

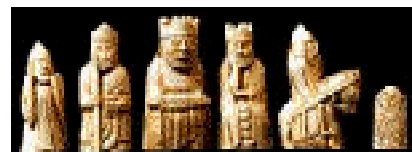
# Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

**Magazine No.76**

**Winter 2001**

- **Results round-up**  
*- last season's winners and tables*
- **Email team hit the medal mark**  
*- George annotates last year's final*
- **Book and CD reviews**  
*- Bernard assesses recently published material*
- **Games column**  
*- more annotated games from domestic and overseas play*
- **CC in Norway**  
*- a short sketch by Øystein Sande*
- **ICCF Congress in Rimini**  
*- George reports from the beach*

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## Editorial and News

by Iain Mackintosh

First let me wish you all a slightly belated, but fully fledged, happy and successful New Year!

We've held back the publication of this edition to include as many results as possible from last season, and the first few pages of the magazine carry cross tables and commentary on our domestic events. Anything which arrives too late we'll try to pick up in the next issue.

The next magazine will also carry the draws for this season's events. Space and time don't permit this time round, and we are still grappling with logistical problems like revising the League division 2 pairings to accommodate 7 rather than 6 teams! Jim Anderson has had a gruelling time chasing up membership applications and event entries, but is nearing completion of his work, and controllers should have all the essential details by the time we go to press.

Our main feature article is supplied by George Pyrich, who has gathered together an annotated set of games from the ICCF Email Team Final which concluded last year. Scotland performed well above expectations (once again) to win the silver medal behind the strong Russian team, and I recommend you find the time to pore over the games and enjoy the performances of Messrs Craig, Finnie, Giulian and Pyrich!

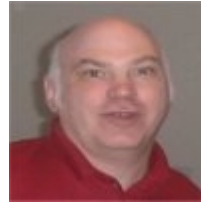
Bernard Milligan once more contributes mightily with book and CD reviews as well as the popular Games Column. There's yet one more annotated game for you, this time from Norway, where Øystein Sande gives an overview of Norwegian CC to herald our forthcoming friendly international. (We also have a match against Canada coming up shortly).

George pops up again to give us an account of the last ICCF Congress in Rimini, and the ICCF page announces the new "Champions League" event for national or cosmopolitan teams - George will co-ordinate entries for any SCCA players wishing to participate.



Stuart Mackenzie advises that 100 Club winners in recent months have been:

2002	February	G W G Livie	C J Lennox
	January	G D Pyrich	A P Borwell
2001	December	K B McAlpine	P M Giulian



Jim Anderson is still on the lookout for people willing to assist as controllers or administrators.

If you have a few spare hours a month (that's all it generally takes) drop Jim a line at 162 Fountainbleu Drive, Dundee DD4 8BJ, phone him on 01382 501649, or email him at [secretary@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:secretary@scottishcca.co.uk)

This edition completes the first year of the magazine in its dual-purpose electronic and paper format. We had expected to publish only extracts on paper, but, in the event, both media have carried exactly the same message. Around 45 of you subscribed to the paper version last year, and it looks as though we will break even on production costs, so we should be able to continue as presently.

Remember to visit the SCCA website at any of the following:

<http://www.scottishcca.co.uk>  
<http://www.scottishcca.com>  
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**SCCA Championship 2001-02**

We still await the final result of Richard Beecham's campaign in which he's attempting to emulate his record-breaking 100% score last year. In theory, Alan Brown could catch him and Bernard Milligan overtake him, but these runners carry long odds!

2001/2002		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Pts
1	Armstrong, A	■	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	w/d
2	Beecham, C R	1	■	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	9
3	Brown, Dr A C	1	0	■		1		1			1	1	5
4	Cumming, D R	1	0		■	½		0		0	0	1	2½
5	Jessing, M	1	0	0	½	■		½	½		½	1	4
6	Kilgour, D A	1	0				■	1				1	3
7	Mackintosh, I	1	0	0	1	½	0	■			0	1	3½
8	May, M A	1	0			½			■		½	1	3
9	Milligan, B	1			1					■		1	3
10	Reeman, I F	1	0	0	1	½		1	½		■	1	5
11	Sneddon, I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	■	w/d

**SCCA Candidates 2001-02**

Congratulations to Geoff Lloyd who is the outright winner in section A, and is also handily placed in section B. Geoff will be joined by David Edney in the next Championship.

2001/2002 Section A		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Pts.
1	Copley, J	■	0		0		0	1		1
2	Cumming, D R	1	■	½		½		1	1	4
3	Harvey, D	1	½	■	1	0	1	1	1	5½
4	Herries, J			0	■	0		1		1
5	Lloyd, G	1	½	1	1	■	1	1	1	6½
6	McDonald, G			0		0	■	1		1
7	Saxton, G	0	0	0	0	0	0	■	0	w/d
8	Thompson, B		0	0		0		1	■	1

2000/2001 Section B		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Pts.
1	Anderson, J	■	½	0		½				1
2	Edney, D	½	■		½		½	1	½	3
3	Harvey, D	1		■	0		½		1	2½
4	Lloyd, G	½	½	1	■	1		1	½	4½
5	Macmillen, A				0	■	0			0
6	Maxwell, A		½	½		1	■	½	½	3
7	Mitchell, I W S		0		0		½	■		½
8	Young, S		½	0	½		½		■	1½



## SCCA Results

2001-02

### SCCA Premiers 2001

Congratulations to Robert Beacon on doing a Beecham in section A! Brian Henderson was also very impressive in winning Section B with an unbeaten 4½.

2001 Section A		1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts.
1	McIntee, C	■	0	1	0	0	0	1
2	Beacon, R	1	■	1	1	1	1	5
3	Knox, A	0	0	■	0	0	0	0
4	MacKenzie, P	1	0	1	■	½	1	3½
5	Malcolmson, R	1	0	1	½	■	1	3½
6	McAinsh, T F	1	0	1	0	0	■	2

2001 Section B		1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts.
1	Young, S	■	0	½	1	½	½	2½
2	Angus, A R	1	■	½	1	1	0	3½
3	Bird, A G E	½	½	■	1	½	0	2½
4	Dowell, C	0	0	0	■	0	0	0
5	Morrow, J	½	0	½	1	■	0	2
6	Henderson, B	½	1	1	1	1	■	4½

### SCCA Majors 2001

Well done to Jim Kilgour, who managed to pip John Grant by a ½ point late on in section A. Robert Beacon won section B in convincing style!

2001 Section A		1	2	3	4	5	Pts.
1	Cassidy, J	■	00	00	00	11	2
2	Grant, J	11	■	10	01	11	6
3	Kilgour, J W	11	01	■	1½	11	6½
4	McAinsh, T F	11	10	0½	■	11	5½
5	McIntee, C	00	00	00	00	■	0

2001 Section B		1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts.
1	Beacon, R	■	½½	11	11	11	11	9
2	Loughran, R	½½	■	10	00	10	11	5
3	Armstrong, J M	00	01	■	0½	11	11	5½
4	Petrie, A R	00	11	1½	■	10	00	4½
5	James, C R	00	01	00	10	■	1½	3½
6	Kennedy, G	00	00	00	11	0½	■	2½



## SCCA Results

2001-02

### SCCA Minors 2001

**Congratulations to Kevin Stott who pipped Derek Ross by the slenderest of margins!**

2001 Section A		1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts.
1	Armstrong, J M	■	0 0	1 1	1 0	0 ½	0 ½	4
2	Coope, D W	1 1	■	1 1	½ ½	0 0	0 0	5
3	McIntee, C	0 0	0 0	■	0 0	0 0	0 0	0
4	Moir, P	0 1	½ ½	1 1	■	0 0	0 ½	4½
5	Ross, D	1 ½	1 1	1 1	1 1	■	0 ½	8
6	Stott, K	1 ½	1 1	1 1	1 ½	1 ½	■	8½

### SCCA Quartets 2001

**There was no Quartets Final in 2001. Section honours were lifted by Alex Bird in Q208, and shared by Alistair Campbell and David Cumming in Q209.**

2001 Q208		1	2	3	4	Pts.
1	Bird, A G E	■	1 ½	1 1	1 ½	5
2	Campbell, A W I	0 ½	■	1 1		2½
3	McIntee, C	0 0	0 0	■	0 0	0
4	Ross, D	0 ½		1 1	■	2½

2001 Q209		1	2	3	4	Pts.
1	Brown, D E	■	1 0	0 0	0 0	0
2	Campbell, A W I	0 1	■	1 ½	1 ½	4
3	Cumming, D R	1 1	0 ½	■	1 ½	4
4	Moir, P	1 1	0 ½	0 ½	■	3

### SCCA Email Quartets 2000-01

**Certificate winners were: Bill Boyd (EM001), Johann Sigurdsson (EM003), Torsten Hellmann (EM006), Jukka Kangasniemi (EM008), and David Edney (EM011).**

### SCCA Challenge 2001

**Congratulations to 2001 medallists David Brown and Geoff Lloyd!**

### SCCA League Division 2

**Well done to winners Knights of the Board with 9 points, and to Kirkcaldy Kings with 7 points! Both gain promotion to Division 1. (We will try to squeeze in the cross-table next issue).**



## SCCA Results

2001-02

### SCCA League Division 1

The 5 Brave Englishmen went homeward, thought again, and came up with the same answer - congratulations to them once more!

