The Great American Chess Vacation

Players travel from far and wide for this year's National Open

Sevillano and Akopian top National Open; Van Wely, Sargissian, and Petrosian finish a half point back
shopworn (-wôrn')
-adjective
1. Slightly blemished from having been displayed in a shop
2. The opportunity to own great books at unbelievable prices.
3. Limited quantities available. Act fast before they're gone!

75

USCF Sales has over 50 Shopworn Chess Titles available at savings up to 95% Off MSRP. Here's your chance to own Chess books from such legendary authors as Garry Kasparov, Yasser Seirawan, John Watson, Lev Alburt and Nigel Davies at a tremendous discount. Even though many of these books are passable as new, we refuse to sell these books at normal prices because they aren't in mint condition. Our loss is your gain!

25 NEW TITLES ADDED

Up To 95% Off

All Purchases Benefit
USCF
The US Chess Federation

1-800-388-KING (5464)
WWW.USCFSALES.COM
WOULD YOU INVEST $30 IN YOUR CHESS FUTURE?

Start Your 30-day Free Trial Today at www.ChessMagnetSchool.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 month</th>
<th>3 months</th>
<th>1 year</th>
<th>1 yr USCF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$6.95</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$29.95</td>
<td>$26.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class/Family</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Free to teachers/coaches of at least 5 students
Includes our powerful, easy-to-use Coaching Tools & Reports

Works on Windows & Macintosh computers (requires internet access)

To learn more, call 650-284-5062, 877-378-4319 (US toll-free)
email info@ChessMagnetSchool.com
September on uschess.org

GM Rogers on Rising Stars
Don’t miss GM Ian Rogers’ wrap-up of the NH tournament in Amsterdam, which features Rising Stars versus Experience. Among the five rising stars are U.S. Champion Hikaru Nakamura and Italian-American Fabiano Caruana (pictured below).

Photo Essay
FM Mike Klein (above, kneeling) just completed an eight-month around-the-world adventure, traveling to 25 countries along the way. While he failed to complete the great American novel, he did play chess along the way. Watch for his photo essay this month, where he came only 100 meters from challenging the Dalai Lama to a game.

Back to School with GM Joel
Send GM Joel your inquiries on anything from a specific endgame position to how to approach games against lower rated players. In a special autumn promotion, the best entries this month will win hardcover copies of The Art of Learning! Send your questions to askgjjoel@uschess.org

Chess Life now available via pdf viewer
Read Chess Life on the web with our new online pdf viewer. Flip pages ‘virtually’ and click on hyperlinks for easy access to e-mail and web addresses! The USCF is pleased to offer this enhancement to your membership.

There is even an “advertisers” tab that you can click on to go directly to their ads and a thumbnail option so you can see all pages at a glance. You can also download the pdf file directly from within the viewer, as well as adjust the text size.

Go to uschess.org and click on “Chess Life Magazine” on the left, then “Online viewer.” You will need your username and password.
On The Cover

With the promotional efforts of Fred Gruenberg, the National Open has grown into one of the premier destination chess events in the USCF. After 25 years, Freddie has stepped down.

Cover design Frankie Butler, photos by Chris Bird

18 | NATIONAL OPEN
Freddie’s Swansong
By IM Irina Krush

As Fred Gruenberg says goodbye to the tournament he made one of the most player-friendly ones on the circuit, the initial international flavor of this year’s event ends with a local feel as two southern Californians finish on top.

26 | REMEMBRANCE
Snapshots from a life:
Nigel Eddis (1936-2009)
By Larry Parr

33 | INSTRUCTION
The Purposeful Rook
By Carey Theil

A guide for the class player on how to activate your rooks—with meaning!

36 | INSTRUCTION
Middlegame Zugzwang and a Previously Unknown Bobby Fischer Game
By GM Larry Kaufman

Zugzwang is commonly known as an endgame phenomenon. Middlegame examples are rare, as are unknown Fischer games ...
New Membership Options!

**Premium and Regular USCF Memberships Now Available**

**PREMIUM Membership**

*Printed copy of Chess Life (monthly) or Chess Life for Kids (bimonthly) plus all other benefits of regular membership.*

**REGULAR Membership**

*Online-only access to Chess Life or Chess Life for Kids; TLA Newsletter will be mailed to you (adults: bimonthly, scholastic: 3 per year)*

---

### PREMIUM USCF MEMBERSHIP RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>1 YEAR</th>
<th>2 YEAR</th>
<th>3 YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADULT (PAID ONLINE)</td>
<td>$42</td>
<td>$78</td>
<td>$113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULT (PAID MAIL/PHONE)</td>
<td>$49</td>
<td>$85</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOLASTIC (1)</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>$42</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH (2) (6 ISSUES CL)</td>
<td>$27</td>
<td>$49</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG ADULT (3)</td>
<td>$32</td>
<td>$59</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### REGULAR USCF MEMBERSHIP RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>1 YEAR</th>
<th>2 YEAR</th>
<th>3 YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADULT (PAID ONLINE)</td>
<td>$29</td>
<td>$52</td>
<td>$74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULT (PAID MAIL/PHONE)</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$59</td>
<td>$81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOLASTIC (1)</td>
<td>$16</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td>$39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH (2)</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG ADULT (3)</td>
<td>$24</td>
<td>$43</td>
<td>$61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OTHER USCF MEMBERSHIP RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>1 YEAR</th>
<th>2 YEAR</th>
<th>3 YEAR</th>
<th>4 YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUSTAINING (STARTED PRIOR TO 2003) (4, 8)</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$190</td>
<td>$285</td>
<td>$380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSTAINING (STARTED AFTER 2002) (4, 8)</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$240</td>
<td>$360</td>
<td>$480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR (PAID ONLINE) (5)</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$65</td>
<td>$93</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR (PAID BY MAIL OR PHONE) (5)</td>
<td>$43</td>
<td>$72</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY PLAN 1 (6)</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY PLAN 2 (7)</td>
<td>$44</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR LIFE (5, 8)</td>
<td>$750 (one time charge)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE (8)</td>
<td>$1,500 (one time charge)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENEFACTOR (8, 10)</td>
<td>$3,000 (one time charge)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENEFACTOR, EXISTING LIFE MEMBER (8, 10)</td>
<td>$1,500 (one time charge)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**WHAT YOU GET AS A REGULAR USCF MEMBER:**

The right to play in USCF-sanctioned tournaments and be assigned an official rating.

Access to member-only content on uschess.org, including our USCF forum discussion group. (9) Online access to Chess Life & Chess Life for Kids.

**WHAT YOU GET AS A PREMIUM USCF MEMBER:**

All of the above plus a printed copy of Chess Life or Chess Life for Kids!

---

(1) 13 and under at expiration; bimonthly Chess Life for Kids. (2) 16 and under at expiration; Chess Life (3) 25 and under at expiration; monthly Chess Life. (4) New sustaining memberships will not be allowed after 11/30/08. (5) 65 and over. (6) Parents and children younger than 25 at expiration living in one household with one address. (7) All younger than 25 at expiration living in one household. Both Family Plans include one monthly Chess Life. (8) Life and sustaining members have the option of choosing either Premium or Regular benefits. This selection may be changed at any time. USCF intends to contact these members approximately every three years to ask for confirmation of this choice. (9) Age restrictions apply. (10) Includes Life Membership, a special membership card, and recognition on a Benefactor page of our website and periodically in Chess Life.

$25 foreign surcharge applies for magazine (not applicable to Canada or Mexico).
Rulebook Tactics

There are a number of things you can do as a player that increase your chances of essaying an enjoyable game by simply being aware of some basic rulebook strategies.

1. Stop the clock and get a tournament director (TD). Whatever your concern is about a rules violation it is best, in most cases, to first stop your clock. This way your clock is not running towards a flag fall while you get help from the TD. Make sure to let your opponent know why you are stopping the clock.

2. Make it a habit, even if you lose, to make sure your score is marked up properly. Why? Well, if the TDs can’t find out the results of your game they may or may not end up crediting you with the correct results for pairing and prize purposes.

3. Make sure you know how the clock is set, even if it is not your clock. For example, assuming the delay is set properly on a delay clock can lead to some unpleasant situations later in the game.

4. After you arrive at your board, check to make sure your opponent is the same one you saw listed on the pairing sheet. Playing the incorrect opponent (not uncommon) leads to some challenges for the TD that may not always be dealt with in your favor. Playing the wrong opponent can affect your pairings in future rounds.

5. If you are waiting for an opponent that has not arrived and the player next to you, or near you is doing the same thing, check it out. The two of you just might be playing each other and one of you accidently is seated at the wrong board.

6. Make sure you are playing the right color. Double check it. The TD can’t always fix this kind of situation to your satisfaction.

7. TDs are not cops. Rarely do they interject themselves into your game, even when they observe a rules violation. You have to make the claim that the rule was violated.

8. Ask a TD what your rights are if they rule against you.

9. Perpetual check is not a rule. Having the same position three times (it does not even have to be three times in a row!) is the rule. To make this claim properly it is one of the few times you get to write your move down first. Make the claim first then make the claim and stop the clock.

10. Get a TD if your opponent disputes one of your claims (remember to stop that clock).

11. If either player makes a claim of a draw of any kind it is the same as offering a draw to the opponent.

12. Keep an accurate scoresheet so that you can offer it as evidence of any claim you are making. An incomplete scoresheet (check marks don’t count towards an accurate scoresheet) is usually worthless in a disputed claim.

13. Start your clock at the beginning of the round, even if your opponent is not there! If your opponent does come late, failing to start their clock until they arrive may delay the start of the next round for everyone else.

14. The standard penalty, unless stated otherwise, is to add two minutes to the time of the player that makes a valid rules violation claim.

Test, Evaluate, and Improve Your Chess: A Knowledge-Based Approach.


Seven tests at all levels with complete explanations covering all parts of the game.

Excellent for Individual, Small-Group, and Class Study.


2 - 5 copies, $10 each; 6 - 30 copies $ 8 each; 31 - 100 copies $7 each; Over 100 copies, $6 each.

Kopec Chess Services: 518 - 705 - 4335; email: drk2501@aol.com

Chess Life welcomes letters from its readers. Letters are subject to editing for content and length. Send your letters to letters@uschess.org, and include your full name and a telephone number.

Contributors

IM Irina Krush
(“2009 National Open,” p. 18) is a two-time U.S. women’s champion and a frequent contributor to both Chess Life and Chess Life Online.

Larry Parr
(“Remembrance,” p. 26) was Chess Life editor from 1984 to 1988. Parr currently lives with his family in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he also works. Along with Dato’ Tan Chin Nam, he co-authored the memoir, Never Say I Assume! (MPH, 2006).

Carey Theil
(“Instruction,” p. 33) is a national master who lives in Somerville, Massachusetts with his wife, Christine, a greyhound, and four cats. He works for a national non-profit animal protection organization.

GM Larry Kaufman
(“Instruction,” p. 35) is the U.S. senior champion, world senior champion, and member of the Rybka development team. He is the author of The Chess Advantage in Black and White.
Marcel Duchamp
The Art of Chess

Exhibition
September 10 - October 30, 2009

Book available:
*Marcel Duchamp: The Art of Chess*
with essays by Francis M. Naumann,
Bradley Bailey and game analysis
by Jennifer Shahade

FRANCIS M. NAUANN
FINE ART, LLC
24 West 57th Street, Suite 305
New York, NY 10019
(212) 582-3201 www.francisnaumann.com

World Chess Hall of Fame
& Sidney Samole Museum

For more information on making a donation or
becoming a member, call 786-242-HALL or email
membership@chessmuseum.org

When in Miami, don’t miss visiting your monumental museum, built for the royal game in the shape of a rook-castle complete with King Arthur’s legendary sword, Excalibur! First enter the darkened hallway that features colorful exhibits illustrating the evolution of chess. Then step into our grand hall to enjoy artifacts and informative displays recounting the whole history of the game.

Sanctioned by both the World and U.S. Chess Federations, the Hall is the only official museum for chess. From Paul Morphy’s famous silver set and the Dean Collection (including a board-game piece from 1000 BC!), to our state-of-the-art, interactive displays—you’re in for a real treat! Come visit us!

Receive permanent recognition at the Museum for you or your loved one for as little as $250.
SuperNational IV’s SUPERSCHOLARSHIPS from the University of Texas at Dallas

The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) awarded three separate full-tuition-and-fees, four-year scholarships to the top performers at the SuperNationals IV chess competition held April 3-5 in Nashville.

Scholarship recipients are GM-elect Robert Hess of New York City, winner of the K-12 high school section; Ryan Moon of Duluth, Georgia, winner of the K-9 junior high school section; and Daniel Gurevich of Marietta, Georgia, winner of the elementary section. The Chess Life SuperNationals IV tournament report appeared in the June 2009 issue.

Each of the three Academic Distinction Scholarships has a cash value of about $80,000 for non-Texas residents. The winners must meet the University’s rigorous requirements at matriculation.

“As a graduating college senior, I am pleased to say that this scholarship has allowed me to fully pursue my academic goals while also enabling me to continue playing top-level chess,” said IM John Bartholomew, a senior business administration major and member of the university’s chess team. He was awarded an Academic Distinction Scholarship at the 2001 SuperNationals, where he took first place in the K-9 junior high section.

“This tournament is a valuable contribution to the creation of a better future for society,” said Curt Eley, vice president for enrollment management, who gave the opening address at the event. “It was heartwarming to see so many bright, focused, hard-working young minds engaged in clean, thoughtful fun.”

GM Robert Hess

GM Hess has been well represented on these pages these last few months, and not just for winning the UTD scholarship. His spring 2009 streak began with the SPICE Spring Invitational (March 16-22, Lubbock, Texas), where he scored his second grandmaster norm. A week later in Nashville, Robert swept the high school nationals 7-0, leading his team, Stuyvesant to a national title. A couple days after that, Robert was off to Foxwoods where he defeated GMs Ehlvest and Nakamura on his way to norm number three. He then had an exciting run at the 2009 U.S. Championship (May 7-17, St. Louis), giving Nakamura a challenge for the championship.
Ryan Joseph Moon

Ryan Joseph Moon, the winner of the K-9 section at SuperNationals IV, started playing chess at around the age of eight. He entered the primary section of a scholastic tournament and came out with a provisional rating of 867. From there it has been a steady climb until now where his rating sits just a handful of points below the master level. He has now finished first or tied for first in five national championships.

Joseph (he usually goes by his middle name) has had several coaches over the six years or so that he has been active in tournament competition. His first coach was his father, Henry, at that time a professor in Emory University’s Goizueta Business School. Henry mentions that “Joseph at an early age had to battle nervousness at the board, and chess taught him, through many hard fought wins and losses, to keep his cool.”

It wasn’t long before Henry decided that he needed to find someone stronger than himself to coach his precocious son, and they connected with Colombian IM Carlos Perdomo, who was then living in the Atlanta area. After Carlos they moved on to GM Semion “Sam” Palatnik, and now it is GM John Fedorowicz who is in charge of Joseph’s chess instruction. Joseph has not yet beaten any grandmasters in tournament competition, but he does have wins over international masters Ron Burnett, Emory Tate, and Oladapo Adu to his credit.

“I think that winning the chess scholarship to UTD was a great accomplishment for me,” Joseph says. “I feel like I can always look back and be proud of myself for winning the SuperNationals. The competition was brutal, with all the best ninth graders in that section. I knew I was going to have to work hard in order to win, and I did. ‘A man who is prepared has already won half the battle.’ During the matches I always kept my cool, and tried not to get nervous.”

“What is funny is that I didn’t even know that there was a K-8 section at the SuperNationals. I had thought that the only section I could play in was the K-9. I actually didn’t know about the scholarships until I think it was the sixth round when I was playing Christian Tanaka. A friend of mine had said to me that I must be excited to be so close to that scholarship, and I clearly didn’t know what he was talking about.”

~Scott Parker

Daniel Gurevich

The winner of the K-6 section scholarship was Georgia fifth-grader Daniel Gurevich.

Daniel learned to play chess before he turned five. When asked who taught him, Daniel replies “No one, I learned on my own.” At his friend’s house Daniel discovered a computer program LEGO Chess which taught him the basics. Soon Daniel started frequenting the local chess club. By the fall of his kindergarten year he started to play in tournaments. At about the same time Daniel met his first coach, a local FM, Michael Elkin, who remains Daniel’s over-the-board coach.

By age 7 Daniel won two national championships: the first grade section at the 2004 nationals in Orlando, Florida and the K-1 section of SuperNationals III in Nashville, Tennessee in 2005. An active tournament player, Daniel reached his goal of raising his USCF rating to 2100 before his 11th birthday. In the past year he started to play in major adult tournaments. He has not yet been paired with a grandmaster, but three draws against international masters, including Jay Bonin in July 2009, led me to believe that the wins are not far away, either.

Daniel’s win at SuperNationals IV gave Daniel his third national scholastic title in four appearances; a remarkable achievement. This win is special: despite the fact that he was only in fifth grade, Daniel overcame a strong field of experts, including several top 10 sixth-graders.

Professor Tim Redman, founder of the UT Dallas chess team, who presented the scholarship, was impressed with Daniel’s SAT score which is already high enough to be admitted. Having considered early admission, Daniel decided to wait and concentrate on his dream of becoming a grandmaster before college.

Besides FM Elkin, Daniel credits two other coaches with his recent successes. The Gurevich family hosted IM Kirill Kudernov, who coached Daniel from October 2008 until Kirill’s return to his native Kazakhstan in May 2009. Since September 2008 Daniel has also been taking lessons from GM Artur Jussupow (Yusupov in USCF listings.~ed).

“The last win is the most important,” Daniel says. “The reason I played in this year’s SuperNationals was the opportunity to win the UTD scholarship, and the strong competition in the K-6 section it attracted. It is still hard to tell which is more important: winning the title or the scholarship. Each is a big honor.”

~Scott Parker

“…A valuable contribution to the creation of a better future for society”

—CURT ELEY
2009 Executive Board Election

The results of the 2009 executive board election were determined on July 23. 11.1% of the eligible voters cast ballots. The four candidates who were elected to four-year terms on the executive board are Jim Berry, Bill Goichberg, Ruth Haring and Mike Atkins. Berry and Goichberg were incumbents, Haring and Atkins took office at the conclusion of the 2009 delegates’ meeting, replacing Randy Hough, who chose not to run for another term, and Joel Channing, who had resigned.

New board member Michael Atkins tells Chess Life:

“I'd like to thank all the people who voted in the recent elections for USCF executive board. No matter who you voted for, you took part in the process and expressed your opinions and desires for how you want your chess federation to proceed in the future. While 11% sounds small, it tends to be that proportion for NFP [not-for-profit] hobby organization’s elections. Let’s do better than that next time. If we can accomplish all that with only 11% involvement, imagine what 22% would look like! Imagine all the new chess sponsors and new tournaments, programs and progress that 22% involvement could mean and imagine what 100,000 members would look like. It wouldn’t be that hard, doubling or tripling our retention/renewal rates would be a way to start. I look forward to moving on from the current quagmire and getting back to chess.”

Totals in Order of Rank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Berry</td>
<td>3,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Goichberg</td>
<td>3,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Haring</td>
<td>2,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Atkins</td>
<td>2,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mikhail Korenman</td>
<td>822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Nietman</td>
<td>732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Hecht</td>
<td>717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blas Lugo</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Sloan</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Lafferty</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Mottershead</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were also 123 write-in ballots. A total of 4,379 ballots were received.

The USCF Mission

USCF is a not-for-profit membership organization devoted to extending the role of chess in American society. USCF promotes the study and knowledge of the game of chess, for its own sake as an art and enjoyment, but also as a means for the improvement of society. It informs, educates, and fosters the development of players [professional and amateur] and potential players. It encourages the development of a network of institutions devoted to enhancing the growth of chess, from local clubs to state and regional associations, and it promotes chess in American society. To these ends, USCF offers a monthly magazine, as well as targeted publications to its members and others. It supervises the organization of the U.S. Chess Championship, an open tournament held every summer, and other national events. It offers a wide range of books and services to its members and others at prices consistent with the benefits of its members. USCF serves as the governing body for chess in the United States and as a participant in international chess organizations and projects. It is structured to ensure effective democratic procedures in accord with its bylaws and laws of the state of Illinois.
Opening Ceremony
12/11 Friday: 12:30 pm

Rounds
Friday: 1 pm, 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm
Sunday: 9 am, 1 pm

Awards Ceremonies
Sunday: 4:30 pm (K-1) & 5 pm (Approx.)

Special round times for K-1 sections
Friday: 1:30 pm, 5:30 pm
Saturday: 9:30 am, 2:30 pm, 5:30 pm
Sunday: 9:30 am, 1:30 pm

On-site registration
12/10: 9 am-10 pm
12/11: 8 am-Noon
Players registering after 10 am Friday will not be paired for round 1, will receive a 1/2 point bye, and will begin play round 2.

SIDE EVENTS

Bughouse:
Thursday: 11 am
On-site entry only Thursday, 9 am until 10 am
$25 per team.

