

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

21 June 1984

MEMORANDUM

To: Drew Sarkisian (2083)
Larry Williams (2051)
John Chamberlain (2023)
John Loyte (2019)
Tom PenaLora (2009)
Craig Evans (1962)

From: Warren Pinches

Subject: Proposal For A Tournament

Our recent club championship, deservedly won by Larry Williams, was our strongest weeknight tournament to date, with a field that included three Experts. However, several of the club's strongest players did not participate, and the Swiss format restricted the opportunities for interplay among the top players to the last few rounds.

I propose a small round-robin tournament among the top six rated players in the club (May 15 standings), which would comprise the six of you named at the top. (Some of you have had ratings declines in the last few weeks and some new upper-1900 players have joined in the last two weeks, but I would like to go with my original plan with the six of you.) In future years, we may run the club championship with a similar structure, with a 5-RR playoff seeded by a 6-SS, but for this year this event I am proposing will be only an unofficial, private, but very interesting event. Any one of the six of you is capable of winning this tournament, and the diversity of playing styles will make for some very interesting games.

During July and August the club will run two 3-round weeknight tournaments. I propose that these six dates (July 17, 24, and 31, and after the club speed championship August 7, finishing with August 14, 21, and 28) be used for this five-round robin, with the extra week as an emergency backup date in the event that there is a problem scheduling a game. I am planning to donate a trophy for the winner and also the rating fee, so entry will be free. (We could call it the "Pinches Challenge Cup"! or something else if you revolt at that.) Our standard time limit of 40/90, 15/30, SD/30 would be used.

I would appreciate hearing from each of you soon on this proposal. I feel certain that it would be our most interesting tournament to date.

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

13 July 1984

MEMORANDUM

To: John Chamberlain
Craig Evans
John Loyte
Tom Penalora
Drew Sarkisian
Larry Williams

From: Warren Pinches

Subject: Challenge Cup Tournament

All six of you have agreed to play in our proposed tournament, which will begin this Tuesday, July 17. Tom Penalora's schedule prevents him from playing on July 17, so he and John Loyte will begin actual play the following Tuesday, July 24. The standard table of rounds for round-robin tournaments was used to determine the sequence of play and the color allocations. Last Tuesday at the Reshevsky simul Loyte and Sarkisian drew numbers from a hat to determine their place in the pairing table; Chamberlain escaped before I could get him to do so. Tom Zuppa drew the numbers for the rest of you. The pairing numbers came out 1-Sarkisian, 2-Evans, 3-Penalora, 4-Loyte, 5-Williams, and 6-Chamberlain. 1-3 get the extra white; 4-6 the extra black. The pairings thus produced are as follows:

JULY 17: Sarkisian vs. Chamberlain
Evans vs. Williams

JULY 24: Chamberlain vs. Loyte
Williams vs. Penalora
Sarkisian vs. Evans

JULY 31: Evans vs. Chamberlain
Penalora vs. Sarkisian
Loyte vs. Williams

AUG. 7: (Club speed championship)

AUG. 14: Chamberlain vs. Williams
Sarkisian vs. Loyte
Evans vs. Penalora

AUG. 21: Penalora vs. Chamberlain
Loyte vs. Evans
Williams vs. Sarkisian

AUG. 28: Penalora vs. Loyte

August 28 can also be used as a postponement date if a game by any of the other four players has to be made up.

Games will begin at 7:30 (clocks may be started at that time), using a time limit

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Of 40/90, 15/30, SD/30. There is no entry fee. A trophy will be awarded to the winner. In case of a tie (a very likely possibility) the tie-breaking systems will be in order of application 1) Sonnenborn-Berger, 2) Solokoff, 3) Harkness, 4) result of individual game, if decisive, 5) fewest whites, 6) coin toss. I will direct.

Enclosed is a copy of Larry Williams' letter accepting his place in this event, along with a list of conditions for his participation. Please study this list and submit to me any conditions you wish to attach. I assure you that your conditions will receive all the consideration that I have given to Williams'. (!)

If you have any further questions, call me; 449-3970 days or 353-1889 evenings. See you Tuesday.

