



# Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

**Magazine No.125**

**Spring 2014**

- **ICCF Grading List 2014/2**
  - *George analyses the Q2 statistics*
  -
- **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Best Game Prize**
  - *Philip Giulian declares the results*
- **Twists and Turns in Bishop Endings**
  - *Peter Bennett analyses*
- **Games Column**
  - *More annotated games from members*
- **International Update**
  - *George reviews overseas events and games*



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Welcome to the first edition of the 2014 magazine set. You can tell from the fresh Lewis Chessmen image that we've started a new cycle of front pages. The fresh mugshot above is just so you can appreciate the Lewis pieces more...

No edition would be complete without the weather report, and our winter here has been wet and windy rather than cold (though our ski resorts had record snowfalls). Luckily, we avoided the worst of the flooding which beset SW England, together with the doleful procession of politicians being photographed standing in large puddles looking concerned.

George gets us started by analysing the second ICCF rating list of 2014 with the regular additions, deletions, norms, full grades plus grading and games milestones.

Philip Giulian then reveals the best games in our inaugural SCCA Annual Best Game Prize. This was a good-quality entry and the top three players have all kindly annotated their efforts for your delectation.

Our main feature is again provided by Peter Bennett, who has been hyperactive at his keyboard in recent times. His text is Bishop Endings and I hope to bring you further articles from his pen in coming issues.

Our Games Column is back to normal size and features members Alan Borwell, David Cumming, Raymond Burrige and Geoff Lloyd playing in international and domestic events.

George managed to survive the dancing on the streets of Raith to supply us with a chunky international update, including some Veterans' World Cup games plus status reports on the many team matches in which we are competing.

We've now set the date for this year's AGM – 8<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm, with full details on the Notices page.

Both George Pyrich and Alan Borwell are unable to attend the ICCF Congress in Sydney during October, so we'll organise our voting intentions in advance and appoint a proxy. In truth, none of our other committee members owned any warm-weather clothing, so our appeal for substitutes went unanswered.

## SCCA Membership

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

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

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

## SCCA 100 Club

The 100 Club is an important revenue-earner for the SCCA and it helps us to keep our fees low and/or unchanged year on year. Responsibility for the 100 Club rests with our Treasurer, Gordon Anderson.

Units cost £1 with some members taking one unit while others take as many as 10 units per month. From the Association's perspective paying by Bankers Order is most convenient.

If you don't already subscribe to the 100 club please consider if you can help the SCCA by taking out units and make contact with Gordon whose contact details are shown below.

## Recent 100 Club Winners

2014	1st	2nd
March	K B McAlpine	I Mackintosh
February	I Mackintosh	J S Murray
January	G M Anderson	D Carswell

### SCCA Officials

SCCA Officials				
President	Iain Mackintosh	7 Tullylumb Terrace, Perth PH1 1BA	+44 (0) 1738 623194	<a href="mailto:president@scottishcca.co.uk">president@scottishcca.co.uk</a>
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NB Secretarial duties will be undertaken by Kevin Paine (enquiries), Jim Anderson (domestic events) and Iain Mackintosh (minutes) pro tem.



### 10th European Team Championship



Marco Caressa, ICCF-Europa Zonal Director, writes to announce the semi-final stage of the 10th European Team Championship. This event has been somewhat delayed due to the late finish of the previous cycle, but play is now scheduled to begin on

10th June 2014.

Each participating country fields an 8-person team, and 13 teams will contest the final (the size of semi-final sections will depend on numbers entering). Games are played by webserver and there are no entry fees. Registration closes on 30th April; if you are interested in representing Scotland, then please email George Pyrich before Good Friday, April 18th.

### 38th WCCC Semi-Finals



Gian-Maria Tani, ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner, writes to announce that the start date of the Semi-Finals of the 38th WCCC is June 20, 2014. Registration finishes on May 15.

Sections are usually 13 players, but may be extended to 15 or 17 in special circumstances. Several SCCA players have the necessary qualification, title and/or grading norms and we also have unused member federation nominations left for 2014. For further information, please contact George Pyrich before May 1.

### SCCA AGM 2014



This will be held at 7 Tullylumb Terrace, Perth PH1 1BA at 4:00pm on Sunday, 8th June.

Skype facilities can be made available for those unable to attend in person (please contact the president).

The draft agenda is:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Previous AGM and Matters Arising
3. President's Remarks
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. International Secretary's Report
7. Election of Office Bearers
8. Appointment of Auditor
9. Proposed Subscriptions and Fees
10. AOCB

### SCCA Website Hosting



We changed hosting suppliers over the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> February, so some of you may have experienced a brief outage on that Friday evening/Saturday morning.

There were a couple of minor teething problems regarding access to members' downloads and the display of special characters in the page texts, but these were corrected quickly and the system seems to have been stable since the changeover.

If you notice anything untoward, please contact the webmaster.

### Three Nations Team Match



Presently a new friendly international team match is being planned but with 3 teams, Scotland, England and Wales.



The match is to be over 10 boards on the ICCF Server and planned to start early May. The event is restricted to players rated less than 2200 each of whom will play 4 games, 2 against each opponent.



If you are interested in taking part, please let George Pyrich know promptly and not later than 11 April.

## ICCF Tournament Schedule 2014-16 (updated)

ICCF TOURNAMENTS	2014				2015				2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
WC Final						Jun						
WC Preliminaries	Mar				Mar					Mar		
WC Semi Finals		Jun				Jun				Jun		
WC Candidates			Sep				Sep				Sep	
Ladies' WC Final 10			X									
Ladies' WC Semi Finals 11			X									
Olympiads (postal) 21			X									
Lady Olympiads 11						X						
Olympiads (server) 22										X		
World Cup 18 Final					X							
World Cup 20 Semi-Finals									X			
World Cup 21 Preliminaries							X					
3rd Chess 960 World Cup	X											
4th Chess 960 World Cup					X							
5th Chess 960 World Cup										X		
3rd Veteran World Cup - Final		Feb										
4th Veteran World Cup - SF & Final					Feb					Feb		
7th Veteran World Cup - Prelim			X									
8th Veteran World Cup - Prelim							X					
9th Veteran World Cup - Prelim											X	
Champions League 6				X								
Champions League 8												X
6th Webchess Open		X										
7th Webchess Open											X	
2nd Inter Zonal Individual Tournament									Dec			
8th Inter Zonal Team Tournament					Dec							
9th Inter Zonal Team Tournament												Dec

ZONAL TOURNAMENTS	2014				2015				2016			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Zone 1</b>												
9th EU Team Championship Final		X										
10th EU Team Championship Semi Finals		X										
EU Candidates Tournament	X				X				X			
EU Semi final tournament			X				X				X	



## 2014/2 Grading List

By George Pyrich

The second ICCF grading list of 2014 has been published and the new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 December 2013 and 28 February 2014. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 April and 30 June 2014.

One member, Alan Robson, joined the list and one, John Kelly, was removed due to prolonged inactivity, so numerically the list is unchanged. Membership numbers are retained for easy reinstatement should any removed players return to the board.

Peter Bennett continues to progress towards the Scottish Master (SM) title, but Robert Montgomery couldn't add to his SM norms during the last quarter.

Robert Gilbert has now passed 30 games and qualifies for a full grade, pushing his rating to 1724 in the process – well done!

More games milestones were reached this period. Carlos Almarza-Mato made it through the 800 barrier; David Cumming passed the 700 mark, while both Derek Coope and Andrew Macmillen are both now 600+ men. Charles Neil notched up his first hundred. Martin Hardwick was industrious once more, completing 60 games during the quarter, with Raymond BurrIDGE totalling 43, David Cumming hitting 39 and Arthur Knox clocking up 25.

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

No.	Name	Results	Grade	No.	Name	Results	Grade
318	Almarza Mato, C	813	2177 ↑	447	Jamieson, I M	62	2000 ↓
518	Anderson, G M (SM)	252	2287 ↓	322	Jessing, M	29	2083 ↔ *
121	Anderson, J	227	1724 ↓	548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	309	2327 ↓
049	Armstrong, A	160	1915 ↑	260	Knox, A	147	1586 ↓
313	Armstrong, J McK	248	1625 ↑	1117	Laing, D	24	2100 ↑ *
511	Beecham, C R (IM)	378	2461 ↑	256	Lennox, C J (SM)	157	2278 ↔
599	Bell, A D (SM)	148	2390 ↓	264	Lloyd, G (SM)	629	2247 ↓
501	Bennett, P G	228	2306 ↑	337	Loughran, R J	116	1564 ↔
509	Borwell, A P (IM)	920	2248 ↑	433	MacDonald, M	30	1564 ↔
424	BurrIDGE, R J	482	2016 ↓	584	MacGregor, C A	347	1828 ↓
435	Cairney, J	47	1983 ↑	532	Mackintosh, I (IM)	583	2436 ↑
601	Campbell, E S	67	2101 ↑	216	MacMillen, A N	605	1828 ↓
038	Campbell, I S	240	1789 ↓	566	Marshall, I H	421	1952 ↓
	Clark, S L	51	2035 ↑	434	Matheis, T (IM)	183	2440 ↑
364	Coope, D W	610	1935 ↓	412	McKinstry, J	74	1555 ↓
247	Cormack, W H	77	1928 ↑	401	Moir, P J	163	1620 ↑
527	Craig, T J (SM)	359	2337 ↓	598	Montgomery, R S	230	2285 ↓
166	Cumming, D R (SM)	731	2291 ↓	564	Murray, J S	38	1996 ↔
422	Dawson, Prof A G	83	2068 ↓	440	Neil, C	109	1591 ↑
572	Dempster, D	734	1752 ↑	429	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	101	1985 ↑
030	Dyer, M T	99	2089 ↔	444	Paine, Dr K A	148	2291 ↓
371	Edney, D	177	1956 ↑	1012	Paulin, A	40	2008 ↔
372	Flockhart, H	27	2133 ↔ *	315	Petrie, A	68	1526 ↓
459	Fraser, R A	60	1853 ↔	432	Price, D	252	2093 ↑
462	Gilbert, R	32	1724 ↑	048	Pyrich, G D (IM)	889	2194 ↓
086	Gillam, S R (SM)	135	2291 ↔	357	Robson, A C W	12	1374 ↑ *
551	Giulian, P M (SIM)	469	2401 ↓	439	Smith, M J	37	1940 ↑
124	Goodwin, B J	223	1929 ↑	463	Smith, P R	46	1737 ↔
445	Graham, S (SM)	354	2202 ↔	546	Stewart, Dr K W C	155	2081 ↓
399	Grant, J	34	1764 ↔	1120	Taylor, W	43	2049 ↓
596	Hardwick, M E	390	1417 ↑	452	Toye, D T	77	1582 ↑
063	Harvey, D	88	2069 ↔	530	Watson, J (IM)	147	2306 ↑
1013	Hilton, S H	122	1626 ↔				

## Statistical Analysis

Total listed	<b>65</b>
New entrants	<b>1</b>
Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members)	<b>1</b>
Full grades (30+ games)	<b>61</b>
Provisional grades (<30 games)	<b>4</b>
Grading increases (↑)	<b>26</b>
Grading decreases (↓)	<b>24</b>
Grading static (↔)	<b>15</b>

## Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	<b>2461</b>	Borwell, A P (IM)	<b>2248</b>
Matheis, T (IM)	<b>2440</b>	Lloyd, G (SM)	<b>2247</b>
Mackintosh, I (IM)	<b>2436</b>	Graham, S (SM)	<b>2202</b>
Giulian, P M (SIM)	<b>2401</b>	Pyrich, G D (IM)	<b>2194</b>
Bell, A D (SM)	<b>2390</b>	Almarza Mato, C	<b>2177</b>
Craig, T J (SM)	<b>2337</b>	Campbell, E S	<b>2101</b>
Kilgour, D A (GM)	<b>2327</b>	Price, D	<b>2093</b>
Bennett, P G	<b>2306</b>	Dyer, M T	<b>2089</b>
Watson, J (IM)	<b>2306</b>	Stewart, Dr K W C	<b>2081</b>
Cumming, D R (SM)	<b>2291</b>	Harvey, D	<b>2069</b>
Gillam, S R (SM)	<b>2291</b>	Dawson, Prof A G	<b>2068</b>
Paine, Dr K A	<b>2291</b>	Taylor, W	<b>2049</b>
Anderson, G M (SM)	<b>2287</b>	Clark, S L	<b>2035</b>
Montgomery, R S	<b>2285</b>	Burrige, R J	<b>2016</b>
Lennox, C J (SM)	<b>2278</b>	Paulin, A	<b>2008</b>

## Top 30 Games Played

Borwell, A P (IM)	<b>920</b>	Graham, S (SM)	<b>354</b>
Pyrich, G D (IM)	<b>889</b>	MacGregor, C A	<b>347</b>
Almarza-Mato, C	<b>813</b>	Kilgour, D A (GM)	<b>309</b>
Dempster, D	<b>734</b>	Anderson, G M (SM)	<b>252</b>
Cumming, D R (SM)	<b>731</b>	Price, D	<b>252</b>
Lloyd, G (SM)	<b>629</b>	Armstrong, J McK	<b>248</b>
Coope, D W	<b>610</b>	Montgomery, R S	<b>230</b>
MacMillen, A N	<b>605</b>	Anderson, J	<b>227</b>
Mackintosh, I (IM)	<b>583</b>	Goodwin, B J	<b>223</b>
Burrige, R J	<b>482</b>	Matheis, T (IM)	<b>183</b>
Giulian, P M (SIM)	<b>469</b>	Edney, D	<b>177</b>
Marshall, I H	<b>421</b>	Moir, P J	<b>163</b>
Hardwick, M E	<b>390</b>	Armstrong, A	<b>160</b>
Beecham, C R (SIM)	<b>378</b>	Lennox, C J (SM)	<b>157</b>
Craig, T J (SM)	<b>359</b>	Stewart, Dr K W C	<b>155</b>

## Other Notes

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

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

Note that ICCF (Gerhard Binder) has now discontinued support for the Eloquary program, previously available for download from [www.iccf.com](http://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](http://www.iccf-webchess.com)



# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SCCA Best Game Prize

By SIM Philip Giulian

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

When I was asked to adjudicate the Best Game Prize, the first thing I needed to decide was the criteria I would employ. We all love that beautiful sacrifice that occurs only too rarely in our games, and without doubt games with attractive sacrifices must have a head start. However I decided that the absence of sacrifices should not eliminate a really well played positional game. The other decision I made was that the games under consideration should have to face stern opposition. Of course mistakes are made in all games, but it is much easier to play well or find that lovely sacrifice when a player is aided by repeated errors or blunders from the opponent.

With my criteria in mind I felt that a quick skim through the games should allow me to eliminate some of the games, but I was very wrong. All of the games had something going for them, but decisions had to be made and eventually I was able to reach a 'top three'.

