



**Encouraging Academic Growth
Through the Game of Chess**

Polk Scholastic Chess

Players and Coaches
Manual

2011 – 2012

Tournament Season



Our Mission at Polk Scholastic Chess Inc.

“Encourage Academic Growth Through the Game of Chess”

www.polkscholasticchess.com

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Board of Directors

2011 - 2012

President	Arvind N. Shah
Vice President	Deborah L. Wells
Secretary	Arlene Gable
Treasurer	Maria C. Gallo
Tournament Director	William Tribble
Technology Director	Malay Shah
Asst Tech Director	Rupal Shah
Funding Director	Arlene Gable
Web Master	Malay Shah
Board Member	Paula McCardle



Encouraging Academic Growth Through the Game of Chess

Welcome to Polk Scholastic Chess

We are a nonprofit organization offering an extracurricular activity open to all students of Polk County, Florida, enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade, including home-schooled students. Our mission is to encourage academic growth through the game of chess.

We believe the game of Chess is an exciting way to teach critical thinking skills, sequencing, sportsmanship, self-control, and many other skills important for academic growth and development. We have seen the progress of students who play chess and their improvement academically. Even if your student is not a high achiever, or has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder, Chess is for everyone!

We offer a tournament setting allowing the students to be as competitive as they want to be and challenged, yet not penalized due to their ability levels.

We work with public and private schools throughout Polk County to help start and continue school based chess clubs. We offer start up sets for first time clubs playing in our tournaments and on-going advice.

School board employees coaching school based teams may be eligible to receive a stipend. If you have anyone that is interested in starting a new club or restarting an old club at your school, please contact Arvind Shah (863) 294-8761.

Over the years we have held tournaments at George Jenkins High School and the Lakeland Center. The 2011 - 2012 tournament season will be held at Highland Park Church of the Nazarene. We feel that this location will better meet our growing needs. We expect to exceed 600 players during the upcoming tournament season. We look forward seeing your school represented.

Polk Scholastic Chess Calendar

Tournament 1 - October 22, 2011
Tournament 2 - November 12, 2011
Tournament 3 - December 10, 2011
Tournament 4 - January 14, 2012
Championship - March 03, 2012

Tournament Location for 2011 - 2012

Highland Park Church of the Nazarene
Family Ministries Building
4730 Lakeland Highlands Road
Lakeland, FL 33813

Polk Scholastic Chess Inc.

By Laws

Approved and accepted December 30, 1994

Revised, Voted and passed August 5th, 2011

(An extracurricular program for the Students of Polk County, Florida.
Grades Pre kindergarten through 12th).

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Polk Scholastic Chess in existence since 1990 (hereinafter referred to as PSC) they do hereby adopt the following By-Laws:

I. MISSION

1.1 Polk Scholastic Chess exists to "Encourage Academic Growth through the Game of Chess." The PSC recognizes the academic skills developed by the game of Chess, and believes that competition is an avenue of encouraging the development of those skills.

II. OPERATING AUTHORITY

2.1 Polk Scholastic Chess is an academic contest operating with Polk County Public Schools and supporters as a nonprofit organization. PSC follows the rules and guidelines of the Code of Conduct of Polk County Schools. PSC is not subordinate to any organization but does try to coordinate its functions with the Polk County School system. These By-Laws are subject to the approval of the Polk Scholastic Chess Board and can be revised when needed by majority approval of the board of Directors.

III. GOVERNANCE

3.1 The affairs of PSC shall be managed by the Board of Directors, or by the Executive Committee thereof, as hereinafter provided.

3.2 NUMBER, TERMS AND MANNER OF ELECTION:

A. There shall be a total of not less than five (5) or more than fifteen (15) directors, selected in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws. The members of the Board of Directors shall constitute the voting members of the PSC.

B. The Directors of PSC will serve two-year terms and vacancies shall be filled for two-year overlapping terms by a majority vote of the Directors attending the annual meeting at the end of the tournament season.

D. Only two representatives from a school or family may be a member of the Board of Directors at the same time, in a voting capacity.

E. A director of PSC may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the members present at a properly called meeting. Example of cause would include absenteeism from two consecutive Board meetings or misconduct related to the mission of PSC as determined by the majority of the Board.

3.3 MEETINGS:

A. The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in Polk County, Florida, at a time, date and place set by the Executive Committee or President. At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board shall elect Directors and Officers as provided in these By-Laws and shall transact such other business as may be brought before the meeting. In the event that Directors or Officers, or both, are not elected at the annual meeting, either or both may be elected at a special meeting of the Board of Directors called for that purpose.

B. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President of the Board or a majority of the total number of Directors. Such special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in Polk County, Florida, at a time, date and place designated in the notice of meeting.

C. Notice of the annual meeting and each special meeting shall be given by the PSC President to each of the directors at least five (5) days but not more than sixty (60) days before the meeting. Notice shall be sent via email as designated by each Director. Failure of a director to receive notice shall not affect the validity of any act of the Board of Directors at such meeting.

