

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #401

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

Lions Chess Club (September 26)



The latest leg of the Lions Chess Club Blitz Grand Prix was held in person on September 26 with eight participants. Roman Jiganchine and Aram Arzumanyan tied for first with 6.0 points each, Joe Roback was third. The current Grand Prix standings (top ten) are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Aram Arzumanyan | 6 Roman Jiganchine |
| 2 Joe Roback | 7 Timur Zaruev |
| 3 Tristan Taylor | 8 Armine Arzumanyan |
| 4 Ryan Leong | 9 Konstantin Pyryaev |
| 5 Ashton Taylor | 10 Jaylord Teodoro Talosig |

"It's not too late to participate in the two more tournaments and secure your spot in the final competition in December." [Photos](#) [Lions Chess Club](#)

Oregon Open (online) (September 5-7)

The latest Pacific Northwest tournament to go online was the Oregon Open held in its traditional time slot over the Labour Day weekend. Apart from the regular six-round Swiss at 90 + 30 there were also scholastic, blitz, and bullet events. The field of ninety-four players was topped by a player who has become very familiar in these parts in the last six months, grandmaster Aleksandr Lenderman. He took two half-point byes but won the tournament nevertheless, aided by the other two GMs in the event (Jose Martinez Alcantara and Aleksej Aleksandrov) not completing their

schedules. Ontario junior Rohan Talukdar was clear second overall; the only BC player in the main event was Raymond Tangning Zhang who scored 3.5/6 in the U2000 Section.



Lenderman also won the blitz (ten-round Swiss) and bullet (three four-round Swisses to circumvent chess.com pairings restrictions); clear second in both cases was FM Tanraj Sohal, who did manage to take one bullet game off Lenderman. [Facebook report with links to crosstables and games](#)

Andrew Hemstapat Sweeps 2020 BC Active: Event Sets Record Attendance by Paul Leblanc

[Publication of this full report has been delayed due to the appeal of a fair play ban, an unfortunate negative aspect of online play]

The BC Active was held online for the first time during the weekend of 15-16 August. The format proved to be very popular with ninety-two players, more than double the previous record. With travel expenses not being a factor, nine players from Ontario, one from Scotland and many from diverse parts of BC were able to participate. The event was a fund-raiser for the BCCF Foundation, with a low \$20 entry fee and trophies for prizes; \$900 was raised for the Foundation. The event was organized by Paul Leblanc of Victoria Chess and the arbiter was Brendan Woodroff of Chilliwack.



It was evident from the beginning that the championship would be a three-way contest between Andrew Hemstapat, Patrick Huang and our Scottish "guest" Paul Roberts. In the end, Andrew prevailed, defeating both rivals in head-to-head games and finishing with a perfect 8.0-0.0. While Andrew was beating up on the other two, Tristan Taylor and Ethan Su, both of Vancouver managed to come up the middle and finish tied for second overall, a very fine performance at 6.5-1.5.

The U1700 trophy was won by Tiam Koukpari of Vancouver on tie-break over Jackie Hao of Surrey and Li Geng of Victoria, all at 6-2. Jackie Hao carried the U1300 trophy and Yuhan (John) Li of Surrey won the U900 trophy with 4.5-3.5 on tie-break with Zachary Liu of Coquitlam and Agrima Jaiman of Vancouver. [Tournament site Crosstable](#)

Li, Geng – Hemstapat, Andrew [E97] BC Active ch (online) chess.com (4.3), 15.08.2020

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6 5.e4 0–0 6.Be2 e5 7.0–0 Nc6 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Bg5 Bg4 10.Nd5 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Nd4 12.Nxf6+ Bxf6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Re1 Rfd8 15.Re3 a5 16.a3 a4 17.Rd3 Nb3 18.Rb1 Rxd3 19.Qxd3 Rd8 20.Qc3 Kg7 21.h3 Rd4 22.Rd1 Qd6 23.Rxd4 exd4 24.Qd3 Nc5 25.Qc2 Qe5 26.Be2 Qxe4 27.Qxe4 Nxe4 28.Bd1 Nc5 29.Kf1 Kf6 30.Ke2 Ke5 31.f3 Kf4 32.Kf2 Nd3+ 33.Ke2 Nxb2 34.c5 Kg3 0–1

