



GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION

2019 REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

GCA-FIDE PARTNERSHIP

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2019 GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION PROGRESS REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dear all,

Compliments of the New Year!

FIDE led by its visionary President, Arkady Dvorkovich, has made it point to support federations that are struggling with chess development as a fulfilment of his campaign promises in 2018. Through the close and constant cooperation with the FIDE Planning and Development Commission, Ghana Chess has made some notable strides in the year 2019.

These reports highlight the main activities engaged in notably the hosting of two FIDE calendar events, commencing of a national inter-club Chess league, Grandmaster training sessions as well as the acquisition of Chess equipment. The fide calendar events have detailed reports made separately as this document only covers a general overview of the events.

On behalf of the Ghana Chess Association, I wish to extend our sincerest gratitude to FIDE President, Arkady Dvorkovich for his leadership as well as to the PDC secretary Sonja Johnson and her team for their time and efforts which has yielded this fruitful cooperation.

Thank you all once again and we look forward to an even more eventful and fruitful 2020.

Yours in Chess,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Philip E. Ameku', is written over a horizontal line.

Philip E. Ameku

PRESIDENT – GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION



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ACQUISITION OF NEW ELECTRONIC CHESS BOARDS

Ghana to start broadcast of live chess games played locally through the procurement of six units of Smart Chess Boards from Digital Technology Company in the Netherlands. This is a historical achievement for Ghana and we hope to procure more of these in the near future.

These chess boards couldn't have come at a better time as Ghana was due to host both the 2019 Zone 4.4 Individual Chess Championships as well as the African Junior Chess Championships.

We look forward to acquiring more of these boards as they help make chess a spectator game. <https://ghanachess.com/gca-to-commence-live-broadcast-of-chess-games/?v=6848ae6f8e78>



Pictures show the Ghana Chess Association officials presenting newly acquired Electronic Chess boards to the Director General of National Sports Authority Professor Peter Twumasi and his staff





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GCA INTRODUCES CHESS LEAGUE

Ghana chess association has started an inter club chess league as promised by the new administration. This was the first edition and it featured ten top chess clubs in Ghana. The aim of the league is to activate chess clubs which were mostly dormant and to encourage training of more chess players in the country.

At the end of season one, Osu Chess Club came tops followed closely by Elichess and Dreamfort as 2nd and 3rd respectively. Plans are already underway to start the Ghana Chess League Season 2 come March 2020

Below are some pictures from the league.



	LEAGUE FINAL RANKINGS	MP	Pts+MP
1	Osu CC	49	110
2	Elichess	49	105½
3	Dreamfort CC Team A	39	90½
4	Knightmare	37	81½
5	Indian Association CC Team A	22	51½
6	Indian Association CC Team B	19	38½
7	Mentors CC	18	42
8	Dreamfort CC Team B	7	20
9	Legon CC	7	17½
10	SKY3 CC	4	10





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ZONE 4.4 INDIVIDUAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ghana, after hosting the Zone 4.4 U-16 Team Championships in December 2018, was considered to host the 2019 Zone 4.4 Individual Chess Championships after the original hosts Cape Verde pulled out from hosting the event.

The 2019 zone 4.4 chess championships took place in Ghana at Oceanic Hotel from 20th – 29th April with participation from over 70 players from 9 countries in both men and women categories with a prize fund of \$4000 distributed to winners.

With a total number of 54 players registered in the open section and 18 players in the Women's section, it is the highest turn out ever recorded at an African Zonal Championships according to Africa Chess Media.

Daniel Anwuli, a 27 year old Nigerian emerged winner of the tournament and walked home with the International Chess Master Title and a place at the Chess World which took place in Russia 2019.

Below are just a few pictures of the event, however more detailed report on this tournament is attached for your perusal





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BACK-TO-BACK GRANDMASTER TRAINING SESSIONS WITH GM MAURICE ASHLEY

FIRST VISIT : 27th April—3rd May, 2019

Chess in Ghana received a great boost with the visit of American Grandmaster, Maurice Ashley, in to the country. Maurice is a renowned author and commentator at high profile chess events but he is however revered as the first black person in history to attain the title of grandmaster. After witnessing the closing rounds of the Zone 4.4 Chess Championships and launching the West African Chess Academy at Nungua, he took time to conduct a Chess workshop and a simultaneous exhibition which took place at African Regent Hotel.

<https://www.thechessdrum.net/blog/2019/10/12/ashley-propelling-chess-forward-in-west-africa/>





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With participants from Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, the 9th President's Cup maintained its status as an important tournament of international stature.

The tournament which was initiated by the former president of Ghana Chess Grp. Cpt George Arko-Dadzie, has since been supported by Reis and Co Ghana Ltd during his tenure and has continued as Mr Peter van der Wurff, the Managing Director from local sponsor Reiss & Co (Ghana) Ltd was in attendance to assist with the prize giving.

