

Scarborough Community of Toronto
Chess News & Views

Newsletter of / Le Journal de
Scarborough Chess Club

“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

Issue # 13 – March 1, 2003

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

Prague Unity Agreement Takes Another Step Forward

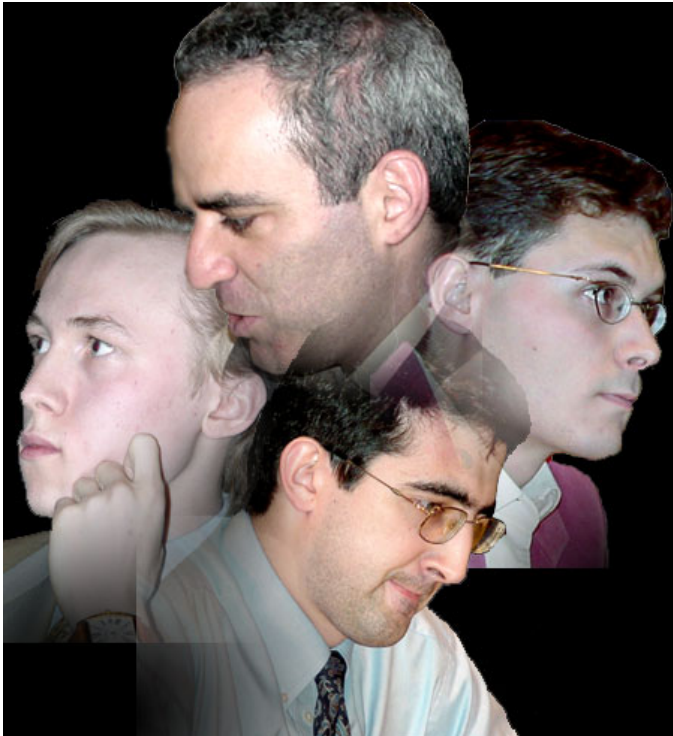
The Prague Unity Agreement, signed in May 2002, had as its purpose the unification of the World Championship title. At the present moment, Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) claims the “ classical “ world championship, by virtue of his defeating Garry Kasparov (Russia) in the match sponsored by BrainGamesNetwork. FIDE on the other hand, was having its annual knockout world chess championships. The 2002 FIDE World Champion is Ruslan Ponomariov (Ukraine). So the proposal was adopted by which Kramnik would play a match with the winner of the Dortmund “ candidates “ tournament – which turned out to be Peter Leko (Hungary). On the other side of the draw, it was proposed that Ponomariov would play the # 1 rated player, Kasparov. The two winners would then play for the unified FIDE world championship in November 2003.

But problems arose when Ponomariov wanted 2 conditions accepted for him to play Kasparov. One was that in the event of a tie match, the champion, Ponomariov, would retain the title. In the FIDE knockout system, this had been abandoned in favour of tie-breaking rapid games. The second condition was that Ponomariov wanted the faster time control FIDE had introduced into the knockouts, game in 90 min. + 30 sec. increments from move 1. Kasparov was championing a return to the “ classical “ time control of 40 moves in 2 hrs., 20 moves in 1 hr., and sudden death 30 min. The negotiations went forward in fits and starts, and sometimes looked hopeless.

But FIDE and Ponomariov recently announced that they had reached agreement !

SCTCN&V Website : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>
SCC e – mail : scarboro@idirect.ca SCC Website : <http://webhome.idirect.com/~blamb/>
Stan Wadlow Park Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Ave.
(one block east of Woodbine Ave./Cosburn Ave. intersection, in former East York)

Ponomariov backed down on both conditions. The match will be held June 19 to July 7 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Ponomariov's coming to the table may have something to do with the \$ 1 million prize fund. It is not the kind of match one wants to default.



Clockwise from top : Garry Kasparov; Peter Leko; Vladimir Kramnik; Ruslan Ponomariov

But now the other side of the draw is in need of finalization. Einstein Group, who hold the rights to Kramnik's semi-final, have only been able to say that they are still in negotiations with 2 cities for the holding of the event. So obviously there is not yet any date set for this side of the draw. Concern has been expressed that the match must be finalized soon, so that there will be time to arrange the final match for November. Let's hope we are soon advised that this side of the draw is also finalized.

January 2003 FIDE Rating List

Once again, as has been the case since July 2001, only 2 players are over 2800 : # 1 : Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13 th FIDE World Champion – 2847, up 9 pts. as a result of his astounding play at the November 2002 Olympiad as Russia's first board; and # 2 : Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 2000 BrainGamesNetwork World Champion – 2807.

There are now 12 players in the 2700's (up from 10 in the Oct. 2002 list). # 3 is still Viswanathan Anand (India), 2000 FIDE World Champion – 2753; # 4 is Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria), up from # 5 – 2743; # 5 is Peter Leko (Hungary), the challenger of Kramnik in their semi-final match coming up later this year, up from # 6 – 2736; # 6 is Michael Adams (England) – 2734; and # 7 is Ruslan Ponomariov (Ukraine), 2002 FIDE World Champion (only 18 years old).

