

NEWS

NATIONAL OPEN JUNE 12-15, 2014

#3

National Open: Four GMs on 3.5



The National Open continued on Saturday with 131 players, including 9 GMs, joining the field in the 2-day schedule, bringing the total number of players to 626 which includes 17 Grandmasters (GM), 10 International Masters (IM), and 12 FIDE Masters (FM). The 2-day schedule field played 3 games in the morning with a time control of Game/45 before being merged with the 3-day field for round four.

2-Day Competition, Rounds 1 -3

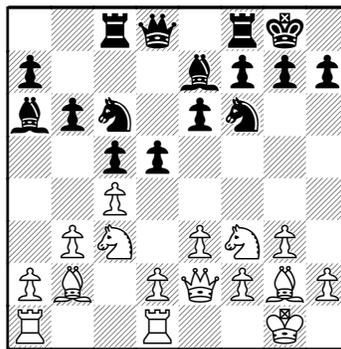
Compared to the 3-day competition, GMs had a rough go of it in the 2-day field. Already in round 1 GMs were paired together as GM Alejandro Ramirez took down GM Maurice

Ashley in workman-like fashion.

Ramirez - Ashley

National Open, 2-day (1)

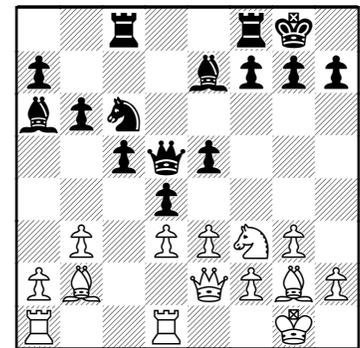
1.♭f3 ♭f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.♙g2 ♙e7
5.0-0 0-0 6.b3 c5 7.e3 ♘c6 8.♙b2 b6
9.♚e2 ♙a6 10.♘c3 ♚c8 11.♚fd1



Now Black decides to expand in

the center, but White finds a good response.

11...e5 12.d3 d4 13.♘d5! ♘xd5
14.cxd5 ♚xd5



15.♘xd4!

Wins back the pawn, and another one.

15...♘xd4 16.exd4 ♚d7 17.dxe5
♚cd8 18.♚e3 ♚g4 19.h3 ♚g6 20.♙e4
♚e6 21.♙h2 ♙c8 22.♙g2

and White went on to convert his extra material.

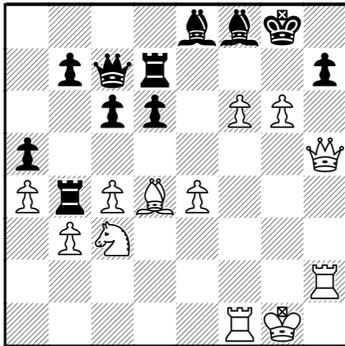


GM Alejandro Ramirez

In the end, GM Giorgi Kacheishvili, GM Alejandro Ramirez, and GM Giorgi Margvelashvili emerged as leaders of the 2-day field with scores of 2.5/3 closely followed by GM Melik Khachiyani, GM Ioan Cristian Chirila, and IM Joe Bradford at 2/3.

Mr Bradford got free play on the kingside in his game with Ilia Serpik, and was hoping for a nice checkmate.

Bradford - Serpik
National Open, 2-day (3)



Position after 41.f6

Here White intended to play 42. ♖xh7+! on the next move which leads to a wonderful checkmate after 42... ♜xh7 43.f7+ ♕xf7 44.gxh7#. Too bad that Black resigned here (and too bad the prosaic 42.f7+ ♜xf7 43. ♜xf7 also wins!).

3-day Competition, Round 3

Meanwhile, in the 3-day field GMs Gata Kamsky, Timur Gareev, and Yuniesky Quesada Perez maintained perfect scores through 3 rounds. This round also saw the first GM vs. GM pairings in the 3-day field as



GM Timur Gareev

GM Enrico Sevillano and GM Lazaro Bruzon Batista fought to an 83-move draw and GM Gareev took down GM Walter Browne in only 26 moves.

