



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
WHITTLESEY ROAD  
PO Box 863  
TRENTON NJ 08625-0863

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

MARCUS O. HICKS, ESQ.  
*Acting Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Press Contact:** Liz Velez  
Liz.Velez@doc.nj.gov  
(609) 292-4036 ext. 5542

**PRINCETON STUDENTS, MAXIMUM SECURITY INMATES  
TO SQUARE OFF IN CHESS COMPETITION**

**TRENTON, NJ – Nov. 14, 2019 --** A dozen chess players, all of whom are students at Princeton University, will compete on Friday at 8 a.m., against individuals incarcerated at New Jersey State Prison (NJSP), in Trenton.

During the unique competition, which dates back more than 15 years, Princeton students will simultaneously face off in separate games against 50 to 60 inmates.

The group of Princeton students will include freshman Andrew Tang, the university's first grandmaster. Grandmaster is the highest title a chess player can attain. Of an estimated 800 million chess players worldwide, approximately 1,500 are grandmasters. Tang, age 19, earned the title from the International Chess Federation in November 2017.

"The chess program requires participants to understand and practice valuable life skills like patience, respect and sportsmanship," said NJDOC Acting Commissioner Marcus O. Hicks, Esq. "Tournaments are the pinnacle of the program and motivate inmates to exercise those life skills consistently. Both the program and the tournaments encourage positive interaction, support rehabilitation and ensure a safer environment for inmates as well as for custody staff."

More than 100 Princeton students have participated throughout the years, although this will mark the first time a grandmaster has participated.

The fast-paced matches typically yield between one and five inmate wins and draws against their opponents from Princeton.

For more information on this event, dial 609.292.4036 x 5542.

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