

Seattle Classic: Open - Wall Chart

#	Name/Rtg/ID	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Siddharth Meenakshi Sundaram (2475) (20040000)	bye	B 11	W 9	B 3	W 4	B 5	W 6	3.8
2	Dominic M Colombo (1650) (16000000)	W 11	B 9	B 7	W 1	A 4	W 13	B 5	2.5
3	Jamie Zha (1600) (16000000)	bye	bye	W 11	B 10	W 5	A 6	W 2	2.8
4	Atharva Joshi (1600) (16000000)	B 12	W 8	B 10	B 6	A 4	W 11	B 1	2.8
5	Saiya Karamali (1500) (16000000)	W 13	B 14	W 15	bye	A 1	W 1	bye	2.5
6	Daniel Wang (1500) (16000000)	B 14	W 10	B 8	W 4	B 1	W 3	B 11	3.0
7	Bohan Zhang (1500) (16000000)	bye	B 17	W 2	B 9	W 11	B 10	W 15	2.0
8	Aaron Ram (1500) (16000000)	W 15	B 4	W 6	B 11	W 8	W 5	W 2	2.0
9	Leonardo Wang (1500) (16000000)	B 16	W 2	B 1	W 7	B 11	W 8	B 15	2.0
10	Vihari Venuri (1500) (16000000)	W 17	bye	B 13	W 12	B 15	W 3	W 19	2.0
11	Neeran Reddy Baddi (1500) (16000000)	B 2	W 10	B 3	W 8	W 7	B 11	B 10	2.0
12	David Marcela (1500) (16000000)	W 4	B 10	W 17	B 10	W 8	B 11	W 15	1.0
13	Shuyi Han (1500) (16000000)	B 5	W 1	W 10	bye	B 7	B 11	W 6	2.5
14	Bichen Liu (1500) (16000000)	W 6	W 5	B 14	B 17	W 14	B 15	B 19	1.0

Seattle Classic: Open - Wall Chart

#	Name/Rtg/ID	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
15	Siddharth Bhaskaran (1500) (16000000)	B 8	W 12	B 6	W 10	W 10	B 10	W 9	2.0
16	Rafael Palathingal (1500) (16000000)	W 9	B 11	W 14	B 10	W 11	W 17	B 18	1.0
17	Miranda Meng (1500) (16000000)	B 10	W 7	B 12	W 14	B 14	B 10	W 11	0.8
18	To Wei (1500) (16000000)	bye	B 6	W 4	W 3	B 6	W 15	B 19	2.0

Seattle Classic: Reserve - Wall Chart

#	Name/Rtg/ID	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Aarit Shah (1500) (16000000)	B 8	W 9	B 5	W 10	W 10	B 10	W 9	2.0
2	Karav Shah (1500) (16000000)	W 7	B 11	W 14	B 10	W 11	W 17	B 18	1.0
3	Vihan Pai (1500) (16000000)	B 10	W 7	B 12	W 14	B 14	B 10	W 11	0.8
4	Mike Tie (1500) (16000000)	bye	B 6	W 4	W 3	B 6	W 15	B 19	2.0
5	Job Stroud (1500) (16000000)	W 9	B 11	W 14	B 10	W 11	W 17	B 18	1.0
6	Vidur Ganesan (1500) (16000000)	B 10	W 7	B 12	W 14	B 14	B 10	W 11	0.8
7	Agnivesh Chaudhuri (1500) (16000000)	W 9	B 11	W 14	B 10	W 11	W 17	B 18	1.0
8	Aribant Chaudhuri (1500) (16000000)	B 10	W 7	B 12	W 14	B 14	B 10	W 11	0.8
9	Hans Mullen (1500) (16000000)	bye	B 6	W 4	W 3	B 6	W 15	B 19	2.0
10	Allen Chang (1500) (16000000)	W 9	B 11	W 14	B 10	W 11	W 17	B 18	1.0
11	Xavier Palathingal (1500) (16000000)	B 10	W 7	B 12	W 14	B 14	B 10	W 11	0.8

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On the front cover:

Siddarth Sundaram shortly after winning the Seattle Chess Classic. Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

On the back cover:

A blue silicon king occupies a small metallic house posted atop a fence on the Meridian School playground in Seattle. The king was awarded to a student in mid July at the 2023 Meridian School Summer Chess Camp.
Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

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From The Editor's Desk

On September 21, 2023, just days before this issue is to be sent to the printers, Jeremy Silman passed away. Keep an eye out for coverage about Jeremy Silman in the near future.

I recognize that Jeremy Silman was a major influence and player in the Northwest. So, there may be many out there who want to contribute to some of this coverage. So how would you do that?

Send materials to editor@nwchess.com or jeffreyroland9@gmail.com. Of course, this goes for any and all materials about any other articles as well.

— Jeffrey Roland, Editor

Seattle Chess Classic

(Sundaram Sweeps Seventh Annual)

Josh Sinanan

The Seventh Annual Seattle Chess Classic, a marquee event of the Seattle summer chess circuit, was once again held during the dog days of summer at the Orlov Chess Academy in Greenlake August 18-20, 2023. The event was shortened to three days from the usual four or five to accommodate those with busy summer schedules. This made for an especially intense schedule, with seven games of chess being played over the course of only three days — one game on Friday evening followed by three games on both Saturday and Sunday. Chess players from throughout the Pacific Northwest including the cities of Redmond, Edmonds, Sammamish, Gig Harbor, Bothell, Bellevue, Seattle, Issaquah, Vashon, Kirkland, Bellingham, Mercer Island, Fall City, and Kenmore

were represented in the three-day chess extravaganza. The event was hosted by Washington Chess Federation, directed by Senior TD Fred Kleist, and organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan. A total of 29 chess warriors split between two sections, Open (18) and Reserve (11), competed over the course of seven action-packed rounds. As has become customary in most WCF events, all games were US Chess and Northwest dual rated, with games in the Open section also FIDE rated.

Heavy tournament rating favorite Siddharth Meenakshi Sundaram (6.5, 2472 → 2474) from Bellevue lived up to expectations and crushed the field with a perfect six points from six games after taking a half-point bye in round one! This was Siddharth's first time playing rated chess in Washington State, and we

hope to see him keep active at the chess board so that he can play in the upcoming Washington State Championship in February, traditionally the Washington's strongest event of the year. Dominic Colombo (5.0, 1936 → 1935) from Gig Harbor claimed second-place honors a point and a half back, losing only to Sundaram and conceding two draws against Leonardo Wang (1615) and Jamie Zhu (1901) along the way. Lakeside High School co-Captain Daniel Wang (4.5, 1722 → 1741) from Mercer Island won the first U2100 prize after scoring a clutch final round victory in a tricky bishops-of-opposite-color ending against Shuyi Han (1511) in the final round. Two players shared first U1900/U1700 honors with four points apiece: Leonardo Wang (4.0, 1615 → 1620) from Fall City and Te Wei (4.0, 1456 → 1565) from Seattle.

Seattle Classic: Open

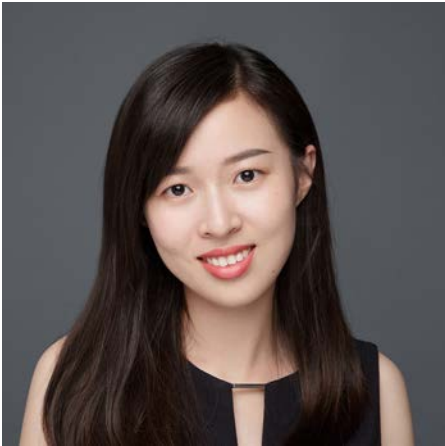
#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total	Prize
1	Siddharth Meenakshi Sundaram	2472	H---	W11	W5	W2	W3	W8	W7	6.5	1st
2	Dominic M Colombo	1955	W13	D5	W16	L1	W7	W11	D4	5	2nd
3	Daniel Wang	1734	W14	D6	W12	D7	L1	D4	W11	4.5	1st U2100
4	Jamie Zhu	1901	H---	H---	D13	W6	D8	D3	D2	4	
5	Leonardo Wang	1677	W17	D2	L1	D16	D13	D12	W15	4	=1st U1900/U1700
6	Te Wei	1278	B---	D3	D7	L4	D12	W15	D9	4	=1st U1900/U1700
7	Atharva Joshi	1805	W10	D12	D6	D3	L2	W13	L1	3.5	
8	Saiya Karamali	1736	L11	W14	W15	H---	D4	L1	H---	3.5	
9	Vihari Vemuri	1653	D18	H---	L11	W10	L15	W16	D6	3.5	
10	David Marcelia	1606	L7	L15	W18	L9	H---	W14	W17	3.5	
11	Shuyi Han	1572	W8	L1	W9	H---	W16	L2	L3	3.5	
12	Aaron Ren	1692	W15	D7	L3	D13	D6	D5	U---	3	
13	Neevan Reddy Saddi	1632	L2	W17	D4	D12	D5	L7	D18	3	
14	Bichen Liu	1520	L3	L8	L17	W18	B---	L10	W16	3	
15	Siddharth Bhaskaran	1519	L12	W10	L8	W17	W9	L6	L5	3	
16	Bohan Zhang	1705	H---	W18	L2	D5	L11	L9	L14	2	
17	Rafael Palathingal	1428	L5	L13	W14	L15	X18	L18	L10	2	
18	Miranda Meng	1377	D9	L16	L10	L14	F17	W17	D13	2	

For Te, this was just the start of her good fortune, as she also cleaned up in the special prizes categories. A sharp dresser, Te won the Best Dressed prize each day and presented herself professionally on and off the board.

Te’s tournament performance rating of 1717 was good enough for her to earn the Best Female Player prize. Te Wei, an active player in her youth when she lived in China, is just coming back to chess after a hiatus, and her rating is apparently still catching up! The biggest upset prizes were awarded to Shuyi Han (round one), Te Wei (rounds two, three, five, six, and seven), and Daniel Wang (round four).

Jeb Stroud (5.5, 841 → 1056), an eighth grade home-schooled student based in Bellingham, was on cloud nine in the 11-player Reserve U1600 section with an impressive five and a half points from seven games. Jeb began the tournament with four straight wins before conceding a draw to chess dad Xavier Palathingal (850) in the fifth round. Jeb’s sixth round win against Arihant Chaudhuri (715) clinched the tournament victory with a round to spare! Kanav Shah (5.0, 977 → 1009) from Redmond won second place a half-point back, dropping only a single game to Stroud in the second round. A duo of underrated juniors, Aarit Shah (4.5, 1012 → 1004) from Kirkland and Mike Tie (4.5, 927 → 964) from Sammamish, split first U1500/U1300 honors, with Mike breaking the tie and winning in their head-to-head encounter in the fourth round. Hana Mullen (4.0, unrated → 892) from Vashon and Allen Chang (4.0, 780 → 806) from Edmonds shared the U1100 prize, each finishing on a “plus one” score.

The special prizes in the Reserve section were more evenly distributed, with a different player winning the Best Dressed prize each day: Arihant Chaudhuri (Friday), Hana Mullen (Saturday), and Aarit Shah (Sunday). Mullen also won the Best Female Player prize with a tournament performance rating (TPR) of 1272, an impressive TPR for one so new to tournament chess! The Biggest Upset Prizes were awarded to Arihant Chaudhuri (round one), Xavier Palathingal (rounds two, four, and five), Allen Cheng (rounds three and six), and Hana Mullen (round seven). Congratulations to the winners, and many thanks to all who contributed to this fantastic event!



Te Wei. Photo courtesy of Te Wei.

Games

Vihari Vemuri (1698) –
Te Wei (1456) [E67]
Seattle Chess Classic (Open)
Seattle, WA (R7), August 20, 2023
[Te Wei]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0–0 5.
Nf3 d6 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.0–0 a6 8.Qc2 e5
9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.Bg5 c6



Position after 11...c6

The white g2-bishop is powerful in the h1-a8 diagonal, so I push ...c6 to block it

and make c8-bishop free to move instead of always protecting b7-pawn.

12.Ne4 Bf5 13.Qb3 Bxe4 14.Bxe4 Qc7
15.Bg2 Nd7 16.Be3 f5 17.f4 e4

I try to reduce light-square bishop’s power and make my own g7-bishop stronger.

18.Rfd1 c5

Restrict bishop’s moving square.

