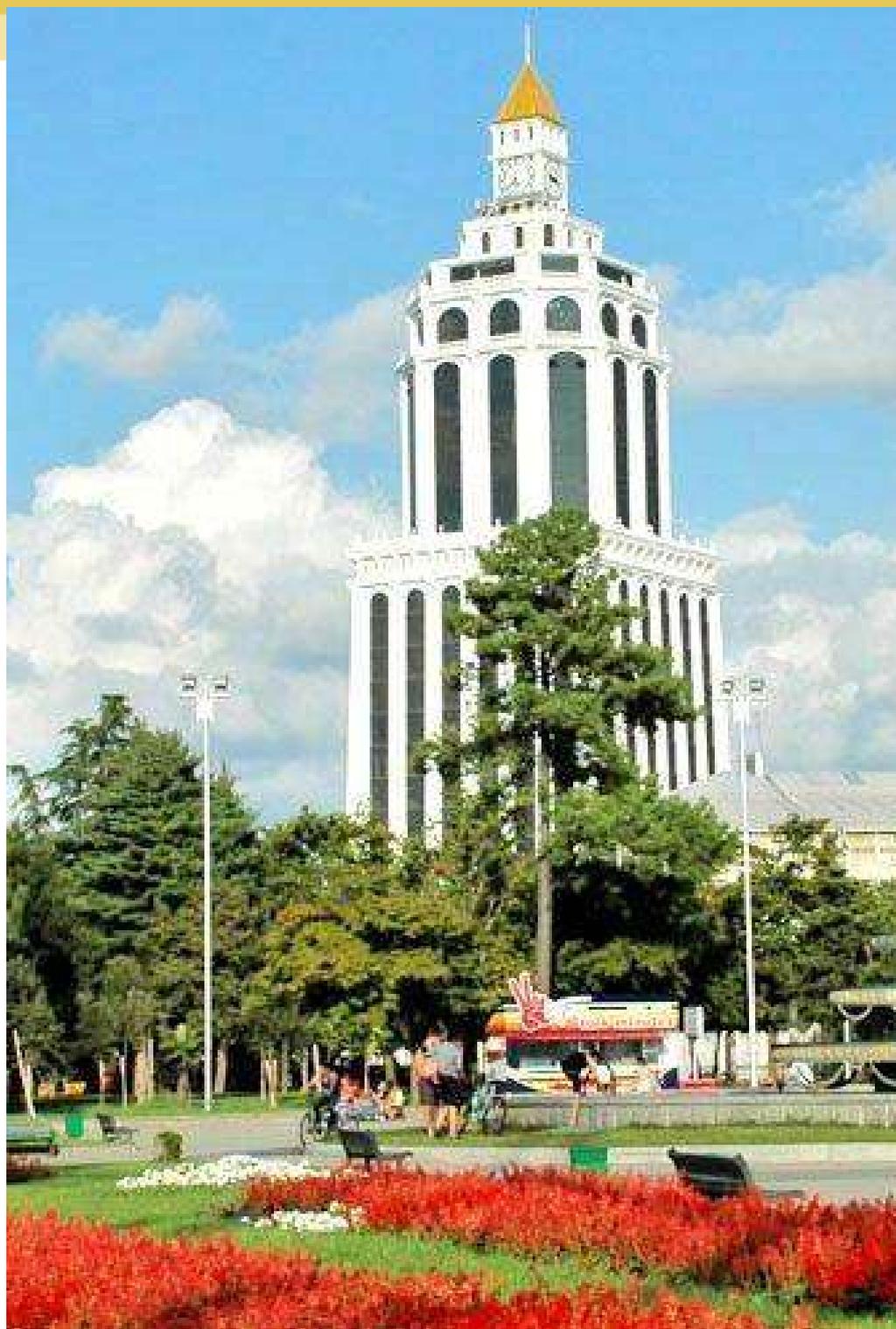




CIS PROGRAMS

ECU boosts Chess in Schools programs. Agreements in Tirana, Pristina & Podgorica

European School Chess Championship 2019 opened in Mamaia, Romania



**INVITATION FOR THE EUROPEAN
TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019,
BATUMI, GEORGIA**



ECU Board Meeting

The 2nd European Chess Union Board meeting for 2019, took place on the 1st of June in Mamaia, Romania, during the European School Chess Championship 2019.

The main areas under discussion were: Development fundings Sponsorships programs, new projects, the European Championships, CIS programs and improvement of the ECU regulations.

The Conference "Education through Chess", under the patronage of the Romanian Presidency of EU Council, took place on 2nd of June in the same venue. CIS Projects from Romania, Turkey, Poland, Israel, Hungary, Sweden, Norway, Italy were presented and discussed.

More details in pages 3,4,5.

