

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #359

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

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!

Guelph Spring Pro-Am (April 28-29)



Fighting spirit: two young ladies battling on while everyone else has gone home.

While travelling in the East Paul Leblanc took the opportunity to play in a Guelph Pro-Am tournament. He was undefeated in the U2000 Section with 3.5/5 (three draws, two wins). The Pro Section was won by two juniors, Nicholas Vettese and Mark Plotkin after top-seeded Leonid Gerzhoy couldn't recover from a first round loss.

North Vancouver City Championships (April 28) by Victoria Doknjas



(photo by Victoria Doknjas)

On Saturday, April 28, 2018, the inaugural North Vancouver City Chess Championships saw fifty-eight players from Kindergarten to Grade 12 vying for the top prizes and the title of the 2018 North Vancouver City Chess Champion! Most players were from the North Shore; but, there were players also coming from as far as Vancouver Island. Players ranged from unrated, first time players to seasoned players with established ratings between 1800-2100, including players with BC Provincial Championship titles.

The 2018 City of North Vancouver Chess Champions from Kindergarten to Grade 12 each received a special certificate signed by Mayor Darrell R. Mussatto:

Kindergarten – Kaylin Chen

Grade 1 – Alan Wang

Grade 2 – Matthew Kofmansky

Grade 3 – Drake Chen

Grade 4 – Denman Hertz

Grade 5 – Andrew Xu

Grade 6 – Jessica Qian

Grade 7 – Declan O'Sullivan

Grade 8 – Neil Doknjas

Grade 10 – Jasper Castillo

Grade 11 – William Bremner

Grade 12 – Jack Sellwood



(photo by Victoria Doknjas)

[This report, plus full results, photos, and standings](#)

A Club Request

I'm interested in starting a chess club that is more than just drop in and play, but instead also offers opportunities for adult beginners like myself to improve together. For example, I envision a class that is facilitated by a strong player who can help analyze Paul Morphy's games or present interesting chess puzzles. My question: do you know any adult chess beginners who might be interested in this? If so, have them contact me at this email address: simon.chan7@gmail.com

27th BC – WA SCHOLASTIC MATCH (INTERMAT) (May 5)



(photo by Victoria Doknjas)

This year's INTERMAT was held in Vancouver, in the Irving K. Barber Centre at the University of British Columbia – many thanks to Lee Wang, Jeremy Hui and the UBC Chess Club for providing the site. The INTERMAT is a cross-border battle, annual since 1991, between school-aged children representing BC and Washington. The teams are comprised of two players each from grades 1-12 plus kindergarten, who play one game each with their corresponding numbers on the other team. Traditionally BC has scored heavily in the upper grades, Washington in the lower, but this generalization has been breaking down in recent years; a more important factor is the respective teams' difficulty in recruiting their best lineup when playing away from home (the match alternates between BC and Washington).

BC slowly built up a commanding lead in the first round (playing white on all boards) to the tune of 16.5-9.5, which meant they only needed to score 10 points in the second round (playing black) to win the match. In the end they scored an identical 16.5, thus achieving victory by 33.0-19.0. This year BC's lowest grades (K-4), aided by strong performances in Kindergarten and grade 4, suffered only a blow-out in grade 2 with Washington scoring an overall 12.0-8.0 in the twenty games they played. In grades 5-8 BC reversed this to the tune of 14.0-2.0, and won comfortably in grades 9-12 where the margin was 11.0-5.0. BC won eight of the mini-matches by grade (K, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12), Washington only three (1, 2, 3), with two ties (9 and 10).

