

ECF Election Statement-International Director

Malcolm Pein

I am standing for office as I believe this role is especially important in a year where the England teams face the prospect of taking part in major international competition without sufficient funds having been raised. I am also standing to remain as FIDE Delegate and believe that combining both roles is cost effective for the ECF, particularly at Olympiad time, as well as making practical sense.

I am firmly of the opinion that the major role of International Director is to raise money for the international teams in order to be able to send the calibre of team that the ECF Members and Council want to see representing England. The other key function is to act as a collegiate member of the Board of Directors to ensure the good working of the Board and thus the ECF.

I feel the incumbent has not fulfilled either role and for the good of the international teams and English chess more generally needs to be replaced. I have come to this conclusion quite recently. The triggers were the recent discordant ECF Board meeting and the discovery of how little money had been raised by the ID for the teams.

Despite a long time frame in which to fundraise, there is still a substantial deficit in the budget for the European Team Championships which take place in November. I have watched aghast at the correspondence in which other Directors have been implored to raise money themselves. I view this as an abrogation of the ID's responsibility. There is a danger that the shortfall will have to be met by increasing Members fees and I very much want to avoid that.

I have years of experience in raising money for chess in our country and have raised over £5 million since 2010 for Chess in Schools and Communities and the London Chess Classic. If elected, I will use my best efforts to raise sufficient funds to send our best possible teams to forthcoming events, both men and women. If I fail in this I will not seek re-election to the post of International Director in 2016. Additionally if the ID raises sufficient funds to send a representative team before the date of the election, I will consider withdrawing my candidacy.

I have also been concerned at the actions of the incumbent at Board level. Most recently he tabled what was effectively a vote of no confidence in the Chief Executive and after lengthy debate withdrew it. The meeting

achieved little as a consequence and I feel that in that circumstance he should have resigned. This was the culmination of many months of conflict which he has instigated and which has limited the effectiveness of the board.

For the many members who I have not met, or do not know me, my career in chess is summarised below.

I believe the future for English chess in the international arena can be bright. I intend to employ my long-standing relationship with all our top players and proven skills in attracting sponsors for English chess to the benefit of the ECF. I ask for your support.

Malcolm Pein
September 2015

Malcolm Pein Chess CV

Player: Former British Junior Champion and IM. Coach: Trained many of our leading junior players in the 80s and 90s Schools Chess: Started a nationwide charity that has taught over 40,000 children in 450 schools and still expanding. Fund Raising: I have raised over 5 million pounds for the charity Chess in Schools and Communities. Grass Roots: I have played club, league, county and congress chess for the last 40 years and given countless simuls and lectures around the country. Journalism: Correspondent of the Daily Telegraph and Editor and publisher of Chess Monthly. Organiser: Organised weekend congresses, been a club captain and staged the London Chess Classic one of the world's most prestigious events