

We are writing to invite you to compete in the appropriate section of a junior chess tournament to be held on one of the days over the weekend of Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Cumnor Primary School.

This tournament will be used to help decide which children will be selected to represent Oxfordshire in the 2018 County Championships. Please read this invitation with your parents and ask them to send in your entry form if you would like to take part.

There are three teams – under 9 (boys and girls), under 11 (boys and girls) and under 11 girls. The age limits are the child's age on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017. So the under 9 team is open to anyone currently in year 4 or below and the under 11 teams for anyone in year 6 or below. It is quite possible for someone to play for more than one team, and the stronger U9s are encouraged to enter both U9 and U11 sections of the trials.

The important dates for the county matches are as follows:  
(Qualifiers and finals are normally from 11am to 5pm)

Under 9:	Friendly*:	Sunday February 4th 2 - 5.30pm	Newbury
	Qualifier:	Saturday March 10th	Sussex
	Final:	Saturday April 28th	TBC
Under 11:	Friendly*:	Sunday February 11th 2 - 5.30pm	Maidenhead
	Qualifier:	Saturday March 17th	Wiltshire
	Final:	Saturday April 21st	Warwickshire
U11 Girls:	Friendly*:	date and location to be confirmed	
	Final:	Saturday March 24th	Oxford

The tournament will be split into two sections - under 9s on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January and under 11s on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January, and will be used to help us select players to be in the under 9 and under 11 squads. (\*The warm-up, inter-county friendly games are also used to refine team selection.) We will be looking at the score you get and how you play, and will let you know shortly after the event whether or not you have been selected. Every member of the squads will be invited to join the Oxfordshire Junior Chess Squad Club, “Ojays” – you can see details on the club website: <http://www.oxon-junior-chess-squad.org.uk/>  
They will also be able to purchase an Oxon Junior chess sweatshirt to wear at County matches and at other chess tournaments.

Even if you are not interested in playing for the county teams, you are more than welcome to enter the tournament for fun – there are likely to be lots of less-experienced players taking part, especially in the Under 9 section, as well as the more experienced players, and there will be lots of prizes!

Andrew Varney (overall co-ordinator, Oxon Junior Chess)  
Team managers: David Zakarian (U11), Elliot Kendall (U9), Marc Ives (U11 girls)

## Information about the tournament 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Place:** Cumnor Primary School, Oxford Road, Cumnor, Oxon. OX2 9PQ

**Date:** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (U9) and/or Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (U11)

**Time:** 9:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (approx): Six rounds using the Swiss pairing system. Chess clocks will be used on most boards (30 minutes per player). Instruction will be given in using these to those who are not familiar with them. **PLEASE ARRIVE BY 9.45 a.m.**

**Byes:** Please let us know if you would like your child to enter the tournament but they cannot play in every round.

**Open to:** Children born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006 (under 11s) or 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 (under 9s) and who live or attend school in Oxfordshire.

**Registration:** The deadline for registration is Wednesday 3rd January 2018. The entry fee by cheque or bank transfer at the time of registration is £7.50 (U9)/£10.00 (U11) or £12 cash or cheque on the day. This is used to help pay for our county's entry to EPSCA, administration costs and prizes. Due to changes in ECF policy related to grading, this year ECF membership is a requirement to enter the U11 section. Strictly for newcomers only wishing to join the ECF for the first time, we can arrange a free Junior Silver membership for you, which is valid until 31 August 2018 (please indicate by signing on the entry form if you would like us to do this, as we require your permission to provide your child's date of birth, contact information and postal address to the ECF).

EPSCA= "English Primary Schools Chess Association", ECF = "English Chess Federation".

**Prizes:** Trophies for top three under 9s and under 11s. The winner of the under 9 section will also receive the Oxfordshire Under 9 Champion trophy for one year, and the winner of the under 11 section the Oxfordshire Under 11 Champion trophy. There will also be other prizes on offer during the day.

**Food:** You may bring your own food and drink if you wish, but refreshments will be available for purchase on site, provided by Hacketts Coffee Bar and Bistro.

**Parking:** Parking is limited at the school but street parking is possible in the village. However please be considerate to the village residents. We recommend that car sharing arrangements are made between parents in order to minimize the congestion.

**Parents:** We ask that you (or another responsible adult) stay with your child at the school during the tournament. Please note that there will be no formal supervision of children except in the chess playing areas and the organisers cannot be held responsible for any incidents that occur elsewhere in the school. If you are leaving your child with another adult at the school for the day please return by 4.00 p.m.

**Further information:** For further information please e-mail

Andrew Varney at [av.chess@outlook.com](mailto:av.chess@outlook.com)

and/or the relevant team manager

U11 –David Zakarian [davezak13@hotmail.com](mailto:davezak13@hotmail.com),

U9 – Elliot Kendall [E.R.Kendall@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:E.R.Kendall@exeter.ac.uk)

U11 girls – Marc Ives [MIves@StGabriels.co.uk](mailto:MIves@StGabriels.co.uk)

**OXFORD COUNTY JUNIOR CHESS TRIALS ENTRY FORM**  
**UNDER 9, UNDER 11 and UNDER 11 GIRLS (selected from both sections)**

Ideally please enter online at <http://www.oxon-junior-chess-squad.org.uk/> and ask for bank transfer details. Alternatively please complete this section and return it, before the deadline of Wednesday 3rd January, via email to [Kathryn.Gillow@maths.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Kathryn.Gillow@maths.ox.ac.uk) or in the post to **Kathryn Gillow, 56 Five Mile Drive, Oxford, OX2 8HW** together with a cheque for the entry fee (payable to 'Oxfordshire Junior Chess'). Payment by cash on the day is fine as well, but is charged at the late-fee rate of £12.

**Name of child** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Numbers** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_ **School** \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in date of birth and school sections. This information is needed for team sheets given to the organisers of the EPSCA events to show that the children are eligible to play for the team.

**Parent's e-mail address** \_\_\_\_\_

- Entry fee enclosed:**
- £7.50 cheque** (payable to Oxfordshire Junior Chess) **for U9**
  - £10.00<sup>†</sup> cheque** (payable to Oxfordshire Junior Chess) **for U11**
  - £15.00<sup>†</sup> cheque for both U9 and U11**
  - Pay £12 on the day of the tournament**

<sup>†</sup> ECF membership is required for the U11 tournament.

Please state **ECF membership number and level (e.g. 'Silver')\***: \_\_\_\_\_

(Or as a newcomer, please **\*sign above** to give us permission to use the personal information provided in this form to arrange a first year's free ECF Junior Silver membership for your child.)

**Name on cheque (only if different surname to child):** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether your child would be available for the matches on:  
(Qualifiers and finals are normally from 11am to 5pm)

Under 9:	Friendly*:	Sunday 4 February 2 - 5.30pm	Newbury	Y/N
	Qualifier:	Saturday 10 March	Sussex	Y/N
	Final:	Saturday 28 April	TBC	Y/N
Under 11:	Friendly*:	Sunday 12 February 2 - 5.30pm	Maidenhead	Y/N
	Qualifier:	Saturday 17 March	Wiltshire	Y/N
	Final:	Saturday 21 April	Warwickshire	Y/N
U11 Girls:	Friendly*:	date and location to be confirmed		Y/N
	Final:	Saturday 24 March	Oxford	Y/N