

Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

Magazine No.133

Spring 2016

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George analyses the Q2 statistics

SCCA Best Game Prize 2015
David presents the winning entries

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Sculpture by Douglas MacDonal



Welcome to the first edition of the 2016 magazine set. A new year means a new front cover, and this time we feature sculpture by Douglas MacDonald, a native Scot, now based in Rideau Lakes, Canada.

Unsurprisingly, our climate continues on its chaotic way. A recent day began to resemble the Wikipedia entry for Spring, but when I ventured out to inspect it, I was attacked by sleet needles from a passing thunderstorm – a kind of industrial acupuncture for unrepentant sinners.

George Pyrich has analysed the second ICCF rating list of 2016 for us, a relatively stable period with more games milestones for our more active members.

David Kilgour reports on the winners of our 2015 Best Game Prize. The top three spots were all high quality games, so please play through them and enjoy.

Peter Bennett attempts a classification of the denizens of the CC world based on his direct observations. I couldn't find a category which fitted, but that may be due to my violent mood swings after sleet needle attacks and the like. More artwork from Samuel Bak concludes this article.

John Hawkes used to live near Perth and contributed many an article to the SCCA bulletin/magazine in the 1970s and 80s. He's now based in France and makes a welcome return to our pages with some very readable games, plus the first in a series of great CC miniatures.

George once again publishes a comprehensive international report with x-tables galore and games from members Tom Matheis, Alan Bell, Richard Beecham, Iain Mackintosh and Kevin Paine.

Alan Borwell provides a further update from the Veterans' World Cups. SCCA are sponsoring series 2, 3 and 4, and we now have the final result from VWC3. The winners will receive their engraved quaichs in due course ('No, it doesn't talk like a duck, you drink from it!').

Finally, best of luck if you decide to venture outdoors and get sociable. Don't do anything I wouldn't enjoy!

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 is an important revenue-earner for the SCCA and it helps us to keep our fees low and/or unchanged year on year. 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 taking out units and make contact with Gordon whose contact details are shown below.

Recent 100 Club Winners

| 2016 | 1st | 2nd |
|----------|--------------|-------------|
| March | Mrs D Livie | J S Murray |
| February | I Mackintosh | P M Giulian |
| January | Mrs D Livie | S R Mannion |

SCCA Officials

| SCCA Officials | | | | |
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NB Secretarial duties will be undertaken by Kevin Paine (enquiries), Jim Anderson (domestic events) and Iain Mackintosh (minutes) pro tem.



International Open Tournament XV Jubilee AEAC



AEAC
Asociación Española de Ajedrez
por Correspondencia

Valentín Costa Trillo writes to announce the XV Jubilee Open Tournament of AEAC (Spanish CC Association).

This event will be played on the webserver over three stages, Preliminary, Semi-Final and Final. Time controls are 10/40 for the first two stages and 10/50 for the Final.

Players may enter more than one Preliminary group, and those rated 2300+ may register directly for the Semi-Final.

Registration starts on March 18th and closes on June 15th, with play expected to commence on July 30th, 2016. Preliminary groups will complete no later than March 30th, 2018.

Entry fee is €5/group, but the first 10 players from each Federation get free entry. The prize fund for the Final is €1000. For further information, and to enter, please contact George Pyrich.

- Preliminaries: for players rated between 2100-2299, starts when filled (£6)
- Semi-Finals: for players rated between 2300-2499, starts on 20th September (£21)
- Candidates' Tournament: for players rated 2500 or over, starts on 15th March (£12)

SCCA entry fees are shown in parentheses for each round. For further information, please contact George Pyrich..

SCCA 3rd Webserver Open Results



Our highly graded A Final ended recently after a year of tough competition, following the equally well-contested B Final which closed in December 2015. Well done to all our winners!

Our recent Executive Committee meeting decided to award the prize pools as follows:

A Final

1. Peter Bennett 4/6 (£200)
 2. Richard Beecham 3½/6 (£125)
 3. Tom Matheis 3½/6 (£75)
- (2nd/3rd places decided by Baumbach/SB)

B Final

1. Eoin Campbell 9/10 (£150)
2. Derek Coope 6/10 (£95)
3. Raymond Burrige 5/10 (£55)

ICCF Europa Individual Championships 2016



Leonardo Madonia, ICCF Europa Tournament Commissioner, writes to announce the next cycles of the postal and webserver individual championships.

2016-18 cycle of the 71st European Postal Championship

- Open Rounds: for players rated under 2100, starts when filled (£3.50)
- Semi-Finals: for players rated 2100 or over, starts when filled (£6)

2016 cycle of the European Webserver Championship

- Open Rounds: for players rated under 2100, starts when filled (£3.50)

NATT 7 Team



Scotland will be represented by:

1. IM Clive Murden (2432)
2. SM Geoff Lloyd (2256)
3. Robert Montgomery (2273)
4. SM David Cumming (2260)
5. IM George Pyrich (2124)
6. Raymond Burrige (2148)
7. Eoin Campbell (2120)
8. Alastair Dawson (2049)

New member Clive Murden leads the team selected by our newly appointed International selection Committee.

SCCA 100 Club



Treasurer Gordon Anderson writes:

A number of members have actively subscribed to the Association's 100 club for a number of years and these contributions are very much appreciated. Recently, 3 long standing subscribers have retired and decided that they will no longer contribute to the 100 club. We urgently need some new subscribers.

If you have not been a subscriber or have previously subscribed but allowed your subscription to lapse, why not take up a unit or two or indeed three units (always happy to accept subscriptions for more units)?

If you are interested please contact Gordon on treasurer@scottishcca.co.uk for more information. The usual method of subscribing is monthly standing order which spreads the annual cost.

The Things People Say



Returning columnist John Hawkes recalls the best conditional move he encountered in postal chess:

If: resigns
Then: thank you for the game!

If you've any printable quotes you'd like to share, please send them to webmaster@scottishcca.co.uk

Fernschach 2016 CC Database



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

- Total 900,000 games (from 1991)
- Approximately 7,700 annotated
- Around 700 new annotated games in 2016
- Games from BdF Chess Server and ICCF webserver
- Games from Lechenicher chess server
- Games from many national and international correspondence chess servers
- German Correspondence Chess Federation (BdF) mail, e-mail and fax games

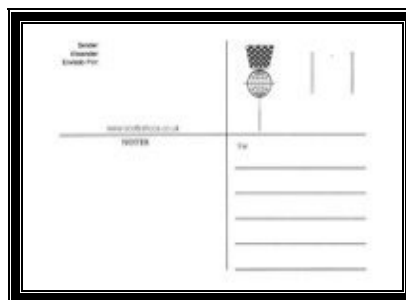
The price is €12 (shipping within Germany) and €15 (shipping elsewhere).

For further details, contact Herbert at:

Herbert Bellmann
On the Brink 11
46399 Bocholt
Germany

Email: hebel57@gmx.de

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.

Orders and payments to Iain Mackintosh at chess@iainmack.co.uk please. Royal Mail prices rose in April 2015, so check current p&p prices with Iain first.



2016/2 Grading List

By George Pyrich

The second ICCF grading list of 2016 is published and new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 December 2015 and 29 February 2016. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 April and 30 June 2016.

There were no additions or deletions to this list. Membership numbers are retained for easy reinstatement should any previously removed players return to the board.

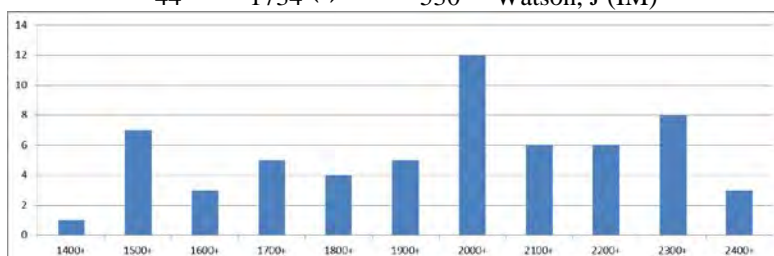
Relatively little movement across the grading bands this time, though Alan Borwell crossed the 2300 mark. Our summary profile chart of grading bands is below.

Three new games centurions were recorded – Derek Coope and Martin Hardwick both passed the 700 mark, while Brian Goodwin is now a 300+ player.

Our resident games addicts remain unquenchable – during this quarter, Carlos Almarza Mato knocked up 67; Martin Hardwick 61; Eoin Campbell 47; Raymond Burrige 46; and David Cumming 32 games.

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 if you have any queries.

| No. | Name | Results | Grade | No. | Name | Results | Grade |
|-----|--------------------|---------|--------|------|----------------------|---------|--------|
| 318 | Almarza Mato, C | 1075 | 2151 ↓ | 596 | Hardwick, M E | 727 | 1493 ↑ |
| 518 | Anderson, G M (SM) | 282 | 2328 ↑ | 063 | Harvey, D | 102 | 2053 ↔ |
| 121 | Anderson, J | 260 | 1759 ↑ | 1013 | Hilton, S H | 139 | 1625 ↓ |
| 049 | Armstrong, A | 183 | 1854 ↓ | 447 | Jamieson, I M | 82 | 1918 ↔ |
| 313 | Armstrong, J McK | 312 | 1608 ↓ | 548 | Kilgour, D A (GM) | 324 | 2299 ↔ |
| 511 | Beecham, C R (IM) | 404 | 2470 ↑ | 260 | Knox, A | 191 | 1531 ↓ |
| 599 | Bell, A D (SM) | 184 | 2391 ↓ | 264 | Lloyd, G (SM) | 733 | 2250 ↓ |
| 501 | Bennett, P G (SM) | 322 | 2342 ↓ | 471 | Macgilchrist, Mrs S | 52 | 2095 ↔ |
| | Beveridge, C | 209 | 2150 ↑ | 584 | MacGregor, C A | 381 | 1926 ↑ |
| 509 | Borwell, A P (IM) | 1011 | 2307 ↑ | 532 | Mackintosh, I (IM) | 648 | 2410 ↑ |
| 602 | Burrige, R J | 957 | 2043 ↓ | 216 | MacMillen, A N | 836 | 1714 ↑ |
| 435 | Cairney, J | 62 | 2076 ↔ | 566 | Marshall, I H | 546 | 2114 ↓ |
| 601 | Campbell, E S | 385 | 2068 ↓ | 434 | Matheis, T (IM) | 205 | 2454 ↑ |
| 038 | Campbell, I S | 285 | 1875 ↑ | 412 | McKinstry, J | 91 | 1509 ↓ |
| | Clark, S L | 134 | 2075 ↑ | 401 | Moir, P J | 180 | 1596 ↓ |
| 364 | Coope, D W | 703 | 1925 ↑ | 598 | Montgomery, R S | 267 | 2269 ↓ |
| 247 | Cormack, W H | 97 | 1891 ↔ | 564 | Murray, J S | 48 | 2006 ↑ |
| 527 | Craig, T J (SM) | 372 | 2323 ↔ | 440 | Neil, C | 194 | 1501 ↑ |
| 166 | Cumming, D R (SM) | 1049 | 2253 ↓ | 603 | O'Neill-McAleenan, C | 131 | 2053 ↓ |
| 422 | Dawson, Prof A G | 90 | 2044 ↓ | 604 | Paine, Dr K A | 169 | 2301 ↔ |
| 572 | Dempster, D | 773 | 1772 ↓ | 315 | Petrie, A | 105 | 1511 ↓ |
| | Dunn, J | 212 | 1586 ↑ | 432 | Price, D | 324 | 1982 ↓ |
| | Dyer, M | 103 | 2077 ↔ | 048 | Pyrich, G D (IM) | 959 | 2111 ↓ |
| 371 | Edney, D | 210 | 1985 ↓ | 439 | Smith, M J | 53 | 2027 ↔ |
| 462 | Gilbert, R | 96 | 1785 ↑ | | Stewart, A G | 32 | 2159 ↔ |
| 086 | Gillam, S R (SM) | 145 | 2241 ↓ | 546 | Stewart, Dr K W C | 169 | 2107 ↔ |
| 551 | Giulian, P M (SIM) | 473 | 2398 ↔ | 1120 | Taylor, W | 65 | 2013 ↑ |
| 124 | Goodwin, B J | 303 | 1883 ↑ | | Thornton, J | 35 | 1611 ↔ |
| 445 | Graham, S (SM) | 354 | 2202 ↔ | 452 | Toye, D T | 77 | 1582 ↔ |
| 399 | Grant, J | 44 | 1734 ↔ | 530 | Watson, J (IM) | 149 | 2300 ↔ |



