

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #480

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 Wrightu



BC Chess Federation

HERE AND THERE

BC Chess Clubs Duel at Sea (April 9) by Paul Leblanc

BC Ferries Hosted Match Between Richmond and Victoria

A unique event in BC chess history took place onboard the BC Ferry *Coastal Renaissance* on Thursday, April 9. Five members of the Victoria Chess Club met five members of the Richmond Chess Club in a challenge match. The match took place in the Sitka Coffee Room on Deck 6 during four crossings between Tsawwassen and Swartz Bay commencing at 10am and finishing at 3pm. The Richmond Team was comprised of Clement Chen (Captain), Brandon Zhu, Jose Kagaoan, Gyuwon Lee, and Rob Carpenter. The Victoria Chess Club Team was Paul Leblanc (Captain), Hailay Teklemariam, Jesse Bateman, Jenna McPherson, and Daisy Brown. The stronger team (Richmond) prevailed 17.5 to 7.5 with Gyuwon Lee the top performer at 5.0-0.0. The event was CFC Quick rated.



Jenna McPherson vs Gyuwon Lee with chess and beautiful scenery in the background (photo credit: Audrey Whittaker)

The match was supported by BC Ferries and announcements were made on each crossing to inform the public about the match which attracted quite a bit of attention. Many thanks to BC Ferries Zoe King and Natalie McCall of Customer Service who made the arrangements, Audrey Whittaker of Public Relations who accompanied the teams during the match, Tanya Phillips, Senior Chief Steward who was our point of contact on board the *Coastal Renaissance* and special mention to Hailay Teklemariam of the Victoria Chess Club who is a BC Ferries employee and helped us get in touch with the right people.

BC Ferries Quote: “Our vessels are more than transportation – they’re shared spaces that connect communities across the coast. Bringing two chess clubs together for a friendly rivalry on board adds something special to the journey and reflects how we can create a more engaging,

community-focused travel experience – checkmate, with an amazing view!” Tanya Phillips, Senior Chief Steward, Swartz Bay



Team Richmond, Captain Kevin Boyle and Chief Steward Tanya Phillips, Team Victoria (photo credit Audrey Whittaker)

European Excursions

After the Reykjavik Open (see below) Elliot McCallum travelled further west to compete in two tournaments in Spain. The first, [Semana Santa](#) (April 1-6) took place in San Vicente de Raspeig just north of Alicante. The overall winners among the four hundred and sixty entrants were GMs Igor Kovalenko and Vasyl Ivanchuk (Ukraine) and Abhimanyu Mishra (USA), all finished with 7.5; Elliot scored 3.5 points. Then it was on to the [Menorca Open](#) (April 7-12) where Abhimanyu Mishra was again one of the winners, along with GMs Leon Luke Mendoca (India), Di Li (China), and Tomas Sosa (Argentina). Elliot finished with 4.0 points, but one of his games received far more scrutiny than usual. In round four he faced streamer WFM Anna Cramling, with the contest being commented on [live](#) by Anna’s mother GM Pia Cramling, then [recapped](#) by Anna. [Older readers may recollect that Anna visited Vancouver in 2004 when her parents played in the Western Canadian Open – Anna herself was only two years old at the time ...]

McCallum, Elliot (1802) – Cramling Bellon, Anna (2074) [B30] V Menorca Open A 2026 Ciutadella de Menorca ESP (4.27), 09.04.2026

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.Bc4 Nb6 6.Bb3 c4 7.Bc2 d6 8.exd6 Qxd6 9.0–0 Bg4 10.Re1 0–0–0 11.b3 Qf6 12.bxc4 Bxf3 13.gxf3 Ne5 14.Rxe5 Qxe5 15.d4 Qh5 16.Qe2 e5 17.d5 g6 18.Nd2 f5 19.a4 Bh6 20.a5 Nd7 21.Nb3 e4 22.Bd1 Bxc1 23.Rxc1 Qg5+ 24.Kh1 Rhe8 25.Qf1 Nc5 26.fxg4 Nxb3 27.Bxb3 Rxe4 28.a6 Rde8 29.axb7+ Kb8 30.Rd1 Qf4 31.h3 Re2 32.Kg1 R8e3 33.Rd3 Rxf2 34.Qxf2 Qxf2+ 35.Kxf2 Rxd3 36.Ba4 Kxb7 37.Bc6+ Kc7 38.Ke2 Rxc3 39.Bb5 Kd6 40.h4 a5 41.Kd2 Rh3 42.Kc2 Kc5 43.Kb2 f4 44.Kc2 Rxh4 45.Kd3 Rh3+ 46.Ke4 g5 47.Ke5 Re3+ 48.Kf6 f3 49.d6 f2 0–1