19.Rd5 b6 20.Rad1 Nf6 21.Rd6 Rab8
22.Qa4 Rfd8

Good time to trade the rooks. It’s better to trade my worse rooks for White’s better rooks.

23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 24.Rxd8+ Qxd8
25.Qxa6 Ng4 26.Bf2

[Diagram top of next page]

26...Bxb2

I should play ...Bd4 with different winning opportunities. 26...Bd4 27.Bxd4 (27.Bf1 Bxf2+ 28.Kg2; 27.e3 Bxe3 28.Bxe3 Qd1+

Seattle Classic: Reserve											
#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total	Prize
1	Jeb Stroud	1285	W6	W2	W3	W4	D8	W7	L5	5.5	1st
2	Kanav Shah	1350	W9	L1	W8	W6	D3	W10	D4	5	2nd
3	Aarit Shah	1387	W11	W7	L1	W5	D2	L4	W8	4.5	=1st U1500/U1300
4	Mike Tie	1297	W5	L8	W7	L1	W6	W3	D2	4.5	=1st U1500/U1300
5	Hana Mullen	937	L4	W11	W10	L3	L7	B---	W1	4	=1st U1100
6	Allen Chang	778	L1	B---	W9	L2	L4	W11	W10	4	=1st U1100
7	Arihant Chaudhuri	1120	W10	L3	L4	W11	W5	L1	H---	3.5	
8	Xavier Palathingal	737	B---	W4	L2	D10	D1	D9	L3	3.5	
9	Agnivesh Chaudhuri	1175	L2	L10	L6	B---	W11	D8	H---	3	
10	Vihaan Pai	1318	L7	W9	L5	D8	B---	L2	L6	2.5	
11	Vidur Ganesan	1229	L3	L5	B---	L7	L9	L6	U---	1	



Position after 26.Bf2

29.Bf1 Nxe3 30.Qc8+ Kg7 31.Qc7+ Kh6
32.h3 Qxf1+ 33.Kh2 Qg2#; 27.Bxe4
Bxf2+ 28.Kg2 fxe4) 27...Qxd4+ 28.e3
Qxe3+ 29.Kh1 Qe1+

27.h3 Nxf2 28.Kxf2



Position after 28.Kxf2

28...Bd4+

I should play ...Qd1, ...Qd2, or ...Qd4,
which still gives me winning chances.
28...Qd1 29.Bf1 (29.Qc8+ Kg7 30.Qc7+
Kh6 31.Qf7 Bd4+ 32.e3 Bxe3+ 33.Kxe3
Qe1#) 29...Bd4+ 30.Kg2 Qe1 31.Qc8+
Kg7 32.Qd7+ Kh6

29.e3 Bxe3+

This leads to a draw. I should do ...Bc3
instead.

30.Kxe3 Qd3+ 31.Kf2 e3+ 32.Kg1 e2
33.Qc8+ Kg7 34.Qe6 Qd4+ 35.Kh2 Qf2
36.Qe7+ Kg8 37.Qe8+ Kg7

1/2-1/2

Allen Chang (780) –
Jeb Stroud (841) [C55]

Seattle Chess Classic (Reserve U1600)
Seattle, WA (R1), August 18, 2023
[Jeb Stroud]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Bc4?!
Nxe4 5.Nxe4 d5 6.Bb5 dxe4 7.Bxc6+
bxc6 8.Ng1 Bc5?!

Looking back, I probably should have
played ...Ba6 to prevent any king



Reserve section winner Jeb Stroud (R) receives his prize check from WCF President Josh Sinanan. Photo credit: Fred Kleist.

movement.

9.Qe2 Bf5 10.d3 exd3 11.Qxe5+ Qe7
12.Qxe7+ Kxe7 13.cxd3 Bxd3 14.Nf3
Rhe8 15.Be3 Kf8 16.Kd2 Bxe3+ 17.fxe3
Rad8 18.Nd4



Position after 18.Nd4

18...Ba6?

I think it would have been much better if
I played ...Be4 so as to threaten ...c5 and
...Bxg2.

19.Kc2 Rxe3 20.Nxc6 Re2+ 21.Kb3
Rd3+ 22.Ka4 Rxb2 23.Nb4 Rd4 24.a3
c5 25.Ka5 Be2 26.Ra2?

A mistake by my opponent, as it allows...

26...Rdxb4

...winning the knight.

27.Rxb2 Rxb2 28.Rc1 Rb5+ 29.Ka4
a6 30.Re1? Bc4 31.Re3 Ba2 32.g4 c4
33.Rc3 Bb3+

0-1



SEATTLE NATIONAL CHESS DAY SCHOLASTIC CHESS TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH, 2023

LAKE SIDE UPPER SCHOOL: 14050 1ST AVE NE, SEATTLE, WA 98125

CO-HOSTED BY WCF + CHESS MATES FOUNDATION

FORMAT:

A 5-Round G/25;
+5 Swiss
tournament in five
sections:

K-1 U800

K-3 U900

K-6 U1000

K-12 U1200

K-12 Open

SCHEDULE:

Rd. 1 - 9:00am

Rd. 2 - 10:30am

Rd. 3 - 11:45am

Lunch Time

Rd. 4 - 1:15pm

Rd. 5 - 2:30pm

Awards ~ 3:45pm

ENTRY FEE: \$45 before 10/7, \$55

after. Maximum of 125 players.
Scholarships available for Chess Mates
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AWARDS: Amazon Gift Card Prizes

awarded in each section:

1st - 5th: \$70, \$60, \$50, \$40, \$30.

Medals for first-timers, biggest upset win,
and best female player (by TPR).

RATING: Reserve sections will be
NWSRS rated. K-12 U1200 + K-12 Open
sections will be dual NWSRS and US Chess
rated, with US Chess membership required.
Higher of current NWSRS and US Chess
Regular rating will be used to determine
section and pairings.

CLOCKS: Chess clocks will be used from
the beginning in the K-12 U1200 and K-12
Open sections. Clocks not required for the K-1,
K-3, and K-6 sections, until a judge places one
at the board after 40 minutes of play.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all students

in grades K-12 as of the 2023-24 school
year. Out-of-state players welcome!

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REGISTRATION:

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Friday, October 13th @ 5pm. No
registrations accepted or refunds
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PROTOCOLS:

Face masks optional for players and
spectators. If interested, please bring your
own mask.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: Rekha Sagar, WCF Vice President,
rekha4chess@gmail.com

WASHINGTON CHALLENGER'S CUP



SAT-SUN, OCTOBER 28-29, 2023

LAKESIDE UPPER SCHOOL

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Highest finishing Washington residents in the Open and Reserve sections seeded into the 2024 Washington State Championship + Challengers sections, respectively.

Dual Format: A 5-round Swiss in two sections:

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Health/Safety Protocols: Face masks optional for players and spectators. If interested, please bring your own mask.

Penguin Extravaganza Drei

David Murray

Tournament chess players in Portland should be familiar with two-day tournaments sponsored by the Portland Chess Club. Those who are observant will notice that there is one every month: the Neil Dale Memorial in January, the Oregon Closed and Portland Amateur Championship in February, the Portland Spring Open in March. June sees the Portland Summer Open, July the Rose City Sectionals, and September is obviously the Oregon Open. “But wait,” you must be asking, “What about August?” For the weekend of August 5-6, the club had penciled in an event known as “Two-day tournament is August.” The opportunity was ripe for a community member to bring their idea to fruition.

What if your idea is to honor your favorite animal, an aquatic flightless bird? To have not three, not four, but six rounds of G/60;+30 over two days? To switch to German for the numbering but not the name of your event? (There were two editions in 2018 and 2019, and yes, the latter was named the Penguin Extravaganza Zwei). To force players to participate in a “Penguin Game” between rounds, by virtue of there being no cost to enter and only the potential for monetary reward? (The rules: All players in the Penguin Championship section were given a plushie. Upon losing a round or drawing with the white pieces, one penguin waddled to their opponent. Penguins could be traded in for cash at the conclusion of the event). The answer to

all of these questions is yes, mad dreamer. Our mad dreamer is Isaac Vega.

Sixteen players gathered to form two colonies: the Penguin Championship and Reserve sections. The top section started as a Swiss and switched to a Round Robin after one player elected to withdraw. Two-time Penguin Extravaganza Emperor Steven Breckenridge finished first für ein drittes mal with 4.5 points out of five. Austin Tang, who drew his game with Steven and was also playing in his third Penguin Extravaganza, came in second with four points. Santiago Tenesaca finished in third with three points in his PE debut. Logan Childers Pickett of Puerto Rico, who drew his game with Austin, finished in fourth. In the Reserve, five players shared first place with four points out of six: Oregon players Ethan Tamar, Anisha Sripada, Aditya Chandrashekar, Daniel Wood, and Ravi Mathews. Davey V. Jones deserves recognition for traveling from Washington to play in his second Penguin Extravaganza.

Games

Isaac Vega (1972) –
Steven Breckenridge (2293) [C78]
Penguin Extravaganza Drei (Champ.)
Portland, OR (R1), August 5, 2023
[Steven Breckenridge]

Arriving over ten minutes late, going a wrong way to try to get into Lloyd Center Mall (as I thought only a certain entrance was open before the mall was officially open), I was surprised to see an empty board and Isaac on his way back from getting coffee with me being the one a few minutes ahead on the clock before he arrived. He seemed to be playing a bit too fast altogether and he played the lines I was hoping he wouldn't do already as there wasn't a lot of ways to play for an advantage in it but he said he forgot that



L-R: Davey Jones, Daniel Wood after the event played a form of “Duck Chess” but with penguins instead. (Note: the penguin placed on f8 blocks Black from being able to castle).
Photo credit: Isaac Vega.

he wanted to play c3 before Re1 which I would have loved to see as that's how I win most of my games in those lines so he may have luckily dodged a bullet playing too fast already but it definitely didn't bode well for him later on with Qd3 and Bc2 both being critical consecutive mistakes.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bb7



Position after 6...Bb7

7.Re1

Isaac mentioned he meant to have played 7.c3, but I told him later how that line could have gone very badly for him. 7...Nxe4 8.Re1 (8.d4 The move I recommend but the follow up is difficult to find but most top masters calculate their way through it to try and hold a drawish line for White 8...exd4 9.Re1 d5 10.Ng5 Qf6! A line shown to me by my coach GM Onischuk back in 2014 where he had been a renowned 2700 FIDE top 100 player for decades and used his pet Archangel system to fend off the elite as Karpov's second (close trainer) as well. 11.Bxd5 Qxf2+ 12.Kh1 0-0-0 13.Nxe4 Qf5 14.c4, a critical move needed to be found or else White may be easily lost (14.Bxc6 May be losing after... 14...Bxc6 15.Qf3 Qxf3 16.gxf3 f5 17.Ng5 Bc5+) 14...bxc4 15.Bxc4 Ne5 16.Ng3 Qf2 17.Ne4 White has nothing better than to try for a repetition. (17.Bf1?? Not the most obvious blunder is met by 17...Nf3!-) 17...Qf5 The purpose of playing Qf2 is to induce White to not try and repeat i.e. with Bf1?? (17...Bxe4?? 18.Bxa6+-) 18.Ng3 But now comes the time where you can't repeat a second time without being forced to return to a third time repetition if White so wishes, so Black can play on with 18...Qf6 19.Bf1 (19.Ne4?? wouldn't work here as the Queen now defends against Bxa6+ 19...Bxe4+) 19...h5 20.Ne4 Qf5 21.Ng3 Qg4 22.Qxg4+ Nxg4 23.h3 d3 24.hxg4 hxg4+ 25.Kg1 d2 26.Bxd2 Rxd2 27.Re8+ Rd8 28.Rxd8+ Kxd8 29.Kf2 Bc5+. Finally here is the end of my line

from my repertoire/preparation where the computer gives this as completely equal with much dynamics and interesting play for both sides. Which is the whole line needed to be known for the white player as well which I think would be very hard for Isaac to administer to not get in trouble.) 8...Nc5 9.Nxe5 (9.d4).