Su, Ethan – Koukpari, Tiam [A10] BC Active ch (online) chess.com (4.6), 15.08.2020

1.e3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.cxd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Be2 Be7 6.0–0 0–0 7.Nc3 c6 8.d4 Bf5 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Nbd7 11.a3 Re8 12.b4 Nb6 13.Bd2 Bd6 14.Rfe1 Nc4 15.Qc2 Ne4 16.Bc1 f5 17.Nxe4 fxe4 18.Nd2 b5 19.Qd1 Re6 20.f3 Nxd2 21.Bxd2 Bxh2+ 22.Kxh2 Qh4+ 23.Kg1 exf3 24.Qxf3 Rf6 25.g3 Rg6 26.Kg2 Rf8 27.Rh1 Qe7 28.Qxf8+ Kxf8 29.Raf1+ Kg8 30.Rf3 h6 31.Kf2 Rf6 32.Rh4 Rxf3+ 33.Kxf3 Kh7 34.Rh2 g5 35.Ke2 Kg6 36.Rf2 h5 37.Be1 Qe4 38.Rf8 Qc2+ 39.Bd2 Qc4+ 40.Ke1 Qb3 41.Rg8+ Kh7 42.Rxg5 Kh6 43.Re5 Qxa3 44.Re6+ Kg5 45.Rxc6 Qd3 46.e4+ Kg4 47.exd5 Qxg3+ 48.Kd1 Qf3+ 49.Kc2 Qxd5 50.Rg6+ Kf3 51.Rf6+ Ke2 52.Bc3 Qe4+ 53.Kb2 h4 54.Rh6 Kd3 55.Rh8 Kc4 56.Rc8+ Kd3 57.Rc5 h3 58.d5 h2 59.d6 h1Q 60.d7 Qeg2+ 61.Kb3 Qb1+ 62.Bb2 Qbxb2# 0–1

Roberts, Paul – Williamson, Jason [B31] BC Active ch (online) chess.com (5.1), 16.08.2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0–0 Bg7 5.Re1 Nf6 6.e5 Nd5 7.Nc3 Nc7 8.Bxc6 dxc6 9.d3 0–0 10.h3 Nd5 11.Ne4 b6 12.a3 h6 13.Bd2 f5 14.exf6 exf6 15.Nc3 f5 16.Ne5 Qd6 17.Nc4 Qc7 18.Qf3 Bb7 19.a4 Rae8 20.Re2 Qf7 21.Nd6 Rxe2 22.Nxf7 Rxd2 23.Nd6 Ba8 24.Rc1 Nb4 25.Qe3 Rxc2 26.Rxc2 Nxc2 27.Qe6+ Kh7 28.Qd7 Kg8 29.Ne8 Rf7 30.Qe6 Nd4 31.Qxg6 Kf8 32.Nd6 Re7 33.Nxf5 Re1+ 34.Kh2 Be5+ 35.g3 b5 36.Ne4 1–0

Basko, Yauheni – Taylor, Tristan [B31] BC Active ch (online) chess.com (8.3), 16.08.2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0–0 Bg7 5.Re1 e5 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.d3 Qc7 8.Be3 b6 9.h3 Ne7 10.Qd2 0–0 11.Bh6 f6 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Qe3 Be6 14.Nbd2 Rad8 15.a4 a5 16.Nc4 Bxc4 17.dxc4 Rd6 18.Rad1 Rfd8 19.Rxd6 Qxd6 20.g3 Ng8 21.Kg2 Nh6 22.Ra1 Qb8 23.Qe2 Rd6 24.Qe3 Qd8 25.Re1 Nf7 26.Ra1 Qd7 27.Re1 Nd8 28.h4 h5 29.Ra1 Ne6 30.c3 Rd3 31.Qe2 Nf4+ 32.gxf4 Qg4+ 33.Kf1 Rxf3 34.Rd1 Qh3+ 35.Ke1 Rxf4 36.Rd3 Qh1+ 37.Kd2 Qb1 38.Ke3 Qh1 39.Rd7+ Kh6 40.Qd3 Rf3+ 41.Ke2 Rxd3 42.Kxd3 Qf3+ 0–1

