

2024

VA Commonwealth Games

Instructions for Chess Tournament Participation

*The Presentation will start a couple of minutes
after 8 pm Eastern time ... please be patient!*



Agenda ... What We're Going to Talk About

- Now that you are Registered, what's else do I need to do so I can play?
 1. How to **Join the Team** for the tournament.
 - How (and when) to **Join Your Section of the Tournament.**
- Fair Play Monitoring
- Also, this meeting **is being recorded so you can review it later.**

A big thank you to the principal Sponsor of the 2024 Commonwealth Games – Liberty University!!

NOTES

You are on this call because you probably have registered ...

So, joining the tournament to play your games is a 2-step process:

Step 1: Join Our TEAM

Step 2: Join Your Section of the TOURNAMENT

Unless you have a Bye in Round 1 you **MUST** complete both steps to be paired for Round 1. If you do not, you will not get paired and won't be playing in Round 1.

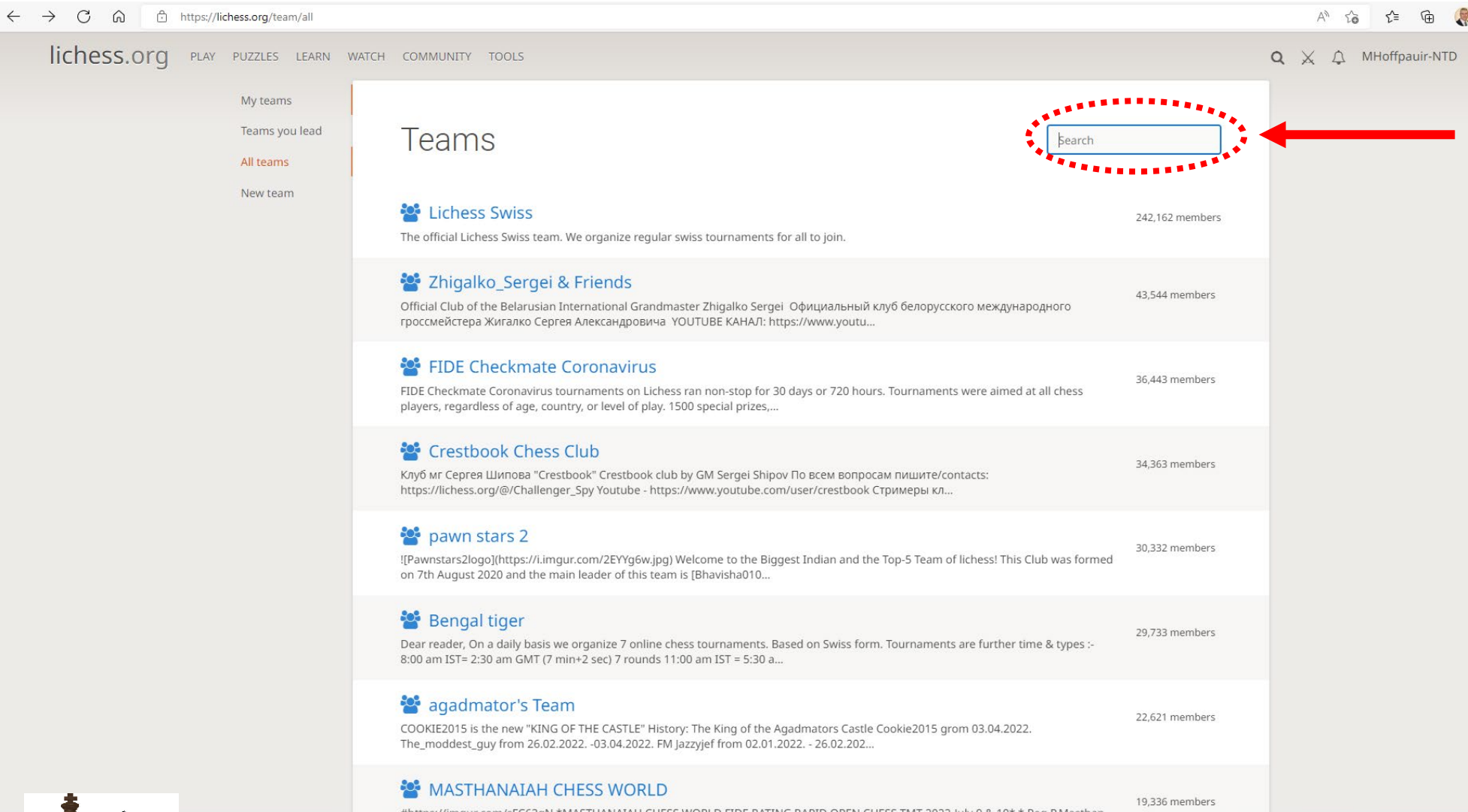
Step 1: Join the Team

The screenshot shows the lichess.org website interface. The 'COMMUNITY' menu is open, and the 'Teams' option is highlighted. A red dashed circle highlights the 'Teams' option, and a red arrow points from it to the 'Quick pairing' button in the 'Lobby' section. The main content area displays a grid of game modes with time controls, such as '1+0 Bullet', '2+1 Bullet', '3+0 Blitz', '3+2 Blitz', '5+0 Blitz', '5+3 Blitz', '10+0 Rapid', '10+5 Rapid', '15+10 Rapid', '30+0 Classical', '30+20 Classical', and 'Custom'. On the right side, there are buttons for 'CREATE A GAME', 'PLAY WITH A FRIEND', and 'PLAY WITH THE COMPUTER'. At the bottom, there are sections for 'Leaderboard', 'Tournament winners', and 'Puzzle of the day'. The user's profile 'MHoffpauir-NTD' is visible in the top right corner.

- LOG IN to LiChess.
- Click on “Community”
- Select “Teams” from the dropdown menu

Go to the next page ...

Step 1: Continued ...











