



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the Metrowest Boston chess community since 1983

March 2008 Newsletter

Highlights

MCC Leap Year Swiss Results

Congratulations to the winners!

OPEN	Ilya Krasik (3.5/4)
U1900	Lior Rozhansky (4.0/4)
U1650	Danny Angermeier (4.0/4)
U1400	John McLaughlin (3.5/4)

MCC Chess School - New Session in March

Mark LaRocca has organized a Chess School session on defending against the English Opening. See details on the next page.

Also read about the new Blackstone Chess Academy opening in Rhode Island in March.

David Harris and Ilya Krasik plan to continue their series on Basic Chess Endings before selected rounds. See the club website for the schedule.

Emanuel Raisin will have a large collection of chess books for sale during the first round.

COMPETE: Next Tournament

MCC Vernal Equinox Swiss

When	Tuesdays at 7:30 pm March 4, 11, 18, 25	
Format	4-SS, 40/90, SD/30	
Sections	Open, U2000, U1700, U1400	
Prize Fund	\$ 710 Guaranteed	
Entry Fee	Masters	Free
	MCC Members	\$15
	Others	\$20

Prizes

Open	\$ 160 - 100 - 60
U2000	\$ 100 - 60 - 40
U1700	\$ 60 - 40 - 20
U1400	\$ 40 - 20 - 10

Championship Points

Open	64 - 40 - 24 - 16
U2000	32 - 20 - 12
U1700	16 - 10 - 6

Checkout the [Possible Events of Interest](#) link on the Club homepage for other events in the area,

25% bonus for winning all games

15 point bonus for upset win/draw over an 1800+ player and 300/600 rating diff

MCC Chess School – New Session Starting in March

Developing an Opening Repertoire III: Defending against the English Opening

The following announcement has been submitted by Mark LaRocca who is organizing the next session of the MCC Chess School. Classes will be held on the 2nd Thursday for the next three months: March 13, April 10, and May 8.

To the player of the Black pieces the curse of the English Opening is its flexibility. Just what does your opponent intend? a King pawn opening? Queen pawn? or just plain old English? How can we, as defenders, get a grip?

Well, GM Lev Alburk, GM Roman Dzindzichashvili, and Massachusetts native GM Eugene Perelshteyn have suggested an answer in their book, *“Chess Openings for Black, Explained”*. Best of all, their answer to the English Opening is built on a “system” which we have been following in our previous classes.

I know, I know, you may be thinking that if I missed the other classes, how can I catch on. Not to worry. We will cover three chapters in their book over three classes. Any references to previous classes will be explained and reference material provided. So, if you’re like me, and need a good system (or a backup system) versus those pesky English players, join the crowd and come on down for a quick fix. Let’s make these guys sweat a bit. No more easy, “Ha, Ha, I’m out of your book.” for them!

Based on 1.c4 c5... followed soon after, of course, by Black’s ...g6, we will learn a very direct method to equality if our opponent insists on an English. And if he transposes, we will be ready. Even if you don’t want to play this system, you will want to know how to play against it. So, let’s see some of you English players here as well. Come on down and let’s get started on that road to equality.

Guest Lecturers are to be determined.

Course Materials

“Chess Openings for Black, Explained”

PGN files to be available online

Developing an Opening Repertoire III: Defending against the English Opening

Class One

Preparation for Class One

Read Chapters 10, 40

Review Supplemental games, “Class One games.pgn”

Review “Class One variations.pgn”

Chapter 40 – English, Part I

The Symmetrical English – Move order

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 g6

A. 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6

A1. 5.e4 Nf6 6.Nc3 d6

The Maroczy Bind, Chapter 10

A2. 5.g3 Bg7 6.Nc2 Qa5+ 7.Bd2 Qc5 8.Bc3 Nf6

A3. 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Nc2 Bxc3+ 7.bxc Qa5 8.Bd2 Nf6
9.f3 d6 10.e4 Qa4!

B. 3.e3 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.exd4 d5

(Panov-Botvinnik line of the Caro Cahn)

C. 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 e5 (see Chapter 42)

Chapter 10 – Maroczy Bind – with 7.Be3

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.e4 Nf6
6.Nc3 d6 7.Be3 Ng4!

This move thwarts White's plans and leads to interesting endgames that must be studied.

Class Two

Preparation for Class Two

Read Chapter 41

Review Supplemental games, "Class Two games.pgn"

Review "Class Two variations.pgn"

Chapter 41 – English, Part II

White Plays e3 and d4

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e3 Nf6 5.d4 cxd4
6.exd4 d5 (Panov-Botvinnik line of the Caro Cahn)

A. 7.Be2 o-o 8.o-o dxc4 9.Bxc4 Bg4

B. 7.Bg5 Ne4! 8.cxd5 Nxg5 9.Nxg5 o-o

B1. 10.Nf3...

