

## BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #463

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



BC Chess Federation

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### HERE AND THERE

#### Canadian Closed/Womens Championships (April 17-22)



Round 1 (all photos by Derek Ma)

Hosted by the Annex Chess Club and held at the Don Arts Academy in Toronto, the [89<sup>th</sup> Canadian Championship](#) was not a zonal event (i.e., no qualification to the World Cup nor direct titles at stake) but still attracted a total of fifty-five players, including four from this province: IM Raymond Kaufman, FMs Jingyun (Ryan) Yang and Ethan Song and Nathan Ping-Ying Wu. Last year's runaway champion IM Shiyam Thavandiran did not attempt to retain his title, but the previous year's winners, IM Nikolay Noritsyn and GMs Shawn Rodrigue-Lemieux and Bator Sambuev were part of the field along with many other contenders. Unfamiliar names among the leaders at various points were FM Tymur Keleberda (Edmonton) and CM Dzmitry Kalinin (Fredericton), but in the end it was veteran (if that term can be applied to a thirty-three year old) Nikolay Noritsyn who placed clear first with 7.5/9. Nikolay first won the championship back in 2007 and was also first in 2023, he tied for first in 2017 but lost a controversial playoff to Bator Sambuev. Clear second was Shawn Rodrigue-Lemieux while third on tiebreak was the other GM in the field, Razvan Preotu, who scored 6.5 points along with Raymond Kaufman, an excellent result for him. A further half-point back was the trio of Aaron Reeve Mendes, at twelve years old Canada's youngest IM, with Ryan Yang and Ethan Song; Ryan achieved a plus one score (+2 =2 -1) against the two GMs and three IMs he faced, while Ethan started slowly but won his last three games – his final-round game was

the last to finish in the entire event. Nathan's FIDE rating took a hit (a K factor of 40 can be a killer sometimes) but did get to test his Scandinavian against Rodrigue-Lemieux. [Previous events](#)



Jingyun (Ryan) Yang vs. Raymond Kaufman

The [22<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Women's Championship](#) (without getting into the [history](#), the first Canadian championship was in 1872, but the first championship for women did not occur until 1975) also took place at the same location. There were forty-five entrants, including two of last year's three winners, WIMs Yunshan Li and Svitlana Demchenko. Given that they were considerably higher-rated than the rest of the field they unsurprisingly again tied for first, joined in this instance by WFM Morgen Mills of Happy Valley-Goose Bay; Yunshan placed first on tiebreak. BC's representative was Joanne Wangluo (right) who scored a respectable 4.0/9. Also in the field was former eight-time champion WIM Nava Starr, who turned seventy-six two weeks before the tournament – she finished on 50%. Both Joanne and Raymond Kaufman received funding from the BCCF to offset the expenses of the journey. [Previous events](#) [More photos](#)



**Rodrigue-Lemieux, Shawn (2505) – Wu, Nathan Ping-Ying (2083) [B01] CAN ch Toronto (1.1), 17.04.2025**

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bf5 6.Ne5 c6 7.Bc4 e6 8.g4 Bg6 9.h4 Nbd7 10.Nxd7 Nxd7 11.h5 Be4 12.0-0 Bd5 13.Nxd5 cxd5 14.Bd3 Bd6 15.a4 g6 16.h6 Qd8 17.Kg2 0-0 18.f4 Rc8 19.c3 Nb6 20.Qf3 Bb8 21.Bd2 Nc4 22.Bxc4 Rxc4 23.Kh3 Qd6 24.Be1 a5 25.Bh4 f6 26.Qe2 Kf7 27.Rae1 Rxa4 28.f5 exf5 29.gxf5 g5 30.Rf2 Kg8 31.Qh5 Rc4 32.Re6 Qd8 33.Rfe2 Rc6 34.Re8 Qd7 35.R2e7 Qxf5+ 36.Kg2 Qc2+ 37.Bf2 Qg6 38.Qxg6+ hxg6 39.h7+ Kh8 40.Rxf8# 1-0

