BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #416

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

Online adventures

Brothers Peter Yong Qiu and Andrew Yu Qiu from Surrey were participants in various of the events which constituted the Thornhill Chess Club Grand Prix. They both qualified for the <u>Grand Prix</u> <u>Finals</u>, held on October 11 as a five-player round robin. The overall winner was Sebastien Azar who scored 3.0/4; Peter tied for second with Andrew Colvin a half-point back, while Andrew finished with 1.5 points.

Extension - Internet Rated Games and COVID-19 Rating Incentive

From the CFC Forum:

The CFC is extending to January 1st, 2022 the interim policy to accept internet events for Quick (Active). The COVID-19 rating incentive will also be extended until January 1st, 2022. Players who play a minimum of ten CFC rated games between October 1st, 2020 and January 1st, 2022 and who attain a Quick rating that is 200 points higher than their Regular rating will have their Regular rating increased by 200 points. The minimum time control for qualifying events is 25 minutes per player including increments. The total time is calculated based on a sixty-move game. For example, 15 minutes per player plus a 10 second increment is 25 minutes per player.

The COVID-19 rating incentive can only be earned once in a player's lifetime where pre-bonus rating exceeds 1200. Players with ratings under 1200 are eligible for up to four 200-point bonuses in their lifetime up to a maximum rating of 1400. Only paid-up CFC members are eligible for this incentive.

Players, TDs or organizers may forward applications to the CFC by e-mail. Otherwise, a review will be conducted and bonus points added at the end of the incentive period.

Salmon Arm Chess Club

For anyone in the vicinity of Salmon Arm there is a new place to play chess:

Club: Salmon Arm Chess Club

Venue: Okanagan College, Student Lounge Day & Time: Every Wednesday at 6 pm Contact: Craig Bacon (250) 803-8495

2021 BC CHAMPIONSHIP (October 8-11) by Paul Leblanc **FM John Doknjas new Provincial Champion**

After a one-year COVID induced hiatus, the most important event on the BC chess calendar, the BC Championship, resumed at the Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria on the Thanksgiving Weekend. FM John Doknjas clinched the title with a hard-fought draw against NCM Neil Doknjas in the last round. It turned out to be John's first-round victory over second-place finisher NM Jason Kenney that was the crucial game allowing him to edge out Jason by half a point overall.

The event was hosted by Victoria Chess (Roger Patterson and Paul Leblanc) with assistance from Stephen Wright. The arbiter duties were handled by Paul Leblanc and Elliot Raymer.

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	Doknjas, John	2299	*	1	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	5.5
2	Kenney, Jason	2255	0	*	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	+	5.0
3	Doknjas, Neil	2218	1/2	0	*	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	4.5
4	MacKinnon, Keith	2268	1/2	1/2	0	*	1	1/2	1/2	+	4.0
5	Huang, Patrick	2247	0	1/2	1/2	0	*	1	1	1	4.0
6	Patterson, Roger	2085	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0	*	1	+	3.5
7	Morgan, Scott	2068	0	0	0	1/2	0	0	*	1	1.5
8	McLaren, Brian	2142	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	*	0.0

Average rating 2198



Left to right: J. Doknjas, Patterson, N. Doknjas, Kenney, Leblanc, McLaren, Raymer, MacKinnon, Morgan, Huang (photo by Dave Doknjas)

[Inaugurated in 1916, the BC Championship has been held continuously with two exceptions: there was no event in 1932, presumably a result of the Great Depression, and the 2020 edition was cancelled because of the pandemic. The fact that the 2021 Championship could be held at all, the first major over-the-board event since the 2020 BC Open, was cause for optimism, but since most of the usual qualifying tournaments were cancelled the normal qualification process had to be modified. The ratings list was relied upon much more than usual, and players were allowed to count CFC-rated online games toward the ten-game activity requirement.

