

# EFCC CORRESPONDENT



Correspondence Chess quarterly •  
Summer 2020

## Howard Staunton

BRITISH WORLD CHAMPION

**ICCF  
Ratings**

**Meet the  
Player**

*SIM Ian M. Pheby*

**Setup a  
Computer  
Chess System**

**BOOK  
REVIEW**

Bobby Fischer and His  
World

EFCC

# EFCC Information



## MEMBERSHIP

### EFCC OFFICERS

President: Ian M Pheby  
 General Secretary: John Rhodes  
 International Secretary: Phillip J Beckett  
 Treasurer: Ian M Pheby

### BECOME A MEMBER

Please consider joining us, all English correspondence players are encouraged to support the work of the Federation by becoming a Patron. Patrons may attend and speak at Executive Committee meetings and may vote at Annual General Meetings. The funds raised in this way are vital to the work of the Federation.

**Annual Patronage of the EFCC costs £12 or you can become a Life Patron for £120.00. To join , please send a cheque (payable to EFCC) to the Treasurer (Ian M Pheby, Oaklea Cottage, Horsham Road, Capel, Dorking, Surrey RH5 5JH) or use the PayPal facility at <https://bit.ly/JoinEFCC>**

### MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Clergy Correspondence Chess Club, Braille Chess Assn. , British CC Association., Natcor Chess Club, Yorkshire Chess Association, Social Correspondence Chess Association, Bloxwich

### LIFE PATRONS

DW Anderton, I. Wes Bell, Michael Blake, Johnathan D Bourne, Richard J. Braunton, John G. Brookes, Ian S. Brooks, A.C. Carrington, Duncan Chambers, C.R. Chandler, Colin Cheek, Sean Clark, Julian Corfield, Andrew Dearnley, Leslie Eastoe, Derek Gallimore, Peter C. Gibbs, Clive F. Girling, Richard V. M. Hall, Maurice W. Johnson, Mary E. Jones, David A. Kilgour, Neil Lambert, Peter R. Markland, Peter J. R. Millican, Peter S. Morton, Andrew Muir, Richard Perrin, Ian M. Pheby, Peter Phillips, C.R. Pope, Nigel E. Povah, Michael Prizant, Alan J. C. Rawlings, John D. Rhodes, Nigel E. Robson, Michael B. Squires, Janos I. Suto, John B. Taylor, John T. Walker, Richard Webster, George Wharam, John T. Wharam, Jo A. Wharrier, Dr Stephen M. Williams.

### ANNUAL PATRONS

Rev Bruce Carlin, William F Lumley, Ian J. Mason, Ajoy Mukherjee, Kenneth J. Owen, Brian Thompson, Richard Ward, David Weldon.



## THE ENGLISH FEDERATION

We represent England within the International Correspondence Chess Federation and organise a range of National tournaments.

### ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

EFCC's premier event. Held biennially since 2017. Consisting of a Championship Final & Semi-Finals (and Preliminary groups where necessary). <https://bit.ly/3rdEnglishCCC>



### ENGLISH VETERANS CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP (EVCCC)

The EVCCC is held biennially consisting of a Championship final, and semi-finals. Preliminary groups are held where necessary. It starts in March in alternate years to the English Correspondence Chess Championship. It is open to those players who are aged 60 years or over on the date the tournament starts and are registered or able (in the case of new players) to be registered to play under the England flag in the ICCF <https://bit.ly/VetsCCC>

### BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Jointly organised by England, Wales and Scotland. Held annually commencing on the 15 October. The Championship section comprises 11 to 15 players, is played over 2 years, and will determine the next British Champion. There are also Candidates and Reserve sections. Competitors play one game against each of the others in the same section. <https://bit.ly/britishccc>

### BRITISH WEBSERVER TEAM TOURNAMENT

The BWSTT started in 2011. The first two seasons were run under the auspices of EFCC. The tournament is currently organised by Wales. Teams consist of 4 players who play (usually) 6 games each. <https://www.iccf.com/event?id=85258>

### COUNTIES & DISTRICT CC CHAMPIONSHIP (C&DCCC)

The C&DCCC is currently organised by BCCA on behalf of the EFCC. It is open to teams representing counties or districts in the United Kingdom. There are three divisions: Division One (Ward-Higgs Trophy), Division Two (Sinclair Trophy) & Division Three (Butler-Thomas Trophy). Teams consist of 8 players.

<https://bit.ly/WardHiggs>  
<https://bit.ly/SinclairTrophy>  
<https://bit.ly/Butler-Thomas>

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### Disclaimer

The opinions expressed by authors and advertisers do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the EFCC.

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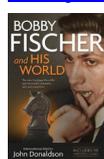
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## Contact Information

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**Editor's Notes**

# Welcome!

We are proud to bring you the inaugural issue of *EFCC Correspondent*, aiming to promote the players and teams of the English Federation for Correspondence Chess.

I am indebted to SIM Keith Kitson for providing answers to the reader request that we run through setting up a computer system for playing chess. Keith goes further in another article and explains where we are headed with neural networks and programs such as LcO. Keith has penned a further four articles that will appear in future issues.

This first issue relies heavily on the support of the EFCC Committee, I am very grateful for their help and patience during recent difficult times. International Secretary Phill Beckett provides an update on our International tournaments and friendly matches. If you would like to play for the England team, please get in touch with Phill and let him know of your interest. SIM Ian M. Pheby has kindly agreed to feature in the magazine and I hope you enjoy his contribution as much as I did.

I would like readers to steer future content, let us know what you like and what you would prefer to see less of. We want to promote correspondence chess and provide you with relevant news and a worthwhile read. Please send us your comments, advice and contributions.

**Michael Blake**

Editor

[efccnews@icloud.com](mailto:efccnews@icloud.com)

**Side Notes**

The [EFCC website](https://www.efccnews.com) is the primary source for the latest news. Moving with the times we have added Facebook and Twitter feeds for those preferring to use those apps.



<https://www.facebook.com/EFCCNews>



<https://twitter.com/efccnews>

***"Do you like analysing games? We are keen to hear from anyone wishing to analyse games for the magazine. The commitment would be to supply a small number of annotated games on a quarterly basis."***

## FEEDBACK

# Your Comments

## Analysis and Choices



Mickey,  
As a lower level player it would be really good to read some of the analysis methodologies used by more experienced players. There is very little written about "modern" correspondence chess. Ideas such as:

Game Analysis, Game management, Database use, Engine use, Time management, Computer systems, Software choices, Opening choices, When to decide it is time to draw

Thanks

Sean

*Editors reply: Thank you for those suggestions Sean, we will seek to cover all of these important points. SIM Keith Kitson is a very active player with over 1,400 games experience, he will be writing at length on computers and their use within correspondence chess.*

## For Whom and How

Dear Michael

Who is the magazine for? Is it restricted to EFCC Patrons or can anyone have it? Once it is out there will be a link to the website.

Bruce .

*Editors reply: The magazine is for all member organisations and patrons of EFCC. It will be made available via a mailing list and free download from the EFCC website.*

## Can We Advertise

Can we advertise this booklet in this issue of your new magazine?

Bruce

*Editors reply: Yes of course. All EFCC Member Organisations have been invited to advertise or submit content, this can include a report on activities or anything that promotes cc and the member org.*

## Good Luck!

This sounds like an excellent initiative.

*Editors reply: Thank you to everybody who sent their best wishes for the new magazine, your support is very welcome. Please feel able to contribute where you can.*

*Articles may be submitted to the editor at any time and may cover any matter of interest to the author. I am hoping we can recruit as many contributors as possible, these may be either for regular articles, occasional or one-off contributions.*

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For application form and full details  
visit our website: [www.natcor.org.uk](http://www.natcor.org.uk)

**or contact: Des Green**

93 Elmdon Lane, Marston Green,  
Birmingham B37 7DN

0121 246 2295

*Please get in touch with me if you are able to contribute. Most file formats can be accepted and I welcome your ideas. email: [efccnews@icloud.com](mailto:efccnews@icloud.com)*

## Future Issues

*The magazine is schedule for quarterly issue. Wishing to cover the latest ICCF Ratings updates, I am inclined to 'go to press' as soon as possible following those updates.*

**Please submit content for the next issue by  
September 20th 2021.**

*Please send your [letters to the editor](#). These may be subject to slight editing to fit available space.*

# National News



## British Correspondence Chess Championship

The British Correspondence Chess Championship (BCCC) is the premier tournament on the British CC calendar. Running continuously since 1921 and open to all British players, the BCCC has carried ICCF title norms since 2016.

The BCCC caters for players of all levels and consists of a Championship, one or more candidate's section and a number of reserves sections.

The BCCC is organised jointly by the English Federation for Correspondence Chess (EFCC), the Scottish Correspondence Chess Association (SCCA) and the Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation (WCCF).

Further details of the tournament, including the full rules and a list of previous winners, are available on the EFCC website.

There is a first prize of £100 and a second prize of £50. Entries close on August 31 and play is due to commence in September 2021. Entries can be made directly to Tournament Organiser, Russell Sherwood or via the National Federation.

<https://bit.ly/englishcorrchess>

## Jim Fox RIP

Fellow players will be sad to hear of the death after a short illness of Jim Fox. We have passed on our condolences to his family.

## British Champion

We have a new British Champion - Gerard Le-Marechal. There were three players tied on 8.5 pts. The first tie break [wins] failed to split the tie, but by a narrow margin the second tie break placed Gerard first, Praveen Kumar Rallabandi 2<sup>nd</sup> and Gary MaGuire in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Congratulations to all concerned. All the games can be viewed at - <https://www.iccf.com/event?id=81192>

## 6th British WS Tournament - Division 3

BCCA Strategists have won this section, On board 1 CCM Stan J. Grayland (ENG) scored 5/6, Bd. 2 Antony Copey (ENG) 5½/6, Bd. 3 Peter J. Cunningham (ENG) 4½/6 and Board 4 Ben A. Wood (ENG) 3/6.

## Ross Brennan RIP

We report the very sad news that Ross Brennan died on Tuesday 29th June 2021. Ross played correspondence and over-the-board chess for Hertfordshire and Welwyn Garden City Chess Club, where he was Chairman, for many years.

Ross's untimely death has been a great shock to everyone who knew him. Our condolences have been sent to his family.

## 2nd English Championship

The English Championship winner is CCM David Evans with 8/14 pts, 2nd place with the same score but losing out on tie-break, were IM Brian Thomson and SIM, Praveen Kumar Rallabandi.

Davis is defending his title in the 3rd English Championship that has recently started.

## IM Toni Halliwell

Our congratulations to Toni Halliwell who has achieved the International Master title. Toni has several ICCF awards to her name including Lady Grandmaster.

Toni will be representing England in the 12th European Team Championship Semifinal 2 on Board 7 due to start in August 2021.

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93785>

## FCC Yearbook for 2021

The EFCC Executive Committee are pleased to announce the EFCC Yearbook for 2021. This is a free publication and may be read online at <https://bit.ly/efccyb2021> Any errors may be notified to the Yearbook Editor, Keith Kitson.

## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES

# New BeNeLux Friendly International

PHILL BECKETT REPORTS on International activity for England and brings news or upcoming tournaments, matches and opportunities for players. We have started a new 101 board double pairing match against the BeNeLux countries.



Richardt, Mike; CCM Roberts, Anthony Arthur ; IM Shaw, Sidney S.; CCE Graham, Oliver; Kenworthy, Gary; Broadbent, Anthony A.; Kok, Herman; Owen, Chris and Robinson, Robin

## England v Switzerland

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=89984>

A 33 board match where Switzerland are currently leading 29 - 23.

## England U2000 v CCLA Kangaroos

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=88452>

We currently lead 26 - 19 in this 23 board match.

## England v BeNeLux 2021

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93922>

A 101 board match against Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg. Our top 5 boards are SIM Clive A. Frostick, SIM Ian M Pheby, IM Gary Maguire, SIM John D. Rhodes and CCM Ian Maver.

## England v Sweden Postal Match

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93020>

15 board double pairing postal match. The players are, IM Maguire, Gary; SIM Kitson, Keith; IM Brockbank, Henry W.; Lyne, Colin J.; Beresford, Alan; Cunningham, Peter J.; Lefevre, Stephen D.; CCE Bruce, Robert; Smyth, Sandy; Morley, Tony; Gifford, M. J.; Kok, Herman; Robinson, Robin; White, Richard and Gosling, David c.

## England v Sweden 2021

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93035>

A 28 board double pairing match played on the ICCF server.

## England v Mexico 2021

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=91540>

A 12 board server match. England are represented by Suffield, Mel; Primrose, J.; Beckett, Phillip J.; Taylor, Robert P.; Pooley, Mark C; Swindells, Philip; Ward, Bill; Brooks, Ian; Hutchings, J. M.; Kent, Chris; Bishop, Edward and Nichol, John.

## England v New Zealand 2021

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=91324>

This is a 9 board double pairing using the Triple Block system for time. England are represented by CCM

## England v France 2020

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=88279>

A 40 board match where the score remains close at 36½ - 37½ in favour of France.

## England - USA Friendly Match 2020

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=86774>

This 105 board match is nearing the end with England leading by 102 - 95

## RECENT RESULTS

### Wales 26½ v 1½ England Chess 960 Friendly

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=87609>

Congratulations to Wales on a convincing victory. Oliver Graham with a draw and Matthew M. Bailey with two draws were the English scorers.

### England 11½ v 8½ Mexico

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=86740>

### England 5½ v 10½ SchemingMind.com

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=86438>

### England 3½ v 16½ Indonesia

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=85291>

### England 13 v 7 Scotland Under 1800

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=85332>

Contact Phill if you would like to join the teams.

## MEMORIAL TOURNAMENTS

# A Round Up of Current Memorial Tournaments

## Mike L Nicholson Memorial

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=86999>

Kevin D. Plant leads this tournaments with  $8\frac{1}{2}/12$ , there are six games ongoing.

## Brian Jones Celebration Minor Section

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=86664>

Eddie Czestochowski has won this tournament with an outstanding score of  $7\frac{1}{2}/8$ .

Brian Jones was a leading chess player in the Sheffield and District League where he played top board for Rotherham Chess Club and appearing regularly for the Yorkshire County team. During this time he played many strong players most notably holding GM Tony Miles to a draw.

This is an unusual event in that Brian is still very much alive! and long may he remain so.

## Peggy Clarke Memorial

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=85287>

Anthony Copsey has won this tournament with  $8\frac{1}{2}/12$ . There is one game ongoing.

Margaret Eileen Elizabeth Clarke (born 29th October 1937, died 15th September 2018. She was the only daughter of Barry Wood OBE, proprietor and editor of Chess Magazine, organiser of the two week Chess Festival which ran for many years and one-time BCF FIDE Delegate. Peggy had three brothers who were, and in some cases still are, quite serious players. At least once, they played as a 6 player team in the National Club Championship.

In 1962, as Peggy Wood, she married the British Master, FM Peter H Clarke. With Hampshire's Gillian Moore, she tied for first place in the British Ladies in 1966, but circumstances prevented a playoff ever taking place.

She became an International Correspondence Lady Master. Peggy came 12th in the 1984-92 Ladies World Correspondence Championship. Her FIDE rating was 2060, but this is misleading as she was not internationally active this century. She was a Woman Candidate Master.



## Keith Richardson Memorial

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=83519>

George Wharam and SIM Iain MacKintosh (SCO) are



tied in first place having completed their games. SIM Ian M. Pheby has two ongoing games and can overtake the leaders with two wins.

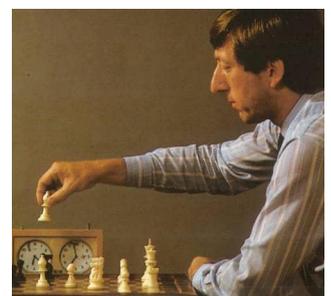
Keith Richardson was Britain's first CC Grandmaster and was considered by ICCF as one of two "really outstanding" English players of the second half of the 20th century. Keith's CC achievements were finishing equal third in the World Championship finals VII and X. He was the only player to defeat the winner, Estrin, in the former of these finals.

Keith also achieved two Olympiad final bronze medals with Great Britain between 1972 and 1982.

Perhaps one of his best tournaments results was to finish second in the strong Bertl Von Massow

Memorial. Keith was a dedicated member of the British CC Natcor but he was also a formidable over the board player, still playing until his untimely passing. His club, Camberley, now organise an annual rapid play event in his memory. Keith actually played in the XI Student chess Olympics in Krakow in 1964, so it is nice we have two Polish players represented in this memorial.

Finally, EFCC are delighted and honoured that Keith's friend and former opponent, XI World Champion, Fritz Baumbach is taking part as well.



# International News



## 1st EU Senior Cup

ICCF Zone 1 (Europa) is delighted to announce a new tournament for EU veteran players that would be started every year.

The first EU Senior Cup started on 25th June 2021. The tournament will be organised in two or three stages (depending on number of entries) with ICCF Title norms to be possible to achieve at each stage.

## ICCF Veterans World Cup 13

The announcement for this tournament on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 may be found at <https://www.iccf.com/message?message=1428> and contains information about eligibility, entry and prize fund.

This event so far has 529 confirmed entries as of 10<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The closing date for entries to be registered and confirmed is 1st August 2021.

## 10th Veterans World Cup Final

We wish our President Ian M Pheby every success in the 10th Veterans World Cup Final.

<https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93731>

## Semi Final of the European Team Championship

The England team are in board order, SIM Harvey D. Williamson, SIM Praveen Kumar Rallabandi, IM Shaun Brewer, SIM Ian M. Pheby, IM Gary Maguire, SIM Jerry E. C. Asquith, IM Toni Halliwell and CCM Angus James.

The teams competing, are England, Belarus, Czech Republic, Spain, Portugal, Slovenia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovakia.

Follow the tournament at <https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93768>

## Nol van't Riet Team Tournament

Nol van't Riet passed away in 2020 but his contribution to correspondence chess was immense. He is a member of the [ICCF Hall of Fame](#). The pairings for the Nol van't Riet memorial Team Tournament (under 2300) are out. England have teams in sections 1 and 3.

Semi-Final 1 : Ukraine 2, England 2, Scotland, Australia, Romania, Italia Azzura and Germany 1. The England team are, Peter J. Cunningham, CCE Richard David Perrin, CCE Arnold Marchant, IM Duncan Chambers, Bob Beddoe and Peter J. E. Ackley. Follow the team at <https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93633>

Semi-Final 3: Czech Republic, USA 2, England 1, Ukraine 1, Belgium, France, ESPAÑA B and Russia 2.

The England teams are, CCM David J. Grobler, CCE Tim Spanton, CCE Alan B. Sutton, CCE Arthur F. Reed, David Hamilton and CE Steve Cole. You can follow the team at <https://www.iccf.com/event?id=93643>

## XX Anniversary AEAC

The Spanish AEAC has organised three memorial tournaments: a closed invitational tournament, an open tournament and a thematic tournament.

Entries must be in by Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, tournament details are available at <https://www.iccf.com/message?message=1457>



## World Team Event

The team to represent England in the World Team event is as follows. Congratulations to all those selected. Those who volunteered but were not selected will be guaranteed a place in the BeNeLux match.

Williamson, Harvey	2504
Frostrick, Clive	2503
Wharrier, Jo	2422
Ellis, Les	2420
Halliwell Toni	2406
James Angus	2402
Maver Liam	2399
Herman Thomas	2379
Catt Peter	2379
Squire Michael	2366
Rice Peter	2351
Grayland Stan	2348
Kitson Keith	2343
Williamson Dawn	2339
Wilkinson James P	2310
Rawlings Alan	2303
Bailey Matthew	2301
Grobler David	2279
Spanton Tim	2277
Cowan Alistair	2224

## World Championship Semi-Finals

Follow the progress of English players in the World Championship Semi-Finals. The first two players in each section qualify for the next cycle of the Candidates.

David Evans [in section 2](#)  
Jo Wharrier [in section 3](#)  
John Pugh [in section 4](#)  
Gerard Le - Marechal [in section 5](#)  
Praveen Kumar Rallabandi [in sect. 6](#) -  
John Brookes in [section 7](#)  
Ian M Pheby in [section 9](#)

# International Correspondence Chess Federation



THE WORLD GOVERNING body for International Correspondence Chess and organiser of tournaments for individuals and teams. All members of EFCC may enter ICCF World and ICCF European tournaments.

Entry to ICCF tournaments may be made via the [EFCC website](#) or direct to [ICCF](#).

## Individual Tournaments

Enter at any time. These are listed under ['New Events' at iccf.com](#).

### Norm Tournaments

Grandmaster (GM), Senior International Master (SIM), International Master (IM), Correspondence Chess Master (CCM) and Correspondence Chess Expert (CCE) title qualification tournaments.

### Promotion Tournaments

Postal and Server based sections in Open, Higher and Master sections to work your way through based on ICCF ratings.

### Aspirer Tournaments

For players rated below 1600 or new to CC. Games will be rated and whilst there is no promotion or relegation, this is a good place to start with the aim to learn and improve in a tournament environment.

### Free Tournaments

Free two unrated two game matches designed to introduce players to the ICCF and Chess-Server use

### Chess 960 Tournaments

Rated Chess 960, 5 players, 8 games, 10 moves in 30 days, starts when filled.

### Thematic Tournaments

Usually 5 players, 8 games, 10 moves in 50 days, starts when filled.

## Thematic Tournaments

The list of thematic tournaments is usually updated annually. Events start on a regular basis with the current and upcoming list offering a good variety of tournaments.

### WSTT/SEA - Sicilian, English Attack, B90

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3  
Starting when sections are filled.

### WSTT/RD - Russian Defence, C42

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6  
Starting when sections are filled.

### WSTT/KID - King's Indian Defence, E97

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 e5 7.O-O Nc6 8.d5 Ne7  
Starting when sections are filled.

### WSTT/GD - Grünfeld Defence, D80

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5  
Starts when filled.

### WSTT/5/21 - Queen's Indian, E12

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6  
Planned start date 15/09/2021

### TT/3/21 - King's Gambit, Kieseritzki Var., C39

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.h4 g4 5.Ne5  
Planned start date 01/10/2021

### WSTT/6/21 - Chebanenko Slav, D15

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6  
Planned start date 01/11/2021

## ICCF Europe Zone

European Zone tournaments .

The European Zone of ICCF operates both Server and Postal based tournaments. The server championship comprises 2 qualifying sections, the Open and the Preliminaries lead to the Semi-Finals, Candidates and Finals.

Mostly enter at any time, these are listed at <https://bit.ly/ICCFEU>

### European Server Championship Open.

The Open Round tournament is the 1st level of European Server Championship. The winner of an Open Round is entitled to one start in the European Server Championship Preliminary Section, regardless of rating.

### European Server Championship 2021, Preliminary

The following players have the right to participate in the European Championship Preliminaries include,  
(a) players rated between 2100 and 2299 at the time of application.  
(b) players who have won a European Championship Open Round, regardless of rating.

### European Postal Championship Open Round

Players have to be rated 2099 or below.

### European Postal 72° Championship Semi-Final

Postal Rated, 6 players, 10 games, 10 moves in 40 days, starts when filled.

ICCF

# ICCF Ratings 2021/3

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ICCF ratings List is out and we are pleased to report that several players have achieved new titles whilst the number of players shown as active has also increased.

Congratulations to IM Toni Halliwell on securing the International Master title to go alongside her Lady Grandmaster, Lady International Master, International Arbiter and Tournament Director awards. Well done!

## New ICCF Titles Awarded in 2021

ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	GAMES	2021/3
212018	IM	Halliwell, Toni	967	2415
212902	CCM	Wharam, George	41	2409
211019	CCM	Dixon, Danny	94	2372
212527	CCM	Holland, Edward N.	169	2365
213011	CCM	Bailey, Matthew W.	209	2360
210847	CCM	Grobler, David J.	1151	2302
212925	CCE	Brennan, Samuel J.	56	2296
210332	CCE	Wilkinson, James P.	337	2295
210507	CCE	Thurlow, Kevin J.	233	2284
212116	CCE	Spanton, Tim	83	2277
212835	CCE	Shaw, John S.	43	2250
211621	CCE	Hamilton, David	104	2200
211280	CCE	Perrin, Richard David	517	2183
210447	CCE	Cole, Steve	724	2167
212273	CCE	Bruce, Robert	764	2020

## New to the Rating List

ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	GAMES	2021/3
212902	CCM	Wharam, George	41	2409
212463		Witt, Daniel	30	2202
212919		Jeff, John	34	2113
212734		White, Nigel	34	2095
212999		Read, Christopher	37	2085
213092		Hewes, Ralph	36	1906
212380		Jordan, Matthew	30	1875
212438		Naldrett, Geoff W.	33	1863
213090		Shaw, Dene	35	1849
212873		Swindells, Philip	30	1746
212629		Mahony, Jon D.	51	1658
212505		Joslin, Kay	43	1609
212425		Shaw, Tony	34	1582
211710		Jolly, Richard	33	1567
212666		Cutter, Timothy	40	1529
212928		Taylor, David	30	1497
212608		Treeby, Martyn	35	1437

## Most Games Completed in 2021

ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	+GAMES
212397	CCM	McDermott, Frank J.	148
210454		Beckett, Phillip J.	145
210745	SIM	Rawlings, Alan J. C.	145
210847	CCM	Grobler, David J.	137
213011	CCM	Bailey, Matthew W.	132
210942	CCE	Reed, Arthur F.	132
210514	SIM	Pheby, Ian M.	129
212273	CCE	Bruce, Robert	116
210854	IM	Thompson, Brian	102

The lists feature those players with a minimum Of 30 rated games played and a recorded result within the previous two calendar years.

Players with less than 30 games are considered to have an unpublished rating whilst players with no result within 2 years are considered to be inactive.

A total of 6,523 rated results have been recorded by English registered players in 2021, There are 592 Active players with 392 having a fixed rating.

