

Scarborough Community of Toronto
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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 ?

Happy New Year !!

Aronian Wins 2005 FIDE World Cup

This knockout tournament was held in the city of Khanty-Mansiysk in Russia. It ran from Nov. 27 – Dec. 17. 128 players qualified for it in regional zonal, and continental tournaments, throughout the world, or by special inclusion. It was the first phase of the 2005-2007 World Championship Cycle. The top 10 finishers now qualify to go into the second phase of the cycle, the Candidates Matches, later in 2006. The rounds were 2-game knockout matches. Tie-break was a 2-game rapid match, and then, if necessary, a 2-game blitz match, and then if necessary, a sudden death game (White gets 6 min., and Black gets 5 minutes, but wins if there is a draw).

Last Issue, we reported on Rounds 1 – 6. The last round, Round 7, was played December 15 & 16, with tie-breaks on Dec. 17. The final match to determine the winner was Ruslan Ponomariov (2002 FIDE World Champion, and # 19 in the world) vs Levon Aronian (# 10 in the world). The other final fourteen players played off to determine the final standings from # 3 - # 16.

In the finalist match, Ponomariov and Aronian drew the first two regulation games. But then Aronian won both rapid tie-break games. Here is Game 1 of the tie-break :

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(1) Aronian,L (2724) – Ponomariov,R (2704)

WCC 2005 0:23.05-0:07.21 (73), 17.12.2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.e3 b6 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.cxd5 Nxd5
10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Bg3 Bb4+ 12.Ke2 c5 13.a3 Ba5 14.b4 cxb4 15.Qb3 Nc5 16.dxc5 bxc5 17.axb4
c4 18.Bh7+ Kh8 19.Qc3 Bxb4 20.Qxb4 Kxh7 21.Qd6 Bf5 22.Qxd8 Rfxd8 23.Nd4 Bg6 24.Kd2 a5
25.Ra4 Ra6 26.Rha1 Rda8 27.Nb5 Rb6 28.Rxa5 c3+ 29.Nxc3 Rb2+ 30.Ke1 Rc8 31.R5a2 Rxa2
32.Nxa2 d4 33.exd4 Ra8 34.d5 Bf5 35.d6 Bd7 36.Bf4 Kg6 37.Bd2 Ra6 38.Bc3 Rxd6 39.Nb4 Bb5
40.Nc2 Rd3 41.Ra3 f6 42.Bd4 Rxa3 43.Nxa3 Bc6 44.f3 Kf7 45.Nc4 Ke6 46.Ne3 Bb7 47.Bc5 Bc6
48.Kf2 Bb7 49.f4 Be4 50.g3 h5 51.Ke2 g5 52.Kd2 h4 53.Kc3 hxg3 54.hxg3 gxf4 55.gxf4 Bb1
56.Kd4 Bg6 57.Bb6 Bb1 58.Bd8 f5 59.Kc5 Be4 60.Bg5 Bb1 61.Nd5 Be4 62.Nb4 Kd7 63.Na2 Ke6
64.Nc3 Bf3 65.Nb5 Be4 66.Nd4+ Kd7 67.Bf6 Kc7 68.Ne6+ Kd7 69.Ng7 Kc7 70.Be7 Kd7 71.Bf8
Kc7 72.Kd4 Kd7 73.Ke5 1-0

Here is Game 2 of the tie-break :

(1) Ponomariov,R (2704) – Aronian,L (2724)

WCC 2005 Russia (74), 17.12.2005

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.a3 d6 9.c3 Be6 10.d4
Bxb3 11.Qxb3 Re8 12.Qc2 Bf8 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bh4 g5 15.Bg3 g4 16.Nh4 exd4 17.Nd2 dxc3
18.Qxc3 Ne5 19.Nf5 Nh5 20.Nf1 Nxg3 21.N1xg3 Re6 22.Rad1 Rc8 23.Ne2 Qg5 24.Ned4 Rf6
25.h4 gxh3 26.Qxh3 Qg4 27.Qxg4+ Nxg4 28.Nc6 Re6 29.f3 Ne5 30.Nfd4 Ree8 31.Re2 d5
32.exd5 Nxc6 33.dxc6 Bg7 34.Rxe8+ Rxe8 35.Nf5 Bxb2 36.Rd7 Re6 37.Rxc7 Bxa3 38.Kf1 Bc5
39.Ng3 b4 40.Rc8+ Kh7 41.Ne4 b3 42.c7 Rc6 43.Nf6+ Kg6 44.Rg8+ Kxf6 45.c8Q Rxc8 46.Rxc8
Bb4 47.Rc1 a5 48.Ke2 a4 49.Rc6+ Kg7 50.Kd3 a3 51.Ra6 a2 0-1

