



P.O. BOX 3967
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Subject: Invitation to the 29th NATO Chess Championship

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor as President of the U.S. Chess Federation, and as a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, to invite all NATO Nations to compete in the 29th NATO Chess Championship, the world's greatest military chess tournament. The tournament will take place on the campus of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, USA, from 3-9 June 2018. Each NATO Nation is invited to send a team of up to six players, plus a Team Captain and a Team Official. Up to three Veterans may participate from each Nation upon approval by the International Military Chess Committee.

The Championship will consist of seven rounds and is scored as both a team and an individual tournament in accordance with the International Military Chess Committee regulations. There will also be a Speed Chess Championship held on 8 June 2018.

The entrance fee is 350 Euro per person which includes accommodations onsite at the Texas Tech campus, and all meals from dinner on 3 June 2017 through+ breakfast on 9 June 2018. To stay in Texas Tech's on-campus accommodations, you must be 18 years or older. Alternate arrangements can be made at an increased cost; please contact the tournament organizer if this will be required.

Teams arriving on Saturday and Sunday, 2-3 June 2018, and departing on Saturday and Sunday, 9-10 June 2018 will be transported to and from Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB), Lubbock, Texas.

This letter does not authorize any person or team entrance into the United States of America. Several nations will require a VISA to enter the United States. Please check with the U.S. Department of State if your country requires a VISA <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/general/visa-wizard.html>.


Representatives from each nation must complete the final agreement as provided by the tournament organizer and pay the full team entrance fee by 1 March 2018. Submission of the final agreement constitutes agreement to pay the full entry fee.

Please direct any questions to the Tournament Organizer who will provide full administrative instructions as soon as they are ready. The Tournament Organizer is David A. Hater, Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired). Email to dhater1@aol.com.

The United States Chess Federation does not provide financial assistance for this event.

I look forward to welcoming you to the 29th NATO Chess Championship in June 2018.

Yours in Chess,


Michael E. Hoffpauir
President, U.S. Chess Federation
Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)
FIDE Arbiter
mhoffpauir@aol.com



Dear Participants of the NATO Chess Championship,

It is a great pleasure to invite the NATO chess teams to Texas Tech University located in Lubbock, Texas. Texas Tech is a public research university offering degrees in more than 150 courses of study through 13 colleges and hosts 60 research centers and institutes. Texas Tech also offers over 100 graduate degree as well as Medical and Law school. The Spanish Renaissance themed campus, has been awarded the Grand Award for excellence in grounds-keeping, and has been noted for possessing a public art collection among the ten best in the United States.

The NATO Chess Championship will be hosted by the Texas Tech Chess Program led by Grandmaster Alex Onischuk. Under his leadership the Texas Tech University Chess Program has qualified four times for the Final Four and won the 2015-2016 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship. GM Onischuk will be the honorary non-playing Team Captain for this year's American NATO Chess Team.

The Championship will consist of seven rounds and is scored as both a team and individual tournament in accordance with the International Military Chess Committee regulations. There will also be a speed Chess Championship held on June 8, 2018.

The entrance fee will be €350 per person which includes accommodations at Texas Tech in their one person single bedded rooms and all meals on campus, starting from dinner on June 3, 2018 to breakfast on June 9, 2018. Teams may arrive a day early (June 2, 2018) and depart a day later (June 10, 2018) at the cost of an additional €25 per person/per night. The extra nights will only cover the cost of the room. Children 17 and younger are not permitted to stay in the Texas Tech residence halls due to regulations. Alternate arrangements can be made for those bringing families. If you elect to make you own lodging arrangements the fee will be €100 per person, which includes transportation, special events and entrance to the awards banquet.

Teams arriving on June 2-3 and departing on June 9-10 will be transported from and to Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (LBB) by a shuttle.

Nations are to complete the final agreement by March 1, 2018, with payment due on April 1, 2018. Payments will be taken via credit card, and alternative payment arrangements can be made if necessary (such as wire transfers). More information on payment options will be provided at a later date. Those requiring a VISA in order to enter the U.S. please provide names of each individual so official invitations may be issued.

The tournament organizers are Texas Tech Chess Program (please contact Danielle Singleton) and COL David Hater, USA retired. They can be reached at texastechchess@ttu.edu, (806)742-7742 (Ms. Singleton) or dhater1@aol.com (COL Hater).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Frazier', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Paul Frazier,

Associate Vice President