Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

Magazine No.164

Winter 2023

ICCF Grading List 2024/1 Alistair analyses the Q1 statistics

Christmas in Prague *Peter recounts a seasonal tale*

The Hawkes Files John celebrates the birth centenary of Klaus Junge

Edinburgh v London Andre reports on the 200th Anniversary match

Chess Art We feature the work of Anna Berezovskaya

Domestic Report *Mickey looks at SCCA events during 2023*

> **International Report** David looks beyond these shores



Two knights back to back, from Skye, mid-13th century National Museum of Scotland <u>https://www.nms.ac.uk</u>



NB printed copies no longer available after this edition.

Editorial and News



Welcome to the final edition of our 2023 magazine set. My Christmas and New Year was hectic with our entire family staying in St Andrews over the period. I hope your holiday was just as enjoyable, and my very best wishes for 2024!

The first ICCF rating list of 2024 is analysed by our grader Alistair Maxwell, who reports that Robert Montgomery has now qualified for the Scottish Master title – congratulations to Robert, who will receive his award at our 2024 AGM.

After his much-read series on 'Is there a future for CC?' Peter Bennett gives us a charming seasonal tale entitled 'Christmas in Prague'. Manners maketh man...

A new contributor, Andre Antunes, presents details of the re-match of the famous 1824 Edinburgh-London postal match (horse & carriage). Edinburgh were successful once more, and retain the Scot's/Scotch Cup. Graham Morrison provides some annotated games this edition and next.

John Hawkes profiles the German player Klaus Junge who was a victim of the 1939-45 war (as were three of his brothers), but who produced some memorable games during his short life.

Our Chess Art pages focus on Anna Berezovskaya, a wonderfully talented Russian artist now living in Dubai. Anna's works feature a number of chess motifs alongside Russian folklore. Enjoy that brushwork!

Membership Secretary Mickey Blake presents last year's domestic results, with some tight finishes still outstanding. On our Notices page, Mickey exhorts those of you who haven't renewed memberships to do so soon so we can start 2024 events promptly.

International Secretary David Kilgour updates us on external events with a Scottish interest, and also announces the Scotland team for the 23rd Olympiad Prelims.

Remember that the SCCA 2023 Best Game Prize is now off and running. Send your entries to me before the end of January 2024 (see Notices page for full details).

This is our last printed edition, so thanks to all of you who have subscribed over the years, and to Danscot of Perth who have provided a high-quality and very friendly service!

SCCA Membership

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

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

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

SCCA 100 Club

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

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

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

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

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

Recent 100 Club Winners

2023	1st	2nd
December	J S Murray	I Mackintosh
November	K B McAlpine	W H Cormack
October	J M Armstrong	J M Armstrong

SCCA Officials				
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23rd ICCF CC Olympiad



A reminder that the preliminary rounds of this event will start on 22nd January 2024.

International Secretary David Kilgour has completed the selection of the Scotland team aqnd you can see the

details in his International Report later in this edition. .

GM AleksandrDronovDead



ICCF President Eric Ruch writes:

Dear ICCF friends

It is with deep sadness that we have been informed of the passing of Aleksandr Dronov (1946-2023), three times Correspondence Chess World

Champion and ICCF Hall of Fame inductee in 2021.

Our thoughts and condolences go out to Aleksandr's family and friends during this difficult time. He will be greatly missed and his memory will forever remain in the annals of correspondence chess history.

USSR Compatriot Andrey Pavlikovwrites:

Three-time world champion in correspondence chess Aleksandr Dronov (1946-2023) passed away on December 7, 2023.

Aleksandr Dronov was born in Moscow in 1946. He began playing chess in 1961 at the age of 15. Until 1987, he played only in OTB tournaments.Since 1987, Aleksandr Dronov began playing correspondence chess, where he achieved outstanding success.

In the 90s, he was already one of the strongest Russian correspondence chess players, and he began to represent Russia in international tournaments. In 2003, he was awarded the title of ICCF International Master, and then in 2005 the title of Senior International Master and the title of International Grandmaster of the ICCF.

In the 2000s, Dronov started his way for the title of World Correspondence Champion. Having qualified for the Candidates Tournament in 2006, he won it brilliantly and reached the final of the 22nd World Championship. The main intrigue of the competition was the participation of the two-time World Champion from the Netherlands Joop van Oosterom. The championship ended in 2010 and the winner was Aleksandr Dronov.

In 2014, he managed to repeat his success, winning the final of the 27th World Championship. In 2018, Dronov became the World Champion for the third time, winning the 29th World Championship.

At the end of the 29th World Championship final the history of correspondence chess had known only two players to become two-time World Champion. These were Tynu Oim and Joop van Oosterom.

Aleksandr Dronov became the very first three-time World Champion. This is an absolute record. He remains a true legend of correspondence chess who achieved incredible results.

SCCA Printed Magazine Last Edition



At we mentioned in edition 163, this magazine is rhe last printed magazine in the series and edition 165 in April 2024 will be issued online in pdf format only.

It's sad to see a long-standing service go, but we are only sending out 5 copies each quarter, and our printing costs are well in excess of any revenue we get

If you want to chart the history of previous editions, try visiting the members' page of the SCCA website at: <u>https://www.scottishcca.co.uk/members.html</u> (password required). It contains all the printed magazines, mainly courtesy of Alistair Maxwell and Bernard Milligan. Enjoy!

ICCF 48th WCCC Preliminaries Announced



Full details of these appear on the SCCA News page as well as the ICCF Home page. For further information, contact David Kilgour on <u>international@scottishcca.co.uk</u>.

SCCA Annual Best Game Prize



The SCCA Best Game Prize will once again operate this year, covering games completed during 2022. The trophy (pictured above) will carry the inscription of its sponsor, Raymond Burridge, i.e.

The R.J. Burridge Trophy SCCA Best Game Prize 2023 (winner's name)

To recap on the rules:

- Entries are games which finish in calendar year 2022;
- •Entries restricted to events organised by SCCA or ICCF;
- •Only SCCA members can submit their games;
- •Games may have been previously published;
- •Submission period will close at the end of January 2023
- •The Committee will appoint a judge (who cannot enter!);
- •The winner will be announced by end-March 2023and we'll feature the game in a subsequent magazine;
- •The winner receives a trophy miniature and certificate.

We're pleased to confirm that this year's judge will be IM Valer Eugen Demian of Canada, and we'll announce the winning entry by end-March.

Please send your games to Iain Mackintosh at <u>president@scottishcca.co.uk</u> – multiple entries are allowed – to reach him by end-January 2023.

Fernschach 2024 CC Database



Herbert Bellmann writes to advise that Fernschach 2024 offers a CC games database in addition to ICCF and commercial products. In summary:

- Database available annually since 2000
- Nearly 1,933,000 games (from 1991)
- Over 95,000 new games since 2023
- Over 10,000 annotated (320 new)
- German letters ä, ö, ü and ß are not counted in names
- Games from all main chess servers + post + email All tournaments marked correspondence so that CC games can be recognised in a larger database

The price is $\triangleleft 4.00$ (shipping within Germany) and $\triangleleft 6$ (shipping elsewhere). Email version $\triangleleft 2$. For further details, contact Herbert at:

Herbert Bellmann Auf dem Brink 11 46399 Bocholt Germany

Germany

Bank details: Transfer the purchase amount to: Bocholt Municipal Savings Bank (Stadtsparkasse Bocholt)

IBAN DE 33428500350100118801 BIC SWIFT WELADED1BOH Purpose: FS CD 2023

Your order must provide your complete postal address! Email: <u>hebel57@gmx.de</u> https://www.bdf-fernschachbund.de/news/fernschach-cd-

2023-erschienen.html

ICCF Games Archive Updates



December updates to the Games Archive have now been added. You can now download the entire archive to end-December 2023.

SCCA on Twitter



Mickey Blake sends a reminder that we are now on Twitter at <u>https://twitter.com/scotcorrchess</u>

The account is linked to <u>membership@scottishcca.co.uk</u>

If you are a Twitter user, feel free to follow us and retweet our news items. We'll retweet news from ICCF to broaden the reach of their tournament announcements etc., and our posts will carry the tag #CorrespondenceChess

Our page looks like this:



Scottish Correspondence Chess @SootCorrChess

The SCCA is a non-profit body responsible for organising and promoting correspondence chess (CC) in Scotland. We are a full national member of ICCF.

Scotland & scottisheca.co.uk I Joined May 2022

21 Following 6 Followers

If you're a Twitter user, feel free to get in touch!

SCCA on Facebook



Mickey Blake continues as our FB editor.

If you prefer to get your updates from Social Media, then the page to visit is:

https://www.facebook.com/scottishcca

You can help Mickey by posting your own comments on the page, and 'Liking' anything which catches your eye!

For reference, ICCF are on Facebook at:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/168419426514337

SCCA Membership 2024



Mickey Blake writes:

Scottish 2024 tournaments are due to start early next year and we ask players to consider renewing or joining the SCCA so that we may start these tournaments on time.

Life members should submit the tournament entry form if wishing to enter domestic events.

Details of membership may be read at SCCA Membership https://www.scottishcca.co.uk/membership.html

Members of SCCA gain free entry to domestic and international team matches. Also included with your membership is free access to a quarterly magazine and its back issues.

National Tournaments

Each year, the SCCA organises the Scottish Championship and a range of domestic tournaments that include individual and team competitions. The Scottish Championship has three sections and caters for players of all standards.

