

CSCA Newsletter

November 2019

- **Thanksgiving giveaway** of four annual scholastic US Chess Memberships
- **New format** qualification events to the scholastic National Invitational Championships
- Upcoming **CT State Chess Championship** Events
- **Tournament Director** (TD) Program
- **Needs** Program
- CSCA Director & Officer **elections**
- **Upcoming** chess events in Connecticut

US Chess Membership Thanksgiving Giveaway

Earlier this year the CSCA bought bulk US Chess scholastic (K-12) membership vouchers at a reduced rate. We still have **four** vouchers left that need to be redeemed by 11/30/19 and are offering those to the first four scholastic (K-12) chess players from Connecticut who respond to this Newsletter by 11/30/19. It can be used for a new US Chess membership or for an extension or renewal to an existing membership.

If you would like to be considered for this giveaway, please email CTStateChessAssociation@gmail.com with your name, date of birth, address, grade and USCF number (if available).

New Format National Nominations Grand Prix (NNGP)

Every summer US Chess organizes the National Tournament of Champions for [High School](#), [Middle School](#), [Elementary School](#), [Girls](#) and [Seniors](#). Each state gets to send a representative for each of the categories. For the scholastic sections the CSCA organizes a series of events called the National Nominations Grand Prix (NNGP) to determine who qualifies for the National Nomination Candidates' Tournament (NNCT), the winner of which gets to officially represent our state at the National Invitational Championships to be held August 8-11 in Saint Charles, MO this year.

For this year there are a number of changes to the format. The K-8 event has been split up into a K-5 Elementary and 6-8 Middle School Championship. The 9-12 High School and Girls remain. Four players in category qualify for the NNCT where they play a single Round Robin (all-play-all) tournament to determine the representatives.

Four ways to qualify to the NNCT:

- Winner of the NNGP Northern Leg (12/8/19 in Wethersfield)
- Winner of the NNGP Southern Leg (tba)
- Winner of the State Championship (tba)
- Top CT players on the March 2020 US Chess Regular Rating Supplement.

See the [CSCA 2019-2020 National Nominations Grand Prix and Candidates' Tournament Rules and Information](#).

2019 Final standings:

- [Denker Tournament of High School Champions](#)
- [Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions](#)
- [Haring National Girls' Tournament of Champions](#)
- [National Senior Tournament of Champions](#)

Upcoming CT State Chess Championship Events

The CSCA is working hard to finalize the schedule of the 2019-2020 CT State Championship events. We will publicize it through postings on [chessct.org](#), Newsletters, US Chess Tournament Life Announcements (TLA) and US Chess email flyers.

The first two events will take place in December:

Dec 8 – NNGP Northern Leg by Team DIG USA at the Wethersfield Community Center

[Information & Registration](#)

Dec 10 – 2019 CT State Blitz Championships organized by the New Britain Chess Club at the Armenian Church in New Britain

[Information & Registration](#)

Tourenament Director (TD) Program

Every US Chess-rated tournament is required to be officiated and submitted to US Chess for rating by a US Chess-certified Tournament Director (TD). There are different levels of certification that determine what size and kind of US Chess rated-tournaments a TD is allowed to officiate. All US Chess members in good standing can [apply to become a US Chess Certified Club Tournament Director](#).

With the proper training, testing and experience it is possible to acquire a higher level of certification. The CSCA can assist in finding the necessary information about US Chess TD certification levels, answering questions related to US Chess tournament rules, finding a TD to help officiate your chess tournament and offering apprenticeships as Assistant TD at CSCA tournaments to acquire the necessary experience for higher level TD certification. Some apprenticeships are paid positions.

For more information about or for TD's you can visit [US Chess](#) and if you would like to apply for apprenticeship at a CSCA event please contact the CSCA at CTStateChessAssociation@gmail.com.

Needs Program

If you are a chess player, club or group experiencing financial hardship, the CSCA Needs Program may be of assistance in locating and providing sources of aid. The program can help with cost of entry fees to CSCA tournaments, US Chess memberships, tournament/education services and needs, chess equipment, etc.

If you are a donor interested in donating funds or equipment, or a volunteer interested in donating your time, please contact us at your convenience.

Please write to CTStateChessAssociation@gmail.com, marking "Needs Program" in the subject line, for more information or to submit an application.

CSCA Director & Officer elections

At the 2019 CSCA Annual Meeting CSCA members elected two new Directors to the CSCA Board. UConn student and CSCA Treasurer Bryant Mercado and chess mom and Fairfield county resident Nevena Lanzo were elected to five-year terms. IM Jan van de Mortel was re-elected CSCA President for a second term. See CSCA's current list of [Officers and Directors](#).

Connecticut Chess Tournament Calendar

Also check out weekly events at the [Chess Club of Fairfield County](#).

Dec 8 – [NNGP Northern Leg](#) at the Wethersfield Community Center.

CSCA sanctioned event

Dec 10 - [2019 CT State Blitz Championship](#) New Britain Chess Club.

CSCA sanctioned event

Dec 14 - [2019 Holiday Party Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Dec 15 - [NECA "L" Scholastic Tournament](#) in Stamford.

Dec 22 - [2019 Weston DIG Scholastic Holiday Tournament](#) in Weston

Jan 4 - [2020 Weston DIG Scholastic Blitz Tournament](#) in Weston

Jan 11 - [2020 Fatima Bug House DIG Scholastic Tournament](#) in Wilton.

Jan 18 - [2020 Greater Hartford Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Feb 22 - [2020 Eastern Connecticut Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Feb 23 - [2020 South Norwalk DIG Scholastic Tournament](#) in Norwalk.

Mar 21 - [2020 Constitution State Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Mar 29 - [2020 Weston DIG Scholastic Spring Tournament](#) in Weston

Apr 18 - [2020 Mill Brook Park Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Sep 26 - [2020 Connecticut Harvest Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Oct 17 - [2020 Charter Oak Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Nov 14 - [2020 Connecticut Yankee Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.

Dec 12 - [2020 Nutmeg State Open](#) by Rob Roy in Coventry.