lichess.org PLAY PUZZLES LEARN WATCH COMMUNITY TOOLS

My teams
Teams you lead
All teams
New team

Teams

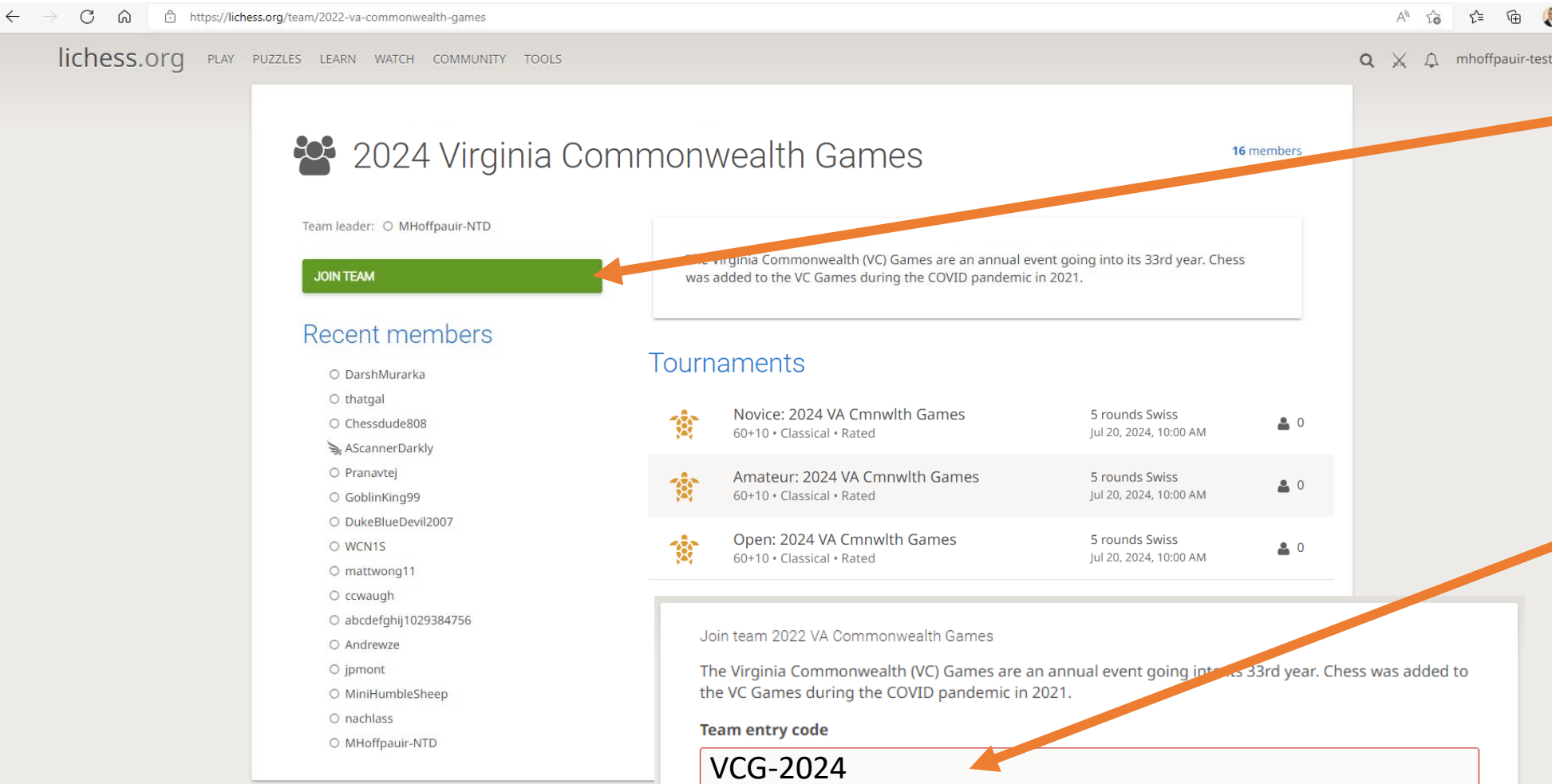
Search

 Lichess Swiss	242,162 members
 Zhigalko_Sergei & Friends	43,544 members
 FIDE Checkmate Coronavirus	36,443 members
 Crestbook Chess Club	34,363 members
 pawn stars 2	30,332 members
 Bengal tiger	29,733 members
 agadmator's Team	22,621 members
 MASTHANATAIAH CHESS WORLD	19,336 members

In the Search area, type
"2024 Virginia"

When the page refreshes,
select the Team called "**2024
Virginia Commonwealth
Games**"

to the next page ...

