

STUDENTS FROM SLIVNICA, BULGARIA AND REDONDELA, SPAIN WERE TWINNED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM "CHESS IN SCHOOL" OF THE EUROPEAN CHESS UNION



On 11th of December, 2013, Wednesday, at 11.00 am (local time) at headquarter of IBM Bulgaria was held the official ceremony of the twinning between students from school "St. st. Cyril and Methodius", Slivnica and students from 13 schools from the city of Redondela, Spain in connection with the program "Chess in School" of the European Chess Union.

The ceremony was held as an online event realized with the help of Internet connection. Virtual host of the event was IBM Bulgaria which provided the technical infrastructure needed for conducting of the video connectiong.



Such twinning is made for the first time in Europe.

The twinning aims to create a successful collaboration between the two cities for the effective development of the project "Chess in School" of the European Chess Union. With special memorandum students confirmed their intention to organize online

chess tournaments between teams from their schools, to exchange visits to share experiences and ideas, to develop joint projects to ensure EU funding and others.



Students were congratulated and supported for their initiative by Mr. Silvio Danailov, President of the European Chess Union, Mr. Nikolay Angelov, Chief Operations Officer of IBM Bulgaria, Mr. Jan Suer, manager of the foundation of the legendary chess king Garry Kasparov, Kasparov Chess Foundation Europe. The ceremony was also attended by the mayors of the two cities - Mr. Vasko Stoilkov and Mr. Javier Bas Korugeira actively working on the development of chess in their cities. They announced their full commitment to the initiative of the students and expressed their intention for twinning of Slivnica and Redondela.

Official website: www.ecuonline.net



IM DANYIIL DVIRNYI WINS THE 73RD ITALIAN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



IM Danyyil Dvirnyy won the 73rd Italian Chess Championship with final result 8 points out of 11. .GM Alberto David and GM Sabino Brunello shared the 2-3 place with 7 points.

The Italian Chess Championship was held from 21st of November to 2nd of December, 2013 in Rome (Hotel Villa Maria Regina).

The tournament was played like 12 players round robin event with 11 rounds.

Final ranking

1. IM Danil Dvirnyy - 8 pts.
- 2-3. GM Alberto David and GM Sabino Brunello - 7 pts.
4. IM Denis Rombaldoni - 6.5 pts.
5. GM Carlo Garcia Palermo - 6 pts.
- 6-7. GM Michele Godena and GM Axel Rombaldoni - 5.5 pts.
- 8-9. IM Andrea Stella and IM Simone De Filomeno - 5 pts.
10. IM Guido Caprio - 4 pts.
11. IM Fabio Bruno - 3.5 pts.
12. FM Andrea Cocchi - 3 pts.

Official website: www.federscacchi.it



BERKES AND GARA WIN HUNGARIAN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR 2013



GM Ferenc Berkes (ELO 2677) and IM Anita Gara (ELO 2308) are the new Hungarian Champions for 2013, after winning their National Chess Championships.

Berkes scored 7.5 points, full point more than Gm Csaba Horvath (ELO 2537) who came second.

Third place went to GM Gyula Pap (ELO 2522) with 6 points. In ladies section silver medal went to WGM Petra Papp (ELO 2305) with 6 points, while bronze went to WGM Anna Rudolf (ELO 2302) with 5.5 points.

Here are the final standings:

Men

Rk.	Title	Name	FED	Rtg	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	GM	Berkes Ferenc	HUN	2677	7.5	6	30.00
2	GM	Horvath Csaba	HUN	2537	6.5	5	22.50
3	GM	Pap Gyula	HUN	2522	6.0	4	27.00
4	GM	Gonda Laszlo	HUN	2552	5.5	4	19.25
5	GM	Banusz Tamas	HUN	2598	5.5	4	18.75
6	GM	Czebe Attila	HUN	2451	4.5	3	15.75
7	IM	Nagy Gabor	HUN	2404	3.5	3	9.75
8	GM	Medvegy Zoltan	HUN	2537	2.5	1	7.50
9	GM	Horvath Adam	HUN	2531	2.0	1	9.50
10	IM	Toth Ervin	HUN	2477	1.5	1	5.00