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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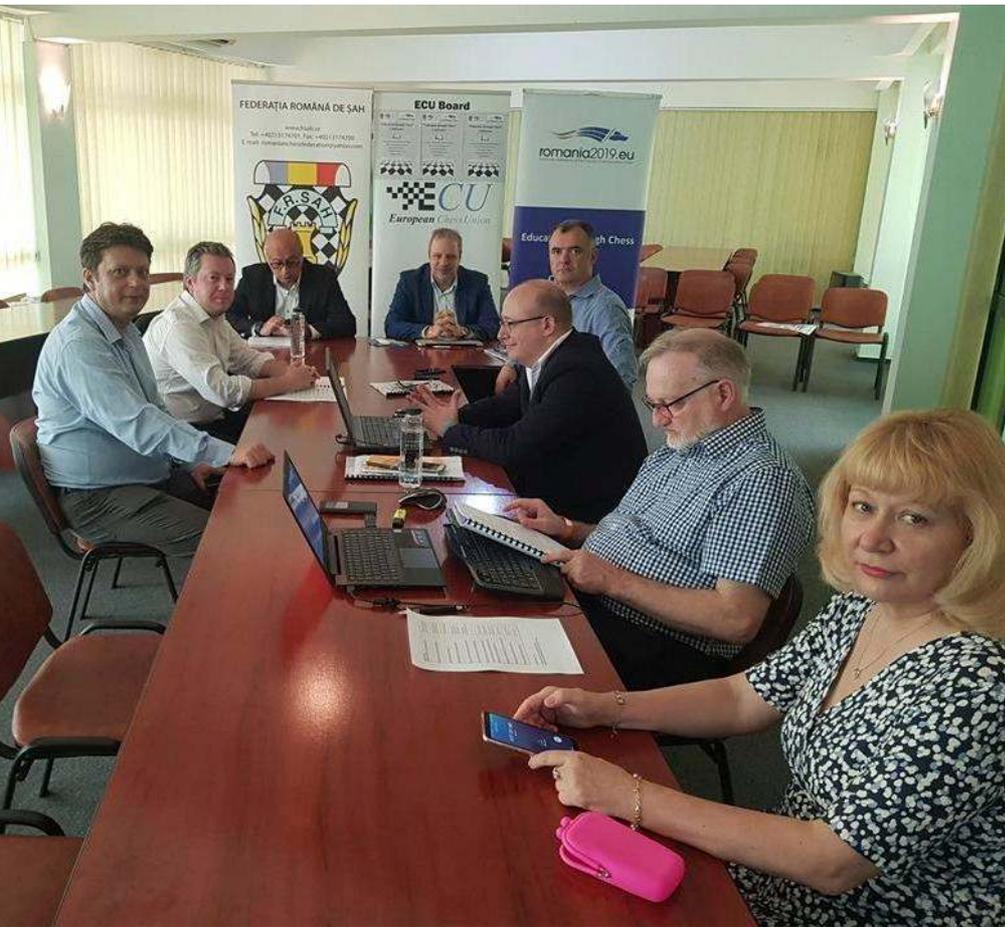
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ECU BOARD MEETING in Mamaia, Romania

The European Chess Union 2nd Board meeting for 2019, took place on the 1st of June in Mamaia, Romania, during the European School Chess Championship 2019.

The main areas under discussion: Development fundings and sponsorships, new projects, European Championships-Tournaments and Chess in Schools programs.



ECU Board meeting



The main areas under discussion and decisions made were the following:

Funding – Sponsorship

- ECU Board discussed proposals for partnership in sponsorships programs. A further announcement will be made in due time.
- The program of the FIDE development fund was evaluated, and further actions were approved among them social and innovative projects. In the frame of the program, the European Chess Union delivered
- In the frame of the program ECU received from FIDE 200 e-boards, pieces and digital clocks that will be used for its championships.
- An ECU Presentation for Sponsors will take place in Stockholm, Sweden in November 2019.

New Projects

- ECU Board has decided to establish the annual award ceremony - "European Golden Pawn" - that will be held every year on the last Saturday of November in Monaco (Monte-Carlo). More details about the project will be announced.

European Championships-Tournaments

- The ECU Board was informed about the bids received for the 2021 Championships by the deadline of the 31st of May 2019. The valid bids will be published on the ECU website after the confirmation of the bids fees payment.
- The European Women's Rapid and Blitz Championship 2020 was awarded to the Ukrainian Chess Federation.
- The invitations for the European Team Chess Championship 2019 and European Club Cup 2019 have been published.

CIS Conference

The Conference "Education through chess", under the patronage of the Romanian Presidency of EU Council, took place on 2nd of June in Mamaia, Romania. CIS Projects from Romania, Turkey, Poland, Israel, Hungary, Sweden, Norway, Italy were presented and discussed.

European Chess Union, awarded Mr. Alexander Kostyev (RUS), President of International School Chess Union (ISCU) with the ECU Honorary Award for the 20 years of the Union establishment & their high contribution to the development of the #Chess in School programs and championships.



The European Chess Union 2nd Board meeting for 2019, took place on the 1st of June in Mamaia, Romania.

"Education through Chess" CIS CONFERENCE

The conference "Education through chess" took place on the 2nd of June, in Mamaia, Romania, under the patronage of the Romanian Presidency of the EU Council, on the occasion of the European School Championship.

T

he main agenda of the conference was to evaluate the implementation of chess in various education systems following the Written Declaration 50/2011 of the European Parliament, to present achievements and good practices of co-operation between national federations and state, local authorities in Europe.

The patronage of the Presidency of EU Council for the "Education through Chess" conference is outstanding recognition of the importance of chess in the education field.



Legend GM Judit Polgar made an inspired presentation during the Conference.
<https://youtu.be/qZ78mxs3Qe0>





ECU BOOSTS CHESS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMMS

In the period from 5th to 12th of May, the President of European Chess Union, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, visited Tirana, Albania, Pristina, Kosovo* and Podgorica, Montenegro with the main agenda to support and promote the chess in schools programs in the area.



ECU President visited Pristina, Tirana and Podgorica, with main agenda to support chess in schools programmes.

On 6th of May, ECU President, accompanied by the ECU Executive Director Mr. Erald Dervishi visited the Emin Duraku School in Tirana, to greet the pupils on the closing day of the "Chess Week" which included multiple events like tournaments and chess exhibitions with paintings made by the kids. "Chess in Schools and Communities" is a project recently undertaken by the Albanian Chess Federation during the months of April – May, extended to 10 elementary and middle schools, supported by the Municipality of Tirana, in partnership with the Ministry of Education for Youth and Sports, ECU and FIDE.

