



THE CHESS ATLANTIC NEWSLETTER



**DRUEKE
NO 35 PLAYERS'
CHOICE**

February 13, 2019

INDEX

1. Introduction - Page 2
2. Chess Poll - Page 3
3. The Day of the Sacman by Richard Bowes - Page 3
4. The Endgame - Shelter from the Storm by John Torrie - Page 9
5. Chess Book Reviews - Page 10
6. Nova Scotia Chess Association - Page 10
7. DGT Live Chess Tournament Games - Page 11
8. Youth and Seniors' Chess in Nova Scotia - Page 11
9. Nova Scotia Chess Association Score Books - Page 12
10. Blast from the Past - Page 13
11. Club Directors - Page 14
12. On-Line Nova Scotia Chess - Page 15
13. Girls' / Women's Corner - Page 15
14. "Chess In the Library" [Halifax] Program - Page 16
15. Atlantic Canada Chess Club and Tournament News - Page 17
16. Atlantic Canada Websites - Page 19
17. Chess Federation of Canada - Page 20
18. Neighbouring Chess Websites - Page 21
19. 2019 Maritime Open - Page 22
20. Chess Tidbits - Page 22
21. The Chess Game - Page 23
22. Chess Instructor's Corner - Page 24
23. Chess Book and Equipment Suppliers - Page 24

INTRODUCTION

On December 1, 2016, I sent out the first West Annapolis Chess Club Newsletter to 123 chess players, mainly in the Atlantic Canada region. On December 7, 2017, the Newsletter was merged to create the Nova Scotia Chess Association Newsletter in collaboration with the West Annapolis Chess Club Newsletter. That December 7th Newsletter was sent to 252 chess players.

This is the first edition of the **Chess Atlantic Newsletter**. I've gone through my e-mail data bases and found some duplications and additional chess players so this e-mail is being sent to 324 chess players primarily from the 4 Atlantic Provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, but also to all other Canadian provinces and the U.S.A..

The Newsletter has two primary objectives. First, it's to create a common link for Chess Clubs, Associations, and individual chess players in Atlantic Canada. However as the Newsletter expands it's borders, its ultimate goal is to be a small part in the overall worldwide promotion of chess.

If you're interested in organizing a chess club or know someone who would like to be added to this e-mail (I'm thinking members of your chess club ?), or if you would like to contribute an article, please respond to: l.c.lombard@ns.sympatico.ca

Finally, putting a Newsletter together is very time consuming. Since December 1, 2016, I've sent 51 Newsletters. With this expanded (and hopefully improved) Newsletter, I'm hoping and anticipating that it will likely be more like a quarterly Newsletter.

Also, please respond to this e-mail if you want to be removed from this e-mail list.

CHESS POLL

My favourite sized chess board square to play on is:

Two inch squares _____

Two and a quarter inch sized squares _____

Two and a half inch sized squares _____

Other _____

RESULTS OF LAST ISSUE'S POLL

The results of the Poll from the last issue of the Nova Scotia Chess Association Newsletter:

I would prefer if chess tournaments were held on long weekends: **33.3 %**

I would prefer if chess tournaments were held on weekends other than long weekends: **8.3%**

I would be OK with having about 1/2 on long weekends and 1/2 on weekends other than long weekends: **41.7%**

I don't play in Club or Provincially organized chess tournaments, so it doesn't matter to me: **16.7%**

I'm always looking for ideas / issues for a poll question so if you have one, please send it along for consideration to: l.c.lombard@ns.sympatico.ca

The Day of The Sacman (a.k.a. Ray Doucette)

by Richard Bowes, St. John, NB

Re: City and District Chess Championship 2001

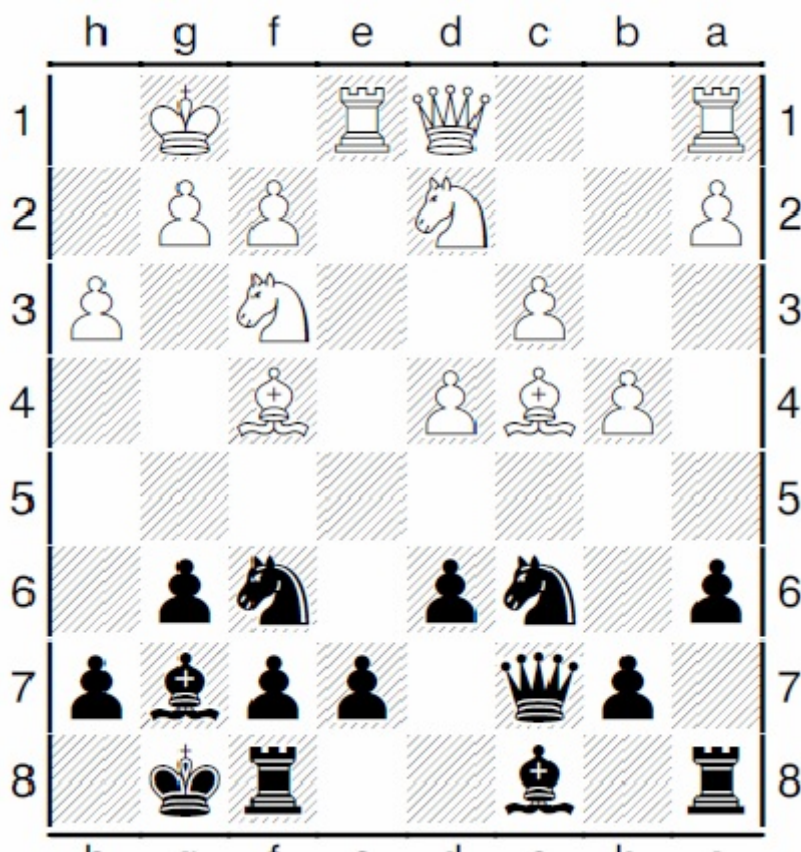
Neil Davis and I had each played the Sacman many times previous to the 2001 City & District Chess Championship and our records demonstrated an impressive number of wins. Neither of us had any reason to suspect this time would be any different but the Sacman had other plans.

