



MetroWest Chess Club

Largest Chess Club in New England

Serving the MetroWest Boston chess community since 1983



This month we celebrate Winter Holiday with the New Year Swiss monthly tournament.

January 2010 Newsletter

COVER: <http://static.panoramio.com/photos/original/2101908.jpg> (Cochituate Lake, Natick MA)

COMMUNITY: About the Club

About the MetroWest Chess Club

MetroWest Chess Club is a 501(c)7 club incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on November 20, 2002. MetroWest Chess Club is a continuation of Framingham Chess Club started on May 3, 1983.

- Web address: www.MetroWestChess.org
- Street address: Natick Senior Center, 117 E. Central St. (Rt. 135), Natick MA 01760
- Phone number: 508 – 788 – 3641
- Email address: Info_Requests AT MetroWestChess DOT org

Playing at MetroWest Chess Club

- Remember, we are guests at the Natick Senior Center, please keep the facility safe and clean.
- Play starts at 7:30pm every Tuesday night. A new tournament starts every month, Round 1 on the 1st Tuesday. Arrive early! Onsite registration ends at 7:20 PM sharp. Register on the round you will start playing.
- Both Players are responsible to make sure that their game result is recorded on the pairing sheet. If we do not have your result, you may not be paired the next round.
- A **BYE** can be requested ONLY by (a) Request in advance on paper (see a TD), or (b) Call **508-788-3641** before 7:00pm on the night in question. After 7:00pm we cannot check messages and you will forfeit.
- A **FORFEIT** is if you are paired, and you do not request a BYE, and you do not play. A forfeit results in immediate withdrawal from the tournament until the fine is paid. The fine must be paid before end of registration (7:20pm) on the night you want to play again. Fine for 1st forfeit = \$10. Multiple forfeits results in serious fines. See the pamphlet below.
- A tri-fold 2-sided pamphlet “New MCC Players Essential Information” is at: http://www.metrowestchess.org/Community/Knowledge/FAQs/About_the_Club/FAQ_New_MC_C_Players_Essential_Information.pdf
- Club & Class Championships are explained in detail, including the current standings at the end of every newsletter.

About the MetroWest Chess Club Newsletter

- This newsletter is published monthly and posted on the MetroWest CC website, by following the “Newsletter” link. The MetroWest CC newsletter has been published continuously since November 2002, coinciding with incorporation.
- Older newsletters, historical flyers, articles, simuls and more, dating back to the opening night of Framingham CC in May 3, 1983, are available on the MetroWest CC website, by following the “History” link

COMPETE: Results of Last Tournament

Holiday Cheer Swiss Results

Congratulations to the winners!

OPEN	Ilya Krasik (4.5/5.0)
U2000	Nikita Konovalchuk, Winber Xu (4.0/5.0)
U1700	Neal Bruce (4.5/5.0)
U1400	Rohan Shankar (4.5/5.0)



**No perfect score of
the month**

**Who will it be next
time?**



COMMUNITY : Website

We are starting a major renovation to our website in order to add up to date, interactive calendar, news, and game discussions, as well as fine tune the overall structure for our membership. Below is a picture of the MetroWest CC website, with a new calendar and blog in the middle section. Key features of the calendar are (A) select the date; (B) select the view, including which calendars to show (MCC, MACA, etc.); (C) MetroWest CC events, click to see more, including a map; (D) a Google icon to click on in order to include the MetroWest CC calendar in your Google calendar, then you can set reminders, etc. Key features of the blog are (E) a Google icon to subscribe to the MetroWest CC blog; (F) summary blog entries. You can click on the blog entry or the entire blog to see more, and add your comments to the blog.



Harvey Reed
Clerk and
Marketing Director

The screenshot shows the MetroWest Chess Club website interface. Callout A points to the calendar navigation controls (Today, Dec 2009, Print, Week, Month, Agenda). Callout B points to the view selection dropdown. Callout C points to a calendar event entry for '6:30pm MCC Holiday' on Dec 14. Callout D points to the 'Google Calendar' integration button. Callout E points to the 'MCC News' section header and the 'Subscribe in a reader' link. Callout F points to a news entry dated 'December 13, 2009' with the text 'No Chess School events are scheduled for this time'.

