

VANCOUVER CHESS SCHOOL

BETTER MOVES IN CHESS, BETTER MOVES IN LIFE.

ELLIOT MCCALLUM SHINES ON THE GLOBAL STAGE WITH TEAM ¡ALLEZ-Y INITIATIVE!



At the 2025 FIDE World Rapid & Blitz Team Championship in London, Team ¡Allez-Y Initiative! made a bold debut—bringing together elite professionals and youth talents to promote diversity, connection, and global collaboration through chess.

Led by GM Jonas Buhl Bjerre (Denmark's #1), the team delivered a strong performance, with notable wins including FM Mikkel Jacobsen's victory over GM Nigel Short and FM-elect August Javing's win against WGM/IM Lu Miaoyi. The team tied for 5th in a tough blitz pool, surpassing several higher-rated teams.

Among the standout moments was 9-year-old Elliot McCallum, the youngest team member and a decorated prodigy:

- 🏆 2023 FIDE World School Champion (U7)
- 🏆 2024 FIDE World School Rapid Champion (U9)
- 🌐 Ranked #1 U8 globally (Dec 2024)

Beyond the board, Elliot also played a ceremonial role—presenting a Vancouver Chess School medal to GM Wesley So in recognition of his inspiration to young players worldwide. His gesture captured the spirit of the event: intergenerational respect, passion, and unity.

In his FIDE interview, Elliot shared that what he enjoyed most was “the chance to make friends and be part of something bigger.” For him, the experience was as much about connection as competition. His presence truly reflected the future of chess—joyful, collaborative, and full of promise.

Summer Term Registration Open.

Enroll Now!





FEATURED STUDENT: ABIGAIL LUI

Currently enrolled in the Knight class, Abigail Lui has emerged as one of the most dedicated and consistent young players in our program. With unwavering commitment to chess, reflected in her spotless record of homework completion, Abigail also maintains a commanding presence in both our online and in person tournaments. She ranks near the top of our tournament points leaderboard and has won numerous medals along the way. What sets Abigail apart, however, is not just her performance over the board but the character she brings to the game: cheerful, kind, and unshakably composed in both victory and defeat. She is a thoughtful and engaged student, and a valued member of the Vancouver Chess School community. We look forward to witnessing her continued growth both as a player and as a leader among her peers.

SUMMER CAMPS | JUNE - AUGUST 2025

Looking for a fun, educational, and action-packed experience for your child?

Our in-person chess camps blend skill-building with creativity and excitement — perfect for Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced players!

☀️ What's Included:

- ✓ Group lessons by skill level
- ✓ Daily chess training & analysis
- ✓ Friendly tournaments
- ✓ Super Chess Trivia & themed challenges
- ✓ Fun games, puzzles, and team play
- ✓ Pizza lunch included every day! 🍕

🏆 Students take a level test at the end and receive a certificate — many complete a full level in just one week!

JULY & AUGUST BLITZ AND BUGHOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS | JULY 27, AUGUST 24

Open to K-12 players, CFC Quick & CMA rated. Fast games, sharp tactics, and a fun challenge await.

🌟 Light snacks & refreshments provided.

Limited spots—[register now!](#)

👤 VCS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

🏆 Huge congratulations to all 45 players who competed at the VCS Individual Championship on June 14 & 15!

Your focus, sportsmanship, and determination lit up the boards and inspired us all. 🙌👤

🌟 Well done to our champions — and to every rising star who gave it their all!

📊 Standings:

🔗 [U6, U8, U12](#)

🔗 [U10, U14, U16, U18](#)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TOP PERFORMERS IN THE MAY TACTICS CONTEST!

Congratulations to Lahan Wickramasinghe, who claimed 1st place with an impressive 1929 points! 🙌 Isaac Yu followed closely in 2nd with 1875 points, and Linara Wickramasinghe secured 3rd with 1811 points. YouJia Ye and Aaron Li rounded out the Top 5 with strong performances.

🎉 A special shoutout to Dasha Doroshenko, this month's Top Female Player, and to Ty Shanmugam, who earned the title of Top U6 Player! Both will receive extra Chess Heroes cards for their achievements. 👤🌟

Fantastic effort by all players — keep training hard, and we'll see you at the next event!