Reiss & Co is a multi-divisional technical trading house with interests in a diverse group of industries including agriculture, veterinary, pharmaceuticals, computers and security equipment and mechanical equipment.



Managing Director of Reiss & Co Ghana Ltd Mr. Peter Gerard van der Wurff (wearing peach-colored shirt) assisting in the distribution of prizes to the winners





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THE RETURN OF MAURICE

SECOND VISIT : (27th April—3rd May)

Maurice Ashley returned to Ghana in October as earlier promised to continue the training program however he came along with another American chess player by name Rochelle Ballantyne. Rochelle is among the few female Expert-level players in the US and a subject of the movie Brooklyn Castle. She played a famous game with Garry Kasparov termed as 'Harlem shake'. Their visit to Ghana also coincided with the 'year of return, Ghana 2019' launched by Ghana's President Nana Akufo-Addo September 2018 in Washington DC, giving fresh impetus to the quest to unite Africans on the continent with their brothers and sisters in the diaspora. The second visit was more memorable as they were treated to a welcome reception by African American Association of Ghana at the WEB Dubois Center next to the American

WELCOME RECEPTION AT WEB DUBOIS CENTER, CANTONMENTS, ACCRA





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TWO-DAY TRAINING PROGRAM

GM Maurice Ashley and Rochelle Ballantyne conducted a two-day intensive chess training sessions from selected junior players from various schools in Ghana. This crop of players represent the future of Ghana Chess where they are taught to play Chess the right way from a young age!