Statistical Analysis

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Total listed | 60 |
| New entrants | 0 |
| Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members) | 0 |
| Full grades (30+ games) | 60 |
| Provisional grades (<30 games) | 0 |
| Grading increases (↑) | 19 |
| Grading decreases (↓) | 23 |
| Grading static (↔) | 18 |

Top 30 Grades

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Beecham, C R (SIM) | 2470 | Gillam, S R (SM) | 2241 |
| Matheis, T (IM) | 2454 | Graham, S (SM) | 2202 |
| Mackintosh, I (IM) | 2410 | Stewart, A G | 2159 |
| Giulian, P M (SIM) | 2398 | Almarza Mato, C | 2151 |
| Bell, A D (SM) | 2391 | Beveridge, C | 2150 |
| Bennett, P G (SM) | 2342 | Marshall, I H | 2114 |
| Anderson, G M (SM) | 2328 | Pyrich, G D (IM) | 2111 |
| Craig, T J (SM) | 2323 | Stewart, Dr K W C | 2107 |
| Borwell, A P (IM) | 2307 | Macgilchrist, Mrs S | 2095 |
| Paine, Dr K A | 2301 | Dyer, M | 2077 |
| Watson, J (IM) | 2300 | Cairney, J | 2076 |
| Kilgour, D A (GM) | 2299 | Clark, S L | 2075 |
| Montgomery, R S | 2269 | Campbell, E S | 2068 |
| Cumming, D R (SM) | 2253 | Harvey, D | 2053 |
| Lloyd, G (SM) | 2250 | O'Neill-McAleenan, C | 2053 |

Top 30 Rated Games

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|
| Almarza-Mato, C | 1075 | Campbell, E S | 385 |
| Cumming, D R (SM) | 1049 | Craig, T J (SM) | 372 |
| Borwell, A P (IM) | 1011 | Graham, S (SM) | 354 |
| Pyrich, G D (IM) | 959 | Kilgour, D A (GM) | 324 |
| Burridge, R J | 957 | Price, D | 324 |
| MacMillen, A N | 836 | Bennett, P G (SM) | 322 |
| Dempster, D | 773 | Armstrong, J McK | 312 |
| Lloyd, G (SM) | 733 | Goodwin, B J | 303 |
| Hardwick, M E | 727 | Anderson, G M (SM) | 282 |
| Coope, D W | 703 | Montgomery, R S | 267 |
| Mackintosh, I (IM) | 648 | Anderson, J | 260 |
| Marshall, I H | 546 | Dunn, J | 212 |
| Giulian, P M (SIM) | 473 | Edney, D | 210 |
| Beecham, C R (SIM) | 404 | Matheis, T (IM) | 205 |
| MacGregor, C A | 381 | Neil, C | 194 |

Other Notes

This list includes a number of our members who are registered with other countries, and members who have played <12 games and have yet to receive a provisional rating. Players registered as SCO with ICCF, but who are not SCCA members, have been filtered out.

To check your rating online at any time, go to the ICCF webserver site (www.iccf-webchess.com), click on the Rating list link then complete the search boxes.

Note that ICCF (Gerhard Binder) has now discontinued support for the Eloquary program, previously available for download from www.iccf.com

The Eloquary software is now incompatible with 64-bit versions of the Windows operating system.

A number of useful online rating enquiry facilities are available at www.iccf-webchess.com



3rd Annual SCCA Best Game Prize

By GM David Kilgour

[Ed – once again, we received a very high standard of entry for our competition and I'm very grateful to David for doing such a thorough job of assessing the games. All entries were judged anonymously, sans annotations - notes were added by the players once the final placings were known.]

The games this year split into two broad sections.

The first contained games where the players both played well but one player had a good advantage most of the game although the opponent managed to control this advantage to some extent.

The second group involved one player just finding the best moves and the other failed to either see or parry the threats. In this second group the winning player did play well but it was not a good contest as the second player sometimes did not really counter.

I thought the first group of games was very good and really well played by both sides. The winning game comes from this group as do the second and third games.

My view is that where the players are of about the same standard the games have to be played well and the winning player usually sees just that little deeper or has a better strategy to enable him to gain an advantage and even then it is not always clear how the advantage can be sustained. So it takes real understanding of the positions to hold this advantage and finally win the game.

All the games had merit but few had any real sacrifices or combinational play and the winning game was well played by both sides through each stage of the game.

Third Place

White: Bennett, Peter (2365)
Black: Cumming, David (2375)
SCCA 3rd Webserver Open Final, 2015

Modern Defence [B06]
[Notes by Peter Bennett]

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 1.e4 | g6 |
| 2.d4 | Bg7 |
| 3.Nc3 | d6 |
| 4.Be3 | a6 |
| 5.Qd2 | b5 |
| 6.h4 | h5 |
| 7.f3 | Nd7 |
| 8.Nh3 | Bb7 |
| 9.Ng5 | Ngf6 |
| 10.0-0-0 | 0-0 |

The Modern Defence is an excellent weapon with Black, OTB, precisely because of its fluidity: Black can choose to transpose to a variety of different openings by a late advance of central pawns. In correspondence play, the weakness of this system is that it fails to challenge for control of e5 and potentially cedes White too much space on the kingside.

11.g4
White expands immediately on the kingside to take advantage of his temporary control of the centre.

11... hxg4
Winning a pawn is altogether too tempting for Black; but 11...e5 is probably sounder.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 12.h5 | Nxh5 |
| 13.fxg4 | Nhf6 |
| 14.Qh2 | e5 |



Black finally plays ...e5, but is this a case of 'locking the door after the horse has bolted?' Black's kingside is already under siege and White can simply get on with completing his own development. The pawn deficit is irrelevant.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 15.Bg2 | Re8 |
| 16.Rdf1 | exd4 |
| 17.Bxd4 | Ne5 |

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 18.Nd5 | Bxd5 |
| 19.exd5 | Nexg4 |
| 20.Qh4 | Ne5 |



Now Black is two pawns up, but White's compensation for the material is massive.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 21.Rxf6 | Qxf6 |
| 22.Rf1 | Qxf1+ |
| 23.Bxf1 | Bf6 |
| 24.Qh7+ | Kf8 |
| 25.Bxe5 | Bxg5+ |
| 26.Kd1 | dxе5 |
| 27.Qh8+ | Ke7 |
| 28.Qxe5+ | Kf8 |
| 29.Qxg5 | |

Queen and bishop against two rooks is strongly in White's favour.

- | |
|--------------------|
| 29... Rad8 |
| 30.c4 bxc4 |
| 31.Bxc4 Rd6 |
| 32.Kc2 Re4 |
| 33.b3 Re8 |
| 34.a4 Kg7 |
| 35.Qg1 Re7 |
| 36.b4 f6 |
| 37.a5 Rf7 |
| 38.Qc5 Kh6 |
| 39.b5 axb5 |

The passed a-pawn is now decisive.

- | |
|-------------------|
| 40.Bxb5 f5 |
| 41.a6 Rf8 |
| 42.a7 |

If, e.g., 42...f4 43.Bc6 forces Black to give up the exchange on a8 which will leave White a completely winning endgame of Q v R.A note of commendation to my opponent: not only did he play briskly in defence, he was also very gracious in defeat. Such a sporting attitude is not the norm that it ought to be in many competitions in which I play.

1-0



Second Place

[Ed – Tom Matheis couldn't provide his customary in-depth analysis in the time available due to heavy work commitments. I hope he'll send in a full annotation for a later edition. Meantime, you can still enjoy this fine win against a CC GM.]

White: Matheis, Tom (2440)
Black: Bubir, Alex (2545) [E58]
 EU/TC10/sf2 Board 1, 2015
 Nimzo-Indian Rubinstein [E58]

| | |
|---------|------|
| 1.d4 | Nf6 |
| 2.c4 | e6 |
| 3.Nc3 | Bb4 |
| 4.e3 | 0-0 |
| 5.Bd3 | d5 |
| 6.Nf3 | c5 |
| 7.0-0 | Nc6 |
| 8.a3 | Bxc3 |
| 9.bxc3 | Qc7 |
| 10.cxd5 | exd5 |
| 11.a4 | Re8 |
| 12.Ba3 | c4 |
| 13.Bc2 | Bg4 |
| 14.Qe1 | Bxf3 |
| 15.gxf3 | Na5 |
| 16.Kh1 | Nb3 |
| 17.Ra2 | g6 |



| | |
|---------|-------|
| 18.f4N | a5 |
| 19.f3 | Nh5 |
| 20.f5 | Ra6 |
| 21.e4 | Qf4 |
| 22.e5 | Ng7 |
| 23.f6 | Ne6 |
| 24.Bb1 | Nc7 |
| 25.Be7 | Re6 |
| 26.Rg2 | R6xe7 |
| 27.fxe7 | Ne6 |
| 28.Rg4 | Qd2 |
| 29.Qh4 | Qe2 |
| 30.Rf2 | Qe1+ |
| 31.Rg1 | Qxc3 |

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 32.f4 | Qxd4 |
| 33.Rf3 | Ng5 |
| 34.Qxg5 | Nd2 |
| 35.Rh3 | Ne4 |
| 36.Bxe4 | Qxe4+ |
| 37.Qg2 | Qf5 |
| 38.Rg3 | Rxc7 |
| 39.Qxd5 | Re6 |
| 40.Qxb7 | Re8 |

1-0



First Place The R.J. Burridge Trophy 2015

White: Bennett, Peter (2319)
Black: Struzka, Vlastimil (2215)
 VWC7-29, 2015
 Ruy Lopez, Chigorin Defence [C96]
 [Notes by Peter Bennett]

I was pleasantly surprised that this game won the 2015 "Best Games Prize". If any readers are interested enough to play it through, may I make a suggestion? Don't examine it with a computer engine, but get out a chess set and play it through OTB, imagining that it was being played at a congress. This way, my annotations will make better sense. Begin by skipping through the first 12 moves which are just standard theory.

| | |
|---------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3.Bb5 | a6 |
| 4.Ba4 | Nf6 |
| 5.0-0 | d6 |
| 6.c3 | Be7 |
| 7.Re1 | b5 |
| 8.Bb3 | 0-0 |
| 9.h3 | Na5 |
| 10.Bc2 | c5 |
| 11.d4 | cxd4 |
| 12.cxd4 | Bb7 |
| 13.d5 | |

I chose 13.d5 instead of 13.Nbd2 because it locks the centre. My dilemma was, how to give myself a chance of a win against a solid, careful, 2200+ Eastern European opponent who was using a strong engine? My experience of keeping the game open with a fluid centre in the Ruy Lopez is that Black can often chart a pathway to endgame equality.

| | |
|-------|-----|
| 13... | Nc4 |
| 14.a4 | Nb6 |

| | |
|---------|------|
| 15.Nc3 | b4 |
| 16.Ne2 | a5 |
| 17.Ng3 | Nfd7 |
| 18.Bd3 | Nc5 |
| 19.Bb5 | Ba6 |
| 20.Bxa6 | Nxa6 |
| 21.b3 | Re8 |

By this stage, I realised that Black was merely playing for a draw. Fixing the pawn structure in the centre and also on the queen side leaves White only kingside attacking options with his pawns; but Black achieves this formation at the cost of a critical strategic weakness: the pawn on a5. If White can eventually establish a knight on c4, Black will either lose the a-pawn or waste a piece on its passive defence. This is one of two key themes from which White's advantage eventually materialises.

| | |
|---------|------|
| 22.Be3 | g6 |
| 23.Rc1 | Nd7 |
| 24.Rxc8 | Qxc8 |
| 25.Nd2 | Nac5 |
| 26.Qg4 | |



Fixing the g-pawn and therefore inhibiting f5, the second critical theme of the game. As any GM could see at a glance, the only way for Black to achieve true equality with this kind of pawn formation is to prepare and then play the freeing move f5, to undermine White's strong centre. Now, it is probably already too late to do this; indeed, the move is never played.

| | |
|--------|-----|
| 26... | Nf6 |
| 27.Nf5 | |

A little tactical skirmish which now adds to Black's problems.

| | |
|----------|------|
| 27... | Qc7 |
| 28.Nxe7+ | Qxe7 |
| 29.Qf3 | Nfd7 |
| 30.Bh6 | Re8 |
| 31.Nc4 | |

Creating precisely the threat that White had been planning 10 moves earlier!

