

E-MAGAZINE

JUNE 2020

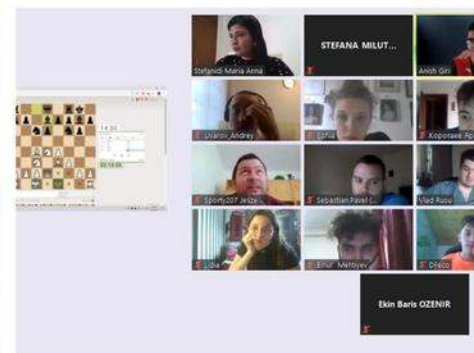


FIDE Online Olympiad

FIDE announced Online Olympiad to be held from 22nd July to 30th August

TRAINING LECTURES

Training Lectures by ECU #Chess Academy!



SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITIONS BY DAVID NAVARA, JUDIT POLGAR, ANISH GIRI AND SERGEY KARJAKIN
#EOCC2020



#EOCC

The European Chess Union 3rd Board meeting for 2020, took place on the 27th of June through teleconference.

The main areas under discussion were: European Championships 2020 & 2021, European Online Chess Championships and activities, Chess and Education.

All the information and decisions in pages, 3 & 4.

A number of ECU Online activities concluded in June:

- A. Simultaneous Exhibitions with Top Gms
- B. Series of Lectures with Legend players and Top trainers
- C. Webinar: Women in Leadership roles
- D. ECU Chess Teachers Courses in 7 languages.

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

ECU works on the program for the 2nd half of 2020 aiming to organise over the board events related with professional chess depending on the health conditions in Europe and if it will be further improved.

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EUROPEAN CHESS UNION BOARD MEETING

The European Chess Union 3rd Board meeting for 2020, took place on the 27th of June through teleconference. The main areas under discussion were: Championships 2020 & 2021, European Online Chess Championships and Activities, Chess and Education.

T

he main decision and information:

European Championships 2020&2021

1. European Chess Union will not hold any official over the board European Championship till September 2020. Affiliated events are full responsibility of respective organisers. For the remaining program (October-December 2020) ECU will make anything possible, including special protocols, travel disclaimers, special conditions to be arranged by the hosting countries to organise as priority events concern professional chess players:

- A. The European Club Cup
- B. The European Women Individual Championship and
- C. The European Open Championship.
- D. Additionally, decisions for the European Rapid Championships will be taken in September.

However, the final conduct of any event depends on the health conditions in Europe the next 3 months and the remaining restrictions in borders. Especially for the European Club Cup the decision will be made the next days as ECU evaluating all feasible options.

2. The European Youth Chess Championship 2020 scheduled for Antalya Turkey in November is a mass event involving hundreds of young players and their parents. Such competitions need good preparation, early travel arrangements by National federations and participants. That is not even possible today for many countries. Moreover, ECU Board considers that such events should not taking place under stressing and special conditions for kids' participants. Thus, the ECU Board decided to propose to Turkish Chess federation to postpone the Championship for 2021.

3. The rights of the organisers/hosting federations of the European Championships that will not take place in 2020, will be transferred to 2021 or 2022.

4. ECU Board confirmed as the venue for the European Individual Chess Championship 2021 the city of Reykjavik, Iceland. The event will take place in mid April (between 7-21 of April, exact dates to be defined) when traditionally taking place the annual International Reykjavik Open.

Communique of the ECU Board Meeting

Communique of the ECU Board Meeting can be found and downloaded from the ECU Website.



REYKJAVÍK OPEN



GAMMA

European Online Championships & Activities

The Board unanimously approved the following online events in September 2020.

1. European Online Corporate Chess Championship.
2. European Youth Team Chess Championship.

The detailed invitations will be published in due time. The European Youth team Championship shall be played from common playing venues for each team by the observations of arbiters appointed by the National Chess federations.

3. Webinars for School Chess Teachers and Arbiters
4. Training lecturers
5. Webinars in co-operation with ECU and FIDE Women's Commissions.

Chess & Education

European Chess Union come into a memorandum with FIDE for the development of Chess in Education worldwide. For the purposes of the implementation of this agreement a Supervisor Panel and working group will be created with Chairperson the ECU Vice President Mrs. Dana Reziene Ozola and Supervisor the FIDE President Mr. Arkadij Dvorkovich.

Official invitation for the ECU/FIDE International Organizers seminar can be found on ECU Website.

SEPTEMBER

Feature Online events by European Chess Union:

European Online Corporate Chess Championship

European Youth Team Chess Championship

ECU WEBINAR: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP ROLES

European Chess Union organised a webinar on women in leadership roles on the 12th of June.

The event was a follow on from the previous webinar on women in chess.

The Webinar was organised by Mrs. Eva Repkova, ECU Vice-President and Chair of Fide Women's Commission and Alice O'Gorman, secretary of ECU Women's Commission who was and the main host of the event. The event was followed live from hundreds people registered for the zoom call and the live coverage through facebook.

ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili opened the event and greeted all the participants.

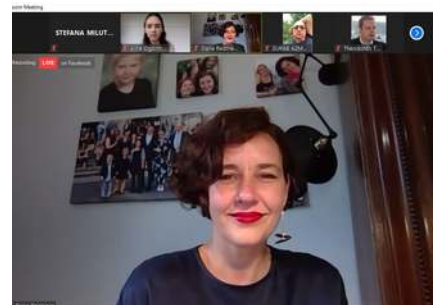
The first speaker was Anastasia Sorokina, FIDE Vice President. She spoke on her experiences and what motivated her chess career.



The second speaker was FIDE officer Polina Tsedenova. She presented statistics on women in leadership roles within FIDE.

Next was Sonja Johnson, chair of the FIDE development commission, she focused on her career and what helped her to succeed including the family obligations.

Lastly Dana Reizniece Ozola spoke about how chess has helped her politics – a typically male dominated field.



ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili opened the event and greeted all the participants.

LIVE Broadcast

The webinar was live streamed through Facebook, and was followed live by all interested parties. The video of the event is available for viewing in ECU youtube channel.



ECU TRAINING LECTURES BY EUROPEAN CHESS ACADEMY

JUNE 9 - MIKHAIL GUREVICH

Grandmaster (Belgium) 17:00-19:00 CET

How to Think in Endgames with the Bishop pair.

Soviet Champion, European and World team Champion, World Championship Candidate, Turkish and Belgium Champion, Trainer of Garry Kasparov, National Team Turkey.



JUNE 11 - VLADIMIR TUKMAKOV

Grandmaster (Ukraine) 17:00-19:00 CET

Bluffing Technique in Tal's Games

Former top Soviet player, many times medal winner in USSR Championships, Olympiad Champion 1984, Trainer of Ukrainian team, Olympiad winners 2006 and 2008, Trainer of Karpov, Korchnoi, Giri and So.



JUNE 13 - ARSHAK PETROSIAN

Grandmaster (Armenia) 17:00-19:00 CET

Petrosian's Exchange Sacrifice Dynamics in Aronian's Games

Trainer of Armenia team - 3 times Olympiad Champions, Trainer of Peter Leko, Vaganian, Aronian.



JUNE 16 - IOSSIF DORFMAN

Grandmaster (France) 17:00-19:00 CET

Method of Evaluation Critical Moment

Soviet Champion, Author of own trainings methods and books, Trainer of Garry Kasparov, Bacrot, National Teams of France and Switzerland.



JUNE 18 - ALEXANDER BELIAVSKY

Grandmaster (Slovenia) 17:00-19:00 CET

My Match against Garry Kasparov

4 times Soviet Champion, World Championship candidate, 3 times Olympiad Champion, World and European team Champion, Trainer of Karpov, Kasparov, Muzychuk sisters, Vachier Lagrèeve, Caruana, Rapport.



JUNE 20 - ADRIAN MIKHALCHISHIN

Grandmaster (Slovenia) 17:00-19:00 CET

Exchange Technique - B vs Kn Basic Rook Endgames

Ukrainian and Slovenian Champion, Winner of European Cup, Trainer of Anatoly Karpov, Aleksander Beliavsky, Maja Chiburdanidze, Polgar Sisters, Arkady Naidich, Trainer Of USSR team-world and European Champions, Teams Slovenia, Netherlands, Turkey.



JUNE 23 - EFSTRATIOS GRIVAS

Grandmaster (Greece) 17:00-19:00 CET

Lasker's Steps The Buried Bishop

Greek Champion, Trainer of Greek and Turkish teams, Author of 15 chess books.



JUNE 25 - VLADIMIR GRABINSKY

International Master (Ukraine) 17:00-19:00 CET

Unbalanced Material - 2P vs R Non-obvious Decisions

Founder of the chess school, which produced 12 IGMs.



JUNE 27 - GEORG MOHR

Grandmaster (Slovenia) 17:00-19:00 CET

Strategy in Maroczy's Structure Central Strategy

Slovenian Champion, Author of 4 Chess books, Trainer of National teams Slovenia and Turkey.



JUNE 30 - OLEKSANDR SULYPA

Grandmaster (Ukraine) 17:00-19:00 CET

Ivanchuk's Style & Power Learning Classical Plans

Trainer of Ukrainian National Team, medal winners on Olympiads, World and European Championships, Trainer of Vassili Ivanchuk.



European Chess Academy organised a complete Lectures program "Improve Your Chess" with leading Chess Trainers worldwide.

