

Issue Two

Conejo Valley Chess News for kids

Why chess should be taught in school

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Chess is a classic game of strategy, invented more than 1500 years ago in India. Since its invention, chess has spread to every country in the world. Educators are beginning to see the value in bringing chess into the classroom. The research shows countless academic benefits for children who learn to play chess. It teaches focus, visualizing, thinking ahead, weighing options, analyzing concretely, thinking abstractly, planning and juggling multiple considerations simultaneously.

None of these skills are specific to chess, but they are all part of the game. The beauty of chess as a teaching tool is that it stimulates children's minds and helps them to build these skills while enjoying themselves. As a result, children become more critical thinkers, better problem solvers, and more independent decision makers.

Meyers, Jerry (Chess-the Best Thing this Side of Heaven! Why Offer Chess in Schools?)

Countries all around the globe are incorporating Chess in school. In 2011, the Armenian government mandated that second, third and fourth graders take weekly chess classes.

On March 13th, 2012 in Strasbourg the European Parliament endorsed the 'Chess in European schools' program, a cooperation between the European Chess Union (ECU) and the Kasparov Chess Foundation. Garry Kasparov is the world's most legendary chess player.

In May of 2013, a law was passed to establish chess in the curriculum of primary schools in Paraguay.

In Africa, The African Hope Learning Centre is a School for refugees, set up in Cairo. It has about 500 students who have escaped civil war and related problems in a variety of African countries. Last year they ran their first chess tournament.

In the US, "We're seeing more of these (chess programs) across the country, especially as more and more educators are seeing the impact of the chess program on their students," says Jerry Nash, scholastic director of the U.S. Chess Federation.

Wendi Fischer, executive director of America's Foundation for Chess, says she's seen a "huge increase" in the number of schools and students interested in chess. The foundation teaches second- and third-grade teachers how to use chess as a learning tool, through a program called First Move.

When the program started in 2003 it was in one state, serving about 1,500 kids, but by 2008. First Move expanded to 26 states, to serve about 50,000 kids.

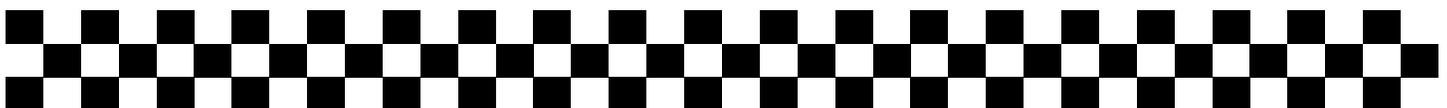
Fischer says the aim of the program is to teach critical thinking skills that will help students succeed academically and socially.

Even though the perception has always been that Chess is for smart kids, the opposite is true, Chess actually makes kids smarter.

This newsletter has been written and edited by Jennifer Vallens.

If you would like to submit articles, photos or other chess information for future editions, please contact me at:

Conejovalleychesmom@gmail.com



Hi,

If you are reading this newsletter, chances are you already play chess or have an interest in learning to play chess. Let me begin by introducing myself. My name is Jennifer Vallens. I am a chess mom living in the Conejo Valley area. My son, Evan started playing chess when he was 6 years old. His elementary school offered an afterschool enrichment program through Academic Chess. He is now 8 years old and is competing in tournaments around town.

I received some really positive feedback with my first Off da ROOK chess newsletter. I hope you enjoy this edition as much, if not more.

Many things are happening in my chess world. I am working with the Conejo Valley Chess Club to provide two Summer Chess Clinics for both all level play and tournament preparation and hopefully to start an ongoing chess club meetings.

Additionally, I am working on bringing chess to schools starting with running a Chess Club for Westlake Elementary to start up in the Fall. My hope is that we see Chess clubs in all of the Conejo Valley elementary schools and run interdistrict tournaments.

I am also working on improving my own chess game. I competed in my first unrated tournament at the Thousand Oaks Chess Club coming in second place in my section. My goal is to be able to compete in rated tournaments with my son and eventually get my Chess Coach certification with the USCF.

