



NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

Las Vegas International Chess Festival

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Editor: Bill Brock

Games from Day 1 of National Open

Dmitry Gordievsky scores a quick win with the Kan Sicilian.

Daniel Mousseri (2337) – IM Dmitry Gordievsky (2663)

2017 National Open, Round 1

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.g3 Bb4 7.Bd2 Nf6 8.Bg2 Nc6 9.Nb3 Be7 10.0-0 d6 11.a4 Ne5 12.f4 Nc4 13.Bc1 0-0 14.Qe2 Rb8 15.g4 b5 16.axb5 axb5 17.g5 Nd7 18.Rf3 Re8 19.Bf1 d5 20.exd5 exd5 21.Nxd5 Bc5+ 22.Kh1 Qd8 23.Qd1 Bb7 24.Rd3



24....Bf2! 25.Qf3 Nde5! 26.fxe5 Nxe5 27.Qxf2 Nxd3 28.cxd3 Qxd5+



Grandmaster-elect Gordievsky off to a strong start

FM Sam Schmakel displayed his Najdorf-hunting skills in this round two game against a top California teenager. Sam works very hard at the board: when I asked National Open photographer Tim Hanks whether he had a photo of Sam, he said something like, "Oh yes, the intense fellow."



FM Sam Schmakel (2450) -Danial Asaria (2296)

2017 National Open, Round 2

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Qe2 Qc7 8.0-0-0 h6 9.Bh4 b5 10.f4 e5?!

This natural-looking move is the beginning of Black's problems.

11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.Ne6!



12...Qa5

Of course not 12...fxe6 13.Qh5+ g6 14.Qxg6#



Welcoming the players: Janelle Losoff, Al Losoff, & Enrique Huerta

13.exd5 Bb7

Giving us another opportunity to test our knowledge of mating patterns...



14.Qe1!

And not 14...Qxe1?? 15.Nc7#

14...Qb6 15.Bf2 Nc5

16.Nxf8 Qc7 17.fxe5 Kxf8 18.exd6 Qxd6 19.Bg3 Qg6 20.Qb4 Rc8 21.Bd3 Qb6 22.Bf5 a5 23.Qf4 Rd8 24.Qc7 Na4 25.Qxb6 Nxb6 26.Bc7 Rxd5 27.Bxb6 Rxd1+ 28.Rxd1 Ke7 29.Rd7+ Kf6 30.Rxb7 Kxf5 31.Rxf7+ Kg6 32.Rxg7+ 1-0

Sixteen-year-old Maggie Feng is already a Life Master. National Open regulars are already familiar with fifteen-year-old Grandmaster Ruifeng Li. In their game, a Petrosian Queen's Indian morphed into a Benoni structure in which Maggie was pressing:

WCM Maggie Feng (2357) – GM Ruifeng Li (2664)
2017 National Open, Round 2

1.Nf3 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.c4 e6
4.a3 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.d5
Bg7



7.g3 0-0 8.Bg2 c5 9.0-0
exd5 10.cxd5 d6 11.Nd2
Qe7 12.a4 Na6 13.Nc4
Nb4 14.Bf4 Rfd8 15.Re1
Ng4 16.e4 Ne5 17.Nxe5
Bxe5 18.Bxe5 Qxe5
19.Qd2 Qd4 20.Rad1
Qxd2 21.Rxd2 Ba6 22.Bf1
Bxf1 23.Kxf1 Rd7 24.Ra1
a6 25.f4 Re8 26.Kg2 f5
27.Re1 fxe4 28.Rxe4 Kf7
29.Kf3 Rxe4 30.Nxe4 c4
31.Ke3 b5 32.axb5 axb5
33.Kd4 Nd3 34.Rc2 Ke7
35.Nc3 Rb7



36.Nxb5 Rxb5 37.Kxc4
Rxb2 38.Kxd3 Rb7
39.Re2+ Kd7 40.Ke4
Rb4+ 41.Ke3 Rb3+
42.Kd4 Ra3 43.Rb2 Kc7
44.Rc2+ Kd7 45.Ke4 Ra4+
46.Ke3 Ra3+ 47.Ke4 Ra4+
48.Ke3 1/2-1/2



Twelve-year-old Anthony He continues to impress me: he kept local Grandmaster Atanas Kolev at bay with apparaent ease.

Anthony He (2316) – GM Atanas Kolev (2649)
2017 National Open, Round 2

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4
Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 a6
6.Bb3 d6 7.Nbd2 Ba7
8.Nf1 h6 9.Ng3 Be6 10.0-0
0-0 11.Bc2 d5



12.d4 dxe4 13.Nxe5 Nxe5
14.dxe5 Qxd1 15.Rxd1
Ng4 16.Nxe4 Bf5 17.Rf1
Rfe8 18.Bf4 Bg6 19.Rad1
Nxe5 20.Rfe1 Ng4 21.Bg3

Re7 22.h3 Ne5 23.Bh4
Ree8 24.Kf1 Nc4 25.b3
Na3 26.Bd3 Nb5 27.c4
Nd4 28.Nc3 Bxd3+
29.Rxd3 Nf5 30.Rxe8+
Rxe8 31.Bd8 c6 32.Bc7
Nd4 33.Bf4 b5 34.cxb5
axb5 35.Be3 Nc2 36.Bd2
Nd4 37.Be3 Nc2 38.Bd2
Nd4 1/2-1/2

Bxd5 17.cxd5 Qa4
18.Bxh5? Qxe4+ 19.Be2
Qxh1+ 20.Bf1 Qe4+
21.Be3 Rac8 22.Bd3
Qxd5 23.Kf2 Bxb2 24.Rb1

Find the most stylish move:



2018 National Open
June 22-24, 2018

Still more for the “kids these days” department: ten-year-old Joseph Levine is one of the co-leaders in the Under 1900 Section.

