

From the Editor

This month we have a new website, and a new newsletter format. We hope you will enjoy both.

The new newsletter format is one page of short articles, delivered via HTML email. At the top is a Table of Contents. Just click the article you want, and you will jump directly to the article. When you are done, there is a link to jump back to the Table of Contents.

I highly recommend reading the article on the new website. This will tell you the ideas behind it, and simple rules for getting the most out of it. Feel free to comment & critique at info@metrowestchess.org.

Harvey Reed Marketing Director MetroWest Chess Club

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Newsletter

Web

New Website!

We are pleased to announce the official re-launch of the MetroWest Chess Club website! This is the culmination of a massive effort to reincorporate the Club, rewrite the Bylaws, update all Policy & Procedures, and restructure the Club governance with Program Directors. The result is a new streamlined operation of programs offered by the Club in the areas of Compete, Learn & Improve, and Community. These programs are reflected in our governance, our homepage, and this newsletter.

The first thing to note is that the restructure at all levels is due to the explosive growth of the Club in recent years. We offer many services to our members beyond the Monthly Tournament. While the Monthly Tournament remains the heart & soul of the Club, we also want to be able to showcase the other services.

On the homepage, you will see a black bar across the top. This contains links to parts of the Club as the governing body of all the Programs. The gold vertical bar on the left contains links to all the Community Programs. The gold vertical bar on the right contains links to all the Compete and Learn & Improve Programs.

In the center of the homepage, you will see an area for MCC Events. If you click on the current Monthly Tournament, this is the same as "current tournament" on the old website. Below this section, you will see an area for MCC News. This is where breaking news is posted. Of course there is always a monthly recap in the newsletter.

For the next few months, I will be highlighting different parts of the web in this feature article. Stay tuned for more improvements to come!

Harvey Reed (return to the top)

Partners

North East Chess

We are maintaining the single-day monthly format, with big full weekend getaways every quarter. Here are the next dates:

April 13 (Sunday) for the 2003 April North East Chess

May 2.4 (big 3-day weekend) for the 2003 North East Chess Spring Getaway. MetroWest CC players, come if you can to this big Getaway to battle it out and reclaim the top Club prize!

Severine Wamala (return to the top)

Columns

Club

20th Anniversary Planning

We have started planning for the 20th Anniversary of the Club! This is an incredible milestone for the Club. We have been serving the MetroWest Boston chess community for 20 years as of June 2003. We are now averaging 70 players every week, are the largest Club in New England, and won the USCF Club of the Year for 2002. Our success is the result of hard work and dedication going back 20 years.

We are committed to highlighting the efforts of the people that started and nurtured the Club from it's beginnings, to the present day. Fred Harvey and Mary Murphy have teamed up to interview people as far back as Carl Garfield to capture as complete and accurate a history as possible. This history will be made available on the website when complete. We will also be writing an article for USCF Chess Life for their August 2003 issue.

The celebration will be on a Saturday or Sunday. Mary Murphy is helping to coordinate planning. You can reach Mary at info@metrowestchess.org. We will have more info in the next newsletter. Please contact Mary if you would like to help.

Harvey Reed (return to the top)

Board Activity

Currently the various Program directors are working on updating their program's marketing webpage or creating Policies and Procedures where none have existed before. The Policies and Procedures will then be reviewed by the board and adopted as formal club policy. Ahh, but what are the board members doing? Well, this term all the board members happen to be program directors as well so your board members are keeping busy.

Since the last board meeting there is currently one motion before the board which is being done via our "Motions by Email" section of our Rules of Order in our General Policies and Procedures

You can always check in to see what actions the board has taken or is considering by checking the Governance section of our site. The Minutes page documents our activities.

Mark Kaprielian, President (return to the top)

Community

Collections

We are pleased to announce that the games collection has been updated with about 40 new games from the last few tournaments. While anybody can submit a game for the collection we particularly encourage players in the open section to leave their record sheets at the front tables upon completion of their games. We are planning a lecture in May about free chess software. There is a lot of free chess software on the internet that can be used for playing, learning and improving your game. We will show you the strongest chess engines, the most popular chess data bases and how to use them. Stay tuned for exact day and time.

Plamen Krastev (return to the top)

Volunteers

Each month we will highlight our new and continuing volunteers, and periodically list all the volunteers. It is noteworthy that we have a 20% participation rate, which is very good.

