

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #464

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



BC Chess Federation

HERE AND THERE

RCC Elite Championship #3 (May 11)



The latest [Richmond Chess Champions](#) Elite Championship was a five-round rapid event with a time control of 15 + 10; thirty-nine players participated. There were only six entrants in the [Open Section](#) resulting in a round robin; RCC coach NM Yidong (Jason) Chen held a substantial rating edge over everyone else and unsurprisingly placed first but he did give up a draw in the first round to Jofrel Landingin. Second was Aiden Zhu with Joanne Wangluo third. In the twenty-three player [U1600 Section](#) four players had scored 4.0 points after five rounds; after tiebreaks were applied they finished in the order May Wangluo, Cody Lin, Mingyang Zheng, and Jordan Szeto. Kari Wang was the top female. And the [U800 Section](#) was won by Siyang Chen ahead of Ryan Jiang and Jacob Guo, Angela Sun was the top female.

Lulu Island Chess 3rd Annual Rapid (May 10)

Bethany Baptist Church in Richmond was the site for Lulu Island Chess' 3rd annual Rapid tournament which attracted seventy-six players to the main event. The forty-player [Open Section](#) included nine players over 2000 (Quick ratings) but it was BC Champion FM John Doknjas who emerged as the overall winner, winning his first five games and drawing in the last round with FM

Jingyun (Ryan) Yang to score 5.5 points. Ryan was part of a three-way tie a half-point back which also included CMs Neil Doknjas and Jorge Nunez Asencio; top female was Joanne Wangluo. The [U1600 Section](#) saw a three-way tie for first between Nicholas Pei-Chang Wu, Gyuwon Lee, and Yonglong Chen, each with 5.0 points. Evelyn Lou and Karen Chen shared the top female prize. And a total of twenty-nine players participated in the adjunct nine-round [Blitz](#) event. Here also FM John Doknjas reigned supreme, taking first place with 8.0 points; a full-point back were FM Jingyun (Ryan) Yang and NM Zachary Liu with 7.0.

Spring Rapid (May 10)



Founded in 2019 after the demise of the Bishops of Bowser, the [Oceanside Chess Club](#) is a mid-Vancouver Island organization which offers weekly meetups in the basement of St. Mark's Anglican Church in Qualicum Beach, also annual tournaments. Their Spring Rapid was a seven-round unrated event held on May 10 at a time control of 20 + 5: "Thank you to everyone who came out to the Oceanside 2025 Spring Rapid chess tournament! We're so glad you could join us for this fun event and look forward to more tournaments like this one in the future. The club would like to congratulate the winners Saul Magnusson who took first place, Antoni Stevens with second, Braedyn Bircsak with third, and Dillon Atkins who won the junior category." (from [Facebook](#))

Okanagan Open (May 2-4) by Paul Leblanc

Okanagan Open ends in five-way tie for first place: BC vs Alberta Match cancelled

The fourth annual Okanagan Open was held at the Comfort Inn in Salmon Arm on the weekend of 2-4 May. Thirty-seven players participated, a few less than the forty-four and forty-six of the past two years. Five players tied for first place with scores of 4.0-1.0: Zachary Burrows of Vancouver, Matthew and Mark Ivanescu of Edmonton, Paul Leblanc of Victoria and Andrew Court of Vernon. Andrew Court was the top U1700 player. Top U1400 was a tie between Kriyaansh Banatwala of Langley and Daniel Gyori of West Kelowna with scores of 3.0-2.0. The top unrated prize was also split between Marc Guethner and Steven Healey, both of Salmon Arm with the same 3.0-2.0 score. Tournament Director was NA Umang Banatwala. The event was organized by Craig Bacon, President of the Salmon Arm Chess Club, and Paul Leblanc. [Crosstable](#)



Final Round. Foreground Zachary Burrows vs. Matthew Ivanescu. Background Mark Ivanescu vs. Paul Leblanc. Both games were drawn.



