

Official Newsletter of the Irish Chess Union

# IRISH CHESS JOURNAL

*December 2011*

## Topalov draws Irish Team in Clock Simul!



*Irish Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government Philip Hogan making the first move at the board of Alex Baburin and Veselin Topalov. Standing (L-R): Ambassador Emil Yalnazov, President of Kilkenny Chess Club Jack Lowry and ECU President Silvio Danailov*

### **Highlights of this issue:**

<i>Club Organisation 2.....</i>	<i>p. 4</i>
<i>Topalov Simul.....</i>	<i>p. 6</i>
<i>City of Dublin.....</i>	<i>p. 10</i>
<i>Kilkenny Congress.....</i>	<i>p.14</i>
<i>Galway Congress.....</i>	<i>p. 18</i>
<i>Chess Spy.....</i>	<i>p. 21</i>
<i>Limerick Open.....</i>	<i>p. 22</i>
<i>Darren the Tiger.....</i>	<i>p. 23</i>
<i>Irish Grandmaster Fund.....</i>	<i>p. 26</i>

**IRISH CHESS JOURNAL**  
Editor: Tony Foley

Contributors:

GM Alexander Baburin, Peter Cafolla, GM Gawain Jones, Rory Quinn, Gerry Graham, Gerry Smith, John Alfred and Darren McCabe.

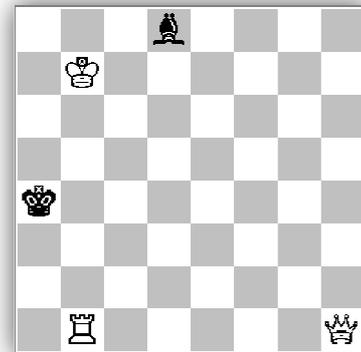
The Irish Chess Journal is the official newsletter of the Irish Chess Union. The opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Irish Chess Union.

Published quarterly and distributed (online) at [www.icu.ie](http://www.icu.ie) to members of the Irish Chess Union.

The editor would like to express his gratitude to everyone who contributed to this issue, and apologise if I've forgotten anyone!

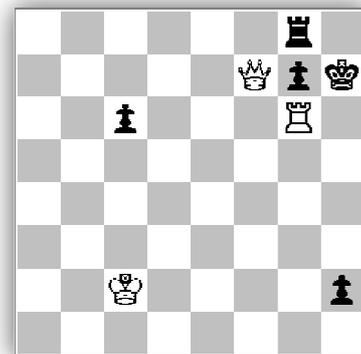
The ICU would like to wish all its members and their loved ones Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year.

# ARE YOU A PROBLEM SOLVER?



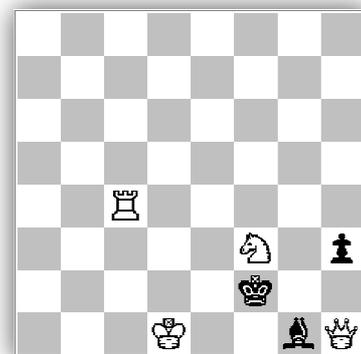
**#2 V. Liskovets**

'64', Special Honourable Mention 1981



**#2 O. Wurzburg**

Pittsburgh Gazette Times 1917



**#2 H. des Marands and P. Montreal**

La Marseillaise 1945

[Solutions on last page.](#)

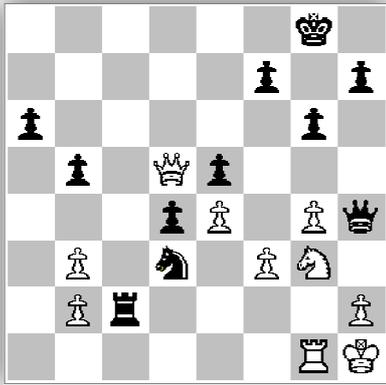


[Chess Today](#) is a daily newspaper delivered by email. A typical Chess Today email contains three attachments, these are a PDF newsletter containing games, a test-yourself puzzle and the latest news from tournaments plus two other files that are a selection of games in CBV and PGN formats that can be read by your chess program or text file.

The Chess Today PDF file contains four pages, which over a month adds up to an awful lot of chess delivered to your inbox! You can view 15 free sample files of Chess Today by visiting [http://www.chesstoday.net/sample\\_issues.html](http://www.chesstoday.net/sample_issues.html) A subscription costs 3 months €15, 6 months €25, 12 months €45.

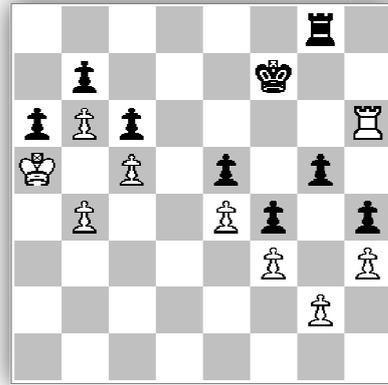
# CHES MAGIC

1



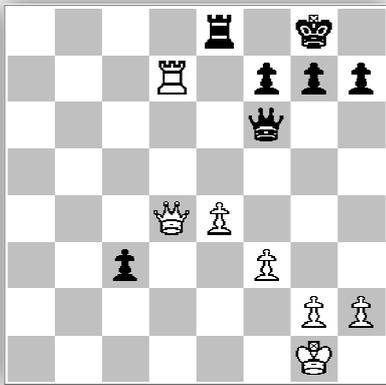
J. Delaney – M. Lanzani  
Groningen, 1981

4



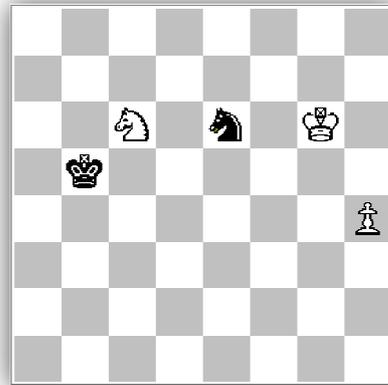
Mjagmasuren – H. MacGrillen  
Skopje, 1972

2



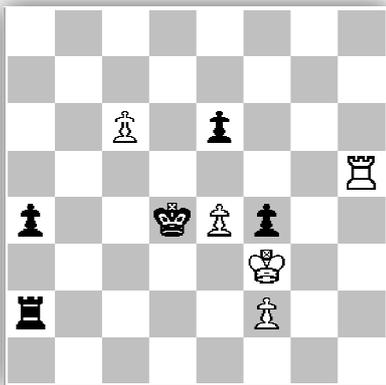
M. Euwe – Yates, F  
Bad Kissingen, 1928

5



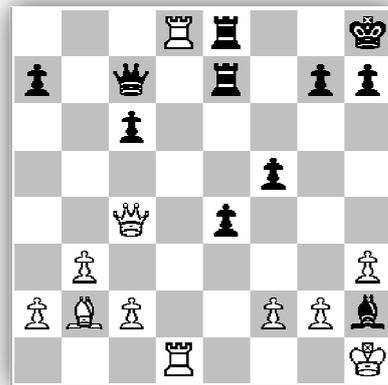
Eingorn - Beliavsky  
Kiev, 1986

3



L. Szabo – M. Cebalo  
Bern, 1987

6



Szalancy - Vancsura  
Budapest, 1988

Solutions to puzzles on last page.

# Club Organization 2

Gerry Smith

Editor: This is a continuation of Gerry Smith's excellent article on his experiences with Rush Junior chess club.

## Membership Form

From using the attached form we discovered that two members have the following conditions. One suffers from asthma and the other from epilepsy.

Where is the club now? The club has now been in existence for seven months.

## Equipment?

The library provided eight boards and sets. The Leinster Chess Union provided another ten boards and sets. I also leave three of mine there. This gives a total of 21 sets. The next equipment to get is a demo board and some clocks. The library is also providing insurance cover for all involved in the chess club while on the premises.

## Money?

The club received a grant from Eirgrid / Fingal so we have €566 in the bank. (This will get us the clocks and the demo board.)

## Premises?

The library has provided a room with tables for 11 games. We use chairs and the floor for the remainder. There is a request in for an additional table to accommodate three more boards. Currently we are still waiting for it. The library also stores our equipment for us. The main drawback with the library room is one of size.

## Children?

Our current weekly numbers are around the thirty mark. We have had over fifty children in the club at one time or another. Currently there is a waiting list. When someone does not turn up for four consecutive weeks we contact the next person on the list to bring his or her child along. We now have one child of six and the oldest is thirteen.

### Rush Junior chess club [2011] Membership Application form Venue Rush Library

#### 1. Member Details

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male/Female: M / F

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Parent / Guardian Details

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL address: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Medical question:** Are there any medical or other issues relating to this junior member that the club should be aware of?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Urgent contact:** If there is a need to contact someone urgently, can you provide two contact points we should use.

Contact 1: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact 2: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

This consent may also include the taking of photographs for promotional use only

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Official:** \_\_\_\_\_

Two of the children are in secondary school while the remaining children all come from the largest of the three primary schools in the village. The other two schools have made contact with me over the past few weeks, enquiring what I can do to help with chess in their school. One of the schools in question has offered their hall or a classroom any time I need it.

## Volunteers?

There are three regular parents who always help out and a few others who help with setting up the room or putting away the equipment. A number of them have also expressed an interest in learning chess.

