



THE 2009 NEW MEXICO SCHOLASTIC CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

- **FEBRUARY 7: 33RD ANNUAL NEW MEXICO GRADES K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP.** St Michael's High School, Santa Fe.
- **FEBRUARY 28: 30TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO GRADES K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP.** Pinon Elementary School, Los Alamos (White Rock).
- **March 21: 30TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO GRADES K-6 CHAMPIONSHIP.** Manzano High School, 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 the Reserve, Novice, Cadet, and Booster 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 age restrictions. A player is unrated if she/he has never played in a United States Chess Federation (USCF) rated tournament. Some sections also have age (grade) restrictions.

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 8:00 PM the Tuesday before the tournament.** More information can be found at http://www.lunanet.biz/~brobey/NMSCO_Player_Entry.html.

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 student will be ineligible. Payment only via regular mail, hand delivery, or on-line at <http://home.comcast.net/~aspenchess>**

******If your username & password are provided on the right, they will be useful for your preliminary on-line registration. If you've registered before but have forgotten a player's username/password, e-mail aspenchess@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 8pm the Tuesday before the tournament.

No FED EX or registered mail accepted

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 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 9:00 AM) on the day of the tournament.

TEAM SCORE

A school can enter as many players into the tournament as it wishes. There is no limit. 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. Combined school teams (i.e. common campus and chess club meetings) must notify Dave Poston of their intent to play as a single team. 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 in the next paragraph.

So that inexperienced players are not forced into the Championship Section 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

Any player who finishes among the top ten in his/her section will receive a trophy. The top three teams in each section will also receive trophies. Many honorable mention trophies will be awarded in each section.

PAIRINGS

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 will not usually play one another, USCF rules may occasionally require such pairings.

USCF MEMBERSHIP AND ID

All players must be current members of the USCF. (Exception: anyone playing only in a K-3 or K-2 section in the K-6 Elementary 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 and prices if joining through NMSCO are:

Scholastic Member: \$15 per year for players age 12 and under; (\$22 with 6 issues per year of *Chess Life for Kids*).

Youth Member: \$19 per year, for players age 15 and under; (\$26 with 6 issues per year of *Chess Life*).

Young Adult Member: \$23 per year for players 24 years and under; (\$31 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 preliminary on-line registration. You can find both items on a USCF mailing label. If a player does not have a recent label, 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 or from the USCF in Tennessee at 1-931-787-1234.

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-3 section in the K-6 tournament. Players who have recently played in a USCF event but do not yet know their ID number should indicate the ID number as PENDING and bring proof of registration to the site. If you register yourself on the USCF website, you will immediately be given an ID number, which you can use for registration.

Any player that (1) is not shown on the USCF website to have current membership or (2) has not included dues payment with registration will be required to pay at the site in order to play.

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 mailing payment.

AT THE TOURNAMENT

Players must report to the tournament by 8:50 AM (K-6 9:20 AM). Verifying the posted section is recommended but not required. All tournaments end between 5 PM and 7 PM. (The K-12 Championship Section ends about 9 PM.)

Players who are not present at 8:50 AM (K-6 9:20 AM) are not guaranteed a pairing for the first round or admittance to the tournament.

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. Some food will be available at all tournaments.

Chess notation in some form is required of all players in grades 3 or higher. A chess clock must be used if available. It is recommended that players become comfortable with using a clock before the tournament.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

GRADES K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP (February 7, 2009) at St. Michael's HS, Santa Fe. From southbound US-84/285 turn left onto Siringo Rd. St. Michael's is .4 miles. From northbound I-25 take St. Francis Dr. exit (exit 282). Keep right at fork in ramp. Continue on St. Francis Dr. for 0.9 miles. Turn right onto Siringo Rd. St. Michael's is 0.4 miles.

GRADES K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP (February 28, 2009) at Pinon Elementary School, 90 Grand Canyon Avenue, Los Alamos (White Rock). Follow NM 502 west. After crossing the Rio Grande and climbing the first steep hill, take the right fork onto State Rt 4 towards White Rock. After passing the signal at the entrance to White Rock, take the second left onto Sherwood. Go 1/2 mile and turn right on Grand Canyon -- Pinon Elementary is on the right..

