

Scottish Correspondence Chess Association

Magazine No.168

Winter 2024

Best Game Prize 2024

This year's competition announced

ICCF Grading List 2025/1

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Chess Art

We look at Russian Galina Ivanovna Satonina

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Knights Tour On A 168 Cell Board

Awani gets festive

Games Column

Alastair shows you can win despite engines



NB printed copies no longer available

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



Welcome to the autumn edition of our 2024 magazine set. We seem to be cursed at present; no sooner had we said our farewells to David Cumming and Graham Morrison than we are mourning the passing of founder member Dr Val Nye and CCM Colin Beveridge within a few short weeks of each other.

As previously, we've highlighted some of the memories and play our departed friends have left us. I'm indebted yet again to John Hawkes for researching the material and annotating selected games by Val and Colin.

John has also found time to supply us with another of his Miniature Masterpiece series of games. A fascinating series if you haven't yet enjoyed it... As well as his other talents, John is an accomplished proof-reader, a talent which he brings to bear on my jumbled ramblings each issue...

The final ICCF rating list of 2024 is analysed by our grader Alistair Maxwell, who reports several healthy grading increases from our members.

Our Chess Art pages feature an extended selection of images by M C Escher, an artist I've been meaning to cover for ages now. As well as the visuals, there are links to articles on his life, ideas, influences and studies. Most of the images selected here are chess-themed in some way, but he also interwove mathematics, surrealism, and relativity into his extensive work.

We review the ICCF voting at the recent Congress in Wales and there are brief updates from Domestic Secretary Mickey Blake and International Secretary David Kilgour.

Awani Kumar continues exploring knight tours and has discovered a 24-fold cyclic semi-magic tour on a 7x24 board - the first of its kind.

Alastair Dawson features the multi-talented Jonathan Penrose OBE who achieved GM titles in both over-the-board and in correspondence play. We are treated to three fine wins in this selection.

Enjoy the read and thanks once again to Val Nye for his leadership in getting the SCCA up and going and to both Val and Colin Beveridge for the fine play and memories they have left us.

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

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

Recent 100 Club Winners

2024	1st	2nd
December	K B McAlpine	S R Gillam
November	W H Cormack	A P Borwell
October	I Mackintosh	A P Borwell

SCCA Officials

SCCA Officials				
President	Iain Mackintosh	11 West Grange Farm, St Andrews KY16 8LJ	+44 (0)1334 470287	president@scottishcca.co.uk
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SCCA Annual Best Game Prize



The SCCA Best Game Prize will once again operate this year, covering games completed during 2024. The trophy (pictured above) will carry the inscription of its sponsor, Raymond Burridge, i.e.

The R.J. Burridge Trophy SCCA Best Game Prize 2024 (winner's name)

To recap on the rules:

- Entries are games which finish in calendar year 2024;
- 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 2025
- The Committee will appoint a judge (who cannot enter!);
- The winner will be announced by end-March 2025 and we'll feature the game in a subsequent magazine;
- The winner receives a trophy miniature and certificate.

This year's judge will be announced shortly, 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 2023.

2nd Dimitar Karapchanski Memorial

The Bulgarian CCA is delighted to announce the 2nd Dimitar Karapchanski Memorial.

The tournament is played on the ICCF server using the Silli system (10 games).

It is organized for all players with an ELO rating of 0-2750 (max. two sections per player).

All player entries (max. 2 per player) will be sorted by the player's ELO in the 2025/1 list as of 01.01.2025 within the respective groups. Entry Link: <https://www.iccf.com/EventEntry.aspx?id=107649>

- 2 groups A and A-1: players 2500 – 2750 ELO
- 2 groups B and B-1: players 2450 – 2499 ELO
- 2 groups C and C-1: players 2400 – 2449 ELO
- 2 groups D and D-1: players 2300 – 2399 ELO
- 2 groups E and E-1: players 2150 – 2299 ELO
- 2 groups F and F-1: players 1900 – 2149 ELO
- 2 groups G and G-1: players 0 – 1899 ELO.

In practice, this means that each player can play 2 sections!!

Tournament description:

- ICCF standard time control 10 moves in 50 days with duplication after 20 days is used.
- 45 days of leave per year are available to each player.
- There is no special leave in this event.
- Linear conditionals can be entered.
- This tournament allows claims based on the seven piece tablebase.
- The event will be rated and if the criteria are met, it will be possible to achieve ICCF title norms.
- Tie -breaking: if a tie persists after the standard tie-breaking procedures (para 1.3.4.2.2. a-e), the order is determined by the higher rating in previous ranking lists (before the end of the tournament) until broken.
- If needed, adjudicators will be selected by the server.
- Other participants can see the games after 10 games are finished in the event. and games are finished.
- The public can see the games after 10 games are finished in the event and games are finished.
- The tournament will start on 25.01.2025. There is no end date.
- TO/TD: Matjaz Pirs and IA Simeon Vinchev

Registrations:

- All entries have to go through the DE system on the ICCF server by opening Bulgaria menu in New Events. Entries cannot be sent via email!
- Entry fee for Direct Entry system is 9.00 Euro (in the case of NF Entries, this is the responsibility of NF).
- The ICCF rating as of 01.01.2025 (Rating List 2025/1) is binding.
- Closing date for Direct Entry is 17.01.2025.
- Closing date for NF entries is 15.01.2025.

Certificates:

Electronic certificates will be awarded for the first 10 places.

Amici Sumus,

TO Matjaz Pirs

EU/RoW Individual Championship 2025

The Super-Regional Tournaments Commission (SRTC) is glad to announce the 2025 cycle of Rest of the World Server + European Server and Postal Championship!

Webserver:

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

Postal (EU only):

Open Rounds: for players rated under 2100, starts when filled

Semi-Finals: for players rated between 2100 or over, starts when filled.

14th Chess 960 World Cup



The tournament will be played by server and will be organized in three or four stages, depending on the number of the entries. The sections of the preliminary round will have 6 players (10 games) with 2 qualified for the next round.

All sections will be with double round robin (players will have the same position with Black and White but all

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positions will defer from one opponent to another). Time control will be Triple Block (Duration of Tournament: 450 days; Initial Clock: 50 days; Initial Bank: 75 days; Increment: 2 days) .

Players may enter in the usual way through the ICCF Server Entry System.

All the finalists of the 11th Chess 960 World Cup start the 14th Chess 960 World Cup from the Semi-Finals (starting approx. in the first half of 2026)..

The closing of the registrations is the 28th of February 2025.

A player can apply for more than one preliminary group.

Allocation of players to their sections will be made as random as possible; however, geographical distribution as well as an achievement of reasonable equality of the average rating will be taken into account.

Tournament Organisation

The tournament starts on 15.03.2025.

Registration closes on 28.02.2025 to allow for pairings.

Prizes

Prize 1000 € for the first 3 players (500 €, 300 €, 200 €), no tie break.

Qualifications

The winner and the runner-up of each preliminary section will qualify for the next round.

Although the number of preliminary groups which each player may enter is unlimited, no player will qualify for more than two semifinal groups or more than one place in the final (in case of four stages the qualification to the second round is unlimited).

In case the total number of players is not a multiple of 6, the players with the highest Chess 960 ELO (up to a maximum of 5, no multiple entries) will be moved directly to the next round.

Member Federations are asked to give the tournament wide publicity to all their players.

We wish all participants many interesting games and new connections with CC friends in other countries, based on the spirit of friendship and the ICCF motto AMICI SUMUS.

Revised TD Test 2025

The revised TD test valid from 2025-01-01 is now live.

The revised section 3.6. states the following:

"... every IA must also pass the TD Test once per year (when the updated ICCF Rules become available for the upcoming year, typically during December and definitively by 1st January) or cannot be assigned to a new ICCF tournament that year (measured from 1st February)..."

Any feedback about the test is welcomed.
P.S. The link(s) for retaking the test(s) are under your Player Details page. Select the TD Details from the dropdown menu.
Valer Eugen Demian

World Correspondence Chess Championship 2025 Cycle



ICCF, in association with the Bulgarian Correspondence Chess Association (Bulgarian CCA), is pleased to announce World Cup 24.

Organisation

Registration will begin immediately and will close on 10th November 2024.

Rating list 2024/4 will be applied.

All Preliminary groups will finish on 25th October 2026.

The Semifinal round will be started on 25th November 2026. Each group will consist of 9-15 players.

All Semifinal groups will finish on 25th October 2028

The Final round will be started on 25th November 2028

With 13-17 players

All groups of the Preliminary and Semifinal stages start on the same day.