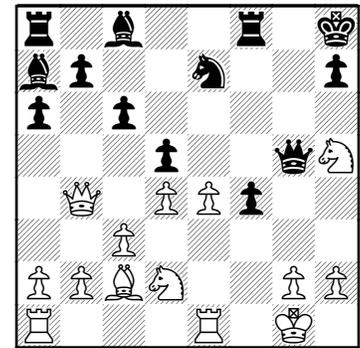
Browne - Gareev
National Open, 2-day (3)

1.e4 e5 2. ♖f3 ♜c6 3. ♘b5 a6 4. ♘a4 ♜f6 5.d3 ♘c5 6.c3 0-0 7.0-0 d6 8. ♞e1 ♘a7 9. ♘g5 ♜e7 10. ♘xf6 gxf6 11. ♜bd2 f5 12.d4 f6 13.exf5 ♜xf5

14. ♘c2 ♜h8 15. ♜f1 ♞e7 16. ♞d3 ♞g7 17. ♜g3 ♜e7

Here White cannot find a good spot for his queen and gets rolled over on the kingside:

18. ♞c4 c6 19. ♞b3 d5 20. ♞b4 e4 21. ♜d2 f5 22.f3 f4 23. ♜h5 ♞g5 24.fxe4



24...c5! 25.dxc5 ♜c6 26. ♞a3 ♘h3 0-1

In a mild upset, 2367-rated FM Kostya Kavutskiy nicked GM Alex Lenderman for a draw to remain among the contenders at 2.5/3.

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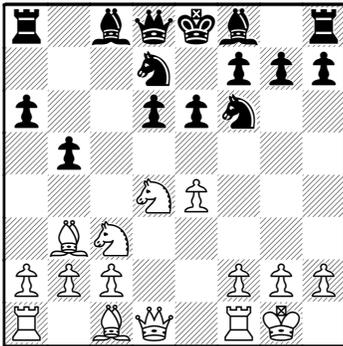
FM Kostya Kavutskiy

There was a nice game played on one of the lower boards, where White played a typical Sicilian sacrifice:

Osmonbekov - Bishop

National Open, 3-day (3)

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4
♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 6.♗c4 e6 7.♗b3 b5
8.0-0 ♗bd7



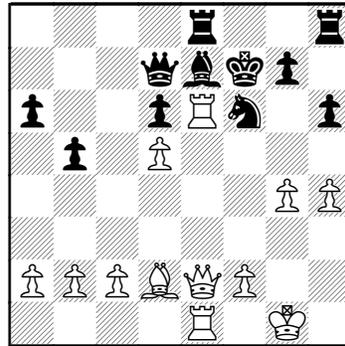
9.♗xe6!? fxe6 10.♗xe6 ♖b6 11.♗d5
♗xd5 12.exd5 ♗f6 13.♞e1 ♗xe6
14.♞xe6+ ♔f7 15.♗g5 ♗e7 16.♞e2
♞ae8N

16...♞d8 17.♞e1 ♞a7 18.h4! h6
19.♗e3 ♞b7 20.h5 ♗h7 21.♗b6 ♞d7
22.♞d3 ♞e8 23.♞xh7 ♞xb6 24.♞1e3
1-0 Krnan-Mikanovic, Toronto 2006.
17.♞e1 ♞d8 18.h4!

The same plan as in Krnan-Mikanovic.

18...h6 19.♗d2 ♞d7 20.g4?!

Immediately 20.♗c3! was strong.



20...♞d8?

Black should have returned the material with 20...♗xd5! 21.♞f3+
♗f6 22.g5 (22.♞f5 ♞c6!) 22...♗d8!
23.♞xe8 ♞xe8 24.gxf6 ♗xf6.

