



Tennessee Chess News

December 2025, Volume 70, Issue 4

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2025 Susan E. Kantor State Individual Results

The Susan E. Kantor State Individual was hosted at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville on November 15. The Tennessee Collegiate State Championship took place alongside the Scholastic State Individuals for the second time.

Congratulations to the winners of each section!

Primary: Sam Lepley

Elementary: Jasmine Lin

Middle: Athiyan Senthil Kumar

High: Armaan Singhvi

Collegiate: Henry Vance



Primary Results

2025 Susan E Kantor TN Scholastic Championship - Primary

PRIMARY SECTION	Gr	Rtg	Score	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5
1 Lepley, Sam Wylder	2	906	5	W8	W11	W17	W3	W2
2 Zhang, Hengning	3	1085	4	W19	W7	W10	W5	L1
3 Kang, Justin	3	643	4	W32	W18	W4	L1	W8
4 Xu, Jason	3	989	4	W13	W23	L3	W20	W12
5 Li, Lucas	3	884	4	W27	W20	W9	L2	W14
6 Dong, Chloe	3	1139	4	W25	L9	W19	W16	W7
7 Jaiprakash, Kavin	3	633	3	W15	L2	W13	W18	L6
8 Tiwari, Vivaan	3	317	3	L1	W29	W11	W17	L3
9 Fitzpatrick, Levi	2	620	3	W30	W6	L5	L12	W22
10 Waghmare, Swar	1	778	3	W22	W12	L2	L14	W19
11 Duggan, John	3	593	3	W21	L1	L8	W26	W18
12 Duggan, Benjamin	3	512	3	W29	L10	W21	W9	L4
13 Long, Jonah	3	321	3	L4	W30	L7	W24	W17
14 Singh, Yanvi	2	492	3	W31	L17	W28	W10	L5
15 Bag, Hrihaan	1		3	L7	L19	W25	W27	W20
16 Rice, James	1	558	3	L18	W32	W27	L6	W21
17 Turtel, Joshua	2	676	2	W26	W14	L1	L8	L13
18 Kim, Thomas	2		2	W16	L3	W23	L7	L11
19 Gui, Michael	2	344	2	L2	W15	L6	W31	L10
20 Cooper, Hawthorne S		524	2	W28	L5	W24	L4	L15
21 Martin, Jack	3		2	L11	W22	L12	W28	L16
22 Nadella, Yogitha	2	243	2	L10	L21	W29	W23	L9
23 Siglin, Gen	2	577	2	W24	L4	L18	L22	W28
24 Arteaga, William	1		2	L23	W26	L20	L13	W27
25 Wade, Judah	2	411	2	L6	L28	L15	W30	W31
26 Garland, Declan James	3	217	2	L17	L24	W30	L11	W29
27 Ganjikunta, Dhaanvi Reddy	3	289	1	L5	W31	L16	L15	L24
28 Yates, Ayden			1	L20	W25	L14	L21	L23
29 Morozov, Daniel	1		1	L12	L8	L22	W32	L26
30 Kalal, Adwaith Rishi	K		1	L9	L13	L26	L25	W32
31 Trotter, James	K		1	L14	L27	W32	L19	L25
32 Burke, Brayden Lee	2	105	0	L3	L16	L31	L29	L30

Elementary Results

2025 Susan E Kantor TN Scholastic Championship - Elementary

Elementary Section	Gr	Rate	Pts	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5
1 Lin, Jasmine	5	1318	4.5	W16	W11	W10	D2	W6
2 Mchugh, James	5	1160	4	W25	W12	W4	D1	D3
3 Karthik, Kreshav	5	1623	4	W15	D6	W17	W7	D2
4 He, Elsa	5	1508	4	W18	W17	L2	W20	W8
5 Fitzpatrick, Liam	4	835	4	L8	W26	W16	W13	W9
6 Nadella, Vihaan	5	955	3.5	W24	D3	W11	W14	L1
7 Lau, Brandon	4	958	3.5	W22	W8	D14	L3	W17
8 Boder, John	4		3	W5	L7	W15	W12	L4
9 Mohan, Krish	5	804	3	W13	L14	W25	W10	L5
10 Karthik, Krutesh	4	999	3	W19	W20	L1	L9	W14
11 Lodha, Ridhaan	4	863	3	W28	L1	L6	W22	W16
12 Teitler, Julian	4	811	3	W23	L2	W19	L8	W18
13 Miller, Levi	4		3	L9	W21	W18	L5	W20
14 Vann, Jacob	4	1204	2.5	W21	W9	D7	L6	L10
15 Kalal, Aadvik Rishi	4	723	2.5	L3	W23	L8	D19	W25
16 Puppala, Viyaan Rao	5	611	2	L1	W28	L5	W23	L11
17 Teitler, Calvin	4	953	2	W27	L4	L3	W28	L7
18 Qu, Serena	5	643	2	L4	W22	L13	W24	L12
19 Ganapaneni, Nihitha	E	395	2	L10	W27	L12	D15	D21
20 Janve, Avighna	5	743	2	W29	L10	W24	L4	L13
21 Ferenchuk, Dennis	5	519	2	L14	L13	W26	D25	D19
22 Song, Lynzel	5	375	2	L7	L18	-B-	L11	W26
23 Strelkov, Luka			2	L12	L15	W29	L16	W28
24 Macgaw, Phoebe	5	347	2	L6	-B-	L20	L18	W29
25 Hu, Joyce	4	507	1.5	L2	W29	L9	D21	L15
26 Wade, Jonas Presley	4	101	1.5	-B-	L5	L21	D27	L22
27 Lee, Madison	5		1.5	L17	L19	L28	D26	-B-
28 Mackie, Noah	5		1	L11	L16	W27	L17	L23
29 Morozov, Kate	4		1	L20	L25	L23	-B-	L24

