



THE 2017 NEW MEXICO SCHOLASTIC CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

- **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18: 41ST ANNUAL NM GRADES K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP.** B. F. Young Professional Center, Santa Fe.
- **SATURDAY, MARCH 11: 38TH ANNUAL NM GRADES K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP.** Northern New Mexico College, Espanola.
- **SUNDAY, MARCH 26: 38TH ANNUAL NM GRADES K-6/K-3 CHAMPIONSHIP.** Hotel Cascada, Albuquerque.

TOURNAMENT SECTIONS

Each tournament is divided into multiple sections of different skill levels. Contestants play only opponents in their own section. The Championship section is the most competitive, while, e.g., the ratings Under 1300, Under 900, and Under 650 sections are easier in that order.

All sections below Championship have ratings restrictions (see pg. 3). Unrated players may play in any section, subject to grade restrictions. A player is unrated if she/he has never played in a United States Chess Federation (USCF) rated tournament or has no rating on the USCF website.

HOW TO ENTER THE TOURNAMENTS

To enter one or more tournaments, see the entry details on page 4 of this flier. Payment must be paid online or mailed to Dave Poston as indicated on page 4. All entry fees and applicable USCF membership dues must be paid for registration to be accepted. School Purchase Orders (POs) are acceptable.

Due to the large turnout at these events we require every player to register in advance. **Absolutely no entries are allowed after 6:00 PM the Thursday before the tournament.** More information can be found at <http://nmsco.org/state-champs/>.

Please Note Deadlines: Entry fees will be assessed strictly according to the payment postmark or credit card submission. **Preliminary registration must be made on-line (no phone or fax entries), and payment must be received or postmarked by the corresponding deadline to complete registration; otherwise the student will be ineligible. Payment only via regular mail, hand delivery, or on-line at <http://nmsco.org/state-champs/>.**

***** Any player that has registered before will receive an email with their username and password, sent to the address provided for that player. If you don't receive an email and you have forgotten a player's username/password, e-mail aspnchess@comcast.net.**

The entry fee is \$18 per player if postmarked or paid online by **2 weeks** before the tournament; and \$25 thereafter up to 6 PM the Thursday before the tournament.

FINANCIAL AID

No New Mexico player will be denied entry into the state championships for lack of funds. For financial aid, contact Dave Poston before submitting payment.

Requesting a Half Point Bye: Any player with an activity conflict may request a half point bye in any single round of any tournament at any time prior to 8:30 AM (K-6/K-3 9:00 AM) on the day of the tournament.

WITHDRAWING FROM A TOURNAMENT

A player who wishes to withdraw with a full refund must either contact Dave Poston at (505) 470-7081 or withdraw in the tournament directors' room prior to 8:30 AM (K-6/K-3 9:00 AM) on the day of the tournament. Also, please send an email to Dave Poston at aspnchess@comcast.net to request the refund.

TEAM SCORE

There is no limit to how many players a school can enter into a tournament. A school's team score in any section is calculated by adding the scores of the school's top four scoring players. To score points for their school, players must be full time students at the school. Home-schooled teams must send a team roster to Dave Poston. Club teams are allowed in all sections except Championship or Reserve sections and must notify Dave Poston of their intent to play as a single team. Club teams are not eligible to win State Scholastic Championship Sections per USCF and NMSCO rules. Submit the roster or intent by one week prior to the regular registration deadline. Admission of such teams is subject to the approval of Martin Cooper or the organizing committee. A school must have at least two players in a section to qualify for a team trophy, except as noted next. So that inexperienced players are not forced into the K-6/K-3 and K-9 Championship Sections to complete a team, there is a special provision that allows a school to borrow up to two handicapped scores from the Reserve and apply them to the Championship section. (The tournament scorekeepers automatically carry out this procedure.)

INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM AWARDS

Each state champion or co-champion will receive a championship plaque. Any player who finishes among the top three of a section will receive a trophy (sections with only K-6) or medals. The top three teams in each section will receive trophies except for the K-12 championship section. Honorable mention trophies or medals will be awarded in each section for positive or even scores at the chief TD's discretion.

PAIRINGS AND RATINGS

Each player will be paired according to the USCF's Swiss pairing rules. A player is never eliminated due to a loss. Although players from the same school/club will not usually play one another, USCF rules may occasionally require such pairings. Pairings will utilize the ratings from the USCF website as they appear one week prior to the tournament. Players will automatically be moved up a section if dictated by a rating change since registering; however, moving down a section must be requested.

USCF MEMBERSHIP AND ID

Players must be current members of USCF. (Exception: anyone playing only in K-3 or K-2 section in the K-6/K-3 tourney is not required to join.) Dues may be submitted with the entry payment, or you can register/renew at <https://secure.uschess.org/webstore/member.php>.

Membership categories/prices through NMSCO are:

Scholastic Member: \$16 per year for players age 12 and under; (\$24 with 6 issues per year of *Chess Life for Kids*).

Youth Member: \$21 per year, for players age 15 and under; (\$29 with 6 issues per year of *Chess Life*).