We also organise a rolling Challengers event that allows entry and new games at any time of the year, medals are awarded in this event. A Team League is also available and offers competition against teams of four players from other organisations.

International Tournaments

The SCCA is a member of ICCF, we play internationally in tournaments such as the Olympiad as well as friendlies against other nations and chess organisations. All standards of play are welcome. These events are free to SCCA members.

SCCA Membership

The cost of Annual membership[is just £10. This gives you access to our domestic and international matches as well as our quarterly magazine and back issues.

Please consider joining or renewing your membership. Further details are available via https://www.scottishcca.co.uk/membership.html

where you will find a description of our tournaments alongside a membership form and a tournament entry form.



2024/1 Grading List



The first ICCF grading list of 2024 is published and new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 Oct and 31 Dec 2023. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 Jan and 31 Mar 2023.

In the norms and titles stakes it appears that Robert Montgomery has secured a final norm for the Scottish Master title (thanks for pointing it out Robert!). This is subject to ratification by the SCCA Executive Committee. Ian Whittaker and Colin Beveridge also earn SM norms through ratings. Congratulations (subject to ratification!) to them all.

There were 3 deletions from the list due to inactivity. The most significant rating moves were Andrew MacMillen (+70), David Carswell (+56), John Armstrong (+55), Colin Beveridge (+51), Arthur Knox & Ian Whittaker (+35), Mark Smith (+29), Allan Buchan and Iain Sneddon (+21) and Geoffrey Lloyd (+20).

New games centurions were Carlos Almarza Mato (2500+), Geoffrey Lloyd (1200+) and Gordon Anderson (400+) Highest recorded games this quarter were Iain Sneddon (41), Carlos Almarza Mato (40), David Cumming (36) and Geoffrey Lloyd (+30).

You need to complete 12 ICCF-eligible games to obtain a rating. Fixed ratings are based on at least 30 games and only these are shown below. Rating changes are denoted by arrows. Email <u>grader@scottishcca.co.uk</u> if you have any queries.

No.	Name	Results	Grade	No.	Name	Results	Grade
317	Almarza Mato, C (CCE)	2517	2120 ↓	584	MacGregor, C A	518	1953 ↓
518	Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	404	2287 ↓	532	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	858	2410 ↑
	Anderson, T R	65	1701 ↓	216	MacMillen, A N	1515	1651 ↑
	Antunes, A	50	2199 ↑		Major, B	114	1185 ↓
313	Armstrong, J McK	548	1466 ↑	566	Marshall, I H	920	2154 ↑
511	Beecham, C R (SIM)	550	2470 ↓	434	Matheis, T (IM)	315	$2449 \leftrightarrow$
599	Bell, A D (IM)	285	$2429 \leftrightarrow$		Maxwell, A	75	2060 ↑
501	Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	513	$2378 \leftrightarrow$		Miles, A	106	1231 ↓
481	Beveridge, C (CCM)	820	2304 ↑	598	Montgomery, R S (CCM)	394	2329 ↓
472	Blake, M J (CCM)	963	2389 ↑		Morrison, G J (CCM)	89	2325 ↓
509	Borwell, A P (IM)	1105	$2197 \leftrightarrow$		Moss, R	47	$1778 \leftrightarrow$
486	Buchan, A W (CCM)	447	2459 ↑	474	Murden, C (IM)	684	2462 ↑
602	Burridge, R J	1988	1829 ↓	564	Murray, J S	108	2079 ↑
	Carswell, D	53	1584 ↑	603	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	252	1571 ↔
247	Cormack, W H	132	1874 ↓	604	Paine, Prof K A (CCM, SM)	260	2333 ↓
166	Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	2274	2249 ↓		Pettigrew, S	194	1379 ↔
422	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	179	$2144 \leftrightarrow$	432	Price, D	532	2019 ↓
478	Dunn, J	543	1285 ↓		Rafferty, F	42	$1343 \leftrightarrow$
371	Edney, D	339	$1818 \leftrightarrow$		Ross, Derek I	57	$1808 \leftrightarrow$
462	Gilbert, R	329	1521 ↓		Sedstrem, A	119	$1348 \leftrightarrow$
596	Hardwick, M E	1941	901 ↓	477	Smith, M J (CCE)	134	2239 ↑
548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	372	2286 ↓	439	Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	761	2402 ↑
260	Knox, A	431	1266 ↑	057	Taylor, A	49	1801 ↓
	Lima, Joao	30	$2039 \leftrightarrow$		Taylor, R	82	$1425 \leftrightarrow$
264	Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	1211	2290 ↑		Taylor, W (CCE)	220	2079 ↓
	MacDonald, M	114	$1106 \leftrightarrow$	605	Whittaker, I P (CCE)	330	2315 ↑
				480	Wicht, D	82	1890 ↔



Statistical Analysis

Total listed	53
New entrants	0
Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members)	3
Grading increases ()	17
Grading decreases (\downarrow)	20
Grading static (\leftrightarrow)	16

Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	2470	Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	2287
Murden, C (IM)	2462	Kilgour, D A (GM)	2286
Buchan, A W (CCM)	2459	Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	2253
Matheis, T (IM)	2449	Smith, M J (CCE)	2249
Bell, A D (IM)	2429	Antunes, A	2199
Mackintosh, I (SIM)	2410	Borwell, A P (IM)	2197
Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	2402	Marshall, I H	2154
Blake, M J (CCM)	2389	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	2144
Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	2378	Almarza Mato, C (CCE)	2120
Paine, Prof K A (CCM, SM)	2333	Murray, J S	2079
Montgomery, R S (CCM)	2329	Taylor, W (CCE)	2079
Morrison, G J (CCM)	2325	Maxwell, A	2060
Whittaker, I P (CCE)	2315	Lima, J	2039
Beveridge, C (CCM)	2304	Price, D	2019
Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	2290	MacGregor, C A	1953

Top 10 Rated Games

Almarza-Mato, C (CCE)	2517	Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	1211
Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	2274	Borwell, A P (IM)	1105
Burridge, R J	1988	Blake, M J (CCM)	963
Hardwick, M E	1941	Marshall, I H	920
MacMillen, A N	1515	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	858

Selected Personal Best Grades 2022/2

	New	Prev	vious	Gain
Murden, C (IM)	2462	2461	2022/2	1
Buchan, A W (CCM)	2459	2438	2023/4	21
Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	2402	2384	2022/4	18
Blake, M J (CCM)	2389	2388	2022/4	1
Whittaker, I P (CCE)	2315	2280	2023/4	35
Beveridge, C (CCM)	2304	2294	2020/4	10
Smith, M J (CCE)	2239	2210	2023/4	29
Marshall, I H	2154	2153	2023/4	1
Antunes, A	2199	2135	2023/4	64
Murray, J S	2079	2075	2023/4	4

Other Notes

Senior International Master (SIM) title norms are held by: Matheis, T (1), Murden, C (1)
International Master (IM) title norms are held by: Anderson, G M (1), Bennett, P G (1), Cumming, D R (1), Sneddon, I (2)
Scottish Master (SM) title norms are held by: Buchan, A (1), Beveridge, C (1), Morrison, G J (1), Whittaker, I P (1)
Correspondence Chess Master (CCM) title norms: Whittaker, I P (1), Taylor, W (1)
Correspondence Chess Expert (CCE) title norms: Burridge, R J (2).
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This list includes a number of our members who are registered with other countries. Members who have played <30 games are not shown.

To check your rating online at any time, go to the ICCF webserver site (<u>www.iccf.com</u>), click on the ICCF Ratings link then complete the search boxes.

A number of useful online rating enquiry facilities are available, including a personal forecasted rating as your results come in.



Christmas in Prague A Curious Trip Remembered

Two days before Christmas 2023, a chess friend called Tony – from Vancouver, Canada – sent a message with his latest move in our current game: so what are you doing for Christmas, Peter?

I already knew what Tony was doing. He is a ski fanatic; and he spends the mid-winter months in a condominium near Whistler village, in the Canadian Rockies, where he is what they call a "mountain host". He and his wife, with their children, other relatives and friends were having Christmas dinner for fifteen.

By complete contrast, my Christmas in Edinburgh (as a widower) was to be solitary. I did not see a single person all day, not even a phone call – just a few text messages, with seasonal greetings.

I made myself a half-decent Christmas meal; but most of the day, and half the night, I was writing – and completing – the last chapter of the first draft of my novel. In admitting to this anti-social choice, in my reply message to Tony, I ventured: next year, I'll book into a hotel....

....to which Tony's reply was: people must bring some very strange stories back from Christmases in hotels! True, I thought! That reminds me of Prague, 1998....

Exactly twenty-five years ago, a project I was working on in the city of Flensburg, in Northern Germany, was coming to end. I was due to return to the U.K. in early March, 1999; indeed, my flight was already booked.

My remaining weeks in Germany promised to be very busy except, that is, for the four days over the Christmas holiday, 1998 – when my diary was completely blank.

So I went to see my local travel agent in Flensburg – a lady who who could conjure up magic solutions to travel problems in less than ten minutes – and told her I wanted to book into a hotel for a few days over Christmas. Somewhere exciting, perhaps?

She asked for a budget. I gave it to her. She frowned and shook her head. What you don't seem to realise, Peter, is that hotels in Germany – more or less all of them – charge a small fortune for Christmas bookings. I've nothing to offer you – in the entire country!

