

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #374

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions – news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to BC players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

Southern Class Championships (March 15-17)

Spring Break and many of us look for ways to get away (not that the weather here of late is anything to complain about). Two such travellers were Paul Leblanc and Winston Huang, who ended up playing in the Southern Class Championships held in Orlando, Florida. Overall winner of the event was IM Codrut Florescu with 4.5/5; Paul scored 2.0 points in the A Section, while Winston had three wins in Section E. [Tournament website](#)

9th HD Bank Cup (March 7-13)

Last year it was Leon Piasetski, this year Brian McLaren made the trip to Vietnam to participate in the most important open event in South-East Asia, the HD Bank Cup. Held in Ho Chi Minh City, the tournament attracted one hundred and forty-three players, among them Chinese star Wang Hao. In the end it was Wang Hao, the only 2700+ entrant, who took the first prize with 7.5/9. Brian found the going tough, scoring only one win and two draws for a final total of 2.0 points. [Results](#)

Kavinda, Akila – McLaren, Brian [A30] HDBank Cup 9th Ho Chi Minh (3.70), 08.03.2019

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0–0 e6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Bg5 a6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Qf4 0–0 12.Rfd1 Be7 13.Qe3 Nd7 14.Nd4 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Rc8 16.b3 Re8 17.Nf3 Qc7 18.Rac1 Nf6 19.Na4 Nd7 20.Nc3 Bf8 21.Ne4 Nc5 22.h4 Red8 23.b4 Nxe4 24.Qxe4 Qe7 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5 d5 27.Qf4 f6 28.Qe3 Qd6 29.Nd4 e5 30.Nc6 Re8 31.Qb3 Kh8 32.Qxd5 Qa3 33.Qb3 Ra8 34.Qxa3 Rxa3 35.Rc3 h5 36.Rcd3 Ra4 37.R1d2 Kh7 38.Rb2 Kg6 39.Rd8 Rxd8 40.Nxd8 Ba3 41.Rb3 Bd6 42.Rb2 Ba3 43.Rc2 Ra5 44.Rc3 Bc5 45.Nb7 Rxb5 46.a4 Rb4 47.Nxc5 bxc5 48.Ra3 Rb6 49.a5 Ra6 50.Kf3 Kf5 51.Ke3 Ke6 52.Kd3 Kd5 53.e4+ Kc6 54.Kc4 Ra7 55.a6 Kb6 56.Ra1 Kc6 57.Ra2 Kb6 58.f3 Kc6 59.g4 0–1

Vo, Dai Hoai Duc – McLaren, Brian [A91] HDBank Cup 9th Ho Chi Minh (5.62), 10.03.2019

1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 e6 4.c4 c6 5.Nh3 Be7 6.0–0 0–0 7.b3 d6 8.Bb2 Qc7 9.Nd2 Na6 10.e4 fxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 Bf6 13.Nf4 g6 14.Qe2 Qg7 15.Bg2 Nc7 16.Qd1 Bd7 17.Ne2 Rad8 18.Qd2 Bc8 19.Rad1 e5 20.Qa5 exd4 21.Bxd4 Rde8 22.Bxf6 Rxf6 23.Nf4 a6 24.Rfe1 Rxe1+ 25.Rxe1 Ne6 26.Nxe6 Bxe6 27.Qd8+ Qf8 28.Qb6 Qf7 29.Qd4 Bd7 30.h4 Re6 31.Re4 Rxe4 32.Bxe4 Qe6



33.Qd3 Qe5 34.h5 Bf5 35.Bxf5 gxf5 36.Qd2 d5 37.cxd5 cxd5 38.Qg5+ Kf7 39.Qh6 Qe1+ 40.Kg2 Qe4+ 41.Kh3 f4 42.gxf4 d4 43.Qd6 d3 44.Kg3 Qe2 45.Qd7+ Kf6 46.Qd6+ Kf7 47.Qd5+ Kf6 48.Qd6+ Kf7 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

BC Active Championship (March 17)

Held once again under the auspices of the Vancouver Chess School in their offices at Jericho Village (4th and Alma). The field of forty-one included many students from the school but also a number of new and old faces. Top-ranked was BC co-champion FM Tanraj Sohal, who beat second-ranked Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj in the fourth round before taking a quick draw with Andrew Hemstapat to tie for first with 4.5/5. Andrew had a considerably easier path to the podium, receiving favourable pairings from the accelerated system used. Top U1800 was Henry Yang with a massive seven-way(!) tie for second between Jerald Mamaradlo, AlexJiale Wang, Daniel Wang, Ashton Taylor, Kai Wang, Jessica Qian, and Gillian Mok. Jayden Qu and Leonardo Zhou won the U1100 prizes, Ryanbole Yu and Aiden Leong the U900. Many thanks to organizer Maxim Doroshenko for hosting the event. [Crosstable](#)



