

**FIDE PRESIDENT KIRSAN ILYUMZHINOV VISITS ECU OFFICE
IN BELGRADE**



On 14th of April, 2014 Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, president of FIDE, and Assistant to the FIDE President Mr. Berik Balgabaev have paid a visit to the office of the European Chess Union in Belgrade.

FIDE delegation accompanied by the President of the Serbian Chess Federation Mr. Miroslav Kopanja and the member of the Executive Board of Serbian Chess Federation Mr. Danko Bokan were received by the ECU Secretary General Ms. Sava Stoisavljevic.

The meeting was held in a friendly and cooperative atmosphere.



Official website: www.ecuonline.net

ECU PRESIDENT SILVIO DANAILOV MEETS WITH THE ECF BOARD & COUNCIL MEMBERS



On 11th of April, 2014 the President of the European Chess Union Silvio Danailov met with the Board and Council Members of the English Chess Federation.

During the meeting in the beautiful historic event room - Boshop's of the Simpson's-in-the-Strand Restaurant, London they have discussed about

different important chess topics, including the work done by the European Chess Union and the future plans of Silvio Danailov and his team.

On the next day the Council Members meeting was held. They have voted about the appointment of Andrew Paulson as ECU proxy. The result of the board motion was as follows (<http://www.ecforum.org.uk/viewtopic.php?f=25&t=6445>):

For : 79

Against : 153

Abstentions : 30

Website: www.danailov-for-president.com



ECU GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ECU ELECTIONS 2014



ECU office has sent to all national federations the invitation to the ECU General Assembly and ECU Elections 2014 in Tromso, Norway. The General Assembly is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. on 10 August, while the Elections will be held on 11 August 2014.

You may find the letter of invitation sent to federations and all the necessary documents on the following link: <http://www.ecuonline.net/com/news/single/641.html>.



EUROPEAN SENIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 2014 – GOLD TO RUSSIA, SIBENIK GREAT HOST



The European Chess Union and Croatian Chess Federation organized the 13th European Senior Team Championship from 31 March – 10 April 2014 in Sibenik/Croatia. The official venue of the Championship was the beautiful tourist resort "Solaris".

After 9 days of great fights, the first team of Russia triumphed with 16 match points and defended the title. The victory of Russia 1 was very convincing, with 8 won matches and only one loss. Leading from the very beginning of the tournament, they justified the role of the first seed and main favourite of the Championship. The silver medal went to the team of the host – Croatia, with 14 match points.

Croatia was the only team to defeat the winner and they showed very good games and fighting spirit. Bronze medal went to Slovakia, who had the same score as Bosnia and Herzegovina (13 match points), but thanks to the better tie-break (game points) Slovakia took the medal and the trophy. The closing ceremony was held in a nice and warm atmosphere, during the ceremonial dinner and with the music performance of duo Tramontana.





The prizes for the winning teams were awarded by Mr. Josip Leko, President of the Croatian Chess Federation, while the special prize for the best team over 65 years old was awarded by Mr. Vladimir Sakotic, Executive Director of the European Chess Union.

The individual prizes were awarded by Mr. Lovre Skugor, Director of the Hotel Niko.

Participants who were awarded individually received valuable prizes – 7 days for 2 persons in one of the hotels of the resort Solaris, during the upcoming tourist season.

Final Ranking after 9 rounds – first 15 positions

Rk.	Team	Games	+	=	-	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	RUSSIA 1	9	8	0	1	16	29	182
2	CROATIA	9	6	2	1	14	24	190
3	SLOVAKIA	9	5	3	1	13	23	195
4	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	9	6	1	2	13	22	193
5	AUSTRIA	9	6	0	3	12	24	172
6	SWEDEN 1	9	5	2	2	12	21	173
7	RUSSIA 2	9	4	3	2	11	21	186
8	ENGLAND 1	9	5	1	3	11	20	175
9	ITALIA	9	4	2	3	10	21	180
10	GERMANY	9	4	2	3	10	19	160
11	FINLAND 1	9	4	2	3	10	19	172
12	DENMARK	9	4	2	3	10	18	179
13	AUSTRIA	9	4	2	3	10	18	166
14	SCOTLAND 1	9	2	5	2	9	20	163
15	BELGIUM	9	4	1	4	9	20	159

36 teams from 16 national federations participated in the tournament this year, with the total number of 158 players. The competition was very strong, with 19 GMs, 16 IMs and 27 FM's competing.



The Championship was played in 9 rounds following the Swiss System. Time control was 40 moves in 90 minutes and 30 minutes to the end of the game + 30 seconds increment for each move starting from move one.

All the games were broadcast live on the championship website.