**Yang, Jingyun (Ryan) (2350) – Plotkin, Mark (2349) [B06] Can ch Toronto (4.5), 19.04.2025**

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 a6 5.Qd2 b5 6.f3 Bb7 7.h4 h5 8.Nh3 Nd7 9.Ng5 Ngf6 10.a4 b4  
11.Ne2 c5 12.c3 bxc3 13.Nxc3 cxd4 14.Bxd4 0–0 15.Bc4 Rc8 16.Ba2 Nb6 17.Rd1 a5 18.Qe2 Rc6  
19.Qb5 e6 20.Bxe6 fxe6 21.Nxe6 Qc8 22.Nxf8 Kxf8 23.Bxb6 Rxc3 24.bxc3 Qxc3+ 25.Kf2 Bc6  
26.Qe2 Bxa4 27.Rxd6 Nd7 28.Be3 Ne5 29.Rc1 Qb3 30.Rd8+ Ke7 31.Rd5 Nc6 32.Qd3 Qb2+  
33.Qd2 Nb4 34.Rc7+ 1–0

**Kaufman, Raymond (2216) – Keleberda, Tymur (2325) [D36] CAN ch Toronto (7.3), 21.04.2025**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 0–0 8.Qc2 Nbd7 9.h3 c5 10.Nf3  
c4 11.Bf5 g6 12.Bxd7 Qxd7 13.0–0 Re8 14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.e4 dxe4 16.Nxe4 Bg7 17.Rfe1 b5 18.a4  
Qd8 19.axb5 Bf5 20.g4 Be6 21.Re3 Qb6 22.Qe2 Red8 23.Nc3 Bxd4 24.Ra6 Qc5 25.Rexe6 fxe6  
26.Qxe6+ Kf8 27.Rc6 Qe7 28.Qxc4 Bb6 29.Nd5 Qd7 30.Qf4+ Kg7 31.Qf6+ Kg8 32.Ne7+ Qxe7  
33.Qxe7 Re8 34.Qb4 Rf8 35.Kg2 Rae8 36.Qc4+ Kg7 37.Re6 Rc8 38.Qe4 Rf7 39.Qe5+ Kg8  
40.Re8+ Rxe8 41.Qxe8+ Kg7 42.Qe5+ Kg8 43.Ng5 Rf5 44.Kg3 h6 45.Qe8+ Kg7 46.Qe7+ Kg8  
47.Ne6 1–0



Ethan Song



Nathan Wu

**Duong, Thanh Nha (2182) – Song, Ethan (2291) [A06] CAN ch Toronto (9.6), 22.04.2025**

1.Nf3 d5 2.b3 Bg4 3.Bb2 Nf6 4.e3 Nbd7 5.d4 e6 6.Be2 Be7 7.0–0 0–0 8.Nbd2 a5 9.a3 h6 10.Ne5  
Bf5 11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.Nxd3 Rc8 13.c4 b6 14.Qe2 c5 15.Rfd1 a4 16.dxc5 bxc5 17.b4 dxc4 18.Nxc4  
cxb4 19.Nxb4 Qc7 20.Rac1 Qb8 21.e4 Bxb4 22.axb4 Qb5 23.Kf1 Rb8 24.Ba3 Rfd8 25.Na5 Qxe2+  
26.Kxe2 Re8 27.Nc6 Rb5 28.f3 Kh7 29.Nd4 Rb7 30.Rc6 Ne5 31.Rc5 Nfd7 32.Rc3 Nb6 33.Nb5  
Ree7 34.Nd6 Rb8 35.f4 Ng4 36.h3 Nf6 37.b5 Rd7 38.Rc6 Ra7 39.Rdc1 Ra5 40.R1c3 Nbd7  
41.Rc7 g5 42.Bb4 Raxb5 43.Nxb5 Rxb5 44.e5 Nd5 45.Rxd7 Rxb4 46.Ra3 Nxf4+ 47.Kf3 Kg6  
48.Ra7 Rb2 49.g4 Rh2 50.R7xa4 Rxh3+ 51.Kf2 Rh2+ 52.Kf3 Rd2 53.Ra8 Kg7 54.Rb8 Ng6 55.Rb5  
Rd4 56.Re3 Nh4+ 57.Kg3 h5 58.Ra3 Rxc4+ 59.Kh3 Rf4 60.Rg3 Nf3 61.Rb3 g4+ 62.Kg2 Kh6  
63.Rb8 h4 64.Rxc4 Rxc4+ 65.Kxf3 Rg7 66.Kf4 Kh7 67.Rb2 Rg6 68.Rh2 Rh6 69.Rh3 Rh5 70.Kg4  
Kg6 71.Kf4 Rf5+ 72.Ke4 Kh5 73.Rh1 Kg4 74.Rg1+ Kh3 75.Rg7 Kh2 76.Rg4 h3 77.Rg7 Kh1  
78.Rg3 h2 79.Rg7 Rf2 80.Ke3 Rg2 81.Rxf7 Kg1 0–1

