

## BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #430

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](mailto:swright2@telus.net)); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

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### HERE AND THERE

#### Charlotte GM-IM norm event (November 18-22)

Another issue of the bulletin, another IM norm for FM Max Gedajlovic. The norm events we have been covering of late have been mainly run by the [1000GM](#) organization, but the Charlotte Chess Center in North Carolina has held many norm events over the past half-dozen years and has just hosted the largest invitational round robins in US history. Sixty players participated in three GM groups and three IM groups including three Canadians, GM Razvan Preotu as one of the ‘masters’ along with Max and WGM Maili-Jade Ouellet as aspirants (although they were all in different sections). Razvan tied for first in [Group A](#) with GM Titas Stremavicius (Lithuania) on 5.5/9; Maili-Jade scored a half-point less but only tied for fourth in [Group F](#) behind GM Gabor Nagy (Hungary) on 8.0/9(!). Max was the second-lowest rated in [Group C](#) where the IM norm was 5.5/9. This he achieved in just seven games (incidentally beating an opponent he also won against for his previous norm), which left the GM norm of 7.0/9 as a bonus target. A draw in round eight left him needing a win over GM Vladimir Georgiev (North Macedonia) to achieve his goal but it was not to be; despite obtaining an advantage the position proved too difficult to handle and Georgiev won. The loss left Max with 6.0 points, tied for second in his group with GM Bartlomiej Macieja (Poland) and IM Tianqi Wang (USA) but nevertheless with his second IM norm – congratulations! Max needs another norm and a FIDE rating over 2400 to gain the IM title.



Immediately following the norm events the [US Masters](#) (November 23-27) was held at the same location, the Hilton Charlotte University Place. This Super Swiss, also with norm possibilities, attracted just over two hundred players including thirty GMs and Canadians Rafael Adam, FM Anthony Atanasov, IM Olivier Chiku-Ratte, FM Zachary Dukic, FM Max Gedajlovic, GM Aman Hambleton, Vincent Latorre, WGM Maili-Jade Ouellet, and IM Mark Plotkin. There was a five-way tie for first on 7.0/9 between GMs Mikhail Antipov (FIDE), Christopher Yoo and Alejandro Ramirez (both USA) and Emilio Cordova and Cristhian Cruz (both Peru) with Yoo taking the US Masters title. Best Canadians were Mark Plotkin and Anthony Atanasov with 5.5 points, the latter also achieved an IM norm. Max withdrew after the fifth round having scored 3.0 points.

**Gedajlovic, Max (2317) – Escobar Forero, Alder (2510) [B81] Fall 2022 GM/IM Norm inv C Charlotte (5.3), 20.11.2022**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g4 h6 7.Rg1 g5 8.h4 Rg8 9.hxg5 hxg5 10.Be3 Nc6 11.Qd2 Nd7 12.0–0–0 Nde5 13.Be2 a6 14.Nf5 Na5 15.Nxd6+ Bxd6 16.Qxd6 Qxd6 17.Rxd6 Nac4 18.Bxc4 Nxc4 19.Rd3 Nxe3 20.Rxe3 Bd7 21.b3 Rh8 22.Rg2 Ke7 23.Ne2 Rh1+ 24.Kd2 Rd8 25.Rd3 Rdh8 26.Ng3 Ra1 27.a4 b5 28.axb5 axb5 29.Ne2 Rhh1 30.Kc3 Ra2 31.Rd2 Rh3+ 32.Kb4 Bc6 33.Rg3 Rxc3 34.Nxc3 Ra1 35.Kc5 Bd7 36.Ne2 Re1 37.Nc3 Rg1 38.Nxb5 Rxc4 39.Nd6 f5 40.exf5 exf5 41.b4 Rg1 42.b5 Rb1 43.b6 Rb2 44.Re2+ Kf6 45.b7 g4 46.c4 Rxe2 47.b8Q Be6 48.Qh8+ Kg5 49.Qd4 1–0

**Gedajlovic, Max (2317) – Wang, Tianqi (2428) [E11] Fall 2022 GM/IM Norm inv C Charlotte (7.2), 21.11.2022**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.e3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 d6 7.Nc3 0–0 8.Bd3 e5 9.Bc2 Bg4 10.h3 Be6 11.b3



11...exd4 12.Nxd4 a5 13.0–0 Nbd7 14.f4 Nc5 15.e4 a4 16.Rae1 axb3 17.axb3 Rad8 18.Qf2 c6 19.g4 Bc8 20.Nf3 Na6 21.Qh4 Nb4 22.Bb1 h6 23.g5 Nd7 24.Nd5 cxd5 25.exd5 Ne5 26.fxe5 dxe5 27.Rxe5 Qd6 28.gxh6 g6 29.Rg5 Qc5+ 30.Kh1 Rde8 31.Qg3 Re7 32.d6 1–0

