E-MAGAZINE AUGUST 2023





#FIDEWorldCup2023

Magnus Carlsen wins FIDE World Chess Cup 2023

#FIDEWomen'sWorldCup2023

Alexandra Goryachkina is the Winner of the FIDE Women's World Chess Cup 2023





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European Youth Chess Championship 2023 Mamaia, Romania



In brief..

European Youth Chess Championship 2023 kicked off in Mamaia, Romania with the participation of more than 900 players coming from 46 European federations. The event is taking place from 4-15 September.

The 21st edition of the **European Union Youth Chess Championship** concluded in Kouty nad Desnou, Czech Republic. The event gathered 100 players from 15 federations, and was organized by Sachovy klub Svetla nad Sazavou in cooperation with the Czech Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union.

European Small Nations Team Chess Championship 2023 will take place from 28 October to 5 November 2023 in Jersey. The event is supported by the European Chess Union.

European Chess Union and ECU Trainers Commission published the invitation for the **European Chess Union Academy** which will be held from November 2023 to May 2024 with some of the best European and world's chess trainers.

The European Chess Club Cup 2023 and the European Women's Club Cup 2023 will be held from 30th September to 9th October in Durres, Albania with the participation of 109 teams representing 20 European federations.

European Chess Union has its seat in Switzerland, Address: Rainweidstrasse 2, CH-6333, Hunenberg See, Switzerland .

European Chess Union is an independent association founded in 1985 in Graz, Austria; European Chess Union has 54 National Federation

Members; Every year ECU organizes more than 20 prestigious

events and championships;

www.europechess.org ecu.secretary.general@gmail.com

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European Youth Chess Championship 2023

The 2023 European Youth Chess Championship kicked off in Mamaia, Romania, and takes place from 4th-15th September with the participation of more than 900 players coming from 46 European federations, including more than 100 titled players.

The opening ceremony of the event took place shortly before the start of the first round, with the attendance of the ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, the President of the Romanian Chess Federation Mr. Vlad Ardeleanu, the President of the Romanian Olympic and Sports Committee Mr. Mihai Covaliu, Superbet Foundation Executive Director Mr. Cristian Gheorghita, State Secretary of the Foreign Ministry Mr. Andrei Novac and other distinguished guests. The ceremony started with the speeches by the officials. They welcomed the players to Mamaia and wished them a good stay and a successful tournament. The ECU President made the first ceremonial move to open the first round and declared the competition officially opened.

The European Youth Chess Championship is played in 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18 (open and girls sections separately), from 5-14 September, at the Ceremony Hall Dorna. Each category features 9 rounds played in the swiss system, with the time control of 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment for each move, starting from the move one.



Five rounds have been already played at the European Youth Chess Championship 2023 in Mamaia, Romania, and only four rounds left to be played before the announcement of the Winners. Most of the categories still have the shared lead with the open battles for the throne, but a few players emerged as the sole leaders of the event.

All results, pairings,

rankings: https://chess-results.com/ tnr793415.aspx?lan=1

Detailed Round 5 report is available on the ECU Website.







#EYCC2023

European Youth Chess Championship

The European Youth Chess Championship 2023 is taking place from 5-14 September in Mamaia, Romania, with more than 900 players from 46 European federations. The event is played in 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18, open and girls sections separately.

Detailed information are available on the official website. https://euromamaia2023.com/



Photo by FIDE/Stev Bonhage

Magnus Carlsen clinches the FIDE World Chess Cup 2023

Five-time World Chess Champion and World No.1 on the FIDE rating list GM Magnus Carlsen (NOR, 2835) emerged as the Winner of the FIDE World Chess Cup for the first time in his career!

The event took place from 29th July to 25th August in Baku, Azerbaijan, gathering 206 players.



Magnus Carlsen won the event after defeating 18-year-old GM Praggnanandhaa R (IND, 2690) in the exciting finals. The first two classical games were concluded in a draw, and the Winner of the event got to be determined in the tiebreaks. Carlsen found his advantage in the first 25-minute rapid game in a complicated endgame, and scored a very important victory. The second rapid game concluded in a draw after only 22 moves of play and Carlsen claimed the FIDE World Chess Cup 2023!

