

# Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

**Magazine No.137**

**Spring 2017**

## **ICCF Grading List 2017/2**

*George analyses the Q2 statistics*

### ▪ **2016 Best Game Prize**

- *Tom unveils the winning entries*

### ▪ **Lazy Man's Attack**

- *Peter examines the corollary of DMD*

## **The Hawkes Files**

*John features games from the Brilliant Bulgarians*

## **International Update**

*George looks at the wider world*

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Welcome to the first edition of the 2017 magazine set, new front-page motif and all. Our weather has continued benign, with some lovely early spring days; all very nice, but it leaves me short of something to grump about. Maybe once Trump's Executive Order banning Climate Change is enacted, we can revert to our customary misery.

Our Notices page provides a round-up of all our players who have gained CCE and CCM norms and titles. These recent ICCF innovations are certainly providing incentives!

George Pyrich has analysed the second ICCF rating list of 2017 for us; another stable period with new games milestones for our active members.

Tom Matheis has done an impressively thorough job in judging the 2016 Best Game Prize for us. Kevin Paine is this year's winner (he also picked up 3<sup>rd</sup> prize), and you will enjoy their joint annotations – a nice blend of chess forensics and the emotions generated through the various stages of the games. Congratulations to Kevin!

Peter Bennett has supplied a companion article to his Dead Man's Defence last time. The Lazy Man's Attack is the corollary to DMD and is becoming more prevalent in CC.

John Hawkes has compiled a tremendous selection of brilliant games by Bulgarian players down the years, so his column is justifiably extended this time. John also provides the fifth in his series of great CC miniatures (also Bulgarian) and contributes chess-based stamps and poster designs which that country pioneered.

George Pyrich once again publishes an comprehensive international report with x-tables galore and annotated games played by members Gordon Anderson, Geoff Lloyd and Raymond Burrige.

No room for a Games Column this time, nor for a VWC update page. However, I can report that all VWC4 prize-winners have now received their trophies from the SCCA, thus completing our sponsorship commitment to this event.

Happy Easter!

### 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

2017	1st	2nd
March	S R Mannion	P J Moir
February	J Anderson	Mrs D Livie
January	K B McAlpine	G M Anderson

### SCCA Officials

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NB Secretarial duties will be undertaken by Kevin Paine (enquiries and domestic events) and Iain Mackintosh (minutes) pro tem.



## ICCF 11th European Team Championship Semi-Finals



Marco Caressa, ICCF Zonal Director for Europe, writes to announce the semi-final stage of the 11th European Team Championship.

Each participating country fields an 8-person team, and 13 teams will contest the final (the size of semi-final sections will depend on numbers entering).

Games are played by webserver and there are no entry fees. Registration closes on 30th April and play starts on 1st June

Our Selection Committee of George Pyrich, Richard Beecham and Tom Matheis is now at work reviewing team selection.

If you are interested in representing Scotland, then please email George Pyrich before Friday, April 14th..

## ICCF New Title Norm Procedures



Dennis Doren, ICCF Rules Commissioner writes to announce new Title Norm procedures which take effect from April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The main change is that each player in an event will have his/her own list of norms, based on the rating average of that player's opponents' ratings. This brings ICCF into line with FIDE practice. Events will continue to have a Category rating.

The webserver will automatically apply the new formulae, including a new minimum for average opponent ratings, the 35% cut-off rule, and an updated overscoring calculation (overscores can reduce the number of qualifying games you need before a title is awarded).

A full explanation is given on the ICCF webpage (select ICCF Rules/Tournament Rules, then Appendix 2 of the document). Any problems, just contact George Pyrich on [international@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:international@scottishcca.co.uk) to discuss.

## ICCF Champions League 7



Russell Sherwood, ICCF Non-Title Tournaments Commissioner, writes to announce Champions League 7 which reverts to the format used by Champions League 5.

This competition is for teams of four players, organised into several divisions, most of which comprise 13 teams.

Entries will be accepted until 16th April 2017; the start date is 15th May 2017; the end date is fixed as 14th May 2019.

Time control is 10 moves in 40 days and 30 days leave/year is available to each player.

We have fielded two teams in recent seasons: The Lewis Chessmen and Scottish Claymores.

Please email George Pyrich for further details and to register your interest. Entry fee via SCCA will be £7.

## ICCF CCE and CCM Titles



Another flurry of activity to report since our last issue.

### CCM Norms

David Cumming and Peter Bennett have both recorded their first CCM norms.

### CCE Titles

We now have two CC Experts in our ranks – David Cumming and Peter Bennett have both been awarded the title. In Peter's case, the overscoring formula handily reduced the qualifying games count.

### CCE Norms

Geoff Lloyd and Gordon Anderson have now both registered their first CCE norms.

Many congratulations to all our players on their successes! A full account of their qualifying events appears on the SCCA News webpage, and you can also search on the ICCF website via the ICCF Ratings menu (search for the individual, then browse their achievements/norms records.

## 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](mailto:treasurer@scottishcca.co.uk) for more information. The usual method of subscribing is monthly standing order which spreads the annual cost.

## Fernschach 2017 CC Database



Fernschach2017

Herbert Bellmann writes to advise that Fernschach 2017 offers a CC games database in addition to ICCF and commercial products. In summary:

- Database available since 2000
- Total 1,003,400 games (from 1991)
- Approximately 8,020 annotated
- Games from all main chess servers + post + email
- All tournaments marked correspondence so that CC games can be recognised in a larger database
- Editing improved and refined
- German letters ä, ö, ü and ß are not counted in names

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

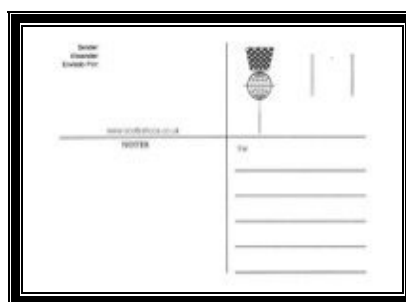
For further details, contact Herbert at:

Herbert Bellmann  
On the Brink 11  
46399 Bocholt  
Germany

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Herbert Bellmann  
Iban: DE 33 4285 0035 0100 1188 01  
BIC: WELADED1BOH  
Purpose: FS CD 2017

Email: [hebel57@gmx.de](mailto: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](mailto:chess@iainmack.co.uk) please. Royal Mail prices rose in April 2015, so check current p&p prices with Iain first.

## ICCF Game Archive



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



## 2017/2 Grading List

By George Pyrich

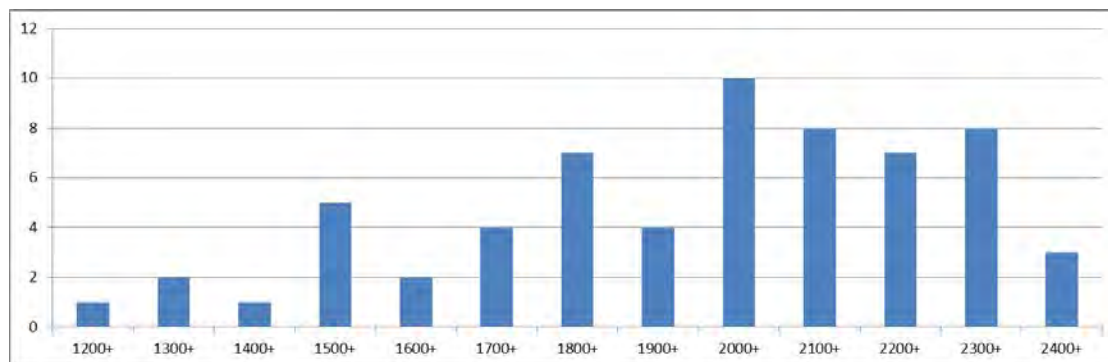
The second ICCF grading list of 2017 is published and new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 December 2016 and 28 February 2017. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 April and 30 June 2017.

There were no additions or deletions to this list, nor any major movements across the grading bands.

Four new games centurions were recorded – David Cumming passed the 1200 games mark; Raymond BurrIDGE eclipsed 1100; Andrew Macmillen headed past 1000 and Alan Bell reached 200+. Highest recorded games during this quarter were David Cumming (50), Raymond BurrIDGE (49), Eoin Campbell (43), Martin Hardwick (32), and Andrew Macmillen (26).

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
318	Almarza Mato, C	1217	2199 ↔	063	Harvey, D	102	2053 ↔
518	Anderson, G M (SM)	293	2326 ↑	1013	Hilton, S H	179	1594 ↓
121	Anderson, J	268	1795 ↑	447	Jamieson, I M	82	1918 ↔
049	Armstrong, A	195	1872 ↓	548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	329	2287 ↔
313	Armstrong, J McK	342	1545 ↑	260	Knox, A	276	1349 ↓
511	Beecham, C R (IM)	410	2470 ↔	264	Lloyd, G (SM)	785	2257 ↓
599	Bell, A D (SM)	201	2399 ↑	471	Macgilchrist, Mrs S	52	2095 ↔
501	Bennett, P G (SM)	352	2344 ↑	584	MacGregor, C A	398	1903 ↓
	Beveridge, C	277	2175 ↑	532	Mackintosh, I (IM)	676	2363 ↓
509	Borwell, A P (IM)	1036	2255 ↓	216	MacMillen, A N	1016	1711 ↑
602	BurrIDGE, R J	1122	2117 ↓	566	Marshall, I H	595	2078 ↑
435	Cairney, J	62	2076 ↔	434	Matheis, T (IM)	216	2457 ↔
601	Campbell, E S	555	2164 ↑	412	McKinstry, J	94	1481 ↔
038	Campbell, I S	293	1862 ↔	401	Moir, P J	186	1628 ↑
	Clark, S L	166	2075 ↑	598	Montgomery, R S	272	2273 ↑
364	Coope, D W	767	1870 ↓	474	Murden, C (IM)	463	2442 ↑
247	Cormack, W H	107	1894 ↓	564	Murray, J S	56	2016 ↑
527	Craig, T J (SM)	372	2323 ↔	440	Neil, C	252	1377 ↓
166	Cumming, D R (SM)	1203	2316 ↑	603	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	158	1991 ↓
422	Dawson, Prof A G	109	2119 ↑	604	Paine, Dr K A	182	2321 ↑
572	Dempster, D	793	1816 ↑	315	Petrie, A	105	1511 ↔
	Dunn, J	254	1530 ↓	432	Price, D	346	2021 ↓
	Dyer, M	107	2073 ↑	048	Pyrich, G D (IM)	993	2095 ↓
371	Edney, D	225	1991 ↑		Ross, D W	38	1886 ↔
462	Gilbert, R	132	1789 ↑	439	Smith, M J	61	2030 ↓
086	Gillam, S R (SM)	145	2241 ↔		Stewart, A G	34	2159 ↔
551	Giulian, P M (SIM)	473	2398 ↔	546	Stewart, Dr K W C	175	2117 ↔
124	Goodwin, B J	327	1809 ↓	1120	Taylor, W	69	2102 ↑
445	Graham, S (SM)	354	2202 ↔		Thornton, J	35	1611 ↔
399	Grant, J	55	1704 ↓	452	Toye, D T	77	1582 ↔
596	Hardwick, M E	888	1284 ↓	530	Watson, J (IM)	153	2297 ↔



## Statistical Analysis

Total listed	<b>62</b>
New entrants	<b>0</b>
Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members)	<b>0</b>
Full grades (30+ games)	<b>62</b>
Provisional grades (<30 games)	<b>0</b>
Grading increases (↑)	<b>22</b>
Grading decreases (↓)	<b>19</b>
Grading static (↔)	<b>21</b>

## Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	<b>2470</b>	Borwell, A P (IM)	<b>2255</b>
Matheis, T (IM)	<b>2457</b>	Gillam, S R (SM)	<b>2241</b>
Murden, C (IM)	<b>2442</b>	Graham, S (SM)	<b>2202</b>
Bell, A D (SM)	<b>2399</b>	Almarza Mato, C	<b>2199</b>
Giulian, P M (SIM)	<b>2398</b>	Beveridge, C	<b>2175</b>
Mackintosh, I (IM)	<b>2363</b>	Campbell, E S	<b>2164</b>
Bennett, P G (SM)	<b>2344</b>	Stewart, A G	<b>2159</b>
Anderson, G M (SM)	<b>2326</b>	Dawson, Prof A G	<b>2119</b>
Craig, T J (SM)	<b>2323</b>	Burridge, R J	<b>2117</b>
Paine, Dr K A	<b>2321</b>	Stewart, Dr K W C	<b>2117</b>
Cumming, D R (SM)	<b>2316</b>	Macgilchrist, Mrs S	<b>2095</b>
Watson, J (IM)	<b>2297</b>	Pyrich, G D (IM)	<b>2095</b>
Kilgour, D A (GM)	<b>2287</b>	Marshall, I H	<b>2078</b>
Montgomery, R S	<b>2273</b>	Cairney, J	<b>2076</b>
Lloyd, G (SM)	<b>2257</b>	Dyer, M	<b>2073</b>

## Top 30 Rated Games

Almarza-Mato, C	<b>1217</b>	MacGregor, C A	<b>398</b>
Cumming, D R (SM)	<b>1203</b>	Craig, T J (SM)	<b>372</b>
Burridge, R J	<b>1122</b>	Graham, S (SM)	<b>354</b>
Borwell, A P (IM)	<b>1036</b>	Bennett, P G (SM)	<b>352</b>
MacMillen, A N	<b>1016</b>	Price, D	<b>346</b>
Pyrich, G D (IM)	<b>993</b>	Armstrong, J McK	<b>342</b>
Hardwick, M E	<b>888</b>	Kilgour, D A (GM)	<b>329</b>
Dempster, D	<b>793</b>	Goodwin, B J	<b>327</b>
Lloyd, G (SM)	<b>785</b>	Anderson, G M (SM)	<b>293</b>
Coope, D W	<b>767</b>	Campbell, I S	<b>293</b>
Mackintosh, I (IM)	<b>676</b>	Beveridge, C	<b>277</b>
Marshall, I H	<b>595</b>	Knox, A	<b>276</b>
Campbell, E S	<b>555</b>	Montgomery, R S	<b>272</b>
Giulian, P M (SIM)	<b>473</b>	Anderson, J	<b>268</b>
Beecham, C R (SIM)	<b>410</b>	Dunn, J	<b>254</b>

## 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](http://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 Eloquetry program, previously available for download from [www.iccf.com](http://www.iccf.com)

The Eloquetry 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](http://www.iccf-webchess.com)



## 4th Annual SCCA Best Game Prize

By IM Tom Matheis

[Ed – once again, we received a very good standard of entry for our competition and I'm very grateful to Tom for doing such a thorough job of assessing the games, and for his forensic analysis which adds greatly to the commentaries below. All entries were judged anonymously, sans annotations – further notes were added by the players once the final placings were known.]

“Best game of 2016” - how can you possibly judge this in a fair manner I thought to myself when Iain approached me to choose last year's winner? Not only was I was expecting a fair number of entries but I also remembered the impressive winning entries from the two previous years that were decided by very small margins – probably because I finished in the top 3 on both occasions.

I must admit that I was very surprised when Iain only forwarded me 5 entries. I simply cannot believe that only 5 players or maybe less if there were double entries would deem their game(s) worth of consideration. I would really like to know why so few players submitted a game. As for myself, yeah, I had a couple of wins, but nothing was out of the ordinary really.

I decided to approach the games with an open mind but also jotted down a few success criteria. I was hoping for a nice opening novelty, maybe a mind-blowing well-thought out piece sacrifice, an example of great ending technique or a great escape. In short, something remarkable. At the back of my mind I still had last year's winning entries and was expecting similar.

When I started to play through the 5 anonymous games it became clear that, in my opinion at least, none of the entries matched my criteria and didn't hit the heights of last year. So I had to start looking for other criteria to be able to distinguish between the games, especially as I quickly came to the conclusion that the opponents of our players

contributed a great deal with some rather dodgy and in some cases downright terrible play. I obviously didn't know who submitted the entries, but after playing through the games only once I would've put money on none of them being by Richard Beecham as I couldn't imagine any opponents of his playing so poorly overall.

So I decided to look for things as risk taking, sustained powerful play, especially with the Black pieces and also material imbalance as chess engines still occasionally struggle to assess a game correctly in complex positions such as R v B/N & P for example.

When I started to assess the entries against these criteria, I quickly identified my winner. It was refreshing to play through a game where Black decided to not only take risks in the opening by playing less well-known lines but also chose aggressive moves with the intention to put the opponent on the back foot and unfamiliar territory early on. In addition, I liked the fact that Black took the opportunity to exchange his rook for a Bishop at the right moment and created positions, whilst initially not lost for White and probably even, certainly confused White and eventually led him down the wrong path. It was obvious that White didn't understand the nuances of Black's play. Our winning entry merits First Prize for the tenacity and risk taken throughout the game and we shouldn't forget the fact that the game was won with the Black pieces! Well done to our winner.

Our second and third placed entries also demonstrated evidence of my success criteria, however, I felt that in both cases White didn't have to take as many risks as our winner and was helped by an accumulation of inadequate moves by their opponents. The games also highlighted how much simpler it is to gain an advantage with the White pieces in correspondence chess nowadays. In both games, White played logical, strong moves that

gradually led to better positions fully exploiting their opponents' inaccuracies. Well done, too, to our runners-up.

I've added some annotations to the three games and it will be interesting to see if our winners' thoughts/analysis coincides with mine.

### Third Place

**White: Paine, Kevin (2301)**  
**Black: Elburg, John (2292)**  
SCO/WLeague1/16 ICCF, 2016  
Symmetrical English [A30]  
[Notes by Kevin Paine and Tom Matheis]

#### 1.Nf3

KP :My Dutch opponent is a chess writer who has written books on the Latvian gambit.

<http://chessbooks.nl/about.html>

However, I gave up playing 1.e4 in CC some time ago and I wasn't going to play it on the off chance John would play such a dubious opening. His games in the database suggest that he saves the Latvian gambit for OTB chess only.

1...	c5
2.c4	Nf6
3.g3	b6
4.Bg2	Bb7
5.0-0	e6
6.Nc3	Be7
7.Re1	d6

KP: I've been following one of my own games where I lost as Black. I'm sure others must do this. My thought is simply I'll let my opponent deviate and find an improvement on what I played. However, John leaves the line earlier than expected.

7...d5	8.cxd5	Nxd5	9.Nxd5	Qxd5
10.d4	cxd4	11.Qxd4	0-0	12.Bg5
Bxg5	13.Qxd5	1-0 (57)	Mislin,R	(2352)-Paine,K
(2297)	ICCF	2014	8.e4	a6
9.d4	cxd4	10.Nxd4	Qc7	11.Be3
0-0				

KP: John deviates from another game I was following.

11...Nbd7 12.f4 Rc8 13.Rc1 h5 14.h3  
 0-0 15.f5 e5 16.Nb3 Qb8 17.Qe2  
 Qa8 18.Nd2 Rc7 19.Nd5 Bxd5  
 20.exd5 Rfc8 21.g4 Nh7 22.gxh5  
 Nhf6 23.Kh1 Kf8 24.h6 gxh6  
 25.Bxh6+ Ke8 26.Qf2 Qb8 27.Qh4  
 Nh7 28.f6 Bxf6 29.Qf2 Ke7 30.b4 a5  
 31.bxa5 bxa5 32.Be3 Bg5 33.Ne4  
 Bxe3 34.Rxe3 Rxc4 35.Rf1 f6  
 36.Rb3 Rb4 37.Qf5 Nhf8 38.Nxf6  
 Kd8 39.Qg5 Kc7 40.Rc3+ Kb7  
 41.Rc6 Nxf6 42.Rxf6 Nd7 43.Rfxd6  
 Rb1+ 44.Kh2 e4 45.Qe7 Rc7  
 46.Rxc7+ Qxc7 47.Qxd7 1-0 (47)  
 Jung,R (2198)-Starke,H (2372) ICCF  
 2014

### 12.Rc1

KP: This may still be theory, but at  
 this point I decided it was time to  
 start looking for my own moves.  
 KP: 12.f4 seems playable too.

12...Nc6 13.b3 Rac8 14.Rc1±

12... Nbd7

KP: Of course not 12...Qxc4??

13.Nd5 Qxa2 14.Nxe7+ Kh8

15.e5+-

13.f4 Rfe8

TM: All moves are well-known and  
 have been played multiple times  
 before, so there's no need to dwell  
 too much on them.



### 14.g4!

KP: It's not often you get the chance  
 to play such moves in CC and I  
 wasn't going to turn this opportunity  
 down. The reason I entered this game  
 in the competition is simply because  
 it's a fun game to play through.

TM: White is making his intentions  
 clear, i.e. burn all bridges and launch  
 a powerful attack. Alternatives are  
 14.f4 and 14.Bf2.

14... Nc5?!

TM: Given how the game developed,  
 14...h6 was much preferable.

15.Bf2

KP: And White is simply much  
 better.

15... g6?

TM: Black misses another  
 opportunity to play the crucial h6  
 and is blissfully unaware of the  
 grenade that White is about to  
 launch. Let the punishment begin!

16.e5!

TM: It would appear that Black  
 completely overlooked this strong  
 move.

KP: 16.b4!/? may also be possible  
 and was tempting simply because of  
 the pawn position that arises.

16... dxe5

17.fxe5 Nfd7

KP: 17...Nxg4 18.Qxg4 Bxg2

19.Kxg2 Nd3 20.Qe4 Nxe1+

21.Bxe1± needs to be considered,  
 but White is still better.



18.b4

KP: Forces a sequence of exchanges  
 in which Black gives up a piece for  
 pawns.

18... Bxg2

19.Kxg2 Nxe5

TM: Black can't avoid losing a piece.

19...Nb7 20.Nd5 exd5 21.cxd5+-

20.bxc5 bxc5

21.Nf3 Nxc4

22.Bg3 Qc6

23.Qa4

KP: The biggest problem with my  
 position seemed to be my exposed  
 king and in many lines that I studied  
 the checks from Black's queen were  
 discouraging.

TM: White correctly simplifies this  
 by exchanging queens, making his  
 task a lot easier.

23... Qxa4?!

KP: I remember at the time being  
 very surprised that Black accepted  
 the exchange, but looking at the  
 position again I see that there is no  
 real alternative.

24.Nxa4 Nh6

25.Bf2 Rac8

26.Ne5 Nf5

27.Red1

TM: White continues to improve his  
 position with simple, straightforward

moves. Black can only react.

27... Red8

28.Rb1 Rxd1

29.Rxd1 Nd6

30.Nb6 Rc7

31.Bg3!

TM: A nice move which highlights  
 Black's dilemma. Black's pieces are  
 unable to work together and threaten  
 absolutely nothing.

31... Rb7

TM: 31...Nf5 avoids the loss of the  
 g-pawn but gives up the c-pawn  
 instead after 31...Nf5 32.Rd7 Rxd7  
 33.Nexd7 f6 34.Bf2.

32.Nxg6

KP: A little tactic to win a pawn.

32... hxg6

33.Bxd6 Bxd6

34.Rxd6 g5

KP: Ok, so at this point I started to  
 see ghosts. I'm unable to recreate  
 exactly what I saw but it was  
 something to do with not  
 understanding how I could extract  
 the knight from b6 without giving up  
 the a pawn. I was very concerned  
 that I'd somehow blown this.

TM: I am not sure why Black  
 decided to play on in this hopeless  
 position. I would definitely have  
 resigned by now as there are no  
 chances of any counterplay or  
 potential traps that White could fall  
 into.

35.Kf3

KP: So it took me 28 days to make  
 this obvious move.

35... Kg7

36.Rc6 a5

37.h3 Kg6

38.Ke4

KP: 38.Nd5?! doesn't seem to work  
 because of 38...Rb1

38... Kf6

39.Nd5+

KP: Finally I get a chance to extract  
 the knight.

KP: 39.Kd3 Kg6 40.Kc2 Kh5

41.Na4 may also work, since the  
 king now stops the rooks infiltration  
 into White's position but I much  
 preferred to move the knight  
 immediately and finally relax.

39... Kg6

40.Ke5 Rb2

41.Ne7+ Kg7

42.a4 Re2+

43.Kd6 Re3

44.Nc8 Rxb3

45.Rxc5 Kg6

46.Rxa5 g4

47.Rb5 f5

48.c5! g3

49.Rb1



KP: Only move.