For various reasons a number of our top-ranked players chose not to take part, and this year's event included only three participants from the previous 2019 tournament. Notably since 2013 the championship has been won by just three players (Tanraj Sohal, Jason Cao and Grigorii Morozov), and none of them were available this time round. Making their debuts were Keith MacKinnon and Patrick Huang, although for Scott Morgan it might have felt like a debut – his previous appearance was in 1981.

Progressive scores	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Doknjas, John	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	5.0	5.5
2 Kenney	0.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
3 Doknjas, Neil	0.5	1.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.5
4 Huang	0.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0
5 MacKinnon	1.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	4.0
6 Patterson	0.5	0.5	1.5	2.0	3.0	3.5	3.5
7 Morgan	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
8 McLaren	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

John Doknjas was the highest-rated player in the field and led the tournament from beginning to end, a deserved winner. His younger brother Neil was his closest competitor for much of the event, but a loss to Jason Kenney allowed the chasing pack to catch up – there was a four-way tie for second after round five. Keith MacKinnon lost a winning position to Neil in the second round and failed to convert other favourable positions which left him out of the prizes. Fully six of the players scored 50% or better, unfortunately at the expense of the other two competitors.]

Tournament website Previous winners



Neil and John Doknjas (photo by Dave Doknjas)

Doknjas, John - Kenney, Jason [A35] BC ch Victoria (1.2), 08.10.2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nf3 g6 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Qb3 Nxc3 9.Bc4 Nd5 10.Bxd5 e6 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 Qd5 14.0–0 Bd6 15.Rfc1 Rb8 16.Qxd5 cxd5 17.Rc6 Be7 18.Bf4 Ra8 19.Rac1 Bd7 20.Rc7 g5 21.Bg3 Bd8 22.Rb7 Bb6 23.Bd6 Rc8 24.Rxc8+ Bxc8 25.Re7+ Kd8 26.Rg7 g4 27.Rxg4 Kd7 28.Bb4 Kc6 29.Rg7 e5 30.dxe5 fxe5 31.Nxe5+ Kb5 32.Bc3 Re8 33.Nf3 Re2 34.Bd4 Kc4 35.Bxb6 1–0

Doknjas, Neil – Kenney, Jason [B12] BC ch Victoria (5.4), 10.10.2021

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.c4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 dxc4 7.Nxc6 Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 bxc6 9.Bxc4 Bf5 10.Be3 e6 11.Nc3 Bb4 12.Rc1 Ne7 13.a3 Ba5 14.Na4 Bc7 15.f4 g5 16.g3 h5 17.Nc5 h4 18.Ke2 0–0–0 19.Kf3 g4+ 20.Ke2 Bb6 21.Bf2 hxg3 22.hxg3 Rh3 23.Bd3 Rxd3 24.Rxh3 gxh3 25.Nxd3

Bxd3+ 26.Kxd3 Bxf2 27.Ke2 Bxg3 28.Kf3 Nf5 29.Rxc6+ Kb7 30.Rc1 Nd4+ 31.Kg4 Bxf4 32.Rf1 Bxe5 33.Rxf7+ Kb6 34.Kxh3 Nf5 35.b3 Bb2 36.a4 a5 37.Rf8 Kc5 38.Kg4 Nd4 39.Rh8 Bc3 40.Kf4 Bb4 41.Re8 Kd5 42.Rd8+ Bd6+ 43.Ke3 Nxb3 44.Rh8 Bb4 45.Rd8+ Ke5 46.Rd1 Nc5 47.Ra1 Kd5 48.Kf4 e5+ 49.Ke3 e4 50.Ke2 Kc4 51.Ke3 Bd2+ 52.Ke2 e3 53.Kd1 Kd3 54.Ra3+ Bc3 55.Ra2 Nxa4 56.Rh2 Nb2+ 57.Kc1 Nc4 58.Kd1 Bd2 0-1