Andrew Court, Top U1700

Burrows, Zachary (2073) – Topcu, Alp (1635) [C21] Okanagan op Salmon Arm (2.1), 03.05.2025

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.Nf3 Qe7 6.O-O d6 7.Nxc3 c6 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bf4 b5 10.Nxb5 cxb5 11.Bxg8 Rxg8 12.Qd5 Be6 13.Qxa8 Kf7 14.Rac1 Rc8 15.Rxc5 Nc6 16.Qxc6 Rxc6 17.Rxc6 Bc4 18.Re1 g5 19.Bxd6 Qe8 20.Rc7+ Kg6 21.e5 Qd8 22.b3 Bd5 23.Nd4 fxe5 24.Bxe5 Bf7 25.g4 Qd5 26.Rc6+ Be6 27.Rxe6+ 1-0

Toponce, Cole (1542) – Ivanescu, Matthew (1977) [A00] Okanagan op Salmon Arm (3.2), 03.05.2025

1.b4 e5 2.Bb2 d6 3.d3 Nf6 4.c4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.g3 0–0 7.Bg2 c6 8.Nf3 Qe7 9.0–0 Nh5 10.Qd2 f5 11.b5 Be6 12.Rab1 d5 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.e3 Nd7 15.Rfc1 Rfc8 16.a4 h6 17.Nh4 Qf7 18.Ba3 e4 19.Bf1 Ne5 20.d4 Nc4 21.Qa2 Nxa3 22.Qxa3 g5 23.Ng2 f4 24.gxf4 gxf4 25.Na2 f3 26.Rxc8+ Rxc8 27.Ne1 Bf8 28.Qb2 Qg7+ 29.Ng2 Bh3 30.Kh1 Bxg2+ 0–1

Court, Andrew (1486) – Chruszcz, Zachary (1898) [B15] Okanagan op Salmon Arm (3.3), 03.05.2025

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Nxf6+ exf6 6.c3 Bd6 7.Nf3 0–0 8.Be2 Re8 9.0–0 Be6 10.Be3 Nd7 11.c4 Nf8 12.Qc2 Qc7 13.Rac1 Bf4 14.Qd2 Ng6 15.Bd3 Bd6 16.h3 Qd7 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Bf4 g5 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Rc3 Rad8 21.Rd1 Rd7 22.Re3 Red8 23.b3 g6 24.Qc3 Qf4 25.Rde1 Qd6 26.d5 cxd5 27.Qxf6 Qf4 28.Qxg5 Qxg5 29.Nxg5 Bf5 30.g4 Bc2 31.Rc3 Be4 32.Nxe4 dxe4 33.Rxe4 Rd2 34.a3 Ra2 35.b4 Rdd2 36.Rf4 Rd1+ 37.Kg2 Raa1 38.c5 Rh1 39.Rg3 Rhg1+ 40.Kf3 Rxa3+ 41.Ke4 Rg3 42.f3 Rg3 43.h4 Rh3 44.g5 Kf8 45.Kd5 Rd3+ 46.Kc4 Rd7 47.Kb5 Re7 48.Ka5 Re5 49.Rc4 Re6 50.b5 Ke7 51.b6 axb6+ 52.cxb6 Re5+ 53.Kb4 Kd6 54.Rc7 Re7 55.Rc4 Rd7 56.Kb5 Ke6 57.Rc7 Ke7 58.Rc4 Rd5+ 59.Kb4 Kd8 60.Rf4 Rd7 61.Kc5 Ke7 62.Re4+ Kf8 63.Ra4 Kg7 64.Rd4 Rxd4 65.Kxd4 f6 66.gxf6+ Kxf6 67.Kd5 Kf5 68.Kd6 Kg4 69.Kc7 Kxh4 70.Kxb7 g5 71.Kc7 g4 72.b7 g3 73.b8Q g2 74.Qb6 1–0



Craig Bacon vs. Kriyaansh Banatwala

Ivanescu, Mark (1956) – Court, Andrew (1486) [A47] Okanagan op Salmon Arm (4.2), 04.05.2025

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 b6 4.Nf3 Bb7 5.Nbd2 c5 6.Nc4 d5 7.Nce5 a6 8.Ng5 Rg8 9.Nexf7 Qd7 10.Bd3 g6 11.Ne5 Qc8 12.Nxh7 Nxh7 13.Bxg6+ Rxd6 14.Qh5 Kd8 15.Qxg6 1–0

