

Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

Magazine No.119

Autumn 2012

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 -
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Photograph from National Museums Scotland



Welcome to our Autumn edition! Last time, I reported the wettest June on record and the next three months pretty much followed suit. Great weather for whisky makers, but a shame about the barley harvest. Loads of good watertight games for you to enjoy in this edition however!

Our Notices page has been enlarged to include a short feature on Paisley CC, plus the main ICCF calendar dates for the next few years.

George Pyrich analyses the fourth ICCF rating list of 2012 (in which incidentally, he becomes our second member to pass 800 rated games).

George also reports on three games from our 2nd Webserver Open final which has now finished in a triple tie.

Our DVD Reviews include studies by Viktor Bologan, Robert Ris, Adrian Mikhalchishin, Leonid Kritz, and Sabrina Chevannes. David Cumming also chips in with a look at chess books on Kindle.

Our Games Column features games from the 2011-12 SCCA Championship, the 2012 Webserver League and our friendly international against Netherlands. Members Robert Montgomery, Alan Bell, David Cumming, Simon Gillam and Iain Mackintosh are all involved.

Alan McGowan makes a welcome return to cover the first Correspondence Tournament in Scotland. This was won by John Dillon Chambers back in 1887 and the featured game was submitted by him to the Falkirk Herald later on in 1922.

George Pyrich supplies his usual international update, which includes all the current cross-tables, a further annotated game and a short update on the ICCF Veterans' World Cups 2-4 by Alan Borwell.

The ICCF webserver has had something of a makeover recently, and is now also hosting the ICCF website – it's worth a look to get familiar.

Still no word of a secretary, but hopefully somebody's conscience will crack now that the sporting summer is over. I could use a PA to organise all the new Champions League games which have appeared this week...

SCCA Membership

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

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

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

SCCA 100 Club

The 100 club has thrived through the work of George Livie. George has decided that he should retire and responsibility now rests with our Treasurer, Gordon Anderson. The Association is extremely grateful to George for the time and commitment he has given to ensuring that members supported the 100 club.

A few members' subscriptions to the 100 club have recently expired and Gordon will be writing encouraging them to renew. Units cost £1 with some members taking one unit while others take as many as 10 units per month. From the Association's perspective paying by Bankers Order is most convenient. If you don't already subscribe to the 100 club please consider if you can help the SCCA by taking out units and make contact with Gordon whose contact details are shown below.

Recent 100 Club Winners

2012	1st	2nd
September	C M Dowell	A P Borwell
August	G M Anderson	J S Murray
July	G W G Livie	G D Pyrich

SCCA Officials

Position	Name	Address	Contact	Email
President	Iain Mackintosh	7 Tullylumb Terrace, Perth PH1 1BA	+44 (0) 1738 623194	president@scottishcca.co.uk
VP & International	George Pyrich	13 Ardgartan Court, Balfarg, Glenrothes KY7 6XB	+44 (0) 1592 749062	international@scottishcca.co.uk
Secretary *				secretary@scottishcca.co.uk
Membership	Kevin Paine	14 Lime Close, Frome BA11 2TX	+44 (0) 1373 467585	membership@scottishcca.co.uk
Treasurer	Gordon Anderson	63 Wellin Lane, Edwalton, Nottingham NG12 4AH	+44 (0) 115 923 1021	treasurer@scottishcca.co.uk
Member	Jim Anderson	162 Fountainbleau Drive, Dundee DD4 8BJ	+44 (0) 1382 501649	jim.anderson@scottishcca.co.uk
Member	Alan Borwell	8 Wheatfield Avenue, Inchtute PH14 9RX	+44 (0) 1828 686556	alan.borwell@scottishcca.co.uk
Games Editor	Iain Mackintosh	7 Tullylumb Terrace, Perth PH1 1BA	+44 (0) 1738 623194	games@scottishcca.co.uk

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



ICCF Champions League Cycle 5



The next cycle of the ICCF Champions League is now scheduled to start on 15th October. Scotland will be represented by two teams, both in division C (sections 1 & 7), viz:

Lewis Chessmen - 1. Iain Mackintosh
2. David Cumming 3. Alan Borwell 4. George Pyrich (c).

Scottish Claymores - 1. Alan Bell 2. Robert Montgomery 3. Gordon Anderson (c) 4. Kevin Paine.

SCCA Secretary

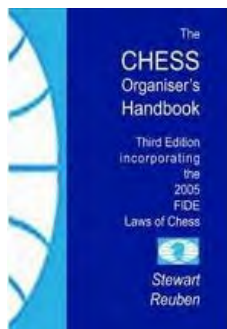
The Big Society hasn't sent along any volunteers since our last edition, so we are still looking for someone to fill the vacancy. The main parts of the job are:

- Primary contact point for outside bodies, queries, etc.
- Organise & minute committee meetings (3 fairly fixed in Jan/Feb; May/Jun and Aug/Sep, with others as needed)
- Organise domestic events to start in Jan; appoint & liaise with TDs; organise trophies & medals at season-end
- Other admin as needed

The busy period is Dec/Jan which may appeal to candidates looking to avoid shopping trips and visiting relatives. The remainder of the year is fairly light.

It is possible to share some elements of the job across committee, though we do require a designated secretary to be appointed.

If you can help, please get in touch with Iain at president@scottishcca.co.uk.



of the 2012 SCCA Webserver League. The photograph shows IM Stephen Burns-Mannion taking on Paisley members in a recent simultaneous display.



Although the heady days of 1994 when Paisley were crowned British chess club champions are now a distant memory the club is still alive and kicking. After a few fallow years when attendances dwindled to worryingly low levels the club has had a phoenix-like resurrection with membership trebling in the last five years.

The club's main selling point these days is the help and encouragement given to new players regardless of age or ability, no one is left to sink or swim at Paisley Chess Club and friendly advice is always available. The club has also started to attract the attention of some strong players and the A team seemed to get better with every game during the 2011-12 season. They shook off early relegation fears to look more like future candidates for promotion in division 2 of the Glasgow Chess League.

Paisley are one of the few clubs in Scotland that open more than once a week, fifty weeks a year and they are the only Scottish club that opens on an afternoon. Paisley Chess club is currently looking for new members with players of all ages and abilities welcome. Tuition is available for beginners and a warm welcome assured for all. Please note the first four sessions are free of charge with no obligation to join. Feel free just to turn up or if you require further information go to the website.

Address : 18Broomlands Street, Paisley, Scotland PA1 2LU
Web: www.paisleychessclub.org.uk
Opening Hours :Monday and Wednesday evenings 7.15 - 10.00, Thursday Afternoons 1.30 - 4.00

Paisley CC

Roland Fraser sends this update on his local club in Paisley. The club boasts 3 SCCA members and has organised the Renfrewshire Knights team which finished 2nd in division 2
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Scottish Chess

The first of our correspondence reports appears in issue 241 – the August edition of the magazine.

ICCF Tournament Schedule

World Tournament Director, Frank Geider, has distributed the updated ICCF Tournament Calendar of Events. You may also access the calendar at <http://www.iccf.com> (link near the top of the home page) – the full version extends through to 2015.

ICCF TOURNAMENTS	2012				2013				2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
WC Final					Mar	Jun			Mar			
WC Preliminaries						Jun				Jun		
WC Semi Finals			Sep				Sep				Sep	
WC Candidates												
Ladies' WC Final 10						X						
Ladies' WC Semi Finals 11						X						
Olympiads (server) 20				18F-20PR								
Olympiads (postal) 21							X				X	
Lady Olympiads 11												
Olympiads (server) 22												
World Cup 20 Preliminaries						X						
2nd Chess 960 World Cup								X				
World Cup 21 Preliminaries									X			
3rd Chess 960 World Cup												
2nd Veteran World Cup - Final					Feb					Feb		
3rd Veteran World Cup - Final												
4th Veteran World Cup - SF & Final						Jun						
5th Veteran World Cup - Prelim		X										
6th Veteran World Cup - Prelim							X					
7th Veteran World Cup - Prelim											X	
8th Veteran World Cup - Prelim												
2nd Junior World Cup												
Champions League 5				X								
Champions League 6												X
5th Webchess Open		X										
6th Webchess Open										X		
7th Inter Zonal Team Tournament												
8th Inter Zonal Team Tournament				Dec								Dec

ZONAL TOURNAMENTS	2012				2013				2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Zone 1												
9th EU Team Championship Final								X				
10th EU Team Championship Semi Finals							X					
67th EU Championship Final				X								
68th EU Championship Final						X						
70th EU Championship Semi Final									X			



2012/4 Grading List

By George Pyrich

The fourth ICCF grading list of 2012 has been published and the new grades are based on 3 months' results from 1 June 2012 to 31 August 2012. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 October and 31 December 2012.

With the publication of this ICCF rating list, Peter Bennett has achieved a 2300+ rating for the first time, and with it, an SM norm. It's been a mixture of ups, downs and no changes for everyone else.

George Pyrich joins Alan Borwell in topping 800 rated results - 808, up from 799 in the previous list, and with a 1-point grading increase to boot! Excluding overseas-based players Calos Almarza Mato and David Dempster, David Cumming is the next best with 562, with Andrew MacMillen (549) and Geoff Lloyd (544) just behind. Raymond Burrige continues to be prolific - a further 50 results in this quarter brings him up to 219 games in total, plus a grading increase of 85 points.