BCYCC (March 10-11)



Administered by chess2inspire, this year's BCYCC was organizational pretty much a duplicate of the last couple of years. The big difference was the location, which was switched to the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC at the last minute after a measles scare at the planned site, Lansdowne Centre in Richmond. The two-day, four- or five-round tournament attracted a record number of entrants, one hundred and twenty-nine players, divided into sections determined by age

and gender (although some sections were combined for pairing purposes). Special thanks to Michael Lo, Lara Lo, Glen Lee, Jonah Lee, Eric Gu, and all the others who helped make the event a success. [Crosstables](#)

The trophy winners were as follows:

U8 Open

- 1 Jayden Qu
- 2 Nicholas Wu
- 3 Codrin Pompas

U14 Open

- 1 Patrick Huang
- 2 Neil Doknjas
- 3 Peter Yong Qiu

U10 Girls

- 1 Colette Eisenberg
- 2 Julianne Xu
- 3 Dorsa Shaeri

U10 Open

- 1 Alex Zou
- 2 Winston Huang
- 3 Joshua Gao

U16 Open

- 1 Brian Yang
- 2 Victor Zheng
- 3 Andrew Hemstapat

U12 Girls

- 1 Gillian Mok
- 2 Veronica Guo
- 3 Mengbai Li

U12 Open

- 1 Ethan Su
- 2 Lucas Eisenberg
- 3 Nathan Wu

U18 Open

- 1 Joshua Doknjas
- 2 Maven Zheng
- 3 Ashton Taylor

U14 Girls

- 1 Jessica Qian
- 2 Elaine Fan
- 3 Lyvia Shan

U18 Girls

- 1 Jenny Jiang

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Opponent – Harper, Bruce [A41] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

This game features a positional exchange sacrifice which proves to be startlingly effective.

1.Nf3 [3:00] **g6** [3:00] **2.d4** [2:58] **Bg7** [2:59]
3.g3 [2:57] **d6** [2:59] **4.Bg2** [2:56] **Nc6** [2:58]
5.d5 [2:55] **Ne5** [2:56] **6.Nxe5** [2:54] **Bxe5**
[2:56] **7.0-0** [2:52] **Bd7** [2:55] **8.c4** [2:49] **Qc8**
[2:54]



Standard fare for regular readers of this column. Have you tried this opening yet? **9.Qb3** [2:47] **b6!**? [2:51] Black is nothing if not ambitious. He doesn't have any real play on the kingside at this point, but the beauty of three-minute chess is that you don't have to wait long for things to change. **10.Nc3** [2:41] **Bh3** [2:49] **11.Qb5+** [2:36] A tempting move, but Black doesn't intend to castle anyway. **11...Kf8** [2:47] **12.f4?** [2:30] White should keep his knight with **12.Ne4!** **12...Bxc3?!** [2:43] **12...Bd4+** was more precise, as after **13.e3 Bxc3 14.bxc3** White's c1-bishop is hemmed in, and **13.Kh1 h5!** is good for Black. **13.bxc3** [2:29] **Bxg2** [2:42] **14.Kxg2** [2:28] **f5** [2:38] **14...h5** was probably better. At this point I realized I had ruined my idea by forgetting to play **12...Bd4+**, but because I was angry I played it anyway. **15.Be3** [2:25] **15.e4! fxe4 16.Be3** and **17.Bd4** was better. **15...Nf6** [2:27] **16.Bd4** [2:23] **Kf7** [2:26] **17.Rae1** [2:18]



Other than the fact that White's bishop isn't supposed to be on d4, Black more or less has what he was

hoping for. Of course, the position of White's bishop makes all the difference. This explains Black's next move. **17...Ne4!**? [2:23] This radical move isn't actually necessary, because after the "mysterious rook move" **17...Re8!** (which isn't mysterious at all to the engine, which plays it instantly), White fares badly after **18.Bxf6 exf6**, when Black has excellent prospects in the ensuing heavy piece middle (end?) game. **18.Bxh8** [2:10] To his credit, White thought for eight seconds before taking Black's h8-rook. This indicates that he realized Black's last move was a sacrifice, rather than just a blunder. It is correct to accept the sacrifice, but White has to play accurately afterwards. **18...Qxh8!**? [2:23] **19.Qd7?** [2:04] A mistake. White should play **19.Rc1**, so that after **19...Nxc3 20.Qb2!** Black is forced to trade queens, eliminating any threats to White's king. The position would then be balanced. **19...Qxc3** [2:17] **20.Qxc7** [1:57] **h5!** [2:14]



