

# Competitive Improvement Workshop Series — Summer 2008

**Location — Great Hall Games**, 5501 N. Lamar (Suite A-135) in Central Austin

**Daily schedule ... Monday through Friday, 10AM–5PM** (earliest drop-off is at 9AM; latest pick-up by 6PM)

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
June 16–20	July 7–11	July 14–18	July 21–25	August 4–8	August 11–15

Each workshop session is limited in size to 16–18 participants and split into two groups based on age, rating and competitive experience. Preferred rating and experience levels are USCF 400 and three tournaments. We will consider marginal cases based on a local chess instructor's recommendation and/or other relevant factors! Our recommended minimum academic level is "2nd Grade Graduate" — although we do have a lot of fun, *these workshops are not chess camps*. Since several hours a day are spent in a classroom setting, during which all students will need to maintain discipline and focus, parents should carefully consider their children's proclivities and expectations.

**Grand Prix!!** — This Summer, the workshop series will offer more than just serious instruction, training games and mini-events ... the best results of each session's participants will be entered into a competition for exciting prizes!

"Grand Prix Points" earned by the highest scorers from each section of each group in their workshop's weekly events will be entered into a "series best" hierarchy to vie for a selection of exciting prizes. Based on 48 total entries, two overall and four sectional prizes will be awarded at the end of the workshop series! *Guaranteed 1<sup>st</sup> Place — a gift basket with **Chess Assistant 9.1**, **Chess Openings** with more than **3 million games**, and **Rybka 2.3.2** (a super strong computer engine!).*

**NEW THIS SUMMER!** – **Daily breaks now include** breathing, stretching and focusing exercises using such techniques as yoga and tai chi. Please dress students in loose-fitted clothing for comfortable participation!

Fluency in notation skills (both reading and writing) and familiarity with common chess terms and expressions are a necessary requirement for attendance. We do require the recording of training games by *all* participants.

We should also mention that each of these summer workshops will be *very different in content*, so neither "picking and choosing appropriate subjects" nor "repetition of material" need be a real concern for parents. The instructors will present a variety of level-appropriate major and minor subjects, with exercises and training games (followed by class review) to develop a deeper understanding of the topics. There will also be daily "combined group" activities: chess news, interactive discussions, team games and challenges ...

## Reservations and Fees Acceptance Policies

**Reservation Fee** — There is a \$50 non-refundable reservation fee for each workshop session. This fee is applied to the total workshop cost. See the registration form for details.

**Refunds** — The entire amount (minus the \$50 reservation fee) will be refunded, after consideration, only under certain conditions including, but not limited to or guaranteed by:

- unexpected hardship or illness
- if the workshop is full (16–18 students)

**Transfers** — If a cancelling student finds and provides a previously unregistered and fully qualified replacement, we will issue a full refund including the reservation fee (after receipt of the new substitute's fees). Fees may be transferred to another session if the workshop is not full; however, a minimum one-week notification must be given.

## Registration

- Reservation is official only upon receipt of fees!
- No "at the door" registrations will be accepted!

## Registration

### Workshop Reservation Form

Student Name	School	Grade	USCF ID

Parent's Name	Work Phone	Cell Phone	Home Phone

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Special Medical/Dietary Info ...</b> _____ _____
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#### Workshop Fee Schedule (per session)

<b>\$169</b> (includes the \$50 reservation fee)	If <i>reservation</i> fee(s) are received by hand or postmarked by May 20.	<b>Early Bird Special!</b>
<b>\$129</b> (includes the \$50 reservation fee)	For students with a rating above 1500 (if fees received by dates listed below).	<b>Competitive Edge Discount!</b>
<b>\$179</b> <b>(Regular Fee)</b> (includes the \$50 reservation fee)	Reservation fee(s) delivered/received by: by July 3 for Workshop 2 by July 10 for Workshop 3 by July 17 for Workshop 4 by July 31 for August sessions	<b>NOTE:</b> No new or unapproved students will be accepted the morning of a workshop.
<b>Special Multi-Workshop discount!</b> Workshop fee drops \$10 for each subsequent workshop attended.		
<b>IMPORTANT! Only the \$50 reservation fee is due according to the dates offered above! The balance of the total workshop fee is due at drop-off Monday morning on the first day of class.</b>		

Circle session(s):

Session 1 June 16–20	Session 2 July 7–11	Session 3 July 14–18	Session 4 July 21–25	Session 5 August 4–8	Session 6 August 11–15
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\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed reservation fee (\$50) per session / per student (check or money order)

Make check or money order (**for reservation fee amount only!**) payable to Paul Chaplin. (*Please DO NOT make checks payable to Great Hall Games!*) Send fees along with completed reservation form to:

Great Hall Games  
 5501 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite A-135  
 Austin, TX 78751

For additional information, please contact:  
**Paul Chaplin** ([pschaplin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pschaplin@sbcglobal.net))

**Site conditions and the workshop mission** dictate that applicants conform to certain requirements:

**The venue is a retail store** – we have contracted to use two rooms located in the back area of the store where there is a restroom, a small kitchen and a snack vending machine. *None of the participants* can be allowed out of this area *during the entire workshop period* – *all* students must be mature and cooperative enough to understand and endure these constraints!

**Students will be allowed in** *only* after 9:00 am and *must* be picked up before 6:00 pm! “School” is 10-5!

**Parents should provide lunches and snacks** and perhaps change for the snack machine and drinks. It is also acceptable if parents wish to bring their child lunch at the appropriate time.

**This edition of the Advanced Competitive Workshop will be divided into two groups** — by rating and careful consideration of some balancing factors — experience and age. Each group will be appropriately challenged and tested using our time-honed skills and with their best interests in mind!