Welcome to OleChess

The staff of the St. Olaf Instructional Summer Chess Camp welcomes you to OleChess 2016. Please read this booklet carefully before camp and bring it with you when you come. It is designed to answer questions you might have about what to bring for the week, and what to expect once you arrive.

What to Bring

Chess Equipment
If you have a standard tournament set, board and chess clock, please bring these items to camp. OleChess will have equipment available for campers to check out prior to tournament games, and may have equipment for sale, but quantities are limited. If you wish to purchase a set, board or clock prior to camp, the following website is a good source:  
www.wholesalechess.com

We strongly encourage you to mark your name or initials on every item you bring, including the bottom of each piece of your chess set. Please bring a carrying case for your equipment that can easily be taken from one site to another. Players with equipment will be asked to bring it to every chess-related activity.

Clothing
Basic summer clothing such as shorts, t-shirts and comfortable walking shoes are suggested. Please bring at least one sweatshirt or jacket. The daily tournament and class sessions will be held in air-conditioned buildings; the residence hall is air-conditioned.

There will be opportunities for indoor and outdoor group sports such as soccer, softball, and basketball so bring appropriate shoes and clothing if you wish to participate in these activities.

Personal Care Items
Bring all personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, hair dryer, etc.

What to Expect

Residence Halls
Residence hall rooms will be equipped with two single beds. If you haven’t indicated a preference, you will be assigned a roommate who is as near your age as possible. Each residential camper will receive a linen packet with sheets, pillow slip, towel and washcloth. Beds will have a pillow and blanket. Optional items you may want to bring may include a fan, reading lamp and alarm clock. Please do not bring valuable personal items.

Telephones
Campers bringing cell phones are required to silence them during tournament and class sessions.

Internet Access
Free wifi access is available.

Keys and Meal Cards
Residence hall rooms are accessed by a key which will be issued to you at check-in. You will also be given a meal card to be presented at the dining hall before each meal and will get you into your dorm building. Campers are
Spending Money and Miscellaneous
You may wish to bring spending money for use in the coffee shop, the bookstore, vending machines, or for pizza delivery in the evenings. Change is not available. Other items to consider packing: camera and film, umbrella or rain poncho, chess scorebook.

Check-in and Check-out

Sunday Check-In
Upon arrival at St. Olaf, all campers – residential and commuters - should proceed directly to your assigned hall (see enclosed campus map). Campers should arrive between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The packet you receive at that time will include your counselor’s name and room number. After registering and unpacking, go to your counselor’s room for further instructions about dinner and the other Sunday evening activities. Campers who need to arrive before 2 p.m. or after 5 p.m. should notify us in advance by emailing summer@stolaf.edu or calling 800-726-6523.

Dinner on Sunday will be from 5:00 to 5:45 p.m. in Stav Dining Hall in Buntrock Commons, followed by an orientation meeting and simultaneous exhibition (simul) in the Black and Gold Ballroom, featuring all campers and the instructional staff. Campers should bring their chess sets and equipment with them to Sunday dinner, as the simul is practically adjacent to the dining hall. Parents may eat with their child at any meal during the week by paying for their meal in the Stav Dining Hall.

Friday Check-Out
Campers will be given time Friday morning to pack and clean their rooms before lunch. Parents are invited to attend the closing ceremonies from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Black and Gold Ballroom. Campers will return to assigned Residence Hall following the closing ceremonies to pick up their luggage. Commuting campers may leave directly from Buntrock Commons.

After packing, please empty the trash and leave the room exactly as you found it upon check-in, with the mattress pad, pillow and folded blanket left on the bed. Bed linens and towels should be left in a pile outside the door. Damage to the rooms will be assessed to campers.

Daily Schedule
A tentative schedule for the week is included in this handbook. The final schedule will be in the packet you receive at check-in. Any changes will be discussed at the morning announcements.

Commuters
Some of the information contained in this booklet applies only to resident campers, but we hope it will answer commuters’ questions as well.

Commuters should follow the same check-in procedures to assigned Residence Hall described in the welcome letter and plan to attend the Sunday evening dinner, orientation meeting, and simultaneous exhibition.