Blitz:
Thursday: 5 pm
On-site entry until 4 pm • Entry in advance $15 by 11/29 • $20 after 11/29 or on-site • Register at https://secure.uschess.org/webstore/tournament.php

Simul:
TBA

Team Rooms are limited!
contact Cheryl Bruce
cbruce@uschess.org • 931-787-1234 ext.147

7SS, G/90, 13 sections: Play only in your grade. December Rating Supplement will be used. Team Score = total of top three (minimum two) finishers from each school per grade. First place individual and team will be National Champion for their grade.

Awards:
Trophies to top 10 individuals & top five teams in each grade (minimum). Many other class prizes. Every player receives a commemorative item!

Blitz:
Trophies to top 10 individuals & top five teams in each grade (minimum). Many other class prizes. Every player receives a commemorative item!

Bughouse:
Trophies in K-6 and K-12 sections, individual and team.

Trophies to be announced.

Name ____________________________
USCF ID # ____________________________
Rating ____________________________

Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State ____________________________ Zip ____________________________
e-mail Address ____________________________

School ____________________________ Grade ____________________________

Bye Requested: Rd. 1 [ ] 2 [ ] 3 [ ] 4 [ ] 5 [ ] 6 [ ] 1/2-pt bye available if requested in advance (except rd. 7)

USCF Membership Dues: Please go to www.uschess.org for appropriate membership category and rates.

Entry Fees: $50/participant postmarked by 11/12, $70/participant postmarked by 11/29, $85 after 11/29 or $90 on site. (Add $5 for phone entry.)

Blitz entry: $15 until 11/12 or $20 after 11/12 or on-site.

Amount Enclosed: Entry Fee $ ____________ Blitz $ ____________ USCF Dues $ ____________ Total Enclosed $ ____________

In advance: Make checks payable to: U.S. Chess Federation (USCF).
On site: Make payments in Cash, by Money Order, or Credit Card.

[ ] MASTER CARD [ ] DISCOVER [ ] AMEX [ ] VISA V-Code (last 3 digits on the signature line) ____________________________

Number ____________________________ EXP. ______ / ______ SIGNATURE: ____________________________

Registration information: USCF membership is required and must be current. You may pay USCF membership with your entry. Adult: Please check our website (uschess.org) for Adult and Young Adult options. Advance entries must include player’s name and all fees to be accepted. Roster changes are considered new entries and will be charged according to date received. List name, address, phone, section, grade, school (even if no team), coach’s name, e-mail, birth date, USCF ID #, USCF expiration (enclose USCF dues if necessary) and rating. Players must be eligible to play in accordance with USCF Scholastic Regulations. Please bring clocks. Ent. “K-12 Champ.,” c/o USCF, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557-3967. For more info or to register online: www.uschess.org. Please make all checks payable to USCF.
I have a theory—totally unscientific—that every new generation of chess authors aims for a stronger audience. They imagine their readers to be at least 100 rating points better than the previous generation of readers. They write for players who are assumed to be more sophisticated than the ones who grew up reading Ludek Pachman and Max Euwe, not to mention from Eugene Znosko-Borovsky and Fred Reinfeld.

That seems to be Ivan Sokolov’s audience in *Winning Chess Middlegames*. He takes an idea used by Hans Kmoch two generations ago, expands on it and writes for more advanced readers.

Kmoch’s idea, in the final section of *Pawn Power in Chess*, was to analyze a specific family of pawn structures, the Benonis. (I pilfered Kmoch’s idea myself and applied it to several families in *Pawn Structure Chess.*)

Sokolov’s puts under a microscope the four most important families that arise from 1. d4 openings. These are: doubled pawns, isolated d-pawns, hanging c- and d-pawns, and “pawn majority in the center.” Each of the book’s four chapters begins with a short introduction of what the author calls the “essential” pawn structures of the family. This is followed by heavily-annotated illustrative games, which account for more than 90 percent of the book. The games come almost exclusively from the Nimzo-Indian, Queen’s Gambit Accepted, Declined and Slav Defense.

When Sokolov is teaching, rather than analyzing 10 moves ahead, he has a lot of good points to make. For example:

**Making a point**

*GM Alexey Vyzmanavin (FIDE 2490)*

*GM Alexander Beliaovsky (FIDE 2600)*

Lvov 1984

After 9... 0-0

Here White played 10. e4!. Sokolov explains that this temporary sac is a common idea in this structure. White will regain the pawn, after 10. ... cxd4 11. cxd4 exd4 12. Bb2 and eventually Nxd4. Then the pawn structure favors him. His queen bishop has become active and Black’s d6-pawn is weak.

In this game, Black replied 10. ... b6. What happened next, 11. d5 Na5?! was also very instructive. Sokolov calls that central pawn skeleton, plus the knight on a5, “Structure 1.7,” and shows how bad it can be for Black.

Black must either win the c4-pawn or force White into gyrations to defend it, he writes. Otherwise, Black will be badly outgunned on the kingside, as in this game which White won by advancing with Ng3-f5, Qg4 and an elaborate pawn storm.

There are some valuable insights sprinkled throughout the book. Sokolov cites the case of a player liquidating an isolani, such as when White gets rid of an isolated d-pawn with d4-d5.

The resulting pawn structure is more or less symmetrical and may seem that the opponent with the black pieces can equalize with a few good moves. “Well, more often than not, for the defending side, those ‘few good moves’ are nowhere to be found,” Sokolov points out.

But I suspect most readers will have two problems with this book. The first is that the move analysis overwhelms the words. To get from one move of a game to the next you often have to wade through half a page of subvariations.

The second problem is that many of Sokolov’s 33 “essential” structures are esoteric. For example, consider one with white pawns at d6, e5, f4, g2 and h2 and black pawns at d7, e6, f5, g7 and h7. If Black is castled kingside and he has a knight at e8, this is “Structure 1.8.”

It occurred in Bronstein-Simagin, Moscow 1961; one of those spectacular games from the golden era of Soviet chess. I’m glad to see this virtually unknown gem being revived and given the attention it deserves.

But how often does “Structure 1.8” actually occur? Maybe once in every other blue moon.

The bottom line is: If you like heavily-analyzed games, this is one of the best collections to be published in recent years. But if you get more from the words rather than from the move analysis in annotations, this is not the book for you.
Brute Force
Sometimes we forget that the object of chess is to kill the enemy king. But David Hooper and Bernard Cafferty, two lions of British chess, remind us of this fact in their 1977 book *Play For Mate*. Their book illustrates 290 positions from actual master play with numerous mating patterns as well as a wide range of missed opportunities. Our challenge is to find the fastest win via brute force.

Solutions to this month’s quiz positions are on page 63.

Readers are invited to send their positions in for possible consideration in this column. Send to whatsthebest-move@uschess.org or mail to Chess Life, c/o What’s The Best Move, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557.

1. White moves
(a) Rxg7+ (b) Nxf6+ (c) Rg6

2. White moves
(a) Ng3 (b) Nf6+ (c) Rd4

3. Black moves
(a) Qf2 (b) a6 (c) Rxc2

4. Black moves
(a) Kd6 (b) g4 (c) Qg3+

The King Hunt
By GM Larry Evans

“Tasty Treasures”
It’s the all new original recipe book from the West Virginia Lions Clubs, coordinators and sponsors of the U.S. Blind Chess Championship – A USCF National Event!

West Virginia Lions Clubs, along with current event organizer Rick Varchetto, have been key sponsors of this U. S. Chess Federation national event for the past three years. Now they’ve compiled this great recipe book and are helping fund future U. S. Blind Chess Championships by passing on all proceeds. At just $10 each, plus shipping and handling, you’ll enjoy the recipes and the good feeling of helping to continue the US Blind Chess Championship.

Contact: Richard “Rick” Varchetto by email at ricky@meerc.com or by phone at 304-636-4034 and place your order now!
Chess to Enjoy

The Language of Chess

By GM Andy Soltis

French was once the language of diplomacy. German was the language of science. But how did English end up as the language of chess?

Several years ago there was a movement to encourage chess authors to write in Esperanto. After all, the argument went, doesn’t a universal game deserve a universal language?

The Esperanto idea died. But we still ended up with a common language. It’s called English.

You’ll find the evidence all over, beginning with the Internet. Sites written entirely in English include the personal pages of Russia’s Vladimir Kramnik, Hungary’s Peter Leko and the national federations like Bangladesh and Fiji.

If a chess site is bilingual, the second language is almost certain to be English. That’s the case with the sites of Etienne Bacrot of France and the 2008 Olympiad in Dresden, Germany, or of the federations of Turkey, Armenia, Austria, Ukraine and Estonia.

In the world of print, New In Chess magazine is written by a United Nations of masters, edited by Dutchmen—and published in English. The reason is simple. If you want the largest audience, there is one language that stands out. Even former World Women’s Champion Xie Jun of China wrote her chess biography in English.

FIDE has five official languages. But at most international tournaments, the arbiter and the players on the appeals committee conduct their business in only one, English. GMs like Viktor Korchnoi have been known to resign in English even when playing a fellow Russian.

And when Sergey Karjakin of Ukraine was an up-and-coming player he was invited to training sessions conducted by leading GMs at an elite club in France in their common language. “If you want to raise your class of play, study English!” said his father, Alexander Karjakin.

What is also remarkable is that the language being spoken is not the Queen’s English but American English: Grandmasters say they missed a “cheapo.” They played a “lemon” instead. They say their position was “busted” after their opponent replied with a “desperado.”

Hungary’s Andras Adorjan, who learned English while watching U.S. movies, has a mantra based on the most American of Americanisms, “Black is OK.” Magnus Carlsen, who began studying English by age eight, uses it too.

I’m OK, you’re not OK
IM Magnus Carlsen (FIDE 2552)
IM Chakkravarthy Deepan (FIDE 2331)
Dubai 2004

After he played 12. f4! Carlsen wrote in New In Chess, “Now White is very much okay.”

Black was decidedly not OK following 12. ... Qd5 13. Bxe7 Kxe7 14. f5! Qxf5 15. Qxd4 and he resigned soon after 15. ... Qd5? 16. Qb4+ c5 17. Nxc5.

The shift towards English in general and the American brand in particular is quite a change. For much of the last 150 years the language of master chess was German. When masters from foreign countries got together to chat, the conversation usually started with “Sprechen sie Deutsch?” At the first great international tournament in America, New York 1889, the common language was German—which was spoken by Kentucky’s Jackson Showalter, Russia’s Mikhail Chigorin and Britain’s Amos Burn, among others.

For decades the best magazines, like the Wiener Schachzeitung and Deutsche Schachzeitung, were written in German. So were the better books, like Richard Reti’s Modern Ideas in Chess, Edward Lasker’s Chess Strategy and Emanuel Lasker’s book of the St. Petersburg 1909 tournament. Often it took years before a great book was translated into English.

In contrast, English-language books didn’t seem worthy of appearing in another language. As Emanuel Lasker put it, “The literature of chess in the English language is enormous in size but insignificant in value.”

As late as the 1930s strong players like Reuben Fine of the United States learned German in order to read Siegbert Tarrasch in the original. The rest of the world adopted words like “blitz,” “Zugzwang,” “sitzfleisch” and “zeitnot” (time pressure).

The books that were written in English used the vocabulary and syntax of British annotators: Attacks didn’t start, they “commenced.” Bad moves were “rather inferior” and “quite contrary to principle.” And if you surprised someone with a move you “caught him out.” Wordiness was the order of the day.

Injudicious
James Mason
Mikhail Chigorin
London 1883

(see diagram top of next column)
Meet Me in St. Louis

When Hikaru Nakamura won the 2009 U.S. Championship he raised his “batting average” to .678. That’s his winning percentage in five championships. He had the tenth best average—out of the more than 260 players in 53 championship tournaments—before this year, according to statistics compiled by Edward Gonsalves. Now Nakamura is in a tie with Yury Shulman for eighth place, well below first-place Bobby Fischer’s .822. In each of the following positions from the St. Louis tournament you are asked to find the fastest winning line of play. For solutions see page 63.

Bobby Fischer was appalled when a British edition of My 60 Memorable Games made him sound like he lived on the other side of the pond. That revised version had him using words like “whilst”—which no one who grew up on Union Street in Brooklyn ever employs. Fischer was even upset that the Brits spelled his word “jell” as “gel.” He claimed it made him sound “idiotic.”

Yet British English still survives in chess books—in the translations of Russian authors. That’s where you’ll find Soviet-era grandmasters strangely addressing one another as “Old Chap.” That’s where a booked-up player is a “swot.”

In his Great Predecessors books, you’ll see Garry Kasparov praising certain moves as “nervy.” That’s a Britishism for “bold” and it carries a positive connotation. But what Kasparov apparently meant—when he wrote in Russian—was something quite different. He indicated the moves were “nervous,” meaning the product of nervousness.

Nervous or nervy?
Alexander Alekhine
Max Euwe
World Championship (7), 1935
(see diagram top of next column)
Modern Benoni, Taimanov Variation (A67)  
Reynaldo Vera (FIDE 2547)  
Viktor Moskalenko (FIDE 2469)  
Badalona 1999

Easily stifling Black’s counteractivity, White’s double barreled action against Black’s resulting weaknesses proved too much to cope with. What would become an exciting game began:


14. fxg6  Par Score: 5

Black’s last move proposed an exchange of the b5-pawn for the e4-pawn, which is the main theme in Black’s scheme. White is going to grapple with this move, and he does so by getting in some useful moves. The trade at g6 opens the f-file and slightly weakens Black’s castled position.

15. Bg5  Par Score: 6

Here White develops a new piece with an attack on the queen, forcing interference on f6. On 15. ... Bf6 White takes and Black’s king loses a key defender (1 bonus point). If 15. ... Nf6, White follows with 16. e5 dxe5 17. d6, creating havoc (1 bonus point). A sample line is 17. ... e4 18. dxc7 Qxd1 19. Raxd1 exf3 20. Bxf3 Bg4 21. Bxa8 Bxd1 22. Rxd1 Rxa8 23. Rd8+.

15. ...  hgx6

15. Bg5  Par Score: 6

16. Bf4  Par Score: 4

The bishop withdraws and in turn attacks d6.

16. ...  Nf8

So that the queen can guard d6 while the knight keeps watch over e6 and g6.

17. Nxb5  Par Score: 5

18. Bxb5  Par Score: 4

18. ...  Rxe4

The pawn trade (b5 for e4) has at last taken place. The position has opened up and White with his lead in development has a slight edge.

19. Qd2  Par Score: 5

Deduct 2 points if you overlooked the attack on the bishop. The queen move guards the bishop and prepares to place the queen-rook on the open e-file.

19. ... Bg4

You can also make an argument for 19. ... f5, but Black didn’t want to lock his c8-bishop in behind the pawns.

20. Bd3  Par Score: 5

The bishop no longer serves any function at b5 and returns to attack the rook, at the same time lining up against g6.

20. ...  Rb4

21. Rae1  Par Score: 5

As programmed, White brings his last piece in to play on the open e-file.

21. ...  Rab8

Black doubles on the b-file attacking b2.

22. b3  Par Score: 5

One little pawn move and both black rooks are neutralized.

22. ...  R4b7

Figuring there’s nothing more to be accomplished on the b-file, Black withdraws his rook from the fourth rank to defend the seventh rank.

23. Qe3  Par Score: 6
This is a good building move, by which the queen anticipates activity along the third rank.

23. ... Bxf3

Black prepares the advance of his f-pawn. If he plays 23. ... f5 immediately, he has to contend with 24. Ng5 (1 bonus point), so the knight gets removed.

24. Qxf3

Par Score: 5

With this capture White sets up his next move. Receive only 3 points part credit for 24. Rxf3.

24. ... f5

Black blocks the diagonal of the d3-bishop and opens the diagonal for the g7-bishop.

25. Qg3

And now White twice attacks d6 and pressures g6. Accept 1 bonus point if you had this in mind when playing Qxf3.

25. ... Rd7

26. Re6! Par Score: 6


26. ... Rb4

27. Bc4 Par Score: 5

White avoids both 27. Rxd6? Rxf4!, as well as 27. Bxd6? Rg4! Deducet 2 points if you decided to take on d6.

27. ... Rxc4

If 27. ... Rb6 to defend the d-pawn, White doubles 28. Rfe1 (1 bonus point), looking to invade at e7 or e8.

28. bxc4

Par Score: 4

28. ... Nxe6

29. dxe6

Par Score: 4

29. ... Rb7

Add 1 bonus point if you saw that 29. ... Re7 is met by 30. Bg5.

30. Qxg6 Par Score: 5

Playing to expose the king, although 30. Bxd6 (full credit) looks simpler: if 30. ... Rb6, then 31. e7.

30. ... Qf6

31. Qe8+ Par Score: 5

Accept only 4 points part credit for 31. Qxf6 Bxf6 32. Bxd6 Be7 33. Bxe7 Rxe7 34. Re1, though it should be a technical win. But with queens on the board, White has better.

31. ... Kh7

On 31. ... Qf8 White can return 31. Qg6; or try 32. Qc6 Qe8 33. Qd5 (33. Bxd6 Rh1) 33. ... Rb6 34. e7+ Kh8 (34. ... Kh7 35. Qxf5+) 35. Bc8 Qe8 (to stop 36. Qf7, but not 35. ... Rb2? 36. Bxb2+) 36. Qxf5 and Black can hardly hold out. If 36. ... Rxc1 37. Qh3+ Kg8 38. Qe6+ Kh7 39. Rxc1.

32. Bxd6 Par Score: 5

32. ... Rb6

33. Qh5+ Par Score: 5

On 33. ... Qh6, there follows 34. Qxh6+, with 35. e7 coming up (1 bonus point). If 33. ... Bb6, or 33. ... Kg8, then 34. e7 directly. Add 1 bonus point more if you saw the decisive advance.

33. ... Black resigned

September Exercise: Get into the habit of trying to summarize what you’ve experienced and/or learned from a game, task, or study session, recording your thought nuggets in a book or word file. Aim to take away at least three memorable ideas from every example in which you’ve invested time, and seldom let a session go by without noting at least one thought. Over time the burgeoning register will show the sweep and reach of your development. It will map places you’ve been, and benchmarks passed, while, if you stay focused, point the way to where your great journey is likely to go.
As Fred Gruenberg says goodbye to the tournament he made one of the most player-friendly ones on the circuit, the initial international flavor of this year’s event ends with a local feel as two southern Californians finish on top.

By IM Irina Krush | Photos by Chris Bird
The 2009 National Open (June 4th-7th) assembled an impressive array of strong players, including 17 grandmasters and 13 international masters. Despite its name, the National Open had a very international feel to it, at least in terms of the battle for first place; this year, the top four seeds were all visitors from abroad: Frenchman Laurent Fressinet (2715), Armenian Gabriel Sargissian (2773), the Russian Evgeny Bareev (2556), and Loek Van Wely (2728), from the Netherlands. At some point in their careers, Bareev and Van Wely were 2700+ FIDE-rated players and regularly faced off against the best in the world, so their participation in the National Open was something of a treat.

The National Open draws people for a number of reasons beyond the obvious one. Fortuitously cushioned between the big money Chicago and World Opens, it makes a sensible stop for foreign GMs on their summer chess tour of the U.S. Others are lured by the proximity to the World Series of Poker events held nearby at the Rio (Fressinet’s wife, IM Almira Skripchenko, won $78,664 in a No-Limit Hold’Em event 11 days after the National Open ended, which, coupled with Laurent’s winnings at the tournament, meant the pair left Vegas with an enviable total of $78,695 in prize money.) One person is probably there because they won the previous year’s raffle grand prize of round trip airfare and free entry.

But I think that a lot of people come because of the way the National Open has positioned itself as more than just your regular chess tournament. In fact, the tournament is the centerpiece of an entire chess festival, replete with grandmaster simul, lectures, and even an instructional camp. There’s a popular game/10 rapid championship the eve of the tournament, and blitz and bughouse events at its conclusion. Scholastic chess, too, features prominently, as Susan Polgar runs her World Open for Girls and Boys parallel to the National Open, and hosts a myriad other events during the festival.

Another standout feature of the National Open has been the presence of legendary guest stars, who are enticed with promises of rounds starting on time and quiet in the playing room. No, wait, I’m mixing up my notes ... Freddie did say that those are high priorities for the organization, but what seals the deal is likely the business-class tickets and generous appearance fees the players receive. Over the years, the National Open has played host to Sammy Reshevsky, Viktor Korchnoi, Gata Kamsky, and the Polgar sisters, among others.

I wondered how the National Open could afford its munificence. The answer is: it’s not run for profit. Everything that the tournament takes in is given back to the players in some form. That’s not a business model that would appeal to everyone, but it does make possible “The Chess Vacation of the Year”!

Now maybe you’d like to know who won the tournament; despite my silence thus far, it’s actually not a state secret, and will eventually be revealed. Going into the final round, there were no less than twelve players tied at 4-1, so theoretically there could have been a long list of winners to transcribe here. When the dust cleared, though, only two of the six pairings saw a decisive result, and two southern Californians, GM Varuzhan Akopian and IM Enrico Sevillano, topped the field, collecting $4,641 each. Ironically, Varuzh could be heard grumbling about the small amount of money he’d won; of course, the competition for this prize had been fierce, and one could only wish the chess pie were a bit larger. But we should probably reserve the bulk of our sympathy for the people half a point below him—they took home ten times less.