D. The presence of five of the Directors shall be necessary at a properly called annual, monthly or special meeting to constitute a quorum to transact business, of the five no more than three shall be executive members of which one must be President or Vice President. The act of a majority of the Directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

E. The President of PSC shall act as Chairman for all meetings of the Board of Directors. In the President's absence, the Vice President shall serve as temporary Chairman. The Secretary shall record minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors, but in his/her absence the presiding officer may appoint any Director as secretary of the meeting.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4.1 The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall consist of the following five directors:

- a. The President, who shall be the Chairman.
- b. The Vice-President.
- c. The Tournament Director.
- d. The Secretary.
- e. The Treasurer.

4.2 Three members shall constitute a quorum with one being an Executive Board Member.

4.3 The Executive Committee shall have and may exercise all power and authority of the Board of Directors when the Board is not in session, subject only to such restrictions as the Board may from time to time specify. However, the Executive Committee shall have no authority to alter, amend, or repeal the By-Laws of PSC or to appoint Directors. All actions of the Executive Committee shall be reported in writing via email to the Directors within thirty (30) days after such action is taken or at a meeting of the Board of Directors, if a meeting is held within that period of time. The Committee shall also act as the Nomination Committee for replacements as they occur. All nominations shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. All actions of the Executive Committee shall be included in the minutes of the Board of Directors.

4.4 The Executive Committee shall meet following each monthly tournament at a time and place designated by the President. The President or Vice-President may call special meetings. Notice of special meeting shall be sent at least five (5) days prior to such meeting via email as designated by each Director.

4.5 Each member shall be entitled to one vote on any question properly brought before any meeting of the Executive Committee. At all meetings of the Executive Committee, all questions shall be decided by the vote of the majority of the members entitled to vote thereon who shall be present at the meeting.

4.6 Any action that might be taken at a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be taken without a meeting if a written consent of such action is received via email from all members of the Executive Committee.

4.7 The Executive Committee shall be empowered to authorize all expenditures of PSC, subject to review by the Board of Directors, either with a meeting of the Executive Committee or by phone or email poll. Phone polls to obtain authorization for disbursements shall be followed up by email confirmation for documentation purposes.

4.8 Two members of the executive Committee of PSC shall have approving authority for expenditures of funds, subject to review by the total Executive Committee at the next meeting.

V. OFFICERS

5.1 The officers of PSC shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and Tournament Director and such other officers as may from time to time be provided for by resolution of the Board of Directors of Polk Scholastic Chess.

5.2 The Board of Directors of PSC at its annual meeting shall elect the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Tournament Director from members of the Board of Directors. These officers shall serve two-year terms, and until successors have been elected by the Board of Directors.

5.3 An elected officer of PSC may be removed from office at any time for cause by a majority vote of all the members of the Board of Directors. If a vacancy of an office exists, the Board of Directors may elect a successor officer to serve until the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors.

5.4 Any voting Director may sponsor and call for a vote to bring on to the board a new individual. This will be done at a regular scheduled meeting and with a majority vote. That individual will become an Assistant Director with the ability to hold designated responsibilities given by the board but will hold no voting rights. After attending two scheduled meetings the sponsor may call for a vote to make the individual a full voting Director, which must pass by majority.

VI. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

6.1 Parliamentary procedures for all meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Board shall utilize Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure as a guideline.

VII. FUNDS OF THE LEAGUE

7.1 Funds of PSC shall be held and managed by the treasurer in a special bank account, requiring two signatures under rules specified by the Board of Directors of PSC.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

8.1 These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors by a majority of all of the members of the Board of Directors.

Polk Scholastic Chess Inc.
Coache's and Player's Manual
Revised 08-05-2011

1. MEMBERSHIP

1.1. Polk Scholastic Chess (hereafter called PSC) is an extracurricular chess league for students attending any school located in Polk County, PreKindergarten through 12th Grade.

1.2. The Board of Directors will establish membership fees for PSC. All membership fees are non-refundable.

1.3. Contestants who pay the annual fee will become members of PSC and will be allowed to compete in the October through January tournaments (four tournaments in all with four rounds of play during each tournament) and be eligible to qualify for the Championship tournament, usually held in February/March.

1.4. Players will be required to play in the division in which they qualify, by grade, to play. The divisions are as follows:

- Guppy – Pre-kindergarten thru first grade
- Primary – second and third grade
- Elementary – fourth and fifth grade
- Middle – sixth thru eighth grade
- Senior – ninth thru twelfth grade

This provision may be waived if a coach or parent(s) believes their student is an exceptionally strong player, but such player must move up at least two divisions (Guppy to Elementary, Primary to Middle, Elementary to Senior or Middle to Senior); however, such players will forfeit their right to play for their school team, and will compete in their chosen division as individuals only. They will also forfeit their right to be considered for selection for the Polk Super Stars Team.

