

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #159

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions - news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to B.C. players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue.

To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net) or sign up via the BCCF webpage (<http://chess.bc.ca/>); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

[Back issues of the Bulletin are available on the above webpage.]

HERE AND THERE

Estonian Women's Championship (February 20 -26)



Occasional B.C. resident WFM Valeria Gansvind has won the Estonian Women's Championship with the overwhelming score of 8.5/9. This is quite an accomplishment, even if she was the highest rated and a number of Estonia's stronger players didn't take part. The championship had a number of younger entrants, including (presumably) three sisters - see the photos below. Valeria will be returning to B.C. next week and intends playing in the Grand Pacific Open at Easter and the Keres Memorial on the Victoria Day weekend.

Crosstable:

<http://www.maleliit.ee/tabelid/2009/EEMV/index.php?akt=10&tur=2&KK=15&list=1>

Photos: <http://www.maleliit.ee/tabelid/2009/EEMV/index.php?akt=3&tur=2>

Games: <http://www.maleliit.ee/modules.php?name=Partiid&print=1&a=163>

Even when she was conducting mating attacks, most of Valeria's games displayed a bias toward technical play:

Gansvind, Valeria - Narva, Triin [D05] Eesti Ekspressi MV 2009 (2), 2009

1.b3 Nf6 2.Bb2 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.e3 Be7 5.d4 0-0 6.Bd3 b6 7.0-0 Ba6 8.c4 c5 9.Ne5 Qc7 10.Nd2 Nbd7 11.f4 dxc4 12.bxc4 Bb7 13.Qe2 Rad8 14.a4 cxd4 15.exd4 Bb4 16.Ndf3 h6 17.Rac1 Nxe5 18.fxe5 Nd7 19.Kh1 Nb8 20.d5 Qd7 21.d6 Na6 22.Ra1 Nc5 23.Bc2 Bc6 24.Bd4 Nb7 25.Qd3 g6 26.Qe3 Kh7 27.h4 f5 28.exf6 Bxf3 29.Qxf3 Nxd6 30.h5 Nf5 31.hxg6+ Kxg6 32.Rad1 Qc8 33.Qg4+ Kf7 34.Qh5+ Kg8 35.Qg6+ Kh8 36.Bxf5 Qc7 37.f7+ 1-0

Narva, Regina - Gansvind, Valeria [B28] Eesti Ekspressi MV 2009 (5), 2009

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Nb3 Bb4 7.Bd3 d5 8.exd5 e4 9.Be2 Nxd5 10.Bd2 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Be7 12.Nd4 Nd7 13.Nf5 0-0 14.0-0 Bc5 15.Nd4 Nf6 16.Bg5 Be7 17.Qd2 Qc7 18.c4 Rd8 19.c3 h6 20.Bh4 Ne8 21.Bxe7 Qxe7 22.Bd1 Be6 23.Bb3 Rac8 24.Qe2 Nf6 25.f3 exf3 26.Rxf3 Qc5



27.Rxf6 Rxd4 28.Kh1 Rd6 29.Rf4 a5 30.Qf3 a4 31.Bxa4 Bxc4 32.Rc1 Bd5 33.Qf1 Rg6 34.Rf2 Bc4 35.Qe1 Re6 36.Qd2 Qe3 37.Qxe3 Rxe3 38.h3 Bd5 39.Kh2 Rcxc3 40.Rd1 Re5 41.Rfd2 Rc5 42.Bb3 Bxb3 43.Rd8+ Kh7 44.axb3 Rc3 45.R1d3 Rxd3 46.Rxd3 Kg6 47.Kg3 Kf5 48.Kf3 Ke6 49.Rc3 g6 50.Rd3 f5 51.Rc3 g5 52.Rc7 Rb5 53.Rc3 Ke5 54.Rd3 Rb4 55.Ke3 h5 56.Kf3 h4 57.Kf2 g4 58.hxg4 fxg4 59.Ke2 g3 60.Rc3 Kf4 61.Rf3+ Kg4 62.Re3 Rf4 63.Re7 Rf2+ 64.Ke1 Rxc2 65.Rxb7 Rb2 66.Rg7+ Kh3 0-1