EACH PIECE TELLS A STORY by Nathan Divinsky

The Tale of the White King Knight

The white king knight was just as big as the queen knight. In fact there was a remarkable physical resemblance between them. They were easy to distinguish however because the helmet of the king knight had an enormous crown stamped in its centre. Besides, the king knight carried a large banner with the name R E T I on it. From his badges and insignia it was clear that Zukertort and the entire hypermodern school were important to him.

As he came closer I was pleased to find a sensitive and friendly look in his eye. He looked me over carefully and then began to speak: “My dear Dr. D. We know that you like detailed analysis and I hope the following little item will satisfy you in this regard. It is only seventeen moves long, but I did

some rather penetrating work in it. Unfortunately it slights my brother the worthy queen knight, but I hope he will not take offence for being reminded that he did not move at all in this game. I hope, if we have time, to tell you of a recent struggle in which both my brother and I worked hard, as a team. This will soothe his fiery spirit.”

The two knights saluted each other and the king knight continued. “The game I wish to tell you about is:

Sokolsky, Alexey – Strugatsch [A00] White Russian Championship, Minsk 1958

1.b4 It is surprising that good players flirt with such moves and get good results when things closer to the king side are so much more important. **1...e5 2.Bb2 f6 3.e4** Sacrificing the queen knight pawn in order to develop the fighters as quickly as possible. **3...Bxb4 4.Bc4 Nc6** If **4...Ne7 5.Qh5+ Ng6** (if **5...g6 6.Qh4** with strong attacking possibilities.) **6.f4!** with a strong attack. **5.f4** If **5.Bxg8 Rxg8 6.Qh5+ Kf8 7.Qxh7 d5! 8.Nf3 dxe4 9.Qxe4 Be6** and Black has nothing to fear, as your Dutch archives pointed out.; Sokolsky himself pointed out that **5.Qh5+ g6 6.Qh4 Be7** leads to little. **5...exf4** After **5...d6** we have three good lines: **6.Ne2** (6.c3; or 6.f5); in Sokolsky-Krookov, 1960, that game continued **5...Qe7 6.f5 g6 7.Nc3 Qg7 8.Nd5! Ba5 9.Nf3 gxf5 10.exf5 Qxg2? 11.Rg1 Qh3 12.Rxg8+! Rxg8 13.Nxf6+.** **6.Nh3** I can fight from any angle, even from the edge. **6...Nge7** Sokolsky-Kuznechov, 1960 continued **6...Qe7 7.Bd5 Ne5 8.Nxf4 c6 9.0–0 cxd5 10.Nxd5 Qd6 11.d4 Ng6 12.c4** threatening **13.c5** and if **12...Ba5 13.Qa4 Bc7 14.e5.** **7.Nxf4 Na5** Your Archives have suggested **7...d5** and give **8.Nxd5 Nxd5 9.Bxd5 Qe7** with complicated play. But I should not be exchanged in this line. With **8.exd5 Na5 9.Bd3** White holds the edge. **8.Bxf6!**



