



MetroWest Chess Club

MCC Monthly Newsletter January 2003

www.MetroWestChess.org

Largest Chess Club
in
New England
USA!

USCF Club of the Year
for 2002!

Round 1 - "MCC Winter Warmer Swiss"

Tuesday January 7, 2003 is Round 1 of the "Winter Warmer Swiss". For details, see below.

USCF cross-table for Stan-Crowe is posted on the MCC website.

MCC is 20 years old in June 2003!

We'll be kicking off our Anniversary year soon, with an updated logo, a new website homepage, and much more! Look for details in the next monthly newsletter (Feb 2003).

MCC Annual Membership Meeting, January 21, 2003

The Board of Directors will be asking the membership to ratify recent changes to incorporate MCC as MetroWest Chess Club, Inc. **Please attend, and please vote yes!**

This coming years Board of Directors are: John Bottini, John Chamberlain, Mark Kaprielian, Jim Krycka, Robert Powell, Harvey Reed, (with one vacancy). The Board of Directors will meet after the Annual Membership Meeting to elect officers.

Library Volunteer needed (by Mark Kaprielian)

We have great MCC Volunteers, and need even more! For example, **we have an opening for a Librarian**. The MCC Library is a great resource that gets a lot of use, and we need help managing it. The duties are simple and do not take much time:

1. Keep the library organized, returning cards into books, into boxes.
2. Pursue, primarily via email, books out longer than 6 months (I think most of the books out are in this category).
3. Make recommendations for further purchases.
4. Select books for removal (we have limited space)
5. Track Videos and make recommendations for purchase.
6. Champion the use of the Library
7. Forward an updated Inventory status to the web team once a month

The Library Volunteer needs to be able to:

1. Be comfortable with basic PC operations and using pre-made reports and forms in MS Access.
2. Be able to run a very simple database to maintain the library. We will provide instruction and access to database.

A big "Thank You" to our twenty-two (22) MCC Volunteers !!

Tournament Directors - the tireless people who give so we can enjoy our Monthly Tournaments!

Neil Cousin
Gatumba Abu
Severine Wamala (also of NorthEast Chess fame)
John Bottini
Mark Kaprielian

Program Directors - the people who make sure all of our events are great events!

James Krycka	Monthly Tournaments
John Chamberlain	Weekly Group Lessons
John Bottini	Scholastic Tournaments
Harvey Reed	Team Email Matches
Howard Goldowsky	Chess School
(we need a volunteer, this could be you!)	Librarian

Present Board/Officers - the people that have kept MCC alive over the past year!

Mark Kaprielian	President
Mike Barry	Treasurer
Neil Cousin	Program Director
John Niarhos	Director
Harvey Reed	Director
James Krycka	Director
Gatumba Abu	Director

Future Board/Officers - the people that will keep the newly incorporated MCC alive another year!

Mark Kaprielian	President (nominated)
John Chamberlain	Treasurer (nominated)
Harvey Reed	Clerk (nominated)
James Krycka	Director
Robert Powell	Director
John Bottini	Director

Game Advice Experts - our own MCC Experts who donate time to answer questions on your games!

Frank Sisto
John Chamberlain
Geoffery Polizoti
Derek Slater
John Martin
Joe Kelly

Demographic Analysis - a new team that is analyzing what makes the Club tick from a membership point of view!

Mark Kaprielian
Jim Krycka
John Bottini
Jim Klinkenberg
Doug Hull

Community Volunteers - a variety of people who help make MCC a friendly chess community!

Larry Eldridge	Monthly Tournament Commentator
John Martin	History helper
Fred Harvey	Copy Editor
Fred Harvey	History helper
Mark Kaprielian	Photographer
Plamen Krastev	Game Archivist
Harvey Reed	Marketing Director
Harvey Reed	Newsletter Editor

Weekly Group Lesson (by John Chamberlain)

The Weekly Group Lessons will start again in Round 1. For Round 1 the Lesson and the Book & Equipment Vendor will share the same room, so we will use traditional boards instead of the projector. The rest of the rounds will use the projector.

I am still researching which Grandmaster games will be best to review this month. I'll let you know via the website as soon as I decide. One potential topic is Soviet-era games.

Chess School (by Howard Goldowsky)

The **Endgame Course** has finished King & Pawn endgames, and next month we will begin coverage of Knight & Pawn endgames, according to the syllabus, on schedule. Classes meet every 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm. Next class is **Jan 16, 2003**. For more info, contact [Howard](#), or check the [Chess School](#) pages.

There has now been two classes of the **Endgame Course** in the MCC Chess School, and the program is solidifying some roots quickly. Each of the two sessions were attended by approximately 15 club members. So far we've had about 20 different members, and I have gotten all positive feedback, with members telling me that they are finding the combination of small group discussions and mini-presentations effective.