I want this newsletter to be valuable to you. Your feedback is important to me. If you have suggestions or want to submit articles, events, photos.....please send to:

[conejovalleychessmom@gmail.com](mailto:conejovalleychessmom@gmail.com)



Jennifer Vallens, chess mom

## CHESS FACTS

- The longest time for a Castling move to take place was the match game between Bobotsor vs. Irkov in 1966: 46. 0-0.
- The word "Checkmate" in Chess comes from the Persian phrase "Shah Mat," which means "the King is dead."
- The longest official chess game lasted 269 moves (I. Nikolic - Arsovic, Belgrade 1989) and ended in a draw.
- From the starting position, there are eight different ways to Mate in two moves and 355 different ways to Mate in three moves.
- The new Pawn move, advancing two squares on its first move instead of one, was first introduced in Spain in 1280.
- The record of moves without capture is of 100 moves during the Match between Thorton and M. Walker in 1992.
- There are well over 1,000 different openings, including variations within larger openings/defenses that one can learn.
- Initially, the Queen could only move one square at a time, diagonally. Later, she could move two squares at a time, diagonally. It wasn't until Reconquista Spain, with its powerful queen Isabella, that the Queen became the strongest

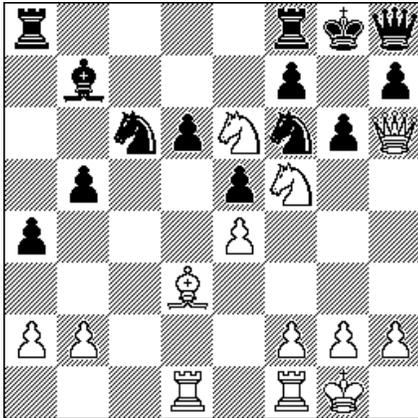
*"The winner of the game is the player who makes the next-to-last mistake."*

*Tartakover*

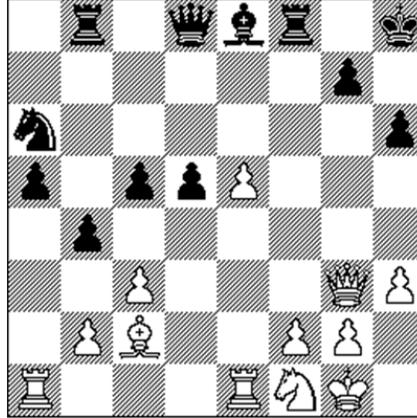
# CHESS PUZZLES (WHAT IS THE BEST MOVE)

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 9)

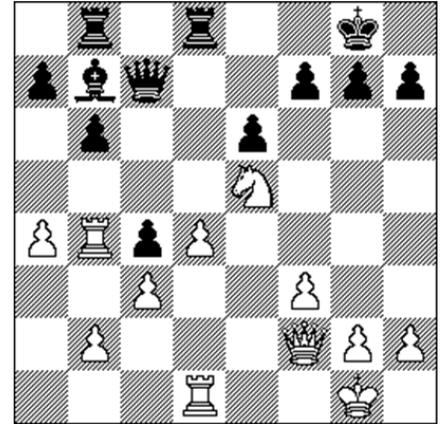
PUZZLE 1  
(white to play)



PUZZLE 2  
(white to play)



PUZZLE 3  
(black to play)