Canadian Championships (April 2-7)



(photos by John Upper)

This being a Zonal year, other factors were at stake beyond the titles of national champion – qualification for the next World Cup, also the possibility of gaining direct titles. This, along with the lowering of the rating floor for entry resulted in the [largest open field](#) ever, eighty-four players. Long gone are the days when Canada's elite competed in a round robin for the championship: the last one was in Toronto thirty years ago. Among the participants in Montreal were thirty titled players and several former champions, but in the end three of the top four ranked players tied for first, GM Shawn Rodrigue-Lemieux, IM Anthony Atanasov, and IM Sai Krishna G.V., all with 7.0/9. Shawn coasted home with three draws in the last four games, while Anthony and Sai had to produce clutch wins in the last round, over former champions IM Nikolay Noritsyn and GM Bator Sambuev respectively. Shawn was the overall winner on tiebreak. [Standings](#)

BC was represented by Aadit Arya, Zhengyu Chen, CM Neil Doknjas, Minjun Koo, NM Ryan Leong, NM Zachary Liu, Aiden Hao-Ting Lu, Ashton Taylor, NM Tristan Taylor, Bohan (Henry) Yang, Lucas Yao, NCM Aiden Yin, and NCM Andrew Yin; top finishers were Lucas Yao with 6.0 points and Andrew Yin and Zachary Liu on 5.0. Zachary has been a known quantity for some time, but the performance of the other two and others illustrate just how badly a lot of BC player's FIDE ratings are deflated. Lucas, born 2014, was ranked seventy-eighty based on his FIDE rating of 1895 (FIDE ratings were used for pairings); he finished in a tie for ninth, beating IM Mark Plotkin along the way. Andrew, also born in 2014, whose rating of 1694 FIDE was so low he received a first round full-point bye, scored 50% in his remaining games to tie for twenty-first. Other BC players also punched above their grade, so to speak. As mentioned above direct titles were possible; FIDE keeps changing their regulations, but as far as we can tell 65% was sufficient for the FM title and 50% for the CM. On that basis, Lucas Yao qualified for the FM title and Andrew Yin, Zachary Liu, Bohan (Henry) Yang, Minjun Koo, and Ryan Leong 4.5 for CM. Except for Zachary all these titles are provisional until a minimum FIDE rating is reached (2100 for the FM, 2000 for CM).

On the Women's side the forty-six participants did not quite break the record (forty-nine in Toronto two years ago) but was still a huge increase on the pre-pandemic numbers. The top three players, WGM Maili-Jade Ouellet and WIMs Yunshan Li and Svitlana Demchenko, had previously at least

tied for first eight times in the event, so it was not a surprise to find them at the top of the crosstable this time around. Maili-Jade and Yunshan were neck and neck through the entire event, drawing with each other and beating everyone else. It was not until the last round that the final places were determined: Maili-Jade won her game to reach 8.5/9, but Yunshan lost to Svitlana, leaving Yunshan in second place with 7.5 points and Svitlana third. There were three players from BC, Evelyn Lou, Mara Lu, and Joanne Wangluo. Joanne and Evelyn both scored 4.5/9, Joanne qualifies provisionally for the WCM title (FIDE rating of 1800 required) but Evelyn had a full-point bye which means her score in the remaining games only reached 44%. [Standings](#)

There was also an adjunct [Blitz](#) tournament with forty players competing in which Neil Doknjas placed second behind IM Mark Plotkin, Ryan Leong tied for eighth. There was also a team component, the best combined score by four players, in which Team BC Asians (Ryan, Zachary, Aadit, Neil) tied for second with a team from Hart House. [Standings](#)

