

# SJA Chess Club Update October 1, 2008



Please read over this update carefully.

Due to the tremendous positive response to starting the club, we are going to start in phases to make sure everyone involved has a valuable learning experience. It is important that the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders joining the club are doing so because they want to learn and/or improve at the game of chess. We expect all members to behave appropriately, follow directions, and show respect to their teachers, parent volunteers and fellow members so that the environment is fun, yet conducive to learning and chess play.

In order to determine what members know about chess, get everyone up to a certain ability level and to initially provide an appropriate level of instruction in smaller groups, we will be breaking up by grade levels for the first 4 weeks. Please mark your calendars as indicated below and only send your child on the appropriate dates.

Thursday, Oct. 9 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> graders ONLY	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30
Thursday, Oct 16 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> graders ONLY	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30
Thursday, Oct. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> graders ONLY	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30
Thursday, Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> graders ONLY	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30
Thursday, Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup>	ALL MEMBERS (5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> graders)	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30
Thursday, Nov. 13 <sup>th</sup>	ALL MEMBERS (5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> graders)	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30
Thursday, Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>	ALL MEMBERS (5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> graders)	Rm 6 & 7 PAR	2:30-3:30

- ❖ Each club member will attend **5 sessions** over the next 7 weeks and the fee to join is **\$35**.
- ❖ Children will need to be picked up promptly at 3:30 from the south lot (please follow regular carpool line procedures). Any children without a ride at 3:30 will be brought to the extended day program (for which there is a charge).
- ❖ Please read through all of the important points on the back of this page. If you and your child decide this is something s/he wishes to join, then please complete the permission form below and submit it with your check for \$35 made payable to Chess Now.

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**PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM & SUBMIT IT WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$35 MADE PAYABLE TO CHESS NOW. FORMS DUE IN THE SJA OFFICE BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # where parent can be reached between 2:30-3:30p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the meeting dates are you available to be a parent volunteer? (no experience necessary). We would like each parent to volunteer for at least one session. A parent helper schedule will be e-mailed next week.

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>      Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>      Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>      Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>      Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>      Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>      Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>

(please read & sign other side, too)

Other important points:

- ❖ Chess Club members will need to bring a note from a parent each Thursday to inform their homeroom teacher that they will be meeting the Chess Club parent helper in the junior high lobby after school (it will be Mrs. Carballo the first two weeks). Chess club members may bring a small snack to eat prior to the 2:30 meeting start time.
- ❖ It may prove beneficial for our novice players to learn the names of the chess pieces before starting in the club so that the instructions are easier to understand. Some excellent books at your public library or the Internet are good places to look for this basic information.
- ❖ Each week's meeting will consist of 20 minutes of review, 20 minutes of new material (lesson) & 20 minutes of playing. Sets and boards and handouts as well as workbooks will be provided as part of the fee for joining the club. You need only bring your attentive self.
- ❖ The initial session for each grade level will involve whole-group instruction. The subsequent sessions will have the group divided into two based on skill/experience.
- ❖ Chess-Now Ltd. from Glen Ellyn ([www.chess-now.com](http://www.chess-now.com)) will be doing the instruction and has a tremendous reputation for working with young chess players. Mr. Jim Egerton has coached many SJA students including Doug Jennings, Mitchell Kinn, Nick Carballo & Danny Sobolewski.
- ❖ Questions??? Call parents Julie Carballo or Suzanne Kinn. For instruction-related questions, contact Mr. Egerton via his website.
- ❖ If all goes well with this first session, we'll have another session on Thursdays beginning in mid-January and ending mid-late March.



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Please read, discuss and sign.

- ❖ We have discussed that the Chess Club is an after school activity that will involve review, instruction and open chess play for SJA students in grades 5-8.
- ❖ We have also discussed that there is an expectation that the students will behave appropriately, follow directions, and show respect to others so that this is a positive experience for all.
- ❖ We understand that the students should meet in the junior high lobby at 2:20 on the designated Thursdays and be picked up promptly at 3:30 in the south lot.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE OTHER SIDE OF FORM, TOO).