



## Castle Chess Camp

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MAY 2010

Castle Campers,

We are pleased you will be joining us for the 2010 Castle Chess Camp at Emory University. We have several forms that you are required to fill out:

- ✓ **Medical History** – Identifies campers with medical issues that may require monitoring during camp, helps us manage any medication needs, and gives us emergency contact numbers for every camper.
- ✓ **Self-Evaluation** – Given in advance to the Primary Instructor for each group and aids in the initial assessment of the camper. Doing a good job with this form helps your instructors help you!
- ✓ **Release/Waiver** – Legally required to have on file for every camper.
- ✓ **Expectation Agreement** – Addresses expected behavior and consequences for violations.

We also have a few forms that do not need to be returned, but are for your reference:

- This letter
- The Emory Campus Map
- The Airport Transportation Letter

***Please read everything thoroughly, and mail the required forms to the address above by June 1.***

### CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT

Check-in will take place in the lobby of Dobbs Residence Hall, building #4 on the Emory Campus Map. (Note this is a DIFFERENT DORM than we have had for the past several years.) Please plan to arrive between 1:30 and 3:30PM on Sunday, June 13. **COMMUTERS MUST CHECK IN DURING THIS TIME AS WELL AS RESIDENTS!**

The dorm will be marked with a big blue “Castle Chess” banner and we will have staff members outside waiting to greet you and help unload your stuff. If you drove to camp, after unloading, you will immediately be directed to Peavine Parking Deck after unloading. Park your car, walk back to the dorm, THEN check in, go to your room, and unpack.

Orientation is scheduled to begin at 4:30 PM in Cox Hall Ballroom, building #21 on the map, directly across from the dorm. If this is your first time at camp, parents are strongly encouraged to stay for Orientation. In addition to introducing the instructors and counselors, we will go over the schedule for the week in detail, all the policies and procedures involved with commuters, and many other important details of camp.

Check-out: the final weekend of camp is devoted to a five-round tournament, the Castle Grand Prix. Campers are automatically registered in the Grand Prix, and players from outside of camp also participate. The final round of the Grand Prix starts at 1:30 on Sunday June 20. Students will check out in the dorm lobby after their final game, sometime between 3:00 and 5:30PM. Rooms must be cleaned out and inspected by a staff member before you can check-out. Commuters also need to come to the dorm to check out during this same time frame so they can return their key, meal, card and parking pass (if applicable).

*Campers unable to check in or out at the above times **MUST** email in advance to make special arrangements!*

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Resident campers will stay in Dobbs Residence Hall. Upon check-in, residents will receive two keys- one to the outer doors of the dorm and one to their specific room. Commuters will receive the master key to the outer dorm doors only. Both residents and commuters will receive a meal card, although commuters will only have lunch and dinner pre-programmed on their cards (not breakfast).

Any camper or parent needing a **parking pass** can get one at check-in, if requested in advance. Parking passes are only necessary if you will need to park on campus during the weekdays; evenings and weekends passes are not required.

**IMPORTANT:** Emory charges us a fee for lost keys, meal cards, and parking passes, and if you fail to turn all your stuff back in at check-out, **you** will be responsible for the fees!

The following is supplied by Emory for residents who paid the \$30 extra fee for linens: two sheets, one pillowcase, one pillow, one blanket, two towels, one washcloth, and one plastic cup. *Residents who did not pre-order linens will have to bring their own sheets and towels.*

There is no maid service. Students must keep their rooms neat. Rooms are subject to inspection by counselors. (Food on the floor can quickly lead to a bug problem.)

There are no phones or active phone jacks in the room. Campers may bring a cell phone and use it at any time other than during the morning tournament game or during classroom sessions. Cell phones also make great alarm clocks.

Rooms are all doubles, and have one sink in them. Showers and toilets and more sinks are in a community bathroom in the hallway. Showers are separated into private stalls with a small dressing area that is curtained off for privacy.

## **WHAT ELSE TO BRING TO CAMP**

Some items you may want: flip-flops/sandals to wear in the shower, an umbrella or rain poncho, snacks for your room, alarm clock, swim suit, ping pong paddle, Frisbee. (We do have some paddles and some frisbees, but having your own never hurts.) You definitely want comfortable, cool, non-restrictive clothes and tennis shoes or other comfortable walking shoes. Emory tends to overcool some buildings, so a long-sleeved shirt or light jacket is also a good idea.

Please leave electronics and other expensive items (other than your chess clock) at home. While the campus is very secure, things happen, and Castle Chess, Inc. cannot be responsible for items that are lost or stolen.

***-BE SURE TO PUT YOUR NAME ON ALL YOUR STUFF!-***

## **CHESS EQUIPMENT**

Campers are required to have a standard tournament chessboard (roll-up vinyl), chess pieces, and a clock. We recommend a digital clock. The advantage to these clocks are accuracy, silence (no ticking to disturb you or your neighbors), and a time delay feature that has become standard for tournament play. Digital

clocks have a learning curve, so please become familiar with your clock before camp (including the time delay feature). To buy a set before you come, try [www.wholesalechess.com](http://www.wholesalechess.com).

To participate in the Emory Castle Grand Prix, all campers must be current members of the U. S. Chess Federation. Individuals may purchase or renew memberships online at [uschess.org](http://uschess.org).

### **HOW ABOUT MONEY?**

Opportunities to spend money at Camp include the bookstore at the Grand Prix (sells chess books, software, and chess equipment) and some vending machines in the dorms and classroom buildings. In general though, campers are too busy to spend much money, and it generally just creates a lot of fuss if it gets lost.

### **CHILD CARE TAX CREDIT**

If you are a parent of a child under 14 who is commuting at the Emory Castle Chess Camp, the cost of the camp can count toward your day care expenses for tax purposes. Our tax ID # is 26-1579707. Please consult the IRS web site or a certified accountant for guidance.

### **PARENTS WELCOME**

As far as Castle Chess is concerned, parents are welcome to visit anytime. (As former Director David Woolf used to say, your children may feel differently about this!) You may purchase or bring your own meal and eat with your camper anytime, or observe any of our camp activities as long as you are not intrusive or disruptive. Some parents like to come to sit in on their child's Friday evaluation and/or attend the Friday Camp Awards Ceremony at 4:00.

### **AND FINALLY...**

Castle Chess Camp could not run without the help of many volunteers, in particular our Board of Directors and our counselors. Only our Instructors get paid. I hope that every camper and every parent will treat our staff with courtesy and work with us in a spirit of cooperation.

During camp, if you need to get in touch with a camper or a staff member or if you have any other issues or concerns, please email, call, or text me. I will have my phone with me at all times. Email or texting is better than calling, since if I am in a classroom or in the tournament hall, I will still be able to see your message instantly.

I look forward to greeting you personally on Sunday afternoon, June 13th.

Warm Regards,

Jennifer Christianson  
Camp Director  
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