

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #352

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions – news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to BC players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

Jolimark (HK) Open (December 23-27)



For most of us the Christmas holidays involve relaxation, meeting with family and eating, but some hardier souls prefer to spend the time practising their favourite hobby. James Chan and Aiden Zhou made the long trip to Hong Kong for the Jolimark (HK) Open, a nine-round international Swiss; the ninety-six player field included three GMs and two IMs. The overall winner was top-ranked Armenian GM Karen Grigoryan, whose 8.0/9 left him a full point ahead of GM Chongsheng Zeng (China) and IMs Haridas Pascua (Philippines) and Bo Li (China). Aiden and James finished with 6.0 and 5.5 points respectively, the former apparently winning one of the junior prizes. (Eric Jiang was also registered for the event but didn't participate.) [Standings](#)

Concio, Michael Jr – Chan, James [B23] Jolimark (HK) op Hong Kong (5.12), 25.12.2017

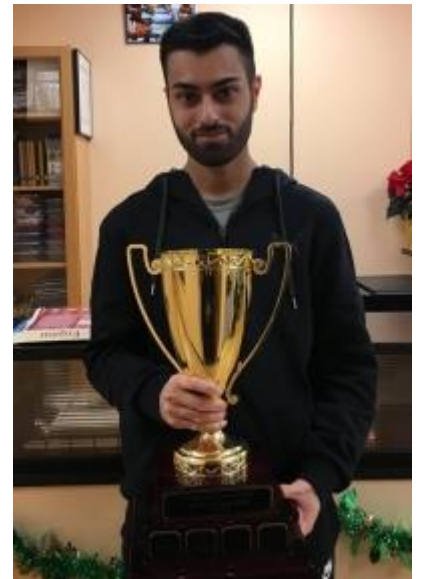
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 a6 3.g3 b5 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.Nge2 e5 6.0–0 Nf6 7.d3 Be7 8.h3 d6 9.Be3 Nc6 10.f4 Nd4 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.exd5 Rb8 13.Qd2 0–0 14.c3 Nxe2+ 15.Qxe2 f5 16.Bf2 Bf6 17.fxe5 Bxe5 18.Bxc5 Bxg3 19.Bd4 Qg5 20.Qe3 f4 21.Qe6+ Kh8 22.Qg4 Qh6 23.Qe6 Qxe6 24.dxe6 f3 25.Bh1 Rbe8 26.Bf2 Bxf2+ 27.Rxf2 Rxe6 28.Raf1 Re3 29.d4 g5 30.Kh2 h5 31.Kg3 Rf4 32.Bxf3 Rf6 33.Kg2 Rxf3 34.Rxf3 Rxf3 35.Rxf3 g4 36.hxg4 hxg4 37.Kg3 gxf3 38.b3 Kg7 0–1

Zhou, Aiden – Gurung, Mohan Kumar [E80] Jolimark (HK) op Hong Kong (7.16), 26.12.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 Nc6 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 Ne7 8.Qd2 Nd7 9.g4 f5 10.gxf5 gxf5 11.Nge2 f4 12.Bf2 Ng6 13.Rg1 Ndf8 14.Nc1 Kf7 15.Nd3 b6 16.b4 a5 17.Nb5 Bd7 18.bxa5 Rxa5 19.Nb4 Bf6 20.Nc6 Bxc6 21.dxc6 Ne6 22.Bh3 Ngf8 23.Qd5 Ke7 24.Ke2 Qa8 25.a3 Ra4 26.Be1 Qd8 27.Bb4 Ra8 28.Rad1 Ra4 29.Bf5 Ra8 30.Kd2 Bh4 31.Qxe5 Bf6 32.Qd5 Ra4 33.Ke2 Nc5 34.Bxc5 bxc5 35.Rg2 Qb8 36.Rdg1 Rxa3 37.Rg7+ Kd8 38.Qf7 Ra2+ 39.Kd3 Ra3+ 40.Kd2 Ra2+ 41.Kc1 Ra1+ 42.Kd2 Ra2+ 43.Ke1 Ra1+ 44.Ke2 Ra2+ 45.Kf1 Ra1+ 46.Kg2 Rxcg1+ 47.Kxcg1 Bxcg7 48.Qxcg7 Qb6 49.Qxh8 Ke7 50.Qg7+ Ke8 51.Bd7+ Nxd7 52.cxd7+ Kd8 53.Qf7 1-0