**49...**            **Rh8**  
 TM: 49...f4 50.c6 g2 51.Ne7+ Kf6  
 52.c7 Rd3+ 53.Nd5+ Rxd5+  
 54.Kc6+—  
**50.Nb6**            **f4**  
**51.Rg1**            **Kg5**  
**52.c6**              **Kg4**  
**53.Nc4**            **Kf3**  
**54.Rf1+**          **Ke4**  
**55.Re1+**          **Kf3**  
**56.Ne5+**          **Kg2**  
**57.Re2+**          **Kf1**  
**58.Rc2**            **g2**  
**59.Nf3**

1-0



## Second Place

**White: Mackintosh, Iain (2405)**

**Black: Campbell, Eoin (2120)**

SCCA Championship 16–17, 2016  
Exchange Grünfeld [D85]

[Notes by Iain Mackintosh and Tom Matheis]

**1.d4**                **Nf6**  
**2.c4**                **g6**  
**3.Nc3**              **d5**  
**4.cxd5**            **Nxd5**  
**5.e4**                **Nxc3**  
**6.bxc3**            **Bg7**  
**7.Nf3**              **c5**  
**8.Rb1**              **0-0**  
**9.Be2**              **cxd4**  
**10.cxd4**          **Qa5+**  
**11.Bd2**            **Qxa2**  
**12.0-0**            **Bg4**

TM: All these moves are well known in both, correspondence and over-the-board chess, and don't need any further commentary.



**13.d5!?**

TM: Now I'm intrigued! I've had this position on the board many times myself in all forms of chess and experimented with the 3 main  
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alternatives Bg5, Be3 and Rxb7. I must admit that 13.d5 is not a move that I had considered before.

**13...**            **Na6**  
 TM: Black seems to have been surprised by d5. I would've expected 13...b6 or 13...Nd7. However, I'm not condemning Na6 as the Knight will obviously move to c5 after White's next move which is a good square. IM: 13...b6 was Sandström, L (2315)-Kamanel Zamora, J (2290) ICCF 20th Olympiad, 2012, 1–0 (47).

**14.Rxb7**          **Nc5**  
**15.Rb4**

TM: 15.Rxe7 Bf6 16.Rc7 Nxe4 17.Bf4 Nc3 18.Bc4 Qxc4 19.Rxc4 Nxd1 20.Rxd1 a5

**15...**            **Rfb8**  
 TM: White is right to avoid the rook exchange.

IM: 15...Rfc8 was Littke, A (2300)-Livshits, R (2350) Canadian Championship, 1995, ½–½. (47)

**16.Rc4N**

IM: New to CC as far as I can tell.

**16...**            **Rb2**

TM: Black's pieces are working together and look menacing. It's hard to believe that White has everything under control though and is actually slightly better.

**17.Be3**

TM: 17.Rxc5 may well be an alternative and after 17...Bxf3

18.Qc1 Rxd2 19.Rc8+ Rxc8 20.Qxc8+ Bf8 21.Bxf3 Qc2 22.Qb8 a5 23.e5

**17...**            **Nb3**

IM: Eoin offered a draw here, but I declined on the grounds that it was still early days, with an unbalanced position and tactical opportunities.

**18.Bd3**            **Bxf3**

TM: 18...Nd2 is worth considering 19.Ra4 Qb3 20.Qxb3 Rxb3 21.Nxd2 Rxd3 22.Rb1 f5

**19.gxf3**            **a5**



**20.d6!**

TM: With one strong move White has solved all his problems and Black's ensuing collapse is remarkable!

**20...**            **exd6**

**21.Bb1**            **Qa3**

TM: 21...Rxb1 22.Qxb1 Qxb1 23.Rxb1 a4 24.Rc2 Nd4 25.Ra2 Nxf3+ 26.Kg2 Ne5 27.Rb4 a3 28.f4 White is clearly better but 21...Rxb1 was the lesser of two evils under the circumstances.

**22.Qd3**            **a4**

**23.Rd1**            **d5**

**24.exd5**          **Qd6**

**25.Bc2**            **Be5**

**26.Qe4**

TM: I have to admit that I'm not quite sure what the purpose of Qe4 is despite it being recommended by engines. Not that it makes any difference though. I would've played the more natural looking 26.f4 followed by 26...Bg7 27.f5 Be5 and now 28.Qe4.

**26...**            **f5**

**27.Qd3**            **Bxh2+**

TM: 27...f4 28.Rc6 Qe7 29.Bb6 Bd6 was maybe the lesser evil although White is clearly still winning. For example 30.Qc3 Qe5 31.Qxe5 Bxe5

32.d6 Bxd6 33.Be4+—

**28.Kg2**            **Be5**

**29.Re1**

TM: 29.Rc6 is also winning.

**29...**            **Qf8**

TM: Black capitulates. 29...f4 would've been the better move but in the end would only have prolonged the agony.

**30.Bg5**

TM: 30.d6 Qxd6 31.Rxa4 Rxa4 32.Bxb3+ Kg7 33.Qxd6 Bxd6 34.Bxa4+— is a nice alternative.

**30...**            **Na5**

**31.Rxa4**            **Bd6**

**32.Re6**

TM: Rien ne va plus! A nice, powerful attack by White who demonstrated good technique after a couple of slight inaccuracies by Black.

1-0



## First Place

### The R.J. Burrige Trophy 2016

**White: Wilkinson, James (2230)**

**Black: Paine, Kevin (2301)**

SCO/WLeague1/16 ICCF, 2016

QGD Exchange Variation [D36]  
[Notes by Kevin Paine and Tom Matheis]

KP: I've never entered the Best Game competition before and it was kind of a last minute decision to do so this year. I don't really know what constitutes a good game so I took the decision to enter two games of rather contrasting nature. In this one, where I was playing Black, I ended up throwing my queen's pawns forward and sacrificing the exchange; but thankfully was able to outplay my lower-rated opponent in the unbalanced position that emerged. However, I was a little wary in entering this game that it might just be seen as a higher rated player beating up on a lower rated player. I hope it's not.

**1.d4**

KP: My opponent is a retired physics teacher living in France.

- 1...** Nf6  
**2.c4** e6  
**3.Nc3** d5  
**4.Bg5** Be7  
**5.cxd5** exd5  
**6.e3** c6  
**7.Bd3** 0-0  
**8.Qc2** Nbd7  
**9.Nge2**

KP: Up until this point I was just happily following one of Gordon Anderson's draws against a highly rated player and so I was reasonably assured that all was sound. It's now clear that White is looking to push the f-pawn, and consequently I started looking at lines that involved a counter-attack on the q-side.  
9.Nf3 Re8 10.0-0 Nf8 11.Rae1 Ne4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Bxe4 dxe4 14.Nd2 f5 15.f3 exf3 16.Nxf3 Be6 17.e4 fxe4 18.Rxe4 h6 19.Rfe1 Rad8 20.h3 Qd6 21.R4e3 Qd7 22.Qa4 Ng6 23.Qxa7 Bxh3 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.gxh3 Qe3+ 1/2-1/2 (26) Moise,O (2429)-Anderson,G (2287) ICCF 2014

TM: 9.Nf3 is far more common, but there's nothing wrong with 9.Nge2.

**9...** h6

KP: This seemed the natural move to me. Looking at my notes I don't appear to have given alternative moves any serious consideration.

TM: Interesting choice. 9...Re8 is more common and probably more solid. 9...h6 and later 11...b5 are a clear indication that Black is keen to avoid the established lines and focus on less-well known variations. One

may point out the fact that there's a high number of games in databases with 9...h6, however, under closer scrutiny you will find that only 3 players with a 2400+ rating have played this line!

**10.Bh4** Re8

**11.f3**

KP: As expected. Now I don't have the most extensive database in the world, but I do try to keep up to date with ICCF games at least. To my concern I now noticed a large number of 1-0 results.

TM: 11.0-0 is the main alternative.



**11...** b5!?

KP: The main lines appear to be 11...Nf8 and 11...c5 followed by 12...Nf8. It seems that I decided that b6 was a better place for the knight and then having analysed that I came to the conclusion that I ought to move the b-pawn first.

TM: A great choice given how the game developed! Black has several viable alternatives all of which enjoy greater popularity than b5. It's interesting to note that 11...b5 has only really featured in recent years, maybe because the latest chess engines also recommend this move, but it still takes courage to play a line that has so far favoured White. I would like to know at what stage Black decided to play this move should the opportunity arise, i.e. was it as the position actually happened or a few moves earlier. Either way, as it turned out, White didn't understand the positional and tactical nuances that ensued and gradually dug a hole for himself.

**12.0-0** Nb6

KP: Consistent.

**13.Bf2N**

KP: This was new to me. As I've said my database is rather limited.  
13.b3 Bd7 (13...Bb7 14.a3 a5 15.Bf2 Bf8 16.Ng3 b4 17.axb4 axb4 18.Rxa8

Qxa8 19.Nce2 Nbd7 20.e4 dxe4 21.fxe4 c5 22.e5 Bxg2 23.exf6 Bxf1 24.Bh7+ Kh8 25.fxg7+ Bxg7 26.Kxf1 cxd4 27.Be4 Qa6 28.Kg2 Pototschnig,M (2004)-Frenzel,L (2005) ICCF 2014 1/2-1/2 (53)  
14.Bf2 a5; 13.a4 b4 14.Nd1 a5 15.Re1 Bb7 16.b3 Rc8 17.Rc1 Nbd7 18.Qb1 c5 19.dxc5 Nxc5 20.Bb5 Nfd7 21.Bxe7 Rxe7 22.Nd4 Nf8 23.Nf2 Nfe6 24.Nf5 Rec7 25.Bf1 h5 26.Rc2 g6 27.Nd4 Nxd4 Bucsa,I (2062)-Voiculescu,C (2547) ICCF 2011 1/2-1/2 (74)]

**13...** b4

KP: I'm tempted to give the impression that the moves played here were all part of some masterplan cooked up in my chess laboratory. However, it would be utter cobblers. At this stage all I'm trying to do is take the game into uncharted territory. Here I just liked the idea of kicking the knight back to the first rank, I thought it was quite amusing. TM: Black wastes no time and in my opinion much better than for example 13...a5 after which White can play 14.a3.

**14.Nb1** a5

**15.Nd2**

KP: 15.Qxc6 The pawn grab looks perfectly safe to me. 15...Bd7 16.Qc2±

**15...** Bb7



TM: You may think that based on my comments so far White must be worse. In actual fact the opposite is true and White probably is a bit better! However, given White's overall approach to the position it is clear that White has no clear plan and is severely punished by Black. I'm not at all sure why White didn't play 16.Ng3 or 16.a4 in this position.

**16.Ra1** a4

KP: Played cautiously and I analysed a number of White replies. In many lines, and indeed the line that was

played, it's clear that I will need to give up the exchange. I can't say that I approached this situation with complete confidence.

**17.Ng3**

KP: After 17.e4 I seem to have come to the conclusion that I can play this line which sacrifices the exchange for the bishop pair. 17...dxe4 18.fxe4 Ng4 19.Nf3 Nxf2! 20.Rxf2 c5 21.Bb5 Nd7 22.e5 cxd4 23.Qf5 Nc5 24.Bxe8 Qxe8 25.Nfxd4 Be4! 26.Qg4 h5 With a threat of Nd3.

**17... a3**

TM: I like Black's no nonsense approach. A clear indication that he is keen to seize the initiative and exert as much pressure on White's queen side as possible. Black must have already had an inkling that White did not fully understand the position and what was required. The balance of the game is about to shift drastically.

**18.b3 c5**

KP: Allowing the bishop to come to b5 and "win" the exchange. 18...Rc8 19.e4 c5 20.e5 Nfd7 21.f4 doesn't look very pleasant for Black.

**19.Bb5**

TM: 19.dxc5 Rc8 20.Bb5 Rxc5 21.Qd3 Nbd7 is about equal.

**19... Nbd7**

**20.e4!?**

TM: Too ambitious and leads to unnecessary complications after Black gives the exchange. 20.dxc5 or 20.Nf5 are more solid and it's difficult to see how Black can make significant progress.

