

CHESS MOVES

THE NEWSLETTER of the ENGLISH CHESS FEDERATION | Jul/Aug 2012

County Championships 2012



All smiles ... Mike Gunn presents the U180 Trophy to Middlesex Captain Ananthanarayan Balaji - Alex Holowczak looks on



In the Arbiters' corner, trophies are admired and telephone calls dealt with

The 2012 County Championship Finals were played on 7th July, 2012 at Moat Community College, in Leicester.

Under 100

“In two completely different ways, both teams have reached the Final without winning a match.” Essex reached the Final due to wins by default in the previous national rounds, whereas Kent had drawn 6-6 in both their previous matches against Lancashire and Nottinghamshire, but won on board count. Essex won the two encounters in the SCCU zone, but the Final was far more evenly matched. After finding success on the lower boards early on, Essex rallied to win the match on board count after a 6-6 draw. Essex has now won all three Under 100 competitions since the competition was rebanded in 2010.

Under 120

Hertfordshire met Essex in the Under 120 Final. The teams had met before in the SCCU stage, with Essex prevailing 6½ - 5½. The final was a far more dominant victory from Essex, who with the help of some talented youngsters on the top boards, won 8½ - 3½.

Under 140

Hertfordshire had knocked-out the two-time defending champions, Hampshire, in the Quarter Finals, and took on Lancashire in the Final. Hertfordshire opened up an early lead, and were able to withstand a late rally from Lancashire to win 8½ - 7½.

Under 160

The Under 160 Final went to the last 5 minutes of the event, with Greater Manchester scoring 1½ on the last two boards to finish, drawing 8 - 8 and winning on board count.

Under 180

Middlesex played Yorkshire in the Final. Yorkshire defeated the defending champions, Nottinghamshire, 9-7 in an earlier round. There were only four decisive games in the Final, with Middlesex winning three of them to take the Final 9-7.

Minor

Leicestershire, the MCCU Minor Champions, met Hertfordshire in the Final of the Minor competition. Hertfordshire had only entered when Kent declined nomination, but had nevertheless knocked out Gloucestershire and Hampshire in

earlier rounds. The match was another to go to board count, with Hertfordshire taking the title.

Open

Middlesex are the winningest team in the history of the County Championship dating back to 1908, but hadn't won one of their 28 titles since 1989; their longest barren spell. They met Surrey in the Final, who were the defending champions from 2011, and had beaten Middlesex in the SCCU stage of the competition. The top 10 boards were broadcast live on the Internet for the first time. The match was the last to finish, with a draw on board 4 giving Middlesex their 29th title.

The games from all finals, including the individual board results of each match, can be found on the ECF website at:
http://www.englishchess.org.uk/?page_id=36

I would like to thank Moat Community College for hosting the event, as well as the staff on the day; David Welch, Adrian Elwin, John Shaw, Matthew Carr, Sean Hewitt, Cyril Johnson and Julie Johnson.

*Alex Holowczak
Manager of the Counties Championship*



ECF News

ECF Strategic Planning Officer

- from Andrew Farthing, Chief Executive

I am delighted to announce that Stephen Jones has been appointed as Strategic Planning Officer (SPO).

Stephen comes from a commercial background, with 20 years' experience in media, aviation and DOT.com sectors. He has held various Director level roles, each of which has included strategic planning duties, and is qualified in accounting, marketing and project management.

Stephen is the founder of ChessCreator.com, a fledgling chess website, and is an active member of the online chess community. He has written chess articles, created chess software, and promoted online chess events.

In his role as SPO, his principal responsibilities are to produce the annual Business Plan, Long Term Strategic Plan, and Achievement Report. He can be contacted via strategicplanning@englishchess.org.uk

Please join me in welcoming Stephen to the ECF team.

ECF Player of the Year 2012

GM Gawain Jones



Topping this year's poll was Gawain Jones with 32 more votes than runner-up Luke McShane.

Gawain Jones is twenty-four years of age and has had an exceptional year. His FIDE rating

went over 2600 for the first time in July 2011 and he is now rated 2657 after clocking up 116 rated games in the twelve months that count towards Player of the Year.

He became Commonwealth Champion on tie-break from Nigel Short scoring 7.5/9 in Johannesburg and was then only half a point behind Adams & Short at the British after a marathon last round game ended in a draw. He also won the British Rapidplay with 10.5/11 in November and had a fine result for England in the European Team Championship, playing every round and scoring 6/9 and winning against

Vladimir Akopian, rated 2681, in England's best match result for some years. He has continued with very consistent performances in London, Corsica, Reykjavik and the 4NCL and is a very worthy winner of 2012 Player of the Year.

2011 Commonwealth Champion with 9.5/11 in Johannesburg

10.5/11 - 1st British Rapidplay

8/11 - 3rd= British Championship (half behind winners Adams & Short)

6/9 for England in European Team Championship including a win against Vladimir Akopian in our 2-2 draw with Armenia

7/9 - London Chess Classic Open

5/6 - Bunnratty 1st= with Adams & Short (draws with both)

7/9 - Corsica Masters

7/9 in Reykjavik Open

5.5/7 in 4NCL on top board for White Rose, losing only to Nigel Short to help his team finish third

England Teams for 2012 Olympiad

- from Lawrence Cooper, International Director

I'm pleased to announce the following selections for England at the 2012 Olympiad -

Open -

1. Michael Adams

2. Gawain Jones

3. Nigel Short

4. David Howell

5. Nick Pert

Captain: Peter Wells

Women (board order to be confirmed) -

WGM Anya Corke, WFM's Maria Yurenok, Sabrina Chevannes, Kanwal Bhatia, Sarah Hegarty

Captain: Stephen Gordon

Dates: 28th August - 9th September 2012

Venue: Istanbul, Turkey

Schedule: Rounds 1 - 5:

28th August - 1st September

Rounds 6 - 10: 3rd - 7th September

Round 11: 9th September

CONTENTS

County Champs - FC, 2

ECF News - 3 - 6

International - 7

Results Round-Up - 7

Junior Chess - 12

ChEx Bookshelf - 16

Batsford - 20

Book Reviews - 21

Grand Prix - 22

Calendar - 23

Statement on Court of Arbitration ruling

- from Nigel Short, ECF FIDE Delegate

Dear ECF members,
After a very lengthy delay, the Court of Arbitration for Sport has finally announced the outcome of the case that the English and Georgian chess federations brought challenging the improper appointment of three extra Vice Presidents at the 2010 General Assembly in Khanty-Mansiysk.

FIDE has accurately reported the outcome of the case on its website ... except that it completely and conveniently ignores the most important point - that FIDE simply escaped on a technicality and fails to mention that it was severely criticized by the CAS Panel in its decision.

First, the technicality. The CAS didn't make a decision on the merits of the case because it ruled that all challenges have to be made within 21 days of the decision being challenged. But FIDE's own rules state that FIDE doesn't need to publish the Minutes of the General Assembly for "three months after the meeting is closed" (FIDE Statute 4.12.) This is Kafkaesque - how can you challenge something in court before the Minutes - controlled by FIDE - of the thing you are challenging are even produced?

As to what the CAS has to say about FIDE's behaviour, the decision speaks for itself:

"102. The Panel has reviewed and duly considered both parties' pleadings on the merits, and notes that these at the very least raise a number of prima facie issues regarding the clarity of the FIDE Statutes and Electoral Regulations, and regarding the internal governance of FIDE. However, having decided that CAS 2011/A/2392 is inadmissible, the Panel will not address in this award the parties' pleadings on the merits, which have been outlined above in Section VIII.

103. Nevertheless, the Panel would encourage FIDE to assess critically its past practice in light of the texts of its statutes and regulations, so as to maintain an appropriate level of transparency in its decision-making process."

"109. In light of the Respondent's success in challenging both claims commenced by the Appellants, the Panel considers that a contribution by the Appellants to the Respondent's costs is warranted. However, the Panel considers that the scope of such a contribution should be limited in light of the fact that the Respondent's awkward disregard for constitutional formalities during the FIDE Congress, which - by amongst others creating a level of ambiguity as to the nature of the appointment of the Five Vice Presidents - should have been understood by FIDE as having a potential to create discord and lead to the commencement of claims."

It would be grossly negligent if the FIDE leadership failed to take these criticisms by the Panel of Judges seriously to maintain an "appropriate level of transparency." Likewise, the CAS decision underscores the need for a comprehensive overhaul of the FIDE Statutes and Electoral Regulations at the next General Assembly to improve the "internal governance of FIDE" and prevent arbitrary actions that "create discord," such as the appointment of five, not two Vice Presidents. FIDE will doubtless argue that this is exactly what it is trying to do. But as explained in the memorandum commissioned by the ECF (along with the Bulgarian and US Chess Federations), this is most definitely not the case. Many of FIDE's proposals for rule changes are transparently designed to keep the ruling group in power for the foreseeable future. In addition, FIDE's proposals are drafted in poor, imprecise and sometimes unintelligible English, and are often contradictory, which, if passed, will inevitably lead to further confusion and conflict. Serious overhaul and precise drafting is needed.

Everyone who cares deeply about the game of chess and future of the governing body should take a firm interest in revision of the rules at the FIDE General Assembly, in September, in Istanbul.



Nominations for Election at the ECF AGM

The voluntary posts to be elected at the AGM on 13 October 2012 are:

- President
- Chief Executive
- Non-Executive Chairman
- Director of Finance
- 2 Non-Executive Directors
- Director of Home Chess
- Director of International Chess
- Director of Junior Chess and Education
- Director of Membership and Marketing
- The FIDE Delegate
- The Chairman of the Finance Committee
- Members of the Finance Committee
- The Chairman of the Governance Committee
- Members of the Governance Committee.

The Board amended the Directors and Officers Responsibilities Regulations on 8 August 2012 to provide updated job descriptions for each of these posts: the Regulations can be accessed at [insert URL]. A note indicating whether incumbents are seeking re-election can be accessed at [insert URL]. Both of these documents are available in hard copy from the ECF Office.

