

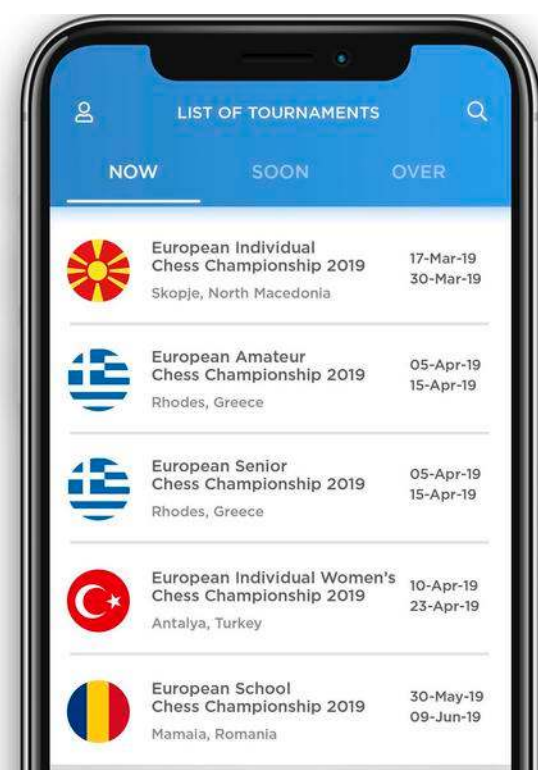


## ECU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**ECU Board Meeting and  
General Assembly main  
decisions and information**

## ECU MOBILE APP

**ECU App for IOs and  
Android system is now  
available to download**



**DOUBLE GOLD FOR THE  
RUSSIAN TEAMS!  
#ETCC2019 #BATUMI2019**



## November Calendar...

After a tense October with the European Team Chess Championships and ECU annual meetings, November follows even more promising...

A. Oslo and Stockholm host on 5th and 6th of November **the first B2B marketing presentations for Chess in Schools programs!**

B. Montenegro hosts from 9th to 17th November **the European Open & Women Clup Cup with more than 80 teams!**

C. Monaco hosts from 28th of November to 2nd December **the European Women Rapid & Blitz Championship with about 100 players** among them the top European players!

D. **The "European Golden Pawn" Award Ceremony** will take place on 30th of November in Monte Carlo, honouring and bringing together our Chess legends.

E. **The 7th London Chess Conference** takes place on 30th November and 1st December with main theme 'Chess and Female Empowerment'

Stay tuned following and the new released **ECU Mobile APP!**

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](http://www.europechess.org)  
[ecu.secretary.general@gmail.com](mailto:ecu.secretary.general@gmail.com)

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## **RUSSIA WINS DOUBLE GOLD AT EUROPEAN TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019**

Teams of Russia took double gold at European Team Chess Championship 2019 in Batumi, Georgia. Russian Women team defended the title of European Team Chess Champion from 2017, while Russian team in Open section defended the position of the top seed from the beginning of the Championship.



## #ETCC 2019

After intense finish of the event in Open section, Russia took narrow 2.5-1.5 victory over Poland, and became the sole Winner with score of 15 match points.

Ukraine, who tied for the top with Russians after round 8, played a draw in a match against Croatia, and thanks to the tiebreaks took silver medals.



Team of England tied for the second place with Ukraine, but eventually came third and took bronze.

Russian Women team convincingly won in the Women's section, and maintained the leadership from the very beginning of the Championship. With a sound victory against Turkey, Russian ladies scored 16 match points, and successfully defended the title of European Team Chess Champion from 2017.

Second place came to team of Georgia with 15 match points, who was running-up after the Russians for the whole tournament.

After narrow victory over Armenia, team of Azerbaijan took bronze medals scoring 14 match points.

European Team Chess Championship 2019 took place from 23rd October-3rd November, in Hotel Sheraton, Batumi, Georgia.

The event participated 72 teams, coming from 40 European federations.

The first three teams in open and women's sections received cup and prize money of 32.000 EUR in total. Also, the cups, medals and money prizes were awarded to the best players per boards.

### Closing ceremony of the event

Closing ceremony of the event took place on 2nd of November in the evening. The closing ceremony was attended by President of European Chess Union, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, who addressed the teams, and officially declared the event closed.