GM Fabiano Caruana (USA, 2782) and GM Nijat Abasov (AZE, 2632) played the match for bronze medal. Caruana lost the first game as Black, but won the second classical game on demand to take the match to the tiebreaks. He won both 25-minute rapid games to clinch the bronze medal. On the way to add FIDE World Cup trophy to his rich collection, Carlsen defeated: Round 2 - GM Pantsulaia Levan (GEO, 2564), score 2-0 Round 3 - GM Tari Aryan (NOR, 2641), score 1.5-0.5 Round 4 - GM Keymer Vincent (GER, 2690), score 3.5-1.5 Round 5 - GM Ivanchuk Vasyl (UKR, 2667), score 2-0 Round 6 - GM Gukesh D (IND, 2744), score 1.5-0.5 Round 7 - GM Abasov Nijat (AZE, 2632), score 1.5-0.5 Round 8 - GM Praggnanandhaa R (IND, 2690), score 2.5-1.5

Detailed information about the event and all results can be found on the Official website of the tournament. Photos by: FIDE/ Stev Bonhage and Maria Emalianova (chess.com)

#FIDEWorldCup

The FIDE World Chess Cup 2023 took place from 29th July to 25th August in Baku, Azerbaijan, and featured 206 players.

The total prize fund of the event was 1.834.000 USD, with three qualification spots for the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2024.

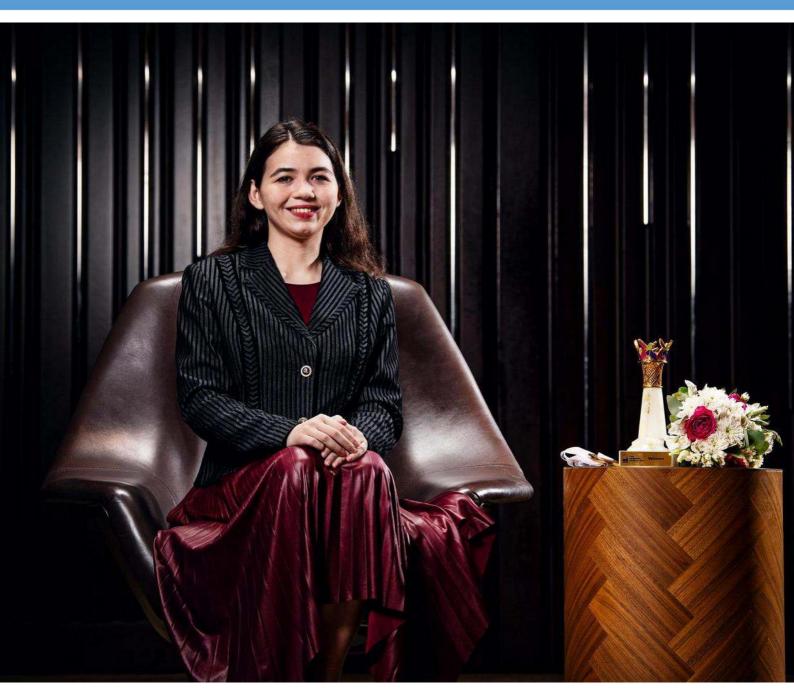


Photo by: FIDE/Stev Bonhage

Aleksandra Goryachkina wins FIDE Women's World Chess Cup 2023

The FIDE Women's World Chess Cup 2023 took place from 29th July to 22nd August in Baku, Azerbaijan, gathering 103 players who fought for the total prize fund of 676.250 USD and three qualification spots for the Women's Candidates Tournament 2024.

GM Aleksandra Goryachkina (FIDE, 2557) emerged as the Winner of the event after defeating 20-year-old IM Nurgyul Salimova (BUL, 2409) in the thrilling final match.



After both classical games of the final match finished in a draw, despite Salimova having the winning chances in the second game with Whites, the match advanced to the tiebreaks. The Bulgarian opened the tiebreak match very well, reaching a much better position in the first 25-minute rapid game. However, she missed her chance to score and Goryachkina punished her with the cruel victory in the second rapid game.

With the final tiebreak score of 1.5-0.5, Aleksandra Goryackina clinched the FIDE Women's World Chess Cup 2023 and won the money prize of 50.000 USD. IM Nurgyul Salimova finished the event with the silver medal in her hands and booked herself a seat in the FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament 2024. Salimova also won her second GM norm and won the money prize of 35.000 USD. The match for the third pace was played between GM Anna Muzychuk (UKR, 2504) and GM Tan Zhongyi (CHN, 2523). The match finished after two classical games as Muzychuk used the advantage of White pieces to win the first game and won the bronze medal with a draw in the second game. Anna Muzychuk won the prize 25.000 USD and qualified for the Women's Candidates 2024.

