

Scarborough Community of Toronto Chess News & Views

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Scarborough Chess Club

“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Issue # 16 – April 15, 2006

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

The Kramnik – Topalov Reunification Match is a Go !

FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov has just announced that the long-awaited match between Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria), 2005 FIDE World Champion, and Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 2000 Classical World Champion, will take place from September 21 to October 13 in Elista, the capital of Kalmykia, Russia. It will be over 12 games and the prize fund a guaranteed minimum of one million dollars. This will finally end the “ two champions ” period that began in 1993 when Kasparov took his title out of FIDE.

FIDE April 1, 2006 Rating List

There are now two players over 2800 :

1 : Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria), the new 2005 FIDE World Champion, rated 2804. He is the third player in history to break the 2800 mark.

2 : Viswanathan Anand (India), 2000 FIDE World Champion, and runner-up in the 2005 FIDE World Championship, with a rating of 2803; this is Vishy’s first time over 2800; he is now the fourth player to break 2800;

(Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13th FIDE World Champion, now retired, was the first player to break 2800; Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 2000 Classical World Champion, was the second player.)

There are now 15 players in the 2700’s. Some of the top players are :

3 : Levon Aronian (Armenia) rated 2756 (up from # 5);

SCTCN&V Website : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>

SCC e – mail : scarboro@idirect.ca SCC Website : <http://www.ScarboroughChessClub.ca>

Jack Goodlad Community Ctre, 929 Kennedy Road

(½ way between Eglinton Ave. and Lawrence Ave.)

- # 4 : Peter Svidler (Russia), with a rating of 2743 (down 22 pts. from the January, 2006 rating list);
- # 5 : Peter Leko (Hungary), the challenger to Kramnik in the 2004 Classical World Championship match, with 2738;
- # 6 : Ruslan Ponomariov (Ukraine), 2002 FIDE World Champion, at 2738 (up from # 10);
- #7 : Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine), rated 2731;
- # 8 : Alexander Morozevich (Russia) rated 2730 (up from # 11);
- # 9 : Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), current 2000 Classical World Champion, rated 2729 (down 12 pts. from # 6);
- # 14 : Judit Polgar (Hungary), the strongest women's player in the world, with 2711.

Some other past World Champions and their current ratings are :

- # 29 : 2004 FIDE World Champion, Rustam Kasimdzhanov (Uzbekistan) at 2673;
- # 31 : 12th FIDE World Champion, Anatoly Karpov (Russia) – 2672;
- # 69 : 1999 FIDE World Champion, Alexander Khalifman (Russia) – 2640;

Here are a number of the younger players we're watching (birth date in brackets):

- # 12 : Alexander Grischuk (Russia - 1983) – 2719 ;
- # 13 : Teimour Radjabov (Azerbaijan - 1987) – 2717 (up from # 19);
- # 15 : Etienne Bacrot (France - 1983) – 2708 ;
- # 19 : Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Azerbaijan – 1985) – 2709 (down from # 15);
- # 46 : Sergey Karjakin (Ukraine – 1990) – 2661;
- # 62 : Magnus Carlsen (Norway – 1990) – 2646.

The five highest FIDE rated Canadians are:

- # 1 : GM Kevin Spraggett, 7 times former Canadian Champion, at 2578;
- # 2 : GM Mark Bluvstein at 2531;
- # 3 : GM Alexandre Le Siege, 1992, 1999 & 2001 Canadian Champion, at 2528;
- # 4 : GM-elect Pascal Charbonneau, 2002 & 2004 Canadian Champion, at 2510;
- # 5 : GM Dimitri Tyomkin at 2490.

Can. Olympiad Chess Teams Selection Problems – CFC Gives Decision

In the last Issue of SCTCN&V, the lead article outlined a number of illegalities that had occurred in the selection of three members of the teams : Yan Teplitsky (to the National team); and Dinara Khaziyeva and Nava Starr (to the Women's team). This led to Governors bringing points of order and motions before the CFC Executive and the Governors. The CFC President, Chris Mallon, made the final decision in the matter, and here is his e-mail decision :

“ To all Governors,
>
> Claims have been made publicly and one appeal was received by the

> Executive concerning some issues with the selection of the Olympiad teams
> which took place at the end of last year.
>
> Several Governors have proposed motions to uphold the selection of the
> teams as they were picked. However given that there is no time to allow
> for proper discussion and voting on such a motion, the Executive has the
> power, under CFC Handbook Section 2, By-Law Number Two, Paragraph 11, the
> Executive has the power to deal with issues relating to the qualification
> of players to such an event.
>
> The Executive ruling concerning this was publicly published on March 18th
> on the official CFC Discussion board for Governors. The appeal to change
> the team selection was rejected mostly because so much time had passed
> since the selection without any appeals. It is clear that this precedent
> is still in force.
>
> I have thus decided to rule the proposed motions out of order as they are
> unnecessary, supporting as they do the position already taken by the
> Executive in accordance with the CFC Handbook. I would however like to
> thank these Governors for their support.
>
> I would also like to encourage all Governors to give their full support to
> our teams as they leave for Turin in a few weeks. I will also include in
> the upcoming GL8 my recommendations concerning the Olympiad Regulations
> and how to avoid these problems in the future, and I welcome any comments
> the Governors might have concerning this as well.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Christopher Mallon
> President,
> Chess Federation of Canada “

Although this decision is technical in nature, and does not deal substantially with the illegalities, the CFC Executive (and thus the Governors) have now legitimized the teams, and did not leave the matter at the bureaucratic level with the illegalities hanging in mid-air. We wish all the best to the teams in Turin !