Best players per board-Open section:

**Board 1**

- 1.Andreikin Dmitry (RUS),
- 2.Aronian Levon (ARM),
- 3.Ivanchuk Vassily (UKR)

**Board 2:**

- 1.Vitiugov Nikita (RUS),
- 2.Vellejo Pons Francisco (ESP),
- 3.Cheparinov Ivan(GEO)

**Board 3:**

- 1.Berkes Ferenc (HUN),
2. Shirov Alexei (ESP),
3. Volokitin Andrei (UKR)

**Board 4:**

- 1.Halkias Stelios (GRE),
- 2.Jones Gawain C B (ENG),
3. Guseinov Gadir (AZE)

**Board 5:**

1. Dubov Daniil (RUS),
2. Onischuk Vladimir (UKR),
3. Pashikian Arman (ARM)

Best players per board-Women section:

**Board 1:**

- 1.Dzagnidze Nana (GEO)
2. Cramling Pia (SWE)
3. Mammadzada Gunay (AZE)

**Board 2:**

- 1.Lagno Kateryna (RUS)
2. Peptan Corina Isabela (ROU)
3. Javakhishvili Lela (GEO)

**Board 3:**

- 1.Matnadze Ana (ESP)
- 2.Skripchenko Almira (FRA)
3. Klek Hana Marie (GER)

**Board 4:**

- 1.Arabidze Meri (GEO)
- 2.Mammadova Gulnar (AZE)
- 3.Gunina Valentina (RUS)

**Board 5:**

- 1.Sargsyan Anna M. (ARM)
- 2.Movileanu Daniela (ITA)
- 3.Kashlinskaya Alina (RUS)

**MEDALISTS:**

**European Team  
Chess Champions:**

**Women section:**

- 1. Russia**
- 2.Georgia**
- 3.Azerbaijan**

**Open section:**

- 1.Russia**
- 2.Ukraine**
- 3.England**



*Awarding ceremony: Best players per boards*

*Closing ceremony of the event*



*ECU President, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili addressed all the participants and players and officially declared the European Team Chess Championship 2019 closed.*





## COMMUNIQUE OF THE ECU BOARD MEETING AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The European Chess Union Board meeting took place on the 24th of October in Batumi, Georgia. The meeting was held under excellent conditions in the hotel Batumi Hilton during the European Team Chess Championship 2019.



## ECU Board meeting



### Administration

>ECU Board approved the ECU Budget 2020 which submitted to the General Assembly.

>ECU Board was informed about the results of the projects submitted to the FIDE Development fund 2019 and the procedure for the year 2020.

>ECU Board informed about the recent investigation findings about the owner(s) and manager(s) of the shadow company "ECU Delaware"

>For the security and transparency of the bank transactions it was decided the bank accounts and their beneficiaries which are used for the European Championships to be obligatory published by the organisers either in the Tournament invitation or the registration forms on the ECU website.

### European Championships- Tournaments

>**The European Corporate Chess Championship 2020** was awarded to Rotterdam, Netherlands to be held from 26th to 29th June 2020. The venue of the tournament is a luxury boat that will be sailing during the rounds. The teams will be accommodated in Bilderberg Park Hotel.

>**The European Amateur Chess Championship 2020** was awarded to Mali Losinj, Croatia to be held from 13th to 22nd June 2020.

>**The European Amateur Chess Championship 2021** was awarded to Olbia, Italy to be held from 16th to 26th April 2021.

>**The European Senior Championship 2021** was awarded to the Italian Chess Federation, which has to decide about the exact venue till March 2020.

>**The European Youth Team Chess Championship 2021**, according to the evaluation results awarded to Bucharest Romania to be held from 3rd to 11th August 2021.

>**The European Women Chess Championship 2021** (15-28 March) and the **European Youth Chess Championship 2022** (17-28 August) awarded to Prague, Chess Republic according to the results of evaluation.

>The option to organise the **European Women Chess Championship 2022** and the European Youth Chess Championship 2023 awarded to Montenegro Chess Federation with the deadline to bring a detailed proposal to the ECU Board by March 2020.

### ECU BOARD MEETING, BATUMI

ECU Board meeting in Batumi, Georgia, took place on the 24th of October in Batumi, Georgia.

The main themes under discussion were:  
Administration, European Championships- Tournaments, New projects and Information Technologies .

## New Projects & Technology

>The ECU Application for android and IOS system was presented to the Board.

>The ECU APP is now available in the Play store for Android systems and in the Apple store for IOs systems!

Step 1 – Search “European Chess Union” & download the app,

Step 2- Register with your FIDE ID

Step 3- Open your activation e-mail

Step 4- Set a password by following an email you have received

Step 5- Go back to the ECU App and login



## New projects & "European Golden Pawn"

The ECU Marketing and PR Director Ms. Tea Kipshidze informed the Board about the preparations for the **1st European Golden Pawn Award Ceremony** in Monaco. ECU Board approved the list of winners for the first year which is dedicated to the Chess Legends.

## New projects - ECU Arbiters Dress Code

The ECU Arbiters Dress Code was presented during the European Team Chess Championship 2019.





## EUROPEAN CHESS UNION GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The European Chess Union General Assembly meeting took place on the 26th of October with the representation of 37 federations members. The meeting was held under excellent conditions in the hotel Batumi Hilton during the European Team Chess Championship 2019.