Each candidate for a post must be one of:

- (a) A retiring Director, FIDE Delegate or Chairman of a Standing Committee seeking re-election to the same Post; or
- (b) A nominee of the Board for a Post; or
- (c) A person proposed by any of the following full* members:
 - (i) any Director;
 - (ii) the FIDE Delegate;
 - (iii) the Chairman of a Standing Committee;
 - (iv) any two Trustees;
 - (v) any Representative Member of a Constituent unit;
 - (vi) any two Representative Members of Counties;
 - (vii) any two Direct Members' Representatives;
 - (viii) any two of a Trustee, a Representative Member of a County and a Direct Members' Representative; or
 - (ix) any five Individual** Members or Representative Members.

* Full Members are Constituent Units, County Associations, Chess Leagues, Chess Congresses,

Other Organisations, the Directors, the FIDE Delegate, the Chairmen of the Standing Committees, the Trustees (of the Permanent Invested Fund), Patrons, the Past President, and the Past Chief Executive and the Past Non-Executive Chairman.

** Individual Members are any of the Full Members listed above.

To be eligible for election, nominations with the required level of support, must be received at the ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD no later than 13:30 on Wednesday 5 September 2012.

Any candidate is entitled to have an election address not exceeding one sheet of A4 paper in size, printed black and white on one side only, published on the website.

Managers and other Officers are appointed by the Board and by individual Directors and are not subject to election by Council. However, this is an appropriate time for anyone interested in this type of essential work to indicate their interest to the Board through the ECF Office.

Andrew Farthing, Chief Executive, comments:

Several current Board members have already indicated that they will not be standing for re-election in October. It is very important for the continuity and effectiveness of the ECF that it should have a full Board throughout the year. If any of the elected positions remain vacant following the AGM, it is the responsibility of the Board to appoint people to the roles. It goes without saying that it would be preferable for the roles to be filled by elected officials, and I would urge members to make every effort to help identify and encourage suitable volunteers for the elected roles.

Direct Member Representatives

Nominations are invited for Direct Member Representatives to take office for a period of one year from the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on 13 October 2012. For the purpose of the election of Representatives, Direct Members are grouped into the following four categories:

- (a) Honorary Life Vice Presidents, Vice

Presidents, Corporate Vice Presidents, Honorary Life Members and Life Members.

(b) Gold Members and Gold Concessionary Members.

(c) Silver Members and Silver Concessionary Members.

(d) Bronze Members and Bronze Concessionary Members.

(e) Platinum Members

Each of these five categories is entitled to elect two Representatives. Nominations are sought among the five categories. If there are more than two nominations in any category, a first two past the post election will be held in that category in accordance with instructions to be issued by the Board.

Representatives are members of Council and must be and remain Direct members in the category for which they are elected throughout their period of office. New nominations need to be made by a Direct Member who is in the same group of members as the nominee and accepted by the latter.

To be eligible, signed nominations and acceptances must be received at the ECF office by 13.30 on Wednesday 5 September 2012

Online - the ECF Toolbar!

The ECF toolbar is a free navigation tool that works seamlessly with your browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox and Google Chrome) to provide convenient, efficient, 24/7 access to various ECF resources.

Features include: 1-click access to all ECF websites; real-time headlines direct to your PC; instant search of englishchess.org.uk content; and 1-click access to social media pages.

Visit this web address and try it for yourself -

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/com.alexatoolbar/atbp/yEl6nP/download/index.htm>

ECF congratulates Chess in Schools & Communities



In the Sport and Recreation Alliance's Community Sport and Recreation Awards for 2012, Chess in Schools and Communities was Highly Commended. This is the first occasion on which a mind sport has been recognised in these prestigious awards.

Andrew Farthing, ECF Chief Executive, commented:

"I'm delighted that the Sport and Recreation Alliance has recognised the wonderful work being done by CSC in this way. The idea that chess can bring social and educational benefits to primary school children has long been well known within the chess community. CSC is making this a reality in an increasing number of schools, and the Alliance's commendation is a worthy reflection of both the charity's ambitions and its success to date."

The award was presented to Malcolm Pein, Chief Executive of CSC, at the Alliance's Annual General Meeting held at St. James's Palace on Thursday 19th July, by the Alliance's President, HRH Prince Edward, The Earl of Wessex.

For further information please contact David Sedgwick

Tel: 020 8656 7682

Email: davidsedgwick3@googlemail.com

International Round-Up

- from Lawrence Cooper

First Saturday Budapest, Hungary 7-17 July 2012

Diana Mihajlova finished in equal fourth place just half a point behind the three winners with a score of 7/11 in the FM B tournament.

35ste Taminco Open Gent, Belgium 14-18 July 2012

Final scores after nine rounds: Richard McMichael 6.5, Andrew Stone 6, Mark Davey 5, Barry Morris & Alistair Morton 4, Gerald Parfett 3.5, Ronald Crooks & Peter Grant-Ross 3, Kevin Huntley & Mark Ruston 2.5, R Blackman 2.

Turkish Chess League 11th-22nd July 2012

Michael Adams scored 6/10 for Ýstanbul ÝSEK Aquamatch Spor Kulübü who included former world FIDE champion Rustam Kazimdzhanov and Judit Polgar in their squad.

The team lost eight matches and won five. Each team consisted of ten boards; the first six boards are mainly titled players, followed by a female junior (U-20), a junior player (U-20), U15 girl, U 15 junior.

2nd Science Park Amsterdam Chess Tournament 14-22 July 2012

Stewart Haslinger scored 5.5/9, Keith Richardson 3 and Julian Farrand 2.5 in Group A, Graham Burton 6/9 and Ray Edwards 5 in Group B and Mike Haslinger 4.5/9 in Group C.

Dortmund Open A 14-22 July 2012

Laurence Webb finished on 6/9 in the Open A section.

Czech Open, Pardubice 20-29 July 2012

A (>2200) Section: Lorin D'Costa 2.5/4.
B (>1800) Section: David Grant 3/4, Peter Andreev, Grant Bucher & Will Taylor 2.5, Dominic Foord, Matthew Lunn & Phil Makepeace 2, Rhys Cumming 1.5.
C (<2200) Section: Donny Muter 3.5/4 & Arasu Ganesan 3.
D (<2000) Section: Gunnar Mallon 1/4.
E (<1800) Section: Alex Conway 3.5/4, Rob Hewitt 2.

Future events:

Dutch Open 24th July - 2nd August 2012

Peter Sowray will play.

World Junior Under 20 Athens, Greece 1-16 August 2012

Yang-Fan Zhou, Callum Kilpatrick, William Jones, Ravi Haria and Henrik Stepanyan will play in the boys/open event and Lateefah Messam-Sparks and Anna York-Andersen will play in the girls. Mark Hebden and Lawrence Cooper will be the coaches.

Hogeschool Zeeland Chess Tournament, Vlissingen, Netherlands 4-11 August 2012

Stewart Haslinger, Pete Sowray, Gareth Haslinger and Mike Haslinger have all entered.

Riga International, Latvia August 6-12 2012

Isaac Sanders, Tim Spanton, Kevin Winter and Alan Collins are all registered.

12th European Seniors Championship Kaunas Lithuania 18-26 August 2012

The registration deadline is 1st August.

48. Międzynarodowy Festiwal Szachowy im. Akiby Rubinsteina - Grupa B? 18-26 August

Jonathan Kay is playing.

World Chess Olympiad 28th August - 9th September 2012

England teams:

Open: 1 Michael Adams, 2 Gawain Jones, 3 Nigel Short, 4 David Howell, 5 Nick Pert.

Captain: Peter Wells.

Women: WGM 1. Anya Corke, 2. Maria Yurenok, 3. Sarah Hegarty, 4. Sabrina Chevannes, 5. Kanwal Bhatia. Captain: Stephen Gordon.

The event is being held from 28th August to 9th September in Istanbul, Turkey.

WORLD YOUTH UNDER-16 CHESS OLYMPIAD 28 August - 06 September 2012 Istanbul, Türkiye (Turkey)

Results Round-Up

Golders Green Rapidplay, 12 May 2012

Congratulations to Grandmaster Alex Cherniaev and FM Peter Sowray on winning the FIDE rated Golders Green Rapidplay chess tournament this weekend! FM John Richardson and Tom Villiers were third. Imanol Segura won the FIDE rated Major Under 170, Charlie Nettleton won the Minor

Under 145 and Walter Thorpe the Amateur Under 120. 91 played, and the FIDE rated sections had a record 50 players between them!

FULL RESULTS

FIDE OPEN

GM Alex Cherniaev and FM Peter Sowray 5/6 £45 each

FM John Richardson 4.5/6, Tom Villers (139) 4.5/6 and £20 for the Under 175 grading prize.

FIDE MAJOR Under 170

Imanol Segura 5.5/6 £60

Nasarullah Sheikh (144) and Joseph Skielnik (162) 4.5/6 £15 each

Under 155: David McNish (148) 4/6 and £15

MINOR Under 145

Charlie Nettleton (143) 5/6 and £60

Tom Rixon (144) 4.5/6 and £30

Under 130 prize to Adrian Kelly Riley (121) 4/6 and £20

AMATEUR

Walter Thorpe 5.5/6 and £60

David Everitt (graded 102, winning the Under 105 grading prize), Faye Ainscow (113) and John Kelly (118) 4.5/6 and £15 each.

Thanks to Geoff Gammon, Chris Andrescu for arbiting, and Norman and yElena Went for providing the refreshments and doing the grading / FIDE rating.

School Chess Championships in York

The event was held at Bootham Junior School on 13th May and results were as follows:-

Year 9 and under

1st - Louis Romer (St John Fisher)

2nd - Bardy Hills (Saage All Saints)

3rd - Kevin Williams (Bramcote)

Merit award - Alexander Goldthorpe (Manor) and Toby Wrightson (Bramcote)

Team winners - Bramcote School.

