



EUROPEAN CLUB CUP
2017



EUROPEAN YOUTH
GRAN PRIX 2017/2018



EUROPEAN WOMEN
RAPID & BLITZ CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP 2017



2ND ECU SCHOOL CHESS
TEACHER COURSE

EUROPEAN CHESS UNION NEWSLETTER



EUROPEAN TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP HAS STARTED 2017

The long anticipated European Team Chess Championship has started in beautiful Creta Maris beach resort, in Hersonissos, Greece, and will be held from 27th October-7th November.

The Championship was declared opened at the Opening ceremony which took place on 27th October in Conference center of Creta Maris resort. After hearing the anthems of Greece and European Chess Union, mayor of Hersonissos- Mr. Ioannis Mastorakis, ECU Secretary General- Mr. Theodoros Tsorbatzoglou, the President of the ECU- Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili and Vice Governor of Crete- Mr. Evripidis Koukiadakis welcomed the players and guests and wished them the pleasant stay in Crete.

The Opening Ceremony was accomplished with the performance of the local traditional dancing group who spread the Cretan cultural treasure and spirit.



After the Opening ceremony, the same hall hosted the technical meeting with teams' captains. The meeting was run by the Chief Arbiter Mr. Takis Nikolopoulos, ECU Secretary General Mr. Theodoros Tsorbatzoglou, Tournament Director Mr. Nikos Kalesis and Pairings Officer Mr. Sotiris Logothetis.



The President of the European Chess Union made the first symbolic move in the first round, on the top board of the match Russia-Slovenia, and the tournament has officially started.

72 teams participate the event and makes the European Team Chess Championship 2017 one of the most numerous ever! 40 teams are competing in Open section and 32 teams in Women's section. The total number of players is 198 in Open section, among whom are 138 Grandmasters and 35 IMs, which is making the event one of the strongest ever! 158 players are playing in Women's section, among whom are 138 International title holders- 13 GMs, 33 WGMs, 31 IMs and 24 WIMs.

Each round starts at 15:00 (local time) and all the games are live transmitted. Live broadcast of the games, together with live commentary and live stream from the playing venue can be followed through the Official Website of the tournament, or through the ECU website, section [LIVE](#).

[Official Website](#)

European Club Cup 2017

The teams Globus from Russia in the Open section and Batumi Chess Club NONA in Women's section are the winners of the European Club Cup 2017, which was held in Antalya, Turkey, from 7th-15th October.



The Winners accounted the top positions on the Starting rank list, with an amazing average rating, Globus - 2772 and Batumi Chess Club Nona- 2495. In the Open section, Globus finished sole first, the second place went to Alkaloid (MKD) and bronze to AVE Novy Bor (CZE). In Women's section, Batumi Chess Club Nona and Odlar Yurdu tied for the first place, but thanks to the better tie-breaks Batumi Chess Club Nona finished with gold in their hands, Odlar Yurdu ended second, and third place went to Bossa Nova (BLR) who had better tiebreaks than Ugra Chess Club (RUS).



48 teams represented 24 European federations at the event, 36 teams in Open Section, and 12 teams in Women's section with Top World Grandmasters playing for their clubs, such as: Vladimir Kramnik (RUS, 2794), Mamedyarov Shakhriyar (AZE, 2791), Grischuk Alexander (RUS, 2785), Ding Liren (CHN, 2772), Karjakin Sergey (RUS, 2765), Giri Anish (NED, 2762), Matlakov Maxim (RUS, 2730), Harika Dronavalli (IND, 2528), Dzagnidze Nana (GEO, 2520), Girya Olga (RUS, 2505), Batsiashvili Nino (GEO, 2472), Pogonina Natalija (RUS, 2466) etc.

Both Championships were played in 7 rounds, under the Swiss system, in accordance with the ECU Tournament Rules and with time control 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from the move one.

The total prize fund of the event was 34.000 EUR.

[Final Standings](#)

[Official Website](#)

EUROPEAN YOUTH GRAN PRIX 2017/2018

The second leg of European Youth Gran Prix series took place in beautiful mountain town Jermuk, in Armenia, from 3rd-16th October.