Each group winner will be promoted to the next round together with the best runners-up of the groups (as decided by the tournament organiser).

For multi-round and promotion tournaments (including the WCCC series of events), a positive score is required for a first-place finish to be awarded. If no player in these types of tournaments (for any specific place, whether first, second, etc.) achieves a positive score, then no player is awarded qualification (for that place) to the next round or to the next higher class (1.3.1.).

Tie-breaking Procedures

- number of wins by each tied player in the tournament (the Baumbach tie-breaking system)
- if after "a" the tie persists, then the points evaluation by the Sonneborn-Berger-System,
- if after "b" the tie persists, then the results of the tied players against each other.

Prizes

The group winners of the Preliminary stage and of the Semifinal stage win a prize, paid as ICCF Vouchers or suitable prizes provided by our sponsors.

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Cash prizes are only available to those with a acceptable route of payment, otherwise in ICCF vouchers.

Tie-breaks will not be applied in respect of these cash prizes and instead those players scoring equal points will equally share any prize money due.

Qualification

The winner of the Final round has the right to take part in the Final round of the next correspondence chess World Cup tournament without paying any entry fee.

Participants in the Final stage have the right to take part in the intermediate stage of the next correspondence chess World Cup tournament.

Caribbean Tropical Sun Open

The Cuban Correspondence Chess Federation (FECAP) are pleased to announce the "**Caribbean Tropical Sun 2025 International Tournament**"

The Tournament will be played in a single phase using ICCF Rating List 2025/1 with 4 sections:

Section A for players with rating 2400 or higher

Section B for players with rating 2300 – 2399

Section C for players with rating between 2000 – 2299

Section D for players with rating 1999 or lower

The tournament will be played on the ICCF server at triple block time control with appropriate tournament duration according to the average rating of each group: 350 days event, with 75 days initial bank and 1 day increment for the first 50 moves is used, no guaranteed time after move 50.

The tournament will be rated and valid to obtain the norms for ICCF titles in groups that meet all the conditions required by the ICCF.

Registered players grouped by rating will be allocated to groups of 11, 13 or 15 players in ranking order, so that all group members have a similar rating. The number of groups will depend on the number of registrations. Up to 2 registrations will be allowed, with the second registration the player will be paired in the group following the first group.

The start date of the tournament is **March 30, 2025**.

Registrations

The registrations and the payment of the fees for **Cuban Tropical Sun International Tournament 2025** must be done by the DE system in the server of the ICCF opening the menu Cuba in New Events.

The registration fee is 9 €. Inscriptions must be received no later than **March 10, 2025**.

Certificates

This tournament will award certificates to the top 3 in each group. The tiebreaker system will be: 1. Baumbach, 2. Sonneborn-Berger, 3. the results of the players tied with each other and 4. the lowest rating at the start of the tournament.

Fernschach 2025 CC Database

Fernschach 2025



Herbert Bellmann writes to advise that Fernschach 2025 offers a CC games database in addition to ICCF and commercial products. In summary:

- Database available annually since 2000
- Nearly 2,032,000 games (from 1991)
- Over 100,000 new games since CD 2024
- 11,084 annotated games (400 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 €14.00 (shipping within Germany) and €16 (shipping elsewhere). Email version €12.

For further details, contact Herbert at:

Herbert Bellmann
Auf dem Brink 11a
46399 Bocholt
Germany

Bank details: Transfer the purchase amount to:
Bocholt Municipal Savings Bank (Stadtsparkasse
Bocholt)
IBAN DE 33428500350100118801
BIC SWIFT WELADED1BOH
Purpose: FS 2025

Your order must provide your complete postal address!

Email: hebel57@gmx.de

<https://www.bdf-fernschachbund.de/news/fernschach-cd-2025-erschienen.html>

ICCF Games Archive Updates



December updates to the Games Archive have now been added. You can now download all archives to end-2024.

SCCA on Twitter



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

The account is linked to membership@scottishcca.co.uk

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

Our page looks like this:



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

SCCA on Facebook



Mickey Blake continues as our FB editor.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/scottishcca>

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

For reference, ICCF are on Facebook at:

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



2025/1 Grading List

By Alistair Maxwell

The first ICCF grading list of 2025 is published and new grades are based on 3 months' results reported between 1 Oct and 30 Dec 2024. The grades will apply to internationally graded games starting between 1 Jan and 31 Mar 2025.

As far as I am aware no norms or titles have been achieved in this grading period.

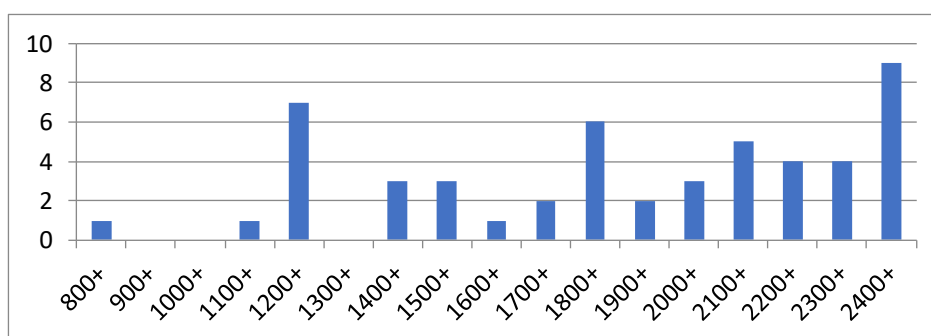
There was 1 addition to the list as Christopher Burton returns after a period of inactivity (which I assume is why he only has 22 games!). 3 have dropped off the list due to inactivity.

The most significant rating moves were Robert Gilbert (+66), Robert Bruce (+59), Ian Foote (+41) John Armstrong and Charles O'Neill-McAleenan (both +30), Michael Blake (+29) and William Cormack (+27).

New games centurions were Michael Blake (1000+) and Iain Sneddon (900+). Highest recorded games this quarter were Robert Bruce (40), Iain Sneddon (33) and Carlos Almarza Mato (31).

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 (although see above!). 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)	2675	2154 ↓	532	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	876	2464 ↑
518	Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	435	2337 ↑	216	MacMillen, A N	1544	1702 ↓
	Anderson, T R	77	1810 ↓		Major, B	124	1283 ↑
	Antunes, A	57	2210 ↑	566	Marshall, I H	946	2196 ↓
313	Armstrong, J McK	582	1272 ↑	434	Matheis, T (IM)	331	2470 ↓
511	Beecham, C R (SIM)	565	2479 ↑		Maxwell, A	78	2035 ↓
599	Bell, A D (IM)	285	2429 ↔		Miles, A	106	1231 ↔
501	Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	513	2378 ↔	598	Montgomery, R S (CCM, SM)	432	2365 ↓
472	Blake, M J (CCM)	1011	2432 ↑		Moss, R	47	1778 ↔
	Burton, C	22	1453		Munro, P R	105	2163 ↑
	Bruce, R (CCE)	1251	1942 ↑	474	Murden, C (IM)	697	2466 ↓
486	Buchan, A W (CCM)	489	2450 ↓	564	Murray, J S	122	2067 ↑
602	Burridge, R J	2029	1691 ↓	603	O'Neill-McAleenan, C	259	1679 ↑
	Carswell, D	67	1461 ↓	604	Paine, Prof K A (CCM, SM)	260	2333 ↔
247	Cormack, W H	143	1847 ↑		Pettigrew, S	209	1294 ↓
422	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	179	2144 ↔	432	Price, D	549	2069 ↓
478	Dunn, J	577	1269 ↓		Rafferty, F	54	1154 ↓
371	Edney, D	339	1818 ↔		Robinson, A	33	1569 ↔
	Foote, I	288	1846 ↑		Sedstrem, A	124	1298 ↑
462	Gilbert, R	359	1581 ↑	477	Smith, M J (CCE)	134	2239 ↔
548	Kilgour, D A (GM)	351	2289 ↑	439	Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	910	2425 ↑
260	Knox, A	431	1266 ↔	057	Taylor, A	55	1883 ↔
264	Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	1258	2235 ↓		Taylor, R	82	1425 ↔
	MacDonald, M	157	848 ↓		Taylor, W (CCE)	255	2173 ↑
584	MacGregor, C A	559	1909 ↓	605	Whittaker, I P (CCE)	366	2401 ↑
				480	Wicht, D	82	1890 ↔



Statistical Analysis

Total listed	51
New entrants	1
Deletions (inactive, lapsed, non-members etc.)	3
Grading increases (↑)	19
Grading decreases (↓)	18
Grading static (↔)	13