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

No.	Name	Results	Grade	No.	Name	Results	Grade
318	Almarza Mato, C	640	2090 ↓	548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	299	2345 ↓
518	Anderson, G M (SM)	225	2289 ↑	260	Knox, A	92	1632 ↑
121	Anderson, J	223	1750 ↓	1117	Laing, D	20	2100 ↑ *
049	Armstrong, A	149	1920 ↑	419	Lees, J A	83	2055 ↔
313	Armstrong, J McK	182	1556 ↑	256	Lennox, C J (SM)	157	2278 ↑
511	Beecham, C R (IM)	358	2480 ↓	503	Livie, G W G (IM)	194	2337 ↔
599	Bell, A D (SM)	115	2395 ↑	264	Lloyd, G (SM)	544	2287 ↓
501	Bennett, P G	142	2307 ↑	337	Loughran, R	115	1566 ↑
431	Binnie, J	28	1626 ↔ *	584	MacGregor, C A	305	1818 ↑
509	Borwell, A P (IM)	826	2232 ↓	532	Mackintosh, I (IM)	538	2428 ↑
427	Brooksbank, Dr K	75	1820 ↔	216	MacMillen, A N	549	1817 ↑
424	Burrige, R J	219	1874 ↑	566	Marshall, I H	353	2051 ↓
435	Cairney, J	37	2004 ↓	434	Matheis, T (IM)	173	2436 ↓
423	Calder, H	96	2055 ↔	412	McKinstry, J	63	1573 ↓
	Clark, S L	12	1968 ↔ *	401	Moir, P J	145	1664 ↓
173	Cook, W M	69	1926 ↔	598	Montgomery, R S	203	2296 ↓
364	Coope, D W	516	2030 ↓	564	Murray, J S	32	1992 ↑
247	Cormack, W H	68	1920 ↓	440	Neil, C	69	1700 ↑
527	Craig, T J (SM)	340	2356 ↔	453	Newton, A	24	1773 ↔ *
166	Cumming, D R	562	2319 ↓	429	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	90	1936 ↓
422	Dawson, Prof A G	73	2113 ↔	444	Paine, Dr K A	131	2283 ↑
572	Dempster, D	677	1729 ↓	1012	Paulin, A	40	2008 ↓
030	Dyer, M T	97	2098 ↔	379	Phillips, G H	215	2110 ↔
371	Edney, D	166	1948 ↑	432	Price, D	167	2077 ↑
372	Flockhart, H	27	2133 ↔ *	048	Pyrich, G D (IM)	808	2193 ↑
459	Fraser, R A	55	1844 ↓	437	Roberts, A	146	1711 ↔
086	Gillam, S R (SM)	129	2311 ↓	398	Rough, R E	29	1880 ↔ *
124	Goodwin, B J	173	1975 ↓	522	Savage, D J	74	1956 ↔
445	Graham, S (SM)	352	2203 ↓	449	Scott, A	46	1871 ↔
399	Grant, J	29	1770 ↑ *	439	Smith, M J	29	1885 ↔ *
327	Hammersley, C	18	1753 ↔ *	448	Sreeves, C	15	1918 ↔ *
596	Hardwick, M E	172	1350 ↓		Stevenson, F	14	1776 ↔ *
063	Harvey, D	84	2068 ↑	546	Stewart, Dr K W C	144	2100 ↓
515	Jack, J P E	28	1766 ↔ *	1120	Taylor, W	26	2084 ↑ *
447	Jamieson, I M	47	2020 ↓	452	Toye, D T	73	1559 ↓
322	Jessing, M	27	2094 ↔ *	530	Watson, J (IM)	143	2303 ↑
1126	Kelly, J	12	1728 ↔	065	Young, S M	58	1772 ↔

Statistical Analysis

Total listed	74
New entrants	0
Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members)	0
Full grades (30+ games)	60
Provisional grades (<30 games)	14
Grading increases (↑)	23
Grading decreases (↓)	26
Grading static (↔)	25

Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	2480	Lennox, C J (SM)	2278
Matheis, T (IM)	2436	Borwell, A P (IM)	2232
Mackintosh, I (IM)	2428	Graham, S (SM)	2203
Bell, A D (SM)	2395	Pyrich, G D (IM)	2193
Craig, T J (SM)	2356	Dawson, Prof A G	2113
Kilgour, D A (GM)	2345	Phillips, G H	2110
Livie, G W G (IM)	2337	Stewart, Dr K W C	2100
Cumming, D R	2319	Dyer, M T	2098
Gillam, S R (SM)	2311	Price, D	2077
Bennett, P G	2307	Harvey, D	2068
Watson, J (IM)	2303	Calder, H	2055
Montgomery, R S	2296	Lees, J A	2055
Anderson, G M (SM)	2289	Marshall, I	2051
Lloyd, G (SM)	2287	Coope, D W	2030
Paine, Dr K A	2283	Jamieson, I	2020

Top 30 Games Played

Borwell, A P (IM)	826	Anderson, G M (SM)	225
Pyrich, G D (IM)	808	Anderson, J	223
Dempster, D	677	Burridge, R J	219
Almarza-Mato, C	640	Phillips, G H	215
Cumming, D R	562	Montgomery, R S	203
MacMillen, A N	549	Livie, G W G (IM)	194
Lloyd, G (SM)	544	Armstrong, J McK	182
Mackintosh, I (IM)	538	Goodwin, B J	173
Coope, D W	516	Matheis, T (IM)	173
Beecham, C R (SIM)	358	Hardwick, M E	172
Marshall, I H	353	Price, D	167
Graham, S (SM)	352	Edney, D	166
Craig, T J (SM)	340	Lennox, C J (SM)	157
MacGregor, C A	305	Armstrong, A	149
Kilgour, D A (GM)	299	Roberts, A	146

Other Notes

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

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

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

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

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



2nd Webserver Open Final

By George Pyrich

SCO/Open2/final, 2nd SCCA Webserver Open Final

					TD MacGregor, Colin A. (1A)													
Rated					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score	SB	RG	Place	
1	SCO	620588	IM	Matheis, Thomas	2442		½	½	½	½	1	½	1	1	5.5	18	0	1
2	SCO	629031		Lloyd, Geoffrey	2301	½		½	½	½	½	1	1	1	5.5	17.75	0	2
3	SCO	620643		Bell, Alan D.	2353	½	½		½	½	½	1	1	1	5.5	17.75	0	2
4	SCO	620345	IM	Mackintosh, Iain	2372	½	½	½		½	½	1	1	1	5	16	0	4
5	SCO	620623		Paine, Dr. Kevin	2216	½	½	½	½		½	½	1	1	5	16	0	4
6	SCO	620426		Cumming, David R.	2271	0	½	½	½	½		½	1	1	4.5	13.5	0	6
7	SCO	211664		Graham, Stuart	2309	½	0	0	½	½	½		1	1	4	11	0	7
8	SCO	620454		MacMillen, Andrew N.	1801	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	1	0	0	0	8
9	SCO	620669		Paulin, Andrew	2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	9

The event has finally ended with something of a whimper, the last 2 games ending in draws, and the event finishing in a 3-way tie. The final table tells its tale of a remarkably close event with only 1 point separating the top 6 and only 1 decisive game amongst them. Unfortunately the bottom markers found themselves being somewhat outclassed, serving as cannon fodder for the others.

The ICCF webserver table shows the result had the Sonneborn-Berger tie-break system been in operation – Tom Matheis would have edged 1st place by virtue of beating David Cumming, while Alan Bell and Geoff Lloyd drew against the same opponent. However, the SCCA format of play made no provision for tie-breaks, so points alone decided the placings.

Two of the three winners have kindly supplied annotated games from the event, and first up is Alan Bell, the defending champion. Alan reckons his best game was probably against Stuart Graham but that has already featured in edition 117, so this is his next best. Alan hopes Andrew is not too disheartened by his score as he was certainly a difficult opponent.



White: Paulin, Andrew (2024)

Black: Bell, Alan D (2353)

SCCA 2nd Webserver Open Final, 2011

Nimzo-Indian, Hübner Variation [E41]

[Notes by Alan Bell]

1.d4
2.c4
3.Nc3

e6
Bb4+
Nf6

4.Nf3

5.e3

6.bxc3

7.Bd3

8.0-0

8...

9.d5

10.e4

11.Re1

11...

c5

Bxc3+

Nc6

d6

e5

Ne7

Ng6

h6

This is the Hübner variation of the Nimzo Indian, famously featuring in the fifth game of the 1972 Spassky Fischer match.

8.e4 e5 9.d5 Ne7 10.Nh4 h6 11.f4 Ng6 12.Nxg6 fxg6 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Be3 b6 15.0-0 0-0 16.a4 a5 17.Rb1 Bd7 18.Rb2 Rb8 19.Rbf2 Qe7 20.Bc2 g5 21.Bd2 Qe8 22.Be1 Qg6 23.Qd3 Nh5 24.Rxf8+ Rxf8 25.Rxf8+ Kxf8 26.Bd1 Nf4 27.Qc2 Bxa4 0-1 Spassky,B-Fischer,R/Reykjavik 1972]

11.Ne1 0-0 12.g3 b5 13.cxb5 c4 14.Bxc4 Nxe4 15.Bd3 Nc5 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.f3 Bh3 19.Rf2 f5 20.Nd3 Nxd3 21.Qxd3 f4 22.gxf4 exf4 23.Bd4 Bf5 24.Qf1 Rfc8 25.Re1 Qf7 Gavasheli,A-Khukhashvili,S/Kutaisi GEO 2010/OM 2.02/0-1 (56)



12.a4N

12.Be3 Nh7 13.Qd2 0-0 14.Rab1 b6 15.h3 f5 16.exf5 Bxf5 17.Bxf5 Rxf5 18.Qd3 Qd7 19.Bd2 Raf8 20.Be3 Nf4

21.Bxf4 Rxf4 22.Rb2 Qa4 23.Re4 Rxe4 24.Qxe4 Rf4
25.Qg6 Nf6 26.Nd2 Qd1+ Perez,D-Jackova,J/Dresden
2008/OM 2.02/0-1 (34)

12... **Qa5**
13.Bd2 **0-0**
14.Qe2 **Nh5**
15.g3

15.Nxe5? Nh4+→



15... **Qd8**

I had originally planned 15...Bg4 but then saw that Black is in real trouble after 16.h3! Bxh3 (16...Bd7 17.Nh4 Nxh4 (17...Nh4 18.gxf4 Nxh4 19.f5 g5 20.Kh1±) 18.Qxh5 Ng6 19.f4±) 17.Nh2 Nf6 18.g4 h5 19.gxh5 Nf4 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.Qf3 Bd7 22.h6±

16.Reb1 **Bg4**
17.h3

Safer is 17.Qe3 Rb8 18.Ne1 f5 19.exf5 Bxf5 20.Bxf5 Rxf5 21.Qe2 Qd7 which is fairly even. Black has the better structure and some kingside pressure but White's bishop should not be underestimated.

17... **Bxh3**
18.Rxb7

This runs into a strong kingside attack. White can adopt the same approach as at move 15 but there are differences: 18.Nh2 Nf6 19.Rxb7 (The main difference is that after 19.g4 Black has 19...Qd7) 19...Bc8 This is a safer variation for White than that played but I prefer Black who is virtually a pawn up on the kingside.

18... **Qc8**
19.Rb2



19... **Nhf4!**

This is very strong. The position may already be beyond saving.

20.Bxf4

20.Qe3 Nxd3 21.Qxd3 f5 22.Ne1 fxe4 23.Qxe4 Bf5 24.Qe2 e4 is very good for Black.

20... **exf4**
21.e5

21.Qd2 Qg4 22.Nh2 Qh5 23.Qe2 (23.gxf4 Qh4) 23...Qe5 (23...Qxe2 24.Bxe2 Rfe8) ; 21.Nd2 fvg3 22.fvg3 Ne5 23.Qe3 f5 and Black is much better.

21... **Bg4**
22.Bxg6

22.exd6 Re8 23.Qd1 fvg3 24.Bxg6 fvg6 25.Qd3 gxf2+ 26.Rxf2 Bf5 27.Qd2 Qd8+→

22... **fxg6**
23.Qe4 **Bxf3**

Also very strong is 23...fxg3 24.Nh4 gxf2+ 25.Rxf2 Rxf2 26.Kxf2 Qf8+ 27.Ke3 Bf5 28.Nxg6 Bxe4 29.Nxf8 Bf5 30.Ne6 Re8 31.exd6 Bxe6 32.dxe6 Rxe6+ 33.Kf4 Rxd6

24.Qxf3 **fxg3**
25.Qxg3 **Rf5**



And the threat of Rg5 ensures Black's advantage.

