

Volume 82 No. 12 March 2018 £4.50

[www.chess.co.uk](http://www.chess.co.uk)

# Chess

**ALL THE ACTION FROM  
TATA STEEL MASTERS  
AND GIBRALTAR**

**PLUS AN EXCLUSIVE  
ANNOTATION FROM CURRENT  
BRITISH CHAMPION  
GAWAIN JONES**



The inside story on this year's Gibraltar Festival from John Saunders

Yochanan Afek reports back from Wijk aan Zee where Magnus again triumphed

Mark Uniacke on HIARCS' recent triumph and developments in computer chess

# Chess

Founding Editor: B.H. Wood, OBE. M.Sc †  
Executive Editor: Malcolm Pein  
Editors: Richard Palliser, Matt Read  
Associate Editor: John Saunders  
Subscriptions Manager: Paul Harrington

Twitter: @CHESS\_Magazine  
Twitter: @TelegraphChess – Malcolm Pein  
Website: [www.chess.co.uk](http://www.chess.co.uk)

## Subscription Rates:

### United Kingdom

1 year (12 issues)	£49.95
2 year (24 issues)	£89.95
3 year (36 issues)	£125

### Europe

1 year (12 issues)	£60
2 year (24 issues)	£112.50
3 year (36 issues)	£165

### USA & Canada

1 year (12 issues)	\$90
2 year (24 issues)	\$170
3 year (36 issues)	\$250

### Rest of World (Airmail)

1 year (12 issues)	£72
2 year (24 issues)	£130
3 year (36 issues)	£180

Distributed by:  
Post Scriptum (UK only),  
Unit G, OYO Business Park, Hindmans Way,  
Dagenham, RM9 6LN – Tel: 020 8526 7779

LMPI (North America)  
8155 Larrey Street, Montreal (Quebec),  
H1J 2L5, Canada – Tel: 514 355-5610

Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors. Contributions to the magazine will be published at the Editors' discretion and may be shortened if space is limited.

No parts of this publication may be reproduced without the prior express permission of the publishers.

## All rights reserved. © 2018

Chess Magazine (ISSN 0964-6221) is published by:  
Chess & Bridge Ltd, 44 Baker St, London, W1U 7RT  
Tel: 020 7288 1305 Fax: 020 7486 7015  
Email: [info@chess.co.uk](mailto:info@chess.co.uk), Website: [www.chess.co.uk](http://www.chess.co.uk)

## FRONT COVER:

Cover Design: Matt Read  
Cover photography: 123rf.com

**US & Canadian Readers – You can contact us via our American branch – Chess4Less based in West Palm Beach, FL. Call toll-free on 1-877 89CHESS (24377). You can even order Subscriber Special Offers online via [www.chess4less.com](http://www.chess4less.com)**

**Printed in the UK by The Magazine Printing Company using only paper from FSC/PEFC suppliers [www.magprint.co.uk](http://www.magprint.co.uk)**

# Contents

<b>Editorial</b> .....	4
Malcolm Pein on the latest developments in the game	
<b>60 Seconds with...Chris Ross</b> .....	7
We catch up with Britain's leading visually-impaired player	
<b>The King of Wijk</b> .....	8
Yochanan Afek watched Magnus Carlsen win Wijk for a sixth time	
<b>A Good Start...</b> .....	18
Gawain Jones was pleased to begin well at Wijk aan Zee	
<b>How Good is Your Chess?</b> .....	20
Daniel King pays tribute to the legendary Viswanathan Anand	
<b>All Tied Up on the Rock</b> .....	24
John Saunders had to work hard, but once again enjoyed Gibraltar	
<b>Rocking the Rock</b> .....	26
The best of the action from the Tradewise Gibraltar Masters	
<b>HIARCS and the World of Computer Chess</b> .....	30
Mark Uniacke reports and discusses a paradigm shift	
<b>A Lovely Attack</b> .....	32
Dan Bisby is always a dangerous opponent as Jon Speelman discovered	
<b>Never Mind the Grandmasters...</b> .....	34
Carl Portman wonders if the final result really is everything	
<b>Find the Winning Moves</b> .....	36
Can you do as well as the players at the 4NCL and Gibraltar?	
<b>Doing It By The Book</b> .....	40
Carl Strugnell managed to win without leaving his preparation	
<b>Studies with Stephenson</b> .....	43
Brian is back and discusses the remarkable Penrose family	
<b>The Importance of Knowing Endgames</b> .....	44
Milos Pavlovic presents one of Chéron's handy rules of thumb	
<b>Overseas News</b> .....	46
Success for Anatoly Karpov, Shak Mamedyarov and Lawrence Trent	
<b>Home News</b> .....	50
The seniors were to the fore at the 4NCL Congress in Harrogate	
<b>Solutions</b> .....	52
<b>New Books and Software</b> .....	54
Sean Marsh reviews a work on the 2016 world championship match	
<b>Forthcoming Events</b> .....	57
<b>Saunders on Chess</b> .....	58
John explains just why Gibraltar is always such a success	

Photo credits: Steve Connor (p.32), Calle Erlandsson (pp.9, 10, 15), Harry Gielen (pp.4-5, 8, 11-14, 16, 18-19, 49), Phil Makepeace (p.46), Lennart Ootes (pp.21, 52), John Saunders (p.26), Sophie Triay (pp. 4, 58).



# 60 Seconds with... Chris Ross



**Born:** 13th Nov. 1978, Stockton-on-Tees.

**Place of residence:** Northampton.

**Occupation:** Inclusive Learning and Teaching Lead (King's College, London).

**Enjoyable?** Yes, being based in an academic development department, tasked to improve the quality of teaching across the college.

**And home life?** Yes, all good. Northampton's location enables me to play in multiple leagues, including Leamington, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and the London leagues.

**But sometimes good to escape to:** Mainly to Germany, where I speak the language and love the culture as well as the history and food of such wonderful places as Berlin and Cologne.

**Sports played or followed:** Play cricket, although principally for fitness, rather than true competitiveness. Follow 'Boro in football, although despair at their fluctuating performances.

**A favourite novel?** *Pillars Of the Earth* by Ken Follett.

**Piece of music?** Varied, but I enjoyed the Indie/Britpop times of the mid-90's.

**Film or TV series?** I don't really bother with either.

**The best three chess books:** Capablanca's *Chess Fundamentals*, Fischer's *My 60 Memorable Games* and Nimzowitsch's *My System*.

**Is FIDE doing a good job?** I don't have many dealings with the authorities. One area that does need to be tightened up is the 'rules' regarding visually impaired players: how they announce moves (currently it's all in German); the types of equipment they can use, including

types of digital talking clocks; and more importantly, on how classification of sight impairment is done. For example, visual impairment in one country is not the equivalent in another. That universal benchmarking tool-kit needs to be developed.

**Or your National Federation?** We don't see much from the ECF. As with FIDE, there should be better collaboration amongst the federations to ensure conformity and transparency, such as by the ECF switching to an ELO rating system.