The Closing ceremony of the event took place after the tiebrek match for the first place, and was attended by the FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich who also took part in the awarding.

Detailed information and all results can be found on the Official website of the event. Photos by: FIDE/ Stev Bonhage and Maria Emelianova (chess.com)

#FIDEWomen'sWorld ChessCup

The FIDE World Chess Cup 2023 took place from 29th July to 22nd August in Baku, Azerbaijan, and featured 103 players.

The total prize fund of the event was 676.250 USD, with three qualification spots for the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2024.

China wins FIDE World Youth U16 Chess Olympiad 2023

The FIDE World Youth U16 Chess Olympiad 2023 took place from 12th-19th August in Eindhoven, Netherlands. The event gathered 252 players representing 63 teams from 47 federations.



Photos by: FIDE/ Frans Peeters

China emerged as the sole Winner of the event. China scored 8 victories and one draw – 17 match points in total to clinch the gold medal. The team showed dominance against all the opponents except from Armenia which managed to tie the match to 2-2 score. Out of the 36 games played, the Champions scored a total of 31 board points.

The defending champions, Turkey, won silver medal with the score of 15 match points. Greece and Kazakhstan 1 tied for bronze scoring 13 match point each, but thanks to better tiebreak criteria (Olympiad-Sonneborn-Berger), Greece claimed bronze and Kazakhstan came fourth.

Board Prizes:

Board 1: Read Samadov (Azerbaijan) Board 2: Tong(Qd) Xiao (China) Board 3: Xiangrui Kong (China) Board 4: Miaoyi Lu (China)

This year, the Royal Dutch Chess Federation marks its 150th anniversary as the oldest chess federation in the world. The President of the Federation and WGM, Bianca de Jong-Muhren, expressed her enthusiasm during the opening ceremony, stating, "We managed to bring an international youth championship to the Netherlands, with a new international women's top tournament as a bonus.

Detailed information about the event and final report can be found on the ECU website.



21st European Union Youth Chess Championship

The 21st edition of the European Union Youth Chess Championship 2023 took place from 15th-24th August in Kouty nad Desnou, Czech Republic. The event gathered 100 players from 15 federations who fought in 4 age categories: U8, U10, U12 and U14.

The Winners are: Open U8: 1. Atanas Taskov (BUL), with 9/9 points! 2.Jean Desfosses (FRA) 3.Kyriakos Skouroupathis (CYP).

Girls U8:

Karina Ser (LTU),
 Agathe Gastaldo (FRA)
 Melania-Cristina Grigore (ROU)

Open U10: 1.Vladimir Sofronie (ROU) 2.Paul David Peglau (GER) 3.Vojtech Velim (CZE).

Girls U10: 1.Aleksandra Pehlivanova (BUL) 2.Aida Paunescu (CYP) 3.Milda Alejunaite (LTU).

Open U12: 1.Bastien Muller-Moingt (FRA) 2.Alexandru Ioan Constantinoiu (ROU) 3.Filip Ochedzan (POL)

Girls U12: 1.Tamae Severina Jakubse (CZE), 2.Levanah Alcantara (FRA)

3.Charlene Ge (FRA).



Open U14: 1.Louis Auribault (FRA), 2.Daniel Ser (LTU) 3.Mark Csernyik (HUN)

Girls U14:

1.Bianca-Alexandra Ciocirlan (ROU) 2.Olivia Sekova (SVK) 3.Maria Ioanna Haapsal (EST)

The Championship was enriched with side events. IM Petr Pisk played a simulatenous exhibition with 12 players who had 30 minutes and Petr Pisk had 40 minutes on his clock. The result was 8:4 for IM Pisk. Young players were also awarded for the best game of each round.





IM Petr Pisk played a simul against 12 players with 40 minutes on the clock, while his opponents had 30 minutes on the clock.



