

VANCOUVER
CHESS SCHOOL

2017 SPRING BULLETIN



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OUR TEAM

CRISTIAN CODIRLASU

One of the Vancouver Chess School's long-time coaches, Cristian is currently teaching classes at the Coquitlam and Richmond locations. Having learned the rules of chess at the age of four, Cristian began taking chess seriously at the age of 15, when he began attending a local club to sharpen his skills. By the age of 23, he had obtained his National Master title.

When asked about what made him consider teaching chess, he refers to his obtaining his master title, at which point he joined a Chess Instructor program and felt that "teaching was a new challenge worth exploring." He points towards inspiration being a focus for him as an instructor, as there are occasionally some students less enthusiastic than others. Consequently, he tries to "talk to each of [his] students individually, to discover what motivates them the most. Overall, Cristian finds teaching a fulfilling experience, saying:

"Teaching allows students and teacher alike to explore the infinite possibilities of chess. It is a shared journey full of excitements and thrills."



OUR TEAM

CRISTIAN CODIRLASU



From his lengthy experiences as a chess instructor and as a chess player, Cristian states the fastest and most effective way to improve is through 'getting involved in the world of chess'. Apart from just attending the VCS class, other efforts are necessary to achieve high results in chess. Specifically: "Playing and analyzing games as well as solving chess puzzles are probably the most efficient ways to grow as a chess player. The more time you put into it, the more achievements are there for you."

Finally, Cristian speaks to the more philosophical side of the game of chess. He compares chess to a universal language or an ambassador, as "there are always people willing to play a chess game, wherever you travel." He points to connection, competition, and fair play as key learnings of chess, and hopes to see VCS and BC Junior Chess as a whole continuing to instill these qualities in participating young players.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH



NICHOLAS WU

Nicholas was exposed to chess at a very young age. As a toddler, he would often snatch chess pieces from the board when his older brother was playing a game with his father. When they tried to shoo him away, he would often throw a tantrum and refuse to give the pieces back! After this had occurred several times, his father decided that it would be easier to just teach him how to play so that he would not feel left out.

Nicholas started out by learning how the pawns moved, and was soon able to play a game with only pawns on the board. This gave him a lot of pleasure, as he was now able to play a "Pawns" game with his older brother and father. This also gave his father a lot of pleasure, as he could spend quality time with his sons after work. It took a few months for Nicholas to master how pawns move before he moved on to learn the next piece: the king. "Kings and Pawns" then became the new popular game played in the household for the next few months. This process continued until eventually, one-by-one, all the pieces were added onto the board. Nicholas was now ready to play a full game of chess.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

NICHOLAS WU

When his older brother enrolled at Vancouver Chess School last September, Nicholas naturally wanted to join too. It did not take long before chess class became something he looked forward to each week. Thanks to the instruction of his teacher Cristian Codirlasu and the online features on the VCS website, Nicholas became motivated to learn and eager to improve. One online feature that serves as a great motivational tool for him is the “Wall of Fame”. He loves to earn ‘diamonds’ for his wall, so he always completes his homework and tries to do his best every class. He often reminds his dad to sign him up for the next “Quads” so he can have the opportunity to get a green diamond. So far, Nicholas has earned diamonds of every colour except magenta. He hopes to add this to his collection in the near future.



CHESS FOR SUCCESS

GILLIAN MOK

Our daughter Gillian was first introduced to chess in August 2014 when she was six years old. Because she was already an avid reader and was showing interest in mathematical concepts, we enrolled her in a Math and Chess summer camp. As she was keen to continue, we let her join the classes at Vancouver Chess School the following year. Initially, Gillian was thrilled with victories but was quite saddened by defeats. Over time, we are pleased to see her placing greater focus on developing her own skills and learning from her mistakes. We strongly feel that chess has a very positive influence on our family and would like to share some of our experiences.

Although Gillian loves soccer and enjoys the cello, her passion lies in chess. As with all endeavors of significance, to excel at chess requires hard work. Having passion for the subject has helped Gillian persevere. It gives her the discipline to do her chess homework regularly and looks for ways to improve. As a result, her ratings have improved steadily. We feel that having the experience of getting results through effort at a young age will help Gillian academically.



CHESS FOR SUCCESS

GILLIAN MOK



In her academic career, Gillian will write many exams and give many presentations. They will undoubtedly be stressful. Attending chess competitions has given Gillian valuable experience in dealing with stress. We hope she will eventually learn to harness the adrenalin rush to her advantage. Tournaments also teach Gillian about resilience. Winning or losing one game must not affect her performance in the next one. Attending the Canadian Youth Chess Championship last year in Windsor, Ontario provided Gillian with quality family time with her Dad. It also gave Gillian a taste of what business travel is like; hard work during the day, a nice dinner and brief relaxing time in the evening. After the tournament, we drove through a severe thunderstorm on the way to Niagara Falls. It was a spectacle the neither of us will forget.

Playing chess has taught Gillian to be more careful in her school work. Just as she has learned to double check before making a move to avoid blunders, she is checking her work before handing it to the teachers. We are pleased that her teachers are reporting good improvements.

All in all, playing chess has been a wonderful experience for us. It has been fun and challenging. Gillian has met many new friends at Vanchess and at tournaments. We are very grateful for the dedicated teachers and excellent support materials at Vanchess. We hope Gillian will continue to enjoy playing for a long time.