Top 30 Grades

Beecham, C R (SIM)	2479	Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	2235
Matheis, T (IM)	2470	Antunes, A	2210
Murden, C (IM)	2466	Marshall, I H	2196
Mackintosh, I (SIM)	2464	Taylor, W (CCE)	2173
Buchan, A W (CCM)	2450	Munro, P R	2163
Blake, M J (CCM)	2432	Almarza Mato, C (CCE)	2154
Bell, A D (IM)	2429	Dawson, Prof A G (CCE)	2144
Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	2425	Price, D	2069
Whittaker, I P (CCE)	2401	Murray, J S	2067
Bennett, P G (CCM, SM)	2378	Maxwell, A	2035
Montgomery, R S (CCM, SM)	2365	Bruce, R (CCE)	1942
Anderson, G M (CCM, SM)	2337	MacGregor, C A	1909
Paine, Prof K A (CCM, SM)	2333	Wicht, D	1890
Kilgour, D A (GM)	2289	Taylor, A	1883
Smith, M J (CCE)	2239	Cormack, W H	1847

Top 10 Rated Games

Almarza-Mato, C (CCE)	2675	Blake, M J (CCM)	1011
Burridge, R J	2046	Marshall, I H	946
MacMillen, A N	1544	Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	910
Lloyd, G (CCM, SM)	1258	Mackintosh, I (SIM)	876
Bruce, R (CCE)	1251	Murden, C (IM)	697

Selected Personal Best Grades 2025/1

	New	Previous		Gain
Blake, M J (CCM)	2432	2403	2024/4	29
Sneddon, I (CCM, SM)	2425	2397	2024/2	28
Whittaker, I P (CCE)	2401	2386	2024/4	15
Antunes, A	2210	2205	2024/4	5
Taylor, W (CCE)	2173	2162	2023/4	11
Major, B	1283	1280	2021/3	3

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), Sneddon, I (2)

Scottish Master (SM) title norms are held by:

Buchan, A (1), Whittaker, I P (1)

Correspondence Chess Master (CCM) title norms:

Whittaker, I P (1), Taylor, W (1)

Correspondence Chess Expert (CCE) title norms:

Burridge, R J (2).

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.



The Hawkes Files

By John E. Hawkes

Introduction

A selection of games from the IFSB pre-WW2 period.

White: Opsahl, Haakon
Black: Dyckhoff, Eduard
 IFSB Championship 1931–32
 Ruy Lopez, Open [C83]
 Notes by John E Hawkes

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 1.e4 | e5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3.Bb5 | a6 |
| 4.Ba4 | Nf6 |
| 5.0-0 | Nxe4 |
| 6.d4 | b5 |
| 7.Bb3 | d5 |
| 8.dxe5 | Be6 |
| 9.c3 | Be7 |
| 10.Nbd2 | 0-0 |
| 11.Bc2 | f5 |
| 12.exf6 | Nxf6 |
| 13.Nd4 | Nxd4 |
| 14.cxd4 | Bd6 |
| 15.Nf3 | Bg4 |
| 16.Qd3 | |



- 27.Bxh7+!
 The Norwegian plays his best and most complicated option: not 27.Rxe6 Bxe6-/+ after simplification.
 27... Kf7
 28.Rxc6 Nxf4
 29.Re3 g6
 30.Kf2 Ne6
 31.Re2 Qf6
 32.Re5 Nc5!
 33.Kg2 Nd3



- | | |
|---------|------|
| 16... | Qe8! |
| 17.Re1 | Qh5 |
| 18.Ne5 | Rae8 |
| 19.f3 | Bc8 |
| 20.Bf4 | c5 |
| 21.Ng6 | c4 |
| 22.Qd2 | Bxf4 |
| 23.Nxf4 | Qg5! |
| 24.g3 | Nh5 |
| 25.Rxe8 | Rxe8 |
| 26.Re1 | Re6 |

- 34.Rg5?
 A bad mistake. 34.Bg8+ Kxg8
 35.Re8+ Kf7 36.Rxc8 Qxd4 37.Rc7+ Kg8 38.Rc6+–
 34... Ne1+!
 35.Kf1 Nxf3
 36.Bxg6+ Kg7!
 The sort of move a human can ignore.
 Not 36...Kg8 37.Qf4! and White simplifies to a favourable bishop endgame; for example 37...Bh3+ (37...Nxb2+? 38.Kg2+-) 38.Kf2 Qxf4 39.gxf4 Nxb2 40.fxg5



0-1

Eduard Dyckhoff finished first or equal-first in three consecutive IFSB finals between 1929 and 1932



White: Vidmar, Milan
Black: Balogh, Janos
 IFSB Championship 1936–38
 Queen's Gambit Symmetrical [D06]
 Notes by John E Hawkes

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 1.d4 | d5 |
| 2.Nf3 | Bf5 |
| 3.c4 | e6 |
| 4.cxd5 | exd5 |
| 5.Qb3 | Nc6 |
| 6.Bg5 | Bb4+ |
| 7.Nc3 | Nf6 |
| 8.e3 | 0-0 |
| 9.Be2 | |



- | | |
|-------------|------|
| 9... | Qd7 |
| To play Ne4 | |
| 10.Bxf6 | gxf6 |
| 11.0-0 | Rad8 |
| 12.Rac1 | Ba5 |
| 13.Na4 | Bb6 |
| 14.Bb5 | Qd6 |
| 15.Bxc6 | bxc6 |
| 16.Qc3 | Rb8 |
| 17.b4 | Kh8 |

Two rather unexpected knight moves follow from Vidmar.

- 18.Nb2 Rg8
19.Ne1 a5
20.a3 axb4
21.axb4 Bg4
22.Rc2 Rbe8

[22...Ra8 and if 23.Nbd3 Bd1 24.Rd2 Ba4=]

- 23.Nbd3 Re4

- 24.Qxc6!
(Petrovic)

24.f3? Rxe3 25.fxg4 Rxc4 26.Qxc6 (26.Rf3!? Bxd4!) 26...Bxd4 27.Nf2 Qxb4 and White has problems.

- 24... Qxc6
25.Rxc6 Be2
26.Rxf6 Kg7
27.Rf5 Rd8
28.Nf4 Bxf1
29.Kxf1



- 29... Rd6
30.Ned3 f6
31.Nc5! Bxc5
32.bxc5 Rd7
33.Nxd5 Re6
34.g4 h6
34...c6 35.Nf4+-
35.Kg2 Rf7
36.Nf4 Ra6
37.d5 Kf8
38.h4 Ra4
39.Kf3 Ra1
40.c6 Ra7
41.Nh5 Ke7
42.Ng3 Rh7
43.Ne4 Rf7
44.Rh5 Rh7
45.Kf4 Ra8
46.Kf5 Rf8
47.Nc5 Rhh8
48.Ne6 Rc8
49.e4 Kf7
50.f3 Ke7
51.e5 fxg4
52.Kxe5 Kf7
53.Rf5+ Ke7
54.Nxc7 Rxc7
55.d6+

1-0



White: Herzog, Franz
Black: Vidmar, Milan
IFSB Championship 1936-38
Queen's Gambit Declined [D61]
Notes by John E Hawkes

- 1.d4 d5
2.c4 c6
3.Nc3 Nf6
4.Nf3 e6
5.Bg5 Nbd7
6.e3 Be7
7.Qc2 0-0
8.Rd1 a6
9.Bd3 h6
10.Bh4 Re8
11.0-0



- 11... b5
12.cxb5 cxb5
13.Bg3 Bb7
14.Rc1 Re8
15.Qb1 Qb6
16.Ne5 Nxe5
17.Bxe5 Ng4
18.Bg3 Bd6
19.Ne2 Bxg3
20.hxg3 Rxc1
21.Nxc1 Qd8
22.Nb3 g6
Provocative; 22...Qg5 23.Be2=
23.Ne5
If 23.Bxg6 Black plays Qg5 with tempo.
23... Bc8
24.a4



- 24... e5!
24...Qg5 25.Be2 Nxe3 26.fxe3 Qxe3+ 27.Rf2 Qxd4 28.Qc1 bxa4-/+
25.axb5 Qg5
26.Be2 exd4
27.bxa6 dxe3
28.f4 Qe7
29.b4 Nf6
30.Qa2 Bg4
31.Ra1 h5
32.Kf1? Bxe2+
[32...Ne4!]
33.Qxe2 d4
34.a7 Ne4!
35.Qb5



- 35... e2+!
36.Ke1 Nxc5!
37.a8Q
37.Qxc5 Qe3! wins.
37... Nd3+!!
38.Qxd3 Qxb4+
39.Qd2
Other moves and Black mates.
39... Qxd2+
Other moves and White wins!
40.Kxd2 e1Q+
41.Rxe1 Rxa8
42.Kd3 Ra3+
43.Kxd4 Rxg3
44.Re2 Kg7
45.Ke5 h4
46.Ke4 f5+
47.Ke5



47... Rd3!

