



Tennessee Chess Association

Tennessee Chess News

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A Summer of Nonstop Chess

Submitted by: Alexander Fishbein

Moving to Tennessee in 2021 allowed me to play chess a lot, as I was able to work remotely and no longer had to contend with a hectic East Coast lifestyle and commute. For the last 4 years, I have averaged more than 100 classically-rated games a year. Even by that standard, my schedule this summer was unusual. I played in six tournaments almost directly one after the other: 42 games in 8 weeks!

The first and most important competition was the 2025 U.S. Senior Championship in Saint Louis, a 10- player round robin in which almost all my opponents were legendary grandmasters. People like Joel Benjamin, Gregory Kaidanov, Alex Shabalov and others not only are my friends and rivals, but also have over the years taught me many things about chess. However, even against these legends, I felt I had a chance. I have been playing more and finding new ways to try to improve my game. In the last year, I took some time off from my finance career to focus on becoming a better chess player.

When I was growing up, my chess style was intuitive and positional. Anatoly Karpov was my favorite player, and I often tried to squeeze my opponents. I didn't like calculating complicated variations and was not very effective at attacking the king. Later, my style began to change as I tried to overcome these deficiencies, but I still had miserable scores against players like Shabalov and Kaidanov, who excelled in calculation.

As we get older, our relative strengths and weaknesses evolve. To gain an edge over my opponents, I did some targeted work at improving calculation and visualization skills, which typically decline with age unless you intervene. I created a series of exercises for myself in which I would critically assess analysis published in pre-computer books, without playing it out on the board. In general, I tried to analyze as many positions as I could without moving the pieces, hoping that it would help me better visualize variations during a game. Equally importantly, I felt that my frequent tournament activity, especially against much younger opponents, would improve my stamina during a game.

It usually takes a long time for chess training to yield results, but during the U.S. Senior, I felt I had gathered the ingredients for success. In several games, I found myself able to calculate long variations without getting confused. One of the best examples was my third-round win against Larry Christiansen, in which I had to precisely work out a combination with just a few minutes on my clock. You will see the finish of that game in Chess Life in the next month. After that, I also defeated Kaidanov and Shabalov (each for the first time ever),

and then Benjamin. At the end of nine rounds, I emerged in a first-place tie with Alex Shabalov and Vladimir Akopian with 5.5 out of 9. In the rapid playoff the next day, I won against Alex and drew against Vladimir. To everyone's surprise (and even my own), I was the champion! It was the biggest achievement of my entire chess career.

Next up was the Irwin Senior Tournament of Champions in Madison, Wisconsin, for which I had qualified by winning the Tennessee Senior in May. I was probably the pre-tournament favorite there but after the U.S. Senior, I was worried about a letdown. However, I was in excellent form here. Below, you will see my best game there, against IM Matros, where I attempted to calculate a mating attack far ahead. I tied for first with IM Stuart Rachels and had the better tiebreaks.

Next came the US Open, in which I had to play the 4-day schedule with a half-point bye (the tournament overlapped with the Irwin). I won 6 games but lost to two strong GMs, including the winner, Dariusz Swiercz. I had a few days' break before the Washington International. Although I didn't win a prize there, I was happy with my result of 5.5 out of 9. Totally exhausted, and experiencing headaches during games, I still made it to board 4 in the last round. All my opponents were much younger; many were teenagers. My FIDE rating went over 2400 for the first time since 2022.

My last two tournaments this summer were back home in Tennessee. The grueling schedule finally caught up with me in the Nashville Summer Classic. I was in bad form there: not an ideal situation when playing against kids! I lost one game and drew three, including against Adam Osborne, the talented 15-year-old Tennessee expert. It's important for me to play against young players – to teach them something and learn something from them!

The Tennessee Open in Crossville found me in better shape to play chess, and I was able to defend my state title. My son Mitch also had a good tournament, finishing in a tie for second (although I would have preferred him to win!), after his third-place tie in the Nashville tournament.

Lastly, but most importantly: I am very grateful for the support and encouragement from the Tennessee chess community, which I felt during the U.S. Senior Championship and throughout my chess journey this summer.

Alexander Matros vs. Alexander Fishbein at Irwin Senior Tournament of Champions

1.) d4 Nf6

2.) c4 c5

3.) d5 b5

4.) cxb5 a6

5.) bxa6 e6 {This has been the recent trend. The Benko Gambit with 5...g6 is not well regarded by computer engines.}

6.) Nc3 exd5

7.) Nxd5 Bxa6 {The main lines here are 7...Be7 and 7...Nxa6.}

8.) Bg5?! {This move would be correct if the knight had captured on a6, but here it helps Black. My a6-bishop is making it difficult for White to castle, and now he will have to waste more time with his dark-square bishop.} 8...Be7

9.) Nxe7 Qxe7

10.) e3 Bxf1

11.) Kxf1 h6

12.) Bxf6 {After 12.Bh4 White would not be able to play g2-g3

because the bishop would get trapped.} 12...Qxf6

13.) Qd2?! {Too optimistic. The white queen is better off covering the f3-square, which can become vulnerable after g2-g3. After 13.b3 Nc6 14.Nf3 Nb4 15.g3 Rxa2 16.Rxa2 Nxa2 17.Kg2 White has completed development at the cost of a pawn, with equal chances.} 13...0-0

14.) Ne2 {14.Nf3 is more harmonious, even though the king will then have to hang out on e2 for a while.} 14...d5

15.) f3?! Nc6

16.) Qxd5? {This is really asking for it. After 16.Kf2 Black is better, but White can defend.} 16...Rfd8! {I thought for a long time here, at least a half-hour, and calculated a long variation with a rook sacrifice. My calculation was not quite correct but close. Most of that time was spent coming terms with the fact that I should now play for the attack instead of just recovering the sacrificed pawns. After 16...Qxb2? 17.Kf2 Nb4 18.Qb3 Rxa2 19.Qxb2 Rxb2 20.Rhb1! the game would likely peter out into a draw.}



Diagram: Move 16
(White's Move)

17.) Qxc5 Ne5! {White's king will not find a refuge on f2.}

18.) Nd4 Rac8!

19.)Qa7 {During my long thought, I was considering 19.Qb519...Rxd4 (This is how you can tell I was not an attacking player by birth! It's not necessary to look for a forced win here, as the white pieces are so undeveloped that the attack just plays itself. For example, 19...Ng4 20.Qd3 Nxe3+ 21.Qxe3 Rxd4 22.Rc1 Rcd8 and the white king has no chance to escape.) 20.exd4 Nxf3! 21.gxf3 Qxf3+ 22.Kg1 Qe3+ (Initially I had only seen 22...Rc2? but now White survives with 23.Qb8+! Kh7 24.Qg3 A couple moves into the line, I had found the right finish here.) 23.Kf1 Qf4+! 24.Kg1 Rc2 25.Qe8+ Kh7 26.Qe1 Qxd4+ 27.Kf1 Qd5! Mate is imminent. A nice variation, but, as I mentioned, unnecessary.} 19...Qg6

Diagram:

Calculated Move 19
(White's Move)

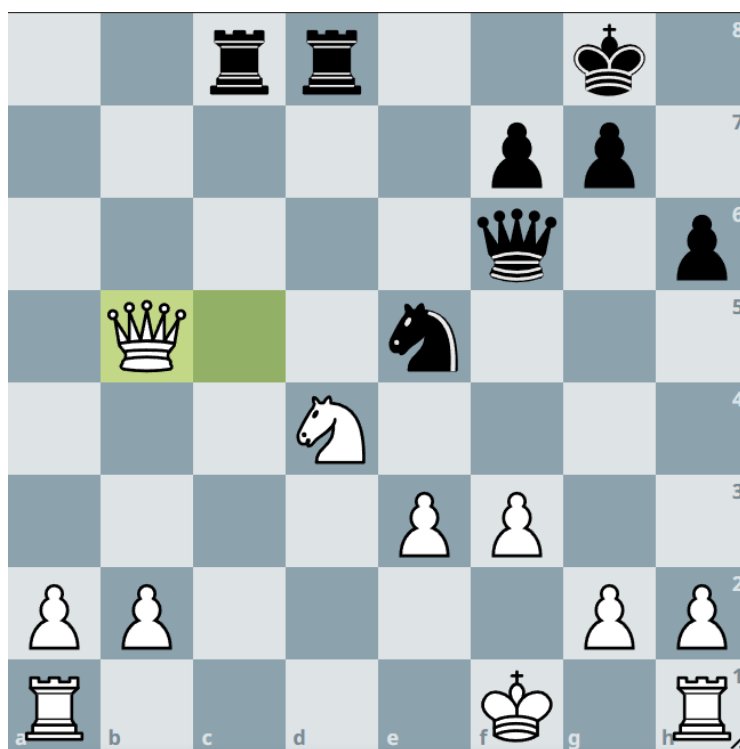
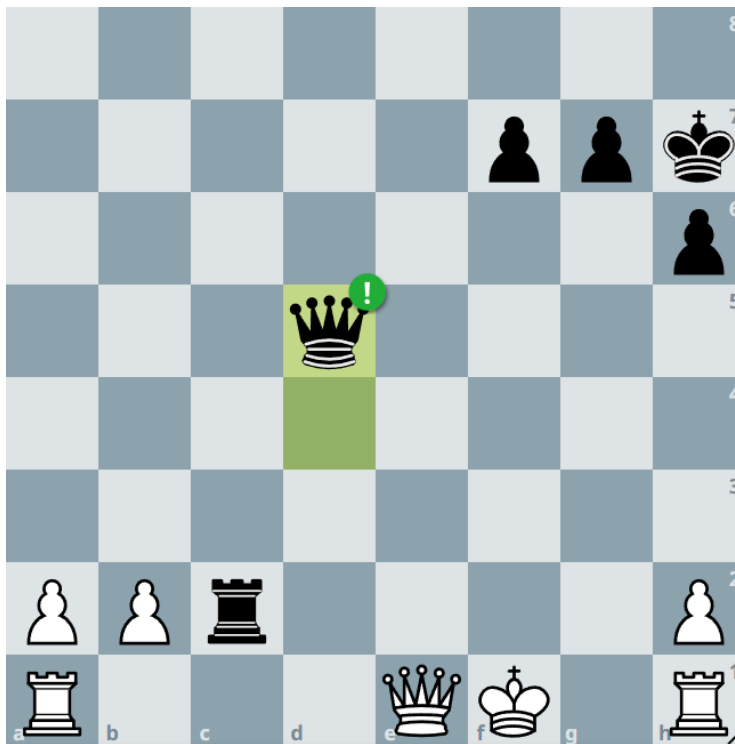


Diagram:

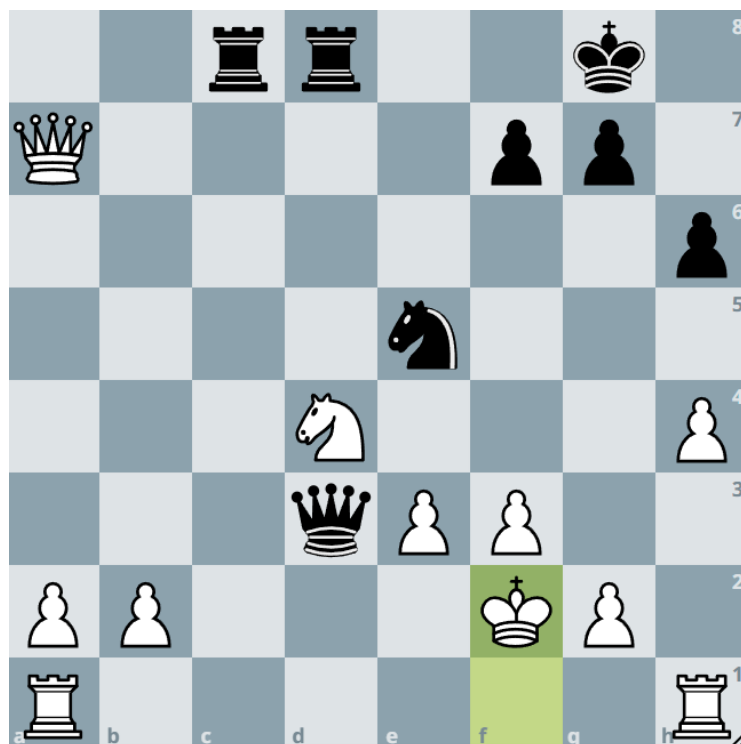
Calculated Move 27



20.) h4 Qd3+

21.) Kf2 21...Rxd4! {The final combination is not surprising. The white king is alone against a queen, rook and knight.}

Diagram: Move 21
(White's Move)



22.) exd4 Rc2+

23.) Kg3 Qg6+ 23...Rxc2+ {24.Kxc2 Qe2+! also leads to mate.}

24.) Kf4 Nd3+

25.) Ke3 Qe6+!