## Third Place

I have no doubt that many will disagree with my choice for third position. It is certainly not an exciting game and it does not contain any sacrifices. However it is an excellent example of a very modern game. Black obtains a small advantage and exerts a horrible squeeze. For the defender these types of positions are desperately uncomfortable and depressing to play, and eventually mistakes are made with the inevitable result.

**White: Knee, John**  
**Black: Mackintosh, Iain (2438)**  
 SCCA Postal League 2013

Open Catalan [E05]  
 [Notes by Iain Mackintosh]

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1.d4             | Nf6   |
| 2.c4             | e6  |
| 3.g3             |   |
| 3.Nc3 and; 3.Nf3 | are far more popular, but the Catalan has a healthy database score. |
| 3...             | d5  |
| 4.Bg2            | Be7   |
| 5.Nf3            | 0-0   |
| 6.0-0            | dxc4  |
| 7.Qc2            | a6  |
| 8.a4             | Bd7   |
| 9.Qxc4           | Bc6   |
| 10.Bf4           | Nbd7  |
| 11.Nc3           | Nb6   |
| 12.Qd3           | Nbd5  |
| 13.Nxd5          | Nxd5  |
| 14.Rfc1N         |   |

14.Bd2 is the favoured try in the database, with a slight statistical plus for Black.

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 14...   | Nxf4 |
| 15.gxf4 | Bxf3 |
| 16.Bxf3 | c6   |
| 17.e3   | a5   |
| 18.Be4  |      |

Provoking a reply which leaves the e6 pawn unsupported, but also allows Black to create a channel for some k-side activity.

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 18...   | f5   |
| 19.Bf3  | Bb4  |
| 20.Qb3  | Rf6  |
| 21.Kh1  | Rh6  |
| 22.Rg1  | Qh4  |
| 23.Rg2  | Rf8  |
| 24.Be2  | Rff6 |
| 25.Rag1 | Rfg6 |
| 26.Qd1  | Kf7  |
| 27.Be4  | Ke7  |

Unpinning, but also with an eye to a q-side march later if the k-side initiative peters out.

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 28.Qe2   | Kd7   |
| 29.f3    | Rxg2  |
| 30.Rxg2  | Rg6   |
| 31.Rxg6  | hxg6  |
| 32.Kg2   | g5    |
| 33.fxg5  | Qxg5+ |
| 34.Kh1   | Qh5   |
| 35.e4    | Qh6   |
| 36.d5    | exd5  |
| 37.exd5  | Qf4   |
| 38.dxc6+ |       |

38.Qe6+ Kc7 39.Qe2 and White has

to retreat because of the f3 threat. (Not 39.dxc6?? Qxf3+ 40.Kg1 Bc5+ 41.Qe3 Bxe3#)

- |         |      |
|---------|------|
| 38...   | hxc6 |
| 39.b3   | Bd6  |
| 40.Qe6+ | Kc7  |
| 41.Qe2  | Bc5  |
| 42.Qg2  | Qc1+ |
| 43.Qf1  | Qe3  |
| 44.Qg2  | Bd4  |
| 45.Qf1  | Kb6  |



## 46.Qg2

Here John offered the draw, but our team needed the full point. Luckily for me, John chose the less good piece to occupy g2. 46.Kg2 was the better option, with Black just holding an edge.

- |        |      |
|--------|------|
| 46...  | Kc5  |
| 47.Qf1 | Kb4  |
| 48.Kg2 | Qd2+ |
| 49.Kh1 | g5!  |

Not a great move, but a good one - further restricting White.

- |         |     |
|---------|-----|
| 50.Be6  | e5  |
| 51.Qc4+ | Ka3 |
| 52.Qf1  |     |

Only move.

- |        |     |
|--------|-----|
| 52...  | Be5 |
| 53.Qg1 | Kb4 |
| 54.Bc4 |     |

54.Bxf5 Kxb3 55.Qb1+ Ka3 56.f4 gxf4 57.Be6 Qc3+

- |       |     |
|-------|-----|
| 54... | Bf4 |
|-------|-----|

Now White has no moves which avoid losing material.

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 55.Bb5   |                               |
| 55.Be6 Qe2 56.Bd5 Qd3                            | winning the f3 pawn or more.; |
| 55.Qg2 Qd1+ 56.Qg1 (56.Qf1 Qxf1+ 57.Bxf1 Kxb3-+) | 56...Qxf3+;                   |

55.h3 Be5 and White loses the h-pawn if it advances, or his bishop once again is forced to move.

- 55... Kxb3  
 56.Qb1+ Kc3  
 57.Qa1+ Qb2  
 58.Qe1+ Kb3  
 59.Qd1+ Kb4  
 60.Qe1+ Ka3  
 61.Qg1 Qc2  
 62.Bd7



62... Qxh2+!

This forces the conclusion.

- 63.Qxh2 Bxh2  
 64.Kxh2 c4  
 65.Bxf5 Kxa4

My sporting opponent wrote:  
 "Congratulations. At least I put up a better fight than in Game A!"

0-1



## Second Place

My second choice is a very different game. White plays the Staunton Gambit but doesn't obtain sufficient play. Black's play reminds me of the play of a strong grandmaster. Just like when I play through some grandmaster games, Black's moves look so obvious and simple that I feel 'I could do that'. However in reality things are much more difficult.

**White: Preussner, Michael (1938)**  
**Black: O'Neill-McAleenan, Charles (1936)**

ICCF WS/H/362, 2013  
 Dutch, Staunton Gambit [A83]  
 [Notes by Charles O'Neill-McAleenan]

- 1.d4 f5  
 2.e4 fxe4  
 3.Nc3 Nf6  
 4.Bg5 Nc6

Many years ago I had participated in an ICCF Staunton Gambit thematic tournament and my experience there

convinced me this is Black's best reply.

- 5.d5 Ne5  
 6.Qd4

I was very happy to see my opponent followed the main line. In my pre-game preparation I had found a game where he had played Timoshenko's 6.Qe2 which can cause Black some difficulties in my opinion.

- 6... Nf7  
 7.Bxf6 exf6  
 8.Nxe4 f5  
 9.Ng3 g6  
 10.0-0 Bh6+  
 11.Kb1 0-0  
 12.Nf3 Bg7  
 13.Qa4

This seems to be a novelty but appears rather dubious. At some point I will gain a tempo on the queen which will accelerate my queen-side attack. Normal is 13.Qd2 or 13.Qf4

- 13... Qf6  
 14.c3

This stops the threatened mate and allows a retreat square for the queen to defend b2. However this comes at the cost of weakening the b1-h7 diagonal and giving a target for an eventual b5 followed by b4. I had expected 14.Nd4

- 14... a6  
 15.h4 b5

- 16.Qc2  
 16.Bxb5?? Rb8--

- 16... Bb7  
 17.h5 Nd6  
 18.hxg6 hxg6  
 19.Ne2



I believe Black has an advantage here due to the bishop pair, pressure along the h8-a1 diagonal and chances to open up lines on the q-side.

- 19... Rfe8  
 20.g3  
 20.Nf4 b4 21.cxb4 (21.Nh4 bxc3 22.Nhxg6 Rab8 ♯; 21.Bd3 bxc3 22.Qxc3 Qxc3 23.bxc3 Ne4 24.Bxe4 fxe4 25.Ng5 Re5--+) 21...Re4 22.Nd3 Bxd5 23.Nd2 Rd4 with the initiative.

- 20... a5  
 21.Nf4 b4  
 22.c4

22.Nd4 bxc3 23.bxc3 Rab8 followed by 24... Ne4 and Black keeps up the pressure.; 22.Bd3 c5 23.dxc6 Bxc6 24.Qb3+ Qf7 25.Qxf7+ Nxf7--+

- 22... a4  
 23.c5

23.Nd4 Re4 24.Nfe2 a3 25.b3 Rae8--+

- 23... b3

Ignoring the attack on the knight which remains en pris for the rest of the game.

24.axb3  
 Both 24.Qd2 Ne4; and 24.Qc3 Qxc3 25.bxc3 Ne4 are hopeless for White.

- 24... a3!

25.Nd4  
 25.Rd2 Ne4--+; 25.b4 axb2 26.Rd4 Qxd4!! 27.Nxd4 Bxd4--+

- 25... Re1!



Offering an exchange sacrifice to keep up the attack on b2.

26.Rxe1??

Black is now lost. A complex ending would have arisen after 26.Bg2 Qxd4 27.Rhxel axb2 28.Rxd4 Ra1+ 29.Kxb2 Bxd4+ 30.Qc3 Bxc3+ 31.Kxc3 Rxe1 32.cxd6 cxd6 33.Nxg6 Re2 34.Bh3 Kf7



where White has a pawn for the exchange in a very technical position which could have led to a long struggle.

- 26... Qxd4  
 27.Rd1 Qb4  
 28.Nd3 axb2  
 29.Qxb2  
 29.Nxb2 Ne4--+



29... Qg4  
 29...Qg4 30.Be2 Qe4 31.Rh4 Qe8+  
 0-1



## First Place The R.J. Burrige Trophy 2013

For the winning game of the competition I have gone for this game. It is a very brave player who plays this opening which is understood by only the very top grandmasters. I would not like to hazard a guess as to where exactly Black goes wrong, but he doesn't manage to obtain the necessary counterplay. However that is not the end of the story because he fights really hard and White has to play well to maintain his advantage. For those of you who like sacrifices - enjoy!

**White: Beecham, Richard (2498)**

**Black: Liebert, Ervin (2456)**

Walter Muir Memorial, 2013

French Defence [C18]

[Notes by Richard Beecham]

First, I should like to thank the adjudicator on his excellent choice for the Best Game Prize!

Ervin and I have played before, in the Scotland v Rest of the World match on Board 1. He became a good friend and we had many chats during our games.

1.e4 e6  
 2.d4 d5  
 3.Nc3 Bb4  
 4.e5 c5  
 5.a3 Bxc3+  
 6.bxc3 Ne7  
 7.Qg4

The major alternative to this is 7.Nf3 when Black has a large number of possible moves so, to cut down the work, I chose 7.Qg4 which is more forcing, even though Black gets a big lead in development, pressure on e5 and a half-open c-file for the two kingside pawns; all in all, a good unbalanced position.

7... cxd4

The most popular move is 7...0-0 which I had prepared well for, as I lost a game with this move to the English SIM John Anderson in the John Jordan Memorial.;

However in this position I played 7...Qc7 against Alfredo Cillóniz Razzeto in World Semi-Final 26, that game continuing with 8.Qxg7 Rg8 9.Qxh7 cxd4 10.Ne2 Nbc6 11.f4 Bd7 12.Qd3 dxc3 bog-standard stuff 13.Qxc3 0-0-0 14.h3!? Nf5 15.g4 Nh4 16.Rg1 Be8 17.Rg3 f6 18.exf6 d4 and a win for Black in 48.

8.Qxg7 Rg8  
 9.Qxh7 Qc7  
 10.Ne2

The move 10.Kd1 has been tried a few times, but after 10...dxc3 11.Nf3 Nbc6 12.Bf4 Qb6!? 13.Be3 Qb2 Black is on top.

10... Nbc6  
 11.f4 Bd7  
 12.h4

[The main line goes 12.Qd3 but I had done my homework in which GM Dan Olofsson played 12.h4 against Ervin in the Paul Keres g5 Memorial Tournament. Sadly for me, the game deviated rather quickly, but the main strategic themes were similar.

12... dxc3  
 13.h5 0-0-0

Also possible was 13...d4 14.h6 0-0-0 15.Qd3 Be8 16.h7 Rh8 17.Ng3 f5 18.exf6 Nd5 19.Ne4 Bg6 20.Nd6+ as in the aforementioned game Olofsson-Liebert, which White went on to win.

14.Qd3 Nf5  
 15.Qxc3

More popular is 15.Rb1 d4 16.Rg1 Kb8 (16...f6?! 17.g4 fxe5 18.gxf5 exf5 19.Rxg8 Rxg8 20.Rb5 wins.) 17.g4 Nfe7 and White still has an advantage.

15... d4  
 16.Qc4

The move 16.Qc5 was played domestically in the 2nd Webserver Open Final between Stuart Graham and Alan D Bell. It continued 16...f6 17.exf6 Nd6 18.a4 (18.h6 was better.) 18...Ne4 19.Qb5 a6 20.Qd3 Nxf6 21.Rb1 e5 and Alan won a drawn position which was extremely interesting.

16...f6  
 Equally good was 16...Nce7  
 17.Qxc7+ Kxc7 18.Rh3 Bc6 19.Kf2 Nd5

17.exf6 Nd6  
 18.Qb3 Ne4  
 19.f7 Rgf8  
 20.Qd3 Ne5

Another try would be 20...Qa5+ 21.Bd2 Nxd2 22.Qxd2 Qd5 (22...Qxd2+ 23.Kxd2 Rxf7 24.g4 is good for White.) 23.c4! Qd6 (23...Qxc4 24.Rc1) 24.c5 Qd5

25.Ng3 Rxf7 26.Bd3 Qxc5 27.0-0 White is on top.

21.Qc4 Ne4  
 22.Rb1 Rxf7  
 23.h6 Qa5+  
 24.Rb4 Nd6  
 25.Qb3 Re7

Taking the rook leads to problems, viz: 25...Nxb4 26.Qxb4 Qc7 (26...Qxb4+ 27.axb4 Bb5 28.g4) 27.Nxd4 a5 28.Qb3 a4 29.Qb4 e5 30.fxe5 Nf5 31.h7 Qxe5+ 32.Ne2 Ng3 33.Qc4+ Bc6 34.Qxf7

26.Bd2 Qc5  
 27.g4 a5  
 28.Ra4 e5

Winning the exchange leads to disaster after 28...b5 29.Rxa5 Nxa5 30.Bxa5 Rh8 31.Rh5 Qa7 32.Bb4 Qb6 33.Bc5

29.f5 Rh8  
 30.Rh3 Be8  
 31.Bg2 Bf7  
 32.Qb1



Superficially, Black's position looks promising with his central control and better co-ordinated pieces, but look deeper and it is not the case as the following two lines show:

32... Bd5  
 A) 32...Ree8 33.g5! Nxf5 34.Bxc6 Qxc6 35.Rxa5 Nd6 36.Qb4 threat 37.Rc5;

B) 32...Nc4 33.Rxc4 Bxc4 34.Be4 Bd5 35.c3 Rd7 36.g5 wins.

33.Bxd5 Qxd5  
 34.Qb3 Qg2

The queen exchange would lose for Black as White's 3 connected passed pawns are far stronger than Black's 2.

