



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the MetroWest Boston chess community since 1983

October 2004 Newsletter

Even more improvements:

- The tournament results and upsets have more names and pictures, and are suitable for hanging up at work, school or home!
- The tournament results are grouped by section, and include honorable mention for U2000 Class Contenders in the Open section
- The Community Calendar in the first section has all future dates. I moved the next tournament announcement into the calendar.

Inside please read:

- The Game Collection has expanded to 551 games!
- The new 2005 Monthly Tournament schedule, and 2005 Club / Class Championship format improvements
- The new Chess School “openings” course, there is only one slot left.

Harvey Reed, Editor

COMMUNITY :: Club and Partner Calendar

Tuesday October 5	Round 1	
	What	Halloween Swiss
	When	October 5-12-19-26, 2004
	Format	4-SS, 40/90, SD/30
	Prizes	\$ 800, 100% G
	Sections	Open: \$ 200-120-80 U1850: \$ 100-60-30 U1550: \$ 60-40-20 U1250: \$ 40-30-20
	Entry Fee (all sections)	Masters (2200 and over) Free MCC Members \$ 15 Others \$ 20
	Championship Points Available	Open (64-32-16), U1850 (24-12), U1550 (8) plus 50% bonus for perfect score of all wins

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly group lesson • Stateline Chess book & equipment vendor
Sunday October 10	NorthEast Chess, G/55, G/90, Marlboro Radisson
Tuesday October 12	Round 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly group lesson
Tuesday October 19	Round 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly group lesson
Tuesday October 26	Round 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly group lesson
Saturday October 30	Stateline Chess, A special one day workshop/training event IM Jim Rizzatano (For flyer go to homepage news)
Friday-Sunday November 19-21	NorthEast Chess, Summer Getaway, Marlboro Radisson → entry 3-day: \$89 by 9/18: \$99 by 11/05: \$120 cash at site → \$69 hotel room
Saturday November 27	Greater Worcester Chess Club, One-day chess event, \$300 100% G → entry \$20 mailed by 11/21/04; \$30 at door → 4-round USCF rated Swiss, G/60 – One Section → www.chesspals.com for details

COMMUNITY :: Club and Partner Activities and Info

Club	Partner
Board of Directors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn more about our governance, visit the Governance page (home→ About→ Governance) • You can locate the minutes from past Board meetings and the Agenda for the next meeting 	NorthEast Chess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizer Severine Wamala • swamala AT hotmail.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Email and PayPal™ • 219 Central St Lowell, MA 01852 • 978-453-4342 (night) <p>See Club and Partner Calendar for upcoming event dates. Visit our homepage news for flyers.</p>
Seeking Volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library (see Matt Phelps) • Chess School (see Harvey Reed) • Mentoring (see Harvey Reed) 	Stateline Chess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proprietor Randi Malcuit • statelinechess AT hotmail.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Email and PayPal™ <p>See Club and Partner Calendar for upcoming event dates. Visit our homepage news for flyers.</p>
Please Remember! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renew your USCF membership with 	Greater Worcester Chess Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizer Donna Alarie

<p>Mark Kaprielian. He will donate "USCF Member Appreciation" prize money to the Club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register early, by 7:15pm, there will be shorter lines and better parking • Additional parking in rear of building, first left as you turn into the Senior Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donnachesspals AT aol.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Email • 508-847-8574 (night) • www.chesspals.com <p>See Club and Partner Calendar for upcoming event dates. Visit our homepage news for flyers.</p>
<p>Official Merchandise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a number of items in stock for sale, T-shirts, Polo shirts and caps that can be purchased on Tuesdays. • To view our complete line of merchandise, home → Official Merchandise. Everything can be ordered online, securely, via Pay Pal, or with a paper form available at the Club. 	

COMMUNITY :: Game Collection

The MetroWest Chess Club's games collection has been updated! It now contains **551 games**, an increase of 51 since the collection was last updated in April. Thanks to all the players who have turned in their score sheets this year. You may contribute a game by placing your scoresheet in the labeled bin on the wall to the right of the posted pairings, or by sending a PGN or CBV file to **games AT MetroWestChess.org**. We especially encourage all players in the Open section to contribute their games to the club's collection.