8...Rf8 Of course if **8...gxf6 9.Qh5+ Ng6 10.Nxg6** wins. On the other hand if **8...Nxc4 9.Qh5+ g6** (if **9...Kf8 10.Ng6+ Kg8 11.Bxe7 Bxe7 12.Qd5#**) **10.Nxg6 Nxg6 11.Bxd8 Kxd8 12.Qb5 Na3** (if **12...Ne3 13.Qg5+ and 14.Qxe3**) **13.Qa4 b5 14.Qb3 Nxb1 15.Qxb4** wins. Sokolsky saw all of this, and it is rather pretty. **9.Nh5! Nxc4** If **9...gxf6 10.Ng7#!** Or if **9...Rxf6 10.Nxf6+ gxf6 11.Qh5+ Ng6 12.Bg8** (better than **12.Qxh7 Ne5**) **12...Qe7** (if **12...Kf8 13.Qxh7 Ne5 14.0–0** threatening **15.d4** or **15.Qh8**) **13.Bxh7 Qxe4+ 14.Kd1 Kf7 15.c3 Qxg2 16.Bxg6+ Qxg6 17.Qxg6+ Kxg6 18.cxb4** wins. **10.Nxg7+ Kf7 11.0–0 Kg8 12.Qh5** Sokolsky pointed out that **12.Qg4 Rxf6 13.Rxf6 Ne5 14.Qg3 N7g6 15.Nh5 Qe8** is not quite as good as the text. **12...Rxf6 13.Rxf6 Ng6** If **13...Kxg7 14.Rf7+** and **15.Qxh7#.**

14.Rxg6 Our pieces give themselves up one by one, so that the black king's heart is bared. I remain to the end, fighting all the way. **14...hxg6 15.Qxg6 Kh8** If **15...Ne5 16.Qg3 Qf6 17.Nh5+ Qg6 18.Qxe5 d6 19.Qg3!** and we win, so said Sokolsky. Also **15...Kf8 16.Na3** and **17.Rf1+** and we win, so said the archives. **16.Ne8!** It is necessary to go to the right spot in a battle. If for example **16.Nh5 Qg8;** and if **16.Nf5 Qf8.** **16...Qe7** If **16...Bc5+ 17.Kh1 Bd4 18.Qh5+ Kg8 19.Qd5+** wins. **17.Nf6 1-0** After **17...Qg7 18.Qh5+ Qh7 19.Qxh7#**

This was well received by all, except of course the white queen knight. He looked sullen and unhappy. The king knight continued: “Permit me to tell you of an even more recent fight. It was:

Polugaevsky, Lev – Petrosian, Tigran V. [E54] URS-ch27 Leningrad (14), 1960

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0–0 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 c5 7.0–0 dxc4 8.Bxc4 b6 9.Qe2 This is a well analyzed and much studied position. You humans have recently attempted to gain something positive for White with 9.Bd3, but fashions in your world change rather quickly. **9...Bb7 10.Rd1 Nbd7** This leads to difficulties. The usual line was 10...cxd4 11.exd4 Nbd7, but your fine Icelander Olafsson has proved that the best move here is 10...Qc8! For example 11.Nb5 cxd4 12.Nbxd4 Nc6



13.a3 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Be7 15.b4 a5 16.b5 e5 17.Nf3 Bxf3 18.gxf3 e4! with a fine game for Black, as in Najdorf-Olafsson, Los Angeles 1963. In any case the text is certainly not the best move for Black. **11.d5!** Now we get a definite pull. **11...Bxc3** If 11...exd5 12.Nxd5 Nxd5 13.Bxd5 Bxd5 14.Rxd5 with the double threat of 15.Qd1 and 15.a3. **12.dxe6 Ba5 13.exd7 Qc7** If 13...Qe7 14.e4! Rad8 15.Bg5 Qxe4 16.Qxe4 Bxe4 (Najdorf-Smyslov, Havana 1962) and now 17.Ne5 would have allowed us to maintain our grip. **14.e4! Nxd7** If 14...Bxe4 15.Ng5 Bg6 16.Qe7 with a tremendous bind. If 14...Nxe4 15.Bg5 Nxg5 16.Nxg5 h6 (otherwise 17.Qh5) 17.Nxf7! Rxf7 18.Qe7 Raf8 19.Bxf7+ Rxf7 20.Qxf7+ Kxf7 21.d8Q wins. **15.Ng5 [diagram]**

