

Alabama Dual-Rated State Chess Championship

36 players from Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Florida competed in the 2016 Alabama Dual-Rated State Chess Championship on July 23 at Evangel Church in Montgomery, AL. The tournament was four rounds at a time control of 45 minutes + 10 seconds increment per move. The Dual-Rated Championship was directed by Doug Strout at Evangel for the fifth consecutive year.

The Open section was won by Jonathan Rasberry (trophy winner as Champion) and Scott Varagona. The victory is Scott's third at the Dual (2013, 2014, 2016), and since Scott has finished first in all three championships in 2016 (Quick, Blitz, Dual), the possibility of another "Scott slam" (2013) will be in play at the State Championship in Huntsville over Labor Day weekend. The victory is Jonathan's first in the Dual-Rated Open section, but he did win the title in the U1600 section of the Dual in 2012.

The U1800 championship was won by newcomer Tejas Thorat, a half-point ahead of co-runnersup Christian Friedman and Mohak Agrawalla. Mohak and Christian finished first and second, respectively, in the Reserve section of the 2016 Quick championship. The U1200 championship was won by Kristian Jordan, and Joseph Jacob Hayes of Florida tied for first place in the U1200.

Thanks to all the players for supporting the event. Upcoming tournaments include the Chris Bond Memorial in Montgomery on August 6 and the State Championship over Labor Day weekend.

Winners from 2016 Alabama Dual-Rated State Chess Championship:
(players from Alabama unless noted otherwise)

OPEN

CHAMPION: Jonathan Rasberry

Co-champion: Scott Varagona

U2000 winners: Tim Bond and Roger Johnson

U1800

CHAMPION: Tejas Thorat

2nd place: Christian Friedman and Mohak Agrawalla

U1500 winners: Aaron Decord, Sarvagna Velidandla, James Xiang Yang, and Ethan Smith

U1200

CHAMPION: Kristian Jordan

Co-champion: Joseph Jacob Hayes (Florida)

U1200 winners: Joseph Graveling and Raghavan Madabushi