21.♞f3 ♔g8 22.♗c3 ♗d7 23.♞e2
♗e5 24.♗xe5 dxe5 25.♞xe5 ♔f7
26.♞h5+ g6 1-0

3-day Competition, Round 4

With the fields merged in round 4, the competition really heated up

and none of the top players escaped unscathed. Of the top six boards in the Open section, 5 games resulted in hard-fought draws. The only decisive game saw GM Alejandro Ramirez defeat GM Enrico Sevillano from the Black side of a Classical French Defense variation.

Sevillano - Ramirez

National Open, 3-day (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.♗g5
dxe4 5.♗xe4 ♗e7 6.♗xf6 gxf6!?

Alexander Morozevich played such lines for a while about a decade ago.
7.♗f3 a6 8.♗d3 f5 9.♗g3 c5 10.dxc5
♗d7!?

10...♞a5+ 11.c3 ♞xc5 12.♞d2
♗c6 13.0-0-0 h5 14.h4 b5 15.♔b1
b4 16.♞c1 ♗b7 was Stefansson-Morozevich, Reykjavik 1999.

11.c3

11.c6 is possible here but 11.b4 seems critical, e.g. 11...b6 12.0-0

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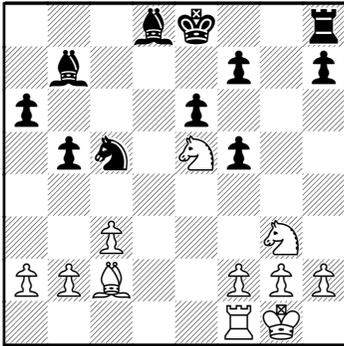
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bxc5 13.b5 h5 14.h4 ♖b6 15.♖e2
♗c7 16.♗e5 ♙f6 17.♞ae1 Naiditsch-
Bluebaum, Deizisau 2013.

11...♗xc5 12.♙c2 ♗xd1+ 13.♞xd1
b5N 14.0-0 ♙b7 15.♗e5 ♞d8
16.♞xd8+ ♙xd8

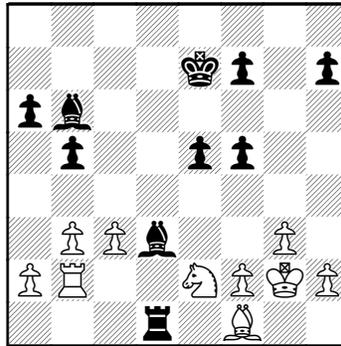


17.♗d3?!

Thanks to his bishop pair the ending

already looks more comfortable for
Black but perhaps 17.♞e1 is still OK
for White.

17...♗xd3 18.♙xd3 ♞g8 19.♞e1 ♗d7
20.♙f1 ♙b6 21.♗h5 ♗e7 22.g3 ♞d8
23.♗f4 ♞d2 24.♞e2 ♞d1 25.b3 ♙e4
26.♞b2 e5 27.♗e2 ♙d3 28.♗g2



28...b4!

Chess in Film

Sunday

10:05 a.m.	<i>Geri's Game</i>	PG
10:10 a.m.	<i>Chess in Concert</i>	All
3:30 p.m.	<i>Brooklyn Castle</i>	PG
6:00 p.m.	<i>Chess in Concert</i>	All
9:30 p.m.	<i>The Luzhin Defence</i>	PG-13

29...♞xf1 30.♗xf1 bxc3 will be next,
so White resigned.

Heading into the last day of
competition then, GMs Gata Kamsky,
Timur Gareev, Yuniesky Quesada
Perez, and Alejandro Ramirez lead
the pack at 3.5/4 with 18 players
chasing at their heels at 3/4.

International Youth Underway



The 2014 International Youth
Competition got under way on
Saturday with 208 players grouped
into four sections based on age and
rating.