26.) Kxd3 Qe2 mate

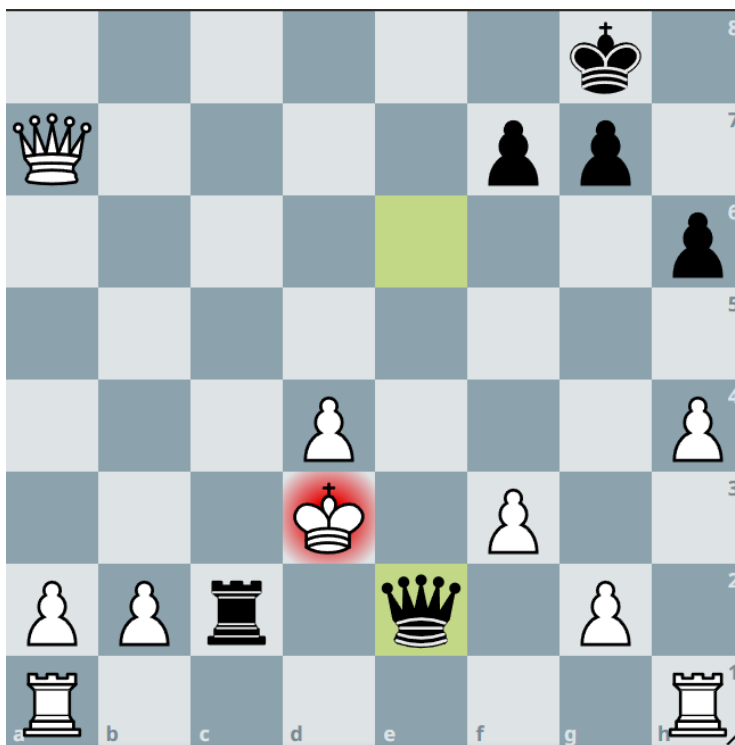


Diagram: Final
Position - Black
wins

2025 Peter P. Lahde TN Open and State Championship Results

Submitted by: William Flynn and Natosha Authier

Local standout,



Lyric Authier (CC Highschool champion), playing against TN #2 rated player and multi-state champion, Graham Horobetz, in round 1 of the tournament.

Grandmaster Alex Fishbein, reigning US Senior Champion and multi time TN Open winner, pictured center.

Chief Tournament Director, Kyle Johnson (left)

TN Champion, Grandmaster Alex Fishbein (center)

1st Place

Challenger, Prithve
Pratheep (right)



The tournament ran 3 days, Sept 5-7, at The Center in Fairfield Glade. We had 72 players, mostly Tennesseans but it was a regional contest as Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Ohio, and North Carolina were all represented. I mentioned above but it may be important, TN's Grandmaster Alex Fishbein is the reigning US Senior (50+) Champion. We are always honored to host a tournament with him playing. He's a great sport and very kind gentleman.

We had players as young as the 2nd grade and old as 88 years competing against each other.

The tournament was hosted by the Cumberland County Chess Club and the TN Chess Association. Thank our sponsors: East TN Ford, East TN Dodge, Flynn Sign Co Inc, Hello Nation, and Remax Finest.

Results Championship

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	ALEXANDER FISHBEIN TN 12077910 / R: 2474 ->2476	4.5 N:C	W 24 W	W 16 B	W 7 W	4 D 2 B W	
2	GRAHAM HOROBETZ TN 12800231 / R: 2325 ->2332	4.0 N:C	W 15 B	D 9 W	W 12 B	3 D 1 W B	
3	MITCH FISHBEIN TN 14633346 / R: 2287 ->2289	4.0 N:C	W 29 W	W 5 B	W 8 B	2 W 10 W	
4	PETER SUICH TN 12779311 / R: 2231 ->2240	4.0 N:C	W 39 B	W 23 W	10 L 1 B W	1 W 11 B	
5	ROY VILLANUEVA IN 14264808 / R: 1879 ->1927	4.0 N:1	W 27 B	L 3 W	W 37 B	12 W 20 W B	
6	RORY E WASIOLEK TN 12808731 / R: 2044 ->2046	3.5 N:1	D 17 B	W 32 W	D 9 B	W 13 B	D 8
7	CHRIS L. CHAMBERS GA 12168500 / R: 2006 ->2018	3.5 N:1	W 30 W	W 20 B	L 1 B	W 25 W	D 9
8	ANDREW L EHRMAN OH 15676680 / R: 1997 ->2005	3.5 N:2	W 36 B	W 21 W	L 3 B	W 29 W	D 6
9	WILLIAM P FLYNN TN 15802340 / R: 1987 ->2004	3.5 N:1	W 37 W	D 2 B	D 6 W	W 21 B	D 7
10	MUTHU AVANEESH PREM KY 17264211 / R: 2102 ->2100	3.0 N:1	W 18 W	W 22 B	L 4 W	W 23 B	L 3
11	ROBERT GUEVARA NY 12657477 / R: 2000 ->2004	3.0 N:1	W 28 B	D 13 W	W 17 B	H L W	4
12	CHARLES L MEIDINGER AL 10237114 / R: 2000 ->2000	3.0 N:2	W 26 W	W 38 B	L 2 W	L 5 B	W 27
13	SABRINA HOJA TN 16995856 / R: 1860 ->1876	3.0 N:2	W 33 W	D 11 B	D 16 W	L 6 B	W 26
14	FHEOPATRICK PATTERSON TN 12445727 / R: 1724 ->1789	3.0 N:2	H D B	24 L 23 W	W 34 W	W 25 B	
15	LYRIC CONNOR AUTHIER 16538662 / R: 1770 ->1787	3.0 N:2	L 2 W	D 30 B	W 33 W	D 19 W	W 29
16	AARON CAVENY TN 13572466 / R: 1920 ->1918	2.5 	W 31 B	L 1 W	D 13 B	H H 	
17	LONDON MEADORS GA 31453265 / R: 1888 ->1887	2.5 N:2	D 6 W	W 35 B	L 11 W	W 20 B	W 32
18	AARAV GHOSH TN 30612631 / R: 1821 ->1810	2.5 N:3	L 10 B	D 36 W	D 32 B	W 37 W	D 19

19		WILLIAM SIVLEY			2.5		L	23	W	27	D	20	D	15	D	18	
TN		32497304 / R: Unrated->1807P5			N:2		B		W		W		B		W		
20		LOGAN WILSON MERCER			2.5		W	34	L	7	D	19	W	17	L	5	
DC		13948871 / R: 1708 ->1764			N:2		B		W		B		W		W		
21		JOEL MATIAS			2.5		W	25	L	8	W	26	L	9	D	24	
TN		16036488 / R: 1542 ->1652			N:2		W		B		W		W		B		
22		ELSA HE			2.5		B		L	10	L	25	D	28	W	37	
TN		30101779 / R: 1477 ->1508			N:3				W		B		W		B		
23		JOSH SALTER			2.0		W	19	L	4	W	14	L	10	U		
TN		12890290 / R: 1947 ->1951			N:2		W		B		B		W				
24		PAUL J JORDAN			2.0		L	1	D	14	D	36	D	32	D	21	
TN		12406353 / R: 1879 ->1855			N:3		B		W		B		W		W		
25		JERRY SPINRAD			2.0		L	21	W	39	W	22	L	7	L	14	
TN		12409131 / R: 1857 ->1823			N:3		B		W		W		B		W		
26		MATTHEW BURGETT			2.0		L	12	W	31	L	21	W	36	L	13	
TN		14258701 / R: 1798 ->1772			N:3		B		W		B		W		W		
27		GHANISHTH PRABHAKAR AWASTHI			2.0		L	5	L	19	W	31	W	35	L	12	
TN		30945382 / R: 1748 ->1745			N:3		W		B		W		B		B		
28		SCOTT J HELLER			2.0		L	11	D	33	D	35	D	22	D	30	
GA		10034370 / R: 1746 ->1727			N:3		W		B		W		B		W		
29		DOMINIC JAMES BREEZE			2.0		L	3	W	34	W	38	L	8	L	15	
TN		15197740 / R: 1723 ->1727			N:4		B		W		W		B		W		
30		ZACHARY SMITH			2.0		L	7	D	15	L	34	W	33	D	28	
TN		31435719 / R: 1655 ->1667			N:3		B		W		B		W		B		
31		JILL ZABRINA RENNIE			2.0		L	16	L	26	L	27	B		W	36	
GA		12471408 / R: 1400 ->1426					W		B		B				W		
32		SAEED HOJA			1.5		D	35	L	6	D	18	D	24	L	17	
TN		17050607 / R: 1736 ->1736			N:3		W		B		W		B		B		
33		RYAN CLEVELAND			1.5		L	13	D	28	L	15	L	30	B		
TN		15743871 / R: 1617 ->1591					B		W		B		B				
34		BRIAN MAPAKAMISE			1.0		L	20	L	29	W	30	L	14	U		
TN		30305098 / R: 1938 ->1885					W		B		W		B				
35		YI SUN			1.0		D	32	L	17	D	28	L	27	U		
TN		30257133 / R: 1921 ->1873					B		W		B		W				
36		WESLEY DANIEL IDELL II			1.0		L	8	D	18	D	24	L	26	L	31	
TN		16448215 / R: 1716 ->1681					W		B		W		B		B		
37		PHILLIP O'NEAL TAYLOR			1.0		L	9	B		L	5	L	18	L	22	
GA		12335320 / R: 1500 ->1500					B				W		B		W		

38	MICHAEL E SMITH		1.0	B	L	12	L	29	U	U	
TN	12557506 / R: 1061	->1059			W	B					
39	STEPHEN BRADY		0.0	L	4	L	25	U	U	U	
TN	12833875 / R: 1683	->1670		W	B						