## Canadian Chess Hall of Fame



Ian Findlay and Hal Bond (photo by Derek Ma)

Before the seventh round of the Canadian Championships a presentation was made by Ian Findlay to Hal Bond, the 2025 inductee into the [Canadian Chess Hall of Fame](#). Founded in 2000 by David Cohen, the Canadian Chess Hall of Fame experienced a period of stagnation during David's illness and passing but has since been placed on a firm footing going forward, with a committee consisting of Fred McKim, Hugh Brodie, Ian Findlay, Larry Bevand, and Stephen Wright and sponsorship from the Chess 'n' Math Association. Hal Bond of Guelph, Ontario has been a tireless worker for chess for over forty years; hopefully many readers know of him already, but here is a summary of his achievements as listed on the plaque presented to him:

CFC member since 1980; Executive Director of the Chess Federation of Canada; President of the Chess Federation of Canada; FIDE Instructor; Chess Coach; International Arbiter; International Organizer; Arbiter at FIDE World Championships, the World Championship Cycle; Member of FIDE Planning & Development Commission, Arbiters' Commission; Canada's FIDE Representative & Zonal President 2009-2021; Vice President, Commonwealth Chess Association 2016-present.

Congratulations Hal, well-deserved!

### Reykjavík Open (April 9-15)

First held in 1964 when it was won by Mikhail Tal, the [Reykjavík Open](#) has evolved into one of the world's premier international opens. Held at the architecturally spectacular [Harpa](#) Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Iceland's capital, this year's event was dedicated to the memory of Iceland's first grandmaster and FIDE president Friðrik Ólafsson, who passed away on April 4 at the age of ninety. There were fourteen Canadians among the four hundred and nineteen players including two from this province, Reece and Elijah Harms. Top ranked was GM Parham Maghsoodloo (Iran) who finished clear first with 7.5/9, a half-point ahead of the ten(!) GMs who tied for second; was of these was a rejuvenated Vasyl Ivanchuk who was competing for first for much of the event. Top Canadian was Saskatoon's Omid Khaledi with 6.0 points; Reece gained some 33 FIDE rating

points for his 5.0/9 while Elijah achieved a performance rating of 1496. There was also a ten-round [Blitz](#) tournament won by Chinese GM Shanglei Lu; here Reece scored 4.0 points and Elijah 2.0.

**Harms, Reece (1825) – Brackmann, Hendrik (2040)  
[C04] Reykjavík Open 2025 (4.94), 11.04.2025**

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nc6 4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.e5 Nd7 6.a3 f6  
7.Bb5 fxe5 8.dxe5 Be7 9.b3 0–0 10.Bb2 a5 11.0–0 Qe8  
12.Re1 Nc5 13.b4 axb4 14.axb4 Rxa1 15.Qxa1 Nd7  
16.c3 Nb6 17.Qb1 Bd7 18.Bd3 Qh5 19.Nf1 g5 20.Ng3  
Qf7 21.h3 Be8 22.Bc1 Qg7 23.Be3 h5 24.Bc5 h4  
25.Bxe7 Nxe7 26.Nf1 Bh5 27.N1h2 Ng6 28.Bxg6 Bxg6  
29.Qc1 Rf5 30.Nxg5 Qe7 31.Ngf3 Bh5 32.Ng4 Bxg4  
33.hxg4 Rf7 34.Qh6 Rh7 35.Qg6+ Rg7 36.Qf6 Qxf6  
37.exf6 Rxg4 38.Rxe6 Re4 39.Rxe4 dxe4 40.Ng5 Nd7  
41.Nxe4 Kf7 42.g4 hxg3 43.fxg3 b5 44.g4 1–0



Reece Harms

**Gudmundsson, Eirikur Orri (1551) – Harms, Elijah [E27] Reykjavik Open 2025 (9.194),  
15.04.2025**

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.d4 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 0–0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 b6 8.Qd3 Ba6 9.Qf3 d5 10.e3  
c6 11.Nh3 Nbd7 12.Bd3 e5 13.e4 Qc7 14.Bxf6 Nxf6 15.cxd5 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 cxd5 17.f3 dxe4  
18.fxe4 Nxe4 19.Qxe4 Qxc3+ 20.Ke2 Rfe8 21.d5 Qb2+ 22.Kf3 Rac8 23.Nf2 Rc3+ 24.Nd3 Rxd3+  
25.Qe3 Rxe3+ 26.Kxe3 Qd4+ 0–1

