



LONDON CHESS CONFERENCE 2015

Chess and Society

5 & 6 December 2015

Hotel Hilton Olympia
380 Kensington High Street
LONDON W14 8NL

www.londonchessconference.com
@londonchessconf

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The London Chess Conference provides guidance to the scholastic chess community through sharing evidence-based best practice and encouraging international co-operation.



Chess and Society

Welcome to the third London Chess Conference!

The conference has evolved significantly since it launched in 2013. Initially it was about research on school chess and the exchange of best practices. In 2014, under the theme Chess and Mathematics, we explored mathematical games and puzzles as well as any games that could be played with the chess board and pieces, and we learned that these are a valuable addition if chess is being taught for educational motives.

This year our theme is Chess and Society. While chess in education is still our focus, we are giving recognition to a growing movement using chess for social goals. Social entrepreneurs are pioneering chess in new contexts. Social projects are becoming more significant when conventional approaches lack results. Only a few chess federations have embraced this development yet, but many will follow as sports subsidies are decreasing and other funding sources are becoming available. It could well be that the social chess entrepreneurs of today will lead the chess federations of tomorrow.

Even more than in the first two editions, we are emphasising the need for co-operation. This is why we have reduced the plenary element and have extra workshops. Round tables and panels give all participants the opportunity to show and share their expertise and to identify common projects. The programme also features seven debates in the lively "World Café Format". A record number of attendees, full house at 140, is a sign that we are on the right track.

The programme includes hands-on workshops on topics like chess camps, lobbying and business models for school chess. It breaks ground on the role of families as well as chess and addiction. It reflects on current affairs with workshops on chess for refugees and for the prevention of dementia. And it extends on the prior conference with workshops on chess and mathematics and on the didactic challenges of education oriented "scholastic chess".

We are very excited about these two days, and we hope that you get the most out them!

John Foley

Stefan Löffler

Saturday 5th December

10.00-11.00

REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

11.00

CONFERENCE OPENING and WELCOME *Pembroke Suite*

Malcolm Pein

Chief Executive, Chess in Schools and Communities, UK

John Foley

Conference Director

Stefan Löffler

Programme Director

11.15-12.45

CHESS AND SOCIETY: an Overview

Chair: **John Foley**

Ken Clark

Councillor, London Borough of Newham

The Newham model for Chess Services

Jonathan Rowson

Director of the Social Brain Centre at the Royal Society of Arts

What chess taught me about being human

Leontxo García

Chess author and populariser, Spain

Extremadura, the cradle of social chess

REFLECTIONS: What chess did for me

Chris Ross

Braille Chess Association

Julian Way

Chess and Recovery

12.45-14.00

LUNCH BREAK

14.00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Schools Chess: New Horizons

Pembroke Suite

Chair: **John Foley**

Jesper Hall (Sweden)

Chairman, Education Commission, European Chess Union

The Development of Chess in European Countries

Amanda Aldercotte

Social Psychologist, University of Cambridge

Thinking About Chess as a Mechanism for Executive Function

Development

Giovanni Sala

Psychologist, University of Liverpool

Meta-analysis of the impact of school chess on mathematics

(2) Chess with Refugees

Warwick Room

Philippe Vukojevic (moderator)
Linguist, Chess Trainer, Belgium
Chess Co-ordinator, Refugees, Red Cross

Ake Drott
Social Worker, Gothenburg, Sweden
Chess with unaccompanied children

Niels van der Mark
Doetinchem Chess Club, Netherlands
Chess co-ordinator, asylum seekers

Kineke Mulder
Train of Hope volunteer, Vienna
Railway Station Chess for Refugees

Dijana Dengler
Co-ordinator, Munich Chess Academy and Foundation
Chess teacher for disadvantaged and special needs children.