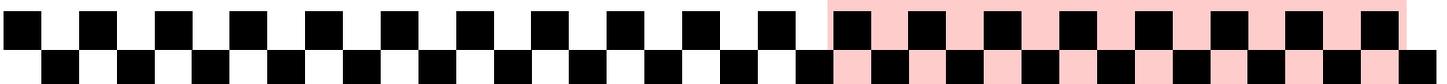
## Chess Expressions

D O S U R Q B O R N E O H K Z D L O M F T H Y C G U  
 E I R K U O U L U A P G I S C U E E X O G A L A R D  
 B L A E E T O H O E N N D Z O X G V K R E E M P A V  
 Y L E G P W N K N C G K H J Y X L Z E K Q D U T N B  
 N N U O O X E I K Z I H W L L P E U D Q  
 K P S N M N R J P G A D A O G T R M E  
 B T F E D G A T V O N P O E A J  
 F I L E Q E G L T X W G M Z S L  
 A T T A C K R W C E L H U H O B T H  
 Q E X C P W Q N X E H A T T G T R S E W  
 M R R Y U Z F E T E N M O A H I P U R T  
 L E S R C R O A C A Q O R K M X N P V Z  
 R Z G K C N M I Q K N F I B U E E K A O  
 J B R X N K F T S K W N K T T L A D D  
 N W Y W C I V E N M O A P C I O U A F S  
 O G K E R S M P A S D T M A C T T K T C  
 I J H C N A O K H G A E T B L W E Y W S  
 T C A C G H D R V I L L E F M L P R N  
 I S J D S U T K M B H H S F E W  
 S C N I X O T D U C N A M R  
 O E B D N N X N Q O N I G U  
 P I S O L A T E D F K E L T S A C O P E W Z D A P R  
 P T N Q Q Y M N W A P S H T U U J V I F V R M U I K  
 O E X C H A N G E U H Q G Q R D O F F E R M E A Z F  
 B U C R L J W S B K K C E H C S F O N D U U Q K R M

- |           |             |            |            |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|
| attack    | develop     | isolated   | queen      |
| bishop    | diagonal    | king       | rank       |
| block     | doubled     | knight     | repetition |
| blunder   | endgame     | opening    | rook       |
| capture   | exchange    | opposition | sacrifice  |
| castle    | fianchetto  | outpost    | skewer     |
| check     | file        | pawn       | stalemate  |
| checkmate | fork        | pin        | zugzwang   |
| defend    | grandmaster | promote    |            |

## Chess Online

- [www.chess.com](http://www.chess.com)
- [www.chesscube.com](http://www.chesscube.com)
- [www.chessknot.com](http://www.chessknot.com)
- [www.chessbase.com](http://www.chessbase.com)
- [www.chesgames.com](http://www.chesgames.com)
- [www.chessclub.com](http://www.chessclub.com)
- [www.chessmagnetschool.com](http://www.chessmagnetschool.com)
- [www.chesskid.com](http://www.chesskid.com)
- [www.chesskids.com](http://www.chesskids.com)
- [www.uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org)
- [www.fide.com](http://www.fide.com)
- [www.sccchess.com](http://www.sccchess.com)
- [www.chessimo.com](http://www.chessimo.com)



## Ongoing Chess Events and Clubs:

### American Chess Academy

ACA offers group classes at Calabasas and Simi Valley locations Monday-Friday for kids 5-16 years. Visit [www.achessacademy.org](http://www.achessacademy.org) for more information. Contact: Jerry Yee (818) 915-5572.

### Camarillo Chess Club

Meets Sundays from 1-4pm at the Sportsman Restaurant located at 4426 Central Avenue in Camarillo. All levels and abilities welcome. Contact: Joseph Larievy (805) 377-0320 [joeruns85@gmail.com](mailto:joeruns85@gmail.com).

### Conejo Valley Chess Club

Check website for tournament information and open chess hours. [Www.conejovalleychessclub.com](http://www.conejovalleychessclub.com)

### Conejo Valley Parks and Recreation

Newbury Park "Chess Challenge" at the Borchard Community Center. Meets Saturdays 2-4pm. Register [www.crpdpd.org/programs](http://www.crpdpd.org/programs)

### Newbury Park Chess Clinics

Newbury Park Chess Clinics are being offered at All Stars Athletics on Wednesdays 4:30—5:30 for \$5 a session. NO pre-registration required. Contact: Jack Cashman at [rationality52@hotmail.com](mailto:rationality52@hotmail.com)

### Thousand Oaks Chess Club

Meets Mondays 6:00-8:45pm. Goebel Senior Center at 1385 E. Janss Road. Casual play. All ages welcome. Contact: Cindy Garcia (805) 990-0136 or at [thousandoakschess@att.net](mailto:thousandoakschess@att.net)

### Ventura County Chess Club

Meets Mondays at 7pm. Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 Telephone Road, Ventura. Contact: Norman Coats. Contact Phone: 805-701-0010. email: [picturethis6@verizon.net](mailto:picturethis6@verizon.net). Web Site: [www.vcchess.com](http://www.vcchess.com)