31... Ra8
 Absolutely necessary, but nevertheless an awful move for Black to have to play. From here on, White has two advantages: a big plus in space and far better piece positions. A passive rook is one of the best predictors of a potentially losing position.

- 32.Qg3 Nf6
- 33.Bg5 h6
- 34.Bxf6 Qxf6
- 35.Qe3 h5
- 36.g3 Ra6
- 37.Rc1 Nd7
- 38.h4 Qe7
- 39.Qg5 Qxg5
- 40.hxg5

Black's f-pawn, which should have been advanced a long time ago, is backward and weak.

- 40... Kf8
- 41.f4 exf4
- 42.gxf4 Ke7
- 43.e5 dxe5
- 44.fxe5



With White now having a passed d-pawn, and Black's rook still being passive, the position is bound to yield tactical opportunities for White.

- 44... Kf8
- 45.Kh2 Ra7
- 46.d6
- 46... Ra8
- 47.Kh3 Kg7
- 48.Kg3 Kf8
- 49.Kh4 Ke8
- 50.Nxa5

Finally grabbing White's long-term target: the a-pawn. The knight is invulnerable because of the mate on c8.

- 50... Nxe5
- The only playable defence.
- 51.Nb7 Nf3+
- 52.Kg3 Nxe5

Black's pawn-grabbing creates the illusion of counterplay. In practice, the advance of his kingside pawns can never be supported.

- 53.Rc7 Ne4+
- 54.Kf3 Nf6
- 55.Nc5 Kf8
- 56.d7 Ke7
- 57.Rc8 Nxd7
- 58.Rxa8 Nxc5
- 59.a5 Nxb3
- 60.a6 Nd4+
- 61.Ke4 Nc6
- 62.Kd5 Kd7
- 63.Rf8 b3

Ironically, Black now holds a material plus but, of course, the N is no match for the R in the endgame.



- 64.Rxf7+ Ne7+
- 65.Kc5 b2
- 66.Rf1 Nc8
- 67.Rb1 h4
- 68.Rxb2

What I liked about this game is that every one of Black's moves was superficially plausible in tactical terms, whereas White's win came from strategic thinking: forcing weaknesses and achieving better piece placement, just the way that the masters of old told us to play!

I knew that Black could not match my analytical efforts because I had noted very early on that (a) his play was brisk in the early stages, and (b) he had far too many games in progress, a sure sign that he was relying excessively on his engine for ideas.

1-0



Chess Kingdom - Carlos Orduna (Mexico)



Die Schachpartie - Max Oppenheimer (Germany)



Four Types of CC Player So which are you?

By Peter Bennett

In the 51 years since I first began to play correspondence chess (back in 1965) the wide variation in approach to the game I have observed among my many opponents has always intrigued me. From time to time I have toyed with various typologies; and the way we play has also changed and developed over the years. The advent of webserver chess has, however, ironed out some of the problematic areas associated with the postal game in which many older CC players will have originally won their spurs. Essentially, the webserver gives more and more accurate, information as to how our opponents are playing. This article is therefore a synthesis of observations I have been making over a long period but especially in the eight years since I began playing on the webserver.

During that time I have also made many friends through CC, and had lengthy discussions with opponents in many different countries through the messaging systems; so I have also been able to draw on many other people's observations about variations in CC style. The following quadrant gives a broad picture of these variations as I see them:

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| TECHNICIANS | ADDICTS |
| WARRIORS | TEAMSTERS |

These four "types" of CC players are not mutually exclusive, so real people will usually have some elements of each of these styles; but most of us, as I see it, have a stronger association with one quadrant than with the other three, while some of us will be unquestionably located in one of the four quadrants. The way I have drawn this diagram has another piece of information: the diagonal connections are the weakest, that is, Technicians have little in common with Teamsters and Warriors have little in common with Addicts.

Briefly, then:

TECHNICIANS are those who make a science of CC.
ADDICTS are those who dedicate themselves to CC.
WARRIORS are those who enjoy the contest in CC.
TEAMSTERS are those who enjoy belonging to a CC community.

The diagram with its four quadrants can now be filled out in this way:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| TECHNICIANS (science) | The Game is important | ADDICTS (dedication) |
| Standards are important | | Immersion is important |
| WARRIORS (contest) | People are important | TEAMSTERS (connection) |

Let me now elucidate this diagram by looking at what the four "types" have in common with one another and where they differ.

Across the top, what TECHNICIANS have in common with ADDICTS is a fascination with the game of chess, specifically the CC code. In the modern form of CC, TECHNICIANS tend to be those who reach the very highest standards and ADDICTS may briefly mimic their accomplishments, in that their highest-ever grading is often very high indeed. Where they differ is that TECHNICIANS maintain a very high standard of play for a very long time, often their entire CC careers (rarely or never falling below 2400), whereas ADDICTS cannot sustain this level of play. The reason is quite simple: TECHNICIANS are very disciplined about which tournaments they enter, choosing only those which help them towards specific goals, so never take on too many games at once.

True TECHNICIANS would rarely play more than 30 games simultaneously and usually far fewer. ADDICTS, on the other hand, enter tournaments indiscriminately; they cannot resist an invitation to play, just as an alcoholic cannot refuse the offer of another drink; so they end up with a lot of games. It is not uncommon for addicts to have more than 100 games in progress at one time, a tally which is bound to compromise standards in the end. Even 50 games will reduce playing standards.

A few years ago I was playing a well-known addict who at one time had had a grading of over 2600; yet I won the game we played against each other. How did I manage that? Simple! I had a modest tally of games and dedicated many hours to that particular game. I worked out that my opponent had 119 games in progress - and that was just on the ICCF server! He could not possibly have matched my commitment to our own game. At one point I wrote to him and asked: how do you manage to play 119 games at once? He replied: thanks for letting me know, I had absolutely no idea that I was playing so many games, never gave it a thought....

On the right of the diagram, what ADDICTS and TEAMSTERS have in common is that they dedicate a great deal of time to the game, that is, they specifically enjoy having a hobby in which they can immerse themselves wholeheartedly. While many of these people may be socially very well adjusted, some players in both these groups may be seeing chess as either substituting for a lack of fulfilment in other areas of their lives (such as a boring job) or even positively escaping from something else (such as a marriage which is no longer as fulfilling as it had been in the past, rebellious teenage children or a resident parent-in-law).

Let me not speculate beyond these few comments, suffice it to say that they are based on knowledge of the individual circumstances of players I cannot name. Golf, Sailing, Fishing and Mountaineering share with Chess the capacity to absorb reprehensibly excessive amounts of time and energy, leading to the concepts of "golf widow", "sailing widow", etc. Enough said.

Where ADDICTS and TEAMSTERS differ is in the nature of the activity which absorbs the time which they consistently bring to the game. Addicts have a compulsion to play, so are involved in a vast array of competitions, and their games tend to take most of their energy. They have little time for administration. TEAMSTERS, on the other hand, are the least ambitious of the four types (hence they tend to be lower-graded) but greatly enjoy the community of CC, that is, belonging to a CC club. TEAMSTERS tend to play in the same competitions year after year, often playing against the same opponents over and over again. They play within clubs and within national boundaries, rarely venturing into the international arena. They also run the game: they are the secretaries and treasurers and competition organisers who oil the wheels of CC activity. TEAMSTERS are the people you find on committees and who enjoy being on committees. They always turn up at AGMs and nothing makes them happier than proposing, seconding and extensively debating resolutions. They love being at the centre of things and they love the organisations they create, so much so that they sometimes virtually stop playing chess altogether.

I once belonged to a tennis club in which only about 75% of members actually played tennis. I thought this very amusing at the time but I now realise that this pattern is reflected in many clubs and societies: the human connection is more important than the hobby itself. So also in chess.

TEAMSTERS in the world of CC tend also to play in "team" events. Most CC clubs seem to have at least one event in which people form themselves into teams with ridiculous names, such as "Knights in shining armour" or "Bishops in purple", and play one another for apparently meaningful (to them) prizes and titles. Personally, I have never been able to make much sense of this kind of thing; but I do recognise it as representing a degree of homage to "team" play and general camaraderie.

What TEAMSTERS and WARRIORS have in common is an interest in people. As well as playing CC, they are both likely also to belong to OTB clubs. Both groups tend to contribute to the CC community, for example, by submitting material to club magazines.

TEAMSTERS and WARRIORS, for slightly different reason, are also interested in getting to know their opponents and are therefore commonly the kinds of players who make full use of the messaging systems. Whereas TEAMSTERS are merely sociable in this respect, WARRIORS have another level of interest. For WARRIORS, winning at CC is all about understanding your opponents, how they approach the game, how they analyse, what openings they use and why, where their strengths are and what, if any, are their vulnerabilities and weaknesses. WARRIOR chess is all about finding the way in which you can win a game against each specific opponent. How you win against one opponent is quite different from how you win against another, your approach to each games has to be tailored to the specific task in hand.

It also follows that TEAMSTERS AND WARRIORS, as active magazine contributors, actually submit very different kinds of material. Whereas TEAMSTERS will give accounts of meetings and congresses, report on competitions

and even amuse readers with anecdotes, WARRIORS will write about how the games is played, not just what is played. Perceptive readers may already have seen that the present article is a typical WARRIOR contribution, which is as it should be: I am a WARRIOR. If my approach to CC was not in the "WARRIOR" corner, I could not write such an article.

I recall a small success from a few years ago. After trying (and failing) to win a certain tournament several times, I finally triumphed at the third attempt. It was a single round-robin event with 11 players and my grading placed me in the middle of the pack. So I was very gratified to win my game against the top seed who, at 2270+, was not only 100 grading points above me but also by far the highest-graded player I had ever beaten at that time. I will call him Player X. I mention this particular game because, it so happened, I got to meet the player in question at a congress soon after the event. He wasn't very communicative and I had the impression that he was still quite upset about losing that CC game to me. From the little that he did say, however, I could infer that he assumed the reason he had lost was that I was playing with a stronger engine. Many players seem only to cope with losses by making assumptions of this kind: when they win, it is because they have played the better chess; when their opponent wins, it must be because he has the stronger engine. This is a childish way to look at the issue; and kidding ourselves in this fashion is actually a barrier to improvement.

Player X would be mortified to discover that I had played the whole tournament with a weaker engine than he was using; but I was using it differently. My success was down to the investment of time I put into that event, far greater than my opponents realised. Player X lost that game because he was guilty of shallow analysis at a critical moment when depth analysis was vital. If he had wanted to use the opportunity provided by our meeting to learn something about how he had lost he could have done so, by simply asking me for my opinions on the game. But he did not ask; and he left me with the impression that he preferred to cherish his own prejudices about it.

By contrast, when I lose games, I try always to learn something from the experience. So here is a confession. My very recent CC record contains more losses than usual: four, in fact. Three of those opponents, to my certain knowledge (because I troubled to find out), are far better OTB players than I am; so even in CC mode, in complex early middle-game positions where engine assessments are sometimes misleading, they made better positional judgements than I did. In the late middle game or endgame, by contrast, I can hold my own against a CC-GM; but my weakness as an OTB player reduces my effectiveness as a CC player in the early middle game. Being aware of this weakness is crucial if I am to compete effectively at a higher level.

The example of my game against Player X should tell the reader something about the approach of WARRIOR players. A postscript to that tournament, a few weeks later when I had entered another tournament in which the opposition would be far stronger, I wrote to X and told him (candidly but slightly mischievously) that I was about to invest in a new engine for the new season because I had been

hopelessly under-equipped the previous year (which was true). He did not reply and I have never heard from him since. It was clearly a message he did not want to hear.