Middle School

2025 Susan E Kantor TN Scholastic Championship - Middle School

<u>Middle School</u>	<u>Gr</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Rnd1</u>	<u>Rnd2</u>	<u>Rnd3</u>	<u>Rnd4</u>	<u>Rnd5</u>
1 Senthil Kumar, Athiyan	8	2003	4.5	W17	W21	W5	W2	D3
2 Lodha, Vivaan	7	1790	4	W22	W12	W4	L1	W10
3 Sun, Yi	8	1915	4	W7	W16	D6	W14	D1
4 Nguyen, John	8	1959	4	W9	W11	L2	W12	W6
5 Hoja, Saeed	6	1714	4	W27	W10	L1	W19	W9
6 Shelat, Kaishav	8	1492	3.5	W25	W19	D3	W8	L4
7 Chen, Ryan	6	1092	3.5	L3	W24	W11	D13	W21
8 Ghosh, Aarav	6	1799	3.5	W20	D13	W15	L6	W14
9 Jenkins, Connor	8	1167	3	L4	W30	W21	W16	L5
10 Jainudeen, Jasim	6	1225	3	W32	L5	W22	W17	L2
11 Vodolazskii, Mark	8	1435	3	W30	L4	L7	W15	W19
12 Zhang, Jason	8	1185	3	W28	L2	W27	L4	W22
13 Waghmare, Sparsh	8	1243	3	W29	D8	L14	D7	W20
14 Pratheep, Prithve	6	1455	2.5	W26	D15	W13	L3	L8
15 Malireddi, Sritanush	7	1183	2.5	W18	D14	L8	L11	W27
16 Walker, Misael	8	1234	2.5	W24	L3	W20	L9	D17
17 Babu, Shravan	8	1173	2.5	L1	W31	W23	L10	D16
18 Kirkpatrick, Teagan J	7		2.5	L15	L20	W31	D27	W25
19 Kang, Julian	6	1179	2	W23	L6	W26	L5	L11
20 Liu, Brian	7	988	2	L8	W18	L16	W24	L13
21 Muthukumar, Navilon	6	1327	2	W31	L1	L9	W26	L7
22 Simhadri, Charan Kumar	6	981	2	L2	W28	L10	W23	L12
23 Sivam Dhivya, Ponvadhani	6		2	L19	W25	L17	L22	W30
24 Strelkov, Lev			2	L16	L7	W29	L20	W28
25 Wade, Jackson Lee	6	602	2	L6	L23	W32	W28	L18
26 Velasquez, Sam		500	2	L14	W32	L19	L21	W29
27 Xiao, Yuhan Harrison	7	641	1.5	L5	W29	L12	D18	L15
28 Green, Thomas Collin	7		1	L12	L22	W30	L25	L24
29 Tondo, Dominic	8		1	L13	L27	L24	W31	L26
30 O'Kada, Kian	3	398	1	L11	L9	L28	W32	L23
31 Purkey, Deesun	8	288	1	L21	L17	L18	L29	W32
32 Tommey, Walden	6		0	L10	L26	L25	L30	L31

