

Scarborough Community of Toronto
Chess News & Views

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“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

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Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

Is Topalov Interested in Playing Kramnik or Kasparov ?

Silvio Danailov is Veselin Topalov's manager, trainer and coordinator. Now that the Bulgarian Topalov is 2005 FIDE World Champion, Silvio stated immediately after the victory that Topalov recognizes the Classical World Championship of Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), given that he beat Kasparov in a match in 2000 for the title, and then defended it in 2004 against Peter Leko (Hungary). He would be interested in a match against Kramnik, and also against the 13th World Champion, Garry Kasparov (Russia), retired earlier this year. Danailov thought that FIDE would change the currently anticipated 2005-7 World Championship cycle schedule, if such a match for the FIDE World Championship could be arranged.

But subsequently, in a personal interview, Topalov himself complained that Kramnik was now only # 7 on the rating list, and 60 points below Topalov. For those reasons, he said he wouldn't challenge Kramnik, though he said that the match might be held for commercial reasons. Of the upcoming FIDE 2005-7 World Championship format, he had this to say :

“A Topalov-Kramnik match for the title is out of question, because FIDE has organised a two-year cycle for the world championship, analogous to the one we had in San Luis, where eight qualifiers will fight for the title. (Note : Topalov is referring to the new updated World Championship Format, just decided in San Luis by FIDE – see below – Editor.) Thus the tournament shall determine the new holder of the Crown. That is the plan.”

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Is Kramnik Interested in Playing Topalov ?

In a recent interview, Kramnik expressed his position that the World Championship has a lineage, and that it must be won by defeating the existing Classical World Champion in match play, the same as he won his title of 14th Classical World Champion. Here is what he said :

“ I've read [comments in the press](#) that Veselin does not believe I am a worthy contender for the title, giving my relatively low rating as the basis for his argument. I believe this is just his emotions speaking. World championship and tournament performance are two entirely separate entities. In chess history the World Champion has not always scored brilliantly in tournaments. One could even go as far as to say that this is rather more an exception than a rule. Petrosian, Spassky, and Botvinnik never won too many tournaments, but nobody ever had any doubts as to the legitimacy of their titles.

I'd like to stress once more: I firmly believe that I am the real World Chess Champion. I won this title in a contest against the thirteenth World Champion Garry Kasparov and later defended my title in a match against Peter Leko. My title is legitimate and this was acknowledged even by FIDE in the Prague Accords. Should anyone, like Topalov, believe that he is stronger, let him beat me in a match. “

Then later in the week, Kramnik's manager, Carsten Hensel, gave an interview to ChessBase, in which he said :

“ Veselin Topalov has received in written form a lucrative offer to play against Kramnik in the second half of 2006. Discussions with the Topalov management so far were conducted in a positive and constructive atmosphere. “

Who is the Legitimate World Champion ?

We shall have to wait to see how all this shakes out in the future. E-mail us and tell us what YOU think !! Does Kramnik have a legitimate claim to be World Champion based on the Classical System of determining the World Champion in effect since Kasparov broke with FIDE in 1993 ? Or does Topalov now have legitimate title, having won this last FIDE World Championship super-tournament ? We'll publish your views in the next newsletter.

New FIDE World Championship Format

In San Luis, at their recent meeting, FIDE changed the final format of the 2005-7 World Championship Cycle. The World Cup will still take place, with 128 participants. But the Candidates matches format is now changed as follows :

a) The 8-player World Chess Championship Tournament is established as the final stage of the World Championship cycle. The event will include the reigning World Champion, the players placed 2-4 in San Luis and 4 qualifiers from the Candidate Matches.

b) The Last Chance Super Tournament has been removed from the World Championship cycle. Instead, the Candidate Matches include 16 players: 10 qualifiers from the World Cup, 5 players by rating and GM Rustam Kasimdzhanov as the previous World Champion.

c) FIDE is examining the possibility of interim World Championship matches for the title of World Champion under certain conditions.

Scarborough Chess Club Starts New Swiss

This Thursday, November 3, a new CFC – rated, 7 round, one-section Fall Swiss will start at SCC. Come out and join the fun.