15...Rad8 Petrosian underestimates my fighting qualities. Better was 15...h6. **16.Bxf7+ Rxf7 17.Ne6 Qc8 18.Nxd8 Ba6** The point is that I cannot be captured so easily. If 18...Qxd8 19.e5 Re7 20.e6 Qe8 21.exd7 Rxe2 22.dxe8Q+ wins. **19.Qe3 Re7** Black still has hopes of trapping me. Ha! **20.Qb3+ c4 21.Qa3 Nc5** And now if 21...Qxd8 22.Bg5, or if 21...Re8 22.Qd6 Rxd8 23.Bg5 wins. Finally if 21...Rxe4 22.Bg5 threatening both 23.Qf3 and 23.Qd6. **22.Be3 Rxe4 23.Bxc5 Qxc5 24.Qf3 1–0** After 24...Re7 (if 24...Qe7 25.Nc6 and the threat of 26.Rd8+ cannot be met) 25.Ne6! Rxe6 26.Rd8+ and mates.

We knights do not become a queen when we reach the eighth rank, but we are as powerful as one when we are there!” There was loud applause. The queen knight remained sullen however, and I hoped the king knight would tell us the promised duet, to make everyone happy.

“In closing,” he continued, “let me quickly show you the game where both my brother and I played important roles. It was

Gipslis, Aivars – Savon, Vladimir A. [D42] URS-ch29 Baku (14), 06.12.1961

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nf3 Be7 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.0–0 0–0 10.Re1 Nf6 11.Bg5 b6 12.Qe2 Bb7 Avoiding the interesting trap 12...Nxd4? 13.Nxd4 Qxd4 14.Rad1 Qc5 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Qe4 threatening mate at h7 and attacking the queen rook. This may convince you that when I guard something, it is doubly secure. Nevertheless, 12.a3 was probably stronger than the text. **13.Rad1 Nb4 14.Bb1 Rc8 15.Ne5 Qd6 16.Qe3 Nfd5 17.Qh3 f5** Black begins to weaken. You mortals should learn more patience and coolness under fire. Here 17...g6 was correct. **18.Bd2 Nf6 19.a3 Nbd5 20.Nb5 Qb8 21.Ba2 a6 22.Nc3 Rce8?** And here 22...Qd6 was correct.



23.Nf3! Of course we can win a pawn with 23.Nxd5 Bxd5 24.Bxd5 exd5 (not 24...Nxd5 25.Nd7) 25.Qxf5, but this would allow Black good counterplay. Now I begin the final assault. **23...Bd8 24.Ng5 Qc8 25.Rxe6! Rxe6 26.Nxd5 h6** If 26...Bxd5 27.Bxd5 and now if 27...Nxd5 28.Qxh7# **27.Nxf6+ Kh8** If 27...gxf6 28.Bxe6+. And if 27...Rxf6 28.Nxe6 Rxe6 29.Qxf5 and we will be a rook up. **28.Qxf5!** Threatening mate at h7, protected by both of us! Of course, it really is a lovely queen sacrifice. **28...Re1+ 29.Rxe1 Qxf5 30.Nf7+ 1-0** After 30...Rxf7 31.Re8+ Rf8 32.Rxf8#. Here is a truly brother-like effort, each of us made five moves, together we accounted for on third of all the action. And the final semi-mate by our team is not unattractive.”

The queen knight was delighted and he rushed out to shake hands with the king knight. They even hugged each other and began conversing in animated tones. For a moment I thought they had forgotten all about me, but soon they both turned to face me. They smiled, clapped their hands, and soon I saw a small procession approaching with a colourful Christmas-like wall board. The brother knights continued their animated discussion while the board came nearer. Finally it was placed in front of me and I examined the position:



The king knight explained: “You see, Dr. D., that all sixteen black pieces are on the board and that it is up to my brother and I to save his white majesty. The name of the composer of this study is lost, and in fact neither my brother nor I remember which of us is which. In other words we do not know whether I am the knight at g3 or at e5. But let me tell you how we saved his white majesty!

