

On February 28, 2016, an eight year high of 159 players competed in the historic 2016 Connecticut State K-12 Scholastic Chess Championships held at the CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School in East Hartford, Connecticut.

The tournament was co-sponsored by the Connecticut Chess Organization, Capital Region Education Council, allClubs Chess, and the University of Connecticut Chess Club.

Among the placement winners were:

Teams:

High School Champions – Greenwich High School

Middle School Champions – Griswold Middle School (Rocky Hill)

Elementary School Champions – Bugbee Elementary School (West Hartford)

Individuals:

Grade 11 Champion – Andrew Rogozinski, Brunswick School

Grade 10 Champion – Jason Shi, Greenwich High School

Grade 9 Champion and High School Champion (Denker Nominee) – Zachary Tanenbaum, Greenwich High School

Grade 8 Champion – Dylan Young, St. Aloysius School (New Canaan)

Grade 7 Champion and Middle School Champion – Vincent Xu, Middlesex Middle School (Darien)

Grade 6 in Middle School Champion – Ruthvik Ayyagari, Betances STEM Magnet School (Hartford)

Grade 6 in Elementary School Champion -- Pranav Jayaganesh, Gideon Welles Elementary (Glastonbury)

Grade 5 Champion and Elementary School Champion – Samuel Lumelsky, Bugbee Elementary School (West Hartford)

Grade 4 Champion – Robert Ulmer, Brunswick School (Greenwich)

Grade 3 Champion – Mateusz Zalewski, Hindley Elementary (Darien)

Grade 2 Champion – Chloe Lynch, Bugbee Elementary (West Hartford)

Grade 1 Champion – Avery Ku, Greenwich Country Day School

Kindergarten Champion – Aaron Hogrefe, homeschool (Plainville)

Barber Nominee – Maximilian Lu, grade 4, Whitby School (Greenwich)

2016 CCO Award for Lifetime Contribution to Connecticut Scholastic Chess:

Thomas E. Hartmayer – Organizer, Tournament Director, Instructor and Player from 1964 to 2016

In all, 46 individual and 12 team placements were awarded.

Congratulations to all!

The record attendance for 2016 originated from 39 towns and 75 schools, including those in New York, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The tournament was held for the first time in Hartford County and featured first class accommodations at the CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School. Competition was directed by IM Jan van de Mortel, assisted by a team of floor monitors from the University of Connecticut Chess

Club and volunteers from CREC Two Rivers and area chess clubs, i.e., Simsbury Library Chess Club and Farmington-Plainville Library Chess Club.

The tournament was organized as a non-profit fundraiser for scholastic chess programs by the Connecticut Chess Organization. The championships raised over \$4,000 for 2016-17 school year chess programs and CCO operation.

Connecticut Chess Organization is a non-profit company started by Thomas Hartmayer and Alexander Lumelsky to benefit children's chess and chess development in Connecticut.

The CCO is organizing the 2016 Inaugural Connecticut Scholastic BLITZ Chess Championships on April 2 at the Farmington Libraries.