Tri-Bridges Tribune

✦ September 2026

TRI BRIDGES CHESS CLUB

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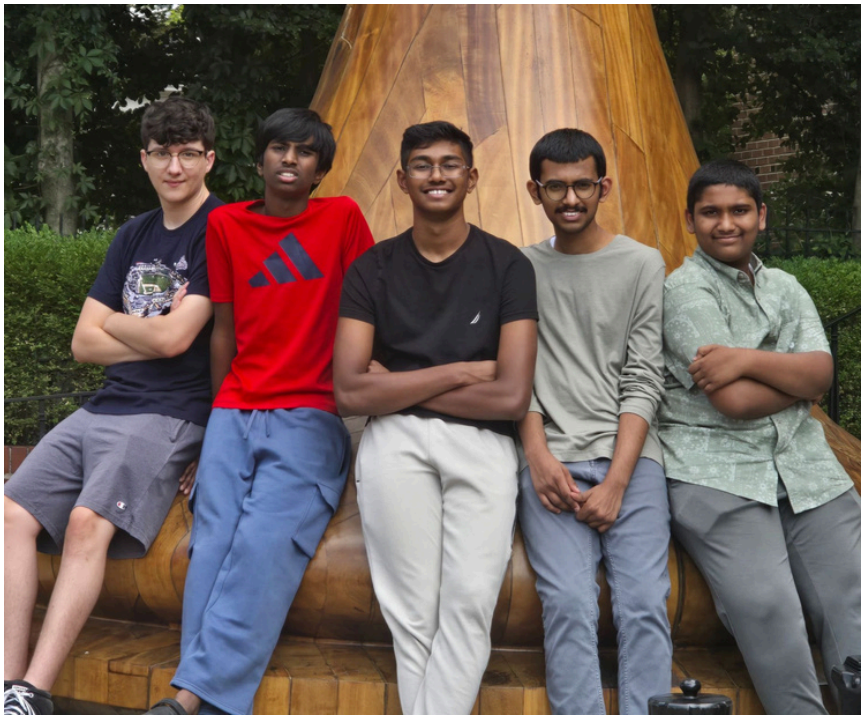

The U.S. Open members on the largest chess piece around!

Introduction

Located in Exton, Pennsylvania, our club meets every Tuesday for friendly games, socializing, and skill-building. In addition to casual play, we host tournaments that give members the chance to compete, learn, and grow as players. We also offer instructional classes to help members expand their chess knowledge and deepen their understanding of the game.

My name is Azim Julkipli, and I am the editor of these monthly newsletters. Having been a proud member of the Tri Bridges Chess Club for many years, I've made lasting friendships and had the opportunity to volunteer within our wonderful community.

This newsletter is designed to keep our members connected and informed. Each issue will feature updates on local events, tournaments, and club news, along with puzzles, book recommendations, and annotated games. Our goal is to celebrate the achievements of our players and foster a welcoming environment that inspires both beginners and experienced players to continue their chess journey with enthusiasm.

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Online Tournaments on Chess.com

By Shivam Wagh

Hi, I'm Shivam Wagh, and I run the TBCC USCF Rated Online club on Chess.com. I wanted to make this because I realized that Tri-Bridges didn't run online tournaments. I wanted to change this, and I know a lot of people love these online tournaments. I also saw that many other clubs run this type of thing, too. This club is completely free to join, and it gives you an actual USCF Online rating. This rating doesn't affect your OTB ratings, but it does give you a new online rating. If you remember, our chess club used to run online tournaments, but the problem was that people without USCF IDs used to join, and we would have to buy memberships for them. To not repeat this same mistake, I made the new club private, where you would need to provide your USCF ID and Name to join.

Steps to Join the Club (This might look long, but it's quick and you only need to do this once) :

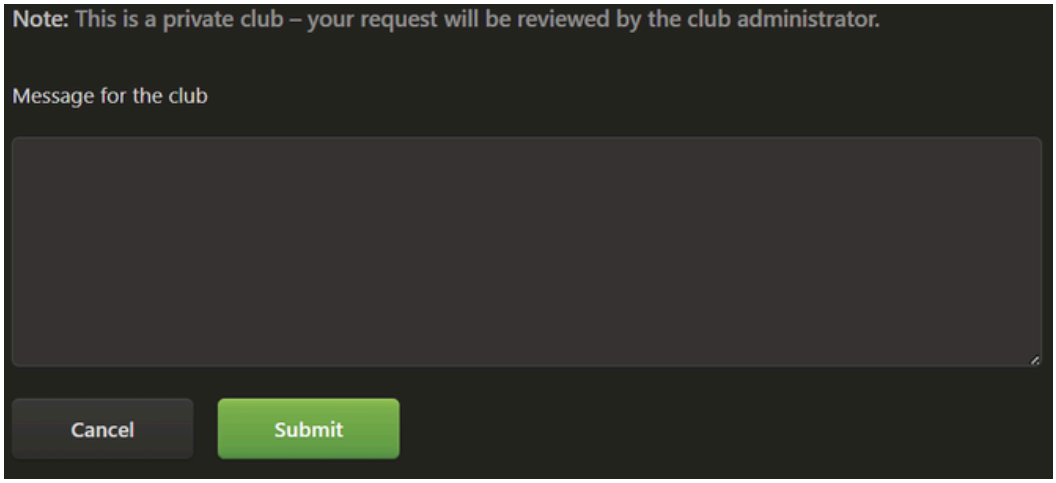
1. Log in to your USChess profile on https://new.uschess.org/login.
2. The link should bring you to your dashboard, where you will find orange buttons. You want to click on the "Manage My Profile"



3. Scroll down to the Section labeled "Online Chess Partners". Select chess.com and put in your Chess.com username.



4. Fill out this form: http://www.chess.com/news/uscf-member-authentication-9266, so USChess knows to link your USCF ID with your Chess.com account.
5. Lastly, go to https://www.chess.com/club/tbcc-uscf-rated-online and request to join the club. Provide your USCF ID and name.



I try my best to approve all the requests as soon as possible. We hold 4 tournaments each week; two on Wednesday and two on Thursday. At 6:30pm on both days, we have USCF Online rated quick (10+5), and at 8:30pm on both days, we have USCF Online rated blitz (3+2). Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Chess Master in History

By Azim Julkipli

Alexander Alekhine was one of chess's most brilliant and creative world champions. Known for his attacking style, deep calculations, and imaginative combinations, Alekhine left a big mark in chess history. In this Chess Master in History, we'll take a look at the first World chess champion who held the title for two separate reigns.