Varuzhan has been a member of the U.S. Olympiad team for the last two Olympiads, and, as one of the top players in the U.S., his position at the top of the crosstable was not a big surprise. But Enrico overcame his underdog status against a much higher-rated opponent, with the black pieces to boot. He is such a friendly and affable person that it was very pleasing to see him enjoy this success.

Let’s take a look at their critical last round wins:
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5

Offering a Benoni. A daring move, it seemed to me ... the Benoni isn’t the most solid of openings, and is barely seen at the top level these days, but Enrico wanted a sharp struggle from the opening and didn’t mind the risk.

4. d5 exd5 5. cxd5 d6 6. e4 g6 7. f4 Bg7 8. Bb5+

Bareev plays the Taimanov system, his pet line against the Benoni and also the one considered the most dangerous for Black.

8. ... Nfd7

An awkward retreat, but one that Black is forced to make unless he wants to deal with e5 on the next move.

9. a4

We’ve reached one of the branches for Black in this variation. He can proceed with castling, or throw in a check on h4 which weakens White’s kingside a bit but also costs Black a tempo.

9. ... Qh4+


10. g3 Qe7 11. Nf3 0–0

Taking the pawn with 11. ... Bxc3+ 12. bxc3 Qxe4+ 13. Kf2 is considered dangerous for Black.

12. 0–0 Na6 13. Re1 Nb4

It’s only move 13, but we’ve reached the turning point of the game. When I caught up with Enrico after the round and asked him where White had lost the game, he told me that he actually wasn’t sure. Well, that made me curious, since I know the White side of the Benoni doesn’t just lose by force; plus, Bareev’s pet line against the Benoni happens to be my pet line, too! So I was extra motivated to figure out where
White had gone wrong.

14. Be3

I think this move is already the beginning of White’s downfall. The one key thing about this line is that White should always be on the lookout for Black’s attempt to disentangle with the ... Nf6, ... Bg4 maneuver. And in the next few moves, Black is allowed to carry out that plan with no hindrance whatsoever. (I’d actually reached this exact position a few years ago, and opted for the most direct plan: the e5 breakthrough, based on my memory of a quick Tal victory against Velimirovic in 1982. But my opponent defended better than Velimirovic, and I was left unconvinced by the whole approach. Today I’d go for the prophylactic retreat 14. Bf1. The bishop has exhausted his usefulness on b5, and it’s time to bring him back to support the kingside, particularly the h3-square. The little pawn move h2-h3 often figures into White’s plans. Unclear is 14. e5 dxe5 15. d6 Qe6 16. Bxe5 d5 17. Bf1 Nxe5 18. Nxe5 Bxe5 19. Bxe5 Qxe5 20. d7 Bxd7 21. Qxd7 Krush, I - Smetanikin, S/Chicago, USA 2006.)

14. ... Nf6 15. Bd2

This really passive retreat is what truly hands the initiative over to Black. White had to cease the maneuvering and allow for some concrete variations to occur on the board. I could understand why that would be difficult psychologically—relinquishing some control, and getting into move-by-move combat, rather than White squeezing Black off the board at his leisure. Still, it had to be done. The critical try for White, and really quite consistent since Black has just given up control of the e5-square, is 15. e5 Ng4 16. Ne4! Nxe4 17. Rxe4 and for example, if 17. ... dxe5 18. d6 Qd8 19. Nxe4 White has some very impressive ponies in the center; even 15. Kg2 looks preferable to 15. Bd2, since Black isn’t really threatening the e4-pawn, i.e., 15. ... Nxe4 16. Bxc5 dxc5 17. Nxe4.

15. Bg4

Of course, the first chance he gets, Black develops the bishop to g4.

16. Kg2 a6 17. Bf1

In light of what follows, the bishop was probably better off on c4.

17. ... Qd7!

A multifunctional move, threatening ... Bh3+, indirectly targeting the d5-pawn, thus making it harder for White to push through e5 in the future, and supporting a potential ... b5.

18. Qb3 Bh3+ 19. Kh1 Bxf1 20. Rxf1

Black traded off the light-squared bishops, thus leaving White with light-squared weaknesses all over the board. White can only dream of pushing e4-e5 now, which is supposed to be his main plan in these positions!

20. ... b5 21. axb5 axb5 22. Rad1 Qb7

This is very natural, but Black can also consider the more ambitious 22. ... Nd3, since after 23. Nxb5 (23. Qxb5 Qxg5 24. Nxb5 Nxe4 is good for Black) 23. ... c4! 24. Qxc4 Nxb5 25. Qc2 Qxc2 26. dxc2 Nxe1 27. Rxe1 Nxe4 and Black should be able to convert the extra Exchange.

23. Bc1 Rad8

As before, Black puts indirect pressure on d5 so as to make e4-e5 unplayable.

24. Rf1f1 Re8

White can’t execute e4-e5, and is left without a plan.

25. Kg2 Nd3!

The rest of the game saw Black convert his advantage, though not without giving his opponent some chances.


It apparently, this is Varuzh’s new weapon against the Meran, which he first unveiled at the U.S. Championship in May. Prior to that, he’d been employing the system with Bg5 (1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 e6 5. Bg5). The change has already paid some dividends, as it gave him a victory against Julio Becerra-Rivero in St. Louis, and now this game. Both won in fine positional style, by the way!

7. ... 0-0 8. 0-0 dxc4 9. Bxc4 b5

The flexible move, 9. ... e6, not committing to ... b5 yet, seems to be the choice of the top grandmasters. It’s also what Shulman went for against Varuzh in St. Louis.

10. Be2 Bb7 11. Rd1

Now Black is forced to determine the position of his queen, since White threatens e4 to which Black needs to be able to respond with ... e5. Julio chose 11. ... Qc7.

11. ... Qb8 12. e4 e5 13. dxe5 Nxe5 14. Nd4

After the game, Varuzh expressed puzzlement over Fressinet going into a “bad line.” I’m assuming he was happy with his position by this point.

14. ... Ng6

14. ... Neg4 15. g3 (15. h3 allows a dangerous piece sac: 15. ... Bh2+! 16. Kf1 Nxf2 17. Kxf2 b4 18. Na4 c5 19. Nxc5 b3 20. Bf3 and now for example Black has 20. ... Nhd7 21. ... b4 16. Bxb4 Nxa4 17. Na4 seems to give White a better game, as his knights have nice squares.

uschess.org Chess Life — September 2009 21

Chess Life — September 2009 21
15. g3 Re8 16. Bg5 Be5

Since it becomes clear within a few moves that Black’s play was a strategic failure, now is the time to search for improvements. 16. ... b4?! 17. Bxf6 gxf6—Black often accepts this pawn structure in this line, so it’s not yet the total positional capitulation it seems: 18. Na4 c5—another thematic move; obviously Black desperately needs to create counterplay: 19. Nxc5 Rc8 20. Ndb3 a5!? (on 20. ... Bxc5 21. Nxc5 Qe5, White has the amazing unpinning resource: 22. Qb3! and whatever takes on c5, White gets back the piece with Rd7) 21. Bg4 a4 (21. ... Rc6 22. Bd7) 22. Bxc8 axb3 23. axb3 Rxa1 24. Nxb7 Qc7!! 25. Qe2 Rxd1+ 26. Qxd1 Bf8 27. Qd7 Qc2 with counterplay for Black.

OK, I’m not claiming that 16. ... b4 is so amazing for Black. I’m just trying to give Var and Sargissian something to work on in their next training session.

17. Nf5 Re6

This move strikes me as a little too “defensive.” Apparently, the sole idea of it is to bolster the Nf6, so that the bishop can retreat without worries after f4. But in that case, why did the bishop go to e5, anyway? Perhaps Black should take his chances with a sharp continuation like 17. ... b4 18. Na4 (18. Bxf6 Bxf6 19. Na4 Bc8 20. Nd6 Rd8) 18. ... Nxe4 19. Qxe4 Bxb2. Objectively, it should be good for White, but at least it changes the momentum; 17. ... Bxc3 is another attempt to make things messy: 18. Qxc3 b4 19. Qxb4 Nxe4.

18. f4 Bc7


19. Bf3

At last, the time has come when White no longer has to worry about the e4-pawn.


I guess Var saw no reason to go for 21. e5 bxc3 22. exf6 cxb2 23. Qxb2 c5.

21. ... Rxf6 22. Na4 c5 23. Rf1

Preparing e5.

23. ... Qe8


24. Rad1 Bc6 25. b3 Rd8 26. Rxd8 Qxd8 27. e5

A simple positional move—White realizes the potential of the four-on-three majority on the kingside. 27. Nxc5 Bb5 28. Rd1 Qc7 doesn’t look like anything White wants to be involved in.

Freddie

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the National Open’s calling Vegas home, and the final time that Freddie Gruenberg, the man behind it for all these years, would be involved in its organization. Freddie is 75 years old now and feels that his other businesses need him more than the National Open does at this point. He’s confident about leaving the tournament in the hands of Al Losoff and Bill Sneed, both of whom have been running it with him almost from the beginning. I got a chance to talk to Freddie on the phone one evening, picking up some National Open history along the way, and discovered what sort of ethos shaped the National Open into what it is.

One of the questions I asked Freddie was about his experience as a chess organizer, i.e., did he ever get tired of the grumblings and complaints of chess players over the smallest little things? To which Freddie related the following story: in 1984, many time U.S. Champion Walter Browne asked if they could switch his room to one that was closer to the playing hall so that he could get an additional three minutes sleep in the morning. They moved him closer. Then he asked if they could put a carpet on the stairs leading to the stage, because the stairs were squeaky. A carpet appeared. Then it turned out that Walter’s table also squeaked, so a carpet appeared underneath it, too. Finally, Walter asked if he could have an extra light by his board; the reply? “Absolutely.”

This anecdote conveys a simple truth: the National Open is a tournament for the players. The ones at the top of the chess food chain receive special perks, like free entry and hotel room, but as Freddie says, “every single player is important to us.” One of my favorite National Open traditions was born out of this philosophy: years ago, people who scored 3½ to 4½ points and didn’t win a prize complained about leaving empty-handed, so the National Open found a way to reward them, too. For the past decade, anyone who earns a plus score in any section receives a $50 gift certificate for the well-stocked bookstore.

Freddie made it clear that complaints were viewed as an opportunity to create a better experience for the players. In fact, the National Open values complaints so much that for next year they’re planning a “Walter Browne” prize for “Most Outrageous Complaints.” I know; it’s unfair. Grandmasters have the edge in this contest, too.

~Irina Krush
27. ... Bxf3+ 28. Rxf3 Re6 29. Qe4

Black has a big edge after 29. Nxc5?? Rc6.

29. ... Qe8 30. Qd5 Ne7 31. Nxe7+ Qxe7 32. Nb2! g6 33. Nc4

This is one of those cases when the knight dominates the bishop. White has a space advantage, plus he will control the only open file on the board. All these positional pluses mean that victory is very close ...

33. ... Bc7 34. Qa8+ Qe8 35. Qxe8+

35. Qxa7? Qc6 and Black gets counterplay.

35. ... Rxe8 36. Rd3 Re6

Trading down into the minor piece endgame was a valid option. White maintains his huge advantage there, but he still needs to play accurately. 36. ... Rd8 37. Rxd8+ Bxd8 38. Kf3 f5 and this move is forced, to prevent the king going to d5. Now White faces a big decision about whether to take on f6 with \textit{en passant}, or leave the pawn structure as is, for example going Ke3-d3-Ne3-Kc4. I won't go into long variations here, but this looks like a good position to play out if you're trying to improve your endgame technique.


MonRoi says that the game ended here. I guess Fressinet got tired of playing his role in this positional catastrophe. The game could have continued 42. Kd5 Kd7 43. Re2 Rb6 44. Kxc5.

As for myself, I didn't quite manage to repeat my successful outing at the 2007 National Open, where I scored 4½/6 and tied for top Under 2500, but I can't complain. I came to this year's event riding an emotional high and a physical low, but being a little constrained by space here won't be able to regale you with the tales that led to this particular combination (which apparently results in a score of four from six). I will, however, relate one anecdote of how providence smiled down upon me.

Friday, the first day of the tournament, was a really tough day, as I was at the nadir of my physical strength. I was having a hard time fighting against the salmon I had ordered for lunch, and I prayed that I would get paired down for the evening round, so that I'd have a chance to sleep and recover some strength before facing someone stronger the next day. Well, it turned out that I just made the cut, and was the last person to be paired down, to an unknown unrated player. Within a minute of meeting my opponent (who seemed like a nice guy), I started developing the feeling that he was not quite like the other guys I was used to facing. He was a different breed ... he was new to chess. It was very likely that this was his first chess tournament. I felt this very keenly before he even played 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 d5?! at which point I had to stop myself from laughing as I saw Alex Lenderman grinning widely at me from his board across the table. What gave it away? It was everything, the way he moved the pieces, the way he pressed the clock, the whole demeanor at the board, and to be honest, he simply didn't have the word chess etched onto his face that I am used to seeing.

I realized it's hard to fake being a seasoned chess player. It's hard to fake the latent intensity, the look of a person who's spent thousands of hours on the mental and psychological battleground of the 64 squares and is ready to add six more hours to that, if that's what it takes. And, yes, it's definitely a low frequency sound, but chess players are like elephants in this regard.

My most interesting game from the tournament was against Alisa Melekhina, who'll be my teammate at the Women's World Team Championship in China by the time you're reading this. It's far from a perfect game, but there are some beautiful lines lurking in there. Enjoy!

Closed Sicilian (B26)

WIM Alisa Melekhina (2315)
IM Irina Krush (2482)
National Open (5), 06.07.2009

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. d3 d6 6. Be3 Nf6

I chose this solid setup, instead of e7-e6, ... Nge7 for instance, under the influence of Kasparov's convincing victory over Fedorov in Wijk aan Zee 2001. I didn't even realize that that game had never been a 'proper' Closed Sicilian, since Fedorov dispensed with Nc3 altogether. I just tried to carry out what I remembered of Kasparov's ideas, and despite the altered circumstances, the result was equally happy for Black.

7. h3 Rb8 8. Nge2 0-0

I wanted to proceed with 8. ... b5 but changed my mind after noticing 9. d4! cxd4 10. Nxd4 Nx d4 11. Bxd4 b4 12. Nd5; this wasn't the sort of game I was looking for.

9. Qd2 b5 10. 0-0 b4 11. Nd1

11. Nd5 e6 12. Nxf6+ Bxf6 and Black has a comfortable game.

11. ... a5 12. Kh2

I have to say, this move seemed rather indulgent to me. It's useful if White insists on carrying out the Bh6 plan, but the course of the game shows that Bh6 only led to problems. Instead, 12. f4 looks like a reasonable try. During the game, I calculated 12. Bh6 Bxh6 13. Qxh6 Nd4! forcing the retreat of White's queen to d2, since the exchange on d4 is very favorable to Black. 14. Qd2 Bxh3! (that's what the king came to h2 to prevent) 15. Nxd4 Bxg2 16. Nc6 Qd7. I got up to here, and decided it was good for Black, though it's actually pretty balanced after 17. Nxe7+ Qxe7 18. Kxg2 d5. We're on move 18 of an obscure Closed Sicilian ... but this entire line had already been mentioned in annotations I later stumbled across in ChessBase!

12. ... Ba5 13. Bh6 Bxh6 14. Qxh6 c4

A replication of Kasparov's play: advance the queenside pawns, put the bishop on a6, and break against the pivotal point in White's queen chain while their queen is dawdling on the kingside.

15. dxc4 Ne5

There was a big choice between this move and the bishop recapture, which would have went 15. ... Bxc4 16. Qd2 Qc7 17. Ne3 Bxe2 18. Qxe2. Basically it came down to whether Black wanted to trade his bishop for White's knight, or trade a pair of knights. I think I chose right, but my doubts tormented me at the time.

16. Ne3

16. b3 Neg4 wins the queen.

16. ... Nxc4

16. ... Bxc4 was again possible.

17. Rfe1?

(see diagram top of next page)

This move took me by surprise—after all, the b2-pawn is hanging. I was expecting 17. Nxc4 Bxc4 18. Qd2 Qb6 (tying down the rook to f2, so that White can't unpin immediately) 19. Kg1 and Black

uschess.org Chess Life — September 2009 23
has various ways to maintain a better game, such as: 19. ... Rfc8 20. Rfd1 Bxe2 (20. ... Nh5? 21. Nf4 Nxf4 22. Qxf4 Rc5 is very good for Black) 21. Qxe2 Qc5 22. Rd2 a4 or 19. ... Bxe2 20. Qxe2 Qd4 21. Rab1 Rfc8 22. Rfd1 Qc4. I faced another difficult decision. Should I call the ‘bluff’ with the materialistic ... Nxb2, or make a less ambitious move that preserves Black’s advantage with no risk? Also, I couldn’t even evaluate how much of a bluff Rfe1 was. My intuition told me that taking the pawn was a valid option, in objective terms. But one thing was indisputable: if I took the pawn, the nature of the game would change completely, and I’d be on the defensive, entering complications whose consequences I knew I wouldn’t be able to calculate. I made the safer move, and with hindsight, I still don’t regret it.

17. ... Qb6

A very simple move that takes control of the key d4-square, while threatening White with an exchange on e3 (a positional catastrophe). 17. ... Nxb2 18. Nd4—the point. With Rfe1, White unpinned and now the knight can come to a very powerful position in the center, threatening not only the Nc6 fork, but also a knight sacrifice on f5. Black would again have to make a major decision about how to deal with Nc6; 18. ... Rc8, 18. ... Rb6, 18. ... Bb7—all these moves have their particularities. I won’t shower you with variations, although it’s impossible to make sense of this position without them. Let me just say that after ... Rc8 or ... Bb7, White develops their attack with a combination of e5! (opening up lines) and Ne5, while after ... Rb6 White can go in another direction, Nd5, which is what I feared during the game.

18. Ng1

Another big surprise. This move basically indicates a “burning the bridges” attitude towards the position (incidentally, that was the spirit of Fedorov’s play, too). White surrenders the center/queenside in hopes of a decisive attack on the kingside. But such an approach simply has no justification, since it’s Black who’s had the better position ever since the c5-c4 break. What I’m trying to say is: when you’re worse, you should defend, not attack—unless your position is so hopeless that there is nothing to lose. But I don’t think that’s the case here. I still thought White would trade knights: 18. Nxc4 Bxc4 19. Kg1 and sure, Black is better, but White can hang in there.

18. ... Rfc8

Indirectly threatening the c2-pawn.

19. Rac1 Nxe3 20. Rxe3

Objectively, 20. Qxe3 Qxe3 21. Rxe3 is still the best continuation, but White didn’t play 18. Ng1 to trade queens and suffer in a clearly worse endgame.

20. ... Qd4

Black’s queen uses the abandoned center to do some pawn shopping.

21. Nf3 Qxb2 22. Rb3 Qxa2 23. Ng5

White brought the knight into position, and threatens things like e5 or Rf3, or a combination of the two. Black can handle the position in different ways, but in my subsequent moves, I just opt for the most direct, principled approach.

23. ... Rxc2 24. Rxc2 Qxc2

24. ... Qxb3 25. Rc7 Re8 26. e5 dxe5 27. Rc6 Rc8 28. Rxe7 Bc4! Because of this move, 24. ... Qxb3 was a worthy alternative to what I played.

25. e5!

I only noticed this move on Alisa’s time, and reproposed myself for not noticing it when I should have: on my think at move 23. It doesn’t change the evaluation of the position (that Black is winning) but it does create maximum chances for White. Instead, I spent my time calculating 25. Rf3 and was very pleased when I found the antidote: 25. ... Rb5! with the point that on 26. Rxf6 Black responds with a counter sac on g5—26. ... Rxg5 27. Qxg5 28. Qxf6 Qc5 giving the edge to Black.

25. ... dxe5

25. ... Qxb3 is the first step in a forced line: 26. exf6 exf6 27. Qxh7+ Kf8 28. Qh8+ Ke7 29. Qxb8 fxg5 30. Qa7+ Ke6 31. Qxa6 but it ends well for White (meaning that she not going to lose).

26. Rf3

(see diagram top of next column)

Here it is, the critical position of this part of the game. So far, Black has consistently taken the material that White offered, and White’s down to the final (but powerful) threat. How should Black defend against Rxf6?

26. ... Rb7?

A complete miscalculation. The convincing refutation of White’s play would have been 26. ... Qc6!, a move that didn’t even occur to me during the game, probably because it’s so unnatural to place one’s pieces in line with a potential discovered attack. The main point is that on Rxf6 I can take back with the queen, and cover the h8 and f7 squares.

27. Rxf6 exf6 28. Qxh7+

I had looked at the immediate Bxb7, and not appreciated what a different it makes when White eliminates the h7-pawn first. Right, pretty pathetic calculation.

28. ... Kf8 29. Bxb7 Qxf2+ 30. Bg2

Now the problem is that on 30. ... fxg5, White goes 31. Qh8+ Ke7 32. Qxe5+ and there is no way to escape from the checks. The only way to continue the game was:

30. ... Bc4 31. Qh8+ Ke7 32. Qc8

We were completely on the same page about this natural move, but it turns out to be a mistake. 32. Ne4 Qb6! a nice square for the queen, guarding the f6-pawn and the queenside; 32. Nb7! a find of the computer; the idea is to use the f8 and f6 squares for counterplay, i.e., 32. ... Bd5 33. Qf8+ Kd7 34. Nxf6+ Qxf6 35. Bxd5 Qf2+ 36. Bg2 b3 37. Qa8 b2 38. Qd5+ Ke8 39. Qxe5+ which is equal.