26.f4 **dxg5**
27.Rg2

No better is 27.Qxg6 exf4 28.Qc6 (28.Kf2 Rg5 29.Qe4 Qh3 30.Qe6+ Qxe6 31.dxe6 Re5 32.Rb7 Rxe6 33.Rd1 g5 34.Rdd7 Rg6 35.Rxa7 Rxa7 36.Rxa7 g4+→) 28...Qxc6 29.dxc6 Rc8 30.Rb7 Rxc6 31.Rxa7 Rd6+→

27... **exf4**
28.Qxg6 **Qd7**
29.Rf1

29.Qxh6 f3 30.Rg3 f2+ is hopeless.

29... **Raf8**
30.Qxh6 **R8f6**
31.Qh3

31.Qh4 f3 32.Rg4 Qe7 and the attack is unstoppable.

31... **Rxd5**
32.Qxd7

32.Qg4 Rd2 comes to the same thing.

32... **Rxd7**

The complications are over and Black has a winning advantage. White can get some temporary play but will not be able to avoid a losing rook and pawn ending.

33.Rg5 **Rd3**
34.Rc1 **Ra6**

And White resigned. The position still needs a bit of care but nothing too difficult. For example 34...Ra6 35.Rxc5 (35.Rf5 Rxa4 36.Rxf4) 35...Rxa4 36.Rc2 a5 37.Rc7 Ra1+ 38.Kh2 f3 39.Ra7 Re3 40.Rf2 Rxc3 41.Kg3 Rg1+ 42.Kf4 Rxc4+ 43.Kxf3 a4

0-1



Next up is Geoff Lloyd, who writes: "What I am submitting is paradoxical coming from a joint winner of the Scottish Open. The last 12 months have been the worst chesswise for me for over a decade. I have lost over 15 games and drawn far too many.

1. I play too many games.
2. As a result I don't spend enough time per move.
3. I have become over reliant on, trees, database and above all statistics.
4. I have become lazy minded.

In an attempt to improve the standard of my game, I am studying the openings I play. Even more so, I am studying the endgame. The following game shows exactly my inability to enter into an endgame, because it looks equal when in fact there is a lot of play remaining.

I must begin by informing the readers that I came equal first in the Open by good luck, and not good chess. Stuart Graham gifted me a point after making a clerical error."



White: Lloyd, Geoff (2301)

Black: Cumming, David R (2271)

SCCA 2nd Webserver Open Final, 2011

Queen's Gambit, Chigorin Defence [D07]

[Notes by Geoff Lloyd]

1.d4	d5
2.c4	Nc6
3.Nc3	dx c4
4.Nf3	Nf6
5.Bg5	

I considered 5.e4 here, highlighting my tendency towards statistics rather than opening knowledge. 5.e4 Bg4 6.Be3 e6 7.Bxc4

5...	h6
6.Bh4	a6
7.e4	b5
8.d5	Na5
9.e5	Nh5



So far I have ignored the principle of development.

A. 9...b4 10.exf6 bxc3 11.bxc3 exf6 12.Qa4+ c6 13.dxc6 Qe7+ 14.Be2 Qa3 15.Qxa3 Bxa3 16.0-0 Nxc6 17.Bxc4 0-0 18.Bd5 Bd7 19.Rfd1 Rac8 20.Rab1 Rfd8 21.h3 Be6 22.c4 Na5 23.Rd3 Bf8 24.Rbd1 Milov,V (2590)-Morozevich,A (2575)/Tilburg 1994/0-1;

B. 9...g5 10.Bg3 Nh5 11.e6 Nxc3 12.Ne5 Qd6 13.Nxf7 Qb4 14.Qc2 Nxe1 15.Qg6 c5 16.0-0-0 Nxf2 17.d6 Nxd1 18.Nxe8+ Kd8 19.Nf7+ Ke8 20.Nxc5+ Kd8 21.Nf7+ Ke8 22.Ne5+ Kd8 23.Qf7 Qxb2+ 24.Kxd1 Maki Uuro,M (2332)-Ebeling,D (2279)/Helsinki FIN 2012/1-0

10.Qc2	g6
11.b4	Bf5
12.Qd2	g5
13.bxa5	gxh4
14.Nxe1	Ng7
15.a4	
15.Be2 e6 16.Nxf5 Nxf5 17.0-0-0	
15...	e6
16.Nxf5	Nxf5
17.axb5	axb5
18.Nxb5	exd5
19.Qxd5	Bb4+
20.Ke2	



I offered a draw with my last move. Since I have been studying the endgame, I have come to realise that I have been accepting draws and offering them because of my "ENDGAME IGNORANCE", an area of the game I am working hard to improve on. How may the game have continued had David Cumming declined the draw?

THE POSITION NEEDS EVALUATION BEFORE THE DRAW IS OFFERED.

Both players have not completed development. Material is equal. The most important consideration is the pawn structure. Black has 4 weak pawns and they should be attacked. I am studying the endgame and maybe in time I will attempt to win such positions. Black can't play 20... Qxd5 because of the knight fork on c7 and if 20...0-0 then it would be in White's favour to exchange queens.

1/2-1/2



In our last game selected from the event, our President is rewarded for some direct attacking play.

White: MacMillen, Andrew N (1801)
Black: Mackintosh, Iain (2372)
SCCA 2nd Webserver Open Final, 2011
 English Opening [A20]
[Notes by George Pyrich]

1.c4	e5
2.g3	Nf6
3.Bg2	Nc6
4.e3?!	

A dubious idea because of the hole left at d3. 4.Nc3 was surely better.

4...	d5
5.cxd5	Nxd5
6.Ne2	Be6
7.a3	

7.Nbc3 was a good deal better - perhaps White feared 7...Ndb4 8.d4 exd4 9.exd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Qxd4! 11.Qxd4 Nc2+ but it's not all that bad for White because of the Bg2.

7...	Qd7
8.Nbc3	Nxc3
9.bxc3	Bd5
10.0-0	Bxg2
11.Kxg2	h5
12.h4	0-0-0
13.d4	g5
14.hxg5	h4
15.Rh1	



15...	Qg4!
Threatening e4 and then Qf3+	
16.f3	Qxg5
17.e4	Qf6
18.d5	h3+
19.Kf2	Bc5+
20.Be3	Bxe3+
21.Kxe3	Na5
22.Rb1	Nc4+
23.Kf2	Nxa3
24.Rb3	Qd6
25.Qa1	Qc5+
26.Kf1	

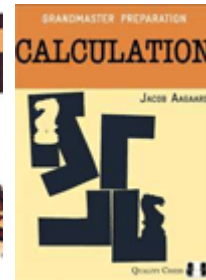
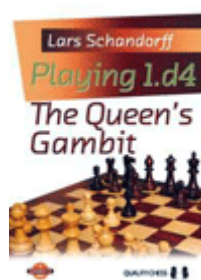
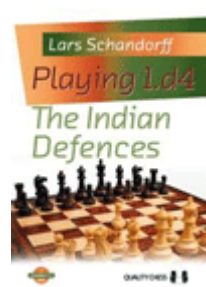


26...	Qe3
27.Qxa3	Qxf3+
28.Ke1	Qxh1+
29.Kd2	Qxe4
30.Qxa7	Rxd5+

And White resigned as Qh1+ next move will be devastating.
 0-1



Recent Book Titles





**English 1.c4 c5 for Black
By Viktor Bologan**



When White doesn't want to get involved into tons of theory, when he thinks that he is better than his opponent and can outplay him in a long game, then he uses 1.c4, the opening called English.

From the basic principles of chess two moves are ok for Black - 1...e5 and 1...c5, since both are aimed to control the centre. On this DVD Bologan recommends 1...c5 with very strict prescriptions on what to do on different white move orders.

This discipline will help Black to have more clear ideas and plans against the White "playing mood".

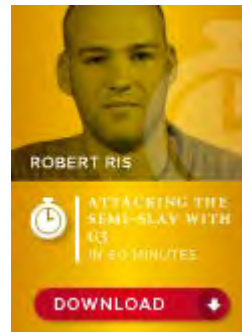
14 years ago Bologan started to play 1...c5 and until now he likes this move thanks to the rich type of positions arising after it, thanks to the aggressive and comfortable setups Black can get against the English Opening. "1...c5 is the best for Black!"



Video running time: 3 hours 41 min.

System requirements: Pentium-Processor at 300 Mhz or higher, 64 MB RAM, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, DVD drive, mouse, soundcard.

**Attacking the Semi-Slav with g3
By Robert Ris**



The Semi-Slav with 5.g3 offers White a simple but dangerous weapon to fight one of Black's most popular options against 1.d4.

Rather than emphasising on the loads of theory, the 60 min DVD thoroughly explains typical plans for White to develop his pieces effectively while keeping an eye on tactical traps.

The first part features a comprehensive overview on setups where Black declines the challenge by not taking on c4. The second part shows how to successfully deal with the sharp variations after ...dxc4.



All in all it should be understood that by approaching the Semi-Slav in Catalan style, White has all the chances to play for the initiative from the very beginning. Let your bishop on g2 do the job!

System requirements: Pentium-Processor at 300 Mhz or higher, 64 MB RAM, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, mouse, soundcard.



Fighting the Grünfeld Defence with g3 By Adrian Mikhalchishin



The Grünfeld Defence was invented by the famous Austrian Grandmaster Ernst Grünfeld in the early twenties of the last century. One of the first reactions to it came from the great Akiba Rubinstein - the g3 system, fianchettoing the bishop to g2.



After that many systems were tried to refute the Grünfeld and nothing really worked. So, Rubinstein's recipe remains a very important positional approach against this dynamic opening.

System requirements: Pentium-Processor at 300 Mhz or higher, 64 MB RAM, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, mouse, soundcard.

Play it Safe, Play the Petroff By Leonid Krizt



This DVD is dedicated to one of the most solid openings in modern chess theory - the Petroff Defence.

The opening owes its popularity to such players as Anand, Kramnik, and Gelfand, who frequently employ it against opponents of all levels.

Many new ideas and in-depth analysis are introduced, some of them even reach into the endgame. But that's an inevitable part of studying the Petroff Defence - precision until the very end is required from the player who has the black pieces.



The DVD covers all the main lines and most of the sub-variations and provides a solid background for players of any strength who are willing to study this opening. Video running time: 4 hours 37 min.

System requirements: Pentium-Processor at 300 Mhz or higher, 64 MB RAM, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, DVD drive, mouse, soundcard.