**Any advice for either?** Start talking with one another and work collaboratively.

**What's the best thing about playing chess?** Mentally, it's extremely stimulating. Even whilst travelling, commuting to places, your thoughts can be occupied with variations, experiences, games gone by, etc, that never-ending fascination with the infinite amount of possibilities and opportunities in a single game.

**And the worst?** In my opinion, there's a certain amount of injustice when 'swindles' or undeserved victories occur and there is no graciousness displayed by an opponent. Often, there's a boastful, pleased attitude portrayed by players who have won in such a fashion and no acknowledgement of the fortune in their victory.

**Your best move?** I have a number of memorable games, but none of them contain 'spectacular' moves. An amusing move did, however, appear in a cup match last season.

## M.Meadows-C.Ross

Kettering A vs Chess Mates A 2017  
*Sicilian Taimanov*

1 e4 c5 2 d4 f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 dxd4 dxc6  
5 dxc3 c7 6 e3 a6 7 f3 f3 a3!?



An amazing resource. After 8 0-0-0 e5 9 g3 xc3 10 bxa3 g6 the position was very unbalanced and Black went on to win.

**But less memorable than your worst move?**

49 a8+ when I announced mate – only for it not to be mate after all! My opponent only had seconds left and the worst thing was that it was not a cheap check or spite check to gain seconds. I played the move thinking that there was a supporting knight on b6. Black lost on time shortly afterwards, clinching victory in the match for Daventry.

## C.Ross-A.Patterson

Daventry A vs Solihull A 2015



49 a8+?? x8 50 c4 xc4 51 xc4 1-0

**And a highly memorable opponent?**

Russian Grandmaster Vladimir Epishin back in the Schloss Open of 2001.

**Favourite game of all time?** Kasparov-Topalov, Wijk aan Zee 1999.

**Can chess make one happy?** Indeed! Chess needs to be taken in the correct spirit. Due to the diversity of the chess community, this does not always mean that opponents' conduct and behaviour is always acceptable, though. This is an occupational hazard, but needs to be challenged whenever it appears.

**A tip please for the club player:** It is important that normal club players interact with the stronger members of their club. The stronger players should be made accountable to support the development of the less able, going through their games and answering their many questions.

www.chess.co.uk

# HIARCS

## and the World of Computer Chess



### Mark Uniacke reports on *HIARCS*' latest triumph and discusses a paradigm shift

The Dutch Computer Chess Federation (CSVN) have a long history of arranging computer chess tournaments and promoting computer chess ever since their first tournament in 1981. Since then the Dutch Open Computer Chess Championship was held every year until 2011 and the International CSVN Tournament became a key feature of the computer chess calendar from 2001 until 2013.

This long tradition has been continued by the introduction of the CSVN Programmers Tournament in 2013, where programmers of top chess engines can put their engines to the test against other experimental versions of notable well-known engines. These tournaments are played in the old fashioned way – where the programmers or their operators visit the tournament location, normally held in Leiden, to play their adversaries in person so to speak.

It was at the 51st computer chess tournament of the CSVN held in Leiden in 2017 that the following clash between *HIARCS* and *Komodo* occurred. *HIARCS* was operated by long-time helper of the *HIARCS* project, Harvey Williamson, an ICCF Senior International Master.

#### The Pivotal Encounter for *HIARCS*

After six rounds *Komodo* led *HIARCS* by half a point, with both engines at least a point clear of the rest of the field. In this last round encounter *HIARCS X* (an experimental version of a future *HIARCS 15* engine) needed victory in order to win the tournament. The engines did not back away from a fiery confrontation which led to a very exciting game.

#### *HIARCS-Komodo*

CSVN Programmer Tournament,  
Leiden 2017  
*Sicilian Najdorf*

1 e4 c5 2 d4 f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 dxd4 dxf6  
5 dxc3 a6 6 e3 g5 e6 7 f4

*HIARCS X* was ready to play the very sharp Poisoned Pawn variation.

7... e7 8 f3 c7 9 0-0-0 d7 10 g4  
b5 11 fxf6 dxf6 12 g5 d7 13 f5 0-0  
14 g3



14... d5?

An unusual choice. The *HIARCS Chess Explorer* online Human Reference book has 14... d5 as played only twice and 14... b4 as played 68 times. Surprisingly the ChessBase live book only has 10 games for 14... b4. 14... d5 has been played before with success in 2013, but not at the highest level.

14... b4 is the most common response when 15 dce2 e5 16 f6 exd4 17 fxe7 e8 18 dxd4 d5 19 f4 is a little better for White.

15 f5

15 g3 is the more common variation and has a good statistical record in computer play according to the *HIARCS* tournament book.

15... b4?!

From a human and computer theory perspective this is a novelty, but it is not a good one. While ...b4 is common in some similar variations, here Black does not have time for it as it encourages the white knight to divert to a better square.

Instead, 15... g6 16 f6 h6 e8 17 g3 f8 18 f4 d8 was seen in Barbosa-Dao Thien Hai, Jakarta 2013, when 19 g2 d7 20 dce2 c8 21 d4 would have preserved an edge.

16 dce2 b7

That 16... g6? fails here shows 15... b4?! was a mistake: 17 f6 h6 e8 18 d4 and the knight is eyeing up entry into the attack via e6 or h5 when Black's position is close to collapse. White threatens 19 f6 g6 (or 19... f6 20 dxe6 e6 21 dxe6) 20 d5 and also finds himself winning after 18... f8 19 f4 b7 20 fxe6 e6 21 d5 gxh5 22 fxe4.

17 f6

With the rook on f8, the bishop cannot go to the natural defensive square of f8.

17... d8 18 f6 g7 e8



Black will now use the g7-pawn as defensive cover, while *HIARCS X* assessed that pawn as a long-term advantage restricting Black's options. White certainly has a significant advantage.

19 g3 g6 20 b1 c5 21 h4 c8 22 e2 c7

Black also finds himself on the defensive after 22... xg7 23 f6+ h8 24 gf1 c7 25 h5.

23 a1

Prophylaxis, but 23 gf1 e5 24 g4 xg7 25 d3 e5 26 f4 dxf3 27 fxf3 e5 28 d6 f4 29 f4 leaves White in the driving seat too.

23... e5 24 g4 f4

*Komodo* had a final choice here to either capture the g7-pawn or keep using it as a defensive barrier. 24... xg7 25 h5 d5 26 f4 also maintains some advantage for White.

25 d5



*Komodo* and *HIARCS* disagreed significantly here on their assessments, with *Komodo* thinking it was close to equal while *HIARCS* thought White still had a significant advantage.

**25...♖xg4 26 ♖xg4**

Black may feel the worst is over now the queens are off the board, but the g7-pawn is a pain for Black to deal with and White still has the initiative.

**26...♙e5 27 ♖f4 ♙g6 28 ♖f2 ♙xe4**

28...♙xh4? is asking for trouble down the h-file: 29 ♙f6+ ♙xf6 30 gxf6 e5 31 ♙f3 ♙xf3 32 ♙xf3 and wins.

**29 ♙xa6 ♙e7 30 ♙f6+**



*HIARCS* chooses to cement the g7-pawn in place. The black king is safe for now, but its long-term prospects for leaving g8/h7 are rather limited.

