

# BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #293

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](mailto:swright2@telus.net)); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

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## HERE AND THERE

### Vancouver West Open #3 (January 24-25)

As with the previous two events in October and December there were three sections: a two-day Open for adults and stronger juniors, a two-day Junior Open, and a one-day Junior Open. Both the two-day sections consisted of six games played at the time control of one hour per player (50 minutes with a 10- second increment), the minimum necessary for regular rating; the one-day section was five games at 25 minutes with a 5-second increment.

The two-day Open attracted twenty-four players, with six rated above 2000. Most of the games went according to script for the first two rounds, then round three saw the favourites meeting on the top boards: Mayo Fuentebella beat Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj, Alfred Pechisker downed Butch Villavieja, while Alisher Sanetullaev also won against Richard Ingram. This left three players with perfect scores heading into the second day, but Mayo showed his class by defeating both of his rivals (Pechisker and Sanetullaev) in rounds four and five, finishing the tournament with a relatively short draw against Kevin Low to claim the \$600 guaranteed first prize. Apart from the loss to Mayo, Sanetullaev won the rest of his games to come clear second with 5.0/6. Davaa-Ochir, Joe Roback, Jofrel Landingin, and Kevin Low each took a share of the third prize with 4.0 points; Joe could have come clear third, but his unusual material imbalance of three minors versus two rooks against Alfred eventually petered out to a draw. Winners of the combined U1500 prizes were Matthew Ehrenreich, Ryan Leong, and Kevin Li; all three were rated in the 1100s, and all three therefore made substantial rating gains. Also making significant gains were Kevin Low, Lucian Wu, and Joseph Dobrzanski. [Standings](#)



With Ryan Leong 'graduated' to the Vancouver West Open it was Brian Zhang who stepped into his shoes, winning the eighteen-player two-day Junior Open with a perfect 6.0/6 as Ryan had done at the previous Junior Open. This pushes Brian's CFC rating over 1100, qualifying him for VWO #4. Other prize winners were Leslie Min, Dylan Fox, Kevin Butchart, and Ryne Zhu (overall), Samuel Taplin, Anna Van, and Elvin Sun (U1100), Kaitlyn Tio and Jason Qian (U1000), and Bruce Zhang (U900).



Ethan Su came clear first in the main one-day Junior Open, while other prize winners were Richard Chen, Yiwang Wang, Artin Hajhosseinlou, Veronica Guo, Jason Chen, Atrina Shadgan, Antonia Bonnis, and Severn Nie. And in the U500 one-day section, Andrew Hemstapat was the overall winner, while Pavni Santosh Labade, Kitty Wei, Ray Xu, and Carlo Robles were also prizewinners. Thanks to organizer Maxim Doroshenko and all the players – watch for the next set of events, coming up on March 7-8. [Junior Open standings](#)

### **2015 B.C. Active Championship** (January 17-18)



The participants

Held at the Vancouver Chess School with a record entry of forty-two players, this year's B.C. Active Championship had a number of surprises. With a field including a dozen players over 2000, four former B.C. Closed champions, many ambitious juniors and a relatively fast time control (game in 25 minutes with a 5 second increment) the competition was intense and the upsets began in the first round. The final perfect scores disappeared in round four, and by the end of the first day Mayo Fuentebella led with 4.5/5, closely followed by Tanraj Sohal, Joshua Doknjas, Max Gedajlovic, Davaa-Ochir Nymadorj, and Jose Kagaoan. Joshua managed to join the lead after round six but was beaten by Mayo in round seven, the latter stayed in front by a half-point ahead of Tanraj and

Brian McLaren, while John Doknjas, Kevin Low, and Alec Chung had joined the trailing group. Round eight – tragedy: four-time active champion Mayo Fuentebella misunderstood the round time and forfeited his game, allowing Tanraj Sohal to take a half-point lead over John Doknjas, Max Gedajlovic, Mayo, and Alec Chung. The first four drew with each other in the last round, while Alec won a drawn ending on time to complete the Cinderella story and join Tanraj as co-active champion with 7.0/9. Ranked twenty-second at the beginning with a 1552 rating, Chung scored only 1.0 point in his first three games but then rattled off six wins in a row. He may have had somewhat easier pairings, yet he still met four players over 2000, including a win against Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj. Sharing third and fourth with 6.5 points were Fuentebella, John Doknjas, Max Gedajlovic (undefeated), and Brian McLaren. Brian Sullivan and Matthew Ehrenreich tied for first/second U1500, while Ryan Leong, An Yu, and Jim Guo split the third U1500 prize.



