

Alabama Scholastics Pick up Steam!



Alabama Chess Federation

Winter 2007
Newsletter

Vice President's Message

There is so much scholastics going on right now that ACF is publishing this supplemental newsletter. It's exciting to see the number of competitions and competitors which are a reflection of how much energy is going into Alabama scholastic chess!

Please keep checking the ACF website www.alabamachess.com for tournament information and flyers (posted via the "Calendar"). If you are planning a tournament, please send in your flyer for posting on the website. A big thank you to ACF's Ken Goodman for keeping this website updated.

As usual, we will have our semiannual meeting at the Queen of Hearts tournament. ACF President, Bill Saviou, is unable to attend the meeting, so I will preside. An agenda is provided below. Hope you can make it!

Sincerely,

Matt

Matt Adams, ACF Vice President
vp@alabamachess.com

Agenda for ACF Business Meeting To be held at the Queen of Hearts Tournament [Sunday, February 18, 2007, 1:30 – 2:30]

Previous minutes

Financial report

State Scholastic Tournament announcement

Jerry McGowin has requested time to discuss status of the foundation and his planned class tournament this summer.

Discussion of proposed bylaw changes (membership types, elimination of Labor Day tie-in to State Championship tournament, future of antics, etc)

Any other business

Cover Photo: *Rocking Rooks Tournament, Jan. 20, 2007, K-3 1st Place Team: Birmingham Chess Club (L to R: Vikhram Balagee, Ganesh Mallampalli, Andy Kong and Eric Wang).*



Team winners



Individual winners

Rocking Rooks January 20, 2007

By Matt and Susan Adams

Advent Episcopal School in downtown Birmingham hosted the 2007 Rocking Rooks chess tournament on Saturday, January 20. Seventy-four players, ranging from high school seniors to as young as four, competed for trophies and point standings in the United States Chess Federation in this five round tournament. Players came from many local area schools as well as a number of players who traveled from as far as Huntsville and Tuscaloosa.

Local UAB professor Dr. Ken Sloan served as the chief tournament director for this event. Assisting Dr. Sloan were floor directors Cal Bomar and Luke Hellwig. The tournament organizer was Matt Adams, Vice President of the Alabama Chess Federation. Mrs. Peggy Miller, Advent teacher and sponsor of the school's chess team, served as hostess of the event. She, along with a dedicated cadre of supportive parents and volunteers, brought together a day of fun and challenging chess play for all who participated. The tournament was held in Clingman Commons, a grand hall of the school's adjoining Cathedral Church of the Advent. A room rich with ornate hardwoods and heritage, combined with open vaulted ceilings, provided the noble atmosphere to one of our oldest and most challenging games.



Individual winners – Elementary



Getting ready!

The primary section hosted 24 players up to the third grade. The trophy winners were:

1. Vikhram Balagee
2. Peter Hartman
3. Eric Wang
4. Andy Kong
5. John Lawrence
6. Scott Myers
7. William Driscoll
8. Isaiah Tubbs
9. Nicholas Medawar
10. Griffin Baxley

The primary team trophies went to:

1. Birmingham Chess Club's scholastic team
2. Advent School Chess Team
3. Blossomwood Elementary Chess Team of Huntsville

The elementary section consisted of 35 players through sixth grade. The trophy winners were:

1. Ben Goodman
2. Scott Bozeman
3. Kayvon Deldar
4. Stephen Adams
5. Charles Li
6. Joel Koch
7. Cole Senn
8. Claire Chen
9. Kelly Chen
10. Phillip Wang

The elementary team trophies went to:

1. Birmingham Chess Club's scholastic team
2. Advent School Chess Team
3. Blossomwood Elementary Chess Team of Huntsville

With 15 players, the Jr. High and Open sections were combined for playing purposes but the awards were given to each group. The Jr. High trophy winners were:

1. Wayman Benifield
2. Ronnie Cook
3. Gavilan Brown
4. Harold McDonald
5. Ben Green

The Jr. High team trophies went to:

1. Cheaha
2. Birmingham Chess Club

The K-12 or Open section winners were:

1. Ryan Brown
2. Michael Miller
3. Adam Kim

The Open section team trophy went to:

1. W.J. Christian



Team winners



Elementary Individual Awards

Photos courtesy of Barbara Bozeman

Rookie Rally February 3, 2007

By Jim Weiner

The third annual Rookie Rally was held on a cold Saturday, Feb. 3, 2007 at Blossomwood Elementary in Huntsville. With 131 players, this tied last year's excellent turnout. This was probably chief organizer Barbara Bozeman's last Blossomwood event (son Scott is moving up to middle school), and she amply succeeded in going out with a bang.

