

Alan Kirshner Agrees to Direct the 2006 State Scholastic Championship

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By Eric Hicks

This week it was decided by the Cal Chess board that Alan Kirshner will organize the 2006 Cal Chess Scholastic Championship. In the last few days Dr. Kirshner officially accepted the board's appointment.

This will be the first time that Cal Chess will sponsor its own tournament. In the past financial responsibility was delegated to a 3rd party such as Kirshner, Peterson, Hughes, etc.. This year Cal Chess itself will sponsor the tournament and accept financial responsibility. Dr. Kirshner has kindly agreed to volunteer to organize the tournament on behalf of Cal Chess. Hats off to Dr. Kirshner for his noble gesture!



Alan Kirshner...Tournament Organizer

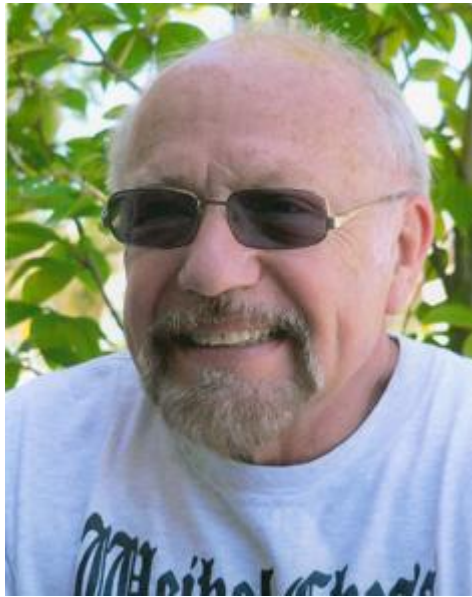
The history of the Cal Chess championship is an interesting read. Please refer to my own story "The Murky Politics of the State Scholastic Championship" in the scholastic archives. In past years, as a board member of Cal Chess, it was Alan Kirshner who transformed our state championship into a 1000+ kid affair. Before Dr. Kirshner, the state tournament could be held at an elementary school..now it is a convention center affair. Last year Dr. Kirshner inadvertently directed and organized the Cal North Championship on the same weekend as the state scholastic championship. Both tournaments had under 1000 kids with kids having to choose which tournament to participate in. Because of this and other "murky" issues..it was unsure if our state scholastic championship would be a unified Cal Chess championship this year or any future year. With Cal Chess and Dr. Kirshner coming together once again to organize this tournament we are assured of a "unified" state championship tournament once again. Cal Chess expects still another great championship tournament organized by Dr. Kirshner.

In fact, we expect that this will be the best state championship ever with the Cal Chess board and Dr. Kirshner working together to provide everything we can think of to the children. Cal Chess treasurer Richard Koepcke (director for the adult state championships) will direct the tournament. I call this the "Dream Team" of Kirshner organizing and Koepcke directing. I will provide an online sign up form, tournament updates,

and a up to the minute sign up list on the website.

No Cal Chess membership will be required for this tournament. The tournament will follow the same rules as the 2002 tournament as was posted on the Cal Chess website.

Tournament location, date, and other announcements will be announced when the information comes available. Expect regular updates on www.calchess.org.



In his Wiebel Chess Uniform (he loves when i misspel Weebel)



Hamming it up for his cronies



Believe it or not this is Alan in younger years as competitive body builder



Fair Warning...Do not arm wrestle this guy.