Day after, on 7th of May, Mr. Azmaiparashvili went to Pristina, where European Chess Union, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Kosovo* and the National Chess Federation signed a memorandum of co-operation with main scopes:

- A. Exchange of experiences and mutual support for youth-sports and chess in schools projects;
- B. Joint commitment to running and organizing sports-chess competitions;
- C. Intervention in sports infrastructure by offering cooperation in organizing chess competitions.

D. Promoting and sharing a culture of equal opportunities by supporting the participation of women at all levels of their sporting practice.

The agreement was signed by the ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, the National Coordinator of Culture Youth and Sports Mr. Rexhep Hoti and the President of the Kosovo* Chess Federation Mr. Nysret Avdiu.

On 10th of May, Minister of Education of Montenegro, Dr. Damir Šehović, signed a Memorandum with the President of the European Chess Union, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili and the President of the Chess Federation of Montenegro, Mr. Jovan Milović. The Agreement of Cooperation signed in Podgorica, Montenegro, targets to popularize chess among pupils of elementary schools, with the aim of strengthening intellectual, cultural and sports capacity, whereby schools will be provided with chess equipment and requisites for performing sports competitions in chess. On this occasion, Minister Šehović said that the Ministry of Education supports projects that encourage the intellectual development of children, and chess is surely a sport that leads to thinking, exercise persistence and arouses self-criticism.



"Europe Day", 9th of May, in Podgorica

The "Europe Day" was celebrated in Podgorica with a chess game between the Minister of Foreigner Affairs, Prof. Dr. Srđan Darmanović, and ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, while the second game was played between the ECU President and Kristina Basic, Montenegro Women's Chess Vice Champion and Captain of the Air forces.



The Chess week in Emin Duraku School in Tirana, Albania

Signing the Agreement of cooperation between European Chess Union, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Kosovo* and Kosovo Chess Federation



On the Europe Day, ECU President, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prof. Dr. Srđan Darmanović, played chess game



ECU President in the Ministry of Education of Montenegro, in Podgorica



EUROPEAN SCHOOL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 OPENED

European School Chess Championship 2019 started on 31st of May in Mamaia, Romania, and takes place till 9th of June.

The event was opened on 31st of May, with the attendance of ECU President, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, ECU Secretary-General, Mr. Theodoros Tsoibatzoglou, ECU Vice President Mr. Johann Pocksteiner and ECU Treasurer Mr. Ion Dobronauteanu.

President of European Chess Union officially opened the first round by making the first ceremonial move.

Besides the main event, the blitz competition was organized on the 4th of June.

The organizers provided LIVE transmission of the top boards, which is available through the official website of the event.

The event is played in 6 age categories, U7, U9, U11, U13, U15 and U17, boys and girls separately, with participation of more than 300 young talents, coming from 20 different European federations.

The Championship is played according to the Swiss System in 9 rounds with time control 90 minutes for 40 moves+30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1.



European School Chess Championship 2019

The Winners of each section will receive the title of European School Chess Champion 2019, and three the best-ranked players of each category will receive medals and diplomas.

Official Website of the event: <https://ecumamaia2019.ro/>

LINK for LIVE: <https://ecumamaia2019.ro/live-games/>

IAN NEPOMNIACHTCHI WINS MOSCOW FIDE GRAND PRIX 2019

Ian Nepomniachtchi became the Winner of the first leg of the FIDE Grand Prix 2019, organized by World Chess from 17th-29th May in Moscow, Russia.

Standings after the first leg of FIDE Grand Prix are as followed:

1. Ian Nepomniachtchi - 9 points
2. Alexander Grischuk - 7 points
3. Radoslaw Wojtaszek - 5 points
4. Hikaru Nakamura - 3 points
5. Peter Svidler - 2 points
6. Wei Yi - 2 points
7. Daniil Dubov - 2 points
8. Wesley So - 1 point and
- 9-16. Anish Giri, Shakhriyar Mamedyarov, Levon Aronian, Teimour Radjabov, Sergey Karjakin, Nikita Vitiugov, Jan-Krzysztof Duda, Dmitry Jakovenko - 0 points.

T

he match was decided in tiebreaks of finals, since first two games played by classical time control ended in a draw.

Nepomniachtchi defeated his compatriot, Alexander Grischuk, in the second game of the tiebreak match, to become the Winner of the first leg of FIDE Grand Prix, which is also a qualification event for next year's Candidates Tournament. The Closing Ceremony took place on May 29 and was attended by FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich, Vice-President of the Russian Chess Federation and head of PhosAgro Andrey Guryev, CEO of World Chess Ilya Merenzon, the 12th World Chess Champion Anatoly Karpov and Executive Director of the Russian Chess Federation Mark Glukhovsky.

The 2019 FIDE Grand Prix series consists of four knockout tournaments, with 16 players each, who play two classical games per round and if needed a tiebreak on the third day. The remaining three Grand Prix tournaments are Riga/Jurmala, Latvia (July 11–25), Hamburg, Germany (November 4–18) and Tel Aviv, Israel (December 10–24).



Photos by:
World Chess



European Team
Chess
Championship 2019
will take place from
23rd October – 3rd
November in the 5
stars Hotel
Sheraton, in Batumi,
Georgia.



EUROPEAN TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 - Invitation

E

Each ECU member federation has the right to enter one team in Open and one team in Women's competition. Teams in each of the competitions shall consist of four players and one reserve player. The European Team Chess Championship 2019 will be played in 9 rounds, Swiss system, with the time control of 90 minutes for 40 moves + 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with 30 seconds increment for every move played, starting from the move one. Registrations shall be made through the official website of the event, by filling the registration form. Registration forms must be submitted only by the national federations, and the registration deadline is on Monday, 21st of August 2019. Late registrations sent after the deadline, may be refused or will be an extra charge.