The Lectures took place from 9th-30th June and the lecturers were famous chess trainers and chess legends:

- GM Mikhail Gurevich
- GM Vladimir Tukmakov
- GM Arshak Petrosian
- GM Iossif Dorfman
- GM Alexander Beliavsky
- GM Adrian Mikhalchishin
- GM Efstratios Grivas
- GM Vladimir Grabinsky
- GM Georg Mohr
- GM Oleksandr Sulypa

65 players took part in the whole program, among them 10 of the strongest European GirlsU18 supported by the FIDE Development fund and more women players invited by ECU, as Valentina Gunina three-times European Women's Champion and Polina Shuvalova World Junior Girls Champion. ECU President Zurab Azmaiparashvili welcomed all participants on the start.

GM Vladimir Tukmakov during the Training Lesson.



ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili opened the event and welcomed all participants.

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS - ECU ONLINE ACADEMY

JUNE 9 - MIKHAIL GUREVICH
Grandmaster (Belgium) 17:00-19:00 CET

How to Think in Endgames with the Bishop pair.

Soviet Champion, European and World team Champion, World Championship Candidate, Turkish and Belgium Champion, Trainer of Garry Kasparov, National Team Turkey.




European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

ADRIAN MIKHALCHISHIN

JUNE 20, 5PM CET
EXCHANGE TECHNIQUE - 8 VHS
BASIC BOOK INDIGITAL

ECU
European Chess Union




JUNE 11 - VLADIMIR TUKMAKOV
Grandmaster (Ukraine) 17:00-19:00 CET

Bluffing Technique in Ta's Games

Former top Soviet player, many times medal-winner in USSR (Champion), Olympiad Champion 1984, Trainer of Ukrainian team, Olympiad winners 2004 and 2008, Trainer of Karpis, Kasimov, Gor and Sa.






European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

EFSTRATIOS GRIVAS

JUNE 23, 5PM CET
GAMMA'S STRAT
THE BURIED KING

ECU
European Chess Union



ARSHAK PETROSIAN




European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

VLADIMIR GRABINSKY

JUNE 25, 5PM CET
IMBALANCED MATERIAL
NON-OBVIOUS DECISIONS

ECU
European Chess Union



European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

IOSSIF DORFMAN

JUNE 16, 5PM CET
METHOD OF EVALUATION
CRITICAL MOMENT

ECU
European Chess Union




European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

GEORG MOHR

ECU
European Chess Union





European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

ALEXANDER BELIAVSKY

MY MATCH AGAINST GARRY KASPAROV
JUNE 18, 5PM CET

ECU
European Chess Union


European Chess Academy

IMPROVE YOUR CHESS WITH

OLEKSANDR SULYPA

IVANCHUK'S STYLE AND POWER
LEARNING CLASSICAL PLANS
JUNE 30, 5PM CET

ECU
European Chess Union




European Online Chess Championship



WIN & PLAY
WITH THE TOP GM

DAVID NAVARA

EUROPEAN CHAMPION
IN BLITZ (2014)



6th June, 17:00 CET

European Online Chess Championship



WIN & PLAY
WITH THE TOP GM

JUDIT POLGAR

THE STRONGEST
FEMALE CHESS PLAYER
OF ALL TIME



7th June, 17:00 CET

European Online Chess Championship



WIN & PLAY
WITH THE TOP GM

ANISH GIRI

CANDIDATE FOR
THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2020



10th June, 17:00 CET

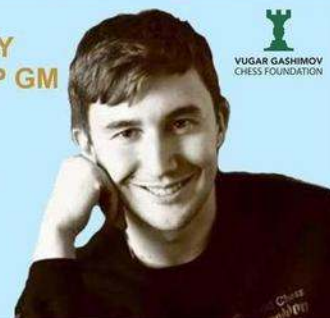
European Online Chess Championship



WIN & PLAY
WITH THE TOP GM

SERGEY KARJAKIN

WORLD CHESS CHAMPION IN
RAPID & BLITZ (2012 & 2016)



12th of June, 16:00 CET

ONLINE CHESS SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITIONS WITH TOP GMS

The Winners of the recently played European Online Chess Championship 2020 among the prizes won the participation in simultaneous exhibition with Top European Grandmasters: GM David Navara, GM Judit Polgar, GM Anish Giri and GM Sergey Karjakin.



GM RealDavidNavara ft ECU
simul by ● GM RealDavidNavara 1500

Finished

Simultaneous Exhibition by GM David Navara against the qualifiers of ECU European Online Chess Championship (Group A).

0	10	6	0
PLAYING	WINS	DRAWS	LOSSES

The Winners of the A rating group (for players rated 1000-1400) of European Online Chess Championship participated in the simultaneous exhibition with GM David Navara, played through the Lichess Online Platform.

The simul took place on 6th of June, with participation of 16 players.

SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION WITH GM DAVID NAVARA

GM David Navara simultaneously played 16 games through the Lichess Online platform and after more than 2 hours of the Online Chess fights, the final score was 13-3 in favour for Czech Grandmaster.

Six of the participants managed to draw against one of the Top European Grandmasters.

After the end of the Simul, David Navara joined the LIVE Studio and commented his games and Online Simul experience.



