



# JAMAICA TAKES ZONE HONOURS AT 45TH FIDE CHESS OLYMPIAD IN BUDAPEST, HUNGARY



*Team Jamaica in Budapest, Hungary*

**A**fter 11 grueling rounds of play at the 45th Chess Olympiad held in Budapest, Hungary, (September 10-23), Jamaica's Open and Women's teams finished atop their respective Zones.

The Open team, which consisted of FIDE Master (FM) Joshua Christie, FM Shreyas Smith, FM Raheem Glaves, FM Jaden Shaw and Darren McKennis, finished the tournament on 10 points, the same as Trinidad and Tobago, Haiti and the Netherlands Antilles. When tiebreaks were employed, Jamaica came out on top of Zone 2.3.3, which includes all the countries of the English, Dutch and French speaking Caribbean.

In the final round 11, Jamaica blanked Kenya 4-0 to regain their crown as the top team in their Zone, which was won by Trinidad and Tobago at the last Chess Olympiad held in Chennai, India in 2022.

There was also individual success for Darren McKennis, who was awarded the title of Candidate Master by the World Chess Federation (FIDE), for his performance during the tournament.

The Open tournament was won by India with 21 points, ahead of the United States of America and Uzbekistan both on 17 points.

The complete Open standings for Zone 2.3.3 are as follows:

1. Jamaica - 10 pts
2. Trinidad and Tobago - 10 pts
3. Haiti - 10 pts
4. Netherlands Antilles - 10 pts
5. Aruba - 9 pts
6. Barbados - 9 pts
7. Suriname - 9 pts
8. St. Lucia - 8 pts
9. Bahamas - 8 pts
10. Cayman Islands - 7 pts
11. US Virgin Islands - 7 pts
12. Bermuda - 7 pts
13. Guyana - 6 pts
14. Grenada - 6 pts
15. Antigua and Barbuda - 6 pts
16. Dominica - 6 pts
17. St. Vincent and the Grenadines - 5 pts
18. British Virgin Islands - 3 pts

Jamaica's Women's team, which consisted of Woman FIDE Master (WFM) Adani Clarke, Woman International Master (WIM) Rachel Miller, WFM Raehanna Brown, Gabriella Watson and Arielle McKoy, finished the tournament on 11 points, the same as Trinidad and Tobago. When tiebreaks were employed, Jamaica came out on top of the Women's side of Zone 2.3.3.

In the final round 11, Jamaica defeated the Kenyan Women 3-1 to retain their crown as the top Women's team in their Zone, which they also won at the last Chess Olympiad held in Chennai, India in 2022.

There was also individual success for Gabriella Watson, who was awarded the title of Woman Candidate Master by the World Chess



BOARD 1- FM JOSHUA CHRISTIE



BOARD 2- FM SHREYAS SMITH



BOARD 3- FM RAHEEM GLAVES



BOARD 4- FM JADEN SHAW

Federation (FIDE), for her performance during the tournament.

The Women's event was won by India with 19 points, ahead of Kazakhstan 18 points and the United States of America in third place, on tiebreak, with 17 points.

The complete Women's standings in the Zone after 11 rounds are as follows:

1. Jamaica - 11 pts
2. Trinidad and Tobago - 11 pts
3. Suriname - 10 pts
4. Haiti - 10 pts
5. Barbados - 9 pts
6. Cayman Islands - 9 pts
7. Netherlands Antilles - 9 pts
8. Bahamas - 9 pts
9. Aruba - 9 pts
10. St. Lucia - 8 pts
11. Guyana - 8 pts
12. US Virgin Islands - 7 pts
13. St. Vincent and the Grenadines - 7 pts
14. Dominica - 7 pts
15. British Virgin Islands - 7 pts
16. Bermuda - 6 pts
17. St. Kitts and Nevis - 5 pts
18. Grenada - 5 pts

Jamaica Chess Federation president, National Master Peter Myers, in speaking on the teams' performance, stated that it was "mission accomplished," with both teams topping their Zone. Myers was also pleased that two of the three untitled players were awarded titles by FIDE.

