

NEW ENGLANDER

Chess Club Update – March 2010

Chairman's Chatter

A 4-0 whitewash is normally a great result. Sadly, we only registered this scoreline against Cambridge B when the opposition failed to appear. I think we all prefer to decide matches over the board and that particular evening was a great disappointment. I hope we get plenty of play in the coming month.

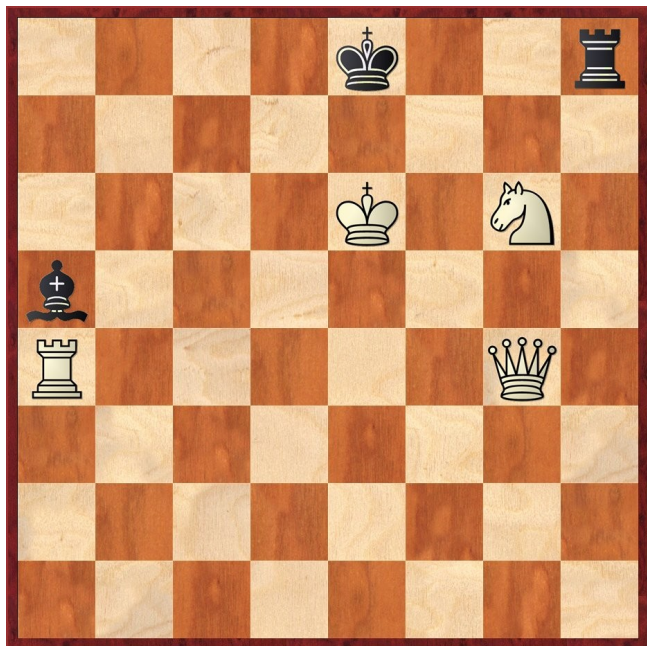
Paul Hanks

Diary Dates

New England Club and Institute hosts the Cambridgeshire Rapidplay on March 14th. An entry form has been attached if you wish to enter but you need to be quick! There is a surcharge if entries are received after March 9th. Internally, we have the club Quickplay tournament on the following Wednesday (17th March) which will be a Swiss tournament of four games with a time limit of 15 minutes/player.

Puzzle Problem

White to play and mate in 2.



Last Month's solution

Position: 3K4/1Pr5/1RPk4/5Q2/8/8/8/8

1 Ra6 Rc8+ 2 bxc8N# [1 ... Re7 2 c7#; 1 ... Rd7+ 2 cxd7#; 1 ... Rxc6 2 b8Q#; 1 ... Rxb7 2 cxb7#]

Website to Watch

To follow hundreds of masters in action between 5th and 19th March, see www.eurorijeka2010.com. The European Individual Championship in Croatia for men and women has a lengthy entry list headed by Bacrot, Almasi and Movsesian with Adams representing UK.

Result Round-up

Club Championship : at 24/02/10

Division One	CR	FB	PT	RJ	PH	MD	Total
C Ross	X	1 1	0		P 1 1	1	5 / 6
F Bowers	0 0	X	P	P	½ ½	P	1 / 4
P Turp		1	P	X	1	0	P P 2 / 3
R Jones	P		P	0	X	0	P 0 / 3
P Hanks	0 0	½ ½		1 2	X		P 4 / 7
M Dunkley		0	P P	P P		P	X 0 / 1

Division Two	D L	C R	S W	A B	N W	J A	H C	M T	K T	D S	Total
D Lane	X	0	1	1	1 ½			1	P	0	4½/7
C Russell	1	X	1	P	½ 0	1				P	3½/5
S Walker	0	0	X	½	0		1 1	1	0		3½/8
A Brookbanks	0	P	½	X		P ½	1	1	1		4 / 6
N Wedley	0	½	1		X	1	P	0	½	1	4/7
J Alster	½	1		P	0	X	1	P		P	2½/4
H Currie		0	0	½	P	0	X	0	0		½ / 6
M Tarabad	0		0	0	1	P	1	X	1	1	4 / 7
K Talnikar	P		0	0	½		1	0	X	P	1½/5
D Sivell	1	P	1	0	0	P		0	P	X	2 / 5

* = game played in league match to count in both competitions

Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

New England A	2½	Warboys A	2½
C Ross	½	C Pickard	½
F Bowers	½	M Misson	½
P Hanks	1	R Mann	0
P Turp	½	J Beck	½
R Jones	0	B Duff	1

Peterborough	2½	New England A	2½
A Timoshenko	0	C Ross	1
A Summers	0	P Hanks	1
E Gibbon	1	R Jones	0
R Ilett	1	J Alster	0
M Connolly	½	D Lane	½

New England B	4	Cambridge B	0
R Jones	1	Default	0
D Lane	1	Default	0
A Brookbanks	1	Default	0
H Currie	1	Default	0

New England B	1	Warboys B	3
R Jones	0	B Duff	1
D Lane	0	P Clough	1
A Brookbanks	1	M Onyons	0
M Tarabad	0	K Harbour	1

Cambridgeshire "550" Competition

New England 1	4	Octavia Hill	0
P Hanks	1	C Donald	0
R Jones	1	S Leather	0
C Russell	1	J Batten	0
A Brookbanks	1	M Tucker	0

Match of the Month

At the beginning of the month, I was allowed to watch a friendly game between two of our younger club members. I was so impressed by the standard of play that I decided immediately to publish the game so that our veterans are warned and do not make the mistake of taking up a challenge too lightly.

