

## “Good Game?” by Jennifer Vallens

It is customary to shake hands and say “good game” at the end of a chess game. But what constitutes a “good game”?

I recently played in a club tournament. My rating is a measly 600 and my opponent was rated 1200. After what I consider a respectable hour and half, 40 move game that inevitably ended in my being checkmated, I felt I played a good game. To me a good game means that I took my time and played to the best of my own ability. But after polling several chess players of varying strengths, I found that a good game is not the same for everyone.

For many a “good game” requires good playing on both sides of the board. Many said the challenge of a hard fought battle is essential for a good game.

Gabby Kay, President of Coachella Valley Chess Club compared a good chess game to that of a “great tennis rally or a close boxing match; just artful to watch.”

Other factors were important to some players. Scott Hunt, a 1700 level player responded that “A professional atmosphere is absolutely needed to play a good game of chess”. Others were more specific and required a winning outcome. “winning from a losing position” makes a good game. Other comments included “A good game is one that is creative”, “A good game is one where I’m able to calculate a lot of different lines accurately and find interesting ideas/resources in each”.

When asked if winning was factored into the enjoyment of the game, most high level players responded that they did not enjoy a lost game even if the game was played well. According to one responder, “Anyone that says they played a real tough rated game at their best level, lost, and says they enjoyed that game, does not understand what a competitive spirit is. The serious chess player is out there to win just as in all professional sports. Competitiveness, along with all that passion to win can’t demand anything else but a nice 1-0 in the end.”

Those rated around 1900 and under valued the loss as a learning opportunity. An 1800 female rated player says “Every chess game can be enjoyed if a lesson is being learned. It’s all about the mind-set of the player.” Ryan Polsky, rated just over 1900 responded “I do not need to win a game to enjoy it. I love playing chess, so I’m almost always happy whenever I’m playing, even if I lose!”

Money and prizes did not seem to factor in to the enjoy-

ment of the game for many responders. Most viewed money as a bonus. Every person agreed that playing for prizes and money adds tension and anxiety to the game. The consensus is there is more pressure when money is on the line, more anxiety and more relief when the game is over. Beau Mueller, rated 1900 said “...I played in the Millionaire Open last year it (playing for money) definitely injected some extra adrenaline and excitement to the game.”

Every person said they would be willing to go over a game after it was played with their opponent, if asked. They further said that it didn’t matter who won, but most said they do not initiate the analysis because they are too focused on the next game.

Almost every player said they analyze their losing games unless they are too painful to re-live. One responder said that he rarely analyzes his games and believes this is one reason he has not been able to reach expert level or higher.

Chess is a competitive game and like all competitive games, good games are sometimes won and good games are sometimes lost. For me, I prefer the saying “sometimes you win, sometimes you learn.”

Thank you to all that participated in this poll. The poll was conducted online. The following questions were asked :

**What constitutes a “good game”**

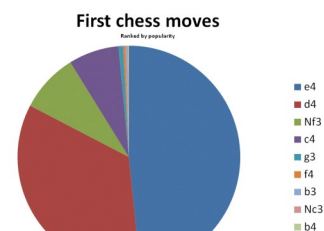
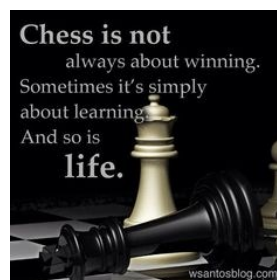
**How does winning factor into the enjoyment of the game?**

**How does playing for money/prizes affect enjoyment of the game?**

**Do you go over winning/losing games with your opponent?**

**Do you analyze both winning and losing games?**

I received 12 responses from ratings that range from unrated to 2400 with an average rating of 1850. The average age of response was 38 years old with an average of 18 years of competitive play. 3 female responders and 9 males.



## Introduction



This newsletter is written and edited by Jennifer Vallens. A special thank you to Larry Smith for his contribution.

The purpose of this newsletter is to further chess education in our community.

If you would like me to cover your chess event or have feedback on what you would like to see for future editions, email me at [offdarook@gmail.com](mailto:offdarook@gmail.com)

Enjoy and now GO PLAY CHESS.

Hi, my name is Jennifer Vallens and I am chess mom living in the Conejo Valley in California.

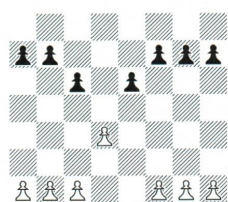
Its been several months since my last issue of the newsletter. I have been focusing on running scholastic chess tournaments and workshops. I am continuing to teach beginning chess and have been busy traveling and supporting GM Timur Gareyev with his Blindfold Chess endeavors.

This newsletter is completely voluntary. I write it because I love being a part of the chess community and it allows me some creative freedom. I hope it informs and entertains you. If there is something you would like to see more of or less of, please let me know. I am open to ideas and welcome submissions. If you would like to contribute, please send me an email to [offdarook@gmail.com](mailto:offdarook@gmail.com).

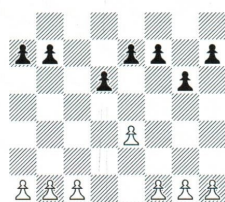
Jennifer



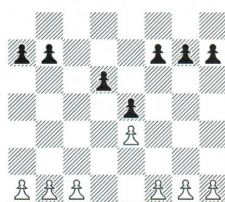
# Pawns: United We Stand, Divided We Fall



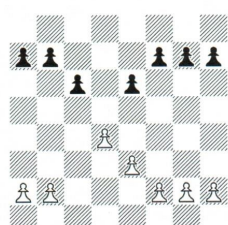
Caro Formation



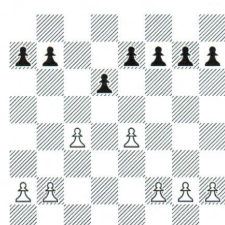
Sicilian - Dragon



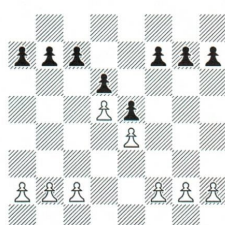
Sicilian - Boleslavsky Hole



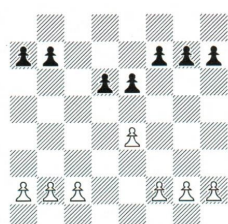
Slav Formation



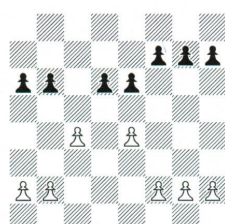
Sicilian - Maróczy Bind



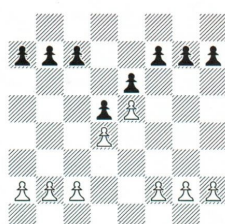
d5 Chain



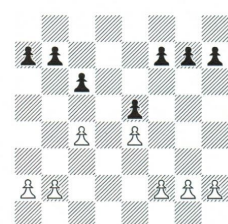
Sicilian - Scheveningen



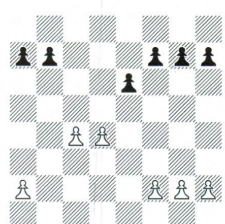
Hedgehog Formation



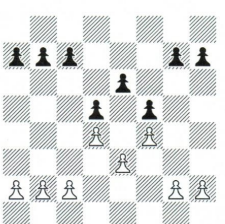
e5 Chain



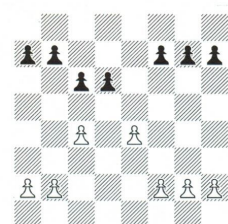
King's Indian - Rauzer Formation



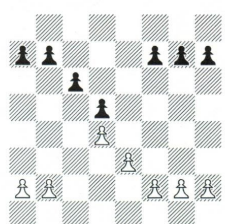
Queen's Gambit - Hanging Pawns



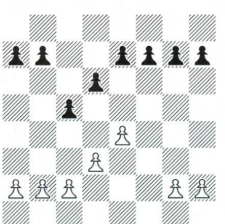
Stonewall Formation



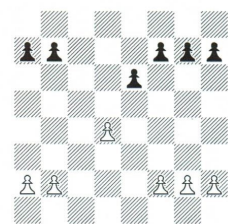
King's Indian - Boleslavsky Wall



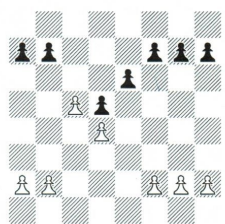
Queen's Gambit - Orthodox Exchange



Closed Sicilian formation



Queen's Gambit - Isolani



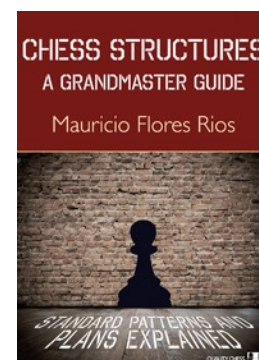
Panov Formation

In chess, the pawn structure is the configuration of pawns on the chessboard. Since pawns are the least mobile of the chess pieces and cannot move backwards, a weak pawn structure can weaken your position. Likewise, a strong pawn structure can determine an advantage. Here are some examples of opening pawn structures.

