

Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

Magazine No.156

Winter 2021

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Welcome to the fourth and final edition of the 2021 magazine set. I doubt if CC is pandemic-proof, but it gets pretty close and keeps us all going during these messy times. Only the politicians have provided more entertainment this year...!

The first ICCF rating list of 2022 is analysed by our grader Alistair Maxwell.

I've summarised the main domestic results from 2021 and we have a new SCCA Champion – Allan Buchan! Many congratulations to the Edinburgh-based literary agent who won at his first attempt.

John Hawkes provides a selection of games played by the scheming godly, including the Reverend Francis E. Hamond of Norwich, the very first British CC Champion of 1921-22.

Our Chess Art spot continues the religious theme with a broad selection of artists and paintings over the centuries.

Peter Bennett offers two pieces, the first of which acts as a seasonal puzzle – there's a bottle of malt on offer for a successful solver! The second features an oblique look at how best to obtain title norms.

Awani Kumar has his knights dancing to a seasonal theme. Give Awani a bag of numbers and an article won't take long to appear...!

John Hawkes has supplied a fine tribute to the recently-departed Jonathan Penrose – a GM at both OTB and CC.

Alastair Dawson's Games Column features two games of quality by Hans Jack Berliner, another CC GM.

January means it's our Annual Best Game competition. I'm waiting for confirmation of our judge, but remember to get your 2021 entries in by the end of this month (the Notices page provides full details). Good luck if you enter!

My best wishes for 2022! I trust you all manage to stay safe and well, and find plenty of things to keep cheerful about. If the Gods are kind, we might even be able to host the ICCF Congress in Glasgow during August...

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

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

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

Responsibility for the 100 Club rests with our Treasurer, 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 making contact with Gordon to sign up for some units (contact details below).

Recent 100 Club Winners

2021	1st	2nd
December	J M Armstrong	I Mackintosh
November	A P Borwell	J Anderson
October	Mrs D Livie	A P Borwell

SCCA Officials

Role	Name	Address	Contact	Email
President	Iain Mackintosh	11 West Grange Farm, St Andrews KY16 8LJ	+44 (0)1334 470287	president@scottishcca.co.uk
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NB Secretarial duties will be undertaken by Iain Mackintosh pro tem.



ICCF World Correspondence Chess Championship Preliminaries



ICCF Title Tournaments
Commissioner Gian-Maria Tani writes to announce the Preliminaries stage of the 2022 (46th) World Championship.

This event will be played in sections of 13 players (or 15/17 at the organisers' discretion), with entries closing on 6th February and play commencing on 20th March 2022.

Entry should be made through the ICCF website, New Events tab, by players who meet the set criteria. However, SCCA is entitled to 2 places in the 2022 cycle (includes Preliminaries and Semi-Finals) and players who do not meet the entry criteria must express their interest to Gordon Anderson as soon as possible, but before 23rd January 2022. At the closing date consideration will be given on the allocation of places, if necessary.

Entry fee for this event is £22 if entry through SCCA..

ICCF Europa Zone European Individual Webserver Championship 2022



Zone Europe of ICCF is pleased to announce the 2022 cycle of the European Webserver Championship.

- **Open Rounds:** for players rated under 2100, starts when filled.
- **Preliminaries:** for players rated between 2100-2299, starts when filled.
- **Semi-Finals:** for players rated between 2300-2499, starts on the 20th of September.

- **Candidates' Tournament:** for players rated 2500 or over, starts on the 20th of March.

Entry should be made through the ICCF website, New Events tab/EU, by players who meet the set criteria.

SCCA Membership and Events 2022



Membership Secretary Mickey Blake is busy with registrations and event initiations for 2022.

If you haven't already done so, you can download membership forms from www.scctishcca.co.uk/membership and return them to him at: membership@scctishcca.co.uk

There's still time to enter for events, particularly the SCCA Webserver Leagues. Entries will be accepted until the 15th of January 2022 with a start date of 1st February 2022. End date will be 31st December 2022.

Time control of 10 moves in 30 days with duplication after 20 days is used. 30 days of leave per year are available to each player. Full ICCF rules will apply. The cost is £2.50 per board for non-SCCA members.

ICCF Congress 2022



Gordon Anderson reports that preparations are well under way to host this year's Congress in Glasgow during August.

Conference and hotel arrangements are in place, and the events programme is taking shape – including the opening ceremony, main business agenda, friendly chess matches, local excursions and the closing banquet.

Website development is well-advanced (with kind assistance from Austin Lockwood), and we are starting to list potential sponsors for our programme. We have developed budgets, but understandably at this stage, there is scope for change.

We hope that the Pandemic Gods will relent this year and that we are able to deliver a full Congress programme!

SCCA Annual Best Game Prize



The SCCA Best Game Prize will once again operate this year, covering games completed during 2021. The trophy (pictured above) will carry the inscription of its sponsor, Raymond Burrige, i.e.

The R.J. Burridge Trophy SCCA Best Game Prize 2021 (winner's name)

To recap on the rules:

- Entries are games which finish in calendar year 2021;
- Entries restricted to events organised by SCCA or ICCF;
- Only SCCA members can submit their games;
- Games may have been previously published;
- Submission period will close at the end of January 2022
- The Committee will appoint a judge (who cannot enter!);
- The winner will be announced by end-March 2021 and we'll feature the game in a subsequent magazine;
- The winner receives a trophy miniature and certificate.

We're just waiting to confirm this year's judge and we'll announce the winning entry by end-March.

Please send your games to Iain Mackintosh at president@scottishcca.co.uk – multiple entries are allowed – to reach him by end-January 2022.

Fernschach 2022 CC Database



Herbert Bellmann writes to advise that Fernschach 2022 offers a CC games database in addition to ICCF and commercial products. In summary:

- Database available annually since 2000
- Nearly 1,730,000 games (from 1991)
- Over 115,000 new games since 2021
- Approximately 10,000 annotated (300 new)
- German letters ä, ö, ü and ß are not counted in names
- Games from all main chess servers + post + email All tournaments marked correspondence so that CC games can be recognised in a larger database

The price is €13.50 (shipping within Germany) and €15 (shipping elsewhere).

For further details, contact Herbert at:

Herbert Bellmann
Auf dem Brink 11
46399 Bocholt
Germany

Bank details: Transfer the purchase amount to:
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Email: hebel57@gmx.de

Website: <http://www.fernschach.org/fs-cd/index.html>

ICCF Updates



December updates to the Games Archive have now been added, and may be downloaded by logging into: <https://www.iccf.com/> then selecting Games Archive from the menu.



2022/1 Grading List

By Alistair Maxwell

The first ICCF grading list of 2022 is published and new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 Sep 2021 and 30 Nov 2021. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 Jan and 31 Mar 2022. A survey about the ICCF ratings (in 2 parts) was sent to interested parties recently and we will see if any changes come from that as ICCF tries to find ways to improve the system.

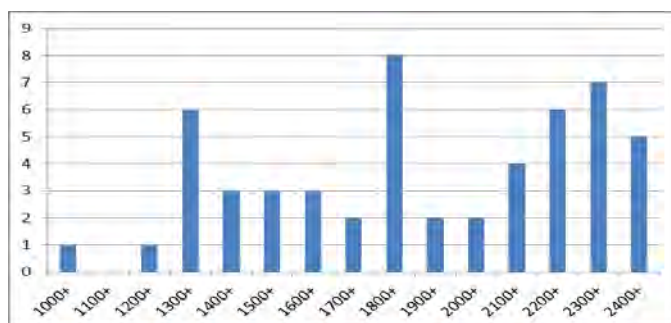
There are 2 additions (Robin Moss & Derek Ross) and 5 deletions in this list. No new norms or titles were gained since the last list.

The most significant rating moves were Ian Marshall (+46), Allan Buchan (+43), Derek Price (+34), Andrew MacMillen (+31) and Ian Whittaker (+22)

New games centurions were Michael Blake (900+), Iain Mackintosh (800+), Richard Beecham (500) and Ian Whittaker (200+). Highest recorded games this quarter were Carlos Almarza Mato (42), Raymond Burrige (35), Allan Buchan and David Cumming (both 26), Robin Moss (24) and Ian Marshall (20).

You need to complete 12 ICCF-eligible games to obtain a rating. Fixed ratings are based on at least 30 games and only these are shown below (for information there are 12 players with unfixed ratings in the latest list and I expect some of these will obtain fixed ratings soon). Rating changes are denoted by arrows. Email grader@scottishcca.co.uk if you have any queries.