ECU Board reported to the General Assembly and presented the new projects developed the last 10 months (Annex\_2).

**The decisions of the meeting:**

- > The ECU budget 2020 was unanimously approved.
- >The Accounts for the year 2018 was unanimously accepted and the Board discharged
- The proposed amendments and additions in the ECU regulations were accepted with main changes:
  - A. The Selection of the Arbiters for the ECU Championships
  - B. The Guidelines for Accommodation, Transportation for ECU Competitions (Annex\_3)
  - C. The Guidelines for Food & Beverages for ECU Competitions (Annex\_4)
  - D. The minimum requirements for live games and the live studio for ECU Competitions.

**European Championships – Meetings**

- >The European School Chess Championship 2021 awarded to Dures, Albania.
- >The option of the European Women Chess Championship 2022 and European Youth Chess Championship 2023 is awarded to Montenegro Chess Federation.
- >The ECU General Assembly approved the proposal of the ECU Board to organize the ceremonial ECU General Assembly 2020 (for the 35 years from the ECU establishment) in Monaco combined with the European Golden Pawn Awarding Ceremony.

**Proposals for the new FIDE Charter**

FIDE informed ECU about the new draft (Annex 5) prepared by the FIDE Constitutional Commission for the new FIDE Charter. European Chess Federations may send their notices direct to FIDE or through ECU.

*ECU CIRCULAR LETTER NO.2/2019 - Communique of the ECU Board meeting and ECU General Assembly can be downloaded here.*

**ECU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019**

The European Chess Union General Assembly meeting took place on the 26th of October with the representation of 37 federations members. The meeting was held under excellent conditions in the hotel Batumi Hilton during the European Team Chess Championship 2019.

# GOLDEN PAWN AWARD CEREMONY

European Golden Pawn award ceremony will be organised for the first time this year and takes place on 30th November, in Monaco.

European Golden Pawn brings together the best representatives of the European Chess World. It will become a tradition, and will be held every year on the last Saturday of November in Monaco (Monte-Carlo).

The first year of the award ceremony will be dedicated to European legends and their achievements. The honorary award ceremony will include special nominations categories that will be developed in the subsequent years.

The European Golden Pawn ceremony takes place in Salle Empire venue of Hotel de Paris in Monte-Carlo.

Special prizes designed by famous Georgian designer Zviad Tsikolia will be awarded to the best European: Chess editor, chess journalist, chess organizer, chess project, Arbiter, Pioneer of chess development in schools, youngest World Chess Champion of all time from Europe, female chess legend and male chess legend.



The European Golden Pawn ceremony includes the welcome reception, special photo corner, black and white dress-code, special performances by Juga, NuArt, - Nikoloz Rachveli- author of the ECU anthem, a game between two chess legends: Nona Gaprindashvili and Garry Kasparov, the main awarding part and a special gala dinner. The ceremony will be hosted by Maurice Asley and Helen Kalandadze.



## About the ceremony

**The European Golden Pawn ceremony takes place in Salle Empire venue of Hotel de Paris in Monte-Carlo.**

## European Golden Pawn WINNERS

The Winners of the prizes are:

**The best European book (fiction):**

"Chess" written by Ruben David Gonzales Gallego

**The best European movie:**

"The chess game", 1944 (Denis Lavant, Pierre Richard, Catherine Deneuve)

**The best European Chess Magazine:**

"New in chess"

**The best European Chess Journalist:**

Leontxo Garcia

**The best European Chess Organizer:**

Bessel Kok

**The best European Chess Project:**

Frederik Friedel

**The best European Arbiter:**

Geurt Gijssen

**The best European Pioneer of Chess Development in Schools:**

Alexander Kostyev

**The youngest World Chess Champion of all time:** Maya Chiburdanidze

**Lifetime achievement:**

Nona Gaprindashvili

**European Chess Legend (female):**

Judit Polgar

**European Chess Legend (male):**

Garry Kasparov

# WANG HAO WINS FIDE CHESS.COM GRAND SWISS 2019

After 11 played rounds at FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss tournament, Wang Hao (CHN, 2726) became the Winner of the event and qualified for the next World Candidates Tournament in Yekaterinburg.

Wang Hao (CHN, 2726) defeated Howell David W L (ENG, 2694) in the last round to join Fabiano Caruana (USA, 2812) in the lead for the 1st place, since both scored 8 points each. According to tiebreaks, the triumph in the last round brought a victory to Wang Hao, while Fabiano Caruana finished on the second place.

Six players tied for the third place, each with 7.5 points: Alekseenko Kirill (2674), Aronian Levon (ARM, 2758), Anton Guijarro David (ESP, 2674), Carlsen Magnus (NOR, 2876), Nakamura Hikaru (USA, 2845) and Vitiugov Nikita (RUS, 2732).



