



5th European Small Nations Individual Championship

2nd European Small Nations Individual Women Chess Championship

CENTRE DE CONGRESSOS D'ANDORRA LA VELLA

From 22nd to 30th June 2024

Newsletter 01



Federació d'Escacs Valls d'Andorra

www.escacsandorra.com

esna.escacsandorra.com



Welcome

In 2009, under the support of the Government of Andorra and the Andorra la Vella City Council, the Andorran Chess Federation restarted the European Small Nations Team Championship, which until a few years earlier had organized systematically the Monaco Chess Federation.

The event was a success and was the restart to celebrate the tournament every two years, organized by one of the involved federations, making this championship considered the best among the Small European States. We should add here the involvement of the European Chess Union (ECU), because without them this would not have been possible.

Thus in 2011 the second edition was held in the Faroe Islands, Monaco was the host in 2013 while in 2015 we met in Guernsey and in 2017 the Andorra Chess Federation organised again the team championship, taking advantage of the coincidence of this event with the 50th anniversary of our Federation which was a highlight in a special year for us!

This year we have set ourselves a new challenge, the organisation of the 5th Individual Championship, which has never been held in our country. In addition, thanks to the fact that Monaco initiated it in 2022, we will also host the 2nd edition of the Women's Championship.

Players from Cyprus, Faroe Islands, Guernsey, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco and San Marino... We are waiting for you from 22nd to 30th June in Andorra la Vella!



Teams Championship, Andorra 2009



TOURNAMENT HALL AT CENTRE DE CONGRESSOS D'ANDORRA LA VELLA

The Aria room of the Congress

*Center will host them all
the tournament games.*

Entrance is free.



**THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE
TOURNAMENT WHERE ALL THE
INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IS:**
esna.escacsandorra.com

Schedule of the tournament and parallel activities

The schedule and the parallel activities for the players and companions during their stay would be as follows:



22/06/24	All Day 19:00	Arrival. Opening Ceremony.
23/06/24	15:00	Round 1.
24/06/24	09:00 16:00	Round 2. Round 3.
25/06/24	11:00 15:00	Visit to Casa de la Vall. Round 4.
26/06/24	09:00 16:00	Round 5. Round 6.
27/06/24	10:00 15:00	Guided walking Tour. Round 7.
28/06/24	10:30 15:00 22:00	Bicilab Museum. Round 8. Women Blitz Tournament.
29/06/24	15:00 21:00	Round 9. Closing Ceremony and dinner.
30/06/24	All Day	Departure.

Press Conference

The Mayor of the Andorra la Vella, Mr. Sergi González and the president of the FEVA, Mr. Francesc Rechi, present the tournament.

Opening Ceremony, Saturday June 22



The Mayor of the Andorra la Vella, *Mr. Sergi González*, the president of the Andorra Chess Federation, *Mr. Francesc Rechi*, and the federation's technical director, *Mr. Òscar de la Riva*, presented the event on Monday, June 17, in the press room of the Comú d 'Andorra la Vella, located in the Congress Centre.

The official opening will be held on *Saturday, June 22 at 7:00 p.m.* in the Municipality of Andorra la Vella and, as explained by Mr. González, the event will also have parallel activities so that chess players and companions can get to know the culture and traditions of Andorra with a guided visit to Casa de la Vall, a tour of the most emblematic places of Andorra la Vella as well as the visit at the Bicilab Museum.