The organizer will provide transport services of all participants on October 23rd as well as the departure transfer on November 3.

If any delegation arrives one or two days before the competition or leaves later the same service will be provided.

Travel from Batumi airport (2 ways) to hotels is free of charge, while travel price from Kutaisi airport (2 ways) to hotels (120 km) is for each person 50 Euro, travel price from Trabzon airport (2 ways) to hotels (160 km) is for each person 70 EUR and travel price from Tbilisi airport (2 ways) to hotels (360 km) is for each person 80 EUR.



The first three teams in open and women's sections will receive cup and prize money of 32.000 EUR in total.

The Winners of the event will receive the title of European Team Chess Champion 2019. Besides the regular prizes, the best performing players in the open and women's sections on each board will receive medals and money prizes also.

The ECU Dress Code Rules will be followed as in detail described in the ECU regulations. The ECU anti-cheating guidelines, the FIDE Code of Ethics and the ECU Fair Play Code are valid for all the European Championships and all players, arbiters, organisers & participants shall follow these regulations.

Contact Information:

Email:
eurobatumi2019@gmail.com

Official Website of the event:
<http://www.euro2019.ge/>

Official regulations and invitation are available on the ECU Website, on the following link:
<http://www.europechess.org/european-team-chess-championship-2019-official-invitation/>

ETCC 2019

Registration deadline

Registrations shall be made through the official website of the event, by filling the registration form. Registration forms must be submitted only by the national federations, and the registration deadline is **Monday, 21st of August 2019.**

Late registrations sent after the deadline, may be refused or will be an extra charge.

EUROPEAN CLUB CUP 2019

The 35th edition of European Club Cup and the 24th edition of European Club Cup for Women will simultaneously take place from 9th-17th November 2019 in Ulcinj, Montenegro.

According to ECU Tournament Rules, each European federation is allowed to take part in the European Club Cup event. Number of clubs per federation may be found in the ECU Tournament Rules. In the Women competition all clubs, members of ECU federations, are allowed to participate.

Registrations for the event shall be done by national chess federations. Before the final registration, each federation that intends to participate in European Club Cup 2019 must confirm participation to the organizing committee. Deadline for confirmation of participation is 30th July 2019. A copy of confirmation shall be sent to Tournament Director, Mr. Petr Pisk to the following e-mail address, e-mail: petr.pisk@centrum.cz. Afterwards, the entry forms must be completed and returned to the Tournament office email: chesscup2019@gmail.com no later than 15th September 2019. The date of 15th September 2019 is the registration deadline.

The teams shall be composed of six players and two reserves in Open competition, while in the Women's competition teams shall be composed of four players and one reserve.



The events will be played in 7 rounds, Swiss system, with time control 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

The organizers provided transfer from Podgorica (78km) and Tivat (87km) airports to the official hotel and venue of the event. In addition, transfer from Tirana (Albania) Airport (135km) may be organized. The official hotel of the event will be KARISMA HOTELS Ulcinj, 4 stars "Holiday Village Montenegro" Hotel, while the playing venue of the events will be Karisma Hotels Hall.



ECC 2019

PRIZE FUND

The total prize fund of the event will be 45.000 EUR, with 26.000 EUR reserved for Open competition, 14.000 EUR in Women competition and 5.000 EUR for individual prizes.

Contact information

Official website of the European Club Cup 2019 is <http://www.sahcg.me>
 Tournament Director: Petr Pisk, petr.pisk@centrum.cz
 Tournament Manager: IO Jovan Milović (00 382 69 306 388)
 Technical director: Andrija Čabarkapa (00 382 69 303 301)

Email: chesscup2019@gmail.com

Invitation for the event can be also found on the ECU Website:

<http://www.europechess.org/european-club-cup-2019-official-invitation/>

European Universities Chess Championship 2019

European Universities Chess Championship 2019 will take place from 24th-28th July in Budapest, Hungary.

EUSA Universities Championships include this year, 22 sports competitions taking place across 15 European cities from June 23rd to September 7th: Antequera (Spain), Lodz (Poland), Bydgosz (Poland), Camerino (Italy), Braga (Portugal), Katowice (Poland), Poznan (Poland), Madrid (Spain), Koper (Slovenia), Podgorica (Montenegro), Olomouc (Czech Republic), Zagreb (Croatia), Budapest (Hungary), Porto (Portugal), Jonkoping (Sweden), Orleans (France), Belgrade (Serbia) and Zrenjanin (Serbia).

Among the events is the European Universities Chess Championship 2019, under the ECU auspices. European Universities Chess Championship 2019 will take place from 24th-28th July in Budapest, Hungary, during the European Universities Mindsports Championship.

Official Website of EUSA Universities Mindsports:
<https://mindsports2019.eusa.eu/>

Registrations:
<https://mindsports2019.eusa.eu/news-events?registrations-for-european-universities-championships-2019-are-open>



European Universities Chess Championship 2019 will be organized for the 3rd time this year, and over 35 players already have confirmed the participation for the event. Registration for the events is available through national universities sports bodies of the countries, and more details can be found on the following link on the official website of EUSA European University Championships 2019. In preparation for the European Universities Mind Sports Championship 2019,

About the event

European Universities Chess Championship

European Universities Chess Championship will be held in Budapest between July 24-28 2019 in cooperation with the European Bridge League (EBL) and under the auspices of European Chess Union (ECU).

EUSA Technical Delegates for Bridge and Chess visited the Hungarian capital

EUSA Technical Delegates for Bridge and Chess visited the Hungarian capital on November 14 and 15, in 2018.

