

# REDMOND ELEMENTARY CHESS CLUB

## 2008-2009



Redmond Elementary PTSA is offering a school chess club at Redmond Elementary, running from October 2008 through April 2009, which will allow kids to experience the learning and competition of chess. Every Redmond Elementary student is invited!

**We will divide into 2 classes** – beginner/intermediate in one class and advanced students in a second class. The advanced class is for players with NWSRS ratings of **600 and above** – they will get harder material and more tournament preparation drills. The beginner class is for players who are new to chess or who are unrated or with ratings below 600. Kids that raise their rating above 600 may be promoted to the advanced class during the year. We may open up the advanced class to players outside Redmond Elementary if we have the space. Look up ratings at [whsca.org/ratings.html](http://whsca.org/ratings.html).

**David Hendricks** is returning as the advanced chess coach. Coach Hendricks has been coaching elementary chess clubs for 10 years. Last year, he coached 8 elementary school chess clubs, including a team that took 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation 3 times and 1<sup>st</sup> in Washington State. He is the Scholastic Director for the Washington Chess Federation, and was the Director of the Microsoft Chess Club. He plays regularly in Washington and National Chess tournaments, coaches many private chess students, and runs summer chess and sports camps. He is an electrical and software engineer and designed computer hardware and software for Microsoft and Hewlett Packard companies.

We teach chess basics, openings, end game principles, middle game strategies, tactics such as pins, forks, skewers, distraction, X-rays, decoys, damming, and blockades. We cover checkmates, stalemates, how to determine when a piece is in trouble, how to escape trouble, how to attack and defend, how to look at all your options, preserve your material, improve your position, and how to compete. We will practice with chess clocks and will learn chess notation.

**Meeting Time:** Wednesdays (early out day): Beginner class from 2:15pm to 3:30pm, Advanced class from 3:45pm to 5:00pm (1 hour 15 minutes). Please pick up your child promptly after class as there will be no adult supervision after 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade portable classroom (behind the school building).

**Duration:** 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is first week in October 2008. Last meeting is last week in April 2009. We follow the Lake Washington District calendar - no club during days when there is no school (**26 sessions** – Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19, Dec 3, 10, 17, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr 8, 15, 22, 29).

**Volunteers:** We must have at least one parent volunteer in each class. Please plan to volunteer at least once per semester. No chess experience is required.

**Tournaments:** Tournament participation is optional but encouraged for those that are ready. We will target one Saturday tournament per month Oct - Apr in the greater Seattle area to test our skills. Tournaments usually run from 8:30am to 4:00pm – there are 5 games, each 1 hour long – kids play all 5 games win or lose. We need a good turnout to tournaments to win team trophies. Coach David will attend to review games and coach the kids. The State Championship is in April in Spokane this year - players need 3 out of 5 wins in any tournament to qualify for state.

**Website:** We will be using the **ChessMagnetSchool.com** website again this year. This serves as our textbook, and provides homework drills, and tracks individual results. Students should plan to do 2 hours of chess homework per week (it's fun!) using the web site from home, or from any computer connected to the internet. We will spend some class sessions in the computer lab where the coach can answer questions live.

**Cost: \$230 per student for the full year - this is only \$7.23 per week.** This includes 26 chess club sessions, the license fee for the chess website, all the chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class trophies and medals, and the coach's attendance at one Sat tournament per month. **Sibling discount – subtract \$40** for a second or third sibling in same family! **Kindergartners:** to be ready for chess your child needs to do simple math and some reading and writing. If you are not sure if your child is ready, we are offering a **4 week trial for \$30** (for Kindergartners only – does not count toward the minimum). After 4 weeks we can decide together whether to continue for the rest of the year. Not included: tournament registration fees (about \$15 per tournament) or T-shirt.

# REDMOND CHESS CLUB 2008-2009 Registration Form

Student's First Name: _____	Student's Last Name: _____	Grade: _____
Which Class? <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner/Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced (Rating: _____)	
Sibling's First Name: _____	Sibling's Last Name: _____	Grade: _____
Which Class? <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner/Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced (Rating: _____)	
Sibling's First Name: _____	Sibling's Last Name: _____	Grade: _____
Which Class? <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner/Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced (Rating: _____)	

Parent(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phones: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Most chess club information will be sent by email, so an email address is a must.)

*We need 1 parent volunteer each week for each class in order to run the chess club. No chess knowledge needed – you will be monitoring kids and helping run the club. Circle all the dates that you can volunteer and you will be contacted later with a schedule:*

**2008: Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19, Dec 3, 10, 17**

**2009: Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr 8, 15, 22, 29**

## REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. Fill out the registration form.
2. Write a check for \$230 payable to "Redmond Elementary PTSA". For 2 siblings: \$420, for 3 siblings: \$610, for Kindergartners: \$30 for the 4 week trial.
3. Deliver registration form and check to the PTSA mailbox in the School Office.
4. If the minimum number of students is not reached, you funds will be returned in full.

I authorize my child(ren) to access the [ChessMagnetSchool.com](http://ChessMagnetSchool.com) website. I can volunteer for at least 2 sessions during the year – no chess knowledge needed. **I understand there is no refund after chess club begins.**

Parent/Guardian Signature x \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT: Registration must be received by Tuesday, September 30.** If you are unable to meet this deadline, then please contact Andy Christensen ([andy.christensen@microsoft.com](mailto:andy.christensen@microsoft.com)) to make special arrangements.

Chess Coach  
**David Hendricks**  
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Chess Club Coordinator  
**Andy Christensen**  
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