

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #112

Your editor welcomes welcome any and all submissions - news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to B.C. players. Many thanks to all those who contributed to this issue.

To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net) or sign up via the BCCF webpage (www.chess.bc.ca); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

[Back issues of the Bulletin are available on the above webpage.]

RECENT EVENTS

January Active Tournament

This sixteen-player event was won by Dan Scoones and Louie Jiang with 5.0/6 - further details at <http://wcjc.blogspot.com/2007/01/vancouver-active.html>

Canadian Junior

IM Leonid Gerzhoy won the Canadian Junior in Toronto with a perfect 6.0/6. Last year's champion, Bindi Cheng of Burnaby, chose not to defend his title; in fact, there was no one in the twelve-player field from further west than Kitchener, Ontario.

Crosstable: <http://www.chess.ca/xtable.asp?TNum=200701057>

Paul Keres Memorial

No, it isn't May already. Vancouver hosts an annual memorial tournament to the great Estonian grandmaster because Vancouver 1975 was Keres' last event, but his memory is also kept alive in other areas of the world, especially Estonia. This year's Keres Memorial Festival, held at the Paul Keres Chess House in Tallinn last week, consisted of three round robins, each of ten players. The respective winners were GM Georgy Timoshenko (Ukraine), GM Meelis Kanep (Estonia), and IM Maka Purtseladze (Georgia); the third round robin, designed to give players the opportunity to obtain WGM norms, also included sometime B.C. resident WFM Valeriya Gansvind. Valeriya tied for sixth with 4.0/9, lower than her rating would predict, but she did have the satisfaction of beating the highest-rated player in her section, GM Igor Shvyrjov.

Tournament website, including results, games and photos:

<http://www.maleliit.ee/turniirid/arhiiv/2007/keres/index.php?act=30&lang=eng>

**Skinke, Katrina - Gansvind, Valeria [B42] Keres Mem WGM Tallinn EST (3),
07.01.2007**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.c4 d6 8.Nc3 Be7
9.Be3 b6 10.f4 h5 11.h3 Bb7 12.Qe2 Nbd7 13.Nb3 h4 14.Qf2 Nh5 15.Rad1 Ng3
16.Rfe1 Nc5 17.Nxc5 bxc5 18.f5 0-0 19.Qf4 Qc6 20.Rd2 Rfe8 21.Bc2 Qc8
22.Bf2 Qd8 23.Rdd1 Qb6 24.b3 Qa5 25.Na4 exf5 26.exf5 Bc6 27.Bxg3 hxg3
28.Qxg3 Bxa4 29.bxa4 Bf6 30.Rf1 Re2 31.Qd3 Rae8 32.Bb3 Bd4+ 33.Kh2 R8e3
34.Qb1 Qc7 35.Rde1 d5+ 36.Kh1 Qg3 37.Rxe2 Rxe2 0-1

**Shvyryjov, Igor - Gansvind, Valeria [A51] Keres Mem WGM Tallinn EST (8),
11.01.2007**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.Nc3 exd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Qd2 Bc5 6.e3 0-0 7.Nge2 Re8 8.Ng3
h5 9.h3 h4 10.Nge2 d6 11.a3 a5 12.b3 Bf5 13.Bb2 Nh5 14.Nd5 Ne5 15.Nd4 Be4
16.0-0-0 c6 17.Nc3 Bg6 18.Na4 Ba7 19.Nf3 Qf6 20.Qxd6 Qf5 21.Ne1 Qxf2 22.c5
Qxe3+ 23.Qd2 Bxc5 24.Nxc5 Qxc5+ 25.Qc3 Qxc3+ 26.Bxc3 Ng3 27.Rg1 f6
28.Nf3 Nxf3 29.gxf3 a4 30.Rd7 b5 31.Rd4 Re3 32.Kb2 Rxf3 33.Rxh4 Bf5 34.Bg2
Rf2+ 35.Ka1 axb3 36.Bb2 Rxa3+ 0-1

