

Civilizations varied, wisdom unbounded



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JUNIOR BRIDGE ENTERS MEDALS



Chess Teams in full flow

Late on yesterday evening, the first finals of the Bridge Games came to an end. Six teams, two in each of the three age categories, played for the gold and silver from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m. which only short lunch and dinner breaks in between.

Poland fielded two teams in these finals: both in the Under-26 and the Under-28 categories did they manage to reach them. Well done but not a big surprise: Polish Junior players and teams have been doing quite well in recent years. It therefore must have been a major disappointment for them to find out that both their representatives won a silver medal.

In the Under-26 it was Denmark who took an early lead against the Poles and never lost it. Gold and congratulations for them.

In the Under-28 it was Poland who were leading Norway most of the time but...at the post, where the prizes are being handed out, it was Norway who arrived first after a terrific final quarter. So one more Scandinavian gold medal and one more set of congratulations going North.

Finally, in the Under-21 France and England had to meet. This match mostly went France's way so "Les Bleus" chalked up a deserved gold medal as well as some more hope for the future.

The bronze medals went to China (U-28 and U-21) and to Norway (U-26).



Today's Programs

Bridge

Open Teams, Women Teams, Senior Teams:

At CNCC:

11.00 hrs – 13.20 hrs.: Semifinal, segment 1

14.20 hrs – 16.40 hrs.: Semifinal, segment 2

17.10 hrs – 19.30 hrs.: Semifinal, segment 3

Youth Pairs (-28), played at BICC:

10.30 hrs. – 14.00 hrs.: Semifinal, session 3

16.00 hrs. – 19.30 hrs.: Final, session 1

Depending on the outcome of the semifinals, the finals may start even later than 16.00 hrs.

Chess

Blitz Teams, Men:

10.00 hrs. -13.30 hrs: Semifinals and Finals

Blitz Teams, Women:

10.00 hrs. -13.30 hrs: Semifinals and Finals

Rapid teams, Men:

15.00 hrs. -19.00 hrs: Rounds 1-2

Rapid teams, Women:

15.00 hrs. -19.00 hrs: Rounds 1-2

Draughts

64-square Individual Men:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 5

16.00 hrs. – 19.30 hrs.: Round 6

64-square Individual Women:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 5

16.00 hrs. – 19.30 hrs.: Round 6

Checkers:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 3

16.00 hrs. – 19.30 hrs.: Round 4

Go

Teams, women:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 7

15.00 hrs. – 18.30 hrs.: Quarterfinals

Teams, men:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 3

15.00 hrs. – 18.30 hrs.: Round 4

Mixed Pairs:

10.00 hrs. – 11.30 hrs.: Round 4

13.30 hrs. – 15.00 hrs.: Round 5

16.00 hrs. – 17.30 hrs.: Round 6

Xiangqi

Teams, women:

09.00 hrs. – 12.00 hrs.: Round 7 (final round)

Teams, men:

09.00 hrs. – 12.00 hrs.: Round 3

15.00 hrs. – 18.00 hrs.: Round 4

Chess - Team Blitz

Men		Women	
1	China	1	China
2	Ukraine	2	Russia
3	Hungary	3	Vietnam
4	India	4	Turkey
5	Vietnam	5	Ukraine
6	Estonia	6	Hungary
7	Philippines	7	India
8	Iran	8	Latvia
9	Turkey	9	Mongolia
10	Latvia	10	Philippines
11	Iceland	11	Netherlands
12	Brazil	12	Australia
13	Mongolia	13	USA
14	Turkmenistan	14	Sweden
15	USA	15	Iran
16	Mexico	16	England
17	England	17	Italy
18	Australia	18	Estonia
19	Italy	19	Belarus
20	Singapore	20	Lithuania
21	Austria	21	Slovakia
22	Denmark	22	Denmark
23	Norway	23	Mexico
24	Pakistan	24	Austria
25	Lithuania	25	Norway
26	Slovakia	26	Iraq
27	Iraq	27	Turkmenistan
28	Japan		
29	Israel		
30	Korea		
31	Macau		
32	Cyprus		

