

## Chess Merit Badge Pre-Work

- This merit badge will be presented in one four-hour session.
- Scouts must submit prework to their counselor by email ahead of the merit badge session. Counselors will not collect physical copies of prework during the class. Please note that we are unable to open Google Docs on Fairfax County Government computers. **Pework requirements must be sent as a pdf attachment to [Kari.Schilling@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Kari.Schilling@fairfaxcounty.gov) one week prior to the class date. Some pre-work requirements will be discussed/shared in class, please bring copies of all pre-work with you.**
- The blue card will be held at Hidden Oaks until proof of all requirements have been reviewed and signed off by a BSA scout counselor for these badges. Upon completion, the blue card will be mailed to the scout. Pre and post work should be emailed to [Kari.Schilling@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Kari.Schilling@fairfaxcounty.gov)

### Please bring to class:

- Pre-Work
- Blue Card
- Pen or Pencil
- Snack/lunch and a drink. Water fountains are available. Please no red liquids.
- Worksheet (useful, but not mandatory) <http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/chess.pdf>

### Pre-Work

The following should be completed by the scouts before the program and brought with them on the day of class.

**Requirement 3.** Demonstrate to your counselor that you know each of the following. Then, using Scouting's EDGE method, teach someone (preferably another Scout) who does not know how to play chess:

- a) The name of each chess piece
- b) How to set up a chessboard
- c) How each chess piece moves, including castling and en passant captures

This requirement can be done at home with a sibling or family member or at a scout's troop or patrol meeting. Please provide a brief note from an adult who was able to observe that this has been completed using the EDGE method.

**Requirement 5a.** Explain four of the following elements of chess strategy: exploiting weaknesses, force, king safety, pawn structure, space, tempo, time.

**Requirement 5b.** Explain any five of these chess tactics: clearance sacrifice, decoy, discovered attack, double attack, fork, interposing, overloading, overprotecting, pin, remove the defender, skewer, zwischenzug.

For help or questions, contact Kari Schilling at [Kari.Schilling@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Kari.Schilling@fairfaxcounty.gov), or at (703) 941-1065.