Gone But Not Forgotten

Two former B.C. players who now reside elsewhere have become active again of late. IM Leon Piasetski took part in two events in Spain last August. First was the Banyoles Chess Festival, which consists of an active tournament and an international open. In the active ("2nd Lluís Muratet Memorial") he scored 5.0/9 to tie for 43rd in the 154-player field. Piasetski only played seven out of a possible nine games in the open; his 3.5/7 left him in a tie for 91st among the 131 participants. Winner of the open on tiebreak was the indefatigable Viktor Korchnoi, who will celebrate his seventy-sixth(!) birthday this coming March. (The tournament website, <http://www.compartir.org/escacsbanyoles/first.htm>, includes videos of Korchnoi during play.) Piasetski then entered the 8th Sants Open (Barcelona), scoring 5.5/10 in a field of 274 (<http://chess-results.com/tnr4182.aspx?tnr=4182&art=4&lan=1&mm=1&m=-1>).

About a month before this Justin Hardy played in Reserve Group A of the Dutch Open in Dieren; his 4.0/9 (a nicely symmetrical three wins, followed by two draws, followed by three losses and a withdrawal) was good enough to tie for 51st in the 93-player section. The crosstable can be found at <http://www.schaakbond.nl/nieuws/dieren2006/index.html> - click on "Uitslagen, Standen & Indelingen," then "KNSB bondswedstrijden Dieren 2006," then "reservegroep A."

VANCOUVER CHESS CENTER

A permanent site for chess activities in Vancouver, the Vancouver Chess Centre has recently opened its doors at 201 - 1050 Kingsway Avenue, Vancouver. The location is midway between Fraser and Knight on Kingsway, above the Dai Tung dim sum restaurant. The new home of the Vancouver Chess Club (forced to leave the downtown YMCA due to renovations), the Centre intends to host various events for all ages throughout the week - check out their upcoming schedule at <http://www.vanchess.com/>.

JANUARY 1, 2007 FIDE RATINGS LIST

Here are the B.C. players on the latest FIDE ratings list, divided by activity. FIDE considers a player to be inactive if they play fewer than three rated games in a one year period, but the organization seems rather lax in actually applying the "i" designation. For the following lists your editor has added the tag to anyone who had no (FIDE) rated games in the last year.

Adam, Valerian	2410		
Piassetski, Leon	2337	IM	
Berry, Jonathan	2255	FM	
Meng, Fanhao	2252	FM	
Jiganchine, Roman	2221		
Cheng, Bindi	2215		
Wright, Stephen	2199		
McLaren, Brian	2189		
Wu, Howard	2178		
Davies, Lucas	2176		
Oszvald, Joe	2169		
Pechisker, Alfred	2167		
Salcedo, Daniel E.	2150		
Milicevic, Dragoljub	2144		
Davies, Noam	2137		
Tegzes, Laszlo	2131		
Patterson, Roger	2128		
Hardy, Justin	2120		
North, Robert	2096		
Niksic, John	2083		
Jiang, Louie	2072		
Sladek, Vaclav	2055		
Chan, James	2044		
Suttles, Duncan	2420	i	GM
Schulte, Oliver	2380	i	FM
Harper, Bruce	2330	i	FM
Basanta, Gary	2324	i	FM
Kuznecov, Alex	2310	i	FM
Ho, Andrew	2305	i	FM
Moore, Harry	2290	i	

Zuk, Bob	2270	i	FM
Herder, David	2266	i	FM
Ivankovic, Goran	2257	i	FM
Moura, Eduardo	2237	i	
Demian, Valer Eugen	2220	i	
Kyriakides, Savvas	2213	i	
Stanford, Mike	2194	i	
Lane, Travis	2193	i	
Fullbrook, Nigel	2185	i	FM
Fuentebella, Mayo	2167	i	
Ferguson, Jim	2152	i	
Afrah, Navid	2141	i	
Poitras, Luc	2126	i	
Wang, Yamei	2124	i	WFM
Hladek, David	2108	i	
Martinovsky, Ian	2108	i	
Yip, Michael	2089	i	
Cabanas, Francisco	2088	i	
Storey, Carl	2084	i	
Leblanc, Paul	2032	i	
Stringer, Lynn	2005	i	
Goutor, Valentina	1976	i	
Steininger, Gavin	1966	i	
Tang, Tiffany	1777	i	