7...Bc5 8.c3 d6 9.d4 Bb6



Position after 9...Bb6

10.a4

10.Bg5 is the most common line, but he shied away from it (again to his credit while playing fast). I was definitely hoping to go into this as I outplay all my opponents here continuing 10...h6 11.Bh4 g5 12.Bg3 0-0! The problem for White in this position is developing his knight on b1. He'd love to go Nbd2 but that hangs d4 and thus going something like a4 and Na3 later may be important now but always here the white players go for dxe5 hoping to win a pawn or to get the knight developed to d2 quickly giving Black now very important play 13.dxe5 (13.a4 Re8 And axb5 or d5 are still theoretical) 13...Nxe5 14.Nxe5 dxe5 15.Nd2

a) 15.Bxe5? a less worse version than if White first trades queens, but still a mistake. 15...Qxd1 16.Rxd1 Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Ng4+ and Black can press White the rest of the game;

b) 15.Qxd8?? Raxd8 16.Bxe5 Nxe4 (16...Bxf2+ is an honorable mention that could eventually lead to a win too with a -2 advantage but not the absolute best) 17.Bg3 (17.Bd4 Bxd4 18.cxd4 Rxd4 Black has almost a -3 advantage that can win by force trading the rest for the endgame.) 17...h5+;

15...Re8 16.Qf3 A popular move in GM theory trying to hold onto dynamics 16...Bc8! Threatening the queen trap! 17.h3 (17.Qe2) 17...g4 18.Qe2 Nh5 19.Kh2 Qg5 Is the end of my preparation/theory having a small advantage and initiative with Black.

10...h6 11.axb5

11.Be3 with much theoretical understanding ought to be the choice to play for an advantage with White. A bit of knowledge as well is needed behind this to continue, and I understand the hesitation of not wanting ...Ng4 to be played as a seemingly half-tempo but with more computer revision it should retain a slight edge to White with the center control and development.

11...axb5 12.Rxa8 Qxa8

My first think in the game where I deliberated between ...Bxa8 trying to recall my lines as sometimes I am castled without ...h6 and wanted to be sure what to do if he attempted Na3-Nxb5 (which I believe he should have).



Position after 12...Qxa8

13.Qd3?!

I would consider this a mistake more than an inaccuracy, but it does hold some very potentially annoying ideas if he were able to execute them, but there is just not enough time to. 13.Be3 Ng4 14.Qe2 0-0 15.Qxb5 exd4 16.cxd4 Nxe3 17.fxe3 Ne7 18.Nfd2 Bxe4 19.Nxe4 Qxe4.

13...0-0 14.Bc2?!

Strangely this is only called an inaccuracy. This was a big blunder in my opinion which was due to moving too fast by Isaac (I blame the five-shot Starbucks drink he bought and confessed to having). 14.Be3 was Stockfish's last attempt to try and save the game giving this unintuitive line: 14...exd4 (14...Nxe4 15.Bc2 Nf6 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 dxe5 18.Bxh6 Qc8 19.Be3 Qg4 20.Qf1 Bxe3 21.Rxe3 Qg5 22.Rg3 Qh6.) 15.cxd4 Na5 16.e5 Bxf3 17.gxf3 dxe5 18.dxe5 Rd8 19.Qxb5 Bxe3 20.exf6 Nxb3 21.Qxb3 Bd4 22.Re7 Rd5 with some very slight edge to Black, but there were many tries for Black throughout that with some strange moves found by White as well. 14.Nh4 was his original intention which with one more tempo for White could definitely be a winning attack, i.e.

Qg3–Nf5, but Black is just in time here with 14...Ne7 or maybe ...exd4 as well, but there are some potential lines with sacking Bxh6 immediately according to the engine.; 14.d5

14...exd4 15.cxd4??

I expected 15.Qxb5, but still a comfortable -2 position 15...Ba6 (15...Ng4)

15...Nb4 16.Qd2 Nxc2 17.Qxc2 Bxe4 18.Rxe4 Qxe4 19.Qd1?!

Inaccuracy. Qxe4 was best.

19...Qxb1

Isaac resigned being down a full rook.

0–1

**Steven Breckenridge (2293) –
Santiago Tenesaca (1715) [B22]**
Penguin Extravaganza Drei (Champ.)
Portland, OR (R2), August 5, 2023
[Steven Breckenridge]

Before the game, I briefly looked up my opponent and saw he was a Sicilian player and located a game he played 2...g6 in the Alapin c3 Sicilian but my years of prep had me ready for any line he would choose.

1.e4 c5 2.c3 e6

A minor first surprise. I decided to move quickly with d4 hoping for ...d5 but many years ago when I was preparing for the now GM Ruifeng Li in Dallas (at the time he was just a 2400 FM like me in 2015) I knew he wanted to try and achieve equality with taking on d4 before going d5 so I played Nf3 here and he correctly did ...Nc6 and still waited again to do it which annoyed me, and I didn't get more than equality and the game eventually was drawn. Some future prep I saw playing a sort of advanced French after Black takes d4 can put White near +1 in

some normal lines just needing the right finesse to remember so I didn't shy away here to allow ...cxd4 first.

3.d4 d5

3...cxd4 4.cxd4 d5 5.e5±

4.exd5 exd5

4...Qxd5 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Na3 was a line I was prepared to go into which I've won countless games in playing many strong GMs online (2800+) i.e. Aman Hambleton and it continues 6...Nc6 7.Nb5 Qd8 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Qxd8+ Kxd8 10.b4 Bb6 (10...Be7 a stronger less known alternative to try and hold equality with more solidity) 11.Nd6 Ke7 12.Nc4 Bc7 13.b5 Na5 14.Ba3+ Ke8 15.Nd6+ Bxd6 16.Bxd6 b6, and now the very important maneuver needed to know is getting the knight to b3! Then White retains a +1 advantage going forward (stopping the important incoming idea of Black going ...Bb7–Rc8–Nc4) 17.Nd4 Bb7 18.Nb3 Nxb3 19.axb3±.

5.Nf3



Position after 5.Nf3

5...Nf6

5...Nc6 is also widely theoretical hoping to instead put the kingside knight on e7 to develop after first ...Bd6 6.Bb5 Bd6 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.0-0 Nge7 (8...Nf6 is also a popular alternative among strong GMs knowing

to block with the queenside bishop after White gives a check with the rook and ignoring the Nd4 idea by just castling 9.Re1+ (9.Bg5 Be7 10.Re1 0-0 11.Qe2 is the main computer recommendation, but the lines are generally all unexplored regardless) 9...Be6 10.Nd4.

Some other lines can be tried here for a small edge for White i.e. b4 or Bg5 and it's an interesting game. (10.b4 Bd6 11.Bg5 0-0 12.Nbd2 h6 13.Bh4 Rc8) 10...0-0 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4) 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Nb3 Bb6 (10...Bd6 Also theory 11.Bd3!?) My line stopping ...Bg4 immediately because of Bxh7+ and Ng5 while inducing Black to now try and trade light-squared bishops 11...Bf5 12.Bxf5 Nxf5 13.Re1 Computer gives White near +1 advantage, and this is indeed very hard to play for Black to not lose his IQP and get a losing endgame.) 11.Re1 Bg4 12.Be3. My recollection of old theoretical lines I studied 12...Bc7 13.Bc5, the main point of Be3, and continuing now White will win a pawn going into two knights vs two bishops 13...Re8 14.Nbd4 a6? Most often played here 15.Bxe7 Rxe7 16.Bxc6 Rxe1+ 17.Qxe1 bxc6 18.Nxc6 Qd6 19.Ncd4+-.

6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Bxd7+ Nbx7 8.0-0 Be7 9.dxc5 Nxc5



Position after 9...Nxc5

10.Nd4

A line I developed a long time ago with

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the sheer idea of getting the bishop vs knight endgame with the bad IQP.

10...0-0 11.Nf5 Ne6

Not that common but an interesting fortress-like setup to stop ideas on f4 and d4. It could be argued slightly weak from an almost half tempo loss.

12.Nxe7+ Qxe7 13.Na3



Position after 13.Na3

13...Rfd8

13...d4 is what the computer recommends, and we both were calculating this 14.cxd4 Rfd8 15.Nc2 (15.Be3 Qb4=) 15...Rac8 16.Be3. Not the most human inclination to go for this and still be very slightly worse but seemingly down a pawn with no compensation. The computer feels it's a rather comfortable hold by Black in fortress-like manner.

14.Nc2 a6

14...d4 can almost transpose to the last line but a better version 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.cxd4 Qb4 17.Qf3 Rxd4 18.b3.

15.Be3 Qd6 16.Re1 b5

An interesting attempt for play, but possibly too premature.

17.a4

17.Qf3 is an alternative.

17...Ne4 18.Qe2 Qb8 19.axb5 Qxb5

19...axb5 was a consideration 20.Nb4 (20.Rxa8 Qxa8 21.Ra1 (21.Qxb5? Rb8) 21...Qb7 22.h4±)

20.Nb4 Qxe2 21.Rxe2



Position after 21.Rxe2

21...Rd6

A mistake I foresaw before going for this line. Of course 21...d4 was something I calculated a bit, and he was too, but the critical line is very hard to spot, but still a +1 advantage: 22.Bxd4 Nxd4 23.Rxe4 Nb3 24.Rae1 g6.

22.Ra5?!

22.f3 Nf6 23.Rd2 a5 24.Bf2 Rd7 25.Ra4 d4 26.Bxd4 Nxd4 27.Rxd4 Rxd4 28.cxd4 Kf8

22...Rad8?

22...d4 23.Bxd4

23.f3 Nf6 24.Rxa6 Rxa6 25.Nxa6 Rc8?

25...d4 26.cxd4 Nd5 27.Nc5 Nec7 28.Kf2 f6 29.Rc2 Nb5 30.Rc4 Nd6 31.Ra4 Nf5 32.Bd2

26.Nb4?!

26.Rd2 Ra8 27.Nb4 Rb8 28.Kf2 Kf8 29.h4 h6 30.g4 g5 31.h5 Rb5 32.Nc6 Nd7

26...Kf8 27.Rd2 Rb8 28.g4 h6 29.h4 g5 30.hxg5 hxg5 31.Nxd5 Nxd5 32.Rxd5 Rxb2 33.Bxg5 f6 34.Bxf6 Nf4 35.Rd8+ Kf7 36.Bd4 Ke6 37.Re8+ Kd5?!

37...Kf7 38.Re5 Kg6 39.Kf1 Nd3 40.Re3 Rf2+ 41.Kg1 Rd2 42.Re6+ Kf7 43.Re4 Nc1 44.Kf1

38.c4+

1-0

Austin Tang (2055) –
Steven Breckenridge (2293) [C60]
Penguin Extravaganza Drei (Champ.)
Portland, OR (R3), August 6, 2023
[Steven Breckenridge]

Before the game I knew my opponent's repertoire and also having played him with Black in the Oregon Open recently, I knew the potential flow the game would go if I went for my regular repertoire in an Archangel Ruy Lopez. Considering my position in the tournament with just one more match to play and leading by a half-a-point. I knew I could play for a draw but also try and win if an opportunity arose.

Austin has improved tremendously with his patience, calculation, and overall maturity as he's aged. He played virtually a flawless game, and in my condition at the time having a high fever and even vomiting during the tournament, I wasn't up for a big calculation battle with my normal theory. So, I planned to play my alternate repertoire the Cozio Defense that has been a surprise weapon to many.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nge7 5.c3 g6 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 Bg7 8.0-0 b5 9.Bb3

9.Bc2 is also a great alternative that needs some further study.

9...d6 10.Nc3 0-0

10...Bg4?? Careful not to play this before castling. Many play h3 before Nc3 not knowing about this hidden idea but often can transpose all the same 11.Bxf7+ Kxf7 12.Ng5+.

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11.h3

Now needed to importantly stop ...Bg4. Be3 has been played in practice, but it can definitely be dangerous to allow so much counter play.

11...Na5 12.Bc2 b4

...c5 was best according to theory. 12...c5 13.Ne2 cxd4 14.Nexd4 Bb7 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bf4 Nc4 17.b3 Ne5 18.Rc1 Qa5 19.Re1 (Stockfish)

13.Ne2 Bb7 14.a3

This move is definitely the sign of a super calculator on par with Stockfish. The main theoretical line here is: 14.Ng3 c5. Here White has some options. A game I played against GM Friedel went as follows. I had a chance but made some inaccuracies on the kingside allowing an important tempo for him to win too fast before I could get my knight on d4 with my maneuvering, but there were some other ideas Black had as well that make this an interesting line for both sides. 15.d5 Nc8 16.Rb1 Na7 17.Bg5 Qb6 18.Nh2 h6 19.Bc1 Nb5 20.Ng4 Kh7 21.Nh5 Rh8 22.Qf3 Qc7 23.Bxh6 gxh5 24.Nf6+ Bxf6 25.e5+ Friedel, Joshua E – Breckenridge, Steven James, 1–0, 47th American Open, 2011

14...bxa3?