1.5. The Polk Scholastic Chess Invitational Championship will be held in February or March. In order to qualify for this Invitational tournament, a player must have competed in at least 12 of the possible 16 rounds (forced byes count as a played game for this purpose). ALL players who have competed in 12 rounds will qualify for the championship, regardless of their score in the previous four tournaments. There will be no additional fees for participation in this tournament.

1.6. No Excused absence will be granted for any reasons.

1.7. The tournaments are locally rated, so that strong players do not risk their U.S.C.F. rating by trying new ideas, and new players are able to polish their game before attempting a rated tournament, such as the Regional or State Scholastic Championships.

1.8. A parent and coaches meeting will be held during the third round of each regular season tournament. Current information as well as changes and any updates will be presented at this meeting. There will also be the opportunity for questions to be answered as time allows.

2. TEAMS

2.1. Polk Scholastic Chess is an invitational scholastic chess league. The Board of Directors will provide invitations to such schools and students as they determine to be in the interest of the overall program. They will be assisted in this determination by the advice of the Polk Scholastic Chess Board of Directors.

2.2. All teams in PSC are school-based teams. All members of a school-based team must be students currently enrolled in the school with which they are competing. Teams violating this rule will lose all points, monthly and seasonal, which have been earned, and will risk expulsion from the program.

2.3. Home school students must play for their umbrella schools, or as an individual. If they are not members of umbrella schools that have a team, they may play for the public school zoning dictates they would attend. Schools have no obligation to accept any home school student as their team player.

3. GENERAL RULES

3.1. The Code of Conduct of the School Board of Polk County Schools applies in all situations. All contestants, coaches and spectators are subject to the Code of Conduct and/or the policies of the School Board of Polk County Schools.

3.2. PSC follows the rules of chess as published by the U.S. Chess Federation (as a guideline), except as noted in this 'Coaches and Players' Manual, e-mail to coaches and parents, and posting on the Polk Scholastic Chess Home Page (www.polkscholasticchess.com). Penalties for rules violations unless otherwise noted are at the discretion of the TDs and may vary from warnings to forfeitures and docking of team points. (See rule 6.18)

3.3. All contestants, coaches and spectators are subject to the rules of PSC as noted in the annual Coaches' Manual, e-mail to coaches and parents, and posting on the Polk Scholastic Chess Home Page (www.polkscholasticchess.com). Violators may lose all points, monthly and seasonal, which have been earned, and will risk expulsion from the program.

3.4. The penalty for any Coach or Team found checking in a player who is not physically available for play will be that the team will lose all the team points for that round.

4. SPECIFIC SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS

4.1. Polk Scholastic Chess is an extracurricular program of the School Board of Polk County Schools. All participants (players, coaches, sponsors, parents and volunteers) are subject to the rules and regulations of the School Board of Polk County Schools, which includes the Code of Conduct and the Volunteers In Polk (VIP) program, and to the rules of Polk Scholastic Chess.

4.2. All students must be supervised by school-approved coaches, assistant coaches and designated parent chaperones from the school they represent. No student will be allowed to compete in a tournament unless his or her approved coach, approved assistant coach or parent is present. The required student/chaperone ratio for all primary and elementary students is 5:1, and for middle school students 7:1, and high school students 10:1. Each student should be assigned by the coach/sponsor to a specific chaperone (coach/sponsor can count as a chaperone). All coaches must stay with their players throughout the day.

4.3. Parents are ultimately responsible to ensure that their student(s) are properly supervised. Students that are not properly supervised (all day) will be subject to penalties listed under section (6.17 and 6.18). PSC is not responsible for any items lost, stolen, misplaced, etc. This is the sole responsibility of the person who brought them.

4.4. Only approved coaches and designated parent chaperones will be allowed on the tournament site. Only tournament directors are allowed in the playing area during play.

4.5. PSC and the hosting facility are not responsible for any injuries incurred throughout the tournament day.

5. COACHES

5.1. All Coaches are reminded to fill out and return a Coach Membership form. The Mission of PSC, namely, to “Encourage Academic Growth Through the Game of Chess.” Playing chess is not an outcome, but a tool toward a higher, academic goal. Neither the game nor the competition should ever become more important than the development of a student’s self-esteem. Efforts toward winning at the abuse of a student by a coach or parent will not be tolerated! Such “abuse” would include such things as belittling a student, negative criticism of a student who has lost, encouraging cheating to win, etc.

5.2. Coaches are eligible for an annual “Coach of the Year” award in each division. The criteria used to determine a Coach of the Year are as follows:

5.2.1. A coach who clearly demonstrates the Polk Scholastic Chess philosophy that the child is more important than the game. This coach continually finds ways of encouraging the student’s growth, both academically and emotionally. This criterion is clearly the most important.

