Fact Sheet

The University of Texas at Dallas Chess Program

• Established in 1996, the UT Dallas Chess Program is divided into three components: The team, the club and chess in education initiatives, including online instruction and summer camps.

• Since the team’s formation, 24 Grandmasters (GMs) and International Masters (IMs) have played for UT Dallas.

• The chess team has won or tied for first in the following national and international competitions:
  o the Pan American Intercollegiate Championship - ten times
  o the National Collegiate Chess League team championship – six times
  o the Final Four of Chess, also known as the President’s Cup – five times

• The chess team spreads goodwill and extends a global presence for the University by playing more International matches than any other university in the United States.
  o Expositional match with the University of Nankai in Beijing
  o Expositional match with the Instituto Superior de Cultura Fisica (ISCU) in Havana
  o Internet A/V matches with the University of Belgrade
  o Internet TelePresence match against the Chennai District Chess Association (CDCA) in India

✔ UT Dallas supports up-and-coming chess talent with about seven scholarships annually. Scholarships are awarded to elementary, junior high and high school players who excel at various tournaments.

• The University chess club is an open-access group which offers a friendly environment for improving one’s game, as well as service opportunities. The club hosts the annual UT Dallas ChessFest and participates in the Sounds of Class outdoor fall community festival.

• UT Dallas offers two online courses on using chess in the classroom, for undergraduate or graduate credit. Classes are taught by Dr. Alexey Root, former U.S. Women’s Chess Champion.

*Grandmaster is the highest title a chess player can obtain. GMs attain a rating of at least 2500. The title is granted for life. International masters (IMs) obtain a rating of at least 2400. Both GMs and IMs have also achieved three norms, which occur when a player achieves three favorable results in international tournaments involving other IMs and GMs.