In terms of individual results, BC's Andrew Xu and Kate Jiang swept their Washington grade 5 opponents, as did Andrew Hemstapat and Victor Zheng in grade 8 and James Li and Brandon Zhu in grade 12. Other BC players with a perfect score were Nicholas Wu (K), Daniel Wang (4), Chuyang Gu (6), Joshua Doknjas (10), and Kevin Li (11), while Nathan Yang (K), Justin Gao (1), Aiden Zhou (6), and Sherry Tian (7) had plus scores. On the Washington side, Kevin Song and Hansol O'Brien swept their grade 2 opponents, Sophie Velea (3) had a perfect 2.0/2, while those with plus scores were Rishabh Chinni (1) and Ananta Ranganathan (9).

The match was organized by Michael Lo, Curtis Lister, Paul Leblanc, and Stephen Wright on the BC side and the Washington Chess Federation for Washington; the team captains were Victoria Jung-Doknjas and Michael Lo (BC) and Josh Sinanan and Chouchanik Airapetian (Washington). The chief arbiter was Stephen Wright, assisted by Jacob Mayer (WA). Sponsors were the BCCF, Burnaby Junior Chess Club, UBC Chess Club, Victoria Chess, and chess2inspire – many thanks to all. [Match website](#); [previous results](#)

Overall the number of match victories is now tied at 13-13 with one draw:

Year	Location	Victor	Year	Location	Victor
1991	White Rock	BC	2005	Burnaby	BC
1992	Mountlake Terrace	WA	2006	Bellevue	WA
1993	Burnaby	WA	2008	New Westminster	BC
1994	Mountlake Terrace	BC	2009	Bellevue	WA
1995	Burnaby	WA	2010	New Westminster	WA
1996	Shorewood	WA	2011	Bellevue	BC
1997	Burnaby	BC	2012	Richmond	tie
1998	Shorewood	BC	2013	Bellevue	WA
1999	Burnaby	WA	2014	Vancouver	BC
2000	Seattle	WA	2015	Bellevue	WA
2001	Burnaby	BC	2016	Vancouver	BC
2002	Seattle	WA	2017	Seattle	BC
2003	Burnaby	WA	2018	Vancouver	BC
2004	Seattle	BC			

*the lack of a result for 2007 corresponds to moving the event from December to April/May within the school year.

Note that this victory is historic: it is the first time that either team has managed to win the match three years in a row. Three games from the match; the remaining games are in the attached PGN file.

Zheng, Victor – Zhang, Kyle [A07] Interimat 27th Vancouver (1.18), 05.05.1018

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 Bf5 4.0-0 e6 5.d3 Nbd7 6.Nbd2 Be7 7.Re1 0-0 8.e4 Bg6 9.Nh4 c6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.e5 Ne8 12.d4 c5 13.Nf3 Rc8 14.c3 Nc7 15.h4 Na8 16.Bg5 Nab6 17.b3 Rc6 18.Bh3 Bxg5 19.Nxg5 Qc7 20.h5 Re8 21.hxg6 fxg6 22.Rc1 Nf8 23.Qd2 Nh7 24.dxc5 Nd7 25.Bxe6+ Rxe6 26.Nxe6 Rxe6 27.Qxd5 Nh8 28.b4 Nxe5 29.f4 Kf7 30.Rxe5 Qd7 31.Qxd7+ Nxd7 32.Rxe6 Kxe6 33.Rd1 Nf6 34.Rd6+ Ke7 35.Rxf6 gxf6 36.Kf2 Ke6 37.c4 Kd7 38.Ke3 Kc6 39.Ke4 f5+ 40.Kd4 a6 41.a4 1-0

Velea, Anne-Marie – Doknjas, Neil [B52] Intermat 27th Vancouver (2.16), 05.05.2018