No.	Name	Results	Grade	No.	Name	Results	Grade
317	Almarza Mato, C (CCE)	2162	2117 ↓	216	MacMillen, A N	1433	1668 ↑
518	Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	352	2361 ↔		Major, B	69	1204 ↑
313	Armstrong, J McK	483	1543 ↑	566	Marshall, I H	870	1968 ↑
511	Beecham, C R (SIM)	500	2478 ↑	434	Matheis, T (IM)	272	2454 ↔
599	Bell, A D (CCM, SM)	263	2427 ↑		Maxwell, A	49	2191 ↔
501	Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	494	2375 ↑		Miles, A	80	1415 ↓
481	Beveridge, C (CCE)	672	2237 ↓	401	Moir, P J	205	1507 ↔
472	Blake, M J (CCM)	910	2380 ↓	598	Montgomery, R S (CCE)	346	2287 ↑
509	Borwell, A P (IM)	1097	2208 ↑		Moss, R	45	1791
486	Buchan, A W (CCM)	243	2370 ↑	474	Murden, C (IM)	637	2461 ↑
602	Burrige, R J	1742	1873 ↓	564	Murray, J S	95	2024 ↑
	Clark, S L	306	1830 ↔	440	Neil, C	342	1338 ↔
247	Cormack, W H	117	1898 ↔	603	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	186	1861 ↓
166	Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	1973	2283 ↓	604	Paine, Prof K A (CCE, SM)	234	2351 ↔
422	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	171	2195 ↑		Pettigrew, S	176	1363 ↓
478	Dunn, J	452	1531 ↓	432	Price, D	487	1881 ↑
371	Edney, D	322	1929 ↓		Rafferty, K	68	1396 ↔
462	Gilbert, R	282	1717 ↓		Ross, Derek I	38	1886
445	Graham, S W	86	1656 ↔	477	Sedstrem, A	115	1370 ↔
399	Grant, J	79	1629 ↔	439	Smith, M J	120	2179 ↑
596	Hardwick, M E	1727	1050 ↓	057	Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	464	2358 ↓
475	Kearns, A	115	1380 ↔		Taylor, R	53	1421 ↑
548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	354	2235 ↓	605	Taylor, W	155	2079 ↑
260	Knox, A	398	1404 ↔		van Stratum, T	34	1355 ↔
264	Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	1050	2310 ↑	480	Whittaker, I P	209	2202 ↑
584	MacGregor, C A	472	1830 ↑		Wicht, D	41	1851 ↓
532	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	809	2410 ↓				



Statistical Analysis

Total listed	53
New entrants	2
Deletions (inactive, lapsed or non-members)	5
Grading increases (↑)	20
Grading decreases (↓)	16
Grading static (↔)	15

Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	2478	Kilgour, D A (GM)	2235
Murden, C (IM)	2461	Borwell, A P (IM)	2208
Matheis, T (IM)	2454	Whittaker, I P	2202
Bell, A D (CCM, SM)	2427	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	2195
Mackintosh, I (SIM)	2410	Maxwell, A	2191
Blake, M J (CCM)	2380	Smith, M J	2179
Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	2375	Almarza Mato, C (CCE)	2117
Buchan, A W (CCM)	2370	Taylor, W	2079
Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	2368	Murray, J S	2024
Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	2361	Marshall, I H	1968
Paine, Prof K A (CCE, SM)	2351	Edney, D	1929
Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	2310	Cormack, W H	1898
Montgomery, R S (CCE)	2287	Ross, D I	1886
Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	2283	Price, D	1881
Beveridge, C (CCE)	2237	Burridge, R J	1873

Top 10 Rated Games

Almarza-Mato, C (CCE)	2162	Borwell, A P (IM)	1097
Cumming, D R (CCM, SM)	1973	Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	1050
Hardwick, M E	1727	Blake, M J (CCM)	910
Burridge, R J	1742	Marshall, I H	870
MacMillen, A N	1433	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	809

Selected Personal Best Grades 2022/1

	New	Previous		Gain
Murden, C (IM)	2461	2457	2021/4	4
Bell, A D (CCM, SM)	2427	2426	2021/1	1
Buchan, A W (CCM)	2370	2327	2021/4	43
Whittaker, I P	2202	2180	2021/4	22
Smith, M J	2179	2166	2021/4	13
Taylor, R	1421	1413	2021/4	8

Other Notes

Senior International Master (SIM) title norms are held by:
Matheis, T (1), Murden, C (1)

International Master (IM) title norms are held by:
Anderson, G M (1), Bennett, P G (1), Bell, A D (2),
Cumming, D R (1), Sneddon, I (1)

Scottish Master (SM) title norms are held by:
Montgomery, R S (2), Buchan, A (1)

Correspondence Chess Master (CCM) title norms:
Beveridge, C (2), Montgomery, R S (2), Paine, K A (1)

Correspondence Chess Expert (CCE) title norms:
Burridge, R J (1), Smith, M J (1), Whittaker, I P (1)

This list includes a number of our members who are registered with other countries. Members who have played <30 games are not shown.

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

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



2021 Results

By Iain Mackintosh

Championship

SCO/C2021, Scottish Championship 2021/22

		TD Anderson, Gordon M. (IA)																Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
Rated		1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8					
1	✉ 620775 CCE Buchan, Allan 2267	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	8.5	3	46.25	0	1
2	✉ 211024 Whittaker, Ian P. 2138	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	8	2	43.5	0	2
3	✉ 620586 Smith, Mark J. 2152	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	7.5	1	43.75	0	3
4	✉ 620345 SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2423	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	.	7	1	44	1	4
5	✉ 620426 CCM Cumming, David R. 2311	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	.	7	1	44	1	4
6	✉ 620704 CCE Beveridge, Colin 2291	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	.	6.5	1	40.25	1	6
7	✉ 620409 CCM Sneddon, Iain 2367	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	.	.	6	0	44.5	2	7
8	✉ 620577 Price, Derek 1878	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	.	0	.	0	.	0	0.5	0	3.75	5	8

The 2021-22 event still has unfinished games, but Allan Buchan can't be overtaken in top spot and is our new champion - not bad going for his first attempt! With most games ending in draws, Allan's win with White over Colin Beveridge proved decisive. Second and third spots won't be resolved until remaining games have finished.

Premier

SCO/P/2021, SCCA Premier 2021

		TD Paine, Kevin (IA)					Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
Rated		1	2	3	4	5					
1	✉ 620367 Maxwell, Alistair 2183	1	1	1/2	1	1	3.5	3	5.5	0	1
2	✉ 620784 Jamieson, David 2200 ^P	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	2.5	2	3	0	2
3	✉ 620393 MacGregor, Colin A. 1864	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	1	2	1	4	0	3
4	✉ 620603 Armstrong, John M. 1523	0	0	1	1/2	0	1	1	2	0	4
5	✉ 620454 MacMillen, Andrew N. 1584	0	0	0	1	1/2	1	1	1	0	5

Congratulations to Alistair Maxwell who posted a clear win here and becomes eligible for a tilt at the Championship. Only Colin MacGregor stopped Alistair from achieving a 100% score.

Open

SCO/O/2021/A, SCCA Open 2021 A

				TD Anderson, Gordon M. (IA)															
Rated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place	
1	✉	620454	MacMillen, Andrew N.	1584			1	1	1	½	1	1	1 ^E	1 ^E	7.5	7	22.75	0	1
2	✉	620713	Gilbert, Robert	1710	0	0			1	1	1	1	1 ^E	1 ^E	6	6	13	0	2
3	✉	620603	Armstrong, John M.	1523	½	0	0	0			1	1	1 ^E	1 ^E	4.5	4	7.75	0	3
4	✉	620648	Hardwick, Martin E.	1129	0	0	0	0	0				1 ^E	1 ^E	2	2	0	0	4
5	✉	620728	Rafferty, Kieran	1800 ^P	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E			0	0	0	0	5

SCO/O/2021/B, SCCA Open 2021 B

				TD Anderson, Gordon M. (IA)															
Rated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place	
1	✉	620789	Taylor, Andrew	1800 ^P			1	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^E	1 ^E	8	8	24	0	1
2	✉	620454	MacMillen, Andrew N.	1584	0	0			1	1	1	1	1 ^E	1 ^E	6	6	12	0	2
3	✉	620628	Dunn, John	1557	0	0	0	0			1	1	1 ^E	1 ^E	4	4	4	0	3
4	✉	620778	Major, Benjamin	1235	0	0	0	0	0				1 ^E	1 ^E	2	2	0	0	4
5	✉	620728	Rafferty, Kieran	1800 ^P	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E	0 ^E			0	0	0	0	5

Two sections this year, with Andrew MacMillen once again just falling short of a perfect score in Section A, but Andrew Taylor winning a spot in our 100% Club in section B.

Challengers

2019-20 Cycle	Games	Complete	Ongoing	Points
Armstrong, J M	14	14	0	7
Beveridge, C	8	8	0	7½
Burridge, R J	10	10	0	7
Dunn, J	8	8	0	1½
Gilbert, R	10	10	0	4
Hardwick, M E	8	8	0	2
Kearns, A	8	8	0	7
Milton, G	8	8	0	0
Neil, C	8	8	0	3½
Whittaker, I P	8	8	0	5½

Results for 2020-21 will follow later.

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

Leagues

Three webserver leagues last year, with 17 teams entering..

Webserver League Division 1

SCO/L1/2021, SCCA League Div 1 2021

TD Murden, Clive (IA)

			1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	SchemingMind A	2369		2	2	3	1.5	4	12.5	65	6	6	19	1	1	Rivas Maceda, Juan
2	White Rose A	2224	2		2	2	3	2.5	11.5	60	4	7	19	1	2	Sutton, Alan B.
3	SchemingMind B	2279	2	2		2	2	3	11	55	2	6	20	0	3	Lockwood, Austin
4	Social A	2294	1	2	2		2.5	3	10.5	55	2	6	19	1	4	Rosser, Geoffrey C.
5	Knights of the Board A	2148	1.5	1	2	1.5		3.5	9.5	50	0	3	19	1	5	Sneddon, Iain
6	White Rose B	1974	0	0.5	1	0	0.5		2	11	-14	0	18	2	6	Beckett, Phillip J.

