



International Braille Chess Association

Congress

Hotel "Rzeszow" (**) J. Pilsudskiego 44, Rzeszow, Poland**

August 23, 2025, 10:00

REPORT ON CHESS IN THE CARIBBEAN

While chess communities for blind and visually impaired players in North, Central, and South America are active and growing, there has been little if any development in the Caribbean until recent months, but change is afoot.

In Barbados throughout March each year many activities are arranged across the disability spectrum to create awareness and public involvement. This year, mid-March saw the launch of chess for VI and blind players, with IBCA board member Marilyn Bland participating in visits to schools, training sessions, and meetings with government officials and coaches. Media coverage was extensive and generated much interest. Several other Caribbean countries - Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago among them - participated in a Zoom gathering. An outreach effort similar to that of Barbados is being planned in Guyana during the fall.

IBCA is excited at possibilities for chess in the Caribbean and looks forward to welcoming more countries from that region to join Barbados in the international fold in the near future.

Dr. Marilyn Bland
Executive Board
August 9, 2025