### Westlake Library

Complimentary Beginning chess class for kids 6-12 taught by Larry Scott on the third Wednesday of each month. Call for information: (818) 865-9230 or visit <http://www.colapublib.org/libs/westlake/>

### West Valley Chess Club

Meets Thursdays 6:30-10:30. 7353 Valley Circle Blvd., West Hills. Continuous rated tournaments, blitz, casual play. Contact Jerry Yee (818) 915-5572 or at [jyee6@socal.rr.com](mailto:jyee6@socal.rr.com).



## PRINCIPLES OF CHESS

According to Grandmaster Susan Polgar, Chess is a very easy game to learn, but harder to master. Here are some very important principles in chess that will help you become a better player.

- **Control the center**

The center of the board includes the squares e4, d4, e5, and d5. When you start a game, place your pawns in the center to occupy and control as many of these squares as you can. Location, location, location.

- **Develop your pieces as soon as possible**

Get your knights and bishops out right away. This should be done before you try to checkmate your opponent, some time in the first 6 or 7 moves if possible.

- **Castle as soon as possible**

The first chance you have, castle immediately to keep your king safe. Remember: you can't win if your king is not safe and you get checkmated first. So, don't forget to castle! Then after you castle, connect your rooks by developing your queen.

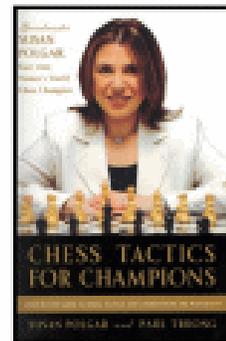
- **Keep your pieces protected**

Don't leave your pieces hanging without protection. Each and every piece you have is very valuable, so don't forget to protect them. Protecting means if your opponent can take your piece, then you can take your opponent's piece.

- **Have lots of fun. Win with grace. Lose with dignity.**

That is my motto in chess. The most important thing in chess should be to have fun, whether you win or lose. When you win, be a good sport. When you lose, be an even better sport. Shake hands and congratulate your opponent. This will go a long way in making good friends.

Besides the five valuable principles above, there are others that you should try to remember. Chess is a game with logic, strategies, planning, and tactics. Keep the following principles in mind as you play.



Grandmaster Susan Polgar is a Hungarian - American chess player, and one of the strongest female players in history.

*Every Chess master was  
once a beginner.”*

**-Chernev**



The American Chess Academy (ACA) has two locations (Simi Valley and Calabasas) and offers group chess classes Monday thru Friday to kids ages 5 to 16. For schedules and tuition information, please contact Jerry Yee at (818) 915-5572, email him at [jy-ee6@socal.rr.com](mailto:jy-ee6@socal.rr.com) or visit [www.achessacademy.org](http://www.achessacademy.org)

# UPCOMING TOURNAMENT INFORMATION



## Saturday, June 1

Scholastic Chess Tournament at All Stars Athletics in Newbury Park 3:30-5:30  
Advance Registration recommended, entry fee \$5  
contact Jack Cashman at [rationality52@hotmail.com](mailto:rationality52@hotmail.com)

## June 10, June 17, June 24, July 1, July 8

Thousand Oaks Chess Club  
5-SS, G/60 Goebel Adult Community Center  
**2 sections** Open and U1500 and an Unrated section for beginners  
One round every Monday night at 6:30pm beginning June 10 and running July 8  
**Prizes:** Trophies to top players.  
**Register** \$20 for rated section, \$15 for unrated section. Register by June 10 6pm  
**For more information or to register,** contact Cindy Garcia at [ThousandOakChess@att.net](mailto:ThousandOakChess@att.net) or 805-990-0136