35.Qg3 Qe4  
 36.Kd1 Rd7  
 37.Nc3 dxc3  
 38.Rxe4 Nxe4  
 39.Qe3 Rxd2+  
 40.Ke1 Nf6  
 41.g5 Nd5  
 42.Qc5

White could be in trouble after 42.Qe4?! Nd4 43.g6 Nxc2+ 44.Kf1 Nce3+ 45.Rxe3 c2

42... Nf4  
 43.Rxc3 Rhd8

44.Qc4 Ng2+  
45.Kf1 Nf4



I remember spending a lot of time on this position and looking at 46.g6!? and 46.h7!? with some variations ending with a Q v RR endgame which I did not want. Then one morning I woke with my conscious mind coming up too fast for the bend and it hit me!

46.Rd3! Nxd3  
47.cxd3 R8xd3

Also possible was 47...e4 48.f6 Rd1+ 49.Kf2 Rd2+ 50.Ke1 Rg2 51.dxe4 Rxe5 52.h7 Rh8 53.f7

48.Qxd3! Rxd3  
49.g6 Rf3+

50.Ke1 Rh3  
51.g7 Rxh6  
52.g8Q+ Nd8  
53.Qf8 Rh7  
54.Qc5+ Rc7  
55.Qxa5 Nf7  
56.Kf2 Kd7  
57.Qd5+

1-0



## ChessBase CD Reviews

By Bernard Milligan

### Master Class 02 - Mihail Tal by Dorian Rogozenco, Dr. Karsten Müller, Mihail Marin, Oliver Reeh



Despite his frail health Tal enjoyed life to the fullest and was a funny and brilliant man, who loved nothing more than chess.

Through the games of Mihail Tal this DVD provides a unique access to the realm of chess tactics. Tal's colleagues dubbed their tactical guru "Magician", because in his games seemingly incomprehensible moves in the end blended into a successful whole, as if by magic.

But Tal was also a master of strategy and endgame play. On this DVD Dorian Rogozenco, Mihail Marin, Oliver Reeh and Karsten Müller present the 8. World Chess Champion in video lessons: his openings, his understanding of chess strategy, his artful endgame play, and finally his immortal combinations. In an interactive test they invite you to try to find combinations like Tal did. The DVD also contains all games by Tal, many of them annotated, plus comments and tournament tables.

No World Champion has enchanted the chess world as much as Mihail Tal did. His reign as World Champion was short but in his time Tal's star burned with unknown intensity.

With his combinations and his intuitive sacrifices the young Tal ran over his opponents, and thrilled the chess world with his risky uncompromising attacking play, which inspired many players to emulate him.

In 1960 he beat the reigning World Champion Botvinnik but one year later he lost the title of World Champion again in a return match of doubtful competitive value. But even though Tal was no longer World Champion, he still remained one of the best players in the world.

At eight chess Olympiads he won gold with the Soviet team. Six times he became USSR-Champion. In 1973/74 he managed to remain unbeaten in 93 consecutive games, a still unmatched record. In 1988 he won the Blitz World Championship.



- Video running time: 4 hours 13 min (English)
- Interactive tactics test with video feedback
- Collection of every Tal game, tables, background knowledge, short biography
- "Tal powerbook" – the World Champion's repertoire as an opening tree
- Tactic training with 245 questions.



## Twists and Turns in Bishop Endings

By Peter Bennett

To be brutally honest, I have never been particularly good at using bishops in the endgame; and I was reminded of this recently when I lost a minor piece endgame in the Edinburgh OTB League, in which my opponent had the knight and I had the bishop. I would rather have been playing on his side of the board!

Yet sometimes, if we know our weaknesses and put in some hard work on that account, we can turn a weakness into a strength. The three correspondence bishop endings in this article have several features in common: (1) they all produced wins from level or potentially drawish positions beyond move 30; (2) all were materially level both before and after the transition from level to winning position, such that the wins arose from a positional plus, not a material plus; and (3) all were played in recent competitions.

It is well known that, in rook endings, the aggressive rook position is generally more important than the pawn count. In bishop endings it is not so simple. The pawn count still matters, and keeping one's own bishop active is also crucial; but the most important factor is restricting the activity of the opponent's bishop, better still "baddening" it (to "badden" meaning to render "bad"). A bad bishop in the endgame is not quite the same as a bad bishop in the opening (in which, typically, it is merely physically hemmed in by a locked pawn structure). All these points will be illustrated in the games that follow.

I have chosen three contrasting bishop endings: (a) with the four bishops; (b) with bishops of the same colour; and finally (c) with bishops of opposite colour. The annotations concentrate on certain key themes, for the sake of clarity. This, of course, also means that I have largely ignored the unplayed lines and tactical sub-plots which exist in any correspondence game. When reading articles with masses of

variations, I find that I "cannot see the wood for the trees".

Unless the reader has a particular interest in the opening variation from which these endgames arose (for which purpose I have nevertheless included the full game scores), I suggest ignoring the first 40 moves of each game, picking up the action only at the first diagrammed position and then playing through the endgames without an engine. The idea is to bring the human chess brain to the fore!

**White: Bennett, Peter (2307)**

**Black: Jensen, Kristian (2198)**

Scotland v Denmark, 2014  
Sicilian Kan Variation [B42]  
*[Notes by Peter Bennett]*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4  
a6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.0-0 Qc7 7.Qe2 d6  
8.c4 g6 9.Nc3 Bg7 10.Rd1 0-0  
11.Nf3 Nc6 12.h3 Nd7 13.Be3  
Nde5 14.Rac1 Bd7 15.Nxe5 dxe5  
16.Nd5 exd5 17.cxd5 b5 18.dxc6  
Bxc6 19.Bc2 Qb7 20.f3 Bf6 21.Bb3  
Rfd8 22.Rc3 Rac8 23.Rdc1 Bd7  
24.Bd5 Qb8 25.b4 Rxc3 26.Rxc3  
Bh4 27.Qb2 Be7 28.a3 Kg7 29.g4  
f6 30.Kg2 g5 31.h4 h6 32.h5 Rc8  
33.Ba2 Rxc3 34.Qxc3 Qc8 35.Qb3  
Qe8 36.Qd5 Kh7 37.Kg3 Kg7  
38.Bb3 Kh7 39.Qb7 Bc8 40.Qa8  
Qd7



**41.Qd5**

More or less forcing an exchange of queens, hence creating a passed pawn. In fact, White's space advantage is already virtually decisive here, but the closing moves serve to illustrate some points about these endings.

**41...**

**42.exd5**

**Qxd5**

**Kg7**

10

**43.Bc5!**

Seizing the active piece position and directly giving Black an invidious dilemma.

**43...**

**Bd8**

Choosing the retreat to a passive square as the lesser of two evils. [43...Bxc5? yields a linked pair of passed pawns on the 5th rank, spelling disaster for Black.]

**44.Bc2**

**Bb7**

**45.d6!**

The advance is not a tactical queening threat, it is purely positional. The key point is that the d6 pawn controls c7 and e7, playing the Bd8 completely out of the game. Neither the pawn nor the bishop moves again in this game - the bishop has nowhere to go. This is the first example of a bad bishop in the endgame: it is dynamically prevented from moving.

**45...**

**Bc6**

**46.Bg6**

**a5**

**47.Kf2**

**axb4**

**48.axb4**

**Bd7**

**49.Ke3**



In the final position, there is still material equality; but the Black K is trapped on the kingside and the Bd7 is Black's only piece with any latitude, whereas the White K has clear opportunities to penetrate the Black position.

The game might have continued  
49.Ke3 Bc6 50.Ba7 Kf8 51.Be4 Bd7  
52.Bb7 Ke8 53.Ke4 Kf7 54.Kd5 f5  
55.gxf5 Bxf5 56.Kxe5 now with a material plus.

**1-0**



**White: Bennett, Peter (2307)**  
**Black: Kögeler, Aart (2149)**  
 FINJUB50/pr13, 2013  
 English Four Knights [A29]  
*[Notes by Peter Bennett]*

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3  
 Bc5 5.Nc3 d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.d3 h6 8.a3  
 a5 9.e3 Bg4 10.h3 Bd7 11.b3 Qc8  
 12.Kh2 Re8 13.Bb2 Bb6 14.Nd2  
 Ne7 15.b4 Bc6 16.Nde4 Nxe4  
 17.dxe4 Bd7 18.Qd3 Bc6 19.Nd5  
 Nxd5 20.exd5 Bf5 21.Qc3 Ba7  
 22.Rfc1 Bg6 23.c5 Qd7 24.cxd6  
 cxd6 25.bxa5 Bc5 26.Qd2 Rac8  
 27.Bc3 Rc7 28.Bb4 Rec8 29.Bxc5  
 Rxc5 30.Rxc5 Rxc5 31.Rc1 Rb5  
 32.a4 Rb3 33.Rc4 Bd3 34.Rb4  
 Rxb4 35.Qxb4 Qc7 36.Qb6 Qd7  
 37.e4 h5 38.Qb3 Ba6 39.Qc3 g6  
 40.f4 exf4 41.gxf4 Qxa4 42.f5 Qe8  
 43.fgx6 fgx6 44.Qg3 Qe5



The essential first step. White confidently initiates the transition into an endgame by creating a protected passed pawn. Queens on an open board can so often force draws.

45.Qxe5! dxe5  
 46.Kg3 Kf7  
 47.h4! Ke7  
 48.Bh3

White seizes control of the crucial diagonal, h3–c8. From here on, the Black K is restricted to protecting f7 from the threat Be6-f7-Bxg6.

48... Bb5

The Black B makes a bid for freedom, but is promptly forced back onto a6. Now White uses his positional control to bring the K slowly round to the queenside. This strategic manoeuvre is a "human" construct. My opponent may have spotted the danger, but his engine won't see the extent of it until the K is half-way round the board, by which time it is too late to save the position.

49.Bc8! Ba6  
 50.Kf3 Kd8  
 51.Be6 Ke8  
 52.Ke3 Bb5  
 53.Bc8 Ba6



54.Kd2

Some bright spark might suggest that White can force an immediate win here with 54.d6! So why didn't I play it? The embarrassing truth is that this was mid-summer, I was crewing on an ocean-going yacht in the English Channel, I had no chess set with me and believed (wrongly) that I had correctly memorised the best continuation... but the move played wins anyway, it is just a longer pathway to victory.

54... Kd8  
 55.Be6 Ke7  
 56.Kc3 Be2  
 57.Bc8

White keeps forcing the B back to a6! This kind of motif often confuses engines.

57... Ba6  
 58.Bh3 Kd6  
 59.Be6 Ke7  
 60.Kb4



The Black king is now a classically "overworked piece". It cannot protect both f7 from incursion by the White B (a theme which White had anticipated when he played 47.h4!) and c5 from incursion by the White K.

The final moves might have been 60.Kb4 Kd6 61.Bf7 Bd3 62.Bxg6 and so on; but once again there was material equality at the point where Black resigned. Here the Black bishop is "bad" because it has spent the latter part of the game restricted to the role of protecting a single weak pawn on b7.

1-0



The third and last game in this sequence addresses the knotty question of "bishops of opposite colour". Euwe and Hooper in their seminal text, "A Guide to Chess Endings" (1959) averred that a single pawn advantage was generally insufficient for a win. Indeed, the notion that these endings are drawish and that White usually needs two extra pawns for a win has been benchmark advice at chess clubs up and down the land for 50 years.

Not long ago, however, I attended a workshop at my OTB club at which the presenters challenged that view. Their claim was that it all depended on king position, as well as which B was the more active. The next game gave me the chance to put some of these ideas into practice in CC play – and against an IM, to boot.

**White: Bennett, Peter (2307)**  
**Black: Rowley, Les (2276)**  
 Scotland v Australia, 2014  
 English Opening [A11]  
*[Notes by Peter Bennett]*

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 c6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3  
 dxc4 5.0-0 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Nb6 7.a4  
 a5 8.Na3 Nfd5 9.Nxc4 Nb4 10.Qb3  
 Nxc4 11.Qxc4 Be6 12.Qc3 Nd5  
 13.Qb3 Nb4 14.Qc3 Nd5 15.Qc5  
 Qd6 16.Qxd6 exd6 17.Nd4 Nb4  
 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Ra3 d5 20.d4 Bd6  
 21.Rf3 Rf8 22.Rb3 0-0-0 23.Bd2  
 Rf7 24.Rc1 Kc7 25.f4 g6 26.Bf3  
 Ra8 27.Kg2 b6 28.e4 Bf8 29.Re3  
 Rf6 30.Bg4 dxe4 31.Rxe4 Kd7  
 32.Bxb4 Bxb4 33.Re2 h5 34.Bh3  
 Kd6 35.Rec2 c5 36.Rd1 Ke7 37.d5  
 exd5 38.Rxd5 Kf8 39.Kf3 Re8

The position at this stage is broadly level, White holding a slight initiative but Black almost certainly having a draw with best play. As typically happens in a match pairing, White also had an initiative in the parallel game with colours reversed. So (twice!) I had offered my opponent a package deal of two draws; and he had twice refused. I am sure his reasoning was that he had winning chances with White, but no fear of losing with Black, where we had level material and bishops of opposite colour.

40.Bf1



**40... Rec6?!**

I am equally sure that it was overconfidence (about the certainty of a draw) which led my opponent to play this slightly loose move which does not, in fact, show up as inferior on superficial engine analysis.

**41.Rc1!**

Not, in fact, a retreat. The point of this move is that it allows White to seize control of the d-file and, thereafter, to gain entry into the enemy position with a rook.

**41...Rd6**

**42.Rcd1 Rxd5**

**43.Rxd5 Kg7**

**44.Bc4 Kf8**

**45.Rd1**

The point of White's 41st move, now exposing the strategic weakness of Black's 40th. From here on, it is difficult for Black to dislodge this control of both the 7th rank and the d-file. The only other open file is the e-file, on which the White K is well placed to nullify any counterplay.

**45... Be1**

**46.Ke2 Bb4**

**47.Ke3 Be1**

**48.Kf3 Ke8**

**49.Bb5 Kf8**

**50.Rd1**

Once again we have the theme, as in the previous game, of White persistently forcing the Black B back onto a passive, defensive square; and, as previously, this motif can confuse the defender's engine. Now we are playing "real chess" for which the human brain is vital!

**50... Bb4**

**51.Rd8+ Kg7**

**52.Bc4 Rf8**

By this stage of the game my opponent had started to offer me the draw which he had twice earlier refused. Whether he genuinely believed that I was wasting my time playing on with level material and bishops of opposite colour, or whether he had now started to worry that he might even have been losing, I shall never know.

**53.Rd7+ Kh8**

SCCA Magazine 125

**54.Rd6**

**g5**



**55.Rh6+!**

My best move of the game. The engine I was using at the time cried out for me to play 55.Ke4 as much the stronger continuation, in tactical terms; but this line led to isolated passed pawns which can often be stopped in this type of ending. The move played had a hidden strategic purpose, which soon becomes clear.

**55... Kg7**

**56.Rxh5 gxf4**

**57.g4!**

The reason for White's 55th. The pair of linked passed pawns confers a long-term advantage onto the first player, whereas Black's isolated passed pawn on f4 now becomes a weakness. The reason why linked pawns can win is they can support each other in controlling squares of the opponent's bishop colour.