High School

2025 Susan E Kantor TN Scholastic Championship - High School

<u>High School</u>	<u>Gr</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Rnd1</u>	<u>Rnd2</u>	<u>Rnd3</u>	<u>Rnd4</u>	<u>Rnd5</u>
1 Singhvi, Armaan	9	2129	4.5	W16	W7	W9	D3	W4
2 Nguyen, John T	9	1820	4.5	W25	D3	W8	W13	W6
3 Osborne, Adam		2134	4	W19	D2	W11	D1	W7
4 Nguyen, James	12	2257	4	W20	W14	W13	W6	L1
5 Jiang, Bochen	10	1787	4	W26	L6	W21	W14	W10
6 Rambha, Gnanadatta	10	2061	3	W18	W5	W15	L4	L2
7 Awasthi, Ghanishth	10	1794	3	W17	L1	W22	W9	L3
8 Hoja, Sabrina	10	1900	3	W22	D11	L2	W15	D13
9 Chandra, Ronit		1751	3	W27	W10	L1	L7	W19
10 Campbell, Maxwell		1997	3	W21	L9	W19	W12	L5
11 Idell, Daniel	12	1681	3	W29	D8	L3	W18	D14
12 Kowalski, Sam	11	1633	3	W30	L13	W23	L10	W20
13 Osborne, Seth		1887	2.5	W24	W12	L4	L2	D8
14 Authier, Lyric Connor		1830	2.5	W23	L4	W16	L5	D11
15 Wiley, Luke	9	1449	2.5	W28	W20	L6	L8	D17
16 Chode, Shrihan	9	1109	2.5	L1	W17	L14	D25	W22
17 Lewis, Kyle	9	834	2.5	L7	L16	W29	W21	D15
18 Baligar, Selena	10	1047	2.5	L6	D26	W24	L11	W25
19 Jiang, Jiashen	9	1316	2	L3	W25	L10	W23	L9
20 Sisson, Max	11	1389	2	L4	L15	W26	W24	L12
21 Jackson, Levi	11	1044	2	L10	W27	L5	L17	W26
22 Venkatesh Babu, Santhosh	11	974	2	L8	W29	L7	W27	L16
23 Erdman, Ryan	9	892	2	L14	W28	L12	L19	W27
24 Hagen, Rosalie	9	898	2	L13	W30	L18	L20	W28
25 Hu, Jason	9	883	1.5	L2	L19	W30	D16	L18
26 Naresh, Vishwajit, Jr		782	1.5	L5	D18	L20	W30	L21
27 Ashby, Samuel	9	575	1	L9	L21	W28	L22	L23
28 Cope, Jedediah			1	L15	L23	L27	W29	L24
29 Henry, Ethan	11		1	L11	L22	L17	L28	W30
30 Shook, John			0	L12	L24	L25	L26	L29

2025 TN State Collegiate Championship Results

2025 Susan E Kantor TN Scholastic Championship - Collegiate

<u>Collegiate</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Rnd1</u>	<u>Rnd2</u>	<u>Rnd3</u>	<u>Rnd4</u>
1 Vance, Henry	1325	4	MTSU	W3	W10	W6	W2
2 Bottoms, Max	1247	3	TTU	W13	W4	W5	L1
3 Dunham, Andrew		3	ETSU	L1	W8	W7	W6
4 Crockett, Kingston	1390	3	ETSU	W8	L2	W12	W9
5 Hennis, Ade	885	2.5	MTSU	-H-	W7	L2	W11
6 Reynolds, Tyler	1435	2	UTK	W11	W9	L1	L3
7 Monroe, Cole	1012	2	MTSU	W14	L5	L3	W13
8 Rigsby, Brenden		2	TTU	L4	L3	-B-	W12
9 Jones, Juddson	1273	2	TTU	W12	L6	W10	L4
10 Jordan, William Connor	878	2	TTU	-B-	L1	L9	W15
11 Cox, Bradley	893	2	TTU	L6	-B-	X14	L5
12 Williams, De'Won		1	MTSU	L9	W13	L4	L8
13 Evans, Brooke		1	MTSU	L2	L12	W15	L7
14 Cleveland, Ryan	1668	1	MTSU	L7	W15	F11	-U-
15 Harriman, Brantley	457	0.5	MTSU	-H-	L14	L13	L10

2025 Murfreesboro Chess Club Championship Results

Submitted by: Norbert Thiemann

We had 18 players total, which ended up being perfect for having one open section. There were no tie-breaks needed. The tournament

ended up being quite consequential due to several upsets, and some significant rating gains.

2025 Winners

Champion:	Max Friedman	3.5 pts
U1600:	Ryan Cleveland	3.0 pts
U1400:	Sparsh Waghmare	3.0 pts
U1200:	Rich Larmi	2.5 pts
Unrated:	Levi Hecht	1.0 pts
Top Upset:	Joseph Hungerman	

The Upsets

Points Diff.	Winner	Opponent
641	Joseph Hungerman (756)	James Marsolais (1397)
585	Sparsh Waghmare (1318)	Brian Dean Smith (1903)
517	Richard Larmi (1140)	Robert Presswood (1657)
422	Joseph Hungerman (756)	Wael Mansour (1178)
387	Vaithi Subramanian (1394)	Donald Burgess (1781)
323	Cole Monroe (1074)	James Marsolais (1397)
275	Jesse Pullum * (887)	Nathan King (1162)
244	Jesse Pullum * (887)	Jeffery Woodside (1131)

Top Rating Gains

Joseph Hungerman:	756 → 944 (+188)
Richard Larmi:	1140 → 1290 (+150)
Jesse Pullum:	739 → 873 (+134) *
Sparsh Waghmare:	1318 → 1387 (+69)
Cole Monroe:	1074 → 1130 (+56)
Vaithi Subramanian:	1394 → 1428 (+34)
Max Friedman:	1952 → 1963 (+11)
Ryan Cleveland:	1579 → 1588 (+9)
Sabrina Hoja:	1871 → 1876 (+5)

* Jesse Pullum was entered with his quick rating since this was dual rated, and these were his first classical rated games. The upset number reflects his post rating, and the rating gains reflects his quick rating changes.