THE FIRST CFC RATINGS LIST

In light of the recent rating boon readers might be interested in the origins of the CFC rating system. The first CFC ratings list was published in the March 1954 issue of *Canadian Chess Chat* with the following explanation:

"At the 1952 Annual Meeting of the Chess Federation of Canada a committee was appointed to investigate various rating systems. This committee reported to the 1953 annual meeting and recommended adoption of the system developed by Mr. K. Harkness and used by the U.S. Chess Federation. The committee's recommendations were accepted and Mr. P.G. Haley was appointed Rating Commissioner.

In the spring of 1953 Mr. Harkness provided the committee with an initial list of 200 Canadian ratings. Additional tournament results were sent in from all parts of Canada during the past year. Ratings were calculated from these tournaments until the list had expanded to nearly 400. Players in various cities were then sent local ratings for comments and revisions. The final list gradually evolved out of a combination of mathematical analysis and local opinion. Minor differences in ratings were then eliminated by reporting ratings to the nearest 50 points. Subsequent yearly revisions of the ratings will be based on tournament results only and reported to the nearest 10 points. Players who do not compete in a rated event over a two year period will be removed from the list.

Ratings result from competition in a rated tournament and depend upon the strength of the competition and the individual's performance in the event. The mechanics of the system are briefly described in *Canadian Chess Chat*, May 1953.

It is hoped that the Rating System will give each player an idea of his strength relative to other Canadian players. In addition, it should provide incentive for participation in competitions and give the average player a better idea of the relative strength of the leading players and cause him to take more interest in additional events."

Classifications

Masters Above 2300
Experts 2100 - 2299
Class A 1900 - 2099
Class B 1700 - 1899
Class C 1500 - 1699
Class D Below 1500

Canadian National Chess Ratings, First Edition - Spring, 1954

Anderson, Frank	2440
Yanofsky, Abe	2440
Bohatirchuk, Feodor	2400
Vaitonis, Paul	2400
Berner, George	2200
Divinsky, Nathan	2200
Fox, Maurice	2200
Fuster, Geza	2200
Joyner, Lionel	2200
Siemms, Ross	2200
Williams, J	2200
Butkov, Eugene	2150
Jursevskis, Miervaldis	2150
Taylor, Jack	2100
Duval, Leo	2050
Eberhardt, Maxime	2050
Pratt, Maurice	2050
Saila, Tauno	2050
Atnikov, Frank	1950
May, Frank	1950
Millar, Charlie	1950
Panton, George	1850
Dumfries, C	1750
May, John	1750
Calhoun, Frank	1650
Carlson, Axel	1650
Jacobsen	1650
Fraser, F	1600
Varga, Tibor	1600

Hockin, T	1500
Kelsey, E	1500
McCharles, John	1500
Money, Bill	1500
Nelson, E	1450
Whyte	1400

The first eleven names on the list were all the Canadian players with a rating of 2200 or higher. Note the large gap between 2200 and 2400, and the fact that only four of these players were considered masters under the classification system then in use. Yanofsky and Vaitonis were already IMs, Anderson and Bohatirchuk received the title in 1954, the latter after much political manoeuvring. Despite the use of 50 point increments elsewhere, there is no explanation why Anderson and Yanofsky have ratings ending in 40. The names below the line break are all the B.C. players on the initial list, beginning with Butkov in the number twelve spot. Most of the strong B.C. players are known quantities (e.g., for Jursevskis, Taylor, and Duval see Bulletins #109, 33, and 84 respectively), but what of Butkov, Eberhardt, and Saila? The simple answer is that they were only in the area for a few years, providing insufficient time for their reputations to grow. Ironically Eberhardt and Saila both managed to win the B.C. championship (once each), but the available evidence indicates that Butkov was considerably stronger than either of them.