## July 6, Saturday

### PSO Scholastics

5-SS, G/30. Radisson LAX, 6225 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Open to gr. 12-below.  
**In two sections:** Open: Trophies to top 5, top 3 U1200, top 2 Unrated. Grade 6/below U1000: Trophies to top 5, top 3 U700, top 2 Unrated.  
**Reg.:** 8:30-9. Rds.: 9:30-11-12:15-1:45-3.  
**EF:** \$20 if received by 06/20, \$25 door.  
**Info:** [info@metrochessla.com](mailto:info@metrochessla.com).  
**On-line ent:** [www.metrochessla.com](http://www.metrochessla.com).  
**Ent:** Metropolitan Chess, PO Box 25112, Los Angeles, CA 90025-0112.  
**All schedules:** 1/2-point byes OK all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, other sections before rd 4.  
**HR:** \$95-95, 818-707-1220, request chess rate, reserve by 7/3 or rate may increase. Car rental: Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633.  
**Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds.  
**Questions:** [www.chesstour.com](http://www.chesstour.com), [DirectorAtChess.US](mailto:DirectorAtChess.US), 914-665-8152.  
**Advance entries** posted at [www.chessaction.com](http://www.chessaction.com) (online entries posted instantly).

## Friday-Sunday, July 18-21

Sheraton Agoura Hills  
6SS, In 7 sections. **Open** 3-day & 4-day 40/110, SD/30, d10, **other sections** 3-day & 4-day 30/90, SD/1, d5. **2-day option** in all sections, rds 1-3 G/45, d5, then merges with others. **4-day option** offered only in Premier through Under 1500. **NOTE THAT ROUND 5 START TIME** Sunday morning is 11 am, not 10 am.  
**Prizes:** \$25,000 based on 230 paid entries  
7 Sections. 2 and 3 day options. 4 day option for Premier through under 1500.  
**4-day schedule:** Reg Thu to 6:30 pm, rds Thu 7 pm, Fri 6 pm, Sat 12 & 6, Sun 11 & 4:30. No 4-day schedule in either U1200 Section.  
**3-day schedule:** Reg. Fri to 11 am, rds Fri 12 & 6, Sat 12 & 6, Sun 11 & 4:30.  
**2-day schedule:** Reg Sat to 9 am, rds Sat 10,12:45, 3:15 & 6, Sun 11 & 4:30.  
**All schedules:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, other sections before rd 4.  
**Entry:** Continental Chess, Box 8482, Pelham NY 10803. \$15 service charge for refunds. Questions: [www.chesstour.com](http://www.chesstour.com), [DirectorAtChess.US](mailto:DirectorAtChess.US), 914-665-8152.  
Advance entries posted at [chessaction.com](http://chessaction.com) (online entries posted instantly)

## Saturday, August 3

Scholastic Chess Tournament at All Stars Athletics in Newbury Park 3:30-5:30  
Advance Registration recommended, entry fee \$5  
contact Jack Cashman at [rationality52@hotmail.com](mailto:rationality52@hotmail.com)



**Weekly Tournaments:**

**West Valley Chess Club**  
[www.westvalleychessclub.com](http://www.westvalleychessclub.com)

**Los Angeles Chess Club**  
[www.lachessclub.com](http://www.lachessclub.com)

## What is a rating and how do I get one?

When talking about chess, you might hear statements such as "I'm a 1600 player," or "we're playing in the under 2000 section." These numbers being thrown around are called chess ratings, and are an important part of the chess community.

### What is a Rating?

Ratings are numbers used to represent the playing strength of chess players. The internal workings of chess rating systems can be quite complex, but the basics are simple. Ratings are based on the results of games between players -- usually, games played in chess tournaments. If a player wins games, his rating will increase; if he loses games, his rating will decrease.

The rating of a player's opponents also effect how that player's rating will change. Defeating a much lower-rated opponent will cause a gain of few (if any) rating points, while defeating a much higher-rated foe will earn a large number of rating points. Losses work the game way, though in the opposite direction; losing to a much stronger player won't effect a player's rating much, but losing to a weaker opponent will cost quite a few points. Draws also effect ratings in a similar manner (drawing a higher-rated player increases ones rating, while drawing a lower-rated player decreases it), though not as dramatically.

Over time, a player's rating should approximate their skill level, allowing players to compare themselves to their peers. As a player improves, their rating will tend to rise.