The event was played in 11 rounds, Swiss system, with time control: 100 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 50 minutes for the next 20 moves followed by 15 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1.



[Official Website of the event](#)



## FIDE CHESS.COM GRAND SWISS

FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss tournament 2019 took place from 10th-21st October at the Comis Hotel and Golf Resort, in Isle of Man, with a total prize fund of 432.500 USD.

# FUTURE CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE CONCLUDED

“Future Champions of Europe”, organized by European Chess Union and Judit Polgar Chess Foundation as a part of the annual Global Chess Festival, took place on 12th October in Hungarian National Gallery, in Budapest, Hungary.

26 young chess talents coming from 11 European federations participated the event, which was organized for players born on 1st of January 2007 or later.

After 9 rounds of chess-board battles, Samunenkov Ihor (UKR, 2090) and Tunsjo Axel (NOR, 1899) tied for the first place, each with score of 7 points. According to the tiebreaks criteria, Samunenkov Ihor became the Winner of the event and Tunsjo Axel took second place. Navumenka Mikhei (BLR, 1929) came third, scoring 6.5 points.

The Closing ceremony of the event was attended by ECU President, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, who addressed all the players and joined the prize-giving ceremony for the best ranked players.

The winner of the event will be invited to visit the 82nd edition of the world-famous Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2020 in Wijk aan Zee, The Netherlands. This prize includes 2 round-trip tickets from his/her home country (winner and accompanying person) + a double room for 2 nights on the weekend of the 18th and 19th January in Wijk aan Zee. This includes entrance to the playing area and 'behind the scenes' access as well as an opportunity to make the first move for one of the rounds!



*Légende Nemo enim ipsam tatem quia voluptas sit aspernatur.*

The event was played in 9 rounds, Swiss system, with time control: 10 minutes for each player plus 2 seconds of an increment per each move, starting from the move one.

The 5th Global Chess Festival was held with the spirit of Polgar's personal motto, “#Chess Connects Us”. Chess, the world's oldest board game, showed it's many faces during the event – including competitive sports, art and education – proving that chess truly does not have any boundaries.



## FUTURE CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE

For the first time, the event “Future Champions of Europe”, organized by European Chess Union and Judit Polgar Chess Foundation as a part of the annual Global Chess Festival, took place on 12th October in Hungarian National Gallery in Budapest, Hungary.

## Prizes

The winner of the event will be invited to visit the 82nd edition of the world-famous Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2020 in Wijk aan Zee, The Netherlands. This prize includes 2 round-trip tickets from his/her home country (winner and accompanying person) + a double room for 2 nights on the weekend of the 18th and 19th January in Wijk aan Zee. This includes entrance to the playing area and 'behind the scenes' access as well as an opportunity to make the first move for one of the rounds!

The runner up will receive a very special and unique opportunity to meet top chess Grandmasters and compete at one of the biggest European chess opens in 2020. The sponsor, Flashpoint, is looking forward to giving a once in a lifetime experience to the winner of this prize which includes 2 round-trip tickets (player and accompanying person), lodging in a double room and entry-fee. The third prize winner received a wooden chess set and board signed by the Legend GM Judit Polgar herself.

All participants received a Global Chess Festival souvenir.

# International Youth Chess Challenge

The International Youth Chess Challenge was organized by the Judit Polgar Chess Foundation for the first time in Budapest as a pre-event of the 5th Global Chess Festival. The event was supported by FIDE and European Chess Union.

This chess tournament aimed at bringing kids together from different nations. The spirit of Chess Connects Us, which is developed by Judit Polgar gave 2 days of experience at the headquarters of Hungarian Chess Federation for the kids, their parents and coaches to get to know each other on and off the chessboard.

The Judit Polgar Chess Foundation believes that for the children's development it is essential to get to know different cultures and chess can provide great opportunities to accomplish this aim for kids.

The International Youth Chess Challenge event was developed for girls and boys playing in the same field. We, the Judit Polgar Chess Foundation pay special attention to give equal opportunities regardless of gender. The top finishers were three girls and the playoff was won by Lucia Kapicakova (Slovakia). The prizes included 3 trophies and 6 medals.



Final Results are available here:  
<http://chess-results.com/tnr476024.aspx?lan=1&art=4&turdet=YES&flag=30>

Photo Gallery:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1W10CJrCLVEZi1xRXhO17yAFwQ7dEXiKX>



## International Youth Chess Challenge

International Youth Chess Challenge was organized by Judit Polgar Chess Foundation as a pre-event of Global Chess Festival. The event was supported by European Chess Union.

Text by: Tomasz Delega - Chairman of ECU Arbiters' Council

# Appointment system for arbiters for ECU Events



"Dear colleagues, dear arbiters, I don't like to use big words, but this time something important happened for chess society, especially for chess arbiters in Europe."