COMMUNITY : Website

We are experimenting with a Game Commentary page as part of an effort to revitalize the Game Advice program (see link lower left on the home page). We are considering evolving it to a Game Commentary, and are interested in contributors. If you would like to be a contributor, please contact us at [GameArchive AT MetroWestChess DOT org](mailto:GameArchive@MetroWestChess.org). The theme will be blogging with the ability to insert positions and games with an interactive game player, from the blog facilities of www.chess.com. This blog will give us the ability to blog and comment so all members can participate. Key features of the player are (G) the move list, fully clickable to jump anywhere in the game score; (H) VCR-style replay buttons, and; (I) buttons to share this game (embed), to analyze (takes you to www.chess.com) and, to download the PGN. After pressing each button, press it again to return to the game score. You can see this page for yourself by following the TEST link at the bottom of the Game Advice page. Enjoy!



Harvey Reed
Clerk and
Marketing Director

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a chess game commentary page. The page title is "Fischer, Robert James (2785) vs. Spassky, Boris V (2660) World Championship 28th | Reykjavik | Round 6 | 23 Jul 1972 | ECO: D59 | 1-0". The page features a chessboard with pieces and a move list on the right. The move list includes moves such as 1. c4 e6, 2. Nf3 d5, 3. Nc3 Nf6, 4. Nc3 Be7, 5. Bg5 O-O, 6. e3 h6, 7. Bh4 b6, 8. cxd5 Nxd5, 9. Bxe7 Qxe7, 10. Nxd5 exd5, 11. Rc1 Be6, 12. Qa4 c5, 13. Qa3 Rc8, 14. Bb5 a6, 15. dxc5 bxc5, 16. O-O Ra7, 17. Be2 Nd7, 18. Nd4 Qf8, 19. Nxe6 fxe6, 20. e4 d4, 21. f4 Qe7, 22. e5 Rb8, 23. Bc4 Kh8, 24. Qh3 Nf8, 25. b3 a5, 26. f5 exf5, 27. Rxf5 Nh7, 28. Rcf1 Qd8, 29. Qg3 Bc7, 30. h4 Bb7, 31. Bb4 Bb4. The page also includes a "Test game #1" link and a "Subscribe in a reader" link. The page is annotated with red dashed lines and boxes labeled G, H, and I, indicating the location of the move list, replay buttons, and share/analyze/download buttons, respectively.

USCF has a new capability for members which allows you to set preferences to get email notifications if your rating changes, new TLA entries in your area, etc. We'll walk you through how to get set up:

- (J) From <http://www.uschess.org/> home page, make sure to log in (register if necessary), and click "Your Details" on the left – then fill in your USCF ID, PIN (from Chess Life label) , etc. This assures you have a valid account setup.
- (K) go to: <https://secure2.uschess.org/email/email-pref-update.php> and (again) put in your USCF ID# and PIN, click "Fetch Current Preferences".
- (L) Set your email notification preferences, and click "Update" at the bottom.

Enjoy!



Harvey Reed
Clerk and
Marketing Director

The image contains three screenshots of the USCF website, illustrating the steps to update email preferences:

- Step J:** The "Edit Your Details" page. A red dashed circle highlights the "Your Name", "User Name", "New Password", "Verify Password", "USCF ID", "USCF PIN", and "Date of Birth" fields. A red letter 'J' is placed over the "Your Name" field.
- Step K:** The "USCF Email Preferences" page. A red dashed circle highlights the "USCF ID" and "PIN" input fields and the "Fetch Current Preferences" button. A red letter 'K' is placed over the "Fetch Current Preferences" button.
- Step L:** The "USCF Email Preferences" page. A red dashed circle highlights the "Update" button at the bottom of the form. A red letter 'L' is placed over the "Update" button.

COMPETE: Next Tournament

MCC New Year Swiss

When	Tuesdays at 7:30 pm January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2010	
Format	4-SS, 40/90, SD/30	
Sections	Open, U2000, U1700, U1400	
Prize Fund	\$ 630 100% Guaranteed	
Entry Fee	Masters	Free
	MCC Members	\$20
	Non-members	\$25

Prizes	
Open	\$ 120-80-60
U2000	\$ 80-60-40
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,

Bookseller

Emanuel Raisin will have a large collection of chess books for sale during Round 1.