Never Too Late for the Nimzo-Indian By Viktor Bologan



Bologan's way to the Nimzo-Indian was very long and difficult. Which he now regrets a lot: "I would better start it when I was young. First I played only the King's Indian against 1.d4, later I learned Black's Knights Tango, which already had some elements of the Nimzo-Indian and only in the new millennium I included the Nimzo Indian into my repertoire." This period coincided with the period of winning the Dortmund 2003 tournament, when he managed to hold with Black against Vladimir Kramnik in the decisive last round in a Nimzo with 4.Qc2.

The Moldavian grandmaster recommends the Nimzo-Indian to players of all levels, because it's complex and simple at the same time. It teaches one very important thing in chess - how to play with the knight against a bishop.



The Nimzo- Indian therefore has the same importance as the Ruy Lopez after 1.e4. This DVD is aimed to give Black a clear idea what to do against 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 which is considered the strongest move order by White. Video running time: 4 hours 14 min.

System requirements: Pentium-Processor at 300 Mhz or higher, 64 MB RAM, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, DVD drive, mouse, soundcard.

Chess for Novices Vol. 1 By Sabrina Chevannes



This DVD is for anyone who knows the rules of chess but would like to be able to improve their game with some specific tactics and strategies. It builds on the basic principles of chess that should have already been learnt. However, there is also an introductory chapter for those that may have gaps in this part of their foundation. The main part of the DVD is split into four chapters:

Opening – The general principles of the opening are discussed here. No specific opening repertoire is suggested but a guide of how to tackle any opening and come through the first stage of the game in a better position.

Middlegame – Some basic tactical devices are introduced such as the pin, fork, skewer and discovered attack. These devices are used throughout the levels of chess and even top grandmaster games are won from a basic device as these.

Ending – The basic checkmating technique of the most common endings that occur in novice games are instructed here. These techniques are essential to master before continuing with more complex checkmates.

Test – The DVD finishes with a test chapter which consists of 20 exercises based on the information discussed throughout the DVD. Each exercise allows time for you to

pause and calculate the answer before the answer is discussed.

This DVD is a must for anyone who wants to improve their game, whether they are a junior or an adult. It can be for those who have just learnt the moves or for those who have played for some time but want to consolidate their knowledge. Video running time: 4 hours 15 min.

System requirements: Pentium-Processor at 300 Mhz or higher, 64 MB RAM, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, DVD drive, mouse, soundcard.

Chess Books on Kindle By David Cumming



Recently I got a couple of ebooks from Amazon downloaded onto my Kindle Touch, they are:- Play the French (4th Edition) (I already have the cellulose copy of this book!), and The New Old Indian. The books are much cheaper than the cellulose copies, once you pay for them by credit/debit card they get downloaded onto your Kindle virtually instantly (It takes seconds to a minute or 2 for the long books), so you can start reading them instantaneously, there's no postage involved so that is even more money saved, and from the index at the beginning of the ebook you can go instantly to any chapter that you choose. If you are an OTB player it saves space and weight, so you don't have to carry suitcases of books on opening theory with you to Congresses, many of your favourite opening books can go on your Kindle.

The downsides to the Kindle ebooks are, well if you want to explore a sub variation you have to wade through the chapter concerned until you come to the theory that you need. You can bookmark this for when you wish to go back to it, but there was no theoretical table of contents at the back of either book although the Old Indian ebook did have a table of contents listing complete games at the back. Also many chess books are not published as ebooks yet which is a bit annoying, although I get the feeling that eventually most of them will be.

On the whole a wonderful device which I am very impressed with, well worth the money involved.



Games Column

By Bernard Milligan

[Ed – Banquo at the table again...]

Our first two games were the last to complete in the 2011-12 SCCA Championship, which was led by Iain Mackintosh (5½), David Cumming (5) and Robert Montgomery (5)., Robert held the key to the final result.

White: Cumming, David (2288)
Black: Montgomery, Robert (2290)
King's Indian Classical [E90]
SCCA Championship 11–12
[Notes by David Cumming]

- 1.d4 Nf6
- 2.c4 g6
- 3.Nc3 Bg7
- 4.e4 0-0
- 5.Nf3 d6
- 6.h3 e5
- 7.d5 Nh5
- 8.Nh2 Qe8
- 9.Be2 Nf4
- 10.Bf3 f5
- 11.g3 Nxh3
- 12.Bg2 fxe4
- 13.Be3 Na6
- 14.Nxe4 Bf5
- 15.f3 h5

15...Qe7 16.Qd2 Qd7 (16...h5 17.0-0-0 Qe8 18.Qe2 Qd7 19.Bxh3 Bxh3 20.g4 Qa4 21.Kb1 b5 22.Rhgl bxc4 23.Rg3 h4 24.Rxh3 Nb4 25.Nc3 Qa6 26.Rxh4 Rab8 27.g5 Nd3 28.Bc1 e4 29.Rxd3 cxd3 30.Qxe4 Qb6 31.Qe6+ Scholz Franz (GER) (2330)-Preussner Michael (GER) (2446)/corr 2001/OM Corr/1-0 (67) 31...Rf7 32.Rf4 Qf2 33.Qxf7+ Kh8 34.Rh4+ Qxh4 35.Ng4 Qe1 36.Qxc7 d2 37.Qxb8+ Kh7 38.Nf6+ Bxf6 39.Qc7+ Bg7 40.Ne4 dxc1Q+ 41.Qxc1 Qe2 42.a3 Qd3+ 43.Qc2 Qxf3 44.a4 Qf5 45.Qd3 Qe5 46.Qh3+ Scholz Franz (GER) (2330)-Preussner Michael (GER) (2446)/corr 2001/Opening Master 1.22/1-0 (67)) 17.0-0-0 Qa4 18.b3 Qa3+ 19.Kb1 b5 20.cxb5 Nb4 21.Ng4 Bxg4 22.fxg4 Nf4 23.Bf1 a6 24.b6 1-0 Hart,R (2435)-Alves,L (2347)/IECG Email 2000/OM Corr; RR 15...Nf4 16.gxf4 exf4 17.Bd4 Nc5 18.Bxg7 Nxe4 19.0-0 Kxg7 20.fxe4 Bd7 21.Qd4+ Qe5 22.Qxe5+ dxe5 23.Rf3 h5 24.Bh3 Bxh3

- 25.Rxh3 Kf6 26.Kf2 Rh8 27.Rh1 Rae8 28.Nf3 Reg8 29.c5 Rh7 30.Ke2 Flear,G (2495)-Strikovic,A (2480)/Mesa 1992/Opening Master 1.22/1-0 (41)
- 16.Qd2 Qa4
- 17.Nc3± Qxc4
- 18.g4 Nf4
- 19.gxf5 Nd3+
- Houdini 2.0b w32: 19...Nxg2+ 20.Qxg2 Nb4 21.Qxg6 Nd3+ 22.Kd2 Nxb2 23.f6 Rxf6 24.Qc2 Qb4 25.Rab1 Nc4+ 26.Kd3 Nxe3 27.Rxb4 Nxc2 28.Kxc2 Rb8 29.Rc4 Rf7 30.Rh4 Rf5 31.Rg1 Rc8 32.Ne4 Kf7 33.Ng3 Rg5 34.Rxh5 Rxh5 35.Nxh5 0.71/6
- 20.Kd1 e4
- 21.Bf1 Rxf5
- 22.Rg1 Nab4
- 23.Rxg6 Nxd5
- 24.Bh6±



From here until around about White's 64th move the advantage seems to fluctuate from full for White to slight to equal, with the position being in a highly tactical state of flux.

- 24... Nxc3+
- 25.bxc3 Qa4+
- 26.Qc2 Nf2+
- 27.Kc1 Qxc2+
- 28.Kxc2 Kh7
- 29.Rxg7+ Kxh6
- 30.Rg2 Nh3
- 31.Rc2 Nf4
- 32.Rxe4 Rg8
- 33.Rd1 Rg1
- 34.Rd2 Rh1
- 35.Re7 Re5
- 36.a4 Kg6
- 37.Re8 Ra5
- 38.Rg8+ Kf7
- 39.Rc8 Re5
- 40.Rh8 Nd5
- 41.Kb3 Nxc3
- 42.Bc4+ d5

- 43.Bf1 Nb1
- 44.Rg2 Rc1
- 45.Rh7+ Ke6
- 46.Rh6+ Ke5
- 47.f4+ Kd4
- 48.Kb2 Rxf1
- 49.Nxf1 Rxf1
- 50.Rc2 Rd1
- 51.Rxc7 Rf1
- 52.Rc2 Rd1
- 53.Rf2 Ke3
- 54.Rh2 d4
- 55.Rh3+ Ke4
- 56.Kc2 Rf1
- 57.Re6+ Kd5
- 58.Re7 Nc3
- 59.Rxh5+ Kc4
- 60.Rc7+ Kb4
- 61.Rxb7+ Kc4
- 62.Rc7+ Kb4
- 63.Rh8 a6
- 64.Rf8±



White's 2 rook plus 2 pawn advantage vs. Black's rook, knight and 2 pawn is beginning to tell on the open board, in response to this, Black can only seek to perpetually check the White king and hope that I blunder somewhere along the line to allow him to escape with a draw or even a win!

- 64... Nd5
- 65.Rd7+- Rf2+
- 66.Kd1 Ne3+
- 67.Ke1 Rg2
- 68.Rc8 Nc2+
- 69.Kd1 Ne3+
- 70.Kc1 Nf5
- 71.Rd5 Rg1+
- 72.Kd2 Rg2+
- 73.Kd3 Rg3+
- 74.Ke2 Rg2+
- 75.Kf3 Nh4+
- 76.Ke4

1-0



Meanwhile, in the other deciding game, Robert had the White pieces against Iain Mackintosh, plus the inside knowledge of how his game with David Cumming was going...

White: Montgomery, Robert (2290)

Black: Mackintosh, Iain (2374)

English Four Knights [A29]

SCCA Championship 11-12

[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1.c4 | e5 |
| 2.g3 | Nf6 |
| 3.Bg2 | d5 |
| 4.cxd5 | Nxd5 |
| 5.Nc3 | |

This is the 'Reversed Dragon' position, analysed by Romanian GM Mihail Marin in volume 1 of his English Opening trilogy, and popular in recent top-level GM play. Marin recommends 2.g3 to avoid 2.Nc3 Bb4 where Black can still play f5.