Further reading on Pawn Structures, check out these two books:

**Chess Structures: A Grandmaster Guide** by Mauricio Flores Rios.

**Pawn Structure Chess** by Andrew Soltis



For more information on Pawn Structure, check out this video link to Chess.com Pawn Structure 101 video series.

<http://www.chess.com/video/player/pawn-structure-101-every-opening-explained>

Also, Wikipedia has a good summary of advantages and weaknesses for many of the Opening Pawn positions shown here. These can be found here [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawn\\_structure](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawn_structure)

# Pawn Structure Terms

**Passed Pawn:** A passed Pawn is a strong Pawn that has a clear file path to promote.

**Connected Pawns:** Pawns next to each other on adjacent files that either protect each others weak square or one pawn protects the other pawn.

**Isolated Pawns:** Pawns that have no Pawn support leaving them hanging.

**Backward Pawn:** Weak because they are not protected by another Pawn. They are easily blocked by an enemy piece and have difficulty advancing.

**Doubled Pawns:** Two or more Pawns of the same color on the same File. They cannot protect each other. They are unable to create a passed Pawn by force. They are easily blocked in by own and opposing color Pawn. However, the Pawns still have value as they continue to guard squares.

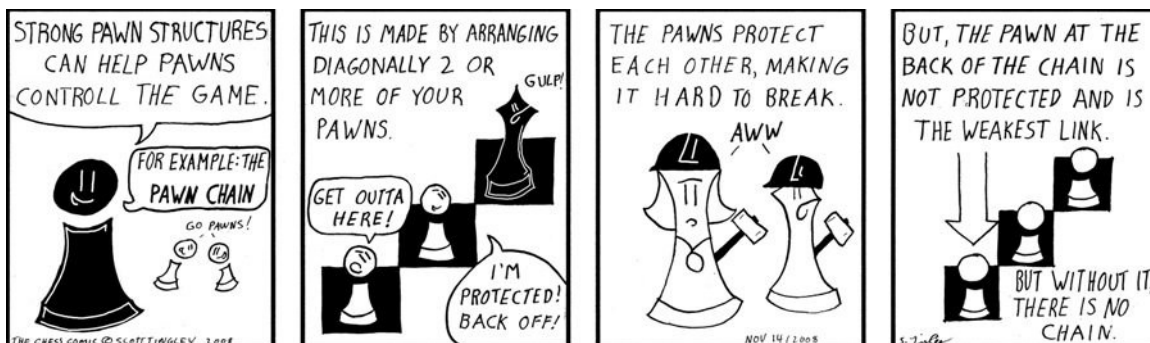
**Pawn Chain:** Connected Pawns on a diagonal are known as a chain. This term is usually applied to three or more pawns. Pawn Chains create a block or division on the board, limiting movement for enemy pieces.

**Pawn Island:** Two or more Pawns of the same color that are isolated creating gaps that the opponent can take advantage of.

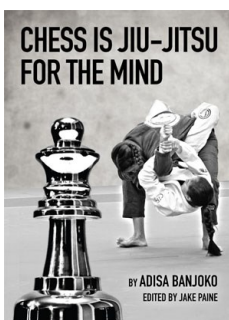
**Advanced Pawns:** Pawns that have moved past their own fourth rank into the opponent's side of the board.

**Hanging Pawn:** Connected Pawns that will be attacked by opponent's pawns if they move.

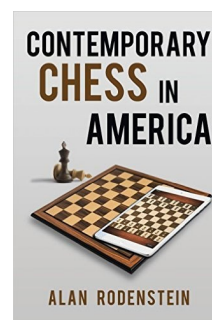
**Pawn Majority:** When there are more pawns of one color than opponent's pawns on one side of the board. Often leads to creation of a passed Pawn.



## Check out...these books



*Chess is Jiu-Jitsu for the mind*, written by Adisa Banjoko of the Hip Hop Chess Federation is due for release January 15. This book details the connections between Hip-Hop, chess and martial arts. The book will also look at how chess and military strategy can be applied to art and business.



In *Contemporary Chess in America*, Alan Rodenstein thoroughly examines the changes chess has undergone in the US from the 1970s to today. Rodenstein covers a range of topics from college chess, tournament and club play and variants in chess. I recommend this book to anyone interested in the evolving game of chess. Available on Amazon.com.

### Off da ROOK Tournaments



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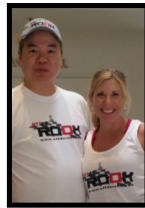


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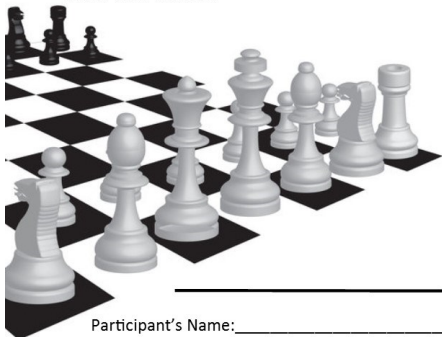
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*Space is limited. Please register by December 20th. After this date, price goes up to \$69.*

Contact Jennifer Vallens with any questions at (818) 674-2006 or at [offdarook@gmail.com](mailto:offdarook@gmail.com)



Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginner (circle one) YES NO  
 USCF Rating, if known: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please contact Jennifer Vallens with any questions. (818) 674-2006 or [offdarook@gmail.com](mailto:offdarook@gmail.com)

# Highlights from Millionaire Chess 2



Photo credit: David Iladra



Didn't come as too big of a surprise that Hikaru Nakamura (#2 in the world) even while battling a cold, took home the first place prize of \$100,000.



Always great to see friends. IM Ricardo de Guzman, Fernando Sevilla and Julia Sevilla seen here with Evan.



This year, Jamie Olsen-Mills, the only female to make it to Millionaire Monday, fought hard against Vaibhav Aggarwal, who ended up taking home the first place prize of \$34,000 in the U1800 section. He is interviewed on Page 14.

It was fun to watch and root for our friend Ted Castro make it to Millionaire Monday playing in the U2200 section. Although he did not take home first prize, the second place prize of \$19,000 is certainly nothing to sneeze at.



Evan with US #1 and #2 (Nakamura and Caruana)

There is talk of Millionaire Chess moving to the East Coast next year. For more details on the next tournament, please visit [www.millionairechess.com](http://www.millionairechess.com).



Here Daniel Rensch of Chess.com celebrates his birthday playing Blitz against the always poised and beautiful FM Alisa Melekhina while, get this....riding a Segway between moves.



The kids take a break from the grueling competition to play some Bughouse.



This year, the organizer threw in another opportunity to win it big. The winners of Millionaire Monday answered some tricky trivia questions and took a shot at finding the lucky square that hid a million dollar prize.



Ted Castro playing U2200 in Millionaire Monday.



Here is GM Wesley So (last year winner of Millionaire Chess) playing GM Fabiano Caruana while GM Gata Kamsky and GM Luke McShane look on.