## Most Rating Points Gained in 2021

ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	INCREASE
211793		Ibbitson, Anthony	237
212975		Lockett, John	211
213011	CCM	Bailey, Matthew W.	202
212669		Adamson, Trevor	126
211163		Tymms, J. D. M.	125
210195		Phillips, Peter Stephen	114
210447	CCE	Cole, Steve	109
212191		Ruffle, Alan	108
211994		Hollands, George	104
212405		Owen, Chris	100
210719		Beer, Doug	92
211537		Ackley, Peter J. E.	81
211382		Hart, Terry	76
212611		Czestochowski, Eddie	73
210847	CCM	Grobler, David J.	68
211992		White, Richard	61
219123		Richardson, David	60
212063		Hipwell, Colin	60

## The '1000 Club' of Games Played

ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	GAMES
210745	SIM	Rawlings, Alan J. C.	2468
210514	SIM	Pheby, Ian M.	2173
210454		Beckett, Phillip J.	1726
210201	IM	Harman, Kenneth B.	1696
210854	IM	Thompson, Brian	1393
210569	SIM	Kitson, Keith	1349
212334		Woodhouse, Stephen	1291
780026	CCE	Ward, Richard	1188
210709	CCE	Sutton, Alan B.	1161
210847	CCM	Grobler, David J.	1151
219137	CCM	Mason, Ian J.	1094
210218		Tibbert, Peter H.	1050
211299	IM	Eldridge, Mark	1043

The next page lists the top 100 players, space dictates that I am unable to list all players but please do write and tell me if you would like to see a particular set of data from the ICCF rating list.

I am also undecided whether to report on a rating period of 3 months, annual changes or some other period of time. Your thoughts on an email to me please @ [efcnews@icloud.com](mailto:efcnews@icloud.com) please.

# ICCF Ratings 2021/3

## The Top 100

ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	GAMES	2021/3	ICCF ID	TITLE	NAME	GAMES	2021/3
211303	GM	Coleman, Peter L.	257	2603	212803	CCM	Webster, Richard	280	2364
211305	GM	Robson, Nigel	218	2602	218010		Barber, Philip	286	2363
210773	GM	Hall, Richard V. M.	347	2589	212535	CCM	Marks, Robert	165	2361
210408	GM	Brooks, Ian S.	268	2511	210866		Manley, Jonathan P.	68	2361
211655	SIM	Williamson, Harvey D.	518	2504	213011	CCM	Bailey, Matthew W.	209	2360
210929	SIM	Frostick, Clive A.	121	2501	211360	CCM	Bell, I. Wes	402	2358
212933	CCM	Le-Marechal, Gerard	88	2499	211452	CCM	Grayland, Stan J.	694	2357
212704	SIM	Rallabandi, Praveen Kumar	400	2486	212207	CCM	Richardt, Mike	270	2355
210168	IM	Shephard, Chris C. W.	92	2466	211450	IM	Suto, Janos I.	520	2353
211500	SIM	Burne, Nigel G.	364	2463	211906	CCM	Rice, Peter	129	2353
211501	SIM	Wharam, John	181	2461	211887	CCM	Eastlake, Phil	163	2351
211942	IM	Weldon, David J.	329	2458	212104	CCM	Copsey, Antony	256	2345
211318	IM	Soh, Edmund	359	2452	210641		Lyne, Colin J.	179	2344
211765	IM	Brewer, Shaun	166	2442	212008	CCM	Williams, Richard	360	2342
210300	SIM	Pegg, Russell M.	163	2437	210569	SIM	Kitson, Keith	1349	2341
211299	IM	Eldridge, Mark	1043	2428	211552	CCE	Franks, Keith	205	2341
210807	SIM	Tait, Jonathan A.	168	2427	212314	LGM	Williamson, Dawn L.	882	2340
210788	IM	Lumley, Bill F.	735	2423	212397	CCM	McDermott, Frank J.	714	2340
211454	IM	Cade, Steven	566	2423	211009		Birkbeck, Brian	85	2335
211229	IM	Ellis, Les	725	2422	210967	CCE	Haupt, William D.	87	2334
211431	GM	Pugh, John	457	2422	210845	CCE	Jefferson, N. W.	409	2323
210108	IM	Wharrier, Jo A.	850	2420	211788		Ewan, Rod	165	2322
210514	SIM	Pheby, Ian M.	2173	2418	210250	IM	Brockbank, Henry W.	106	2322
210148	IM	Anderton, David William	159	2417	210745	SIM	Rawlings, Alan J. C.	2468	2320
212175	IM	Maguire, Gary	428	2416	211143		Barker, Alan	73	2320
212018	IM	Halliwell, Toni	967	2415	211987	CCM	Hughes, Stephen J.	130	2319
210265	SIM	Williams, Christopher C.	238	2415	211118	CCM	Roberts, Anthony Arthur	329	2317
210701	SIM	Rhodes, John D.	584	2413	211375	CCM	Soszynski, Marek J.	207	2317
211062	SIM	Asquith, Jerry E. C.	326	2411	211154	IM	Shaw, Sidney S.	541	2315
212902	CCM	Wharam, George	41	2409	211824	CCE	Graham, Oliver	669	2311
211220	CCM	Limbart, Neil	357	2408	210919		Girling, Clive F.	167	2309
210425	GM	Brookes, John G.	189	2408	211261	CCE	Walk, Robert	124	2309
210324	SIM	Mukherjee, Ajoy K.	514	2406	212119	CCE	Waller, Anthony	185	2308
212651	CCM	James, Angus	214	2404	210368	IM	Corfield, Julian	260	2307
212012	CCM	Maver, Ian	82	2399	210931	CCM	Revell, Philip W.	190	2307
212013	CCM	Evans, David	453	2397	211498		Wakefield, Robert J.	134	2307
210787		McLaughlin, Keith W.	216	2396	210847	CCM	Grobler, David J.	1151	2302
211880	CCM	Eastoe, Leslie K. G.	433	2392	210927		Bowden, Karl	36	2301
212160	CCM	Brasier, John	486	2386	212925	CCE	Brennan, Samuel J.	56	2296
210854	IM	Thompson, Brian	1393	2383	211434	CCE	Sheppard, Barry S.	423	2295
210717	CCM	Blake, Michael J.	886	2382	210332	CCE	Wilkinson, James P.	337	2295
212381	CCM	Carr, Trevor	327	2380	210462		Wilson, M. R.	118	2293
212443	CCM	Donovan, Terence	129	2380	219137	CCM	Mason, Ian J.	1094	2288
210370	CCM	Owen, K. J.	198	2379	212686	CCE	Watkins, Kenneth	80	2286
210753	SIM	Dearnley, Andrew	563	2378	210507	CCE	Thurlow, Kevin J.	233	2284
211541	CCM	Catt, Peter	466	2373	210619	CCE	Norman, Nigel	618	2283
212544	CCM	Herman, Tom	166	2372	212494		Tillett, Richard	119	2283
211019	CCM	Dixon, Danny	94	2372	211958	CCM	Batchelor, Paul A.	290	2281
219076	CCM	Squires, Michael B.	443	2366	210578		Williams, Stephen M.	126	2279
212527	CCM	Holland, Edward N.	169	2365	212116	CCE	Spanton, Tim	83	2277

## REVIEWS

# Bobby Fischer and His World - John Donaldson

Reviewed by Maurice Carter

I was very pleased to see this book which I think will be of great interest to many people. Before I get to my review, I would like to provide some information on the author. He started play in 1973, National Master 1977, Senior Master 1979, and International Master 1983. Has two GM norms, peak USCF rating 2601 and FIDE 2467. He is the author of 38 books on chess, covering all aspects of the game. He is best known for the two volume set on Rubinstein with Mineev, and two other books on Fischer, *A Legend on the Road* and *The Unknown Bobby Fischer*. He is active as Team Captain for the United States 24 times (13 medals) which include Olympiads and World Team Championships.

I started my own chess career as a young boy in 1956. This was when Fischer was starting to be noticed as a coming player, so over the many years I was able to follow his career from almost the beginning to the end, so I feel that I have read and know quite a bit about him.

Most books on a player, are mostly game collections with common biographical material. This book is far from that. The book has 644 pages and 99 annotated games. The selection of games is quite interesting. So many books will only offer a master's most famous games, not so in this book. We do have some of his greatest games, but there are many lesser known gems. Also a number of games of other players, that Fischer has comments about. All the games have good notes, with both variations and written text. In addition, little facts, stories etc about the game in question. Also the two training matches he had with Torre and Gligoric will be of interest.

Fischer is one of the greatest players in history, it is hard to compare any player with earlier or later generations of players to say who is the greatest. He did much for chess in the USA, to make it more popular and the USA had a player who could hold his own against the rest of the Chess World. We have two Fischer's, one the player who devoted his whole

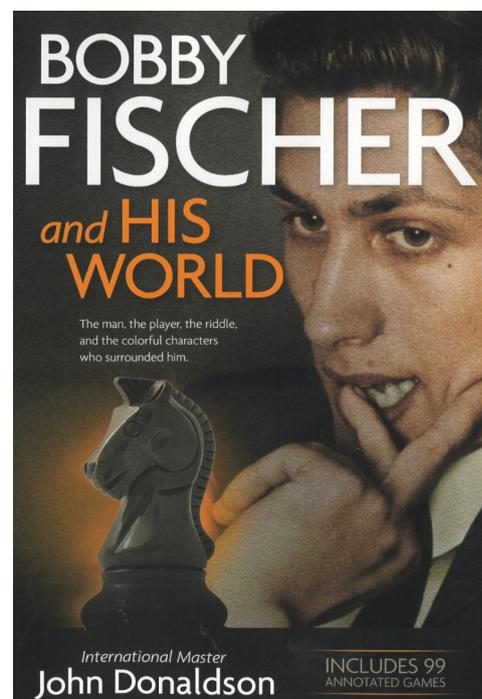
IM Donaldson examines Fischer's life and career from his days as a child prodigy through the height of his World Championship triumph and into his tumultuous final years.

Included are lost games, previously unknown material about Fischer and over 100 photos and illustrations alongside 99 newly annotated games.

## RATING



**Published by**  
Siles Press  
**Format:** Paperback  
**Cost:** £29.99  
**Pages:** 645  
**Website:**  
<https://chess.co.uk/collections/siles-press>



life to chess, a seeker of reaching the true essence of the game. His contributions to chess openings, refined middle game ideas and endgame technique were all of the highest level. He approached the game as a battle and test of wills.

The other Fischer we see the dark and troubled side of this Chess Genius. The author provides much material on the many negotiations, relationships with players and other people, and personal recollections from players and others who knew him. Some material many will have known about, but these issues are given greater coverage and more detail.

The book has nine chapters and each has several sections on different areas that fall within that chapter. There are many interesting photos, and I must say quite a few I have never seen. The book is in paperback, both the front and back covers have a flap that can be used to mark a place in the book. The book opens flat, which is a nice feature. The book is published by Siles Press in 2020.

A second volume is planned to cover Fischer's non-tournament games and writings. I give this book a 5 star rating.

## TOURNAMENTS

# 3<sup>rd</sup> English Championship

THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ENGLISH Championship started on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 with an adjudication date of 31/12/2022. There are 49 players competing with a Final section of 15 players.

## Previous Champions

2nd Championship -  
David Evans

1st Championship -  
Mark Eldridge

## 3rd English Championship Final

TD Wood, Ben A. (IA)

Rated					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place	
1	🇬🇧	212397	CCM	McDermott, Frank J.	2331		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	6.5	0	24.75	1	1
2	🇬🇧	211303	GM	Coleman, Peter L.	2610	1/2		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	5.5	0	22.75	3	2
3	🇬🇧	210854	IM	Thompson, Brian	2397	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	1	1/2			1/2		1				5	2	20.75	6	3
4	🇬🇧	212704	SIM	Rallabandi, Praveen Kumar	2501	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	1	1/2			1/2	1/2				5	1	22.25	5	4
5	🇬🇧	211229	IM	Ellis, Les	2423	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2					5	0	23.25	4	5
6	🇬🇧	219076	CCM	Squires, Michael B.	2366	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	1							4.5	1	20.75	6	6
7	🇬🇧	210745	SIM	Rawlings, Alan J. C.	2321	1/2	1/2	0	0	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2			4.5	0	18.25	3	7
8	🇬🇧	210788	IM	Lumley, Bill F.	2420	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2		1/2						4	0	19.5	6	8
9	🇬🇧	212013	CCM	Evans, David	2408	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2						4	0	18.75	6	9
10	🇬🇧	210507		Thurlow, Kevin J.	2283	1/2	1/2			1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2		1/2				4	0	17.5	6	10
11	🇬🇧	211062	SIM	Asquith, Jerry E. C.	2400	1/2		1/2	1/2	0		1/2	1/2	1/2							3.5	0	16.75	6	11
12	🇬🇧	210324	SIM	Mukherjee, Ajoy K.	2393	1/2	1/2		1/2												1.5	0	8.5	11	12
13	🇬🇧	210717	CCM	Blake, Michael J.	2382	1/2					1/2			1/2							1.5	0	7.5	11	13
14	🇬🇧	212008	CCM	Williams, Richard	2355	1/2	1/2	0			1/2										1.5	0	8.25	10	14
15	🇬🇧	210514	SIM	Pheby, Ian M.	2431																0	0	0	14	15

## 3rd English Championship Semi-Final A

TD Wood, Ben A. (IA)

Rated					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place
1	🇬🇧	213011	CCE	Bailey, Matthew W.	2246		1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1	1/2		1/2	1/2	1	6.5	3	21.75	2	1
2	🇬🇧	211382		Hart, Terry	2155	1/2		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2			1	6	2	20.25	2	2
3	🇬🇧	212535	CCM	Marks, Robert	2363	1/2	1/2		1		1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2		1	5	2	17.75	4	3
4	🇬🇧	211537		Ackley, Peter J. E.	2038	0	1/2	0		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2		1/2	4.5	0	13.5	1	4
5	🇬🇧	211403	CCE	Gardner, Allan	2273	1/2	1/2		1/2	0	1/2	1					1	4	2	15	5	5
6	🇬🇧	210942	CCE	Reed, Arthur F.	2232	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1		1/2	1/2					4	1	19	5	6
7	🇬🇧	212326		Cunningham, Peter J.	2163	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2					1	4	1	14.25	4	7
8	🇬🇧	213092		Hewes, Ralph	1900	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0			1/2	1	4	1	13	2	8
9	🇬🇧	212544	CCM	Herman, Tom	2375		1/2		1/2			1						2	1	9.25	9	9
10	🇬🇧	211552	CCE	Franks, Keith	2344	1/2	1/2		1/2									1.5	0	8.5	9	10
11	🇬🇧	210823	CCE	Brotherton, Trevor S.	2209	1/2		1/2										1	0	5.75	10	11
12	🇬🇧	211742		Clark, Sean	1975				1/2			1/2						1	0	4.25	10	12
13	🇬🇧	210454		Beckett, Phillip J.	1854	0	0	0	1/2	0		0	0					0.5	0	2.25	5	13

## TOURNAMENTS

# 3<sup>rd</sup> English Championship

## Prizes:

The winner will receive £300 together with an engraved trophy for retention.

The Runner-up will receive £150.  
Third place will receive £100.  
Fourth place will receive £50.

THERE ARE TWO Semi-Final Sections and a further Preliminary Group. Players may win promotion or face relegation dependant upon their results.

## 3rd English Championship Semi-Final B

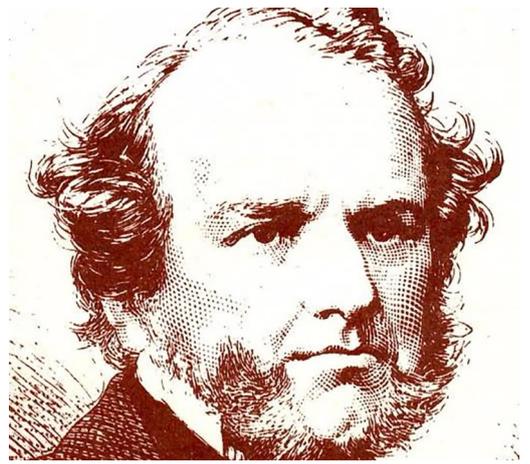
				TD Wood, Ben A. (IA)													Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place	
Rated				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
1		210690	CCE Marchant, Arnold	2161		1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	.	1/2	1	1	7	3	15.25	1	1
2		212734	White, Nigel	2100 <sup>P</sup>	1/2		1/2	1/2	1/2	.	1/2	.	1	.	1/2	.	1	5	2	13.75	4	2
3		210619	CCE Norman, Nigel	2267	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	.	.	1/2	1	.	.	.	1	4.5	2	13	5	3
4		212453	Cheek, Colin	2175	1/2	1/2	1/2		.	.	1/2	1/2	1/2	.	1/2	.	1	4.5	1	12.25	4	4
5		210569	SIM Kitson, Keith	2347	1/2	1/2	1/2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	3.5	2	10.25	7	5	
6		212803	CCM Webster, Richard	2368	1/2	.	.	.	.	.	1/2	1	.	.	.	1	3	2	6.5	8	6	
7		211118	CCM Roberts, Anthony Arthur	2339	1/2	1/2	.	1/2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	2.5	1	10.25	8	7	
8		212819	Cowan, Alastair	2228	1/2	.	1/2	1/2	.	1/2	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	0	9.5	8	8	
9		212273	CCE Bruce, Robert	2031	0	0	0	1/2	0	0	0	.	1/2	.	.	1	2	1	3	3	9	
10		210709	CCE Sutton, Alan B.	2235	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1/2	.	.	1	1.5	1	1	10	10		
11		211280	Perrin, Richard David	2153	1/2	1/2	.	1/2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1.5	0	8.25	9	11	
12		212975	Lockett, John	1875	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	0	0	11	12	
13		212438	Naldrett, Geoff W.	1944	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.	.	0	0	.	0	0	0	4	13	

## 3rd English Championship Preliminary Group

				TD Wood, Ben A. (IA)																Score	Wins	SB	RG	Place				
Rated				1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	8									
1		211163	Tymms, J. D. M.	1755			1/2	1	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1 <sup>E</sup>	1	11.5	11	56.75	2	1
2		212405	Owen, Chris	1731	0	1/2			.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10.5	10	46.75	2	2
3		212629	Mahony, Jon D.	1433	.	.	.	.		1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	1 <sup>E</sup>	1 <sup>E</sup>		9.5	9	38.25	4	3	
4		212191	Ruffle, Alan	1490	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1 <sup>E</sup>	1		6	6	18	0	4	
5		210201	IM Harman, Kenneth B.	1353	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1			5.5	4	16.75	0	5	
6		212448	Page, Martin	1800 <sup>P</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1	0	1/2	1/2		1/2	1/2	1	1	1			5.5	3	19.75	0	6	
7		211973	Kent, Chris	1472	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2			1 <sup>E</sup>	1 <sup>E</sup>			3.5	2	8.25	0	7	
8		210689	Carrington, A. C.	1392	0	0 <sup>E</sup>	0	0	0 <sup>E</sup>	0 <sup>E</sup>	0	0 <sup>E</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 <sup>E</sup>	0 <sup>E</sup>			0	0	0	0	8

## FEATURE ARTICLE

# Howard Staunton: 1810-1874)



HOWARD STAUNTON IS the only British chess player to have become the World Champion, yet he has been curiously neglected except by those who find more to condemn than to praise. Staunton was a great champion, a prolific writer and a man ahead of his time.

AUTHOR KEITH KITSON

Bobby Fischer praised Staunton as one of the most profound analysts of all time. Garry Kasparov counted Staunton as one who should by rights be regarded as a world champion.

Staunton invented the fianchetto openings and so-called Indian systems popularised by Reti and Nimzowitsch seventy years later. Staunton also gave his name to the chess piece design used in all modern tournaments. He was considered the strongest player in the world between 1843 and 1851. He was the main instigator of the first major international chess tournament and one of the most unpopular and controversial figures in the history of chess.

Staunton was the illegitimate son of Frederick Howard, the fifth Earl of Carlisle, and was brought up in poverty and with little education. Despite these handicaps, he became not only the world's leading chess player but also a Shakespearean scholar of note. However, his background left its mark and probably accounted for those characteristics which made him so disliked and feared by many of his contemporaries. He allowed his jealousy of his rivals to blind his judgement, and his chess column in the, 'Illustrated London News' became a vehicle of satire and belittlement of those who dared to cross his path or challenge his supremacy in the world of chess.

Staunton did not learn to play chess until he was 19. Within 10 years he had established himself as one of the leading players in England. Having defeated Popert in a match in 1840 and Cochrane in a series of games in 1841 and 1842, including a Queen sacrifice miniature reproduced at the end of this article, his crowning success came in his decisive victory over Saint-Amant, the strongest French player of his day in 1843. He followed this up with victories over Horwitz and Harrwitz in 1846. These results led him, not unjustifiably, to consider himself champion of the world.

At the same time, he was establishing himself as a chess author and journalist. In 1841 he founded and edited the first chess magazine to be published in England, *The Chess Player's Chronicle*. In 1847 his best-

seller, *The Chess Players Handbook*, was published, and in 1849 there followed, *The Chess Players' Companion*.

The first major international tournament ever held, in 1851, to coincide with the Great Exhibition of that year, was organised by a committee headed by Staunton. He started as favourite, but to his despair only managed 4th. His defeat may be attributed to the fact he was ageing, was in ill-health, was out of practise and had been trying to do too much in organising and playing in a tournament at the same time.

This defeat saw the beginning of his decline as a player. Instead of relinquishing his throne gracefully, he took his defeat badly and showed the greatest jealousy of his rivals, particularly Morphy and Steinitz.

In 1854 Staunton married. The same year, he sold his *Chess Player's Chronicle* in order to devote his time to editing an edition of Shakespeare. His commitment to this work meant he was unable to match Morphy's challenge in 1858.

Unfortunately, he led Morphy to believe that he would be willing to play, and the events which led up to his final refusal became the subject of a controversy which has raged ever since. Staunton's critics accused him of avoiding the match rather than risking defeat, which must be regarded as inevitable had the match taken place.

Whatever his failings, Staunton was indefatigable as an organiser, promoter and teacher of the game, and had there been an official World Championship in his day, he would undoubtedly have been the first and only Englishman to hold the title. He died on 22nd June 1874.

## Bibliography

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 Levy, D. and O'Connell, K., *Oxford Encyclopedia of Chess Games (Volume 1 1485 – 1866)*, Oxford University Press, 1981  
 Sunnucks, A., *The Encyclopaedia of Chess (2nd edition)*, Robert Hale London, 1976.

**Staunton, Howard - Cochrane, John [C52]**

Casuals Match Staunton-Cochrane London, 1842  
[Notes by Kitson, Keith]

- 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 [The Italian opening]  
4.b4 Bxb4 [The Evans Gambit]  
5.c3 Ba5 6.0-0 Bb6 7.Ba3 [preventing Black castling]  
7...d6 [blocking the a3-f8 diagonal]  
8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Nf6 10.e5 dxe5 11.Qb3 [attacking the f7 pawn]  
11...Qd7 [Black's Queen defends f7]  
12.dxe5 Na5 [Staunton was looking at a Queen sacrifice for an attack here]  
13.exf6 [and the attack was on]  
13...Nxb3 14.Re1+ Kd8 15.Be7+ Ke8 16.fxf7 Rg8 17.Bf6+ [discovered check]  
17...Qe6 18.Bxe6 [and takes back the Queen]  
18...Bxe6 19.axb3 [Black resigned in a clearly lost position] 1-0



The final position.

## CLERGY Correspondence Chess Club

The Clergy Correspondence Chess Club is delighted to announce the release of "The Chess Player's Alice" a 24 page booklet authored by Ivor Davies.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There*.

Recently the Clergy Correspondence Chess Club reprinted their Founder, Ivor Davies' book dealing with the chess problem in the Alice's looking glass world.

**How can White make thirteen moves to Black's (Red's) three?**

**Can White simply ignore a check on his King?**

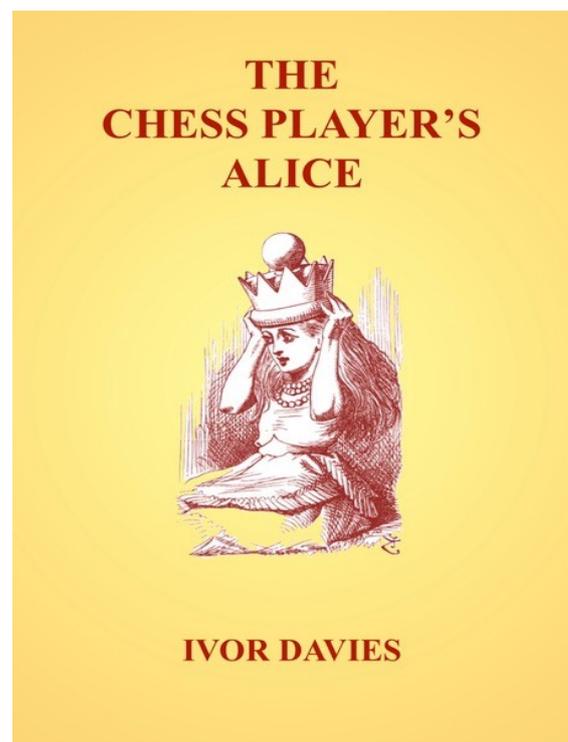
**What is meant by Queens Castling?**

**Who is the invisible Bishop?**

These are just some of the questions posed by the chess game that provides the framework of Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There*. Questions with which Ivor Davies grapples in this booklet.

Can the game be reconciled with the rules of chess at all, or is it just a nonsense-fantasy of the author?

The book has a cover price of £4 but as a special offer



readers of this magazine can buy a copy for £3 post free. Email the Club secretary [brucecarlin@cooptel.net](mailto:brucecarlin@cooptel.net) for BACS or PayPal details and a copy will be on its way.

GAMES

# England v Mexico Under 1800



A REMARKABLE MATCH featuring just one drawn game! This great opportunity for under 1800 players saw England win 11½ - 8½.