#EUYCC2023

EU Youth Chess Championship 2023

The European Union Youth Chess Championship 2023 took place from 15-24 August in Kouty nad Desnou, Czech Republic. The event was played in 4 age categories: U8, U10, U12, and U14, with separate prizes for the best ranked girls in the event. The event was organized by Sachovy klub Svetla nad Sazavou in cooperation with the Czech Chess Federation, under the auspices of the ECU.





EUROPEAN CHESS UNION ACADEMY November 2023 - May 2024



GM Ivan Sokolov Middlegame Strategy

Lecturers

Main Themes



GM Adrian Mikhalchishin Pawn Structures



GM Miguel Illescas Tactical World



WGM Jana Krivec Chess Psychology



GM Efstratios Grivas Endgame Magic



GM Alexander Beliavsky Opening Preparation



GM Antoaneta Stefanova Playing on the Top



GM Ramachandran Ramesh Creating Champions



IM Robert Ris Tactical Themes





GM Arshak Petrosian Classical Development

IM Jovan Petronic Strategy Analysis

Description of the Program

- Group A Over 1900 Rating: Monday 18:00-20:05 CET (Juniors/Girls U20).
- Group B Under 1900 rating: Tuesday 18:00-20:05 CET (Juniors/Girls U20).
- The Program will start on Monday November 20th, 2023 and the Lectures will be conducted via the Zoom platform.
- · Each group will have 24 live sessions for a total of 48 hours of instruction.
- Participants will have the opportunity to watch the lectures and recordings for a limited time
 if they are unable to watch all the live sessions.
- Each live session will include time of questions and answers.
- The program is based on the new ECU-ETC Trainers' Syllabuses and aims to systematically develop chess talents.
- The program includes world-renowned trainers who work with the chess prodigies of the modern chess era.

Participation/Registration

- Each European National Chess Federations is entitled to register free of charge 2 Junior/Girls: one on each Group through the following link:
 - https://forms.gle/SmcKgbRzYCKsxw8j8
- The program is open for a limited number of additional participants, from all continents, for each group. The cost is only Euros 200 for 48 hours of top-level training.
- Registrations of additional participants are made through the following link: <u>https://forms.gle/kcMU21LVNi9c1aSq9</u>
- Payments for additional participants are made online here: <u>https://www.europechess.org/ecu-payments-donations/</u> (select: ECU Academy)
- Or through the ECU Bank account mentioning the name of participant.

Certification & Info

- Each participant will receive an ECU-ETC official Certificate for the respective group upon completion of the programme - a plus point for a future chess career.
- For any question please contact: trainers@europechess.org

The program is supported by the FIDE Development Fund

ARBITERS CORNER



Text by Alon Shulman, member of the ECU Arbiters Council

WORLD SCHOOL TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2023 – PART 1

In this article I would like to share my experience as Deputy Chief Arbiter at the 2023 World Schools Team Championship that took place in Aktau, Kazakhstan. I wish to present my point of view as for the duties and actions expected from DCA as I see it. Being a leader of a group of arbiters, turning them into a united cohesive unit working as one. One for all and all for one.

I had the privilege of being appointed by FIDE as DCA at an event that took place for the first time. There has been an individual World School championship but there was never a team one. I am humbled, greateful and appreciative for the trust bestowed upon me at that position. It was my first visit to Kazakhstan which proved to be an exhilarating experience. It is no secret that team events, are in general more complicated to manage compared to individual events. In team events, you have team compositions that are changing every round. That means 70 captains have to upload their line-up every round to chess-results.com, and do it on time. There would always be issues here.

In team events, you need to calculate team results. This needs to always be double checked. In team events, you need to take names off the display board and put the correct new line-up for the next round, flags, teams and individual players in the right order, before each round. Those are part of those extra chores obstacles and responsibilities you do not face running individual events. We also had many young and inexperienced players. They have to know all the fair-play regulations and captains need to be on top of how to upload team compositions every round.

Remember this is a school event. Those are not national teams and captains are in many cases just parents or teachers escorting their teams. We had a fine team of match arbiters. Some more experienced than others. During the arbiters meeting I told them: "I see some of you are a bit anxious because for some of you it's their first international event. I want to tell you just not to worry. You are not alone. You are surrounded with support at all times. As match arbiters I practically only need from you one thing - Your eyes controlling all events in your matches. Your eyes on the boards, your eyes on the clocks, your eyes on the players, your eyes on the captains, your eyes around.