LIVE Broadcast

The Simultaneous exhibition was LIVE Broadcasted through ECU Facebook page, with LIVE Commentaries of the games by Maria-Anna Stefanidi and GM Adrian Mikhalchishin.

SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION WITH GM JUDIT POLGAR

The best female chess player in the history of chess, GM Judit Polgar, played a simultaneous exhibition against European Online Chess Championship winners of group B (rated 1400-1700).

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he event took place on 7th of June through Lichess Online platform with participation of 16 players.

After two hours of play, the final score of the simul was 12-4 in favour for Judit, with 11 victories, 2 draws and 3 losses.

During the simultaneous exhibition, the participants were altogether with Judit Polgar in the zoom meeting call, and while playing the games, Judit Polgar was also commenting her games in the LIVE Broadcast.

The idea of revealing her plans to the players during the games while commenting for the LIVE broadcast observes, came as the educative program for the young players.

WFM Maria Anna Stefanidis was the host of the event through the ECU Facebook page.

The video of the event is available on the ECU Youtube channel.

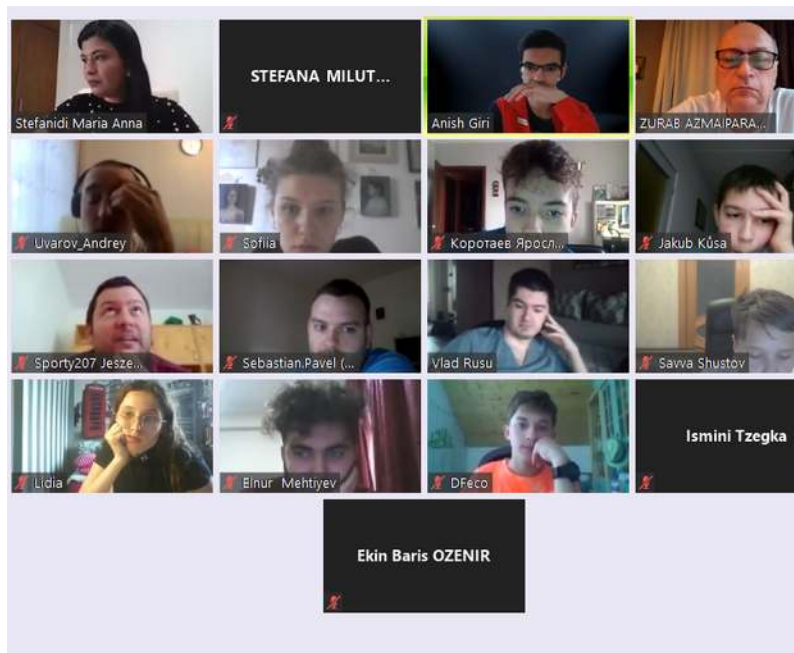


Finished

Simultaneous exhibition by 1 GM (all players against the winners of the European Online Chess Championship (group B). The event will start at 17:00 CEST.

0	11	2	3
PLAYING	WINS	DRAWS	LOSSES





SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION WITH GM ANISH GIRI

The simultaneous exhibition with GM Anish Giri for the winners of the C group (rated 1700-2000) of European Online Chess Championship, took place on 10th of June 2020 with participation of 15 players.

The event was broadcasted LIVE and commented by ECU President, GM Zurab Azmaiparashvili, altogether with LIVE comments of GM Anish Giri, while playing and participating the same ZOOM call as his opponents.

Educative interesting and unique show was followed LIVE by many chess fans, and after 2 hours of play, the final score of the simul was 11.5-3.5 in favour for Anish, with 9 victories, 5 draws and 1 loss.

GM AnishGiri simul by GM AnishGiri 2700 Finished

Simultaneous Exhibition by GM Anish Giri against the winners of the European Online Chess Championship (group C).
 The event starts at 17.00 CET and is broadcasted live on official ECU Facebook page -> www.facebook.com/europeanchessunion
 Live Commentary by ECU President GM Zurab Azmaiparashvili

0	9	5	1
PLAYING	WINS	DRAWS	LOSS



Simultaneous exhibition with GM Sergey Karjakin took place on 12th of June through Lichess online platform.

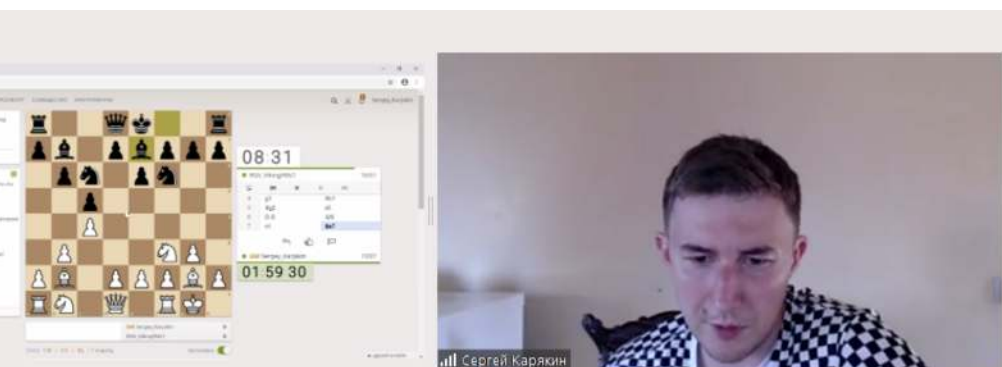
The simul participated 8 players, winners of D group of European Online Chess Championship (for players rated 2000-2300).