The primary (K-3) section comprised 46 players, nearly half of whom were newcomers to rated competition. The top finishers were 2nd-seeded Alexander Qin, with a perfect 5.0, followed by five players with 4.0 points. In tie-break order these were top seed Elora Holland, Vikhram Balagee, Armon Mobasher, Preston Thornily, and Alexander Lay. Special mention should be made of unrated Connor Smith, who led the 3.5-point group to finish 7th in his very first tournament, ahead of Nicholas Medawar and Wyatt Pope. The 10th place trophy was captured by Andy Kong on tie breaks, ahead of nine others who also scored 3 points.

The top primary team was the Blossomwood's own K-3 home team, with 13.5 points, followed by Birmingham's BCC, which garnered 2nd place on tie-breaks over Hampton Cove, both schools ending with 13 points each. The 4th place trophy went to the Horizon Elementary (Madison) squad, who scored 12.5.

The elementary (K-6) section was by far the largest with 66 players, 11 making their tournament debut. Pride of place was hotly contested here, with the top ten players finishing within a half-point spread. The top three earned 4.5 points each: State Grades 4-5 Champion Kayvon Deldar, State K-3 Champion Stephen Adams, and in a surprise, 13th-seeded Jonathan Dummer. Places 4-10 were taken by six players who each scored 4 points: 28th-seeded (!) Forest Dewberry, Charles Li, John Weber, Scott Bozeman, Phillip Wang, Maliha Lubna, and her brother Einaam Alim.

Hampton Cove Elementary took the top team trophy in this section, with 15 points. Jones Valley, Weatherly, and Blossomwood each scored 13.5 to take 2nd through 4th place trophies.

An unusually good turnout in the Open (K-12) and Jr High (K-9) sections allowed them to be paired separately (usually they have to be combined), with the five top section players competing round-robin. The best individual performance by a Jr High player was achieved by Michael Cooper from Madison's Liberty Middle School, with a 5-0 sweep, followed by Pranayraj Kondapally and Thomas Hadden (4 points each), both from Madison's Discovery Middle School. The 4th place trophy was awarded to Patrick Bryant who won on tie breaks over Adib Alam who also scored 3 points.

Only two Jr High teams were represented, Liberty and Discovery. Each scored 12.5 points, but Liberty took the top trophy on tie-breaks.

Tushar Ramesh and Jacob Bryan (both from Discovery) finished 1-2 in the Open section on tie-breaks, each scoring 4 points. The third place trophy was captured by Sabiha Runa (3 points), who attends Huntsville High School. Discovery and Huntsville High were awarded the two Open team trophies, with respective scores of 8 and 5 points.

Organization of this tournament was led by Barbara Bozeman and with the help of Betsy Roberts and many other Blossomwood parents. Tournament direction was provided by Dr. Gerald Larson, ably assisted by volunteers from the Huntsville Chess Club: Jerry Wheeler, Chris Lasky, Don Wade, Dr. Albert Gower, Wally Malmborg, Corbin Holland, Dave Clement, Alex Weiner, and this author.



Primary Individual Awards

Photos courtesy of Barbara Bozeman



Liberty Middle – 1st Place Jr. High Team



Jones Valley Elementary – 2nd Place Elementary Team

Rookie Rally III Scholastic Chess Tournament

3 February, 2007

Complete crosstables located at: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?200702037401.0>.

OPEN SECTION

Individual Standings

Top 3 (5 competitors total)

- 1 Ramesh, Tushar
- 2 Bryan, Jacob
- 3 Runa, Sabiha

Team Standings

Top 2 teams (3 teams total) (Top 4 players used)

- 1 Discovery
- 2 Huntsville High School

- 5 Li, Charles
- 6 Weber, John
- 7 Bozeman, Scott
- 8 Wang, Phillip R.
- 9 Lubna, Maliha
- 10 Alim, M. Einaam

Team Standings

Top 4 teams (12 teams total) (Top 4 players used)

- 1 Hamp
- 2 JonesV
- 3 Weath
- 4 Blossos

JR. HIGH SECTION

Individual Standings

Top 10 plus individuals whose score ties for a trophy but places too low on tie- breaks for a trophy (14 competitors total)

