



CHESS WORKSHOP

Presented by: Jay Wu

WHO AM I?



- “Retired” chess player, currently play for fun
- 1700 ELO in 6th grade
- 10th at national scholastic
- 3rd at state U2100
- 9th at world open U1400
- Hosted chess clubs at my school

WHY?

- It is important to know why you want to play chess. The “why” is the what will keep you motivated through the beginning stages of learning.



APPROACH

- What are some things you should keep in mind before you start a game of chess?
- Chess is a war and you are the general of your army.
- Chess is an even game, so you must outplay your opponent.
- What are some principles we must follow?
- Principles are good for guidance, but should not be memorized

SKILLS VS. KNOWLEDGE

- Chess is much more about skills than it is about knowledge, memorization will not help in the long run
- Building a framework that shows the skills you need to acquire is the first thing to do on your agenda
- What kind of skills do you think are the most important in chess?

SKILLS THAT HELP ME IN CHESS

- Decision making: Chess is all about making the right choices. Our first goal should be to make as little poor decisions as we can.
- Logic/Calculation ability: Justifying your moves comes from the analysis you do in your head. You should be able to predict the future.
- Intuition: In many positions, you will need to make moves by “feeling” rather than brute force calculation.
- Chess is not about how many skills you have, but how strongly you have mastered the important ones

THE BASICS!

- How do you win the game of chess?
- Must need some type of direction.
- Break it down into steps, starting from the beginning of the game.
- 1. Improve your position
- 2. Achieve an advantage
- 3. Capitalize on the advantage to win something (material)
- 4. Use your extra material to overwhelm opponent
- You will never win games randomly.

PRINCIPLES

- These are the 3 principles you will need to understand:
- 1. Control important squares
- 2. Make your pieces active
- 3. Ensure your king is safe