Year 6 and under

1st - Eddie Phillips (Bootham Junior)

2nd - James Dessent (Minster)

3rd - Robert Gowland (Wigginton)

4th - Charlotte Benson (Poppleton Road)

5th - Marcus Tomlinson (Cundall Manor)

Merit awards - Adam Sullivan (Bootham), Joseph Thornber (St Wilfrids) and Fraser Thornton (Wigginton)

Team winners - 1st Bootham Junior, 2nd Wigginton Primary

Year 4 and under

1st - Benjamin Sinclair Shaw (Bootham)

2nd - Matthew Mairs (Cundall Manor)

3rd - Oliver Tomalin (Cundall)

4th - Katie Jayne Clement (Wheldrake)

5th - James Arcidiacono (Cundall Manor)

Merit awards - William Hallidie-Smith (Knavesmire), Alex Sykes, Ralph Butterfield, Ben Tomalin (Cundall), Darsh Johar (Bootham) and Tom Jenner (St Barnabas)

Team winners - 1st Cundall Manor, 2nd Bootham Junior School

Thanks to all the helpers and the school facilities - there was a good entry of 94

- *Peter Cloudsdale, Organiser*

Frome Chess Congress May 11-13

- *from Gerry Jepps*

155 players entered and winners were:

Open

First equal: (4/5) Paul Byway (Hertford); Oliver Gill (Southampton); Gareth Morris (Bristol & Clifton)

British Championship Qualifying Place: Paul Byway (Hertford); Reserves: Oliver Gill (Southampton), Gareth Morris (Bristol & Clifton)

U181 Grading prize (3.5/5) David Sully (Pentyrch)

Major (U170)

First (4/5) Ian Ponter (Downend & Fishponds)

Second (4/5) Wiatt Ropp (Stratford)

Third equal (3.5/5) Raymond Gamble (Spondon); Paul Jackson (Coulsdon); Paul Carlucci (Morley College); Kevin Winter (Bingley); Ewart Smith (Basingstoke); Simon Bartlett (Tiverton)

U150 Grading prize (3/5) Duncan Macarthur (Keynsham); Dave Marshall (Trowbridge)

Intermediate (U140)

First (5/5) Peter Dimond (Bath)

Second equal (4/5) David Cornes (Wimborne); David Rogers (Exmouth)

U120 Grading prize (3.5/5) Derek Hadley (GLCC)

Minor (U115)

First equal (4.5/5) David Woodruff (Keynsham); Stephen Crockett (Redditch); William Curry (Fareham)

U95 Grading prize Marian Cox (Southampton); Reg Cox (Southampton); Lee Bullock (Coulson)

Somerset Trophies

Denys Bonner (Highest placed Somerset player in the Open): Patrick Krzyzanowski (Yeovil)

Leon York Memorial (Highest placed Somerset player in the Major): Mark Leonard (Frome)

Roy Hossell (Highest placed Somerset player in the Intermediate): Peter Dimond (Bath)

Cyril Chapman (Highest placed Somerset player in the Minor) David Woodruff (Keynsham)

Jean Mackereth (Highest placed ungraded Somerset player in the Minor) David McGeeney (Bristol Cabot)

Cuprinol Trophy (Highest scoring West of England Junior in any section): Max French (Frome)

Team Competition

Keynsham

16th South Lakes Congress 2012 - results

Stamford Associates OPEN - 34 players

1st Jonathan Hawkins (Cheddleton) 4½/5

=2nd Jim Burnett (Doncaster) & Stoyan Ivanov (Bulgaria) 4/5

Grading Prize - Robert K Taylor (Preston)

Cumbria Prize - Paul Rivers (Carlisle)

Invesco Perpetual MAJOR - 35 Players

1st Richard Desmedt (Wombwell) 4½/5

=2nd Carl Heald (Morecambe) & Brendan O`Gorman (DHSS) 4/5

Grading Prize - Dean Hartley (Amber Valley)

Cumbria Prize - Stephen Schofield (Grange)

INTERMEDIATE - 42 Players

=1st Greg Hughes (Wallasey), Zheming Zhang (Jesmond), Brendan Brown (Clitheroe) 4/5

Grading Prize - Ian Mackay (Austin Friars)

Cumbria Prize - Andy McAtear (Penrith)

MINOR 1 - 34 Players

1st Steve Clare (Wallasey) 5/5

2nd Timothy Allen (Battersea) 4/5

=3rd Omar Namouk (Hastings & St Leonards) & Mike Barrett (Formby), Martin Gawne (Barrow) 3½/5

Grading Prize - Martin Beardsley (Eldon Leisure)

Cumbria Prize - Alan Llewellyn (Barrow)

MINOR 2 - 42 Players

1st Tracy Clegg (West Nottingham) 4 ½/5

=2nd Stephen Crockett (Redditch), Michael

Snowdon (Rotherham), Peter Housden (Bedford) 4/5

Grading Prize - James Moreby (Jesmond)

Cumbria Prize - Mike Mason (Barrow)

Best Ladies Prize - Eva Ressel (Chessmates)

Best Junior - Daniel Abbas (3Cs)

Best Veteran - Oliver Jackson (Cheshire)

4th FIDE London Rapidplay

92 players entered - winners were ...

U8 Champion - William Longtin 4 points

Joint 2nd - Louis Pike 4, Luca Van der Lubbe 4

Best U7 - Jeff Tomy 4

Best girl U8 - Mansa Chandar

U10 Champion - Matthew Longtin 5 points

2nd place - Andrei Prokhorenko 4

Best U9 - Boris Pastukhov 4

Best Girl U10 - Lily Purvis 3

U12 Champion - Ieysaa Bin-Suhyal 3.5

U14 Champion - Isaac Chancay 3.5

U18 Champion - Robin Clarke 3.5

U1700 section winner - Stanislav Pastukhov 4.5

2nd place - John Kelly 4

Grading prize - David Xu 4

U2000 section winner - Helge Hjort 4.5

2nd place - Simon Wilks 4

Grading prize - Anthony Kelly 3

Open section joint winners - Giuseppe Lettieri

4, Peter Roberson 4 and Pratik Shriwas 4

Grading prize - Akito Oyama 2.5 and Milos Gaj 2.5

ECF U18 / U13 results

Under 18 champions: Hertfordshire (18.5 pts /

24) | Runners up: Berkshire (18)

Under 18 schools joint prizewinners:

Haberdashers & Reading School (1st=)

Under 18 best game prize: Ravi Haria (Herts)

Under 13 Open champions: Sussex (13.5 pts /

18) | Runners up: Cambridgeshire (13)

Under 13 Minor champions: Norfolk 'A' (16 pts

/ 18) | Runners up: Hampshire (13.5)

Under 13 Minor best game prize: Thomas

Bartram (Norfolk 'B')

Rochester Chess Congress results

Open

Round 1

1	188	Philip Bonafont	1-0	Rohan Shiatis	177
2	176	Patrick Smith	0-1	Julian Farrand	182
3	180	David Hall	0.5-0.5	James Robinson	165

Round 2

1	182	Julian Farrand	0-1	Philip Bonafont	188
2	165	James Robinson	0-1	Paul Cooksey	213
3	153	Arul Gupta	0-1	David Hall	180
4	152	Akshaye Kalaiyalahan	0-1	Raymond Ilett	170
5	177	Rohan Shiatis	1-0	Bye	0

Round 3

1	188	Philip Bonafont	0.5-0.5	David Hall	180
2	213	Paul Cooksey	1-0	Raymond Ilett	170
3	177	Rohan Shiatis	1-0	Julian Farrand	182
4	176	Patrick Smith	1-0	Arul Gupta	153
5	165	James Robinson	0.5-0.5	Akshaye Kalaiyalahan	152

Round 4

1	213	Paul Cooksey	1-0	Philip Bonafont	188
2	180	David Hall	0.5-0.5	Rohan Shiatis	177
3	170	Raymond Ilett	0.5-0.5	Patrick Smith	176
4	182	Julian Farrand	1-0	Akshaye Kalaiyalahan	152
5	165	James Robinson	1-0	Bye	0

Round 5

1	180	David Hall	0-1	Paul Cooksey	213
2	177	Rohan Shiatis	0-1	Patrick Smith	176
3	152	Akshaye Kalaiyalahan	0-1	Philip Bonafont	188
4	170	Raymond Ilett	0.5-0.5	Julian Farrand	182

Major

Round 1

1	158	Richard Desmedt	0.5-0.5	Phil Foley	127
2	128	John Macdonald	1-0	Mark Stone	143
3	138	Chris Stampe	0.5-0.5	Chris Marshall	144
4	123	Alan Riddoch	1-0	Henry Cove	135

Round 2

1	123	Alan Riddoch	0-1	John Macdonald	128
2	119	Ananthia Anil Kumar	0-1	Richard Desmedt	158
3	152	Conrad Allison	1-0	Chris Stampe	138
4	144	Chris Marshall	1-0	Stephen Billet	117
5	127	Phil Foley	0-1	Mark Mortimer	144
6	143	Mark Stone	1-0	Henry Cove	135

Round 3

1	128	John Macdonald	0-1	Conrad Allison	152
2	158	Richard Desmedt	0.5-0.5	Chris Marshall	144
3	144	Mark Mortimer	0.5-0.5	Mark Stone	143
4	138	Chris Stampe	0.5-0.5	Alan Riddoch	123
5	117	Stephen Billet	0-1	Phil Foley	127
6	135	Henry Cove	0.5-0.5	Ananthia Anil Kumar	119

Round 4

1	152	Conrad Allison	1-0	Richard Desmedt	158
2	144	Chris Marshall	0-1	Mark Mortimer	144
3	143	Mark Stone	0.5-0.5	Alan Riddoch	123

