

# BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #361

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](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

### European Excursions

Brian McLaren was in Europe recently and played in three different events with three different time controls. First up was the [18th Malahide Millenium](#) tournament (May 5-7), a standard event held in Dublin and incorporating the championships for the Irish province of Leinster. One hundred and twenty-eight players competed in three sections; the Senior Section was won by FM Colm Daly (who was named Leinster Senior Champion) and respected author IM Sam Collin. Brian lost to both but won the rest of his games to tie for third place. The other two tournaments were in Aix-en-Provence in Southern France, a blitz event on May 12 and a rapid event on May 13. The [Grand Blitz PACA 2018](#) was a fifteen round Swiss at a 4 + 2 time control, won by GM Christian Bauer with 13.0 points, a half point ahead of GM Etienne Bacrot; Brian scored 50% in the one hundred and eight player field. Next day was a nine round Swiss at 15 + 3, the [13ème Rapide du Pays d'Aix](#). Here GMs Romain Edouard and Jean-Marc Degraeve were first and second among the one hundred and twenty-two participants with 8.0 and 7.5 points respectively; Brian was tied for fifteenth with 6.0/9. Incidentally the French blitz and rapid championships were held in Orsay the same weekend, so perhaps there is a regional rivalry your editor is unaware of – [PACA](#) stands for the Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur league.



Leon Piasetski is also in Europe at the moment, playing in the [10th Capo d'Orso Open](#) in Porto Mannu Palau, Sardinia. After seven rounds the one hundred and twenty-six player field is topped by GMs Mihail Marin and Karen Movsziszian with 6.0 points; Leon has 4.0/7.

**Piasetski, Leon – Lochte, Thomas [A33] Capo d'Orso op 10th Porto Mannu Palau (2.12),  
03.06.2018**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e6 6.Ndb5 Bc5 7.Bf4 e5 8.Be3 Bxe3 9.Nd6+ Kf8  
10.fxe3 Ne8 11.Nce4 Nxd6 12.Nxd6 Qa5+ 13.Kf2 h5 14.a3 Rh6 15.b4 Qd8 16.c5 Qg5 17.Qb3  
Rf6+ 18.Ke1 b6 19.g3 Qg4 20.Bg2 bxc5 21.Ne4 Ba6 22.b5 Na5 23.Qc3 d5 24.Nxf6 1–0

**Washington Open** (May 26-28)

The second half of the Pacific Northwest chess doubleheader which occurs annually at the end of May (the Keres Memorial is the first half), this year's Washington Open appears to have attracted only one entrant from this province (apologies if I missed anyone else). This was Tanraj Sohal, co-winner of the Keres the previous weekend. Also in the one hundred and ninety-six player field were three grandmasters, Andrey Gorovets, Enrico Sevillano, and Julio Sadorra, and it was Gorovets who took clear first with 6.0/7. Tanraj had a delayed Swiss gambit, scoring only a half point in rounds three and four; this meant he didn't have the opportunity to face any of the GMs, but his final score of 5.5 points was sufficient to tie for second with Sevillano and fellow FM Andrey Terekhov. (For some reason the event has not yet been rated by the USCF)



Round 7: Tanraj battles Washington legend Viktors Pupols

**Chicago Open** (May 24-28)

Other BC players were in action further East on the Memorial Day weekend – the participants included Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj, Patrick Huang, Aiden Zhou, Kevin Low, and Eric Jiang in various sections. In the Open there was a three-way tie for first between GMs Alex Shimanov, Andrey Stukopin, and Awonder Liang, with Shimanov earning a small bonus for having the best tiebreak. Among those sharing fourth was Canadian Anton Kovalyov. Of the BC players, Davaa tied for sixth in the U2300 Section with 5.0/7, while Eric Jiang achieved the same score in the U1500 to tie for fifth. Additionally there was a blitz tournament in two sections; Aiden Zhou shared the second U2100 prize. [Tournament website](#); [USCF crosstables](#)

## Fischer-Taimanov Thematic (May 27)



Now in its third year, this event was originally held to commemorate the forty-fifth anniversary of the Fischer-Taimanov Candidates' Match which took place in the Student Union Building at UBC in 1971. The format of the previous two editions was a match between two teams representing the two sides in the original contest, with the stipulation that players were restricted to using the same limited set of openings that occurred in the six games between Fischer and Taimanov. This year the turnout was insufficient to sustain a team event, so the format was changed to a straight blitz tournament, a double round robin. This was in acknowledgement of Fischer as the (unofficial) world blitz champion in 1970 while also paying homage to the recently demised Evgeny Vasiukov, a Soviet blitz champion who was a second to Taimanov in 1971 and was also an invited opponent for Fischer when the latter visited Moscow in 1958.