(3) Chess for Seniors

Napier Room

Craig Pritchett (moderator)
International Master, Author, Scotland
Participant World Senior Chess Championships

Karel van Delft
Psychologist, Netherlands
Chess and Ageing

Leontxo García
Chess author and populariser, Spain
Chess for Old People

(4) International Exchanges

Holland Room

Stefan Löffler (moderator)
Conference Programme Director
International co-operation advisor, Germany

Balazs Kecskemeti
Ballysillan Private School, Belfast
Erasmus Plus

Suresh Timothy Shanker
Claremont Primary School, Manchester
eTwinning

15.00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Chess in Prisons

Pembroke Suite

Leontxo García
Chess author and populariser
Teaching chess in a maximum security prison in Mexico

Kajetan Wandowicz
Prisons co-ordinator, CSC
Chess for education in prisons

Carl Portman
Manager, Chess in Prisons, English Chess Federation
The beneficial impact of chess on prisoners

(2) Youth Counselling

Warwick Room

Fernando Moreno
Counsellor, JoAnn Leleck Elementary School
Maryland, USA
Chess-mediated counselling

Tal Granite
Chess Institute of Canada
Setting personal goals

(3) Role of Families

Napier Room

Teresa Parr

Clinical Psychologist, USA
Manager, Maurice Ashley Trains Champions
Encouraging parental involvement

Wendi Fischer

American Foundation for Chess
"The Chess Lady"
Outreaching to parents

Peter Hug

Die Schulschachprofis
School Chess Professionals, Switzerland
Working with parents as volunteers

16.00-16.30

REFRESHMENTS BREAK

16.30

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Chess in the Community

Pembroke Suite

Chair: **John Foley**

Paul McKeown

Founder, Fulham Junior Chess Club
Creating centres of excellence

Luis Blasco

Club Villalba 64, Madrid
Setting up social chess projects

Craig Pritchett

Former Schools Chess Development Director for Chess Scotland
Challenges facing community projects

(2) Integration and Inclusion through School Chess

Warwick Room

Chair: **Stefan Löffler**

Johanna Valentin

Utsiktstornet (Observation Tower), Sweden

Philippe Vukojevic

Communicating through chess, Belgium

Dijana Dengler

Munich Chess Academy, Germany

Erzsébet Sarlós

Pipacsvirág Primary School, Hungary
Reaching out to Roma children

(3) Chess Camps

Holland Room

Chair: **Olga Dolzhikova**, WGM
Stormester and Stormester, Norway

Jay Stallings

California Youth Chess League

Tim Kett

TSK Chess, Wales
Vale of Glamorgan Chess Camp

(4) Lobbying for School Chess

Napier Room

Chair: **Chris Fegan, CSC**

John Adams
Australian Chess Federation

Marisa van der Merwe
Mini-Chess, South Africa

Jerry Nash
National Chess Education Consultant, USA

Leontxo García
Experiences from Spain and Latin America

Wendi Fischer
American Foundation for Chess

Geir Nesheim
Norwegian Youth Chess Association

17.30

WORLD CAFÉ DEBATES

Where to Invest Public Money in Chess?

John Adams (Australia)
Chris Fegan (CSC)

What is the Earliest and Latest Ages to Start Learning Chess?

Olga Dolzhikova (Norway)
Leontxo García (Spain)

Let's Make Chess Clubs More Friendly!

Stephen Moss (The Guardian)
Leo Hovestad (Netherlands)

Why Do Boys Dominate School Chess, And What Should Be Done About It?

Sandy Ruxton (CSC)
Magdalena Zielińska (Poland)

Does Chess Need To Be More Inclusive?

Chris Ross (Braille)
Malola Prasath (Enhance Institute of Chess Excellence)

Do We Teach The Wrong Chess In Schools?

Stefan Löffler (Germany)

Do We Need An Alternative Version Of Chess?

Gabriel Bobadilla (Spain)

18.30

END OF FIRST DAY

Sunday 6th December

09.00 – 10.15

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Psycho-Motor Skills development

Pembroke Suite

Kevin O'Connell (chair)
FIDE Chess in Schools Commission

Luis Blasco
Castle Project, Erasmus+, Spain

Nicolò Napoli
Castle Project, Erasmus+, Italy

(2) Social Opportunities for National Federations

London Room

Jesper Hall (chair)
Chairman, Education Commission, European Chess Union

Johanna Valentin
Trainer, Chess Social Projects Bootcamp

Phil Ehr
Former CEO, English Chess Federation

(3) TUTORIAL: Teaching Life Skills Through Chess

Warwick Room

Fernando Moreno
School Counsellor

(4) Chess and Mathematics

Napier Room

John Foley (chair)
Director of Education and Training, CSC

Tanja Pflug (Germany)
Kinderschach in Deutschland
Combatting Dyscalculia

Viera Haraštová (Slovakia)
Chess and Mathematics Teacher, Skalica Elementary School
Mathematical Didactical Games