**BC Rapid Championship (April 6)**



The 2025 championship saw a return to the more common term “Rapid” rather than “Active” to describe chess with a time control of 15 + 10; incidentally, Rapid was the term used when this championship was first held at Park Royal Shopping Centre in 1990, won by Leon Piasetski who also played this year. Organized by the Penny Chess Club and held at the Bonsor Recreation Complex in Burnaby, the event drew one hundred and three entrants in two sections, each a

seven-round Swiss. The [Premier Section](#) included three IMs, a WIM, three CMs, and three NMs but it was three-time previous winner IM Raymond Kaufman who gave up fewer points than his rivals to finish clear first with 6.0 points. Four of the latter tied for second a half-point behind: CM Jorge Nunez Asencio, IM Van Thanh Nguyen, and NMs Zachary Liu and Yidong Chen. WIM Bich Ngoc Pham was the top female. As is common with Penny Chess Club events, awards were also presented to the best scores achieved by boys and girls in two-year age categories. These went to Karson Lu (who defeated Nunez Asencio), Elliot McCallum, Barath Subramanian Suresh, Nathan Yi-Hsin Yang, Ryder Hsu, Sofia Vigurs, and Dasha Doroshenko.

The [U1400 Section](#) was won by Nicholas Pei-Chang Wu, Dakota Crozier was second and Patrick Wu and Che Rao tied for third; top female was Rachel Jayawardena. Youth prizes were awarded to Ethan An, Kriyaansh Banatwala, Jensen Lee, Jeremy Sun, Ashrith Guptha Nagamalla, Yaswitha Suresh, Nicole Jayawardena, and Tiffany Shi Han Huang.

### **Fraser Valley Rapid 15** (April 5)

The fifteenth edition of the rapid events run by the Fraser Valley Chess Academy was held in the Main Conference Hall of the Christian Life Assembly Church in Langley. A total of ninety players participated in the usual three sections. The twenty-nine player [Open](#) included an FM, three CMs and two NMs; in the end, FM John Doknjas and CM Jorge Nunez Asencio tied for first with 5.0/6, just ahead of NMs Mayo Fuentebella and Zachary Liu who split the third prize. Kriyaansh Banatwala was the sole winner of the [U1500 Section](#), closely followed by Reynando Potutan and Karen Chen who tied for second. And in the [U1100 Section](#) almost all the winners were new to tournament chess: Nathan Mak and Dmytro Makogonsky tied for first, Prabhjot Singh and Vitalii Kovalchuk tied for third. The bonus [Blitz](#) event was won by Zachary Liu, John Doknjas was second, and Arpak Mohammed Qanee, Neil Doknjas, and Samuel Lu shared third.

CM Jorge Nunez Asencio has now at least tied for first in ten of these events – in fact it is quicker to count the tournaments he hasn't won!

1 Jorge Nunez Asencio	9 (there was no Open section)
2 Mayo Fuentebella	10 Jorge Nunez Asencio
3 Jorge Nunez Asencio	11 Jorge Nunez Asencio
4 Jorge Nunez Asencio	12 Jorge Nunez Asencio
5 Zachary Liu	13 Jorge Nunez Asencio, Zachary Liu,
6 Jorge Nunez Asencio, Mayo Fuentebella	Brian McLaren
7 Zachary Liu	14 Brian McLaren
8 Jorge Nunez Asencio	15 John Doknjas, Jorge Nunez Asencio

### **PNWCC IM Norm RR Spring 2025** (March 26-30)

Another in the ongoing series of norm tournaments organized by the Pacific North West Chess Center took place in Seattle at the end of March. FMs Ethan Song and Jingyun (Ryan) Yang were local participants in the ten-player round robin, which to fulfill norm requirements included three GMs, Cristhian Arnaldo Cruz Sanchez and Emilio Cordova Daza from Peru and Vladimir Georgiev (Bulgaria-Macedonia). The Peruvians tied for first, each scoring 6.5/9; Ethan drew with all three GMs and scored 4.5/6 against the rest of the field to take clear third with 6.0 points, also the score needed to achieve an IM norm – congratulations! WGM Zoey Tang was fourth while Ryan finished in fifth place with 4.5 but did defeat Georgiev. [USCF crosstable](#)