Winners Tanraj Sohal and Alec Chung with BCCF President Alonso Campos

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## GREATER VANCOUVER CHESS LEAGUE, 1917-1920

The Vancouver Rapid Team Championship is currently in its third season, and many readers will remember or were involved in the Lower Mainland Team Championship 2002-2008, but competition between chess clubs in this province has existed for well over a century. Early sources are sporadic and often lacking, but the Vancouver and New Westminster clubs played a match in 1887 (see [Bulletin #279](#)), and there were many such contests in the following decades. However, based on the information we have it was not until 1917 that a formal league was established, this in Vancouver. We are fortunate that Canada's second chess periodical, the *B.C. Chess Magazine* (*Canadian Chess Magazine* in its second year) was in production around this time (1918-1920), so we have detailed information on the league, its teams and results.

The Greater Vancouver League began in December 1917 as an initiative of the British Columbia Chess Federation, which itself had only been founded in April of 1916. Many of B.C.'s strongest players had emigrated from the old country just before World War One, and the establishment of a team competition merely reflected the leagues in places such as Edinburgh or London where they had previously participated. All we know of this first season (the *B.C. Chess Magazine* did not start publication until a year later) is that the winning team was Kitsilano and the individual champion

was Bertram A. Yates, who also won the B.C. Closed that year. For the 1918-1919 a second division was added, in which there were five teams, while the first division consisted of three teams:

#### First division

Kitsilano  
North Vancouver  
Vancouver Central

#### Second division

B.C. Electric Ry. Co. "A"  
B.C. Electric Ry. Co. "B"  
North Vancouver "B"  
North Vancouver Juniors  
Vancouver "B"

For the matches, each team fielded six players. It should be noted that while there are three teams listed in the first division, only two clubs are represented – the Kitsilano and Vancouver Central teams both consisted of players from the Vancouver Chess Club. The inclusion of two industrial teams is somewhat surprising; founded in 1897, the [B.C. Electric Railway Company](#) operated the streetcar and interurban lines in southwestern B.C. until the last interurban line was closed in 1958. Apparently there were many chess players among their employees. And there was also a team consisting entirely of juniors from North Vancouver, perhaps a reflection of a lack of adults due to enlistment in the war effort (although the war ended in November 1918, the soldiers would not be demobilized until the following year).

A schedule for the competitions was published in the December 1918 issue of *B.C. Chess Magazine*: home and away fixtures for the first division, so each team played the other teams twice, but only single meetings in the second division. Matches began on 10 October, but were immediately interrupted by the arrival in Vancouver of Spanish influenza, which infected almost a third of the city's population and resulted in nine hundred fatalities. Vancouver was officially "closed" between October 18 and November 19, although many residents ended up ignoring the directives. The schedule became backlogged as matches were cancelled, but eventually the teams did meet each other and overall winners were decided, Vancouver Central in division one and Vancouver "B" in division two. A club was founded in Kerrisdale which wished to join the competition, but "although the [BCCF] Council was eager to do so, it was considered inadvisable to alter the existing schedule, which is already rather congested. It was arranged, however, that teams in the second division should each play a friendly match with Kerrisdale under the league rules, and the Council look forward to the inclusion of the Kerrisdale Club next season." [*B.C. Chess Magazine*, January 1919]

An individual championship was held at the end of the season; details are lacking, but it appears one or two players from each first division team met in a round robin, while each second division team contributed but one player to a similar competition. Mr. Butler (Vancouver Central) was the winner in the first division, Mr. Buckley (North Vancouver Juniors) in the second.

