

A Wisconsin Scholastic Chess Federation Event

8th Annual



Wisconsin All-Catholic Schools



Chess Invitational

Sponsored by St. Sebastian School

Hosted by Marquette University

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Location: Marquette University Alumni Memorial Union, 1442 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI.
Tournament will be in the 2nd floor ballroom. Parking in structure on 16th Street between Wisconsin Avenue and Wells Street (this may require a fee). There should be some street meter parking as well.

Eligibility: Participation in this tournament is limited to students from Wisconsin who attend a Catholic Elementary or High School **OR** are enrolled and currently participate in their parish's faith formation program. Individual students, even if your school doesn't have a team, are welcome!

Format: **K-3.** Five individual trophies & medals to remaining places, 3 team trophies, 5 round Swiss G30
K-6. Five individual trophies & medals to remaining places, 3 team trophies, 5 round Swiss G30
K-12. Five individual trophies & medals to remaining places, 3 team trophies, 5 round Swiss G30

Entry: \$10 per player for advance registration, \$15 on-site registration.

Check-in is from 8:00 to 8:30. Round 1 will begin at 9:00. Onsite registration for Round 1 ends at 8:30. On-site registrations arriving after 8:30 and pre-registrants arriving after 8:40 can enter the tournament in Round 2. Please check in as early as possible. For advance registration, register online at www.wisconsinscholasticchess.org before midnight on March 10th. Please pay for registration on the morning of the tournament. **Make checks payable to: St. Sebastian Home & School.**

Lunch: Available for purchase on-site in Alumni Memorial Union or local restaurants.

Supervision: At least one designated adult supervisor must be present at all times during the tournament to oversee your school's team, or individual participants, who are in K through 8th grade.

Questions: Contact the tournament host Joe Cayen at joe.cayen@gmail.com or 414.899.5936 or WSCF at td@wisconsinscholasticchess.org.

Scholastic Chess Tournament Questions & Answers

Here are some answers to some commonly asked questions from first-time tournament goers.

Q1: Do students just play someone in their same grade?

A1: There are usually three sections (levels) of play such as K-3, K-6, and K-12. Students in grades K(indergarten) through 3rd grade will play in the K-3 section. Students in grades 4 through 6 will play in the K-6 section. Students in grades 7-12 along with students in any grade that want to play against the toughest and oldest competition will play in the K-12 section.

Q2: How does the team concept work?

A2: This is a team and individual event. A team may have as many players as desired, but only the top four scores count for team results and tie breaks. A team must have at least two players in a section to be eligible for team awards in that section. Students do not have to come as a member of a team. All are welcome!

Q3: Does a team have to be all of the same grade level, like a team of 3rd graders playing against other 3rd graders?

A3: Per Q2, a team must consist of at least two players in the same section.

Q4: What will the day be like?

A4: The tournament will consist of 5 or 6 games of chess (called rounds) during the day. All students play in all rounds – it is not an elimination type tournament. The first round will start no later than 9:30 am and the last round should be completed no later than 4 pm. For each round, a listing of players in each section will be posted. This listing is called a pairing; it lists all players and their board number and whether they are white or black. Students find their board and wait until the Tournament Director (TD) says to begin. As soon as a student is done playing, they reset their board and report the results to a scorer's table. They then leave the tournament room and go to the "skittles" room. The skittles room is the room where players and their families/coaches "hang out" between the games. As soon as all the games of the round are completed, the scores are entered into a computer and the new pairings are posted, and the next round begins. This will continue until 5 or 6 rounds are completed. Then final scores are tabulated and the awards are presented. Trophies will usually be given out to the top five scores in each section and for the top three teams.

Q5: What do we do about lunch? Is there a break?

A5: There is no break as players eat between games in the skittles room. Many tournament hosts have food for sale. Some, like the All-Catholic tournament, will not. There will be food for sale at restaurants just across the street.

Q6: Can parents and other watch the games?

A6: Most tournaments do not allow this because of the rare incidences of coaches or parents trying to communicate with their players (winks, coughing, etc.). Some, like the All-Catholic tournament, allow spectators to watch the games from chairs located around the outer edge of the playing room. If anything improper happens, we'll have to ask all spectators to leave the tournament room.

Q7: What if two players have the same score at the end of the tournament?

A7: Most tournaments end with many players having the same scores. Individual ties for final position will be broken by well-accepted chess tiebreakers. In some WSCF tournaments, especially those with a scholarship being awarded, a tiebreak playoff may be played after the last round.

Q8: Do we need to bring boards or pieces? What about a chess clock?

A8: The tournament will supply all boards and pieces for the tournament games. It is recommended that you bring your own board and set for use in the skittles room to use before the tournament starts to "warm up" and to review your games between rounds. If you want to use a chess clock, you can bring one and your opponent will have to use it. Games usually can only last one hour; if a game is very slow, a clock will be placed on the board. The first player out of time will lose the game if a checkmate or draw hasn't been achieved before that happens.

WSCF is a 501(c) 3 non-profit dedicated to promoting Chess as an educational tool for students throughout Wisconsin.

----- WSCF P.O. Box 6685 Milwaukee, WI 53206 262.573.5624 -----