No magic at Christmas, evidently; and no ten-minute solutions. She sent me away to get a cup of coffee; and told me to come back in half an hour. At least my dilemma had now fascinated her; and, once fascinated, she always came up with something....

....And she did! Half an hour later my travel agent proudly announced that she had found the perfect solution to my Christmas-on-a-budget requirements: Prague. By slotting me into one of a small number of spare places on a "club" booking. What club? Apparently, that was an irrelevant question. I was to belong to the "club" for four days in order to get the discount on hotel and travel. Thereafter, I could forget about it. And where would I be flying from?

Ah, no chance of a flight on my budget. The entire journey would be overland – by train. The outward journey would take 15 hours, with one change, the return journey, 18 hours, by the scenic route, with three changes. Oh, well. Beggars can't be choosers. I settled for the "club" deal.

Actually, I was no stranger to long-distance train travel; and I imagined this would be just another fascinating feature of my mid-winter adventure.

So, on 23 December 1998, I duly took the familiar local train down to Hamburg where I boarded the inter-city train, ten minutes before its scheduled departure time, which would take me the whole way to Prague, in just over 12 hours, via Berlin and Dresden.

First snag: my booking was on the window side of two airline seats at the very end of a carriage. On the opposite side of the aisle, there was just a luggage rack. So the only person I was likely to set eyes on during this entire twelvehour journey, apart from the ticket inspector, was whichever person had booked the aisle seat next to me, and by whom I would be trapped for the duration.

This reminded me of an eighteen-hour train journey I had once (in 1981) taken from Chicago to Boston, which I was similarly compelled to share with a very boring gentleman who turned out to be a biochemist. He could talk the hind leg off a donkey about viruses; but he seemed to know nothing about anything else.

So, for ten minutes, I sat there praying: please God, if you exist, spare me from the travelling companionship of a virologist!

Well, as either luck or God's Will would have it, on this occasion I was indeed so spared.

Gender: female Age: about 25 Pretty? Very! Nationality: Slovakian Occupation: hospitality Employer: a five-star hotel in Prague Name: Sofia

Sofia was also both charming and friendly. So, in a manner of speaking, we chatted for the whole trip. My outward journey was her return journey, from visiting a cousin in Hamburg. Language was a problem. She spoke Slovakian, Russian and Czech; very little German and even less English. So we mainly communicated in German, while she taught me some useful phrases in Czech; and I taught her some English, which she felt she desperately needed.

The hours flew past. On arrival in Prague, Sofia would be going straight on duty for two days; but on Boxing Day, she had a day off – and offered to spend the whole day showing me around the "real" Prague, not just the tourist attractions.

I gladly accepted her very kind offer; and she told be where and when we should meet.

My own hotel was merely three-star, yet comfortable enough for my purpose. Yet, not until the next morning, at breakfast, did I realise what kind of "club" I had joined. It was a club for silver-haired relics; and our discounted prices were contingent on sharing meals with other members of the party.

So, before the reader is tempted to accuse me of ageism, let me immediately acknowledge that today in 2023 I am, of course, a silver-haired relic myself; and would be very glad of the chance to visit Prague again on the same terms. Nevertheless, back in 1998, I was a sprightly young stripling of 53; and, by a margin of more than twenty years, by far the youngest member of our "club".

So my table allocation, for the duration of my stay, required me to share all my meals with the Misses Ursula and Gisela Schmidt – sisters and spinsters from Schwerin – both in their middle eighties. As it happens, I knew Schwerin – a town in the former East Germany – quite well, which both surprised them and served to break the conversational ice.

Indeed, I have to admit that my lady companions were delighted to have some male company; so I got on like a house on fire with both of them – but not, alas, they with each other.

Whenever Ursula went to the buffet, Gisela would whisper in my ear that I should ignore the nonsensical remarks her sister kept coming out with. And when Gisela went to the buffet, Ursula would whisper in my ear that her sister was now hopelessly demented, and how very sad that was.

Neither of these redoubtable ladies spoke a word of English – just German and the Russian they had once learned in school. But we managed.

Boxing Day duly arrived; and Sofia fulfilled her promise. We met after breakfast and spent the day together; and I was treated to a quite exhausting conducted tour of the city, followed by an evening at a classical concert which at least gave us some warmth.

Even the daytime temperature was well below zero in Prague at Christmas. This, however, did not deter the senior citizens of Prague, who merely donned their overcoats and went out to play open-air chess in the park, as usual.

The reason Sofia gave me – for having the whole day free to serve as my private tour guide – was that her boyfriend, a Czech police officer, was on a double shift at work. In any *SCCA Magazine 164* case, I was scarcely even contemplating any romantic interest in this admittedly very beautiful young lady. After all, she was 25, the same age as one of my nieces, and I was 53, 28 years and a whole generation her senior.

It also emerged that, back in Slovakia a year earlier, Sofia had won a "beauty queen" competition. This I could well believe. And, as an improbable suitor, I decided to treat Sofia like a niece; and tried not to give the impression that I was looking for anything more than the companionship she had freely offered.

Nevertheless, when I left Prague, late the following night, Sofia and I exchanged contact details which, in my case, took the form of my parents' telephone number; and I told her to contact me if ever she was planning to visit the U.K. in the future.

The first part of my return journey was an overnight service, in a train with old-fashioned compartments and a corridor, and which creaked noisily, from Prague to Frankfurt-am-Main, via Nuremberg, which I shall always remember as one of the coldest nights I have every spent. The outside temperature was well below -20C, and the heating system in the train hopelessly inadequate.

Thereafter, in Germany, it was back to the luxury of a modern inter-city service. The following day, speeding north across Lüneburger Heide (heath) between Hannover and Hamburg, I happened, by a strange coincidence, to be reading the final chapter of The Lüneburg Variation, a chess novel!

So much for my 1998 Prague adventure. Some ten weeks later, when visiting my parents (both now, of course, long since deceased) my mother said: oh, by the way, a young lady from Slovakia, by the name of Sofia, keeps phoning us and asking for you. Was she a girlfriend you haven't told us about, by any chance?

So I told my mother the story; and assured her that there was nothing romantic between us. While in Prague, I had been scrupulously careful to behave like a perfect gentleman.

Yes, said my mother wearily; but maybe my gentlemanly behaviour had been a touch too perfect?

I asked her to elaborate.

Gentlemanly behaviour, my mother observed was precisely what young women like Sofia were looking for and which, in her case, she had found in me. From several short telephone discussions with Sofia, my mother had concluded two things: first that Sofia was more than a little in love with me; and, secondly, that her Czech policeman boyfriend was just a cover story, to protect herself. Indeed, he probably didn't even exist.

Who knows? Maybe mum was right?

I told this same story to another old friend of mine, by the name of Joy who, in the first place, agreed with my mother and, in the second place, solved the problem of my unwanted single status (in middle age) by eventually marrying me herself.



Edinburgh vs London Correspondence Chess (CC) Match 2022/23 Part 1





As part of the celebrations for the 200th anniversary of the Edinburgh Chess Club, the club re-enacted the historic correspondence match between Edinburgh and London of 1824.

In the original match, a selection of the best players of the two nations was recruited for the match, which took over 4 years to complete. The moves were taken by horse and carriage between the cities, taking a several days to transport correspondence letters up and down London Road.

Players would use pen and ink to write their moves, often suggesting responses to obvious moves to reduce the amount of correspondence (and time!) needed.

For the 21st century re-enactment, the clubs caught up a bit with the technology available. A friendly correspondence match was setup using the International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) servers (ICCF is the main chess body regulating CC), kindly organised and setup by Gordon Anderson (International Secretary, Treasurer and ICCF delegate with the Scottish CC Association).

All moves were played using the internet to connect to the server taking only a few milliseconds to execute the correspondence between the players.

The Edinburgh team was captained by Andre Antunes, Edinburgh Chess Club's current Tournament Director, and consisted of a strong side including some of top CC players in Scotland: Al Buchan (current Scottish CC Champion), CCM Peter Bennett, past ICCF president IM Alan Borwell, Graham Morrison and chess historian SIM Tim Harding as a guest player.

However, many players were completely new to CC, including some strong over-the-board (OTB) players who accepted the challenged: FM Neil Berry (ECC's President) and FM Freddy Waldhausen Gordon, one the rising stars in Scottish (and International!) Chess. A total of 24 players demonstrated their interest in participating for Edinburgh.

The London team was captained by Phil Beckett (International Secretary and British Championship Tournament Director) who managed to muster 42! players, including some very strong top CC players such as SIM Clive Frostick, IM Jo Wharrier, SIM John Rodes, GM John Brookes, IM Gary Maguire, SIM Jerry Asquith, among others.

The level of CC experience varied significantly across the boards of both teams. Some players had significant experience in correspondence chess (several titled players, including some GMs), while others were accomplished OTB players, but had no previous experience in playing correspondence games. This was an important factor as current CC rules allow for the use of book and computer assistance for analysis (as long as it is done solely by the player without any sort of consultation with other human players). The use of computers changes drastically the approach to chess with small mistakes being severely punished.

Due to the difference in numbers between the two teams, the captains decided that some of the Edinburgh players would play against more than one opponent, so that every player interested in participating had the opportunity to play.

Sixteen of Edinburgh's players were trying CC for the first time. Given the significant differences in the approach to chess between OTB and CC, CCE Ian Whittaker, an experienced CC player, offered a fine lecture on the rules of CC, performed at the club some weeks before the start of the match.