**Yang, Jingyun (Ryan) (2350) – Georgiev, Vladimir (2371) [C47] PNWCC IM Norm RR Spring 2025 (2.1), 27.03.2025**

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.exd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Nf3 Bc5 8.0–0 0–0 9.Re1 f6 10.Qe2 Kh8 11.Bb2 Bb6 12.d4 Bg4 13.Rad1 exd4 14.cxd4 Re8 15.Qxe8+ Qxe8 16.Rxe8+ Rxe8 17.h3 Bh5 18.g4 Bf7 19.d5 Nb4 20.c4 Nxa2 21.Bd4 Bxd4 22.Nxd4 Nc3 23.Rd3 Ne2+ 24.Nxe2 Rxe2 25.c5 Re8 26.d6 c6 27.Ra3 a6 28.Ra4 Rd8 29.Kf1 g6 30.Rb4 Rd7 31.Ke2 Kg7 32.Kd2 Be6 33.Kc3 h6 34.Rd4 f5 35.gxf5 gxf5 36.Kb4 Kf6 37.Ka5 Rg7 38.Bf3 Ke5 39.Rd3 f4 40.Bg4 Bxg4 41.hxg4 Ke6 42.Rh3 Rg6 43.Kb6 Kd7 44.Kxb7 a5 45.Kb6 Rg8 46.g5 a4 47.gxh6 Ra8 48.h7 Rh8 49.Ra3 1–0

**Song, Ethan (2291) – Shaashwath, Sivakumar (2267) [B51] PNWCC IM Norm RR Spring 2025 (3.4), 27.03.2025**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.0–0 a6 5.Bxd7+ Bxd7 6.c3 Nf6 7.Re1 e5 8.d4 Qc7 9.Bg5 Ng8 10.Nbd2 f6 11.Be3 Ne7 12.a4 Be6 13.d5 Bd7 14.Nc4 b6 15.b4 Nc8 16.bxc5 dxc5 17.Nh4 Nd6 18.Nxd6+ Bxd6 19.Qh5+ Ke7 20.f4 g6 21.Qh6 Kf7 22.fxe5 Bxe5 23.Nf3 Rae8 24.Rf1 Ref8 25.Nxe5+ Qxe5 26.Rae1 Bxa4 27.Bg5 Kg8 28.Bf4 Qh5 29.Qxh5 gxh5 30.Bh6 Rf7 31.Re3 h4 32.Rff3 1–0

**Ethan, Song (2291) – Yang, Jingyun (Ryan) (2350) [B22] PNWCC IM Norm RR Spring 2025 (9.1), 30.03.2025**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.d4 Nf6 6.Nbd2 cxd4 7.Bc4 Qd6 8.Qb3 e6 9.Nxd4 a6 10.0–0 Nbd7 11.a4 Ne5 12.Re1 Bg7 13.f4 Nxc4 14.Nxc4 Qc7 15.Nb6 Rb8 16.Nxc8 Qxc8 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Rxe6+ Kf8 19.Be3 Qc7 20.Bd4 Nh5 21.Rae1 Bxd4+ 22.cxd4 Qd8 23.Qb4+ Kg7 24.Re7+ Kh6 25.Qd2 Qd6 26.R1e5 Ng7 27.f5+ g5 28.h4 Qf6 29.R7e6 Nxe6 30.Rxe6 Kg7 31.Rxf6 Kxf6 32.Qxg5+ Kf7 33.Qh6 Rbe8 34.d5 Re1+ 35.Kh2 Rg8 36.d6 Re4 37.d7 Reg4 38.Qe6+ Kg7 39.Qxg8+ Kxg8 40.d8Q+ Kg7 41.Qe7+ Kh6 42.f6 b5 43.f7 b4 44.f8Q+ Kh5 45.Qf5+ Kh6 46.Qeg5+ 1–0

**BCCF Annual General Meeting**

This year's AGM will be held at 3:00pm (est.) on Sunday, May 18, at the site of the Keres Memorial Chess Tournament at Trinity Western University, 22500 University Drive, Langley, BC. (Map). If you have items you'd like added to the agenda, please send to Paul Leblanc at [pc-leblanc@shaw.ca](mailto:pc-leblanc@shaw.ca).