2001 Division 1		Oppt.	Game A	Game B	Pts.
<b>A</b>	<b>Black Knight</b>				<b>6½</b>
1	G R Sprott	v E1	1	1	2
2	G H Phillips	v D2	0	½	½
3	I Sneddon	v C3	0	0	0
4	C R Beecham	v B4	1	1	2
5	A T Hislop	v F5	1	1	2
<b>B</b>	<b>Perth Correspondents</b>				<b>5</b>
1	A P Borwell	v D1	½	½	1
2	I Mackintosh	v C2	1	½	1½
3	Dr A C Brown	v F3	1	1	2
4	D J Harvey	v A4	0	0	0
5	I W S Mitchell	v E5	0	½	½
<b>C</b>	<b>Social "A"</b>				<b>6½</b>
1	P Doye	v F1	1	½	1½
2	D Price	v B2	0	½	½
3	B Sheppard	v A3	1	1	2
4	S A Murray	v E4	1	1	2
5	C Dowell	v D5	0	½	½
<b>D</b>	<b>Five Brave Englishmen</b>				<b>7</b>
1	D Chambers	v B1	½	½	1
2	E C Sowden	v A2	1	½	1½
3	A J C Rawlings	v E3	1	0	1
4	D J R Barnes	v F4	1	1	2
5	A Robertshaw	v C5	1	½	1½
<b>E</b>	<b>Super Kings</b>				<b>4</b>
1	B Milligan	v A1	0	0	0
2	D R Cumming	v F2	1	½	1½
3	M Keen	v D3	0	1	1
4	A Armstrong	v C4	0	0	0
5	R J Crosbie	v B5	1	½	1½
<b>F</b>	<b>Brutal Realism</b>				<b>1</b>
1	J S Murray	v C1	0	½	½
2	A Thomson	v E2	0	½	½
3	P Coffield	v B3	0	0	0
4	W Taylor	v D4	0	0	0
5	P Lewis	v A5	0	0	0



## ICCF Email Team Tournament Final

by George Pyrich

Play in this event commenced on 1 July 1999 and ended during 2001. The SCCA team (Tom Craig, Philip Giulian, Doug Finnie and George Pyrich) had qualified from a preliminary section which had started on 1 July 1997. At that time (just over 4 years ago!), email play was still a fairly new innovation and ICCF organisers felt that such an event would help promote the new activity of email chess.

It soon became apparent that the strong Russian team would comfortably achieve first place and interest soon focused on the competition for second and third places. For some time, the SCCA ran neck and neck with the Germans "Rochade" and with 3 games to finish the teams were tied. Happily for us, the Germans lost their last game against the Russians on board 2 whilst things turned our way on board 4 against the Hungarians "Szegeed" who, despite having strong FIDE GM's on the top 2 boards, could only finish in a tie for fourth place. Indeed the 2 GM's (Leko is rather more than just a strong GM!) could each only muster 50% (the result of Leko's last game is still unavailable).

All in all, the event can be viewed as being a considerable success for the ICCF organisers. For a time, a second such open tournament was mooted but it now seems likely that instead ICCF will soon launch another open team competition, the rather grand sounding "Champions League". Hopefully, unlike their footballing counterparts, any Scots teams participating in this will survive beyond Christmas!

The Scots players all enjoyed successful events. On top board, Tom Craig achieved 50% against some very strong opposition and had the better of a draw against Leko (annotated below). Philip Giulian and Doug Finnie both had excellent tournaments and whilst I was perhaps "the weakest link" on board 4, I did have the satisfaction of gaining the vital win in a long endgame at the end against the Hungarian.

We start our games selection with a nice

win by Doug against the former ICCF Webmaster in the preliminary section.

### ICCF Email Team Tournament Preliminaries EM/TT/D/04, 1997

**White: D S Finnie (Scotland), 2450**  
**Black: S Peschardt (Denmark), 2270**  
**Sicilian Defence [C02]**  
**[Annotator George Pyrich]**

**1.e4 c5**  
**2.c3 e6**  
**3.d4 d5**  
**4.e5 Nc6**  
**5.Nf3 Qb6**  
**6.a3 a5**  
**7.Bd3**  
Playing the Milner-Barry Gambit with the inclusion of a3 and a5 which probably favours White.  
**7... Bd7**  
**8.0-0?**  
8.Bc2 is the safer option.  
**8... cxd4**  
**9.cxd4 Nxd4**  
**10.Nxd4 Qxd4**  
**11.Nc3**



**11... Rc8**  
Black doesn't have 11...a6 which is the acknowledged safest line for Black when 6.a3 a5 haven't been played. Alternatives are: (a) 11...Ne7 12.Nb5 Qxe5 13.Re1 Qb8 14.Qf3 Bxb5 15.Bxb5+ Nc6 16.Qxd5 Qd6 17.Qf3 Be7 18.Bf4 Qc5 19.Re5 Qb6 20.Be3 Qc7 21.Rh5 Rd8 22.Re1 and Black held on for a draw in Pedersen-Hansen, Danish Ch. 2000; (b) 11...Qb6 12.Qg4 g6 13.Be3 Bc5 14.Na4 Bxa4 15.Qxa4+ Kf8 16.Bxc5+ Qxc5 17.Rac1 Qb6 18.Qd7 Rd8 19.Qc7 Qxc7 20.Rxc7 Rb8 21.Rfc1 and again Black held on for a

draw in Shirov-Anand, Tehran 2000.

**12.Qe2 Ne7**  
**13.Kh1 Qh4**  
**14.f4 Nf5**  
**15.Bxf5 exf5**  
**16.Nxd5 Bc5**  
**17.b4!**

Improving on 17.Be3 0-0 18.Rf3 Bc6 19.Rh3 Qxh3 20.gxh3 Bxd5+ 21.Kg1 Be4 22.Rd1 Be7 when Black eventually won in Velimirovic-Ivkov, Yugoslav Ch. 1965.

**17... Bd4?**  
17...Bc6 is much better, although after 18.Be3 Bxd5 19.Bxc5 Qg4 20.Qd2 Bc6 21.Rad1 White is much better. The Black K is stuck at e8 and White has ideas such as Rf2 with Qd6 or even e6 to follow.

**18.Ra2 0-0**  
**19.Rd2 Ba7**



**20.Nf6+!**  
... and wins!

**20... gxf6**  
**21.Rxd7 axb4**  
**22.e6 b3?!**

Instead 22...fxe6 23.Rxb7 Bf2 24.Qxe6+ Kh8 25.axb4 is an easy win for White.

**23.Rxb7**  
White now finishes off convincingly.

**23... Rc2**  
**24.Qd3 Bb8**  
**25.e7 Re8**  
**26.Qd7 Rxc1**  
**27.Qxe8+ Kg7**  
**28.Rxc1 Qxf4**  
**29.Qxf7+ 1-0**



Next, Philip annotates one of his games from the Final.



## ICCF Email Team Tournament Final

by George Pyrich

### ICCF Email Team Tournament Final EM/TT/Final, 2000

White: P P Taboada (Chile)  
Black: P M Giulian (Scotland)  
Dutch Defence [A87]  
[Annotator Philip Giulian]

1.d4 f5  
2.c4 Nf6  
3.g3 g6  
4.Bg2 Bg7  
5.Nf3 0-0  
6.0-0 d6  
7.Nc3 Na6  
8.Rb1

There are 2 other main lines in response to my unusual move (a) 8.b3 Qe8 9.Bb2 c6 10.d5 Bd7 11.Nd4 Nc7; (b) 8.d5 Nc5 9.Nd4 a5 10.b3 Bd7 11.Bb2 Qe8

8... c6  
9.b4 Nc7

The alternative 9...Nc4 has been under a cloud since Beliavsky-Nikolic, 1996 which continued 10.Nxe4 fxe4 11.Nd2 d5 12.b5 Nc7 13.e3 and White was better.

10.d5 Bd7  
11.dxc6 Bxc6  
12.b5 Be4

A new move. Previously played was 12...Bd7 13.Nd4 Rb8 14.Ba3 Ne6 15.e3 Kh8 and White was a little better in Ghitescu-Conquest, 1989.

13.Nxe4 Nxe4  
14.Bb2 Bxb2  
15.Rxb2 Qd7



The opening is over and I find it very difficult to evaluate this position. White has a space advantage and Black has White square weaknesses. However Black has good squares for his knights and White's pawns on the Q-side are fixed.

16.Qd3 Nc5  
17.Qe3 Qe6  
18.Qd4 Qf6  
19.Rd2 Rac8  
20.e3 Na8  
21.Rc1 Nb6  
22.h4 Ne4  
23.Rdc2

After a period of regrouping the position is about equal. I should probably "pass" and attempt nothing. Instead I wanted to do something constructive.

23... e5?  
24.Qd1 Nc5  
25.Ne1 e4  
26.Rd2 Rfd8  
27.Bf1 h6  
28.Nc2 a5



29.Nd4?

Much better is 29.bxa6 bxa6 30.Nb4 with the idea of Nd5 and White is clearly better.

29... Nbd7  
30.h5? g5  
31.f4 Kh7  
32.Bh3?! g4  
33.Bf1 Qf7  
34.Rh2?

A bad mistake. I had expected 34.Nb3 Nxb3 35.Qxb3 Nf6 36.Rcd1 with play for the pawn.

34... Ne5!  
35.fxe5 dxe5  
36.Rd2 exd4  
37.Rxd4 Ne6  
38.Rxd8?!

The open file is vital. I think it was better to try 38.Rd5!?

38... Rxd8  
39.Qc2 Qxh5  
40.Rd1 Qg5  
41.Kf2 Rxd1  
42.Qxd1 Qd8

43.Qxd8 Nxd8  
44.c5 Ne6  
45.c6 bxc6  
46.bxc6

Worth trying is 46.b6!? I had dismissed it because of 46.b6 Nc5 47.Bc4 Kg6 48.Ke2 Kf6 49.Kd2 Ke7 when I collect the b-pawn in exchange for my f-pawn and I remain 2 pawns up. However Fritz immediately notices 48.Be6! Kf6 49.Bc8 and I am not sure if I am winning: 46.b6 Nd8 47.Ba6 c5 48.Ke2 Kg6 49.Kd2 Kf7 50.Kc3 h5 with the huge threat of h4 queening the the g-pawn in some variations. I had spotted the h5 tactic. The big question is that, had 46.b6 been played, would I have noticed that after Nc5? White had the later 48.Be6? Perhaps this a position where Fritz users would have an advantage!?

46... Nc7  
47.Bc4 Kg6  
48.Ke2 Kf6  
49.Bg8 Ne8  
50.0-1

The win is quite easy. For example: 50.Kd2 Ke7 51.Kc3 h5 with the h4 threat again. If necessary I can fianchetto my N on g7 to defend the K-side pawns while my K captures the pawn on c6.



Philip was much more incisive in the following game where his opponent rather unwisely played one of Philip's favourite openings.

### ICCF Email Team Tournament Final EM/TT/Final, 1999

White: P M Giulian (Scotland)  
Black: M Kivisto (Singapore)  
Dutch Defence [A81]  
[Annotator George Pyrich]

1.d4 f5  
2.g3 Nf6  
3.Bg2 g6  
4.Nh3

The Carlsbad Variation, where the White N at f4 eyes the d5 and e6 squares and White often advances the h-pawn into Black's K-side.