**20... cxd4**

**21.e5**

TM: Another small mistake for which White will be punished.

21.Qc7 Ba6 22.Bxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd8 Rxd8 24.Bxd4 dxe4 25.Ndxe4 Nxe4 26.Nxe4 was much preferable. Black has the more comfortable position but it is difficult to see a decisive advance.

**21... Nxe5**

**22.Bxe8 Nxe8**

**23.Bxd4 Nc6**

KP: So a moment to take stock perhaps. I'm the exchange down for an isolated passed pawn; but on the positive side I have the bishop pair and two advanced pawns on the queenside. Let's say it's unclear.

TM: I have seen a fair number of games with R v B&P recently and had a few games like this myself in recent months. Games with such a complex imbalance are usually fairly hard to play and I have seen umpteen

examples where strong chess engines have also struggled to give a fair assessment. In this game, Black demonstrated more than once that he's not afraid to be aggressive and White should have foreseen the exchange which leaves Black with far more possibilities.

**24.Bf2 Rc8**

**25.Rfd1 Bg5**

**26.Qd3 Nc7**

**27.Be3 Bf6**

TM: Of course not Bxe3. Black's bishop is stronger than White's. The balance of the position has now shifted and White is struggling to hold the position together.

**28.Bb6 Bb2**



KP: Possibly a turning point in the game, if only psychologically. My last five moves or so were played relatively slowly as I was not enjoying analysing the position. However, I was now convinced it was at least a draw and I could see that it wasn't that easy to find moves for White. Certainly I would no longer have considered accepting a draw.

**29.Rc2 Qh4**

KP: I'm now conciously seeking out lines that keep the game alive. For example 29...Bc3 recovers the exchange, but seems far less fun than the line played 30.Rxc3 bxc3 31.Qxc3 Qf8 32.Qc5 Qxc5+ 33.Bxc5 Nb5

**30.f4**

TM: 30.Bxc7 Rxc7 31.Nf5 Qg5 32.f4 Qxf4+-

**30... Qxf4**

KP: I also considered 30...Ba6! which might be better than the move played. 31.Qe3 Qf6 32.Nf3 d4 33.Nxd4 Nd5 34.Qe4 Nc3 35.Rxc3 bxc3

**31.Nf3 d4**

TM: Black can't defend the d-pawn in the long run so he rightly decides to give it up on his terms, i.e. without

compromising the slight advantage for which he has fought so hard.

**32.Ne2 Qd6**

**33.Nexd4 Nxd4**

**34.Bxd4 Rd8**

**35.Rcd2!?**

TM: 35.Bxb2! Qxd3 36.Rxd3 Rxd3 37.Bxa3 Bxf3 38.Rxc7 bxa3 39.gxf3 Rd2 40.b4 Rxa2 41.Ra7 g5 42.b5 Kg7 43.b6 Kg6 44.b7 Rb2 45.Rxa3 Rxb7 A very plausible variation which should lead to a draw with correct play. 35.Rcd2 looks more natural and it's fully understandable why White opted for this safer, more pleasant-looking option.

**35... Ne6**

**36.Qe3**

TM: 36.Be3 Qxd3 37.Rxd3 Rxd3 38.Rxd3 Be4 39.Rd1 Bc2 40.Re1 Bxb3 41.axb3 a2 42.Kf1 a1Q 43.Rxa1 Bxa1 White may well be able to hold this position but it will be a long, hard slog.

**36... Nxd4**

**37.Nxd4 Bc3**

**38.Rd3 Qc5**

**39.Nc2 Rxd3**

**40.Rxd3**

KP: Oddly, at this point Jim started playing very rapidly and responding to my moves within a day. I obviously don't know what he was thinking, but I considered it to be an indication that he thought it was a dead draw and that he wasn't giving the moves quite the attention that they perhaps deserved. This only encouraged me to look even deeper at the various lines on offer.

**40... Qf5**

TM: 40...Qxe3+? 41.Nxe3+- White is better now and should convert his advantage.

**41.Rd8+ Kh7**

**42.Qe2**

TM: 42.Qf2 Qxf2+ 43.Kxf2 Be4 44.Ne3 Bb1+-

**42... Be4**



**43.Ne3**

TM: White has made several natural moves and yet has ended up in a very uncomfortable position. Black has two powerful bishops whereas White's pieces are uncoordinated and all act in isolation.

43... Qe5  
44.Nc2 Bb2

TM: Now 45...Qc5+ is a threat.

45.Kh1?!

KP: This just seemed wrong. The king will return to g1 shortly. White wasn't falling for 45.Nxb4?? Bd4+ 46.Rxd4 (46.Kh1 Bxg2+ with mate) 46...Qxd4+ 47.Kf1 Qxb4+; However 45.Rd2!? was worthy of a longer look. 45...f5 46.Kh1 Bc1 47.Rd4 Bf4 48.Rxe4 fxe4 49.g3 Bg5 50.Nxb4 Qd4 51.h4 Bxh4 52.gxh4 Qxb4 53.Kg2 may hold.

45... Qf4  
46.Ne1 Qf5!

KP: The main alternative 46...Bb1 seems to offer nothing, but perhaps Black can find better moves. 47.Rd1 Bxa2 48.Nd3 Qf5 49.Nxb2 Bxb3 50.Rc1 axb2 51.Qxb2 Bd5 (TM: Black is winning here.) 52.Kg1 Qe6 53.Qd4 b3 54.h3 Qe2 55.Qxd5 Qe3+ 56.Kh2 Qxc1 57.Qxb3 KP: looks like a draw to me.

47.Nd3 Bc3  
48.Rd6 Bd5

TM: Threatening 48...Bxb3 and after 49.axb3 a2. White can't take on a2 with his queen because of Qf1 mate.

49.Kg1

KP: Jim finally considers the position for longer than a day, but it seems to be too late. The horse has bolted.

49... Bf6!  
50.Ne1 Bd4+



51.Kh1 g6!

KP: Tom doesn't comment on this, but I see this simple move as the winning move. I'd even put an exclamation mark next to it in my notes to move 46. It improves Black's king whilst effectively putting White in zugzwang. TM: 51...Bxb3?? 52.Rxd4 52.Nd3

TM: 52.Nf3 is even worse after 52...Bxf3 53.gxf3 Qc5 54.Ra6 Qc1+ 55.Kg2 Qg5+ 56.Kh3 Be5+—

52... h5

53.Rxd5

TM: White has run out of sensible moves.

53... Qxd5

54.Nxb4 Qd6

KP: 54...Qg5 might also work.

55.Nd3 Qc6

56.Qd2 Qe4

57.h3 Kg7

58.Ne1 Bf6

59.Nf3 Qb1+

60.Kh2 Qb2

KP: I allowed myself a little punch of the air when I clicked on the webserver and saw the resignation. Jim also passed on a lovely message. TM: A great victory for Black! The decision to play slightly less-well analysed lines has paid off. White was equal or ever so slightly better for a long time but an accumulation of less precise moves paired with a misunderstanding of the position and the power of Black's back-squared Bishop made the difference in the end.

0-1



## Bulgarian Chess Stamps and Posters

(Supplement to the Hawkes Files)



This stamp, probably the first "chess stamp," is one of a set of five issued to commemorate the 1947 Balkan Games, held in Bulgaria, in which Chess was one of the sports. The stamp (9 leva, white and orange brown) was issued September 29, 1947, typographed on unwatermarked paper, perf 111/2. It was designed by Stefan Kanchev, and 172,000 were issued. The vertical inscription translates: 'Balkan Games 1947,' and the horizontal: 'Republic of Bulgaria.'

Stefan Kanchev also designed the poster and stamp set for the Varna Olympiad in 1962.





## Time Play in Modern CC: (2) Lazy Man's Attack (LMA)

By Peter Bennett

LMA (Lazy Man's Attack) could be defined as the polar opposite of DMD (Dead Man's Defence), which was the subject of my first article in this mini-series. Just to recap, DMD is the pattern of play in which the attacker has a clearly winning advantage but the defender, rather than resign, continues to play very, very slowly, taking full advantage of the over-generous time limits.

LMA, therefore, refers to the situation in which the player with the initiative conducts his attack very, very slowly. It has to be said straight away that it is very rare for a player with a clearly winning position deliberately to slow the game up in this way. Much more commonly, one player has a significant initiative, sufficient to justify their refusal to consider a draw, but then proceeds to take months and months over the process of trying to find that elusive win.

**TOMORROW IS  
THE ONLY DAY IN  
THE YEAR THAT  
APPEALS TO A  
LAZY MAN**

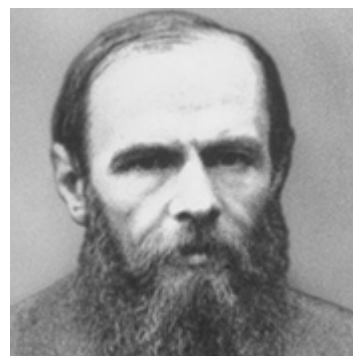
LMA, as a significant problem, is relatively new in CC. It has always been around, but in the past was more amusing than irritating because – at least, in my experience – it only affected about 2% of all the games I was playing. Nevertheless, because it is now on the increase, it is potentially a much more serious problem than DMD. With DMD, as I indicated in my previous article, the attacker has two mechanisms at his disposal to resolve the situation: (1) he can aim to reduce the number of pieces on the board, so that the position reaches the 6-man tablebases as fast as possible; and (2) he can complain to the TD on the grounds that DMD is formally proscribed under current ICCF rules.

So why is LMA on the increase? The answer is simple: LMA is much more likely to occur in tournaments where there is no adjudication date. Without any pressure to achieve a win within a certain timescale, quite a lot of players take full advantage of the generous time allocation, even when attacking. Since defenders are rarely in a rush to score a loss, all you need to add into the mix is a dilatory attacker and, lo and behold, a very ordinary game can easily drift on for three or four years to very little chess purpose. With many tournaments currently having no adjudication date, the possibility of a very few games in each tournament delaying the completion of the event for several years is very real. Personally, I would hate to be a TD nowadays unless there was an adjudication date.

Adjudication dates more or less solve the problem. Last year, in one of my tournaments, I needed a half-point in my last game to secure a clear second place and a qualification for the next round. Unfortunately, my last game was against

the tournament leader. With the White pieces, I rather overplayed my hand pressing for an unlikely win and then found myself defending. My opponent, fortunately, was already assured of first place as long as he didn't lose the game. Since there was no longer any risk that White would win, he took his eye off the ball and started playing LMA.

We eventually reached a point, around move 30, at which I knew I was no longer at risk of losing the game with White. Thinking only about the chess, I reckon Black might well have won the game eventually if there had been no adjudication date; but the breakthrough, if it was there, would not have been much before move 60. I knew this because I desperately needed the draw and had analysed the key lines a very long way ahead. At move 30, my opponent's advantage was +0.70; but by move 40, he could not have increased it beyond +0.75. White's position was solid for at least another 10 moves. In the meantime, my opponent had used 75 more days than I had, because he was playing his attack so slowly. I had so much time in hand that I didn't need to play more than 10 further moves before the adjudication date, even though it was 8 months away; so that is what I planned to do. Some might regard this as unethical; but my intended pattern of play could not be called DMD, because my position was not lost, nor would it be by move 40; whereas my opponent had zero chance of a win on adjudication unless he could force the game beyond move 50, which was no longer possible because of his own dilatory play in the opening. In the end, the matter was resolved by my opponent offering the draw simply because he no longer needed to win the game.



But man is a fickle and disreputable creature and perhaps, like a chess player, is interested in the process of attaining his goal rather than the goal itself.

[Fyodor Dostoyevsky]

The moral of the story is this: if you want to win games ahead of an adjudication date, it is essential to press your attack home as briskly as your personal circumstances allow. There was one occasion, a few years ago, when a certain national championship was (in my view, quite undeservedly) won by a player who secured a draw in his final game in the exactly the way I have just described.

The one issue on which I held any sympathy for him was that his opponent had made a rod for his own back by indulging in LMA, instead of getting on with game. In that case, however, what caused the controversy was that player X, who felt he was “robbed” of the title, was a third party. The attacker who might have beaten the eventual title holder had not been in contention in the tournament. As a result, all the tournament rules were rapidly changed to ensure that the situation wasn’t repeated.

