

Roving ChessNuts CHESS Teasers

Volume 4, No. 2 • January 23, 2012

Elementary School Team Match in need of players and teams for January 29

A few years ago, there was intense interest in school team competitions and some matches attracted over 80 players and up to 15 school teams, but last winter and again this winter, a lack of participation has led to cancellation of matches. The last announced match before Christmas was cancelled as only one school - Westbrook - was able to register a full team of five players.

"We're not sure what is happening, but would love to hear suggestions from players and parents," said organizer Bruce Thomas of The Roving ChessNuts.

Thomas is not sure if the domination of Westbrook and New Horizons schools over the past six years has diminished the willingness of other schools or whether there is just a reluctance of too many players who are not willing to participate outside of their school programs.

"We are having good participation

in many of our school programs, but getting the players into individual or team tournaments away from the school has been difficult last winter and now this winter," noted Thomas.

Right now for Sunday's elementary team tournament at Edmonton Chess Club Sunday, January 29, starting 1 p.m., there are indications that three schools might be represented - Westbrook, New Horizons and McKernan, but even these have only three or less registered.

The registration deadline which will also determine if the team match will proceed (must be a minimum of at least four teams), is Thursday, January 26, 6 p.m.

Based on average ratings of players, there could be two sections of play and the winning team in each section wins a pizza party for the team, a school trophy and individual medals. Players should register at www.rovingchessnuts.com.



Section D medal winners at the Society of Alberta Chess Knights scholastic tournament on January 15.

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2012 Scholastic and Recreational Chess Schedule

**Society of Alberta Chess Knights, The Roving ChessNuts
Alberta Recreational Chess League**

To be notified of any changes or updates to this schedule, e-mail: rovingchessnuts@shaw.ca and you will be sent updated schedules and details of events by e-mail. ECC in the listings stands for Edmonton Chess Club at 10840 - 124 Street. RC stands for Roving ChessNuts at 12013 76 Street. **Register online for tournaments: www.rovingchessnuts.com**

The below schedule is subject to changes including additional events so always watch for updates in future newsletter and at www.rovingchessnuts.com.

Friday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m. - Alberta Rec. Chess League Tournament #6 at RC.

Sunday, Jan. 29, 1 p.m. - Elementary School Team Match at ECC. Teams of 5 all from same school.

Friday, Feb. 3, 7 p.m. - Alberta Rec. Chess League Tournament #7 at RC.

Friday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m. - Alberta Rec. Chess League Tournament #8 at RC

Sunday, Feb. 12, 1 p.m. - SACK Valentine's Scholastic Tournament at ECC.

Sunday, Feb. 19, 5 p.m. - Family Chess #9 and Pizza for Alberta Rec. Chess League at RC.

Feb. 25 & 26 - Alberta Youth Chess Championships in Calgary.

Friday, March 2, 7 p.m. - Alberta Rec. Chess League Tournament #10 at RC

Sunday, March 4 - Regional Challenge Warm-Up.

Sunday, March 18 - Edmonton Regional Challenge.

Saturday, April 15 - Warm-up for AB Challenge

Saturday, April 21 - Alberta Chess Challenge in Red Deer (School grade competition leading to National.)

Sunday, May 6 or 13, 1 p.m. - SACK Mother's Day Tournament at ECC.

May 19 - 21 - Canadian Chess Challenge in Halifax.

Sunday, June 3, 1 p.m. - Grand Prix Tournament at ECC

Sunday, June 17, 1 p.m. - SACK End of School Year Tournament at ECC.

July 3 to 6 in Surrey, B.C. - Canadian Youth Chess Championships.

Sunday, July 15, 1 p.m. - SACK & RC Outdoor Chess and Family Barbecue at an Edmonton Park.

Sunday, Sept. 9, 1 p.m. - SACK Back to School Tournament at ECC.

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m. - SACK Grand Prix Season Wrap-Up Tournament.

Sunday, Oct. 21 - Fall Scholastic Tournament and Grand Prix Start.

November 3 & 4 - Alberta Junior Championship at ECC.

Sunday, Nov. 18 - 3rd Annual Northern Alberta Scholastic Championships.

Sunday, Dec. 9 - SACK Christmas Tournament at ECC.

Sunday, Dec. 30 - Ending 2012 Tournament.

Fort McMurray chess going strong

Thanks to organizer Jina Burn, the Fort McMurray chess program for both adults and scholastic players is going well. Not only are there local events, but players are also participating in Edmonton scholastic and recreational chess league events via internet.

For students, grades 1 to 12, there will be a regional Chess Challenge held in Fort McMurray to qualify players for the Alberta Chess Challenge.