## ICCF Email Team Tournament Final

by George Pyrich

4... d6  
5.Nc3 Bg7  
6.Nf4 c6  
7.d5 e5

Black has various other tries in this sharp position (a) 7...cxd5 8.Nfxd5 Nc6 9.0-0 0-0 10.e4; (b) 7...g5!? 8.Ne6 Bxe6 9.dxe6 h6 10.e4 fxe4 11.Bxe4 0-0; (c) 7...0-0 8.h4 cxd5 9.h5 gxh5 10.Ncxd5 e6 11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.Nxh5 Bh8 13.e4 Qb6 14.0-0. In all of these White retains a small advantage with attacking chances against the insecure Black K.

8.dxe6 d5  
9.h4 Qe7  
10.h5 g5  
11.h6 Bf8  
12.Nh5 Rg8  
13.Nxf6+ Qxg6



A rather odd-looking position where it seems that Black has dared White to do his worst, hoping to emerge unscathed and in possession of the 2 bishops.

14.Nxd5!  
Better than the more speculative 14.Bxd5!? [A] Better 14...cxd5 15.Nxd5 Qd8 16.Qd4 Bxe6 17.Nf6+ Kf7 18.Qxd8 Bb4+ 19.c3 Rxd8 20.Nxh7 Be7 21.Nxg5+ Bxg5 22.Bxg5 Rh8 23.0-0 Nd7 24.Rh4 (Maybe either a) 24.b3 ; or b) 24.f3 (idea e4) were better tries) 24...Kg6 25.Rd6 Rae8 26.Be3 Rh7 27.Ra4 a6 28.Rb4 Ne5 29.f3 Rhe7 30.Rh4 Nf7 31.Rb6 Kh7 32.Bc5 Rc7 33.Bd4 Bxa2 and Black eventually won in Parker-McDonald, London 1997; [B] 14...Bxe6?! 15.Bxe6 Qxe6 16.e4! Bxh6 17.Qf3 fxe4 18.Qxe4 Rg6 19.Be3 Nd7 20.0-0 0-0 21.Qa4 a6 22.Rxh6 Rxh6 23.Bxg5 Re8 24.Bxh6 Qxh6+ 25.Kb1 Qe6 26.Qd4 Korchnoi-Gurevich, Rotterdam 1990.

14... cxd5

15.Qxd5 Nc6  
16.Qb5 Qxe6  
Practically forced as 16...Bb4+ leaves Black in serious difficulties after 17.c3 Bxc3+ 18.Kf1!

17.Bd5 Qg6  
18.Bxg5!  
Much stronger than the materialistic 18.Bxg8.

18... Bd7  
Good moves are hard to find e.g. (a) 18...Qxg5?? 19.Bxc6+ Kf7 20.Bd5+ loses instantly; (b) 18...Rh8 19.0-0 Qxg5 20.Bxc6+ Kf7 21.Bd5+ Kg6 22.Bxb7 Bxb7 23.Qxb7 when White can try either e4 or c4 with much the better chances.

19.Rd1 Qxg5  
20.Bxg8 Qxg8



21.Rxd7 Bb4+  
22.c3 Kxd7  
22...Bxc3+ 23.bxc3 Kxd7 24.Qxb7+ Kd6 25.0-0 Kc5 26.Rd1.

23.Qxb7+ Kd6  
24.0-0 Bxc3  
25.bxc3 Kc5  
26.Rd1 f4

Objectively Black is lost so he tries to muddy the waters. If instead 26...Rd8 fares little better after 27.Rxd8 Qxd8 (27...Nxd8 28.Qg7 Qd5 29.Qxa7+ Kd6 30.Qxh7 and White's h-pawn is a winner) 28.Qxh7 with the same assessment.

27.a4  
Philip now wraps up the win efficiently.

27... a6  
28.a5 Rb8  
29.Qc7 Qe6  
30.Qxf4 Rb5  
31.e4 Ne5  
32.c4 Nxc4  
33.Qc7+ 1-0

After 33...Kb4 34.Qxh7 White wins easily.



On top board Tom had the better of a draw in a complex game against one of the top ten FIDE GM's. This was a difficult game to annotate, and it would be very interesting to hear Mr. Leko's thoughts on it!

### ICCF Email Team Tournament Final EM/TT/Final, 1999

White: P Leko (Hungary)  
Black: T J Craig (Scotland)  
Sicilian Defence [B90]  
[Annotator George Pyrich]

1.e4 c5  
2.Nf3 d6  
3.d4 cxd4  
4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 a6  
6.Be3 Ng4

7.Bg5 h6  
8.Bh4 g5  
9.Bg3 Bg7  
10.Be2 h5  
11.Bxg4 Bxg4

11...hxg4 was played in Leko-Lutz, Frankfurt 1999 and after 12.0-0 Nc6 13.Nf5 Bxc3 (maybe 13...Bxf5 can be played) 14.bxc3 Qa5 15.Qxg4 f6 16.Rab1 (16.f4 looks interesting) 16...Qxc3 17.Rfd1 Ne5 18.Bxe5 Qxe5 was eventually drawn.

12.f3 Bd7  
13.Bf2 Nc6  
14.0-0 e6  
15.Nde2 Qc7  
15...Ne5 used to be played here 16.a4 (16.Qxd6? Nc4 is good for Black) 16...Bc6 17.Bd4 h4 18.h3 b5 and Black should be ok.

16.Na4  
Perhaps 16.Qd2 with the idea of Rad1 is playable.

16... b5  
17.Nb6 Rd8  
18.c3



## ICCF Email Team Tournament Final

by George Pyrich



**18...**                    **Ne7**  
Instead 18...Ne5 also looks o.k. perhaps continuing 19.Nxd7 Rxd7 20.a4 d5 when Black doesn't look to have too many worries.

**19.Nxd7**                    **Rxd7**  
**20.Bd4**

There were 2 alternatives: Firstly, 20.Qd2 when after 20...g4 21.fxc4 (21.Qg5? is a bad mistake 21...gxf3 22.gxf3 Rg8! the point of Black's 18th - the R is protected and the discovered attack threats give Black a winning position) 21...hxc4 22.Bd4 Bh6 Black looks fine; and secondly 20.a4 (a) maybe 20...d5 is ok: 21.Qc1 (21.Qb3 Qc4 looks good for Black) 21...g4 is unclear but should be ok for Black; (b) 20...b4 21.Rc1 d5 22.cxb4 Qb7 23.exd5 Qxb4 when again Black should hold comfortably.

**20...**                    **e5**  
**21.Be3**                    **d5**  
**22.Bxc5**                    **f6**

22...dxe4 23.Qb3 exf3 24.Rxf3 looks good for White.

**23.Bh4**

23.Be3 is difficult to assess. After 23...dxe4 24.Qc2 exf3 25.Rxf3 f5 it's difficult to decide whether or not the Black pawns are weak.

**23...**                    **dxe4**  
**24.Qe1**                    **Nf5**  
**25.fxe4**                    **Ne3**  
**26.Ng3**

After 26.Qg3 Black seems to hold comfortably after 26...Nxf1 27.Qg6+ Rf7 28.Rxf1 Qb6+ 29.Kh1 Qe6.

**26...**                    **Nxf1**  
**27.Qxf1**                    **Rd2**  
**28.Kh1**

Presumably he didn't relish 28.Qf5 Qa7+ 29.Kh1 Qd7.

**28...**                    **Qd7**  
28...Rxb2?! 29.Qf5 Kf7 30.Rd1 gives White good attacking chances.  
**29.Nf5**                    **0-0**  
**30.Qf3**                    **Rd8**  
**31.Rg1**  
31.Rf1 Qd3! ends White's initiative.  
**31...**                    **Rd1**  
**32.Be1**                    **Rb1**  
This looks better than 32...Qf7 33.Nxc7 Kxc7 34.g4 hxc4 35.Qxc4+ Kf8 36.Qh4 when White still has attacking chances.  
**33.Qxh5**                    **Rxb2**  
**34.Qg6**                    **Kf8**  
**35.c4**                    **1/2-1/2**



Agreed drawn on White's proposal! The position is quite unclear, White having ideas such as Qg3-a3 or a3 with Bb4+ or even simply advancing the h-pawn. Maybe Black could try his luck and play on with 35... b4 but when one of the world's top players offers you a draw.....!



Finally, we have the last game to finish on board 4.

**ICCF Email Team Tournament Final  
EM/TT/Final, 1999**  
**White: G D Pyrich (Scotland)**  
**Black: Z Blazsik (Hungary)**  
**English Opening [A20]**  
**[Annotator George Pyrich]**

**1.c4**                    **e5**  
**2.g3**                    **Nf6**  
**3.Bg2**                    **d5**  
**4.cxd5**                    **Nxd5**  
**5.Nf3**                    **Nc6**  
**6.0-0**                    **Nb6**

**7.d3**                    **Be7**  
**8.Nbd2**                    **0-0**  
**9.a3**                    **a5**  
**10.b3**                    **Be6**  
**11.Bb2**                    **f6**  
**12.Qc2**                    **Qd7**  
**13.e3**                    **Bf5**  
**14.Ne4**                    **Rfd8**  
**15.d4**                    **Qe6**  
**16.Nh4**                    **Bh3**  
**17.dxe5**                    **fxe5**  
**18.Bxh3**                    **Qxh3**  
**19.Ng2**                    **Qe6**  
**20.Rad1**                    **a4**  
**21.b4**                    **Nc4**  
**22.Nc3**                    **Nxb2**  
**23.Qxb2**                    **Qb3**  
**24.Qc1**                    **Rac8**  
**25.Qa1**                    **Rxd1**  
**26.Rxd1**                    **Rd8**  
**27.Rb1**                    **Qc4**  
**28.Nxa4**                    **Ra8**  
**29.Nc5**                    **Nxb4**  
**30.Qxe5**                    **Bxc5**  
**31.axb4**                    **Bd6**  
**32.Qg5**                    **Qe4**  
**33.Rc1**                    **Bxb4**  
**34.Nf4**                    **Bd6**  
**35.Qb5**



A fairly nondescript game to this point. White's 8. Nbd2 (rather than 8.Nc3) is a setup favoured by Kosten in his book "The Dynamic English", but it allows Black an easy and unhindered development. To this point White has just about held equality.

**35...**                    **c5?!**  
Black criticised this after the game and it's not difficult to understand why. At c5 the pawn is simply a target and the d6 B is loose. [Alternatives such as 35...Ra3 idea Rxe3! 36.Ne2 b6 37.Nc3 Qe6 38.Qd5 Qxd5 39.Nxd5 Ra7



## ICCF Email Team Tournament Final

by George Pyrich

40.Nc3 Rb7 41.Nb5 Bc5; and 35...Bxf4 36.exf4 are both about equal].