The crucial square in this endgame is h6. White can now seize control of h6 by force (see the continuation given below), which will later support the pawn advance g7, threaten to queen on g8 (a light square) and thereby force Black to surrender his bishop altogether.

Black now has a bad bishop, in spite of it having the freedom of most of the board, because the one square it cannot defend is h6. This is also what renders the passed pawn on f4 a liability, because it blocks this vital action of the bishop.

**57... Bd2**

**58.Rg5+ Kh6**

**59.Rd5 Be3**

**60.h4 Rh8**



This move must have been played to engineer the transition to a bishops of opposite colour endgame in the quite mistaken belief that this type of ending was now a dead draw. White can still win after 60...Re8! (the stronger defence), but the method is more complex.

**61.Rh5+!**

White confidently exchanges off the rooks and invokes the bishop ending.

**61... Kg7**

**62.Rxh8 Kxh8**

**63.g5 Kg7**

**64.h5**



So finally we have it – that rare beast – a bishops-of-opposite-colour endgame with level material, which is nevertheless completely winning for White.

**64... Bc1**

**65.b3**

The game might have continued 65.b3 Bb2 66.Bd3 Bc3 (as long as the Black bishop can reach either c1 or d2 to deliver check, the White king cannot take on f4) 67.h6+! (finally seizing the vital square!) 67...Kf8 68.g6 and the threat of g7 is game over for Black.

**1-0**



One gratifying feature of these endgames is that White would have won none of them by lamely following engine lines. I put a huge amount of analytical work into these positions, and considered a range of alternative strategic ideas, often pushing wood into the small hours, well away from a computer screen. The task of playing your opponent's bishops out of the game is simply not a tactical strike, and cannot be accomplished in the way that an engine can execute a perfect combination. You need a strategy and a plan, as well as its execution.



Spring is in the air here, and budding annotators can learn a lot from the wide variety of material we have for you in this edition!

Our first game is a double-annotated encounter from the English Counties Championship supplied by Alan Borwell.

**White: Borwell, Alan IM (2236)**  
**Black: Rhodes, John SIM (2414)**  
Ward Higgs 2013–14  
Caro-Kann, 3.Nc3 [B15]  
[Notes by Alan Borwell and John Rhodes]

Having played for Yorkshire in the Ward Higgs Counties Championship for over 50 years, I experienced a disaster last year, when I managed to leave my queen en pris in a winning position – entering my intended next move before checking with my queen! This season, Yorkshire have two teams in the Championship and I am on board 2 in a B team. Because of the pairing system, I found myself playing the top board of Hertfordshire, SIM John Rhodes, one of the highest rated players in the event! We drew my Black game in which I played a Sveshnikov Sicilian but here is our other very interesting encounter.

- 1.e4 c6
- 2.d4 d5
- 3.Nd2 dxe4
- 4.Nxe4 Nf6
- 5.Nxf6+ exf6
- 6.c3
- 7.Bd3
- 8.Ne2 Re8
- 9.Qc2 g6
- 10.h4 Be6
- 11.h5 f5
- 12.Be3

Black was expecting 12.hxg6 fxg6 13.Bh6 Bf7 14.0–0 Nd7. Black thinks 12.Be3 is good improvement.

- 12... Nd7
- 13.hxg6 hxg6

Black thinks perhaps 13...fxg6 better. 13...hxg6 14.0–0 Nf6 15.Bg5 Be7 16.f3 Nd5 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Qd2 Bd7 19.Nf4 Nxf4 20.Qxf4 Qe3+ 21.Qxe3 Rxe3 22.Kd2 Rae8 23.Rh4 R3e7 24.Rdh1±

**14.0-0-0 Bd5**



14...Bd5 Now the difficult choice for White is between Rdg1, Nf4, c4, Rh6 or Kb1 and even g4 is interesting. 15.g4

- a) 15.Nf4 Bxa2 (15...Bxf4 16.Bxf4 Bxg2 17.Rh6 Bd5 18.Rg1 Qf6 19.f3 Bxf3 20.Qh2 Bd5 21.Bc4 Bxc4 22.Rh1 Re1+ 23.Rxe1 Bd5 24.Re3 Rd8 25.Bd6 wins) 16.b3 Qa5 17.Kd2 Nf6 18.g3 Bxf4 19.gxf4 Ng4 20.Rhg1;
- b) 15.c4 Bxg2 16.Rhg1 Be4 17.Bxe4 Rxe4 18.c5 Bh2 19.Rg2 Qb8 20.Rh1 Bc7=;
- c) 15.Rdg1 Nf6 (15...Qf6 16.c4; 15...Bxa2 16.b3 Qa5 17.Kd2 c5 18.Ra1 f4 19.Bxg6 fxe3+ 20.fxe3 Nf8 21.Bh7+ Kg7 22.Qf5 wins; 15...b5 16.Nf4 Be4 17.Nxg6 fxg6 18.Bxe4 Rxe4 19.g4 Qf6 20.gxf5 Qxf5 21.Rg5 Qe6 22.f3 Bf4 23.Bxf4 Re1+ 24.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 25.Qd1 Qxd1+ 26.Kxd1 Kg7 27.Ke2 Re8+ 28.Kf2) 16.Bg5 Be7 17.Kb1 c5 18.c4 Be4 19.f3 Bxd3 20.Qxd3 cxd4 21.Nxd4 Qb6 22.Rd1 Rad8 23.Rhe1 Bc5 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Nb5 Nh5 26.Nc3 Qc7 27.Qd7 Qxd7 28.Rxd7 f6 29.Bc1;
- d) 15.Kb1 Qa5 16.a3 Bxg2 17.Rhg1 Be4 18.c4 Bh2 19.Rg5 Nf6 20.Bxe4 Nxe4;
- e) 15.Rh6 Bf8 16.Rh3 Qa5 17.Bxf5 Qxa2 18.Bxg6 Bg7 19.Bh7+ Kf8 20.Qb1 Nf6 21.Qxa2 Bxa2 22.Bc2; 15...Bxh1 16.Rxh1 Rxe3 17.fxe3 Qg5 18.gxf5 Qxe3+ 19.Qd2 Qxd2+ 20.Kxd2 g5 21.Rh5 Be7 22.f6]

**15.Nf4**

Black likes 15.Nf4 but was expecting 15.Rdg1. Black hesitated between 15...Bxa2 and 15...Bxf4. 15...Bxa2 mainly chosen for counterplay.

**15...Bxa2**

Now the choice is between b3, Rdg1 or maybe g4 or Bxf5 15...Bxa2 16.Rdg1 (16.b3 Qa5 17.Kd2 c5 18.Ne2 f4 19.Bxg6 fxe3+ 20.fxe3 Nf8 21.Bh7+ Nxh7 22.Qxh7+ Kf8 23.Qf5 Ke7 24.Rh6 Qb6 25.Nf4 Bxb3 26.Rb1 Rg8 27.Qf6+ Ke8 28.Qxd6 Qxd6 29.Rxd6 c4 30.Rh1 a5 31.g4 a4) 16...Nf6 17.Bxf5 Kg7 18.g3 Rh8 19.Rxh8 Qxh8 20.Bxg6 Qh2 21.f3 Rh8 22.Be4 Nxe4 23.Qxe4 Qh7 24.d5 Qxe4 25.fxe4 a5 26.Bd4+ f6 27.Rf1 Bc4 28.Rf2 a4 29.g4 Rh1+ 30.Kd2

**16.Rdg1 Bxf4**

**17.Bxf4**

17.Bxf4 Bd5 18.Rh2 Qa5 19.Rgh1 Kg7 20.Rh7+

**17...**

**Bd5**

17...Bd5 18.f3 Qf6 19.Rh3 Be4 20.Rgh1 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 Re6 22.d5 cxd5 23.Qxd5 Nf8 24.Qxb7 Rae8 25.Rh8+ Qxh8 26.Rxh8+ Kxh8 27.Qxf7 Re1+ 28.Kc2 R1e2+ 29.Kb1 R2e7 30.Qd5 Rd7 31.Qb5 Kg7 32.Be5+ Kf7 33.Qc4+ Ne6 34.Qh4 Ng7 35.Qf6+ Kg8 36.Qc6 Rde7 37.f4 Re6 38.Qa4 Nh5

**18.f3**

**Qf6**

**19.Rh3**

19.Rh3 c5 20.Qf2 Kg7 (20...cxd4 21.Rgh1 Rad8 22.Bb5 dxc3 23.Rh8+ Qxh8 24.Rxh8+ Kxh8 25.Qd4+ Kg8 26.Qxd5 cxb2+ 27.Kb1 Ne5 28.Qxb7 Rb8 29.Qd5 Rbd8 30.Qc5 Nd3 31.Bxd3 Rxd3 32.Qc4 Rd1+ 33.Kxb2 Rg1 34.g3 Rd1 35.Qa6 +1.0) 21.Rgh1 Rh8 22.Qg3 cxd4 23.Qh2 Rxh3 24.Qxh3 Nc5 25.Bc2 dxc3 26.Qh6+ Kg8 27.Bd6 cxb2+ 28.Kb1 Qg7 29.Qxg7+ Kxg7 30.Bxc5 b6 31.Bb4 Re8 32.Rd1 Be6 33.Kxb2 f6 34.Bb3 Rc8 35.Bc3 Bxb3 36.Kxb3 Rc7 37.Rd6 Rf7 38.f4±

**19...**

**a5**

Unexpected and probably too slow. Now after 20.Rgh1 all replies except 20...a4 look better for White! Black played 19...a5 again for possible counterplay.

19...a5 20.Rgh1 a4 21.Qd2 a3  
 22.bxa3 c5 23.Bg5 Qg7 24.c4 Rxa3  
 25.cxd5 Rc8 26.Rh8+ Qxh8  
 27.Rxh8+ Kxh8 28.dxc5 Rxc5+  
 29.Kb2 Ra4 30.Kb3±

**20.Rgh1 a4**

Best options now for White are Qd2, c4 or Kb1 20...a4 21.c4 Qxd4 (21...a3) 22.Rh8+ Kg7 23.Bh6+ Kf6 24.Rxe8 Rxe8 25.Bd2 Ne5 26.Bc3 Qf4+ 27.Kb1 Bxf3 28.gxf3 Kg7 29.Qf2 f6 30.Qb6 Qxf3 31.Qxb7+ Nf7 32.Rh7+ Kxh7 33.Qxf7+ Kh6 34.Bd2+ Re3 35.Bc1 Kh5 36.Qxf6

**21.Qd2**

21.Qd2 Qg7 (21...a3 22.bxa3 Rxa3 (22...b5 23.Bg5 Qg7 24.Qf4 f6 25.Qh2 fxe5 26.Rh8+ Kf7 27.Rh7 Rh8 28.Rxh8 Rxh8 29.Qxh8 Qxh8 30.Rxh8) 23.c4 Ra1+ 24.Bb1 Bxc4 25.Qc3 Rxb1+ (25...Ra4 26.Bc2 Rea8 27.Bxa4 Rxa4 28.Be5 Nxe5 29.dxe5 Qg5+ 30.Kb1 Kf8 31.g3 b6 32.Rd1 Ke7 33.Rh4 Ba2+ 34.Kb2 Rxh4 35.gxh4 Qxh4 36.Kxa2 Qa4+ 37.Qa3+ Qxa3+ 38.Kxa3 f6 39.Rd6 fxe5 40.Rxc6) 26.Kxb1 Bd5 White must be careful not to give away K-side pawns as endings could be difficult with only one pawn remaining. 27.Qb2 b6 (27...b5 28.Bg5 Qg7 29.Qf2 f6 30.Bh6 Qe7 31.Bd2 Qg7 32.Qg3 Nf8 33.Bb4 g5 34.Qh2 f4 35.Rh8+ Kf7) 28.Bg5 Qg7 29.Qf2 f6 30.Bh6 Qe7 31.Bd2 Qg7 32.Qg3 Re2 (32...Nf8; 32...f4) 33.Qh2) 22.Bd6

**21... a3**  
**22.bxa3 Rxa3**  
**23.c4 Ra1+**  
**24.Bb1 Bxc4**  
**25.Qc3 Rxb1+**  
**26.Kxb1 Bd5**  
**27.Qb2 b5**  
**28.Bg5 Qg7**  
**29.Qf2 Nf8**



Now the choice seems to be:  
**A)** 30.Qh4 f6 31.Bxf6 g5 32.Qh5 Qg6 33.Qxg6+ (33.Qh8+ Kf7 34.Rh6 Qg8 35.Qxg8+ Kxg8) 33...Nxg6 34.Rh7 Re1+ 35.Rxe1 Kxh7 36.Rh1+ White is clear

exchange ahead but how can it be converted to a win with Black's grip on White squares? 36...Kg8 37.Bxg5 Nf8 38.Bf4 Kf7 39.Kb2 Ne6 40.Be5 Kg6 41.Kc3 f4 42.Rh8 Kf5 43.Rh5+ Kg6 44.Rh4 Kf5 45.Rh7 Bc4 and White is not making much progress;  
**B)** 30.Bh6 Qf6 31.Bf4 Bc4 32.Rh8+ Qxh8 33.Rxh8+ Kxh8 34.Be5+ Kg8 35.Qh4 Rxe5 36.dxe5 Ne6 37.Qe7 Bd5 and although White is better, the Black position is solid and it could be difficult for White to breakthrough;

**C)** 30.Qd2 Looks rather strange at first to move Q away from joining the h-file pressure but its aim is to dislodge the opposing Q and N. Black thinks that White's 30.Qd2!! was very strong as 30.Qh4 was expected with a difficult ending for White to win!

