



# JAMCHESS



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## JAMAICA CHESS FEDERATION HOLDS FIRST ONLINE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JAMAICAN CHESS CHAMPION PAR EXCELLENCE GENERATIONAL SPORTS HEROES



**NM PETER MYERS**

In keeping with its aim to 'dominate COVID,' the Jamaica Chess Federation (JCF) held its first ever online Annual General Meeting, 19 June 2021.

The AGM was also held in keeping with the precedence set by the World Chess Federation (FIDE), which staged its first online General Assembly, its highest decision-making body, in December of 2020.

The two main activities that took place at the AGM were the holding of elections for the entire membership of the National Executive Council and the ratification of the Decision taken in 2020, to cancel the staging of the 2020 AGM.

When the elections were completed, the newly elected members of the National Executive Council of the JCF were as follows:

1. President: NM Peter Myers
2. Vice President: CM Mark Holness - (County of Cornwall)
3. Vice President: WIM Deborah Richards-Porter - (County of Surrey)
4. Vice President Howard Wilson - (County of Middlesex)
5. Secretary: Maxine Brown
6. Treasurer: IM Jomo Pitterson
7. Women's Chess - Ian Wilkinson, QC, IO
8. FIDE Matters - IA Donald Miller
9. Intercollegiate, Junior & Schools - NM Ryan Blackwood
10. Publications - Richard Shaw
11. Ratings - NA Terence Lindo, IO
12. Fundraising - David Rose
13. Tournaments - FM Warren Elliott
14. Public Relations & Publicity - CM Mark Cameron

Then new team will serve until 2023, when the next elections are due.

## WOMAN INTERNATIONAL MASTER DEBORAH RICHARDS PORTER



**WIM DEBORAH RICHARDS-PORTER**

As the World Chess Federation (FIDE) pushes for greater inclusion of women in the sport of Chess, the Confederation of Chess for the Americas (CCA) has created a Women's Chess Commission, which saw Jamaica's Woman International Master (WIM) Deborah Richards Porter appointed as one of its first members.

WIM Richards Porter is Jamaica's most decorated female player and she currently serves as a Vice President of the Jamaica Chess Federation. Her achievements have been numerous, which include being a ten-time women's national champion, winning several open tournaments, Jamaica's first and only female National Master and she

has represented Jamaica at numerous Chess Olympiads.

The other members of the Commission include International Master (IM) Martha Fierro and Woman Grandmaster (WGM) Nadya Ortiz. IM Fierro is a FIDE Vice President and Chairs the FIDE Commission for Women's Chess while WGM Ortiz is a senior Apple software engineer.

The CCA stated in its press release on the appointments, that it was proud of the level of its new members, who promise to be key to the positive evolution of women's chess in the Americas.

# FM SMITH COPS 2021 STAGING OF THE IA CM ROBERT WHEELER ONLINE CHESS OPEN



**FM SHREYAS SMITH**

The 2021 staging of the IA CM Robert Wheeler Online Chess Open, was held via the Tornelo.com online chess platform on June 12th with 56 participants. A total of five sections were contested over six rounds, using the rapid Game in 15 with 5 second increments time control.

The Open section saw FIDE Master (FM) Shreyas Smith coming out on top with maximum 6 points from 6 games, followed by Woman Candidate Master (WCM) Raehanna Brown in second position with 4.5 points and FM Joshua Christie third on four points. WCM Brown was also the top female in the Open field.

The U1600 section was the largest with 26 entrants. Najae Powell emerged the winner with a perfect score of 6 points followed by Damari Bryce on 5 points and Matthew Henry on 4.5 points in third. In the female section, Kahli Campbell emerged the winner with 4 points followed by Kaia Gayle on 2.5 points, while 3rd place shared between Kaity Gayle and Ksenia Spaulding on 2 points each.

The U1300 section was won by Tahir Tavares on 5 points, from Hanniel Josephs who also ended on 5 points but took 2nd place on tiebreak. Third went to Safiya Henry who was also tied with Tahir McIntosh on 4.5 points. The female section was closely contested, with Safiya Henry

emerging champion on 4.5 points followed by Meghalaya Haughton-Pathaw and Niara McLeod in 2nd and 3rd place respectively on 2.5 points.

This is the second year the IA CM Robert Wheeler Open is being played as an online tournament, as the world continues to face the Covid-19 pandemic which has led to restrictions on all sports being implemented by the Government of Jamaica.

IA CM Robert Wheeler, one of Jamaica's top players, administrator and arbiter, passed after a long illness on 30 June 2020. The 2021 staging was therefore held as a Memorial for the Jamaican Chess legend.



**WCM RAEHANNA BROWN** T h e

## THE JAMAICA CHESS FEDERATION/ MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS COVID-19 WEBINAR HELD ON MAY 24, 2021



**MAXINE BROWN**

Jamaica Chess Federation (JCF) Executive Council organized a COVID-19 Protocol Webinar in collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Wellness via ZOOM platform on Monday, May 24, 2021.

The aim of the webinar was to sensitize players, arbiters, coaches, parents/guardians, administrators, other chess stakeholders on matters concerning COVID-19 protocols and to certify JCF officials (Arbiters, Coaches, administrators) as Covid-19 Protocol Marshals.

Over eighty-six (86) persons participated in the webinar and were sensitized about the definition of infection prevention and control, the risk of transmission, mode of transmission, signs and symptoms,

contagion of Covid-19, mitigation strategies, transportation, cleaning, and disinfection, maintaining a healthy sporting arena, role and responsibility of the Covid-19 marshal, temperature screening, isolation procedure, testing, and case definition.

Jamaica Chess Federation Secretary Maxine Brown shared how happy she was for the hosting of this seminar, as it would aid in the speedier return of over the board play as Jamaica continues to deal with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### JAMAICA CHESS FEDERATION

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