Among the participants of the simul were FIDE masters and even International Masters!

SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITION WITH GM SERGEY KARJAKIN

During the simul, Sergey Karjakin and his opponents participated in the ZOOM meeting call.

World Chess Championship Challenger of 2016, GM Karjakin was commenting his games LIVE for the live broadcast of the event, and at the same time revealed his plans and thoughts about positions to his opponents in the ZOOM meeting.



LIVE Broadcast

The simultaneous exhibition with Sergey Karjakin was also commented LIVE by ECU Global Strategy Director, Mr. Sharkhan Gashimov.

SKarjakin ft ECU simul by ● GM Sergey_Karjakin 2721 Finished

Simultaneous Exhibition by GM Sergey Karjakin against the winners of the European Online Chess Championship (group D) with the support of Vugar Gashimov Foundation. The event starts at 16.00 CET and is broadcasted live on official ECU Facebook page -> www.facebook.com/europeanchessunion

Live Commentary by ECU Global Strategy Director Sharkhan Gashimov.



FIDE ONLINE OLYMPIAD

International Chess Federation FIDE organises the Online Olympiad in period from 22nd July to 30th August 2020.

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National teams of all federations affiliated to FIDE have the right to participate in FIDE Online Olympiad. The event will be separated in 5 divisions ranked from "BASE DIVISION" to "TOP DIVISION" in accordance with the final standings of the Gaprindashvili Cup of the Chess Olympiad 2018.

Each team consists of six main players and possible six reserve players. The main players must include at least 2 women players, at least one player U-20 (born in 2000 or later) and at least one girl U-20 (born in 2000 or later): A (open) – boards 1 and 2, B (women) – boards 3 and 4, C (open U-20) – board 5, D (girl U-20) – board 6.

A team that did not participate in the 2018 Chess Olympiad is placed in the BASE DIVISION, unless the FIDE President decides to take into consideration that team's results in the Gaprindashvili Cup of the Chess Olympiad 2016 and place the team accordingly.

TOP DIVISION is composed of 5 seeded registered teams placed on the top of Gaprindashvili Cup, 5 teams nominated by each of the four Continents and 15 teams qualified from DIVISION 2.

According to regulations and the standings of Gaprindashvili Cup that is used as criterion for the whole event structure, European Chess Union decided to nominate 5 Teams for the Top Division of FIDE Online Olympiad: Armenia, Poland, France, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Top 12 teams from the stage 1 will play the Knock-out final tournament which will determine the FIDE Online Olympiad Winner. Time control of the event will be: 15 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1 .

Each federation intending to participate in FIDE Online Olympiad confirms its participation providing the list of players with the exact main boards and reserves order in all categories to the FIDE Secretariat on the following e-mail address: office@fide.com.

Registration deadline is July 13th 2020.

Official invitation of the event can be downloaded [here](#).

FIDE ONLINE OLYMPIAD

Divisions

The FIDE Online Olympiad will be played in 5 divisions:

BASE division- for teams which didn't participate in FIDE Chess Olympiad 2018.

Division 4, Division 3, Division 2 according to final rankings of FIDE Chess Olympiad 2018. TOP division: 20 teams nominated by Continents, 5 top seeds from FIDE Chess Olympiad 2018, 15 qualifiers from Division 2.

FIDE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISERS ONLINE SEMINAR WITH ECU



27-30 JULY 2020



EUROPEAN CHESS UNION IN COOPERATION WITH FIDE EVENTS COMMISSION & FIDE WOMEN'S COMMISSION



CONTACT: secretariat@europechess.org

**ADDITIONAL SPECIAL SUBJECT MODULE:
ORGANISATION OF CHESS ONLINE EVENTS**

European Chess Union organise the ECU FIDE International Organizers Webinar, in period from 27th-30th July, in cooperation with FIDE Events Commission, FIDE Women's Commission.

FIDE ECU ONLINE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZERS SEMINAR

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The Webinar is co-funded by FIDE Development Fund.

The Webinar features up to 60 participants seats:
 20 female participants from European federations member supported by FIDE DEV fund
 10 participants from European Small Nations (Zone 1.10) member supported by FIDE DEV fund.
 20 female participants from European federations member supported by FIDE DEV fund
 10 participants from European Small Nations (Zone 1.10) member supported by FIDE DEV fund.
 30 participants from each FIDE Chess Federation member with 50 euros entry fee.