The tournament is a 5-round Swiss
System with a Game/60 time
control. Rounds 1, 2 and 3 were
played on Saturday with rounds 4
and 5 completing on Sunday.

Ricardo Vasquez has a modest 841
behind his name, but he seems to be
playing much better already. Look at
the following game.

Vasquez - Yin

International Youth (3)

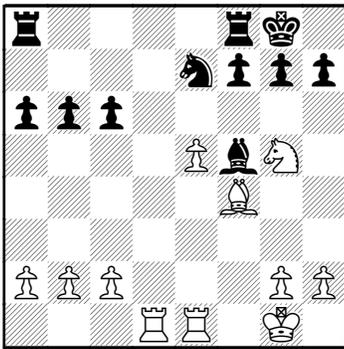
1.e4 e5 2.f4

The King's Gambit, an excellent
opening to start your career with.

2...♗c6 3.♗f3 exf4 4.d4 ♙d6

This is not the best square for the
bishop...

5.e5 ♙e7 6.♙xf4 d6 7.♗c3 dxe5
8.dxe5 ♗xd1+ 9.♞xd1 ♙c5 10.♗d5
♙b6 11.♙b5 a6 12.♙xc6+ bxc6
13.♗xb6 cxb6 14.0-0 ♗e7 15.♗g5
0-0 16.♞f1 ♙f5



The pawn on c2 is attacked, but White doesn't mind.

17.e6! fxe6 18.♖xe6 ♜f6?

With 18...♙xe6 19.♞xe6 ♞xf4 20.♞e7 ♞af8! Black could keep the balance.

19.♗c7

Winning a piece.

19...♞a7 20.♞xe7 ♙xc2 21.♞c1 ♙g6 22.♙e3 and White won.



That white king seems in trouble

Perfect Score for GM Irina Krush in Simul

GM Irina Krush, serving as the host Grandmaster for the International Youth Competition, conducted a 30-seat simultaneous exhibition for players aged 14 years old and under. Although challenged by her competitors for more than three hours, GM Krush nevertheless managed a perfect score of 30-0. The games below were among the last to finish.

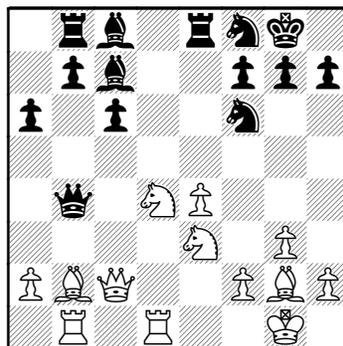
Krush - Maruvada

Simul

1.♗f3 d5 2.g3 ♗f6 3.♙g2 e6 4.0-0 ♙d6 5.c4 dxc4 6.♞a4+ c6 7.♞xc4

0-0 8.d3 ♗bd7 9.♞c2 ♞e8 10.♗bd2 e5 11.♗c4 ♙c7 12.b4 ♗d5 13.♞b1 a6 14.e4 ♗5f6 15.♙b2 ♞b8 16.♞fd1 ♞e7 17.♗e3 ♗f8 18.d4 exd4 19.♗xd4 ♞xb4?

White already had a nice edge, but this is asking for trouble.



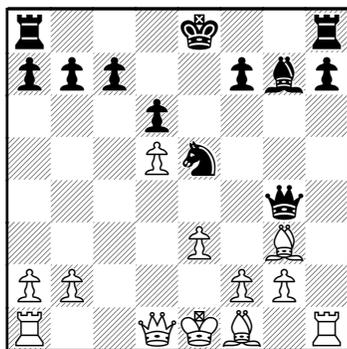
20.♗xc6! bxc6 21.♙xf6 ♞a5 22.♙c3 22.♞xb8 ♙xb8 23.♞xc6 would have won another pawn, but the text move is not bad either.