If you turned in a game that you do not see in the collection, it is because either:

* I haven't entered your score sheet yet. I'm working my way through a backlog of about 30 score sheets. (If you'd like to help out with game entry, please contact <address>.)

* There was a problem with your score sheet. Roughly 15-20% of score sheets I receive are unusable because they are illegible or have illegal moves.

Be sure to try out the sets of games that are replay-able on-line, such as the annual yearbooks from 2004 and 2003.

And keep those score sheets coming. My goals are to eliminate the backlog by the end of the year and to update the games collection each month.

Steve Eddins

Game Collection Database Admin



COMPETE :: Monthly Tournaments



September 2004 Event Winners

OPEN

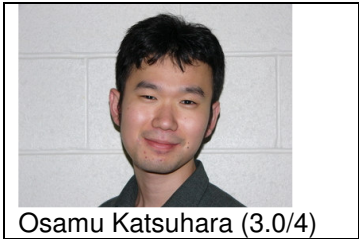
1st Prize (tie)



Joseph Perl (3.5/4)

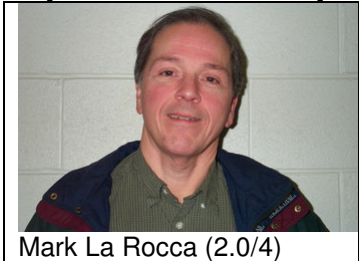
Ilya Krasik (3.5/4)

3rd Prize



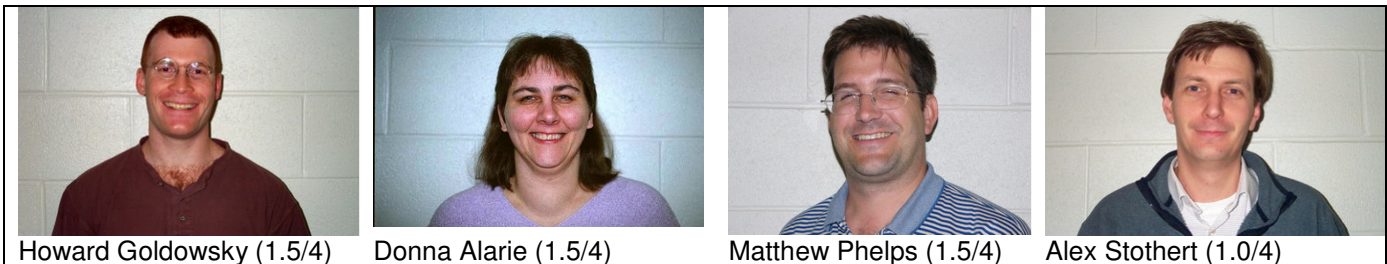
Osamu Katsuhara (3.0/4)

Upsets over 100 points (not placing elsewhere)



Mark La Rocca (2.0/4)

U2000 Class Contenders



Howard Goldowsky (1.5/4)

Donna Alarie (1.5/4)

Matthew Phelps (1.5/4)

Alex Stothert (1.0/4)



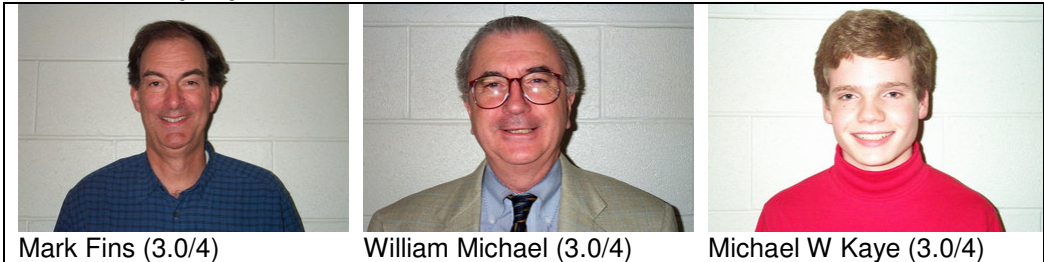
September 2004 Event Winners

U1900

1st Prize (tie)



3rd Prize (tie)



Upsets over 100 points (not placing elsewhere)