With GM Maurice Ashley

## Local Club play

### American Chess Academy

ACA offers group classes at Calabasas, Simi Valley and now Thousand Oaks locations Monday-Friday for kids 5-16 years. Visit <http://www.achessacademy.org/> for more information.

Contact: Jerry Yee (818) 915-5572.

### Los Angeles Chess Club

Weekend Tournaments. <http://www.lachessclub.com>

Contact: Mick Bingham at [mick@lachessclub.com](mailto:mick@lachessclub.com)

### Royal Spartan Chess Club

Meets in backroom of Denny's in Sherman Oaks.

Meets first Sunday of every month at 7pm. \$20 EF, senior discount. Dbl RR, 5 minutes, no delay. Strict USCF rules apply.

Contact: Scott C. Hunt 818-298-5255 or

[schkjv@yahoo.com](mailto:schkjv@yahoo.com)

### Thousand Oaks Chess Club

Meets Mondays 6:00-8:45pm. Goebel Senior Center at 1385 E. Janss Road. Casual play and rated tournament play. All ages welcome. Contact: Cindy Garcia at [thousandoakschess@att.net](mailto:thousandoakschess@att.net)

### Ventura County Chess Club

Meets Mondays at 7pm. Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 Telephone Road, Ventura. Contact: Jack Cashman at [rationality52@hotmail.com](mailto:rationality52@hotmail.com) or (805) 487-2604 <http://www.vcchess.com/>

### West Valley Chess Club

Meets Thursdays 6:30-10:30. 7353 Valley Circle Blvd., West Hills. Continuous rated tournaments, blitz, casual play. Contact Jerry Yee (818) 915-5572 or at [jyee6@socal.rr.com](mailto:jyee6@socal.rr.com).

### Conejo Valley Parks and Recreation

The Conejo Parks and Rec offer Chess instruction at various park locations. See <http://www.crpdp.org/> for more details and registration.

### Ventura Youth Chess League

Train with Women's Master Simone Liao. For more information, visit: <http://www.venturayouthchess.com/learn.html>

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## Larry Smith Analysis

A commonly repeated saying in chess is that it's easier to attack than to defend. In fact, I've recently said this very thing myself!

Not everyone agrees with this sentiment. Resourceful, defensive-minded players from Steinitz to Korchnoi have espoused the opposite theory, that it can be easier to dig in defensively and force the attacker to find the only correct line that leads to success. Obviously, much of this is a matter of taste.

That being said, it is easy to find examples of where a defender fails to find the best moves and the attack crashes through. There does seem to be something about how needing to find the "only" move time and again wears one down mentally, psychologically, and physically.

Here is an example from a game played today. In the following diagram, the game is objectively about equal, White having compensation for his pawn deficit in a bit of a wide-open position:



But White mixes it up with 21 Rxd6!, continuing the attack and complicating matters. A few more moves go by to reach this position:



Black still has an extra pawn, but White's threats of 24 Rd7, 24 Bxe5, and 24 Bxh8 aren't that easy to meet. This is where quite often the defense will break down. Panic sets in, and all of a sudden every move seems to have something wrong with it. Here, Black needed to find the moves 23 ... Rac8 24 c3 Qc4!, which are definitely not easy to spot. This is another problem some players have when defending: the necessary moves are less natural than aggressive attacking moves.

Instead, Black played 23 ... Rhe8 which looks natural enough, but in just two more moves this position is reached:



Look at White's pieces: all are well-placed, so now is the time to strike with 25 Rd7! After a few more moves (with several repeated moves by White to get closer to time control on move 40, just in case), this key position was reached:



Quite a transformation from earlier diagrams. White is still down the exchange (for two pawns), but he is rock solid and Black's exposed king is not long for this world. Black resigned on move 42.

## Larry Smith Tournament Game Analysis

### Trent Chu—White vs. Marck Crunelle Black

#### 1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3

The Smith-Morra Gambit. Although it has a poor reputation at the grandmaster level, at the club level it can be a fearsome weapon!

#### 3...dxc3 4.Bc4!?

Usual is 4.Nxc3 when White banks on his better development and greater space to compensate for the pawn.

#### 4...e6

Prudent, although grabbing the 2nd pawn with 4...cxb2 is also possible. Compare this to the Danish Gambit, which is identical to the text except that in that line Black's first move would have been 1 ... e5. The difference here is that Black has not yet exposed the f7 square and can play ... e6 as in the game, shielding f7 from the Bc4.

#### 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Nxc3

Now the game transposes into the regular Smith-Morra.

#### 7...Bb4

7...d6 to blunt e5 is also possible as is 7...Nxe4 8.Nxe4 d5 with the better game for Black.

#### 8.Re1 0-0 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Be7

A bit cautious, but certainly not bad. Note that this move cost Black a tempo (first 7 ... Bb4, then 10 ... Be7).

#### 11.h3?

More development with 11.Rc1 or 11.Qe2 seems indicated. When you have played a gambit and are down in material, usually your goal should be to maintain or even increase your lead in development.

#### 11...Qb6

Not a bad move, but I would consider 11...d6 trying to develop the Black queenside bishop and rook. After 11... Qb6, Black's threat to the b-pawn is easily met, and then Black still has to figure out how to develop the rest of his pieces.

#### 12.Qc2

More natural to me is 12.Qe2. One reason is that on c2 the Queen may be exposed to a BR on c8 someday. Even though that seems unlikely (and, in fact, it never happens in the game), sometimes thinking ahead like that can save you time later on. Note also that Qe2 is the standard placement for the WQ in the Smith-Morra.

#### 12...Rd8 13.e5 Nh7

Better is 13...Ne8.

#### 14.Bg3

Although the computer disagrees, I like this move. When attacking and/or with more space, avoid the exchange of pieces!

#### 14...Ng5

Better is 14...d5! so that if 15.exd6 Bxd6 Black exchanges some pieces and frees his QB, while if 15.Bd3 Ng5 16.Nxg5 Bxg5 and White's Nc3 cannot move to e4 as in the game.

#### 15.Nxg5

But here White exchanges pieces in order to enhance his development lead. Black's QB is still far from being developed, which means the Black QR is similarly out of play.

#### 15...Bxg5 16.Ne4! Be7 17.Qe2

See the note to move 12! Wouldn't it have been nice to have that extra tempo back? Of course, you can't always predict the future...

#### 17...Nd4 18.Qg4!

White aggressively proceeds with his attack, ignoring the potential loss of the exchange. From here on out White plays the attack splendidly.

#### 18...Nc2

Accepting the challenge. White's king-side attack isn't really that strong, is it? The move 18...Nf5 looks awkward but may be Black's best bet

#### 19.Bf4!

Also good is 19.Nf6+ Kh8! (19...Bxf6 20.exf6 g6 21.Bd3! threatens both the wayward Nc2 and Bxg6! ripping apart Black's kingside) 20.Qe4 gxf6 21.Qxc2 Black's position looks bad, but objectively the game is about equal.

#### 19...Kh7

If 19...Nxa1 20.Bxh6 g6 21.Qf4 Qb4 (21...d5 22.Nf6+ Kh8 23.Qh4 and mates) 22.Nf6+ Kh8 (22...Bxf6 23.Qxf6 Qxe1+ 24.Bf1 and White mates) 23.Bf8!! mates.

#### 20.Bd3 Nxe1 21.Nf6+ Kh8 22.Bxh6! Bxf6

The only hope is 22...gxh6 23.Qe4 Qxf2+ 24.Kxf2 Nxd3+ 25.Qxd3 Bxf6 26.exf6 Rg8 and Black can survive for awhile with R, B, and pawn for the queen. However, White's pieces are much more active, and it is unlikely that Black can coordinate his forces quickly enough to stave off disaster. Note that if 22...Bf8? 23.Bxg7+! Bxg7 24.Qh5+ Bh6 25.Qxh6#

#### 23.exf6 g6 24.Qh4 Nf3+ 25.gxf3 Black resigns

A great attacking game by White!