In describing an upcoming game I've often heard Sacman say "I don't care, I'll just shove my pawns right down his throat!". Neil and I were about to get the treatment.

Sacman (CFC 1703) - R Bowes (CFC 2034) [A43]

City and District 2001, 11.12

1.d4 c5 2.c3 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Bf4 Qa5 (Qb6 was the move to make. The only explanation I can give for the pointless Qa5 is that the board must have been too slick and she slid to a5 before I could catch her.) **5.e3 d6 6.Nbd2 cxd4 7.exd4 Nf6 8.Bc4 0-0 9.0-0 Qc7 10.Re1 Nc6 11.h3 a6** Better to either develop the QB to f5 or d7 or to play Na5 to chase that B off its aggressive posting on the a2-g8 diagonal. **12.b4** Sacman is starting



the aforementioned pawn shoving.

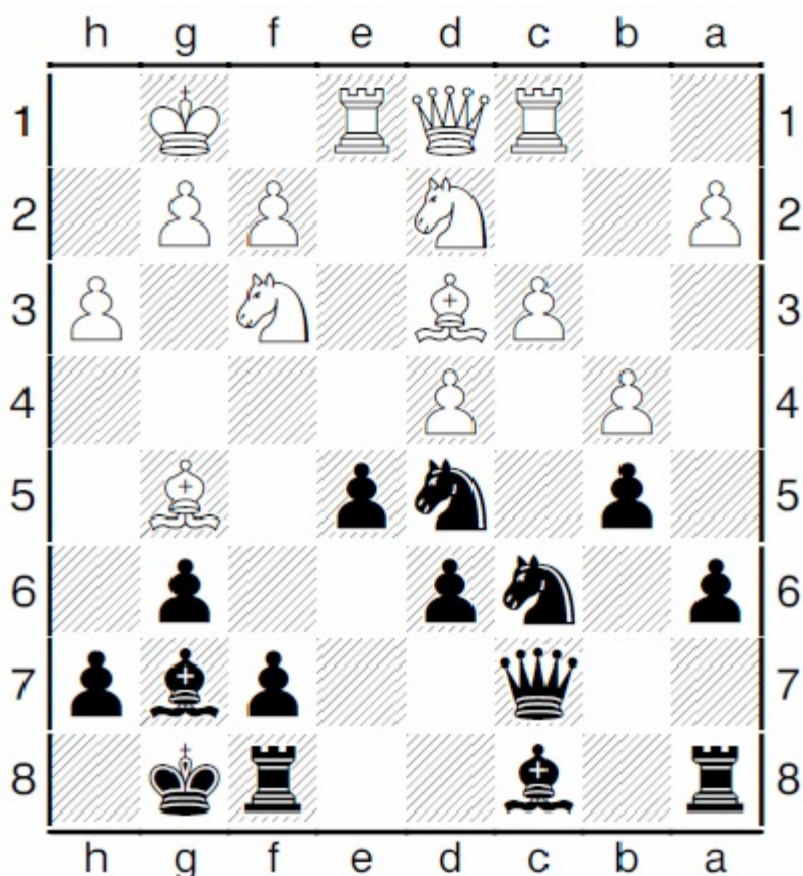
12...b5 13.Bd3 13.Bb3 is better, keeping my N off d5. **13...Nd5** Now I'm on top. **14.Bg5 e5** [14...Nxc3 15.Qb3 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Bxd4 17.Nf3 Bg7 18.Rac1] (18.Rxe7 Qc6 19.Rae1 Qd5 20.Bc2 Be6 -+) 18...Be6 19.Rxe6 fxe6 20.Bd2= Rac8 21.Qxe6+ Kh8 22.Ng5 Qb6 23.Be3 Qd8=] **15.Rc1**

Qb6? Heights make me dizzy. I should have played h6 to start beating

back his pieces. Now he begins to beat mine back. [15...h6 16.Bh4 (16.Be3 Be6 17.a4 Rfb8 =+) 16...Nf4 17.Bc2 Be6 =+] He's on top now.

16.Be4! Nice move. **Nc7** 16....Nf4 is better but White would still be on top. **17.d5** Whew! At least he missed 17.c4! **17...Nb8 18.Be3 Qb7 19.Nb3!** About this time I was wondering who was feeding Sacman the moves and where the receiver was hidden. This Knight maneuver is strong.

19...Ne8 I need to make room for my Queen. I was feeling quite suffocated by this time. and realized that for the first time in several games vs Sacman I was on the receiving end. **20.Na5 Qe7 21.c4 bxc4 22.Nxc4 Nd7 23.Na5 f5** This lashing out makes things worse, opening the h4-d8 diagonal. I should



have untangled the Knights with 23...Ndf6 followed by Nc7. **24.Nc6 Qf6??** Qf7 would have spared the Queen from humiliation. **25.Bg5** Around about here I was thinking- how could this possibly have happened?

25...Qf7 26.Nd8 I can't believe it. I'm dead at the hands of Sacman. He came at me like a mad man with a meat cleaver. He has shown no respect for my 331 points higher rating. As I surveyed my broken position I thought that perhaps I should give checkers a try.

26...fxe4 27.Nxf7 exf3

28.Nh6+ I was hoping he'd get confused and take the f3 pawn but he plays the right move again. If I find that receiver he's in big trouble. **28...Kh8**

