

## **NBCC / CHESS BIOGRAPHY OF DANIEL PASCETTA**

The club continued its honorary membership tournaments on August 8 with a quick chess event for one of its most talented scholastic chess players, Daniel “Danny” Pascetta. Danny has been a part of the NBCC family since 2007. At age eighteen, he is currently the youngest member to be recognized for his longevity in our organization. Like some of our members, Danny had the benefit to learn chess at a very young age. His early and persistent commitment to excel at this game has clearly contributed to his many successes. In 2009, Danny earned the prestigious title of New England Elementary School Chess Champion. Just three years later, he rose to the level of expert, marking one of the fastest rating increases by a member in club history. Even more impressive, Danny has consistently ranked in the United States Chess Federation’s Top 100 list by age category since 2008. As many of you know, Danny is a serious chess competitor. In the last decade, he has participated in over 150 local, regional, national, and world tournaments. One of his most favorite events is USATE, where he has played on board one for his team for many years. Danny’s passion and enthusiasm for the game has also encouraged and energized some of his friends to become members of his high school chess team in Glastonbury, which has done exceptionally well under his leadership. Like his father, Mike, who the club will be honoring later this year, we are all proud of Danny, and we will greatly miss him these next four years while he attends Indiana University. Danny has a very bright future. He is an academic scholar, an athletic superstar, and one of the most highly respected people in our community. Danny’s friendly disposition, positive attitude, and commitment to excellence in all areas of his life are the bedrocks of what truly makes him an inspiration to us all. Keep up the outstanding work, dude! Thirty-one players of all ages and skills competed in Danny’s special event, a sixround open Swiss system. Danny had a perfect score going in the fifth round. Even though he lost to FM Nelson Castaneda in round five, he won his final game against USCF Derek Meredith and tied with Nelson and Joseph Bihlmeyer for first place. Overall, it was a delight to see so many people present that evening to honor this amazing young man.