

OSCY

(Online Solving Challenge for Youth)

Tournament Director's Report

While the OSCY software platform continues to work as planned, solver numbers continue to decrease. Thus, although we can offer the opportunity to solve, attracting even modest numbers continues to be challenging. Addressing this matter is of real importance. Dumbing down the problems ever further would discourage rated solvers from participation, thereby depriving new solvers access to a STM Virtual Performance Rating (a useful tool for monitoring their progress).

Continuing to provide this opportunity to solve continues to be worthwhile. In countries with little or no representation in solving, OSCY provides the only gateway for new young solvers. Elsewhere, OSCY provides an extra practice option for rated solvers and an extra gateway for new young solvers. AND it's all available online and FREE.

In Great Britain

Since our two young OSCY solvers are no longer Juniors, we have **ZERO** participation in the event. Our failure to overcome this is of huge concern. Consequently, I will spend a day at the British Chess Championships (over-the-board) to button-hole the English Chess Federation Junior Director or, failing that, others involved in Junior chess to

- Offer support to future GBR teams attending World Youth/Cadet Championships
- Promote OSCY as a pathway to chess glory
- Promote my Blitz platform (20 x #2 miniatures, 2 minutes each) to improve tactical awareness. It too calculates a Virtual Performance Rating.

More locally, I intend to offer a Blitz solving tourney at the forthcoming Swindon Chess Congress, with a small prize fund, to highlight a pathway into solving.

For those in the same situation as GBR, you may like to try similar initiatives and/or suggest better ways of growing chess solving amongst the young.

History of OSCY

The first season of OSCY ran through 2024, every 2 months from January to November and is now in its third season. Those who have enjoyed the OSCY experience include Danila Pavlov, Ilija Serafimovic, Maksim & Viktorya Kharitonov, Anton Nasyrov, Anirudh Daga, Alexandru Mihalcescu, Daria Repetilo, Youssef Kozizi, Flora Ferreira Sarmiento, etc. The original format of 2 rounds (Classical and Blitz) have remained constant, with Blitz only slightly outperforming Classical when measured by participation. Unless WCCC 2026 comes up with a better option

OSCY Season 4 will continue in 2027 in the same format, with your Approval.

Brian Cook (30/7/2026)