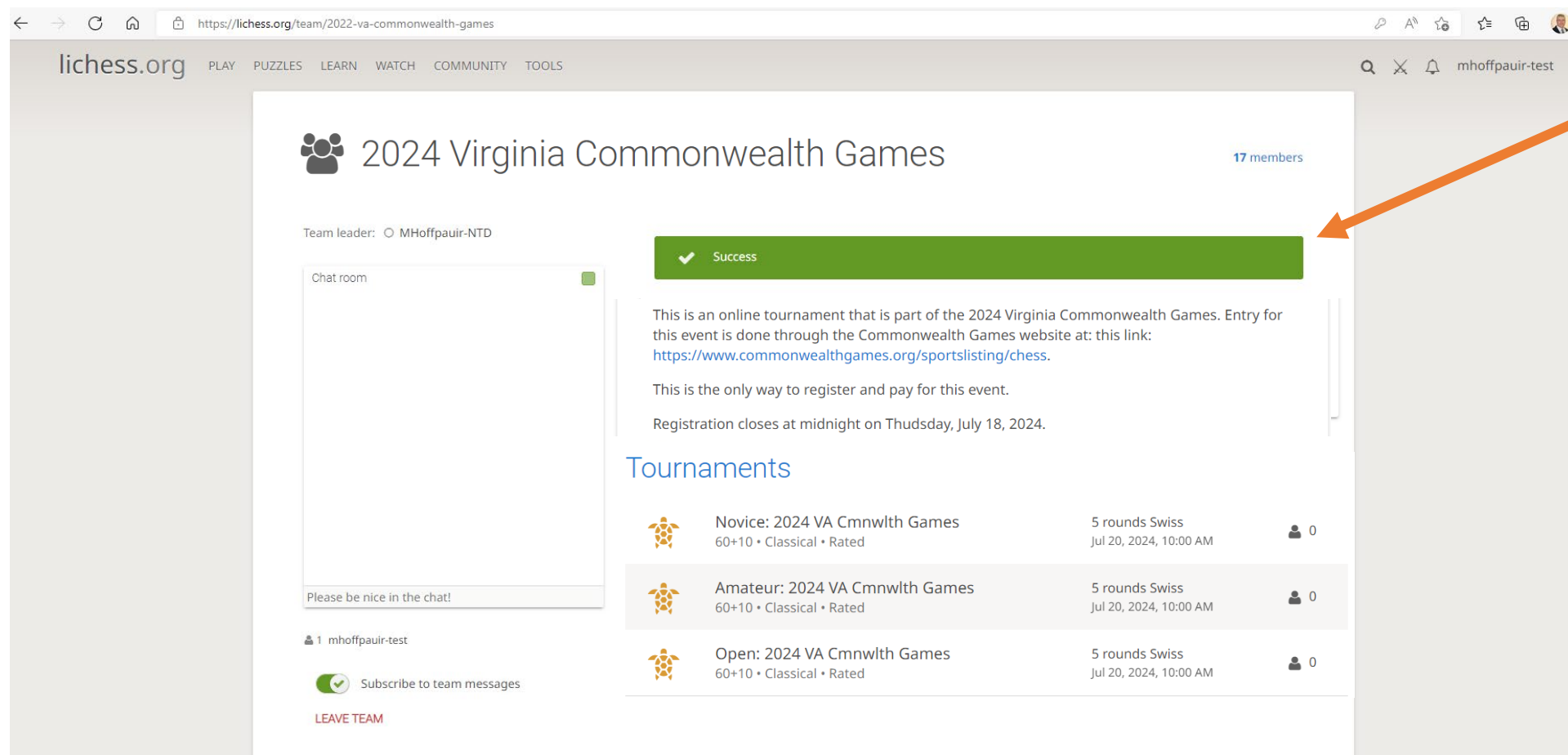


The screenshot shows the Lichess.org interface for the team "2024 Virginia Commonwealth Games". The team leader is MHOFFPAUIR-NTD. A green "JOIN TEAM" button is highlighted with an orange arrow. Below the button is a list of recent members. To the right, there are three tournament listings: "Novice: 2024 VA Cmnwlth Games", "Amateur: 2024 VA Cmnwlth Games", and "Open: 2024 VA Cmnwlth Games". A dialog box is open in the foreground, showing the "Join team 2022 VA Commonwealth Games" screen. The dialog box contains the text "The Virginia Commonwealth (VC) Games are an annual event going into its 33rd year. Chess was added to the VC Games during the COVID pandemic in 2021." and a "Team entry code" field with the value "VCG-2024" entered. A blue "JOIN TEAM" button is visible at the bottom right of the dialog box.

- Find and select the green **“Join Team”** button.
- When you select “Join Team”, a new dialog box appears like the one I show here. Enter the Team Entry Code and press the **Join Team** button. The Team Code is: **VCG-2024**
- “VCG” must be in capital letters.

Go to the next page ...