VCS Active Grand Prix (December 23)

Held at the new offices of the Vancouver Chess School at Jericho Shopping Centre (Alma and 4th), the field for this year's Active Grand Prix was significantly weaker than previous editions of this event. Not all the monthly winners were available, plus for various reasons there were three months in 2017 without an active tournament; the gaps were filled with guests and some of VCS's stronger students. Nevertheless half of the field was over 2000, led by FM Tanraj Sohal and IM Raymond Kaufman. Raymond had a slow start, with two draws and a loss in the first three rounds. Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj and Andrew Hemstapat were Tanraj's main challengers, but both lost to the former BC champion and had to settle for a tie for second place. Unfortunately for them there was only a \$500 winner-takes-all first prize; this deservedly went to Tanraj Sohal, who took a draw with Kaufman in the last round after winning his first five games. Tanraj thus gets his name on the Active Grand Prix trophy for the third time in four years (2014, 2016, and 2017; Alfred Pechisker won in 2015 and tied with Tanraj in 2016). [Standings](#)



Nanaimo Winter Open (December 8-10)



The third Nanaimo CFC-rated tournament in recent memory attracted twenty-two players to a new venue, the Coast Bastion Hotel. There were four players above 2000, most notably Harold Brown

who was participating in his first competitive event in more than twenty-years. However, either Harold was rusty or the opposition has gotten stronger – the won his first game but drew the rest to tie for fourth with 3.0/5. Going into the last round TD and organizer Jason Williamson was leading the field with 3.5 points, closely followed by Roger Patterson, Bennett Schnabel, and Joe Roback. In the last round Schnabel overcame Williamson and Roback defeated Patterson, leaving Schnabel and Roback tied for first place with 4.0 points each. Sharing the U1600 prize were Philip Boyle and the also undefeated William Bremner. Neither will be eligible for that prize next time, or at least not until their ratings fall below that threshold again. [Tournament website](#)



Paul Burke online

Recently I reached three hundred medals on Chess.com playing in Super Blitz tournaments. My 301st saw me improving on my 0/20 record against Gaby69, an International Super Blitz star. He was not a happy camper at the end of our game. I had just eliminated all of his pieces and had two Queens chasing down his King. I achieved mate with but ten seconds left. A half hour later I played a normal online Super Blitz game against an American. Same opening as with Gaby. Noteworthy is that I didn't have a piece existing past the centre line until the last move.

PNEPaul – NM Good_Knight_Kiss [B21] Live Chess Chess.com, 20.12.2017

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 e6 6.Bd3 a6 7.Qe2 b5 8.a3 Bb7 9.Bf4 Nge7 10.Rd1 Ng6 11.Bg3 d6 12.e5 d5 13.h4 Bc5 14.h5 Nge7 15.Rh4 Qb6 16.b4 Bd4 17.Nb1 0–0 18.Bc2 Bb2 19.Qd3 Nf5 20.Rg4 a5 21.h6 g6 22.Nh4 Kh8 23.Nxf5 exf5 24.Rh4 axb4 25.axb4 Rfe8 26.Kf1 Nxe5 27.Qb3 Nc4 28.Rxc4 dxc4 29.Qxb2+ f6 30.Rd6 1–0

TO ALL BC CHESS PLAYERS

I take great exception to the letter written by Bill Tate et. al in Bulletin #351. The authors would have you believe that Mr. Tate is a kindly old gentleman, pure as the driven snow, driven to desperate measures due to the vile and objectionable actions of his uncaring, rule breaking opponent. The actual facts of the case are that it was Mr. Tate who exhibited rude behaviour while breaking with deliberate premeditation and lack of remorse multiple rules of the Laws of Chess.