**36.Qb6 Qe7**

**37.Nd5 Qd7**

**38.Rb1 Qf5**

Surprisingly giving up the pawn but suddenly Black is in some difficulty. [I'd expected 38...Rb8 but 39.Rd1 Qd8 40.Nf6+ (40.Qb3 Kh8 41.Nb6 Qe7 looks promising for White also) 40...gxf6 41.Rxd6 Qxb6 42.Rxb6 looks very good for White who simply advances his K via f1 and e2].

**39.Qxb7 Ra7**

**40.Qb3 c4**

40...Rf7 Alternatively 41.Qa2 with ideas like Rb6 or Qa8+ to follow.

**41.Qb5 Qc2**

**42.Qe8+ Bf8**

**43.Rf1 Rf7**

43...c3 44.Qe6+ wins immediately.

**44.e4!?**

Impatient! 44.Qc8 Qb3 45.Qc6 and;

44.Qc6 Qd3 45.e4 Qd4 46.Ne3 c3

47.Rd1 were both better.

**44... Qd3!**

44...c3? loses quickly after 45.e5 (this

was White's hope!) 45...Qd2 46.e6 Rf3

47.Qd8 c2 48.Ne7+

**45.Qc6 Qd4**

No prizes for 45...Qxe4??

**46.Ne3 c3**

**47.Rd1**

Instead 47.Qa8 leads nowhere after

47...Ra7 48.Qd5+ Qxd5 49.Nxd5 Ra4

50.Nxc3 Rc4 when the e-pawn falls and

after 51.Rc1?? Ba3 52.Rc2 Bb4 White

even manages to lose!

**47... Qc5**

**48.Qe6**

48.Qxc5 was tempting but I couldn't

find a clear win after 48...Bxc5 49.Rd3

Bxe3 50.Rxe3 Rc7 51.Re1 g5 52.f3 c2

53.Rc1 Kf7 54.Kf2 Rc3 55.Ke2 Kf6

56.f4 gxf4 57.gxf4 h5 58.Kd2 Rh3

59.Rh1 Rf3 60.e5+ Ke6. There are of

course many alternatives for both

players in this line, but I concluded that

it was wrong for White to advance the

pawns too quickly. Instead I had to try

to lessen the activity of Black's pieces

and exchange under more favourable

circumstances.

**48... Qe7**



**49.Qc4**

Qc4 In preference to 49.Qd5 when 49...Qb7 (49...Qf6 50.Rf1 Qb6 51.e5 g6 52.Rc1 is winning for White) 50.Rc1 Qxd5 51.Nxd5 Bc5 52.Rxc3 Bxf2+ when White's winning chances are problematic.

**49...**

**Qc7?!**

I'd expected 49...Qc5 when White's best seems 50.Rd4 g6 51.Qd3 Bg7 52.Rc4 Qa7 53.Nd1 Rf8 54.Qd5+ Kh8, although the win, if any, is still a long way off.

**50.Qxc7!**

Now that the Black R is no longer hitting f2. The c3 pawn is not really dangerous.

**50...**

**Rxc7**

**51.Rc1**

**Kf7**

**52.Kf1**

**g5**

Instead 52...Ke6 loses after 53.Nd5 Rc4

54.f3 c2 55.Ne3 Ba3 56.Rxc2 Rxc2

57.Nxc2 Bc5 58.Ke2 Bg1 59.f4 Kf6

60.e5+ Kf5 61.Kf3. Black has numerous

options in this line but White's idea of

centralising the K and rounding up on

the c-pawn should win.

**53.Ke2**

**Bg7**

**54.Rc2**

**Ra7**

Weaker is 54...Rc6 when 55.f4 gxf4

56.gxf4 Rh6 57.Kd3 Rh4 58.Nd5 Ke6

59.Rf2 Rh3+ 60.Kc4 should win

comfortably for White after an eventual

Ra2-a6+.

**55.f4**

55.Nd5 Ra4 56.Kd3 g4 is very awkward

for White after 57.Nxc3?? Rd4+ 58.Ke3

Rc4 59.Kf4 h5.

**55...**

**gxf4**

**56.gxf4**

The next stage for White is to activate the R.

**56...**

**Ra4**

**57.Kf3**

**Rb4**

57...Bd4 58.Nf5 wins for White.

**58.Nf5!**

58.e5? Bh6 is really awkward for White and; 58.Re2 Rb2 is no better. The key for White is to reduce Black's activity.

**58...**

**Rb2**

**59.Rc1**

Giving up the h-pawn is the only way.

**59...**

**Rxh2**

**60.e5**

Instead 60.Nxg7? Kxg7 61.Ke3 c2

62.Kd3 h5 and the win is gone.

**60...**

**Rh3+**

After this it's over. However I was fairly sure I was winning after both 60...c2

61.e6+ Kxe6 62.Nxg7+ Kf6 63.Ne8+

Ke6 64.Re1+ Kd5 65.Nf6+ Kd4; and

60...Bxe5 61.fxe5 Ke6 62.Ke4 Re2+

63.Ne3 Rh2 64.Nc4 Rh4+ 65.Kd3 Kd5

66.Rxc3 h5 67.Rc1.

**61.Ke4**

**Bf8**

**62.Rb1**

Activating the R at last.

**62...**

**Rh2**

62...c2 63.Rb7+ Ke8 64.Rc7 Rh2 leads to much the same.

**63.Rb7+**

**Ke8**

Both 63...Kg8 64.Rc7 Bb4 65.Nd4 h5

66.f5 h4 67.f6 Rf2 68.Nf5; and 63...Kg6

64.Rc7 c2 65.Nd4 h5 66.f5+ were no

better.

**64.Rc7**

**Bb4**

Similarly 64...Re2+ 65.Kf3 Rh2

66.Rxc3; and 64...c2 65.Ne3 h5

66.Nxc2 are winning for White.

**65.Nd4**

**Ba5**

Again 65...h5 66.Rc4 Rb2 67.Kf5 Kd7

68.Nc6 Bf8 69.Rxc3; as well as

65...Rb2 66.e6 c2 67.Kf5 both lose for

Black.

**66.Rc5**

**Ra2**

**67.Nc6**

**1-0**

The c-pawn falls at last when White can simply advance his K and pawns, so

Black resigns.





## ICCF Email Team Tournament Final

by George Pyrich

Board 1				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts	
	1	R Felber	Austria 2	2369	■	½	0	1	½	0	0	½	½	3
	2	M Esses	CAPA 2	2350	½	■	½	1	1	½	½	1	½	5½
	3	P Leko	Szegeď	2694	1	½	■	½	½	½	0		½	3½
	4	H Alvarez Villar	CITEF A	2321	0	0	½	■	½	½	½	½	0	2½
	5	A de Groot	NBC 1	2454	½	0	½	½	■	1	0	1	½	4
	6	T J Craig	Scotland A	2425	1	½	½	½	0	■	½	½	½	4
	7	V Pankratov	Russia 1	2500	1	½	1	½	1	½	■	1	1	6½
	8	Mong Lin Wang	Singapore	2511	½	0		½	0	½	0	■	½	2
	9	J Brückner	Rochade	2442	½	½	½	1	½	½	0	½	■	4
Board 2				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts	
	1	F Patočka	Austria 2	2371	■	0	½	½	1	0	½	1	½	4
	2	P Taboada	CAPA 2	2441	1	■	½	0	1	0	0	1	0	3½
	3	Z Gyimesi	Szegeď	2529	½	½	■	1	1	0	½	½	0	4
	4	D M Gimenez	CITEF A	2385	½	1	0	■	1	1	0	½	½	4½
	5	W Eveleens	NBC 1	2411	0	0	0	0	■	0	0	0	0	0
	6	P M Giulian	Scotland A	2394	1	1	1	0	1	■	½	1	½	6
	7	A Pankratov	Russia 1	2551	½	1	½	1	1	½	■	½	1	6
	8	M Kivisto	Singapore	2296	0	0	½	½	1	0	½	■	½	3
	9	H Mössle	Rochade	2417	½	1	1	½	1	½	0	½	■	5
Board 3				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts	
	1	W Schmidt	Austria 2	2308	■	½	½	1	0	0	0	0	½	2½
	2	M Frank	CAPA 2	2315	½	■	½	½	0	0	0	½	0	2
	3	A Berecz	Szegeď	2405	½	½	■	1	½	½	0	½	½	4
	4	J H Fernandez	CITEF A	2317	0	½	0	■	½	½	0	0	0	1½
	5	C van Wieringen	NBC 1	2411	1	1	½	½	■	½	½	½	½	5
	6	D S Finnie	Scotland A	2377	1	1	½	½	½	■	½	½	1	5½
	7	S Romanov	Russia 1	2529	1	1	1	1	½	½	■	½	½	6
	8	J Tay	Singapore	2200	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	■	½	5
	9	K Wrba	Rochade	2423	½	1	½	1	½	0	½	½	■	4½
Board 4				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pts	
	1	G Haika	Austria 2	2200	■	½	1	1	½	1	0	1	0	5
	2	E Domancich	CAPA 2	2290	½	■	½	½	0	½	0	1	½	3½
	3	Z Blazsik	Szegeď	2245	0	½	■	½	½	½	0	1	0	3
	4	D G Lamas	CITEF A	2200	0	½	½	■	½	½	0	1	½	3½
	5	W Pommerel	NBC 1	2394	½	1	½	½	■	½	½	1	½	5
	6	G D Pyrich	Scotland A	2377	0	½	1	½	½	■	0	1	½	4
	7	I M Dolgov	Russia 1	2276	1	1	1	1	½	1	■	1	1	7½
	8	J D Livelo	Singapore	2200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	■	0	0
	9	R Schreiner	Rochade	2442	1	½	1	½	½	½	0	1	■	5



(<http://www.batsford.com>)

**The Ultimate Closed Sicilian by Gary Lane, 176p, £14.99**

The Closed Sicilian (1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3) should suit those players who like reliable openings and opportunities for kingside attack. It also has the advantage that its plans can be easy to follow. Recent advocates of the system have included Adams, Short and Ivanchuk. The book covers the ideas behind the opening and the author discusses all the important variations. Particular emphasis is given to key middlegame ideas. I found the games to be well annotated with a nice balance between text comments and variations. The book should be a valuable asset whichever side of the board you end up playing the opening from.