Doknjas, Neil - Doknjas, John [C44] BC ch Victoria (7.3), 11.10.2021

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 Nf6 4.d4 Nxe4 5.d5 Nb8 6.Qe2 Nf6 7.Qxe5+ Qe7 8.Bc4 Qxe5+ 9.Nxe5 d6 10.Nf3 Be7 11.Na3 a6 12.Bf4 0-0 13.h3 Nbd7 14.0-0-0 Re8 15.Rhe1 Nf8 16.Bg5 Bd7 17.Bb3 h6 18.Be3 Ng6 19.Nc4 a5 20.Bc2 Bf8 21.Bxg6 fxg6 22.Bf4 Rxe1 23.Nxe1 g5 24.Bh2 Bb5 25.Ne3 Re8 26.N1c2 Ne4 27.Bg1 Be7 28.f3 Ng3 29.c4 Bd7 30.Nd4 Bf6 31.Nec2 Ne2+ 32.Nxe2 Rxe2 ½-½



Round four, Galiano Room, Hotel Grand Pacific

B.C. CHAMPIONS

So who have been the most successful B.C. champions, at least in terms of the most provincial titles won? The following lists all the players who have won the championship three or more times. (In this case we have included those who were co-champions, even if a tiebreak mechanism was originally used).

Three-time winners:

William J. Barker (1924, 1926, 1928) Dragoljub Milicevic (1997, 2000, 2001) Tanraj S. Sohal (2013, 2017, 2018) Jason Cao (2014-16) Grigorii Morozov (2017-2019)

Five-time winners:

Jack M. Taylor (1929, 1930, 1938, 1945, 1953) Bruce Harper (1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980) Gordon Taylor (1977, 1979, 1981-83) Gary Basanta (1989, 1991-93, 1998) Jack Yoos (2003-2005, 2009, 2010)

Four-time winners:

Bertram A. Yates (1917, 1918, 1921, 1940) Charles F. Millar (1931, 1933, 1934, 1937) Leo M. Duval (1941-43, 1946) Peter Biyiasas (1968, 1969, 1971, 1972) Jonathan Berry (1994, 2000, 2006, 2008)

Six-time winners:



Miervaldis Jursevskis (1949, 1950, 1954-57)



Elod Macskasy (1958-62, 1967)

Seven-time winner:



John M. Ewing (1916, 1919-23, 1936)

The full <u>list</u>.

BC CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES

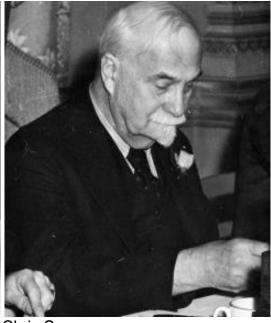
There have been a total of five trophies which have served as emblems of chess supremacy in this province. The current trophy has been in use since 1956, and the individual plaques on it only go back to 1944. But the first BC Championship was in 1916, so what trophies were used before the current one? The first trophy was the Bowser Shield, which was awarded at the initial competition in 1916. The Premier at the time was William John Bowser (1867-1933), so presumably he paid for

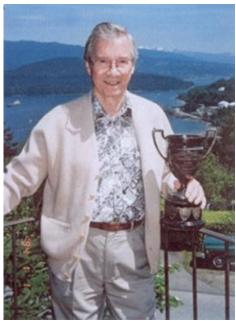
the trophy or it was named in his honour. The winner also received a small gold medal. By 1923 Ewing had won the championship six times and in recognition the Shield was presented to him on a permanent basis, although the exact circumstances as described in a report on the 1924 competition seem a little murky:

The winner, Mr. Barker, gains a gold medal to commemorate his victory in the 1924 tournament, and also has the custody of the Bowser Shield for one year, after which it will be returned to Mr. J.M. Ewing of North Vancouver. Mr. Ewing's series of wins in past years entitles him to keep the trophy permanently, though it had, according to the conditions of its gift, to be played for once again after being permanently won by him last year. [Daily Colonist, 22 April 1924]