14...b3 15.Bd3 c5 16.d5 c4 17.Bb1 Bc8 18.Nc3 Bd7 19.a4 Qc7 20.Be3 Bxc3 21.bxc3

15.Rxa3 Nc4 16.Ra1

16.Rc3 Nb6 17.Bg5 was an important way to keep a major advantage, but I knew it was too much to ask as c5 seems to allow counterplay on the diagonal but there really isn't anything for Black.

16...Nc6

I thought quite a bit here how I would play on for play as I still liked my position even considering the computer evaluation

of +1 for White. It's important to play against White's ideas the most as clearly he wants to do the same, countering my ideas more than pressing his own, so as he responds more to mine by going for ...Nb4 he can allow me more counterplay.

17.Bb3 N6a5 18.Ba2 c5 19.Qc2 d5 20.exd5 Bxd5 21.dxc5



Position after 21.dxc5

This was a critical moment as I felt like I wanted to play for winning chances this game but knew it could also be a little risky considering my health state and his calculation abilities so far. Also, for other personal matters I wanted to finish this quickly and thought it best I try and force a draw somehow.

21...Bxf3?!

21...Qe7 was a move I considered as well as ...Re8 and ...Qc7 etc. 22.Bxc4 Nxc4 23.Ra4 Rfe8 24.Ng3 Ne5 I had calculated this far and knew there was still a ways to go before anything clear would be resolved but this could be how I could keep winning chances alive with two bishops 25.Nxe5 Qxe5 26.Rd1 Bc6 27.Rad4 a5 28.Be3.

22.Bxc4?!

22.gxf3 Ne5 23.Kg2 Qd3 24.Qxd3 Nxd3 25.Bxf7+ Rxf7 26.Rxa5 Rc8 27.Be3 Nxb2 28.Ng3 Nc4

22...Nxc4 23.Qxc4



Position after 23.Qxc4

23...Bb7?!

I stopped calculating much because of my health, and ...Bd5 was the better move but wanted to play for simplifications and trade the queens somehow.

23...Bc6 24.Rxa6 Rxa6 25.Qxa6 Qd5 26.Nf4 Qxc5 27.Be3 Qb5 28.Qxb5 Bxb5 29.Rc1 Ra8 30.Rc5

24.Nc3

24.Be3 was an important line to play according to the computer but allowing Bxb2 Rab1 Bd5 didn't seem that human to allow as our times were getting low at this point.

24...Qd4 25.Ra4 Qxc4 26.Rxc4 a5 27.Rd1 Ba6 28.Re4 Bxc3 29.bxc3

At this point the computer agrees it's a fortress for Black, and we played on a few moves before we both agreed to a draw.

29...Bb5 30.Ba3 Rfc8 31.Re7 Bc6 32.Rb1?!

32.Rd6 Kf8

32...Kf8 33.Ree1

Draw agreed.

1/2–1/2



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Steven Breckenridge (2293) –

Logan Pickett (1885) [C07]

Penguin Extravaganza Drei (Champ.)

Portland, OR (R4), August 6, 2023

[Steven Breckenridge]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.dxc5 Qxc5

The move I would generally recommend. The popular alternative is 5...Bxc5 6.Ngf3 Nf6 7.Bd3 Nc6 8.Qe2 0-0 (8...Nb4 is an important but slightly unintuitive move as it allows a check at some apparitions of tempos. 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Bxd7+ Qxd7 11.Nb3 Be7 12.0-0 Rc8 13.Rd1 and Black is right around equal here) 9.Ne4 Nxe4 (9...Be7 10.0-0 Ne5, an important idea for simplification.

If Black can trade off many sets of pieces his extra center pawn will give him an advantage in the endgame and be easier to play. 11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.Nxe5 Qxe5 13.Qf3 Hard to find any advantage for White after this sequence 13...Qc7 14.Bf4 e5 15.Bg3 Bd7 16.Rfe1±) 10.Bxe4, a critical position for Black.

I've reached this position the most out of any. I would recommend going back with the queen to either d8, d6 or d7 and all have interesting implications; White has a slight edge anyway, but it's not so easy to play for a more concrete advantage or kingside attack.

However, by far the most-played move here gives White an almost certain guaranteed victory. 10...Qh5 (10...Qd8) 11.g4!! Qh3 12.Ng5 Qh4 the most important move, though at first the engine gives Black a big score after Bb4 but gradually understands the counterplay for White is significant and the score grows to +2 for White instead of its initial -5 (12...Bb4+ 13.c3 Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 Qxc3+ 15.Kf1 Qxa1 16.Bxh7+ Kh8 17.Kg2 Qc3 18.Bd2.

I forget my analysis around this point but using a strong engine on the position after Kg2 will eventually show a +2 advantage for White with some Rd1 Rd3 ideas somewhere, which I need to rediscover the proper move order.) 13.Bxh7+ Kh8 14.Be4 Nd4 15.Qc4 Bb6 16.Be3 Qxg4 17.h3 Qh5 White has some initiative and attacking prospects on the Kingside and will kick the knight and go Bf3 castling queenside in the near future.

6.Ngf3 Nf6 7.Bd3 Be7 8.Qe2 0-0 9.Ne4 Qc7 10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.h4

The natural 0-0 gives Black ease of play

when the position demands a kingside attack from White. 11.Ng5 g6 12.h4 can transpose, but this is an important moment not taking the advice of the computer because of accounting for human error in reversing the move order with h4 first.

11...Nc6?!

A natural move that backfires from imprecise defenses needed on the Kingside. 11...Nd7 12.0-0

12.Ng5! g6 13.h5 Qe5

13...Nd4 14.Qd1 (14.Qe3 I calculated then 14...Nxc2+ 15.Bxc2 Bxg5 (15...Qxc2 16.hxg6 Bxg5 17.gxh7+ Kh8 18.Qxg5) 16.Qxg5 Qxc2 and it looked too dangerous with Bh6 prospects, and computer suggests Qe7 and following Bh6 for a decisive advantage.) 14...Bxg5 15.Bxg5 Qe5+ 16.Be3 Nf5 17.Bxf5 exf5 18.hxg6 fxg6 19.0-0 f4 20.Bd4

14.hxg6 hxg6 15.Nh7



Position after 15.Nh7

15...Rd8

My opponent immediately was disappointed making this move and mentioned after the game he wanted to play ...Re8, so the game continuation would be different. 15...Re8 16.Nxf6+ Qxf6 17.Qe3 Qe5 18.Be4 Nd4 19.Bxg6 Qxe3+ 20.Bxe3 Nf3+ 21.gxf3 fxg6 Stockfish analysis which is similar to how I wanted to proceed if Re8 was played. Here the evaluation is +3 even with opposite bishops the rooks will prove too strong for black's weaknesses and material down.

16.Qxe5 Bxe5 17.Bg5 Bxb2?!

17...Kg7 18.Bxd8 Nxd8 19.0-0-0 Bc7 20.g3 Bb6 21.f4 f6 22.g4 Nf7 23.Kb1 Be3 24.Rdf1

18.Rb1?!

18.Nf6+ Kf8 19.Rb1 Bd4 20.Rh7 b6 21.Rb3 Bb7 22.Be4 Ke7 23.Ng4+ Kd6 24.Bxd8 Rxd8 (Stockfish)

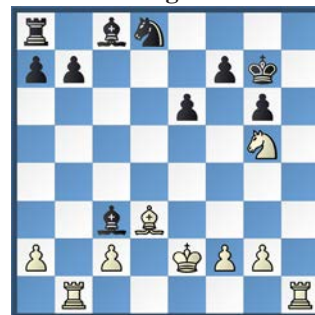
18...Bc3+ 19.Ke2

A slightly unintuitive move walking into another check from the knight but very purposeful as the check would make Black's position lost at any point.

19...Kg7!

A move I didn't consider till after the line which makes for Black to have legitimate compensation for the exchange.

20.Bxd8 Nxd8 21.Ng5



Position after 21.Ng5

21...f5??

Perhaps the final nail in the coffin. The game could have been a bit more solid only having a half pawn disadvantage if the computer's continuation had unraveled. 21...Bf6 22.Rh7+ Kg8 23.Rbh1 Bd7 (23...Bxg5?? 24.Rh8+ Kg7 25.R1h7+ Kf6 26.Rxd8) 24.Ne4 Bg7 25.g4 Nc6 26.g5 Nd4+ 27.Kf1 Bc6 28.R1h3 Bxe4 29.Bxe4 Rc8 30.R7h4±

22.Rh7+ Kf6?!

22...Kg8 23.g4 Bg7 24.gxf5 gxf5 25.Rh3 a6 26.Bc4 Kf8 27.Nh7+ Ke7 28.Rg1 Bd4 29.Ng5 (Stockfish)

23.f4 e5 24.Rc7 Ba5 25.Nh7+ Ke6 26.Bc4+ Kd6 27.Rg7 Nc6 28.fxe5+ Nxe5 29.Rd1+ Kc6?!

29...Kc5 30.Bb3 Kb4 31.Rd4+ Kc3 32.Rd5 Nc6 33.Rxg6 Bc7 34.Nf6 Be5 35.Rd2 Kb2 36.Nd5

30.Bd5+ Kc5 31.Bb3 Bc3?

A final try in desperation which was notable. 31...Kb4 32.Rd4+ Kc3 33.Rd5 Nc6 34.Rxg6 Bc7 35.Nf6 Be5 36.Rd2 Kb2 37.Nd5 f4 38.c3+

32.Rc7+ Kb4

32...Nc6 33.Rd8+-

33.a3+

Black Resigned

1-0

About This Photo

By Steven Breckenridge

Here were my collected penguins throughout the tournament (one missing from someone who forgot to bring it back). It was unique in that everyone started with a penguin and the first board started with a big one. Then you could collect them by winning as White or drawing as Black from opponents.

At the end there were even cash prizes to redeem them if you didn't want to keep them and the small ones were worth \$5 each and the big one \$10 so I cashed out with \$30 from just getting the penguins which was a nice bonus in addition to winning clear first with 4.5/5 (one forfeit from an opponent withdrawing) while Austin Tang achieved clear second with 4.0/5, drawing against Logan Pickett in an early round.

As custom I did give Austin's dad the big penguin to give to Zoey Tang as a congrats to winning the Oregon Closed (Championship) since a few years back I also won the Penguin cup and gathered many penguins and gave them all to her since I didn't want to keep it and she enjoyed them.



Photo credit: Steven Breckenridge.

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Play at the **58th American Open**

November 21-26, 2023

\$25,000 Prize Fund

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 150 (enhanced)



Schedule:

Open Section: 9-rounds, Nov 21-26 (**NORMs possible**): Starts Tuesday at 6 pm.

U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400: 8-rounds, Nov 23-26 (**4-days**): Starts Thu. at 10 am OR
Nov 24-26 (**3-days**): Starts Fri. at 11 am

Open, U2200, & U2000 are **FIDE rated also**.

Time Control: Open & 4-day: 40/90min, SD/30 +30 sec increment;

(3-day: Rounds 1-4, G/60 min; d5 & then merges with Rounds 5-8 same as 4-day schedule)

Entry Fee: \$200 by Sept 30; 220 by Oct 31; \$250 by Nov. 15 (All GMs, WGMs, Foreign IMs/WIMs: Free Entry with no deduction if registered by October 15. Play Up fee applies for US players in the open section if not FIDE rated 2200/over.) **No Onsite Registration**

Venue: **Hyatt Regency Orange County 11999 Harbor Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92840**

- Reduced rate of \$149/day (plus taxes and fees) until Oct. 15, 2023, or when the room block is used up; Use the group code "G-KAOC" for the group rate.
- Near some of Southern California's major theme parks

➤ **Join the Side Events**

- Masterclass Workshop: Tue & Wed at 10 am; for kids and adults with rating 1700 and above; Registration rate varies.
- Blitz: Sat, Nov. 25 at 9:30 pm; \$50 by 11/15. \$60 after
- Action: Sun, Nov. 26 at 12 pm; \$50 by 11/15. \$60 after
- Scholastic (K-12th Grade Only): **Novice** (non-rated) Fri, **Junior Varsity** (rated) Sat or Sun, **Varsity** (2-days; rated). See the website for details on sections, schedules, trophies, entry fees, etc.