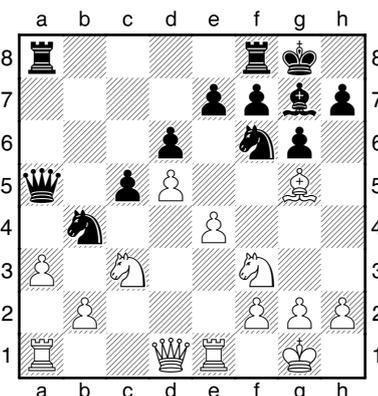
**Vazquez Gallardo, Miguel (1613) - Denton, Ron Cat [E91]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

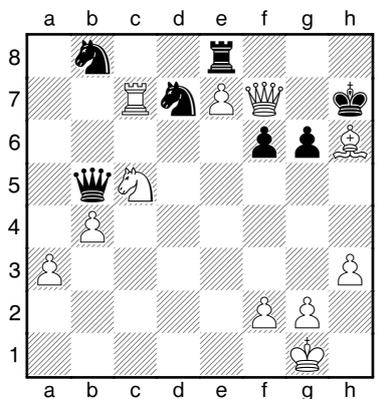
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.♗c3 ♘xa6 7.♘f3 d6 8.e4 ♙g7 9.♙xa6 ♘xa6 10.0-0 0-0 11.♙e1 [E91: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2, unusual replies including 6...c5 and 6...Bg4. E91: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2, unusual replies including 6...c5 and 6...Bg4.]

11...♘b4 12.a3 ♖a5N [Predecessor: 12...c4 13.♙f4 ♘d3 14.♙xd6 exd6 15.♙e2 ♖b6 16.♙b1 ♘g4 17.♖c2 ♙fb8 18.♘e1 ♘gxf2 0-1 (19) Campos Toledo, C (1476)-Marrero Falcon, H (2019) Las Palmas 2009; Predecessor: 12...c4 13.♙f4 ♘d3 14.♙xd6 exd6 15.♙e2 ♖b6 16.♙b1 ♘g4 17.♖c2 ♙fb8 18.♘e1 ♘gxf2 0-1 (19) Campos Toledo, C (1476) - Marrero Falcon, H (2019) Las Palmas 2009]

13.♙g5 [



13...♘a6 14.♖d2 ♙fb8 15.♙ab1 ♙b7 16.h3 ♙ab8 17.e5 dxe5 18.♘xe5 ♖c7 19.♙f4 ♖c8 20.♘c6 ♙a8 21.♘xe7+ ♙xe7 22.♙xe7 ♖f5 23.♙be1 ♘d8 24.d6 ♘b8 25.♙1e5 ♖c8 26.♙c7 ♖a6 27.♙ee7 ♘fd7 28.♖d5 ♙f8 29.♘e4 h6 30.♘xc5 ♖b5 31.b4 ♙f6 32.♙xh6 ♙xe7 33.dxe7 ♙e8 34.♖d4 f6 35.♖d5+ ♘h7 36.♖f7+ [



1-0

**Denton, Ron Cat - Vazquez Gallardo, Miguel (1613) [C55]**

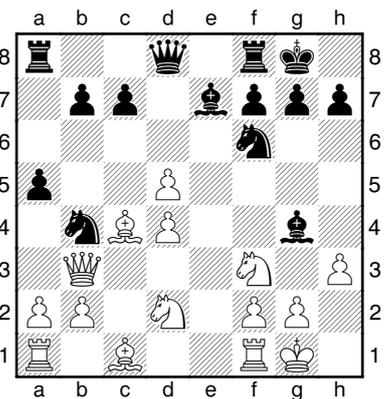
ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙c4 ♘f6 4.d3 ♙b4+ 5.c3 ♙e7 6.♘bd2 [C55: Two Knights: 4 d3, 4 d4 exd4 5 e5 and Max Lange Attack.]

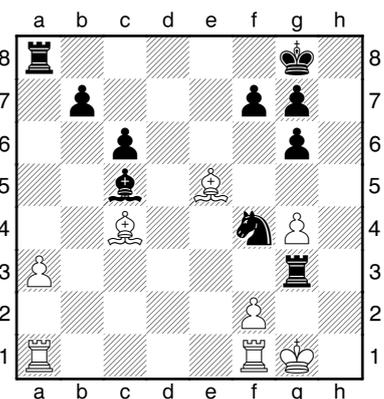
6...d6 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 ♙g4 10.♖c2 ♘b4 11.♖b3 d5 12.exd5 a5N [Predecessor: 12...♘fxd5 13.a3 ♘c6 14.♙xd5 ♘a5 15.♖a2 c6 16.♙e4 ♙e6 17.♖b1 ♘b3 18.♘xb3 ♙xb3 19.♙xh7+ ♘h8 20.♖d3 ♖d5 21.♘e5 ♙f6 22.♙e4

♖e6 23.♙f5 1-0 (22) Nguyen, T-Ngo, D Thua Thien Hue 2001]

13.h3 [



13...♙f5 14.a3 a4 15.♖d1 ♘c2 16.♙a2 ♘xd5 17.g4 ♙g6 18.♘e5 ♘xd4 19.♘df3 ♘xf3+ 20.♖xf3 ♘b6 21.♘g6 hxg6 22.♙d3 ♖d5 23.♖xd5 ♘xd5 24.♙a1 ♙fd8 25.♙c4 c6 26.b4 axb3 27.♙xb3 ♘c3 28.♙b2 ♘e2+ 29.♘h1 ♘d3 30.♙c4 ♙xh3+ 31.♙g2 ♘f4+ 32.♙g1 ♙c5 33.♙e5 ♙g3+ 0-1 [



# England v Mexico International Friendly Under 1800

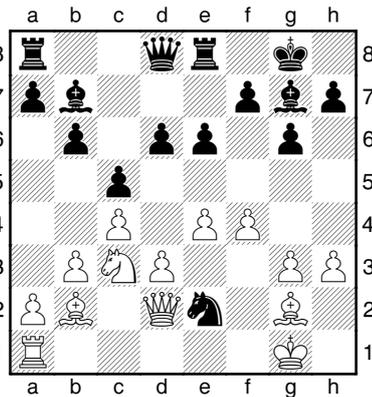
Cisneros Escalona, Melisa (1392) -  
Torregrosa, Sacha [B20]

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

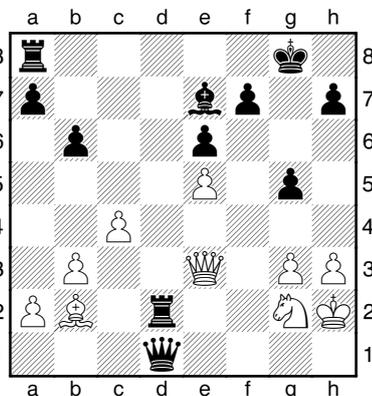
1.e4 c5 2.c4 d6 3.♘c3 ♘c6 4.♗ge2  
♗f6 5.b3N [Predecessor: 5.d4 cxd4  
6.♗xd4 g6 7.♗e2 ♗xd4 8.♗xd4 ♗g7  
9.♗e3 0-0 10.♗d2 a5 11.0-0 a4  
12.b4 axb3 13.axb3 ♗xa1 14.♗xa1  
♗xe4 15.♗xe4 ♗xa1 16.♗f3 ♗g7  
17.♗b4 ♗c7 18.♗c3 0-1 (39)  
Golding, A (2306)-Clarke, B (2431)  
London 2019]

5...g6 6.g3 [B20: Sicilian: Unusual  
White 2nd moves.]

6...♗g7 7.♗g2 0-0 8.0-0 b6 9.d3  
♗b7 10.♗b2 ♗e8 11.f3 e6 12.f4 ♗g4  
13.h3 ♗e3 14.♗d2 ♗xf1 15.♗xf1  
♗d4 16.♗g2 ♗xe2+ [



17.♗xe2 ♗f6 18.e5 ♗xg2 19.♗xg2  
dxe5 20.fxe5 ♗g5 21.♗c3 ♗d7  
22.♗h2 ♗e8 23.♗c1 ♗e7 24.d4  
cxd4 25.♗f3 d3 26.♗f4 ♗d4 27.♗b1  
g5 28.♗g2 d2 29.♗b2 d1 ♗ 30.♗xd1  
♗xd1 31.♗e3 ♗d2 [



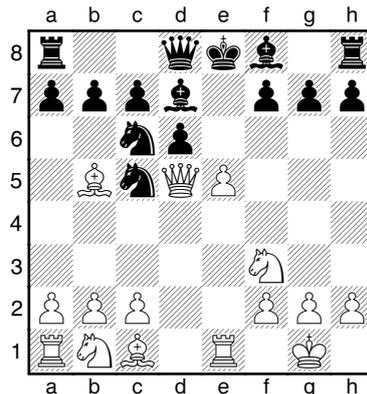
0-1

Torregrosa, Sacha - Cisneros Escalo-  
na, Melisa (1392) [C66]

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗b5 ♗f6 4.0-0  
d6 5.d4 ♗d7 6.dxe5 [C66: Ruy  
Lopez: Steinitz Defence.]

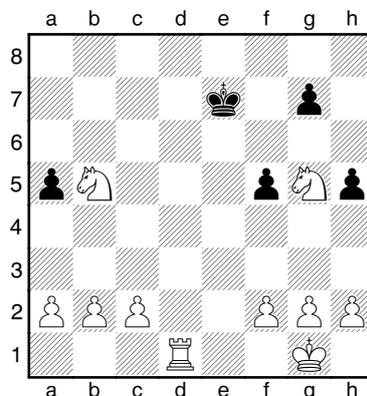
6...♗xe4 7.♗e1 ♗c5 8.♗d5N [



]

[Predecessor: 8.exd6+ ♗e6 9.♗f4  
♗b8 10.dxc7 ♗c8 11.♗xd7+ ♗xd7  
12.♗d6 a5 13.♗c3 ♗a6 14.♗b5 1-0  
(20) Dabin, P (1380)-Ouary, M (1510)  
Sautron 2004]

8...♗e7 9.exd6 cxd6 10.♗g5 0-0  
11.♗xe7 ♗xe7 12.♗xd6 b6  
13.♗xd7 ♗xd7 14.♗xe7 ♗e8  
15.♗xd7 ♗c8 16.♗c7 ♗xc7  
17.♗xc7 a5 18.♗c3 ♗ac8 19.♗d5  
b5 20.♗xc8 ♗xc8 21.♗e7+ ♗f8  
22.♗xc8 f5 23.♗g5 h5 24.♗d1 ♗e8  
25.♗d6+ ♗e7 26.♗xb5 [



]

26...♗f6 27.♗f3 g6 28.c4

1-0

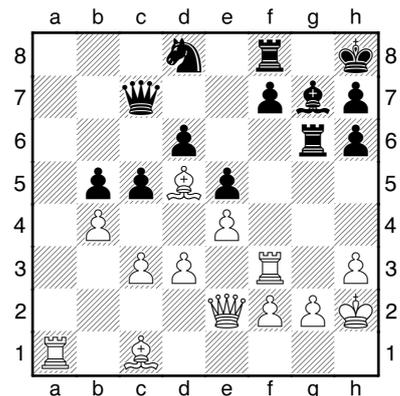
Hench Sánchez, Francisco Gerardo -  
Kok, Herman (1780) [C50]

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

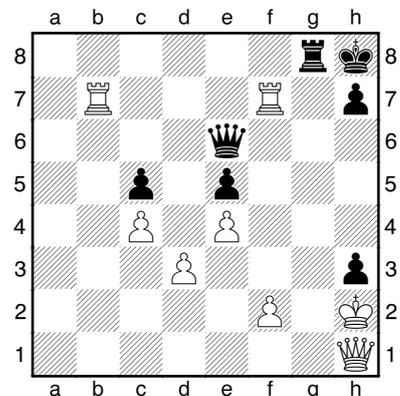
1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗c4 ♗e7 4.d3  
d6 5.c3 ♗a5 6.♗b5+ [C50:  
Hungarian Defence and Giuoco  
Pianissimo.]

6...c6 7.♗a4 b5 8.♗c2 c5 9.a3N  
[Predecessor: 9.♗bd2 ♗f6 10.♗f1  
0-0 11.h3 ♗e8 12.♗g3 ♗f8 13.0-0  
h6 14.♗h2 d5 15.♗e2 dxe4 16.dxe4  
1/2-1/2 (60) Kaynak, D (1467)-  
Bingoluglu, F (1578) Ankara 2019]

9...♗g4 10.h3 ♗xf3 11.♗xf3 ♗c6  
12.♗d2 a5 13.♗f1 ♗f6 14.♗g3 0-0  
15.0-0 ♗e8 16.♗e1 ♗c7 17.♗f5 ♗f8  
18.♗h6+ gxf6 19.♗xf6 ♗g7  
20.♗h4 ♗e6 21.♗e3 ♗e7 22.♗h5  
♗g5 23.♗e2 ♗g6 24.♗g3 ♗h4  
25.♗h2 ♗h8 26.♗b3 ♗f8 27.♗f3  
♗e7 28.♗d5 ♗d8 29.b4 axb4  
30.axb4 ♗c7 [



31.♗b2 ♗d7 32.♗a5 ♗g8 33.bxc5  
dxc5 34.♗xb5 h5 35.g3 h4 36.g4  
♗h6 37.c4 ♗xc1 38.♗xc1 ♗xg4  
39.hxg4 ♗xg4 40.♗h1 h3 41.♗xf7  
♗xf7 42.♗xf7 ♗e6 43.♗bb7 [



43...♗g2+ 44.♗xg2 ♗xf7 45.♗b8+  
1-0

# England v Mexico International Friendly Under 1800

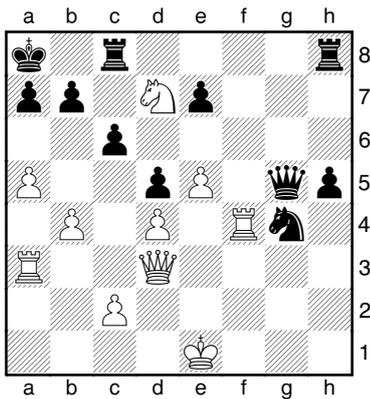
**Kok,Herman (1780) - Hench Sánchez,Francisco Gerardo [B12]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

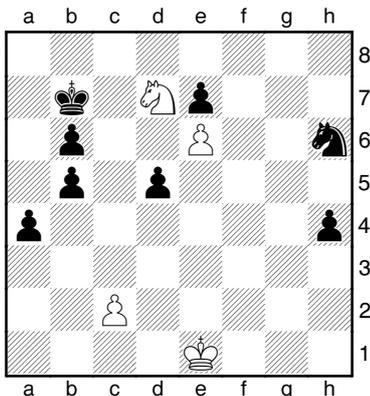
1.d4 d5 2.e4 c6 3.e5 ♟f5 4.h4 h6 5.g4 ♟e4 6.f3 ♟h7 7.e6 fxe6 [B12: Caro-Kann: Advance Variation.]

8.♟d3 ♟xd3 9.♟xd3 ♟d6 10.f4 ♟d7 11.♟f3 0-0-0 12.♟e5 ♟xe5 13.fxe5 ♟d7 14.b4N [Predecessor: 14.♟e3 ♟b8 15.♟c3 1/2-1/2 (14) Sosulin,E (2416)-Tishin,P (2427) Pervomaisky 2016]

14...♟b8 15.♟d2 ♟f6 16.a4 ♟xg4 17.♟b3 ♟e8 18.♟c5 ♟f7 19.♟f1 ♟h5 20.♟f4 ♟e8 21.♟xe6 ♟c8 22.♟f5 h5 23.♟a3 g6 24.♟d3 ♟h6 25.a5 ♟g8 26.♟c5 ♟xf4 27.♟xf4 g5 28.hxg5 ♟xg5 29.♟d7+ ♟a8 30.♟b6+ ♟b8 31.♟d7+ ♟a8 [



32.♟f5 ♟h4+ 33.♟d2 ♟h2+ 34.♟c1 ♟g1+ 35.♟d2 ♟hg8 36.♟af3 ♟h6 37.♟f8 b6 38.a6 ♟gxf8 39.♟xf8 ♟xd4+ 40.♟e2 ♟c4+ 41.♟d1 ♟xa6 42.b5 cxb5 43.♟xc8+ ♟xc8 44.♟f8 ♟xf8 45.♟xf8 h4 46.♟e1 a5 47.e6 a4 48.♟d7 ♟b7 [



0-1

**Alva Mahe,Mario Alberto - Loyden,Gary**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.c4 ♟f6 2.g3 e5 3.♟g2 d5 4.cxd5 ♟xd5 5.♟c3 c6 6.♟f3 ♟xc3 7.bxc3 ♟d7 8.0-0 ♟d6 9.d3 0-0 10.♟b1 ♟f6 [A22: English Opening: 1...e5 2 Nc3 Nf6.]

11.♟g5 h6 12.♟d2N [Predecessor: 12.♟xf6 ♟xf6 13.♟d2 ♟d8 14.a4 f5 15.♟b2 ♟e7 16.♟b3+ ♟h7 17.♟c4 ♟c5 18.e3 1-0 (48) Sikorova,O (2276)-Mohapl,P (2053) Czech Republic 2019]

12...e4 13.♟d4 ♟e8 14.h3 a6 15.♟e1 ♟b8 16.♟c2 e3 17.♟xe3 ♟xe3 18.fxe3 c5 19.♟f3 ♟xg3 20.♟f1 ♟d5 21.♟d2 ♟e7 22.e4 ♟f4 23.♟e1 ♟e3 24.♟f2 b5 25.♟h2 ♟g3 [time forfeit]

0-1

**Loyden,Gary - Alva Mahe,Mario Alberto**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 d3 4.♟xd3 ♟c6 5.♟f3 d6 6.c4 [B21: Sicilian: 2 f4 and Morra Gambit.]

6...♟f6 7.h3 g6 8.0-0 ♟g7 9.♟c3 0-0 10.♟e3 ♟d7 11.♟c1 ♟e8 12.b3 ♟a5 13.♟d2 ♟ac8 14.♟b1 a6 15.♟fd1 ♟e5N [Predecessor: 15...♟h5 16.♟d5 ♟xd5 17.exd5 ♟e5 18.♟d4 f6 19.f4 ♟f7 20.♟e4 g5 21.♟e6 g4 22.hxg4 ♟xg4 1-0 (37) Santos,M-Deus Filho,J Sao Paulo 1998]

16.♟xe5 ♟xe5 17.♟d4 ♟h5 18.♟e3 ♟xh3 19.gxh3 ♟xh3 20.♟d3 [time forfeit]

1-0

**Monreal,Elvia - Robinson,Robin (1696) [C41]**

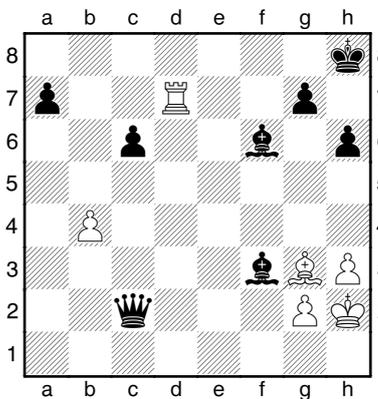
ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 e5 2.♟c3 ♟f6 3.♟f3 d6 4.♟c4 ♟e7 5.0-0 ♟g4 6.♟xe5N [C41: Philidor Defence.]

[Predecessor: 6.♟e2 ♟c6 7.d3 0-0 8.h3 ♟xf3 9.♟xf3 ♟e8 10.♟d5 ♟g5 11.c3 ♟xc1 12.♟xc1 ♟e7 13.d4 c6 14.♟xe7+ ♟xe7 15.♟b3 ♟f6

16.dxe5 dxe5 0-1 (30) Rajarshi,D (1971) -Amonatov,F (2621) New Delhi 2019]

6...♟xd1 7.♟xf7 ♟c8 8.♟xh8 ♟h5 9.d4 ♟c6 10.♟e3 ♟a5 11.♟b5+ c6 12.♟a4 ♟c7 13.d5 ♟f8 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.♟f4 ♟b7 16.b3 ♟g8 17.b4 ♟c4 18.♟b3 ♟a6 19.e5 dxe5 20.♟xe5 ♟xh8 21.♟xc4 ♟xc4 22.a3 ♟d5 23.♟ae1 ♟f6 24.♟xd5 ♟xd5 25.♟g3 h6 26.f3 ♟g6 27.♟d1 ♟b5 28.♟c1 ♟e8 29.h3 ♟a4 30.♟fe1 ♟xe1+ 31.♟xe1 ♟xa3 32.♟e6 ♟c1+ 33.♟h2 ♟xc2 34.♟d6 ♟h5 35.♟d7 ♟xf3 [



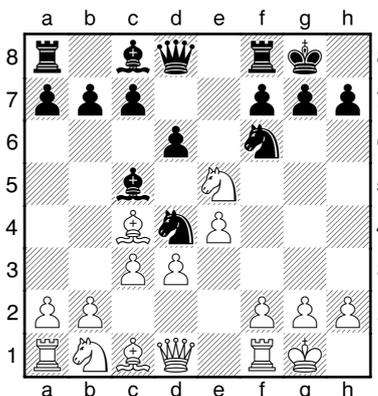
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**Robinson,Robin (1696) - Monreal,Elvia [C50]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 e5 2.♟f3 ♟c6 3.♟c4 ♟d4 4.d3 ♟f6 5.0-0 ♟c5 6.♟xe5 [C50: Hungarian Defence and Giuoco Pianissimo.]

6...0-0 7.c3 d6N [

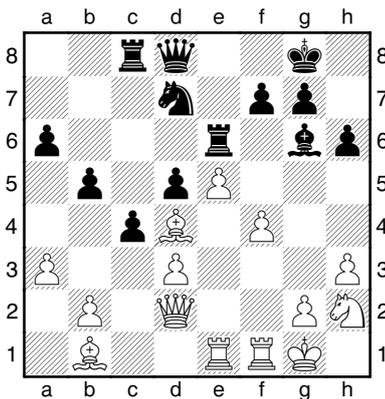


]

## England v Mexico International Friendly Under 1800

[Predecessor: 7...♗e6 8.♙e3 ♘xe3 9.fxe3 d5 10.exd5 ♗xd5 11.e4 ♗e3 12.♖f3 ♗xf1 13.♖xf1 ♖g5 1-0 (30) Mezak,D (1821)-Puljic,L Hum na Sutli 2008]

8.cxd4 ♘xd4 9.♗f3 ♙g4 10.♗bd2 ♙h5 11.♖c2 ♙b6 12.h3 ♖c8 13.♗h2 ♗d7 14.♗df3 h6 15.♙e3 ♗f6 16.♗d4 ♘xd4 17.♙xd4 c5 18.♙e3 ♖e8 19.♖ae1 a6 20.a3 b5 21.♙a2 c4 22.♙d4 d5 23.e5 ♗d7 24.♙b1 ♙g6 25.♗d2 ♖e6 26.f4 [



] 26...♖h4 27.♗f3 ♖h5 28.♖c1 ♙f5 29.♗f2 ♖g6 30.♗e1 ♗b8 31.♖f2 ♗c6 32.♗d1 ♗a5 33.♖h4 ♖xh4+ 34.♗xh4 ♖gc6 35.♗xf5 ♖g6 36.♗e7+ ♗h7 37.♗xg6 fxe6 38.f5 ♗b3 39.fxe6+ ♗g8 40.♖f4 ♖c6 41.♙c2 ♗xd4 42.♖xd4 ♖xg6 43.♗d2 ♖g3 44.♖e2 a5 45.e6

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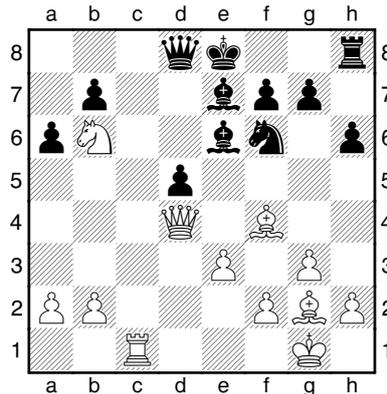
**Verdugo Barba, Omar (1710) - Hutchings, J. M... (1621) [D33]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.c4 ♗f6 2.d4 e6 3.♗c3 d5 4.♗f3 c5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.g3 ♗c6 7.♙g2 h6 8.0-0 [D33: Tarrasch Defence: 6 g3 sidelines.]

8...♙f5 9.♙f4 a6 10.e3N [Predecessor: 10.♖c1 c4 11.♗e5 ♖c8 12.b3 ♙a3 13.bxc4 ♘xc1 14.♘xc1 ♗xe5 15.dxe5 ♗e4 16.♗xd5 ♖xc4 1-0 (54) Da Luz,F (1929)-Dos Santos,H (2103) Blumenau 2016]

10...♙e7 11.dxc5 ♘xc5 12.♖c1 ♙e7 13.♗d4 ♗xd4 14.♖xd4 ♙e6 15.♗a4 ♖c8 16.♗b6 ♖xc1 17.♖xc1 [



17...♙d6 18.♙xd6 ♖xd6 19.e4 ♖d8 20.exd5 0-0 21.d6 ♙xa2 22.♖c8 ♖xc8 23.♗xc8 ♖xc8 24.♙xb7 ♗d8 25.♖b6 ♖b8 26.♖c7

1-0

**Hutchings, J. M... (1621) - Verdugo Barba, Omar (1710) [B32]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 e5 5.♗b5 d6 6.♗1c3 a6 7.♗a3 ♗f6 [B32: Sicilian: Löwenthal and Kalashnikov Variations.]