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

12 July 1985

MEMORANDUM

To: Mike Lauziere (2079)
Jack Young (2065)
Drew Sarkisian (2052)
Craig Presson (1976)
Paul Heising (1969)
Alejandro Beltran (1956)

From: Warren Pinches

Subject: A Second Framingham Challenge Cup

As I have discussed with some of you individually, I propose that we stage a repeat of last year's Framingham Challenge Cup tournament--a 6-player round robin invitational featuring six of the club's leading players. The six of you listed above are the proposed invitees. The 5-round tournament would be held concurrently with our next two weeknight tournaments, on July 23, 30, August 6, 20, 27, and September 3. (The "missing" week, August 13, is our annual speed championship, which I presume none of you wish to miss.) Having six dates to play with gives us flexibility to reschedule games if necessary. (I suggest we all exchange current phone numbers.) If one of you should be unable to play at all, I suggest Robert Martin (2169), who recently joined the club, as an alternate.

I will donate the rating fee and a modest trophy (alas, I do not feel like repeating last year's episode in ostentation) so there will be no entry fee. If there is a tie for first, the trophy will be awarded by Sonnenborn-Berger. The Challenge Cup "title" may be shared by two players; if three or more tie that, too, will be decided by S-B.

Our standard time limit (40/90, 15/30, SD/30) will be used. I suggest that next Tuesday night, at the last round of our current Summer Sectional Swiss, that each of you draw pairing numbers which will determine pairings and colors throughout the tournament. If any of you don't make it on Tuesday, I'll ask Tom Zuppa to draw for you. (And I hope you all get this by Tuesday; I'm running late as usual.)

Last year's tournament was a close battle, with Sarkisian winning it with a $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ score, and Lauziere and John Chamberlain tied for second at 3-2. 1984 club champion Larry Williams and John Loyte scored $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$, and Craig Evans, who forfeited two games, $\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$.

If you have any questions or comments, give me a call.

cc: Tom Zuppa

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

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26 June 1986

MEMORANDUM

To: Craig Presson Larry Williams James Todhunter
David Drumm Paul Heising Mike Lauziere
Dan Bartley Drew Sarkisian Brad Merrill
Jack Young Ed Marcus Michael Bienenstock

From: Warren Pinches

Subject: 1986 Framingham Challenge Cup

Annually the Framingham Chess Club holds an invitational round-robin in the summer among its top players, known as the Framingham Challenge Cup. In previous years this has been a 6-player event in late July and August; due to the increasing strength of the club, this year we are expanding it to an 8-player format. It will be played on Tuesday nights concurrent with the Summer Sectional Swiss and the Framingham Class Tournament on July 8, 15, 22, 29; August 12, 19, 26. Note that there is a one-week break between rounds 4 and 5; this is the week of the club speed championship, in which most of you will wish to play.

Invitees to the 1986 Framingham Challenge Cup are the following:

Dan Bartley (2133)	Drew Sarkisian (2056)
Jack Young (2104)	Ed Marcus (2040)
Larry Williams (2072)	Craig Presson (2020)
Paul Heising (2057)	David Drumm (1963)

Since one or more of these players may be unable to play, the following players are alternates, in order of selection:

1st: James Todhunter (2020)	3rd: Brad Merrill (1968)
2nd: Mike Lauziere (2007)	4th: Micheal Bienenstock (1939)

I would appreciate the eight invitees contacting me (353-1889) as soon as possible to confirm whether they will play, so I will know which if any of the alternates will be included.

Selection criteria were as follows: automatically seeded were the 1985 Challenge Cup champion (Presson) and the 1986 club champion (Drumm). The remaining six and alternates were chosen in order from the rating list of current club members compiled from the July rating supplement, excluding those who had not played in a club weeknight tournament (e.g., Robert Martin and Greg Kaden). It is unfortunate that the club championship will not be rated in time for us to use those ratings for this tournament, as several players would have improved their position on this list. (I don't expect the club championship ratings back until mid- to late-July.) Of course, players

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not involved with the Challenge Cup will still have the Sectional Swiss and the Framingham Class tournaments to play in, which should feature strong competition with numerous players in the high-1800s and 1900s.

There will be no entry fee. The winner will receive a substantial trophy, comparable to the club championship trophy. If there is a tie for first, the trophy will be awarded by the NeustadtI (Sonnenborn-Berger) tiebreak, though the tied players will be considered co-champions. Drawing for pairing numbers will occur before the first round, which will determine pairings for all rounds. NOTE: If a player cannot make a round, every effort will be made to re-schedule the game. Due to the length of the tournament and the rigidity of the round-robin format, we will try to be as flexible as possible in this regard.