**Practical Chess Psychology by Amatzia Avni, 160p, £14.99**

I must admit that when I first picked up this book I was put off by the title. I have never been a follower of all this psychology in chess mumbo jumbo. I put my losses down to some c\*\*p moves and wasn't even sure that psychology would apply to CC games. Still I found the book fascinating reading and hard to put down. The book covers such aspects as The setting of goals, Handling spectators, Dealing with losses, Motivational aspects, Cause-effect analysis and The search for behavioural clues. OK the handling of spectators may not be a problem in CC chess but the other themes can be relevant. I think it may be in our nature to make the same errors over and over and anything that helps identify the cause must be good. Psychology may be even more important in CC games where by their nature and long duration so much can affect our play. I would definitely recommend this as a good read for those who want to have a go at fine tuning all aspects of their game.

**EVERYMAN CHESS**

(<http://www.everyman.uk.com/>)

**Mastering the Opening by Byron Jacobs, 176p, £14.99**  
**Mastering the Middlegame by Angus Dunnington, 144p, £14.99**

**Mastering the Endgame by Glenn Flear, 176p, £14.99**

New from Everyman is a neat set of three books in "Mastering the Opening" by Byron Jacobs, "Mastering the Middlegame" by Angus Dunnington and "Mastering the Endgame" by Glenn Flear.

Jacobs' book is a simple but highly instructive volume covering the major openings. The author succeeds in helping the reader develop a feeling for various openings without complicated study of variations.

In "Mastering the Middlegame" the author uses play from 62 game positions and a large amount of text to explain ideas of attack and defence, use of pieces and pawns and open lines. The author makes good use of exercises and the book is filled with useful tips and warnings.

"Mastering the Endgame" is perhaps the book which covers the most difficult area of the game to master. Glenn Flear has done a good job of providing all the necessary information that an up and coming player needs to understand the endgame. For example the difficult subject of rook endings is covered over 52 pages and again the author makes good use of exercises to reinforce the material covered.

**Alekhine's defence by Nigel Davies, 158p, £14.99**

Alekhine's Defence is a sharp and often underestimated reply to 1 e4. Black challenges the white e-pawn immediately and tries to lure White into constructing a big central position. Black's hopes is that White's central installations will become unwieldy and vulnerable. Whether you want to play the Alekhine, or want to know what to do against is as White, this book will provide a useful insight into how to play the opening. The book has 62 well annotated games spread over 10 chapters. About half of the book is devoted to classical systems but coverage is also given to the exchange variation, the four pawns attack, the chase variation and a few odds and ends at the end of the book. Each chapter is nicely concluded with a short summary on the main points covered.

 <p><b>Chess Suppliers (Scotland)</b></p>	<p><b>Chess equipment for clubs, schools, individuals!</b>  <b>Huge books collection - all the latest titles!</b>  <b>Software - ChessBase, Fritz, Tiger, Genius, etc!</b>  <b>Mags - Informator, CM, NIC, Scottish Chess, etc!</b>  <b>Chess videos - buy 2 and save £5!</b>  <b>5% discount on purchases for SCA/SCCA members!</b></p>	<p>For all enquiries, please contact:          Sam Collins, Chess Suppliers (Scotland) Ltd,          PO Box 67, 15 Hope Street, Glasgow G26AQ          Email: <a href="mailto:shop@chess-suppliers.co.uk">shop@chess-suppliers.co.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.chess-suppliers.co.uk">http://www.chess-suppliers.co.uk</a>  <i>Most major credit and debit cards accepted</i></p>
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**Secrets of the English Chess School  
by Daniel King**



Daniel King's CD has to be one on the best strategy CDs out there at the moment. The English GM wrote a number of articles for ChessBase Magazine. There was a total of 29 articles, and in this CD they are finally brought together. Each article contains informative games with plenty of diagrams and a thorough commentary. The author's humour and natural teaching talent make each article a valuable tool to anyone wishing to improve their chess talents.

Daniel has organised the articles into 8 themes covering The King, The Queen, Minor Pieces, Pawns, Attack, Tactics, Openings ideas and Mixed. Daniel King is pretty enthusiastic about his work and it shows in these articles where he goes into a great deal of depth where some authors might have wrapped thing up after a couple of games.

**Fritz 7**

Fritz 7 finally hit the shops and I have to admit that I was not disappointed. Once again it has the ability to completely thrash me in a game of chess. The one saving grace is that you can set it up to give you hints. The commentary explaining why the move you just played may not be the best can be quite instructive.

The program plays a better defensive game than its predecessor and its knowledge about pawn structures has been completely rewritten. The big new feature with Fritz 7 is the FREE access to online play via the ChessBase sever. If you have a few minutes to spare you can simply use Fritz 7 to connect to the internet and play against opponents from all over the world. Unfortunately in my first game I lost. I played my move and sat back waiting for a reply from my opponent merrily thinking I might win on time if he didn't get a move on. Eventually I noticed that the connection had been lost so I clicked on the appropriate button to claim the game. I later found out my opponent had claimed the game before me, despite having a worse position, and had got the win.

**Queen's Gambit with 5.Bf4  
by Rustem Dautov**



Anyone who is thinking of playing 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bf4 will find this CD extremely beneficial. Dautov has split the contents into 13 parts using a total 3657 games of which 255 are well annotated. 81 of these games are annotated by the author himself. The text files contain a description of the strategic ideas for each variation to enable the reader to work effortlessly through the important lines.



For full details of the ChessBase product range, visit their website on:  
[www.chessbase.com](http://www.chessbase.com)





### Mega DataBase 2002 by ChessBase



The latest edition Mega DataBase contains 2,018,425 games which is over 300,000 more than its predecessor. Once again, this is a top quality CD and 45,000 of the games contain commentary from top players. Games range from the year 1530 up to November 2001. This year's edition includes a second CD which is a new edition of the playerbase for use with ChessBase 8. The playerbase now has 130,00 names and 13,000 photos.

### Openings Encyclopaedia 2002 by ChessBase



The last Openings Encyclopaedia was released in 1999 but the latest edition contains a lot more games. There are over 1.1 million compared to around 470,000 on the previous CD. The encyclopaedia features the complete coverage of all opening sectors, offering an optimal start for opening training. Many top players such as Kasparov, Anand, Nunn and Bareev, have contributed to the CD, and there are over 3200 openings surveys. The CD also includes a big tree for a quick overview and statistical access. The CD contains many excellently annotated games and indeed there are over 60,000 games with commentary.

### Fritz Powerbook 2002 by ChessBase



This CD contains over 7.6 million opening positions, derived from 630,000 high class tournament games. Along with each position all relevant information is stored relating to the moves played, average grading of players and success and performance results. Letting Fritz have access to the CD will improve its play but most players seem to forget that they can use it to help themselves. When playing through a game if you select the book tab in either Fritz or ChessBase you will be able to see what moves have been played from that position, and with what sort of success. Basically a sort of instant access to an opening encyclopaedia which should help the CC player avoid picking lines that are poor.

### Shredder 6 by ChessBase



The Shredder playing program has won the computer World Championship on 4 occasions, including 2001, and is the latest release in the playing program field from ChessBase. The Shredder program has some unique features such as Triple brain which is a revolutionary new conception which allows you to use two different engines in parallel, with a special "triple brain" module analysing the results and deciding which engine to follow in the current position.



## Games Column

by Bernard Milligan

Another season has come to an end and a new one will soon be beginning. Still, you should have a few weeks rest before battle begins again. If you are feeling generous you could use part of that time to annotate some games for the magazine!

It's been almost 2 years since I received any games from David Cumming for publication. David is a prolific player and has delighted us with many of his games in the past, so I am pleased to kick off this issue with a couple more of his exploits.

**SCCA Candidates, Section A, 2001/02**  
**White: B Thompson**  
**Black: D R Cumming**  
**Grünfeld Indian [D85]**  
**[Annotator D R Cumming]**

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	Nc6
10.d5	Ne5
11.Nxe5	Bxe5
12.Qd2	e6
13.f4	Bc7!



Most players would automatically continue with 13...Bg7 when 14.c4 Qe8 15.0-0 exd5 16.exd5 b6 17.Bd3 preparing f5, gives White a pleasant initiative on the kingside (Bogdan Lalic). Following 13...Bc7 14.c4?? Ba5 Resigns. 0-1!! was Alistair Campbell vs. David R Cumming, Q209, 2001!

14.0-0	exd5
15.exd5	Ba5
16.f5	Bxf5
17.Rxb7	Qf6
18.Bb2	Qe5
19.Qg5?	



19.Bf3 c4 20.Re1 Qd6 21.Qe2 Rab8 22.Qe7 Qa6 23.Rxb8 Rxb8= was Halkins-Bagirov, Tallin 1997.

19...	Qxe2!
20.Rxf5	Bd8!

Gaining a tempo by attacking the Queen, also preventing a future Qe7 (doubling on the 7th rank), once White had sorted out where to retreat his Rf5 to, thus forcing the Queen to retreat down the g-file to maintain the pin of the g-pawn to the Kg8.

21.Qg3	Bb6!
--------	------

Cutting off the Rb7's protection of the Bb2, eyeing the White King along the b6-g1 diagonal with pinning/mating threats and guarding the pawn on a7, thereby releasing the Ra8 so that it can centralise.

22.Qf2	Rae8
23.Qxe2	Rxe2
24.Rf2	Re1+
25.Rf1	c4+



Winning material with this discovered check by forcing White to play 26.Rxb6, also blocking the b2-h8 diagonal from White's Bb2, and preventing White from playing c4, thereby isolating the pawn on d5.

26.Rxb6	Rxf1+
27.Kxf1	axb6
28.d6	f5
29.Ke2	Kf7
30.Ke3	Ra8!
31.a3	Ke6
32.Kd4	Ra4
0-1	



**SCCA League Division 1, 2001**  
**White: A Thompson**  
**Black: D R Cumming**  
**Grünfeld Indian [D87]**  
**[Annotator D R Cumming]**

1.d4	Nf6
2.c4	g6
3.Nc3	d5
4.cxd5	Nxd5
5.e4	Nxc3
6.bxc3	Bg7
7.Bc4	0-0
8.Ne2	c5
9.Be3	Nc6
10.0-0	Bg4



11.f3	Na5
12.Bxf7+	Rxf7
13.fxg4	Rxf1+
14.Kxf1	Qd6
15.g3!?	





## Games Column

by Bernard Milligan



A new move to me! More usual moves here are 15.e5, 15.Kg1, or 15.Qa4.

