

Tennessee Chess News

March 2026, Volume 71, Issue 1

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2026 TN Winter Open Results

Kings Section

Screenshot 2026-03-24 191342

Rooks Section

Screenshot 2026-03-24 191640

Knights Section

Screenshot 2026-03-24 191728

Extra Games

Screenshot 2026-03-24 191754

What a Game!

Submitted by: Max Bottoms

Max Bottoms vs Farzin Mashali

1.) e4 c5

2.) Nf3 Nc6

3.) a3 g6

4.) Bc4 Bg7

5.) 0-0 e6

6.) Nc3 Nge7

7.) d3 0-0

8.) Bf4 d5

Screenshot 2026-03-31 182659

Diagram: Move 8 White's move

9.) Ba2 b6

10.) Qc1 Re8

11.) e5 Nf5

12.) Bg5 Qd7

13.) Bf6 Bb7

14.) Re1 Ncd4

15.) Nxd4 cxd4

16.) Ne2 Bxf6

17.) exf6 e5

18.) Ng3 Rac8

19.) Bb3 e4

Screenshot 2026-03-31 182724

Diagram: Move 19 White's move

20.) Qf4 Qd6

21.) Qg5 Qe5

22.) dxe4 h6

23.) Qg4 Nxg3

24.) fxg3 h5

25.) Qh4 dxe4

26.) Rad1 Rcd8

27.) g4 Qf4

28.) h3 e3

29.) Rf1 e2

Screenshot 2026-03-31 182738

Diagram: Move 29 Black's move

30.) Rxf4 exd1=Q+

31.) Rf1 Qd2

32.) Rf2 Qe1+

33.) Kh2 Re2

34.) Qg5 Qxf2

35.) Qxg6+ {*}

Screenshot 2026-03-31 182753

Diagram: Move 34 Black's move

Screenshot 2026-03-31 182809

Diagram: Move 35 White's move; Black resigns

White wins!

2026 Harry D Sabine State Team Results

Screenshot 2026-03-31 175145

Screenshot 2026-03-31 175025

Screenshot 2026-03-31 175137

Screenshot 2026-03-31 175124

2026 Collegiate Teams Results

Screenshot 2026-03-31 174352

col1

utk

MTSU

Screenshot 2026-03-31 174758

Murfreesboro Chess Club Updates: 2026 Schedule

All taking place at the Murfreesboro Chess Club, we have considerably increased our offerings this year. Coach Adam Johnson is presenting Free Classes every month, as well as directing our new Live OTB Puzzle Competition once a month. Official members can participate in the new Club Ladder, both, at and away from the Club. And recently revamped is our monthly tournament schedule, which alternates from 3+2 Blitz (odd number months) to 15+3 Quick (even number months).

Please check our [website](#) for more information, or send email inquiries to: murfreesborochess@gmail.com.

Screenshot 2026-03-31 174118

2026-5-16-Mboro-Open page-0001

2026-Blitz-Quick-Ad 1 page-0001

Mid South Chess Brochure

Mid-SouthChess SummerCamp Brochure 2026 Brochure Outside

Mid-SouthChess SummerCamp Brochure 2026 Brochure Inside

Memphis Chess Club Event Flyers

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image

brad 2026

2026 Bluff City Classic (and Bananananza!), March 7th and 8th

Submitted by: Mike Shuey

In first place with 4.5/5, International Master Ron Burnett!
Then, in a 2-way tie for second, Mike Shuey and Clayton
Thrasher with 3/5!

In the U1701 section, Townes Buford played a perfect score
of 5/5 to get 1st place, and Irone Winsley scored 2nd with
3.5/5! Jasmine Lin won the top U1501 prize with 2.5/5!

For the U1301 Amateur section, Jerika Eppel and Joshua
Hammon tied for 1st with 4/5, and Julian Teitler was the top
U1001 player with 3/5, well done!

Courtney Cown scored the upset prize, a banana(and some

cash), by defeating a player 635 points higher than him! This should be approximately a 2.5% chance strictly mathematically, or 1 in 40! But Courtney has been improving and this is a result of that effort!

Mike's Meme!

horsey jumpy

Letter from the President

Dear Tennessee Chess Community,

What an incredible start to 2026! It has been a whirlwind of competition, strategy, and triumph across our state, and I couldn't be prouder of the dedication shown by our players, coaches, and families.

