

Presenting the

2019 MSCA Scholastic Chess

Team Championships

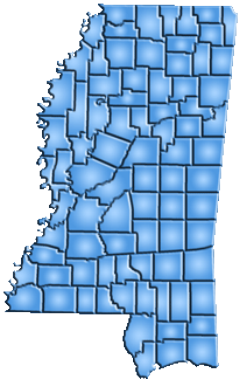
Saturday, March 23rd, 2019

At

Mississippi State University

Colvard Student Union – Foster Ballrooms

Starkville, MS 39759



The Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association invites you to join us at the state's largest annual scholastic chess tournament.

Sections: **K-1, K-3, & K-5 (Unrated)** Trophies: **1st-8th Indv., and 1st-4th Team**
K-6, K-8 & K-12 (USCF Rated) Trophies: **1st-8th Indv., 1st-4th Team**

Current USCF Membership is required for players in K-6, K-8 and K-12 sections

Memberships will be available on-site or at <https://secure2.uschess.org/webstore/member.php>

All sections: 5 SS, G/25; i10 In each section, the combined score of the top four players from the same school determines that team's score in the Team Standings. Teams can consist of 2 to 4 players though teams with less than four players will be at a disadvantage in competing for team trophies. Detailed tournament regulations are included below.

Registration: Online registration is available at www.MSscholasticChess.org, or use the mail-in form(s) on page 2 below.

- Entry fee is \$15 if received by **March 21st**, \$20 thereafter & on-site
- On-site registration available from 8:00am to 9:00am
- **All players must check-in by 9:00 am.**

For More Info: jeffbolhuis@MSscholasticChess.org or (901)651-8799

Volunteers Needed: Please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044EACA72EA4FC1-2019> to help on the day of the tournament. **No experience required.**

Please make all checks payable to: MSCA

Mail to: MSCA, 5666 Chessie Dr., Olive Branch MS 38654

2019 MS TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS - REGISTRATION FORM

❖ Entry fee is \$15 if received by **March 21st**, \$20 thereafter & on-site

Player Name: _____ USCF ID: _____

Division (Circle one): **K-1 / K-3 / K-5 / K-6 / K-8 / K-12** Date of Birth ____/____/____
(USCF RATED SECTIONS)

EXACT and COMPLETE School Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: (____) _____ Parent's E-mail: _____

2019 MS TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS - REGISTRATION FORM

❖ Entry fee is \$15 if received by **March 21st**, \$20 thereafter & on-site

Player Name: _____ USCF ID: _____

Division (Circle one): **K-1 / K-3 / K-5 / K-6 / K-8 / K-12** Date of Birth ____/____/____
(USCF RATED SECTIONS)

EXACT and COMPLETE School Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: (____) _____ Parent's E-mail: _____