Eugene Butkov was an immigrant from Yugoslavia who obtained bachelor's and master's degrees at UBC before leaving to pursue a doctoral degree at McGill in 1956 (he is currently Associate Professor of Physics at St. John's University in New York City). He started playing in Vancouver chess events in 1953, and soon earned an enviable reputation as a tournament competitor. Butkov was Vancouver Champion for three straight years, 1953-56, and won numerous other events, including club and speed chess championships. The chess column in the *Vancouver Province* once described him as the "perennial winner of local events" and while this statement was not literally true, it was rare for Butkov to finish out of the top three in a tournament. Despite these achievements he only played in the B.C. championship once, in 1956: he tied for third with

John Kegel, behind Miervaldis Jursevskis and Frank May. Likely his end-of-term university work prevented further appearances, as the championship has traditionally been held at Easter. There are only a couple of references to Butkov playing chess after leaving B.C., including a draw with Frank Anderson in a team match; one suspects Butkov's academic career left no time for competitive chess. Below are three sample games - it appears he had a predilection for the Closed Sicilian:

Butkov, Eugene - Saila, Tauno [B23] Interclub team match, 1953

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 g6 5.d3 Bg7 6.h3 a6 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Nge2 Qc7
9.Qd2 0-0 10.f4 b5 11.0-0 Bb7 12.g4 b4 13.Nd1 Nd7 14.Ng3 Bd4 15.Bxd4 Nxd4
16.c3 Nc6 17.f5 Kg7 18.Ne3 f6 19.Nd5 Qd8 20.Nf4 Kg8 21.fxg6 Qe8 22.gxh7+
Kxh7 23.Ne6 Qg6 24.d4 Rh8 25.e5 Nd8 26.d5 Qh6 27.g5 Qh4 28.Nf5 Qh5
29.Be4 Kg8 30.Nxe7+ Kf7 31.Bg6+ Qxg6 32.Nxg6 Kxg6 33.Qd3+ Kf7 34.Nxd8+
Raxd8 35.e6+ Ke7 36.exd7 Kxd7 37.cxb4 Rdg8 38.g6 Rh5 39.Rf5 Rxg6+ 40.Kf2
Rh4 41.bxc5 dxc5 42.Qe3 Bc8 43.Rg1 Rxg1 44.Kxg1 Kd8 45.d6 1-0

Butkov, Eugene - Kegel, John [C57] Match Vancouver (5), 09.1955

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5 5.Nxf7 Bxf2+ 6.Kxf2 Nxe4+ 7.Ke3 Qe7
8.Nxh8 Qc5+ 9.Kxe4 d5+ 10.Kf3 Qf8+ 11.Ke2 Bg4+ 12.Ke1 Bxd1 13.Bxd5 Bh5
14.Nf7 Nb4 15.Bb3 Qe7 16.Rf1 Qh4+ 17.Rf2 Qxh2 18.d3 Qg1+ 19.Rf1 Qxg2
20.Nc3 e4 21.dxe4 Nxc2+ 22.Bxc2 Bxf7 23.Bb3 Bh5 24.Be3 0-0-0 25.Bc4 Qxb2
26.Rc1 Bg4 27.e5 Qb4 28.Rf4 Rd1+ 29.Rxd1 Qxc3+ 30.Kf2 Bxd1 31.Rf8+ Kd7
32.e6+ Kc6 33.e7 Bh5 34.Be2 Qe5 35.Bxh5 Qxe7 36.Bf3+ Kd7 37.Bg4+ Kc6
38.Bf3+ 1/2-1/2

Butkov, Eugene - Neufahrt, Gerhard [B20] Vancouver ch Vancouver (10), 27.11.1955

1.e4 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 c5 4.Ne2 Nc6 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nbc3 d6 7.0-0 0-0 8.h3 e6
9.Be3 a6 10.Qd2 Qc7 11.Bh6 Rd8 12.g4 Ne5 13.Ng3 b5 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.f4
Nc6 16.Nce2 Ra7 17.f5 Ng8 18.Nf4 Qe7 19.g5 f6 20.fxg6 hxg6 21.Nfh5+ gxh5
22.gxf6+ Nxf6 23.Qg5+ Kf8 24.Nxh5 Ne5 25.Nxf6 Qb7 26.Nh7+ Ke8 27.Rf8+ 1-0

