

2014-15 GCA Scholastic Chess Tournaments

The following tournaments are hosted for K-12 Grade students enrolled in any public, private, home-based, or independent study school in Georgia. Pre-K and younger students are welcome to compete as Kindergarteners in their respective sections. Please refer to each highlighted tournament for details, including information on tournament location, registration, rounds of play, and awards. Players are required to have a US Chess Federation membership (www.uschess.org to join) to compete in a rated tournament.

Additional tournaments will be added to this page as they are made known to the Georgia Chess Association, so please check back frequently for updates.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Indiv.</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Rated</u>	<u>Unrated</u>
Sunday October 5, 2014	GCA Scholastic Quickstart <i>An excellent tournament for beginners and those looking to jump start their chess play for the school year!</i>	X			X
Sunday November 9, 2014	Grade Level Championship <i>Students compete only against others in their class grade.</i>	X		X	
Saturday – Sunday January 10-11, 2015	State Scholastic Championship (Invitational) <i>Top scholastic players are personally invited to compete in a “best of the best” tournament.</i>	X		X	
Monday January 19, 2015	MLK <i>This popular school holiday tournament may host a community service project that chess players can participate in on-site between rounds.</i>	X	X	X	
Saturday February 21, 2015	State K-8 Qualifier <i>School teams compete within their region for championship claims. Top scoring teams are invited to compete in the State K-8 team tournament in March for the Georgia State Championship title. Multiple regions are hosted at this one event. A definite “don’t miss!” - This is the largest, most significant school team tournament of the season.</i>		X		X
Saturday March 21, 2015	State K-8 (Team) <i>Qualifying school teams are invited to go head-to-head for the state title in their respective sections (K-1, K-3, K-5, and K-8).</i>		X	X	
Saturday March 28, 2015	High School (Team) <i>The high school equivalent of the State K-8 Qualifier and State K-8 Championship.</i>		X		X

Related Tournaments

Scholastic players may be interested in looking at tournaments open to both adults and students, particularly if the K-12 player is very experienced and holds a strong rating. Please refer to the Open tournaments (under the Open tab above) for a listing.

Girls' and women's tournaments are scheduled locally and nationally throughout the year. Scholastic girls should consider playing in these special events as a means of building friendships through chess, as well as an opportunity to further improve their skills.

Saturday	2014 Georgia Women's Open	X	X
September 20, 2014	<i>Limited to 50 players in four sections. Winner receives a \$500 stipend to attend the U.S. Women's Open and free entry to the 2014 Georgia State Championship. Trophies awarded to all plus games.</i>		

The complete list of tournaments can be found under the Calendar tab, which includes all GCA Open and Scholastic events, as well as non-GCA tournaments that are submitted for inclusion in our calendar.

Parents!

Free tournament entry for your child
Free breakfast and lunch for you

A successful scholastic tournament requires the help of many volunteers in both visible and behind the scenes positions. Parents, grandparents, adult siblings, family friends – all are warmly welcomed! Our core group is too small to run every tournament smoothly and efficiently without your help. In exchange for committing a full day of assistance (made when registering a child), the GCA will grant free entry to the tournament for that child, plus free breakfast and lunch for the volunteer. Positions include:

No training required:

- Ambassador – assist parents and players in finding their way around the tournament
- Scorekeeper – record the game results
- Chess Control – help parents resolve problems, answer general questions

Advance training required (to be scheduled by the Chief Tournament Director):

- Informatics – use the chess software program WinTD to compile and enter players, pairings, and results
- Tournament Director – assist in the tournament room to verify game results, answer questions, and resolve problems from the players. Chess knowledge and playing experience required. Certification is required for rated events.

If you can volunteer for a tournament, please note your availability and job preference on the tournament registration. Alternately, you can contact the Tournament Director via the email address provided on the tournament information sheet. Thank you for considering a volunteer position!