2019 MS TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS - REGISTRATION FORM

❖ Entry fee is \$15 if received by **March 21st**, \$20 thereafter & on-site

Player Name: _____ USCF ID: _____

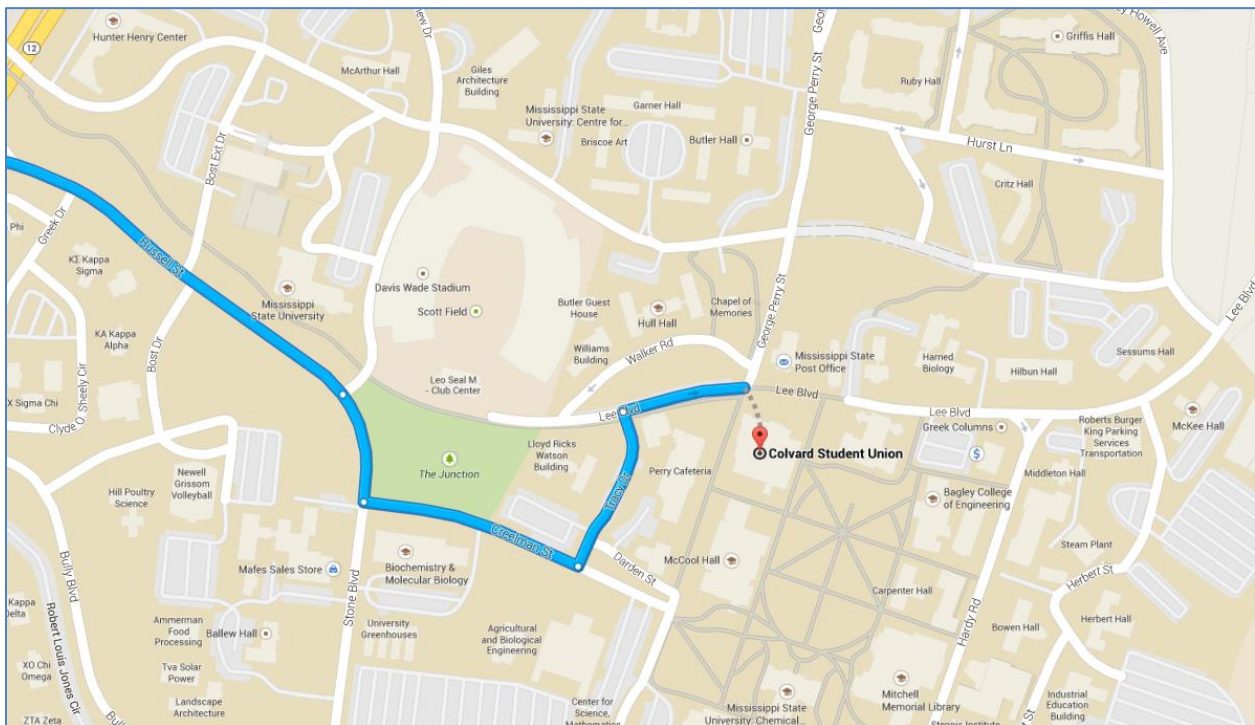
Division (Circle one): **K-1 / K-3 / K-5 / K-6 / K-8 / K-12** Date of Birth ____/____/____
(USCF RATED SECTIONS)

EXACT and COMPLETE School Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: (____) _____ Parent's E-mail: _____

Directions: If you wish to drive to the Colvard Student Union for drop-off or pick-up, be aware that the building may only be approached from the South via Tracy Dr. and Lee Blvd. Parking in the immediate area is limited, so please allow enough time to walk from another parking lot if necessary.



Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association – 2019 Team Tournament Regulations

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association (MSCA) Team Tournament Regulations are intended to fulfill the needs and expectations of players, coaches and parents at our scholastic team chess events.

1.1.1. Although an effort is made to maintain consistency between MSCA events and USCF national scholastic events, the national tournament regulations deal with a great many details and situations that are not likely to be relevant at any of our team tournaments, so what follows is a summary of the national regulations that will be applied.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1. The following players are eligible to participate in scholastic chess events:

2.1.1. Full-time students who are enrolled in a public or private school for the entire semester in which an event is held.

2.1.2. Home-schooled and virtual-schooled students who do not exceed the age and grade eligibility requirements listed below.

2.2. Age and Grade Eligibility. The following ages are as of September 1 of the school year in which the competition takes place. These age requirements are considered ***upper bounds for each grade***. Our events are generally grade-based and require all players to play in a section that allows for their current grade.

- Kindergarten: 6 years old
- 1st Grade: 7 years old
- 2nd Grade: 8 years old
- 3rd Grade: 9 years old
- 4th Grade: 10 years old
- 5th Grade: 11 years old
- 6th Grade: 12 years old
- 7th Grade: 13 years old
- 8th Grade: 14 years old
- 9th Grade: 15 years old
- 10th Grade: 16 years old
- 11th Grade: 17 years old
- 12th Grade: 18 years old

2.3. There shall only be one year of eligibility per grade level unless one of the following situations applies:

2.3.1. ***Pre-schoolers*** may play as Kindergarteners in any event section. Kindergartners and Pre-schoolers may continue to play as Kindergartners in subsequent years until they start the first grade.