Alexander Alekhine actually had a Siamese cat named "Chess", and he brought it to many of his tournaments!

Alekhine was born into a wealthy Russian family in Moscow on October 31, 1892. Alekhine's first known tournament was actually not an over-the-board game. He instead had played in a correspondence chess tournament sponsored by a chess tournament. After several of these types of tournaments, he played in the Moscow chess club's Spring Tournament in 1907. Alekhine, at the age of 15, had won the club's spring tournament the following year. He continued to play in increasingly stronger tournaments. At first, Alekhine had received mixed results , but by the time he was 16, he was already recognized as a top player in Russia. He continued to play and win in many tournaments and matches, continuing to improve in both of them.

Alekhine was leading in the international 19th DSB Congress, with 9 wins, 1 loss, and 1 draw, when World War I broke out. Alekhine was imprisoned in Germany along with 10 other Russian players. However, Alekhine was released in 1914, along with 3 other players. He made his way back to Russia, where he held simuls to raise money for those Russian players still imprisoned. He played in many chess tournaments, including the Moscow Chess Club Championship, which he won, and played 5 people while being blindfolded. He also helped at the Red Cross on the Austria front over a summer.

After World War I had ended, from 1921 to 1927, Alekhine returned back to more chess and truly showed he was one of Russia's best players. He took first place or shared it in around ⅓ of the tournaments he played. He won the championship of Moscow in 1920, and won the All-Russian Chess Olympiad - which was also called the first USSR Championship - that same year. Alekhine's play was better than his rival's play most times, but he still lacked confidence when playing them.

During this time, Alekhine's main goal was to challenge Capablanca to a championship match. However, this was difficult due to the amount the challenger must raise equaling $10,000 USD($162,000 as of 2022). As a result, Alekhine attempted to raise the money. He went around the world, holding simuls in various places. On April 27, 1924, he broke the world record for blindfolded simuls when he played twenty-six opponents and won 16, lost 5, and drew 5. He broke his own record the next year, playing a blindfolded simul of twenty-eight games in Paris, winning twenty-two, drawing three, and losing three.

In 1924, Alekhine had applied for French citizenship to help him continue with his studies there. He was postponed due to his frequent travels to play chess, and because he was suspected to be a bolshevist. Later on, the French Chess Federation interfered to allow him to lead the chess team of France.

In 1927, Argentine business men, along with the president of Argentina, funded the match between Alekhine and Capablanca. After the games from September 16th to November 29th, Alekhine emerged victorious, winning 6, losing 3, and drawing 25. This result was shocking, seeing as Alekhine had never won against Capablanca before. Alekhine suggested that maybe Capablanca had been overconfident. Alekhine offered a rematch on the same terms as before, but negotiations took long periods of time, and they never did hold a rematch, while their relationship worsened. However, Alekhine did play against Efim Bogoljubov for the title twice, winning both in 1929 and 1934. After the match, Alekhine returned to Paris and gave

speeches against Bolshevism. However, the president of the Soviet Chess Federation publicly announced that Alekhine was an enemy of the Soviets. That federation did not contact Alekhine until the end of the 1930's. Even his brother denied him publicly, but he may have been forced to do it.

Alekhine had dominated chess in the mid-1930s. Some of his famous victories in tournaments was at the San Remo 1930 tournament, with 13 wins, 2 draws, and 3½ points ahead of Nimzowitch, and the Bled 1931 chess tournament, with 15 wins, 11 draws, and 5½ points ahead of Bogoljubov. From 1930 to 1935, Alekhine played first board for France at four Chess Olympiads, winning a brilliancy prize in 1930, a gold medal in 1931 and 1933, and a silver medal in 1935. During this time, he also gave simuls everywhere from Hawaii to Shanghai and to the Dutch East Indies. He once again made a new record, playing 32 people simultaneously while blindfolded, winning 19, drawing 9, and losing 4. Also around this time, Alekhine had started to drink, and seemed to be doing so in continually increasing amounts.

Alekhine challenged Max Euwe to a championship match in 1933. Euwe accepted, and they played, starting from 1935. Alekhine had a good start, but after the thirteenth game, Euwe started to win twice as much as Alekhine. Euwe eventually won with a narrow margin of 9 wins, 13 draws, and 8 losses. It was proposed that Alekhine's overconfidence got the better of him.

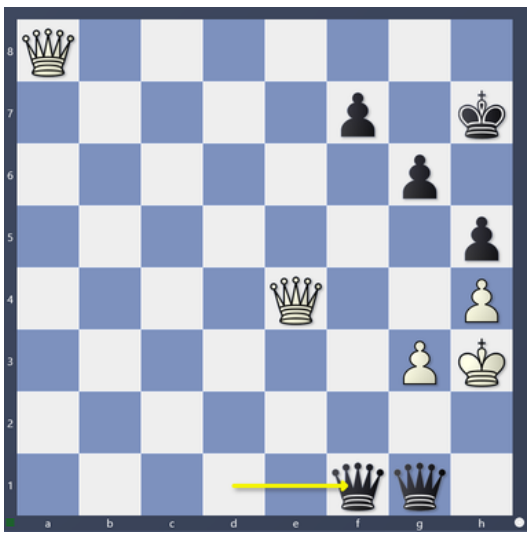
The two of them were quick to arrange another match. In 1937, the games had started, and at the beginning, it was a close match, but Max Euwe lost 4 of the last 5 games, possibly due to nervous tension. Alekhine regained the title once more with 10 wins, 4 losses, and 11 draws, and would hold it until his death, as he did not partake in any more championship matches.

In 1938, Alekhine won the Montevideo Chess tournament of 1938. However, in the AVRO tournament that year, he only tied for 4th-6th. After this tournament, Mikhail Botvinnik had challenged Alekhine. However, not all the details had been agreed on before World War II, and they continued working on them after the war. Similarly, Keres had challenged Alekhine before the war, but he was not able to continue negotiating because the USSR restrained him from doing so. During the war, he also took part in the 1939 chess Olympiad, and afterward signed up to be a sanitation officer for France.

After the war, Alekhine was often excluded from other events due to his supposed Nazi affiliation, even though he may have been forced to play in tournaments because of the Nazis.
Alekhine died at 53 years old, in Portugal on March 24, 1946, keeping the title with him till his death and inspiring future generations with his attacking play.

Below is a game played by Alekhine in the 27th championship. This game at one point had 4 queens on the board AT THE SAME TIME!