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 5... | Nb6 |
| 6.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 7.0-0 | Be7 |
| 8.a3 | 0-0 |
| 9.b4 | Re8 |

10.Rb1

10.d3 is the most popular continuation here, with Carlsen, Nakamura and Gelfand all having played the Black side.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 10... | Bf8 |
| 11.d3 | Nd4 |
| 12.Ne1 | c6 |

By this stage, the ChessBase online database is showing only 8 games with 50% success rate.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 13.e3 | Nb5!? |
|--------------|--------------|

14.Bb2

14.Nxb5 cxb5 looks a bit messy for Black with the doubled pawn, though nothing too drastic occurred in the lines I examined. However, the capture on b5 might have prevented the pawn exchanges which happened later in the game.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 14... | Nxc3 |
| 15.Bxc3 | Nd5 |

16.Bd2

16.Ba1 looked a little better, but the move played is fine.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 16... | Be6 |
| 17.Qc2 | f6 |
| 18.Nf3 | Qd7 |



At this stage, the game is pretty level and I was satisfied with Black's development.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 19.Rfc1 | Rad8 |
| 20.Bf1 | Bg4 |
| 21.Be2 | Nc7 |
| 22.Qc4+ | Be6 |
| 23.Qc2 | Rc8 |

With White somewhat restricted, Black's plan is to mobilise on the q-side and try to make something of his pawn majority there.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 24.e4 | Bf7 |
| 25.Qd1 | Ne6 |
| 26.Be3 | b6 |
| 27.Ne1 | c5 |

28.Bg4

Looks best.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 28... | cxb4 |
| 29.Rxc8 | Rxc8 |
| 30.axb4 | a5 |

31.Nc2 was the alternative, though 31...Qc6 32.bxa5 bxa5 (32...Qxc2? 33.Qxc2 Rxc2 34.axb6=) 33.Rc1 Qa4 keeps the edge for Black.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 31... | bx a5 |
| 32.Ra1 | Ra8 |



Plan A successful, and now Black has a definite objective to advance the a-pawn with covering fire from the queen and bishop pair. White needs to generate some mobility and threats.

33.f4!

Another try for counterplay is 33.d4 exd4 34.Nf3 Qe8 35.Nxd4 Nc5 36.Nf3 Qxe4 37.Nd2 and White gains a bit of room to manoeuvre.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 33... | exf4 |
| 34.gxf4 | Qd6 |

35.Qf3 **a4**
35...Nd4 36.Qf2 Nb3 37.Ra2 Nc5-/+ looks more interesting in retrospect than it did at the time.

36.e5 **Qd8**

37.Qf2 **Nc7**

37...fxe5 38.fxe5 a3 also looked very playable.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| 38.d4 | a3 |
| 39.Nd3 | |



39... **Rb8!**

This was when I felt sure I was winning. The bishops are really powerful and freeing up the rook generates tactical possibilities on the 1st and 2nd ranks.

40.Qc2 **fxe5**

41.dxe5

41.fxe5? Nd5 42.Bf2 Qg5 43.h3 h5

41... **Bb3**

42.Qd2 **Bc4**

43.Be2 **Qd5**

44.Nf2 **Bxe2**

44...Qxd2? 45.Bxc4+ Qd5 46.Bxd5+ Nxd5

45.Qxe2 **Rb2**

46.Qd1 **Qc6**

47.Rc1 **Qg6+**

48.Kf1 **Ne6**

Played to stop any checks - maybe a subconscious throwback to OTB days when I missed a few I should have spotted. 48...Qa6+! 49.Kg1 a2 looks more direct with hindsight.

49.Qd5 **a2**

50.Nd1 **Rc2**

51.Ra1 **Kh8**

51...Qg4 52.Bd2 Bc5 53.f5 Qg1+

54.Ke2 Qxh2+ takes a bit longer.

52.Nf2 **Rb2**

53.Bc1



53.Rxa2 Qb1+ 54.Kg2 Qxa2

53... Qb1!

Finishing with a little bit of style.

Robert had a lousy weekend losing both his crunch games, but he was typically generous when summing up: "Time to call a halt. Let me be the first to congratulate you on winning the Scottish Championship. You played this game very well. I had tried to follow the suggestion of Marin in this line but I never felt comfortable with it. Just couldn't get a feel for the subtleties it is necessary to have when playing these lines. However, this takes nothing away from the fine game you played as I had been playing to hold rather than win this position for a long time."

0-1



Now we feature a couple of games from the popular and well-contested SCCA webserver league. Alan Bell contributes the first one, working up a winning attack despite computer analysis favouring his opponent.

White: Sargent, John (2203)

Black: Bell, Alan (2365)

French Defence [C19]

SCCA Webserver League 1, 2012

[Notes by Alan Bell]

- 1.e4 e6
- 2.d4 d5
- 3.Nc3 Bb4
- 4.e5 c5
- 5.a3 Bxc3+
- 6.bxc3 Ne7
- 7.Nf3 Nbc6
- 8.Be2 Qa5
- 9.Bd2 Bd7
- 10.0-0 c4

I like these closed French positions. The engines don't seem to appreciate that White has limited scope on the queenside because of the fixed pawn structure, whereas Black still has flexible pawns on the kingside.

- 11.Ng5 h6
- 12.Nh3 Ng6
- 13.Bh5 0-0-0

13...Nce7 14.f4 0-0-0 15.Qb1 Rdf8 16.Qb2 Nh4 17.Rfb1 Bc6 18.Be1 g5 19.Qc1 Nhf5 20.Be2 gxf4 21.Nxf4 Ng7 22.Qd2 Ng6 23.Nh3 Qd8 24.Bf2 Rfg8 25.Rf1 Nf5 26.Bf3 Ngh4 27.Bxh4 Qxh4 28.Kh1

Shulga,J-Filin,S/Alushta 2009/OM
2.02/1-0 (61)



14.Qg4N

I don't like this. The queen has to retreat in a couple of moves. 14.a4 Rdf8 15.Qe1 Nge7 16.Bc1 f6 17.exf6 Rxf6 18.f4 Be8 19.Bxe8 Rxe8 20.Ba3 Qc7 21.Qe2 1/2-1/2

Galkin,A-Bunzmann,D/Saint Vincent ITA 2000/OM 2.02; RR 14.f4 Rdf8 15.Qe1 Nge7 16.a4 f6 17.exf6 (RR 17.Bc1 fxe5 18.fxe5 Rxf1+ 19.Kxf1 Rf8+ 20.Nf2 Kb8 21.Ba3 Be8 22.Bg4 Bf7 23.Kg1 h5 24.Bf3 g5 25.Qd2 g4 26.Be2 Rg8 27.Bb4 Qd8 28.g3 Nf5 29.Nh1 Nxb4 30.cxb4 h4 31.Rf1 Qe7 Zuriel,M-Raffaele,E/IECC 2003/OM 2.02/0-1 (59)) 17...gxf6 18.Bc1 Nf5 19.Ba3 Rd8 20.Nf2 Ng7 21.Bf7 f5 22.Nd1 Rdf8 23.Bxf8 Rxf8 24.Bg6 Qd8 25.Qe2 Qh4 26.Nf2 Rf6 27.Bh7 Rf8 28.Bg6 Rf6 Balashov,Y-Naumkin,I/Moscow 1991/OM 2.02/0-1 (48)

- 14... Nce7
- 15.a4 Rhg8
- 16.Qe2 f5
- 17.Qe3

17.exf6 opens the position but Black has good play in the centre, for example 17...gxf6 18.Kh1 e5

17... Nh8

The engines still favour White but I don't see a good long term plan, whereas Black's play is straight forward.

- 18.Bc1 Nc6
- 19.Ba3 g5
- 20.Rfb1 Be8
- 21.Bd1?!

21.Be2 is slightly better though the main features of the position remain.

- 21... Ng6
- 22.Bd6 Rd7
- 23.Be2

A clear indication that White has no plan.

- 23... f4
- 24.Qd2 Nh4
- 25.Bg4 Bf7
- 26.Kh1 h5

27.Bd1 Qd8

28.a5

28.g3 fxg3 29.fxg3 g4 30.Nf4 Nf5 31.Bc5 h4-+; 28.f3 Bg6



28... f3!

And Black's attack is probably winning already.

- 29.gxf3 g4
- 30.fxg4 hxg4
- 31.Ng1 Nf5
- 32.Qf4 Qh4
- 33.Ne2 Rh8
- 34.a6 b6
- 35.Ng1

35.Rxb6 is desperation and comes to nothing after 35...axb6 36.Rb1 Be8 37.Rxb6 Rf7

- 35... Bh5
- 36.Ba3 Rf7

And White resigned. There is no defence to Black's attack. Some sample lines: 36...Rf7 37.Kg2 (37.Bc1 Ne3 38.Qxe3 Rxf2) 37...g3 38.fxg3 (38.Qxh4 Nxh4+ 39.Kxg3 Rg7+ 40.Kxh4 Bxd1#) 38...Qxf4 39.gxf4 Rg7+ 40.Kf1 Bxd1 41.Rxd1 Rxh2 42.Nf3 Ne3+ 43.Ke1 Nxc2+ 44.Kf1 Ne3+ 45.Ke1 Rh1+ 46.Kd2 Nxd1 47.Rxd1 Rg2+

0-1



And for our second league game, here's one where Simon Gillam launches a bold kingside attack, but Black manages to find a refutation.

White: Gillam, Simon (2340)

Black: Mackintosh, Iain (2395)

Nimzo-Indian Defence [E20]

SCCA Webserver League 1, 2012

[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

- 1.d4 Nf6
- 2.c4 e6
- 3.Nc3 Bb4
- 4.g3 0-0
- 5.Bg2 d5
- 6.Nf3 dxc4
- 7.0-0 Nc6

8.a3 Be7
 9.e4 a6
 10.Be3 Na5
 11.Qe2 b5

Playing to hold the extra pawn, at least for the time being. Black now needs to keep a watchful eye on the g2-a8 diagonal.

12.Rad1 Bb7
 13.Ng5

13.d5! might be better to exploit White's lead in development
 13...exd5 14.e5 Ne8 with e6, Bf4, Nd4 and Rf1 all viable continuations.

13... h6



14.h4!?

A spirited try to open up the position. In hindsight, it might be better suited to OTB play where Black has to adjust after the unexpected piece offer and may not find the best response.

14... Nb3!

First, I analysed taking the piece: 14...hxg5 15.hxg5 Nd7 16.f4 Re8 17.Qg4 Bf8 18.d5 g6 19.dxe6 fxe6 20.e5 and decided that White has all the play. Next step was to look at the best refusal, and Nb3 seemed to activate the peripheral knight, create a bit of a queenside bind and threaten c5 at some stage.

15.e5

15.Nh3 c5 16.dxc5 Qc8 17.Nf4 also looks playable.

15... Bxg2
 16.Kxg2 Nd5
 17.Nge4 Qd7
 18.Qh5 f5

Best, despite isolating the e-pawn.

19.exf6 Bxf6
 20.Qg4 Kh8
 21.Nxd5 Qxd5
 22.f3 Qf5

Exchanging queens quiets down the tactics and gives Black the opportunity to consolidate his material advantage.

23.Nxf6 Rxf6
 24.Qxf5 exf5
 25.Bf4 Rf7

26.Rfe1 Rd8
 27.Re6 Nc5
 28.Rc6 Nd3
 29.Rxa6 Re7

Better than 29...Rxd4 as Black spots some 7th rank threats.

30.Kf1 Nxb2
 31.Rb1 Nd3
 32.Rxb5?

32.Rc6! keeps White active for a lot longer.