1.Ng4+ Ke7 The black king must have felt annoyed that no member of his full army could do anything at the moment to help him. Of course if 1...Kg6 2.Ne5+ Kf6 3.Ng4+ and Black must be satisfied with a draw. Instead he goes to e7, expecting to win after our few spite checks are finished. **2.Nf5+ Kd7 3.Ne5+ Kc8 4.Ne7+ Kb8** Again very annoying since his pinned

bishop cannot help. But now the black king was beginning to feel safe. **5.Nd7+ Ka7 6.Nc8+ Ka6 7.Nb8+ Kb5 8.Na7+ Kb4 9.Na6+ Kc3** What the black king thought was freedom has turned sour and we continue to chase him like the professional soldiers that we are. **10.Nb5+ Kd3 11.Nb4+ Ke2 12.Nc3+ Kf2** If 12...Ke1 13.Nd3#. **13.Nd3+ Kg3 14.Ne4+ Kg4 15.Ne5+ Kf5 16.Ng3+ Kf6 17.Ng4+** and we are back where we began. Black had to accept the draw, and we have saved our gracious majesty. The black king must have been angry with his entire army, but we enjoyed the whole thing immensely!" There was thunderous applause from the white ranks. The two knights smiled, bowed to me, and walked off hand in hand.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

This Bulletin has previously examined the life and chess contributions of Victoria resident [Cyril Francis Davie](#), founder of the first Canadian correspondence championship. But correspondence chess has always been particularly well suited to bridging the expansive distances and far-flung communities that make up British Columbia. In fact one provincial body, the British Columbia Correspondence Chess Club (BCCCC), operated for twenty years on a fully independent basis before finally merging with the Canadian Correspondence Chess Association in 1968. Here is its story.

Fittingly enough, the BCCCC came into existence through a piece of correspondence. Dave Creemer began his chess column in the *Vancouver Province* during the summer of 1947. In November 1948 he published a letter from Steve Jackson of Ladysmith, who suggested the setting up of a provincial competition:

Correspondence chess is my reason for writing this letter, as I have often thought that this branch of the game would be a great method of chess promotion in B.C. In your columns I see names of players from all parts of the province, and I would welcome the opportunity to meeting them in correspondence play. Even clubs could play matches by correspondence. In fact I remember playing in a correspondence match, Vancouver vs. Powell River, about ten years ago. Just as a random suggestion - suppose you announce a B.C. correspondence chess championship to commence Jan. 1, 1948 (rules as per CCA), sections of six each - winners of each section to play off. I am sure you would get many entries. The fee could be arranged to cover prizes and membership in the BCCF, etc.

The competition duly commenced on February 1, 1948, with a total of seventy-seven players in eleven sections; the sectional winners qualified for the final which determined the provincial champion and possessor of the Vancouver Daily Province Trophy for that year. There were also other prizes, including books and at least one framed chess photograph; in subsequent years the section winners had their choice of a subscription to either *Canadian Chess Chat* or the *British Chess Magazine*. The entry fee was initially \$1, which rose to \$2 by 1955; participants had to join the BCCF but were given a reduced membership rate (as long as they did not take part in any OTB events). [Although for the first few years a list of players and finalists was published in the *Vancouver Province*, the BCCCC soon set up its own Bulletin which was rather erratic; I have seen very few of these issues, so the (incomplete) information I am presenting has had to be drawn largely from other sources.]

By 1955 the competition had become so popular (and the finals so crowded) that the tournament was split into two groups: winners from Group B moved into next year's Group A, and only the Group A winners advanced to the finals. In the early years it appears the BCCCC only ran the provincial championship, but by 1959 its members were involved in a few other events:

The Director of the B.C. Correspondence Chess Club reported that apart from the yearly Correspondent [sic] Tournament a Team from his club was participating in a Canadian



Intercity Tournament with Montreal, Toronto and Victoria, (the B.C. Team was leading 9 : 0), and in an International Correspondence Tournament in which Neufahrt was doing very well. [Minutes of BCCF AGM, September 25, 1959.]