Capablanca vs. Alekhine
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.e3 c6 6.Nf3 Qa5 7.Nd2 Bb4 8.Qc2 dxc4 9.Bxf6 Nxf6 10.Nxc4 Qc7 11.a3 Be7 12.Be2 O-O 13.O-O Bd7 14.b4 b6 15.Bf3 Rac8 16.Rfd1 Rfd8 17.Rac1 Be8 18.g3 Nd5 19.Nb2 Qb8 20.Nd3 Bg5 21.Rb1 Qb7 22.e4 Nxc3 23.Qxc3 Qe7 24.h4 Bh6 25.Ne5 g6 26.Ng4 Bg7 27.e5 h5 28.Ne3 c5 29.bxc5 bxc5 30.d5 exd5 31.Nxd5 Qe6 32.Nf6+ Bxf6 33.exf6 Rxd1+ 34.Rxd1 Bc6 35.Re1 Qf5 36.Re3 c4 37.a4 a5 38.Bg2 Bxg2 39.Kxg2 Qd5+ 40.Kh2 Qf5 41.Rf3 Qc5 42.Rf4 Kh7 43.Rd4 Qc6 44.Qxa5 c3 45.Qa7 Kg8 46.Qe7 Qb6 47.Qd7 Qc5 48.Re4 Qxf2+ 49.Kh3 Qf1+ 50.Kh2 Qf2+ 51.Kh3 Rf8 52.Qc6 Qf1+ 53.Kh2 Qf2+ 54.Kh3 Qf1+ 55.Kh2 Kh7 56.Qc4 Qf2+ 57.Kh3 Qg1 58.Re2 Qf1+ 59.Kh2 Qxf6 60.a5 Rd8 61.a6 Qf1 62.Qe4 Rd2 63.Rxd2 cxd2 64.a7 d1=Q 65.a8=Q Qg1+ 66.Kh3 Qdf1+ 0-1



The Grand Adventure (photos)

By Joshua Anderson



The tradition of the grand adventure to the US Open has gone on for over a century, no really, the first event considered the United States Open was in 1899! This is the Tri-Bridges Chess Club's version of that tradition.







Whether inside or outside the Saint Louis Chess Club - the games are on!



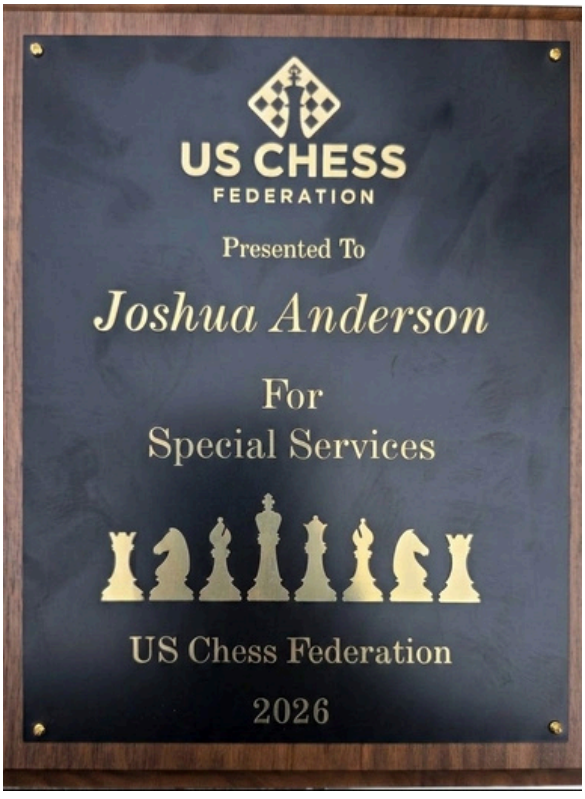


Outdoors in front of the World Chess Hall of Fame and yes, that is the largest chess piece in the world in the bottom right corner.

My version of the famous picture! You can tell the difference, David Llada's is better centered and has better lighting. This photo, well Llada's version, was shared world wide on his instagram feed and used by Chess Life Online during their coverage of the US Open.







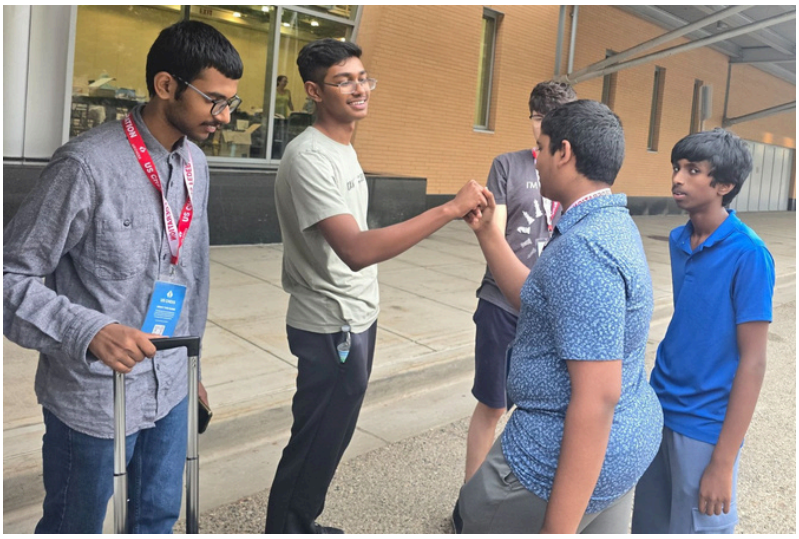
On Friday evening at the awards ceremony the boys were a lot less nervous about me getting my award than I was.





One of the fun things about being a large and active community as well as a fun thing about trips, is running into “old” friends. In this case, we didn’t know Tyler would be there until we were looking up first round pairings. Though Kayla was not ready to start playing at the Open, she played in one of the “Mock” scholastics, just a few weeks later. We hope Elsie and Suma start playing soon.







127th US Open

By Azim Julkipli



Grammar note: Because of two Marigantis, I chose to just call all 6 young men by their first names.
I routinely say that I think many people go to CCA events simply because they enjoy seeing their friends and hanging out, more than the events are about the chess. While I stand by this assessment, an event like the US Open reinforces how much fun that seeing and hanging out with friends can be, as well as how that sense of camaraderie can lead to both a lot of chess work and also a lot of opportunity to just have a good time. The US Open does not differ from any major event in that regard.