Young Adult Member: \$25 per year for players 24 years and under; (\$34 with 12 issues per year of *Chess Life*).

If the player has played in a USCF rated event before, the player's USCF 8-digit ID number and membership expiration date is necessary for on-line registration. Updated information can be obtained from the USCF website: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/MbrLst.php> by typing in the last and first name of your member.

Players who have never participated in a USCF rated event should enter their rating as UNR and never paid USCF dues should indicate the ID number as NONE. These players must include full dues unless playing only in a K-2 or K-3 section in the K-6/K-3 tournament. If you register yourself on USCF website, you will immediately be given ID number, which you can use for registration.

AT THE TOURNAMENT

Players must report to the tournament by 8:50 AM (K-6/K-3 9:20 AM). Players who are not present at that time are not guaranteed a pairing for the first round or admittance to the tournament. The K-12 tournament should end at ~6 PM, the K-9 at ~5 PM and K-6/K-3 at ~4 PM; although the championship sections can run longer. If you must leave the tournament early, PLEASE notify the tournament directors before you do so, or you will leave a child sitting alone for 30 minutes without a game

Food may not be available at all tournaments, so players should either bring lunch or plan to buy it off site. Each player should bring a pen or pencil and, if possible, a set and clock. The organizers do not provide sets or clocks at these events. Sets and clocks may be for sale. A chess

clock must be used if available. Chess notation in some form is required of all players in grades 4 or higher.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

GRADES K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP (February 18, 2017) at B. F. Young Professional Building, 1300 Camino Sierra Vista, Santa Fe: The site is five blocks west of St. Francis Drive (U.S. 84/285), i.e. a right turn headed southbound and a left turn if headed northbound. Camino Sierra Vista is two blocks north of Cerrillos Road on St. Francis Drive. *Please use the rear parking lot.*

GRADES K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP (March 11, 2017) at the Northern New Mexico College, 921 North Paseo De Onate, Espanola: The college is on US 84/285 one mile northwest of the US 84/Los Alamos Highway (State Road 30) intersection towards Chama. The games will be played in the gymnasium area.

GRADES K-6/K-3 CHAMPIONSHIP (March 26, 2017) at the Hotel Cascada, 2500 Carlisle Boulevard NE, Albuquerque: Take I-40 to exit 160 and go north on Carlisle Blvd. The hotel is immediately on your right.

****Candidates are sought for the 2017-18 Scholastic Steering Committee****

The Steering Committee is responsible for organizing the 2018 Scholastic Chess Championships. The term of office is one year. One nomination or volunteer is confirmed by vote at each of the state championships. For information, contact any of the committee members listed below. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, but please volunteer! *The General Meeting of the NMSCO will be held at the Grades K-12 Championship.* On-site volunteers, especially experienced floor TDs and score recorders are also welcome at all of the tournaments. Please contact the representative below for the tournament(s) where you are interested in helping.

K- 6 Steve Parea (505) 315-8709 nmaachess@gmail.com

K- 9 Mike Hibner (505) 514-3231 mike_hibner@yahoo.com

K-12 Alexander Outkin (505) 695-0356 aoutkin@gmail.com

For INFORMATION/HELP with REGISTRATION

Tournament Registrar:

Dave Poston (505) 470-7081 aspencchess@comcast.net

Chief Tournament Director:

Martin Cooper (505) 672-9696 mcooper@cybermesa.com

***** On SNOW/BLIZZARD Day: Tournament may be delayed up to one hour at the discretion of the chief TD. Half-point byes will be given to late players at the discretion of the chief TD. PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY!**

For snow or emergency contact: Martin Cooper (505) 709-0473

GRADES K-12 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

February 18, 2017 – B. F. Young Professional Building, Santa Fe (start time 8:50 AM)

K-12 Championship

Phase 1

Open to all, 3 rounds, time limit G/85+5d. Only NM players are eligible for 2016 NM championship playoff and Denker spot. Recommended for strong players with at least two years of tournament experience.

U1300

Open only to players rated below USCF 1300 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/40+5d. Recommended for intermediate strength players with at least one-year tournament experience.

U900

Open only to players rated below USCF 900 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/40+5d. Recommended for players with some tournament experience.

U650 K-6

Open only to players in grades K-6 rated below 650 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/40+5d. Recommended for new, younger players with little or no tournament experience.

GRADES K-9 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

March 11, 2017 – Northern New Mexico College, Espanola (start time 8:50 AM)

K-9 Championship

Open to all, 4 rounds, time limit G/70+5d. Top NM player and NM team = 2016 NM champions. Recommended for strong players with at least two years of tournament experience.

Reserve U1100

Open only to players rated below USCF 1100 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35+5d. Recommended for intermediate strength players with at least one-year tournament experience.

U750

Open only to players rated below USCF 750 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35+5d. Recommended for players with some tournament experience.

U500 K-4

Open only to players in grades K-4 rated below 500 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35+5d. Recommended for new players with little or no tournament experience.