This seems slow, but if Black can bring his rook into the attack, White will be in real trouble. **21.Rd1** [1:27] White doesn't realize the danger. To be fair, I didn't fully appreciate just how strong Black's position was becoming either. A calm assessment of the position reveals the essence of the problem - as long as White's queen remains on its foraging expedition on the queenside, White's king is confronted with a superior force (a queen and knight against two rooks), and if Black's rook joins the attack, the imbalance will be fatal. White therefore has to bring his queen back to help in the defence, but he fails to do this, and in effect plays without a queen. **21...Qe3** [1:27] **22.Rde1** [1:21] **h4** [2:06]



23.Rf3? [1:19] Now it's over. White had to play 23.Qd7, threatening 24.Qe6, when Black would have to withdraw his knight with 23...Nc5. Black would retain a large advantage, though. **23...Qd2** [2:03] **24.Kf1** [1:10] **hxg3** [1:57] **25.Rxg3** [0:54]



25...Rh8 [1:40] I spent a bit of time looking at 25...Qxf4+(!), and it actually mates faster, but bringing the rook into the attack was a more "human" move (at least for this human). It is forced mate after both moves. **26.Qd7** [0:44] **Qxf4+** [1:34] **27.Rf3** [0:40] **Nd2+** [1:23] **28.Kf2** [0:24] **Rxh2+** [1:17] White resigns. **0-1**

1924 VANCOUVER - WINNIPEG TELEGRAPH MATCH

"The sending and receiving of 800 messages over the wire in the telegraphic match between Vancouver and Winnipeg last Saturday [December 13] was an outstanding feature of the occasion and bears witness to the fine service given by Mr. George A. McLachlan, who presided at the key. Stress of weather on the prairies added to the difficulties to be contended with, but science refused to be thwarted by either the handicap of distance or the vagaries of nature and the messages went through at the rate of two to the minute.

The score was six to one in favour of Vancouver. Out of the ten games, Ewing, Stevenson, Calhoun, Duval and Millar scored victories; Yates and Jenkins drew; and the Haines, Butler and Stark games were left for adjudication. Nothing can alter the fact that the local team has scored a remarkably decisive victory over their Winnipeg opponents. This result is all the more gratifying when the fact is taken into consideration that Winnipeg has for over twenty years had a strong reputation as a chess centre. Vancouver is a newcomer in the wider field and has asserted its right

to a place in the sun in no uncertain fashion. To have won the Gonnason cup (the provincial club championship) and to defeat Winnipeg within a fortnight puts Vancouver on the map in the arena of Canadian chess.

A further analysis of the individual games gives rise to the following comments, in all cases the player first named having the white and the move.



Ewing

Spencer (Winnipeg) vs. Ewing (Vancouver) - Centre counter opening. The rival champions maintained equality of position up to the middle of the game when Spencer made a tactical error at move 15. Ewing seized the opportunity and won in masterly fashion.

Yates (Vancouver) vs. Howard (Winnipeg) - Caro Kann defence. An even game up to the close of time when Yates was in a slightly superior position. A draw was agreed to.



Burrell

Burrell (Winnipeg) vs. Haines (Vancouver) - Ruy Lopez opening. Burrell had the better of the game throughout, and was in a decidedly superior position at the adjournment. Winnipeg claims a win. Left to adjudication. [The game was subsequently awarded to Winnipeg.]

Duval (Vancouver) vs. Quirk (Winnipeg) - Bird's opening. At move ten Quirk gave up a bishop in the hope of getting home with a strong attack, but Duval forced exchanges and won out by superior strategy.

Gregory (Winnipeg) vs. Butler (Vancouver) - Giuoco Piano. An even match, strongly played on both sides. At the close, however, Butler had a decided advantage. The game is left to adjudication; but superior strength plus superior position should give Butler the verdict. He had gained two pawns and should win another. [Adjudicated a draw.]

Stark (Vancouver) vs. Chiswell (Winnipeg) - Queen's gambit declined. A closely-fought battle of forty-four moves' duration, when Stark would appear to have the edge on his opponent, although it would seem difficult to demonstrate a win. Referred for adjudication. [Adjudicated a draw.]