## Our Group.

I am planning on holding an AGM soon with the intention of officially forming a club. One major problem is getting all involved to realise that the "CLUB" belongs to everyone. At present some people still think it's my club. I also want to get a number of the Parents to attend a child protection course and to get Garda clearance. Foroige have agreed to provide this free of charge. I plan to use the following checklist to make sure the first AGM meeting runs well.

- Make sure that everyone involved understands the reason for the meeting.
- Make sure everyone knows about it well in advance – it's sensible to remind people the day before.
- Make sure the agenda has gone to everyone invited to the meeting beforehand.

A club's first meeting is a great time to get people enthused.

## WHERE DO YOU NEED TO START?

More often than not clubs find themselves drawn/dragged into some sort of planning or future development process because they have an idea about wanting new facilities or funding or both.

## This is not a good place to start!!

Approaches for funding and other support are far more likely to succeed if you can demonstrate you know who you are and where you are going from the outset. Having a look into the future and making plans cannot be a job for one person, so right at the outset there needs to be agreement and support from the club committee to support the process.

- Is the committee prepared to devote regular time to discussion and planning - 25% over the year?
- Do you have a small group of members who will help pull the work together?
- Can you work with all members to gain support for any proposals?

We now have an idea of where we are. But we need to consider the following,

- Where do we want to go?
- How are we going to get there?

- How will we know when we get there?

This will have a big bearing on a lot of issues.

I will try to KIS. KEEP IT SIMPLE, and go one-step at a time.

Enjoy the journey and remember that there is no such thing as failure only opportunity.

It's also important to have your own house in order, this makes things easier.

## What's needed for all this to happen?

There is also a big opportunity in Rush. I base this on the fact that a number of parents are now looking to learn how to play. The main reason given is to help their children. The other two primary schools are also looking to get some of their children involved.

Extrapolating from the numbers from one school to three schools I would anticipate upwards of sixty children. I would also expect to have about ten adults starting to learn how to play chess.

This presents a whole new set of problems. It again raises issues of equipment, premises, time and additional volunteers.

Also in the wider area in the villages of Lusk and Skerries there are another four primary schools and one secondary school with over one thousand pupils. The populations of Rush, Lusk and Skerries are similar, around ten thousand each. Each village is also only five kilometres apart.

Additional funding will be sought from the local county council, the VEC, Foroige, CYC and the Library Service. So far the club has managed to last seven months without any funding, but it could do a lot more if it had funds.

## Constitution?

A constitution is a basic set of rules for running your club. It details for your members and others the name, objects, methods of management, and other conditions under which your club operates and generally the reasons for its existence (see the Appendix for a model).

Constitutions do the following:

- Explain to members and non-members what your club is about.
- Provide guidelines for the daily running of the club.
- Help to sort out internal problems.
- Provide a legal framework if your group wishes to become incorporated.
- Help in seeking resources from other organisations, such as a government agency.
- Do you have a dissolution clause? Many funding agencies will expect to see one, and are unlikely

to be happy with distribution of assets to members if the club folds

- How do we keep them?
- Do we need to register under the Data Protection Act?

## Committee Structure?

How many?

All areas of the club should be represented.

### Policies:

- Equity.
- Health and Safety.
- Child welfare.
- Code of conduct (include a bullying policy).
- Role of Volunteers.

### Financial Reports:

- Budgets
- Records up to date
- Savings?
- Forecast for the next few years

### Insurance:

What cover do we have?

Does it cover all the club activities?

### Membership records:

- Do we know who our members are?
- What sort of records should we keep?

### Club Information Pack /Leaflet.

Do we need a basic pack that contains club information?

- Who we are
- What we do
- Where we do it

## Ongoing?

I am also aware that I need a development plan for the club. It will have to provide opportunities for people regardless of age, gender, race and ability to participate and to progress as far as they wish, to achieve their full potential in chess.

This will need a strong network of organisations working together to provide the opportunities at every level.

The pathway should not be just for players but should also exist for coaches, officials and other volunteers.

Where do I see Rush junior chess club:

Stage 1

- Getting started

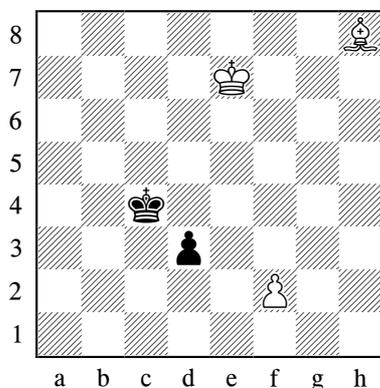
Stage 2

- Keeping going
- Getting better
- Being the Best

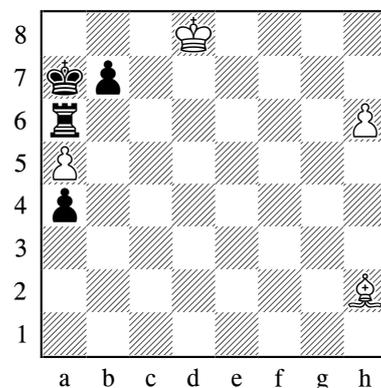
# PUZZLED?

*Instructional positions for the improving player.*

*When selecting positions, emphasis is placed on miniature compositions. These are easier to remember so you can challenge your chess friends with them when you see them at the club.*



**H. F. L. Meyer (1885)**  
White to play and draw!



**D. Joseph (1921)**  
White to play and win!

Solutions on last page!

# Ex-Champion Takes on Irish National Team

On Monday 3rd of October 2011 GM Veselin Topalov, Elo 2768, Bulgaria's number one player, played a clock simultaneous exhibition match in Dublin against an Irish team, consisting of GM Alexander Baburin, 2535, IM Sam Collins, 2436, IM Alex Lopez, 2414 and IM Mark Quinn, 2398. The final score: 2-2, with a win apiece for each side.



*Spectators gathered around the last board still playing: Topalov is in trouble...*

*Photos: Irish Chess Union & Edward Loane*

In the 1980s, Garry Kasparov, who was then world champion, began giving exhibitions in which he took on groups of top-level players. They were timed, so Kasparov had to move faster than his opponents.

After losing the first of the so-called simuls against a strong club team from Germany in 1985, Kasparov won every other one he played. Between 1987, when he won a return match against the Germans, and 2001, when he beat the Czech national team, he defeated the national teams of Argentina (twice), Brazil, France (also twice), Germany, Israel, Peru and Switzerland. For good measure, he also defeated six top American juniors. In the matches against the German, Israeli and Czech teams, all of his opponents were grandmasters.

Very few players have Kasparov's nerve, but Veselin Topalov, a former world champion from Bulgaria, made a stand of his own on Monday 3rd October. His opposition

was the Irish national team, whose members include one grandmaster and three international masters.

Below we reproduce the main parts of the press release by the Irish Chess Union (Source: ChessToday.net). "In the 99 years of the history of the Irish Chess Union, Grandmaster Topalov is the strongest player to visit our shores. Unlike a normal simultaneous played against club players, GM Topalov will play against the four strongest Irish players; fellow grandmaster, Alex Baburin, and International Masters Sam Collins, Alex Lopez and Mark Quinn. All players have 2 hours for all their moves, but as GM Topalov is playing the four Irish players at the same time, he effectively only has 30 minutes per game, meaning he must think four times as fast as our squad.

Veselin Topalov born 15 March 1975, is a Bulgarian chess grandmaster. He currently has the sixth highest rating in the world, and was the challenger facing current world champion Viswanathan Anand of India in the World

Chess Championship 2010, losing the match 5½-6½. Topalov became the FIDE World Chess Champion by winning the FIDE World Chess Championship 2005. He lost his title in the World Chess Championship 2006 match against Vladimir Kramnik of Russia. Topalov won the 2005 Chess Oscar.

He was ranked #1 in the world from April 2006 to January 2007. He regained the world #1 ranking again in October 2008, and officially remained #1 until January 2010, when he fell to #2 behind Carlsen. He has been ranked number one a total of 27 months in his career, fourth all-time since the inception of the FIDE ranking lists in 1971 behind only Garry Kasparov, Anatoly Karpov and Bobby Fischer."

During last year's campaign for the ECU presidency, Silvio Danailov offered to send three GMs to Ireland. True to his word, last November Ivan Cheparinov came and played in the Kilkenny Masters weekend. On Monday, October 3rd it was Veselin Topalov's turn to come to Dublin. Instead of doing the usual talk and simul, the Irish Chess Union thought it would be interesting to have a clock simul against the Irish Men's Team.

The simul took place at the Clarence Hotel on Wellington Quay, Dublin. The time control was 90 minutes plus 30 seconds per move. Unfortunately five minutes before the start the organizers discovered that the hotel firewall blocked FTP traffic, so the games couldn't be followed live online.

During the simul the spectators were able to get right up close and personal with the super-grandmaster. This was great for the fans, but it might have been distracting for Topalov.

Visitor Edward Loane, who provided the photos, wrote:

**Baburin, A – Topalov, Veselin**  
[ECO D73]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 d5  
5.Bg2 dxc4 6.Na3 c3 7.bxc3 O-O  
8.O-O c5 9.Qb3 Nc6 10.Rd1 Na5  
11.Qb2 Qb6

There are four games with this position in our database, with two white wins, one loss and a draw.