GRADES K-6 CHAMPIONSHIP (March 21, 2009) at Manzano HS, 12200 Lomas Blvd, Albuquerque. Take I-40 east and exit at Juan Tabo. Go north about a mile to Lomas. Turn right. The school is on the right.

****Candidates are sought for the 2010 Scholastic Steering Committee****

The Steering Committee is responsible for organizing the 2010 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-table 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 Rodney Keith (505) 480-5384 arlkeith@comcast.net
K-9 Dave Poston (505) 470-7081 aspenchess@comcast.net
K-12 Melissa Lewis (505) 473-5706 mlewisfamily@mac.com

For INFORMATION/HELP with REGISTRATION

Chief Tournament Director:

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

Tournament Registrar:

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

Computer Tournament Director:

Jeff Dunning (505) 661-9925 nmchess@comcast.net

***** 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 ONLY:
Jeff Dunning (505) 670-3057

GRADES K-12 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

February 7, 2009 – St. Michael’s High School, Santa Fe (start time 8:50 AM)

Championship	Reserve	Novice	Cadet	Booster
Open to all, 4 rounds, time limit G/90. Only NM players are eligible for 2009 NM championship playoff and Denker spot. Recommended for strong players with at least two years of tournament experience	Open only to players rated below USCF 1400 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for intermediate strength players with at least one-year tournament experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 1100 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for players with some tournament experience.	Open only to players in grades K-9 rated below 850 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for new players with little or no tournament experience	Open only to players in grades K-5 rated below 650 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for new, younger players with little or no tournament experience.

GRADES K-9 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

February 28, 2009 – Pinon Elementary School, Los Alamos (White Rock) (start time 8:50 AM)

Championship	Reserve	Novice	Cadet
Open to all, 4 rounds, time limit G/75. Top NM player and NM team = 2009 NM champions. Recommended for strong players with at least two years of tourney experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 1050 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for intermediate strength players with at least one-year tournament experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 750 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for players with some tournament experience	Open only to players in grades K-4 rated below 600 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for new players with little or no tournament experience

GRADES K-6 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

March 21, 2009 – Manzano High School, Albuquerque (start time 9:20 AM)

Championship	Reserve	Novice
Open to all, 4 rounds, time limit G/60. Top NM player and NM teams K-6 and K-5 = 2009 NM champions. Recommended for strong players in grades 4-6 with at least two years of tournament experience. Primary	Open only to players rated below USCF 800 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for intermediate strength players in grades 4-6 with some tournament experience. Booster	Open only to players in grades K-5 rated below USCF 600 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for newer players in grades 4-5 with little or no tournament experience. Midget
Open to all in grades K-3, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Top NM player and NM team = 2009 NM champions. Recommended for stronger players with at least one year of tournament experience.	Open only to players in grades K-3 rated below USCF 600 or unrated in grades K-3, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for intermediate strength players with some tournament experience.	Open only to players in grades K-2 rated below USCF 500 or unrated in grades K-2, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for new, younger players with little or no tournament experience.

NOTE:
USCF dues are not required for players registering only for Primary, Booster, or Midget Sections.

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

Denker Playoff: Saturday, March 21, 2009 Manzano High School, Albuquerque, NM

Polgar Playoff: To Be Announced

See the tournament registration web site, http://www.lunanet.biz/~brobey/NMSCO_Player_Entry.html, for the details.

Registration must be entered online at http://www.lunanet.biz/~brobey/NMSCO_Player_Entry.html

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

On-line registration USERNAME and PASSWORD are printed on the bottom of page 1 of this flier for players who have played in these tournaments in the previous two years. 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://home.comcast.net/~aspenchess>*

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 payable to NMSCO. Payment via hand delivery accepted until 8 PM, 3 days after the corresponding postmark 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 Tournament (9:20 AM)
Postmark or paid online by 1/24 \$18	Postmark or paid online by 2/14 \$18	Postmark or paid online by 3/7 \$18
Postmarked by 1/31 \$25	Postmarked by 2/21 \$25	Postmarked by 3/14 \$25
Paid online by 2/3 \$25	Paid online by 2/24 \$25	Paid online by 3/17 \$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 rebate, will be indicated on the final page of your online registration).

To participate in a tournament (except for K-3 and 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.

NM Scholastic Chess Organization
c/o Dave Poston
100 Aspen Dr.
Los Alamos, NM 87544