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**GRAND PACIFIC OPEN (April 18-21) by Roger Patterson**

The 2025 Grand Pacific Open, the eighteenth annual, is closing in on twenty years of events (having missing one year due to the pandemic). This year's version drew one hundred and ninety-three players which while not the largest turnout we've had, a fairly robust crowd size and returned to the tradition of drawing players from all over. Players came from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec, Yukon, Washington, Ohio, Illinois, and France. Clearly, the prospect of an island in the

Pacific at this time of year is appealing and the weather did not disappoint with the cherry blossoms in full bloom.

The big gun this year was GM Dimitri Komarov - a Ukrainian emigre living in Edmonton. He duly tied for first with WIM Penny Pham and NM Zachary Liu, both from the mainland. All the co-winners took a slow and steady approach - generally winning with draws as necessary.



**The 2025 champions: left to right Marc Moisan (head TD), NM Zachary Liu, WIM Bich (Penny) Ngoc Pham, GM Dimitri Komarov, Paul Leblanc (organizer)**

Victoria no longer has the oomph it once had in strong contenders for the place prizes as our masters are either inactive or aging out with their stars not as bright as they once were. Patrick Huang, back from university for a co-op stint was the top Victorian player with 4/6 - losing two games to the top three finishers. Players of a certain age will recognize the names of NM Jeff Reeve and FM Paul Ross further down the crosstable who both now live in Victoria.

As usual, there were two side events – the ever-popular Midnight Blitz won by WIM Bich Ngoc Pham and the Victoria Youth Chess Championship, organized by the Victoria Junior Chess Society. You can find the Midnight blitz results [here](#). The VYCC had a respectable forty-three players. You can find the results and winners [here](#).

As always, it takes a lot of people and organizations to make this event successful. Many thanks to all that contributed – our volunteers, TDs, floaters, and the Hotel Grand Pacific.

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## **VANCOUVER CHESS FESTIVAL 11 (April 12-13)**

The final Vancouver Chess Festival for this school year took place as previously in the Ponderosa Ballroom at UBC and like earlier events combined three separate tournaments, a Classical event, the Provincial Chess Challenge, and a Blitz tournament. The Classical attracted eighty players in four sections, a smaller turn-out than usual, but many of the juniors were conserving energy for the Provincials. The thirty-two player [Open Section](#) began with two IMs, two FMs, and two NMs, but by the end of the first day both IMs had withdrawn. Eventually emerging from the pack was 2022 BC



co-champion Keith MacKinnon who gave up a single draw in the last round to claim first. Sharing the other place prizes were Ethan Song, Jingyun (Ryan) Yang, Alfred Pechisker, and Ryan Leong; Dasha Doroshenko was the top female. The [U1800 Section](#) saw Daniel Musakhanyan and Gabriel Golliak tie for first, while Richard Ingram, Manuel Fernando, Vassilis Kontogiorgos, and Dakshesh Singh split the remaining place prizes with Zoya Singh being the top female. Ties were also the order of the day in the [U1400 Section](#): Ryan Malone and Yunqing Zhang shared first and second, Yuvraj Joubble, Charlie Qiao, and Ryan Zhou tied for third, and Martina Szeto took the top female prize. In the [U1100 Section](#) Cody Lin was alone in first, Muxuan Li and Om Hasija tied for second, Yaswitha Suresh was the top female, and Catherine Zhang and Efe Demirkol were awarded VCS Signature Medals as the top players under 600.

The [Blitz](#) tournament, a seven-round Swiss at 3 + 2, took place on the Saturday evening with thirty-three participants. Unusually only one master from the Classical, Jingyun (Ryan) Yang, participated and unsurprisingly he won, only giving up a draw in the last round after first place had been decided. Second was Barath Subramanian Suresh, third was Nicholas Zacharias. In the [U1400 Section](#) Pranav Budhiraja placed first, Darsh Hasija, Geoffrey Trotter, and Micah Trotter shared the remaining prizes.

## Provincial Chess Challenge



The BC Chess Challenge Finals were held on the Sunday, five rounds of 15 + 10. Some one hundred and thirty-six players competed in grade sections to determine the grade champions for this year and who will represent BC at the National Chess Challenge, coming up in Ottawa on the Victoria Day weekend. The following are the trophy winners for this year - congratulations to all!