**30...♙xf6 31 gxf6 d5**

The dust has settled with White having a long-term edge.

**32 ♖b1 ♙e5 33 ♙b5 ♖a8 34 ♖g1 h6 35 ♖g3 ♖ca7 36 b3!**

*HIARCS X* elects to offer a pawn to trap the black rook. It takes time for even top engines to see the long-term threats from White with a trapped black rook and a king locked on g8 and h7.

Instead, 36 a4 is the move most engines prefer when 36...bxa3 37 b3 retains a clear advantage.

**36...♖xa2 37 ♙a4 ♖a3 38 ♖g1 ♖a6 39 h5 ♖b6 40 ♖ff1!**



Many top engines misevaluate this position as close to level, not appreciating the danger in the position for Black. White still has some very deep threats based around the difficult position of the trapped black rook and that the black king is unable to escape. If

White can penetrate with the knight or rooks, that will decide the game.

**40...♖b7**

Many top engines prefer 40...♖xa4?!, but misevaluate the danger Black is in after 41 bxa4 b3 42 ♖g3! bxc2+ 43 ♖a2. Now:

a) 43...♙d3 44 ♖c1 ♖b4 45 ♙xc2 ♖xa4+ 46 ♖b2 wins.

b) 43...♖b4 44 ♖c3 ♙c4 45 ♙xc2 ♖xa4+ 46 ♖b3 ♖a8 47 ♖xc4 dxc4+ 48 ♖c3! is also crushing.

c) So is 43...♖b1 44 ♖c3 ♙c4 45 ♖b3! ♙h7 46 ♖xb1 cxb1♖+ 47 ♖xb1 ♙xb1+ 48 ♙xb1.

d) 43...♖a6 is perhaps the best try, but after 44 ♖c3! ♖xa4+ 45 ♖b2 ♙c4+ (or 45...♖b4+ 46 ♖b3 ♖xb3+ 47 ♙xb3 ♙d7 48 ♖b2 ♙h7 49 ♙c6 ♙xf6 50 g8♖+!, which proves decisive after 50...♙xg8 51 ♖xf7+ ♙h8 52 ♙e5 or 50...♙xg8 51 ♖xf6 ♙g7 52 ♖f1) 46 ♖b3 ♖a6 (if 46...♖a8 47 ♙c6) 47 ♖b4 e5 48 ♙xc2 White will win.

Likewise, both 40...♖a6 41 ♖f4 ♖a8 42 ♖d1 ♖b8 43 ♖d2 ♙h7 44 ♙b5 ♖xa4 45 bxa4 b3 46 ♖c1 bxc2 47 ♖d4 and 40...♙c4 41 ♖f4 ♙h7 (or 41...♖xa4 42 bxa4 b3 43 ♖xe4 bxc2+ 44 ♙xc2 dxe4 45 ♖g3 e3 46 ♙c3 ♙d6 47 ♖xe3 ♙e8 48 a5) 42 ♖f2 ♖a6 43 ♖g6 ♙xg6 44 hxg6 ♙e5 45 gxf7+ ♙xf7 46 ♙c6 ♙xc6 47 ♙xc6 ♖a6 48 ♙b5 would have failed to save the game.

**41 ♙b5 ♖xb5**

The extra exchange will count after 41...♖xb3+ 42 ♙xb3 ♖xb5 43 ♖b2.

**42 ♙xb5 ♖xb3+ 43 ♖c1 ♖c3 44 ♖b2 ♖c8 45 ♖g3 ♖a8 46 ♖b3 ♖b8 47 ♙d3 ♙f3 48 ♖e1 ♙d7 49 ♙h7+ ♙xh7 50 ♖xf3 ♖a8 51 ♖ef1 e5 52 c3 e4 53 ♖f5 bxc3+ 54 ♙xc3 e3 55 ♖e1 ♖e8 56 ♙d3**



**56...d4?**

This move looks highly logical, but misses a key opportunity and one which computers are still poor at – spotting blockades and fortresses.

56...e2! looks like the best chance to create a fortress: for example, 57 ♖xe2 ♙c5+ 58 ♙d2 ♙b3+ 59 ♖c3 ♖xe2 60 ♖xd5 ♙c5 61 ♖xc5 ♖e6 and Black will escape with a draw.

**57 ♖a1 ♙g8**

Or if 57...e2 58 ♖e1 ♖e3+ 59 ♙d2.

**58 ♖a2 ♙h7 59 ♖a1 ♙b6 60 ♖e1 ♙g8 61 ♙xd4**

With this move *HIARCS X* announced mate in 31.

**61...♖e6 62 ♖e5 ♙d7 63 ♖xe6 fxe6**

**64 ♖xe3 ♙xf6 65 ♖h3 ♙e8 66 ♙e5 ♙xg7 67 ♙f6 ♙f8 68 ♖h2 1-0**

*Komodo* resigned and this win enabled *HIARCS X* to win the 51st CSVN tournament.

## A Paradigm Shift

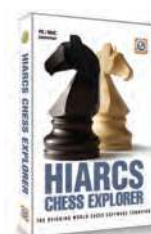
The recent news of DeepMind's *AlphaZero* and its incredible achievement to self-learn chess through self-play from only the knowledge of the rules of chess and perform at the very highest levels is a truly astonishing milestone in Artificial Intelligence. It was made all the more significant because it comes from using a completely different domain independent approach to conventional chess engines. A true paradigm shift.

The strong impression from *AlphaZero*'s play is one of deep understanding of the long-term implications of piece placement and an ability to suffocate a conventional chess engine's mobility. However, objectively from a chess perspective there remain some questions about how strong *AlphaZero* truly is compared to the strongest conventional chess engines. It won a final 100-game match 64-36 (+28 -0 =72) for a +100 Elo performance, yet this was against a restricted *Stockfish 8* which despite running 64 threads, only had a total of 1GB hash, no opening book and no endgame tablebases.

I hope *AlphaZero* does not go the way of *Deep Blue* and instead rises to the challenge to demonstrate its superiority in open competition. It would be interesting to see it compete in the World Computer Chess Championship in Stockholm in July where it can play against the strongest chess entities outside the laboratory.

As part of the *HIARCS* book subscription, the *HIARCS* team include all the latest theory from the highest levels of human and computer play in their online Tournament book. So, of course, it was natural to include the 10 published *AlphaZero-Stockfish* games. Every position included in the *HIARCS* books was analysed by *HIARCS* engines running on a cluster. For these games each position was given an average of two hours of analysis, the analysis being performed from the end of the middlegame backwards as this gives a much better understanding of earlier positions. The results have been very revealing and go into deciding the playability and annotation of moves in the Tournament book which are now available to see in the online *HIARCS* books.

*Ed. – HIARCS is available for either MAC or PC from Chess & Bridge. The single-processor version is available for just £40 and the multi-processor Deep HIARCS Chess Explorer is available for the special price of £80.*



# A Lovely Attack

Dan Bisby is always a dangerous opponent, as Jonathan Speelman discovered

The stars of Cheddleton and Guildford continue to shine at the 4NCL, as we'll see more of next month, but arguably the game of the season so far belongs to FM Dan Bisby.

