

# MARK TWAIN CHESS CLUB 2011-2012

We are organizing a school chess club, running from October 2011 through April 2012, which will allow kids to experience the learning and competition of chess. Students in grades K through 6 are invited to join the club.

**David Hendricks** will be the chess coach. Coach Hendricks has been coaching elementary chess clubs for 13 years. Last year, he coached 9 elementary school chess clubs, including a team that took **1<sup>st</sup> in the nation** 4 times and 1<sup>st</sup> in Washington State. He is also the Scholastic Director for the Washington Chess Federation, and was the Director of the Microsoft Chess Club. He plays regularly in Washington and National Chess tournaments, coaches many private chess students, and runs summer chess and sports camps. He is an electrical and software engineer and designed computer hardware and software for Microsoft and Hewlett Packard.

**David Hendricks** -- "I teach chess basics, openings, middle game strategies, end game principles, tactics such as pins, forks, skewers, distraction, X-rays, decoys damming, blockades, and many others. We cover checkmates, stalemates, how to determine when a piece is in trouble, how to escape trouble, how to attack and defend, how to look at all your options, to preserve your material, to improve your position, and how to compete. We will practice with chess clocks and will learn chess notation. I use a very interactive teaching style with lots of hands-on involved learning and feedback. Chess really helps with concentration skills, and improves academics."

**Meeting Times: Fridays from 3:15pm to 4:30pm** (1 hour 15 minutes). We will meet in the **Library** and once a month in the Computer Lab. 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 – I will teach harder material and more tournament preparation drills to the advanced section – a parent volunteer will be needed to monitor one section while I am teaching the other.

**Enrollment:** We need a **minimum of 15 kids** to run the club – if we can't get the minimum, chess club may be cancelled. **Maximum is 25**, if we get more than 25 we will take kids first by NWSRS chess rating, and then limit attendance to first come, first served. We can accept all levels, beginning to advanced. Kindergarten trials do not count toward the 15 minimum.

**Dates:** 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is the 2nd week of Oct 2011. Last meeting is the last week of April 2012. We follow the Lake Washington District calendar - no club during days when there is no Friday afternoon school. We have **20 sessions** – Oct 14, 21, 28, Nov 4, 18, Dec 2, 9, 16, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 Feb 3, 10, (not 24), Mar 2, 9, 23, 30, Apr 13, (not 20), 27.

**Tournaments:** Tournament participation is 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. We need a good turnout to tournaments to win some team trophies. The coach will attend to review games and coach the kids. The State Championship is April 21<sup>st</sup> in Tri-Cities this year - players need 3 out of 5 wins in any tournament to qualify for state.

**Website:** We will be using the **ChessMagnetSchool.com** website. This website provides homework drills, and tracks individual results. Students should plan to do 2 hours of chess homework per week (it's fun!) from home or from any computer connected to the internet. If a computer lab is available at the school, once a month we will spend half of one class session in the computer lab where the coach can answer questions live about the chess problems.

**Cost: \$280 per student for the full year - this is only \$14.00 per week.** This includes: 20 chess club sessions, the license fee for the chess website, all the chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class rewards, the coach's attendance at one Sat tournament per month, and year end party. **Sibling discount** – **subtract \$40** for a second or third sibling in same family. **Kindergartners:** To be ready for chess, your kindergartner should be able to do simple math and some reading and writing. If you are not sure if your child is ready, I am offering a **4 week trial for \$56** (for Kindergartners only). After 4 weeks, we can decide together whether to continue for the rest of the year (just subtract your \$56 from the full year fee). Not included: tournament registration fees (about \$18 per tournament), and T- shirts for tournaments.

**MARK TWAIN CHESS CLUB**  
**2011-2012 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.)

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. Fill out the registration form.
2. Write a check for \$280 payable to [Twain PTSA](#). For 2 siblings: \$520, for 3 siblings: \$760. For Kindergartners: \$56 for 4 week trial.
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.
5. Joining after class has started? \$14.00 \* remaining sessions.

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 (Ö) 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 family members such as grandparents, aunts, uncles or siblings over 18 years, etc
- I agree to volunteer for at least 2 sessions during the year.
- I authorize my child(ren) to access the [ChessMagnetSchool.com](#) website.
- I understand there is no refund after class begins.
- Circle 2 dates available to assist lessons: Oct 14, 21, 28, Nov 4, 18, Dec 2, 9, 16, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27 Feb 3, 10, (not 24), Mar 2, 9, 23, 30, Apr 13, (not 20), 27.

Parent/Guardian Signature x \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT: Registration must be received by Oct 12th.** If you are unable to meet this deadline, then please contact the Chess Club Coordinator to make special arrangements.

Chess Coach  
**David Hendricks**  
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Chess Club Coordinators  
**Elizabeth and Charles Reese**  
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