Jamaica's participation in the global event was made possible through the support of the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport through the Sports Development Foundation, FIDE, the Jamaica Olympic Association, First Global Bank, Magnificent Chess Foundation and Subway Jamaica Limited

- *NM Peter Myers*
- *Richard O. Shaw*
- *Ian Wilkinson KC*



RESERVE - DARREN MCKENNIS



OPEN COACH- FM WARREN ELLIOTT



BOARD 1- WFM ADANI CLARKE



BOARD 2- WIM RACHEL MILLER



BOARD 3- WCM RAEHANNA BROWN



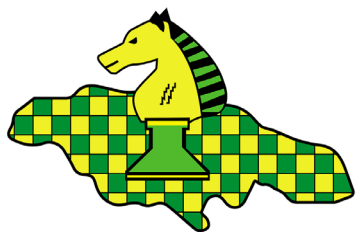
BOARD 4- GABRIELLA WATSON



RESERVE- ARIELLE MCKOY



WOMEN'S COACH- IM SHANE MATTHEWS



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FEDERATION



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# XIX CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN YOUTH CHESS FESTIVAL

## SAN SALVADOR – EL SALVADOR

Defending champions Jamaica, sent a strong 34-member team to the 19th Central American and Caribbean Youth Chess Festival (CAC), held in San Salvador, El Salvador from August 1-8, 2024. The juniors competed in all age group categories from U8 to U18 Absolute (Abs) & Female (F).

At the end of a very competitive tournament, the following Jamaicans secured podium finishes as the organizers awarded prizes to the top 5 in each category:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – (U10 F) Samakhya Singh
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – (U8 F) Rhea Gardener, (U10 F) Nyah Wood, (U16 F) Kaia Gayle, (U18 ABS) FM Jaden Shaw
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – (U8 Abs) Luke Wright
- 4<sup>th</sup> – (U8 Abs) Khalel Davy, (U18 F) Gabriella Watson
- 5<sup>th</sup> – (U14 Abs) Ronak Shergil

In the blitz competition held as a side event during the tournament, Jamaican Gracy Patel placed 3rd in the U10 Absolute category.

This year, an overall Champion was not declared. Notwithstanding, Jamaica reveled in its overall performance, with a number of players earning titles or achieving titles conditional on their achieving the required rating and games as follows:

- Kaia Gayle - WCM title Conditional 1800 rating
- Samakhya Singh - WCM title Conditional 1800 rating and 30 games



FM JADEN SHAW



GABRIELLA WATSON

- Nyah Wood - WCM title Conditional 1800 rating and 30 games
- Luke E Wright - CM title Conditional 2000 rating and 30 games
- Rhea Gardener - WCM title Conditional 1800 rating and 30 games

Stephenson and Kaity Gayle.

Team Jamaica was led by Head of Delegation IM Jomo Pitterson.

- *Richard O. Shaw*



KAIA GAYLE with HOD IM JOMO PITTERSON



RONAK SHERGIL



LUKE WRIGHT & KHALEEL DAVY

The Jamaica team to the Chess Festival included (U8 Abs) Joelston Allen, Khaleel Davy, Rushawn Henry, Jayden Hylton, Luke Wright, (U8 F) Rhea Gardener, Abigail Jones, Gracy Patel, (U10 Abs) Dejaun Williams, Kaie Imani Stephen Chambers, Pranav Sunkara, Rajvir Shergil, Austin Xiang, Zaire Quest, (U10 F) Samakhya Singh, Leah Logan, Noelle Noble, Nyah Wood, (U12 Abs) Khaleel Bartlett, Liam Logan, Darren Murphy, (U12 F) Elisha Patel, Kalie Cummings, (U14 Abs) Ronak Shergil, Cameron Coe, (U14 F) Kayla Moses, Victoria Salazar, Dedipya Sunkara, Glory Murphy, (U16 Abs) Jaheim Smart, Jayden Foreshaw, (U16 F) Zaina O'Connor, Kaia Gayle, (18 Abs) FM Jaden Shaw, Darren McKennis, John Stephenson, Aayush Jain, (U18 F) Gabriella Watson, Amy



NYAH WOOD



RHEA GARDENER WITH HOD IM JOMO PITTERSON



GRACY PATEL- BLITZ MEDALIST



SEMAKHYA SINGH





# XXXIV PAN AMERICAN YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

**T**hirty-three (33) Jamaican representatives, 21 boys and 12 girls, went to Orlando, Florida in the United States, where they participated in the XXXIV Pan American Youth Chess Championships from July 14th to 21st 2024.

The Jamaican contingent included players in categories from U8 to U18 Absolute, including (U18) FM Jaden Shaw, Darren McKennis, Aayush Jain, (U16) Zuberi Edwards, Jayden Foreshaw, (U14) Ronak Shergil, Zahmir Smikle, Cameron Coe, (U12) Vaishnav Gali, Khaleel Bartlett, Nataniel Green, (U10) Rajvir Shergil, Zaire Quest, Dejaun Williams, Jaydion Campbell, Joelston Allen, Aiden Brown, Khalel Davy, Trey-Joshua Dwyer and Luke Wright.