Kindergarten – Emery Ning, Yaswitha Suresh, Ty Shanmugam/Pengyu Chen  
Grade 1 – Bowen Wang, Ron He, Linara Wickramasinghe  
Grade 2 – Karson Lu, Jimmy Rao, Raymond Sui  
Grade 3 – Josiah Lo, Sam Evans, Tyler Hun  
Grade 4 – Aaron Gu, Jim Dai-Yu, Soren Hach  
Grade 5 – Andrew Yin, Samuel Lu, Barath Subramanian Suresh  
Grade 6 – Jesse Law, Chase Shu, Sining Lou  
Grade 7 – Zachary Liu, Joanne Wangluo, Nathan Yi-Hsin Yang  
Grade 8 – Zichun Xiao, Ryan Golchin, Peter Lei  
Grade 9 – Liam Tu, May Wangluo, Lucas Yu  
Grade 10 – Aadit Arya, Joey Xu, Patrick Steel  
Grade 11 – Robert McBain, Shaunavon Mu  
Grade 12 – Owen Yuen, Kate Jiang, Henry Hilo

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

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### **HENRY LE GALLAIS ROY (7 May 1875 - 20 September 1953)**

This week marks one hundred and fifty years since the birth of “The Old Lion” Canon Henry L. Roy, cleric, chess organizer, and President Emeritus of the C.F.C. He is largely forgotten now, but when Yanofsky wrote his *100 Years of Chess in Canada* in 1967 he regarded Roy as one of the four most important organizers of the previous thirty years (the others being Bernard Freedman, Dan MacAdam, and John Prentice).

Roy’s father was the Reverend [Josiah Jesse Roy](#), later minister of St. George’s Church, Winnipeg, a descendent of the Abraham Martin upon whose land the Battle of the Plains of Abraham took place. Henry Roy graduated from the University of Manitoba with a silver medal in 1894, then studied at Wycliffe College in Toronto for five years. He was Assistant Rector at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver (1901-1905) and Rural Dean of Turtle Mountain (Manitoba, 1908-1913) before serving as Assistant General Missioner for the Diocese of Rupert’s Land. In 1928 Roy was named an Honorary Canon at the Pro-Cathedral of St. Matthew in Brandon, Manitoba. According to Yanofsky, Roy did not get involved in chess organization until 1936, when he was already sixty-one years old. Describing himself as a “run of the mine” player, Roy noted: “By learning chess, you have a spare-time filler until you're ready for the grave. You might be an athlete, but you're a has been at thirty – in chess there is no limit.” Early in 1947 Roy moved to Vancouver where he became involved with the B.C.C.F.; he passed away after returning from his last Annual Meeting in Winnipeg 1953, having just completed his final term as C.F.C. president.



At the end of his life, “at our request and under pressure,” Roy wrote a summation of his accomplishments in chess, duly published in the January 1952 issue of *Canadian Chess Chat*. Here it is:

"Born May 7, 1875, about thirty miles south of Montreal, of French parents, was unable to speak a word of English until eleven years old. Learned the moves of chess from my stepmother, who had bought a set to keep me out of mischief. Never had any particular hobby, but played almost every outdoor game in vogue at the end of the last century. Received a university degree at nineteen years of age, with medal and scholarship. Never aspired to become a chess expert (a-la-B.F. classification) but did try my hand, with indifferent success, at organizing chess in local, provincial and national fields. Acted as president, for eight years, of the Winnipeg Chess Club [1936-1944], six years of the Manitoba Chess Association [1938-1945], two years secretary of the Winnipeg Jewish C.C. and two years the British Columbia Chess Federation [1948-1950]. President Chess Federation of Canada five years [1941-1945, 1952-1953]. And am now acting as membership secretary of the B.C.C.F. in looking after and boosting the "capitation system," the best method that I know of for obtaining sufficient funds to run any kind of chess organization. We have in B.C.C.F. a revenue each year, from this source alone, of approximately \$100.00, which meets all our current needs with some to spare!



Collaborated in framing the constitution of the C.F.C. and am the father (a doubtful honour) of the slogan: "No participation or representation without taxation in the affairs of the C.F.C." Framed the general policy of the C.F.C. as set forth and endorsed in the one and only Year Book issued to date by the C.F.C. Framed the pattern and staging of yearly Annual Meetings in 1941, since followed and subsequently improved by my successors. Organized a dominion chess championship in Winnipeg [1941] and raised funds to promote dominion championships in Montreal, Dalhousie, Saskatoon and Vancouver; in the latter, 10% of the total. Raised sufficient funds to send Yanofsky to Montreal, Saskatoon, Buenos Aires and Europe (approximately \$2,000).