32... Re1+

32...c5 33.Be5 c3 34.Rxh6+ Kg8 35.Rc6 c2 and Black nets a rook for 2 pawns, but the endgame looks tricky to win.

33.Kg2 c5

34.Bxh6

One last shot.

34... Rde8

Playing for the mate on h3 as the White king can't escape to g4.

35.Bxg7+ Kxg7

36.Rb7+ R8e7

And White resigned. Simon commented: "It seems that my line with 13 Ng5 was unsound; I had only really looked at lines where you take on g5 and/or retreat .Nd7, but after your 14... Nb3 with the threat of ... c5 I could not see anything good."

0-1



To conclude, we have a couple of games from our current friendly international against the Netherlands.

White: Cumming,David. R. (2298)

Black: Kuiphof,Henk (2197)

QGD Semi-Slav [D31]

Scotland v Netherlands, 2012

[Notes by David Cumming]

1.d4 d5
 2.c4 c6
 3.Nc3 e6
 4.e4 dxe4
 5.Nxe4 Bb4+

6.Bd2 Qxd4
 7.Bxb4 Qxe4+
 8.Be2 Qxg2?!

The obvious move, but not Black's best. Stronger options were the main lines of 8...c5, or 8...Na6, albeit the Marshall Gambit is demoralising for Black to face, White gets a lot of space and play for his pawn investment(s).

9.Bf3 Qg5
 10.Ne2 Nd7
 11.Rg1 Qh4!?
 12.Bc3!? Ne7N



12...e5 13.Rxg7 Qf6 (13...Ne7 14.Ng3 Qh6 15.Nh5 Rg8 16.Rxg8+ Nxg8 17.Qe2 Qg5 18.Ng3 Nb6 19.b3 Nd7 20.Rd1 Kf8 21.Bb4+ Ne7 22.h4 Qf4 23.Bg4 c5 24.Bxc5 b6 25.Be3 Qf6 26.Bg5 Qg6 27.Bh5 Qe6 28.Qe4 Bonehill,A (2360)-Davila,O (1691)/Lechenicher SchachServer 2009/OM Corr/1-0 (33)) 14.Rg3 Ne7 15.Qd2 Nf5 16.Rg1 Nh4 17.Bh1 Ng6 18.Ng3 Qf4 19.Qxf4 Nx4 20.Ne4 a5 21.Bf3 Ke7 22.0-0-0 Ng6 23.b3 Nf6 1/2-1/2 Walkenhorst,A-Zirwes,H/DESC email 2003/OM 2.04

13.Rxg7 Rg8
 14.Rxg8+ Nxg8
 15.Qd3± Ne7
 16.b3 Ng6
 17.Qe3 a5
 18.0-0-0 a4
 19.Be4 axb3
 20.axb3 Qe7
 21.Ng3 f5
 22.Bc2 b5
 23.Nh5 bxc4
 24.Qh6 Bb7
 25.Ng7+ Kd8
 26.Qxh7 Nxf8
 27.Qh6 Kc8
 28.bxc4 c5?!



This natural move, opening up the long diagonal for Black's bishop is in fact too loosening and the wrong plan. A better idea for Black was ...Ra3 followed by ...Ba6, with some positional and tactical pressure on the queenside.

29.Qe3± Qf7

30.h4

White's trump card, the passed pawn on the h file.

30... Ra3
31.Rd6 Be4
32.Kb2 Ra7
33.Bxe4 fxe4
34.Qxe4 Qxf2+
35.Rd2 Qf7
36.Qc6+ Rc7
37.Qa8+ Nb8
38.Qg2 Nfd7
39.Rf2 Qg8
40.Kc1 Rb7
41.h5 Rb3
42.Kc2 Rb6
43.Qe4 e5
44.Nf5 Qg1
45.Qe1 Qxe1
46.Bxe1

With each piece exchange White's initiative gets stronger and gathers force.

46... Nf6
47.h6 Kd7
48.Ne3+- Ke8
49.Rg2 Nbd7
50.Rg7 Ra6



51.h7 Nxh7

Black is forced to sacrifice his knight for the h pawn, otherwise it queens.

52.Rxh7 Ra2+

53.Kd1 Nf6

54.Rc7 Nd7
55.Bh4 Rh2
56.Nf5 Kf7
57.Rxd7+ Ke6
58.Re7+ Kxf5
59.Bg3

Houdini 2.0b w32: 59.Bg3 Rg2
 60.Rxe5+ Kf6 61.Re3 Kf7 62.Bf4
 Kf6 63.Rg3 Rf2 64.Bg5+ Ke5
 65.Be3 Ra2 66.Bxc5 Kf4 67.Ra3
 Rb2 68.Rd3 Ra2 69.Rd2 Ra4
 70.Rd4+ Ke5 71.Kd2 Ra5 72.Rd5+
 Ke4 73.Kc3 Ra1 74.Rd4+ Kf3
 4.13/25

1-0



White: Elburg,John (2300)

Black: Bell,Alan D (2365)

French Defence [C18]

Scotland v Netherlands, 2012

[Notes by Alan Bell]

1.e4 e6
2.d4 d5
3.Nc3 Bb4
4.e5 c5
5.a3 Bxc3+
6.bxc3 Ne7
7.Qg4 cxd4
8.Qxg7 Rg8
9.Qxh7 Qc7
10.Ne2 Nbc6
11.f4 dxc3



I have been playing this line for the last couple of years with no defeats and overall 62% score. John Watson now makes it his main line in Play The French 4th edition (PTF4). I am a big fan of all Watson's books and his French volumes are all excellent.

12.Qd3 d4

13.h4

This is a very sharp line, particularly as followed up with 14.h5

13... b6!

The bishop is best deployed on the long diagonal.

14.h5

This is the most aggressive but I have a very good score against it, probably because I have spent far longer analysing it than my opponents. The main feature in the position is the clash of central pawns against far advanced h pawn. Dangerous though the h-pawn seems, my experience has favoured the influence of the central pawns and the resulting pressure against the White king. The alternative which I have also played against is very drawish 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.Qxd4 Nf5 16.Bb5+ Bd7 17.Qxd7+ Qxd7 18.Bxd7+ Kxd7 19.Rh2 Rg4 20.h5 Rg8 21.h6 Rh8 22.Kf2 Rxb6 23.Rxb6 Nxb6 24.Kf3 Rg8 25.Be3 Nf5=

14... Bb7

15.h6 0-0-0

16.h7 Rh8

17.Rb1 Nd5

18.Rh6

18.Nxd4 Nxf4 19.Bxf4 Nxd4 20.Rb4 Nc6 21.Qxc3 Nxb4 22.Qxc7+ Kxc7 23.axb4 Be4=/+



18... Qe7!

I am happy to take the exclamation from John Watson who gives this as the recommended line following my game with Robert Pallett.

19.g4 f6

20.Qg6

20.exf6 Nxf6 21.g5 Nd7 22.Qh3 Nc5 23.Ng1 Kb8 24.g6 Qg7 25.Qg3 Ka8 26.Rh5 Ne7 27.Rb5 Nf5 28.Qg4 d3 29.cxd3 Rxd3 30.Rh3 Rxh3 31.Nxh3 c2 32.Rxc5 bxc5 33.Qe2 Nd4 34.Qd3 Nf3+ 35.Kf2 Qf6 36.Qxc2 Rd8 0-1 Pallett,R-Bell,A/ICCF 2009 referenced in PTF4 - I would have bought it anyway!

20... fxe5

21.f5 Qc5

22.Bg2

I have played this position previously and came close to a win 22.Qxe6+ Kb8 23.Bg2 Rhe8 (I now think even better is 23...Nc7! 24.Qf6 d3 25.cxd3 Nd4) 24.Qxe8 Rxe8 25.h8Q Rxh8 26.Rxh8+ Bc8 27.g5 d3 28.cxd3 Nd4

29.Nxd4 Qxd4 30.Bxd5 Qxd5
 31.Rb4 Qxd3 32.f6 Qg3+ 33.Kd1 e4
 34.f7 Qf2 35.Rxc8+ Kxc8 36.Rc4+
 Kb7 37.g6 Qf1+ 38.Kc2 Qd3+
 39.Kb3 Qb1+ 40.Kxc3 Qxc1+
 41.Kd4 Qg1+ 42.Kd5 Qg5+ 43.Kd4
 Qf6+ 44.Kd5?! Qf5+ 45.Kd4 b5
 46.Rc1 Qf6+ 47.Ke3 Qf3+ 48.Kd4
 Qd3+ 49.Ke5 Qxa3 50.Kxe4 Qe7+
 51.Kf5 a5 52.Rd1 Kc6 53.Rd4 a4
 54.Re4 Qc5+ 55.Kf6 a3 56.Re6+
 Kd7 57.g7 Qd4+ 58.Re5 a2 59.f8Q
 a1Q 60.Qe8+ Kc7 61.Qxb5 Qa2
 62.Qc5+ Qxc5 63.Rxc5+ tablebase
 draw 1/2-1/2 Ermolaev,A-
 Bell,A/ICCF 2010]

22... Kb8

23.Qg7

23.Qxe6 would transpose into the
 game with Ermolaev and I would
 have replied with 23...Nc7!

23... Ba6

24.Bg5

24.Rxe6 d3 25.cxd3 Bxd3-/+

24... Bxe2

25.Kxe2

25.Bxd8 is losing after 25...d3-+

26.Bc7+ Kc8 27.Qxh8+ Kxc7-+

25... d3+

26.cxd3

26.Kf3 dxc2 27.Rc1 e4+ 28.Kg3

Qd6+ 29.Kf2 Nf4-+

26... c2

27.Rc1 Nf4+

28.Bxf4 exf4

29.Rh3 exf5

30.Bxc6 Qxc6

31.gxf5 Qc5



The position has clarified and it is
 clear that the vulnerability of the
 White king is the crucial feature. The
 h pawn will disappear soon enough.

32.Qg4 Qe5+

33.Kf1 Rc8

34.f6 Qxf6

35.Rh2 Qd6

36.Qf5 Qxa3

37.Qxf4+ Kb7

38.Qe4+ Ka6

39.Rhxc2 Qxc1+

This leads to a winning endgame of 2
 rooks against queen. The problem for
 White is that his pawns will also fall
 leaving Black unstoppable a- and b-
 pawns.

40.Rxc1 Rxc1+

41.Ke2 Rc7

42.Qa4+ Kb7

43.Qe4+ Kb8

44.d4



44... a5!