99 % of relevant events happen either on the boards or within 2-3 meters of the boards. I want your eyes there all the time so if something happens, you will be able to describe it exactly. I don't care if you don't know the exact rule applicable to a situation. I don't care if you don't know the solution. I just need you to tell me exactly what happened and alert me if something is off. That's it. Together we can take care of the rest if needed. You can ask me anything anytime, there are no silly questions, there are only over confident arbiters.

ECU Arbiters Council

The ECU Arbiters Council publishes monthly articles in the ECU E-Magazine.

Detailed information about the council and its activities can be found on the official website of the ECU AC: https://arbiters.europechess.org

For any questions contact: ecuarbiterscouncil@gmail.com

ARBITERS CORNER

The first FIDE World School Team Chess Championship took place from 3rd-8th August 2023 in Aktau, Kazakhstan. The event brought together more than 400 players from 53 countries who competed in two age categories: U12 and U18. Photo from official website of the event.



Text by: IA Alon Shulman, Member of the ECU Arbiters Council

>>> WORLD SCHOOL TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2023 – PART 1

Good arbiters are always hesitant. Bad arbiters are always confident. Keep calm and don't rush. Don't feel pressured to make a decision right away to try and look professional in the eyes of players/ captains. We don't care what they think. We care about making the right decision. If something happens, just pause the clock and call me.

I don't care if you call me to the board 100 times. Don't care if you ask me 100 questions (I'll just add it as a bonus clause in future contracts). We first fix the pending issue and then I'll answer you privately anything you want to know. If I don't know I will ask.

I had asked many questions during my 41 years as arbiter. Some very silly.

The arbiter's team formed quickly as a cohesive unit working as a team and helping each other. If there was an interesting case during the round we would hold a brief arbiters meeting and discuss it. As a whole it was a fantastic event. I was impressed with organizers eye for detail having so many activities for kids.

Playing hall conditions were very good and spacious. I was happy with the great accommodation conditions given to arbiters. The volunteers did a great job and we are truly grateful for the help they provided.

In a future article, I will share some incidents that took place in the event and how we approached them.

BACK TO SCHOOL SEASON

Every year, children from all over the world prepare to go to school. This is a very important moment for us as well, for educational chess.

As we already know, teaching chess in schools is done in several ways, depending on the type of chess taught: in certain places, chess is included in the list of optional (like in Romania) or compulsory subjects (as in Georgia), and teachers are trained through various national programs, in some places instructors offer courses in after-school programs, and in other places, there are coaches who have even opened performance chess clubs within educational institutions.

Obviously, the approach to chess in all the above variants is different, because the objectives are also different, and this is the most important thing to understand.

Our objective is "to promote chess for educational purposes in schools. We believe that chess equips children with the right sort of skills to face the digital age. The requirement for communication and creativity is stimulated and developed through exposure to chess in a supervised rich environment".

How to teach educational chess?

This is the question of all teachers interested in teaching educational chess in schools.



How to teach educational chess in 2023

There are several ways to prepare for educational chess. The most used way is the national program offered by the institutions in your own country. The language of instruction is usually the native language of the teachers and certain particularities of the system will certainly be found in the information taught.

What happens if you cannot benefit from such a course or if you want to find out more information than what is offered in your country?

At the European level, there are several programs that explain methodologies for working with children, sites for teaching and learning chess, in class or individually, as well as courses in the most common international languages.



Next courses

ECU EDU & Chess Plus Course schedule

09-10 SEP ECU101 (ENG) THE SMART METHOD

16 SEP CHESS AND STRATEGY GAMES (ENG)

22-24 SEP ECU101 (GER) THE SMART METHOD

27 SEPTEMBER DISCUSSION GROUP (ENG)

Infos: https://chessplus.net/

Materials and informations

ECU Educational page: https://edu.europechess.org/

Erasmus "CHESS: A GAME TO SPREAD AT SCHOOL" (CGS): https://projects.europechess.org/?p=166

CHAMPS Erasmus+ Project https://projects.europechess.org/?p=139

8x8 Project https://projects.europechess.org/?p=127

Schools Chess United (Schack4an) https://projects.europechess.org/?p=136 Victor's Chess Hosue https://progetto1en.scacchiedu.com/

ChessPlus Interactive games https://chessplus.net/interactive-games/

LigiqBoard https://logiqboard.com/

Chess for Edu https://www.chessforedu.com/index.html

Chess.com kid's platform: Chesskid.com https://www.chesskid.com/home

ECU Educational Commission



Draw parallels between chess pieces and animals.





