

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #278

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 (www.chess.bc.ca); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

March Active (March 16)

The March edition of the monthly active held at the Vancouver Chess School attracted thirty-one entrants, including seven rated over 2000. B.C. Active Champion Mayo Fuentebella had an off day and second-ranked Jack Cheng gave up too many draws (four!), leaving the way open for Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj and John Doknjas to tie for first with 5.0/6. The first U1800 prize was won by John's youngest brother Neil, only rated 1347, while second U1800 was shared by Payam Mousavi, Brian Sullivan, and Stephen Brock. And the U1200 prize was split between Lucian Wu and James Zhang. [Crosstable](#)

Victoria Olympiad Fundraiser (March 16)



Ross Richardson and TD Paul Leblanc (photo: Miranda James)

A dedicated group of ten players attended this Active tournament in support of Canada's Chess Olympiad Team. It was held at the Victoria Chess Club on Sunday March 16th. Overall winner was Ross Richardson (4.0/5.0). Ross's only loss was to Jason Cao in Round One. Jason, who was handicapped by the need to take two byes to play basketball, finished second (3.5/5.0). First U1700 was eight year old rising star Rowan James (3.5/5.0), followed closely by veteran Bill Tate (3.0/5.0).

Additional donations were received from Mark S. Dutton, Jeff Harrison, Duncan Haines, The Gengs, Ken Forman, and Peter Kappel. \$160 was raised for the Olympiad Team.

[This report plus crosstable](#)

Reykjavik Open (March 4-12)

This year's Reykjavik Open attracted two hundred and fifty-five players, including twenty-eight grandmasters and eleven participants from Canada. The overall winner was Chao Li of China with 8.5/10, closely followed by fellow GMs Robin van Kampen, Eduardas Rozentalis, Helgi Olafsson, and Canada's Eric Hansen, all with 8.0 points. Hansen's fine result should push his rating over 2600 for the first time. A further half-point back was Raja Panjwani, who finished the event by beating the earlier tournament leader, Bassem Amin of Egypt (Amin had 6.5/7 but lost his last three games). Another Canadian was B.C.'s Jason Kenney, whose 50% score included a win against an IM and draws against two GMs, a WGM, and an IM. [Tournament website](#)

Kenney, Jason - Soors, Stef [A25] Reykjavik op (4.32), 06.03.2014

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bc5 4.Bg2 a6 5.Nf3 d6 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d3 h6 8.a3 0-0 9.b4 Ba7 10.Bb2 Be6 11.Rc1 Qd7 12.e3 Ne7 13.Re1 Bh3 14.d4 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Qe6 16.Nd5 e4 17.Nxf6+ Qxf6 18.Nd2 Qg6 19.Qc2 f5 20.d5 Kh7 21.Kh1 Qg4 22.Qd1 Qh3 23.Rg1 h5 24.Nb3 Rf7 25.Rc2 Ng8 26.Nc1 b5 27.Ne2 Qg4 28.Nf4 bxc4 29.Rxc4 Bb6 30.a4 a5 31.b5 Kh6 32.h4 Nf6 33.Bxf6 Rxf6 34.Qxg4 hxg4 35.Kg2 Rf7 36.Rgc1 Rd7 37.Rc6 Rb8 38.Ne6 Rb7 39.Nc5 Bxc5 40.R1xc5 Ra7 41.Rc4 Kg6 42.Ra6 Rxa6 43.bxa6 Kf6 44.a7 Rd8 45.Rxc7 g6 46.Rd7 Ra8 47.Rxd6+ Ke5 48.Ra6 Kxd5 49.Rxa5+ Kc4 50.Ra6 Kb4 51.Kf1 Kb3 52.Ke2 Kb4 53.a5 Kc3 54.Rc6+ Kb4 55.Rxg6 Rxa7 56.a6 Rf7 57.Rb6+ Ka5 58.Rb7 Rf8 59.a7 1-0

Djurhuus, Rune - Kenney, Jason [D13] Reykjavik op (5.25), 07.03.2014

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 c6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bf4 a6 7.e3 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 e6 10.Bd3 Bd6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rac1 Bxf4 13.Qxf4 Qa5 14.a3 Rfe8 15.Rc2 Rad8 16.Rd1 Ne7 17.Ra1 Nc6 18.Rac1 h6 19.Be2 Rd7 20.Nb1 Qd8 21.Nd2 e5 22.dxe5 Nxe5 23.Nb3 Qe7 24.Nd4 Ne4 25.Rc8 Red8 26.Nf3 Nxf3+ 27.Bxf3 Ng5 28.Bg4 Ne6 29.Qe5 Kf8 30.Bxe6 fxe6 31.Rxd8+ Rxd8 32.Rc7 Rd7 33.Rc8+ Kf7 34.f4 Rd8 35.Rc2 Rd7 36.f5 exf5 37.Qxf5+ Ke8 38.Qg6+ Kd8 39.Qb6+ Ke8 40.h4 d4 41.Qg6+ Kd8 42.Qb6+ Ke8 43.Qg6+ ½-½

B.C. Chess Challenge (March 9)

The Chess Challenge Finals, was held at the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel in Richmond. Some one hundred and fifty players competed in grade sections to determine who will represent B.C. at the National Chess Challenge, coming up in Winnipeg on the Victoria Day weekend. The following are the trophy winners for this year - congratulations to all!