The first Swiss of the year, the Autumn Swiss (7 rounds), completed October 27, attracted 22 players and was won by Imtiaz Husain.

Big Blunders in Chess

(Written and copyright 2005 by David Cohen)

Here are some of the biggest blunders ever made in master chess games.

Game 1

This game was played in a match for the World Championship. At the time of the game, Challenger Bronstein was leading 3-2 after 5 games of the 24 game match. Here's what happened:

David Bronstein - Mikhail Botvinnik

World Championship Match, Moscow, USSR, 1951

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 h6 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.O-O-O a6 10.f4 Bd7 11.Kb1 Be7 12.Be2 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Qa5 14.Rhf1 h5 15.Rf3 Qc5 16.Qd2 Bc6 17.Re3 Qa5 18.Bf3 O-O-O 19.Qd3 Rd7 20.h4 Kb8 21.a3 Bd8 22.Ka2 Qc5 23.Re2 a5 24.a4 Bb6 25.b3 Rc8 26.Qc4 Qxc4 27.bxc4 Rh8 28.Kb3 Rdd8 29.Rd3 Bg1 30.Red2 Kc7 31.Ne2 Bf2 32.Rd1 Bc5 33.Ng3 Rdg8 34.Ne2 Rh7 35.f5 e5 36.Nc3 Bd4 37.Rxd4 exd4 38.Rxd4 Rhg7 39.Ne2 Rxc2 40.Bxc2 Rxc2 41.Nf4 Rg3+ 42.Kb2 Rg4 43.Nxh5 Rxh4 44.Nxf6 Kb6 45.Rxd6 Kc5 46.e5 Rd4 47.Rxd4 Kxd4 48.Ng4 Bxa4 49.e6 fxe6 50.f6 Be8 51.Kb3 e5 52.c3+ Ke4 53.Nh6 Kf4 54.f7 Bxf7 55.Nxf7 e4 56.Nd8 e3

DIAGRAM

White: K/b3; N/d8; P/c3,c4.

Black: K/f4; P/a5,b7,e3.

57.Kc2 Kg3

0-1

In the diagram, how many ways can the Black king move from f4 to f2 in 2 moves?

White must play 57.Ne6+ immediately, so the knight can move on to d4 (57...Kf3 58.Nd4+ Kf2). From there, the knight can be sacrificed for the Black pawn whenever the pawn moves from e3 to e2. Then, the game will be a draw.

Instead, White played 57.Kc2 ??, thinking to play the knight back next move, and so after 57...Kf3 58.Nf7 e2 59.Ne5+ Kf2 60.Nd3+ to give up the knight for the pawn when it promotes on e1.

But there came a rude surprise: 57...Kg3 !! There are 2 routes that the king can take from f4 to f2 in 2 moves. Going via f3 gives the knight a check, and so enough time to retreat and catch the pawn. But, going via g3 gives the knight no checks, so it can't get back in time! The pawn will promote safely.

After this loss, the match was tied 3-3. Bronstein never fully recovered. The match was drawn, Champion Botvinnik kept his title, and Bronstein never again challenged for the title.

Game 2

This game was played by two grandmasters in a tournament to determine who would challenge for the World Championship:

Tigran Petrosian - David Bronstein

Candidates Tournament, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1956

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 O-O 5.Nf3 c5 6.O-O Nc6 7.d4 d6 8.dxc5 dxc5 9.Be3 Nd7 10.Qc1 Nd4 11.Rd1 e5 12.Bh6 Qa5

13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.Kh1 Rb8 15.Nd2 a6 16.e3 Ne6 17.a4 h5 18.h4 f5 19.Nd5 Kh7 20.b3 Rf7 21.Nf3 Qd8 22.Qc3 Qh8 23.e4 fxe4

24.Nd2 Qg7 25.Nxe4 Kh8 26.Rd2 Rf8 27.a5 Nd4 28.b4 cxb4 29.Qxb4 Nf5 30.Rad1 Nd4 31.Re1 Nc6 32.Qa3 Nd4 33.Rb2 Nc6 34.Reb1 Nd4 35.Qd6 Nf5

DIAGRAM

White: K/h1; Q/d6; R/b1,b2; N/d5,e4; B/g2; P/a5,c4,f2,g3,h4.

