



# 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 2019 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 (and if necessary early in third 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:

|                     |                      |                                                                                     |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>JUNIOR</b>       | Years 7 and 8 only   | <i>Players must compete<br/>in the grade appropriate<br/>for their school year.</i> |
| <b>INTERMEDIATE</b> | Years 9 and 10 only  |                                                                                     |
| <b>SENIOR</b>       | 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 10 May** (for most schools this is the second Friday of second term), although Central Coast schools usually arrange to play all their matches on one day at a central venue. **Entries close on Friday 22 March.** An entry form accompanies this letter.

Last year's competition attracted 295 teams from 85 schools and another 132 schools took part in the separate Country Secondary Schools Competition. Chess has become increasingly popular in recent years. Our primary schools competitions in particular have been particularly successful (last year there were over 750 teams from nearly 250 schools in the main competition and nearly 900 teams in our series of One-Day tournaments). Many of these players have now entered secondary school and 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](http://www.nswjcl.org.au)). The website contains the rules for the competition (under "Schools" and then "Metropolitan Secondary Schools Competition"). Also on the website (under "Resources") is a paper which you may find of 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 2018

**Metropolitan East Region:** Ascham School, Christian Brothers High School Lewisham, Conservatorium High School, Cranbrook School, Emanuel School, Fort Street High School, Homebush Boys High School, Marcellin College Randwick, Meriden School, Newington College, Randwick Boys High School, Reddam House, Strathfield Girls High School, St Andrew's Cathedral School, St Patrick's College Strathfield, Sydney Boys High School, Sydney Girls High School, Sydney Grammar School, Sydney Technical High School, Sylvania High School, Tempe High School, The Scots College, Trinity Grammar School.

**Metropolitan North Region:** Abbotsleigh School, Barker College, Cammeraygal High School, Glenaeon Rudolf Steiner School, Holy Cross College Ryde, Hornsby Girls High School, Knox Grammar School, Marist College Eastwood, Marist College North Shore, Marsden High School, Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College, Mosman High School, Normanhurst Boys High School, North Sydney Boys High School, North Sydney Girls High School, Northern Beaches Secondary College – Manly Selective Campus, Pittwater High School, Pittwater House School, Shore, St Aloysius' College, St Augustine's College, St Ignatius' College Riverview, St Pius X College Chatswood.

**Central Coast:** Gosford High School, Green Point Christian College, Henry Kendall High School, St Philip's D.A.L.E. Christian College – Gosford Campus, Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College – Berkeley Vale Campus.

**Metropolitan South-West Region:** Ambarvale High School, Macquarie Fields High School, Magdalene Catholic High School, Miller Technology High School, Mount Annan High School, Pal Buddhist School, Patrician Brother's College Fairfield, Sefton High School, Unity Grammar College.

**Metropolitan West Region:** Baulkham Hills High School, Cambridge Park High School, Blue Mountains Grammar School, Cerdon College, Cherrybrook Technology High School, Cranebrook High School, Crestwood High School, Girraween High School, Hawkesbury High School, James Ruse Agricultural High School, Kingswood High School, Merrylands High School, Montgrove College, Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School, Oakhill College, Penrith High School, Quakers Hill High School, Redfield College, Riverstone High School, St Andrew's College Marayong, The Hills Grammar School, The King's School, Toongabbie Christian School, Wollemi College.

*A separate competition for NSW country secondary schools was contested by 132 schools.*

## AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Australian Schools Teams Championships will be held in Canberra 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 the school must have played in our Secondary Schools Competition and all members of the team must have played in at least 50% of the preliminary (pre-finals) rounds or in certain other major tournaments (for details see our website under Australian Schools Teams Championships – NSW Qualification). If necessary, a selection 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.



### NSW JUNIOR CHESS LEAGUE

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. (Individual membership is not a prerequisite for our inter-schools teams competitions.)

[www.nswjcl.org.au](http://www.nswjcl.org.au)

Enquiries: 9498 2760

### Chess Equipment

Sets, boards, clocks, books, software, etc., can be purchased from Sydney's main specialist chess supplier:

**AUSTRALIAN CHESS ENTERPRISES**

[www.chessaustralia.com.au](http://www.chessaustralia.com.au)

Phone: 4588 6156