EUSA Technical Delegate for Bridge Mr Harry Van de Peppel and EUSA Technical Delegate for Chess Mr Oleksandr Sulypa were welcomed by representatives of the organising committee and their partners, lead by Mr Tamas Sterbenz as the Chairman, and also the Vice Rector of the University of Physical Education and Vice President of the Hungarian Universities Sports Federation.

Also, there were present Mr Mate Nagy, secretary general OC, Mr Daniel Mezei, Communication manager, Ms. Szilvia Perenyi, Volunteers coordinator, Mr. Gyorgy Kovacs, HUSF Deputy Secretary-General, and representatives of the Chess Federation Mr Gabor Kallay and representative of the Bridge Federation Mr. Adam Magyar. Together, they inspected the venues, had a tour of the host University, check out the playing rooms, dormitories, and other required facilities. Also, other organisational aspects were discussed, confirming good preparation of the event.



1ST ISF WORLD SCHOOL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

The Executive Committee of the International School Sport Federation (ISF) entrusted the organization of the 1st World Schools Chess Championship to Tsaghkadzor, Armenia to be held from 18th-25th September 2019.

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he Championship is open for both school and selected national teams, both boys and girls aged 15 to 18. The event will be held in 4 different categories: schoolboys, schoolgirls, selected boys and girls in the national level.

Each team shall consist of two players according to the following rule: all students in the school team must have been enrolled at the same school since the beginning of the school year 2018/2019 and all students of a selected team must have been enrolled at a school in the country concerned since the beginning of the school year 2018/2019.

The event will be played in 9 rounds, Swiss system with time control 60 minutes for the entire game with 30 second increment per move. The official venue and Hotel of ISF World Schools Chess Championship will be "Tsaghkadzor General Sport Complex" Hotel.

Registrations have been officially opened until the registration deadline 30th July 2019. The electronic entry registration form can be accessed here: <https://isf-eras.org/>.

The participation fee (per person/per night) is 50/100 EUR, depending on the participants (coach, player, head of the delegation, teachers, additional adults). The fee covers full board accommodation for the duration of the event. It covers the competition, cultural programme activities and all transport in connection with the official programme (arrival, departure, sports and cultural programmes).

Also, an additional ISF fee of 40 € per member of the delegation must be paid together with the balance of the participation fee. The ISF School Sport Foundation intends to provide underprivileged school children with opportunities to access sports training by highly qualified PE teachers and trainers and to dispose of good quality school sports equipment and infrastructure. One of the occasions to help the Foundation is the Charity Gala Dinner in which the Heads of Delegation will be invited. An extra contribution of 50 € for taking part is requested.

The first ISF Schools Chess Championship is organized by Ministry of Education and Science of the RA, Armenian School Sport Federation and Armenian Chess Federation.

Registration deadline

Registrations have been officially opened until the registration deadline 30th July 2019. The electronic entry registration form can be accessed here: <https://isf-eras.org/>.

CZECH TOUR 2019/2022

19th International Chess Festivals Series of Czech Republic this year will be opened with with 30th edition of Czech Open, which will take place from 11th-28th July 2019 in Pardubice, Czech Republic.

Czech Open 2019, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, will contain more than 30 different events, open tournaments, blitz and rapid events, team events, Fischer random events, youth events and others.

The events will take place in the official venue of the tournament CSOB Pojistovna arena. The total prize fund of the events will be more than 40.000 EUR.

Besides the events for chess players, the organizers provided also very wide Accompanying programmes: games analysis in the festival party tent, small football tournament, bowling tournament, table tennis tournament, crossword puzzles and Sudoku competitions, trips, social evenings at the swimming pool etc.

Complete information, such as regulations of individual championships can be found on the internet festival Website.

Regulations of Czech Open 2019 are available here:
<http://www.europechess.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CzechOpen-2019-en.pdf>



Besides the Czech Open 2019, within the Czech Tour 2019/2020 events are:

- A. 6th SUMMER PRAGUE OPEN (2th-9th August 2019)
- B. 22nd OLOMOUC CHESS SUMMER (10th-17th August 2019)
- C. 10th HRADEC KRALOVE OPEN (26th October 2nd November 2019)
- D. 9th BRNO OPEN (3rd-9th November 2019)
- E. 20th LITOMYSL OPEN (26th December 2019–1st January 2020)
- F. 19th PRAGUE OPEN (10th-17th January 2020)
- G. 19th MARIENBAD OPEN (18th-25th January 2020)
- H. 20th LIBEREC OPEN (22nd-29th February 2020)



Czech Tour 2019/2020

Contact information

AVE-KONTAKT s.r.o. Strossova
 239, 530 03 Pardubice Czech
 Republic
 Tel. +420-466 535 200
 mobile +420-608 203 007
 E-mail: j.mazuch@avekont.cz

Official Website of the tour
 Interesting things:
<http://www.facebook.com/czech Touren>

FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament 2019

FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament 2019 takes place from 29th May- 19th June in Kazan, Russia.

Eight strongest female GMs play in the competition and the Winner qualifies for the World Championship Match with Ju Wenjun (China).



CROATIA GRAND CHESS TOUR

The 2019 Croatia Grand Chess Tour tournament will be the first of two classical events and the second stop on the 2019 Grand Chess Tour. The tournament is hosted in partnership between the Grand Chess Tour and Chess Club e4 from Zagreb and will see all 12 full tour participants compete over 11 rounds of classical chess for a prize fund of \$325,000.