22...♞c5 23.♞xb8 ♙xb8 24.♞b2 ♙e5 25.♞c1 ♙xc3 26.♞xc3 ♞b5 27.♞c2 ♙d7 28.♗c4 ♞b8 29.e5 ♗g6 30.f4 ♞a7+ 31.♞f2 ♞xf2+ 32.♗xf2 ♞b8 33.♗e3 ♗e7 34.♞b3 ♞d8 35.♞d3 ♗f8 36.♗b6 ♗e8 37.♗xd7 ♞xd7 38.♞xd7 ♗xd7 39.♗d4 ♗c7 40.♗c5 a5 41.♙e4 h6 42.a3 g6 43.g4 h5 44.h3 h4 45.♙f3 g5 46.f5 ♗c8 47.♙xc6 ♗e7 48.♙d5 ♗xd5 49.♗xd5 ♗d7 50.e6+ fxe6+ 51.fxe6+ ♗e7 52.♗e5 a4 53.♗d5 ♗e8 54.♗e5 ♗e7 55.♗f5 1-0

Krush - Easton

Simul

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 ♗g4 4.♙f4
g5 5.♙g3 ♗c6 6.♗f3 ♙g7 7.♗c3
♗gxe5 8.♗xe5 ♗xe5 9.e3 d6 10.h4
♙e6 11.hxg5 ♖xg5 12.♗d5 ♙xd5
13.cxd5 ♖g4



14.♙b5+! ♗d8 15.♖b3 ♖e4 16.f3
♖g6 17.♗f2 ♗c8 18.♞ac1 ♞g8



19.♞h3 ♙f6 20.♗f1 ♙h4 21.♖c3
♙d8 22.♗f2 h5 23.♙f1 f6 24.♙f4 ♖f5
25.♖c2 ♖xc2+ 26.♞xc2 ♞h8 27.g4
♗g6 28.♙xd6 hxg4 29.♞xh8 ♗xh8
30.fxg4 ♗f7 31.♙f4 a6 32.d6 ♗e5

33.g5 ♗d7 34.♙h3+ ♗xd6 35.g6
♗e7 36.g7 ♗f7 37.♙h6 ♙e7 38.♞xc7
♗d3+ 39.♗e2 ♗xb2 40.♙g2 ♗g6
41.♞xe7 ♗xh6 42.♙d5 ♗a4 43.g8♖
1-0

Spirits of Chess



Eight GMs competed in the Spirits of Chess blitz event, sponsored by

George Racz of the Las Vegas Distillery (in the middle in the photo).

This always fun event pits eight GMs playing blitz against each other at Game in 3 minutes with a 2 second increment, in a single round robin event. This year's participants were (from left to right in the photo) GMs Walter Browne, Max Dlugy, Ron Henley, Timur Gareev, Irina Krush, Melik Khachiyani, Gata Kamsky and Dmitry Gurevich.

GMs Kamsky and Gareev tied for first place, each undefeated to finish with scores of 5.5/8. Both GMs took home \$200 for their efforts. Third place went to GM Dlugy at 5/8, earning him \$100. All players received a bonus

gift of a magnum of spirits from the Las Vegas Distillery. We're not sure where the GMs held their after-party for this event, but we know it was



well stocked with refreshments! Max Dlugy probably could use a drink or two after missing a pin or two in his final round game against Kamsky.

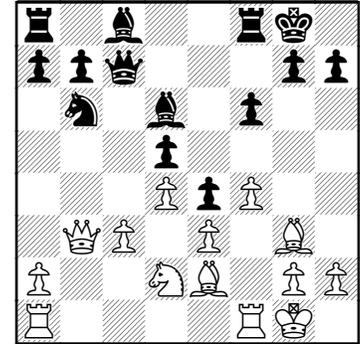
Kamsky - Dlugy Spirits of Chess Blitz (7)

1.d4 d5 2.♙f4
c5 3.e3 e6 4.c3
♙d6 5.♙g3
♜f6 6.♜d2 0-0
7.♜gf3 ♔c7
8.♜e5 ♜fd7
9.f4 f6 10.♜xd7
♜xd7 11.♙d3
e5 12.0-0 e4

13.♙e2 c4? 14.b3! cxb3

14...b5 15.a4 is no picnic either.