47...Rd3! The principal variation goes; 48.Ke6 (48.Re1 Rd2! 49.Rg1 Re2+) 48...Rd8 49.Ke7 Rd4! 50.Rf2 Re4+ with his king becoming cut off White resigned. Vidmar won the event with a score of 11.5/14 points, one point ahead of Dyckhoff.

0-1



White: Schaedle, Richard
Black: Demetriescu, Theophil
 IFSB correspondence 1934
 English - Four Knights {A28}
 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.c4 e5
2.Nf3 Nc6
3.Nc3 Nf6



White: Atakisi, Fatih
Black: Runowiecki, Tadeusz
[A32]
 ICCF Master Class, 1990
 Symmetrical English/Catalan [A22]
 [Notes by John E Hawkes]

1.d4 Nf6
2.c4 e6
3.g3 c5
4.Nf3 cxd4
5.Nxd4 Qc7
6.Nd2 Bb4
7.Qb3 Nc6

4.d4 exd4
 4...e4 5.Nd2 Bb4!?
5.Nxd4 Bb4
 Probably best.
6.Nxc6 bxc6
7.Qb3 Bc5
8.e3 0-0
9.Be2 d5
10.0-0 Be6
11.Qa4 Qd7
12.cxd5 cxd5
13.Qxd7 Nxd7
14.Rd1 c6
15.b3 f5
16.Bb2 a5?!
17.Rac1 Rac8
 Wrong rook!
18.Ba6 Rc7
 18...Ra8? 19.Bb7+– of course;
 18...Rb8 19.Na4+–
19.Ne2 Ra8
20.Nf4 Kf7
 ♠20...Bf7 21.Bd3 g6
21.Be2 g5
22.Nxe6 Kxe6



1-0



Miniature Correspondence Masterpieces No. 35

8.Nxc6
 [8.Nc2 Ba5 9.Bg2 d5 10.0-0 0-0
 11.Rd1 Qe5=
8... Qxc6



The Black king seems well-centralised and counterplay on the Q-side is imminent, but...
23.g4! Bd6
 23...a4 24.gxf5+ Kxf5 25.b4 Rb8 (25...Bxb4 26.Rxd5+) 26.b5! cxb5 27.Rxd5+ wins..
24.gxf5+ Kxf5
25.e4+! Kxe4
 25...Ke6 26.Rxc6! Rxc6 27.exd5+ wins; 25...Kg6 26.exd5 e5 27.Bd3+ Kh6 28.Re1 wins.
26.Bg4 Be5
 26...Kf4 27.Rd4+
27.Rc4+!
 A beautiful finish: 27.Rc4+! dxc4 28.f3+ Ke3 29.Bc1+ Ke2 30.f4#
 Richard Schaedle lived a very short life, latterly in London, and died in 1943 during WW2 at the age of 29. Theophil Demetriescu 1891–1958, born in Romania, was a celebrated concert pianist who played with the Berlin Philharmonic and also recorded many works for the VOX and Odeon labels.

9.Qxb4!?

A risky, but highly interesting sacrifice - Atakisi commenting in "ICCF Gold".

9... Qxh1
10.Nf3 b6!
11.b3 Bb7
12.Ba3 0-0-0

12...Kd8 13.Ne5 Bg2 and White castles long! 14.0-0-0 Bxf1 15.Rxd7+! Nxd7 (15...Kc8 16.Qd6+-) 16.Qe7+ Kc8 17.Qxd7+ Kb8 18.Bd6#

13.c5 Bxf3
14.exf3



14... Qxf3?
Atakisi indicated 14...Nd5! and Black can organize his king's defence e.g. 15.Qe4 f5 16.Qd3 Kb8 (Even

16...Kb7!?) 17.cxb6 (17.Qa6? Qxf3 18.cxb6 Qc3+ 19.Ke2 Qe5+ 20.Kf3 Qe4#!) 17...Nxb6 18.Bd6+ Ka8 19.Bc7 Rb8!

15.Ba6+ Kb8
16.cxb6 d6
16...Qh1+ 17.Ke2 Qe4+ (17...Qxa1? 18.bxa7+ Kc7 19.Qc5#) 18.Qxe4 Nxe4 19.f3! Nxc3+ 20.hxc3 axb6 21.Be7! (21.Bd6+ Ka7 22.Bb5) 21...Rde8 22.Bd6+ Ka7 23.Bb5 Rc8 24.Kd2 White is better, having Rh1 - h4 - a4! as a big threat. (24.Bxd7? is an interesting variation, leading to a rook-ending favouring Black; 24...Rcd8 25.Rd1 Rxd7 26.Bb8+ Rxb8 27.Rxd7+ Rb7μ)]

17.Rc1
17.Qxd6+ Rxd6 18.Bxd6+ Ka8 19.b7+ Qxb7 20.Bxb7+ Kxb7 with perhaps an endgame win for White.

17... Ne8?
17...Qe4+ 18.Qxe4 Nxe4 19.Rc7 (19.b7 Nc5 20.Bxc5 dxc5 21.Rxc5 g5 22.Rxc5 Rd6 23.Ra5 Rhd8=) 19...axb6 20.Rb7+ Ka8 21.Rxf7 Nc5 22.Bxc5 bxc5 23.Rxc7=

18.b7
18.bxa7+ Kxa7 19.Bb5 was also winning.

18... Qh1+
18...Nc7 19.Rxc7
19.Ke2 Qxc1
20.Bxc1 Ne7
21.Qa5 d5
22.Be3 e5



22... d4 23.Bf4 Rd7 24.Bb5 Re7 25.Bd6+-

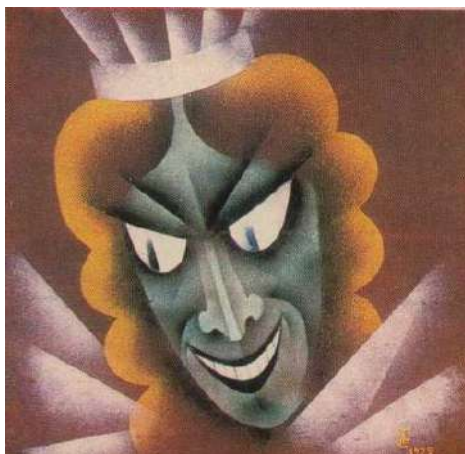
23.Bxa7+ Kxa7
24.b8Q+!

A sacrificial promotion finishing a fine game with some beautiful mating variations: 24.b8R no check! 24...Kxb8 25.Qb6+ Ka8 26.Qb7#; and the text finish 24.b8Q+ Rxb8 25.Bc8+! Na6 26.Qxa6#