**Gedajlovic, Max (2317) – Georgiev, Vladimir (2406) [D26] Fall 2022 GM/IM Norm inv C Charlotte (9.1), 18.11.2022**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 Nf6 4.Bxc4 e6 5.Nf3 a6 6.0–0 b5 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.a4 b4 9.Nbd2 Be7 10.Nb3 c5 11.Nxc5 Bxc5 12.dxc5 Nbd7 13.Bd2 Nxc5 14.Bc4 Rb8 15.Bxb4 Qxd1 16.Rfxd1 Bxf3 17.Bxc5 Bxd1 18.Rxd1 Rd8 19.Ra1 Nd7 20.Ba3 Nb8 21.f4 h5 22.b4 Rc8 23.Be2 Rc2 24.Bf1 Kd7 25.b5 a5 26.Rd1+ Kc8 27.Bd3 Ra2 28.Bd6 Rxa4 29.Rc1+ Kd7 30.Bc7 Ra3 31.Be4 Rxe3 32.Bb7 Re1+ 33.Rxe1 Kxc7 34.Be4 Kb6 35.f5 Nd7 36.fxe6 fxe6 37.Bd3 Nc5 38.Bc4 Rd8 39.Re5 a4 40.Kf1 a3

41.Re3 Ra8 42.Ba2 Kxb5 43.Ke2 Kb4 44.Kd2 Rf8 45.Re2 Rf1 46.Kc2 h4 47.Rd2 e5 48.Bd5 g5  
 49.Re2 e4 50.Rd2 Nd3 51.Re2 Re1 0-1

**Chigorin Chess Club Invitational** (November 4-20) by Vas Sladek

		1	2	3	4		
1	<b>Kaufman, Raymond</b>	2340	* *	1 ½	0 1	1 1	<b>4.5</b>
2	<b>Morozov, Grigorii</b>	2420	0 ½	* *	1 ½	1 1	<b>4.0</b>
3	<b>Jiganchine, Roman</b>	2212	1 0	0 ½	* *	½ ½	<b>2.5</b>
4	<b>Sladek, Vas</b>	2159	0 0	0 0	½ ½	* *	<b>1.0</b>

IM Raymond Kaufman took the first \$120 prize in the Chigorin Chess Club online invitational event, played on [lichess.org](http://lichess.org) over four sessions, using 25 + 10 time controls. Ray's only blemish was a dropped Queen against Roman Jiganchine. In second place came FM Grigorii Morozov (\$100), followed by CM Roman Jiganchine (\$80). I came last but, before you send me hate mail, you should know that I was a last-minute replacement. At least we got to see Konstantin Pyryaev's sense of humour: four players with four titles: IM, FM, NM, NCM.

A few days after I entered the event, my last place \$60 prize arrived by e-transfer, presumably to motivate me to not finish last. Or, perhaps, it was to give me a chance to stock up on tissues before inflation pushed them out of my reach. It was difficult to turn down Konstantin's invitation.

The two best games are shown below. Had Roman played 22.Qg5! against Grigorii, he would have taken the brilliancy prize. FM Morozov correctly observed that the overall quality of the games was low, and I had lots to do with that. But I did manage to create two diagrams for lower-rated players to solve. White to play in both positions. Tactics level: easy.

Congratulations to Raymond!



**Morozov, Grigorii (2420) – Kaufman, Raymond (2340) [E16] Chigorin inv lichess.org, 11.11.2022**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Be7 7.0–0 0–0 8.Nc3 d5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Qb3 Na6 11.Be3 c5 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Bxc5 Bxc5 14.e3 Qe7 15.Rad1 Rad8 16.Nd4 h5 17.a3 Qe5 18.Qa4 Ne4 19.Nce2 a5 20.Nf4 h4 21.Nf3 Qxb2 22.Nd3 Qf6 23.Nxc5 bxc5 24.Qxa5 h3 25.Bh1 d4 26.exd4 cxd4 27.Qe5 Nc3 28.Rd2 Qc6 29.Qh5 d3 30.Qxh3 Ne2+ 31.Rxe2 dxe2 32.Re1 Rd1 33.Bg2 Qxf3 34.Bxf3 Bxf3 0–1

**Jiganchine, Roman (2212) – Morozov, Grigorii (2420) [C05] Chigorin inv lichess.org, 11.11.2022**

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Bd3 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Ngf3 Qb6 7.0–0 cxd4 8.cxd4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 Qxd4 10.Nf3 Qb6 11.Be3 Bc5 12.Bxc5 Qxc5 13.Rc1 Qb6 14.e5 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Ng5 0–0 17.Qh5 h6 18.Nxe4 Qxb2 19.Rc3 Bd7 20.Nf6+ Kh8 21.Rg3 Bc6 22.Rxg7 Kxg7 23.Qg4+ Kh8 24.Qf4 Kg7 25.Qg4+ Kh8 26.Qf4 Kg7 27.Qg4+ ½–½