Registrations can be done online through ECU Website and the **registration deadline is 24th of July 2020.**

The event will be held in English language and the lecturers will be:
 IO Ozgur Solakoglou
 IO Theodoros Tsorbatzoglou
 Chairperson of FIDE Women's Commission Eva Repkova

The Technical organizer: IO Mikhail Prevenios: mprevenios@gmail.com

Successful Seminar attendees will grant a FIDE IO Norm necessary for the FIDE IO title application. IO Titles Regulations can be found in FIDE Handbook: <https://www.fide.com/fide/handbook> .

MEET CHESS LEGEND GM VLADIMIR CHUCHELOV

10 Questions by GM Adrian Mikhalchishin

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

Coaching , full time.. Those unusual times it is important for players to stay in shape, keep motivation.. So I do my best around the clock..

2 Your recollections with meetings with World Champions?

It is always very interesting experience, I remember playing Vasily Smyslov in the simultaneous exhibition. I was 10-11 years old It was close Sicilian. I did fairly well and managed to play one on one the 7th World Champion .. The moment I went to resign he offered draw and.. presented his book signed to "the future Grandmaster".. Some years later I was showing my games to Tigran Petrosian during sessions of his school. I remember he priced my "active positional style"? There were many more personal encounters with World Champions of Modern times, but also unforgettable talks to Victor Korchnoi and David Bronstein..

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

Chernin-Chuchelov 1994 Endgame.. loved this idea Rb7!!

4 Which Your achievement You consider to be most important.

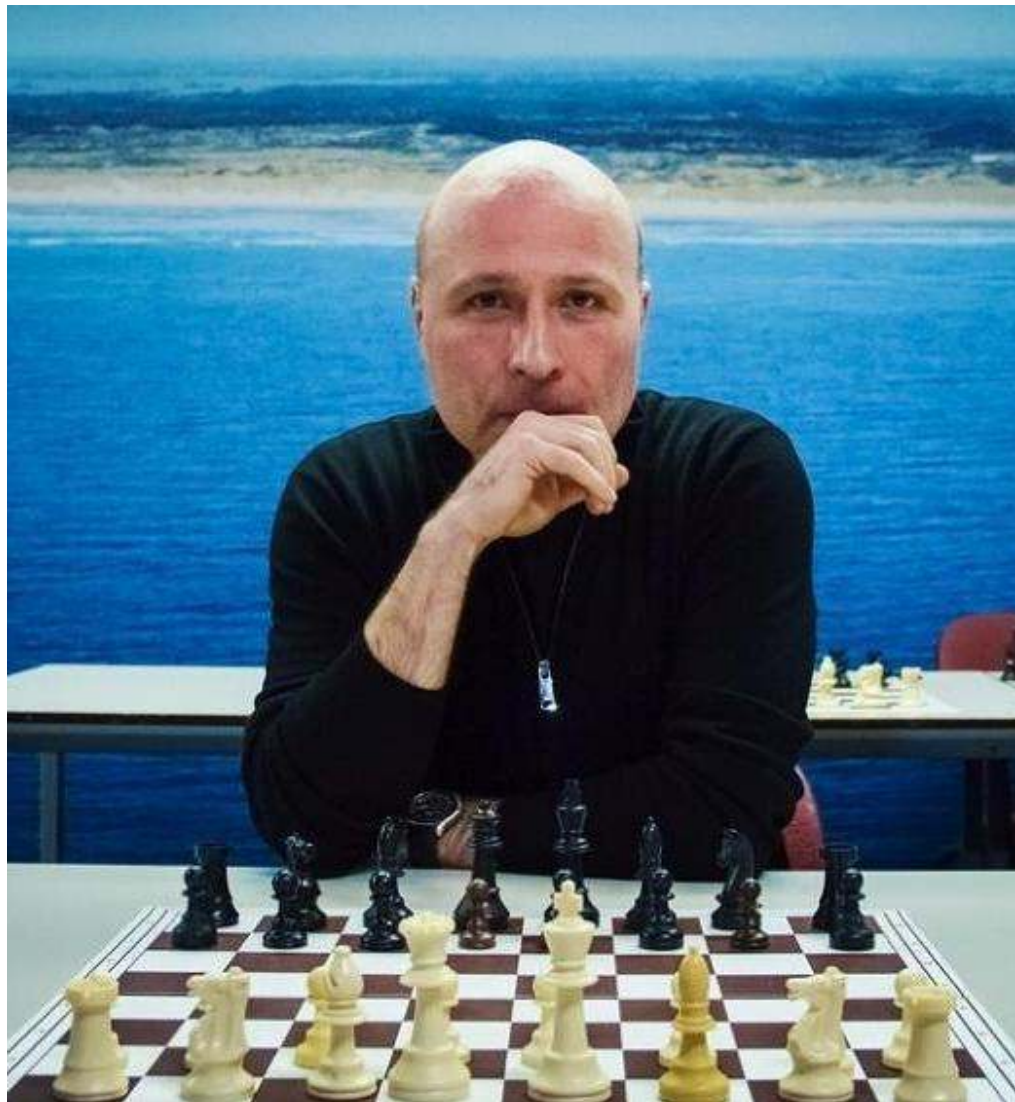
One of the Best ever tournament performance by Fabiano Caruana in St.Louis 2014

5 Best &most important chess books.

Difficult question as there are many interesting books out there.. Personally always liked Mark Dvoretsky books.

