

## **Colonel (retired) David A. Hater**

David Hater is a retired Army officer who now devotes his efforts to chess full time. He served in the Ohio National Guard from 1988 to 1990 and then as a personnel officer on active duty from 1990 until he retired in 2015, having achieved the rank of Colonel. His last assignment was as the chief personnel officer for U.S. Army Cyber Command. He served numerous overseas and combat tours including multiple deployments to Iraq and three overseas tours in Korea as well as numerous deployments to areas in the Middle East. He is a Distinguished Graduate of the United States Air Force War College and his awards and decorations include two Legions of Merit and a Bronze Star among other awards.

Colonel Hater now works full time as a chess professional. He is an employee of Continental Chess Association and does contract work for the US Chess Federation, Georgia Chess Association, Kasparov Chess Foundation and Chess Center of New York among others. He is one of the most active tournament directors in the United States and typically directs more than fifty tournaments a year where over 10,000 players play for prize funds totaling hundred of thousands of dollars. Colonel Hater is certified as an International Arbiter by the world chess federation (FIDE) and a National Tournament Director by the United States Chess Federation. He has directed at many National Championships including the Armed Forces Championship, U.S. Blind Championship, U.S. Open Championship, U.S. Class Championship, U.S. Cadet Championship, U.S. Amateur Team Championship, numerous U.S. Scholastic Chess Championships, and the National Open.

Colonel Hater is very active in chess administration and governance. He has previously served as Vice President of the Georgia Chess Association and currently serves as one of Georgia's three delegates to the U.S. Chess Federation. He is currently a member of the US Chess Federation Ethics Committee, Military Chess Committee, and Rules Committee. Colonel Hater served as the chair of the US Chess Ethics Committee from 2017-2018 and has served as chair of the Military Chess Committee numerous times.

Colonel Hater has been active in Military Chess for over three decades. He organized two rated tournaments in a combat zone (Baghdad, Iraq 2005) and when he was on active duty played in more Army Championships, Armed Forces Championships, and NATO Championships than anyone else on active duty. He qualified for seven Army Championships in a row which is a record that stands to this day. Colonel Hater is the captain of the USA NATO Chess Team and was the first person in the United States to achieve Lifetime Membership exemption to the NATO Chess Championship. He was co-organizer of the 2018 NATO Chess Championship which was the first time in the 30 year history of the NATO Championship that the event was held in the United States.

As a player, Colonel Hater is presently or has been an expert (rated over 2000) by FIDE, the U.S. Chess Federation, and Canadian Chess Federation. Though he no longer plays as much as he once did, some of his significant playing accomplishments are winning the Armed Forces Open three times, winner of the Under 2000 section of the National Open, winner of the top player aged 35-39 in the U.S. Under 50 Championship, member of the top military team at the U.S. Amateur Team Championship and was a member of the bronze medal USA NATO Chess Team in 2013.

Colonel Hater is married to Renae Hater. They have two children Joanna and Andrew who both have U.S. Chess Ratings. Andrew was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry in May 2018.