Webserver League Division 2

SCO/L2/2021, SCCA League Div 2 2021

TD Murden, Clive (IA)

			1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	SchemingMind C	2088		3	3	4	3.5	4	17.5	87	15	10	20	0	1	Beckett, Phillip J.
2	Social B	1909	1		2	3	3.5	3.5	13	64	6	7	20	0	2	Rosser, Geoffrey C.
3	Civil Service A	2055	1	2		2.5	3	4	12.5	62	5	7	20	0	3	Pomeroy, Ray J.
4	Brutal Realism	1828	0	1	1.5		2	4	8.5	42	-3	3	20	0	4	Sneddon, Iain
5	Civil Service B	1790	0.5	0.5	1	2		3	7	34	-6	3	20	0	5	Ryan, Robert
6	Civil Service Scotland	1635	0	0.5	0	0	1		1.5	7	-17	0	20	0	6	Edney, David

Webserver League Division 3

SCO/L3/21, SCCA League Div 3 2021

TD Anderson, Gordon M. (IA)

			1	2	3	4	5	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain
1	White Rose C	1692		4.5	4.5	5.5	6.5	21	65	10	8	32	0	1	Ward, Bill
2	Civil Service C	1512	3.5		4	4	4.5	16	50	0	4	32	0	2	Conway, John
3	SchemingMind D	1466	3.5	4		4.5	4	16	51	1	4	31	1	3	Beckett, Phillip J.
4	Social C	1593	2.5	4	3.5		4.5	14.5	45	-3	3	32	0	4	Rosser, Geoffrey C.
5	Knights of the Board B	1480	1.5	3.5	3	3.5		11.5	37	-8	0	31	1	5	Sneddon, Iain



The Hawkes Files

By John E. Hawkes

Chess Clergy

For this New Year offering I have annotated a set of correspondence games involving British chess-playing Reverend Gentlemen.

They are century-old games: commencing with two fine examples of play by the Reverend Francis E. Hamond of Norwich, the very first British Correspondence Chess Champion of 1921-22.

The other clerics featuring are the Reverends F. W. Botterill, William E. Evill, and Charles C. Ranken. The selection closes with a relatively recent game by the Scottish Rev. Albert C. Norris of Bute, a regular participant in the SCCA Championship, and who passed away in 2007.



Rev Francis E Hamond

White: Hamond, Rev. Francis E
Black: Evill, Rev. William E
BCCA, 1916
Ponziani [C44]
[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 e5
2.Nf3 Nc6
3.c3 d5
4.Qa4 f6
5.Bb5 Ng7
6.exd5

A vintage reference game for the slower option 6.d3 is Utkin - Tchigorin in a 'Novoe Vremya' Tournament 1899-1900, going; 6...Be6 7.Be3 a6 8.Bxc6+ Nxc6 9.Nbd2 dxe4 10.dxe4 Qd3

6... Qxd5
7.d4 Bd7
8.Be3 exd4

SCCA Magazine 156

9.cxd4 Ne5
10.Nc3 Nxf3+
11.gxf3 Qf5
12.0-0-0



12... c6
Black varies from Hamond v Evill by post in 1915 continuing; 12...a6 13.d5 0-0-0 14.Bxd7+ Rxd7 15.d6 cxd6 16.b4

13.Bd3 Qxf3
14.Rhe1 Kd8
15.Be4 Qh5
16.d5!

Hamond improves on 16.Qb3 his choice v Baker in another 1915 postal game.

16... c5
17.Qa5+ b6
18.Qa6 Bc8



19.d6!!
Queen for N and R, with an attack on the Black king.

19... Bxa6
20.dxe7+ Kxe7
21.Bxa8 Kf7

If 21...Bc4 22.Bxc5+ Kf7 23.Rd7+ Kg6 24.Be4+ Kh6 (24...f5 25.Rg1+ Kf6 26.Bd4+ Ke6 27.Bc6 Qh6+ 28.Kc2 f4 29.b3+-) 25.Be3+ g5 26.h4! Black would still have serious problems.

22.Rd7+ Ke6
22...Kg6 23.Rg1+ Kf5 24.Rd5+ wins the queen.

23.Bc6 Bd6
24.f4

Also strong was 24.Rxg7 Be5 (24...Rd8 25.Bd5+ Kf5 26.Be4+ Ke6 27.Rxh7 Qe8 28.Bg2!+-) 25.Bd7+! Kd6 26.Rd1+ and Black must surrender his queen. 26...Qxd1+ 27.Kxd1 and then 27...f5 28.Rf7 Bc4 only just fails to turn the tables in Black's favour because of 29.Nb5+!

24... Bc8
Two other defensive tries are 24...Be5 25.fxe5 Qh4 26.Rd6+ Kf5 27.Be4+ Kxe5 28.Rd5+ Ke6 29.Bf5+ Kf7 30.Rd7+ Kf8 31.Red1+-; and 24...Rc8 25.Bxc5+ Kf5 26.Be4+ Ke6 27.Rxd6+ Kf7 28.Bd5+ Kg6 29.f5+ Kg5 30.Be3+ Kh4 31.Bf2+ Kh3 32.Re3+ Kxh2 33.Bf3+-

25.Bxc5+ Be5
If 25...Kf5 26.Bxd6! Bxd7 27.Bxd7+ Kg6 and then comes the quite beautiful 28.Re8!

26.Re7+
26.Re7+ Kf5 27.Be4+ Kxf4 28.Be3+ Kg4 29.Rxg7+ Kh3 30.Bg2+ Kxh2 and we must let the bishop finish the job elegantly, 31.Bg1#!

1-0



White: Gunston, William H.
Black: Hamond, Rev. Francis E.
British corres. 1916,
Caro-Kann - Exchange [B13]
[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 c6
2.d4 d5
3.exd5 cxd5
4.Nf3 Nc6
5.c3 g6
10.c4 a6
11.Ba4



- 11... h5?!
 12.c5 Qb8
 13.Bd2
 13.b4 and pushing on immediately would have tested Black's elaborate opening concept.
 13... Kf7
 14.b4 Nf5
 15.Nc2 g5!
 16.Bc3 g4
 17.Nd2 Bh6
 18.Nf1 Nce7
 19.Nce3 Nh4
 20.Bb3 Bd7
 21.a4 Qg8
 22.Nd2



- 22... Nhg6!
 23.Qc2 Nf4
 24.g3
 ◻24.Ndf1
 24... Nh3+
 25.Kf1 h4
 26.Ng2 hxg3
 27.hxg3 f5
 28.Re5 f4
 28...Qh7 29.f4 gxf3 30.Nxf3 Qg7+ and the g-pawn falls.
 29.gxf4 Bxf4
 30.Re2 Qg5
 31.Qd3



- 31... Ng1!
 32.Ne4
 32.Kxg1? Rh1+ 33.Kxh1 Qh5+ and mate in a few moves. Interesting was 32.Re4?! dxe4? (32...Bxd2! 33.Qxd2 Qxd2 34.Bxd2 dxe4 35.Kxg1 Bc6-+)
 33.Nxe4 Qh5 34.Nxf4 Qh1 35.Ng3±
 32... Qh6
 33.Nxf4 Qxf4
 34.Nd6+ Kg7
 35.Rea2 Raf8
 36.Qd2
 36.Kxg1 Qh2+ 37.Kf1 Rh3-+
 36... Qf3!
 37.Ke1
 37.Bd1 Ne2!! and mate to follow.
 37...Rh1
 38.Qe3 Qe2+!!
 A sublime mate, and much quicker than 38...Qxe3+ 39.fxe3 Nh3+
 40.Kd2 Rf2+ 41.Kd3 Nf4+ 42.exf4 Rh3#

0-1



White: Gosset, T.
Black: Botterill, Rev. F.W.
 Friendly Postal GB, 1918
 QGD Ragozin Defence [D38]
[Notes by John E Hawkes after Gosset]

An interesting pairing of lawyer and highly-respected amateur mathematician against priest and fellow-walker. John Herbert de Paz Thorold Gosset won the 1925-26 British CC Championship: he contributed notes to the following game in the magazine Chess Amateur in 1919. Circa 1917 Reverend F.W. Botterill played and won a postal game v J.Waterhouse that was identical to the prize-winning miniature Taubenhaus - Shallopp, Manchester 1890.

- 1.d4 d5
 2.c4 e6
 3.Nc3 Bb4
 4.Nf3 Nf6
 5.Qa4+ Nc6
 6.Ne5 0-0
 7.Nxc6 Bxc3+
 8.bxc3 bxc6
 9.Bf4 Bd7
 10.Qa5



- 10... Ne8
 The knight move is good, but so was 10...Qb8 with one continuation being 11.Bxc7 Qb2 12.Rd1 Ne4 13.Qb4 Qxa2 14.f3 a5+
 11.c5 f6
 12.e3 e5
 13.Bg3 e4
 14.Be2 f5
 15.0-0 g5
 16.Be5 f4
 Six consecutive pawn moves by the Reverend!
 17.Bh5 Ng7?!
 18.Bxc7 Qc8
 19.Be2 f3
 20.Ba6 Qe8
 21.Bb7 Qf7
 22.Rfb1
 22.Bxa8? fxe2-+
 22... fxg2
 23.Bg3
 Better was 23.Rb2
 23... Nf5
 24.Qc7!
 White defends well, avoiding 24.Bxa8? Nxe3 25.Rb2◻ Qh5!
 26.Re1 Nf1! 27.Qc7◻ Rxa8+
 24...Rae8
 25.Rb2 h5
 If 25...Nxe3 26.Bxc6 (26.fxe3 Qf1+ 27.Rxf1 gxf1Q# of course.) 26...Bxc6 27.Qxf7+ Rxf7 28.fxe3 Rf3±
 26.Bxc6



26... Re7?
 26...Bxc6 27.Qxc6 h4 was consistent play, then if 28.Bd6 h3 29.Bg3 (29.Bxf8 Rxf8 30.Rab1 Nh4 31.f4 gxf4 32.Rf2 Nf3+ 33.Rxf3 exf3 34.e4 dxe4+ is worth a diagram! 35.Qxe4? f2+ 36.Kxf2 Re8 37.Qf3 Qxa2+! and checkmate coming up.) 29...Nxg3 30.hxg3 Rb8 and Black is best. 31.Rab1? would allow 31...Qxf2+! and mate in three.
27.Bd6

27.Rab1 was probably the move Black had expected, a plausible continuation to the game being; 27...Be6 28.Qe5 h4 29.Rb8! hxg3 30.hxg3 Kh7 31.Rxf8 Qxf8 32.Rb8 Bc8 33.Rxc8 Qxc8 34.Qf6 Ng7! 35.Qxg5 Qh3 and White must trade queens and play a difficult and fascinating endgame.
27... Nh4
 27...Rc8 28.Rb8 Rxb8 29.Bxe7 Rb2 30.Qxd7 Nxe7 31.Qe8+ is a winning simplification for White; 27...Nxd6? 28.cxd6+—
28.Bxd5?

