



## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CHESS ASSOCIATION

### APPENDIX D- FINAL REPORT

#### DEVELOPMENT FUND

Period: January –December 2019



## BACKGROUND

Trinidad and Tobago was one of the 4 pilot countries (one per continent) to be granted US\$20 000 from the FIDE development fund. The funding was provided based on the completion of an application package which included an operational, plan, KPIs and a signed agreement which were submitted in November 2018 and subsequently approved. The summary of activities for the year are highlighted below.

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES-2019

- NATIONAL YOUTH AND JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019





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The National Youth chess Championships 2019 attracted 102 participants and was held at the University of Trinidad and Tobago - Couva Campus, from **January 3-6, 2019**. Of this number, 22 players were female. The event was quite successful without any incidents. The National Junior Championships took place over the period **January 19, 20, 26, 27 2019** and attracted 30 players.

The National Prize-giving was held on **February 17, 2019** and the TTCA was happy to have Mr. Patrice Charles, Director of Physical Education and sport as its Feature Speaker. Mr. Charles expressed his delight with the fact that there were new policies, and procedures in place at FIDE which will positively affect the running of the TTCA. He said that these new policies are well aligned to the Ministry of Sport and Youth affairs new vision for the management of National Sporting Bodies within Trinidad and Tobago. He also reaffirmed the good relationship between the TTCA and the Ministry and pledged continued support.

Photos can be found on the TTCA's Facebook Page. [Album: National Youth and Junior Chess Champions 2019 - Prize Giving](#)

- [CARIFTA 2019: CURACAO](#)

Trinidad and Tobago fielded the largest contingent ever at the Carifta Youth Chess Festival which took place in CURACAO from March – April 2019. In the end T&T won a CARIFTA gold, a CARIFTA silver and a CARIFTA bronze medal and 7 other sub category medals.

Reference to this event can be found on the PDC website at:

<https://pdc.fide.com/2019/06/05/team-trinidad-and-tobago-place-second-in-carifta-youth-chess-championships-2019-in-curacao/>

[Media article: https://newsday.co.tt/2019/04/29/tt-finish-second-in-curacao/](https://newsday.co.tt/2019/04/29/tt-finish-second-in-curacao/)

- [FIRST CITIZENS SPORTS FOUNDATION AWARDS](#)

The Trinidad and Tobago Chess Association won the Jeffrey Stollmeyer Award for Top Sporting Organisation (Small) at the First Citizens Sports Foundation Awards, for 2018. This follows previous awards for 2015 and 2016.



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- NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS

All four championship qualifiers were completed over the period February 2019 to July 2019 in preparation for the National Championships at the end of August 2019.







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- REKINDLING THE RELATIONSHIP WITH TOBAGO CHESS SOCIETY

The TTCA met with members of the Tobago Society with the view to further develop chess in the sister isle of Tobago as well as work towards getting Tobago Chess Society re-affiliated with the TTCA. Tobago Channel 5 provided coverage of the meeting.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2926621877411635>

- TTCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The TTCA's AGM was held on June 9, 2019. Sonja Johnson was reelected as President for a 2 year period. The list of officers can be found on FIDE's webpage under Directory/Member Federations.

- INTERNATIONAL CHESS DAY

The TTCA collaborated with Point Fortin Young Masters Chess club to host a one day rapid event on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June in commemoration of International Chess Day. This event catered for Novice players, Under 12, Under 20 and parents! During this day, the video submission for the TTCA, congratulating FIDE on its 95 year anniversary as well as International Chess Day was captured.

See link: <https://www.facebook.com/ttcachess/videos/447909175797904/>



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- TRAINING PROGRAMME-GM MARIAN PETROV

GM Marian Petrov, from Bulgaria, was invited to Trinidad and Tobago to conduct training workshops for players within the chess community at different levels including youth and the more elite players.







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- SIMULTANEOUS EVENT AT C3 CENTRE-GM MARIAN PETROV

The GM also conducted a simultaneous exercise with more than 30 at the popular mall- C3 Centre.



