

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 # 19 – July 15, 2002

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

Back from Holidays

Well, I must have been prescient in our last Issue # 18 on May 15. I said I'd be taking holidays, and only pass on one Issue, UNLESS I enjoyed them so much I'd be extending the break. Well, it worked out that my holiday schedule left insufficient time to get together Issues for the short periods I was back in Toronto, and so I ended up passing on 3 Issues (June 1, 15 and July 1).

I hope you've been able to get through the drought caused by lack of SCTCN&V's, and if you're in Toronto, you survived the biggest municipal strike in Canadian history.

Unfortunately, the strike affected Scarborough Chess Club, since we meet in a municipal community centre, Stan Wadlow Park Clubhouse. It was closed up tighter than a drum, and so SCC was closed down 'til the strike was over. With the strike ending, SCC will now resume it's normal schedule with meetings Thursday, July 18, and Sunday, July 21 – BACK TO OTB CHESS !!

As far as our SCTCN&V GTA junior series goes, it is winding down now. But I do have games from Igor Divljan, and will be doing a future issue highlighting him – but I need some biographical information from him, and haven't been able to reach him by e-mail; so if any of you are talking to him, please ask him to contact me so I can finish preparing my Issue on him. I've also been trying to arrange to get some games from Dina Kagramanov, but she's been going through nightmare computer problems, and initially lost the games she had on computer. So we'll have to see if she can get me some games she likes. Thanks to all who gave such positive feedback to the junior series, and to the sending out accompanying .pgn databases of the games and annotations. I'm glad you enjoyed the games, and the ease of just clicking through a database to play over the games and annotations. As I said, I still may have two more issues, but they're tentative

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Stan Wadlow Park Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Ave.

(one block east of Woodbine Ave./Cosburn Ave. intersection, in former East York)

easy TTC access – 5 min. bus ride from either Woodbine Subway Stn. or Main St. Subway Stn.

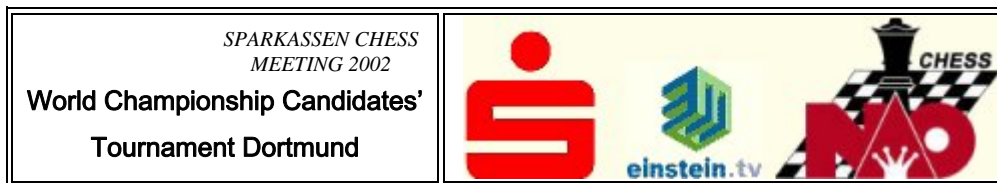
at the moment.

Having concluded for the moment the consecutive junior Issues, we'll now revert back to our smaller format of fewer pages with GTA news, tournament updates, FIDE, CFC, OCA, etc..

We hope everyone is having a pleasant summer . Here's our Issue # 19 of July 15, which we hope adds to your enjoyment of July.

Dortmund, Germany Classical World Championship Candidates Tournament

Dortmund Candidates



The chess world has been divided ever since 1993, when Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short withdrew their world championship match from the auspices of FIDE, and claimed the Classical World Championship Crown as Kasparov's. FIDE fought back with its own World Championship, and developed the knockout system of determining the

FIDE World Champion. In the meantime, in 2000, Vladimir Kramnik, former Kasparov student, wrestled the Classical title from Kasparov in a world championship match, and so he is now recognized (though not by FIDE) as the classical world champion. But in January 2002 the FIDE Championship was won by 18 year old Ruslan Ponomariov of Ukraine, when he defeated fellow Ukranian, Vassily Ivanckuk. Ruslan then claimed the World Championship.

On May 6, 2002, FIDE and the main players behind Kramnik, at the initiative of American GM, Yasser Seirawan, signed what is now known as the Prague Unity Agreement. It set out a “ first “ cycle for the reunification of the chess world championship. On the FIDE side of the draw, Garry Kasparov will challenge Ruslan Ponomariov. On the “ classical “ side of the draw is the Dortmund candidates tournament, whereby 8 players (including 7 of the top 14 rated players) play off to see who gets to challenge Kramnik for the classical world championship. The format for this candidates tournament started with two four player round robins, with the first two in each group moving to the semi-final candidates matches. The round-robins started July 6, and concluded on July 12.

Group A consisted of :

Veselin Topalov	– Bulgaria	– 2745
Boris Gelfand	– Israel	-2710
Alexei Shirov	- Spain	- 2697
Christopher Lutz	– Germany	– 2650

The two qualifiers were Topalov and Shirov, both scoring 4/6 pts.. Shirov won the play-off.

Group B consisted of :

Michael Adams	- England	- 2752
Evgeny Bareev	- Russia	- 2726
Peter Leko	- Hungary	- 2717
Alexander Morozevich	– Russia	- 2716

The two qualifiers were Bareev, scoring 4/6 pts., and Leko, scoring 3.5/6 pts..

The semi-final match –up, with current score, is : Shirov (.5) vs Leko (1.5); Bareev (1)vs Topalov (1) . Each will consist of a 4 game classical time control match.

IM Pascal Charbonneau, 2002 Canadian Champion, Match vs IM Igor Ivanov

Continuing his initiative of playing matches (he recently lost the North American Championship to American GM Larry Christiansen in a four game match), Pascal has taken on former Canadian champion of 1981,1986, and 1987, Igor Ivanov. Igor has resided in the USA since 1990 and is one of the highest-rated IM ‘s. The 4-game match took place at the Canadian Montreal office of Chess ‘N Math from July 9-12, 2002. It was won by Ivanov, scoring 3 (winning games 1 & 4) – 1.