Failing to anticipate how the Black queen can work her way round into the attack.
 28.Bxe7 Bh3 29.f4 Nf3+ 30.Kf2 gxf4 31.exf4+—
28... Qxd5
29.f4



If 29.Bxe7? Bh3 30.f4 Nf3+ 31.Kf2 Qc4! and mate in 5 moves. If 32.Re2 g1B+ 33.Rxg1 Nxg1 34.Re1 Qxa2+ also mates.

29... Qc4!
 Another very strong option was; 29...Nf3+ 30.Kf2 Rc8 31.Qxc8+ Bxc8 32.Bxe7 Bh3—
30.Qb7
 30.Rxg2 Nf3+ 31.Kh1 Bh3 32.Rxg5+ Nxg5 33.Qxe7 Bg2+! 34.Kxg2 Qe2+ and mate in two; 30.Bxe7 Qxc3! and another mate; 31.Qxd7 Nf3+ 32.Kxg2 Qxb2+ 33.Kf1 Qxa1+ 34.Kf2 Qg1+ 35.Ke2 Qe1#

30... Qd3
31.Qb3+ Ref7
 31...Be6 was stronger e.g. 32.c4 Rb7! 33.Qxd3 Nf3+ 34.Kf2 Rxb2+ 35.Qe2 Rxe2+ 36.Kxe2 Rf7—
32.c4
 32.Bxf8 Qxe3+ 33.Rf2 Nf3+ 34.Kxg2 Bh3+! and mate in two.
32... Re8
33.Qxd3 exd3



White has survived momentarily ... and has three and a half connected passed pawns!
34.Kf2 Bg4
 34...Nf5 35.Be5 gxf4 36.exf4 Nxd4!—+
35.c6 Nf3
36.Kxg2 Rxe3
37.Rb8+ Kg7
38.c7 h4
 38...Re2+ 39.Kg3 gxf4+ 40.Bxf4 Re4+—
39.c8Q Re2+
 39...h3+ was another good in-between move.

40.Kf1 Bxc8
41.Rxc8 Rxh2
 Or 41...Nxh2+ 42.Kg1 Nf3+ 43.Kf1 h3 44.f5 Rxf5 and mate is inevitable.
0-1



Rev Charles E Ranken

White: Bryning, J.
Black: Ranken, Rev. Charles E.
 Mr. Nash's Correspondence Tmt
 1878–80
 Queen's Indian [B00]
[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.d4 e6
2.c4 b6
3.Nf3

I wonder if Rev. John Owen ever played a game with the insane variation 3.e4 Qh4?! (avoiding 3...Bb7 4.f3) 4.Qc2 Bb7 5.Nd2 Nf6 6.Bd3 Bb4 7.Ngf3 Bxd2+ and provide a surprising finesse with 8.Kf1! (8.Bxd2 Qg4!))
3... Bb7
4.e3 Nf6
5.Bd3 c5
6.a3 cxd4
7.exd4 Nc6
8.Be3 d5
9.Nc3 Be7
10.0-0 0-0
11.Qe2 Na5
12.Ne5 Rc8
13.cxd5 Nxd5
14.Ne4? f5!
15.Ng3



If 15.Nd2 f4? Bryning had a beautiful-but-unforced mating sequence; 16.Qh5 Nf6 (⊔16...g6) 17.Qh3! fxe3? (17...g5 18.b4! Nc6 19.Ne4 Nxe4 20.Bxe4 Rf5 21.Qh6 Qd6 22.g4!±) 18.Bxh7+! Nxb7 19.Qxe6+ Kh8 20.Ng6#

15... Bd6

Rev. Ranken could have played a combination; 15...Nb3 16.Rae1 Nxd4! forcing 17.Bxd4 when there was 17...Nf4 18.Qe3 Nxb2!+; 15...f4 was also rejected, but that was with good reason i.e. 16.Qh5 (16.Qg4 fxe3 17.Qxe6+ Kh8 18.fxe3=) 16...Nf6 17.Qh3 as above. If now 17...Qd5 18.Bxf4 and if 18...Qxd4? then 19.Bxh7+ Nxb7 20.Qxe6+ Kh8 21.Ng6# - again.

16.f4 Nb3

17.Rae1 Nxe3

18.Qxe3 Nxd4

19.Kh1

19.b4 Rc3 20.Qxd4? Bc5! wins the queen.

19... Bc5

20.Rd1 Nf3!



Stronger than 20...Nc2 21.Qe2 Ne3 22.Bxf5 Qe8± (22...exf5? 23.Rxd8! and chances of White's survival.)

21.Qe2

21.Bxf5 Bxe3 22.Bxe6+ Kh8

23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.gxf3+—

21... Nxb2

The point.

22.Qh5

22.Bxf5 was again a reasonable try, but; 22...Qh4 23.Bxe6+ Kh8 24.Qh5 Qxh5 25.Nxh5 Nxf1 26.Rxf1 Rce8! is a won game for Black e.g. 27.Bc4 Bd4 28.Nd7 Re3! 29.Nxf8 Rh3#

22... Nxf1

23.Bxf1 Bd5

With zero counterplay, White could now resign.

24.Be2 Rf6

25.Qg5 Be7

26.Kg1 Rh6

Rev. Ranken was the editor of the Chess Player's Chronicle and also wrote for the British Chess Magazine. With E. Freeborough he co-authored Chess Openings Ancient and Modern (1889), one of the first important opening treatises in the English language. [After Wiki]

0-1



White: Diderholm, Erik

Black: Norris, Rev. Albert C

Scotland - Sweden Corres. E-mail , 2006

Nimzowitch Defence [B00]

[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 Nc6

2.Nf3 d6

3.d4 Nf6

4.Nc3 d5

5.Bd3 Bg4

6.e5 Nd7

7.h3 Bxf3

8.Qxf3 e6

9.Be3 Nb4

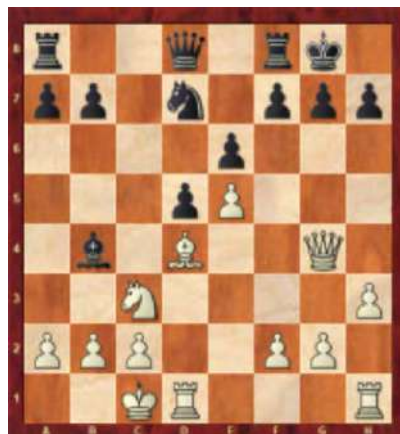
10.0-0-0 Nxd3+

11.Rxd3 c5

12.Rdd1 cxd4

13.Bxd4 Bb4

14.Qg4 0-0



Forced castling: 14...Kf8? 15.Nxd5! exd5 16.e6+—

15.f4 Re8

16.f5 Bxc3

17.f6

17.Bxc3 Rxc3! 18.f6 Rxc2+ 19.Kxc2 g6; 17.fxe6 Nxe5+; 17.bxc3 exf5

18.Qxf5 Nc5±

17... Bxb2+

18.Kxb2

18.Bxb2 g6 19.Qg5 Kh8 20.h4 Qc7! and the attack can be held; 21.Rd2

Nc5 22.h5 Ne4 23.Qh6 Rg8 24.hxg6 fxg6+—

18...

g6

19.Qg5

Kh8



20.Rhf1?

Too slow. 20.h4 must have been anticipated, with one of many defensive possibilities being; 20...Rc4 21.h5 (21.c3 Qa5 22.h5 Ra4 23.Ra1 Rb4+! 24.cxb4 Qxb4+ 25.Kc2 Qxd4 26.hxg6 Rc8+ 27.Kb1 Qb6#) 21...Rxd4! 22.Rxd4 Qb6+ 23.Kc1 Qxd4 24.Qh6 (24.hxg6 Qa1+ 25.Kd2 Qxh1 26.g7+ Kg8 27.gxf8Q+ Kxf8 28.Qg7+ Ke8 29.Qg8+ Nf8—) 24...Rg8 25.hxg6 Qa1+ 26.Kd2 Qd4+ 27.Kc1 and Black must take a draw, as the White king dares not go onto the e-file, allowing Qe4+ followed by Qxg6.

20... Qa5

21.Rf4?

Tougher was the dual-purpose 21.Rf3 with Rb3 one option.

21... Qa4

A stronger line for the Reverend's counter-attack was 21...Qb5+! 22.Kc1 Qe2! when 23.Rd2? Qe1+ 24.Rd1 Rxc2+! would be crushing.

22.Bc3 Qc6

23.Rd3 Rg8

24.Rh4

White is back on the attack, threatening a two-move mate 25.Rxh7+!