Doknjas, Neil (2230) – Atanasov, Anthony (2464) [E21] CAN ch Montreal (3.2), 03.04.2026

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2 b6 5.Nf3 Bb7 6.e3 Bxc3 7.Bxc3 Ne4 8.Rc1 d6 9.Bd3 Qe7 10.0–0 Nxc3 11.Rxc3 e5 12.Nd2 0–0 13.Qc2 g6 14.Be4 Nc6 15.Qa4 exd4 16.exd4 Qd7 17.Bd5 Kg7 18.Re3 Rad8 19.Nf3 Ba8 20.Qa3 Na5 21.Qc3 c6 22.Be4 d5 23.cxd5 cxd5 24.Bd3 Nc4 25.Ne5 Qd6 26.Rh3 f6 27.Nf3 Rf7 28.b3 Na5 29.Qd2 Kg8 30.Bxg6 Rg7 31.Qh6 Qd7 32.Bd3 Nc6 33.Re1 Rf8 34.Kh1 Nd8 35.Rg3 Rxc3 36.hxc3 Qg7 37.Qf4 Bc6 38.Nh4 Qg5 39.Qc7 f5 40.Bxf5 Rf7 41.Qe5 Qg7 1–0

Yao, Lucas Mason Pin Qia (1895) – Plotkin, Mark (2382) [B38] CAN ch Montreal (7.5), 06.04.2026

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.c4 Nc6 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Nb3 Qd8 8.Nc3 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Nf6 10.f3 d6 11.Be2 0–0 12.0–0 Be6 13.Nd4 Bd7 14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Qd4 Qa5 16.c5 d5 17.Bh6 Rfd8 18.e5 Ne8 19.f4 Bd7 20.Bg5 f6 21.exf6 exf6 22.Qxd5+ Kh8 23.Bc4 Ng7 24.Bxf6 Bf5 25.Qe5 Rd7 26.Rfe1 h5 27.Rad1 Rc7 28.Rd5 Kh7 29.Bd8 Rac8 30.Bxc7 Rxc7 31.Rd8 Qxc5+ 32.Qxc5 Rxc5 33.Bg8+ Kh6 34.Bb3 g5 35.Rd6+ Kh7 36.fxc5 Rxc3 37.Rh6# 1–0



Kelowna March Rapid (March 29)

The latest event put on by itinerant TD and organizer Daniel Rokhvarger was the [Kelowna March Rapid Championship](#) on March 29; as can be seen, several other events occurred on the same weekend but the event still attracted twenty-three players, a testament to the continuing popularity of OTB chess since the pandemic. Oliver Olivar won his first four games before giving up a last-round draw to his closest rival Curtis Sleyphen in finishing first with 4.5 points. Curtis tied for second with John Kump, ahead of James Bridger, Oakley Pankratz, and Connor Frank with 3.5. Watch for Daniel's next event, the [BC Spring FIDE Chess Festival](#), at Langara College April 30 – May 3.

UBC Rapid (March 29)



(photo by Neelesh Jain, see [more](#))

Twenty-nine players participated in the annual UBC Rapid tournament in two sections. NM Yidong Chen had a substantial rating advantage over the rest of the [Open Section](#) but only tied for first with Gary Hilares Chavez. Yidong won their individual encounter but didn't play the last round, allowing Gary to also achieve 5.0 points; we note Yidong was also playing in a Richmond tournament on the same day (see below) so presumably there was a scheduling conflict. Nathan Yi-Hsin Yang and Moses Hsu tied for third. Berken Ocak was the perfect winner of the [U1500 Section](#), Karl Aguirre was second and Clement Cheng and Guillaume Ritchie split the third prize.