4	127	Phil Foley	0-1	Chris Stampe	138
5	119	Ananthia Anil Kumar	0.5-0.5	Stephen Billet	117
6	135	Henry Cove	1-0	Bye	0
Round 5					
1	144	Mark Mortimer	0.5-0.5	Conrad Allison	152
2	123	Alan Riddoch	0.5-0.5	Chris Marshall	144
3	138	Chris Stampe	1-0	Mark Stone	143
4	127	Phil Foley	0-1	Ananthia Anil Kumar	119
5	117	Stephen Billet	0-1	Henry Cove	135
Minor					
Round 1					
1	113	Stephen Crockett	0.5-0.5	Bye	0
2	110	Alan Fraser	0.5-0.5	Tyrone Jefferies	112
3	109	Kiran Shiatis	0-1	George Jelliss	85
Round 2					
1	85	George Jelliss	0-1	Alan Fraser	110
2	103	Jennifer Goldsmith	0-1	Stephen Crockett	113
3	112	Tyrone Jefferies	0.5-0.5	Anil Kumar	70
4	94	Lee Bullock	1-0	Kiran Shiatis	109
Round 3					
1	110	Alan Fraser	0-1	Lee Bullock	94
2	113	Stephen Crockett	1-0	Tyrone Jefferies	112
3	70	Anil Kumar	1-0	George Jellis	85
4	109	Kiran Shiatis	0.5-0.5	Jennifer Goldsmith	103
Round 4					
1	94	Lee Bullock	1-0	Anil Kumar	70
2	110	Alan Fraser	0.5-0.5	Stephen Crockett	113
3	85	George Jelliss	1-0	Jennifer Goldsmith	103
4	112	Tyrone Jefferies	1-0	Kiran Shiatis	109
Round 5					
1	112	Tyrone Jefferies	0.5-0.5	Lee Bullock	94
2	113	Stephen Crockett	1-0	George Jelliss	85
3	103	Jennifer Goldsmith	1-0	Alan Fraser	110
4	70	Anil Kumar	0-1	Kiran Shiatis	109

National Club Championships 2012

Open

Wood Green 4½ - Maidstone 1½

Major

Tunbridge Wells 1 - Bushbury 4

Major Plate

Maidstone 0 - Bedford 5

Intermediate

Prescot & Knotty Ash 2 - Bishop's Stortford 2 (Bishop's Stortford win on board count)

Intermediate Plate

Alwoodley 1½ - Maidstone 2½

Minor

Fenton 2 - Forest of Dean 2 (FoD win on board count)

For full results and photographs visit the ECF website -

http://www.englishchess.org.uk/?page_id=40 &

<http://www.englishchess.org.uk/?p=20130>

Junior Chess

Prague Trip 2012 - Under 12s

- from Peter Purland

Our annual Under 12 trip this year was to Prague where we were guests of Jaroslav Nemeč and the Caritas Organisation. On Saturday 2nd June two groups assembled. Daniel Abbas, Matthew Fergusson, Ashwin Kalyana, James Kearney, Mark Kenyon and Johann Power met Glynis and Peter at Manchester and flew to Prague via Frankfurt. Although we were slightly late in Frankfurt we still had plenty of time and arrival in Prague was early. Meanwhile Victor was at Heathrow meeting Joshua Higgs, Taran Jina, David Liu, Matthew McLachlan, Richard Meikle-Briggs, James Meredith, Gwilym Price, Billy Twigge-Molecey, Prashast Vir and Richard Zhu. Their plane was about 10 minutes late in to Prague. We were all met at the airport by Jaroslav's family and employees and taken to the Pension Krystal which is owned by Caritas. We settled in and had dinner after which the players went in to the garden and played soccer whilst Victor, Glynis and I had a meeting with Jaroslav. We then had a meeting with the players before going to bed ready for a speed chess tournament the next day.

The timings in the Czech Republic can be a culture shock for our players as breakfast was 0700 and round one (of nine) was at 0915. The event took place at Rakovník which was just over an hours drive towards Plzeň and was 20 minutes each on the clock. This was a local one day event with almost all the other 34 players being adults with an average rating of about 1950 so we were in for a tough day. As only two of our players had fide ratings we were kept apart in round one but the standard was high and we were almost all playing top half players. This showed in the results (+3 =1 -12). Round Two only had one inter squad game (drawn) and our final total was +8=4-4. Round three was fairly typical of the yoyo effect as we scored +4 =2 -10. Round four result was +2 =8 -6 and at the lunch break our top player was Mark Kenyon on 2.5. His reward was a 2017 player and the result was predictable giving Joshua Higgs, Gwilym Price and Richard Zhu the chance to leapfrog him. Fortified by a good lunch we produced our second best result in round 5 with +4 =7 -5. In round six only Gwilym of our top three won leaving him our sole player on 4\6 but a 2104 opponent undid him in round seven and he

was joined on 4 by Matthew McLachlan and Billy Twigge-Molecey. Round six was +5 =4 -7 whilst round seven was very similar with +5 =3 -8. Gwilym lost again in round eight but Matthew and Billy won to move on to 5 points. Our score this round was 9 (+7 =4 -5) - perhaps we are getting used to the time limit! In the final round Billy and Matthew were paired and any result other than a draw should see them in the prize list. Matthew won our vital battle to finish off with 6\9 The final round produced 9½ points (+9 =1 -6) so ending off very strongly. Matthew got 9th place prize and Billy got the prize for the best U1800. It is a measure of the strength of the tournament that the best 1800 was almost halfway down. By standard conversion only two of our players are over 1800 so the scores were certainly as good as we could expect. We then returned to the hotel taking a little longer as there were traffic jams coming in to Prague but we were still eating just after 1900 and after another good meal the boys went out to play football. We then had our usual meeting and headed for bed.

Monday looked to be a busy day although we were thankful for an 0830 breakfast. Our first activity was bowling and we were there for two hours. The best of the players (by a long way) was Mark Kenyon who averaged 75 per game although all of them seemed to enjoy themselves and the gutters did not see too much use! We then had an outside simultaneous against WGM Katerina Nemcova. She was given a hard time by our 16 youngsters and conceded losses to James Meredith, Joshua Higgs and Johann Power. We were running a bit late going on our sightseeing of Prague and started off with a tram trip to the city centre where we met our guide. We got the funicular up Castle Hill (Perlin) and looked at the Hungry Wall (a 15th century job creation scheme) then the Czech Eiffel Tower before going in a mirror maze which proved great fun. (The old ones are still very good!). We then walked to the main castle but were forced in to a café by very heavy rain which, of course, further delayed us. We saw the changing of the guard at the castle entrance then looked round the outside of the castle and St Vitus Cathedral before walking down Golden Street and out down the Old Castle Steps. We then went to Charles Bridge with all its statues before going across it and meeting our transport the far side. We were then taken out to a newly opened gym complex (owned by our hosts brother) where the players had a 4 a side soccer competition won by Prashast, Tara, James K and

Matthew Mc whilst Glynis and I had a swim. We then gorged ourselves on pizzas before the players had a mini soccer competition won by Josh. Then it was back to the hotel, a quick meeting and bed.

Tuesday started with an 0800 breakfast after which we got on the bus for our castles tour. There was heavy rain on the journey which, fortunately had stopped by the time we reached Konopiste Castle. This was the home of Crown prince France Ferdinand, his wife Sophie and there three children and was almost an exile as the Hapsburg establishment did not approve of Sophie. However with his love of hunting (there are over 3000 trophies in the castle) he was happy with his situation. Unfortunately for the pair they were sent to Sarajevo in 1914 and the rest is history. The Czechoslovak government confiscated all Hapsburg possessions and the castle is now in state ownership. Fortunately most of the furniture, the superb collection of weapons and the trophies remained intact and it was this that we were shown during an excellent tour. We then had time in the souvenir shops before moving on. We then had roughly an hours drive to Karlstein where we went to a very nice local restaurant. Fish and chips proved the favourite - two fish each! - whilst a few others sampled the rest of the menu.

We walked up to the castle which was steep but OK and followed this with a guided tour of the castle. This was built by Charles IV who seems to be the most revered of the Czech monarchs. It had become ruined in the 19th century but was reconstructed in the late 19th century so much of what is seen is not very old. Nevertheless it was furnished authentically. It is in three parts, residence, central tower (which includes the religious areas) and the treasury tower where the crown jewels used to be kept. This area has never been taken in battle. After the tour we walked down through the village and got the coach back to Prague. Here we were in the Oasis Chess Club playing a match against Prague Juniors. They were slightly older than us but we are, of course, a national team. The time limits were faster than we had hoped for but the lads acquitted themselves well winning 11-5 with white and $8\frac{1}{2} - 7\frac{1}{2}$ with black to give us victory $19\frac{1}{2} - 12\frac{1}{2}$. Only Ashwin, Richard MB and Gwilym got $2\frac{1}{2}$ in what was a well fought match. We then had the good old continental favourite, the blitz tournament! This was dominated by the Hollan twins (who

played in the South Wales International in Penarth). Petr Hollan was first with $6\frac{1}{2}$ Martin Hollan 2nd with 6 and Mark 3rd with $5\frac{1}{2}$. Boxes of chocolate were also won by Daniel 4th, Billy 5th, Parshast 8th, Richard 9th and Ashwin 10th. We returned to the hotel for our final dinner there and, as I send this, they are having a quiz which has been arranged by our hosts as part of their "Boy of the Visit" competition.

Wednesday was another 0800 breakfast after which we packed and those efficient enough had a last game of soccer. The final thanks were then said and the results of "Boy of the Visit" were announced. This saw Johann Power winner with Mark Kenyon runner up. We then headed for the old town square where we did our last souvenir shopping and saw the astronomical clock working before heading for the airport where we separated and flew home after a very successful trip. Many thanks are due to Jaroslav Nemeč, his family and the Caritas team for putting together a brilliant package and I am sure the boys enjoyed it, learnt a lot and formed greater friendships.

