



# CHESS LUDUS

prospectus

Chess, in the hands of Chess People!



# Introduction

Welcome to Chess Ludus, where the strategic depth of chess meets structured, progressive learning. Our academy is dedicated to transforming students from casual players into strategic thinkers and competitive contenders.

## Our Philosophy

At Chess Ludus, we see chess as a journey of continuous improvement and personal growth. Our unique educational approach is designed to enhance not only your skills on the chessboard but also your analytical thinking, patience, and perseverance. Above all else, a key culture for the Ludus is to have FUN and WIN.

## Unique Belt System

Drawing inspiration from the disciplined progression of martial arts, our belt system provides a clear framework for growth and achievement. Each belt represents a new stage in your chess development, offering new challenges and rewards. This system not only tracks your progression but also prepares you to contribute to the broader chess community, both as a competitor and as a coach.

## Join Our Community

Chess Ludus is more than just an academy—it's a community where members support each other's growth and celebrate each other's successes. Whether you aim to sharpen your game, explore complex strategies, or inspire others by coaching, Chess Ludus offers the tools and support you need on your journey to mastery.







If winning, clarify;  
If losing,  
complicate.

Bruce Pandolfini

# Team

## **Ashley Vermaak**

Been part of BC Chess since 1999 (I was 11) and started winning things for the region since 2000. Represented South Africa as a player in 2008 in Spain. Almost all my private students has played for SA at some point. (99%). Led the BC U18A team to gold at the SA Junior Championship. Won multiple tourneys- recently finished =6<sup>th</sup> at the SA Open (With a little time to study I could win the thing). #1 rated player in BC. I play, coach, arbit administer, and have become synonymous with my favorite game! The strategical and tactical applications excite me the most, and I love having those ideas influence others in a positive way. I have a winning attitude, which is always my goal, and I feel this has rubbed off on many players over the years and I am proud to bring that mentality to the table.

## **Coach #Dr. Bellz**

Coach Dr. Bellz is an experienced chess coach and arbiter with a rich background in the game. As a former member and coach of his university's chess team, he brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to his coaching. Currently, he coaches students from grades 1 to 12 across three primary schools and two high schools. Additionally, he offers private lessons for children as young as four, nurturing young minds in the art of chess.

## **Sinovuyo Racaza- #Chief Hacker Grim Reaper**

Established coach responsible for many of the top senior players that have come through the ranks today- including many of the 2022 SA Junior Championship winning side. Chief Hacker on the board, when he feels like it- he is unbeatable.

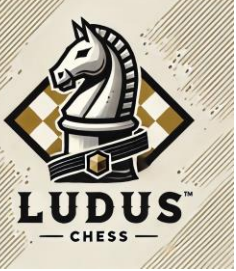
## **Coach Mrs. D Mabhera**

A former member of her university chess team, Dianah brings her passion and experience to the chessboard as a dedicated coach. Currently guiding young minds at Clarendon and Merrifield primary schools, she works with students from Grade 1 to Grade 7, and also offers private coaching for children as young as 5. Coach Dianah is committed to nurturing strategic thinking and a love for the game in each of her students.

## **Tarlev, Konstantin**

Grandmaster Peak FIDE 2600. For the time being we will arrange one session a month with the GM, as we progress, we will schedule more sessions a month with a bigger roster of titled players.

Other coaches who have indicated willingness to assist- Sachin Hastie, Jason Bekker. However always looking to add reliable coaches to the roster as we proceed to foster a culture of learning and winning.



# Timeline (Rating 0-1800)

## **OBJECTIVES**

Understand basic rules, piece movements, game objectives

## **TOPIC**

Chessboard setup, movement rules for all pieces, check and checkmate basics, notation.

White Belt

## **OBJECTIVES**

Enhance mid-game tactics and introduce famous historical games for analysis.

## **TOPIC**

Common chess openings in depth, key middle-game strategies.

Orange Belt

## **OBJECTIVES**

Prepare for tournaments and in-depth game analysis.

## **TOPIC**

Preparation for specific opponents, psychological aspects of chess, advanced game analysis techniques.

Blue Belt

## **OBJECTIVES**

Develop opening strategies and basic tactical skills.

## **TOPIC**

Popular openings, identifying pins and forks, basic endgame scenarios.