Dear colleagues, dear arbiters, I don't like to use big words, but this time something important happened for chess society, especially for chess arbiters in Europe. During the European Chess Union General Assembly in Batumi, Georgia (26 October 2019), the delegates unanimously approved the proposal by ECU Arbiters' Council regarding the system of appointments of arbiters for the ECU events. According to the new regulations, the ECU Arbiters' Council will have a right to appoint foreign arbiters (20% of all match arbiters) for each ECU events. It means that first time ever (as far as I remember) a part of arbiters' team will be nominated directly by the Arbiters' Council. It gives us a possibility to create on European level a nomination system for arbiters, based on qualification, experience and evaluations of arbiters. Then, we will announce the call of interest for the arbiters, who are interested to be appointed for any ECU event.

What the ECU Tournament Rules (the new version valid from 1 January 2020) exactly says:

**B.10.** Arbiters and other officials

**B.10.1.1** Each organiser of an ECU competition may propose persons for the position of Chief Arbiter, Deputy Chief Arbiter and Pairings Officer. This proposal should be sent to the ECU Arbiters' Council at least three months before the start of the competition and all proposed persons should be FIDE licensed arbiters.

**B.10.1.2** The ECU Arbiters' Council can make their own proposal and will present it to the ECU President together with the proposal of the organiser. The ECU Arbiters' Council may also put some remarks on the proposals of the organiser based on previous performances of the proposed arbiters. **B.10.1.3** In case of lack of proposal from the organiser in the term mentioned above, Arbiters' Council will make their own proposal to ECU President.

**B.10.2.1** The Chief Arbiter, one or two Deputy Chief Arbiters and the Pairings Officer (Annex 6) shall be appointed by the ECU President. If deemed necessary the ECU President may consult the organising chess federation, the ECU Board, ECU Arbiters' Council and/or the ECU Tournament Director(s).

**B.10.2.2** The 20% of the arbiters other than principals mentioned in B.10.2.1 shall be appointed directly by the ECU Arbiters' Council. The 20% appointed by the ECU Arbiter Council shall be foreigners arbiters not belonging to the hosting federation. This doesn't prevent the organiser to appoint extra foreign arbiters out of the above mentioned quota. In case of any objection to the arbiters proposed by the ECU Arbiters' Council the Organizer should inform the Council immediately.

**B.10.2.3** Every year the ECU Arbiters' Council will announce the call of interests for European arbiters. After receiving applications from arbiters, the ECU Arbiters' Council will publish the list of interested arbiters. The arbiter's federation has a right to send to the ECU Arbiters' Council a motivated request to delete arbiter from the list of interested arbiters in two weeks after publishing it.

**B.10.3** The organising chess federation is responsible for the expenses of appointed arbiters and pairings officer mentioned above (travelling costs – either air travel or first class rail travel with sleeping car – living expenses and pocket money) and shall also foresee a stipend.

**B.10.4** The organising chess federation will appoint other necessary FIDE licensed arbiters and other officials. The minimum of male or female arbiters in each European Championship is 25%. The total number of arbiters to be appointed for each Championship is Annex 6. The final list of Arbiters, including the proposal from the organizer, which shall be sent at least two months before the start of the tournament, shall be approved by the ECU Arbiters' Council. Apart from that, we will follow of course the FIDE regulations regarding appointments of arbiters, according to their categories.

Chief Arbiter: A',B' (Major WE), A',B' (other WE), A',B' (major CE), A',B',C' (other CE).

Deputy Chief Arbiter: A',B' (major WE), A',B',C' (other WE), A',B',C' (other CE), A',B',C',D' (other CE)

Arbiter: A',B',C (major WE), A',B',C',D' (other WE), A',B',C',D' (major CE), A',B',C',D' (other CE)

Assistant Arbiter: B',C',D' (major WE), B',C',D' (other WE), B',C',D' (major CE), B',C',D' (other CE),

At present we are working on the complex system of appointment of arbiters. In simple words, our idea is to collect applications from arbiters, grade it giving points (for example for arbiters category, languages, etc.), then make "a queue" for ECU events. We would like to start the system running from the beginning of 2020. The details will be published soon.



