

**Election Address 2016 – Director of Junior Chess and Education**

I have been in post as the “Junior Director” for 2 years and during this time have worked collaboratively with the rest of the board, maintained core junior chess activities and developed new initiatives and activities.

Areas that have been developed under my directorship include:

The ECF Chess Academy including the International Programme and the Elite (FIDE title seeking) Programmes.

Schools Chess

The Junior International Selection Policy and Process

The Safeguarding Children policy and processes including the accreditation of coaches

Junior directorate financial processes

I intend to continue to develop these in line with the directorate and ECF Strategy. My main aims are to:

Increase numbers of juniors continuing to play beyond 12 years old, and then beyond 18 years old.

Increase participation of teenagers in chess at school.

Increase participation of girls in chess.

Support talented players aged up to 21yrs, to achieve FIDE titles and encourage them to promote chess amongst juniors.

Encourage chess to be seen as a worthwhile and enjoyable activity amongst children and young people.

I hope you will judge this of worth and support my re-election.