Step 1: You have now joined the Team

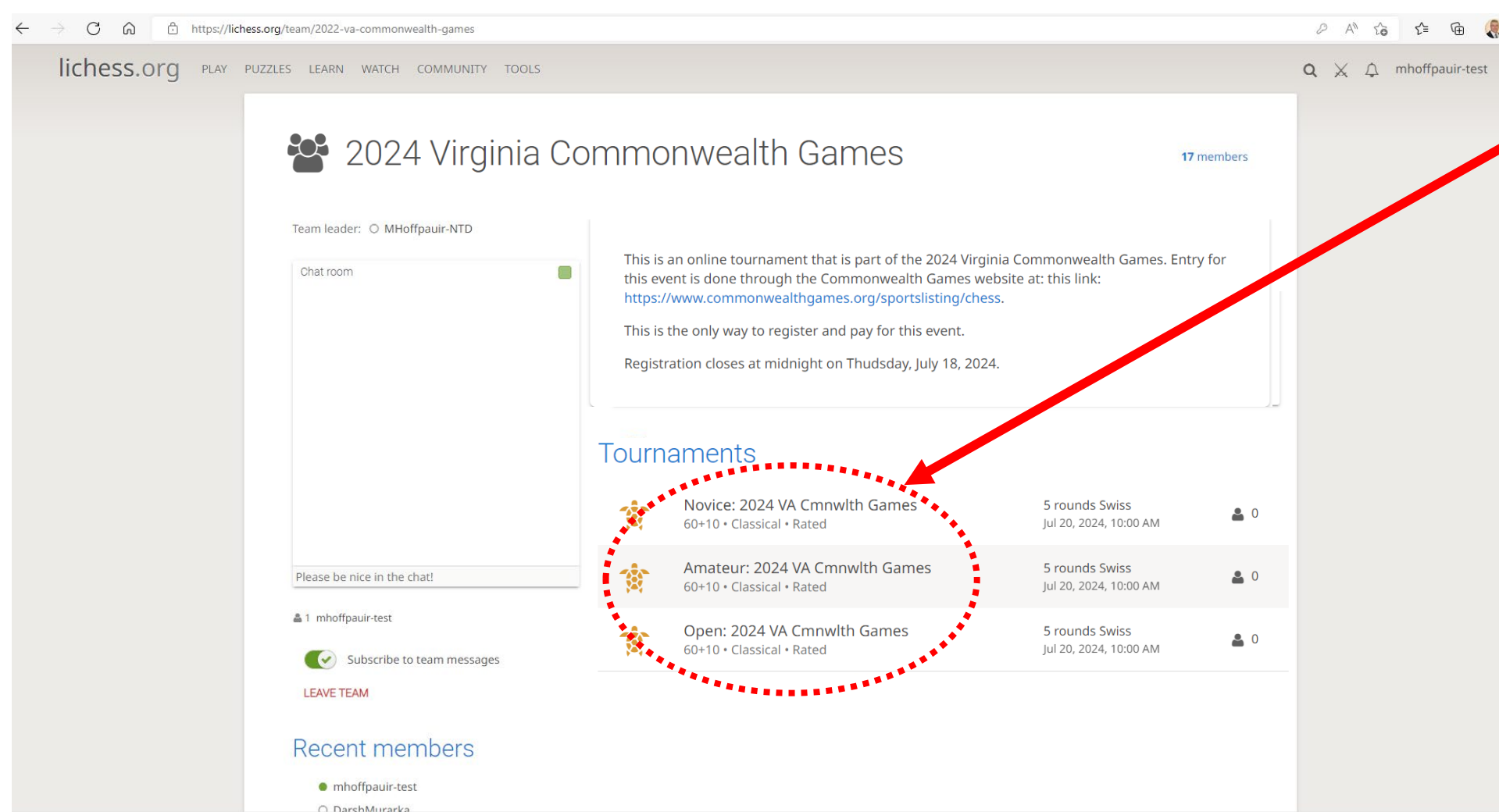


The screenshot shows the Lichess.org interface for a team named "2024 Virginia Commonwealth Games" with 17 members. A green "Success" banner is visible at the top of the team page. Below the banner, there is a chat room and a "Tournaments" section listing three events: Novice, Amateur, and Open. The team leader is identified as MHoffpaur-NTD.

- You should now see the green **“Success”** banner and the name of the team at the top of your screen.
- I will receive your “Join” request.
- **After I approve your “Join” request you will need to Join Your Section of the tournament.**
- **Joining the right Section, which we detail on the next page, is necessary for you to be paired for Round 1.**

Go to the next page ...

Step 2: Join Your TOURNAMENT



lichess.org PLAY PUZZLES LEARN WATCH COMMUNITY TOOLS

2024 Virginia Commonwealth Games 17 members

Team leader: MHoffpaur-NTD

Chat room

This is an online tournament that is part of the 2024 Virginia Commonwealth Games. Entry for this event is done through the Commonwealth Games website at: this link: <https://www.commonwealthgames.org/sportslisting/chess>.

This is the only way to register and pay for this event.

Registration closes at midnight on Thursday, July 18, 2024.

Tournaments

Novice: 2024 VA Cmnwlth Games 60+10 • Classical • Rated	5 rounds Swiss Jul 20, 2024, 10:00 AM	0
Amateur: 2024 VA Cmnwlth Games 60+10 • Classical • Rated	5 rounds Swiss Jul 20, 2024, 10:00 AM	0
Open: 2024 VA Cmnwlth Games 60+10 • Classical • Rated	5 rounds Swiss Jul 20, 2024, 10:00 AM	0

Please be nice in the chat!