Where the US Open differs is that there is a delegates meeting on Saturday and Sunday, and so to make the delegate meetings accessible to people, US Chess needs to have the rounds of the event later on in the day. That is why there's only one round on Saturday and one round on Sunday. US Chess is also trying to work around a schedule of meetings that includes the Chess Journalists of America meeting, an organization of which I am president. So it was that we were heading into Grand Rapids on a Wednesday afternoon, aiming to make the 3:00 game to start the five-day schedule. When we started and were looking at who was playing whom, we found two interesting things.

One, Tyler Wang, another regular club participant, was joining us there at the event. On top of this, there was a Joshua Anderson playing. I had arranged things, and so I was a little concerned that somehow they confused things and thought I was playing. In fact, that was not the case. The Joshua Anderson playing was a 1500 and no relation to myself whatsoever.

Though everybody did well at the US Open, the player who did the best was Mohit Mariganti. His rating is now 2086. In the first two rounds, he took care of a 1500 and then an 1800. Mohit then played a 2519, Sebastian Kostolansky, who would tie for first. In the fourth round, he played Jeffrey Lawrence, who had recently played at our club, in the Irwin qualifier. In the fifth round, he played Chris Romeril. It's unfortunate, but not uncommon, for us to have players who have to play each other, and in fact, we had this happen twice in the Open. They drew, and in the next round, Mohit resumed his winning ways, beating Dominic Bobay to be at four and a half points in six rounds. Round seven saw a loss to Master Aiden Baker. Then he finished strong by beating a 1900 Christopher Motley and Ernest Colding, a Florida master.

Tanay had six points out of nine, but picked up only three rating points, finishing at 2080. He had a tough first round, drawing an 1600, and when I spoke to his father that night, I commented to his father that it was such a long event that the draw shouldn't end up causing trouble and that Tanay would get to play powerful players in short order. He won his next three games against in round 5 played the same Sebastian that had dispatched Mohit, and here Tanay was playing him in round five. Tanay lost and was stuck playing Cherry, and then in round seven he had to play someone else of note, Matthew O'Brien, who, of course, he's played with us semi-regularly and whom Tanay had beaten a couple months previous at the Exton Open. In the eighth round, he picked up a win against Michael Brooks, a 1900, and then in the last round drew Zachary Nudd, who broke 1900, to end with 6.

Cherry, Chris, and Tyler all finished with 5. Tyler was an 1841, picked up 10 rating points at this event, and started strong with two wins, including an upset against Colding, whom Mohit would beat in the last round. Then two losses to two experts brought him at two and two to a 1500 who he drew. In round six, he beat a 1600, and then in round seven; he drew a 2000, but lost to an expert in round eight. Round nine was a quick game. It lasted an hour exactly because his opponent no-showed. Unfortunately, this is a common occurrence in the last round of the US Open. The late start time, 3 pm, and people, already possibly having a long day just decide to go home and forget to tell the TDs to withdraw them or possibly they tell them too late.

Chris had a solid five-point result. Chris beat a 1200 in the first round and lost to a master in round two. This sort of large jump in opponent strength is not that uncommon at the US Open. In round three, Chris beat a 1600, and then in round four beat a 1500 to be sitting at three of four. He drew Mohit. He faced tough games in rounds six and seven against experts who were playing exceptionally well, resulting in losses in both games. In round eight, he drew a 1600, and then in round nine, he also had an opponent who no-showed.

Cherry followed up his first-round victory with a 1200 and then had our best victory when he beat a 2249 Andrew Hubbard out of Michigan. He lost in round three to expert Matt Waller. In round four, he beat Zane Dean. He drew Arya Sivakumar, who was a 2090 from Ohio. In round 6, Cherry had his terrible game against Tanay and lost again in round seven. In round six, he had a terrible loss to Tanay, who, again; we had to have our own people play, unfortunately. He drew a lower rated player in round eight, and in round nine, he beat Ken Sloan.

Ashrith was our only player to not have a plus score, but he had the largest rating gain of anybody in our group + 71 points. In the first round, he lost to a 1900, and then he lost to a 1700 before finding his footing with three straight wins, first against a 900, before beating a 1677, and then he beat a 1797 in round five. Then in round six, he lost to an 1800 and then a 1700. In round eight, he played a 1500 with an amazingly familiar name. He played Joshua Anderson out of Wisconsin, not to be confused with the Joshua Anderson writing this article. And then in round nine, he drew against a 1600.

An excellent result for all the boys. It will be nice, hopefully, to get even more people to come with us to Texas next year, though travel remains unclear and the destination in 2028 an unknown, before returning to Michigan in 2029.

Recent Tournament Games

All of these games are from the U.S. Open except for one of Chris's annotated games, and we have two annotated games to read through, both by Chris.

Veronique Joseph vs. Christopher Romeril

1. Nf3 d6 2. g3 e5 3. d3 g6 4. c4 c5?!

This move doesn't accomplish much, yes it controls d4 but it leaves d5 very weak. I played this move because there is a line in the King's Indian Attack where you play c5 and h6 much later after you develop your pieces. We will see why it is important to develop before pushing pawns.

5. Nc3 h6?!

If all 5 moves you play out of the opening are all pawn moves, the game probably won't end well for you or me in this game. This game will show you the importance of time/tempo and weak squares

6. Bg2 Nf6 7. O-O Bg7 8. Ne1

This is a typical move in the KIA, white wants to go f4 and attack me like in the KID, white shows another hidden idea of Ne1

8... Nc6 9. Nc2

And white continues the maneuver, but where is this white pony going? Perhaps the weak d5 square

9... Be6 10. Ne3

and white's journey is complete, white will eternally control d5 FOREVER

10... O-O 11. Ned5 Nd7!?

11... Bxd5 12. cxd5 Ne7 13. e4 is a nice bind for white, black doesn't have any easy pawn breaks, if I try and go for f5 is met with f4 before I can get it

13... Nd7 14. f4?! f5 and the game can continue with an edge for white

12. Rb1 a6 13. a3 Rb8 14. Ne4 f5? 15. Nec3



15. Nxd6! Nf6? 16. Nxf6+ is what I thought, the knight on d6 is trapped after but I missed *16. Nxb7?? Rxb7 17. Nxf6+ Bxf6 18. Bxc6!* and white is up a substantial amount of material

16... Bxf6 and that

17. Nxb7! still works after

17... Rxb7? 18. Bxc6!

15... b5 16. b4?! bxc4 17. dxc4 cxb4 18. axb4 Ne7?!

This moves offers a knight trade but it wastes time, as white will not trade their octopus knight for my bad knight. This move only benefits me if they trade which they will not so I lose time doing something to improve my position like going for e4 trying to disconnect the bishop from d5.