Chruszcz, Zachary (1898) – Leblanc, Paul (1793) [B12] Okanagan op Salmon Arm (4.3), 04.05.2025

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 Qb6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Nge2 Nf6 6.e5 Nfd7 7.a3 c5 8.f4 Nc6 9.Na4 Qc7 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.Nxc5 Bxc5 12.b4 Bb6 13.c3 0–0 14.Bb2 Bd7 15.Nd4 a6 16.Bd3 Nxd4 17.cxd4 Bb5 18.Bxb5 axb5 19.Rc1 Qd7 20.0–0 Rac8 21.Qd3 Rc4 22.Rxc4 dxc4 23.Qc2 Bxd4+ 24.Kh1 Bxb2 25.Qxb2 Rd8 26.h3 Qd2 27.Qxd2 Rxd2 28.Rf3 Rd3 29.Kg1 Rxf3 30.gxf3 c3 0–1

Meanwhile, the usual centrepiece of this event, the annual BC vs Alberta Challenge Match, had to be cancelled because Alberta could not come up with a full team. With one week to go before the match, Team BC had ten players committed to the match, however Alberta had only four. A discussion with the President of the Alberta Chess Association concluded that Team Alberta had no prospects of fielding a team and the match was cancelled. Whether it can be re-scheduled later in the year remains to be seen.

BCCF Annual General Meeting

The BCCF Annual General Meeting will be held during the 2025 Paul Keres Memorial at Trinity Western University in Langley. Start time will be 3pm on Sunday, May 18.

All members are welcome to attend. Voting age is 14, age for holding a position on the executive is 18.

VANCOUVER 1975 (17-25 May 1975)

Fifty years ago BC was hosting one of the biggest and richest events ever held on Canadian soil, Vancouver 1975. In the wake of the Fischer boom chess was more popular than ever and the concept of the big money class tournament was in the air. In 1973, the year the first World Open took place, Victoria player-organizer-chess journalist Ray Kerr envisaged a similar style of event in British Columbia:

I had an idea that our province was ready for a world-class tournament catering both to top players and the masses – all I needed was someone to pat me on the back and say “Ray, that's a good idea.” I didn't have to wait long. A brief conversation with former Colonist reporter Bill Barringer in a downtown restaurant was enough to trigger a chain of events which eventually led to ours having the largest-prize-fund chess open tournament in the world in 1975. [*Daily Colonist*, 2 May 1976]

It became apparent that Victoria did not have the facilities to handle such a large event and the site for the tournament switched to Vancouver and the campus of the University of British Columbia, specifically to the Totem Park Convention Centre. Apart from Kerr himself a key figure in the organizational work was Jonathan Berry, BCCF President for 1974-75, who also acted as chief TD for the tournament. Provincial funding was sought for the endeavour which eventually resulted in a grant for \$7,500 from the Special Events Fund. This meant that 100% of the entry fees could be returned as prizes.

The resultant tournament, called simply Vancouver 1975, was a ten-round Swiss in six sections. Anyone could enter the Open Section (but mandatory for those rated over 2200), otherwise players had the choice of entering their class section or the one above it. Entry fees ranged from \$45 (early

bird) to \$65 (full price); by comparison, entry at the BC Open the previous October was \$10/\$12 and an adult CFC membership at the time was \$9. The pre-tournament advertised prize fund of \$29,000 based on six hundred entries proved overly optimistic; the three hundred and twenty actual entries resulted in \$16,128 being given out in prizes, far more than the 1974 Canadian Open in Montreal (six hundred and thirty-six players) and within \$1,000 of the 1974 World Open (\$17,000 with seven hundred and ninety-one players, the record at the time).

