China won Double Gold on the 43rd Chess Olympiad

China took home two team gold medals from the 43rd Chess Olympiad which took place from 23rd September - 5th October in Batumi, Georgia.
After 11 played rounds played in both sections, the Winner of the 43rd Chess Olympiad was determined by the additional criteria. Three teams tied for the first place in Open section, with score of 18 match points each, but the tie-break system favoured China to claim the gold.

The team of USA was silver, while Russia took bronze after a strong performance in the finish. The team of Poland played amazingly well throughout the event, but narrowly missed the podium and finished on the 4th place in a tie with England.

Final rankings- Open Section

In a thrilling finale of the Women section, China triumphed after holding a tie against Russia in the last round of the Championship. That was enough for China to reach 18 match points, as Ukraine, but according to the tie-breaks, China won gold, while Ukraine finished silver. The bronze medal went to the team of Georgia 1 with 17 match points.

Final rankings- Women Section

Official Website of the Championship
Zurab Azmaiparashvili will lead ECU for the 2nd time

Zurab Azmaiparashvili is re-elected for the President of the European Chess Union on the elections which took place during the General Assembly of ECU on 3rd October, in Batumi, Georgia.

Mr. Azmaiparashvili holds the position of the President of ECU since 2014 and was the only candidate. Out of 50 delegates, Zurab Azmaiparashvili was supported by 44 delegates and he will lead European Chess Union with his new team until 2022.

In Zurab Azmaiparashvili’s team, the General Secretary will be Theodoros Tsrbatzoglou, the first Deputy President will be Gunnar Bjornsson, Vice-Presidents will be Dana Reizniece-Ozola and Johann Poecksteiner.

"I want to thank all of you for your support. After analyzing the previous four years' work, I decided to run for president of European Chess Union once again. I want to gain your trust again. I can do a lot more with my team and this is period of being ECU President me and my team finished many important projects successfully. I believe my main achievement is the unity of the organization. I'm sure next four years will be better. Challenges are big, but people on my side are the ones, with whom it's impossible not to succeed. We'll take ECU on the higher level in next four years!" - said Zurab Azmaiparashvili.

Source: The Organizing Committee of the 43rd Chess Olympiad

Arkady Dvorkovich elected FIDE president

Mr. Arkady Dvorkovich is elected new President of FIDE at the General Assembly in Batumi, Georgia. Members of the Presidential Ticket of Arkady Dvorkovich are elected into office:

- Bachar Kouatly- Deputy President
- Sewa Enyonam Fumey- General Secretary
- Mahir Mammedov- Vice President
- Julio Granda Zuniga- Vice President
- Zhu Chen- Treasurer
European Chess Union election results

European Chess Union elections took place during the 89th FIDE Congress, on 3rd October 2018 in Batumi, Georgia.

Out of 50 delegates who had voted, the ticket of Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili was elected with 44 votes in favour, with 4 blanked ballots and 2 invalid ballots:

- President- Zurab Azmaiparashvili (GEO)
- Deputy President- Gunnar Bjornsson (ISL)
- Vice President- Dana Reizniece-Ozola (LAT)
- Vice President- Johann Poecksteiner (AUT)
- Secretary General- Theodoros Tsorbatzoglou (GRE)
- Treasurer- Ion Dobronauteanu (ROU)

There were four candidates for the Individual elections of the ECU Board:

- Adrian Mikhalchishin (SLO)
- Eva Repkova (SVK)
- Ivan Sokolov (NED)
- Finnbjorn Vang (FAI)

Adrian Mikhalchishin, Eva Repkova and Ivan Sokolov are elected as ECU Vice Presidents with 37, 37 and 28 votes, respectively, while Finnbjorn Vang had 25 votes in favour.

Peter Wyss (SUI) is elected as ECU Auditor and Guenter De lahaes (BEL) is elected as ECU Deputy Auditor with 33 and 14 votes in favour, respectively.

There were 7 candidates for representing ECU in FIDE Executive Board:

- Anastasia Sorokina (BLR)
- Petr Pisk (CZE)
- Ozgur Solakoglu (TUR)
- Alojzije Jankovic (CRO)
- Erald Dervishi (ALB)
- Radoslaw Jedynak (POL)
- Blagoja Bogoevski (MKD)

Ms. Anastasia Sorokina had 38 votes in favour, but was elected as FIDE Vice President and automatically is a member of the FIDE EB so she resigned from her election through Europe.

Mr. Alojzije Jankovic had 21 votes in favour, but was elected as FIDE Zone 1.2. and automatically became a member of the FIDE EB.

Petr Pisk, Ozgur Solakoglu, Erald Dervish and Radoslaw Jedunak are elected to represent ECU at the FIDE Executive Board with respective number of votes in favour: 29, 22, 20 and 20.
2nd European School Team Chess Open Internet Championship

The European Chess Union, the Education Committee of ECU, and the International School Chess Union have the honor of inviting all National Chess Federations of the ECU and schools in Europe to participate the Second ECU School Team Open Internet Championship 2018, which will be held from 14th- 21st November.

The event can participate any school from a European country with one team for each of the two age groups: U11 (for players born on 1st of January in 2007 or after) and U17 (for players who were born on 1st of January in 2001 or after).

