



THE 2007 NEW MEXICO SCHOLASTIC CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

- **FEBRUARY 17: 31ST ANNUAL NEW MEXICO GRADES K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP.** St Michael's High School, Santa Fe.
- **MARCH 10: 28TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO GRADES K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP.** Los Alamos High School, Los Alamos.
- **March 17: 28th 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 mailed Martin Cooper at the address on page 4, postmarked no later than the deadline indicated. All entry fees and USCF membership dues must be enclosed. School Purchase Orders (POs) OK.

Due to the large turnouts 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.

No phone or fax entries. In choosing a section follow the guidelines on page 3 or call any of the people listed on the bottom of page 2

Please Note Deadlines: Entries will be processed strictly according to the payment postmark. **Payment must be received by the deadline to complete on-line registration; otherwise the student will be ineligible.**

******If there is an inked label below with your name, you must use the username and password for online registration.***

The entry fee is \$15 per player if postmarked by **2 weeks** before the tournament; and \$21 if postmarked by **1 week** before the tournament. Hand delivery accepted until 8 pm three days after the corresponding postmark deadline. **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 1) contact Martin Cooper (505) 672-9696 by 8 PM the Thursday before the tournament; or 2) call Laura Blalock (505) 379-3764, or 3) withdraw in the tournament directors' room by 8:30 AM (K-6 9:00 AM) 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 Martin Cooper. Combined school teams (i.e. common campus and chess club meetings) must notify Martin Cooper 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.

OVERRATED PLAYERS

Players with a USCF rating far above their skill level may request the chief director, Martin Cooper, to place them in a section lower than the section's USCF rating cutoff. Such placement must be arranged at time of entry.

USCF MEMBERSHIP AND ID

All players must be current members of the USCF. (Exception: anyone playing only in a K-3 section in the K-6 Elementary Tournament (the Primary, Booster, or Midget sections) is not required to join.) Dues may be submitted with the entry payment. Membership categories and prices if joining through NMSCO are:

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

Youth Member – \$17 per year, for players age 15 and under; includes 6 issues per year of *Chess Life*.

Young Adult Member: \$23 per year for players 24 years and under; includes 12 issues per year of *Chess Life*.

The player's USCF 8-digit ID number and membership expiration date is necessary for on-line registration. (Anyone who has played in a USCF rated event has a USCF ID number.) 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 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 Elementary (K-6) tournament. A player who has recently played in a USCF rated event but does not yet know his/her ID number, should indicate the ID number as PENDING.

All players that are not acknowledged by USCF by Jan. 15th as having current membership for the tournaments in which they play must include proof of payment with the entry or at the tournament site to be allowed to play.

FINANCIAL AID

No New Mexico player will be denied entry into the state championships for lack of funds. For financial aid, contact Martin Cooper 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 17, 2007) at St. Michaels HS, Santa Fe. From US-84/285 turn left onto Siringo Rd. St. Michaels is .4 miles. From I-25 take St. Francis Dr. exit (exit 282). Keep right at fork in ramp. Continue on St. Francis Dr. for .9 miles. Turn right onto Siringo Rd. St. Michaels is .4 miles.

GRADES K-9 CHAMPIONSHIP (March 10, 2007) at Los Alamos HS, Los Alamos. From US-84/285 in Pojoaque take NM 502 West towards Los Alamos. Follow signs to Los Alamos for 18 mi. Keep left at fork at entry to town, staying on Trinity Dr. for 1.7 mi. Turn right on Diamond Dr. Continue on Diamond for 0.5 mi. The school will be on the right.

GRADES K-6 CHAMPIONSHIP (March 17, 2007) 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.

***** NOTICE OF ELECTION *****

Candidates are sought for the 2008 Scholastic Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is responsible for organizing the 2008 Scholastic Chess Championships. One committee member is to be elected by the parents and coaches at each of the state championships. The term of office is one year. 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 experienced table scoretakers, are also welcome at all of the tournaments. Please contact the Rep below for the tournament(s) where you are interested in helping.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION OR HELP

K-6 Laura Blalock (505) 877-1067 laurablalock@yahoo.com
K-9 Cary Skidmore (505) 672-1623 cbskidmore@earthlink.net
K-12 Claudia Rosales (505) 836-4204 croales76@msn.com

For **snow** or emergency contact ONLY:

Jeff Dunning (505) 670-3057

Chief Tournament Director:

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

***** 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!**

GRADES K-12 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

February 17, 2007 – St. Michaels 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 2007 NM champion 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

March 10, 2007 – Los Alamos High School, Los Alamos (start time 8:50 AM)

Championship	Reserve	Novice	Cadet	Booster
Open to all, 4 rounds, time limit G/75. Top NM player and NM team = 2007 NM champions. Recommended for strong players with at least two years of tourney experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 1100 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 850 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for players with some tournament experience	Open only to players in grades K-8 rated below 700 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-4 rated below 600 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/45. Recommended for new, younger players with little or no tournament experience.

GRADES K-6 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

March 17, 2007 – Manzano High School, Albuquerque (start time 9:20 AM)

Championship	Reserve	Novice	Cadet
Open to all, 4 rounds, time limit G/60. Top NM player and NM teams K-6 and K-5 = 2007 NM champions. Recommended for strong players in grades 4-6 with at least two years of tournament experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 1000 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for intermediate strength players in grades 4-6 with some tournament experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 800 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for newer players in grades 4-6 with little or no tournament experience.	Open only to players in grades K-5 rated below 600 or unrated, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Recommended for new players in grades 4-5 with no tournament experience.
Primary	Booster	Midget	
Open to all in grades K-3, 5 rounds, time limit G/35. Top NM player and NM team = 2007 NM champions. Recommended for stronger players with at least one year of tournament experience.	Open only to players rated below USCF 700 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 rated below USCF 600 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 Play-Off: Saturday, March 17, Manzano High School, Albuquerque, NM

Polgar Play-Off: To Be Announced

See the insert to this flyer for the details.

Registration only available 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 flyer for players who have played in these tournaments in previous 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.

Send payment with a copy of the final page of the on-line registration form for each player to:

**NMSCO c/o Martin Cooper
521 Ridgecrest, Los Alamos NM 87544
Checks payable to NMSCO**

Payment 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 of payment deadlines will be strictly enforced for determining player eligibility!*

Grades K-12 Tournament (8:50 AM)

Postmarked by 2/3 \$15

Postmarked by 2/10 \$21

Grades K-9 Tournament (8:50 AM)

Postmarked by 2/24 \$15

Postmarked by 3/3 \$21

Grades K-6 Tournament (9:20 AM)

Postmarked by 3/3 \$15

Postmarked by 3/10 \$21

United States Chess Federation (USCF) Dues (Required for most sections. See page 2.)

If the player's USCF membership will have expired by the last tournament that she/he is signing up for, then enclose the appropriate renewal fee for your chess player (Scholastic Member-\$15 per year, Youth Member-\$17 per year, or Young Adult Member-\$23 per year). See Page 2 for age cut-offs and magazine options. By renewing USCF membership through registration for a tournament NMSCO is able to provide a reduced fee from those available directly from the USCF!

All players that are not acknowledged by USCF in the February rating supplement (~Jan. 15th) as having current membership for the tournaments in which they wish to play must either join or include proof of payment with the entry or at the tournament site to be allowed to play.

NM Scholastic Chess Organization
c/o Martin Cooper
521 Ridgecrest Ave.
Los Alamos, NM 87544