With a record Canadian prize fund Vancouver 1975 attracted many strong players including five grandmasters: US Champion Walter Browne, Hungarians Gyoza Forintos and Istvan Bilek, Vancouver's own Duncan Suttles, and Estonian legend Paul Keres (right). The class of the field in more ways than one, Keres gave up but three draws in winning the Open Section with a magisterial 8.5/10. Sadly Keres was unable to enjoy his earnings – within two weeks he was dead, having suffered a fatal heart attack in Helsinki on his way home to Estonia. Tying for second were Forintos, future author John Watson, and six-time BC Champion Elod Macskasy, fifty-six years old at the time, with 7.0 points. An unusual feature of Vancouver 1975, unlike many large class events, was that each section had an individual winner: in the Expert Section Bob Zuk was first, a point ahead of Robert Chow; Nigel Fullbrook won the A Section with Ray Stone, Harry Kaminker, Neil Salmon, and John Donaldson tied for second; Gary Burk was first in the B Section and William Schill, Matt Edwards, and Eric Tangborn placed second; Frank Szarka played the Grob (1.g4) in all his white games en route to winning the C Section with 9.5/10; and Paul Sontag was the clear winner of the D and Unrated Section.



Helping Chief TD Jonathan Berry in the directing duties were two husband and wife teams, Ray and Eunice Kerr and Rusty and Kathy Miller. Also providing assistance during the event were Werner Segnitz, Mike Westbrook, Elliot Bold, and Paul Brown. These days Vancouver 1975 is largely remembered as Paul Keres' last tournament victory and thus the precursor to the Keres Memorial events (Vancouver 1976 was the first Paul Keres Memorial) but its size and scope (still one of the largest adult events in this country west of Toronto) demonstrate the degree to which British Columbia was at the forefront of tournament organization at the time. [Crosstables](#)

Macskasy, Elod – Browne, Walter S. [A35] Vancouver 1975 Vancouver (3), 19.05.1975

1.d4 c5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Nf3 g6 4.c4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0–0 6.Be2 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.e4 d6 10.0–0 Be6 11.Be3 Rb8 12.Qc2 Qa5 13.a3 Ng4 14.Bf4 Bxc3 15.b4 Bxb4 16.axb4 Qxb4 17.Rxa7 Rb7 18.Rxb7 Qxb7 19.h3 Ne5 20.Bh6 Rb8 21.f4 Qa7+ 22.c5 Nd7 23.f5 Bb3 24.Qd2 Qxc5+ 25.Kh1 f6 26.Rc1 Qe5 27.Rxc6 Qxe4 28.Rc7 Nf8 29.Bd3 Qe5 30.Bf4 Qa1+ 31.Kh2 g5 32.Qe2 Re8 33.Bxd6 Bf7 34.Bg3 Qd4 35.Bb5 Rb8 36.Qxe7 [Time] 1–0

Watson, John L. – Williams, Leo [B43] Vancouver 1975 Vancouver (8), 23.05.1975

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.g3 Bb4 7.Nde2 Nf6 8.Bg2 Nc6 9.0–0 Be7 10.b3 d6 11.Bb2 0–0 12.h3 b5 13.Qd2 Bb7 14.Rad1 Rfd8 15.Qe3 Rab8 16.Kh2 Ne5 17.Kh1 b4 18.Na4 Bc6 19.f4 Nc4 20.bxc4 Bxa4 21.e5 Ne8 22.f5 exf5 23.e6 f6 24.Nf4 Bc6 25.Nd5 Bxd5

26.Bxd5 Qa5 27.Rxf5 Qxa2 28.Qd4 Qa4 29.Rdf1 Rdc8 30.g4 b3 31.g5 bxc2 32.gxf6 Nxf6 33.Rxf6 gxf6 34.Rg1+ 1-0



Browne-Keres, with Bill Wall looking on.

Browne, Walter S. – Keres, Paul [C66] Vancouver 1975 Vancouver (10), 25.05.1975

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.c3 Be7 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.0-0 Bd7 8.Re1 Re8 9.Nf1 Bf8 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 Be7 12.Ne3 Ng4 13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Nxg4 Bxb5 15.Nh4 Bd7 16.Re3 Kh7 17.Rg3 Ng8 18.Nf3 Bxg4 19.Rxg4 Nf6 20.Rh4 Kg8 21.Rh3 d5 22.Qe2 Qd7 23.Nh4 dxe4 24.dxe4 Rad8 25.Nf5 Qd2 26.Qf3 Re6 27.Rg3 g6 28.Rf1 Qf4 29.Rd1 Ree8 30.Ne7+ Kg7 31.Nd5 Qxf3 32.Rxf3 c6 33.Ne3 Rxd1+ 34.Nxd1 Rd8 35.Ne3 Nxe4 36.h3 Ng5 37.Rg3 f5 38.Nxf5+ gxf5 39.h4 f4 40.Rg4 Kg6 41.hxg5 hxg5 42.g3 Kf5 43.f3 Rd1+ 44.Kg2 0-1