2.3.2. ***Players who repeat a grade*** in school may have a second year of eligibility in that grade as long as they are age-eligible for that grade.

3. TEAM REQUIREMENTS

3.1. ***MSCA team tournaments are individual tournaments with team scoring.*** A student who does not qualify to represent a team under rules 3.2, 3.3, or 3.4 can compete only as an individual.

3.2. In MSCA team events, a team is comprised of students who attend the same school.

3.2.1. A school is defined as an institution which has one name, is located in one building or connected adjacent buildings, and is under one on-site administrator and which provides core curricular instruction in English, math, science, and social studies.

3.2.2. A 'local public school' for a home schooled or virtual school student is defined as the public school the student would attend if attending public school.

3.2.3. A student will be considered to attend a school if and only if he or she physically attends classes at that school building and receives more than 50% of his or her core curricular instruction during those classes.

3.2.4. Each school may enter **only one team per section**.

3.3. Teams may also be comprised of home schooled or virtual school students.

3.3.1. A home schooled student is defined as a student who receives at least 50% of his or her core curricular instruction at home. Virtual school students are students who receive more than 50% of their core curricular instruction on-line, but not in a school building.

Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association – 2019 Team Tournament Regulations (continued)

3.3.2. A home schooled or virtual school student has the following two options for participating on a scholastic chess team:

- The student may represent his or her local public school when access to extracurricular activities at the school is permitted and the student resides within the boundaries of the local public school as defined in 3.2.
- The student may join with other home schooled or virtual school students who reside within the boundary of the same local public school as defined in 3.2.

3.3.3. There may be more than one home school or virtual school team per recognized public school district.

3.4. A scholastic team must contain a minimum of two players to be eligible for team prizes.

3.5. There is no maximum number of players who may compete on a team, but only the top four(4) scores in any section count for team score.

3.6. No club teams are allowed in state scholastic events.

3.7. The coach, an adult team representative, or the 'Team Captain' is responsible for ensuring that all of the team's players are properly registered and eligible to participate as members of the team.

4. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

4.1. *MSCA team tournaments are individual tournaments with team scoring.* Accordingly, they are *paired as individual Swiss System tournaments*, with individual scores added to create team scores. Whenever a rated section has more than 2^N players, where "N" is the number of rounds, the TD will consider using accelerated pairings.

4.2. The combined total of the top four scoring players from the same school determines that team's score.

4.3. Players from the same team will not be paired together unless no other reasonable natural pairing can be made.

4.4. When conflicts occur between individual pairings and team considerations – and where the top awards are at stake – individual pairings shall have higher priority.

5. RATING SUPPLEMENT

5.1. For events starting *before the 10th of the month*, the previous month's Rating Supplement will be used.

5.2. For events starting *on or after the 10th of the month*, the current month's Rating Supplement will be used.

6. CHESS NOTATION

6.1. Chess notation is required for the USCF rated sections. See the Tournament Director if you are not familiar with the process of recording moves with standard notation. TD's and experienced players will be onsite and available to explain the most common form of notation.

6.1.1. The use of USCF approved electronic notation devices is permitted.

7. TIE-BREAKS

7.1. Computer programs are used to determine pairings, standings and **tie-breaks** for all state scholastic events.

7.2. **All** players tied for first place are considered co-winners, but trophies will be awarded based on tie-breaks.

7.3. Tie-breaks are used only to award trophies. Players or teams with like scores are equal and may change the plate on their trophy to reflect this (at their own cost).

7.4. When individual or team scores are equal, the following order of tie-break systems will be used to designate awards:

1. Modified Median
2. Solkoff
3. Cumulative Score
4. Opposition Cumulative Score
5. Head-to-Head
6. Coin Flip