

**“ SCARBOROUGH COMMUNITY OF TORONTO
CHESS TALK ”**

Newsletter of / Le Journal de
Scarborough Chess Club

e – mail : scarboro@idirect.ca Website : <http://webhome.idirect.com/~blamb/>
Wexford Seniors' Apartments (Comm. Ctre.), 1860 Lawrence Ave E. (just east of Pharmacy Ave.)
(easy access – Victoria Park Stn./Pharmacy Bus; Lawrence E. Stn./Lawrence W. Bus)

“ Second **LARGEST** Can. C. C.; C. d' E. Can. **PLUS DE 100 Memb.** ”

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS
ISSUE # 2 – September 15, 2000

DO YOU KNOW ? / SAVEZ-VOUS ?

SCC Club-Run “ Open ” Actives – Testing the Limits of Toronto Chess Expansion

A Short History of SCC Actives

Initially, SCC organized only a few Actives each club year. For the year 1997-1998, only 4 Actives were held – Nov./97 and Jan., March and May/98. However, SCC decided to go monthly, and double the number of Actives it ran to 8 , in 1998-1999. Four months were omitted – Sept. & Aug. (club closed), Oct. (club didn't open 'til mid-Sept), & March (high school Spring break; “ Cafeteria Use Permit “ suspended for week).

In March 1999, the new Dutton Chess tournament organizing business began running its monthly regular-rated weekend Toronto tournaments, and it also decided to run its first Active at the DCC in August/99, when SCC was closed.

Prior to the regular-rated monthlies, players had been warming to the monthly Actives, with turnout rising substantially between Nov./98 to Feb./99. With the advent of monthly regular-rated tournaments, the turnout at the monthly Actives run by SCC dropped substantially (almost 50 %) – 1997-98 : 33; 1998-99 (Sept. '98 to March '99) : 51; 1998-99 (April to July/99) : 27.

“ Managed Capitalism “ – the SCC/DC Accord

For the 1999-2000 club year, SCC had to take into account the new interest of Dutton Chess in running Actives. So, before fixing a schedule of monthly tournaments unilaterally, as it had done the prior year, SCC entered into negotiations with DC on a 1999-00 joint schedule. It was agreed DC would run 3 tournaments in the months SCC was closed (Sept. & Oct./99, & Aug. /00); SCC would continue to run its monthly Actives for the other 9 months (SCC ran only 8 Actives due to a high school permit problem).

Subsequently, DC decided to also organize a tournament in Jan./00, before the regular-rated monthly tournament, with SCC's having been fixed for after the regular-rated tournament. So, there were 2 Actives that month: DCC – 36 players; SCC – 28 players (it was the 3rd Jan. tournament, with the Pan-American Open '99 having been in the last week of December '99).

With players getting used to both monthly regular-rated and Active tournaments, under the joint schedule worked out, average turnout climbed modestly, up to 31 for the 12 tournaments.

Wither 2000-2001 ??

The SCC/DC Accord had only been for the one year. And in June 2000, DC fixed and advertised a schedule of its own monthly Actives, not only for Sept. & Oct. as in the prior club year, but also Nov. & Dec./00.

SCC had anticipated commencing its own monthly Actives in Nov./00, as in the prior year, subject to a new accord with DC. But the unilateral action of DC now put the question to SCC:

“ Can Toronto support a regular-rated monthly tournament, and 2 regular monthly Actives, in Nov. & Dec./00, as it had at the beginning of the year in Jan. 2000 ?? “ .

What To Do ??

Bryan Lamb, the President of SCC, who was drafting the 2000-01 promotion flyer for SCC, had to decide what to put in the brochure, since it is a main advertising tool for the SCC Actives, being distributed all year long, with the full schedule in it. Furthermore, it had to be printed and distributed in June and July, since the club was closed from late July to mid-Sept./00.

Under the circumstances, Bryan decided to place a monthly schedule in the promotion brochure as planned, including Nov. and Dec., and unilaterally fixing 7 monthlies from Jan. to July/01. SCC would agree to test the waters again, to see if the pool of Toronto Active chess players was now large enough; if players played in only one tournament, would there be enough of a turnout for each to reach the average turnout of 31, at least ??

Toronto Tournament Co-Ordination

Depending on what happens in Nov. and Dec./00, the debate about what is best for Toronto chess may once again be raised. Will some type of tournament co-ordination be needed as the best way to serve the interests of Toronto, GTA, and Surrounding-GTA players ?

It's up to Toronto chess players. If the experiment does not work, some repeat of the prior “ managed capitalism “ accord may be required for 2001.

Statistical Averages (1997 - 2000) [referred to above]

<u>Year(s)</u>	<u>1997-1998</u>	<u>1998-1999</u>	<u>1999-2000</u>
Tournaments			
1. SCC Nov.	30	1. SCC November 61	1. DCC # 2 (Sept.) 22
2. SCC Bent Jenson	37	2. SCC Xmas 57	2. DCC # 3 (Oct.) 30
3. SCC March	34	3. SCC January 51	3. SCC November 31
4. SCC May	32	4. SCC February 33	4. SCC December 51
		5. SCC April 28	5. DCC # 4 (Jan.) 36
		6. SCC May 26	6. SCC Y2K (Jan.) 28
		7. SCC June 27	7. SCC Winter(Feb) 35
		8. SCC July 25	8. SCC Spring(Mar) 34
		9. DCC # 1 (Aug.) 35	9. SCC Easter (Apr) 28
			10. SCC June 18
			11. SCC July 16
			12. DCC # 5 (Aug.) 39
Total Players	<u>133</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>368</u>
Av. No. of Players/Tourn	33	38	31

NOTE :

A – Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed. , directly, or through SCC e-mail, to :

1. be added to the e-mail list; 2. submit content (fact, opinion, criticism - recommendations help!).

B – An item in any language may be submitted for publication, if accompanied by an English translation.