

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #358

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

18th Bangkok Chess Club Open (April 13-21)

Despite its name the eighteenth [Bangkok Chess Club](#) Open was actually held in Cha-am, a beach resort town just over one hundred miles south of the Thai capital. The one hundred and ninety-three player field included fifteen grandmasters, headed by Hrant Melkumyan (Armenia), Nigel Short (England), Chess24's Jan Gustafsson (Germany), Diego Flores (Argentina), and world blindfold record holder Timur Gareyev (USA). Despite these luminaries the eventual winner was Indonesian FM Novendra Priasmoro with 8.0/9, a half-point ahead of Indian GM Chakkravarthy J. Deepan. Canadians Leon Piasetski and Yaaqov Vaingorten also participated; Leon did not have a great event, scoring 3.5 in seven games before withdrawing. Yaaqov faired better, gaining some 41 rating points for his score of 6.5, including a win against GM Buenaventura Villamayor (Singapore) in the last round. Another player known in these parts was Kenji Hiebert: although he plays under the Japanese flag he represented BC in last year's BC-WA matches. Kenji came within a move of beating Nigel Short in round two but went the wrong way with his king on move 38 and lost. And Short himself lost on time to a twelve-year-old in round four when he forgot to press his clock in a winning position. [Standings](#) [Jan Gustafsson coments on his games](#)



Hiebert, Kenji – Short, Nigel D. [A41] Bangkok Chess Club op, Cha-am (2.2), 14.04.2018

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Bg4 3.e4 Nf6 4.Bd3 e5 5.c3 Nbd7 6.0–0 Be7 7.Re1 0–0 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Nh7
10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Be2 Bh5 12.Nbd2 Bg6 13.a4 a5 14.Bd3 Rfe8 15.Nf1 Ng5 16.Nxg5 Qxg5 17.Qc2
h5 18.Nd2 h4 19.g3 Qf6 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Nc4 Nc5 22.Rad1 Red8 23.Re3 Rxd3 24.Rdx3 Nxd3
25.Qxd3 b6 26.Qd5 Rd8 27.Qxe5 h3 28.Kf1 Rd1+ 29.Ke2 Qd8 30.Qb5 Rh1 31.Rd3 Qa8 32.Rd4
Bxe4 33.Nd2 Bg6 34.Qd7 c5 35.Rd6 Rxh2 36.Qe7 Rxf2+ 37.Kxf2 Qg2+ 38.Ke1 Qxg3+ 39.Kd1 h2
40.Rd8+ Kh7 0–1

He, Yichen – Piasetski, Leon [A40] Bangkok Chess Club op, Cha-am (4.41), 16.04.2018

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 f5 6.Nf3 d6 7.Qc2 Nf6 8.Bf4 Qa5 9.Nd2 Nbd7 10.e3
Ne5 11.Bd3 Bd7 12.Nb3 Qc7 13.h3 e6 14.Bg5 0–0 15.Bxf6 Rxf6 16.f4 Nxd3+ 17.Qxd3 e5 18.0–0

g5 19.fxg5 Rg6 20.h4 e4 21.Qe2 h6 22.gxh6 Kh7 23.Rf2 Rag8 24.Raf1 Qd8 25.Rf4 Qf6 26.R1f2 Qxc3 27.Nd2 Qa1+ 28.Qf1 Qxf1+ 29.Nxf1 Kxh6 30.Rb2 a6 31.a4 Bxa4 32.Rxf5 Bd7 33.Rf7 Bh3 34.Rff2 b5 35.cxb5 axb5 36.Kh1 Bd7 37.Ra2 b4 38.Ra7 Bb5 39.Nd2 Bd3 40.Rb7 R8g7 41.Rb8 Rg4 42.Rf6+ R7g6 43.Rh8+ Kg7 44.Rxg6+ Rxg6 45.Rb8 Rg4 46.Rb6 Rxh4+ 47.Kg1 Kf6 48.Rxd6+ Ke5 49.Rd8 Rh6 50.g4 c4 51.Rb8 b3 52.Kg2 Kxd5 53.Kg3 Ra6 54.g5 b2 55.Rb5+ Kc6 56.Rf5 c3 0-1

5th Stan Rogers Memorial (April 14)



Held in honour of Stan Rogers who passed away in 2014 (no, not the famous folk musician – the Stan Rogers in question was a prominent Chilliwack businessman and former federal Liberal Party riding president who was also a member of the Chilliwack Chess Club), this year's fifth edition was won by Brian McLaren with Matt Ehrenreich second.