Go Results

Men - After 2 Rounds Group 1		Men - After 2 Rounds Group 2	
1	DPR Korea	1	Canada
2	Russia	2	Japan
3	Ukraine	3	Finland
4	Chinese Taipei	4	Romania
5	Korea	5	China
6	France	6	Italy
7	Sweden	7	Bosnia & Herzegovina
8	Netherlands	8	Hong Kong,China
9	Australia	9	USA
10	Argentina	10	Czech Republic
11	Germany	11	Slovakia
12	Great Britain	12	New Zealand
13	Serbia	13	Hungary
14	Denmark	14	Poland
15	Israel	15	Malaysia

Women - After 6 Rounds Group 1		Women - After 6 Rounds Group 2	
1	Korea	1	China
2	Japan	2	Chinese Taipei
3	USA	3	Australia
4	DPR Korea	4	Great Britain
5	Germany	5	Russia
6	Czech Republic	6	France
7	Netherlands	7	Argentina
8	Poland	8	Hong Kong,China

Today's Awards Presentations

17th Medal	Bridge Junior Teams - 21	19.00-19.15
18th Medal	Bridge Junior Teams - 26	19.15-19.30
19th Medal	Bridge Junior Teams - 28	19.30-19.45
20th Medal	Chess teams Blitz Women	19.45-20.00
21th Medal	Chess teams Blitz Women	20.00-20.15
22th Medal	Xiangqi Teams Women	20.15-20.25

All awards will be presented in the Convention Hall No. 3, BICC, Ground Floor.

Draughts is booming in China

The Chinese strength in draughts has been a surprise to many of the draughts participants at the 1st WMSG in Beijing. But not to everyone. If you ask ten-times world champion Alexei Chizhov, he will tell you he is not amazed at all.

Within one year's time the Chinese were able to learn the art of playing draughts at a very acceptable level. Of course that is the result of the way draughts sports is being implemented due to the Chinese mind setting regarding sports. Much knowledge comes from the ideas and experiences of Casper van der Tak, a Dutch businessman who lives in China. He was the first person to teach this board game and was a big help to the Chinese draughts organisation. Their path of discovery has led them to Ufa, a Russian city well known among draughts players. The goal of their visit was to learn how to organise a draughts tournament. When they were in Russia, they contacted Chizhov and invited him to come to China, and so he did.

Booming

On May 18th, Chizhov came to China for a 10 day stay. It was a period of some sessions with simultaneous play, analysing games and maybe even more important, he trained the Chinese trainers. A little while after that, draughts schools with professional trainers were established. This way, the host country of the 1st WMSG could independently educate the talented players. Besides being talented, the 200 players in China possess two other important qualities; mind sports experience and enthusiasm. The Chinese potential is well recognised by Chizhov. Draughts is a booming sport in this Asian country. When the Chinese were able to train 200 young people play draughts this well in only one year, what will happen in a longer period of time? At this rate will China be competing for the highest ranks in 2015?

WMSG participants

Back to the present, the WMSG, held in Beijing. Chizhov came to China on the 14th of September to complete a training period for the qualified participants of the WMSG. The full training period lasted for two months. The days were filled with two training sessions of three hours each. If one adds up the draughts homework and the online playing, it becomes clear that the draughts capacities did not come out of the blue, but were the result of hard work.

As young as they are, the Chinese participants of the WMSG international draughts competition have all played another mind sport at high level; this includes Go, Xiangqi and Chess. One of them, Ce Zheng, is even a professional 3rd dan go player.

The youngest player in the men's tournament is the ten-year-old Quinrang Zeng. All eyes were focused on him in the 3rd round when he forced Lithuanian master Kudriavcev to a draw. When we brought this to the attention of Chizhov, he simply said: "he is just one of a group of kids of his age, who all play equally well".