### Report of Arbiters' Council for ECU General Assembly Bahari, October 2019

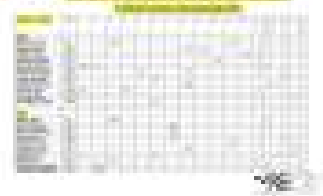
### Members of ECU AC



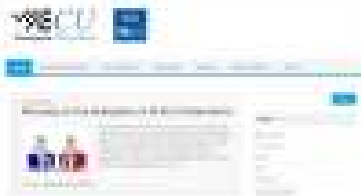
### Working plan for the term

- To launch a call of interest for the European arbiters and create a database
- To create the system of membership for the FIDE states based on the evaluation of arbiters
- To organize meetings, including courses, workshops and seminars for arbiters
- To create reporting procedures and reporting system with GDPR and evaluation forms

### Annual report 2018



### arbiters.europachess.org



### Arbiters' Corner in ECU Mag



### Reporting procedure



### Tournament report form



### GDPR form for arbiters



### Evaluation form for arbiters



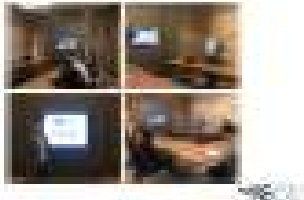
### Arbiters' Report form



### Pairings system change



### Refreshing course in Skopje



### Video workshop Antalya



### FIDE take force meeting



### Meetings with FIDE ARB



### FA seminar Bratislava



### Meetings with FIDE WOM



### FA seminar Trieste



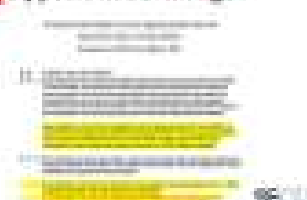
### 3D Seminar in Trieste



### IA Workshop in Trieste



### Appointments change



### ECU Arbiters' Outfit



### ECU Arbiters' Outfit



## GM YURI BALASHOV 10 QUESTIONS BY GM ADRIAN MIKHALCHISHIN

### What are You doing in life in the current moment?

Still playing a lot in veterans competitions. Just now I became European Team Seniors Champion. I am still following modern developments in the openings and spend 3-4 hours daily with chess. I was trainer too long for Anatoly Karpov and Alisa Galliamova. This stress is enough for me !Funny case in my life ,my favorite player was Boris Spassky and in 1973 he proposed me to work with him .It was not a joy, but a bit sad, as one week before I answered positively to the same request of Anatoly Karpov!

### Your recollections with meetings with World Champions?

I knew them all, except Steinitz, Lasker, Capa and Alekhine. I was one of the favorite students of Botvinnik and he asked me to help for his planned match against Bobby Fischer in 1969.I was getting special food talons for one year! I analyzed 300 Bobbys games, then Botvinnik went through my analyses. He returned them to me and every game has still some of his marks. Like –Fischer here was sh...ing! We even played few training matches and Botvinnik demanded , that these games will never be published!(But his nephew did it after Botvinniks death).

Then he insisted ,that I'll be Taimanov second during his match against Bobby in Canada.I did not like the idea, but it was Patriarkhs order! He instructed Taimanov, to beat Fischer , He ordered him- Youll play French. Play training games with Yura and it will be great opening against Bobby. But Taimanov didn't follow Patriarkh recommendations and in his book about match wrote ,that these advices were good for Botvinnik , but not for him!Which was completely rubbish!

During that match In Vancouver I went to buy a newspaper ,with the game from other match Korchnoi was beating Geller. On the way back to hotel I met Bobby and he immediately took my newspaper and started to analyze blind the game!



GM BALASHOV YURI

Next time I was a second of Spassky during his 1992 match against Bobby. Boris invited Andre Lilienthal to be his guest. On the breakfast Boris shouted- Bobby come here. Fisher came and Spassky introduced Lilienhtal. In this moment Bobby started by heart to recite the greatest game Lilienthal-Capabanca from Hastings 1938!

Very funny -on this match Fischer demanded ,that I will not be allowed to enter the tournament hall, not to give any hint to Boris! You see, anticheating problems existed always!

### Your best game .(Chess Informant).Just name.

Generally my win against current World Champion Anatoly Karpov on Soviet Team Championship. But the best is my win against Boris Spassky.

*"Still playing a lot in veterans competitions. Just now I became European Team Seniors Champion. I am still following modern developments in the openings and spend 3-4 hours daily with chess."*



## Meeting chess legends- meet Yuri Balashov!



### **Which Your achievement You consider to be most important.**

Second place in Soviet championship 1976 after World Champion Anatoly Karpov. And Gold medal Olympiad 1980, Malta.

### **Best and most important chess books.**

My brother in 1956 went to Vladimir to play Russian junior Championship. On the way back via Moscow he managed to buy 6 books ,which became the most important for me. There were 300 games of Aleksander Alekhine, Soviet Championships 1953 till 1955. And Soviet yearbooks. Everything , what I know ,I studied from these books!

### **How did You start Your career.**

When I was around four my older brother taught me to play chess. We played a lot and when I went to school we played together in the city Shadrinsk school team competition. In our city was flying officers school and one of the guys was Candidate Master from Leningrad and he started chess club in the Pioneers Palace .After we played he immediately gave my third category! Then in 1956 my parents managed to get for us yearly Chess in USSR Magazine. So, it was sufficient material to study and improve.

### **Your favorite openings.**

In all my career Sicilian Defence and Nimzoindian with both colors.