**12.Qxb6 N**

Relevant: 12.Ne5 Nd7 13.Nac4 Nxc4  
14.Nxc4 Qa6 15.Ne3 Nb6 16.a4  
cxd4 17.cxd4 Bd7 18.a5 Na4 19.Qb4  
Qxe2 20.Rxa4 Bxa4 21.Qxa4 Rad8  
22.Ba3 Qa2 23.Bxb7 Bxd4 24.Rxd4  
Qb1+ 25.Qd1 1-0 (25) Inarkiev,E  
(2649)-Kurnosov,I (2668) Moscow  
2010/CBM 134 Extra.

12...axb6 13.Ne5 Be6 14.Bb2 Rfc8  
15.f4 Bd5 16.Bh3 Rd8 17.c4 Be4  
18.d5 h5 19.Rac1 Ng4 20.Bxg4  
hxg4 21.Nb5 Bf5 22.Ba1 f6 23.Nd3  
Bd7 24.Nc7 Rac8 25.d6 exd6

Better was 25...Ba4 26.dxe7 Rxd3  
27.exd3 Rxc7 28.Re1.

**26.Nd5 Be6 27.Ne7+ Kf7 28.Nxc8**

**Rxc8 29.f5 Bxf5 30.Nf4 Rc6 31.Nd5**  
Black has given a rook for bishop  
and two pawns. So far he is doing  
fine, but now inaccuracies start to  
slip in.

**31...Be4**

31...Bh6 was the more advantageous  
choice.

**32.Rf1 Bxd5 33.cxd5 Rc8 34.Rf4 g5**  
**35.Re4 b5**

Topalov played for 4 hours straight, without taking a single break or even a sip of water. I take my hat off to the man.

Jonathan O'Connor, chairman of the Irish Chess Union and main organizer of the event, includes this bit:

Topalov told me that he had got up at 5:30 in the morning, drove 200km to Madrid airport and flew to Dublin. As everyone knows, chess players do not like to get up early in the morning. This was clearly a factor in the final hour of play. (...) On a personal note, as chairman of the Irish Chess Union, I found Veselin a very modest man, quiet and thoughtful. It should also be said, that Veselin Topalov played this event for free, and the Irish Chess Union paid neither our guests flights nor their accommodation. Many thanks to Silvio Danailov for being true to his word. He has got a lot of bad press in the last few years, but I found him a decent, reasonable man who has a sensible vision for the future of chess, and the energy and drive to get there.

Jonathan also asked both Danailov and Topalov about why he hadn't played for so long, and both confirmed that after losing to Anand, Veselin needed time to recharge the batteries.

They said it was a tough loss psychologically, as after investing so much time and energy preparing for the match.

During his trip to Ireland Silvio Danailov (the ECU President) met with Phil Hogan, Irish Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government. As the Irish Chess Union [website](#) reports, Minister Hogan promised to support the Irish Chess Union's bid for recognition of chess as a sport. He also promised to help secure the votes of the 13 Irish MEPs in a vote for chess in schools program at the European Parliament.



**36.Re6**

White is now calling the shots. We would have loved to have seen the continuation 36.Rf1, or even the foxy 36.Rb4.

**36...Re8 37.Rxd6 Rxe2 38.Rd7+ Kg6 39.d6 Nc4 40.Re7 Rxe7?!**

Black should probably have not allowed White the pawn on e7. It plagues Topalov for the rest of the game.

41.dxe7 Kf7 42.a4 b6 43.axb5 Nd6 44.Re1 Ke8 45.Re6 Nxb5 46.Rxb6 Nd4 47.Bxd4 cxd4 48.Re6 Bh8 49.Kf2 f5 50.Ke2 f4 51.Kd3 Bg7 52.Ke4 d3 53.Kxd3 Bb2 54.Ke4 f3 55.Kd3 Ba3 56.Re4 1-0

After 56.Re4 Bxe7 57.Rxg4 Kf7 58.Ke3 Black has no defensive resources left.

### Topalov, Veselin - Collins, Sam E

[ECO C97]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.h3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.d5 Bd7 13.b3 Rfb8 14.Nbd2 Nb7 15.c4 Ne8 16.Nf1 Nd8 17.Ne3 g6 18.Ng4 f6 19.Nh6+ Kh8 20.Nh2 a5 21.cxb5 Bxb5 22.Bd2 Bd7 23.N2g4 Bf8 24.Rc1 Bc8 25.h4 Nf7 26.Nxf7+ Qxf7 27.Ne3 Be7 28.Nc4 Bd8 29.f4 Qe7 30.Rf1 Ba6 31.h5 a4 32.hxg6 axb3 33.Bxb3 hxg6 34.Rc3 Bxc4 35.Bxc4 Ba5 36.Rh3+ Kg7 37.Bc1?

37.Bxa5 wins more quickly for White.

37...exf4 38.Bxf4 Rb2 39.e5 f5 40.Qc1

40.g4 would have settled the matter in White's favour.

40...Rab8 41.Bb3 Re2 42.exd6 Qe4 43.Rh2 Bd2



### 44.Bxd2?

44.Qb2+ Qd4+ 45.Qxd4+ cxd4 46.d7 Bxf4 47.dxe8N+! Rbxex8 48.Rxf4 White is a piece up and should win the game.

44...Qd4+ 45.Kh1 Rxd2 46.Qe1 Nxd6 47.Qe7+ Nf7 48.Qc7

Now Black is suddenly better, but he decides to force a draw

48...Rh8 49.Rxh8 Kxh8 50.Qxf7

And now Black takes the perpetual:

50...Qh4+ 51.Kg1 Qd4+ 1/2-1/2

### Topalov, Veselin - Quinn, Mark

[ECO B49]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Be2 Nf6 8.a3 d6 9.g4 h6

After Topalov's thrust with 9 g4, Quinn decided that castling kingside in the teeth of Topalov's attack was not wise. But that left his king in the centre and prevented him from fully developing his pieces.

10.f4 Bd7 N

Relevant: 10...Be7 11.h4 g6 12.Bf3 Na5 13.Qe2 Nc4 14.O-O-O Nxe3 15.Qxe3 Nd7 16.g5 hxg5 17.hxg5 Rg8 18.Kb1 Nb6 19.Rh7 Bd7 20.Be2 Qc5 21.Qf3 Rf8 22.Nb3 Qc7 23.Rdh1 O-O-O 24.Rg7 Kb8 25.Rhh7 Be8 26.Nd4 Rd7 27.f5 Qc5 28.Nb3 Qg1+ 29.Ka2 Qxg5 30.Qf2 Nc8 31.Bc4 exf5 32.Bxf7 fxe4 33.Nxe4 Qe5 34.Qg2 Bd8 35.Bxe8 Rxc7 36.Rxc7 Qxc7 37.Qxc6 Qe7 38.Ba4 Nb6 39.Nc3 Rf4 40.Be8 Jakubowski,K (2500)-Maksimenko,A (2544), Germany 2011/CB14 2011, 0-1

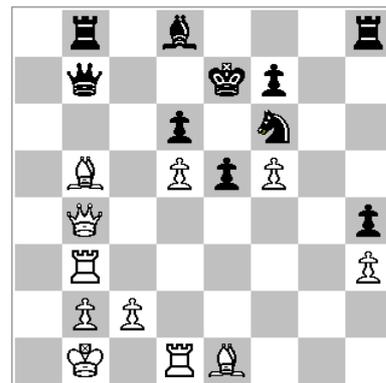
11.h3 Be7 12.Qd2 Rc8 13.O-O-O g6?!

13 ... g6 was a mistake because it gave Topalov a target; 13...Nxd4 14.Bxd4 e5 would have been better.

14.Rhf1 Rh7 15.f5 gxf5 16.gxf5 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 e5 18.Qd3 Bc6 19.Rg1 b5 20.Kb1 Qb7 21.Nd5 Bxd5 22.exd5 Bd8 23.Qb3 Ke7 24.Bf2 Kd7

After 24...Bb6 White has the exchange sacrifice 25.Bh4! [25.Bxb6 Qxb6 looks drawish.] 25...Bxg1 26.Rxg1 with good winning chances. For example, the game could have continued 26 ... Qc7 27 Bf6 Kf6 28 Qb4 Qc2 29 Ka1 Ke7 30 f6 Kd7 31 Bg4 Kc7 32 Bc8 Kc8 33 Qd6, etc.

25.Rg2 Be7 26.a4 Rb8 27.axb5 axb5 28.Be1 Rhh8 29.Rg3 h5 30.Qb4 h4 31.Rb3 Bd8 32.Bxb5+ Ke7



### 33.Qc4

An interesting alternative was 33.Bc3 attacking the two central pawns 33...Qxb5 34.Qa3 and Black must give up his queen, or go for something like 34...Qe2 35.Re1 Rxb3 36.Qa7+ Nd7 37.Rxe2 Rb8 and White is completely winning.

33...Rh5 34.Bc6 Qc8 35.Rxb8 Qxb8 36.Rd3 Rxf5 37.Rb3 Qc8 38.Rb7+

The pressure is relentless, White is going to win.