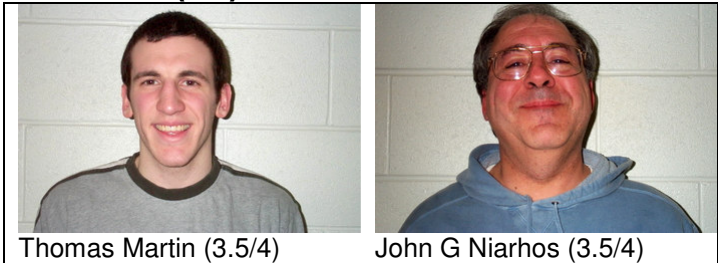
**September
2004
Event Winners**

U1600

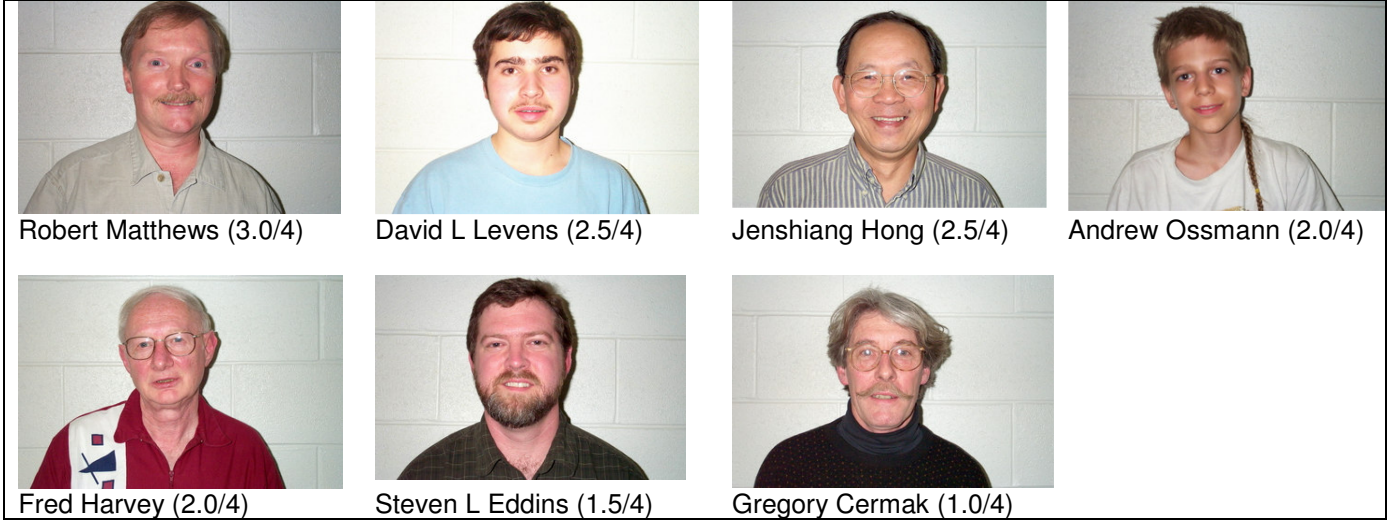
1st Prize



3rd Prize (tie)



Upsets over 100 points (not placing elsewhere)