Winners in order from left to right:

Max Friedman, Ryan Cleveland

Sparsh Waghmare, Rich Larmi, and Levi Hecht





Rich Larmi (1140) - Donald Burgess (1781)

Annotations by Rich Larmi

1.) Nc3 e5

2.) Nf3 Nc6

3.) d4 exd4

4.) Nxd4 Bc5

5.) Nxc6 bxc6

6.) e4 Ne7

7.) Bc4 Ng6

8.) Qe2 d6

9.) O-O O-O

10.) Be3 Bxe3

11.) Qxe3 Be6

12.) Bb3 d5

13.) Rad1 Qe7

14.) f4 dxe4

15.) f5 Bxb3



Diagram: Move 15

After White's move

16.) $axb3$ Ne5

17.) f6 Qe6

18.) h3 Rfd8

19.) Nxe4 Rxd1

20.) Rxd1 {I had 3 min left, and Donald had 2 min. I agreed to a draw. I think I had the advantage but was not sure I could force a win in the time.}

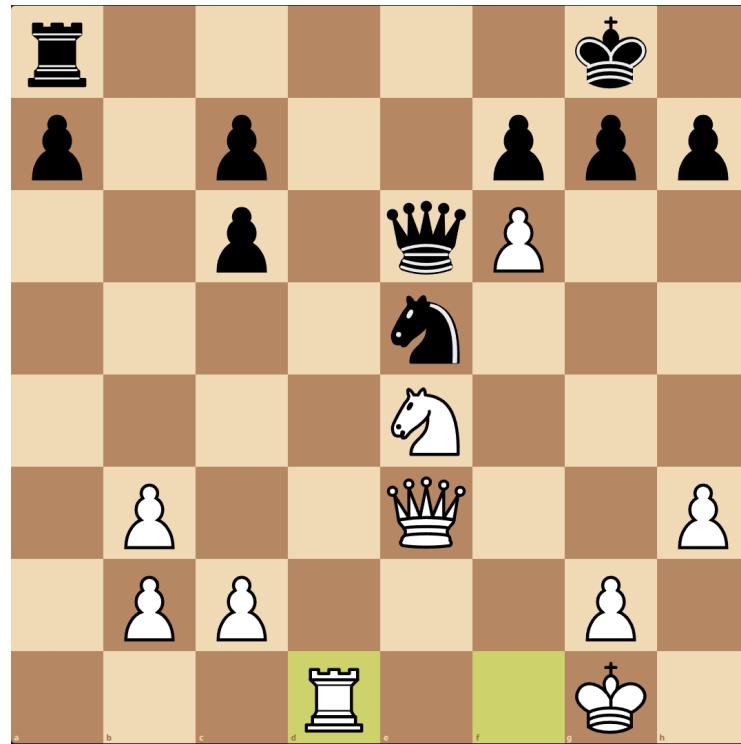


Diagram: Final move

Memphis Chess News

Submitted by: Mike Shuey

Checkmate Memphis, October 4th, 2025

Chess in the Park collaboration with **Memphis Parks** at Peabody Park was a blast! Memphis Parks brought food for 60, and Memphis Chess Club brought 3 dozen additional pastries and plenty of coffee. Thanks to Tramain Stewart and Whitney Wallace from Memphis Parks for organizing this event! They will be meeting at Peabody Park for chess

weekly 10am-12pm noon for chess on Tuesdays!

Players brought their game, and in the USCF Rated section, **Townes Buford** took 1st place 3.5/4 undefeated, with **Ghanishth Awasthi** and **Jacquez Johnson** and **Aniketh Roshan** tying for 2nd with 3/4!

In the Unrated section, after Leon Fitzpatrick noted with 2/2 the players were getting cooked, it turns out Elli Tseng was doing the cooking, not Leon! Elli walked away winning every game with 4/4, Noah Brahm came into 2nd with 3/4, and Leon squeezed by on tiebreaks snagging the 3rd place trophy with that 2/2(Devin Dowell and Krishil Sai Konchada also tied for 3rd with 2/2!).

For the blitz, Owen McDevitt struck back going undefeated with 4.5/5 (the tournament director scoring the only draw...rigged they said!!) and snagging the first place trophy! Jasim Jainudeen and Townes tied for second!

Finally for the unrated blitz, Elli walked away with the trophy, scaring all of her opponents home!

Congrats Everyone!

Some photos taken by Ernest Smith and LeAndre Gibson







2025 Memphis Open, October 25th and 26th, 2025

Congratulations to John Nguyen, who won the 2025 Memphis Open with 5 out of 5! Stellar! This also qualifies John to play in the Memphis City Championship!