Previous Challenge Cup Tournaments

1984: Drew Sarkisian (3.5)	1985: Craig Presson (4)
John Chamberlain (3)	Drew Sarkisian (2.5)
Mike Lauziere (3)	Mike Lauziere (2.5)
Larry Williams (2.5)	Paul Heising (2.5)
John Loyte (2.5)	Jack Young (2)
Craig Evans (0.5)	Alejandro Beltran (1.5)

cc: Jack Martin

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

1986 FRAMINGHAM CHALLENGE CUP

ROUND ONE

Bienenstock vs. Merrill
Heising vs. Sarkisian
Huntington vs. Rickman
Lauziere vs. Todhunter

ROUND TWO

Merrill vs. Todhunter
Rickman vs. Lauziere
Sarkisian vs. Huntington
Bienenstock vs. Heising

ROUND THREE

Heising vs. Merrill
Huntington vs. Bienenstock
Lauziere vs. Sarkisian
Todhunter vs. Rickman

ROUND FOUR

Merrill vs. Rickman
Sarkisian vs. Todhunter
Bienenstock vs. Lauziere
Heising vs. Huntington

ROUND FIVE

Huntington vs. Merrill
Lauziere vs. Heising
Todhunter vs. Bienenstock
Rickman vs. Sarkisian

ROUND SIX

Merrill vs. Sarkisian
Bienenstock vs. Rickman
Heising vs. Todhunter
Huntington vs. Lauziere

ROUND SEVEN

Lauziere vs. Merrill
Todhunter vs. Huntington
Rickman vs. Heising
Sarkisian vs. Bienenstock

PHONE NUMBERS (home, work)

Warren Pinches	353-1889	769-6310
Paul Heising	865-4161	879-2960
Drew Sarkisian	987-5647	879-2960
James Todhunter	877-4543	655-4506
Mike Lauziere	347-3398	754-4672
Brad Merrill	788-0754	467-7170
Michael Bienenstock	244-1614	
Rob Huntington	655-4237	
Calvin Rickman	358-4279	845-3182

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

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August 17, 1987

MEMORANDUM

To: Jack Young (2179)	Michael Bienenstock (2047)
Bruce Downing (2100)	Robert Seltzer (2045)
Drew Sarkisian (2088)	Ed Marcus (2043, 1st alternate)
Dan Bartley (2088)	David Drumm (2026, 2nd alternate)
Alejandro Beltran (2074)	Kirk Petty (2019, 3rd alternate)
Paul Heising (2063)	Joe Pineau (1998, 4th alternate)

From: Warren Pinches

Subject: 1987 Framingham Challenge Cup

The time has come for the 1987 Framingham Challenge Cup, an eight-player invitational round-robin tournament featuring the top players of the Framingham Chess Club. The tournament ranks as one of the four championship titles awarded by the club, along with the club (open) championship, the club speed championship, and the player-of-the-year race. The first eight players listed above are the primary invitees to this event, with four additional players listed as alternates in case (as appears certain) some of the original invitees cannot participate.

This USCF-rated tournament will use the standard club time controls of 40/90 and SD/45, with rounds at 7:30 p.m. on September 1, 8, 15, 22, and October 13, 20, and 27. Entry is free, as I am donating all the costs of the tournament. A spectacular trophy will be awarded to the winner. The first tiebreak for the trophy will be Neustadtl (Sonnenborn-Berger). I will be the TD.

The invitations above were derived by the following formula: reigning club champion and defending Challenge Cup champion are automatically seeded. The remaining positions are filled by the highest-rated club members, according to the July rating supplement; these are the ratings given above. Players must be current club members to play, but may receive an invitation even if their membership lapsed after 1/1/87. Also, there is an activity requirement (which excluded three Experts), that invitees must have played in at least one club weeknight tournament since the last Challenge Cup. Alternates are subject to the same criteria, and are selected in order as the original invitees decline.

Please notify me of your acceptance as soon as possible after receipt of this invitation, either at home (353-1889) or work (769-6310). If you have questions call me as well; I'm often easier to reach at work. I would like to have the players draw pairing numbers at the club speed championship on Tuesday, August 25, with club President Jack Martin drawing for absent players. I realize this gives you little time to reflect on this and I apologize for the lateness of these invitations; I had planned to send them out before I went to the US Open out in Portland. I need to know especially quickly if you cannot play, as I must notify an alternate. (Alternates will be notified by phone.) If I do not hear from you by Saturday, August 30, I will assume you cannot play.

