

The ECF Chess Writing Initiative

Mark Rivlin

I started editing the ECF Newsletter in July 2017 and have been very impressed with the content sent in by members. Aside from Tim Wall's excellent polemics we have featured a number of articles submitted by ECF members who have an opinion about a range of chess topics. Last month I linked to a great article by Chris Beckett in medium.com: https://medium.com/@chris_beckett/pawn-addiction-helps-me-beat-the-lockdown-blues-37b294f02636 There have been many other submissions over the past four years and I believe there is a parallel between creativity on and off the chess board.

My favourite novelist is Paul Auster and he took on the editing of this interesting project

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/True-Tales-American-Life-Auster/dp/0571210708>

The book came out of a short story event on National Public Radio in the USA where people sent in everyday life experiences and Auster chose the best and edited the finished book project. What stands out is how writing acts as a creative meritocracy with high-quality submissions.

We are inviting ECF members to provide creative writing on any topic related to chess. Fact, fiction, humorous, irreverent, sad or angry, please help us with this creative project which will entertain and inform future generations of chess enthusiasts. You can write on anything, from analysing games to the long journey home after you snatched defeat from the jaws of victory (I can give you a lot of help on this topic); from the minutiae of yet another church with an Arctic wind hitting the board closest to the door to how you went from longplay to blitz, and now have a virtual prize for playing three million games.

All submissions will be considered for publication in the eNewsletter and in a book which will be published by the ECF. Myself and ECF Manager of Social Media Danny Rosenbaum will edit the submissions, which should be between 700 and 1000 words.

The Initiative is open to all ECF members. We welcome submissions from children but if under 18, please get a parent or guardian to confirm their consent.

So come on ECF members, let's hear your stories! For further details please email me at manager.publicity@englishchess.org.uk