The previous winners:



Matt wrote on Facebook:

“Five years ago I saw an ad for a chess tournament in Chilliwack that a local crew was putting on in memorial for their fallen chess comrade, Stan Rogers. I had played the game my whole life but

never competitively, so I went for fun and managed to win the whole thing. After that experience, I played in many tournaments throughout the following years and a passion for the sport grew. And each year in April I'd return to the tournament where it all began.

Proud to be a part of the event for the fifth year in a row, snagging second place this time around with four wins, a loss and a draw against a competitive field. I'll go back as long as I can; so many great memories and beautiful positions across the board, with such a unique and interesting group of people. Thanks to the [Chilliwack Chess Club](#) and Ian and Lorne especially for continuing to put on such a wonderful event."

BCCF Annual General Meeting

The annual Keres Memorial Tournament is coming up quickly - please [enter](#) if you have not already done so!). The BCCF Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday May 20 between the third and fourth rounds of the Keres, beginning around 2:30pm. We encourage you to come out and attend the AGM: the executive for the coming year will be elected, and there will also be opportunity to voice concerns, comments, and ideas about how organized chess is run in BC. The BCCF is your federation - it is only as strong as those involved in it, your help is needed!

VICTORIA ACTIVE (April 21)

Thirty-nine players participated in Victoria in the first of two 2018 Active tournaments in the Community room at Victoria's Central Library. Unfortunately, we had nine no-shows which resulted in too many forfeitures in the first round. In future, first round pairings will be based on confirmed (in-person or recent communication of) attendance 15 minutes before scheduled start time.



The playing hall (photo: Mark Dutton)

Ian Cordon, Ross Richardson, Reza Sardari, Rowan James, and Haibo Sun all at 4.0/5, pressured our co-leaders Roger Patterson and Rod Brown. As Roger and Rod played a well fought contest to a draw, it was left to a tie-break to establish Rod Brown as our trophy winner.



The first place game: left - Roger Patterson, right - Rod Brown (photo: Mark Dutton)

Congratulations Rod, a worthy replacement to last year's winner Jason Cao.



1st place: left TD Nigel Hanrahan, right Rod Brown (photo: Roger Patterson)

Up-and-comer Haibo Sun was awarded the U1700 Trophy over last year's winner Rowan James. An excellent showing by both players. Book prizes were awarded to the following players: U1500 Jason Bell and Leo Cultura 3.0 points; U1300 Simon J. Smith 2.5 points; Unrated Amir Afshar 3.5 points

An excellent performance by Amir who follows in Dave Greeley's footsteps (last year's winner) and has boosted his ratings significantly.

We commend and thank Nigel Hanrahan, our novice tournament director, for running an excellent tournament. The schedule was closely followed, pairings arranged expeditiously, disputes settled

and lessons learned by all. This is especially important as newer players adapt to competitive chess.

Please note that Thrifty Foods will boost their contribution to chess in Victoria by chess players using a Smile card when they purchase at Thriftys. Please contact Paul Leblanc to receive your free card. We would also like to thank Aiyang Ma and the library staff for arranging the facilities and providing chess equipment for this event.

Please register early at VCCactives@mail.com for our September 15th Active tournament. It will be at the same time of day and in the same location (community room). You can de-register at any time and please remember to reconfirm in order to avoid having to be present 15 minutes before the start time of 10am. This report including [standings](#)

PROVINCIAL CHESS CHALLENGE (April 15)

The Chess Challenge Finals were held at Columbia College near Terminal and Main, the previous site of the Vancouver Chess School. One hundred and eighteen players competed in grade sections to determine who will represent B.C. at the National Chess Challenge, coming up in St. John's, Newfoundland on the Victoria Day weekend. The following are the trophy winners for this year – congratulations to all!

Kindergarten – Nicholas Wu, Nathan Yang
Grade 1 – Jayden Qu, Eliza Tian, William Jiang
Grade 2 – BiaoBiao Boyang Guo, AryaCyrus Boroomand, Owen Zheng
Grade 3 – Ethan Song, Ryan Yang, Alexander Jin
Grade 4 – Eric Jiang, Gillian Mok, Nathan Wu
Grade 5 – Eugene Liang, Andrew Xu, Enoch Liang
Grade 6 – Luka Spasojevic, Ryan Huang, Joshua Imoo
Grade 7 – Neil Doknjas, Kevin Low, Sherry Tian
Grade 8 – Daniel Du, Victor Zheng, Rohan Wessels
Grade 9 – Brian Yang, Ethan Low
Grade 10 – Joshua Doknjas, Ryan Leong, Inna Rabinovich
Grade 11 – William Bremner, Kevin Li, Matthew Geng
Grade 12 – James Li, Brandon Zhu, Jack Telio

Many thanks to organizer Maxim Doroshenko, the arbiters, volunteers, parents and players for making the event a success. [Crosstables](#)

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Opponent - Harper,B [A01] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

This game is a pretty light-hearted affair, which ends with a nice tactic. In retrospect, there is an air of a Greek tragedy, because my opponent played very predictably.

