



THE BIMONTHLY BLITZ

DALLAS CHESS CLUB NEWSLETTER | VOL. II ISSUE NO. III

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday Swiss – Jun 22,29; Jul 6,13, 20,27
Saturday Increment –Jun 23, 30; Jul 7
Two for Wednesday Jun 20,27; Jul 11,18,25
Int'l Chess Week FIDE Fundraiser – Jul 14-15
DCC FIDE Open VII – Jul 28-29

Refer to the calendar on the DCC website link below for any updates and event details.

www.dallaschess.com

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To submit articles, ideas, feedback or content suggestions, please email us using the email link below:

frutosbrothers@chessmovesinc.org

Highland Park High School Chess Club

By Kai Tsuei

Each Wednesday after the final bell rings, the students of Highland Park High School walk into the library, pull out chess boards and begin to play. About ten to twenty high students sit silently, pondering their next move. Meanwhile, captains Angela Cheng and Kai Tsuei, go around helping members with their chess skills and showing areas for potential improvement.

The Fighting Scots' Chess Club was formed in 2014 by Joshua Kowal, Austin Mead, Tyler Mead, and the chess club sponsor, the librarian Mr. Neil Krasnoff. Recently formed, the Fighting Scots have already won sixth place at the 2018 North/Central Texas Scholastic Chess Championship, first at the Texas Grade Championship for 9th grade this year and also participated in numerous national tournaments. Members of the Fighting Scots performed well at the Texas Scholastic with player Alex Parker finishing with 4.0 points and Alvin Zou winning second in the JV (U1000) section for his first tournament. Members Kai Tsuei, Angela Cheng, and Matthew Healy, finished with 5.0, 4.0 and 1.5 points, respectively, and along with Alex finished with a team total of 14.5 for 6th place in the championship section. Angela, Alex, and Kai also went to the 21st Annual North/Central Texas Grade Championship and came back with a first-place team prize with Kai winning second place with 5.0 points, Angela tying for fourth with 4.0 points and Alex contributing 3.0 points.

The chess club also hosts a number of service events throughout the year including a fundraiser tournament at the Mathnasium of Snider Plaza and hosting chess sessions at Klyde Warren Park. The fundraiser tournament at Mathnasium is an annual event to help earn money to support the chess club's travel fees and hotel rooms while promoting chess to elementary students. The chess sessions at Klyde Warren Park are held during the summer on select Sundays. The chess club uses tables to play and teach park goers, promoting chess to the Dallas community. Through these events, the Highland Park chess club hopes to improve and nurture chess in the community and improve their chess club as a whole.



Recently returning college students to DCC: Akshay Molhotra, Atulya Vaidya, AARYAMANN Atriwal, Yue Chu, Anshumaan Atriwal

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



NM Karthik Ramachandran

By Chase Frutos

Karthik Ramachandran first learned to play chess at the age of seven years old when his parents taught him the rudimentary aspects of the game. He began to play tournaments at the age of 10. Soon after, GM Babakuli Annakov became his coach. For his junior and senior year of high school, Karthik attended the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science (TAMS), a program for gifted high school students in math and science. He graduated from The University of Texas at Austin, with a BBA degree in Business Honors, a BA in the Plan II Honors program and an MPA in Accounting. Karthik is also a CPA. Immediately following college, Karthik joined the management consulting firm, Boston Consulting Group (BCG). Currently, he is on secondment from BCG to gain a deeper knowledge of the consumer goods market by working at Mondelēz, which is famous for its brands such as Oreo and Ritz. Karthik's most recent role is designing the strategic agenda for Mondelēz' various biscuit brands. BCG is also sponsoring Karthik to get his MBA from the Wharton School of Business at The University of Pennsylvania. Even with Karthik's busy schedule, he manages to fit in at least thirty minutes worth of chess everyday where he plays multiple blitz games and follows every major chess tournament. In fact, Karthik just recently returned from Stavanger, Norway, where he watched the Altibox Norway Chess tournament live and hung out with many of these top ten players. Karthik believes everyone should be exposed to chess even if one does not become a tournament player. He said that chess helps one analyze decisions very carefully and over time you unconsciously begin to analyze every decision that you make not just in chess. Karthik says that chess helps individuals develop very good skills to be successful.

Chess Coach Herminio Baez, Jr. Passes

By Cole Frutos

Unexpectedly, on May 2, 2018, talented chess coach Herminio Baez, Jr. passed away peacefully in his sleep. Mr. Baez, known affectionately by his students as "Mr. B.", was survived by his wife Daniela Baez, their four children, Herminio (Antonio), Steven, Chris and Maya, in addition to 14 grandchildren.



Andrew Mao, who was a long-time student of Mr. B, said, "Mr. B had been my coach since elementary school. Even though he pushed me hard, he also had a great sense of humor. The week before he passed, I finally broke 2000 under his coaching. His last text to me was 'Now on to 2100!'. I thank him

for his years of dedication to me and to the chess world in general." Mr. B. was a great teacher and an excellent person. He helped many kids learn chess, achieve their goals and enjoy it. Mr. B. taught at numerous schools, including mine, St. Monica Catholic School in Dallas, Texas, where I assisted him in coaching students. While assisting Mr. B., I quickly realized that he had a great talent with kids and always made things fun such as conducting tournaments and having parties on holidays. Mr. B. was a great friend and mentor by giving me opportunities to practice my leadership skills at the St. Monica Catholic School chess club. He allowed me to teach the students by myself for a couple of days and also let me run a tournament. Mr. B. was a great person and who will not be forgotten.

Congratulations 2018 DCC Member Qualifiers!

| World Youth Chess Championships | World Cadet Chess Championships |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Halkidiki, Greece, Oct 19-31 | Galicia, Spain, Nov 3-16 |
| Jeffery Xiong - Open U18 | Rithik Polavaram - Open U12 |
| Ruifeng Li - Open U18 | Rachael Li - Girls U8 |
| Devina Devagharan - Girls U18 | |
| Ambica Yellamraju - Girls U14 | |
| Aparna Yellamraju - Girls U14 | |

The Bimonthly Blitz is published and sponsored for the benefit of The Dallas Chess Club by:



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