

Good showing by team at Carifta Chess tourney

★ THE Bahamas' junior chess team returned from Jamaica after competing in the 2013 CARIFTA Junior Chess Championship.

The four-day event, with over 175 players, was the first regional chess tournament in decades attended by a team from The Bahamas. Rising chess stars Philip Hanna, Sandeep Gali and Chaz Garraway battled against rivals in the Under 20 and Under 16 sections to finish with a cumulative score of 10½ of a possible 21 points—an impressive showing given the team's lack of experience in international competition.

Hanna, 17, has been playing tournament chess for less than one year and has shown dramatic improvement over that period. Gali, 13, started chess at age nine and was named the 2012 Chess Player Of The Year by the Bahamas Chess Federation. And Garraway, also 13, has been so captivated by the game that he started a chess club at his school, Queen's College, which

now boasts some 20 members.

At the end of the tournament, it was Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad finishing one, two and three respectively. Shyeras Smith (JA) collected 5½ points in the Under-20 section for the gold.

Yu Tien Poon (BAR) proved unbeatable in the Under-16 section, concluding his weekend with 6 points after two draws. And Della-Marie Walcott (T&T) claimed gold in the Under-12 Female section, while Brian Diaz (Aruba) secured the top prize in the Under-12 Absolute section.

The trip was made possible by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and corporate sponsors such as Schooner Bay.

The Bahamas Chess Federation is currently formulating plans to train more junior players and field more teams in tournaments abroad, including the 2014 Chess Olympiad in Norway.

More information on the Bahamas Chess Federation can be found on its website, www.bahamascchess.org.



● TERRIFIC TEAM (L-R): Philip Hanna; Sandeep Gali; Director of Sports, Timothy Munnings & Chaz Garraway

Paige and Kelly take part in Iron Girl Half-Marathon



● ON YOUR MARKS (L-R): Kelly Eldon and Paige Waugh before race

★ BAHAMIANS Paige Waugh and Kelly Eldon took part in the Athleta Iron Girl Half-Marathon (13.1 miles) in Clearwater, on Florida's west coast.

Iron Girl's mission is to empower women toward a healthy lifestyle. Iron Girl celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. And part of the celebrations were the Athleta Iron Girl Half-Marathon and 5K Run/Walk in Clearwater.

Over 4,000 people participated in the fund-raising event.

The Iron Girl logo design is called Grace, something that is within us all. Grace is what makes women heroic, charming

and limitless. Grace is with us in difficult times and happy times, silly times and sad times. Grace is with us physically, mentally and emotionally.

The \$90-\$100-per-person donation goes to a non-profit organization called Team Survivor, that provides free and/or low-cost exercise, health education, and support programs to women with or recovering from cancer.

The Team Survivor programs combine fun fitness activities with emotional support. They are an important part of the ongoing healing process for women who are living with cancer.

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