This included lessons on the usage of the ICCF server, rules in CC (including the usage of machine assistance), and some fine recommendations on how to play a correspondence match.

With everything finally in place, and with more than 8 months of preparation and organisation to set everything in place, the match finally started on the 20th of June 2022.

The match consisted in total of 42 boards making 84 games altogether (each player faced his opponent as both black and white).

At the start the Edinburgh team took a significant lead, taking advantage of players that usually had little experience of CC, but were making good of computer assistance against the London players that seemed to rely more on intuition and human-based positional analysis. Meanwhile players in the higher boards were taking their time to perform their analyses.

In the end, Edinburgh triumphed with total count of 56-28, with a total of 38 draws.

Only counting games where both players had an ICCF rating of at least 2000, the result was much more levelled, with only 2 wins for Edinburgh (Robert Montgomery and IM Alan Borwell) out of 30 games, with all remaining games draws.

Counting all ICCF-rated players, there were 36 games, with 7 wins for Edinburgh and 29 draws. Ian Whittaker, playing 3 opponents (6 games) managed 3 wins! Mark Smith won both his games.

Full results can be viewed at: https://www.iccf.com/event?id=98358 Overall, worthy of special mention were:

• Emmanouil Korakakis from Edinburgh won all his 4 games against 2 opponents;

 Vipin Zamvar won 5 games and lost 1 against 3 opponents;
 Andre Antunes won 8 games out of 10 (against 5

opponents);

• Alastair White, one of the great names in the Edinburgh Chess Club and new to ICCF, won both games against a strong ICCF player rated 1958;

• SIM Jerry Asquith won both his games against Edinburgh's U12 prodigy Freddy Waldhausen Gordon.

In the end the match result was dominated by results in the lower boards. Players new to CC made good use of Ian Whittaker's recommendations, while some of London players were making less use of the silicone in this respect.

An exception was Edinburgh's Freddy Gordon, as 11-year-old chess prodigy who apparently relied on his own analysis to play a correspondence chess IM.

The general feedback was that players thoroughly enjoyed the match. Edinburgh is naturally happy to retain the correspondence chess title of modern times.

Hopefully the next match will be done before 2222, maybe in a time where virtual reality may dominate, and matches will be played with human-cyborgs interaction, neural implants?



Graham Morrison joined our Executive Committee last May. Here he annotates his games in the

Edinburgh-London match.

White Morrison, Graham (2307) Black Wharrier, Jo A.(2435) E15 Queen's Indian Edinburgh v London 2022 [Notes by Graham Morrison]

Nf6

1.d4

2.c4	e6
3 Nf3	b6
4.g3	Ba6
5.b3	Bb4+
6Bd2	Be7
7.Bg2	c6
8.0-0	d5
9.Qc2	
9.Bc3!?	
9	0-0
10.Rd1	Nbd7
11.a4	h6
12.Na3	
12.a5!?	
12	Bb7
13.Qb2	
13.b4!?	
13	a5 =
Black has comple	ete equality. No
problems whatse	oever!
Also: 13 Ne4=	14. Ne5 Re8 15.
Nd3 Bf8 16. Be1	Qb8 17.Rac1 Qa7
18. Rc2 Rac8 19.	Rdc1
{A bit of a dull g	ame!}
1/2-1/2	



White: Wharrier, Jo A. (2435) Black: Morrison, Graham (2307) B50 Sicilian Defence Edinburgh v London 2022 [Notes by Graham Morrison]

1.e4	c5	
2.Nf3	d6	
3.Bb5+	Bd7	
4.Bxd7+	Nxd7	
5.0-0	Ngf6	
6.Oe2	e6	
7.b3	Be7	
8.Bb2	0-0	
9.c4	Qb6!?	
An idea of Shank	land.	
10.d3		
Shankland's point	is 10.d4 d5=	
10	Nb8	
11.Rd1	Nc6	
12.d4	cxd4	
13.Nxd4	a6	
14.Nxc6	Qxc6	
15.Nc3	Rfd8	
16.h3	Rac8	
17.Rd3	Qc5	
18.Rad1	h6	
I was getting cond	cerned here about	
my lack of counter	erplay and soft	
kingside.		
19.Kh2?!		
Weakens the f2-p	awn and gives	
black time for counterplay		

More to the point	t is 19.Re3.
19	b5!
20.cxb5	axb5
21.e5	Qxe5+
22.Qxe5	dxe5
23.Rxd8+	Bxd8!
24.Nxb5	Bb6!
And the pawn on	f2 is weak with
Rc2 coming as w	ell.
25.Bxe5	Bxf2
26.a4	
26.Nc3!? is bette	r. Followed by
pushing on the qu	ueenside.
26	Nd5
27.Ra1	f6
28.Bd4	Bxd4
29.Nxd4	e5
30.Nf5	Kf8
31.a5	



31	Ra8!
Making it very di	fficult to push the
pawns.	
32.Ra4	g6!
33.Nxh6	
33.Nh4 Kf7 34.b4	4 f5 35.a6 Nxb4
36.Rxb4 Rxa6 sh	ould be a draw.
33	f5!
34.a6	
34.g4 Kg7 35.g5	e4 is producing a
lot of counterplay	for Black!
34	Kg7
35.Ra5	Nc3
36.Nxf5+	gxf5
37.Rxe5	Rxa6
38.Rxf5	
After 38.Rxf5 Rb	6 39.Rf3 Rxb3 is a
draw from the 7-j	piece Endgame
Tablebase.	
1/2-1/2	



More from Graham in edition 165...



Klaus Junge



Klaus Junge would have celebrated his centenary on January 1st 2024, but he died in one of the last engagements of the 2nd World War, near Welle, on 17th April, 1945.

Klaus Junge was born on January 1st, 1924 in Concepción, Chile. His great-grandfather emigrated from Dithmarschen to Chile in the 19th century. Klaus was taught chess by his father Otto, Chilean champion.

In 1928, Otto and Anna Junge returned to Germany with their five sons. Four of the five (including Klaus) were destined to lose their lives in the Second World War.

Klaus joined the Hamburg Chess Club in 1936, and won the Club Championship with 9/9 soon afterwards, He and Wolfgang Unzicker from Munich are seen as the emerging talents of the day.

In 1941 Junge reached the final round of the German Championships and shared first place with Paul Schmidt (ex-Estonia).

In the same year, Junge played in a large tournament in Krakow where he competed against world champion Alexander Alekhine and his

The Hawkes Files

challenger Efim Bogoljubow for the first time. Junge drew against both top dogs and went through the tournament undefeated, finishing fourth.

1942 was the last year in which Junge could devote himself extensively to chess. He won a tournament in Dresden and defeated both Alekhine and Bogolyubov in Salzburg before losing 0.5:1.5 to Paul Keres.

In Prague, Junge shared first place with Alekhine after losing to him in the final round. Alekhine commented: "This young man is extremely talented. Luck and an unusual endgame technique also help him. He thinks precisely with a mathematical mind, plus the strength of youth!"

The Prague tournament was to be Klaus Junge's last. The military situation, especially on the Eastern Front, had become dire and the Wehrmacht needed soldiers. The Hamburg mathematics student was called up for military service.

Junge began playing correspondence chess after call-up, defeating Emil Joseph Diemer, who had criticised his play.

Junge was killed in a tank battle near Hamburg, in April 1945. Villagers found notes on Junge's corpse that they thought were mathematical formulas. When Otto Junge read them, he recognised an endgame analysis of circumstances where two knights can force mate against a pawn.

[These notes are a summary of the article by Conrad Schormann in January 2022.]

White: Starke, H. Black: Junge, Klaus Slav Defence, Anti-Meran Gambit [D44] XVII Deutsche Schachzeitung Tmt. Dec.1942 - May 1943

[Notes by John E Hawkes after Junge]

l.d4	d5
2.c4	c6
3.Nf3	Nf6
1.Nc3	e6
5.Bg5	dxc4
5.e4	b5
7.e5	h6
8.Bh4	g5
0.Nxg5	hxg5
0.Bxg5	Nbd7



11.Qf3	Bb7
12.Be2	Qb6
13.Bxf6	c5
14.d5	Nxf6
15.Qxf6	Rh6
16.Qf4	exd5
17.Bf3	Rd8
18.Rd1	d4
19.Bxb7	Qxb7
20.Ne4	



20...Bg7! 21.0-0 Junge gave; 21.Nd6+? Rdxd6

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By John E. Hawkes

22.exd6 Qxg2	23.Kd2 Rf6 24.Rde1+
Kd8 25.Rhg1	Qd5
21	Qe7
22.Rfe1	Re6
23.Qd2	Rxe5
24.f4	Re6
25.f5	Bh6!
26.f6	Be3+!
27.Rxe3	
27.Kf1 Rxf6+	28.Nxf6+ Qxf6+ and
mate.	
27	dxe3
28.fxe7	Rxd2
29 Nyd2	



29	Rd6!
30.Kf1	exd2
30Kxe7 31.R	e1!
31.Ke2	b4
32.Rxd2	Rxd2+
33.Kxd2	Kxe7
34.Ke3	a5
35.a4	f5
36.Kd2	f4
1 XVI. :	· 1 T

...and White resigned. Junge gave the reason why: 36...f4 37.Ke2 Ke6 38.Kd2 Ke5 39.Ke1 Ke4 40.Ke2 c3 41.bxc3 (41.b3 c4 42.bxc4 b3 43.Kd1 Kd3 44.Kc1 c2) 41...b3 42.Kd2 c4 43.Kc1 f3 44.gxf3+ Kxf3 45.Kb2 Kg4 46.Kb1 Kh3 47.Kb2 Kxh2 48.Kb1 Kg3 49.Kb2 Kf3 50.Kb1 Ke3 51.Kc1 Kd3 52.Kb2 Kd2 53.Ka3



53...b2! 54.Kxb2 Kd3 0-1



White: Junge, Klaus Black: Diemer, Emil King's Gambit Accepted [C34] XVII Deutsche Schachzeitung Tmt Dec.1942 - May 1943 [Notes by John E Hawkes after Junge]

1.e4	e5
2.f4	exf4
3.Nf3	Nf6
4.e5	Nh5
5.Qe2	Be7
6.d4	0-0
6d6 7.exd6	Qxd6 8.Qb5+ Nc6
9.Qxh5 Nxd4	10.Nxd4 Qxd4≌ e.g.
11.Bd3 Bd7	12.Nc3 0-0-0 - a sound
plan for Blac	k.
7.g4	fxg3
0	C C



8.Qg2!