Significant in the other matches was the finish in the top 10, of the only representative left from the Americas, Gata Kamsky, as # 9. In the last round, winning the two rapid tie-break games, he defeated the 15 year old Norwegian sensation of the tournament, Magnus Carlsen, who finished # 10. These two finishes were important because, as was mentioned, the top 10 finishers advance to the second phase of the 2005-7 World Championship Cycle, the Candidates Matches. Regulation Game 1 between these two was a wild affair which saw young Carlsen sack two minor pieces, and then later pick up a rook and pawn in exchange. Here is the game :

Carlsen,M (2570) – Kamsky,G (2690)

WCC 2005 0:08.56-0:14.24 (71), 15.12.2005

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3 b5 7.0-0 Bb7 8.Qe2 Ne7 9.Re1 Nbc6
10.Nxc6 Nxc6 11.Nd5 exd5 12.exd5+ Ne7 13.c4 b4 14.Bg5 f6 15.Qh5+ g6 16.Qf3 fxe5 17.Qf6 0-0
18.Qxh8 Qd6 19.Be4 Kb8 20.Rac1 Qf4 21.g3 Qf7 22.Qd4 d6 23.Qb6 Rd7 24.Qxb4 Nf5
25.Bxf5 gxf5 26.Re6 f4 27.Rce1 Rd8 28.Qb6 Rc8 29.b4 fxe3 30.hxe3 h5 31.b5 Qc7 32.Qxc7+
Kxc7 33.a4 axb5 34.axb5 Kb6 35.Re8 Bg7 36.R8e6 Rd8 37.c5+ Kxc5 38.Re7 Bd4 39.Rxb7 Rf8
40.Rc7+ Kxd5 41.Rd1 Rb8 42.Rg7 g4 43.Rg5+ Kc4 44.Rxh5 Bc5 45.Rg5 Rxb5 46.Rxg4+ Kc3
47.Kg2 Ba3 48.Rgd4 1-0

Here is the rapid Game 1 :

(4) Kamsky,G (2690) – Carlsen,M (2570)

WCC 2005 0:14.45-0:10.22 (73), 17.12.2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Bf4 c5 4.c3 cxd4 5.cxd4 Nc6 6.Nc3 Bf5 7.e3 e6 8.Bb5 Bb4 9.0-0 0-0 10.Rc1 Bxc3 11.Rxc3 Ne4 12.Rc1 g5 13.Bg3 h5 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Ne5 h4 16.Nxc6 Qd7 17.Be5 f6 18.f3 Nd6 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Qd2 Rf7 21.b4 Rg7 22.h3 Re8 23.Rfe1 Rc7 24.b5 a6 25.a4 axb5 26.axb5 Rb7 27.e4 dxe4 28.fxe4 Bh7 29.e5 Qf8 30.Rc5 Rg7 31.exf6 Qxf6 32.Ne5 Bf5 33.Rf1 Qd8 34.Qe3 g4 35.hxg4 Bxg4 36.Nc6 Qc7 37.Rg5 h3 38.gxh3 Bf5 39.Rxf5 1-0

Here is the rapid Game 2 :

(4) Carlsen,M (2570) – Kamsky,G (2690)

WCC 2005 Russia (74), 17.12.2005

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3 Nf6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Be3 b5 9.Nxc6 Qxc6 10.f3 Bc5 11.Qe1 d6 12.Kh1 Bxe3 13.Qxe3 0-0 14.Rfd1 Bb7 15.Qd4 Qc5 16.Qxc5 dxc5 17.a4 b4 18.Nb1 Nd7 19.Nd2 Ne5 20.Be2 a5 21.Kg1 g5 22.Kf2 Ba6 23.g3 Rfd8 24.f4 gxf4 25.gxf4 Ng6 26.Bxa6 Rxa6 27.Nc4 Rxd1 28.Rxd1 Nxf4 29.Rd8+ Kg7 30.Rc8 f5 31.Kf3 Nh3 32.exf5 exf5 33.Rxc5 Ng5+ 34.Ke3 f4+ 35.Ke2 Re6+ 36.Re5 Rc6 37.b3 Kf6 38.Rxa5 Re6+ 39.Kf2 f3 40.Ne3 Re4 41.Ra6+ Ke5 42.Rh6 Rd4 43.Nc4+ Kf5 44.h4 Nf7 45.Rb6 Rxh4 46.Rxb4 Rh3 47.a5 Ng5 48.a6 Ne4+ 49.Ke3 f2+ 50.Ke2 Rc3 51.Nd2 Rxc2 52.Rd4 Nxd2 53.Rd5+ Ke6 0-1

Also important was the finish of Vladimir Malakhov as # 11. This is because this is the reserve Candidate Match position. Should one of the top 10 finishers qualify instead to the Candidates Match by rating invitation, then the reserve finisher is called up to play in the Candidates Matches. There is a real possibility of this because two of the five invitees by rating are expected to decline – Gary Kasparov (Russia), because he has retired, and Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), because of his dispute with FIDE over his claim to be the Classical World Champion. If this happens, then Etienne Bacrot (France), one of the top 10 finishers, would become entitled to play by rating, and Malakhov would then gain a spot in the Candidates Matches.