Rafi Chowdhury and Ghanishth Awasthi tied for 2nd, each with 3.5/5. Ghanishth and Rafi then played playoffs for a slot of the Memphis City

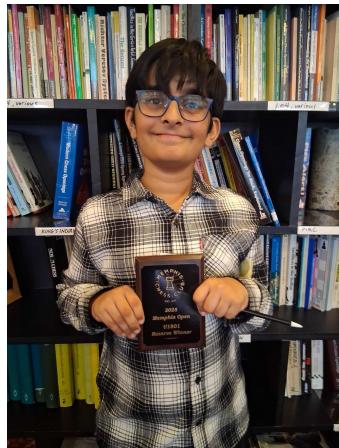
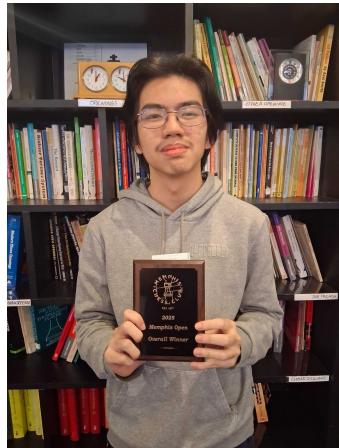
Championship, and Ghanishth came out on top with 2/2, so Ghanishth will be invited to the Memphis City Championship!

In the Reserve section, Kaishav Shelat scored 4/5 going undefeated and achieving 1st place alone!

Mike Shuey came in clean 2nd place with 3.5/5, also undefeated! Thomas Walker and Nitin Baligar tied for 3rd with 3/5.

In the Memphis Amateur City Championship section, Aniketh Roshan is your 2025 Amateur Memphis Champion, scoring 4/5, undefeated!

There was then a 3 way tie for 2econd with 3.5/5, between Curt "Curt Cold" Johnson, Oskar Mulqueen, and Beau Turner. Congrats! (Curt achieved this despite missing his entire first round and coming up from being down a full point!!)







2025 Mid South Open(65th annual), November 29th and 30th

Congratulations to the winners of the 65th Midsouth Open! We had 67 players! (Yes, 67, 6-7, 6-7-6-7-6-7...)

International Master Ron Burnett came back to win it once again, with Alain Cierna Rodriguez, the top U2201 in 2nd, Mike Shuey Top U2001 winning the Top U2001 plaque in 3rd, and Greg Turner winning the Top U2001 money in 4th!

In the U1801 Reserve Section Faron Miller tied with Sachleen Singh with the plaque going to Faron, and in 3rd place a 3 way tie between Thomas Walker, Charles Dong, and Jack Calder, with the Top U1601 plaque going to Thomas!

In the U1401 Amateur Section, Jasmine Lin crushed the competition with 5.5/6 for 1st place! She was the top performing female for tournament with a 1552 performance, sending her rating above 1400 from under 1300! Jasim Jainudeen scored 2nd place with 4.5, and there was a 4-way tie between Brandon Langford, Liam Fitzpatrick, Aniketh Roshan, and Rushitha Bezawada, with the plaque going to

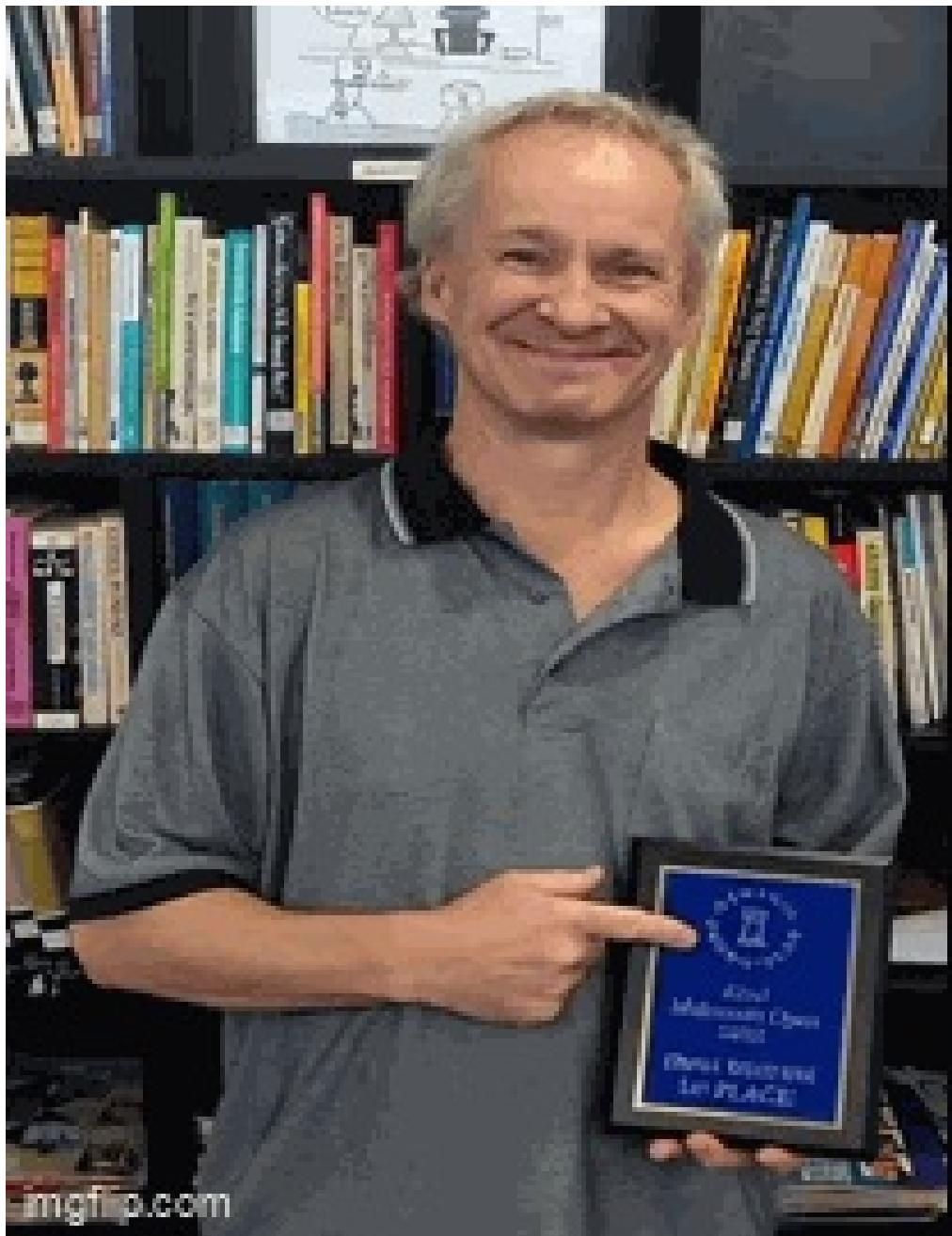
Brandon.