1.b3 [3:00] **e5** [3:00] **2.e3** [2:58] **d6** [2:59] **3.Bb2** [2:58] **Nd7** [2:59] **4.Nc3** [2:56] **g6** [2:58] **5.g3** [2:55] **Bg7** [2:58] **6.Bg2** [2:55] **h5!?** [2:57]



My opponent, an ICC denizen, always plays this way. His invariable "plan" is to play Nc3–e2, and then f2–f4 (he tries to do the same thing with Black). Against a programmed opponent, the best thing to do is to cross him up, which was the idea of 6... h5!? **7.h3** [2:53] **f5** [2:55] **8.f4** [2:51] **h4** [2:54]



Here's Black's idea. The engine assesses the position as equal, but I was happy to play it for Black. **9.Nf3** [2:43] **hxg3** [2:52] **10.Ne2** [2:41] In a strange way, my opponent is still following the plan he always follows. It's almost a bit sad. **10...Ngf6** [2:48] **11.Nxg3** [2:38] **exf4** [2:46] **12.exf4** [2:37] **Qe7+!**? [2:45] Another good psychological move, because I know he hates endgames. **13.Qe2** [2:25] **Qxe2+** [2:43] **14.Kxe2** [2:24] **Kf8!**? [2:27]



Instead of 14...0–0, to keep Black's h8–rook on the half-open h-file. **15.d3?** [2:14] **15.Ng5!** was the best way to keep the position balanced. **15...Nd5!** [2:21] I was alert this game. Black now wins an important pawn. **16.Bxg7+** [1:59] **Kxg7** [2:21] **17.Kd2** [1:54] **Nxf4** [2:20] **18.Rag1** [1:53] **Ne5** [2:05] **19.Nd4** [1:43] **Kf6** [1:58]



Keep an eye on Black's king. **20.h4?! [1:28] Nxc2 [1:50] 21.Rxc2 [1:26] Bd7 [1:49]** White's knights are dominated, and his rooks aren't doing much better. **22.Rf2 [1:18] c5 [1:40] 23.Nde2 [1:14] Bc6 [1:38] 24.Rh3 [0:52] Ng4 [1:31] 25.Rf4 [0:42] Rae8 [1:29]** 25...Bg2 was strong as well, but it's usually not a bad idea to use all your pieces. Now comes an amusing ending. **26.h5 [0:38] Bg2 [1:04] 27.Rh4 [0:37]**



27...Kg5! [1:03] White may only have considered 27...g5? 28.Rxf5+. But kings can sometimes attack things as well! **28.Rh2 [0:23] Nxc2 [1:01]** White resigns. **0-1**

BC CHESS ICON TURNS NINETY by Paul Leblanc

Indomitable chess player, arbiter and organizer Lynn Stringer celebrated her 90th birthday on April 13th with a room full of family, friends and chess players. Lynn first became involved in BC chess in 1971 as an assistant organizer with Ray Kerr, chess columnist for the *Victoria Daily Colonist*, himself a strong master and organizer. She also worked with Cyril Large in the early 1970's to bring together up to 7,000 school children for the annual Vancouver Island youth championships sponsored by CFX radio. Lynn won the 1974 BC Women's Championship with a come-from-behind win in a match against Bea Snelling after losing the first two games of a five-game match. She won the championship again in 1992.



Lynn at a Cyril Large event

In 1978 she organized perhaps the classiest tournament ever held in Victoria, the Canadian Women's Championship won by Nava Shterenberg. Lynn held the event in the Charlotte Room of the Empress Hotel and represented BC with a respectable score of 3.5/8 when the invited BC player did not show up for the first round. The highlight of the side events was a ride in a helicopter, courtesy of Vancouver Island Helicopters, owned by the Stringers. By 1980 Lynn was single-handedly running everything to do with chess in Victoria and continued to do so for the next 25 years. She travelled extensively within the province directing and playing in chess tournaments including many BC Closed and Keres Memorials. Her most interesting assignment as an arbiter was the 1988 World Chess Festival in Saint John, New Brunswick where she helped direct several events including the World Blitz Championship (won by Tal ahead of Kasparov, Karpov, etc.). She was awarded the International Arbiter title in 2003.