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+ Qxd7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Re1 Nc6 7.c3 e6 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 d5 10.e5 Ng8 11.Nc3 Nge7 12.Bg5 Nf5 13.Qd2 h6 14.Be3 Be7 15.Rac1 0-0 16.h3 Na5 17.b3 Nc6 18.Bf4 a6 19.g4 Nh4 20.Nxh4 Bxh4 21.Na4 Bd8 22.Nc5 Qe7 23.Qe3 Bb6 24.a3 Bxc5 25.Rxc5 f5 26.g5 h5 27.Kh1 g6 28.b4 Rfc8 29.Rec1 Qd7 30.Qc3 Kf7 31.a4 Ke8 32.b5 axb5 33.axb5 Ne7 34.Rxc8+ Rxc8 35.Qb4 Rc4 36.Rxc4 dxc4 37.Qxc4 Qd5+ 38.Qxd5 Nxd5 39.Bd2 b6 40.Kg1 Nc7 41.Be3 Nxb5 42.d5 exd5 43.Bxb6 Kd7 44.Kf1 f4 45.Ke2 Ke6 46.Kd3 Kxe5 47.Bd8 Kf5 48.Bf6 Nd6 49.f3 Nf7 50.h4 Nd6 51.Bd4 Ke6 52.Bf2 Nf5 53.Be1 Ke5 54.Bf2 d4 55.Be1 Kd5 56.Bf2 Ne3 57.Be1 Nc4 58.Bf2 Ne5+ 59.Ke2 d3+ 60.Kd2 Kc4 61.Kd1 Nxf3 62.Kc1 Kc3 63.Kd1 d2 64.Bb6 Kd3 65.Ba5 Nxh4 66.Bxd2 f3 67.Be1 Ng2 68.Bf2 h4 69.Bg1 h3 0-1

Taylor, Thomas – Zhu, Brandon [A21] Intermat 27th Vancouver (2.26), 05.05.2018

1.c4 g6 2.g3 f5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 e5 8.Rb1 h6 9.b4 Qe8 10.e4 f4 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.cxd5 g5 13.h3 g4 14.hxg4 Bxg4 15.Qc2 Qh5 16.Nh2 f3 17.Bh1 Rf7 18.Re1 Na6 19.Be3 Qg6 20.Rec1 Raf8 21.Rb2 Bh3 22.Qd1 Bg4 23.a3 h5 24.Rcc2 Bh6 25.Qe1 Bh3 26.Nxf3 Rxf3 27.Bxf3 Rxf3 28.Re2 Bf4 29.Kh2 Bd7 30.Qg1 h4 31.Qg2 hxg3+ 32.fxg3 Qh6+ 33.Kg1 Bxe3+ 0-1

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

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

In today's game, White's position was so good (and Black's position was so bad) that I just had to share.

1.g3 [3:00] **1...Nf6** [2:51] **2.Bg2** [2:59] **2...e6** [2:51] **3.d3** [2:58] **3...d5** [2:50] **4.Nc3** [2:57] **4...Nbd7?!** [2:50] This is unduly passive and committal, but in a closed position, such things aren't fatal. **5.e4** [2:56] **5...dxe4** [2:48] **6.dxe4** [2:56] **6...Bb4** [2:45] The engine likes this move, but 6...e5 was the most obvious follow up for Black. **7.Nge2** [2:54] **7...0-0** [2:44] **8.a3** [2:53] **8...Ba5** [2:42] **9.0-0** [2:51]



9...Bb6?! [2:41] Black again is reluctant to play the logical 9...e5. It turns out he doesn't realize that the right plan involves the ...e6-e5 advance, and he never plays it. **10.h3** [2:47] **10...c6** [2:40] **11.Kh2** [2:42] **11...Re8** [2:35] **12.f4** [2:40]



Last chance! **12...Nf8?** [2:34] **13.e5** [2:39] This advance is so obvious that it doesn't deserve an exclamation mark. Black now begins to get a cramped position, and it just gets worse and worse. **13...Nd5** [2:33] **14.Ne4** [2:37] Naturally White avoids the exchange of knights, since he plans to drive Black's d5-knight back with c3-c4. **14...f5?!** [2:31] This doesn't help, because it rules out the possibility of attacking White's e5-pawn with ...f7-f6. **15.Nd6** [2:27] Could Black have overlooked this move? **15...Re7** [2:30] **16.Qd3** [2:20] 16.c4 was also possible. **16...Bc7** [2:25] **17.c4** [2:18] **17...Nb6** [2:22] **18.Be3** [2:08]



