



The Sherwood – Red Oak - Edgewood 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 Sherwood-Red Oak-Edgewood Chess Club will re-open on **Monday, September 12th**, with a continued focus on instruction. The club director is Kara Friedman, and the club is part of district-wide program started in 2008. The coaches this year will include Eric Rosen, a senior at Niles North High School who carries the title National Master, has a USCF rating of over 2300, and is currently the **national high school chess champion**. Another coach will be Gavin McClanahan, another of Illinois' top young players with a rating of almost 2100. The website of the district-wide program is www.hpchess.org.

The club is open to those in grades K-8 and will meet on **Monday afternoons from 3:20 to 5 pm**. The club will run continuously until May. The annual cost is **\$80** to be payable to Sherwood PTO (please write "chess club" on the memo line). Scholarships are available. Members are not required to attend every session and may leave early. Beginners are encouraged to attend regularly during the first two months when introductory lessons are offered at each club session. Lessons will run approximately 40 minutes, and members are expected to attend lessons when they are offered. The second half of each session will be devoted to play.

Sets and boards will be provided. Parents and caregivers are welcome, and members should bring snacks. Those who wish may visit the club before deciding whether to join.

Members are divided into groups based on experience. The club ranks members according to their wins and losses, and the club maintains a separate incentive system for teaching, taking chess notation, performance during lessons, and helping the club in other ways. We will play matches against other schools and will encourage club members who feel ready to attend local tournaments.

If you are interested, please complete the registration form and return it to the Sherwood school office marked "Chess Club." For information, contact Kara Friedman at 312-451-8564 or KFriedman@polsinelli.com or Jenny Kim at 847-579-0277 or Kimsuh99@yahoo.com.

Registration Form 2011-2012

Name of member: _____

Grade: _____

Parents' names: _____

Phone numbers (incl. cell): _____

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 Sherwood Chess Club.

I am interested in a scholarship.

We need parent volunteers to attend club meetings. Please let us know if you can help by checking here:

_____.

Anything you would like us to know about your child?

Date

Signature of parent/guardian