1-0



Chess Art by Galina Satonina

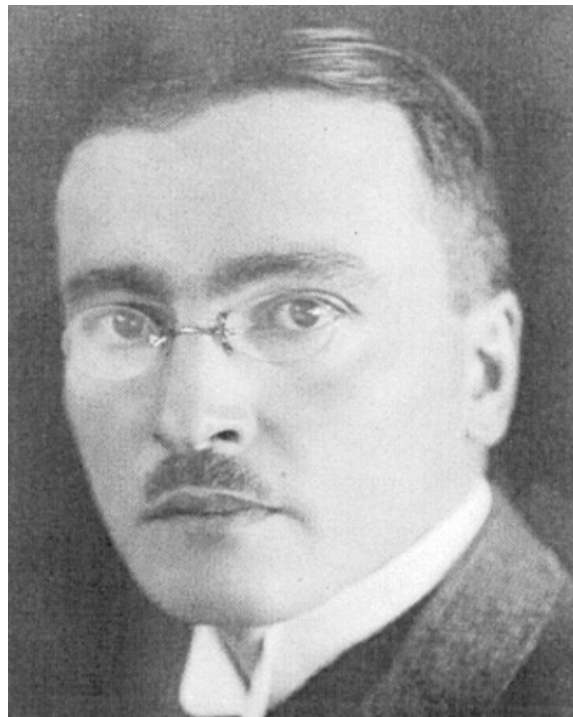


IFSB Players Gallery

Milan Vidmar



János Balogh



Theophil Demetrescu



Eduard Dyckhoff





Chess Art

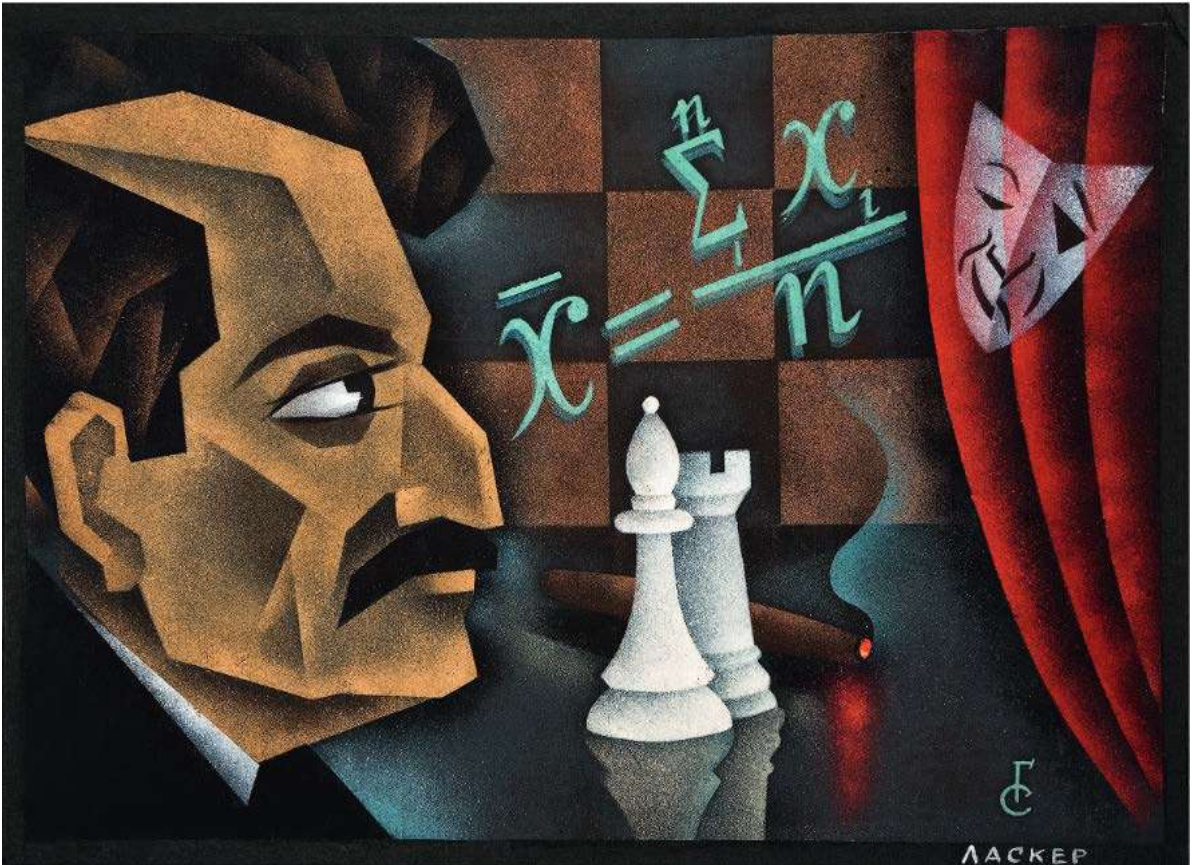
By Iain
Mackintosh

Galina Satonina

Our featured artist this time is Galina Ivanovna Satonina (1905–2000), who dedicated her long and eventful life to fine art, chess and poetry. She was born in Kazan, and as she grew up was constantly surrounded by loyal, kindred spirits and talented colleagues. An exceptional person who played chess passionately and professionally, she glorified this great form of art with her paintings and drawings. Later, she would state in her autobiography that she discovered the world of visual arts through chess and remained loyal to chess for her entire life. She embodied the Soviet domination of chess from the end of World War II to 1991.

Photo (1980s)





Lasker



Racing to queen



Team Tal



Signed Emanuel Lasker Painting



Knight Tour on 168 Cell Board

By Awani Kumar
Lucknow, India

SCCA Magazine has come out with its 168th issue and let us celebrate it with some interesting knight tours on 7x24 and 8x21 (= 168) cell board. Figure 1 and Figure 2 are semi-magic tours (the sum of move numbers in each row is the same) of knight on 8x21 board.

Sum of all the move numbers in each row is 676. Both are open tours (cell 1 and cell 168 are not a knight move apart) and readers are urged to look for the more challenging closed (re-entrant) tours.

Figure 3 is a semi-magic tour on 7x24 board. Sum of all the move numbers in each column is 2028. It is a closed tour and has a very interesting property. It is 24-fold cyclic. That is, it remains semi-magic if the tour starts from any of the cells 1, 8, 15, 22, ..., 162 and proceeds onwards. It is the first semi-magic tour ever constructed having 24-fold cyclic property.

Christmas is an occasion of festivities and celebrations around the globe. Besides get-togethers and parties, decorating the Christmas tree is a joyous activity. Figure 4 is a 'figured tour' on 8x21 board. The line joining the square numbers $1^2, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, 12^2$, namely, 1, 4, 9, ..., 144 delineate a Christmas tree.

1	84	105	148	27	58	107	146	676
104	149	2	83	106	147	28	57	676
3	82	85	168	59	26	145	108	676
150	103	4	81	144	109	56	29	676
5	80	167	86	25	60	143	110	676
102	151	6	79	112	141	30	55	676
7	78	87	166	61	24	111	142	676
152	101	8	77	140	113	54	31	676
9	76	165	88	23	62	115	138	676
100	153	10	75	114	139	32	53	676
11	74	89	164	63	22	137	116	676
154	99	64	21	136	117	52	33	676
73	12	163	90	49	34	135	120	676
98	155	20	65	118	121	48	51	676
13	72	91	162	35	50	119	134	676
156	97	66	19	122	125	44	47	676
71	14	161	92	45	36	133	124	676
96	157	18	67	126	123	46	43	676
15	70	93	160	37	40	129	132	676
158	95	68	17	130	127	42	39	676
69	16	159	94	41	38	131	128	676

1.

1	84	105	148	27	58	107	146	676
104	149	2	83	106	147	28	57	676
3	82	85	168	59	26	145	108	676
150	103	4	81	144	109	56	29	676
5	80	167	86	25	60	143	110	676
102	151	6	79	112	141	30	55	676
7	78	87	166	61	24	111	142	676
152	101	8	77	140	113	54	31	676
9	76	165	88	23	62	115	138	676
100	153	10	75	114	139	32	53	676
11	74	89	164	63	22	137	116	676
154	99	64	21	136	117	52	33	676
73	12	163	90	43	34	135	126	676
98	155	20	65	118	127	42	51	676
13	72	91	162	35	44	125	134	676
156	97	66	19	128	119	50	41	676
71	14	161	92	45	36	133	124	676
96	157	18	67	120	129	40	49	676
15	70	93	160	37	46	123	132	676
158	95	68	17	130	121	48	39	676
69	16	159	94	47	38	131	122	676

2.

1	166	3	80	89	164	5
86	83	168	165	4	79	90
167	2	85	88	81	6	163
84	87	82	7	162	91	78
97	156	73	92	77	8	161
72	13	96	11	158	93	76
155	98	157	74	95	160	9
14	71	12	159	10	75	94
69	154	99	18	103	20	65
100	15	70	151	66	149	104
153	68	17	102	19	64	21
16	101	152	67	150	105	148
59	26	109	144	61	22	63
142	111	60	25	108	147	106
27	58	143	110	145	62	23
112	141	28	57	24	107	146
29	54	139	116	31	56	135
140	113	30	55	136	117	32
53	138	115	34	51	134	119
114	35	52	137	118	33	50
125	42	129	36	49	120	133
128	45	126	123	130	37	48
41	124	43	46	39	132	121
44	127	40	131	122	47	38
2028	2028	2028	2028	2028	2028	2028

3.

13	10	55	20	29	42	7	22
54	19	12	9	56	21	28	41
11	14	79	30	43	8	23	6
18	53	44	83	78	57	40	27
15	86	17	80	31	24	5	58
52	45	84	87	82	77	26	39
85	16	81	32	25	4	59	76
46	51	96	107	88	91	38	3
97	106	89	92	33	94	75	60
50	47	108	95	90	37	2	35
105	98	101	48	93	34	61	74
100	49	104	109	102	1	36	67
113	110	99	168	165	66	73	62
142	167	112	103	72	63	68	65
111	114	143	166	135	164	153	162
144	141	134	71	154	161	64	69
115	156	159	136	133	70	163	152
158	145	140	155	160	151	132	129
119	116	157	126	137	130	123	150
146	139	118	121	148	125	128	131
117	120	147	138	127	122	149	124

4.