32. ... fxg5

Forced if Black hopes to keep an advantage, otherwise the queen and knight drum up too much counterplay.

33. Qxc4 Qb6

I thought that Black had reasonable winning chances here.

34. Qd5?

34. Bd5 was probably a better defensive try.

34. ... Kf6 35. Qf3+ Kg7 36. Qd5 Qd4

36. ... a4! should have won the game: 37. Qxe5+ Qf6 38. Qb5 (38. Qxf6+ Kxf6 is winning for Black) 38. ... a3! I missed this move, calculating only 38. ... b3 39.
Qxa4 b2 40. Qc2, when White stops the pawn from queening. Black is easily winning after 39. Qxb4 a2.

37. Qxa5 b3 38. Qe1 b2

39. Be4 f5 40. Bb1 e4 41. Kg2

I had a long think after the time control, and decided to place my king a little further away from White's queen.

41. ... Kh6 42. Qa5

An active move, which looked very suspect to me. I thought White should wait with something like 42. Kf1. Now I started calculating a win.

42. ... f4

After this, the play is forced for a few moves. White has to respond to this pawn advance by creating breathing room for the king, which is what Alisa does. 42. ... e3 was a candidate, but White has 43. Qa3!

43. gxf4 gxf4 44. h4 f3+ 45. Kh3

Here I spent a really huge chunk of time. Yes, the win exists, but it's very well hidden ...

45. ... Qd7+!

The first move to check out, of course, is 45. ... Qg1 but White has 46. Qd2+ Kh5 (46. ... e3 47. Qxb2 is equal; 46. ... g5 47. Bxe4 Qh1+ 48. Kg3 Qxh4+ 49. Kxf3 Qxe4+ 50. Kxe4 b1=Q+ 51. Kf3 is even) 47. Qd5+ is equal because on 47. ... g5 White has 48. Qf7+; 45. ... Qe3 also came up for examination, but I didn't see anything after 46. Qd8 f2+ 47. Kg2; White always has defenses based on perpetual check. Finally, let's look at Black's beautiful, study-like path to victory: 45. ...

Qd7+! 46. Kg3 Qd6+ 47. Kh3 f2 48. Qg5+ (48. Kg2 e3) 48. ... Kg7 49. Kg2. I got to this point, and concluded that it was a dead end, but ... 49. ... e3!!

Analysis after 49. ... e3

50. Qxe3 Qh2+!! 51. Kxh2 f1=Q+ Wow, how often is it that the best pawn promotion is to a knight? 52. Kg2 Qxe4 53. Kf3 Nc4 54. Kf4 Nd2 55. Bd3 Kh6! A final bit of accuracy, ensuring that White won't be able to swap the last pair of pawns. Incredible what beauty lurks in the depths of a position.

46. Qd2+??

We both missed that White has an immediate draw with 46. Bxe4! Qe6+ 47. Kg3 Qxe4. This looks completely losing for White, but they're saved by the resource 48. Qc3! which equalizes, winning the b2-pawn with the threat of mate on h8, and the f3-pawn isn't going anywhere.

46. ... g5??

I have no idea what sort of mental block prevented me from playing the winning 46. ... Kh5. After all, 47. Bxe4 Qxh4 is mate, and 47. Qa5+ g5 (47. ... Qf5+ should win, also) is winning. Instead I calculated 47. Bxe4 Qe6+ 48. Kg3 Qxe4 49. Qg5 and I'm the one that's mated. That scared me off 46. ... Kh5. Another example of my calculating prowess here.

47. hxg5+

This simple capture liquidates to an immediate draw. Alisa spent a long time here, and I started calculating a fantastical variation that started with 47. Bxe4 Qe6+ 48. Kg3 (48. Kh2 Qxe4 49. Qxg5+ Kh7 and amazingly, White has no more checks on an open board.) 48. ... Qxg4 49. hxg5+ Kh5 50. Qxb2 and here I was wondering: is it a win? is it a draw? (50. Qb2+ forcing the king to g5 isn't a good idea, since it gives Black the Qf4 check later: 50. ... Kxg5 51. Qxb2 Qf4+ 52. Kf2 Qh2+) 50. ... Qg4+ 51. Kh2 Qh4+ 52. Kg1 Qe1+ 53. Kh2.

Analysis after 53. Kh2

53. ... Qe2+! Ultimately, Black wins by forcing a queen trade, with just a single pair of pawns left! It would have been so nice to win this way ...

47. ... Qxg5 48. Qxb2

I had forgotten that White could take that pawn.

48. ... Qh5+ 49. Kg3 Qg5+ 50. Kh3 Qh5+ 51. Kg3, Draw agreed.
LONG-TIME CHESS LIFE PHOTOGRAPHER NIGEL EDDIS died in New York City at age 72 on January 11, 2009, from complications involving a heart ailment. He leaves behind his wife, Anne, a violinist with the New York City Opera Orchestra, and three children, Timothy, Christine and Tatiana Eddis.

Nigel also leaves behind a fund of fond memories for those who knew him and an enormous oeuvre of chessic and non-chessic photographs, which millions of newspaper and magazine readers enjoyed over several decades.

There are many wonderful stories about Nigel Edward Athelstan Eddis, a 6-foot-6 inch Englishman, who was every whit as imposing as his name suggests. He was born in London on March 2, 1936, the son of Michael Upton and Marcelle Eddis. Michael was a brilliant classicist at Eton before World War I intervened. He served on the Western Front as a lieutenant in the Royal Horse Artillery until being gassed and shell-shocked. Marcelle was a cousin of novelist Daphne du Maurier of Rebecca fame. Nigel attended Westminster, one of the five great public schools of England, while his brother went to Eton.

In the 1950s, Nigel fought for Her Majesty's forces against a communist insurrection in what was then called Malaya and is today known as Malaysia, which is where this writer now lives and works. He was unmolested by the enemy and returned whole in body and mind. His worst or, more accurately, most amusing moment was having to curl up his long person under a short bed in circumstances redolent of Anthony Burgess’ steamy Beds in the East, a tome in that author’s Malayan Trilogy.

Nigel later became involved in a second war. Having retired in the early 1990s from full-time photography because of the profession’s physical demands, he went to work for Tiger Information Systems at 130 William Street, a few hundred yards from the ill-fated Twin Towers, or what became known as Ground Zero. At 9 a.m., on September 11, 2001, about 15 minutes after American Airlines Flight 11 plowed into the North Tower, and about three minutes before United Airlines Flight 175 hit the South Tower, my friend arrived at his office to find panicked people rushing to and fro, grabbing belongings in a rush to abandon the building. Flashlight in hand, Nigel headed to the building’s roof to switch off the central air-conditioning unit. Amid a whirlwind of black soot and white powder that had turned a bright morning into dark night, he fulfilled the important mission. His hair and clothes covered with a white powder, he began a five-hour trek uptown, along with tens of thousands of other New Yorkers.

Now seems the moment to explain that Nigel and I met shortly following my appointment as Chess Life editor in 1984. Thanks in part to our common background involving the Malay Peninsula,
we got on well right from the start. As an editor, I wanted the services of a professional New York photographer who was a superb craftsman; as a friend, I enjoyed his company at the many chess events we covered during the ensuing four years. His loss is devastating to those of us who admired him. The many places that knew him—famous chess clubs, friendly neighborhood restaurants, the great public areas of New York City, the venues of celebrated chess tournaments—shall know him no more.

A PHOTOGRAPHER’S MEMORY

Nigel was literate in the older sense of gathering his learning from great books rather than from television documentaries. His Latin was formidable (he once managed a short telephone conversation in that ancient tongue with my classicist mother, which was more than I could ever do); his German was totally fluent (he translated one of Emanuel Lasker’s non-chess works); and his memory for poetry nearly eidetic. He could chatter off entire sections of Milton, and I will never forget an afternoon when I brought to his apartment my personal translation of Virgil’s *Aeneid*, done in fourth-year high school Latin. I expected to impress my dear friend, and he responded by reciting, without sight of any text, his own off-the-cuff interlinear translation of the great epic poem.


PICTURE OF A PHOTOGRAPHER

For those who did not know Nigel, he could appear a very tall, exceedingly arrogant Englishman with an accent so “veddy-veddy-upper-upper” that he made Queen Elizabeth sound like Edward G. Robinson in *Little Caesar*. As former USCF executive director Al Lawrence wrote recently in a nice snapshot of Nigel, “I remember how he would punctuate a sardonic comment with an oblique glance, backed up with a wide co-conspirator’s grin—and all coming down to you from a great height.”

Such was the surface Nigel.

The real Nigel was as kind and generous as they come. As a young man, he was very fond of a lady who was mentally drowning in bipolar schizophrenia. Not yet married, he spent over a year attending constantly to her needs, trying to save her. In the end, he failed. She committed suicide. It is a measure of my friend that he never breathed a word to me about this horrendous physical and moral trial. I learned the story from his family. Too, when I had a wrenching affair of the heart a few decades back, he traveled from New York City to my home in Newburgh, the city being also the location back then of USCF headquarters. His attitude: “I’ll hold your hand if necessary, so please buck up, can’t be as bad as all that.” His warm common sense—no, make that the soul of the man himself—was wonderful beyond ready reckoning.

Over the years, I ate dinner several dozen times with Nigel at his large apartment on the Upper West Side. These feasts were collaborations. Since we were both Old Malaya hands—my first stint over here being from 1978 to 1982—the menu always fea-
Remembrance

His portrait of Filipp Frenkel on page 68 of the January 1987 issue rendered mercilessly the man’s lugubrious mien. I said at the time to Nigel, “That’s not a photograph. That’s a statement.”

tured Basmati rice, aromatic Indian pickle, crackling papadam, soothing raita and, to be sure, an extravagant serving of two curried chickens with the wings, drumsticks and breasts swimming in buttery ghee. All of which we washed down with copious cuppas of Tiger Beer, a robust Singaporean lager.

Conversations during these dinners will correct one misimpression: all was not, thank heaven, boring sweetness and light between us. We had terrific rows over uncontroversial issues such as personal religious convictions and war. Voices raised, hands waved, insults flew. Quoting from Lord Melbourne on Thomas Macaulay, Nigel once shouted, “I wish I was as cocksure of anything as you, Parr, are about everything!”

An always happy topic during these sybaritic repasts was Edward VII, the son of Victoria Regina, and as history records, her successor to the British throne. Edward the Eater was the greatest gourmet and sturdiest trencherman not only in the history of the British monarchy but, arguably, in the long histories of all other European royal houses. From Edward, with his expansive girth, it was the shortest of verbal byways into descriptive discussions of those persons, notably wide of body and head, who have sat on USCF governing boards over the decades.

Enter the subject of chess politics.
PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES

Nigel was a founder—along with GMs Larry Evans and Lev Alburt, Robert Cohen and this writer—of the famous or, depending on one’s viewpoint, infamous Friends of the USCF. We published a series of USCF Delegates Newsletters that presented what might be called negative pictures of Federation governance, though usually with a humor that the sad subject warranted. These newsletters are, I am told, highly valued by chess political cognoscenti. To his credit, long-time policy board member Jerry Hanken cheerfully concedes, these days, that an article we wrote on how he lost his pants at an official meeting ended his career in USCF electoral politics. We managed to elect a few members to the board, a fact publicly known, and two members in our secret capacity as their campaign managers, the details of which to this day remain sub rosa.

Flushed with these successes, I talked Nigel into running for the policy board in 1992 against Donald Schultz, who later served a term as Federation president. This was one of the few times that I was able to prevail upon my friend to do something against his settled judgment. Our official excuse, shortly after we got swamped in an electoral tsunami, was that Nigel spent most of the time in Brazil during the campaign, arranging to adopt a baby. That baby is today a splendid young lady, who is a cherished part of the Eddis family.

Now is the time to admit that Friends chairman, GM Larry Evans, and I figured that Nigel got as many votes as he did precisely because he was unable to do much campaigning. I was with him while he made a handful of phone calls to selected delegates at the beginning of the campaign and, after his return from Brazil, at the very end. These calls were disasters because he practiced conversation sans tergiversation, a practice that is morally praiseworthy but socially disastrous. One delegate, who began a call predisposed toward Nigel, announced he would campaign for Mr. Schultz. The delegate had requested Nigel’s views on a certain Federation political figure, and I heard my friend answer with over-the-top British drollery, “The blighter wants lynching from an honest English oak.”

Nearly in tears, I begged Nigel to get into the spirit of a typical, mealy-mouthed American political campaign. His response was unforgettable, and I can paraphrase it fairly closely: “Larry, strange as it may seem to you, I think of myself as a British gentleman. No, really—I do. And I will not tailor my tongue to the views of a woolly-headed Federation delegate.”

Nigel, alas, was not political candidate material. Instead, along with Catherine Jaeg of France, he was one of the two best chess photographers ever to snap a shutter.

IM John Donaldson described this Eddis effort as “Classic Larsen!”
PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORIES

Nigel Eddis contributed photographs to *Chess Life* from the early 1970s until the first years of the new century. His work was nearly always technically perfect, and his compositions, though simple and mainstream, were subtle. He had a gift for drawing out the essential character or lack thereof of his subjects. People never said that an Eddis photograph looked like, say, Mikhail Tal. They said it was Tal or whoever.

My friend provided *Chess Life* readers many photographic memories. His April 1977 cover shot of a feral, young IM Michael Rohde was a candid, totally uncompromising bit of genius that IM Mark Ginsburg in his web blog stated “deserved some kind of journalism prize.” The photo portrait of GM Arnold Denker in the November 1985 issue (see page 24) is as elegant and energetic as was the man himself. Nigel produced an image of Hungarian WGM Maria Ivanka on page 23 of the October 1986 issue that was a deep study in desirable, intelligent, strong femininity. His portrait of Filipp Frenkel on page 68 of the January 1987 issue rendered mercilessly the man’s lugubrious mien. I said at the time to Nigel, “That’s not a photograph. That’s a statement.”

The outstanding Eddis achievement during my time as *Chess Life* editor was his photo portrait of Danish GM Bent Larsen on page 23 of the July 1986 issue. It may be the slickest, yet subtlest and most bouncingly vibrant study ever to appear in a chess publication. IM John Donaldson described this Eddis effort as “Classic Larsen!” For true enough: the photograph did not merely look like Larsen; it was Larsen.

Any discussion of chess photography at the peak of the profession must deal with the styles and merits of both Nigel Eddis and, as already mentioned, Catherine Jaeg, whose best efforts were published in *Black & White Passion* (1990). Ms. Jaeg’s work often shows the drama of telling moments at a chess event by employing strikingly original angles that produce equally novel compositions, while Nigel’s creations sought to extract, as if by force at times, the essence of a player’s person or mood. A less talented photographer than Jaeg, which is to say nearly everyone aside from Nigel who ever contributed photos to a chess magazine, might render static, staid clichés of trophy and cash presentations. A less talented photographer than Nigel would render cardboard faces—all alike, save in their surface physiognomy.
... [would he] consider getting into a single-engine aircraft, flying over the area, leaning out an open window of said aircraft, while it tipped at a suitably alarming angle ...

A PICTURE OF LOYALTY

How does a chess magazine, the precincts of which make the chill penury of a Dickensian poor house feel like a warm bedroom in Hugh Hefner’s Playboy mansion, inveigle highly paid professionals into its service?

“To a newspaperman,” old-time radio wit Fred Allen once said, “a human being is an item with the skin wrapped around it.” Ditto, to magazine editors. We do what we must—to get what we will.

Because of our common interest in Malaysia, Nigel and I, as already noted, quickly became friends as well as business associates. Staying friends would not prove difficult; retaining his services was always challenging. He had a family and professional pride, and the checks from Chess Life did not often balance the pay scale. In the case of the 1985 U.S. Open in Hollywood, Florida, I prevailed on chief organizer GM Denker to provide my friend with substantial travel money and free accommodations. At several World Opens, Nigel provided his services because that premier chess organizer Bill Goichberg footed some of the expenses.

Yet it was the same 1985 Hollywood U.S. Open that prompted an example of Nigel’s dedication to Chess Life and professional ethics that was above and beyond the call of the dollar. My friend, you see, had a phobia against flying. He had just spent 25 hours on a train from New York to Florida so as to avoid all opportunities to crash headlong into the ground from 40,000 feet. Then, one day at the tournament, international arbiter Carol Jarecki announced she was taking up her plane to get a view of the beautiful beachside hotel where the competition was being held.

I asked Nigel whether he would consider getting into a single-engine aircraft, flying over the area, leaning out an open window of said aircraft, while it tipped at a suitably alarming angle, and snapping a panoramic shot of hotel and beach. He stared straight at me, pursed his lips, checked out his camera, paused at length, and said, and I now quote with easy precision, “No.” One word. And he walked away.

A few minutes later, Nigel reported for aerial duty, went up into the wild blue yonder with pilot Jarecki, and produced a fine photograph that was also a picture of loyalty. I wrote this caption, “Talk about getting sky high. CL photographer Nigel Eddis went up in a two-seater ... to snap the Diplomat Hotel, the stunning site of this year’s U.S. Open.”

Nigel had one precondition before going up. I was not to quiz him afterward about how he felt during the flight. There was a duty to perform, he would perform it manfully, but he would not submit himself even to jocular cross-examination by a friend.

That was Nigel Eddis.
National Youth Action
November 20-22, 2009
Great New Site in Oakbrook, IL

Come visit Chicago and create a memory
you’ll cherish for a Lifetime.
Doesn’t your Family deserve the Best?

Double Tree Hotel
1909 Spring Road
Oak Brook, IL 60513
1-630-472-6000 (1-800-222-TREE)

Chess Rate $89 (single/double/triple/quad)
http://www.doubletreeoakbrook.com

Great Restaurants
World Class Museums
Sporting Events
Entertainment
Woodfield Mall
Magnificent Mile
Water Tower Place
Oakbrook Mall

The Most Fun in Chess you can have in 30 minutes
FOUR SECTIONS to choose from: K-12, K-9, K-6, K-3

CLUB TEAMS WELCOME

National Youth Action Schedule

Saturday, Nov. 21st
Rounds 1-2-3-4-5
10 am, 12 noon, 2 pm, 3:30 pm, 5 pm

Sunday Nov. 22nd
Rounds 6-7-8-9
10 am, 12 noon, 2 pm, 3:30 pm

Sunday Nov. 22nd
Awards Ceremony 5:30 pm - 7 pm

See Chess Life or check http://nya2009.com
for complete details

National Youth Action Awards List

Individuals: K-3, K-6, K-9, K-12: 1st—20th place
Teams: K-3, K-6, K-9, K-12: 1st—10th place
Class Awards
1st—3rd place
K-3: U800, U600, U400, unrated
K-6: U1000, U800, U600, unrated
K-9: U1200, U1000, U800, unrated
K-12: U1400, U1200, U1000, unrated

Register ON-LINE @ http://nya2009.com
If we stop for a moment and think about rook play, many amateur games go something like this: we play a few pawn moves and develop our minor pieces. We “connect our rooks,” meaning we develop until all our pieces are out and our king has castled. Then we post our rooks on open files. On these files, however, our rooks just sit there, watching the middlegame proceed as spectators. If there are no decisive mistakes in the middlegame we proceed to an endgame.

Finally, we think, it is safe for our rooks to really fight! In the endgame, our rooks become leading stars, and we battle over open files, where exchanges often occur. We shuffle our rooks back and forth, while we dream of maneuvering our rooks to the magical “seventh rank” and winning all of our opponents’ pawns.

While this analysis might seem simplistic, it’s not far from the truth. But it doesn’t have to be this way. Rooks can—and should—be used more actively. We will all benefit from expanding our perspective on the role rooks play in our games. In short, we need to make our rooks purposeful.

A fun example of the powerful role rooks can play in the middlegame occurred earlier this year in a game I played against GM Eugene Perelshteyn.

Symmetrical English (A36)
Carey Theil (2221)
GM Eugene Perelshteyn (2611)
Boylston Chess Club, March 2009

1. e4 c5 2. c4 Nc6 3. Nc3 g6 4. g3 Bg7 5. Bg2 d6 6. Nge2 h5 7. h3 e5 8. d3 Nge7 9. Nd5 Nxd5 10. cxd5 Ne7?!

After this move, Black will have difficulties finding a useful piece for his knight. Better was 10. ... Nd4 11. Nxd4 exd4 with roughly equal chances.


The critical moment in the game. After this recapture, White is better. Necessary was 15. ... dxe5! 16. Bxc5 Rc8 with interesting play. After the text, White has a clear plan: he will try to take advantage of Black’s misplaced knight and infiltrate with his rooks on the f-file.


A fun move to play over the board against a grandmaster. Note the relative position of the four rooks. White’s rooks are...
doubled on the only open file and create deadly threats on f8 and f7. Black’s rook on a8 is a spectator, and his other rook on h6 is so misplaced it’s hard not to feel sorry for him. The power of White’s two rooks is especially noteworthy. It’s hard to imagine rooks being more purposeful!