5.2.2. The team shall have maintained a good record and/or improved significantly during the season. It does not necessarily follow that the Coach of the Year has the best record in the division, but that best record will receive special consideration.

5.2.3. The Coach of the Year is a person who has demonstrated a high degree of service to the programs of PSC.

5.3. Selection of the Coach of the Year will be made by the Board of Directors who will solicit the opinion of the tournament directors during the annual tournament directors meeting after the 4th tournament.

5.4. Each division's "Coach of the Year" will be announced during the annual awards ceremony following the Championship tournament.

5.5. All Coach of the Year winners will serve as the Coach for the Super Star Team and must attend the Super Stars tournament. Coach of the Year will also distribute the Super Stars trophies to the qualifying members who attend the Super Stars tournament.

5.6. All Coaches of players who qualify for the Super Star Tournament are encouraged to attend this event along with their players.

6. SPECIFIC PLAYERS' RULES

6.1. The Code of Conduct of the School Board of Polk County Schools applies in all situations. All contestants, coaches and spectators are subject to the Code of Conduct and/or the policies of the School Board of Polk County Schools and PSC.

6.2. **GENERAL:** PSC follows the rules of chess as published by the U.S. Chess Federation (as a guideline), except as noted in the Coaches' Manual.

6.3. **FORMAT:** The type of tournament will be 4-round Swiss, with acceleration if warranted. "Swiss Round" format means that each player will play each round, or if forced to take a "bye" because of an odd number of players in the division, will receive a point in that round. Players are paired in each round according to their play in previous rounds. In other words, at the end of round 2, players are paired as 2 wins vs. 2 wins, 1 win vs. 1 win, no wins vs. no wins. NO ½ point byes will be given for any reason.

6.4. **SETTING CLOCKS:** Unless otherwise announced, all PSC tournaments are sudden death, game in 30 minutes (G/30).

6.5. **TOUCH-MOVE:** The USCF rule of "touch-move" is strictly enforced in the PSC. Touch-move means that when it is a player's turn to go, if the player touches one of their pieces that have a legal move, they must move that piece. If they touch an opponent's piece that they can legally capture, they must capture that piece. The player must move the first piece that they touch which has a legal move.

6.6. RECORDING MOVES: Senior and Middle Division players are required to record their moves in all but the last five minutes of a game. Failure to record moves will result in a forfeiture of that game. Players have to report within first ten minutes of the game for the opponent not following the rules for notations. All other players are not required to record moves, but are encouraged to do so. We authorize Simple Algebraic Notation. Example: The white pawn in front of the King moves up two spaces you would note this as: e4. If the black Knight, closest to the Queen, were to move to the square in front of the bishop & pawn, you would note it as: Nc6.

Players do not have to write where they started but must write the piece they moved and captured. If there was a capture by the pawn or knight they would read: exd4 for a capture of a pawn by a pawn, & NxBc6 for a capture of a Bishop by a Knight.

6.7. TIME FORFEITS: A player may claim a time forfeiture in sudden death time control only if he first stops the clocks before his own flag falls. Only a player's opponent may initiate a time forfeiture claim. If both flags fall, either player may claim a draw. Time forfeiture occurs when a player's 30 minutes time has passed, and the game is not over. A player who has time remaining but whose opponent has no time remaining can claim a win based on "time forfeiture." If a player makes an illegal move when he has less than five minutes remaining, his opponent should immediately stop both clocks and raise a hand to summon a TD. Upon the request of a player, a TD may rule that player's game is drawn if the position is clearly drawn (such as positions with no pawns remaining for either side and with greatly simplified material). A player may stop both clocks to ask a TD to rule a game drawn by this reason.

6.8. PAIRINGS: Whenever possible, players will be paired in the same score group. Players from the same school will not be paired with one another during the season, but may be paired with one another during the Individual Championship, if required. The TDs will attempt to give each player alternating colors.

6.9. ASSISTANCE DURING PLAY: While each game is in progress, the players are forbidden to talk to anyone else except in the presence of a TD. A player may raise a hand if he needs assistance or needs to speak to someone. A TD will then come to the board and assist.

6.10. REPORTING RESULTS: Immediately upon the completion of each game, BOTH players must go to the score table and report the results. Failure to report the results will forfeit result for both the players (Means 0 point for both the players).

6.11. INTERFERENCE: No interference in any game by spectators, other players, coaches, or parents will be tolerated. Penalties include expulsion from the tournament. Only a player involved should point out irregularities to the TD staff. Raise a hand to summon a TD and point out the irregularities. Only the players involved may concern themselves with illegal moves, touch moves, flag falls, etc.

6.12. **PLAYING AREA ADMITTANCE:** All players must leave the playing area immediately upon the completion of their match. Parents and coaches are not allowed in the playing area during play. Players are not allowed to linger at the other tables or speak to anyone on the way out of the hall.

