



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the MetroWest Boston chess community since 1983

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[Annual Meeting](#)

The Annual Meeting of the club will be held on the night of Round 3, January 17th, at 6:45 pm in the room used by the lower sections of the tournament.

The meeting is an open forum where members can raise questions or concerns and the President will discuss the state of the club.

Monthly Event:

This month's event is a **five** week tournament.

- Round 1 is Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017

- Sections with less than 8 players may be merged with another section

Due to the constraints of our playing site, all events at our current location are:

G/60; d5 dual-rated

Registration closes at 7:20 pm. If you arrive after that you may not be paired. We must be strict due to having to exit the building promptly at 10:00 pm.

Some thoughts about choosing to play up into the U1700 section: by Mark Kaprielian

Some thoughts for those players who are playing up from the U1400 section into the U1700 section. The trend for 2016 has been that the number of players in the U1400 section continued to decrease. It has now decreased so much that we are at the point where we do not have enough players for section.

It's easy to figure that if your rating is around 1350 or lower that you don't have much to lose by playing up into the U1700 section. But did you figure out how "easy" or "**not easy**" it is to gain points by playing up?

I've reached some generalizations from doing simulations of results versus ratings within sections that you may want to think about when deciding to play up into a section that is 300 points wide, as our U1700 section is.

If your rating were 1200 and assuming an equal distribution of ratings in the U1700 and if you were **the only person** playing up:

- If you lose all 5 rounds in January: You will drop about 20 points
- If you win 1 and lose 4 games you will have to beat a 1650 player to come close to not losing any points
- If you win 2 and lose 3 games you will have to beat a 1650 player and one other player around 1600

Of the 29 players who were in the U 1700 section in December all but 5 could have played in the U1400 section.

This adds a wrinkle to the above estimates. Due to there being so many other players under 1400 in your section, your wins and your losses are more likely to be against one or more of them than higher rated players. When you lose to someone rated 200 or 300 points higher than you, you lose a lot less points than against the others of similar rating to you who are also playing up.

- Now you have to **not lose to anyone near your rating** and your **wins need to be against higher players**
 - You will need to win at least two games with at least one of them rated above 1640 to not lose points
 - You will need to win 3 games with at least one against a 1650 player to gain a few points

Let me point out that the same pattern occurs for the U1700s who play up into the U2000. You'll need at least two wins with one against a much higher player than you to get a few points.

It boils down to two approaches for getting your rating up higher:

- If you play up and have a 2 or more wins against **higher** rated players during an event, you'll see your rating go up
- If you can consistently win most of your games in your current section, after a few months your rating will have moved up from where you Started.

Note that if you are not consistently performing at a higher level then any jump up in rating **will soon be followed by a big drop.**

A good rule of thumb to remember is, Win all your games and your rating will go up.

For those of you who have been playing up into the U1700 section, you may want to consider giving yourself a break by returning to the U1400 section. Win all your games and your rating will go up, maybe not as fast as you would like. You are a lot more likely to get 2 or more wins in your own section than in playing up in the next section.

For January if we do not have at least 8 players registered at round 1 for the U 1400 section we will have to merge those players into the U1700 section.

Preparing for the future:

As most of you are aware, for two years come this January we have been looking for a new location so we may return to our traditional time control of 40/90, SD/30, d5. We have come close several times to leasing a space. We are hopeful that our current negotiations will be fruitful and will find us playing our traditional time controls once again on Tuesday nights in early 2017.

Moving from renting a space on one night a week to leasing a space requires an additional level of management above and beyond what we do now. Leasing our own space will require us to increase our income significantly. Our basic plan includes:

- Continue to have our Tuesday night event with a return to our slower

time control of 40/90, SD/30, d5

- Run a Saturday one-day tournament with a time control of G/60; d5
 - Everything the same as what we do now on Tuesdays except all four rounds will be on just one day.
- Run a Scholastic tournament with trophies one Saturday a month
- Find organizations that want to rent our space on other nights of week or during the day.
 - Just as we have needed to rent a large space on Tuesdays, other organizations also need to rent space.

In anticipation of this significant increase in our activity, we are making some changes to prepare for this.

- Matt Phelps will be stepping into the role of president for the 2017 club year
 - Matt will take on the expanded duties of overseeing the entire operation of the club
- I will continue in the role of Director of Tournaments
 - My duties will be primarily focused on our regular and two new tournaments

Personal Thoughts:

This year concludes my 22nd year as president of the club. My goals at the outset were:

- To make it “easy to decide to play” at the club
- To provide a consistent and pleasant event for our members
- To organize the club so that it could operate just as well with me as without me.

Although there is always room for improvement, I am happy with the results, and I am confident that Matt has the skills to lead us well in this next phase of

the club's growth and history.

I would like to conclude by thanking the many members of the board, tournament directors, and volunteers who have helped to sustain our club through the years.

Mark Kaprielian

Past President, 1995 - 2016



Winter-Spring Chess Classes (Scholastic Chess Classes)

RSM-MetroWest in Framingham is now enrolling for Winter-Spring **Chess Classes**.

Fall Classes meet on Wednesdays 6:10 – 7:40 pm January through May

The class is for students in elementary and middle school students, and is offered at two levels:

- Chess I - for beginners
- Chess II - for intermediate/advanced players (requires approval of the Chess Master).

Instructors: Lou Mercuri and Vadim Martirosov

Dates, fees and other details at www.metrowestschool.com/chess.html

- Please submit an application by following the ENROLL button at www.metrowestschool.com
- Please indicate the Chess Class you would like in the Comments field

of the application

Web

Site: www.metrowestschool.com/chess.html

Email: info@metrowestschool.com

Phone: **508-283-1355**.

More detail, signup information and background of our Masters can be found at:

www.metrowestschool.com/chess.html

Contact us at info@metrowestschool.com for questions and inquiries.



New England Chess School (Scholastic Chess Classes)

After school & Weekend chess classes

- Enriched after-school and weekend activity for elementary school aged children.
- All levels are welcome from beginners to already serious tournament player

For more information:

<http://www.chessne.com/>

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