

2019 Handbook

St. Olaf College Chess Camp

Welcome to OleChess

The staff of the St. Olaf Instructional Summer Chess Camp welcomes you to OleChess 2019. 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 and a pair of socks if you plan to participate in bowling night. The daily tournament and class sessions will be held in air-conditioned buildings. 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 Wi-Fi 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 responsible for keeping track of their room keys and meal cards at all times. The charge for room key replacement is \$100.00 and \$10.00 for meal cards. If lost, these fees will be assessed to the camper if their key is not returned at check-out.

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. Campers who need to arrive before 2:00 p.m. or after 5:00 p.m. should notify us in advance by emailing summer@stolaf.edu or calling 507.786.3031.

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.

Friday Check-Out

Campers will be given time Friday morning to pack and clean their rooms before breakfast. Parents are encouraged to attend the closing ceremonies from 11:00 a.m. (please follow signs directing to closing ceremony location). Commuting campers may leave directly from closing ceremony location.

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 inside the pillowcase outside the door. Damage to the rooms will be assessed to campers.

Daily Schedule

A tentative schedule for the week is 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; your assigned residence hall is Ytterboe Hall. 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.

Tentative Camp Schedule: (subject to change)

Sunday: Simultaneous Exhibition (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons)

Monday: Movie Night or Outdoor Sports (Field behind Tostrud Athletic Center)

Tuesday: Black and Gold Blitz (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons)

Wednesday: Evening activity to be determined.

Thursday: Bughouse Tournament (Black and Gold Ballroom, 3rd Floor Buntrock Commons)

Friday: Closing Ceremonies (Location TBD) – 11:00 am

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

Camp and campus rules and regulations can be found on the OleChess web page. 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 camp office, summer@stolaf.edu, 507-786-3031

For questions about class activities or placement, contact:

Kevin Bachler, Director, Kevin_Bachler@cavemanchess.com

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.