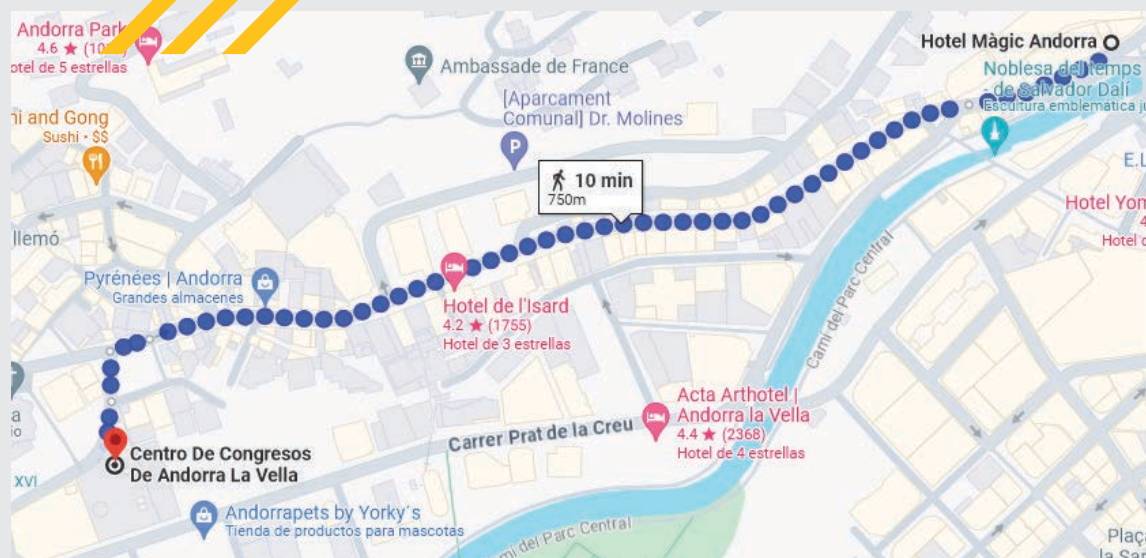
We wish the players and companions to enjoy a good stay in our country!



Press Conference in Andorra la Vella

MAGIC ANDORRA HOTEL

The tournament hall is a 10-minute walk from the Magic Andorra Hotel****.



BREAKFAST AND DINNER SCHEDULES AT THE MAGIC ANDORRA HOTEL

- Breakfast, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Dinner, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.



Dates to remember! Inscriptions at Tournament Hall

- **Saturday, June 22 at 7:00 pm.**
Opening ceremony at the Andorra la Vella Comú.
- **Tuesday, June 25 at 11:00 am.**
Guided tour in English at the "Casa de la Vall". History, beauty, political importance... There are lots of reasons that make "Casa de la Vall" one of the most symbolic monuments in Andorra, if not the most. It's located in the heart of the old town of Andorra la Vella and can be visited.
- **Thursday, June 27 at 10:00 am.**
Walking through the historic centre of Andorra la Vella. Guided tour in English.
- **Friday, June 28 at 10:30 am.**
Bici Lab Andorra (BLA) explores the potential of bicycles as an element for sustainable mobility, a healthy lifestyle and as an economic driver; a place that celebrates Andorra's natural appeal for the sport of cycling.
- **Friday, June 28 at 10:00 pm.**
1st Women's Blitz Tournament at the Tournament Hall. You can't miss it!
- **Saturday, June 29 at 9:00 pm.**
Closing Ceremony and dinner at "Borda Estevet restaurant".

Andorra 2024

Andorra is the venue for the Individual Championship this 2024, jointly holding the mixed and women's categories.

An organizational challenge

FIDE ZONE 1.10

The participation of the 10 countries that make up the European Small Nations Chess Association is planned:

- **ANDORRA**
- **CYPRUS**
- **FAROE ISLANDS**
- **GUERNSEY**
- **JERSEY**
- **LIECHTENSTEIN**
- **LUXEMBURG**
- **MALTA**
- **MONACO**
- **SAN MARINO**

Once the Association of Small States of Europe (ESNA) approved the request of the Valls d'Andorra Chess Federation as the organizing headquarters of the Small States of Europe Individual Championship, our federation proposed the 'joint organization of the mixed and women's competition.

This 2024 will therefore be the first time that the same headquarters will bring the best players from the Small States, which represents a new organizational challenge for our federation, which we remember has already organized the team competition twice, in the years 2009 and 2017, in both cases in Andorra la Vella..

The **1st Women European Small Nations Individual Blitz Chess Championship** will also be organized, with 3+2 games and scheduled for Friday, June 28 at 10:00 p.m..