- 1 Cooper, Michael
- 2 Kondapally, Pranayraj
- 3 Hadden, Thomas
- 4 Bryant, Patrick R.
- 5 Alam, Adib Ahmed
- 6 Smith, Michael Thomas
- 7 Bradley, Patrick R.
- 8 Morris, Duncan R.
- 9 Clements, Joshua
- 10 Mecikalski, Nicholas
- 11 Grisham, Alex Mitchell
- 12 Werline, Nicholas

Team Standings

Top 2 teams (2 teams total) (Top 4 players used)

- 1 Liberty
- 2 Discovery

PRIMARY SECTION

Individual Standings

Top 10 plus individuals whose score ties for a trophy but places too low on tie- breaks for a trophy (46 competitors total)

- 1 Qin, Alexander
- 2 Holland, Elora
- 3 Balagee, Vikhram
- 4 Mobasher, Armon
- 5 Thorniley, Preston
- 6 Lay, Alexander
- 7 Smith, Connor J.
- 8 Medawar, Nicholas
- 9 Pope, Wyatt
- 10 Kong, Andy
- 11 Pearce, Carson
- 12 Kennedy, Jackson
- 13 Pursley, Michael
- 14 Bryant, Kevin
- 15 Roberts, Riley
- 16 Kozar, Thomas
- 17 Kesting, Megan
- 18 Wang, Eric R.
- 19 Smith, Jewel

Team Standings

Top 4 teams (8 teams total) (Top 4 players used)

- 1 Blossomwood
- 2 Birmingham Chess Club
- 3 Hampton Cove
- 4 Horizon

ELEMENTARY SECTION

Individual Standings

Top 10 (64 competitors total)

- 1 Deldar, Kayvon
- 2 Adams, Stephen W.
- 3 Dummer, Jonathan
- 4 Dewberry, Forest

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

Also check out ACF's calendar at www.alabamachess.com/!

If you would like to be sent free email updates similar to the information listed below, you may request the Chess Info newsletter from Caroline Clark at moblemom@charter.net. Chess Info is NOT an ACF publication.

ALABAMA

February 17, 2007 Queen of Hearts – AUM Campus, Taylor Center, Montgomery, AL. Rated & unrated, *adult and scholastic*. Details and registration at <http://www.alabamachess.com/> [click on "Calendar" in the left margin then the tournament date, and lastly click the tournament name when it appears above the calendars].

March 3, 2007 Bishop's Bash – Hampton Cove Elementary, Huntsville, AL. Rated *scholastic* tournament.
<http://www.logicalchess.com/hcc/>

March 24, 2007 Alabama Scholastic Individual Championship –Greenville YMCA, Greenville, AL. Rated *scholastic*.
<http://www.alabamachess.com/>

March 25, 2007 Alabama Scholastic Team Championship –Greenville YMCA, Greenville, AL. *Scholastic team* tournament.
<http://www.alabamachess.com/>

March 31, 2007 Discovery Middle School – Madison, AL. Rated *scholastic*. <http://www.logicalchess.com/hcc/>

May 19, 2007 Black Warrior Challenge – Tuscaloosa, AL. Rated & unrated, *adult and scholastic*. Save the date and stay tuned for details!

OUT-OF-STATE

Check neighboring State links:

Georgia Chess Association (www.georgiachess.org) and Kid Chess (www.kidchess.com).

Tennessee Chess Association www.tnchess.org.

Mississippi Chess Association www.mcachess.org

Florida Chess Association www.floridachess.org

NATIONAL SCHOLASTICS

February 17-19, 2007 World Amateur Team & 37th Annual U.S. Team East – Parsippany, NJ. A Heritage Event! Team event including High School, Middle School and Elementary School divisions. www.uschess.org

March 30 – April 1, 2007 National Junior High (K-9) Championship – Sacramento, CA. www.uschess.org

April 13-15, 2007 National High School (K12) Championship – Kansas City, MO. www.uschess.org

May 11-13, 2007 Burt Lerner National Elementary (K-6) Championship – Nashville, TN. www.uschess.org

CHESS CAMPS

Various State chess association websites have listings for camps held in summer as well as scattered throughout the year. The Nashville Chess Center website (www.nashvillechess.org) hosts them from time to time. USCF also lists chess camps at <http://www.uschess.org/org/sources.html#Camps> or <http://www.uschess.org/clubs/camps2007.php>. Here are a few of interest.

February 24-25, 2007 Mid-South Chess Winter Camp – Memphis, TN. WGM Jennifer Shahade is slated to be their special instructor! For details and registration see <http://www.chesscamp.us>.