CHESS FOR SUCCESS

BENJAMIN COOKNAGY



My son Benjamin started playing chess when he was in kindergarten. Before he even knew how to read he was able to play a game of chess. I had heard that chess was a game for intellectuals but I did not know all the ways it would benefit my son. Five years have gone by since he started playing and I can see the positive influence chess has had on his life.

When Benjamin began to play he had just started school, like many 5 year olds he had some difficulty focusing at school all day. I started to notice a difference in his ability to focus when he started classes at Vancouver Chess School. Playing chess taught him to focus on the game which in turn helped him to focus more at school.

I also noticed that his math skills improved from playing chess. Chess is a game that teaches players to think ahead. Just like when he plays a game of chess, he is forced to think ahead and come up with a method to solve the equation at hand.

CHESS FOR SUCCESS

BENJAMIN COOKNAGY

When we first started attending tournaments, I was unsure of how Benjamin would react to his wins and losses. I think that chess tournaments helped him understand the true meaning of good sportsmanship. Every game that he won taught him how to be a gracious winner and every game lost was a lesson in humility. Losses also taught him what areas he needed to work on and helped him become a better player. This came in handy when he started to play on sports teams.

As a parent to a child who plays chess, I can see the positive impact chess has had on his life. Chess has helped my son with his ability to focus, think ahead and practice good sportsmanship. I am very thankful to Vancouver Chess School for nurturing my son's love of chess.



CHESS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Chess in Schools (CIS) program is VCS's newest initiative to fulfill the core mandate of continuing chess education throughout the Lower Mainland. With 20 participating schools, CIS allows our chess school to have a much broader reach, and enables students throughout the region to have access to our comprehensive chess program. Open to everyone, CIS is able to teach groups of students with varying levels using our unique software and by assigning different class material and homework according to student's level of chess ability. The CIS program consists of the same format as our usual VCS classes, with the coach presenting the class material and students playing against each other as well. Using custom software VCS is able to cater each lesson to the student's needs and the online homework provides extensive practice and exposure to key concepts for optimal improvement.



VCS Before & After
School Chess Program

Chess is the gymnasium of the mind.
(Blaise Pascal)

VCS
Before & After
School Chess Program

Comprehensive and Flexible ✓	Professional Instruction ✓	Interactive and Fun ✓	Effective Training ✓	All Inclusive Chess Education Service ✓	We are a Local Company ✓
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VANCOUVER CHESS SCHOOL www.vanchess.ca info@vanchess.ca Voicemail (604) 568-3283

CHESS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM



VCS

Before & After
School Chess
Program

A special thank you goes out to VCS's dedicated CIS volunteers Stephanie Gu, Alex Yu, Brian Yang and Bill Wang. These VCS students give their time to assist both the coach and students in these classes and their dedication and efforts are much appreciated. VCS is always happy to have more senior students volunteering in CIS classes – if you are interested in volunteering next semester please contact VCS to inquire about schedules and opportunities.

We are accepting students on a rolling basis – see the schedule below and the webpage for full details: <http://vanchess.ca/content/view/page/chess-in-schools>
CIS programs list:
http://vanchess.ca/groups/index/city/vancouver/location_type_id/2 as of May 1st 2017.

As part of VCS's mandate to increase junior chess participation throughout the Lower Mainland and to make chess available to all students, we are always looking to expand our Chess in Schools program by welcoming new schools. If you believe your school or your child's school would be interested in having a Chess in Schools program, please contact us at info@vanchess.ca. We look forward to working with you!

VCS SUMMER CAMPS

JULY 10 - SEP 1, 2017

Children will learn valuable skills of concentration, abstract reasoning, and rational problem-solving, while tapping into their creativity and originality. Chess lessons will include using electronic presentations and videos, chess tournaments in a variety of fun formats

- Rapid, Blitz, Bughouse, Blindfold
- Chess Puzzle exercises
- Game Analysis
- Chess Simultaneous Exhibitions

chess puzzles, game analysis, and chess simultaneous exhibitions. The best part is that the children have fun while learning these lessons.

Camp outlines:

[New to chess](#), [Intermediate & Advanced](#)



VCS SUMMER CAMPS SCHEDULE

#	Date	Time	City	Location	Address	Registration
1	July 10 – July 14	9 am – 3pm	Vancouver	Trout Lake Community Centre	3360 Victoria Dr, Vancouver, BC V5N 4M4	Register
2	July 17 – July 21	9 am – 3pm	Burnaby	Wendu Education	290-5172, Kingsway Burnaby BC V5H2E8	Register
3	July 24 – July 28	9 am – 3pm	TBA	TBA		
4	July 31 – Aug 4	9 am – 3pm	Vancouver	Killarney Community Centre	6260 Killarney St, Vancouver, BC V5S 2X7	Register
5	Aug 7 – Aug 11	9 am – 3pm	TBA	TBA		
6	Aug 14 – Aug 18	9 am – 3pm	Richmond	Richmond 3Q Boys and Girls Club	131-7080, River Road, Richmond, BC, V6X1X5	Register
7	Aug 21 – Aug 25	9 am – 3pm	Vancouver	Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre	990 W 59th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6P 1X9	Register
8	Aug 28 – Sep 01	9 am – 3pm	Vancouver	Trout Lake Community Centre	3360 Victoria Dr, Vancouver, BC V5N 4M4	Register

ONGOING WEEKLY TOURNAMENTS

One of the Vancouver Chess School's most popular events, the Quads tournaments take place every Friday evening in Vancouver (and every Saturday afternoon in Coquitlam). Two more weekly tournaments will be introduced in Richmond & Burnaby on Sundays starting September 2017. A perfect entry-level tournament, the Quads are very unique in their format, as they allow all players the chance to play in a quad of 4 players, against 3 other players of comparable strength. Unlike most open tournaments where players may get paired against opponents of vastly different strength, the weekly Quads ensure 3 competitive, quality games against opponents of a similar strength.

