

# King Ken is 2013 Blitz Chess Champion!



● **HE'S A WINNER:** Ken Gibson (left) won the Blitz Championship while Kendrick Knowles (centre) came second



● **SHE'S MAKING A MOVE:** Young girl playing in the Blitz



● **PONDERING:** Young man thinking about his game



● **FIRST TIME:** Akila Thomas, 10, in her first tournament



● **CONCENTRATE:** Players ponder their next move



● **FOCUSSED:** Two youths focus on trying to win

## HOLIDAY WISHES FROM COLINA

Dear Valued Clients,

This time of year lends itself to celebration and gratitude for those who have made our success possible over the year.

We look forward to continuing our partnership and supporting you and your endeavours in 2013.

Happy Holidays!

### HOLIDAY OFFICE/BRANCH HOURS

Please note the following holiday hours for Colina Insurance Limited & Colina General Insurance Agents & Brokers Limited.

December 24 (Christmas Eve)	Closed at 1pm (cashiers close at 12:30pm)
December 25 (Christmas Day)	Closed
December 26 (Boxing Day)	Closed
December 27	Closed at 1pm (cashiers close at 12:30pm)
December 28 (Saturday)	Closed at 12:30pm (Carmichael Rd & 21 Collins Ave)
December 29 (Sunday)	Closed
December 30	Normal business hours
December 31 (New Year's Eve)	Closed at 1pm (cashiers close at 12:30pm)
January 1 (New Year's Day)	Closed
January 2	Normal business hours resume

★ **KEN Gibson**, a three-time national chess champion, won the 2013 edition of the Bahamas Blitz Championship, held at the CW Sawyer Primary School auditorium.

The wild, game-in-5-minutes tournament attracted **19 players** of all ages and skill levels, each hoping to be crowned the best blitz chess player in the country.

In the nine-round marathon, it was the battle-hardened veterans who rose to the top. Current national champion **Kendrick Knowles** led the field most of the way before falling victim to Gibson in the sixth round.

Gibson would go on to win his remaining games, forcing Knowles to settle for a disappointing second place.

Close behind was **Elton Joseph**, a four-time junior champion, who despite beating Gibson in their head-to-head match-up, found himself in third place having lost to both Knowles

and last year's blitz champion, **Byron Small**.

With the conclusion of the Blitz Championship, the Bahamas Chess Federation (BCF) finalized a successful 2013 calendar that included a myriad of local events. The BCF also organised tournament trips to Jamaica (CARIFTA), Aruba (Umada Cup), and most recently Costa Rica (CAC Youth Festival), where **Nathan Smith** captured The Bahamas' first ever gold medal in chess.

Smith also became the **first Bahamian to qualify for the Candidate Master (CM) title** awarded by the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

With the biennial **Chess Olympiad** scheduled for **August 2014** in Tromso, Norway, the new year promises to be even more exciting for local chess players and fans. The public is encouraged to keep abreast of developments in the ultimate mind sport by visiting the BCF's website, [www.bahamaschess.org](http://www.bahamaschess.org).



● **FULL HOUSE:** Nineteen players took part in the Blitz tournament

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