Full results can be found at www.englishchess.org.uk

Regional matches v Wales 2012

- from Peter Purland

The matches between SE England and Wales and SW England and Wales took place in Monmouth School over the weekend of June 9th and 10th. Part of the object of these matches from the English point of view is to give players who just missed out on the England team a chance to experience an international match. The South East is usually the strongest area and is so again, but what Victor and I found very disappointing were the number of players who, at the trial six weeks ago, were definitely available but somehow, when they failed to get in the team, something else came up and they could not travel to Wales. The number this year was 10 out of 22 and, although obviously some have a good reason, most do not. From a team point of view, our reliable team members were willing to fill the gaps and the result was probably better than it would have been but that is not the point - commitment is lacking from either parent, child or both.

Anyway, on to the chess - the U14s played well to gain the victory by $15\frac{1}{2} - 4\frac{1}{2}$ and three newcom-

ers to the scene gained valuable experience and, in two cases, 2 points! It was pleasing to see the top four boards winning 5½ - 2½ against a strong Welsh foursome. The U12s were stronger than intended and this showed with a 9-1 first round victory, although 4 games went beyond the 2 hour mark. The second round was closer (8½ - 3½) although SE still ran out comfortable winners 19½ - 4½. Here again it was good to see two late replacements getting maximum score. The U10 match proved the closest in the first round with England (not just South East) winning 8-4 but they came back in the second round to win 10-2 and take the match 18-6. Three matches went to the final few minutes so the score was not fully reflective of the effort put in.

Sunday saw the South West come to Monmouth. Both SW teams appeared as selected, as did the Welsh, and a much closer match was anticipated. This proved true in the U14s where the score after the first round was 5-5. However in the U12s the Welsh team played very well and turned round 9-3 to the good. I would have been interested to hear Victor's team talk but I am barred (particularly when Wales are involved!) It was obviously a very successful team talk as the U14s roared back to win 6½ - 3½ and thus take the match 11½ - 8½ and. Although the task was beyond the U12s, they did at least reduce the margin of loss, finally going down 16 - 8 (7-5 in round two).

Full results can be found at www.englishchess.org.uk

ECF Afternoon School Chess Tournament

- report by Neill Cooper

Played at Wilson's School, 27th June
The inaugural ECF Afternoon School Chess Tournament was a great success. 8 schools took part fielding a total of 16 teams with 4 players in each team. The Elite tournament consisted of just 4 teams, two from hosts Wilson's and two from nearby Sutton GS. The Main tournament of 12 teams included many players who had not played chess for their school before.

The Main tournament was very close throughout. It was run on a game score (rather than match score) so all 16 games counted. Going in to the last round 1 point covered the top 6 teams. In the end the joint winners were Wallington County

Grammar School and Wilson's Southwark House team with 10.5 out of 16. Equal third were the two Emanuel School teams and another Wilson's team.

Whilst Wilson's, Sutton, Wallington and Emanuel play each year in the Briant Poulter (Surrey Secondary School) League, there were 4 other schools taking part who do not regularly play inter-school chess. Of these the top school was Warlingham School who scored 8 points, half a point ahead of St Peter's A with Ewell Castle team third and Nonsuch fourth.

Just one of the 48 players in this section won all their games, Daniel Coleman of Wallington. Wilson's Camberwell House team draw all four matches 2 - 2.

The Elite section was played as 2 paired matches between the Wilson's and Sutton GS teams. Some of the players had problems adjusting to a Fischer time limit of 10 mins + 2 secs per move. After the first two matches Wilson's A were in the lead with 6 point with Sutton A second on 4.5. The final result saw a turnaround with Sutton A winning on 10.5/16 followed by Wilson's B with 9.5 (ahead of Wilson's A). Two players in this section won all their games - Adam Taylor (Wilson's B) and Keith Barker (Wilson's A)

Main Event

Place	Name	Score
1st =	Wilson's Southwark	10.5
1st =	Wallington	10.5
3rd =	Wilson's Mix	9.5
3rd =	Emanuel B	9.5
3rd =	Emanuel A	9.5
6th	Wilson's Brecon	9
7th =	Wilson's Camberwell	8
7th =	Warlingham	8
9th	St Peter's A	7.5
10th	Ewell Castle	6.5
11th	Nonsuch	4
12th	St Peter's B	3.5

Elite Event

Place	Name	Score
1st	Sutton GS A	10.5
2nd	Wilson's B	9.5
3rd	Wilson's A	8
4th	Sutton B	4

Feedback from the players in the Main section was that the time for the matches, of 25 minutes,

was about right, and most felt their opponents were of a suitable ability. Whilst clocks were used sparingly and with agreement from both players, a quarter of players felt that they should not have been used at all (whilst another quarter thought they should have been used more). Most players would have preferred an earlier start time (and so miss more school!) but it is likely that the next event in November will start later and be run after school. Many thought the Main event could have been longer, and (removing school leavers) 90% are keen to play in the next event. There was much less enthusiasm for a similar event being run at a weekend.



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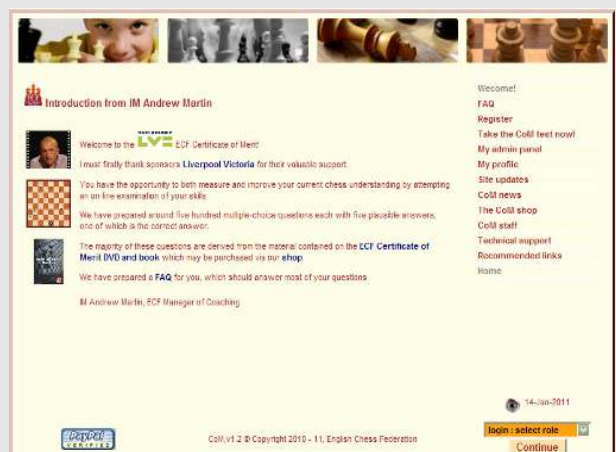
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The ChEx Bookshelf - Andrew Farthing

WRITINGS FROM OLYMPUS

by Andrew Farthing

In the last two Bookshelf columns, I offered my recommendations for the twelve best chess writers for the average player seeking to improve. As I acknowledged at the time, my 'Golden Dozen' specifically excluded any world champions.

This was not because world champions are necessarily poor writers. Who am I even to suggest such a thing? It's more a case of world champions existing in a special category of their own. They are by definition immensely strong players, and immensely strong players may not be the most suited to explaining the game to those of whose immensity may take other forms.

Nevertheless, it is virtually a truism in chess that anything written by a world champion demands attention and is worth reading on some level, so I want to focus this month on some of the world champions and their works.

What follows is selective and omits the first five champions. This is not because they are not worth reading - quite the reverse, in many ways they form the backbone of a sound chess education - but because their virtues have been set out many times in the past.

VASILY SMYSLOV

Despite a career that, in terms of longevity, outshines any other world champion with the possible exception of Lasker, Smyslov remains one of the most "invisible" champions in the consciousness of the average club player. He held the title for one year only (one of the victims of the return match clause prevalent in the Botvinnik era), and this almost certainly encourages many people to consider Smyslov one of the weaker world champions, despite the evidence of his results and play over many years.

Exacerbating this problem is the undemonstrative nature of Smyslov's writings. Essentially, these take the form of 'best games' collections, of which there are several, growing in size with each new version:

- **My Best Games of Chess 1935-1957** (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1958), which contains 67 annotated

ed games;

- **125 Selected Games** (Pergamon, 1983)
- **Smyslov's Best Games, Volume I: 1935-1957** (140 games) and **Volume II: 1958-1995** (186 games), both published by Moravian Chess in 2003.

There is overlap between the collections, and the notes are broadly the same when games appear in more than one collection. As a result, the best buy is the two-volume collection published in 2003. This also includes a brief autobiography (in Volume I) and numerous tournament tables.

Smyslov's annotations are concise and focused. He summarises the key points very clearly and provides only those variations that he considers essential. This is, therefore, a very accessible collection, and I am sure that club players will benefit from studying it (particularly their endgame play). It must be said, however, that Smyslov is not a man to provide the personal touches that bring games to life (perhaps he really did experience chess with the Olympian calm that his demeanour and writings suggest!) and, whatever their educational value, these are not books to set the reader's pulse racing.

Specifically on an endgame theme, there are also Vasily Smyslov: Endgame Virtuoso (Cadogan, 1997), a collection of annotated Smyslov games and positions demonstrating his undoubted expertise in this area, plus his collected endgame studies, and Rook Endings (Batsford, 1971; co-authored with Grigory Levenfish). The latter is like eating your greens; it may not be fun, but it's definitely good for you.

Definitely underrated.

MIKHAIL TAL

Tal's attacking style and engaging personality made him the darling of many chess fans, and it is not surprising, therefore, that his most famous writings are also extremely popular.

By far the most substantial of these works is the 1976 autobiographical games collection, **The Life and Games of Mikhail Tal**. This was reprinted by Cadogan in 1997 under the watchful editorial eye of John Nunn and his silicon friends, with the

result that the original work is now available in an enhanced form with several important analytical corrections. This is a large book (492 pages in the Cadogan edition), which includes 100 annotated games interspersed with an autobiographical narrative in the form of an ‘interview’ between a “chess player” and a “journalist”. The chess player is Tal, of course, and since he was also a journalist, the other party may be the eighth world champion as well. Alternatively, the format may reflect the involvement of a collaborator (frankly, it makes no difference to me as a reader). Like Fischer, Tal wrote in a very personal style, sharing his thoughts during the game and helping the reader to gain some sense of what was happening at the time. I much prefer to read notes like this, and I enjoy a mixture of games and text, so it is no surprise that I love this book and recommend it unreservedly. You may never be able to play like Tal (who can?), but if you don’t find some pleasure in this book, it’s probably safe to assume that chess is not the game for you after all.

