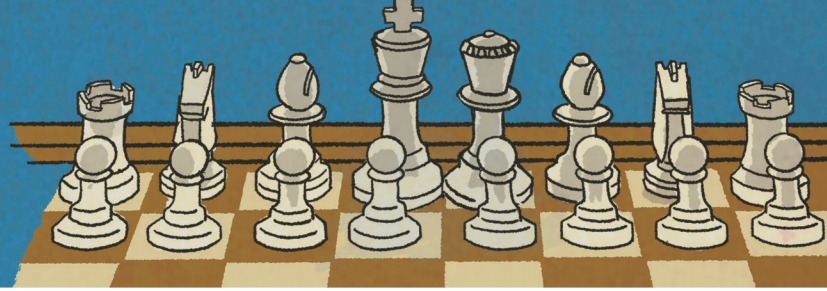


# HOW TO START A CHESS CLUB



Want to start a chess club in your school? The good news is that you don't have to be a chess expert, it is relatively cheap to set up, and there is a lot of help out there!

## 1. ASK AN ADMINISTRATOR

- \* Reach out to your administration for permission to start a club and find out the school's regulations.



## 4. GET STUFF

- \* Chess sets (Roll-up chessboards make for easier storage.)
- \* Plastic storage bins
- \* Digital chess clocks
- \* Chess demonstration boards (These hang on a wall and allow demonstrations of strategy and game play for all to see. A famous chess match can also be demonstrated, move for move.)



## 2. ADVERTISE!

JOIN!  
CHESS CLUB!

CREATE FLYERS  
Post them around the school!

FREE SNACKS!

If possible, have snacks available at meetings.

- \* If you already have some interested students, have them create the flyers.

- \* Snacks are always a great draw for students.



## 5. ORGANIZE MEETINGS

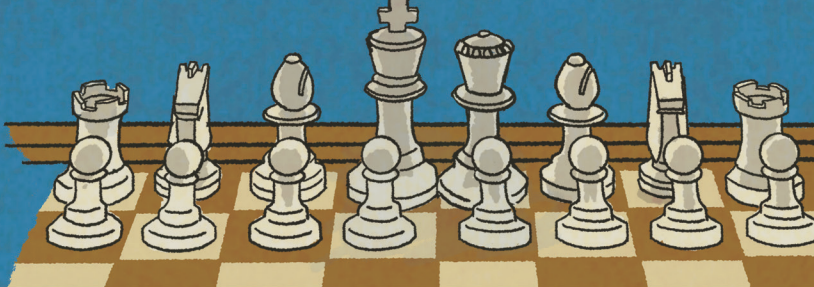


- \* Create leadership roles for students (president, vice president, treasurer, etc.), and make sure to give students a voice in planning.
- \* Use the beginning and end of each meeting for some instruction time and the chance to share strategies, questions, and advice.
- \* Organize by ability level and have more advanced chess players mentor novice players.
- \* Chessboards can be set up in advance with different challenges and have members strategize and play through them, rather than always playing a match.

## 3. FIND A MEETING PLACE

- \* Find a meeting place with many tables. Often the school cafeteria serves as a great communal space.





## ABOUT THE BOOK

### MIND VS. MACHINE: The Chess Match That Changed the World

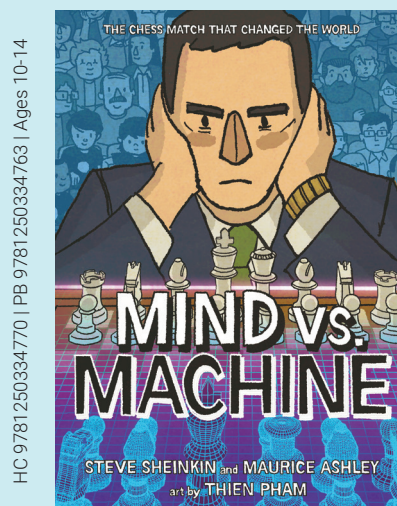
by Steve Sheinkin and Maurice Ashley;  
illustrated by Thien Pham

#### 6. GET HELP

- ★ Reach out to the community. There are often parents who are avid chess players.
- ★ Find a free chess curriculum with rules, diagrams, and more at <https://www.chesskid.com/learn/articles/chesskidcoms-curriculum>.
- ★ The US Chess Federation offers everything teachers need to know to start a chess club—from rules, official chess sets, information on tournaments and other events, a digital magazine, YouTube videos, access to local clubs, and more—at [https://new.uschess.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/guide-to-a-successful-chess-club-09.03.2021\\_1.pdf](https://new.uschess.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/guide-to-a-successful-chess-club-09.03.2021_1.pdf).
- ★ Many resources for kids and parents, including tutorials, curriculum for schools, games against bots and kids, video tutorials, printable infographics, access to online chess clubs around the world, and more, are available at <https://www.chesskid.com/>.
- ★ The National Scholastic Chess Foundation has resources for educators at <https://nscfchess.org/>.

#### 7. FUNDING

- ★ For free chess sets for Title 1 schools, go to <https://www.uschesstrust.org/chess-for-youth-online-form/>.
- ★ For grants and free chess sets for Title 1 schools, visit <https://new.uschess.org/chess-grants-and-awards-educators>.
- ★ Free printable chessboards and pieces are available at <https://www.cartridgepeople.com/info/blog/printable-chess-set>.
- ★ Donors Choose or GoFundMe are good sites for fundraising.
- ★ Send an email to parents or the PTA asking for donations or chess sets, and or featuring your Amazon wish list!



## ABOUT THE CREATORS



**STEVE SHEINKIN** is the acclaimed author of fast-paced nonfiction histories, including *Diamond Fever!*, *Fallout*, *Undeclared*, *Born to Fly*, *The Port Chicago 50*, and *Bomb*. His accolades include a Newbery Honor, three Boston Globe-Horn Book Awards, a Sibert Medal and Honor, and three National Book Award finalist honors.



**MAURICE ASHLEY** is a three time national championship coach, an author, and a world-renowned commentator for some of the game's biggest matches. In 1999, he became the first African American grandmaster in chess history, and in 2016 he was inducted into the World Chess Hall of Fame.



**THIEN PHAM** is a graphic novelist and educator, the author/illustrator of *Sumo*, and the illustrator of *Level Up*, written by Gene Luen Yang. *Family Style*, a memoir about Pham's family's immigration to America told through the lens of food, was a finalist for the ALA YALSA Excellence in Non-Fiction award and won an Eisner award for Best Memoir Graphic Novel.

