

Texas Chess Association

Best Article Contest Policy

General: The Association shall conduct a best article contest for each issue of Texas Knights.

Eligibility: An article published in Texas Knights shall be eligible if it was submitted before the submission deadline, at least one author is a TCA member at the time of submission and it consists of at least 500 words. Items of official TCA business (such as President's messages, financial reports, candidate statements, etc.), unannotated games and advertising are not eligible. The Editor of Texas Knights shall not be eligible.

Judging: For each issue, there shall be a judging committee consisting of all board members and Assistant Editors (if any) who did not submit eligible articles for the issue. If there is not at least two eligible members for the committee, the Editor shall assume the responsibilities of the committee.

The Editor shall provide judges with original, unedited versions of each eligible article as soon as possible after the submission deadline. Judges shall review the articles and award scores by such deadline as the Editor may provide. Each article shall receive zero to ten points in each of the following categories: (1) Creativity; (2) Usefulness and impact of content; and; (3) Technical writing quality (e.g., clarity, grammar, accuracy, etc.). Whichever article receives the most points shall be the winner. If there is a tie, the Editor shall decide the winner. The Editor shall announce the winner in the Editor's message of the issue.

Prizes: The winner of each contest shall receive a cash prize of \$50, a one-year TCA membership renewal and one free entry to any state championship event directly organized by TCA. The free entry and renewal may be donated to another member designated by the winner. The free entry shall expire one year after the date of issuance. If joint authors win a contest, the prizes shall be divided among them in such manner as the authors may agree. Winners shall be recognized on the TCA Facebook page.

Honorary Awards. The Editor shall recommend annual writing awards to the Recognitions Committee no later than July 15 of each year. These awards shall include Writer of the Year, Best Educational Article, Best Persuasive Article, Best News Article and any other awards deemed appropriate by the Editor. If approved by the committee, these awards shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval at the same time as the other annual awards. Awardees shall receive honorary plaques but no additional prize. Plaques shall be presented at the annual membership meeting.