Unfortunately this was also the year when misunderstandings led the BCCCC to strike out on its own:

Mr. Russell read the report of the Editors of *Canadian Chess Chat* to the Annual Meeting of the CFC. A discussion ensued how to increase the number of subscribers. Mr. Schulz pointed out that the success of *Chess Review* (the U.S. magazine) was to his mind partly due to the Correspondence Chess Tournament, arranged by *Chess Review*. Mr. Bryant reported that co-operation between the Editors of *Canadian Chess Chat* and Mr. Tanner, the Director of the B.C. Correspondence Chess Club, looked promising in the fall of 1959, but through a series of misunderstandings came to nothing. This failure was chiefly responsible for the withdrawal of the B.C. Correspondence Chess Club [from the BCCF]. [Minutes of BCCF AGM, September 30, 1960.]

Despite this administrative rift, the club continued independently until 1968. In 1964 Russell Isaac (1904-1990) retired as a Superintendent of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce; in January 1965 he took over the reins of the BCCCC:

When Russ Isaac retired from Toronto to [North] Vancouver he built up BCCCC membership and established the bulletin as a regular feature. When Russ had the BCCCC running well, he then merged the club with the CCA. He handled it in such a way that both clubs had the impression that they had taken over the other. [Letter from J.C. Hughes to J. Ken MacDonald, 1977]



The provincial championship ran continuously for the twenty years of the BCCCC's existence; here are the champions (as listed on the trophy):

1948 J. Rist, Osoyoos
1949 Wm. Lott, Langley
1950 P. Tjebbes, Grand Forks
1951 Harold Ostrom, Saturna
1952 Erica White, Vancouver
1953 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1954 Eric A. Cox, Victoria
1955 Eugene Butkov, Vancouver
1956 H. Christiansen and Fred Schulz
1957 John Rist, Osoyoos
1958 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo

1959 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo
1960 Art Sproson, Vancouver
1961 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1962 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1963 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1964 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo
1965 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1966 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1967 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1968 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo



Christiansen and Schulz

[Fred Schulz](#) has been featured previously in these columns; the following short biography of [Ole] Hjalmar Christiansen (1896-1986) appeared in the *Vancouver Province* of 22 January 1955 and subsequently *Canadian Chess Chat*, February 1955:

Winner of the 1953 BCCF Correspondence Chess Championship Tournament with the perfect score of 8.0-0.0, Hjalmar Christiansen, of Beacon Hotel, Vancouver, was born in Sarpsborg, Norway in 1896, and lived there until he was thirty-one years of age. He came to Canada in 1927. Ten years later, he started playing at the Vancouver Chess Club and competed in thirteen important tournaments. Mr. Christiansen won the Club Championship in 1938, and the Vancouver City Championship in 1939. He was runner-up several times. Playing in the BCCF Correspondence Tournaments for two years, Mr. Christiansen has compiled the enviable total score of 19.5-0.5 as winner of two sections and the final.

The previously quoted letter summarized the play and games of the BCCCC:

The old club had no rating system, and all players were born equal. As the games progressed Christie and Fred Schulz shattered our illusions and sent us back to the chess books. Draws were rare, and gambits and sacrifice plays the order of the day. I think we were all out to pull a 'Morphy' on the big guns. As we had no ratings to protect we had nothing to lose, much to learn, and all kinds of fun.

The attached PGN file contains all the extant games from the BCCCA, with thanks in part to Don Hack.

