



# MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the Metrowest Boston chess community since 1983

## December 2008 Newsletter

### Highlights

#### MCC Thanksgiving Swiss Results

Congratulations to the winners!

OPEN	IM Igor Foygel (4.0/4)
U2000	Mika Brattain (4.0/4)
U1700	Steve Eddins, Siddharth Arun (3.5/4)
U1500	Milad Afdasta (4.0/4)

#### Boston Blitz Plays for the US Chess League Championship on Saturday, December 6 Against the Dallas Destiny !!

See <http://boston-blitz.com> for details of the playoffs and very good articles and commentary by Ilya Krasik, Mark La Rocca, and Chris Bird. Well worth the read.

Emanuel Raisin will have a large collection of chess books for sale during the first round.

#### South Korean Public TV (FNN) to visit MetroWest Chess Club

*by Harvey Reed*

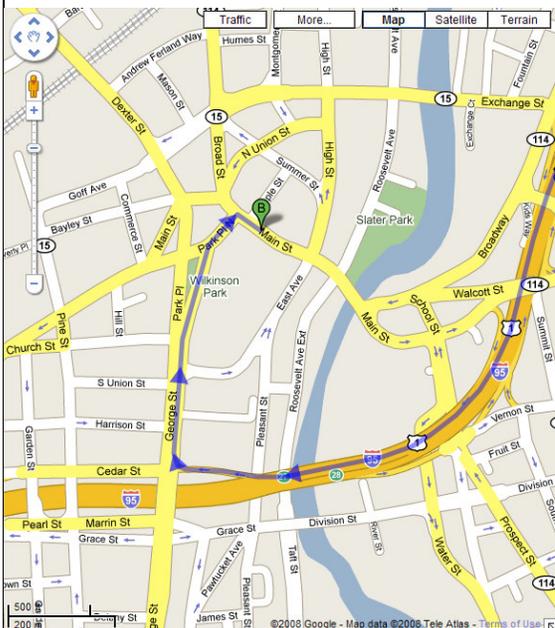
We are scheduled to receive visitors from FNN, South Korea's Public TV, on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 around 6:30pm. They are doing a documentary on American cultural activities and they selected MetroWest Chess Club as an important cultural activity around the Boston area.

They will visit us on Round 1 of the December 2008 Monthly Tournament because it is a big tournament and there will be a lot of players including "notable chess luminaries". Also this is the big registration night where they can see the amazingly efficient registration/pairing process of our wonderful TDs, and possibly see the book vendor as well.

Harvey Reed and Howard Goldowsky will be the MetroWest CC hosts for this event. They will help guide FNN to interesting people, casual chess games, the TD/registration process, etc. MetroWest CC is an open club, and the public is free to come and look. Indeed we have had local press come to the Club before to take pictures and document our 20th Anniversary. In this case, FNN will bring video cameras, so if you are video camera shy, please let one of us know.

One activity that FNN is keen on capturing is the discussion between players during casual chess before official play. If you are interested in being one of those players (or kibitzers) please let this be known. If there is enough interest, we might put a few boards together so there are a few games going at once. Another activity that FNN will be keen on is to interview chess luminaries. You know who you are, so please contact the Club hosts and let them know you are around and interested in participating.

## Blackstone Chess Center has a New Location



Blackstone Chess Center is now located in a dedicated chess center in downtown Pawtucket, RI at 250 Main Street in the historic Grant building, Suite B3, down the stairs from Kafe Lila.

From the Greater Boston area, take 95 South to exit 27. Take a right onto George Street, follow the road as it curves to the right. The garage is at the end of the road on the right.

The club meets on Saturday afternoons at 1pm, and Thursday evenings at 7pm for casual play, blitz, and rapid games. Monday night chess begins in January with a 4-round rated tournament, one round each Monday at 7:30. Time control is Game/90 with a 10 second delay.

Visit <http://blackstonechess.com> for detailed directions, and information on upcoming events.

## COMPETE: Next Tournament

### MCC Holiday Cheer Swiss

<b>When</b>	Tuesdays at 7:30 pm December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	
<b>Format</b>	5-SS, 40/90, SD/30	
<b>Sections</b>	Open, U1900, U1600, U1400	
<b>Prize Fund</b>	\$ 800 Guaranteed	
<b>Entry Fee</b>	Masters	Free
	MCC Members	\$25
	Non-members	\$30

#### Prizes

<b>Open</b>	\$ 140 - 100 - 80
<b>U1900</b>	\$ 100 - 80 - 40
<b>U1600</b>	\$ 80 - 50 - 30
<b>U1400</b>	\$ 50 - 30 - 20

#### Championship Points

<b>Open</b>	80 - 50 - 30 - 20
<b>U2000</b>	40 - 25 - 15
<b>U1700</b>	20 - 12 - 8

Checkout the [Possible Events of Interest](#) link on the Club homepage for other events in the area,

25% bonus for winning all games

15 point bonus for upset win/draw over an 1800+ player and 300/600 rating diff

## COMPETE: Club and Class Championship Qualification Standings Through November 2008

The December tournament is your last chance to earn championship points to qualify for the 2009 Club and Class Championships. It's a five round event, so more points are up for grabs than usual. The published ratings on December 1, 2008 will be used to determine whether a player is rated below 2000 and thus is eligible for the U2000 Championship.

The 2009 Championships will be held in March 2009 as 5-RR events run in parallel with the normal monthly sections. The first six players in each of the Club and Class standings automatically qualify for the championship events. However, every player who qualifies may not be able to commit to playing in all five rounds in the championship month, so players ranked 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> or so have a shot at qualifying if players above them in the standings decline.

Through 11 events this year, 77 players have earned championship points! The complete list is available from the MetroWestChess.org home page on the right panel and will be posted at the club. Many class players have earned 20-30 points and therefore could move into the top-10 or even the top-6 with a strong performance in the final tournament of the year.

Everyone in the standings below, except David Vigorito with 3 events, have met the 4-tournament rule. The current 2009 championship qualification standings (in tie break order) are as follows:

### Club Championship Qualifying Points

1.	IM Igor Foygel	369
2.	Lior Rozhansky	263
3.	NM Denys Shmelov	259
4.	Ilya Krasik	217
5.	IM David Vigorito	183
6.	FM John Curdo	179
7.	NM Charles Riordan	166
8.	Mika Brattain	114
9.	Greg Kaden	81
10.	Winston Huang	74
11.	David Harris	73
12.	Neil Cousin	65
13.	Ed Astrachan	64
14.	Jesse Nicholas	58
15.	Derek Slater	56

### Class (U2000) Championship Qualifying Points

1.	Mika Brattain	114
2.	Winston Huang	74
3.	Neil Cousin	65
4.	Edward Astrachan	64
5.	Jesse Nicholas	58
6.	Jeffrey Hall	48
7.	Danny Angermeier	46
8.	Vikas Shiva	39
9.	Jacob Fauman	36
10.	Henry Clark	34
11.	James Williams	34
12.	Ames Abbot	33
13.	Tim Bromley	32
14.	Alexander Hu	31
15.	Charlie Fauman	31