

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #393

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

Lions Chess Club

A reminder that the Saturday evening blitz events are continuing, for further information or details see the [Lions facebook page](#) or [The Vancouverites club](#) on chess.com.

Washington Senior Championship (April 18-19)

Continuing with its series of OTB events now transferred to an online environment, the Washington Chess Federation ran the [Washington Senior Championship](#) on the weekend of April 18-19. Restricted to players aged fifty years or older, the tournament accepted non-US entries but despite this there were just eight entrants – perhaps seniors are not as enamoured of online chess as younger players. The time control was the standard slow 90 + 30 with five rounds scheduled, but come the Saturday morning the chess.com server was acting up so the first round was scrapped – not a great loss with only eight players. Mary Kuhner was ranked third in the event but beat both her higher-rated competitors to take first place with 3.5/4, a half point ahead of Harry Bell in second. Despite being ranked seventh Don Hack scored 50% to tie for fourth place and win the U1400 prize (yes, there were class prizes even in a field of eight).

Hack, Don – Seshadri, Sridhar [D78] WA sen chess.com (3), 19.04.2020

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nc3 c6 6.Nf3 0–0 7.0–0 dxc4 8.a4 Nbd7 9.Qc2 a5 10.Rd1 Nb6 11.e3 Nbd5 12.Ne5 e6 13.Nxc4 Nb4 14.Qe2 Qc7 15.Na2 Nxa2 16.Rxa2 Nd5 17.Bd2 Nb4 18.Bxb4 axb4 19.a5 e5 20.Nb6 Rb8 21.d5 cxd5 22.Nxd5 Qd8 23.Nxb4 Qe8 24.Nd5 Qe6 25.b4 e4 26.Rad2 Qe5 27.Nb6 Be6 28.Nd7 Bxd7 29.Rxd7 Qc3 30.Qb5 Qc2 31.Qd5 Qc3 32.Qxe4 Bf6 33.Rxb7 Rbd8 34.Rbd7 Rxd7 35.Rxd7 Qe1+ 36.Bf1 Bc3 37.Rb7 Qc1 38.Qc4 Qb2 39.a6 Be1 40.Qe2 Qa1 41.b5 Ra8 42.Qf3 Qa2 43.Rxf7 Qxf7 44.Qxa8+ Kg7 45.Qg2 Qc7 46.Qc6 Qf7 47.f4 Qa2 48.Qg2 Qb3 49.Qe2 Ba5 50.a7 Bb6 51.a8Q Bxe3+ 52.Kg2 Kh6 53.Qf8# 1–0

CFC e-zine

In case you have forgotten, the CFC produces an electronic magazine; its production schedule has been, er, rather erratic for the past few years but there is now a new issue available at the [CFC website](#). The featured tournaments are the Canadian Zonal, CYCC, and Canadian Open from 2017, but there are a couple of games annotated by John Doknjas. Free for everyone.

Chess cheats by Don Hack

Several recent experiences recently focused my attention about chess cheats.

- I (and 831 of my friends) played in the 2019 North American Open in December. Throughout *every* round, there was a person staffed outside of the closest bathrooms checking for cheaters.
 - First day, they asked if we had an electronic device.
 - Second day they asked us to show our pockets were empty.
 - The remaining days they had passed a detector over us (not sure if metal or radio frequency) checking for electronics.

The staff declined to answer my question if violations were common.

- On March 15th there was a front-page article in [The New York Times](#) about the rampant cheating in chess, relative to, say, Major League Baseball.
- Whereas, I do not play *that* much online, just two days ago I received a notice that one of my opponents were caught cheating and my rating was given a bit of a boost (which I already given to someone else.) I get a similar notice every month or two.

In in-person tournaments, I tend to lose most of my games, so either people are cheating against me all the time or don't need to; I am not sure which. 😊

I am curious how the readership of this Bulletin views cheating at in-person BC tournament chess.

1. Do you believe that cheating is a problem and affects tournament play?
2. Do you believe that our tournament directors are taking *reasonable* precautions against cheating?
3. Would you pay a larger entry fee to support stronger anti-cheating measures?