➤ **Shop at the pop-up chess store** for gifts, accessories, and books for you and for friends and family.

SCAN ME



Register online or onsite at **ChessPalace**, 5246 Lampson Ave Garden Grove, CA 92845
714-643-8828 | play@americanopen.org

Tournament Info + Registration www.americanopen.org



Scholastic TOURNAMENT

For Players in K-12th Grade
Concurrent with American Open Main Tournament

Novice

Friday, Nov. 24

Non-rated tournament

Schedule: Check ins: 9 AM
Players seated by 9:30 AM

Awards: 4 pm

Time Control: Game 15 min

Entry Fee:

\$80 by 9/30

\$90 by 10/31

\$110 by 11/20

Awards: Trophies to Top 5 players
in each section

Sections:

By Grade Level -
Kindergarten to 12th grade

Junior Varsity

US Chess Rated Tournament

Schedule: Check ins at 9 am; Round 1 at 9:30 am; Awards 6 pm

Time Control: Game 30 min/5-sec delay

Awards: Trophies to Top 10 players & Top 3 teams in each section

Saturday, Nov. 25

Sections:*

K - 2nd Under 200

K - 2nd Under 400

K - 2nd Open (400+)

K - 3rd Under 300

K - 3rd Under 500

K - 3rd Open (500+)

K - 5th Under 500

K - 5th Under 800

K - 5th Open (800+)

Entry Fee:

\$81 by 9/30

\$91 by 10/31

\$110 by 11/20

Sunday, Nov. 26

Sections:

K - 12th Open (1200+)

K - 12th Under 1200

K - 9th Open

K - 9th Under 1000

K - 6th Open (900+)

K - 6th Under 900

K - 6th Under 600

Entry Fee:

\$81 by 9/30

\$91 by 10/31

\$110 by 11/20

Bookmark

www.americanopen.org
for Details and
Registration



Hyatt Regency Orange County

11999 Harbor Blvd,
Garden Grove, CA 92840
Group Code: G-KAOC

Varsity Sat & Sun, Nov 25-26

US Chess rated tournament

Schedule: 2-days; 5-rounds; Check ins: 9 AM;

Round 1: Saturday 9:30 am; Awards: Sunday 3:30 pm

Time Control: Game 60 min / 5-sec delay

Awards: Trophies to Top 10 players & Top 3 teams in each section

Sections:

1. K - 3rd Grade

2. K - 6th Grade

3. K - 12th Grade

Entry Fee:

\$82 by 9/30

\$92 by 10/31

\$110 by 11/20

Randy Dean Remembered

John Donaldson

The Northwest lost one of its greatest chess scholars with the passing of Randy Dean on August 4 in Olympia. The cause of death was complications from diabetes.

Born in Helena, Montana, on November 10, 1950, Randy Dean lived most of his life in Olympia, but it was in Spokane that he got his start as a chess player. The May 1964 issue of the *Washington Chess Letter* (an earlier name for *Northwest Chess*) reports that 13-year-olds Randy Dean and Pat Herbers were among the competitors in the Inland Empire Open.

This was likely Randy's first tournament and earned him a Northwest rating of close to 1600. In those days the regional ratings system was considered

more accurate than the USCF's as it was calculated monthly compared to semi-annually. Until the mid-1980s having events NW rated and not USCF was quite common and in fact the norm in the Northwest.

Randy was up to almost 1900 when he graduated from Olympia High School in 1967. Four years at Stanford, where he graduated with a dual degree in theology and mathematic, slowed down his progress but by playing during his holidays Dean was a NW rated Expert by the summer of 1970. His real progress would occur after his graduation from college.

Sometime in late 1972 Dean settled in Seattle and for the next three years would effectively become a semi-pro

chess player. During this era, on the tale end of the Fischer boom, Seattle had two full-time chess businesses — first Robert Karch's American Chess Services and later Gary Ault's Southend Chess Room.

Each held tournaments all the time and Randy was a fixture at both and other local events where he would butt heads with local masters Viktors Pupols, James McCormick, Mike Franett and a young Yasser Seirawan.

This frequent practice and lots of study (he lived in a house near Roosevelt high school where two of his roommates were future state champions Johnny Walker and Bill McGeary) served Dean well as he improved his score in Washington State Championships from 2½ - 4½ in 1973 to 5-2 in 1975, just a half point out of first.

In the summer of 1975, his NW rating peaked just short of 2300, but his days as a full-time chess player were ending. Soon after playing in the US Open in Lincoln that year, he went to work for his father's securities firm, a job that would take up much of his time over the next four decades.

Dean continued to play off and on and in 2010, at the age of 59, tied for first with Dereque Kelly in the Premier section of the Washington State Championship, scoring 8-1 against a field of Experts and 1900 rated players.

Dean's scholarly approach to the game can be seen in his exhaustive notes to his loss to English International Master Robert Bellin in the 1973 World Open published in the September 1973 issue of *Northwest Chess* 261 (thanks to the NWC scanning project you can find the game online at www.nwchess.com/nwcmag/pdf/NWC_197309.pdf). Ever



Yasser and Randy playing in 1975 Washington State Championship.
Photo courtesy of John Donaldson.



1975 Washington State Championship. L-R: Duane Polich, Yasser Seirawan, James Perry (hand on chin), David Vest (overalls) and Randy Dean.
Photo courtesy of John Donaldson.

the perfectionist, Randy did not annotate many of his games.

Why did Dean play chess? He answered that question in an interview with Dan Bailey at the end of the 1975 Washington State Championship:

“I play chess for several reasons but largely as a kind of self-discipline and because surprisingly it’s an area, although very specialized, where in a small way you can strive for a realizable perfection. That is, you can stop making mistakes. That’s step one — then you worry about artistry.”

The following is Randy’s Immortal Game was played in round three of the 1987 US Open in Portland against 2300 National Master Filipp Frenkel.

Sicilian B21
Filipp Frenkel –
Randy Dean

US Open Portland (R3) 1987

1.e4 c5 2.f4 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bb5 Nge7 5.0-0 a6 6.Be2

6.Bxc6 Nxc6 7.d3 is another way of handling the position.

6...d5 7.Nc3?!

7.d3 was more natural. Now Black’s knights will have use of the d5 and f5

squares.

7...dxe4 8.Nxe4 Nd5 9.d3 Be7 10.Ne5 Nd4!

This not only stops capturing on c6 but prepares to put the knight on f5.

11.c3



Position after 11.c3

11...Nf5

Stockfish evaluates 11...Nxe2+ 12.Qxe2 0-0 and the text as of equal value but Dean’s move is clearly superior in a game between two human beings.

12.Rf3?!

It’s understandable that White doesn’t want to meet the threat of ...Ne3 with the passive looking 12.Re1, but the text is the start of an ill-conceived plan to attack.

12...0-0 13.g4?!

White’s continues his attacking foray but will only succeed in exposing his own king.

13.a4, stopping Black from expanding on the queenside, was indicated.

13...Nh4 14.Rh3?

This is White’s final “attacking” move. Now Dean launches a counterattack with a vengeance.

14...f6! 15.Nc4

15.Rxh4 was relatively better, but after 15...fxe5 16.g5 exf4 17.c4 Ne3 Black is a pawn up with the better position.

15...Ng6 16.Qf1 f5! 17.gxf5 exf5 18.Ng3 b5 19.Na3

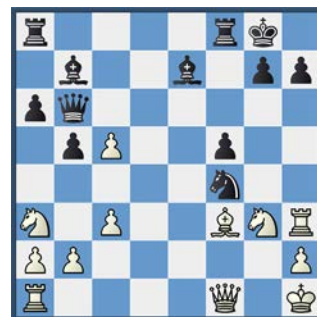
19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.fxe5 f4 fares not better for White.

19...c4! 20.dxc4 Qb6+ 21.Kh1



Position after 21.Kh1

21...Ndxf4! 22.Bxf4 Bb7+ 23.Bf3 Nxf4 24.c5



Position after 24.c5

Black is also winning after 24.Nh5 Nxh3 25.Qxh3 Qe3 26.Rf1 Bxf3+ 27.Rxf3 Qe1+ 28.Rf1 Qe4+ or 24.Ne2 Nxh3 25.Qxh3 Bxa3 26.bxa3 Rae8.

24...Qc6! 25.Nxf5 Rxf5 26.Bxc6 Bxc6+ 27.Rf3 Nh3! 28.Qxh3 Bxf3+ 29.Kg1 Bxc5+ 0-1

Shades of Rotlewi-Rubinstein, Lodz 1907, and Gerasimov-Smyslov, Moscow 1935!



Inaugural **Veteran's Day** **Open**



Saturday, November 11, 2023

El Centro de la Raza: Centilia Cultural Center

1660 S Roberto Maestas Festival St., Seattle, WA 98144



Format: A 5-round Swiss tournament in three sections: **Open** (1400+), **Reserve** U1400, and **Rising** (unrated). Sections may be combined if under 12 players.

Entry fee: Open to all adults 18+. Adult non-Veterans: \$35. College students: \$20. Free entry for Veterans! Maximum of 100 players, please register early to reserve your spot!

Schedule: Registration & Check-in: 9:00 - 9:45am. Rounds (5): 10am, 11:15am, Lunch Break, 1:15pm, 2:30pm, 3:45pm. Closing Ceremony ~ 5:00pm or asap.

Time Control: G/15; +10 sec. increment per move starting from move 1.

Byes: Up to 2 half - point byes available if requested before the end of round 2.

Questions: Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Prize Fund: \$5,400 Guaranteed!

Open: 1st \$600, 2nd \$500, 3rd \$400, 1st U1700/U1500 \$200

Reserve U1400: 1st \$400, 2nd \$350, 3rd \$300, 1st U1300/U1100 \$200

Rising (unrated): 1st \$400, 2nd \$325, 3rd \$275, 4th \$225, 5th \$150

Special Prizes (per section): Top three scoring Veterans: 1st – Premium Custom Wood Board, 2nd – Chess Set, 3rd – Chess Set. Courtesy of ChessHouse.com

Biggest Upset Win/Best Female Player (by TPR)/Best Dressed: 1st \$50, 2nd \$25.



Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration. Online registration + payment deadline: **Fri, Nov 10 @ 5pm**. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster after the deadline and players from the waitlist will be offered a spot. At-site registration: 9:00 - 9:45am. On-site payment available by cash, check made out to "WCF", PayPal to PayPal.me/WAChess, or Venmo (@WAChess).

Rating: Open & Reserve U1400 sections will be US Chess Quick Rated. Rising section is unrated. Higher of November 2023 US Chess Regular or Quick Rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes.

Memberships: US Chess membership required for Open and Reserve U1400 sections; no membership required for Rising section.

Free Blitz Tournament: Time: 5-7pm (after rd. 5 of main tournament). Format: A 7-Round Single Swiss in one section, 2 half-point byes available. US Chess Blitz rated. TC: G/5; +0. On-site registration: 4:00-4:45pm. Rds. @ 5pm, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6, 6:15, 6:30. Closing Ceremony ~ 6:45pm or asap. Current US Chess membership required. Higher of Nov 2023 US Chess Blitz or Regular ratings used to determine pairings and prizes.

Prize Fund: **\$700 Gtd.** 1st \$160, 2nd \$120, 3rd \$80, 1st U1900/U1700/U1500/U1300/U1100/Unrated: \$50. Biggest upset win: \$40.

Health/Safety Protocols: Face masks optional for players and spectators. If interested, please bring your own mask.



Questions: Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

NM Derek Zhang Simul

Issaquah, Washington August 23, 2023

Josh Sinanan

The Issaquah Highlands Chess Club and Washington Chess Federation once again teamed up to host a simul with a chess master at the beautiful Blakely Hall in the heart of the Issaquah Highlands. This edition's honored guest was National Master Derek Zhang, a recent college graduate and multiple-time scholastic champion! The evening opened with a brief introduction by Derek about his chess background while the players and spectators enjoyed some complimentary Flying Pie Pizza and soft drinks. The 40-board simul kicked off promptly at 6:15PM, with a few last-minute stragglers sneaking in to fill any empty boards that remained.