We strongly encourage all players, in particular those who have just begun playing chess and would like to be introduced to tournament play, to participate in this friendly yet still competitive weekly event. It is an excellent opportunity to gain tournament experience, learn valuable lessons and make new friends – we hope to see every there!

For more information, visit the website's event page at [http://vanchess.ca/events?events\[0\]=14](http://vanchess.ca/events?events[0]=14).



ONGOING WEEKLY TOURNAMENTS

VCS QUADS

ONGOING WEEKLY TOURNAMENTS

VANCOUVER
FRIDAYS, 7 - 9:00 pm

COQUITLAM
SATURDAYS, 3:30 - 5:30 PM

BURNABY (FALL 2017)
SUNDAYS, 2:30 - 4:30 pm

RICHMOND (FALL 2017)
SUNDAYS, 2:30 - 4:30 pm

3 CMA rated games
Time control: Rapid

- Let your kids have fun by playing chess with their friends and classmates
- Earn a rating and track your performance

- Reinforce the lessons learned in weekly classes through practice
- Take a chance to relax on a Friday night, while your kids play in the tournament



VANCOUVER
CHESS SCHOOL

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

LIMITED TIME OFFER

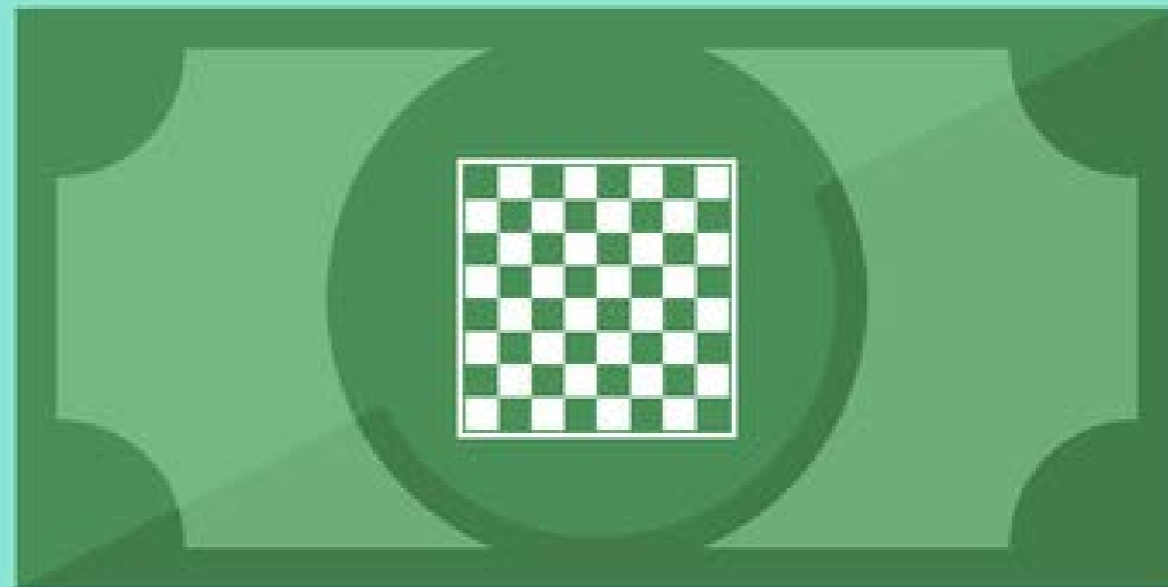
Don't leave your friends behind!

Invite friends to learn chess and gain two free Quad Tournament Coupons.

VCS is offering an exclusive deal to all our students and parents starting June 1, 2017. A 30\$ value free Quad Tournament coupons will be given to parents for referring new students to VCS.

During the online registration process the new student **MUST** indicate your e-mail address in the Reference Field (this e-mail should be the one you use to login to your VCS Parent Account). Our system will automatically add 2 coupons on your Parent account.

Please note that the VCS Quad Tournament coupons are non refundable and non-transferable.



ACTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

AUTHOR: STEPHEN WRIGHT

DECEMBER 17TH WINTER OPEN (3 TOURNAMENTS)

December 17 was the date for the Active Grand Prix, the year-end showdown between the twelve winners of the monthly active events (or their replacements). In addition, a parallel winter open was held for those who didn't qualify for the Grand Prix, topped off by a blitz championship following both events. With an average rating of just over 2200 and a (theoretical) winner-take-all first prize of \$500 the Active Grand Prix was very competitive. After the scheduled five rounds three players were tied for first on 3.5/5: Tanraj Sohal, Alfred Pechisker, and Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj. With time running out we went to blitz playoffs. Tanraj had the best tiebreak, so Alfred and Davaa played off for the second place; Alfred won, leaving Tanraj and Alfred to play for the first prize. Their game ended in a draw, and with no more time they were declared joint winners.



ACTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

DECEMBER 17TH WINTER OPEN (3 TOURNAMENTS)

In the conjunct Winter Open top-ranked Paul Burke and junior Dylan Fox split first and second with 4.5/5, with co-leader Gilberto Igharas losing to Dylan in the last round. Kevin Butchart and Henry Yang tied for the U1400 prizes, Robert Russell took the top U1200, and there was a five(!)-way tie for the second U1200 prize between Borna Amjadi, Ethan Song, Stephanie Gu, Willaim Zhang, and Eugene Liang. In the Junior Section Kate Jiang was the overall winner; trophies went to Kate, David Zhou, Evan Friesen, and Adrian Kan (U800, U1000, U600, and U400 respectively), while Alex Zou, Bruce Chen, James Hu, Jeremy Jiang, and Roy Zhou received medals.

Last up was the Blitz Championship, a seven-round Swiss with a time control of 3 + 2. Here Grigoriy Morozov reigned supreme, crushing the field with a perfect score. Tied for second with 5.5 points were Brian McLaren and Jeremy Hui. Top U2000 was Brandon Zhu, while there was another five-way tie for the second U2000 prize, this time between Evgeny Tuev, Chuyang Gu, Callum Lehingrat, Charles Wu, and Dylan Fox. The U1500 prizes went to Henry Yang, Ryan Yang, and Stephanie Gu. In the Junior Section Roy Zhou, Fangxun Wang, Adrian Kan, and Bruce Chen were awarded medals. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to everyone for attending.