Lynn Stringer flanked by two of her biggest fans, Harry Moore and Paul Leblanc (photo: Pam Stringer)

At the 2004 Keres Memorial Lynn received the Estonian Canadian Medal of Merit, awarded "for her outstanding contribution to Canadians of Estonian heritage by helping organize the Paul Keres Memorial Chess Tournaments." The same year Lynn was inducted into the Canadian Chess Hall of Fame, and in 2008 the BCCF presented her with a lifetime achievement award "in recognition of her many years of selfless service on behalf of the chessplayers of BC and elsewhere."

Lynn was the mainstay of the Victoria Chess Club for forty years. She rescued the club in the mid-1970s when it temporarily ceased operating. An unknown chess player bequeathed \$1,000 to the Victoria Chess Club, care of Lynn. Since the legal name of the chess club at that time was the Victoria City Chess Club, Lynn decided to re-incorporate the club with the name on the cheque (Victoria Chess Club) and opened a bank account in that name in order to be able to cash the cheque. Lynn also managed the Chess Foundation of Canada for twenty years and often spoke about investing the money at 19% interest rates during the 1980s.

An enduring memory of Lynn is the Lynn Stringer Cup, awarded annually to the most outstanding female junior in Victoria.



Jenna Wild, 2007 winner of the Lynn Stringer Cup (photo: Will Wild)

Lynn continues to enjoy chess in her retirement home and keeps up to date on chess developments. She is still working on her game!

Stringer, Lynn - van Zweeden, Bob [E90] Comox Valley op Courtenay (2), 06.02.1982

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.a3 Nd7 8.Bc2 e5 9.d5 Nd4 10.Nxd4 exd4 11.Ne2 Ne5 12.Nxd4 Nxc4 13.0-0 Bd7 14.b3 Ne5 15.f4 Ng4 16.f5 Qf6 17.Bb2 Ne3 18.Qd3 Nxf1 19.Rxf1 c5 20.dxc6 bxc6 21.fxg6 Qxg6 22.Rf3 Kh8 23.Rg3 Qh6 24.Nf5 Bxf5 25.Bxg7+ Qxg7 26.Rxg7 Kxg7 27.exf5 Rad8 28.Qg3+ Kf6 29.h4 Rg8 30.Qc3+ Ke7 31.Qxc6 Rc8 32.Qe4+ Kd7 33.Bd3 Rc1+ 34.Kf2 Rgc8 35.Bb5+ Kc7 36.a4 Kb6 37.Qd4+ Kb7 38.Qd5+ Kc7 39.Qxf7+ Kb6 40.Qd5 R8c5 41.Qxd6+ Ka5 42.Qd2+ R1c3 43.g4 Kb4 44.Bc4 Re5 45.Qd6+ Rc5 46.f6 1-0

Gouge, Emily – Stringer, Lynn [B50] BC wom ch Victoria (1), 21.03.1992

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 d6 4.d3 Bg4 5.Be2 Nf6 6.Be3 e6 7.0-0 g6 8.d4 cxd4 9.Bxd4 Bg7 10.Bb5 0-0 11.Be2 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 Bxe2 13.Qxe2 Nd7 14.Rad1 a6 15.Qe3 Ne5 16.Qe2 Rc8 17.h3 Qc7 18.Rd2 Nc4 19.a3 Nxd2 20.Qxd2 Qc4 21.Nde2 Rfd8 22.Rd1 b5 23.Qe3 a5 24.b3 Qc6 25.Rd3 b4 26.axb4 axb4 27.Na2 Qxc2 28.Nxb4 Qb1+ 29.Kh2 Be5+ 30.g3 Qe1 31.Na2 Rc2 32.Nac3 Bxc3 33.Nf4 Rxf2+ 34.Ng2 Qf1 35.Qxf2 Qxf2 36.Rxc3 Ra8 37.Rc1 Ra2 38.Rg1 Rb2 0-1

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League

Monthly until May 2018, Jericho Village

[Details](#)

North Vancouver City Championships

April 28, North Vancouver

[Details](#)

Paul Keres Memorial

May 19-21, Richmond

[Details](#)

3rd Fischer-Taimanov Thematic Match

May 27, UBC

[Details](#)

BC Senior Championship

June 22-24, Surrey

[Details](#)

Bowser Builders Open

August 12, Bowser

[Details](#)

Semiahmoo Open

August 4-6, White Rock

[Details](#)