29.gxf3 Bb7 30.Ng4

Rf5 31.Be3 Nef6

32.Nxf6 Nxf6 33.Rc7

Bxd5 34.Qc2 Be6

35.Qc6 Rd8 36.Rd1

Ne8? There's no

defense but Bf8 would

hold out longer. **37.Re7**

Bf7 38.Qb7 Kg8 Bb6 I

tossed in the towel here

and immediately began

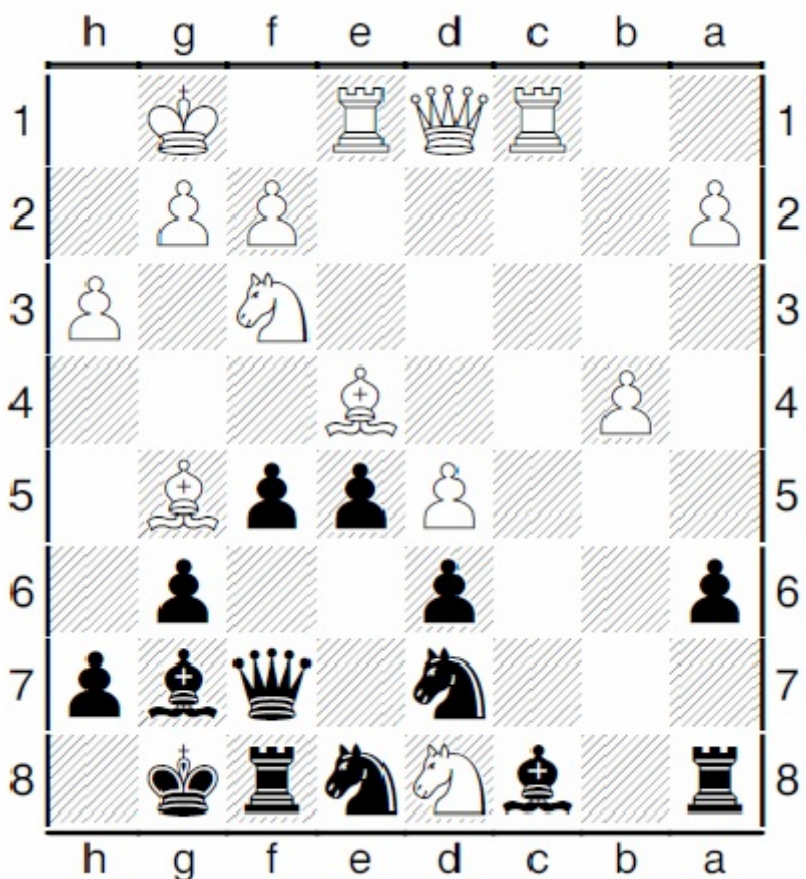
fumbling through my

bag of excuses but couldn't

find one in it to even come

close to covering off

what had just happened. **1-0**



Next round was Neil Davis's turn. He wrote me a note on his copy of the

game: "I don't remember this game at all!". I'm not surprised. People often forget traumatic events. It's call dissociative amnesia. Here we go for round 2.

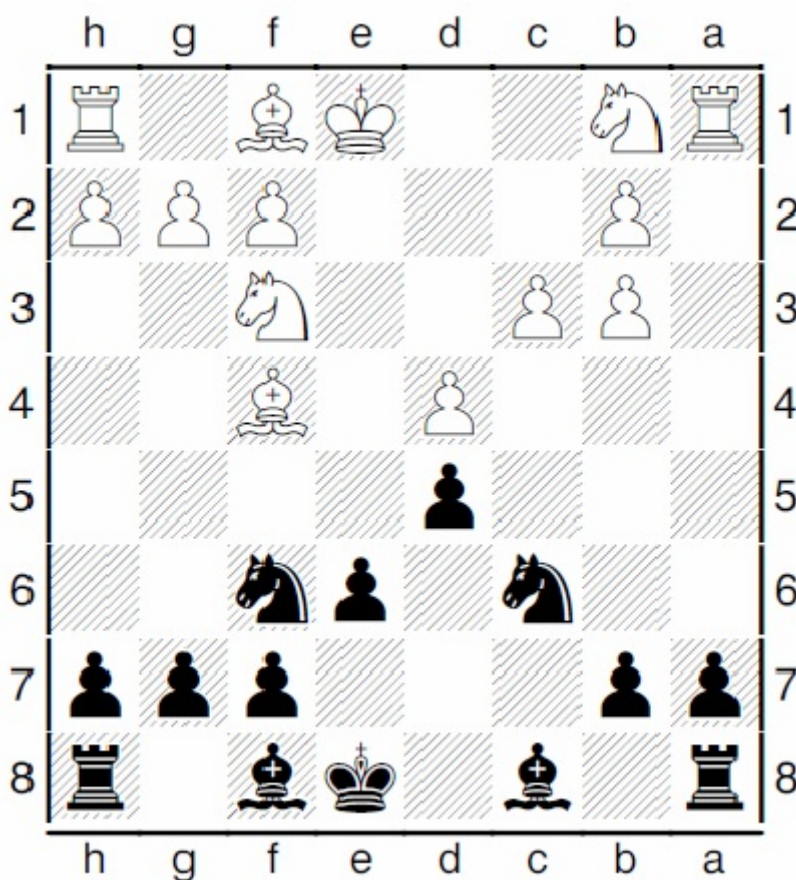
Sacman (CFC 1703) - N. Davis (CFC 2027) [A46]

22.10.2001

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.e3 cxd4 ND: "5...cxd4 does nothing but improve Whites position. 5...d5 or 5...Qb6 are both improvements."
6.exd4 Qb6 7.Qb3 Qxb3 8.axb3 d5

9.b4 The Sacman is shoving pawns again. **9...Be7 10.b5 Nd8 11.b4 0-0 12.b6 a6 13.b5** It was time to develop some pieces with N(b)d2 but Sacman can't resist. **13...a5 14.Nbd2 h6** Black should have kept his passed pawn mobile with 14...a4 **15.Ra4!** Sacman finds the best move.

His receiver is working fine again tonight. **15...Bd7 16.Ne5 Be8 17.Bd3 Nh5 18.Be3 Rc8 19.Nb1 f5 20.Rxa5 Nf7?** ND: "Just a blunder" **21.Ng6 Kh7??** ND: "Another blunder" (21...Bd8 would have saved the Bishop and left Sacman with a much better position but no immediate win) **22.Nxe7** Sacman goes up a piece and it's all over now. Neil notes "after this there were no cheapos in the position".