38...Kf8 39.Bb4 Bc7 40.Qxh4 Rf1+ 41.Ka2 Kg7 42.Qg5+ Kh7 43.Bxd6 1-0

### Astaneh Lopez, Alex –

### Topalov, Veselin

[ECO A37]

1.g3 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c4 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.Nc3 d6 6.O-O Bd7 7.e3 Nf6 8.d4 O-O 9.b3 a6 10.Bb2 Rb8 11.Qe2 cxd4 12.exd4 Bg4 13.Rfd1 Qc8 14.Nd5 Nxd5 15.cxd5 Nb4 16.Qxe7 Nxd5 17.Qg5 Qf5 18.Qxf5 Bxf5 19.Nd2 Nb4 20.Nc4 Rfd8 21.Ne3 Bc8 22.a3 Nc6 23.b4 Be6 24.Rd2 d5 25.Rc1 h5 26.f4 Rbc8 27.Kf2 Ne7 28.Rdc2 Rxc2+ 29.Rxc2 Nc6 30.Rd2 Rd7 31.Bf3 f5 32.Bd1 Kf7 33.Bb3 Bf6 34.h4 Na7 35.Nc2 Nc8 36.Ne1 Nd6 37.Rc2 Nc4 38.Nf3 b5 39.Bc1 Kg7 40.Ne5 Rb7 41.Bxc4 dxc4 42.Bd2 Bd5 43.Bc3 Be7 44.Ra2 Bd6 45.Ke3 Kf6 46.Ra1 Ke6 47.Kf2 Be4 48.Nxg6 Kd5 49.Ne5 Bc2 50.Kf3 Be4+ 51.Ke3 Bc2 52.Kf3 Be4+ 53.Ke3 Bc2 1/2-1/2

# 2011 City of Dublin Chess

## IM Norm Tournament

IM Sam Collins won the City of Dublin IM Norm Tournament with a score of 6.5/9. Stephen Brady came second with 6/9 but just missed out on a norm by half a point. FM Alan Tate took third prize with a score of 5.5/6.

The Leinster Chess Union hosted an International Master Norm Tournament from 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2011 in the Metro Airport Hotel in Ballymun. The tournament was held as part of the 2011 City of Dublin Chess Championships. The City of Dublin Weekender took place from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

The IM Norm Tournament was a ten player all-play-all event in which six of Ireland's strongest players competed against each other and 2 Scottish and 2 English players.

The 10 players involved all represented their countries internationally and include Ireland's highest rated, Irish born, player, International Master, (IM), Sam Collins, from Dublin. The other Irish players are UK based International Master, Gavin Wall, and four other Dubliners. They are current Irish Senior Champion, FIDE Master (FM) Stephen Brady who has won the Irish title on no less than 7 occasions, former champions, John Delaney (FM) and Colm Daly (FM) and Candidate Master and Irish Olympiad player, David Fitzsimons who has the distinction of being the youngest

Irish player ever to beat a Grandmaster, a feat he achieved in 2007 when just 15 years of age.

The overseas opposition included Scottish IM Stephen Burns-Mannion, Scottish FM Alan Tate and English players Rafe Martyn FM and Phil Makepeace.

This was one of the highest level International Chess events to take place in the capital. It offered Leinster's Irish Internationals the opportunity to earn a "norm"



IM Sam Collins receives his prize from Charlie Talbot (President of the Leinster Chess Union).

towards achieving the title of International Master. In order to achieve a "norm" players require a minimum score of 6.5/9 so a fiercely competitive tournament was in prospect with chess of the highest quality envisaged over the course of the event.

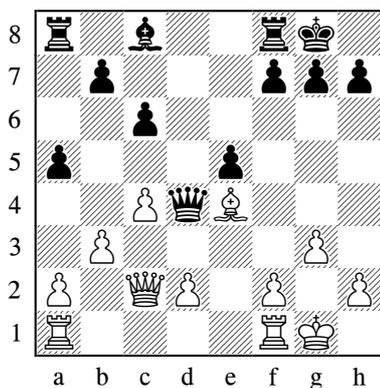
The Leinster Chess Union hopes to run a series of such events into the future to give Irish players the opportunity to progress their chess playing careers on home soil.

## Collins, Sam – Brady, Stephen

[A14]

IM Norm Tournament (1)

1.c4 e6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3  
Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.b3 a5 7.Nc3 d4  
8.Nb5 Nc6 9.e3 e5 10.exd4 Nxd4  
11.Bb2 Nxf3+ 12.Bxf3 c6 13.Nc3  
Bc5 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Bd4  
16.Bxd4 Qxd4 17.Qc2



1/2-1/2

On the Leinster Chess Union blog after the tournament Joe Ryan and Stephen Brady discussed the above game:

Joe Ryan: "Hard luck to Stephen on coming so close and not getting the norm. Perhaps he might regret not playing on the game against Sam!? I looked at that one because it was my old pet line as Black. It was clear that Black solved all the opening problems and for me was clearly better in the final position, I thought he could keep pushing with little risk after say 17...f5 18.Bg2 and maybe now 18...a4!? The problem with these type of tournaments is you make your mind up before the game that a draw with Black is a good result and it's hard to switch out of that mode..."

Stephen Brady: @Joe, that's a fair call about my game with Sam. Before the event, I was quite apprehensive about my ability to cope with the format. I rarely play events where there's more than two games a day, and I've never played an event where you play 9 games over 5 days. Because of the time control

## City Of Dublin IM Norm Tournament

	B	B	C	D	D	F	M	M	T	W		
2357 Brady FM	x	=	=	=	1	1	=	=	=	1	6	2nd
2353 Burns-Mannion IM	=	x	0	1	=	0	1	1	=	=	5	
2436 Collins IM	=	1	x	=	1	1	1	=	=	=	6.5	1st
2305 Daly FM	=	0	=	x	0	=	1	=	0	=	3.5	
2224 Delaney FM	0	=	0	1	x	1	1	0	=	1	5	
2251 Fitzsimons	0	1	0	=	0	x	1	=	=	0	3.5	
2104 Makepeace	=	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0.5	
2264 Martyn FM	=	0	=	=	1	=	1	x	=	0	4.5	
2342 Tate FM	=	=	=	1	=	=	1	=	x	=	5.5	3rd
2329 Wall IM	0	=	=	=	0	1	1	1	=	x	5	

(increments), the games can still go on for potentially a long time. For example, my game against Steve Mannion lasted 5 hours. So firstly, I was worried about my physical ability to play chess for that length of time over a short period. Secondly, I was worried about the lack of preparation time. The draw for colours was only made late on the Friday evening, and with games starting each day at 10.00 and 16.00, there wasn't much time to prepare before games. Finally, I was concerned about the fast time control (90 minutes for all moves, no extra time assigned on move 40, and with a 30 second per move increment), which I suspected wouldn't suit me. All of this was playing on my mind during the game against Sam. In a 'game a day' scenario, there's no way I would have been happy with a draw from that position. I was planning to play 17 ... Bh3, and I've a comfortable safe advantage. However, at the time, I thought it might be prudent to take an easy half point with black against the strongest player in the tournament without expending too much energy.

In the end, none of my concerns adversely affected the norm. I found myself well able to cope with the physical demands of the event. The quick time control possibly cost me a win against Mannion, but probably saved me from a loss against Colm Daly, and possibly even contributed

to my win against John Delaney. Better preparation might have yielded better results against Makepeace and Martyn, but they both played well against me, so who knows?

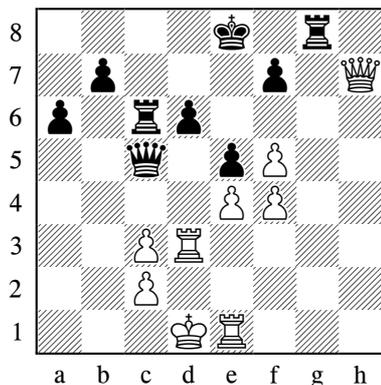
If this event looked good from afar, you should have seen how good it was up close. The setting, on the eight floor of the hotel, was spectacular, with panoramic views over the city and the bay. We had free tea, coffee and mineral water available throughout the games. The layout was spacious, and the playing area was completely quiet. The group of players assembled were a very pleasant bunch. All in all, I can't recall ever playing in better surroundings. Pat Fitzsimons deserves enormous credit for the manner in which he organised and controlled proceedings, as do Charlie Talbot and the LCU for putting the funding in place."

## Wall, Gavin - Daly, Colm

[B53]

IM Norm Tournament (1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4  
a6 5.Bg5 Nc6 6.Qd2 h6 7.Bh4 Nf6  
8.Nc3 g5 9.Bg3 Nh5 10.0-0-0 Bg7  
11.Bc4 Bg4 12.Qe3 Nxc3 13.hxc3  
e6 14.Rd2 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Na5 16.Bb3  
Rc8 17.f4 gxf4 18.gxf4 Bxc3  
19.bxc3 Qc7 20.Rd3 Qc5 21.Qg3  
Nc4 22.Bxc4 Qxc4 23.Re1 Qxa2  
24.f5 e5 25.f4 Qa5 26.Qg7 Rf8  
27.Kd2 Qc5 28.Kd1 Rc6 29.Qxh6  
Rg8 30.Qh7



30...Rf8 31.f6 exf4 32.Qh6 Qe5  
33.Rg1 Rxc3 34.Rxc3 Qxc3  
35.Qxf4 Qd4+ 36.Ke2 Qxg1  
37.Qxd6 Qg4+ 38.Ke3 Qh3+ 39.Kf2  
Qh4+ 40.Ke3 Qe1+ 41.Kf3 Qf1+  
42.Ke3 Qg1+ 43.Ke2 Qg4+ 44.Ke3  
Qh3+ 45.Kf2 Qh4+ 46.Ke3 1/2-1/2

On the LCU Blog Kevin O'Connell had this to say:

"Some very entertaining games, especially Gavin-Colm, with Black teetering on the edge of victory but finally having to settle for a perpetual. The active 30...Rg8-g2 (instead of the passive Rg8-f8) would have been an absolute killer with the threat of Qc5-f2 forcing: 31 Re2 (31 Qh8+ Kd7; 31 Rf3 Rb6) 31... Qg1+ 32 Kd2 (32 Re1 Qf2) 32... Rxe2+ 33 Kxe2 Qg4+ 34 Ke1 Qxf4 and, at best, the e4-pawn will drop off as well (at worst the black rook will come in via b6).