8.hxg3 Nxg3 9.Qh2 Nxh1 10.Bd3 g6 11.Bh6 Re8 12.Nbd2 d5 13.0-0-0 Nf2 14.Qxf2 f6 15.Bxg6 hxg6 16.Rg1 Bf5 17.Nh4 Kf7 18.Nxf5 Rh8? (\[]18...Bb4) 19.e6+! Kxe6 20.Re1+ 1-0 in a 1973 postal game Pacini - Oliveira.] 8.... d6 8...gxh2 9.Rxh2 and the Black knight is lost. 9.hxg3 Bg4 10.Bd3 Or 10.Nh2 Nxg3! 11.Rg1 (11.Nxg4 Nxh1 12.Qxh1 Bh4+ and Black advantage according to Junge.) 11...Bf5 12.Bf4 Be4! 13.Nf3 Nh5 14.Bh6 Bh4+15.Kd2 Bg6 (Stronger seems 15...dxe5 16.Bd3 and then

16...Bg6) 16.Qg4 Bf2 17.Be3 (*17.Bg5 f6*-+) 17...Bxg1 18.Bxg1 Nc6 19.Bb5 f5 0-1 If 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Qe6+ Bf7 Faddi - Lestyan corres. 1973. **10...** Nc6

 10....dxe5
 11.Nxe5
 Qxd4
 12.Bf4

 Qxb2
 (12...Nxf4 13.Bxh7+Kh8

 14.Bd3+Bh5
 15.gxf4
 Qe3+16.Kf1

 Qc1+17.Kf2
 Qxf4+)
 13.Nxg4
 Qxa1

 14.Rxh5
 Qxb1+15.Ke2
 g6
 16.Qd5

 gxh5
 17.Qf5
 and White mates!
 11.Nc3
 Nb4

 12.Be4
 d5
 13.Nh2!
 dxe4
 If
 13...Nxg3
 Junge had planned

 14
 PxFx11
 Kh8
 (14, -Kxh7, 15, 0xr2) (14, -Kxh7, 15, 0xr2)

14.Bxh7+! Kh8 (14...Kxh7 15.Qxg3 Bh4? 16.Nxg4+- pinning the bishop and threatening Nf6+) 15.Nxg4 Nxh1 16.Qxh1 Bh4+ 17.Ke2 and if 17...Kxh7 18.Nf6+! gxf6 19.Qxh4+ Kg6 20.Qg4+ Kh7 21.Be3 and mate in two. 14.Nxg4



g6

14...

Junge makes no comment on Black grabbing the centre pawn: 14...Qxd4 when probably he would have played 15.Be3 (Not 15.Rxh5 Nxc2+! 16.Qxc2 Qg1+ 17.Ke2 (17.Kd2? Qg2+ 18.Ne2 Bb4+ 19.Ke3 Qf3+ 20.Kd4 b5! and White is getting mated) 17...Qg2+! 18.Nf2 Qf3+ 19.Kf1 Qxh53) 15...Qd7 16.Nh6+ gxh6 17.Rxh5 Qg4 18.Rxh6 f5! 19.exf6 (19.a3 Bg5!) 19...Bxf6 20.Nxe4 Bxb2 21.Rb1 Rae8-+ 15.Be3 Bg5? Better was 15...f5 then if 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.Ne5 (17.Nxf6+ Bxf6 then 18.0-0-0 Nd5 19.Nxd5 Qxd5+) 17...c5 18.dxc5 Qc7= 16.Nxe4! f5? 16...Bxe3 17.Rxh5! (17.Nef6+ Kg7 18.Nxh5+ gxh5 19.Nxe3 Qg5 20.Ke2±) 17...gxh5 18.Nef6+ Kg7 19.Nxe3+-17.Bxg5 Qxd4

18.Nef6+ Rxf6 18...Kg7 19.Rd1! Qxb2 20.Rd7+ Rf7 21.Bh6+ Kh8 22.Rxf7+-; 18...Kh8 19.Rd1 Qxb2 20.Rd7 Nxf6 21.Bxf6+ Kg8 22.Nh6# 19.Nxf6+ Kf7 19...Nxf6 20.Bxf6 Qxb2 21.0-0+-20.Nxh5 Qxe5+ 21.Qe2 Nxc2+ 22.Kf1 Qxe2+ 23.Kxe2 Nxa1 24.Nf4 24.Nf4 Nc2 25.Rxh7+ Ke8 26.Nd5 Nd4+ 27.Kd3 Ne6 28.Re7+ etc. 1 - 0



White: Junge, Klaus Black: Haeckel, N.N French Classical – Tartakover Variation [C13] XVII Deutsche Schachzeitung Tmt Dec.1942 - May 1943 [Notes by John E Hawkes after Junge]

1.e4	e6
2.d4	d5
3.Nc3	Nf6
4.Bg5	Be7
5.e5	Ne4
6.Nxe4	
6.Bxe7 Nxc3 7.Q	g4 (7. <i>Bxd8 Nxd1</i>
8.Bxc7 Nxb2=) 7.	Qxe7 8.Qxg7
Qb4! 9.Qxh8+ Ko	d7 and Black's
attack is enough f	for equality - Junge.
6	Bxg5
6dxe4 7.Bxe7 Q	0xe7 is somewhat
dubious for Black	t - Junge.
7.Nxg5	Qxg5
8.Nf3	Qe7
9.Bd3	Qb4+
10.Qd2	Qxb2
10Qxd2+11.Kx	kd2 b6 12.b4±
11.0-0	Qa3







11...c5 12.Rab1 Qa3 13.Rb3 and the queen is trapped; 13...Qxa2 14.Qc3 c4 15.Bxc4 dxc4 16.Ra3 Qxa3 17.Qxa3+-Qf8 12.Qg5 13.Rae1 Nd7 13...f6 14.exf6 Qxf6 15.Qxd5± 14.Nh4 Nb6 15.f4 f6 16.exf6 Qxf6 17.Qg3! Offering a second pawn. 17... Qxd4+ Bd7 18.Kh1 18...0-0 19.Re5 Nd7 20.c3! Qc5 21.Rg5 and a winning attack. 19.f5 0-0



19...0–0–0? 20.fxe6 with Rf7 following, and if 20...Be8 21.c3! Qc5 22.e7 Rd7 23.Qxg7+–

20.fxe6 20.f6!! has been pointed out by chessgames.com kibitzer Whiteshark: If 20...Rxf6 21.c3! Rxf1+22.Rxf1 Qc5 23.Bxh7+Kh8 24.Rf7 and mate forced for example; 24...Rg8 25.Ng6+ Kxh7 26.Nf4 etc. 20... Rxf1+ 21.Rxf1! Bxe6 22.Bxh7+ Kh8 22...Kxh7 23.Qg6+ Kh8 24.Qh5+ Kg8 25.Ng6 Bf5! almost saves Black, but 26.Ne7+ (Not 26.Qxf5

Qf6! 27.Qd3 Qe6=) 26...Kf8 27.Nxf5+- If 27...Qf6 28.Ne3 Qxf1+ 29.Nxf1+-; 22...Kxh7 23.Qg6+ Kg8 24.Qxe6+ 23.Bd3 Qg4 24.Ng6+ Kg8 25.Qxc7 Or to finish in beauty; 25.Qe1! Re8 26.h3! Qg5 27.Qxe6+!! Rxe6 28.Rf8+ Kh7 29.Rh8# 25... d4 25...Re8 26.Ne7+ Rxe7 (26...Kh8 27.Bg6+-) 27.Qd8+ Re8 28.Qxe8# 26.Oe7 26.Qe7 Nd7 27.h3 1 - 0



White: Junge, Klaus Black: Teschner, Rudolf Ruy Lopez Open [C83] XVI Deutsche Schachzeitung Tmt. 1942–44 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	a6
4.Ba4	Nf6
5.0-0	Nxe4
6.d4	b5