**J. Speelman-D. Bisby**  
Wood Green vs Cambridge  
*Torre Attack*

**1 ♖f3 ♘f6 2 d4 g6 3 ♙g5 ♙g7 4 ♗bd2 0-0 5 e3**

A restrained choice. Instead, 5 e4!? d5 6 exd5 ♗b3!? was that fine game Gormally-Fier, Hastings 2018, as we enjoyed last time.

**5...d5 6 ♙d3 ♗bd7 7 h3 c5 8 c3 b6 9 0-0 ♙b7 10 ♖b1**

A multipurpose move, preventing ...♗e4 and also supporting an advance of the queenside pawns. White can also begin with 10 a4 when 10...♙e8 (10...♗e4 11 ♙f4 ♗xd2 12 ♖xd2 f6 must be critical) 11 a5 c4 12 ♙c2 b5 13 a6 ♙c6 14 ♙e1 ♖b6 was roughly level in Kramnik-Li Chao, Moscow (blitz) 2016.

**10...♙e8**

Bisby calmly prepares Black's main break and even White's next proves insufficient to halt it.

**11 ♙f4 ♗h5 12 ♙h2 e5 13 ♙b5**

The critical test. Otherwise, 13 dxe5 ♗xe5 14 ♗xe5 ♙xe5 15 ♙xe5 ♙xe5 16 ♗f3 ♙e8 17 ♙e2 would be rather dull and extremely comfortable for Black.

**13...e4!**



True to his style, Bisby continues to play the most active and critical moves.

**14 ♗e1**

A little submissive, but one certainly can't blame Speelman for not wanting to become embroiled in 14 ♗e5 ♗xe5! 15 ♙xe8 ♗f3+ 16 gxf3 ♖xe8 when Black enjoys promising



Dan Bisby is a 4NCL regular and in January again demonstrated how dangerous an attacker he is.

play for the exchange. This was actually once seen in a game and after 17 fxe4 dxe4 18 ♖d1 ♙c8 19 f3 ♙xh3 (Levitina-Tsodikova, Parsippany 1996) 20 ♙f2 ♙h6 Black's compensation very much persists.

**14...♗hf6 15 a4**

Finally White's queenside play is under way and a race-type situation quickly evolves.

**15...a6 16 ♙e2 ♗f8 17 a5 ♗e6 18 axb6 ♖xb6 19 ♗c2**

White has fought his way back into the game and Black's next is slightly optimistic.

**19...h5?! 20 ♖a2**

Consistent, but 20 dxc5! ♗xc5 21 b4 would have been strong, as 21...♗d3 22 ♗d4 and 21...♗e6 22 c4 d4 23 exd4 ♗xd4 24 ♗xd4 ♖xd4 25 ♗b3 are nothing to fear.

**20...cxd4 21 cxd4 a5**

It's useful for Black to prevent both b2-b4 and ♖a5. Speelman now regroupes well.

**22 ♗b1! ♙f8 23 ♗c3 ♙d6 24 ♙xd6 ♖xd6 25 ♙fc1 ♙g7 26 ♗a3 ♙h8**

Back to the attack and I dare say that Bisby already had in mind the sacrifice we'll shortly see him launch, but objectively 26...♙c6!? 27 ♗ab5 ♖d7 might have been a better set-up.

**27 ♗ab5 ♖b8 28 ♖a3**

With hindsight, Speelman might well have preferred 28 ♗a4!, intending to meet 28...♙a6? with 29 ♗c5, and if 29...♗g4 30 ♗xe6+ ♙xe6 31 hxg4 hxg4 32 ♗c7 when White wins. Instead, Black might

restrict White to just a pull with 28...♙a6 29 ♗bc3 ♖d6.

**28...♙a6!? 29 ♗a4 ♗g4!!**



A stunning blow and one which guarantees Black at least a draw.

**30 hxg4**

After 30 g3 ♗g5 White has nothing better than taking on g4 after all.

**30...hxg4 31 g3**

The best defence. 31 ♙xg4 ♖h2+ 32 ♙f1 ♗g5 33 ♙e2 ♙f6 followed by ...♖h4 gives Black a crushing attack for the piece.

**31...♗g5 32 ♙xg4?**

Jon Speelman's only mistake of the game. 32 ♖e7 ♙f6 33 ♗c7! was necessary when Black doesn't seem to have anything better than 33...♗h3+ (33...♖g8? 34 ♙g2 and ♙h1

wins, while 33...♟f3+? now fails to 34 ♜xf3 gxf3 35 ♘c5, and if 35...♞g8 36 ♘7e6+ 34 ♟f1 ♘xf2 35 ♟g2 ♞h2+! 36 ♟g1! (36 ♟xh2? ♞h8+ once again mates) 36...♞h1+ 37 ♟g2 ♞h2+ with perpetual check.

**32...♞f6 33 ♞e7**

33 ♟f1? ♞xg3 and 33 ♞c7? ♞g8 would be crushing, while 33 ♘c7 ♘f3+ (but not 33...♞g8? 34 ♟g2) 34 ♜xf3 exf3 is also hopeless.

**33...♘f3+ 34 ♜xf3**

This loses by force, but by now so does everything, including 34 ♟f1 ♘h2+ 35 ♞e1 ♘xg4.

**34...exf3 35 ♘c7**



35 ♞d7 tries to prevent Black's threat, but 35...♞f5 follows.

**35...♞h1+!**

The star point of the combination begun back on move 29. Wonderful vision from Bisby.

**36 ♟xh1 ♞h8+ 37 ♟g1 ♞h3 38 ♘e8+ ♘h6**

White can now go a piece and two rooks to the good, but he cannot avert mate.

**39 ♞f8+ ♟g5 0-1**



# Readers' Letters



## Errata

Regarding the well-known six-move debacle of Zapata-Anand 1988 – mentioned in the February 2018 issue – it's actually rather well-known how Anand blundered on his fifth move, and found himself dead lost after Zapata's reply 6 ♞e2.

The Indian GM had seen the 'game' Miles-Christiansen of which the opening moves had appeared in a recent *Informant*, and apparently decided to follow the moves that Christiansen had played. What he didn't know, however, was that Miles and Christiansen had agreed to a draw prior to the game – and, thus, neither of them were taking the 'game' very seriously as they nonchalantly banged out the moves. When Christiansen made a horrible blunder on his fifth move, Miles obviously could have forced immediate resignation simply by playing the same move which Zapata later played.

Instead, Miles reportedly quietly pointed to his queen and then to the e2-square. Christiansen is said to have blushed when he realised what he had just done, but then Miles replied 6 ♘xe4. After all, a deal is a deal. The game was shortly later declared drawn. Anand, however, made the classical mistake of taking that 'game' on good faith, and when he made the same blunder as Christiansen had played, he found himself having to immediately resign after 6 ♞e2. Andy Soltis pointed out in a 1988 column of his that this debacle set a record as the shortest loss by a GM – and that record almost certainly still holds.

On another note, incidentally, the Christmas Quiz makes an error in stating that Kramnik-Kasparov 2000 match was the 'first' world championship match in which the winner went completely undefeated. Not quite! What about Capablanca-Lasker 1921?