Kindergarten – Freddy Chen, Toro Hannah-Lee, Jason Chen
Grade 1 – Jason Qian, Andrew Xu, Benjamin Cooknagy
Grade 2 – Aiden Zhou, David Jiang, Lucian Wu
Grade 3 – Neil Doknjas, Kevin Low, Kevin Butchart

Grade 4 – Leo Qu, Jim Guo, Jerry Chen
Grade 5 – Luke Pulfer, Alec Chung, Clark Zhang
Grade 6 – Joshua Doknjas, Golden Wang, Ryan Leong
Grade 7 – Matthew Geng, Kevin Li, Maven Zheng
Grade 8 – Alex Lin, Harrison Chen, Chunting Song
Grade 9 – Uranchimeg Nyamdorj, John Doknjas, Yutong Zhang
Grade 10 – Joseph Dobrzanski, Karl Cui, Yannay Kaplan
Grade 11 – Alex Sabaratnam, Ryan Lo, Rick Yang
Grade 12 – Tanraj Sohal, Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj, Joanne Foote

Special mention should be made of Tanraj Sohal, who has won first prize in each respective grade as he passed through them over the past twelve years – a remarkable achievement.

The tournament was organized by Maxim Doroshenko and run with the assistance of a large number of volunteers – many thanks to everyone for helping! [Crosstables and link to photos](#)

BCBASE UPDATE

This is a database of games either played in British Columbia or by B.C. players elsewhere in the world. These have been assembled from various sources by Stephen Wright: other databases, published sources (magazines, newspaper columns, books), and scoresheets, both recent (the latest Keres tournaments and B.C. Championships) and historical (with special thanks to Max Enke/the B.C. Archives, Miervaldis Jursevskis, Jonathan Berry, the family of Lionel Joyner, Philip C. Cavanagh, Brian Potter, David Hladek, Fred Schulz, John Baines-Lewis, the family of Nathan Divinsky, Ed Seedhouse, and Lynn Stringer). Generally games by players while they were resident in B.C. are included; thus the games for Dave Ross and Gordon Taylor only cover the period when they actually lived here. Some exceptions are made for a few stronger players when the additional games give a fuller perspective on their playing careers. For example, included are games by Elod Macskasy and Miervaldis Jursevskis before they came to Canada, Lionel Joyner before he came to B.C., and Peter Biyiasas after he left the country.

The database has now been updated to the end of 2013 and currently includes 22,088 games. It can be found at the B.C.C.F. website, at <http://www.chess.bc.ca/games.shtml>.

This collection is not definitive, but is very much a work in progress - there are still published games that have yet to be entered, and new games are being played all the time. If readers notice errors, or would like to contribute their own games to the collection, please contact Stephen Wright (swright2@telus.net).

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

Today we continue our recent theme of analysing bishop and pawn endings, in particular those featuring interesting play as well as instructive errors.



The diagram position arose in a game played in a recent international tournament. The starting position appears to be fairly equal, but a closer look reveals two significant imbalances: both sides have a pawn majority, and both sides have pawns on dark squares where they are potential targets for the opposing bishop. This suggests that the play could easily become complicated on very short notice. With his first move Black strives to devalue his opponent's pawn majority and simultaneously make a square for his own use at c5.

Black to play

29...a5 30.bxa5

Here White could have played 30.b5+, forcing Black's king to retreat and also fixing a target on b6 since 30...Kc5 loses immediately to 31.Bd4+ and 32.Bxb6.

30...bxa5 31.Bd4?

White should have blunted the positional threat of 31...g4 by playing 31.f3. Things would still be level after that.

31...Bc5?

