

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #282

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

News from Hungary



Ashley Tapp drew her final game in the [U2400 Section](#) of the 33rd Zalakaros Open (May 23-31) for a final score of 3.0/9; she then played in the [4th Lila Futo](#) tournament (June 13-15), scoring 2.5/5 and a bye. Between events and studying she has also had the opportunity to play in simultaneous displays against chess legend Lajos Portisch and 2013 European Women's Champion Hoang Tranh Trang, and has also met members of the Hungarian Olympiad teams including Judit Polgar – quite the adventure!

[Ashley's Facebook page](#)

East Vancouver June Active (June 15)

The second event in the renewed series of active tournaments at the Vancouver Bridge Centre attracted the same number of players as last month's, ten, but this time some of the big guns turned out for the competition in the shape of Mayo Fuentebella and Butch Villavieja. Both had identical 3.5/4 scores going into the last round (draws against James Chan and organizer Luc Poitras respectively) but Butch won their individual encounter, thus winning the tournament a full point ahead of Fuentebella and Poitras in second; Len Molden took the U1800 prize.

[Standings and photos](#)

North American Youth Chess Championship (June 12-16)



Last year this continental competition divided into sections by two-year age groups and gender was held in Canada (Toronto) for the first time in its history, and unsurprisingly featured a large Canadian contingent. This year the tournament moved to Tarrytown, a village in the town of Greenburgh, about twenty-five miles north of New York City; immediately north of Tarrytown is the village of Sleepy Hollow. As last year there was a large Canadian team, perhaps because this year's WYCC is in South Africa which will be prohibitively expensive for some. There were eleven players from this province: the Doknjas brothers Neil, Joshua, and John; the siblings Robin and Rinna Yu; Kevin Low; Angelina Yang; Michael Su; Jason Cao; Tanraj Sohal; and Joanne Foote. They brought back three trophies, fifth places for Kevin Low (U10) and Jason Cao (U18), and third place for John Doknjas (U16) – congratulations to all!

[Tournament website](#)

[Team Canada Facebook page](#)

June Active (June 8) by Joe Roback

Congratulations to Uranchimeg Nyamdorj, winner of the 2014 June Active. In tail end of completing the 9th grade of high school, she takes home the \$110 first place prize and qualifies for the Active Grand Prix in December alongside her brother, Davaa. The two recently qualified and represented Team BC and helped win an unprecedented landslide victory against team Washington. The two siblings are from the town of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (Ulan Bator), which is both the largest city and the capitol of the country of around 1 million people.

Edward Tang and Tyler Stephens split the 1st/2nd place U2000 prize for \$50. Aidan Zhou earned the \$40 1st U1500 Prize. Maven Zheng and Robert Hao Split the 2nd U1500 prize (\$15 each) and Joe Roback won the clear 2nd place prize of \$60. [Standings](#)





Black to play: White has just played 1.Bg5

Fortunately there is a tactic that helps convert to an endgame with less counterplay. 1...Nxe4 forks the queen and adds another attacker on the bishop in discovery. The d-pawn cannot recapture due to the pin threatening a back-rank mate.



After the tournament there was a free lecture by Branimir Brebrich

FIDE RULE CHANGES

Every four years FIDE, the World Chess Federation, takes the opportunity to refine and make changes to the Laws of Chess. The most recent update should have taken place last year, but instead due to drafting difficulties they are instead being implemented this year, on July 1st to be precise. Since the CFC playing rules have been the same as the FIDE rules for some time, players and arbiters should familiarize themselves with the upcoming changes. Many of the alterations are minor or cosmetic and will not interest most players; below are some of the substantive changes which players should be aware of. The complete text of the new Laws of Chess can be found at the [FIDE website](#).

Promotion

4.6 *The act of promotion may be performed in various ways:*

1. *the pawn does not have to be placed on the square of arrival,*

2. removing the pawn and putting the new piece on the square of promotion may occur in any order.

Thus, the pawn does not necessarily have to be moved to the eighth rank before being exchanged for a piece. This merely legitimizes what has come to be considered an acceptable general practice.

Illegal moves

7.5b After the action taken under Article 7.5.a, for the first completed illegal move by a player the arbiter shall give two minutes extra time to his opponent; for the second completed illegal move by the same player the arbiter shall declare the game lost by this player. However, the game is drawn if the position is such that the opponent cannot checkmate the player's king by any possible series of legal moves.