To provide a permanent replacement for the Bowser Shield, in 1925 Ewing donated the Ewing Cup, won that year by Max Enke. Despite the previous arrangement with Ewing, it was common practice at the time that if a player won a championship three years in a row, they were given permanent possession of the trophy. This feat was accomplished by Charles Millar in 1934, and he offered the Millar Cup in exchange. The Millar Cup was permanently won by Leo Duval in 1943, and its replacement was undertaken by Chris Spencer (1868-1953, President of David Spencer Ltd., which operated a chain of department stores on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland until they were sold to the Eaton Company in 1948). Miervaldis Jursevskis was given the Chris Spencer Cup in 1956, at which point the present trophy came into use; the plaques from the Chris Spencer Cup (i.e., 1944-1956) were copied onto it, which is why the current trophy is younger than the earliest events it commemorates.







Ewing Cup

Chris Spencer

Jursevskis with Chris Spencer Cup

In 1957 the new piece of hardware was referred to as the Ed Percy Trophy, Edmund Percy (1902-1987) being a Vancouver jeweller. Presumably he donated or was otherwise responsible for the trophy, although any other connection to chess remains hidden. The next potential permanent winner of the trophy was Dr. Macskasy in 1960, but by then the policy had been discontinued, as noted in the Minutes of a BCCF Council meeting on 30 May 1956:

Mr. Prentice drew attention to the fact that the BCCF was now short of trophies due to three players having gained permanent possession of their trophies. His offer to furnish one of the trophies was accepted with thanks. Mr. McCharles moved that: "In future, trophies be made perpetual, and miniatures given to winners each year, to keep." Duly seconded and carried.

The Ed Percy trophy has remained in use ever since, although around 1994 a bottom tier was added to the base because there was insufficient room for new plaques on the original base. The Chris Spencer Cup remains in the possession of the Jursevskis family, the Ewing Cup now resides in Calgary with one of Charles Millar's granddaughters, but the fate of the other previous trophies is unknown.





Ed Percy Trophy

Jack Taylor's 1929 gold medal.

FOR MY BROTHER AND MY SON AND MY DAUGHTER and whomever else is interested A story by Mike Bateman

I stood on the corner waiting for the lights to change. Waiting for the lights as if there was nothing else in the world, and the traffic going passed. A small crowd has gathered and still the cars came flashing past. I found myself wondering about those people around me as though they were looking from my eyes. A pretty girl in a red dress, a tall lanky man who was going somewhere. Two old ladies chatting, and another slightly smaller man in a grey suit. All waiting for the light to change.

I found myself wondering, where is the girl going. She didn't look like she was in a hurry. Then I caught her eye and we both looked away strangely embarrassed, as though we had done some thing wrong. I found myself beginning to wonder where she was going, perhaps the café across the street. The tall man I thought was going to the café also, perhaps to get some thing to eat. The two old ladies were busy chatting and not paying attention to anything about anything at all. Now the shorter man in the grey suit seemed lonely somehow. Looking nowhere and at nothing, perhaps he was on an errand. Then again perhaps not.

The lights changed, and I found myself crossing the street. I too was going to the café, watching

myself as if I was somehow in someone else's body. The tall man and I entered the café at the same time, the young girl also at the same time. The man in the grey suit and the two old ladies had other places to go and disappeared down the long street. Two gentlemen were already seated at a small table near the back of the café, busy playing a game of chess and drinking coffee. I could see the game was in progress and the moves were thus far. 1.e4 e5 2.d4 f6!? I give this move a !? only because it was once played against grandmaster Bobby Fischer in a simultaneous exhibition, which he lost. I have yet to find it, although I remember that it was a master who played it. 3.dxe5 fxe5? Now that was definitely not the right move. 4.Qh5+ Ke7. The alternate move here is 4...g6. Although this gives up the rook in the corner after the queen takes on e5. 5.Qxe5+ Kf7 6.Bc4+ Kg6?? {This move is wrong. Here Black should play 6...d5! Only because of 7.Bxd5 and the king is free to go to 7...Kg6. This however is bad because of 8.Qg3! and the king cannot play 8...Kf6 because of Bg5+ and the king must lose his queen to the fork. So all that's left is 8...Kh5 and then 9.h3 Qf6 10.e5 Qg6 11.Bf3 Bg4 12.hxg4#.} The game is over. The only move for the black king is to resign when the white queen goes to 7.Qf5, although the player with the black pieces looked as though he was looking for a way out.