15...	Qe6
16.Qc2	Qxg4
17.Kg2	Rf8
18.Bf4	g5
19.h3	Qh5
20.g4	Qf7
21.Bg3	Qf3+
22.Kh2	Nc4



With the prosaic notion of Ne3 and Qg2+ mate!

23.Ng1	Qe3
24.Re1	Qd2+
25.Qxd2	Nxd2
26.e5	Nf3+!
27.Nxf3	Rxf3
28.Rc1	Kf7
29.Kg2	Rd3
30.Rf1+	Ke6



The black King comes to the centre as quickly as possible in this endgame.

31.Rf3	Rd1
32.Rf1?!	Rxf1
33.Kxf1	Kd5

Winning the centre pawns.

34.Bf2	Kc4
35.Ke2	Kxc3
36.d5	Bxe5

0-1

It was a won endgame for Black. For example: - 37.Bxc5 Bd6 38.Bxa7 Kc4 39.Be3 h6 40.h4 gxh4 41.Bxh6 h3 42.Kf2 Kxd5 43.Kf3 b5! 44.g5 Bf4! 45.a3 h2 46.Kg2 e5 47.Bf8! Ke6! 48.g6 e4 49.g7 Kf7 50.Kh1 e3 51.Kg2 e2 52.g8Q+ Kxg8 53.Bb4 Bg3 54.Bc3 Kf7 55.Bd2 Ke6 56.Kh1 Kd5 57.Kg2 Kc4 58.Kh1 Kb3 59.Bb4 Bd6! 60.Be1 Kxa3 61.Bf2 b4 62.Be1 b3 63.Kg2 b2 64.Bb4+ Kxb4 and Black wins easily.



Next we have a game which was kindly sent in by Domingo Taiana who is one of my opponents in the CCCA-80 tournament which I was fortunate to receive an invitation to play in.

**Candidates Tournament C-90, 1990**  
**White: R Crespo**  
**Black: D Taiana**  
**Hungarian Defence [C55]**  
**[Annotator D O Taiana]**

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6

3.Bc4	Nf6
4.d3	Be7

The Hungarian Defence.

5.0-0	0-0
6.Bb3	d5
7.exd5	



Cehov's suggestion.

7...	Nxd5
------	------

8.a3?

Too slow. Better is 8.Nbd2.

8...	Kh8!
------	------

A little history in a little game. In Judasin-Ivanchuk, Match (2) 1991, after 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7 5.0-0 0-0. 6.c3 d5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Re1 Bg4 9.Nbd2 Kh8 Ivanchuk pointed out that if 10.h3 Bh5 11.g4 Bg6 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.Rxe5 Nb6 14.d4 Bd6 15.Re1 f5! with strong attack for the pawn. In a similar structure, I reach to the same conclusion one year before...

9.Re1	Bg4
10.h3	Bh5
11.g4	Bg6
12.Nxe5	Nxe5
13.Rxe5	Nb6
14.Qf3?	





## Games Column

by Bernard Milligan

As Crespo's position is worse than Judasin's - because of the queen side without development - all moves lose.

14.Re1 f5 --+

14... Bd6

15.Re2 Qh4

16.Bf4? Qf6

0-1



Next a veritable feast of games from our President. All come from friendly international matches arranged by the SCCA. We struggle at times to find enough players to make up teams, so if you fancy taking part you will be more than welcome and will thoroughly enjoy the games.

### Scotland v Argentina, 1999

White: I Mackintosh

Black: C J Goncalves

Sicilian Defence [B00]

[Annotator I Mackintosh]

One of the many pleasant aspects in playing CC is the friendly internationals organised by the SCCA. For very little outlay, you can take part in as many matches as are organised each year and meet some very interesting characters. Despite the growing spread of email, your stamp collection will improve, as undoubtedly will your ICCF grade once you get more experienced. The match against Argentina was a postal event, though Claudio and I agreed to play by email. The current score in the match is 14½-11½ in favour of Argentina.

1.e4 c5  
2.Nf3 Nc6  
3.d4 cxd4  
4.Nxd4 e5

A slightly transposed Pelikan - noted for its ability to catch fish, but at some cost to Black's structure.

5.Nb5 Nf6  
6.N1c3 Be7



Here Claudio surprised me. 6... d6 is the usual main line, against which White has a good score. I couldn't find Be7 in any of my reference material.

7.Nd6+ Bxd6  
8.Qxd6 Qb6  
9.Bd3 Qb4  
10.Qxb4 Nxb4  
11.Bg5 h6  
12.Bxf6 gxf6  
13.0-0-0 Rg8  
14.g3 Kf8

A second surprise - I'd expected b6 to free the bishop. White now has a definite edge in development, structure and tempo.



15.Bc4 a6  
16.Rd6 b5  
17.Bd5 Ke7  
18.Rb6 Nc6  
19.Bxc6 dxc6  
20.Rxc6 Be6  
21.Nd5+ Bxd5  
22.exd5



The slow manoeuvre to extricate Black's white-squared Bishop has netted White a pawn and created a handy passed pawn.

22... Rgd8  
23.Rd1 Rd6  
24.Rc7+ Rd7  
25.Rc5 Rad8  
26.b3 Rd6  
27.c4 bxc4  
28.bxc4

Two (connected) passed pawns are definitely handier than one!

28... f5  
29.Kc2 Kf6



This allows the further gain of a pawn, and from here on in it's fairly straightforward technique against less than optimum defence.

30.Rc7 Rb8  
31.c5 Rdd8  
32.Rc6+ Ke7  
33.Rxb6 Rb5  
34.Rc6 Ra8  
35.Kc3 a5  
36.Rc7+ Kf6  
37.d6 f4  
38.gxf4 exf4  
39.d7 Rd8  
40.a4 Rb4



## Games Column

by Bernard Milligan

41.c6 Ke7  
42.Rc8 Re4  
43.Rxd8 Kxd8  
44.c7+ 1-0

So, the Pelikan landed Claudio with a big bill...!



### Scotland v Argentina, 1999

White: C Goncalves  
Black: I Mackintosh  
Ruy Lopez [A00]

On the other board, I got the chance to play the Schliemann, and to dust down Tseitlin's excellent book.

1.e4 e5  
2.Nf3 Nc6  
3.Bb5 f5  
4.exf5 e4  
5.Qe2

According to Tseitlin, better than 5.Bxc6 or 5.Ng1.

5... Qe7  
6.Bxc6 dxc6  
7.Nd4 Nf6



Here, I decided to part from the book, which gave 7... Qe5 8.Ne6 Bxe6 9.fxe6 Bd6 10.Nc3 Nf6 11.b3 0-0-0 12.Bb2 with initiative for Black. Why? I'd have been flogged at my school chess club for moving the same piece twice in the opening!

8.Nc3 Qe5

And suddenly I recalled how much fun being flogged could be!? **BM** There are times when I worry about Iain!

9.Nf3 Qe7  
But this surely is over-indulgence?!  
10.Nd4 Qe5

I will take no more flogging sir, I insist on being expelled!

11.Ne6 Bxe6  
12.fxe6 Bb4



The sorely tempting 12... Qxe6 could have been met by 13.d3 Bb4 14.0-0 0-0 15.Nxe4 and I prefer White.

13.0-0 0-0-0

So, despite all the queenly gavottes, Black has some activity for the pawn.

14.Re1 Rhe8  
15.Nxe4 Rxe6  
16.c3 Nxe4

More active than retreating the Bishop.

17.cxb4 Qf5  
18.d4 Nc5



19.Be3 Nd3  
20.Red1 Nxb4  
21.Qd2 Nd5

It's easy to get obsessive about one piece...!

22.Qd3 Qf6  
23.Rac1 Rf8

24.Rf1 24.Rd2 looked more active.

24... h6  
25.Qa3 a6  
26.Qc5 Kb8  
27.a3 Qf5



White's queenside mobilisation is slow, and Black finds it easier to deploy attacking pieces on the opposite wing.

28.b4 Rff6  
29.Qc4 Rg6  
30.Rfe1  
30.g3 Qf3 amounts to much the same.  
30... Nxe3  
31.Rxe3 Rxe3  
32.fxe3 Qf3  
33.g3 Qxe3+  
34.Kg2 Rd6  
35.Rd1



35.Rf1 was an improvement, but White's pawns and King position are just too loose.

35... Qxa3  
36.Qg8+ Ka7  
37.Qxg7 Qxb4  
38.Qxc7 Qb2+  
39.Kh1 Rxd4  
40.Rxd4 Qxd4  
41.Kg2 Qd2+  
42.Kf3

Claudio may have intended to write 42.Kh3, but it's all a bit hopeless after 42... a5, so:

42... Qxh2  
0-1



## Games Column

by Bernard Milligan



**Scotland v Vienna, 2000**  
**White: I Mackintosh**  
**Black: Dr S Teichmeister**  
**Sicilian Defence [B27]**  
**[Annotator I Mackintosh]**

Now to the restricted-board match vs Vienna. At the time, discovering that I was drawn to play against a 2585-rated GM didn't seem that friendly! Teichmeister means poolmaster, but Sven had clearly mastered other briefs. The (then) 59-year old lawyer turned down my offer of Scotch and/or Vienna openings, so we sat down to a Sicilian.

**1.e4 c5**  
**2.Nf3 d6**  
**3.d4 cxd4**  
**4.Nxd4 Nf6**  
**5.Nc3 a6**  
**6.Be3 Ng4**  
**7.Bg5 h6**  
**8.Bh4 g5**  
**9.Bg3 Bg7**  
**10.Qd2 Nc6**  
**11.Nb3 Nge5**



Again, a less well-analysed line, but chosen by Kasparov in his 1998 match with Anand.

**12.Nd5**  
Anand played 12.f3 here and drew in 23 moves, but I decided to try something different.

**12... b5**  
**13.c3 Nc4**  
**14.Bxc4 bxc4**

**15.Nc1**  
15.Nd4 was the alternative, but I wanted to castle before commencing clearing operations in the centre.

**15... Rb8**  
**16.0-0 0-0**  
**17.Qe2 Bd7**  
**18.Qxc4 Rxb2**  
**19.Qxa6**

Couldn't resist going a pawn up, even temporarily, against a GM!

**19... Qa8**  
**20.Qxa8 Rxa8**  
**21.a4 f5**  
**22.f3 e6**  
**23.Nc7 Ra7**  
**24.Bxd6 Bxc3**



With both sides tacitly agreeing that the c3 and d6 pawns are expendable, there now occurs the one combinative sequence in the game - which could have done with more double-checking on my part!