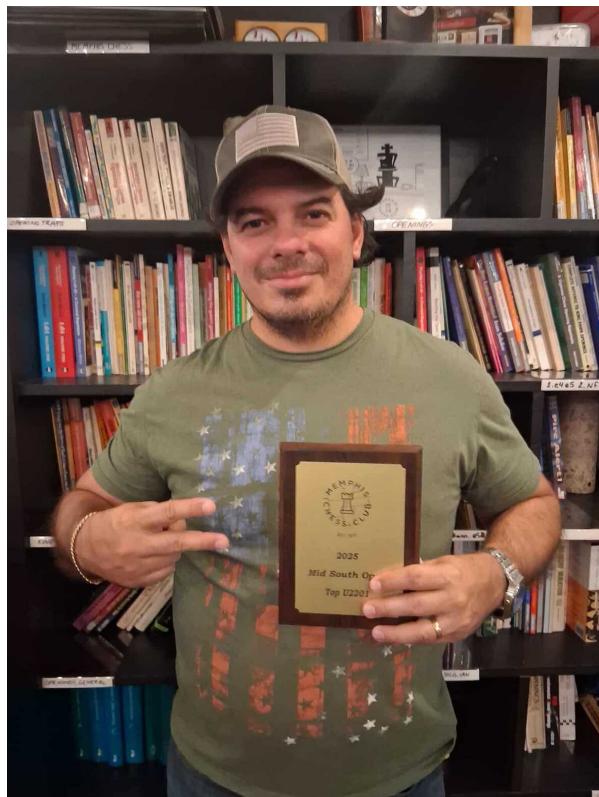
In the U1001 Novice Section, Dustin Rumsey walked with 5.5/6 for 1st! Vhiaan Nadella and Austin Welch tied for 2nd with 4.5, with Austin taking home the Top U801 prize and plaque! Top Unrated players were tied with 3.5/6, Caleb Hammon and Leon Fitzpatrick, with Caleb taking home the trophy!

Finally, Clayton Thrasher won the top <21 Junior with a performance of 1988 and 3 points, and Gary Pylant won the Top 65+ performance! Jack Calder also walked away with a 489-point Upset prize!

Thanks to everyone for playing, and Jerika for directing! Looking forward to next year's being FIDE rated!

Results













**Memphis City Championship and Reserve Championship,
December 13th-21st**

Your 2025 Memphis City Champion Peter Pritchett and Reserve City Champion Kaishav Shelat. Mr. Pritchett went 5.5/6, only suffering a draw from Mike Shuey, and it is his 3rd time as City Champ. Mr. Shelat went undefeated 3/3!



Tentative Memphis Bluff City Open and Banana Ball Bonanza

Save the dates! Next year's Bluff City Open will be held the same weekend as Banana Ball! March 7th and 8th! We will be planning to allow players to the roof to watch the game live!

Mike's Meme



Spring Hill Weekly Tournament



WEEKLY CHESS TOURNAMENT



— SUNDAYS @ 6:00 PM —



LOCATION

Just Roll With It! Cards & Games
2001 Campbell Station Pkwy, Ste C11
Spring Hill, TN

FORMAT

- 3-Round Swiss
- Time Control: G/30 ; d5
- USCF Rated

ENTRY FEE

\$20

PRIZES (Based on 10 Entries)

- 1st Place \$70
- 2nd Place \$40
- 3rd Place \$30

USCF Membership Required.
All Ages & Skill Levels Welcome.

Bring a board and clock if possible.

Arrive 20 minutes early for registration.