I'd love to believe we play chess competitive, but mostly to have fun. For me, to win by chicanery would remove all fun and joy.

If you have thoughts and/or opinions, please pass them along to the editor, Stephen Wright.

2020 INTERMAT (April 25)

The Intermat, the scholastic team match between BC and Washington, has been an annual fixture in the junior calendar since 1991. This year it was BC's turn to host the match, but the restrictions on group size and travel imposed by the COVID-19 outbreak put a halt to any physical meeting. Fortuitously in this time of crisis the Washington Chess Federation has switched over to online tournaments in a big way, running many of their major events via the facilities of chess.com. TD Jacob Mayer had previously been involved with the Seattle Sluggers team in the PRO (Professional Rapid Online) Chess League and has transferred this experience to events with longer time controls such as the Harmon Memorial and the Washington Senior Championship. It was quickly determined that the Intermat could be held the same way; in fact, Washington's Intermat qualifying event was also held online in March. Players signed a fair-play agreement and were also monitored during the games via Zoom conference software.

Washington had not won the match since 2015 (a hat-trick of BC victories plus a tie last year in Seattle) but this year the determined Washington team decisively defeated BC by a seven-point margin. Traditionally Washington has scored heavily in the lower grades in these matches,

whereas BC tends to do better in the upper grades. The match is thus determined by which team can do better in their respective area of strength, or improve in their area of weakness. This year the match was largely decided in the first round. Playing black, the BC upper grades (9-12) achieved a modest 5.0-3.0 victory, but this was more than offset by Washington's middle (5-8) and lower (K-4) grades, who won 5.5-2.5 and 8.5-1.5(!) respectively to give Washington an almost insurmountable 17.0-9.0 lead after the first game. Especially notable were grades K-2 where BC did not score any points.



In the second round the BC team playing white managed to slowly pull ahead to a four-point margin but had to win all four remaining games to tie the accumulated scores. This turned out to be too tall an order; Washington won the next game to officially win the match after three hour's play. BC went on to lose two more games to gain victory in the second round by the absolute minimum of 13.5-12.5 but the combined scores from both rounds were 29.5-22.5 in Washington's favour. In terms of individual results, Washington players who won both their games were Dann Merriman (K), Vidip Kona (1), Vihaan Jammalamadaka (2), Alexander Yang (3), Erin Bian (4), Advait Vijayakumar (7), and Daniel Stein (11); in addition Neeraj Harish (4), Brandon Jiang (7), and Sophie Szeto (8) achieved plus scores. On the BC side Andrew Hemstapat (10) and Ryan Leong (12) had perfect scores, while Ethan Su and Nathan Wu (both grade 6), Sherry Tian (9), and Callum Lehingrat (12) had plus scores. Overall Washington won seven of the mini-matches by grade (all in the lower and middle grades), BC won four (middle and upper grades) and there were two ties (grades 5 and 11).

Thanks are due to team captains Josh Sinanan and Chouchanik Airapetian (Washington) and Michael Lo and Eric Gu (BC) and to all the players and parents for participating under difficult circumstances and contributing to the continuation of this long-standing tradition. Special thanks to Jacob Mayer for handling the technical aspects of the match; there were a couple of disconnection issues early on but otherwise the fifty-two games ran smoothly. After twenty-nine years the overall match score is 14-13 in Washington's favour with two ties; this means that next year's thirtieth anniversary Interamat will be particularly significant, in whatever form it takes. [Intermat page](#) [WCF Facebook page](#) [Earlier results](#)