Canadian Olympiad National Team

Unfortunately GM Dimitri Tyomkin has withdrawn from the team, and will now be replaced with Quebec junior, IM Thomas Roussel-Roozmon, the next player on the Olympiad Preliminary Selection Ratings List.

Guelph Spring Pro-Am – Report

(by Hal Bond on ChessTalk)

Robert Hamilton finished atop the Pro Section with 4.5, putting his extra 30 years and 30 pounds to good use against an ever-toughening crop of youngsters. 13 yr old Kevin Chung beat Livshits, Jung and Calugar, drawing Hamilton and Panjwani to finish with 4.0. Raja took 3rd with 3.5. IM Livshits was off form and did not play Sunday. The U2000 was won by John Upper with 4.5, followed by Sergiy Orlov and Edgar Rivas. The U1700 saw Yelizaveta Orlova and Adrian Ang finish with 4.0, followed by Sanjay Saxena at 3.5. Bruce Hurst posted the only perfect score of the tourney to take the U1400, followed by Jerry Wang and Keith Cober. [this tournament was played April 8-9.]

SCC Early Spring Swiss Continues

This one-section swiss started on Thursday, March 16, and attracted 26 players. In the lead after five rounds is Rick Garel, with 4 .5 pts., who in the fifth round defeated Bryan Lamb, the highest rated player in the club (2105), and last year's club champion, who was undefeated to that point. In 2nd place is Bryan with 4 pts.. Then there is a logjam for 3rd/7th with 3.5 pts : Jim Paterson, one of the 2006 club co-champions, Alex Rapoport, one of this year's co-champions, John Hall, Jim Roe, and junior, Richard Douglas.

In Rd. 4, Bryan met and defeated the 2nd highest player in the club, John Hall (2062). Here is their game, involving a Queen sac/mate (Annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz) :

Lamb, B (2105) – Hall, J (2062) [C28]

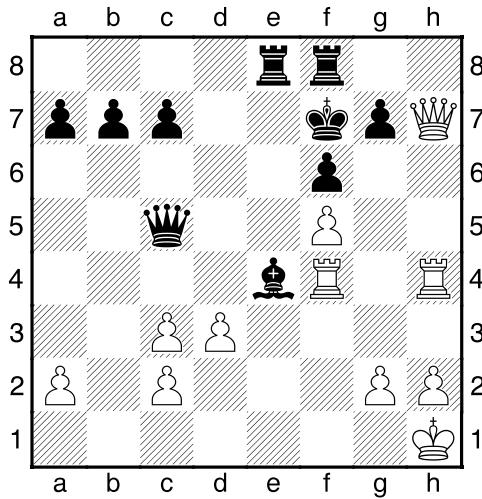
SCC Early Spring Swiss SCC, Toronto (4), 06.04.2006

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 Nc6 4.d3 Bb4 5.Nge2 d5 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.0-0 Qd7 9.Ng3

According to the chess database of ChessBase, this is a novelty. The move previously played was 12.f4. [9.f4=] 9...Bxc3 10.bxc3 Qg4 11.f3 Qa4 12.f4 0-0 13.f5 f6 14.Re1?± to this point, the game had been dead equal [14.Be3 h6 15.Ne4 Rf7=] 14...Qa5?= [14...Rd8?±] 15.Bd2 Qc5+ 16.Kh1 Ne7 17.Qh5 Bd7 18.Re4?± [18.c4=] 18...Be8?= [18...Bc6 19.d4 Qd5 20.Qh3 Rad8?±] 19.Qe2 Bd7 20.Rf1 Nd5 21.Rh4 Nf4??+– John makes a serious, though not obvious, mistake; and this is the first time in the game Bryan has gotten the advantage. [21...Be8=] 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Rxf4??= But Bryan misses the winning line [23.Qh5 fxg3 24.Qxh7+ Kf7 25.Qg6+ Ke7 26.Qxg7+ Kd8 27.Re1 Bc6 28.d4 Qd6 29.Rh8 Re8 30.Re6 Qa3 31.hxg3 Rxh8+ 32.Qxh8+ Kd7 33.Qg7+ Kc8 34.Qg8+ Kd7 35.Qf7+ Kd8 36.Qxf6+ Kc8 37.Qh8+ Kd7 38.Qxa8+–] 23...Rae8 24.Ne4 Bc6??± again John errs [24...Qb5=] 25.Qh5 Bxe4?+– this mistake is fatal [25...h6 26.Rfg4 Re7 27.Qxh6 Qxf5 28.h3 g5 29.Nxg5 fxg5 30.Rxg5+ Qxg5 31.Qxg5+ Rg7 32.Qd2 Rf1+]