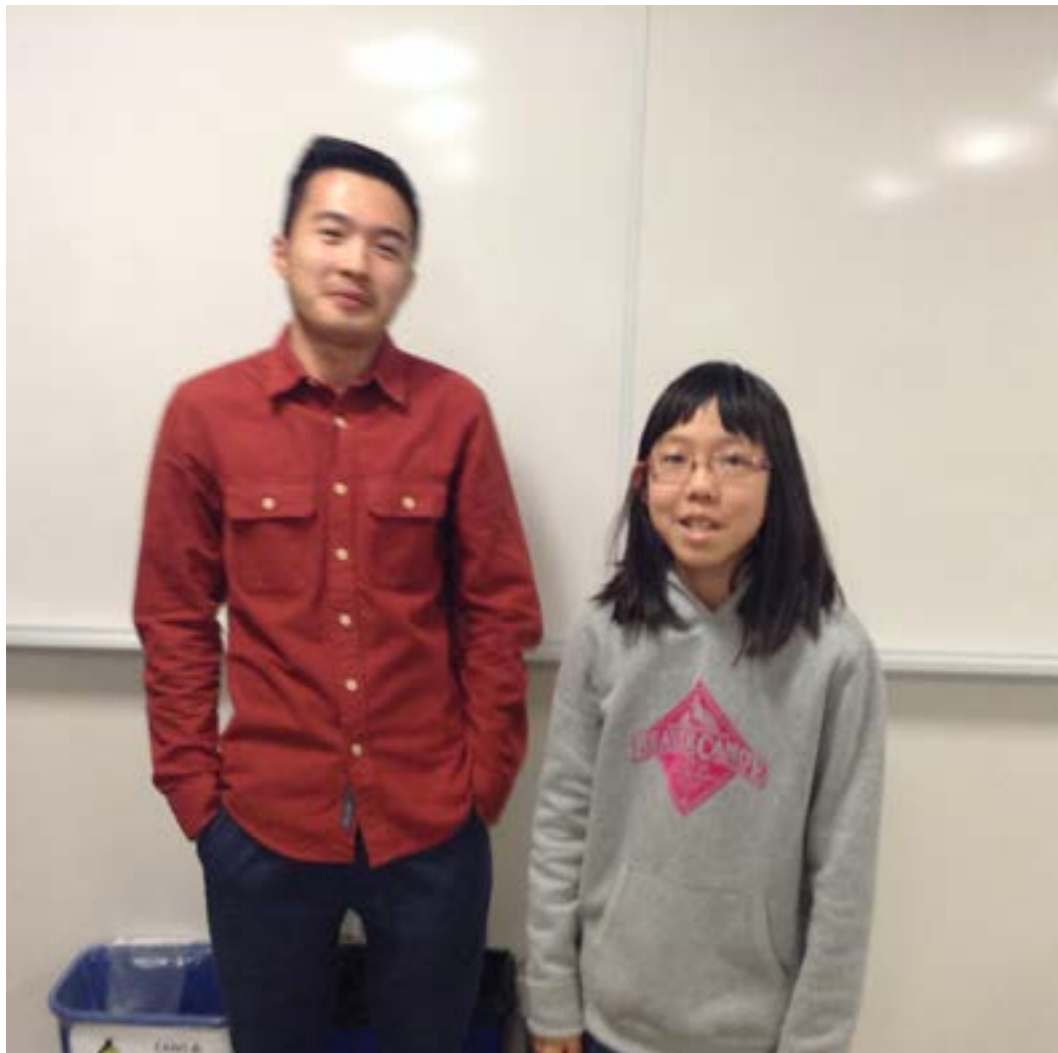


ACTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JANUARY 7TH ACTIVE

The first VCS active of the new year was smaller than usual but included some newcomers to the event, including Leandro Romero (Argentina) and Kris Gibson (whose last tournament was over six years ago). As in the previous few events there were three players rated over 2000, but despite being the highest rated Romero found the going tough, losing to both Madiyar Amerkeshev and Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj. Madiyar beat Davaa in round four and appeared to be headed for a perfect score but was brought back to earth in the last round by Kris, leaving Madiyar and Davaa tied for first with 5.0 points each. Gibson and Maven Zheng tied for third; one of the games Gibson lost was in a position where he was pressing with rook and pawn versus rook against Zheng but forgot about his clock and lost on time. Sherry Tian and Adel Talyspayeva won the U1700 prizes.

In the Junior Section trophies went to Benjamin Wu (the overall winner), Ethan Song, and William Jiang, while medals were awarded to Borna Amjadi, Gillian Mok, and Alex Zou.



ACTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JANUARY 21ST 2017 BC ACTIVE CHAMPIONSHIP



This year's BC Active Championship was hosted by the Vancouver Chess School at Columbia College (Main and Terminal in Vancouver). Despite the familiar central surroundings the turnout was comparatively low with only twenty-four players, barely larger than a regular monthly active. Perhaps the two-day format was unpalatable for some, or maybe others had had enough chess the previous weekend at the Victoria Open. There were three players rated over 2000 (this has also become standard in the VCS actives of late) and unsurprisingly they took the top three spots. First was Tanraj Sohal with a dominant performance, winning all his games for a perfect score. He was followed at a respectively distance by Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj and Andrew Hemstapat, who split second and third. Davaa lost to Andrew for the third time in recent events, while Andrew's other loss (they were both beaten by Tanraj) was on time while contemplating a pawn-up rook ending.

The other prizes resulted in multiple ties. Lucian Wu, Adel Talyspayeva, Purevjav Sanjjav, Kamal Singh, Nathan Wu, and Henry Yang split the U1700 prizes, and Andrew Xu, Ethan Song, and Borna Amjadi did the same with the U1350 awards.

2017 BC CHESS CHALLENGE

JANUARY 15TH REGIONAL QUALIFIER #1

On January 15th, VCS hosted the first of three annual Regional Qualifiers. Taking place at Columbia College in Vancouver, an impressive 71 players turned out to compete for the chance to play at the Provincial Championships later in the season. With a necessary 2.5 points to qualify to this year's prestigious Provincial Championship, the competition was stiff and the play was of a high calibre. After five rounds of play 13 players emerged victorious. Congratulations to all the winners and participants!



2017 BC CHESS CHALLENGE



FEBRUARY 11TH REGIONAL QUALIFIER #2

The second of the three qualifiers took place on the Family day long weekend at the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel in Richmond. Occurring alongside the prestigious BC Open tournament, junior competitors in the Regional Qualifier had the chance to observe the workings of a larger adult tournament as well. After another long day consisting of 5 rounds of stiff competition, another 13 players came out on top of their respective grades. Congratulations to all those who qualified to the Provincial championships, as well as all the participants who came out for the day!

2017 BC CHESS CHALLENGE

MARTH 5TH REGIONAL QUALIFIER #3

The third and final Provincial Qualifier took place once again at Columbia College in Vancouver. With an astonishing 121 players, this event was by far the largest of its type in recent VCS history. All participants, eager for the last chance to secure their spot at this year's Provincial Championship, brought their best chess for a fierce five rounds of play on March 5th. Once again, 13 players were crowned champions of their grades and many more gained a spot in the provincial competition. A warm congratulation to all winners, qualifiers and participants of this year's Regional Qualifier series!



2017 BC CHESS CHALLENGE

APRIL 2nd BC PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

After much excitement, April 2 brought the much-anticipated finale of the 2017 Chess Challenge season: the BC Chess Challenge Provincial Championship. All players who had qualified through the three regional qualifiers as well as previous champions that had already been pre-qualified turned up at Columbia College to battle it out for the title of BC Champion in their grade. Besides the honour of being the 2017 BC Champion, at stake was also the opportunity to be a part of Team BC 2017 and represent BC at the annual Canadian Chess Championships. After tough games and grueling playoffs, 13 new provincial champions were crowned.



2017 BC CHESS CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the 2017 BC Champions and all those that participated in these events – we look forward to seeing you back again next year!

Grade	2017 BC Champion
K	Nicholas Wu
1	Codrin Pompas
2	Ethan Song
3	Eric Jiang
4	Andrew Xu
5	Lucian Wu
6	Neil Doknjas
7	Leo Qu
8	Brian Yang
9	Joshua Doknjas
10	Matthew Geng
11	Brandon Zhu
12	John Doknjas

TEAM BC GRANDMASTER TRAINING

April 24th was the last day of the Grandmaster Training with Evgeny Bareev. Many thanks to our volunteers Alfred and Davaa for helping in class throughout the entire course. James Li finished with the best class & homework performance. All three of these outstanding individuals were awarded with the great book written by Evgeny – “From London to Elista: The Inside Story of the World Chess Championship” autographed by the author himself. Thank you everybody for your support and enthusiasm.