For the 1919-1920 season there were a few changes. The first division (renamed Major) remained the same, with the same three teams (Central, Kitsilano, North Vancouver), but the number of teams in the Minor division was reduced to four:

B.C. Electric Railway Co.  
Great War Veterans' Association  
North Vancouver  
Vancouver

Apparently the Kerrisdale Club did not join the league as intended, while the team from the Great War Veterans' Association club reflected the homecoming of demobilized soldiers. Since there were fewer teams, the schedule for the Minor division was changed to match that of the Major, i.e., two meetings between each team, home and away. Thus the Major division had six fixtures occurring between 17 November 1919 and 9 February 1920, while the Minor division had a total of twelve fixtures, also beginning 17 November but not ending until 9 March 1920. We have results for the league up to the end of January, contained in the January 1920 issue of the *Canadian Chess Magazine*, but unfortunately at that point the magazine ceased production. Information about the league does not appear in the *Colonist* chess column of that era, so until a painstaking reading of other contemporary newspapers can be undertaken we do not know the results of the 1919-20 season, nor whether or in what fashion the league continued in future years.

The only complete games available:

**Yates, Bertram A. - Butler, H.A [B73] GVCL Vancouver, 02.12.1918**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 d6 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 Bd7 10.f4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bc6 12.Bf3 Qc7 13.Qe1 e5 14.Be3 exf4 15.Bxf4 Rfe8 16.Rd1 Qb6+ 17.Kh1 Qxb2 18.Bxd6 Nd7 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.Rxd5 Qxa2 21.e5 b6 22.Rb5 Rac8 23.Bd5 Qxc2 24.Rxf7 Kh8 25.Rxd7 Qd3 26.Qb1 Qd2 27.Qe4 Qd1+ 28.Kh2 Rc1 29.Rb3 Rec8 30.Rd3 Qg1+ 31.Kg3 Re1 32.Qd4 Qf1 33.Rxg7 Kxg7 34.e6+ Qf6 35.Qxf6+ Kxf6 36.Rf3+ Kg5 37.Rf7 Rc3+ 38.Kf2 1-0

**Scott, T.W - Jenkins, H. Martyn [C23] GVCL Vancouver, 1919**

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.d3 Nf6 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Bg5 d6 6.Nc3 Be6 7.Nd5 Nbd7 8.0-0 c6 9.Nxf6+ Nxf6 10.Bb3 Qc7 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Nh4 d5 13.Qd2 Kh8 14.Kh1 Rg8 15.f4 dxe4 16.dxe4 Rad8 17.Qc1 Rd4 18.fxe5 Qxe5 19.Nf3 Qxe4 20.Bxe6 fxe6 21.Qh6 Qe2 22.Qxf6+ Rg7 23.Ng5 Rdd7 24.Qf3 Qe5 25.Ne4 Bb6 26.Qf8+ Rg8 27.Qf6+ Qxf6 28.Nxf6 Rd2 29.Nxg8 Kxg8 30.Rac1 e5 31.Rf5 e4 32.c3 Bf2 33.g4 e3 34.Kg2 Rxb2 35.Rd1 Bh4+ 36.Kh3 e2 37.Rd7 e1Q 38.Rdf7 Qe3+ 39.Rf3 Qh6 40.R7f5 Bg5+ 41.Kg3 Qxh2# 0-1

**Stark, R.G - Butler, H.A [D06] Individual League ch Vancouver, 1919**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nf6 3.cxd5 Qxd5 4.Nc3 Qd8 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Ne5 Bh5 7.Qa4+ c6 8.Bf4 Nfd7 9.d5 Nxe5 10.Bxe5 b5 11.Qe4 Bg6 12.Qf3 b4 13.dxc6 bxc3 14.Rd1 Qc8 15.c7 Nd7 16.Rxd7 c2 17.Rd8+ Qxd8 18.Qc6+ 1-0

## BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

My only semi-New Year's Resolution was to annotate some games for the BCCF Bulletin, which is a great publication and a living monument to the dedication of the (living) editor, Stephen Wright. Many people have contributed many interesting and serious articles, not only on tournaments and games, but also on endings and problems. These are all instructive and valuable. But they don't closely resemble the chess I play these days, which consists almost exclusively of 3-minute games on the Internet Chess Club. So I thought I would annotate one game each issue, starting in 2015.

The selection criteria for the games is pretty straightforward:

1. They are all 3-minute games.
2. I played them.
3. I won.
4. Each game is interesting and entertaining, at least to me, especially when the computer engine points out what was missed (and occasionally what was seen).

Who knows, the games may be instructive too, but chess is supposed to be fun, first and foremost.

This introduction was supposed to appear in the previous issue, but the fact that I hadn't written it might have delayed its publication.