19. Qa4 Nb6??

I tried to sacrifice a pawn for tempos on the queen but my pieces end up on worse squares so the time I gain doesn't matter

20. Qxa6 Bc8?! 21. Qa2 e4??

just blunders a knight, after Nxb6 the knight can't be recaptured because

22. Nxb6 Qxb6 23. c5+

And I resigned because I just lost my queen. Overall this could have been avoided if I developed my pieces sooner and didn't waste time moving them backward, and by not creating the weakness on d5

0-1

Mock Ira Lee Riddle

Atharva Thapliyal vs. Christopher Romeril



1. Qc4+ Qd5 2. Qe2+ Qe4
The lead up to this point was very boring. Here I am playing a higher rated opponent who I traded off all the pieces with and I am begging for a draw in this queen endgame. White would be happy with a draw with their worse pawn structure but does not want to lose rating to someone lower rated which is valid, but the question is, is there any more play in this endgame?
3. Qc4+ Qd5
In the queen endgame here, white doesn't have anything
better than a draw but does white have chances if there was a king and pawn
endgame?
4. Qe2+
4. Qxd5+ If white trades here they will lose the D pawn and lose the KP ending down a pawn
4... Kxd5 4... Qe4 5. Qxe4+? fxe4
but what about here, can white win this endgame? White has only two options really, Kf2 or g4
6. g4
6. Kf2?! loses to *6... Kf5?! 7. Ke3?! a5*
or another combination of moves that limit white's pawn moves and allow the king to infiltrate g4 and g3
6... h5
forces white to respond on the kingside
7. gxh5?!
taking allows a similar thing as g5, allowing black to go f5 and take on f4
7. f5+ gxf5? 8. gxh5 easily wins because white can't take the f pawn without the e pawn promoting
7. g5? allows 7... Kf5
7... gxh5 8. Kf2 Kf5 9. Ke3 a5
Limits white's moves and forces the king back
10. Ke2 Kxf4
and there are many ways to win here as black, I chose a different one in the game than the one I want to show you that I learned from Igor's seminar a couple years ago
11. Kf2 e3+ 12. Ke2 Ke4 13. Ke1 Kxd4 14. Ke2 Ke4 15. Ke1 Kd3 16. Kd1 e2+ 17. Ke1 Ke3 Oh no! It's stalemate... but it's not and white has to checkmate himself
18. b4 axb4 19. a5 b3 20. a6 b2 21. a7 b1=R#
highlighted in a seminar by Igor Khmelnitsky. This game shows why when you transform the game in such a drastic way you must calculate the resulting position heavily and evaluate if it is better or worse than your current position. **0-1**

Parripati, Tanay vs. Perumalla, Charan S
1. e4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. Ne5 a6 5. d4 Nc6 6. c3 Bf5 7. Qb3 Nxe5 8. dxe5 Qd7 9. Na3 e6 10. Nb5 Rc8 11. Be3 axb5 12. Bxb5 Rc6 13. a4 Nh6 14. a5 Ng4 15. a6 Nxe3 16. a7 Nc2+ 17. Kf1 Be7 18. a8=Q+ Bd8 19. Rc1 O-O 20. Rxc2 Bxc2 21. Qxc2 Rxc3 22. Qxc3 Qxb5+ 23. Kg1 d4 24. Qca3 Be7 25. Q8a5 Qe2 26. Qf3 Qxb2 27. h4 Rd8 28. Qc7 Kf8 29. Qfxb7 Qa3 30. Kh2 Re8 31. Qe4 Bd8 32. Qd6+ Be7 33. Qc7 g6

Ashrith Mariganti vs. Anthony Ellis
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Bc5 3. Bc4 d6 4. d3 Nf6 5. Be3 Bxe3 6. fxe3 O-O 7. O-O c6 8. Nc3 b5 9. Bb3 a5 10. a4 Qb6 11. Qd2 b4 12. Ne2 Ng4 13. d4 Be6 14. h3 Nh6 15. d5 Bd7 16. Ng5 Na6 17. Rf3 c5 18. Bc4 Nc7 19. Raf1 f6 20. Ne6 Rf7 21. b3 Re7 22. Ng3 Ne8 23. Qf2 Rf7 24. Nh5 Ra7 25. Qg3 Bc8 26. Nxf6+ Kh8 27. Nxe8 Rxf3 28. Rxf3 g6 29. Rf8+ Ng8 30. Qf3 h6 31. Rxg8+ Kxg8 32. Qf8+ Kh7 33. Nf6# 1-0

Mohit Maringanti vs. Ernest Colding
1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. d3 h6 5. Be3 g6 6. Qd2 d5 7. exd5 Nxd5 8. Nc3 Nxe3 9. fxe3 Bg7 10. O-O O-O 11. e4 Na5 12. Bb3 Nxb3 13. axb3 c5 14. Qf2 b6 15. h3 Be6 16. Qg3 Qd6 17. Rf2 Kh7 18. Nh4 Qe7 19. Raf1 Rad8 20. Nf3 f6 21. Nh4 Qe8 22. Qf3 Qe7 23. Qg3 Qe8 24. Ra1 a5 25. Raf1 Rd6 26. Qf3 h5 27. g4 Bh6 28. gxh5 gxh5 29. Rg2 Rg8 30. Rf2 Bf7 31. Nf5 Rc6 32. Rxg8 Qxg8+ 33. Rg2 Qf8 34. Nd5 Bg5 35. h4 Bh6 36. Nfe7 Rd6 37. Qf5+ Kh8 38. Nxf6 Rxf6 39. Qxf6+ Bg7 40. Ng6+ Bxg6 41. Qxg6 Qf6 42. Qxh5+ Kg8 43. Qg6 Qxg6 44. Rxg6 Kf7 45. Rxg7+ Kxg7 46. c4 Kg6 47. Kg2 Kh5 48. Kh3 Kh6 49. Kg4 Kg6 50. h5+ Kf6 51. Kh4 Kf7 52. Kg5 Kg7 53. h6+ Kh7 54. Kh5 Kg8 55. Kg6 Kh8 56. h7 a4 57. bxa4 b5 58. b4 cxb4 59. a5 b3 60. a6 b2 61. a7 b1=Q 62. a8=R# 1-0