1 mhoffpaur-test

Subscribe to team messages

LEAVE TEAM

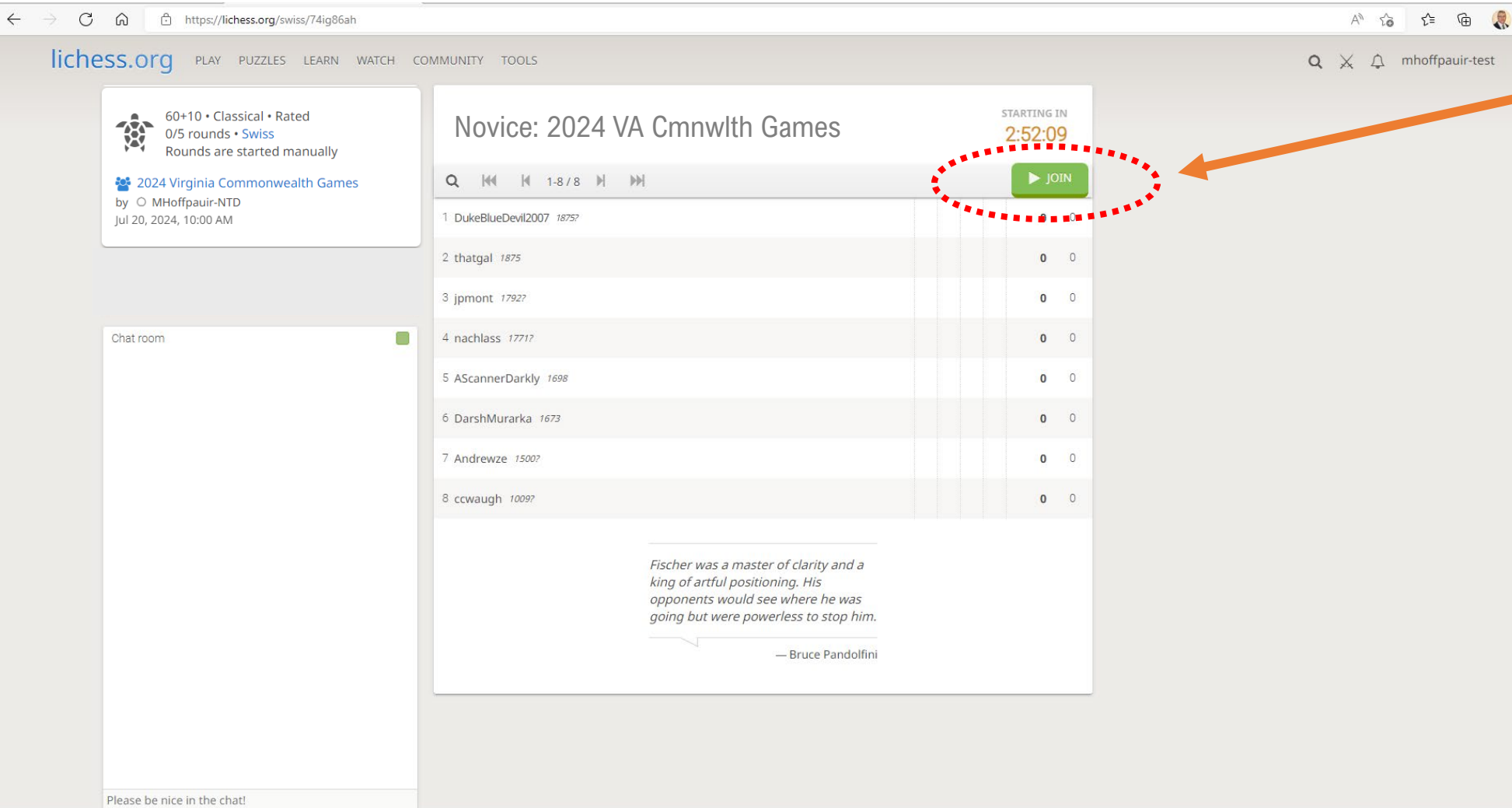
Recent members

- mhoffpaur-test
- DarshMurarka

- As you can see, ***there are 3 tournaments***: Novice, Amateur, and Open. One “tournament” per Section.
- Select the name for ***your Section*** and allow the screen to refresh.
- ***IMPORTANT NOTE for Players with Round 1 Byes ...***
 - If you requested a BYE for Round 1 as part of your tournament entry, then ***DO NOT JOIN THE TOURNAMENT until after 10am on Saturday***. If you join the tournament at any time now or before 10 am, you will be paired for the round.
 - IF, however, you want to play in Round 1, then go ahead and join the tournament!!