Instead of offering the immediate exchange of bishops, Black should have immobilised White's kingside pawns with 31...g4! 32.Be3 Bc5 and now:

a) 33.Bd4 Bxd4+ 34.Kxd4 Kd6 35.c5+ Kc6 36.Ke5 Kxc5 37.Kxe6 Kb4 38.Kxf5 Kxa4 39.Kxg4 Kb5! and Black wins the pawn ending after 40.f4 a4 41.f5 Kc6 42.Kh5 a3 43.f6 Kd6 44.Kh6 a2 45.f7 Ke7 46.Kg7 a1Q+, etc.

b) 33.Kd3 Bxe3 34.fxe3 Kc5 35.Kc3 e5 36.Kb3 h6 37.Kc3 h5 38.Kb3 f4 and Black wins;

c) 33.Bxc5 Kxc5 34.Kd3 e5 35.Kc3 h6 36.Kd3 Kb4 and Black wins.

32.f4!?



Black to play

In this case Black's kingside pawn majority has been devalued due to the backward e-pawn. After 34...Kc6 35.Kd4 Kd6 36.c5+ there are two main lines:

a) 36...Kc7 37.Ke5 Kd7 38.Kf6 Kc6 39.Kxe6 and White wins;

b) 36...Kc6 37.Kc4 Kc7 (or 37...h5 38.h4, etc.) 38.Kb5 h5 39.Kxa5 e5 40.Kb4 e4 (similar is 40...exf4 41.Kc3, etc.) 41.Kc4 h4 42.h3 Kc6 43.Kd4 Kc7 44.a5 Kb7 45.Ke3 Kb8 46.a6 Kc7 47.Kd4 Kb8 48.c6 and Black will eventually run out of pawn moves, after which he cannot prevent White from promoting one of his queenside pawns.

33...Bd6!

The correct move and another huge swing, this time in favour of Black.

34.Be3



Black to play

32...gxf4?

A serious mistake. Black must avoid the exchange of bishops by throwing in a check: 32...Bb4+ 33.Kd3 gxf4 34.gxf4 Bd6 35.Ke3 and there are no real winning chances for either side. The move in the game gives White a huge opportunity, which he does not take.

33.gxf4?

Instead of this automatic recapture, White should have interpolated the exchange of bishops: 33.Bxc5! Kxc5

34...e5!

This powerful shot wins a pawn for Black.

35.h3

Also unavailing is 35.fxe5 Bxe5+ 36.Kd3 Bxh2 and with an extra passed pawn, Black must be winning. This line shows the risks involved in having pawns that are vulnerable to attack.

35...exf4 36.Bf2 Bc5 37.Bxc5?!

White had to keep bishops on the board and hope for the best with 37.Bh5. Not to say that this would save the game, but in tournament chess you should always try to play the strongest moves that can be found within the prescribed time limit. In any case the pawn ending is completely hopeless for White.

37...Kxc5 38.Kd3 f3 39.Ke3 Kxc4 40.Kxf3 Kb4 41.Kf4 Kxa4 42.Kxf5 Kb3 43.Kg5 a4 44.Kh6 a3 45.Kxh7 a2 46.h4 a1Q 47.h5

White's counterplay is just too slow.

47...Qg1

Black could have shortened the winning procedure with 47...Qf6, but after a short interlude he comes back to the right idea.

48.h6 Kc4 49.Kh8 Qf2 50.Kg7 Qg3+ 51.Kh8 Qf4 52.Kg7 Qg5+ 53.Kh7 Qf6

Finally winning White's last pawn, after which there is only the forlorn hope that Black will stumble into a stalemate.

54.Kg8 Qxh6 55.Kf7 Qf4+ 56.Ke6 Qg5 57.Kf7 Qh6 58.Kg8 Qf6 59.Kh7 Qg5 60.Kh8 Kd5 61.Kh7 Ke6 62.Kh8 Kf7 63.Kh7 Qh5# 0-1

It is time to reveal the identity of the players. This was the last round game between Qian Wan (White) and Harmony Zhu (Black) from the 2013 WYCC, which gave Harmony Zhu the title of World Under-8 Girls' Champion. Bravo!

Please send all feedback on this column to dscoones@telus.net.

VANCOUVER CHESS CLUB HANDICAP TOURNAMENT, 1913-14

The playing of games at odds has been an acknowledged method of handicapping one of the players for much of chess history. Little used now except in offhand games, in the first half of the 19th century the giving of material odds was common in matches and tournaments as well as casual play, and there are examples by many of the leading players: Deschappelles, La Bourdonnais, Staunton, Anderssen, Morphy, Steinitz, etc. Players of different classes within a tournament might receive or give different odds, depending on the difference in strength. For example, in the Handicap Tournament held in London in 1862, Class I gave move odds to Class II, pawn and move to Class III, pawn and two moves to Class IV, and knight odds to Class V. At the international level such events died out as the general level of chess skill improved, but handicap tournaments remained popular in chess clubs. There was an 18-player double round robin held in Victoria in 1900-01 using material odds, and the newly-formed Vancouver Chess Club conducted a handicap event in 1913-14. The latter is historically more interesting as a dozen of the games were published in the chess column of the *Daily News Advertiser*. Here is one example of each class, in ascending order of odds given.