USA – China Summit Series

This is part 2 of the summit series, and is being played in Shanghai, China, from July 11 – 15. The current series is slated to go on for two more years. Each team consists of 6 top males, 2 top females, and 2 top juniors. They play a 4-game match. USA was leading by 1 pt. at the time we went to press after 3 games.

2002 2nd CMA Futurity - Toronto Qualifier

This is the second annual CMA Futurity, coming up in Toronto this year, from Aug. 12 – 21. It will be played at the Dutton Chess Club. It is an opportunity for young top Canadian juniors to play top opposition (includes 2 GM's and 3 IM's) and to try for IM norms.

One place is to be filled by a qualification tournament in Toronto. It will be held July 26 – 28. It will be a five round swiss, with registration fee of \$ 60 (Adult). You can register at Chess 'N Math, or Friday night on site.

FIDE 2002 Grand Prix Series

Two of this year's rapid tournaments have been held so far. The first was in Dubai, and the second in Moscow (completed June 6). Points are cumulated based on results over the course of the whole series. The five leaders at this point are :

1. Peter Leko – Hungary – 1176 pts.
2. Alexander Grishuk – Russia – 1173 pts.
3. Garry Kasparov – Russia – 998 pts.
4. Teimour Radjabov – Azerbaijan – 853 pts.
5. Alexander Khalifman – Russia – 742 pts.

(note : Leko and Kasparov have only played in one event each)

French Chess Federation Criticizes FIDE

On June 15, the French Chess Federation decided to issue an open letter to FIDE, challenging the direction of the current leadership, under President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov. A number of federations and individuals then issued an open letter refuting the position France was taking. France then issued a response / clarification letter. Fundamentally, they want Ilyumzhinov to resign.

It has been noted that this has come out of the blue. It would have been timely a few years ago when the federations were all upset about the dictatorial way the Presidential Board was changing the WCC and the time controls. But FIDE has finally got it right with the May 6 Prague Unity Agreement, and is trying to put the FIDE WCC onto a new unified footing that will bring it sponsorship money (so FIDE is no longer supported out of the private savings of Ilyumzhinov, which couldn't go on forever).

It seems that FIDE deserves some time to show that it can bring the agreement into reality, and to begin to set up the proposed three tier system of classical chess, rapid chess and blitz chess. This would certainly be an advance on the tinkering with the time controls that was occurring, while maintaining the myth that this was still classical chess of some kind.

Francisco Cabanas is CFC's FIDE rep., and to date has issued no statement concerning the French position. However, most other federations have maintained silence on the issue as well.

FIDE 2002 July Rating List

Once again, as has been the case since July 2001, only 2 players are over 2800 : #1 : Garry Kasparov (Russia), 13th FIDE World Champion – 2838, and #2 : Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), 2000 BrainGamesNetwork World Champion – 2807.

There are only 10 players now in the 2700's (down from 11 last list). # 3 is still Viswanathan Anand (India), 2000 FIDE World Champion - 2755; still at # 4, and only 3 points behind Anand, is Michael Adams (England) – 2752; # 5 : Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria) – 2745; # 6 : Ruslan Ponomarev (Ukraine) 2002 FIDE World Champion – 2743 (he has been one of SCTCN&V's “ terrible ‘83’er’s “ –only 18 years old on Jan. 1, 2002, and we've been watching them for some time as up and comers); # 8 is Peter Leko (Hungary), current leader of the 2002 FIDE Rapid Grand Prix – 2717.

At # 12 (up from # 13), is another SCTCN&V “ terrible ‘83’er “, Alexander Grischuk (Russia) – 2702. 1999 FIDE World Champion, Alexander Khalifman (Russia) is # 15 at 2690. 12 th FIDE World Champion, Anatoly Karpov (Russia) is # 17 at 2687. Judit Polgar, the world's strongest woman player, is # 19 at 2681.

The third “ terrible ‘83’er “ we've been watching is Etienne Bacrot (France), who is # 37 at 2653. Two other youngsters we're watching are : Francisco Vallejo Pons (Spain), # 42 at 2648; and 14 year old Teimour Radjabov (Azerbaijan), # 73 (up from # 81) at 2618. The # 100 player is rated 2600, up from 2598.

The highest FIDE-rated Canadian player is 2001 Canadian Champion, Alexandre Le Siege at 2584.

SCTCN&V “ Know Your Chess Players “ Quiz

Do you recognize this top-flight international player ?



(the Chess Player featured in our last Issue # 18 was Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine), 2002 FIDE WCC Runner-Up)

CFC 2002 AGM

As usual, the AGM will be held during the Canadian Open in Montreal, which began July 13. We are now down to 2 declared candidates – Halldor Palsson from Ottawa, and Peter Stockhausen from Vancouver (David Cohen from Toronto dropped down to run for Vice-President). Rumour has it that Cohen will throw his support behind Stockhausen. It also appears that GM Kevin Spraggett has been seriously plumping for Stockhausen and has about 30 governor proxies for Stockhausen. So this race may be a foregone conclusion.

We have other rumours, and we'll present them, but we give no guarantees about what we've heard in the grapevine. Les Bunning, former CFC President and Executive Director, will also be seeking the Vice-President position. Former CFC President, Maurice Smith is running for Treasurer or FIDE rep.. Lyle Craver, current Treasurer, will be going for Secretary this time. Dr. Nathan Divinsky will also be running for FIDE rep. Mike Stanford is seeking the Junior Co-ordinator position. It will be an interesting race. We'll try and get you the full slate of new CFC officers elected in our next Issue.

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

3. 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.
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