



## **The Indian Trail Chess Club**

Scholastic chess has enjoyed explosive growth in recent years and has shed its reputation as a game only for intellectuals. Beyond the sheer pleasure of playing, studies have shown that chess improves academic performance, concentration, logical thinking, and social skills.

The Indian Trail Chess Club will re-open on **Wednesday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> and continue until May 22<sup>th</sup>**. The club is open to those in grades K-5 and will meet once a week on **Wednesday afternoons from 3:20 pm to 4:45 pm at Indian Trail, in the small gym/lunchroom**. Parents and caregivers will conveniently be able to pick up students using the side doors. Club parent volunteer coordinators are Jane Evans and Lara Leaf. Both are long-time Highland Park chess parents whose children are strong players. Eli Elder and Sawyer Harris, two of the strongest high school players on the North Shore, head our coaching staff. Indian Trail Chess Club since opening in 2007 has won 28 team trophies at state championship events.

Members are not required to attend every session and may leave early. Attendance will be taken and parents should specify in writing any variations from full-time attendance. (Additional security procedures are spelled out in the club Handbook.) Although members may join the club at any time during the school year, beginners are encouraged to attend regularly during the first few months for introductory lessons. Lessons will run 45 minutes (from 3:45-4:30pm), and members are expected to attend lessons when they are offered. The remainder of each session will be devoted to play. Sets and boards will be provided. Parents and caregivers are welcome, and members should bring nut-free snacks to eat before lessons starts. Those who wish may visit the club before deciding whether to join.

Members are divided into groups (beginners, intermediate and advance) based on experience. The club ranks members according to their wins and losses, and maintains an incentive system rewarding members for teaching, taking chess notation, performance during lessons, and helping the club in other ways. Club members who are ready will be encouraged to attend local and statewide tournaments. The club hosts its own tournament at the end of the year, followed by a pizza party.

Club fee is \$150 for the entire year, per student. Scholarships are available for students on free and reduced lunch. Please complete the registration form on the backside of this form and return it to the Indian Trail office or bring it to a chess club meeting. (Checks payable to Jane Evans.)

**For questions, contact: Jane Evans, 773-485-0875, [jane@design360.net](mailto:jane@design360.net) or Lara Leaf, 906-250-4404, [leafla@hotmail.com](mailto:leafla@hotmail.com)**

## Indian Trail Chess Club Registration Form 2018-2019

Name of member: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' names: \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone numbers to be reached at: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address for club notices: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience level (check one):

- Beginner (does not know how to move the pieces)  
 Intermediate (knows the moves, including en passant and castling, and some strategy)  
 Advanced (comfortable with notation, knows basic principles of strategy, understands idea of positional chess, has played competitively)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian of the above student, give my permission for him/her to attend meetings of the Indian Trail Chess Club. I agree to follow the attendance and security procedures spelled out in the club Handbook.

I am interested in a scholarship.

Parental involvement is encouraged whether or not you play chess. We request that you help keep the club running by volunteering to attend at least one session to set up, monitor classes, and clean up. No chess experience is required.

- Yes, I am interested in volunteering on a regular basis  
 Yes, I am interested in volunteering occasionally  
 No, I am not available to volunteer at this time

Anything you would like us to know about your child?

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian