

# Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

**Magazine No.146**

**Summer 2019**

**ICCF Grading List 2019/3**  
*Kevin analyses the Q3 statistics*

**Celebrating the Ruy Lopez**  
*Peter begins a four-part series on the doyen of openings*

**The Hawkes Files**  
*John pays tribute to Vladimir Zagorovsky*

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*Iain rounds up team and individual results*

**Chess Art**  
*We present a selection of chess motifs from album sleeves*

**Games Column**  
*Alastair looks at Scottish successes in VWC games*

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*Painted Stained Glass by Brigitte Wolf*  
[www.reflectionsglass.ca](http://www.reflectionsglass.ca)



Welcome to the second edition of the 2019 magazine set, which is optimistically known as the Summer issue. We continue to ignore global warming in these latitudes.

Nothing like a bit of work to keep up the body temperature though, and once again we have many fine articles for you.

Kevin Paine has analysed the third ICCF rating list of 2019 for us. The last quarter saw three new titled players in our ranks, and we maintained a high level of games activity.

Peter Bennett has begun a new series on the Ruy Lopez which should span several editions. You'll enjoy his mix of perceptive observations and annotations.

John Hawkes pays tribute to the great Vladimir Zagorovsky, GM, 4<sup>th</sup> ICCF World Champion, ICCF Vice President, university professor and general polymath. Vladimir is pictured in tartan within...

Our International column reappears in this issue, with team and individual updates across a wide range of events. Peter Bennett anticipates the likely finalists in the 11<sup>th</sup> European Team Championship.

We have a few pages of chess art for you to enjoy. Thanks to John Hawkes for the idea of using album covers, and for a number of colourful examples.

Alastair Dawson provides another Games Column, this time featuring a number of fine wins by Scottish players in the Veterans' World Cup.

Our AGM was duly held in May. Entry fees for the large George Pyrich Memorial event resulted in an accounts deficit. Professor Alastair Dawson stood down from committee (though he continues as Games Editor), and we welcomed back Iain Sneddon after a few year's absence.

Gordon Anderson will represent Scotland at the upcoming ICCF Congress in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 18-22 August. We are currently reviewing the online proposals and preparing our voting position. Gordon is also planning to stock up on CCM and CCE medals to reward our industrious players clocking up the norms out there...

Enjoy your summer holidays!

### SCCA Membership

**Annual: £10/year** buys you entry to all SCCA domestic events and friendly international matches, plus 4 quarterly e-magazines.

**Life: £100** gets you annual membership for the rest of your days (plus a year's worth of printed magazines to try out).

**Patron: £125** (+ any further donation you care to make) gets you life membership and your name on something commemorative.

### SCCA 100 Club

The 100 Club has been and continues to be an important revenue-earner for our Association, with many long-standing subscribers.

However, in recent years we have lost a number of subscribers through death and replacing them has been a challenge that, as yet, we have been unable to fully meet.

Could you help us address our challenge by agreeing to take one, two, three or more units each month?

Responsibility for the 100 Club rests with our Treasurer, Gordon Anderson. Units cost £1 with some members taking one unit while others take as many as 10 units per month. From the Association's perspective paying by Bankers Order is most convenient.

If you don't already subscribe to the 100 club please consider if you can help the SCCA by making contact with Gordon to sign up for some units (contact details below).

### Recent 100 Club Winners

2019	1st	2nd
June	I Mackintosh	I Mackintosh
May	G M Anderson	Mrs D Livie
April	Mrs D Livie	J Anderson

#### SCCA Officials

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NB Secretarial duties will be undertaken by Kevin Paine, Iain Sneddon and Iain Mackintosh pro tem.



## ICCF Champions League 8



The Non-Title Tournament Commissioner, Jörg Kracht, has written to announce the launch of Champions League 8, which is a team event for teams of 4 players. There are 3 divisions:

- A Division: 1 section, 15 teams
- B Division: 4 sections, 13 teams per section
- C Division: many sections, 13 teams per section

Games are rated and where all necessary requirements are met, title norms may be possible.

Entries will be accepted from 1st June until 31st July 2019 with a start date of 1st September 2019. End Date will be 31st August 2021.

ICCF standard time control applies; i.e. 10 moves in 40 days with duplication after 20 days is used. 30 days of leave per year are available to each player.

Cost of entry for each team will be £28 i.e. £7 per player.

It is some years since Scottish teams last participated, however, any Scottish player who would be interested in playing in this event should, in the first instance, contact Gordon Anderson by 15th July 2019 to express their interest.

Note that ICCF provides facilities for including unattached players in teams, so individual entries are welcome.

## British Correspondence Chess Championship (BCCC) 2019-21



The British Correspondence Chess Championship is the premier tournament on the British CC calendar.

Running continuously since 1921 and open to all British players, the BCCC has carried ICCF title norms since 2016. The BCCC caters for players of all levels and consists of a final, a candidates section and a number of reserves sections.

The BCCC is organised jointly by the English Federation for Correspondence Chess (EFCC), the Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation (WCCF) and the Scottish Correspondence Chess Association (SCCA).

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## ICCF Veterans World Cup 12



Ian M. Pheby, President of EFCC (the English CC Federation), writes to announce that VWC12 will start on 1st September, 2019, with the closing date for entries 1st August.

As with previous VWCs, the event will be organised in three stages, which will allow several players from each group stage to advance to the Semi-finals and Final. The number of promotions will depend on total entries received, but it is envisaged that groups at each stage will comprise 11 players (10 games) or 13 players (12 games) played by webserver with a rate of play of 10 moves in 40 days.

Playing time in each stage will be 18 months, with a fixed closing date specified at the outset. VWCs are open to all players who are 60 years old or more at the start date of the tournament. Although the number of preliminary groups which each player may enter is unlimited, no player will qualify for more than two Semi-final groups or more than one place in the Final.

Players may enter through their National Federations (the SCCA entry fee per section is £9.00) or, where eligible, via the ICCF Direct Entry system, where the fee will be €14.04 per preliminary section.

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## Fernschach 2019 CC Database



Herbert Bellmann writes to advise that Fernschach 2019 offers a CC games database in addition to ICCF and commercial products. In summary:

- Database available annually since 2000
- Nearly 1,300,000 games (from 1991)
- Over 100,000 new games since 2018
- Approximately 9,000 annotated (450 new)
- Games from all main chess servers + post + email All tournaments marked correspondence so that CC games can be recognised in a larger database
- Problem solved with the double games!
- German letters ä, ö, ü and ß are not counted in names

The price is €13 (shipping within Germany) and €15 (shipping elsewhere).

For further details, contact Herbert at:

Herbert Bellmann

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## ICCF Game Archive




June updates to the Archive have now been added, and all files may be downloaded by logging into: <https://www.iccf.com/> then selecting Games Archive from the menu.

## ICCF European Individual Championship



Andrey Pavlikov, Zone One Director, writes to announce that the 69th European Individual Championship has completed after 3½ years of play.

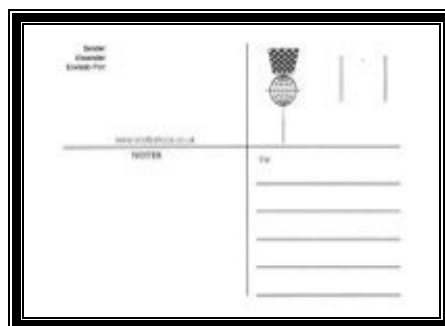
The successful players are:

Champion is  Costantino Delizia, Costantino (Italy).

Second: place goes to  Alfredas Samerdokas (Lithuania).

Third: place goes to  Mikhail Mikhailovich Churkin (Russia).

## CC Postcards



The SCCA has a stock of cc postcards showing the SCCA logo and website address. They are suitable for domestic and international use (English, German and Spanish used).

Orders in units of 100 please. The cards are supplied at their production cost (£2.50/100) and p&p is also required. In June 2018, Royal Mail charged £2.95 for a 200-card parcel.

Orders and payments to Iain Mackintosh at [chess@iainmack.co.uk](mailto:chess@iainmack.co.uk) please.



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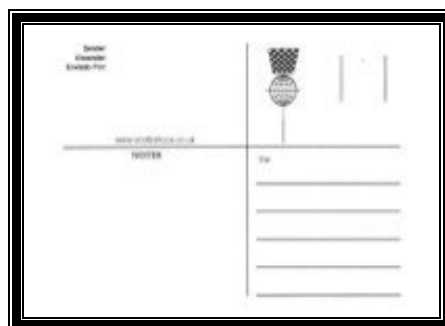
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## 2019/3 Grading List

By Kevin Paine

The third ICCF grading list of 2019 is published and new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 March and 31 May 2019. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 July and 30 September 2019.

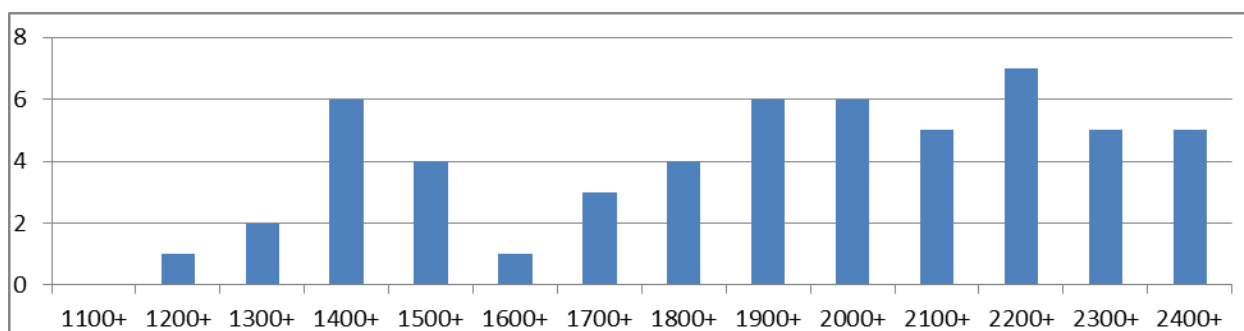
We counted one addition (Ian Whittaker) and no deletions in this list. Three members have received titles in the last period – my SM title was ratified at the SCCA AGM in May; Gordon Anderson achieved his CCM award and Colin Beveridge his CCE title, both in June.

Upwards movements in grading bands were recorded by Colin Beveridge and Iain Sneddon (2200+), Raymond BurrIDGE and Ian Whittaker (2100+), Andrew Macmillen (1500+), Alan Kearns (1400+) and Martin Hardwick (1200+) – well done all!

More new games centurions were recorded – Raymond BurrIDGE reached 1400+, Martin Hardwick surpassed 1200+, Derek Coope and Geoff Lloyd both got to 900+, while John Armstrong and Derek Price passed 400+. Highest recorded games during this quarter were Carlos Almarza Mato (61), Martin Hardwick (55), Ian Whittaker (53), Raymond BurrIDGE (50), David Cumming (43), and Iain Sneddon (37).

You need to complete 12 ICCF-eligible games to obtain a provisional rating (\* below). Provisional ratings apply until 30 games have been processed. Rating changes are denoted by arrows. Email [grader@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:grader@scottishcca.co.uk) if you have any queries.

No.	Name	Results	Grade	No.	Name	Results	Grade
317	Almarza Mato, C	1681	2144 ↑	260	Knox, A	377	1438 ↓
518	Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	330	2344 ↑	264	Lloyd, G (CCE, SM)	916	2270 ↓
121	Anderson, J	299	1926 ↑		MacDonald, M	45	1480 ↓
049	Armstrong, A	209	1876 ↔	584	MacGregor, C A	426	1890 ↓
313	Armstrong, J McK	411	1476 ↓	532	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	746	2417 ↑
511	Beecham, C R (SIM)	467	2477 ↑	216	MacMillen, A N	1366	1508 ↑
599	Bell, A D (CCM, SM)	238	2413 ↑	566	Marshall, I H	763	2059 ↑
501	Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	436	2362 ↓	434	Matheis, T (IM)	241	2456 ↑
481	Beveridge, C (CCE)	453	2210 ↑	867	McEwan, N R	39	1896 ↔
472	Blake, M J (CCE)	829	2350 ↑		Miles, A	46	1480 ↑
509	Borwell, A P (IM)	1086	2231 ↓	401	Moir, P J	199	1543 ↔
602	BurrIDGE, R J	1406	2108 ↑	598	Montgomery, R S	296	2260 ↑
	Clark, S L	240	1955 ↓	474	Murden, C (IM)	565	2442 ↑
364	Coope, D W	911	1814 ↓	564	Murray, J S	72	2044 ↑
247	Cormack, W H	109	1911 ↔	440	Neil, C	323	1368 ↓
166	Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	1557	2392 ↓	603	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	162	1981 ↔
422	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	147	2177 ↓	604	Paine, Dr K A (SM)	212	2350 ↓
572	Dempster, D	807	1759 ↔		Pettigrew, S	130	1446 ↓
478	Dunn, J	344	1538 ↓	432	Price, D	408	1976 ↓
	Dyer, M	112	2068 ↑	477	Sedstrem, A	88	1398 ↓
371	Edney, D	256	1990 ↑	439	Smith, M J	73	2076 ↔
462	Gilbert, R	205	1744 ↓	057	Sneddon, I	172	2222 ↑
124	Goodwin, B J	389	1719 ↔		Stewart, A G	36	2170 ↔
399	Grant, J	69	1686 ↓	605	Taylor, W	111	2041 ↓
596	Hardwick, M E	1238	1236 ↑		Warren, J	32	2064 ↓
1013	Hilton, S H	179	1594 ↔	530	Watson, J (IM)	153	2297 ↔
475	Kearns, A	84	1407 ↑	480	Whittaker, I P	53	2107 ↑
548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	350	2237 ↔				



## Statistical Analysis

Total listed	55
New entrants	1
Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members)	0
Full grades (30+ games)	55
Provisional grades (<30 games)	0
Grading increases (↑)	22
Grading decreases (↓)	21
Grading static (↔)	12

## Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	2477	Sneddon, I	2222
Matheis, T (IM)	2456	Beveridge, C (CCE)	2210
Murden, C (IM)	2442	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	2177
Mackintosh, I (SIM)	2417	Stewart, A G	2170
Bell, A D (CCM, SM)	2413	Almarza Mato, C	2144
Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	2392	Burridge, R J	2108
Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	2362	Whittaker, I P	2107
Blake, M J (CCE)	2350	Smith, M J	2076
Paine, Dr K A (SM)	2350	Dyer, M	2068
Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	2344	Warren, J	2064
Watson, J (IM)	2297	Marshall, I H	2059
Lloyd, G (CCE, SM)	2270	Murray, J S	2044
Montgomery, R S	2260	Taylor, W	2041
Kilgour, D A (GM)	2237	Edney, D	1990
Borwell, A P (IM)	2231	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	1981

## Top 30 Rated Games

Almarza-Mato, C	1681	Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	436
Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	1557	MacGregor, C A	426
Burridge, R J	1406	Armstrong, J McK	411
MacMillen, A N	1366	Price, D	408
Hardwick, M E	1238	Goodwin, B J	389
Borwell, A P (IM)	1086	Knox, A	377
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Murden, C	565	Edney, D	256
Beecham, C R (SIM)	467	Matheis, T (IM)	241
Beveridge, C (CCE)	453	Clark, S L	240

## Other Notes

**Senior International Master (SIM)** title norms are held by:

Matheis, T (1), Murden, C (1)

**International Master (IM)** title norms are held by:

Bennett, P G (1)

**Scottish Master (SM)** title norms are held by:

Montgomery, R S (2)

**Correspondence Chess Master (CCM)** title norms:

Beveridge, C (1)

**Correspondence Chess Expert (CCE)** title norms:

Montgomery, R S (2)

Paine, K A (1).

This list includes a number of our members who are registered with other countries, and may include members who have played <12 games and have yet to receive a provisional rating.

To check your rating online at any time, go to the ICCF webserver site ([www.iccf.com](http://www.iccf.com)), click on the ICCF Ratings link then complete the search boxes. A number of useful online rating enquiry facilities are available, including a personal forecasted rating as your results come in.





## Celebrating the Ruy Lopez Part A: its changing role in modern CC

By Peter Bennett

First recorded in 1490, the Ruy Lopez – **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5** – remained, for fully 500 years, one of the most popular OTB chess openings. Latterly, for more or less the whole of the 20th century, this popularity also extended to our CC code.

The first proper analysis of the opening was published by Ruy Lopez de Segura in 1561, hence the opening's original name. By the by, I decline to refer to it as the "Spanish". Why change a perfectly valid attribution?

In recent years the role and reputation of the Ruy Lopez has changed, especially in CC. Essentially, the popularity of the Ruy has waned: why so?

This is one of the questions which the first three articles in this four-part series will attempt to answer. In the first article I will address the more general aspects of the development of Ruy Lopez opening theory. In the second article I will take a "modern" look at the Berlin Defence. The third article will focus on the Marshall Attack; and in the fourth article I will annotate three of my most recent Ruy Lopez games, as a (probably final) tribute to a famous opening before it (sadly) drifts even further out of favour.

Incidentally, the games from my own collection which appear in the first three articles have been chosen purely to illustrate some features of the opening; so I do not commend them to the reader as chess contests. In any case, since they are mainly either draws or losses, they were more instructive than enjoyable to play!

In 1965, more than 400 years on from the original Lopez manuscript, GM Larry Evans carried out a comprehensive review of the opening for the tenth edition of MCO (Modern Chess Openings) and had this to say about it: "The Lopez is highly suitable for the competitor who is out to win with White. Black can rarely hope for more than equality." Indeed, Larry Evans' succinct but valuable introduction to the Ruy in MCO10 provides a convenient baseline against which more recent changes in attitudes to the Ruy can be both illustrated and explained.

Evans' very positive view of the Ruy Lopez, although by no means universally held even then, persisted until relatively recently among its adherents. When I was playing the Black side of a Ruy as recently as 2012, my very strong Russian CC opponent, in declining my offer of a draw, averred that he "usually expected to win with White when playing the Spanish". We played on for another ten moves and, as it happened, I got the draw in the end, anyway; but I had the distinct impression that my opponent regarded this draw as a failure!

So, back to my original question: why did the Ruy decline in popularity? In OTB there were three main reasons, which also largely applied to CC as well, at least until the 1990s:

### 1) Players avoided the Ruy with Black.

This gradual drift away, not just from the Ruy but from the open game (1.e4 e5) altogether, actually began back in the 19th century. For a long time this was an indirect compliment to the Ruy. Many players agreed with Larry Evans' later verdict that "Black can rarely hope for more than equality"; and, since they wanted to play for a win with Black, they concluded that the Black side of the Ruy Lopez was an unsuitable vehicle for such an aim. As Evans himself acknowledged in the sentence immediately following the above quote, "The only thing wrong with the Ruy Lopez is the Sicilian Defence!" We could add that other semi-open games, such as the French and the Caro-Kann, have also proved fairly resilient.

### 2) The decline in popularity of 1.e4.

The perceived strength of the semi-open defences also led many players to broaden their repertoire with the White pieces. Bobby Fischer's much-quoted claim that 1.e4 was "best on test" no doubt helped to slow down the pace of change; but Fischer was talking about OTB chess in late 1960s, not CC half a century later. There are very few 2300+ CC players in the modern game who, like me, persist with 1.e4 as their first choice opening move. Even in OTB, there are many strong players, such as the late Viktor Korchnoi, who routinely open 1.d4 and almost never play 1.e4.

### 3) The perception that the Ruy had been over-analysed.

Larry Evans tried very hard to put this in positive terms: "Some main lines have been exhaustively analysed for over twenty moves; many tournament games really start from where this analysis ends, enabling both sides to avoid consuming time on the clock". Well, that's one way of looking at it; but I have to say that most club players in both OTB and CC take the opposite view: they avoid over-analysed openings like the plague because they are aware of the danger of being "out-booked" by an opponent. Trying to prise your opponent out of their comfort zone, and therefore away from opening theory in general, is the more commonly encountered approach of the "modern" chess player.

In summary, the Ruy Lopez had lost some of its popularity even by the end of the 1960s, while remaining a major opening system in both OTB and CC. The next decade, the 1970s, brought an explosion in chess publishing, not least in opening theory. Between 1973 and 1977, for example, I bought the complete five-volume first edition of The Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings (ECO) with vastly more theory than the single-volume opening texts we had used hitherto. Analysed lines in the Ruy Lopez weren't just 20 moves deep, some ran out to over 35 moves. Even OTB players of master strength found it impossible to hold this depth of theory in their heads; and the search for playable,

but offbeat, opening systems became increasingly popular, led by some of the world's strongest players, for example, the Danish GM, Bent Larsen.

The last 40 years, since the end of the 1970s, have seen ever more dramatic changes in opening theory; and one of these – largely overlooked in mainstream publications – is the rapid divergence of OTB and CC theory. I began playing CC experimentally in 1962 but, from 1965 onwards, with the explicit developmental goal of using CC to improve my understanding of opening theory. I developed my opening repertoire in CC and then applied it, initially to considerable effect, in OTB.

The inviolate presumption, right up to the end of the millenium, was that my OTB opening repertoire was one and the same as the systems I used in CC, hence the possibility of cross-fertilization. Although I have never been a strong OTB player, when I managed to win my OTB club championship twice in the late 1970s, my success was undoubtedly partly down to the beneficial effects of playing CC for my understanding of opening theory.

By the middle 1990s, however, this kind of symbiosis was evaporating very quickly. The development of electronic databases meant that CC players had to be more accurate in their opening play in the 1990s than had been strictly necessary in the 1970s; and by the late 1990s – about 20 years ago – a combination of computer analysis in OTB opening preparation and the practical results of CC games in which both players had been computer-aided, was beginning to rewrite opening theory altogether.

So what was the effect of all these changes on the Ruy Lopez? Well, here I have a curious confession to make. The Ruy was not one of my original favourite openings which, like other classic systems, had suffered from the assault of “modern” analysis; rather, the reverse: the Ruy came to my rescue, at least in CC, because my beloved King's Gambit had failed to survive the computer test. I did not even start playing 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 on a regular basis until 2007!

So most of my CC experience with the Ruy has been in the decade from 2007 to 2017, in the belief that it still gave me decent winning chances with White. But another change during that same decade, at least for myself, has been the divergence between my CC and OTB opening play. In 2007, I was still using my CC games to develop ideas for OTB play. By 2017, only ten years later, the opening variations I was using in CC were quite different from anything I would even dream of playing OTB.

The Ruy variations in the second and third articles in this series are a case in point. In recent years in CC I have regularly played both the Berlin Defence and the Marshall Attack with Black and am equally happy to play against them with White; but I have no recollection of ever playing either opening OTB. The CC and OTB codes have diverged completely and not just for myself. My OTB club has about 40 active members and, as far as I am aware, I am the only one who plays CC at all.

Apart from the three common reasons (to both OTB and CC) for the fading popularity of the Ruy, as given above, there are two further factors (given below in a continuing *SCCA Magazine* 146

numerical sequence – 4 and 5) which explain the much more recent reluctance of CC players, in particular, to retain the Ruy Lopez in their repertoire.

#### 4) White's much-vaunted lasting initiative into the middle game is largely illusory.

The Ruy Lopez itself has certainly survived the test of computer analysis; but what has not survived is the notion that it gives White a lasting advantage, well into the middle game. In CC, the many variations in which White retains a distinct edge are, quite simply, no longer played at CC-master level. In the those lines that are still played, Black secures equality as soon and as easily as in any other opening system.

This debunking of what I might call “Ruy mythology” has been well understood in the world of CC for several years now, less so in the world of OTB, and is an example of the divergence between OTB and CC which I have just been discussing. OTB players are often influenced by the outcome of specific, famous games; and the fear of the Ruy was given an extra lease of life on 4 May 1997, when Kasparov lost badly with Black against Deep Blue's Ruy Lopez in the second game of their second match. But the truth is, no CC master today would play that line, anyway.

For present purposes, I shall give just one example from my own CC database of a game where Black obtains very early equality in a commonly-played line:

**White: Bennett, Peter (2306)**

**Black: Pheby, Ian (2327)**

VWC5 sf07, 2014

Closed Ruy Lopez (C92)

[Notes by Peter Bennett]

**1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 O-O 8. c3 d6 9. h3 Bb7 10. d4 Re8 11. Nbd2 Bf8 12. a4 h6**

Engine analysis is already suggesting that Black has full equality.

**13. Bc2 exd4 14. cxd4 Nb4 15. Bb1 c5 16. d5 Nd7 17. Ra3 c4 18. axb5 axb5 19. Nd4 Rxa3 20. bxa3**

1/2-1/2



Some people would criticise such an early draw; but there were several factors which led me to make the offer. In the first place, my SIM opponent is one of Britain's most experienced and prolific CC players who knows the opening

very well. Secondly, my forward analysis gave a very pessimistic picture of my chances of winning the game. After 20...Nd3 and the inevitable exchanges on d3, deep computer analysis rated the position as 0.00. Thirdly, there were NO recent wins for White in the database in high-level CC; and fourthly, in a tournament where you are playing 14 games, you have to prioritise your efforts. This was the least promising of my seven games with the White pieces in that event, at that particular stage. So, after taking a few draws (including this one), I did in fact manage to win three other games by focussing my attention on them.

Even so, I was frustrated to have found so little for White in this variation; and, in conjunction with similar experiences in other lines, this led me to question whether there was any point in persisting with the Ruy Lopez at all, at least in CC.

### 5. Black's counter-chances are real and should not be underestimated.

**White: Bennett, Peter (2302)**  
**Black: Ludwig, Christoph (2342)**  
 WCCC38 pr13, 2016  
 Ruy Lopez Breyer Variation [C95]  
 [Notes by Peter Bennett]

- |          |      |
|----------|------|
| 1. e4    | e5   |
| 2. Nf3   | Nc6  |
| 3. Bb5   | a6   |
| 4. Ba4   | Nf6  |
| 5. O-O   | Be7  |
| 6. Re1   | b5   |
| 7. Bb3   | d6   |
| 8. c3    | O-O  |
| 9. h3    | Nb8  |
| 10. d4   | Nbd7 |
| 11. Nbd2 | Bb7  |
| 12. Bc2  | c5   |
| 13. d5   | c4   |
| 14. Nf1  | Qc7  |
| 15. Ng3  | g6   |
| 16. Bh6  | Rfb8 |
| 17. Qd2  | a5   |
| 18. Qe3  | a4   |
| 19. a3   | Nc5  |
| 20. Nf5  | Bf8  |
| 21. Qg5  | Ncd7 |
| 22. Bxf8 | Rxf8 |
| 23. Nh6+ | Kh8  |
| 24. Qh4  | Nh5  |
| 25. Qe7  | f6   |
| 26. Nf7+ | Rxf7 |
| 27. Qxf7 | Rf8  |
| 28. Qe7  | Ng7  |
| 29. Nh2  | h5   |
| 30. Nf3  | Kg8  |

A plainly ridiculous position for White to get into in a World Championship game, even in the preliminary stages! I have given the score of the rest of the game, in case any reader is interested enough to follow it; but White is positionally lost already.



- |           |      |
|-----------|------|
| 31. Ng5   | fxg5 |
| 32. Qxg5  | Kh7  |
| 33. Rf1   | Qd8  |
| 34. h4    | Nf6  |
| 35. f4    | Qb6+ |
| 36. Kh1   | Ng4  |
| 37. Rf3   | exf4 |
| 38. Raf1  | Re8  |
| 39. Qxf4  | Ne5  |
| 40. Qg3   | Bc8  |
| 41. R3f2  | Bg4  |
| 42. Rf6   | Be2  |
| 43. R1f4  | Qd8  |
| 44. Qg5   | Qe7  |
| 45. Kh2   | Ng4+ |
| 46. Rxc4  | hxc4 |
| 47. Qxc6+ | Kg8  |
| 48. Qg5   | Rf8  |
| 49. Rxf8+ | Kxf8 |
| 50. Kg3   | Qxg5 |
| 51. hxc5  | Bd3  |
| 52. Bd1   | Bxe4 |
| 53. Bxc4  | Ke7  |
| 54. Bh3   | Bf5  |
| 55. Kf4   | Bxh3 |
| 56. gxh3  | Kf7  |
| 57. Kf3   | Kg6  |
| 58. Kg4   | Nf5  |
| 59. Kf4   | Ne7  |

A general question: how do you win with Black against any opening? OTB, the most common route to a win for Black is that White's opening play is inaccurate and Black then gets the upper hand directly; but in CC this will rarely happen, given the ready access to modern databases. So in CC, the much more common pattern is that White tries too hard for a win and overplays his hand. Black, meanwhile, is waiting patiently for the opportunity to take advantage of any weakness, after the first player has faltered.

The following game is not only a perfect example of this theme, it also shows how easily Black can seize the initiative in the Ruy as easily as in any other opening. The story of the game is quite simple: White decides to play for a win, gets over-ambitious, unwisely goes walkabouts with his queen on the kingside and gets the queen trapped! To free the queen, White has to give up material, Black gets by far the better game and, slowly but surely, takes complete control.

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 60. Kg4 | Nxd5 |
| 61. h4  | Nxc3 |
| 62. h5+ | Kf7  |
| 63. Kf5 | Nd1  |
| 64. g6+ | Kg8  |
| 65. h6  | Nxb2 |
| 66. Kf6 | Nd3  |
| 67. h7+ | Kh8  |
| 68. g7+ | Kxh7 |
| 69. Kf7 | Ne5+ |
| 70. Kf8 | Ng6+ |
| 71. Kf7 | Ne7  |

0-1

Black shows excellent technique in the latter stages, although White could have resigned about 20 moves earlier than he did.

In conclusion, a combination of modern analysis and practical play gives the Ruy Lopez a perfectly clean bill of health in most of its variations, but has stripped it of its "special" status. Strong CC players who are determined to win as many games as possible are nowadays more likely to desert the Ruy Lopez, along with the rest of the open game, in pursuit of that goal. So Larry Evans' advice, given back in 1965, that "*The Lopez is highly suitable for the competitor who is out to win with White*" seems no longer to be as compelling as most players believed it to be half a century ago.

In the second article, I will take a closer look at the Berlin Defence which has, somewhat unexpectedly, experienced a resurgence in popularity in CC in the last few years.



## The Hawkes Files

By John E. Hawkes

### Vladimir Pavlovich Zagorovsky June 29, 1925 - November 6, 1994 Voronezh (Russia)

Vladimir Zagorovsky (Vice President of the ICCF from 1975-1991) was in Scotland for the 1985 conference held in Peebles.



4th CC World Champion  
Zagorovsky was not just a chessplayer. He was a university professor and renowned historian, penning numerous important works dealing with his home town of Voronezh and its region.



In the period from 1962 until 1989 he participated in five consecutive World Championship Finals [4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>] and then came back for the 11<sup>th</sup>

In those 87 games I count only 6 defeats! He honoured Scotland by playing in the Scottish Centenary Invitational Tournament in the early 80s.

I offer you a selection of his lesser-known games and acknowledge the monumental tome on the Spanish Opening (1975) by Andrei P. Malchev as my source for many of the game scores.

**White: Zagorovsky, Vladimir**  
**Black: Borozin, ?**

USSR corr 1959

Ruy Lopez, Exchange Doubly-Deferred [C85]

[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	a6
4.Ba4	Nf6
5.0-0	Be7
6.Bxc6	dx c6
7.Nc3	Bg4
8.h3	Bh5
9.d3	

White holding back d3 and going straight into the Nd1–e3 thing occurred in Nezhmetdinov - Lengyel at Budapest 1963; 9.Qe2 Nd7 10.Nd1 f6 11.Ne3 Nc5 12.Nf5 Ne6 13.Qe3 Qd7 14.Ng3 Bf7 15.d3 g6 and Black castled long on the 26th for a long 58–move win.

9...	Nd7
10.Qe2	0-0
11.Nd1	Bd6
12.Ne3	Nc5
13.Nf5	Ne6



14.g4	Bg6
15.h4	Bxf5
16.gxf5	Nd4
17.Nxd4	exd4
18.Qg4	Kh8
19.Kh1	f6
20.h5	h6
21.Rg1	Rf7
22.Qe2	Qf8
23.Bd2	c5
24.Rg6	Re8
25.b3	b5
26.a4	b4
27.Rag1	Rd8
28.Qg4	Re8



**29.Kg2!**

Taking a walk to the queenside!

29...	Rd8
30.Kf1	Re8
31.Ke2	Rd8
32.Kd1	Rc8
33.Kc1	a5
34.Kb2	c6

Now for the final phase.

35.f4	Bc7
36.e5	Bd8
37.Be1	fxe5
38.fxe5	Rxf5
39.Bd2	Bg5
40.Bxg5	Rxg5
41.Rxg5	hxg5
42.Qe4	

42.Rf1 was also to be considered.

42...	c4
43.dxc4	Rd8
44.Rg2	c5
45.Qg6	

1-0



**White: Pithart, Frantisek**  
**Black: Zagorovsky, Vladimir**  
 USSR v Czechoslovakia 1961–63  
 Ruy Lopez, Schliemann Gambit  
 Deferred [C70]  
*[Notes by John E Hawkes]*

1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nc6  
 3.Bb5 a6  
 4.Ba4 f5  
 5.d4 exd4  
 6.Nxd4 Nxd4  
 7.Qxd4 c5  
 8.Qe5+ Qe7  
 9.Qxe7+ Bxe7



### 10.Bb3

The game between Australia's John V Kellner and Zagorovsky in the ICCF Olympiad III (1961) had a sensational finish:  
 10.c4 fxe4 11.Nc3 b6 12.Bf4 (I.Sabena v Zagorovsky, IV World Championship Prelims, was a comfortable win for Black: 12.0–0 Bb7 13.Re1 Nf6 14.Bg5 0–0–0 15.Bc2 h6 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nxe4 Bxb2 18.Rab1 Bd4 19.Rxb6 Kc7 20.Rbb1 Rhf8 21.Re2 Bc6 22.Nd2 Rde8 23.Rxe8 Rxf2! 24.Nb3 Rxc2+ 25.Nxd4 cxd4 26.g3 Rg2+ 27.Kf1 Rxh2 28.Reb8 d3 White resigned)  
 12...Nf6 13.Rd1 Bb7 14.0–0 0–0–0 15.Bc2 Rde8 16.Rfe1 Bd8 17.h3 Re6 18.a3 Rhe8 19.Re2 h6 20.Red2 Bc7 21.Be3 g5 22.b4 cxb4 23.axb4 Bf4 24.Bb3 Bxe3 25.fxe3 g4 26.c5 Rc6 27.Na4 bxc5 28.Nxc5 gxh3 29.gxh3 d5 30.Rg2 Rd8 31.Rf1 Rcd6 32.Rg7 Bc6? (Δ32...Nd7) 33.Nxa6 Ne8 34.Re7 Rg6+ 35.Kh2 Rdd6 36.Nc5 d4 37.Rf8 Kd8?? (37...dxe3□) and Zagorovsky had to resign upon receiving 38.Nb7+!

10... fxe4  
 11.Nc3 Nf6  
 12.Nd5 Bd8  
 13.0–0 b5  
 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6

15.Bd5 Ra7  
 16.Re1 Bb7  
 17.Rxe4+ Kd8  
 18.Bxb7 Rxb7  
 19.Be3 Re8  
 19...Rc7 20.c3 Re8 had been played by Zagorovsky in a 1958 game against Soloviev; 21.Rxe8+ Kxe8 22.Rc1 d5 23.Kf1 Kd7 24.Ke2 a5 25.Rc2 Kc6±  
 20.Rxe8+ Kxe8  
 21.Re1 Kf7  
 22.b3 c4  
 23.g4  
 23.bxc4 bxc4±  
 23... d5  
 24.Rd1



24... d4!  
 25.Bxd4 Rd7  
 26.c3 b4!  
 The point.  
 27.Rd2 Bxd4  
 28.cxd4 c3  
 29.Rd1 Ke6  
 30.Kf1 Kd5  
 31.f3 c2  
 32.Rc1 Rc7  
 33.Ke2 Kxd4  
 34.Kd2 g5  
 34...g5 35.h3 a5–+  
 0-1



### White: Parr, Frank

**Black: Zagorovsky, Vladimir**  
 Great Britain - USSR 1963  
 Gruenfeld, Smyslov Variation [D99]  
*[Notes by John E Hawkes]*

1.d4 Nf6  
 2.c4 g6  
 3.Nc3 d5  
 4.Nf3 Bg7  
 5.Qb3 dxc4  
 6.Qxc4 0-0  
 7.e4 Bg4  
 8.Be3 Nfd7

9.Qb3 Bxf3  
 10.gxf3 Nc6  
 11.0–0–0 Nb6  
 12.d5 Ne5  
 13.Be2 Qc8  
 14.h4 c6  
 15.Kb1 Ned7  
 16.h5 cxd5  
 17.Nxd5 Nxd5  
 18.Rxd5 b6  
 19.hxg6 hxg6



And White starts his kingside assault.

20.Rg5 e6  
 21.f4 Nc5  
 22.Qc2 Qb7  
 23.f3 Rfc8  
 24.f5 exf5  
 25.Bc4 Kf8  
 26.Bf4 Rd8  
 27.Rh7  
 27.Bd5 Rxd5 28.exd5 Qxd5 and Black has good play for the exchange.  
 27... Rd4  
 28.Rxg7 Rxc4  
 29.Qxc4 Kxg7



The situation is critical for Black.

30.Qc3+  
 30.Be5+ Kf8 (30...Kh6 31.Rg2 and mate.; 30...f6? 31.exf5+– fxe5 32.Rxg6+ and mate.) 31.Bd6+ Kg7 32.Qd4+ Kg8 33.Rg1 Nxe4 34.Be5 was an attractive continuation for the attack.

30... Kg8  
 31.exf5 Ne4  
 The only move to stay alive.  
 32.fxe4 Qxe4+  
 33.Ka1 Qxf4  
 34.Rg1 Qe4

Completing his defence with care.  
 34...Qxf5? 35.Rh1! f6 36.Qc4+ Kg7  
 37.Qc7+ Kg8 38.Qh7+ Kf8 39.Qb7  
 wins for White.  
 35.Qf6 Re8  
 36.Rxg6+  
 36.Rxg6+ fxg6 (The last wrinkle was  
 36...Kf8? 37.Qg7+ Ke7 38.Re6+  
 winning the queen.) 37.Qxg6+ and  
 perpetual check to avoid mate.

1/2-1/2



Vladimir Zagorovsky playing in the Soviet Army Championship, 1951

**White: Zhukhovitsky, Samuel**  
**Black: Zagorovsky, Vladimir**  
 USSR 1963 Corres.  
 Ruy Lopez, Schliemann Deferred [C70]  
 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nc6  
 3.Bb5 a6  
 4.Ba4 f5  
 5.d4 exd4  
 6.e5 Bc5  
 7.0-0

7.h4!? is not to be underestimated;  
 7...Nge7 8.h5 d5 9.h6 g6 10.Bg5 b5  
 11.Bb3 Be6 12.Bf6 0-0 13.Ng5 Qd7  
 14.Nd2 Nd8 15.Ndf3 Bb4+ 16.Kf1  
 c5? 17.Nxh7! wins. 17...Rf7

18.Bg7+-  
 7... Nge7  
 8.c3

Timoshich - Zagorovsky 1963-66  
 went; 8.Bb3 d5 9.exd6 Qxd6 10.Re1  
 h6 11.Nbd2 b5 12.a4 Rb8 13.axb5  
 axb5 14.Nf1 Kd8 15.c3 Bd7 16.cxd4  
 Bb4 17.Bd2 Bxd2 18.Qxd2 Kc8  
 19.d5 Nd8 20.Qd4 Rh7 21.Ra7 g6

22.Rc1 Nb7 23.Ng3 Kd8 24.Ne2 g5  
 25.Ne5 Be8 26.Nc6+ Nxc6 27.dxc6  
 Qxd4 28.Nxd4 Nd6 29.Ne6+ Kc8  
 30.Rd1 Rb6 31.Rxd6 cxd6 32. Rxh7  
 Rxc6 33.h4 1-0

8... dxc3  
 9.Nxc3 d5  
 10.exd6 cxd6  
 11.Bg5 b5  
 12.Bb3 h6  
 13.Bxe7 Nxe7  
 14.Re1 Kf8  
 15.Nh4 g5  
 16.Rxe7 Kxe7  
 17.Qd5 Kd7



18.Ng6?!

Apart from Q takes R there was  
 18.Qf7+ and if 18...Kc6? 19.Bd5+  
 Kb6 20.Bxa8 gxf4 21.Nd5+ Ka5  
 22.a3 and mate coming up, for  
 example 22...b4 23.Bc6 b3 24.Qg7!

18... Ra7  
 19.Nxh8 Qxh8  
 20.Qxf5+ Kc7  
 21.Qc2 Kb8  
 22.Re1 Rc7  
 23.h3?

△23.a4 b4 24.Nd5 Rf7 25.Re2 Qf8=  
 but Black for preference.

23... h5  
 24.Qg6 Qd4  
 25.Re2 g4  
 26.h4 Rg7

26...Re7! was also very playable;  
 27.Rxe7 Qxf2+ 28.Kh2 Qxh4#  
 27.Qe8  
 27.Qe4 g3 28.Qxd4 Bxd4 29.Nd1  
 gxf2+ 30.Nxf2 Bb7 31.Re8+ Kc7  
 32.Rg8 Rxg8 33.Bxg8 Bxb2+ should  
 be a comfortable endgame win.

27... g3  
 28.Ne4 gxf2+  
 29.Kf1  
 29.Nxf2 Qg4 30.Qe4 Bb7 31.Qxg4  
 Rxg4+-  
 29... Rxc2!



29...Rxc2 30.Kxg2 f1Q+ 31.Kxf1  
 Qg1#

0-1



International Master Samuel Markovich Zhukhovitsky (pictured c.1969) was born Dec-12-1916 and died Oct-29-2016, 99 years old. In 1997 he played in the Zagorovsky Memorial in Voronezh.



**White: Altshuler, Roman**  
**Black: Zagorovsky, Vladimir**  
 7th USSR CC Championship  
 Caro Kann [B18]  
 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 c6  
 2.d4 d5  
 3.Nc3 dxe4  
 4.Nxe4 Bf5  
 5.Ng3 Bg6  
 6.Bc4 e6  
 7.N1e2 Nf6

The move order inversion 7...Bd6 is  
 an important finesse in this N1e2  
 variation, then if 8.h4 h6 9.Nf4 there  
 is 9...Ne7

8.0-0 Bd6  
 9.f4



- 9... Bf5!?  
 10.Nxf5 exf5  
 11.Ng3 g6  
 12.Re1+ Kf8  
 13.Qf3 Qc7  
 14.Bd3 c5!  
 Zagorovsky will keep his king on f8.  
 14...Kg7? 15.Bxf5! gxf5 16.Nxf5+  
 15.c3  
 If 15.d5 c4  
 15... Nbd7  
 16.Kh1 h5!  
 17.Be3 Ng4  
 18.dxc5 Bxc5  
 19.Bxc5+ Nxc5  
 20.Bc2 Ne6  
 21.Rf1 h4



- 22.Ne2  
 22.Ne4 looks very good for Black  
 e.g. 22...h3 23.gxh3 Nxh2 24.Kxh2  
 fxh3 25.Bxe4 (25.Qg3 Rd8)  
 25...Ng5!  
 22... Ng5  
 23.Qd3 h3  
 It's time to resign, for this 23...h3 is  
 just too strong: there could follow  
 24.Rf3 (24.gxh3 Qc6+) 24...hxg2+  
 25.Kxg2 Rxh2+ 26.Kf1 Rh1+  
 27.Ng1 Nxf3 28.Qxf3 Nh2+ winning  
 White's queen.

0-1



White: Hintikka, Eero  
 Black: Zagorovsky, Vladimir P  
 SCCA-100, 1984  
 Ruy Lopez [C77]  
*[Notes by John E Hawkes]*

- 1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nc6  
 3.Bb5 a6  
 4.Ba4 Nf6  
 5.Qe2 b5  
 6.Bb3 Be7  
 7.d4  
 7.0-0 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.d3 Bb7 10.exd5  
 Nxd5 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.Qxe5 gives a  
 "Marshall", with Qe5 and Rf1  
 instead of Re5 and Qd1. 12...Re8  
 13.c4 Nf6 14.Qf5 Bc8 15.Qf4 Qxd3  
 16.cxb5 Bd6+ Poirier-Jordan,  
 O'Kelly Memorial.; or  
 7.a4 Rb8 8.axb5 axb5 9.d4 d5 10.c3  
 Nxe4 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 0-0  
 13.0-0 Bf5 14.Be3= Spassky-  
 Kholmov, USSR, 1954.  
 7... d5!?  
 A battle in the centre before anyone  
 has castled, similar to the Spassky-  
 Kholmov game above.  
 8.exd5 Nxd4  
 9.Nxd4 exd4  
 10.a4 Rb8  
 11.axb5 axb5  
 12.Na3 0-0  
 13.0-0 Bg4  
 14.f3 Bd7  
 15.Qe5 Bc5  
 16.Bg5 Re8  
 17.Qf4 Rb6  
 18.Qd2 h6  
 19.Bh4 Bf5  
 20.Rae1 Rxe1  
 21.Rxe1 Qd7  
 22.Re5



- 22... d3+  
 23.Bf2 Bxf2+  
 24.Kxf2 dxc2  
 25.Nxc2 Bxc2  
 Eliminating a dangerous minor piece.  
 26.Qxc2 Qd6

- 27.Qc3 Rb8  
 28.g3 Nd7  
 29.Re4 Nc5  
 30.Rg4 g6  
 31.Bc2 Re8  
 31...Qxd5? 32.Bxg6  
 32.b4 Nd7  
 33.Re4 Rd8  
 34.Bb3 Nf6  
 35.Rd4 Ne8  
 Black can't win the d5-pawn, so  
 regroup.  
 35...c6? 36.dxc6!  
 36.Rf4 Qb6+  
 37.Kf1 Nd6  
 38.Qf6 Ra8  
 39.Bc2 Qa7  
 40.Rg4 Qe3  
 A delicate situation.  
 41.Bxg6 Qc1+  
 42.Kg2 Ra2+  
 43.Bc2+ Kf8  
 44.Kh3 Qxc2  
 45.Qd8+ Ne8  
 46.Re4 Qxh2+  
 47.Kg4



- 47... f5!  
 That makes all the difference.  
 48.Kxf5 Qh5+  
 49.Kf4 Qf7+  
 50.Ke5  
 He can't avoid the exchange of  
 queens.  
 50.Kg4 Qd7+!  
 50... Qe7+  
 51.Qxe7+ Kxe7  
 52.Kf5+ Kf7  
 53.Rh4 Ra6  
 The rest is relatively easy.  
 54.Ke5 Rg6  
 55.f4 Nf6  
 56.Rh3 Nd7+  
 57.Kd4 Kg7  
 58.Rh1 Rxc3  
 59.Rc1 Kg6  
 60.Rxc7 Nf6  
 61.d6 h5  
 62.Kc5 Rd3  
 63.Re7 h4

64.Re1  
65.Kc6  
66.Rf1  
67.Rh1

Kf5  
h3  
Rd2  
Kg4

0-1



18<sup>th</sup> century  
Voronezh: a  
shipbuilding centre  
under Peter the Great.



### Miniature Correspondence Masterpieces No. 14

By John E. Hawkes

**White:** Bird, R.J.G.  
**Black:** Walker, P.E.  
Counties & District Ch. 1970–71 UK  
French Winawer [C18]  
“Boyd Prize Winner”  
[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4	e6
2.d4	d5
3.Nc3	Bb4
4.e5	c5
5.a3	Bxc3+
6.bxc3	Qc7
7.Qg4	Kf8!?
8.Ne2	Ne7
9.Bd2	Nbc6
10.h4	h5
11.Qg5	Nf5
12.g4	hxg4
13.Qxg4	Bd7
14.h5	cxd4
15.f4?	
15.cxd4=	
15...	dxg3
16.Nxc3	



Black has a clear advantage, but now completely overplays his hand.

16... Ne3?  
17.Bxc3  
17.Nb5 Qxe5+  
17... Nxe5  
18.fxe5 Qxc3+  
19.Kf2 Qxa1?  
Black is now quite lost. 19...Qxc2+ was relatively best.  
20.Bc5+ Kg8



20...Ke8 21.Qg5 f6 22.Qxg7 Kd8  
23.Bb5 is hopeless for Black.  
Now for the prize-winning move...  
21.Qxg7+!! Kxg7  
22.Rg1+  
Mate is forced: 22.Rg1+ Kh7  
23.Bd3+ f5 24.exf6+ Kh6 25.Be3+ Kxh5 26.Be2+ Kh4 27.Bg5+ Kh3  
28.Bg4+ Kh2 29.Bf4#

1-0







## International Update

By Iain Mackintosh

### 21<sup>st</sup> Olympiad Preliminaries

#### CCO21/S4, ICCF Olympiad 21 Preliminaries - Section 04

TD Millstone, Michael (IA)

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place
1	Ukraine	2434	█	2.5	3	3.5	2.5	3.5	4	5	4.5	4.5	33	61	12	13	54	0	1
2	Lithuania	2511	3.5	█	3	3	3.5	3.5	3	3.5	4	4	31	57	8	15	54	0	2
3	Scotland	2393	3	3	█	3	3	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	4	29.5	54	5	13	54	0	3
4	Romania	2445	2.5	3	3	█	3.5	3.5	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	29	53	4	13	54	0	4
5	Argentina	2458	3.5	2.5	3	2.5	█	3.5	3	3	4	3	28	51	2	10	54	0	5
6	Wales	2348	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	2.5	█	3.5	3.5	3.5	4	27.5	50	1	9	54	0	6
7	Brazil	2376	2	3	2.5	3	3	2.5	█	3	3.5	3	25.5	47	-3	7	54	0	7
8	Norway	2380	1	2.5	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	3	█	3.5	4	24.5	45	-5	6	54	0	8
9	Hong Kong	2301	1.5	2	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	█	4	22	40	-10	2	54	0	9
10	South Africa	2245	1.5	2	2	2.5	3	2	3	2	2	█	20	37	-14	2	54	0	10

All games in our section are now completed and the team will finish in outright 3rd place – a terrific result! We are unlikely to qualify for the Final but await confirmation.

### 11th European Team Championship (ETC)

#### EU/TC11/sf1, 11th European Team Championship - Semifinal 1

TD Glaser, Karel (IA)

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place
1	Lithuania	2498	█	4	4	4	4	4.5	4	4	4.5	4.5	7	44.5	56	10	14	79	1	1
2	Scotland	2390	4	█	4	3.5	4	4	4.5	5	4	5	5	43	54	7	13	79	1	2
3	Bulgaria	2423	4	4	█	4	4	4	3.5	4.5	4	4.5	5.5	42	52	4	12	80	0	3
4	Switzerland	2452	4	4.5	4	█	4	4	4	4.5	4.5	4.5	3.5	41.5	53	5	13	78	2	4
5	Iceland	2411	4	4	4	4	█	3.5	4.5	4	4.5	4.5	4.5	41.5	52	4	13	79	1	5
6	Croatia	2349	3.5	4	4	4	3.5	█	4.5	4	4.5	4	4.5	40.5	51	2	11	79	1	6
7	Turkey	2400	4	3.5	4.5	4	3.5	3.5	█	4.5	4	4	4.5	40	50	1	10	79	1	7
8	Denmark	2346	3	3	3.5	3.5	4	4	3.5	█	4.5	5.5	5	39.5	50	0	8	79	1	8
9	Estonia	2372	3.5	4	4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3	3.5	█	4	5.5	38	48	-2	5	78	2	9
10	Finland	2364	3.5	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	4	4	2.5	3	█	4.5	35	44	-9	4	79	1	10
11	Norway	2229	1	2	2.5	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3	2.5	3.5	█	27.5	35	-22	0	77	3	11

There are still enough games outstanding for positions to shift. Lithuania will definitely win the section, but second place will be either Scotland or Switzerland. We can't finish lower than third, so we are set fair for our first-ever Final appearance!

**Peter Bennett** writes:

We have known for a couple of months that both **Lithuania** and **Scotland** from the first Semi-Final will qualify for the 11th ETC Final. But against which teams will we be playing?

Actually, at the time of writing (2 July), there aren't very many simple answers to that question! And the complexities of the qualification rules lead to some strange combinations of possibilities; but I will try to summarise what we do know.

The first four teams from the 10th ETC Final top the list of qualifiers, so all the 11th S/F qualifications are dependent on which four teams head the table.

At the moment it seems highly likely that the first three will be **Italy**, **Slovenia** and **Germany**, though not necessarily in that order. The fourth qualifier will probably be either Spain or Switzerland, although both Russia and Portugal still have a technical chance.

If Switzerland qualifies from the 10th ETC Final, then either Bulgaria or Iceland has a chance of qualifying from our semi-final (S/F1). But if **Switzerland** fails to qualify through the 10th Final, they will still qualify through our S/F, anyway.

S/F2 is now easier to predict. **Slovakia**, **Wales** and **Latvia** will almost certainly qualify.

In S/F3 **Austria** and **Poland** are virtually certain to qualify. The remaining berth will be filled by either Ukraine or Romania.

I have highlighted the certain (or virtually certain) qualifiers in **bold**, above.

### Current Friendly Internationals

Start	Boards	Opponents	Mode	For	Against	Void	Result
Jun 2019	27	Sweden	Server/Postal	½	2½		
Mar 2019	19	Panama	Server	7½	8½		
Aug 2018	23	Belgium	Server	15½	22½		
Dec 2017	18	Scheming Mind	Server	16½	18½		loss
Dec 2016	8	Indonesia	Server	9	7		win

We lost our tight match against Scheming Mind, and are on the verge of losing against Belgium. The final tie against Indonesia is now complete. New matches against Panama (March) and Sweden (June) have started.

### The Veterans' World Cup (VWC)

VWC11 pr38 the late Eoin Campbell finished with 5½/12 after adjudications.  
VWC11 pr36 Robert Montgomery is lying in 3<sup>rd</sup> place with 6/8.  
VWC11 pr35 Colin Beveridge sits in 8<sup>th</sup> place with 4½/8.  
VWC11 pr34 Derek Price occupies 12<sup>th</sup> place with 1½/9.  
VWC11 pr29 Brian Goodwin is in 12<sup>th</sup> place with 1½/12.  
VWC11 pr15 Geoff Lloyd is leading the group with 7½/11.

VWC10 pr55 Geoff Lloyd finished in 6<sup>th</sup> with 6/10.  
VWC10 pr51 Peter Bennett finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> with 6/9.  
VWC10 pr50 Peter Bennett finished 1<sup>st</sup> with 8½/10.  
VWC10 pr16 Brian Goodwin finished in 10<sup>th</sup> with 2/10.  
VWC10 pr15 the late Eoin Campbell finished in 8<sup>th</sup> with 3½/10.  
VWC10 pr9 Derek Coope finished in 10<sup>th</sup> with 1½/10  
VWC10 pr6 Derek Coope finished in 9<sup>th</sup> with 2/10

VWC9 sf9 Peter Bennett is in 12<sup>th</sup> place with 5/10.  
VWC9 sf3 Geoff Lloyd sits in 11<sup>th</sup> place with 6/14.

VWC8 sf6 Peter Bennett finished in 6<sup>th</sup> with 6½/14

VWC7 sf2 Peter Bennett finished in 10<sup>th</sup> with 7/13

VWC6 sf8 Alan Borwell finished in 12<sup>th</sup> with 6½/14

## NATT 7

### NATT/7, North Atlantic Team Tournament VII

		TD Martello, Juan Alberto (IA)												Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12								
1	Wales	2296	█	3.5	4.5	4.5	5	4	4.5	4	4.5	4.5	6	6	51	57	14	18	88	0	1
2	Portugal	2356	4.5	█	4.5	4.5	3	4.5	4	4.5	5	5.5	5	5.5	50.5	57	13	19	88	0	2
3	U.S.A.-II	2386	3.5	3.5	█	4	4	5.5	5	4	5	4.5	4.5	5.5	49	55	10	15	88	0	3
4	France	2359	3.5	3.5	4	█	4	4	4	4.5	4	5	5	5	46.5	52	5	13	88	0	4
5	U.S.A.	2398	3	5	4	4	█	3.5	4.5	3.5	5.5	3	5	5.5	46.5	52	5	12	88	0	5
6	England	2396	4	3.5	2.5	4	4.5	█	4	4.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	5	45.5	51	3	13	88	0	6
7	Canada	2320	3.5	4	3	4	3.5	4	█	3.5	4.5	5	5	5	45	51	2	11	88	0	7
8	Norway	2390	4	3.5	4	3.5	4.5	3.5	4.5	█	4.5	3	5.5	4	44.5	50	1	11	88	0	8
9	España-Fortuna	2360	3.5	3	3	4	2.5	4.5	3.5	3.5	█	4.5	4	5.5	41.5	47	-5	8	88	0	9
10	España - Desafío	2348	3.5	2.5	3.5	3	5	3.5	3	5	3.5	█	4	4.5	41	46	-6	7	88	0	10
11	Iceland	2330	2	3	3.5	3	3	2.5	3	2.5	4	4	█	3.5	34	38	-20	2	88	0	11
12	Scotland	2184	2	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	3	3	4	2.5	3.5	4.5	█	33	37	-22	3	88	0	12

Congratulations to Wales on a terrific result! Scotland finished in bottom place with 33/88. The wooden spoon it was!

## Esko Nuutilainen Memorial Team Tournament

### MT-Esko/SF1, Esko Nuutilainen Memorial Team Tournament SF1

		TD Panitevsky, Ivan Anatolevich											Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11								
1	United States 1	2257	█	3.5	3	3.5	4	5	3	3	4	5.5	5	39.5	65	19	17	60	0	1
2	Germany	2133	2.5	█	3.5	4.5	3.5	3	3.5	4	3.5	5	4.5	37.5	62	15	17	60	0	2
3	Poland 1	2250	3	2.5	█	3	3.5	3	4	4.5	3.5	4	4.5	35.5	59	11	15	60	0	3
4	Panama 1	2197	2.5	1.5	3	█	3.5	3	3.5	4.5	4	5	4	34.5	57	9	14	60	0	4
5	Slovakia	2224	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	█	3	3.5	3.5	4	4.5	5.5	33.5	55	7	11	60	0	5
6	Australia	2222	1	3	3	3	3	█	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	30.5	50	1	11	60	0	6
7	Switzerland	2167	3	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	3.5	█	2.5	3	4	5	30.5	51	2	8	59	1	7
8	Scotland	2209	3	2	1.5	1.5	2.5	3	3.5	█	3	2.5	5	27.5	45	-5	7	60	0	8
9	Denmark	2100	2	2.5	2.5	2	2	2.5	2	3	█	3	5.5	27	45	-5	4	59	1	9
10	Indonesia	2131	0.5	1	2	1	1.5	2	2	3.5	3	█	3	19.5	32	-21	4	60	0	10
11	Portugal 2	2006	1	1.5	1.5	2	0.5	1.5	1	1	0.5	3	█	13.5	22	-33	1	60	0	11

The team has completed all its games and sits in 8<sup>th</sup> place with 27½/60. Denmark may yet overtake us.

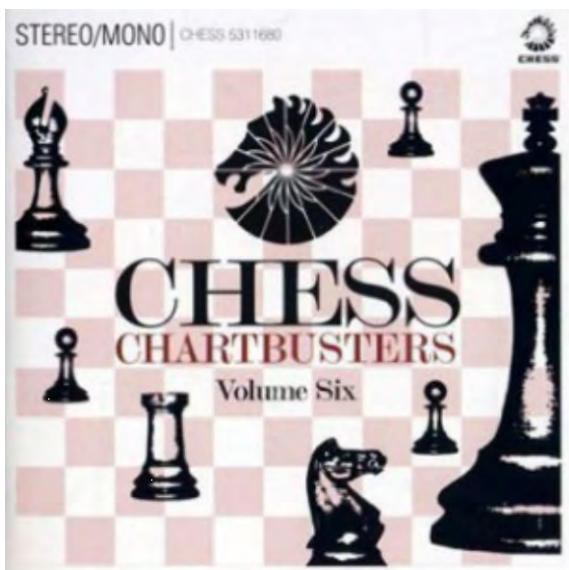
### General

A full list of available individual events and entry fees is available at our web site [www.scottishcca.co.uk](http://www.scottishcca.co.uk)



# Chess Art Album Sleeves

By Iain Mackintosh  
and John Hawkes



Chess Chartbusters, Vol. 6, CD, Spectrum Music 2008



Michael Koser, radio plays, album, Germany 2005



The Pete Rugolo Orchestra, album, Mercury 1958



Charles Aznavour – Les Deux Guitares, France 1960



Maurice Vander, album, Editions Montpamasse 2000



Alphawezen – En Passant, electro album, Germany 2004



Yusef Lateef, A.K. Salim album, Savoy Records, US, 1957



Motifs by 20syl, dance/electronic, digital album, France 2014



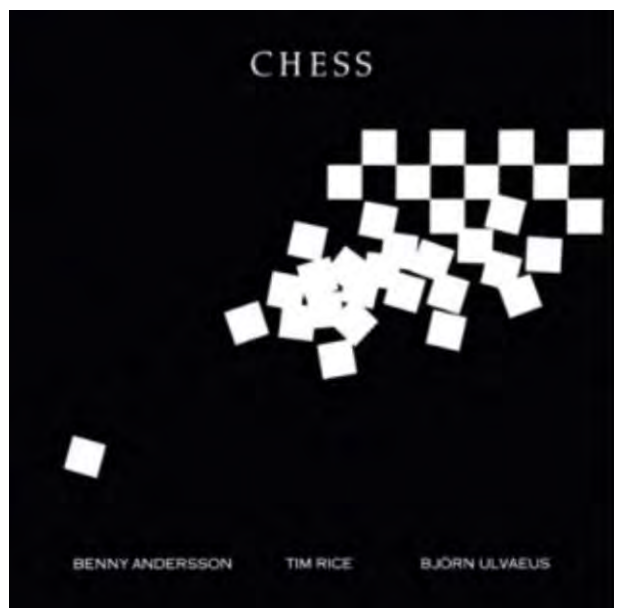
Ernestine Anderson, jazz album, US 1981



Viva la Vida by Coldplay, Brit Pop/Rock, album, UK 2008



The Charlie Mingus Quintet – Chazz!, jazz album, US 1962



Chess the Musical by Andersson, Rice, Ulvaeus, double LP, UK 1984



Good Move by Freddie Roach, hardbop/jazz, CD/LP, US 1963



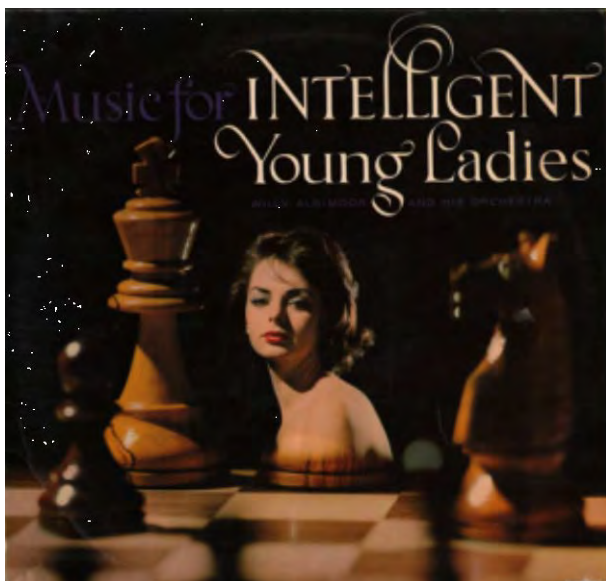
Manuel Göttsching – E2-E4, Electronica, Germany 1984



The Rolling Stones, R&B/Pop, Vinyl LP, Czech Republic 2016



Sam Chess and his Check Mates, jazz, download, New York 2017



Willy Albimoor and his Orchestra, ARC Records, London 1963



TOBi, Still, hip-hop/soul, Canada 2019



Robert (Bob) Bruce was awarded the title of British Candidates Master in 2018 by the British Correspondence Chess Association.

Here, he runs up against one of Scotland's top correspondence players, Peter Bennett, in a fascinating game which Peter has kindly annotated for us.

The game starts off as an English but then deviates into not such a well-known line and complex play is the result (Editor's comments in italics):

**Patience Rewarded:  
Winning with the Black Pieces**

In the VWC (Veterans World Cup) I reckon that, to qualify for a Semi-Final, it is usually necessary to win at least one, preferably two, games with the black pieces. The question is: how?

If White does the decent thing and attacks, Black always has a chance if the attack falters and counter-attacking opportunities open up on the other side of the board; but what happens when White (a) chooses a sound opening system, (b) analyses every move with a strong engine, and (c) plays for a draw from the outset? This is a big problem and one that I come across all too frequently.

What follows is (in my experience) a very rare example of a game in which I successfully found a solution to this challenge.

**White: Bruce, Robert (1960)**

**Black: Bennett, Peter (2352)**

VWC10 pr50, 2018

English Opening [A20]

[Notes by Peter Bennett]

**1.c4 e5**

With my first move I sent my opponent a cheery note, something like "Hello, welcome to the tournament, I hope we have a good game".

**2.g3**

And what message came back? ... absolutely nothing at all. To me, this feels a bit like going to an OTB

congress and being paired against an opponent who refuses to shake hands at the start of the game. At intervals during this game I sent my opponent a short note to cover the basic courtesies, such as letting him know that I was going on holiday; but he did not communicate a single word throughout the 70-move game. In an otherwise enjoyable and well-fought contest, I found this complete silence rather sad.

**2...** Nf6  
**3.Bg2** c6  
**4.d4** exd4  
**5.Qxd4** Na6  
**6.Nf3** Bc5  
**7.Qe5+** Be7  
**8.0-0** 0-0  
**9.Nc3** Re8  
**10.Rd1**

*AD: at this point the games database shows this position as producing a huge number of draws at GM/IM level. Both David Howell and Kiril Georgiev, however, have faced 10. Rd1 and both have won.*

**10...** Bb4  
**11.Qf5** Bxc3  
**12.bxc3** h6  
**13.Qc2** Nc5  
**14.Nd4** d6  
**15.Nb3** Qe7  
**16.Bf4** Nxb3  
**17.axb3** Qxe2  
**18.Qxe2** Rxe2  
**19.Rxd6** Bf5



The position is level and looks drawish. White has the two bishops, but is saddled with doubled pawns on the c-file. Black's only real hope, beyond also playing for a draw, is to focus piece activity on the queenside,

even at the cost of a pawn sacrifice on the kingside.

**20.Bxh6** Rc2  
**21.Bd2** a5  
**22.f3** Rb2  
**23.Ra3**

In this type of position, the active rook placement is far more important than the pawn count. White's rook is, for the moment, a passive defender.

**23...** Ne8  
**24.Rd4 c** 5  
**25.Rd5** Be6  
**26.Bc1!**

The only sensible move. Of course, White cannot play 26.Rxc5?? b6! and Black wins a piece.

**26...** Rb1

**27.Rd1**

*AD: White is pinned back but the position is still equal.*

**27...** Bf5  
**28.Rf1** Bd3  
**29.Re1** Bc2  
**30.Kf2**

At about this stage of the game my opponent pressed the "offer draw" button, confirming what I already knew: that White was playing for a draw from the outset. To be brutally honest, I also believed that the game would eventually be drawn; and deep engine analysis offered absolutely no support for the idea that Black might eventually win. I played on for three reasons:

(1) a draw was no use to me if I wanted to qualify for a semi-final;

(2) it was too soon to admit that I couldn't win the game at this stage of the tournament - a draw now would give completely the wrong message to other contenders; and

(3) I was determined not to "reward" White's play-for-a-draw strategy without putting up a real fight.

*AD: as part of our strategy for coaching Scotland's Juniors for over the board play, this is precisely what they are taught – never accept draws. Although this match is being played between two top correspondence players, the principle remains the same.*

30... Bxb3  
 31.Bf1 Bc2  
 32.Ra2 Bg6



Material equality is restored and the engines continue to score this position as 0.00, in other words, the game should be a dead draw. Nonetheless, Black now has a passed pawn on the queenside, with latent potential.

33.Be3 Rxe1  
 34.Kxe1 b6  
 35.Kd1 a4!?

Advancing the passed pawn beyond the safe protection of the supporting b-pawn; but this is a necessary risk if Black wants to play for a win in this game.

36.Bf4 f6  
 37.g4 Kf7  
 38.h4 Bh7  
 39.Be2 Ke7  
 40.Kc1 a3

A structural weakness in White's position is that the doubled c-pawns interfere with the movement of White's two bishops, and specifically their ability to help defend the a-file. For the first time, the engines begin to offer Black a marginal plus.

41.Bd1 Nd6  
 42.Bb3 Nf7  
 43.Re2+ Kd7  
 44.Ba2



44... Rf8!  
 SCCA Magazine 146

The sort of move that no-one would play, OTB. Black abruptly gives up on the idea of promoting the a-pawn and instead focusses on a deep strategy to demonstrate White's positional weakness on f3 and c3.

*AD: remarkable, this is precisely where the engines switch. Within just a handful of moves the backward pawn on f3 is shown up as dreadfully weak. This reminds a lot of how, in chess, once you probe on one side of the board, you switch elsewhere to create a second threat.*

45.Bb1 Bxb1  
 46.Kxb1 g5  
 47.hxg5 fxg5  
 48.Bh2

An uncomfortable placement for the bishop; but 48.Bc1 would allow Black the chance to develop the knight via d6. Even so, 48.Bg3 is probably more accurate.

48... Nd8  
 49.Rd2+ Kc6  
 50.Rd5 Rh8  
 51.Be5 Rh1+  
 52.Ka2 Nb7  
 53.Kxa3 Na5

White has a material plus, at least for the moment; but Black has the positional momentum and is now on the attack. In spite of this, with accurate defence White might still have a technical draw.

54.Rd6+ Kb7  
 55.Rd7+ Ka6



Now Black is threatening a N-fork on c4.

56.Ka2?

The wrong defence. 56.Bf6 was essential and might still have been enough for the draw. Black's patience has been rewarded. From here on the win can be forced.

56... Rf1  
 57.Bf6 Rxf3  
 58.Bxg5 Rxc3

The motif Black had anticipated on move 44. Now Black will have the vital pawn advantage for the endgame.

59.Bd8 Rg3  
 60.g5 Nxc4  
 61.Rh7 Kb5  
 62.Rh6 Rd3  
 63.Bc7 Ka4  
 64.Rh4

The least unsatisfactory defence.

64.Bxb6? Ra3+ 65.Kb1 Rb3+ allows Black to win the bishop.

64... b5  
 65.Be5 Re3  
 66.Bb2 Re2  
 67.Ka1 Rg2  
 68.Bf6 Rg1+  
 69.Ka2 Rc1  
 70.Bb2 Rc2



Black successfully concludes an attack that only really began at about move 55!

0-1



And now, a further game from Peter with which I can identify – I have Max Euwe's book in the house here!

### A Little Tribute to Max Euwe

A common question in OTB post-mortem analysis is: "does White have a decisive attack on the castled king?" This especially applies in open game positions where White has the stronger centre and Black has castled kingside. A direct mating attack often needs to be decisive because a sacrifice may be required to prise open the king's defences, typically by a minor piece on either f7 or h7. In practical play, if the attack doesn't look "on", the first player concludes that it is too risky and starts to look for an alternative strategy.



It was Max Euwe who first taught me that this “GO” or “NO GO” analytical style was not actually how grandmasters think about the middle game. Fischer’s famous description of how he could obliterate the Sicilian Dragon by “sack, sack, mate!” was, shall we say, an oversimplification for the benefit of his many admirers. When did you, dear reader, last win a game like that?