18...Bd7 [2:20] Played after only a second or two of thought. Surrendering the b7-pawn hardly improves Black's position, to put it mildly. **19.Nxb7** [2:02] **19...Qb8** [2:16] **20.Nc5** [1:58] White's knight could also have returned to d6. **20...Bc8** [2:13] **21.Rfd1** [1:52]



I'd like to say that this is a high class positional move, increasing the pressure on Black (which is true), and that I saw, but rejected, 21.Bxc6 as crassly materialistic (which is false - I just didn't notice that Black's c6-pawn has hanging). **21...Ng6** [2:09] **22.b4** [1:38] 22.Nd4 was crushing. I actually considered that move, but Black's loss of his b7-pawn was so unsuspected that it just never registered with me that his c6-pawn was there for the taking. **22...Bxe5** [2:07] It's hard to criticize this move, since, from Black's point of view, White was just torturing him. **23.fxe5** [1:34] **23...Nxe5** [2:05] **24.Qd8+** [1:32] **24...Kf7** [2:04] **25.Bf4** [1:27]



25...Nbx4 [2:00] **26.Rac1** [1:25] A "human move," as they often say. White brings his last piece into play, threatening **27.Rxc4**. **26...g5** [1:57] Again, it would be carping to criticize this move, which brings the end considerably closer - now Black has to worry about his king as well. **27.Bxg5** [1:18] **27...Re8** [1:32]



28.Qf6+ [1:15] **28...Kg8** [1:31] **29.Bh6** [1:07] **29...Qc7** [1:30] **30.Rd7** [1:04] Black resigns. **1-0**

VASIUKOV, EVGENI ANDREYEVICH (1933-2018)

We note with sadness the passing of Soviet/Russian grandmaster Evgeny Vasiukov at the age of eighty-five. A talented attacking player, Vasiukov won a number of international events but never quite managed to be among the very top echelon of players in the USSR. His appearances in the Soviet Championship were often subpar (admittedly the Soviet championship was an unusually tough event, normally stronger than most interzonals); as a result he was never part of a world championship cycle and didn't play on the Soviet olympiad team. Nevertheless he won the Moscow Championship six times and was also known as a strong blitz player, one of the invited players when Fischer visited Moscow in 1958. Vasiukov continued playing into his advanced years, becoming world senior champion in 1995 and last year leading the Russian team to a perfect 18/18 in the world 65+ team championship. [Chess24 report on Vasiukov](#)



Vasiukov playing Ottawa's Bill Doubleday, World Senior 2014

In 1971 Vasiukov was part of Taimanov's delegation in the latter's ill-fated Candidates' match against Bobby Fischer at UBC. Rob Hankinson takes up the story:

“During the recent Fischer-Taimanov match, the lobby in the S.U. Building was the scene of a continuous series of five-minute speed games. On one occasion, Grandmaster Vasiukov (the USSR five-minute champion) expressed a desire to do chessic battle with the Canadian Champion.” [*Northwest Chess*, July 1971]

Suttles, Duncan – Vasiukov, Evgeni [B20] 1971

1.e4 c5 2.a3 Nc6 3.b4 e5 4.b5 Nd4 5.c3 Ne6 6.Nf3 d5 7.Nxe5 dxe4 8.d3 Qc7 9.f4 exf3 10.Nxf3 Nf6 11.Be2 Bd6 12.0–0 0–0 13.Nbd2 Ng4 14.Ne4 Bxh2+ 15.Kh1 f5 16.Neg5 h6 17.Qb3 hxg5 18.Nxg5 c4 19.dxc4 Bg1 0–1

Suttles, Duncan – Vasiukov, Evgeni [B20] 1971

1.e4 c5 2.a3 Nc6 3.b4 e5 4.b5 Nd4 5.c3 Ne6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Bd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nf4 9.Qf3 c4 10.g3 Nd3+ 11.Kd1 Bc5 12.Nh3 d6 13.g4 Qh4 14.Rf1 Bxg4 0–1

“A Super-Zuk” quoth Harper. “Those Russians grub so fast, you don't even realize you had a pawn where they put their piece!” - Zuk [Ibid.]

