The Comhar Linn Chess Challenge
by Moves for Life
Summer 2020

Chess Home-Projects to Entertain & Educate

There are a number of chess activities your children can do as home projects. Starting with fun beginner games, a chess puzzle solvers event for all levels and online chess events for players who are quite confident about their chess skills.

Beginners Project - Make your own chess set:

The first project is a mix of arts & crafts plus some chess-like games. This is a perfect starting point for young kids and those who've never played before.
We will have prizes for the best art & craft creations.
To enter the competition email us at mfl@movesforlife.ie . We'd love to see your pictures.

Once we've made a chess set we can learn how to use it in our next Beginners project ….

Beginners Project - Play mini-games:

The game on display above is called "SUPER CATS".   There are 14 fun beginners' games are on http://movesforlife.ie/our-mission/ Simply watch the 2 min demo video and then challenge a family member to a game or two.
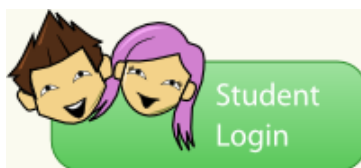
Beginners and Improvers Project – Puzzle Championship:

This is both a problem-solving competition, with lot's prizes and an educational tool to develop thinking skills. At the start puzzles are easy, *perfect for beginners*. As players progress to higher level puzzles they will start to calculate several moves ahead.

There are 2 short how-to videos on www.movesforlife.ie for Teachers and Parents.

Puzzle solving improves many elements of thinking skill. And to reward application by players we will be awarding the tittle of Irish Champion (Chess Puzzle Solver) to the best performing players at each age group.

There are Prizes to be won for the highest points scorers in each age group. The 10 age groups are from U-8's up to U-16. The event is *free*, and the platform we are using is www.chessossity.com and it is open to all students in your school.

The puzzle solvers event starts now and finishes on 30th of Sept. To enter your school please email us at mfl@movesforlife.ie with the Teachers name and the name and county of your school.

Playing Project – Daily Online Chess Games:

Fast n' fun games from 3.00pm to 4.30pm every week, Monday to Friday.

Children should know how to play chess for this activity. Games are fast moving, and a mixture of fun and learning. For full supports go to www.movesforlife.ie .

Each week we will introduce instructional videos of famous games. Then players can try to use what they learn from Masters in their own matches.

Playing Project – Team Chess for Fun:

Before we start the Irish Online National Schools Championship there will be 2 team practice days on Friday 15th and 29th of May, see table below:

Practice events with school teams.	May 15th & 29th Fridays 3.00 – 4.30 pm
All-Ireland Schools Championships (4 Friday events)	June 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th Fridays 3.00 – 4.30 pm

Moves for Life is kindly supported by

The Irish Schools Online
Team Chess Championship 2020
Incorporating
The Provincial Schools Online Championships 2020
and
The County Schools Online Championships 2020

The event is *free for everyone* !

The platform we are using is www.lichess.org and it is open to all students in your school, so that everyone who wants to play can play.

The games are played on Friday's from 3pm to 4.30pm. With the competition starting on the 5th of June and continuing on 12th, 19th & 26th of June 2020.

We will guide you through playing online chess so that your students are in a safe and secure environment.

And have arranged for some practice events on Friday 15th & 29th of May so players have time to adapt to the online environment. You will find *How-to videos* on www.movesforlife.ie for managers, parents and players.

There will be County and Provincial Champions titles awarded to the School that performs best in their county and Province, plus the title of National School Champions for the overall winners.

Prizes will be posted out to the winners.

Register your school **by emailing** the tournaments organizers, April Cronin & Brendan Buckley, at mfl@movesforlife.ie .

And in your email please let us know .. your name as team manager, the School name, and your county.

THE IRISH CHESS UNION

Cumann Fichille na hÉireann

PATRON: Michael D. Higgins, PRESIDENT OF IRELAND

Hello,

Please pass these details onto teachers and your school's chess club manager.

New ! For schools with an established chess club, the Irish Chess Union invites you to participate in the newly created Irish Schools Online Chess Championships 2020 and the All-Ireland Puzzle Championship.

Free: Entry to these ICU events is free.

Home projects: For schools with NO chess club there are activities for total beginners on the attachment for parents, teachers and students who might like to try chess for fun.

Please read the attached for more details of all the *Moves for Life* projects.

Keep well and thank you,

Nandita Kanyamarala.
Junior Officer, Irish Chess Union
www.icu.ie

The ICU would like to thank 'Moves for Life' (www.movesforlife.ie) for organizing these events and projects.

OIFIG ARD RÚNAÍ AN UACHTARÁIN
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 8
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO THE PRESIDENT
DUBLIN 8

30 April, 2020

Mr. Desmond Beatty
Chairperson
Irish Chess Union

Dear Mr. Beatty,

Thank you for your recent e-mail to President Higgins in which you outlined information on the activities and resources developed by ICU in response to the extraordinary times in which we find ourselves.

These resources for use by teachers as they move online, and parents who are trying to find ways to educate and entertain their children at home are not only helpful in this time, but will have lasting benefits for children. Organisations, such as the Irish Chess Union, who are using new and innovative ways to reach into homes across Ireland are providing support in a very practical way that is invaluable as we continue to stay at home.

The President sends his best wishes to all members of the Irish Chess Union and their families at this time of national solidarity.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Keaveney
Protocol/Events Office