James v Sailesh

New England Chess Club, 03.02.2010

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Nc3 Nf6

The Four Knights Defence has a peaceful reputation due to the symmetry of the position. It occurs on rarely at grandmaster games - if they want a draw, they play Petroff's 2 ... Nf6! At the highest level, only Rublevsky has played it recently when he squeezed a small advantage out of the mirror continuation 4 Bb5 Bb4 5 0-0 0-0 6 d3 d6. Alternatively, Black can break the symmetry with the violent reaction 4 Bb5 Nd4.

4 Bc4 h6 5 0-0 Bc5 6 h3

Both players have pushed their rook's pawns. These moves are usually motivated by the wish to avoid the pin of the king's knight. The precaution is unnecessary at the moment and as a general principle, this weakening of the pawn shield in front of a castled king may come under attack later in the game.

6 ... 0-0 7 d3 d6 8 Be3 Be6 9 Bxc5 dxc5 10 Nb5

I am not sure what the knight is trying to achieve.

10 ... a6 11 Qe2

But it doesn't deserve this! White needs to retreat 11 Nc3 and despite the lost time, the position is still balanced.

11 ... axb5 12 Bxb5 Bxa2

Not many players would risk this move. White can reply with 13 b3 when the bishop loses its mobility.

13 Bc4 Bxc4 14 dxc4 Rxa1 15 Rxa1 Nd4 16 Qd1 Nxf3+ 17 Qxf3 Qd4

Black centralises his queen and it gains in strength here due to White's weak pawns. Even though White is allowed to occupy the open d file, there is no point of entry on the sixth or seventh ranks to cause Black any discomfort.

18 Rd1 Qxb2 19 Qd3 Nh5

Of course, the material deficit arising from move 11 should decide the game. It would be nice to suggest a plan for White to create some fighting chances but it is very difficult to find any realistic improvement. Maybe, g2-g4-g5 and a general kingside advance has some attacking potential but it is very slow against Black's vigorous initiative.

20 Qe2 Nf4 21 Qd2 Ra8 22 g3 Nxh3+ 23 Kg2 Ng5

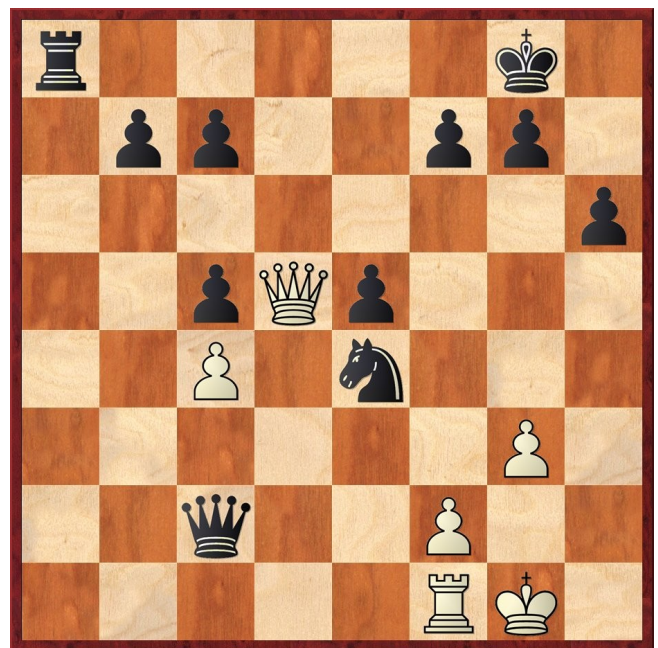
Black has a nicely co-ordinated disposition and has the white king in his sights. White rightly concentrates on defence.

24 Qd5 Qxc2 25 Rf1

The threat is likely to come along the second rank so 25 Rd2 might have prolonged the game.

25 ... Nxe4 26 Kg1

White could play 26 Qxb7 with some hope of 26 ... Ra2 27 Qc8+ and Qf5+ etc. Instead...



26 ... Ra1

Wow! The last piece joins the attack with the threat of 27 ... Rxf1+ 28 Kxf1 Qxf2# and 27 ... Qxf2+ 28 Kh1 Rxf1#.

27 Rxa1 Qxf2+ 28 Kh1 Nxf3#

Eye Opener

Having painted a grim picture of the attacking possibilities in the Four Knights Game, you surely need a counter-example.