Tal’s other much-praised book is **Tal-Botvinnik 1960**, his account of the match which made him world champion. All of the games are set in context with a summary of Tal’s state of mind before the game and thoroughly annotated in a reader-friendly style (plenty of explanation; not too many long variations). I enjoyed the book very much, but I feel obliged to pass on one warning note. The English translation (published by Russell Enterprises) has been criticised as seriously inaccurate by certain knowledgeable readers (whose Russian is good enough to allow comparison with the original text). This notwithstanding, I would strongly urge you not to let it deter you from reading this fantastic book.

These major works aside, there are a few other English language books co-authored by Tal that you may be able to track down:

- **Montreal 1979, Tournament of Stars** (Pergamon, 1980; co-authored with Chepizhny and Roshal) - The book of 1979’s strongest tournament, won by Karpov and Tal. There is an interview with both winners, and Tal provides notes to several of the games, together with round-by-round summaries. The notes show signs of haste and are less deep than in the two works already considered.
- **Chess Scandals** (Pergamon, 1981; co-authored with Ed Edmondson) - An account of the 1978

World Championship match between Karpov and Korchnoi, written primarily by Edmondson (who rose to chess fame fighting in Bobby Fischer’s corner in the 1972 match negotiations). Tal’s involvement comes in the form of game annotations, which are taken from the Russian chess magazine 64. As might be expected, the notes were written soon after the event and are relatively lightweight, despite the fact that Tal was Karpov’s second during the match. Not a bad book, but not a great one either.

- **Tal’s Winning Chess Combinations** (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1980; co-authored with Victor Khenkin) - This was reissued in a new Batsford translation in 2011, under the title 1000 Checkmate Combinations and with Victor Henkin listed as sole author. This leads one to suspect that Tal’s sole contribution was to write the 2-page preface.

- **Attack with Mikhail Tal** (Cadogan, 1994; co-authored with Iakov Damsky) - This is a textbook on attacking the king, using annotated examples and the same ‘interview’ format as in Tal’s games collection. I was disappointed by this and have to believe that it could have been a much more substantial work had Tal’s final illness not intervened.

The theme of co-authored works will crop up again in this column. It is very hard to know the extent of the champion’s contribution. It is often said that the order in which names are listed on a book’s cover is determined by Elo rating, not necessarily contribution, and it is always possible that the world champion’s name is there primarily to sell books.

I would strongly recommend Tal as one of the most entertaining world champions, both as player and as writer.

TIGRAN PETROSIAN

Petrosian shares with Vladimir Kramnik the unenviable reputation of being near-impossible to beat in world championship matches but somewhat dull and unambitious in tournament play. In both cases, the truth is more complex than the image, and there is much of interest in the games of Petrosian, a positional genius and defender of astonishing ability.

In his lifetime, precious little was published in English from Petrosian’s pen, although the odd

annotation appeared here and there (e.g. in the tournament book of the 1966 Piatigorsky Cup). After his death in 1984, Petrosian's games and writings emerged thanks to the efforts of Eduard Shekhtman, who compiled the massive two-volume collection, **The Games of Tigran Petrosian** (Pergamon, 1991). These books contain all traceable games of the ninth world champion, including many annotated by Petrosian himself. Given his approach to chess, it is no surprise that many of the games are dull (and frequently short) draws, but these can easily be ignored in favour of the hundreds of tough battles which occurred when Petrosian's fighting instincts were aroused. Petrosian's style of annotation is balanced towards explanation rather than strings of moves, which makes it more accessible to the club player, and on the whole I found myself enjoying the annotated games considerably. Included in the mix are several articles by Petrosian on key events in his career (such as his 1971 match with Fischer), which offer a fascinating insight into the author's thinking and the way the Soviet press reported chess during the Cold War years.

If nearly 1000 pages of Petrosian are more than you can initially stomach, it's well worth seeking out a small volume, **Petrosian's Legacy** (Editions Erebouni, 1990). This is only 120 pages long and collects 17 lectures and articles from throughout Petrosian's career. On the whole, the target audience is the ordinary player, so this is an excellent introduction to the thinking of one of the greatest strategists in chess history. There is some overlap with **The Games of Tigran Petrosian**, but there is enough original material in **Petrosian's Legacy** for it to be worth owning both.

Petrosian was a controversial figure - both for the way he played and for his behind-the-scenes activities (most notably, the Curacao "pact" and his dealings with Viktor Korchnoi) - but the passage of time gives us the chance to put these elements in perspective. Don't be put off by the image and take some time to acquaint yourself with one of the few world champions since Lasker in the pre-Karpov/Kasparov era to win a match in defence of his title.

BORIS SPASSKY

By his own admission, Boris Spassky has a streak of laziness a mile wide. This affected his play after losing the world championship (when short

draws became commonplace in his tournament appearances) and it seems to have discouraged him from turning his hand to chess writing. In interviews, Spassky has dropped tantalising hints about projects that he suggests should only appear after his death, but one has to wonder whether he was just teasing his audience.

The chess world has no divine right to books by its world champions, of course, so if Spassky doesn't want to publish anything, this is his privilege. All the same, I can't help but feel a keen sense of regret at this state of affairs. Boris has always displayed a degree of wit and humanity that makes him one of the more attractive personalities among the world champions, and I would love to read his accounts of the highlights of his chess career.

There are the occasional annotated games to be found (e.g. in the excellent tournament book of the 1966 Piatigorsky Cup, edited by Isaac Kashdan), but these are crumbs, when what we'd like is a feast.

BOBBY FISCHER

As author, Bobby Fischer's output was relatively small. Given the mystique that still surrounds Fischer's name, however, the impact of his work remains considerable.

Setting aside a number of articles published during Fischer's youth (essentially unobtainable for the vast majority of us) and a skimpy collection of his early games, Fischer's writings consist of a beginner's book, **Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess**, and an annotated games collection, **My Sixty Memorable Games** (1969). I have not read the former work, but it has been praised by some critics.

The essence of Fischer as author is *My Sixty Memorable Games*, which is an undisputed masterpiece. In it, he presents sixty of his games, including several draws and three losses, which struck him as "memorable". Already, the reader can see that this is not a run-of-the-mill collection, which so often contain nothing but "best" games, in the sense of games won by the author. The games are provided with lively introductions (by Larry Evans) that set the games in context. Most importantly, Fischer's notes are extraordinarily vivid; he offers detailed variations but also

verbal commentary which gives an insight into the author's thinking and his observations of what was going on during the game. I loved these snippets, such as the comment in Game 31 (against Petrosian at Bled 1961) that he was ready to accept his opponent's draw offer until he noticed Mikhail Tal "*hovering anxiously*", so he declined, "*not because I thought White has anything in the position, but because I didn't want to give Tal the satisfaction!*" How many of us cannot identify with this? In the next game, against Trifunovich, Fischer describes how he almost fell into a trap "*but Trifunovich seemed too quiet all of a sudden, and I suspected he had tuned in on my brain waves.*" As you can tell from these brief quotations, Fischer's language is far from dry. This is a technically advanced book, but it does not read like a textbook. All of the games come alive on the page.

My Sixty Memorable Games is a marvellous book. Whatever we might feel about Fischer's behaviour since winning the world title (and I find myself torn between repugnance for his views and sympathy for his decline), this is a book that every chess player should own.

ANATOLY KARPOV

Karpov presents an interesting study in public relations. An unquestionably great player, he has often found himself at the heart of controversy, whether it be his gaining of the world title by default in 1975 or the stopping of his first title defence against Kasparov in 1984-5 or his "regain-ing" (itself disputed) of the title in 1993 when Kasparov and Short broke away from the FIDE championship framework. Often seen as a dull or unattractive figure, he was also regularly described as one of the most approachable of the world champions, with a ready smile and an eagerness to help popularise the game. I suspect that he will remain something of an enigma, at least until the passage of time allows the distortions of competitive and political rivalries to be largely forgotten. Only then will the way be open for a serious re-evaluation of Karpov's character and place in chess history.

Ironically, Karpov's books - and there are many - have contributed to his image problems. He has published several collections of his best games, as well as openings manuals (e.g. on the Caro-Kann and the English opening - not the most thrilling of

openings to the club-player). All of his books have a tendency towards blandness, which reinforces the picture of a rather "grey" world champion.

I think this is unfair, but it's tricky to prove this when Karpov himself is, in effect, a witness for the prosecution!

Karpov's latest games collection is **My Best Games** (Edition Olms, 2007). It covers the period 1968-2003 and is therefore the broadest ranging collection available. Prior to this were collections covering the period up to the mid-1970s, the period 1979-1984 (**Chess at the Top**; Pergamon, 1984) and a career retrospective from 1969 to 1994 (**Anatoly Karpov's Best Games**; Batsford, 1996).

Karpov's style of annotation focuses more on words rather than variations, which ought to be a plus point from the average player's perspective (detailed analyses of multiple sub-variations tend to cause the eyes and mind to glaze over). Yet somehow, I find myself largely unengaged with the games. Karpov may tell the reader when the critical moments occur, but he does not bring them to life or offer much insight into what he was thinking or feeling at the time. Intellectually, I know that Karpov is a great player who has produced positional masterpieces and effective attacks, but I have never come away from a Karpov-annotated game with that "Wow!" sensation that comes from being let inside the secrets of a clash of chess titans.

From my reading of Karpov's books, the closest he comes to this is when he describes individual world championship matches in their entirety. He annotates all of the games from his 1981 crush of Korchnoi in **Chess at the Top** and occasionally reveals his perceptions of what was going through his opponent's mind. Similarly, there is quite a nice book of the 1996 match with Gata Kamsky (**Elista Diaries: Karpov-Kamsky 1996**; R & D (Chess) Publishing, 1996; co-authored with Ron Henley), which conveys a little more colour than is Karpov's norm.

