Dear Chess Players and Parents in the TCA Combined Region 5 and 6 Scholastic Championships

 We know your child/children are excited to play in the upcoming tournament.

This is going to be a long email, but every topic is vital for you to read, and for you to go over with your child/children in advance of the tournament. Please do not wait until March 6th to read everything as it is important to read it in advance of the tournament.

Online chess tournaments require a little more explanation and diligence before the event begins.

Section

 Please let us know at austinchesstournaments@gmail.com by Thursday, March 4th if you need to change sections.

Warm Up Event And Tournament Username and Password

Your child will log in using this username and password created just for this tournament and Warm-Up Event

This information was emailed to you on Wednesday evening, March 3rd.

If you use ChessKid regularly, that account will not be in use for this event. Do not use any other account for this warm up event and tournament other than the one above. The same username/password will work for both the warm up event and tournament.

If the password does not work for you, please email Martin@ChessKid.Com no later than Friday, March 5th at 3pm.

Tournament Details

All Sections: 5 Round Swiss System, Game 15 + 5 second increment

All games will begin at 9am CST on Saturday, March 6th. Please log into ChessKid.Com by 8:45am Central. There is no elimination as participants will play all rounds.

Fair Play

Fair play will be taken very seriously. Every single game of the event will be subject to review by ChessKid's industry-leading fair play measures. If a player has violated them, he/she will be removed from the tournament, all games will be declared lost, no refunds will be given, and possible further action can be taken. Parents, your role as stewards of proper behavior is vital, we greatly encourage you to have a talk with your child about this before the event.

A reminder of things that are not allowed when playing online chess: No computer assistance, no human assistance, no watching the live stream, no tablebases, no databases, no books, no notes, no pastgames or scorebooks, no use of a second chess set to analyze variations. In addition, no other programs of any kind are allowed to be open on your child's computer, and only one browser tab is allowed to be open. If other tabs or programs are found to be opened, this constitutes a "technical violation" and your child will also be removed from the tournament and all games declared lost.

Being on Zoom is not necessary for this tournament.

By playing in this tournament, you are agreeing to all of these fair play rules, and you also agree to accept the final conclusions ChessKid renders about fair play.

Here's a video from FunMasterMike reminding kids that honesty and integrity are part of being a good chess player:

FunMasterMike's Video for Players

Recommended ChessKid Equipment to Avoid Connection Issues

- Strong WiFi (or even better, a wired connection)
- Use Chrome or Firefox as your browser
- Clear your cache before the tournament
- Use a laptop/desktop instead of a chromebook, iPad, or phone

Joining the Tournament on ChessKid

Most importantly, please show up early!

There are two different ways to join the tournament on ChessKid.Com on Saturday, March 6th. Please make sure you click the "JOIN" button by 8:45am Central.

Option 1:

- Log into ChessKid.Com using the tournament username listed above. If you have a different ChessKid Username that you normally use, it will NOT work for this tournament
- Click on Play ▯ Play vs. Kid

- Click on your tournament section on the right
- Click "JOIN". The "JOIN" button will appear 30 minutes before the tournament starts
- Stay on this page and your game will start automatically between 9:00-9:03am CST when the tournament begins

Option 2:

- Log into ChessKid.Com using the tournament username listed above. If you have a different ChessKid Username that you normally use, it will NOT work for this tournament
- Click on the link for your section:

Primary	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382409
Elementary School (K-5/6)	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382410
Elementary U500	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382411
Middle School (6-8)	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382412
High School (9-12)	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382413

- Click "JOIN". The "JOIN" button will appear 30 minutes before the tournament starts
- Stay on this page and your game will start automatically between 9am-9:03am CST when the tournament begins. Not all sections will begin at exactly the same time.

Joining the Warm Up Event on ChessKid

There will be a warm up event at 7pm CST on Thursday, March 4th. This event is optional but encouraged. The warm up event is 4 rounds and has a time control of 8 minutes with a 1 second increment. There are no awards for the warm up event as its main purpose is to practice playing chess on ChessKid, ensure your tournament login works, learn how to join a tournament on ChessKid, and troubleshoot any issues before the real tournament.