8.f3 b5 9.♗ab1 b4N [Predecessor: 9...♙e7 10.♙e3 0-0 11.♗d2 ♙e6 12.♙e2 d5 13.exd5 ♗xd5 14.♗xd5 ♘xd5 15.0-0 ♙g5 1/2-1/2 (23) Butkus,J-Maltsev,L (1899) Vilnius 2011]

10.♗d5 ♗xd5 11.♖xd5 ♖c7 12.♙e3 ♙e6 13.♖d1 ♙e7 14.♙d3 0-0 15.0-0 ♖fd8 16.♗d2 d5 17.exd5 ♖xd5 18.♖e2 ♗d4 19.♙xd4 ♖xd4 20.♗b3 ♖h4 21.g3 ♖h6 22.♖fd1 a5 23.a4 bxa3 24.bxa3 a4 25.♗d2 ♖d8 26.♗c4 ♙xc4 27.♙xc4 ♖xd1+ 28.♖xd1 ♙xa3 29.♖a1 ♙c5+ 30.♗g2 a3 31.♙b3 ♖d6 32.♖d1 ♖xd1 33.♖xd1 g6 34.♖d5 ♗g7 35.♗h3 ♙b4 36.f4 ♙d6 37.fxe5 ♙xe5 38.♗g2 ♖e7 39.♗g1 39...♙d6 40.♖f3 a2 41.♙xa2 ♖a7+ 42.♗g2 ♖xa2 43.♖c3+ f6

0-1

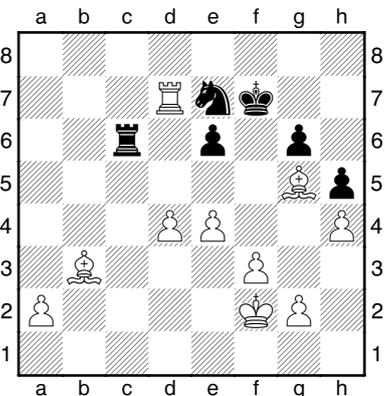
**González Olazarán, Othonyel (1616) - Brooks, Ian (1613) [B22]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 g6 3.c3 ♖a5 4.♗a3 ♗c6 5.♗c4 ♖c7 6.d4 [B22: Sicilian: 2 c3.]

6...d6 7.♙e2 ♙g7 8.0-0 e6N [Predecessor: 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 ♙g4 10.♙e3 ♗f6 11.d5 ♗b8 12.♖c1 ♖d7 13.♗ce5 dxe5 14.♗xe5 ♙xe2 15.♗xd7 ♙xd1 16.♗xf6+ ♙xf6 17.♖fxd1 0-1 (24) Nebolsina,V (2368)-Tay,J (2371) Chess.com INT 2018]

9.d5 ♗ce7 10.dxe6 ♙xe6 11.♗xd6+ ♗f8 12.♗b5 ♖c6 13.♗g5 c4 14.♗xe6+ fxe6 15.♗d4 ♖b6 16.♙xc4 ♖xd4 17.♖xd4 ♖xd4 18.cxd4 ♗f7 19.♙e3 ♗f6 20.f3 ♖hd8 21.♖ac1 b6 22.♙b3 b5 23.♖c7 a5 24.♖fc1 a4 25.♙d1 a3 26.bxa3 ♖xa3 27.♙b3 ♖a6 28.♖b7 ♗e8 29.♖cc7 ♖d7 30.♖xd7 ♗xd7 31.♖xb5 ♖c6 32.♗f2 ♗f7 33.♖b7 h5 34.♖xd7 ♗f6 35.h4 ♗f7 36.♙g5 [



]

1-0

**Brooks, Ian (1613) - González Olazarán, Othonyel (1616) [B30]**

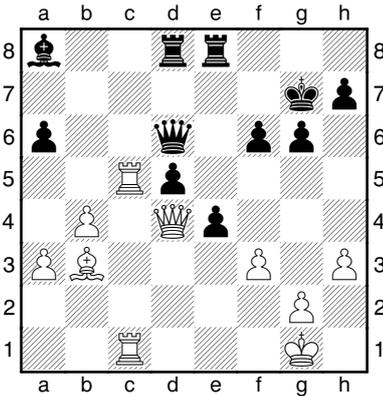
ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗c3 g6 4.♙c4 ♙g7 5.d3 d6 6.h3 ♗f6 [B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines without ...g6.]

7.♙e3 0-0 8.♖d2 a6 9.a3 b5 10.♙a2 e6 11.♖b1N [Predecessor: 11.♗e2 ♖c7 12.c3 ♖d8 13.♙g5 ♗e5 14.♗xe5 dxe5 15.♖d1 ♖d6 16.♖e3 ♙b7 17.f3 1/2-1/2 (40) Gaul,H

# England v Mexico International Friendly Under 1800

(1493)-Stergar,L (1966) Goch 2007]  
 11...♙b7 12.d4 cxd4 13.♗xd4  
 ♗xd4 14.♙xd4 e5 15.♙e3 ♗xe4  
 16.♗xe4 ♙xe4 17.0-0 ♖c7 18.♖bc1  
 ♖ad8 19.f3 ♙a8 20.c4 ♖b7 21.b4  
 bxc4 22.♙xc4 d5 23.♙b3 e4 24.♙d4  
 ♖b8 25.♖c5 ♖b6 26.♙xg7 ♗xg7  
 27.♖d4+ f6 28.♗h2 ♖d6+ 29.♗g1  
 ♖fe8 30.♖fc1 [



30...♖e7 31.♗f2 e3+ 32.♗e2 ♖g3  
 33.♖1c2 ♖xg2+ 34.♗d3 e2 35.♖c3  
 ♖xf3+

0-1

**Ramirez Yañez,Leonardo - Swindells,Philip**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.b3 e5 2.c4 ♗c6 3.♙b2 ♙c5 4.♗c3  
 ♗f6 5.e3 d6 6.♙e2 a6 7.♗f3 0-0  
 8.d4 exd4 [abandoned]

0-1

**Swindells,Philip - Ramirez Yañez,Leonardo**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 c5 2.♗c3 d6 3.♙c4 ♗c6 4.♗f3  
 g6 5.d4 cxd4 6.♗xd4 ♙g7 7.♙e3  
 ♗f6 8.h3 ♙d7 9.a3 [abandoned]

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**(Martínez Camacho,Victor Hugo (1633) - Ward,Bill (1599) [B13]**

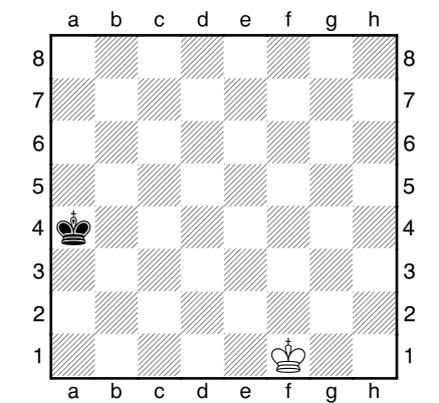
ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♗f6 3.d4 c6 4.♗c3  
 cxd5 5.♗f3 ♗c6 6.♙g5 [B13: Caro-Kann: Exchange Variation and

Panov-Botvinnik Attack.]

6...♙g4 7.♙e2 ♖b6 8.♙xf6 ♙xf3N  
 [Predecessor: 8...exf6 9.♗xd5 ♖a5+  
 10.♗c3 ♙b4 11.♖d3 ♖d8 12.a3 0-0  
 13.0-0 ♙xc3 14.♖xc3 ♖h5 1-0 (23)  
 Condori,A-Jurado,Y Pocos de Caldas 2013]

9.♙xf3 exf6 10.0-0 ♖xd4 11.♗xd5  
 0-0-0 12.♖xd4 ♗xd4 13.♗c3  
 ♗xf3+ 14.gxf3 ♖d2 15.♖ac1 f5  
 16.♖fe1 ♙c5 17.♖e2 ♖hd8 18.♗f1  
 ♙b4 19.a3 ♙xc3 20.bxc3 ♖d1+  
 21.♖e1 ♖xc1 22.♖xc1 ♖d6 23.♗e2  
 ♗d7 24.♖b1 ♗c7 25.♙g1 g6 26.h4  
 ♗c6 27.h5 ♗c5 28.hxg6 fxg6  
 29.♖h1 ♖d7 30.♖b1 ♗c4 31.♖b3 b6  
 32.♗e3 ♖d1 33.♗e2 ♙g1 34.♗d2  
 g5 35.♖b4+ ♗c5 36.♖a4 a5 37.♖d4  
 h5 38.♖d7 h4 39.♖f7 h3 40.♖h7 g4  
 41.f4 ♙g2 42.♗e2 g3 43.♖xh3  
 ♖xf2+ 44.♗d3 g2 45.♙g3 ♖xf4  
 46.♖xg2 ♖f3+ 47.♗d2 ♗c4 48.♖g6  
 ♖f2+ 49.♗c1 f4 50.♖xb6 f3 51.♖c6+  
 ♗b5 52.♖c8 ♖f1+ 53.♗d2 ♗a4  
 54.c4 ♗xa3 55.c5 ♗b4 56.c6 f2  
 57.♖f8 ♖h1 58.c7 ♖h2 59.♗e2 f1♖+  
 60.♗xf1 ♖xc2 61.c8♖ ♖xc8  
 62.♖xc8 ♗b3 63.♖a8 a4 64.♖xa4  
 ♗xa4 [



]

1/2-1/2

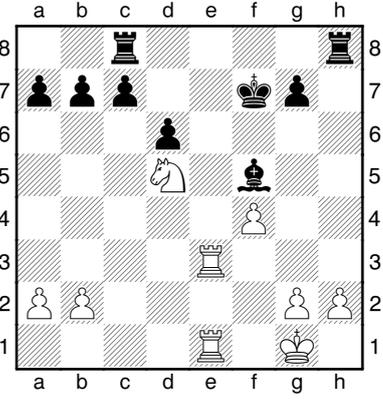
**Ward,Bill (1599) - Martínez Camacho,Victor Hugo (1633) [C56]**

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

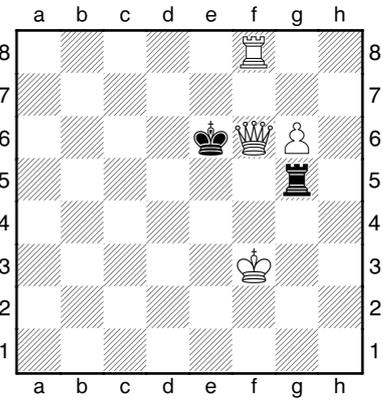
1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♙c4 ♗f6 4.d4  
 exd4 5.e5 ♗g4 6.0-0 ♙c5 7.♙xf7+  
 ♗f8 [C56: Two Knights: 4 d4 exd4 5  
 0-0 Nxe4.]

8.♙h5 ♗gxe5 9.♗xe5 ♗xe5  
 10.♖e1N [Predecessor: 10.f4 ♗g6  
 11.f5 d3+ 12.♗h1 ♗e5 13.cxd3 ♙e7  
 14.♙f4 ♗f7 15.♗c3 d6 16.♖b3 1-0

(23) Schelleman,I (1780) - Hulleman,A Rotterdam 2015]  
 10...d6 11.f4 d3+ 12.♙e3 dxc2  
 13.♖xc2 ♙xe3+ 14.♙xe3 ♗g6  
 15.♙xg6 hxg6 16.♖xg6 ♖d7  
 17.♗c3 ♖f7 18.♖xf7+ ♗xf7  
 19.♖ae1 ♙f5 20.♗d5 ♖ac8 [



21.♙g3 g6 22.♖e7+ ♗f8 23.♖ge3 c6  
 24.♗f6 d5 25.♖xb7 ♙e4 26.♗xe4  
 dxe4 27.♖xe4 ♖h5 28.♖ee7 ♖f5  
 29.♖h7 ♗g8 30.♖hg7+ ♗f8 31.g3  
 ♖f6 32.♖xa7 c5 33.♖h7 ♗g8  
 34.♖ag7+ ♗f8 35.♖h8+ ♗xg7  
 36.♖xc8 ♖b6 37.♖xc5 ♖xb2 38.a4  
 ♖a2 39.a5 ♗f6 40.g4 ♖a4 41.♗g2  
 ♖a3 42.♖c6+ ♗g7 43.a6 ♗f7  
 44.♖c7+ ♗f6 45.a7 ♗e6 46.h4 ♗d6  
 47.♖g7 ♖a4 48.♖xg6+ ♗d5 49.h5  
 ♖xa7 50.h6 ♗e4 51.♖g7 ♖a2+  
 52.♗h3 ♗xf4 53.h7 ♖a1 54.g5  
 ♖h1+ 55.♗g2 ♖h5 56.g6 ♗f5  
 57.♖g8 ♖g5+ 58.♗f3 ♗f6 59.h8♖+  
 ♗f5 60.♖f8+ ♗e6 61.♖f6+ [



]

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# England v Mexico International Friendly Under 1800

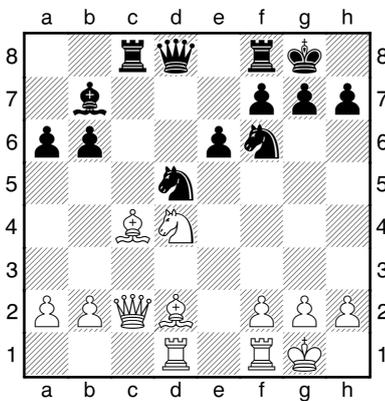
Rojas,Esau - Taylor,Robert P. [C00]

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.e4 e6 2.♘f3 d5 3.♘e5 dxe4 4.d3 exd3 5.cxd3 ♘d7 6.♙f4 [C00: French: Unusual White 2nd moves.]

6...♘gf6N [Predecessor: 6...♙b4+ 7.♘c3 ♗f6 8.♙g3 ♘xe5 9.♗a4+ ♘c6 10.♙xc7 ♙xc3+ 11.bxc3 ♗xc3+ 12.♙e2 ♙d7 13.g3 ♘d4+ 0-1 (13) Vonkock,R (881)-Bellanger,M (1863) LSS email 2014]

7.d4 ♘d5 8.♙d2 ♙d6 9.♘f3 c5 10.dxc5 ♙xc5 11.♙c4 ♘7f6 12.0-0 0-0 13.♗c2 b6 14.♘c3 ♙b7 15.♙ad1 ♙c8 16.♘b5 a6 17.♘bd4 ♙xd4 18.♘xd4 [



18...b5 19.♘xb5 axb5 20.b3 bxc4 21.bxc4 ♗c7 22.♙c1 ♗c6 23.a4 ♘e3

0-1

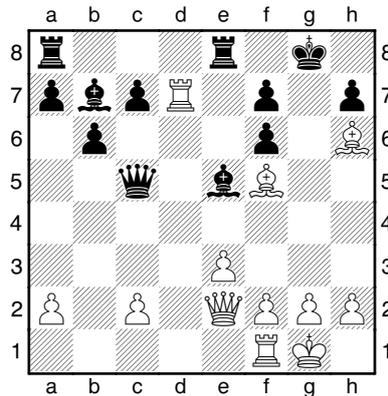
Taylor,Robert P. - Rojas,Esau [D01]

ENG v MEX ICCF, 10.06.2020

1.d4 d5 2.♘c3 ♘f6 3.♙g5 ♘bd7 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 ♙d6 6.♙d3 [D01: Veresov Opening.]

6...0-0 7.0-0N [Predecessor: 7.♗e2 b6 8.0-0-0 ♙b7 9.h4 h6 10.♙xh6 gxh6 11.♘g5 hxg5 12.hxg5 ♙e8 13.gxf6 ♗xf6 14.♗g4+ ♙f8 15.♙h7 1/2-1/2 (15) Cuker,O (1116) - Lopata,D (1000) Stara Lubovna 2014]

7...b6 8.♗e2 e5 9.♘xd5 ♙b7 10.♘xf6+ gxf6 11.dxe5 ♙xe5 12.♙h6 ♙xb2 13.♙ad1 ♙e8 14.♙f5 ♗e7 15.♙xd7 ♗c5 16.♘e5 ♙xe5 [



17.♗g4+

1-0

The tournament and and pgn download is available on iccf.com at <https://www.iccf.com/event/?id=86740>

The England team were-

1. Phillip Swindells
2. Herman Kok
3. Gary Lotden
4. Robin Robinson
5. J. M. Hutchings
6. Ian Brooks
7. Ron Cat Denton
8. Bill Ward
9. Sacha Torregrosa
10. Robert P. Taylor

Each issue of the magazine will seek to publish games from all standards of play, from those both new to correspondence chess and those who have many years of experience to draw upon.

If you would like to see your games featured, please send your game(s) with notes to the editor.

We can accept most formats but prefer to receive content via email as this will prevent errors on our part in copying the game into the magazine format.

Games and notes may be sent to [efccnews@icloud.com](mailto:efccnews@icloud.com)

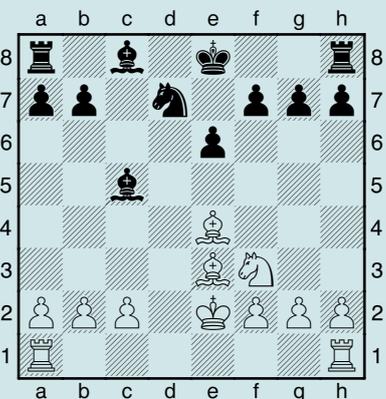
From the EFCC Games Archive

Overton,David J (2293) - Douglas,Steve R [C03]

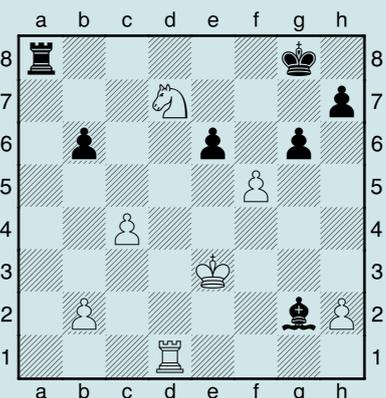
1st Webchess Open Tournament group 13, 2005

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘d2 [French defence: Tarrasch]

3...♙e7 4.♙d3 c5 5.dxc5 ♘f6 6.♘gf3 dxe4 7.♘xe4 ♘xe4 8.♙xe4 ♗xd1+ 9.♗xd1 ♙xc5 10.♙e2 ♘d7 11.♙e3



11...♙e7 12.♙hd1 ♘f6 13.♙d3 0-0 14.c4 b6 15.a4 ♙b7 16.a5 ♙c5 17.♘e5 ♙xe3 18.♗xe3 ♙xg2 19.f3 g6 20.♙e4 ♘xe4 21.fxe4 f5 22.♘d7 ♙fc8 23.axb6 axb6 24.♙xa8 ♙xa8 25.exf5



25...exf5 26.♘xb6 ♙a2 27.♙d2 ♙e4 28.c5

1-0

The EFCC game archive currently holds over 33,000 correspondence games by players registered with England. Please send in any games that you would like to be included.

# NEW AT CHESSBASE



**NEW!**

## KOMODO DRAGON 2

### „Dragon 2“ - A new concept

Komodo programmers GM Larry Kaufman and Mark Lefler recently decided to start over from scratch after Komodo 14. The step from the classic engine to the new “Dragon”, which, like Fat Fritz 2.0, draws its strength from a combination of a high-performance engine with a neural network, is quite fundamental. The network of Komodo Dragon 2 was trained with the help of countless ultra-fast games of the classic Komodo 14, which for a long time was the world’s strongest engine for games with such short thinking times.

### Neural game understanding + powerful engine power

Komodo Dragon 2 thus has both excellent positional play - thanks to the neural network - and tremendous tactical power and computing speed, thanks to the classic Alpha Beta engine. It is a combination that pays off: compared to the double world champion Komodo 14, the developers were thus able to increase the playing strength of Komodo Dragon 2 once again by more than 200 ELO points! The first version of the “Dragon” is currently already one of the top three in the CCRL rating list (as of April 2021). However, the search function was still largely based on the settings of the old

Komodo 14 engine. This has changed with “Dragon 2”: in the new version, the search has been optimised based on evaluations stored in the neural network. It will be interesting to see whether Dragon can even outperform the competition as a result!

### Top program and analysis partner

Komodo Dragon 2 comes with a number of engine variants. The standard version offers maximum playing strength. For analysis with multiple variations, on the other hand, the “MCTS” version is recommended. In addition, this version offers an exciting feature: you can have the move that offers the best chances from a practical point of view displayed in the analysis. The standard version, on the other hand, always expects the best possible play from the opponent, and that is therefore clearly the first choice, especially in correspondence chess. In addition, the engine can be switched to the variants “Attack”, “Beginner”, “Defence”, “Endgame” in analysis and in the game.

**99,90 €**

Includes current Fritz 17 program interface and six months ChessBase Premium Account.



**FEATURE ARTICLE**

# Setup a Computer Chess System

KEITH KITSON BEGINS a new series on how to setup a computer system for playing chess. Options for Devices, Operating Systems and Software, it's all here!

### Introduction

This is a summary document based on the major article that will be produced over the next four issues of the EFCC Newsletter. It is included to give newcomers to computer chess a guide to setup of their first system. Considerably more information will be supplied in the detailed article serialised in the Newsletter. Consideration will be given to Hardware and free available chess software, with mention of the best commercial versions available.

### Hardware

Four platforms are readily available: Desktop, Laptop, Tablet or iPad and Smartphone or iPhone. Desktops can run fastest but take up more room in a house setting. Laptops come near but don't run as fast as desktop systems but have the advantage of portability, compactness and battery backup in case of power failure. Tablets

and smartphones tend to share similar chess software although some iPad software is superior to the smartphone equivalent. Without exception, the fastest machine specification that you can afford with the greatest number of cores will run your chess software faster, reaching deeper depths of search pushing the search horizon out. The slower the hardware then the longer your chess software will have to run, sometimes perhaps overnight to reach a satisfactory depth of analysis.



▲ Stockfish is a free and open-source chess engine, available for various desktop and mobile platforms.

### Operating Systems

The three major operating systems found on today's computers are Windows, Apple or Linux. Windows commands the greatest choice in chess software. Apple has more choice than Linux. As Windows has the biggest share of the market, more chess software is written for this operating system. So, if you had a free choice of operating system, I would plump for Windows.

### Desktop

A minimum of 8Gb but 16Gb or 32Gb is better. Chess programs will run on single core machines but to reach reasonable search depths multi-core machines of 4 cores or more are very reasonably priced. Mass storage as a minimum should be 500Gb although 1Tb is becoming an entry level

now.

Solid State memory is now replacing the more conventional magnetic head drives that have been with us for many years. During the changeover to solid state memory manufacturers supplied high-capacity magnetic head drives of 1Tb with a small capacity solid state drive.

There is no reason why mass storage shouldn't be all solid state, as memory prices have reduced to more affordable levels.

Keep monitor size to a minimum of 15" although 17" and above are preferable to allow several windows on screen without text becoming too small. CRTs and LCDs are old technology, go for LED and ensure the refresh is at least 80 to 100 Hz. Games monitors now reach 144Hz and have resolutions of 4K.

Minimum acceptable resolution should be around 1920 x 1080 (full HD), although 1366 x 768 (HD ready) is acceptable, though lacks definition. Check connection between monitor and base unit are compatible. HDMI is very popular but other connections are available.

Mouse and keyboard can be cabled or wireless. Although DVD and Blu-ray drives are usually built into the casing, they are not essential as most, if not all, chess software can be obtained by download nowadays.

### Laptop

Laptops come in many shapes and sizes. In general manufacturers have to trade-off the performance of their laptops against battery life on a single charge.

The more power-hungry CPUs will have battery duration's of approx. 2 hours whereas mobile oriented CPUs can sometimes frugally manage 8 hours or more.

Some laptop users are happy to stick with using laptops because they are so easy to set up, take up less room in the house, and are easily moved from room to room. Some laptops sit in one place permanently plugged into the mains, so battery life is not a problem. Some manufacturers even have logic built in to extend the life of a battery where it is permanently plugged into the mains.

The top specification laptops are very capable of running the best chess software at very favourable speeds. The faster the chip generally the bigger the casing to accommodate adequate air flow and cooling for the heat generated. Laptops are not capable of running the faster CPUs that high-end desktops are designed to run. This is mainly due to the compact design of laptops which restricts the cooling systems that can be built in, to control running CPU temperatures. Some manufacturers design desktop CPUs into their laptops, but the casings tend to be quite large, rather heavy and difficult to carry around.

Large heatsinks tend to aid fans in



▲ Large desktop computer or a laptop, the choice doesn't end there.

cooling tasks but there is no space for large heatsinks in laptop casings. Apple got around this problem by building their laptop casings from heat wicking aluminium which then acts as a heat sink, accompanied by quiet fans on the faster CPU systems.

Screen sizes come in 11" 13", 15" and 17". 13" screens are too small and usually are accompanied by very compact keyboards. A minimum of 15" and preferable 17" screen sizes allow several windows to be visibly open on screen and a reasonable keyboard layout. 17" may also include a numeric keyboard on the RH side. External keyboards and mice can be added via Bluetooth or plugged into USB sockets. Again, 8Gb of Ram will suffice but is not very flexible for running several apps at once. 16Gb or 32Gb is preferable. One big benefit of a laptop is that the keyboard, screen and touchpad are built into the one casing.

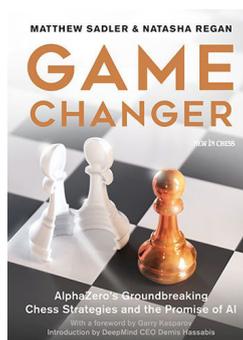
As laptops have batteries for portability, they have a natural ability to cater for power outages by just continuing on battery power. Desktops will immediately shut down, on power interruption, losing unsaved data and possibly corrupting any open files, with the big risk that a power down during an operating system update may render the system unable to restart again without a full restore.

The Microsoft surface is a mid-range laptop hybrid that can also be used as a tablet. However, its processing power has been restricted to retain a reasonable battery life, although they have built Core i7 chips in some models they are sometimes only dual core and therefore have limited functionality for running chess software. Nevertheless, it is one of the very few tablets running a full windows system.

### Tablets and Smart Phones

Ultimately these are smaller items and therefore are considerably more portable. You are

▼ Game Changer by Matthew Sadler & Natasha Regan discusses AlphaZero's Groundbreaking Chess Strategies that shocked the world.



never going to get the full flexibility that comes with a Windows, Apple, or Linux desktop or laptop (except perhaps the Microsoft Surface).

There appears to be a reasonably good market in chess software for Apple's tablet (called an iPad). As with desktops and laptops the higher the specification of the CPU and the more cores built in then the faster the chess software will run, but the price will escalate with higher specifications. Apple appears to market a better range of high-end tablets than are marketed for Android and the quality and quantity of Chess software available is also better.

