*Chess Etiquette for our Tournament*

*Coaches,*

*Our 3/5 Chess Tournament can be a learning experience for all the players, if the spirit of fair play and camaraderie are followed. Chess players shake hands before and after each game, regardless of the outcome. Shaking hands prior to a game indicates players’ agreement to play their best and follow the rules. Shaking hands also serves to recognize the worth and dignity of the opponent by extending a hand in friendship and good sportsmanship. Shaking hands after the game also indicates a player’s acceptance of the results. After a victory shaking hands is also gracious and affirms one’s own esteem for the quality of the opponent’s play and of the opponent as a person. Fair play requires that a player not disturb, harass or otherwise interrupt the thinking of one’s opponent. Chess players realize that a good game is constructed from the best efforts of both opponents, with both using the Golden Rule.*

*~ Every game must begin and end with the players shaking hands*

*~ Talking is not permitted except to say “check” or “checkmate” or possibly “would you like a draw” or “you touched that piece, so you must play it” or “that is an illegal move” or “I adjust.” PLEASE ASK YOUR STUDENTS TO SAY CHECK AND CHECKMATE VERY SOFTLY, SO THE ROOM WILL NOT BE FILLED WITH CHECK, CHECK, CHECKS. In some tournament chess, CHECKS are not spoken, but are just understood, but we feel our children still need the CHECK word spoken.*

*~ If a piece is accidentally knocked over, please say “I adjust” before putting it back, and you are only allowed to touch the board or adjust a piece when it is your turn.*

*~ If you are in a totally hopeless position, you may say “I resign” in tournament chess.*

*~ Never do anything to distract any other player in the tournament, especially your own opponent*

***~ We will be using the “touch move” rule. If you touch that piece, you move that piece****.*

*~ If an illegal move is made, the tournament director or chief judge should be summoned by raising your hand (if you can agree that the move is illegal and adjust it on your own, please do so. The players do this together anyway).*

*~ Never argue. If during a game something strange or unusual happens or there is something that you do not understand, raise your hand and let an official make the decision. Sometimes players realize an error and can gracefully adjust and “take back.”*

*~ Never gloat over a victory, or become despondent, angry, or hostile following a defeat. If you win-that is your reward. If you do not win-you always learn from the experience. It will translate into a better player in your next game. In chess, everyone wins.*

*~ Never comment on a game that is in progress, whether the game is yours or one that you are watching.*

*~ Tournament officials have the authority to punish breaches of etiquette-players may be disqualified for violating the rules*

*~ Chess is supposed to be fun. Relax and enjoy the game*

*~ If there is an emergency and you have an alternate player as a spectator with your coach, you may have that player play in your place for that game or the remainder, depending on the emergency. Be sure to clear with a judge before playing an alternate.*

*~ Win or lose, consider the other person’s feelings*

*~ Once you have completed your game and shaken hands, raise your hand and a judge will come over to verify the game’s conclusion-either with CHECKMATE or an agreed draw. If there is no winner after 20 minutes in the team games,* **the SUFFICIENT / INSUFFICIENT POWER RULES WILL CALL THE GAME***. For individual players who do not complete a game after 20 minutes, judges will tally the # of points for winner or draw. Do not move a piece when time is called until score is recorded..*

*~ Once your game is completed and scored, you must reset your board.*

*~ Once you have reported your results, please set up and move to the area away from the tournament and remain quiet. This is a good time for a bathroom break or snack or water break,* ***as long as player is ready when the next 20 minute match begins****. We are pressed for time, so must begin at exactly 9:15. If the 20 minutes is almost up, just remain seated. After the 20 minute game, we will have 10 minutes in between games for scoring or bathroom breaks, but we will begin the next match on time in order to play 6 matches.* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *is the head scorekeeper, and* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *is the head judge.*

*~ When the next game is ready to begin, take your assigned seat quietly. Await the director’s instructions to begin. Shake hands and begin.*

*Coaches, carefully go over the 3 sheets* and chess etiquette*from the Michael Kusen materials, being sure parents receive these also. Remember, we will have no* en passant *pawn captures, but we will allow castling except when a king is already in check. We will not be using clocks because most of the children are not accustomed to clocks. We will have extra queens available for pawn exchange, if players will raise hands to get these. carefully look over the rules for a draw or stalemate, especially insufficient power to checkmate.* ***For clarity be sure all players receive a copy of the 3/5 tournament scoring rules, and that they share with parents!! Parents are absolutely not allowed to talk and coax players.***

*The 4 man team players may unobtrusively allow the alternate player to play, or have a regular rotation. The individual players will just be known as the school individual player and will be playing in a different area than the 4 member teams. These players cannot exchange places between the team and individuals.*

***It goes without saying that coaches and adult chaperones may not comment, cheer, or heckle during matches.*** *Poker**faces or smiles are nice! All cell phones will be turned off during the games, and we will ask spectators talking to talk outside in the hallway.**We are inviting principals, parents, and many from Central Office, but our GALLERY audience space is limited, so we will not invite the general public.*