

Election Address of Sarah Longson for Non-Executive Director Position on ECF Board

Background

I am a Women's FIDE Master and have represented England internationally on many occasions scoring 7.5/9 at the 2010 Olympiad. I was the 2013 British Ladies Champion. Chess has been a huge part of my life since I was seven years old when I won the U7 Girls Section of the UK Chess Challenge (the tournament I now run!). I have played chess competitively ever since. This has taken me all across the world where I have made many friends.

I studied Chemistry and Law at Bristol University and started a career in law before I decided my passion was in helping juniors develop the same passion I have for chess. I have a local schools' chess business, run an online chess academy and run the UK Chess Challenge.

I am married to FIDE Master Alex Longson and we have two young children; Isabelle and Tobias (his initials are TAL!)

Experience

I have been involved in chess for over 20 years and now act as a role model for many aspiring juniors. I have an excellent knowledge of the junior chess scene through the UK Chess Challenge, my role as a Chess Trust Trustee and as a Junior Selector.

I have also been involved in lots of radio and TV interviews where I can share my passion and positivity for chess in England.

What I can Bring to the Board

I can offer a fresh/different perspective on Women's and Junior Chess. I have strong team and consensus building skills. Additionally I am well connected in the chess world so I am able to collate and feedback thoughts on what is important to parents, juniors and women in chess.