The Castle program uses a a gigantic chess board and many stories, very suitable for young children.

Instead pieces we have animals and characters that help children learn.

Practical Tips for Teaching Educational Chess

use a story (in every lesson if possible)
 use concrete materials (especially at young

- Chess can be taught using interactive and entertaining teaching methods
- ages) - gives examples from children's lives (uses
- metaphors) - try to have materials as colorful as possible

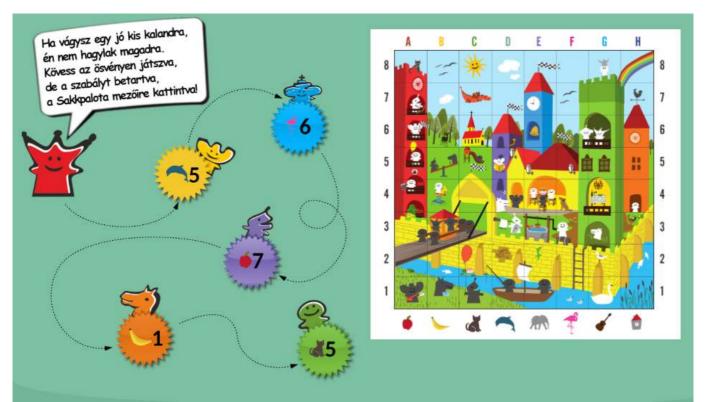
(they are more attractive)

- always start teaching chess with logic games

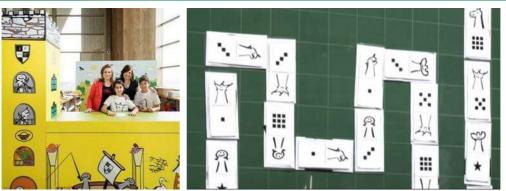
- favors competition with himself (not with other children)

- change the activity when you notice that the students are tired or have lost interest

- finish any lesson with a pleasant moment



One of the most popular educational chess method is Polgár Judit's teaching methodology.



Chess taught through stories, games and toy pieces

ECU Commission For Women's Chess









Make sure you follow us on FB or check regularly our website not to miss our upcoming events.

Participants could kibitz all other boards if they weren't playing.

An endgame puzzle that appeared in one of the games.

Online Blitz Tournament with a special guest – IM/WGM Stavroula Tsolakidou



©Photo of Stavroula: Andreas Kontokanis

Photo: Arne Kähler who is managing and is the mastermind of Chessbase media channels



ECU Blitz Tournament 2023 (TD: Zurubang2, Time: 3m+2s)



Source-Chessbase Article: https://en.chessbase.com/ post/a-perfect-scorestavroula-tsolakidoudominates-women-s-chessblitz-event

It was an exciting evening for the female hobby players with our special guest IM Stavroula Tsolakidou from Greece. Even though Stavroula showed no mercy and won all her games and thus our first online blitz tournament without a point loss, all ladies and girls enjoyed the evening with a great host from Chessbase, Arne Kähler. The first 3 winners of the tournament received Chessbase gift vouchers and Chessbase itself donated two special prizes (also gift vouchers) to 2 ladies for their spectacular play. Congratulations to all participants and we are very happy about the positive feedback that we received on the event. There will be definitely more to come also in cooperation with

Chessbase.

The final table with only 2 draws in the tournament. The winners were: Evelyn Wagenschuetz Dimitra Alexandri and Polina Karelina.

SPOTLIGHT

SPOTLIGHT - Females Working Behind The Scene with Marija Lukic from the Serbian Chess Federation

In our section "**Spotlight - Females Working Behind the Scene**" we would like to introduce you passionate members of the European Chess Federations that are engaged in promoting and supporting Women's Chess.

Marija Lukic, Serbia - President of the commission for women's chess;

My name is Marija Lukic, Candidate Master and International Arbiter. I work for the Chess Federation of Serbia as a board member, and I am also president of the commission for women's chess.

What is the % of female chess players in Serbia and how many professional female chess players do you have?