### **Who was the most difficult and easiest opponent during Your career.**

The most difficult was Petrosian ,he was difficult for most, except Fischer! I can not say the easiest –the best play I demonstrated against Spassky and Tal. I was beating terribly Tal and Geller, but I can not say that they were easy opponents. Like I have great score against IM Karasev.

### **Non chess –best ,book, film and singer for You.**

It was period in my life, when I admired all Hemingway books. Then I was a big fan of war time writers Vasil Bykov and Nikolay Astafjev. Films –old Soviet comedies with Yuri Nikulin. Singer –great soviet singer Sergei Zakharov.

### **Favorite city, food and drink.**

City –of course, my native Shadrinsk and close Kurgan, I always come there with sweet nostalgia. Food-Mushrooms in different ways. Drink-Russian bread kvas.

### **ANALIZED GAME:**

**BALASHOV YURI - GELLER EFIM**

***"When I was around four my older brother taught me to play chess. We played a lot and when I went to school we played together in the city Shadrinsk school team competition."***

## INVITATION

# ECU SCHOOL TEAM INTERNET CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

The European Chess Union (ECU), the Education Committee of ECU, Event Committee of ECU, and the International School Chess Union (ISCU) have the honour to invite all National Chess Federations, members of European Chess Union, and schools in Europe to participate in the Third ECU School Team Internet Championships 2019, which will be played on November 13 and November 20, 2019.

The event will be played in two age categories: U11 and U17, with School team compositions of 4 players, 2 boys and 2 girls. The members of one team must be students of the same school. The U11 event will be played on 13th of November, and the U17 event will be played on 20th of November.

Entry forms must be filled by the schools and signed by Teacher and the Principal of the school, and shall be submitted to the Organizing Committee by e-mail [chesskingweb@gmail.com](mailto:chesskingweb@gmail.com) no later than the **registration deadline Friday November 8, 2019**.

The event will be played in 7 rounds, Swiss System, with rate of play of 10 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 3 seconds per move starting from move 1.

The 3rd edition of the ECU Internet School Team Chess Championship will be played on the platform [www.chessking.com](http://www.chessking.com). Instruction "How to use Chess King playing zone" will be published on the official website of the event. Team-winner in each age category (U11 and U17) becomes ECU School Team Internet Champion for 2019 and each player of team-winner in age category (U11 and U17) takes the title of ECU School Team Internet Champion for 2019. Team-winners (1, 2, 3 places in each age categories) and their players will be awarded with ECU special diplomas. Players of Winner teams of each section will be invited to participate in The European School Chess Championship-2020 as invited players, together with their Trainer as an Accompanying person.

Contact information:

Tournament Director:  
Alexander Kostyev President of the International School Chess Union, IO  
Tel: +7 903 796 41 76  
Email: [iscu1999@gmail.com](mailto:iscu1999@gmail.com)

Technical Support: Kirill Pronin  
Email: [chesskingweb@gmail.com](mailto:chesskingweb@gmail.com)  
Skype: kirill.pronin

Secretariat: Olga Alferova  
Email: [chessassistantshop@gmail.com](mailto:chessassistantshop@gmail.com)  
Skype: alferova\_olga

### ECU Schools Internet 2019

Third European School Team Internet Championship organized by ECU and ISCU begins in November 2019!

**Format:** Online team tournament  
**When:** November 13 (U11) and November 20 (U17)  
**Age groups:** U11 (under 11) and U17 (under 17)  
**Team composition:** 4 players (2 boys, 2 girls)  
**Host platform:** Chess King Playing Zone

The 8 winners of this event will be invited (free hotel & meals) to play in the European School Championship in Greece, Crete, April 2-12, 2020.

**PLAY ON ANY DEVICE**  
The platform is Web based, so you can play on any device with an up-to-date browser installed.

**EASY TO JOIN**  
Just fill a short entry form, receive login information for the tournament and have your team in one classroom and signed in when the tournament starts.

**LEARN MORE**  
**Website:** [ecuschoolsinternet2019.org](http://ecuschoolsinternet2019.org)  
**Playing Zone:** [play.chessking.com](http://play.chessking.com)  
**Email:** [chesskingweb@gmail.com](mailto:chesskingweb@gmail.com)

**SOLID ONLINE PLATFORM**  
Chess King Playing Zone is a popular chess service designed with all kinds of chess tournaments in mind.



**ecuschoolsinternet2019.org**

### About Chess King

**CHES KING PLAY**  
- Play against computer or other players for free  
- Compete in individual matches, tournaments and puzzle-solving contests

**CHES KING LEARN**  
- Learn chess from beginner to advanced level with 70 top courses  
- Become a coach: guide your students, track their progress, give tasks and recommendations, receive 15% of every training course purchase



ANDROID APP ON  **Google Play** Available on the  **App Store**  **CHES KING .com**

Official  
Website of  
the event

# INVITATION

## EUROPEAN SCHOOL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

The European Chess Union (ECU) invites all National Chess Federations of ECU and eligible players to participate in the European School Championships 2020 organised in Hersonissos Crete, Greece from 2 April (arrivals) to 12 April (departures). The event will be held in the 5-star "Aldemar Knossos Royal" conference resort on the seaside of Hersonissos, Crete.

