

# Scarborough Community of Toronto Chess News & Views

Newsletter of / Le Journal de  
**Scarborough Chess Club**

**“ FRIENDLY Chess Since 1960 ”**

*ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS*

**Issue # 17 – May 15, 2005**

Do You Know ? / Savez-Vous ?

## **Kramnik Refuses to Play in FIDE World Championship**

As we suggested in our editorial comments last Issue, FIDE still doesn't get it ! FIDE has set up an alleged “ World Championship “ tournament for eight of the top players, including Vladimir Kramnik ( Russia ), Classical World Champion. In doing so, FIDE has abandoned the Prague Unity Agreement, whereby Kramnik was to play the winner of the match between Garry Kasparov ( Russia ), 13<sup>th</sup> FIDE World Champion, and Rustam Kasimdzhanov ( Uzbekistan ), 2004 FIDE World Champion. Kramnik sees no reason why he should not face a challenger for the title, as have all champions before him. As Champion, he does not feel that he should put his title on the line in a championship tournament, as if there was no champion. You'll note that he is willing to treat this tournament as a candidates tournament to determine a challenger for his title, which seems pretty reasonable to us. Here is his official statement to FIDE :

### **World Chess Champion Vladimir Kramnik**

#### **Official Statement**

After defending the title of Classical World Chess Champion a few months ago against Peter Leko, I consider it important now to state my position regarding the current discussion about the World Chess Championship.

First of all, I would like to make it clear that I will not participate in the FIDE Championship, which is planned to take place this Fall in Argentina.

In the agreement that was signed in Prague by, among others, FIDE and myself, it was clearly stated that the Classical World Champion, eventually determined by my final match with Peter Leko, was qualified to play a unification match against the winner of

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the final match for the FIDE World Championship. I fail to see any reason why the cancellation of the final FIDE match should influence my position on the agreed unification process. It is therefore incomprehensible that FIDE included me in the list of possible participants – a decision clearly in conflict with our existing agreement. Just for the record: FIDE did not even inform me before doing so.

Nevertheless, I am still ready to complete the unification process in the spirit of the Prague agreement. Therefore, the organization of a match between the winner of the FIDE event in Argentina and myself could be a solution to break the deadlock. I want to make it clear that I would be ready to participate in such a unification match.

In the event that FIDE will not demonstrate any willingness to follow the agreed process of unification, I will start discussing proposals with interested partners, in order to defend my title in accordance with the classical line of the World Chess Championship.

Vladimir Kramnik  
World Chess Champion  
[www.kramnik.com](http://www.kramnik.com)  
April 28th, 2005

However, Viswanathan Anand ( India ), top-rated player in the world, now that Kasparov has resigned, and 2000 FIDE World Champion has accepted his invitation. We now need to wait to see how many other of the top players will also accept.

### **Thavandiran New Canadian Junior Champion**

GTA Junior Shiyam Thavandiran won the Canadian Junior title , recently held in Brantford April 30 – May 4. He had an almost perfect score, drawing in the last round, to end with 8.5 pts. in this 9 round swiss. At 12 years 11 months, he is the youngest ever Canadian Junior champion. 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to another GTA Junior, 2004 Canadian Junior Champion , Zhe Quan, whose only loss was to Shiyam. 12 players participated.

### **Bokhout Wins SCC Spring Swiss**

24 players came out for this SCC tournament. Returning member Peter Bokhout led the field with 5.5/7 points. Tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at 5/7 points were : Sasha Rapoport, Bryan Lamb, Donal Dieeach and Pino Verde.

### **The May Open – Upcoming Tournament**

This 5 round swiss will be held at the Bayview Games Club, 1681 Bayview Avenue, on May 27 – 29. Time control will be Game/150 min.. Rounds are : Friday – 6:30 pm; Sat. & Sun. – 11:00 am & 5:30 pm. Entry Fee is \$55 ( payable in cash by May 26 ). Late Fee - \$ 10. Non-members of BGC - \$ 15 extra. This is a CFC – rated tournament – membership required or \$ 10 tournament membership. For further information : Vlad Dobrich 416-722-9709.