Jiang, Brandon – Jiang, Kate [C54] Intermat 29th chess.com (1.15), 25.04.2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.Nbd2 0–0 7.Bb3 d5 8.Qe2 Re8 9.Nf1 h6 10.h3 Be6 11.g4 Nh7 12.Ng3 a6 13.Nf5 d4 14.h4 Qd7 15.Rg1 Kh8 16.Bc2 h5 17.Ng5 g6 18.Nxh7 Kxh7 19.gxh5 gxf5 20.exf5 Bxf5 21.Qd2 Qe6 22.Bb3 Qf6 23.Bxf7 Bf8 24.Bxe8 Rxe8 25.Qg5 Qe6 26.Kd1 Bh6 27.Qxh6+ Qxh6 28.Bxh6 Kxh6 29.Kc2 e4 30.dxe4 Rxe4 31.Kb3 d3 32.a4 Na5+ 33.Ka3 Rxh4 34.b3 Rf4 35.Rae1 Rxf2 36.Re8 c5 37.Rh8+ Bh7 38.Rg6+ Kxh5 39.Rg7 Rf6 40.Rhxh7+ Rh6 41.Rxh6+ Kxh6 42.Rg3 c4 43.bxc4 Nxc4+ 44.Kb3 Na5+ 45.Kb4 Nc6+ 46.Kc5 Ne5 47.Kb6 d2 48.Rg1 Nd7+ 49.Kxb7 Nc5+ 50.Ka7 Nxa4 51.Rd1 Nxc3 52.Rxd2 a5 53.Rc2 Nd5 54.Ra2 Nb4 55.Ra4 Kg6 56.Kb6 Nd5+ 57.Kxa5 Kf6 58.Ra1 Ne3 59.Kb5 Nc2 60.Rd1 Ne3 61.Rd3 Nc2 62.Kc4 Ne1 63.Rd2 Kf5 64.Rf2+ Kg4 65.Kc3 Nf3 66.Kd3 Ne5+ 67.Ke4 Kg3 68.Rf6 Nc4 69.Rf3+ Kg4 70.Rc3 Nd6+ 71.Ke5 Nf7+ 72.Kf6 Nd6 73.Ke5 Nf7+ 74.Ke6 Ng5+ 75.Ke5 Nf7+ ½–½

Szeto, Sophie – Wu, Lucian [C54] Intermat 29th chess.com (1.18), 25.04.2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0–0 6.Nbd2 a6 7.Bb3 d6 8.h3 Be6 9.Nf1 Bxb3 10.Qxb3 d5 11.exd5 Qxd5 12.Qxd5 Nxd5 13.Ng3 Rad8 14.0–0 Rd7 15.Re1 f6 16.Rd1 Rfd8 17.Ne1 Bb6 18.Bd2 a5 19.a4 Nb8 20.Nf5 Kf7 21.g3 Na6 22.Ne3 Nc5 23.Nc4 h5 24.h4 c6 25.Rdb1 Nb3 26.Ra3 Nxd2 27.Nxd2 Bc5 28.Raa1 Ne7 29.Ne4 Bb6 30.Kg2 Nd5 31.Rd1 Nc7 32.Ra3 Ne6 33.b4 axb4 34.cxb4 Ba7 35.Nf3 Ke7 36.Rb3 f5 37.Neg5 Nxe5 38.hxe5 e4 39.Ne1 Rd4 40.Rd2 Kf7 41.f3 Kg6 42.f4 h4 43.Kh3 hxe3 44.Kxe3 Bb8 45.Ng2 exd3 46.Kf3 Kf7 47.Ke3 Re4+ 48.Kf3 Ke7 49.a5 Red4 50.Ke3 Re4+ 51.Kf3 Red4 52.Ke3 Ba7 53.Kf3 g6 54.Nh4 Kf7 55.Ng2 R8d5 56.Ne3 Rd7 57.Rc3 Bb8 58.Ng2 Ke6 59.Rb3 R7d5 60.Rc3 Rxb4 61.Rcxd3 Rxa5 62.Re2+ Re4 63.Rxe4+ fxe4+ 64.Kxe4 Ra4+ 65.Kf3 b5 66.Rc3 Kd7 67.Kg4 b4 68.Rd3+ Ke6 69.Nh4 Ra3 70.Rd1 b3 71.Nxe6 Ra4 72.Nf8+ Ke7 73.Ng6+ Kf7 74.Kf5 Ra5+ 75.Ne5+ Bxe5 76.fxe5 b2 77.g6+ Ke7 78.g7 Ra8 79.Rb1 Rb8 80.Rxb2 Rxb2 81.g8Q Rf2+ 82.Ke4 Re2+ 83.Kd4 Rd2+ 84.Kc3 Rh2 85.Qg5+ Ke6 86.Qf6+ Kd5 87.Qd6+ Ke4 88.Qxc6+ Kf5 89.Qf3+ 1–0