This month we highlight Fred Harvey and Mary Murphy. They are both working diligently to interview and record the history of the club throughout it's 20 year history. This history will be made available on the MCC website. This history will also be part of the August 2003 Chess Life article mentioned in the 20th Anniversary article above.

Mark Kaprielian (return to the top)

Shopping

Stalene Chess will be at the Club before Round 1 and during play for your shopping convenience!

I will be at the club April 1st (no fooling). I will be bring a bonanza of chess software from ChessBase. I will have ChessBase 8 basic and mega. All the playing programs including Fritz 8 and Pocket Fritz 2. I will have the new Pawn endings: Fritz (CD) plus many more endgame training (CD's). I have the (CD) biographies of Mikhail Tal, Alekine, and Lasker. I also have many opening (CD's) like the new White Opening Repertoire, Dutch Defense, King's Indian Attack, and the Franco-Benoni. On the clock front I have the new Chronos Clocks. I am also having a book sale 25% to 45% off on all my opening miniatures books.

Please email me at stalenechess@hotmail.com if you need me to bring a particular book or piece of equipment. (Note, this is a new email address)

Randi Macuit, Stalene Chess (return to the top)

Compete

Monthly Tournaments

What MCC Spring Swiss

When April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2003

Format 5-SS 40/90, SD/30

Prizes \$1330, 100% G

Sections Open \$ 320 - 160 - 80 - 40 - 20 U1750 \$ 180 - 100 - 60 - 30 - 20 U1450 \$ 140 - 80 - 50 - 30 - 20

Entry Fee all sections: Masters > 2200 Free; MCC Members \$ 20 Others \$ 25

Crosstables February 2003 crosstable posted. The February event was not rated in time for inclusion into the April rating supplement

Special If you are in the Open section, please use the 'carbonless score sheets' that we provide, and turn in a copy of your game score when you are done with your game. Ask Plamen Krastev at info@metrowestchess.org for questions.

Unrated players may not win more than \$50 except in the Open section

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.

James Krycka (return to the top)

Scholastic Tournaments

The MCC Scholastic Tournaments will start June 19, 2003, and continue June 26, July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14, and finish August 21.

The program will be open to all players age 14 and younger as of June 19 (it's ok if you turn 15 during the summer). Depending on attendance, I will run three or four sections. By running several sections, I expect that players will be matched against suitable competition.

Promotional flyer (Word) available here. For more info, contact me at info@metrowestchess.org

MCC Well Represented at MACA State Scholastic Championship, held March 2 in Natick

Of the 42 players who played in the MACA State Scholastic Championship, 12 have played in recent MCC Tuesday night events, and six others played in our 2002 Summer Scholastic Tournament. In the Grade 7-9 section, fully half the field have MCC ties, including winner Christopher Williams. Members Max Enkin and Gabriel Frieden finished tied for second, along with occasional MCC participant Noah Pang. Armit Gupta finished with a respectable 1 1/2 points in this tough field.

In the High School section, MCC was represented by Member Randy Brueckner, who finished tied for fifth place with two points. Jason Spector, who frequently plays at MCC, finished further back with one point.

In the Grade 4-6 section, five of the twelve players have played at recent MCC events, including two members: regular Anabel Bacon and Ilya Abugov (I have the pleasure of losing to each of them!). The other three who have played recently at MCC are Elie Litvin, Cahen Bohn and Christopher Oliveri. The best showing was Ilya Abugov's, who finished tied for third with 2 1/2 points.

Remarkably, of the ten players in the K-3 section, six played in the most recent MCC Summer Scholastic: Aaron Klein, Jack Rice, Winber Xu, Parker Swiston, Andrew Wang and Dan Wang. It has been a while, but Aaron and Jack both used to be Tuesday night regulars. Andrew Wang tied for first, while Winber Xu and Aaron Klein tied for fourth place.

Gus Gosselin Grade Championship

On the same day, approximately 200 yards away, many students who played in the 2002 MCC Summer Scholastic event were participating in the Gus Gosselin Grade Championship. It gave me great pleasure to see so many players who got their start with tournament chess at our Summer Scholastic event (either in 2002 or earlier) continuing on and playing well. Danny Moraff won the Grade 5 section outright, besting a field of 23 with a perfect 4 points. In this same section, Scott Thomas and Max Abugov finished tied for second.