Last year when we scaled this tournament up from six to eight players, we dev-

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

eloped horrendous problems with rescheduled games, withdrawals, and forfeits, running afoul of many players' vacations. This year we have shifted from July-August to September-October in hopes of avoiding this. Because of the tight schedule of weeknight tournaments, this year there are no scheduled Tuesday makeup days. If both players agree, they could use one of the nights of the club 30/30 championship, which forms a two-week hiatus in the middle of the schedule, but I expect most of you would want to play in that. Another makeup possibility is at the Framingham Open, September 19-20. Other arrangements may be made at players' houses, etc. However, I will not allow the tournament schedule to become the shambles it did last year, when the final games were made up almost two months after the scheduled conclusion of the tournament. If a player requests a rescheduling and the game is not made up within two weeks, even though his opponent was available to play, I will forfeit the player who requested the rescheduling. Obviously I will use judgement in doing this, but if you anticipate problems in making several of the announced dates, please consider this before accepting this invitation. We will use the Crenshaw (rather than the Berger) round-robin pairing tables, as these give better color-allocation in the event of a withdrawal.

The Challenge Cup also counts in the Player-of-the-Year standings, though obviously the competition will be much stiffer than in the concurrent regular weeknight tournaments.

This has been a strong and prestigious tournament over the last three years. Drew Sarkisian won in 1984, with Craig Presson the surprise winner in 1985 (he immediately retired from chess). Paul Heising was the top scorer in 1986, but since two of his wins were unplayed, he insisted on sharing the title with Drew Sarkisian, who finished $\frac{1}{2}$ -point back.

Nest year my dream is to expand the Challenge Cup into a FIDE-rated futurity.

cc: Jack Martin
Tom Zuppa

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

1987 FRAMINGHAM CHALLENGE CUP

PLAYERS (with ratings and pairing numbers)

Bruce Downing, 2160 (1)
Drew Sarkisian, 2089 (8)
Paul Heising, 2063 (2)
Michael Bienenstock, 2056 (7)
David Drumm, 2026 (6)
Kirk Petty, 2019 (3)
James Matthews, 2014 (5)
Joe Pineau, 1998 (4)

ROUND ONE--September 1

Joe Pineau vs. Drew Sarkisian
James Matthews vs. Kirk Petty
David Drumm vs. Paul Heising
Michael Bienenstock vs. Bruce Downing

ROUND TWO--September 8

Bruce Downing vs. David Drumm
Paul Heising vs. James Matthews
Kirk Petty vs. Joe Pineau
Drew Sarkisian vs. Michael Bienenstock

ROUND THREE--September 15

James Matthews vs. Bruce Downing
David Drumm vs. Michael Bienenstock
Kirk Petty vs. Drew Sarkisian
Joe Pineau vs. Paul Heising

ROUND FOUR--September 22

Paul Heising vs. Kirk Petty
Drew Sarkisian vs. David Drumm
Michael Bienenstock vs. James Matthews
Bruce Downing vs. Joe Pineau

ROUND FIVE--October 13

Paul Heising vs. Drew Sarkisian
Kirk Petty vs. Bruce Downing
Joe Pineau vs. Michael Bienenstock
James Matthews vs. David Drumm

ROUND SIX--October 20

David Drumm vs. Joe Pineau
Bruce Downing vs. Paul Heising
Michael Bienenstock vs. Kirk Petty
Drew Sarkisian vs. James Matthews

ROUND SEVEN--October 27

Kirk Petty vs. David Drumm
Joe Pineau vs. James Matthews
Bruce Downing vs. Drew Sarkisian
Paul Heising vs. Michael Bienenstock

Round times: 7:30 p.m.
Time limits: 40/90, SD/45

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

THE FRAMINGHAM CHESS CLUB

A USCF AND MACA AFFILIATE

THE 1987 FRAMINGHAM CHALLENGE CUP

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	T
1	Bruce Downing	Foxboro	2160	x	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}-1\frac{1}{2}$
2	Drew Sarkisian	Oxford	2122	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	$4\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$
3	David Drumm	Framingham	2026	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	$4\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$
4	James Matthews	Dedham	2014	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	x	1	1	0	1	$4\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$
5	Paul Heising	Milbury	2063	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1*	4-3
6	Michael Bienenstock	Newton	2056	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	0	1	2-5
7	Joe Pineau	Natick	2025	0	0	0	1	0	1	x	0	2-5
8	Kirk Petty	Milford	2019	0	0	0	0	0*	0	1	x	1-6