Vancouver, 27 May 2018	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 <b>Hemstapat, Andrew</b>	*	1	1½	2	1	2	2	2	<b>11.5</b>
2 <b>Hui, Jeremy</b>	1	*	2	1	2	1	2	2	<b>11.0</b>
3 <b>Leong, Ryan</b>	½	0	*	1	2	2	1½	1½	<b>8.5</b>
4 <b>Scoones, Dan</b>	0	1	1	*	2	1½	1	1	<b>7.5</b>
5 <b>Balba, Richard</b>	1	0	0	0	*	1	1	2	<b>5.0</b>
6 <b>Erichsen, Dan</b>	0	1	0	½	1	*	½	2	<b>5.0</b>
7 <b>Wang, Lee</b>	0	0	½	1	1	1½	*	1	<b>5.0</b>
8 <b>Zlotnik, Ilya</b>	0	0	½	1	0	0	1	*	<b>2.5</b>

Despite being restricted to potentially unfamiliar openings (Open Sicilian with 2...Nc6 or the King's Indian/Grünfeld Defence) and the vagaries of analog clocks it was the young guns who dominated the competition. BC Junior co-champion Andrew Hemstapat took the top spot with 11.5/14, just ahead of Jeremy Hui (who was also playing in junior events a couple of years ago). Third at a respectable distance was junior Ryan Leong with 8.5 points, while veteran Dan Scoones was the



only other player with a plus score. Thanks to those who participated, and special thanks to organizers Konstantin Pyryaev (Chigorin Chess Club) and Jeremy Hui (UBC Chess Club). [photos](#)  
[videos](#)

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## CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE REDUX (May 20-21) by Xichi Zheng



(photo by Victoria Jung-Doknjas)

Memorial University in picturesque St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, was the setting for the 30<sup>th</sup> edition of the Canadian Chess Challenge. Teams of junior chess players, one for each grade (1-12), from all ten provinces competed in nine rounds on May 20 and 21, 2018 to decide the provincial bragging rights for the following year, and to crown the national champions for each grade.

Team BC entered the competition as underdogs against teams from Ontario and Quebec. The majority of our players had CMA ratings more than 100 points lower than their central Canadian opponents, and six BC team members participated in the national chess challenge for the first time. In the mind of the team's volunteer captain Xichi Zheng, Team BC took our players' unknown status as a secret weapon as it made it more difficult for Ontario and Quebec to prepare for BC. This strategy almost paid off! After hard-fought battles, Team BC achieved the best result against Ontario (4.5-7.5) since 2011, and was one win shy of tying Quebec (5.0-7.0) and threatening to snatch second place from them. Team BC's match versus Team Quebec was especially exciting. Luka Spasojevic (grade 6), Victor Zheng (grade 8), and Brian Yang (grade 10) defeated their higher-rated Quebec opponents, with Victor overcoming a 740-point rating deficit to score the biggest upset of the tournament. In the end, Team BC settled for their usual third place overall, but served notice to Ontario and Quebec that we will be a force to reckon with when the Canadian Chess Challenge comes to Vancouver in 2019.

Team BC's valiant effort was also reflected in some of the best individual results in recent years, taking home three golds - Jayden Qu (grade 1), Ethan Song (grade 3) and Joshua Doknjas (grade 10), two silvers - Neil Doknjas (grade 7) and Brian Yang (grade 9), and three bronzes - BiaoBiao Guo (grade 2), Luka Spasojevic (grade 6) and William Bremner (grade 11). Victor Zheng (grade 8) tied for third place, and received a fourth place plaque after losing in a tiebreak game.

Player scores grades 1-12: Jayden Qu 9.0 points (first), BiaoBiao Boyong Guo 6.0 (third), Ethan Song 8.0 (first), Eric Jiang 6.0 (fourth), Eugene Liang 4.5 (sixth), Luka Spasojevic 6.5 (third), Neil Doknjas 8.0 (second), Victor Zheng 7.0 (third), Brian Yang 7.0 (second), Joshua Doknjas 7.5 (first), William Bremner 7.5 (second), James Li 5.5 (fourth).

Congratulations to Team BC. Let's make history in Vancouver next year!

[It should also be noted that John and Joshua Doknjas won the adjunct Bughouse Championship at the Nationals.]