This is the most efficient. Black
 makes cover for his king whilst
 rounding up the loose pawns. It is
 only a matter of time now. [Also
 winning was 44...Rhxh7 45.Qe8+
 Rc8 46.Qe5+ Rhc7 47.Kd3 a5
 48.Qd6 Kb7 49.d5 a4 50.Kd4
 (50.Qb4 Rc3+; 50.Ke4 Rc3)
 50...Rc4+ 51.Ke5 Re8+ 52.Kf6 Re3

45.d5 Ka7

46.Qf4

46.d6 Rcxh7 47.Qf5 Rb7 48.Qf6

Re8+ 49.Kf2 Rd7 50.Kf3 Red8

51.Qc3 Rxd6 52.Qc7+ Ka6

46... Rhxh7

47.d6 Rcd7

48.Qf6 Rhg7

49.Kd2 Rg8

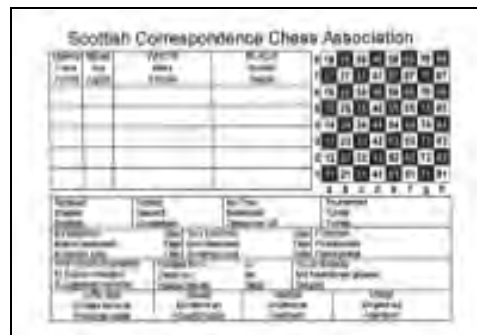
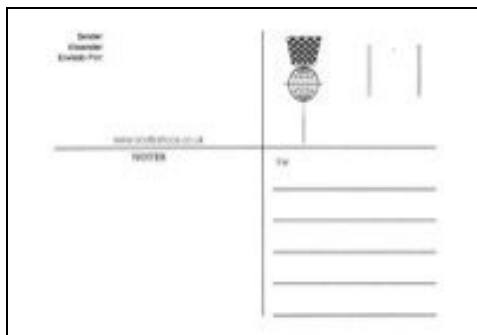
50.Kc3 Rgd8

White resigned. The engines actually
 give it as mate in 23.

0-1



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First Correspondence Tournament in Scotland

By Alan McGowan

The Scottish Chess Association was founded in Glasgow in 1884. The officials and members of the organisation were clearly intent on promoting chess in several ways, including correspondence chess, and it wasn't long before a postal event was held.

SCA members John Chambers and John Gilchrist were given the task of organizing the first Correspondence Tournament. It began in January 1885 with 16 players and lasted 2½ years, being played on the knock-out system. (Note: the event does not seem to have been referred to as a Championship.)

Entrants: (in alphabetical order):

J.C. Bremner, Broughty Ferry
J.D. Chambers, Glasgow
John Court, Glasgow
D. Forsyth, Glasgow
G.P. Galloway, Edinburgh
Wm. Heggie, Glasgow
Edmund Hunt, Glasgow
D.M. Latta, Edinburgh
J. Mackenzie, Islay
W. McCombie, Glasgow
G.L. Miller, Berwick-on-Tweed
J. Phillips, Helensburgh
W.W. Robertson, Edinburgh
J.H. Scott, Inverness
W.R. Stewart, Dalmellington
Jas. Young, Glasgow

Pairings:

First Round	Winner
<i>Forsyth v Stewart</i>	<i>Forsyth (after drawing a game)</i>
<i>Young v Scott</i>	<i>Scott</i>
<i>Bremner v Mackenzie</i>	<i>Mackenzie</i>
<i>McCombie v Miller</i>	<i>Miller</i>
<i>Heggie v Phillips</i>	<i>Phillips</i>
<i>Robertson v Hunt</i>	<i>Hunt</i>
<i>Chambers v Galloway</i>	<i>Chambers</i>
<i>Court v Latta</i>	<i>Court</i>

Second Round	Winner
<i>Forsyth v Scott</i>	<i>Forsyth (after drawing a game)</i>
<i>Chambers v Mackenzie</i>	<i>Chambers</i>
<i>Court v Miller</i>	<i>Court</i>
<i>Hunt v Phillips</i>	<i>Hunt</i>

Third Round	Winner
<i>Forsyth v Court</i>	<i>Court (after drawing a game)</i>
<i>Hunt v Chambers</i>	<i>Chambers</i>

Final	Winner
<i>Chambers v Court</i>	<i>Chambers</i>

White: Chambers, John Dillon

Black: Court, John

English Opening [A13]

Scottish Correspondence Tournament 1885-7

[Notes by John Dillon Chambers]

1.c4 e6

Scottish final, English opening!

2.e3 d5

3.cxd5 exd5

4.Nf3 Nf6

5.d4 Bd6

6.Bd3 0-0

7.0-0 Re8

This seems premature. Developing on the queenside is more in accordance with the principles.

8.Nc3 c6

9.a3

b3 is the usual move, but White does not desire a visit from the Black bishop.

9... Ne4

10.Qc2

Out of the ordinary, but seemingly a strong move.

10... f5

11.Ne1 Be6

12.f3 Nxc3

Black gets a strong attack by 12...Bxh2+ 13.Kxh2 Qh4+ 14.Kg1 Ng3 etc., but White, with care, should hold the extra pawn and win in the end.

13.bxc3 Rf8

This demonstrates the unreasonableness of Black's 7th.

14.g3 Nd7

15.Ng2 Qc8

16.g4 g6



Best for Black. If 16...fxg4 17.Bxh7+ and White proceeds with colours flying.

17.gxf5 gxf5

Against the principles, but requisite. 17...Bxf5 18.e4 with a grand game for White.

18.c4 Nf6

19.Bb2 Nh5

20.cxd5 cxd5

21.Qe2	Qc7
22.f4	Ng7
23.Nh4	Qe7
24.Nf3	Rac8
25.Ne5	Rc7
26.Qg2	Rf6
27.Qh3	Qe8
28.Kh1	Qh5
29.Qg2	Rh6
30.Rf3	Kf8
31.Rg3	Bxe5

A necessary precaution. The Ne5 would soon become an insuperable nuisance.

32.dxe5	Rg6
33.Bd4	a6

Unnecessary. White dare not touch the pawn.

34.Rg1	Bf7
--------	-----

Surely 34...Rxc3 is preferable.

35.Rxc3	hxc3
36.Be2	Qh4
37.Bf3	Qe7



38.Bxd5	Rc2!
---------	------

Black's chances look better by 38...Bxd5 39.Qxd5 Qxa3 but he is afraid of 40.Qd8+ (or 40.e6) both of which give White a strong attack.

39.Qxc2	Bxd5+
40.Rg2	Ne6
41.Bb2	Ke8
42.Kg1	Bxc2
43.Kxc2	Qd7?

43...Qh4 would certainly have drawn.

44.Kg3	Qd5
45.Qc8+	Ke7
46.Bc3	a5
47.Qh8	Nf8
48.Qf6+	Ke8
49.Qb6	a4
50.Qc7	Qc6?

50...Qb3 looks much stronger and gives Black drawing chances.

51.Qb8+	Kf7
52.Bb4	Nd7

52...Ne6 would have prolonged the game by about 20 moves, but Black must ultimately have resigned.

53.Qh8

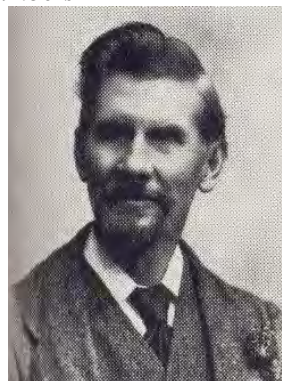
And Black resigned. This game, the final one in the first correspondence tourney of the SCA, has been played with great care by Black. White however, gave the positions an almost exhaustive analysis, extending some half a million of

moves, which enabled him to take the fullest advantages of all possibilities; and yet, notwithstanding all this work, at some stages of the game, Black might certainly have secured a draw (see notes to Black's 43rd and 50th moves). 53.Qh8 Qe6 (53...Nc5 loses the knight, for Black must keep his king on white squares when checked, or the White e-pawn advances and wins.) 54.Qh7+ Ke8 55.Kh4 Nf8 56.Qh8 Qf7 57.Kg5 b6 58.e6 and wins.(58.Qxf8+ Qxf8 59.Bxf8 Kxf8 60.Kxg6 also wins.)

1-0

Characters:

John Dillon Chambers



Born 1842 (place unknown), died 1930 (Cardiff). Scottish champion 1891-2; first Scottish Correspondence champion 1887; British Correspondence champion 1919.

David Forsyth



Born 1854 (Alness), died 1909 (Dunedin, NZ). New Zealand champion 1901. Developer of the Forsyth Notation system (extended for computer use by Stephen Edwards and now known as Forsyth-Edwards Notation – FEN – part of the PGN system in current use).

Further details on both players appear in the Chess Scotland Archive:

www.chessscotland.com/history/biographies/

Sources: *BCM 1887*, pp 346-7; *game and annotations reprinted from the Falkirk Herald of 2nd August, 1922; photographs courtesy of Chess Scotland History section.*

[Editor: you can contact Alan on amcgowan@golden.net if you have any queries or there is further information you can provide on any aspect of SCCA history.]



Forthcoming ICCF Events

Pairings have now been distributed for the next ICCF Champions League cycle, scheduled to start on 15th October. We have entered 2 teams, the Lewis Chessmen and the Scottish Claymores, both playing in league C, in sections 1 and 7 respectively.

Europa Postal Cup

EU/PC/pr2, European Postal Cup - Preliminary Group 2

		TD Hömske, Markus (IA)								Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8								
1	Scottish Claymores	2110	█	0.5	0.5	1.5	0	3	3	3	11.5	63	5	6	18	10	1
2	A. D. Scacchi Rocca Priora	2247	1.5	█	0	0.5	0	0	3	3	8	88	7	4	9	19	2
3	Germany B	2159	1.5	0	█	0	0.5	1	2	3	8	80	6	3	10	18	3
4	CASPA-ROV	2005	1.5	0.5	0	█	0	1	2	3	8	72	5	3	11	17	4
5	Veterans	2310	1	0	0.5	1	█	0	2	2	6.5	92	6	2	7	21	5
6	Dutchess	2076	1	0	1	0	0	█	1	1	4	44	-1	0	9	19	6
7	White Rose Exiles	1879	0	0	0	0	0	0	█	2	2	13	-11	1	15	13	7
8	Arc-en-ciel / Rainbow / Regnbåge	1854	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	█	0	0	-17	0	17	11	8

Our team continues to the top of the table but several others now have higher percentage scores with fewer completed games.

