

2015-16 GCA Scholastic Chess Tournaments

The following tournaments are hosted for K-12 Grade students enrolled in any public, private, home-based, or independent study school in Georgia. Pre-K and younger students are welcome to compete as Kindergarteners in their respective sections. Please refer to each highlighted tournament for details, including information on tournament location, registration, rounds of play, and awards. Players are required to have a US Chess Federation membership (www.uschess.org to join) to compete in a rated tournament. Top rated scholastic players invited to compete in the State Scholastic Championship are also required to have a GCA membership to play (www.georgiachess.org to join).

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Tournament</u> | <u>Indiv.</u> | <u>Team</u> | <u>Rated</u> | <u>Unrated</u> |
|---|--|---------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| Saturday October 17, 2015 | GCA Scholastic Quickstart! <i>An excellent tournament for beginners and those looking to jump start their chess play for the school year! Choose your more convenient location: Atlanta or Douglasville. The tournaments run at the same time.</i> | X | | | X |
| Saturday November 14, 2015 | High School Grade Level Championships <i>Players in grades 9-12 may compete in one section, but championships are awarded by school grade.</i> | X | | X | |
| Sunday November 15, 2015 | K-8 Grade Level Championship <i>Students compete only against others in their class grade.</i> | X | | X | |
| Saturday – Sunday January 9-10, 2016 | State Scholastic Championship (Invitational) <i>Top scholastic players are personally invited to compete in a “best of the best” tournament.</i> | X | | X | |
| Monday January 18, 2016 | MLK <i>This popular school holiday tournament may host a community service project that chess players can participate in on-site between rounds.</i> | X | X | X | |
| Saturday February 6, 2016 | State K-8 Qualifier <i>School teams compete within their region for championship claims. Top scoring teams are invited to compete in the State K-8 team tournament in March for the Georgia State Championship title. Multiple regions are hosted at this one event. A definite “don’t miss!” - This is the largest, most significant school team tournament of the season.</i> | | X | | X |
| Saturday March 19, 2016 | State K-8 (Team) <i>Qualifying school teams are invited to go head-to-head for the state title in their respective sections (K-1, K-3, K-5, and K-8).</i> | | X | X | |
| Saturday March 19, 2016 | High School (Team) <i>The high school equivalent of the State K-8 Qualifier and State K-8 Championship.</i> | | X | | X |

Parents!
Discounted tournament entry for your child
Free breakfast and lunch for you

A successful scholastic tournament requires the help of many volunteers in both visible and behind the scenes positions. Parents, grandparents, adult siblings, family friends – all are warmly welcomed! Our core group is too small to run every tournament smoothly and efficiently without your help. In exchange for committing a full day of assistance (made when registering a child), the GCA will discount 50% off one child's entry in the tournament, plus free breakfast, lunch, and snacks for the volunteer. Positions include:

No training required:

- Ambassador – assist parents and players in finding their way around the tournament
- Scorekeeper – record the game results
- Chess Control – help parents resolve problems, answer general questions

Advance training required (to be scheduled by the Chief Tournament Director):

- Informatics – use the chess software program WinTD to compile and enter players, pairings, and results
- Tournament Director – assist in the tournament room to verify game results, answer questions, and resolve problems from the players. Chess knowledge and playing experience required. Certification is required for rated events.

If you can volunteer for a tournament, please note your availability and job preference on the tournament registration. Alternately, you can contact the Tournament Director via the email address provided on the tournament information sheet. Thank you for considering a volunteer position!