### What do Chess Ratings Mean?

Ratings vary depending on who is issuing them. In terms of United States Chess Federation (or USCF) ratings, a complete beginner who has just learned the rules of chess would likely earn the minimum rating of 100. The average scholastic tournament player has a rating of around 600. A "strong" non-tournament player, or a beginning tournament player that has gained some basic experience might have a rating around 800 or 1000.

The average adult tournament player in the USCF is rated around 1400. Very strong adult tournament competitors -- the top 10% or so of that group -- are rated over 1900.

Prestigious titles are available to the strongest players. These titles are usually award partially or entirely based on ratings. Experts are players with ratings over 2000. Masters are players with ratings over 2200. Earning the International Master or Grandmaster title requires more than just a high rating, but these players are typically rated over 2400 and 2500, respectively. The best players in the world are rated over 2700; the highest rating ever achieved was 2851, by former World Champion Garry Kasparov.

### How do Players Earn Ratings?

A chess rating can be earned in a variety of ways. Online chess sites often offer their own ratings, which are useful for finding appropriate opponents while playing online. Some chess clubs also keep their own informal ratings.

When most people speak of chess ratings, however, they are speaking of ratings assigned by a national chess federation (or by FIDE, the International Chess Federation). These ratings are earned by playing in sanctioned tournaments. After each tournament, the results are sent to the federation rating the event, where they are processed and used to update the ratings of the competitors.

You must be a USCF member to play in a USCF rated tournament. You can apply for membership online or often you can pay for your membership onsite at a rated tournament. One you have membership, you can play in the tournament and will receive a rating after play which will be posted on the USCF website.

## Who is Quinn Creger?

(see Q&A on Page 9)

I met Quinn Creger after Evan won his first Academic Chess tournament. I tried to find chess clubs in our area. And I stumbled upon a website for the Conejo Valley Chess Club. Little did I know that I would find a mentor for my son.

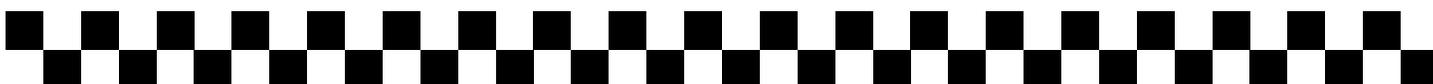
Quinn is 15 years old and a Sophmore at Newbury Park High School. He is one of the coolest teenagers I have met. He is polite, personable, engaging and pretty darn brilliant.

Quinn has won numerous trophies and awards for chess tournaments. His biggest accomplishments to date are winning 2nd place at the North American Open in 2009 and 1st place in the American Open back to back years for 2011 and 2012.

Quinn was recently invited to attend the Sean Reader Master-Junior simul. A simul is where 4 Grandmasters/International Masters and 24 promising juniors are teamed up. The master plays against 6 juniors from the other teams simultaneously. A team needs 6 ½ points out of 12 possible to win the match. After the first round, the 2 teams that won play each other, and the two teams that lost play each other. The winner of the top match gets 1<sup>st</sup> place. Quinn was on the 1st place winning team. Quinn won against IM Ambartsoumian in the first round and lost to IM Matikozyan in the second round. After the award ceremony, every junior was given a board from the event and has the opportunity to get it signed by the masters.

Quinn will be giving chess instruction to those enrolled in the Conejo Valley Chess Camp this summer .

See page 10 for more details.



## READY FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY?

### **What happens at a chess tournament?**

Chess players get together at chess tournaments to meet other chess players and enjoy several games of chess in a structured and sometimes competitive environment. Most chess tournaments are not elimination tournaments, so expect to play all of the scheduled rounds. Between scheduled tournament games, players eat, socialize, play casual (non tournament) chess games, or enjoy other activities. It is not uncommon for a game of soccer, tag, or basketball to spontaneously develop between the scheduled rounds of a scholastic chess tournament.

### **When is my child ready to play in a chess tournament?**

Ask yourself two questions. Does my child know all the rules of the game? Does my child enjoy playing chess? If the answer to both of these questions is yes, then your child is probably ready to play in a chess tournament. Don't worry about how many games your child will win or lose. The goals for your child's first tournament should be to have fun playing chess and to make some new friends. Every child who enters his or her first tournament with these goals in mind will be a winner, no matter how many chess games are won or lost.