**Banff Open (November 11-13)**



Held at the Kinnear Centre for Creativity and Innovation at the Banff Centre, this year's sixth edition of the Banff Open was held on the Remembrance Day weekend and again set an attendance record. The hundred and nineteen player field included Geraldo Barbosa Landre, Gilles Bruneau, Louis Cheng, Neil Doknjas, Kate Jiang, Zihao William Jiang, Raymond Kaufman, Aiden Leong, Zachary Liu, David Miller, Wesley Russell, Ashton Taylor, Tristan Taylor, Huy Minh Vuy, Charles Wu, Nathan Ping-Ying Wu, Nicholas Pei-Chang Wu, Tao Xie, Andrew Xu, Joey Xu, Ruihan (Hannah) Xu, Zhihan (Samuel) Xu, Yingyun (Ryan Yang), and Brandon Zhu from BC, and also like last year included a grandmaster, former US champion Nick De Firmian, although these days he is perhaps better known as the editor of recent editions of *Modern Chess Openings*. After four rounds De Firmian was tied for first with Sherzod Khodjimotov and Leo Lin but in round five he lost to

Khodjimatov, leaving the latter in sole possession of first place going into the last round. There Rafael Arruebarrena defeated Khodjimatov while De Firmian and Lin both won, leaving all four tied for first with 5.0 points each. The tradition at Banff is to use Armageddon playoffs to establish a clear winner; after three such games De Firmian emerged as the overall champion. Two of the players he defeated during the event were Raymond Kaufman and Neil Doknjas from this province. Nathan Wu must like the mountain air; he first pushed his rating over 2000 at last year's event and did the same thing this year. Other BC players with notable rating increases were Aiden Leong, Nicholas Wu, Tristan Taylor, and Kate Jiang. [Over 2000](#) [Over 1600](#) [Under 1600](#) [Facebook page](#)

**Taylor, Tristan (2020) – Ng, Gary (2378) [B00] Banff Open 2022 Banff CAN (1.2), 11.11.2022**

1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.Qe2 Nc6 5.c3 e5 6.d5 Ne7 7.Be3 d6 8.h4 h5 9.f3 Ng6 10.g3 Be7 11.Nd2 c6 12.dxc6 Bxc6 13.0–0–0 Qc7 14.Nh3 Rb8 15.Kb1 b5 16.Ng5 b4 17.c4 Ba4 18.b3 Bc6 19.Nf1 a5 20.Bc1 a4 21.Ne3 axb3 22.axb3 Ra8 23.Nd5 Qa5 24.Qb2 Bd8 25.Be3 Ne7 26.Kc2 Bxd5 27.exd5 Qc7 28.Kd2 Nd7 29.Ra1 Rxa1 30.Rxa1 Nc5 31.Bxc5 Qxc5 32.Ne4 Qb6 33.c5 dxc5 34.Ra6 Qb8 35.d6 Ng6 36.Nxc5 Bf6 37.d7+ Ke7 38.Qc1 e4 39.Nxe4 Bd4 40.Qc4 Qe5 41.Qxb4+ Kxd7 42.Qb7+ Qc7 43.Rd6+ 1–0

**Wang, Paul (2131) – Wu, Nathan Ping-Ying (1842) [B01] Banff Open 2022 Banff CAN (1.15), 11.11.2022**

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.d4 Bg4 6.h3 Bh5 7.Be2 c6 8.Be3 Nbd7 9.Qd2 e6 10.Bf4 Qb4 11.a3 Qa5 12.0–0 Be7 13.b4 Qd8 14.Bh2 0–0 15.Rfd1 Nb6 16.Ne5 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 a5 18.b5 Nfd5 19.Qf3 Nxc3 20.bxc6 Nbd5 21.cxb7 Ra6 22.Nc4 Bd6 23.Bxd6 Rxd6 24.Nxd6 Qxd6 25.Rd3 Qc7 26.a4 Rb8 27.Ra3 Rxb7 28.Rb3 Rxb3 29.cxb3 g6 30.Kf1 Na2 31.g3 Qc2 32.Qd1 Qc6 33.Kg1 Nab4 34.Rd2 Nc3 35.Qe1 Ne4 36.Re2 Ng5 37.Qb1 Nxb3+ 38.Kh2 Ng5 39.Qh1 Nf3+ 40.Kh3 g5 41.g4 Ng1+ 42.Qxg1 Qf3+ 43.Qg3 Qxe2 44.f4 Qf1+ 0–1

**van den Born, Ico (2074) – Leong, Aiden (1779) [A14] Banff Open 2022 Banff CAN (1.21), 11.11.2022**

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.0–0 0–0 6.b3 c6 7.e3 b6 8.Qc2 Bb7 9.Bb2 Nbd7 10.Re1 Rc8 11.d3 Qc7 12.Nc3 c5 13.Rad1 Rfd8 14.Qb1 a6 15.cxd5 Nxd5 16.d4 Nxc3 17.Bxc3 Bf6 18.Bb2 cxd4 19.exd4 b5 20.Rc1 Qd6 21.Red1 Rxc1 22.Qxc1 Nb6 23.Qe3 Nd5 24.Qe2 Ne7 25.g4 g6 26.h3 Bd5 27.Qe3 Nc6 28.a4 bxa4 29.bxa4 Qb4 30.Qf4 Bg7 31.Qd2 Qxa4 32.Ra1 Qb5 33.Bf1 Bc4 34.Bg2 e5 35.Ng5 Nxd4 36.Bxd4 exd4 37.Ra5 Qb1+ 38.Kh2 d3 39.Rc5 Qb8+ 40.f4 Rd4 41.Kg3 Bf8 42.Rxc4 Rxc4 43.Bd5 Rxf4 44.Kg2 Bc5 45.Bxf7+ Rxf7 46.Nxf7 Qb7+ 47.Kg3 Qxf7 48.Qxd3 Qf2# 0–1

