

# 2010 New Mexico Grade Level Championships

## Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown, Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> 2010.

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

The 2010 New Mexico Grade Level Championships will be held at 8:50 am Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown (Louisiana and Menaul). A NM State Champion will be declared in each grade K-12. A total of 67 place-trophies will be awarded; Top 7 in grades K-6, Top 5 in grades 7-10 and Top 3 in grades 10-12, plus 25 more honorable mention trophies (a total of 92 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). USCF "Last Rated Event" ratings through Nov 14<sup>th</sup> will be used to generate pairings (so Chess Fest will be included). Players may request half-point byes by advance arrangement. If you need to withdraw, please email [aspenchess@comcast.net](mailto:aspenchess@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 14<sup>th</sup>, \$20 by Nov 28<sup>th</sup>, \$25 until 9pm Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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: 1<sup>st</sup> place 10 pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 7 pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 5 pts, 4<sup>th</sup> place 3 pts, 5<sup>th</sup> place 2 pts, 6<sup>th</sup> 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 14 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).

*The [Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown](#) is giving us very generous terms for this event, including a **\$89 room rate**: call 505-881-0000 and ask for **CHESS RATE**, or [click this link to get the chess rate online](#) (change dates if needed and then click "Check Availability"). Make absolutely sure you reserve with the Chess Rate so we get credit for the room (we need to book at least 17 rooms over the course of the weekend, otherwise your friendly tournament organizer is out \$89 for each un-booked room under the 17). This location is ideally located for dining and holiday shopping, and is walking distance to the Coronado mall and the new ABQ uptown mall. Consider a 1 or 2 night stay family getaway at a fancy hotel.*

If you are unable to register on-line, or have other questions, please email [aspenchess@comcast.net](mailto:aspenchess@comcast.net) for help.