24... Qb6+

25.Kc1 Qg1+

26.Kb2

26.Rd1 Qf2±

26... Qb6+

27.Kc1

Content with a draw by repetition.

27... Nf8

28.Qd2

28.Bb4 was better, when I will dare to extrapolate... 28...Qf2 29.Rd2 Qf1+ 30.Kb2 Rc6 31.Bxf8 Rxf8 (31...Rb6+ 32.Bb4!) 32.Rdd4! Rxc2+

33.Kxc2 Rc8+ 34.Kb2 Qb5+ 35.Ka1
Qf1+ 36.Kb2 Qb5+ 37.Rb4 Qe2+
38.Ka1 Qe1+ 39.Kb2 Qc3+ 40.Kb1
Qe1+ 41.Kb2 Draw.
28... Qa6
29.Bb4



Rothesay, Bute, home to Rev
Albert Norris.



29... g5!
29...Rc4 30.Ra3! lets Black reflect on
a queen for two rooks transaction.
30.Rg4 Nd7
31.Rdg3

If 31.Rxg5 Qxa2 32.Rxg8+ Rxg8
33.Ra3 then Black's only playable
move is a winner; 33...Qc4! e.g.
34.Bd6 Qf1+ 35.Kb2 Nb6!—+
31... Nxe5
The defence is complete; 31...Nxe5
32.Rxg5 Rxg5 33.Qxg5 (33.Rxg5
Qf1+ 34.Qd1 Nd3+ wins.) 33...Qf1+
34.Kb2 Nc4+ 35.Kb3 Qb1+ and
Black is the first to checkmate;
36.Ka4 (36.Kc3 Nd6+) 36...Qxa2+
etc.

0-1



Miniature Correspondence Masterpieces No. 23

White: Woods, J.
Black: Pierce, William Timbrell
GB Corres., 1916
Latvian Gambit [C40]
[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.e4 e5
2.Nf3 f5
3.Nxe5 Nc6
The 'defence' named after Scotland's
George Brunton Fraser.
4.Qh5+ g6
5.Nxg6
5.Nxc6 is a rare move that could
surprise; if 5...dxc6 6.Qf3±
5...Nf6
6.Qh3 fxe4
7.Nxh8 d5



8.Qe3
8.Qg3 is sometimes considered the
best of the many queen moves.
8... Ng4
9.Qf4 Nce5

10.h3 Bd6
11.Kd1
A scenario to know is; 11.hxg4 Nd3+
12.cxd3 Bxf4 13.Rxh7 Qg5 14.Nc3
Qg8 15.Rh5 c6 16.Be2 Bxg4
17.Ng6! Qxg6 18.Rh8+ Kd7
19.Rxa8 Bxe2 20.Nxe2 Qxg2
21.Nxf4 Qh1+ 22.Ke2 Qf3+ and
perpetual check.
11... Qh4
12.d4 exd3
13.Be3 Nxe3+
14.Qxe3 dxc2+
15.Kxc2 Bf5+
16.Kc1 0-0-0



17.f4?
Presumably to get the knight back
into play, but Black has 5 pieces in
action whilst White is chronically
underdeveloped. 17.Nd2 Qa4 18.Qb3
Qd4 19.Bb5 Rxh8 20.Qe3 would
appear a playable line for White, but
even with the queens traded off

Black has an ongoing initiative e.g.
20...Qxe3 21.fxe3 Bc5 22.Re1 Bd3
(22...Rg8 23.e4!) 23.Ba4 Rf8±

17... Nc4
18.g3 Nxe3
19.gxh4 Bxf4
20.Nd2
20.Nf7 Nxf1+ 21.Kd1 Ne3+ 22.Ke2
Rf8 23.Kf3 Rxf7 24.Kxf4 Nc2—+
20... Rd6!
Going for mate, whereas 20...Rxb8
would torture White way beyond
miniature length; 21.a3 Nc2 22.Ra2
Nd4 23.b4 Re8—+
21.b4
21.Bb5 is a good try, but 21...a6
22.Nf7 (22.a4 axb5 23.axb5 Nc4
24.Ra8+ Kd7 25.Rd1 d4! with the
idea ...Rd5 is winning.) 22...Rf6
23.Be8 Re6—+
21... Rc6+
22.Kb2 Be5+
23.Kb3 Bc2+
24.Ka3 Nxf1
25.b5



William Timbrell Pierce
(1839–1922)



25...Nxd2!

Leaving a second rook en prise is an elegant motif in the mating finish:
 25...Nxd2 26.Rab1 (26.bxc6 Bc3 27.cxb7+ Kb8 28.anything Nc4#)
 26...Nc4+ 27.Kb4 and we get a beautiful variation initiated by the knight; 27...Nb2! 28.bxc6 (28.Rxb2 Rc4+ 29.Ka5 Ra4#) 28...Nd3+

29.Kb5 a6+ 30.Ka5 Bc3+ 31.Rb4 Bxb4#

0-1



Postscript

Chess Art

Winter's Chess Notes No.5692 give a Rev Hamond 'endgame of rare beauty'. The early play is less than distinguished, and Black had a clearly won game before this happened:

White: Hamond, Rev.Francis E.
Black: Michell, Reginald P.
 9th British Championship
 Richmond 1912

44... Qc5



45.Qxd5+!! Qxd5
 46.Be4!! Ka7
 47.Bxd5 Nf3+
 48.Bxf3 Bxf3
 49.Be3+!

1-0



Jaque Mate by Joaquín María Herrer y Rodríguez (1887), Spain



The Clergy – Temporal and Spiritual

No featured artist this time, but a selection of men of the cloth attending to alternative devotions...



Chess Game I, Boris Dubrov, Israel, 2016



Chess Game II, Boris Dubrov, Israel, 2016



The Chess Players by Enrique Serra, Spain (1859-1918) (Held in Glasgow)



The Chess Game by Harold Hume Piffard (1867-1938), England



Die Schachspieler by Friedrich August Moritz Retzsch (1779-1857), Germany



Playing Chess under a Blue Moon and a few more tidbits to entertain you in a Covid winter

By Peter Bennett

As the actor Sir Michael Caine might well have said, the term ‘blue moon’ has at least three completely different meanings; not many people know that.

So now, having made the statement, I clearly need to answer the question: what are they?

The first meaning is actually astronomical; and it relates to the number of full moons in each season of the year. The most recent blue moon, according to the Maine Farmers’ Almanac, was on 18 November 2021, just a few weeks ago, and only the fifth time it has happened in 125 years – at least by their definition. There are, however, several other definitions of an astronomical blue moon which are too complicated to attempt to explain here. Suffice it to say that, by any definition, an astronomical blue moon is very rare indeed and, to add a slight complication, not necessarily blue.

This brings us to the second meaning of blue moon which, in all probability, arises from the first: we can use it to refer to an event that is very rare indeed.

So I can say, for example, that my late wife Joy bought me a bottle of single malt ‘once in a blue moon’.

In fact, Joy was a generous soul and, during her lifetime, bought me many, many things that she thought I needed, such as a chef’s apron, a Dyson vacuum cleaner, and a new toothbrush; but she very, very rarely reached the point of feeling that I ‘needed’ a bottle of single malt. I digress.

The third meaning is the most literal: very, very rarely the moon can actually look blue. Very tiny particles of smoke, that are just the right size to deflect red and yellow light, but not blue light, can make the full moon look blue in certain atmospheric conditions. Most famously this happened in Canada in the autumn of 1950, over 71 years

ago, following a spontaneous muskeg fire. Muskeg, very roughly speaking, is the Canadian equivalent of good old Scottish peat. Not many people know that.

I don’t remember the Canadian fire, since it was so long ago that it was even before I started to play chess; and that brings me finally back to the subject of chess.

I am now, in 2022, entering my seventieth year of playing chess, since I was given my first chess set for Christmas by my grandfather in 1952; so, in fact, this means that I have been playing chess for sixty-nine years and one week, so far....and whether it is the malt whisky, my heart, the 47 bus or Omicron, something will knock me over fairly soon, for sure – but not quite yet.

Many of my chess experiences have been repeated multiple times: I have played hundreds of Kings Gambits, dozens of Evans Gambits, dozens of Marshalls, but....

....but only twice in 70 years – or, figuratively, once in a blue moon – have I actually managed to play a certain type of mating attack that is illustrated in the following problem position.

What’s more, I played it on my 76th birthday, just six weeks ago, that is, on 19 November 2021, the day after the most recent astronomical blue moon; and since I mention the date, I may as well tell you that it was also International Men’s Day, the 133rd anniversary of the birth of my great chess hero J. R. Capablanca, the 60th birthday of the actress Meg Ryan, and the 59th birthday of the actress Jodie Foster. Not many people know that.

White: Peter Bennett

Black: Iceman 14

Website: Frozen Rooks

Opening: Pirc Defence, Blue Moon Variation

November 2021

1.e4	d6
2.d4	Nf6
3.Nc3	g6
4.f4	Bg7
5.Nf3	0-0
6.Bd3	Bg4
7.h3	Bxf3
8.Qxf3	Nc6
9.Be3	e5

So far, this is fairly standard theory....

10.dxe5	dxе5
11.f5	Nd4
12.Qf2	c5

....but already White begins to build a strong kingside attack.