**Anatomy of an ICCF expert title** by Vas Sladek

Truth be told, I prefer online and OTB chess but when you're self-isolating during a pandemic, web server-based ICCF correspondence chess will do just fine. Plus, you can hunt for norms and titles. Normally, just two norms are required but since I didn't have the required 24 game minimum, I had to earn a third norm. Fittingly, it happened in a tournament organized by BC's own Valer Eugen Demian!

The first norm clincher was fairly easy with white against an IM. The second norm came after I noticed a struggling German player early on in the event and hunted him down. The last norm was epic because my opponent had to win to get his first norm.

When my ICCF medal arrived in the mail, I posted a photo on Facebook, and one of the likes came from my Thailand-based mother, Vera Doubek, who taught me how to play chess. Sadly, while visiting Germany to get her Bavarian house ready for sale this past August, she went to bed and never woke up. This post is therefore dedicated to her memory.



**Sladek, Vas (2091) – Mende, Ingus IM (2444) [E32] DE15A pr 52 ICCF, 05.04.2021**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d6 5.Nf3 0–0 6.Bd2 b6 7.e4 c5 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 e5 11.Ne2 Be6 12.Ng3 Nc6 13.a4 Rc8 14.Be2 a6 15.0–0 b5 16.axb5 axb5 17.b3 Nd7 18.Qd2 Nc5 19.Rab1 bxc4 20.Bxc4 Bxc4 21.bxc4 Rb8 22.Rb5 Nb3 23.Rxb8 Qxb8 24.Qd5 Nbd4 25.Bxd4 Nxd4 26.Nf5 Nxf5 27.exf5 Rc8 28.g3 Qb4 ½–½

**Sladek, Vas (2141) – Künzel, Ulrich (2124) [E36] XXAEAC-Open15 (ESP) ICCF, 25.10.2021**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 0–0 7.Bg5 dxc4 8.Qxc4 b6 9.Rd1 Ba6 10.Qa4 h6 11.Bh4 c6 12.Nf3 Bb5 13.Qc2 Nbd7 14.g4 (Since Ulrich struggled early in the event, I went for it.) 14...c5 15.g5 hxg5 16.Bxg5 Rc8 17.Qb3 Bc6 18.Rg1 c4 19.Qe3 Nd5 20.Qe4 N5f6 21.Qf4 b5 22.Nd2 Qc7 23.Qh4 Ne8 24.Be7 (Winning an exchange.) 24...g6 25.e4 Kg7 26.Bxf8+ Nxf8 27.Rg3 f6 28.Bh3 Rd8 29.Nf3 a5 30.Kf1 Ba8 31.d5 c3 32.bxc3 exd5 33.e5! (It's critical to open lines to the King.) 33...Rb8 34.e6 Nd6 35.Nd4 Ne4 36.e7 Nxc3+ 37.Qxc3 Qxc3 38.hxc3 Bb7 39.Re1 Ba6 40.e8Q 1–0

**Pranitchi, Teodor (2135) – Sladek, Vas (1917) [B19] MT-VV Demian F (ROU) ICCF, 15.12.2020**

(This was a fight: White must win to get his first expert norm, Black needs a draw to claim his final expert norm and CCE title.) 1.Nc3 d5 2.e4 c6 3.d4 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bf4 Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Bb4 13.c3 Be7 14.Ne4 Ngf6 15.c4 Qc7 16.0–0–0 Rd8 17.Kb1 0–0 18.Nxf6+ Nxf6 19.Qe2 c5 20.g4 cxd4 21.g5 hxg5 22.h6 d3 23.Qe1 g6 24.h7+ Kh8 25.Bc3 Qxc4 26.Nxc5 Qf4 27.Qe3 Qxe3 28.fxe3 Rd5 29.Rhg1 Rc8 30.Nxf7+ Kxh7 31.Ng5+ Kh6 32.Nxe6 g5 33.Rd2 Rc4 34.Bd4 Rf5 35.b3 Rc6 36.Rh2+ Kg6 37.Nf4+ Kf7 38.Nxd3 Bd6 39.Rhh1 a5 40.Rf1 Rxf1+ 41.Rxf1 Bc7 42.b4 b6 43.b5 Re6 44.Kc2 Kg6 45.Rc1 Kf5 46.Kb3 Ne8 47.Kc2 Ke4 48.Rg1 Rg6 (The passed g-pawn is a headache for White and it delivers the required draw.) 49.Nf2+ Kf3 50.Nd1 Ng7 51.Rf1+ Kg2 52.Rf2+ Kg3 53.Rf7 Ne6 54.Nc3 g4 55.Nd5 Bd8 56.Be5+ Kh3 57.Rd7 Bh4 58.Rd6 Bg3 59.Nf4+ Nxf4 60.exf4 Rxd6 61.Bxd6 a4 62.Bc7 Bf2 63.f5 g3 64.f6 Bc5 65.f7 g2 66.f8Q Bxf8 67.Bxb6 Kh2 68.Kd3 ½–½