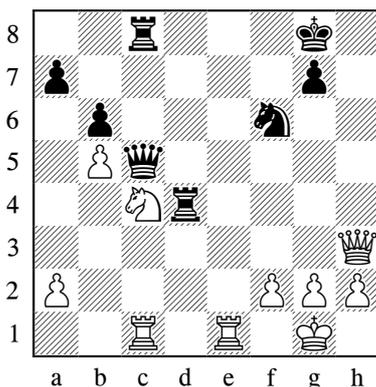
After 30...Rg8-f8 31 f5-f6 e5xf4, 32 Qh7-g7 looks to hold and contains the slightly evil idea that if Black is sleeping and just plays the "obvious" 32...Qc5-e5 33 R(either)-h-file and Black resigns!"

### (21) Wall,Gavin – Martyn,Rafe [B12/02]

IM Norm Tournament (5)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.dxc5 e6  
5.Nf3 Bxc5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.c3 f6 8.b4  
Bb6 9.b5 Nce7 10.0-0 fxe5 11.Nxe5  
Nf6 12.Nd2 0-0 13.Ndf3 Bd7 14.c4  
Be8 15.Qb3 Qd6 16.Ba3 Bc5  
17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Rac1 Rc8 19.Qb2  
Qd6 20.Rfe1 Ng6 21.Bxg6 Bxg6  
22.Qd4 b6 23.Nxg6 hxg6 24.Ne5

Rfd8 25.Nxg6 Kh7 26.Ne5 dxc4  
27.Qh4+ Kg8 28.Nxc4 Qc5 29.Qh3  
Rd4 30.Qxe6+ Kh7 31.Qh3+ Kg8

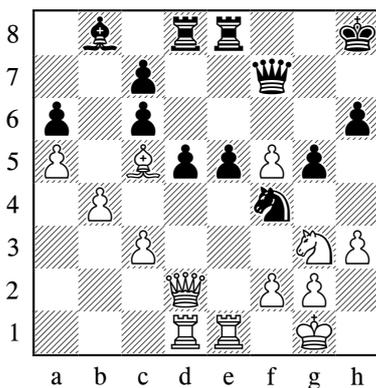


32.Nxb6 Qxc1 33.Qxc8+ Qxc8  
34.Nxc8 Ra4 35.h3 Rxa2 36.Re7 a5  
37.b6 a4 38.Ra7 a3 39.b7 Rb2  
40.Ra8 a2 41.Nb6+ 1-0

### Fitzsimons,David – Burns Mannion,Stephen [C54]

IM Norm Tournament (5)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3  
Nf6 5.d3 a6 6.Bb3 Ba7 7.0-0 d6  
8.Re1 0-0 9.h3 h6 10.Nbd2 Nh5  
11.Nf1 Qf6 12.Be3 Nf4 13.Ng3 g5  
14.Nh2 Qg6 15.d4 Kh8 16.Bc2 f6  
17.Nhf1 Bd7 18.Nf5 Bxf5 19.exf5  
Qg7 20.Ng3 Rfe8 21.Qd2 d5 22.b4  
Rad8 23.a4 Bb6 24.a5 Ba7 25.Ba4  
Bb8 26.Rad1 Qd7 27.dxe5 fxe5  
28.Bc5! Qf7 29.Bxc6 bxc6



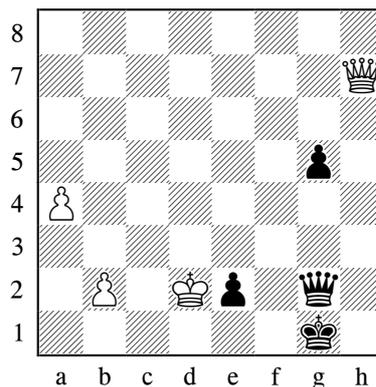
30.Rxe5 Rxe5 31.Bd4 Rde8 32.Re1  
Qf6 33.Rxe5 Rxe5 34.Qe3 Rxe3  
35.Bxf6+ Kg8 36.fxe3 Ba7 37.Kf2  
Nd3+ 38.Ke2 Nb2 39.Bd8 Bb8  
40.e4 Nc4 41.Bf6 Kf7 42.Bd4 c5  
43.Bxc5 c6 44.Nf1 dxe4 45.Nd2  
Nxd2 46.Kxd2 Kf6 47.g4 Ke5 48.c4

[48.Ke3!] 48...h5 49.Ke3 hxg4  
50.hxg4 Bc7 51.Bd4+ Kd6 52.Kxe4  
Bd8 53.Bc5+ Kd7 54.Ke5 Bc7+  
55.Kf6 Ke8 56.Kxg5 Kf7 57.Kh5  
Be5 58.g5 Bc3 59.g6+ Kf6 60.Kh6  
Kxf5 61.g7 Bxg7+ 62.Kxg7 Ke4  
63.Kf6 1-0

### Collins,Sam – Wall,Gavin [B27]

IM Norm Tournament (6)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.dxc5  
Qa5+ 5.c3 Qxc5 6.Be3 Qc7 7.Bd3  
Nf6 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Na3 0-0 10.Nb5  
Qb8 11.Qd2 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5  
13.Bh6 Rd8 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.g3 e5  
16.Rfe1 a6 17.Na3 b5 18.Be4 Nf6  
19.Qe2 Nxe4 20.Qxe4 Re8 21.Rad1  
Qc7 22.Nc2 Bb7 23.Qh4 f6 24.Ne3  
Ne7 25.Nd2 Qc6 26.f3 Rad8 27.c4  
Rd4 28.cxb5 axb5 29.Qh3 Red8  
30.Ne4 Rxd1 31.Rxd1 Rxd1+  
32.Nxd1 f5 33.Qh4 Ng8 34.Nef2  
Qxf3 35.Kf1 Qg2+ 36.Ke1 Bf3  
37.Qd8 Qg1+ 38.Kd2 Bxd1 39.Nxd1  
Qxh2+ 40.Kc1 Qxg3 41.Qd7+ Kh6  
42.Qxb5 e4 43.a4 e3 44.Qb3 Qc7+  
45.Kb1 f4 46.Nxe3 fxe3 47.Qxg8  
Qf4 48.Qe6 Qf1+ 49.Kc2 e2  
50.Qe3+ g5 51.Qe6+ Kh5 52.Qe8+  
Kh4 53.Qe4+ Kg3 54.Qe5+ Kh3  
55.Qe3+ Kh2 56.Qe5+ Kh1 57.Qe4+  
Qg2 58.Qxh7+ Kg1 59.Kd2



### 59...Kf1??

59...Qf2 leads to mate in five.  
60.Qf5+ Kg1 61.Qe5! Kf1 62.Qf5+  
1/2-1/2

**Delaney, John – Daly, Colm**  
[A42]

IM Norm Tournament (6)

1.c4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.d4 d6 4.e4 Nc6  
5.d5 Nd4 6.Be3 c5 7.Nge2 Bg4  
8.Qd2 Bxe2 9.Nxe2 Nxe2 10.Bxe2  
Nf6 11.Bf3 0-0 12.h4 h5 13.0-0-0  
Rb8 14.Bh6 Kh7 15.Bxg7 Kxg7  
16.Rde1 Qc7 17.Bd1 Rh8 18.f4 b5  
19.e5 Ng8 20.Bc2 bxc4 21.Qc3 f6  
22.Rh3 Qb7 23.Rg3 Rh6 24.exd6  
exd6 25.f5 Qxd5 26.fxg6 Qd4  
27.Rd1 Qxc3 28.Rxc3 Rb6 29.Re3

Rb7 30.Rxd6 Ne7 31.Rf3 f5 32.Bxf5  
Nxf5 33.Rxf5 Rxc6 34.Rxc6+ Kxc6  
35.Rxc5 Rf7 36.Rxc4 Rf1+ 37.Kc2  
Rf2+ 38.Kc3 Rxc2 39.a4 Rg3+  
40.Kb4 Kf6 41.a5 Ke6 42.Kc5 Ke5  
43.b4 a6 44.Kb6 Rg4 45.Rc5+ Kd6  
46.b5 axb5 47.Rxh5 b4 48.a6 b3  
49.a7 Rb4+ 50.Ka5 b2 51.a8Q b1Q  
52.Qd5+ Ke7 53.Re5+ Kf6 54.Qd6+  
Kg7 55.Re7+ 1-0

**Tate, Alan - Wall, Gavin**  
[A80]

IM Norm Tournament (9)

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 f5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5  
Nbd7 5.Qd3 e6 6.e4 fxe4 7.Nxe4  
Be7 8.h4 Nxe4 9.Qxe4 Nf6 10.Bxf6  
Bxf6 11.0-0-0 c6 12.Kb1 Kd7 13.g4  
h6 14.Ne5+ Bxe5 15.dxe5 d5  
16.Qg6 Qe7 17.f4 Kc7 18.c4 Rf8  
19.Bg2 Rxf4 20.Rhf1 Rxf1 21.Rxf1  
Bd7 22.Rf7 Qxh4 23.Qxe6 Qe1+  
24.Kc2 Qe2+ 25.Kc1 Qxc4+ 26.Kb1  
1/2-1/2

*More details of the IM Norm Tournament are available via <http://leinsterchess.com/blog/2011/08/norm-tournament-pictures/#>.*

*Sean Coffey's excellent site also has great coverage of this tournament, via <http://www.irlchess.com>*

## **City of Dublin 2011**

### **Pat Fitzsimons**

The City of Dublin Chess Championships took place over the weekend of 2nd-4th September 2011 in the Teacher's Club in Dublin city centre. There were 116 competitors playing in 4 different sections, the highest number of participants in the event since 2005. A software glitch on Friday evening delayed the start of the first round, but once this was resolved, the tournament got underway somewhat later than anticipated.

