



CHESS INSTITUTE  
OF CANADA  
INSTITUT D'ÉCHECS  
DU CANADA

*Bringing chess to life.*

## OUR PROGRAMS – 2020/21



Using an ancient game as an educational tool to make a difference in today's world.

# Our Approach

## Bringing Chess to Life

There are two kinds of benefits that come from learning chess

- Cognitive benefits that flow naturally from playing a thinking game
- Additional benefits that are available when students make deeper connections

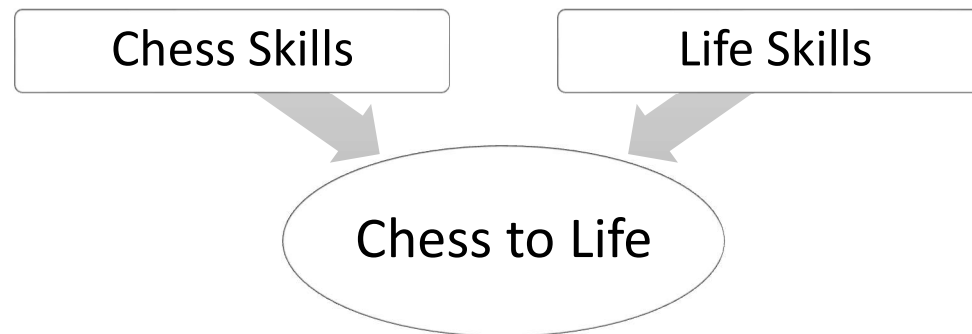
By combining chess problem solving with chess-related life skills in self-regulation, community building, and digital literacy, our Chess to Life (CTL) approach takes the educational

benefit of chess beyond the scope of many scholastic chess programs.

Our CTL instructors are not just chess players, but professional educators with a wide range of teaching skills.

We keep students engaged and entertained, making sure our lessons work for everyone and fostering a sense of community as players and learners.

As insights about the game are explicitly carried over into the broader context, our goal is not only to help students become stronger chess players, but to help them succeed with the various challenges of everyday life.



# What We Teach

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## Problem Solving

In various situations throughout the game, players learn to apply heuristic thinking, combining overall judgement with concrete analysis. And in every situation, it is one's own independent thinking that counts the most.

Chess is a standard school subject in many countries. An ancient game of strategy originally from India, it now draws an avid following around the world, and offers many educational benefits when taught to children.



## Self-regulation

As every chess move is a concrete choice, issues of responsibility and frustration naturally arise. Improving players learn to process emotions and resist first impulses to make strong decisions in an ever-changing context.



## Community Building

The game itself is a battlefield, yet it is surrounded, as are many martial arts, with a formal etiquette and a long-standing culture of collaborative knowledge building. By challenging each other, everyone grows together.



## Digital Literacy

Unlike many activities, chess converts easily to online play. Our new Live Online curriculum incorporates digital learning tools, and players are encouraged to find and use online resources to aid their own and each other's knowledge and abilities.

# Chess Learning at All Levels

## Rookie Rooks

CIC classes start at complete beginner level. As young chess enthusiasts work towards being able to play a complete game to checkmate, they build familiarity with the pieces through a variety of imaginative preparatory games and activities.

## Noble Knights

Intermediate classes build from elementary checkmating patterns and basic chess tactics, such as pins and forks, up to more advanced tactical combinations, positional concepts, as well as openings and endgames every player should know.

## Future Masters

Advanced classes expand on complex exchanges and sacrifices, deeper combinations and puzzles, positional concepts and pawn structures, more complex endgames, and learning from your own mistakes through game analysis.



# Chess vs. COVID-19

- Focused thinking time at the chessboard is a welcome break from anxious or stressful thoughts
- Personal accomplishment through progressively developing skills offers rewarding evidence of positive change over time
- For children at home, having a regular chess class at a regular time helps add structure to the day
- Active engagement during lessons and activities, or by the moves on the board, is very different from self-directed online learning

## Live Online Chess Classes/Clubs

CIC Live Online Chess Classes/Clubs bring a small group of students together for weekly one-hour sessions including chess lessons and chess games.

- Patient, highly engaging instructors guide young players through a wealth of knowledge at an appropriate level as their chess skills develop
- We use tele-conferencing technology to provide Interactive lessons with small groups of students
- Students play chess with one another inside and outside the lesson time on Lichess
- Various levels are available, so children are engaged at an appropriate level for their chess skill



# Contact Us



We'd love to hear from you today!

## Easy for Parents

- Online registration
- Make chess a part of your child's education.
- A wide variety of program times and levels to make chess work for your family

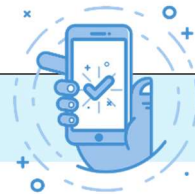
## Great for Schools

Please contact our sales team to set up an online or in-person program delivered in either French or English that fits your schedule and is accessible to everyone in your school

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