Anay Bhargava vs. Mohit Maringanti
1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 c6 5. Bf4 Nf6 6. Bd3 Bf5 7. Nf3 e6 8. a3 Ne4 9. Bxe4 Bxe4 10. O-O Qf5 11. Nxe4 Qxf4 12. Qd3 Nd7 13. Rfe1 Be7 14. Rad1 O-O 15. c4 Nf6 16. Ne5 Rfd8 17. Qc2 h6 18. g3 Qf5 19. Nxf6+ Bxf6 20. Qxf5 exf5 21. f4 Rd6 22. Rd3 Rad8 23. Red1 g5 24. b4 a6 25. Kg2 Kf8 26. Kf3 Ke7 27. Re1 Bxe5 28. Rxe5+ Kf6 29. Ke3 gxf4+ 30. gxf4 Re6 31. Kf3 Red6 32. Ke3 Rg8 33. Kf2 Rg4 34. Kf3 Rh4 35. Kg3 Rg4+ 36. Kf3 Rg1 37. d5 Ra1 38. h3 b5 39. cxb5 axb5 40. Kg2 Ra2+ 41. Kg3 Rxd5 42. Rdxd5 cxd5 43. Rxd5 Rxa3+ 44. Kg2 h5 45. Rxb5 h4 46. Rb6+ Kg7 47. Rb5 Kg6 48. Rb6+ f6 49. b5 Rg3+ 50. Kh2 Rf3 51. Rb8 Rxf4 52. b6 Rf2+ 53. Kg1 Rb2 54. b7 Kg7 55. Rc8 Rxb7 56. Rc4 Rb2 57. Rxh4 Kg6 58. Rf4 Kg5 59. Rf2 Rb3 60. Kg2 f4 61. Rf3 Rb2+

62. Rf2 Rb8 63. h4+ Kg4 64. h5 Rh8 65. Rb2 Rxh5 66. Rf2 f3+ 67. Kg1 Re5 68. Kf1 Kg3 69. Kg1 Re1+ 70. Rf1 f2+ 71. Kh1 Rxf1#
0-1

Mohit Mariganti vs. Eli van Vugt

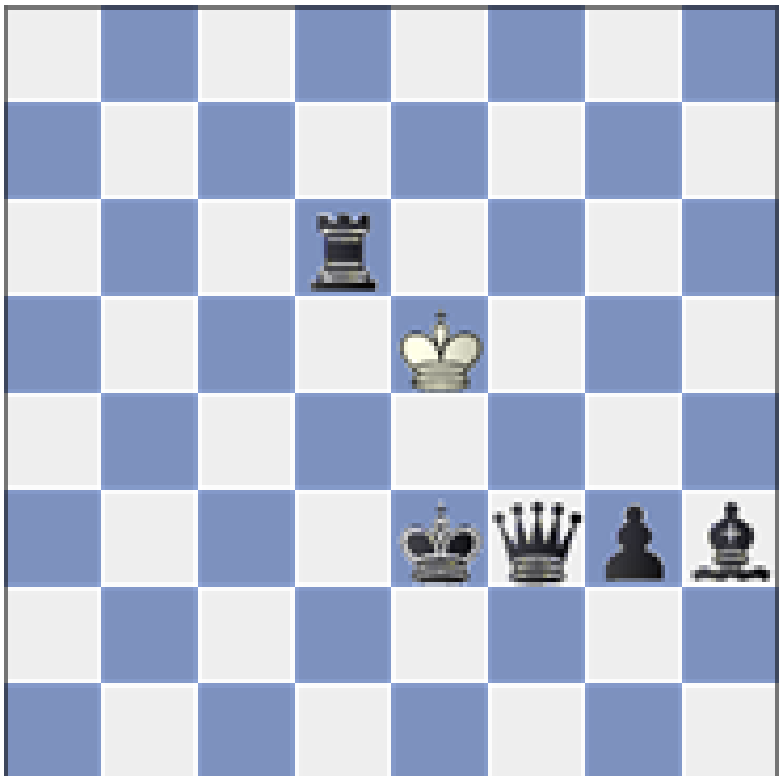
1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 Bf5 4. h4 h6 5. Bd3 Bxd3 6. Qxd3 e6 7. Ne2 Nd7 8. c3 c5 9. h5 Ne7 10. g4 Nc6 11. a3 Be7 12. b4 cxd4 13. cxd4 Rc8 14. Nbc3 Nb6 15. f4 Nc4 16. f5 Qd7 17. Rh3 b5 18. Nf4 O-O 19. fxe6 fxe6 20. Ng6 Rf7 21. g5 hxg5 22. h6 gxh6 23. Rxh6 Rh7 24. Rxh7
1-0

Dominic Bobay vs. Mohit Maringanti

1. d4 e6 2. Nf3 f5 3. c4 Nf6 4. Bf4 b6 5. g3 Bb7 6. Bg2 Be7 7. O-O O-O 8. Nc3 d6 9. Re1 Qd7 10. Nd2 Bxg2 11. Kxg2 h6 12. e4 g5 13. Be3 Ng4 14. exf5 exf5 15. d5 Bf6 16. Nf3 Ne5 17. Bd4 f4 18. Nxe5 dxe5 19. Rxe5 Bxe5 20. Bxe5 f3+ 21. Kg1 Qh3 22. Qf1 Qxf1+ 23. Rxf1 c5 24. Bc7 Nd7 25. g4 Rac8 26. d6 Rfe8 27. Rd1 Kf7 28. h3 Re6 29. Rd3 Re1+ 30. Kh2 Rf8 31. Rxf3+ Ke8 32. Rxf8+ Kxf8 33. h4 gxh4 34. Kh3 Rh1+ 35. Kg2 Rc1 36. f4 Rc2+ 37. Kh3 Rxb2 38. Kxh4 Rh2+ 39. Kg3 Rc2 40. Nd5 Rxc4 41. g5 hxg5 42. fxg5 Ra4 43. Bd8 Rd4 44. Be7+ Kf7 45. Nf4 c4 46. g6+ Kg8 47. Kf3 c3 48. Ne2 c2 49. Nxd4 c1=Q 50. Nf5 Qc4 51. Bg5 Ne5+ 52. Ke3 Qd3+ 53. Kf4 Nxg6+ 54. Kg4 Qe4+ 55. Kh5 Qxf5 56. d7 Nf4+ 57. Kh6 Qf8#
0-1