Weekly Group Lessons

See MetroWest CC Calendar

COMPETE: 2010 Club and Class Championship Qualification Standings Through December 2009

The current 2010 championship qualification standings (in tie break order) are as follows:

Club Championship Qualifying Points

1.	IM Igor Foygel	456
2.	NM Denys Shmelov	354
3.	NM I. Krasik	212
4.	IM David Vigorito	206
5.	NM Lawyer Times	198
6.	FM Charles Riordan	160
7.	Neil Cousin	128
8.	Calvin Hori	73
9.	Winston Huang	72
10.	Ethan Thompson	72

Class (U2000) Championship Qualifying Points

1.	Neil Cousin	128
2.	Calvin Hori	73
3.	Ethan Thompson	72
4.	Warner Smith	59
5.	Tian Rossi	58
6.	Al Ward	58
7.	Nikita Konovalchuk	57
8.	Mika Brattain	55
9.	Robert Harvey	45
10.	Winbur Xu	41

The 2010 MCC Club and Class Championships

The 2010 MCC Club Championship and the MCC Class Championship (for U2000 players) will be held in March 2010 as separate 6-player 5-RR events run in parallel with the regular monthly sections.

Qualification for the 2010 MCC championships is based on performance in MCC regular time control events during 2009. The top 6 players from the Championship Points List (who accept the invitation) compete for the Club Championship. The remaining top 6 players rated U2000 (who accept the invitation) play for the Class Championship. The 2009 USCF Annual Rating List (published in December) is used to determine whether or not a player is eligible for the Class Championship.

Championship points are earned by placing 1st-2nd-3rd-4th in the Open section and 1st-2nd-3rd in the Upper and Middle sections during the year. Points are awarded on a graduated scale. Also, a perfect score bonus is given for all wins and an upset bonus is granted for scoring a very large upset. In addition, to qualify for the championships a player must compete in at least 4 MCC regular time control tournaments during 2009 and must be a member of the club on December 31, 2009.

Championship Qualification Points List for 2010 - Current Standings

Player's Name	USCF Rating	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Point Total	Tmt Req	Ranking by Club/Class	
IM Igor Foygel	2528			50	27	20	54	52	52	65	64	52	20	456	Met	1	
NM Denys Shmelov	2470		32	100		64	54	52	52					354	Met	2	
NM Ilya Krasik	2278		4	20			3			65	20	20	80	212	Met	3	
IM David Vigorito	2472	52	64	50		20					20			206	Met	4	
NM Lawyer Times	2302		4	20	64	20	3	10		25		52		198	Met	5	
FM Charles Riordan	2411	52		30			54	10	14					160	Met	6	
Neil Cousin	1970	16				16	40	26			22		8	128	Met	7	1
Calvin Hori	1855						25	10	16		22			73	Met	8	2
Winston Huang	2089		32	40										72	Met	9	
Ethan Thompson	1786					40			32					72	Met	10	3
FM John Curdo	2212	20	4	20			3						20	67	Met	11	
John Chamberlain	2102					20				25	20			65	Met	12	
GM Arthur Bisguier	2200	20		20									20	60	Met	13	
Warner Smith	1669		11		8	8	25			7				59	Met	14	4
Tian Rossi	1826		11	15	32									58	Met	15	5
Al Ward	1825	16			16			26						58	Met	16	6
Nikita Konovalchuk	1859		11									13	33	57	Met	37	7
Mika Brattain	1989	40		15										55	Met	18	8
CM Derek Slater	2132		4		27								20	51	Met	19	
Robert Harvey	1838		4							33			8	45	Met	20	9
Winbur Xu	1812									8			33	41	Met	21	10
Todd Chase	2027											20	20	40	Met	22	
Jenshiang Hong	1616	6				20	12							38	Met	23	11
Alexander Hu	1878							4		33				37	Met	24	12
Mark Fins	1891			15		16		4						35	Met	25	13
Danny Angermeier	1853		32											32	Met	26	14
Alexander Paphitis	1740			30										30	Met	27	15
Charlie Fauman	1695						15					13		28	Met	28	16
Neal Bruce	Prov.											8	20	28	Met	29	17
Rolf Wetzell	2005				27									27	Met	30	
Jesse Nicholas	1991			25			3							27	Met	31	18
William Stein	1750					8		2	16					26	Met	32	19
Dave Rivera	1699		11	15										26	2-X	33	20
Leonard Gruenberg	1459			8			3		6				8	25	Met	34	21
Elliot Strassman	1802				16					8				24	Met	35	22
Ross Eldridge	1880										22			22	1-X	36	23
Patrick Sciacca	2200										20			20	1-X	37	
Richard Han	1704							20						20	1-X	38	24
Alexander Jones	1536									20				20	Met	39	25