## **Kitchener-Guelph Spring Pro-Am – Results**

This was a 5-round Swiss played May 6-8 in Kitchener.

Igor Divljan upset Tomas Krnan in the final round, allowing Igor and Jura Ochkoos to share the \$1050 first prize in the pro section with him. Robert Hamilton, Marius Zubac, Michael Buscar and Thomas Magar (Pittsburg) split the \$200 4th place prize.

The U2000 saw Justin McDonald and Alex Martchenko finish with 4 points, followed by Jaime Solis, Tom McLelland and Richard Yam.

Zeljko Kitich and Jesse Wang scored 4 points each atop the U1700. John Nguyen finished 3rd.

81 yr old Jan Draak dominated the U1400 section with 4 points. At 3.5 we had Michael Zubac, Lyle Trainor and Keith Cober.

## **Canadian Chess Timeline (History of Chess in Canada) – Part III ( 1946 to 1970 )** ( Written, compiled and copyright 2005 by David Cohen )

[ Ed. – this is a lengthy article, and so we have been breaking it up into a series of parts over the a number of Issues. ]

1946

Harry Yanofsky wins U.S. Inter-collegiate Chess Championship.

1947

Revival or introduction of provincial open championships in Ontario, Quebec.  
*Canadian Chess Chat*, founded by Daniel MacAdam, published 1947-88. Originally *Maritime Chess News Bulletin*. Was official organ of CFC for a time. Combined Canadian chess coverage (more at the beginning of the run) with international coverage (more at the end of the run). Montgomery Major, editor of *Chess Life* 1946-57, stated before 1960 that “much of the solidity of Canadian chess is due to the unifying force of this readable and informative magazine.”

1948

Canada represented for first time at World Chess Federation (FIDE)’s competition cycle for the World Chess Championship, by D. Abraham Yanofsky at the Interzonal held at Saltsjobaden, Sweden.

Frank Anderson finishes in first place at U.S. Junior Chess Championship.

1949

Maurice Fox sets record by winning Canadian Chess Championship for 8th time.  
Dudley LeDain becomes chess columnist for *Montreal Gazette* (1949-1978).

1950s

Sicilian Defence, Bourdonnais or Kalashnikov Variation: 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 pioneered by Ivan Suk-Theodorovitch.

1950

D. Abraham Yanofsky receives International Master (IM) title from FIDE, to become Canada's first titled player.

Ross Siemms finishes in first place at U.S. Junior Chess Championship.

One of the most dedicated Canadian match participants at the regular cross-border matches on Canada Day / Independence Day weekends, between Canada and the U.S.A., has to have been Gug Hogben, who, at age 62, made a 58 mile trip - each way - by bicycle from Bronte, Ontario to score a point for Canada at Niagara Falls, Ontario.

1951

Canada represented by Lionel Joyner at 1st World Junior Chess Championship.

Malcolm Sim receives Canada's first International Arbiter (IA) title from FIDE.

British Columbia hosts first national championship, as Canadian Chess Championship held at Vancouver.

1953

D. Abraham Yanofsky British Chess Champion.

Ignas Zalys wins 1952-53 U.S. Golden Knights Postal Tournament.

1954

Frank Anderson registers a Grandmaster Norm at the Chess Olympiad.

Frank Anderson becomes first Canadian-born International Master.

Ross Siemms wins U.S. Junior Open Chess Championship.

First publication of CFC's annual list of players' ratings.

1955

John Prentice starts 15 years as CFC President, helping fund Canada's teams at the Chess Olympiads, as well as the publication of *Canadian Chess Chat*.

Maurice Fox competes in his record 17th Canadian Chess Championship (1924-55).

