



July 10 to July 31, 2008

Our 9th Season!

MCC Summer Scholastic Chess Program

The MetroWest Chess Club (MCC) is established as a non-profit organization for cultural development, to enable its members to engage in chess play both informally and in organized competition, to provide instruction and entertainment, and to promote the dissemination and enrichment of the game of chess.

In response to popular demand, MCC is pleased to be sponsoring its **Ninth Summer Scholastic Chess Program**. The Summer Program is open to all players who will be **14 years old or younger** as of July 31, 2008 – you're eligible if you were born **after** July 31, 1993. As in the past the Summer Program will happen at the **Kennedy Senior Center**, 117 E. Central Street (Rt. 135), Natick, Massachusetts.

Program Format

We will be conducting **three six-round tournaments**. The **Challenge** tournament will run six consecutive weeks, with one game each night. The two **Reserve** tournaments will run three consecutive weeks each, with two games each night.

<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Rating Eligibility</u>	<u>Time Control</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Challenge	No restriction	G/60	4 rounds, 1 game per night	July 10, 17, 24, 31
First Reserve	Under 900	G/30	8 rounds, 2 games per night	July 10, 17, 24, 31
Second Reserve	Unrated	G/30	8 rounds, 2 games per night	July 10, 17, 24, 31

Games will begin at **6:30 PM sharp** and will end no later than **8:30 PM**.

Explanation of Time control:

G/60 means each player gets 60 minutes for the whole game. The game may take up to 2 hours

G/30 means each player gets 30 minutes for the whole game. The two games in one night may take up to 2 hours to finish

About Ratings and Deciding Which Section to Play In

A rating is a numerical measure of a player's strength, calculated by the United States Chess Federation (USCF) based on games the player has played against other rated players. Ratings are used to define sections where players will all be at a comparable level of ability. The competition gets tougher as the ratings get higher.

For rated players, their rating will determine the lowest section in which they are eligible to play, but they also may choose to play in any higher (more difficult) section than the one where their rating puts them. Unrated players (players who have not yet earned a USCF rating) may play in any section, but usually it is best that they play in one of the lower sections. To help decide which section you should play in, compute a "rating" for yourself using the formula (grade just completed \times 100) + 150. For example, a player who just completed second grade would have a "rating" of 350 [(2 \times 100) + 150]; a player who just completed fifth grade would have a "rating" of 650.

Byes for Games Missed

It often happens that players are not able to play every round of a tournament. To account for this, players are given a bye for each game (round) missed. Byes for rounds that you are not present to play will be half-point byes or zero-point byes. In each event, you may take up to two half-point byes if you are not present. If you are present to play a round but get paired out, meaning that there is no opponent for you because there is an odd number of players in your section, you will get a full-point bye for that round.

Prizes

Prizes Awarded for Participation (Attendance)

- Anyone playing in a summer program tournament on any three (3) or more nights will earn a *medal*.

Prizes Awarded for Game Results

- Anyone scoring seven and one half (7.5) or more total points in the First Reserve and Second Reserve tournaments combined will win a MetroWest Chess Club hat. Anyone scoring three and one half (3.5) or more points in the Challenge tournament will win a MetroWest Chess Club hat.
- Important: for purposes of the above, any scoring from half-point byes will be disregarded. Points from being paired out or wins by forfeit will count toward prize eligibility.

Trophies Awarded for Individual Tournaments

- *Trophies* will be awarded in each individual event. The actual number of trophies awarded will depend on how many players participate.

Requirements for Participation

1. **USCF Membership:** You **must** be a member of the USCF to play in this event. You can join the USCF or renew your membership as part of entering any Summer Program tournament. Scholastic USCF membership (age 12 or younger when joining) costs \$15 for one year. Youth USCF membership (age 15 or younger when joining) costs \$17 for one year.
2. **Entry Fee:** The entry fee schedule for the Summer Program is as follows:
 - **\$20** for the Challenge tournament;
 - **\$12** for either one of the Reserve tournaments, **or \$20 for both** Reserve tournaments.The discounted entry fee for both Reserve tournaments applies whether you sign up for both tournaments at once or for each tournament as it begins.
3. **Equipment:** Players are *not required* to have a chess set, board or clock, but players who have them are *strongly requested* to bring them, since the Club has a limited supply.

How to Enter

You may enter online. Just follow the directions on our website. You can also enter in person at the Club on any game night, but *please* be there no later than **7:00 P.M.** to do so. If you want to participate but can not attend the first week, you may take up to two half point byes for the missed rounds (see "Byes for Games Missed" for more details).

For More Information

For more information *about the Summer Program*, send an email with your question(s) to

[Summer_Staff \(insert at sign\) MetroWestChess.org](mailto:Summer_Staff@MetroWestChess.org)

For more information *about the MetroWest Chess Club*, including directions to the Kennedy Senior Center, see our website at www.MetroWestChess.org