Pratheek Sankhesi (1734) - Levine, Joseph (1859)
2017 National Open, Round 1

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3
Nf6 4.e4 d6 5.d4 cxd4
6.Nxd4 g6 7.Be2 Bg7
8.Be3 a6 9.f3 0-0 10.Qd2
Bd7 11.g4 Qc7 12.g5 Nh5
13.Nd5 Qd8 14.Nxc6
Bxc6 15.Bb6 Qd7 16.f4

24...Bc1! 25.Rxc1 Rxc1
26.Qxc1 Qxd3 27.Qc7 Qb5
28.Qxe7 Re8 29.Qxd6
Qb2+ 30.Qd2 Qxd2+
31.Bxd2 Re6 32.a3 Kf8
33.Bb4+ Ke8 34.h4 Kd7
35.Kf3 Kc6 36.Kg4 Kb5
37.h5 Ka4 38.Bf8 b5
39.h6 a5 40.Kf3 b4
41.axb4 axb4 42.Bg7 Kb3
43.f5 gxf5 44.Kf4 Kc2
45.Kxf5 b3 46.Bf6 b2 0-1

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Paradise Event Center South

ONE OF AMERICA'S YOUNGEST GRANDMASTERS

Saturday

- 8:30 a.m. Late Registration (to 9:00 a.m.)
- 9:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony
- 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Rounds 1-3
- 3:00 p.m. GM Ruifeng Li Autograph Session
- 6:00 p.m. Puzzle Solving Competition
- 6:30 p.m. WGM Carla Heredia Simul for Kids

Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Side Event Awards
- 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Rounds 4-6
- 6:30 p.m. Closing Ceremony



Entry Fees

- Trophy Tournament: \$50
- Youth Championship: \$120
- Youth Blitz: \$35
- Puzzle Solving: \$25
- WGM Carla Heredia Simul: \$30

Time Controls

- Championship: Game/60 delay 5
- Trophy Tournament: Game/25 delay 5
- Blitz: Game/3 + 2 second increment

Digital Clocks are preferred and delay (increment in blitz) must be on.

\$20 change fee for team or section changes after Round 1 starts. No team additions allowed after Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Free Lectures

Conference Room 1

- Sat** 3 p.m. *Crushing Black with the LONDON SYSTEM* GM Ron Henley
- Sun** 1 p.m. *Crushing Black with the SCOTCH GAME* GM Ron Henley



Seven-time National Open champion Dmitry Gurevich, in contention again



See diagram at right. In his Thursday workshop, GM Atanas Kolev demonstrated the winning technique in the famous king, bishop, and knight against king ending. At least one player in the Under 1900 Section would have benefitted from this lesson yesterday! Find the most efficient way for White to win.



We are honored by the presence of one of the top American players of the Fischer era, **Dr. Anthony Saily**, the author of the classic **The Battle of Chess Ideas**.

NATIONAL OPEN



Time Control 40/90, SD/30, increment 30
(2-day rounds 1-3 & all Beginner Rounds Game/40, increment 5)

Ballroom A – C

Friday

Round 1 11:00 a.m.

Round 2 5:30 p.m.

BEGINNER SECTION

11, 1, 3, 5:30 & 7:30 Fri

10, 12, 2, 4:30 & 6:30 Sat/Sun

2-Day Schedule Ballroom F

Saturday

Round 3 10:00 a.m.

2-day Round 1 10:00 a.m.

2-day Round 2 12:00 p.m.

2-day Round 3 2:00 p.m.

Round 4 4:30 p.m.

Sunday

Round 5 10:00 a.m.

Round 6 4:30 p.m.

Winners' Circle

Cash Bar 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 10 p.m. Ballroom F
Sunday 10 p.m. Ballroom D

BLITZ SECTIONALS

Entry Fee \$30

Registration ends ½ hour before start
US CHESS Blitz Rated

Sunday 10 p.m. Ballroom F

SPIRIT OF CHESS

INVITATIONAL BLITZ ROUND ROBIN

Spectators Welcome

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LAS VEGAS CHESS CENTER
EXPAND YOUR MIND LEARNING

Analysis of Your Games

Conference Room 11

GM Larry Christiansen

Sessions start 2 Hours after the start of each Round of the **National Open** and run for 2 to 3 hours. Your game may wind up featured in Larry's weekly ICC Broadcast **Attack with Larry C.**

National Open players age 14 and under are eligible for the **FREDDIE** best game award. Those who wish to have a game considered must bring it to one of first five analysis sessions. Only rounds 1 through 5 will be considered.



FOR GAMES, RESULTS, AND SCHEDULES

www.VegasChessFestival/live/



Monday 10 a.m. Harrah's Casino

POKER TOURNAMENT

ENTRY FEE \$100 — Register at Harrah's

Commemorative Bracelet & Cash Prizes

Join us Next Year June 20 –24, 2018!

NATIONAL OPEN June 22 – 24