### [BC at the National Chess Challenge](#)

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## BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

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

In today's game, Black played to his (higher) rating and achieving a winning position, only to be boggled by an unexpected, and desperate, king walk. **1.g3** [3:00] **1...Nf6** [3:00] **2.Bg2** [3:00] **2...d5** [2:58] **3.d3** [2:59] **3...c6** [2:57] **4.Nc3** [2:57] **4...e5** [2:53] **5.Nf3** [2:54] For variety. I usually play 5.e4. **5...Bd6** [2:52] **6.e4** [2:53] **6...d4** [2:50] Now that White's f-pawn is blocked, this advance makes sense. **7.Ne2** [2:52] **7...0-0** [2:49] **8.0-0** [2:50] **8...c5** [2:48] **9.Nd2** [2:50] **9...Nc6** [2:46]



**10.h3** [2:49] This might be a little slow, but White didn't want Black's knight coming into g4 and e3 after 10.f4. **10...Bc7** [2:40] **11.f4** [2:48] **11...exf4** [2:39] **12.gxf4** [2:47] **12...Re8** [2:37] **13.a4** [2:44] **13...Rb8** [2:35] **14.Ng3** [2:40] **14...a6** [2:27] Black's queenside pawn advance is starting, and White's kingside attack is embryonic. Both are slow, but at least Black's avenue of attack is clear. **15.Kh1** [2:31] **15...b5** [2:19] **16.axb5** [2:31] **16...axb5** [2:15]



**17.Nf3** [2:30] I think at some point White really has to play e4-e5. As Fischer told us, you have to give squares to get squares. White can't hope to make progress without compromising his position in some way. **17...Bb7** [2:03] **18.Rg1** [2:26] **18...Kh8** [2:00] **19.Qf1?!** [2:23] 19.e5! would give White a serious initiative. **19...Nb4** [1:55] **20.Qf2** [2:21] **20...c4** [1:53] **21.Ne1** [2:01] 21.e5! again was strong, because now Black's f6-knight has to retreat to g8, as after 21...Nd5 22.dxc4 bxc4, White takes Black's d4-pawn.. **21...cxd3** [1:49] **22.cxd3** [1:59] **22...Bb6** [1:42] **23.Bf3** [1:49] **23...Ra8** [1:28] **24.Rb1?!** [1:41] White should exchange on a8, but I overlooked that after 24.Rxa8 Qxa8 25.Bd2, Black's b4-knight has to retreat, as White's e1-knight covers c2. **24...Ra2** [1:18] **25.Bd1?** [1:38]



Bad moves come in pairs. 25.Bd1?, with the commendable idea of 26.Bb3, is an outright blunder that leads to the immediate collapse of White's position.. **25...Nxd3!** [1:10] **26.Nxd3** [1:30] **26...Nxe4** [1:09] **27.Nxe4** [1:23] **27...Bxe4+** [1:07] **28.Kh2** [1:18] **28...Bxd3** [1:05]



White now has a tactic, but it's not good enough. **29.Qg3** [1:15] **29...Bg6** [1:00] **30.f5** [1:11] **30...Bc7** [0:52] A hard move to resist, but the engine prefers 30...d3! **31.Bf4** [1:11] **31...Bxf4** [0:41] **32.Qxf4** [1:10] **32...Qf6?!** [0:35]





Curiously, this is a mistake that lets White back in the game. 32...Ra6! 33.fxc6 Rf6! was right. **33.Bg4?** [1:00] Terrible. The obvious 33.Rf1! would win Black's bishop, although the position is objectively about equal. **33...h5!** [0:30] **34.Rbe1** [0:51] **34...Rxe1** [0:27] **35.Rxe1** [0:51] **35...Rxb2+** [0:26]



Now White is completely lost. His only chance is to lure Black into over-extending by embarking on a very dangerous king walk. Black was down to about 25 seconds. **36.Kg3!** [0:50] It's fun giving an exclamation mark to a move that leads into mate - for the wrong side. **36...h4+** [0:24] **37.Kf3** [0:48] **37...Qc6+** [0:21] **38.Qe4** [0:46] **38...Qc3+** [0:20] **39.Kf4** [0:40]



Do you see it? **39...Qg3+?** [0:17] Black didn't. 39...Rf2+ was deadly. **40.Kg5** [0:38] The only legal move, but also the realization of the "plan" started with 36.Kg3!. Black should now calmly retreat with 40...Bh7, but it isn't so easy being calm with 10 seconds remaining on your clock. **40...Qd6?** [0:11] **41.fxg6** [0:31] **41...Qf6+** [0:09] **42.Kh5** [0:28]