24. ... Qe7 25. Qxe7+ Kxe7 26. Rf7+ Kd8 27. Rf8+ Be8 28. Rxg8  

... and White eventually won.

So the recipe for purposeful rooks is simple, right? Open files, place your rooks on them, penetrate into the enemy position and win! Unfortunately, it’s not always going to be that easy.

How NOT to activate
GM Colin McNab (FIDE 2427)  
GM Jonathan Rowson (FIDE 2558)  
2004 Scottish Championship

White has a strong center, but at the moment does not have any good central breaks. 11. c5 dxc5 12. dxc5 would ruin White’s pawn structure. 11. d5 is equally bad, creating outposts for Black’s knights on c5, e5 and allowing access to the d3-square. 11. Ba3 suggests itself, but after b6 the bishop will be poorly placed. So by process of elimination, we arrive at 11. Rb1. After all, what can be wrong with putting our rook on the half-open b-file? This is the move McNab chose, but unfortunately for him in this case “activating” the queen-side rook is a mistake.

11. Rb1 b6 12. f3 exf3 13. Qxf3 Bb7!

In his insightful book, Chess for Zebras, Rowson writes: “Now that my queenside is organized, and there are no Rxb7 tricks, I have a clear advantage. 11. Rb1 was a half-move that affected the whole position.”

So what should White have done instead? Going back to the initial position, Rowson suggests 11. f3 immediately, and claims that the position is unclear after 11. ... exf3 12. Qxf3 Bg4 13. Qf6 Bh5 14. Rb1 Bb8 15. Rxb7 Rxb7 16. Bxc6 Rb8 17. Bxe8 Qxe8 with compensation for the pawn.

One lesson to be learned from this game is that rooks do not onl y need open files, they need open files where they will actually be doing something. In other words, they need to have a purpose in occupying the file. At a minimum, they need to have the prospect of having a future purpose. In the above position, Rb1 became useful only after Black could no longer respond with ... b7-b6. After 11. Rb1 b6 White had lost time and the b1-rook was going nowhere. Even worse, ... b7-b6 actually helped Black by neutralizing White’s pressure on the long diagonal. On the other hand if White had opened the long diagonal immediately with f2-f3, everything would have been different. He would have prevented ... b7-b6 by creating immediate threats against the weak b7-square. After this move, and the subsequent development of Black’s light-squared bishop, the b-file would have become purposeful and Rb1 would have made a lot of sense.

So how do we know if a rook will be purposeful on a given file? There is no clear cut answer, but there are a few signs that we can look for. An open file will likely be purposeful if one of the following are true:

1. The file provides an entry square that will allow your rook to penetrate into the enemy camp.
2. By playing your rook on the file, you can prevent the mobilization of your opponent’s pieces.
3. The file can be used as a jumping off point to allow your rook to take part in an attack on the other side of the board.
4. On the open file, your rook will apply pressure to your opponent’s position, or provoke weaknesses.

Another common mistake chess players make is to evaluate a position based on how their rooks “look,” meaning they assess the position based on the cosmetic appearance of their (and their opponent’s) rook positions, rather than through an analysis of which rooks are actually purposeful and which are not. An interesting example of cosmetically deceptive rooks occurred in our next game:

Rooks at the world championship level
GM Boris Spassky (FIDE 2650)  
GM Anatoly Karpov (FIDE 2700)  
1974 World Championship Qualifier match (Game 6)

(see diagram top of next column)

At first blush, it seems as though White is doing fine. He has a passed pawn on d6, a centralized knight on e4, and he has firm control of the c-file. In reality, however, White is in big trouble. Even more incredibly, Black’s path forward involves his use of a better rook!

31. ... Rxc2 32. Rxc2 Ke6 33. a4 a5 34. Ba3  

We have reached the critical position. White controls the c-file, and the h-file will not be useful for Black. How does he activate his rook?

34. ... Rb8!

A beautiful move. Black does not have any purpose files for his rook, so he intends to create one. Once the bishop moves and ... b7-b5 is played, the b-file will become purposeful. By contrast, White’s c2-rook controls a file that looks good, but isn’t actually very useful.

35. Rc4 Bd4 36. f4 g6 37. Ng3 exf4  

Of course, Spassky realizes the power of Karpov’s idea. Therefore, he immediately begins actions on the other side of the board. Unfortunately, these moves only serve to help Black.

38. Rxd4 fxg3 39. Kxg3 Rc8!

The realization of Karpov’s strategy. Now that White has left the c-file, Black takes control. Ironically, while the c-file was not useful for White, it is very useful for Black. If White now plays Rc4, then after the exchange of rooks Black’s strong king and better minor piece will be decisive.

40. Rd3 g5 41. Bb2 b6 42. Bd4 Rc6  

Now the d-pawn falls and with it the game.

Finally, the contrast of a purposeful
rook versus a purposeless rook was highlighted by a game I lost last year to the attacking master FM Christopher Chase.

**English Opening (A25)**

*Carey Theill (2007)*  
*FM Chris Chase (2357)*  
*Boylston Chess Club, January 2007*

1. e4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Nc3 d6 4. g3 Nc6 5. Bg2 e5 6. Ng e2 Bg4 7. h3 Be6 8. d3 Qd7 9. Nd5 Nd5 10. Rb1 c6 11. Ndc3?

This is a loss of time. Because White will win back Black’s bishop in the event of cxd5, White should leave his knight where it is and proceed with a developing move like 11. Be3.

11. ... Ne7 12. b4 0-0 13. b5 f5 14. bxc6 bxc6 15. exf5 gxf5

Understandably, White wants to activate his light-squared bishop. However, he must now deal with the positional threat of ... f5-
f4 and his pieces are not well coordinated.

16. f4 exf4 17. Bxf4 Ng6 18. Bd2?

White does not want to give up his valuable bishop. However, this is a concession he was obliged to make due to earlier missteps. Correct now is either 18. Qd2 or 18. 0-0.

18. ... f4!

The contrast between the opposing rooks is stark. Even though the White rook controls the open b-file, it has no real targets or entry squares. Nor is there any immediate prospect of using the b-file to transfer the rook to other parts of the board. The White rook is shooting blanks. By contrast, the rook on f8 is providing critical support to the f-pawn and Black’s minor pieces. Together, they are tearing the White kingside apart.


After this pawn sacrifice, Black is already at least equal and his game is easier to play. Even worse, this is an ideal position for a tactical player like Chase. I lasted another 22 moves, but eventually succumbed to the pressure.

In conclusion, to succeed, our rooks must be active participants in our games. They are not only endgame soldiers, but should also be used actively in the middlegame. Most importantly, we must strive to find ways for our rooks to be purposeful. It’s not good enough to have nice-looking rooks. They need to actually be doing something!

---

**Middlegame Zugzwang and a Previously Unknown Bobby Fischer Game**

*Zugzwang is commonly known as an endgame phenomenon. Middlegame examples are rare, as are unknown Fischer games...*

*By GM Larry Kaufman*

In 1964 Bobby Fischer, then 21 years old but already arguably the world’s best player, went on an exhibition tour around the U.S. I was in high school in the Washington, D.C. area then and rated around 2000. Bobby gave a lecture and played about 70 boards in his D.C. simul, which I attended. I chose to watch rather than play, figuring (correctly, I think) that I would learn more from watching his play in 70 games than from playing one.

However, a high school chess friend of mine, Daniel Collins, played a board, and I kept a close eye on it. Daniel was perhaps of class C strength then, though he has maintained a class A rating in recent years. As a result of a truly horrendous positional error on move 9, he soon had a lost game. I stopped by on move 26 to try to figure out just how Fischer would win the game, when it gradually dawned on me (and on Daniel) that Bobby didn’t need a plan at all, because Daniel had only suicidal moves at his disposal, despite the board having lots of pieces and pawns on it. Such examples of Zugzwang in the middlegame are quite rare, and after Fischer won he asked Daniel for a copy of the game score. Perhaps he meant to publish it someday, but as far as I know he never did so. Recently I heard from Daniel, and I asked him if he still had the moves of that game, and he did! So here they are (with my comments), presumably for the first time anywhere. But first I’ll describe three types of Zugzwang and give some classic examples.

**Zugzwang** is an important concept in chess. This German word might be translated literally as “relocation compulsion” or in simple English “must move.” The idea is that the right to move in chess is also an obligation; passing your turn is not permitted. There are many positions in chess, mostly in the endgame, where any move you make will ruin your position; you wish you could pass, but you can’t (except in the Korean version of chess). The side forced to make a suicidal move is said to be in Zugzwang. If not for Zugzwang, many more endings would be drawn. In my view, calling stalemate a draw is totally illogical, since it represents the ultimate Zugzwang, where any move would get your king taken. Until around the year 1500 a stalemated player lost. Probably the draw rule was added with the advent of the powerful queen since draws became rare, but that is obviously no longer true in top-level play.

The purest form of Zugzwang is mutual Zugzwang, where both players would like to pass. The simplest example is:
Instruction

Mutual Zugzwang

White to move must stalemate or lose his pawn, while Black to move must play ... Kf7 allowing the winning Kd7. A much more interesting example is this study by Yochanan Afek:

(see diagram top of next column)

4. Bxe2 Rb8+
   This is possible since Nxb8 is stalemate.

5. Bb5+!! Rxb5+
   5. ... Kxb5 6. Nxb8 wins for White.

6. Ka2!!
   Mutual Zugzwang. White to move would lose, but Black cannot pass, and every move loses. Rook moves to b3, b7, or d5 all allow winning knight forks, while 6. ... Rb4 allows 7. Nc5+ Kf6 8. axb4 followed by Ne4 and Nxf5.

Here is another study by the same author:

White to move and win

1. Ne3! g3 2. Nh1! g2 3. h4!! g1=Q 4. Kf7!

White to move would lose after 4. h5 Qg5 or 4. Kc6 Qg8, but it is Black’s turn and he has no way to “pass.” Every legal move loses the queen and the game. After 4. ... Qxf1 5. Nxf1 Kg2 6. Nd2 White wins.

Much more common are positions where one player has moves available that do no harm while the other does not. For example:

To harm or not to harm

White to move can “pass” by retreating his rook on the f-file, whereas Black to move could draw if allowed to pass, but must play ... Kh8 allowing mate due to Zugzwang. A further distinction can be made between “true” Zugzwangs, where the game is lost due to the obligation to move but would be drawn if one could pass, and “practical” Zugzwangs, where the game might be lost anyway even if one could pass but having to move makes

Bobby considering a move against Edmund Wheeler in an exhibition in Fitchburg, Massachusetts during his 1964 simul tour. Photo by Glen Wheeler, from the book A Legend on the Road: Bobby Fischer’s 1964 Simultaneous Exhibition Tour by IM John Donaldson.

PHOTO: GLEN WHEELER

Bobby considering a move against Edmund Wheeler in an exhibition in Fitchburg, Massachusetts during his 1964 simul tour. Photo by Glen Wheeler, from the book A Legend on the Road: Bobby Fischer’s 1964 Simultaneous Exhibition Tour by IM John Donaldson.

PHOTO: GLEN WHEELER
the loss quicker or more obvious. This last type is the most usual one in positions with many men on the board, though even this type of Zugzwang is rare in the middlegame.

Probably the best known middlegame Zugzwang is in this game:

Closed Catalan (E06)
Friedrich Sämisch
Aaron Nimzowitsch
Copenhagen, 1923

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. g3 Bb7 5. Bg2 Be7 6. Nc3 0-0 7. 0-0 d5
7. ... Ne4 is now considered better.
8. Ne5 c6 9. cxd5!
9. e4! keeps some advantage, whereas the text move leaves White with no clear plan of action.
9. ... cxd5 10. Bf4 a6 11. Rc1 b5 12. Qb3 Nc6
Better was 14. Ne4 to gain the bishop pair. The text move is pointless.
13. Nxc6 Bxc6 14. h3?! This “wins” a piece, but the price, two pawns and a strong attack, is too steep.
20. ... fxe4 21. Qxe5+ Re8 22. Qg5+ Rf8 23. Kh1?! Rf6 24. Ne4
24. ... Re2! 25. Qb3 Ba4 traps the queen.
25. Rc1 h6, White resigned.

White resigned here, because every move is suicidal, except for delaying pawn moves. For example, 26. b3 a5 27. g4 Rf3! and if 28. Bxf3 Rh2 mate. However, since Black is already threatening to trap the queen by ... Rf3, the position is only Zugzwang in the sense that White loses more quickly than he would if he could pass. If Black wins the queen directly by 26. ... Rf3 after a pawn move like 26. b3, he “pays” a rook and the Exchange for it, but if he waits for White’s “pass” moves to run out, he’ll win at least a piece with more gains likely.

Like the Nimzowsitsch game, the Fischer Zugzwang game is not a pure one since the right to pass would not save the game. Actually I do not know of any pure Zugzwang in the middlegame in actual play, though it is certainly possible. Still, if the game had gone 26. ... Kd8 (instead of 26. ... Rh6) 27. Nab7+ Kg7 28. Kh2?! (rather than the objectively faster win 28. Qf7) it would have been obvious that all Black moves drop material directly.

Caro-Kann Defense, Classical Variation (B18)
Robert Fischer
Daniel Collins
Simul, Washington D.C., March 8, 1964

5. ... Qc7
6. Bxc6 Bxc6 7. 0-0-0 Nc6
7. ... Ne4 is now considered better.
9. e4! keeps some advantage, whereas the text move leaves White with no clear plan of action.
9. ... cxd5 10. Bf4 a6 11. Rc1 b5 12. Qb3 Nc6
Better was 14. Ne4 to gain the bishop pair. The text move is pointless.
13. Nxc6 Bxc6 14. h3?!
This “wins” a piece, but the price, two pawns and a strong attack, is too steep.
20. ... fxe4 21. Qxe5+ Re8 22. Qg5+ Rf8 23. Kh1?! Rf6 24. Ne4
24. ... Re2! 25. Qb3 Ba4 traps the queen.
25. Rc1 h6, White resigned.

This is much less common than 5. Ng3 here, but it scores very well in practice, was used at every opportunity by Fischer in simul play, and is still played in high-level encounters.

5. ... Qc7
This was played recently by GM Vladimir Burmakin. Elite GMs Peter Leko and Gata Kamsky both chose 5. ... e5, which along with 5. ... Nd7, 5. ... Qc7, and 5. ... Qb6 are all seen in grandmaster play.

Better is 8. ... Qa5+, though White has some edge. Now we’re out of theory.

9. Nf3 f6?
Well, this is awful. Black takes away e5 from the white knights, but he takes away the best square from his knight, makes his bishop bad, leaves his “e” pawn backward, and weakens his king.

10. 0-0
White already has a won game.
10. ... 0-0 11. a4 Re8?!
Black prepares a retreat for this queen, but it’s better to play 11. ... g5 here and move the queen to a6 when hit.

12. a5 Qd8?!
12. ... Qa6.

13. Re1 g4 14. Bg3 h5 15. h4 g4 16. Nd2 Nh6
17. Ne4?
17. Re6 planning 18. a6 and blocking the “e” pawn was completely winning.

17. ... Nf5 18. a6 b5 19. Na5 Qb6?!
19. ... e5! gives Black some counterplay, though he is still lost.

This clinches the victory.

21. ... Nb8 22. fxg3 Rd8 23. c3 Rd6 24. Qe2 Rxe6 25. Qxe6+ Kc7 26. b4!

Zugzwang! Although White is obviously winning, it was not immediately obvious what he threatened to do if Black “passed,” though now I see that 27. Qf7 followed by 28. Ne6+ would suffice. But passing is illegal, and every move is suicidal. The queen has no safe square, 26. ... Nxa6 allows 27. Qd7+, 26. ... f5 allows 27. Qe5+, bishop moves allow 27. Qxe7+, and rook moves allow 27. Qg8. If 26. ... Kd8 27. Nab7+ Kc7 28. Qf7! f5 29. Qe8 with a forced mate in seven.

26. ... Rh6 27. Qg8 Nxa6 28. Qxf8 Rh7 29. Nxc6! Nxc5 30. bxc6 Qxh6 31. Rxa7+ Kb7 32. Rxb7+ Kxb7 33. Qg8 Rh6 34. Qg7 Rh4 35. Qxh8 e5 36. d5 e4 37. Qxf6 e3 38. Qb6+ Ka8 39. c6 e2 40. Qb7 mate.

If you know of an actual game in which a true middlegame Zugzwang occurred, please let us know about it at letters@uschess.org. Each side must have at least a queen and two other pieces, and the losing side must be able to draw if allowed to pass at will. It is easy to find middlegames where one side has no decent move and must lose, but as in the above two games there is almost always a way to win even after an illegal pass move.

Thanks to Daniel Collins for supplying the moves of this unusual and unknown Fischer game.

Download a .pgn file of this issue’s games at uschess.org.
An (Adrenaline-Pumping) Ordinary Game

Looking through my older columns, I was surprised that so many of them dealt with upsets. The reason for this, I guess, is twofold: a) upsets are unexpected and thus exciting—for me and (I hope) for readers; b) most games I receive (I realize now) are upsets, as those are much more remarkable for the winners than a normal, or “expected” (playing down) victory.

I predict, however that Mark Norris, the winner of this month’s award, will soon add 400-500 rating points to his current 1074 USCF rating.

Not only did Mark prove himself equal to his 1508-rated opponent in all stages of this long struggle, but he also provided quite impressive (albeit laconic) annotations.

Writes Mark Norris:

This was one of the most interesting games I have had the pleasure of playing at my chess club. It was quite the game and definitely had my adrenaline pumping. Look for yourself.

(As usual, Lev’s future comments are in italics).

Orangutan Opening (A00)

George Miller (1508)
Mark Norris (1074)
Watchusett Chess Club Championship Prelims

1. b4 e6

I came well-prepared.

2. Bb2 Nf6 3. b5 a6

(see diagram top of next column)

Black’s objective is to activate his a8-rook.

4. e3?!


4. ... axb5 5. Bxb5 c6 6. Be2 d5 7. Nf3 Bd6 8. 0-0

After 3. ... a6

Mark clearly does his opening research very well.

8. ... 0-0

Both players handle the opening stage quite well. Even 4. e3 may not deserve the “?!” sign. Of course, there were alternatives; for example, 8. ... b5 (or even 7. ... b5), to stop White’s c2-c4, or 8. ... Nb7 preparing ... e6-e5. But the first eight moves (and even a few of those following) could have been played by masters.

9. c4 c5 10. cxd5?! True, an immediate d2-d4 (10. d4) was more accurate.

10. ... exd5 11. d4? c4! 12. Nc3

After 12. Nc3

12. ... Nc6

After two dubious (?) moves and one bad (?) one, the position remains close to equal. Perhaps White’s transgressions were not that bad after all. Black continued to develop.

13. Nb5 Bd4 14. a3 Ba5 15. Nd2

After 15. Nd2

15. ... Bxd2?!

This may not be best. Indeed, 15. ... Bxd2 is a reasonable move—but not the best, as Black’s pawn structure in the center (pawns on c4 and
d5) put an extra premium on the dark-square bishop. Black has normal, good moves like 15. ... Bf5 or 15. ... Re8, but the strongest is, perhaps, 15. ... Na7, with the goal of bringing the b-pawn to b5.

16. Qxd2 Ne4 17. Qe1 Qb6 18. a4 Bf5 19. f3!?

This is questionable. However, I did fear the pawn sac on e4.

19. f3 is a good move—which has nothing to do with the (highly unlikely) e3–e4 thrust. But trickier—and thus stronger—was a transposition, 19. Ba3 and only after the natural-looking 19. ... Rfe8(?), 20. f3 Nf6 21. Nd6, forking Black’s rook and bishop.

19. ... Nf6

After 19. ... Nf6

20. Qc3

As noted above, 20. Ba3! leads to a clear advantage. Black’s dark-square bishop is badly missing!

20. ... Ra5 21. Rfc1 Rfa8 22. Bd1 Bd7 23. Ba3!

A monster! Bc5 is coming and I can do little about it.

23. ... Qa6?

Perhaps tired of working hard on every move in a complex—and slowly (after 15. ... Bxd2) deteriorating position, Black finally blunders. Another queen’s retreat —23. ... Qd8—would keep material equal, and the struggle going on.


Black grabs the opportunity to create counterplay. Bravo!

27. Qxb4 b5! 28. Rcb1

I would prefer the solid 28. Rc3.

28. ... bxa4

29. Bxa4??

Playing for a faulty tactic. 29. Ra3 would have been a more viable option.

Well, 29. Ra3 allows 29. ... Rb5. Perhaps an exchange of queens, followed by Ra3, the king’s march to c3, and possibly e3–e4, offers White the best chances for victory.

29. ... Rxa4

George set up a diabolical trap: if 29. ... Bxa4, then 30. Qxa5!, but missed Mark’s excellent response.

30. Qb8+ Qxb8 31. Rxb8+ Ne8 32. Rxa4

33. Rc8 Kf8 34. Rc5

Unfortunately, White still comes out on top.

No, Black is better, as even in the ending the bishop and knight are stronger than rook—by at least one pawn.

