

MARK TWAIN CHESS CLUB Winter 2015

Mark Twain PTSA is teaming up with Chess4Life to offer a fun and instructional chess club! The club will be offered on Fridays from January 9-April 3.

Classes are tailored to the skill-level of the students. In addition to learning the basic rules of chess, our classes include lessons on fundamental opening principles, middlegame tactics and strategy, as well as basic endgame technique. Coaches also work with students in other areas like visualization, preparing for tournament competition, board habits, and much more.

Chess4Life instructors have worked closely under the guidance of National Master Elliott Neff. All instructors follow the coaching methods that were developed by Elliott over the past 20 years in training students and teams to both state and national titles.

Benefits

Chess study has shown to increase math skills, concentration, memory, and self-confidence.

Tuition

\$142 (10 week session)

10% discount for siblings (\$128.00)

Meeting Times: Fridays from 3:00 pm to 4:15pm (1 hour 15 minutes) in the Cafeteria. Based on the skill level of the students and the number of registrations, we may split the class into an advanced section and a beginner section. The advanced section will learn tournament preparation drills.

Dates: January 9-April 3 (no class January 30, February 13, March 13)

Enrollment: All levels of ability are accepted, beginners to advanced. We need a **minimum of 15 kids** to run the club – if we can't get the minimum, chess club may be cancelled.

Tournaments: Tournament participation is optional but encouraged for those who are ready. We will target one tournament per month Nov - Apr in the greater Seattle area to test our skills against other schools. Tournaments usually run on Saturdays from 8:30am to 4:00pm – there are 5 games, each 1 hour long – kids play all 5 games win or lose. The State Championship is at the end of April - players need 3 out of 5 wins in any tournament to qualify for state.

Not included: tournament registration fees (about \$18 per tournament), and T- shirts for tournaments.

Refund and Behavior Policy:

Refunds: A full refund will be granted to any student who withdraws up to 2 days after the first class. Otherwise, no refunds unless initiated by PTSA.

Behavior Policy: Mark Twain PTSA organizes after school programs to offer students enrichment programs conveniently located at the school. However, for us to continue to offer these programs we must have one PTSA member stay to assist the instructor at each session. We must also insist that students respect the instructor and act in an appropriate manner, and that guardians be on time to pick up students at the end of each session.

If your student has behavior issues which are disruptive to the class, or is not picked up in a timely manner, we will issue you a warning. If there is a second incident, we will be forced to terminate your student's participation in the program. A refund for remaining sessions will not be granted.

Thank you for your cooperation.

MARK TWAIN CHESS CLUB
2014-15 Winter Registration Form

Student's
First Name _____ **Student's**
Last Name _____ **Grade** _____

Sibling's
First Name _____ **Sibling's**
Last Name _____ **Grade** _____

Sibling's
First Name _____ **Sibling's**
Last Name _____ **Grade** _____

Parent(s) _____

Address _____

Phones: Home _____ **Work** _____ **Cell** _____

Email _____

(Most chess club information will be sent by email, so an email address is a must)

Emergency contact – Name _____ **Phone** _____

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. Fill out the registration form.
2. Write a check for **\$142** payable to **Twain PTSA**. (Checks returned NSF are subject to a \$20 fee.)
3. Deliver registration form and check to the School Office.
4. If the minimum number of students is not reached, your money will be returned.

In order to ensure the safety of our students, one PTSA Parent Volunteer is required per class. **Be prepared to assist with one class per session.** Please acknowledge (√) below:

- I understand that in order for my child(ren) to participate in the after school chess program. I must be a PTSA member with a current background check. This applies to other class volunteers, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles or siblings over 18 years, etc.
- I agree to volunteer for at least 1 class per session.
- Important:** Circle 2 dates you are available to volunteer: **January 9, 16, 23; February 6, 20, 27; March 6, 20, 27; April 3**
- Please make a note of these dates. We will e-mail you a reminder about your volunteer dates.

Parent/Guardian Signature x _____

By signing, you agree to hold Mark Twain PTSA or Chess4Life harmless and that you agree to the withdrawal and behavior policies stated above.

Chess Coach
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Twain Chess Club Coordinator
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