9th European Team Championship

EU/TC9/sf2, 9th European Team Championship - Semifinal 2

		TD Glaser, Karel (IA)												Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12								
1	Russia	2350	█	3	3.5	3.5	5	4	4	5	4.5	4.5	3.5	3.5	44	64	20	10	68	20	1
2	Romania	2420	2	█	3	4	3.5	4	3	4.5	3.5	5	4	3.5	40	55	8	7	72	16	2
3	Switzerland	2387	3.5	3	█	3	4	3.5	3.5	4	5	4.5	3	3	40	50	1	6	79	9	3
4	Lithuania	2488	2.5	4	3	█	3.5	2.5	3	4.5	4.5	4	2.5	4	38	52	4	7	72	16	4
5	Finland	2448	2	2.5	3	3.5	█	3.5	2	4	5.5	3.5	4.5	3	37	51	2	5	72	16	5
6	Czech Republic	2429	1	3	3.5	2.5	3.5	█	2.5	4.5	3.5	4.5	4	3	35.5	50	0	5	71	17	6
7	Austria	2407	3	3	4.5	3	3	2.5	█	4	3.5	2	4	3	35.5	52	3	4	68	20	7
8	Scotland	2358	1	2.5	4	2.5	4	3.5	3	█	3	3.5	4.5	3.5	35	46	-6	4	76	12	8
9	Luxemburg	2311	2.5	3.5	3	3.5	2.5	3.5	2.5	3	█	3.5	3.5	3.5	34.5	43	-10	0	79	9	9
10	Belarus	2291	2.5	3	3.5	4	1.5	3.5	3	2.5	3.5	█	3.5	3.5	34	44	-8	1	76	12	10
11	Poland	2452	2.5	2	4	2.5	2.5	2	3	3.5	4.5	2.5	█	2.5	31.5	43	-9	3	72	16	11
12	Spain	2412	1.5	2.5	4	2	2	3	3	1.5	3.5	4.5	3.5	█	31	46	-5	3	67	21	12

Unfortunately our team has slipped a little since our last report and qualification to the final now seems a forlorn hope.

Witold Bielecki Memorial Team Tournament

MT-Bielecki/pr1, Memorial "Witold Bielecki" - Preliminary 1

		TD Wojnar, Mariusz							Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7								
1	Belarus	1845	█	2.5	3	4	3	4.5	5	22	70	13	8	31	5	1
2	Austria	1927	1.5	█	3	4	2.5	3.5	2.5	17	68	9	5	25	11	2
3	Finland	1930	3	1	█	3	1.5	3.5	4	16	57	4	6	28	8	3
4	Germany	1864	2	1	1	█	2.5	4	4.5	15	48	-1	4	31	5	4
5	Portugal	1969	1	1.5	2.5	1.5	█	3	2.5	12	46	-2	1	26	10	5
6	England	1986	1.5	0.5	2.5	2	2	█	2.5	11	34	-10	0	32	4	6
7	Scotland	1891	0	1.5	0	1.5	2.5	2.5	█	8	27	-13	0	29	7	7

Unfortunately our team continues to struggle in this event and now seems destined to win the wooden spoon.

Current Friendly Internationals

Start	Boards	Opponents	Mode	For	Against	Void	Result
May 2012	20	Italy	Server	2½	14½		
Mar 2012	21	Czech Republic	Server	9	19		
Feb 2012	30	Netherlands	Server/Post	12½	20½		
Mar 2011	20	Romania	Server	13	27		loss
Mar 2011	32	France	Server/Post	17	47		loss
Jan 2011	10	Hong Kong	Server	9	11		loss
Nov 2010	15	Cape Verde	Server	23½	6½		win
Nov 2010	30	Finland	Server/Post	21	38		loss
Sep 2010	32	Sweden	Server/Post	22	39		loss

Our older members will doubtless be able to recall the debacle of the 1978 FIFA World Cup where things went badly awry in the very first match. We now find ourselves with the opportunity to perhaps extract some measure of revenge with a new match against Peru scheduled to start around the end of October on the ICCF webserver. We will also have a new match against old adversaries, Denmark, starting around the same time and also it is now intended that the match against Australia, postponed last year, can be resurrected to start early in the New Year.

ICCF 5th Webchess Open

S-Open/5-pr51, 5th Webchess Open Tournament prel. 51

Rated					TD Deforel, Jorge Eduardo (IA)							Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
1	ARG	20709	Domancich, Ezequiel Martín	2286		½	½	1	.	.	1	3	2	4.75	2	1
2	RUS	142092	Ermakov, Valery Sergeevich	2144	½		½	½	½	.	1	3	1	4.5	1	2
3	HKG	780019	Lam, Daniel	1765	½	½		½	.	.	1	2.5	1	4	2	3
4	SCO	620635	BurrIDGE, Raymond John	1845	0	½	½		0	0	1	2	1	2.75	0	4
5	ESP	160963	Pina Fernández, José Antonio	2233	.	½	.	1		.	.	1.5	1	3.5	4	5
6	USA	514361	Deskin, Gary	1903	.	.	.	1	.		.	1	1	2	5	6
7	ITA	241041	Parente, Massimo	1907	0	0	0	0	.	.		0	0	0	2	7

Regular contributor Raymond BurrIDGE provides a lively brevity played recently - annotations are based upon Raymond's comments.

White: Parente, Massimo (ITA)

Black: BurrIDGE, Raymond (SCO)

Ruy Lopez, Schliemann Defence [C63]

5th ICCF Webserver Open 2012

[Notes by George Pyrich]

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nc6
3.Bb5	f5
4.Bxc6	dx6
5.0-0	fx4
6.Nxe5	Qh4!?

Flouting normal principles but already preparing queen-side castling!

7.Re1?!

Already dubious as f2 is weakened - better was something like 7.d4 Bd6 8.Qe2 Nf6 9.Nc3 Be6 10.f4 when White is surely better.

7...	Bf5!
8.d3	0-0-0



9.Be3?

9.Nf7 had to be played and is very interesting after 9...Bc5 10.Rf1 (maybe 10.Be3) 10...Bg4 11.Qe1 Nf6 12.Nxd8! Bf3?! 13.Nd2 Qg4?? 14.Nxf3 exf3 15.Qe6+! and White wins - note that he wouldn't have this last move if he'd played Nxh8 on move; 9.d4 Bd6 10.Nd2 Nf6 is very good for Black.

9...	Bd6
10.Bd4	Nf6
11.g3	Qh3

With a set-up similar to when Black plays the Marshall Attack - in fact, he's completely winning.

12.Nf7

Grabbing the material at last but he's lost anyway.

12...	Bg4
--------------	------------

Winning, but 12...Ng4 was much stronger!

13.f3 exf3
14.Qd2



14.Nxd6+ prolongs things a little longer.

14... Bxg3!
15.hxg3 Qxg3+
16.Kh1 f2!
17.Qxf2 Bf3+
18.Qxf3 Qxf3+
19.Kg1 Rxd4
20.Nxh8 Rg4+

0-1



ICCF Veterans' World Cups

Update by Alan Borwell



In the Winter 2011 edition (number 116), I provided a comprehensive report of the progress of all ICCF Veterans World Cups especially those being organised for ICCF by the Scottish CCA.

Since that time VWC's 2, 3 & 4 have all progressed very smoothly and in the Winter edition 2012 I will provide a full report on each tournament.

In September 2012, Veterans World Cup 5 also started with another record number of 468 entries playing in 36 Preliminary Groups, organised by the German Federation BdF. Here is a short synopsis of each tournament for which we are the organisers.

Veterans World Cup 2 (In Memoriam Gerhard Radosztics)

The 5 Semifinals Groups are nearing completion (closing date 30/11/12) and the Final will start on 1st February 2013, comprised of 13 players. The top 2 players from each Semifinal group will qualify automatically for the Final, along with the 3 next best scoring players. SCCA's George Pyrich is TD for the Semifinals.

Veterans World Cup 3

There was a larger entry to VWC3 and here there are 7 Semifinals Groups in progress with a Final comprising of 15 players planned to start 1/2/2014. Although there is still more than one year to the closing date of 30/11/2013, many games are already finished after only 6 months play. I will give a full report with some games from these Semifinals next time – Geoff Lloyd and myself qualified to play in these Semifinals.

Veterans World Cup 4

The 31 Preliminary Groups with 403 entries started in the late Spring of this year and games are progressing well, with Scottish participants in several groups, all of which are being directed by 5 SCCA TDs.

ICCF Olympiad 19

CCO19/S1, ICCF Olympiad 19 Preliminaries - Section 01

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place
1		4	5	4.5	4.5	5	5.5	7	35.5	65	17	13	54	2	1
2			5	4.5	3	6	6.5	6.5	34.5	66	17	10	52	4	2
3				4.5	4.5	3.5	3.5	6	28	56	6	6	50	6	3
4					4	4.5	3	5.5	26.5	55	5	5	48	8	4
5						4	4	5	26	50	1	5	51	5	5
6							3	5	20	41	-8	3	48	8	6
7								3.5	19	40	-9	1	47	9	7
8									9.5	19	-29	0	48	8	8

We might still catch Italy!



General Information

Members of the Scottish CCA are eligible to play in ICCF postal, email and webserver 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 usually possible to interchange between playing modes 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, and multiple entries are allowed, though Semi-Finals are restricted to 2 places per individual.

Master and GM Norm tournaments with 13-player sections are available for strong players. Master 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. GM entry levels are 150 rating points higher. A player can enter only one section per playing mode 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 normal for email and webserver play. Playing rules and time limits are provided for each event, and the usual postal limit is 30 days per 10 moves, with 60 days for 10 moves in email and webserver. Players may take up to 30 days leave per calendar year.

Use air mail stickers to all destinations to speed postal play, and 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 the SCCA. Email and webserver have speeded up many events, and made it cheaper to play. Generally, you play less email/webserver games simultaneously than postal because of the faster play.

A prerequisite for entry via the SCCA is that the player remains 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 Fees page of the SCCA website, and all Scottish players competing in ICCF events have bookmarks from the SCCA site to the relevant ICCF cross-table for easy checking of results. The SCCA international secretary can advise on all aspects of play, how to enter, current entry fees, etc.

Thematic Tournaments

Postal Events 2012-13

Theme 5/12: Winawer Gambit, D10

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 e5

Entries by 15 November; play starts 1 December

Theme 1/13: Pirc Defence, Classical System B08

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0

Entries by 15 January; plays starts 1 February

Webserver Events 2012-13

Theme 7/12: Sicilian, Scheveningen Variation, B80-9

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6

Entries by 1 December; play starts 15 December

Theme 1/13: Dutch Defence, A80-99

1.d4 f5

Entries by 15 January; plays starts 1 February

Note there are no Email Events in 2012.

News

- ❑ Champions League 5 has now closed registration. Play is expected to start on 15th October. A new CL website is available: <http://iccf.com/ChLeague/2012/>
- ❑ On Wednesday 25th July, the ICCF webserver was given a new, modern, interface; the first major update of the 'look and feel' of the server since its introduction in 2004. A professional designer (Kirsten Witascheck) was contracted to produce the new design; these designs were implemented on the server by ICCF's regular contractor, Martin Bennedik, under the direction of the ICCF Services Directors Jean-Christophe Chazalatte and subsequently Austin Lockwood.
- ❑ Clive Murden of Australia has retired as ICCF webmaster. Latterly he helped with the design of the new website which should be ready later in the year.
- ❑ The German organisers (BdF) of Veterans' World Cup 5 report a massive 385 players from 46 countries have made 464 entries. Play started in the 36 preliminary groups on September 1st.
- ❑ The 2012 ICCF Congress is scheduled to take place in Pretoria, South Africa, from October 28 to November 3.

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

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