34. ... Nf6 35. Kf1 Ke7 36. Ke1 Kd6 37. Kd2 Nd7 38. Ra5 Bb3 39. Ra6+ Kc7 40. e4 Nb6 41. Ra7+ Kd6

(see diagram top of next column)

42. Rxf7

After 42. e5+ Kc6 43. Rxf7 Na4, White has (and must force) a draw with 44. Rf8.
Exemplary endgames were the rule at the 2009 U.S. Championship. In the first of a two-part column, Benko looks at a selection of the top finishers’ games, focusing this month on pawn-up endings.

Connected passed pawns
GM Hikaru Nakamura (2748)
GM Alexander Shabalov (2638)

The champ uses a combination to move into a superior ending.

Black to play

15. ... d5!? A common response in the center against a wing-attack. But instead of a pawn sac, safer was the passive 15. ... Nh7.

16. exd5 e4 17. Bg2 Qh4

Though this looks like an effective move, it leads to an inferior endgame. Either 17. ... Bb4 or 17. ... Rfd8 could have yielded more complex play.


24. Bf1!

White has kept his extra pawn, but he will be committed to nursing it for awhile.

24. ... Kf8 25. Re1

If 25. Rae1, then 25. ... Be6.

25. ... Rd8 26. Ra3 Nf6 27. Rd1 Rf7

Or 27. ... Be4.

28. Rd2 Be4 29. Rf2 Ng4?

Losing a tempo and letting White grab the initiative. 29. ... Rc7 could have been played, creating complications.

30. Rf4 Nf6

If 30. ... Bxc2, then 32. Nd4 Bd1 33. Rd3

31. Nc5! Bxc2 32. Rf2 Bd1 33. Nxa6 Rb6 34. b4!

Or 34. a5! The mobilized and connected passed pawns decide matters quickly.

34. ... Rbxa6 35. Bxa6 Rxa6 36. a5 Ne4 37. b5 Rd6

In case of 37. ... Ra8 38. b6 Nc5 39. a6 Nxa6 (39. ... Rxa6 40. b7) 40. Rb2 wins.

38. a6! Nfx2 39. a7! Nh3+ 40. Rxf3, Black resigned.

Poisoned Pawn
GM-elect Robert L. Hess (2605)
GM Julio Becerra Rivero (2669)

Monarch March
GM Yury Shulman (2716)
GM Alexander Onischuk (2761)

The question is whether the extra pawn can be realized against the active white rook. If all queenside pawns are traded,
it would be a theoretical draw.

37. Kf2
Better would have been 37. h4! and after 37. ... h6 (37. ... Re4 38. g3) 38. Kf2 g5 39. h5 could have been given more practical chances.

37. ... g5 38. Kf3 h5 39. h3
Now either 39. Kg3 or 39. g3 and 40. h4 were still possible.

39. ... Kg7 40. g3 Kg6 41. g4 f5 42. gxh5+ Kg6 43. Rh7 Rf6+ 44. Kg3
Why not 44. Kg2 and if 44. ... h4 45. Rd7?

44. ... h4+ 45. Kg2 Kf5 46. Rd8 Ke4 47. Rg8 Kf4 48. Rd8 a5 49. Re8+ Kd3

Black has achieved his goal of his king reaching the queenside. After this Black may allow pawn-trades and even the loss of a pawn.

51. Rg8 Rf5 52. Rxf5
The winning procedure is similar after 52. ... Rg6 too.

52. ... Rxg4 53. Rd6 Rxg6 54. Rxb6 Kc5 55. Kr3 a4 56. Rb8 a3 57. h6 a2 58. Ra8 Kb3, White resigned.

Black’s technique was convincing.

Kingside attack
Next we can observe the youngest and oldest participants’ fight.

Benko’s Bafflers
Most of the time these studies resemble positions that could actually occur over-the-board. You must simply reach a theoretically won position for White. Solutions can be found on page 63.

Please e-mail submissions for Benko’s Bafflers to: pbenko@uschess.org

Sicilian Defense,
Richter-Rauzer Variation (B65)
IM Ray Robson (2538)
GM Boris Gulko (2631)

After 13. Qd2

13. ... Nxe4
White avoided the complications arising from taking the offered piece sac. Instead, he rather enters into an endgame which is slightly worse for him.


The right bishop move was 17. ... Be6 (or 17. ... d5) to close the dangerous c4-f7 bishop diagonal. After that 18. Rxf4 f5 19. gx6 e.p. Bx6 and Black at least has a playable game.

(see analysis diagram top of next column)

18. Rfx4 Bxe4
18. ... d5 is too late because 19. Rxf5 dxe4 20. g6! is very strong.


(see second diagram next column)

28. ... Bd7
The black king travels to help his queenside pawns but he has no compensation for the lost Exchange.

29. a4 a5 30. Rd3 b6 31. Rb3 Kc6 32. Rb4+ Kb7 33. Rd3 Be5 34. Rf3 Bf6 35. Rf5 Rd2 36. Ka2 Rg1 37. c3 Rg3 38. Kb1 Rg1+ 39. Kc2 Rg2+ 40. Kd3 Ka6

If 40. ... Rxb2, then 41. g5 and the rooks break in.

41. b4 axb4 42. cxb4 Ra2
This simply allows the end to arrive faster, but the position is untenable in any case. The white king can chase away the rook from the g-file.

43. g5 Be5 44. b5+, Black resigned. ■
Welcome, USCF Members!

Welcome to World Chess Live (WCL), a new family-friendly service with special benefits for USCF members. Once again, WCL is pleased to sponsor USCF’s 2009 Grand Prix (GP) and 2009 Junior Grand Prix (JGP). We’re providing prize funds of $25,080 and $10,200 (cash, merchandise, and memberships), and will also be running online grand prize satellite events throughout the year.

It’s been a sizzling summer for reigning Grand Prix champion Alex Lenderman, as he gained three grandmaster norms in successive tournaments—Copper State International in Arizona, the Philadelphia International in Philadelphia—and finally holding on to a slim 4-point lead over Jaan Ehlvest. Despite Lenderman’s lead, there are still five more major events with enhanced points up for grabs, kicking off this month with the 31st Annual Southern California Open. Since this tournament is in his home state, we should see this month’s WCL Grand Prix spotlight player GM Melikset Khachiyan making a late bid for more points to challenge the leaders. Currently, Khachiyan is in 9th place—it will take a mighty effort for him to make it to the top with the other contenders.

Khachiyan was understandably unhappy with his poor performance at the 2009 U.S. Chess Championship in St. Louis, where he finished near the bottom of the table. He has admitted that just ten years ago he would not have handled the disappointment of such a finish, or even a lost game in a very gentlemanly manner. But as he told one reporter, “Now, it’s a loss, I have to see what I did wrong and learn.” And indeed he took his losses in stride, figuring out what went wrong when he finished a point ahead of the field to win the 14th Annual Pacific Coast Open at the end of July.

—Betsy Dynako (WCL)

2009 WORLD CHESS LIVE GRAND PRIX SUMMARY

World Chess Live sponsors over $25,000 at the 2009 Grand Prix!

The following point totals reflect all rated event information as of July 27 for the 2009 World Chess Live Grand Prix. All Grand Prix updates are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete.

OVERALL STANDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PTS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IM Alex Lenderman</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>255.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM Sergey Kudrin</td>
<td>CT</td>
<td>178.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM Jaan Ehlvest</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>174.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM Giorgi Kacheishvili</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>151.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM Enrico Sevilla</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>144.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM Alexander Ivanov</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>121.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM Varuzhan Akopian</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>112.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM Jay Bonin</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>102.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM Melikset Khachiyan</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>87.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JUNIOR CATEGORIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PTS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Players born between 1986 and 1988 inclusive:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 GM Alejandro Ramirez</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>84.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 IM Oliver Barbosa</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>74.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 GM Hikaru Nakamura</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>54.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PTS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Players born between 1989 and 1991 inclusive:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 IM Alex Lenderman</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>255.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 IM Samuel Shankland</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>71.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 John Daniel Bryant</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>29.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PTS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Players born between 1992 and 1993 inclusive:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Conrad Holt</td>
<td>KS</td>
<td>63.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Michael Thaler</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Christian Tanaka</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>16.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PTS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Players born between 1994 and 1995 inclusive:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 FM Daniel Naroditsky</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>32.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Parker Zhao</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>20.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Deepak Aaron</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>12.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>PTS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Players born 1996 and after:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 David Adelberg</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>22.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Luke Harmon-Vellotti</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>19.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yian Liu</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>16.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CATEGORIES AND PRIZES

$10,000 IN CASH PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE: $5,000!
2nd: $2,500  3rd: $1,250  4th: $750
5th: $500  6th: $250

$4,900 IN MERCHANDISE PRIZES!

7th: $250  8th: $225  9th: $200
10th: $175  11th: $150  12th: $125
13th: $100  14th: $75  15th: $50
16th-25th: $200  26th-50th: $250

Top 40 non-titled players: 1-year WCL membership worth $50. (FIDE-titled players are always free on WCL)

SENIOR CATEGORY: MERCHANDISE PRIZES

1944/ before 1st: $300  2nd: $200  3rd: $100

JUNIOR CATEGORIES: MERCHANDISE PRIZES

(according to date of birth)

1986-88 1st: $250  2nd: $150  3rd: $100
1989-91 1st: $250  2nd: $150  3rd: $100
1992-93 1st: $250  2nd: $150  3rd: $100
1994-95 1st: $250  2nd: $150  3rd: $100
1996/from 1st: $250  2nd: $150  3rd: $100

For all of the above junior categories: 1st place is also awarded a 3-year WCL junior membership ($75 value); 2nd-5th places are awarded a 2-year WCL junior membership ($50 value); 6th-10th places awarded 1-year WCL junior memberships ($25 value). Additionally, all GP/JGP place prize winners will receive a special prize valued at $60.

$10,200 IN JUNIOR GRAND PRIX PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE: $1,000!
2nd: $500  3rd: $250  4th: $150
5th: $100  6th: $50

The first place JGP winner will also receive U.S. Open entry and a trophy from the USCF. 1st-4th place winners will receive 2-year WCL junior and USCF Young Adult memberships, 1st-20th place winners will receive 1-year WCL junior and USCF Young Adult memberships. Each state JGP winner will receive a 1-year WCL junior and USCF Young Adult memberships and a special prize valued at $60.

World Chess Live, a new family-friendly online chess service, is sponsor of the 2009 World Chess Live Junior Grand Prix (JGP). Official standings for events received and processed by August 5, 2009 are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete. There are currently 4,452 players with JGP points. 281 JGP events resulted in points earned. Top prize includes $1,000 cash, trophy and free entry to the 2009 U.S. Open. Other prizes awarded to the top 20 finishers and the top individual in each state.

2009 World Chess Live
Junior Grand Prix Top Overall Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Pts.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Pts.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOMMALAPATI, ABHINAY</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>HARMON-VELLOTTI, LUKE</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINTER, CURTIS A</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>CAO, MINDI</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SREENIVASAN, RAMANuja</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>VEECH, JOHN</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROFF, KAYDEN WILLIAM</td>
<td>UT</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>KUMAR, ARAVINd</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PISANI, NICHOLAS</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>ZEITLIN, MATTHEW</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PISANI, PAUL</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>KOGEN, JONATHAN S</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHETTY, ATULYA ARYA</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>QU, CHEN</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GURCZAK, JOHN</td>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>TUHRIM, RICHARD J</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAJASEKARAN, VIKAS</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>ROBINSON, DARRIAN</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZHOU, JASON</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>HUGHES, JOHN LODGER</td>
<td>OH</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEN, JEREMY</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>HUA, MARGARET M</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHMAN, JONATHAN TYLER</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>MCVAY, KIERNAN R</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRETON, ALEX</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>FU, JASON</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KORLEY, KASSA</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>SELDEN, ALEX EVEN</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATHAM, ANDREW</td>
<td>KS</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>WU, CHRISTOPHER</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWAN, CHARLES</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>KELLY, JACOB</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILLAI, KADHIR ANDRES</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>JOHNSTON, DANIEL F</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANG, MICHAEL</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>KUTIKOFF, ADAM</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALY, TROY</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>CHALLA, RUSHI</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUANG, WINSTON</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>JAMBOR, ALEXANDER</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prepare to make your best move since joining the USCF...

Don’t miss one of this year’s top benefits of USCF membership.

Claim your six-month free trial now at World Chess Live, the only online chess service offering:

- Weekly USCF quick-rated tournaments
- Chances to earn both Grand Prix and Junior Grand Prix points
- Many other tournament prizes
- Free videos from top instructors
- A welcoming atmosphere for players of all levels

For details, go to www.worldchesslive.com/uscf
Organizing a 2009 Grand Prix Event

To qualify, an event must be USCF-rated (regular or quick) and meet these criteria:

- All USCF-rated players over 2199 must be eligible to play in the top (or only) section.
- The prize fund for which all masters are eligible must equal or exceed $300 guaranteed.
- Class prizes for Under 2300 or a higher rating requirement qualify towards GP points, but if they exceed 25% of the total qualifying Grand Prix money, they count as 25% of the total.
- Other than entry fees and USCF dues, no charges over $25 are permitted.
- The tournament must be submitted for Tournament Life section of Chess Life and designated by the submitter as a Grand Prix tournament.
- Only players who are USCF members during the tournament may earn GP points. Foreign GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs can play without being members, but they will not obtain Grand Prix points unless they join.
- Conditions concerning USCF Grand Prix tournaments are subject to review and adjustment by the USCF Executive Director.

The top prizes must be unconditionally guaranteed (or a Grand Prix event’s prize fund is based on entries, only the absolutely guaranteed minimum payout counts for point awards) and announced in Chess Life.

Even if prizes are raised at the tournament, no additional points can be awarded because the bonus would be unfair to players who may otherwise have entered. If you have questions about the Grand Prix, please contact Chuck Lovingood at clovingood@uschess.org or 931-787-1234 ext. 148.

Guaranteed Grand Prix points awarded for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Prices</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
<th>5th</th>
<th>6th</th>
<th>7th</th>
<th>8th</th>
<th>9th</th>
<th>10th</th>
<th>Tot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$200-$499</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500-$799</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$750-$999</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000-$1,499</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,500-$1,999</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000-$2,499</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,500-$2,999</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,000-$3,499</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4,000-$4,499</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000-$5,499</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6,000-$6,999</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000-$19,999</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 &amp; up</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$ (Enhanced) 54 48 44 40 37 31 27 21 18 12 6 300

Points involved divided equally (rounded to two decimal points) among tied players.

Tournament Directors

The tournament director has the right to shorten the basic time control, in minutes, by the time delay used, in seconds. Example: Clocks for G/60 with 5-second time delay (t/d5) may be set at 55 minutes instead of 60.

There is no requirement to advertise this option in advance. It may also be used for games starting later than the official starting time of any particular round even when not used otherwise.

Organizers, TDs and Affiliates

To speed up the processing of rating reports, USCF now asks that wherever possible these reports have IDs for every player. If you collect a new membership, do not submit your rating report until your disk and paper reports include that player’s ID number.

To assist TDs in doing this, we have made several enhancements to our web server which will speed up online membership processing and give TDs a quick way to obtain USCF IDs for new members.

We also recommend that TDs use the Member Services Area to check for member IDs. The search capabilities of MSA have been enhanced to assist TDs in finding existing member IDs.

For more details, please check the USCF website: www.uschess.org/rtgchange.php.

Professional Players Health and Benefits Fund

Many Grand Prix tournament organizers will contribute $1 per player to the Professional Health & Benefits Fund. All Grand Prix tournaments that participate in this program are entitled to be promoted to the next higher Grand Prix category — for example, a 6-point tournament would become a 10-point tournament. Points in the top category are promoted 50%.

No Tournaments in your area? Why not organize one?

It’s not much work to hold a small tournament, and there is little risk if you use a low-cost site and avoid guaranteed prizes. You might even make a profit! Either a based-on Swiss with projected prizes up to $500, a Quad format, or a trophy tournament will virtually guarantee taking in more in fees than you pay out in prizes.

The affiliation fee is just $40 a year. You will have access to the TD/Affiliate area of our website.

Remember, you can both run and play in a small event. Many of them wouldn’t be held if the organizer/TD couldn’t play.

Want to know more? Contact Joan DuBois at joandubois@uschess.org.

We’ll be glad to help you be part of the promotion of American chess!

Submissions

If at all possible, please e-mail your TLAs. This will help to reduce errors.

tla@uschess.org
fax: 931-787-1200
TLA Department
U.S. Chess Federation
PO Box 3967
Crossville, TN 38557

TLAs received after the 10th of the deadline month will not appear in the issue currently being processed.

USCF Membership Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>1 yr</th>
<th>2 yr</th>
<th>3 yr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult P</td>
<td>$49</td>
<td>$85</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult P **</td>
<td>$42</td>
<td>$78</td>
<td>$113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult R</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$59</td>
<td>$81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult R **</td>
<td>$29</td>
<td>$52</td>
<td>$74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior (65+)</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$65</td>
<td>$93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult P</td>
<td>$32</td>
<td>$59</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth P (U16)*</td>
<td>$27</td>
<td>$49</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholaristic P</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>$42</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult R (U25)*</td>
<td>$24</td>
<td>$43</td>
<td>$61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth R (U16)*</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholaristic R</td>
<td>$16</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td>$39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ages at expiration **Purchased online only

Chess Life TLA Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cover date</th>
<th>TLA must be received by</th>
<th>Tournaments beginning</th>
<th>Expected release</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Jan. 10</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>End Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>End March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>End April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>End May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>End June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>Aug. 15</td>
<td>End July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>End Oct.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chess Life TLA Deadlines

TLA Department
U.S. Chess Federation
PO Box 3967
Crossville, TN 38557
**USCF National Events**

**See TLA in this issue for details:**
1st U.S. Women’s Open (NEW) September 5–7 • Tulsa, Oklahoma
2009 U.S. Senior Open September 5–7 • Tulsa, Oklahoma
50th Annual U.S. Armed Forces Open Oct. 10–12 • Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
2009 National Youth Action November 20–22 • Oak Brook, Illinois
2009 National Scholastic (K-12) December 11–13 • Dallas, Texas

**Future Events (Watch for details)**
2009 U.S. Women’s Championship October 2–12 • St. Louis, Missouri
2009 Pan Am Intercolligate December 27–30 • South Padre Island, Texas
2010 U.S. Amateur Team - South Feb. 12–14 • Orlando, Florida
2010 National Junior High Championship April 9–11 • Minneapolis, Minnesota
2010 Senior High Championship April 16–18 • Columbus, Ohio
2010 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 7–9 • Atlanta, Georgia
2010 U.S. Open July 31–Aug. 8 • Irvine, California
2010 U.S. Senior Open August 22–27 • Boca Raton, Florida
2010 National Scholastic (K-12) Dec. 10–12 • Lake Buena Vista, Florida
2010 National Junior High Championship April 15–17 • Columbus, Ohio
2010 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 6–8 • Dallas, Texas
2011 National Scholastic (K-12) Dec. 9–11 • Dallas, Texas

**Note:** Organizers previously awarded options for USCF Events must still submit proposals (including sample budgets) for their events.

2012 Senior High Championship April 13–15 • Minneapolis, Minnesota

2012 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 11–13 • Nashville, Tennessee
2012 National Scholastic (K-12) Nov. 30–Dec. 2 • Orlando, Florida
2013 SuperNationals V TBA • Nashville, Tennessee
2014 National Elementary (K-6) Championship May 9–11 • Dallas, Texas
2014 National Scholastic (K-12) Dec. 12–14 • Orlando, Florida

**Overdue Bids**
Bids on the following tournaments are past deadline and will be considered immediately:
2009 U.S. Masters 2009 Collegiate Final Four 2010 U.S. Masters
2010 U.S. Amateur Team (East, North) 2010 U.S. Class Championship (East, North, South)
2010 U.S. Game/60 2010 U.S. Game/30
2010 U.S. Game/10 (QC) 2010 U.S. Game/15 (QC)
2011 U.S. Open

**Bidding Deadlines**
Please contact the National Office if you are interested in bidding for a National Event. The USCF recommends that bids be submitted according to the following schedule. However, bids may be considered prior to these dates.
USCF reserves the right to decline all bids and organize the event itself.

**Tournament memberships not valid for National Events**

**Junior Tournament Memberships (JTM)s Available**
USCF's Tournament Memberships (TM) program, which allows players the option of joining for only one event at a greatly reduced rate, has been modified. Junior TM's for age 24 or below may be purchased from affiliates and are now available to them for $7 online with rating report subscriptions. They include one issue of Chess Life or Chess Life for Kids, and $5 of this fee may be applied to a full membership within 60 days. JTM's not valid for National events. Many scholastic tournaments exist that are not USCF-rated, and the USCF is concerned that the reason is that organizers fear losing players unwilling or unable to pay entry fee plus dues. The availability of a $7 option should cause some of these events to switch to being USCF-rated, promoting membership. The idea behind the TM's is not to sign up a lot of them, but rather to cause more USCF-rated tournaments to be held. More details on uschess.org.

