

Summary

The main goal of the doctoral thesis was to present the development of women's chess in Poland in the years 1945-1989. The cognitive goal was the comprehensive characterization of chess in Poland and the determination of constant trends shaped in sports competition based on an analysis of sport competition.

The main research method adopted for the comprehensive characterization of chess as a sport discipline was the monographic method. In addition, the method of critical analysis of source materials was used to discuss the genesis of chess in Poland, with particular emphasis on women's chess.

From the period analysed in this study as many as four Polish chess players obtained the title of grandmaster. The successes of Polish chess players in the international arena undoubtedly translated into the growing interest in the royal game in our country. And despite the persisting superiority of men associated with chess clubs, the ladies were more successful.

It should be emphasized that women's representations were ranked higher than men's representations at the chess Olympics. After the Second World War, men's representation was only four times in the top ten. However, ladies have succeeded in this art eight times. At the same time, the best men's results ranked them in the seventh position. Ladies achieved their best result in 1980 winning the bronze medal, and a year after they took place just behind the podium.

The research shows that World War II caused irreversible damage also in Polish chess life. However, thanks to many years of tradition and determination of the Polish Chess Association activists, actions were taken to rebuild the Polish chess power. One of the most important factors influencing the development of interest in the royal game among women was the regulation forcing chess clubs to have at least one woman among their members.