22...Rb8 23.g4 Nf6 24.gxf5 e5 25.Ng6 Bd7 26.Nxf8+ Rxf8 27.Ra7 e4
 28.Be2 Bxf5 29.Rxb7 Nd6 30.Ra7 Rb8 31.Rg1 Nde8 32.b7 Nd6 33.Bf4
 Rxb7 34.Rxb7 Nxb7 35.Be5 Ne8 36.c4 dxc4 37.Bxc4 e3 38.Bf7 Nbd6
 39.Bxe8 Nxe8 40.fxe3 Bxb1 41.b6 Be4 42.Rg4 Bb7 43.e4 h5 44.Rf4 Kg8
 45.d5 g5 46.Rf5 g4 47.Rxh5 g3 48.hxg3 Bc8 49.Rh8+ Kf7 50.Kd2 Ba6
 51.Ke3 Ke7 52.Kd4 Kd7 53.g4 Bb7 54.g5 Ba8 55.g6 Bb7 56.g7 Bxd5
 57.Rxe8 Kxe8 58.exd5

It's mate in 5 1–0

So ended The Day of The Sacman in the City & District of 2001.

Neil stated that he was taking drugs for a health issue when this game was played. Medicinal marijuana perhaps?

Sacman gained over 50 rating points as a result of his performance and finished in 4th place out of 18 players while Bill Bogle finished in first place.

Almost five years later he was to go head to head with Bill in a spring Swiss tournament in this hard fought contest:

Sacman (CFC 1643) - B. Bogle (CFC 2169) [B40]

Spring Swiss 2006, 09.05.2006

1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 c5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bc5 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Ndb5 Bxe3
 8.fxe3 Qxe3+ 9.Be2 Rb8 10.Nd6+ Kf8 11.Rf1 Nf6 12.Nc4 Qc5 13.Qd2 b5
 14.Nd6 Nd4 15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.0–0–0 **b4 (16...Nxc2!) 17.Qxd4 bxc3 18.bxc3**
Qa3+ 19.Kd2 Nxe4+ 20.Qxe4 Qxc3+ 21.Kc1 Qa3+ 22.Kd2 Qc3+ 23.Kc1
 $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

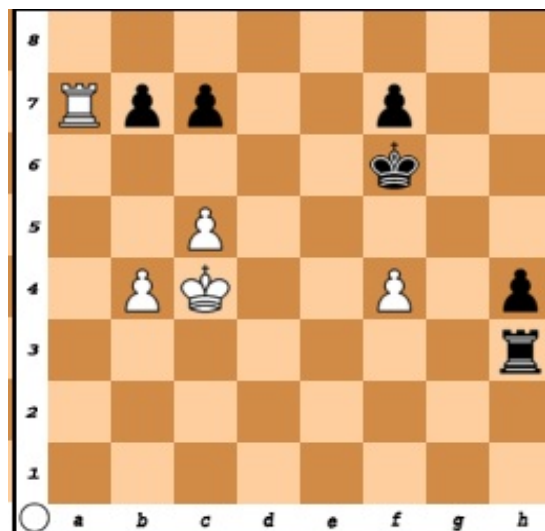
Sacman is now strutting his stuff on the poker table instead of the chess table and today he shoves his cards down their throats.

THE ENDGAME**Shelter from the Storm**

by John Torrie (St. John, NB)

Jean DesForges won the 2018 New Brunswick Closed Championship convincingly with 5 consecutive wins. Three of Jean's games -- vs. Jason Manley, Bill Bogle and myself -- went down to the wire with rook and pawn endings. I cannot say about the Manley game, but the general consensus was that the Bogle game should have been drawn had Bill not played his King into the open which allowed Jean to gain a vital move with a rook check.

In Torrie vs. DesForges, the White King also suffered from overexposure by not taking shelter. From the position (White: Kc4, Ra7, b4, c5, f4; Black: Kf6, Rh3, b7, c7, f7, h4) after 32 moves, the White to play, the game went:



33.Rxb7 Rh1 34.Rxc7?? This greedy rook move costs the game. **34...h3!** Simple and winning. Although it looks like Black needs three moves to queen his pawn, in effect it is only two, because one of those moves is a freebie due to a check on c1. If White denies that check with 35.Kb5 then 35...h2 makes queening a two-mover and there is no way the white rook can get back in time to stop it. Realizing the position was lost I attempted a swindle with **35.Rc8**. Now if 35...h2 36.Rh8 gives White some extra play, but after 36...Rc1+ -- there is that

nasty check again! -- 37.Kd5/c5 h1(Q) 38.Rxh1 Rxh1 39.Kc6 Rb1 40.b5 Ke7 41.b6 Kd8 and Black is home in time for dinner. In this line, note that 41.Kb6 allows 41...Kd7! Instead of all this maneuvering, Jean made it simple with **35...Kg7**, denying me the h8 square. Still attempting the possible I tried **36.f5 h2 37.f6+ Kh7**. Here Jean could have went in for the above mentioned line

with 37...Kxf6 with the bonus of a walking f-pawn, but instead he held the h8 square. Still trying, I played **38.Rf8 Rc1+ 39.Kb5 h1(Q) 40.Rxf7+ Kg6 41.Rc7 Kxf6 42.Rc6+ Ke7 resigns.**

At the board I realized with chagrin that 34.Kb5 was the 'proper' move to play, and would have made it anyone's game. However, when I later examined the critical position it occurred to me that 33.c6!? was one of those endgame surprise pawn sacrifices that though probably unsound make for very interesting play. White in effect trades his c-pawn for a move and the prospect of winning a pawn race after 33...bxc6 34.Rxc7 h3 35.Rxc6+. I've worked out one line where Black plays 35...Kf5 instead of 35...Kg7/e7. Then -- if allowed -- Black captures White's f-pawn without losing his own, see-saws the h-and-f-pawns up the board, then sacs his rook for White's b-pawn, resulting in a Q vs. R ending.

Perhaps with another study I could find additional finesses for White; but instead I think I'll just take it to the club and let the other players share the discoveries. Oh, and yes, congratulations Jean for a having a great tournament!

CHESS BOOK REVIEWS

I've reserved this section for anyone who's read a good chess book and they want to do a review on it. An interesting note that I read somewhere is that there are more chess books written than all other sports combined !