## BC JUNIOR (November 19-20)



Held under the auspices of Chess2Inspire, this year's BC Junior Championship was the first to occur, online or otherwise, since 2019. The tournament took place as usual in three sections, Championship, Reserve, and Booster, although the latter was split into two. All sections consisted of five rounds, but the Championship and Reserve were spread over two days with a time control of 50 + 10 on the first day and 90 + 30 on the second, while the Booster was a one-day event at 25 + 5 per player. The event was held in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC; our thanks to Oliver Gullery and the UBC Chess Club for making the arrangements. In the Championship Section there were forty entrants, up from twenty-nine three years ago. There were seven players rated over 2000 and a number more just below; top ranked was Aiden Zhou at 2230, who was also playing in his first local event for three years.

Round two saw a number of upsets with some of the top seeds giving up half or full points. By the end of the third round only two players had a perfect score, Ethan Song and Zachary Liu; they drew in round four, allowing Aiden Zhou and Kate Jiang to join them on 3.5/4 going into the last round, followed by another five players on 3.0 points. In round five Aiden and Kate beat Zachary and Ethan respectively, leaving themselves with an unreachable 4.5/5; Aiden was officially first on tiebreak. Kaiqi Qin and Gideon Tang won the U1800 prizes, Nicholas Wu and Srush Mohammad the U1500. Joyce Zhang was the top girl, while newcomer Diba Partovirad and Ruihan (Hannah) Xu were the top U1800 and U1500 girls respectively. In terms of rating gain Zachary Liu and Aiden Leong both went over 2000 for the first time.

The forty-seven player Reserve Section resulted in a tie between Zhengyu Chen and David Eirew with 4.5/5, with Zhengyu placing first on tiebreaks. Lucas Li and Tai Belke were the top players under 1100, Declan O'Sullivan and Codrin Pompas were the U900 prize winners. Caitlin Wang was the top girl, Abigail Wang the best girl under 1100.



Kate Jiang and Aiden Zhou

In previous years the Booster Section had grown to over one hundred participants, requiring the use of accelerated pairings. This year the turnout was smaller, eighty-six players, but for manageability the section was split into two. In Booster 1 (CFC Quick rating or CMA rating between 500-1000) the top five overall were Lucas Yu, Ansun Zhong Hua Zhou, Micah Chow, Armaan Varma-Vitug, and Visisht Kodali. U700 prizes went to Lucas Chen, Markus Li, Shaunavon Mu, Joey Jiayi Deng, and Vincent Mu. The top two girls were Sherlynn Fung and Colette Eisenberg, best U700 girls were Ellie Wanzhe Li and Karen Chen. William Kang, Christina Yang, Steven Liang, Brady Li, and Ethan Hao were the top five overall in Booster 2 (U500 or unrated), while Harshpreet Singh, Entong Tian, Nuo Yi, Caden Lu, and Svyatoslav Brezghin won the unrated prizes. May Wangluo and Genevieve Tang were the top girls, while the top unrated girls were Cassandra Xie and Joanne Wangluo.

Many thanks to all the organizers and volunteers who helped make the event happen: Jeremy Hui, Ron Hui, Lara Lo, Michael Lo, An Yu, and Ping Yu. And a special thank you to site sponsors UBC Chess Club and all the players and parents. [Tournament webpage](#)

**Liu, Zachary (1932) – Zhou, Aiden (2230) [B13] BC jun Vancouver (5.1), 20.11.2022**

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.h3 g6 6.Nf3 Bf5 7.Bxf5 gxf5 8.0–0 Bg7 9.Ne5 0–0 10.Re1 e6 11.c3 Nbd7 12.Bf4 Nxe5 13.Bxe5 Ne4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Nd2 Kh8 16.Qe2 Rg8 17.Nf1 Qh4 18.f3 Nf6 19.Kh2 f4 20.Rad1 Rg5 21.Qb5 Rxg2+ 22.Kxg2 Rg8+ 0–1

**Song, Ethan (2152) – Jiang, Kate (2006) [C54] BC jun Vancouver (5.2), 20.11.2022**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6 5.c3 d6 6.0–0 h6 7.h3 0–0 8.Re1 a6 9.b4 Ba7 10.Nbd2 Re8 11.Qb3 Be6 12.Nf1 d5 13.exd5 Bxd5 14.Be3 b5 15.Bxd5 Nxd5 16.Rad1 Bxe3 17.fxe3 Nf6 18.Ng3 e4 19.Nxe4 Nxe4 20.dxe4 Qe7 21.Qd5 Qxe4 22.Qxe4 Rxe4 23.Rd7 Re7 24.Rxe7 Nxe7 25.Rd1