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior Events

Jan 21 Junior Open, Sprrott Shaw College
Feb 4 Island Junior Open #5, University of Victoria
Feb 4 Junior Open, Sprrott Shaw College
Feb 11 K-12 Open, Sprrott Shaw College
Feb 17 Elementary Team Chess Championship

UBC Tuesday Night Swiss

Date: Tuesdays

Location: Room 215, Student Union Building, UBC

Format: 5-round Swiss

Time control: 2 hours sudden death

Time: 6:30 pm sharp

Entry fees: \$20 for adults, \$15 for juniors and UBC club members

TD info.: Aaron Cosenza, 604 327-4714, xramis1@yahoo.ca

Simultaneous exhibition against BC co-champion Howard Wu

6:45, Jan. 22 at the Victoria Chess Club.

Entry Fee \$5 (\$2 for club members) (club table fees for the night are included in this).

www.victoriachessclub.pbwiki.com

Vancouver January Open

Dates: January 26 - 28, 2007

Place: Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway (at Kaslo), Vancouver

Rounds: 5

Times: January 26th, 6 pm; January 27th and 28th, 10 am and 2:30 pm

Type: Regular Swiss

Time Controls: game/90 with a 30 second increment (digital), or game/120 (analog)

Byes: Rds. 1-4

Entry Fee: Adults \$30, Juniors/Seniors \$20 (non-CFC members add \$10 for tournament membership)

Prizes: \$\$BEN

Registration: In advance or at site 5:30 – 5:50 pm, January 26th

Tournament Director: Stephen Wright

Miscellaneous: One or two sections, depending upon numbers

For more information please contact Stephen Wright, 604-221-7148, e-mail

swright2@telus.net

North Shore Open

Site: Mollie Nye House 940 Lynn Valley Road North Vancouver BC

Date: February 3-4, 2007

Format: 4 Round Swiss

Time control: 90 minutes with a 30 second increments

Entry fee: \$25 for Adults; \$17 for Juniors and Seniors. Make cheques out for the club's name.

Registration: Online at oszisakk@telus.net and by mail. West Vancouver Chess Club, 651 West 14th St. North Vancouver BC V7M 1R3

Rounds: Saturday: 1st 10am; 2nd ASAP 3rd ASAP. 4th Sunday: 3:30pm .

Prizes: \$200 for first with 20 entries.

Organizer and TD: Joe Oszvald and Andre Botez

Info: oszisakk@telus.net

Please bring digital clocks and sets!

Kelowna Winterfest 2007

Date: Saturday and Sunday February 17-18th, 2007

Location: Best Western Inn - Kelowna, 2402 Hwy 97 North, Kelowna, BC, 1-888-860-1212

<http://www.bestwesterninnkelowna.com/>

Type: 5 Round Swiss, CFC rated.

Registration: On site 8-9 am Saturday.

Rounds: Sat. 9 am, 2 pm, 7 pm; Sun. 10 am, ASAP.

Time Control: 30 moves / 90 minutes then Sudden Death / 60 minutes

Entry Fees: \$35.00, \$30.00 senior, \$ 25.00 junior.

Byes: 1/2 point byes available by request except for final round

Prizes: \$100.00 1st and \$ 50.00 second; further prizes TBD.

Contact: Grant Rice TD and Organizer, 250-979-0009, ridebike@okanagan.net

February Active Chess Tournament (G/30)

Schedule: 6 rounds. One or two sections depending on the number of participants.

Date/Location: On Sunday February 25th at the Vancouver Chess Centre, 201 - 1050 Kingsway Ave. It is above Dai Tung dim sum restaurant

<http://www.vanchess.com/>

Entry: Fee \$15. For expert or former expert: \$12. For master \$10.

All money back in prizes minus minimum cost of rent.

Registration: 10:30 am. Games start at 11:00 am and finish around 5:30 pm.

30 minutes lunch time between round 2 and 3

You don't need to be a CFC member.

TD Luc Poitras info: queluc@lynx.net