What TECHNICIANS and WARRIORS have in common is a shared interest in excellence at CC. Both work really hard on their games, try to set consistently high standards, take a continuing interest in their gradings and make a real effort to win tournaments. Neither takes on too many games (as ADDICTS often do), and neither limits themselves to domestic competitions (as TEAMSTERS often do). Both TECHNICIANS and WARRIORS are willing to take on the strongest opposition and fight hard for the half-point in defence.

Now let us look at the differences. TECHNICIANS adopt opening systems to suit their own style, they play the openings using the best databases and statistics; and, once a game is underway, they play positions. By that I mean that they study in detail what is the “best” move in a given position and always play it (if it comes up again). They have a range of engines all of which are up-to-date; and they use them as tools. They never play a move simply because the engine says it is best, but only after detailed analysis. They keep up-to-date with all kinds of theory and employ the endgame tablebases at the earliest opportunity. They are usually very knowledgeable about computers and computing. TECHNICIANS are therefore very difficult to beat. They are sometimes highly communicative, but often not. I have played many TECHNICIANS who saw no relevance in communicating with their opponents at all. Their opponent was simply the person who happened to be sitting on the other side of the table, a person in whom they had no interest except as the player of moves.

WARRIORS, by contrast, play people, not just positions. They want to know what openings their opponents use and why; and they adjust their own opening moves according to the opponent’s repertoire. For example, I generally open 1.e4, but never against a strong opponent who is an exponent of the French Defence. Against these players, I

open 1.c4. With Black, I reply to 1.e4 with 1....c5 against players under 2300 but invariably with 1....e4 against players over 2350.

As a WARRIOR, I study every aspect of my opponent’s approach to the game: I try to work out what engines they are using and how. I work out how many games they are playing and whether their gradings are on rising, stable or falling trend. I look at their pace of play, how long they typically take to respond to moves and how much that varies and why. I even look at the days of the week they allocate to chess and the times of the day that they favour for playing moves. I look at the kinds of tournaments they participate in, their recent games, their successes and failures. For example, if an opponent of mine has just won a key game in another tournament, I will play it through and send informed, congratulatory comments. Most players really appreciate this and such a gesture will often generate a discussion, the more the better as far as I am concerned. I am naturally sociable, but my whole style of chess-playing depends on knowing my opponents well.

As time goes on, the edge that TECHNICIANS hold over WARRIORS is nevertheless more palpable; and I find that my lack of technical competence, and inferior equipment, is an increasing handicap. Ultimately, these differences will accelerate me towards retirement. Having said that, TECHNICIANS rarely gain gradings above 2450 on technology alone. The people at the very top, the GMs, have to function like WARRIORS as well.

Year on year, my tournament success rate seems to be ever-so-gradually receding. It was therefore a nice surprise to have employed my “warrior” approach with success in the recent Scottish Webserver Championship, especially since I played the whole tournament with Komodo 8 on an old desktop, whereas most of my opponents have, I believe, Komodo 9 on newer equipment; but this was an exceptional result against opponents who are fundamentally better chess players than I am.

[Ed – another Bennett article and some more chess images from Samuel Bak. You can find these images (and many others) on the University of Minnesota website: <http://www.chgs.umn.edu/museum/responses/bak/chess.html>]



As Clear as the Day (oil on canvas)



Knowledgeable (oil on canvas)



The Hawkes Files

By John E. Hawkes

My connection with the SCCA all began with Alan Borwell, your now Honorary President. In 1975 I was working for British Rail in their civil engineering department, trackwork specifically. I took a transfer from the Southern to the Scottish region — and found myself in Perth. I soon located the chess club, in a very spacious room in Princes Street. Maybe it still is? I had played against Alan once, a few years before in a British CC Championship Final, and now we met in person.

I was soon playing both otb and correspondence for the Perth club, and Alan also got me involved in some of the early numbers of the SCCA Bulletin, where I contributed the Winning Continuations feature and did a stint as Members' Games editor. Christmas 1985 came along and I left Scotland for far sunnier climes in the south of France. I was living a new life in Marseille, teaching and playing chess and posing as an English prof in the University, when Alan phoned and asked me to annotate a selection of games played in the Scottish Centenary International Tournament (now available in this magazine's archives).

I immediately thought it highly appropriate to commence this new column with that early 70's correspondence game of ours — but I hadn't got the score! Luckily Alan had it carefully preserved amongst his thousands of others.

My column will evolve in somewhat potpourri fashion as I sift through the CC material I have collected and somehow hung onto ever since my writing debut with the breakaway BCCS in the early 60's. Most of it never made its way into my various contributions to CC journals and columns: BCM and BCCS with Reg Gillman, the Italian CCYB, the French Gambisco and the Chess Theory website. I am rediscovering some fine games of the age before Fritz and Internet. How much easier is the work of an analyst and

journalist these days! I am delighted to have this invitation to return to writing on CC again and wish all SCCA members and their friends around the world pleasant reading.

John E. Hawkes, Le Boulou, France
1 April 2016

White: Borwell, Alan P

Black: Hawkes, John E

British CC Championship 1971–72,
Alekhine Defence, Exchange
Variation [B03]

[Notes by John Hawkes]

1.e4 Nf6
2.e5 Nd5
3.d4 d6
4.c4 Nb6
5.exd6 cxd6
6.Nc3 g6
7.Bd3 Bg7
8.Nge2 Nc6
9.Be3 0-0

10.b3

10.0–0 e5 Was known from a couple of Fischer-Berliner OTB games in the 60's.

10... d5
11.c5 Nd7

With two threats: Nxc5 and Nxd4.

12.0-0

12.Bb5 e5 13.0–0 Nxc5! 14.dxe5 d4
15.Nxd4 Nxe5 16.h3 Ne6 17.Nxe6
Bxe6 18.f4? Qa5! was Minic -
Fischer, Palma de Majorca 1970.

12... e5
13.dxe5 Ndx5

14.Bb5 d4

15.Nxd4



15... Ng4

I don't know where I got that from, or whether I invented it. Bagirov's Russian monograph came out much later in 1987 and didn't mention it, but Batsford's "Complete Alekhine" may well have? 15...Nxd4 16.Bxd4 Qxd4 17.Qxd4 Nf3+ 18.gxf3 Bxd4 19.Rac1 Bxc5 20.Ne4 Bb6=

16.Bxc6 Qc7
17.g3 Nxe3
18.fxc3 bxc6
19.Ne4 Qe5
20.Qf3 f5
21.Nd2 Re8
22.Rfe1 Be6

22...Qxc5 23.Rac1 and then Rxc6 obviously didn't appeal to me.

23.Qxc6 Bd5
23...Rac8 24.Qa6 Rxc5 (24...Qxc5??
25.Nxe6) 25.N2f3 Qd5 26.Qxa7±
24.Qd6 Qxd6
25.cxd6 Rxe3!
25...Rad8 was less flashy; 26.Nc4
Bxc4 27.bxc4 Rxd6 28.c5 Ra6
29.Kf1 Kf7=

26.Nb5

26.Rxe3 Bxd4 27.Rae1 Rd8 28.Kf1
Bxe3 29.Rxe3 Rxd6=

26... Rxe1+
27.Rxe1 Rd8
28.Re7 a6

29.d7

29.Nc7 Bf7 30.Nc4 Bf6 and the d-pawn will fall.

29...Bc6

△29...Bf8 30.Re5 Rxd7 31.Nc3 Bf7±
The bishops are pointed in the right direction.

30.Re8+ Rxe8
31.dxe8Q+ Bxe8
32.Nc7 Bd4+
33.Kf1 Bd7
34.Nc4



Nice diagram: Black has equality.

34... Bc8
35.Ke2 Bc5
We can't have a diagram each time it looks pretty!
36.a3 Kf7
37.b4 Bf8
38.Kd3 g5
39.Kd4 Kg6?
40.Nb6 Bb7
41.Ne6 Be7



I can't resist another diagram: the N/B couples having rotated through 90 degrees since the last one! A slight plus for White: centralised king and a QSM, but Black must surely have adequate resources (?). With the adjudication looming up, I should not be letting the White king through and also should have thought about window-dressing.

e.g. 41...Bd6 42.Nc4 Be7 43.Ke5 Bc6 44.Nc7 f4 45.gxf4 gxf4 46.Kxf4 (46.Ke6 Bf6 47.Kd6 Bg2) 46...Kf6= and the bishops are coping well with the situation.

42.Ke5 Bf6+
43.Kd6 Bg7?

Window undressing! Making the adjudicator's task easier – JEH The game was adjudicated here as a draw.
½–½

With the benefit of today's Houdini, the following analysis is favouring a White win! – APB

44.Nxg7 Kxg7
45.Ke5 f4
45...Kg6 46.Nd7 Bg2 47.Nc5 Bf1
48.a4 Be2 49.Ne6 Bf1 50.Nd4 f4
51.gxf4 gxf4 52.Kxf4 Kf6 53.h4 Ke7
54.Kg5 Kd6 55.Kh6 Bd3 56.b5 a5
57.Nb3 Bc2 58.Nxa5 Bxa4 59.Nc4+ Kc5 60.b6 Kc6 61.Kxh7+–
46.gxf4 gxf4
47.Kxf4 Kf7
48.Nd7 Bc8
49.Nc5 Kf6
50.Ke4 Kg5
51.Ke5 Kg4

52.Kd6 h5
53.Kc7 Bf5
54.Nxa6 h4
55.b5 Be4
56.Nb4 Kh3
57.Nc6+–



White: Djuric, Stefan
Black: Hawkes, John E
1st European TT Prelims, 1973
Alekhine Defence [B02]
[Notes by John Hawkes]

1.e4 Nf6
2.e5 Nd5
3.c4 Nb6
4.b3 g6
5.Bb2 Bg7
6.Qf3 d6
7.d4

Thanks to Internet and the excellent 365chess.com I now find out, 40 years later, this is the Steiner variation, and a game at the Skopje Olympiad of 1972 between De la Cruz and Haik had gone: 7.Qe3 Nc6 8.Nf3 Bg4 9.Be2 0–0 10.d4 dxe5 11.Nxe5 Bxe2 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Kxe2 c5 14.Rd1 Qd7 15.Na3 Rad8 16.Nc2 Qf5 threatening check on g4, and Black went on to win.

7... Nc6
8.Qe3 0-0
9.Na3 a5!

For me, the most obvious move for Black here was 9...Bf5 accentuating Black's minor-piece development lead, but the a-pawn advance felt absolutely right after White's knight move.

10.Be2 a4
11.f4 ax b3
12.axb3 Bf5
13.g4?

13.Nf3 Nb4 14.0–0 catches up on development.

13... Nb4
14.Rc1

My game notes got lost in my emigration to France, and I rediscovered this score in the Internet age on chessgames.com where someone appears to have downloaded games from the Ist EU TT tournament book. To 14.gxf5 I had probably prepared 14...Rxa3 15.Qc3 Rxa1+ 16.Bxa1 Qa8!
14... Bd7!
15.Bf3 dxe5
16.fxe5 Qc8

Against a future otb GM I've come out of the opening very well: I've mobilised all my bits and one might consider I'm 2 tempi ahead for the middle game.

17.Qd2 e5
Forced but very good - it must be at least =/+ at this point.
18.dxc5
On 18.h3 comes 18...Rd8
18... Qxc5
19.Bd4



19... Qa5!
20.Kf1
20.Bc3 Qxa3 21.Bxb4 Qxb3 22.Bd1 Qa2+ Black can run riot with or without queens on the board.

20... Nc6
I remember being quite chuffed with this move. It took some finding, it's hard to retreat when one has the initiative. In retrospect, it's completely thematic as Black destroys what remained of White's pawn-centre. But 20...Qxa3 21.Bxb6 Nd3! 22.Rb1 Nxe5+ was even better - but I think I overlooked it.
23.Bxb7?? Rab8

21.Qxa5 Rxa5
22.Nc2 Nxd4
23.Nxd4 Bxe5
24.Nge2 Bxd4
25.Nxd4 e5
26.Ne2 Ra3
27.Rc3 Bc6
28.Bxc6 bxc6
29.Kf2 Rd8
30.Ke3

Centralising the king heads him into trouble. 30.Rf3 Kg7 31.g5 still made Black work at it, 31...c5
30... f6!