June 11-15, 2007 (tentative) Mid-South Chess Camp – Memphis, TN. Information about this summer's camp will be posted following Winter Camp at <http://www.chesscamp.us>

June 17-24, 2006 Atlanta Castle Chess Camp – Atlanta, GA. Minimum established rating of 925 required to register. www.emorychess.org.

Spring 2007 Black Warrior Chess Challenge

Saturday - May 19, 2007

Where: *Benjamin Barnes YMCA*
2939 18th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

ADULT DIVISIONS

PRE-REGISTRATION ADULT RATED: Mail \$20.00 - POSTMARKED by April 30th

PRE-REGISTRATION ADULT UNRATED: Mail \$10.00 - POSTMARKED by April 30th

ON-SITE REGISTRATION ADULT RATED: \$30.00 Sat., May 19, 8:00-9:00 AM

ON-SITE REGISTRATION ADULT UNRATED \$20.00 Sat., May 19, 8:00-9:00 AM

V **ROUNDS:** Saturday: ADULT DIVISIONS, Two Section: OPEN (to all USCF Members) and Unrated

Ü 4 SS, Other States Accepted (OSA), No Computers

Ü Time Control: Game in 60 (G/60).

Ü Round TIMES: 9:30, 12:00, 2:15, 4:30

Ü PRIZES: Based upon 20 players (Rated) overall. Also, a Trophy to the Top Player.

- 1st \$130
- 2nd \$90
- Rating Under 1700 \$70
- Rating Under 1400 \$50

Ü Trophies for un-rated section.

Ü Pizza party and Participation prizes for all participants.

SCHOLASTIC DIVISIONS

PRE-REGISTRATION SCHOLASTIC RATED: Mail \$10.00 - POSTMARKED by April 30th

PRE-REGISTRATION SCHOLASTIC UNRATED: Mail \$5.00 - POSTMARKED by April 30th

ON-SITE REGISTRATION SCHOLASTIC RATED: \$15.00 Sat., May 19, 8:00-9:00 AM

ON-SITE REGISTRATION SCHOLASTIC UNRATED \$10.00 Sat., May 19, 8:00-9:00 AM

V SCHOLASTIC DIVISIONS - Grades: K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12.

Ü TIME CONTROL: Game in 30 (G/30) - 5SS - All sections.

Ü ROUND TIMES: 10:15, 11:30, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00

Ü TROPHY PRIZES Top 3 for rated sections plus ribbons for 4th & 5th place.

Ü Trophies for un-rated section.

Ü Pizza Party and Participation prizes for all participants.

Mail Pre-Entry form to:

Caesar Lawrence * 882 McAllister Dr. * Calera, AL 35040

MEMBERSHIP: USCF (\$17/\$19/\$25/\$49) and ACF (\$10 - Alabama) /OSA.

NOTICE: Tournament Score Sheet will be provided.

Electronic Score Sheet Devices – Not Allowed.

... EARLY REGISTRATION STRONGLY ENCOURAGED...

******* 2007 Black Warrior Chess Challenge * Entry Form *******

Name: _____ USCF: _____ Exp. Date: _____

(as shown on ID card if USCF member)

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Section (check one): Adult à Rated _____ or Un-Rated _____

Scholastic à Rated _____ or UnRated _____

Enclosed: _____ Entry Fee(s) @ **\$20**/Adult Rated or **\$10**/Adult Un-Rated and/or

Enclosed: _____ Entry Fee(s) @ **\$10**/Scholastic Rated or **\$5**/Scholastic Un-Rated

+ _____ **ACF** Membership(s) @ **\$10**/person à **Rated only** = Total _____

Make checks payable to: **Montgomery Chess Club**. Single check for entry fee and ACF membership preferred. Please include **Player Name(s) and USCF ID#** on check. Player must have proof of USCF membership - www.uschess.org

******* 2007 Black Warrior Chess Challenge * Entry Form *******

Info: Rose Marie Stutts rmstutts@bama.ua.edu / Call: 205-826-2160

or Caesar Lawrence Caesar.Lawrence@juno.com / Call: 334-868-0271

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******* 2007 Black Warrior Chess Challenge * Entry Form *******

Name: _____ USCF: _____ Exp. Date: _____

(as shown on ID card if USCF member)

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Section (check one): Adult à Rated _____ or Un-Rated _____

Scholastic à Rated _____ or UnRated _____

Enclosed: _____ Entry Fee(s) @ **\$20**/Adult Rated or **\$10**/Adult Un-Rated and/or

