

LATEST NEWS

- Watch GCCN's 1st Online Tournament 2021 on Twitch
- UK to hold online Qualification Tournaments for FIDE World Cup 2021
- Covid Restrictions on GCCN Meetings

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EVENTS

MARCH 2021

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JOIN GOLDSMITH CHESS CLUB NEWSLETTER (GCCN)

Please fill out the following form to formally join our club. GCCN doesn't require any membership fees. If you would like to join our email newsletter, feel free to check the appropriate box in the form. The newsletter emails keep you updated on the latest meetings and tournaments in our club as well as the latest news in the chess world.

First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email Address <input type="text"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I would also like to join GCCN email newsletter.	
<input type="submit" value="Submit"/>	

We hope to see you soon in our meetings and tournaments and get to play few rounds of chess with you! If you are new to chess, no worries at all! Our club members are always looking forward to welcoming new members and teaching them the ways of chess! Also, definitely check out our [Beginner Lessons](#), it should be a good starting point!

CHESS NEWS

WATCH GCCN'S 1ST ONLINE TOURNAMENT 2021 ON TWITCH



Here we go! We did tell you that we are going to still find a way to be in touch during these hard times, this is our first online tournament using the infamous chess.com website, we are going to stream it on our twitch channel as well for those who can't make it... [Read more](#)

UK TO HOLD ONLINE QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENTS FOR FIDE WORLD CUP 2021



If you'd like to sign up for the qualification tournaments please contact our friends at... [Read more](#)

COVID RESCTRCTIONS ON GCCN MEETINGS



ARCHIVE

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[Jul-1-2018](#)



COVID-19 has shocked the world and even our club! Due to new COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to hold any in-person meetings! But no worries, our leadership members are working their best to... [Read more](#)

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BEGINNER CHESS LESSONS

New to chess? No need to worry about it! We've got you covered. Below are few beginner lessons our new members find quite useful.

[▼ MOVING CHESS PIECES](#)[▼ SETTING UP THE CHESSBOARD](#)[▼ CAPTURING PIECES IN CHESS](#)[▼ WINNING A CHESS GAME](#)[▼ PLAYING A CHESS GAME](#)[▼ WHERE TO GO FROM HERE?](#)

BEGINNER CHESS LESSONS

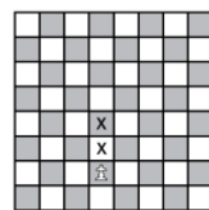
New to chess? No need to worry about it! We've got you covered. Below are few beginner lessons our new members find quite useful.

^ MOVING CHESS PIECES

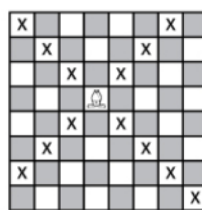
Remembering each piece's possible movements may be difficult at first, but rest assured, you will get a hang of it in a short amount of time! Here's a list of how each piece moves:

- **King:** King can move in any direction by one square. This means king can move diagonally, horizontally, and vertically.
- **Queen:** Queen is strongest and most valued piece strategically in a chess game. That is because it can easily move any number of squares in any direction.
- **Rook:** Rooks can only move any number of squares in either horizontal direction or vertical direction.
- **Knight:** Knights are the only pieces that have a bit of an unconventional movement called the "L" shaped move. Knights can go two squares up/down/left/right and from the second square, one square to either left/right/up/down. (Definitely check out the guide for this one.)
- **Bishop:** Bishops can only move diagonally with any number of squares.
- **Pawn:** In the beginning of the game, when pawns are at the starter location, they can move either one or two squares up. After the first move of the pawn, they can only move one square up.

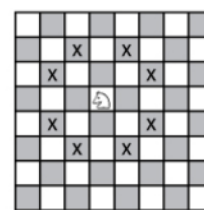
Here's a great image guide that we found online that we hope it would help:



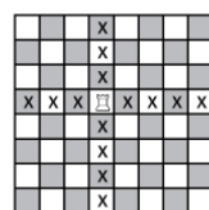
pawn
(can move 2 squares on 1st move only)



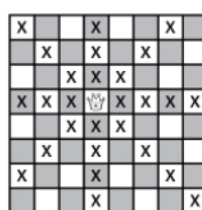
bishop



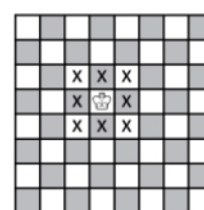
knight



rook



queen



king

^ SETTING UP THE CHESSBOARD

Now it's time to know how to setup the chessboard, since that's what you gotta do before you start a game! Before we start, we need to figure out which color goes on which side. There are many ways to figure this out, for example, one way is that the king is always on an opposite color square and its position is the fourth column from the right.

After figuring out which color goes on which side, then you can start by setting the row of of each color pawns on the second row down from the top and second row up from the bottom. Then put the rooks at each corner right behind the pawns of their color. Right next to the rooks goes the knights and right next to knight we should set up the bishops. King goes right next to the bishop on the right and queen goes next to bishop on the left.

Here's a great video we found on YouTube from Chess.com that explains this lesson perfectly:



^ CAPTURING PIECES IN CHESS

Capturing chess pieces is an integral part of the game play. Capturing a piece is the same for all pieces except the pawn.

For the pawn to capture, the piece in question needs to be one square in front of the pawn but diagonally. There's also a move called En Passant which is not really needed to know as a beginner yet. But as you improve on chess, definitely know that.

For all other pieces, as long as the opponent's piece is at the end of path of our piece. We take the captured piece and replace it with our piece.

^ WINNING A CHESS GAME

To win a chess game, you need to do a **checkmate**. However before we get to checkmates, we should learn what check is.

To check your opponent's king means to put the opponent's king in the way of one of your piece's possible next moves. When this happens we call it "the king is in check". The opponent at this point can't do any moves, other than getting the king out of the way of any piece's

path.

Checkmate happens when the king has no possible way to get out check. Here's another great video that we found from Chess.com on YouTube that is also a great resource for learning more on chess:



^ PLAYING A CHESS GAME

Now that you have learned how to move the chess pieces, set up the chessboard, capture chess pieces, and winning a chess game, you can start to play a chess game and build up from there.

The main strategy at the beginning of the game is to take control of the 4 squares in the middle of the board. As you learn more about chess, you'll get to know about openings and many variants and strategies and you'll get a hang of it! Here's another great video we found from Chess.com on their YouTube channel that adds to everything we've mentioned here:



^ WHERE TO GO FROM HERE?

If you have gone through all of our lessons, great job! If you are also looking for more resources to learn from we can definitely introduce a couple to you:

- [Chess.com](https://www.chess.com): A great place to go through their lessons, play online with other people, and do puzzles however be warned, they have subscriptions and limited services available for free per day!
- [Lichess.org](https://lichess.org): A great alternative to Chess.com, everything is free and unlimited puzzles for practice!
- Also don't forget to drop by our club! Our members love to play with people all different

skills and levels!

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OUR MISSION

Goldsmith Chess Club Newsletter (GCCN) was established in July 2018 after two students realized there has never been a chess club for University of London Goldsmith. The main goal of the club is to create a friendly environment for all chess enthusiasts in our university. We require no membership specifically to make chess accessible to even more people. We are always looking forward to welcoming people who are new to chess.

CLUB LEADERSHIP



Club Role President

Name Juan Alexander

[Email](#)



Club Role Vice President

Name Kia Lee

[Email](#)



Club Role Treasurer

Name Jacob Noel

[Email](#)



Club Role Event Coordinator

Name Alisson Hart

[Email](#)