6.13. **TIEBREAKS:** The following tiebreak system will be used in all divisions of the tournament:

6.13.1. Individual:

6.13.1.1. Solkoff

The Solkoff tiebreak adds up the final scores of the player's opponents. Example: John and Ted both scored 3 points. John played Sammy (4-0), Ed (3-1), Suzy (3-1), and Jenny (2-2) for a Solkoff score of 12 ($4+3+3+2=12$), Ted played Chris (2-2), Jenny (2-2), Matt (3-1), and James (1-3) for a Solkoff score of 8 ($2+2+3+1=8$). John wins this tiebreak. (Theoretically) a higher Solkoff means the player had to defeat tougher ("on that day") opponents.

6.13.1.2. Cumulative

The cumulative tiebreak system accumulates the scores of each player at the end of each round. Example: John 1 2 3 3 (won rounds 1-3, lost round 4) Mary 1 2 2 3 (won rounds 1,2,4, lost round 3) Although both players have a final score of 3, John wins the tiebreak with a cumulative score of 9 ($1+2+3+3=9$) vs. a cumulative score of 8 ($1+2+2+3=8$) for Mary. Since (theoretically) play becomes tougher in each successive round, this tiebreak assumes that Mary lost to an easier player earlier in the tournament.

6.13.1.3. Opponent's cumulative scores

The Opponents' cumulative tiebreak adds the cumulative scores of the player's opponents. If players are still tied after the Cumulative and Solkoff tiebreaks, the Opponents' cumulative scores further defines the strength of a player's competition on that tournament day.

6.13.1.4. Average of opponent's ratings

If the players are still tied after these three tiebreaks, the Average of Opponents' Ratings compares the historical strength of players' opponents.

6.13.2. Team:

6.13.2.1. Total Solkoff of top four players

6.13.2.2. Total cumulative of top four players.

6.13.3. While no tiebreak system is perfect, this seems to meet the needs of the League.

6.14. **DRAWS:** If you want to offer a draw to your opponent, you should offer the draw after you make your move but before you start your opponent's clock. You should then start your opponent's clock. Your opponent can accept your draw offer until he or she touches a piece on the board. Once a piece is touched, the game continues. Once both players agree to a draw, the game is over. But an agreement to a draw after the game is over for some other reason, such as checkmate, is not valid. If requested by a player, a TD may rule a game a draw if a) the material is so simplified that you cannot construct a mate or b) one player is not attempting to win on the board but is stalling to win by time forfeit. A draw, either because the players are unable to checkmate their opponent and win, or because of a stalemate (king is not under attack, but the player has no legal moves), results in a tie. Both players receive ½ point for the match.

6.15. **ANALYSIS OF GAMES:** Do not analyze your games in the tournament area, but do so in the skittles area. Players are encouraged to go over their game with their opponent, and learn from each other. Only coaches, designated parent chaperones and players are allowed in the skittles area.

6.16. **MISCONDUCT:** Chess is considered a gentlemen's and ladies game. It is expected that all players will conduct themselves in an appropriate, sportsmanlike manner, consistent with all policies of the School Board of Polk County Schools and the United States Chess Federation and PSC. All students agree to abide by the Code of Conduct of the School Board of Polk County Schools and understand that each PSC tournament is a school activity and that all school rules apply. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to: loud or vulgar language (cursing), throwing chess pieces or other objects in anger, destruction of private or public property, conduct which jeopardizes the safety of self and others, and any un sportsmanlike conduct. Misconduct could result in the following discipline:

- 1st violation: forfeiture of one game
- 2nd violation: forfeiture of tournament
- 3rd violation: expulsion from PSC program.

The following types of misbehavior will result in a warning before going to the above three-step procedure: refusal to follow the directions of Polk Scholastic Chess directors or their assistants, running and other "horseplay" in the hallways, wasteful production of and throwing of paper products (such as paper airplanes), etc.

6.17. Some violations are time sensitive and must be challenged immediately when they occur in order to be corrected. For this reason all violations of any rules under which the League operates must be reported immediately at the time and event at which they occur.

6.18. **PENALTIES:** Penalties for rules violations are at the discretion of the Head Tournament Director and may vary from warnings to forfeitures and docking of team points. Penalties may be appealed through the Standing Appeals Committee.

6.19. Standing Appeals Committee consists of any three (3) of the following; any Tournament Director not involved in the current situation, the current active President or Vice President of the League, and any Coach or High School player with a rating of 1200 or better.

6.20. APPEALS: The discretionary power of any TD may be appealed to the Head Floor TD. The decision of the Head Floor TD may be appealed to the Standing Appeals Committee. The decision of the Standing Appeals Committee is final. (Reference General rule 3.2)

7. TOURNAMENT SEASON

7.1. Polk Scholastic Chess is operated as a seasonal chess league.

7.2. The season is divided into four tournaments and one Polk Scholastic Chess Individual Championship.

7.3. Team championships will be decided based on the scores accumulated during the four regular tournaments.

7.4. Individual play during the four regular tournaments will decide divisions for the Polk Scholastic Chess County Championship.