Posch v Dorrer

Vienna, 1957

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Bb5 Nd4 5 Nxd4

You may like to familiarise yourself with the maze of tactics that flows from 5 Nxe5 e.g. 5 ... Nxe4 6 Nxe4 Nxb5 7 Nxf7

5 ... exd4 6 e5 dxc3 7 exf6 cxd2+ 8 Bxd2 Qxf6 9 0-0 Be7 10 Bc3 Qg5 11 Re1 0-0 12 Re5 Qf6 13 Bd3 h6 14 Qg4 Qh4 15 Qxg7+ Kxg7 16 Rg5#

ENTRY FEES

All tournaments: Adults £15
Juniors (under 18) £10

ECF members may deduct £1.50 from the entry fee. Please quote membership number on the entry form. Entries received after 9 March will be subject to a £3 surcharge.

PRIZES

Open : £100, £50, £25
Under 175 grading prize £25

Major : £100, £50, £25
Under 140 grading prize £25

Challengers : £80, £40, £20
Under 110 grading prize £20
Under 13 junior prize £20

The highest placed Cambridgeshire player in the Open tournament shall hold the Jack Taylor trophy for one year.

ROUND TIMES

Round 1 10.00 am
Round 2 11.30 am
Round 3 1.30 pm
Round 4 2.50 pm
Round 5 4.10 pm

Prizegiving will be around 5.20 pm.

RATE OF PLAY

All moves in 30 minutes per player. Any player arriving more than 15 minutes late for a round will be defaulted and their opponent re-paired if possible.

ENTRIES AND ENQUIRIES

Please post entries to Paul Kemp, 3 New Farm Road, Newton, Cambridge CB22 7PN. For enquiries, please phone Paul on 01223 872081 or e-mail paulkemp64@gmail.com

VENUE AND DIRECTIONS

The New England Club and Institute is situated two miles north of Peterborough city centre just off the A15. It is readily accessible from the Parkway that circles the city. Whilst directions are given below, players may wish to get a map of the locality from the Internet.

From the south, take the Peterborough exit from the A1 and follow the Parkway (A1139) round the south and east sides of the city. On reaching the junction with the A47, turn left (signposted to Leicester) onto the Soke Parkway. After 1½ miles, take the A15 exit left towards the city centre.

After a couple of hundred yards, filter left then turn right onto Lincoln Road. After a quarter of a mile, you pass a small park on your right and immediately afterwards, turn right onto Occupation Road. The Club is 100 yards along on the left and free parking is available in the Post Office club car park just past the venue.

From the north and west, enter Peterborough on the A47. Passing to the north of the city centre, turn right at the junction with the A15 toward the city centre and follow the directions above.

From the east, enter Peterborough on the A47, turning left onto the A15 and follow the directions above.

ENTRY FORM

Please detach and return to :

Paul Kemp
3 New Farm Road
Newton
Cambridge
CB22 7PN

An acknowledgement of entry will be e-mailed to entrants who provide an e-mail address on their entry form.

Other players requiring acknowledgement of entry or seeking a map of the local area should enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

BOOKSTALL

A book stall will be provided by Francis Bowers

Francis Bowers Chess Supplies have also provided the equipment used at this tournament.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE RAPIDPLAY

ENTRY FORM

Please use **BLOCK** capitals

Section entered

First name

Surname

Address

.....

Postcode

E-mail

Phone

Date of birth (juniors only).....

Chess Club/School

ECF Direct Member Number.....

Grade : Rapidplay Normal play

(If ungraded, please provide an estimate and details of recent results overleaf).

Entry fee £

If applicable,

Late penalty fee £

ECF member deduction £

Donation £

Total £

Any donations will be gratefully received.

Please make cheques payable to Cambs Chess Association.

GRADING

Players' rapidplay grades will be used to determine eligibility for tournaments and grading prizes. For players without a rapidplay grade, their normal play ECF grade will be used instead. Ungraded players should give an indication of their playing strength on the back of the entry form.

All results will be submitted to the ECF for grading. It is a condition of entry that players agree to their grading information being published on the ECF website.

REFRESHMENTS

A range of hot and cold refreshments will be available on the day. Tea, coffee and squash will be provided free of charge to competitors. We regret that competitors will not be able to consume their own food and drink on the premises.

DISPUTES

Any disputes shall be referred to the ECF arbiter whose decision shall be final.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The organizers accept no responsibility for any loss, theft or accident during the tournament. Adult supervision for children taking part will only be provided in the tournament hall.

The organizers reserve the right to refuse entry without giving a reason.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE RAPIDPLAY

Sunday 14 March 2010

£580 prize fund

An East Anglian and Cambridgeshire Grand Prix event

Five round Swiss tournament with three sections :

Open

Major (under 160 grade)

Challengers (under 125 grade)

Venue :

New England Club & Institute
Occupation Road
New England
Peterborough
PE1 2LJ

Tournament Director : Paul Kemp

ECF Arbiter : Francis Bowers