Richard Han won the Grade 3 section, and Peter Russell won the Grade 6 section, each with perfect scores. Sasha Parfenov tied for second in the Grade 2 section and Clara Wang tied for third in the Kindergarten section.

2003 MCC Summer Scholastic Fast Approaching!

The first evening is Thursday, June 19. As implied above, this event is a great way to introduce a child to tournament chess. Details will be on the website by mid-April.

John Bottini (return to the top)

Team Email Matches

Team MCC-1 defeated IECC-64. The match began on April 15, 2002, and the last game concluded on March 20, 2003. The final score was 5.5/8 but it was actually a bit closer, 3.5/6, if you discount the two games that one IECC player was unable to complete due to personal reasons. Please congratulate the team on a hard fought victory! All games can be viewed here.

MCC-1 Captain: Harvey Reed

Table with 5 columns: Board, MCC Member, [Country], IECC Member, Result. Rows include Robert Powell vs Mayer Eduardo and Neil Cousin vs Bucur, Sorin.

Team MCC-2 is formed and awaiting pairing with IECC-70. Here is the MCC roster thus far:

MCC-2 captain: James A. Krycka

Table with 4 columns: Board, MCC Member, USCF, Equiv for IECC. Rows include Trevor L. deKoekKoek, Michael D. Barry, Philip Lee, Danny M. Ashman, Lomer J. Cormier, Jason D. Krienke, Mukund S. Chorghade, Thomas J. Martin.

For more info, live games, PGN, click here.

James Krycka (return to the top)

Special Events

No special events scheduled.

Mark Kaprielian (return to the top)

Learn & Improve

Weekly Group Lessons

I am planning a series on famous American chess players. The lessons will review their most famous games and give biographical information about their lives.

John Chamberlain (return to the top)

Chess School

Next class Thursday April 17, 2003.

Thursday, March 20, was the latest, and arguably the most enjoyable session of the MCC Chess School yet. In the first hour we broke down into groups of four, and reviewed exercises of bishop vs. pawn and same colored bishops endings. In the second hour NM Lou Mercuri stopped by to answer our questions and give a very interesting lecture. Lou covered some of the more important examples from the book, and added his own masterly insights to the endgames. In the third and final hour we broke the class down into two groups. The groups then played a game against each other from a starting diagrammed endgame position. Each group's members were allowed to consult with each other during the game.

About fifteen members showed up for the class. The next class will review bishops of opposite color endings.

Hope to see you there!

Howard Goldowsky (return to the top)

Game Advice

Are you seeking expert advice? Any MCC member can ask an MCC Expert for advice on their games. Just go to our new website, and in the left column under "Learn & Improve" click on "Game Advice". On this page, I explain how to submit your game, via email to us.

Simple as that! We have a group of Experts lined up for this, so don't be shy, throw us your hardest questions!

Joe Kelly (return to the top)

Library

The re-cataloging of all materials on-site is nearly complete. Once again, please return any unused library items ASAP to help us in this effort. Various formats for the web reports are under development. As always, any suggestions or questions are more than welcome! Please email Library@MetroWestChess.org or see me on Tuesday nights.

Matthew Phelps (return to the top)



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From our 2003 Game Collections

See the article on MCC Game Collections by Plamen Krastev



This is a position from a recent tournament game at MCC. It is black to make the 21st move. What would you do? Who do you think won?

See the answer below

Answer:

T. De Koekkoek (1900) - John Curdo (2300) [C56] MCC Winter Warner Swiss (3).

1.e4 Nc6 2.Bc4 e5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.0-0 Nxe4 6.Re1 d5 7.Bxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qh5 9.Nxe4 Be6 10.Bg5 Bd6 11.Nxd6+ cxd6 12.Bf4 Qd5 13.c4 Qc5 14.b4 Qxb4 15.Rb1 Qe5 16.Rxb7 0-0 17.Qb1 Rxb8 18.Ng5 Bf5 19.Qb2 Rxb7 20.Qxb7 Ne5 21.Qe7 d3 22.Rxe5 Qxe5 23.Bxe5 d2 24.Bc3 d1Q+ 25.Be1 Be6 26.Nf3 Bxc4 27.Qxa7 Re8 28.Qa5 Bd5 29.Kf1 Qe2+ white resign 0-1