BRIDGE

OPEN TEAMS Q-Final

Match	Total
1 Poland Italy	173 -210
2 China Norway	159 -214
3 England Romania	267 -146
4 Germany Netherlands	217 -196

WOMEN TEAMS Q-Final

Match	Total
1 Germany China	150 -198
2 Denmark USA	176 -200
3 England France	189 -143
4 Turkey Russia	169 -164

SENIOR TEAMS Q-Final

Match	Total
1 Hungary USA	198 -222
2 Egypt Australia	172 -166
3 Indonesia Netherlands	217 -159
4 England Japan	95 -199

YOUTH TEAMS U-21 FINAL

Match	Total
1 France - England	149.70 -125

YOUTH TEAMS U-26 FINAL

Match	Total
1 Poland - Denmark	137 -208

YOUTH TEAMS U-28 FINAL

Match	Total
1 Poland - Norway	116-118.70

YOUTH TEAMS U-21 PLAYOFF

Match	Total
1 Bulgaria - China	117 -136

YOUTH TEAMS U-26 PLAYOFF

Match	Total
1 Chinese Taipei - Norway	95 -126

YOUTH TEAMS U-28 PLAYOFF

Match	Total
1 China - France	107 - 82

Go In Venezuela

by Loli Puerta

(This article first appeared in Spanish on the website of the International Go Federation)

Go made its first appearance in Venezuela about 15 years ago. At that time, most people did not even know the word "Go" and we were frequently asked if Go was sort of a new religion. Since then, however, much has happened. Our group of players is relatively small but very active. Recently, our youngsters have been showing more interest for this game, thanks to a Japanese comics series: "Hikaru No Go."

At our universities, the number of players is increasing and it's already normal that Go is invited to participate in local and national assemblies about "Manga and Anime," the by now well-known "animated comics." Yet, "Hikaru" made us a very special surprise when Sister Marisela, a nun whose congregation runs the "Fe y Alegria" (Faith and Pleasure) college, and who is a great fan of the draughtsman of Hikaru, offered us to give Go classes to a group of children at their college. These schools are generally located in the poorer suburbs, in which people are in need of almost everything and where there are only few entertainment possibilities for the youth.

Going out to give lectures at the "Jesus Maestro" (Jesus, the master) college has proved an adventure. Every two weeks a group of four players goes out, alternating on a voluntary basis. In our bags, we bring go boards 9x9, made of paper, and also the stones and a magnetic blackboard for the lessons. We are obliged to leave our car in the only shopping center of the area and then have to wait till one of the Sisters picks us up with her jeep. The ascent to the college premises is very steep and not accessible for a normal car, and also leads through very narrow streets, full of garbage. From time to time, we run into a fight of the street gangs, which would compel us to change our plans. The college itself then stands as an oasis of peace in the middle of this area and the contact with the children enriches our life. This year, we have been working to be able to provide them with boards and to get a school teaching program going.

Apart from this, the regular players are doing their utmost to compete in the international tournaments, especially the Ibero-American Go tournament that is played annually, every time in a different country. So we have already played in the Piramide del Sol (Sun Pyramid) in Mexico, in the ancient Inca capital of Machu Picchu in Peru and, the latest edition, in the Monumento a la Mitad del Mundo (Middle of the World Monument) in Ecuador.

For us, Go means friendship. We are all "amiGOs!"



The tournament mindset of Guntis Valneris



What is it like to be a professional draughts player? Of course every player has his own way of giving meaning to his job. Latvian pro Guntis Valneris plays many tournaments and takes time to work on the necessary physical condition. One of the reasons to participate in this many tournaments is to have a look at the fellow competitors and stay updated with their improvements. It is also a way to keep him updated with new ideas, for example: new openings introduced by one of the other top draughts players.

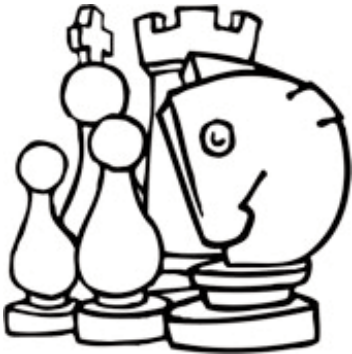
Although he has reached the top level, Valneris is constantly looking for improvement. He is his own trainer. Latvia has some other good players such as Roberts Misans and Raimonds Vipulis, but not at a level that would help Valneris to improve his game skills by sparring with them.