7th Norway Chess

Altibox Norway Chess 2019 will take place from 3rd-14th June in Stavanger, Norway with participation of 10 world top players: Carlsen, Caruana, Mamedyarov, Liren, Vachier-Lagrave, Anand, Grischuk, Aronian, Wesley So and Yangyi Yu.



Netanya Chess Festival

Netanya International Chess Festival 2019, one of the most important chess competitions in Israel, will take place from 23rd June – 2nd July 2019 in the VIP main hall of the Netanya Football stadium. The festival consists of two main events: Masters tournament and Netanya Open tournament.



ECU ARBITERS COUNCIL

Text by: Marco Biagioli
arbiters.europechess.org

IS APPENDIX A (RAPID CHESS) TOTALLY CONSISTENT WITH ART. 9 OF THE LAWS OF CHESS?



All of us know that if we want to ask for a threefold repetition or fifty-moves draw basing on a move we are going to make, we have to respect a certain procedure: art. 9.2.1.1 of the Laws of Chess states that if the third position “is about to appear, if he (the player NdR) first writes his move, which cannot be changed, on his scoresheet and declares to the arbiter his intention to make this move” and art. 9.3.1 states: “he writes his move, which cannot be changed, on his scoresheet and declares to the arbiter his intention to make this move which will result in the last 50 moves by each player having been made without the movement of any pawn and without any capture”. These statements, taught for a standard game, put us a problem if we are playing a rapid/blitz game. Art. A.2 actually states: “players do not need to record the moves, but do not lose their rights to claims normally based on a scoresheet. The player can, at any time, ask the arbiter to provide him with a scoresheet, in order to write the moves”.

It clearly means that a player is exonerated to record any move, but he can anyway ask for a draw in such cases that the scoresheet is concerned, which means exactly art. 9.2.1.1 or 9.3.1. Moreover, there is no article saying that in case of a rapid/blitz game, the procedure the player has to fulfil in order to claim a draw is different, so art. 9.2.1.1 and 9.3.1 totally apply. The point arises when a player, who is not recording anything in a rapid/blitz game, claims a draw basing on the move he is going to do without writing any move, but only declaring it. Obviously, if the opponent agrees, there is no question. But what if the opponent protests that such a claim cannot be considered due to the fact the claimant didn't write anything?

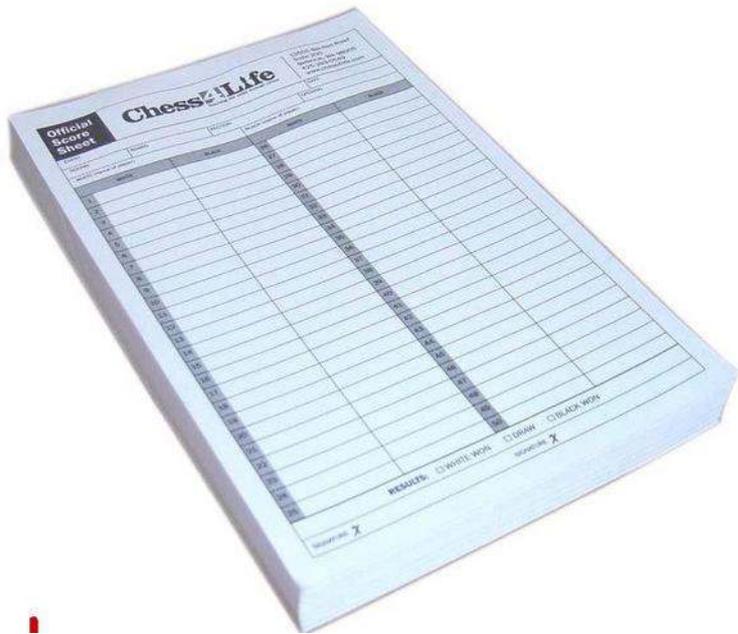
We have to focus on a point: the opponent is not questioning whether the threefold repetition or fifty moves occur, he barely says the arbiter should not investigate the matter and just reject the claim as inadmissible because it was made on a different way than the one prescribed by the Laws. Last year I have been to four big rapid/blitz events (EYRBCC, ERBCC and WRBCC, as well as the national rapid and blitz championship) and in each of those tournaments, I found out different solutions to the point from different arbiters. My opinion is that the opponent's protest has a merit: the Laws are clear about the obligation to write down the move.

Moreover, art. A.2 let the players not record the moves, but it does not prohibit it: “The player can, at any time, ask the arbiter to provide him with a scoresheet, in order to write the moves”.

I think the most correct procedure should be that a player asks a scoresheet, writes down that single move and then asks for a draw normally; personally, I see no other reason to have written this second sentence in art. A.2 other than the requests made upon art. 9.2.1.1 and 9.3.1.

Nevertheless, I see that such a way of proceeding is fault-finding and very hard to figure out in a tense circumstance as a rapid/blitz game is. Hence, I would not blame an arbiter if he decides to accept the claim without a written move basing on the preface of the Laws of Chess.

In World rapid/blitz Championship, a different solution was found, considering that the declaration of the player is assumed enough, the arbiter was supposed to ask the player to show him the move by simulating it, with the time stopped.



If we consider the purpose of the duty to write down the move (avoid the player to change it, as in case the game is not draw, the move stands), this solution seems to be satisfactory because the act of simulating the move gives an immediate and not arguable evidence of what move, in case, has to stand. However, this problem can easily lead to different solutions from different arbiters and in extreme cases, can even lead the same claim to be rejected or granted by different arbiters.

Such arbitrariness is too much, thus I think art. A.2 should be rewritten in some way to grant a legal cover to this situation (not so rare as one can imagine).

Last summer I discussed this matter also with Mr Alex Holowczak and we both concluded it is a matter for the Rules Commission, which hopefully will solve the problem.