### **Opponent (1942) - Harper,B (2088) [A10] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club**

While annotating this game, I was struck by the number of different winning ideas that emerged. Sometimes a game features a single idea, which acts as the guiding thread to help you through the complications. This game seems to be just the opposite - the concepts seem to appear almost randomly. At least they seem random to me, which probably explains why I missed so many of them.

**1.Nf3** [0:02:58] **1...g6** [0:02:56] **2.c4** [0:02:58] **2...Bg7** [0:02:54]

**3.a3** [0:02:57] A typical 3-minute idea - White plays a set pattern of development, more or less independent of whatever Black might do. White's main goal is to make a whole bunch of quick moves, without ruining his position. His secondary goal is to get a familiar type of position. While this sort of thing disgusts me when my opponents do it, it just occurred to me that it's pretty much what I try to do by playing 1.g3 and 1... g6 every game. But I'm not being hypocritical, because there's a big difference between what you do yourself, and what someone else does...

**3...d6** [0:02:54] **4.Qc2** [0:02:56] **4...Nc6** [0:02:52] **5.d3** [0:02:55] **5...e5** [0:02:51]

**6.Nbd2** [0:02:54] **6...f5** [0:02:50] **7.e3** [0:02:53] **7...Nf6** [0:02:47] **8.Be2** [0:02:53]

**8...0-0** [0:02:46] **9.0-0** [0:02:52] **9...h6** [0:02:44] **10.Re1** [0:02:51] **10...g5** [0:02:43]



Now the middle game starts. White has achieved his goal, in that he has taken less than ten second to this point, while Black has used a bit more time. But the time difference is small and isn't a big deal. As far as the position is concerned, it is easier for Black to find a plan - namely to take space on the kingside and, if allowed, mate White's king.

**11.c5?!** [0:02:41] The first sign of panic. This doesn't accomplish much.

**11...d5** [0:02:38] Black could also ignore his opponent's last move and continue with 11...g4.

**12.e4?** [0:02:40] The idea behind 11.c5?!, apparently, but a bad one.

**12...g4** [0:02:35] Not bad, but the computer finds the win, based on the fact that White's f3-knight has no good squares - 12...fxe4! 13.dxe4 g4 14.Nh4 Nd4 15.Qd1 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 Qxh4 17.Ng3 b6.

**13.Nh4** [0:02:39] **13...Nd4** [0:02:33] 13...fxe4 was still possible. **14.Qd1** [0:02:37] **14...dxe4** [0:02:25] **15.dxe4** [0:02:36]

**15...f4** [0:02:23] Black should take on e4. Now the position is equal, but there's lots more to come. Less than a minute has passed since the start of the game. **16.f3?** [0:02:29]

**16...h5?** [0:02:20] It takes the computer a zillionth of a second to see that Black gets a big advantage with 16...Nxe2+ 17.Qxe2 Nxe4! (17...Qd4+ 18.Qf2), uncovering an attack on White's wayward h4-knight. **17.Ng6** [0:02:20] **17...Re8** [0:02:16]

**18.Nb3?!** [0:02:13] 18.Bc4+ is complex, but equal. It is becoming clear that neither player really knows what he's doing. **18...Kh7** [0:02:12] **19.Nxd4** [0:02:06]

**19...Kxg6** [0:02:05] Since Black took seven seconds for this move, it's reasonable to conclude he didn't plan any of this.

**20.Nf5?!** [0:02:03] This superficially attractive move is actually a mistake, because Black can safely accept the pawn sacrifice. After 20.Nb5, it's just a game.

20...Qxd1 [0:02:03] 21.Rxd1 [0:02:03] 21...Bxf5 [0:02:02] 22.exf5+ [0:02:02] 22...Kxf5 [0:02:01]



23.Bd3+ [0:02:01] 23...Kg5 [0:01:50] 24.Bd2 [0:02:01]

24...Rad8?! [0:01:48] Now is the time for 24...e4!, which liquidates Black's backward e-pawn and, more importantly, opens the a1–h8 diagonal for his g7–bishop. 23...e4 must have been too logical for me to play. 25.Bc3 [0:02:00] 25...Nd5 [0:01:43] 26.Be4 [0:01:57]

26...c6?! [0:01:42] Black should have enough to win after 26...Nxc3! 27.bxc3 c6, and Black will pick up White's c5–pawn with ...Bf8. 27.Kf2 [0:01:53] 27...Ne3 [0:01:40]

28.Rd6!? [0:01:50] An interesting attempt at counterplay in a difficult position. 28...Bf8? [0:01:30]



An insane attempt to complicate. The simple 28...Rxd6, followed by a siege of White's d6–pawn, was winning. Instead, Black invites his opponent to mate him. Do you see how? 28...Rxd6 29.cxd6 Rd8 30.Bb4 Nc4.