33.Kh2 Rxg2+ 34.Qxg2+ Bxg2 35.Kxg2 Rc1±] 26.Qxh7+ Kf7

Position after 26...Kf7



27.Qxg7+ John resigned; the Q sac leads to mate 27...Kxg7 28.Rfg4+ Kf7 29.Rh7# 1-0

Here is the fifth round game between Lamb, leading and undefeated (four wins), and Rick Garel, who was also undefeated. (3 wins and a draw) [annotations by Bob Armstrong, using Fritz] :

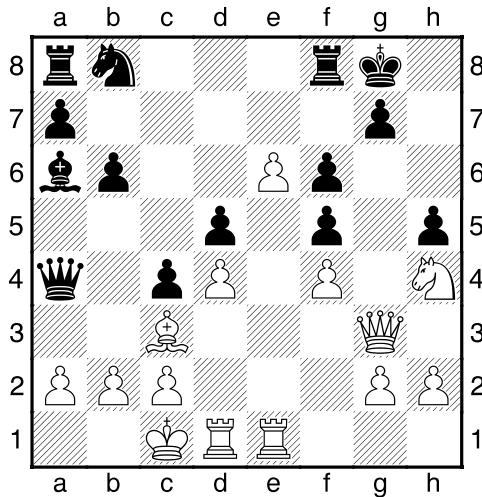
Garel, R (1825) – Lamb, B (2105) [C16]

SCC Early Spring Swiss SCC (5), 13.04.2006

1.e4 e6± 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 [4...c5 5.Bd2 cxd4 6.Nb5 Bc5 7.Qg4 g6 8.b4 Be7 9.Nxd4±] 5.f4?= [5.Qg4 f5 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Qf3 c5±] 5...Nh6 6.Bd3 b6 7.Bd2 Nf5?± [7...c5=] 8.Nf3 h5 9.Qe2 c5 10.Bxf5 Bxc3?± [10...exf5±] 11.Bxc3 exf5 12.0-0-0 [12.Qf2? Qe7 13.0-0-0 Be6±] 12...Ba6 13.Qf2 c4 14.Rhe1 Qa4?+– Bryan is now in trouble; Rick ignores his attack on the a2P ! [14...Nc6±] 15.e6 f6 [a little better, but still losing, is 15...fxe6 16.Rxe6+ Kd8 17.Qg3 Nd7 18.Ne5 Kc7 19.Qxg7 Bb5 20.Qe7 Rae8 21.Qd6+ Kc8 22.Qxd5 Nxe5 23.dxe5 Kc7+–] 16.Qg3 0-0 [16...Kd8 17.Qxg7 Re8 18.Nh4 Bc8 19.Qxf6+ Kc7 20.Qf7+ Kd8 21.Re5 Bxe6 22.Rxe6 Rxe6

23.Qxe6+-] 17.Nh4

Position after 17. Nh4



Bryan resigned. The game could have continued 17...Qe8 18.Nxf5 g6 19.e7 Kf7 20.Nd6+ Kg7 21.f5! g5 22.Nxe8+ Rxe8+- 1-0

GTCL League – Under 2000

This year the league has been divided into two levels, Over 2000 and Under 2000. SCC has a team in the Under 2000 section, along with Brampton, Mississauga, Chess Academy of Canada, Bayview Games Club, BOTSB (Conrad Ho), and Oriole 1 & 2. A team is made up of 4 players.

On Sunday, April 2, SCC played Oriole 1 at the Oriole Community Centre – to that point they had 0 wins, 1 tie and 3 losses. The result was a 2-2 tie :

S Gord Blackman	0	Or Jonathan Yu	1
S Maurice Smith	1/2	Or Nikita Gusev	1/2
S Steve Karpik	1/2	Or Jeffrey Yu	1/2
S John Graham	1	Or Michael Naukhovitch	0

Toronto Open – Upcoming Tournament

This 6 round swiss will be held at the Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Avenue, on April 15 – 17. Time control will be Game/150 min.. Rounds are : 11:00 am & 5:30 pm. Entry Fee is \$55 (payable in cash by April 14). Late Fee - \$ 10. Non-members of BGC - \$ 15 extra. This is a CFC – rated tournament – membership required or \$ 10 tournament membership. There is also a draw for an early bird door prize, for those who register by April 7 – full entry fee rebate (\$ 55). There is a 60 player maximum capacity. For further information : Vlad Dobrich 416-722-9709.

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.
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