Players of all ages and ratings (unrated – 1715) participated in the simul, which lasted a total of three hours and 17 minutes! When the dust had settled, Derek had won 28, drew nine, and lost only three games, an astounding feat. Several games still in progress at the cutoff time of 9:30PM were adjudicated by WCF President Josh Sinanan. Congratulations to the following players who scored a win or a draw against National Master Derek Zhang! Below are the results listed in order of when the games finished. Draws were achieved by: Nieka My (unrated, Lynnwood), Andy Chen (1392, Bellevue), Rafael Palathingal (1428, Bothell), Vishal Suram (unrated, Bothell), John Fawcett (978, Enumclaw), Xavier Palathingal (737, Bothell), Anay Agrawal

(929, Sammamish), Chad Fondren (1588, Sammamish), and Dan Yates (1307, Seattle). Three intrepid players managed to win against the NM: Walter Guity (1557, Shoreline), Andrew Kennedy (1379, Weston, FL), and Odbayar Yondon (1715, Redmond), who you may recall also scored a victory against Ted Wang in the previous simul! Derek, always a true gentleman and amazing chess ambassador, graciously signed autographs and posed for photographs with the participants at the end of the simul. Stay tuned for more simul events like this one hosted by IHCC + WCF in the future!

About Derek Zhang

Derek Zhang is a US Chess National Master based in Bellevue, Washington. He recently completed his university studies in Florida and plans to pursue an internship in the Washington D.C. area over the next few months. If he chooses to go into politics in the future, Derek is confident that he can secure the minority chess vote! Derek obtained the NM title in 2017 and is currently rated 2278 US Chess. He continued his ascent climbing up the FIDE rating ladder, for which he was awarded the FIDE Candidate Master in 2019. Derek is currently rated 2186 FIDE and hopes to achieve the FIDE Master title in the next few years. Growing up as an active scholastic player in Washington, Derek was a three-time Washington State Scholastic Champion in his respective age group. He has won prizes at numerous national events, including the World Open, North American Open, American Open, and several National Scholastic Championships. More recently, Derek has continued to grow his skills as a successful chess coach. He has coached four scholastic teams to State Championship titles and one team to a National Scholastic Championship title.



*Derek Zhang makes his move against Belet My near the start of his simul.
Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.*

Games

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
Andy Chen (1392) [D32]**
NM Derek Zhang Simul

Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 e6 3.e3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5
5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Nc6 7.Nc3 Nf6 8.Be2
Bc5 9.Ncb5 a6 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nd4
Bxd4 12.Qxd4 0-0 13.0-0 Qe7 14.b3 c5
15.Qd2 Bb7 16.Bb2 Ne4 17.Qa5 Rfe8
18.Rac1 d4 19.exd4 Ng3 20.hxg3 Qxe2
21.Qc3 Qe4 22.f3 Qxd4+ 23.Qxd4 cxd4
24.Bxd4 Rad8 25.Rcd1 Re2 26.Rf2 Rxf2
27.Kxf2 f6 28.Ke3 Re8+ 29.Kd3

½-½



Andy Chen.

Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
John Fawcett (978) [A03]**
NM Derek Zhang Simul

Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e3 Bf5 4.Bb5 e6
5.0-0 Nge7 6.b3 a6 7.Bxc6+ Nxc6
8.Bb2 f6 9.d3 Bd6 10.Qe1 0-0 11.Nbd2
Bg6 12.Nh4 Be8 13.Qg3 Ne7 14.Qh3
Bd7 15.Qg3 Nc6 16.a3 Kh8 17.Rae1
Qe7 18.Qf3 Bxa3 19.Qh5 Be8 20.Bxa3
Bxh5 21.Bxe7 Nxe7 22.h3 f5 23.Kh2
Rf6 24.Rg1 Rh6 25.Rb1 b5 26.Nhf3 Nc6
27.Nd4 Nxd4 28.exd4 Kg8 29.Rge1 c6
30.b4 Be8

½-½



John Fawcett.

Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
Walter Guity (1557) [B21]**
NM Derek Zhang Simul
Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023
[Walter Guity]

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3

The Smith-Morra Gambit is a very aggressive variation in the Sicilian where White sacrifices a pawn early but gets very active pieces. Black may not castle and will struggle to develop for the rest of the game, but if they withstand the attack, they should be okay. Big “if” though!

4.Bc4 e6

...e6 makes sure there are no tricks with Bxf7. I don’t want to take another pawn with xb2 because ...Bxb2, and I have bishops aiming at my kingside. I don’t want to get greedy against an attacker like my opponent.

5.Nf3 a6 6.0-0 b5 7.Bb3 Nc6 8.Nxc3 Bb7 9.Bg5 Be7

Hoping he trades bishops because if Bxe7, then ...Ngxe7, and I’m one step closer to castling. ...Nf6 would be a mistake here because e5 comes with a pin.

10.h4

This was a surprising move. I thought for a while here. If ...Bxg5, hxg5 and yes he has double pawns but I’ve opened up his h-file which he may use against me later. The pawn on g5 also stops the knight from developing to the natural f6-square.

10...h6

Forcing the bishop to do something.

11.Bf4 Na5

...Na5 is a solid move; it attacks the bishop on b3 and also allows the b7-bishop to protect d5. Nd5 is a common sacrifice in the Morra so more defenders there can only be a good thing.

12.Bc2 Bxh4

A mistake but not a fatal one. I’m up three pawns and evaluations says this is an equal game! The Morra is crazy...

Reminder

40th Annual Reno Western States Open

October 6-8 or October 7-8 2023 3 Day or 2 Day Schedule

\$27,500!! prize fund based on 275 players

\$17,000 Guaranteed!!

**13.Nxh4 Qxh4 14.Bg3 Qd8 15.Qd4 Nf6
16.Bh4 Nc6**

...Nc6 kicks the queen and gets my knight off the rim. It had dreams of going to c4 but for what? ...Nc6 controls more central squares. If Bxf6, I do not play ...Nxd4 because Bxd4 and I've lost material. Instead, I play ...gxf6 opening the g-file for my rook. My king will be safe on f8 with no queen or dark squared bishop on the board.

17.Qd6 Nxe4

I was proud of this move smh (shaking my head), turns out it was wrong but very confusing/complicated over the board, especially in a simul. If he plays Bxd8, then ...Nxd6 and I've won a pawn. If Qxc6, Bxc6, Bxd8, Nxc3 threatening Ne2+ so White will play bxc3, then ...Rxd8 and I'm up a pawn. If Nxe4, Qxh4 and I'm up a pawn. This is best for White though.

18.Nxe4

I spent minutes finding the best continuation for White, my opponent found it in seconds lol

18...Qxh4 19.Qc7

A fatal mistake. Qc5 stops castling, or Nc5 attacks the bishop on b7, but this move allows...

19...Nd4

Threatening ...Ne2 mate

20.Nd6+ Kf8

Stopping any further checks



Walter Guity (L), Derek Zhang.
Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

21.Rfe1 Bxg2

Always look for the most forcing move. Kxg2? All variations lead to mate. Qg4+, Kf1, (if Kh2, Nf3+, Kh1, Qh3++), Qh3, Kg1, Nf3++

22.f3

The only move that delays the game. From here, Nxf3+, Kxg2, Qg4, Kf2 with no mate to be found. You can win material, but I don't want to risk playing a longer game against this tough opponent, so I kept looking for mate.

22...Qg3

White resigned here because ...Bh3 or ...Bxf3 followed by Qg2++ is unstoppable. It was a surreal moment to shake hands with such a strong opponent.

0-1

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
Rafael Palathingal (1066) [D11]**

NM Derek Zhang Simul
Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 Bg4
5.Qb3 Qb6 6.Ne5 Bf5 7.d4 e6 8.c5 Qxb3
9.axb3 Nbd7 10.f4 Bc2 11.b4 Ne4 12.b5
Nxe5 13.fxe5 Kd7 14.b6 a6 15.Bd2
Nxc3 16.Bxc3 Be7 17.Be2 f6 18.exf6
Bxf6 19.Kd2 Bf5 20.Rhf1 h5 21.Rf2
Ke7 22.Raf1 Rh6 23.g3 Bh3 24.Re1 Bf5
25.Bd3 Bxd3 26.Kxd3 Rf8 27.Ref1 Rhh8
28.e4 Kd7 29.e5 Be7 30.Rxf8

1/2-1/2



Rafael Palathingal.
Photo courtesy of Xavier Palathingal.

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
Andrew Kennedy (1464) [B06]**

NM Derek Zhang Simul
Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023

1.f4 d6 2.e4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.d4 Nd7
5.Bc4 h6 6.c3 c5 7.d5 h5 8.0-0 Nh6
9.Qe2 f6 10.Nh4 Nf8 11.f5 g5 12.Qxh5+
Nf7 13.Bb5+ Bd7 14.Qe2 Rxh4 15.a4
Bxb5 16.axb5 Ne5 17.g3 Rh7 18.Be3
Nfd7 19.Nd2 Kf7 20.Ra3 g4 21.Bf4 Bh6
22.Qe3 Qh8 23.Rf2 Bxf4 24.gxf4 g3
25.Rg2 Rxh2

0-1



Andrew Kennedy.
Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
Dan Yates (1307) [A30]**

NM Derek Zhang Simul
Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023
[Dan Yates]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6

An early b6 is a way for Black to try to transpose to a typical Queen's Indian Defense setup. This can be used against 1.d4, 1.Nf3, or even 1.c4.

**3.e3 Bb7 4.Nc3 e6 5.b3 Be7 6.Bb2 0-0
7.d4 d5**

Black must fight for the center now that the pieces are developed and the king is castled. White has achieved a big center themselves, but it is time to start chipping away in 'hypermodern' style.

8.Bd3 dxc4 9.Bxc4?!

A surprising, somewhat dubious choice by White to capture with the bishop rather

than the b-pawn.

9...c5 10.0-0 cxd4 11.Nxd4

The most reasonable capture, but results in a symmetrical structure which will be hard to play for a win. Fun fact: at this point we are following a game between World Champions Tigran Petrosian and Anatoly Karpov from 1972 (which also ended in a draw) Petrosian, Tigran V - Karpov, Anatoly, 1/2-1/2, San Antonio, 1972. 11.exd4 leaves White with an isolated queen's pawn. This seemed to make Black's play easier, since there is now a target in the position and Black's position is very solid with no real problems at all.; 11.Qxd4, is an unexpected but decent way to recapture. If Black tries to attack the queen with tempo, she can just move to the h4-square and be well placed. 11... Nc6.

11...Nc6

Also possible was ...Nbd7, but I was looking to trade pieces and play an equal endgame. While I don't expect my endgame skills are anywhere close to my opponent's, I appreciate the opportunity to challenge myself against such strong opposition—that is the main reason I

participate in these simul!

12.Ncb5 a6 13.Nxc6 Bxc6

13...Qxd1?? 14.Nxe7+ It is very important to not get too eager to trade everything and blunder this.

14.Nd4 Bb7 15.a4

White wants to stop Black from playing ...b5 at the cost of weakening the b4-square. I accept the free parking spot for my bishop.

15...Bb4 16.Qe2 Qe7 17.Rfd1 Ne4 18.Rac1 Rfd8 19.f3 Nd6 20.Bd3 Bc5

Lining up the bishop with the king and potentially stopping White from playing e4 in the future. I was not interested in trading the bishop, I thought in this type of position I'd want to retain the bishop pair and not give any potential advantage to my opponent.

21.Nc2 a5

Simply stopping b4.

22.Nd4 Ne8

Giving the option to re-route the knight back to f6, but perhaps an immediate ...e5! would have been a strong idea.

22...e5! 23.Nb5 (23.Nf5? Nxf5 24.Bxf5 Qg5 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 White's pieces are under attack, there is no way to save both the bishop and the e3-pawn) 23...Nxb5 24.Bxb5 Qg5

23.Bb5 Rac8 24.Rc2 Nd6

The knight comes back to harass the bishop.

25.Bd3 e5

A strong move that could have been played earlier. It still creates some initiative for Black.

