

Junior Chess Directorate Report 20.9.18

World Youth Chess Championship U14, U16 and U18 Halkidiki, Greece 19 October – 1 November 2018

The team will consist of 12 players with 3 coaches

World Cadets Chess Championship U8, U10, U12 Santiago de Compostela (Galicia), Spain 3 – 16 November 2018

The team is anticipated to consist of 8-13 players with 3-4 coaches

World Junior and Girls U20 Chess Championship Gebze, Kocaeli, Turkey 4 – 16 September 2018.

Ravi Haria and Matthew Wadsworth represented the ECF at this event as part of a very strong field

We have worked with Bridge Overseas to manage the organisation of team bookings with the organisers for the European Schools and the European Youth Chess Championships. However, we have now decided to use a different system via the ECF office for the remaining trips this year.

The ECF Academy

The Academy is in its third year running and continues to be oversubscribed guaranteeing higher levels of players and a strong pool of talent within the Academy.

Academy Elites:

IM Ravi Haria finishing first with 7/9 in the Pula Open, FM Joseph McPhillips and FM Andrew Horton both scored 6.5/9. Andrew and Joseph are now waiting for their IM titles to be verified. Koby Kalavannan achieved his FM title.

At the British:

Under 21 Prizes: 1st – Joseph McPhillips (joint) 3rd – Koby Kalavannan

Under 18 Champion – Koby Kalavannan

Rating prize- 2201 – 2350 – Koby Kalavannan

Joseph McPhillips qualified for the UK Open Blitz finals with 13.5 points.

Alex Golding won the 54th Berks & Bucks Championship section scoring 5.5 out of 6. The results can be found here http://berksandbuckschess.com/?page_id=644.

Adam Taylor has been accepted as a coach on the International Programme at the ECF Chess Academy.

Academy International:

Jessica Mellor won the U11 girls section at the European Schools Chess Championships. Over 50% of the England team, including all the top scorers are on an ECF Chess Academy programme.

Prize winners at the British Chess Championships who are part of the International Programme can be found <https://www.britishchesschampionships.co.uk/prizewinners-2018/>

Most of the top academy players qualified for the Terafinal or Challengers of the UK Chess Challenge. Terafinal results can be found on <http://chess-results.com/tnr377605.aspx?lan=1&art=0>. The academy players featured heavily in the prize winners.

The most recent academy weekend was held on 8-9 September 2018 in Nottingham. Demand for taster weekend places was high for this weekend once more and as a result there were 10 study groups of 8-10 students. The academy welcomed 3 new coaches: GM Yangfan Zhou, GM Daniel Fernandez and FM Adam Taylor. All 3 were very well evaluated by all those that they taught.

Over 1/3 of the students were girls and their social event on the Saturday evening was hailed a success. Over 70 people took part in the Saturday fun blitz competition, which was won by Daniel Fernandez despite a time handicap. The 14yrs + group had their own separate social event as usual.

Prof John Swain visited the academy

The majority of those taking part in the first 3 taster weekends of this year have already requested to apply for a full place on the international programme in January 2019.

ECF Schools

The finals of the ECF National Schools Chess Championships took place at Uppingham 3-6 July 2018.

The U19 Championship, now in its 61st year, was won by Reading School (<https://www.englishchess.org.uk/NSCC/u19-final-2018/>)

The U11 Championship was won by Hallfield School (Birmingham)

Entries are being taken for the NSCC and the girls competition looks set to break its own record for entries.

My thanks go to the ECF Schools team for their hard work. Phill Beckett has taken over as ECF Schools Manager.

ECF SE Girls' Rapidplay championships 2018

The SE regional girls rapidplay championship is taking place Sunday 25th November at Chislehurst Girls' School in Kent. The entry form is due to go up on the ECF site very soon.

As usual the event will include the highly popular girls' only social room, networking and activities which are helping to build a girls' chess community.

Traci Whitfield