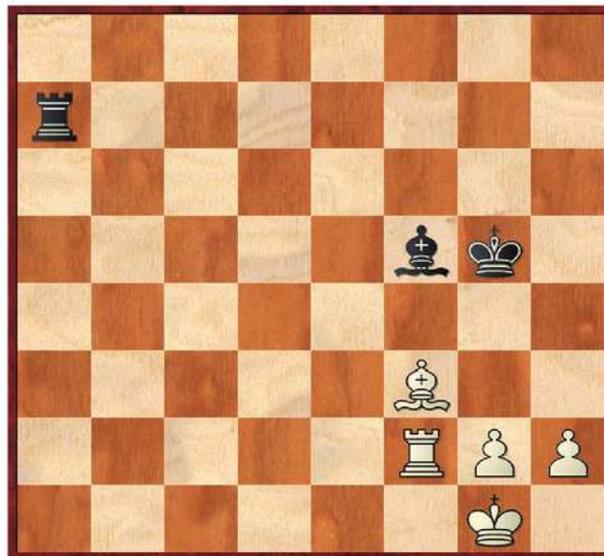


ECU Arbiters Council

Mr. Marko Biagioli

WRONG CORNER

One of the important methods of defense in chess, when material is sacrificed to get position with huge opponents advantage – Bishop and pawn on h or a files. But Bishop is of wrong colour. There are thousands of examples, but here I want to concentrate on some positions ,which are very practical.



This was the first example of sacrificing material with the idea of creating a wrong bishop. It was composed more than 500 years ago!

1...Ra1+ 2. Rf1 Rxf1 3. Kxf1 Bh3!!



But sometimes even on the top level things get out of control (game between Beliavsky Alexander and Ivanovic Bozidar):

51.h6? Wrong - winning was transferring the King to b5 after Kc2, Kb3, Ka4. **51...gxh6 52.gxh6 Kf7 53.Kc2 Kg8 54.Kb3 Kh8 55.Ka4 Kg8 56.Kb5 Kh8 57.Kc6 Kg8 58.Kb7 Bc5 59.a7 Bxa7 60.Kxa7 =**

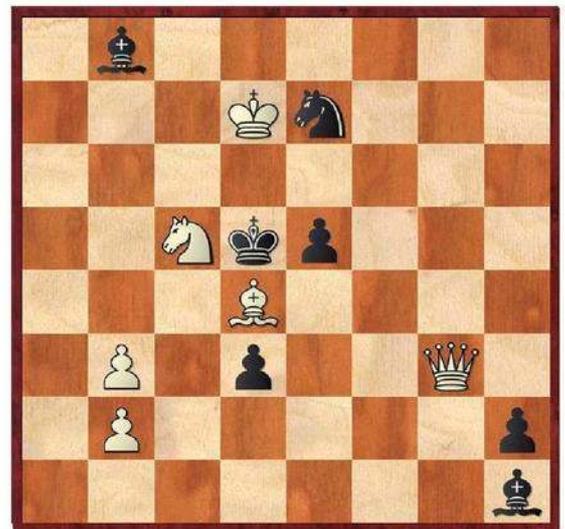
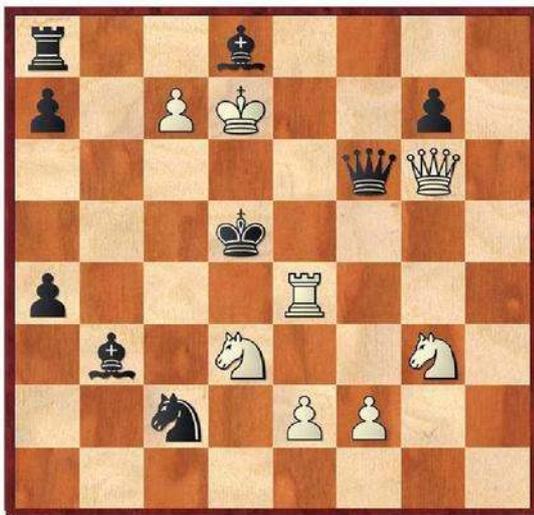
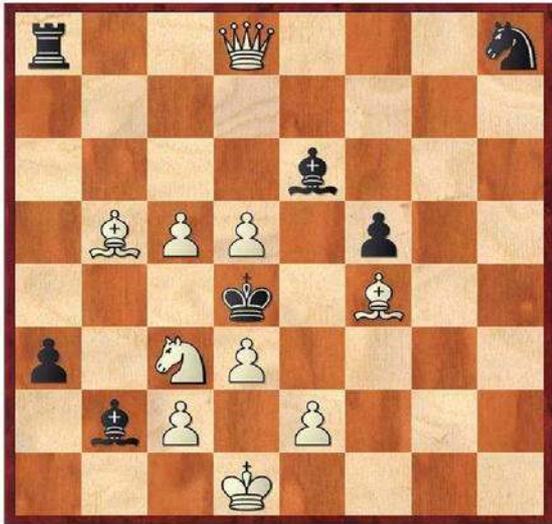
By Grandmaster
Adrian Mikhalchishin

Very similar examples happened in many more games of famous chess players, such as: Portisch-Kavalek, Chandler-Polgar Z., Altuneger-Vombek, Alexandrova-Worek, Bartel-Kempinski, Salgado Lopez-Sos Andreu, Dreev-Onischuk, Dizdarevic-Short, Tajmanov-Awerbach, Metger-Paulsen, Fisher-Taimanov, Kolar-Bakalarz, Socko-Szczepkowska, Nakamura-Cori Tello, Dreev-Yudasin, Estrin-Ravinsky, Gulko=Sanguineti and many other.