NOVA SCOTIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

I noted in the last Newsletter that the Nova Scotia Chess Association has a new Board of Directors. In the coming months, it's anticipated that the NSCA will be undertaking new initiatives to promote chess throughout Nova Scotia.

We're hoping to enlist all chess players to each do a little bit to assist in promoting chess in their community, so stay tuned. I'll be posting more on the NSCA Board initiatives as time progresses.

DGT COMPUTER LIVE CHESS TOURNAMENT GAMES

Most Provincial Chess Associations have taken advantage of a recent offer by DGT and purchased electronic chess boards which will enable the transmission of live chess games online. It is anticipated that the Nova Scotia Chess Association, and likely other Provincial Associations, will be transmitting some of their top boards at upcoming tournaments. The equipment is scheduled to arrive in mid-February so I would suggest that you check out your respective Provincial Association website for the appropriate link to online games towards the end of February, early March.

YOUTH and SENIORS' CHESS IN NOVA SCOTIA

I note again in this edition that the Nova Scotia Chess Association has entered into a relationship with the Nova Scotia Scholastic Chess Association(NSSCA). Both the NSCA and the NSSCA seek all chess player's support in supporting youth chess programs throughout Nova Scotia. As you'll note below, the NSSCA is seeking youth chess instructors. The following is posted for the NSSCA:

The Nova Scotia Scholastic Chess Association is super-excited to announce two new programs starting this Fall. In response to feedback from kids and families around need for chess education, we are partnering with two organizations, Canada Games Centre and the Citadel Community Centre to start chess lessons this Fall. The lessons are for beginners but we are hoping to develop a beginner and advanced program in the winter. Chess instructors will be assisting in the development of the programs. If you are

interested in helping with these programs, please contact Farhana Kanth at farhanakanth@gmail.com or by phone at 902-800-0371. Location and times of the lessons are below:

1) Canada Games Centre: Chess lessons started on September 20th, Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.

1. <https://canadagamescentre.ca/.../CGC-2018-Fall-Program-Guide....>

2) Citadel Community Centre: Chess lessons started on October 5th . Fridays 6-7 PM for six weeks.

Chess tournament website for youth in school: <http://www.nssca.ca/>

Farhana Kanth, Vice-President of the Nova Scotia Scholastic Chess Association also had exciting news about Senior chess programs: “[I] just wanted to share the good news that Canada Games Centre is starting a Learn to Play chess for Seniors (60 and above) in the Spring. This is in addition to the beginner and intermediate programs for youth they have had for the Fall and Winter sessions and will continue into the Spring. The youth programs were developed in partnership with NSSCA. Since the youth programs have been popular they decided to add a senior program. ”

NOVA SCOTIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

CHESS SCORE BOOKS

The NSCA is selling Chess Score Books as a fund raiser for the Association at \$15.00 each. These are available at each of the NSCA Tournaments. The most recent batch have additional attributes including there's now a place to include both the Board # and the Round # for tournament play. There's also a location to mark the length of the game (Game Duration) and the time remaining at the end of the game for both White and Black. Finally, there's a place to check whether White or Black won and a place to mark if it was a

Draw.

In addition, the scorebooks have the following attributes:

- The front cover has the NSCA Logo;
- Games Played: From _____ To _____ so you can easily keep track of the time period the games were played;
- Each game has 100 moves (increase from the previous score sheet of 80 moves);
- Each game is numbered from 1 to 100 so you can coordinate the game # with the Index on the back cover;
- The back cover has a Games Index from 1 to 100 so you can go back and find any game you've played in the book easily;
- A place to indicate the Round # and the Board # played in the round;
- A place to mark Win for White or Black and a place to mark a Draw;
- A place to mark the duration of the game and the time remaining for both Black and White.

You can see the scorebooks at the NSCA website:
<http://www.nschess.ca/?p=1230>

If you're coming to one of the Nova Scotia Chess Association tournaments, you can pick one up there or if you're coming to the West Annapolis Chess Club, I'll have some available as well. Just let me know and I'll bring one along for you.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Many Maritime chess players will remember Paul Hake from Middleton, Nova Scotia, who suffered from a debilitating disease and was confined to a

wheelchair during much of his adult life. After Paul passed away, I purchased his chess book collection from his widow, Jeanne, who also gave me Paul's chess scorebooks. In one of those books, there's a game between Paul and another well-known Bluenoser, Alvah Mayo. It's the 7th game of the 8 game 1997 Maritime Open and the last CFC rated tournament that Paul played in. Here's the game:

Alvah Mayo [2049] vs. Paul Hake [1882], 1997 Maritime Open, Halifax (NS), rd 7, Oct-13, Queen's Pawn Game (A40) 0-1

1. e4 c6 2. d4 Na6 3. c4 d6 4. Nc3 g6 5. Be3 Bg7 6. f3 e5 7. Ne2 Qh4+ 8. g3 Qe7 9. Qd2 h5 10. Bg2 Nh6 11. Rd1 f6 12. a3 Nf7 13. b4 Be6 14. d5 Bd7 15. dxc6 bxc6 16. f4 bh6 17. Qd3 Nc7 18. 0-0 Bg4 19. h3 Bxe2 20. Qxe2 Ne6 21. f5 Bxe3+ 22. Qxe3 Nd4 23. Pxd4 Ng5 24. Rxd4 cxd4 25. Qxd4 0-0 26. h4 Ne6 27. Qd2 Kg7 28. Rf5 Kxg6 29. g4 hxg4 30. Qe2 Qg7 31. e5 dxe5 32. Bxc6 Rad8 33. Qxg4+ Kf7 34. Qxg7 Kxg7 35. Bd5 Nf4 36. Kf2 Rh8 37. Kg3 Nxd5 38. Nxd5 Rd6 39. h5 Kf7 40. Kf3 Rc8 41. Ne3 Rd3 42. Ke4 Rxa3 43. Rf3 Rd8 44. Nd5 Rxf3 45. Kxf3 f5 46. b5 Rc8 47. Ne3 Kf6 48. h6 Rh8 49. c5 Ke6 50. c6 Rxh6 51. c7 Rh8 52. White Resigns

An impressive game by a Nova Scotia Annapolis Valley chess enthusiast.