TD: Jared McDonald, (909) 725-9605 text preferred

THINK AHEAD • PLAY FAIR • HAVE FUN



Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends,

As we reach the conclusion of another incredible year, I find myself reflecting on the remarkable growth and spirit of our chess community across the state. 2025 has been a year of strategic moves, both on and off the board, and I am deeply grateful for the dedication each of you has shown to the game we love.

Our scholastic program remains the heartbeat of our organization. Throughout this past year, we have seen an inspiring level of participation in tournaments from the local to the state level. The focus, sportsmanship, and intellectual growth displayed by our young players continue to be the highlight of my role.

I want to extend a huge congratulations to all our scholastic players who competed this year. To those who brought home trophies, reached new personal bests in their ratings, or simply showed up to represent their schools with pride—your hard work is the foundation of our future. Seeing our state's talent shine on every stage is a testament to the dedication of the players, as well as the coaches and families who support them.

None of these successes—the tournaments, the club meetings, or our committee progress—would be possible without our volunteers, parents, and educators. Thank you for the countless hours you spend transporting players, setting up boards, and mentoring the next generation of thinkers. Your "behind-the-scenes" work is what makes our collective success possible.

As we move into the holiday season, I wish you and your families a time of rest, joy, and perhaps a few friendly games over the break.

We have ambitious plans for 2026, including expanding our support for educators and hosting even more inclusive events to reach every corner of our state. I have no doubt that with this community's continued passion, 2026 will be our greatest year yet.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Warmly,

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
date
Labor
Day/September;
BID
DUE:
Feb
1
- **TN**

- Home
School
State
Championship:
Target
date
November;
BID
DUE:
Feb
1
 - TN
Winter
Open:
Target
date
weekend
of
MLK
Jr
day/January;
BID
DUE:
June
1
 - TN
All-
Girls
State
Championship:
Target
date
April;
BID
DUE:
Nov
1
 - TN
Senior
Open:
Target
date
May:
BID
DUE:
Nov

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.) IM Jake Kleiman 2480
- 2.) GM Alexander Fishbein 2476
- 3.) FM Alexander King 2378
- 4.) NM Graham Horobetz 2336
- 5.) NM Forest Chen 2322
- 6.) IM Ron Burnett 2304 NM Andrew Whatley 2303
- 7.) NM Andrew Whatley 2303
- 8.) NM Mitch Fishbein 2286
- 9.) NM Dean Bruce Lee 2281
- 10.) NM Jose Fabian Benito Colmenares 2272

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

Postponed TBD – Middle Tennessee Scholastic Chess Championship
@ Central Magnet School, Murfreesboro

January 10 – [Johnson City Open & Scholastic](#) @ Mulligan's Gaming Pub, Johnson City

January 17-18 – [TN Winter Open](#) @ TN Tech University, Cookeville –> [Register Online Now](#)

January 31st – [Farragut High School Scholastic](#) @ Farragut High School, Knoxville –> [Register Online Now](#)

February 21 – [L&N Stem Academy PTSA Scholastic](#) @ L&N Stem Academy, Knoxville

February 28 – March 7 Tentative Regional Team Scholastics (Save the Date)

March 21 – Team Scholastic State Championship @ TTU, Cookeville

March 28 – Collegiate Team State Championship @ TTU, Cookeville

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

JOHNSON CITY OPEN AND SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENT

USCF Membership Required / TCA
Membership Recommended

5 Rounds
Time control: G/30, d/5

Rounds will begin at 10 am, 11:30 am,
1:30 pm, 3 pm, and 4:30 pm

Entry fees:
Open: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door
Scholastic: \$8 in advance, \$10 at door

Held at Mulligan's
308 E. Main St. Johnson City

JANUARY 10TH 2026

Register Now!

dfischler@verizon.net
618-944-2892

Scan the QR Code to follow
our new Instagram account!



Additional information at
johnsoncitychessclub@gmail.com

Discounted food & beverages to all tournament participants

Grand Prize
\$200
\$40 Scholastic





January 17 & 18, 2026



Tennessee Winter Open Chess Tournament

Tennessee Tech University – Roaden University Center
1000 Dixie Ave Cookeville, TN 38505

\$2,450 Prize Fund

BASED ON 60 PAID ENTRIES

Section 1 “KINGS” Open to all

1st Place \$350
2nd Place 250
3rd Place 200
Expert 125
Class A/Below 125

Section 2 “ROOKS” U1801

1st Place \$250
2nd Place 175
3rd Place 150
Class C 100
Class D/Below 100
Top Unrated 75

Section 3 “KNIGHTS” U1201

1st Place \$175
2nd Place 125
3rd Place 100
Class F 75
Class G/Below 75

5 round Swiss. Time Control: G/90 d5 (January 2026 Ratings will be used)

Rounds: Sat. 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m. Sun. 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

ON-SITE REGISTRATION: Sat. Jan. 17th, 8:00-9:15 am CST.

ENTRY FEE: \$55.00 advance (\$65.00 at Site) - \$2 paypal fee added if entering online

Unrated \$35 in advance (\$45 at site) and must play in Kings (eligible for 1st-3rd) or Rooks (eligible for UNR prize only)

Unrated Scholastic players may play in section 3 but are limited to a \$75 maximum prize

Free entry for IM and GM (\$55 taken from prize of \$200 or more)

For Info: Chris Prosser: (615) 426-7105 regioniii@aol.com

Advance entries must be postmarked on or before January 9, 2026 (register on-line by January 15 at tnchess.us).