Go to the next page ...

Step 2: Join Your TOURNAMENT



lichess.org PLAY PUZZLES LEARN WATCH COMMUNITY TOOLS

60+10 • Classical • Rated
0/5 rounds • Swiss
Rounds are started manually

2024 Virginia Commonwealth Games
by MHOFFPAUR-NTD
Jul 20, 2024, 10:00 AM

Novice: 2024 VA Cmwth Games

STARTING IN
2:52:09

1-8 / 8

JOIN

1	DukeBlueDevil2007	1875?			0	0
2	thatgal	1875			0	0
3	jpmont	1792?			0	0
4	nachlass	1771?			0	0
5	AScannerDarkly	1698			0	0
6	DarshMurarka	1673			0	0
7	Andrewze	1500?			0	0
8	ccwaugh	1009?			0	0

Fischer was a master of clarity and a king of artful positioning. His opponents would see where he was going but were powerless to stop him.

— Bruce Pandolfini

Chat room

Please be nice in the chat!

- Now, select the green “JOIN” button
- There is no “entry code” to enter the tournament, only for the team.
- Your screen will refresh and you should now see your UserName at or near the top of the list of players
- That’s it ... you are now in your Section of our event.

GO TO THE NEXT PAGE ...

How do I Play My Game?

- To play your game, be sure you are logged to the Team site **at least 5 minutes before the round starts**. I recommend 15 minutes before your first round.
- ***Do I need to “challenge” an opponent? How do I know who I am playing?***
 - ANSWER: ***You will be paired AUTOMATICALLY***. You ***DO NOT*** need to challenge any of the players on the Team. PLEASE do not challenge another player, your round will start AUTOMATICALLY.
- ***I did not get paired, what happened?***
 - A: (Possible) You were not logged into the Team site and/or you had not entered the tournament by the start time for the round.
 - B: (Possible) You changed your USER NAME.
 - C: (More likely) There are an odd number of players “active” for the round and you were given a computer-generated Bye ... e.g., an automatic win for the round.
- ***How the Pairings work in Lichess ... Who am I really playing?***
- ***Where can I see the game results and standings?***
 - www.vachess.org ... We will have a “button” you can select to see “Results and Standings”
- ***Who do I contact if I have a problem, or I have questions?***
 - Mike Hoffpauir, mhoffpauir@aol.com, or text to 757-846-4805

How are the Games Paired – Who Am I playing?

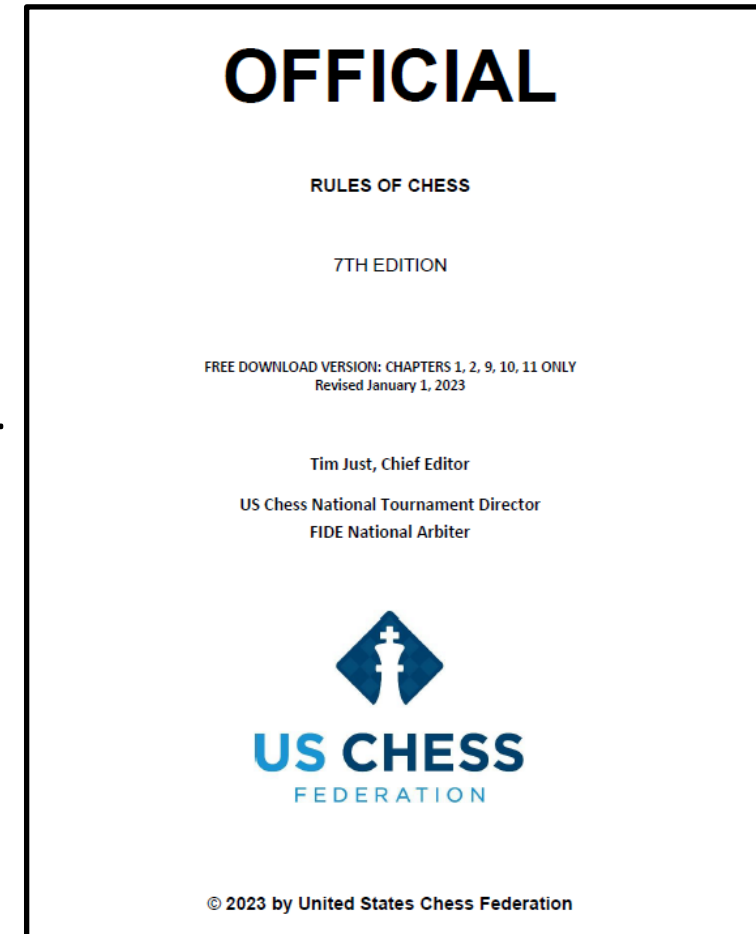
- You are being paired using **your LICHESS RATING**, not your US Chess Rating. This is because several of you do not yet have US Chess Ratings, so your Lichess rating is my “best measure” of your online playing strength.
- In LiChess, your rating will change after each game you play.
- Your US Chess Online Rating will be updated when I submit the tournament to the US Chess Federation for rating. (I’ll talk more about this in a moment.)