7.4.1. The Championship will be held in February/March, or as close to it as possible, and is the final tournament of the season.

7.4.2. Awards for both teams and individuals will be presented following the Individual Championship Tournament.

7.4.3. Up to 16 players in each division will be in the Championship Section of their division.

7.4.4. All other qualified (played 12+ rounds during regular season) players will be placed in additional sections of no more than 16 players per section.

7.4.5. No shows will be counted as absent and will not count for championship.

7.4.6. Awards will be given to the top five players in the Championship Section, and the top three players of every other section.

7.5. Players meeting the requirements will be eligible to compete in the Florida Scholastic Chess League Super Star Tournament held either in March or April. Any PSC player who earns a position on the Super Star Team is required to compete in this event. Any one who cannot attend this event must inform his/her Coach so a replacement may be designated.

8. AWARDS

8.1. MONTHLY – INDIVIDUAL

8.1.1. All players earning four points will receive Perfect Score medallions and certificates.

8.1.2. First, Second, and Third Place certificates in each division. The tie break system will be used. [See section 6.14]

8.1.3. Place certificates will not be issued for players who receive Perfect Score certificates.

8.1.4. Upset of the Day medallions and certificates will be given for each division, based on the player who has the largest single upset of the tournament. [See section 6.13]

8.2. MONTHLY – TEAM

First, Second, and Third Place certificates in each division. The tiebreak system will be used. [See section 6.14]

8.3. CHAMPIONSHIP – INDIVIDUAL

8.3.1. First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Place trophies to the top players in the Championship Section of each division. The tiebreak system will be used. [See section 6.14]

8.3.2. First, Second, and Third Place trophies to the top players in the lower sections of the Championship Tournament. The tiebreak system will be used. [See section 6.13]

8.4. CHAMPIONSHIP – TEAM

First, Second and Third Place trophies to the top teams in each division, based on total accumulated scores for the four season tournaments (October through January). [See section 6.13]

8.5. ANNUAL – INDIVIDUAL

8.5.1. Championship Qualifier—must qualify for and play all rounds in his/her Division's Championship section, but not receive a place award.

8.5.2. Tournament Knight—must qualify, attend and play all rounds during the Championship Tournament and not receive a place award.

8.5.3. Most Improved Player—the player with the most accumulated upset points during the four season tournaments; one per division. [See section 6.13]

8.6. SUPERSTAR TEAM

8.6.1. Players are eligible for an annual Super Star Team awards in each division.

8.6.2. The criteria used to determine the Super Star Team are as follows:

8.6.2.1. Super Star Team members demonstrate good sportsman-like behavior. This criterion is clearly the most important. A player who fails to meet this criterion will not be considered further for Super Star Team membership.

8.6.2.2. Super Star Team members have maintained a good record during the season. It does not necessarily follow that the Super Star Team members have the best record in the division, but the best record will receive special consideration.

8.6.3. Selection of the Super Star Team will be made by the Tournament Director and/or a Super Stars Committee made up of members of the Board of Directors.

8.6.3.1. All Super Star Team members are required to compete in the annual Florida Scholastic Chess League Super Star Championship. Usually held in March or April. Participation on the Super Star team is a privilege. Any one who cannot attend must inform his/her Coach in a timely manner so a replacement may be designated. A designated team member who does not play in the tournament may lose the ability to qualify for the tournament the following season.

8.6.4. Each division's Super Star Team will be announced during the annual ceremony following PSC's Individual Championship tournament. Awards for qualifying to participate on the Super Star Team will be given only to those who actually participate in the Super Star Tournament.

8.6.5. Coach of the Year recipients will serve as the Super Star Team Coach and must attend that tournament with the players. Super Star Coaches will also give participating, qualified players their Super Star trophies during that tournament. [See section 5.2.1 and 5.5]

8.7. OTHER AWARDS

Other awards may be given at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Coaches Corner

2011 - 2012 Tournament Schedule and Information

All tournaments will be held at the Highland Park Church of the Nazarene in Lakeland, FL. on the following dates (All tournaments will be held in one place);

October	22nd 2011	Highland Park Church of the Nazarene
November	12th 2011	Family Ministries Building
December	10th 2011	4730 Lakeland Highlands Road
January	14th 2012	Lakeland, FL. 33813
March	03rd 2012	Individual Championship (must have played 12 of the 16 rounds)

You may register by Downloading the form and send it with check or money order for \$30.00 to Polk Scholastic Chess, P.O. Box 252, Bartow, FL. 33831-0252. The registration dead line is September 24, 2011. (Post marked). Any applications received or post marked after Sept 24th 2011 will need to be submitted with a \$10.00 late fee (Total 40.00). Late entries will not be guaranteed entry until the 3rd round. No registration will be accepted on the day of the tournament.