### Chess Software

Most chess programs have two aspects to them. The GUI interface including the board and secondly the chess engine. Some packages come with the two integrated together with no flexibility. Several free GUIs are available for all four hardware options.

One of the strongest chess engines on the market is Stockfish 13 this will need a Chess GUI to interface on screen. Two of the best free Chess GUIs are Banksia and Arena.

BanksiaGUI for the iPad comes with 6 strong engines installed including Stockfish and LCO. This is an excellent start for chess players. A selection of the best commercial chess software includes Fritz, Hiarcs HCE Shredder and Aquarium. Each of these is UCI compliant and therefore most engines can be attached to the GUI.

It is always worth checking the development stage of any software. Some software packages have version numbers less than one indicating they are beta versions still under major development, although they may, still be reliable and work well, albeit with reduced functionality.

To keep abreast of current trends several bulletin boards and chat websites are out there to keep you informed. One of these is talkchess. For first access type talkchess into your browser and the website is returned in search results near the top of the page. Once bookmarked there is no need to search again.

### Conclusion

This article has been significantly curtailed for space purposes to enable issue all in one go. A more detailed article is being published in 4 sections which covers the majority of aspects of setting up a new chess software system. Any queries can be emailed to the editor who can then seek answers as required. **Keith Kitson**

*Editors Note: Keith has written a series of four great articles to expand on this introductory article. These will be published over the next four issues of EFCC Correspondent*



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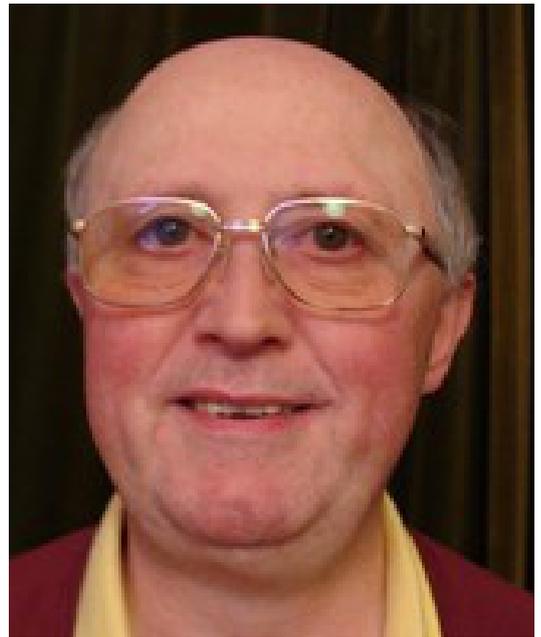
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## PLAYER PROFILE

# Meet the Player: SIM Ian M. Pheby

WE WELCOME IAN to this first issue of EFCC Correspondent, he is an incredible servant to chess, both locally and Internationally.



**Senior International Master Ian M Pheby, welcome to the magazine. Please introduce yourself.**

Thank you for inviting me to introduce myself. I am Ian M Pheby, married with two daughters and two grandchildren. I was born in London in 1951 though I now live in Surrey. I am a retired scientific consultant specialising in the international transport of dangerous goods. Part of my work was as the chemical consultant to the UK Competent Authorities who are responsible for the safe transport of dangerous goods by air, sea and road.

I have played chess since I was six years old but never took it seriously until I was eighteen years old. Though I played and enjoyed over-the-board chess for many years at club and county level, my main interest was always in correspondence chess.

When I was younger I was also a keen table tennis player who was not quite good enough to play at County level. In some of my spare time I have been a table tennis coach in the 1970s.

Other than chess and my family, my interests are in gardening and in particular rhododendrons.

**The ICCF website shows your peak ICCF rating was 2621 in 2004, you are also a well-established tournament director, tournament organiser and International Arbiter. Please tell us about your career and the organisations that you have volunteered for.**

***The easiest way to volunteer is to contact Ian M Pheby (EFCC President) or John D Rhodes (EFCC General Secretary) through the EFCC website at [contact@efcchess.org.uk](mailto:contact@efcchess.org.uk)***

I started chess administration in 1969 (so I have been active in this area now for over fifty-two years!) as a team captain for my club (Government Chemists) in the London Civil Service, Post Office and Municipal Chess League (LCSP&MCL) which was part of the Civil Service Chess Association (CSCA). I was appointed on to the Executive Committee of the LCSP&MCL as a tournament controller, and subsequently I became Senior Recorder responsible for organising the whole league in 1982 (a post I held for thirty years) and I then was appointed Chairman in 1989 (a post I held for twenty-three years). I retired from the LCSP&MCL in 2012. I was also simultaneously Chairman of the CSCA for 20 years.

I have also played for Grays in the Essex League and for Redhill in the Surrey League. I represented Essex in County competitions on numerous occasions for nearly twenty years where I was captain for two years.

In 2009 it was an honour when I received the English Chess Federation President's Award for services to chess. The award was presented to me by Stewart Reuben.

When I retired from being a scientific consultant I started working for the ICCF in 2006 as a tournament director and then as a tournament organiser.



Silver Bertl von Massow Medal  
2015

In 2010 I was involved in the administration of Special Leave, and in 2011 I became Direct Entry Commissioner, a post I held for over six years.



IA (International Arbitrer)  
2009

I have been the tournament organiser for the ICCF Aspirers tournaments since their inception in 2013, and I was appointed a member of the Tournament Directors Commission as it is now known in 2014.



TD (Tournament Director) Level 2  
2007

Finally (so far!), I have been the tournament organiser for Veterans' World Cups 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 on behalf of the ICCF. Organising the Veterans' World Cups has been particularly satisfying because it gives the opportunity for the more elderly players in the ICCF to play against each other. Many of these players have commented to me over the years about their preference to play players of similar age rather than some of their younger opponents.



SIM (Senior International Correspondence Chess Master)  
2003

For the English Federation for Correspondence Chess (EFCC) I have held a variety of posts including Games Archivist since 2003, tournament organiser for many events (BCCTC 2010-2018; ECCC 2017-2019; EVCCC 2017-2019; BVCCC 2012-2016), Treasurer 2020 onwards, and President 2017 onwards.



IM (International Correspondence Chess Master)  
2002

▲ **Achievements awarded to SIM Ian M. Pheby by ICCF**

ments.". These awards remain to this day and are decided upon by the ICCF Executive Board.

**Other than your work for ICCF you are very busy with the English Federation for Correspondence Chess, what are your current activities for EFCC and how do you feel EFCC have progressed post the changes from the British Federation for CC?**

I am currently President and Treasurer of the EFCC as I have previously mentioned.

Though the British Correspondence Chess Championship (BCCC) continues to thrive, the EFCC has introduced separate events for English players only, for example the English Correspondence Chess Championship (ECCC) and the English Veterans Correspondence Chess Championship (EVCCC).

The EFCC Executive Committee is also in the process of producing its first Yearbook and reintroducing its magazine. I hope these will appear in 2021.

**How may someone become involved in voluntary work for EFCC, perhaps as a tournament officer or other role?**

The EFCC is the organisation responsible for all matters relating to correspondence chess for England. Its volunteers work for the benefit of English players.

The EFCC is always willing to hear from players who wish to volunteer to work in the EFCC. The easiest way to volunteer is to

**ICCF awarded you the Bertl von Massow Medal in Silver in 2015, please explain how this award is achieved.**

The Bertl Von Massow Medals were first awarded in 1984 as a memorial to the life and work of his wife Bertl von Massow on behalf of ICCF and international correspondence chess. The ICCF President at that time, Hans-Werner von Massow said "Through these medals my dear wife will be present at meetings of the ICCF year by year for all the future".

Hans-Werner von Massow had defined the criteria for these awards which were: "These medals in Gold and Silver will be awarded respectively for 15 years and 10 years of faithful service to ICCF as the Delegate of a National Federation, as a Member of the Presidium or the Commissions, the European Organising Committee, or as Tournament Secretary, as well as the Team Captain of a winning or highly placed team in the CC Olympiads or Continental Team Tourna-

contact Ian M Pheby (EFCC President) or John D Rhodes (EFCC General Secretary) through the EFCC website at [contact@efccchess.org.uk](mailto:contact@efccchess.org.uk) where Ian or John can discuss your expression of interest with you. Guidance and support is always available from any Executive Committee member should it be required.

**You have managed to combine playing a high number of games whilst being extremely active with other activities and still playing at a very high level. Is this simply excellent time management or is it driven by a love for the game?**

Both actually! Time management of my chess games, administrative work, and family life is essential. Dedication to my chosen activity has helped me over the years as has my willingness to give back to chess for the benefit of so many others when I have enjoyed chess so much myself.

**How should newcomers to correspondence chess approach their games, should they concentrate on their own repertoire or perhaps study the games of a successful correspondence player?**

Much will depend upon the newcomer and the amount of time that the newcomer can devote to correspondence chess. There is no one specific method but I would suggest a newcomer should get a good book on a variety of openings and study that to enable them to decide what openings suit their style and they wish to play as white and black. After that, purchase a book or two on their chosen openings to learn greater knowledge of those openings. When the player is ready to enter a tournament such as the ICCF Aspirers or to play in tournaments arranged by clubs such as the BCCA or NATCOR (others exist) then do so. Do your best, try to work out why you have lost a game (if you have done so), but above all enjoy your games.

**During the current pandemic we have seen online chess grow very quickly, do you feel this is a threat to correspondence chess or do you feel the game has a solid future?**

Online chess which has grown during the pandemic could be a threat to correspondence chess but I suspect the majority of those players will return to over-the-board play when clubs can reopen again. One of the benefits of over-the-board play seen by many is the odd pint or non-alcoholic drink at the pub after the match with friends!

Correspondence chess has a future but I fear that computers will eventually become so powerful that virtually all correspondence tournaments will end with all games being drawn. This is something that the ICCF is already beginning to see.

**Top over-the-board Grandmasters have said that they research correspondence games for new ideas and opening theory. Do you feel that over-the-board games can do likewise for correspondence chess? Should players study the games of Magnus Carlsen, Wesley So or those of the top correspondence players?**

Studying games from any source can be of benefit to a player. Whereas a whole game may not necessarily be of interest, an idea from the opening or a middle game tactic could be useful in the future to any player.

**Are you a Queens Pawn or Kings Pawn player?**

Though my preference is to open with 1. d4, I tend to play a variety of openings. This has helped me to produce a greater understanding of chess, and to some extent has the advantage of keeping my opponents guessing as to what I will play.

**Do you have a favourite correspondence player or over-the-board favourite?**

I have no particular favourite player at either correspondence or over-the-board chess though I do admire Magnus Carlsen for his play.

**What is your favourite game played by yourself?**

I have particularly enjoyed several games that I have won over the years, and even the occasional loss where play was double-edged and interesting. However, if I had to choose one particular game as my favourite it would be my win against Stefan Sergiev (BUL) when I represented England on board 2 in the 8th European Team Championship Semi-final 2 in 2009 for which I won the BFCC Best Game prize. The game shows how bishops can be so powerful.

**Sergiev, Stefan (BUL) (2288) v Pheby, Ian M. (ENG) (2255) [D43] 0-1**

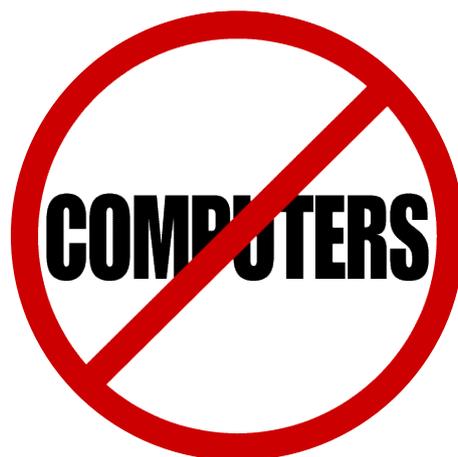
1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 e6 5. Bg5 h6 6. Bh4 dxc4 7. e4 g5 8. Bg3 b5 9. Be2 Bb7 10. O-O Nbd7 11. Ne5 h5 12. Nxd7 Qxd7 13. Be5 Rh6 14. Qc1 Ng4 15. Bxg4 hxg4 16. Qxg5 Rg6 17. Qe3 c5 18. dxc5 b4 19. Ne2 Qc6 20. Ng3 Qxc5 21. Bd4 Qc6 22. Rfd1 Bh6 23. Qe1 f5 24. Be5 f4 25. Nh5 Qxe4 26. Qxe4 Bxe4 27. Nf6+ Rxf6 28. Bxf6 Kf7 29. Be5 Kg6 30. Rd7 f3 31. Rc7 Bd5 32. a3 Kf5 33. Bd6 b3 34. Bb4 fxg2 35. Bc3 Kg6 36. Re1 Rf8 37. Rxa7 Rf3 38. Ra6 Kf7 39. Ra7+ Ke8 40. Rc7 Rxc3 41. bxc3 Bd2 42. Rb1 Bf4 43. Rc5 Be5 44. a4 Ke7 45. a5 Bxc3 46. a6 Bd4 47. Ra5 c3 48. Re1 Bc6 49. a7 b2 50. a8=Q Bxa8 51. Rxa8 c2 White resigned.



**PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR TO  
BE FEATURED IN THE MAGAZINE!**

## GAMES

# Mike Read Annotates



MIKE READ WAS an outstanding correspondence chess player who represented England from 1990 until his retirement from the game in 2000. The International Correspondence Chess Federation awarded Mike the International Master (IM) title in 1994 and the Senior International Master (SIM) title in 1999.

SIM Mike Read of Norwich, England competed at Correspondence Chess from 1978 until 2000. He was British Junior Champion in 1981 and 1982 and played 115 games for the Great Britain and England teams including playing for England in two Olympiads, two European Team Championships and two North Atlantic Teams Tournaments.

Mike has written two highly regarded chess books offering well annotated and interesting games and the tales behind them.

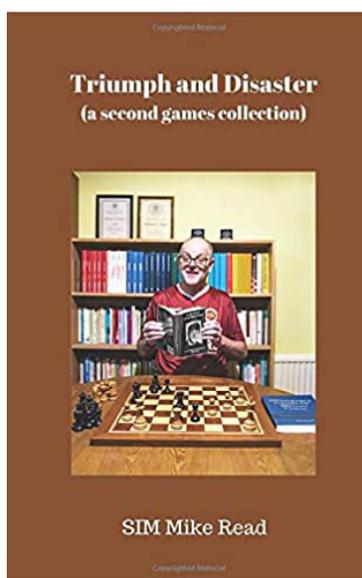
Mike has never possessed a computer but his annotations to the games are a labour of love. He makes no profit from his books but hopes that chess players will enjoy and benefit from his work. As such, his books are available at very low prices that simply cover the cost to print them.

In early 2018 Mike compiled a book entitled '**My 120 Selected Correspondence Games**' which contains all of the games given on his website with additional analysis over



534 pages. This is [available from Amazon](#) online priced at £10.13 from Amazon with free delivery.

A second book, '**Triumph And Disaster: (a second games collection)**' was published in 2020 by Mike, it offers an excellent collection of annotated correspondence chess games. [Amazon £6.80.](#)



Mike has never owned a computer but a small website contains further information on his career as a correspondence chess player. <https://mikereadsim.weebly.com/>

The following games are a selection of his annotated games from his website the books contain additional annotations and perspective on each game, what it meant to Mike and his career.

A sheer joy for me was reading of the honour Mike felt when selected to represent England and his disappointment at missing out on earlier team selections.

# Annotated Games from SIM Mike Read

## Read, Mike - Tibbert, P [C38]

BCCA Knockout, 1978

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.♘f3 g5 4.♙c4 [Offering the Muzio gambit 5 ... g4 6 O-O gxf3 7 Qxf3.]

4...♙g7 [Declining the offer, and moving into the Hanstein Gambit.]

5.0-0 d6 6.d4 h6 7.c3 ♘c6 8.♙b3 [A little unusual. The main lines are:]

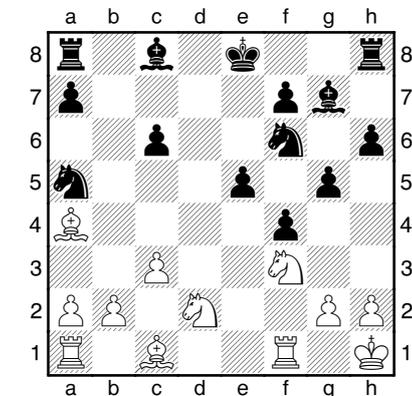
[8.h4 ♘f6 9.hxg5 ♘xe4 with interesting complications.; 8.g3 when Black has a choice between 8 ... Bh3 9 gxf4 Qd7! (9 ... Bxf1 10 Qxf1 is considered risky for Black) with complications, and 8 ... g4 9 Nh4 f3 with a bind.]

8...♙e7 9.♘bd2 [A new move. The third edition of ECO gives only 9 Na3 with the continuation 9 ... Nf6 10 g3 fxg3 11 hxg3 O-O which it considers as unclear.]

9...♘f6 10.e5 dxe5 11.d5 [The idea behind his 10th (as 11 dxe5 Ng4! is very favourable for Black). He hopes, after the knight retreats, to get pressure in the centre by 12 Re1 and perhaps a later knight lift to d4, but he has overlooked Black's next.]

11...♙c5+! [With this move, Black forces off the queens and ensures himself a materially advantageous ending.]

12.♙h1 ♘a5 13.♙b5+ ♙xb5 14.♙xb5+ c6 15.dxc6 bxc6 16.♙a4



16...♘d5? [The rashness of youth (I was 18 years old at the time). This gives White an opportunity, which he should have taken, of winning back

one of the pawns by 17 Nb3 Nb6 18 Nxa5 Nxa4 19 Nxc6 although , to be fair, after 19 ... f6, Black's remaining extra pawn and his pair of bishops should still bring home the point without too much trouble. However 16 ... Nd7! would still prepare 17 ... Nb6, but would allow 17 Nb3 to be met with 17 ... Nxb3 (as 18 Bxc6 would not be check) and was therefore much more accurate.]

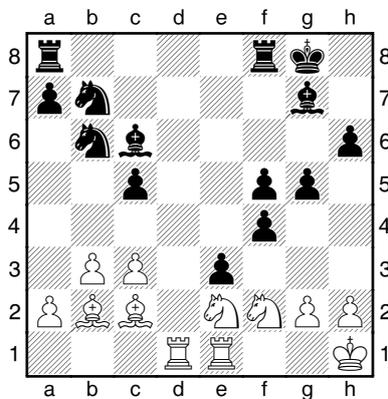
17.♘e4? ♘b6 18.♙c2 ♘b7 [From here on Black plays to totally restrict White's knights. This move prevents a later Nc5.]

19.b3 [A vain attempt to develop the queen's bishop.]

19...f5 20.♘f2 e4 21.♘d4 ♙d7 22.♙b2 c5 23.♘e2 ♙c6 [With the knights almost falling over themselves, and no white piece further forward than the second rank, Black moves in for the kill.]

24.♙fe1 0-0 [Unpinning the e-pawn. White is helpless.]

25.♙ad1 e3 [



The massed kingside pawns prepare to unlock the white king's position.]

26.♘d3 f3 27.gxf3 g4 28.♘g1 gxf3 29.♙xe3 f2+ [After 30 Nf3, Black can choose between 30 ... Rae8 and 30 ... f4.]

0-1



## Gould, I - Read, Mike [E19]

British Junior Championship Preliminary, 1978

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 b6 [The Queen's Indian Defence. Both sides will follow one of the ancient main lines until move 9.]

4.g3 ♙b7 5.♙g2 ♙e7 6.0-0 0-0 7.♘c3 ♘e4 8.♙c2 ♘xc3 9.♙xc3 f5 10.♙e1?! [Over his next few turns White plays a number of inconsequential moves such as this one but, annoyingly for Black, he has such a solid position that the time he loses in doing so does not unduly damage it, even though he will obviously not be able to fight for an advantage.]

10...♙f6 11.♙d2 ♙e7 12.b3 d6 13.♙b2 ♘d7 14.♙ad1 ♙e4 [Black wishes to break in the centre with pawn to e5. However he cannot do this yet because :a) he would like to meet 15 dxe5 with 15 ... dxe5 but this would lose the knight at d7.b) more importantly his undefended bishop at b7 would allow the tactic 15 Nxe5! Which would win White a pawn. This latter point explains the reason for the text move]

15.♙e3 ♙ad8 [Occupying the d-file. Now 16 ... e5 is prepared with no drawbacks.]

16.♙a3 c5 [In view of White's last move, Black changes his plan. He will try to keep White's queen's bishop out of the game and will put pressure on the centre by playing his knight to c6 via b8, regardless of whether White exchanges pawns on c5 or not.]

17.dxc5 dxc5 18.♙d2 ♘b8 19.♙ed1 ♘c6 20.♙xd8 [Since Black now has a slight positional advantage, White rushes headlong towards, what he hopes will be, an ending that he can hold.]

20...♙xd8 21.♙xd8+ ♙xd8 22.♙d2 ♙xd2 [Black, for his part, is also not averse to an ending, as he feels that the edge that he holds will give him chances to outplay White in a position with reduced material.]

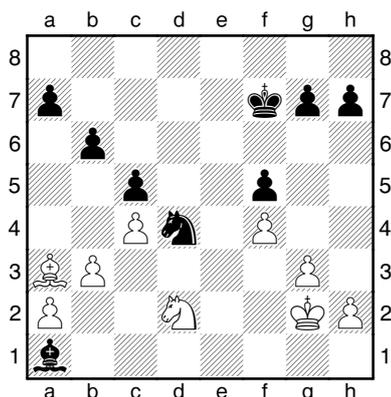
23.♘xd2 ♙xg2 24.♙xg2 ♙f7 [For the moment 24 ... Nd4 25 Kf1 Nc2 26 Bc1 does not promise Black enough play and so he makes a useful move which awaits further developments.]

## Annotated Games from SIM Mike Read

**25.e4 ♖c3 26.♗b1** [26 Nf3 was playable (26 ... fxe4?! 27 Ng5+) but Black would have retained a slightly superior position with 26 ... Kf6.]

**26...♗a1 27.exf5 exf5 28.f4** [White has played the ending well so far. This move will prevent Black's king from infiltrating in the centre.]

**28...♗d4 29.♗d2** [



Imagine this position with the white pawn on a4 instead of a2. In that case Black would win a pawn by force if it was him to move. He aims to set up just that position although, in order to do so, he will require White to be nervous about exchanging his bishop for Black's knight]

**29...♗c2 30.♗c1** [30 Nb1! Would have forced Black to look for a different plan]

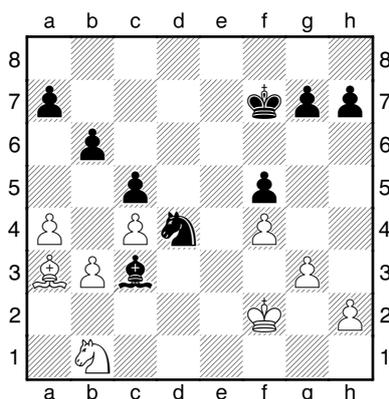
**30...♗b4 31.a4** [Of course not 31 a3?? Nd3 when Black wins a piece]

**31...♗d3 32.♗a3 ♗e1+ 33.♖f2 ♗c2 34.♗c1?** [This time 34 Nb1! Was totally necessary. In that case 34 ... a5 (if 34 ... Nd4 then 35 b4) does not even threaten to win a pawn as 35 ... Nd4 36 Nd2 Bc3 can be safely met by 37 Nb1. Black would have continued with 34 ... Ke6 instead, but his winning chances would have been few.]

**34...♗d4!** [With the unstoppable threat of 35 ... Bc3.]

**35.♗a3** [He has nothing better, but now the position that Black was aiming at in the note to White's 29th move has arisen]

**35...♗c3 36.♗b1** [



If 36 Ke3 then 36 ... Bxd2+ 37 Kxd2 Nxb3+ 38 Kd3 Na5 39 Bb2 Nc6 and Black will easily win the ending. A thematic continuation would be 40 Ke3 g6 41 Kd3 Ke6 42 Bg7 Kd6 43 Bc3 Nd8 44 Ke3 Kc6 45 Bf6 Nf7 46 Bc3 a6 47 Kd3 Nd6 48 Be5 Ne4 49 Ke3 b5 with a straightforward victory in sight.]

**36...♗a5 37.b4 ♗xb4 38.♗xb4?** [38 Bb2 would have been a much harder nut to crack, but after 38 ... Ne6 White would not be able to move his knight without entering the same sort of lost ending as was given in the last note, and an attempt to develop it by 39 Bc3 Ke7 40 Ke3 Kd7 41 Kd3 Kc6 42 Nd2 would allow 42 ... Bxc3 43 Kxc3 Nd4 44 Nf1 Kb7! 45 Ne3 Ka6 46 Kb2 Ka5 47 Ka3 a6 intending 48 ... b5 when Black wins comfortably.]

**38...cxb4 39.♖e3 ♗b3 40.♗d2 ♗xd2** [This game was being played in English Descriptive notation and here Black offered the conditional continuation 'if 41 KxN then 41 ... K-K3'. Of course White could have resigned at this point, but he intended to accept that line and play 42 Kc2. In actual fact he forgot to include the conditional on his postcard and simply wrote 41 K-B2 which, of course, happened to be a legal move, albeit to f2 instead of c2. In actual fact he forgot to include the conditional on his postcard and simply wrote 41 K-B2 which, of course, happened to be a legal move, albeit to f2 instead of c2.]

**41.♖f2? ♗xc4** [Making it clear that White has made a clerical error, rather than playing 41 ... b3 and risking a dispute if White tries to play 42 Kxb3.]