The big change here is that making two illegal moves in a game will now result in a loss – previously this would only occur after three illegal moves.

Cell phones/electronics/searches

There have been several examples of actual or suspected cheating at high profile chess events in the past few years, which is the rationale for the largest change in the rules, also the rule which will be the most controversial and draconian. Previously a player would be forfeited if a cell phone in their possession made any sort of sound during play; this has now been changed to the following:

11.3b During play, a player is forbidden to have a mobile phone and/or other electronic means of communication in the playing venue. If it is evident that a player brought such a device into the playing venue, he shall lose the game. The opponent shall win.

The rules of a competition may specify a different, less severe, penalty.

Thus, theoretically cell phones and other devices are not even allowed in the playing area at all, even if turned off or inactive. One can imagine this being applied in an important national or international competition where professional players are involved, but seems unreasonable or unworkable for the average player in a weekend Swiss or club event. FIDE has acknowledged that different events would require different approaches in this regard but as yet has not provided much guidance on the issue, other than adding the final sentence quoted above. One would hope the CFC would formulate policies on how this rule is to be enforced in average competition, but for the moment players should clarify with the tournament officials of any event they play in as to how they intend to approach this rule. Some may choose to ignore it, particularly in tournaments that are non-FIDE rated, or use the less severe penalty option.

The quoted article continues with the following paragraph:

The arbiter may require the player to allow his clothes, bags or other items to be inspected, in private. The arbiter or a person authorised by the arbiter shall inspect the player and shall be of the same gender as the player. If a player refuses to cooperate with these obligations, the arbiter shall take measures in accordance with Article 12.9.

Again, it's hard to imagine such measures being used in an average event, but the possibility is now explicitly stated with the Laws of Chess.

Rapidplay Finish

Since most events now use some sort of incremental time control the previous infamous article 10.2, the possibility of claiming a draw when two minutes or less remain in a sudden-death time control, has largely disappeared from tournament practice. It is still on the books but has been moved to an appendix; however, for those events that do use a sudden-death time control, there is now a new provision which may replace the old draw claim:

G.4 If the player having the move has less than two minutes left on his clock, he may request that a time delay or cumulative time of an extra five seconds be introduced for both players, if possible. This constitutes the offer of a draw. If refused, and the arbiter agrees to the request, the clocks shall then be set with the extra time; the opponent shall be awarded two extra minutes and the game shall continue.

Thus players will be given a small increment or delay in order to reach a result through actual play over the board, rather than being left to the mercy of a potentially subjective decision by the arbiter.

Arbiter explanation

With each iteration the rules are becoming more legalistic and complex, therefore it is a relief to find that players may now explicitly consult the arbiter about the rules during play:

11.9 A player shall have the right to request from the arbiter an explanation of particular points in the Laws of Chess.

Which is not to say that questions can be asked about a particular move or position which might aid one of them players; the arbiter can be consulted about the procedure to claim a triple repetition, for example, but don't ask them to tell you whether a given move does in fact produce a triple repetition – at least not until you've made a claim to that effect.

THE FIRST CFC RATINGS LIST

Ratings in Canada have now been in use for sixty years. The first CFC ratings list was published in the March 1954 issue of *Canadian Chess Chat* with the following explanation:

"At the 1952 Annual Meeting of the Chess Federation of Canada a committee was appointed to investigate various rating systems. This committee reported to the 1953 annual meeting and recommended adoption of the system developed by Mr. K. Harkness and used by the U.S. Chess Federation. The committee's recommendations were accepted and Mr. P.G. Haley was appointed Rating Commissioner.

In the spring of 1953 Mr. Harkness provided the committee with an initial list of 200 Canadian ratings. Additional tournament results were sent in from all parts of Canada during the past year. Ratings were calculated from these tournaments until the list had expanded to nearly 400. Players in various cities were then sent local ratings for comments and revisions. The final list gradually

evolved out of a combination of mathematical analysis and local opinion. Minor differences in ratings were then eliminated by reporting ratings to the nearest 50 points. Subsequent yearly revisions of the ratings will be based on tournament results only and reported to the nearest 10 points. Players who do not compete in a rated event over a two year period will be removed from the list. Ratings result from competition in a rated tournament and depend upon the strength of the competition and the individual's performance in the event. The mechanics of the system are briefly described in *Canadian Chess Chat*, May 1953.

