

## Folsom Chess Club Players Win at Girls Championships!



**Estella and Selena Wong**

Players from the Folsom Chess Club just travelled to the Bay Area to play in their 1st "girls only" tournament. CALNORTH GIRLS CHESS TOURNAMENT. All of our girls (Estella and Selena Wong, 2 kindergarteners who are twin sisters) did excellent jobs. Both of them won all their games in the "rated" regular rounds. They won team and individual champions in the LARGEST girls only chess tournament in California in past few years (and this is the 2nd largest girls tournament so far this year in the whole country)!

Both of them won all their games in the "rated" regular rounds (they finally got to play each other in an extra "unrated" blitz/5-minute round to decide who could take the biggest individual trophy which is almost as tall as they are).

As a result, both of the Folsom twin girls became co-champions and we also won the team champion trophy! 1 of them had her rating increased by 249 points while the other one also increased by over 100 points!

That's not all, the organizer had a simul event as well (a simul is an unrated simultaneous exhibition where a very strong player plays with multiple players at the same time, moving from board to board). And the strong player won all the games except 1 game where 1 of our kindergarteners checkmated the strong player!

By searching the tournaments in the USCF website with the keyword "girls", this tournament is the biggest girls tournament in the state of California in recent years (with 94 players competing), and it is the 2nd biggest girls-only tournament so far this year in the WHOLE COUNTRY (the 6TH ANNUAL ALL GIRLS NATIONAL in Dallas/TX earlier this year is the biggest so far this year, where 162 girls were competing). No matter why an older girl who is going to represent USA in a world championship (for boys and girls) in Turkey later this year went to both of these tournaments. Maybe we would go to the national girls tournament next year as well if the twins are interested.

Dr. Kirshner did an excellent in organizing and directing this event, hopefully he would organize more girls event in the future!  
Coach Tony