The final finishing order of the top 16 players was :

1. Aronian, Levon (Armenia)
2. Ponomarev, Ruslan (Ukraine)
3. Bacrot, Etienne (France)
4. Grischuk, Alexander (Russia)
5. Bareev, Evgeny (Russia)
6. Gelfand, Boris (Israel)
7. Rublevsky, Sergei (Russia)
8. Gurevich, Mikhail (Turkey)
9. Kamsky, Gata (USA)
10. Carlsen, Magnus (Norway)
11. Malakhov, Vladimir (Russia)
12. Vallejo Pons, Francisco (Spain)
13. Dreev, Alexey (Russia)
14. Van Wely, Loek (Netherlands)
15. Lautier, Joel (France)
16. Sakaev, Konstantin (Russia)

Top Ranked Canadian Chess Players at Year-end 2005

(submitted by David Cohen)

Grandmaster Kevin Spraggett, originally from Montreal, Quebec, is the top ranked Canadian chess player at year-end of 2005, for the 4th time in a row (2002-5) and for a record 23rd time since 1980. He is rated 2612.

Woman International Master Natalia Khoudgarian, of Toronto, Ontario, is the top ranked Canadian female chess player at year-end of 2005, for the 10th year in a row (1996-2005). She is rated 2265.

For background information on Canadian chess, including the list of top-ranked Canadian players at year-end from 1973-2005:

<http://www.ncf.carleton.ca/~bw998/Champions.html#TOPRANK>

Rublevsky Wins Russian Championship

This round robin championship was played in December, 2005. Sergei Rublevsky, 2652, was undefeated and led the field by a point. Noteworthy was the 7th place finish of Vladimir Kramnik, the 2000 Classical World Champion. Also, Peter Svidler, who finished third in the 2005 FIDE world championship, could only manage a 6th place finish here. Here are the final results :

Final standings

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2		
1	Rublevsky,S	2652 +145	*	1	½	1	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	½	7.5 / 11	
2	Jakovenko,D	2644 +86	0	*	1	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	6.5 / 11	33.75
3	Morozevich,A	2707 +17	½	0	*	0	½	½	½	1	1	1	½	1	6.5 / 11	32.50
4	Bareev,E	2675 +20	0	½	1	*	½	1	1	0	0	½	½	1	6.0 / 11	32.50
5	Zvjaginsev,V	2659 +37	½	½	½	½	*	½	½	½	½	1	0	1	6.0 / 11	32.25
6	Svidler,P	2740 -50	½	½	½	0	½	*	1	½	½	½	1	½	6.0 / 11	31.75
7	Kramnik,V	2739 -81	½	½	½	0	½	0	*	½	½	½	1	1	5.5 / 11	
8	Motylev,A	2632 +3	0	0	0	1	½	½	½	*	½	½	½	1	5.0 / 11	
9	Dreev,A	2694 -96	0	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	*	½	½	0	4.5 / 11	24.75
10	Khalifman,A	2653 -51	½	½	0	½	0	½	½	½	½	*	½	½	4.5 / 11	24.50
11	Tomashevsky,E	2564 +12	½	0	½	½	1	0	0	½	½	½	*	0	4.0 / 11	23.00
12	Volkov,Sergey	2614 -42	½	½	0	0	0	½	0	0	1	½	1	*	4.0 / 11	20.75

SCC Club Championship

This tournament will start on Thursday, January 5, 2006. The Championship Section will be a 10 player round robin (highest rated players registering). The Reserve Section will be a one section 9 round swiss for all other members. To play in the championship section, a player must have at least a 6 month SCC membership. A \$ 30

tournament membership is available for those wanting to play in the Reserves Section. Registration will start at 7:00 pm, with the tournament starting at 7:30 pm.

The 8 round Fall Swiss tournament finished Thursday, December 22. Tied for first/second place were Jim Paterson and Sascha Rapoport (6 ½ pts.). Tied for third/fourth place were Bryan Lamb and Silvano Mesiti (5 ½ pts.).

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

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