Visit Areny-Plandolit Museum, during the organization in the Principality in 2017

Tournament Regulations

1. Playing Hall

The Playing Hall will be "Aria Hall" from the Centre de Congressos d'Andorra la Vella (Plaça del Poble s/n d'Andorra la Vella) with all the required commodities. The tournament hall is a 10-minute walk from the Magic Andorra Hotel****.

2. Round Robin Tournament

The championship will be played using the 9 round Round-Robin system. Starting numbers will be drawn at the Opening Ceremony.

3. Time Control

The time control will be 90 minutes for 40 moves + 30 minutes for the rest of the game + 30 seconds increment from move 1. Tolerance of fifteen (15) minutes will be applied for each round to arrive at the board at the start of the round.

4. Tie-Break Systems

The final classification is decided by game points (1 point for a win; $\frac{1}{2}$ for a draw; 0 for a loss). Tie-Break systems will accomplish FIDE Competition Rules [Handbook 07. Tie-Breaks Regulations (effective from April 2024)]: Direct encounter; 2. Sonneborn-Berger; 3. Number of wins.

5. Procedure of appeals

Protests against decisions of the Chief Arbiter or any of his assistants must be submitted in written form to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee within one hour after completion of the playing round.

The claim must be accompanied by the sum of 50,00 EUR, as a deposit from the signatory. If it is accepted and the decision changed, the deposit will be returned to the claimant. Otherwise, money will be transferred to the Organizing Committee.

The Appeals Committee will be selected prior to the first round during the technical meeting and will be made up of three people elected by most of the players and two members of the organization.

6. Additional Rules

- Analyzing is not allowed in the playing hall.
- Players are not allowed to bring any electronic device (mobile phone, smartwatch...) into the playing hall, even if switched-off in a pocket. If a mobile phone rings or another electronic device is noticed, the player will be punished according to the Laws of Chess by loss of the game.
- Photos with camera (not mobile phone) may be taken during the games. Flash is admitted only in the first 15 minutes of the games.
- We assume that all the players are aware of the Tournament Regulations and are obliged to obey them.

7. Prizes

There will be prizes for the top three players for each tournament (EUR 500/300/200).

8. Tournament Director

The tournament director is Mr. Joan Antoni Obregón Gutiérrez. Contacts for any request: phone (+376) 339309, e-mail: fide@escacsandorra.com.

ESNA Hall of Fame

Andorra is the current team champion by winning the 2023 edition held in Jersey

Team Championship

CANDIDATES FOR THE TITLE

The team from Andorra is one of the candidate teams for the podium and this is demonstrated by its results from back in 2009. Andorra is currently the reigning champion thanks to the victory in the 2023 in Jersey.

At the last Olympic Games in Chennai 2022 was the selection of the Small States of Europe which obtained the best score..

This tournament, which started in 2009 in the Principality of Andorra, was continued in 2011 in the Faroe Islands, in 2013 in Monaco, in 2015 in Guernsey, in 2017 again in Andorra, in 2019 in San Marino, in 2021 in Malta and in 2023 in Jersey. It is, therefore, a consolidated test within the European calendar of our sport where the team event is held every two years.

This event includes the small states of Europe, Andorra, Cyprus, Faroe Islands, Guernsey, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco and San Marino and the game system is a nine-round league format with teams of 4 players.

Andorra's national team usually struggles to reach the podium, achieving victory in the 2019 editions in San Marino and 2023 in Jersey taking second place in the 2009, 2013 and 2021 editions..



Champion Team, Jersey 2023

LANCE HENDERSON, LAST INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION OF THE TOURNAMENT

In 2022, the Individual Championship was held in Liechtenstein and the champion was the young grandmaster representing the Principality.



ANDREA HENDERSON, ANDORRA REPRESENTATIVE IN MONACO 2022

The first edition of the women's championship was contested in 2022 and the player from the Principality finished in second place.



Individual Championship

In 2014, and under the organization of the Cypriot Chess Federation, the first edition of the Individual Championship of the Small States of Europe took place with the participation of 12 players, one from each country, an extra representative from the country organizer and an invitation for the player with the highest ELO from all the countries that are part of the "Small Nations".