For those unfamiliar with what transpired, it seems that Mr. Tate was distracted by his opponent's behaviour. What that was specifically, I personally am unable to say as the matter was never brought to the TD's attention. An eyewitness account mentions the opponent getting up from the table frequently and while possibly a little annoying if you were having a bad day, a fairly minor transgression. That eyewitness also observed that Mr. Tate seemed pre-disposed to taking offence and treated his opponent rudely and aggressively in expressing his objections. Eventually, having reached a lost position, Mr. Tate left the tournament hall leaving his clock running without notifying his opponent, the TD, or resigning. After being notified by his opponent that it appeared he had left, I took a few minutes to ascertain that he had in fact left the playing venue and declared Mr. Tate forfeit.

Mr. Tate broke at least the following Laws of Chess:

1. He talked to his opponent in a rude and aggressive way during the game (FIDE Handbook C.5.9.6, also A.9.2.4,). The Laws of Chess do not allow you to say anything to your opponent other than offering a draw, "I resign", or "J'adoube". In practice of course, for relatively minor matters, it is common for people to say something and as long as it is said in a respectful, polite, and reasonable tone of voice and content of speech, you will not likely be called to account. Technically, however, it is illegal and if you cannot maintain this standard, you should contact the TD and he will deal with whatever the situation is.
2. He was not at his board or in the playing area when it was his move. This rule is new in the last year or two. (FIDE Handbook E.1.11.2.3.2)
3. He left the playing venue while his game was in progress. (FIDE Handbook C.5.9.3, also A.9.2.6) This is a serious offence and is something I would normally forfeit you for on the spot if I thought you had done it deliberately and with full knowledge of the rule.
4. By his actions, Mr. Tate has brought chess into disrepute. (FIDE Handbook A.9.2.11, also E.1.11.1)

What Mr. Tate should have done of course is notify the TD. As the TD was sitting less than 10 feet away, he has no excuse for not doing so.

Mr. Tate claims his opponent's infractions justify his actions. Considering that he did not feel they were significant enough to bring to the TD's attention and that by all reports they were at most worthy of a warning, that is not the case. As a means of protest, his actions and letter fall short. Instead of the TD providing a teachable moment to his opponent, all that has been learned is that grumpy old men make terrible opponents.

Roger Patterson Organizer & TD 2017 Jack Taylor Memorial

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Harper, Bruce - Opponent [A00] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

Doesn't the "Art of War" say that it is good to carry out an attack, but sublime when your enemy helps you carry out the same attack? If it doesn't say it, it should.

1.g3 [0:03:00] **1...c6** [0:03:00] **2.Bg2** [0:02:58] **2...d5** [0:03:00] **3.d3** [0:02:58] **3...Nf6** [0:03:00]
4.Nc3 [0:02:57] **4...g6** [0:02:59] **5.Bd2** [0:02:56] **5...Bg7** [0:02:59] **6.Qc1** [0:02:55] **6...0-0** [0:02:59]



Pretty standard stuff to regular readers of this column. Are there any regular readers of this column? Any readers at all? **7.Bh6** [0:02:54] **7...e5** [0:02:58] **8.h4** [0:02:51] **8...e4?!** [0:02:56]



This attempt at a counterattack in the centre gives White a clear advantage. **9.h5?!** [0:02:47] Missing Black's trick, although fortunately Black misses it as well. **9...exd3?** [0:02:53] Now things get back on track. The surprising **9...e3!** would have cut across White's plans, as **10.Bxe3** and **10.Qxe3** both fail to **10...d4**. **10.cxd3** [0:02:36] A bit lazy - **10.Bxg7** was more precise. **10...Re8?** [0:02:52] It was better to bite the bullet with **10...Nxe5**. **11.Bxg7** [0:02:34] **11...Kxg7** [0:02:52] **12.hxg6** [0:02:33] **12...fxg6** [0:02:51] **13.Qh6+** [0:02:32] **13...Kg8** [0:02:50]