**29.Rg6+?** [0:01:45] The "?" is harsh, but is probably justified by the beauty of the move White missed - 29.h4+!, which mates in eight moves (and only because Black has several spite moves that delay, but do not prevent, mate). 29.h4+! is hard to see, until the idea behind it is recognized - it lets White's idle a1-rook take part in the attack. Once you realize that, the move is obvious. 29.h4+ gxh3 30.Rg6+ Kh4 31.Rh1. **29...Kh4** [0:01:26]

**30.g3+?** [0:01:45] Missing another nice mate with 30.Be1! No real shame in that, but shame on White for playing 30.g3+? instantly - White had over a minute and a half left, and he should have used some of that time ...

**30...Kh3** [0:01:23] Now, amazingly, Black's king is safe (ish) and Black has an advantage. The game has gone more or less as Black foresaw, except for the two different mates that White missed. **31.gxf4** [0:01:39] 31.Rg5 h4 32.Rh5 Be7 33.Bxe5 (33.Rxe5 Nd1+) 33...Rd2+

**31...exf4** [0:01:11] **32.Rg1** [0:01:23] It's too late, because now Black starts creating threats.

**32...Bxc5** [0:01:06] **33.Ke2** [0:01:20]



**33...Rxe4!** [0:01:00] Yay! Black plays what is by far the strongest move in the position. Everything now becomes clear. **34.fxe4** [0:01:19] **34...f3+** [0:00:59] **35.Ke1** [0:01:11]

**35...Ng2+** [0:00:35] Yes, Black took 24 seconds and missed that both 35...Rd1+ and 35...Nc2+ mate in three moves. Your point?

**36.Kf1** [0:01:09] 36.Rxg2 just prolonged the agony.

**36...Rd1+** [0:00:33] White resigns; it's mate after 37.Be1 Rxe1.

0-1

## REVISED B.C. CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

For those interested in playing in the B.C. Closed Championship, the following regulations governing that competition were recently approved by the BCCF Executive:

1. The B.C. Championship will be an 8-player round robin.
2. The following players qualify for the Championship:
  - a. The current B.C. Champion.
  - b. 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.

Qualifying events:

B.C. Junior Championship  
Grand Pacific Open  
Paul Keres Memorial  
B.C. Open  
Langley Labour Day Open

c. 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 ten CFC regular rated games in British Columbia in the preceding twelve months not including the previous Closed.

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

3. All participants in the Championship must reside in B.C. and:
  - a. have resided in B.C. for a total of at least six months in the twelve months prior to the start of the Championship; or
  - b. have resided in B.C. for the three 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."

## 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](mailto:xramis1@yahoo.ca), or see <https://www.facebook.com/UBCChess>

### **Vancouver Rapid Team Championship**

2014-2015, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **International (Youth) Chess Jam**

February 7, Ferndale, WA  
[Details](#)

### **2015 B.C. Open**

February 7-9, Richmond  
[Details](#)

### **Knightmare February Quads**

February 15, Burnaby  
[Details](#)

### **February Active**

February 22, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **Vancouver West Open #4**

March 7-8, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **Knightmare March Quads**

March 8, Burnaby  
[Details](#)

### **March Active**

March 22, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **9<sup>th</sup> Grand Pacific Open**

April 3-6, Victoria  
[Details](#)

### **Knightmare April Quads**

April 12, Burnaby  
[Details](#)

### **April Active**

April 25, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **May Active**

May 9, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **Paul Keres Memorial**

May 16-18, Richmond  
[Details](#)

### **June Active**

June 7, Vancouver Chess School  
[Details](#)

### **B.C. Senior Championship**

June 26-28, Surrey  
[Details](#)

### **7<sup>th</sup> Bowser Builders Supply Open**

August 9, Bowser  
[Details](#)