MOUSKOS
FOUNDATION

UK CHESS CHALLENGE

PRESS RELEASE

21st October 2026

The J.M. Mouskos Foundation is proud to become the principal sponsor of the UK Chess Challenge, widely regarded as one of the world's largest and most significant chess tournaments for young players of all ages and abilities. Since its launch in 1996, more than one million children have taken part. From 2027 the tournament will be named the Mouskos UK Chess Challenge.

J.M. Mouskos Foundation

Our commitment to advancing learning and sport through fair play and inclusion is central to our values and purpose. Entrepreneurial leadership, creative ambition and philanthropic engagement define our distinctive character and our determination to create a lasting legacy.

We believe ambition begins in the classroom. By supporting this outstanding competition for the next five years, we hope to advance its aims in three key areas; significantly increasing participation of children attending from state schools, girls playing chess, chess players with disabilities. We aim to achieve this through innovative, groundbreaking partnerships with individuals and organisations beyond the chess community, making chess more relevant across modern life.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Sarah and Alex Longson for believing in our organisation's ability to make a meaningful difference and help expand the tournament's participation and inclusion.
I also extend my heartfelt thanks to Delancey, whose sponsorship over the past 30 years has provided the foundation stone on which this illustrious competition has been built.
I offer special recognition to the visionary International Master, Michael Basman, whom I had the great pleasure of meeting. He founded the tournament in 1996 and remained a constant presence at the competition, nurturing and supporting young players through the highs and lowsof tournament play. His profound love of chess and belief in its power to transform young lives will always inspire me.

Finally, to all those who have taken part in this remarkable competition, and to those who will join us in the years ahead, I congratulate each and every one of you for giving your very best.

John Michael Mouskos
CEO, Mouskos Capital
Founder of the J.M. Mouskos Foundation







"We're excited to begin this new chapter with John Michael Mouskos and his team, working together to reach more children and make chess accessible to an even wider range of young people. Delancey have played a huge part in the story of the UK Chess Challenge and we are enormously grateful for their support." — Sarah Longson

MOUSKOS FOUNDATION

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