



## **HB Global Chess Challenge**

For further information, contact:

Brian Molohon, HB Foundation, +1 (651) 209-3067

Maurice Ashley, Generation Chess, +1 (646) 495-6092

**For Immediate Release**

### **LARGEST EVER OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD IN U.S. IN MAY 2005, ATTRACTING TOP PLAYERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

**HB Foundation posts \$500,000 prize fund for the HB Global Chess Challenge,  
a Maurice Ashley-led event expected to bring more than  
4,000 participants to Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Announcing that the world of chess is about to be transformed, Grandmaster Maurice Ashley revealed that the HB Foundation is sponsoring the largest open tournament ever, the HB Global Chess Challenge, which is expected to attract more than 4,000 players from around the globe. The HB Foundation has established a guaranteed prize fund of \$500,000 for the tournament, which will be held May 18-22, 2005 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

"An event like the HB Global Chess Challenge has been the dream of players for years, a tournament that will offer very substantial cash prizes and be 'fan friendly' for both the professional and amateur," said Ashley, the CEO of Generation Chess, LLC, the company organizing the event for the HB Foundation. He noted that first place in the Open section has a cash prize of \$50,000, and that overall more than 50 others will receive cash prizes for their performances. Ashley, the world's first, and only, African American grandmaster, said the HB tourney is a "massive step forward for chess."

## **HB Global Chess Challenge/page two**

"We are proud to be making chess history and most pleased that we will be helping to build awareness of how children benefit from chess," said Brian Molohon, the executive director of the HB Foundation. The non-profit foundation promotes the cognitive and academic benefits that children and youth gain from learning, and practicing, chess.

The HB Global Chess Challenge will have multiple side events, including lectures, simultaneous exhibitions, autograph signings by leading GMs, live game analysis of the top boards, musical entertainment, silent and live auctions, drawings, and gift memberships in the U.S. Chess Federation. In addition, there will be a children's tournament on the Saturday of tournament week.

"The whole world of chess needs to get behind this effort," says Ashley, who will be providing some of his ESPN-style commentary at the event. "The HB tournament gives us all a chance to come together and play the game we love in a way that respects all chess players, and it will help kids. How can you beat that?"

The tournament, to be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center, is expected to draw thousands of competitors from around the world, shattering all previous participation records. The first place prize of \$50,000 in the Open section is certain to attract many of the world's best players, while a large number of non-professionals will jump at the chance to compete in their various sections for first place prizes of \$20,000.

### **HB Global Chess Challenge/page three**

There will be 56 cash winners in the Open section, with most of the other sections giving away up to 50 cash prizes. Overall, there will be a minimum of 326 winners going home with a cash prize in their pocket.

The U.S. Chess Federation and the Association of Chess Professionals have endorsed the HB Global Chess Challenge. The entire Twin Cities area is prepared to welcome the visiting chess competitors, and the array of restaurants, sporting events, theaters, music venues and shops are sure to please. Visits to the Mall of America, the nation's largest shopping center, are also planned.

"The entire area will be ready to welcome our visiting chess players, throwing the doors wide open to welcome the participants and their families," said Molohon of the HB Foundation, which is based in Minnesota.

"Mark your calendars now," says Ashley. "This is the tournament that you will be telling your grandkids about. No matter what happens, there will never again be another first."

For more information, visit: [www.hbfoundation.org](http://www.hbfoundation.org)

[www.generationchess.com](http://www.generationchess.com)

**PRIZE FUND: \$500,000 absolutely guaranteed**

**Open Section:**

**1<sup>st</sup> place - \$50,000**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$25,000**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$12,500**  
**4<sup>th</sup> - \$7,000      5<sup>th</sup> - \$3,500      6<sup>th</sup> - \$2,000**  
**7<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> each \$1,000      21<sup>st</sup> to 50<sup>th</sup> - each \$500**

**2300-2449: 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$20,000 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 10,000 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$5,000**

**UNDER 2300: 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$20,000 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 10,000 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$5,000**

**Under 2200, U2000, U1800, U1600 SECTIONS:**

**1<sup>st</sup> place - \$20,000**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$10,000**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$5,000**  
**4<sup>th</sup> place - \$2,500      5<sup>th</sup> place \$1,500      6<sup>th</sup> place -\$1,000**  
**7<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> each \$500      21<sup>st</sup> - 50<sup>th</sup> each \$300**

**Under 1400 Section**

**1<sup>st</sup> place - \$12,000**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$6,000**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$3,000**  
**4<sup>th</sup> place - \$2,000      5<sup>th</sup> place - \$1,500      6<sup>th</sup> place - \$1,000**  
**7<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> each \$500      21<sup>st</sup> - 50<sup>th</sup> each \$300**

**Top Under 1200 \$10,000-5,000-3,000-2,000-1,000**

**Top Under 1000 \$4,000-2,000-1,000-1,000-1,000**

**UNRATED Section**

**1<sup>st</sup> place - \$2,000**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$1,000**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$600**  
**4<sup>th</sup> place - \$500      5<sup>th</sup> place \$400      6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> \$200**

**Entry Fee: \$345 before 1/1/05; \$345 from 1/1/05 through 1/30/05; \$375 from 2/1/05 through 5/1/05; \$400 from May 1 to noon, May 17.**

**Discounts: Sign with a friend before 1/1/05 and each of you will receive \$50 off your entry fee.**