Patience was called for: an important little move, more controlled than 30...f5 31.gxf5 gxf5 32.Rg1+ Kf7 and White looks (& maybe is) active.
31.Rf1 Kf7
32.h4 Ke6+–



33.Ke4 Nd7!

The Alekhine knight gets his move back into the game after 30 moves! The c5 square looks particularly inviting, and it clears the b-file for Rb8 if needed. A won position for Black.

34.b4

34.c5? Rxb3 35.Rxb3 Nxc5+ etc.

34... f5+

and White resigned. Living in Marseilles, I ran several times into Stefan who was playing for the Antibes team. I never realised it was the same Djuric who had played CC - and he never mentioned this game we had played by post some 20 years previously.

34...f5+ If now 35.gxf5+ gxf5+ 36.Ke3 (36.Rxf5 would have let me clarify the issue with the nice little clean-up sequence 36...Rxc3 37.Nxc3 Nc5+! 38.bxc5 Rd4+ etc.) 36...Rxc3+ 37.Nxc3 Nb6! Back again to the "crummy" b6 square! 38.c5 Nc4+ 39.Kf2 Rd2+ 40.Kg1 Rc2 41.Nd1 e4 42.Re1 Ne5 and White has no chance of survival. One of those rare games where one gets it pretty-much all right.

0-1



White: Hawkes, John E

Black: Brigden, Michael E

BPCF Championship Final, 1970

Queen's Indian Defence [E18]

[Notes by John Hawkes]

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| 1.c4 | e6 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nf6 |
| 3.g3 | b6 |
| 4.Bg2 | Bb7 |
| 5.0-0 | Be7 |
| 6.d4 | 0-0 |
| 7.Nc3 | Ne4 |
| 8.Bd2 | |

My note in BCCA's "CC" Autumn 1971 goes: This solid move gives Black many plausible replies. I hoped it would produce more intense play than the standard 8.Qc2 Nxc3 9.Qxc3

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 8... | f5 |
| 9.d5 | Bf6 |
| 10.Rc1 | Na6 |
| 11.Ne1 | Nac5 |
| 12.b4 | |

Stops consolidation by 12...a5. Black's knights go to good squares but cannot settle.

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 13... | Nxc3 |
| 13.Bxc3 | Ne4 |
| 14.Bxf6 | Qxf6 |
| 15.f3 | Ng5 |
- △15...Nd6 and if 16.c5 (16.e4 fxe4 17.fxe4 Qb2!) 16...bxc5 17.bxc5 Nf7 18.c6 dxc6 19.dxc6 Ba6 20.f4 Rfd8 21.Qc2 Rab8 threatens rook to 7th.

16.e4
One is tempted to label Black's opening strategy a failure. I cannot remember if I was following a game, but when I searched 365chess.com today I was pleasantly surprised when finding a game Radashkovich - Fershter, Leningrad 1970! which went identically up to here but continued with 16...d6 and White won comfortably in an instructive not-so-bad B v N-in-the-corner ending.

- | | |
|-------|------|
| 16... | fxe4 |
|-------|------|
- 16...d6 17.Qd2 e5 18.Nd3 White is ready for the c5 push. Just like the game cited above.

17.f4
I was not convinced of my attacking chances after 17.fxe4 Qb2 18.Rxf8+ Rxf8 19.Rc2 Qxb4 20.Nd3

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| 17... | Nf7 |
|-------|-----|
- The negative 17...Nf3+ 18.Nxf3 exf3 19.Bxf3 favours White slightly, so Black continues his knight trip.
- | | |
|---------|-----|
| 18.Bxe4 | Nd6 |
| 19.Bb1 | |



An interesting back-row line-up!

- | | |
|---------|-----|
| 19... | Nf5 |
| 20.Nf3! | g6 |
- Not fancying the troubles of 20...Ne3 21.Qd3 Nxf1 22.Qxh7+ Kf7 23.Rxf1 and if 23...Ke7 24.Ne5

21.Bxf5
The simple exchange felt right: matching knight against hampered bishop.

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 21... | Qxf5 |
| 22.Re1 | Rae8 |
| 23.Nd4 | Qh3 |

Perfectly natural and very uncomfortable for White. 23...Qf7 concentrating on the centre looks strategically better: 24.dxe6 dxe6 25.Re5 (Not 25.Qe2 e5! 26.fxe5 Rxe5! 27.Qxe5 Qf2#) 25...Rd8 26.Qd3 Qd7 27.Rd1 Qa4

24.Qd2!
I gave this the ! but it might even be a ?. [Oops! Junior the dog is worrying for his afternoon walk in the forest and has just made me spill my coffee!]

- | | |
|-------|------|
| 24... | exd5 |
| 25.c5 | Re4 |
- △25...bxc5 26.bxc5 Re4
- | | |
|---------|-------|
| 26.cxb6 | cx b6 |
| 27.Rc7 | Ba8 |
| 28.Rec1 | Qg4 |



Well, I've got the intensity I was seeking.

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 29.Rc8 | Rfe8 |
| 30.Kg2 | |

Looks risky, but the Black queen is getting short of air thanks to the beautifully centralised knight: 30...h5?? 31.h3 and she's trapped.

- | | |
|-------|----|
| 30... | a6 |
|-------|----|
- Hardly a mistake, but it gives White his chance.
- | | |
|--------|-----|
| 31.h3 | Qh5 |
| 32.Qd3 | |

Without the pawn on a6 Black could back off by Re7, but now he must not allow Qxa6.

- | | |
|-------|----|
| 32... | b5 |
|-------|----|



33.Qxe4!!

BCCA Games Ed. John Ward (who was also competing in this Final) is responsible for the double !! "Although the concept is not so difficult to find, the follow-up is not so obvious.", he said.

33... dxe4
34.Rxe8+ Kf7



We started with A – for Alan, Alekhine’s and Adjudication, and we close with Z - for Zelinsky!

White: Zelinsky, Yuri
Black: - Skotorenko, Vasily
 USSR Correspondence, 1974
 Benoni Defence [A62]
[Notes by John E. Hawkes]

1.d4 Nf6
2.c4 c5
3.d5 e6
4.Nc3 exd5
5.cxd5 d6
6.Nf3 g6
7.g3 Bg7
8.Bg2 0-0
9.0-0 Qe7

My copy of Kapengut’s superb "Indian Defence" book (published Minsk, 1984) was miraculously recuperated intact after its 1988 fall from a Strand Palace fifth-floor window — and I still have it on my bookshelf today!

10.Bg5
 Kapengut’s main line for this very interesting queen-move variation was: 10.Nd2 Nbd7 11.Nc4 Ne5 12.Nxe5 Qxe5
10... h6
11.Bd2 Bd7

35.Re5
 Very strong. Not 35.Rxa8?? Qd5
35... g5
 35...Qh6 36.Rc7+-
36.Rf5+!
 The zwischenzug Black missed.
36... Ke8
 36...Ke7 37.Rxg5 Qf7 38.Rg7!
37.Rxg5 e3+
38.Kh2 Qh6
 38...Qf7 39.Rc8+ Ke7 40.Re5+ wins the queen.
39.Rc8+ Kf7
40.Rf5+ Kg7
41.Re5
 Turning down the bishop and going for the mating finish. So ... Black resigned.
 If 41...Qb6 42.Nf5+ Kf7 43.Re7+ Kg6 44.Rf8! Curtains!

1-0

Miniature Correspondence Masterpieces No. 1

By John E. Hawkes

12.Qc2 b5
13.Nh4 Na6
14.Rae1 b4
15.Nd1 Rac8
16.b3 Kh7
17.f4 c4
18.e4 Ng8
19.Ne3 f5?
20.e5 Bb5



One of the "Combinations" in Informator–18. I couldn’t track down the complete score anywhere and so had to reconstruct the moves leading to this position. The actual order of moves may well have been rather different. The precise point at which Black resigned is not clear either, and is my excuse for taking the game

My best game in what was my first of three consecutive Finals. Adrian Hollis outclassed the rest of the field in this one, but I did manage joint 2/3 place and a copy of the 5th World CC Championship book by Ken Messere and Hans Berliner as my prize. I got very close to being champion the next year but blew it with a fatal clerical error — thanks to descriptive notation! Third time round I slipped further down, and if my memory serves me right, just missing the podium.



© John E. Hawkes

score beyond the traditional 24 moves required for miniature status.

21.Nxg6! Kxg6
 No choice for Black; 21...cxb3
 22.Nxf8+ Qxf8 23.Qxf5+ Qxf5
 24.Nxf5 Bxf1 25.Bxf1!+-
22.Nxf5!
 More spectacular than 22.Bh3
22... Rxf5
 And Yuri can now follow his two-knights assault with a third sacrifice - the supreme one!
23.Qxf5+!! Kxf5
24.Be4+ Kg4
25.h3+!
 Another sacrificial touch.
25... Kxg3
 25...Kxh3 26.Bf5+ Kxg3 27.Re3+ Kh4 28.Rh3#; 25...Kh5 26.g4+ (or 26.f5) 26...Kh4 27.Re3 and mate next move.
26.Re3+ Kh4
27.Bg6!
 A "quiet" move applies the finishing touch.

1-0



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10th European Team Championship

EU/TC10/sf2, 10th European Team Championship - Semifinal 2

TD Glaser, Karel (IA)

| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | Score | % | +/- | Team results | FG | RG | Place |
|----|-------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|----|-----|--------------|----|----|-------|
| 1 | Estonia | 2427 | | 4.5 | 4 | 5 | 4.5 | 4 | 5 | 5.5 | 4 | 4.5 | 4 | 45 | 57 | 12 | 16 | 78 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | Romania | 2455 | 3.5 | | 3.5 | 4.5 | 4 | 4 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5 | 5.5 | 4 | 43 | 55 | 9 | 13 | 77 | 3 | 2 |
| 3 | Ukraine | 2415 | 4 | 4.5 | | 3 | 4 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5 | 4.5 | 5 | 42.5 | 54 | 7 | 14 | 78 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | Portugal | 2372 | 3 | 2.5 | 5 | | 4 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 42.5 | 54 | 7 | 13 | 78 | 2 | 4 |
| 5 | Bulgaria | 2420 | 3.5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 4 | 4 | 3.5 | 5 | 3.5 | 5 | 40.5 | 50 | 1 | 9 | 80 | 0 | 5 |
| 6 | Netherlands | 2389 | 4 | 4 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 4 | | 4 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 39 | 50 | 0 | 10 | 78 | 2 | 6 |
| 7 | Denmark | 2340 | 3 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 4 | 4 | | 3.5 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 5 | 39 | 48 | -2 | 6 | 80 | 0 | 7 |
| 8 | Lithuania | 2361 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 3 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 4.5 | | 4 | 5.5 | 3.5 | 37 | 48 | -2 | 7 | 76 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | Turkey | 2383 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 3 | | 5 | 4.5 | 35.5 | 46 | -6 | 7 | 77 | 3 | 9 |
| 10 | Belgium | 2360 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 4 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 3 | | 4.5 | 33 | 41 | -13 | 5 | 79 | 1 | 10 |
| 11 | Scotland | 2327 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3.5 | 3 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | | 32 | 41 | -13 | 0 | 77 | 3 | 11 |

With the event almost all but other we may yet avoid the ignominy of last place. Whilst this is disappointing it should be noted that in terms of average ratings we were the bottom seeded team.

Current Friendly Internationals

GB/TriNat/2015, British Tri-Nations 2015

TD Ylönen, Olli

| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | Score | % | +/- | Team results | FG | RG | Place |
|---|----------|------|-----|-----|------|-------|----|-----|--------------|----|----|-------|
| 1 | England | 2145 | | 8.5 | 11.5 | 20 | 64 | 9 | 2 | 31 | 9 | 1 |
| 2 | Wales | 2015 | 6.5 | | 11.5 | 18 | 54 | 3 | 2 | 33 | 7 | 2 |
| 3 | Scotland | 2018 | 4.5 | 6.5 | | 11 | 32 | -12 | 0 | 34 | 6 | 3 |

Unfortunately our team is not doing so well this time round and presently languishes in third place.

| Start | Boards | Opponents | Mode | For | Against | Void | Result |
|----------|--------|-------------|--------|------|---------|------|--------|
| Jan 2016 | 25 | USA | Server | 8½ | 7½ | | |
| Oct 2015 | 25 | Australia | Server | 12½ | 13½ | | |
| May 2015 | 25 | Netherlands | Server | 15½ | 27½ | | loss |
| Apr 2015 | 9 | Natcor | Server | 8½ | 8½ | | |
| Jan 2015 | 20 | Wales | Server | 18½r | 18½ | | |
| Dec 2014 | 27 | Iceland | Server | 15½ | 38½ | | loss |
| Nov 2014 | 25 | Switzerland | Server | 11½ | 36½ | | loss |

New matches, both over 25 boards, were started recently against Australia and USA whilst the match against Iceland recently concluded. Our numerous current matches continue as before.

