



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the Metrowest Boston chess community since 1983

May 2008 Newsletter

Highlights

Club and Class Championship Results

The 2008 Championships were held last month as two 5-RR events of 6 qualifying players each. They were played alongside the normal April tournament.

Congratulations to **NM Denys Shmelov** who won the MCC Club Championship for the second year in a row! Denys and runner-up NM Charles Riordan drew their encounter. Both went undefeated, however, Charles was held to two additional draws in the round-robin event and finished a full point back.

Jesse Nicholas is the new MCC Class (U2000) Champion. His only setback was a draw to runner-up Neil Cousin, the co-champion and 2006 champion. Like Riordan, Cousin went undefeated but had three draws to finish a full point behind Jesse.

CLUB NM Denys Shmelov (4.5/5)

CLASS
(U2000) Jesse Nicholas (4.5/5)

MCC 25th Anniversary Swiss

Help celebrate the Club's 25th anniversary by playing in the May event.

David Harris and Ilya Krasik will continue their Weekly Group lessons 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.

MCC Chess School – Week 3

The next class on "Defending Against the English" will be held Thursday, May 8. It will address White's g3 without a quick d4. Black's strategy is to control d4 and fight for space on both sides of the board. So, if you are a wait and see English player beware of the symmetrical variation, especially when Black knows his or her stuff. PGN files for the 3rd class have been uploaded to the syllabus.

There will be a practice tournament on June 10.

MCC April Fools Swiss Results

Congratulations to the winners!

OPEN IM David Vigorito (5.0/5)

U1900 Lior Rozhansky (5.0/5)

U1600 Leonard Gruenberg (4.5/5)

U1350 Ken Ballou (5.0/5)

Winning Streaks

Two players currently have impressive winning streaks at the club.

Last month **Lior Rozhansky** extended his winning streak to 16 consecutive games! He finished January with 3 wins and then swept the February, March, and April U2000/U1900 sections.

Meanwhile in the Open section, **IM David Vigorito** has amassed a 10 game winning streak. He's won all 9 games he's played this year and the last game he played in 2007.

MCC Club and Class Champions

MetroWest Chess Club (1997-2008) and Framingham Chess Club (1983-1996) champions are shown below. However, players listed from 1999-2003 are unofficial club champions as explained in the notes.

Club Champions				Class (U2000) Champions			
Year	Winner	Score	Format	Year	Winner	Score	Format
2008	NM Denys Shmelov	4.5/5	5-RR	2008	Jesse Nicholas	4.5/5	5-RR
2007	NM Denys Shmelov	4.5/5	5-RR	2007	Neil Cousin and Ethan Thompson	3.5/5	5-RR
2006	IM Igor Foygel	4.5/5	5-RR	2006	Neil Cousin	5.0/5	5-RR
2005	IM Igor Foygel	4.5/5	5-RR	2005	Nikita Konovalchuk	3.0/4	4-RR
2004	GM Alexander Ivanov	5.0/5	5-RR	2004	Trevor De Koekkoek	4.0/5	5-SS
<i>2003</i>	<i>GM Alexander Ivanov</i>	<i>5.0/5</i>	<i>5-SS</i>				
<i>****</i>							
<i>2002</i>	<i>FM Igor Foygel, FM John Curdo, Robert Powell, Nikita Konovalchuk</i>	<i>4.5/6</i>	<i>6-SS</i>				
<i>****</i>							
<i>2001</i>	<i>GM Alexander Ivanov</i>	<i>5.5/6</i>	<i>6-SS</i>				
<i>****</i>							
<i>2000</i>	<i>GM Alexander Ivanov, GM Sergey Kudrin</i>	<i>5.0/6</i>	<i>6-SS</i>				
<i>****</i>							
<i>1999</i>	<i>GM Sergey Kudrin</i>	<i>5.5/6</i>	<i>6-SS</i>				
<i>****</i>							
1998	FM Igor Foygel	5.5/6	5-SS				
1997	FM Igor Foygel	6.0/6	6-SS				
1996	John Lanza	5.5/6	6-SS				
1995	FM John Curdo	5.5/6	6-SS				
1994	Edward Chisam	5.5/6	6-SS				
1993	FM John Curdo, Robert Secino, Steve Themo	5.0/6	6-SS				
1992	FM John Curdo	6.0/6	6-SS				
1991	FM John Curdo	5.5/6	6-SS				
<i>1990</i>	<i>No championship</i>						
1989	Edward Epp	5.5/6	6-SS				
1988	Alan Shaw	6.0/6	6-SS				
1987	Jack Young	5.5/6	6-SS				
1986	Drew Sarkisian, Michael Bienenstock, David Drumm	5.0/6	6-SS				
1985	Drew Sarkisian, Alejandro Beltran	5.0/6	6-SS				
1984	Larry Williams	5.0/6	6-SS				
<i>1983</i>	<i>No championship</i>						

Historical notes:

The MetroWest Chess Club began operation in May 1997 as the Framingham Chess Club. The club moved to Natick in 1997 and its name was changed.

From 1984-1989 and 1991-1998, the Club Championship was held each year in April-May as an Open Swiss-Style event. No champion was crowned in the inaugural year nor in 1990.

From 1999-2003 official championship events were not held, however, there was a large spring tournament each year. Players listed in the table for these years are unofficial champions based on the results of the Open section of these spring Swiss-Style events.

The current round-robin format for the Club Championship started in 2004. Six players qualify based on their performance during the previous year. The Class Championship for U2000 players was first held in 2004 – the winner was the highest placing U2000 player in the Open section. In 2005, the Class Championship adopted the same round-robin format as the Club Championship and likewise players must qualify to participate.

COMPETE: Next Tournament

MCC 25th Anniversary Swiss

When Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
May 6, 13, 20, 27

Format 4SS, 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

25% bonus for winning all games

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

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

COMPETE: Club and Class Championship Qualification Standings Through April 2008

In April, 27 players earned championship points in the normal tournament sections and in the two championship events. To date, 42 players are listed in the standings, 26 of whom have already met the 4-event requirement to be eligible for next year's championships.

David Vigorito and Lior Rozhansky continued their blistering play. David swept the Open section for the last two months while Lior swept the top class section for the third month in a row! As a result David has moved into 1st place in the overall Club qualification standings and Lior has a gigantic lead over the field in the U2000 qualification standings. However, there are 8 more events in the qualification cycle and a lot can happen before the end of the year. In addition, Lior, Edward Astrachan, and Neil Cousin are all rated over 1900, so if any of them finish the year rated 2000 or above, they will not be eligible for the Class Championship next year.

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

Club Championship Qualifying Points	Class (U2000) Championship Qualifying Points
1. IM David Vigorito 143	1. Lior Rozhansky 122
2. Ilya Krasik 134	2. Mika Brattain 44
3. Lior Rozhansky 122	3. Jesse Nicholas 44
4. NM Denys Shmelov 114	4. Edward Astrachan 40
5. IM Igor Foygel 92	5. Leonard Gruenberg 27
6. Greg Kaden 81	6. Neil Cousin 25
7. FM John Curdo 64	7. Alexander Paphitis 25
8. David Harris 51	8. Ames Abbot 22
9. NM Charles Riordan 50	9. Mark McMahon 20
10. Mika Brattain 44	10. Alexander Hu 20
11. Jesse Nicholas 44	11. Jeffrey Yao 20
12. Edward Astrachan 40	12. Danny Angermeier 20