Howard S. Sample  
Toledo, Ohio

## The Future of Classical Chess

This year's London Classic was one of the most successful, with hundreds of players, many of them juniors, taking part in the Rapid and Superblitz events. But a cloud hangs over

the headline grandmaster event of a 9-round all-play-all at traditional time limits. With 19 draws in the first 20 games, this was simply not good box office and on Tuesday 5th December, organiser Malcolm Pein delivered a veiled reprimand to the players.

I have long supported the 3-1 system (3 points for a win, one for a draw), as a way of incentivising players to try harder for a win, but this has not gone down well with the players themselves, many of whom bitterly resisted it. Well, now they have lost their tournament altogether, since next year's event will be smaller and will mix classical, rapid and blitz time limits.

I will not rehash the arguments for 3-1, but will instead make a revised suggestion, based on a debate I had with Stuart Reuben, who suggested five points for a win and two for a draw. The latest idea can thus be regarded either as Basman mark II or Reuben Superplus.

One of Ray Keene's objections to 3-1, dating back to the 70s, hinged around his argument that, "What is better, a faultlessly played draw, or a decisive result after several blunders?". But this argument could also be used in the case of the player who loses. Often you play a fine game, but your opponent plays even better. However, you lose and get nothing.

So my new suggestion is five points for a win, two points for a draw, one point for a loss and zero only for a player who does not turn up. This system would be less drastic than 3-1 and would also recognise the effort, educational and sporting value of a game of chess regardless of result. This factor is also tacitly recognised by the FIDE grading system. I encouraged some junior players to take part in the Rapidplay at the London Classic, and some of them lost all their games. Nonetheless, they all received an international grading of several hundred points, rather than absolute zero.

One of the acid tests for the success of this idea is the so-called 'Middlesbrough principle'. Before the advent of the 3-1 scoring system in football, in the top league the Middlesbrough team would resolutely 'park the bus', draw lots of games and finish halfway up the league table. Such tactics

under the current football 3-1 system would certainly result in relegation. We could analyse the subtle effects on 5-2-1 upon such events as the British Chess Championship or the recent London Classic to see how the positions might be affected.

One thing stands out from preliminary analysis. Decisive results are incentivised and the 5-2-1 system has a built in tie-breaker effect. In fact this year's British Championship would have been won outright by David Howell rather than resulting in a four-way tie which necessitated a play-off. The other score groups likewise would have been broken up.

Under a 5, 2, 1 scoring system, Howell would have triumphed with 35/45, finishing two points ahead of all of Jones, McShane and Hanley. According to the new system we would have had a clear winner and thus no necessity for play-offs. There are also other remarkable effects, including many instances when a player with considerably more wins and losses, actually moves ahead of players with a higher score under the classical system. This scoring system would have the effect of nudging more players to go for wins with less concern about the damaging effect of losses since you still score something when you lose.

It also brings the scoring system more in line with the grading system. In the grading system you do not score '0' when you lose; you get your opponent's grade minus 50, and there is a quantitative difference between losing to a strong player as opposed to a weak player.

More recently, in the 2017 London Chess Classic, Fabiano Caruana and Ian Nepomniachtchi both finished on +3 =6 -0 as they tied for first. Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, Wesley So and Magnus Carlsen all shared third place, but while Vachier-Lagrave and So made +1 =8 -0, Carlsen scored =2 =6 -1, so under a 5, 2, 1 system would leap ahead and into outright third. We can imagine that if this tournament were played again, scored according to the 5, 2, 1 system, there would be a certain 'nudge factor', which could encourage players to take more risks to win even at the slower time limit.

Michael Basman,  
Surbiton, Surrey



23...h6 24 f3! f4 25 b5

Now I switch from the static to the dynamic, like the universal Alekhine.

25...g5? 26 f3!

Around this point, my team captain asked me if I would be able to hold a draw. He seemed flabbergasted when I told him, "Sure, but I'd rather push for a win."

26...e6 27 dc7

Just observe how the knights act like a virus afflicting poor Black.

27...e7 28 g3 b7 29 d5 g7? 30 d6+

30 a3 a6 31 d6+ a7 32 gxf4 gxf4

33 b3 is the computer's method.

30...b8 31 f5 g6 32 de7!



32...e6?

32...e6 simply had to be tried.

33 gxf4 gxf4 34 d7 e2 35 c6+ c8 36 xa7 1-0

The presence of the knight on c6 ensures there won't be any perpetual and mate follows shortly.

We wake up with alarm clocks, check our phones, take our cars to work, fill up the coffee

machine... But what if we were to reverse this interpretation; has a world of objects simply enslaved us without us noticing? And now it is happening with the game of chess.

Slavoj Zizek rightly said, "It is when you try to escape ideology into your dreams, actually this is when you enter ideology". So I ask you, if you had to choose between these two wins, which would you choose, computer perfection or human imperfection? This is John Connor and if you're reading this, you are the revolution...

## 36<sup>TH</sup> ST. ALBANS CHESS CONGRESS

*The 2016 ECF Congress of the Year*

**Saturday 14 - Sunday 15 April**

**OPEN / U181 / U161 / U141 / U121**

A 5-round Swiss to be held at  
St Columba's College, King Harry Lane,  
St Albans AL3 4AW

- Well-lit and comfortable Playing Hall
- Ample free parking - Close to M1 & M25
- Thameslink & Watford Junction trains
- Food & Drink available
- Bookstall provided by Chess & Bridge
- Eligible for Tradewise Grand Prix

**Over £3,250 in prizes!**

*including Veteran, Junior & Grading Prizes*

[www.StAlbansCongress.com](http://www.StAlbansCongress.com)

## 18<sup>TH</sup> FIDERATED CONGRESS

**Friday 13 - Sunday 15 April**

Holiday Inn Doncaster, DN4 9UX.

3 sections:

**FIDE Rated Open,  
FIDE Rated U2000 (U175),  
ECF Under 135**

**Prize fund £3,000**

For further information and to enter visit:

[www.4ncl.co.uk](http://www.4ncl.co.uk)

# The Trends in Chess Openings

**The top twenty openings as played by International Masters and Grandmasters in January**

1	= Reti Opening	173 games
2	= 1 d4 f6 sidelines	124 games
3	= King's Indian Defence	101 games
4	= Caro-Kann Defence	97 games
5	↑ Nimzo-Indian Defence	85 games
6	= Queen's Gambit Declined	84 games
7	↑ Sicilian, Najdorf	61 games
8	↑ English, 1...e6	60 games
9	↓ 1 d4 d5 sidelines	60 games
10	↓ Slav Defence	59 games
11	↑ English, 1...c5	55 games
12	↑ Ruy Lopez, Closed	52 games
13	↓ Sicilian, Kan	47 games
14	↑ French, Tarrasch	46 games
15	↑ Catalan Opening	46 games
16	↓ English, 1...e5	44 games
17	↓ Sicilian, 2 f3 sidelines	44 games
18	↓ Sicilian, 2 f3 d6 sidelines	41 games
19	↓ English, 1...f6	40 games
20	↓ Sicilian, Taimanov	39 games

**2,341 games played between  
1-31 January where both players  
were rated over 2400 Elo**

Source: TWIC. Compiled by HIARCS 14.