6th ICCF Champions League

Both our teams have already completed all their games in this event. With only a few games still in progress in Group 17 the Lewis Chessmen seem very likely to finish third amongst the 5 teams whilst all games in Group 19 containing the Scottish Claymores have been completed with them narrowly edged out in a competitive Group to finish fourth.

CL/2015/PL17, Promotional League 2015 Gr17

| | | | TD Jansen, Joop (IA) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|------|-----|--------------|----|----|-------|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Score | % | +/- | Team results | FG | RG | Place | |
| 1 | | The Black Knights | 2209 | | 6 | 5.5 | 3.5 | 5 | 20 | 64 | 9 | 6 | 31 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | | 64for4 | 2302 | 2 | | 4.5 | 5 | 3.5 | 15 | 48 | -1 | 4 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | | Lewis Chessmen | 2320 | 2.5 | 3.5 | | 4.5 | 4.5 | 15 | 46 | -2 | 4 | 32 | 0 | 3 |
| 4 | | Rochade 5171 Chessfriends | 2134 | 3.5 | 3 | 3.5 | | 4.5 | 14.5 | 46 | -2 | 2 | 31 | 1 | 4 |
| 5 | | LOS IMPERTERRITOS | 2148 | 3 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | | 13.5 | 43 | -4 | 0 | 31 | 1 | 5 |

CL/2015/PL19, Promotional League 2015 Gr19

| | | | TD Martin Sánchez, Carlos | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|------|-----|--------------|----|----|-------|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Score | % | +/- | Team results | FG | RG | Place | |
| 1 | | WE BREAK FOR GAMBITS! | 2314 | | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5 | 7.5 | 21.5 | 67 | 11 | 8 | 32 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | | Volga - Moscow | 2285 | 3.5 | | 4 | 4.5 | 7 | 19 | 59 | 6 | 5 | 32 | 0 | 2 |
| 3 | | Memento Gambit | 2192 | 3.5 | 4 | | 4 | 7 | 18.5 | 57 | 5 | 4 | 32 | 0 | 3 |
| 4 | | Scottish Claymores | 2211 | 3 | 3.5 | 4 | | 6.5 | 17 | 53 | 2 | 3 | 32 | 0 | 4 |
| 5 | | CCI II | 2069 | 0.5 | 1 | 1 | 1.5 | | 4 | 12 | -24 | 0 | 32 | 0 | 5 |

International Invitational Events

MT-Hollis, Adrian Hollis Memorial

| | | | TD Limbert, Neil (IA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|-------|------|-------|----|-------|
| Rated | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | Score | Wins | SB | RG | Place |
| 1 | ENG | 211305 GM Robson, Nigel | 2602 | | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | 8 | 6 | 36.5 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | SCO | 620184 SIM Beecham, C. Richard | 2459 | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 5.5 | 2 | 25.75 | 0 | 2 |
| 3 | ENG | 210773 GM Hall, Richard V. M. | 2640 | ½ | ½ | | ½ | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 5.5 | 2 | 25.75 | 0 | 2 |
| 4 | ENG | 211500 SIM Burne, Nigel G. | 2489 | 0 | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | . | 1 | 5 | 2 | 22.25 | 1 | 4 |
| 5 | ENG | 211655 SIM Williamson, Harvey D. | 2508 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 5 | 2 | 21.5 | 0 | 5 |
| 6 | ENG | 211431 GM Pugh, John | 2472 | ½ | 0 | 1 | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 5 | 1 | 24.5 | 0 | 6 |
| 7 | ENG | 210300 SIM Pegg, Russell M. | 2471 | 0 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 5 | 1 | 23.25 | 0 | 7 |
| 8 | ENG | 210405 SIM Donnelly, Dr. Mike J. | 2468 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | | ½ | ½ | ½ | 4.5 | 0 | 20.75 | 0 | 8 |
| 9 | ENG | 210701 SIM Rhodes, John D. | 2413 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | | ½ | 4 | 1 | 17.5 | 0 | 9 |
| 10 | ENG | 210425 GM Brookes, John G. | 2511 | 0 | ½ | ½ | . | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | | 3.5 | 0 | 16.25 | 1 | 10 |
| 11 | ENG | 210217 SIM Timson, Paul F. | 2506 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | 3 | 0 | 15.5 | 0 | 11 |

As reported previously, Richard Beecham looks likely to finish in a share of second place in the strong and prestigious Adrian Hollis Memorial event. More recently Tom Matheis and George Pyrich have started out in new events, Tom in a very strong event, the Germany Advanced Masters 02-B and George in the considerably less formidable Glenn Shields Memorial event organised by the USA Federation and dedicated to the memory of a long serving member and official. Meantime Geoff Lloyd is carrying the flag in the WCCF Congress Invitational event organised by the Welsh Federation to mark its hosting of the ICCF Congress.

ICCF Olympiad 20 Preliminaries

Unfortunately the start of this event planned for the end of 2015 will be deferred until the previous cycle is completed, perhaps sometime during summer 2016.

International Selection Committee

Our Executive Committee recently gave approval to the formation of a Selection Committee for International Team events comprising George Pyrich, Richard Beecham and Tom Matheis. The Committee's first task was team selection for the new North Atlantic Team Tournament (NATT 7).

NATT 7

NATT/7, North Atlantic Team Tournament VII

| | | TD Martello, Juan Alberto (IA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-------|---|-----|--------------|----|----|-------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Score | % | +/- | Team results | FG | RG | Place | |
| 1 | España-Fortuna | 2360 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 2 | Iceland | 2330 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 3 | Portugal | 2356 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 4 | España - Desafío | 2348 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 5 | England | 2396 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 6 | U.S.A. | 2395 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 7 | France | 2360 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 8 | Norway | 2390 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 9 | Scotland | 2184 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 10 | Canada | 2320 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 11 | U.S.A.-II | 2386 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |
| 12 | Wales | 2296 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ■ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 88 | 1 |

As its name suggests this is an 8 board team tournament for those countries in the North Atlantic. On this occasion the event is being organised by the Spanish Federation with 12 teams taking part (Spain (2), USA (2), England, Scotland, Iceland, Norway, Canada, Portugal, France and Wales (unfortunately there is no Irish team) with play scheduled to start on 1 May. The following carry the flag: 1. Clive Murden 2. Geoff Lloyd 3. Robert Montgomery 4. David Cumming 5. George Pyrich 6. Raymond Burrige 7. Eoin Campbell 8. Alastair Dawson

Another event on similar lines, the 4th North Sea Team Tournament, is planned to start in the autumn.

British CC Team Championship 2015/16

GB/TC2015/6, British CC Team Championship 2015/6

| | | TD Lockwood, Austin | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|----------------|----------------|-------|----|----|------|---|---|---|-----|----|----|---|---|
| | | Bd 1 | Bd 2 | Bd 3 | Bd 4 | Bd 5 | Bd 6 | Bd 7 | Bd 8 | Total | FG | RG | Wins | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Welsh Dragons | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | . | . | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 8 | 14 | 2 | 4 |
| 2 | Scottish CCA | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | . | . | 1 ^E | ½ | 1 | ½ | . | . | . | ½ | ½ | 7.5 | 10 | 6 | 5 | |
| 3 | Trophy Hunters | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | ½ | ½ | 5 | 9 | 7 | 1 | |
| 4 | BCCA | . | . | ½ | 0 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | . | . | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | 4.5 | 9 | 7 | 1 | |
| 5 | Square Bashers | . | . | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | ½ | 4 | 8 | 8 | 1 | |
| 6 | White Rose | . | . | . | . | ½ | 0 | . | . | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 3.5 | 10 | 6 | 1 | |
| 7 | CS Administrators | . | . | . | . | ½ | ½ | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | 3 | 4 | 12 | 2 | |
| 8 | SchemingMind | . | . | . | . | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 ^E | . | . | ½ | . | . | . | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 0 |
| 9 | HSBC | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0.5 | 5 | 11 | 0 | |

Following discussions held at last year's ICCF Congress in Cardiff, the SCCA were invited to enter team in the Championship section of this long established event and happily we were able to submit a strong team (Richard Beecham, Tom Matheis, Iain Mackintosh, David Cumming, Alan Bell, Gordon Anderson, David Kilgour and Alan Borwell). Thus far, as may be seen from the table, our team is doing very well!

General

A full list of available events is available at our web site www.scottishcca.co.uk. The list of server events now includes a new level, "Aspirer tournaments", designed for those new to ICCF and without any Rating and those with ICCF Ratings less than 1600. Members should note the substantial reduced entry fees to ICCF events as listed at our web site.

And now some recent games from International play, beginning with three from the British CC Team Championship...

White: Matheis, Thomas (2451)
Black: Grayland, Stan J (2367)
 GB/TC2015/6, 2015
 QP Nf3 Sidelines [D02]
[Notes by George Pyrich]

1.d4 d5
2.Nf3 c6
3.Bf4

Played perhaps to avoid all the theory after say 3.c4 but there are over 100 games with this in the ICCF Database!

3... Nf6
4.e3 Qb6
5.Qc1 Nh5!?

5...Bf5 looks sounder when Geoff Lloyd had a brief but lively encounter against Zafer Ilken (TUR) in the 10th EU Team Ch. 6.c4 e6 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.Nh4 Nh5 9.Nxf5 Nxf4 10.exf4 exf5 11.cxd5 c5 12.Qe3+ Kd8 13.0-0-0 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Qxd4 15.Rxd4 Bc5 16.Rd2 Nf6 17.Bc4 Ne4 18.Nxe4 fxe4 19.Kb1 Rc8 20.Bb3 f5 21.d6 Draw agreed.

6.Be5 Bg4

Seems a bit pointless after the queen has moved. Maybe instead 6...Nd7 7.Be2 Nxe5 8.dxe5 g6 and Black looks OK.

7.Nfd2 Nd7
8.h3 Bf5
9.Bh2 Nhf6
10.Be2 c5
11.0-0 e6

It would be interesting to know what Tom had in mind if Black had snatched the pawn with 11...cxd4 12.exd4 Qxd4 - maybe 13.c4 when White can hope to exploit his lead in development.

12.c4 cxd4
13.exd4 Bd6

Again 13...Qxd4!?

14.Bxd6 Qxd6
15.Nc3 0-0
16.c5 Qe7

Now White has a small but significant edge.

17.b4 a6
18.a4 Rfc8
19.Re1 h6
20.Nf3 Ne4
21.Qe3 b6
22.Re1 Nxc3
23.Rxc3 bxc5
24.bxc5 Be4
25.a5!

Fixing Black's a-pawn.

25... Rc6
26.Nd2 Bg6
27.Rb3 Qf6
28.Rc1 Qd8

29.Rb6!



After a series of simple moves White's advantage is now significant.

29... Qc8

Accepting the offer allows White to crash through with 29...Nxb6 30.axb6 Qb8 31.Nb3 a5 32.Bb5

30.Nb3 f6
31.Qg3 Kf7
32.Rc3 h5?

Not sure what Black was thinking here and on the next move.

33.h4 Bf5?
34.Bxh5+ Kg8
35.Rxc6 Qxc6
36.Qd6 Qxd6
37.cxd6 Nf8
38.Rc7 Rd8
39.Bf7+ Kh7

40.Rc6
 Nc5 follows and so...

1-0



White: Bell, Alan D (2396)
Black: Lewyk, Ihor (2135) [B01]
 GB/TC2015/6, 2015
 Scandinavian Defence [B01]
[Notes by George Pyrich]

1.e4 d5
2.exd5 Nf6
3.d4 Bg4
4.f3!?