There were players even waiting their turn to play!

For media clips please click on the links below:

[https://www.tv6tnt.com/news/7pmnews/chess-grand-master-visits-trinidad/article\\_9aa871b8-c9ec-11e9-9fa3-175e267cd95a.html](https://www.tv6tnt.com/news/7pmnews/chess-grand-master-visits-trinidad/article_9aa871b8-c9ec-11e9-9fa3-175e267cd95a.html)

<https://newsday.co.tt/2019/08/28/bulgarian-chess-master-instructs-local-prisoners/>



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- CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN YOUTH CHESS FESTIVAL-HONDURAS



Team TTO participated in the CAC Youth Chess Festival which took place in Honduras from September 30-October 6, 2019.

Trinidad and Tobago earned 3 medals in this event:

- Under 8 Absolute: Kyan Muradali-Silver Medal (CM title provisional on rating)
- Under 14 Female: Zara La Fleur-Bronze medal (WCM title provisional on rating)
- Under 18 Absolute: FM Alan-Safar Ramoutar-Bronze medal

[https://trinidadexpress.com/sports/local/trinis-shine-in-cac-chess/article\\_73d771a6-ebb6-11e9-afa4-d7f0bb25781b.html](https://trinidadexpress.com/sports/local/trinis-shine-in-cac-chess/article_73d771a6-ebb6-11e9-afa4-d7f0bb25781b.html)





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- NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019



The National Chess Championships 2019 was held from August 31- September 21, 2019.

The Absolute section had the customary 12 players and was played as a round robin. The Women section had 7 players and was also played as a round-robin. Both events were held at the Cascadia Hotel in St. Ann's which proved to be a very comfortable venue for the players.



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- NATIONAL BLITZ CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

The National Blitz took place on November 2019 at Tranquility Government Secondary School

There were 20 players who participated.





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- NATIONAL SENIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

There was a return of the National Senior Chess Championships after its last edition in 2014.







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<https://newsday.co.tt/2019/11/14/national-chess-masters-return/>

There were 12 participants, 6 players 65+ and 6 players 50+ who participated in a 5 round Swiss event.

The tournament was held at the Tranquility Government Secondary School.

- CAC UNDER 20 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019



In a late bid, Trinidad and Tobago was granted the opportunity to host the CAC Under-20 Chess Championships 2019 from **December 13-18, 2019** at the Cycling Velodrome in Couva. There were 29 participants from 7 countries.

In the end, Team TTO came away with 3 medals:

#### **Absolute**

Gold Medal: Alan-Safar Ramoutar (IM title and GM norm)

Bronze Medal: FM Joshua Johnson (3<sup>rd</sup> IM norm)

#### **Female**

Silver medal: Gabriella Johnson



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**Streaming of Games:** Games on the top 11 boards were streamed via CHESS24. Smart boards were sponsored by the **Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands**.



Spectators engrossed in watching the chess games at the CAC Under-20 Chess Championships 2019. Internet access and screen were provided by **bmobile**, the local operator and partner.

**Guardian article link below:** <https://www.guardian.co.tt/sports/ramoutar-lands-cac-chess-gold-6.2.1012008.990aebd55e>

- CHESS IN PRISONS

The TTCA obtained approval from the Prison Administration to embark upon a chess programme within the nation's prisons. The key elements of this programme for 2019 included:

- Simultaneous display by GM Marian Petrov at the Maximum Security Prison
- In house tournament at the Maximum Security Prison-December 2019
- Workshop for Prison programme officers December 2019- Done in collaboration with FIDE America. Workshop held at the Prison Training College in Arima.



