

NBCC / CHESS BIOGRAPHY OF JAMES NITZ

USCF NM James Nitz was the next member in seniority in the club after his father, John, to have a tournament held by the club in his honor. Twenty-eight members came out to play in James' tributary tournament. Often known better as "Kramnitz" for having for a similar playing style like GM Vladimir Kramnik, James has been involved with the club and with scholastic chess clubs within the Southington School system since the late 1990s. "Kramnitz" has a very impressive chess resume. By far, his greatest achievement was becoming a USCF NM in May of this year. Looking back on the entire history of the club, James ranks as one of the youngest members to have attained the NM title (the others who easily come to mind are FM Danny Rozovsky and Senior Master Mike Casella). The competition in the six-round Swiss-system "Kramnitz Quick Chess Tournament" held on July 15 ranged from beginners to masters. After an evening of lively games (and some upsets), newcomer USCF NM YoonYoung Kim clinched first place in the one-section event. Now that he has finished his academic studies and has entered the professional workforce, we hope that "Kramnitz" can play more regularly at the club. It is always a pleasure to play against Master Nitz. He has a vast knowledge of the game, is highly respected by everyone in the club, and is a gentleman and a scholar.