

Initiative Pro Schach e.V. = Eicktelgenweg 18 = 44309 Dortmund

## **Sparkassen Chess Trophy 2023:**

**Largest German Chess Festival Celebrates Anniversary** 

25000 Euro prize money at the Open of the 50th International Dortmund Chess Days

World Champion Kramnik starts at the NC World Masters in the Dortmund Westfalenhallen

The third edition of the NC World Masters will once again provide spectacular games. The winner of the NC World Masters 2022 Dmitrij Kollars (Germany) will be at the start as well as the 14th World Chess Champion and Dortmund record winner Vladimir Kramnik. The 50th anniversary of the Dortmund Chess Days will take place from 24 June to 2 July 2023 in the Gold Hall of the Westfalenhallen congress centre in the heart of the Ruhr region.

The focus in 2023 will be on the two Sparkassen Open. The prize money will be increased to 25,000 euros in two performance classes and thus more than doubled. The organiser IPS e.V. is thus developing the tournament more and more into a chess festival, in the meantime once again the largest in Germany.

Chess is booming and millions of players are active on the various platforms on the internet every day. In Dortmund, they now can experience the unique atmosphere of a large chess festival at first hand: from professionals to hobby players.

IPS e.V. strongly expects a record participation for the anniversary and thus more than 541 players who competed in 1992. This should not only be ensured by the record prize money in the Open tournaments, but also by 30-40 master players from all over the world. IPS e.V. calculates with the participation of more than a dozen strong grandmasters in the A-Open alone.

The B-Open for players up to a rating of 1900 will again start daily at 10:30 in the morning, so that the participants will have the opportunity to watch the stars live in the afternoon.

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The popular live stream commentary from last year by Grandmaster Artur Jussupow and the world's most popular chess presenter Fiona Steil-Antoni (Luxembourg) will be available at a large screen. Participants and the audience will also be able to exchange views directly with Grandmaster Klaus Bischoff. Bischoff will be available on site to the participants in the analysis area for explanations, analyses and anecdotes always in the afternoon.

The organisation of a strong closed tournament is planned within the framework of the "Sportland-NRW-Cup". The planning for this has not yet been completed. IPS e.V. will provide information on the details of this competition in due course.

"In 2023, we will experience some of the world's greatest chess players up close in Dortmund. I am looking forward to this and especially to this very special atmosphere of a world-class chess festival in the Westfalenhallen," says event director Carsten Hensel, looking ahead to the 50th International Dortmund Chess Days.

Registration is now open. The announcement of the open tournaments, accommodation and further information can be found at <a href="https://www.sparkassenchess-trophy.de">www.sparkassenchess-trophy.de</a>.

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