15.♙xb3 ♜b6



16.♜xe4

Pin number one.

16...♙e8 17.♜xd6 ♙xd6 18.f5 ♔c6

19.♙b5

And pin number two! Black resigned.

National Open Blitz Sectionals

Forty-four players, grouped by rating into four sections, participated in the National Open Blitz Sectionals competition on Saturday night. Each section was conducted as a single round-robin event with time controls of Game in 5 minutes.



FM Nick Raptis took clear first



FM Nick Raptis took clear first in the top rated "A" section with a score of 9.5/11.

In the "B" section there was a five way tie for first at 7.5/11. The winners were Abhishek Handigol, Peter Calhoun, Michael Shaw, Enrico Balmaceda, and Jackson Wahl.

Nepthali Diaz and Manu Reddy tied

for first in the "C" section with 10/11 and Willie Roy, Jr took sole top honors in the "D" section with a score of 7/9.

Congratulations to the winners and all players for their part in making this event big success!

Commemorative DVD

with hundreds of games, photos, and more will be mailed free to every player shortly after the Chess Festival.



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DROPPING OUT? NEED A BYE?

Be sure to sign the sheet at the Registration Desk - nobody wants to sit at an empty board! ½ point byes for Sunday must be requested before the start of Round 2 and may not be cancelled. Other ½ point byes may be requested up to 1 hour after the start of the previous round. After hours, call 702-560-0955 and leave a voice message or use the contact page on our web site. Be sure to speak clearly and give your name, section, and contact number.

**POST YOUR RESULTS**

Both players are responsible for reporting results. Please post on the pairing sheet and turn in a score sheet with the result clearly marked and signed by both players.



USCF National Open Championship

Grande Ballroom A-D

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday	
10:00 a.m.	Round 5
4:30 p.m.	Round 6

Capri 103

8:00 p.m.	Cash Bar
9:00 p.m.	Winners Circle

WINNERS CIRCLE IN CAPRI 103

Sunday 9:00 p.m. - midnight

Cash Bar Opens 8:00 p.m.

No checks will be issued until all the prizes for a section are computed and verified. Plus Score Bonus Prizes will not be mailed: you must pick them up at the Registration Desk on Sunday.

Free Lecture

Sunday	Capri 109
1:00 p.m.	<i>Understanding the Browne Ending</i> GM Walter Browne

Analysis of your Games

by GM Ron Henley

Sunday	Capri 109
noon - 3:00 p.m.	6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
National Open players age 14 and under who wish to have a game considered for the FREDDIE best played game prize must bring it to one of first five analysis sessions. Only rounds 1 to 5 will be considered.	

Commemorative boards & sets

Purchase at the Registration Desk

Board or Set Only	\$10
Board and Set	\$15
2 Boards and Sets	\$25
Use your Plus Score Certificates	

International Youth Chess Championship

Hosted by International Grandmaster Irina Krush

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Grande Ballroom E

Sunday	
9:30 a.m.	Side Event Awards
10:00 a.m.	Round 4
1:00 p.m.	Round 5
4:00 p.m.	Closing Ceremony

Blitz Sit and Go - Grande H

More Chess For More Fun!

Friday - Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Entry Fee \$20, prizes based on entries. Register when you are ready to play. 4-8 player sections when enough similarly rated players sign up.

USCF Blitz Rated

National Open Blitz - Grande E

\$3,000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund

Sunday	10:00 p.m.
Entry Fee \$40 - Register by 9:30 p.m.	
USCF and FIDE Blitz Rated	

Rochester Chess & Chess4less

Capri 106

Sunday
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Results & pairings

VegasChessFestival.com/results

**LIVE game broadcast**

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