Managing your thinking time during the games in this tournament requires a different psychology. When having the regular two hours time limit for all of your moves, you are able to think for a while before producing a series of moves. Now, with only 1 hour and 20 minutes for the game plus 1 extra minute per move, you are forced to be more precise. Another consequence is that this time limit leaves you with less time for the endgame.

Scoring a top-three position in championships is important for Valneris, who depends on draughts for his income. He was shooting for a top position in the WMSG because he is an ambitious player. Having the top active draughts players present makes this tournament exciting. On Sunday, October 12, Valneris received the bronze medal.



The Story of the World Chess Championship



The World Chess Championship is undoubtedly one of FIDE's most prestigious events. Throughout history, chess players have known who were the strongest (or at least the most famous) players of their days. Before the advent of FIDE, and before a clearly established system of qualification tournaments was put into practice, there were those players who clearly held sway over their counterparts in the world and in this sense, became known as World Champions. But, at the same time, there were instances of World Champions who kept avoiding worthy challengers, choosing weaker opponents instead, and chess as a world wide game suffered from it.

Although efforts were made by the players in 1922, some two years before the birth of FIDE, to establish regulations for the World Champions, it was not until 1948, however, when FIDE, playing its clearly established role as custodian of the game of chess, just as is the case with other sports federations, decided to take over the management and administration of the World Chess Championships.

Following the death of World Champion Alexander Alekhine in 1946, FIDE went on to organise the World Championship Tournament for the leading players at that time and Grandmaster Mikhail Botvinnik became World Champion. Since then, FIDE has successfully organised a series of qualifying tournaments, starting from the National Championships to Zonal Tournaments, played in the FIDE zones around the world, including the performance on the rating list from FIDE's over 5000 tournaments globally, to the preliminaries and final matches of the World Chess Championship. These series of qualification tournaments and matches as instituted by FIDE, have seen the emergence of such great names in chess history as Smyslov, Tal, Petrosian, Spassky, Fischer, Karpov and Kasparov.

FIDE through its various organs introduced a series of measures to fine-tune the system of qualifications as well as the cycles of the World Championship but by far the most significant change introduced, was the series of knockout matches, which was the brainchild of FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov. The idea was to have the top 100 players in the world engaged in a series of elimination matches over a one-month period. It was also a system which focused on improving the financial circumstances of more players as against the old system, where only a few

people were benefiting as professionals in the cycle. FIDE also sought to use this system of matches to bring in both Grandmasters Gary Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov in a unification tournament, but following the refusal of Kasparov to accept the invitation, FIDE had no choice but to ensure the continuity of the World Chess Championships in accordance with its established rules and regulations.

Thus, after a series of discussions at various meetings of FIDE, the \$5,000,000 World Chess Championship based on the knockout format was inaugurated with the preliminaries and semi-final rounds in Groningen (Netherlands), while the finals were staged at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne (Switzerland). The success of these exciting knockout matches, which showcased chess as a true modern sport, led the FIDE General Assembly to overwhelmingly approve the proposal of the Presidential Board to institute the yearly World Championship cycle with a prize fund of \$3,000,000 beginning with the 1999 Championships in Las Vegas.

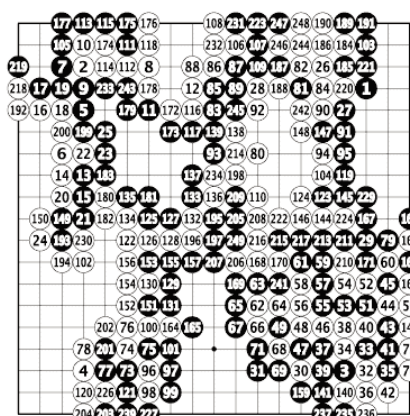
The most recent World Chess Championship Tournament took place in Mexico City, about a year ago. It was won by Viswanathan Anand of India, who thus became the reigning world champion. He is due to defend his title in a head-to-head match against former world champion Vladimir Kramnik from Russia, starting today, October 14, in Bonn, a pleasant little city on the banks of the river Rhine, just south of Cologne, and also the former capital of the Federal Republic of Germany before the reinstatement of Berlin.

