

**Dear Chess Scotland Member** 

Thank you for supporting Chess Scotland this year. I hope you have enjoyed your chess during the season so far.

The Chess Scotland website <a href="www.chessscotland.com">www.chessscotland.com</a>
contains a vast amount of news and information about chess in Scotland but I wanted to highlight a few items to members which I hope will be of interest.

## **Chess Scotland Online Store**

Chess Scotland has an online store in association with Amazon. The link is on the top right of the home page of ChessScotland.com. We benefit from a small commission generated on most purchases made through our website. All prices at the Chess Scotland link should be the same as if you had visited Amazon directly.

NB: It doesn't have to be chess goods – any purchase you normally make from Amazon should be available via the Chess Scotland link.

## **Scottish Chess Championships & International Open 2015**

The 122nd Scottish Championship and International Open will take place at the Tom Fleming Centre in Stewart's Melville College in Edinburgh July 11-19, 2015.

This is a 9 round event with title norm opportunities. The early entries date for a reduced entry fee of £60 is this Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. The entry fee after this date is £90.

(W)GMs, (W)IMs and (W)FMs Entry Free until 30 June. Others £60 if by 30 April, £90 by 30 June, £100 thereafter.

Prizes –  $1^{st}$  £2000,  $2^{nd}$  £1000,  $3^{rd}$  £500,  $4^{th}$  £300,  $5^{th}$  £200, +£100 rating prizes

#### **Entries Secretary**

Karen Howie, 154 Troon Avenue, Greenhill, East Kilbride G75 8TJ scottishchess2015@gmail.com

### **Chess Scotland Membership Secretary**

After five years in the role, Dick Heathwood stepped down as Membership Secretary at the turn of the year. Many thanks are due to Dick Heathwood for the work he put in during his five year tenure.

Karen Howie has now undertaken the role and can be contacted at the address given above (for Scottish Championship entries) or at <a href="mailto:membership@chessscotland.com">membership@chessscotland.com</a>

# **Chess Scotland Magazine**

The Chess Scotland magazine editor Andy Burnett would welcome contributions, articles and photographs from all members. A lot of hard work goes into producing the magazine but it needs the contributions of chess players in Scotland. Andy can be contacted at <a href="editor@chessscotland.com">editor@chessscotland.com</a>

### **Ayr Congress 2015**

Finally, I'd like to take the opportunity to highlight this year's Ayr Chess Congress, which is being held once again at the Mercure Hotel in Ayr during the late bank holiday weekend, May 22nd to May 24<sup>th</sup>. The Congress website is <a href="https://www.ayrcongress.co.uk">www.ayrcongress.co.uk</a>

For a second year, in addition to our own Chess Scotland live boards I have arranged for Dave Clayton, from Preston, to bring extra live boards and also the big screen monitors used at the British and the Scottish.

Andrew Green and Ali Roy will also be back for a second year with live commentary, coaching, puzzles, animal noise buzzers and a good deal of fun, as well as some serious chess analysis and helpful hints.

We will also have a bookstall this year provided by Chess Essentials. The bookstall will be selling books (obviously), chess dvds, chess sets, clocks and stationery.

Anybody wishing to pre-order or view an item or book should contact Howard Wood - <a href="mailto:chessbooksuk@hotmail.co.uk">chessbooksuk@hotmail.co.uk</a>.

Chess Essentials stock economy analogue chess clock, DGT chess clock, pairing boards, pairing cards, wall charts, folding chess boards and plastic club sets. etc

Entry to the congress can be made by post, telephone or e-mail. Details are on the entry form which is available on the congress website or via the calendar entry on the Chess Scotland website. I will be away from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of May but should have internet access to deal with e-mail entries and enquiries. Any postal or telephone entries will be dealt with promptly on my return.

**Kind Regards** 

**David Congalton**