13.g4	a6
14.g5	Nh5
15.f6	Bh8
16.Nd5	h6
17.0-0-0	b6
18.c3	Ne6
19.Be2	Qb8
20.Ne7+	Kh7
21.Bxh5	Bxf6
22.gxf6	Nf4
23.Nxg6	fxg6
24.Bxg6+	Nxg6
25.Rd7+	Kh8
26.f7	Nf4
27.Bxf4	exf4
28.Qh4	Kh7
29.Qg4	Qe5



29....Qe5 was logical and as good a try as any other defence.

Even so, this has led to a problem position, in which White has a mate in three! So, to brush off the cobwebs and get the grey cells up and running for 2022, can you spot it?

The first SCCA member (stars barred, so under 2300) who sends in a correct solution, but without using an engine (which would find the solution in microseconds) AND without setting up the pieces on a chess board (to move them around), gets a bottle of single malt.



Like all the best chess problems, the solution is dead simple when you see it – which is why you can solve this problem OTB style, just by studying the diagram and exercising your brain! There is only one line; but it does require lateral thinking.

Entries should be sent to the Editor, with an honest declaration that the competition rules were followed, and by 25 January 2022.

Good luck!

Title Norms and how to acquire them: a few thoughts on the practicalities in modern CC

By Peter Bennett

Some might say that this short piece is unnecessary. After all, isn't it obvious? If you are pursuing a title norm, you simply enter a tournament in which norms are available, rather than tournaments where they aren't. Simple as that!

Not quite so simple; at least not in my experience.

What people sometimes overlook is that the game of chess is zero-sum. For every full point that is scored as a win for one player, there is a loss for another player. The same applies to the all-play-all tournaments for which norms are available. The final crosstable will contain as many '0's as '1's.

So, as in a lot of discussions on contentious subjects, I like to turn the argument on its head. Instead of thinking, where are wins going to come from, that will help me reach a norm, I think: where are the losses going to come from – in this particular tournament? Often that question is difficult to answer.

Let me illustrate. The mainstream argument is that, 'norm' tournaments – which were specifically and generously designed to facilitate the acquisition of norms – are the best place to 'get' a norm.

Again, in my experience, this is the kind of tournament in which you are least likely to get a norm. Often, all the players are roughly the same grading – between, say, 2360 and 2390 – they all have the CCM title and they all want an IM norm. So what happens? They all play well, and hard, in pursuit of that goal; and all their efforts cancel each other out.

The vast majority of games are drawn and no-one gets a norm. The whole exercise can look, in retrospect, like a complete waste of time. Indeed, in my view and ironically, playing in 'norm' tournaments is the worst way actually to get a norm.

Also to be avoided are those tournaments for which the organisers desperately want to recruit a lot of players and use the 'availability of norms' as a marketing tool to attract entrants. This increases the proportion of players whose participation arises from a desire to get a norm – and, once again, their efforts are cancelled out by each other.

So, if these are not the best ways to get a norm, what are?

My suggestions are these:

(a) go for tournaments where the main purpose is something quite different from norm acquisition, for example, team events where the team is trying to qualify for the next stage of the competition, but where norms happen to be available. As soon as the players in a particular team realise that they aren't going to qualify, some will lose interest in their remaining games, revert to playing half-heartedly – and that is your opportunity to press for a win.

(b) go for tournaments where there is wide disparity between the gradings of the strongest and weakest players – more like 300 points, rather than the 30 given as an illustration above. Your task then is to secure draws against the SIMs at the top of the start list and then play for a win

against the weakest players in the tournament.

(c) go for tournaments where a proportion of the players are not really motivated to participate at all. Again, this is usually in team events where the selectors or team captain have found only seven volunteers for the eight boards; and the eighth person has to have their arm twisted to make up the numbers. The lack of motivation in the reluctant eighth team member is your passport to playing for a win in that game, and hence a title norm.

(d) enter single-section memorial events where there are, say, only 15 entrants of widely disparate gradings and where the reason they are playing is simply to participate, rather like attending a funeral, since they all knew the deceased very well. By the same token, there is no 'norm' value in entering a multi-section memorial event where the first thing the organisers do is to group the entrants into sections based on grading. In such circumstances, it often turns out that half the participants did not even know the deceased, hence they are often only playing in order to get a chance of a norm. For this reason, I would like to see entrants randomly allocated to groups for multi-section MTs - it would also make for more interesting chess!

People might disagree with the views I have expressed here; but this approach has certainly worked for me in the past.

Food for thought?



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2022



By Awani Kumar

The author wishes a Merry Christmas and Happy New year 2022 to the readers of *SCCA Magazine* and let us celebrate them with some interesting tours of knight on 12x13 (= 156) board which relates with its edition.

Readers are well aware of the millennium-old Knight's Tour puzzle. Figure 1 is a semi-magic tour of knight on a 12x13 board. All the consecutive numbers from 1 to 156 are at knight's move and the sum of all its columns is 942.

Readers are urged to look for a closed tour.

67	82	11	152	9	84	1	86	77	148	3	88	75
12	153	68	83	70	151	78	149	2	87	76	147	4
81	66	155	10	79	8	85	72	91	6	145	74	89
154	13	80	69	156	71	150	7	144	73	90	5	146
65	134	15	100	63	136	17	138	61	92	19	142	59
14	101	64	135	16	99	62	97	18	143	60	93	20
133	26	103	54	131	24	137	56	139	22	95	58	141
102	53	132	25	104	55	98	23	96	57	140	21	94
27	106	29	130	31	110	45	114	33	120	39	116	35
52	129	50	105	48	113	32	111	38	115	34	121	40
107	28	127	30	109	44	125	46	119	42	123	36	117
128	51	108	49	126	47	112	43	124	37	118	41	122
942	942	942	942	942	942	942	942	942	942	942	942	942

Figure 1. Semi-magic tour of knight on 12x13 board

Now let us come to 'figured tours' which are mathematical art on a chessboard. Figure 2 and Figure 3 are 'figured tours' with the square numbers $1^2, 2^2, 3^2 \dots 12^2$, namely, 1, 4, 9 ... 144 arranged in Christmas tree shape and diamond shape respectively.

41	6	11	20	43	68	1	72	155	76	153	124	131
12	21	42	5	2	71	44	75	152	73	130	77	126
7	40	19	10	69	4	67	156	129	154	125	132	123
22	13	8	3	18	45	70	151	74	117	122	127	78
39	60	17	46	9	62	147	66	121	128	143	116	133
14	23	104	61	148	47	150	145	118	139	114	79	142
105	38	59	16	103	146	63	120	65	144	141	134	115
24	15	106	37	48	149	98	111	140	119	138	113	80
53	58	25	102	107	36	49	64	97	112	81	88	135
26	29	54	57	50	99	92	35	110	137	96	85	82
55	52	31	28	101	108	33	94	91	84	87	136	89
30	27	56	51	32	93	100	109	34	95	90	83	86

Figure 2

30	19	12	5	148	1	134	145	150	155	142	139
13	6	31	2	11	146	149	156	143	140	151	154
18	29	20	147	4	133	144	135	124	153	138	141
7	14	3	32	21	10	131	126	117	136	123	152
28	17	22	9	132	103	128	121	130	125	116	137
15	8	27	104	33	120	101	118	127	122	99	96
58	39	16	23	102	61	34	129	100	97	112	115
41	26	57	60	105	24	119	92	113	110	95	98
38	59	40	25	90	35	62	81	108	93	114	111
67	42	37	56	65	106	91	86	63	82	109	94
52	55	66	89	36	47	64	107	80	77	74	83
43	68	53	50	45	70	87	48	85	72	79	76
54	51	44	69	88	49	46	71	78	75	84	73

Figure 3

Figure 4 and Figure 5 show monogram tours with square numbers delineating numbers '2' and '0' respectively. These are the numerals in the year 2022.

6	21	18	3	10	27	14	33	86	29	88	91
19	2	5	8	17	34	11	28	13	90	85	30
22	7	20	1	4	9	26	15	32	87	92	89
45	48	37	24	63	16	35	12	119	84	31	96
38	23	46	49	36	25	62	83	98	95	118	93
47	44	59	64	61	82	99	120	145	154	97	150
58	39	50	81	100	121	144	153	142	149	94	117
43	52	41	60	65	108	141	146	155	130	151	148
40	57	80	51	106	101	122	143	152	147	116	129
53	42	55	66	109	140	107	156	115	128	131	136
56	79	70	105	102	75	110	123	134	137	114	127
69	54	77	72	67	104	139	74	125	112	135	132
78	71	68	103	76	73	124	111	138	133	126	113

Figure 4

13	6	19	32	21	152	135	154	137	150	133	130
18	33	14	5	2	31	156	151	134	131	138	149
7	12	3	20	15	22	153	136	155	148	129	132
34	17	10	23	4	1	30	143	128	97	78	139
11	8	35	16	29	142	121	98	147	140	127	96
40	37	28	9	24	99	144	141	122	79	114	77
27	46	39	36	65	120	81	118	113	146	95	126
38	41	48	25	68	109	100	145	80	123	76	115
47	26	45	66	49	64	119	82	117	112	125	94
42	57	50	69	108	67	110	101	124	83	116	75
51	54	61	44	63	70	107	88	111	102	93	84
58	43	56	53	60	89	72	105	86	91	74	103
55	52	59	62	71	106	87	90	73	104	85	92

Figure 5

Figure 6 has the successive square numbers along the middle row. Figure 7 has the numbers arranged in arithmetical progression along the central row. These two figures have the move segments alternately above and below the middle row, thus more fascinating.