14.Nf3 [0:02:26] The engine suggests the rather dull **14.d4**, but I wanted to try to continue the attack. **14...Qe7** [0:02:44] **15.Ng5** [0:02:18]



Not just to tie Black to the defence of h7 - White also dreams of capturing on d5. Dreams sometimes come true! **15...b5?! [0:02:42]** **16.0-0-0!? [0:02:04]**
 Rejecting any kind of calm, positional approach in favour of sharpening the position. **16...b4?! [0:02:41]**



This may not lose, but I have doubts about Black spending two tempi to not only get White to do what he was doing to do anyway, but to make it more effective as well. **17.Nxd5! [0:01:59]** **17...cxd5 [0:02:38]**
18.Nxh7! [0:01:53]



18...Nxh7? [0:02:25] Black had to play **18...Qxh7**
19.Bxd5+ Be6 **20.Qxh7+ Nxh7** **21.Bxa8 Bxa2** **22.Kd2!**,
 with advantage to White. **19.Bxd5+? [0:01:49]**
 Thematic, but there's another theme in the position -
 after **19.Qxg6+! Kh8** **20.Rxh7+ Qxh7** **21.Qxe8+**,
 Black's position collapses. **19...Kh8 [0:02:24]** **20.Qxg6 [0:01:39]**



Despite the loss of tempo, White is still winning. At this point, Black though for a minute and a half, and I had to refocus when he surprised me by moving, rather than letting his time run out (the classy way to resign...) **20...Be6** [0:00:55] **21.Rxh7+** [0:01:33] **21...Qxh7** [0:00:54] **22.Qxe8+** [0:01:31] **22...Qg8** [0:00:49] **23.Rh1+** [0:01:01] **23...Kg7** [0:00:48]



24.Qxe6 [0:00:58] 24.Qe7+ was objectively better, and while I thought so at the time, it also seemed that an ending four pawns up with a time advantage was the safest way to win. **24...Qxe6** [0:00:46] **25.Bxe6** [0:00:58] **25...Na6** [0:00:44] **26.Bc4** [0:00:55] **26...Nc5** [0:00:43] **27.Kd2** [0:00:53] **27...Rd8** [0:00:42] **28.f3** [0:00:47] **28...a5** [0:00:41] **29.Rh5** [0:00:45] **29...Rc8** [0:00:39] **30.g4** [0:00:38] **30...a4** [0:00:38] **31.f4** [0:00:32] **31...Nb7** [0:00:30] **32.Ba6** [0:00:26] **32...Rb8** [0:00:21] **33.Rb5** [0:00:24] **33...a3** [0:00:19] **34.bxa3** [0:00:21] **34...bxa3** [0:00:19] **35.Rxb7+** [0:00:20] **35...Rxb7** [0:00:18] **36.Bxb7** [0:00:20] **36...Kf6** [0:00:18] Black still wouldn't resign. That's okay - I like to play chess too. **37.Bd5** [0:00:19] **37...Kg6** [0:00:18] **38.Bb3** [0:00:19] **38...Kf6** [0:00:18] **39.e4** [0:00:18] **39...Ke7** [0:00:18] **40.Ke3** [0:00:18] **40...Kf6** [0:00:18]



41.d4 [0:00:18] **41...Ke7** [0:00:18] **42.f5** [0:00:17] **42...Kd6** [0:00:18] **43.Kf4** [0:00:17] **43...Ke7** [0:00:17] **44.e5** [0:00:16] **44...Ke8** [0:00:16] **45.d5** [0:00:16]

