# VANCOUVER CHESS SCHOOL

# 'PUZZLES ARE THE BEST WAY TO IMPROVE PATTERN RECOGNITION'

#### WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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#### APRIL TACTICS CHALLENGE WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

Congratulations to the champions of our April Tactics Contest! Mark Karaivanov took the top spot with an outstanding performance. Alex Pan secured 2nd place, followed by Sophia Doroshenko, Nathan Halim, and Dasha Doroshenko in 3rd, 4th, and 5th places, respectively.

Prizes were awarded as follows: 1st Place: Mark received a VCS hoodie, a chess set, and 5 Chess Heroes cards. 2nd Place: Alex took home a hoodie and 4 cards. 3rd Place: Sophia earned a T-Shirt and 3 cards. 4th Place: Nathan got a T-Shirt and 2 cards. 5th Place: Dasha received a T-Shirt and a card.

Special accolades go to Khang Le as the top U6 participant and Stephanie Wu as the top female competitor, each earning additional Chess Heroes cards for their exceptional results.

A big thank you to all participants. Your dedication continues to inspire us!



# LEGENDARY GRANDMASTER HIKARU NAKAMURA VISITS VCS ON APRIL 28TH

Amidst the intense training session for Team BC ahead of the Nationals and the Sunday chess club, VCS experienced a moment of magic as Hikaru Nakamura paid an unexpected visit this afternoon. He played blitz with the students, signed autographs, and posed for selfies. He was awarded the first VCS signature gold medal(now officially named the Hikaru Nakamura Medal), and was gifted a VCS t-shirt and cap.

## MAY TACTICS CHALLENGE | MAY 1-31

Solving chess puzzles daily can dramatically boost your performance by improving your pattern recognition and decision-making speed under pressure. It's a critical step for players aiming to elevate their game. Join the competition and demonstrate your tactical prowess!

Enroll Now: Summer & Fall Terms Registration Now Open!



# MAY 2024

# **MARCH TACTICS CHALLENGE WINNERS**





#### **FEATURED STUDENT: PETER LEI**

In a remarkable display of talent and dedication, Peter Lei has swiftly ascended the ranks of our chess program, demonstrating remarkable progress and commitment. From his initial steps in the pre-knight class to his current enrollment in the pre-bishop chess class, Peter's journey has been nothing short of impressive. In addition to consistently achieving top marks on his homework assignments, Peter's active engagement in class discussions, strategic analyses, and collaboration with classmates underscores his passion for the game and helps foster a dynamic learning environment. He recently participated in many of our Quads tournaments winning several medals. As he continues to elevate his game, there's no doubt that Peter will leave an indelible mark on the world of chess.

#### SUNDAY CHESS CLUB | WEEKLY

The Sunday Chess Club, featuring free play, a tactics contest, rapid & blitz tournaments with analysis, welcomes participants of all skill levels. Pizza is on us, adding a flavorful twist to the experience. <u>Sign up online now!</u>

#### **QUALIFY FOR NATIONALS!**

The VCS Individual Championships in June will be an official Canadian Youth Championships qualifier! Read more about the CYCC event <u>here</u>; Register for your section <u>online</u>.

#### SUMMER CAMPS | WEEKLY, JULY - AUGUST

VCS is delighted to announce our series of in-person summer camps, held weekly at our Jericho main office. Each camp offers full-day and half-day options, ensuring flexibility for all schedules. Every participant will enjoy a complimentary pizza lunch daily. Campers will be grouped by skill level to dive into new openings, tactics, and endgame strategies. Featuring engaging lessons, fun tournaments, thematic games, and game analysis led by our expert coaches, these camps are the ideal way to enjoy the summer while enhancing chess skills and making new friends. <u>Register online</u> to secure your spot!

## **35TH CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE | MAY 19-20**

After the triumphant 2024 Provincial Championship, we proudly formed Team BC, which will represent our province at the 35th <u>Canadian Chess Challenge</u> in Moncton, New Brunswick.

Grade 1 Jimmy Rao Grade 2 Josiah Lo Grade 3 Moses Li Grade 4 Aiden Yin Grade 5 Ethan Low Grade 6 Nathan Yi-Hsin Yang Grade 7 Ethan Li Grade 8 Liam Tu Grade 9 Joey Xu Grade 10 Aiden Leong Grade 11 Owen Yuen Grade 12 Luka Spasojevic

This team, comprising our top players, is ready to showcase their skills on the national stage. Let's unite in support of Team BC and send them our best wishes as they compete in this year's challenge. Go Team BC!

# VCS STUDENTS SHINE: A RESOUNDING SUCCESS AT THE 2024 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