Interpreter: **František Jablonický**, President Slovak Chess Federation

Giovanni Sala (Italy)
Psychologist, University of Liverpool
The impact of chess on learning mathematics

Erzsébet Sarlós (Hungary)
Author, Chess and Logic Curriculum

(5) TUTORIAL: Online Chess

Holland Room

Mike Klein
chess.com / chesskid.com

10.15-10.30

REFRESHMENTS BREAK

10.30-12.00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Chess and Football

Pembroke Suite

Rob Willmoth (chair)
Chess Coaching Services Ltd
Making footballers smarter

Simen Agdestein (Norway)
Grandmaster and professional footballer

(2) Training Teachers to Teach Chess

London Room

Teresa Parr (chair)
Curriculum developer, Maurice Ashley Teaches Chess

Jay Stallings (USA)
Scholastic Council for US Chess

Jerry Nash (USA)
Chess Educator of the Year Award, University of Texas, Dallas, 2015

(3) Chess for ADHD

Napier Room

Teodor Abrèu (chair)
Project Manager at Utsiktstornet, Stockholm
Chess as a method for special education

Luis Blasco
Club Villalba 64, Madrid

Marisa van der Merwe (South Africa)
Founder and CEO, MiniChess

(4) Tutorial: Setting Goals in Chess and Life

Holland Room

Tal Granite
Chess World curriculum developer
Implementing goal-setting into a curriculum

12.00-13.00

LUNCH BREAK

13.00-15.00

LONG SESSIONS IN PARALLEL

(1) Early Years Chess

Pembroke Suite

Olga Dolzhikova (chair)

Radislav Atanassov
National Sports Academy, Bulgaria

Philippe Vukojevic
ChessConsult, Belgium

Roberto Schenker
Chess4Kids, Switzerland

Janka Pallagi,
LearningChess.net, Hungary

Karel van Delft
Schaakacademie Apeldoorn, Netherlands

(2) Chess against Addiction

Holland Room
From 13.30- 15.00

Sabine Vollstädt-Klein (chair)
Central Institute of Mental Health and University of Heidelberg
Chess as an Intervention Against Addictive Disorders?

Mike Klein (USA)
chess.com
Dealing with chess addiction

13.00-14.00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Chess and Economics

London Room

John Foley (chair)

John Adams
Australian Chess Federation
The Role of Chess in the 21st Century Economy

Björn Frank
Professor of Behavioural Economics,
Kassel University, Germany
How cool are chess players?

(2) Scholastic Chess

Warwick Room

Stefan Löffler (chair)

Erzsébet Sarlós
Chess for education

14.00-15.00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

(1) Excellence in Teaching Chess

London Room

John Foley (chair)

Alexander Kostyev
Head of Chess Chair, Russian State Social University
Chess and Universities

Kevin O'Connell
FIDE Chess in Schools
Teacher certification

Jay Stallings
Certifying chess coaches

(2) Business Models for School Chess

Warwick Room

Stefan Löffler (chair)

Wendi Fischer (USA)
American Foundation for Chess

János Pallagi (Hungary)
Learningchess.net

Jesper Hall (Sweden)
Sveriges Schackförbund

Marisa van der Merwe (South Africa)
MiniChess

Peter Hug (Switzerland)
School Chess Professionals

15.00-15.30

REFRESHMENTS BREAK

15.30-17.30

PLENARY SESSION

Pembroke Suite

Social Chess Project Competition Final

Pitch to audience and voting

Chair: **Stefan Löffler**

Review and Outlook: Social investing in chess

Chairs: **John Foley**

Stefan Löffler

17.00

END OF CONFERENCE



London Chess Conference 2015: Chess and Society
is brought to you by CSC - an educational charity supporting chess

Chess in Schools and Communities

44 Baker Street
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www.chessinschools.co.uk

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