

2009 New Mexico Grade Level Championships

Albuquerque Marriott, Saturday December 5th 2009.

Register at: <http://nmchess.dyndns.org>

The 2009 New Mexico Grade Level Championships will be held at 8:50 am Saturday December 5th at the Albuquerque Marriott (I-40 and Louisiana). A NM State Champion will be declared in each grade K-12. A total of 50 place-trophies will be distributed based on registrations in each grade; at least 3 trophies will be awarded in each grade, while some grades could have >5, plus many more honorable mention trophies.

Swiss system format, 5 rounds G/40. Pairings will be posted at 8:50 am, followed by a short players meeting; games will begin at 9:00 am. The tournament is expected to finish at ~5:00 pm. It will be a USCF rated event and all players will require USCF memberships (except for grades K-3). The January USCF Rating Supplement will be used to generate pairings (so Chess Fest and Veterans Day will be included). Players may request half-point byes by advance arrangement. If you need to withdrawal, please email aspenschess@comcast.net; or on the morning of the tournament call 505-470-7081 prior to 8:30 am.

Entry fee: \$16 if postmarked or paid online by Nov 8th, \$18 by Nov 22nd, \$25 until 9pm Dec 4th. No on-site registration. You can pay on-line at the [registration site](#) or mail checks to: Aspen Chess Club, 100 Aspen Dr, Los Alamos, NM 87544. If you need to obtain/renew USCF membership, the discounted yearly membership for scholastic players is \$15 if under age 12, \$19 under 15, and \$23 under 24; this fee can be added at registration, or enhanced membership options may be purchased from [USCF Membership Website](#).

Sections are defined by scholastic grade level, not age; home-schooled players will be placed according to USCF rules. Pre-school players are allowed in the Kindergarten section. Out-of-state players are encouraged to attend, but are not eligible to be NM State Champion. Adjacent grade sections will be combined as needed to achieve a quorum of players and/or more balanced pairings within a section (perhaps as many as 3 grades combined in the older sections). Final standings within a grade will be determined by the player's points within the combined section, with the following tie-breakers: modified median, Solkoff, cumulative. In the final round, the top 2 players within a grade will be automatically paired if they have not already played.

The "team" competition for this event will be determined by what region/county the player lives (or goes to chess club) in. The event will declare 5 team champions: Overall, Senior (10-12), Junior (7-9), Elementary (4-6), and Primary (K-3). The following point structure will be used: 1 point for participation, 1 point for each win, ½ point for each draw, plus the following bonus points for finishing position within grade: 1st place 10 pts, 2nd place 7 pts, 3rd place 5 pts, 4th place 3 pts, 5th place 2 pts, 6th place 1 pt. There is no limit to the number of players on a team, as the competition is meant to recognize the strongest chess playing regions in the state, which includes both quality and quantity. There only award for the team competition is "bragging rights". There are 15 regional teams: **ABQ West** (Cibola, Volcano Vista, West Mesa, Atrisco, Rio Grande), **ABQ Central** (Valley, Del Norte, Albuquerque, Highland), **ABQ Northeast** (La Cueva, Eldorado, Sandia, Manzano), **East Mountain** (Torrance and south Santa Fe county), **South Valley** (Valencia), **Rio Rancho** (Sandoval), **Santa Fe** (central/northern SF county), **Espanola** (Rio Arriba), **Taos** (Taos/Colfax), **Los Alamos** (Los Alamos county), **Four Corners** (San Juan, McKinley, Cibola), **Northeast NM** (San Miguel, Quay, Guadalupe, Mora, Union, Harding), **Southeast NM** (Otero, Chavez, Eddy, Lea, Curry, De Baca, Lincoln, Roosevelt), **Southwest NM** (Dona Ana, Grant, Luna, Socorro, Sierra, Hildago, Catron), **Durango** (SW Colorado), **El Paso** (West Texas).

*The [Albuquerque Marriott](#) is giving us very generous terms for this event, including a **\$79 room rate: call 505-881-6800 and ask for the CHESS RATE**. Make sure you reserve via phone with this rate so we get credit for the room; our space rental fee is dependent on the number of rooms booked (plus the more rooms we book, the more likely it is that they'll host us again). This location is ideally located for dining and holiday shopping (parent bonus: Starbucks is 1 block away), plus the hotel has its own restaurant and a great indoor/outdoor heated pool. Stay Friday night, Saturday night, or both!*

If you are unable to register on-line, or have other questions, please email aspenschess@comcast.net for help.