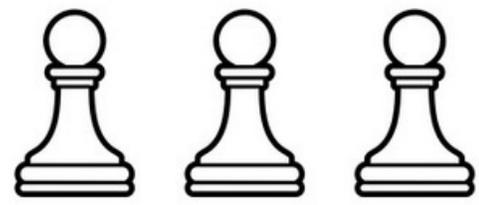
PAGE 06

US Chess Federation

PAGE 07

Find Us on Social Media

PAGE 08



# Chess News Highlights

## Chess returned to SuperTalk radio

Chess was the subject of the day again on "Good Things with Rebecca Turner" on the **SuperTalk statewide network on May 26**. This was the second time that the game and Scott County Chess was featured on the show since Nov. 19.

This time, discussion focused on tournaments and the continued growth of the game in Mississippi. It was great publicity for our club and the game itself. The video is available on our club's Facebook page:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ryr9w-nxfRg>

Rebecca expressed interest in having us back and next time I will bring a guest to talk more about the game. An airdate will be announced after it is set. Many thanks to Rebecca for including us in her program.



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

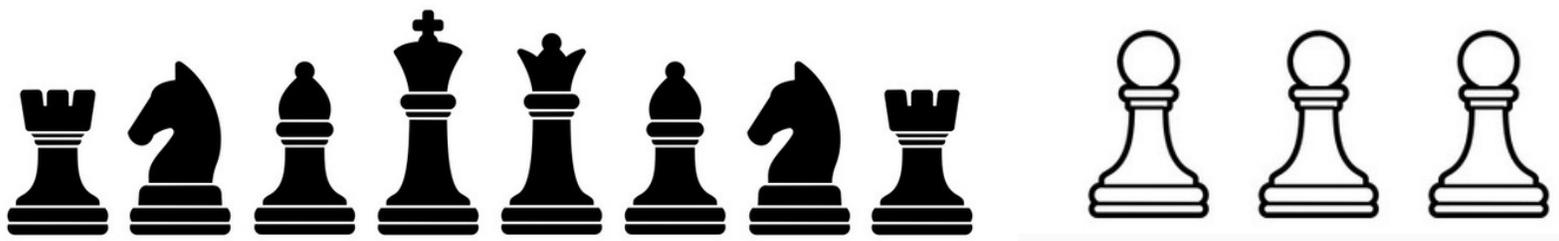
## More exposure and opportunities are coming this year

Interest meetings will be held in the fall for people to learn what we are about. We held a similar meeting in 2018 when we started.

We do not yet have dates, but it will be held in the community meeting room at the Forest Public Library and we will explore any opportunities to do the same at Morton's library. At the meetings, information will be provided about chess for persons who are new to the game. Tell your friends to come check it out. If you missed the original meetings, this is a good way to find out more about our operations.

We are also planning attendance at area events such as Wing Dang Doodle festival in Forest in September and other public appearances. For the most updated information between newsletters, check our Facebook page.





## *Scott County Chess Club sponsored tournament*

# Bienville Chess Classic is a success!!

MORTON – A new chess tournament introduced to Scott County went down to the wire to crown its first champion on May 14 in a thrilling winner-take-all tie breaker at Roosevelt State Park.

The Bienville Chess Classic is the second tournament at Alfreda-Harris Lodge organized and hosted by the Scott County Chess Club. The one-day tournament attracted 32 players from across Mississippi, one player from Florida, and a couple players from Louisiana. Other players within the state came from across Central Mississippi and the coastal counties. The chess club plans to make this tournament, named for the national forest that covers much of the county, an annual spring event. It will join the Roosevelt Chess Classic held in the fall, established in November 2021.

Chris Allen Baker, founder and coordinator of the chess club, served his first stint as a certified tournament director. “We had a great day of chess where our players blessed us with their participation and provided some great competition. We had players with strong ratings battle to the very end,” Baker said. “Each of the rounds went deep as the last remaining players finished just minutes before the next round was to begin.”

The tournament included four 45-minute rounds with three sections. Players are grouped into the sections according to their skill level as determined by ratings issued by the U.S. Chess Federation. First place in two of the sections received a trophy while second and third places in all sections received medals.

