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**VOLUME 2. ISSUE 2 NEWSLETTER** 

# Upcoming Open Tournaments

52nd Cincinnati Open April 1-3 Cincinnati

Columbus Open

June 17-19 Columbus

Cleveland Open
August 12-14 Cleveland

Ohio Chess Congress
September 2-5 Columbus

## Upcoming Scholastic State Championships

2016 Ohio All Girls Championships April 9 Columbus

State of Ohio High School Middle School Championships April 23-24 Wilmington

2016 Grade Level Championships TBD (Bid overdue)

#### 2016 ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER OPEN

By: Kelly M. Bloomfield

The inaugural Arnold Schwarzenegger Open was not your typical chess tournament. There was so much to do and see in between rounds, from weightlifting, to fencing, to strongman competitions, to table tennis, to pole fitness, and on and on. There are 50+ competitions that take place each year at the Arnold Sports Festival in Columbus, Ohio and chess joined the ranks this year. We were billed as "fitness of the mind" and we certainly did not disappoint as our competition started on Friday evening and we were the last competition to finish late Sunday night. The Arnold Sports Festival is the largest multi-sport event in the nation with more than 18,000 athletes from 80 nations competing in more than fifty sports and events.

The competition was fierce in the Open Section... having 2 Grand Masters, 3 International Masters, and several National Masters as well. Grand Master Vladimir Georgiev and International Master Priyadharshan Kannappan tied for first with 4 out of 5. National sensation Jason Wang won the U2100 prize with 2.5 out of 5 in the open section.

In the Premier Section local Columbus player Aryan Balyan scored a perfect 5 out of 5 to take clear first. Emma Cheng took first place in the U1700 with 3.5 out of 5 while in the U1550 there was a tie between Mark Carroll and Lucas Lumbra with 3 out of 5. In the Reserve Section Jonathan Rissing scored a perfect 5 out of 5 to take clear first.

In the Blitz tournament held on Sunday in between rounds 4 and 5 we had 31 players participate with International Master Priyadharshan Kannappan winning all 7 of his games for clear first. I was so impressed with his performance that I sweetened his top prize for the perfect score.



IM Priyadharshan Kannappan Photo courtesy of Brad Hoehne

#### 2016 MIDWEST OPEN TEAM CHESS FESTIVAL (MOTCF)

### 2016 OCA Officers

- President—Even Shelton
- Vice President—Riley Driver
- Secretary—Grant Neilley
- Treasurer—Cheryl Stagg

There was a 4-way tie at the top with (Game of Moans; Will Sedlar, Yuri Barnakov, DeShawn Kelley, & Ben Tancinco), (Charlie Charlie Lima Alpha; Maggie Feng, Luke Xie, Alan Casden, Jason Wang, & Vincent Baker), (Four No Trump, Benjamin Weaver, William Wright, John Randolph, John Miller, and

Robert Basalla) and (IQP, dc, Connect 3: Scott Ramer, Tom Britt, Sinan Baughman, & Jake Lennon).

Game of Moans had 3 of their boards take top board prizes. Deshawn Kelley scored a perfect 5 out of 5 on board 3.



Photo courtesy of Brad Hoehne

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