So, if you haven’t read it already and even if it is the last chess book you ever read, I commend Max Euwe’s classic text “Judgment and Planning in Chess”, first published in 1953 and reprinted by Bell in 1970. I see from my notes on the flyleaf that I worked my way through the whole book between 1974 and 1976; and those lessons were never forgotten.

In the situation described above, White’s first task is to “weaken the kingside” - that is, Black’s defences on the kingside - to which Euwe dedicates a whole chapter. The second, related task is to “attack the king’s field”; and this also gets a whole chapter. Mating attacks come much more often from systematic planning and manoeuvring than sudden bursts of brilliant inspiration.

The following game was not particular special as a contest because my opponent’s defence was ultimately too loose; but it does illustrate these two chapter themes from Euwe’s book (although with Black rather than White on the attack). It also illustrates how Black can get excellent counterplay against the Ruy Lopez if White loses his way in the early middle game.

**White: Sorokin, Mikhail (2116)**

**Black: Bennett, Peter (2352)**

VWC10 pr 50

Closed Ruy Lopez [C88]

[Notes by Peter Bennett]

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	a6
4.Ba4	Nf6
5.0-0	Be7
6.Re1	b5
7.Bb3	0-0
8.h3	

This move has become part of the standard “anti-Marshall” wing of the Ruy, although it was only considered

a sideline, worthy of half a footnote, in NCO, back in 1999. Times change!

8...	Bb7
9.d3	d6
10.a3	Na5?!

This natural-looking attack is also a standard continuation - curious perhaps, because none of the modern engines now likes the move. The idea is to free Black’s c-pawn to advance to c5 and then retreat the N behind it.

11.Ba2	c5
12.Nbd2	Nc6
13.Nf1	Bc8
14.c3	Be6
15.Bxe6	fxe6

This position has hitherto been considered theoretically equal. The advantage for Black is that he has the half-open f-file, possibly for a later attack, and massed central pawns. White’s potential advantage lies in the fact that the pawn/e6 is weak, giving potential lines of attack for the Q on the a2–g8 diagonal.

**16.Ng3**

This again is a standard book move and a common motif in the Ruy; so it is difficult to criticise White for playing it. But modern engine analysis is now suggesting that 16.b4! is very strong for White and yields a lasting advantage. So I was relieved to see that White had adopted the more conservative, “book” line.

16...	Nd7
17.a4	b4
18.Qb3!	

As anticipated in my note to Black’s 15th move.

18...	Rf6
19.Nf5?!	



Here I do take issue with White’s move selection. The N looks very grand on f5 and, of course, it cannot be taken; but there is no threat except to exchange on e7, which would

favour Black. Actually, White could have baled out to a dull equality and a probable draw at this point by the much simpler 19.Nh5 Rg6, since Black cannot retreat the rook which is protecting the vital e-pawn.

19...	h6
20.Qa2	Kh7
21.Ne3	

White’s retreat of the N amounts to an admission that 19.Nf5 was going nowhere. The N could have reached e3 in one move from f1 instead of three. Now Black begins to take the initiative, firstly by shoring up the defence of e6.

21...	Nf8
22.Ng4	Rf7
23.Qc4	



Plausible but pointless. White cannot make up his mind where he wants the Q to go. At this stage I started to get the impression that my opponent was just playing from move to move, without any real strategy.

23...	Rxf3!
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Bang! White was probably assuming that Black wouldn’t dare to play what is no more than a positional exchange sacrifice. But I think Euwe would have approved of this strategy, on the grounds that it is weakening White’s kingside.

24.gxf3	d5
25.Qb3	Ng6
26.exd5	exd5
27.f4	exf4
28.d4	Qd7
29.Qc2	Rf8
30.cxb4	cxb4
31.Bd2	Bd6
32.Qd3	f3!



Max Euwe



Fixing the weaknesses in the king's field, opening up lines of attack for the B and rendering the h-pawn impossible to defend. White still has a material plus; but how can it be deployed?

- 33.Rac1 h5  
34.Rxc6 hxg4  
35.Rxd6 Qxd6

White has given back the exchange, restoring material equality, but it is too late.

- 36.Re5 g3  
37.fxg3 Kg8  
38.Rg5



Threatening to capture the N; but Black now has so many threats against the weakened king, this attack can be safely ignored.

- 38... f2+  
39.Kf1 Qd7  
40.g4 Qxa4  
41.Rf5 Qd1+  
42.Kxf2 Re8

0-1



And to finish, here is a game from Geoff Lloyd who continues to do well in the VWC11 prelims, and is currently leading his group.

**White: Lloyd, Geoffrey (2242)**  
**Black: Kapusta, Tadeusz (2162)**  
VWC11 pr15 ICCF, 2018  
Queen's Indian Defence [E12]  
*[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]*

- 1.d4 Nf6  
2.c4 e6  
3.Nf3 b6  
4.a3 Bb7  
5.Nc3 d5  
6.Qc2 Be7  
7.cxd5 exd5  
8.Bf4 0-0  
9.e3 c5  
10.Be2 Nbd7  
11.Rd1 Rc8

12.dxc5N  
12.Bd3 was Barclay-Zarnescu, VWC9 pr19, 2016, drawn (56).

- 12... bxc5  
13.0-0 Qb6=  
14.Rd2 Rfe8  
15.Rfd1

Looking to pressurise the centre and undermine the Black c & d pawns. 15.h3 and; 15.Na4 were also playable.

- 15... Bd6  
16.Bxd6

Best.

- 16... Qxd6  
17.Ng5  
17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Bc4 Nb6 19.Bxd5 Nbx5 20.e4 Rxe4 21.Rxd5 Qc7 22.Rd7 Nxd7 23.Qxe4 is more or less equal.

- 17... g6  
18.Nge4!

Geoff spots the best tactical shot.

- 18... Nxe4  
19.Nxe4 Qe7  
20.Nc3 Nb6  
21.h3 Ba8?!



21...d4 looks a better try.

22.Ba6!

This seizes the initiative.

- 22... Rb8  
23.b3 Qf6  
24.a4 Nxa4

- 25.Nxa4 Qxa6  
26.Nxc5 Qd6  
27.Nd3 Rec8  
27...d4 is again worth considering.  
28.Qb2 a6  
29.Ne5  
Best way of maintaining the pressure.  
29... Qf6  
30.Nf3 Qb6  
31.Rd3 Bb7  
32.Ne5  
Good knight, bad bishop.  
32... Qf6  
Only move.  
33.f4 Rc7



34.e4!

White has a winning position now with the Black pieces struggling to make an impact.

- 34... Qb6+

34...Rbc8 puts up slightly more resistance.

- 35.Kh2 f6  
36.Ng4 Rf8

37.exd5

37.e5 also does the job.

- 37... Qd6  
38.Qf2 Re7

39.Ne3

Here Black decided enough was enough.

One sample line is: 39.Ne3 Re4 40.Rd4 Rxd4 41.Rxd4 Rd8 42.Nc4 and White steamrollers through.

1-0



You can help by submitting your own games, or anything of note you've come across in your travels. We're happy to publish all grading standards and lengths of games as long as there's some interesting play to enjoy!

[games@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:games@scottishcca.co.uk)



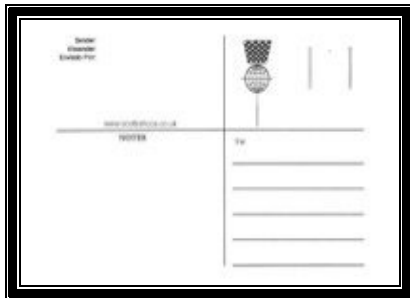
## General Information

ICCF is the International Correspondence Chess Federation. ICCF was founded in 1951 as a reincarnation of the ICCA (International Correspondence Chess Association), itself founded in 1945 as successor to the IFSB (Internationaler Fernschachbund), founded in 1928.

ICCF organises a huge variety of tournaments for individual and team play; operates a worldwide rating system and awards GM, SIM, IM, CCM and CCE titles to recognise strength and performance. Most play is based now on the ICCF webserver, with a residue of postal and email events.

ICCF organises a vast range of tournaments on its main world site ([www.iccf-webchess.com](http://www.iccf-webchess.com)) and its European Zone site ([www.iccf-europa.com](http://www.iccf-europa.com)). SCCA members are eligible to enter all ICCF events, though Scottish nationality is required for national representation. Current tournament fees are shown on the Entry Fees page of the SCCA website.

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The SCCA has a stock of cc postcards showing the SCCA logo and website address. They are suitable for domestic and international use (English, German and Spanish used).

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Orders and payments to Iain Mackintosh at [chess@iainmack.co.uk](mailto:chess@iainmack.co.uk) please.

## Thematic Tournaments

### Postal Events 2019

#### Theme 3/19: Grünfeld, Seville Gambit, D87

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 c5 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.Be3 O-O 10.O-O Bg4 11.f3 Na5 12.Bxf7+

Entries by 15 September; play starts 1 October

#### Theme 4/19: King's Indian, Four Pawns, E76

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5

Entries by 15 November; play starts 1 December

### Webserver Events 2019

#### Theme 5/19 – Falkbeer Counter-Gambit, C31

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5

Entries by 31 August; play starts 15 September

#### Theme 6/19 – Soller Gambit, A40

1.d4 e5 2.dxe5 Nc6 3.Nf3 f6

Entries by 15 October; play starts 1 November

## News

- ❑ All Executive Board posts, plus Auditor are up for election at this year's Congress in Vilnius. Nominees do not need a Member Federation nomination (i.e. self-nomination is allowed) and the present EB will assess if a nominee is qualified to serve.
- ❑ ICCF World Cup 21 (webserver) final is scheduled to start on 30<sup>th</sup> June, and will comprise 13-15 players.
- ❑ There is still time to register for the 12<sup>th</sup> ICCF Veterans World Cup, sponsored by England (EFCC). Refer our Notices page earlier in the magazine.
- ❑ The George D Pyrich Memorial Team Tournament is now under way, comprising 3 semi-final sections. Scotland is represented in MT-Pyrich/SF3.
- ❑ The 31<sup>st</sup> World Championship has now started, and comprises 17 players from 12 national federations: 1 IM, 3 SIM and 13 GM (including the current World Champion, Aleksandr Surenovich Dronov and the former World Champion, Ron A. H. Langeveld.
- ❑ The ICCF Games Archive is now available up to June 2019 and can be downloaded from: <https://www.iccf.com/> Note that you need to login first.

Further details of all ICCF activities and events; entries to events, and orders for ICCF publications may be obtained via Gordon Anderson at: [international@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:international@scottishcca.co.uk)