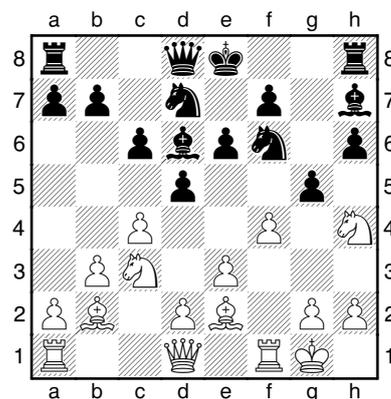
**0-1**

### Bean, K - Read, Mike

British Junior Championship  
Preliminary, 1978

**1.♗f3 ♗f6 2.b3 d5 3.♗b2 ♗f5 4.e3 e6 5.c4 ♗bd7 6.♗e2 ♗d6 7.0-0 c6 8.♗c3 h6** [Black provides his bishop with a retreat square, and at the same time tempts White into the following continuation, for which a refutation is prepared.]

**9.♗h4? ♗h7 10.f4? g5!** [



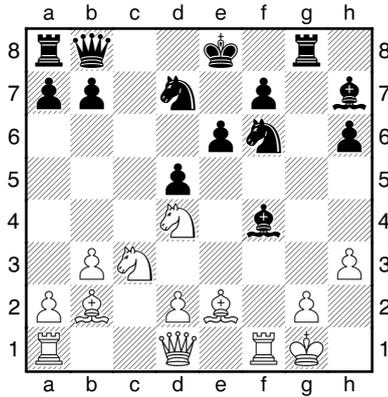
f now 11 fxc5 then 11 ... hxc5 12 Nf3 g4 13 Nh4 (other knight moves are answered by 13 ... Bxh2+) 13 ... Qc7 and: (a) 14 g3 Bxg3 15 hxg3 Qxg3+ 16 Ng2 Be4 17 Nxe4 Qh2+ 18 Kf2 Nxe4+ 19 Ke1 Qg3+ and mate next move. (b) 14 Bxg4 Bxh2+ 15 Kh1 Bd3 winning out of hand (c) 14 h3 d4! (if 14 ... Bg3, White can muddy the waters by 15 Nxd5 or 15 Rxf6 Nxf6 16 Nxd5) 15 exd4 Bg3 winning the Knight. White therefore decides to sacrifice a pawn, but the attack continues unabated.]

**11.♗f3 gxf4 12.exf4 ♗xf4 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.♗d4?!** [Of course White already has a lost position, but he should have given Black maximum difficulties by keeping defensive pieces around his king. Something such as 14 Rc1 would have been more appropriate. Black would then have continued pressing with 14 ... Rg8.]

**14...♗b8 15.h3** [15 g3? loses straight away to 15 ... Bxg3. An alternative to the text-move was to retract his previous move with 15 Nf3, but after 15 ... d4 16 Nxd4 (16 ... d3 was threatened, as well as 16 ... dxc3) 16 ... Bxh2+ 17 Kh1 Rg8 it is incredibly grim for White.]

# Annotated Games from SIM Mike Read

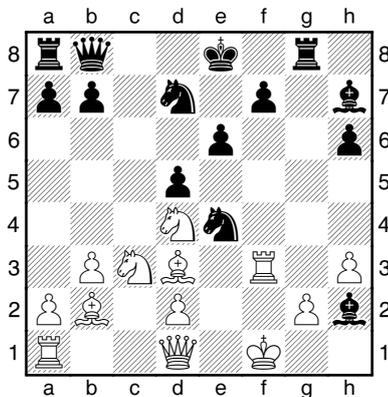
15... ♖g8 [



With the threat of 16 ... Bh2+ 17 Kh1 Rxc2 18 Kxc2 Qg3+ 19 Kh1 Qxh3 winning after : a) 20 Rf2 Be5+ 21 Kg1 Bxd4 22 Qe1 Qg3+ 23 Kf1 Bf5 24 Bb5 Bh3+ 25 Ke2 Bg4+ 26 Kf1 Qh3+ 27 Kg1 Bf3 and mates (b) 20 Nf3 Bd6+ 21 Kg1 Qg3+ 22 Kh1 Ke7! and the rook will enter the fray with decisive effect.]

16. ♖f3 ♗e4 17. ♔d3 [The threat of 17 ... Nxd2 forces this move, as 17 Nxe4 Bxe4 18 Rf2 Bg3 is obviously hopeless for White.]

17... ♗h2+ 18. ♖f1 [



Black's attack becomes more powerful with each move. If White had played 18 Kh1, the continuation would have been 18 ... Ng3+! 19 Kxh2 Nf1+ 20 Kg1 Qh2+! 21 Kxf1 Bxd3+! 22 Kf2 (or 22 Rxd3 Rxc2 and mate in two more moves) 22 ... Rxc2+ 23 Ke3 Nc5! when the threat of 24 ... Qe5 mate forces 24 Rf4 and then 24 ... e5 is crushing.]

18... ♗g3+ 19. ♖e1 [19 Kf2 is equally hopeless. After 19 ... Bxd3 20 Rxd3 Ne4+ White can choose to lose by :a) 21 Nxe4 dxe4 with 22 ... Qf4+ to follow after the rook moves to safety.

(b) 21 Ke1 Rxc2 with carnage. (c) 21 Kf1 Qf4+ 22 Nf3 Rxc2! etc]

19... ♗xd3 20. ♖xd3 ♖e5+ 21. ♗de2 [This allows some pleasing tactics. After 21 Nce2, Black wins with the mundane 21 ... Qe4 22 Re3 (or 22 Rf3 Ne5) 22 ... Qxc2 etc.]

21... ♗xe2 22. ♖xe2 ♖xc2 23. ♖xe5 [White must lose material as 23 Qe3 loses to 23 ... Nc5! 24 Rd4 Qxe3+ and the bishop on b2 falls]

23... ♗xe5 24. ♖e3 d4

0-1

McLeod, A - Read, Mike [A00]

British Championship Reserves, 1979

1.g4?! [Grob's opening which, to be realistic, is probably too loosening for a serious correspondence game.]

1...d5 2. ♗g2 c6 [2 ... Bxc4?! Is risky in view of 3 c4 c6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 Qb3, but the text move is strong and simply threatens to capture on his next move.]

3.h3 e5 4.d3 [White has only succeeded in confusing himself with his unusual opening. He wants to play either 4 d4 or 4 Nf3, but both would be answered with 4 ... e4. Therefore he decides to surrender a tempo in order to get both moves played.]

4... ♗c5 5. ♗f3 ♖e7 6.d4 [As per his plan. If 6 c3 then 6 ... Bb6 7 d4 e4 leaves Black slightly better.]

6...exd4 7. ♗xd4 ♗f6 [Already Black is ahead in development, and he has greater influence over the central squares.]

8. ♗c3 0-0 9.g5? [This is a liberty too many, as the pawn will be vulnerable from now onwards. I would suggest 9 Bg5 instead, intending to move his queen up to d2 and then castle on the queenside.]

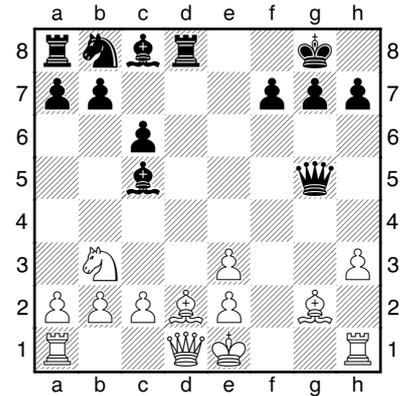
9... ♗e4 10. ♗xe4 [If White carries out remedial work on his kingside pawns by 10 h4, then 10 ... Nxc3 11 bxc3 Bg4 is very strong for Black. Therefore he is coerced into opening the d-file.]

10...dxe4 11. ♗b3?? [He has a lost position after this. It was necessary

to play 11 Bf4 and meet 11 ... Rd8 with either 12 e3 or 12 c3. Black would keep up the pressure with 12 ... Bb6 (threatening 13 ... c5) but White would still be in the game.]

11... ♖d8 12. ♗d2 e3! [Of course!]

13.fxe3 ♖xc5 [



]

14. ♗xc5 [White gives up. He could have struggled on with 14 Kf1 Bxe3 15 Bxe3 Rxd1+ 16 Rxd1 Qf6+ (not 16 ... Qxe3?? 17 Rd8+) 17 Bf3 or 14 Kf2 Bxe3+ 15 Bxe3 Qf6+ 16 Bf3 Rxd1 17 Rxd1, but in both cases he would be queen and pawn versus rook and bishop behind.]

14... ♖xc5 15.e4 [White does not wish to resign this early in the game, and 15 Rf1 allows 15 ... Bxh3 and mate in two more moves. He therefore plays the text move which allows his bishop to go to f4 (see the note to White's 16th move for an explanation of his reasoning).]

15... ♗xh3! [More accurate than 15 ... Qxh1+]

16. ♖xh3 [The only way to avoid mate in three moves or less is to play the ridiculous 16 Bf4 which loses a rook and then a queen. Therefore White bites into the cyanide capsule.]

16... ♖g1#

0-1

**Wanted  
Games Editor for the  
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contact the Editor!**

GAMES

# David Coyne Memorial Tournament

## The Decisive Games

Stone, George (2393) - Catt, Peter (2384) [A67]

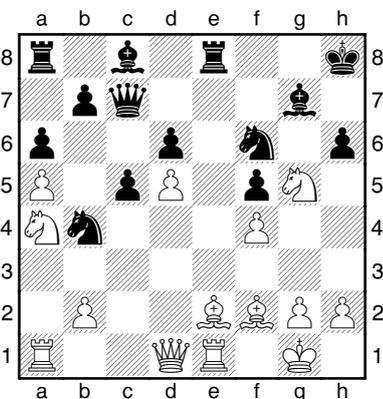
MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.♗c3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 ♕g7 8.♖b5+ ♗fd7 9.a4 ♗a6 [A67: Modern Benoni: Taimanov Variation.]

10.♗f3 ♗b4 11.0-0 a6 [I am tempted to suggest that White is better but remember that Tal was a fan of the Benoni.]

12.♖e2 0-0 13.♖e3 ♖e8 14.♖f2 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.♗g5 ♗f6 [Predecessor: 16...♗f8 17.♖h5 ♗g6 18.♗d2 ♗f6 19.g3 h6 20.♗e6 ♖xe6 21.dxe6 ♖xe6 22.♖ae1 ♗e7 23.♖xe6 ♗xe6 1-0 (51) Pawlowski,W (2122)-Sutela,R (2320) ICCF email 2012]

17.♖e1 ♗c7 18.a5 ♖h8 19.♗a4 h6



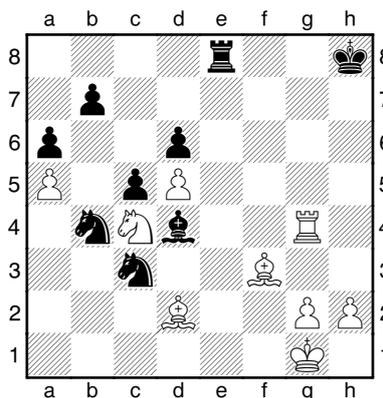
[19...♗fxd5? 20.♖c4+]

20.♗b6 ♖b8 21.♗xc8 hxg5 22.fxg5 ♗h7 23.♗b6± ♗xg5 24.♗c4 ♖e4 25.♖f1 ♖f6 26.♖a3 ♖f8 27.♖xe4 ♗xe4 28.♖h3+ ♖g8 29.♖e3 ♗d7

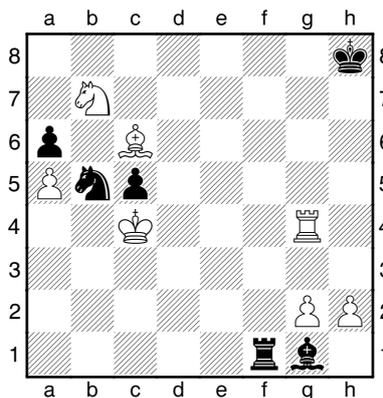
30.♖e2 ♗e7 31.♖h5 f4 32.♖xf4 ♖xb2 33.♖e3 ♖g7 [Threatens to win with ...Nc3.]

34.♗b1 ♗f6 35.♖h3 ♗e4 36.♗xe4 ♗xe4 37.♖f3 ♖e8 38.♖h4 [38.♖xe4?! ♖xe4 39.♗xd6 ♖xe3=]

38...♗c3 39.♖g4 ♖h8 40.♖d2 ♖d4+



41.♖f1! ♗bxd5 42.♗xd6 ♖f8 43.♖h4+ ♖g8 44.♗xb7 ♗e3+ 45.♖xe3 ♖xe3 46.♖g4+ ♗h7 47.♖e1 ♗b5 48.♖e2 ♖g1 49.♖d3 ♖h8 50.♖c4 ♖f5 51.♖c6 ♖f1 [



**CCE NORM ACHIEVED BY: ROBERT MARKS (ENG)**

**CCM NORM ACHIEVED BY: ROBERT MARKS (ENG)**

**IM NORM ACHIEVED BY: LES ELLIS (ENG) & GEORGE STONE (USA)**

52.♖f3! ♗d4 53.♖d5 ♗xf3 54.gxf3+- ♗h7 [54...c4± is a better defence. 55.♖xc4 (55.♖xc4 ♗h7+-) 55...♖g7]

55.♗xc5 ♖d1+ 56.♖c6 ♖c1 57.♖g5 ♖h6 58.h4 ♖f2 59.♖d5 ♖e3 60.♖d6 ♖f1 61.♖f5 ♖h1 62.♗xa6 ♖xh4 63.♗c7 ♖a4 64.♖c6 ♖f2 65.♖b5 ♖a1 66.f4 ♖e1 67.♖b6 ♖d2 68.a6 ♖g6 69.♖b5 ♖e3+ 70.♖b7 ♖e1? [70...♖xf4 was necessary. 71.♗d5 ♖h2]

71.♗e6 ♖g1 72.f5+

1-0

Santamaría Pérez, Tomás (2418) - Ellis, Les (2372) [D38]

MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 d5 4.♗f3 ♖b4 5.cxd5 exd5 6.♖f4 [ D38: Queen's Gambit Declined: Ragozin Defence (4 Nf3 Bb4).]

[Relevant: 6.♖g5 ♗bd7 7.♗b3 c5 8.e3 ♗a5 9.♗d2 cxd4 10.exd4 0-0 11.♖e2 ♖e8 12.♖e3 ♖xc3 13.♗xc3 ♗xc3 14.bxc3 ♗b6 15.a4 a5 16.♖b5 ♖d7 17.♖xd7 ♗bxd7 18.♖e2 ♖ac8 19.♖d3 ♖c6 20.♖hc1 ♖ec8 21.f3 h6 22.♖ab1 ♗b6 23.♖a1 ♖f8 24.g4 ♗c4 25.♖f4 ♗b2+ 26.♖e2 ♖xc3 27.♖xc3 ♖xc3 28.♖b1 ♖c2 29.♖e1 ♖e8 30.♖e5 b6 31.h4 ♖d7 32.h5 ♗xa4 33.♖b3 ♖c3 34.♖b1 ♖c6 35.♖e2 b5 Lushenkov,M (2664)-Tomashevsky,E (2935) Chess.com INT 2018 0-1]

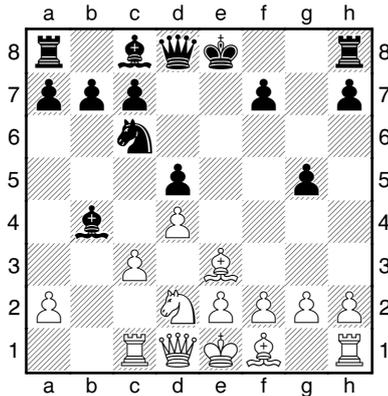
6...♗e4 [I recall that the Ragozin has been popular in many of the Online tournaments that I have been watching during 'lockdown'. It is interesting to me as someone who feels that they should learn the

# David Coyne Memorial Tournament

Queens Gambit rather than rely on the Nimzo Indian or Slav Defence too much.]

7.♖c1 ♘c6 8.♗d2 [8.e3?! g5! 9.♙g3 h5 10.h4 ♗xg3↑]

8...g5 9.♙e3 ♗xc3 10.bxc3 [



10...♙e7 [Predecessor: 10...♙d6 11.h4 gxh4 12.♗f3 ♙e7 13.♙f4 ♙f5 14.e3 h3 15.♖b1 ♙d6 16.g3 ♙xf4 17.gxf4 ♙xb1 18.♖xb1 0-1 (95) Svane,R (2542)-Socko,B (2617) Germany 2016]

11.g3 ♙e6 12.♙g2 ♗d7 13.♖a4 0-0 14.♗f3 f6 15.h4 h6 16.♗d2 ♙g7 17.hxg5 hxg5 18.f4 [18.♖c2 ♖h8↑]

18...♖ad8 19.♗f3 g4 20.♗d2 ♖fe8!↑ [White is falling behind]

21.♙f1 [21.♖c2? ♙f5-+]

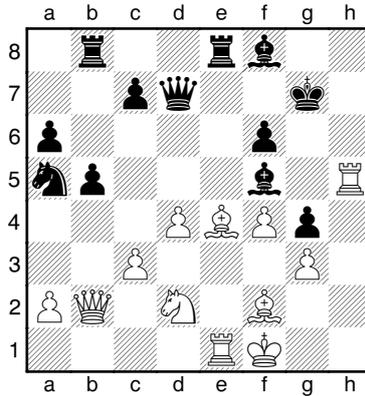
21...a6 22.♙f2 [22.♖c2? ♙f5]

22...b5! 23.♖c2 [ White wants to mate with Rh7+.]

[23.♖xa6? ♖b8-+]

23...♙f5 24.♖b2 ♗a5 25.♖e1 ♙f8 26.♖h5 [26.e4 dxe4 27.♙g1 ♖e6↑]

26...♖b8 27.e4 dxe4 28.♙xe4 [

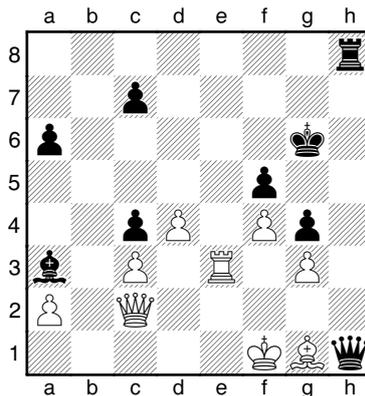


28...♖xe4 29.♗xe4 ♗c4 30.♖c1 ♙g6! 31.♖xf5 [ Don't blunder 31.♖h8? ♙a3!-+]

31...♖xf5 32.♖d1 ♙a3 33.♗d2 ♙b2 34.♗xc4 bxc4 35.♖e3 ♙a3 36.♖e2 [36.♖a4 ♖d5 37.♙g1 (37.♖xa3? ♖h1+ 38.♙g1 ♖b1+ 39.♖e1 ♖xe1+ Overworked Piece 40.♙xe1 ♖xg1+ Double Attack 41.♙e2 ♖g2+ 42.♙d1 ♖xg3-+)]

36...♖h5!-+ 37.♖c2+ [ Avoid the trap 37.♖xc4? ♖h1+ 38.♙g1 ♖b1+ 39.♖e1 ♖xe1+ 40.♙xe1 ♖xg1-+]

37...f5 38.♙g1 ♖h8 39.♙f1 ♖h1+ 40.♙g1 [

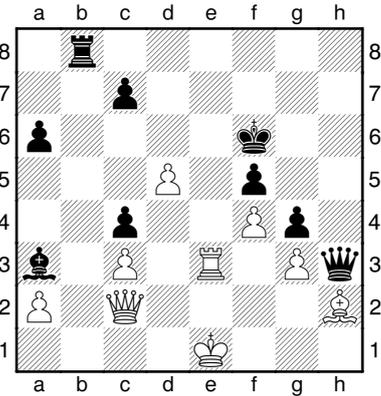


40...♖h3+! 41.♙e1 ♖b8 42.♙h2 [ White wants to play Re6+.]

[ Don't go for 42.♖e6+? ♙g7-+]

42...♙f6 [ Hoping for ...Rb2.]

43.d5 [



43...♖h5! 44.♖e2 a5 45.♖d1 ♙g6 46.♙f1? [46.d6 ♙xd6 47.♖e6+ ♙g7 48.♖e2]

46...a4 [Black is clearly winning.]

47.♖e1 ♙g7 48.♖g2 ♙d6 49.♖e2 a3 50.♖c1 ♙c5 51.♖a1 ♖e8 52.♖xe8 ♖h3+

0-1

**Rawlings, Alan J. C. (2361) - Santamaría Pérez, Tomás (2418) [D35]**

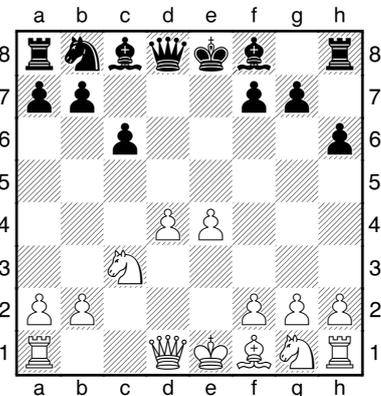
MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.♙g5 h6 6.♙xf6± [ D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation.]

6...♖xf6 7.♗xd5+- [ Double Attack]

7...♖d8 8.e4 [White is clearly better.]

8...c6 9.♗c3 [



# David Coyne Memorial Tournament

**Jørgensen, Poul Erik (2367) - Marks, Robert (2364) [E15]**

MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019M

**1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 b6 4.g3 ♘a6 5.♗bd2 ♘b4 6.♞c2 ♘b7 7.♙g2 ♙e4 8.♞d1 ♙xd2+ [ E15: Queen's Indian: 4 g3 sidelines, 4 g3 Ba6 and 4 g3 Bb7 early deviations.]**

**9.♞xd2 [ Don't play 9.♙xd2 ♗c6⚡]**

**9...0-0 10.0-0 a5 [White is slightly better.]**

[Relevant: 10...d6 11.b3 ♗bd7 12.♘b2 ♞e7 13.♞fd1 a5 14.♙f1 a4 15.♗h4 axb3 16.axb3 ♞xa1 17.♞xa1 ♞a8 18.f3 ♞xa1 19.♙xa1 ♙b7 20.e4 ♞d8 21.♙c3 ♗f8 ½-½ (84)]

**11.b3 d6 12.♘b2 a4 13.♞fd1 ♗bd7 14.♙f1 ♙b7 15.♗e1 ♗e4 16.♞e3 [**

**9...♙d6 [Predecessor: 9...♙e7 10.♙c4 0-0 11.♗ge2 ♗d7 12.0-0 b5 13.♙b3 ♗b6 14.e5 ♙f5 15.♗g3 ♙h7 ½-½ (53) Beres,J (2169)-Hausdorf,H (2238) ICCF email 2015]**

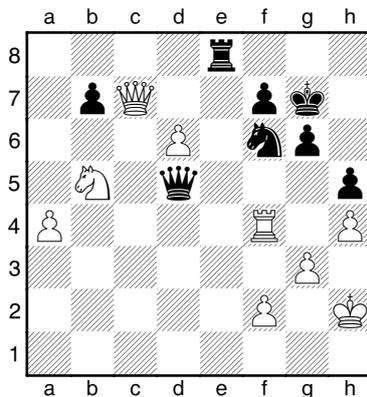
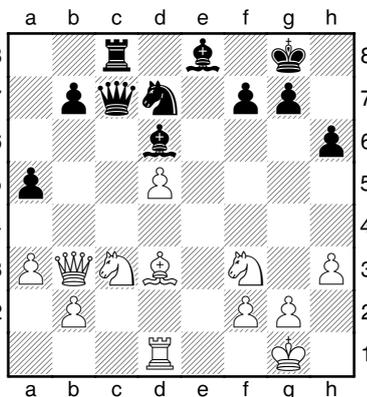
**10.♗f3 0-0 11.♙e2 ♙e6 12.0-0 ♗d7 13.h3 ♞e8 14.♞e1 ♗f8 15.♙d3 ♞c8 16.a3 a5 17.d5 cxd5 18.exd5 [18.♗xd5?! ♙xd5 19.exd5 ♞xe1+ 20.♗xe1 ♗d7±]**

**18...♙d7 19.♞b3 ♞c7 20.♞xe8 ♙xe8 21.♗d1 ♗d7 [**

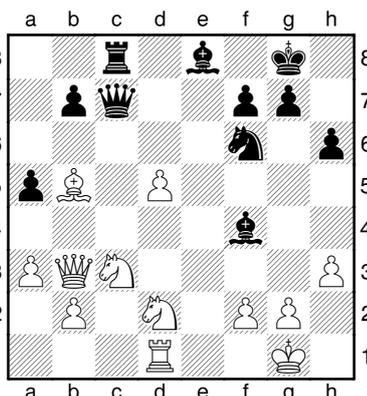
**36...♞f4 37.g3 ♙xd4 38.♞xd4 [38.gxf4? is the wrong capture. 38...♙xb6 39.♙g2 g6-+; 38.♞xd4 ♞xd4 39.♞xd4 ♗f8±]**

**38...♞e5 39.d6 g6 40.♙g2 ♙g7 41.h4 ♙g8 42.b4 axb4 43.♞xb4 ♙g7 44.a4 ♙d8 45.♗b5 ♗g4 46.♞c4 ♞e1 47.♞c2 ♗f6 48.♞f4+ [White is clearly winning.]**

**48...♞e5 49.♞c7! ♞d5+ 50.♙h2 ♞e8 [**



**22.♙b5! ♗f6 23.♗d2 ♙f4 [**



**24.♙xe8! ♞xe8 25.♗f3 ♞d8 26.♞b5 ♗e8 27.♞a4 ♗f6 28.♞d4 ♙d6 29.♞d3 ♞c8 30.♗d4 ♙e5 31.♞e1 ♞b8 32.♗db5 h5 33.♞d1 ♞c8 34.♞e3 ♞f5 35.♞b6 ♞d7 36.♗d4 [A strong game from Alan, piling on the pressure and in control of the centre.]**

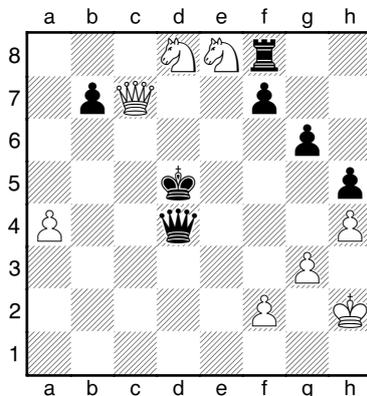
**[36.♞xa5 ♗xd5 37.♞a8+ (37.♗xd5 ♞xd5 38.♞a8+ ♗h7=) 37...♗h7±]**

**51.♞xf6! [ Remove the Defender to Promote]**

**51...♙xf6 52.d7 ♞f8 53.♗d6 ♞d4 54.♗e8+ ♙e6 55.d8♗+ [ Double Attack]**

[ Worse is 55.d8♞ ♞xf2+=]

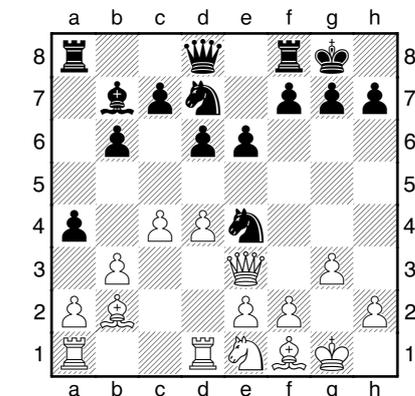
**55...♙d5 [**



**56.♙g1! ♞a1+ [56...♙e4 57.♞xb7+]**

**57.♙g2 ♞e5 58.♞a5+**

**1-0**



**16...♗ef6N [Predecessor: 16...♞e7 17.f3 ♗ef6 18.♞f2 d5 19.♞ac1 ♞fc8 20.♗d3 c6 21.cxd5 exd5 22.♙h3 axb3 23.axb3 ½-½ (38) Woznica,M (2353)-Grabner,H (2334) ICCF email 2018]**

**17.f3 ♞e8 18.♞d2 d5 19.♗d3 c6 20.♞ac1 ♞e7 21.b4 ♙a6 22.♗e5 ♞ec8 23.a3 ♗e8! 24.e4 [ Threatens to win with cxd5.]**

**24...♗xe5 25.dxe5 [**

# David Coyne Memorial Tournament

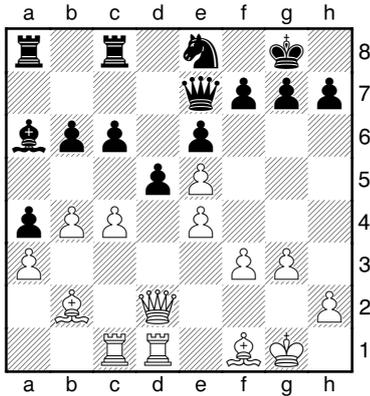
**Ellis, Les (2372) - Marks, Robert (2364) [E18]**

MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 b6 4.g3 ♙b7 5.♙g2 ♙e7 6.♘c3 0-0 7.0-0 ♘e4 8.♙d2 d5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.♙a4 [E18: Queen's Indian: Old Main Line (4 g3 Bb7 5 Bg2 Be7 6 0-0 0-0 7 Nc3).]