Celebrating Our Champions

First and foremost, a massive congratulations to our **TN Chess K-12 Team Champions!** Seeing the talent and sportsmanship displayed by these young players is a testament to the thriving scholastic programs we have built together.

In addition to our youth success, I am thrilled to celebrate the results of the **Collegiate Championships**. Watching our university players compete at such a high level proves that the passion for chess in Tennessee only grows stronger as our students move into higher education. To every team that participated: your hard work is evident, and you represent the very best of our chess community.

On the Horizon: Nashville and Memphis

The momentum doesn't stop here. We have two major landmarks on our calendar that I am particularly excited about:

■ The All-Girls Tournament (Nashville):

We are heading to Music City for a dedicated celebration of our female players. This event is a cornerstone of our mission to make chess more inclusive and accessible, and I can't

wait
to
see
the
energy
in
the
room.

■ **The
Tennessee
Open
(Memphis):**

Looking
further
ahead,
the
road
leads
to
Memphis
for
the
TN
Open.
This
is
our
premier
state
event,
and
it
promises
to
be
a
fantastic
weekend
of
high-
stakes
competition
and
community

building.

Join Our Leadership Team

As we look toward the next chapter of the Tennessee Chess Association, we are seeking fresh perspectives. We have several officer positions becoming available as some of our dedicated team members have decided not to seek re-election.

If you have a passion for the game and a desire to help shape the future of chess in our state, we would love to talk to you. Whether you have experience in organization, finance, or simply a heart for service, please reach out to discuss how you can join our leadership team. We are looking for individuals ready to help us move the pieces forward into a bright 2026 and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support and for making Tennessee one of the most vibrant chess communities in the country.

See you at the board,

Christina Mullinax

President,
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
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, 2027.

Top 10 Tennessee Chess Players

1. GM
Alexander
Fishbein
2503
2. IM
Jake
Kleiman
2480
3. FM
Alexander
King
2379
4. Graham
Horobetz
2340

5. Mitch
Fishbein
2304
6. IM
Ron
Burnett
2300
7. Dean
Lee
2285
8. Jose
Fabian
Benito
Colmenares
2272
9. Peter
Suich
2249
10. FM
Peter
Bereolos
2245

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

2026 Upcoming Events

April 11 - [Nashville Classical Collegiate School Scholastic - Nashville](#)

April 11 - [Highland Park Scholastic - Lenoir City REGISTER](#)

April 11 - [Middle Tennessee Christian School Scholastic - Murfreesboro REGISTER](#)

April 11 - JCC Spring Open - Jackson Flyer below

April 18 - [2026 Cumberland County Hall of Fame Open - Crossville REGISTER](#)

April 18 - Orange Mount Chess Tournament - Memphis [REGISTER](#) Flyer below

April 25 - [TN ALL Girls Championship - Nashville Chess Center REGISTER](#)

May 16 - Murfreesboro Open - See flyer below and visit [Murfreesboro Chess Club webpage](#) for more events!

May 29-31 - [TN Senior Open - Crossville - REGISTER](#)

Weekly Online Events

Mondays Murfreesboro Monday Team Battles @ at 7:00 PM
CST [Lichess](#)

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

2026-NCCS-FLYER-2 page-0001

MTCSChessTournamentSpring2026Flyer page-0001

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9841 2026 hof open page-0001

image

2026-TN-All-Girls-Chess-Tournament page-0001

2026-5-16-Mboro-Open page-0001

2026-TN-Senior-Open page-0001

2023 - 2024 TCA Board of Directors

President: Christina Mullinax,

clmullinax@lenoircityschools.net

Vice President: Alan Kleiman, akleiman12@gmail.com

Treasurer: Angela McElrath-Prosser, TCAnews@aol.com

Scholastic Coordinator: Paul Semmes,
PaulSemmes@gmail.com

Secretary/Membership: Chris Prosser, Regioniii@aol.com

News Coordinator: Sarena Bemis, bemissarena@gmail.com

Internet Coordinator: Michael Robertson,
myk.robertson2@gmail.com

Tournament Coordinator: Danny Mullinax,
dcmullinax@gmail.com

East Tennessee Director: Natosha Authier,
nmauthier@gmail.com

Middle Tennessee Director: IM Ron Burnett,
rburn2500@aol.com

West Tennessee Director: Mike Shuey,
shueybalooey@gmail.com

07.23.2021 - TCA Logo. Single Color

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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