Members of Chinese Xiangqi Women's Team at the 1st WMSG

Hu Ming (1971) Xiangqi International Grandmaster
Champion of Women's Individual at China National Xiangqi Championships six times; Champion of Women's Individual at World Xiangqi Championships in 1991 and 1993; Champion of Women's Individual at Asian Xiangqi Championships in 1994

Zhang Guofeng (1975) Xiangqi International Grandmaster
Champion of Women's Individual at China National Xiangqi Championships twice; Champion of Women's Individual at Asian Xiangqi Championships in 1995 and 2002

Tang Dan (1990) Xiangqi Grandmaster
Champion of Women's Individual at China National Xiangqi Championships in 2007



148 at 49, 158 at 68, 166 at 160, 212 at 45, 223 at 163,
228 at 160, 238 at 163, 240 at 49.

This is not a subway map

Draughts

Draughts Brazilian, Men After 3 Rounds			
1	Oleg Dashkov	5	11 Iwan Tokusarov
2	Yury Korolev	5	12 Alexander Schwarzman
3	Nikolay Struchkov	5	13 Andrius Kybartas
4	Nicolai Kadesnikov	5	14 Kirill Ivanov
5	Sergey Belosheev	5	Boris Druzinin
6	Monea Norel	5	16 Vitaly Shafir
7	Ion Dosca	5	17 Vitali Habryilian
8	Gennadi Shapiro	5	18 Valeriy Grebyonkin
9	Laimonis Zalitis	4	20 Andrej Valjuk
10	Ricardas Valuzis	4	21 Boriss Moushailov
			22 Arno Uutma

Draughts Russian, Women After 3 Rounds			
1	Viktoriya Motrichko	5	
2	Nadiya Chyzhevskaya	5	
3	Zhanna Sarshoeva	5	
4	Julia Makarenkova	5	
5	Elena Miskova	5	
6	Ganina Lubov	5	
7	Natalia Stepanova	5	
8	Olga Reynish	4	
9	Ekaterina Bushueva	4	
10	Regina Pironen	4	
11	Simona Kulakauskaite	4	
12	Julia Romanskaia	4	

Checkers After 1 Round			
1	Alexander Moiseev	4	
2	Ronald Suky King	4	
3	Richard Beckwith	4	
4	Paolo Faleo	4	
	Tetsuro Matsuki	4	
	Amangul Durdyeva	4	

女子团体象棋循环赛
Women Team Xiangqi Round Robin

No. 代号	Team 代表队	Round 总场分	Ranking 总局分
1	UKR 乌克兰	1	2
2	USA 美国	2	4
3	AUS 澳大利亚	12	22
4	SIN 新加坡	6	14
5	CHN 中国	12	23
6	CAN 加拿大	2	4
7	VIE 越南	8	17
8	INA 印尼	5	10

男子团体象棋比赛 (Men Team Xiangqi)

第3轮对阵表 (3rd round pairing)

台次 Desk No.	代表队 Team	积分 Pts	代表队 Team	积分 Pts
	单位 Team	前轮积分 Pts	后手单位 Team	前轮积分 Pts
1	美国 (USA)	4	法国 (FRA)	4
2	中国 (CHN)	4	中国香港 (HKG)	3
3	越南 (VIE)	3	荷兰 (NED)	3
4	芬兰 (FIN)	2	中华台北 (TPE)	2
5	英国 (GBR)	2	新加坡 (SIN)	2
6	印尼 (INA)	2	中国澳门 (MAC)	2
7	加拿大 (CAN)	1	日本 (JPN)	1
8	俄罗斯 (RUS)	0	德国 (GER)	1

Meet The WMSG Chief Chess Arbiter

Here is Altanoch Genden, our Chief Arbiter of the 1st World Mind Sports Games. He is indeed very qualified for this job being both a FIDE International Arbiter and a FIDE International Organiser (besides being a very hard working, responsible, and diplomatic man!).