Karpov is acknowledged to collaborate with others on his books (most often, I understand, Evgeny Gik). The extent of the champion's contribution is, therefore, difficult to gauge. One suspects that it is greater in some books than others. One can only hope that a grotesque aberration such as

Learn from your Defeats (Batsford, 1985), which substitutes a wafer-thin compilation of barely-annotated games for what could have been a fascinating analysis of Karpov's rare losses and how he goes about 'avenging' them, had precious little to do with the great man.

If you are looking for an insight into Karpov's life, there are two principal sources. In 1980, Pergamon published the impressively large **Chess is My Life** (also the title of Korchnoi's autobiography of a couple of years before). This included many annotated games and a biographical narrative mostly written by Aleksandr Roshal. It is very much a product of its time, i.e. the Soviet era, and concentrates more on presenting a positive image of the world champion than on penetrating his personality. The contrast with Korchnoi's electrifying life-story, encouraged by the identical titles, is strongly in the challenger's favour.

The 1990 autobiography, **Karpov on Karpov** (Atheneum), comes across as more personal - with an element of score-settling and record-straightening that, if nothing else, reveals Karpov's competitive instincts - and I did find it very readable. My feeling was that Karpov continued to hold himself back from genuine self-revelation, but there is some insight to be gained by the persistent reader.

Overall, Karpov's output is a disappointment for the club-standard player. His game notes are often dull and unrevealing, and there is little in the books to inspire the average player to use Karpov as a model to emulate. This is a real shame - and a wasted opportunity - but the author has only himself to blame.

I admire Karpov enormously as a player and wish that I could recommend his books more fulsomely. There is hope, however. If you want to gain an appreciation of Karpov's particular brand of genius, rush and buy Tibor Karalyi's two-volume collection of **Karpov's Strategic Wins**, published by the ever-reliable Quality Chess in 2011. Volume 1 covers **1961-1985 The Making of a Champion** and Volume 2 deals with **1986-2010 The Prime Years**. These two volumes between them offer 1000 pages of Karpov wizardry and are, in a word, wonderful.

Next time in the ChEx Bookshelf: With no little trepidation, the writings of **Garry Kasparov**. I'm

feeling the pressure already...

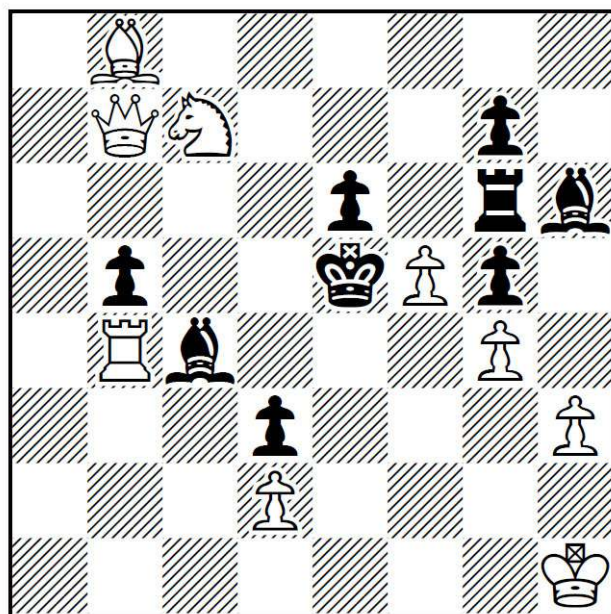


BATSFORD Chess Competition

Well done to the May/June winner --
Mr E A Finch from Leicester
The correct answer was - **1.Be6**
Here's the next problem ...

Philipp Klett
Shchachprobleme
1878

Please send your answer (just the first move is sufficient) on a postcard or by email to the ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD (office@englishchess.org.uk). The first correct entry drawn on 10th September 2012 will win a Batsford voucher for any book on their current list!



CHESS HOLIDAYS in the Lake District

A relaxed, informal 5-night holiday at this well-known Country House hotel, including a 7-round Swiss competition and tutorials on chess tactics. Suitable for the inexperienced as well as local club players

Rothay Manor, Ambleside
Tel: 015394 33605

E-mail: hotel@rothaymanor.co.uk
Website: www.rothaymanor.co.uk/chess

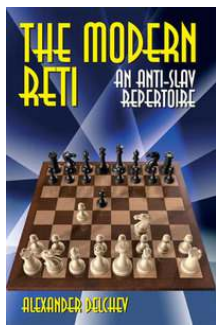


Book Reviews - Gary Lane

The Modern Reti: An Anti-Slav Repertoire

by Alexander Delchev

Published by Chess Stars £17.95



The Bulgarian publisher Chess Stars have been steadily making their presence known in chess literature with a variety of books with arguably the best known ones being the series Opening for White according to Anand 1 e4 or according to Kramnik 1 Nf3. They have also published collections of

games by famous players but I think those were rather hit and miss so best avoided. However, the opening books are interesting and even though Delchev follows the standard line that his book is for club players the detailed contents indicates that the Bulgarian league is very strong. The Reti is basically 1 Nf3 and after 1...d5 the author recommends 2 c4 which is why the sub-title is 'an Anti-Slav repertoire'. It is important to remember that caveat because if you play your king's knight out on the first move and black tries the Dutch with 1...f5 or maybe a King's Indian or a sort of Gruenfeld with 1...Nf6 or even 1...c5, then this book cannot help you because it is not within the scope of the proposed repertoire. If one can get over that then his recommendations are good and constant. I think the author's repeated statements of steering the opponents away from the standard main lines has lots going for it because he is aiming to make sure the struggle for supremacy takes place in the middlegame. The Anti-Slav is covered very well including the Anti-Chebanenko which is the early ...a6 employed by Anand against Gelfand in his World championship match. He also takes time within the 212 pages to give some promising lines against the Queen's Gambit and as usual he tries to avoid the sharp lines.

An excellent choice for any fan of the Reti.

Power Play 17: Attack with 1. e4

by Daniel King (PC-DVD)

Published by ChessBase £25.95

There will be some of you scratching your head and wondering why you have missed the other 16 titles in this series. Basically, the English grandmaster had led his viewers from Power Play 1 - Mating Patterns to an increased level but the key is you watch him explain how to improve. In his latest DVD the charismatic presenter tackles

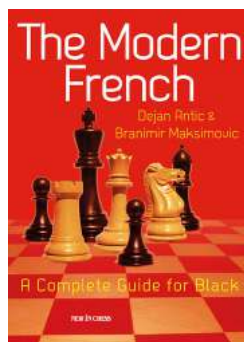
the openings presenting a mini repertoire for White to confront 1...e5, the Sicilian, the French, and the Caro Kann. I have to admit to a preference for books when it comes to openings but have talked to enough people to know that some prefer to watch a DVD from the comfort of the sofa to be inspired. They can then just use their knowledge at the next weekend tournament or even use the advice to look up the opening in an effort to explore further. The question is whether watching Mr King for six hours will be a benefit to the casual player? The short answer is yes but recently I was astounded when talking to a leading player who now resides in the Middle East who revealed he has bought almost all of the Power Play series. The former national champion proudly added that he had also paid with his own money and while I wondered why he needed help with his skills, he added they were perfect coaching tools. He would copy the excellent examples to impress his pupils while working as a coach. The Power Play series is an inspiration for improving players and chess trainers.



The Modern French: A Complete Guide for Black

by Dejan Antic and Branimir Maksimovic

Published by New In Chess £23.95



A book designed for the player of the Black pieces who wants to play the French with a few shortcuts to success. After 1 e4 you will be encouraged to try 1...e6 and the book has over 300 pages to give you expert guidance. However, even in the introduction it is not clear to

me that the authors can relate to the improving player because they comment "We have omitted some rarely-seen side lines such as 2 b3 or 2 f4 that are of little value, and pose no threat to Black." It may well be true so why not reveal the answer on how to respond because it will only take a page to complete such a simple task. The authors diligently stick to their task of providing tournament players with a decent repertoire for all occasions and should be welcomed by French players who need extra tips. An interesting repertoire for players rated over 1800.

Grand Prix Leader Boards

English Chess Federation Grand Prix 2011-12 Final Leader Boards

All players shown have counted the maximum number of events except Noel Boustred ***

Open Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Hawkins, Jonathan	Consett	684
2 Arkell, Keith CC	4NCL Cheddleton	677
3 Hebden, Mark L	4NCL Pride and Prejudice	656
4 Jackson, Oliver A	Cheshire/N.Wales *	595
5 Surtees, Mike J	Bolton	591
6 Jaunooby, Ali Reza	3Cs	577
7 Batchelor, Peter J	Willesden & Brent	574
8 Prior, Stephen CV	Lincolnshire CA	570
9 Williams, Simon K	Drunken Knights	567
10 Wadsworth, Matthew J	Maidenhead	567

Graded Prix: 160-179

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Desmedt, Richard E	Wombwell	649
2 Hartley, Dean M	Amber Valley	621
3 Ropp, Wiatt D	Stratford	615
4 Wilson, Matthew R	Wigston	592
5 Greatorex, Roger	Llangollen	569
6 Gibbs, Daniel C	Ilford	552
7 Boustred, Noel J	Gosforth	542 ***
8 Connor, Michael I	Great Lever	532
9 Price, Andrew	Leamington	530
10 Walker, Adrian N	Leamington	520

Graded Prix: 140-159

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Robson, Caroline J	Barnet Elizabeth	596
2 Egan, William J	Scunthorpe	567
3 Allen, Timothy S	Battersea	565
4 Foley, Phil T	Upminster	564
5 Gilbert, David J	DHSS	532
6 Crouch, Timothy J	Kings Head	530
7 Stephens, Ian Paul	Liverpool	527
8 Costeloe, C Andrew J	Muswell Hill	525
9 Wiggins, Andrew S	Greenlands	524
10 Macdonald, John R	Kings Head	517