**C1)** 30...f6 31.Bh6 Qa7 32.Bxf8 Kxf8 33.Rh7  
**C1a)** 33...Re7 34.Qh6+ Ke8 35.Rxe7+ Qxe7 36.Qxg6+ Bf7 37.Rh8+ Kd7 38.Qxf5+ Be6 39.Qc5 Qxc5 40.dxc5 Bd5 (40...Bc4 41.Kb2 Bf1 42.g3 Bg2 43.f4 Ke6 44.g4 Bf3 45.g5 fxe5 46.fxe5 Kf7 47.Rh6 Kg8 48.Kc3 Kg7 49.Kd4 Bd5 50.Rd6 Bg2 51.Ke5 b4 52.g6 b3 53.Kf5 b2 54.Rd7+ Kh8 55.Kf6 Bd5 56.Rd8+ Bg8 57.Rd4 Bd5 58.Rh4+ Kg8 59.g7 b1Q 60.Rh8#) 41.Kc2 Ke6 42.Kc3 Kf5 43.Kd4 Ke6 44.Rd8 b4 45.Rd6+ Ke7 46.Rxd5 cxd5 47.g4 f5 48.gxf5 wins;

**C1b)** 33...Re7 34.Rh8+ Kf7 35.R1h7+ Ke6 36.Qe3+ Be4+ (36...Kd6 37.Rd8+ Rd7 38.Qe7+ Kc7 39.Qxd7+ Kb6 40.Qxa7#) 37.fxe4 Rxh7 38.d5+ cxd5 39.exd5+ Kxd5 40.Rd8+ Kc6 41.Qc1+ Kb7 42.Qc8+ Kb6 43.Rd6+ Ka5 44.Qc3+ b4 45.Rd5+ Kb6 46.Qxb4+ (better 46.Qd4+ Kb7 47.Rb5+ Ka6 48.Rc5 Qb6 49.Qc4+ Ka7 50.Qa2+ Kb7 51.Qd5+ Ka7 52.Ra5+ Kb8 53.Rb5) 46...Kc7 White will win Black's Q for his rook but it is better to keep the Black K away from his pawns rather than chase it towards cover - therefore 46.Qd4+ seems better prospect 47.Rc5+ Kd7 48.Qd4+ Ke7 49.Re5+ Kf8 50.Qd8+ Kf7 51.Qe8+ Kg7 52.Re7+ Qxe7 53.Qxe7+ Kh6 54.Qxf6 Kh5 (54...Ra7 55.Qh4+ mate in) 55.Kc2 Rc7+ 56.Kd3 Ra7 57.Ke2 Ra2+ 58.Kf3 Ra3+ 59.Kf2 Ra2+ 60.Kg3 Ra3+ 61.Kh2 Ra4 62.g3 Rg4 63.Kh3 Rc4 64.Qh8+ Kg5 and White has come to a standstill!;

**C2)** 30...Re6 31.Bh6 Qf6 32.Bxf8 Kxf8 33.Rh8+ Ke7 34.Qb4+ Rd6 35.Re1+ Be6 36.Rd8 Kxd8 37.Qxd6+ Ke8 38.Qxc6+ Kf8 39.Qa8+ Ke7 40.Qa3+ Kd7 41.Qa7+ Kd8 42.Qb6+ Ke7 43.Qc5+ Ke8 44.Qxb5+ Kf8 45.Qb8+ Ke7 46.Qb4+ Kd7 47.Qb5+ Ke7 48.Qc5+ Ke8 49.d5 Qh4 50.Qc3;

**C3)** 30...Nd7 31.Qf4 f6 32.Qh2 fxe5 (32...Nf8 33.Bd2 f4 34.Bb4 g5 35.Rh6 Ra8 36.Rh8+ Kf7 37.Qh5+ Qg6+ 38.Qxg6+ Kxg6 39.Bxf8 Ra2 40.R1h2 Re2 41.Kc1 Kf7 42.Bb4 g4 43.fxe4 Be4 44.Rc8 f3 45.Rc7+ Kg8 46.gxf3 Rxh2 47.fxe4 Re2 48.Re7 Rg2 49.Bc5 Rxe4 50.Kd2 b4 51.Bxb4 f5 52.Ke3 fxe4 53.Bc5±) 33.Rh8+ Kf7 34.Rh7 Be6 35.Qc7 f4 36.Qxc6 Nf6 37.Rxg7+ Kxg7 38.Qxb5 g4 39.Qb7+ Bd7 40.fxe4 g5 41.Rc1 Kg6 42.Rc7 Bxe4 43.Rg7+ Kh6 44.Qf7 Bf5+ 45.Kb2 Rb8+ 46.Ka3 Ra8+ 47.Kb4 Nh5 48.Rg8 Rxe8 49.Qxe8 g4 50.d5 f3 51.gxf3 gxf3 52.Qg1 Nf6 53.Qe3+ Kg6 54.Qxf3±

**30.Qd2 f6**  
**31.Bh6 Qa7**  
**32.Bxf8 Kxf8**



**33.Rh7**

A critical moment and not an easy decision. The choice is between Rh8+ or Qh6+ The first leads to a long K hunt whereas the second simplifies into an ending with RvB with Black weak on Black squares so White K can infiltrate, but maybe Black can create some counterplay with K+B on K-side. If 33.Qh6+ Qg7 34.Qxg7+ Kxg7 35.Rh7+ Kf8 36.Rb7 Kg8 37.Rhh7 g5 38.Kc1 g4 39.fxe4 fxe4 40.Rhg7+ Kf8 41.Rxe4 Re7 42.Rxe7 Kxe7 43.g3 Ke6 White is better but not an easy position to win?

**33... Re7**  
**34.Rh8+**  
 Black thinks 34.Rh8+ is best choice.  
**34... Kf7**  
 Black thinks that next dozen or so moves are forced and he will end up in a queen v rook ending.

**35.R1h7+**      **Kc6**  
**36.Qc3+**      **Be4+**  
 36...Kd6 37.Rd8+ Rd7 38.Qe7+ Kc7  
 39.Qxd7+ Kb6 40.Qxa7#  
**37.fxc4**      **Rxh7**  
**38.d5+**      **cxd5**  
**39.exd5+**      **Kxd5**  
**40.Rd8+**  
 40.Rd8+ Rd7 41.Qxa7 Rxd8  
 42.Qf7+ Kc6 43.Qxg6 Rd5  
 44.Qxf6+ Kc5 45.Kc2 b4 46.Qa6  
 Kd4 47.Qe2 Kc5 48.Kb3 Kd6  
 49.Kxb4 Rd4+ 50.Kc3 Re4 51.Qb5  
 Ke6 52.Qc6+ Ke5 53.g3 Re3+  
 54.Kd2 Re4 55.Qg6 Rg4 56.Qf7 Re4  
 57.Kd3

**40...**      **Kc6**  
 Now White has 3 options Qc1+,  
 Qc3+ and Qe6+ all leading to same  
 position at move 44 but Qe6+ is the  
 surest way

**41.Qe6+**      **Kb7**  
**42.Qc8+**      **Kb6**  
**43.Rd6+**      **Ka5**  
**44.Qc3+**      **b4**



Key moment - 5 possible options  
 Qc2, Qd2, Qf3, Qd3 or Rd5+

**A)** 45.Qd2 Rh2 46.Kb2 Qc5 47.Rd5  
 Kb6 48.Rxc5 Kxc5 49.Qe3+ Kd5  
 50.Qg3 Rh5 51.Qxg6 Rg5 52.Qf7+  
 Ke5 53.Qc7+ Ke6 54.Qc4+ Ke5  
 55.Qe2+ Kf4 56.Qf3+ Ke5 57.Kb3  
 Rg4;  
**B)** 45.Rd5+ Kb6 46.Qd4+ Kb7  
 47.Rb5+ Ka6 (47...Kc8 48.Qc4+  
 Kd7 49.Qd5+ Kc7 50.Rc5+ Qxc5  
 51.Qxc5+ Kd8 52.Qf8+ Kd7 53.Qxf6  
 Re7 54.Qxg6 Re6 55.Qxf5 Ke7 56.g4  
 Rf6 57.Qc5+ Ke6 58.Kb2 Kf7  
 59.Qh5+ Rg6 60.Kb3 Kf6 61.Qf5+  
 Kg7 62.Qe5+ Kf7 63.g5 Kg8 64.Qe7  
 Kh8 65.Kxb4 wins) 48.Rc5 Qxc5  
 (48...Qb6 49.Qc4+ Ka7 50.Qa2+  
 Kb7 51.Qd5+ Ka7 52.Ra5+ Kb8  
 53.Rb5 Rb7 54.Qg8+ Kc7 55.Rxb6  
 Rxb6 56.Qxg6 Rb5 57.Qxf6 Rd5  
 58.Kc2 Kd7 59.Kb3 Kc7 60.Qe6 Rb5  
 61.Qe7+ Kc6 62.Qe8+ Kb6 63.Kc4  
 Rc5+ 64.Kxb4 Rc7 65.Qb5+ Ka7  
 66.Qxf5 Rc6 67.g4 wins) 49.Qxc5  
 and now:

**B1)** 49...Rb7 50.Qc4+ Rb5 (50...Kb6  
 51.Qe6+ Ka5 52.Qe8 g5 53.Qa8+  
 Kb6 54.Qd8+ Kc5 55.Qc8+ Kb6  
 56.Qe6+ Kc7 57.Qe7+ Kc8 58.Qxf6  
 Rc7 59.Qxf5+ Kd8 60.Qxg5+ Ke8  
 wins) 51.Qf7 Rc5 52.Qxg6 Kb5  
 53.Qxf6 Rd5 54.Kc2 Rc5+ 55.Kb3  
 Rc3+ 56.Kb2 Rc5 57.Qe6 Ka5  
 58.Qd7 Ka6 59.Kb3 f4 60.Kxb4 Rc1  
 61.Qd6+ Kb7 62.Qxf4 wins)  
**B2)** 49...Rh4 50.Qc6+ Ka5 51.Qxf6  
 Rg4 52.Qc6 b3 53.Qb7 (better  
 53.Kb2 Kb4 another key moment g3,  
 Qd5 or Qd6 may be better than Qc3+  
 54.Qc3+ Kb5 55.Kxb3 Kb6 56.Qc8  
 Re4 57.Kc3 Rg4 58.Kd3 Re4 59.Qf8  
 Kc6 60.Qf6+ Kd5 61.Qxg6 Ke5  
 62.Qg5 Ke6 63.Qg7 Rg4 64.Qc7 Re4  
 65.Qb6+ Ke5 66.Qh6 Rd4+ 67.Ke3  
 Re4+ 68.Kf3 Rg4 69.Qh8+ Ke6  
 70.Qh5 Re4 71.Qg6+ Ke5 72.Qg7+  
 Ke6 73.Qg5 Rg4 74.Qxg4 f4  
 75.Kxg4 wins) 53...Rb4 54.Qa8+  
 Kb6 55.Qd8+ Ka6 56.Kb2 Rb6  
 57.Qd5 Ka7 58.Qd7+ Ka6 59.Qf7  
 Ka5 and how does White make  
 progress? 60.Qc7;

**C)** 45.Qc2 Rc7 (45...Qg1+ 46.Rd1  
 Qb6 47.Qa2+ Kb5 48.Rd5+ Kc6  
 49.Qc4+ Kb7 50.Rb5 Qxb5  
 51.Qxb5+ Ka7 52.Qe8 g5 53.Qf8  
 Rb7 54.Qxf6 Rb5 55.Qxg5 Ka6  
 56.Qf6+ Ka5 57.Qd8+ Ka6 58.Kb2  
 b3 59.Qc7 Rb4 60.Qc8+ Rb7  
 61.Qxf5 Rc7 62.g4) 46.Qa2+ Kb5  
 47.Qe2+ Kc5 48.Qd3 Qb7 49.Qd4+  
 Kb5 50.Rd5+ Qxd5 51.Qxd5+ Rc5  
 52.Qd7+ Rc6 53.Qh7 g5 54.Qxf5+  
 Kc4 55.Kb2 b3 56.Qe4+ Kc5  
 57.Kxb3 Kd6 58.Qf3 Rb6+ 59.Kc4  
 Ke7 60.g4 Rd6 61.Qe4+ Kf7  
 62.Qh7+ Ke6 63.Kc5 Rd7 64.Qg8+  
 Ke7 65.Qg7+ Ke6 66.Qf8 Rc7+  
 67.Kd4 Rc1 68.Qe8+ Kd6 69.Qb8+  
 Ke7 70.Qb3±

**45.Rd5+**      **Kb6**  
**46.Qd4+**      **Kb7**  
**47.Rb5+**      **Ka6**

It seems unbelievable that White  
 does not seem to have a sequence of  
 checks leading to clear win but the  
 only way to continue here seems to  
 be Rc5

**48.Rc5**

Now Black has a difficult choice  
 between Qb6, Qd7, Rh1+ or Qxc5 -  
 the loss of his Queen is inevitable,  
 but which is the best way for him to  
 try to draw the Q+P v R+4 pawn  
 ending, especially position of his K.  
 The nearer it can get to his K-side  
 pawns, the better his chances to  
 achieve a draw. For all 4

continuations, White has big  
 advantage, but care is needed.

**48...**      **Qb6**  
**49.Qc4+**      **Ka7**  
**50.Qa2+**      **Kb7**  
**51.Qd5+**      **Ka7**

If 51...Ka6 best is immediate 52.Rc6  
 (52.Qa8+ Ra7 53.Qc8+ Qb7  
 54.Qe6+ Qb6 55.Rc6 Qxc6  
 56.Qxc6+ Ka5 57.Qc5+ Ka6  
 58.Qd6+ Kb5 59.Qb8+ Ka6 60.Qe8  
 Rg7 61.Qe6+ Kb5 62.Qxf6 Rd7  
 63.Qxg6 Rd1+ 64.Kb2 Rd2+ 65.Kc1  
 Rd5 66.Kc2 Re5 67.Qd6 Rc5+  
 68.Kb2 Kc4 69.Qf4+ Kb5) 52...Rh1+  
 53.Kb2 Rh4 54.Qc5 Qxc6 55.Qxc6+  
 Ka5 56.Qxf6 Rc4 57.Qxg6 Rc5  
 58.Qe8 f4 59.Qa8+ Kb5 60.Qb8+  
 Kc4 61.Qxf4+ Kd3 62.Kb3 Rc3+  
 63.Kxb4 Rc2 64.g4 Re2 65.Qf3+  
 Kd2 66.Qxe2+ wins.