White, Erika – van Norden, D [D16] BCCCC 1952

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Nd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 b5 8.Ne5 e6 9.Qf3 Qe7 10.Be2 Bb7 11.0-0 Nd7 12.Nxd7 Qxd7 13.Rd1 a6 14.Qg3 f6 15.Bf4 Qf7 16.axb5 cxb5 17.d5 Qg6 18.Qh3 Qxe4 19.d6 Kd7 20.Bf3 Qxf4 21.Bxb7 Rb8 22.Bc6+ Kxc6 23.Qxe6 Qe5 24.Rxa6+ Kc5 25.Qd7 1-0

Ratkowsky, Dave A. – Uldbaek, Hank [B54] BCCCC 3/66, 1966

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 d6 5.c4 e6 6.Nc3 a6 7.Be3 Bd7 8.Be2 Be7 9.0-0 Nf6 10.Rc1 0-0 11.Qd2 Rc8 12.f4 e5 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14.exf5 Nd4 15.Bd3 Ng4 16.Bxd4 exd4 17.Nd5 Bf6 18.b3 Re8 19.Rfe1 Ne3 20.Kh1 Nxd5 21.Rxe8+ Qxe8 22.cxd5 Rc3 23.Re1 Qc8 24.Qe2 h6 25.g3 b5 26.Rd1 Qb7 27.Qe4 Rc5 28.Kg1 Qxd5 29.Qxd5 Rxd5 30.b4 g6 31.Be4 Rxf5 32.Bxf5 1-0

Christiansen, Hjalmar – Hughes, J.C. [B76] BCCCC 9/67, 1967

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.f3 Bg7 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Be6 11.Kb1 0-0 12.g4 b5 13.h4 b4 14.Nd5 Nxd5 15.exd5 Bxd4 16.Qxd4 Bd7 17.Qxb4 Rb8 18.Qd4 Qa5 19.h5 Qa3 20.b3 Rb4 21.Bc4 g5 22.h6 f6 23.Rde1 Kf7 24.Qe4 1-0

Ratkowsky, Dave A. – Schulz, Fred [C43] BCCCC f 1966, 1967

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.Nxe5 d5 5.Bd3 Bd6 6.0-0 0-0 7.c4 Nc6 8.cxd5 Nxd4 9.Bxe4 Bxe5 10.f4 Bf6 11.Nc3 Re8 12.Qd3 g6 13.Bd2 Nf5 14.g4 Nd6 15.Bf3 Bd7 16.Rac1 a6 17.Bd1 b5 18.b4 Nc4 19.h3 c6 20.Bb3 Rc8 21.Ne4 Nxd2 22.Nxf6+ Qxf6 23.Qxd2 cxd5 24.Bxd5 Rcd8 25.Qc3 Qxc3 26.Rxc3 Bxg4 27.Bxf7+ Kxf7 28.hxg4 Rd2 29.Rf2 Rxf2 30.Kxf2 Re4 31.Kf3 Rxb4 32.Ra3 Ra4 33.Rxa4 bxa4 34.Ke4 Ke6 35.f5+ Kf6 36.Kf4 g5+ 37.Ke3 a3 38.Kf3 Ke5 39.Kg3 ½-½

Berry, Jonathan – Emig, Martin [B41] BCCCC 1/68, 1968

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4 Qc7 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.Be3 Nf6 8.Bd3 Bb4 9.0-0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 0-0 11.f4 d6 12.c5 dxc5 13.Nb3 c4 14.Bxc4 Nxe4 15.Qc2 Nf6 16.Rf3 e5 17.Raf1 Re8 18.Rg3 e4 19.Nd4 Nxd4 20.Bxd4 Nh5 21.Rg5 g6 22.Rc5 Qd6 23.f5 gxf5 24.Rcx5 Bxf5 25.Rxf5 Re7 26.Rxh5 Rc8 27.Rg5+ Kf8 28.Qe2 e3 29.Rg8+ Kxg8 30.Qg4+ 1-0

UPCOMING EVENTS

See also the listings at the [CFC](#) and [Northwest chess](#) websites.

Susan Polgar National Open for Boys and Girls (online)

October 10-11, chess.com
[Details](#)

RtM October Open (online)

October 17, chess.com
[Details](#)

35th Jack Taylor Memorial (online)

October 24-25, chess.com
[Details](#)

National Youth Active Online Chess Championships

November 14, chess.com
[Details](#)