GRADES K-6/K-3 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

March 26, 2017 – Hotel Cascada, Albuquerque (start time 9:20 AM)

K-6 Championship

Open to all K-6 players, 4 rounds, time limit G/55+5d. Top NM player and NM team = 2016 NM champions. Recommended for strong players in grades 4-6 with at least two years of tournament experience.

Reserve U950

Open only to K-6 players rated below USCF 950 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/30+5d. Recommended for intermediate strength players in grades 4-6 with some tournament experience.

U600 K-5

Open only to players in grades K-5 rated below USCF 600 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/30+5d. Recommended for newer players in grades 4-5 with little/no tournament experience.

K-3 Championship

Open to all in grades K-3, 5 rounds, time limit G/30+5d. Top NM player and NM team = 2016 NM champions. Recommended for stronger players with at least one year of tournament experience.

U600 K-3

Open only to players in grades K-3 rated below USCF 600 or unrated in grades K-3, 5 rounds, time limit G/30+5d. Recommended for intermediate strength players with some tournament experience.

U400 K-2

Open only to players in grades K-2 rated below USCF 400 or unrated in grades K-2, 5 rounds, time limit G/30+5d. Recommended for new, younger players with little or no tournament experience.

NOTE:

USCF dues are not required for players registering only for Primary Championship, U600 K-3, or U400 K-2.

SPECIAL QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS BY INVITATION ONLY BASED ON K-12 RESULTS

K-12 Championship Phase 2: March 26 (subject to change), Hotel Cascada, Albuquerque

3 of 8 Players can qualify for the K-12 Championship Phase 2 at Regional Tournaments

NM Girls' Championship Phase 2: April 15 (subject to change), AIMS on UNM Campus, Albuquerque

See the tournament registration web site, <http://nmsco.org/state-champs/>, for the details.

Registration must be entered online at

<http://nmsco.org/state-champs/>

Call the references listed on page 2 if help is needed to determine the appropriate section placement.

If a player has registered before, an email with both USERNAME and PASSWORD will be sent to the email addresses linked to that player's name in the database.

If you do not have access to a home computer, please try your local public library or school. Otherwise, contact your school's coach to request assistance in signing up.

Registration is not complete unless payment is received by the corresponding deadline, you must either

A) Pay online. Link provided in final registration page -- <http://nmsco.org/state-champs/>

You can pay for all tournaments for multiple players in one payment by using the PayPal shopping cart. You can also add on USCF dues as necessary.

B) Send payment with a copy of the final page of the on-line registration form for each player to:

NMSCO c/o Dave Poston, 100 Aspen Dr., Los Alamos NM 87544

Checks should be payable to NMSCO. Payment via hand delivery accepted until online payment deadline. No FED EX or registered mail accepted

While you may be able to access on-line registration after payment deadlines, receipt by the payment deadlines will be strictly enforced for determining player eligibility!

Grades K-12 Tournament (8:50 AM)	Grades K-9 Tournament (8:50 AM)	Grades K-6/K-3 Tournament (9:20 AM)
Postmark or paid online by 2/5 \$18	Postmark or paid online by 2/26 \$18	Postmark or paid online by 3/12 \$18
Postmarked by 2/13 \$25	Postmarked by 3/6 \$25	Postmarked by 3/21 \$25
Paid online by 2/16 \$25	Paid online by 3/9 \$25	Paid online by 3/24 \$25

United States Chess Federation (USCF) Membership (Required for most sections). See page 2.

If the player does not have USCF membership or membership will have expired by the last tournament that she/he is signing up for, then include the appropriate dues for your chess player (unless you prefer to do this yourself at the USCF website). See Page 2 for the dues for various age cut-offs and magazine options (your minimum dues payment, with a \$1 NMSCO instant rebate, will be indicated on the final page of your online registration).

To participate in a tournament (except for K-3 or K-2 sections), a player must either 1) have current USCF membership by the payment deadline (as verified by the USCF web-site), 2) have proof of recent payment, or 3) include the necessary dues payment with their registration payment.

Other Spring 2017 Tournaments of Interest to NM Scholastic Players

Date	Description
April 7-9	National All Girls Championship at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place in Chicago, Illinois – For information, go to http://rknight.org/registration/tournaments/all-girls-nationals/
April 20-21	NMAA High School Team at the Hotel Cascada, 2500 Carlisle Blvd., Albuquerque, NM – For information, contact Steve Perea, NMAA Chess Director (505) 315-8709
April 28	NMAA Middle School Team at the Hotel Cascada, 2500 Carlisle Blvd., Albuquerque, NM – For information, contact Steve Perea, NMAA Chess Director (505) 315-8709
May 5	NMAA Elementary School Team at the Hotel Cascada, 2500 Carlisle Blvd., Albuquerque, NM – For information, contact Steve Perea, NMAA Chess Director (505) 315-8709
May 12-14 (**)	Supernationals at the Gaylord Olryland Resort in Nashville, Tennessee – For information, go to http://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2017/snvi/
(**)	NMSCO offers some performance-based scholarships to support players or teams that attend these tournaments. Scholarship request forms are available at the NM state championships