In association with *HIARCS Chess Explorer*  
[www.hiarcs.com](http://www.hiarcs.com)

and *The Week in Chess*  
[www.theweekinchess.com](http://www.theweekinchess.com)



## 2018 EDINBURGH CHESS CONGRESS

**Friday 6 - Sunday 8 April**

**Premier: (FIDE rated Open), Major: (U1900/172 ECF),  
Bishops: (U1600/142 ECF), Knights: (U1400/122 ECF)**

**ST THOMAS OF AQUIN'S HIGH SCHOOL, CHALMERS ST, EDINBURGH, EH3 9ES**

**[ChessEdinburgh.co.uk](http://ChessEdinburgh.co.uk)**



# Home News

**BELFAST** – The Good Shepherd Centre hosted the Ulster Team Rapidplay Championships on February 3rd. The event attracted some 72 players with Strand I (Gabor Horvath, Nikhil Joshi, David Hill, Ross Harris, Modestas Razbadauskas and Daniil Zelenchuk) claiming the top honours. Strand amassed 19½/25, thanks to 4/5 from Horvath and 4/4 from Joshi, which left them some four and a half points ahead of Muldoons, with Ballynafeigh back in third. Meanwhile Bangor (Alan McConnell, Brendan Jamison, Sam Moore, Gary Johnston and Andy Boal) won the Intermediate section, while victory in the Junior went to Strand III (Adam Rushe, Ciaran Rowan, Michael Wong, James Wong and Louie McConkey).

**BRAMLEY** – Chess is often seen as a male-dominated game, but that certainly wasn't the case at St Catherine's School in Bramley on 14th January, where the Girls' Southern Semi-Final of the National Schools Chess Championship attracted some 87 three-player teams, so 261 players in total. We hope that many of these young players will remain active within the game, while kudos is certainly due to the organisers, as well as to Andrew Martin and the other driving forces behind the National Schools Chess Championship. On the board in Surrey, North London Collegiate triumphed in the Under-19 section, with Guildford High School winning the Under-11.

**CLEVEDON** – The Somerset New Year Congress took place by the sea just outside Bristol (13-14 January).

**Major:** 1-2 Chris Timmins (Bristol), Timothy Woodward (Trowbridge) 4, 3-6 Andrew Borkowski (Bristol), Martyn Harris (Newcastle-under-Lyme), Mark Potter (Dorchester), Oliver Stubbs (Downend) 3½.

**Intermediate:** 1-3 Robert Parsons (Hatch End), Stephen Williams (Cwmbran), Rich Wiltshir (Rushall) 4.

**Minor:** 1-2 Jason Madden (Leamington), Graham Mill-Wilson (Yate) 4, 3-6 Timothy Allen (Battersea), Roy Ludlow (Trowbridge), Philip Owen (Chippenham), Chris Smith (Bristol) 3½.

**FRODSHAM** – Mike Surtees of 'revolutionary opening theory' fame triumphed at the Frodsham Congress (2-4 February).

**Open:** 1 Mike Surtees (Great Lever) 4½/5, 2-7 Oliver Jackson (Cheshire), Paul Roberts (Edinburgh), Philip Crocker (Chester), William McDougall (Chichester), Thomas Carroll (Hoylake), Jacob Boswell (Cheddleton) 3½.

**Major:** 1 John Cawston (Selby) 4½, 2-3 Harry

Lamb (Bolton), Keith Maudsley (Culcheth) 4.

**Minor:** 1 Mark Waterfield (Northamptonshire) 5, 2-4 Khalid Khokhar (Sale), Paul Taylor (Holywell), Roy McCormick (Warrington) 4.

**GIBRALTAR** – As well as the famous Masters, the Tradewise Gibraltar Chess Festival (22 January - 1 February) once again attracted several hundred amateur players to its subsidiary sections. These were held every morning before play began in the Masters and didn't feature any English winners, although Heather Richards, these days representing Australia, only finished half a point outside the main prizes in both Challengers events.

**Challengers 'A':** 1 Yasser Saber (MAR) 4½/5, 2-7 David Jordan Martinez, Martin Madina Yadarola (both ESP), Chukwuka Allor (NGR), Javier Longa Yauca (PER), Rocky Pabalan (PHI), Alain Ranaivoharisoa (MAD) 4.

**Amateur 'A':** 1-2 Valeriy Stamenov (BUL), Grover Ashwani Kumar (IND) 4½, 3-8 Viviana Galvan Cipriani, Perez Garcia-Blazquez, Francisco Marcos Herrero (all ESP), Mourad Cherigui (MAR), Nicola-Alexandar Mircov (ROU), Szilvia Lochte (HUN) 4.

**Challengers 'B':** 1-3 Martin Madina Yadarola (ESP), Marc Lacrosse (BEL), Juan Antonio Villar Reymundo (PER) 4½.

**Amateur 'B':** 1-3 Daniel Diaz Mino (ESP), Nicola-Alexandar Mircov (ROU), Kevin James (IRL) 4½.

**HARROGATE** – Mark Hebden proved too strong at the latest 4NCL Congress in Harrogate (19-21 January), taking a quick draw with Uzbek GM Jahongir Vakhidov and winning his remaining games, including over Peter Wells in the final round, to pocket the £500 first prize. Rated just 2429, 59-year-old Hebden was only the fourth seed in Harrogate, but outperformed a number of younger rivals. The Old Swan Hotel, or perhaps the famous local waters, certainly proved helpful to the older competitor, 66-year-old Roger de Coverly winning the Major and 70-year-old Peter Owst triumphing in the Minor.

**Open:** 1 Mark Hebden (Leicester) 4½/5; 2-3 Jahongir Vakhidov (Uzbekistan), Alan Merry (Bury St Edmunds) 4, 4-8 James Adair (Stamford Bridge), Peter Wells (Swindon), Tim Wall (Forest Hall), Peter Shaw (Wakefield), Aditya Munshi 3½.

**Major:** 1 Roger de Coverly (Bourne End) 4½, 2 Dominic Bennett (Bristol) 4, 3-11 Paul Kendal (Beverley), Richard Webster (Ashfield), Andy Bagley (Leeds), Martin Burns, Joshua Pink (both Stockport), Mark Whitehead (Rochdale), John Cawston (Selby),



*Mark Hebden had an impressive victory at the 4NCL Congress in Harrogate and was the youngest of the three first prize winners.*

Sydney Jacob (Lewisham), Steven Potter (St Helens) 3½.

**Minor:** 1 Peter Owst (Hull) 4½, 2-5 Paul Gelder (Alwoodley), Peter Rawcliffe (Milton Keynes), Paul Doherty (Bolton), Andrew Duffell (Norfolk) 4.

**KIDLINGTON** – These days the popular Kidlington Congress is no longer restricted to players below 225, enabling IM Richard Bates to take part in the latest edition (2-4 February). Bates was, however, held to as many as three draws, enabling James Jackson to claim both outright first and the Oxfordshire Championship courtesy of a final-round victory over the then leader, Marcus Harvey. Banbury could also celebrate success in the team competition, which is always a feature of the congress, as James Jackson, Gary Jackson, Chris Evans and our own Carl Portman scored 13½/20.

