

Bellingham Knights Chess Club



PRESS RELEASE (Immediate Release)

New Bellingham Chess Group Forming *Play Chess For Challenge, Fun and Skills Improvement*

Bellingham, Washington. November 24, 2015.

The Bellingham Chess & Coffee Meetup invites the community to join its new Sunday afternoon chess play gatherings at the Haggens Barkley, Market Street Café (Food Court) on 2900 Woburn Street in Bellingham. Play will also be at other venues as announced.

Coordinated by Bellingham resident, Steve Szirom, the free program will launch on Sunday November 29, 2015 at 2:00 PM. It will be held weekly on Sundays at the same time. Folks of all ages may drop by at any time starting at 2:00 PM on Sundays to meet other local players and play chess. The venue, Haggens Market Street Café (Food Court) location, has a coffee/espresso bar, sushi, Chinese food bar, assorted sandwiches and other lunch items. The indoors café is well lit and has a large dining area with tables which are suitable for playing chess.

Szirom said, "We invite all ages -- young and senior -- to learn and have fun at one of the world's most intelligent board games called chess. The game has been around for over 1,500 years. It is played internationally by practically all nations, with Russia, Germany, Spain, France and India leading with the most internationally ranked players."

Currently, there are no other organized chess groups in Bellingham open to the public which play chess regularly, so it is an opportunity to meet chess players and play. Online chess is great, but there is no substitute for meeting new people and playing on a real chess board. We hope to grow the chess group organically through word-of-mouth and recommendations.

Szirom, who has played chess since age seven, said that specific goals will be defined later depending on member interest but may include chess tutoring, simultaneous play exhibitions, and preparing players for local and statewide chess tournaments. He hopes to have several USCF-rated coaches and a chess master to help members become better chess players. Szirom believes that chess fosters a strategic mindset that leads to improved motivation, concentration, character qualities, and cooperative skills.

We invite chess players to join us if you play the game at any level and/or would like to learn. Additional joining information is available at www.BellinghamChess.com.

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