Most of the players were visitors but one player, Cody Batte, has ties to Scott County. Batte won three of the four rounds to play his way into a tie for second place in the U1000 section. A two-game tie breaker did not end in his favor, giving Batte a third-place finish.

The U500 section also had a two-way tie for second place which was settled when one of the players agreed to forfeit the tie breaker game and accepted third place.

More excitement came in a two-way tie for first place in the Open division, which is the most competitive and includes the highest rated players participating. Winners in this section received cash prizes and medals for second and third places. The first-place winner also received a plaque commemorating the Beverly Jo Rhodes Memorial Championship, named for a former gifted teacher who started the WINGS program at Forest High School and supported chess among class activities.

Ryan Wu and Andrew Rea, who drove 17 hours from Florida to participate, finished regulation tied with 3.5 points. Their first two tiebreaker games ended in draws sending the action to an “Armageddon” round. Rea claimed the win as the sudden death game was decided in the final seconds.

Baker said the club will host the second annual Roosevelt Chess Classic planned for November 5 at Roosevelt State Park to include individuals and teams.

“We really appreciate the support from the community and the businesses who have helped make these tournaments possible,” Baker said. “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.”



# Bienville Chess Classic - continued

## 'Thank you Sponsors!'

*We appreciate the generous contributions from our sponsors who have supported us in our tournaments and are pledging to maintain that support. Please let them know you appreciate their support of chess activities in Scott County.*

### Businesses sponsors - Bienville Chess Classic:

- Community Bank - Forest
- Priority One Bank - Morton
- Fountain ACE Hardware - Forest

### Businesses sponsors - Roosevelt Chess Classic:

- Community Bank - Forest
- Bank of Morton - Morton
- Vance Cox - Cox Chevron - Forest
- Tom Miles, State Representative

**Other supporting friends:** *The Scott County Times, Forest Public Library, Mississippi Trophy, Roosevelt State Park*

## And the winners are . . . .



## Beverly Jo Rhodes Memorial Award

The **Beverly Jo Rhodes Memorial Championship** is named in memory of a former gifted teacher who started the WINGS program at Forest High School and supported chess among class activities. This award will be given annually at the Bienville Chess Classic each spring.



**Beverly Jo Rhodes**

**Andrew Rea** of Florida (at far left) was the first recipient after winning the Open section championship.



### Open Section

L to R: Ryan Wu (2), Andrew Rea (1), Stephen Curry (3)



### U1000 Section

L to R: Cayden Braudt (2), Jasmaan Banipal (1), Cody Batte (3)



### U500 Section

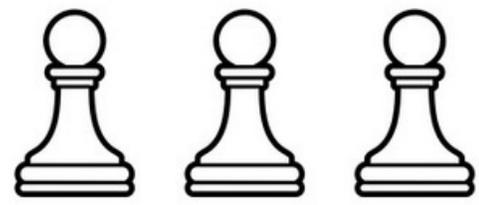
L to R: Richard Stegall (1), Tejbir Banipal (2), Shelly Nicholas (3)



# Bienville Chess Classic - Action scenes



'Life is full of important choices.'



# Chess Calendar

For more information about all listings:

send email request to [scottcountychessclub@gmail.com](mailto:scottcountychessclub@gmail.com)

## \* *Mississippi Amateur Team Open*

June 4-5 - Grand Hotel. 111 Broadway St., Natchez

Entry fee - \$60 - per team by June 1; \$80 per team after June 1

All players welcome - inside and outside Mississippi

## \* *Lessons with an International Master*

Get some help from the BEST in Mississippi - IM Dave Ross

Receive instruction, game analysis & individual improvement plan

June 6, 7, 8 - 6 until 8 p.m. - Dogmud Tavern, Ridgeland

Fee: \$60 for all three nights or \$25 per night if just one or two.