CLUB DIRECTORS

Please check your Chess Club contact information on your respective website and on the Nova Scotia Chess Association website. If there any changes to be made, please let me know and I'll make them. Also, if you know someone who wants to added to the mailing list, please forward their e-mail to: l.c.lombard@ns.sympatico.ca.

Contact information for all Club Directors in all four Atlantic Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are now

listed on the Nova Scotia Chess Association website: <http://www.nschess.ca/>

ON-LINE NOVA SCOTIA CHESS

Fred Phillips is one of the primary administrator for Club Nova Scotia online chess where Fred writes:

Hello. I would like to invite you to join me on Chess.com . Here, we have lots of tools and different variants of chess. Also join us at Club Nova Scotia: <https://www.chess.com/club/club-nova-scotia>

GIRLS' / WOMEN'S CORNER

I don't know about other regions but it's surprising to me how few girls/women play chess at our chess clubs. I've been to many of our chess clubs around Nova Scotia and it's the exception that you see a girl/woman at a chess club and *defacto* one who plays competitively at provincial tournaments.

We know that there are many strong women players in the world who play at international events. I was looking at the World's Women's Championship that was played at the Yugra Chess Academy in Kanty-Mansiysk, Russia November 2 to 23, 2018. There were 64 competitors with Ju Wenjun successfully defending her World Championship title. In looking at the list of competitors, there was 1 Canadian women and 2 competitors from the United States of America. It would have been nice to see more Canadian and U.S. competitors but at least we were represented.

How do we get more Canadians and U.S. females to compete at a World Championship match ? Well, the solution would appear obvious. We need to start by building a strong foundation where we have more females play chess in school programs, at our local chess clubs and then at our club, provincial, national and international competitive chess events. How do we

do this ?

Well, it may start with something like having a volunteer school chess program. Some provinces have chess integrated into their school curriculum. In my view, it's critical to get more females playing at the local chess clubs. I know that our Chess Club, we've had 3 females attend over the past 5 years and we have one who has been attending fairly consistently for the past 2 months. Yes, at least in Nova Scotia, what I've seen of our chess clubs is that they are almost exclusively attended by the male population. Maybe we need "female only" chess clubs ?

I don't know what the solution is. I know that in Canada, we have some very strong female chess players, I just wish there were more in Atlantic Canada. I'm certain there are many opinions regarding what's needed to encourage more girls/women to play and participate in the sport of chess. You don't need to be a grandmaster to have an opinion, you can be someone who barely knows how to move the pieces but are interested in either playing chess or having the opportunity to play chess or even a wish to see opportunities for females to play chess. All I'd say is that feel free to use this as a sounding board for your ideas. I look forward to hearing from anyone who has any ideas on how to increase female participants in our Atlantic Canada chess circle.

"CHESS IN THE LIBRARY" [HALIFAX] PROGRAM

The Nova Scotia Chess Association in partnership with the Halifax Library started a chess program in 2016 for both novice and experienced chess players. Players can either have a game or novice players can get free chess instruction where the program is led by experienced chess playing volunteers. The event was initially agreed to on a trial basis but the program has been so successful that the Halifax Library and the Nova Scotia Chess Association have agreed to continue the partnership at the Spring Garden Road location.

The event is held from time to time on Sundays where the Nova Scotia Chess Association will be providing chess instruction. If you're interested, you just need to show up. The sessions are monthly on Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.. The link is: <http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/programs.html> If you want more information or if you want to be involved by assisting to teach chess or organizing the event, please contact Ken Cashin at: skcashin@ns.sympatico.ca

The next date is February 17th, 2019.

ATLANTIC CANADA CHESS CLUB AND TOURNAMENT NEWS

This section is reserved for tournament results and news from individual Chess Clubs. For example, tournament winners, special games, special events, birthdays, players with lengthy chess history, recruiting drives, etc.. Chess Club contact information for all Chess Clubs in Atlantic Canada can be located on the Nova Scotia Chess Association website at: http://www.nsches.ca/?page_id=10.

If your Chess Club is not on the website, please send me the contact information by responding to this e-mail and I'll post it.

Nova Scotia:

Remembrance Day Open 2018, 5-round Swiss, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, NS, November 9-11, 2018, 22 players:

Tied for First/Second: Alvah Mayo (2152) and Roger Langen (2070), 4.5 points, prize: \$175 each.

Third: Paulo Ferreira (1838), 3.5 points, prize: \$80

U1700: Ken Cashin (1688), Conrad MacNeil (1677), and David Bardsley (1627), 3 points, prize: \$20 each.

U1400: Nathan MacLellan (861) and Richard Peloquin (unr.), 3 points, prize: \$20 each.

Please check the 2019 Nova Scotia Chess Association Tournament Schedule for upcoming tournaments at: http://www.nschess.ca/?page_id=52 The next tournament is the 2019 Bluenose Open February 22 to 24, 2019 in Halifax.

Dalhousie Chess Club Seminar on Bobby Fisher:

The Dalhousie Chess Club will be hosting a seminar on Bobby Fisher on February 16, 2019 from 12 noon to 2 pm, here's the link: <http://www.nschess.ca/?p=1652>

New Brunswick:

The Saint John City and District had a 5 rounder on January 3, 2019 with 13 chess players participating.

First place: Bill Bogle 4.5/5

Second place: Jonathan MacDonald 4.0/5

Tied for third place; Richard Bowes, Neil Davis, John Torrie: 3.0/5

Newfoundland and Labrador:

It's not very often that we have the benefit of having a Grandmaster attend Atlantic Canadian Chess Tournaments, so it's noteworthy to mention that Eric Hansen attended the February Knights Tournament in Newfoundland on February 18, 2018 with 16 chess players. Here are the tournament results:

Eric Hansen (2626) 5.0/5 won the February Knights Tournament; Jordan

Berson (2078) 3.5/5 tied for second with Steve Martin (1921) and Mohammed Reza Kowsan (1906); Jiaying Wang (1931) 3.0/5 had sole 3rd place.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Open Tournament held on October 19, 2018 with 17 players was won by Roger Langen (2048) 4/5; Lawrence Cohen (1943), Daley Merrigan (2077), Steve Martin (2107), Nihad Dervisevic (2044) 3.5/5 all tied for second place; Mohammedreza Kowsan (1930) Note: Although I suspect this is the same person as in the February Knights Tournament, I took the spelling of the name from the Association's website) had sole third place.