But what of tournaments without an adjudication date? The problem is that a significant minority of players – as many as 25% is my estimate – need time constraints, including adjudication dates, to get their games finished at all. They can only work to deadlines, otherwise their protracted analyses of the positions they are playing will expand to use all the time available to them, irrespective of whether they are winning or losing. Let me give a straightforward illustration from my own current games. First, I must introduce the concept of Temporal Advantage (TA). I have one game currently in progress in which I have an overwhelming advantage (+9.50 on shallow analysis, +14.25 on deep analysis), so guess what? My opponent, surprise surprise, is playing DMD. As of this morning, as I write, I have 199 playing days in hand, whereas my opponent has 28. The difference between the two is 171 days, so my Temporal Advantage (TA) is +171.

Prayer is a practical  
strategy, the gaining  
of temporal advantage  
in the capital markets  
of Sin and Remission.  
Don Delillo

I have three other games in progress where my TA is, respectively, (A)+110, (B) +107 and (C) +102. All three games are broadly level and I would settle for a draw tomorrow in each of them; indeed, if and when I secure a draw in each, these three results would (I believe) give me a CCM title. The ridiculous feature of each game is that none of these opponents is willing to consider or even discuss the possibility of a draw. If these three opponents had been willing to get on with the game and prove the unlikely wins they are supposedly pursuing, the outcomes – and the title – would have been done and dusted three months ago. I cannot tell you how frustrating this is. Indeed, I probably don’t need to tell you as most CC players will be familiar with the problem.

Actually, in only two games can my opponents’ play be called LMA. In game (A), my opponent has a slight initiative with White (+0.25) in a tricky endgame at move 47, so the game has not yet lost its chess significance; but it would help a lot if he at least got on with it. In game (C), my opponent has virtually no “engine” advantage (+0.10), but my king is slightly exposed, so at least I can understand his reasons for playing on. What baffles me about this particular game is that my opponent is also in desperate time trouble: he has only 9 days left for 6 moves, whereas

hitherto he has typically been taking at least a week over every move.

In Game (B), curiously, I have both the White pieces and the initiative. The game is still in theory and the statistics suggest that White occasionally wins a game, Black almost never. So why does my opponent use up over 100 playing days following a “book” line, quite unnecessarily select a weak sub-variation and then refuse a draw in an inferior position? That is a question I really cannot answer. Suggestions on a postcard to the Editor, please!



The only time a lazy man ever succeeds is when he tries to do nothing.  
[Evan Esar]

So what is to be done about LMA? I have some ideas but, for the moment, I would be interested to hear what readers think of the issue. I currently have 12 games in progress and, at the moment, LMA is not only robbing me of a title but also, and more importantly, reducing my availability to play in new events.

Only five of my 12 games are genuinely competitive – in the sense that the eventual outcome is uncertain – which means that over half of my time is being spent, needlessly, on “dead duck” encounters.

Does anyone else have the same problem?



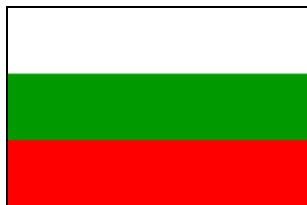
Chess is the most intimate game in the world. It’s like making love. By the time we finish our first slow game, I will know all his thoughts.  
[Eloisa James]



## The Hawkes Files

By John E. Hawkes

### The Brilliant Bulgarians



This article honours sparkling chess performances by Bulgarian players in the year where the BCCF is hosting the ICCF Congress, to be held in the Hotel Flamingo Grand in Albena, Bulgaria, September 03–08.

Your scribe participated in the Railways Olympiad, held in Sofia in 1985 where I was BR captain. Happy memories!

One information source for this was: [http://kszcgk.com/iccf/index.php/nggalery/slideshow?page\\_id=3243](http://kszcgk.com/iccf/index.php/nggalery/slideshow?page_id=3243)

Scotland has played Bulgaria once in a CC friendly international, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1995 until Autumn 1998. The 20-board, postal-only match finished SCO 10½ - BUL 23½ (6 void ties).



Bulgarian Stefan Kanchev designed the first chess stamps with motifs for

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the 1947 Balkan Games and 1962 Varna Olympiad (see also p11).

**White: Metchkarov, Stefan**

**Black: Dimov, ?**

1959

Ponziani Opening [C44]

[Notes by John E Hawkes after Al. Kiprof]

1.e4 e5  
2.Nf3 Nc6  
3.c3 f5  
4.d4 fxe4  
4...exd4 5.e5 dxc3 6.Nxc3 d6 7.Bb5 Bd7 8.e6! Bxe6 9.0–0 Be7 10.Re1 Bd7 11.Bg5 Metchkarov - Atanassov, Trnovo 1953.

5.Nxe5 Qf6  
6.Ng4 Qg6  
7.Bf4!

Your annotator's experience of this attractive and very old Ponziani line 3... f5!? was a 1992/94 friendly Hans Hoyer v John Hawkes going : 7.d5 h5 (7...Nd8 8.Be2 Bc5! 9.0–0 Nf7=) 8.Ne3 Ne5 9.Qd4 d6 10.Nc4 Nd3+!? N (10...Nf7 11.Bf4! followed by Nbd2 and long castling with advantage.) 11.Bxd3 exd3 12.Ne3 (12.0–0 h4!? 13.Rd1 h3 14.g3 Nf6 15.Ne3 Nd7 16.Qxd3 Qxd3 17.Rxd3 Ne5°) 12...Be7 13.Nd2 Bf6 14.Qe4+ Kf7 15.Qxg6+ Kxg6 16.Ne4 Bf5 17.Nxf6?! Nxf6 18.f3 Rae8=

7... d6

7...d5! 8.Ne3 Qf7! 9.Bg3 Bd6!

8.Ne3 Be7  
9.Nd2 Nf6  
10.Bc4 d5

10...h5! Metchkarov  
11.Nxd5 Qxg2  
12.Nxf6+ Bxf6  
13.Qh5+ g6  
14.Qd5! Qxh1+

15.Ke2 Bg4+  
16.Ke3 Qxa1  
17.Qf7+ Kd8

18.Qxc7+ Ke8  
19.Qf7+ Kd8  
20.Qxf6+! Kd7

20...Kc8 21.Qxh8+ Nd8 22.d5!

21.Qg7+ Ne7  
22.Bb5+ Ke6  
23.Qe5+ Kf7

24.Bc4+ Ke8  
25.Qxh8+ Kd7

26.Bb5+ Ke6

27.Qe5+ Kf7

28.Bc4+ Ke8

29.d5

29.Bg5 Qe1+ 30.Kf4 Qxf2+

31.Kxg4+–

29... Qe1+

30.Kd4 Qxf2+

31.Be3 Qf5



32.Nxe4 Qxe5+

33.Kxe5 Kd8

34.Nf6 h5?

34...Bf5 35.Nxh7

35.Bg5 Nc6+

36.dxc6 Bf3

37.Kd6 bxc6

38.Nd5+!

Black resigned before being mated.

1-0



**White: Popov, Georgi**

**Black: Angelov, Petko**

[C56]

1st Bulgarian Championship

Two Knights' Defence [C56]

[Notes by John E Hawkes after notes by Popov]

1.e4 e5

2.Nf3 Nc6

3.Bc4 Nf6

4.d4 exd4

5.0-0 Nxe4

6.Re1 d5

7.Bxd5 Qxd5

8.Nc3 Qa5

9.Nxe4 Be6

10.Bd2 Bb4

10...Qh5 11.Bg5 Bd6!? 12.Nxd6+ cxd6 13.Bf4 0-0 14.Nxd4 Qxd1 15.Rexd1 and a good ending for White in a Popov - Kratchunov postal game.; 10...Qd5! 11.Bg5 Bd6! (11...Be7 12.Bxe7 Kxe7 13.Qd3 Rad8! 14.Qa3+ Kd7 15.c3!?) 12.Bf6 0-0=

**11.Nxd4!** Nxd4  
**12.c3** Be7  
 ○12...0-0-0  
**13.cxd4** Qd5  
**14.Bf4**

14.Bb4 Bxb4 15.Qa4+ Qc6! 16.Qxb4 0-0-0=  
**14...** c6  
**15.Nc3** Qd7  
 15...Qf5 16.d5! Qxf4 17.dxe6 0-0  
 18.Qd7! Bc5 19.e7 had been played in Popov - Tchipev, Sofia 1958  
 19...Rfe8 (19...Bxf2+ 20.Kh1 Rfe8 21.Rf1 h6 22.Nd1 Qd4! 23.Qxb7 Qb6±) 20.Re2±

**16.Qa4** b5  
**17.Qc2** 0-0  
**18.Rad1** b4  
 18...Bf5? 19.Rxe7

**19.Ne4** Bd5  
**20.Ng3**  
 Now comes a serious positional error.

**20...** Bd6?  
**21.Bxd6** Qxd6  
**22.Nf5** Qd7  
**23.Re7** Qd8  
**24.Qc5**

24.Rde1 Be6! 25.R1xe6 fxe6  
 26.Rxg7+ Kh8-+  
**24...** Qb6



**25.Qc1!** Be6  
**26.Nxg7!** Kxg7  
**27.Qg5+** Kh8  
**28.Qf6+** Kg8  
**29.Rd3** Rfe8  
**30.Rg3+** Kf8



**31.Rd7!!**

A beautiful finish: Georgi Popov won the first Bulgarian Championship with the unbeaten score 8.5/10, ahead of Stefan Metchkarov and Alexander Kiprova, both with 7 points.

1-0



Alexander Kiprova

**White: Kiprova, Alexander**

**Black: Sanza, A**

VII Olympiad Prelims, 1971

King's Indian, Saemisch [E87]

[Notes by John E Hawkes after Kiprova]

**1.d4** Nf6  
**2.c4** g6  
**3.Nc3** Bg7  
**4.e4** d6  
**5.f3** 0-0  
**6.Be3** e5  
**7.d5** Nh5

Kiprova v Radulov in the IV Bulgarian Championship also caught my eye: 7...c6 8.Nge2 cxd5 9.cxd5 a6 10.g4 h5 11.h3 Nh7 12.gxh5 Qh4+ 13.Bf2 Qxh5 14.Ng3 Qh6 15.h4 Qf4 16.Bg2 Nd7 17.Nce2 Qf6 18.Be3 Nc5 (18...a5) 19.b4 Nd7 20.Kf2 Qd8 21.Qc2! b5 (21...Nb6 22.Rac1 f5 23.Qc7 f4 24.Bxb6 fxg3+ 25.Nxg3+-) 22.Rac1 Nb6 23.Qc6 Rb8 24.Bxb6 Rxb6 25.Qc7 Rb7 26.Qxd8 Rxd8 27.Rc6 Ra7 28.h5! a5

29.hxg6 fxg6 30.bxa5 Rxa5 31.Rhc1 Ba6 32.Rc7 Ra3 33.Bh3 Ng5 34.Be6+! Nxe6 35.dxe6 Rxa2? (35...Bh6! 36.Rh1 Be3+ 37.Kg2 Re8 38.Rhh7 (38.e7 Rxa2-+) 38...Rxe6= 39.Rcg7+) 36.Nf5! Black resigned as there would follow 36...gxf5 (36...Bf6 37.Rg1+-) 37.Rg1 b4 38.Rxg7+ Kh8 39.Rh7+ Kg8 40.Rcg7+ Kf8 41.e7+ Ke8 42.exd8R+ Kxd8 43.Rg8#

**8.Qd2** f5  
**9.0-0-0** a6  
**10.Bd3** f4  
**11.Bf2** Nd7  
**12.Nge2** b6  
**13.Kb1** Nc5  
**14.b4!** Nxd3  
**15.Qxd3** Bd7  
**16.Kb2** Qe7  
**17.Nc1** Rfb8  
**18.Nb3** Bf6  
**19.a4** Qe8  
**20.Ka3!** Be7  
**21.Rb1** Qf8  
**22.a5** Nf6  
**23.Rb2** Be8  
**24.Ka2** Kh8  
**25.Kb1** b5  
**26.c5** Nd7  
**27.c6** Nf6  
**28.Na1!** Nh5  
**29.Nc2** Qh6  
**30.Re1** Bf7  
**31.Na3** Qf8  
**32.Naxb5!** axb5  
**33.Nxb5** Qd8  
**34.Ree2** Nf6  
**35.Na7** Qg8  
**36.Red2** g5  
**37.Kc1** g4  
**38.b5** Bd8



**39.b6** cxb6  
**40.Rxb6!** gxf3  
**41.gxf3** Bc7  
**42.Nb5** Rc8  
**43.Nxc7** Rxc7  
**44.a6** Rca7  
**45.Rdb2!** Bxd5  
**46.exd5** Nxd5



47.Rb8! Rxb8  
 48.Rxb8 Qxb8  
 49.Bxa7 Qxa7  
 50.Qxd5 Qxa6  
 51.Qxd6 Kg8?  
 51...Qf1+ 52.Kd2 Qf2+ 53.Kd3  
 Qxf3+ 54.Kc4 Qe4+ 55.Kc5 Qc2+  
 56.Kd5 Qb3+ 57.Kxe5 Qc3+ 58.Ke6  
 Qc4+ 59.Kf6 Qc3+ 60.Qe5 Qxc6+  
 61.Kf7+ and mate next move.  
 52.Qb8+ Kf7  
 53.Qb7+ Qxb7  
 54.cxb7

1-0



White: Thomas, Trevor (ENG)  
 Black: Kiprova, Alexander (BUL)  
 3rd European Team Prelims  
 Scotch Game [C45]  
 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nc6  
 3.d4 exd4  
 4.Nxd4 Bc5  
 5.Nb3

The Potter variation.