Prize Fund Update

- The VA Commonwealth Games prize fund was structured for 3 sections—
Championship, Amateur, and Novice.
 - **Cash Awards** for 1st-3rd places in all three sections. All prize values listed here are **GUARANTEED**.
 - **Open Section: \$125, \$75, \$50**
 - **Amateur Section: \$100, \$60, \$40**
 - **Novice Section: \$80, \$40, \$30**
- **NOTE:** To create 5 rounds of play in the Amateur and Open sections, we may combine them into one larger section, but Prizes and Money will be allocated using the section that each player entered.

Fair Play ...

- These chess games will be rated by the US Chess Federation. They affect ONLY your **Online Regular Rating**, not your over-the-board rating, not your Blitz Rating, not your Quick Rating.
- **All games will be monitored in real-time** by LiChess's certified anti-cheat detection algorithm. Their algorithm has been reviewed and approved for rated chess play by the US Chess Federation's Ratings Committee.
- In addition, after the tournament ends, the Chief Tournament Director (Mike Hoffpauir) **submits all games to Professor Kenneth Regan at the University of Buffalo**. Dr. Regan is the world's foremost authority on cheat detection in chess. His algorithms are used routinely by FIDE (the world chess federation) to examine games and prosecute players in court. [Link here](#).
- We are authorized to withhold awarding of prizes **for up to 3 weeks after the tournament** to allow for post-tournament analysis of all games. This "delay" in distributing prizes is authorized under Rule 15A (*Maximum Time to Submit the Rating Report*) of Chapter 10 in the US Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess.
- If someone does cheat, you can rest assured **they will be caught** and their name submitted to the US Chess Federation's Ethics Committee (by me) for disciplinary action.
- IT'S JUST NOT WORTH IT.



Summary

- **Join the TEAM** as soon as possible. I will need to “approve” your join request in Lichess. I’m emailing each of you as you join the Team.
 - Team name is “2024 Virginia Commonwealth Games”. Team Code is VCG-2024.
- Next, after I approve your Team joining request, you can **Join the Tournament**.
 - Be sure to **select the right tournament** – Amateur or Novice. If you are playing in Round 1, then you need to **complete this step by 10am (eastern) on Saturday**.
 - If you are taking a Bye in Round 1, then wait until after 10am on Saturday to join the tournament. If you did request a Bye during registration, but you decide that want to play in Round 1, then just go ahead and join the right tournament BEFORE 10am.
- On Saturday, just **sign-in to your Lichess account by 10am eastern** (it’s best you be online 10-20 minutes early).
- **DO NOT CHANGE your Lichess Username**. If you do, I won’t know who you are and may end up disapproving your request to join the Team. If you change your Username after you join a tournament, then there’s a chance you won’t get paired for Round 1.
- **Game Schedule** (*all times are Eastern*):
 - Saturday: You play 3 games. Round 1 is 10am, Round 2 is at 1pm, Round 3 is at 5pm.
 - Sunday: You play 2 games. Round 4 at 10am, Round 5 at 2pm. Round 5 is the final round.
 - Each round starts EXACTLY at the time shown. GAMES START AUTOMATICALLY if you are logged-in. Rounds do not start earlier just because all games from the previous round are complete.



To see the list of registered players, the standings, etc., go to www.vachess.org