PROGRESS REPORT

Between weekly homework, chess mentor exercises and tests, students have a wide variety of material available to them. Although some of it is mandatory and some optional, all additional training outside the VCS classroom is the student's responsibility to take initiative and complete. Additional practice outside the classroom is crucial to a chess player's continuous improvement, and VCS would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate the school's top performing students in exercise completion:

1 James Li				4 Charles Wang		
	Homework	395	0		Homework	686 17
	Chess Mentor	239	0		Chess Mentor	110 21
	Tests	50	0		Tests	0 0
	Tactics Trainer	3570	0		Tactics Trainer	966 0
	Total	4254	0		Total	1762 38
2 Nicholas Wu				5 Raymond Yao		
	Homework	710	0		Homework	125 0
	Chess Mentor	878	52		Chess Mentor	15 0
	Tests	0	0		Tests	0 0
	Tactics Trainer	620	0		Tactics Trainer	1465 0
	Total	2208	52		Total	1605 0
3 Stephanie Gu				6 Nathan Wu		
	Homework	570	6		Homework	338 17
	Chess Mentor	330	5		Chess Mentor	470 32
	Tests	0	0		Tests	0 0
	Tactics Trainer	917	0		Tactics Trainer	513 0
	Total	1817	11		Total	1321 49

VCS DIAMOND STANDARD

Dec 1, 2016 to May 1, 2017

Using our 'diamonds' on the new Wall of Fame feature, we would like to recognize the top students with the most diamonds at VCS. These students show dedication to active participation and success in tournaments, in class and through self-study, and we would like to congratulate them for their continued perseverance and determination.

#	First Name Last Name	Class Performance (5 stars)	Group Tournaments (100%)	Tournaments: Weekly events (100%)	Tests (75%)	Chess Mentor Exercises (75%)	Interim Tests (75%)	Total
1	Roy Zhou							20
2	Nicholas Wu							19
3	Carmina Russo							17
4	Bruce Chen							18
5	James Li							15
6	Leon Chen							15
7	William Zhang							15
8	Austin Chen							13
9	Gabriel Prisecariu							13
10	Nathan Wu							13

TOP 10 CFC/CMA

TOP 10 CFC/CMA RATED PLAYERS FROM OUR SCHOOL AS OF MAY 01, 2017.

#	NAME	CFC RATING
1	Brandon Zhu	2173
2	Kevin Low	1912
3	Maven Zheng	1849
4	Kevin Li	1828
5	Victor Zheng	1819
6	Daniel Chen	1777
7	James Li	1757
8	Ethan Low	1732
9	Daniel Du	1700
10	Ryan Leong	1589

Check your CFC rating
<https://www.vanchess.ca/rating-cfc>

#	NAME	CMA RATING
1	Brandon Zhu	1871
2	James Li	1871
3	Kevin Low	1857
4	Ryan Leong	1819
5	Ethan Low	1788
6	Maven Zheng	1726
7	Victor Zheng	1716
8	Dylan Fox	1691
9	Kevin Li	1663
10	Daniel Chen	1619

Check your CMA rating
<https://www.vanchess.ca/rating-cma>

LARGEST CFC RATING PROGRESS

THE FOLLOWING TABLES SHOW THE VCS STUDENTS WITH THE LARGEST CFC RATING INCREASES OVER THE PAST 5 MONTHS:

#	NAME	GRADE	DEC 1	PROGRESS	MAY 1
1	Elvin Sun	Grade 5	878	481	1359
2	Ethan Song	Grade 2	1000	315	1315
3	Ryan Yang	Grade 2	1002	290	1292
4	Borna Amjadi	Grade 5	591	255	846
5	Andy Zhang	Grade 6	1080	242	1322
6	Brandon Zhu	Grade 11	1939	234	2173
7	Eric Jiang	Grade 3	951	226	1177
8	Brian Yang	Grade 8	1014	180	1194
9	Maven Zheng	Grade 10	1705	144	1849
10	James Li	Grade 11	1621	136	1757

LARGEST CMA RATING PROGRESS

THE FOLLOWING TABLES SHOW THE VCS STUDENTS WITH THE LARGEST CMA RATING INCREASES OVER THE PAST 5 MONTHS:

#	NAME	GRADE	DEC 1	PROGRESS	MAY 1
1	Stephanie Gu	Grade 9	1105	327	1432
2	Austin Chen	Grade 3	571	280	851
3	Fangxun Wang	Grade 5	460	277	737
4	Alex Zou	Grade 2	650	238	888
5	Bruce Chen	Grade 6	774	222	996
6	Tony Li	Grade K	416	173	589
7	Alex Yu	Grade 8	1095	172	1267
8	Evan Friesen	Grade 4	432	158	590
9	Henry Yang	Grade 6	1249	157	1406
10	Ethan Song	Grade 2	1170	155	1325

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM RATING TO ADVANCE TO THE NEXT LEVEL





PROGRAM	RATING
Pawn->Knight	600 (CMA)
Knight->Bishop	1100 (CMA)
Bishop->Rook	1500 (CMA)
Rook->Queen	1800 (CMA)
Queen->King	2000+ (CMA)

VCS SOFTWARE UPDATE

VCS is excited to announce a new feature available to its users – Tutorials. These video tutorials range from technical support to basic chess instruction, and are intended to assist parents in using our custom system. Topics covered include course registration, system overviews, tax receipts and more. We strongly encourage all parents to view these videos to become more familiar with the VCS system and all it has to offer.