5... Bb6  
 6.Nc3 Nf6  
 7.Bg5 h6  
 8.Bh4 d6  
 9.Qe2 Be6  
 10.f3 g5  
 11.Bf2 Qe7  
 12.0-0-0 0-0-0  
 13.Bxb6 axb6  
 14.Nd4 Nxd4  
 15.Rxd4 Rhe8  
 16.Qb5 Qd7  
 17.Qb4 c5  
 18.Qa3!

It's looking very bad for Black -  
 castled right into an ambush.

18... Qc7  
 19.Nb5 Qb8  
 20.Ra4 Kd7  
 21.Ra7



21... d5?

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21...Re7 22.Qa4 d5 23.Nd4+ Kd6  
 24.e5+ Kxe5 25.Nc6+ bxc6 26.Rxe7  
 Nd7=  
 22.e5 Ke7  
 23.exf6+ Kxf6

White can switch his attack to the  
 other flank without losing much  
 time.

24.Qc3+  
 24.h4 Qg3 (24...Qf4+ 25.Kd1)  
 25.hxg5+ hxg5 26.Qc3+ d4 27.Qd2  
 Rh8! and Black has counterplay.

24... d4  
 25.Qd2 Rd5  
 26.Ra3 Kg7

27.f4  
 27.h4 was a bit stronger.

27... gxf4  
 28.g3 f3  
 29.Rxf3 Re5  
 30.Qf4  
 30... Bd5  
 31.Qf6+ Kg8



32.Rf4?

The White bishop had a spectacular  
 late entry into the battlefield:

32.Bc4!? Bxc4 33.Nd6 Bd5 34.Rf4  
 Qxd6 35.Rg4+ Rg5 36.Qxd6 Bxh1  
 37.Rxg5+ hxg5 38.Qxb6+—

32... Re1+  
 33.Kd2 Qe5!  
 34.Qxe5 R8xe5  
 35.Rg1 Ra1  
 36.c4 Bc6  
 37.g4

The attack on the king isn't quite  
 finished, but Black now plays to win.

37... Ree1  
 38.g5 h5  
 39.Nd6  
 39.a4  
 39... Reb1  
 Or 39...Rad1+ 40.Kc2 Rc1+=  
 40.Kc2 d3+!

41.Bxd3  
 If 41.Kc3 Black would seem obliged  
 to settle for a draw: 41...d2 42.g6!  
 d1Q??

a) 42...d1N+! 43.Kd2 (43.Kb3  
 Rxb2+ 44.Ka3 Raxa2#) 43...fxg6  
 44.Rxg6+ Kh7 45.Rff6 Rxb2+  
 46.Kd3 Nf2+ 47.Kc3 Nd1+ draw!  
 b) 42...f6 43.Kxd2 Rd1+ 44.Kc3  
 Rxd6 45.Rg3=;

43.gxf7+ Kf8 44.Rg8+ Ke7 45.f8Q+  
 Kd7 46.Rf7+ Ke6 47.Qe7#

41... Rxg1  
 42.Nxf7 Be8  
 43.Nh6+ Kg7

44.Nf5+?  
 44.h4=  
 44... Kh8

45.Ng3  
 45.h4 Ba4+ 46.Kc3 Rg2!—+  
 45... Ba4+  
 46.Kc3 Rg2  
 47.Ne2 Bd1

0-1

If 48.Rf1 b5! 49.cxb5 Rxh2 50.Kd2  
 c4 51.Bxc4 Bxe2 52.Rf8+ Kg7  
 53.Rg8+ Kh7 54.g6+ Kh6 55.Bxe2  
 Rxa2 was a possible terminating  
 variation to a fascinating game.



White: Popov, Georgi  
 Black: Hornstein, N

VII Olympiad Prelims, 1971  
 Petroff Defence [C43]

[Notes by John E Hawkes after  
 Popov]

1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nf6  
 3.d4 exd4  
 4.e5 Ne4  
 5.Qe2 Nc5

King v Maguire (American  
 Continental CC Tmt) date unknown,  
 went: 5...Bb4+ 6.Kd1 d5 7.exd6 f5  
 8.dxc7 Qxc7 9.Nxd4 Nc6! 10.Be3  
 Bd7 11.c3 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Ba4+  
 13.Ke1 0-0-0 14.Qd3 Rxd4 15.Qxd4  
 Rd8 16.Qxb4 Rd1+ 17.Ke2 Ng3+  
 18.fxg3 Qe5+ 19.Kf2 Qe1+ 20.Kf3  
 Bc6+ and mate coming up. 21.Kf4  
 Qf2+ 22.Kg5 Qe3+ 23.Qf4 Qe7+  
 24.Kh5 Be8#

6.Nxd4 Nc6  
 7.Be3! Nxd4  
 7...Nxe5 8.Nb5 Ne6 9.f4 Nc6 10.f5±  
 8.Bxd4 Ne6  
 9.Bc3 Be7  
 10.Nd2 d5!  
 If 10...0-0 11.Ne4 is strong.  
 11.exd6 Qxd6  
 12.Nc4 Qc5  
 13.0-0-0 0-0  
 14.h4 b5  
 15.Qf3 Rb8



16.b4 Bb7  
 17.Qg3 Qh5  
 18.Ne5 Bg5+?!  
 □18...Rbd8  
 19.hxg5 Qxh1  
 20.f4 Rfd8  
 21.Re1 c5  
 22.f5 Nd4  
 23.Nxf7!

Leading to some fantastic variations, and not easy to calculate back in the pre-computer era.

23... Re8  
 23...Qxf1 24.Nxd8! Ne2+ 25.Kb2 Nxc3 26.Re8#

24.Nh6+ Kh8  
 25.f6 Bxg2

Everything loses! 25...Rxe1+ 26.Qxe1 gxf6 27.bxc5 Qg1 28.gxf6 b4 29.Nf7+ Kg8 30.Nd6!+-; 25...gxh6 26.Qc7 Rxe1+ 27.Bxe1 Rg8 28.f7 Qxf1 29.Qe5+ Rg7 30.Qe8+ Rg8 31.fxg8R#

26.fxg7+ Kxg7  
 27.Qc7+ Kh8

27...Kg6 28.Qf7+ Kxg5 29.Qg7+ Kh5 30.Qg4+ Kxh6 31.Bd2+ Re3 32.Bxe3#

28.Qf4

28.Re7 would have forced mate, but Popov prefers another finish.

28...Qxf1+ 29.Kb2!

28... Rxe1+  
 29.Bxe1 Ne2+

30.Kb2

1-0



White: Tomashevich, P  
 Black: Karapchanski, Dimitar  
 VII Olympiad Final, 1976  
 Sicilian Defence [B40]

[Notes by John E Hawkes: based on brief annotation in 50 years of Bulgarian CC].

1.e4 c5

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2.Nf3 e6  
 3.d4 cxd4  
 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
 5.Bd3 Nc6  
 6.Be3 e5  
 7.Nxc6 dxc6  
 7... dxc6  
 8.h3  
 8.Nd2 a6? 9.Nc4 Be6 10.Nb6 Rb8  
 11.a4±  
 8... Be6  
 9.Nd2 Be7  
 10.Qf3?!  
 □10.Qe2

10... 0-0  
 11.0-0 Ne8

The pawn structure reminds one of a Philidor defence, where one would have expected Qc7, Nd7 and an exchange of Black's bad bishop by Bc5. Karapchanski's knight move lets White exchange off his bad one!

12.Rfd1 f6  
 13.Bc4 Qc8  
 14.Qf5 Nc7  
 15.Bxe6+ Qxe6  
 16.Qxe6 Nxe6  
 17.Nb3 b6  
 18.Rd7



White appears to be doing everything right.

18... Kf7  
 19.a4 Rfb8!  
 20.a5 Ke8=  
 21.Rad1 c5  
 22.axb6?! axb6  
 23.R7d2 c4  
 24.Nc1 b5  
 25.Ne2 Ra2

Black's "not-so-bad" bishop is worth keeping now.

26.Rb1 b4  
 27.f3 Rd8  
 28.Rxd8+ Kxd8  
 29.Nc1 Ra6



30.b3?! c3  
 31.Nd3 Ra2  
 32.Rc1 Kd7  
 33.Kf2 Bd6  
 34.g4 Kc6  
 35.h4 Kb5  
 36.Ke2 Bb8!±  
 36...Be5 37.Nxc5 Nxc5 38.Bxc5 Kxc5 39.Kd3=  
 37.Bf2 Ba7  
 38.Bxa7 Rxa7  
 39.Ke3 Ra8!  
 Waiting.  
 40.Rg1 Nd4  
 41.Rc1 Ra1!-+  
 42.f4 Rxc1  
 43.Nxc1 Nxc2+  
 44.Kd3 Nd4  
 45.f5 h6  
 46.h5



The Black knight looks perfectly placed on d4 - but no!

46... Nc6!  
 47.Ne2 Nb8  
 48.Nc1 Na6  
 49.Ke2 Nc5  
 An even better square.  
 50.Ke3 Ka5!  
 51.Kf3 Nxb3!  
 52.Nxb3+ Ka4  
 53.Nc5+ Ka3

A superbly conducted game from Dimitar Karapchanski, for a most valuable win with Black: he scored an unbeaten 7/9 on board 5, as did

top-board Georgi Popov. Bulgaria edged out Great Britain by a mere half-point to get the silver medal behind the USSR.

0-1



**White: Sakharov, Yury**  
**Black: Sapundjiev, Georgi**

VII Olympiad Final, 1976  
English Four Knights [A22]  
[Notes by John E Hawkes after Sapundjiev]

- |       |     |
|-------|-----|
| 1.c4  | e5  |
| 2.Nc3 | Nf6 |
| 3.g3  | Bb4 |
| 4.Bg2 | 0-0 |
| 5.Nf3 | Re8 |
| 6.0-0 | Nc6 |

A model for the 6...c6 line is Bang - Umansky in the 13th WC Final continuing; 7.Qb3 (7.a3 Bf8 8.e4 d5=) 7...a5 8.d4 e4 9.Ne1 h6 10.Nc2 Na6 11.Ne3 Nc7 then if instead of White's 12.c5? Bang's suggestion was 12.Rd1 when after 12...b5!? Umansky preferred Black's position. - "ICCF Gold" contains Umansky's profound and extensive notes to the game.