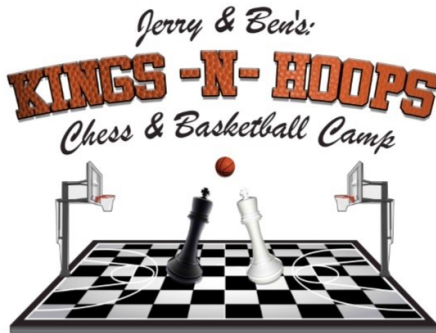
### Larry Smith Tournament Game Analysis



If you would like Larry to analyze one of your games for this publication, please send your game to [offdarook@gmail.com](mailto:offdarook@gmail.com) for consideration.

**Master Tips:**  
**3 c3:** Even if a gambit is not highly regarded by grandmasters, it can still be very hard to play against over the board!  
**7... Bb4 and then 10... Be7:** Try to avoid the loss of time during the opening, especially in open games.  
**11 h3?:** When playing a gambit, try to keep the pressure on with developing moves. In most gambits, the idea is to not give your opponent a chance to catch up in development.  
**14 Bg3:** Another rule of thumb when playing gambits/attacking is to avoid exchanges so as to maintain your attacking potential.  
**18 Qg4!:** Aggressive, attacking chess is very often rewarded at the chessboard. The reason usually given is that a single defensive mistake can be fatal. Fortune favors the brave!  
**22... gxh6 23.Qe4 Qxf2+:** Desperate positions often call for desperate measures. Many a game has been saved by stubborn defensive moves such as 23... Qxf2+ that keep the game going. Where there's life, there's hope!

Pacific Lodge  
4900 Serrania Avenue  
Woodland Hills, CA 91364



3 day Winter Camp  
December 21st—23rd  
9am—2pm



Have fun exercising the body and the mind at the same time! Reserve a spot for your child at our SUPER FUN basketball/chess camp! For beginners and novice chess players!

Activities include: basketball & chess drills, solving fun chess puzzles, relay races, plus daily team play in basketball and chess!

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Contact: Jerry Yee (818) 915-5572 [jyee6@socal.rr.com](mailto:jyee6@socal.rr.com) or Ben Yeger (818) 427-4719 [ben\\_yeger@hotmail.com](mailto:ben_yeger@hotmail.com)

Kids must bring their own lunch each day to camp. Basketballs and chess sets will be provided. Snacks and beverages available for purchase.

### Recent Travels with a Blindfold Chess Vagabond

My chess life started as a Chessmom. I would take Evan to club tournaments and then to national scholastic events and finally to open tournaments. But my meeting Timur Gareyev brought a whole new element to my chess adventures. I continue to be amazed by his Blindfold Chess ability and through our working together, have met some really incredible people within the chess community.



#### NOR CAL HOUSE OF CHESS

Timur stopped by to visit Ted Castro and Nor Cal House of Chess. He did a free lecture and 8 person blindfold chess simul.

#### CHESS THINGS

Due to a happy accident, an event scheduled at Matt Benson's club, Chess Things got moved to a nearby park. Here Timur is giving the group a lesson on the Sicilian Defense. He then conducted a 10 person blindfold simul at the park.

We ended the day visiting with the Eswaran sisters Ashritha and Aksithi.

#### HIP HOP CHESS FEDERATION

The next day Timur paid a visit to see Adisa Banjoko of the Hip Hop Chess Federation. You will be able hear Timur's interview podcast on the Bishop Chronicles website in the next week or two.

<http://www.bishopchronicles.com/podcast/>

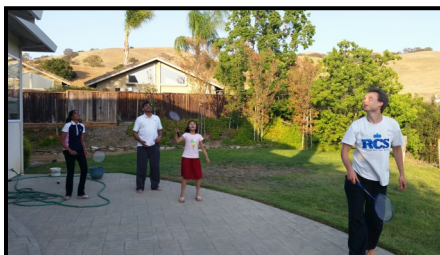
Timur will be back to Bay Area for a 30 person Blindfold Simul at Chess Things March 12.



Pictured here with Ted Castro of Nor Cal House of Chess



Timur and Matt Benson of Chess Things



Ted Castro started training both Ashritha and Aksithi when they were 7 and 4. Now Ted, along with IM Ricardo de Guzman and GM Dejan Bjokov train Ashritha, all offering different coaching techniques to the table. Ted, along with GM Bjokov and now Matt Benson are working with Aksithi.



Pictured here with WIM Ashritha Eswaran and Candidate Master Aksithi Eswaran

## Recent Travels with a Blindfold Chess Vagabond

Travels continue to Colorado. First a stop in Fort Collins where Timur gets creative and played 40 10-minute Blitz games blindfolded, all while on an exercise bike!



Big shout out to Laurence Beshear for tracking all the games on the DGT board.



Here is Randolph Schine of the Denver Chess Club. He was nice enough to pick me up from the airport and drive me to Fort Collins about 90 minutes out of his way! We had fun exploring Downtown Fort Collins.



Timur prepares for his Blindfold Blitz event at the Kinard Middle School. This school was outfitted with a full gym. I wonder if this is where he got his crazy idea to add a SPINNING challenge to his Blindfold Blitz event.



Here Brad Lundstrom serves as Timur's mover. Earlier Brad was the only person Timur lost a game to. After playing 40 games, Timur helped pass out trophies to the winners in the scholastic tournament.



Timur returned to Colorado a few weeks later to play in the DCC Fall Classic tournament where he did a 19 person simul and lecture.



Rebecca Rutledge organized a Simul at the District House in Oklahoma City. This event was free, sponsored by a local veterinarian.



Timur conducted a 15 person blindfold simul at the Nashville Chess Center.



Timur made an appearance at the Oakbrook Elementary Scholastic tournament in Nashville where he played some rounds of blindfold blitz and handed out trophies.



Timur dressed up in the spirit of Halloween at the Chicago Area Mensa HalloweeM event.



Timur did a 5 person blindfold simul as part of the HalloweeM event.

### CHESS MATES—FORT COLLINS

[Chess Mates](#)

### DENVER CHESS CLUB

<https://denverchess.com/>

### YOUTH CHESS LEAGUE OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

<http://youthchessok.org/>

### NASHVILLE CHESS CENTER

<http://www.nashvillechess.org/>

### CHICAGO AREA MENSA

<http://chicago.us.mensa.org/>

To host a Blindfold Chess event or simul in your city, please contact me at [offda-rook@gmail.com](mailto:offda-rook@gmail.com).

For more information on GM Timur Garayev, visit [www.blindfoldking.com](http://www.blindfoldking.com)

## Interview with Vaibhav Aggarwal

Vaibhav Aggarwal played in the Millionaire Chess Event in Las Vegas October 8-12 and won FIRST PLACE in the U1800 section. He traveled from India to attend the one of a kind chess tournament.

**So you took home 1<sup>st</sup> place for the U1800 section of Millionaire Chess. Wow. \$34,000 – not a bad day. What do you plan to do with the money?**

Well, I will save the amount for my future chess coaching and tournament expense!

**Can you tell me a little bit about yourself. What do you do for a living? Where do you reside? Family life?**

I live in Gurgaon, Haryana, India, I am 19 years old, currently I am studying in Shri Guru Gobind Singh College Of Commerce.

**With a rating of 1799, you barely make it in the U1800 section? What do you think your actual playing strength is?**

yes actually i was very lucky to be in U-1800 with a ELO of 1799 and be the highest seeded in my Category.

**What kind of preparation did you do before the tournament? Did you study?**

Well i stopped my studies and other activities for like 6 months, so that I can just focus on the preparation for this event.

I was preparing for the event by reading many books on endgames and middlegames, by reading and preparing i got no time for playing any long tournaments, therefore i was playing all the 2-3 days tournament possible around my city. The actual strength is measured by playing in the long tournaments with classical time control, so i dont really know what is my strength.

**What was the last tournament you played prior to Millionaire Chess?**

Just prior to Millionaire chess, I had played a Inter college chess tournament. I started chess 3 years back and I am really motivated to become a Grand Master

**How long have you been playing chess? How often do you play? Online? Chess Club?**

Yes I play some regular chess in Matrix Chess Club in New Delhi.