[Relevant: 10.♙c1 ♘d7 11.♙f4 ♘xc3 12.♙xc3 c5 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.♙c1 ♘f6 15.♙g5 ♙b6 16.♙c2 ♙fe8 17.♘d2 h6 18.♙xf6 ♙xf6 19.e4 dxe4 20.♙xe4 ♙ad8 21.♙xb7 ♙xb7 22.♘b3 ♙d4 23.♘xc5 ♙xc5 24.♙xc5 ♙xb2 25.♙xa7 ½-½ (25) Aronian,L (2805)-Korobov,A (2652) Riyadh 2017]

10...♘d7 11.♙a4 [



Black must now prevent b5.]

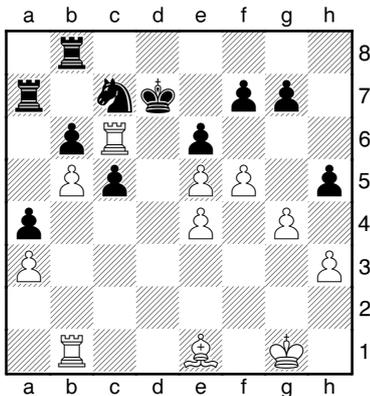
25...dxc4 26.♙xc4 ♘c7 27.♙d7 ♙f8 [ ...Bxc4 is the strong threat.]

28.♙xa6 ♘xa6 29.f4 [ Avoid the trap 29.♙xc6? ♙d8-+]

29...c5 30.b5↑ [ Keeping Black busy.]

30...♘c7 31.♙c3 ♙e8 32.♙b1 ♘f8 33.♙e1 ♙xd7 34.♙xd7 h5 35.h3 ♙a7 36.♙d6 ♙b8 37.♙c6 ♙e7 38.f5 ♘d7 [ Hoping for ...Nxb5!]

39.g4?? [



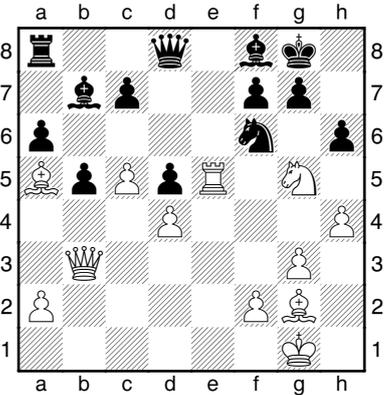
[39.♙d6+- avoids the disaster. 39...♙e7 40.g4]

39...♘xb5!

0-1

]

19.♙a5! b5 20.♙e1 ♙xe1+ 21.♙xe1 ♙c8 22.h3 ♙e6 23.♘g5 ♙c8 24.♙e5 ♙b7 25.h4 h6 [



]

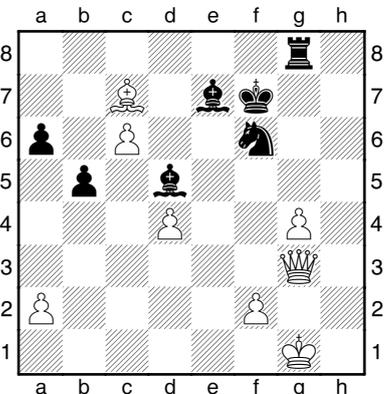
[25...♙a7±]

26.♘xf7!± ♙xf7 27.g4! g5 [27...♙d7± 28.g5 hxg5 29.hxg5 ♙e8 30.gxf6 ♙xe5 31.dxe5 gxf6]

28.hxg5 hxg5 29.♙xg5 ♙e7 [29...♙h6? 30.♙f5+-]

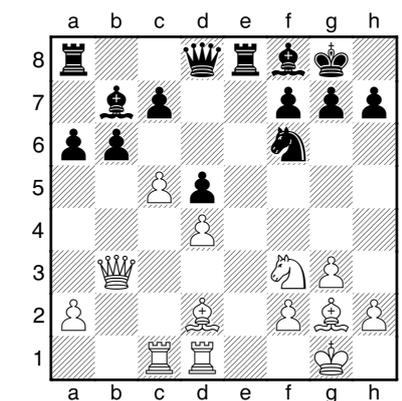
30.c6 ♙c8 31.♙xd5+ ♙xd5 32.♙xd5 ♙e6 [ Pin]

33.♙xc7 ♙xd5 34.♙g3 ♙g8 [

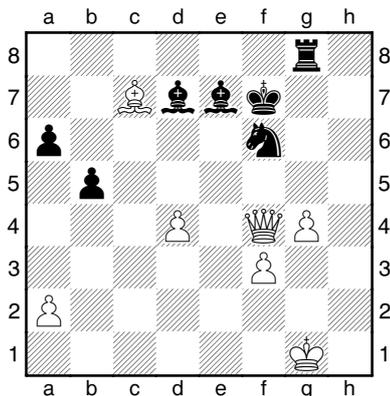


]

35.f3 ♙xc6 36.♙f4 ♙d7? [



# David Coyne Memorial Tournament



blunder 72...♗xd6? 73.♙c5+–]

73.♙f4 ♖e1 74.♗g5 ♜f6 75.♙e5 ♙f7  
76.♗f4 ♙g6 [ Hoping for ...Nd5.]

77.♗d4 b4 78.♗c5 ♙f7 [78...♖e2+ is a better defence. 79.♙g3]

79.g5 [A hard fought game.]

1–0

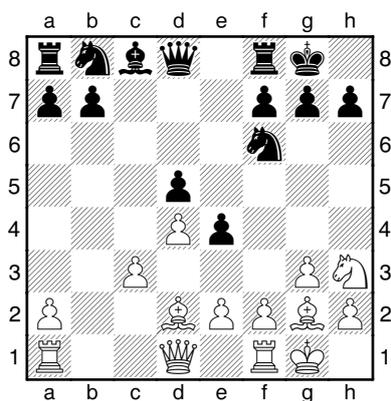
**Tritt,Maciej (2380) - Ellis,Les (2372) [A20]**

MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019

1.c4 e5 2.g3 c6 3.d4 e4 4.♗c3 ♙b4  
5.♙g2 d5 6.♙d2 [ A20: English Opening: 1...e5.]

6...♙xc3 7.bxc3 ♜f6 8.cxd5 [Black is better.]

8...cxd5 9.♗h3 0–0 10.0–0 [



]

10...♗bd7N [10...♖e8 11.♗c1 b6  
12.f3 ♜bd7 13.♗f2 ♙a6 14.♖e1 ♖c8  
15.♗d1 ♗f8 16.a4 h5 ½–½ (61)  
Johansson,K (2456)-Szczepanski,Z (2473) ICCF email 2017]

11.♗c1 ♖e8 12.f3 ♗e7 [g3 would have led us back to the Johansson game at this point.]

13.a4 e3 [Dynamic play from Black who has seized the initiative.]

14.♙e1 ♗b6 15.g4 ♗c4 16.♗f4 h6  
17.♗d3 ♙d7 18.♗b1 ♖ec8 [One idea is b6, preventing any thought of Nc5 or the pawn capture.]

19.♗b4 [19.♗xb7 ♗d2 20.♙xd2 exd2 21.♗e5]

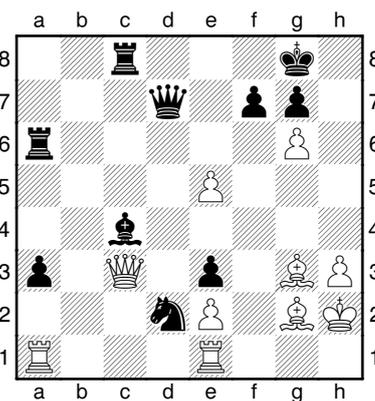
19...♗d8 ♗ 20.a5 a6 21.♙g3  
[21.♗xb7? ♖cb8–+]

21...♙b5 22.♖fe1 ♗d7 23.h3 b6  
24.axb6 ♗dxb6 25.f4 ♗e8 26.♗e5  
a5 27.♗b3 ♗d2 28.♗c2 ♖a6  
29.♙h2 a4 30.g5 ♗bc4 31.♙xd5  
♗xe5 32.dxe5 ♗d7 33.♙f3  
[33.♙e4 ♗ would also not be enough to save the position.]

33...hxg5 34.fxg5 [and if Bg4 is allowed, White does fine.]

34...♖c4 35.♙g2 a3 36.g6 ♖c8  
[36...♙xg6 37.♖xa3 ♖c8 38.c4 ♗]

37.c4 ♙xc4 38.♗c3 [



]

38...a2 39.e6 ♗xe6 40.♙b7 [A nice double attack but insufficient to turn the game around.]

40...♖e8 [▷40...fxg6 White must now prevent ...Rf8. 41.♙xc8 ♗xc8]

41.♙xa6 [41.gxf7+ ♗xf7 (41...♙xf7 42.♙xa6 ♗xa6 43.♗d4 ♗) 42.♙xa6 ♙xa6]

41...♗xa6–+ [Black is winning.]

42.gxf7+ ♙xf7 43.♗d4 ♗b3! [

]

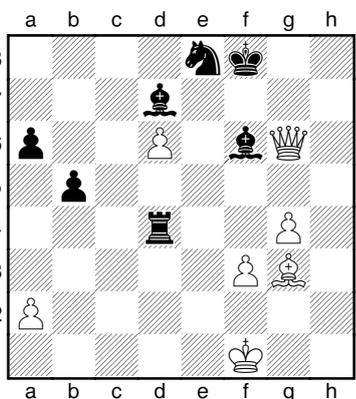
[36...♙xf3± 37.♗xf3 ♖xg4+ 38.♙f1 ♖xd4]

37.♙f1! ♙e8 38.♗e5 ♙g6 39.d5 ♙f7  
40.♗f4 ♙g8 41.♗e3 ♙f7 42.♗f4 [ Black must now prevent g5.]

42...♙g8 43.♗e3 ♙f7 44.♗d4 ♗e8  
45.♙g3 ♙f8 46.♗e4 ♙f7 47.♗d4  
♙d6 48.♙h4 ♙c7 49.♗e3  
[threatening Qe7+.]

49...♙g8 50.♗e4 ♖g7 51.♙e1 ♗d6  
52.♗e5 ♗e8 53.♗e4 ♗d6 54.♗e5  
♗e8 55.♗e3 ♙d8 56.♙g2 ♖h7  
57.♗d3 ♙f6 58.♗a3 ♖e7 59.♙f2 ♖e5  
60.♗b3 ♙g7 61.♙g3 ♖e2+ 62.♙f1  
♖b2 63.♗d3 ♖b4 64.d6 ♖d4 65.♗g6  
♙f8 66.♗g5 [ Threatens to win with Qe7+.]

66...♙f6 67.♗c5 ♙f7 68.♗h5+ ♙g8  
69.♗g6+ ♙f8 [



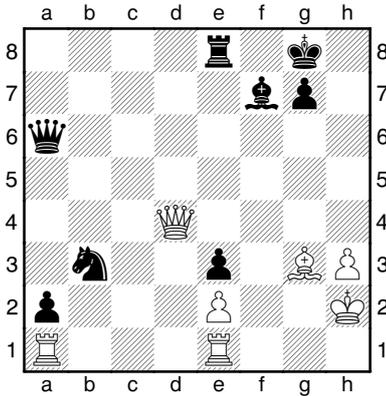
]

70.♙f4! [ aiming for Bh6+.]

70...♙g7 [70...♖xf4 71.♗h6+–]

71.♙e3 ♙d1+ 72.♙g2 ♙g8 [ Don't

# David Coyne Memorial Tournament



Double Attack]

44. ♖d6 ♜xd6 45. ♙xd6 ♞xa1  
46. ♜xa1 ♔h7

0-1

**Rawlings, Alan J. C. (2361) - Stone, George (2393) [D76]**

MT-Coyne (ENG) ICCF, 22.06.2019

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 ♙g7 4.♙g2 d5 5.cxd5 ♗xd5 6.♗f3 ♗b6 7.♗c3 ♗c6 8.e3 0-0 9.0-0 ♖e8 10.♗h4 [D76: Fianchetto Grünfeld: Main Line with 7...Nb6.]

10...e5 11.d5 ♗b4 [11...♗a5 12.♖b1 ♗ac4 13.e4 ♗d6 14.b3 ♙d7 15.♖b2 ♖c8 16.♖d2 a5 17.a4 ♙h6 18.♖d3 ♙xc1 19.♖xc1 f5 20.♖e3 f4 21.♖d2 g5 22.♗f3 ♖e7 23.♖e1 ♗f7 ½-½ (74) Ostriker, J (2565)-Brodda, W (2584) ICCF 2019]

12.♖b3 [12.a3 ♗a6 13.♖c2 ♙d7 14.♖b1 ♖c8 15.♖d1 ♖e7 16.e4 c6 17.dxc6 ½-½ (17) Engelen, J (2401)-Fenwick, J (2468) ICCF 2020]

12...♗d3 13.♖d1 e4 14.♗xe4 ♗xc1 15.♖xc1 ♙g4 16.♖d3 [Was this a notation error, I still make them in this digital age. Rd2 seems more natural and evades the Bishop threats.]

[16.♖d2!]=]

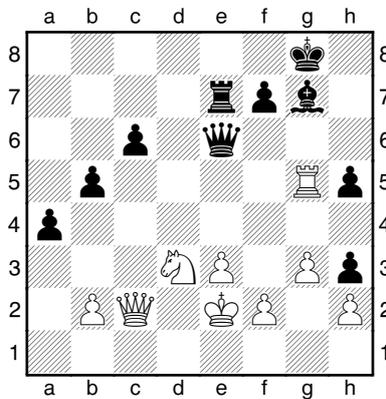
16...g5! 17.d6 c6 18.♗c5 gxh4 19.d7 ♗xd7 20.♗xd7 ♖c8 21.♗c5 h3! 22.♙h1 [Keeping the Bishop on this diagonal seems the better choice, it continues to exert pressure in the centre although perhaps not best placed.]

22...♖b8 23.♖c4 h5 [23...♙e2 This

looks nice and reminds me of the strange Rd3 move made earlier that left this tactic open. However, in this instance the Bishop move would remove Black's current advantage 24.♖f4 ♗xd3 25.♖xf7+ ♔h8 26.♗xd3 ♖e6 27.♖xe6 ♖xe6 28.♔f1 ♖f8 29.♖h4 ♗d6 30.♙e4 ♖h6 31.♖xh6 ♙xh6 32.♔e2 ♙g7 0-1 (90) Forslöf, L (2468)-Anderskewitz, R (2414) ICCF 2018]

24.♖f4 ♖e7 25.♖d2 ♖c7 26.♙f3 ♙xf3 27.♖xf3 ♗d8 28.♖xd8+ ♖xd8 29.♗d3 a5 30.♔f1 a4! 31.♖c2 ♖d5 32.♔e2 ♖xa2 [Strongly threatening ...a3.]

33.♖f5 ♖e6 34.♖g5 b5 [



35.♖c5N [ With the idea Nf4.]

[Predecessor: 35.♖c3 f6 36.♖c5 h4 37.gxh4 ♖g4+ 38.♔d2 f5 39.♖c2 ♙f8 40.♖xc6 f4 41.♗e1 fxe3+ 42.fxe3 ½-½ (54) Unen, J (2479)-Broniek, M (2438) ICCF email 2018; Predecessor: 35.♖c3 f6 36.♖c5 h4 37.gxh4 ♖g4+ 38.♔d2 f5 39.♖c2 ♙f8 40.♖xc6 f4 41.♗e1 fxe3+ 42.fxe3 ♔h8 43.♖c3+ ♖g7 44.♖h6+ ♔g8 45.♖d3 ♖d7 46.♖b6 ♙b4+ 47.♔d1 ♖xd3+ 48.♗xd3 ♖g2 49.♖xb5 ♙e7 50.♖f5 ♖xh2 51.♗f2 ♙xh4 52.♗xh3 ♖xh3 53.♖f4 ♙e7 54.♖xa4 ½-½ (54) Unen, J (2479)-Broniek, M (2438) ICCF email 2018]

35...♖d7 36.♖c3 ♖h6 37.♖e5 ♖d8! [Black maintains that very slight edge]

38.♖f5 ♖d6 [ White must now prevent ...c5!]

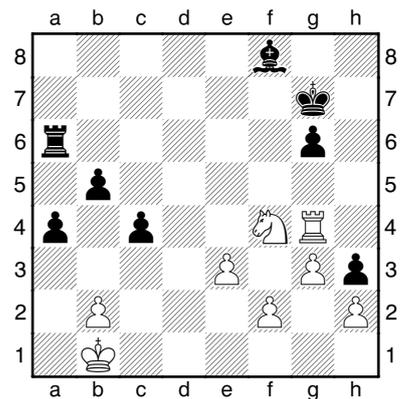
39.♖xh5 ♖g6 40.♖xg6 fxg6 41.♖c5 [ Don't go for 41.♖xh3? ♙xb2! 42.♖h6 (42.♗xb2? a3-+) 42...♔g7!-

+]

41...♖c8 42.♔d1 ♙f8 [ ...Rd8 is the strong threat.]

43.♖g5 ♔h7 44.♔c1 ♖a8 45.♖g4 c5 46.♖h4+ ♔g7 47.♖g4 ♖a6!-+ 48.♔b1 [48.♗e5 is a better defence.]

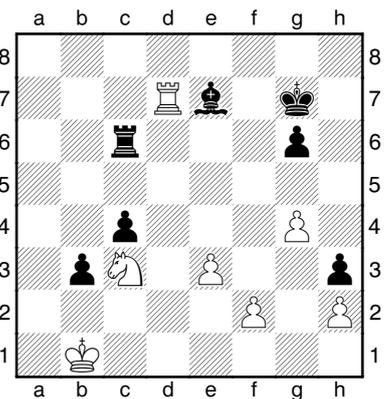
48...c4! 49.♗f4 [



]

49...b4! 50.♗d5 ♖c6 51.♖d4 b3 52.♗c3 a3 53.bxa3 ♙xa3 54.g4? [54.♖d5 ♔f7 55.e4]

54...♙e7 55.♖d7 [



]

55...♔f8 56.♖b7 ♙f6 57.♖b8+ ♔e7 [Black is clearly winning.]

58.♗d5+ ♔e6 59.♖b5 ♖d6 60.e4 ♙d4 61.♖b4 ♖xd5

0-1

**Winning Move**

# What Happened Next?

POSITIONS FROM CORRESPONDENCE play, all feature a winning move.  
Nothing too difficult and best tackled without the use of a computer.

**1** Black to Move after 36. Rd1  
Armagh Chess Club v Liverpool  
Chess Club, 1841



**2** White to Play  
F. Gozzi v G. Marchesotti,  
Italy 2000



**3** White to Play  
Michael Schulze v Stephen  
Hilton, IECG 2000



**4** White to Play  
Michael P. F. Singleton v Roger  
Brownsord. British CCC 1981



**5** Black to Play  
Michael Lane v Bernard Hanison,  
BCCS 2002



**6** White to Play  
Paul Keres v A. Raudvere  
Estonia Corr Ch. 1935



Solutions on [page 46](#)

## FEATURE ARTICLE

# The Contemporary Chess Revolution

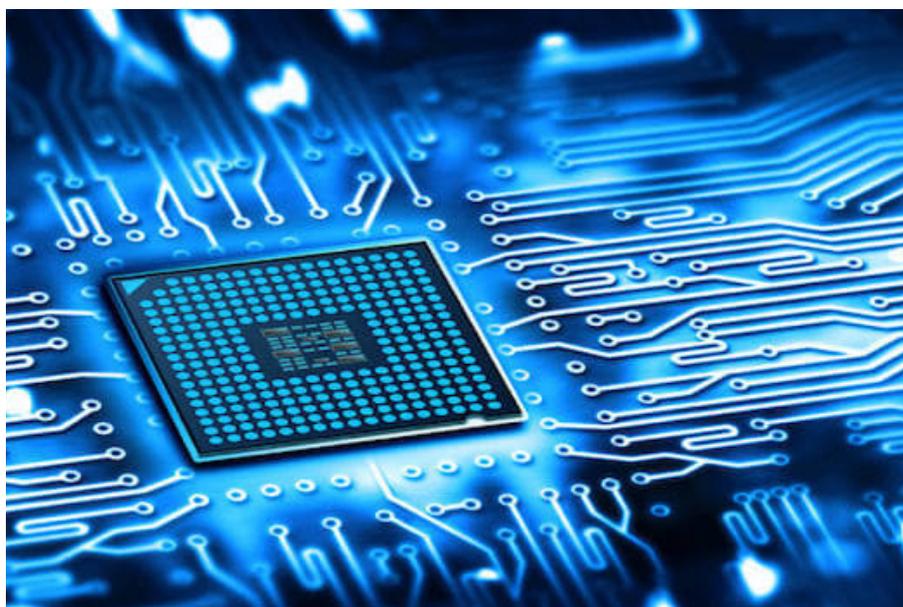
WORLD CHESS HAS, for many years now, been undergoing the biggest change since inception of the game. A digital revolution now assists in aiding (and abetting) the chess player.

AUTHOR: KEITH KITSON

World chess has, for many years now, been undergoing the biggest change since inception of the game. Chess masters have embraced this change with varying degrees of acceptance. Suddenly years of closely guarded knowledge gained from playing experience is becoming available to the club player and even raw beginner.

Hard learned tactical patterns are now becoming significantly easier to recognise for the inexperienced player. The better chess players have approached the incorporation of these changes with caution; assistance in avoiding errors must be tempered against the attraction of relying too heavily on outside assistance. The correspondence chess scene has no real alternative but to embrace this silent revolution; aptly named due to many players reluctance to admit to using external assistance to help with their play, coupled with the impossible task of policing the non-use of external assistance whilst play continues.

The nature of this external assistance could easily be attributed to the recently accepted practice, within teams, whereby the strongest players in the team give assistance with play to the weaker members in the team. Considered by some a dubious practice and considered as chess coaching by others to help weaker team members improve their game. Coaching during play has the potential side-effect to enhance the ratings of weaker players; where they win games, they would normally draw or lose. However, this practice has the



benefit of preparing the weaker player to compete at higher levels potentially enhancing their enthusiasm to continue play, where without this assistance they may well lose interest as a result of losing most of their games. Once again, this situation would be almost impossible to police so there is no choice but to accept the practice.

However, as you may already have guessed, this is not the biggest change. It is the digital revolution and its assistance in aiding (and abetting) the chess player that has instituted a veritable revolution in the chess world.

Digital enhancement has revolutionised chess in several significant ways including the following:

- move transmission enhancement,
- webservice utilisation,

- chess database access,
- openings database access
- game and position analysis,
- use of endgame tablebases
- rule changes to the game of chess

Each of these aids is within the scope of any chess player, at any standard of play, who has access to a digital device, either a desktop, laptop, tablet or mobile phone.