Shubin, Daniel – Huang, Patrick [B06] Intermat 29th chess.com (1.19), 25.04.2020

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.f4 d6 4.Nf3 a6 5.Bd3 Nd7 6.0–0 Ngf6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Be4 N5b6 9.b3 d5 10.Bd3 c5 11.Be3 Qc7 12.Nbd2 cxd4 13.Bxd4 Nc5 14.Rc1 Bd7 15.Be2 Ne6 16.Be3 d4 17.Nxd4 Qc3 18.Nf5 gxf5 19.Bxb6 Bh6 20.Nc4 Nxf4 21.Bf3 Bc6 22.Bxc6+ bxc6 23.Rf3 Qb4 24.a4 Ne2+ 25.Qxe2 Bxc1 26.e6 f6 27.Rxf5 0–0 28.Qd1 Bh6 29.Rf3 Bd2 30.Rd3 Rab8 31.Qg4+ Kh8 32.Qd4 Bh6 33.Kf1 Bg7 34.Rh3 h6 35.Qe3 Kh7 36.Qe4+ f5 37.Qxc6 Rfc8 38.Qd5 Rxc4 39.Qxf5+ Kg8 40.Qf7+ Kh8 41.bxc4 Rf8 42.Rxh6+ Bxh6 43.Bd4+ Bg7 44.Bxg7+ 1–0

Leong, Ryan – Zhang, Derek [A21] Intermat 29th chess.com (2.25), 25.04.2020

1.Nf3 d6 2.c4 e5 3.d3 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.g3 Be7 6.Bg2 0–0 7.0–0 c6 8.Rb1 a5 9.b3 Qe8 10.Bb2 Qh5 11.e3 f4 12.exf4 exf4 13.Ne2 g5 14.gxf4 g4 15.Ng3 Qg6 16.f5 Qg7 17.Nd4 Na6 18.Re1 Nc5 19.a3 Qf7 20.b4 axb4 21.axb4 Na4 22.Ba1 h5 23.Qd2 Kh7 24.Ne6 Bxe6 25.Rxe6 Rg8 26.Nxh5 1–0

EACH PIECE TELLS A STORY by Nathan Divinsky

The White Queen Rook Pawn

The white queen rook pawn was the smallest of the white pawns. He seemed very young and I had a desire to embrace him, to give him a big fatherly hug. He was slightly plump but it looked more

like baby fat than anything else. His costume was very Spanish, full of banners and insignia that gave an impression of latticework. There was a picture of Ruy Lopez dangling from his scabbard and I noticed a small Cuban flag next to a small but exquisite cameo of Capablanca. He stood as erect as possible, gave me an exaggerated sweeping bow and asked me if I understood Spanish. I regretfully shook my head and he smiled at me. I was relieved when I heard English come out of his mouth. "Dr. D.," he said in a voice that broke between soprano and bass, "you have often defended the black side of the Ruy Lopez against grandmaster Yanofsky and you know the impact and force of a well-timed a2-a4 by White. But you may not be aware that the same motif can occur in a queen pawn opening. I would like to tell you of a game where this took place. It was in the 13th round of the famous tournament at New York, March 1927:

Capablanca, José Raúl - Spielmann, Rudolf [D38] Queen's Gambit Declined

José Raúl Capablanca was at the height of his power. He won this great tournament two and a half points ahead of Alekhine, and he won the first brilliancy prize with this very game. **1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Nd7 4.Nc3 Ngf6 5.Bg5 Bb4** This is too ambitious. However, in round one of this same tournament, Spielmann obtained a very good game with this line, against Capablanca. **6.cxd5 exd5 7.Qa4!** In the first round game Capablanca played 7.Qb3 but after 7...c5! Black stood very well. **7...Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.e3 c5 10.Bd3 c4**