Black: K/h8; Q/g7; R/b8,f8; N/d7,f5; B/c8; P/a6,b7,e5,g6,h5.

36.Ng5 Nxd6

0-1

A knight moving backwards is the hardest type of move to visualize on the chessboard.

Tigran Petrosian later became World Champion 1963-9.

Game 3

I. Von Popiel - Georg Marco

DIAGRAM

White: K/h1; Q/d3; R/d1; N/f5; B/b1; P/a2,e4,g2,h2.

Black: K/h8; Q/e5; R/d7; B/b7,d4; P/a6,b5,g7,h6.

1-0

White has 3 pieces attacking B/d4: N/f5; Q/d3; and R/d1. Black has only 2 pieces defending it: R/d7; and Q/e5. Furthermore, Black has no way of defending it an additional time. So, if Black does not move the bishop, then it will be lost (3 attackers > 2 defenders). But if Black moves the bishop, then the R/d7 behind it on the d-file will be captured for free by the Q/d3. So, thinking that he was losing a piece, Black resigned. But this was a blunder! Instead, Black should have played 1...Bg1 !! The threat is 2...Qxh2#. By taking time to prevent the checkmate, White will lose either the Q/d3 or the R/d1 to the R/d7. So, instead of losing, Black should have won!

Georg Marco was one of the world's leading commentators on chess games.

Game 4

Sztern - Lundquist

Australia, 1983

DIAGRAM

White: K/b1; Q/e3; R/c1; N/e5; B/d3; P/b2,d6,f4,h3,h5.

Black: K/g8; Q/b6; R/a3,e8; N/d4; P/b7,c5,g5,g7,h7.

28...Qxb2+

0-1

In the diagram position, Black offered White a draw. White, as was White's right, asked to see Black's move before giving an answer. So, Black played a queen sacrifice. White was so surprised by the move, which forces checkmate (29.Kxb2 Rb3+ 30.Ka2 Ra8+ 31.Ba6 Rxa6#), that White resigned! But White completely forgot that White had been offered a draw, which White could have accepted, instead of resigning!!

Game 5

The shortest master game ever played:

Z. Djordjevic - M. Kovacevic

Bela Crkva, 1984

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 c6 3. e3 Qa5+

0-1

The Autumn Open – Toronto - Upcoming Tournament

This 5 round swiss will be held at the Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Avenue, on November 11 – 13. Time control will be Game/150 min.. Rounds are : Friday – 6:30 pm; Sat. & Sun. – 11:00 am & 5:30 pm. Entry Fee is \$55 (payable in cash by November 10). Late Fee - \$ 10. Non-members of BGC - \$ 15 extra. This is a CFC – rated tournament – membership required or \$ 10 tournament membership. There is also a draw for an early bird door prize, for those who register by November 4 – full entry fee rebate (\$ 55). For further information : Vlad Dobrich 416-722-9709.

The TORONTO JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2005
November 6 to December 18

This will be an eight player round-robin tournament comprising of the eight highest rated players born in 1986 or later who apply.

The deadline for entries will be 7pm Wednesday, November 2 at the BGC where the draw for position will take place. A reserve section will be available after the top section is filled.

Schedule: Games will be played on consecutive Sundays at 3 pm. The Bayview Games Club is open 7 days per week, so individual games may be rescheduled by agreement of both players and upon notification of the TD.

The event will be both CFC and FIDE rated, and the rating fees and admin costs will be paid by the GTCL.

Time control: 90 minutes for 40 moves and 15 minutes for the rest of the game with 30 seconds increment from the first move.

ENTRY FEE: \$60 payable by 7pm, November 2.

PRIZES:

Championship (100% of EFs) 1st - \$240 & Trophy
2nd - \$150
3rd - \$90

Reserve section - 75% of entry fees.

Entries & Info: Vlad Dobrich (416) 722-9709

NAME.....RATING.....CFC
PHONE.....daysFIDE

.....evgs

YEAR OF BIRTH.....

ENTRY FEE \$60 enclosed.

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

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