Christmas Carnival in Lucknow



International Update

By David Kilgour

Rudolf Kolesnikov Tournament Semi-Finals

MT-Kolesnik/SF2, Rudolf Kolesnikov Team Tournament SF2

		TD Yeremenko, Andrei (IA)															
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain	
1	Philippines Agila	2270	█	1	0	1.5	0	0	0	2.5	62	1	0	4	68	1	Perez, Brigiliano
2	France	2056	1	█	0	0	0	0	0	1	50	0	0	2	70	2	Rozier, Denis
3	Cuba	2190	0	0	█	1	0	0	0	1	100	1	0	1	71	3	Menéndez Rodríguez, Giraldo
4	Scotland	2082	0.5	0	0	█	0	0	0	0.5	16	-2	0	3	69	4	Kilgour, David A.
5	Ukraine 1	2285	0	0	0	0	█	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	5	Koshmak, Iurii
6	Finland	2245	0	0	0	0	0	█	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	5	Salminen, Jussi
7	Norway	2185	0	0	0	0	0	0	█	0	0	0	0	0	72	5	Sjøl, Henrik

North Atlantic Team Tournament VIII

NATT/8, North Atlantic Team Tournament VIII

		TD Vinchez, Simon (IA)																					
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain	
1	France	2405	█	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	0	6	46	-1	0	13	83	1	Tinture, Laurent	
2	England A	2390	1	█	0.5	0.5	1	0	0.5	0	0	1	0.5	0	5	50	0	0	10	86	2	Beckett, Philip J.	
3	United States	2377	1	0.5	█	0.5	0	1	0	1	0.5	0.5	0	0	5	50	0	0	10	86	3	Biedermann, Thomas	
4	Cuba	2373	1.5	0.5	0.5	█	0.5	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	0	4	57	1	0	7	89	4	Menéndez Rodríguez, Giraldo	
5	Wales 1	2414	0.5	1	0	0.5	█	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	3	50	0	0	6	90	5	Sherwood, Russell	
6	Norway	2310	0.5	0	1	0	0.5	█	0	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	3	50	0	0	6	90	6	Sjøl, Henrik	
7	Wales A	2419	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0	█	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0	3	50	0	0	6	90	7	Jones, Ian
8	Scotland	2390	0.5	0	1	0	0	0.5	0	█	0.5	0	0	0	2.5	50	0	0	5	91	8	Kilgour, David A.	
9	Mexico	2408	0.5	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	0	0.5	█	0	0	0	2	50	0	0	4	92	9	Sauceda Salazar, Eduardo	
10	Canada	2386	0.5	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	█	0	0	2	50	0	0	4	92	10	Marconi, Ralph P.	
11	Portugal	2367	0	0.5	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	█	0	1.5	50	0	0	3	93	11	Martins, Sérgio A.	
12	England B	2384	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	█	0	1	50	0	2	94	12	Pheby, Ian M.	
13	Spain	2392	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	█	0	0	0	0	96	13	de Andrés Serra, Sergio Iván	

ICCF Olympiad 23 Prelims S4

CCO23/S4, ICCF Olympiad 23 Preliminaries - Section 4

		TD Neves, Brian de Oliveira (IA)																	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain	
1	Denmark	2390	█	3	2	2	3	3	2.5	2	2	19.5	48	-1	3	40	8	1	Ottesen, Søren Rud
2	Belgium	2370	3	█	3	2.5	2.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	2	19.5	50	0	2	39	9	2	Dondelinger, Jean-Pierre
3	Switzerland	2453	2	3	█	2.5	3	2.5	2.5	2	2	19.5	50	0	2	39	9	3	Rüfenacht, Matthias
4	Iceland	2313	3	2.5	2.5	█	2.5	2.5	2.5	2	2	19.5	51	1	1	38	10	4	Jónsson, Daði Örn
5	Peru	2445	3	2.5	3	2.5	█	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	17.5	50	0	2	35	13	5	Figlio, Gino Franco
6	Scotland	2442	3	1.5	2.5	2.5	2	█	1.5	2.5	2	17.5	50	0	1	35	13	6	Beecham, C. Richard
7	Lithuania	2467	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	█	2	2.5	17.5	50	0	0	35	13	7	Chocenska, Dmitrijus
8	Türkiye	2413	2	2.5	2	2	1.5	2.5	2	█	1.5	16	50	0	0	32	16	8	Kural, Aziz Serhat
9	Mexico	2409	2	2	2	2	1.5	2	2.5	1.5	█	15.5	50	0	0	31	17	9	Hernández Martínez, Jerónimo

Current Friendly Internationals

SCO - USA 2024, Scotland - USA Friendly Match 2024

Scotland Kilgour, David A.		Tournament Management Committee				USA Biedermann, Thomas	
		White	Black	White	Black		
Board 1	SIM Beecham, C. Richard 2479 (94)	½	½	½	½	IM Biedermann, Kyle 2465 (82)	
Board 2	SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2431 (92)	.	.	.	.	CCM Tedesco, Matthew 2432 (84)
Board 3	CCM Sneddon, Iain 2410 (58)	.	.	.	.	IM Meiners, Edwin 2414 (100)
Board 4	CCM Beveridge, Colin 2353 (71)	.C	.C	.C	.C	CCM Ralls, Richard 2346 (59)	
Board 5	CCE Whittaker, Ian P. 2317 (79)	½	.	.	½	CCM Price, Brennan 2318 (73)	
Board 6	CCM Lloyd, Geoffrey 2301 (75)	.	.	.	.	CCM Relyea, Alexander 2314 (60)
Board 7	CCE Taylor, Wilf 2110 (81)	1	1	0	0	Nurmi, Ronald 2102 (103)	
Board 8	Price, Derek 2063 (89)	½	½	½	½	Quirk, Michael 2056 (94)	
Board 9	Murray, James S. 2021 (92)	.	.	.	.	Helmbrecht, John R. 2014 (96)
Board 10	MacGregor, Colin A. 1957 (83)	½	½	½	½	Capron, Mark 1948 (104)	
Board 11	CCE Bruce, Robert 1899 (52)	½	½	½	½	Aiken, Joseph 1863 (79)	
Board 12	Cormack, William H. 1820 (94)	1	0	1	0	Schoenwald, Ira 1821 (126)	
Board 13	Anderson, Thomas R. 1811 (89)	½	½	½	½	Ott, Paul B. 1809 (88)	
Board 14	Burrige, Raymond John 1776 (69)	½	0	1	½	Messinger, Bruce 1778 (92)	
Board 15	MacMillen, Andrew N. 1736 (77)	.	0	1	.	Korman, Joseph 1708 (74)	
Board 16	White, Richard 1548 (95)	0	0	1	1	Stack, James 1575 (106)	
Board 17	Gilbert, Robert 1485 (85)	1	1	0	0	Braider, Christopher 1475 (72)	
Board 18	Sedstrem, Alan 1327 (107)	1	0	1	0	Niemi, Greg 1360 (77)	
Board 19	Dunn, John 1327 (71)	1	0	1	0	Cadarett, Joseph 1357 (105)	
Board 20	Armstrong, John M. 1307 (78)	0	½	½	1	Jakubas, Ed 1321 (79)	
Board 21	Hardwick, Martin E. 761 (59)	1	0	1	0	Ellis, Roscoe 782 (73)	
Total:		14.5		15.5			