**52.Ra5+**      **Kb8**  
**53.Rb5**



Best to win the Q with Black's king  
 well away from K-side pawns, rather  
 than win Black's kook but allow his  
 Q to be a nuisance. Now 53...Rh1+  
 (53...Rb7 54.Qg8+ Kc7 55.Rxb6  
 Rxb6 56.Qxg6 f4 57.Qf5 f3 58.Qxf3  
 Kd7 59.Qd5+ Rd6 60.Qb7+ Ke6  
 61.Kc2 f5 62.Qxb4 Rd5 63.Kc3 Rd6  
 64.Qf4 Rd8 65.Qe3+ Kf7 66.Qg5  
 Rd6 67.Qxf5+ Ke7 68.g4 wins;  
 53...Rh1+ 54.Kb2 Qxb5 55.Qxb5+  
 Kc7 56.Qd5 Kb6 57.Qf7 Rd1  
 58.Qxg6 Rd2+ 59.Kb3 Rd5  
 60.Qxf6+ Kc5 61.Qe7+ Rd6 62.Qf8  
 Kc6 63.Qc8+ Kb6 64.Qxf5 wins)  
 54.Kc2 Qxb5 55.Qxb5+ Kc7 56.Qd5  
**A)** 56.Qxb4 Kd7 57.Qf8  
**A1)** 57...Re1 58.Qf7+  
**A1a)** 58...Re7 59.Qxg6 Ke6  
**A1a1)** 60.Kd3  
**A1a11)** 60...Rd7+ 61.Ke3  
**A1a111)** 61...Rd8 62.Qg7 Ra8  
 63.Qc7 Ra3+ (63...Rh8 64.Qc5 Rh5  
 65.Qf8 Rg5 66.Kf4 Rg4+ 67.Kf3 Rd4  
 68.Qe8+ Kd5 69.Qd7+ Ke5  
 70.Qe7+ Kd5 71.Qxf6)  
**A1a112)** 61...f4+62.Kxf4 Rd4+  
 63.Ke3 Rd8 64.g4 Ke7 65.g5 f4g5  
 66.Qxg5+)



**A1a2)** 60.g3 Rd7 61.Qe8+ Re7  
62.Qg8+ Kd6 63.Qf8 Ke6 64.Kd3  
Rb7 65.Qc8+ Rd7+ 66.Ke3 Ke7  
67.Qc4 Rd8 68.Kf4 Rh8 69.Qe2+  
Kd6 70.Kxf5;  
**A1a3)** 60.Qg8+ Ke5 (60...Kd7  
61.Qd5+ Ke8 62.Qxf5 Kf7 63.Qh7+  
Kf8 64.Qg6 Re6 65.g4 Ke7 66.Qg7+  
Kd6 67.Qf7 Re2+ 68.Kd3 Re7  
69.Qxf6+ Re6 70.Qf7 Re7 71.Qf8  
Kd7 72.g5 Re1 73.g6 Re7 74.g7  
Rxf7 75.Qxg7+) 61.Qf8  
**A1a31)** 61...Rb7 62.Kd3 Rb3+  
(62...Rb1 63.Qe7+ Kf4 64.Qxf6  
Rb3+ 65.Ke2 Re3+ 66.Kf2 Rf3+  
67.Kg1 Re3 68.Qh6+ Ke4 69.Kf2  
Rd3 70.Qe6+ Kd4 71.Qxf5) 63.Ke2  
Rb2+ 64.Kf3 Rb3+ 65.Kf2 Rb2+  
66.Kg3 f4+ 67.Kh3 Rb3+ 68.Kh4  
Rg3 69.Qe7+ Kf5 70.Qd6 Rg4+  
71.Kh5 Rg5+ 72.Kh6 Rg6+ 73.Kh7  
Rg3 74.Qd5+ Kg4 75.Kg6 wins)  
**A1a32)** 61... Re6 62.Kd3 Kd5  
63.Qd8+ Kc5 64.Qc7+ Kd5 65.Qd7+  
Rd6 66.Qxf5+ Kc6+ 67.Ke4 wins)  
**A1b)** 58... Kd6 59.Qxg6 Re6  
60.Qxf5 Ke7 61.Qh7+ Kd6 (61...Kf8  
62.Kd3 Re7 63.Qh6+ Kf7 64.g4  
Rd7+ 65.Ke4 Rd1 66.Qh7+ Ke6  
67.Qg8+ Kd7 68.Qf7+ Kc8 69.Qc4+  
Kd8 70.Kf5 Rd6 71.Qf7 Rb6  
72.Qxf6+ Rxf6+ 73.Kxf6 wins)  
62.Qf7 Re2+ 63.Kd3 Rxf6 64.Qxf6+  
Kd7 65.Qd4+ Kc8 66.Qc5+ Kb8  
67.Qb6+ Kc8 68.Qc6+ Kd8 69.Qxg2  
wins)  
**A2)** 57... Ke6 58.Qe8+ Kd6 59.Qxg6  
Ke6 60.Qe8+ Kd5 61.Qe7 Rh6  
62.Qd8+ Ke6 63.Qe8+ Kd5 64.Qg8+  
Kc6 65.Qg7 Rh1 66.Qxf6+ Kd7  
67.Qxf5+;  
**B)** also an option was 56.Qd3 but  
considered it better to remove Q-side  
pawn now rather than leave it for  
later.;  
**C)** 56.Qd5 b3+ not the best maybe  
although it keeps White's K on b-file  
for a while 57.Kb2 Rh2 58.Qf7+ Kc8  
59.Qxg6 f4 60.Kxb3 Kd7 61.Qxf6  
Rxf6 62.Qf7+ Kc6 63.Qxf4 with  
mate inevitable.

**59.Qxg6 Ke6**  
Now the choice is between Qg8+ or  
Kd3  
**60.Qg8+ Ke5**  
**61.Qf8 Rd7**  
I expected Re6 to keep K close to Ps  
on the e-file.  
**62.Qe8+ Kd6**  
**63.Kd3**  
If Black plays f4 now, then Ke4?  
would be a calamity. 63.Kd3 f4  
64.Kd4 f5 65.Qe5+ Kc6+ 66.Kc4  
and then all the Black pawns  
disappear.  
**63... Rb7**  
**64.Kf8+ Ke6**  
**65.Qc8+**  
The end is nigh.  
**65... Rd7+**  
**66.Ke3 Ke7**  
**67.Qc4 Kf8**  
**68.Kf4 Re7**  
**69.Kxf5**  
Black thinks that White has, as  
expected, played a faultless endgame  
and, even in a team event, this is a  
good place to surrender.  
**1-0**



Here's another game from Alan, this  
time taken from Veterans' World  
Cup 6 Preliminaries.

**White: Borwell, Alan (SCO) IM (2251)**

**Black: Toothill, John (ENG) IM (2068)**

VWC6 - Prelims Gp 16, 2013

Ruy Lopez, Breyer Variation [C95]

[Notes by Alan Borwell]

**1.e4 e5**  
**2.Nf3 Nc6**  
**3.Bb5 a6**  
**4.Ba4 Nf6**  
**5.0-0 Be7**  
**6.Re1 b5**  
**7.Bb3 d6**  
**8.c3 0-0**  
**9.h3 Nb8**  
**10.d4**  
10.d4 Nbd7 11.Nbd2 Bb7 12.Bc2  
Re8 13.a4 see notes Neagu-Tiits CC  
2012 1-0 (alternatively 13.Nf1 Bf8  
14.Bg5 see notes Gashimov-Svidler  
2010 +)  
**10... Nbd7**  
**11.Nbd2 Bb7**  
**12.Bc2**  
See notes Adams-McShane 2009.  
**12...Re8**

**13.Nf1 Bf8**  
**14.Ng3 g6**  
**15.a4 Bg7**  
**16.Bd3 c6**  
**17.Be3**

See Adams-Golod 2010 1-0 and  
Karjakin-Sasishkiran 2013 = and  
recent CC games

**17... Qc7**  
**18.Qd2 Nf8**

Now White has many candidate  
moves but the one selected makes it  
more difficult for Black to open  
lines.

**19.b4 Ne6**  
**20.Bc2 Nd7**  
**21.Bb3 d5**  
**22.a5 Rad8**  
**23.Rad1 Qb8**  
**24.h4 h5**  
**25.Bh6 f6**

Now White has several options,  
including the spectacular Qc2!, Be3,  
Qc1, Ba2, dxe5 etc. [25...f6 26.Qc2  
(26.Be3 exd4 27.cxd4 Ndf8)  
26...Bxh6?! (26...Nf4 27.exd5 cxd5  
28.Bxf4 exf4 29.Rxe8+ Rxe8 30.Ne4  
Re7 31.Nc5 f5 32.Qd2 Nf6 33.Ng5  
Bh6 34.Re1 Qc7 35.Re5 Bxg5  
36.hxg5 Ne4 37.Nxe4 fxe4 38.Qxf4  
Rf7 39.Re8+ Kg7 40.Qe5+ Qxe5  
41.dxe5; 26...Kf7 27.Be3 Bf8 28.dxe5  
Nxe5 29.Nxe5+ fxe5 30.Bb6 Rd7  
31.Nf1 Kg7 32.Nh2±) 27.exd5 cxd5  
28.Qxg6+ Bg7 29.Nxh5 Re7 30.dxe5  
Nef8 31.Qg4 Nh7 32.Nd4 Nxe5  
33.Qg3 Kh8 34.Nf5 Rc7 35.f4 Rg8  
36.fxe5 Bf8 37.Qf2 fxe5 38.Bxd5  
Bxd5 39.Rxd5±

**26.Qc2! Kh7**

Now which is best square for White's  
bishop?

**27.Bc1**

Instinct suggests that keeping lines  
clear for other pieces is the best, with  
options of rerouting the bishop on to  
a1/h8 diagonal.

**27... dxe4**



A most remarkable and possibly  
unique position. Certainly I do not  
remember any game in 2000+ which  
I have played by CC and OTB over

60 years where this has happened. After White's 27th move, there were still 32 pieces on the board and after this first capture, White has a winning position!

**28.Nxe4 Nd7**  
**29.dxe5 fx5**  
 29...fxe5 30.Bxe6 Nxe6 31.Nfg5+ Nxg5 32.Nxg5+ Kh6 33.Ne6+ Kh7 34.Rxd8 Rxd8 35.Ng5+ Kh6 36.Re3 Rf8 37.Rg3 Rf5 38.Ne6+ Kh7 39.Nxg7 Kxg7 40.Qxf5  
**30.Bxe6**  
 1-0



It wouldn't be a Games Column without David Cumming, and here he is on his way to winning a preliminary section of the RCCA Open which celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Russian CCA.

**White: Cumming, David. R (2296)**  
**Black: Bryg, Stanislaw (1800)**  
 RCCA 20, pr48, 2013  
 Symmetrical English [A30]  
 [Notes by David Cumming]

**1.Nf3 Nf6**  
**2.c4 c5**  
**3.g3 b6**  
**4.Bg2 Bb7**  
**5.0-0 e6**  
**6.Nc3 Be7**  
**7.d4 cxd4**  
**8.Qxd4 Nc6**  
**9.Qd3 0-0**  
**10.e4 d6**  
**11.Rd1 Ne5**  
**12.Qe2 Nxf3+N**  
 12...Qc7 13.b3 a6 (13...Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3 a6 15.Bb2 Rfd8 16.Rac1 Rab8 17.Rc2 Rbc8 18.Bg2 Bc6 19.Rcd2 Rb8 20.Rc1 Qb7 21.a4 a5 22.Ba3 Nd7 23.Bxd6 Bxd6 24.Rxd6 Nc5 25.Rcd1 Qc7 26.e5 Bxg2 27.Nb5 Qe7 28.Kxg2 Nxb3 29.Qf3 Nc5 30.Nd4 Rxd6 31.exd6 Qf6 32.Qc6 e5 33.Qc7 Na6 34.Qa7 exd4 35.c5 bxc5 36.Qxa6 Rd8 37.Rb1 h5 38.Rb6 Qe6 39.Qxa5 Qd5+ 40.Kg1 d3 41.Rb1 Qxd6 0-1 Kortschnoj, V- Kholmov, R/Moscow 1964/MCL)  
 14.Ba3 (14.Bb2 Rfd8 15.Nd4 Nc6 1/2-1/2 Spirk, S (2130)-Weber, C (2194)/Austria 2007/EXT 2009)  
 14...Rfd8 15.Rac1 Bf8 16.Nd4 Nc6 17.Nc2 Rac8 18.f4 Na7 19.Nd4 Nc6 20.Nc2 Na7 21.Nd4 Nc6 22.Nc2 1/2-1/2 Trapeznikova, D (2069)-

Goriatchkin, J (2322)/Khanty-Mansiysk 2013/CB00\_2014

**13.Bxf3 Qb8**  
**14.Bg2 a6**  
 Setting about a sort of Hedgehog approach, little centre, plus pawns at b6 & a6, vs. White's open position in which I seek to enhance the power of my bishops.  
**15.Bf4 Nd7**  
**16.Rd2 Ne5**  
**17.Rc2 Qc7**  
**18.Rd1 Rfc8**  
**19.b3 Rd8**  
**20.Bc1**

Rerouting my dark-squared bishop for a double fianchetto set up.

**20... Rac8**  
**21.Bb2± Nd7**  
**22.Rcd2 Rb8**  
**23.h3 Qc5**  
 Prohibiting 24.f4  
**24.Kh2 Qc7**  
**25.f4 h6**  
**26.Ba3 Nc5**  
**27.h4 Bc6**  
**28.Bb2 b5**  
**29.b4 Nd7**  
**30.c5!**

Probing Black's centre, with the already stated aim of opening up the position fully for my bishops, as well as pressurising the d-file with the intention of opening this up for my rooks, and maybe establishing a mobile pawn mass to squeeze Black still further.

**30... Nf8?!**  
 Houdini 4 w32: 30...dxc5 31.Nd5 exd5 32.exd5 Ba8 33.d6 Bxd6 34.Rxd6 Nf6 35.Be5 Qe7 36.Qd2 Ng4+ 37.Kg1 Re8 38.Rd7 Qe6 39.Bxb8 Bxg2 40.Rd6 Qe4 41.Rd8 Rxd8 42.Qxd8+ Kh7 43.Qd2 Bf3 44.Qd3 c4 45.Qxe4+ Bxe4 46.Be5 Bd3 47.Re1 f5 48.Bc3 Be4 49.Rd1 Bd3 50.h5 Kg8 51.Ra1 Bc2 52.Kf1 Bd3+ 53.Ke1 Kf7 54.Rc1 Ne3 55.Kf2 Nd5 56.a3 Nxc3 0.48/21



**31.Nd5!±**

Excellent positional sacrifice, seeking to establish my mobile pawn centre.

**31... exd5**  
**32.exd5 Bb7**  
**33.Re1 dxc5**  
**34.Qxe7 Qxe7**  
**35.Rxe7 Rd7**  
**36.Be5 Rxe7**  
**37.Bxb8 Re8**  
**38.bxc5!**

Firmly establishing my unopposed advanced connected pawns at c5 & d5.

**38... Rxb8**  
**39.c6 Bc8**  
**40.Re2 Bg4**  
**41.Re7**  
 Establishing a 7th rank rook.  
**41... Rc8**



**42.Bh3!**

Forcing the exchange of Black's most active piece, thereby heading firmly into the endgame.

**42... Bxh3**  
**43.Kxh3 Ng6**  
**44.Ra7 Nf8**  
**45.f5 g6**  
**46.Kg4 Kg7**  
**47.Kf4 Kf6**  
**48.g4 gxf5**  
**49.gxf5 a5**  
**50.Ke4 h5?**

Black should have allowed White the possibility to err with a subsequent h5? blocking the kingside and freeing access for Black of the g5 square.

**51.Kd4+- a4**  
**52.Kc5 Kxf5**  
**53.c7**

Another winning possibility for White was... [Houdini 4 w32:

53.Rxf7+ Ke5 54.c7 b4 55.Re7+ Kf6 56.Kd6 Ng6 57.Re2 b3 58.Rf2+ Kg7 59.axb3 axb3 60.Rb2 Ne7 61.Kd7 Rxc7+ 62.Kxc7 Nxd5+ 63.Kd7 Nf4 64.Rxb3 Ng6 65.Rb4 Kf6 66.Kd6 Kf7 67.Re4 Kf6 68.Rc4 Kf7 69.Ra4 Kf6 70.Rb4 Kf7 1.66/5 ]

**53... Ke5**  
**54.Kc6 Ng6**

55.Rb7 Ne7+  
 56.Kd7 Kxd5  
 57.Rxb5+!