Jamaica's team that represented from U8-U18 Girls included, (U18) Gabriella Watson, Kaity Gayle, (U16) Kaia Gayle, Robyn Thomas, (U14) Kayla Moses, Tshahi Clarke, (U12) Elisha Patel, (U10) Emilia Rose-Leake, Nyah Wood, Samakhya Singh, (U8) Rhea Gargener and Gracy Patel.

Approximately 30% of the Jamaican team scored .500 or higher over the 9-round event, while team USA won 11 of the 12 sections contested. Araya Sofia Mayorga from Costa Rica contesting the U16 female section, was the only non-USA victor.

Team Jamaica was led by Head of Delegation WIM Deborah Richards-Porter.

*-Richard O. Shaw*



RHEA GARDENER



KHALEL DAVY



# FM RAHEEM GLAVES WINS 2024 ROBERT WHEELER OPEN

**F**IDE Master (FM) Raheem Glaves convincingly won the IA CM Robert Wheeler Memorial Chess Open played on June 1st and 2nd at the Liguanea Chess Club. The six round event was played in four sections: Open, U1600, U1300 and U1300 Female.

FM Glaves won the Open section with 5 points from 6 games. Second went to FM Joshua Christie on tiebreak from Jjustice-Dimonte McDonald, FM Shreyas Smith and CM Nathan Hinds who rounded out the top five finishers, all ending on 4.5 points. The top female player in the Open section was Woman Candidate Master (WCM) Raehanna Brown (Campion College), who finished with 4 points.

The top U1600 Absolute player was Brian Thompson of Glenmuir High School, who attained a perfect 6 points from his six games. Second place went to Shelson Mcnamee of Glenmuir High School, who ended on 5 points. Jevaughny Oliver of St. Jago High School finished third on tie-break with 4 points. Tsahai Clarke of St. Jago High School, Justin Michael Liao of Glenmuir High School and Nathaniel Green of St. Andrew Prep. School rounded out the top players by also scoring 4 points. Tsahai was the top female followed by Kayla Moses and Elisha Patel.



*FM RAHEEM GLAVES receiving his 1st place trophy from Liguanea Chess Club President NM Geoffrey Byfield*

The U1300 Absolute section was a five (5) round event with Devon Peters from St. Jago High School emerging victorious on tie-break with a perfect 5 points from five games. Second place went to Ateeba Thomas, who also scored a perfect 5 points. Third, on tie-break, went to Austin Xiang (Hillel Academy), who scored 4 points. The U1300 Female section was won by Meghalaya Haughton-Pathaw of Campion College on perfect 5pts, Rhea Gardener, Ester Mullings & Saanvi Paladugu all tied on 4pts, accounting for 2nd through 4th place, while Carissa Chin was 5th on 3.5pts.

This annual event is named in honour of former Jamaican

National Representative and Jamaica Chess Federation Secretary, International Arbiter and Candidate Master (CM) Robert Wheeler. Wheeler was a six-time Jamaica Chess Champion.

JCF Chair of the Jamaica Chess Federation's Tournaments Committee, FM Warren Elliott, expressed, "This is a great win for FM Glaves, as he has shown the ability to consistently do well in our Open events. Approximately, one hundred and twenty-six (126) participants took part in this event.

**- CM Mark Cameron  
- Richard O. Shaw**



# Congratulations!

The Following Persons Have Earned Fide Titles For 2024

1. Watson, Gabriella - **Woman Candidate Master**(WCM)
2. McKennis, Darren - **Candidate Master**(CM)
3. Clarke, Adani(WCM) - **Woman FIDE Master**(WFM)
4. Brown Raehanna(WCM)- **Woman FIDE Master**(WFM)
5. Lorne, Ras Malaku(FM) - **FIDE Instructor**
6. FM Warren Elliott - **FIDE Trainer**



## ABOUT THE JAMAICA CHESS FEDERATION

The Jamaica Chess Federation (JCF) was founded in 1969 and has been affiliated with FIDE, the world governing body for chess, since 1972. In its capacity as the governing body for chess in Jamaica, the JCF is devoted to extending the role of chess in the Jamaican society.

## JAMAICA CHESS FEDERATION



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