Chess Challenge Regionals (February 21, 22)

A number of the regional qualifying tournaments were held on the February 21, 22 weekend for this year's Chess Challenge, the annual scholastic tournament by grade:

Vancouver and Fraser Valley, including many linked photos:

<http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/news.html>

Victoria: <http://victoriajuniorchess.pbwiki.com/Results+2008-2009>

There is at least one one qualifier yet to be played, for the Central Island region this Saturday: <http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/events.html>

CYCC Fundraiser (February 21)

An active fundraising event was held in Victoria on February 21 to benefit the CYCC, to be held in Victoria this coming July. Howard Wu and Paul Leblanc tied for first in the twenty-one player field with 4.5/5.

<http://victoriachessclub.pbwiki.com/CYCC-Active-Fundraiser>

International Chess Jam (February 7)

It has been traditional for a few B.C. players to dominate this annual junior tournament held in Ferndale, WA, and this year was no exception: Jonah Lee and Tanraj Sohal won their respective sections with 5.0/5 and 5.5/6 respectively. (The latter score was really 4.5/5 - for some reason half the field was given a full-point bye in the first round, presumably as a form of accelerated pairings.)

<http://whsca.org/ChessJam.html>

Washington Class Championship (November 28-30, 2008)

Games from this event have now appeared on the Northwest Chess website, courtesy of Drayton Harrison. Some of them involve Canadian players: Arie Milner, Richard Huang, Robert Brewster, Juni Caluza, Jofrel Landingin, Jacob Jensen, Neale Monkhouse, Donovan Zhao, Matthew Herdin.

Report: <http://www.nwchess.com/articles/events/2008/WAClass.htm>

Games: <http://www.nwchess.com/articles/games/index.htm>

B.C. CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS 2009

1. The 2009 B.C. Championship will be an 8-player round robin, held on the Thanksgiving weekend.
2. The following players qualify for the Championship:
 - a. The 2008 B.C. Champion.
 - b. The 2008 B.C. Junior Champion.
 - c. The highest finisher in each qualifying tournament who has not already qualified for the Championship and who has held a regular CFC rating of 2000 or higher at some point.
 - d. The remaining qualifying spots will be filled from the last CFC rating list to be

published at least six weeks before the Championship. To qualify by rating, a player must have played in at least one regular-rated tournament since the 2008 Championship.

e. If a player who has qualified through criteria 2.a.-d. is unable or unwilling to play in the Championship, additional players would be taken from the rating list as set out in 2.d.

3. All participants in the Championship must have resided in B.C. for at least six months prior to the start of the Championship.

4. The following prizes will be provided by the BCCF:

a. First place: \$300.

b. Second place: \$200.

"Participants in the BC Closed must be members of the CFC. A tournament membership is not allowed for this tournament."

CANADIAN JUNIOR

Originally scheduled for Calgary, the bidding process for this annual U20 championship was reopened when it was found there was insufficient time to advertise the event properly. The CFC governors have now approved a new bid from the Victoria Junior Chess Society to stage the event in Victoria in July in conjunction with the CYCC and B.C. Open. For details see Appendix 2 of Governors' Letter #4 for 2008/2009, http://www.chess.ca/GIs/08_09GL4.pdf.

FIDE RULE CHANGES

Every four years FIDE has the opportunity to implement changes to the official Laws of Chess, and this will happen on July 1st of this year. Most of the proposed changes are fairly minor, and are detailed by Geurt Gijssen in one of his Chess Cafe articles: <http://www.chesscafe.com/text/geurt129.pdf>. The one major change which has yet to be decided is the question of later arrivals at the board. At the Dresden Olympiad last autumn a new rule was used, that players who were not at their boards at the start of the round were forfeited. This regulation was just for that competition, but there have been suggestions that this be included in the Laws of Chess. To quote Gijssen:

"The old version is:

Any player who arrives at the chessboard more than one hour after the scheduled start of the session shall lose the game unless the rules of the competition specify or the arbiter decides otherwise.