Results Challenger

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	PRITHVE PRATHEEP 17048717 / R: 1316 ->1450	4.5 N:3	W W	17 B	29 W	18 B	8 W	2
2	BRIAN JOSEPH RHODES NC 12579873 / R: 1566 ->1573	4.0 N:4	W B	26 W	10 B	7 W	3 B	1
3	DANNIE R KENNEDY TN 12580163 / R: 1400 ->1448	4.0 N:4	W W	19 B	20 W	14 B	2 W	8
4	LUKE WILEY TN 30591580 / R: 1242 ->1366	4.0 N:4	W B	25 D	8 W	16 B	18 W	6
5	VICTOR SUICH TN 12732019 / R: 1463 ->1432	3.5 	D B	16 W	15 W	29 B	26 W	14
6	RYAN KEITH WEST TN 12713555 / R: 1429 ->1412	3.5 	L B	12 B	27 W	19 W	10 B	4
7	ROBERT S POLING TN 12443221 / R: 1400 ->1403	3.5 	W W	13 B	22 W	2 B	14 W	9
8	MCANTHONY TARWAY II TN 31495409 / R: 1473 ->1461	3.0 N:4	W W	11 B	4 W	15 D	1 B	3
9	HENRY VANCE TN 16972791 / R: 1343 ->1314	3.0 	L B	22 W	17 B	12 W	20 B	7
10	CALEB HORNER TN 31785189 / R: 1234P14->1253P19	3.0 	W W	24 B	2 W	13 B	6 W	15
11	CONNOR JENKINS TN 32188703 / R: 1239 ->1201	3.0 	L B	8 W	25 L	21 W	28 W	24
12	TOMMY HOYT SLATON III TN 32082866 / R: 1117P14->1191P19	3.0 	W W	6 B	18 W	9 B	23 W	21
13	AMI DAWN GRAY TN 30563067 / R: 1011P18->1058P23	3.0 	L B	7 W	28 B	10 W	27 B	20
14	CHRISTIAN MEADORS GA 32012686 / R: 1251 ->1252	2.5 	W B	23 W	21 B	3 W	7 B	5
15	ANNA CHRISTINA BAUMSTARK GA 15219866 / R: 1243 ->1242	2.5 	D W	27 B	5 B	8 W	16 B	10
16	MR. OWEN MAXWELL KEAGLE TN 30301351 / R: 1090P13->1133P18	2.5 	D W	5 B	31 W	4 B	15 W	27
17	JASON XU TN 30689784 / R: 943 -> 989	2.5 	L B	1 B	9 H	W	29 W	26
18	BENJAMIN LANE BLAIR TN 11071511 / R: 1578 ->1526	2.0 	X W	12 B	1 L	4 B	U	

19	MICHAEL CHANDLER ROGERS II	2.0	L	3 W	23 L	6 H	H	
TN	32444938 / R: 1111P12->1105P15		B	W	B			
20	SCOTT W UNGER	2.0	W	28 L	3 W	22 L	9 L	13
TN	30600093 / R: 1136 ->1103		B	W	W	B	W	
21	NATHAN J DEVORE	2.0	W	30 L	14 W	11 U	L	12
TN	30568034 / R: 892P15->1033P19		W	B	W		B	
22	PARKER THOMAS HARRELSON	2.0	W	9 L	7 L	20 L	24 B	
TN	32508386 / R: 990P4 -> 960P8		W	W	B	B		
23	LIAM FITZPATRICK	2.0	L	14 L	19 W	25 L	12 W	29
TN	32329656 / R: 845 -> 841		W	B	B	W	B	
24	LUCAS JIACHEN LI	2.0	L	10 B	U	W	22 L	11
TN	32007889 / R: 663P22-> 741P25		B			W	B	
25	AULDIN FISHER HAMBY	2.0	L	4 L	11 L	23 B	W	28
TN	32151569 / R: 683P8 -> 681P12		W	B	W		B	
26	CHLOE SIJING DONG	1.5	L	2 W	30 H	L	5 L	17
TN	30527001 / R: 1153 ->1139		W	B		W	B	
27	THOMAS R RINK	1.5	D	15 L	6 W	31 L	13 L	16
TN	12474655 / R: 825 -> 893		B	W	W	B	B	
28	LEVI FITZPATRICK	1.0	L	20 L	13 B	L	11 L	25
TN	32329705 / R: 529 -> 505		W	B		B	W	
29	JAMES R SPICER JR.	1.0	B	L	1 L	5 L	17 L	23
TN	31204812 / R: 285 -> 281			W	B	B	W	
30	DON WADE	0.5	L	21 L	26 U	H	U	
TN	12728736 / R: 1370 ->1291		B	W				
31	ANTHONY CRAIG	0.5	H	L	16 L	27 U	U	
TN	12911256 / R: 1204 ->1127			W	B			

2025 TN Open Blitz Results

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	Round 9	Round 10
1	GRAHAM HOROBETZ TN 12800231 / B: 2255 ->2261	10.0	W	3W	6W	4W	2W	5W	3W	6W	4W	2W
			W	B	B	W	B	B	W	W	B	W
2	MUTHU AVANEESH PREM KY 17264211 / B: 1674 ->1723	7.0	W	6W	5L	3L	1W	4W	6W	5W	3L	1W
			W	B	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W
3	JERRY SPINRAD TN 12409131 / B: 1938 ->1894	5.5	L	1W	4W	2W	5W	6L	1L	4L	2D	5W
			L	B	W	B	W	W	B	W	B	B
4	RYAN CLEVELAND TN 15743871 / B: 1590 ->1600	5.0	W	5L	3L	1W	6L	2W	5W	3L	1W	6L
			W	B	B	W	B	B	W	B	W	W
5	HENRY VANCE TN 16972791 / B: 1255 ->1268	2.5	L	4L	2W	6L	3L	1L	4L	2W	6D	3L
			L	B	W	W	B	W	B	B	W	B
6	PARKER THOMAS HARRELSON TN 32508386 / B: Unrated-> 962P18	0.0	L	2L	1L	5L	4L	3L	2L	1L	5L	4L
			L	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	B	W

2025 Battleground Murfreesboro

Submitted by: Norbert Thiemann

Due to some generous donations it was a very special Battleground this year, because we were able to give away two quality Civil War Chess Sets for the Greatest Upsets in both sections.

Pictured: Andrew Glass Kreshav Karthik (left)



MCC Champion, Adam Osborne won the Top Section outright with a perfect score of 4.0, and Henry Vance clinched 1st Place in the Amateur Section with the top score of 3.5 points. We achieved our goal and were proud to payout the entire advertised prize fund. Many thanks to TD Chris Prosser who ran a stellar event!

2025 Battleground Murfreesboro		
Top Section	Winners	MCC Memb.
1st	Adam Osborne	👑
2nd	NM Jose Benito	
X	Rory Wasiolek	
A	Sabrina Hoja	👑
B	Kreshav Karthik	
Upset	Kreshav Karthik	
Amateur Section	Winners	MCC Memb.
1st	Henry Vance	👑
2nd Tie	McAnthony Tarway II	👑
Tie 2nd/D	Randall Montgomery	
Tie 2nd/D	Prithve Pratheep	
E	Abigail Heinzer	
Tie 2nd/F	Andrew Glass	
Tie 2nd/F	Akshar Vedant	👑
Upset	Andrew Glass	

Notable Results (in order of greatest rating difference):

Michael Johnsey vs. **Andrew Glass** 0-1 447 pts.

Keshav Karthik vs. Michael Robertson 1-0 445 pts.

NM Bill Melvin vs. **Sabrina Hoja** 0-1 387 pts.

NM Bill Melvin vs. **Seth Osborne** 0-1 364 pts.

Ryan Davidson vs. **Ryan Cleveland** 0-1 363 pts.

Abigail Heinzer vs. McAnthony Tarway II 1-0 351 pts.

Adam Osborne vs. FM Todd Andrews 1-0 107 pts.

Rory Wasiolek vs. **Hudson Doty** 1/2-1/2

Adam Osborne (2104) - FM Todd Andrews (2211)

Round 4 Battleground Murfreesboro 08/16/2025

Annotations by Adam Osborne

1.) d4 c5!? { The Old Benoni seeks to reach a position where black takes on a space deficit but seeks dynamic chances in return. }

2.) d5 Nf6

3.) Nc3 { White responds classically, not wanting to enter the mainline with 3. c4. } 3... g6

4.) e4 d6

5.) Nf3 Bg7

6.) Bb5+!? { An interesting idea, trying to clog up black's development. } 6... Bd7



Diagram: Move 6 White's Move

7.) a4! O-O (7... Bxb5 8. axb5 { This is the purpose of 6. Bb5+. If the light square bishops are traded, white recaptures with the a-pawn, physically stopping black's main pawn break in the position, ...a6-...b5. Here white is looking for a quieter, more positional game where they will have good chances of constricting black in this position. } (8. Nxb5? Nxe4!))

8.) h3 { This is a very important move in the position because it constricts black's light square bishop. Specifically, black cannot play ...Bg4, which would trade the light square bishop for the knight, giving black more room for their pieces. With 8. h3, black will have trouble finding homes for their pieces. } 8... e5?! { Black is trying to blend the Benoni and the King's Indian Defense positions. }

9.) Nd2!? { White was trying to reroute the knight to c4, targeting the soft d6-pawn. } (9. g4 { White could also consider this move because white has not castled, meaning if black plays ...f5, then white can open up the g-file and play Rg1, highlighting the weakness of the enemy king. }) 9... Ne8 (9... Bh6?! 10. Nc4 Bxc1 11. Qxc1 { Yes, black has traded off their "bad" bishop, but this leaves them with weak kingside

dark squares. })

10.) O-O f5

11.) exf5 gxf5

12.) f4 { Black's duo might look impressive—they have a dynamic central pawn duo on the e- and f-files, but in fact they are quite immobile. With white's last move, 12. f4, white is looking to fix (or immobilize) black's pawns by provoking them to play ...e4. Now playing ...e4 is doubled-edged—black gets a protected passed pawn, but it will be blockaded with one of white's knights, and its base, the f5-pawn, is quite weak. } 12... e4

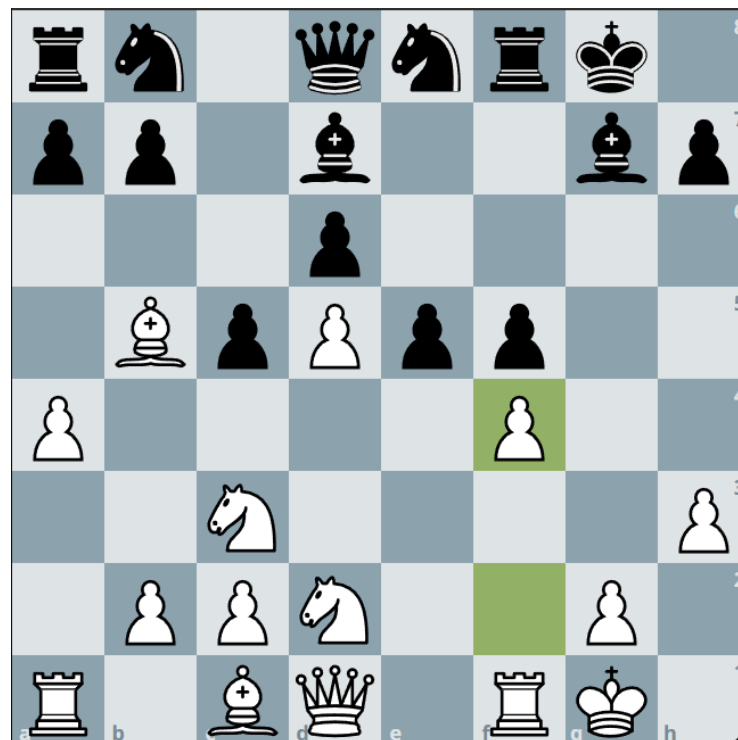


Diagram: Move 12 White's Move

13.) Nc4 Kh8

14.) Qe2 { White wants to use the other knight to blockade the e4-pawn. } 14... Rg8 (14... Bxc3? 15. bxc3 { By taking on c3, Black could ruin white's queenside structure, but black's position would have weak

dark squares, especially once white gets their dark squared bishop on the a1-h8 diagonal. })