**Did you play in last year's Millionaire Chess Event?**

Nope, because of my exams I was not able to play the last year Millionaire Chess!

**Your competitor Jamie Lynn Olsen-Mills was a favorite among the crowd. Most likely because she was the only female to make it to Millionaire Monday. Did that affect your playing at all?**

Well many players came up to me and said that she is playing her best chess in this tournament, but i was also ready for any challenge cause I was really enjoying the heat of the tournament! well she was definitely very good.

**Were you able to watch any other games? Did you follow the live broadcast?**

Not really! I was not looking at the games or analysis, as i was amazed and enjoyed the feeling to share the stage with the stars of chess, like Hikaru Nakamura, Fabiano Caruana, Wesley So, and many others.

**After each round, what did you do? Did you review/analyze your games?**

Well I just analyze where was the mistake made in all the games and try to forget the past and focus on the next round!

**How did you relax between rounds?**

Relaxation was just done being around with my coach Mr. FM Prasenjit Dutta.

**Can you tell me how you felt going in to Millionaire Monday? Nervous? Confident? Hopeful? Focused? Well I was nervous and confident, but on the top of everything it was like living my dreams!**

**Did you get a chance to enjoy Las Vegas during this trip at all?**

Not really, I didnt quite get any chance to enjoy the Las Vegas during this trip as in the beginning I was suffering from jet lag, so after the tournament I was busy sleeping all day and night!

**What was your overall impression of the Millionaire Chess tournament? Did you think the organizers did a good job? Do you feel the tournament was fair? Would you change anything about the format?**

Well yes the tournament was very good, thanks to the organizer. The whole event was perfect!

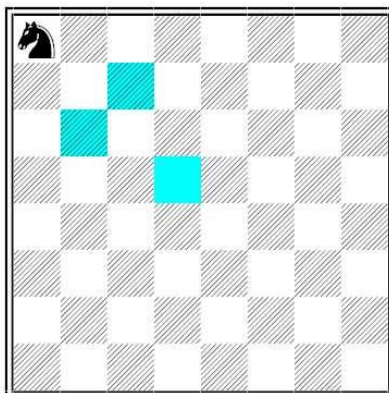


## Knights Tour

A **knight's tour** is a sequence of moves of a knight on a chessboard . The Knight starts on one of the 64 squares and makes his way around the board visiting each square ONLY ONCE. The **knight's tour problem** is the mathematical problem of finding a knight's tour. Creating a program to find a knight's tour is a common problem given to computer science students.

This is an excellent challenge in math and pattern recognition. You do not need to know how to play chess in order to complete the Knight's Tour. However, this exercise will help your grasp of the chess board.

Play the Knights Tour, <http://www.blindfoldking.com/knight-tour>



As you probably already know, I have been doing some traveling in support of my friend GM and Blindfold Chess expert Timur Gareyev. One of the first things Timur does when starting a new event is getting people involved with the chess board and playing the Knight's Tour. He became interested in the Knight's Tour after reading George Koltanowski's book "In the Dark". Koltanowski was known for his Blindfold Chess playing and entertaining people with a Blindfold Knight's Tour. After Timur sets out to break the world record for Blindfold Chess, he will follow Koltanowski's lead and visit cities all over attempting a Blindfold Knight's Tour as well.

He will begin his tour with a large empty chess board of 64 squares. He will ask audience members to come up and enter random words and numbers into each of the squares. These could be famous chess players, street addresses, cities etc. After all squares are complete with random information, Timur will study the board for 5-10 minutes and then turn his back (blindfolding him). He will then have someone start with the Knight on one of the squares. Timur will recall the information in that square and make a Knight's move to a new square, recall the information in that square and so on and so on until all the squares have been covered.

This presents two challenges in memory and focus. The first being the memorization and calculation of the Knight's Tour and the second being the recall of the information and place in each square.

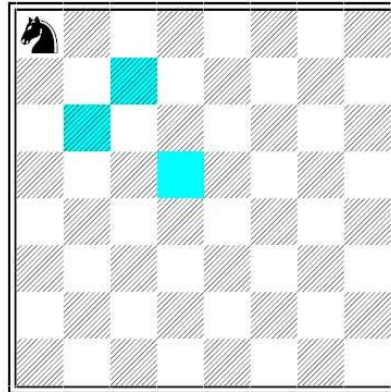
Check out pages the next pages to learn how to SOLVE THE KNIGHT'S TOUR.



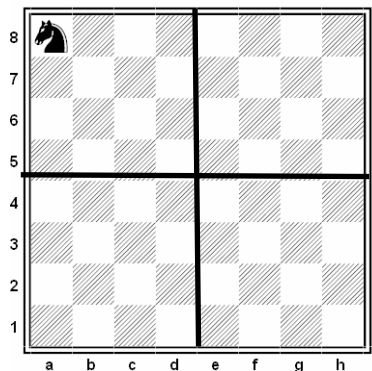
## Solving the Knights Tour

A **knight's tour** is a sequence of moves of a knight on a chessboard . The Knight starts on one of the 64 squares and makes his way around the board visiting each square **ONLY ONCE**.

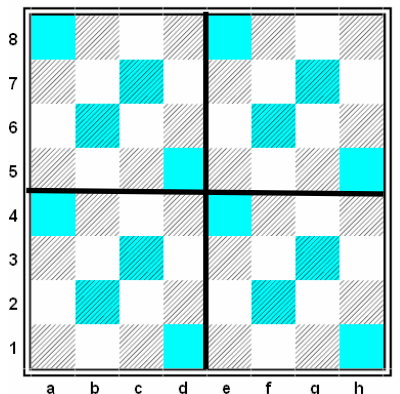
There are several ways to complete the Knight's Tour, Here is the Four System method for solving the Knight's Tour.



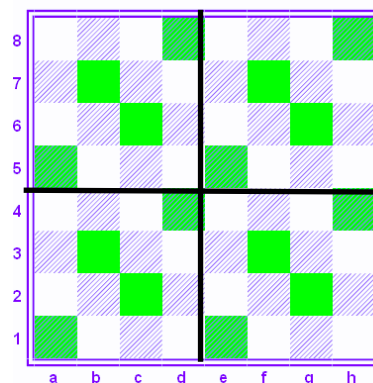
First you need to divide the chess board into four Quadrants. There are four patterns (systems) that repeat in each Quadrant. The four systems are Left-Handed Diamond, Right-Handed Diamond, Left-Hand Square and Right-Hand Square.



The Systems below are the Left-Handed Diamond System. As you can see each quadrant shows a left handed diamond shape pattern and the diagram on the right is the Right-Handed Diamond System. If you notice the pattern repeats in each Quadrant.



Left-Handed Diamond System

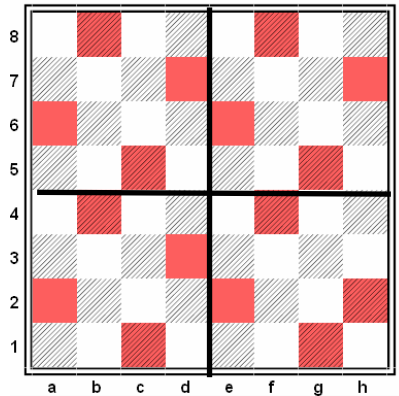


Right-Handed Diamond System

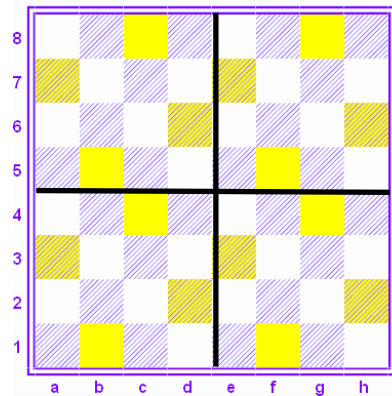


## Solving the Knights Tour

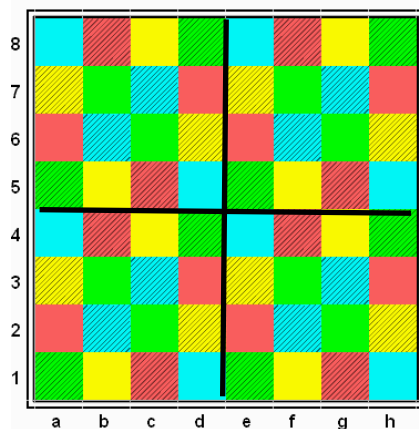
The Systems below are the Left-Handed Square System and the Right-Handed Square System. As you can see each Quadrant shows a pattern that repeats in each Quadrant.