Rheubottom (Winnipeg) vs. Jenkins (Vancouver) - Max Lange. This was a game with ups and downs to it. At move 9 Jenkins lost a piece. He won it back by steady effort at move 35. The game lasted 50 moves and ended in a draw, Jenkins overlooking an easy chance of winning at move 48.

Millar (Vancouver) vs. Christjansson (Winnipeg) - Zukertort's opening. The best game of the lot and a masterly win for Millar. With fine chess talent he obtained the upper hand and forced his opponent to admit defeat.

Thorlakson (Winnipeg) vs. Stevenson (Vancouver) - Centre counter opening. The Winnipeg man went down to defeat in 26 moves under a powerful attack, Stevenson showing superior play throughout. This was the first win scored for Vancouver and went far towards inspiring confidence in the local camp.

Calhoun (Vancouver) vs. Best (Winnipeg) - Ponziani. Calhoun, who won his game in the Gonnason Cup match at Victoria two weeks before, repeated the performance and overwhelmed his opponent by superior play. This was the only game of the match that ended in an actual mate." [*Vancouver Province*, Saturday, December 20, 1924]

"Vancouver won an interesting telegraph chess match, which was played on Saturday afternoon between teams representing Winnipeg and Vancouver.

The Winnipeg team was chosen from players from the various clubs in the Winnipeg and District Chess League, W.C.C. supplying four players; C.N.R. C.C., two; Y.M.C.A., two, and Icelandic C.C., two. The telegraph apparatus was installed in the club-room of the W.C.C., Fashion Craft Block. The Vancouver players were located at the Vancouver Hotel. This was the first telegraph match that has been played in this city for many years, the last match of the kind being played about 15 years ago between Winnipeg and Montreal. There were 10 boards aside, the Winnipeg team being made up as follows: R.J. Spencer, G.W. Howard, H.H. Burrell, Winnipeg C.C.; W.S. Quirk and H. Gregory, C.N.R. C.C.; P. Chiswell and A. Rheubottom, Y.M.C.A. C.C.; E. Christjansson and C. Thorlakson, Icelandic C.C., and E. Best, Winnipeg C.C.

Play commenced at 6 o'clock, Winnipeg time, Winnipeg winning the toss of the coin, and took the move at the odd number boards. Play at the outset was a trifle slow, but the game shortly speeded up. An adjournment took place at 7.30 p.m. for supper, after which play resumed until midnight. During the evening Vancouver registered their first win on board 10, Best having put up a game

defence against a Ponziani opening, of which he appeared not to be familiar. The next win came on board 9, followed soon after by the resignation of Spencer, board 1. Rheubottom, board 7, should have won his game, but apparently was menaced by too-eager spectators, but finally obtained a draw. Howard, board 2, defended with a Caro Kann and the game being even at midnight, a draw was agreed upon. Boards 3, 5 and 6 will be adjudicated by Mr. Morrison, Canadian Champion, Toronto." [*Winnipeg Evening Tribune*, Monday, December 15, 1924]

"The final score of the chess match between Vancouver and Winnipeg was: Vancouver, 7½ points, Winnipeg, 2½ points. At the close of play on Dec. 13 seven out of the ten games played had been definitely finished with five clear wins for Vancouver and two drawn games. Three games were left for adjudication. Since then an agreement has been reached and the final result is as above. Vancouver triumphed in decisive fashion.

The Winnipeg secretary, in writing, says: "We offer no excuses. We were properly beaten and met our Waterloo. In the meantime we have gained, I trust, some valuable information regarding the chessmanship of the Vancouver Club and found out what a lot of good fellows they are."

It is but right also to mention that the Winnipeg team consisted of four from the Winnipeg Chess Club and two each from the C.N.R., Iceland and Y.M.C.A. chess clubs. The Vancouver team was made up of seven members of the Vancouver Chess Club and three from the North Vancouver Chess Club. It is quite likely that a further contest may take place in the near future." [*Vancouver Province*, Saturday, January 3, 1925]

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid League 2018-2019

Monthly until May 2019

[Details](#)

VCC Active

March 30, Victoria

[Details](#)

Stan Rogers Memorial

April 6, Chilliwack

[Details](#)

Grand Pacific Open

April 19-22, Victoria

[Details](#)

Paul Keres Memorial

May 18-20, Richmond

[Details](#)

BC Senior Championship

June 29 - July 1, Surrey

[Details](#)