Kf8 26.e4 Ke8 27.Kf2 a5 28.Nd4 c6 29.bxa5 Rxa5 30.Rd2 Ra3 31.Nb3 Nc8 32.Nd4 Rxc3 33.Nf5  
g6 34.Nxh6 Nb6 35.Ng4 Nc4 36.Re2 Ke7 37.Nh2 Ne5 38.Nf3 Nd3+ 39.Kg3 c5 40.Re3 b4 41.Nd2  
Nc1 42.Kf2 Nxa2 43.g4 Rc2 44.Ke2 c4 45.Kd1 Rc1+ 46.Ke2 c3 47.Nb3 Rb1 48.Nd4 b3 49.Kd3  
Rd1+ 50.Kc4 b2 51.Nc6+ Kf8 52.e5 b1Q 53.e6 fxe6 0–1

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## SAN ANTONIO 1972

Exactly fifty years ago Duncan Suttles was producing one of the best international results ever for a BC player, tying for sixth in a strong round robin held in San Antonio, Texas:

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	<b>Portisch, Lajos</b>	2640	*	½	1	0	1	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	1	½	1	<b>10.5</b>
2	<b>Petrosian, Tigran</b>	2645	½	*	½	1	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	½	½	1	1	<b>10.5</b>
3	<b>Karpov, Anatoly</b>	2630	0	½	*	1	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	1	<b>10.5</b>
4	<b>Gligoric, Svetozar</b>	2575	1	0	0	*	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	1	<b>10.0</b>
5	<b>Keres, Paul</b>	2600	0	½	½	½	*	1	½	1	1	1	0	½	½	1	1	<b>9.5</b>
6	<b>Hort, Vlastimil</b>	2600	0	½	½	½	0	*	½	1	0	½	½	1	1	1	1	<b>9.0</b>
7	<b>Suttles, Duncan</b>	2470	½	½	0	0	½	½	*	½	½	½	1	½	1	1	1	<b>9.0</b>
8	<b>Mecking, Henrique</b>	2570	½	0	½	½	0	0	½	*	1	½	½	1	1	1	½	<b>8.5</b>
9	<b>Larsen, Bent</b>	2625	0	0	½	½	0	1	½	0	*	1	1	0	1	1	1	<b>8.5</b>
10	<b>Byrne, Donald</b>	2470	½	½	0	0	0	½	½	½	0	*	1	0	½	1	1	<b>7.0</b>
11	<b>Evans, Larry</b>	2545	½	½	½	½	1	½	0	½	0	0	*	½	0	½	½	<b>6.5</b>
12	<b>Browne, Walter</b>	2530	½	½	0	0	½	0	½	0	1	1	½	*	1	0	0	<b>6.5</b>
13	<b>Kaplan, Julio</b>	2470	0	½	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	½	1	0	*	1	½	<b>5.0</b>
14	<b>Campos Lopez, Mario</b>	2200	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	1	0	*	1	<b>3.5</b>
15	<b>Saidy, Anthony</b>	2425	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	½	1	½	0	*	<b>3.5</b>
16	<b>Smith, Kenneth</b>	2395	0	0	0	0	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	½	0	<b>2.0</b>

The tournament was sponsored by George W. ("Bill") Church Jr., head of the Church's Fried Chicken chain; in the 1980s the company also sponsored a U.S. Grand prix, won many times by Igor Ivanov. Combining some of the world's best with the strongest North American players, the event was held at the Hotel Hilton Palacio del Rio from November 19 to December 10, 1972. The strongest player in the world (who incidentally was also North American), newly-crowned World Champion Bobby Fischer, did not play; he felt the prize-fund was insufficient, but expressed satisfaction with the playing conditions.



Standing: Gligoric, Kaplan, Suttles, Byrne, Hort, Evans, Portisch, Larsen, Campos Lopez, Smith, Karpov, Saidy. Seated: Koltanowski (tournament coordinator), Mecking, Browne, Golombek (tournament director), Church, Edmondson (USCF director), Keres, Petrosian

The average rating of 2524 might not seem all that strong by today's standards, but one must allow for the rating inflation that has occurred in the past fifty years. In the July 1972 ratings list the six highest players were Robert Fischer (2785), Boris Spassky (2660), **Tigran Petrosian** (2645), Lev Polugaevsky (2645), Viktor Korchnoi (2640), and **Lajos Portisch** (2640). By comparison, in the latest FIDE list there are now forty-one players above 2700, and a player with a rating of 2640 would be in one hundred and twenty-sixth(!) place. Of the eight "international" players at San Antonio, two were former or future world champions, while all the rest had taken part in candidates' competitions. In this context Suttles' excellent result stands out, ahead of Mecking and Larsen and two points clear of the next North American competitor. He was especially ruthless on the bottom of the field and only lost two games, to his *bête noir*, Gligoric, and to the rising young Soviet star Karpov. It says much about Suttles' style that both these losses were with the White pieces, whereas with Black he scored plus three. All(!) his games with Black were various variations of the Pirc Defence, an opening which had hitherto been regarded with more than a little suspicion, but which achieved respectability through the efforts of Suttles (along with Botvinnik and others). As a result of this tournament Suttles was finally awarded the title of grandmaster, recognition which had previously been denied him on more than one occasion because of chess politics.