15.) Nd1 Qh4 { Black appears to have a menacing attack, but actually white's kingside is quite safe because black is only attacking with two pieces, the queen and the rook. Also, black's minor pieces cannot reach the kingside in time to facilitate an invasion. }

16.) Kh1! { With 16. Kh1, white calmly sidesteps any tactics down the g-file. } 16... Bf6? { Black's position has lost some of their tactical play, meaning they will be saddled with a weak f-pawn. }

17.) Nde3 Rg3

18.) Bd2! { White simply threatens Be1, pinning the rook to the queen. } 18... a6

19.) Bxd7! { Thirteen moves later, the two light square bishops are traded! } (19. Nb6 { This move does win an exchange, but black gets too much dynamic pay with 19...axb5! } 19... axb5! (19... Ra7? 20. Bxd7!) 20. Nxa8 Bxb2) 19... Nxd7

20.) Be1 (20. Nxf5?! Rxh3+!? 21. gxh3 Qxh3+ 22. Qh2 Qxf5 { While white is up an exchange for a pawn, black will get dynamic play against white's weakened kingside. }) 20... Ng7



Diagram: Move 20 White's Move

21.) Kh2 (21. Bxg3 Qxg3 22. Nxd6 { This was also winning. }) 21... Rxe3

22.) Nxe3 Qh6 { Although white is up an exchange, converting this position to a win will be challenging. }

23.) Bc3 { Trading attackers outweighs the damage to white's structure. } 23... Rg8

24.) g3 Qg6

25.) Rg1 Nh5

26.) Qf2 { White is slowly consolidating their position by shoring up the kingside. } 26... Bd4

27.) Rad1 Bxc3

28.) bxc3 Qf6

29.) c4 Rg6

30.) a5! { Although this position appears inappropriate for quiet queenside play, this simple pawn move has deadly consequences: white can now invade down the b-file, not allowing black to defend with ...b6. } 30... Rg7



Diagram: Move 30 White's Move

31.) Rdf1 Rf7

32.) Rg2 { White gives their king luft on g1. } 32... Nf8

33.) Qe1 Ng6

34.) Qa1 { White trades the queens, releasing pressure on white's kingside. } 34... Qd4

35.) Rd1 { Black longs to take on e3 but cannot because the queen is pinned. } 35... Qxa1

36.) Rxa1 Ng7

37.) Rb1 h5

38.) h4 Ne5?! { This move still loses, but it is a practical try for black to gain counterplay. }

39.) fxe5 dxe5

40.) Rf2 f4

41.) Rbf1 f3

42.) Re1 Ne8

43.) Nf1 Nf6

44.) Ne3 Kh7

45.) Kh3 Kg6

46.) c3 Ne8

47.) g4 Nd6

48.) Rg1 Rf4

49.) gxh5+ Kxh5

50.) Rg5+ Kh6

51.) Rxe5 { Here black gracefully resigns after losing one of their passed pawns. } 51... Nf7

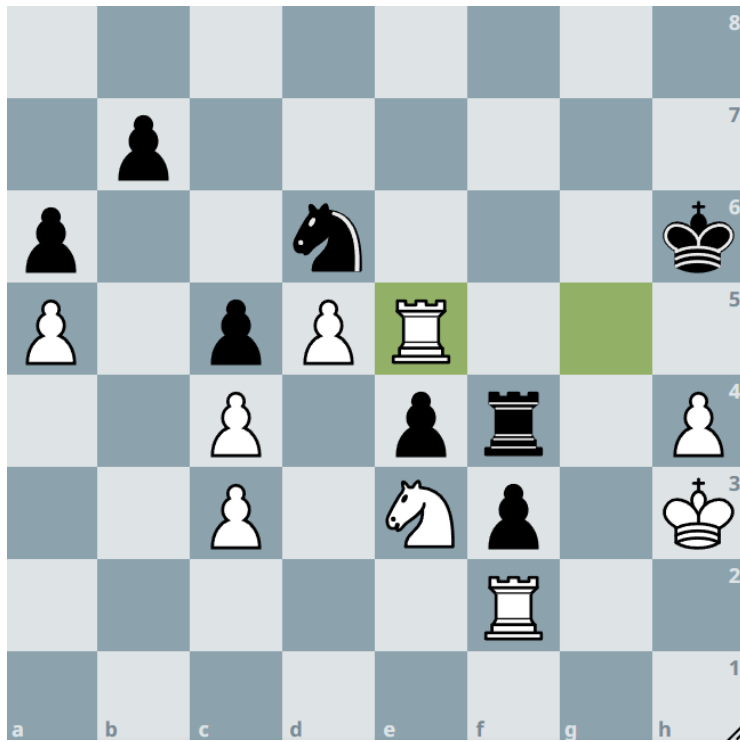


Diagram: Move 51 White's Move

52.) Re6+ Kg7

53.) Kg3! { For the simplest win, white forces the black rook away from defending e4. } *

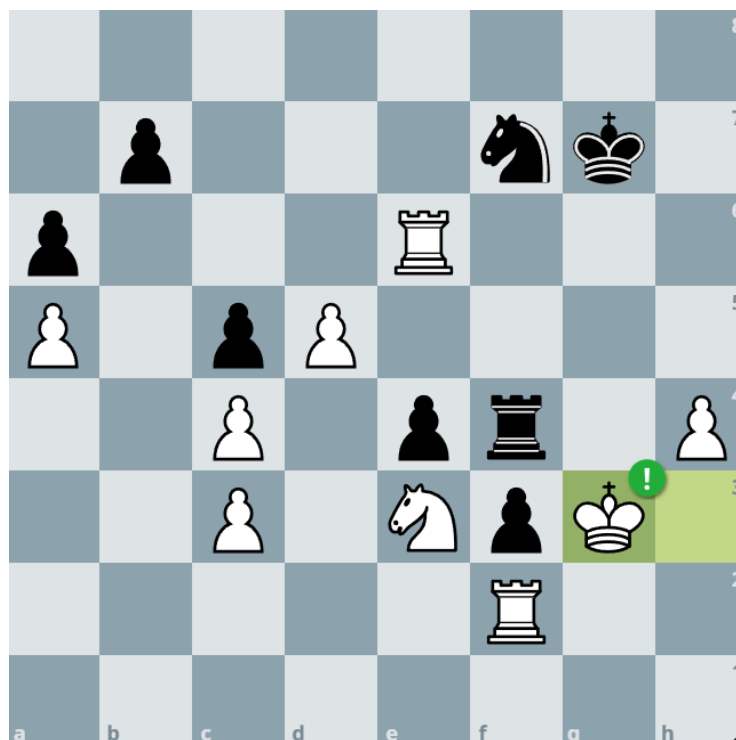


Diagram: Theoretical Final Position for simplest win

Murfreesboro Blitz Quick




Club Night Tournaments: Blitz RR or Quick Swiss

- Last Thursday of every month unless announced otherwise.
- Rated by the USCF, a.k.a., US Chess; their membership is required.
- 12 rounds max for blitz.
- Quick Swiss events happen less frequently and might be announced spontaneously.
- Provisions will try to be met for any player with particular needs for health or otherwise.
- **Round Robin(s):** Sectioned by TD
- **Swiss:** 3 Rounds for Quick Events
- **Time Control:** 3+2 (or 15+3 for Quick Events).
- **Registration:** 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM.
- **Rounds:** Round 1 @ 7:30 PM (next rounds a.s.a.p. to completion).
- **Entry Fee:** \$6.00 cash @ site or \$8.00 via PayPal, which includes a \$2 online service fee.
- **Prize Fund:** 65% returned (remaining for rating fees & church donation).
- **Sections & Pairings:** The TD has complete discretion over creating sections and pairings.
- **Noise Disclaimer:** Casual chess and talking are to be expected on all club nights.

murfreesborochess@gmail.com
<https://murfreesborochess.weebly.com/blitz>
* Wheelchair access with prior communication

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
907 E. Main St.
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
* Parking and entrance via N. Bilbro Ave.

Lakeway Open Results - Open

and Amateur

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1 TN	PETER SUICH 12779311 / R: 2221 ->2231	4.0 N:C	W W	3 W B	2 W W	4 W B	5
2 TN	YI SUN 30257133 / R: 1890 ->1907	3.0 N:3	W B	5 L W	1 W W	3 W B	6
3 OH	ANDREW L EHRMAN 15676680 / R: 2011 ->2002	2.0 N:4	L B	1 W W	6 L B	2 W W	4
4 NY	ROBERT GUEVARA 12657477 / R: 2000 ->2000	2.0 N:4	W W	6 W W	5 L B	1 L B	3
5 TN	JOEL MATIAS 16036488 / R: 1391 ->1397	1.0 	L W	2 L B	4 W B	6 L W	1
6 TN	JASON ZHANG 16955390 / R: 1199 ->1185	0.0 	L B	4 L B	3 L W	5 L W	2

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	KINGSTON CONOR CROCKETT TN 31414958 / R: 953P5 ->1109P9	4.0	W	8 W	4 W	6 W	5
2	RYAN CHEN TN 30803512 / R: 1076 ->1062	3.0	W	14 L	6 W	11 W	9
3	WILLIAM NEIL SELLARS TN 31985695 / R: 396P7 -> 651P11	3.0	W	13 W	12 D	5 D	6
4	PARKER THOMAS HARRELSON TN 32508386 / R: Unrated-> 990P4	2.5	W	10 L	1 D	7 W	11
5	BRIAN LONG LIU TN 17269595 / R: 1008 -> 988	2.5	W	15 W	7 D	3 L	1
6	OWEN STORY TN 31437456 / R: 921 -> 944	2.5	W	9 W	2 L	1 D	3
7	JASON CORBETT TN 31457954 / R: 842P7 -> 844P11	2.5	W	16 L	5 D	4 W	12
8	MATT JORDAN TN 32519612 / R: Unrated-> 886P4	2.0	L	1 L	10 W	14 W	13
9	MICHAEL WOHL TN 32522623 / R: Unrated-> 754P4	2.0	L	6 W	14 W	10 L	2
10	ROBERT REGINALD HERNDON TN 17042215 / R: 595P15-> 625P19	2.0	L	4 W	8 L	9 W	15
11	OSCAR ALEJANDRO SANCHEZ VIDAL TN 32523138 / R: Unrated-> 876P4	1.5	D	12 W	13 L	2 L	4
12	RIANSH ROHIT KANKALIYA TN 31351616 / R: 682 -> 654	1.5	D	11 L	3 W	16 L	7
13	BRUCE E THOMPSON TN 10330823 / R: 1381 ->1259	1.0	L	3 L	11 W	15 L	8
14	DEESUN PURKEY TN 30788621 / R: 292P16-> 299P20	1.0	L	2 L	9 L	8 W	16
15	KIAN O'KADA TN 32101636 / R: 243P8 -> 227P12	0.5	L	5 D	16 L	13 L	10
16	JAMES CLURE HODGE TN 32492472 / R: Unrated-> 103P4	0.5	L	7 D	15 L	12 L	14

Johnson City Swiss Results

Johnson City Chess Club held it's first rated tournament with the help of TCA on August 16 with an amazing 43 player turnout!

A special thank you to Mulligan's Irish Pub and Taylor Sy their Social Media Manager for providing a tournament space and taking amazing photos!