18th Pedro Lezcano Montalvo Memorial (March 28 – April 5)

Held in Las Palmas on the Spanish Canary Islands, this international event was the latest in a series honouring the memory of Spanish author, politician, and chess player Pedro Lezcano Montalvo. Among the eight GMs and nine IMs in the one hundred and sixty-two player field was IM Leon Piasetski from this province. By winning his last-round game Indian GM Gupta Sankalp pulled ahead of the pack to take clear first with 7.5/9, a half-point ahead of eight others tied for second; Leon endured yo-yo pairings (considerably higher-rated or lower rated opponents) and finished on 6.0 points with no draws. [Standings](#)

Piasetski, Leon (2149) – Garcia Blanco, Omar (2388) [A36] Lezcano mem 18th Las Palmas (5.9), 01.04.2026

1.c4 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.d3 e5 6.Bd2 Nge7 7.h4 h6 8.Qc1 d6 9.Nf3 Be6 10.Rb1 a5 11.b3 b6 12.0-0 d5 13.e4 d4 14.Nd5 Rb8 15.a3 Qd7 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 Bxd5 18.exd5 Nxb4 19.Bxb4 cxb4 20.Rxb4 0-0 21.Qb2 Qd6 22.Rb1 Nc8 23.Qa2 f5 24.Nd2 Kh7 25.Rb5 e4 26.dxe4 f4 27.c5 Qf6 28.Nf3 fxe4 29.fxe4 d3 30.Qd2 Ra8 31.cxb6 Ra1 32.e5 Rxb1+ 33.Rxb1 Qd8 34.b7 Nb6 35.Qxd3 Nd7 36.e6 Ne5 37.Nxe5 Bxe5 38.h5 Rf6 39.b8Q Bxb8 40.Rb7+ Kg8 41.Qd4 1-0

Mid-Island Chess Championship (March 28)



(photo by Carter Lam)

An initiative of [Oceanside Chess](#) (Parksville), the Mid-Island Chess Championship was run as a six-round rapid event (20 + 5) in Nanaimo and attracted fifty-nine players from all over the island and as far away as Vancouver. Raymond Manguerra won all of his games in claiming first prize with a perfect 6.0/6, Jason Williamson was clear second a half-point back, and the third prize was split between Randy Reiffer, Antony Stevens, and Jason Royal, all scored 5.0 points. [Full results](#).

RCC Elite Championship (March 27-29)



The latest edition of the [Richmond Chess Champion's](#) Elite Championships was much stronger than other recent events, with a total of ten players rated over 2000 among the thirty-two participants. The eight-player [Open Section](#) was won by NM Yidong Chen with an undefeated 4.0/5, just ahead of Aadit Arya in clear second. A full-point further back were Kaiqi Qin and Aiden Yin who tied for third. The next two sections were both six-player round robins. In the [U2100\(!\)](#) fourth-ranked Ryder Hsu came out on top with 4.0/5, Ryan Golchin was second and Brooks Jiang third, while the [U1850 Section](#) was won by newcomer Xavier Negrón, ahead of Panshul Mishra Jaiman and Jasper Zhang. Finally, the twelve-player [U1500 Section](#) saw the ninth-ranked player

Oscar Yulang Shi tied for first with Yude Lin on 4.0 points, gaining some 233 rating points in the process; Xinyuan Guo was clear third, a half-point off the pace.

Reykjavik Open (March 25-31)

Held as usual at the spectacular Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre in Iceland's capital, this year's [Reykjavik Open](#) attracted four hundred and sixty players, including thirty-two grandmasters and thirty-one international masters. Seven Canadians were also part of the field, headed by CM Hairan Liang and also including from this province juniors Karson Lu, Elliot McCallum, and Aiden Zhu. Iranian GM Amin Tabatabaei lived up to his top-ranking (he was the only 2700 in attendance) by taking first place with 8.5 points out of 9. Clear second was GM Jianchao Zhou (USA) on 7.5, a half-point ahead of seven players tied for third including Ukrainian legend Yasyl Ivanchuk. Another recognizable name was that of Bryce Tiglon, formerly a junior from Seattle and now a GM, who was part of the large group who tied for tenth with 6.5 points. Top Canadian was CM Hairan Liang from Markham, Ontario with 6.0 points; Karson Lu had 5.5, Elliot McCallum 5.0, and Aiden Zhu 4.0 respectively. (photos by Tómas Tandri Jóhannsson and Jökull Úlfarsson)