6 How did You start Your career.

In 2002 I was invited aa a second of at that time leading Dutch Grandmaster Jeroen Piket to assist him in Wijk an Zee. One year later very successful debut as a Coach of another Dutch star Loek Van Wely. Working for Dutch Federation, encounter with Anish Giri in 2010 that went on for 4 years, and a year later Fabiano Caruana for another 5 years, Teymur Radjabov, Hou Yifan .. Could be a long list, many memorable moments..



GM Vladimir Chuchelov

Photo by: Chess-News.ru

7 Your favorite openings. There is no such a preference, but working on different openings became my daily routine for already 20 years. I find it very inspiring and enjoy every moment of this highly creative process.

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

It's been a while ago.. I mostly remember those of my trainees.

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

I loved and was impressed my many authors, movie creators, actor's performances and musicians. Would be rather difficult task to make choices.

10 Favourite city, food and drink

My Students would name Eupen for me and smile.. That is a small Belgian city I live in near German border. It is quite famous in chess world?. But jokes apart.. I love travel and sightseeing. Any food, but not spicy! And .. drinks.. It is easy.. Glass of good wine..

Text by: Marco Biagioli

IA Attorney at Law – ITA Arbiters' Commission,
ECU Arbiters' Council

THE ECU ONLINE ARBITER (OA)



Corona-virus times have shown us that chess can still be played also in unfortunate times of closed borders and restrictions to travellers. Several events have been run online since the beginning of the pandemic and all of them required the presence of arbiters. However, as we arbiters have learned along the tournaments, being an arbiter in one online competition is by far different from being an arbiter in one over the board event.

In one online event, many of the possible occurrences of a classical game are just impossible. No touch-move complaint will take place or even illegal moves: the normal working of the platforms, in fact, makes those issues simply irrelevant. Illegal moves cannot be made, nor the touch-move rule makes any sense.

On the other hand, anti-cheating and fair play skills get more and more important in online chess, for the clear reason the players are using electronic devices hence the opportunity and the possibility of cheating are more than over the board.

Since the beginning, we realized that what we ask to an online arbiter is not what we need from a standard arbiter. Being more specific, the Arbiters' Council had discussed what skills any online arbiter should have and we focused on the following topics:

- Languages: communication skills are extremely important in online chess as a quick intervention of the arbiter may prevent many problems to arise, and as for any possible issue the players will have, they will ask the arbiter. Therefore, we considered as mandatory for an online arbiter at least a satisfactory level in English.

- Personal computer use skills: online chess is played through a computer, so to solve issues or even understand what is going on or it is possibly going on, the arbiter need to know how to use a personal computer and a basic user level is not enough. He/she will, in fact, need to be familiar with several tools like live conferences platforms, online chess platforms, arbiters' software, emails, social medias... In some cases he/she will need to learn quickly how to use something very new, hence, it is important that he has an informatics background knowledge.

- Online chess platform: they are the environment for online tournaments and any of them offers different features and functionalities. The arbiter has to know what the platform offers, how it offers it, what possible issues he/she has to face... The panorama is quite big and several platforms are available, so having a good knowledge of at least one is mandatory to make the job possible.

- Anti-cheating: this is for sure the biggest issue. In general, cheating is our biggest challenge, as arbiters. In case of online chess, it takes another perspective: the traditional prohibition of the use of electronic devices as first anti-cheating measure, in fact, obviously drops and several other actions have to be taken.

In case of online chess, in fact, the most important tool are the available game screening tools, either the ones provided by the platform, either the ones provided as external resources. The online arbiter has to know the principles of these tools, how they works and how to read their reports.

Starting from the awareness the field is new, but also that online chess will develop more and more at the highest level, the ECU board has decided to establish the title of Online Arbiter (OA) as a special certification, which will be mandatory to serve as arbiters in European Online Championships and, for other bodies, will certify that particular arbiter has some special skills for online tournaments and confirm the ability of an arbiter to work in online events and do his/her job remotely, by the internet.

The requirements for this certification, set by the Arbiters' Council basing on the abovementioned considerations, are:

- Valid arbiters license (FA or IA).
- Sufficient knowledge of English (conversational level).
- Sufficient skills to work on a personal computer (advanced user level).
- Sufficient knowledge of at least one platform for online chess.
- Deep understanding of fair play principles for online chess.
- Attendance one OA Seminar.
- Successful passing an exam set up by the ECU Arbiter's Council.