### **What is the difference between rated and unrated sections?**

When someone plays in an unrated section, this means the outcome of their game will not affect their rating. They are not required to notate their moves or use chess clocks. If a player plays in a rated section, each round will affect their overall rating. Players in rated sections will be paired with others within their rated section (ie. K-8 under 900). In this example, all players in this section would be in Kindergarten through 8th grade and their published rating with the USCF would be under 900. A player does not need a rating to play in a rated section. However, they will receive a rating after their game. Open sections are sections open to all players of all ages and ratings. In an open section, a 2nd grader with a 900 rating may play a 12th grader with a 1700 rating.

### **What should I bring to a chess tournament?**

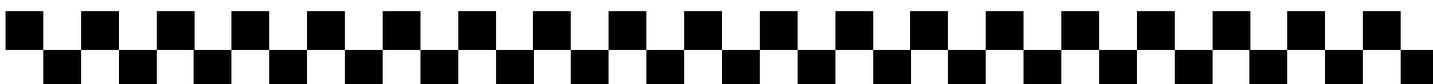
If he is playing an unrated section, he will not need to play with a clock or notate his games. He should bring his own board. If your child is playing in a rated tournament, in addition to bringing his own board, he should bring a chess clock, a scorepad/sheet and a pencil to record his games. At most large tournaments, there will be a concession area where you can purchase these supplies. It's a good idea to bring some snack food and a favorite quiet toy such as a coloring book or a handheld electronic game. A tournament is always more fun when your favorite food is available, and that toy may come in very handy during the downtime between tournament games.

### **What is the Swiss system?**

The Swiss system is the most common system used for making pairings at chess tournaments. Swiss-system pairings match players against other players who have a similar or identical score. For example: in round two, players who won in round one are paired against other winners, and players who lost in round one are paired against other players who lost their first game. At the beginning of a tournament, there may be many mismatches. However, in the later rounds of a Swiss-system tournament, players often face opponents who are at approximately the same level of ability. One of the results of the Swiss system is that many players end the tournament with a roughly even score, such as 2 points out of four games.

### **What is a ½-point bye?**

If you know that you will not be able to play in one of the scheduled rounds of a tournament, you may be allowed to take a ½-point bye. A player who has a ½-point bye receives a ½ point for the unplayed round. You will only receive a ½-point bye if you request it in advance. Some tournament organizers place restrictions on the number of ½-point byes that a player may take, and tournament advertising will often mention these restrictions.



## Q & A WITH QUINN CREGER

How old were you when you started playing chess?  
**6 years old**

Who taught you to play?  
**My dad taught me**

What is your highest rating?  
**2062 regular, 2070 blitz**

When did you win your first trophy?  
**Chess Nuts at school in either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. I won 2 plaques at my first Tournament.**

Have you ever had a chess coach? Why or why not?  
**I have had 2 on 1 lessons with my friend Matthew, but I have never had 1 on 1 lessons. My goal was to make 2000 without a chess coach, now that goal is currently 2100.**

Besides your love of chess, do you have any other hobbies or interests?  
**I like to play baseball and basketball with friends for fun. I play pool some times as well.**

What do you think it takes to make someone a better chess player?  
**Simply play a lot of chess, preferably over the board because you are more into the game, but online works too. Also, study openings and do chess tactics puzzles.**

With regard to playing variations of classic chess (bughouse and blitz), in your opinion, does playing these types of rapid fire games, help or hurt your game of chess?  
**I truly believe that these help my game of chess. I play a lot of blitz and bughouse in between rounds with friends at tournaments. Bughouse helps me improve my tactics, especially because you can drop pieces on the board. Blitz also helps because I have had many games where I got low on time, and needed to be able to think quickly.**

How often do you study chess (analyze games, read books, or solve chess puzzles)? Also, what part of the game do you think is most important to study (opening, middle or endgame)?  
**I generally just play chess online all**