Left-handed Square System



Right-handed Square System



### System Pattern Key

- Left Hand Diamond—Blue
- Right hand Diamond—Green
- Left Hand Square—Red
- Right Hand Square—Yellow

Each square is represented in one of the four system patterns. (Left-handed Diamond, Right-handed Diamond, Left-handed Square and the Right-handed Square). The secret is to understand the four pattern systems within each Quadrant. Upon the Knights starting square, make note which Quadrant and which system that square is a part of.

Let's say the Knight opening move starts on c1. Then you know that you will be completing the Left-handed Square System first. You would then move your Knight to one of the other squares within that Quadrant (a2, b4, d3). When you complete the pattern system in that Quadrant, you can move to the next Quadrant and complete those four squares. From d3, you can move to f4, e2, g1 and ending that Quadrant on h3. You then move on the upper right Quadrant and then finish on the upper Left Quadrant. When you are done with the Left-Handed Square System, you then move on to another system. You will have to alternate to one of the Diagonal Systems and complete all four squares in that system for that Quadrant and move on completing that system pattern in the remaining Quadrants. When you complete that system,, you then will move back to the remaining Square system and so on.

The only thing you need to be aware of is when you complete the four squares of one Quadrant, you need to use the same system in the next Quadrant until all four Quadrants are complete. As long as you make sure your final move in each Quadrant is as near the center of the board as possible, you will not get stuck and be able to move to the next Quadrant. After you've completed the first System in each Quadrant, you can move on to an alternating System (Diamond/Square/Diamond/Square) until that system is completed in each Quadrant. (for instance the Left-handed Diamond, the Right-handed Square, then move to Right-Handed Diamond and lastly the Left-handed Square until you've hit every square on the board.

## Interview with Turner Gough



Turner Gough is a 13 year old chess coach and entrepreneur. He started kid-to-kid chess to help kids learn the ins and out of competitive chess play.

### Who taught you to play chess and how old were you?

"I was 6 years old when my mom taught me how to play chess. The reason she taught me is because she played chess when she was young, and thought it would be a good idea to teach me."

### What is your current rating?

"My current rating is 1634, and my highest rating has been 1774."

### What are your chess goals?

"I would like to reach the 2,000 level in the next year, and would like to continue coaching and running Kid-To-Kid Chess. I believe I can reach 2,000 because I study chess a lot and am willing to put in the work to make sure I reach my goal."

### How often do you play online?

"I don't play chess online often, but I do chess puzzles occasionally. I compete in many big tournaments and get quite a few "real" games, so online chess is not as important as the over-the-board games I play."

### What kind of chess study do you do and how often?

"I do several different types of chess study. I study with my team, Campbell Homeschool, on Wednesday and Thursday nights for about 4-5 hours. Our team trainer takes us through a book (right now we're studying a Larry Evans book, and we have studied Yusopov in the past). We play through critical positions in the games and learn from them. I also have combined lessons with teammate Josh Campbell on Mondays for 2 hours with FM Todd Andrews, and have skype lessons with GM Timur Gareyev once or twice a month (or whenever he's available). I usually go over my games in a chess engine, and try to go over the games with my opponent if possible. The best "study" that I do, though, is go to tournaments and play live games. I learn a lot from the experience."

### At what rating did you start training with a coach?

"I started taking chess lessons with FM Todd Andrews here in Nashville when I was rated around 900. At this level, I was able to understand most of the chess concepts he wanted to teach, and had been to several tournaments, so I had some experience as well."

### How has having a coach helped your chess?

"Having someone go over games that I have played and giving me an opinion on my play is very valuable. Since I have several coaches, I gain a different perspective from each one, and this leads to a greater understanding of the game. It also points out strengths and weaknesses in my play, and tells me what I need to work on the most."

### Do you think you need a coach to play competitively?

"No. It depends on a player's personality. Some people love to learn by themselves from books. I like the interaction of a coach and it benefits me personally, but I don't think everyone needs a coach, depending on their study habits and preferences."

### Do you prefer competing individually or as part of team? Why?

"I love to compete as a part of a team. It's so much fun, and there's more intense competition. We started our team lessons 2 years ago, in order to prepare for the Tennessee State team tournament, which is the most competitive tournament of the year. We literally studied specific games of specific opponents we thought we would have to face. Working together as a team gives us all a goal to strive for together."

### What is the best way to prepare for a large scale National chess tournament?

"National tournaments can be crazy places if you don't know where to go or what to do! The way I prepared my students was to make sure they knew all about the logistics first. In other words, I told them about how to find their pairings, made them aware of opponents that may distract them and what to do about it, made sure they knew the rules and when to call a TD, made sure they knew how to use a clock and notate, etc. If you have been to National tournaments before and know all of these things, then I suggest studying tactics, and specific openings (as white) and replies to openings (as black) and vice versa. I would also recommend training your brain to think about chess and nothing else. I chose to quit electronic games for a while when I figured out it may be affecting my chess play. Basically, I think the more you can think about chess, play chess, and study chess right before the tournament, the better you'll play."

### Do you have any advice on how to mentally prepare for a new round after a devastating loss?

"Don't be mad about the loss. Go over your game and learn from your weaknesses and errors. Keep going and pushing forward."

### What do you think makes for a good tournament?

"Look up millionairechess.com. They set the absolute highest standard! Of course, I think I have played a good tournament when my rating goes up, I won a prize, I had fun, or I met some interesting people."

### What is your favorite tournament to play? Why?

"As I said, the Tennessee State team tournament is the most competitive tournament every year, and I love it! The rivalry between schools is great and helps us all improve. I also love to play in the North American Open in Las Vegas, where I have won my highest chess prize."

**Can you tell me a little bit about your coaching? What is your style? What do you cover?**

"When I coach my students, first, we determine together if there is anything specific they need to study, such as a certain opening they like, or how to prepare for an upcoming tournament. We go over any games that they have played recently. Based on their games, I recommend that they study certain things, according to their playing style. I don't have a set program where I teach a certain curriculum, because I think every student is different, and the teaching needs to adapt to the student, not the other way around. So, each lesson is personalized for the individual student as much as possible to make them grow and learn the fastest."

**How did Kidtokid chess come about?**

"Kid-To-Kid Chess is a program that helps beginners prepare for tournaments, and also helps intermediate-level players prepare to play in big, open tournaments. Since I've been playing in open tournaments across the country for 4 years, I feel like I can guide both of these groups of people to have better tournament experiences. If you are comfortable at a tournament because you are prepared, you usually play better chess, have better results, and come to more tournaments. Chess has changed my life, and I want others to have the same positive experience. Also, since I'm young (13), I can help kids relax and not get nervous, which sometimes happens with an adult coach or parent. That's the Kid-To-Kid method! I got the idea for Kid-To-Kid Chess when I was helping one of my students prepare for the National Elementary tournament here in Nashville. I realized that the information I was giving them would have helped me a lot when I was starting to attend tournaments. I had some bad tournament experiences, and I wanted my students to know as much as possible before going into the National tournament, so they wouldn't feel stressed. And, it worked! Their ratings all went up by at least 200 points. So, I started thinking about sharing my tournament experiences with others and preparing them for what lies ahead, especially if they are beginners, or are new to open tournaments. I made some videos to help people get started, and I hope to have my informational book done by January 2016."

**Do you take new students?**

"Yes, I'm open to new students. The only requirements I have of my students is that they are rated lower than myself, and that they are excited about the game. I love to help people who are ready to improve."