The proposal was:

Any player who arrives at the chessboard after the start of the session shall lose the game, unless the arbiter decides otherwise. Thus the default time is 0 minutes. The rules of the competition may specify a different time.

If we compare the two, we see that nothing has changed. A tournament committee still has the possibility of specifying a default time of one hour. And in the old version 0 minutes, as applied in the Olympiad, is also possible."

The General Assembly in Dresden had trouble reaching a consensus on the issue, but then FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov made a third proposal:

Any player who arrives at the chessboard after the start of the session shall lose the game.

"As you can see, the FIDE President does not like to make any exception. Each tournament committee has to accept the 0 minutes rule and the arbiter has no possibility to accept an excuse for the late arrival of a player, even in case of a clear 'force majeure.'" (Gijssen). This proposal is apparently an attempt to bring chess competitions in line with what happens at the IOC Olympics. The final decision on the law will be made at a FIDE presidential board meeting shortly; it should be noted that Gijssen has "received several letters expressing the opinion that it would be a catastrophe for chess if Ilyumzhinov's proposal is accepted."

<http://www.chesscafe.com/text/geurt128.pdf>

BEST OF NORTHWEST CHESS

The magazine *Northwest Chess* has a long and distinguished history, having been published in various incarnations since 1946. Former editor and business manager Russell Miller had begun a project to present the best articles from *Northwest Chess* on the internet; the currently available material is at the link below, and includes Yasser Seirawan describing his game against Peter Biyiasas from Hastings 1978/79. There is talk of putting all the previous issues online, but this might take a while ...

http://www.nwchess.com/articles/history/Best_of_NWC.htm

34th PAUL KERES MEMORIAL



Dates Friday, May 15 to Monday, May 18, 2009
Location Spratt Shaw Community College, 1176 8th Ave, New Westminster BC
Sections Open, Under 2000, Under 1600
Time Control Game/90 + 60 second increment or game/150
Rounds Open: 7 Rounds; U2000, U1600: 6 Rounds
Round Times Friday 6:30 (Open Section only); 10, 5 / 10, 3:30 / 9, ASAP

Further details to follow.

March Active

Date: Sunday March 8, 2009
Place: Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway (at Kaslo), Vancouver
Rounds: 5
Starting Time: noon.
Type: Regular Swiss.
Time Controls: G/30.
Entry Fee: Adults \$15, Masters/Seniors and Juniors \$12.
Prizes: First Prize guaranteed (\$100), and rest based on entries. If 25 players then 2nd \$70 3rd \$50 best Under 2000 \$50 and best Under 1700 \$50.
Registration: On site at 11:30am or contact Luc Poitras at (778) 846-0496 email queluc@lynx.net

Bring your chess set and clock if you have one. Not CFC Rated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior events

March 8 Island Junior Open #5
March 29 CYCC Victoria Regional
April 4 Chess Challenge Finals, BCIT
April 10 Grand Pacific Scholastic

UBC Thursday Night Swiss

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre room 191, 1961 East Mall,
University of British Columbia
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca

March Active

March 8, Vancouver Bridge Centre
Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#MarchActive>

March Active (2)

March 29, Vancouver Bridge Centre
Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#AprilActive>

Victoria Chess Festival

April 10-13, Victoria
Details: <http://victoriachessclub.pbwiki.com/Victoria+Chess+Festival+2009>

May Active

May 9, Vancouver Bridge Centre
Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#MayActive>

34th Paul Keres Memorial

May 15-18, TBA
Details: TBA

June Active

June 13, Vancouver Bridge Centre
Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#JuneActive>

Summer Chess Fest, including B.C. Open

July 20-28, Victoria

Details: <http://summerchessfest.pbwiki.com/FrontPage>
B.C. Open: <http://bcopenchess.pbwiki.com/>

2009 Langley Chess Club Open

September 5-7 (Labour Day long weekend), Langley
Details: <http://www.langleychess.com/>