Very soon, they began putting the pieces back in place, and it looked as they were going to start another game. I had gotten my coffee and sat down across from the players to watch. What if they had played the normal [1.e4 e5 2.d4] 2...exd4? Then there might have been the following moves. 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Nf6! 5.0–0! Nxe4!? 6.Re1! d5 7.Bxd5! Qxd5 8.Nc3!



8...Qd6 9.Nxe4 Qq6? 10.Nf6+!! Kd8 11.Re8#

The man behind the bar was also watching the games. The young girl in the red dress was busy drinking her coffee and swallowing a bit of her pastry. The tall man was just finishing his drink and was getting ready to leave. The player of the white pieces looked over at me, just for a moment and in that moment, we changed, and I was the player of the white pieces. Then I looked at the barkeep and once again I was someone else. For a moment I was the girl in the red dress, paying no heed to what was going on. Then I was the player of the black pieces, wondering what I could do to change to outcome.

What if, and I went over the moves in my head and the play had gone 1.e4 e5 2.d4! exd4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Bb4+ 5.c3 dxc3 6.bxc3



6...Be7? 7.Qd5! Nh6 8.Bxh6 0-0 9.Be3 d6 10.h4 Be6 11.Qd3 Bxc4 12.Qxc4 Ne5 13.Qe2 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Qd7 15.Nd2 Bf6 16.Bd4 Bxd4 17.cxd4 Qa4 18.Nb3 Rae8 19.0-0 f5 20.exf5 Qc6 21.d5 Qb5 22.Nd4 Qb4 23.Ne6! Rf6 24.g4 c6 25.dxc6 bxc6 26.Rae1 d5 27.Rb1 Qd6 28.Rfe1 d4 29.Rb7 Re7 30.Rxe7 Qxe7 31.Qxc6 Rxf5 32.Qc8+ Rf8 33.Qxf8+ Qxf8 34.Nxf8 Kxf8 35.Rd1 and White wins (1-0).

What if the moves were different, say the bishop only moved to 6...Bc5 then possible would be 7.Bxf7+! Kxf7 8.Qd5+ Ke8 9.Qxc5 Qe7 10.Qc4 Nf6 11.0-0 Nxe4 12.Re1! d5 13.Qxd5 Qf7 14.Rxe4+ Kf8 15.Ba3+ Ne7 16.Qd8+ Qe8 17.Rf4+ Bf5 18.Rxf5+ and mate (1-0).

What if the moves were 6...Ba5 7.Qb3 Qe7 8.0–0 Nf6 9.Ba3 d6 10.e5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Qxe5 12.Bxf7+ Kf8 13.Bb2 Bb6 14.Nd2 Qe2 15.Nc4 Kxf7!? 16.Nxd6+! Ke7 17.Nxc8+ Raxc8 18.Ba3+ Ke8 19.Qa4+ c6 20.Qf4 Bc7 21.Qf5 Rd8 22.Rfe1! Bxh2+ 23.Kxh2 Ng4+ 24.Qxg4 Rd2 25.Rxe2+ Rxe2 26.Qxe2+ Kd8 27.Qe7+ Kc8 28.Bd6 and White won (1-0).