**25.Ra3 Be5**  
**26.Nb5 Rxb5**  
**27.axb5 Bxd6**  
**28.bxc6?**



And, with hindsight, this isn't the best. 28.Rxa7! Nxa7 and then (a) 29.Rd1 Nxb5 30.e5 Bc5+ 31.Kf1 Bc6 32.Rd8+ Kf7 or (b) 29.b6 Bc5+ 30.Kh1 Bxb6 31.Rd1 Bc6 32.exf5 exf5 33.Rd6 should both be good enough to win.

**28... Bxa3**  
**29.cxd7 Rxd7**  
**30.exf5 exf5**  
**31.Re1 Kf7**  
**32.Ne2 Rd2**  
**33.Kf1 Bd6**  
**34.Ng3 Rd5**  
**35.Rb1 1/2-1/2**

I'd have taken the 1/2 point gladly before the game, but if only...! Sven waltzed all round me in our other game (for some reason, I just can't lay hands on a complete score for that one...!), and the Austrians won the match 8 1/2-5 1/2 with 2 games unfinished - goodnight Vienna!



### New Websites

No space for reviews this time round, but here's a couple of new sites to try:

The Chesshaven <http://thechesshaven.homestead.com>

Chess Geek <http://www.chessgeek.com>



## CC in Norway

by Øystein Sande

*Editor's note: while playing in the 5th North Atlantic Team Tournament (NATT), I made the acquaintance of Thor Løvholt, the President of the Norwegian CC organisation, NPSF. They were moving to an online magazine at almost the same time as ourselves, so we exchanged some technical information, and we hope to start a friendly match early in 2002.*

*Here is a brief insight into the NPSF, featuring an annotated game by one of their strongest players. The author is Øystein Sande, who produces the NPSF magazine, Postsjakk.*

The Norwegian CC organization, NPSF, has only about 200 members, but is an independent and well-run organization. The last years the number of title holders has risen to 24 (5 GMs, 3 SIMs and 16 IMs), and two players, Arne Vinje and Ivar Bern, have qualified for the next World Championship Final. (Until now five Norwegian players have participated in the WC finals, and two more have qualified, but not yet used their right to play for the WC title.)

The following game was played by Arne Vinje on the first board in a friendship match between Norway and Switzerland which started in 1994. Vinje is a former strong OTB player who now plays only CC - and with success! He just won the GM title for his shared 1st place in the 17. 3/4 final, which gives him the ticket to the 17. WC Final. This game is typical of his style.

### Norway v Switzerland, 1994

**White: Arne Vinje (Norway)**

**Black: A Gysi (Switzerland)**

**English Opening [A29]**

**[Annotator Sven Wisloff-Nilssen]**

**1.c4 e5**  
**2.Nc3 Nf6**  
**3.Nf3 Nc6**  
**4.g3 Bb4**

The classical continuation here is 4...d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5. The text, and 4...Bc5!? which seeks quite other types of positions, have been popular the last years.

**5.Bg2 0-0**

**6.0-0 e4**

**7.Ne1**

An old continuation. After the Karpov-Kasparov match in Sevilla 1987 7.Ng5 Bxc3 8.bxc3 Re8 9.f3! came into fashion, with dynamic and interesting play. 9...e3!? (9...exf3 10.Nxf3, m/4 Sevilla 1987.) 10.d3! d5 11.Qb3, with a small advantage in Kasparov - Karpov, m/2, Sevilla 1987. However, Kasparov lost this interesting game after having used too much time in the opening.

**7...**

**Bxc3**

**8.dxc3**

**Re8**

**9.Nc2**

According to older theory, Black cannot let White do the manoeuvre Bg5xf6/Nc2-e3 with a strong control over the centre and the square d5. After 9.Bg5! h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Nc2 White had a comfortable advantage in Averbakh-Suetin, USSR 1978, Informator 26/37.

**9...**

**h6**

Thereby the game again enters a normal course, as after 8...h6! 9.Nc2 Re8. Also 9...Ne5!?, which can give 8...Re8 an independent significance, has been played in some games. Here, we can suppose that the players had their own analyses.

**10.Ne3**

**d6**

**11.Qc2**

**b6?!**

The main line in ECO by 1979, but I think 11...Bd7!? or 11...a5! are better here. 11...a5 12.a4 Qe7 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.cxd5 Nb8 was played in Karpov - Korchnoi, Baguio City 1978, Informator 26/38.



**12.f4!**

May be the first new move in this game, but very thematic. White takes the square e5 and room on the king wing. The move also exploits the weakening

of the diagonal g2/a8 in various sub-lines. Earlier, the less active moves 12.b3 and 12. Bd2 have been tried.

**12...**

**Bd7?!**

This does not look nice. Now, White is free to start a classical attack on the Black's king. The weakness h6 allows a break on g5 with a direct attack on Black's king. The alternatives:

A: 12...Ng4? (to reduce the pressure.)

13.Nxg4 Bxg4 14.f5! with the idea h3 or Bxe4, which is terrible for Black. This is the disadvantage of the move b7-b6. The weakening of the diagonal g2-a8 gives Black difficulties when the e4-pawn is exchanged.

B: 12...exf3 13.exf3 looks after all much better, even if White has a comfortable position to play.

**13.h3**

**Ne7**

**14.f5!**

Black has already lost the thread, and White can play simply and strongly. The attack on the king wing is now irresistible. While Black's pieces are standing in the way of (are hampering) each other, White's pieces are increasing their range. They are already gazing at g5/h6!

**14...**

**Rb8**

**15.g4**

**Qc8**

Black's position is terrible. The e4-pawn is weak, the pieces are uncoordinated, and White is ready for a fierce attack.

**16.Bd2**

**Bc6**

**17.h4**

**Kh8**

**18.g5**

**hxg5**

**19.hxg5**

**Nh7**

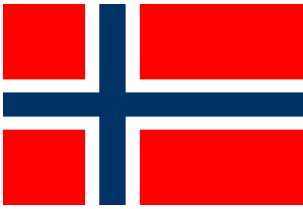


**20.Rf2!**

**Nxg5**

**21.Ng4**

The point. The horse on g5 is pending. White conquers the pawn on e4 and by that opens for the queen to participate in the attack.



## CC in Norway

by Øystein Sande

21... Nh7  
 22.Bxc4 Qd7  
 23.Raf1 Ng8  
 24.Bxc6 Qxc6  
 25.Qd3 Re4  
 26.Rg2

Reveals the threat 27. Qg3!, and g7 is difficult to defend.

26... f6  
 That looks depressing. But Black hopes to defend g7 by the heavy pieces along the 7. rank, an emergency measure that deprives his knights of all prospects. But what are the alternatives?

A: 26...Qxc4 27.Qg3! Rxe2 28.Rff2! Rxf2 29.Nxf2 and White wins.

B: 26...Rbe8 27.Qg3! Rxe2 28.Rff2! Rxf2 29.Nxf2 g6 30.fxg6 fxg6 31.Qxg6 Qd7 32.Ne4! with a winning attack.

27.b3 Rbe8  
 28.Rff2 Qc5

29.Kf1 Qa3



30.Qg3!

Now the attack obtains full strength. Note how Black's queen is completely out of the game.

30... R4e7  
 31.Rh2 Nh6

A sad necessity, as White already

threatened 32.Rxh7+! with winning mate attack, for instance 31...Qxa2? 32.Rxh7+! Kxh7 33.Rh2+ Nh6 34.Nxf6+ Kh8 35.Bxh6 and mate in a few moves.

32.Nxh6 gxh6  
 33.Rxh6 Qxa2

Black is lost anyway, and now comes a sweeping finale:

34.Qg6! Qb1+  
 35.Be1 Rf8

36.Rfh2! 1-0  
 Black cannot cope with all the mate threats. The squares h7-g7-g8 and f6 must be held. The end could have been 36...Rff7 37.Rg2! Rf8 38.Rh4! Qc1 39.Re4! Rd7 40.Re8!; or 39...Ref7 40.Reg4 Ng5 41.Rh4+ Nh7 42.Rgh2! A forceful attack game by Arne Vinje.



Chess Informant 82 - this volume brings a selection of 526 fully annotated games from all the important tournaments played from June 1st till September 30th 2001. 51 of the top 100 players from the latest FIDE Rating list annotate their games in volume 82. Chess Informant 82, EE, book and CD are all available now, each priced £18. Buy the book and CD together for £22! All buyers of Chess Informant 82 CD will get a free supplement: Volume C of Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings, 3rd edition.

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## ICCF Congress Rimini

by George Pyrich

The 50th ICCF Congress, in conjunction with meetings of the ICCF Presidium and numerous committees, was held at the Hotel Continental E dei Congressi, Rimini, Italy from 23 - 29 September 2001. The Congress was arranged by the Italian Federation, ASIGC (L'Associazione Scacchistica Italiana Giacotori per Corrispondenza), which, like ICCF, was celebrating its 50th anniversary! In all, a total of 73 delegates and officials, from 4 continents, as well some 30 of their family members, took part in the Congress. Distinguished participants and guests included 4 World CC champions, Victor Palciauskas (USA), Fritz Baumbach (GER), Grigory Sanakoyev (RUS) and Horst Rittner (GER), and the President of the Italian Chess Federation, Alvis Zichichi. The Congress participants extended a warm welcome to the delegate from India, H.J. Samtani, who was attending the Congress as the first beneficiary of a new programme approved at the previous Congress whereby delegates from selected "developing nations" would receive financial assistance from ICCF to enable attendance at Congress.

Rimini is a well known and popular holiday resort situated on the Adriatic coast of Italy, within the region of Romagna. As the Congress was held at end of the summer season, the delegates were appreciative of the availability of lower prices for hotel accommodation.

Opening the Congress, the ICCF President, Alan Borwell (SCO), referred to recent events in the United States of America which so tragically had affected lives of so many fellow citizens throughout the world. He also paid tribute to the late Dr. Martin Christoffel, ICCF Assistant Treasurer, who died in March and other CC players and officials who had died since the last meeting. Congress then stood in silence for two minutes, to the "memory of all departed friends and fellow citizens of the world". Thereafter, before expressing delight that both ASIGC and ICCF would celebrate their 50th Jubilees together in Rimini, the ICCF President remarked on the rich Italian chess heritage: great players, success in team events, the many active international organisers, and made a special mention of ASIGC "Presidente Onorario", Dr. Renato Incelli.

