



DELANCEY
UK SCHOOLS
CHESS CHALLENGE

Headline Numbers



24th UK Chess Challenge 2019

4 COUNTRIES 

5 CHAMPIONS 

1,200 SCHOOLS 

40,000 CHILDREN 

170,000 GAMES OF CHESS 

THE WORLD'S LARGEST CHESS COMPETITION

SCHOOL ENTRY FROM £25 +VAT



Plus:

57 tournaments

9,000+ participants across those events

50+ regional organisers

£15,000+ total prize fund



Background

Established in 1996 by English IM Mike Basman

Has run every year since - Now in its 24th 'Season'

New owners took control in October 2016 after the organiser ran into financial difficulties

Organisation is a 'for profit' company limited by guarantee

Sponsored by Delancey for a number of years – significant financial contribution

Tournament Structure



TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW



Schools' Stage



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Schools' register online to enter the competition and receive their 'tournament kit'

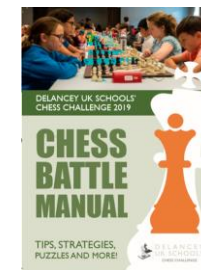
This includes

- Prizes such as certificates, furry mascots, badges, stockers and trophies
- Educational resources – every child receives a 'Chess Battle Manual'
- Teacher resources
- Pairing cards, score chart, and promotional posters



Tournament Kit

The top scoring children qualify for the regional 'Megafinals' – equivalent to 'quarterfinals'



40,000 battle manuals produced



Every teacher receives a guide



Megafinals

Single day event – 6 rounds of rapidplay with clocks

Many players first experience of a chess tournament

Run by independent local organisers – they receive a % of the entry fee

51 events in 2018 ranging from 50 to 450 players

6,383 entrants in 2018



Players scoring 3.5 or more qualify for the Gigafinals (semi-finals)

Gigafinals



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Single day event – 6 rounds of rapidplay with clocks

Festival atmosphere with merchandise on sale. Parents proud to reach this far

Run by central arbiting and organiser team with parent volunteers

3 locations over 3 weekends (6 days of chess)

2,354 entrants in 2018

*Finish in the top 3
to qualify for the
Terafinal*



Terafinal

1 event, 2 days, 6 rounds of standard-play

5 age categories

£15,000+ prize fund

Live boards – chess24 coverage

Grandmaster commentary



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Plans to Grow

European collaboration

“European Schools’ Chess Challenge”

Modern formats

Faster time controls

Half day events

Festival atmosphere – attractive for beginners



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Online Competition

1ST ONLINE UK CHESS CHALLENGE
BEGINS... **1ST FEBRUARY 2019**

SIMIL to British Champions
Sarah Mead and David Howell

ChessKid

INDIVIDUAL AND SCHOOL PRIZES TO BE WON!

SIGN UP ON-LINE!

- Solve Puzzles
- Win stars
- Play Blitz
- Complete levels

TROPHIES **MEDALS**

SIGNUP ONLINE AT:
www.delanceyukschoolschesschallenge/chesskid.com

The poster features a central image of two chess champions, Sarah Mead and David Howell, with a rainbow-colored chess piece icon. It lists activities like solving puzzles and playing blitz, and shows illustrations of trophies and medals. The ChessKid logo is prominently displayed.

Challenges

Rising cost of venues

Aging demographic of organisers

Red tape in schools

Finding teachers / volunteers to run chess clubs in schools

