



NEW SOUTH WALES JUNIOR CHESS LEAGUE

INCORPORATED

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METROPOLITAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHESS TEAMS COMPETITION

Dear Principal or Chess Coordinator,

We are pleased to invite your school to enter teams in the 2012 Metropolitan Secondary Schools Chess Teams Competition. The competition is for state and private schools in the Sydney metropolitan and surrounding areas and is conducted by the NSW Junior Chess League, a not-for-profit organisation.

Matches are held after school on Fridays in second term on a home-and-away basis. To minimise travel, teams are divided into regions and further into divisions. Teams which win their divisions proceed to knock-out regional finals and, if successful, to the overall competition finals. The finals take place in third term.

The competition is played in three separate grades:

JUNIOR	Years 7 and 8 only	<i>Players must compete in the grade appropriate for their school year.</i>
INTERMEDIATE	Years 9 and 10 only	
SENIOR	Years 11 and 12 only	

A team consists of four players for each match, but there is no limit on the number of players who may play in different matches. However, players in the finals must have played in at least 50% of the preliminary rounds. Players must be students at the school they represent.

Participating schools are required to nominate a coordinator (usually a teacher or member of ancillary staff, but may be a parent), and for home matches a supervising adult must be present throughout the match. Home teams are to provide the chess equipment – four standard (Staunton pattern) competition-size chess sets.

The entry fee is \$33 per team (including GST). Trophies are awarded to successful teams and players. Detailed information will be sent out in time for the first round, which will be on **Friday 4 May** (for most schools this is the second Friday of second term). **Entries close on Friday 9 March**. An entry form accompanies this letter.

Last year's competition attracted 305 teams from 96 schools (14 more teams and 2 more schools than the previous year). Chess has become increasingly popular in recent years. Our Primary Schools Competition in particular has grown enormously (last year there were 1022 teams from 360 schools) and many of these players have now entered secondary school. We hope you will be able to encourage them to continue developing their chess skills (and cognitive ability which chess enhances) by playing in our Secondary Schools Competition.

If you would like further information, please phone the undersigned (day or evening) or visit our website (www.nswjcl.org.au). The website contains the rules for the competition (under "Schools" and then "Secondary Schools Competition"). Also on the website (under "Resources") is a paper which you may find of particular interest – it summarises the educational benefits of teaching chess to young people.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Gastineau-Hills

Richard Gastineau-Hills
Secondary Schools Coordinator
NSW Junior Chess League

METROPOLITAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHESS TEAMS COMPETITION

THE SCHOOLS WHICH TOOK PART IN 2011

Metropolitan East Region: Ascham School, Australian International Academy – Sydney Campus, Canterbury Boys High School, Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham, Conservatorium High School, Cranbrook School, Fort Street High School, Holy Spirit College Lakemba, Homebush Boys High School, J J Cahill Memorial High School, Macquarie Grammar School, Marcellin College Randwick, Marist College Pagewood, Marist College Penshurst, Meriden School, Newington College, PLC Sydney, Randwick Boys High School, Rose Bay Secondary College, St Andrew's Cathedral School, St George Girls High School, Sydney Boys High School, Sydney Girls High School, Sydney Grammar School, Sydney Secondary College – Leichhardt Campus, Sydney Technical High School, Tempe High School, The Scots College, Trinity Grammar School, Waverley College.

Metropolitan North Region: Abbotsleigh School, Asquith Girls High School, Barker College, Chatswood High School, Epping Boys High School, Holy Cross College Ryde, Hornsby Girls High School, Killara High School, Knox Grammar School, Marist College Eastwood, Marist College North Shore, Marsden High School, Normanhurst Boys High School, North Sydney Boys High School, North Sydney Girls High School, Northern Beaches Secondary College – Manly Selective Campus, Oxford Falls Grammar School, Redlands, Shore, St Aloysius' College, St Augustine's College, St Ignatius' College Riverview, St Joseph's College, St Pius X College Chatswood.

Central Coast: Gosford High School, Green Point Christian College, Kariang Mountains High School, Lakes Grammar School, Narara Valley High School, Terrigal High School.

Metropolitan South-West Region: Airs High School, Cabramatta High School, Cecil Hills High School, Fairfield High School, Georges River Grammar School, Holsworthy High School, John Edmondson High School, Macquarie Fields High School, Sefton High School, St Gregory's College Campbelltown, St John Bosco College.

Metropolitan West Region: Australian Islamic College of Sydney, Baulkham Hills High School, Blue Mountains Grammar School, Cherrybrook Technology High School, Crestwood High School, Evans High School, Girraween High School, Granville Boys High School, Holroyd High School, James Ruse Agricultural High School, Katoomba High School, Kellyville High School, Nepean High School, Pacific Hills Christian School, Plumpton High School, Quakers Hill High School, St Andrew's College – Holy Family Campus, St Clair High School, St Dominic's College, St Paul's Grammar School Penrith, Terra Sancta College, The King's School, Toongabbie Christian School.

A separate competition for NSW Country Secondary Schools was contested by 128 schools.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Australian Schools Teams Championships will be held at the beginning of December. In most states the secondary schools competitions produce overall winners which thereby qualify to represent those states in the national event. In NSW, however, our Secondary Schools competition is divided into three separate grades based on school year and there is no single winning secondary team. A separate process is therefore necessary to select the NSW Secondary Open team, which may contain players from any secondary year (7 to 12). To be eligible for selection all members of the team must have played in our Secondary Schools Competition and, further, in at least 50% of the preliminary (pre-finals) rounds. If necessary, a play-off match or matches will be conducted between nominated teams. A similar procedure will be used to determine the school to represent NSW in the Secondary Girls division of the championships.

Schools wishing to nominate a team to be considered for selection as either the NSW Open or NSW Girls team should make their interest known to the Secondary Schools Coordinator before the end of second term. The selection (including any play-offs) should be completed by the end of third term to enable the selected teams to make their travel arrangements and prepare for the national championships.



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Players under 18 may join the NSWJCL for an annual membership fee of \$24. Members receive a quality quarterly magazine, and are eligible to participate in NSWJCL events, such as coaching clinics and individual (non-teams) tournaments mostly held in school holidays. (Membership is not a prerequisite for our inter-schools teams competitions.)

Website: www.nswjcl.org.au

Enquiries: 0403 962 442

Chess Equipment – Sets, boards, clocks, books, software, etc., are available over the counter, or by phone or mail order from Sydney's two main specialist chess suppliers:

- **CHESS DISCOUNT SALES**

40 Baptist Street, REDFERN 2016 (note new address)
Phone (02) 9690 2247 www.chessdiscountsales.com

- **AUSTRALIAN CHESS ENTERPRISES**

1 Garfield Road East, RIVERSTONE 2765
Phone (02) 9838 1529 www.chessaustralia.com.au