Equal strength:

Evans,A - Melhuish,G [C52] VCC handicap Vancouver, 11.1913

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 Bxb4 5.c3 Ba5 6.d4 d6 7.d5 Nd4 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qxa5 Nc2+
10.Kd1 Nxa1 11.Bb2 b6 12.Qa3 Nf6 13.Nbd2 Ng4 14.Ke2 Nc2 15.Qb3 c6 16.Qxc2 cxd5 17.Bxd5
Rc8 18.Ba3 Qc7 19.c4 0-0 20.Ng5 Qd8 21.f4 exf4 22.Ndf3 h6 23.h3 Nf6 24.e5 hxg5 25.Nxg5 Qe7
26.Bxd6 Qd8 27.exf6 g6 28.Qxg6+ 1-0

Pawn and move: the odds giver plays Black and without an f-pawn

Evans,A - Yates,B VCC handicap Vancouver, 01.1914

1.e4 e6 2.d4 Nc6 3.Nf3 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Qe7+ 6.Be3 Bg4 7.0-0 0-0-0 8.Re1 Qd7 9.h3 Bh5
10.g4 Bg6 11.Nc3 Be7 12.Bb5 Qd6 13.Ba4 a6 14.Bb3 Bf7 15.Kg2 Nf6 16.Bg5 Nd7 17.Ba4 Bf6
18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Be3 Bg6 20.Qe2 Kb7 21.Na4 Rde8 22.Nd2 Bxd4 23.Nb3 Bb6 24.c4 Bxe3 25.fxe3
Be4+ 26.Kf1 Ref8+ 27.Qf2 Rxf2+ 28.Kxf2 Qh2+ 0-1

Pawn and two moves: the odds giver takes Black, plays without an f-pawn, and White begins with two moves.

Green,G - Stark,R VCC handicap Vancouver, 1913

1.e4 2.d4 d6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.Ng5 d5 6.exd5 Qd6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.Re1 0-0 9.Ne6 Rf7 10.Bf4
Qb4 11.Nxc7 Qxc4 12.Nxa8 Nxd5 13.Bxb8 Bxd4 14.Bg3 Bd7 15.Na3 Qc5 16.Qd2 Bxb2 17.Rab1
Bxa3 18.Rxb7 Bc6 19.Rb8+ Kg7 20.Be5+ Nf6 21.Qd8 Qd5 22.Bxf6+ exf6 23.Qh8+ Kh6 24.f3 Qd2
25.Rbb1 Rf8 26.Rbd1 Qxe1+ 27.Rxe1 Rxh8 28.Nc7 Bc5+ 29.Kh1 Bb6 30.Ne6 Re8 31.c4 Bd7
32.g4 Rxe6 33.Rc1 Bc6 34.Kg2 Re2+ 35.Kg3 Bf2+ 36.Kf4 Be3+ 0-1

Knight odds: remove White's Queen Knight

NN - NN VCC handicap Vancouver, 1914

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.0-0 Bc5 5.b4 Bxb4 6.c3 Ba5 7.Ba3 d6 8.Qb3 0-0 9.d4 exd4
10.cxd4 Nxe4 11.Rad1 Bb6 12.Qc2 Qf6 13.Qxe4 h6 14.Bd3 Qg6 15.Qe3 Qf6 16.Bb2 Bg4 17.Qe4
Qg6 18.Qf4 f5 19.Kh1 Bxf3 20.gxf3 Ne7 21.Rg1 Qf6 22.Rg2 Kh8 23.Rdg1 Rg8 24.h4 d5 25.h5 Qf7
26.Ba3 Qxh5+ 27.Rh2 Ng6 28.Qg3 f4 29.Qxg6 Qxf3+ 30.Rgg2 Qd1+ 31.Bf1 Qxf1+ 32.Rg1 Qe2
33.Rxh6+ 1-0

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Blitz (note the change of format)

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Henry Angus Building, University of British Columbia
Entry fee \$10+, depending on number of players and whether rated or not
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca, or see <https://www.facebook.com/UBCChess>

Vancouver Rapid Team Ch. 2013-14

September 2013 - April 2014
www.VancouverRapid.ca

Spring Round Robins

March 28-30, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Knightmare Hexagonals #5

March 29, Vancouver
[Details](#)

April Active

April 13, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Grand Pacific Open

April 18-21, Victoria
[Details](#)

Knightmare Quads #6

April 27, Burnaby
[Details](#)

May Active

May 10, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Keres Memorial

May 17-19, Richmond
[Details](#)

June Active

June 8, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

B.C. Senior Championship

June 20-22, Surrey
[Details](#)