1956

First Canadian Open Chess Championship held Montreal, Quebec, won by visiting USA Grandmasters Larry M. Evans and William Lombardy. Tournament similar to original Canadian Championship, but open to all (Canadians and visitors). Tournament run every two years, Swiss system of pairings adopted. Event normally held in conjunction with CFC's Annual Meeting.

First publication of CFC's Handbook.

1957

First Canadian Junior Chess Championship held, to select representatives to World Junior Championship.

4th World Junior Championship organized by Bernard Freedman held in Toronto, Ontario, won by William Lombardy of USA.

John Prentice starts 30 years as Canada's representative to FIDE.

1958

Frank Anderson would have qualified for the International Grandmaster title if illness (an attack of influenza) had not prevented him from playing in the last round of the Chess Olympiad (the result of the game did not matter).

1959

D. Abraham Yanofsky wins the Canadian Chess Championship with a perfect score, for the second time.

1960s

The Canadian style in chess, which “involves non-committal preservation of options, often connected with a slow development of the pieces,” according to Lawrence Day, was developed in the 1960s by Duncan Suttles and influenced a generation of Canadian chess players.

1960

First Universities Team Chess Championship was held, won by Queen’s University. Chess Foundation of Canada founded by Daniel MacAdam.

1962

Laszlo (Leslie) Witt wins the Canadian Open Chess Championship with a perfect score.

1964

D. Abraham Yanofsky becomes Canada’s first International Grandmaster (GM), and the first GM to be raised in the British Commonwealth.

John Cleeve helps *CHECK!* editor Russ Isaac become the first person to be paid for chess in Canada.

Future World Chess Champion Bobby Fischer gave simultaneous exhibitions in Montreal.

1965

D. Abraham Yanofsky ties record by winning Canadian Chess Championship for the 8th time.

Canadian team, University of Toronto, wins Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship for the first time.

Duncan Suttles finishes in first place in Group ‘B’ at World Junior Championship.

John Cleeve begins 25 years as President of CCCA.

1967

Fedor Bohatirchuk first Canadian to receive a title from International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF), Correspondence International Master (IMC), becoming Canada’s first double international master (over-the-board and correspondence).

Important grandmaster tournament held at Winnipeg.

‘100 Years of Chess in Canada’, by D. Abraham Yanofsky, published as Canadian Centennial project.

1968

*CHECK!* given its new name with issue #344, 1968.10.

1969

Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championships held in Canada for first time, at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec.

Lawrence Day wins U.S. Junior Open Chess Championship.

Vladimir Dobrich becomes first Canadian full-time professional chess organizer.

Dataline PDP-10 (MacHack 7) plays in Labour Day Open, Toronto, one of the first times that a computer competes in a chess tournament against humans.

Duncan Suttles competes in his 4th Canadian Chess Championship (1961-69).

1970s

The word 'cheapo', meaning a swindle, entered the English language from Canadian chess slang. It originated at the University of Toronto's Hart House Chess Club in the early 1970s.

1970

Canadian Under 20 (Junior) Chess Championship revived by Vladimir Dobrich as an annual competition to select Canada's representative to the World Junior Championship.

John Cleeve becomes Canada's first Correspondence International Arbiter (IAC).

*Chess Canada* 1970-75, founded, edited and published by Vladimir Dobrich; contained detailed coverage and analysis by Lawrence Day and others of master level Canadian games.

Monty Newborn organizes first ACM U.S. (later North American) Computer Chess Championship.

At the Interzonal, Palma de Majorca, Spain, Duncan Suttles introduces the Robatsch Defence, Suttles Variation: 1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nf3 d6 4. Nc3 c6.

Newfoundland hosts first national championship, the Canadian Open Championship at St. John's.

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A - Members/ non-members may contact Bob Armstrong, ed. , directly, at [bobarm@sympatico.ca](mailto:bobarm@sympatico.ca) or through SCC e-mail, to :

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