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Prison programme officers listen attentively to the presentation by GM Darcy Lima





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## FUNDING ALLOCATION

Activity	Amount (USD)	Comments
FIDE FEES	2,875	o/s 2018 and July 2019 invoices.
NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS	6,800	Youth, Junior, Senior, Blitz, Women, Absolute, Qualifiers includes prizes, venue/hosting costs, rentals. Prizes for the youth were training vouchers to be used with local or international trainers with FIDE trainer titles
GM TRAINING-GM MARIAN PETROV	5,560	Under 12, 12+, Intermediate and Elite-2100+. Includes airfare, accommodation and meals, GM fee and venue costs.
CARIFTA PARTICIPATION	2,000	Registration fees for Carifta 2019 and airfare for delegate.
ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	1,540	TTCA Financials audited up to end of 2018, annual returns, Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee Affiliation fees.
CHESS EQUIPMENT	2,000	Additional equipment and duties and taxes for Smart Boards.

## LESSONS LEARNT AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

There are however a few areas for which increased focus should be placed are:

- Financial and overall sustainability: Though efforts are being made to change the existing operating model, the progress has been slow. More effort to be placed in engaging the community on the need an urgency to ensure the institution can survive through internal efforts and resources.
- Capacity building is key at all levels: players, technical officers, volunteers in areas of planning, reporting as well as increasing the playing levels of top players as we have seen there is significant talent even with limited local resources.
- Succession planning: Two young persons are on the current Executive, however this number should be increased so that we can build lasting capacity with the TTCA.
- Even greater efforts to be placed in seeking sponsors for various events which are aligned to the TTCA'S objectives and areas of focus.



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- Increased focus on female players. The ratio of male players to youth female players is 3-1 and this could be increased with additional efforts geared towards female schools.
- A great deal of effort has been placed in using social and mainstream media in the profiling of the events. However, the TTCA needs to obtain a resource that is dedicated to such an important function, which will allow for even better profiling so that its work can be appropriately highlighted.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

2019 was an exceptional year for the TTCA. We are happy to report that there continues to be increased levels of interest in the sport of chess locally, with many schools opting to take up the sport as an extra curricula activity. There were also an increase in the number of youth tournaments held which will continue into 2020 and beyond. The TTCA is happy with the progress of its plan to date and has attained many of the objectives set out for 2019.

The TTCA also extends gratitude to FIDE for its unwavering support and looks forward to ongoing collaboration in developing chess in Trinidad and Tobago.

**SONJA JOHNSON**  
**PRESIDENT**

**January 17, 2020**



## APPENDIX C - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

### NATIONAL CHESS FEDERATION (NCF): TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CONTINENT: AMERICA

DEVELOPMENT LEVEL: 3

PERIOD: January – December 2019

**Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**<sup>1</sup> 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 <sup>2</sup>	End of Period	End of period-Actual	Comments
No. of FIDE rated players	200	210	220	
Certified Arbiters	15	17	17	
Certified Trainers	47	47	47	In process of renewal of titles for several trainers whose licenses expired
Average rating of top 10 players	2173	2190	2174	
Average no. of rated games by top 10 players				Difficult to ascertain from data on FIDE website
No. of participants in international chess tournaments	10	13	30+	Carifta CAC Youth CAC Under 20 Panamerican Under 20 World Seniors

<sup>1</sup> <https://kpi.org/KPI-Basics>

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





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Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Baseline-2018 <sup>2</sup>	End of Period	End of period-Actual	Comments
No. of Players on FIDE List	629	660	720	
No. of Affiliated clubs	14	15	15	
No. of School Chess Teachers	0	5	5	There are 3 School teachers who have Trainer titles. Over 20 teachers trained locally.
No. of schools with chess programmes	25	30	31	Estimated- based on training workshops
No. of students in chess in school programmes	500	600	600	Estimated...given workshops for new schools in Caroni district.
No. of Positive or neutral articles & media coverage incl. social media	5	8	10+	
No. of chess sponsors	2	4	6	NGC Atlantic Bmobile NEC Netherlands Embassy MSYA
No. Of Strategic Partners e.g. NOC	2	3	4	TTOC MSYA Netherlands Embassy Prison Administration
OTHER-Please specify				

On behalf of FEDERATION

President, Trinidad and Tobago Chess Association

Date: January 17, 2020