*unplayed game

ROUND-BY-ROUND CUMULATIVE SCORES

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	T
1	Bruce Downing	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$
2	Drew Sarkisian	1	2	3	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
3	David Drumm	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
4	James Matthews	1	2	3	4	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
5	Paul Heising	1	1	2	3	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4	4
6	Michael Bienenstock	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2	2
7	Joe Pineau	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
8	Kirk Petty	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

NORFOLK-MIDDLESEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

August 10, 1988

MEMORANDUM

To: Richard Gutman (2235)	Alternates:
Bijan Haririan (2226)	Robert Seltzer (2064)
Alan Shaw (2212)	James Matthews (2051)
Edward Epp (2170)	Paul Heising (2035)
Drew Sarkisian (2126)	David Ferreira (2034)
David Drumm (2121)	Rob Huntington (2025)
Bruce Downing (2101)	Michael Bienenstock (2020)
Patrick Walker (2091)	John Neville (2005)

From: Warren Pinches

Subject: 1988 Framingham Challenge Cup

The time has come for the fifth annual Framingham Challenge Cup, an invitational eight-player round robin among the top players of the Framingham Chess Club.

The timing of this memorandum is rather hurried, as I would like to get this tournament underway by August 23; having spent most of the last month on either the US Junior Championship at UMass-Amherst or on the US Open/Convention, I'm behind in other things (as usual).

Also, as many of you know, I have been hoping against hope that I could pull off a FIDE-rated futurity for this year's Challenge Cup, and was working towards that goal until about a week ago. However, (1) we have had remarkable trouble in securing a playing site for a futurity; (2) the USCF and ACF are both broke and cannot give us grants, which we had hoped to cover about 20% of the expenses of a futurity, and (3) the coincident scheduling for this fall of another Harvard Futurity pre-empted several of the FIDE-rated players I needed. Accordingly, we will have to run the 1988 Challenge Cup in its customary format; I trust the caliber of the competition given above will still prove sufficient enticement. I still hope for an annual futurity tournament at the Framingham Chess Club, and am now looking towards next spring for such a possibility.

The eight players given in the right-hand column above are the primary invitees to the Challenge Cup. As in previous years, the list includes the current club champion (Alan Shaw), the defending Challenge Cup champion (Bruce Downing), and the six other highest-rated club members. Invitees must be current club members (two on the list have lapsed, but since I have been lax in sending out expiration notices, I will give them a chance to renew before the tournament). The ratings used are July supplement ratings. I have also listed seven alternates in order of rating; because players often cannot make a seven-week commitment, we often have to reach

far into the alternates' list. (Alternates who do not make the cut at least have the consolation that their principal rivals will be absent from the regular weeknight tournaments at the club, so that they can clean up in their absence.)

This year's tournament is scheduled to run concurrently with the Framingham Summer Class tournament and the Framingham October Trisectional, with the following nine dates available:

August 23
August 30
September 6
September 13
September 27
October 4
October 11
October 18
October 25

Thus the eight-player round-robin can be accommodated with two dates available for any possible rescheduled games. Note that the tournament will break on September 20 for the Framingham Chess Club Speed Championship, in which many of you will doubtless wish to play.

There is no entry fee; all costs of the tournament are being donated. The victor will receive an appropriately gargantuan trophy and the coveted title of Challenge Cup Champion.

The club's standard weeknight time limits of 40/90, SD/45 will be used; the use of sudden death will eliminate adjournments which would further complicate the schedule. Rounds will begin at 7:30 each evening.

When considering this seven-week event, please take into account that I will insist upon it being finished more or less on schedule: we have two days for rescheduled games, but it will be very easy to exhaust those, in which case the player requesting the rescheduling must arrange for the game must be made up outside the club (with minimal inconvenience to his opponent) and if this is not practical, the game may be forfeited by the player requesting the rescheduling. Accordingly, if you anticipate trouble in making several of the above dates, please do not accept this invitation.

With only a little more than a week before August 23, please let me know as soon as possible whether you can play in this event; I will need time to notify an alternate if necessary. You can reach me (or my answering machine) at 617-353-1889, or I can be reached at work at 617-769-6310.

cc: FCC Board of Directors