**Open:** 1 James Jackson (Banbury) 4/5, 2-4 Richard Bates (Richmond), Marcus Harvey (Southampton), William Claridge-Hansen (Amersham), Jon Manley (Oxford) 3½.

**Under-180:** 1-5 Roger de Coverly (Bourne End), Colin Purdon (Crowthorne), Paul Colburn (Braunstone), Tom Matko (Chippenham), Alex Rossiter (Bristol Cabot) 4.

**Under-145:** 1 Rich Wiltshir (Rushall) 4½/5, 2-5 Howard Searle (Witney), Peter Dimond (Bath), Jim McKie (East Cheshire), David Dyer (Oxford) 4.

**Under-120:** 1-2 Jack Tye (Downend),

Stephen Ennis 4½, 3-5 Tamal Matilal (both Cowley), Zulfi Heydon (Oxford), Duncan Clarke (Aylesbury) 4.

**LONDON** – Adam Raoof continues to dominate the organisation of chess events in the capital. His latest Hampstead U2200 Congress (20-21 January) saw Bao Nghia Dong (Loughborough) and Nicholas Tavoularis (Middlesbrough) tie for first on 4½/5. That score was matched by both Graeme Jenkins (Muswell Hill) and Anders Lundback (Athenaeum) in the U1900 section, while Ronan Kelly (Metropolitan, London) triumphed with the very same score in the Under-135, finishing half a point ahead of Robert Cassen (Middlesex) and Tim Valentine (Battersea).

Meanwhile the Muswell Hill Rapidplay of January 24th, attracted not just two grandmasters, but also saw a rare appearance from IM David Levy. Alexander Cherniaev (Hackney) triumphed with 5½/6 in the Open to edge out Bogdan Lalic (Wood Green), while Jamie Sparrow (Muswell Hill) won the Minor ahead of David Everitt (Haywards Heath).

Russian Grandmaster Cherniaev did even better in the Golders Green Rapidplay, making 100% on February 10th.

**Open:** 1 Alexander Cherniaev (Hackney) 6/6, 2 Bao Nghia Dong (Loughborough) 5, 3-6 Michael Fernandez (Southampton), Federico Rocco (Hendon), Richard Cannon (UNATS, London), Wolfgang Jekel (Germany) 4.

**Major:** 1 Oliver Finnegan (Loughton) 5½, 2-3 Jacob Yoon (Enfield), John Bussmann (Surbiton) 4½.

**Minor:** 1 James Corrigan (Hackney) 5, 2-5 Lara Osiyemi (Chichester), Myroslav Seman (Cowley), Claudio Oliveri (Hendon), Omar Jassim (Hackney) 4½.

**Amateur:** 1 Mohammad Mozaffari (Nottingham) 6, 2-5 Apurva Deshpande (Imperial College), Zafar Ashraf (Hackney), Barry Miles (Coulsdon), Faye Ainscow (Hendon) 4½.

**NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE** – The Newcastle Chess Festival (13-18 February) was staged with the aim of promoting 'Chess for All' in the North East. Ahead of the Northumbria Masters, leading local player Danny Gormally gave a simul in the cafe at Newcastle Central Library. Watched by plenty of onlookers, Gormally impressively dismantled an 18-strong field and in little over two hours. That was no mean feat, considering the opposition included rising star and British Under-11 Champion, 10-year-old Yichen Han. We'll have a full report next month on the festival from organising supremo Tim Wall.

**NORTHAMPTON** – The latest 4NCL weekend for Divisions One and Two took place in Northampton (10-11 February), following on from weekend two, which was held in Solihull (13-14 January). We saw Daniel Bisby's fine win against Jon Speelman earlier in these pages and will have more of the best of the action next month. As shown by the tables, Guildford continue to dominate Pool A, while the somewhat better contested Pool B is headed up by Cheddleton. Meanwhile Manx Liberty look destined to join the top flight next season, having fielded four GMs and three IMs while amassing 6/6 in Division Two.

**NOTTINGHAM** – Mark Hebden was also somewhat in the prizes at the Nottingham Rapidplay on February 3rd.

**Open:** 1 Mark Hebden (Leicester) 5½/6, 2 Bao Nghia Dong (Loughborough) 5, 3-4 Jonah Willow (West Nottingham), Michal Maciejewski (Nottingham University) 4½.

**Major:** 1-2 Dragoljub Sudar (Gambit, Nottingham), Armaan Gogia (West Nottingham) 5½, 3 Firas Almazedi (Alwoodley) 5.

**Intermediate:** 1 Peter Damms (Louth) 5½, 2-4 Karam Sangha (West Nottingham), Neal Fisher (Peterborough), Nathaniel Holroyd-Doveton (Rotherham) 4½.

**Minor:** 1-2 Joseph Wright (Nottingham Uni.), Joseph Ward-Langham (Market Harborough) 5, 3-5 Margaret Grettton (Gambit, Nottingham), Andrew Watson (Horncastle), Paul Mottram (Melton Mowbray) 4½.

**TORQUAY** – Keith Arkell suffered a surprise defeat to Peter Anderson in round 2 of the Simon Bartlett Memorial Congress (26-28 January), but recovered to share first in the Open. The tournament took place at the same venue as the popular Paignton Congress now uses, the Livermead House Hotel, while we were delighted to see the famous chess photographer Mark Huba participating in the Minor.

**Open:** 1-2 Keith Arkell (Paignton), Steve Berry (Wimbledon) 4/5, 3 Walter Braun (Exmouth) 3½.

**Major:** 1-3 Robert Taylor (Downend), Bill Ingham (Teignmouth), Yasser Tello (Wimbledon) 4.

**Intermediate:** 1 Eddie Hurst (Salisbury) 4, 2-3 Dave Gilbert (Sidcup), David Rogers (Exmouth) 3½.

**Minor:** 1 Evan McMullan (Newton Abbot) 4½, 2-3 Mark Huba (Kings Head), Tony Tatam (Plymouth) 4.

**YORK** – The fine setting of the National Trust hotel at Middlethorpe Hall played host to the York Rapidplay on January 27th.

**Section 'A':** 1-2 David Adams (York), John Cooper (Hull) 5/6, 3-5 Leo Keely, David Keddie (both Huddersfield), Douglas Vleeshouwer (Beverley) 4.

**Section 'B':** 1-2 Robert Moneagle (York), Mike Pollard (Hull) 5, 3 Ewan Miller (York) 4½.

#### BRITBASE - [www.britbase.co.uk](http://www.britbase.co.uk)

An amazing archive of British chess tournament games in PGN format dating from Hastings 1895 to this year's Gibraltar Congress. All completely free of charge!