29	32	59	56	85	94	61	92	129	96	137	140
12	57	30	33	60	91	84	95	136	139	128	97
31	28	13	58	55	86	93	62	127	130	141	138
14	11	34	87	52	83	90	135	142	123	98	133
27	2	51	54	35	88	63	126	131	134	143	124
10	15	26	3	50	53	82	89	122	125	132	99
1	4	9	16	25	36	49	64	81	100	121	144
8	17	6	37	68	65	116	103	146	119	156	101
5	38	67	24	73	48	147	80	117	102	145	120
18	7	74	69	66	115	104	47	148	111	118	155
39	42	23	20	75	72	107	114	79	154	151	110
22	19	44	41	70	77	46	105	108	149	112	153
43	40	21	76	45	106	71	78	113	152	109	150

Figure 6

5	10	7	32	61	36	57	82	87	84	139	136
8	31	4	35	56	33	60	133	138	135	110	85
11	6	9	62	37	58	81	88	83	86	137	140
30	3	28	55	34	63	132	59	134	109	114	111
27	12	1	38	53	80	89	106	113	116	141	108
2	29	54	79	90	105	64	131	142	107	112	115
13	26	39	52	65	78	91	104	117	130	143	156
40	43	50	77	120	103	118	153	122	155	100	129
25	14	41	66	51	152	121	92	101	98	123	144
42	21	44	49	76	119	102	97	154	93	128	99
15	24	17	46	67	48	151	148	71	126	145	124
20	45	22	75	18	69	96	73	150	147	94	127
23	16	19	68	47	74	149	70	95	72	125	146

Figure 7

Figures 8 and 9 have the square numbers in a compact formation. The former in wazir {0,1} path and the latter in knight path.

46	53	40	57	44	51	38	23	6	11	14	21
41	56	45	52	39	2	5	10	15	22	7	12
54	47	58	43	50	37	24	3	8	13	20	27
59	42	55	48	1	4	9	16	29	26	31	142
62	77	60	67	64	49	36	25	32	143	28	19
69	66	63	76	81	100	121	144	17	30	141	146
78	61	68	65	102	35	82	33	140	145	18	85
97	70	75	80	99	120	101	122	83	86	147	138
108	79	98	103	74	155	34	119	136	139	84	87
71	96	107	156	127	118	131	154	123	150	137	148
106	109	104	73	130	113	92	115	132	135	88	151
95	72	111	126	93	128	117	124	153	90	149	134
110	105	94	129	112	125	114	91	116	133	152	89

Figure 8

12	21	18	47	14	23	6	27	96	31	98	29
19	46	13	22	7	2	15	50	99	28	95	32
66	11	20	17	48	5	24	3	26	97	30	85
45	38	65	8	1	16	49	100	51	84	33	94
118	67	10	37	64	121	4	25	34	93	86	53
39	44	119	156	9	36	81	144	101	52	83	92
68	117	152	63	120	143	122	35	82	89	54	87
43	40	155	142	151	62	147	80	145	102	91	78
116	69	42	153	126	141	150	123	90	79	88	55
41	154	115	140	61	148	125	146	103	108	77	110
70	139	132	135	114	127	104	149	124	111	56	107
131	134	137	72	129	60	113	74	105	58	109	76
138	71	130	133	136	73	128	59	112	75	106	57

Figure 9

Figure 10 to Figure 12 have the square numbers delineating letters 'S', 'C' and 'A' respectively – the letters in *SCCA Magazine*.

42	31	134	131	40	29	22	27	6	3	20	11
135	130	41	30	133	26	7	24	21	10	5	2
32	43	132	39	126	23	28	9	4	1	12	19
129	136	127	34	115	8	25	48	17	50	83	86
44	33	116	125	38	35	16	51	82	85	18	13
137	128	45	114	53	124	47	36	49	14	87	84
110	141	56	117	46	37	52	15	122	81	146	65
57	138	111	156	113	54	123	80	145	64	99	88
140	109	142	55	118	155	144	121	100	147	66	97
105	58	139	112	143	120	79	152	63	98	89	148
108	75	106	119	154	71	62	101	92	151	96	67
59	104	73	76	61	102	153	78	69	94	149	90
74	107	60	103	72	77	70	93	150	91	68	95

Figure 10

23	12	21	18	5	10	3	156	71	104	151	154
20	15	24	11	2	17	6	45	152	155	72	105
13	22	19	16	9	4	1	70	103	106	153	150
38	35	14	25	48	69	44	7	46	149	140	73
41	26	39	36	43	8	47	102	107	142	147	138
34	37	42	49	68	63	108	145	148	139	74	141
27	40	67	64	109	116	101	62	143	146	137	134
66	33	50	81	100	121	144	125	136	133	60	75
51	28	65	110	115	80	117	120	61	124	135	132
32	111	82	99	88	119	122	79	126	131	76	59
29	52	31	114	85	96	127	118	123	78	93	130
112	83	54	87	98	89	56	95	128	91	58	77
53	30	113	84	55	86	97	90	57	94	129	92

Figure 11

Figures 13 to 15 show numbers '1', '5' and '6' respectively – which relate with this edition.

13	20	23	38	15	40	25	44	35	52	27	46	33
22	7	14	41	24	37	56	53	26	45	34	51	28
19	12	21	74	39	16	43	36	55	50	67	32	47
6	73	8	17	42	75	54	57	68	147	48	29	66
11	18	71	76	9	58	69	146	49	124	31	148	129
72	5	10	59	70	77	118	79	122	145	130	65	30
95	60	115	4	117	100	121	144	125	64	123	128	149
114	3	94	61	98	119	78	63	80	143	126	131	82
93	96	1	116	101	62	99	120	141	132	81	150	127
2	113	104	97	156	109	154	133	136	139	142	83	86
105	92	111	102	107	90	135	140	153	88	85	138	151
112	103	106	91	110	155	108	89	134	137	152	87	84

Figure 12

21	14	5	10	23	32	3	86	39	88	95	92
6	11	22	15	4	85	38	33	94	91	40	89
27	20	13	24	9	2	31	106	87	108	93	96
12	7	26	1	16	37	84	109	34	105	90	41
19	28	17	8	25	30	35	104	107	150	97	156
60	63	50	29	36	103	110	83	98	155	42	149
51	18	61	102	49	82	99	122	145	124	151	154
62	59	64	81	100	121	144	111	114	153	148	43
65	52	101	138	143	48	113	120	123	146	125	152
58	139	80	131	56	119	136	47	112	115	44	147
53	66	57	142	137	130	133	118	71	46	73	126
140	79	68	55	132	77	70	135	128	75	116	45
67	54	141	78	69	134	129	76	117	72	127	74

Figure 13

11	6	13	20	39	28	53	60	41	30	45	56
14	19	10	5	2	59	40	29	54	57	42	31
7	12	3	38	21	52	27	58	61	44	55	46
18	15	22	9	4	1	62	67	84	47	32	43
23	8	37	16	51	26	83	48	33	68	85	126
98	17	156	25	36	49	66	63	82	127	138	69
155	24	97	50	65	122	81	34	137	140	125	86
96	99	154	145	80	35	64	123	128	131	70	139
153	150	103	100	121	144	117	136	141	124	87	130
104	95	152	79	146	101	120	143	116	129	132	71
151	78	149	102	107	118	109	112	135	142	115	88
94	105	76	147	92	111	74	119	90	113	72	133
77	148	93	106	75	108	91	110	73	134	89	114

Figure 14

11	6	13	18	39	28	147	154	41	30	87	152
14	19	10	5	2	155	40	29	148	153	42	31
7	12	17	38	27	146	3	156	33	86	151	88
20	15	22	9	4	1	34	149	134	137	32	43
23	8	37	16	35	26	145	136	85	150	89	138
66	21	50	25	144	121	84	133	142	135	44	131
51	24	65	36	83	100	143	120	129	132	139	90
76	67	62	49	64	81	122	47	124	141	130	45
61	52	77	82	101	48	99	128	119	46	91	140
68	75	60	63	80	127	110	123	98	125	118	107
53	72	69	78	57	102	97	126	111	108	115	92
70	59	74	55	96	79	104	109	94	113	106	117
73	54	71	58	103	56	95	112	105	116	93	114

Figure 15

The numbers of form $n(n+1)$ are called 'metasquare numbers' or 'double triangle numbers'. This edition number happens to be one such number and we will have to wait for over six years for the next metasquare number edition 182 (=13x14). The author has given few examples and readers may like to create more pieces of art on 12x13 board.

Chess Art



A Game of Chess, Jose Gallegos y Arnosa (1859-1917), Spain



Chess in Up and Dead by Claude Hardenne (b.1946), Belgium



RIP Jonathan Penrose OTB and CC GM

b. 7 October 1933; d. 30 November 2021

By John E. Hawkes

Jonathan Penrose was the leading British OTB player in the 1960s and early 1970s, defeating the likes of Tal and Euwe. He won the British Championship a record 10 times, but remained an amateur and was only awarded the FIDE GM title in 1993.

Penrose switched to CC in the 1970s and gained the GM title in 1983. He led his country to victory in the 9th CC Olympiad (1982–87). Obits:

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/dec/02/jonathan-penrose-obituary>

<https://www.chess.com/news/view/jonathan-penrose-obituary>

White: Povah, Nigel
Black: Penrose, Jonathan
BPCF Jubilee 1981–85
QGA [D59]

[Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.d4 **d5**
2.c4 **dxc4**
3.Nf3 **a6**
4.e3 **e6**
5.Bxc4 **c5**
6.Qe2

In the same Jubilee Tournament Diaconescu - Penrose went; 6.0–0 Nf6 7.a4 Nc6 8.Qe2 Qc7 9.Nc3 Bd6 10.Rd1 0–0 11.h3 h6 12.b3 cxd4 13.exd4 Bd7 14.Bb2 Na5 15.Ne5 Rfd8 16.Rac1 Qb6 17.Rb1 Rac8 18.Nxd7 Rxd7 19.d5 Re7 20.Ne4 Nxe4 21.Qxe4 f5! 22.Qf3 e5! and Black won on the k-side.