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 7.d3    | h6   |
| 8.Bd2   | Bxc3 |
| 9.Bxc3  | d5!? |
| 10.d4   | e4   |
| 11.Ne5  | Ne7  |
| 12.b3   | Bf5  |
| 13.f3   | c6   |
| 14.g4   | Be6  |
| 15.c5?! |      |



- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 15... h3     |              |
| 15... Nh7!   |              |
| 16.fxe4      | f6!          |
| 17.Nd3       |              |
| 17.exd5 Nxd5 | 18.Bxd5 Qxd5 |
| 17.Nf3 dxe4  | 18.Nd2 Bxg4  |
| Sapundjiev   |              |
| 17... dxe4   |              |
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- |           |      |
|-----------|------|
| 18.Bxe4   | Bxg4 |
| 19.Bxh7+! | Kxh7 |
| 20.Nf2    | Bh5! |
| 21.Qd3+   | f5   |
| 22.Rae1   | Nd5  |
| 23.Bd2    | Bg6  |
| 24.Qf3    | Nf6  |
| 25.e3     | Ne4  |
| 26.Nxe4   | Rxe4 |
| 27.Rf2    | Qd5  |
| 28.h3     |      |



- |         |        |
|---------|--------|
| 28...   | f4!    |
| 29.exf4 | Rxe1+  |
| 30.Bxe1 | Re8    |
| 31.Bd2  | Be4    |
| 32.Qg4  | Re6    |
| 33.f5   | Rf6    |
| 34.Qg3  | Bxf5   |
| 35.Qe5  | Qf7    |
| 36.Kh2  | Qh5    |
| 37.Qg3  | Bxh3!! |
| 38.Rxf6 | Bf5+   |
| 39.Kg2  | Qe2+   |
| 40.Qf2  | Qxf2+  |
| 41.Kxf2 | gxf6   |
| 42.Bf4  |        |



Now we are treated to some fascinating BOC endgame play.

- |        |     |
|--------|-----|
| 42...  | Kg6 |
| 43.Kg3 | h5  |
| 44.Bb8 | a6  |
| 45.Bc7 | Bb1 |
| 46.a3  | Bc2 |
| 47.b4  | Kf5 |

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 48.Kh4      | Bd1!       |
| 49.Bd8!     | Ke6        |
| 50.a4!      | f5!        |
| 51.Kg5      | Kd5!       |
| 52.Kxf5     | Bxa4       |
| 53.Kg5      |            |
| 53.Bh4 Kxd4 | 54.Ke6 Kc4 |
| 55.Be1 a5!  | Sapundjiev |
| 53...       | Bd1        |
| 54.Bb6      | Kxd4       |
| 55.Kh4      | Kc4        |
| 56.Ba5      | Kb5        |
| 57.Kg5      | Bf3        |
| 58.Kf4      | Bd5        |
| 59.Kg5      |            |



- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 59...   | b6!! |
| 60.cxb6 | c5   |
- Bulgaria drew 3:3 against USSR, this board 4 game being their sole win.
- 0-1



**White: Persits, Boris**  
**Black: Gudjev, Mladen**  
Simagin Memorial, 1992  
Four Knights/ Rubinstein [C48]  
[Notes by John E Hawkes after Gudjev]

- |              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 1.e4         | e5                             |
| 2.Nf3        | Nc6                            |
| 3.Nc3        | Nf6                            |
| 4.Bb5        | Nd4                            |
| 5.Ba4        | Bc5                            |
| 6.Nxe5       | 0-0                            |
| 7.d3         | d5                             |
| 8.Bg5        | c6                             |
| 9.Kf1?!      |                                |
| 9.Qd2; 9.Bh4 | had been anticipated by Black. |
| 9...         | Re8                            |
| 10.Nf3       | b5!                            |
| 11.Bb3       | b4                             |
| 12.Na4       | dxe4!                          |
| 13.Nxd4      |                                |
| 13.Nxc5 exf3 |                                |
| 13..         | Bxd4                           |
| 14.h3        |                                |

14.dxe4?? Ba6+ 15.Kg1 Bxf2+  
 14... Qa5  
 15.Bxf6 Bxf6  
 16.a3 exd3  
 17.axb4 Qxb4  
 18.Qxd3 Qa5  
 19.Kg1 Ba6  
 20.Qf3 Rad8  
 21.Kh2 Be2  
 22.Qxc6 Bd4  
 23.Nc3 Qe5+  
 24.g3 Bxf2  
 25.Qg2



25... Qf5  
 26.Ra4 Re3  
 27.Rf4 Bxg3+  
 28.Qxg3 Qe5!!  
 29.Qh4 Rd2!—+  
 29... Qxe3  
 30.Rxf7 Kh8  
 31.Re1 Qe5+  
 32.Kg2 Qg5+  
 33.Kh2 Bg4!  
 34.Re4 Bf5  
 35.Rd4 Re8  
 36.Ba4 Bxh3!!  
 37.Rf2 Qe5+  
 38.Rff4 Bf5  
 39.Bxe8 g5  
 40.Bb5 gxf4  
 41.Rd5 Qe3!  
 42.Rxf5 Qg3+  
 43.Kh1 Qh3+

A truly fantastic game throughout!  
 Mladen Gudjev was a fine second-  
 place in the tournament just half-a-  
 point behind Z.Pioch of Poland.

0-1



© John E. Hawkes



Postcard received by John from a  
 Bulgarian opponent!



## Miniature Correspondence Masterpieces No. 5

By John E. Hawkes

**White: Kriukov, Vladimir**

**Black: Popov, Georgi**

Correspondence, 1963

Ruy Lopez Schliemann [C63]

[Notes by John E Hawkes;

Source: Andrei Malchev's wonderful  
 tome "Spanish Games", Sofia 1975]

1.e4 e5  
 2.Nf3 Nc6  
 3.Bb5 f5  
 4.Nc3 Nd4

The Bulgarian variation of the  
 Schliemann.

5.Bc4

5.Ba4 c6 6.Nxe5 (6.exf5 Qa5 7.0-0  
 d6 8.b4 Qxb4 9.Rb1 Qa5 10.Ba3 Nf6  
 11.Re1 Kd8 12.Ng5 Kc7 13.Bb4 Qa6  
 and Black is ok, as in Minic - Minev,  
 Zagreb 1955.) 6...Qf6 7.Nf3 fxe4  
 8.Nxe4 Nxf3+ 9.Qxf3 Qxf3 10.gxf3  
 d5 11.Ng3 Bh3 Minev -  
 Metchkarov, Sofia 1962.

5... c6

5...d6 6.d3 Be7 7.Nxd4 exd4 8.Ne2  
 Bf6 9.0-0 c6 10.Ng3 Ne7 is another  
 way to play it, as in Faibisovich -  
 Korolev, Leningrad 1962.

6.0-0

Baumgartner - Popov, corres. 1963  
 went; 6.d3 Nxf3+ 7.Qxf3 Qf6 8.a3  
 Ne7 9.Bd2 d6 10.0-0 f4 11.d4 h5  
 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Qe2 g5 14.b4 g4  
 15.Qd3 Be6 16.Qd6 Kf7 17.Bxe6+  
 Qxe6 18.Qxe6+ Kxe6 19.Na4 b6  
 20.f3 Ng6 21.Kf2 Be7 22.c4 Rad8  
 23.Rad1 Nh4 24.Bc3 gxf3 25.Rxd8  
 Rxd8 26.gxf3 Rd3 White resigned.

6... d6

7.Re1 Nxf3+

8.Qxf3



8... f4!

9.g3

9.Bxg8 Rxg8 10.Qh5+ g6 11.Qxh7  
 Rg7 12.Qh8 Kf7—+

9... Qf6

10.d4 g5

11.Bd2 h5

12.gxf4 gxf4

13.h3 Qh4

14.Kh2

Now the three Black minor pieces  
 come out in succession: White's  
 reaction in the centre will come too  
 late.

14... Nf6

15.Ne2 Bh6

16.Bc3 Bxh3!

0-1



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## International Update

By George Pyrich

### ICCF Olympiad 21 Preliminaries

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

			TD Millstone, Michael (IA)										Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10							
1	Scotland	2393	█	2	1.5	3	1.5	1	2.5	2	1.5	1	16	51	1	1	31	23	1
2	Brazil	2376	2	█	2	2	1.5	2	1.5	1	2.5	0	14.5	51	1	0	28	26	2
3	Romania	2445	1.5	2	█	1.5	1	2	1	1.5	2	1	13.5	54	2	0	25	29	3
4	Wales	2348	3	2	1.5	█	1	1.5	1	0.5	1.5	0.5	12.5	50	0	1	25	29	4
5	Argentina	2458	1.5	1.5	1	1	█	1.5	1.5	1	1	1	11	50	0	0	22	32	5
6	South Africa	2245	1	2	1	1.5	1.5	█	0.5	0.5	1	1	10	45	-2	0	22	32	6
7	Ukraine	2434	2.5	1.5	1	1	1.5	0.5	█	1	0	0.5	9.5	50	0	0	19	35	7
8	Lithuania	2511	2	1	1.5	0.5	1	0.5	1	█	0.5	1	9	50	0	0	18	36	8
9	Hong Kong	2301	0.5	1.5	1	1.5	1	2	0	0.5	█	0	8	42	-3	0	19	35	9
10	Norway	2380	1	0	1	0.5	1	1	0.5	1	1	█	7	53	1	0	13	41	10

The team's steady start has continued with 31 results to date – 30 draws and a win by Gordon Anderson on Board 6 – finding itself at the top end of the table.

### 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	3.5	4.5	3	4	3.5	3	2.5	4	4.5	3	38.5	55	7	6	70	18	1
2	Portugal	2356	3	█	3	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.5	3	2.5	2.5	4.5	3	36.5	55	7	6	66	22	2
3	England	2396	3.5	3	█	4.5	3.5	2	4	1.5	1.5	1.5	4.5	4	33.5	55	7	6	60	28	3
4	U.S.A.	2398	2.5	3.5	3.5	█	3.5	2	3	3.5	2.5	3	3.5	3	33.5	50	0	0	67	21	4
5	France	2359	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	█	4	3	3	2	2.5	3.5	4	32.5	49	-1	2	66	22	5
6	España - Desafio	2348	3	2.5	2	4	3	█	4.5	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	3.5	32	50	1	3	63	25	6
7	Norway	2390	3.5	3.5	2	4	3	2.5	█	2	1.5	3	3	3	31	47	-3	1	65	23	7
8	U.S.A.-II	2386	3	3	1.5	3.5	3	2.5	3	█	1	2.5	4.5	2.5	30	51	2	2	58	30	8
9	España-Fortuna	2360	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	1.5	2	█	1.5	4.5	2	28	57	7	2	49	39	9
10	Canada	2320	3	2.5	1.5	3	2.5	2	3	2.5	1.5	█	3.5	2	27	50	1	0	53	35	10
11	Scotland	2184	1.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	1.5	1.5	█	3	24.5	37	-16	0	65	23	11
12	Iceland	2330	2	1	2	1	2	2.5	2	2.5	2	2	2	█	21	38	-12	0	54	34	12

The team's struggles in this event have continued since last time – presently the team has 24½ points from 65 completed games and is rooted firmly at the foot of the table contesting the wooden spoon position with Iceland.

### Current Friendly Internationals

#### GB/TriNat/2016, British Tri-Nations 2016

			TD Ylönen, Olli			Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place
			1	2	3							
1	Wales	2029	█	10	12.5	22.5	62	9	3	36	4	1
2	England	2061	9	█	11	20	52	2	2	38	2	2
3	Scotland	1991	4.5	8	█	12.5	34	-11	0	36	4	3

A few games remain unfinished in this event where the team's last place was confirmed some months ago. The team may however hope to redeem itself in the 4th edition of this event planned to start late April/early May.

Start	Boards	Opponents	Mode	For	Against	Void	Result
Dec 2016	24	Italy	Server	5½	13½		
Dec 2016	8	Indonesia	Server	8	5		
Nov 2016	26	Canada	Server	10½	16½		
Jan 2016	25	USA	Server	24½	25½		loss
Oct 2015	25	Australia	Server	25½	22½		win
May 2015	25	Netherlands	Server	18½	31½		loss

Unfortunately your scribe was unable to save a long endgame in the last game to finish in our match against USA with the team being edged out very narrowly 25½ – 24½. In another match to finish against the Netherlands the team lost heavily 18½ – 32½ Presently the team is trailing badly against Italy, 5½ – 13½, but is doing a little better against Canada, 10½ – 16½. Only 1 game remains unfinished in the match against Australia where, as reported last time, we are assured of victory 25½ – 22½. In the last of our current matches we presently lead Indonesia 8 – 5 A new match against Finland is planned to start soon.