7.Bb3

The sub-variation 7.d5 bxa4 8.dxc6 d6 9.Qe2 (9.Re1 f5!) 9...f5! can be illustrated by the exciting game Tears - Heemsoth in the Dyckhoff Memorial 1954–56; 10.Nbd2 Nf6 11.Qc4 Be7 12.Re1 Rb8 13.Qxa4 0– 0 14.Nf1 Qe8 15.Ne3 Rb6! 16.Nc4 Rxc6 17.Be3 Bd7 18.Na5 Rc5 19.Qb3+ Rd5 20.Nb7 (20.Rad1 Qb8!) 20...f4! 21.c4 fxe3 22.cxd5 exf2+ 23.Kxf2 e4 24.Nd4 Ng4+ 25.Kg1 (25.Ke2 Rf2+ 26.Kd1 Ba4) 25...Bf6! 26.Nc6 Bd4+!! 27.Nxd4 Qe5 28.Qg3 Qxd4+ 29.Kh1 Qb6! 30.Nxd6 Nf2+ 31.Kg1 cxd6 32.Qe3 Qxb2! 33.Rf1 Bb5 and White could have resigned. If 34.Qb6 Qe5 35.Rfe1 Ng4 36.g3 Qb2 and the

queen mates on n2.	
7	d5
8.dxe5	Be6
9.c3	Be7
10.Be3	0-0
11.Nbd2	Nxd2

The queens can come off thus; 11...Bg4 12.Nxe4 dxe4 13.Qd5! Qxd5 14.Bxd5 exf3 15.Bxc6 fxg2 16.Rfc1! (16.Kxg2 Rad8 17.a4! f6 (17...b4 18.cxb4 Bxb4 19.Rfc1 Be6 20.a5 with a slight advantage to White as in Keres - Wildegans corres. 1936) 18.axb5 axb5 19.Bxb5 fxe5 20.Bc4+ Kh8 with positional advantage for White. - Suetin) 16...Rad8 17.a4!

12.Qxd2	Qd7
13.Rad1	
13.Bg5 Rad8 14.I	Rfe1 Rfe8! Suetin
13	Rad8
14.Rfe1	Na5
15.Bc2	c5
16.Qd3	g6
17.Bh6	Rfe8
18.Ng5	Nc6
18Nc4 was also	playable;
19.Nxe6? Nxb2 w	vinning a pawn.
19.Nxe6	Qxe6
20.f4	Qg4!
21.Qg3	Qh5?
21Qxg3 22.hxg3	3 d4 and at least
equality.	
22.Bg5	Bxg5
23.fxg5	Re6



Why not 23...d4 ? 24.Qf4! Threatening Rd3-h3 24... Kg7 24...d4 is too late now; 25.Rf1! Nxe5 (25...Rd7 26.cxd4 cxd4 27.Bb3 Nd8 28.Rxd4 Rxd4 29.Qxd4 Qxg5 *30.Qd7*+-) 26.cxd4 cxd4 27.Bb3! forces 27...Qg4 (27...Re7 28.Rde1+-) 28.Qxg4 Nxg4 29.Bxe6 fxe6 30.Rf4 Ne3 31.Rfxd4 and Black is lost

1050.	
25.Rd3	h6□
26.h4□	
And now Bd1	is coming.
26	hxg5
27.hxg5	Qh8
28.Rh3	Qg8
29.Bd1	Ne7
30.Rf1!	Qe8
30Kf8? 31.H	Rh8!
31.Bg4	Nf5



32.Qh2!	Qg8
33.Bxf5	gxf5
34.Rxf5	Rd7
35.Rh6!	

A beautiful attack without giving check!

35.Rh6! Rde7 36.Rff6 Re8 37.Qh5! R8e7 38.Rhg6+! fxg6 39.Qh6# is your commentator's favourite mate. 1-0



White: Guenther Flad **Black: Klaus Junge** Closed Ruy Lopez [C91] XVII Deutsche Schachzeitung Tmt. Dec. 1942 - 1944 [Original notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	a6
4.Ba4	Nf6
5.0-0	Be7
	14

6.Re1	b5
7.Bb3	d6
8.c3	0-0
9.d4	Bg4
10.Be3	0



exd4 10... [David H.Butler v Heinz Kuntermann (Dyckhoff Memorial, 29/H, 1954-56) is an excellent example of the rare move 10...a5! going; 11.Nbd2 a4 12.Bc2 a3 13.b4 (If 13.b3 exd4 14.cxd4 Nb4 then c5 -Kuntermann) 13...exd4 14.Bxd4 Nxd4 15.cxd4 d5 16.e5 Nd7 17.Rb1 (17.Ob1!, h6 18.h3 Rellstab) 17...Nb6 18.h3 Be6 19.Re3 Ra7 20.g4 Nc4 21.Nxc4 dxc4 22.Qc1? Bd5! 23.Rxa3? Rxa3 24.Oxa3 Oa8! 25.Oxa8 Rxa8-+ 26.Nd2 Rxa2 27.Be4 c6 28.Bxd5 cxd5 29.Nf1 Bh4 30.Ng3 g6 31.Kf1 Bxg3 32.fxg3 Rd2 33.Ra1 c3 34.Ke1 Rxd4 35.Rc1 Rc4 and White resigned.]

Na5
Nc4
c5
Na5
Nc6
Bh5
Bg6
Nb4
Nd7
Bf6
a5
Na6
Nb6 [



24.h4?	Qd7!
Not 24Bxh	4? 25.g5
25.Ne3	Bxb2
26.Qxb2	Rfe8
27.h5?	Bxe4
28.Nf5	Bxf5
29.Bxf5	Ob7?



Better was 29...Rxe1+ 30.Rxe1 Qd8 31.h6 Qf6 32.Qxf6 gxf6 and Black is slightly better.

Singhing occert.	
30.h6!	gxh6
31.Qf6	Nxd5
32.Qxh6	f6
33.Be6+?	
33.Rad1! kept up	very strong
pressure.	
33	Rxe6
34.Rxe6	Qd7
35.Rae1	Nac7
36.R6e4	



36... Re8 37.Nh4 Re5! 38.Nf5 Ne6 Junge has survived the attack on his king. 39.Qd2 If now 39.Rxe5 dxe5 40.Qh1! Ndc7!= 39... Ndf4 39... Ng5? 40.Rxe5 dxe5 (40...Nf3+ 41.Kg2 Nxd2 42.Re8+ Kf7 43.Nh6+ Kg6 44.Rg8+ Kxh6 45.Rh1#) 41.Qxd5+ Qxd5 42.Ne7+ Kf7 43.Nxd5 Nf3+ 44.Kf1 Nxe1 45.Kxe1+-; 39...Kf7 40.Qxa5? Rxf5 41.gxf5 Ng5! was a fantastic Black resource. 40.Rxe5 fxe5 41.Oxd6 Oxd6 42.Nxd6 Nd4



43.Kf1

After 43.Re3 Nd5 44.Rd3 a4! 45.Nxb5 (45.bxa4 c4 46.Rd1 c3 47.Kf1 (47.axb5 c2-+) 47...Nb3 48.axb5 c2 49.Re1=) 45...Nf4 46.Rxd4 exd4 47.bxa4 d3 48.Kf1 d2 49.Nc3 43... Nxb3 44.Re3 44.Nxb5? Nd2+ 45.Kg1 Nf3+ 44... Nd4 45.Rxe5 Nd3 46.Rg5+ Kf8 47.Ne4 Nc2

 48.Nxc5

 48.Rd5! was even stronger.

 48...
 Nxc5

 49.Rxc5
 Nxa3



50.Ke2

Black has a lost endgame: the following were to be some of Klaus Junge's very last chess moves.

50	Kg7
51.Kd3	a4
52.Kc3	Kf6
53.f4	h6
54.Rc6+	

The final position was adjudicated in 1948 and recorded as a draw by the organisers.

1/2-1/2



Postscript: All but one of the correspondence games in my selection were found in the 1956 book "Das war Klaus Junge" by Edmund Budrich and Dietmar Schulte.







White: Brunnemer, John William Black: Failing, Willis H Sicilian Four Knights Variation [B45] Correspondence Chess League of America, 1920 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4	c5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.d4	cxd4
4.Nxd4	Nf6
5.Nc3	e6
6.Be2	Bb4
7.0-0	



7...Bxc3Max Euwe - Gerard Kroone,Amsterdam 1919 match-game went:SCCA Magazine 164

Miniature Correspondence Masterpieces No. 31

7...0-0 8.Qd3 Bxc3 9.bxc3 d5 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.e5 Ne4 12.Ba3 Re8 13.f3? Qb6+ 14.Qd4 Nxc3 - and White resigned. 8.bxc3 Nxe4 9.Bf3?! Nxc3 10.Od3 10.Nxc6 Qf6! is the finesse here. Nd5 10... 10...Qf6 is still playable. 11.Bxd5 exd5 11...Nb4 12.Qa3! Nxd5 13.Nb5 Ne7 (13...Qe7 14.c4 Qxa3 15.Bxa3+-) 14.Bf4! and Black dare not castle; 14...0-0 15.Bc7 Qe8 16.Nd6 and the queen is mated. 12.Re1+ Kf8



d6

16

13.Nf5!



14.Nxg7! Ne5 The knight is tabou; 14...Kxg7 15.Qg3+ game over; and 14...Qf6 15.Nh5 Qg6 16.Qxd5 Rg8 17.Ba3 Be6 18.Bxd6+ Ke8 19.Nf4+-15.Nh5!! Be6 The queen is tabou! 15...Nxd3 16.Bh6+ Kg8 17.Re8+! Qxe8 18.Nf6#!; and 15...h6 16.Qxd5 Be6 17.Qxb7 Kg8 unattractive. 16.Rxe5! dxe5 17.Ba3+ Ke8 18.Qb5+! 18.Qb5+Bd7 (18...Qd7 19.Nf6+) 19.Ng7# 1-0





Winter 2023

Chess Art



By Iain Mackintosh

Anna Berezovskaya

Born in 1986 in the town of Yakhroma near Moscow, Anna began her art study in a Private Art Studio in 2000 and became a student of the Abramtsevsky Art and Industrial College in 2001. Since 2005 she has been a member of the association of the creative profession of Russian artists.

