

IBM IRISH CHAMPIONSHIPS GO WEST

For the first time ever, it is believed, the Irish Championships will be staged outside one of our major cities when enthusiasts will travel to CASTLEBAR this year for the 1983 IBM Irish Chess Championships which are being held from July 9th to 17th.

Mr. Mike Kos, Managing Director of IBM Ireland Limited said :
"We are delighted to continue our sponsorship of this worthwhile event, which will include, as usual, the senior Championship, the Intermediate and Junior Championships. At the time of going to press, we are also discussing with the organisers the feasibility of including a Novices Championship for the first time".

Local tournament Director is Tom McNally who was responsible for laying the foundations which brought about the staging of the IBM Irish in the highly prestigious Travellers' Friend Hotel, already well known to many likely competitors. This was the venue of the recent 'St. Patrick's Chess Tournament' which was very well supported.

Following the prizegiving at that tournament the official announcement of IBM Ireland sponsorship was made. Mr. Brian Grant, External Programmes Manager of IBM Ireland Limited, commented on the affinity between chess and computers, feeling that many of the young players he noticed receiving prizes might ultimately find worthwhile careers in the computer field.

Tournament Director Tom McNally, from Curragh, Castlebar was looking forward to the challenge of staging the IBM Irish. "We hope" stated Tom "that competitors, their families and friends will travel to Castlebar not only for these the 58th Championships which are being held in the Travellers Friend Hotel but also to avail of our recreation and holiday facilities in Castlebar and the surrounding countryside."

With this social aspect of the Championships in mind Tom is looking at drawing up a 'Newsheet' which will draw attention to the various recreational and leisure facilities available.

It is anticipated that entry forms will be distributed to Clubs in early May but meantime anyone requiring further information may write to Tom McNally, Curragh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo (enclose s.a.e.) or phone Tom O'Sullivan- 01-453502.

Remember the dates- 9th. to 16th July. Why not book them now and participate in what promises to be a memorable 'IBM Irish'.

Soviet trip

- Irish chessplayers from expert to novice can now combine a summer holiday with some chess playing in the Soviet Union.

One week in Yalta, the famous Black Sea resort, and another in Leningrad to coincide with the famous 'White Nights' festival. The party will be accompanied by Jim Walsh and will depart from Dublin on Saturday June 18th.

Full details can be obtained from Lep Travel Limited, 11-15, Taza Street, Dublin 2 Telephone 01-771861.