Those who like a quieter life can go instead 4.Be2 Bxe2 5.Qxe2 Qxd5 6.Nf3 e6 7.c4 Qh5 8.Nc3 as in Tuominen v. Destruels Moreno, ESP v. FIN 2012 (1-0, 33)

4... Be8

Not in the ICCF Database where Black scores reasonably well with 4...Bf5 when White has 5.Bb5+ or even (5.g4!?)

5.c4 e6
6.dxe6 Bxe6
7.Nc3 c6

8.Be3 Bd6
9.Bd3 0-0

10.Nge2 Re8

It's difficult to see what Black has for his pawn as White completes his development.

11.Qd2 Qe7
12.Bg5 h6
13.Bh4 Bc7
14.0-0-0 Na6
15.a3 Rad8
16.Qc2 Bc8
17.Kb1 g5?

Surely wrong - why weaken your king?

18.Bf2 Qf8
19.g4 Qg7
20.h4



The rest is carnage.

20... Nb8
21.hxg5 hxg5
22.Rh3 Nbd7
23.Rdh1 Nf8
24.Qd2 Ne6
25.d5 cxd5
26.cxd5 Nf4
27.Rh8+ Qxh8
28.Rxh8+ Kxh8
29.Bd4 Kg7
30.Ne4 Be5
31.Bxe5 Rxe5
32.Nxf4

1-0



White: Beecham, Richard (2464)
Black: Sherwood, Helen (2303)
 GB/TC2015/6, 2015
 Ruy Lopez, Berlin Defence [C65]
[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

1.e4 e5
2.Nf3 Nc6
3.Bb5 Nf6
 The fashionable Berlin Defence...
4.Bxc6

...but Richard elects to take a route that's little played in CC.

4... dxc6
5.d3 Bd6
6.0-0 0-0

7.Bg5N

Now we're out of the ICCF database.

7... Bg4
8.h3 Bh5
9.g4 Bg6
10.Nbd2 h6
11.Bh4 b5
12.Re1 Qe7
13.d4

13.Nf1 is a thematic alternative.

13... h5
14.c3 hxg4
15.hxg4 c5
16.Nxe5! Bxe5
17.dxe5 Qxe5
18.f3

White now has a significant edge.

18...c4
19.Nf1 Rad8
20.Qe2 Qe6



20...Rd3 is superficially appealing, but after 21.Rad1 Rfd8 22.Rxd3 cxd3 23.Qd2 a6 24.Re3 Qe6 25.e5 White is in control.

21.f4!

The most energetic continuation.

21... Qc6
22.f5 Bh7
23.a4 a6
24.e5 Rde8
25.axb5 axb5
26.Bxf6 gxf6

Not many supported Black pawns now.

27.Qg2±

Offering the queen exchange may seem passive, but Richard's plan is to engineer a pawn majority for White while the Black bishop is confined.

27... Qc5+
28.Qf2 Rxe5
29.Qxc5 Rxc5
30.Ng3 b4
31.Ra6 Rd8

32.Ne4 Rb5
33.Rc6 Kg7
34.Re2



34... Bxf5?!

Looks desperate and probably is, but Black's isolated pawn structure can't be defended.

35.gxf5+-

White is clearly winning now.

35... bxc3
36.bxc3 Rxf5
37.Rxc7 Rd1+
38.Kg2 Rf4
39.Kg3 Rff1
40.Rg2 Kf8
41.Rc8+ Ke7
42.Re2 Rde1
43.Rxe1 Rxe1
44.Rxc4

After the exchanges, it's all just technique.

44... Ke6
45.Kf2 Rc1
46.Rc5 Rh1
47.Ng3 Rh4
48.Kf3 Kd6
49.Rh5 Rc4
50.Ne4+ Ke6
51.Kf4 Ke7
52.Ra5 Ke6
53.Ra6+ Ke7
54.Kf5

1-0



And now some action from recent Friendly International matches. The first game has some interesting tactical moments.

White: Mackintosh, Iain (2416)

Black: Kerr, Stephen (2466)

Scotland v Australia, 2016

QGD [D30]

[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

1.d4 d5

2.c4 e6
3.Nf3 c5
4.cxd5 exd5
5.Bg5 Be7
6.Bxe7 Nxe7
7.dxc5 0-0
8.e3 Qa5+
9.Nc3 Qxc5
10.Be2 Nbc6
11.0-0 Be6
12.Rc1 Qb4
13.Qc2N

13.Qd2 was Carlos Martín Sánchez (2390) v Milen Petrov (2326), ICCF WS/MN/086, 2012, 1-0 after 41 moves.

13... d4

14.a3!?

Playing for complications.

14... Qc5
15.exd4 Nxd4
16.Nxd4 Qxd4
17.Rfd1 Qb6
18.Na4 Qb3

Black's 7th queen move in the last 11!]

19.Qe4 Rae8
20.Nc5 Qxb2
21.Nxe6 fxe6



22.Qxe6+ Kh8

Avoiding the trap...

22...Rf7?? 23.Rc8! Rxc8 (23...g6 prolongs things by a few moves.)

24.Qxc8+ Nxc8 25.Rd8+ Rf8

26.Bc4+ Kh8 27.Rxf8#

23.Rb1 Qc2
24.Qc4 Qf5
25.f4 Rc8
26.Qd4 Nc6
27.Qf2 b6
28.Rbc1 h6
29.Bd3 Qxf4

The 11th and final move for Black's travel-weary queen.

30.Qxf4 Rxf4
31.Bb5 Rf6
32.Rd3 a6

Breaking the pin is worth a pawn.

33.Bxa6 Rcf8

34.Bb5 Nd8
 35.Rcd1 Ne6
 36.Re3 Nc5
 37.h4 Rf5



38.Be8!?

Rather than agree a draw here, one last try to create some back rank complications.

38... R5f6
 39.h5 Ne6
 40.Bd7 Nf4
 41.Bg4 g6
 42.hxg6 Rxc6
 43.Bf3 Rgf6
 44.Re7 R6f7
 45.Rxf7 Rxf7
 46.Rd6 Ra7
 47.Rxh6+ Kg7
 48.Rh4 Nxc2!

A neat trick by Stephen; both pawns have to fall and it's a dead draw after that.

49.Kxc2 1/2-1/2



And now Membership Secretary Kevin Paine delivers a win on board 4 versus France. We didn't manage many full points in that match...

White: Oger, Claude (2345)
Black: Paine, Dr. Kevin (2294)
 FRA-SCO ICCF, 2014
 English, Flohr-Mikenas [A19]
[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

1.c4 Nf6
 2.Nc3 e6
 3.e4 c5
 4.e5 Ng8
 5.Nf3 Nc6
 6.d4 cxd4
 7.Nxd4 Nxe5
 8.Ndb5 a6
 9.Nd6+ Bxd6
 10.Qxd6 f6

11.Be3 Ne7
 12.Bb6 Nf5
 13.Qc5 d6
 14.Qa5 Qd7
 15.f4 Nc6
 16.Qa3 Nce7
 17.0-0 Qc6
 18.Qb3 Bd7
 19.Rg1 h5
 20.Kb1 Rc8
 21.g3 d5
 22.cxd5 Nxd5
 23.Nxd5 exd5
 24.Bh3N

After a long sequence of established theory, White decides to fly solo.

24.Bd3 has been tried on a couple of occasions in CC play.

24... Ne7
 25.Rc1 Qb5



The following exchanges suit Black more than White, despite the isolated, doubled pawns that result.

26.Rxc8+ Bxc8
 27.Qxb5+ axb5
 28.Bxc8 Nxc8
 29.Ba5 Kd7
 30.Rd1 Ke6
 31.Rc1 Nd6
 32.Rc7 Re8!

Consigning the White king to spectator status.

33.Rxc7

The win of the pawn is nothing against Black's active pieces and central control...

33... d4
 ..and the d-pawn carries a threat which decides the game.

34.h3 d3+
 35.g4 hxg4
 36.hxg4 Ne4
 37.Rc7 Rg8
 38.g5?!

38.f5+ looks a little better, but White is struggling either way.

38... fxc7
 39.fxc7 Rxc7



40.b3 d2+
 Winning a piece and the game.

41.Bxd2 Nxd2+
 42.Kb2 Rg2
 43.Rxb7 Ne4+
 44.Ka3 Nd6
 45.Ra7 Rg4
 46.Rh7 Kd5
 47.Rh5+ Kc6
 48.Rh2 Nf7
 49.Kb2 Ne5
 50.a3 Kc5
 51.Rh8 Rg3
 52.Kc2 Nc6
 53.Rh5+ Kb6
 54.Rh4 Re3
 55.Kb2 Re2+

55...Re2+ 56.Kb1 Kc5 57.Rh5+ Ne5
 58.Rh4 Rf2 and Black will eventually win at least one of the White pawns and the game.

0-1



Elke Rehder (Germany)

Woodcut from Stefan Zweig's *Chess Story*, The Royal Game 3.



Veterans' World Cups

By Alan Borwell

Veterans World Cups 2 (now concluded), 3 & 4 are all sponsored by the Scottish CCA.

Veterans World Cups 5, 6 & 7 are being organised by German Federation BdF.

Veterans World Cup 8 is being organised by the English Federation ECCF.

VWC3/Final, ICCF Veterans World Cup 3 Final

| | | | | TD Pyrich, George D. (IA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Score | Wins | SB | RG | Place | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------|-----|--------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|---|---|
| Category 6 SIM=10 IM=8½ | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | GRE | 220159 | IM | Bleker, Frits | 2407 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 8.5 | 3 | 57.5 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | RUS | 141799 | | Ibragimov, Viktor Aroslanovich | 2416 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 8 | 3 | 54 | 0 | 2 | |
| 3 | NOR | 360220 | SIM | Klausen, Tor-Arne | 2456 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 8 | 2 | 54.75 | 0 | 3 | |
| 4 | NED | 370601 | IM | Tienhoven, Richard M. van | 2417 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 54 | 0 | 4 | | |
| 5 | RUS | 141943 | | Moskvichev, Valery Ivanovich | 2391 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 7.5 | 1 | 52.25 | 0 | 5 | | |
| 6 | USA | 514137 | | Coplin, Lawrence | 2387 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 7.5 | 1 | 51.5 | 0 | 6 | | |
| 7 | GER | 85698 | | Gunkel, Wolfgang | 2377 | 0 | 1 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 7 | 2 | 47.5 | 0 | 7 | | |
| 8 | SWE | 450858 | SIM | Andéer, Stefan | 2474 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 7 | 1 | 48 | 0 | 8 | | |
| 9 | SVK | 950110 | | Hudák, Dušan | 2311 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 7 | 1 | 47.75 | 0 | 9 | | |
| 10 | EST | 930112 | GM | Siigur, Jüri | 2411 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 7 | 0 | 49 | 0 | 10 | | |
| 11 | GER | 80915 | IM | Zapf, Herbert | 2442 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 7 | 0 | 49 | 0 | 10 | | |
| 12 | CZE | 130306 | SIM | Teichmann, Čeněk | 2386 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | 6 | 0 | 42.5 | 0 | 12 | | |
| 13 | ESP | 160828 | | Aupí Royo, Juan Ignacio | 2371 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 5.5 | 2 | 36.75 | 0 | 13 | | | |
| 14 | ITA | 240971 | IM | Alderisio, Piero | 2428 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | 5.5 | 0 | 39.5 | 0 | 14 | | |
| 15 | RUS | 141920 | | Butov, Yury Alekseevich | 2311 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 5.5 | 0 | 37.5 | 0 | 15 | | | |

Veterans World Cup 3 Final (TD George Pyrich) started on 15/2/2014 with 15 players and is now complete. The outright winner is Frits Bleker (GRE). Viktor Ibragimov (RUS) took second place on the Baumbach tie-breaking rule (most wins). Tor-Arne Klausen (NOR) finished third via the Sonneborn-Berger tie breaking rule. Engraved quaichs (sponsored by SCCA) will be sent to winners in the near future.