The Masters section had 10 competitors and was won outright by John Delaney FM on an unbeaten score of 5½/6. The runner up was Tony Fox of the Dun Laoghaire Chess Club on a score of 4.5 with DJ O'Donoghue of Rathmines chess club finishing in 3rd position on 3½.

The Majors Section (for players rated between 1600 and 1999) had 30 competitors and was won by Eamonn Walls from Belfast on a score of 5½/6. The runner up with a score of 5/6 was 12 year old Conor O'Donnell from Bray Chess Club. There was a seven way tie for 3rd place with each player scoring 4/6! Gareth Annesley finished 3rd on tie break from Ray Byrne, Mindaugas Janusaitis, Pearse Dunne, Eric Bennett, Valentine Kalinins (who won a grading prize) and Lukasz Kwiatek. John Loughran, Terry Creighton and Christopher Johnson also won grading prizes.

The Challengers Section had 38 competitors and there was a tie at the top with no less than 4 players scoring 5/6. The winner on tie break was Naomh Barrog's Airidas Tolkus with Stephen Kelly finishing in second place. Elm Mount's William Ffrench and Eugene McMorro finished 3rd and 4th respectively. The four grading prizes went to Mark Finnegan and Rory Ellard, both from Bray and Martin Kelly and Stephen Danaher.

The Juniors Section also had 38 competitors and was won outright by Gerard Wallace on a score of 5½/6 with Patrick Young second on 5/6. Sam O'Neill and Ben Cullen finished 3rd and 4th respectively, both scoring 4½/6. The ladies prize was won by Diane Mirza and the following players won grading prizes, Tom Butler, Michael Donnelly, John Connolly, Mark McKenna and Alexander Gillett.

# Kilkenny Congress By Gerry Graham

The annual Kilkenny Chess Congress took place over the weekend of November 25th to 27th in the two venues of The Club House Hotel and Butler House, in the heart of Kilkenny city. This year it attracted its largest turnout in many a year, a total of 205 players battled for the 4 titles at stake, 32 in the Masters, 40 in the Major, 59 in the "James Mason" and 74 in the Challengers section.

## Masters

The Masters event was the strongest in years and there were players from England, France, Holland, Bulgaria and, of course, from all over Ireland too. There were 6 GMs, 4 IMs and 3 FMs, the top seed was Bulgaria's Ivan Cheparinov, second to Topalov and rated at 2666.

The first round went more or less to seeding with the one games drawn, Hugh Doyle of Cork sharing the point with local FIDE Master, Ryan Rhys Griffiths.

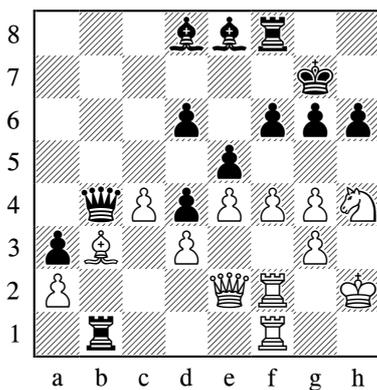
One feature of this year's event was the transmission of the top two boards in the Masters live on the ICU site and the second round clash of French GM Sebastian Maze and Irish IM, Mark Quinn would not have disappointed many of the people watching it live online, it was a great game.

### Maze, S (2577) - Quinn, M (2398)

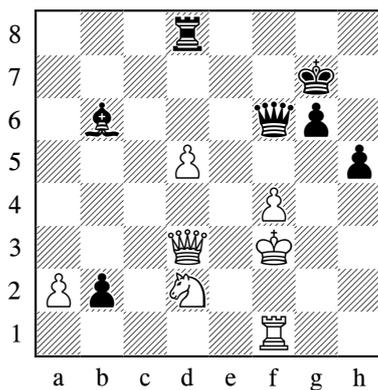
35th Kilkenny Chess Congress (2)  
[ECO "A29"]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 Nc6 3. Nc3 e5 4.g3 Bb4 5.Bg2 O-O 6.O-O Re8 7.Nd5 Bf8 8. d3 h6 9.e4 d6 10.Ne3 a6 11.Bd2 Be6 12.h3 b5 13.Nh2 Qd7 14.Nhg4 Nxd4 15.hxd4 Nd4 16.f4 f6 17.b3 c6 18.Bc3 Qa7 19.Re1 Rad8 20.Kh2 Rd7 21.Nf5 c5 22.Bxd4 cxd4 23.Bh3 bxc4 24. bxc4 Rb7 25. Re2 g6 26.Nh4 Bf7 27.Qf1 Be7 28. Qf2 Qb8 29.Rf1 Rf8 30.Qe1 Bd8 31.Qc1 Kg7 32. Ref2 a5 33. Bg2 a4

34. Bf3 Be8 35.Bd1 Rb1 36. Qd2 Qb4 37.Qe2 a3 38. Bb3



38...Rb2 39.Qd1 exf4! 40.gxf4 f5 41.Nf3 fxd4 42.Nxd4 Bd7 43.Nc2 Qc5 44.Kg2 h5 45. d4 Qa7 46.c5 dxc5 47.dxc5 Bc6 48.Qd3 Qxc5 49.Nd4 Bd7 50. Rxb2 axb2 51.Be6 Be8 52.Bxg4 Bf7 53.Be6 Bb6 54.Nb3 Qc6 55.Bd5 Bxd5 56.exd5 Qf6 57.Nd2 Rd8 58.Kf3? (58.Nc4)



58...Rc8! 59.Qe4 Rc3+ 60.Ke2 Re3+ 61.Qxe3 Bxe3 62.Kxe3 Qb6+ 63.Kd3 Qa6+ 64.Kc2 Qxa2 0-1

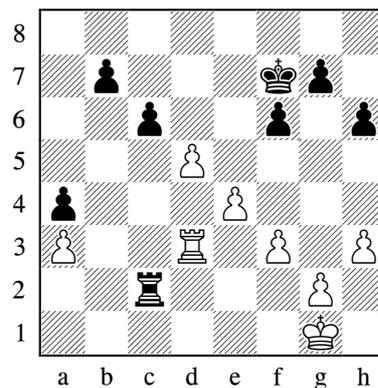
The perennial pairing of Mark Hebden and Alex Baburin happened in round 3 and if you like a really good rook and pawn ending, take a

look at this one, it's a really instructive game.

### Hebden, M – Baburin, A

35th Kilkenny Chess Congress (3)  
[ECO "D56"]

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Nc3 O-O 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 Ne4 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Rc1 c6 10.Bd3 Nxc3 11.Rxc3 Nd7 12.cxd5 exd5 13.O-O Re8 14.Qb1 a5 15.a3 Nf6 16.Ne5 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Rfc1 a4 19.Rc5 Ra6 20.Qc2 Bf5 21.Nc4 Qd7 22.Rd1 Be6 23.Ne5 Qd8 24.Rc1 Bd5 25.Rc3 Re6 26.Qe2 Qg5 27.Qg4 Qxg4 28.Nxg4 f6 29.h3 Rb6 30.R3c2 Re8 31.Rd2 Ra8 32.Rc5 Rb3 33.Nh2 Ra6 34.Nf1 Rab6 35.Rcc2 Rd3 36.Rxd3 exd3 37.Rd2 Ba2 38.e4 Bb1 39.Ne3 Kf7 40.f3 Bc2 41.Nxc2 Rxb2 42.Rxd3 Rxc2 43.d5



43...cxd5 (43...c5!?) 44.Rxd5 Rb2 45.h4 g5 46.h5 Ke6 47.Ra5 b5 48.Kh2 Ke5 49.Kg3 g4 50.Ra8 gxf3 51.gxf3 Rb3 52.Rd8 Ke6 53.Rd5 Rxa3 54.Rxb5 Rb3 55.Ra5 a3 56.Kf4 Kf7 57.Ra6 Rc3 58.Kg4 Re3 59.f4 Rxe4 60.Kf5 Re7 61.Rxf6+ Kg7 62.Rg6+ Kh7 63.Ra6 Re3 64.Ra7+ Kg8 65.Kf6 Rb3 66.Ra6 a2 67.Rxa2 Rb6+ 68.Kf5 Rb5+ 69.Kg4 Rb7 70.Ra6 Kg7 71.Rg6+ Kh7

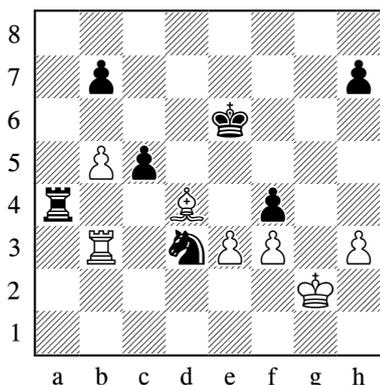
72.Re6 Kg7 73.Kf5 Rb5+ 74.Re5 Rb7 75.Rd5 Rf7+ 76.Kg4 Ra7 77.Rd6 Ra5 78.Rd7+ Kg8 79.Re7 Rb5 80.f5 Rb4+ 81.Kg3 Ra4 82.Rb7 Rc4 83.Rb6 Kg7 84.Rg6+ Kh7 85.f6 Ra4 86.Rg7+ Kh8 87.Rg4 Ra6 88.Rg6 Kh7 89.Kf4 Ra4+ 90.Ke3 Ra3+ 91.Kd4 Ra4+ 92.Kc3 Ra5 93.Rg7+ Kh8 94.Rd7 Kg8 95.Rg7+ Kf8 96.Kd4 Rxh5 97.Ke4 1/2-1/2

Three players reached the magical 3 out of 3, Ivan Cheparinov, Gawain Jones and Mark Quinn. The top round four clashes included Alex Baburin vs Ivan Cheparinov and early in the game, Alex offered a draw just to see if Ivan was interested in an early evening, after all, three games in 1 day is a lot! Ivan declined the draw which told Alex he was in for a tough evening, as the following game shows.