All Players should report to the tournament site no later than 8:00 AM. Any players being signed in after 8:00 AM will automatically be placed in the second round of play. The information and awards for previous tournaments will start at 8:15 AM.

The first round of each tournament shall start at 9:00 AM. Round two will be 10:30 AM, Lunch till 12:15 PM, Round three will start at 12:15 PM, and round four at 1:45 pm. All round times are an ideal setting with no problems and are subject to change without notice. The tournament should end approximately at 4:00 PM.

Food service will be provided at the Highland Park Church of the Nazarene Center. There will be food specials available at each event. Outside food and beverages may not be brought into the Center. An outside picnic or food consumed in the parking area is permissible.

When pairings are posted we ask that coaches only go to the area and receive them then take them to another area to give to your players. This will help with the congestion.

During the Awards we ask that all players and coaches sit at the front of the room and preferably with your teams. Parents can sit toward the rear of the building and regroup with your child after the awards. This will allow for a faster distribution and enable us to start on time.

The following pages may give you some ideas on how to keep track of your players and team as a whole. If you have any questions or need any assistance please call your Coaches or Arvind Shah at (863) 294-8761.

If you have any ideas to help things run smoother or really like something we do please contact any member of the Board of Directors, or your coaches' contact person. Parents are encouraged to contact us as well. We are here for everyone.

Polk Scholastic Chess

P. O. Box 252
Bartow, FL. 33831 - 0252

Annual Membership form for **Coaches (Mandatory)**

2011 - 2012 Tournament Season

No entry fee

Name (First, Middle Initial, Last)		Email Address	
Address		School Phone	
School Name		Home Phone (optional)	Cell Phone Number
Complete School Mailing Address, City, State, Zip			
Check all that apply Division ___ K-1 ___ 2-3 ___ 4-5 ___ 6-8 ___ 9-12		_____ School Board Employee _____ Approved Volunteer	

Participation Agreement:

Polk Scholastic Chess is an invitational extracurricular program of the School Board of Polk County Schools. All participants (players, coaches, and parents) are subject to the rules and regulations of the School Board of Polk County Schools, and Polk Scholastic Chess, which includes the Code of Conduct and the Volunteers in Polk (VIP) program. Parents are responsible to ensure that their student(s) are properly supervised. The supervision can be provided by a PSC-approved coach.

Students that are not properly supervised (all day) will not be allowed to compete in PSC tournaments or rounds. All membership and tournament fees are non-refundable and will be considered a donation to Polk Scholastic Chess if you decide you don't want to play in all of the tournaments. Please read the Polk Scholastic Chess "Coaches' and Players' Manual," which can be found on the web site at www.polkscholasticchess.com We will be posting the results of the tournaments in our Members Only area on the internet, the web address is www.polkscholasticchess.com In order to accomplish this we will be providing members with access to this area and requiring a password to view it. We will also be publishing photographs in the Members only area.

I have read the Polk Scholastic Chess "Coaches and Players Manual," and agree to its provisions.

Coach's Signature

Date

The above named person is a representative of our school and may serve as Chess Coach on our behalf.

Principal's Signature

Date

All forms and fees must be postmarked or completed by September 24, 2011.

Send form to Polk Scholastic Chess, P. O. Box 252, Bartow, FL. 33831-0252
Please remember it is not permitted to send cash or checks via the
Polk County School Board courier service.

No FEES for being a coach.

Our mission of Polk Scholastic Chess is to

" Encourage academic growth through the game of chess "

Polk Scholastic Chess

P. O. Box 252
Bartow, FL. 33831-0252

Annual Membership form for **Students**

2011 - 2012 Tournament Season

Entry fees \$30.00 per student.

(Application deadline Sept 24th, 2010. Any applications received or post marked after Sept 24th will need to be submitted with a \$10.00 late fee (Total \$40.00). Late entries will not be guaranteed entry until the third round.)

Player's Name as Registered in School (First, Middle Initial, Last)		Date of Birth	Phone Number
Complete Mailing Address, City, State, Zip			___ Male ___ Female
Parent / Guardian Name		Emergency Contact	Emergency Phone Number
Name of School (School you are Registered with)		Grade	Division ___ K-1 ___ 2-3 ___ 4-5 ___ 6-8 ___ 9-12
Email address		Member of School team ___ yes ___ no, if yes, Coach's name	

Participation Agreement:

Polk Scholastic Chess is an invitational extracurricular program of the School Board of Polk County Schools. All participants (players, coaches, and parents) are subject to the rules and regulations of the School Board of Polk County Schools, and Polk Scholastic Chess, which includes the Code of Conduct and the Volunteers in Polk (VIP) program. Parents are responsible to ensure that their student(s) are properly supervised. The supervision can be provided by a PSC-approved coach.