POL-SCO 2024, Poland-Scotland 2024

Poland Szerlak, Andrzej		Tournament Management Committee				Scotland Kilgour, David A.	
		White	Black	White	Black		
Board 1	IM Szerlak, Andrzej 2400 (45)	.	.	.	.	SIM Mackintosh, Iain 2431 (92)
Board 2	IM Woźnica, Mirosław 2380 (57)	.	.	.	.	CCM Sneddon, Iain 2410 (58)
Board 3	CCM Bartkiewicz, Bronisław 2374 (71)	½	½	½	½	CCE Whittaker, Ian P. 2317 (79)	
Board 4	Fiedor, Paweł 2359 (92)	.	.	.	.	CCM Lloyd, Geoffrey 2301 (75)
Board 5	Wiaderek, Piotr 2170 (99)	.	.	.	.	CCE Taylor, Wilf 2110 (81)
Board 6	Grochol, Kamil 2123 (150)	.	.	.	.	Price, Derek 2063 (89)
Board 7	Makosiej, Władysław 2050 (97)	.	.	.	.	Murray, James S. 2021 (92)
Board 8	IM Lew, Tadeusz 2042 (95)	1	1	0	0	MacGregor, Colin A. 1957 (83)	
Board 9	Rabczewski, Adam 1901 (79)	½	0	1	½	CCE Bruce, Robert 1899 (52)	
Board 10	Głowiński, Daniel 1849 (67)	0	½	½	1	Cormack, William H. 1820 (94)	
Board 11	Bobrova, Yevheniia 1800 (250)	.	½	½	.	Anderson, Thomas R. 1811 (89)	
Board 12	Mańczuk, Dominik 1800 (250)	1	½	½	0	Burrige, Raymond John 1776 (69)	
Board 13	Grabowski, Benedykt 1798 (73)	.	.	.	.	MacMillen, Andrew N. 1736 (77)
Board 14	Domaraczko, Krzysztof 1712 (86)	1	.	.	0	White, Richard 1548 (95)	
Board 15	Stryjek, Damian 1709 (172)	.	.	.	.	Gilbert, Robert 1485 (85)
Board 16	Krupacz, Maciej 1687 (179)	1	1	0	0	Dunn, John 1327 (71)	
Board 17	Kamiński, Janusz 1789 (88)	.	.	.	.	Sedstrem, Alan 1327 (107)
Total:		9		5			



Domestic Report

By Mickey Blake

SCO/C2024, Scottish Championship 2024/25

				TD Murden, Clive (IA)								Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
Rated				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
1	✉ 620345	SIM Mackintosh, Iain	2410 (92)		½	½	1	½	½	1 ⁺	1 ⁺	5	3	14	0	1
2	✉ 620529	CCM Montgomery, Robert S.	2329 (90)	½		.	½	½	½	1 ⁺	1 ⁺	4	2	10.5	1	2
3	✉ 620775	CCM Buchan, Allan	2459 (81)	½	.		½	½	½	1 ⁺	1 ⁺	4	2	10.5	1	2
4	✉ 620577	Price, Derek	2019 (90)	0	½	½		1	½	½	1 ⁺	4	2	11	0	4
5	✉ 211024	CCE Whittaker, Ian P.	2315 (82)	½	½	½	0		½	1 ⁺	1 ⁺	4	2	10.5	0	5
6	✉ 620565	CCE Taylor, Wilf	2079 (85)	½	½	½	½	½		½	1 ⁺	4	1	11.5	0	6
7	✉ 620704	CCM Beveridge, Colin	2304 (77)	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	½	0 ⁺	½		1 ⁺	2	1	4	0	7
8	✉ 620426	CCM Cumming, David R.	2249 (65)	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	0 ⁺	0 ⁺		0	0	0	0	8

Robert Montgomery and Allan Buchan are vying to catch Iain Mackintosh who currently occupies pole position.

SCO/P/2024, SCCA Premier 2024

				TD Paine, Kevin (IA)								Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
Rated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4					
1	✉ 620789	Taylor, Andrew	1801 (92)			½	½	1	1 ^E	1	1	5	4	9	0	1
2	✉ 620393	MacGregor, Colin A.	1953 (91)	½	½			1	1	1	1	5	4	9	0	1
3	✉ 620454	MacMillen, Andrew N.	1651 (83)	0 ^E	0	0	0			1	1	2	2	0	0	3
4	✉ 620603	Armstrong, John M.	1466 (90)	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	4

Andrew Taylor and Colin Macgregor can't be separated .in 1st place.

SCO/O/2024/A, SCCA Open 2024 A

				TD Paine, Kevin (IA)										Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
Rated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5					
1	✉ 620454	MacMillen, Andrew N.	1651 (83)			1 ^E	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	19	0	1
2	✉ 620713	Gilbert, Robert	1521 (83)	1	0 ^E			1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	19	0	1
3	✉ 620723	Carswell, David	1584 (92)	0	0	0	0			1	0	1	1	3	3	3	0	3
4	✉ 620603	Armstrong, John M.	1466 (90)	0	0	0	0	1	0			1	1	3	3	3	0	3
5	✉ 620648	Hardwick, Martin E.	901 (93)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	5

Andrew Macmillen and Robert Gilbert share 1st place here.

SCO/O/2024/B, SCCA Open 2024 B

				TD Paine, Kevin (IA)										Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
Rated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5					
1	✉ 620393	MacGregor, Colin A.	1953 (91)			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	24	0	1
2	✉ 620778	Major, Benjamin	1185 (85)	0	0			0	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	10.5	0	2
3	✉ 620822	Deignan, Tom	1800 (250)	0	0	0	1			1	0	1	½	3.5	3	9.25	0	3
4	✉ 620648	Hardwick, Martin E.	901 (93)	0	0	0	0	1	0			0	1	2	2	5	0	4
5	✉ 620603	Armstrong, John M.	1466 (90)	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	1			1.5	1	3.75	0	5

Colin Macregor was the outright winner of SCCA Open 2024 B.

SCO/O/2024/C, SCCA Open 2024 C

Rated	TD Paine, Kevin (IA)										Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place							
	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5												
1	✉	212273	CCE	Bruce, Robert	1822	(64)			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	24	0	1
2	✉	620454		MacMillen, Andrew N.	1651	(83)	0	0			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	12	0	2
3	✉	620628		Dunn, John	1285	(81)	0	0	0	0			1	0	1	1	1	3	3	3	0	3
4	✉	212404		Pettigrew, Steve	1379	(99)	0	0	0	0	1	0			1	1	1	3	3	3	0	3
5	✉	620648		Hardwick, Martin E.	901	(93)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			1	0	0	0	0	5

Robert Bruce secured first spot in our third Open section.

The Scottish League

This is our team tournament and features a league system for teams of four players. Scottish players get free entry! We recently lost the Civil Service Chess Association and the British Correspondence Chess Association who no longer exist, but we have managed to get support from the English federation who have agreed to sponsor 6 teams once again for 2025. In addition, I have got positive feedback from NATCOR, the National Correspondence Chess Association who are intending to add a further three teams to our lineup for 2025. Now we need Scottish players to get on board and support the league in 2025. If you would like to play and have not yet indicated this or renewed your membership for 2025, please do so now as the league is scheduled to begin on March 1st.

League 1 is a tough division with strong players across the teams. White Rose lead the table and are two points clear of England A and England B. Scotland are represented by Knights of the Board A who are Allan Buchan, Iain Sneddon, Robert Montgomery and Raymond Burrige.

SCCA Claymores lead the League 2 table! The team comprise, Ian Whittaker, Geoffrey Lloyd, Derek Price and Robert Bruse. Our second team in this division are Brutal Realism, Gordon Anderson, Wilf Taylor, James Murray and Robert Gilbert.

In League 3, Knights of the Board B (comprising Andrew MacMillen, David Carswell, Alan Sedstrem and John Dunn) are currently in 4th place with England E leading the table

SCCA/L1/2024, SCCA League Div 1 2024

	1	2	3	4	5	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain			
														TD Murden, Clive (IA)		
1	+	White Rose A	2308		2	2.5	3	2.5	10	62	4	7	16	0	1	Beckett, Phillip J.
2	+	England A	2416	2		2	2.5	2	8.5	53	1	5	16	0	2	Rhodes, John D.
3	+	England B	2269	1.5	2		2.5	2.5	8.5	53	1	5	16	0	2	Woodhouse, Stephen
4	✉	Knights of the Board A	2254	1	1.5	1.5		2.5	6.5	40	-3	2	16	0	4	Whittaker, Ian P.
5		Social A	2375	1.5	2	1.5	1.5		6.5	40	-3	1	16	0	5	Blake, Michael J.

SCCA/L2/2024, SCCA League Div 2 2024

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain			
															TD Murden, Clive (IA)		
1	✉	SCCA Claymores	2111		2.5	3	2	3	3.5	14	73	9	9	19	1	1	Sneddon, Iain
2	+	White Rose B	2052	1.5		2.5	2	3	3.5	12.5	62	5	7	20	0	2	Beckett, Phillip J.
3	+	England C	2021	1	1.5		2	2.5	2.5	9.5	47	-1	5	20	0	3	Rhodes, John D.
4	✉	Brutal Realism	1991	1	2	2		2.5	1.5	9	47	-1	4	19	1	4	Anderson, Gordon M.
5	+	England D	1818	1	1	1.5	1.5		3	8	40	-4	2	20	0	5	Woodhouse, Stephen
6		Social B	1887	0.5	0.5	1.5	2.5	1		6	30	-8	2	20	0	6	Blake, Michael J.