September 2004 Event Winners

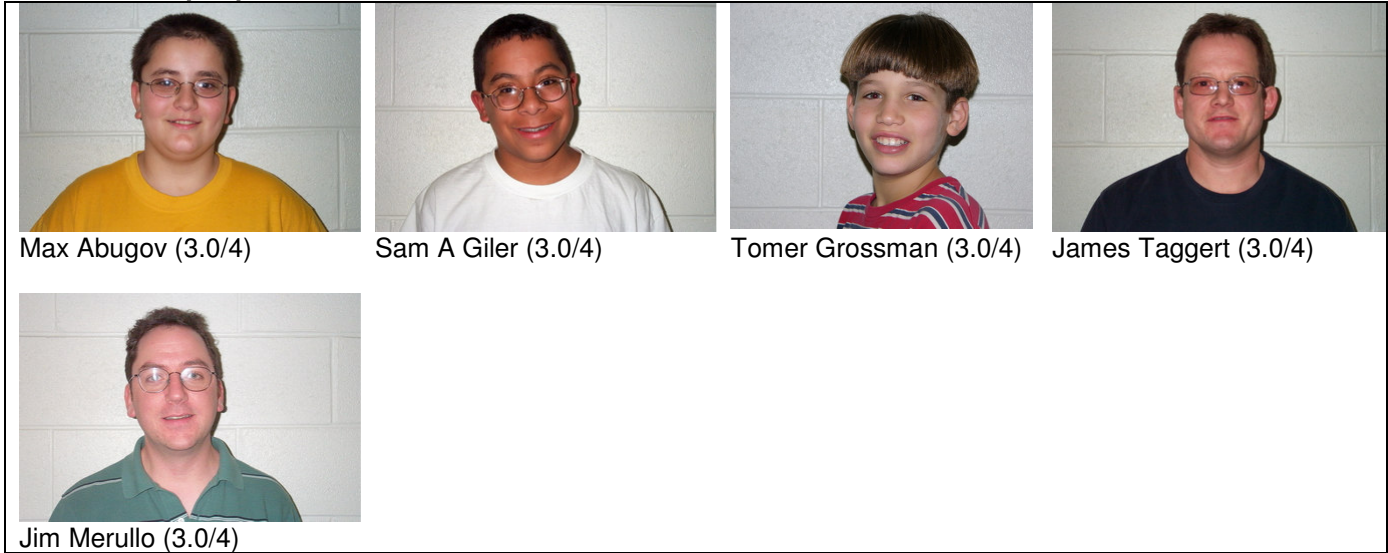
U1300

1st Prize



Yuval Grossman (3.5/4)

2nd Prize (tie)



















Upsets over 100 points (not placing elsewhere)

none

COMPETE :: Club Championship

The 2005 championship qualification cycle is three-quarters complete. Ilya Krasik jumped into 2nd place and Joesph Perl cracked the top 10 by virtue of their tie for first place in the Open section. A total of 51 players have earned qualification points Now both the class and club championship participants (6 in each event) will be chosen from this qualification list. The leaders based on nine months of play are as follows:

1.	IM Igor Foygel		536
2.	Ilya Krasik		178
3.	GM Alexander Ivanov		150
4.	John Chamberlain		138
5.	FM John Curdo		135
6.	Robert Powell		96
7.	Trevor de Koekkoek		72
8.	Bijan Haririan		53
9.	Joseph Perl		48

10.	Alexander Paphitis		48
11.	NM Charles Riordan		40
12.	Calvin Hori		40
13.	Navan Ruthramoorthy		32
14.	Matthew Phelps		31
15.	Randy Brueckner		30
16.	Walter Champion		30

The 2005 Club Championship and the 2005 Class Championship events will be held in March 2005 as two closed 5-RR sections run in parallel with the normal monthly sections. The club championship participants will be the top six club members on the championship points list (who accept the invitation). The class championship participants will be the top six U2000 players remaining on the list (who accept the invitation). The USCF December 2004 rating list will be used to determine eligibility for the class championship.

Players earn points during the previous calendar year by placing 1st-2nd-3rd in the Open section, 1st-2nd in the Upper section, and 1st in the next highest section on a graduated scale based on the section level and number of rounds. In addition, bonus points are awarded for a perfect score. To qualify for the championship, players have to be club members and need to play in at least 4 events during the year.

COMPETE :: 2005 Tournament Schedule and New Class Championship Format

The 2005 tournament schedule has been posted on the Club website under the Future events link. While a few details still need to be ironed out, the schedule is essentially in final form. The biggest change in 2005 from 2004 is that the Class Championship (for U2000 players) will use the same round-robin format as the Club Championship. Highlights of the 2005 schedule:

1. MCC will run 12 tournaments during the year, each starting on the first Tuesday of the month.
2. Tournaments will continue to offer 3 sections during 5-week events and 4 sections for the months that have 4-round tournaments. This format has served us well during the past 12 months where we have averaged 92 entries per month! As before, the section breaks will be staggered from month to month. Every breakpoint from 1200 to 1900 in increments of 50 appears at least once in the schedule.
3. The Club and Class Championships will be held in March 2005. However, next year the Class Championship will use the same format as the Club Championship. Both events will be contested in special 6-player sections using a 5-RR format (all play all) that will run in parallel with the regular Open, Upper, and Lower sections.
4. Players for both championships will qualify through the existing championship point system. The top 6 players from the list will be invited to play in the Club Championship. After the field is set, their names will be removed from the list and the top 6 players remaining whose rating is U2000 (according to the USCF December 2004 annual list) will be invited to the Class Championship. Any player rated U2000 who qualifies for the Club Championship will have a choice of playing in either the Club or Class Championship.
5. The total prize fund for the year has been modestly increased by approximately 3%.