26.Nb5

The best move, but an uncomfortable one because Black will happily trade the knight to ruin White's pawn structure, creating a weakness on b5. 26.Nf5 White can run into serious trouble if the knight is placed on f5. 26...Nxf5 27.Bxf5 Bxe3+ 28.Kh1 Rxd1+ 29.Qxd1 Rd8

26...Nxb5 27.axb5 Bd5 28.Bc4 Bxc4 29.Rxd8+ Rxd8 30.bxc4 f6?!

Missing a couple much better moves. Black's position is still very good, but too many over-cautious moves like this one might result in the advantage slipping

Washington National Chess Day Blitz Championship



Saturday, October 14th, 2023

Lakeside Upper School - 14050 1st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Contact: Josh Sinanan,
WCF President, 206-769-3757
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Registration: Online at
nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration.
Online registration and payment
deadline @ 5pm on Friday,
October 13, or else register at
site.

Health/Safety Protocols: Face
masks optional for players and
spectators. If interested, please
bring your own mask.

Format: A 9-Round single Swiss in one
section.

Time Control: G/5; +3 sec. increment.

Entry Fee: \$20 if postmarked or online by
10/7, \$25 by 10/13, \$30 at-site. Free entry for
GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs.

Schedule: At-site registration: Sat. 5-5:45pm.
Rounds: 6 PM, 6:20, 6:40, 7, 7:20, 7:40, 8, 8:20,
8:40 PM. Closing Ceremony ~ 9 PM.

Prize Fund: \$600 (based on 50 paid entries).
1st \$130, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$70. 1st Unrated: \$50.
1st U2000/U1800/U1600/U1400/U1200: \$50

Eligibility: Open to all junior + adult
players.

Byes: Three half-point byes available. If
interested, request before end of round 2.

Memberships: Current US Chess and
WCF membership/Northwest Chess
subscription required. Memberships
must be paid at time of registration.

Rating: US Chess + FIDE Blitz Rated.
Highest of October US Chess, FIDE, or
current NWSRS rating will be used to
determine pairings and prizes.



Dan Yates.

Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

away. 30...a4 Simply pushing the passed pawn would have been a great idea. Next, ...a3 can be played for free; 30...Bxe3+! 31.Qxe3 Rd1+ 32.Kf2 Qh4+ 33.g3 Qxh2#

31.Rd2 Rd6 32.Kf2 Kf7 33.Bc3 Qe6

Still failing to push the passed pawn. Since Black is threatening to win the c4-pawn, this move more or less forces

a rook trade, taking away a lot of my winning chances.

34.Rxd6

34.h3 Rxd2 35.Qxd2 Qxc4

34...Qxd6 35.Qc2 g6 36.Ke2 Ke6 37.Qe4 Qd7 38.Qa8 Ke7 39.Qg8 Qe6 40.Qxh7+ Kf8

Our game was stopped here due to time, and was ultimately adjudicated to be a draw. While I am disappointed to have given away my advantage in this game, overall, I'm proud of the way it was played and was happy to score my first draw against a titled player.

41.Kd3

41.Qxg6 Qxc4+ 42.Qd3 Qa2+ 43.Kf1 a4 44.h4 a3 45.h5 Qb3 46.h6 a2 47.h7 (47. Qd8+ Kf7 48.h7 a1 Q+ 49.Bxa1 Qc4+ 50.Kf2 Qc2+ 51.Kg3 Qg6+); 41.Qh6+ Kf7 42.Qh7+ (42.Qh4 a4 43.Qe4 a3) 42... Kf8

41...Qf5+ 42.e4 Qg5 43.Qh8+ Kf7

White may need to go for a perpetual here or let Black's queen win the g2 pawn.

44.Bd2 Qxg2 45.Qh7+ Kf8 46.Bh6+ Ke8 47.Qg8+ Kd7 48.Qf7+ Be7

49.Qd5+ Bd6

Adjudication

1/2-1/2

**Derek Zhang (2278) –
Odbayar Yondon (1715) [A11]
NM Derek Zhang Simul
Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 c6 5.b3 Bd6 6.Bb2 e5 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.Nb5 Nc6



Odbayar Yondon.

Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

Washington G/60 Championship

Sunday, October 15th, 2023

Lakeside Upper School

14050 1st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125



Contact: Josh Sinanan,
WCF President, 206-769-3757
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Registration: Online at
nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration.
Online registration and payment
**deadline @ 5pm on Saturday,
October 14**, or else register at
site.

Health/Safety Protocols: Face
masks optional for players and
spectators. If interested, please bring
your own mask.

Format: A 4-Round Swiss in one section.

Time Control: G/60; +5 sec. increment.

Entry Fee: \$40 if postmarked or online by
10/8, \$50 by 10/14, \$60 at-site. Free entry for
GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs.

Schedule: At-site registration: Sun. 8-8:45am.
Rounds: 9 AM, 12 PM, 2:30 PM, 5 PM.
Closing Ceremony ~ 7:30 PM or asap.

Prize Fund: \$1,200 (based on 50 paid entries).
1st \$260, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$140. 1st Unrated: \$100
1st U2000/U1800/U1600/U1400/U1200: \$100

Eligibility: Open to all junior + adult
players.

Byes: One half-point bye available. If
interested, request before end of round 2.

Memberships: Current US Chess and
WCF membership/Northwest Chess
subscription required. Memberships
must be paid at time of registration.

Rating: Dual NWSRS + US Chess Rated.
Highest of October US Chess Regular or
current NWSRS rating will be used to
determine pairings and prizes.

9.Nxd6+ Qxd6 10.Bb5 e4 11.Ne5 0-0
 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.0-0 Re8 14.f4 exf3
 15.Nxf3 Ba6 16.Re1 Bd3 17.Rc1 Ne4
 18.Nd4 Qf6 19.Qf3 Qe5 20.Bc3 Nxc3
 21.Rxc3 Qxd4 22.Qg3 Qe4 23.Rxc6
 Rac8 24.Rd6 Qe5 25.Qxe5 Rxe5 26.Rd7
 a6 27.Kf2 Rf5+ 28.Kg3 Kf8 29.a4 Rc6
 30.b4 Rg6+ 31.Kh4 f6 32.g4 Rf3

0-1

Derek Zhang (2278) –
Xavier Palathingal (737) [C30]
 NM Derek Zhang Simul
 Issaquah, WA, August 23, 2023

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 d6 4.d4 exd4 5.Bb5
 Bd7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Nxd4 Nxd4 8.Bxd7+
 Qxd7 9.Qxd4 c5 10.Qd3 Be7 11.Nc3
 0-0 12.Bd2 Bd8 13.Kh1 a6 14.Rae1 Re8
 15.Qg3 Bc7 16.Qh4 Bd8 17.Qg3 Bc7
 18.Re2 Re7 19.Qg5 Rae8 20.Rfe1 Bd8
 21.Qg3 Bc7 22.h3 h6 23.Qh4 Bd8 24.f5
 Qc6 25.Qf4 Bc7 26.Qf3 Re5 27.Bf4
 R5e7 28.Qd3 Nh5 29.Bh2 c4 30.Qf3
 Nf6 31.Bf4 b5 32.a3 Ba5 33.Nd5 Nxd5
 34.exd5 Qd7 35.Rxe7 Rxe7 36.Rxe7
 Qxe7 37.Qe3 Qxe3 38.Bxe3 f6 39.Kg1
 Kf7 40.Kf2 Ke7 41.Kf3 Kd7

1/2-1/2



Xavier Palathingal.
Photo credit: Xavier Palathingal.



Nieka My.
Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

Washington Bullet Championship



Sunday, October 15th, 2023

Lakeside Upper School

14050 1st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Contact: Josh Sinanan,
 WCF President, 206-769-3757
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Registration: Online at
nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration.
 Online registration and
 payment **deadline @ 5pm on**
Saturday, October 14, or else
 register at site.

Health/Safety Protocols: Face
 masks optional for players and
 spectators. If interested, please
 bring your own mask.

Format: A 7-Round Double Swiss in one section.
 Play 2 games – 1 as white and 1 as black – against each
 opponent.

Time Control: G/2; +1 sec. increment.

Entry Fee: \$20 if postmarked or online by 10/8, \$25 by
 10/14, \$30 at-site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs.

Schedule: At-site registration: Sun. 7-7:45pm.
 Rounds: 8 PM, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9, 9:15, 9:30 PM.
 Closing Ceremony ~ 9:45 PM or asap.

Prize Fund: \$300 (based on 25 paid entries).
 1st \$65, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$35. 1st Unrated: \$25.
 1st U2000/U1800/U1600/U1400/U1200: \$25

Eligibility: Open to all junior +
 adult players.

Byes: Two half-point byes
 available. If interested, request
 before end of round 2.

Memberships: No
 memberships required.

Rating: Unrated. Highest of
 October US Chess Blitz, US
 Chess Regular, or current
 NWSRS rating will be used to
 determine pairings and prizes.



Washington Class Championships

Fri-Sun, November 24-26, 2023

Hyatt Regency Bellevue

900 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

\$13,000 Prize Fund

(based on 160 paid entries)

Format: A 6-round Swiss event in 7 class sections. Sections with <12 players may be combined.

Entry Fees (EF) (by Oct 27 / Nov 10 / on-site) & **Prizes** per section:

- **Master (2200+)** EF: \$170 / \$180 / \$190
Prizes: \$700, \$450, \$350; U2300 \$250, \$200
- **Expert (2000-2199)** EF: \$160 / \$170 / \$180
Prizes: \$600, \$350, \$250; U2100 \$200, \$150
- **Class A (1800-1999)** EF: \$150 / \$160 / \$170
Prizes: \$500, \$300, \$200; U1900 \$170, \$125
- **Class B (1600-1799)** EF: \$150 / \$160 / \$170
Prizes: \$500, \$300, \$200; U1700 \$170, \$125
- **Class C (1400-1599)** EF: \$150 / \$160 / \$170
Prizes: \$500, \$300, \$200; U1500 \$170, \$125
- **Class D (1200-1399)** EF: \$150 / \$160 / \$170
Prizes: \$500, \$300, \$200; U1300 \$170, \$125
- **Class E (1199 & Under)** EF: \$150 / \$160 / \$170
Prizes: \$500, \$300, \$200; U1000 \$170, \$125; U800 \$100, \$50; Unrated \$100

Seeds: Highest finishing WA resident in Master, Expert, Class A, Class B, and Class C sections seeded into the 2024 WA State Championship, in the Championship, Premier, Invitational, Challengers, and Rising Stars sections, respectively.

Mixed Doubles Prizes: Best male-female 2-player team's combined score across all sections: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100. Avg team rating must be under 2000; may play in different sections. Register (at no extra charge) before both players begin round 2. Awarded in addition to other prizes.

Special Prizes (per class section):

Highest (USCF) Rating Gain: \$100. Requires an established (non-provisional) rating. Awarded to a player who does not already win a higher prize.

Fair-Play, Kindness, Spreading Joy: \$50. Please share your nominations.

Best Female Player: \$50. Awarded to the best performing female (by TPR) who does not win a higher prize. Min 3 qualifying players per section.

Biggest Upset Win: \$50.

Best Annotated Game: 1st \$50, 2nd \$25. Submit one annotated game from the event that you consider to be interesting or well-played.

Best Dressed: \$10/day. May not win repeatedly.

Hotel Info: Hyatt Regency Bellevue (address above): \$189/night, one King or two Queen beds, single or double occupancy. Call 425-462-1234 to request the Washington Chess Federation room block. Group Booking Code: G-WACH. Online booking [link](#). Cut-off date for discounted reservations is Nov 10, 2023.

Main Event

Note: The overall schedule is designed so you can play in the Main Event *and* in several of the Side Events (see next page) with minimum or no half-point byes!

Info: Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Registration & Payment:

Before event: nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration (pay by credit / debit / PayPal) or write a check to Washington Chess Federation.

On-site: Fri 9-10am for 3-day schedule, or 4-5pm if entering with 1 half-point bye. Sat 8-8:30am for 2-day schedule, or 9-9:30am if entering 3-day schedule with 2 half-point byes. *Late registrations receive a half-point bye for round 1.*

Entry Fee Adjustments: Rated players who wish to play up one class section, please add \$85 (to the EF on the left). (Playing up two classes is not permitted.) Seniors (age 50+), please subtract \$50. Free entry to GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs. Reentry for 1/2 of original entry fee. Canadians may pay CAD\$ at par.