VWC4/f, Final - 4th ICCF Veterans World Cup

| | | | | TD Anderson, Gordon M. (IA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Score | Wins | SB | RG | Place | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------|-----|--------------------------------|------|---|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----------------|----------------|----|----------------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|---|---|
| Category 6 SIM=10 IM=8½ | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | GER | 82320 | IM | Sikorsky, Reinhard | 2405 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | 8.5 | 4 | 50.75 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | CZE | 130234 | | Leiner, Raimund | 2357 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 ^E | ½ | ½ | 7.5 | 1 | 46.5 | 0 | 2 | |
| 3 | GER | 85849 | SIM | Kraft, Dieter | 2466 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | . | 7 | 1 | 45.25 | 1 | 3 | | |
| 4 | RUS | 141402 | IM | Kopeikin, Valentin Vasilievich | 2436 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 7 | 1 | 42.5 | 0 | 4 | | |
| 5 | GER | 85722 | | Felkel, Siegfried | 2417 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 7 | 0 | 44 | 0 | 5 | | |
| 6 | USA | 510993 | | Dessaules, Peter | 2352 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 7 | 0 | 44 | 0 | 5 | | |
| 7 | USA | 511655 | IM | Rodriguez, Keith A. | 2327 | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | ½ | ½ | 6.5 | 1 | 44 | 2 | 7 | | |
| 8 | RUS | 140583 | IM | Shulman, Boris Yakovlevich | 2418 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | 6.5 | 0 | 42.75 | 1 | 8 | | |
| 9 | ITA | 241016 | | De Filippis, Francesco | 2415 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | 1 ^E | ½ | ½ | . | 6 | 1 | 40 | 3 | 9 | | |
| 10 | CRO | 900009 | SIM | Ljubičić, Ante | 2484 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | ½ | ½ | 1 | . | 6 | 1 | 39.75 | 3 | 10 | | |
| 11 | RUS | 141926 | | Evgrafov, Boris Nikolaevich | 2341 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | . | ½ | . | 1 ^E | 6 | 1 | 37.25 | 3 | 11 | | |
| 12 | GER | 85028 | IM | Stieger, Dr. Helmut | 2413 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | . | ½ | 0 ^E | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 ^E | 6 | 1 | 35.5 | 1 | 12 | | |
| 13 | NED | 370283 | | Thierry, Rein D. J. | 2326 | 0 | 0 ^E | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 5.5 | 0 | 33.75 | 1 | 13 | | | |
| 14 | BEL | 40429 | IM | Van tricht, Marcel | 2385 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 5.5 | 0 | 34.75 | 0 | 14 | | |
| 15 | RUS | 141943 | IM | Moskvichev, Valery Ivanovich | 2435 | 0 | ½ | . | ½ | ½ | . | . | . | 0 ^E | 0 ^E | ½ | ½ | ½ | 3 | 0 | 19.75 | 5 | 15 | | |

Veterans World Cup 4 Final (TD Gordon Anderson). The Final of 15 players started on 15/1/2015 with no closing date. Both SIM and IM title norms are available. So far 95 games are finished with 10 ongoing. Leader in the clubhouse is Reinhard Sikorsky (GER), who can be caught on points, but not on wins. Places 2-3 remain hotly contested.

VWC5/sf02, ICCF Veterans World Cup 5 - Semifinal Group 02

| | | | | TD Staroske, Dr. Uwe | | | | | | | | | | | | | Score | Wins | SB | RG | Place |
|------------------|-----|--------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-----|-------|-------|-------|----|-------|
| Category 3 IM=8½ | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | | | | |
| 1 | GER | 85849 | SIM Kraft, Dieter | 2455 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 8.5 | 5 | 45.5 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | USA | 514934 | Cintins, Ivars | 2301 | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8.5 | 5 | 44.5 | 0 | 2 |
| 3 | ENG | 210108 | Wharrier, Jo A. | 2364 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 7.5 | 4 | 38.25 | 0 | 3 |
| 4 | EST | 930112 | GM Siigur, Jüri | 2416 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | 7.5 | 3 | 41 | 0 | 4 |
| 5 | SCO | 620098 | IM Borwell, Alan P. | 2248 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7.5 | 3 | 38.75 | 0 | 5 |
| 6 | GER | 81368 | IM Vetter, Gerhard | 2309 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 35 | 0 | 6 |
| 7 | BEL | 40444 | Vertongen, Willy | 2329 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 35.5 | 0 | 7 |
| 8 | POL | 421200 | Sanner, Zdzisław | 2293 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 35.25 | 0 | 8 |
| 9 | GER | 81514 | Arnold, Horst | 2291 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 5.5 | 2 | 26.75 | 0 | 9 |
| 10 | RUS | 142044 | Presnyakov, Vladimir Sergeevich | 2276 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 5 | 1 | 24.75 | 0 | 10 | |
| 11 | CZE | 130482 | Glaser, Karel | 2262 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 4.5 | 1 | 22 | 0 | 11 | |
| 12 | RUS | 140234 | Khorunzhy, Mikhail Filippovich | 2171 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1.5 | 0 | 5.25 | 0 | 12 | |
| 13 | ESP | 160720 | Llorach Gracia, Tomás | 2225 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 1 | 0 | 4.5 | 0 | 13 | |

VWC5/sf07, ICCF Veterans World Cup 5 - Semifinal Group 07

| | | | | TD Staroske, Dr. Uwe | | | | | | | | | | | | | Score | Wins | SB | RG | Place |
|------------------|-----|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----|----|----------------|-------|-------|-------|----|-------|
| Category 3 IM=8½ | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | | | | |
| 1 | CRO | 900117 | Lovaković, Franjo | 2343 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9.5 | 7 | 51.75 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | GER | 81312 | IM Dorer, Manfred | 2334 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 1 | 8 | 4 | 44.75 | 0 | 2 |
| 3 | SCO | 211558 | Bennett, Peter G. | 2306 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7.5 | 3 | 40.25 | 0 | 3 |
| 4 | RUS | 141634 | Evstigneev, Sergey Aleksandrovich | 2344 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 37.5 | 0 | 4 |
| 5 | USA | 511655 | IM Rodriguez, Keith A. | 2361 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 ^A | ½ | ½ | 0 | 1 | 1 | ½ | 6.5 | 3 | 35.5 | 0 | 5 |
| 6 | AUS | 30513 | Balutescu, Mihail Goanga | 2313 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | ½ | ½ | 6.5 | 3 | 35.25 | 0 | 6 |
| 7 | GER | 81942 | Kühne, Ralf | 2247 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 ^A | ½ | 1 ^A | ½ ^A | 1 ^A | ½ | ½ | ½ ^A | 6 | 2 | 33.5 | 0 | 7 |
| 8 | ENG | 210514 | SIM Pheby, Ian M. | 2327 | ½ | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | 0 ^A | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 31.75 | 0 | 8 |
| 9 | GER | 82857 | Zylla, Johannes | 2378 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ ^A | ½ | ½ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 31.75 | 0 | 8 |
| 10 | BUL | 50055 | IM Sergiev, Stefan | 2336 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 ^A | ½ | ½ | ½ | ½ | 1 | 5 | 2 | 27 | 0 | 10 |
| 11 | POL | 421093 | IM Nowak, Ireneusz | 2237 | 0 | ½ | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 1 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 4.5 | 2 | 24 | 0 | 11 |
| 12 | LTU | 920109 | Rimkus, Bronius I. | 2107 | 0 | ½ | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | 0 | 0 | ½ | 1 | ½ | 3.5 | 1 | 18.25 | 0 | 12 |
| 13 | RUS | 471758 | Silin, Viktor Aleksandrovich | 2275 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | ½ | ½ ^A | 0 | 0 | 0 | ½ | 2 | 0 | 11.25 | 0 | 13 | |

Veterans World Cup 5 There are 9 Semifinal Groups of 13 players. Alan Borwell played in Group 02, finishing with 7.5/12pts, winning 3 and drawing 9 games. However, he was unable to win his last game and will not qualify for the Final. Peter Bennett finished third in Group 07 also with a final score of 7.5/12 pts. Alas, only the winner in this group qualifies for the VWC5 Final.

Veterans World Cup 6 with 42 groups started 1/9/2013 –Closing Date 28/2/15.

Alan Borwell (8/12) is the only Scottish representative in the Semi-final stage. He currently sits 12th in VWC/sf08, with 4/8.

Veterans World Cup 7 started on 1st September 2014 with 33 Preliminary Groups.

Only Peter Bennett has qualified for the VWC7 Semifinals, finishing second with 8/12pts in his section. Alan Borwell with 7.5/12 (5th) and 8/14 (6th) missed the cut as did Eoin Campbell with 7/12 (5th). Derek Price, Derek Coope and Brian Goodwin also took part.

Veterans World Cup 8 is being organised by the English CCF and it started on 1st September 2015. There are 55 preliminary groups of 11 players, with the top two from each guaranteed qualification to the semi-finals. The 7 Scottish CCA players participating are currently placed as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| PR44 Geoff Lloyd 5.5/10 (3 rd) | PR40 Brian Goodwin 1.5/7 (10 th) |
| PR37 Eoin Campbell 6.5/10 (2 nd) | PR35 Alan Borwell 2/3 (8 th) |
| PR32 Derek Coope 1.5/6 (8 th) | PR26 Peter Bennett 6/8 (2 nd) |
| PR16 Iain Campbell 2/7 (10 th) | |



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 and IM titles to male and female players to recognise strength and performance. Most play is based now on the ICCF webserver, with a residue of postal and email events. Principal tournaments are:

World Individual (www.iccf-webchess.com)

- World Championship. Annual cycles progress through preliminary, semi-final, candidate and final stages.
- World Cups. These include Adult, Junior and the highly popular Veterans events.
- Norm Tournaments. For aspiring IM, SIM and GM players, categorised by rating strength.
- Promotion Tournaments. For middle-strong players, spanning Open, Higher and Master classes.
- Aspirer Tournaments. For beginners and lower-graded players.
- Thematic Tournaments. Organised by opening variations (see opposite).

World Team (www.iccf-webchess.com)

- Olympiads. National team event, 6-player teams, played to a very high standard.
- Champions League. National, cross-national and scratch 4-player teams, several divisions.

European Zone (www.iccf-europa.com)

- European Individual Championship.
- European National Team Championship.

Other

- Friendly Internationals. ICCF member organisations play team events, usually 2 games per player.
- Invitation/Memorial Events. To commemorate anniversaries and deceased officials and players.
- Chess 960. New events featuring Fischer/Random chess opening positions.

SCCA members are eligible to enter all ICCF events, though Scottish nationality is required for national representation.

Current tournament fees are shown on the Fees page of the SCCA website, and all Scottish players competing in ICCF events have bookmarks from the SCCA site to the relevant ICCF cross-table for easy checking of results.

Thematic Tournaments

Postal Events 2016

Theme 2/16 - Queen's Indian, E18

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.O-O O-O 7.Nc3 Ne4

Entries by 15 April; play starts 1 May

Theme 3/16: Philidor Defence, C41

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6

Entries by 15 September; play starts 1 October

Webserver Events 2016

Theme 4/16 - Frankenstein-Dracula, C27

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 Nxe4 4.Qh5 Nd6 5.Bb3 Nc6 6.Nb5 g6 7.Qf3 f5 8.Qd5 Qe7 9.Nxc7+ Kd8 10.Nxa8

Entries by 15 May; play starts 1 June

Theme 5/16 - Shara-Henning Gambit, D32

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 cxd4

Entries by 1 September; play starts 15 September

Note there are no Email Events in 2016.

News

- ❑ The 2016 ICCF Congress will be organised by the German CC Federation (BdF) and held in Bremen from August 14-20. Registration is now open.
- ❑ ChessBase have published a two-part interview with GM Ljubičić, Ing. Leonardo (CRO) who has become the 28th ICCF World Champion. Refer the ChessBase website <http://en.chessbase.com/>.
- ❑ The Direct Entry Webserver Anniversary Tournament (DE10A) received a total of 891 entries which have been split into 81 groups of 11 players. Play has now started.
- ❑ Belgian GM Jef Boey and German GM and former BdF president Achim Soltau both sadly passed away during the last quarter. RIP.
- ❑ The Preliminary stages of the 40th World Championship were started in March. 169 players are competing in 13 sections with 13 players each.

Further details of all ICCF activities and events; entries to events, and orders for ICCF publications may be obtained via George Pyrich at: international@scottishcca.co.uk

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