**Baburin, Alexander (2535) – Cheparinov, Ivan (2650)**

35th Kilkenny Chess Congress (4)  
[ECO "D76"]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.O-O Nb6 8.Nc3 Nc6 9.e3 Re8 10.b3 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 Qxd1 13.Rxd1 Bxe5 14.Bb2 Bg4 15.f3 Bd7 16.Kf2 Bc6 17.Rd2 f5 18.Rad1 Kf7 19.Bf1 a5 20.Bb5 Bxc3 21.Bxc6 Bxd2 22.Bxe8+ Kxe8 23.Rxd2 a4 24.Bd4 axb3 25.axb3 Nd7 26.b4 Ra4 27.Rb2 Ke7 28.h3 Ke6 29.g4 c6 30.Kg3 Ne5 31.b5 Nd3 32.gxf5+ gxf5 33.Rb3 f4+ 34.Kg2 c5



35.Rxd3 cxd4 36.exf4 Kd5 37.Rd1 Kc4 38.Rc1+ Kxb5 39.f5 d3 40.Kf2 d2 41.Rd1 Rd4 42.Ke3 Kc5 43.f6 Rd6 44.f7 Rf6 45.Rxd2 Rxf7 1/2-1/2

Ivan Cheparinov was held to a second draw by Gawain Jones, who used a little known line in the KID used by Cheparoniv himself in 2009 against Eljanov.

*(Gawain Jones provides a humorous alternative prespective of this game: "I had a fairly quiet night by Kilkenny standards and was asleep by 1am but Ivan, who had his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday during the weekend, explored the Kilkenny nightlife together with the French players. This seemed to help me the following morning as he got nothing out of the opening in a Classical Kings Indian and offered me a draw. I was probably actually better but I was happy to keep half a point ahead of him and with White in the final round."*

**Cheparinov, Ivan (2650) – Jones, Gawain (2635)**

35th Kilkenny Chess Congress (5)  
[ECO "E99"]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 O-O 6.Be2 e5 7.O-O Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.f3 f5 11.g4 Kh8 12.Nd3 f4 13.Rf2 Ng8 14.Rg2 Bf6 15.Bd2 Rf7 16.b4 h5 17.h3 Nf8 18.Be1 Rh7 19.Bf2 Bh4 20.Qe1 1/2-1/2

Final round pairings:

1. Jones ( 4.5 ) - Hebden ( 4.5 )
2. Maze ( 4 ) - Cheparinov ( 4 )
3. Baburin ( 3.5 ) - Lopez ( 3.5 )
4. Daly ( 3.5 ) - McPhillips ( 3.5 )

The final round was a very tense affair with remarkably few draws, the players were all in fighting form.

Colm Daly beat Karl McPhillips in the final round on board 4 while the two Alex's did battle on board 3. These two have played over a dozen times in Irish weekend Masters events and there have been a lot of draws but any wins so far have been for Alex Baburin, and today was no exception, it was a hard fight but Alex Lopez lost.

**Baburin,Alexander (2535) - Astaneh Lopez,Alex (2414)**

35th Kilkenny Chess Congress (6)  
[D15]

*(Notes by Alex Baburin)*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.Nc3 a6

The main move is 5...e6, but 5...a6 has its fans too - White can't yet hunt down the f5-bishop by playing Nh4.

**6.Qb3**

This is the main line. 6.Bd3 is another option.

**6...Ra7!?**

This move may look strange, but it's rather typical for systems with ...a6 - Black does not want to give White a target to attack and thus avoids ...b5. [In the case of 6...b5 White probably should play 7.c5 (as after 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.a4 Black has a promising pawn sacrifice - 8...b4!? 9.Qxb4 Nc6) 7...Nbd7 8.a4 Still, Black has a pawn sac here too - 8...g6 9.Qa3 b4 10.Qxb4 Rb8 11.Qa3 a5.

**7.Bd2**

I must admit that I did not know this line. Apparently, the main line is 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.Bd2 where White tries to prove his edge in symmetrical pawn structure. Here is one example: 8...e6 9.Rc1 Bd6 10.Na4 0-0 11.Bb4 Nc6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.Be2 Bg4 14.O-O Ne4 15.Qb6|^ Qb4? 16.Rxc6 Qxa4 17.Rc7 Raa8 18.a3 Rad8 19.Rxb7 Rd6 20.Qa7 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Nd2 22.Rc1 e5 23.Rb8 Nc4 24.Qa8 1-0 Navara-Rausis, Vilnius 2010.; Another option is 7.a4 .

**7...e6 8.c5**

At first I was going to play 8.Nh4 but then I realised that Black would be

fine after 8...Be4 9.f3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Bd5 Curiously, after 8.Nh4 Black usually plays 8...Bg6, which should be good for White.

**8...h6 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.0-0 Be7**

At that point I realised that I had no advantage - Black has developed his pieces and has no weaknesses. Clearly, White needs to come up with some improvement on this line.

**11.Qd1**

I wanted to play b2-b4 and a2-a4 as it's hard to suggest any other plan. Clearly, Fritz does not approve of my idea as after 11...0-0 it suggests 12.Qb3! :-)

**11...Ne4 12.Nxe4**

12.b4!?

**12...dxe4 13.Ne1 e5 14.Nc2 0-0 15.b4 exd4 16.Nxd4 Bg6 17.Bc3**

Black does not have any problems here and can choose between two main plans. One involves moving his knight to e5, the other - moving it to d5.

**17...Nf6**

This move is OK, but I expected this knight to take a different route. [17...Bf6 The line 18.Qb3 Qe7 is fine for Black. (18...Ne5? 19.Ne6!+/-)]

**18.Qb3!**

The queen comes back to b3 in order to protect the b4-pawn (in case of ...Nd5) and vacate the d1-square for a rook.

**18...Qd5**

This idea is tempting, but may not be best.

**19.Bc4 Qg5 20.Ne2!**

The white knight only looked good on d4, but it did not do any work there.

**20...Raa8 21.Nf4**

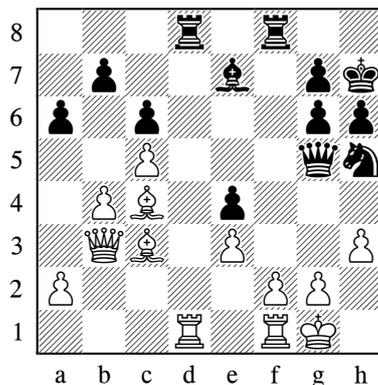
At that point I began to like my position. White has a small edge in a risk-free situation. A draw would give nothing (4 players were ahead of me going into the last round), so I had to play on and see if I could squeeze anything out of this position.

**21...Kh7?!**

Maybe it was better to play 21...Bf5 ; or 21...Bh5.

**22.Rad1 Rad8 23.h3!? Nh5**

**24.Nxg6 fxc6!**



IM Alex Lopez is a very dynamic player, so this move did not surprise me. Black opens the f-file, which gives him some play. Black also removes a target from f7, but this move has drawbacks too. The main is that the e4-pawn might get weak. [Still, 24...fxg6 was a lesser evil compared to 24...Qxg6 25.Rxd8 Bxd8 26.Rd1 Nf6 where White can choose between two promising lines - 27.Bxf6!? (and 27.Be5!/? Be7 28.Qc2 Qf5 29.f4) 27...Qxf6 28.Rd7]

**25.Rxd8**

Fritz likes 25.Qc2 but I am not sure if this move is better than what I played. Visually White is doing great after 24...fxg6!, but I could not find a clear way to improve my position.

**25...Bxd8 26.Rd1 Qf5 27.Be1**

That was my idea - to use the dark-squared bishop to fortify the kingside, while my rook controls the only open file. Having said that, the rook can't do much on the d-file and the e1-bishop had to be relocated later.

**27...Bc7 28.Qc2 Qe5?!**

This move only aids White's plans. [>=28...Nf6]

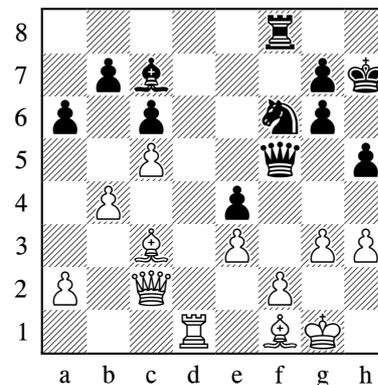
**29.g3 Nf6 30.Bf1**

There was some merit in playing 30.Bc3 Qf5 31.Bxf6 gxf6 and then 32.Qb3.