A good tempo gainer, picking up the b-pawn with check, intending to win the h-pawn next, Black's rook and knight are essentially tied to where they are and are sooner or later going to have to sacrifice themselves because the Black king cannot gain access to support the capture of the c7 pawn.

57... Ke4  
 58.Rxb5 f5  
 59.Rh6 Kf3  
 60.h5 f4  
 61.Re6 Rxc7+  
 62.Kxc7 Ng8  
 63.Kd6

And with my opponent's resignation here I won the section with 5.5/6 points outright, Stanislaw was up until his resignation the only opponent who could theoretically attain a perfect 6/6 score. Houdini 4 w32: 63.Kd6 Kg4 64.Rg6+ Kxh5 65.Rxg8 f3 66.Ke5 f2 67.Rf8 Kg4 68.Rxf2 #15/27

1-0



Here's a tasty encounter from Raymond Burrige, sponsor of the SCCA Best Game Prize trophy, played in a BCCA Webserver Trio.

**White: Cole, Steve (1863)**  
**Black: Burrige, Raymond J (1829)**

BCCA Webserver Trio 43, 2014  
 King's Indian Bayonet Attack [E97]  
*[Notes by Raymond Burrige]*

1.d4 Nf6  
 2.c4 g6  
 3.Nc3 Bg7  
 4.e4 0-0  
 5.Be2 d6  
 6.Nf3 e5  
 7.0-0 Nc6  
 8.d5 Ne7  
 9.b4

The Bayonet Attack.

9... Nh5  
 10.Qc2

I usually encounter 10.Re1 ; or 10.g3 ; Other alternatives are 10.Nd2 ; or 10.Qb3

10... Nf4  
 11.Bxf4 exf4  
 12.Rad1 h6  
 13.Nd4

I was expecting 13.c5  
 13... g5  
 14.Bh5 Ng6  
 15.c5

Interesting might have been 15.Bxg6 fxc6 leaving Black with a gaping hole on e6.

15... Ne5  
 16.Be2

White has wasted his time playing Be2-h5-e2, allowing Black to get a typical KID kingside attack going.

16... g4  
 17.f3 g3  
 18.h3 Qh4  
 19.Ncb5 Bxh3  
 20.gxh3 Qxh3  
 21.Bd3



21... a6  
 I wanted to deny White playing this knight back to d4 after his other knight goes to f5.

22.Nxc7 Ng4  
 23.Nf5 Ne3

This is a crucial move in Black's attack as the Bg7 will be heading for d4.

24.Nxe3 Bd4  
 25.Rfe1 fxe3  
 26.Qe2 Kh8!

Clears the g-file for the Black rooks, and White's next is just desperation. Black will now deliver mate.

27.Bxa6 g2  
 28.Qxg2 Rg8  
 29.Bf1 Rxg2+  
 30.Bxg2 Rg8  
 30...Rg8 31.Re2 Rxg2+ 32.Rxg2 e2+  
 33.Rf2 exd1Q#  
 0-1



Finally, here's one of the early decisive games in the 2014-15 SCCA Championship.

Old head and SM Geoff Lloyd proves too strong for Raymond Burrige.

**White: Lloyd, Geoffrey (2276)**  
**Black: Burrige, Raymond J (2048)**

SCCA Championship 2014  
 Queen's Gambit Symmetrical [D06]  
*[Notes by Iain Mackintosh]*

1.d4 Nf6  
 2.Nf3 d5  
 3.e3 Bf5  
 4.c4 e6  
 5.Nc3 Be7?!

Raymond never quite finds the optimum position for this piece. In contrast, Geoff's development seems natural and fluent. 5...c6 is usual; 5...Nc6 also looks ok.

6.Nh4 Bg6  
 7.Nxg6 hxg6  
 8.Qb3 b6  
 9.cxd5 exd5  
 10.g3 c6  
 11.Bg2 Nbd7  
 12.0-0 0-0  
 13.e4 dxe4  
 14.Nxe4 Rc8  
 15.Be3 Nd5  
 16.Bd2 N5f6  
 17.Nc3 Bd6

17...Nc5 looked an interesting try.

18.Rac1 Bb8  
 19.Bg5 Re8  
 20.Rfd1 Qe7  
 21.d5 c5  
 22.d6 Bxd6  
 22...Qe5 23.h4 c4



23.Bh3!  
 Not quite ten-pin bowling, but getting close...!

23... Rcd8  
 24.Nd5 Qe4  
 24...Qf8 25.Bxd7 Nxd7 26.Bxd8 Rxd8 27.Qa4+-  
 25.Bxd7 Nxd7  
 26.Nc3  
 26.Nc3 Qc6 27.Bxd8 Rxd8 28.Qd5 Ne5 29.Ne4+- ties it up for White.

1-0





## International Update

By George Pyrich

### 5th ICCF Champions League

#### CL/2012/C1, Champions League 2012 C1

		TD Vugt, Wim H. van													Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13								
1	Fenix I	2200	█	2.5	2.5	3	2	2	4	3	2.5	3	3.5	4	3	35	77	25	22	45	3	1
2	Black Sea	2337	0.5	█	2.5	2.5	2	2	2.5	3	2.5	3	3	3	3	29.5	67	15	20	44	4	2
3	Chess Club Travertin 2	2337	1.5	1.5	█	2	2	2	2.5	1.5	2.5	4	2.5	3	3.5	28.5	59	9	15	48	0	3
4	Golden King	2157	1	1.5	2	█	1.5	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	3	3	3	3.5	28	59	9	16	47	1	4
5	Old Friends Team	2442	1	2	2	1.5	█	1	2	2	3	2.5	3.5	3	4	27.5	62	11	14	44	4	5
6	Grupo de Xadrez do Porto B	2052	2	1	2	1.5	2	█	2	2	2	2.5	2.5	3	2.5	25	55	5	14	45	3	6
7	All the King's Men	2236	0	1.5	1.5	2	2	2	█	2.5	3	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	24	50	0	14	48	0	7
8	DEMC 2	2266	1	0	2.5	1.5	1	2	1.5	█	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	21.5	46	-3	12	46	2	8
9	The Lewis Chessmen	2293	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1	2	1	1.5	█	3	1.5	3	2.5	21.5	45	-4	7	47	1	9
10	Latvian Knights	2068	1	1	0	1	1.5	1.5	2	2	1	█	3.5	1	2.5	18	37	-12	6	48	0	10
11	BCCA Rooks	2198	0.5	1	1.5	1	0.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.5	█	2.5	2.5	16	34	-14	4	46	2	11
12	CCI 1	2247	0	0	1	1	1	1	1.5	1.5	1	3	1.5	█	2	14.5	31	-17	3	46	2	12
13	Czech Black & White Team	2156	0	1	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.5	1	█	10	22	-24	0	44	4	13

#### CL/2012/C7, Champions League 2012 C7

		TD Kracht, Jörg (IA)													Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13								
1	Chess.com - Russia	2303	█	2.5	2.5	2	2	2.5	3	2.5	3	3	2.5	3	3.5	32	66	16	22	48	0	1
2	Anunnaki IV	2193	1.5	█	1.5	2	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	3.5	4	29.5	62	12	15	47	1	2
3	Vityaz 2012	2213	1.5	2.5	█	1.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	2	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	29	63	12	16	46	2	3
4	Zugzwang Bocholt 1	2266	2	2	1.5	█	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.5	28	60	10	18	46	2	4
5	Le Palamède	2327	2	1	1.5	2	█	1.5	2.5	2	2.5	2	2.5	2.5	4	26	54	4	14	48	0	5
6	Torres Quevedo	2248	1.5	2	1.5	1.5	2.5	█	1.5	3	2	2	3	2	3.5	26	54	4	12	48	0	6
7	CSM Cluj Napoca 1	2344	1	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	█	2.5	2.5	2	3	2	3.5	24.5	53	3	12	46	2	7
8	DEMC 3	2138	1.5	2	2	1.5	2	1	1.5	█	1.5	2	2.5	2.5	3.5	23.5	48	-1	10	48	0	8
9	Brazilian Chessfriends	2387	1	1	2	2	1.5	2	1.5	2.5	█	2	2	2.5	3	23	48	-1	11	47	1	9
10	Scottish Claymores	2315	1	1	1.5	1.5	2	2	2	2	█	1	2	4	22	47	-2	8	46	2	10	
11	A.D.A. MÓSTOLES	2191	1.5	2	1	0.5	1.5	1	1	1.5	2	2	█	3	3.5	20.5	44	-5	7	46	2	11
12	Kylee	2167	1	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.5	2	2	1.5	0.5	1	1	█	3	16	34	-14	4	46	2	12
13	Rochade 5171 Chessmates	2015	0.5	0	0	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	0	0.5	1	█	5	10	-38	0	48	0	13

The Lewis Chessmen in Division C1 now have only 1 game to complete and seem destined to finish in 9th place in the 13 team section whilst the Scottish Claymores in Division C7 with 2 games to complete look likely to achieve a similar final placing despite a slightly better percentage score.

### Current Friendly Internationals

Start	Boards	Opponents	Mode	For	Against	Void	Result
Mar 2014	23	France	Server	1	5		
Sep 2013	22	Venezuela	Server	19	17		
May 2013	22	Spain	Server	16	25		loss
Apr 2013	22	Germany	Server	11½	30½		loss
Dec 2012	20	Australia	Server	16½	21½		loss
Oct 2012	20	Peru	Server	18½	16½		

Our new match against France over 23 boards started on 10th March. We hope to improve upon the result of our previous match against the same opposition (we lost 13 – 39) but unfortunately have made a rather inauspicious start with the score already 5 – 1 in favour of the opposition.

Another new match is planned to start on 1st May but with the rather novel format of 3 teams with the opponents being Wales and England - see the Notices page for details. A further match, Germany v. Rest of Europe, started on the ICCF server on 17th March over 265 boards with 6 SCCA representatives, George Pyrich (Board 148), Alastair Dawson (190), Raymond BurrIDGE (199), Eoin Campbell (207), Alan Armstrong (222) and Dave Dempster (223).

## 20th Olympiad Preliminaries

### CCO20/S2, ICCF Olympiad 20 Preliminaries - Section 02

TD Pheby, Ian M. (IA)

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	
1	Switzerland	2428	█	3	3.5	2	3.5	3	2.5	4	5	26.5	58	8	10	45	3	1
2	Germany	2518	3	█	2.5	2.5	3	4	3.5	3.5	3.5	25.5	57	7	10	44	4	2
3	France	2432	2.5	2.5	█	2.5	3	3	3	3	5	24.5	56	6	6	43	5	3
4	Norway	2404	3	2.5	2.5	█	3	2.5	3	3.5	3	23	56	5	6	41	7	4
5	Ukraine	2465	1.5	3	3	2	█	3	3	3	4	22.5	52	2	7	43	5	5
6	Luxembourg	2272	2	2	3	2.5	2	█	2.5	3.5	4	21.5	48	-1	5	44	4	6
7	Spain	2440	3.5	1.5	2	2	3	2.5	█	3.5	2.5	20.5	48	-1	5	42	6	7
8	Scotland	2379	2	2.5	1	2.5	2	2.5	1.5	█	3	17	39	-9	1	43	5	8
9	Hong Kong	2244	1	1.5	1	2	1	2	2.5	2	█	13	30	-17	0	43	5	9

Our team now has only 5 games to complete in this event and its final placing of 8th place in the 9 team Section is now confirmed.

## 2nd Thor Løvholt Memorial Team Tournament

Our team has now scored 13 points from 33 completed games and now stands in 6th place in the tournament cross-table but, in terms of percentage scores, remains in 9th place, corresponding with the team's placing in terms of rating.

## 38<sup>th</sup> ICCF World Championship

Unfortunately we were able to fill only 1 of our allocation of 3 places for the Preliminary Sections which started on 20th March with Peter Bennett as our sole representative and it is unlikely that we can provide any suitably qualified nominees for the Semi-Final Sections scheduled to start on 20th June.

## ICCF Individual Events

These continue to prove popular amongst our members and to date we have submitted a total of 30 entries, including 9 to Postal events and 2 to the new ICCF 3rd Chess960 World Cup. A full list of available events is available at our web site [www.scottishcca.co.uk](http://www.scottishcca.co.uk). The list of server events now includes a new level, "Aspirer tournaments", designed for those new to ICCF and without any Rating and those with ICCF Ratings less than 1600. Members should note the substantial reduced entry fees to ICCF events as listed at our web site.

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

This event is now finally scheduled to start on 10th June and the team selection is currently in progress. Those still wishing to be considered for selection should contact me without delay.

## Adrian Hollis Memorial

Richard Beecham has made an encouraging start in this highly prestigious elite GM event with draws against 2 English SIM's, John Rhodes and Harvey Williamson.

## ICCF Veterans' World Cup 2 Final

Only 2 of the 78 games in this event, organised and directed by the SCCA, which started on 1 February 2013 remain unfinished in what has been a very close contest.

Presently the leader in the clubhouse is the Russian IM Vladimir Stepanovich Sergeev, on 7.5 from 11 games with 1 unfinished, but who may yet be caught by the Argentinean SIM Juan Andres Enricci who also has 1 game to finish.

Alternately, indicative of the competitiveness of the event, as many as 6 players may yet tie for 2nd place! The unfortunate bottom marker has made a still respectable 4 from 12 or -4.

Unfortunately none of our Scots entrants, Geoff Lloyd, Derek Coope and Alan Borwell, made it beyond the Preliminary Round although Geoff, Alan and a few others have enjoyed more success in subsequent events. Veterans World Cup 7, to be organised by the German Federation, is scheduled to start in the autumn, likely September.

We now present a collection of games from the event, starting off with 2 by Sergeev. All of these games serve to highlight the significance and importance of diligent

research in modern correspondence chess – if you don't have a high quality database, forget it!

**White: Sergeev, Vladimir S (2428)**

**Black: Dorer, Manfred (2401)**

VWC2 Final, 2013

Semi-Slav [D43]

[Notes by George Pyrich]

This is certainly a game which highlights the significance of diligent research (as above) - we follow the ICCF Archive until move 24!

**1.d4 d5**

**2.c4 c6**

**3.Nf3 Nf6**

**4.Nc3 e6**

**5.Bg5 h6**

Black flicks in this little move as he hasn't been doing too well recently with 5...dxc4 - the Botvinnik Variation.

**6.Bh4**

6.Bxf6 leads to an entirely different game - with the text White happily sacrifices a pawn in return for a strong centre and attacking chances.