It is hoped that the Rating System will give each player an idea of his strength relative to other Canadian players. In addition, it should provide incentive for participation in competitions and give the average player a better idea of the relative strength of the leading players and cause him to take more interest in additional events."

Classifications

Masters	Above 2300
Experts	2100 - 2299
Class A	1900 - 2099
Class B	1700 - 1899
Class C	1500 - 1699
Class D	Below 1500

Canadian National Chess Ratings, First Edition - Spring, 1954

Anderson, Frank	2440	Saila, Tauno	2050
Yanofsky, Abe	2440	Atnikov, Frank	1950
Bohatirchuk, Feodor	2400	May, Frank	1950
Vaitonis, Paul	2400	Millar, Charlie	1950
Berner, George	2200	Panton, George	1850
Divinsky, Nathan	2200	Dumfries, C	1750
Fox, Maurice	2200	May, John	1750
Fuster, Geza	2200	Calhoun, Frank	1650
Joyner, Lionel	2200	Carlson, Axel	1650
Siemms, Ross	2200	Jacobsen	1650
Williams, J	2200	Fraser, F	1600
		Varga, Tibor	1600
Butkov, Eugene	2150	Hockin, T	1500
Jursevskis, Miervaldis	2150	Kelsey, E	1500
Taylor, Jack	2100	McCharles, John	1500
Duval, Leo	2050	Money, Bill	1500
Eberhardt, Maxime	2050	Nelson, E	1450
Pratt, Maurice	2050	Whyte	1400

The first eleven names on the list were all the Canadian players with a rating of 2200 or higher. Note the large gap between 2200 and 2400, and the fact that only four of these players were considered masters under the classification system then in use. Yanofsky and Vaitonis were already IMs, Anderson and Bohatirchuk received the title in 1954, the latter after much political manoeuvring. Despite the use of 50 point increments elsewhere, there is no explanation why Anderson and Yanofsky have ratings ending in 40. The names below the line break are all the B.C.

players on the initial list, beginning with Butkov in the number twelve spot. Most of the strong B.C. players are known quantities (e.g., for Jursevskis, Taylor, and Duval see Bulletins #109, 33, and 84 respectively), but what of Butkov, Eberhardt, and Saila? The simple answer is that they were only in the area for a few years, providing insufficient time for their reputations to grow. Ironically Eberhardt and Saila both managed to win the B.C. championship (once each), but the available evidence indicates that Butkov was considerably stronger than either of them.

Eugene Butkov was an immigrant from Yugoslavia who obtained bachelor's and master's degrees at UBC before leaving to pursue a doctoral degree at McGill in 1956 (he is currently Associate Professor of Physics at St. John's University in New York City). He started playing in Vancouver chess events in 1953, and soon earned an enviable reputation as a tournament competitor. Butkov was Vancouver Champion for three straight years, 1953-56, and won numerous other events, including club and speed chess championships. The chess column in the Vancouver Province once described him as the "perennial winner of local events" and while this statement was not literally true, it was rare for Butkov to finish out of the top three in a tournament. Despite these achievements he only played in the B.C. championship once, in 1956: he tied for third with John Kegel, behind Miervaldis Jursevskis and Frank May. Likely his end-of-term university work prevented further appearances, as the championship has traditionally been held at Easter. There are only a couple of references to Butkov playing chess after leaving B.C., including a draw with Frank Anderson in a team match; one suspects Butkov's academic career left no time for competitive chess. Below are three sample games - it appears he had a predilection for the Closed Sicilian:



Butkov, Eugene - Saila, Tauno [B23] Interclub team match, 1953

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 g6 5.d3 Bg7 6.h3 a6 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Nge2 Qc7 9.Qd2 0-0 10.f4 b5 11.0-0 Bb7 12.g4 b4 13.Nd1 Nd7 14.Ng3 Bd4 15.Bxd4 Nxd4 16.c3 Nc6 17.f5 Kg7 18.Ne3 f6 9.Nd5 Qd8 20.Nf4 Kg8 21.fxg6 Qe8 22.gxh7+ Kxh7 23.Ne6 Qg6 24.d4 Rh8 25.e5 Nd8 26.d5 Qh6 27.g5 Qh4 28.Nf5 Qh5 29.Be4 Kg8 30.Nxe7+ Kf7 31.Bg6+ Qxg6 32.Nxg6 Kxg6 33.Qd3+ Kf7 34.Nxd8+ Raxd8 35.e6+ Ke7 36.exd7 Kxd7 37.cxb4 Rdg8 38.g6 Rh5 39.Rf5 Rxg6+ 40.Kf2 Rh4 41.bxc5 dxc5 42.Qe3 Bc8 43.Rg1 Rxg1 44.Kxg1 Kd8 45.d6 1-0

Butkov, Eugene - Kegel, John [C57] Match Vancouver (5), 09.1955

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5 5.Nxf7 Bxf2+ 6.Kxf2 Nxe4+ 7.Ke3 Qe7 8.Nxh8 Qc5+ 9.Kxe4 d5+ 10.Kf3 Qf8+ 11.Ke2 Bg4+ 12.Ke1 Bxd1 13.Bxd5 Bh5 14.Nf7 Nb4 15.Bb3 Qe7 16.Rf1 Qh4+ 17.Rf2 Qxh2 18.d3 Qg1+ 19.Rf1 Qxg2 20.Nc3 e4 21.dxe4 Nxc2+ 22.Bxc2 Bxf7 23.Bb3 Bh5 24.Be3 0-0-0 25.Bc4 Qxb2 26.Rc1 Bg4 27.e5 Qb4 28.Rf4 Rd1+ 29.Rxd1 Qxc3+ 30.Kf2 Bxd1 31.Rf8+ Kd7 32.e6+ Kc6 33.e7 Bh5 34.Be2 Qe5 35.Bxh5 Qxe7 36.Bf3+ Kd7 37.Bg4+ Kc6 38.Bf3+ 1/2-1/2

**Butkov, Eugene - Neufahrt, Gerhard [B20] Vancouver ch Vancouver (10),
27.11.1955**

1.e4 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 c5 4.Ne2 Nc6 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nbc3 d6 7.0-0 0-0 8.h3 e6 9.Be3 a6 10.Qd2 Qc7
11.Bh6 Rd8 12.g4 Ne5 13.Ng3 b5 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.f4 Nc6 16.Nce2 Ra7 17.f5 Ng8 18.Nf4 Qe7
19.g5 f6 20.fxg6 hxg6 21.Nfh5+ gxh5 22.gxf6+ Nxf6 23.Qg5+ Kf8 24.Nxh5 Ne5 25.Nxf6 Qb7
26.Nh7+ Ke8 27.Rf8+ 1-0

BI-WEEKLY BAFFLER by Valer Eugen Demian



Baffler #25:

Some players like quiet, solid positions where pieces have a clear purpose and are hard to push around; others like crazy positions with pieces hanging everywhere and sacrifices dropping like thunderbolts. This one is a crazy one for sure: queen + rook (heavy guns) on each side, both kings exposed and pieces more or less under attack. Black to move must deal with a double attack on the g6-pawn and e1-rook. There is 1...Qb8-e8 at a first glance; do you see a better one?

#24 Answer:



When given the opportunity to attack the opposing King, all avenues should be explored before anything else. The first couple of checks are easy to see: 1...Qc3+ 2.Rd2 Qa1+ 3.Rd1 Now part of you is happy to see there's a perpetual possible and if you remember what your coach used to say "when finding a good move, look for an even better one," the inquiring part of you should find rather easily the simple and decisive: 3...Bxb4+ 4.axb4 Qxa7 0-1

I did not expect Qa7 to pay the price for the bad position of Ke1; did you?

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>

East Vancouver June Active

June 15, Vancouver Bridge Centre
[Details](#)

B.C. Senior Championship

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

Stan Rogers Memorial

June 21, Chilliwack
[Details](#)

July Active

July 6, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Knightmare Summer Quads

July 13, Burnaby
[Details](#)

West End Blitz

July 20, Exile Café, Vancouver
[Details](#)

Bishops of Bowser Open

August 10, Bowser
[Details](#)

August Active

August 17, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Knightmare Summer Hexagonals

August 23, Vancouver
[Details](#)