The event will be played in 7 age categories: U7, U9, U11, U13, U15 and U17, open and girls sections separately. The Championship will be 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. If, in any age group, there are 11 to 15 participants only 7 rounds will be played. If in any age group there are 10 or fewer participants a round robin tournament will be played.

All players, accompanying persons and delegation members have to register through their national federations before the **registration deadline- 17th February 2020**.

The official hotel and the playing venue of the event is 5\* Aldemar Knossos Royal, and all the players and accompanying persons are obliged to stay in the official hotel of the Championship. The Winners of the event, and the six best ranked players of each category will receive special prizes, medals and trophies.

The European School Chess Championships are part of the "Cretan Chess Festival 2020", together with the FIDE World Amateur Championships (also 2-12 April 2020) and the FIDE World Youth/Cadet Blitz & Rapid Championships (12-16 April 2020) in Crete. A unique opportunity for young players to combine two chess events in a beautiful island with only one airticket!



Contact information:

**Tournament Director:**  
**FIDE IO Nikos Kalesis,**  
**Tel.: (+30) 6938326161**

**Email:**  
**registrations@crete2020.org**

**Registration  
form and  
Official  
Invitation  
can be  
downloaded  
here.**

## EUROPEAN CLUB CUP 2019

European Club Cup 2019 and European Club Cup for Women 2019 simultaneously take place in Ulcinj, Montenegro, from 9th-17th November 2019.

The events will be played in 7 rounds, Swiss system.

Details about the event may be found [here](#).



## FIDE World Senior Chess Championship

FIDE World Senior Chess Championship 2019 takes place from 11th-24th November in Bucharest, Romania.

The event will be played in 2 age categories: 50+ and 65+, open and women sections separately.

Official website of the event and regulations



## EUROPEAN WOMEN RAPID & BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP

European Women's Rapid&Blitz Chess Championships 2019 will take place from 29th November-2nd December in Monte Carlo.

Details about the event, together with exact schedule may be found [here](#).

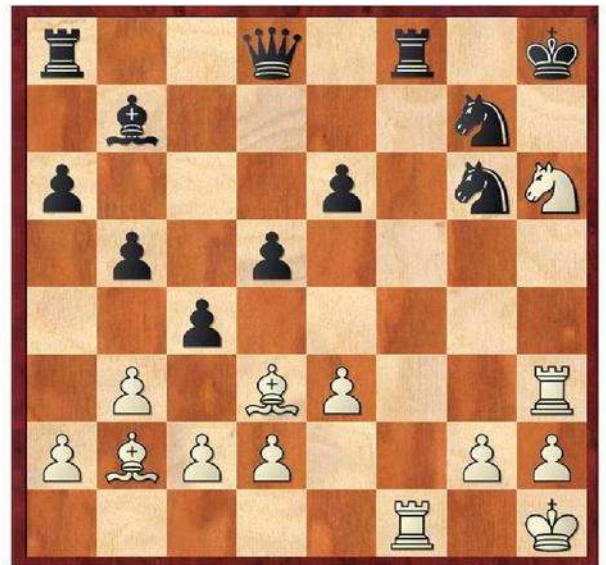


## FIDE GRAND PRIX SERIES HAMBURG

Knock-out event of the FIDE Grand Prix Series will take place in Hamburg, Germany, from 4th-18th November 2019.

16 players will participate the event, and all the details may be found [here](#).





# Tigran Petrosian said about chess:

>Some consider that when I play I am excessively cautious, but it seems to me that the question may be a different one. I try to avoid chance. Those who rely on chance should play cards or roulette. Chess is something quite different.

>They say my chess games should be more interesting. I could be more interesting - and also lose.

>Chess is a game by its form, an art by its content and a science by the difficulty of gaining mastery in it. Chess can convey as much happiness as a good book or work of music can.

>On question which was his favorite chess piece, Petrosian answered: "It does not really matter, as long as it is an extra one."

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

## Solutions from September

#Puzzle 1  
1.Qxe4 Kxe4 2.Nc3+ Kf5 3.Rf1#

#Puzzle 2  
1.Qe7+ Kb6 2.Qxd6 Kb7  
3.Qc6#

#Puzzle 3  
1.Rf6 Kxg5 2.g3 Qa3 3.h4#

#Puzzle 4  
1.Qg6+ Bxg6 2.Ng5+ hxg5  
3.hxg6#



*"Chess makes you smarter!"*