NM Lou Mercuri lectured on K&P endgames (with a Q&A session) for an hour to the last class. He did an excellent job and his lecture was well received by those in attendance. He will be coming back in January to (most likely) lecture again. Since a lecture must be presented to a wide variety of abilities, I'm still fine-tuning the lecture format to make the most efficient use of Lou's time.

We will no longer order pizza as a group. People will still be encouraged to bring their own food to eat between 6:30 and 7pm, the time when we socialize.

In one of my games at the recent Newton Open I was on the losing side of a position that was perfect for applying Bahr's rule, a topic from our K & P endgame class. I only had 45 seconds on my clock, and I wish I could say that I quickly recalled Bahr's rule from the course, and was effortlessly able to make the draw, but I can't. Despite the loss however, I still feel empowered. During the post-mortem, Jack Martin (who excitedly watched the endgame unfold, who's also in the endgame class, and who apparently studied Bahr's rule better than I did), pointed out what I could have done to get the draw. The loss was disappointing, but to see topics from the class begin to materialize in real games is inspiring.

Team Email Match (by Harvey Reed)

MCC is still leading IECC by 2 games! It's all up to James Krycka now. Check the website to look at the games in progress.

People are starting to ask when the next Team Email Match will be. I do not have a solid answer yet, except that the plan is to start one after I recruit one of the current players (Krycka, Cousin, Gatumba, Powell) to be the Captain for the next team.

If you are interested in a deep-think, no-computer, email match as part of an MCC Team, let me know. I've already had verbal requests. Please [send me email](#), so I can start keeping track.

North East Chess & Getaway!

Yes! Once again our own TD Severine Wamala will have another monthly **one-day tournament on January 11, 2003**. And there will be another **Weekend Getaway on February 7-9, 2003!** The February Weekend Getaway has **\$16,300** b/290 with **\$2000** in Club prizes.

In every Getaway, MCC has won the Club prize, but other clubs are putting the word out that we are the club to beat. The last one was a close call. MCC members, please consider the next Weekend Getaway as your next "big" tournament! If we win again, that's approx. \$20 back in your pocket!

Thanks to Kappy, and software he wrote for the MACA website, you can **now register on-line** for both of the North East Chess January one day event and the February Weekend Getaway. For details on the event visit www.MassChess.org

See you there!

Book & Equipment Vendor

Randy Malcuit will be at the Club before Round 1 and during play for your post-Holiday shopping convenience! Please [email Randy](#) if you need him to bring a particular book or piece of equipment. In particular let him know if you still need a copy of the book for the Endgame Course of the MCC Chess School.

Open Section, we need your games!

We are asking for your score sheets to add games to the MCC Game Collection. Plamen Krastev will be our game archivist. If you are in the open section, please use the 'carbonless score sheets' that we provide, and leave the duplicate sheet at the TD desk when you are done with your game.

Who has the longest winning streak? (by Mark Kaprielian)

As part of the Demographic Analysis team, Jim Krycka has written a program for revealing player streaks of various kinds and Doug Hull is working on various visual representations of attendance using the MatLab software package. Mark Kaprielian is ordering USCF cross tables to extend our cross-table archive back to 1992, which will double our crunchable data. We're all still working our pieces so we're not ready but things are shaping up.

Round 1 - "MCC Winter Warmer Swiss" (by James Krycka)

Tuesday January 7, 2003 is Round 1 of the "MCC Winter Warmer Swiss".

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28 2003 **4-SS 40/90, SD/30**

Total prizes \$610, 100% G

Open \$ 200 - 100 - 50
U1800 \$ 80 - 50 - 30
U1450 \$ 50 - 30 - 20

EF all sections: >2200 Free, MCC \$ 15, Others \$ 20

Help the newbies!

Please bring your own sets and clocks. We have a limited number available for use by those new to the game without their own equipment yet.

Comments, questions, critiques: info@metrowestchess.org

Be fully prepared to play each round! Limber up with the:

[MCC Weekly Group Lesson](#)

Don't lose that point! Squeeze points out of your opponents with the:

["Endgame Course" at MCC Chess School](#)

Put your game in focus! Ask an Expert for advice... literally with the:

[MCC Game Advice](#)

Need to save money by borrowing a book or video for a couple of weeks? You can, with the:

[MCC Library](#)

Do you want to sharpen your deep analysis skills via email correspondence chess? In an MCC Team environment? And bring those skills back to your MCC Monthly Tournament games?

[MCC Team Email Matches](#)

Ever wonder what other MCC members play for their opening? Wonder no more!

[MCC Game Collection](#)