Results

Pair Num	Player Name USCF ID / Rtg (Pre->Post)	Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1 TN	WESLEY DANIEL IDELL II 16448215 / R: 1646 ->1716	4.5 N:2	W 18	W 17	W 3	W 15	D 2
2 UT	ALLAN L JOHNSON 12124280 / R: 1913 ->1900	4.0 N:3	W 31	W 21	W 12	D 5	D 1
3 NC	BRIAN NEWSOM 32536633 / R: Unrated->1857P5	4.0 N:2	W 32	W 33	L 1	W 16	W 10
4 VA	JUSTIN HALL 32526988 / R: Unrated->1596P5	4.0 N:4	L 23	W 29	W 24	W 28	W 13
5 TN	BENJAMIN LANE BLAIR 11071511 / R: 1500 ->1578	4.0 N:3	W 38	W 27	W 10	D 2	D 6
6 TN	JOEL MATIAS 16036488 / R: 1397 ->1542	4.0 N:2	W 39	D 8	W 33	W 12	D 5
7 TN	RODNEY KEATON III 32504928 / R: Unrated->1524P5	4.0 N:4	L 15	W 39	W 36	W 25	W 11
8 TN	BRIAN STIDHAM 12555740 / R: 1667 ->1656	3.5 N:3	W 20	D 6	W 9	L 10	W 21
9 TN	KINGSTON CONOR CROCKETT 31414958 / R: 1109P9 ->1390P14	3.5 N:3	W 16	W 13	L 8	D 21	W 15
10 TN	DAVID ROBERT MUELLER 12461504 / R: 1736 ->1716	3.0 N:4	W 40	W 26	L 5	W 8	L 3
11 TN	LARRY C WINDES 12560592 / R: 1661 ->1612	3.0	W 34	W 36	L 15	W 26	L 7
12 TN	RONALD P PENDLETON 12557198 / R: 1547 ->1527	3.0	W 35	W 19	L 2	L 6	W 30
13 NC	LEE WHIPPLE 12515238 / R: 1552 ->1511	3.0	X 43	L 9	W 30	W 19	L 4
14 NC	JONAS DOW 32517878 / R: Unrated->1331P5	3.0	D 22	L 24	W 40	D 33	W 26
15 TN	EVAN PATRICK 32175834 / R: 974P4 ->1330P9	3.0 N:3	W 7	W 23	W 11	L 1	L 9
16 VA	PHILIP GAVER 32512885 / R: Unrated->1330P5	3.0	L 9	W 20	W 17	L 3	W 28
17 TN	ALEX DEPASQUALE 15107467 / R: 1213 ->1212	3.0	W 42	L 1	L 16	W 37	W 27
18 TN	ZACHARY DYER 32533299 / R: Unrated->1162P5	3.0	L 1	W 34	L 25	W 36	W 35

19		LANCE BLEDSOE		3.0		W	37		L	12		W	23		L	13		W	41	
NC		12830329 / R: 906 ->1024																		
20		ANIRUDHHA SUNITHA HARSHA		3.0		L	8		L	16		W	42		W	40		W	25	
TN		17295764 / R: 427P4 -> 696P9																		
21		ROBERT S POLING		2.5		W	29		L	2		W	37		D	9		L	8	
TN		12443221 / R: 1400 ->1400																		
22		AARON SKYLER GOUGE		2.5		D	14		L	25		W	41		L	23		W	36	
TN		16794554 / R: 1030 ->1069																		
23		PAUL CHRISTIAN MERRICK		2.0		W	4		L	15		L	19		W	22		U		
TN		31996999 / R: 1569 ->1527																		
24		DANNY MULLINAX		2.0		U			W	14		L	4		W	29		U		
TN		12852015 / R: 1362 ->1377																		
25		WILL D. ANDERSON		2.0		L	27		W	22		W	18		L	7		L	20	
TN		31311764 / R: 1384P8 ->1268P13																		
26		JESSE M HOPSON		2.0		W	41		L	10		W	38		L	11		L	14	
TN		12886360 / R: 1160P8 ->1140P13																		
27		CHARLES MILLER JR.		2.0		W	25		L	5		L	28		W	38		L	17	
TN		32481679 / R: Unrated->1080P5																		
28		LEVI HEATH JACKSON		2.0		L	36		W	35		W	27		L	4		L	16	
TN		32456588 / R: 1070P4 ->1044P9																		
29		OSCAR ALEJANDRO SANCHEZ VIDAL		2.0		L	21		L	4		W	32		L	24		X	37	
TN		32523138 / R: 876P4 -> 917P8																		
30		VINCENT DAVID JOSEPH		2.0		L	33		W	42		L	13		W	39		L	12	
TN		31274464 / R: 850P19-> 865P24																		
31		GRAYSON MICHAEL-REUB YOUNG		2.0		L	2		L	37		L	39		W	34		W	38	
TN		32452982 / R: 868P4 -> 814P9																		
32		ETHAN CHARLES MILLER		2.0		L	3		L	38		L	29		W	42		W	39	
TN		32482429 / R: Unrated-> 693P5																		
33		JOHN P SMALLING		1.5		W	30		L	3		L	6		D	14		U		
TN		12355540 / R: 1820 ->1769																		
34		WILLIAM NEIL SELLARS		1.5		L	11		L	18		D	35		L	31		W	40	
TN		31985695 / R: 651P11-> 651P16																		
35		CARSTEN PICKERING		1.5		L	12		L	28		D	34		W	41		L	18	
TN		30920865 / R: Unrated-> 556P8																		
36		GABRIEL ALLEN BOWMAN		1.0		W	28		L	11		L	7		L	18		L	22	
TN		32138070 / R: 1092P8 ->1064P13																		
37		GARRY CARRIER		1.0		L	19		W	31		L	21		L	17		F	29	
TN		32484507 / R: Unrated-> 893P4																		

38	JARIAH EDWARD MCDERMOTT	1.0	L	5	W	32	L	26	L	27	L	31	
TN	32536961 / R: Unrated-> 733P5												
39	AYAAN SINGH SETHI	1.0	L	6	L	7	W	31	L	30	L	32	
TN	32496612 / R: Unrated-> 654P5												
40	RIANSH ROHIT KANKALIYA	0.5	L	10	D	41	L	14	L	20	L	34	
TN	31351616 / R: 654 -> 583												
41	CHRIS DOCKERY	0.5	L	26	D	40	L	22	L	35	L	19	
TN	32485363 / R: Unrated-> 383P5												
42	BRET LEWIS	0.0	L	17	L	30	L	20	L	32	U		
TN	32528253 / R: Unrated-> 278P4												
43	LIAM MEDINA	0.0	F	13	U		U		U		U		
TN	32528439 /												

TN Does Great at US Open!

2025 US OPEN INVATIONALS RESULTS FOR TN PLAYERS

TN TEAM TIED FOR 8th PLACE!!!

Irwin - GM Alex Fishbein 5 pts T/1st - 1st on tie breaks
Haring - Sabrina Hoja - 3.5 pts - 14th (T13th)
Denker - James Nguyen - 4 pts - 11th (T/6th)
Barber - John Nguyen - 3 pts - 29th (T/24th)
Rockefeller - Saeed Hoja - 3 pts - 27th (T22nd)
Invitational Blitz - Saeed Hoja - 3rd - U1800 Section

2025 US OPEN RESULTS FOR TN PLAYERS

PLAYER	RTG	SC	PLACE	Prize
Burnett, Ronald	2301	7	T12	T/1 st U2400
Fishbein, Alexander	2459	6.5	T22	
Wasiolek, Rory	2007	6	T49	
Johnson, Adam	1760	6	T49	T/1 st U1800
Campbell, Maxwell	1978	5.5	T83	
Ghosh, Aarav	1720	5.5	T83	T/3 rd -4 th U1800
Sensing, Beau	1939	5	T144	
Hoja, Sabrina	1830	5	T144	
Awasthi, Ghanishth	1744	5	T144	
Burgett, Matthew	1775	4.5	T203	
Shuey, Michael	1695	4.5	T203	
Hoja, Saeed	1692	4	T274	
Vance, Henry	1335	3.5	T346	
Nelson, Antonio	1389	3	T405	
Johnson, Lauren	1062	2	T477	

Gnani Rambha, Max Campbell and John Nguyen won money in the quads. Gnani won the weekend Swiss. Adam and Lauren Johnson won 1st place husband and wife team.

Delegates Report

Chris Prosser, TCA Secretary and TN Delegate

Mike Shuey, TCA West TN Director and TN Delegate

Chris Prosser and Mike Shuey represented Tennessee at this years'

USCF Delegates' meeting, and are providing this summary. If you notice any errors, please contact Chris or Mike. Chris also attended a few in-person USCF Committee meetings.

Committee Summaries

Scholastic Committee:

- Provisional ratings will be used for unrated players
- Adding k-3 U/600 and Unrated section
- Considering national scholastic in Vegas

Senior:

- Mostly discussed a 65 team and stipends for it
- ****

Finance:

- US
Chess
lost
over
300,000,
but
made
it
up
thru
rainy
day
fund
- Super
Nationals
profited
\$50,000
but
was
budgeted
to
profit
\$450,000
- Next
two
years
budgeted
at
a
loss
- Loss
will
be
made
up
thru
unspent
computer
program
fund
unspent
last
2
years

Women's Committee:

- 1st
US
Senior
Women's
Championship
went
well
- ST
Louis
Chess
Center
will
host
Senior
Women's
next
year
- Women's
Grant
deadline:
Aug
16
- Discussed
National
Senior
over
a
particular
age
- Asking
States
to
train
Girls
and
Women's
ambassadors
and
TD's

Delegates' Meeting Business, Key Results and Takeaways

- New
Alaska
State

Chapter
was
voted
in.

- New
State
Chapter
Challenge
rule
of
a
3
year
wait
failed
(state
chapters
will
continue
to
be
able
to
be
challenged
yearly)

- New
blitz
chess
rules
withdrawn,
though
a
TN
representative
has
encouraged
the
TX
representative
and
sponsor
to
continue
this
effort.

These
rules
were
failed
with
desire
to
change
one
thing
at
a
time,
rather
than
most
everything
in
one
go.

These
rules
would
pare
down
the
rulebook
and
add
clarity,
without
any
actual,
substantial,
material
changes.

- Free
TLA
for
senior
and
Women's
event
passed.
- Strengthening
nominating

committee
recommendations
failed
(it
was
proposed
to
mark
on
ballots
which
candidates
were
recommended
by
nominating
committee)

- Tougher
residency
rules
for
invitationals
were
passed.
- New
correspondence
rules
will
be
voted
on
again
next
year
to
pass(the
rules
changes
proposed
require
either
2/3s
for
2
years
of

votes,
or
85%
for
instantaneous
implementation.

The
rules
passed
this
year
the
2/3s
but
failed
the
85%)

- Adding
an
additional
65+
Senior
national
team
failed
(this
was
around
having
additional
teams
with
names
referencing/designating
the
US/USA)
- Allowing
the
US
Open
to
schedule
rounds
during
the
Delegates'

Meeting
passed
narrowly.
TN
unanimously
voted
against
this.
This
was
relatively
contested.
First
it
was
proposed
to
send
to
committee,
and
that
failed,
but
immediate
implementation
actually
succeeded.
In
the
future,
rounds
for
the
US
Open
can
now
be
scheduled
during
the
Delegates'
Meeting,
which
would

require
delegates
to
take
bye(s)
during
the
tournament
to
perform
their
duties.

- USCF
providing
appearance
fees
to
Senior
and
Women's
failed,
due
to
"process".
There
was
a
large
concern
this
could
set
precedent
for
funding
in
the
future;
where
funding
like
this
is
not
particularly
part

of
the
Delegates'
Meeting
process.