Column Notes:

Column **Tmt Req** states the number of tournaments played as “1”, “2”, “3”, or “Met” (for 4 or more). If the 4-tournament requirement has not been met at year’s end, the player is disqualified and “-X” is placed after the tournament count.

Column **Ranking by Club/Class** gives players’ current rankings for the Club Championship and the Class Championship (if eligible). An U2000 player who qualifies for both championships can choose to play in either championship event. If a player qualifies but declines to play, the players ranked below are promoted. A player who accepts an invitation is identified by “-A” after the ranking and a player who declines an invitation is identified by “-D” after the ranking.

Point Allocation Rules:

Points are given for placing 1st-2nd-3rd-4th in the Open section and 1st-2nd-3rd in the Upper and Middle Unnnn sections:

- >> For 3-round events the usual allocation is: 48 - 30 - 18 - 12 / 24 - 15 - 9 / 12 - 8 - 4
- >> For 4-round events the usual allocation is: 64 - 40 - 24 - 16 / 32 - 20 - 12 / 16 - 10 - 6
- >> For 5-round events the usual allocation is: 80 - 50 - 30 - 20 / 40 - 25 - 15 / 20 - 12 - 8
- >> For 6-round events the usual allocation is: 96 - 60 - 36 - 24 / 48 - 30 - 18 / 24 - 15 - 9

However, during the month in which the Championships are held in parallel to the regular sections the allocation is less:

- >> For 5-round event in championship month: 50 - 30 - 20 - 10 / 30 - 20 - 10 / 15 - 10 - 5

The allocation may be different to accommodate special circumstances or it may be reduced if one or more rounds is cancelled (e.g., bad weather). Championship points are awarded only for events where 3 or more rounds are played.

Points are given for placing 1st-2nd-3rd-4th in the Club Championship and 1st-2nd-3rd in the Class Championship:

- >> For MCC Championship events the allocation is: 80 - 50 - 30 - 20 / 40 - 25 - 15

For a placement tie, the available points are divided equally among the players and rounded up to the next whole number. For example, if there is a 3-way tie for 1st in the Open section of a 5-round event, each player receives 54 points based on $(80 + 50 + 30) / 3 = 160 / 3 = 53.33$ which is 54 when round up to the next whole number.

In addition, a perfect score bonus (PSB) of 25% of the points earned is awarded to any player who posts a win in each round. Note that forfeit wins and full point byes do not count; a player must play a game in each round and win each game. For example, a player who scores 4-0 in the Upper section of a 4-round event would earn $1.25 * 32 = 40$ points.

Also, an upset bonus (UWB) of 15 points is awarded for a win against an 1800 or higher rated player where the winner is rated at least 300 points lower (or at least 600 points lower for a draw). Both players must be fully rated at the start of the event.

Tie Break Rules:

Most points earned in the Open and Club Championship sections combined.

Most points earned in the Upper and Class Championship sections combined.

Most events in which points were awarded.

Highest rating from the December USCF Annual Rating List; full rating takes precedence over a provisional rating.

Coin toss.

