

Valley Home Educators November 2008 Newsletter

HOMESCHOOL ICE SKATING

THURSDAYS from 10:00 - 11:30 (Note the time change from past years)

Town Toyota Center Ice Rink near Walla Walla Point Park, Wenatchee

Cost - \$4.00 per person \$2.00 Skate rental

No skating on Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's Day.

THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO STAY WITH YOUR CHILDREN. Children left unattended will not be allowed to skate.

Skating Rules as posted by the Ice Rink Staff.

Everyone Skating must pay entry fee. (No fee for parents who just watch)

No Re-entry

No skating in a manner that is deemed unsafe to yourself or others.

No playing tag, crack the whip, racing or horsing around.

No food, drinks or gum on the ice.

No kicking the ice.

No bad language or yelling.

No shoes on ice.

No playing hockey on the ice. (including sticks or pucks)

No sitting on the boards.

Further session rules are at the discretion of the rink staff.

Failure to follow the guidelines listed above will result in being asked to leave the building. Refunds will not be granted.

PRIVATE Skate lessons will be available by arrangement.

Wenatchee Scholastic Chess Club
Every Sunday 6-8PM

Wenatchee Valley Medical Center Conference Facility (1000 N Miller Street, Wenatchee)
Cost? FREE!!!

The Wenatchee Scholastic Chess Club meets every Sunday evening from 6 to 8 PM in the conference center of the Wenatchee Valley Medical Center (Next to Walgreens, in the same building as the Sleep Lab). Anyone with an interest in playing, regardless of their skill level or age, is welcome to attend. We focus on having fun, but we also work on improving gameplay, sportsmanship, and preparing for tournament play. Participation in tournaments is encouraged, but is completely optional. The tournament environment is designed to be a very positive experience for kids of all ages. This tournament season is kicking off Saturday, October 18th, and will continue until the state championship in the Spring.

There have been dozens of controlled studies on the benefits of chess in developing mental acuity, particularly in children. Chess has the benefit of being a game that anyone can play, but that increases with complexity the more one understands its nuances. A single chess game provides the players with dozens of mental puzzles to solve, in an environment where good decisions will be rewarded with a gain of material, and less optimal decisions will have undesirable results. Children who play chess learn to concentrate on solving complex problems and to accept the consequences of the decisions they make. These skills have been repeatedly shown to translate into better overall learning in traditional studies like Reading and Mathematics. The best part is they get all these benefits by simply playing a game they enjoy.

Typically a scholastic club is affiliated with a specific school with membership restricted to just its students, but this one is not. This allows home-schoolers to introduce all the proven benefits of chess to their children, but without the issues of dealing with a school they don't attend.

We are always looking for new players, and it doesn't matter what time of the year you start. If there is interest, swing by and play a few games. If you have any questions, please email donlester@gmail.com.

WANTED - 5th grade ABEKA History - Old World History and Geography - call Sarah Marion - 663-4277

Email subscriptions to Valley Home Educators are free. To subscribe please send an email to Sandy Briggs at esbriggs@aol.com with VHE Subscribe in the subject line. To unsubscribe send an email to Sandy with VHE Unsubscribe in the subject line. Information and events of interest to homeschool families are welcome. Deadline for the December Newsletter is Nov 25, 2008.