PLAY VS COMPUTER

Simba (400) Spiderman (500) Kung Fu Panda (600) Iron Man (800)

Please select Computer player

Time control:

Color:

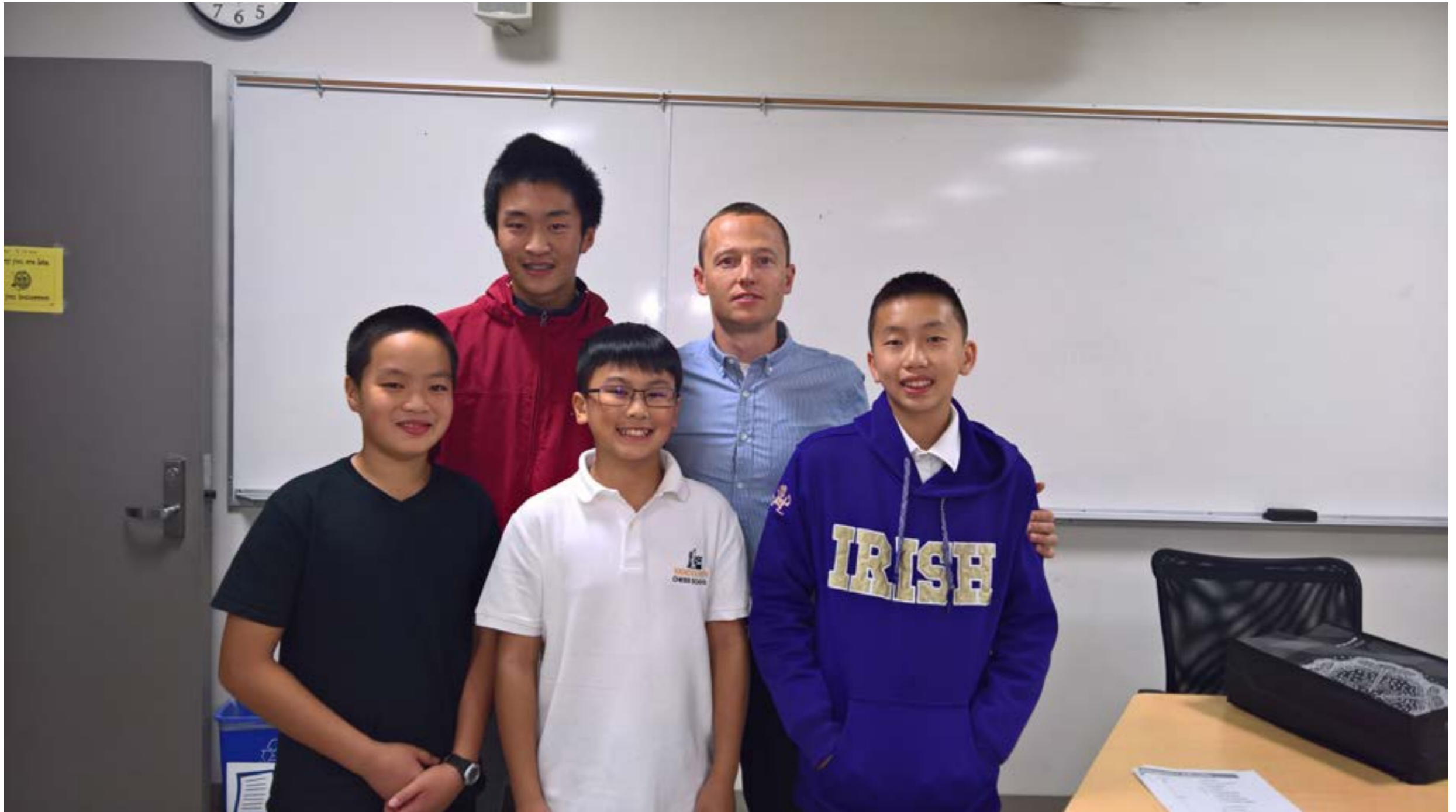
Delay:

Another new feature open to all VCS users is the Play vs. Computer Delay. A major hurdle for many players, particularly younger players and those players just beginning, is to slow down and spend more time on each move. This delay can be set by the players' parents to be, for example, 10 seconds. When the player goes to use the 'Play vs. Computer' feature on their accounts, they will then not be able to move until the prescribed amount of time has elapsed, thus forcing them to spend time considering each move. Slowing down will eliminate blunders, the main cause for losing games at introductory levels, and therefore it is strongly urged you employ this feature to help improve your student's performance. See the 'Delay' Tutorial for detailed instructions on how to set this delay feature.

VANCOUVER RAPID LEAGUE

The Vancouver Rapid League 2016-2017 regular season came to a close with a VCS student team taking the top prize for the first time. Congratulations to VCS-1 team members Brandon Zhu, Kevin Low, James Li, Victor Zheng and Ryan Leong. Full Results can be viewed at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/vancouverrapid/2016---2017-season-overview/standings>



VANCOUVER RAPID LEAGUE

VCS-1 team gave a great fight to a more mature and experienced Chigorin Club team in the Final, but lost the match. Good job everyone and hope to see you all next year!