And yet another theme comes to mind. 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Bg4 4.dxe5 Bxf3 5.Qxf3 dxe5 6.Bc4 Qe7 7.Qb3 c6 8.Nc3 Nf6 9.Bg5 b5



10.Nxb5 cxb5 11.Bxb5+ Nbd7 12.0-0-0 Rd8 13.Rxd7 Rxd7 14.Rd1 Qe6 15.Bxd7+ Nxd7 16.Qb8+ Nxb8 17.Rd8# The tall man was gone, and I was about to leave. This game was Morphy's, one that I still remember because of the beautiful mate.

Let me see if I can recall a few of my games, mostly 15 minutes and 10 seconds increment. Here is one from a while back.

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.0-0! Nxe4!? 6.Re1 d5 7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3! Qd7 9.Nxe4 Be7 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bxf6 0-0 12.Bxe7 Nxe7 13.Neg5 c5 14.Qd3 Ng6 15.Re6 Qd5 16.Re5 Rxf3 17.Rxd5 Rxd3 18.Rd8+ Nf8 19.cxd3 b6 20.Re1 Bb7 21.Ree8 1-0 (gallow vs AlvaroColombia, Chess.com)

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 h6 5.0–0 Bc5 6.c3 dxc3 7.Bxf7+ Kxf7 8.Qd5+ Ke8 9.Qxc5 cxb2 10.Bxb2 Nf6 11.e5 d6 12.exd6 Qxd6 13.Re1+ Ne7 14.Qc4 Bf5 15.Nc3 a6 16.Rad1 Qc6 17.Qb3 Bg4 18.Ne5 Be6 19.Nxc6 Bxb3 20.Rxe7+ Kf8 21.axb3 bxc6 22.Rxc7 Rb8 23.Na4 Rxb3 24.Bxf6! gxf6 25.Rd8# (gallow vs kingbyheart, Chess.com)

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.0–0 d6 6.Nxd4 Ne5 7.Bb3 Be7 8.f4 Nc6 9.Nc3 0–0 10.Qd3 Nb4 11.Qg3 c5 12.Nf3 Nh5 13.Qf2 a5 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Rad1 Qc8 16.a3 b5 17.axb4 axb4 18.Nd5 Re8 19.c4 Bc6 20.e5 Bxd5 21.Rxd5 Qa6 22.exd6 Bxd6 23.Rxh5 bxc4 24.Bc2 g6 25.Rh3 Qc6 26.Ne5 Qb5 27.Qh4 h5 28.Qg5 Be7 29.Qg3 Bf6 30.Bxg6 Bxe5 31.fxe5 Black resigns 1-0 (gallow vs oexjij, Chess.com)

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Bb4+ 5.c3 dxc3 6.bxc3 Be7? 7.Qd5! Nh6 8.Bxh6 0-0 9.Be3 d6 10.Qd2 Bg4 11.Be2 Bf6 12.0-0 Re8 13.Qc2 Qe7 14.Nbd2 Bh5 15.Rae1 Bg6 16.Bd3 Ne5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.f4 Bf6 19.Bd4 h6 20.e5 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 dxe5 22.Bxe5 Bxe5 23.fxe5 Rad8 24.Qe3 b6 25.Nf3 a5 26.Nd4 Qc5 27.Kh1 Rd5 28.Qf4 Re7 29.Nf5 Rexe5 30.Rxe5 Rxe5 31.Nd4 f6 32.Qg3 Rg5 33.Qd3 Qd5 34.Qc2 c5 35.Nf3 Rf5 36.Qe2 b5 37.Qxb5 Qxa2 38.Qe8+ Kh7 39.Qe4 g6? 40.Re1 h5 41.Qe7+ Kh6 42.Qf8+ Kh7 43.Re7+ and Black resigns. 1-0 (gallow vs vbrebric, Chess.com)

UPCOMING EVENTS

See also the listings at the CFC and Northwest chess websites

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 13-14 Details

Banff Open

November 12-14 Details

BC-WA Match

January 14-16, 2022 Details

Richmond Open

January 14-16, 2022 Details