



Accolades & Moments: 2024-2025

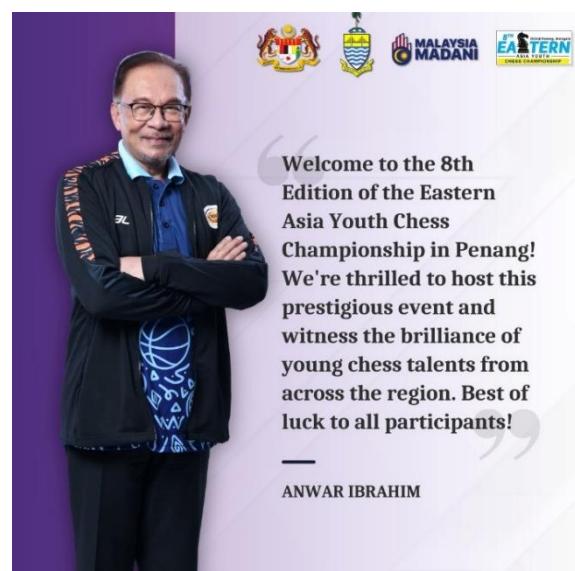
2024-2025 was quite eventful for PCA as we managed to host 2 consecutive major international chess events successfully. And then there is our annual Penang Heritage City International Chess Festivals. As for the players, Penang had some excellent individual and team results at national and international levels. Having said that, we should not rest on our laurels. Instead, we should look ahead and aim to do even better in the coming years.

Our President, Madam See Swee Sie has mapped out 6 area of focus:

- a) Strengthening grassroots development
- b) Enhancing training pathways for arbiters and coaches
- c) Increasing international exposure for Penang players
- d) Expanding tournaments across all districts
- e) Upgrading PCA's chess facilities
- f) Deepening collaborations with schools, universities and state agencies

Below are some of the highlights for the year 2024-2025:

1. PCA was recognised as a well-managed association and was awarded the **Category A Status for 2024** by the Penang Sports Council. Category A comes with a RM20K grant.
2. The **8th Eastern Asia Youth Chess Championship** was successfully hosted by PCA at Cititel, Penang from 14th-21st July 2024. 363 players from 16 countries participated in the event. 14-year-old Poh Yu Tian created history by winning the EAYCC Under 18 years event and was awarded the prestigious IM title and the PMX Trophy for the Best Malaysian player. Poh also became the first Malaysian in 19 years to win the 19th IGB Dato' Arthur Tan Malaysian Open Chess Championship (2024). He led the first All-Malaysian team to victory in the 2024 Merdeka Open Rapid Team Championship.



ANWAR IBRAHIM

Penang teen Poh Yu Tian is youngest Malaysian chess player to win 'International Master' title



SOURCE: THE MALAY MAIL



3. 16th Penang Heritage City International Chess Festival 2024

202 players from 20 countries participated in the Open and Challengers' event. 92 teams signed up for the Penang Chess League.

IM Poh Yu Tian capped a fantastic year by emerging Champion in the Open Category. He went on to win the Blitz event and led his team to the Champions' trophy in the Penang Chess League. The Best Board Prize added to his collection. PCA took the opportunity to celebrate FIDE's 100th Anniversary.



Poh with PCA Advisor, Mr. Lee Ewe Ghee



Happy Centenary FIDE!

4. National Interstate Chess Championship, Kuantan 2024 (31st May – 3rd June)

Penang A and Penang emerged as Champions in the Open and Junior event. The Penang Girls' Team also won the Junior event by winning every round!



Penang A



Well Done, Penang!



5. National Youth Chess Championship 2024 at Perak (25th-27th May)



The Penang Contingent: Starting them young!

6. The Penang State Sports Award Held at Amarin Hotel on 5th July 2025

Loo Pin Xie received the Special Sports Award – Sports for the Deaf for winning the 10th Asia Pacific Deaf Chess Championship (Blitz) in 2024. Pin Xie also clinched a Gold Medal at the SEA Games for the Deaf (Standard Category).



MMU Law student, WCM Chua Jia- Tien made PCA history by being honoured as Penang Sportswoman of the Year 2024. Jia-Tien has represented Malaysia in multiple SEA Games and won 2 Golds at the Sarawak Sukma Games.



7. Chess at the 2024 SUKMA Games, Sarawak



The Penang Sukma Contingent

The Penang State Sukma Team delivered exceptional results at the Sarawak SUKMA Games with a haul of 5 Golds, 5 Silvers and 4 Bronzes. Captain Poh Yu Yian led the way with 3 Golds – Rapid (Individual), Rapid (Team) and Blitz (Individual). We were the 2nd best performing sports after the judo team. Syabas to all the players!

8. Penang Chess Brilliancy Fund

The Penang Chess Brilliancy Fund is a bold and realistic initiative by the PCA to spur Malaysian Chess, in particular, Penang Chess to the next level and allows us to be on par with our neighbours like Singapore, Indonesia and Vietnam. The fund has subsidised a few Penang players in international events, including Wong Yinn Long. Wong (ranked 6th in Malaysia) scored 5/9 in the Abu Dhabi Masters to secure his second IM norm.



9. JBS Inter-School Chess Competition 2025

The 2025 JBS Inter-School Chess Competition was held at the Prangin Mall from 4-11th August. A record of 121 schools and 897 players from all the 5 districts in Penang were present.



10. 33rd SEA Games in Bangkok, December 2025

In the Men's Double Rapid, GM Yeoh Li Tian, Malaysia's first Grandmaster and IM Poh Yu Tian, Malaysia's youngest International Master (at 14 years 10 months) did well against strong oppositions from Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore. The duo clinched the silver medal. Cheers!



Sim Jia Ru and Chua Jia-Tien, who won the Rapid Gold at the Sukma Games in Sarawak, has to settle for the bronze medal at the Women's Double Rapid after a hard-fought campaign. Congrats!

11. PCA Clubhouse

Two shop lots at Prangin Mall were rented to store our chess equipment and to serve as a centre for smaller chess activities. We look forward to a bigger premise in the near future where we hope to incorporate a chess library and coaching centre.

12. Moments at Asean+ Age-Group Chess Championship 2025



A Group Photo with TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Haji Ramli bin Ngah Talib



Many Thanks, Mr. Ernest Zacharevic for attending our AAGCC Social Night



Happy 25th Anniversary ASEAN Chess Confederation!



His Excellency, Mr. Psusist Wongsuwarat, the Consul General of Thailand and his wife.

13. 17th Penang Heritage City International Chess Festival 2025

A total of 265 players from 18 countries took part in the Open and Challenger category. 98 teams registered for the Penang Chess League and another 120 players participated in the Blitz championship.

