



ICCF Congress 2018

Llandudno

19-23 August 2018

[https://2018.wales/
congress@welshccf.org.uk](https://2018.wales/congress@welshccf.org.uk)

Information for Chess Players in North Wales

The International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) is the international body for correspondence chess. Although ICCF is recognised by and affiliated to FIDE, it operates independently of FIDE and is regarded as the highest international authority for correspondence chess.

The Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation (WCCF) is the national body representing Wales in ICCF; WCCF collaborates closely with the Welsh Chess Union. Modern correspondence chess is generally played online, although there is still an option for national and international postal tournaments for those few people who still prefer to use that format.

Each year, ICCF hold a "Congress" hosted by a different member federation; in 2018 the host federation will be Wales, and Congress will be held in Llandudno from 19-23 August. Essentially this is a business meeting where delegates and officials from each of the ICCF national federations gather to make decisions about tournaments, rules, etc.

Congress always has a social element; there is usually a welcome party, excursions, some informal chess events, and a closing banquet, etc. many delegates bring their families to Congress every year.

WCCF would like to use this opportunity to engage with chess players in North Wales; we would like to invite you to participate in Congress, and hopefully eventually to consider taking up correspondence chess.

Players are cordially invited to the following events:

- **Welcome Party (Sunday 19 August at 20:00):** This will be a social gathering, where you will have the chance to meet Welsh and international correspondence chess players. If you have any questions about correspondence chess, this is your opportunity as there will be several correspondence players and officials present, including grand masters, even perhaps some former correspondence world champions. Officials from WCCF and ICCF will be happy to advise you on getting started in the game or discuss any aspect of correspondence chess (including the sticky topic of computer engines!). A light buffet will be provided.
- **Chess Match Versus ICCF (Monday 20 August at 20:00):** One of the regular features of ICCF Congress is a match against a team of local chess players. This year ICCF will be playing against "Colwyn Bay Chess Club and Friends", chess players from North Wales are invited to join with the Colwyn Bay team for this match.

- **ICCF Blitz Tournament (Tuesday 21 August at 20:00):** Another regular event at Congress is the annual blitz tournament, chess players from North Wales are again invited to participate in the tournament; this is another chance to get to know correspondence chess specialists from around the world.
- **Simultaneous Exhibition Match Versus GM Nigel Davies (Wednesday 22 August at 20:00):** GM Davies will play an exhibition match against a combination of ICCF and local chess players; the numbers for this event are strictly limited.
 - Only **twelve** registrations will be accepted from local OTB players before 6th July, on a *first come, first served* basis.
 - Between 6th July and 22nd August, any places not registered by Congress delegates will be opened up again to local OTB players.
 - If fewer than 30 boards are taken on the night, these will be available to any chess player turning up at the venue, again, on a *first come, first served* basis.

Registration for any of the above events is free and is available from <https://2018.wales/registerlocal/> Registration is essential as places are limited. If you later find that you are not able to attend, please let us know by email to congress@welshccf.org.uk so that we can allocate your place to someone else.

For further information about correspondence chess in Wales, please see the WCCF website. Although there are tournament entry fees, there is no annual subscription to pay, and we offer new players a free introductory tournament on the ICCF webserver. To register as a correspondence player, please visit iccf.com and follow the "New Player" link - you should hear from us in just a few days.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Rydym yn Ffrindiau - Amici Sumus

Austin Lockwood

WCCF Secretary

<https://welshccf.org.uk/>
https://twitter.com/WCCF_Official
<https://2018.wales/secretary@welshccf.org.uk>