Memphis Chess News

MEMPHIS PARKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MEMPHIS CHESS CLUB

FREE EVENT
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Chess

TOURNAMENT



October 4, 2025

TOURNAMENT SIGN-UP
12:30 PM FOR 1ST ROUND

- Sign in for tournament by 12:30pm for 1st round
- Late registrants automatically given 1st rd ½ pt bye
- 4 games of 25 minutes with a 5 second delay

Round 1: 1pm SHARP
Round 2: 2pm or ASAP
Round 3: 3pm or ASAP
Round 4: 4pm or ASAP

2 Sections:
Unrated
Open, USCF-rated

Trophies and Ribbons given to winners!



PEABODY PARK
712 TANGLEWOOD ST. | MEMPHIS, TN 38104



National Chess Day and MCC Location Anniversary

Low Entry Fee! Tons of Plaques!
\$740 in prizes b/60
 October 11, 2025

FIVE TOURNAMENTS IN ONE!
Very Low Entry Fee, many good prizes!
 Memphis Chess Club
 195 Madison Ave Suite 101
 Memphis, TN 38103

USCF RATING NOT NEEDED FOR THIS ENTIRE
TOURNAMENT

Hand and Brain, 10:30am	Bughouse Bonanza	Prizes
4ss G/10+5, rounds ASAP starting 10:30am	6ss G/5d0, rounds ASAP starting 7pm	Top Team prizes are bonus prizes. All "teams" get \$15 per point. Bonus Tournament Team Prizes: Top Overall Team, Plaques +\$80 Top Family Team, Plaques +\$30 Top Male+Female Team, Plaques +\$30 40 total points available. Up to 15 points possible by one team
1st Plaques + 3p	1st Plaques + 3p	
2nd 2p	2nd 2p	
3rd 1p	3rd 1p	
Top non placing Family Team 1p	Top non placing Family Team 1p	
Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	
USCF Dual-Rated	Late Night Arena USCF Blitz	Entry
3ss G/25d5, rounds ASAP starting 1:00pm	DOUBLE ROUND ROBIN G/3+2 8:30pm	Early Entry Fee (by Oct 4th) \$20 Late and Onsite Entry Fee \$25 Reg. ends 20min prior to each tournament MCC Members register in person to receive \$5 member discount OTB USCF & FIDE Masters free, deduct EF on prize Register online at www.memphischessclub.com/tournaments info@memphischessclub.com Don't have a partner? We'll find you one! Maximum one Expert(2000+) or stronger per team unless immediate family
1st Plaque(s) + 3p	1st Plaques + 3p	
2nd 2p	2nd 2p	
3rd 1p	3rd 1p	
Top non placing Family Team 1p	Top non placing Family Team 1p	
Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	
Fischer Random (team pt pairings)		
4ss G/10+5, rounds ASAP starting 4:30pm		
1st Plaques + 3p		
2nd 2p		
3rd 1p		
Top non placing Family Team 1p		
Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p		

Rules notes:

Hand & Brain

One player Hand, one player Brain, chosen per game, white chooses 1st. Brain speaks type of piece, Hand moves and operates clock, otherwise no discussion of moves, and other communication prohibited including clock reminders. Hand selects promoted piece. Prohibited speaking can result in negative 2min or half time penalty, whichever less. Hand controls resignation and draw offers and acceptances

Bughouse

Teams choose color, higher score chooses 1st. If tie and issue, lots for 1st pick. Touch move: piece in hand touching legal square determines move. Teams are allowed talk for needed pieces, speeding up, slowing down or stalling, reminding bughouse rules. Teams may not talk about specific moves. Penalties can be stealing pieces in hand from other team. Pieces in hand must be visible. Captured promoted pieces are pawns in hand.

Fischer Random

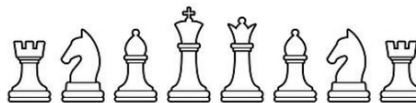
position available for 10 minutes



2025 Memphis Open, Qualifier, and Amateur Championship

\$1,380 in prizes! (b/40)

October 25th and 26th, 2025



Memphis Chess Club
195 Madison Ave Suite 101
Memphis, TN 38103

Must have USCF rating to participate. If you
don't have a rating, ask us how!

<p>Open and Qualifier</p> <p>Open Section</p> <p>1st Place Plaque + \$250</p> <p>& qualifies for City Championship</p> <p>2nd Place \$200</p> <p>& qualifies for City Championship</p> <p>3rd Place \$150</p>	<p>Reserve (U1801)</p> <p>Single Open Section</p> <p>1st Place Plaque+\$200</p> <p>2nd Place \$150</p> <p>3rd Place \$100</p> <p>1st - 6th places all qualify for the Memphis Reserve City Championship</p> <p>Amateur (U1301)</p> <p>1st Place \$150</p> <p>Trophy & Memphis City Amateur Champion Title</p> <p>2nd Place \$100</p> <p>3rd Place \$80</p>	<p>Swiss Tournament Format</p> <p>USCF-rated, 5ss G/90d5</p> <p>Oct 25 rounds at 9am, 1pm, 4:30pm</p> <p>Oct 26 rounds at 9am, & 2pm</p> <p>(1) half-point bye available if requested before round 1 is paired</p> <p>Reg ends 8:30am Sharp</p> <p>Late registrants assigned 1st rd 1/2-pt bye</p>
<p>Swiss</p> <p>Early Entry Fee \$55</p> <p>Late and Onsite Entry Fee \$65 (Register by October 14th)</p> <p>\$5 MCC Member Discount in person</p> <p>All OTB masters free, deduct Onsite Entry Fee from prize</p> <p>MCC Members please register in person to receive your discount</p> <p>Register online at www.memphischessclub.com after August 10th</p> <p>Board 1 livestreamed</p> <p>Playing in Saunders Hall</p> <p>Full Cafe available for food purchases</p> <p>Early withdrawals \$10 service fee, MCC reserves the right to waive</p> <p>EFs also go towards City Championship prize fund and plaques</p> <p>See USCF TLA for more info</p>		



2025 Mid South Open!

1st place \$1,000!

\$6,000 in prizes(b/80)

50% GUARANTEED!

LONG TIME CONTROLS!

Nov 28-Nov 30, 2025, USCF-rated

Requires active USCF membership

AIRBNBS! GREAT HOTEL RATE!

Memphis Chess Club
195 Madison Ave Suite 101
Memphis, TN 38103

Open		Novice Section (U1001)		Schedule A: 6ss G/90+30 SD/30	
1st	Plaque + \$1,000	1st	Massive trophy \$300	B: 3ss G45+30, then merge w/A	
2nd	\$600	2nd	Big Trophy + \$250	Schedule A	Schedule B
Top U2201	Prize + \$500	Top U801	Trophy + \$200	rd1 Fri 11:30am	
Top U2001	Prize + \$400	Top Unrated	Trophy + \$120	rd2 Fri ASAP or 5:00pm	
Reserve(U1801)		Other Bonus Prizes*		rd3 Sat 11:30am	rd1 Sat 9am
1st	Prize + \$500	Top Senior (65+)*	Prize + \$120		rd2 Sat 12pm noon
2nd	\$400	Top Female*	Prize + \$120		rd3 Sat 2:30pm
Top U1601	Prize + \$300	Top Junior*	Prize + \$120	rd4 Sat ASAP or 5:00pm	
Amateur Section (U1401)		Upset	Prize + \$120	rd5 Sun 9am	
1st	Prize + \$400	RANDOM DOOR PRIZE		rd6 Sun ASAP or 3pm	
2nd	\$300	GIVEN AT END OF PRIZES			
Top U1201	Prize + \$250				

Extra Early Entry Fee(by Oct 26th) \$80, Early Entry Fee (by Nov 14) \$90

Onsite and Late Entry Fee \$100

MCC Members register in person to receive \$5 member discount

\$20 withdrawal service charge for Early EFs withdrawn.

MCC reserves the right to waive charge for emergencies.

All OTB Master Titles free, deduct EF on prize b/registration date

Reg. ends 8:30am day-of, SHARP, (1) 1/2-pt bye ok if req'd before rd3 paired

RE-ENTRY OK FOR HALF PRICE (\$50, counts only as 1 entrant)

Register online at www.memphischessclub.com/tournaments

Requires active USCF membership

Unrated players only eligible for reduced place(-30%) & unrated prizes

Upset prize only available to non-provisional, rated players.

Tournament limited to the first 116 entries.

Players paid on waiting list for entry 100% refunded.

Physical prizes tbd (some fun, some trophies, some plaques)

*-Top Sr, Jr, and Female Prizes awarded based on Performance Rating

MCC Special Airbnbs across the street! CARPOOL!

~\$45/night room plus \$10/night/person max 3 (no pets)

#103: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess103>

#104: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess104>

#105: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess105>

#107: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess107>

#108: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess108>

~\$55/night room plus \$10/night/person max 5 (no pets)

#102: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess102>

Napoleon Hotel Next Door! 1 King or 2 Queen, rates and link tbd

Mike's Meme



Letter from the President

Dear Tennessee Chess Community,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the tremendous success of this year's Tennessee Open. It was truly inspiring to see so many players competing and representing their communities.

A special thank you goes to Cumberland County Chess Club for their outstanding hospitality and for hosting the event. The venue and local support were fantastic, and we truly appreciate all they did to make the tournament such a positive experience for everyone.

Looking ahead, we're very excited for the upcoming Susan E Kantor Scholastic qualifiers and finals in October and November. These

events are a vital part of our mission to grow the game and provide opportunities for scholastic players across the state. We are grateful to all the schools and to Tennessee Tech for graciously hosting these upcoming tournaments.

Our success relies on the hard work of our organizers, coaches, parents, and players. Your dedication to the game is what makes our community so strong.

I look forward to seeing many of you on the chessboard again soon.

Sincerely,

Christina Mullinax

President of the Tennessee Chess Association

Bids and Announcements

Are you interested in hosting and organizing one of these upcoming tournaments?

The Tennessee Chess Association is responsible for several State level events each year. The Tennessee Open, Winter Open, Senior Open, All-Girls Championship, and Home School Championship. These events are open for outside bids if a person or organization wishes to host one of these events on our behalf, either by just providing a venue or taking full responsibility of the event. Please use the link below, which will also be posted on our Tournament Calendar, to submit your application to support these events.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Tournament Committee who will then make a recommendation to the Board of Directors to be voted on. The Board reserves the right to make final decisions for these events.