Harper, Bruce – Vasiukov, Evgeni [B47] 1971

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.g3 Qc7 7.Bg2 Nf6 8.0–0 Be7 9.b3 0–0 10.Bb2 Rd8 11.Kh1 Rb8 12.f4 d5 13.exd5 exd5 14.Re1 Bg4 15.Qd2 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Bc5 17.Qe5 Qc6 18.h3 Be6 19.Rad1 Bf2 20.Re2 Bxg3 21.Rd3 Bh4 22.f5 Re8 23.fxe6 fxe6 24.Rde3 Nd7 25.Qh5 Bf6 26.Rd3 g6 27.Qg4 Ne5 28.Qf4 Nxd3 29.Qxf6 Nxb2 30.Rxe6 Rxe6 31.Bxd5 Qxd5+ 0–1

Over the 1978/79 Christmas holidays Vasiukov participated in the annual Hastings tournament, tying for second with Istvan Csom, Alexander Kochiev, and Jonathan Speelman a point behind winner Ulf Andersson. Newly-minted GM Peter Biyiasas was leading the event after ten rounds but faded at the end to finish tied for ninth. He did have the satisfaction of winning the brilliancy prize, an engraved silver tray:

Biyiasas, Peter – Vasiukov, Evgeni [A07] Hastings (4), 1978

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 c6 4.0–0 Bg4 5.d3 e6 6.Nbd2 Nbd7 7.e4 Be7 8.Re1 0–0 9.h3 Bh5 10.e5 Ne8 11.Nf1 Nc7 12.N1h2 a5 13.Bf4 a4 14.Qd2 a3 15.b3 Nb5 16.c4 Nc7 17.h4 Bxf3 18.Nxf3 Na6 19.Red1 Bb4 20.Qc2 Qa5 21.Rac1 d4 22.Qe2 Bc3 23.Ng5 g6 24.h5 Nac5 25.Qg4 Rfe8 26.Qh4 Nf8 27.Ne4 Nxe4 28.Bxe4 Bb4 29.Kg2 Qd8 30.Qg4 Ra5 31.hxg6 fxg6 32.Rh1 Qd7 33.Rh6 Re7 34.Rch1 Rg7 35.Bg5 Rxe5 36.Bf6 Ra5 37.Bxg7 Qxg7 38.Rxh7 Nxh7 39.Qxe6+ Kf8 40.Bxg6 Qe7 41.Qc8+ 1–0

The following effort won Vasiukov the Best Game prize at the 35th Soviet Championship:

Vasiukov, Evgeni – Zheliandinov, Viktor [B53] URS-ch35 Kharkov, 1967

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Bd7 5.c4 Nc6 6.Qd2 Nf6 7.Nc3 g6 8.b3 Bg7 9.Bb2 0–0 10.Be2 Qa5 11.Rb1 a6 12.a3 b5 13.b4 Qb6 14.cxb5 axb5 15.0–0 Qb7 16.Rfe1 Na7 17.e5 Ne8 18.Bd3 Bc6 19.Ne4 Rd8 20.Qe3 dxe5 21.Nxe5 Nd6 22.Nc5 Qa8 23.Qg3 Nac8 24.h4 Be8 25.h5 Nb6 26.hxg6 hxg6 27.Nxg6 fxg6 28.Bxg7 Kxg7 29.Rxe7+ Rf7 30.Ne6+ Kh8 31.Rxf7 1–0

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League

Monthly until May 2018, Jericho Village

[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](#)