**Do you have any quick study tips you would like to share?**

"Study what you want to study. Don't let anyone tell you that you have to study from books or on the internet or in some other way. Study the way you want to. Everyone learns differently. Make up your own way to study, and it will be better than anything else for you. Also, be willing to study and be willing to give some things up that are not positively affecting your chess game."

**How has chess changed your life?**

"Chess has become a huge part of my life. First, I started playing in local tournaments, where I got experience. Then I started traveling to bigger, open tournaments, where I met very interesting people and got to know different things about different cultures. The diverse set of people that I have met along the way has increased my knowledge and understanding of the world, not just the game of chess. I have learned to communicate with people of all backgrounds and understand many types of people because of the people I have met in the chess world. Since I have become a coach, I have learned to present concepts in front of a class, and on the board. If I have to teach something, I have to know it more than if I just have to play it! Now that I've started Kid-To-Kid Chess, I've learned a lot about media relations, marketing, and interviews. I've also learned that I want to help people learn from my early mistakes, so they don't have to go through some of the things I did when I was starting out. Basically, chess has taught me about life, people, business, and teaching. One other benefit of chess in my life has been making good friends. Another has been the development of visual patterning skills, which show up in my schoolwork and other places. I believe chess has made me a stronger and more confident person and student."



[www.kidtokidchess.com](http://www.kidtokidchess.com)

**Kid-To-Kid Chess**

No stress, just kid-to-kid chess.

For kids (and their parents) who want to know more about how to "get into" the chess tournament world

Wisdom from a kid who has taught chess and won prizes in tournaments across the country

[kidtokidchess.com](http://kidtokidchess.com)



**Off da Rook 5  
Scholastic Chess Tournament**

**WHEN:** Sunday, January 17, 2016

**WHERE:** Shomrei Torah Synagogue  
7353 Valley Circle Blvd.

*Bring your own boards and clocks. Boards and clocks will not be provided, but may be purchased on site.*



*Food and Beverage tickets available for purchase*



*Outside food brought in must be Kosher*

Section (circle one): K-12 Open K-12 U900 K-8 U600 K-6 U300 K-8 Unrated

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

USCF ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Rating, if known \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I, as the parent or guardian of the above named child, hereby give permission for my child to participate in the programs and activities offered by Off da Rook. I and my child agree to accept and comply with all rules and regulations of the Off da Rook.

I hereby authorize any agent of the Off da Rook to act as agent for the understand to consent to any emergency medical treatment and/or hospital care which is deemed advisable by, and is to be rendered under, the general or special supervision of any physician and surgeon licensed under the provisions of the medical practice act, should an emergency arise and I cannot be located in a timely manner. I understand that the Off da Rook or Jennifer Vallens assume no financial responsibility for any such medical care.

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**5 SECTIONS:**

- K-12 Open
- K-12 Under 900
- K-8 Under 600
- K-6 Under 300

(sections above are rated and require a USCF membership ID number. Membership can be purchased at [www.uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org))

*(January USCF supplement ratings will be used.)*

K-8 Unrated

**4 ROUNDS:**

- Round 1: 11:00 am
- Lunch Break 11:30 am—12:30 pm
- Round 2: 12:30 pm
- Round 3: 1:45 pm
- Round 4: 3:00 pm
- Trophy Ceremony at 4:00 pm

**TIME CONTROL:**

G/30 with 5 second delay

**PRIZES:**

Trophies to the top 8 players in each section based on a minimum of 25 players per section.

**ENTRY FEE:**

\$30 EF if registered by January 12th  
After January 12th, entry fee goes up to \$45

**REGISTRATION:**

Make checks payable to: Jerry Yee  
or  
pay online at [www.offdarook.com](http://www.offdarook.com)

**Mail check with registration to:**

Jerry Yee  
23541 Friar Street  
Woodland Hills, C A91367

**CONTACT:**

Jennifer Vallens at (818) 674-2006  
Jerry Yee at (818) 915-5572

## A "fun and pun" Chess Glossary

Many of these "definitions" were compiled by U.S. Master Eliot Hearst and author of *Blindfold Chess* and were first published in an article titled "A Gentle Glossary" in the July 1962 issue of Chess Life.

**Adjournment:** an interruption in play to enable both players to obtain analytical help from their chessmaster-friends, chess libraries, or chess computers.

**Adjudication:** a binding decision about the outcome of an unfinished game, made by someone who is rated 200 points below you and who renders his judgment after spending a total time to only 5% of the the time that you devoted to the game.

**Algebraic Chess Notation:** a system of recording chess moves which is so logical and mathematically neat that it's amazing that it actually became popular here in the U.S.A.

**Amateur:** in chess, someone who plays only for money (cf. Professional).

**Analysis:** irrefutable proof that you could have won a game you lost.

**Annotator:** 1. a "friendly guide" to the complexities of master play, who first cites the MCO column for the game under review, then remains silent until White is a rook ahead, and finally, points out how Black could have held out longer; alternately, someone whose grasp of chess books doesn't extend beyond his library on the opening. 2. a GrandMaster of clichés.

**Attacking Moves:** moves that my opponent seems to make much more frequently than I do.

**Bad Bishop:** the one that you still have left on the board.

**Bird's Opening:** 1. f4. Opening named after a strong but nearsighted English master who frequently reached for the wrong pawn.

**Black-square Weakness:** a term usually given to describe the state of the dark colored squares surrounding ones own king (cf. White-square Weakness).

**Blindfold Chess:** a skill, through which minor masters can gain a world-wide reputation; outlawed in Russia because Morphy and Pillsbury died crazy.

**Blitz:** a an extreme form of rapid transit chess, where the players move faster than they can think -- thus ensuing the game a rare profundity.

**Blunder:** Sacrificing for a tactical disadvantage.

**Bobby Fischer:** A player who makes an appearance every twenty years to defeat Boris Spassky in a match.

**Book-Player:** a chess slave, who fills a relatively empty head with information that makes it even emptier.

**Botvinnik:** a Russian king, revered by communist society.

**Brilliancy:** a combinative sequence which is understandable to anyone once the solution is revealed.

**Bughouse Chess:** a game gaining in popularity since you can always blame all of your losses on your partner's play.

**Bye:** in Swiss System tourneys, a full point given to an odd player.

**Castling:** a defensive move played by a cowardly opponent.; a special move solely done for king's safety only to be dismantled by your opponent later.

**Center:** according to the hypermoderns, the squares a1, a8, h1, h8.

**Challenger's Tourney:** a tournament to decide which Russian will play another Russian for the world championship.

**Champion:** someone who has attained success in chess only because he has had more time to devote to the game than you have.

**Cheapo:** a phrase coined by U.S. Master Dr. Karl Burger, who has won a large percentage of his games by such a maneuver; a move which threatens something so obvious that only an idiot would fall for it, and he does.

**Checkmate:** a self-inflicted torture by novices who don't know the word "resigns."

**Chess:** a most intriguing intellectual challenge, played in a cultured manner according to strict rules and regulations. The object of the game is to crush your opponent.

**Chess Fever:** a disease common among adolescent members of the Manhattan Chess Club; characterized by jagged fingernails, bulging eyes, and an unsteady hand.

**Chess Life:** a magazine that comes out late once a month.

**Clock, Chess:** a mechanical device used to time tournament games which no one ever pays attention to until that little red marker is about to fall.

**Club, Chess:** a group of devotees of the Royal Game, whose meetings are characterized by brotherhood and good sportsmanship and where never is heard an encouraging word.

**Combination:** any long series of moves that the average player cannot understand.

**Compensation:** something that I tell myself that I have for being down that pawn.

**Connoisseur, Openings:** an understanding authority, who thinks one opening is better than another.

**Correspondence Chess:** a system of play which in gaining in popularity because you cannot lose USCF rating points in this sort of competition; a method of play to determine who owns the strongest chess computer.