B2. 10.Qd2...

C. C. 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Bc4 Nb6 9.Bb3 Nc6 10.Be3 o-o 11.d5 Na5!

D. 7.Qb3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 o-o 9.Ne5 e6 10.Be3 Nc6

11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.o-o Nd5 (idea ...a5 and ...Ba6)

Class Three

Preparation for Class Three

Read Chapter 42

Review Supplemental games, "Class Three games.pgn"

Review "Class Three variations.pgn"

Chapter 42 – English, Part III

White Refrains from d4

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nc6

A. 5.Nf3 d6 6.o-o e5

B. 5.a3 d6 6.Rb1 a5! 7.e3 e5

C. 5.e3 e5 6.Nge2 Nge7 7.o-o o-o

D. 5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 e5 7.o-o Nge7 8.d3 o-o

Blackstone Chess Academy Grand Opening in March

Announcing a New Chess Club in Rhode Island

MetroWest Chess Club plays an important role as a major chess club and a promoter of chess in New England. As such we are pleased to share exciting news of a new chess venue in Pawtucket Rhode Island, the Blackstone Chess Academy. This new chess venue will host a variety of chess activities such as casual play, club style tournaments, blitz, weekend tournaments, and more.

Blackstone Chess Academy is located at the To Kalon Club, 26 Main St. Pawtucket, RI, adjacent to Interstate 95. It is just a few minutes from the East Side of Providence, less than 20 minutes from Warwick, Barrington, and Attleboro, and about 30 minutes from Woonsocket, Franklin, Walpole and Fall River.

The grand opening of Blackstone Chess Academy is Wednesday March 12, at 7:00 PM. There will be light refreshments, and chess boards set up for blitz or casual play. Bring a guest, and you will appreciate the hospitality of our most gracious host, the To Kalon Club, even if you're not a chess player. Friday, March 14th is the next Open House.

The full calendar and directions are posted at: <http://blackstonechess.com>

Tournaments will be posted at: <http://masschess.org>

David Harris

Member, MetroWest Chess Club

Club Director, Blackstone Chess Academy

COMPETE: Club and Class Championship Qualification Standings Through February 2008

We're two months into the qualification cycle for the 2009 Club and Class Championships. Greg Kaden with consecutive 2nd place ties in the Open section has edged Igor Foygel for the lead in the Club standings with Ilya Krasik close behind. Greg is also the first player this year to earn bonus points for a 300+ upset win over a highly rated player.

Having placed in both tournaments this year, Lior Rozhansky sits atop the Class standings. Both Lior and Danny Angermeier won all their games last month which earned them perfect score bonus points.

The current 2009 championship qualification standings (in tie break order) are as follows:

Club Championship Qualifying Points

1.	Greg Kaden	81
2.	IM Igor Foygel	80
3.	Ilya Krasik	64
4.	Lior Rozhansky	44
5.	Mika Brattain	40
6.	NM Denys Shmelov	34
7.	FM John Curdo	34
8.	Bennet Pellows	32
9.	Alexander Paphitis	25
10.	Mark McMahon, Jeffrey Yao, Danny Angermeier	20

Class (U2000) Championship Qualifying Points

1.	Lior Rozhansky	44
2.	Mika Brattain	40
3.	Alexander Paphitis	25
4.	Mark McMahon	20
5.	Jeffrey Yao	20
6.	Danny Angermeier	20
7.	Leonard Gruenberg	12
8.	Walt Champion	8
9.	Michael Wang	8
10.	Larry Eldridge, Jeffrey Hall	6

For the 2008 Club and Class Championships in April, the following players have qualified to compete in the 5-RR events based on their finish in each category. Players and pairings will be posted during March.

Club Championship Qualifying Points

1.	IM Igor Foygel	323
2.	FM John Curdo	281
3.	NM Charles Riordan	271
4.	FM Chris Chase	203
5.	NM Denys Shmelov	197
6.	NM Vadim Martirosov	138
7.	Edward Astrachan	136
8.	David Harris	125
9.	Bennet Pellows	125
10.	Neil Cousin	87

Class (U2000) Championship Qualifying Points

1.	Edward Astrachan	136
2.	Neil Cousin	87
3.	Ethan Thompson	67
4.	Bill Stein	61
5.	Mika Brattain	56
6.	Vikas Shiva	55
7.	Doug Thompson	49
8.	Bill Michael	48
9.	Jesse Nicholas	45
10.	James Williams	44