

## International Update

I give below:

- a short Review of Q4 2008
- a link to the latest FIDE ratings for Scottish players
- Forthcoming events in 2009.

Feedback and info to [international@chessscotland.com](mailto:international@chessscotland.com)

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January 2009



## Q4 2008 Review

- Highlight of Q4 was the participation of Open and Women teams at the Dresden Olympiad. I won't go into great detail about performances here and instead would direct you to the Olympiad pages: <http://www.chessscotland.com/international/olympiad2008.htm>
  - It was fantastic to see so many title results this quarter. Congratulations to:
    - Rhian Hughes and Carey Wilman for achieving Women Fide Master (WFM titles) in Dresden and to their coach IM Steve Mannion.
    - Heather Lang - Chess Scotland has also applied for the WFM title for Heather who achieved the required result at the Bled Olympiad.
    - Ketj Arakhamia-Grant - Chess Scotland has applied for the GM title for Ketj. As well as securing her final norm in Dresden her published rating at 1 January 2009 hit 2500. Once ratified, Ketj will become the first British woman to achieve the full GM title.
  - One of my main aims was to ensure extensive Olympiad coverage from a Scottish perspective. A large vote of thanks to Geoff Chandler and Keith Ruxton of Rampant Chess for their entertaining writing; Harald Fietz and his sister Astrid for photo reportage as well as Dougie Bryson for his work on the website.
  - At the end of the year, in the traditional Hastings Congress, rapidly improving Andrew Green shared 8<sup>th</sup> in the Masters with a gain of over 50 FIDE rating points. Andrew will join GM Colin McNab, FM Neil Berry and Alan Tate as the Scottish delegation to Cappelle in February.
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## FIDE Ratings

<http://www.chessscotland.com/grading/fide2009a.htm>

FIDE 1 January 2009 list

- The 2600 mark continues to elude Jonathan Rowson who dropped to 2585 but remains comfortably our highest rated player.
- Jacob Aagaard managed to avoid the traditional 100 point drop that many chess players experience when their first child is born. One year after his daughter was born he is still 2535!
- Ketj Arakhamia-Grant gained over 50 points and narrowly missed re-entering the women's world top ten; she's up to 12<sup>th</sup>.
- It wasn't only players rated over 2000 that travelled to various parts of Europe for open tournaments (destinations this quarter included Germany, Latvia, Greece, Slovakia, Spain and Italy); a party of club players had a successful trip to Benidorm. Take advantage of the cheap air fares whilst they last!

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The forthcoming events section contains information about the main relevant tournaments on the FIDE and ECU calendars as well as the main UK championships and internationals. It is not intended to be comprehensive. Players are recommended to contact the organisers before making arrangements to play in or visit any event. Chess Scotland accepts no responsibility for the completeness or accuracy of the listed information.

It is intended to update on a quarterly basis. For the latest information on dates:

Visit the FIDE calendar page for championships <http://www.fide.com/calendar/fide-calendar>

Visit the FIDE tournaments page for open international events

<http://www.fide.com/calendar/tournaments>

## 2009

### Adult

#### UK

Gibraltar Chess Festival 2009 <a href="http://www.gibraltarchesscongress.com">http://www.gibraltarchesscongress.com</a>	Gibraltar	27-Jan-2009	05-Feb-2009
Scottish Championship 2009	Edinburgh	11-Jul-2009	19-Jul-2009
British Championship 2009 <a href="http://www.bcf.org.uk/calendar">http://www.bcf.org.uk/calendar</a>	Torquay	26-Jul-2009	19-Jul-2009

#### International

Cappelle-La-Grande Open	Cappelle la	28-Feb-2009	7-Mar-2009
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<a href="http://www.cappelle-chess.fr">www.cappelle-chess.fr</a>	Grande, France		
European Individual Chess Championship 2009 <a href="http://www.eurobudva2009.com/">http://www.eurobudva2009.com/</a>	Budva, Montenegro	5-Mar-2009	19-Mar-2009
European Club Cup 2009	Struga, Lake Ochid, FYROM	3-Oct-2009	11-Oct-2009
European Team Chess Championship 2009	Novi Sad/Serbia	21-Oct-2009	31-Oct-2009
European Rapid Chess Championship 2009	No venue	No dates	No dates
European Blitz Championship 2009	No venue	No dates	No dates
EU Championship 2009	No venue	No dates	No dates

### Senior

European Senior Team Chess Championship 2009	Velden/Austria	5-Apr-2009	13-Apr-2009
<a href="#">European Senior Chess Championship 2009</a> Planned for June 2009 (tbc)	Murska Sobota/Slovenia	June 2009?	June 2009?
World Senior Championship 2009	Arco, Italy	4-Nov-2009	15-Nov-2009

### Women

European Individual Women's Chess Championship 2009	St Petersburg, Russia	7-Mar-2009	21-Mar-2009
European Club Cup (Women) 2009	Struga, Lake Ochid, FYROM	3-Oct-2009	11-Oct-2009
European Team Chess Championship (Women) 2009	Novi Sad/Serbia	21-Oct-2009	31-Oct-2009
European Rapid Women's Chess Championship 2009	No venue	No dates	No dates
European Blitz Women's Championship 2009	No venue	No dates	No dates