Her works are characterised by her unique style and technical mastery. Her signature style (which she terms Poetic Realism) embraces realism, abstraction and surrealism. Her themes combine her own life and imagination, engaging the viewer's emotions and values.

While each of her works is a separate and distinctive piece, the common thread that binds them is the strong emotions and feelings that Berezovskaya has imbued in each one.

She works on canvas and paper and is inspired by Russian culture and literature. For example, locks and keys symbolise mysteries to be unlocked and discoveries to be made. Safety pins hark back to an old Russian superstition which claims that wearing an old safety pin will ward off evil. Snails also feature prominently as the spiral on the shell of a snail is a symbol of life.

Anna Berezovskaya's artworks are highly sought after by serious art collectors and investors in worldwide. She currently lives and works in Dubai.





Duel



Kissing the Birch



The Last Lock

18



Edge of the World



White Knight



Championship

SCO/C2022, Scottish Championship 2022/23

					TD I	Jurd	en, l	Clive	(IA)													10	
Rate	i				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
1 🖾	620409	CCM	Sneddon, Iain	2358			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1	7	2	40.25	0	1
2 🖾	620529	CCE	Montgomery, Robert S.	2287	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	V2	¥2	1	1/2	7	2	40.25	0	1
3 🖾	620775	CCM	Buchan, Allan	2370	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	6	0	36	0	3
4 🖾	620345	SIM	Mackintosh, Iain	2410	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	6	0	36	0	3
5 🔀	211024		Whittaker, Ian P.	2202	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	5.5	0	33	0	5
6 🖾	620426	CCM	Cumming, David R.	2283	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	5.5	0	33	0	5
7 🛛	620704	CCM	Beveridge, Colin	2237	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2			5	0	30	0	7

SCO/C2023, Scottish Championship 2023/24

				TDI	lurd	en, t	Clive	(IA)									
d			-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
620775	CCM	Buchan, Allan	2372		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	5	2	17	0	1
620345	SIM	Mackintosh, Iain	2407	1/2		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	4.5	1	15.5	0	2
211024	CCE	Whittaker, Ian P.	2268	1/2	V2		1/2	1/2	1/2	V2	1/2	1	4.5	1	15.5	0	2
620790		Antunes, Andre	2086	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2		1/2	1/2	1	4	1	14	1	4
620251	CCE	Morrison, Graham James	2310	1/2	1/2	1/2	1√2		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	4	0	15	0	5
620409	CCM	Sneddon, Iain	2370	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2			1/2	1	3.5	1	12.25	2	6
620529	CCM	Montgomery, Robert S.	2299	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		8	1/2	1/2	3.5	0	13.5	1	7
620426	CCM	Cumming, David R.	2253	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	3.5	0	12.75	0	8
620789		Taylor, Andrew	1908	0	0	0	0	1/2	0	1/2	1/2		1.5	0	5.5	0	9
	d 620775 620345 211024 620790 620251 620409 620529 620426 620426	d 620775 CCM 620345 SIM 211024 CCE 620790 620251 CCE 620409 CCM 620529 CCM 620426 CCM	d620775CCMBuchan, Allan620345SIMMackintosh, Iain211024CCEWhittaker, Ian P.620790Antunes, Andre620251CCEMorrison, Graham James620409CCMSneddon, Iain620529CCMMontgomery, Robert S.620426CCMCumming, David R.620789Taylor, Andrew	d 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 d 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 d 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 d 211024 CCE Whittaker, Ian P. 2268 d 620790 Matunes, Andre 2086 d 620251 CCE Morrison, Graham James 2310 d 620409 CCM Sneddon, Iain 2370 d 620529 CCM Montgomery, Robert S. 2299 d 620426 CCM Cumming, David R. 2253 d 620789 Taylor, Andrew 1908	d 1 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 ½ 211024 CCE Whittaker, Ian P. 2268 ½ 620790 Antunes, Andre 2086 ½ 620251 CCE Morrison, Graham James 2310 ½ 620409 CCM Sneddon, Iain 2370 ½ 620529 CCM Montgomery, Robert S. 2299 ½ 620426 CCM Cumming, David R. 2253 0 620789 Taylor, Andrew 1908 0	d 1 2 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½ 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 ½ 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 ½ ½ 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 ½ ½ 620790 CCE Whittaker, Ian P. 2268 ½ ½ 620251 CCE Morrison, Graham James 2310 ½ ½ 620409 CCM Sneddon, Iain 2370 ½ ½ 620529 CCM Montgomery, Robert S. 2299 ½ ½ 620426 CCM Cumming, David R. 2253 0 ½ 620789 Taylor, Andrew 1908 0 0	d 1 2 3 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 1/2 1/2 1/2 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 1/2 1/2 1/2 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 1/2 1/2 1/2 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2407 1/2 1/2 1/2 620790 Antunes, Andre 2086 1/2 1/2 1/2 620251 CCE Morrison, Graham James 2310 1/2 1/2 620409 CCM Sneddon, Iain 2370 1/2 1/2 620529 CCM Montgomery, Robert S. 2299 1/2 1/2 620426 CCM Cumming, David R. 2253 0 1/2 1/2 620789 Taylor, Andrew 1908 0 0 0	TD Murden, Clive 1 2 3 4 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 1/2	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 6 20775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½ </td <td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<</td> <td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<</td> <td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<</td> <td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 % ½ <t< td=""><td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 2 ½</td><td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins SB 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½</td><td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) d 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins SB RG 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½</td></t<></td>	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½<	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 % ½ <t< td=""><td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 2 ½</td><td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins SB 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½</td><td>TD Murden, Clive (IA) d 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins SB RG 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½</td></t<>	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 2 ½	TD Murden, Clive (IA) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins SB 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½	TD Murden, Clive (IA) d 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Score Wins SB RG 6 620775 CCM Buchan, Allan 2372 ½

The 2022-23 event is complete. Allan Buchan leads in 2023-24, but could be pipped if Iain Sneddon wins both remaining games.

Premier

SCO/P/2023, SCCA Premier 2023

					TDI	aine	e, Ke	vin ((IA)								
Ra	ated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
1	×	620577	Price, Derek	1924	100	100	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	12	0	1
2	×	620393	MacGregor, Colin A.	1828	0	0		1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	0	2
3	×	620454	MacMillen, Andrew N.	1648	0	0	0	0			1	1	2	2	0	0	3
4	×	620603	Armstrong, John M.	1367	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		0	0	0	0	4

Congratulations to Derek Price who enters our 100% Club by winning all his games!

Open

SCO/0/2023/A, SCCA Open 2023 A

					TDF	Paine	e, Ke	vin (IA)										
R	ated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
1	×	620603	Armstrong, John M.	1367			1	1	1	1	-C	_C	1 ^E	1	6	6	12	0	1
2	×	620778	Major, Benjamin	1214	0	0			1	1	-C	-C	1 ^E	1 ^E	4	4	4	0	2
3	×	620648	Hardwick, Martin E.	827	0	0	0	0			_C	-C	1	1 ^E	2	2	0	0	3
4	×	620814	Rafferty, Frey	1343	-C	_C	-C	-C	-C	-C			-C	_C	0	0	0	0	4
5	×	620619	MacDonald, Murdo	1324	0	0E	0E	0E	0E	0	-C	-C			0	0	0	0	4

SCO/O/2023/B, SCCA Open 2023 B

					TD	Paine	e, Ke	evin (IA)										
R	ated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
1	\times	620393	MacGregor, Colin A.	1828			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	22	0	1
2	×	620454	MacMillen, Andrew N.	1648	0	0			1	1	1 ^E		1	1	5	5	10	1	2
3	×	620723	Carswell, David	1559	0	0	0	0			1	1 ^E	1	1	4	4	4	0	3
4	×	620713	Gilbert, Robert	1702	0	0		0E	0E	0			1	1	2	2	0	1	4
5	×	620628	Dunn, John	1462	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		100	0	0	0	0	5

A clear 100% win for John Armstrong in Section A; with Colin Macgregor also heading for the 100% Club in Section B.

Challengers

2021-22 Cycle	Games	Complete	Ongoing	Points
Armstrong, J M	14	14	0	71⁄2
Gilbert, R	14	14	0	10¹/ 2
Hardwick, M E	8	8	0	0
Major, B	8	8	0	0
Whittaker, I P	4	8	0	4

Players have to complete a minimum of 8 games against 3 or more different players to qualify for a medal, but there is no maximum number of games. Points scored is the only criterion used to determine placings.

2022-23 Cycle	Games	Complete	Ongoing	Points
Dunn, J	12	12	0	6
Armstrong, J M	12	11	1	5
Gilbert, R	16	11	5	5
MacMillen, A N	8	6	2	4
Whittaker, I P	4	4	0	4
Campbell, D	4	4	0	4
Anderson, T R	4	2	2	2
Carswell, D	2	2	0	1
MacDonald, M	2	2	0	0
MacGregor, C	2	2	0	0
Hardwick, M E	6	6	0	0

All unfinished games involve Robert Gilbert.

