



Dorset Junior Chess Newsletter

No. 7



Welcome to Newsletter No 7.

It's probably been longer than we expected since we last met to play chess or have coaching in person. In the intervening time, so many chess initiatives have sprung up. The Dorset Libraries Chesskid tournaments run by Andy Baskett are one such successful initiative. Chess in Schools and Communities has also been very active. We would love to hear your news on how you have continued to play chess over this time.

Delancey UK Chess Challenge – latest news

The UK Chess Challenge will be taking part entirely online in 2020 – on lichess.org. Sarah Longson, Director Delancey UK Chess Challenge felt this was the best way to give everyone involved certainty on the tournament structure and dates. The Megafinals kicked off last weekend (20th and 21st June), with 1,628 junior chess players from across the UK taking part, and continue on 4th and 5th July at the following times. Live coverage is on the Twitch platform and Lichess.

Megafinals:

Saturday 4th July

1000 – 1200 (approx)

1400 – 1600 (approx)

Under 10s Megafinal 2

Under 8s Megafinal 2

Sunday 5th July

1000 – 1200 (approx)

1000 – 1200 (approx.)

1400 – 1600 (approx.)

Under 14s Megafinal 2

Under 18s Megafinal 2

Under 12s Megafinal 2

Players either winning their age group or reaching the required number of points, qualify for the Gigafinals taking place in July and August

Gigafinals:

Saturday 11th July

Sunday 12th July

(Under 12, 14 and 18)

(Under 8, 10)

Saturday 8th August

Sunday 9th August

(Under 8, 10)

(Under 12, 14, 18)



Congratulations to Larissa Cuthbert (Girls U12), Max Teverson (Boys U8) and Leo Camopy (Boys U8) who all qualified for the Gigafinals.

Good luck to Jack Baskett and Harry Mercer who will be taking part in the July Megafinals.

Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge is also hosting three other championship events: a Blitz tournament, 960 championship and variant Championship. Further details can be found on their website: <https://www.delanceyukschoolschesschallenge.com/event-dates-2020/>

BBC Chess viewing

The BBC recently aired a programme 'How to Win at Chess' which is available now on iplayer at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b00p8lhp/timeshift-series-9-5-how-to-win-at-chess>.

Free chess training for girls

Many thanks to Adrian Cuthbert (aka Larissa Cuthbert's dad) for bringing this opportunity for girls to our attention through his contact with Lorin D'Costa.



Lorin D'Costa is providing free weekly training to girls via Zoom followed by a girls' tournament. More information on Lorin can be found at: <http://www.lorinchess.com/>. There are also a number of **useful links** for junior chess players on Lorin's website.

Encouraging girls to play chess, **Lorin** says:

For the past Saturdays I have set up a weekly girls event and training entitled 'She Plays To Win', with free training on Zoom and then Lichess arena tournament afterwards. It is part of my bigger ambition to really get girls chess off the ground in the UK. if you could recommend this to the other girls you know would be interested so we can spread this to create a huge following, I would be grateful.

Anyone interested will need to email Lorin to get onto his email list and in the email let him know their daughter's Lichess username so that he can authorise them to take part. Interested girls will also need a Lichess account set up. <https://lichess.org/signup>

Dorset Chess website

Please don't forget to check up on news and activities on the Dorset Chess website from time to time. In addition to specific junior chess news on the Dorset Junior Chess page at <https://www.dorsetchess.co.uk/junior-chess/>, there are:



- Chess Puzzles/Games' twice weekly (Mondays and Thursdays) <https://www.dorsetchess.co.uk/monday-puzzle-game-5/>
- Bulletins' once a week (Saturdays). All the Bulletins & Dorset Local Chat items can be found at <https://www.dorsetchess.co.uk/bulletins-and-chat/>.
- A 'Daily Quiz' covering a wide variety of subjects including the laws of chess, local chess, national chess, international chess and 'You are the Arbiter!'
- Any local online chess activity.

Chess Facts :

The rules of chess are governed by the World Chess Federation, called Federation Internationale des Echecs or FIDE.

The record number of moves without capture is 100 moves during a match between Thornton and Walker in 1992.

Larissa Cuthbert attends Online Chess Camp

Larissa Cuthbert recently attended her first ever virtual international chess training camp. The teaching was delivered by International Masters Jesper Hall and Jop Delemarre from the Netherlands.



Larissa says that she really benefited from the advice during the two days. Particular focus was placed on how to maintain motivation for the next few years.



The highlight of the weekend was for all 17 attendees to each play a game in a 'simul' against International Grandmaster Judit Polgar. Competing against the best female player of all time was a tremendous experience. With much focus Larissa managed to make 53 moves before succumbing to checkmate. (See if you can spot Larissa in the corner of the screen)

All round the camp was a great way to make friendships, develop motivation, and keep on learning.

Get to know famous chess players



When asked why he started playing chess, Magnus revealed that he started showing real interest in learning the game because he wanted to beat his elder sister!

Magnus Carlsen

Sven Magnus Øen Carlsen from Norway is the current World Chess Champion, World Number one, World Rapid Chess Champion, and World Blitz Chess Champion. He is 29 years old (his birthday is 30th November).

Magnus became a grandmaster (GM) at 13 years of age, the world's youngest GM at the time, as well as the second-youngest GM in history at the time (Sergey Karjakin, became a GM at the age of 12 years and 7 months)

Magnus first reached the top of the FIDE world rankings in 2010 when aged 19 years and has remained there for almost 10 years.

His peak classical FIDE rating of 2882 is the highest in history. His current rating is 2863.

When not playing chess, Magnus can often be found playing football.

We hope you enjoyed this newsletter. We always welcome new juniors of all levels and volunteers, so please contact the B&DCL and DCCA junior chess coordinator, Nikki Forster at nikkiforster2015@gmail.com if you wish to find out more on any junior chess matters or check out the Dorset Junior chess webpage <https://www.dorsetchess.co.uk/junior-chess/>