Game between Marangunic and Matanovic:

1...Nf6! and White can never capture this knight. The black knight moves to all squares and this cannot be prevented by White's king and bishop.



World Chess Champion, MAGNUS CARLSEN SAID ABOUT CHESS:

>Some people think that if their opponent plays a beautiful game, it's okay to lose. I don't. You have to be merciless.

>Once you're a chess player, you spend a lot of time thinking about the game and you can't get it completely out of your head.

>I spend hours playing chess because I find it so much fun. The day it stops being fun is the day I give up.

>If you want to get to the top, there's always the risk that it will isolate you from other people.

>I don't look at computers as opponents. For me it is much more interesting to beat humans.

For this edition of the ECU monthly magazine, we prepared 4 mate in 3 positions! White is on the move!

Solutions from April

> Puzzle #1:

1.Nd4 Nd6 (1...Nc5 2.Nf5 Nxa4 3.Ne7#) 2.Nc2 Nf5 (2...Nxb5 3.Nb4#) 3.Nb4#

>Puzzle #2:

1.Be6 Ka3 (1...Kxa4 2.Rxc4+ Kb5 3.a4#; 1...Kc3 2.Ba5+ Kd3 3.Bxc4#) 2.Rxc4 e2 3.Bxe7#

>Puzzle #3:

1.Qe2 d4 (1...Nxg4 2.Qf3#; 1...e4 2.Nd4 + cxd4 3.Qxe4#) 2.Rf4+ exf4 3. Nxd4#

>Puzzle #4:

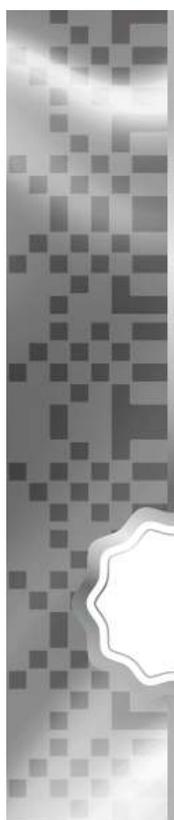
1.a4 d2 2.Nb2+ Kxe5 3.Nd3#



ECU BRAND BOOK

European Chess Union publishes ECU Brand Book with the aim of standardization of ECU logos, banners, medals and certificates, which shall be used and contributed at European Chess Union official events. The ECU Brand Book contains:

1. "Certificate" - editable two templates of Certificates, which are placed on the ECU website, and are available for downloading by the organizers of ECU events
2. "Diploma" - editable template which is available for downloading on ECU Website and can be downloaded by organizers of ECU official events
3. ECU master logo - all types of the ECU logo and examples of ECU logo usage on banners, desk flags or flags (2 type - color and white), which are available on ECU website for the organizers of the ECU official events
4. Medal 6x6 - Medals of each ECU official events shall be designed as ECU branded medals. Design of the medals is available on ECU website, while plaques and medals sets are available in ECU Brand Book



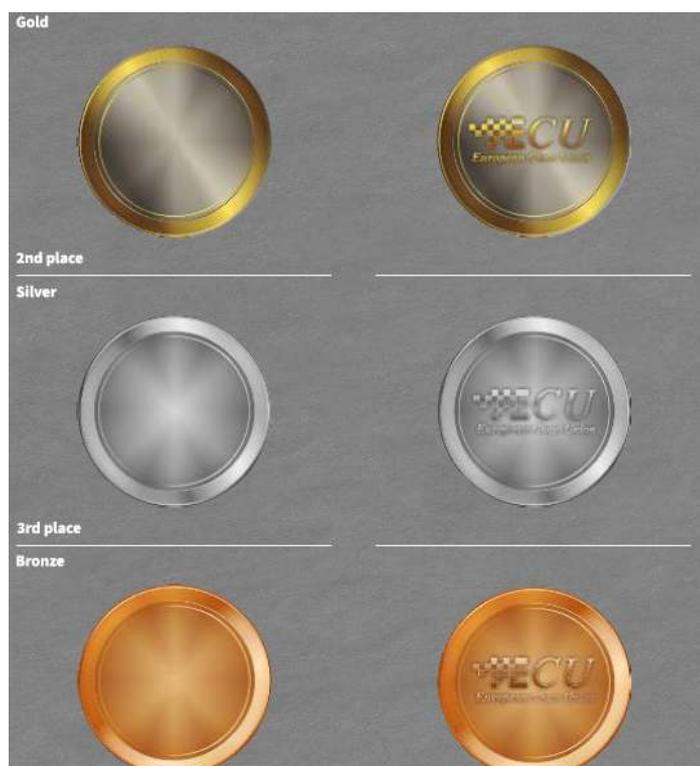
DIPLOMA

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

ECU SCHOOL CHESS TEACHER CERTIFICATE

ECU School Chess Teacher Certificate is available in two formats. Two editable templates of the certificate will be available on the ECU Website, so the organizers of ECU School Chess Teacher courses may download it and distribute to participants.

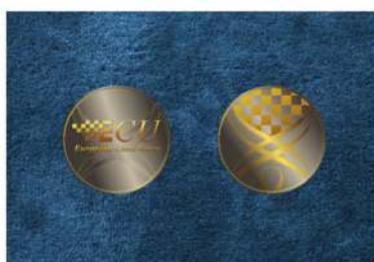


ECU MEDALS

ECU branded gift and award medals shall be distributed to Winners of ECU official events. Medals shall be designed as described in ECU Brand Book, in appropriate dimensions.

ECU MEDALS

All the materials and instructions about use of ECU medalions, medal cases and package variations, certificates and diplomas may be found in ECU Brand Book which will be finalized and published on the ECU Website in the following days.





"Chess is a meritocracy."