2019 GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION PROGRESS REPORT

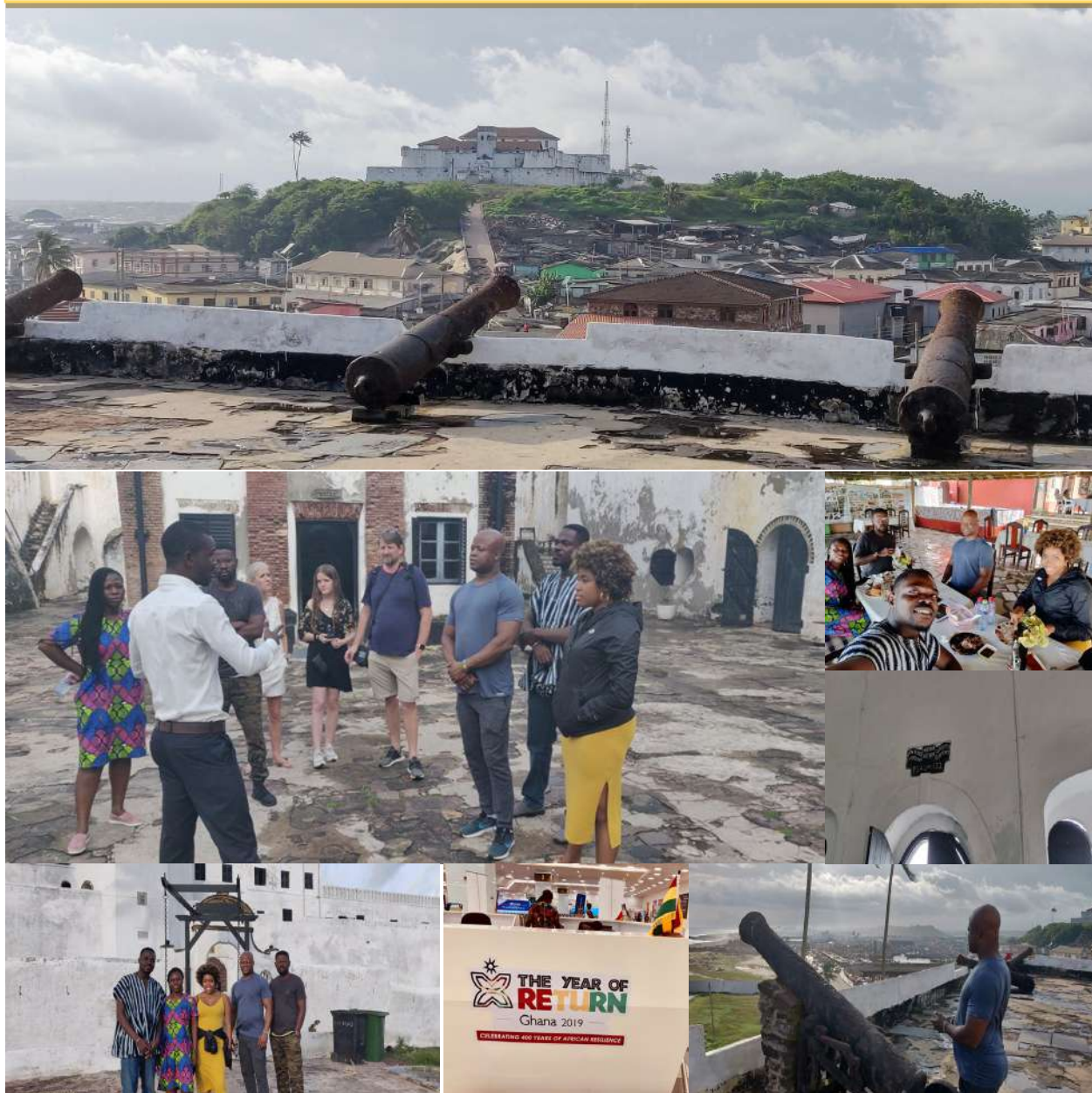
GCA-FIDE PARTNERSHIP



YEAR OF RETURN TRIPS TO CAPE COAST AND ELMINA

Ghana designated 2019 as the Year of Return to commemorate 400 years since the first enslaved Africans arrived in Jamestown, Virginia in the United States. Maurice and Rochelle, both black Americans took time to participate in the Year of Return program by taking a tour of the Cape coast and Elmina Castles which were the major Under the rule of the Dutch West Indies Company, around 30,000 slaves a year passed through Elmina's door of no return, right up until 1814 when the Dutch slave trade was abolished, seven years after the British. Ceded to the British in 1872, Elmina Castle was hardly in use until Ghana's independence

SCENES FROM CAPE COAST AND ELMINA CASTLES





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2019 AFRICAN JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS ACCRA-GHANA

Ghana was indeed honored to welcome eleven other African countries as it hosted the 2019 African Junior Championships in partnership with FIDE and the ACC. This year marked the 32nd edition of this tournament and equally marked Ghana's first attempt at hosting the championships.

The event took place from 25th October to 2nd November 2019 at Palma Hotel in Accra saw a total of 32 players playing in both Open and Girl's categories using a 9-round Swiss-format. The participating countries are as follows; Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cote D'Ivoire, Nigeria Sao Tome and Principe, Togo and hosts Ghana.

Here are a few pictures from the event however a full report on this tournament is attached for your perusal



THANK YOU

GENS UNA SUMUS





APPENDIX C - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

NATIONAL CHESS

FEDERATION (NCF): GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION

CONTINENT: AFRICA

DEVELOPMENT LEVEL: D

PERIOD: 31-12-2018 -

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)¹ are the critical (key) indicators of progress toward an intended result.

The NCF is required to measure the effectiveness of its programmes using the KPIs listed below. It is possible that a Federation may not be able to report on a particular KPI and this will be taken into consideration at the end of the reporting period. NCFs can also make use of the '**Comments**' field as required. The NCF is also allowed to include any additional KPIs that it considers to be relevant for reporting purposes.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Baseline- 2018 ²	End of Period	Comments
No. of FIDE rated players	51	80	
Certified Arbiters	6	8	
Certified Trainers	1	10	
Average rating of top 10 players	1897	1950	
Average no. of rated games by top 10 players	154	200	
No. of participants in international chess tournaments	10	20	
No. of Players on FIDE List	142	300	
No. of Affiliated clubs	10	20	
No. of School Chess Teachers	12	62	

¹ <https://kpi.org/KPI-Basics>

² NCF to populate these fields with the current values of each KPI as at the beginning of the programme/project period.



APPENDIX C - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Baseline- 2018 ²	End of Period	Comments
No. of schools with chess programmes	12	50	
No. of students in chess in school programmes	200	2000	
No. of Positive or neutral articles & media coverage incl. social media	0	5	
No. of chess sponsors	2	5	
No. Of Strategic Partners e.g. NOC	2	5	
OTHER-Please specify- Active female players	8	20	

On behalf of FEDERATION

President: Ghana Chess Association

Date: 17-2-2019



APPENDIX D – REPORT ON FUNDING

NATIONAL CHESS FEDERATION (NCF): GHANA CHESS ASSOCIATION

CONTINENT: AFRICA

DEVELOPMENT LEVEL: E

Please complete ALL requested fields in this report.

1. Programme/Project Name:

Chess Equipment, Zone 4.4 Individual Championships, Maurice Ashley Training, Chess League

2. Programme/Project Dates:

March 2019, April 2019, April/October 2019

3. Summary of Project Outcomes:

Projects have resulted in more tournaments in Ghana and increase in level of play.

4. Breakdown of Funding Usage (Please provide supporting documents as far as possible):

Grandmaster Training-\$7000, Zonal Championships-\$15000, Equipment-\$3400, Chess League-\$2000

5. Any funds not yet used? No

If No, please provide reasons and details on how and when the funds will be utilised:

6. Lessons Learned/Future Improvements:

We are indeed grateful to FIDE and the PDC for such timely intervention, we however hope countries that host events should be given higher amounts as they incur more expenditure

On behalf of FEDERATION

President <Ghana Chess Association>

Date: 11/11/2019