The main business of the Congress is summarised as follows:

Membership/Secretarial - Congress approved full membership to new Ukrainian Federation, UCCF, a new body that was representative of all correspondence chess interests in Ukraine and which had settled all outstanding debts to ICCF. The General Secretary reported one very encouraging aspect whereby entries to the ICCF Jubilee Open Tournaments, especially the email event, from players residing in non-member countries had been quite substantial and resolved to intensify during the coming year efforts to attract and recruit more countries as ICCF members.

Finance - ICCF Treasurer, Carlos Flores (ESP) reported that, for the period to 31/12/2000, total income had exceeded expenditure by almost 20,000 CHF. However, he also reported that several items of expenditure could not be included because some significant member federations had not provided the necessary information thereby not fulfilling their financial responsibilities under the ICCF Statutes. The Congress noted that some federations had also been very late in settling their fees and, following some discussion of the issue and its possible implications, agreed that in future years member federations who delayed payment of such fees would be levied surcharges and also lose membership privileges such as entry to team events until the fees due were paid in full. The updated Financial Plan for period 01/01/2000 to 31/12/2003 was then considered and small variations from last year's presentation noted. Congress also discussed at length matter of funding attendance at Congress of officials and delegates but agreed to leave matters as they are.

Rules - Congress approved the revised "ICCF Playing Rules Guidelines", now available at the ICCF website [www.iccf.com](http://www.iccf.com) The main point to note is that "time of receipt" in an email tournament can be considered as being the following day (recipient's local time). Congress also that noted that new revised set of Tournament Rules (formerly known as "Rules of Play" will be prepared and presented at the 2002 Congress. A new chairman of the Appeals Commission was appointed - Gerhard Radosztics (OST).

Ratings - The Ratings Commissioner reported that producing the new Rating List had been more difficult owing to delays in manual processing of results but hoped that in future this would become more automated and any delays avoided. The ICCF President referred to the tremendous work and service carried out by the Ratings Commissioner, Gerhard Binder (GER) who was given a standing ovation by the Congress.

Titles and Qualifications - In my Report to Congress as Qualifications Commissioner, I was able to confirm the award of new titles to 12 Grandmasters, 103 Senior International Masters (including Tom Craig), 162 International Masters (including George Sprott), 7 Lady International Masters and 13 International Arbiters (including Iain Sneddon). Additionally, Congress gave its approval to title norms in respect of numerous new World, Continental, Team and Invitational events.

European Zone - Zonal President Egbert Boesenberg (GER) announced the intention to introduce Email groups in all classes of European promotion tournaments (now available), and has recently set up website for European Tournament Office [www.cceurope.de](http://www.cceurope.de)



ICCF 50th Jubilee Tournaments - Arrangements for new events were confirmed:

- (i) World Champions Jubilee comprising all 9 living world cc champions the most recent (Gert Jan Timmerman (NLD) in WC Final 17)
- (ii) ICCF Officials Tournaments (2 GM groups and 4 IM Groups) sponsored by the Dr. Werner Bayer Stiftung (Foundation)
- (iii) Free ICCF Jubilee Email Open event with 2,222 players started on 01/09/2001
- (iv) Free ICCF Jubilee Postal Open with 728 players to start on 15/11/2001.

World Tournaments - The schedule for new events was agreed as follows:

- (i) World CC Championship 17 Final - 01/03/2002
- (ii) World CC Championship 21 ¾ Final - 01/03/2002 (but may be later)
- (iii) World CC Championship 26 Semifinal - planned start 01/09/2002 (both this and the previous event to have separate postal and email sections)
- (iv) CC Olympiad 13 Final (Postal) - planned start 01/11/2002
- (v) CC Olympiad 14 Final (Email) - planned start 01/09/2002
- (vi) CC Olympiad 16 Preliminaries (Email) - planned start 01/09/2002
- (vii) Ladies WCC Final 7 (Postal) - planned start 01/06/2002
- (viii) Ladies CC Olympiad 6 Final (Postal) - planned start 15/10/2002
- (ix) CC Olympiad 15 Preliminaries (Postal) - planned start 01/11/2002 but likely to be postponed until 2003 owing to decreasing numbers of postal players.

Other Tournaments - Congress also approved numerous new Invitation Tournaments. A continuing downward trend in all postal events, including the Thematic Tournaments, was noted. However, a 20% increase in email entries was recorded (despite the availability of the free Email Jubilee Tournament). After discussion, Congress agreed that the rate of play in all future Email events should be 10 moves in 60 days. Other tournament arrangements included plans to set up a new event "Champions League for Email Teams" (*will any Scottish team survive beyond Christmas?!*) following the success of the ICCF Open Email Team Tournament. Congress also agreed to commence "Grandmaster Norm Tournaments" (for players rated above 2450).



Internet and Technology - ICCF Webmaster, Soren Peschardt (DEN) reported difficulty in maintaining up to date tournament tables at the ICCF website. Also reported was a 30% increase during the year in the number of visits to the website as well as a number of new added features including a "How to Play" feature. The webserver moved from USA to Germany, giving twice the space for the same price. Because of hugely increased workload, Soren felt that he could no longer continue and that he wished to step down from the post. Happily, Evelin Radosztics (OST), with assistants Luz Marina Tinjaca and Marco Caressa (both ITA), agreed to take over! Congress recorded appreciation of all Soren's efforts and gave prolonged standing ovation! Congress agreed following discussion to explore the possibility of setting up a "dedicated ICCF webserver" (*If this measure is successful then Email play could very quickly become obsolete! Players would simply "post" moves at the site of the server*). Finally, a "Friend of ICCF" award was made to the Italian Federation website [www.asigc.it](http://www.asigc.it)

ICCF Jubilee Book - The Editor-in-Chief, Pedro Hegoburu, confirmed plans for this to be available early in 2002. The book would be a celebration of ICCF's 50th Jubilee and not of the Millennium as originally envisaged, and will contain features on all ICCF Member Federations as well as numerous other aspects of cc play. It is planned that the book will retail for less than US \$20.

Future Meetings - Arrangements were confirmed as follows:  
2002 - Seixal, Portugal (5th to 12th October)  
2003 - Czech Republic (anticipated dates 4th to 11th October)  
2004 - Brazil

As always, not all of the time of the Congress is taken up with business matters. In the customary schedule of social events, the SCCA's representative managed to reach the final group of 8 in the 28-player blitz tournament before running out of steam! The event was impressively won by the new Italian CC GM Massimo De Blasio. All the Congress participants were greatly impressed by the performance of FIDE GM Igor Efimov in a simultaneous display given over 20 boards from which he emerged undefeated.

At the closing dinner, traditionally hosted by ICCF, the Congress delegates toasted the success and development of ICCF as well as the successful future of chess in the Italy, before thanking the kindness and hospitality of their gracious Italian hosts and bidding farewell.



## ICCF Page



<http://www.iccf.com>

Members of the Scottish CCA are eligible to play in ICCF postal and email tournaments, which cover European and World. Open (O - under 1900), Higher (H - 1900-2100) and Master (M - over 2100) classes. Entries to H or M class events for the first time require evidence of grading strength, or promotion from a lower class. O and H classes have 7 players/section, with M class having 11. It is possible to interchange between postal and email events when promotion from a class has been obtained.

New World Cup tournaments start every 2-3 years, with 11-player sections of all grading strengths, and promotion to 1/2 finals and final. Winners proceed to the Semi-Finals, and winners of these qualify for a World Cup Final. The entry fee covers all stages of the event, and multiple entries are allowed, though Semi-Finals are restricted to 2 places per individual.

Master Norm tournaments with 11-player sections are available for strong players, using airmail or email. Entry level is fixed ICCF rating of 2300+, (2000 ladies); non-fixed ICCF 2350+ (2050 ladies); or FIDE 2350+ (2050 ladies); while medal winners (outright winners ladies) in national championships are also eligible. A player can enter only one postal section and one email section per year. Section winners who do not achieve norms receive entry to a World Championship Semi-Final.

International numeric notation is the standard for postal events, while PGN is recommended for email play. Playing rules and time limits are provided for each event, and the usual postal limit is 30 days per 10 moves, with up to 30 days leave per calendar year. To speed progress, air mail stickers should be used to Europe as well as international destinations, as the postal rates are not increased as a result. Please be aware that some patience is required, as games may take up to 3 years against opponents in countries with poor mail services. Silent withdrawal is bad etiquette! International CC postcards are recommended, and can be obtained from Chess Suppliers (Scotland). The introduction of email is now speeding up many events, and making it cheaper to play in most cases. Generally, you should play less email games simultaneously than postal because of the faster play.

A prerequisite for entry via the SCCA is that the player is, and continues to be, a full member of the SCCA for the duration of the tournament. We wish you great enjoyment from your overseas games, and from making new chess friendships!

Current tournament fees are shown on the ICCF Index 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. The SCCA international secretary can advise on all aspects of play, how to enter, current entry fees, etc. Email: [international@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:international@scottishcca.co.uk)

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### ICCF Thematics

**Entries by 1 March 2002; play starts 1 May 2002**

**2002/5. Cozio, C40**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5

**Entries by 1 March 2002; play starts 1 May 2002**

**2002/6. Sokolsky, A00**

1.b4

**Entries by 15 April 2002; play starts 15 June 2002**

**2002/7. Ruy Lopez, C70**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 f5

**Entries by 15 April 2002; play starts 15 June 2002**

**2002/8. King's Indian, E97/99**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6

**Entries by 1 June 2002; play starts 15 August 2002**

**2002/9. English, A29**

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.0-0 Nb6 7.Nc3 Be7 8.a3 0-0 9.b4 Be6

Interested? Email: [international@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:international@scottishcca.co.uk)

### Champions League (Email)

This exciting new team tournament is open to teams of four players, which do not necessarily have to come from the same country, but each player must have a working Email address. No player can play for more than one team per season and each team must have a nominated team captain (who may be a member of the team), who will be responsible for all communications with that team, including payment of the entry fee.

Entries may be submitted via the member federation of the team captain, with payment of the entry fee (£20 per team via SCCA). Alternatively, team entries may be made directly to ICCF using the Direct Entry facility available via [www.iccf.com](http://www.iccf.com) (entry fee USD \$50). Closing date for receipt of all entries is 15th April 2002.

All games will be played under ICCF email rules, and will be graded. The CL will consist of 4 divisions, in hierarchical order, with promotion/relegation each season. The winning team of the top league (Champions League A) will become the "ICCF Champions League winner" at the end of each season. An initial qualification tournament will be played.

Further details from, and entries to, George Pyrich at: [international@scottishcca.co.uk](mailto:international@scottishcca.co.uk)