**Rating supplements will be updated EACH MONTH on the USCF website, and each monthly rating supplement will be used for all tournaments beginning in that month, unless otherwise announced in The USCF website at www.uschess.org also frequently lists unofficial ratings. The purpose of unofficial ratings is to inform you of your progress; however, most tournaments do not use them for pairing or prize purposes. If you would otherwise be unrated, organizers may use your unofficial rating at their discretion, even without advance publicity of such a policy.**

**The Tournament Announcements on the following pages are provided for the convenience of USCF members and for informational purposes only. Unless expressly indicated otherwise, neither the U.S. Chess Federation nor Chess Life warrants the accuracy of anything contained in these Tournament Announcements. Those interested in additional information about or having questions concerning any of these tournaments are directed to contact the organizer listed. Chess Life is not responsible for any dues in providing an accurate typsetting of non-camera-ready copy but assumes no responsibility for errors made in such work.**

**SUBMISSIONS:** If possible e-mail your TLA to: tla@uschess.org (Loaan Damme, 814-523-2830) Deadline: 30 days prior to Grand Prix information see April 2009 pg. 59-51 or check http://main.uschess.org/go/tlaInfo. Payment can be done online through the TLA Affilie area or sent for: U.S. Chess, TLA Dept., PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557.

**Nations**
All tournaments listed in Tournament Life are USCF-rated. USCF MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS. If not a member, add dues to advance entry fee or pay entry fee plus entry fee plus dues. The USCF reserves the right to decline all bids on the following tournaments: 2009 U.S. Open Filename: uschess.org

---

**uschess.org**

---

**Chess Life — September 2009**

45
Many Grand tournament participants will contribute $1 per player to the Professional Health & Benefits Fund. All Grand tournaments which participate in this program will be entitled to be promoted to grand higher Grand Championship—for example, a six-point tournament would become a 10-point tournament. Points in the top category are promoted 50%.
June 2009

$13,000 PRIZE FUND UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED!

At SHERATON CLEVELAND AIRPORT HOTEL (free parking, free airport shuttle).

5-round Swiss, October 23-25 or 24-25

Oklahoma City

2009 CLEVELAND OPEN

5-round Swiss, October 23-25 or 24-25

$13,000 PRIZE FUND UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED!

At SHERATON CLEVELAND AIRPORT HOTEL (free parking, free airport shuttle).

5-SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75), Sheraton Cleveland Airport Hotel, 5300 Riverside Drive (inside airport), Cleveland OH 44135.

Under 1200 and Under 1000 Sections play a separate 2-day schedule only, all rounds G/75.

$13,000 guaranteed prizes.

In 7 sections- you face only those in your section. Unrated will obtain ratings.

Open: $1200-400-200-100, top U2300 $700, U2200 $600, U2100 $500. FIDE rated, 100 GPP (enhanced).

Unrated may enter any section, with prize limits: U1000 $80, U1200 $150, U1400 $300, U1600 $400, U1800 $500, U2000 $600.

Top 5 sections entry fee: $398, 2-day mail, phoned or paid at entry. Online entry by 10/20, entry fee by 10/25.

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6:30 pm, Rds. Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 9 am & 3:15 pm.

2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat. am, rds. Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 9 am & 3:15 pm.

U1000 & U1200 schedule: Reg. Ends Sat. 10 am, rds. Sat 11 am, 2:30 pm & 6 pm, Sun 9 am & 12:30 pm.

All: ½-pt byes OK only; Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. No smoking. Bring sets, boards, clocks if possible- none supplied.


Entry: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. $15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. WCL JGP.

Chess Life — September 2009 47
**Tournament Life**

305 Willow Pointe Dr., League City, TX 77575. Info or Phone Ext: 713-530-7890 or 713-530-7291. Major credit cards accepted (no checks at site). FIDE. WCL JGP.

Oct. 9-12, New York
**World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 30 (enhanced)**
2009 Queens Chess Club Championship
8-5, 11-0. All Saints Lutheran Church, 164-02 Goethals Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432. EF: $55, $30 at site, $500-$300-$200 guaranteed to top 3, more per paid entries. Up to 3 1/2 pt byes ok with advance notice (byes for rounds 6, 7, and/or 8 must be declared before round 5). RDS: 7:30-8:30 AM.

Oct. 10-15, New York
**Chess Center at the Marshall Club, 23 West 10th St., bet. 5-6 Ave., Oct. 15, New York**
World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 10
70th S.C. Championships
3S5, 35/90; 30/90; 30/120; 30/150; 30/180; 30/210; 30/240; 30/270; 30/300; 30/330; 30/360; 30/390; 30/420; 30/450; 30/480; 30/510; 30/540; 30/570; 30/600. Days Inn Southeast, 7300 Garners Ferry Rd. (at 1-77), Columbia, SC 29209. $2,700-$1,000-$350 (GTD) in 3 sections (top 6 players in each section). Open/Championship: $600-$150-$100-$50-$50, Amateur (at 1800): $300-$150-$100-$50-$50. Reserve (at 1400): $300-$150-$100-$50-$50. Special Junior prize (for 16-21 y/o): $100-$100-$50-$50. Applicants with rating below 1400 may use 3 unrated opponents. Free entry to masters (60 rated or tied). All prizes are free to masters (60 rated or tied). All prizes are free to masters (60 rated or tied). All prizes are free to masters (60 rated or tied).

Oct. 10, New York
**World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)**
Jennifer Woods Memorial Grand Prix
World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)
EF: 4SS, G/90. All Saints Lutheran Church, 164-02 Goethals Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432.

Oct. 11-10, Virginia
**World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 15**
Kingstowne Fall Festival
Kingstowne Snyder Center, 4600 S. Van Dorn St., Alexandria, VA 22315. 3 sections. Open (FIDE rated): $45-$20-$10/SD; EF: $40 if received by 10/7, $50 at site. If entering USCF for 1st time, USEF: $48 if received by 10/7, $94 if received by 10/7, $94 at site. Prizes $10000-$4500-$2500. 1800-1600-Unrated each $75.

Oct. 15, New York
**World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 10 (enhanced)**
10 Grand Prix Points Tonight!
6-5S, G/30. Chess Center at the Marshall Club, 23 West 10th St., bet. 5-6 Ave., NYC: 212-769-9400. USEF: $45-$20-$10/SD; EF: $40 if received by 10/7, $50 at site. If entering USCF for 1st time, USEF: $48 if received by 10/7, $94 if received by 10/7, $94 at site. Prizes $50000-$25000-$12500. 1800-1600-Unrated each $75.

Oct. 15-16, 17-18, South Carolina
**World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 10**
17th S.C. Championships
3S5, 35/90; 30/90; 30/120; 30/150; 30/180; 30/210; 30/240; 30/270; 30/300; 30/330; 30/360; 30/390; 30/420; 30/450; 30/480; 30/510; 30/540; 30/570; 30/600. Days Inn Southeast, 7300 Garners Ferry Rd. (at 1-77), Columbia, SC 29209. $2,700-$1,000-$350 (GTD) in 3 sections (top 6 players in each section). Open/Championship: $600-$150-$100-$50-$50, Amateur (at 1800): $300-$150-$100-$50-$50. Reserve (at 1400): $300-$150-$100-$50-$50. Special Junior prize (for 16-21 y/o): $100-$100-$50-$50. Applicants with rating below 1400 may use 3 unrated opponents. Free entry to masters (60 rated or tied). All prizes are free to masters (60 rated or tied). All prizes are free to masters (60 rated or tied). All prizes are free to masters (60 rated or tied).

Oct. 24-25, Utah
**World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 6**
Utah Open Championship
3S5. Olympus Student Union, Utah, Collegiate Room and Saltaire Room.
American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!

An American Classic!
2009 North Carolina Open Championship
5:30-7:30pm Sat, 7-10, 10-12:30 Sun; 7-2; 7; 2; 12-12:30; 12-12:30; 12-12:30.
Clarion Hotel Greenbrier Airport, 45 Swing Rd (Exit at East 233), Greenbriar, North Carolina 27907, (336)-299-7650. $1,000.00 in $150.00. $100.00 in $100.00. $50.00 in $50.00. Under 1800: $600.00-$400.00-300. Under 1700: $100.00-$100.00. Under 1600: $100.00-$100.00. Under 1500: $100.00-$100.00. Under 1400: $100.00-$100.00.
Ent: Tournaments are priced to play in any section and cannot be used in the last round by players with a plus score. Player must be willing to come to site for examination if a failure to do so will result in removal from tournament without refund. $8,500 VOLLARING. Guaranteed. Held at New Delhi's FABULOUS MOTORCITY CASINO HOTEL, 2011 Grand River Avenue, Delhi, MI 49041 (Directions and Lodging info below). 2-Day entry fee includes shuttle service to and from the hotel. By Mon., November 13 (Sun day off). Entry fee: $100.00/$125.00 for entry fee. Under 1600: $100.00 for 64. Under 1500: $100.00 for 32. Under 1400: $100.00 for 64. Under 1300: $100.00 for 32. Under 1200: $100.00 for 64. Under 1100: $100.00 for 32. Under 1000: $100.00 for 64. Under 900: $100.00 for 32. Under 800: $100.00 for 64. Under 700: $100.00 for 32. Under 600: $100.00 for 64. Under 500: $100.00 for 32. Under 400: $100.00 for 64. Under 300: $100.00 for 32. Under 200: $100.00 for 64.
Re-entry: $100.00 for entry fee. Under 1600: $50.00 for entry fee. Under 1700: $40.00 for entry fee.
Tournament Life
Tennis Tournament Life
The USE OF A CELL PHONE IN THE ROOMING AREA IS PROHIBITED!
If your cell phone rings in a room with games in progress, you could be severely penalized, maybe even FORFEITED!
representing any U.S. college, HS or pre-HS players attend or have graduated from. Half point byes if committed before rd 2, others before rd 4. HR: $99-99-93-93, reserve by 11/13 or rate may increase. Parking at host $5/day with guest room, $12 without; garage next to hotel is about $10. Car rental: 800-311-1000, use AWD 6567633 or reserve car online through chess.com. Ent: Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. $15 service charge for refunds. Questions: chess.com, caguide.com, 845-496-9686. Advance entries will be posted at chess.com. WCL JGP (top 7 sections).

Dec. 5-6, North Carolina

Greater Charlotte Chess Championship & Queen City Chess Association Sponsored Event!

5-50, 6/12. University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC), 9201 University
City Blvd., Charlotte, NC. 3 sections: Open: $500-250-125; U1000, $100.
Under 1800: $400-200-100, U1000 $300. Under 1400: $300-150-100, U2000 $75. EF: $49 if postmarked by 11/25; $59 later or on site. Free entry to Under 2000. Free parking. 2200+ if committed to play by 10/1. (EF deducted from prize). Registration online by 11/8. Sat. Schedule: Rounds: Sat 9:30-10:30; Sun 9-12. One Half point bye (any round) must be requested with entry. Top six residents of Greater Charlotte area in Open Section qualify for round robin to be played in January to decide Charlotte Champion. HR: Sleep Inn University, 1/4 mile from site, 704-549-4544, $59.95 chess rate if reserved by 11/15 (mention QCCA). Free b-fast. Entries: Send to Charles Carraro, 2209 W Summer Green Ave., Char-
lotte, NC 28203. Make checks to “QCCA”. Info: http://www.qncychessclubs.com for registration and more details. WCL JGP.

Dec. 20-28 or 27-29, New York

World Chess Live Grand Prix: 15

World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 200 (enhanced)

An American Classic!

Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, Nevada

World Chess Live Grand Prix: 200 (enhanced)

19th annual North American Open


Dec. 26-29 or 27-29, Nevada


27th Annual Sands Regents Regency Reno - Western State Tournament

200 Grand Prix pts. (b/425) $28,750 Guaranteed

6 Round Swiss • 7 Sections • 40/2 - 20/1 - G/1/2

Entry: $146 Average • Rooms: $34/$54 While they last!

Main Tournament

Main Tournament Registration:

Thur & Fri: 8:30 am - 10:30 am

Round Times:

10/23 (Fri.) - Noon • 10/24 (Sat.) - 10 am - 6 pm • 10/25 (Sun.) - 9:30 am - 4 pm

For a flyer, call or e-mail: Chief TD N.T.D. Jerome V. (Jerry) Weikel, (775) 747-1405 / wackytyl@aol.com

Room Reservations: Terrible’s Sands Regency Casino Hotel, 1-866-FUN-STAY - Ask for code: CHESS 1022

To download an application and for more info, visit chess.com/SandsRegency

11/15-18, 16-18 or 17, California Northern

World Chess Live Grand Prix Points: 200 (enhanced)

Golden State Open


Regional Alabama

B’ham C. C.

Meets every two weeks, 9:30 am, 2116 Columbiana Rd. (Columbiana Crossing Shopp.
C.), B’ham 35226. All skills & levels welcome! W. N. USCF rated tours.

Sept. 11-13, 56th Annual Alabama State Chess Championship See Grand Prix.

Arizona

Jan. 15-18, 16-18 or 17-18, Golden State Open See Grand Prix.

Arkansas


Arkansas Southern

Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, LACC Friday Night Blitz (DC) www.LAChessClub.com. 5SS, G/10 (Games). LACC, 11314 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd Fl. 4 blocks W 405. EF: $10 if entered by 7:30 PM Fri., $20 at site. Prizes: 1-2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Top 10-12. Free parking lots SW of 5 Mon Burch &/or underground ($3). Details & Players: R.W. Ellis 205-979-6066, keel@telnorth.com.

Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, LACC Masters Open 4SS, G/90. LACC, 11314 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd Fl. Sunday 4 blocks W 405. EF: $30 (25% LACC mem.). Reg.: 7-10 PM Fri. Rds.: 7-8 9:30-10:30 11:30-12:30 1:30 PM. Info: (310) 795-5701 or www.LAChessClub.com.


Sept. 7, 21, LCCC September Scholastic I & II 5SS, G/90. LACC, 11314 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd Fl. Sun. 4 blocks W 405. EF: $20 (35% LACC mem.). Reg.: 11-12:30 PM. Rds.: 1-2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Top 10-12. Details & Players: R.W. Ellis 205-979-6066, keel@telnorth.com.

Sept. 12-13, Eccentric Collections See Grand Prix.

18th annual Midwest Class Championships

October 9-11 or 10-11, 2009 - Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel

$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES PLUS U1000 & U700 TROPHIES!

18th annual Midwest Class Championships

October 9-11 or 10-11, 2009 - Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel

$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES PLUS U1000 & U700 TROPHIES!

18th annual Midwest Class Championships

October 9-11 or 10-11, 2009 - Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel

$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES PLUS U1000 & U700 TROPHIES!

18th annual Midwest Class Championships

October 9-11 or 10-11, 2009 - Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel

$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZES PLUS U1000 & U700 TROPHIES!
NO TOURNAMENTS IN YOUR AREA? WHY NOT ORGANIZE ONE?

Do you need to go out of town for tournament play? Would you and others in your area like the convenience of an occasional event closer to home? Organize one!

It's not much work to hold a small tournament, and there is little risk if you use a low-cost site and avoid guaranteeing prizes. You might even make a profit! Either a based-on-Swiss with projected prizes up to $500, a Quad format, or a tournament will virtually guarantee taking in more in fees than you pay out in prizes.

The affiliation fee is just $40 a year. You will receive the annual rating supplement and have access to the TD/Affiliate area of our website.

Remember, you can both run and play in a small event. Many of them wouldn’t be held if the organizer/TC couldn’t play.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? Contact Joao DuBois at joaoduobis@uschess.org.

We’ll be glad to help you be part of the promotion of American chess!


Sections: One. All to pay players U1200 and unrated. EF: $25 if received by 9/16, $30 at site. Entry fee includes a Maine Chess Association Membership.

Tourney: Prize Fund: Rds. 10: 10, 11, 12, 12:30 1:30. Entry: Ed Kostroba, PO Box 1727, Ware, MA 01083, 413-967-3422, email: caddymail@baltimore.net, www.wmsa-chess.us.

Oct. 4, 5th Greater Boston Open

Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 6th annual New England Scholastic Championships (CT) See Connecticut.

Nov. 6-7 or 4-7, 14th annual Green Mountain Open & Vermont Championship (VT) See Vermont.

See previous issue for TLAs appearing September 1-14.

Maryland

Sept. 19, UMBC Rated Beginner’s Championship (RBO) USA, 54, 6/9. UMBC 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore (in Common, 3rd floor). Open to U1200/Un. USCF membership required. Free USCF mem. to anyone scoring 50% or better. Certificate to anyone completing 5 rds. Top UMBC student-awarded trophy & title of 2009-2010 UMBC Amateur Chess Champion. EF: $15 if postmarked by 9/4, $20 later. Reg.: 10-11:30-1:30-3:45-7:30 pm or by 9/16, $30 on-site. Site entries only. Entry fee includes a Maryland Chess Association Membership. EF: $20 per player. Site entries only. Entry fee includes a Maryland Chess Association Membership.


New Jersey

Geller Quads - First Friday Every Month! New Jersey Children’s Chess School, 862 DeGray Ave., Forest Hill (Newark), NJ 07104. Open to K-8. 3 R, G/35. EF: 6:30-7-8:40 PM. Chess classes in NJCCS meet every Friday 6-9:30 PM. Chess camp “Geller Quads” meets during the school year and overnight. Web: www.kidschesscamp.com. Email: chesscamp@hot mail.com. Phone: 973-483-7927.

The Newark Sleepless Knights Chess Club

Bouton Recreation Center of Newav, 96-5 Orange Ave., Newark, New Jersey 07102. Meets 1st and 2nd Sundays of every month from 6-30. USCF rated tournaments and free chess lessons available.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? Visit www.sleeplessknights.com or call 973-455-4222.

Tournament Life
GOLD SILVER AFFILIATES

GOLD

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 50 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Gold Affiliate. Gold Affiliates are honored in a special list in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and website. Gold Affiliation costs $350 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract $3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation, or $20 for each month remaining on their Silver Affiliation. As of August 6, 2007, by paying an annual payment of $500 (instead of $350), Gold Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.

SILVER

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 25 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Silver Affiliate. These affiliates will be recognized in a special list in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, state, and choice of either phone number, e-mail address, or website. Silver Affiliation costs $150 per year, and existing affiliates may subtract $3 for each month remaining on their regular affiliation, or $20 for each month remaining on their Silver Affiliation. As of August 6, 2007, by paying an annual payment of $250.00 (instead of $150), Silver Affiliate status may be obtained with no minimum requirement for memberships submitted.
For age 50 or above, or a Time control of Game/5. TLA’s such as “USCF-Any tournament” to first in each section.

Nov. 14, Jersey Shore K-12 Regionals
Somerset Ramada Inn, 60 Cottontail Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873. Take exit #12 off I-287. In 4 player games, G/90. Regs. before 10am, First Round 10am, then ASAP with lunch break. EF: $30. Prizes: Choice of $40 or Trophy & EF refund. Current Chess students of Ken may play for half EF & half prize. Info: Ken Thomas, acn@goes.com / cell 908-763-6468. NS N.C.

Dec. 27, Ken’s Last Sunday Quads
Sponsored by the Wired Kings CC and the New Mexico Chess Organization. Main Library, 501 Cooper NW, Albuquerque, NM 87101. V. Community Room (lower level) - 7/05-7/10 $15 Entry Fee - No On-site Entries. One section. Prizes: $50-$40: $150-$125-$95; 1st U1500, U1200 all $25. No byes allowed - Entries must be received by 4/29. USCF membership required but not available on site. N/S - No food or beverage on site.

Nov. 29, Ken’s Last Sunday Quads
Sponsored by the Wired Kings CC and the New Mexico Chess Organization. Main Library, 501 Cooper NW, Albuquerque, NM 87101. V. Community Room (lower level) - 7/05-7/10 $15 Entry Fee - No On-site Entries. One section. Prizes: $50-$40: $150-$125-$95; 1st U1500, U1200 all $25. No byes allowed - Entries must be received by 4/29. USCF membership required but not available on site. N/S - No food or beverage on site.

Sponsored by the Wired Kings CC and the New Mexico Chess Organization. Main Library, 501 Cooper NW, Albuquerque, NM 87101. V. Community Room (lower level) - 7/05-7/10 $15 Entry Fee - No On-site Entries. One section. Prizes: $50-$40: $150-$125-$95; 1st U1500, U1200 all $25. No byes allowed - Entries must be received by 4/29. USCF membership required but not available on site. N/S - No food or beverage on site.

TOURNAMENT LIFE

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Free New TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!

Tournament Life

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements!

Adult Dues Options! >>

New Free TLA Categories Added!

RUN AN ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER!
Each affiliation is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of CHESS CLUB SPECIAL. An additional TLA is awarded as encouragement to affiliated clubs that have at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.
A tournament playing only on one or two weekday evenings.

New Free TLA Categories Added!
**USTCF's 62nd ANNUAL 2009 Open Correspondence Chess Golden Knights Championship**

**$1,000 First Prize**

- **plus title of USTCF's Golden Knights Champion and plaque**
- **2nd place $600**
- **3rd place $400**
- **4th place $200**
- **6th thru 10th place $100 each.**
- **Entry fee $25.**

The entry deadline is November 30, 2009.

These USCTF Correspondence Chess events are open to all USCTF members who reside on the North American continent, islands, or Hawaiian Islands, as well as those USCTF members with an APO or FPO address. USCTF members who reside outside of the North American continent are welcome to participate in e-mail events. Your USCTF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten.

**Note:** Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

### Chess Chess Matches (two players)

- **$5 entry fee per person** with two, four or six-game options.

