



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the MetroWest Boston chess community since 1983

Featured:

- Club and Class Championships
- Fun facts about Chronos battery life

May 2012



COMMUNITY

Social Media



The MetroWest CC social media page has been updated. The biggest change is that Facebook is changing how groups are handled, so

MetroWest CC has a new Facebook page. The old MetroWest CC Group will be retired.

The new **MetroWest CC Facebook page** is here:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/MetroWest-Chess-Club/164738746955775>

Please visit our MetroWest CC Facebook page and “Like” us! Also visit **MetroWest CC social media page**:
http://www.metrowestchess.org/Community/Social Media/Top_Social_media.htm

Weekly Group Lessons

MetroWest CC is taking steps to strengthen the Weekly Group Lesson program. Plamen Krastev is working with candidate instructors to find a balance to achieve a few high quality lessons per month. This comes after Felix Yang left for school earlier last year. Please check this newsletter for more info, and our calendar for scheduled lessons. The last lesson was “Conjuring up Counterplay against Queen Pawn Openings”, delivered by David Harris on Jan 24.

Game Commentary

After a brief gap, we are back on track publishing games of top boards. Please check the MetroWest CC MetroWest CC Facebook page, Twitter feeds, and news blog for announcements of newly posted games. Please

check out the MetroWest CC social media page (above) for more details.

Web site change

We made a small change to the website to make sure the current events, calendar, game blog and news blog are all prominently displayed without a lot of scrolling.

Natick Senior Center

Our temporary location as of January 2011 is 90 Oak St. Natick, MA.

Projected date for our move back to the original 117 Central St., Natick location is September 1, 2012

Temporary location, 90 Oak St. Natick, MA is on the westbound side of Route 9 opposite Scrub-a-Dub carwash. The entrance is on Oak Street. It was most recently occupied by Westgate Christian Academy—some people may have known where that was. See map below.



COMPETE

MetroWest CC Club and Class Championships

By Matt Phelps

The letters have been sent, players accepted, pairings calculated, and the resulting round robin pairing table is here:

http://www.metrowestchess.org/Compete/Championships/2012/2012_Championship_standings.htm

Note that the open Club section is FIDE rated.

Club Championship

1. IM Igor Foygel
2. Vadim Martirosov
3. NM Lawyer Times
4. FM John A Curdo
5. GM Arthur B Bisguier
6. Charlie D Fauman

Class Championship

1. Neil B Cousin
2. Larry Pratt
3. Ethan Thompson
4. Robert L Harvey
5. Calvin G Hori
6. Conway Xu

Does Your Chronos Clock Battery Need Replacing?

By Harvey Reed

Mark Kaprielian, is President of MetroWest CC, and is generally our “Chief Analyzer and Organizer”. He keeps track of all sorts of Club data and his own personal data. For example, he keeps track of a lot of Club statistics in the “Demographics” link under “People” and “Community” on the left hand yellow navigation bar of the Club website. He also keeps track of all of his personal data with similar rigor. For example, he has every single rated game he has ever played, all the way back to game “0001”. Please don’t ask him what happens after he plays game “9999” (hint: it might be similar to the “Y2K” problem a few years back – LOL).

Since he keeps track of all of his games, they make an excellent data point for him to compare against other game related activities, such as... clock maintenance! We all know how much Mark likes his Chronos clock, even down to preferring the buttons over the touch interface. Well, he also keeps track of when he changes the batteries in his Chronos clock, and makes note as to what game number he made the change. Since the batteries last a long time, it’s easy to lose track of when we last changed the batteries. So it is interesting to see how long they last from someone who actually keeps track 😊

So, while we were talking during recent web site changes (see earlier article) I asked him about this. Mark said “You know how I like to keep track and crunch data. Figuring out battery maintenance on my Chronos is no different”. I asked him “Why do you want to keep track of batteries?” and he said “Well I don’t want to be stuck in a tournament and have the clock die right when I am getting tight on time, and maybe the TD is hard to find. I just want to count on my clock!”. “Ok” I said, “so how do

you keep track?” He said “Simple, I number all of my games, so when I change batteries I make note of the game number, and all of my game data like event and date are right there, so I can exactly calculate, and figure out mean time between replacements.” Still I was wondering “How do you know when to change the batteries in the first place?”, and he replied “Well I didn’t control for the brand of battery but did control for consistency when the LCD becomes noticeably dimmer. I know that is subjective, but I look for it, and when I notice it, I change the batteries. But now that I have data, I can predict when I should be paying extra attention. That gives me an extra comfort factor.”

Then he showed me his battery change data points so far:

- 04-01-02 game 0723
- 01-13-07 games 0724 – 1189 (465 games since previous battery change)
- 04-26-12 games 1190 – 1664 (474 games since previous battery change)

And then he surprises me with “And keep in mind, my Chronos does not lose its programming when I change the batteries.” How does that work? In any case, Mark said he regrets not noting when he first purchased his clock since that would give him a fourth data point. Oh well, we’ll just have to wait for the next battery change.

Summary stats:

1. Mark plays 50 of his games a year at the club with time controls of 40/90, SD/30 and estimates that at least 75% of the time he uses his clock.

2. Looks like he’s getting 5 years out of his batteries at his rate of play
3. Or an average of 470 games per set if you don’t take more than 5 years

COMPETE

Last Tournament

“MCC April Fools Swiss”

Congratulations to the Winners!

OPEN	Lawyer Times	3.5 / 4.0
U2000	Ames Abbot, Harry Van Der Keyl	3.5 / 4.0
U1700	Walter Champion, Plamen Krastev	3.5 / 4.0
U1400	David J Flanagan	4.0 / 4.0

Perfect Scores



David J Flanagan (twice in a row!!)

Photos From Around the Club



COMPETE

LEARN

Next Tournament

“MCC 29th Anniversary Swiss”

When	Tuesdays at 7:30 pm May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2012
Format	5 - SS 40/90, SD/30
Sections	Open, U2000, U1700, U1400 Open section FIDE rated
Prize Fund	\$ 730 100% Guaranteed
Entry Fee	Club Masters Free MCC Members \$25 Non-members \$30
Prizes	Open \$ 140 - 100 - 80 U2000 \$ 100 - 80 - 40 U1700 \$ 60 - 40 - 20 U1400 \$ 40 - 20 - 10
Championship Points	Open 50 - 30 - 20 - 10 U2000 30 - 20 - 10 U1700 15 - 10 - 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% bonus for winning all games • 15 point bonus for upset win/draw over an 1800+ player and 300/600 rating diff
Forfeit Rule	Players may be re-paired after 30 min
Additional Events	Checkout the Possible Events of Interest link on the Club homepage for other events in the area

Weekly Group Lessons



Check calendar on homepage for availability.

Bookseller



Emanuel Rasin of “Books from Europe. Check calendar on homepage for availability.

The current championship qualification standings are available online at:

http://www.metrowestchess.org/Compete/Championships/2013/2013_Championship_Qualification_Points_List.pdf