**Cramped Position:** that which you must obtain as a necessary preliminary to freeing your game.

**Duffer:** anybody who can beat you three times in a row.

**Egotist, Chess:** someone who is more interested in describing his own victories than in listening to yours.

**Endgame:** your last opportunity to miss a win or a draw.

**Ethics, Chess:** undefined (we could find no examples of this).

**En Prise, To Leave:** a method of relieving oneself of extraneous material.

**Euwe, Max:** that Dutch master whose name I can't pronounce.

**Fianchetto:** an Italian method of developing bishops; popularized by Russians.

**Fischer, Robert:** an American chess veteran who had been U.S. Champion eight times. His victims accused him of bad manners; his conquerors thought of him a fine sport.

**Fish:** a player who falls for all your traps and still wins. advice to your opponent and bad advice to you.

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**Fool's Mate:** the logical conclusion to any game of chess; a chessplayer's spouse.

**Foresight:** the ability to play in only those tournaments you are sure of winning.

**Fork:** "an instrument used chiefly for the purpose of putting dead animals in one's mouth" (A. Bierce).

**Gambit:** any unsound sacrifice in the opening.

**Good Bishop:** your opponent's bishop.

**Grandmaster:** anyone who has reached the point in chess where he is acclaimed for drawing all his games.

**Grandmaster Draw:** a friendly conclusion due to mutual fear.

**Giuoco Piano:** playable, but not quite so good as a Steinway.

**Hypermodern Play:** any opening system where an early checkmate is impossible.

**If-move:** a method of shortening a typical correspondence game from nine months to just eight months and three weeks.

**Internet Chess:** a method of playing chess in which you can pay a monthly fee, tie up your phone line, all to play your neighbor across the street.

**Isolated Pawn:** a pawn that will queen in the endgame (cf. Passed Pawn).

**J'adoube:** 1. a phrase customarily emitted when you are caught starting your opponent's clock on your move. 2. French for "What am I doing?" If I move that piece I'm lost!"

**Kibitzer:** someone who gives good

**King's Indian Reversed:** naidni sgnik.

**Lost Game:** something your opponent had before he won.

**Marshall Counterattack:** an aggressive defense to the Ruy Lopez, devised by Frank. J. Counterattack.

**M.C.O.:** Modern Chess Oblivion.

**Median System:** a way of breaking Swiss System ties which requires a knowledge of mathematical statistics and algebra, but which is much simpler than any other system.

**Middlegame:** in postal chess, the first move after published analysis is exhausted.

**Modesty:** 1. a virtue that grandmasters rarely cultivate. 2. "When I am White I win because I am White; when I am Black, I win because I am Bogoljubov."

**Moral Victory:** Any victory less than a total victory. The term is usually used to make a loser feel better.

**Odds:** chessplayers.

**Opening:** that phase of the game in which intelligence plays no part.

**Open File:** a file cleared of pawns - a worthy objective since it is then easy to exchange a pair of rooks and obtain an easy draw.

**Opponent:** a slimy individual with an ugly face.

**Open Tournament:** a tournament open to all; a weak tournament.

**Overprotection:** first emphasized by the well-known theorist Nimzovich, this positional theme symbolizes Nimzo's relationship with his mother.

**Passed Pawn:** a pawn that never queens. (cf. Isolated Pawn).

**Patzer:** a good-natured term with which you describe anyone you can beat; but an insulting epithet when used by certain wise guys to describe you.

**Pawn-Snatcher:** a defensive genius.

**Perfect Game:** a way of describing all of one's victories.

**Petrosian:** See Grandmaster draw.

**Pin:** a sharp move.

**Planning:** The period of time where in the beginning you are hoping for a mate, by the middlegame you are hoping to have an advantage, by the endgame you are hoping not to get killed, and by the next morning you are hoping that they will not laugh at you.

**Positional Sacrifice:** a move so profound that if the annotator isn't your friend he calls it a blunder.

**Principles of Chess:** an archaic term; shown to be useless by Mikhail Tal.

**Problem, Chess:** any chess position that could never occur in an actual game.

**Professional Chessplayer:** anybody who cannot make a living at chess (cf. amateur).

**Rating System:** an objective method of ranking chess players which does not take into consideration the inherent beauty of a rose.

**Reshevsky, Sammy:** an eighty-year-old chess prodigy.

**Resigns:** a way of terminating a game, unknown to weak players.

**Round-Robin Tournament:** a competition in which you cannot talk the tournament director out of pairing you with someone you are afraid of.

**Ruy Lopez:** a Spanish bishop, usually placed on b5.

**Sacrifice:** any piece left en prise.

**Seventh Rank:** discovered by Nimzovich.

**Sicilian Defense:** a defense originated by members of the Mafia, embodying their highest principles.

**Simultaneous Exhibition:** a demonstration of ego, where one individual seeks to display his chess prowess by beating 40 beginners simultaneously.

**Sportsmanship, Good:** concealed hatred for a victorious opponent.

**Strategy:** any idea longer than one move deep (cf. Tactics).

**Swindle:** the only way anyone can be defeated.

**Swiss-System:** a pairing system full of holes, like some other Swiss products.

**Tactics:** a one-move threat (cf. Strategy).

**"The board is set up wrong":** quote invariably heard mentioned by any chess player when watching any movie or television show which shows a chess set.

**Trap:** Something you saw but forgot about until you fell into it.

**Unclear Position:** 1. a position where both players have absolutely no clue as to what is going

on. This usually results in a draw. 2. A term describing the position at just about any point during my last game.

**Weekend Tourney:** a tournament for which a player travels 300-500 miles in order to be paired with players from his home town.

**White-square Weakness:** a term usually given to describe the state of the lighter colored squares surrounding my king (cf. Black-square Weakness)

**White:** since recent Supreme Court decisions, not so big an advantage as it once was.

**World Champion:** a title that is lately being given to a number of players, some of which haven't played a single game in years.

**Win:** to make an enemy.

**Won Game:** any game you lost.

**Woodpusher:** a way of describing one's play so as to make opponents overconfident.

**Zugzwang:** there is no definition of this word.

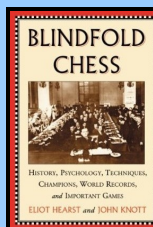
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[Date "1956.10.24"]
[Round "11"]
[White "Robert James Fischer"]
[Black "Eliot Sanford Hearst"]
[Result "0-1"]
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```
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5
4.O-O Nd4 5.Nxd4 Bxd4 6.c3
Bb6 7.d4 c6
8.Ba4 d6 9.Na3 Nf6 10.Re1
Qe7 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 g5
13.Bg3 h5 14.f3 h4
15.Bf2 g4 16.Nc4 g3 17.hxg3
hxg3 18.Bxg3 Nh5 19.Bh2 Bc7
20.Ne3 Qh4
21.Qd2 Bd7 22.Bb3 Rh7 23.Qf2
Qg5 24.Rad1 Nf4 25.Bxf4 exf4
26.Nf5 O-O-O
27.Kf1 Rh2 28.Bxf7 d5 29.Rd2
Rf8 30.Qg1 Rh7 31.exd5 Rhxf7
32.dxc6 Bxc6
33.d5 Bb5+ 34.Ree2 Rxf5
35.Qxa7 Rxd5 36.c4 Bxc4
37.Qa8+ Bb8 38.Rc2 Rc5
39.Ke1 Bxe2 40.Qa5 Qg3+ 0-1
```

## About Eliot Sanford Hearst:

Eliot Hearst is an American psychologist with a Ph.D. from Columbia University. He was a Professor of Psychology at Indiana University, Columbia University and the University of Arizona. He is a USCF Master and considered one of the top US chess players from the 50s. He played in the US Chess Championship in 1954 and 1961. Hearst was a chess columnist for *Chess Life Magazine* in the 60s. He was the captain of the 1962 US Olympic Chess Team.

He has written extensively about the psychology of sports and games, computer chess, learning, memory and conflict. He is an expert on Blindfold Chess and co-authored *Blindfold Chess: History, Psychology, Techniques, Champions, World Records, and Important Games*.



I've corresponded with Eliot many times regarding Blindfold Chess. He is an expert in the subject. He continues to contribute to his blog <http://www.blindfoldchess.net/>

I affectionately refer to his book as the Blindfold Chess bible.



Hearst is pictured here on the right playing against Bobby Fischer on the left. The game in which he beat Fischer is noted on the left.