Women

Rk.	Title	Name	FED	Rtg	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	IM	Gara Anita	HUN	2308	7.5	6	30.25
2	WGM	Papp Petra	HUN	2305	6.0	3	24.50
3	WGM	Rudolf Anna	HUN	2302	5.5	3	22.75
4	WIM	Varga Klara	HUN	2211	5.0	4	18.50
5		Havanecz Bianka	HUN	2157	5.0	3	20.00
6	WIM	Goczó Melinda	CRO	2223	4.0	2	15.25
7		Varga Melinda	HUN	2184	3.0	2	11.00
8	WIM	Dudas Eszter	ROU	2276	3.0	1	12.00
9		Erdos Boglarka	ROU	2200	3.0	0	14.00
10	WFM	Juhasz Barbara	AUT	2152	3.0	0	12.25

The Men's Championship was held in the City Hall of Gyula 2-11 December, 2013, and Women's Championship was played in Aquamarin Hotel in Heviz also from 2nd till 11th December, 2013. Both Championships were played as Round Robin tournaments in 9 rounds, with 10 participants.

Official website: <http://chess.hu/hu/>



ROMANIAN RAPID AND BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP 2013



Romanian Rapid and Blitz Chess Championships 2013 took place between 29th November and 1st December (The National Day of Romania) in Iasi.

In rapid chess the champions are GM Nanu Costica-Ciprian and IM Peptan Corina, while in Blitz IM Miron Lucian-Costin and WGM Ionescu Irina.

For the full ranking crosstables, visit <http://chess-results.com/tnr117635.aspx?lan=1&art=0&wi=821>

Official website: <http://www.frsah.ro>



TOP 50 PLAYERS - DECEMBER 2013

Rank	Name	Title	Country	Rating	Games	B-Year
1	Carlsen, Magnus	g	NOR	2872	10	1990
2	Aronian, Levon	g	ARM	2803	9	1982
3	Kramnik, Vladimir	g	RUS	2793	0	1975
4	Nakamura, Hikaru	g	USA	2786	0	1987
5	Topalov, Veselin	g	BUL	2785	7	1975
6	Grischuk, Alexander	g	RUS	2783	8	1983
7	Caruana, Fabiano	g	ITA	2782	9	1992
8	Gelfand, Boris	g	ISR	2777	0	1968
9	Anand, Viswanathan	g	IND	2773	10	1969
10	Svidler, Peter	g	RUS	2758	11	1976
11	Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar	g	AZE	2757	8	1985
12	Karjakin, Sergey	g	RUS	2756	0	1990
13	Adams, Michael	g	ENG	2754	8	1971
14	Dominguez Perez, Leinier	g	CUB	2754	0	1983
15	Vachier-Lagrave, Maxime	g	FRA	2745	11	1990
16	Vitiugov, Nikita	g	RUS	2741	0	1987
17	Bacrot, Etienne	g	FRA	2740	10	1983
18	Naiditsch, Arkadij	g	GER	2737	9	1985
19	Wang, Hao	g	CHN	2735	3	1989
20	Giri, Anish	g	NED	2734	10	1994
21	Eljanov, Pavel	g	UKR	2733	0	1983
22	Ivanchuk, Vassily	g	UKR	2731	0	1969
23	Ponomarev, Ruslan	g	UKR	2731	0	1983

24	Leko, Peter	g	HUN	2730	0	1979
25	Wang, Yue	g	CHN	2723	3	1987
26	Morozevich, Alexander	g	RUS	2722	6	1977
27	Jakovenko, Dmitry	g	RUS	2721	0	1983
28	Kamsky, Gata	g	USA	2721	0	1974
29	Nepomniachtchi, Ian	g	RUS	2721	0	1990
30	So, Wesley	g	PHI	2719	0	1993
31	Malakhov, Vladimir	g	RUS	2716	3	1980
32	Tomashevsky, Evgeny	g	RUS	2715	6	1987
33	Moiseenko, Alexander	g	UKR	2713	8	1980
34	Radjabov, Teimour	g	AZE	2713	8	1987
35	Korobov, Anton	g	UKR	2713	0	1985
36	Areshchenko, Alexander	g	UKR	2712	10	1986
37	Wojtaszek, Radoslaw	g	POL	2711	0	1987
38	Ding, Liren	g	CHN	2710	3	1992
39	Andreikin, Dmitry	g	RUS	2709	7	1990
40	Almasi, Zoltan	g	HUN	2708	10	1976
41	Navara, David	g	CZE	2708	9	1985
42	Harikrishna, P.	g	IND	2708	2	1986
43	Fressinet, Laurent	g	FRA	2707	0	1981
44	Rublevsky, Sergei	g	RUS	2706	0	1974
45	Vallejo Pons, Francisco	g	ESP	2705	10	1982
46	Jobava, Baadur	g	GEO	2705	9	1983
47	Le, Quang Liem	g	VIE	2703	0	1991
48	Kasimdzhanov, Rustam	g	UZB	2701	2	1979
49	Kryvoruchko, Yuriy	g	UKR	2701	0	1986