Students that are not properly supervised (all day) will not be allowed to compete in PSC tournaments or rounds. **All membership and tournament fees are non-refundable and will be considered a donation to Polk Scholastic Chess if you decide you don't want to play in all of the tournaments.** Please read the Polk Scholastic Chess "Coaches' and Players' Manual," which can be found on the web site at www.polkscholasticchess.com. We will be posting the results of the tournaments in our Members Only area on the internet, the web address is www.polkscholasticchess.com In order to accomplish this we will be providing members with access to this area and requiring a password to view it. We will be photographing and utilizing students names for public relations purposes and to publish to Members only area at polkscholasticchess.com. **Giving wrong school name could disqualify the player and/or school.**

I have read the Polk Scholastic Chess "Coaches' and Players' Manual," and agree to its provisions. **PSC will not be responsible for articles or injuries.**

Parent's Signature

Player's Signature

All forms and fees must be postmarked or completed by September 24, 2011.

Please make checks payable to "Polk Scholastic Chess". Send check and form to Polk Scholastic Chess, P. O. Box 252, Bartow, FL. 33831-0252

Please remember it is not permitted to send cash or checks via the Polk County School Board courier service.

There will be a \$10.00 service fee for All RETURNED CHECKS.

Our mission of Polk Scholastic Chess is to

" Encourage Academic Growth Through the Game of Chess "

Tournament Rounds Form

Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D	Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D
---	---

Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D	Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D
---	---

Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D	Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D
---	---

Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D	Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D
---	---

Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D	Round _____ Student _____ Board _____ Color _____ W L D
---	---

Sample Parent / Club Permission Form

Parents and Students,

We have an exciting way of teaching critical thinking, sequencing, sportsmanship, and self control, through the game of Chess. Even if your student is not a high achiever, Chess is for everyone!!

We will be starting our chess club on Friday, October 1st, in the Media Center at 7:30 AM. And holding the club meets every Friday thereafter.

Your students can join the chess club and play in tournaments even if they have never played chess before.

Please find 2 forms attached, 1) Tournament registration form (Student Application), & 2) Polk Scholastic Chess tournament information flyer.

If your student wishes to participate in the chess club, you will need to fill out the bottom portion of this permission slip and send in \$12.00 for club dues, you will also be required to transport your student to school. You do not have to stay for the club meet. Make this check or money order out to

Discovery Academy, chess club.

To participate in the tournament, you will need to fill out the tournament form and send in \$30.00 per child. Make this check or money order out to Polk Scholastic Chess. This form will serve as the permission slip for the School club.

To participate in the first round of tournament play, all fees and forms are due by September 26th. If you choose to participate in the tournaments you will **not** have to pay the club fees too however, your student will be required to come to the club meets.

For more information or if you have any questions please call Director at ??-??-???.

For more information on the tournaments you may call _____ or go to www.polkscholasticchess.com

I am looking forward to another great year!

Thank you,

Director

_____ has my permission to join DALA Chess club.

Student name

I will provide transportation to the club meets. I will also provide transportation to and from the tournaments if we elect to play them.

Enclosed or attached is; [] cash [] check [] money order, made out to either Polk Scholastic Chess in the amount of \$30.00 for tournament and club participation OR Discovery Academy Chess Club in the amount of \$12.00 for school club participation only.

Please Print Parent Name

Parent Signature

Sample club permission form

Inwood Elementary Chess Club 1998 – 1999

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

Teacher _____

Has my permission to participate in Inwood Elementary Chess club. I will provide transportation home at 3:30 on Wednesday afternoons.

There is a \$12.00 membership fee, which includes a club t-shirt.

I understand my student may also play in tournaments at a fee of \$30.00.

Make checks payable to Inwood Elem. Chess club.

Enclosed is [] check [] money order [] cash in the amount of []\$12 []\$42.

T-shirt size _____ Home phone # _____

Please print Parent's Name _____

Complete mailing address _____

Signed _____ Relationship to student _____

During the club meet I can be reached at _____

In case of emergency and I can not be reached, please contact
_____ at _____

+++++

Club use only

- [] Permission slip
- [] Club Fees
- [] Tournament Form
- [] Tournament Fees

Sample Notation Sheet

Event _____

Date _____ Opening _____

White _____ Black _____

White	Black	White	Black
1.		21.	
2.		22.	
3.		23.	
4.		24.	
5.		25.	
6.		26.	
7.		27.	
8.		28.	
9.		29.	
10.		30.	
11.		31.	
12.		32.	
13.		33.	
14.		34.	
15.		35.	
16.		36.	
17.		37.	
18.		38.	
19.		39.	
20.		40.	

Our Sponsorers

Polk County School Board



Elementary Schools

Click on the following link to go to Web Grades.
<https://pds.polk-fl.net/WebGrades>

Middle Schools and High Schools

From the following list, select the location from which you
are viewing this page.

Then, click on your school.

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We Help Take The " If " Out of Life

Arvind N. Shah, LUTCF and Jay A. Shah, MBA, LUTCF

Father and Son Team

(863) 206-9248, (863) 294-8761, (407) 999-0366