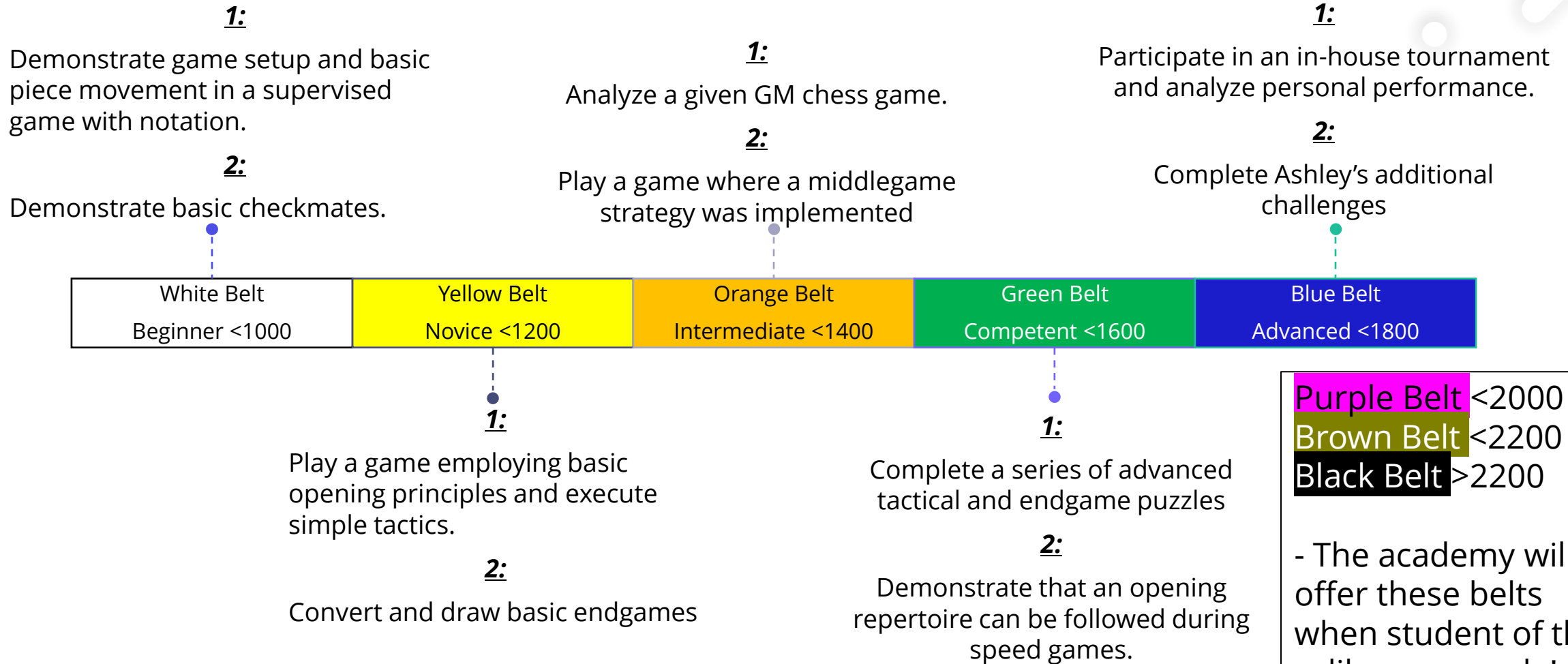
## **OBJECTIVES**

Master advanced chess strategies and preparation for competitive play.

## **TOPIC**

Advanced opening theory, dynamic middle game tactics, complex endgame puzzles.

# Belt Progression (Rating 0-1800)





# Content

(Sessions to start from AUGUST)



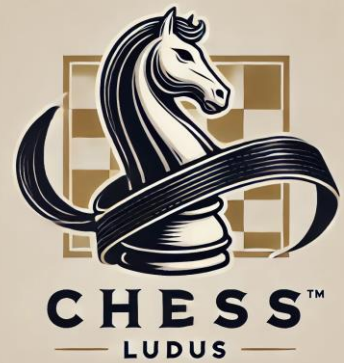
## Sessions (Online)

- + Once a week (Sunday afternoons)
- + Once a month (Titled player 2500+)
- + There will also be regular YouTube videos, related to lessons. They will involve playing games, solving, and other such as opening prep etc.

## Session (In person)

- + Once a month in person sessions
- + This can take the form of coaching or assessments to move to the next 'belt'.

# PRICE



## R200 a month

- + Once a week online session
- + Access to recordings of lecture
- + Assessments each month

## R250 a month

- + Once a week online session
- + Access to recordings of lecture
- + Assessments each month
- + X1 in person session a month

## R300 a month

- + Once a week online session
- + Access to recordings of lecture
- + Assessments each month
- + X1 in person session a month
- + 1 group lecture with GM Konstantin each month





# Summary

This academy charts a proven track record of taking students from any level- to a level where they can compete for national colors.



# Thank You

- + Chess Ludus TEAM
- + Temporary Home for our website until we get our own:  
<http://chessvikings.co.za/Academy.html>
- + Temporary account details until we get our own:  
Bank Details: CHESS VIKINGS CLUB  
FNB Acc: 6308 4975 631 Branch: 250 655
- + Please use reference: LUDUS+Surname+Initial
- + Example: LudusRacazaS

Further questions Please Whatsapp:  
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