6... **b5**
7.Bb3 **Nf6**
8.0-0 **Bb7**
9.Rd1 **Nbd7**
10.Nc3 **Qc7**
11.e4 **cxd4**
12.Nxd4 **Bc5**

Gilman v Romanov (USSR Corres. 1966) is an interesting reference for an alternative B-move; 12...Bd6 13.g3 Be5 14.Bg5 h6 15.Be3 b4 16.Na4 Bxe4 17.Rac1 Qb7 18.Nc5 Nxc5 19.Rxc5 Bxd4 when the inbetween-move 20.Ba4+! prevents Black castling.

13.Be3 **0-0**
14.f3 **Rfd8**

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15.Qf2 **Rac8**
16.a4 **b4**
17.Nce2 **Qe5**
18.Nf4 **Bd6**
19.Qh4 **Nc5**
20.Nd3 **Nxd3**
21.Rxd3 **Rd7**
22.Rad1 **Rcd8**



23.Bc4?
23.Nxe6! was the move Povah had, with complications not unfavourable to White, e.g. 23...fxe6
a) 23...Re8? 24.Nxg7 Kxg7
25.Kf1!+- (An extraordinary king move explained by 25.Bd4? Bc5!±);
b) 23...Bxe4 24.Rxd6 Rxd6 25.Nxd8 Rxd1+ 26.Bxd1 Qd6 27.Bb3 Qxd8 28.fxe4+-;
24.Bf4 (24.Qg3 Nd5 25.exd5 Qxe3+! 26.Rxe3 Bxg3 27.hxg3 Bxd5 28.Bxd5 exd5 29.Rd4 a5 30.Re5= ish.)
24...Qc5+ 25.Kh1 Bxf4 26.Bxe6+ Kh8 27.Bxd7 and Black would refuse the continuation 27...Rxd7 28.Rxd7 Nxd7 29.Qxf4 with Rc1 being a very serious threat.

23... **Bc5**
24.Qg3
24.Qf2 almost holds the position; 24...Bxe4 25.fxe4 (25.Nc6 Bxc6 26.Bxc5 Qf4µ; 25.R3d2 Bg6! 26.Bxa6 Nd5 27.Nf5 Nxe3 28.Rxd7 Rxd7 29.Rxd7 Bxf5 30.Rd8+ Bf8 31.Qd2 Nd5+-) 25...Ng4 26.Nf3 (!) 26...Rxd3! 27.Rxd3 (27.Nxe5 Rxd1+ 28.Bf1 Nxe3!+-) 27...Qc7±
Now Penrose has the upper hand, and a combinative sequence to reduce to a bishops-of-same-colour ending.
24... **Qxg3**
25.hxg3 **Nxe4!**

26.fxe4 **Bxe4**
27.R3d2 **e5**
28.Bxa6 **Bxd4**
29.Bxd4 **Rxd4**
30.Rxd4 **Rxd4**
31.Rxd4 **exd4**



32.a5 **Kf8!**

The winning move.

33.Bc4
33.Bc8 Ke7 34.a6 Kd8+
33... **Ke7**
34.a6 **Kd6**
35.Bxf7 **Kc5**
36.Kf2 **Kb5**

0-1



This image is from Tim Harding's excellent interview in Chess Mail 3/2000 – well worth a read!



Hans Jack Berliner (January 27, 1929 – January 13, 2017) was a Professor of Computer Science in the USA and was the World Correspondence Chess Champion from 1965–1968.

Berliner was a Grandmaster of Correspondence Chess. In the pre-engine era, he played some beautiful games. Indeed, Geoff Clayton identified two of his games as featuring in two of his favourite correspondence chess games of all time - a rare accolade.

In today's article we show both of these games. One of them is a super-heavyweight Kings Indian tussle with Grandmaster Umansky in which Berliner loses.

The second game is much shorter but with a most remarkable finish.

White: Umansky, M M.
Black: Berliner, H J.
World Champions Jubilee
Correspondence, 2001
King's Indian Fianchetto [E62]
[Notes by Alastair Dawson]

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| 1.d4 | Nf6 |
| 2.c4 | g6 |
| 3.g3 | Bg7 |
| 4.Bg2 | 0-0 |
| 5.Nc3 | d6 |
| 6.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 7.0-0 | |

The Fianchetto Variation is one of the most popular lines for White players facing the Kings Indian. It is extremely solid and constitutes one system for White where Black cannot normally undertake kingside attacking plans that are a feature of many other King's Indian variations.

- | | |
|--------|-----|
| 7... | e5 |
| 8.d5 | Ne7 |
| 9.e4 | Nd7 |
| 10.Ne1 | b6 |
| 11.Nd3 | Nc5 |



Black challenges in the centre with the knight and is aware that, even if the Black pawn structure is damaged after an exchange of knights, it is still sufficiently solid not to cause Black any long-term difficulties.

12.f4 **exf4**

13.Bxf4

For some extra space White makes a concession to Black over the e5 square,

13... **h6**

14.Nf2

Not what the engines prefer - White is creating difficulties for Black in limiting the choice of squares on which the Bc8 can be developed - now the square g4 is covered.

14... **g5**

15.Be3 **f5**

Black counterattacks and makes a challenge down the f-file as is customary when the White pawns are fixed as we see here. White responds by exchanging off the black-squared bishops.

16.Bd4 **Bxd4**

17.Qxd4 **f4**

And Black continues the march of the f-pawn.

18.b4 **f3**

Tensions rise - only for White to initiate a series of tactical blows.

19.Bxf3 **Rxf3**

20.bxc5 **bx5**

21.Qd1

The dust has not quite settled yet but the pawn advances on Black's kingside have left some weaknesses on the White squares that White now attempts to challenge.

21... **Qf8**

22.e5



And now comes the central pawn thrust - in part, Black's difficulty here is that he has fallen behind in development: in particular the Ra8 and the Bc8 still need to get into the game. By contrast, the White rooks have potentially much more mobility. Such differences between Black and White can often be telling - and White seeks to exploit this difference with the e5 pawn advance.

22... **Ng6**

23.e6

The ...Ng6 move has given White an opportunity to make life difficult for Black - now the Bc8 has only one square to move to - a6.

23... **Ne5**

24.Nce4 **Ba6**

25.Nd2

Black has little choice now but to accept the c4 pawn - but White has seen through Black's intentions.

25... **Bxc4**

26.Nxc4 **Nxc4**

27.Ng4 **Rxf1+**

28.Qxf1 **Qxf1+**

29.Rxf1 **Kg7**



Now the dust has settled and the endgame beckons. On the face of it, White has the long-term advantage of pressure down the f-file and a monster pawn on e6. But White is also a pawn down and the Black c-pawn is passed.

30.Nf6 Ne5
31.h4 Rc8

With the intention of clearing a line down the c-file to facilitate the advance of the Black c-pawn.

32.h5 c4
33.Kg2 a5
34.a4 g4

Both sides are fighting hammer and tongs; now White steps up the pressure.

35.e7 Kf7
36.e8Q+ Rxe8
37.Nxe8+ Kxe8
38.Kf2

At this late stage, and with White an exchange ahead, one might think that the game is over. But White still faces a struggle to contain the advance of the c-pawn and the menacing Black knight on e5.

38... Ke7
39.Ke3 c6
40.Ke4 Nf3
41.Rc1 c5

And here comes the next c-pawn!

42.Kf5 Ne5

It is so often said how important the king is in the endgame. This game is a classic illustration of this - the White king is pinning Black down and soon the White rook will spring in to action.

43.Rc2 Kf7
44.Rb2 Nd3
45.Rb7+ Kf8
46.Kf6 Ke8
47.Ke6 Kf8
48.Rf7+ Kg8
49.Rf1

And with the Black king cut off, the Black cause is hopeless and he resigned.

1-0



White Sullivan,J.

Black: Berliner,H. J. [E60]

Golden Knights Correspondence
Champions, 1956

King's Indian Fianchetto [E60]

[Notes by Alastair Dawson]

1.d4 Nf6
2.Nf3 g6
3.c4 Bg7
4.b3

Not the best move and opening up weaknesses along the a1-h8 diagonal. So the question for Black is how best to exploit the deficiencies of this move.

4... 0-0
5.Bb2 d6
6.e3 Nbd7
7.Be2 e5



Many players would be tempted to play 7 ...c5 here and generate some additional tension along the diagonal. Black chooses a different plan, however, with an intention to create a Kings Indian attack starting with ...e4.

8.dxe5

But I don't think that he expected White to exchange first on e5 - now the a1-h8 diagonal does indeed start to look quite shaky.

8... dxe5
9.Nxe5 Ne4

How many times have we seen this sort of pin in club chess matches! But on this occasion the follow-up is quite elegant.

10.f4 Bxe5
11.fxe5 Qh4+

Here comes the cavalry - with such a damaging check one might expect mayhem over the board but instead something else happens.

12.g3 Nxe5
13.Qd4

White hopes to get the queens exchanged if at all possible.

13... Ne4+

14.Kd1

c5



Sometimes in chess you come across moves like this and say, 'wow!'. The two knights have woven a net to trap the White queen in the middle of the board while 15. Qd5 Nb6 is also terminal. White resigns.

0-1



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