**Benefits of Joining the Chess Club (and other optional costs)**

Chess is a great social activity and competitive sport, which everyone can enjoy. Meet new friends with a common interest in an academically enriching environment that promotes sportsmanship and other positive social skills. .

Learn to play chess better at the practices, with the following provided by the club:
Chess 101 – The Basics provided for all club members;
Chess instruction using a large demonstration board;
Official Rules of Chess available at all meetings and used to adjudicate all disputes;
Chess books, chess CDs and software used in computer lab;
Points and rewards for extra chess activities that reinforce skills.

Every Chess Club Member will receive a club shirt, with the membership fee of $25, to be worn during tournaments. Additional club shirts can be purchased for club members, relatives and other supporters, if ordered by the first week of school.

Club owned chess sets, chess tournament clocks and scoresheets will be provided for all meetings. Members can also purchase regulation tournament sets and tournament clocks from tournaments and websites.

Learn how to play in nationally sanctioned interscholastic chess tournaments. Check out all of the nice awards in the school trophy case that the Gray Knights Chess Club Team has brought home in past years!! All members play in every round of these Swiss System tournaments. Each member will have a club rating, based on results of all in-club and interscholastic tournament games, using the USCF (US Chess Federation) rating system.

Club members will learn more about frequent nearby USCF rated interscholastic tournament opportunities. Tournament participants will be part of the Chess Club Team. USCF membership is required to participate in these tournaments.

We need parent volunteers at club activities and to raise funds to help club members with tournament expenses. Please contact Mr. Alfaro at B L Gray Jr. High, 580-5333, if you can help.

**Benefits of US Chess Federation Scholastic Membership**

With a USCF Scholastic membership, you’ll receive:

* An official membership card.
* The opportunity to play at USCF rated interscholastic tournaments.
* 6 bi-monthly Chess Life magazines from the USCF, full of lots of interesting chess information.

 Memberships are provided by the Chess Club and USCF-rated tournaments. For more information about the USCF, visit www.uschess.org.

**For more information**

Contact: Mr. Hugo Alfaro

 Chess Sponsor