**the time. I do chess tactics puzzles once in a while. I think they are all important to study.**

**Without knowledge of any of the 3, it would be difficult to win a game.**

Do you prefer bishops or knights?  
**It always depends on the position.**

Do you know where you want to go to college and what you want to study?  
**I don't know what college, but I want to major in statistics.**

Do you think playing chess makes you a better student in school? In life?  
**I think it makes me a better person in life, but I don't think it makes me a better student in school.**

Do you have any additional tips or advice for someone new to chess or new to the world of chess tournaments?  
**Practice playing specific openings often and see if you like them. Also, get to know people your age; it will make tournaments a LOT more fun!**

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### Chess Puzzle #1 answer

1. Qxf8 + Rxf8 2. Nh6#

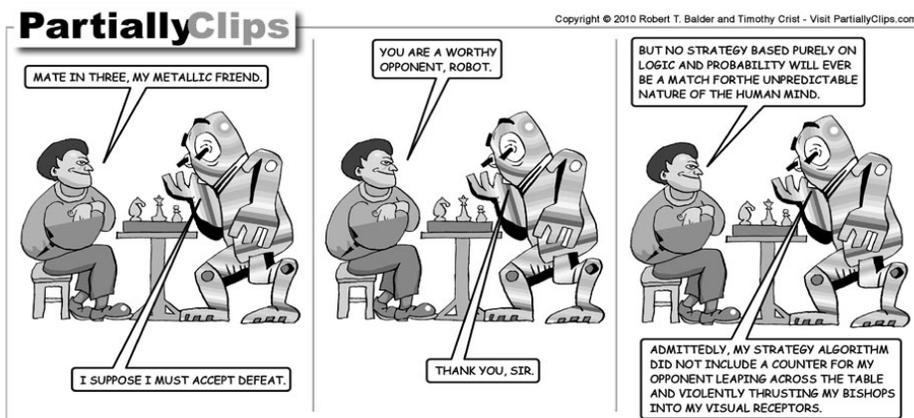
### Chess Puzzle #2 answer

Qd3 threatens checkmate and the Knight on a6

### Chess Puzzle #2 answer

1. Qxe5 dxe5 2. Rxd1+ Qf1 3. Rxf1+ Kxf1 and Black is a piece ahead

*“Many have become chess masters, no one has become the master of chess.”*



# CHESS CAMPS

## All Stars Athletics Summer Camp

June 24-June 28 and August 5-August 9

(K-6 grade)

8am-12pm daily

\$100 per camp

Contact All Stars Athletics (805) 498-6200 or

Jack Cashman at rathonality52@hotmail.com



Summer chess classes offered in Northridge location. K-6th grade, all chess levels!

Starting Monday, June 17 (program runs for 8 weeks last day Friday, August 9)

Classes will be 10am-12pm & 12pm-2pm. Pay for AM or PM class. Discount offered for multiple days and times.

8300 Tamp Avenue, Suite G

Northridge, CA 91324

Contact us at: (818) 888-0012 or email losangeles@academicchess.net or visit our website at: www.academicchess.net



- CHESS INSTRUCTION BY QUINN CREGER
- CAMPERS RECEIVE FREE CAMP T-SHIRT
- TOURNAMENT PLAY AND TROPHIES AWARDED
- PIZZA PARTY ON THE LAST DAY

## The Conejo Valley Chess Club is offering two summer chess clinics

- Dates :** June 24- June 28 (all levels welcome, ages 6+)  
 July 15-July 18 (4 day tournament training, geared toward the more serious player in preparation for Pacific Open in Agoura)
- Time:** 2pm-5pm
- Address:** Conejo Valley Chess Club  
 300 Giant Oak Avenue  
 Newbury Park, CA 91320  
 (located inside Scrapbook Blessings)
- Fee:** \$150 for first clinic / \$50 for second clinic

Make check payable to Conejo Valley Chess Club

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Vallens at (805) 494-4503 or send email to:  
[conejovalleychessmom@gmail.com](mailto:conejovalleychessmom@gmail.com)

***Learn strategies and tactics to improve your chess game, participate in a tournament and have lots FUN!***