Swanik vs. Jacob Bartell

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. Nc3 d6 5. h3 Nf6 6. d3 0-0 7. 0-0 Na5 8. Bb3 Nxb3 9. cxb3 Be6 10. Be3 Bxe3 11. fxe3 d5 12. Nxe5 dxe4 13. dxe4 Qe7 14. Nf3 Rad8 15. Qe2 Bc8 16. e5 Nd7 17. Nd5 Qc5 18. Rad1 Nxe5 19. b4 Nxf3+ 20. Qxf3 Qc4 21. b3 Qa6 22. Ne7+ Kh6 23. Rxd8 Rxd8 24. Qxf7 h6 25. Ng6+ Kh7 26. Nf8+ Kh8 27. Qxc7 Qb6 28. Qxb6 axb6 29. Ng6 Kg8 30. Kh7 Rxc8 31. Rf7 Rb1 32. Re7 Kg6 33. Re6+ Kf5 34. Rxb6 Ke4 35. e4 Kc2 36. Rb6 Kb2 37. a4 Kxb3 38. a5 Re8 39. Rxb7 g5 40. a6 Ra8 41. a7 Kc4 42. Rd7 Kxb4 43. Kc5 Kc6 44. Kh2 h5 45. Rh7 h4 46. e7 Kd7 47. e8=Q+ Kxe8 48. Rh8+ Kd7 49. Rxa1 Kc7 50. Rh8 Kb7 51. a8=Q kb6 52. Rc1 Kb5 54. Qb7+ Ka5 55. Ra8#



In this position, it is Black to play.

What were the last 2 moves for each side leading up to this position?

Mock Ira Riddle Championship

By Azim Julkipli

I have entitled tournaments a wide variety of things, including one “World Championship - Just Kidding” tournament, one “Chicken Nuggie” tournament (thank you Subhang) and I even once ran “My last day to be 47” tournament that I ran when I was already 48. That last tournament was because I rearranged things for Tom Bartell, who was running some sort of event on the same day I was running an event, and so I moved mine but kept the name the same. I have named an event, well, all kinds of different things and here, it was the Ira Lee Riddle Mock Tournament.

Unfortunately, I think the mock part confused many people. This was simply a way in which to see how this tournament format would work in late August in our area. We couldn’t run the actual Ira Lee Riddle Championship because that was run earlier in the year, and that was at the State Scholastic Championship. And so I had to change things up and attempt to distinguish the two, so it became the Mock Championship, while at the same time copying the March event.

When I built it, well, copied it, I felt that there would be 20 to 30 children each day of the Scholastic, which Cherry and I did build, and thern hopefully 40 to 50 people in the three sections that ran on Saturday, Sunday. We got 51, a number that I was fairly pleased with as far as the Open and Under 1800 and Under 1400. Certainly, I could’ve seen us getting 60, but 51 is certainly reasonable. The underperformance of the two one-day Scholastics, I believe, stemmed from the fact that I felt people would want to stay home and have something nice and easy before starting school, and so families wouldn’t be going out much. On the other hand, a lot of families traveled because they were like, “Oh, it’s the last weekend before we start school.” This will certainly affect how we do things next late summer/fall, when we hold this event for real in 2027. Speaking of traveling, several regulars chose to play in the Atlantic Open. It probably cost us about 10 people. Maybe it cost us breaking even. But it wasn’t too bad and wouldn’t hinder us from running the event again, though it’s thinking we’re going to move it to somewhere in the fall.

The event itself had two small, one-day Scholastics. Roughly 15 people attended the Saturday event. The Sunday event did better with 21, but neither performed as well as we would’ve liked. The event on Sunday, we had a fun group. Kayla Wang, who is Tyler’s little sister, was playing in her first tournament after attending them with Tyler for about three years. We had hoped to run a puzzle event, but didn’t have the number of people for that. The first one we ran back at the Exton Open, and it had drawn about 24, and most people seemed to have a good time. So we were a little surprised that we couldn’t get enough people even for one section. Azim put a lot of work into those puzzles (as did Pavana Rajeev and Neil Gupta) , and we will use them for something later on.

The two day event did not bring out any Grandmasters this time, but we had a champion who is new to our events - Bijan Tahmassebi. He came up out of Maryland to play in the event with some buddies of his and was well-rewarded. He picked up 16 points, quite the amount at the 2300 level, and he got to draw IM Tom Bartell. Andrew Jing, Delaware’s star 13-year-old, edged closer to the 2400 mark, getting to 2399 with a four out of five score. Had no losses but two draws. There was a three-way tie for third place, IM Bartell, Kevin Wang, a master from Delaware who went to 2277, and Chris Romeril, who had a monster tournament going from 1832 to 1931. Chris drew Matt O’Brien, the 2300, who finished with three points in the first round, beat Christopher Yuri, a 1900 who had actually known Ira Riddle, lost to Andrew Jing, beat Aryan Roy, who is off to Michigan (we wish him well at the University of Michigan), and also beat Atharva Thapliyal, who is a strong 1900.

In the under-1800 section, Jayvin Zoleta had five out of five, the best score of anyone in any of the three sections. This pushed him over 1800 for the first time. In second place was Steve Conner, a point and a half back at three and a half. After that, third through 12th were all within half a point of each other, as third

through seventh had three points, and eighth to 12 had two and a half.

The under-1400 section much more resembled the under-1800 section than the open section. In the under-1400 section, in a first place with a score of four out of five, Hyindhav Murugesh. Despite winning the section, he actually dropped three points. He'll undoubtedly get those back in no time. In second place with three and a half was Swanik Gandhi. He had a third-round bye and then, excuse me, two half-points on the second day. Third through 10th were all either three or two and a half. Again, a large number right near the middle there. While they weren't perfect bell curves, they sure looked pretty similar to the basic bell curve that you're supposed to get from a Swiss.

The under-1000 and under-500 were Saturday's tournaments. The under-1000 had only four rounds, and the four rounds had only five players. Jai Talani was the only player not to have some sort of bye or forfeit, and he won the section with four out of four, picking up 47 rating points. In second place with three was Ganidu Fernando, and then in third place was Justin Migiues. In the under-500 section, George Zhang, little brother of Lucas Liu, who was playing in the under-1400, tied with Hayden Roberts at three out of four and tied for first in that section.

The next day, we had the under-900, under-600, and under-300. A little larger event. And in the under-900, we had Justin Wynn, who scored three and a half out of four to win that section by a full point over Pulkit Rastogi and Vansh Jain, who finished second and third. The under-600 was a eight-player section where Daksh Ranjan picked up 259 points in his victory, going 4 and 0. Vihan Silambarasan had three, as did Andrea Heo in her first tournament to come in tied for second and third. Then, the under-300 section, also known as "the sibling section." Vidushi Ranjan, who was the little sister of the kid, Daksh, who won first place in the under 600, won the under 300 with three and a half points. And everybody in that section was a little sibling of somebody else playing in the tournament. Vidushi and Lathiksha both had siblings playing in the under-600, and Aahil, Shrena, Arjun, and Kayla all were siblings of people playing the two-day. Shrena's brother was in the under 14 and came in second.