Beginning Monday, commuter campers should be at the Buntrock Commons Ballroom each morning by 8:00 a.m. Because individual travel arrangements and the evening activities vary, commuters under the age of 18 and/or their parents should discuss their pick up plans (time and location) each day with their counselors.

Commuter fees include lunch and dinner daily and commuters are welcome to participate in each evening’s special activity. Listed above are estimated ending times for the week.
**Tentative Camp Schedule:** subject to change

**Sunday**  
Simultaneous Exhibition (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons) – 8:30 p.m.

**Monday**  
Movie Night or Outdoor Sports (Field behind Tostrud Athletic Center) – 8:30 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Black and Gold Blitz (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons) – 8:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Bowling Night – 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Bughouse Tournament (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons) – 9:00 p.m.

**Friday**  
Closing Ceremonies (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons) – 2:00 p.m.

Commuters are free to leave Friday immediately following the closing ceremonies; no check out is required.

**The Weeks’ Activities**

**The G/60 Tournament**
Campers will be divided into sections for one round of an *unrated* G/60 tournament each day. Trophies will be awarded at the Closing Ceremonies to the top 2-3 finishers in each section, depending upon the number of sections and players per section.

**Class Sessions**
There will be three 90-minute class sessions per day. Campers will be divided into groups of about twelve people and assigned to a member of the instructional staff. A rotation schedule allows students to study with their lead instructor for approximately half of the class sessions and with other members of the staff for the remaining classes. Class assignments will be in the packet you receive at check-in.

**Blitz, Quick Chess & Bughouse**
Players wishing to participate in the 5-minute tournament, the Quick Chess Tournament, or the Bughouse tournament on Thursday night, will be asked to sign up in advance on sheets posted in the tournament room. Play in these events is optional, but all non-playing regular campers under 18 must attend and observe these events.

**Alternate Evening Activities and Intensive Study**
More information will be available at camp about alternate activities scheduled for Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. These will include lectures designed for our adult and Intensive Study participants.

**Individual Consultations**
One class period during the week will be devoted to a consultation between campers and their lead instructor. At this session, instructors will assist students in planning courses of further study.
Policies and Procedures

Daily Check-ins
Campers will check in with a counselor each morning at a designated spot in the residence hall. After breakfast, all campers must be in the Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons, ready to play by 8:00 a.m. Counselors will check classrooms at the beginning of each period to be sure that all campers are accounted for. There will also be a check-in procedure prior to each evening’s special activity and a room check each night at 10:00 p.m.

ALL PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 ARE REQUIRED TO OBSERVE CHECK-INS!
They are designed to insure campers, instructors and counselors a safe and stress-free week.

Camp and Campus Rules and Regulations
Enclosed is a form containing camp and campus rules and regulations. All campers are required to sign this form to indicate agreement and bring to camp on the first day.

Health Information
If you have any special concerns or needs, please notify us in advance at summer@stolaf.edu or call 507-786-3031 or 800-726-6523.

Contact Information
For questions about registration or what to bring to camp, contact:
St. Olaf Conference Services, summer@stolaf.edu, 800-726-6523 or 507-786-3031

For questions about class activities or placement, contact:
Kevin Bachler, Director, Kevin_Bachler@comcast.net

Messages to Campers
If you need to leave a message for a camper, please call the camp message service at 507-786-3031. You may leave a detailed message at this number any time, day or night; messages will be checked frequently from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and will be delivered in a timely manner. If the message is urgent (but not an emergency), please indicate this when you call.

Mail: Mail to campers should be addressed as follows:
Camper Name, Name of Camp, St. Olaf College, 1520 St. Olaf Ave., Northfield, MN 55057 - 1098
Mail will be delivered to campers daily. If you are sending an urgent package, please notify us in advance so that we can assure that it is delivered as soon as we receive it. Mail received after the party has left will be returned to sender – so please include your return address.

Emergency After Hours Messages
Campus security will deliver emergency messages between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Dial 507-786-3666 to leave a message. Please use this service only for emergencies.