

Scarborough Community of Toronto

Chess News & Views

Newsletter of / Le Journal de
Scarborough Chess Club

“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Issue # 10 – January 15, 2003

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

Prague Unity Agreement – Without Ponomoriov ??

One side of the draw for the unified championship match is settled. Challenger Peter Leko (Hungary) will play World Champion Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) this spring. But the other side of the draw is now in doubt! Ruslan Ponomariov (Ukraine), 2002 FIDE World Champion, has so far refused to sign to play Garry Kasparov (Russia), former world champion, and highest-rated player in the world, on the terms put forward to him. FIDE, sponsor of this side of the draw, initially gave Ponomariov to Friday, Jan. 10, to sign the contract. If he failed to do so, FIDE has threatened to replace him with the 2002 runner-up in the FIDE finals, Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine). It seemed rather high-handed to force Ponomariov to deal with this when he was in the midst of playing in the important Corus, Wijk aan Zee , Netherlands GM tournament, even if some negotiations had already gone on. The Ukraine Chess Federation backs Ponomariov, and argues that ultimatums are not the way to go, but time must be allowed for normal full negotiations.

Will FIDE persist? The deadline of Jan. 10 passed, and FIDE has made no official announcement as of the day of our going to press. It would be unfortunate if the talented Ponomariov was dropped from the cycle. He recently defeated Kramnik in their individual encounter at Corus. But the issues of length of games, and whether the champion gets to keep the title in case of a tie, are thorny problems to negotiate.

But as some commentators have said, the most important goal here is the system of bringing about a unified FIDE world crown, and this is what must come first. One must admit that even with Ponomariov and Viswanathan Anand (India), 2000 FIDE

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Stan Wadlow Park Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Ave.

(one block east of Woodbine Ave./Cosburn Ave. intersection, in former East York)

World Champion, missing, there would be nothing shabby about having Kramnik, Kasparov, Leko and Ivanchuk fighting it out for the crown.

New 2003 Canadian Junior/ Girls Junior Champions

GTA junior Wang Hao Yuan became the new 2003 Canadian Junior Champion, scoring 5.5/7 pts. in the tournament held in Shawinigan, Quebec, from Jan.3 –6. Another GTA junior, Igor Divljan, tied for second with 5/7 pts.

Anne-Marie Charbonneau of Quebec won the 2003 Canadian Girls' Junior Championship.

Congratulations to Wang, and Igor, and all who made the effort to play in the 2003 Canadian Junior Championships !

New Toronto Chess Club Opens - Oriole Chess Club

Place: Oriole Community Resource Centre, 2975 Don Mills Road West, Toronto, Ontario. (2 blocks North on Don Mills/Sheppard -walking distance from Fairview Mall and Don Mills subway station) Free parking available at the Community Centre.

Time: 12:00 - 18:00 Sundays.

Membership: \$24.00 Per Year

Other Information: Club Opened for rated CFC tournament play only starting on January 12, 2002. First Club Tournament - January 19, 2002. TC: 30/90, SD/60. Games start at 12:30. Boards and chess pieces provided. Please bring clocks.

Contact: For additional information contact Shivaharan Thurairasah (416) 281-5838 thurai@idirect.com.

2003 Toronto Closed - Cancelled

Martin Jaeger, proposed TD/tournament organizer, has announced that due to some advertising difficulties, he has had to cancel this proposed tournament. Many thanks to Martin for trying to get this off the ground, since Toronto at the moment is struggling to get weekend tournaments on the calendar.

SCC Moves Weekend Meeting Day In New Year

In the New Year, SCC is changing its weekend meeting day to 1:30 pm SATURDAYS, instead of Sundays as in 2002. The tournament will run to 6:00 pm. The new year started on Sat., January 11, 2003, with Rd. 3 of the current tournament.

SCC Starts New Tournament on Thursdays in New Year

The Club Championship (top group – round robin; lower group – Swiss) is continuing with 25 players entered. On Thursday, January 9, 2003, Round 7 was played.

Also on January 9, SCC started a brand new Thursday swiss tournament to run concurrently with the existing club championship. This was in light of the Dutton CC closing Dec. 21, 2002; SCC wanted to try to accommodate those DCC members who wanted to continue weekly rated chess tournaments in the New Year at SCC on Thursdays. 6 players are currently registered in the new tournament, and any further new members joining in the following weeks will be inserted into the pairings, and given byes for missed weeks.

A - Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed. , directly, at bobarm@sympatico.ca or through SCC e-mail, to :

1. Be added to the free e-mail list; 2. Submit content (fact, opinion, criticism, recommendations!).
- B – An item in any language may be submitted for publication, if accompanied by an English translation.
- C – The opinions expressed here are those of the editor, and not necessarily those of the Scarborough CC.
- D- To review this newsletter after it has been deleted, or any of the archived newsletters back to Sept. 1, 2002, visit our own SCTCN&V official website at : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>.