The teams shall consist of 4 players, 2 boys and 2 girls, and all the players of the team must be the students of the same school.

Entry forms must be filled in by the schools and to be submitted to the Organizing Committee by e-mail chesskingweb@gmail.com, no later than Friday November 9 2018. The registration form and application must be signed by the Teacher or Coach, and the Principal of the School.

By November 12, 2018, the teams for each school will be created based on the submitted entry forms and login data will be sent to the team manager listed in the entry. If the team manager doesn't receive the usernames and passwords for all players by the end of November 12, he or she should notify the organizers.

In order to promote the event, to promote chess in schools and to expand area of playing chess and bring the official ECU tournaments more accessible to all the youngest chess lovers, European Chess Union brought the decision to waive the entry fee for participation in the 2nd European School Team Chess Open Internet Championship.

Each tournament will be played in one day according to the Swiss system in 7 rounds. Rate of play will be 10 minutes per player with an increment of 3 seconds per move, starting from the move one. All players of the school team must be located in the school computer classroom under the supervision of school coach/teacher.

Official Regulations of the Championship
European Rapid&Blitz Chess Championship 2018- Regulations

European Rapid&Blitz Chess Championship 2018 will take place from 5th-9th December 2018, in hotel Aleksandar Palace, in Skopje, FYR of Macedonia.

The event will start with European Blitz Chess Championship 2018, which will take place on 6th and 7th of December, and will be played according to the Swiss system, in 11 paired rounds, with time control 3 minutes+2 seconds per move, starting from the move one.

European Rapid Chess Championship 2018 will be played on 8th and 9th of December, according to the Swiss system in 13 rounds, with the time control 15 minutes + 10 seconds per move starting from the move one.

Both events are open to all players who represent Chess federations listed as ECU members, regardless of their title or rating.

Registration for the events will last until 26th of November 2018, which is the registration deadline. All registrations shall be done through the Official Website of the Championship, by filling the Online registration form.

Players rated over 2600 and women players rated over 2400 from October rating list, respectively in Blitz and Rapid Championship are released from paying the entry fee.

The total prize fund of the event is 30,000 EUR + 4,000 EUR of special prizes. The special prizes will be awarded to the best ranked player rated under 2600, the best ranked player rated under 2300, the best ranked players rated under 2000, the best ranked players rated under 1700, the best female players, the best senior players, the best Junior players and the best Macedonian players.

All the players are invited to stay in one of the Official Hotels of the Championship: 5* hotel Aleksandar Palace (the official venue of the Championship), 4* Royal Hotel, 3* hotel Vergina, 3* Monaco hotel, 3* hotel Skopje and 3* hotel Portal, all located in city of Skopje.

The organizers will also provide transfer from Skopje Airport to the official hotels on 5th December, and from the official hotels to the Airport on 9th December.

Technical Organizer of the Championship is Chess Club Gambit Asseco See and Chess Federation of FYR of Macedonia, supported by European Chess Union.

Official Website of the Championship
UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER:

- **FIDE and ECU events:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Official Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Chess Club Cup 2018</td>
<td>Porto Carras, Greece</td>
<td>11th-19th October</td>
<td><a href="#">Official Website</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st World Team Chess Championship for the Disabled</td>
<td>Dresden, Germany</td>
<td>14th-21st October</td>
<td><a href="#">Official Website</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Youth U14, U16, U18 Rapid&amp;Blitz Chess Championship 2018</td>
<td>Halkidiki, Greece</td>
<td>16th-20th October</td>
<td><a href="#">Official Website</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Other events:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Official Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saint Louis Fall Chess Classic 2018</td>
<td>Saint Louis, USA</td>
<td>10th-18th October</td>
<td><a href="#">Official Website</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chigorin Memorial 2018</td>
<td>Saint Petersburg, Russia</td>
<td>26th October-5th November</td>
<td><a href="#">Official Website</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fun Zone

Interesting Facts:

- There were 72 consecutive Queen moves in the Mason-Mackenzie game at London in 1882.

- The record of moves without capture is of 100 moves during the Match between Thorton and M. Walker in 1992.

- The longest time recorded for a Chess player to make a move, goes to the International Grand Master Trois from Brazil with 2 hours and 20 minutes on the 7th move.

- There are in fact 400 different possible positions after one move each. It rises to 72,084 different positions after two moves each. The figure rises to over 9 million after three moves.

- From the starting position, there are eight different ways to Mate in two moves and 355 different ways to Mate in three moves.

- The oldest recorded chess game in history is from the 900s, between a historian from Baghdad and his student.
For this edition of the ECU Newsletter we prepared 4 puzzles where white mates in 3!

Solutions from the ECU Newsletter August 2018:

Puzzle 1:
1. Kf7! bxc=Q 2. Rd8#

Puzzle 2:
1. b4+! Ka4 2. Nc5+ Kxa3 3. Rb3#

Puzzle 3:
1. Bb5 g5 2. Qc8+ Bxc8 3. Bc7#

Puzzle 4:
1. Qh1 Be1 2. Rxf4+ Ka7 3. Qb7#