**Win A Correspondence Chess Trophy**

- Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings.
- Prize: 1st place winner receives a trophy.
- **Entry fee $10.**

Victor Palcukauskas Prize Tournaments

- Seven-player class-level pairings, one game with each of six opponents.
- Prize: USCTF CC rating to enter.
- **1st-place winner receives a USTCF Membership Certificate and plaque.**
- **Entry fee $25.**

John W. Collins Memorial Class Tournaments

- Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings (unrated welcome).
- **1st-place winner receives a USTCF Membership Certificate and plaque.**
- **Entry fee $7.**

### E-mail Rated Events (need e-mail access):

- **Lightning Match** Two players with two, four or six-game options. **Entry fee $5 per person.**

- **Swift Quads** Four-player, double round-robin e-mail format tournament with class-level pairings. **1st place winner receives: A trophy.**
- **Express Tournament** Seven-player events, one game with each of six opponents.
- Prizes: **1st place $30**
- **2nd place $20**
- **3rd place $10**
- **Entry fee $15.**
- **Please circle event(s) selected.**

**NOTE:** Except for Chess Tournaments, Swift Quads, Walter Muir E-Quads, Electronic Knights & Express Tournaments, players will use post office mail, unless opponents agree to use e-mail.

---

**USTCF's 6th ANNUAL 2009 E-mail Correspondence Chess Electronic Knights Championship**

(Seven-player sections, each game with one of six opponents.)

- **2nd place $400**
- **3rd place $300**
- **4th thru 10th place $100 each.**
- **Entry fee $25.**

The entry deadline is November 30, 2009.

These USCTF Correspondence Chess events are open to all USCTF members with e-mail addresses. Your USCTF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten.

**Note:** Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

---

**To Enter:** 800-903-USTCF (8723), Fax 931-978-1200 or on-line www.uschess.org

**Name:**
**USCF ID#**
**Address**__City__State_ZIP__Phone__E-mail__Rating__Credit card # (VISA, MC, Discover, AMEX)__Exp. date__

**If using VISA, need V-code**
**Check here if you do not wish to have an opponent who is incarcerated.**

**Make checks payable to U.S. Chess and mail to: Joan DuBois, USCF, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557**
Nov. 1, The Chess Exchange Monthly Trophy Quads 3-WR, $50. The Chess Exchange; 288 Third Ave., Between Carroll and President, Brooklyn, 718-645-8986. EF: $15. $5 trophies to top 2 in each quad. Reg.: ends 10 min before rd. 1. Rds.: 4-4:30 p.m.


Nov. 3, Marshall CC New York Experts Open to U2000 $50, $30/b/20 $120-70-50, U1300 free. EF: $25. $5 less if played in any of the first three MCC Amateur Team Rds.: 4-3:30, G/30. Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W. 10th St., bet 5-6 Ave., NYC: Nov. 12, 4 Rated Games Tonight!

Nov. 7-8, Fourth Marshall CC Amateur Team Championship! 4SS, G/30. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC, 212-477-3716. $23 entry fee if received by 11/9, $30 at site, with one additional $3 discount for entries in the New York State New York State Chess Championship, carpools of three or more, or military ID. Place and class prize based on entries. Scholastic: $15 entry fee if received by 11/9/11, $20 at site. Registration by mail or at site from 9:30-10:45 a.m. Rounds: 11 a.m., 2-3:15-4:30 and 3 p.m. Entries/Information: Karl Heck, 5426 Route 67, East Durham, NY 12423. sld@nyair.net, 518-966-8523.

Nov. 10, Ullica Four Seasons – Fall 4SS Rds. 1-2 $40, Rds. 3-4 $45. Mohawk Valley Community College, East 31, 9:15, bear left, South on E. Genesee, (2.6 miles), left on Memorial Highway (2.3 miles), left Sherman, right into MVCC, IT Building. EF: $30. Prizes (b/20): $100, $75, $50.

Nov. 14, 2009 New York State Action Chess Championship Quality Inn and Suites, 611 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham (New York exit 15). G/30-60 in two sections: Open and Scholastic in combination with the 2009 New York State Quick Chess Championship. NYSCA membership required. Open: $23 entry fee if received by 11/9, $30 at site, with one additional $3 discount for entries in the New York State New York State Chess Championship, carpools of three or more, or military ID. Place and class prize based on entries. Scholastic: $15 entry fee if received by 11/9, $20 at site. Registration by mail or at site from 9:30-10:45 a.m. Rounds: 5:30-6-7-7:30-8:30 p.m. Entries/Information: Karl Heck, 5426 Route 67, East Durham, NY 12423. sld@nyair.net, www.enyca.org, 518-966-8523.

Nov. 14-15, Marshall November Open $250, $150, $75, $45, $30 (b/15 $230 b/20). Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC, 212-477-3716. EF: $45. Members $230. $300 b/20 $120-70-50, U1300 free, $50 U1000. Reg.: ends 11:50am. Rds.: 2 schedule 2 days: 1st, 2-day, rds 12:30-5:30 pm each day; 2-day, rds 2-2:30: 12-3:30-5:30 pm. Successions merge rd 1 for 2 after 1 day, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. May be limited to first 60 players. WCL JGP for rounds slower than G/60.

Memorandum Application Program (MAP) Top standings will appear every two months in Chess Life. More frequent MAP standings and details will appear at main.uschess.org/go/MAP.

Overall Affiliate Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAPERCOIL PAIRINGS</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAYAREACHESSCOM GRANADA GUARD</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN YOUTH CHESS CLUB</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOLASTIC CHESS OF INDIANA</td>
<td>IN</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALLAS CHESS CLUB</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAINE ASSOC OF CHESS COACHES</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIDERWOOD CHESS CLUB</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JERSEY SHORE HS CHESS LEAGUE</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARSHALL CHESS CLUB</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOLASTIC CHESS OF INDIANA</td>
<td>IN</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOLASTIC CHESS OF NEW YORK</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Small State Affiliate Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAINE ASSOC OF CHESS COACHES</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO CHESS</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW MEXICO SCHOL CHESS ORG</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIoux EMPIRE CHESS FOUNDATION</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIRLINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELLS MEMORIAL SCHOOL</td>
<td>NH</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN CHESS CLUB</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MESA CHESS CLUB</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COASTAL MAINE SCHOLASTIC CHESS</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST MARYS PARISH SCHOOL CC</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Chapter Affiliate Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MICHIGAN CHESS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHESS FED</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINNESOTA STATE CHESS ASSN</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASSACHUSETTS CHESS ASSOC</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW JERSEY STATE CHESS FED</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARYLAND CHESS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW HAMPSHIRE CHESS ASSN</td>
<td>NH</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA CHESS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TENNESSEE CHESS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>TN</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTAH CHESS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>UT</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PCT Gain Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dec08</th>
<th>Jul09</th>
<th>Pct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NY</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dec08</th>
<th>Jul09</th>
<th>Pct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1020</td>
<td>1016</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Nov. 15-13 or 14-15, 18th Annual Kings Island Open See Grand Prix.


Nov. 13-15 or 14-15, 18th Annual Kings Island Open See Grand Prix.


Nov. 28, Tproflophan Open, Reynoldsburg 4-5 SS, G/75. New England National Rd., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. EF: $125 by 11/27, then $100. 3 Sections: Open, Select/U1700, Reserve/U1400. Prizes: $870 b/40, Open 160-120 U1850 100; Select 120-80 U1550 50; Reserve $100-50 U1250-50. EF: $300 by 11/24. Prizes: $100 by 11/24, then $50. EF: Free to Beachwood Chess Club students, others $10 at site. Sections: Championship, U 2000, U 1000. Prizes: Trophies to all scoring 3 points or higher, participation awards. Reg.: 12:00-12:45 PM. Rds.: 1:00 & ASAP. Info: Mike Joelson, mdjoelson@aol.com, 216-321-7200, www.progresswithchess.org.
Pennsylvania
North Penn Chess Club
Main & Richardson, Lansdale, PA. See www.npcchessclub.org for schedules & info or call 215-699-8418.
Every 1st Saturday Lehigh Valley Super Quads 3-RR, St. James Church, 11th & High St., Allentown, PA 18102. Quads open to all. EF: $10, $30 Perfect Score, else $25 1st. Reg.: 12:30-1:30. Info: 610-823-4320, tvilas@lehighvalleychess.org, www.lehighvalleychess.org.
Every Friday Night Early/Late USCF Rated 5-minute Blitz (QC) 3SS, G/30. St. Andrew’s, 1200 Roosevelt Ave., Allentown, PA. 3SS, $5 cash only at site. Prize: $50 of paid Entries. 1st-70%, 2nd-30% and $15 to 3rd, 4th, 5th. Based on 12 or more players. FREE Coffee for All Entries. FREE ENTRY TO UNRATEDS, with paid one year USCF Membership. Event 1: 6:30-7:00pm. Event 2: 7:30-8:00pm. Event 3: 8:00-8:30pm. Event 4: 8:30-9:00pm. Rds.: 9-10-11-12-13-14-15. 15-30 min. Free game analysis by NM Adam Weissbarth. See www.silverknightschess.com for more details.
Sept. 19, 20th, 21st, 22nd School Day’s Swiss See Grand Prix.
Sept. 26, 3rd Annual Greater Pocono Scholastic Championships 3SS, G/45. Pocono Mountain School Rd., Stroudsburg, PA 18360. Sections: 3RR, G/1200, G/1500, G/1800, G/2400. Two sections and two divisions. Two sections: Gold and Silver. Silver divisions are open to all players. Gold divisions are USCF rated. Prizes: full mail to top 10 and 12 players. Entry Information: 570-421-9802. Email: pack92chess@yahoo.com. For more information contact: Mike Laverty, 151 Lake Valhalla, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301.
Rhode Island
Cranston-Warwick CC Monthly Every Tuesday. 4SS, 90/30. Cranston City Center, Cranston, RI. Email: chessclub@grandecom.net. For more information: M.L. Silverman, 520-421-9802. Email: pack92chess@yahoo.com. Mail Entry Fee to: Michael Laverty, 151 Lake Valhalla, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301.
Oct. 10-12, 50th Annual U.S. Armed Forces Open See Nationals.
South Carolina
Oct. 16-18 or 17-18, 70th S.C. Championships See Grand Prix.
Tennessee
Oct. 3, Memphis Fall Cajun Chess Festival See Grand Prix.
Chess to Enjoy

Problem I.
1. Rc1! (or 1. Rc2 threatens 2. Rg1 and 3. Rg8 mate, e.g. 1. ... Rb4 2. Rc8 mate.

Problem II.

Problem III.
1. ... Rf7? 2. Kd6 Qg6+ 3. Kc5 Rf5+ ... 4. g7 Qxg7 (or 1. ... Bxg7 Black scores with 1. ... Rb1. On 2. Rg1 Black missed 1. ... Qf2! (inviting 2. Rxf2 Re1+) 2. It’s only drawn after 1. ... Qg3+ 2. Kh1 g4 3. Qf1 The win is straightforward:

It was drawn after 1. ... Kd6? 2. b4 (because if Bronstein missed 1. ... g4! because if 2. fxg4 f3
Instead 1. Nf6+! is fatal: 1. ... gxf6 2. exf6 e5 (or

Chess to Enjoy

Problem I.
A. White can win with 1. Rxe7+ Rxe7 (or 1. ... Bxe7 2. Rg1! Rb8 3. f6) 2. Bxh6 Rh8 3. Ne7 but there’s a simpler way.

C. The crusher was 1. Rg6! Rh8 (if 1. ... fxg6 2. fxg6+ Kh8 3. Bxh6) 2. Rhxh6+ gxh6 3. Qxh6+ Kg8 4. Rg1+ with mate next.

B. Instead 1. Nf6+! is fatal: 1. ... gx6 2. exf6 e5 (or 2. ... Qc2 3. Qxf6+! Kxf6 4. Rd8 mate) 3. Qxf6 Rg8 4. Rd8 mate.
C. Black can still offer some resistance after 1. Rd4 Ba6 2. Qe7 Qc2 3. Rg4 Kh8 4. Rxe7 Qf5.

A. Black missed 1. ... Qf2! (inviting 2. Rxf2 Re1+) 2. Ng3 Qe1+! 3. Rxe1 Rxe1+ and mate next.

B. The game was drawn after 1. ... Qa6 2. Ng3.
C. Black is the one who gets mated after 1. ... Rxe7?? 2. Rxe8+.

A. It was drawn after 1. ... Kd6? 2. b4 (because if now 2. ... g4 3. e5+ leads to perpetual check).

B. Bronstein missed 1. ... g4! because if 2. fxg4 f3 or 2. h4x4 h3! forces mate.
C. It’s only drawn after 1. ... Qg3+ 2. Kh1 Qf4 3. Qf3 Qxg3 4. Qxf3.

Endgame Lab – Benko’s Bafflers

Problem I.
1. e6+!

1. Kh6?! Rg2! 2. Qf1+ Ke8 3. Qc1 Qg6+ 4. Kf1 Qxg6 5. a8=N+ Kf7 6. Qf3+ Ke6 7. Kg6 Qf4+! 8. Qxe4 stalemate

1. ... dx6

1. ... Kxe7 2. Qe5+ Kf6 3. Qg5+ wins


2. Kf7 Rg8 10. Nb8 Rg5+ 9. ... Kg7 10. Rg8+ 2. Nh6 Rg5

9. ... Rg7+ 10. Kh8 Rxa7 11. Nxa7 Ke5

11. ... Ke7 12. Kg7 Kd6 13. Kf6

12. Kg7 Kd5


Problem II.
1. Nd4 Nx4

White stands better after 1. ... Qf7? 2. Qa4! Qa5 3. Qa1 g1=Q 4. Qc3 Qa1+ 5. Qxa1 e1=Q 6. Qa2 Qe5 7. Qf7.

2. Ne6 Bd8

2. ... c1=Q 3. Qxc1 Qxc1 4. Nc7+ Qxc7 Stalemate.
3. Nxd4

Black is better if 3. Qc3? c1=Q 4. Qc1 Nc2.
3. ... Qf2 4. Qa2 Qxd4 5. Qd5+ Qxd5 Stalemate.

Solitaire Chess – ABCs of Chess

Problem I.
Promotion: The win is straightforward: 1. ... Bxa1 since 2. Bx8 Rx8 3. Rx1 Rd1+ ends it.

Problem II.
Getting out of check: White has no answer to 1. ... Be5, when the queen and mate are menaced.

Problem III.
Back row: Black wins for sure with 1. ... Rxd2 2. Rxd2 Qe1+, whereas 1. ... Bh2+ 2. Kxh2 Rx3 3. Rxd8+ Qxd8 Rx3 should lead to a draw.

Problem IV.
Unpin: Black saves the queen and wins with 1. ... Rxh4+ 2. gxh4 Qxh6.

Problem V.
Driving off: After 1. ... Rf5, White has no reasonable way to save his bishop.

Problem VI.
Back row: Black scores with 1. ... Rb1. On 2. Rg1 there follows 2. ... Bb4. Meanwhile, 2. Qf3 fails to 2. ... Rxf1+ 3. Qxf1 Qxd6.

What’s The Best Move?

A. White can win with 1. Rxe7+ Rxe7 (or 1. ... Bxe7 2. Rg1! Rb8 3. f6) 2. Bxh6 Rh8 3. Ne7 but there’s a simpler way.

C. The crusher was 1. Rg6! Rh8 (if 1. ... fxg6 2. fxg6+ Kh8 3. Bxh6) 2. Rhxh6+ gxh6 3. Qxh6+ Kg8 4. Rg1+ with mate next.

2. B. Levenfish-Riumin, Moscow 1936.
A. White eventually drew after the tame retreat 1. Ng3!

B. Instead 1. Nf6+! is fatal: 1. ... gx6 2. exf6 e5 (or 2. ... Qc2 3. Qxf6+! Kxf6 4. Rd8 mate) 3. Qxf6 Rg8 4. Rd8 mate.
C. Black can still offer some resistance after 1. Rd4 Ba6 2. Qe7 Qc2 3. Rg4 Kh8 4. Rxe7 Qf5.

A. Black missed 1. ... Qf2! (inviting 2. Rxf2 Re1+) 2. Ng3 Qe1+! 3. Rxe1 Rxe1+ and mate next.

B. The game was drawn after 1. ... Qa6 2. Ng3.
C. Black is the one who gets mated after 1. ... Rxe7?? 2. Rxe8+.

A. It was drawn after 1. ... Kd6? 2. b4 (because if now 2. ... g4 3. e5+ leads to perpetual check).

B. Bronstein missed 1. ... g4! because if 2. fxg4 f3 or 2. h4x4 h3! forces mate.
C. It’s only drawn after 1. ... Qg3+ 2. Kh1 Qf4 3. Qf3 Qxg3 4. Qxf3.
KINGS ISLAND OPEN
November 13-15 or 14-15, 2009
Kings Island Resort, near Cincinnati
$25,000 PROJECTED PRIZES,
$20,000 MINIMUM GUARANTEED!

Free analysis by GM Arthur Bisguier!
In 7 sections- you play only those in your section.

5-round Swiss, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2
G/75), Kings Island Resort, 5691 Kings Island Dr (I-71, 6
miles N of I-275), Mason, Ohio 45040. Free parking.
Prizes $25,000 based on 360 paid entries (re-entries
count as 60% entry, U1000/Unr Section 40% entry), else
in proportion; minimum 80% of each prize guaranteed.
Free analysis of your games by GM Arthur Bisguier!

In 7 sections- you face only those in your section.
Unrateds will obtain ratings. Provisionally rated players
are not unrated.

Open Section: $2500-1200-600-300-200, clear win or
1st on tiebreak bonus $100, Under 2300/Unr $1400-700.
FIDE rated, 120 Grand Prix Points (enhanced).
Under 1500 Section: $1500-700-400-200-100.
Under 1300 Section: $1200-600-300-200-100.
Under 1000 Section: $900-500-300-200-100.
Unrated prize limits: U1000 $80, U1300 $130,
U1500 $300, U1700 $400, U1900 $500.

Top 6 Sections entry fee: 3-day $103, 2-day $102 if
mailed by 11/5, all $105 online at chessour.com by 11/10,
$110 phoned by 11/10 (406-896-2038, entry only, no
questions), $120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site.
Under 1000 Section entry fee: 3-day $43, 2-day $42
mailed to 11/5, both $44 at chessour.com by 11/10, $46
phoned to 406-896-2038 by 11/10, $50 at tournament.

Re-entry $60; not available in Open Section.
FREE ENTRY TO UNRATED in U1000 or U1300 if
paying 1 year USCF dues.

Special 1 year USCF dues with Chess Life if paid
with entry- online at chessour.com $30, by mail, phone or
site $40. USCF membership required.

3-day schedule: Late reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7
pm, Sat 11 am & 6 pm, Sun 9 & 3:15.
2-day schedule: Late reg. ends Sat. 10 am, rds. Sat
11 am, 2:30 pm & 6 pm, Sun 9 & 3:15.
All: ½-pt byes OK all rounds; Open must commit by rd
2, others by rd 3. No smoking. Bring sets, boards, clocks
if possible- none supplied. November rating supplement
used. $15 service charge for refunds. Unofficial
uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated.

Special hotel rates: $73 single/twin, 800-727-3050,
513-398-0115. Reserve by 10/30 or rate may increase.
Car rental: Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D65763S,
or reserve car online through chessour.com. Car rental is
cheapest, easiest transportation from Cincinnati airport.

Past winners:
Alex Shabalov. 1995 Alex Fishbein. 1996 Alex Ivanov.
1997 Alex Goldin. 1998 Rashid Ziatdinov. 1999 Alex
2002 Maurice Ashley. 2003 Ildefonso Bragin. 2004 Aleks
2007 Gregory Kaidanov. 2008 Alex Shabalov.

Continental Chess Association entry form- use for any CCA tournament- photocopy if desired

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>USCF ID</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tournament</td>
<td>Section</td>
<td>No. Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry fee</td>
<td>USCF dues</td>
<td>Birth date, if paying USCF dues (month, day, year)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Send to Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Checks payable to same. Use of form is optional- you can enter
any CCA event by sending name, tournament, section, number of days, USCF ID, rating, & fee.
Did you know?

USCF SALES

• USCF Sales is one of North America’s Largest Speciality Chess Retailers, with a 24,000 ft² facility and more than 3,000 Chess Products In Stock and Ready to Ship.

• USCF Sales offers the complete lines of Convekta®, ChessBase® and ChessMentor®-brand Computer Software.

• USCF Sales offers the complete lines of Saitek® and Excalibur®-brand Computers.

• USCF Sales offers the complete lines of Everyman, Gambit, Batsford, Dover and Random House-brand Chess Books.

For All Your Chess Needs

1-800-388-KING (5464)
WWW.USCFSALES.COM

All Purchases Benefit
The US Chess Federation
USCF Sales is happy to announce that we have expanded our offerings to include a full line of trophies, medals and awards to meet your tournament needs. We offer custom engraving, fast courteous service and as always, great pricing. Please feel free to contact our sales associates for more details.

Take $10 off your first Trophy or Award order of $100.00 or more.

coupon code: TROPHY10

1-800-388-KING (5464)
WWW.USCFSALES.COM

All Purchases Benefit
The US Chess Federation