In this first edition, the Andorran representative was the great master Oscar de la Riva, who finished in third place.

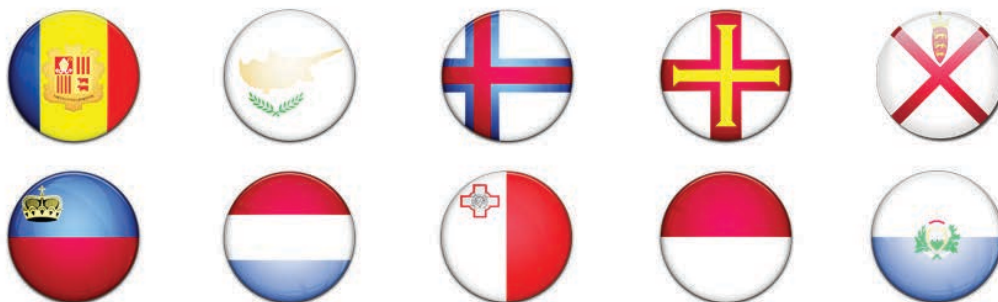
In 2016 it was Luxembourg that took over, while in 2018 it was held in the Faroe Islands.

The last edition, in 2022, the tournament was held in Liechtenstein, and precisely the winner was the representative of the Principality, grandmaster Lance Henderson de la Fuente, thus becoming the first player from our country to win the competition.

In the same year, the first women's edition of this tournament was also held, and in this case the host country was Monaco. The representative of the Principality, the female FIDE master Andrea Henderson, finished in second place.

Team Champions

From 2009 to 2023



2009 ANDORRA

1st FAI 2nd AND 3rd LUX



2011 FAROE ISLANDS

1st LUX 2nd FAI 3rd MNC



2013 MONACO

1st FAI 2nd AND 3rd MNC

2015 GUERNSEY

1st LUX 2nd MNC 3rd FAI



2017 ANDORRA

1st FAI 2nd MNC 3rd AND

2019 SAN MARINO

1st AND 2nd MNC 3rd FAI



2021 MALTA

1st FAI 2nd AND 3rd MNC

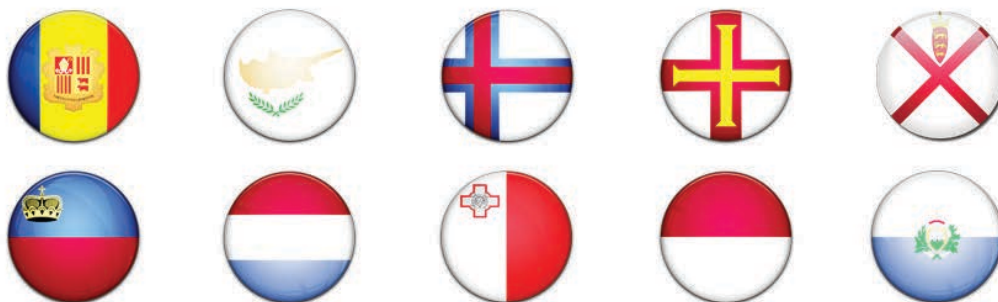
2023 JERSEY

1st AND 2nd FAI 3rd LUX



Individual Champions

From 2014 to 2022



2014 CYPRUS

1st Wiedenkiller, M (LUX) 2nd Efimov, I (MNC) 3rd De la Riva, O (AND)

2016 LUXEMBURG

1st Ziska, HD (FAI) 2nd De la Riva, O (AND) 3rd Wiedenkiller, M (LUX)

2018 FEROE ISLANDS

1st Ziska, HD (FAI) 2nd Efimov, I (MNC) 3rd Berend, F (LUX)

2021 ONLINE

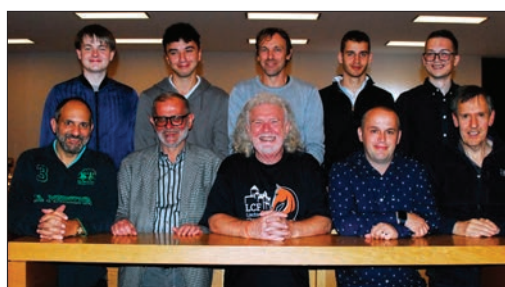
1st Wiedenkiller, M (LUX) 2nd Ziska, HD (FAI) 3rd Efimov, I (MNC)