And he is not a bad player at all as he is also a FIDE Master who has represented his country in five Olympiads starting with Moscow 1994 and ending in Calvia, Spain, 2004.

FM, IA, IO Genden was born 21 October 1961 in Khovd in Western Mongolia, the eldest of 8 children born to his doctor parents. He too is also Dr Genden but only because he has a Ph D. in Economics!

Like so many Genden learnt the moves early from his father, an avid chess player, but only became really interested when 16. But this late start did not prevent him from establishing a love affair which has been continuing now for over 30 years.

Genden is fluent in German, having spent 10 years there, beginning as a student from 1979-1985 where he completed the equivalent of a Masters degree in Software Engineering.

Returning to Mongolia he found he had to organise events to play in them and threw himself into this work with passion, even writing his own Swiss pairing software until he found there were programs in the market he could use. And he has done well as a trainer too, with many of his students now the top players in Mongolia (including GM Sharavdorj and IM Ganbold).

Married, and father of 2 children, he is today a consultant-researcher in the fields of ICT and Management Science after quitting the rat race in 2005 where he had held many senior positions in R&D firms including a long stint in Datacom.

Genden got his first international recognition as an organiser at the World Universities Championships held in Ulan Bataar, Mongolia where he was the Chief Arbiter and since then he has been involved in many high profile events.

These include the Singapore Open 2005, the Asian Games 2007 in Doha, Qatar, Macau Asia Indoor Games 2007 in Macau, China, and the World Chess Championship 2007 in Mexico.

But surprisingly the German speaking and extremely experienced International Arbiter will not be going to the Dresden Olympiad as his application to be a Match Arbiter was, for some reason, not accepted!

Since 1989 he has been serving on the Board of the Mongolian Chess Federation and since 1990 he has been their FIDE Delegate. From 2002-2006 he was also a member of the FIDE Executive Board.

Vietnam is out of form in the Xiangqi competition

Since the start of the Xiangqi competition at the 1st SG, the Vietnam delegation has not been doing so well as we expected. At Men's Rapid, both Nguyen Thanh Bao and Nguyen Vu Quan fell behind; at Women's Individual, Ngo Lan Huong and Cao Phuong Thanh only managed to win the second prize. Moreover, at Men's Individual Nguyen Thanh Bao and Nguyen Hoang Lam didn't perform satisfactorily either.

On Oct. 12th, the journalist had an interview with the coaches of Vietnam, Hoang Dinh Hong and Le Thien Vi. About the results by now, Hoang Dinh Hong concluded, "The Chinese players always are the most formidable at the Xiangqi venue. Actually our women players come close to the Chinese, but Ngo Lan Huong was slightly sick upon her arrival in Beijing and wasn't in good form..."

Speaking of the current master hands in Vietnam, Hoang Dinh Hong and Le Thien Vi are quite confident. They told the journalist there are two more promising women players who are just 14 and 16 years of age. If a standing has to be made among the women players, Ngo Lan Huong, the champion of Women's Individual at the Asian Indoor Games last year, is undoubtedly counted as No. 1, Cao Phuong Thanh as No. 3, while No. 2 goes to the sixteen-year-old genius girl! Upon the request of the journalist, Le Thien Vi wrote her name on a piece of paper: Nguyen Hoang Yen.

The grandmaster Lu Qin commented on the performance of Vietnam like this: "At Men's Rapid, Nguyen Vu Quan did not play in one round and Nguyen Thanh Bao did not play in even two rounds. I don't know why, but definitely this has affected the morale of the whole team." Ji Benhan, the grandmaster in arbiters' circles, commented: "From Ngo Lan Huong and Cao Phuong Thanh's performance, we can see that they are good at launching offensives, but they cannot find a way out at a stalemate."



Liu Siming, Vice President of the Organizing Committee for the 1st World Mind Sports Games was awarded the Alan Truscott Memorial Award by the International Bridge Press Association



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