White must now make a fundamental decision. He can try to gain something on the king side with 11.Bb1, 12.Qc2, 13.Ne5, or he can try to obtain pressure on the queen side. Capablanca, with his almost magical insight and feeling for position, decides to seek queen side pressure, and to rely on my sharp sword. **11.Bc2! Qe7 12.0-0 a6 13.Rfe1 Qe6** If 13...b5 14.Qa5 Bb7 15.Qc7 Rab8 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Qg3+. **14.Nd2 b5 15.Qa5** White now has two major threats. The first one, e3-e4, is standard and not quite as strong as it looks. The second, the subtle one, is a2-a4! Black's natural move is 15...Bb7 but this does not prevent e3-e4 for ever. Instead, Black attempts to stop e3-e4 permanently, thinking that he can parry a2-a4 on the fly. **15...Ne4 16.Nxe4 dxe4**



17.a4 Qd5 Black expected that by attacking the queen bishop he would gain time to consolidate his queen side. Thus if 18.Bf4 Bb7 19.axb5 axb5 and everything is protected. But my threat is more serious than a mere bishop, and the great Capablanca appreciated me.

18.axb5! Qxg5 19.Bxe4 Rb8 If 19...Ra7 20.b6! Qxa5 21.bxa7! Qxa1 22.Rxa1 Nb6 23.Rb1 wins. **20.bxa6 Rb5 21.Qc7 Nb6 22.a7 Bh3 23.Reb1 Rxb1+ 24.Rxb1 f5** Hoping for 25.Qxb6 fxe4 26.g3 Qf5 27.f4 exf3 en passant; or 25.Rxb6 fxe4 26.Qg3 Qa5 27.Rb1 Be6 when Black wins – this was pointed out by Yates. **25.Bf3 f4 26.exf4 1-0**



After 26...Rxf4 27.Rxb6 Rxf3 28.Rb8+ Rf8 29.Rxf8+ Kxf8 30.a8Q+ and mates." This was a real gem and I applauded vigorously. The queen rook pawn was very pleased. He became so enthusiastic that he gave me a big hug before he ran back to the ranks.

HENRY LE GALLOIS ROY (7 May 1875 - 20 September 1953)

This week marks one hundred and forty-five years since the birth of "The Old Lion" Canon Henry L. Roy, cleric, chess organizer, and President Emeritus of the C.F.C. He is largely forgotten now, but when Yanofsky wrote his *100 Years of Chess in Canada* in 1967 he regarded Roy as one of the four most important organizers of the previous thirty years (the others being Bernard Freedman, Dan MacAdam, and John Prentice).

Roy's father was the Reverend [Josiah Jesse Roy](#), later minister of St. George's Church, Winnipeg, a descendent of the Abraham Martin upon whose land the Battle of the Plains of Abraham took place. Henry Roy graduated from the University of Manitoba with a silver medal in 1894, then studied at Wycliffe College in Toronto for five years. He was Assistant Rector at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver (1901-1905) and Rural Dean of Turtle Mountain (Manitoba, 1908-1913) before serving as Assistant General Missioner for the Diocese of Rupert's Land. In 1928 Roy was named an Honorary Canon at the Pro-Cathedral of St. Matthew in Brandon, Manitoba. According

to Yanofsky, Roy did not get involved in chess organization until 1936, when he was already sixty-one years old. Describing himself as a “run of the mine” player, Roy noted: “By learning chess, you have a spare-time filler until you're ready for the grave. You might be an athlete, but you're a has been at thirty – in chess there is no limit.” Early in 1947 Roy moved to Vancouver where he became involved with the B.C.C.F.; he passed away after returning from his last Annual Meeting in Winnipeg 1953, having just completed his final term as C.F.C. president.