SCCA/L3/2024, SCCA League Div 3 2024

		TD Murden, Clive (IA)													
		1	2	3	4	5	Score	%	+/-	Team results	FG	RG	Place	Team Captain	
1	🇬🇧 England E	1628	2.5	2.5	4	4	13	81	10	8	16	0	1	Rhodes, John D.	
2	Social C	1594	1.5	2	3	3	9.5	63	4	5	15	1	2	Blake, Michael J.	
3	🇬🇧 White Rose C	1602	1.5	2	2	2.5	8	50	0	4	16	0	3	Beckett, Phillip J.	
4	🇬🇧 Knights of the Board B	1467	0	0	2	2.5	4.5	30	-6	3	15	1	4	Sneddon, Iain	
5	🇬🇧 England F	1415	0	1	1.5	1.5	4	25	-8	0	16	0	5	Woodhouse, Stephen	

SCCA Challengers 2023-24

ICCF Nr.	Entrant	Name	Games	Complete	Ongoing	Pts	
620454	8	MacMillen, Andrew Neil	8	8	0	6	75%
620628	3	Dunn, John	12	12	0	6	50%
620713	4	Gilbert, Robert	16	16	0	6	38%
620603	1	Armstrong, John McKenzie	12	12	0	5	42%
211024	10	Whittaker, Ian P	4	4	0	4	100%
620819	12	Campbell, Darren	4	4	0	4	100%
620794	11	Anderson, Thomas Robb	4	4	0	4	100%
620723	2	Carswell, David	2	2	0	1	50%
620619	6	MacDonald, Murdo	2	2	0	0	0%
620393	7	MacGregor, Colin A	2	2	0	0	0%
620648	5	Hardwick, Martin Edward	6	6	0	0	0%
620814	9	Rafferty, Frey	Silent Withdrawal				0%

Members are reminded that pairings can be requested at any time of the year.

Chess Art



The Republic of Tatarstan, birthplace of featured artist Galine Santonina.



Games Column

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By Alastair Dawson

When CC is compared to other forms of chess, the number of drawn games is enormous.

The effect of various chess engines has taken its toll. Some players steadfastly refuse to use engines in their move analysis, others prefer to use engines as a means to check for blunders before sending off a move. Others use engines plus their own calculation to figure out the best move in a position.

Winning a game is extremely difficult. Winning a game with the Black pieces is a wonderful feat indeed! Your author did a quick check of ICCF game lists and in the file containing recent World Championship games, out of the last 150 games there were only 4 wins by players having the Black pieces.

The first of the two games below is one of these rare beasts! It was played by Vladimir Perevertkin in the WC31/final in 2019. The game is an absolute delight - enjoy.

White: Marek, Stanislav (2440)
Black: Perevertkin, Vladimir Viktorovic (2607)
 WC31/final ICCF, 20.06.2019
 King's Indian Sämisch [E81]
[Notes by Alastair Dawson]

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

And here we go - a Sämisch - and a guaranteed fight ahead!

- | | |
|--------|-----|
| 5... | 0-0 |
| 6.Be3 | c5 |
| 7.Nge2 | Nc6 |
| 8.d5 | Ne5 |
| 9.Ng3 | |

White closes the centre and Black, for the moment at least, has a knight on e5 asserting some influence. But watch what happens to the white knight!

- | | |
|------|----|
| 9... | h5 |
|------|----|

And here we have the start of a remarkable assault by the h-pawn.

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Simon Williams in his videos, always essays the advance of the h-pawn. But this advance takes the biscuit!

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 10.Be2 | h4 |
| 11.Nf1 | e6 |
| 12.Nd2 | exd5 |
| 13.cxd5 | h3 |
| 14.g3 | a6 |
| 15.a4 | Bd7 |

Black now begins a queenside counterattack.

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 16.0-0 | b5 |
| 17.axb5 | axb5 |
| 18.Nxb5 | |



This kind of Benko-type counter attack on the queenside is discussed many times by Gawain Jones in his classic 2 volume work on the Kings Indian. He makes the case that there are many Kings Indian positions where Black can play improved Benko-type gambits. Here, Black gives up the b-pawn but secures very active counterplay.

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 18... | Qb6 |
| 19.Rxa8 | Rxa8 |

In this position, every Black piece has latent power - not least the Black bishop on g7 that has an open diagonal to make use of.

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 20.Na3 | Qxb2 |
| 21.Nac4 | Nxc4 |
| 22.Nxc4 | Qa2 |
| 23.Re1 | Bb5 |
| 24.Nxd6 | Bxe2 |
| 25.Rxe2 | |



For a pawn, Black has all the play..

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 25... | Qa6 |
| 26.Bf4 | Nd7 |
| 27.e5 | Nxe5 |
| 28.Bxe5 | Bxe5 |
| 29.Rxe5 | Qxd6 |

And now after the exchanges we reach a queen plus rook endgame, but now the Black pawn on h3 exerts extra menace due to the threat of checks.

- | | |
|---------|------|
| 30.Qe1 | Kh7 |
| 31.Qc3 | Ra3 |
| 32.Qxa3 | Qxe5 |

And here is the culmination of Black's play with mate threatened on e1 and the need for White to deal with it.

- | | |
|--------|------|
| 33.Kf2 | Qxd5 |
|--------|------|

But with this capture of the d-pawn and the future advance of the c-pawn, White resigns - a beautiful game by Black.

0-1



The second game is from lower down the divisions. A few years ago I played Vidar Taksrud at a Seniors over the board event. Here, Vidar (2115) had the White pieces and was up against a far stronger opponent - Martin Huber (2342).

The game is more of a rough house than the first and is finally decided by a slip in concentration by White.

We hope that you enjoy both games - after all they are rare wins by Black in ICCF competitions.

White: Taksrud, Vidar (2115) –
Black: Huber, Martin (2342)
 WC47/pr/1 ICCF, 27.03.2023
 Fianchetto Grünfeld Defence [D78]
[Notes by Alastair Dawson]

1.d4 Nf6
 2.Nf3 g6
 3.g3 Bg7
 4.Bg2 0-0
 5.0-0 d5
 6.c4 c6
 7.Nc3 dxc4
 8.e4 b5
 9.Qe2 b4
 10.Nd1



10... Ba6
 11.Re1 e6
 12.Ne3 Nxe4
 13.Nc2 Nd6
 14.Nxb4 Qb6
 15.Nxa6 Nxa6
 16.Be3 Nf5
 17.Rac1 Nxe3
 18.fxc3 Nb4
 19.Qxc4 Rfd8
 20.Kh1 Rac8
 21.Bf1 a5
 22.a3 Nd5
 23.Rc2 Rc7
 24.e4



24... Ne7
 25.Rd1 Rcd7
 26.Bh3 h6
 27.Rcd2 Rb7
 28.Bf1 Rdb8
 29.Kg2 Qa7
 30.Rb1 Rb3
 31.Bd3 g5
 32.h3 c5
 33.dxc5 Nc6
 34.e5 Qc7
 35.Re1 Bxe5
 36.Qe4 Bg7
 37.Ree2 Ne7
 38.Nd4



38... Bxd4
 39.Qxd4 Qxg3+
 40.Kxg3 Nf5+
 41.Kg2 Nxd4
 42.Rf2 Nc6
 43.Ba6 Ra8
 44.Bc4 Rb7
 45.Bd3 a4
 46.Be4 Rc8
 47.Rd6 Rbc7
 48.Bxc6 Rxc6
 49.Rd4



49... Rxc5
 50.Rxa4 R8c7
 51.Ra8+ Kg7
 52.b4 Rc3
 53.b5 Rb3
 54.a4 Kg6
 55.Rg8+ Kh5
 56.Rg7 Rcc3
 57.Rgx7 Rg3+
 58.Kf1 Rb1+
 59.Ke2 Ra3
 60.Kd2 Rbb3
 61.Re2 Rxa4
 62.Rxe6 Ra2+
 63.Kc1 Rxh3
 64.Kb1 Rg2
 65.Rf1 Rb3+
 66.Kc1 Rxb5
 67.Rff6 R bb2
 68.Rxh6+ Kg4
 0-1



Publish Your Games

Whether you've just participated in an ICCF World Championship or an SCCA Challengers tie, you can participate in the magazine by sending your own games, or those of note you've come across in your travels.

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