50	Matlakov, Maxim	g	RUS	2700	0	1991
----	-----------------	---	-----	------	---	------

Official website: www.fide.com



FORTHCOMING TOURNAMENTS

EUROPEAN INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2014 - WELCOME TO YEREVAN



European Individual Chess Championship will be held in Yerevan - the capital of Armenia, 2-15 March, 2014 at Yerevan Business Centre.

The organizer of the Championship is Armenian Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union.

The European Individual Chess Championship is open to all players representing Chess Federations which comprise the European Chess Union (FIDE zones 1.1 to 1.10) regardless of their title or rating.

There is also no limit in the number of participants per federation. The European Individual Championship 2014 is a qualification event for the next World Cup. According to FIDE regulations and the decision of the ECU Board, 23 players will qualify.

The Championship will be played according to the Swiss System in 11 rounds, with time control 90 minutes for 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game + 30 seconds increment per move, starting from move one.

The prize fund is 160 000 Euros - 150 000 Euros for the main prizes and 10 000 Euros for the special prizes.

Applications have to be sent by the national federations only.

The registration deadline is January 15, 2014, and after this, federations will not be able to register or modify any registrations. After this date all the registrations have to be confirmed by the ECU.

Participants can get all necessary information through Armenian Chess Federation.

E-mail: armchess@arminco.com

Fax: (374) 10570758

Address:50, Khandjian Str.,0025, Yerevan, Armenia

You can download the regulations here:

<http://www.ecuonline.net/com/calendar/single/847.html>

14TH EUROPEAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 2014 OPORTO/PORTUGAL



14th European Senior Chess Championship will be held in Oporto, Portugal 8-22 March, 2014.

The organizer of the Championship is Portugese Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union.

The official venue of the tournament is Axis Porto Business & Spa Hotel 4*.

Oporto, also known as Porto, is a second-largest city in Portugal, after Lisabon, and is one of the oldest European centers, registered as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996.

The European Senior Chess Championship is open to all players representing Chess Federations which comprise the European Chess Union (FIDE zones 1.1 to 1.10) regardless of their title or rating. There is also no limit in the number of participants per federation. In accordance with the ECU tournament rules, the Championship will be played in two categories: one for those who shall have reached the age of 50 (category SENIOR 50+), and one for those who shall have reached the age of 65 (category SENIOR 65+) by December 31st of the year in which the tournament will commence.

Players who shall have reached the age of 65 by December 31st of the year in which the tournament will commence are allowed to participate in the category SENIOR 50+. In each age category an Open and a Women's competition is organized.



There is also no limit of participants per federation.

The Championship will be played according to the Swiss System in 9 rounds, with the time control 40 moves for 90 minutes + 30 minutes for the rest of the game.

Apart from the main tournament, European Senior Rapid & Blitz Chess Championship will be held in the same venue. Rapid Championship will be played 18-21 March, and Blitz will be held 20-22 March, 2014. Rapid tournament will be played in 9 rounds, according to the Swiss System, with time control 15 minutes + 10 seconds. Blitz tournament will also be played according to the Swiss System in 9 rounds, with time control 3 minutes + 2 seconds.



Regulations can be found here <http://www.fpx.pt/esc2014/index.php/regulations> as well as the registration form.

All other information can be found on the official website of the Championship <http://www.fpx.pt/esc2014> or on e-mail address esc2014@fpx.pt.

Also you can contact the Tournament Director Mr. Francisco Castro, PCF President

Tel: (+ 351) 213 579 144

Fax: (+ 351) 213 579 144