1999 FIDE World Champion, Alexander Khalifman (Russia) is # 12 – 2702; Judit Polgar (Hungary), the world's strongest female player, is # 13 – 2700 (up from

18). 12 th FIDE World Champion, Anatoly Karpov (Russia) is down from # 17 to # 20 – 2688.

Here are a number of the younger players we've been watching : Alexander Grischuk (Russia) is # 10 – 2712; Etienne Bacrot (France) is # 27 (up from # 37) – 2671; Francisco Vallejo Pons (Spain), currently playing in the Linares, Spain supertournament, is # 59 – 2629; Teimour Radjabov (Azerbaijan), also playing in Linares, is # 68 – 2624. The number # 100 player is rated 2598.

The two highest rated Canadians with FIDE rating are : GM Kevin Spraggett, former Canadian Champion at 2533 (October 2002); GM Alexandre Le Siege, 2001 Canadian Champion, at 2531 (October 2002).

2003 Toronto Class Championships

Dates: March 7-9, 2003 (start of school break)

Site: CMA rooms (now Bayview Games Club), 2nd Floor, 1681 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, Ontario

Chief Tournament Director: David Cohen

WANTED: Volunteers to help run this non-profit event (can play simultaneously).

Format: Limited to 60 players. CFC rated.

10 Round Robin Sections of 6 players each. 5 rounds.

1 game Friday, 2 games Saturday, 2 games Sunday.

Time Control: Game/180.

Times: Fri. - 7:00pm; Sat. - 10:00am, 4:30pm; Sun. - 10:00am, 4:30pm

Rating : Peak rating used to determine a player's section.

Byes : There are no byes.

Registration: All players must register Friday from 5:30pm-6:30pm. Registration includes showing a CFC Membership card with expiry date 2003.03.09 or later (or joining CFC or renewing CFC Membership). Cash only, largest bill accepted: \$20.

Entry fee: \$60. May be paid in advance to CMA, c/o Chess Shop, 1685 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3C1. If using credit card, add 2% surcharge (not considered part of the entry fee).

ATTENTION MASTERS: All players in the top 2 sections who complete all of their games will be refunded their entry fee.

Prizes: Based on 60 players, the first prize in each section is \$225.

\$1/player will be donated to the Greater Toronto Chess League Scholarship Fund

Tournament is sanctioned by the Greater Toronto Chess League

Organizer: Greater Toronto Chess League

Toronto Senior Chess Championship

For Chess Players age 50 and better*
Tournament limited to 30 players – Please enter early

Dates: Saturday March 22 and Sunday March 23, 2003

Place: Bradgate Arms, 54 Foxbar Rd., Toronto (southeast of Avenue Rd & St. Clair)

Type: Five Rounds Regular Swiss; one section; CFC rated (All entrants must be or become members of the Chess Federation of Canada; or purchase a CFC tournament membership.)

Rounds: Saturday Round 1 at 10:30 am; Round 2 at 2:30 pm; Round 3 at 6 pm; Sunday Round 4 at 10:30 am; Round 5 at 2:30 pm

**Time Control: (Rds.1-4): 90 minutes per game per player
Round 5: 120 minutes per game per player**

**Entry Fee: \$25
\$3 late fee; on site entries 9:30 am – 10:15 am March 22, 2003**

Prizes: cash prizes will be a minimum of 80% of entries and late fees;

Organizer and TD: Wilf Ferner and Martin Jaeger

Info: W. Ferner-Phone 416-439-8912; Email: weferner@pathcom.com

[Site: Courtesy BRADGATE ARMS-a first class residence within a full service luxury hotel](#)

Please bring sets, boards, and clocks

Regular CFC ratings used will be from the Jan/Feb 03 En Passant

A player may take up to two byes(excluding last round)

Tournament limited to 30 players – Please enter early!

No Smoking!

Limited on street parking

*Tournament open to players born before March 22, 1953 – bring proof of age

Registration Form: mail entries to W.Ferner, 121 Trudelle St. #711,Scarborough, ON M1J 3K4; make cheques payable to W. Ferner; mail entry deadline postmarked Mar.14; cash only at site.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

CFC Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Regular CFC Rating: _____ Approximate date of publication: _____

Email: _____

Advance Byes : _____

Entry Fee(\$25): _____ CFC/OCA Annual Fee(\$40): _____ CFC/OCA Tournament Fee(\$10): _____ Late Fee(\$3): _____

Total Fees: _____. Please enter early!

Come join us and play some chess again!

A - Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed. , directly, at bobarm@sympatico.ca or through SCC e-mail, to :

1. Be added to the free e-mail list;
 2. Submit content (fact, opinion, criticism, recommendations!).
- B – An item in any language may be submitted for publication, if accompanied by an English translation.
C – The opinions expressed here are those of the editor, and not necessarily those of the Scarborough CC.
D- To review this newsletter after it has been deleted, or any of the archived newsletters back to Sept. 1, 2002, visit our own SCTCN&V official website at : <http://scarboroughchess.webhop.net>.