In girls, the percentage is about 30%, but in adult women this percentage drops sharply and currently stands at about 11-13%. We only have a few women who are professionally engaged in chess.

What are the main projects and areas of responsibility of the Serbian Chess Federation Women's Commission?

The main goal of our commission is to include as many girls and women as possible in the world of chess. To love the game and to promote it, they don't have to play chess professionally. The idea is that in the future, as mothers, they know how to teach their children the basics of chess and to make them interested in chess.

What events and initiatives have you planned for this year?

This year we have introduced a number of benefits for women. Prizes for each women participant at the semi-finals of Serbia, double registration (during the year they can play for two different clubs men's



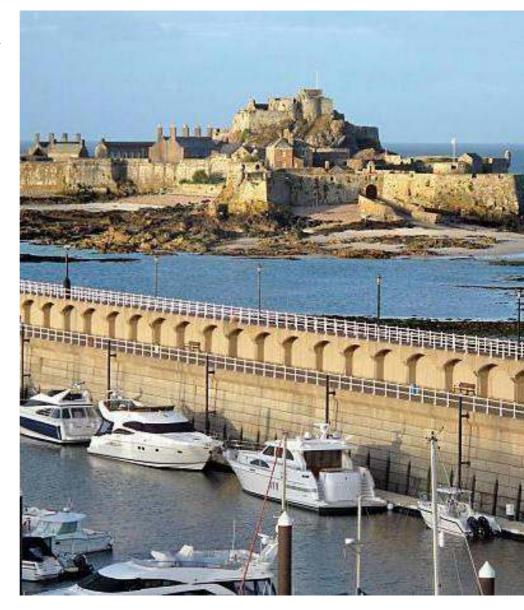
and women's leagues), free accommodation for two women players at the Serbian Club Cup (played on three boards)...

Do you have any tips on how to get more females involved in chess?

It is necessary to work on the popularization of female chess. Special attention should be paid to girls during puberty because then they leave chess. Engage as many female instructors and trainers as possible (that's what girls see first), female arbiters and organizers also, because the environment is very important. Photo: Marija Lukic

« To love the game and to promote it, women don't have to play chess professionally.» photo by: Maxian/iStock

The 8th edition of the European Small Nations Team Championship will be held from 28th October 2023 (arrival) to 5th November 2023 (departure) in the Pomme d'Or Hotel, St Helier, Jersey.



European Small Nations Team Chess Championship 2023 - Regulations

The event is played as a 10-team roundrobin event with the participation of the following teams: Andorra, Cyprus, Faroe Islands, Guernsey, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco and San Marino. Each team shall consist of four players and one reserve player.

The time control will be 90 minutes for 40 moves, with 30 minutes for the rest of the game, and 30 seconds increment per move from move one.

The teams should confirm the name of their representatives until the 28th of September, 2023. The teams should complete the registration form for their players and accompanying persons and return by email to jersevchessfederation@gmail.com. The official hotel and the playing venue of the event will be ****Pomme d'Or Hotel located on the Liberation Square.

The Small Nations meeting will be held concurrently with the tournament, on Saturday, 4th of November, 2023.

The main supporter of the event is the European Chess Union which annually supports the major event of European Small Nations.

Official regulations and detailed information about the event can be found through the ECU website.

FUN ZONE









>Analysis, if it is really carried out with a complete concentration of its powers, forms and completes a chess player.

Lev Polugaevsky said about chess >First and foremost it is essential to understand the essence, the overall idea of any fashionable variation, and only then include it in one's repertoire. Otherwise the tactical trees will conceal from the player the strategic picture of the wood, in which his orientation will most likely be lost.

>A sensation, hidden in the depths of my emotional memory, was suddenly revived: what if... What if for me The Variation is not dead? If The Variation is alive?!

>My most difficult opponent is myself. When I am playing I often involuntarily make a world champion out of a candidate master. In August 2023 edition of the ECU Magazine, we present four positions where White mates in two moves!

Solutions from July Magazine

#Puzzle 1: 1.Qg8+!! Rxg8 2.Nf7#

#Puzzle 2: 1.Rg6+ fxg6 2.Nh6#

#Puzzle 3: 1.Rxf6+!! gxf6 2.Bh6#

#Puzzle 4: 1.Re3+!! Nxe3 2.b5#



"Chess makes you smarter!"