[Bid Form here](#)

Questions or comments can be sent to the Tournament Coordinator,
Danny Mullinax dcmullinax@gmail.com

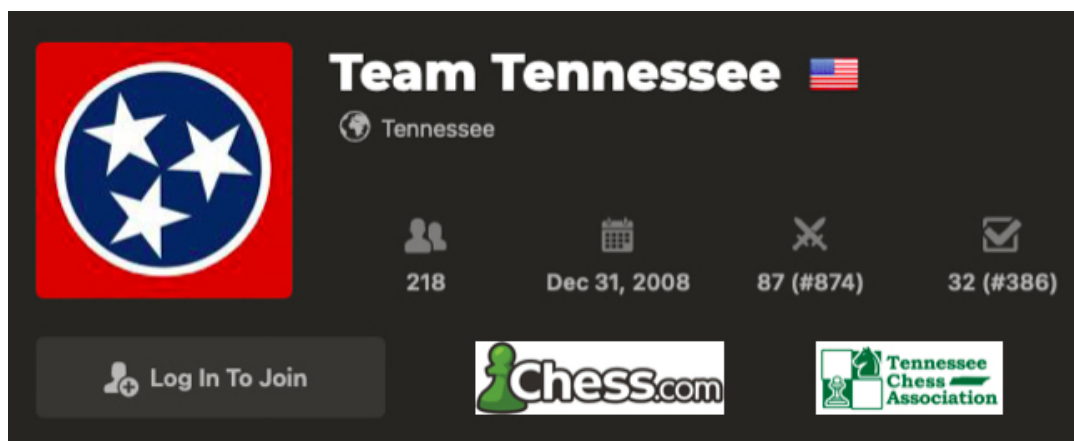
- TN
Open:
Target
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BID
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Feb
1
- TN
Home
School
State
Championship:
Target
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November;
BID
DUE:
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June
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- TN
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- TN
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DUE:
Nov
1

Team Tennessee

Looking for more games? Join Team Tennessee on chess.com
<https://www.chess.com/club/team-tennessee> and help your state in
the US Chess League and other team events!



Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame Call for Nominations

If you know someone deserving of recognition for their chess greatness, please nominate them for the Tennessee Chess Hall of

Fame and Recognition Awards.

Use these links for more information about the [Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame](#) and [Recognition Awards](#).

Please send nominations with supporting materials to the [Tennessee Chess Hall of Fame Committee](#) no later than March 30, 2024.

Top 10 Tennessee Chess Players

- 1.) GM Alexander Fishbein 2501
- 2.) IM Jake Kleiman 2480
- 3.) FM Alexander King 2375
- 4.) NM Graham Horobetz 2368
- 5.) NM Forest Chen 2322
- 6.) NM Andrew Whatley 2303
- 7.) IM Ron Burnett 2296
- 8.) NM Dean Bruce Lee 2282
- 9.) NM Mitch Fishbein 2280
- 10.) NM James L. Nguyen 2257

Recently Rated Current US Chess Members are shown. For more US Chess Top 100 Rating Lists, visit www.uschess.org

Tennessee Chess Patrons

The TCA wishes to send special thanks to the current Patron and Life Members. Without their contributions, much of what the TCA accomplishes would not be possible. Thank you Patrons!

TCA Patron Members:

- THE
KLEIMAN
FAMILY
- PAUL
SEMMES
- DESTINI
HAROLD

Life Members:

- R.
K.
SHIMABUKURO
- PAT
KNIGHT
SMITH

TCA Membership

The Tennessee Chess Association appreciates those who help sponsor the game and offers tax-deductible memberships to Patrons beginning at \$100 per year. Membership for all levels will be for 12 calendar months (including the month membership is paid). To check your membership expiration, please visit our [Current Members Page](#). Renew or join for as little as \$10 per year. Membership is required for participation in all TCA-sponsored chess events except certain scholastic-only competitions but even if you're not an active player, your membership helps support our mission: To broaden and develop chess as art and recreation as a significant element of culture in the

state of Tennessee. To initiate programs, conduct tournaments and matches and to employ methods that will tend to promote the literary and educational benefits to be derived from the game of chess. To receive donations from the general public to enable the Association to conduct chess matches and tournaments and to award trophies and prizes to successful contestants. TCA is a 100% volunteer-run organization so your donation and membership is 100% going to support Tennessee chess. Thank you for your support!

[Click Here to Renew or Become a TCA Member Today!](#)

Tennessee Chess Calendar

2025 Upcoming Events

October 11 – Nashville Chess Center Scholastic – TBD

October 11 – Cumberland County Open – TBD

October 18 – [29th Annual Bradley County Chess Championship](#) →
[Register](#)

October 25 – [TN Region 1, 2 & 3 Scholastic Individual](#)

November 1 – [TN Region 4 Scholastic Individual](#)

November 8 – Nashville Catholic Schools Tournament

November 15 – TN State Scholastic Individual Finals – TN Tech Univ

November 22 – Nashville Chess Center Scholastic – TBD

November 22 – Knoxville Open @ UT

December 6 – Nashville Chess Center Scholastic – Ensworth School

December 6 – Middle Tennessee Scholastic Chess Championship @
Central Magnet School, Murfreesboro

Out-of-State Events of Interest

Weekly Online Events

Mondays Murfreesboro Monday Team Battles @ at 7:00 PM CST
<https://lichess.org/team/murfreesboro-chess-club>

Last Sunday of Each Month Murfreesboro Classical Swiss
Tournament @ Online at 3:00 PM CST Join the club on chess.com

Have an Event to Share to this List?

To add your event to this list, please email flyer or pertaining details to
TCA Tournament Coordinator: dcmullinax@gmail.com To include your
event on our front homepage sidebar, TCA membership must be
required for in-state players or it must be a scholastics only event.

Upcoming Event Flyers

MEMPHIS PARKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MEMPHIS CHESS CLUB

FREE EVENT
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Chess

TOURNAMENT



October 4, 2025

TOURNAMENT SIGN-UP

12:30 PM FOR 1ST ROUND

- Sign in for tournament by 12:30pm for 1st round
- Late registrants automatically given 1st rd 1/2 pt bye
- 4 games of 25 minutes with a 5 second delay

FREE PLAY | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Round 1: 1pm SHARP
Round 2: 2pm or ASAP
Round 3: 3pm or ASAP
Round 4: 4pm or ASAP

2 Sections:
Unrated
Open, USCF-rated

Trophies and Ribbons given to winners!



City of
MEMPHIS

PEABODY PARK

712 TANGLEWOOD ST. | MEMPHIS, TN 38104

cumberland county chess club

Fall Open Quads

Saturday, Oct 11

1st Place **\$100**
in each quad:

****Perfect 3.0 score gets additional \$20!***

Entry Fee: \$30 online or early; \$40 on site.
GMs/IMs free entry, \$30 deducted
from any prize.
US Chess membership required
TCA membership required for TN residents

Format: QUADS (3 rounds)
Players are divided into groups of four based
on their rating. For example, the four
highest-rated players form Quad 1,
the next four form Quad 2, and so on.

Pairings: Within each quad, every player plays
against the other three players (a round robin).
That means each player gets 3 games in total.

Time Control: G60/+5

Rounds: 9:00am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm
All Times in Central Time

Organizer Website:
www.facebook.com/cumberlandcountychessclub

Entries/Registration:
Please register online at reg4chess.com or via email

On-site Registration: 7:30-8:30am

Contact: William Flynn (931)-200-0875

PayPal: cumberlandcountychessclub@gmail.com

Event Location: Cumberland County
Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Rd,
Crossville, TN, 38555

Sponsors:

EAST TENNESSEE



RE/MAX
Finest



**Tennessee
Chess
Association**



National Chess Day and MCC Location Anniversary

Low Entry Fee! Tons of Plaques!
\$740 in prizes b/60
 October 11, 2025

FIVE TOURNAMENTS IN ONE!
Very Low Entry Fee, many good prizes!
 Memphis Chess Club
 195 Madison Ave Suite 101
 Memphis, TN 38103

USCF RATING NOT NEEDED FOR THIS ENTIRE
TOURNAMENT

Hand and Brain, 10:30am	Bughouse Bonanza	Prizes
4ss G/10+5, rounds ASAP starting 10:30am	6ss G/5d0, rounds ASAP starting 7pm	Top Team prizes are bonus prizes. All "teams" get \$15 per point. Bonus Tournament Team Prizes: Top Overall Team, Plaques +\$80 Top Family Team, Plaques +\$30 Top Male+Female Team, Plaques +\$30 40 total points available. Up to 15 points possible by one team
1st Plaques + 3p	1st Plaques + 3p	
2nd 2p	2nd 2p	
3rd 1p	3rd 1p	
Top non placing Family Team 1p	Top non placing Family Team 1p	
Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	
USCF Dual-Rated	Late Night Arena USCF Blitz	Entry
3ss G/25d5, rounds ASAP starting 1:00pm	DOUBLE ROUND ROBIN G/3+2 8:30pm	Early Entry Fee (by Oct 4th) \$20 Late and Onsite Entry Fee \$25 Reg. ends 20min prior to each tournament MCC Members register in person to receive \$5 member discount OTB USCF & FIDE Masters free, deduct EF on prize Register online at www.memphischessclub.com/tournaments info@memphischessclub.com Don't have a partner? We'll find you one! Maximum one Expert(2000+) or stronger per team unless immediate family
1st Plaque(s) + 3p	1st Plaques + 3p	
2nd 2p	2nd 2p	
3rd 1p	3rd 1p	
Top non placing Family Team 1p	Top non placing Family Team 1p	
Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p	
Fischer Random (team pt pairings)		
4ss G/10+5, rounds ASAP starting 4:30pm		
1st Plaques + 3p		
2nd 2p		
3rd 1p		
Top non placing Family Team 1p		
Top non placing Male+Female Team 1p		

Rules notes:

Hand & Brain

One player Hand, one player Brain, chosen per game, white chooses 1st. Brain speaks type of piece, Hand moves and operates clock, otherwise no discussion of moves, and other communication prohibited including clock reminders. Hand selects promoted piece. Prohibited speaking can result in negative 2min or half time penalty, whichever less. Hand controls resignation and draw offers and acceptances

Bughouse

Teams choose color, higher score chooses 1st. If tie and issue, lots for 1st pick. Touch move: piece in hand touching legal square determines move. Teams are allowed talk for needed pieces, speeding up, slowing down or stalling, reminding bughouse rules. Teams may not talk about specific moves. Penalties can be stealing pieces in hand from other team. Pieces in hand must be visible. Captured promoted pieces are pawns in hand.

Fischer Random

position available for 10 minutes



MCC: Just \$10 Harvest Open

U1600 Tournament & Club Fundraiser

[Reg4chess.com](https://reg4chess.com) (Region 3 TN)

U1600 Only: Class C & Below Saturday, October 18, 2025

- ☐ **Rated Player Only Awards:** 1st Place Plaque & Top U1000 Plaque
- ☐ **Unrated Eligibility Award:** Special Top Unrated Medallion
- ☐ **Raffle:** For More Prizes!
- ☐ **Ratings:** OTB Action & Ratings Grabs! Unrated Players Welcome!
- ☐ **Format:** 5 Rounds in one Open Section, Dual-Rated
- ☐ **Time Control:** Rounds 1 & 2 = G/30+10, Rounds 3 thru 5 = G/45+10
- ☐ **Registration:** 7:30am - 8:40am
- ☐ **Rounds:** 9:00, 10:30, Lunch, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00 (or all a.s.a.p)
- ☐ **Early Entry:** \$10.00 cash or PayPal by 10/17 [Reg4chess.com](https://reg4chess.com) (Region 3 TN)
- ☐ **Late Entry:** \$15.00 cash at the door on 10/18
- ☐ **Official MCC Member Discount:** \$5 off (MCC Annual Membership is \$10)
- ☐ **Requirements:** Current [US Chess Member](#), Rated Under 1600

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Murfreeseboro Chess Club
907 E. Main St.
(Parking & Entrance on N. Bilbro Ave.)
Murfreeseboro, TN 37130

murfreesborochess@gmail.com



29th Annual Bradley County Chess Championship

All ages, all levels of experience welcome!
Not a Rated Tournament — No Membership Required

Saturday, October 18, 2025 @ Cleveland Middle School
Registration starts at 8AM • Tournament Time: 9:00 a.m. first game
Cleveland Middle School Dining Hall
3635 Georgetown Rd. NW Cleveland, TN 37312

Sponsored by Bank of Cleveland & Mac PC Market

Entry Fee: \$10 registration for Adults • \$5 for Kids. Pay at the door. Cash only please.