There are two different ways to join the warm up event on ChessKid.Com on Thursday, March 4th. Please make sure you click the "JOIN" button by 6:45pm Central.

Option 1:

- Log into ChessKid.Com using the tournament username listed above. If you have a different ChessKid Username that you normally use, it will NOT work for this tournament. You will use the same login for the warm up event that you will use for the actual tournament on March 6th.
- Click on Play ▯ Play vs. Kid
- Click on your tournament section on the right
- Click "JOIN". The "JOIN" button will appear 30 minutes before the tournament starts

- Stay on this page and your game will start automatically between 7:00pm-7:03pm CST when the warm up event begins

Option 2:

- Log into ChessKid.Com using the tournament username listed above. If you have a different ChessKid Username that you normally use, it will NOT work for this tournament. You will use the same login for the warm up event that you will use for the actual tournament on March 6th.
- Click on the link for your section:

Primary	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382418
Elementary School (K-5/6)	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382420
Elementary U500	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382421
Middle School (6-8)	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382422
High School (9-12)	https://www.chesskid.com/play/fastchess#t=382423

- Click "JOIN". The "JOIN" button will appear 30 minutes before the tournament starts

Stay on this page and your game will start automatically between 7pm-7:03pm CST when the warm up event begins

Live Help Desk During the Tournament

ChessKid staff will be available starting at 8am CST on Saturday, March 4th to assist you with any questions or issues. For any questions on the day of the event, please ask them here as opposed to sending an email. Please note that the Slack Help Desk will not be staffed for the warm-up event

You can find our help desk here: https://join.slack.com/t/chesskidtalk/shared_invite/zt-lpovrgbm-a8QcZPzmhvOUsyJQe9ZC4Q

When you click the link, you'll be prompted to create an account for Slack. For quickest assistance, please change your Slack Display Name to your child's ChessKid username.

When Your Game is Over

If you finish your game early, you might be tempted to leave the tournament screen. Do not exit out of the tournament until the completion of all rounds!

Do not leave the tournament lobby, play puzzles, or play other Fast Chess games, or you risk not being paired for the next round, or automatic tournament removal.

When your game is over, you may go to the other Player's Game. To do this, go into observation mode (binoculars icon) and watch any remaining games so that you'll have a good idea of when the next round is about to start.

This tournament lobby also shows the number of games remaining, which should give you a good idea how long until the next round begins. **Do not exit out of the tournament until the completion of all the rounds!**

There will be a 5 minute break between the last game of your section completing and the beginning of your next round. Do not match other opponents. Your game will start automatically.

When your last game is completed, you may leave ChessKid. Final results will be shared once all full play can be reviewed for games played.

Individual and Team Awards

Awards

Awards to the top players in each section.

Championship sections: The top finishing Region V resident in each Championship section will be named 2021 Region V Champion for that section, and receive an award to commemorate that honor. The top finishing Region VI resident in each Championship section will be named 2021 Region VI Champion for that section, and receive an award to commemorate that honor. An additional 3 awards will be given in each Championship section to the next top finishers with positive scores, after the Regional champions are named.

Non-championship sections: Awards to the top 3 players with positive scores in each non-Championship section.

Troubleshooting

- If you are using a browser other than Chrome or Firefox, ChessKid highly recommends that you switch browsers. ChessKid tournaments work best on Chrome or Firefox
- If you are using a phone, iPad, or Chromebook, ChessKid highly recommends using a computer or laptop instead
- If your username/password doesn't work, please email martin@chesskid.com or ask in the Slack Help Desk. Please note that the Slack Help Desk opens 60 minutes before the tournament begins.

- If the Club on ChessKid says that you need to be given permission or an Admin needs to give you access, please make sure you are logged in with the Tournament ID above and not a different ChessKid Account.
- If you do not see a "Join" button for the tournament, please make sure you are using a Chrome or Firefox browser. Computers and laptops are highly recommended over chromebooks, iPads, or phones. Clear your cache and refresh the page.
- If your game freezes during the game, please refresh your page to see if that solves the problem
- It is highly recommended that you clear your cache before the tournament begins