



# Gauteng North Junior Chess Association

News letter for members: Issue 2009/02

GNJCA's vision is to become the friendliest, largest and best performing junior chess association in South Africa.

2009/05/22

This is the second newsletter. Please submit any suggestions and comments to the Discussion Forum on the website or per e-mail to [chairman@gnjca.co.za](mailto:chairman@gnjca.co.za). We are still looking for editorial individuals to assist with the news letter.

## Overview of the last month

We had a full day's **management meeting** on Friday 3 April 2009. The main topics that were discussed were:

1. Strategic: Constitution, Mission, Vision and Objectives;
2. Communication: players and contact lists;
3. Merit Points
4. Tournaments
5. SA's Junior Open tournament Dec '09
6. Team Coaching
7. Finances
8. Marketing and sponsorships

## Tournaments

### Held (during review period):

- SA Junior closed 2009/04/07 – 2009/04/12
- Wynie Robbertse (30:30) on 2009/05/09 (location Monumentpark Primary school)
- Lubowski (61:61) on 2009/05/15 & 2009/05/16 (Pretoria Zoo!!!!) See note on GNJCA's online tournament entry functionality.

### Some upcoming important tournaments:

- Florana (61:61) on 2009/05/30 (location Florana Akademie)
- Menlopark Laerskool (30:30) on 2008/08/07
- Montana (tba)
- Etienne Lewis (GN Closed trials) on 2009/08/14 to 2009/08/15 (location tba)

The Etienne Lewis' date has been move a week later to 2009/08/14. This depends on whether the players will be allowed the Friday off from school. Players having a problem attending the Etienne Lewis should please inform us with the reason per e-mail to [chairman@gnjca.co.za](mailto:chairman@gnjca.co.za).

## GNJCA's OnLine Tournament entry form

A new functionality for GNJCA has been deployed on the website. Players can now also register for GNJCA's tournaments via the web. The application will also display the player lists real-time.

The Lubowski tournament will be the first tournament where this functionality will be used. On the home page ([www.gnjca.co.za](http://www.gnjca.co.za)) select the red "Online entry" under the Lubowski event.

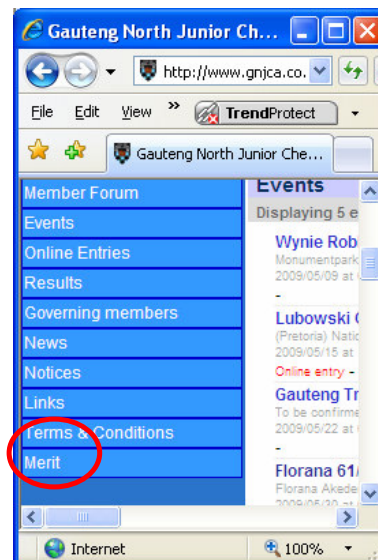
## Merit points

The management team has finalised and agreed on the merit point principles for 2009 as well as created a new merit point recording and calculation application.

The following main decisions have been taken:

1. Under 16/18 players only have to play 2 long tournaments to qualify for the Etienne Lewis;
2. The merit points (calculations) per tournament will be published 7 days after the tournament. First as Preliminary (to be reviewed and confirmed by the Merit Point sub-committee) and then as Release;
3. The merit point ranking for the year will also be updated and published 7 days after the tournament to include that tournament's merit points.
4. A Merit Point sub-committee (3 extra people) will be established to review the merit point calculations per tournament and for the year, and to participate in the review of the principles of the current merit point concept. **Parents that are interested to join this sub-committee should please forward their contact information to the Chairman.**

All merit point information and rankings will be published on our website, but the menu button will only be available to registered GNJCA players and parents.



A "2009 Detail Merit Point Rules" document, including an explanation of the merit point calculation, has been compiled and is available on the GNJCA website. Click on the Merit menu item and select 2009 for this year's merit rankings and merit results per tournament.

All players and parents are requested to review the rankings and tournaments to verify that the players have been identified and included in the calculations.

Any problems or questions regarding the merit points, qualifying or the merit point framework can be sent to the Chairman.

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### **Players lists and contact information**

We are compiling an updated list of our junior players and their contact information. After the data have been verified it will be loaded onto the GNJCA's website and maintained there in the future.

To access some of the website's information, like merit points, the user (player or parents) need to logon to the website and also been "flagged" as a GNJCA user. The Webmaster will create the users initially based on the above mentioned players list, with their e-mail address as user id and a blank password. When the user logon the first time, the application will request a new password to be created for the user.

We are still investigating an SMS functionality and will report on our progress in a future news letter.

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### **Team coaching and team building**

We held our 1<sup>st</sup> "holiday" team coaching session in the March school holiday.

From the survey we done, the most people prefer the weekly coaching on Fridays between 18:00 and 20:00. We have secured the premises of Menlopark Laerskool.

The following team coaches have preliminary been selected and appointed per age group.

- Under 8's: Jolandi Situl 083 561 6541
- Under 10's: Wim Slabbert 082 296 4150
- Under 12's: Jaco Nelson 076 600 5857
- Under 14's: Justin Wilken 076 945 8001
- Under 16's: Zitha (to be confirmed)
- Under 18's & 20's: Daniel Mathe 084 8878 126

The first weekly team coaching is scheduled for 2009/05/22. April and May were too busy months to hold the sessions.

The monthly cost will be R60 per student for up to four training sessions and a maximum of R120 per month per family. Please contact your team coaches for more information.

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### **SA's December 2009**

13-22 Dec '09 (*preliminary, awaits Chessa approval*)  
Cape Town (13th registration; 14th-16th team, 17th-22th individuals).

GNJCA has reserved accommodation at a holiday complex in Cape Town for about 300 people and are working on transport options. Currently the following arrangements exist.

We have negotiated the following prices for bed and breakfast accommodation:

Studio (bachelor) x 31 (POA)

1 bedroom / 1 bathroom +2 beds (R490 p.p) x 25

2 bedroom/ 2 bathroom +2 beds (R350p.p) x 50

3 bedroom / 2 bathroom +2 beds (R290p.p) x 10

Children under 12 stay free, breakfast R35.

Lunch and dinner can be arranged at R90 per day per person.

We are looking at an option of a flat fee per person, independent of the room size.

For the transport option we are currently investigating traveling per train to Cape Town. This will give the players the change to play and interact with each other and the parents will also have the change to mingle with each other. The players and parents should also be rested when arriving in the Cape Town.

Currently the cost is R590 for a single ticket. The train will be leaving Friday @ 11:00 11 December 2009 from Johannesburg station. Arrival at Cape Town is 12:00 Saturday. Train bedding will be available at R50, but you can take your own with.

We are still investigating options for the return trip.

Bus transport will be arranged in Cape Town between the holiday complex and the tournament hall. Prices currently under negotiation are:

25 Seater bus - R 2 350 daily

30 Seater bus - R 2 800 daily

42-60 Seater bus - R 3 000 daily

71 Seater bus - R 3 550 daily.

We will send out a survey to determine interest in these options.