COMPETE :: Scholastics

The Scholastic Tournament tournaments for summer 2004 are complete, and standings are posted. If you are interested in volunteering for next year, let me know!

For more info, contact John Bottini → JBottini at MetroWestChess.org



COMPETE :: Team Email Match

For the third year in a row, MetroWest CC is engaged in an email match against the International Email Correspondence Club. The IECC is truly an international organization with well over 3000 members. In 2002 and 2003, the MetroWest CC teams split their two matches against the IECC. This year a MetroWest CC team of 5 palyers (Michael Barry, Eric Berkey, James Krycka, Jack Appelmans, and Jason Krienke) is playing an IECC team of ten players from 9 different countries (Australia, Brazil (2), France, Hong Kong, Italy, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, and USA). Each MetroWest CC player is pitted against one IECC player as white and one player as black.

The match started in June with a maximum time limit of 11 months. The IECC currently leads us one game to none. You can view the games (minus the last three moves for those in progress) home → Team Email Match → MCC-03 v IECC-84. The games will be updated this month.

For more info, contact Eric Berkey, Team Captain → BESENJI57 at aol.com



LEARN & IMPROVE :: Weekly Group Lesson

Week 1: Casual Q&A and personal help, Round 1 registration, Book & Equipment vendor

Week 2:

Week 3:

Week 4:

Week 5: n/a

Contact John Chamberlain for more info.



LEARN & IMPROVE :: Chess School

Overview of MetroWest Chess Club -- Chess School

MetroWest CC Chess School is a member-only benefit that offers instructional courses on Thursday nights. These courses complement the competitive over the board play of Tuesday

nights, by providing learning as well as socializing. These courses are ideal for the serious student of the game who wants some structure, good feedback, and lots of fun!

Our Fall 2003 Member's Survey found that the opening is an area that many people want to learn more about. We created the Fall 2004 Chess School opening course with this idea in mind. Please sign up on any Tuesday night to register. If you can't sign up in person then send an email to Mark Kaprielian or Harvey Reed.

We are also seeking volunteers to help with future Chess School courses.



Howard Goldowsky
Chess School Program Director



Mark LaRocca
Chess School Instructor

Fall 2004 -- Planning and Strategy from the Opening

The Fall 2004 semester of the MCC Chess School is: **PLANNING AND STRATEGY FROM THE OPENING**. There are three class nights for the course. **Tuition for this course is \$15, and limited to the first ten (10) members who sign up.** We are limiting class size this time to provide more individualized instruction than in previous classes/lectures. The instructor for this course is the strong expert Mark LaRocca. Classes last 2.5 hours (until 9:30pm), and are targeted for players with ratings between 1000 and 1600.

Thursday October 7 @ 7:00pm -- General Principles: the ideas behind the opening

1. Bishops vs. Knights
2. Rooks and files
3. Queens
4. The King
5. Opening illustrations
 - a. Ruy Lopez
 - b. Nimzo Indian

Thursday November 4 @ 7:00pm – Survey of Opening Pawn Structures

1. Weak, hanging, or isolated pawns
2. Doubled Pawns
3. Pawn Majorities
4. Pawn chains
5. Opening illustrations
 - a. Caro-Kann
 - b. French Defense
 - c. Queens Gambit

Thursday December 2 @ 7:00 pm -- Creating favorable imbalances

1. The purpose of the Opening
 - a. To create favorable imbalances
 - b. To acquire temporary or permanent advantages
2. Using your knowledge of General Principles
 - a. Transitioning to the middle game
 - b. Don't be afraid of the endgame
3. Planning and Strategy
4. Opening Illustrations

Games to be determined by classes' opening preferences

LEARN & IMPROVE :: Game Advice

We are currently recruiting a mentoring volunteer to help new members get acquainted, and to coordinate getting their first games run thru "Game Advice".

Contact Harvey Reed → HReed at MetroWestChess.org if you wish to volunteer.



LEARN & IMPROVE :: Library

We are currently recruiting a library volunteer. The Library is in good shape, and taking care of it is light duty. However, this is a key position, since it gets quite a bit of use from the lower sections.

Contact Matt Phelps → Library at MetroWestChess.org if you wish to volunteer.