Hardarson, Jon Trausti (2071) – McCallum, Elliot (1812) [D13] Reykjavik op Reykjavik (3.18), 26.03.2026

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bf4 a6 7.Ne5 e6
8.e3 Bd6 9.Bd3 0–0 10.a3 Qc7 11.Nxc6 Bxf4 12.exf4 bxc6 13.Qd2 c5
14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.0–0 Bb7 16.Rac1 Qd6 17.Be4 Rfd8 18.Bf3 Qe7
19.Qd4 Rac8 20.Qa7 Rc7 21.Ne2 Rdc8 22.g3 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Rxc1+
24.Nxc1 Qc7 25.Nd3 Nd7 26.Qd4 h6 27.b4 Bc6 28.Qc3 Qb6 29.Ne5
Nxe5 30.fxe5 Bb7 31.Be2 d4 32.Qc5 Qd8 33.Bd3 Qd7 34.f4 Qa4
35.Qxd4 Qd1+ 36.Kf2 Qd2+ 37.Kf1 Qd1+ 38.Kf2 Qd2+ 39.Kf1 Qd1+
½–½

Lu, Karson (1827) – Sivanandan, Bodhana (2268) [C47] Reykjavik op Reykjavik (5.27), 28.03.2026

Prodigy vs. prodigy: [WIM Bodhana Sivanandan](#) has just passed her eleventh birthday and is currently (as of April) England's highest-rated female player.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.a3 d5 5.Bb5 Nxe4 6.Qe2 Qd6 7.Nxe4
dxe4 8.Qxe4 Bd7 9.0–0 0–0 10.Bxc6 Bxc6 11.Qf5+ Rd7 12.Re1 f6
13.d4 e4 14.Bf4 Qd5 15.Qxd5 Bxd5 16.Nd2 g5 17.Bg3 f5 18.Be5 Rg8
19.g4 fxg4 20.Nxe4 Bxe4 21.Rxe4 h5 22.Rae1 Rf7 23.Bg3 Kd7 24.c4
Bg7 25.Be5 Bh6 26.d5 Bf8 27.b4 b6 28.Bg3 Rg6 29.Re6 Rgf6 30.Rxf6
Rxf6 31.Be5 Rf3 32.Re3 a5 33.Bc3 Rf4 34.c5 Rf5 35.c6+ Kd6 36.bxa5
bxa5 37.Bxa5 Kxd5 38.Bxc7 Kxc6 39.Re5 Rf3 40.Rxg5 Kxc7 41.Rxh5
Be7 42.Kg2 Rxa3 43.Re5 Bh4 44.Re4 Ra2 45.Rxg4 Bxf2 46.Kf3 Bc5
47.h4 Kd6 48.h5 Rh2 49.Rg5 Bd4 50.Ke4 Bf6 51.Ra5 Rh4+ 52.Kf3
Be5 53.h6 Ke6 54.Ra6+ Kf5 55.Rc6 Ra4 56.Rc2 Ra3+ 57.Kg2 Ra6
58.Rc4 Rxh6 59.Kf3 Rh3+ 60.Ke2 Bc3 61.Kd1 Ke5 62.Ke2 Bd4
63.Rc8 Ke4 64.Re8+ Be5 65.Rf8 Rh7 66.Re8 Rh2+ 67.Ke1 Ra2



68.Re7 Kd5 69.Rd7+ Kc4 70.Kf1 Bd4 71.Rd8 Kd3 72.Re8 Rf2+ 73.Ke1 Rf5 74.Kd1 Rf1+ 75.Re1 Rf2 76.Re8 Rb2 77.Rc8 Bb6 78.Rc6 Be3 79.Rd6+ Bd4 80.Rc6 Rd2+ 81.Kc1 Ra2 82.Kd1 Rg2 83.Re6 Rb2 84.Rc6 Rb5 85.Rc8 Bb6 86.Rc1 Rg5 87.Rc2 0-1

2026 BCCF AGM

The BC Chess Federation will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Sunday, May 17, 2026.

Location: Richmond Curling Club. 5540 Hollybridge Way, Richmond BC, V7C 4N3

- Meeting will be in the upstairs skittles room of the venue.