## \* *Rated Quad games*

Thursday, June 9, 1-4 p.m. - Dogmud Tavern, Ridgeland

G/15+15

## \* *Year Long Chess League - Capital City Chess Club*

2nd Sundays - Food Court Outlet Mall, Pearl

Entry fee - \$20 - for first five games (due in August)

G/90+30 - 2 sections: Open and U1400; 10 rounds, Swiss Pairing

## \* *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.

## \* *Mississippi Coast Chess Club*

Thursdays- Newk's , Gulfport

Working with new players with goal of having rated tournaments

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



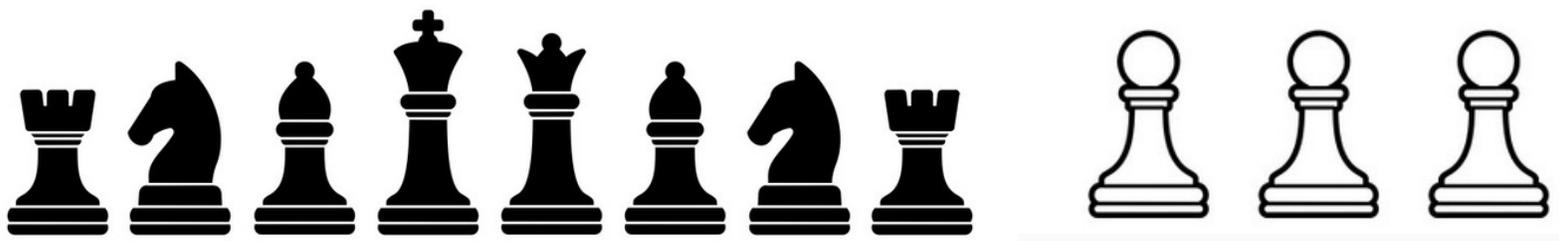
## \* *Memphis Chess Club*

Weekly chess tournaments on Saturdays

David Kernell Memorial Tournament,

June 18

Super Summer Swiss, July 1-3



# 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 2022 Goals

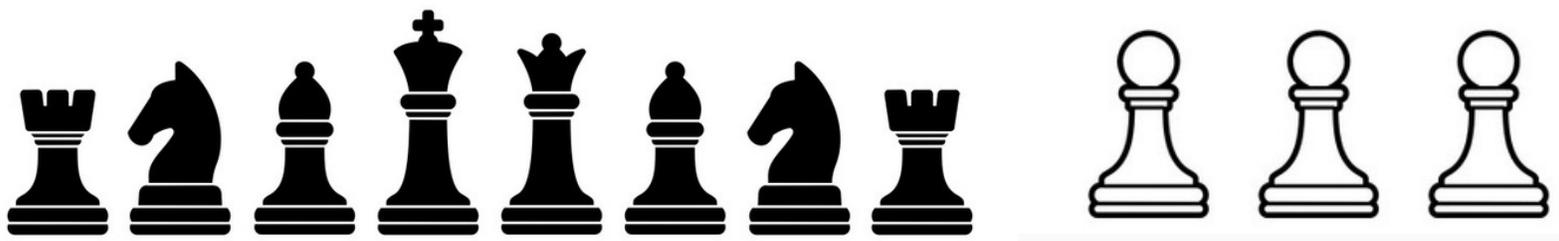
- Expand the educational, social, recreational and rehabilitative applications of chess.
- Increase the visibility of chess on mainstream communications channels.
- Develop the depth and breadth of our partnerships.
- Use chess to increase opportunities for under-represented segments of society.
- Continuously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

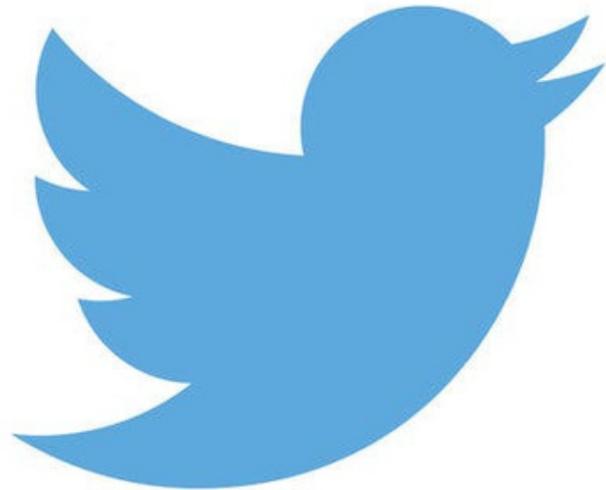


Find Us On Social Media



**@scottcountychessclub**

**@scott\_chess**



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