Here's a link to the article on Roger Langen's win: <http://nlchess.ca/>. It's noteworthy that this is Roger's "7th" time winning the Newfoundland and Labrador Open, well done Roger !

Wane Inkpen has an assortment of chess books for sale which are visible on the Newfoundland and Labrador Chess Association Facebook website.

Prince Edward Island:

UPEI Open November 25, 2018 with 11 chess players. Raj Dahal (1810) 3.5/4 and Peter Turner (1892) tied for 1st; Fred McKim (2027) 2.0/4, Ed Keunecke (1566), William Scott (1612) and Yoav Gonen (1490) tied for second place; Richard Bowes (2049) 1.5/4 and Jody Smith (1584)

ATLANTIC CANADA WEBSITES

Chris Felix from Nova Scotia has an informative chess website which lists, tournament chess games, all chess tournaments in the Maritime Provinces and much more: <http://www.cdevastation.com/>

Maritime Chess Tournament Schedule:

<http://mcc.cdevastation.com/maritime.ht>

Nova Scotia Chess Association: http://www.nschess.ca/?page_id=52

Nova Scotia Youth Chess Tournaments: <http://www.nssca.ca/?op=tschedule>

New Brunswick Chess Association: <http://mcc.cdevastation.com/NBCA.html>

Chess P.E.I.: http://mcc.cdevastation.com/chess_pei.html

P.E.I. Youth Chess events: <http://www.peiyca.ca/>

Newfoundland and Labrador Chess Association: <http://nlchess.ca/>

Note: The Newfoundland and Labrador Chess Association would like to invite anyone interested in locating a chess club to connect via Facebook by searching “Newfoundland and Labrador Chess Association (past and present)”.

CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA

Chess Federation of Canada: <http://chess.ca>

Chess Federation of Canada’s website for chess tournaments across the country: <http://chess.ca/tournaments>

Don’t forget the Canadian Open which is being held in Regina, Saskatchewan from July 12 to 18, 2019 and the Canadian Youth Chess Championship from July 6 to 10, 2019. Here’s a link to the Saskatchewan Chess Association website: <https://saskchess.org/2019-canadian-open>

Here's a neat link to Canbase, a website containing historical Canadian chess games: <http://canbase.fgechecs.qc.ca/canbaseii.htm>

NEIGHBOURING CHESS WEBSITES

Although the intent is to promote chess in Atlantic Canada, we can't forget that chess players know no borders. I suspect all Atlantic Provinces have had players from the U.S.A. attend some of their chess tournaments and/or other chess events. Dan Deluca of the Maine Chess Association has been an ardent supporter of Atlantic Canada chess by posting prior editions of the Nova Scotia Chess Association Newsletter on the Maine Chess Association website. Thanks Dan !. I look forward to hearing about chess events involving chess players in Atlantic Canada and Maine. On that note, here's the link to the Maine Chess Association Website, a very well organized and instructive website:

Maine Chess Association: <https://www.chessmaine.net/chessmaine/news/>

Some of you will have played Alex Relyea from Maine at our local tournaments. Alex also has an informative chess website: <http://www.relyeachess.com/>

The United States Chess Federation: <https://new.uschess.org/home/>

I also note that we've had players travel from Quebec and Ontario to our tournaments, so here's a link to their websites:

Fédération québécoise des échecs [The Quebec Chess Federation]: <http://www.fgechecs.qc.ca/>

Ontario Chess Association: <http://www.ontariochess.com/>

2019 MARITIME OPEN

This year's Maritime Open will be held in Summerside, Prince Edward Island. Fred McKim writes:

You haven't heard from me for a bit, but I wanted to give an update on our event for Thanksgiving of next year.

We've been accumulating equipment, spreading the word, and keeping our FB site humming. Yesterday I had a tour of the tournament site for the first time (I live in Charlottetown). I was very impressed and we are going to have one of the nicest playing sites I've ever seen for a weekend tournament. I suspect we can fit 60 players (with one board to a 6' table) in the facility. Our second room will hold the side events and kibitzing can be there or out in the snack bar area.

We had our first "Try Chess" event yesterday, with a dozen members of the local Boys and Girls Club coming out. I was able to try out the overhead projector system as we used it to review some rules, solve some mate in one and two moves and then the players cut loose with some games.

We have the unique situation of there being no tournaments in Summerside in about 15 years and exactly no CFC members (AT THE MOMENT) either. We will overcome :-)

I am now taking both pre-registrations (to help with publicity) as well as full registrations (our discount deadline is July 1, late fees will be applied on any reservations after Sept 15). See tournament web page for exact prices.

<http://mcc.cdevastation.com/mcf19.html>

Fred

CHESS TIDBITS

In his book "Practical Chess Analysis" by Mark Buckley, 1987, ISBN 0-938650-35-1 at pages 44-45, Buckley, a then USCF Senior Master, reviews the concept of "Threat Hierarchy" in chess:

“Rapid calculation depends in part on an orderly study of the threats in a position. Just as pieces are ranked according to their value, threats can be arranged hierarchically. When you study a position, the first task is to find any immediate dangers. Does either side win outright ? If the player to move can force mate, everything else is irrelevant. Similarly, from an otherwise equal position, winning a piece is overwhelming.

Less compelling, although usually decisive, is winning a pawn or an exchange. Next on the hierarchy are less immediate, positional, threats such as gaining space, disarranging opposing pawns, creating passed pawns, and so on. Of course, some positional threats are worth considerable material - no clear line divides material from positional danger. The ranking criterion is the threat's severity.

By ranking the threats, strongest to weakest, you discover where the critical battle will be fought. For instance, you pass over a hanging pawn in your calculations if there is any chance of mate for either side. Only after assuring yourself there is nothing better should you analyze the pawn win. Thus no time is lost. The most dangerous ideas are always checked first, and found wanting, before any minor threat is even considered.