Overall there was a three-way tie for first between Portisch, Petrosian, and Karpov. After ten rounds Keres and Karpov were in the lead with 8.0 points each, but Keres fell off the pace in the last five rounds, only achieving three draws. After round fourteen Karpov and Petrosian shared the lead, with Portisch a half-point behind. In the last round the two leaders, both having White, agreed to short draws with Mecking and Suttles in nine and ten moves respectively; this allowed Portisch to join them by dispatching Larsen.

**Karpov, Anatoly – Browne, Walter [A30] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (2), 20.11.1972**

1.c4 c5 2.b3 Nf6 3.Bb2 g6 4.Bxf6 exf6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 f5 8.e3 0-0 9.Nge2 a6 10.Rc1 b5 11.d3 Bb7 12.0-0 d6 13.Qd2 Qa5 14. Rfd1 Rab8 15.Nd5 Qxd2 16.Rxd2 b4 17.d4 Rfd8 18.Rcd1 cxd4 19.exd4 Kf8 20.c5 Na7 21.Ne3 Bxg2 22.Kxg2 dxc5 23.dxc5 Rxd2 24. Rxd2 Rc8 25.Nd5 Rxc5 26.Nxb4 a5 27.Nd5 Rc6 28.Ne3 Rc5 29.Nf4 Bh6 30.Rd5 Rxd5 31.Nfxd5 Bxe3 32.Nxe3 Ke7 33.Nc4 Nc6 34.Kf3 Ke6 35.Ke3 Kd5 36.a3 Ke6 37.Kd3 Kd5 38.f3 h6 39.Kc3 h5 40.Kd3 f6 41.f4 g5 42.Ne3+ Ke6 43.h4 gxh4 44.gxh4 Ne7 45.Kc4 Ng6 46. Ng2 Kd6 47.Kb5 Kd5 48.Kxa5 Ke4 49.b4 Kf3 50.b5 Kxg2 51.b6 Nf8 52.Kb5 Nd7 53.a4 Nxb6 54.Kxb6 Kf3 55.a5 Kxf4 56.a6 Ke3 57.a7 f4 58.a8Q f3 59.Qe8+ 1-0

**Evans, Larry – Suttles, Duncan [B06] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (4), 23.11.1972**

1.e4 g6 2.d4 d6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Be3 c6 5.Qd2 b5 6.0-0-0 Nd7 7.f3 Nb6 8.h4 h5 9.Nh3 a5 10.Nf2 b4 11.Nb1 Rb8 12.g4 hxg4 13.fxg4 Nf6 14. Be2 Nxg4 15.Nxg4 Bxg4 16.Rdg1 Bh5 17.b3 a4 18.Bxh5 Rxh5 19.Rg5 axb3 20.axb3 Rxg5 21.hxg5 Nd7 22.Rf1 Kf8 23.Qd3 Qe8 24.Qc4 c5 25.dxc5 dxc5 26.Re1 Qc8 27.Rf1 Ne5 28.Qxc5 Qa6 29.Rf2 Nd3+ 30.cxd3 Rc8 31.Qxc8+ Qxc8+ 32.Kd1 Qa6 33.Ke2 Qa2+ 34.Nd2 Bc3 35.Rh2 Kg7 36.Rh4 e5 37.Rh1 Bxd2 38.Bxd2 Qxb3 39.Ke3 Qb2 40.Rc1 b3 41.Rc8 Qa1 42.Bc3 Qc1+ 43.Ke2 b2 44.Bxe5+ 0-1

**Kaplan, Julio – Suttles, Duncan [B08] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (6), 26.11.1972**

1.e4 g6 2.d4 d6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0 Bg4 7.Be3 Nfd7 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Nc6 10.Be2 e5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Na4 Nf6 13.Bd3 Nd4 14.c3 Ne6 15.Nc5 Nxc5 16.Bxc5 Re8 17.Qc2 Qd7 18.Rad1 Qc6 19.Be3 a6 20.Qb3 Re7 21.Bc4 Rb8 22.f3 Nh5 23.Rf2 b5 24.Bf1 Bf8 25.Rfd2 Re6 26.Qd5 Kg7 27.Qxc6 Rxc6 28.a3 Nf4 29.Rd8 Rxd8 30.Rxd8 Ne6 31.Rd2 Nc5 32.c4 bxc4 33.Bxc4 Nxe4 34.Bd5 Rc1+ 0-1