Since Black insisted, one more diagram for the road... Black resigns. **1-0**

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

"Chess ideas are often classified as 'tactical' or 'strategical.' Strategy is concerned with the creation of plans. When a player decides to give his opponent doubled pawns, it is not usually because he has calculated specific variations leading to the capture of one of the weak pawns, but because he knows from experience that sooner or later the doubled pawns will be indefensible. This sums up the difference between strategy and tactics. We can say that an idea is tactical if it is necessary to calculate specific variations to ensure its correctness, whereas it is strategical if it is based on general considerations rather than concrete calculation. With this definition, it is clear that tactics can occur at any stage of the game. Indeed, simplified endgames are especially prone to be tactical, since in such positions it is possible to calculate every worthwhile variation and hence to be absolutely certain which is the best move." -- GM John Nunn, in his book *Tactical Chess Endings* (1982).

Today's browsing starts with a position with a strong tactical component. It appeared in the endgame section of *Chess Informant 26*. I have not been able to connect the game to a specific tournament, so my guess is that it was an offhand encounter [the site is given as Tiruchirappalli in *Van Perlo's Endgame Tactics* – ed.] . Kamran Shirazi is an Iranian-born International Master who plied his trade in the United States for many years, but who now lives in France and represents that country. Evgeni Vasiukov is a veteran Russian grandmaster who won the prestigious Moscow championship six times. He was part of Mark Taimanov's entourage for the 1971 Candidates Match with Bobby Fischer.



Black has the advantage but it is not clear if he can make further progress since 1...Kh4 is met by 2.Bf6+. Vasiukov finds a tactical trick that allows his g-pawn to advance. **1...Re2+ 2.Kg3 g5!** White cannot take on g5 because his bishop is attacked by Black's rook. **3.Kf3 h2 4.Ra1**



The game in which this position arose was played in the team match between Argentina and Norway at the Buenos Aires Olympiad in 1978. The Argentinian Arlo Seidler is a National Master, while his opponent Terje Wibe is an International Master. At first glance White appears to be in some difficulties. His knight is attacked and both advanced pawns look vulnerable. If they fall, Black will take over the initiative and obtain good winning chances. But it is White's move, and he uses it to good advantage. **42.g6!** Tactics to the rescue! **42...Kf6** It turns out that the knight is immune: 42...Bxf4? loses immediately to 43.g7 followed by 44.g8Q. **43.g7 Kxg7 44.Nd5** Reaching the position White envisaged when playing his 42nd move.



White's tactical operation has led by force to a position that is obviously very difficult for Black. Despite the open board, Black's bishop is technically "bad" and can only stand guard on the d-pawn while waiting for events to unfold. Black's king is similarly tied down: for example, there is no time for ...Kg6-f5 because White will simply push his e-pawn and make a queen. While Black is moving his pieces back and forth, White's will centralise his king and prepare to attack Black's pawns. **44...Kf8 45.Kf2 Ke8 46.Ke3 Kd8 47.Ke4 Bb2 48.Ne3 Ba3 49.Kd5 Bc5 50.Nc4**



50...Kc7 51.Nd2 Kd8 52.Ne4 Ke7 53.Ng3 Kd8 54.Ne2 Ke7 55.Nc3 Bb4 56.Nd1 Bc5 57.Nb2 Kd8 58.Nc4 Arriving at the position in the last diagram. White will just have to take care that it does not come around for a third time. But he is up to the task... **58...Kc7 59.Na5! b6 60.Nc6 a5 61.Nb8 Kd8 62.Nd7 1-0**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League

Monthly until May 2018, Columbia College

[Details](#)

BC Active/Blitz Championship

January 7-8, 2018, Vancouver

[Details](#)

Victoria Open

January 12-14, 2018, Victoria

[Details](#)

Chess2Inspire Junior Championship

January 26-28, 2018, Richmond

[Details](#)

BC Open

February 10-12, 2018, Richmond

[Details](#)