

**Claire Summerscale**  
**Election Statement for Director of Junior Chess and Education**



I am standing for the position of Director of Junior Chess & Education to:

- 1: Ensure continuity with the present direction of ECF junior chess;
- 2: Support and expand the volunteers who donate considerable talent through the Junior Directorate; and to
- 3: Ensure an effective transition to Kurt Moreby, who is not available until March 2014.

I think that I offer expertise to the position gained from my day-to-day business teaching chess in prep schools, as a leader of the Junior Four Nations Chess League and as a founding member (observer) in the ECF Player Development and Selection Committee. Additionally, I offer an historic perspective to Board proceedings as a former director.

My priorities are to:

- Ensure successful delivery of junior competitions and England teams in international youth championships.
- Establish a Girls' Squad that welcomes teenage girls from Wales and Scotland, an initiative led by Sarah Hegarty and supported by leading female players and organisers from England and neighbouring nations.
- Collaborate with other junior organisations to improve joined-up provision at the national level.

**Kurt Moreby**



Kurt Moreby is 47 years old and a member of Jesmond and Gosforth Chess Clubs in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and parent of a promising junior. His interest in chess began at school, but athletics soon became his main sport. After winning England and UK championships at 400 metres, he graduated from Loughborough University with a degree in Physics. After graduation, he worked in London at global management consultants Accenture, previously known as Andersen Consulting. Rising through the ranks, he was promoted to Partner in the shortest possible timeframe. After the company floated on the NYSE, Kurt was then recruited by the Government to lead and successfully deliver a highly complex strategic IT programme. In August 2013, he completed 25 years of working as a management consultant in the IT industry on a range of large complex programmes across a diverse set of industries. He is currently working for a major global brand in the Financial

Services sector overseeing the delivery of IT projects. He has gained much experience of junior chess through time spent as a parent at events all over the country and has seen, at first hand, the benefits that chess can bring to children by teaching them essential values and discipline. He is highly motivated to apply his full time professional skills giving back to junior chess in this country. He is scheduled to retire by March 2014.

Kurt intends to set measures for reporting progress against a set of clearly defined goals that include:

- Recruit an Elite Junior Development Officer to focus on our most promising juniors—those who qualify to play for England in the World Youth and European Youth.
- Replicate the international youth championship experience domestically by organising small coaching groups in classical tournaments, such as Hastings, thus reducing cost.
- Expand chess in schools, especially secondary schools where the need is greatest.

Progress can be made on a number of different fronts and levels. At one end of the two extremes there is the clear need to foster a wider participation by strengthening the network across our schools, whilst at the other end lies the need to provide the right kind of sustainable conditions to grow the next wave of English Grandmasters.

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**The incumbent Junior Director, Phil Ehr, endorses the unusual request that Council elect me, understanding that I will step down when Kurt is available for appointment. Phil adds, "Kurt will make an exceptional Junior Director. He connects positively with almost everyone. Those who do not know him from across the chessboard, among parents on the junior circuit or with his son's RGS Newcastle team might rely on his professional career and UK athletics title as testament to his maturity, professional suitability and winning attitude. He is the right person for this role, able and willing to inspire."**