Enclosed: _____ Entry Fee(s) @ **\$10**/Scholastic Rated or **\$5**/Scholastic Un-Rated

+ _____ **ACF** Membership(s) @ **\$10**/person à **Rated only** = Total _____

Make checks payable to: **Montgomery Chess Club**. Single check for entry fee and ACF membership preferred. Please include **Player Name(s) and USCF ID#** on check. Player must have proof of USCF membership - www.uschess.org

******* 2007 Black Warrior Chess Challenge * Entry Form *******

Info: Rose Marie Stutts rmstutts@bama.ua.edu / Call: 205-826-2160

or Caesar Lawrence Caesar.Lawrence@juno.com / Call: 334-868-0271

3 March 2007

Bishops Bash VI

Scholastic Chess Tournament

PARTICIPATION LIMITED TO THE FIRST 180 REGISTRANTS

- LOCATION: Hampton Cove Elementary School
261 Old 431 Highway
Hampton Cove, Alabama 35763
- DIRECTIONS: I-565 east to Exit 17B(Governor's Drive, US-431); follow east and southeast for 10.3 miles. Turn left at stoplight on Old Hwy 431. Drive \square mi & take first left across highway, then immediately left again onto service road along north side of highway. Double back \square mi west \square road ends at school parking lot. If lost call 256-682-3319.
- DATE: Saturday, March 3, 2007
- DETAILS: 5 Round Swiss. USCF Rated. Four sections, by grade. Primary (K-3), Elementary (K-5), Jr. High (K-9), Open (K-12). Players are strongly encouraged to play in the lowest section for which they are eligible, but may play in a higher section. Jr. High (K-9) and Open(K-12) sections may be merged at the TD's discretion. No spectators will be permitted in the playing areas.
- TIME CONTROL: Game in 30 minutes.
- SCHEDULE: On-site registration & check-in: 8:30am \square 9:30am. Registration after 9:30am requires a 1st round forfeit.
MANDATORY players meeting: 10:00am in Cafeteria.
Rounds at 10:15AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM, 2:15PM, & 3:30PM (Final two rounds may be sooner, at TD's discretion).
- EARLY REGISTRATION: STRONGLY ENCOURAGED \square Forms must be received by Feb 25th, 2007 to qualify for discounted entry fee. Make checks payable to Huntsville Chess Club
Send entry form and fees to:
Gerald Larson, 2909 Gallalee Road, Huntsville, Alabama 35801
- ENTRY FEE: \$20.00 per player if received by Feb 25th, 2007; \$30.00 after this date or if registering on site.
- MEMBERSHIPS: All participants must be United States Chess Federation (USCF) members. \$17.00/yr if under age 13; youth memberships (ages 13-15) \$19.00/yr; young adult memberships (ages 16-24) \$25/yr. Join or renew on-site or at <https://secure.uschess.org/webstore/member.php?mode.x=13&mode.y=16>,
- PRIZES: Trophies to top 12 individuals in Primary and Elementary sections; top 7 in Jr. High; top 3 in Open. Trophy to top 5 teams in Primary and Elementary sections (four highest scores); top 3 teams in Jr. High; top team in the Open.
- TEAMS: This is an individual event, with secondary team prizes. Teams may represent a school or club. Pairings will be \square team blind \square .

CONCESSIONS: Coffee, donuts, fruit, pizza, hot dogs, popcorn, water, soda, candy.

QUESTIONS: Susan Daugherty email bongju@hiway.net 533-1879 or glarson@knology.net

Bishops Bash VI Registration Form

Player Name: _____	USCF ID _____	Exp. _____
Date _____ (Name as shown on USCF Card if member)		
Address: _____	Section: _____	
_____	Grade _____	
City & State _____	Zip _____	Date of Birth _____

Team/School/Club _____	Coach _____	

Enclosed: _____ Entry Fee @ \$20.00 or \$30.00 On-site (circle One)
+ _____ USCF Memberships @ \$17.00 (under 13 years old), \$19.00 (13-15 years old) or \$25.00 (16-24 years old)
\$ _____ Total Submitted

Please enclose a single check for all entry and USCF membership fees, payable to Huntsville Chess Club. Mail to:
Gerald Larson, 2909 Gallalee Road, Huntsville, Alabama 35801

On-site entrants who are USCF members should bring proof of membership (card or Chess Life mailing label).

ACF Winter Newsletter
3045 Sterling Road
Birmingham, AL 35213

February 2007

To