Byes: Two half-point byes available; if interested, request before end of round 2. (Play any 2 of the 3 days and take a day off, if using 2 half-point byes.)

Rating: Dual rated US Chess and NWSRS. Master / Expert / Class A / Class B sections also FIDE rated (except any G/55 games). Highest of Nov 2023 US Chess, FIDE, and current NWSRS ratings used to determine class sections, pairings, and prizes. Higher of US Chess and foreign ratings used at TD discretion; foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players eligible only for 1st / 2nd / 3rd prizes in Master section or the Unrated prize in Class E section.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Fri 11am & 6pm; Sat 10am & 6pm; Sun 10am & 4pm.

2-day schedule: Sat 9am, 11:45am, 2:30pm, then joining the 3-day schedule from round 4 at 6pm.

Time Controls: 3-day schedule: 40/100, SD/30 with a 30-second increment. Late default: 60 minutes.

2-day schedule: G/55 with a 15-second increment (rounds 1-3); rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule.

Miscellaneous: Current US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required. Other states accepted. Memberships may be paid at the time of registration. Wheelchair accessible. Please bring a digital clock, if available.

Procedures & Protocols: Pairings will be posted near the playing hall before each round. Face masks are optional. If interested, please bring your own mask.

Washington Class Championships, Nov 24-26 (cont'd)

Fun Side Events!

(many run *between rounds* of the Main Event)

Thanksgiving Scholastic

This year please consider the co-located 1-day or 2-day scholastic tournaments (on Fri-Sat, Nov 24-25) at the Susan Polgar Foundation National Open for Girls & Boys ([SPFNO](#)).

Puzzle Solving Competition

This year please consider the co-located scholastic puzzle solving event (on Fri, Nov 24) at [SPFNO](#).

Annual Chess Workshop for Girls & Women

This year please consider the co-located event for girls & women (on Fri, Nov 24) at [SPFNO](#).

WA Class SCC Adult Swiss

Sponsored by the Seattle Chess Club (SCC), with generous support from Henry Yan.

Fri-Sun, 11/24-26 at 11am & 4pm (during all rounds)

Format: A 6-round Swiss in one section.

Time control: G/90; +30.

Entry fee: \$60 online (by Thu, 11/23 @ 5pm) or \$70 on-site.

Waived for new unrated players who purchase memberships. US Chess and WCF / OCF / ICA memberships required.

Registration: Fri 10-10:30am (unless entering with half-point byes).

Rounds: Fri / Sat / Sun @ 11am and 4pm.

Byes: 2 half-point byes available; request by end of round 2.

Rating: US Chess rated only. Nov 2023 US Chess ratings used to determine pairings and prizes.

Prize fund: \$1,000 (guaranteed): 1st \$200, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$110, 1st U2000 / U1700 / U1400 / U1100 or Unrated \$90, Biggest Upset Win \$90, Best Female Player (by TPR) \$90.

WA Class "WaldowChess" Championship

With generous support from Mark Waldow.

Fri, 11/24 at 3pm-5:30pm (between rounds 1 & 2)

Description: Play begins with White to move having already played e4 & d4. In return, Black receives draw odds and is allowed to swap his king and queen after White's next move.

Format: A 6-round Single Swiss in one section.

Time control: G/8; +3.

Entry fee: Free! No memberships required.

Registration: Online (by Thu, 11/23) or on-site (Fri 2-2:45pm). Check-in by 2:45pm required, including for online registrants.

Rounds: 3:00pm, 3:25, 3:50, 4:15, 4:40, and 5:05pm.

Byes: 2 half-point byes available; request by end of round 2.

Rating: Unrated. Highest of Nov 2023 US Chess and current NWSRS ratings used to determine pairings and prizes.

Prize fund: \$2,000: 1st \$450, 2nd \$350, 3rd \$250; 1st U2000 / U1700 / U1400 / U1100 / Unrated \$100; 2nd U2000 / U1700 / U1400 / U1100 / Unrated \$50; Best Female Player (by TPR) \$100; Biggest Upset Win \$100.

WA Class Rapid Championship

Sat, 11/25 at 2pm-5:40pm (between rounds 3 & 4)

Format: A 5-Round Swiss in two sections: Open & Premier (U1600). If either section has <10 players, the two sections may be merged.

Time control: G/15; +5.

Entry fee: \$35 online (by Fri, 11/24) or \$40 on-site. Players rated 1400+ may play up into Open section for a \$10 fee. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

Registration: 1-1:45pm.

Rounds: 2:00pm, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15, and 5:00pm.

Byes: 2 half-point byes available; request by end of round 2.

Rating: US Chess Quick rated. Open section also FIDE Rapid rated. Highest of Nov 2023 US Chess Quick, FIDE Rapid, and current NWSRS ratings used for sections, pairings, and prizes.

Prize fund: \$660 (based on 25 paid entries).

Open section: 1st \$100, 2nd \$80, 3rd \$60, 1st U2000 / U1700 \$35, Biggest Upset Win \$20.

Premier section: 1st \$90, 2nd \$70, 3rd \$50, 1st U1400 / U1100 \$35, 1st Unrated \$30, Biggest Upset Win \$20.

WA Class Chess960 (Fischer Random) Rapid

Sun, 11/26 at 2pm-4pm (between rounds 5 & 6)

Format: A 4-round Swiss in one section.

Time control: G/10; +3.

Entry fee: \$20. No memberships required.

Registration: 1-1:45pm.

Rounds: 2:00pm, 2:30, 3:00, and 3:30pm.

Byes: 1 half-point bye available; request by end of round 2.

Rating: Unrated. Higher of Nov 2023 US Chess and current NWSRS ratings used to determine pairings and prizes.

Prize fund: \$300 (based on 20 paid entries): 1st \$80, 2nd \$60, 3rd \$40, 1st U2000 / U1700 / U1400 / Unrated \$30.

WA Class "Knight-Time" Blitz

Sun, 11/26 at 8:30pm-10:15pm (after round 6)

Format: A 7-round Single Swiss in two sections: Open and Premier (U1600). If either section has <10 players, the two sections may be merged.

Time control: G/5; +2.

Entry fee: \$30 online (by Sat, 11/25) or \$35 on-site. Players rated 1400+ may play up into Open section for a \$10 fee. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

Registration: 7:30-8:15pm.

Rounds: 8:30pm, 8:45, 9:00, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45, and 10:00pm.

Byes: 2 half-point byes available; request by end of round 2.

Rating: US Chess Blitz rated. Open section also FIDE Blitz rated. Highest of Nov 2023 US Chess Blitz, FIDE Blitz, and current NWSRS ratings used for sections, pairings, and prizes.

Prize fund: \$550 (based on 25 paid entries).

Open section: 1st \$90, 2nd \$70, 3rd \$55, 1st U2000 / U1700 \$30. Premier section: 1st \$80, 2nd \$60, 3rd \$45, 1st U1400 / U1100 / Unrated \$30.

Co-hosted by Washington Chess Federation & Susan Polgar Foundation



18th Susan Polgar Foundation National Open for Girls & Boys



Friday-Saturday, November 24-25th, 2023

Hyatt Regency Bellevue: 900 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

Prizes include **\$100,000** in
Scholarships to [Webster University](https://www.webster.edu/)!

Info: spfno.com Register: chessreg.com

Email: washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com

Phone: 206-769-3757

2-day Championship Sections

K-5 Open **K-5 Girls**

K-8 Open **K-8 Girls**

K-12 Open **K-12 Girls**

Format: A 5-Round, G/75; +10 Swiss.
Dual NWSRS and US Chess rated.

Rounds: Fri: 10 AM, 1:30 PM. Sat: 10 AM,
1:30 PM, 5 PM. Awards ~ Sat 8:30 PM.

1-day Scholastic Sections (Fri-only)

K-1 U800 **K-3 Open**

2-3 U800 **4-6 Open**

4-6 U900 **7-12 Open**

Format: A 5-Round, G/25; d5 Swiss.
NWSRS rated. Open sections also US Chess
rated.

Rounds: Fri: 9:00 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:15 PM,
1:30 PM, 2:45 PM. Awards ~ 4:30 PM.

WA State Elementary Qualifier!

All Sections: Trophies awarded to top-
scoring individuals and teams. Medals for
first-time players who do not earn a trophy.
Higher of November US Chess or current
NWSRS rating will be used to determine
section and pairings.

Hotel Information: Hyatt Regency Bellevue for \$189/night,
address above. Phone: 425.462.1234, request the Washington
Chess Federation Room Block. Group Code: G-WACH.

Booking link online hotel reservations. Cut-off date for
discounted hotel reservations is November 10, 2023.

Entry Fees: (by Oct. 31 | Nov. 1 - 16 | Nov. 17 or after)

- 2-Day Championship Sections EF: \$80 | \$95 | \$115
- 1-Day Scholastic Sections (Fri-only) EF: \$45 | \$60 | \$80

Registration & Payment: **Registration and payment deadline**
Thu 11/23 @ 5 PM at chessreg.com (pay by credit/debit/PayPal).

Fun Side Events!

Parents and Coaches Seminar: Fri 11/24 @ 10:30-11:30 AM.

SPFNO Girls Workshop: Fri 11/24 @ 2:00-3:00 PM.

SPFNO Puzzle Solving Competition: Fri 11/24 @ 5:30-6:00
PM. EF: \$25 by 11/16, \$40 after.

SPFNO Blitz Championship: Fri 11/24 @ 6:30-9:00 PM.
EF: \$25 by 11/16, \$40 after.

GM Liem Le Lecture + Q&A: Sat 11/25 @ 10:30-11:30 AM.

GM Liem Le Simul: Sat 11/25 @ 1:00-4:00 PM.
EF: \$60 by 11/16, \$80 after. Max 30 players.

All-Comers Blitz with GM Le + other chess masters:
Sat 11/25 @ 5:00-7:00 PM.

Special Discount: Bundle Puzzle and Blitz side events to
receive a \$10 discount.

Scholarships Available: Scholarships available for the main
competition and side events. Contact WCF for info.
Seminar, Workshop, Lecture, and All-Comers Blitz are free.

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

→ Address ↖
 → 7212 Woodlawn Ave NE ←
 → Seattle WA 98115 ←
 → Info ↖
 → www.seattlechess.club ←
 → Addresses for Entries ↖
 → SCC Tnmt Dir ←
 → 2420 S 137 St ←
 → Seattle WA 98168 ←
 → —or— ↖
 → contact@seattlechess.club ←

SCC Fridays

One US Chess-rated round per night (free to SCC members, \$5 per night for others) normally played at a rate of 40/90 followed by 30/60. Drop in for any round!

Autumn Leaves: 10/6, 13, 20, 27.

November Rains: 11/3, 10, 17.

Closed, Go to WA Class: 11/24.

Oct 1, Nov 18

Format: 5-RR in 6- or 5-player sections. **TC:** G/20;+8. **EF:** \$12 (+\$6 fee for non-SCC). **Prize Fund:** \$\$54 b/6. **Prizes:** \$36-18. **Reg:** 12-12:45 p.m. **Time Frame:** 1 to ~6:30 p.m. **Byes:** 0. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

G/20 Hexes

Oct 8, Nov 12

Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/50;+10. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 per EF to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Sunday Tornado

Oct 14

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/60;+15. **EF:** \$20 (-\$2 SCC members). **Prizes:** SCC membership(s). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

SCC Novice

Oct 21

Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sec. by rtg. **TC:** G/100;+15. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free quad entry. **Reg:** 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Saturday Quads

Wednesdays are for casual play

Rain City Plus-Score Swiss

November 4-5, 2023

A five-round Swiss with a time control of G/75+30 seconds per move and prizes for all scores of three or more points. Prizes based on 26 paid entries.

5.0 \$150
4.0 \$60
3.0 \$15

4.5 \$100
3.5 \$30

Entry Fees: \$35 if paid by 10/30, \$47 thereafter. SCC members –subtract \$10. Unrated players FREE with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & WCF. **Registration:** Sat. 9-9:45 am.

Rounds: Sat. 10-2-6, Sun. 11-3. **Half-Point Byes:** 2 available. Rounds 4 or 5 must commit at registration. **Misc.:** US Chess membership required. NS, NC.