VCS YEAR-END PICNIC PARTY JUNE 11TH

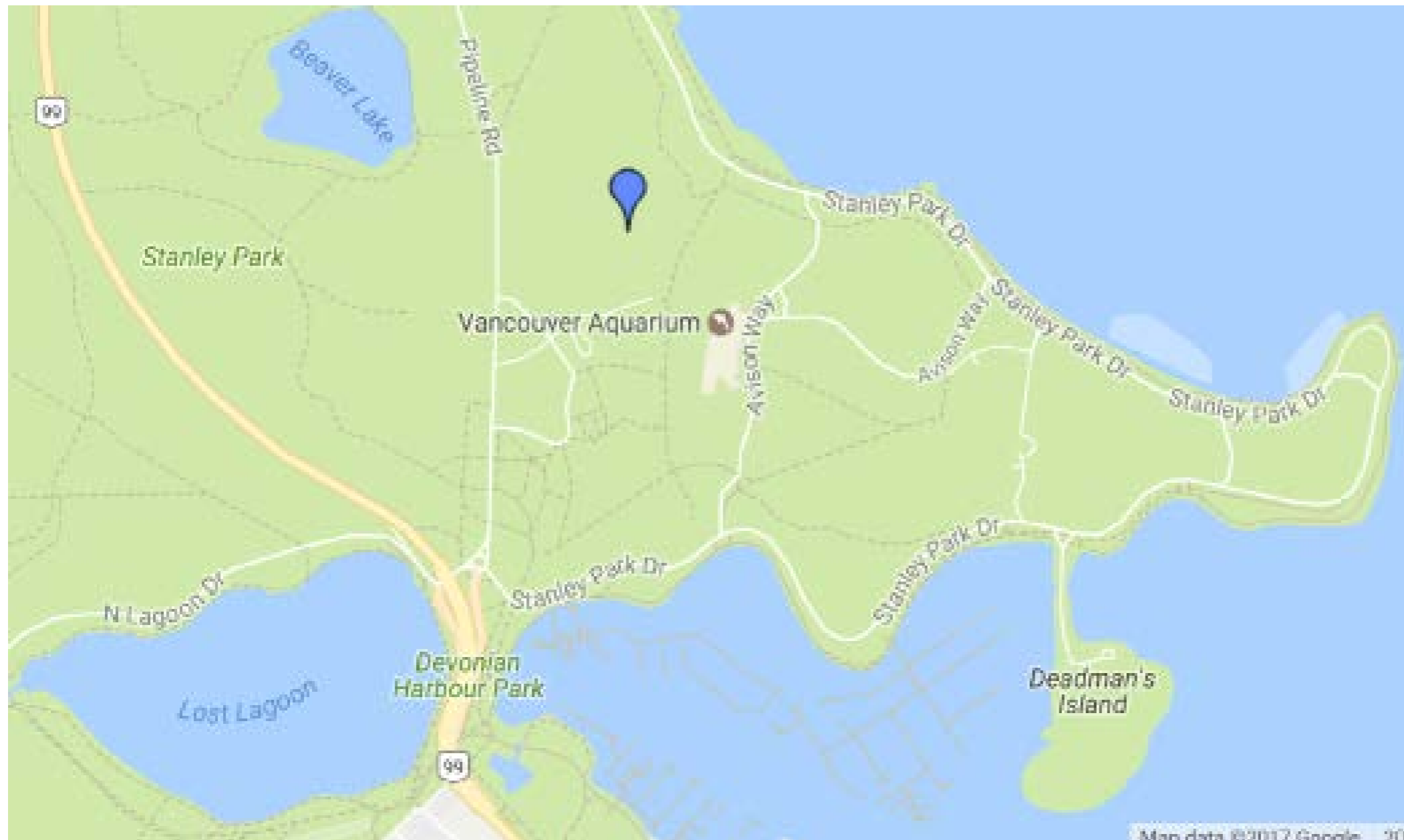
To celebrate the end of yet another productive, successful and fun year, all students and parents are invited to attend the second annual picnic potluck party! It will begin around 11am, and will be potluck format, so please bring a dish to share. Some ideas include watermelon, chips/crackers, fruits, sandwiches, sushi, juice, etc. We also suggest families bring picnic blankets, chess sets and soccer balls or footballs if they would like to. Coaches, students and their families will all be there, marking the second time we have ever had an event like this. It is a great opportunity to continue to build a strong relationship with our community of coaches, parents and students.



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We plan to have fun activities such as blitz and soccer with prizes to be given to winners - come out, enjoy the sun, spend time with friends and family, eat food and win prizes!

Last year's edition included a kids vs. adults soccer match, a bughouse tournament, fun awards given out, delicious food and more, and this year's party will not disappoint! Come out and enjoy Stanley Park, eat good food, and meet new friends. This year's party will take place at Miniature Railway 1 from 11-4 on June 11th. Please RSVP by June 4th to info@vanchess.ca to confirm your attendance.



Sheltered
Amenities include:
shared counter (no
cooking appliances
or fridge available),
2 electrical outlets,
cold water, grassed
area

Close by:
Lumbermen's
Arch, Miniature
Train, Vancouver
Aquarium, and
playground

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