For more information you can visit the official website of the Championship <http://sent2014.crochess.com/>



THE ALL-UKRAINIAN CHARITY FOUNDATION "CHESS FOR CHILDREN" WAS DECLARED "SOCIAL INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR" AT THE NATIONAL AWARD CEREMONY "SPORT STARS - 2013" IN UKRAINE



On the 6th of April 2014 the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace was celebrated for the first time in Ukraine. The Day was launched at the General Assembly of the United Nations on the 23rd of August 2013. To celebrate this day in April 2014 the Sport Committee of Ukraine organized festive ceremony "Sport Stars of the Year" for awarding the best sport personalities in 2013.

In the nomination "Social Initiative of the Year" the winner became the All-Ukrainian Charity Foundation "Chess for Children". The Founder and President of the Foundation WIM Olena Boytsun received an award and expressed confidence that the UCF "Chess for Children" together with the Sport Committee of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Chess Federation will continue to implement the projects of the charitable program in the future. Olena also emphasized the great work for popularization of sport in Ukraine that is done by the President of the Sport Committee Ilya Shevlyak and his team.



Honorary guests of the ceremony were the President of the Sport Committee of Ukraine Ilya Shevlyak, the First Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport Andrei Vyshnyak, the President of the National Paralympic Committee Valery Sushkevych, Vice-President of the National Olympic Committee Viktor Korzh, famous athletes and sport managers. The ceremony took place at the National Olympic Area in Kyiv. Photos from the award ceremony are at <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.488558957943267.1073741842.241964169269415&type=1>

The All-Ukrainian Charity Foundation "Chess for Children" was founded in Ukraine in November 2012 by WIM Olena Boytsun. The primary purpose of the Foundation activity is to discover the potential of every child through engaging children into a game of chess and to promote chess and healthy lifestyle in the society.

In 2013 the Foundation ran 7 projects and implemented 20 events all over Ukraine. The following projects can be outlined in particular:

The project "Chess Ukraine" supports establishing new chess clubs and schools all over Ukraine as well as providing consultations, chess equipment and literature etc. The cooperation with the regional centers in order to develop children chess in the regions is also part of the project activities. The greatest attention is attracted by a new modern chess club and chess school for children in Krivoy Rog. It was launched in 2013 with the support of the UCF "Chess for Children". Currently, the school has more than 200 children. At the local art square near the club the highest in the world 5 meter tall chess marble piece is situated.

The "Chess Holiday" project suggests that the Foundation organizes entertaining festivals and events for popularization of chess in the community. For example, in July 2013 the Chess Day Celebration together with the Ukrainian Chess Federation and the Sport Committee of Ukraine took place. During the event young chess players had a chance to show their knowledge of the game of chess by solving quizzes and chess problems, playing blitz games and so on. All together in 2013 the Foundation "Chess for Children" organized 8 chess holidays in Kyiv, Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Krivoy Rog.



The project "Award named after Evgeniy Sozonov" is the private national annual award that was established by the Foundation in 2013 with the aim of supporting talented children aged between 10 to 15 years old, who show good results in both chess and school studies. In 2013 the Award was provided for the first time and the winner became Karina Skorobagatko (13 years, Kyiv). In total 38 applications from all over Ukraine was received.

In order to announce the establishment of the Award named after Evgeniy Sozonov and to popularize chess in Ukraine in April 2013 the first female advanced chess match was played in Kyiv between the 12th Women World Champion GM Anna Ushenina and the President of the "Chess for Children" Foundation WIM Olena Boytsun. The match ended in a draw and attracted a lot of interest from the community and press.

The project "Chess Competitions" aims at organizing and supporting chess competitions among children in Ukraine as well as providing possibilities for participation in tournaments. In September 2013 in Dnipropetrovsk the chess tournament "Cup of the UCF "Chess for Children" took place. The event brought together 125 participants 14 year old and younger from all over Ukraine. The winners of the event as well as winners in many different categories received prizes and gifts from the Foundation, for example, tablets and e-books. In November 2013 96 players from Ukraine competed in the Ukrainian National Championship among children chess schools and clubs. The winning teams brought for their schools valuable gifts, including laptops and digital cameras.

The "Literary chess" project of the Foundation develops and distributes free books to children with the rules of the game of chess, made in an entertaining style, in order to engage children to play chess. In 2013 the Foundation took part at the Lviv Book Forum and the Frankfurter Book Exhibition with the presentation of the book "Babish Gilzi plays chess" by Olena Boytsun.



Photo-overview of the activities of the UCF "Chess for Children" 2012-2013 in English can be found at <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/46750198/2013-ReportsChessforChildren/2013-PhotoOverview-ChessforChildren-eng.pdf>

The Charitable program of the All-Ukrainian Charity Foundation for 2013-2015 can be found at <http://chessforchildren.org/> or at the web-site of the Ukrainian Chess Federation <http://ukrchess.org.ua/> (the English version of the program will follow during April 2014).

Olena Boytsun