

Hello Parents,

**BAC is working closely with individual Districts and Schools to meet all safety regulations for our Chess Enrichment programs given the recent news on the COV-19 Coronavirus.**

BAC understands that this time must be stressful for you and your families. A variety of programs/locations have been deemed safe to host our program, while many others have been closed. On 3/13/20, the majority of local districts have decided to close for 2-3 weeks, at which time an assessment will be made before moving forward. In the few cases where classes *have not* been closed, we will continue to provide chess enrichment with enhanced precautions in place; such as mandatory hand-washing breaks, spacing the students out to the recommended distance, ending the tradition of shaking hands before and after games, and using only properly sanitized materials. There should not be any physical contact in our classes.

### **Important Disclaimers**

- 1) Children are “not shown to be a high-risk group” and “should be allowed to carry on with their education and normal activities.” if possible. The “risk to the general public remains low. However, the standards for non-essential gatherings is changing county by county, so BAC will be honoring these guidelines. Some schools have opted for full-closure and BAC will be suspending classes in those cases.
- 2) Health officials advise that sick, elderly, and those “higher risk for serious illness” should not be present in our enrichment gatherings. Those who attend should wash hands regularly and practice latest precautions.
- 3) BAC cannot make any guarantees and we encourage you to use your best discretion regarding attendance, especially if you, or your family members, are in a high-risk group.

**BAC Leadership continues to monitor updates regarding the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19).**

BAC is taking efforts to address student/staff/parents and visitors’ hygiene and respiratory etiquette at the after-school chess classes, as well as at our Clubs, Teams and Camps campuses.

BAC understands that some families are experiencing stressful times, so we are doing everything we can to maintain a healthy and safe environment for our

students. BayAreaChess cannot make any guarantees and we encourage you to use your best discretion regarding attendance, especially if you, or your family members, are in a high-risk group. **We are asking that you not to attend if:**

- a. You are experiencing any cold or flu-like symptoms
- b. You have visited any countries in the CDC Level 2 or 3 list in the last 14 days (e.g., China, Hong Kong, Italy, Iran, Japan, and South Korea).
- c. You have been in contact with anyone who is infected with the COVID-19 virus or shows symptoms of being infected.

### **BAC's Precautions related to COVID -19**

For classes that are still active, we are requiring that classes have mandatory hand-washing breaks, Recommended spacing between students, ending the tradition of shaking hands before and after games, and using only properly sanitized materials.

### **General Precautions**

Please continue to take these precautions to stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses as listed at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>:

- Practice good personal hygiene habits;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing;
- Refrain from touching your face;
- Stay home when you are sick and away from others in your home;
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects using normal household cleansers;
- Try alternatives to shaking hands, such as smile and/ or wave;
- Plan for the possibility of school dismissals, cancellations of large gatherings, and other ways to reduce contact between people;
- Get a flu shot to protect yourself and others from the flu, which has similar symptoms to COVID-19.

### **Policy for Enrichment Closure:**

The guidance from CDC and various local authorities are still quite fluid. We will therefore not be addressing the topic of refunds until after the situation settles and the true impact can be determined.

**In cases where Enrichment days are forced to close as a precautionary mandate:** We will work with the school administration and attempt to add these classes to the end of a semester to meet the correct number of sessions and complete the full term. In situations where this is not possible, we will be reaching out with options and/or credits based on the impact of each individual site.

Students will not be docked [class points](#) for mandatory closures (in applicable classes) and any absences during March. They will still receive an average weekly score added to their totals.

Safety of our students is our top priority!

We thank you for your commitment, understanding, your involvement and your support during these difficult times as we continue to *Transform lives through Chess!*

Cordially,

- The BAC Enrichment Team.