Leagues

Once again, three webserver leagues last year, with 17 teams entering..

Webserver League Division 1

SCCA/L1/2023, SCCA League Div 1 2023

			TDN	lurd	en, (Clive	(IA)								
		_	1	2	3	4	5	Score	96	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	BCCA Tigers	2307		2	3	1,5	2	8.5	60	3	4	14	2	1	Relyea, Alexander
2	White Rose A	2081	2		2	2	2	8	53	1	4	15	1	2	Beckett, Phillip J.
3	🔀 Knights of the Board A	2166	1	2		2	1.5	6.5	43	-2	2	15	1	3	Sneddon, Iain
4	Social A	2351	1.5	1	2		2	6.5	50	0	2	13	3	4	Rosser, Geoffrey C.
5	SCCA Claymores	2142	1	2	1.5	1		5.5	42	-2	1	13	3	5	Montgomery, Robert S.

Webserver League Division 2

SCCA/L2/2023, SCCA League Div 2 2023

			TDI	Jurd	en, (Clive	(IA)							
			1	2	3	4	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	BCCA Panthers	2147		2.5	3	4	9.5	79	7	6	12	0	1	Woodhouse, Stephen
2	🔀 Brutal Realism	2029	1.5		2.5	2.5	6.5	59	2	4	11	1	2	Sneddon, Iain
3	Social B	1854	1	0.5		2	3.5	31	-4	1	11	1	3	Rosser, Geoffrey C.
4	White Rose B	1717	0	1.5	2		3.5	29	-5	1	12	0	4	Beckett, Phillip J.

Webserver League Division 3

SCCA/L3/2023, SCCA League Div 3 2023

			TDN	lurd	en, (Clive	(IA)							
			1	2	3	4	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	BCCA Leopards	2001		4	3.5	4	11.5	95	11	6	12	0	1	Grayland, Stan J.
2	Social C	1616	0		3	2.5	5.5	45	-1	4	12	0	2	Rosser, Geoffrey C.
3	White Rose C	1676	0.5	1		2.5	4	33	-4	2	12	0	3	Beckett, Phillip J.
4	Knights of the Board B	1470	0	1.5	1.5		3	25	-6	0	12	0	4	Sneddon, Iain

A total of 14 teams took part across the 3 Divisions. Divisions 1 and 2 are still in progress with final places expected in January. Division 3 has been won by BCCA Leopards with a 95% score – congratulations!



International Update

11th European Team Championship Final

			TD	Klau	ner	The	i) b:	A)															
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	B	9	10	11	12	13	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	🏭 Wales	2409		4	4	4.5	4	4	4	4.5	4	4.5	4	4	5	50.5	52	5	16	96	0	1	Sherwood, Russell
2	🚍 Austria	2455	4		4	4	4	4.5	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	49.5	51	3	14	96	0	2	Hofer, Rudolf
3	Switzerland	2500	4	4		4	4	4	4	4	4.5	4	4	4	4	48.5	50	1	13	96	0	3	Rüfenacht, Matthias
4	🖿 Slovenia	2510	3.5	4	4		4.5	4	3.5	4	4	4	4	4	4.5	48	51	2	12	94	2	4	Korže, Danilo
5	📕 Germany	2491	4	4	4	3.5		4.5	4.5	4	3.5	4	3.5	4	4.5	48	51	2	12	94	2	5	Staroske, Uwe
6	Scotland Scotland	2411	4	3.5	4	4	3.5		4	4	4.5	4	4	4	4	47.5	49	-1	11	96	0	6	Anderson, Gordon M.
7	📕 Lithuania	2493	4	4	4	3.5	3.5	4		4.5	4	4	4	4	4	47.5	50	0	11	95	1	7	Chocenka, Dmitrijus
8	Poland	2472	3.5	4	4	4	4	4	3.5		4	4	4	4	4	47	48	-2	10	96	0	8	Pierzak, Rafael
9	📟 Slovakia	2501	4	4	3.5	4	3.5	3.5	4	4		4	4	4	4.5	47	49	-1	10	95	1	9	Helbich, Ján
10	📃 Ukraine	2443	3.5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4	4.5	3.5	46.5	48	-2	10	95	1	10	Yeremenko, Andrei
11	Italy	2505	4	4	4	3	3.5	4	4	4	4	4		4	4	46.5	50	0	10	93	3	11	Cesetti, Claudio
12	🚍 Latvia	2413	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3.5	3		4	46.5	48	-2	10	95	1	12	Klimakovs, Sergejs
13	📕 Bulgaria	2440	3	4	4	3.5	3.5	4	4	4	3.5	3.5	4	4		45	47	-5	7	95	1	13	Vinchev, Simeon

EU/TC11/final, 11th European Team Championship - Final

A respectable showing with our team of Richard Beecham, Tom Matheis, Clive Murden, Iain Mackintosh, Alan Bell, Iain Sneddon, Kevin Paine and Gordon Anderson is scoring 49% overall. Big congratulations to Wales!

Nol van't Riet Team Tournament Final

			TD	Daat	tsela	ar, I	lan I	Bart	van	(IA)													
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	в	9	10	11	12	13	Score	9/0	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	🔜 Ukraine 2	2245		2.5	3	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	3	3	2.5	3	2.5	2.5	32.5	52	3	5	62	10	1	Koshmak, Iurii
2	Germany 1	2277	2.5		2	2.5	2.5	3	3	2.5	2	2.5	1.5	1.5	2	27.5	50	1	2	54	18	2	Schwenk, Heinrich
3	SA 2	2282	3	2		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	2	2	2.5	2.5	0	25.5	49	-1	1	52	20	3	Bokar, Jason
4	💴 Slovakia	2301	2	2.5	2.5		2.5	2	2	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2	0.5	25.5	50	0	0	51	21	4	Manduch, Milan
5	Ukraine 1	2278	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5		2.5	2.5	1.5	2	2	2	1.5	1.5	25.5	50	0	0	51	21	5	Sheretyuk, Andrii
6	🔰 Philippines Tamaraw	2293	2.5	3	2.5	2	2.5		2	1.5	2	1.5	2	2	1.5	25	51	1	1	49	23	6	Simplina, Arthur
7	SA 1	2310	2.5	2	2.5	2	2.5	2		2	2	1.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	24.5	49	-1	0	50	22	7	Relyea, Alexander
8	Philippines Agila	2252	3	2.5	1.5	2	1.5	1.5	2		2	3.5	2.5	0.5	0.5	23	54	4	3	42	30	8	Perez, Brigiliano
9	H Finland	2287	2	2	2	2.5	2	2	2	1		2	2	1.5	1.5	22.5	47	-2	0	47	25	9	Arppi, Heikki
10	🖀 Croatia	2178	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	2		2	1.5	1	22.5	47	-2	0	47	25	10	Dorić, Nenad
11	Scotland Scotland	2265	2	1.5	2.5	1.5	2	1	2.5	1.5	2	2		1	1	20.5	45	-4	0	45	27	11	Anderson, Gordon M.
12	Mexico	2275	2.5	1.5	2.5	2	1.5	2	1.5	0.5	1.5	1.5	1		0.5	18.5	50	0	0	37	35	12	Hernández Martínez, Jerónimo
13	🚺 Italia Verde	2271	2.5	2	1	0.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.5	1.5	1	1	0.5		15	51	1	0	29	43	13	Tramacere, Salvatore

MT-Riet/ Final, Nol van't Riet Team Tournament Final

In the above event it looks like Scotland will finish in the second half of the table although there are still a number of games to go. The Philippines, who beat us comprehensively in a Friendly International (below), have two teams competing here.

Current Friendly Internationals

Start	Boards	Opponents	Mode	For	Against	Void	Result
Feb 2023	22	Wales	Server	24	17		win
Aug 2022	62	Philippines	Server	141/2	451/2		loss
Aug 2022	10	New Zealand	Server	111/2	81⁄2		win
Jul 2022	17	Canada	Server	161/2	171⁄2		loss

Mixed fortunes in the last year. We lost heavily to the Philippines and narrowly to Canada, but came out on top against Wales and New Zealand.

23rd Correspondence Chess Olympiad Preliminaries

The Preliminaries will start on 22 January 2024. The SCCA Team will be:

Board 1. C Richard Beecham Board 2. Clive Murden Board 3. Thomas Matheis Board 4. Allan Buchan Board 5. Graham Morrison Board 6. Iain Sneddon

NCCC Server League Championship (SLC)

Natcor have announced a new League. The Server League Championship shall be an annual event. Entry shall be open to fully paid-up members of Natcor resident in the British Isles.

The league shall consist of at least a Championship Division consisting of 7 players; 2 Candidates divisions and. additional divisions, each consisting of a maximum of 7 players, shall be created as entries allow. Each player shall play one game against each other player in the same division.

The Premier Division winner shall be known as 'The Server Champion of Natcor' and shall receive a year's free membership.

The two highest-placed players in each division shall be promoted to the division above. The two lowest-placed players in each division shall normally be relegated to the division below.

British Correspondence Chess Championship 2023-25

Entrants in the upcoming BCCC Championship are:

9 Sherwood, Russell
10 Bishop, William (nominated)
11 Barber, Philip
12 Herman, Tom
13 Sneddon, Iain
14 Robinson, Josh (Cand A 2nd)
15 Hart, Terry (Cand A win)
Average rating 2403.3

SCCA members in blue.