Forintos, Gyoza – Bilek, Istvan [D77] Vancouver 1975 Vancouver (10), 25.05.1975

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 0-0 5.d4 d5 6.c4 dxc4 7.Na3 Nc6 8.Nxc4 Be6 9.b3 Bd5 10.Bb2 Qc8 11.e3 Rd8 12.Qc2 h6 13.Rfd1 a5 14.a3 Qe6 15.Rac1 Be4 16.Qe2 Bd5 17.Ne1 Bxg2 18.Nxg2 g5 19.Ne1 b6 20.Nd3 Nxd4 21.Bxd4 Rxd4 22.Nce5 Rd5 23.Rc6 Rd6 24.Qf3 g4 25.Rxd6 gxf3 26.Rxe6 fxe6 27.Nc6 Kf7 28.Nde5+ Ke8 29.Nxf3 [Time] 1-0

Whitehead, Paul – Reeve, Jeff [A15] Vancouver 1975 - X Vancouver (2), 18.05.1975

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.b3 Bg7 4.Bb2 d6 5.g3 0-0 6.Bg2 e5 7.0-0 c6 8.d3 Na6 9.e4 Nh5 10.Ne1 Nc5 11.b4 Ne6 12.Nc2 Ng5 13.h4 Nh3+ 14.Kh2 N5f4 15.Bc1 Nxg2 16.Kxg2 f5 17.Kxh3 f4+ 18.g4 f3 19.Bg5 Qd7 20.Rg1 h6 21.Be3 h5 22.Nc3 Rf4 23.Bxf4 hxg4+ 24.Kg3 exf4+ 25.Kxf4 Qf7+ 0-1

Green, Matthew – Chow, Robert [E83] Vancouver 1975 - X Vancouver (10), 25.05.1975

1.c4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.d4 Nf6 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nc6 7.Nge2 Rb8 8.Qd2 Re8 9.Nc1 e5 10.d5 Nd4 11.Nb3 c5 12.dxc6 bxc6 13.Nxd4 exd4 14.Bxd4 d5 15.cxd5 cxd5 16.Bb5 Rxb5 17.Nxb5 Nxe4 18.fxe4 Rxe4+ 19.Be3 Bh6 20.Nc3 Rxe3+ 21.Ne2 Qh4+ 22.g3 Qe4 0-1

COMING EVENTS: see listings at [CFC](#), [BCCF](#) and [Northwest chess](#) websites

RCC CYCC Qualifier #3

Richmond, May 16 [Details](#)

Paul Keres Memorial

Langley, May 17-19 [Details](#)

Washington Open

Redmond, WA, May 24-26 [Details](#)

Okanagan Valley Rapid 4

West Kelowna, May 24 [Details](#)

PCC Open 5 (CYCC Qualifier)

Burnaby, May 25 [Details](#)

BC Interschool Championship

Langley, May 31 – June 1 [Details](#)

Greater Vancouver Chess Tournament

Burnaby, June 7-8 [Details](#)

Intermat BC-WA Scholastic Match

Burnaby, June 8 [Details](#)

Fraser Valley Rapid 16

Abbotsford, June 14 [Details](#)

BC Senior Championship

Surrey, June 20-22 [Details](#)

Fraser Valley Classical 3

Langley, June 21-22 [Details](#)

Summer Classic Tournament

Langley, June 23 and following [Details](#)

Lulu Island Chess Classical #3

New Westminster, June 28-29 [Details](#)

Canadian Youth Chess Championship

Surrey, July 8-11 [Details](#)

Canadian Open

Surrey, July 12-18 [Details](#)

World Chess Day Championship

Langley, July 19-20 [Details](#)

Ultimate Chess Club League

Langley/Surrey, Sept. – Dec. [Details](#)