Graded Prix: 120-139

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Robson, Caroline J	Barnet Elizabeth	595
2 Foley, Phil T	Upminster	564
3 Egan, William J	Scunthorpe	557
4 Allen, Timothy S	Battersea	535
5 Gilbert, David J	DHSS	532
6 Crouch, Timothy J	Kings Head	530
7 Costeloe, C Andrew J	Muswell Hill	525
8 Horman, Paul A	Morecambe	499
9 Collins, Andrew	Leamington	497
10 McKeon, John E	Milton Keynes	497

Graded Prix: U120

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Crockett, Stephen J	Redditch	656
2 Fraser, Alan R	Beckenham & Bromley	624
3 Bullock, Lee	London *	619
4 Oyama, Harunobu	Cambridge City	573
5 Summerland, David	Leeds	537
6 Upton, WE Bill	Morley College	516

7 Jackson, Paul Robert	Morecambe	505
8 Billett, Stephen J	Portsmouth	501
9 Waddington, James	Bolton	500
10 Brent, Derek	Urmston	488

Women's Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Robson, Caroline J	Barnet Elizabeth	596
2 Ressel, Eva	Chess Mates Northampton	539
3 Wei, Naomi	Essex Juniors	526
4 Dean, Angelica	Shrewsbury	508
5 Shepherd, Katherine M	Ashted	505
6 Ivanov, Elizabeth	Barnet Schools	497
7 Norman, Dinah M	Wokingham *	486
8 Purvis, Anna	Surrey Juniors	485
9 Steele, Beatrice H	Coulsdon CF	481
10 Kalaiyalahan, Akshaya	Richmond Juniors	471

Junior Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Kalavannan, Koby	Surbiton *	621
2 Anilkumar, Anantha P (jnr)	Coulsdon CF	587
3 Balaji, Ananthanarayanan	Harrow	585
4 Higgs, Joshua	Sussex Juniors	579
5 Nettleton, Charlie B	Hayes (Middlesex.)	579
6 Tsoi, Leo Z	Boldmere St Michael	575
7 Batchelor, Peter J	Willesden & Brent	574
8 Oyama, Akito	Cambridge City	569
9 Wadsworth, Matthew J	Maidenhead	567
10 Horton, Andrew P	Didsbury Dynamos	565

Brendan O'Gorman - Chess Images

See Brendan's work at - <https://picasaweb.google.com/bpogorman>
Anna Purvis cogitates at Amersham 2012



Tournament Calendar

LEGEND -

- # British Championships qualifying tournament
- @ FIDE rated
- * ECF Grand Prix
- ~ ECF graded event

All congresses graded by the ECF are part of the official Grand Prix. For a more comprehensive calendar updated constantly, visit the ECF website - www.englishchess.org.uk

16-21 Aug 2nd Gibraltar Junior International U16/U12, Caleta Hotel, Sir Herbert Miles Road, Gibraltar Entries: cathy@caletahotel.gi Enquiries: Peter Purland Email: petepurland@btopenworld.com Website: www.gibraltarchesscongress.com/junior/international2012

~#* 17-19 Aug 43rd Thanet Chess Congress, Canterbury Christ Church University, Broadstairs Campus, Northwood Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2WA Contact: Ian Hames Email: pheasantscroft@btinternet.com Website: www.thanetchess.org.uk - 5 Round Weekend Swiss Tournament with sections for Open, Major (U165), Intermediate (U140) & Minor (U115)

18 Aug Docklands (Poplar) Rapid-Play, Langley Hall, St.Nicholas' Church Centre, Ettrick Street, Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: DocklandsChess@yahoo.co.uk Website: www.spanglefish.com/docklandschessclub - 6 round Swiss Rapidplay tournament, below 205 rating only

18-19 Aug UK Chess Challenge Terafinal, Loughborough Grammar School Contact: Mike Basman Email: ukchesschallenge@aol.com - by qualification only event, the final stage of the UK Chess Challenge Website: <http://www.ukchesschallenge.com>

***~@# 18-22 Aug e2e4 London Gatwick International**, Crowne Plaza Hotel, London-Gatwick Airport, Langley Drive, Crawley, RH11 7SX Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: www.e2e4.org.uk/gatwick - A series of 10 player, 9 round FIDE rated all players alls with sections for players of all strengths. There are three sections. Masters, open to players over 2050 with IM norms available. The Challengers is open to players rated over 1900, or graded above 150 ECF. The Major is open to all players rated below 2000 or graded below 165 ECF. In an all play all, all games are FIDE rated, even if unrated players take part (this is unique to all play alls) and unrated players will obtain a full FIDE rating just by playing in this one event (provided all the unrated players score at least a 1 point). FIDE ratings now go down to 1001 so it is realistic for any player graded 50 ECF or above to obtain a FIDE rating.

@ 18-20 Aug Jessie Gilbert Celebration International - Sections for All A, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

@ 20-24 Aug Jessie Gilbert Celebration International - Sections for All B, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

@ 21-26 Aug Jessie Gilbert Celebration International - Open Norm Event, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

@ 22-26 Aug Jessie Gilbert Celebration International - Sections for All C, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645

0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

***~@#24-27 Aug e2e4 Leicestershire Chess Congress**, Barceló Hinckley Island Hotel, Watling Street, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 3JA Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: www.e2e4.org.uk/hinckley - A 7 round FIDE rated weekend congress with sections for players of all standards

~@ 25 Aug London FIDE Rapid Play, Newman Catholic College, Harlesden Road, Willesden NW10 3RN Contact: Sainbayar Tserendorj Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk - sections U1700, U2000 and Open Website: www.londonrapidplay.co.uk

~@ 25 Aug London Junior FIDE Rapid Play, Newman Catholic College, Harlesden Road, Willesden NW10 3RN Contact: Sainbayar Tserendorj Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk - sections U8, U10, U12, U14 and U18 Website: www.londonrapidplay.co.uk

@~#* 25-27 Aug 6th Leyland Chess Congress, Wellfield Business and Enterprise College, Yewlands Drive, Leyland PR25 2TP Contact: David Clayton Email: dgclayton@btinternet.com Website: <http://www.leylandchess.org.uk/congress/index.htm> Three tournaments - FIDE Open, Major (U170) and Minor (U135)

~* 25-27 Aug Steve Boniface Memorial, Filton Sports & Social Club, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol BS34 7PS Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk - 6 round Swiss in 3 sections, different from before - Open, Major (U155), Minor (U125)

~@# 25-27 Aug 48th Berks and Bucks Congress, Polehampton Junior School, Kibblewhite Crescent, Twyford, Berkshire RG10 9AX Contact: Nigel Dennis Email: nigelwdennis@btinternet.com - Graded sections with the top two sections FIDE rated

27 Aug English Chess Challenge Finals 2011, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

27 Aug CCF Open Blitz, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

28-30 Aug 3rd Jorvik Chess Congress, Holiday Inn York, Tadcaster Road, York YO24 1QF Contact: Peter Cloudsdale Email: cloudsdale_c@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01904-767177 - The event will contain a six-round Swiss competition with each player having 90 minutes on the clock. Two rounds between 10.00am-13.00pm and 14.00pm-17.00pm each day. There will also be the opportunity to analyse games with an ECF accredited coach! The event will have at least 2 sections at the discretion of the organiser.

~* 31 Aug-2 Sep Manchester Autumn Congress, Woolton Hall, Owens Park, Manchester M14 6WS Contact: Harry Lamb Email: gmccacongress@yahoo.co.uk - Open, Major, Knights, 5 rounds, incremental time controls - full details and entry form to follow

~ 1 Sep Godalming Open Junior Tournament, Aldro School, Lombard St, Shackleford, Godalming, Surrey GU8 6AS Contact: David Archer Email: archerd@aldro.org - 5 round Swiss tournament with U18, U13, U11, U10 and U9 sections with prizes for the top three in each section plus medals for players scoring 50% or more. All games graded, rapidplay 30 min each on the clock

@ 1-2 Sep CCF Late Summer LP Congress (inc. FIDE Open), 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~*# 2-8 Sep **62nd Annual Congress Paignton**, Oldway Mansion, Paignton, Devon Contact: Alan Crickmore Email: plymouthchess@btinternet.com Tel: 01752 768206 - Six sections: Premier, Challengers, Intermediate, Minor, Morning Tournament, American AM - all play all (if 8 players are available) and one Evening Blitz. Entry form available to download from www.chessdevon.co.uk from mid March

~*# 7-9 Sep **Leek Chess Congress**, Westwood Academy, Leek Contact: Roger Edwards Email: rogerjedwards@yahoo.co.uk - A FIDE-rated open for players rated under 2350, other tournaments of about 30-36 players based on grade

~ **8 Sep Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raof Website: <http://goldersgreenschess.blogspot.com/>

~@ 9 Sep **26th Leamington Rapidplay Congress**, Town Hall, Parade, Leamington Spa CV32 4AA Contact: Guy Greenland Email: leamingtoncongress@gmail.com Website: www.leamingtonchessleague.org.uk - Six round Swiss tournament, with four sections. One of the first events to be run under the new arrangements for the ECF's Direct Membership scheme.

~ **9 Sep Yorkshire Junior Chess Association Championships**, The Grammar School at Leeds, Harrogate Road, Leeds LS17 8GS Contact: John Hipshon Email: jr.hipshon@ntlworld.com Website: <http://www.leedsjuniorchess.org.uk/events.html> - Trophies will be awarded to the best player in each of these age group categories: Under 18, Under 14, Under 12, Under 11, Under 10, Under 9 and Under 8 (ages as of 1st September 2012)

14-16 Sep South Wales Autumn Congress, Llanhilleth Miners Institute, Llanhilleth, near Abertillery, Blaenau Gwent NP13 2JT Contact: Kevin Staveley Email: kevin.staveley@btinternet.com - 5 round Swiss congress - three sections

~ **14-16 Sep Bradford Chess Congress**, Latvian Welfare Club, Clifton Villas, Manningham, Bradford BD8 7BY MAP Contact: Mr S Swire Email: bradfordchess@blueyonder.co.uk Website: www.bradfordchess.com