## Move Transmission

Postal chess is sometimes plagued with move transmission delays. Post to and from some countries is notoriously slow; moves “disappear” and so you can end up repeating them to your opponent with a delay of up to 2 weeks before issuing a repeat. Some opponents do not play by the rules e.g. they say they receive your move on the 10th when in fact they received it on the 3rd, etc. to avoid an etl; the cost is very high (see below); and

**AnnotatedGames - HIARCS Chess Explorer**

File Edit View Game Play Search Help

AnnotatedGames TopGames Kasparov-Karpov Fischer-Spassky notepad-db Playing game

**Nakamura, Hi 2729 - Ljubojevic, L 2572 1-0**  
*NH Chess 5th, Amsterdam NED (1), 2010.08.12 (Annotator: Saunders, John)*  
 B33: Sicilian Defence

1.e4 c5 2.f3 c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.xd4 f6 5.c3 g6 6.b3 g7 7.e2 0-0 8.0-0 b6 9.f4 b7 10.f3 c8 11.e3 d8 12.f2 d5 13.exd5 e6 14.d6 b4 15.d2 xf3 16.xf3 bd5 17.xd5 exd5 18.c3 xd6 19.a4 c4 20.d4 e8 21.h1 d7 22.dd1 de7 23.g1 a6 24.d3 c8 25.f3 e4 26.xb6 xf4 27.g1 fe4 28.a5 h6 29.f1 [diagram] [Nakamura managed to level the first round scores with a win from this dubious position, where Black seems to have the pressure.] 29...b7 This looks very natural but perhaps 29...e2!? is better, obliging White to do

Move	Games	Score	Rating	Performance	Year	Play%
6.Nxc6!	53	67.0%	2519	2636	2011	50%
6.Be3?!	27	55.6%	2507	2553	2011	
6.Bc4!	8	75.0%	2485	2668	1998	50%
6.Be2?	4	62.5%	2477	2590	1992	
6.Nb3?	3	83.3%	2603	2736	2010	
6.f4?	3	50.0%	2466	2458	1981	

Source: Online book: GM+

Lines: 1 Deep HIARCS 14 WSCS

Analysing 6.Bc4 at depth 16, 8.9M nodes analysed in 0.17 (504K per second)  
 0.16 +0.65/16: 6.c4 d6 7.xc6 bxc6 8.e5 g4 9.exd6 xd6 10.xd6 exd6

Nr	White	Elo	Black	Elo	Event	Site	Round	Date	Result	ECO	Length
23	Spraggett, K.	2575	Ubilava, E.	2520	Ampuriabrava			1997.??.	0-1		5
24	Prie, Eric		Svetushkin, Dmitry		French Team Championship			2010.09.05	1-0	D02	35
25	Howell, D.	2616	Gelfand, B.	2739	NH Chess 5th	Amsterdam NED	1	2010.08.12	0-1	C42	63
26	Nakamura, Hi	2729	Ljubojevic, L.	2572	NH Chess 5th	Amsterdam NED	1	2010.08.12	1-0	B33	41
27	Howell, D.	2616	Van Wely, L.	2677	NH Chess 5th	Amsterdam NED	3	2010.08.14	1-0	B90	40

978/978 games

finally the games can take a very long time, perhaps over three or four years. So, manual calculation and recording of times of reflection (TOR) is widely open to interpretation. Postage charges for move transmission have escalated significantly. Postage rates increased on 1st January 2021 to £0.85 (from £0.76) for a first-class stamp and to £1.70 (from £1.45) for a letter /card to Europe weighing up to 20 grammes. So as an example, 30 moves of Ruy Lopez theory could cost you £51 for one game! A tournament could have ten games (five opponents). (figures supplied by Ian Pheby)

Consequently, more efficient methods to overcome these problems were just waiting to be developed as the digital revolution unfolded and matured. The introduction of email move transmission largely replaced use of postal services, speeding up game progression whilst eliminating postal costs but still leaving TOR open to interpretation and consequent inaccuracies due to manual calculation and recording. Could the digital revolution offer more enhancement for the chess player?

**Webserver Utilisation**

Sir Tim Berners-Lee, a computer sci-

entist, invented the World Wide Web. This eventually brought client/server processing to everyone who had access to the internet. The innovation of the chess webserver was borne out of the combination between the internet and client/server techniques. The webserver has transformed the transmission of moves between players. Illegal chess moves are now relegated to those diehards still utilising postal or email methods of transmission. Time of reflection is all handled automatically and both players play from the same server based digital 'board'. This has eradicated opponents playing different games when setting up and playing through a game on their own board to the detriment of the one making an errored move. There is nothing more disappointing to a chess player than playing what they think is an advantage only to find their board is setup wrongly and they have just lost material. Access to webserver facilities is open to any computer user with internet access and a browser.

**Maintain a Chess Database**

For the benefit of the uninitiated, a Chess Database is essentially a file or series of files that can hold a collection of chess games to be used for ref-

erence purposes. Usually, a chess database will also contain additional information, i.e., a collection of games with metadata such as player names, date, Elo rating of players, location the game was played, name of tournament and opening name. It can also include comments/annotations for some or all games. On its own the database is of little value without the use of a management system to enable varied enquiries to be made against the stored chess data.

**Maintain an Openings Database**

An Openings book is often used to describe the database of chess openings utilised by chess playing programs but also available as a standalone file or series of files. Chess programs are quite significantly enhanced through the provision of an electronic version of an Opening Book. This eliminates the need for the program to calculate the best lines during the initial stages of a game, where the positions are extremely open-ended and thus computationally expensive to evaluate. As a result, it places the computer in a stronger position using considerably less resources than if it had to calculate the moves itself. On some occasions, a player might

consider playing a strange move outside the opening book to force a computer to think for itself. While this may introduce a strategic weakness, a lot of the time, playing out of the book early may end up compromising one's own pawn structure, losing a tempo or allow the opponent to develop more effectively. It should be noted that using an electronic opening database is essentially the same as using a comprehensive opening encyclopaedia in physical book form. The electronic version speeds up access time and allows many more targeted searches than would be available in the physical book form.

### Game and Position Analysis

Use of computers to help calculate replies to a specific board position. This practice varies widely between those who refuse to use computer assistance, to the weaker chess player who relies heavily, if not totally, on the computer's analysis to calculate their next reply. More advanced players will use state of the art chess programs and hardware, to enhance their analysis and issue what-ifs at every stage of the game. Use of computers is here to stay and the correspondence chess world has no alternative but to encompass this revolution in approach to chess play, because it is almost impossible to prevent their use. Digital abstainers face the risk of losing to lower graded players who use computer analysis to assist their play. This may artificially raise their grading as they sustain wins against higher graded players and conversely digital abstainers are likely to see their gradings plummet.

### Use of Endgame Tablebases

An endgame tablebase is a computerised database that contains pre-calculated exhaustive analysis of chess endgame positions. It is typically used by a computer chess engine during play, or by a human or computer that is retrospectively analysing a game that has already been played. Tablebases are generated by retrograde analysis, working backward from a checkmated position. By 2005, all chess positions with up to six pieces (including the two kings) had been solved. By August 2012, tablebases had solved chess for every position with up to seven pieces (the positions with a lone king versus a king and five pieces were omitted because they were considered to be

## *“The correspondence chess scene has no real alternative but to embrace this silent revolution”*

"rather obvious").

The solutions have profoundly advanced the chess community's understanding of endgame theory. Some positions which humans had analysed as draws were proven to be winnable; the tablebase analysis could find a mate in more than five hundred moves, far beyond the [horizon](#) of humans, and beyond the capability of a computer during play. For this reason, they have also called into question the 50-move rule since many positions are now seen to exist that are a win for one side but would be drawn because of the 50-move rule. Tablebases have enhanced competitive play and facilitated the composition of endgame studies. The availability of endgame tablebases on webservers has enabled a rule change where a tablebase win can be claimed by any player. They provide a powerful analytical tool. (information obtained from Wikipedia)

### Illegal Use

OTB play has suffered from unscrupulous players surreptitiously seconding the use of a digital friend to assist with their analysis, during play. As tournament controllers become wise to the methods used, the cheats are ousted and dealt with accordingly. There are a number of online correspondence chess clubs that do not allow use of chess computer assistance. However, it is almost impossible to police this and therefore, the unscrupulous opponent will second use of a computer often to their benefit but to the detriment of players abiding by the rules.

### State of the Art Chess Programming and some History

This section gives some background detail and explanation on some of the best chess programs on the market at the present time, two programs have been selected: Stockfish, and Leela Chess zero (LC0). Each of these programs now utilise NNUE and therefore are state of the art on the chess software scene at the present time.

### Stockfish

The Stockfish project started with the open source Glarung engine, authored by Tord Romstad in 2004. In November 2008, Marco Costalba forked the Glarung 2.1 code and introduced Stockfish 1.0. It was named Stockfish because it was, “produced in Norway and cooked in Italy”. For a while, new ideas and code changes were transferred between the two programs in both directions, until Romstad decided to discontinue Glarung in favour of Stockfish, which was the more advanced engine at the time. On the 18th June 2014 Marco Costalba announced that he had “decided to step down as Stockfish maintainer” and asked that the community create a fork of the current version and continue its development. An official repository, managed by a volunteer group of core Stockfish developers, was created soon after and currently manages the development of the project.

In June 2020, an efficiently updateable neural network (NNUE) fork introduced by computer shogi programmers called Stockfish NNUE was discussed by developers. In July 2020 chess news reported that Stockfish NNUE had, “broken new ground in computer chess by incorporating a neural network into the already incredibly powerful Stockfish chess engine. A NNUE merge into Stockfish was then announced and development builds became available.

On 2nd September 2020, the twelfth version of Stockfish was released, incorporating the neural network improvement. According to the blog announcement, this new version, “plays significantly stronger than any of its predecessors”, typically winning ten times more games than it loses when matched against version eleven.

Since 2013, Stockfish has been developed using a distributed testing framework named, ‘Fishtest’, where volunteers can donate CPU time for testing improvements to the program.



Changes to game-playing code are accepted or rejected based on results of playing tens of thousands of games on the framework against an older “reference” version of the program, using sequential probability ratio testing. Tests on the framework are verified using chi-squared test, and only if the results are statistically significant, are they deemed reliable and used to revise the software code.

As of June 2018, the framework has used a total of more than 1200 years of CPU time to play over 840 million chess games. After the inception of Fishtest, Stockfish experienced an explosive growth of 120 Elo points in just 12 months, propelling it to the top of all major rating lists.

As of the 6th, February 2021, Chessbase is planning to release their latest version of Fat Fritz, at version two, around the 16th of this month.

However instead of using Lc0 as the basis for their Fat Fritz engine they have switched to Stockfish with a new in-house built weights file. There are several benefits to Chessbase and potential purchasers:

Fat Fritz 2 is wholly CPU oriented which means there is no expensive purchase of hardware requiring a specific graphics card required to run the software. But it will help to use a fast multi-core CPU machine.

The existing Stockfish program has the weights file embedded in the software, although an owner can switch in their own weights file, but they need to know where the weights file is and if it's better than the one, they are using at present. Then when they have downloaded the new weights file, they have to know how to point the engine in the direction of the new

weights file path and name. All of this complication is overridden by installing the Chessbase package and running the program.

As previous versions of Fat Fritz were 960 compliant, it is good that Stockfish is also 960 compliant. The Fritz GUI is also 960 compliant so a full 960 capability should be available. For those interested in renting resource from the Chess base cloud, it is expected several versions of the new program will be available, from different users who dial in to the rental service once the new program is released.

Fat Fritz 2 very likely contains Stockfish 12. However Stockfish 14 was released on July 2nd 2021 and is significantly stronger than just a few months ago. Therefore Fat Fritz 2 is already behind the leading edge curve and as an aside is subject to a court case for breaching GPL permissions.

However, Stockfish is undergoing constant development and those development versions are available for use by the general public. It is expected that the continuous development process for Stockfish will keep it ahead of its competitors. It is also not known at this time whether, as Stockfish is a free engine, Chessbase will allow updates to the Fat Fritz 2 engine within their GUI. In theory, the latest version of Stockfish



can always be downloaded and attached to the Chessbase GUI. Potentially this means if Fat Fritz 2 development does not progress for a year then Stockfish becomes the stronger program

### LeelaChessZero(Lc0)

Whereas Stockfish incorporates the NN weights file in the compiled binary, Lc0 has a separate weights file and a completely different approach to installation is required.

Lc0 is often referred to as a chess engine. However, Lc0 is more like a chess engine shell than an actual chess engine (often called binary). Lc0 needs a neural network (also called a “weights file”) in order to play.

Lc0 (the shell) tells the network (the brain) where the pieces are and what the possible moves are. The network then figures out which moves are most likely to win the game. If a candidate move looks good, the network will look at the line to determine how good the move is. If it isn't the best move, it will search for a more promising candidate move.

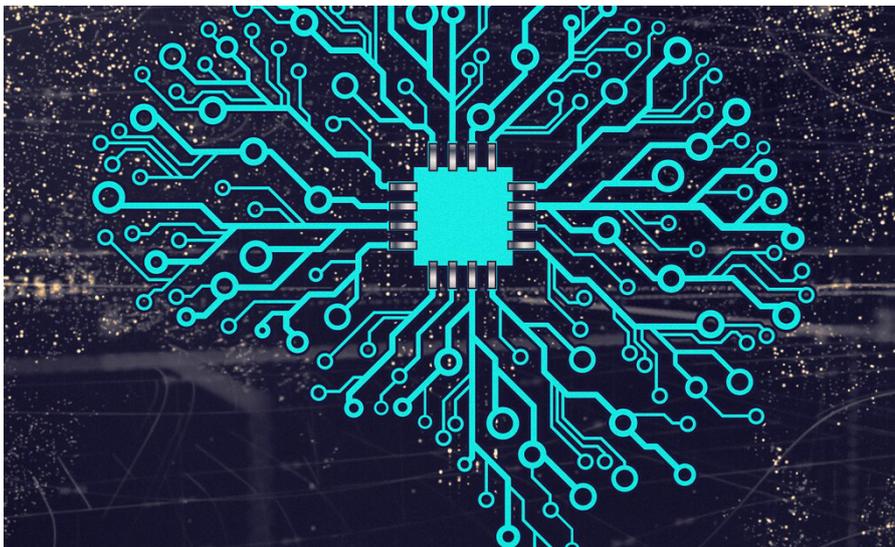
With a weak network, Lc0 can play as poorly as a toddler, and with a strong network, Lc0 can beat even the strongest existing chess engines (assuming you have a good enough GPU).

So, to get started with Lc0, you need to download Lc0 and a network to drive it.

There are two different network sizes. The bigger networks are smarter but slower, and the smaller networks aren't as smart but are much faster. Use smaller nets for bullet games for long analysis you will need a bigger and smarter network.

Available networks include, ‘T Nets’, ‘J Nets’, and other nets are available for specific purposes. T Nets are the main Lc0 networks.

The T nets are created entirely by playing against themselves for some number of games at a time and then learning from those games. After finishing a set of those games, a new network is created by adjusting the previous network based on what worked and what didn't in the games.



There are different generations of T nets. Each generation starts from scratch, and so the newest generation will be significantly weaker than previous generations until they are trained up.

Lc0 has good statistics available to determine the optimum hardware to run it in. These are available at <https://lc0.org/benchmarks>. The spread of graphic card types ranges from GTX through to the RTX range with some lesser versions which are very slow, relative to the main range.

From the benchmarks website it becomes quite clear that the choice of graphics card has a significant effect on the overall nodes per second (nps). The very latest (at time of writing, January 2021) is showing the RTX 3080 and 3070 to provide the highest nps at 125,035nps. This figure cannot be favourably compared with the nps for a non-Monte Carlo engine such as Stockfish because the search techniques are completely different. All of these are based on the latest version lc0 v0.26.3. Note the version number is less than one. This usually indicates that the engine has not had a full version one release, and therefore is still in its development stage.

The emphasis on the nps is clearly to provide the fastest route through the plies to go as deep as possible in the shortest available time. The slower the graphics card, the longer it will take to reach the same depth as a faster card. Fortunately, lc0 adopts the Monte Carlo search technique which, for no penalty on speed, can show many lines in the same display or multiple principal variations

(mpv). This enables the chessplayer to determine which lines suit their style of play and requires further analysis. If none of the displayed lines matches the planned reply from your previous analysis, then you may have to increase the number of mpv or consider that the program is not 'seeing' the move you have in mind. This is the grey area in computer chess.

However, the first ply in a principal variation (pv) may not give much indication as to why it has been selected as the top move in the list; it may not be obvious to determine the reason for its placement at the top. It may always be necessary to play through the whole line to see the sort of position reached and whether that coincides with the plans you have in mind so far in the game. Of course, if the reply is a recapture, and by not recapturing you stand to lose material, and there is nothing else to counter on the board, or increase complexity, then it may not be necessary to follow the line to its end, and it may just be confirming what you had decided over the last few moves anyway.

It is worth noting here something that was alluded to in the chess publication entitled, 'Game Changer' by Matthew Sadler and Natasha Regan, that when a computer analyses a position and shows a score of 0.00, this does not indicate a quiescent position follows from the move to be played. There may well be several captures and checks and near escapes to arrive at the score of 0.00, so it is wise to always check a 0.00 score very carefully.

One enterprising programmer has written a GUI specifically for Lc0 use called, 'Nibbler'. It is a free piece of software that has a release version less than one, which means it is still under development but has many useful features that work well and is well worth assessing if you plan on using Lc0 for analysis. Download and installation for windows and Linux is straight forward. Apple installation is more problematic, although I don't know why it needs to be.

### The Apple Watch

Advances have not just been made in chess software. The current level of technological innovation has enabled a quite sophisticated chess package to be developed for the Apple Watch. I am not aware of many chess applications for the Apple Watch, but Banksia is the first I have come across and when I learnt about the porting of the app to the Apple Watch I had to investigate further.

Previously, I tended to use the Apple Watch for my exercise activity recording, or to control my music through wireless earbuds, or to answer any calls I received. I was aware of BanksiaGUI as I have it running on each of my Laptops and each of my iPads. The download to the watch is managed by the Watch app on the iPhone.

Needless to say, the Apple Watch must be linked to the iPhone first before they will communicate with each other. By setting the iPhone Watch App to Automatic Downloads = on, any iPhone installed apps that are also compatible with the Apple Watch are automatically installed on the Watch. So, when I came to look at installing it came as a bit of a surprise that it had escaped my attention and was already there on the watch to run.

The reason for including some detail here on this subject is because the developers have managed to bring the app right up to date by incorporating leading edge chess programs at first release.

A quick look at the features revealed: The GUI integrates two of the top programs Stockfish NNUE and Lc0 directly, together with six other very strong free programs. The app for the watch is called

Banksia, not BanksiaGUI; as named for laptops and iPad.

The app allows choices of board size, board colours of green, red, or grey and piece set selection of alpha or fantasy. The full board is only the size of the watch face. However, you can select large board, which allows a larger section of the board to be visible which can then be moved around using gestures until the necessary section of the board required is displayed.

- Allows a choice of 1 or 2 cores, although the benchmark would only work with 2 cores.
- a choice of communication with user including, silent (watch face gestures only), simple or speech,
- a selection from one of the 8 free programs supplied.
- It allows an openings book to be used or switched out.
- Levels can be set as Game in 2, 5 or 15 mins with or without a bonus of 1, 2 or 5 secs respectively per move, or 1 to 30 seconds per move, or fixed depth search from 10 to 30 ply.

There is also a benchmark facility to assess the speed of the application, which resulted in a value of 591,084nps, on my watch, and a depth of 13 ply was reached in approx. 11.5 seconds.

In comparison on my Core i9 9900 Stockfish runs with 14 cores at 10million nps in typical middle game positions reaching depths of 50 to 60 ply in a few minutes. So, speed of processing is not the strong point here but a working chess program to play in a board meeting, or a job interview, surreptitiously, or when travelling light, must be of benefit to some, providing you switch sounds and voice off first!

Players can be set to Human as white, Human as Black and Human v Human. There didn't appear to be any fwd and back commands to navigate a game, although there is a takeback on the board menu.

The big downside is not being able to copy and paste games for analysis. However, with the Human v Human set you should be able to play through a game then switch to computer to play next move and by setting the level accordingly the watch will

compute the best reply it finds, although I am still working on this as I didn't have much success attempting this!



There is no analysis feature, and no display of analysis details whilst the computer is thinking. This is released as version 1.0, the first full release version and perhaps some of the shortcomings will be resolved in future updates to the software.

### Cloud Processing

An exciting new service has been available for a few years now, where chess players looking for deep analysis, and don't want to invest in expensive hardware, can rent the services of a very fast machine over the internet in the cloud. There are two established methods of offering the service:

Closed webserver service (CWS) A service provider can setup a server running a state-of-the-art machine or several machines in tandem that run very strong chess programs, very quickly. Analysis seekers rent time from the server as required.

Open Distributed Webserver service (ODWS) A service provider can setup a webserver that dials in to machines owned by third parties. Analysis seekers rent time from the selected machine or machines where they are available, and are running the chess software they wish to dial into. Queues for services can be setup and sometimes highest bidders get to use the machines first.

### CWS

The writer of Rybka, Vasik Rajlich, was one of the first to offer this analysis service, when his program Rybka was deemed one of the leading-edge programs on the market, at the time. Of course, unless the chess program involved continues to be a leading edge machine, then the need to use its services are not so attractive.

### ODWS

The German company Chessbase also offer a cloud service but with a slightly different approach. The machines are owned by chessplayers around the world who have very good hardware and top chess software that are attractive for other chessplayers to rent. Usually, chess computer owners will leave their machine switched on overnight to make them available for cloud processing. They will receive a fee for this after the web service has taken their share. This enables an owner to obtain a return on their hardware/software investment whilst they are not using their machine.

Another benefit that an individual can take advantage of is to assign his leading-edge software for cloud access then when they are on the move with a small portable machine, they can access the services of their home machine through the cloud. Essentially your own state of the art home based equipment is available for you to use almost anywhere in the world, without taking it with you, providing internet access is available.

### Solutions to What Happens Next?

(1) e2 37. Bxe2 (37. Kh1 exd1=Q+ )# 37... Rf1+ 38. Kxf1 Ng3+ 39. Ke1 Rf1+ 40. Bxf1 Qe3+ 41. Be2 Qxe2# 0-1

(2) Nc6!! Clearing e5 for the Bishop

(3) Rxe6+ !! fxe6 17. Qxe6+ Kf8 18. Bg5 \$1 Nf6 19. Bxf6 gxf6 20. Qxf6+ Kg8 21. Re1 Rf8 (21... Qd8 22. Re7) 22. Qg5+ Kf7 23. Re7# 1-0

(4) Rb4+! Ka3 44. Qa4# 1-0

(5) Bxh2+ !! 18. Kf1 Rxe1+ 19. Kxe1 Qd6 20. Be3 Re8 21. Kd2 Ne4+ 22. Kc1 Nxf2 23. Bxf2 Qf4+ 0-1

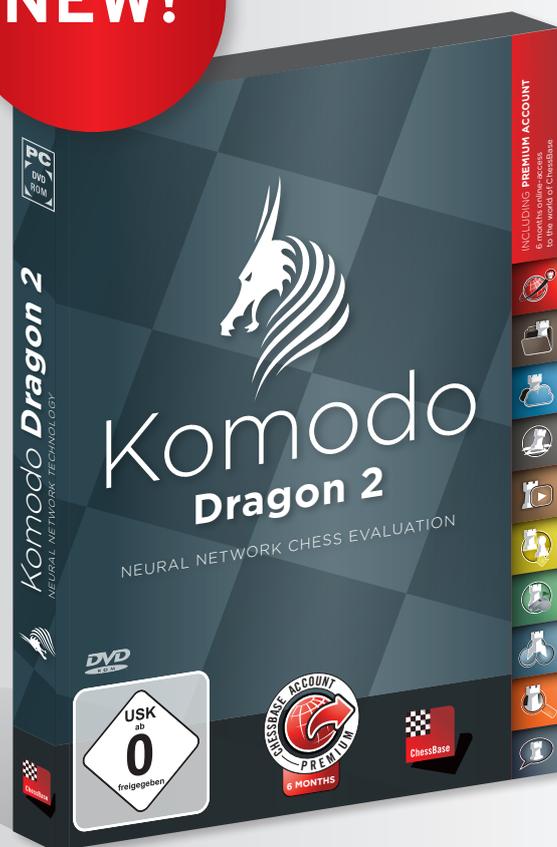
(6) Nxh5! Bxh5 31. Rxg4+ Bxg4 32. Qxg4+ and wins.

# NEW AT CHESSBASE



**NEW!**

## KOMODO DRAGON 2



### „Dragon 2“ - A new concept

Komodo programmers GM Larry Kaufman and Mark Lefler recently decided to start over from scratch after Komodo 14. The step from the classic engine to the new “Dragon”, which, like Fat Fritz 2.0, draws its strength from a combination of a high-performance engine with a neural network, is quite fundamental. The network of Komodo Dragon 2 was trained with the help of countless ultra-fast games of the classic Komodo 14, which for a long time was the world’s strongest engine for games with such short thinking times.

### Neural game understanding + powerful engine power

Komodo Dragon 2 thus has both excellent positional play - thanks to the neural network - and tremendous tactical power and computing speed, thanks to the classic Alpha Beta engine. It is a combination that pays off: compared to the double world champion Komodo 14, the developers were thus able to increase the playing strength of Komodo Dragon 2 once again by more than 200 ELO points! The first version of the “Dragon” is currently already one of the top three in the CCRL rating list (as of April 2021). However, the search function was still largely based on the settings of the old

Komodo 14 engine. This has changed with “Dragon 2”: in the new version, the search has been optimised based on evaluations stored in the neural network. It will be interesting to see whether Dragon can even outperform the competition as a result!

### Top program and analysis partner

Komodo Dragon 2 comes with a number of engine variants. The standard version offers maximum playing strength. For analysis with multiple variations, on the other hand, the “MCTS” version is recommended. In addition, this version offers an exciting feature: you can have the move that offers the best chances from a practical point of view displayed in the analysis. The standard version, on the other hand, always expects the best possible play from the opponent, and that is therefore clearly the first choice, especially in correspondence chess. In addition, the engine can be switched to the variants “Attack”, “Beginner”, “Defence”, “Endgame” in analysis and in the game.

**99,90 €**

Includes current Fritz 17 program interface and six months ChessBase Premium Account.