A nice showing from the little siblings, and it will be nice to see these young players begin to improve and join the "next generation," as they challenge our talented local players in future tournaments.

Player Spotlight

Hi! I am Hyindhav, and I am excited to start 3rd grade at West Vincent Elementary in Chester Springs. Back in 2023 When I was 5, my parents signed me up for different activities, which included online chess class as well. At first, I was much more interested in drawing, playing keyboard and watching Roblox videos.

Everything changed in the summer of 2025 at my first real tournament with the Tri-Bridges Chess Club at the TANA event. Playing on a real board outside of home was so fun, and when I saw other kids winning shiny trophies, I really wanted one too.

After that, chess quickly became my favorite thing. I stopped watching Roblox completely and started watching chess videos instead. My favorite channel is GothamChess, and my favorite player is Mikhail Tal because he sacrifices his pieces so boldly and still wins. I also love studying games by Paul Morphy and Bobby Fischer.

In November 2025, I began playing rated games in the U300 section at Tri-Bridges as an unrated player. Big thank you to Josh for setting up the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday games. I hardly ever miss one since then.

Here is how my chess journey progressed:
1) January 2026: Jumped from 300 to 700 rating, and my trophy collection officially started.

2) Mar 2026: Got 2 trophies in PA state scholastic, This is my first time playing a big tournament outside of clubs.

3) National Elementary Championship May 2026: Broke through the 1000 barrier and placed 3rd in the U1000 section.

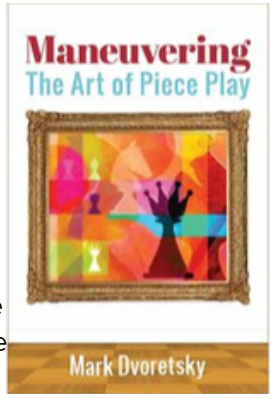
4) Summer 2026: Reached the 1300s by playing at the DC World Open U1400 and Charlotte Summer Open. Playing against much older opponents gave me so much confidence. I also earned my Arena FIDE Master title online and broke into 1600s in Chess.com. I was also listed in the Top 100 chart in USCF for age 8 players.

Thank you so much to my parents for always supporting me and spending their weekends at tournaments. My big goal for 2027 is to finish in the Top at the K-3 Elementary Championship.



Short Book Recommendation

Maneuvering
The Art of Piece Play
By Mark Dvoretsky
Review By Tyler Wang



The book, Maneuvering: The Art of Piece Play by Mark Dvoretsky is one of the most interesting chess books I have read. The book has one simple topic: piece maneuvering. It has a puzzle book layout but also includes detailed descriptions of each puzzle solution. It isn't your everyday tactic puzzle book; instead, this book focuses on how the pieces move to achieve a better position on all 64 squares.

I like this book for many reasons. First, this book focuses more on complex positions because most games aren't decided by tactics and checkmates; it focuses on how you can improve your position. Second, I really like this book because, unlike most puzzle books that give you a few moves with zero explanation, this book is completely different. Third, you not only get moves but also different variations and a deep explanation of what is happening. Fourth, they actually use words that help you get the necessary information for each move. Finally, I like this book because it divides the content into different sections: some without specific pieces, and some covering each phase of the game (Opening, Middlegame, and Endgame). This slight change makes the entire book so much easier to learn.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

One of the best ways to improve at chess isn't just by studying countless books—it's by playing real games! Our upcoming club events offer great opportunities to put your skills into practice, challenge new opponents, and learn from every match. Remember, practice may not make you perfect, but it definitely makes you better! Here's what's coming up at the Tri Bridges Chess Club.

TANA MID ATLANTIC 2026 CHESS TOURNAMENT
DATE AND TIME: September 12 @ 12:30 pm - 6:00 pm
SECTIONS: Rated: U500, U900, Open | Unrated Sections: K–8 & Grades 9–12 (with Adults)
TIME CONTROL: G25 d5

Morning Quads ECE-140
DATE AND TIME: September 13 @ 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
SECTIONS: No Sections (Quads)
TIME CONTROL: G25 d5

Afternoon Quads ECE-141
DATE AND TIME: September 13 @ 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
SECTIONS: No Sections (Quads)
TIME CONTROL: G40 d5

Whole Day Quads ECE-142
DATE AND TIME: September 13 @ 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
SECTIONS: No Sections (Quads)
TIME CONTROL: G80 d5

Pennsylvania State Game/60 Championship Saturday
DATE AND TIME: September 19 @ 10:30 am - 8:00 pm
SECTIONS: Not Found
TIME CONTROL: Not Found

Pennsylvania State Game/60 Championship Sunday
DATE AND TIME: September 20 @ 10:30 am - 8:00 pm
SECTIONS: Not Found
TIME CONTROL: Not Found

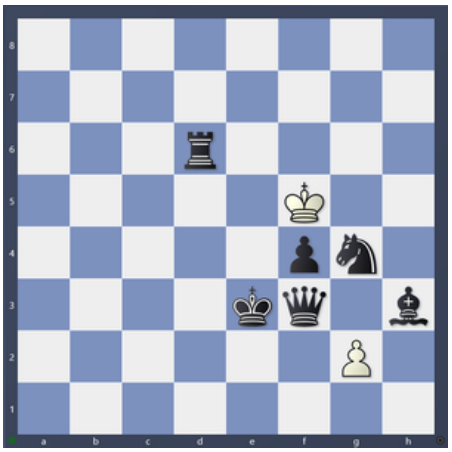
ECE #143 – Friday Night Tournament
DATE AND TIME: September 25 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
SECTIONS: Open, U1200, U700, U300
TIME CONTROL: G25 d5

ECE #144 – Sunday Game Hour
DATE AND TIME: September 27 @ 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
SECTIONS: Open, U1200, U600
TIME CONTROL: G60 d5

Holly Heisman Memorial Tournament
DATE AND TIME: October 3 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
SECTIONS: Open, U1500, K-8 U900
TIME CONTROL: G25 d5

2nd Exton Autumn Open
DATE AND TIME: October 4 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
SECTIONS: Open, U1000
TIME CONTROL: G30 d10

SOLUTIONS



This is the starting position. The 4 moves go like this:
Ne5+, g4, fxg3+, Kxe5