### NSTT 3

#### North-Sea/TT3, North Sea Team Tournament 3

			TD Doorn, Jos P. M. van											Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
1	Netherlands B	2264	█	3.5	2	2	1.5	3	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	1	22.5	51	1	3	44	16	1
2	France	2302	2.5	█	2	2.5	2.5	3	1	2	0.5	2	2	20	58	6	1	34	26	2
3	Sweden	2274	2	2	█	1	0.5	1	1.5	1.5	0.5	2.5	1.5	14	58	4	0	24	36	3
4	Denmark	2371	3	1.5	1	█	2	1	1.5	2	0	1.5	0	13.5	54	2	1	25	35	4
5	England	2346	2.5	1.5	0.5	2	█	2	1	1.5	0	1.5	0	12.5	56	3	0	22	38	5
6	Belgium	2210	2	2	1	1	0	█	1	0	1	2	2	12	42	-4	0	28	32	6
7	Netherlands A	2280	2.5	1	1.5	0.5	1	1	█	2	0	2	0.5	12	52	1	0	23	37	7
8	Scotland	2164	1.5	1	0.5	1	1.5	1	1	█	0.5	1.5	1.5	11	43	-3	0	25	35	8
9	Germany	2288	2	0.5	0.5	1	0	2	0	0.5	█	1.5	0	8	61	3	0	13	47	9
10	Iceland	2338	2.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1	0.5	0.5	█	0	7	28	-11	0	25	35	10
11	Norway	2236	1	1	0.5	0	0	1	0.5	1.5	0	1	█	6.5	43	-2	0	15	45	11

Our standing, presently 8th place, has improved a little since last time with the team having scored 11 points from 25 games (43%). There is very little however between ourselves and those teams above us and a few wins would see the team climb the table.

### 11<sup>th</sup> European Team Championship

The semi-finals of this new cycle are now scheduled to start on 1st June and the team selection process is presently underway.

### British CC Team Championship 2016/17

#### GB/TC2016/7, British CC Team Championship 2016/7

		TD Akrill, Richard								Total	FG	RG	Wins								
		Bd 1	Bd 2	Bd 3	Bd 4	Bd 5	Bd 6	Bd 7	Bd 8												
1	Square Bashers	.	.	.	.	.	½	½	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	4	5	11	3		
1	BCCA Alekhine	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	½	.	.	.	.	.	½	1	4	5	11	3	
3	White Rose	½	½	.	.	½	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	½	.	1	1	4	6	10	2
4	Trophy Hunters	½	½	.	.	.	.	½	½	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	4	12	0	
5	Scottish CCA	.	.	.	.	.	.	½	½	.	.	.	.	.	½	.	.	1.5	3	13	0
6	Y Dreigiau Cymreig	.	.	½	½	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	½	1.5	4	12	0
7	HSBC	.	.	.	.	½	.	½	½	.	.	.	.	.	0	0	0	1.5	7	9	0
8	CS Administrators	.	.	½	½	0	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	.	1	5	11	0	
9	BCCA Capablanca	.	.	.	.	.	½	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.5	1	15	0	

Thus far few results have been reported in this event where to date the team has scored 3 draws.

## ICCF World Championship 41 Preliminaries

Geoff Lloyd is our sole representative in this event which started on 20th March.

### Esko Nuutilainen Memorial Team Tournament

This event is dedicated to the memory of the recently deceased long serving ICCF delegate for Finland, Esko Nuutilainen. The event, over 6 boards with a higher grading restriction of 2300 and planned to start on 1st June, in effect replaces the Thor Lovholt Memorial Team Tournament held a few years ago. The team selection process is presently underway.

### Invitation Events

From time to time some of our players are fortunate enough to take part in a few of the numerous Memorial/Jubilee events organised by other ICCF Federations. As reported previously, Richard Beecham shared 2nd place in the very strong GM level Adrian Hollis Memorial (ENG). Geoff Lloyd shared 11th place with a score of 4.5/12 in the WCCF Congress Invitational event (WLS). Presently Tom Matheis competes in the very strong Germany Advanced Masters 02-B event thus far scoring 5.5/11 – one striking feature of this event has been that thus far all but 5 of the 110 completed games have ended in draws! Your scribe has joined Alan Borwell in the recently commenced Esko Nuutilainen Memorial Tournament (FIN) and is as well as participating in the Dr. Glen Shields Memorial Tournament (USA) dedicated to the memory of the long serving US Federation official and organiser thus far scoring 5/12. Finally David Cumming has recently started play the 9th ICCF Interzonal Team Tournament representing the “Europe B” team on board 5. David is also taking part in the 2nd ICCF Interzonal Individual tournament where, with 3/5, he presently leads Preliminary Group A.

### 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)

Here are two further games from players who have registered CCE norms. We start with Gordon Anderson playing Board 6 for Scotland in the 21<sup>st</sup> Olympiad Prelims (where draws are frequent!).

**White: Anderson, Gordon (2320)**  
**Black: Lam, Mingo Kwok Wai (1936)**

CCO21/S4 ICCF, 2016  
English Opening [A27]  
*[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]*

1.c4 e5  
2.g3 Nc6  
3.Nc3 f5  
4.Nf3 Nf6  
5.d4 e4  
6.Nh4 g6?!

6...d6 is the main alternative here, with Black scoring better on the database.

7.Bg5 Bg7  
8.Qd2 d6  
9.0-0-0 0-0N

9...Qd7 was Davis, Max (2319) v Pellen, Mikael (2336), London-Paris 2009, 0-1 after 36 moves.

10.Bg2  
10.Ng2 is also playable.

10... Qd7  
11.f3 Qf7  
12.fxe4 Nxe4  
13.Bxe4 fxe4

14.Bh6 Qxc4  
15.Bxg7 Kxg7

Black's choice of opening has been enterprising and his development is fine. The position is equal.



16.Ng2 Bh3?

Superficially tempting, but hands the initiative to White. The bishop gets locked in and Black's central mobility suffers in consequence.

17.Ne3 Qf7  
18.g4 Qf2  
19.Rdg1 Qh4  
20.Rg3 Rae8  
21.Rhg1 Rf7  
22.a3 a6  
23.Kb1 Kh8  
24.Ka2

White finds a bolt-hole for his king before exploiting Black's k-side problems.

24... Na7  
Heading for b5, but too slow and takes the knight out of the game.

25.d5  
Idea Qd4+

25... Kg8  
26.Ncd1 Rf8  
27.Qe1 Rf4



27...Qh6 was maybe better in view of what follows.

28.Nf2! Rxf2  
29.Nf5!

A stylish finish from Gordon!  
29.Nf5 R8xf5 30.gxf5 e3 31.fxg6 h5  
32.Rxe3+;  
29.Nf5 R2xf5 30.gxf5 Bg4 31.fxg6  
hxg6 32.Rxg4 Qxe1 33.Rxe1+;

29.Nf5 Qg5 30.Qxf2 Bxg4 31.Rxg4  
Qxf5 32.Qxa7 Qxd5+ 33.Ka1+-  
1-0



Now Geoff Lloyd secures a sound draw against the highest-ranked player in the 1<sup>st</sup> Welsh Invitational Tournament. The game has a fair few tactical undercurrents.

**White: Lloyd, Geoffrey (2256)**

**Black: Landes, Eric (2313)**

1st Welsh Invitational ICCF, 2016  
Semi-Slav [D46]

[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

1.d4 d5  
2.c4 c6  
3.Nc3 Nf6  
4.e3 e6  
5.Nf3 Nbd7

6.Qc2  
6.Bd3 is the main alternative.

6... Bd6  
7.Bd3

7.g4 has some high-graded CC adherents.

7... 0-0

8.Bd2

Relatively infrequent, though Yoav Dothan, the Israeli GM, has tried this back in 2009. 8.0-0 is the popular line.

8... dxc4

9.Bxc4 b5

9...e5 10.0-0 exd4 11.exd4 Nb6 is a variation which has worked fairly well for Black.

10.Bd3 Bb7

11.Ng5 g6



**12.0-0N**

Geoff avoids 12.h4 which was Lorenz, Rudolf (2189) v Vecsek, Marjan (2279), European Championship Prelims, 2014, 0-1 after 32 moves.

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12... Rc8

12...Qb8 was possible with some counter-attacking chances, but Eric opts to keep it tight.

13.Nce4 Be7

14.Nxf6+ Nxf6

14...Bxf6?! 15.Ne4 Be7 16.b4±

15.Ne4 c5



16.Nxc5

16.Nxf6+ Bxf6 17.dxc5 Bxb2

18.Rab1= (18.Qxb2 Qxd3±)]

16... Qd5

17.f3

17.e4 Qxd4 18.b4 Bxe4 19.Bxe4

Nxe4 20.Qxe4 Qxd2±

17... Bxc5

18.dxc5 Rfd8

19.Bc3 Qxc5

20.Rfe1

20.Bxf6 Qxe3+ 21.Qf2 Qxf2+

22.Kxf2 Rxd3=

20... e5

21.a3 a5

22.Bxa5 Qd6

Only move.

23.Qd1 Qxd3

24.Bxd8 Rxd8

25.Qxd3

25.Qxd3 Rxd3 26.e4 Ne8 and the R+P v N+B ending will be drawn.

½-½



Finally, an entertaining encounter supplied by Raymond Burrige who is a regular competitor in BCCA events.

**White: Burrige, Raymond (2048)**

**Black: Biddulph, David (1891)**

[B78]

BCCA Postal Championship

Candidates, 2017

Sicilian Dragon, Yugoslav Attack

[B78]

[Notes by Raymond Burrige]

1.e4 c5  
2.Nf3 d6  
3.d4 cxd4  
4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 g6  
6.Be3 Bg7  
7.f3 0-0  
8.Qd2 Nc6  
9.Bc4 Bd7  
10.0-0-0 Ne5  
11.Bb3 Rc8  
12.Kb1 Nc4  
13.Bxc4 Rxc4  
14.g4 Re8

Waste of a tempo – more appropriate to try to switch it to the queenside.

15.h4 a6?

16.h5 b5

17.hxg6 fxg6



18.e5!

A typical line-opening sacrifice.

18... dxe5

19.Ne6 Qc8

20.Nxg7 Kxg7

21.g5 Bc6

22.gxf6+ exf6

23.b3 Rxc3

24.Qxc3 Bxf3

25.Qxc8 Rxc8

26.Rd7+

This leads to mate.

26... Kg8

27.Rhx7 Be4

28.Rdg7+

And Black resigned. If 28.Rdg7+

Kf8 29.Bh6 Bxc2+ 30.Kb2 Bxb3

31.Rh8+ Bg8 32.Rhxg8#

1-0



Spring 2017





## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 2017

#### Theme 3/17: Sicilian Paulsen, B41-3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6

Entries by 15 September; play starts 1 October

#### Theme 4/17: Queen's Gambit Accepted, D20

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.Bxc4 Nb6

Entries by 15 November; play starts 1 December

### Webserver Events 2017

#### Theme 3/17 – Latvian Gambit, C40

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5

Entries by 1 April; play starts 15 April

#### Theme 4/17 – Chigorin Defence, D07

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6

Entries by 15 May; play starts 1 June

Note there are no Email Events in 2017.

## News

- ❑ World Championship 28 has now completed with the following medal winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Leonardo Ljubičić (CRO); 2<sup>nd</sup> Horácio Neto (POR); 3<sup>rd</sup> Petr Boukal (CZE).
- ❑ Succeeding Dr. Uwe Staroske, Dr. Stephan Busemann was elected president of the German CC federation and is German ICCF delegate effective Jan 1, 2017.
- ❑ Twice World Champion (2005 and 2008) Joop van Oosterom (NED) died earlier in the year at his retirement home in Monaco. Joop founded the automation company Volmac 50 years ago, which later became part of Cap Gemini.
- ❑ Another former World Champion (1968), Hans Berliner, died in January aged 87 at Riviera Beach in Florida. Born in Berlin, he emigrated to the USA in 1937 and later pioneered one of the first chess-playing computers, HiTech, released in 1985.
- ❑ The ICCF Games Archive is now available up to March 2017 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 George Pyrich at: [international@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:international@scottishcca.co.uk)

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