Time: 3pm or immediately following Round 3 of the Keres Memorial Tournament.

Agenda: Send any discussion items to be added to the agenda to BCCF President Paul Leblanc at: pc-leblanc@shaw.ca

Voting: All eligible (please see below for eligibility requirements) BCCF members are welcome and encouraged to participate in voting on agenda discussions.

Eligibility:

- Must be at least 14 years of age.
- Must be current BCCF member (one event played, organized or directed within the past year), **OR** current CFC member, **OR** lifetime BCCF member.
- Must **sign in** prior to the AGM to confirm above requirements.

New sign in requirement for all members who wish to vote on agenda discussions. Sign in sheets and coordinators will be present at the entrances to the meeting.

GRAND PACIFIC OPEN (April 3-6) by Roger Patterson

The 19th annual Grand Pacific Open drew a respectable turnout of one hundred and sixty-four players. While not record breaking, it is among one of the highest turnouts. As is usually the case, players from a variety of provinces and states came to play. Action started early as the two top seeds, IM Georgi Orlov and FM John Doknjas, got dinged in the early rounds. Round 1 saw John go down to James Nah in what turned out to be the tournament's biggest upset. Usually, the biggest upset prize goes to a junior in the lowest section - it's the first time it has been a player in the Premier. An honorable mention to Echo Fang for the 2nd biggest upset in U1300. Georgi saw draws in round 2 and 3. His round 2 game against NM Jeff Reeve was alternately winning, lost, and finally drawn.

Nonetheless, both John and Georgi recovered to be contenders in the final round, playing on boards 1 and 2 albeit being a half point behind the leaders IM Bindi Cheng and Ray Kaufman. Both games were tense but ultimately John and Georgi could not make up the half point odds they faced. Bindi Cheng came clear first with his last round win against Georgi along with a few strategic GM draws. This is Bindi's second GPO title, the first being eighteen(!) years ago. Recently, a clear winner has not been the norm with most recent GPOs having a logjam at first place. Congrats to Bindi. As always, thanks to all of those who helped make this tournament happen, our volunteers,

TDs, and floaters. The Hotel Grand Pacific has been a terrific venue all these years and we hope to see you all at next year's event - the 20th annual! [This [report](#) plus more photos, full standings and games]



Bindi, Cheng (2378) – Orlov, Georgi (2497) [E90] Grand Pacific op 19th Victoria (6), 06.04.2026 [Georgi Orlov]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0–0 5.d4 d6 6.h3 c6 7.Bg5 Nbd7 8.Be2 e5 9.d5 cxd5
 [9...Qb6!? 10.Qc2 Nc5=] **10.cxd5 Qa5** [10...a5!? 11.0–0 Nc5 12.Nd2 Bd7 13.Qc2 Rc8 14.a4!?!+/=]
11.Nd2 a6 12.a3 h6 13.Be3 Ne8 14.g4 Qd8 15.Nf1 [15.h4! b5 (15...f5 16.exf5 gxf5 17.gxf5 b5!?)
 18.Nde4 Nb6 19.Bh5!+/-) 16.Rc1 (16.h5 Nb6! (16...g5?! 17.0–0 Bb7 18.b4+/-) 17.hxg6 fxg6
 18.Bxh6 Bxh6 19.Rxh6 Qf6 20.Rh2 Ra7! with compensation) 16...f5 17.gxf5 gxf5 18.exf5 Nb6
 19.Rg1 Bxf5 unclear] **15...Qh4** [15...b5!?) **16.b4 f5 17.gxf5 gxf5 18.exf5 e4 19.Rc1 Ne5 20.Ng3**
Bxf5 21.b5 [21.Nxf5 Rxf5 22.Rg1 Rc8 23.Rg3=] **21...Bg6** [21...axb5 22.Qb3 Rc8 23.Nxf5 Rxf5
 24.Qxb5 Nf3+ 25.Kd1 Qh5=+] **22.Qa4 Nf3+ 23.Kd1 Nc7 24.bxa6 Nxa6 25.Qd7!?! Ne5** [25...Rad8
 26.Qg4] **26.Qxd6 Kh7 27.Qb6 Nd3 28.Rc2 Rac8 29.Rg1 Nac5?** [29...Nxf2+ 30.Bxf2 Rxf2
 (30...e3? 31.Nge4) 31.Ngxe4 Bxe4 32.Nxe4 Qxe4 33.Rxg7+ Kxg7 34.Qxb7+ Rc7 35.Rxc7+ Nxc7
 36.Qxc7+ Rf7 37.Qg3+=] **30.Nb5** [30.Nh5!+/- Bxh5 31.Rxg7+ Kxg7 32.Qxh6+ Kg8 33.Bxh5 Qg3!
 34.Qg6+ Qxg6 35.Bxg6 Rcd8+/=] **30...Rf6 31.d6 Na4??** [31...Rc6! 32.Qa7 Rfxd6 33.Nxd6 Rxd6]
32.Qxb7 Nab2+ 33.Kd2 Nc4+ 34.Rxc4 Rxc4 35.Nh5 Rf7 36.Qxf7 Bxf7 37.Rxg7+ Kh8 38.Rxf7+-
Qd8 39.Bxd3 Qa5+ 40.Kd1 exd3 41.Nf6 1–0