IM Shevchenko Kirill (UKR, 2531) triumphed at the second stage of the European Youth Gran Prix. Young Ukrainian maintained the leadership from the beginning and scored 10 points out of 11 games, and 1.5 point more than the first runner up IM Sargsyan Shant (ARM, 2431) who scored 8.5 points. The third place went to IM Hakobyan Aram (ARM, 2457) with 7.5 points.

[Final standings](#)



On 6th of October, during the 3rd round of this prestigious youth event, ***the President of Armenia and the President of the Armenian Chess Federation, Serzh Sargsyan*** visited the playing venue and observed the games.



The tournament was a 12-player single Round Robin event with the time control of 90 minutes for the end of the game for each player plus 30 seconds per move starting from the move one.

The European Youth Gran Prix is a series of three tournaments held over two calendar years 2017 and 2018. The event is held under the patronage of the ECU and gathers the best young and talented youth players within Europe.

The 1st and 3rd series take place in Kirishi, Russia. The first series was held from 16th-28th May 2017, while the third and the last tournament will be held in March 2018.

[Official Website](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

EUROPEAN ACP WOMEN'S RAPID&BLITZ CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2017

The European ACP Women's Rapid&Blitz Chess Championship 2017 took place in Monaco, from 21st-24th October.

The event started with rapid championship which took place on 21st and 22nd October and was played according to the Swiss system in 11 rounds, with time control 15 minutes game+10 seconds per move starting from the move one.

Ukrainian Grandmaster Anna Muzychuk became the European ACP Women's Rapid Chess Champion for 2017. She finished sole first with 9 points and without a lost game! Second place went to GM Lagno Kateryna (RUS, 2577 Rapid rtg) with 8.5 points, while WGM Goryachkina Aleksandra (RUS, 2462 Rapid rtg) took bronze with 8 points thanks to the best tie-breaks.

The event gathered 91 participants and top women chess players.



The Blitz Championship was played on 23rd October, according to the Swiss system in 13 rounds, with time control 3 minutes game+2 seconds per move starting from the move one.

Russian ladies took all the trophies and medals. Kosteniuk Alexandra (RUS,2477 Blitz rtg) became the Winner of European ACP Women's Blitz Chess Championship 2017 with 10.5 points! Silver medal went to Lagno Kateryna (RUS,2611 Blitz rtg) with 10 points and Gunina Valentina (RUS,2550 Blitz rtg) finished third.



The total prize fund for the Rapid event was 8.100 EUR+ 150 EUR PACA prizes+ 150 EUR CDO6 + 5000 EUR ACP, as well as the category prizes- watch Yves BERTELIN, while the total prize fund for the Blitz event was 5.500 EUR+150 EUR PACA prizes + 150 EUR CDO6+ special prizes.

Standings

GLOBAL CHESS FESTIVAL- Press release

The 3rd edition of the annual Global Chess Festival (GCF) in Budapest, held on Saturday October 14th 2017, was a huge success. About two thousand chess enthusiasts visited the beautiful location by the river Danube at the Graphisoft Park, the Silicon Valley of Hungary, which turned into a true chess resort on Saturday.



The Global Chess Festival was officially opened by the Founder of the Graphisoft Park, Gabor Bojar, whereafter a variety of chess-themed activities started. The patronage of the festival, mayor of Budapest, Mr. Istvan Tarlos, could not attend the official opening ceremony but his supportive speech was presented by Melinda Nagyne Varga from the Mayor's office. The highlight of the Opening Ceremony was the special artistic performance of Jason Kouchak-"Queen's Journey".

"I am happy that so many children and families visited the festival from all over Hungary, moreover that we also welcomed participants from Chile, India, Holland, Romania, Russia, Norway, Slovenia, Slovakia, Italy, USA, Mexico, England, France, Serbia and Spain"- said Judit Polgar.

The 1st Future Champions tournament, with 15 Hungarian talented kids, was won by Dorina Demeter. She received the special prize from the Judit Polgar Chess Foundation: free participation in the Isle of Man Tournament 2018, with accommodation for both the player and one accompanying person.