2022 LIECHTENSTEIN

1st Henderson, L (AND) 2nd Efimov, I (MNC) 3rd Apol, LA (FAI)

2022 MONACO

1st Dornbusch, T (MNC) 2nd Henderson, A (AND) 3rd Berezovsky, F (MNC)



Players

5th European Small Nations Individual Championship

List of the players of the *5th European Small Nations Individual Championship* by ranking order.

The presence of the grandmaster Igor Efimov (Monaco), international master Fred Berend (Luxembourg) and 2 FIDE masters.

The Andorran representative, the under-18 player Serni Ribera Veganzones is the player with the highest ELO in the tournament.



SERNI RIBERA
FM 2341 (AND)



K. MICHAELIDES
FM 2317 (CYP)



IGOR EFIMOV
GM 2312 (MNC)



LUITJEN A. APOL
2251 (FAI)



FRED BEREND
IM 2235 (LUX)



COLIN PACE
CM 2184 (MLT)



PAUL A. CARPENTER
1969 (JCI)



ARITA STRADE
1957 (GCI)



RENATO FRICK
1907 (LIE)



NICOLA D'AMICO
1832 (SMR)



Women Players 2nd European Small Nations Women Individual Championship

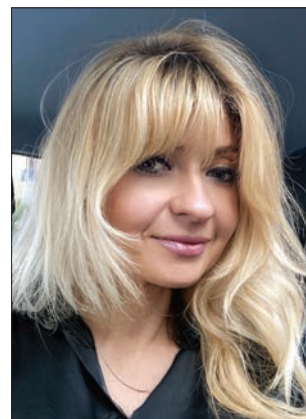
List of the players of the *2nd European Small Nations Women Individual Championship* by ranking order.

Two countries have not been able to send a female representative, the Faroe Islands and Liechtenstein. For this reason Andorra has been able to cover these places with two extra players.

Andrea Henderson, the reigning runner-up of the tournament, is the player in the country with the highest ELO.



ELVIRA BEREND
WGM 2230 (LUX)



MARIA ZVEREVA
WIM 2040 (MNC)



ANDREA HENDERSON
WFM 1966 (AND)



GERDA NEVSKA
1872 (GCI)



JÚLIA MURATET
1834 (AND)



FILIPINA THORNTON
WFM 1787 (MLT)



ARIADNA DE LA RIVA
1774 (AND)



RACHEL RUDDY
WCM 1719 (JCI)



CHRISTIANA MARKIDOU
WFM 1676 (CYP)



MARIANE BIORDI
(SMR)

ORGANIZATION



FRANCESC RECHI
FEVA President



JOAN A. OBREGON
Tournament Director



JOSEP A. RIVERO
FEVA Secretary



OSCAR DE LA RIVA
Technical Director FEVA

The organizational chart is headed by the President of the Andorra Chess Federation, Mr. Francesc Rechi, followed by the director of the tournament, the International Organizer Joan A. Obregón. The Secretary of the Federation, Mr. Josep A. Rivero is in charge of administrative tasks and relations with international federations and their representatives.

For his part, Mr. Oscar de la Riva, technical director of the federation will be in charge of the live broadcast of all the matches that can be followed through the official website and also the most recognized international platforms..

ARBITERS



ALEXANDRA MURATET
Chief Arbiter



ESTEVE MATEU
Deputy Arbiter



NEREA PASTOR
Deputy Arbiter

The FIDE Arbiter of the Principality, Alexandra Muratet, will be the main arbiter of the tournament. The fellow FIDE arbiters, Esteve Mateu and Nerea Pastor, will be their assistants during the development of the two competitions.



Last organized tournaments:
Malta 2021, Liechtenstein 2022, Monaco 2022 and Jersey 2023

Social Networks



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