White is now mating by force. For those who like studies, notice how important it is that Black's b5-pawn prevents 42...Rb5+, which would checkmate White. **42...fxg6+ [0:07] 43.Qxg6 [0:27] Black resigns. 1-0**

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### **RODERICK ALFRED PILKINGTON** (24 November 1907 – 7 November 1978)

From *Canadian Chess Chat*, February 1954:

Second Vice-President of the British Columbia Chess Federation and ardent and native member of the Vancouver Chess Club is R.A. Pilkington, M.A., L.L.B., of 4278 West Twelfth Avenue, Vancouver B.C. He writes:

“I was born in Vancouver a few years ago, and learned chess in 1922 out of a sixpenny booklet while on a visit to England. I competed in the 1924 British Boys' Chess Championship and managed to win a second prize in the preliminaries and a first in the consolation playoffs.



Returning to Vancouver in 1924, I joined the Vancouver Chess Club in that year. Incidentally, en voyage, aboard the S.S. Melita, I played a series of games with the Reverend W.R. Adams, later Bishop of Cariboo and now prominent in the Vernon Chess Club. The final score was 9 to 8, but I forget who was leading.

At the University of British Columbia, I revived the chess club, which had suffered one of its periodic eclipses, and held the university championship for four years. We used to have good matches with the Vancouver Chess Club. After leaving varsity in 1931, I played practically no chess for nineteen years, although during the war I had the odd game in Europe and the West Indies. In 1950, I joined the embryonic Point Grey Chess Club and later the Vancouver Chess Club as well. At present I occupy the exalted position of second vice-president of the BC Chess Federation, and find that the practice tends to interfere with the serious business of chess. Have climbed the Province problem ladder five times, so far.”

The above was published in 1954; Pilkington subsequently served as BCCF President for the period 1954-1957. In complete contrast, at the same time Pilkington was also President of the BC Mountaineering Club, and made first ascents of Middle Finger, Mount Lou, Consolation Dome, Obelisk Peak, Penelapin Peak, and Ipsoot Mountain. Mount Pilkington in the Southern Chilcotin is



named after him. We can also add that he was an officer in the Irish Fusiliers (Vancouver Regiment), and during the Second World War taught mountaineering to troops in the rockies.

**Warner, Ted – Pilkington, R.A. [D85] BC - WA m Washington, 15.08.1954**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 c5 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Bxd7+ Nxd7 10.0-0 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Qb3 Qb6 13.Rb1 Qxb3 14.Rxb3 Nb6 15.Ba3 Rfe8 16.Bc5 e6 17.Bxb6 axb6 18.Rxb6 Rxa2 19.Rxb7 Re2 20.d5 Rxe4 21.d6 Bf6 22.g3 Ra4 23.Rc1 Ra1 24.Rxa1 Bxa1 25.Ng5 Rf8 26.Rb1 Be5 27.Rd1 Rd8 28.d7 Bf6 29.Ne4 Be7 30.Kg2 ½-½

**Reshevsky, Samuel Herman – Pilkington, R.A. [B74] Simul Vancouver, 08.02.1954**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nb3 g6 7.Be2 Bg7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Be6 10.f4 Qc8 11.h3 Rd8 12.Bf3 Nd7 13.Rb1 a6 14.Nd5 Bxd5 15.exd5 Na7 16.Qe2 Re8 17.c4 Nc5 18.Nxc5 dxc5 19.Bg4 Qc7 20.f5 Nc8 21.fxg6 fxg6 22.Be6+ Kh8 23.Rf7 Nd6 24.Rxg7 Kxg7 25.Bf4 Rf8 26.Be5+ Rf6 27.Rf1 Raf8 28.Qg4 Qd8 29.h4 h5 30.Qg3 Kh7 31.Rxf6 Rxf6 32.Bxf6 exf6 33.Qf4 f5 34.Kh2 Qf6 35.Kh3 Qd4 36.Qxd4 cxd4 37.c5 d3 38.cxd6 d2 39.d7 d1Q 40.d8Q Qg4+ 41.Kh2 Qf4+ 42.Kg1 Qc1+ ½-½

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Vancouver Active**

June 9, Vancouver Bridge Centre  
[Details](#)

**BC Senior Championship**

June 22-24, Surrey  
[Details](#)

**Knightmare Quads**

July 8, Burnaby  
[Details](#)

**Vancouver Active**

July 21, Vancouver Bridge Centre  
[Details](#)

**Semiahmoo Open**

August 4-6, White Rock  
[Details](#)

**Bowser Builders Open**

August 12, Bowser  
[Details](#)