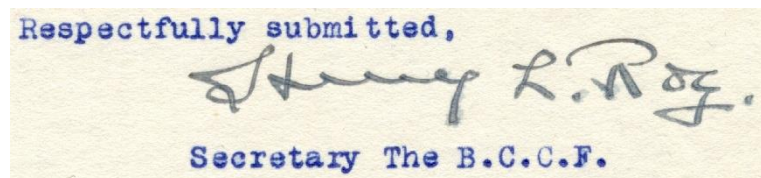


University of Manitoba vs. University of Saskatchewan by telegraph, 30 December 1942. The seated players are Nathan Divinsky and Leo Moser; Canon Roy is on the right, next to him is *Winnipeg Free Press* chess columnist Herb Gregory

Made my aim during the years of my C.F.C. presidency to attend all Annual Meetings and to personally know every member of the Board of Governors. Promoted telegraphic matches: Winnipeg vs. Vancouver twice, while in Winnipeg. Although we lost both to Vancouver, we did manage to "short-circuit" Toronto. Also telegraph matches between Canadian universities, when Winnipeg, among others, lost to the University of Saskatchewan. Organized matches: Nova Scotia vs. New Brunswick, New Brunswick vs. Ontario and Saskatchewan vs. Ontario, for a shield which I presented. Also a correspondence match, of sixty a side, between Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Arranged for chess lectures in Canada via the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and later on in each province, except P.E.I., over provincial stations. Issued bulletins from time to time, and minutes of meetings, sent out promptly."

"Made arrangements and financed two simultaneous tours by Yanofsky, and one each by Koltanowski and Max Euwe. As a member of the Board of Governors made it my special responsibility that C.F.C. assessments for the provinces in which I resided at the time were paid in full, and sometimes overpaid. Assisted, through personal donations, provinces in which I did not reside (Alberta and Saskatchewan), to meet their C.F.C. assessments. As I plugged along in my endeavours, became the target for brick-bats, but have survived, and am still working and boosting for provincial and, more especially, national chess organization."

No games of Canon Roy's have survived, but there is a reference to him playing in a team match between the Burrard Chess Club (apparently soon thereafter renamed the Vancouver Chess Club) and the St. Barnabas Chess Club of New Westminster in 1902. The Burrard team included Arthur C. Brydone-Jack, William and Edmund Francis and H.H. Narraway, prominent members of the city's chess community at the time. The Burrards won the match 7.0-5.0; Roy split a pair of games with a Mr. J.M. Burnett.



Respectfully submitted,  
Henry R. Roy.  
Secretary The B.C.C.F.

Roy's signature, from the B.C.C.F. Minute Book

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**COMING EVENTS:** see listings at [CFC](#), [BCCF](#) and [Northwest chess](#) websites

**Langley Chess Club Blitz Tournament**

Langley, May 5 [Details](#)

**Lulu Island Chess 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rapid**

Richmond, May 10 [Details](#)

**Spring Rapid**

Qualicum Beach, May 10 [Details](#)

**RCC Elite Championship #3**

Vancouver, May 11 [Details](#)

**RCC CYCC #3**

Richmond, May 16 [Details](#)

**Paul Keres Memorial**

Langley, May 17-19 [Details](#)

**Washington Open**

Redmond, WA, May 24-26 [Details](#)

**Okanagan Valley Rapid 4**

West Kelowna, May 24 [Details](#)

**PCC Open 5 (CYCC Qualifier)**

Burnaby, May 25 [Details](#)

**BC Interschool Championship**

Langley, May 31 – June 1 [Details](#)

**Greater Vancouver Chess Tournament 8**

Burnaby, June 7-8 [Details](#)

**Intermat BC-WA Scholastic Match**

Burnaby, June 8 [Details](#)

**Fraser Valley Rapid 16**

Abbotsford, June 14 [Details](#)

**BC Senior Championship**

Surrey, June 20-22 [Details](#)

**Fraser Valley Classical 3**

Langley, June 21-22 [Details](#)

**Summer Classic Tournament**

Langley, June 23 and following [Details](#)

**Canadian Youth Chess Championship**

Surrey, July 8-11 [Details](#)

**Canadian Open**

Surrey, July 12-18 [Details](#)

**World Chess Day Championship**

Langley, July 19-20 [Details](#)

**Ultimate Chess Club League**

Langley/Surrey, Sept. – Dec. [Details](#)