Some Global Chess Festival details:

- Chess games played nearly 400
- Simul games with Judit Polgar 56
- Visitors from 16 countries
- 4000 Szamos Marcipan Chess pieces were made and given away
- Over a 1000 autographs were signed by the sisters
- 200 Chess tattoos were painted
- 7 hours FB LIVE by Anna Rudolf
- www.GlobalChessFestival.com
- FB-<https://www.facebook.com/GlobalChessFestival/>

2nd ECU School Chess Teacher training course

The 2nd ECU School Chess Teacher training course took place in London, United Kingdom, from 14th to 15th October 2017.

The ECU School Chess Teacher Training course comprised two days of interactive presentations, group discussions and practical exercises. The focus of the course was on the teaching aspects of chess and the course was suitable for teachers and tutors who want to make chess an exciting and educational experience for children.

19 participants of the course completed it and passed an online test at the end of the course and were awarded with the School Chess Teacher Certificate. The Certificates were awarded by the ECU to recognize that the individual has an adequate level of chess knowledge and is familiar with didactic methods for the classroom.



The course leaders were:

- **Jasper Hall**- Chairman of the ECU Education Commission, FIDE Senior Trainer, Director of the Chess in Schools project in Sweden, author of several chess training books.
- **John Foley**- member of the ECU Education Commission, former Director of Education and Training at Chess in Schools and Communities in the UK. Author of classroom books for chess teachers and pupils.
- **Rita Atkins**- Woman International Master, Mathematics and physics teacher.

Videos from the course:

[Rita Atkins - Chess and Maths exercise](#) ,
[Rita Atkins - Magnetic names for tournaments](#),
[Bob Kane - The Greedy King](#),
[Carl Portman - How to deal with cheating?](#),
[Carl Portman - Chess in Prisons interview](#) ,
[John Foley - Fox and Hounds mini game](#) ,
[John Foley = overview of school chess in UK](#)

Upcoming events in November

ECU events:

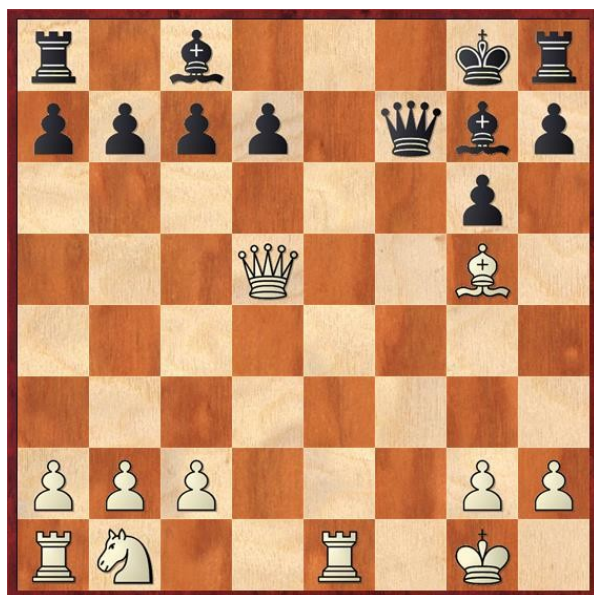
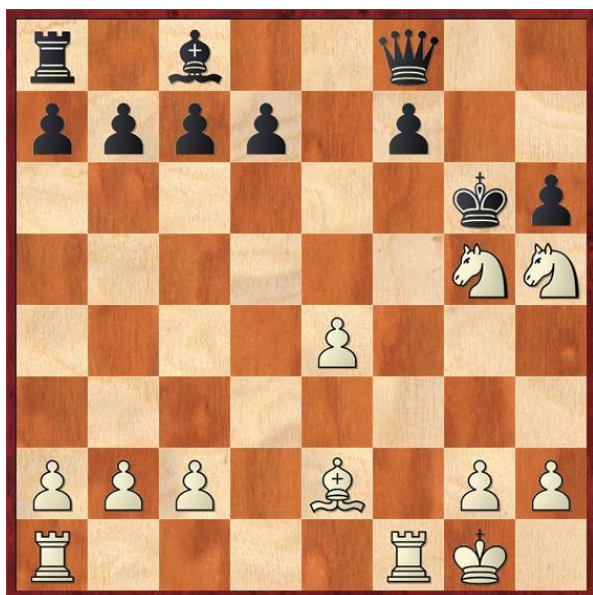
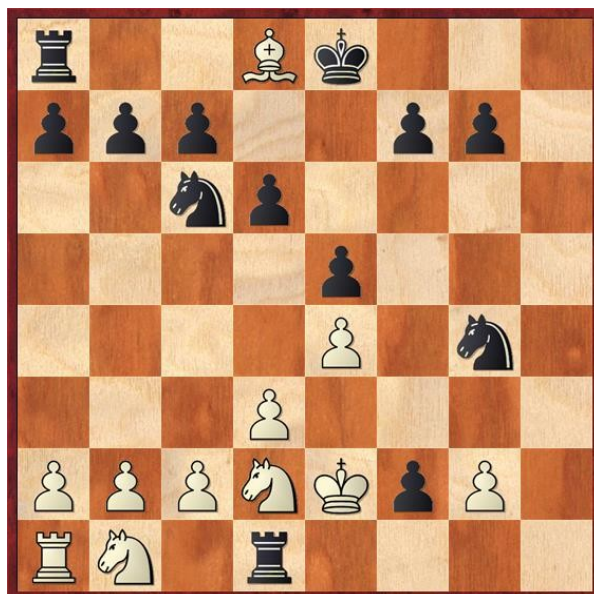
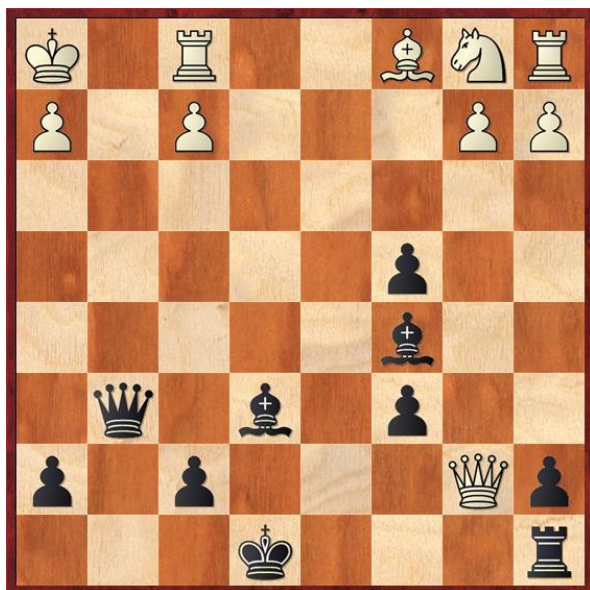
2nd ECU Congress and ECU General Assembly	Hersonissos, Greece	1st-5th November	<u>Official Website</u>
5th European Small Nations Team Chess Championship 2017	Andorra	11th-19th November	<u>Official Website</u>
ECU Schools Internet Championship 2017		16th-23rd November	<u>Official Website</u>
1st European Corporate Chess Championship	Paris, France	24th-25th November	<u>Official Website</u>

Other events:

27th FIDE World Senior Chess Championship 2017	Acqui Terme, Italy	7th-18th November	<u>Official Website</u>
76th Nona Gaprindashvili Cup 2017	Tbilisi, Georgia	10th-19th November	<u>Official Website</u>
World Juniors Chess Champions 2017	Tarvisio, Italy	12th-16th November	<u>Official Website</u>
FIDE World Gran Prix	Palma de Mallorca, Spain	15th-16th November	<u>Official Website</u>
Tsaghkadzor Open 2017	<u>Tsaghkadzor, Armenia</u>	<u>22nd Nov-2nd Dec</u>	<u>Official Website</u>
11th Kings Tournament	Medias, Romania	27th-28th November	<u>Official Website</u>
9th London Chess Classic	London, United Kingdom	29th Nov-11th Dec	<u>Official Website</u>

FUN ZONE

Enjoy in some nice mate positions we prepared for this edition of the ECU Newsletter!



Solutions from NL September 2017

Puzzle #1:

1.Qxa8! Nxa8 2. Rd8+ Kh7 3. Bf5#

Puzzle #2:

1.Qf8+! Rxf8 2. Be5+ Qf6 3. Bxf6#

Puzzle #3:

1. Nc7+! Bxc7 2. Rxa7 Kb8 3. Ra8#

Puzzle #4

1...Rxb2+! 2. Rxb2 Nxc3+ 3. Ka1 Qa3 4. Ra2 Qa2#