½ point bye available for any one round if requested at or before registration ends.

USCF membership is required for all, TCA membership required for all TN residents.

USCF Membership at USCHESS.ORG TCA Membership at TNCHESS.US

Entries to: Chris Prosser 733 Long Hunter CT Nashville, TN 37217

ENTER ON-LINE BY JANUARY 15 AT TNCHESS.US

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____ USCF# _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-Mail: _____

1/2 Point Bye Round # _____ Entry Fee: \$ _____ TCA Dues: \$ _____ USCF Dues: \$ _____

Section (circle one)

KINGS (Open)

ROOKS (U1801)

KNIGHTS (U1201)



Farragut High School Scholastic Winter Tournament 2026



- Saturday, January 31st, 2026
- Farragut High School 11237 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37934

Entry Fee: \$20

Pre-Register online at www.reg4chess.com by midnight on January 29. You don't pay an entry fee when you do your pre-registration online. Please pay in **cash** or **check** on site (make check payable to Farragut High School). Your pre-registration will give us time to set up. We really appreciate it.

Sections	Unrated	Elementary (K-5) Middle and High (K-12)	5 rounds Game 30/d5
	Rated	Elementary (K-5) Middle and High (K-12)	

*G 30/d5: each player has 30 minutes on their clock with a 5-second delay to make a move

*Sections may be combined for play, but all trophies will still be awarded separately. Similarly, the number of rounds may vary based on a number of registrations

- All chess sets will be provided. Please bring in your own clock if you have one. Check-in and on-site registration: **8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. EST.**
- The first round begins at **9:30 a.m.**—no lunch break.
 - For both sections: rounds begin **ASAP** after the previous round is completed
- USCF membership and TCA membership are required for all **rated sections**.
 - \$10 TCA Membership can be purchased online at www.tnchess.us or separately on-site. US Chess Membership starts at \$20 and must be purchased online at www.uschess.org. Please bring receipts.)
- USCF memberships and TCA memberships are **NOT required** for the unrated section.
- Trophies for top 3 players in unrated sections and rated sections. Medals will be awarded for 4th and 5th place

Byes: $\frac{1}{2}$ point bye available for any one round if requested at or before registration

Questions: FHS Chess Club Faculty Sponsor:

Danny Mullinax (Tournament Coordinator) tca.region1scholastic@gmail.com

James Nguyen (Vice President) jameslenguyen07@gmail.com

All proceeds will support FHS Chess Club and Farragut High School

We are grateful to the TN Regional I Chess, East Tennessee Chess Club, Farragut High School Chess Club, and Farragut High School for sponsoring the event. We are so thankful for all the parents and players as well. Thank you for your support.

L&N STEM ACADEMY PTSA



SCHOLASTIC CHESS TOURNAMENT



Saturday, February 21, 2026



L&N STEM Academy
800 World's Fair Park Dr., Knoxville, TN 37902

Tournament Format	Sections	Championship, Rate: K-5, K-12	4 Rounds* G/30; d5
		Novice, Unrated: K-5, K-12	

** A 5th Round may be added if more than 16 players in a section*

Entry Fee

Credit Card, Cash, or Check at Door
(Payable to "L&N STEM PTSA" with memo "Chess")

Championship, Rated	Novice
\$20 before February 11th \$30 After February 11 th for current TCA* & US Chess members (\$10 TCA Membership can be purchased online www.tnchess.us or separately on-site. US Chess Membership start at \$24 and must be purchased online www.uschess.org . Please bring receipts.)	\$20 before February 11th \$30 after February 11th No Membership required

**Tennessee Chess Association Membership supports growing chess in Tennessee like this event!*

- Chess sets will be provided. Please bring a clock if you have one.
- Check in and registration: 8:30 – 9:00 AM. Register online to avoid the line!
 - Register online at www.reg4chess.com
- First round will begin ASAP after check-in and registration closes. Next round will begin ASAP after previous round is completed for each section.
- No lunch break is scheduled. Snacks will be available for purchase.
- Awards for Top 5 in each section. Award ceremony immediately after last round finishes in each section.
- Questions: Coleen Martinez ColeenMartinez1234@gmail.com, 865-567-0569
Danny Mullinax tca.region1scholastic@gmail.com



2023 - 2024 TCA Board of Directors

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The Tennessee Chess News is the official publication of the Tennessee Chess Association. Please share, distribute, and post this TCA publication as desired. For more reading and historical exploring all the way back to 1959, visit our [Newsletter Archive](#). To share your own TN chess news, photos, events, games, etc., please email Newsletter Coordinator, [Sarena Bemis](#). A very special thanks goes out to each of our contributors who volunteer their time to make each issue special! It takes the whole state working together to make this newsletter what it is. Thank you for reading and for supporting the

Tennessee Chess Association!



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