Contrary to ideas held by some amateurs, the expert looks at mating attacks and material threats carefully before embarking on any positional maneuver. Nobody tacks about when victory is in sight. Instead, the master finds the sharpest idea available, then begins to evaluate plans and calculate variations. He abhors analysis that fails to consider a significant threat. Your analysis, too, must be based on knowledge of the most powerful plans.

The top-down search for threats catches sharp moves and helps ensure against surprise.”

THE CHESS GAME

Sometimes, you get a game where you say: “Wow, what a game !”. Have a look at this tactical gem with Magnus Carlsen playing a Queen's Indian back in 2005.

Alexander Riazantsev vs. Magnus Carlsen 6th European Individual Championship (2005), Warsaw (POL), rd 13, Jul-01, Queen's Indian Defense: Kasparov-Petrosian Variation. Romanishin Attack (E12) 0-1

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. a3 Bb7 5. Nc3 d5 6. cxd5 Nxd5 7. Bd2 Be7 8. Qc2 Nd7 9. e4 Nxc3 10. Bxc3 O-O 11. Rd1 Rc8 12. Bc4 Nf6 13. Bd3 c5 14. dxc5 Rxc5 15. O-O Qa8 16. Rfe1 Rfc8 17. Qe2 R5c7 18. a4 a6 19. Ne5 Bf8 20. Nc4 Nd7 21. Qe3 Rc6 22. Bf1 Nc5 23. a5 bxa5 24. Nxa5 R6c7 25. Be5 Rd7 26. b4 Rxd1 27. Rxd1 f6 28. Bf4 Nxe4 29. Rd7 Rc3 30. Qe1 Bd5 31. f3 Bxb4 32. fxe4 Bxe4 33. Bd2 Bc5+ 34. Kh1 Rf3 35. Bc3 Rf2 36. Rd2 Bxg2+ 0-1

A link is: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1365580>

CHESS INSTRUCTOR'S CORNER

I'm reserving this for anyone who's interested in providing chess instruction either online or in their respective community. This is an easy way to get free advertising. I'll publish the information in the upcoming Newsletters. The intent is to encourage the promotion of chess through chess instruction and increase the level of play in Atlantic Canada. Of course, it will be up to the person hiring the instructor to first satisfy themselves of the instructor's actual qualifications and identity as I can't take any responsibility regarding the qualifications or actions of any instructors. I'll leave it to the instructor regarding what information you want to provide with a maximum 5 line paragraph including contact information.

If any chess instructor wants to provide an article on anything related to chess for publication, please send it along.

CHESS BOOK & EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

You can't play chess if you don't have chess equipment. There are numerous chess equipment suppliers, here's a couple of links:

Drueke Games: <https://druekechessboards.com/>

Strategy Games and Accessories [This supplier is listed on the Chess Federation of Canada website]: <https://strategygames.ca/store/en>

DRUEKE [pronounced “Dru-kee”] CHESS BOARD – Well, I’ve been wanting a Drueke chess board for as long as I remember first hearing about them. Drueke started in business in 1914 and although the company was sold a couple of times, Bill Drueke, 3rd generation, is still making quality, solid wood chess boards. The Drueke chess boards have maintained the highest level of quality for a solid wood chess board (don’t be fooled, many of the chess boards you’ll see online are veneer).

I finally recently purchased a Drueke borderless chess board with 2 1/4" squares. I decided to get a borderless chess board directly from William “Bill” Drueke at the above website. Frankly at first, I had a difficult time adjusting to a borderless chess board, but after a short time, it’s become my primary study/working board that I use at home for study and analysis. I’ve also used it to play a few local games and occasionally at our local chess club. Having said that, I’m seriously considering the bordered chess boards.

I’ve communicated several times with Bill about different issues and spoken with him over the phone. I like Bill and think that he puts out a great product. As such, I want to put in a plug for Drueke and tell you that my board is made of solid blocks of Wenge and Maple 3/4" thick. Bill has the 2 1/4" square bordered chess board made of Walnut and Maple on sale at \$250.00 US plus \$45 shipping as a Spring Sale item (regular \$295.00 US + approximately \$90 shipping). I know, Drueke chess boards are not for the faint of heart, they’re pricey, especially after you’re hit with the US/Canadian exchange. Having said that, in my opinion, the quality of Drueke chess boards are second to none. I’m really enjoying my Drueke chess board and would highly recommend them to any chess enthusiast, you won’t regret it. They’d make a great gift to yourself or another chess player. If you get one, don’t forget to mention that you saw them in the Chess Atlantic Newsletter !

I’ll have my board at this upcoming Nova Scotia Chess Association 2019

Bluenose Open Tournament February 22nd to the 24th if you want to see it up close. Here's a couple of photos:



The Drueke Players' Choice Model No. 35 Chess Pieces - I also want to note that Bill has started re-manufacturing the **Player's Choice Model No.35** solid plastic chess pieces, which according to Bill and as noted on the Drueke website, they were the USCF preferred set back prior to the 90's. You'll see on the website that there's a number of different No. 35 sets for your choosing. There's also individual weighted Queens if you want to purchase extra Queens for your current set.

The Drueke chess pieces have been around for a long time, especially the Players' Choice pieces. I found a couple of articles about how Bobby Fischer practiced with the Drueke Players' Choice pieces in between games in the World Championship 1972 match with Spassky and how Bobby created a resurgence of chess mania during that era that has barely ever been equaled, even by the Kasparov/Karpov matches. Here's a couple of related links:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1972/07/09/archives/fischer-furor-sparks-big-run-on-chess-sets.html>

<https://chessantiques.com/product/drueke-players-choice-chess-set/>

<http://www.peterspioneers.com/druekepohlarticle.pdf> (Page 4 refers to Bobby Fischer practicing with Drueke Players' Choice chess pieces during the

Fischer / Spassky match of 1972).

I hope you find someone to have a game of chess with today,

Lloyd Lombard
Editor
Chess Atlantic Newsletter