**6... dxc4**

**7.e4 g5**

**8.Bg3 b5**



**9.Be2**

I tried the immediate 9.h4 here in one of my current games in World Cup 20 hoping to follow 9...g4 10.Ne5 Bb4 11.Be2 Bb7 12.Bxg4 and White won brilliantly in Shirov - Dubov, Moscow, 2013 but my opponent didn't oblige inserting 10...Rg8 in place of 10... Bb4 when I didn't get far after 11.Be2 Nbd7

**9... Bb7**

**10.h4 g4**

**11.Ne5 h5!**

No transposition now to Shirov - Dubov! But giving back the pawn with 11...Nbd7 is fine for Black as in 12.Nxg4 b4 13.Nxf6+ Nxf6 Scherer - Dronov, World Ch. 27 Final.

**12.0-0 Nbd7**

**13.Qc2 Nxe5**

**14.Bxe5 Bg7**

**15.b3**

Still following known theory.

**15... cxb3**

Black can also play 15...0-0 16.bxc4 Nh7 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 Dothan - Scherer also in World Ch. 27 Final.

**16.axb3 0-0**

**17.Bg3 Ne8**



There are 27 games with this in the current ICCF Server Archive with White scoring over 90%! But Black fares very little better after 17...c5 or 17...Qxd4

**18.e5 Qxd4**

**19.Rad1 Qc5**

**20.b4 Qxb4**

**21.Ne4**

16 games and 100% in the Archive!

**21... f5**

**22.exf6 Nxf6**

**23.Nc5 Rf7**

**24.Rd6 Ne8**

Not in the Archive but hardly an improvement! Instead 24...Re8

25.Bd3 and White has a very promising position for his 3 pawns.

**25.Nxb7 Nxd6**

**26.Nxd6 Qc3**

**27.Qg6 Rf6**

**28.Qxh5**



Black could resign here but continues to the bitter end. Materially it's now about equal but White has too many threats.

**28... Qc2**

**29.Qe5 Rh6**

**30.Qe3**

**Rf8**

**31.Rc1**

**Qa2**

**32.Rxc6**

**Qa1+**

**33.Bf1**

**a6**

**34.Ne4**

Black can prevent an immediate mate but faces losing all 4 of his pawns so...

**1-0**



**White: Sergeev, Vladimir S (2428)**

**Black: Glaser, Karel (2260)**

[D43]

VWC2 Final, 2013

[Notes by George Pyrich]

**1.d4**

**Nf6**

**2.c4**

**e6**

**3.Nf3**

**d5**

**4.Nc3**

**c6**

**5.Bg5**

**h6**

**6.Bh4**

Sergeev evidently likes this opening.

**6... dxc4**

**7.e4**

**g5**

**8.Bg3**

**b5**

**9.Be2**

**Bb7**

**10.0-0**

The alternative 10.h4 featured in the previous game.

**10... Nbd7**

**11.Ne5 Be7**

Instead 11...Bg7 12.Nxd7 Nxd7

13.Bd6 can be tricky for Black after

13...a6 14.a4

**12.f4 Nxe5?!**

This looks very dubious as White's attack now develops with a series of natural moves. More usual and better is 12...0-0 when White can choose between 13.fxg5 as in Biedermann - Pasko, GMN 027, 2011(or 13.Kh1 Tochacek - Riccio, ICCF Champions League, 2010).

**13.fxe5 Nh7**

**14.b3**



**14...**                    **cxb3**  
 14...b4?! leaves Black in considerable difficulties after 15.Na4 c3 16.d5! exd5 (16...cxd5 17.Bb5+ Kf8 18.Qh5+-) 17.exd5 Qxd5 18.Qc2  
**15.axb3**                    **a6**  
**16.Bh5**                    **0-0**  
**17.Ra2**                    **Bb4**  
**18.Be1**                    **f6**  
**19.Raf2**                    **c5**  
 19...fxe5 20.Bf7+ Kh8 21.Qh5 looks very good for White.  
**20.d5**                    **c4**  
 20...Bxc3 21.Bxc3 is crushing; and 20...exd5 21.Nxd5 wins the house after 21...Bxe1 22.Qxe1 fxe5 (22...Bxd5 23.exd5 Qxd5 24.e6) 23.Rxf8+ Nxf8 24.Bf7+ Kh7 25.Qf2 Qd6 26.Be8!  
**21.exf6**                    **Rxf6**



**22.Bf7+**                    **Kxf7**  
**23.Rxf6+**                    **Nxf6**  
**24.e5**                    **Kg8**  
**25.exf6**                    **Bc5+**  
**26.Kh1**                    **Bf8**  
 Loses immediately but after 26...exd5 27.Qh5 Qf8 28.Qg6+ Kh8 the machine instantly finds 29.Ne4!! dxe4 30.f7 Qg7 (30...b4 31.Bg3!; 30...Bd4 31.Bb4!) 31.Bc3 and it's all over.  
**27.f7+**



**White: Coplin, Lawrence (2403)**  
**Black: Dorer, Manfred (2401)**  
 VWC2 Final, 2013  
 Sicilian Sveshnikov [B33]  
*[Notes by George Pyrich]*

**1.e4**                    **c5**  
**2.Nf3**                    **Nc6**  
**3.d4**                    **cxd4**  
**4.Nxd4**                    **Nf6**  
**5.Nc3**                    **e5**

The dreaded Sveshnikov Variation where White barely scores 50% in the ICCF Archive.

**6.Ndb5**  
 6.Nde2 is scarcely played but can lead to lively play 6...Bb4 7.a3 Ba5 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.f3 d5 Duncan Chambers - Geoff Lloyd, BFCC, 2009, drawn.  
**6...**                    **d6**  
**7.Bg5**                    **a6**  
**8.Na3**                    **b5**  
**9.Bxf6**                    **gxf6**  
**10.Nd5**                    **f5**  
**11.Bd3**                    **Be6**



**12.0-0**  
 12.Qh5 looks like fun but after 12...Rg8 13.g3 (13.Qxh7? is not advisable 13...Rxxg2 14.0-0-0 Rxf2) 13...Rg5 14.Qd1 Bxd5 15.exd5 Ne7 Black stands very well.  
**12...**                    **Bxd5**  
**13.exd5**                    **Ne7**  
**14.Nxb5**

Grabbing a hot pawn as Black gets a good deal of compensation.  
**14...**                    **Bg7**  
**15.Nc3**                    **e4**  
**16.Bc4**                    **Ng6**  
 16...0-0 was preferred in Canibal - Michael in the same event when after 17.Qh5 Qc7 18.Bb3 Bxc3 19.bxc3 f4 Black stood well, winning at move 46 - as it happens White scores a miserable 19% here in 44 games in the ICCF Archive but the machine (Houdini) insists that White is +0.84 better here! - quite extraordinary as Black simply plays the N to e5 and then attacks down the g-file.  
**17.Qd2 0-0**  
**18.Rab1 Re8**  
**19.Rfe1 Qh4**  
**20.Bf1**                    **Ne5**  
**21.Be2**                    **Rab8**  
**22.a3**                    **Rec8**  
**23.Nd1**                    **Bh6**  
**24.Ne3**                    **Qg5**  
**25.Qd1**                    **Kh8**  
**26.g3**                    **f4**  
**27.Ng4**                    **Bg7**

**17.Qd2 0-0**  
**18.Rab1 Re8**  
**19.Rfe1 Qh4**  
**20.Bf1**                    **Ne5**  
**21.Be2**                    **Rab8**  
**22.a3**                    **Rec8**  
**23.Nd1**                    **Bh6**  
**24.Ne3**                    **Qg5**  
**25.Qd1**                    **Kh8**  
**26.g3**                    **f4**  
**27.Ng4**                    **Bg7**



At last the machine appreciates White's difficulties!

**28.Nxe5**                    **Bxe5**  
**29.Bf1 e3!**  
 The thematic break.  
**30.Qd3**                    **exf2+**  
**31.Kxf2**                    **fxg3+**  
**32.hxg3**                    **Rxc2+!**  
**33.Re2**                    **Qf6+**  
**34.Qf3**                    **Bxg3+**  
**35.Kg2**                    **Qg6**  
**36.Qxg3**                    **Rxe2+**  
**37.Bxe2**                    **Qxb1**  
**38.b4?**

I guess White was thoroughly demoralised by this stage.

**38...**                    **Rg8**  
**0-1**



**White: Glaser, Karel (2260)**  
**Black: Dessaulles, Peter (2386)**  
 VWC2 Final, 2013  
 Sicilian Najdorf [B92]  
*[Notes by George Pyrich]*

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

The renowned Najdorf Variation, almost 56% for White in the ICCF Archive.

**6.Be3**                    **e5**  
**7.Nb3**                    **Be6**  
**8.Be2**

8.f3 is the main move here - the text transposes to the 6.Be2 line.

**8...**                    **Be7**  
**9.0-0**

9.Nd5 is now popular here - Bell-Barnett, SCO v. AUS, 2009 continued 9...Nbd7 10.Qd3 Bxd5 11.exd5 0-0 12.0-0 Nc5 13.Qd2 Nfe4 14.Qb4 b6 15.f3 Nf6 16.Qd2 and Alan won a nice game.

**9...**                    **Nbd7**  
**10.a4**                    **0-0**

An alternative plan with 10...Rc8 was played in Glaser - Enricci in the

same event going 11.Qd2 Nb6  
12.Rfd1 Nc4 13.Bxc4 Rxc4 14.f3 0-0 and Black won at move 73.

11.a5 Rc8  
12.Qd2 Qc7  
13.Rfd1 Rfe8



**14.h3?!**

Difficult to understand and, in the long run, simply creating a weakness. 14.Qe1 was Baranowski - Pheby, World Ch. 30 S/F, 2006  
14...h6 15.Bf3 Bf8 16.h3 Qc6  
17.Nc1 Ra8 18.N1a2 b5 with maybe an edge for White but eventually drawn.; But 14.f3 looks more to the point intending to bring the Q to f2 or g3.

14... h6  
15.Bf3 Nf8  
16.Nc1 Ng6  
17.Qe1

A little difficult to fathom, especially as the Q returns 6 moves later.

17... Qb8  
18.Be2 Bf8  
19.N1a2



**19... d5!**

A thematic break for Black in this type of position - the d5 pawn goes nowhere as Black rolls forward.

20.exd5 Bd7  
21.Bb6 e4  
22.Bd4 Qf4  
23.Qd2 Qh4  
24.Qe3 Bd6  
25.g3 Qxh3  
26.Bxf6 gxf6  
27.Nxe4 Bc5  
28.Rd4 Rxe4  
29.Qxe4 f5

30.Qd3 f4  
31.Bf1 Qh5  
32.Be2 Qg5  
33.c3 Re8  
33...Bb5 and; 33...Bxd4 also do the trick but this suffices - after 33... Re8  
34.Qd2 Qe5! Black is winning easily, so...

0-1



**White: Canibal, Jaromír (2380)**  
**Black: Koch, Hans-Georg (2344)**  
VWC2 Final, 2013  
Modern Benoni, Four Pawns Attack [A68]  
*[Notes by George Pyrich]*

We end with yet another theoretical struggle.

1.c4 Nf6  
2.d4 g6  
3.Nc3 Bg7  
4.e4 d6  
5.f4 0-0  
6.Nf3 c5  
7.d5 e6  
8.Be2 exd5  
9.cxd5



**9... Bg4**

[9...Re8 is considered risky by some and Black has to know what he's doing. 10.e5!? was Santos - Filipchenko, BRA v. RUS, 2010  
10...dxe5 11.fxe5 Ng4 12.e6 (12.Bg5!? is also unclear although after 12...Qb6 13.0-0 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Bc4 Bf5 Black should be ok.) 12...fxe6 13.d6 Bd7 14.0-0 Bc6 15.Ng5 Ne5 16.Be3 with chances for both sides.]

10.0-0 Nbd7  
11.Re1 Re8  
11...a6 12.a4 Ne8 is another idea.  
12.h3 Bxf3  
13.Bxf3 Qa5

Given in a variety of recent sources but the older idea of 13...a6 seems to have been forgotten when, after 14.a4 Rc8 (or 14...Qc7) 15.Be3 Qa5

Black has the plan c4 and Nc5 and seems to be doing fine as if White tries 16.g4!? Black has 16...Nb6!

14.Be3 b5  
15.a3 Nb6?!

Allowing White's next.

16.e5 Nfd7  
The alternative 16...Nc4!? was tried by Robert Montgomery against Alain Rogement, SCO v FRA, 2010  
17.exf6 Nxe3 18.Rxe3 Rxe3 19.fxg7 Rae8 20.f5 and drawn.

17.e6 Nc4  
18.Bd2 Ndb6  
19.Ne4 Nxd2  
20.exf7+ Kxf7  
21.Nxd6+ Kf8  
22.Nxe8 Rxe8  
23.Rxe8+ Kxe8  
24.d6 Nxf3+  
25.Qxf3



And suddenly it's all over after...

25... Qd2  
25...Bd4+ is maybe a better try although in Alava Moreno - Roy Laugens, Spain, 2010 White won quickly after 26.Kh2 Kd7 27.b4! Qa6 (27...cxb4 28.Rd1! is the point!)  
28.Re1  
26.Qe4+

When now, faced with prospect of 26... Kf7 27.Qe7+ Kf8 28.Qe6+ Kf8 29.Re1! followed by Qe8+ and later d7, Black resigned.

1-0



*Gens una sumus 2* by Marco Berlusconi (no relation).





## 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 2014

#### Theme 3/14: Sicilian Defence, Morra Gambit, B21

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nc3

Entries by 15 April; play starts 1 May

#### Theme 4/14: King's Indian, Saemisch Variation, E80

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3

Entries by 15 September; plays starts 1 October

### Webserver Events 2014

#### Theme 3/14: Nimzowitsch Defence, B00

1.e4 Nc6

Entries by 1 April; play starts 15 April

#### Theme 4/14: Keres Defence, D06

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Bf5 3.Nf3 e6

Entries by 15 May; plays starts 1 June

Note there are no Email Events in 2014.

## News

- ❑ ICCF President Eric Ruch reports increases in registered players, active players and direct entries during 2013. A big majority of players are satisfied with ICCF and national federation services.
- ❑ Bulgaria has withdrawn its offer to host the 2015 ICCF Congress. The 2014 Congress will run in Sydney, Australia from October 11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ A revised ICCF calendar for 2014-16 has been published (see Notices page).
- ❑ 193 entries for the 38<sup>th</sup> ICCF World Championship were received, with play starting on 20<sup>th</sup> March.
- ❑ 60 entries for the European Championship Candidates stage were received, with play starting on 15<sup>th</sup> March.
- ❑ 99 entries were received for the first Individual Interzonal tournament, with play starting on 28<sup>th</sup> February.
- ❑ 96 entries were received for the 3rd Chess960 World Cup, with play starting on 15<sup>th</sup> March.

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

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