Organizer: David Hewitt • **Tournament Director:** Tim Sams

Host: Matt Rodante, Cleveland Middle School

Tentative Sections & Trophies	Tentative Schedule
Elementary (K-5th) • Trophies for 1st-5th	8:15-8:40 Registration
Middle (Grade 6th-8th) • Trophies for 1st-5th	8:45 Welcome and Instructions
High School (Grade 9th-12th) • Trophies for 1st-3rd	9:00-10:00 Round 1
	10:10-11:10 Round 2
Adult • Trophies for 1st-3rd Overall	11:20-12:50 Round 3
Championship Plaque with Overall winner's name	1:00-2:30 Round 4
	3:00 Awards

Tournament Guidelines:

- Touch move rules will apply.
- There is no scheduled lunch break. Concessions will be available for purchase.
- Tournament chess sets will be provided; however, please bring your own set for the skittles area if you wish.
- Rounds 1 and 2: G/30;d5. Rounds 3 and 4: G/45;d5.
- If you own a chess clock, please bring if you desire time control on all your games.

Visit www.bradleychess.org for more information and to register online.

—Entry Form (Please Print)-----Cut

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Desired Section (Circle One): Elementary / Middle / High School / Adult

USCF Member (Circle One)? Yes / No • Rating (if known) _____

2025 Susan E. Kantor Tennessee State Scholastic Individual Chess Tournament

(Open to Tennessee Students or Residents Only)



**Tennessee
Chess
Association**

Regional Qualifiers - Saturday, October 25th, 2025

Region 1
Lenoir City High School
1485 Old Hwy 95
Lenoir City, TN 37771

Region 2
Cleveland Middle School
3635 Georgetown Rd NW
Cleveland, TN 37312

Region 3
St. Paul Christian Academy
5033 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37215

November 1st

Region 4
Lausanne Collegiate School
1381 W Massey Rd
Memphis, TN 38120

Sections:

High School (grades 9-12) Denker
Middle School (grades 6-8) Barber
Elementary (grades K-5) Rockefeller
Primary (grades K-3)

Format: Swiss System - Rounds based on attendance
<16 players in section = 4 rounds
17-48 players in section = 5 rounds
48+ players in section = 6 rounds (rds 1-3 G/30;d5)

Time Control:

Rounds 1&2 - G/30;d5
Remaining rounds G/45;d5
All participants are encouraged to bring their own clock

Awards: Top 8 (Additional prizes based on pre-registration.)

Awards ceremony immediately following last round in section.

On-site Registration: 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.

All players must check in by 8:30 a.m. or they will not be paired for Round 1.

Round 1 starts at 9:00 a.m. Rounds 2-5 as announced.

Dues: No membership dues are required for Regional Qualifiers.

Byes: One one-half point bye is available for any round if requested at registration.

Tiebreaks: Only one champion! G/10 playoff for First Place each section. Otherwise:
(1)Modified Median, (2)Solkoff, (3)Cumulative,
(4)Opp. Cumulative, (5)Median, (6)Kashdan,
(7)Sonnenborn-Berger

Entry Fee: \$20 -- Late Entry \$30 after October 17th or on-site.

Pre-register online at tnchess.us -- Pre-registration ends October 23rd

ENTRIES BY MAIL SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO YOUR REGIONAL COORDINATOR (See Counties)
Must be postmarked by October 18, 2025

Region 1
Christina Mullinax
193 Caramel Lane
Loudon, TN 37774

Region 2
Michael Ake
1004 17th St. NW
Cleveland, TN 37311

Region 3
Chris Prosser
733 Long Hunter Court
Nashville, TN 37217

Region 4
Arlene Kleiman
1614 Vance Ave
Memphis, TN 38104

2025 Susan E. Kantor TN State Scholastic Individual Entry Form

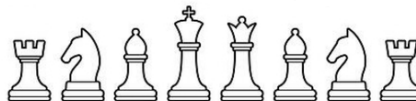
Name:		US Chess ID (if available):		
Address:		Region:	DOB:	
School:		Grade:	Phone:	
Section (circle one): K-3 K-5 6-8 9-12		Email:		
Bye Rd?	Entry Fee:	TCA Memb N/A	US Chess Memb N/A	Total



2025 Memphis Open, Qualifier, and Amateur Championship

\$1,380 in prizes! (b/40)

October 25th and 26th, 2025



Memphis Chess Club
195 Madison Ave Suite 101
Memphis, TN 38103

Must have USCF rating to participate. If you
don't have a rating, ask us how!

Open and Qualifier		Reserve (U1801)	Swiss Tournament Format
Open Section		Single Open Section	USCF-rated, 5ss G/90d5
1st Place Plaque + \$250		1st Place Plaque+\$200	Oct 25 rounds at 9am, 1pm, 4:30pm
& qualifies for City Championship		2nd Place \$150	Oct 26 rounds at 9am, & 2pm
2nd Place \$200		3rd Place \$100	(1) half-point bye available if requested before round 1 is paired
& qualifies for City Championship		1st - 6th places all qualify for the Memphis Reserve	Reg ends 8:30am Sharp
3rd Place \$150		City Championship	Late registrants assigned 1st rd 1/2-pt bye
		Amateur (U1301)	
		1st Place \$150	
		Trophy & Memphis City	
		Amateur Champion Title	
		2nd Place \$100	
		3rd Place \$80	

Swiss

Early Entry Fee \$55
Late and Onsite Entry Fee \$65 (Register by October 14th)
\$5 MCC Member Discount in person
All OTB masters free, deduct Onsite Entry Fee from prize
MCC Members please register in person to receive your discount
[Register online at www.memphischessclub.com](http://www.memphischessclub.com) after August 10th
Board 1 livestreamed
Playing in Saunders Hall
Full Cafe available for food purchases
Early withdrawals \$10 service fee, MCC reserves the right to waive
EFs also go towards City Championship prize fund and plaques
See USCF TLA for more info

2025 Susan E. Kantor Tennessee State Scholastic Individual Chess Tournament

(Open to Tennessee Students or Residents Only)



**Tennessee
Chess
Association**

State Individual Finals - Saturday, November 15, 2025

Location: Tennessee Tech University
Roaden University Center, 1000 N Dixie Ave, Cookeville,
TN 38505

Qualifications: Top 8 Individuals from each section
in each region may play.

Awards/Sections: Same as Regionals

Format: 5 Round Swiss

Time Control:

Rounds 1&2 - G/45;d5; Rounds 3-5 G/60;d5
All participants are encouraged to bring their own clock.

Tiebreaks: Same as Regionals, plus G/10 playoff for 2nd
place in HS section for scholarship prize (see below).

Check-In: 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. CT

All players must check in by 8:30 a.m. or they
will not be paired for Round 1. Round start times
are approximate. Rounds will start no earlier
than stated.

Round 1 starts at 9:00 a.m.

Round 2-5 as announced

Dues: US Chess (\$24 USChess.org) and
Tennessee Chess Association (\$10 tnchess.us)
memberships are required for all players.
Please have memberships up-to-date by
November 12th.

National Invitationals: The top players in the sections below will be invited to represent Tennessee in the
Tournament of Champions at the 2026 U.S. Open Invitationals August 3-9th, 2026 in Grand Rapids, MI

- High School Champion: The Arnold Denker Tournament of High School State Champions
- Middle School Champion: The Dewain Barber Tournament of Middle School State Champions
- Elementary Champion: The John D. Rockefeller III Tournament of Elementary State Champions

Special Prizes:

Tennessee Tech University will award four-year Tennessee State Scholastic Chess Championship
Scholarships to the first place and second place winners of the High School Section as follows:
\$2,000 per year (first place), and \$1,000 per year (second place). For more information, about
scholarship opportunities at Tennessee Tech, visit www.tntech.edu/scholarships.


COUNTIES IN EACH REGION

Region 1: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Carter, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson,
Johnson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Scott, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, Union, Washington.

Region 2: Bledsoe, Bradley, Clay, Coffee, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Franklin, Grundy, Hamilton, Jackson, Marion,
McMinn, Meigs, Morgan, Overton, Pickett, Polk, Putnam, Rhea, Roane, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren, White

Region 3: Bedford, Cannon, Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Giles, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln,
Macon, Marshall, Maury, Montgomery, Moore, Perry, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, Stewart, Summer, Trousdale, Wayne,
Williamson, Wilson

Region 4: Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry,
Lake Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Obion, Shelby, Tipton, Weakley



2025 Mid South Open!

1st place \$1,000!

\$6,000 in prizes(b/80)

50% GUARANTEED!

LONG TIME CONTROLS!

Nov 28-Nov 30, 2025, USCF-rated

Requires active USCF membership

AIRBNBS! GREAT HOTEL RATE!

Memphis Chess Club
195 Madison Ave Suite 101
Memphis, TN 38103

Open		Novice Section (U1001)		Schedule A: 6ss G/90+30 SD/30	
1st	Plaque + \$1,000	1st	Massive trophy \$300	B: 3ss G45+30, then merge w/A	
2nd	\$600	2nd	Big Trophy + \$250	Schedule A	Schedule B
Top U2201	Prize + \$500	Top U801	Trophy + \$200	rd1 Fri 11:30am	
Top U2001	Prize + \$400	Top Unrated	Trophy + \$120	rd2 Fri ASAP or 5:00pm	
Reserve(U1801)		Other Bonus Prizes*		rd3 Sat 11:30am	rd1 Sat 9am
1st	Prize + \$500	Top Senior (65+)*	Prize + \$120		rd2 Sat 12pm noon
2nd	\$400	Top Female*	Prize + \$120		rd3 Sat 2:30pm
Top U1601	Prize + \$300	Top Junior*	Prize + \$120	rd4 Sat ASAP or 5:00pm rd5 Sun 9am rd6 Sun ASAP or 3pm	
Amateur Section (U1401)		Upset	Prize + \$120		
1st	Prize + \$400	RANDOM DOOR PRIZE			
2nd	\$300	GIVEN AT END OF PRIZES			
Top U1201	Prize + \$250				

Extra Early Entry Fee(by Oct 26th) \$80, Early Entry Fee (by Nov 14) \$90

Onsite and Late Entry Fee \$100

MCC Members register in person to receive \$5 member discount

\$20 withdrawal service charge for Early EFs withdrawn.

MCC reserves the right to waive charge for emergencies.

All OTB Master Titles free, deduct EF on prize b/registration date

Reg. ends 8:30am day-of, SHARP, (1) 1/2-pt bye ok if req'd before rd3 paired

RE-ENTRY OK FOR HALF PRICE (\$50, counts only as 1 entrant)

Register online at www.memphischessclub.com/tournaments

Requires active USCF membership

Unrated players only eligible for reduced place(-30%) & unrated prizes

Upset prize only available to non-provisional, rated players.

Tournament limited to the first 116 entries.

Players paid on waiting list for entry 100% refunded.

Physical prizes tbd (some fun, some trophies, some plaques)

*-Top Sr, Jr, and Female Prizes awarded based on Performance Rating

MCC Special Airbnbs across the street! CARPOOL!

~\$45/night room plus \$10/night/person max 3 (no pets)

#103: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess103>

#104: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess104>

#105: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess105>

#107: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess107>

#108: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess108>

~\$55/night room plus \$10/night/person max 5 (no pets)

#102: <https://tinyurl.com/MemphisChess102>

Napoleon Hotel Next Door! 1 King or 2 Queen, rates and link tbd

2023 - 2024 TCA Board of Directors

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