At the end of his life, “at our request and under pressure,” Roy wrote a summation of his accomplishments in chess, duly published in the January 1952 issue of *Canadian Chess Chat*. Here it is:

“Born May 7, 1875, about thirty miles south of Montreal, of French parents, was unable to speak a word of English until eleven years old. Learned the moves of chess from my stepmother, who had bought a set to keep me out of mischief. Never had any particular hobby, but played almost every outdoor game in vogue at the end of the last century. Received a university degree at nineteen years of age, with medal and scholarship. Never aspired to become a chess expert (a-la-B.F. classification) but did try my hand, with indifferent success, at organizing chess in local, provincial and national fields. Acted as president, for eight years, of the Winnipeg Chess Club [1936-1944], six years of the Manitoba Chess Association [1938-1945], two years secretary of the Winnipeg Jewish C.C. and two years the British Columbia Chess Federation [1948-1950]. President Chess Federation of Canada five years [1941-1945, 1952-1953]. And am now acting as membership secretary of the B.C.C.F. in looking after and boosting the “capitation system,” the best method that I know of for obtaining sufficient funds to run any kind of chess organization. We have in B.C.C.F. a revenue each year, from this source alone, of approximately \$100.00, which meets all our current needs with some to spare!



Collaborated in framing the constitution of the C.F.C. and am the father (a doubtful honour) of the slogan: “No participation or representation without taxation in the affairs of the C.F.C.” Framed the general policy of the C.F.C. as set forth and endorsed in the one and only Year Book issued to date by the C.F.C. Framed the pattern and staging of yearly Annual Meetings in 1941, since followed and subsequently improved by my successors. Organized a dominion chess championship in Winnipeg [1941] and raised funds to promote dominion championships in Montreal, Dalhousie, Saskatoon and Vancouver; in the latter, 10% of the total. Raised sufficient funds to send Yanofsky to Montreal, Saskatoon, Buenos Aires and Europe (approximately \$2,000).

Made my aim during the years of my C.F.C. presidency to attend all Annual Meetings and to personally know every member of the Board of Governors. Promoted telegraphic matches: Winnipeg vs. Vancouver twice, while in Winnipeg. Although we lost both to Vancouver, we did manage to “short-circuit” Toronto. Also telegraph matches between Canadian universities, when Winnipeg, among others, lost to the University of Saskatchewan. Organized matches: Nova Scotia vs. New Brunswick, New Brunswick vs. Ontario and Saskatchewan vs. Ontario, for a shield which I presented. Also a correspondence match, of sixty a side, between Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Arranged for chess lectures in Canada via the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and later on in

each province, except P.E.I., over provincial stations. Issued bulletins from time to time, and minutes of meetings, sent out promptly.”



University of Manitoba vs. University of Saskatchewan by telegraph, 30 December 1942. The seated players are Nathan Divinsky and Leo Moser; Canon Roy is on the right, next to him is *Winnipeg Free Press* chess columnist Herb Gregory

“Made arrangements and financed two simultaneous tours by Yanofsky, and one each by Koltanowski and Max Euwe. As a member of the Board of Governors made it my special responsibility that C.F.C. assessments for the provinces in which I resided at the time were paid in full, and sometimes overpaid. Assisted, through personal donations, provinces in which I did not reside (Alberta and Saskatchewan), to meet their C.F.C. assessments. As I plugged along in my endeavours, became the target for brick-bats, but have survived, and am still working and boosting for provincial and, more especially, national chess organization.”

No games of Canon Roy's have survived, but there is a reference to him playing in a team match between the Burrard Chess Club (apparently soon thereafter renamed the Vancouver Chess Club) and the St. Barnabas Chess Club of New Westminster. The Burrard team included Arthur C. Brydone-Jack, William and Edmund Francis and H.H. Narraway, prominent members of the city's chess community at the time. The Burrards won the match 7.0-5.0; Roy split a pair of games with a Mr. J.M. Burnett.



Respectfully submitted,
Henry R. Roy.
Secretary The B.C.C.F.

Roy's signature, from the B.C.C.F. Minute Book

UPCOMING EVENTS

BC Senior Championship

June 12-14, Victoria

[Details](#)

Vernon Open

July 3-5, Vernon

[Details](#)