**Suttles, Duncan – Keres, Paul [A13] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (7), 27.11.1972**

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ Nbd7 6.0-0 a6 7.Nc3 c5 8.Ne5 Rb8 9.Nxd7 Qxd7 10.Qxc4 b5 11.Qf4 Bd6 12.Qg5 0-0 13. d3 Bb7 14.Bxb7 Rxb7 15.Qh4 Rc8 16.a4 Be7 17.axb5 axb5 18.Qh3 h6 19.Qg2 b4 20.Ne4 c4 21.dxc4 Rxc4 22.Ra8+ Rc8 23.Rxc8+ Qxc8 24.Nxf6+ Bxf6 25.b3 Rd7 26.Qf3 Bc3 27.Qe4 Qa6 28.Qc2 Qb5 29.Rd1 Qf5 30.Rd3 Kh7 31.e4 Qb5 32.Rxd7 Qxd7 33.Be3 Qb5 34.Kg2 g6 35.Qd1 h5 36.Qd6 Qb7 37.Kf3 1/2-1/2

**Portisch, Lajos – Karpov, Anatoly [E55] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (9), 30.11.1972**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nf3 d5 7.0-0 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Nbd7 9.Qe2 cxd4 10.exd4 b6 11.d5 Bxc3 12.dxe6 Bb4 13.exd7 Qxd7 14.a3 Bd6 15.Rd1 Qc7 16.h3 Bb7 17.Be3 Rae8 18.Rac1 Qb8 19.Bb5 Re7 20.Bc6 Bxc6 21.Rxc6 Bc5 22.Rxf6 gxf6 23.Nd4 Bxd4 24.Rxd4 Qe5 25.Qf3 Kh8 26.Rd5 1-0

**Portisch, Lajos – Keres, Paul [D41] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (11), 03.12.1972**

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.d4 d5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bg5 f6 12.Rc1 Bb6 13.Bd2 Bg4 14.Qb3 Kh8 15.e3 d4 16.exd4 Bxf3 17.Qxf3 Nxd4

18.Qh5 Qd7 19.Rce1 Rfe8 20.Bxb7 Rxe1 21.Bxa8 Ne2+ 22.Kg2 Nxg3 23.hxg3 Qxd2 24.Qf7 h6  
25.Bd5 Kh7 26.Qg8+ Kg6 27.Bf7+ Kg5 28.Qxg7+ Kf5 29.Bh5 Ke6 30.Bg4+ f5 31.Bxf5+ Kxf5  
32.Qf7+ 1-0

**Campos Lopez, Mario – Suttles, Duncan [B07] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (12),  
04.12.1972**

1.e4 g6 2.d4 d6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.c3 Nf6 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.Re1 b6 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.a4  
Bb7 11.Qc2 a5 12.b3 Nc5 13.Bc4 Ne8 14.b4 axb4 15.cxb4 Nd7 16.Ba3 Nd6 17.Bb3 b5 18.a5 Nb8  
19.Rac1 Na6 20.Qd3 Rc8 21.h3 Qe7 22.Nh2 Kh8 23.f4 Rfd8 24.Qe2 exf4 25. e5 Nf5 26.Ndf3 c6  
27.Ng4 Ng3 28.Qf2 Rd3 29.Rb1 c5 30.Bc1 Bxf3 31.gxf3 Nxb4 32.Nf6 Rd4 33.Bxf4 Nf5 34.Rbd1  
Rxf4 35.Rd7 Bxf6 36.Rxe7 Bxe7 37.Re4 c4 38.Qb2 Rxf3 39.Bd1 Bc5+ 0-1

**Portisch, Lajos – Larsen, Bent [A70] Church's Fried Chicken It San Antonio (15), 10.12.1972**

1.d4 e6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 exd5 4.cxd5 d6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Nf3 Bg7 7.Bf4 Nf6 8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qb3 Qc7 10.e4  
0-0 11.Be2 Nh5 12.Be3 Na6 13.Nd2 f5 14.exf5 gxf5 15.Bxh5 f4 16.0-0 fxe3 17.fxe3 Nb4 18.Nce4  
a5 19.Ng5 a4 20.Qc4 h6 21.Ne6 Bxe6 22.dxe6 d5 23.Bf7+ Kh8 24.Qh4 Qe5 25. Nf3 Qxe3+  
26.Kh1 Nd3 27.Rae1 Nxe1 28.Rxe1 Qd3 29.Qh5 a3 30.b3 Bc3 31.e7 Kg7 32.exf8Q+ Rxf8 33.Bxd5  
Bxe1 34.Qe5+ Rf6 35.Qe7+ 1-0

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

See also the listings at the [CFC](#) and [Northwest chess](#) websites

**Fraser Valley Rapid 1**

Langley, December 3

[Details](#)

**BC Open**

Richmond, February 18-20, 2023

[Details](#)

**Vancity Multi-week Classical**

Richmond, December 4 and 11

[Details](#)

**16<sup>th</sup> Grand Pacific Open**

Victoria, April 7-10, 2023

[Details](#)

**Comox Chess Day**

Comox, December 10

[Details](#)

**Okanagan Open**

Salmon Arm, May 5-7, 2023

[Details](#)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Jun Bandong Memorial Blitz**

December 17

[Details](#)

**BC-Alberta Match**

Salmon Arm, May 5-7, 2023

[Details](#)

**Greater Vancouver Chess Tournament**

Burnaby, January 20-23, 2023

[Details](#)

**47<sup>th</sup> Keres Memorial**

Richmond, May 20-22, 2023

[Details](#)