



## Press Release

160 "Chess Olympiad Partner Schools" needed

The Chess Olympiad is one of the greatest sport events in the world. In November 2008, the host city of Dresden will be expecting around 160 nations and over 5.000 players. Under the patronage of Chess World Champion Vladimir Kramnik, the Deutsche Schachjugend is looking for 160 partner schools to become ambassadors of the participating countries, marching in together with the delegation of their individual partner country during the opening celebration.

World Champion Kramnik, who never fails to emphasize the importance of "school chess" during his public appearances, was immediately enthusiastic about the project: *"Unlike any other activity, chess is suited to promote strategic thinking. Particularly with children and youngsters, frequent chess training can lead to considerably better results at school and at work. This is why I very much welcome the realization of this project. I wish the initiators success, and all participants, above all, fun and lot of beautiful chess games."*

Until 31<sup>st</sup> of May, all German schools can apply for the title of "Chess Olympiad Partner School". On the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, this unique campaign will start in Hamburg. Each participating school will be assigned to one country as partner school of the Chess Olympiad. The lottery wheel contains big countries like England or Russia, but also small chess nations like Barbados, the Seychelles or the Faroe Islands.

For one year, the participating schools will get to know their partner countries and the game of chess. Furthermore, four regional tournaments in former German Chess Olympiad cities (Hamburg, Munich, Leipzig and Siegen) will give them the chance to qualify for the School Chess Olympiad which is set up parallel to the "real" Olympiad in Dresden.

But one thing is for sure: two representatives of each partner school will have the opportunity to march in together with "their" national team during the opening celebration and to present the results of their projects in a great exhibition.

Information and registration: [www.deutsche-schachjugend.de](http://www.deutsche-schachjugend.de)

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