#### 4NCL 2017 -18 season, Divison 1 - Pool A

	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Pts	GP
1	Guildford I		7-1	7-1	7½-½	7½-½		7-1	8-0	12	44
2	White Rose I	1-7			5½-2½	5½-2½	7½-½	6-2	5½-2½	10	31
3	Oxford I	1-7	2½-5½		3½-4½	4½-3½	5-3	5½-2½	6½-1½	8	26
4	Grantham Sharks I	½-7½	2½-5½	4½-3½		4-4	5½-2½		4-4	6	21
5	3Cs I	½-7½	½-7½	3½-4½	4-4		6½-1½	6-2		5	23
6	Spirit of Atticus A			3-5	2½-5½	1½-6½		4½-3½	4-4	3	16
7	Barbican 4NCL II	1-7	2-6	2½-5½		2-6	3½-4½		5½-2½	2	16½
8	The ADs	0-8	2½-5½	1½-6½	4-4		4-4	2½-5½		2	14½

#### 4NCL 2017 -18 season, Divison 1 - Pool B

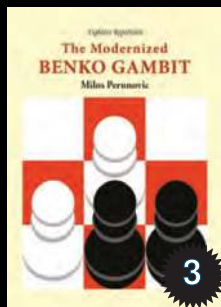
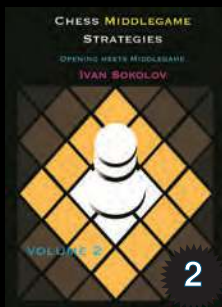
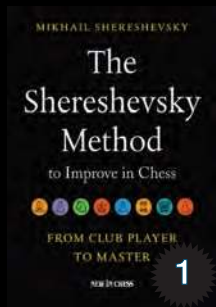
	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Pts	GP
1	Cheddleton I		5-3	4-4	5½-2½	5½-2½	6½-1½	6½-1½		11	33
2	Guildford II	3-5		6-2	5-3	5½-2½	5½-2½		4½-3½	10	29½
3	Wood Green HK	4-4	2-6		4½-3½		4½-3½	5½-2½	7-1	9	27½
4	Barbican 4NCL I	2½-5½	3-5	3½-4½		4½-3½		5½-2½	7-1	6	26
5	Blackthorne Russia	2½-5½	2½-5½		3½-4½		6-2	5-3	5½-2½	6	25
6	West is Best I	1½-6½	2½-5½	3½-4½		2-6		5-3	5-3	4	19½
7	Alba	1½-6½		2½-5½	2½-5½	3-5	3-5		5-3	2	17½
8	Cambridge University I		3½-4½	1-7	1-7	2½-5½	3-5	3-5		0	14

# Subscribers Only March

Order online\*: [www.chess.co.uk/shop](http://www.chess.co.uk/shop) - Call 020 7288 1305 - Or use the included carrier sheet

\* Enter SUBSCRIBER in the 'Coupon Code' box to claim the subscriber discount when ordering online.

\* UK based readers should also enter SUBSCRIBERSPECIAL in the 'Coupon Code' box to ensure they receive free postage on their order.

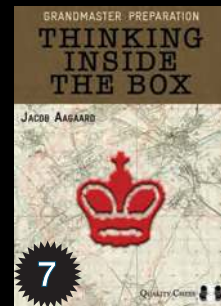
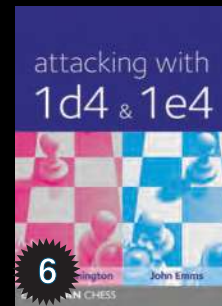


**1: The Shereshevsky Method to Improve in Chess**  
Mikhail Shereshevsky, 352 pages, paperback  
RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.36**

**2: Chess Middlegame Strategies - Volume 2**  
Ivan Sokolov, 260 pages, paperback  
RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.36**

**3: The Modernized Benko Gambit**  
Milos Perunovic, 164 pages, paperback  
RRP £24.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.45**

**4: The Modernized Reti**  
Adrien Demuth, 439 pages, paperback  
RRP £28.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.05**



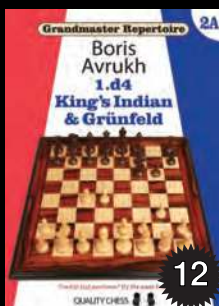
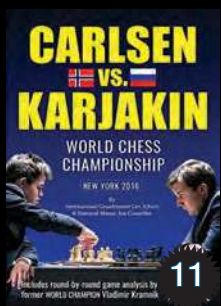
**5: Masters of Attack: Alekhine, Spassky, Tal**  
Alexander Raetsky and Maxim Chetverik, 496 pages, paperback RRP £18.99 **SUBS' £17.09**

**6: Attacking with 1 d4 & 1 e4**  
Angus Dunnington & John Emms, 320 pages, paperback RRP £18.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.09**

**7: Thinking Inside the Box**  
Jacob Aagaard, 408 pages, paperback  
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

**8: Greatest 550 Puzzles: From Practical Games of 2017**  
Csaba Balogh, 232 pages, paperback  
RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

ALL ITEMS ARE POST FREE FOR UK CUSTOMERS

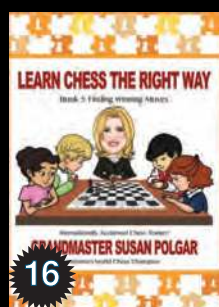


**9: First Steps: 1 e4 e5**  
John Emms, 304 pages, paperback  
RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

**10: First Steps: The Scandinavian**  
Cyrus Lakdawala, 224 pages, paperback  
RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

**11: Carlsen vs. Karjakin: World Championship 2016**  
Lev Albut, Jon Crumiller and Vladimir Kramnik, 336 pages, paperback RRP £24.95 **SUBS' £22.45**

**12: Grandmaster Repertoire 2A - 1.d4: King's Indian & Grünfeld**  
Boris Avrukh, 336 pages, paperback RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

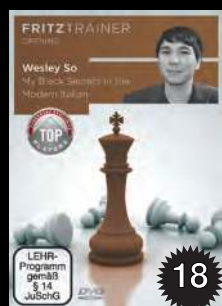


**13: Test Your Chess IQ (First, Master, Grandmaster)**  
August Livshitz, 408 pages, paperback  
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

**14: It's Your Move (3 volumes now in 1 book!)**  
Chris Ward, 447 pages, paperback  
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

**15: Super Chess Kids: Win Like the World's Young Champions**  
Franco Zaninotto, 144 pages, paperback  
RRP £13.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £12.59**

**16: Learn Chess the Right Way - All 5 volumes**  
Susan Polgar, 832 pages, 5 paperback volumes  
RRP £94.75 **SUBSCRIBERS £85**



**17: ChessBase Magazine #182 - February / March 2018 (PC-DVD)**  
RRP £17.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.16**

**18: My Black Secrets in the Modern Italian (PC-DVD)**  
Wesley So, running time: 3 hours  
RRP £30.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £27.86**

**19: My Secret Weapon: 1 b3 (PC-DVD)**  
Wesley So, running time: 2 hours 50 mins  
RRP £30.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £27.86**

**20: Fritz 16 (PC-DVD)**  
The World's Bestselling Chess Software!  
RRP £59.95 **SUBS' £53.95**

ONLY subscribers to CHESS MAGAZINE may order items at the prices and conditions shown on this page. All offers expire 31/3/2018. These offers are POST FREE in the UK only. Please add 20% (of the undiscounted price) for EU countries and 30% (of the undiscounted price) Rest of the World.