Championship Points Earned for 2010 by Tournament in 2009

2009 Events	Open Section	Upper Section	Middle Section
January 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. D.Vigorito (52), C.Riordan (52) 3. J.Curdo (20), A.Bisguier (20)	1. M.Brattain (32+8 PSB) 2. N.Cousin (16), A.Ward (16) + M.Afdasta (15 UWB)	1. H.Clark (16) 2. A.Moyer (6), J.Hong (6), R.Matthews (6)
February 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. D.Vigorito (64) 2. D.Shmelov (32), W.Huang (32) 4. J.Curdo (4), L.Times (4), I.Krasik (4), D.Slater (4), R.Harvey (4)	1. D.Angermeier (32) 2. N.Konovalchuk (11), L.Eldridge (11), T.Rossi (11)	1. D.Rivera (11), W.Smith (11), J.Dorfman (11)
March Club and Class Championships 5-RR ChPts: 80-50-30-20 40-25-15	1. D. Smelov(80 + 20 PSB) 2. D. Vigorito (50) 3. C. Riordan (30) 4. I. Krasik (20)	1. W. Huang (40) 2. J. Nicholas(25) 3. M. Brattain (15)	
March 5-SS ChPts: 50-30-20-10 / 30-20-10 / 15-10-5	1. I. Foygel (50) 2. J. Curdo (20) L. Times (20) A. Bisguier (20)	1. A. Paphitis (30) 2. M. Finns (15) T. Rossi (15)	1. D. Rivera (15) 2. W. Champion (8) L. Gruenberg(8)
April 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. L. Times (64) 2. I. Foygel (27) D. Slater (27) R. Wetzell (27)	1. T. Rossi (32) 2. A. Ward (16) R. Holmgren (16)	1. E. Strassman (16) 2. W. Smith (8) S. Schnair (8)
May 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. D. Shmelov (64) 2. I. Foygel (20) D. Vigorito (20) L. Times (20) J. Chamberlain (20)	1. E. Thompson (32 + 8 PSB) 2. N. Cousin (16) M. Fins (16)	1. J. Hong (16 + 4 PSB) 2. W. Stein (8) W. Smith (8)
June 5-SS ChPts: 80-50-30-20 / 40-25-15 / 20-12-8	1. I. Foygel (54) D. Shmelov (54) C. Riordan (54) 4. J. Curdo (3) L. Times (3) I. Krasik (3) E. Astrachan (3) F. Yang (3) J. Fauman (3) J. Nicholas (3)	1. N. Cousin (40) 2. C. Hori (25) 3. C. Fauman (15)	1. W. Smith (20 + 5PSB) 2. J. Hong (12) 3. L. Gruenberg (3) D. Thompson (3) P. Fleurant (3)
July 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. I. Foygel (52) D. Shmelov (52) 3. C. Riordan (10) L. Times (10) J. Perl (10) G. Xu (10)	1. N. Cousin (26) A. Ward (26) 3. M. Fins(4) A. Hu (4) G. Goulding(4)	1. R. Han (16 + 4PSB) 2. C. Hori (10) 3. W. Stein (2) R. King (2) C. Neogy (2)
August 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. I. Foygel (52) D. Shmelov (52) 3. C. Riordan (14) A. Cherniack (14) D. Plotkin (14)	1. E. Thompson (32) 2. C. Hori (16) L. Pratt (16)	1. W. Stein (16) 2. L. Gruenberg (6) D. Thompson (6) B. Abelis (6)
September 5-SS ChPts: 80-50-30-20 / 40-25-15 / 20-12-8	1. I Foygel (65) I. Krasik (65) 3. L. Times (25) J. Chamberlain (25)	1. R. Harvey (33) A. Hu (33) 3. W. Xu (8) E. Stassman (8)	1. A. Jones (20) 2. W. Smith (7) A. Sorets (7) S. Rangan (7)
October 4-SS ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	1. I. Foygel (64) 2. D. Vigorito (20) I. Krasik (20) P. Scaccia (20)	1. N. Cousin (22) C. Hori (22) R. Eldridge (22)	1. P. Krastev (16) 2. W. Champion (8) S. Wollkind (8)
November 4-SS	1. I. Foygel (52)	1. E. Astrachan (13)	1. C. Berg-Jones (16)

ChPts: 64-40-24-16 / 32-20-12 / 16-10-6	L. Times (52) 2. I. Krasik (20) T. Chase (20)	N. Konovalchuk (13) A. Abbot (13) M. Barry (13) C. Fauman (13)	2. D. Callahan (8) 3. N. Bruce (8)
December 5-SS ChPts: 80-50-30-20 / 40-25-15 / 20-12-8	1. I. Krasik (80) 2. I. Foygel (20) J. Curdo (20) A. Bisguier (20) D. Slater (20) T. Chase (20)	1. N. Konovalchuk (33) W. Xu (33) 3. N. Cousin (8) R. Harvey (8)	1. N. Bruce (20) 2. G. Weast (12) 3. L. Gruenberg (8)