Reeve, Jeff (2200) – Chen, Yidong (2264) [B90] Grand Pacific op 19th Victoria (6.4), 06.04.2026

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a4 g6 7.Be2 Bg7 8.0–0 0–0 9.Bg5 Nc6 10.Nb3
 Be6 11.Kh1 Rc8 12.f4 Nb4 13.Bf3 Bc4 14.Re1 e5 15.f5 a5 16.Nd2 Ba6 17.Ndb1 h6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6
 19.fxg6 fxg6 20.Nd5 Nxd5 21.Qxd5+ Kh7 22.Na3 Rc5 23.Qd2 Rd8 24.b3 d5 25.exd5 e4 26.Bxe4
 Qd6 27.c4 Bxa1 28.Rxa1 Rf8 29.Nc2 b6 30.Qd3 Bc8 31.Nd4 Bd7 32.Re1 Rf6 33.Bf3 Rc8 34.h3
 Rcf8 35.Be4 Kg7 36.Qe3 Rf1+ 0–1



BASIC ROOK ENDINGS by Nick Beqo

White to move and draw

Answer:

1.Rg8! 1.Kxa5? c3 2.Ka6 Rh5! winning. **1...Rxb7**
2.Rg2+ =



White to move and win

Answer:

1.Kf8! 1.Kg~? Kh1! = 2.f7 Rg1+ 1...Kh2 2.f7 Kh1
3.Rb~! Zugzwang and White wins



White to move and win

Answer: **1. Rb3!** Zugzwang



Black to move and draw

Answer:

1...Kg1! = 1...Kg2? 2.Kg7 Kh1 3.Rh4+ Kg2 4.f7 Rf1 5.Rb4 winning; 1...Kh1? 2.Rb~ Zugzwang and White wins. **2. Rb~ 2.Kg~ Kh1! = 2... Kf2 3.Rb3 Kg1 =**



Black to move and draw

Answer:

1...Ra1! = If 1...Kxh4? 2.f6 Kh3 3.Rb4! Kh2 (If 3...Kg2/g3 4.Kg7 Kf3 5.f7 Rg1+ 6.Kf6) 4.Kf8! followed by 5.f7 and White wins. Note that if White plays 4.Rb3? Black draws with 4...Kg1!

Nick Beqo, FIDE Instructor

For private coaching email: besnik@telus.net or visit:

www.facebook.com/nickb.the.coach/

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

Okanagan Valley Rapid 6

Kelowna, April 25, [Details](#)

Fraser Valley Classical 6

Langley, April 25-26, [Details](#)

LIC Invitational 5

Richmond, April 25-26, [Details](#)

PCC April Rapid and Meetup

Burnaby, April 26, [Details](#)

RCC Elite Championship

Richmond, April 26, [Details](#)

BC Spring FIDE Festival

Vancouver, April 30 – May 3, [Details](#)

West Coast Rapid 1

North Vancouver, May 2, [Details](#)

Okanagan Open

Salmon Arm, May 1-3, [Details](#)