

## **“Get ready for your mind to be blown with some amazing Chess moves and knowledge on Chess Engines.”**

Online Session held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 6:00 PM

*Chess is a game played between two opponents on opposite sides of a board containing 64 squares of alternating colors. Each player has 16 pieces: 1 king, 1 queen, 2 rooks, 2 bishops, 2 knights, and 8 pawns. The goal of the game is to checkmate the other king. Checkmate happens when the king is in about to be captured (in check) and cannot escape from capture.*

### An informative session to discuss the boons of Chess Engines

The student Council of Vidyalankar Institute of Technology organized a Friday Paathshala event “IMPROVING CHESS USING SEARCH ENGINES” which was a combination of an informative session on Chess Engines and an online chess tournament for attendees to demonstrate their newly acquired chess knowledge. It was conducted on Microsoft Teams and hosted by Gursharan Kaur and was attended by more than 50 students.

### Chess Engines are evolving too

The event kick started at 6:00 PM with host Gursharan familiarizing everyone with topic of discussion also with the help of presentation and interesting examples. In computer games, a **chess engine** is a computer program that analyses chess or chess variant positions, and generates a move or list of moves that it regards as strongest. A chess engine is usually a back end with a command-line interface with no graphics or windowing. This allows the user to play against multiple engines without learning a new user interface for each, and allows different engines to play against each other. Over the last years, there are chess engines available for mobile phones and tablets, which makes their usage easier. The list includes chess engines like Stockfish, Komodo, Texel, Bagatur and many others.

### Chess Engines play a major role in the player’s practice

Chess engines seem to be most valuable when searching through tactical positions with a great deal of complexity. It has been instructive to watch the Candidates tournament the past couple of days online where IM Trent and GM Short analyze positions during the match. Occasionally they will go to the computer to check how the computer sees the board and quite often they do not agree with the assessment.

### Daring Strategists moving their pieces forward

After the defying speech the audiences participated in an online tournament on Chess.com, every individual fiercely focusing on having their kings castled and safe yet checkmate was inevitable for the ones losing. With more than 20 competitions and talented players the game was a huge entertainment for the audiences who actively discussed and displayed their support in the comment section.