To start the issuance of such a certificate, the Arbiters' Council already began organizing the first OA Seminar, which will be on the following topics:

- online regulations for arbiters in ECU and fair play protection.
- managing the platform for online events.
- zoom call management (or other platform).
- results conversion and calculations.

After the Seminar, the Arbiters' Council will set up a special exam which will consist in two parts: a written, theoretical test, with five open questions from the above mentioned regulations, and one oral test where the arbiter will receive practical tasks to do, connected with a particular platform or tool.



IA MARCO BIAGIOLI

We believe that this step goes in the direction of setting up some quality standards for the arbiters in Europe and it will also be one important formative opportunity which proceeds in the same path started with the ECU/FIDE workshop for online arbiters which will give some homogeneous capability to the arbiters to act in this new events.

For more details about ECU Arbiters Council Activities visit the Arbiters Council Website.

ARBITERS RIDDLE

In a 9-round swiss tournament five different players called the arbiter to intervene in incidents that happened during five of the rounds. Can you find who made each request, when and on which board they were playing?

The 5 rounds are:

1
3
5
7
9

The 5 players are:

Bob
Mary
Bill
Kate
Steve

The 5 incidents are:

first illegal move
3-fold repetition claim
flag fall
disturbance by opponent
“dead” position

The 5 Board No. are:

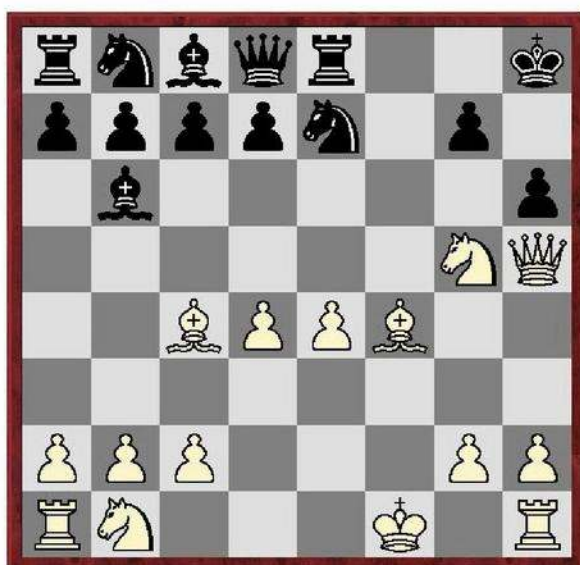
11
18
23
37
42

Clues:

- 1) When the arbiter heard Mary's request, he took her and her opponent away from their table. This happened two rounds after an incident occurred on the 37th board.
- 2) A player's game was immediately declared won by him, when he was playing on the 42nd board. This didn't happen two rounds earlier than Bill's incident.
- 3) During the 3rd round, someone on the 23rd board called the arbiter. The arbiter didn't add two minutes to that player's clock.
- 4) During the last round, the arbiter made a remark to someone's opponent.
- 5) Kate called the arbiter during the 5th round. She was playing on a board with a higher number than the one on which Bill's incident happened.

Arbiters Riddle made by IA Tania Karali

If you know the solution, please send it to the ecuarbiterscouncil@gmail.com till 31st July 2020. Among correct answers we will draw of lots a gadget connected with chess. We will publish the answers in the next edition of the ECU Magazine.



Tigran Petrosian said about chess:

>If it is true that a player's style is his person, then everyone plays as he is intended to by nature. I am naturally cautious, and I altogether dislike situations which involve risk.

>In almost any position the boundless possibilities of chess enable a new or at least a little-studied continuation to be found.

>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.

>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 quite different.

For this edition of the ECU monthly magazine, we prepared 4 positions with mate in 2! White is on the move!

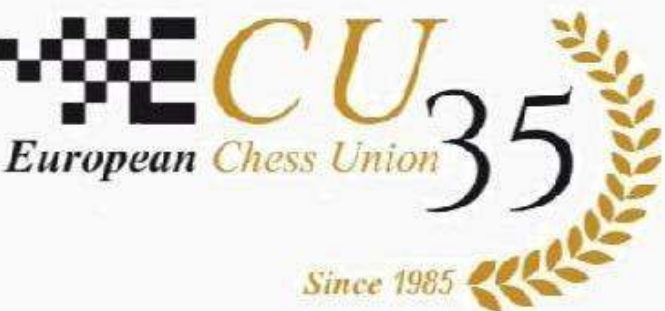
Solutions from May

#Puzzle 1
1.Bh6+ Kg8 2.Rxe8#

#Puzzle 2
1.Nf6+ gxf6 2.Bxf7#

#Puzzle 3
1.Ra8+ Bxa8 2.Qc8#

#Puzzle 4
1.Qg8+ Qxg8 2.Rxg8#



AiGROUP



4 healthy energetics



Chess
Evolution



"Chess makes you smarter!"