**30...h5**

It might be better to protect his f6-knight, the main guardian of the e4-pawn, by playing 30...Qf5 31.Bg2 Be5!

**31.Bc3 Qf5?**



Strangely, I expected only this move - and Alex and I did not look for any alternatives in our brief post-mortem. But in fact this is the move which caused Black's problems. He had to play 31...Qe6 so after Bxf6 Black can play ...gxf6 and then ...f6-f5. White is only marginally better after 32.Bg2 Be5 33.Bxe5 Qxe5 34.Rd4 Re8.

**32.Bxf6! Rxf6 33.Bg2 h4 34.g4 Qe5 35.Qxe4 35...Qb2**

The endgame arising after 35...Qxe4 36.Bxe4 Rf7 37.f4 Re7 38.Rd4 a5 39.a3 is hopeless for Black - he is a pawn down, has two potential weaknesses (on g6 and b7) and his bishop is passive.

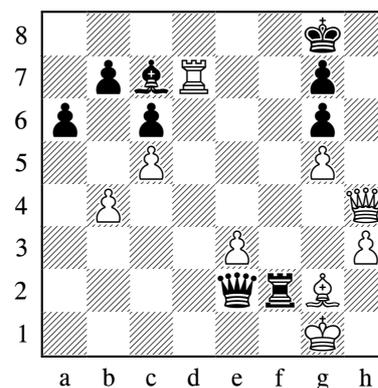
**36.Rf1**

36.Bf3 was probably a better move, as the rook would need to come out from f1 later anyway.

**36...Qxa2 37.g5 Rf8 38.Qxh4+ Kg8 39.Rd1 Qe2**

Black is also doomed after 39...Rd8 40.Rxd8+ Bxd8 41.Bf1 but objectively it was a better line for Black. Alex wanted to try one trick, which was not a bad idea:

**40.Rd7 Rxf2**



This is it! I must admit that I missed this move, although I was looking out for similar sacrifices. White can't take the rook while his bishop on g2, hence the following move:

**41.Bd5+! cxd5 42.Qxf2 Bh2+ 43.Kg2 1-0**

The board 2 clash of Sebastian Maze and Ivan Cheparinov always looked like being a draw from an early stage but neither player seemed to want to share the point, it was move 50 before peace was declared. But, of course, the real money was being decided on board 1 where Gawain Jones had white against Mark Hebden. Gawain's FIDE rating has shot up in the past year, he has become a very strong grandmaster. I think his preparation and opening knowledge are a key factor in his strength and I think this game shows this well.

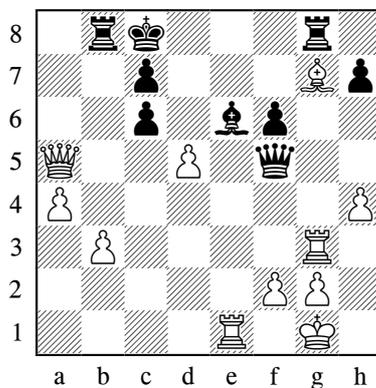
Again Gawain Jones offers his perspective:

*"There is never really any time to prepare with so many games squeezed into a weekend but unfortunately for Mark he fell into some homework of mine and was in a lot of trouble straight out of the opening. He fought on and I consumed a fair amount of time but his position was just too bad with both king and queen in trouble coupled with a disastrous pawn structure."*

**Jones, Gawain (2635) - Hebden, Mark (2515)**

35th Kilkenny Chess Congress (6)  
[ECO "C56"]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.e5 d5 6.Bb5 Ne4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Be3 Bd7 9.Bxc6 bxc6 10.Nd2 Qh4 11.0-0 Bb6 12.a4 a5 13.e6 Bxe6 14.Nxe4 Qxe4 15.Re1 Bxd4 16.Bxd4 Qg6?! [Better was 16...Qh4 17.Bxg7 Rg8 18.Be5 Kd7.] 17.Ra3 Kd7?! 18.Rg3 Qf5 19.Qd2 Qh5 20.Bxg7 Rhg8 21.Qd4 [21.c4!] 21...Qf5 22.c4 Rab8 23.h4 Rb4 24.b3 Kc8? [24...Qc2] 25.Qa7 f6 26.Qxa5 Rb8 27.cxd5**



**27...cxd5? [27...Qxd5] 28.Rc1 Qf4 29.Bh6! Qd6 30.Rgc3 Rb7 31.Qa8+ 1-0**

Gawain Jones finishes his blog entry on this event with: "I'd like to thank the organisers for again running a highly enjoyable tournament and warmly recommend it if you want to receive some Irish hospitality."

For full details of the masters event – <http://www.icu.ie/misc/games/sm/kilkenny2011/masters/index.html>

## Major

The major event is for the stronger club players, those rated over 1600 but not over 2000. This was jointly won by Bartłomiej Cichonski and Henk de Jonge after most of the running in this event had been done by Eamonn Walls but Henk managed to beat Eamonn in the final round. For full details of the major event - <http://www.icu.ie/misc/games/sm/kilkenny2011/major/index.html>

## James Mason

This is the 1200 to 1600 event named after the famous 19th century chessplayer, James Mason, who hailed originally from Kilkenny. Pat Coleman won this event on 5.5/6 with Ben Cullen in second place on 5/6. For full details on this event <http://www.icu.ie/misc/games/sm/kilkenny2011/minor/index.html>

## Challengers

This section is for those players rated below 1200 and the players without a rating. It was jointly won by Alex Buckley and Suliman Ali, for full details, please <http://www.icu.ie/misc/games/sm/kilkenny2011/challengers/index.html>

Kilkenny 2011 was undoubtedly a great success and that's primarily down to the hard work of the very experienced organising team of Jack Lowry, Maurice Buckley and Alan Dooley; long may they continue to organise this fantastic event.

# 2011 Galway Chess Congress

## GM Gawain Jones

I've just returned home from Galway. I believe the last time I played was in 2007 according to the trophy – I managed a win that time too :)

I arrived in Galway on Thursday and played an 18 board simultaneous display at the Galway Bridge club. As is customary in simul, I had White on all boards and the openings all went pretty well. I was close to scoring the perfect 18 but Oissine Murphy, the younger brother of Dara who I coached a few times back when I was living in Ireland, found a nice idea. I had an extra pawn in a rook and pawn endgame but rushed to create a passed pawn instead of activating my king and Oissine created some mating threats forcing me to take the draw. Congratulations to him!

My fellow team-mate from Ennis, Lorcan O'Toole, kindly put me up in his nice

new house that he only completed a couple months ago. Friday I checked in to the Salthill Hotel where the tournament was taking place. With a few hours to kill before the games started in the evening, I took a walk into Galway and took a few photos. I'll try and upload those as soon as possible. After a couple of detours I finally managed to return to Salthill rather exhausted but happy I'd managed at least a little bit of exercise. I think the roundtrip was roughly 12km which was a good workout.

Onto the chess. First round I had White against Seamus Duffy, a 1900 who I've played a couple of times previously. He tried a rather suspicious line of the ...Qd6 Scandinavian. I remembered some ideas from a game I'd annotated for Chesspublishing last year and had a winning position after nine moves. Seamus fought on but had to resign after 26 moves.

Unusually for an Irish weekender, I had a quiet night with just two beers! The reason? The Rugby World Cup of course! England were playing Scotland at 8.30am in the morning and so I was up early to grab some breakfast first. I won't dwell on the game here, suffice it to say England definitely didn't impress but in the end squeezed home and qualified for the Quarter Finals against France next weekend. I'll be in Iceland for that game but hopefully can find a tv showing it somewhere!

Round Two I played another Ennis team-mate and current captain, Rory Quinn. I arrived twenty minutes late due to the rugby but, luckily for me, Rory had the White pieces and arrived even later. It was a bit unfortunate for him. He was commuting from Ennis, which should be around an hour away but there was a half marathon run on just outside which had closed the road and delayed him. He arrived rather flustered and collapsed quickly. He was already worse straight out of the opening, but blundered on move 13 and resigned instantly.

The quick game meant we had a couple of hours rest before round three. I was paired with Ryan-Rhys Griffiths, a talented junior who recently did well in the British Championships. I decided to follow analysis from my new book in the Bb5+ Sicilian. Ryan was well booked up and repeated the final round game Rendle-Gormally from the British. I had an improvement prepared and quickly won a pawn and converted fairly comfortably.

The Saturday is always tough in Irish weekend tournaments with three games. In the final round of the day I had the hardest possible pairing; Black against the other GM in the field, Alex Baburin. We played a Fianchetto Kings Indian and I played a new idea which I looked at about a year ago. The position erupted into life but Alex successfully navigated the tactics and at move 15 the game was swapping into a drawn endgame and so he accepted my draw offer. A result I was



Gawain receives the trophy from chief Galway organiser, Indranil Banerjee

*Photo by Gerry Graham.*

pleased with as Alex is a strong, solid GM and so a draw with Black is never a bad result. It also meant I had an extra ½ point more than him as he drew his round three game with Colm Daly.

There was a bit of drama this round with Ryan and Colm being the last to finish. Colm had equalised very easily in the opening and had been pressing all game. However both sides started to err short on time and the game became very unclear. Colm took control again and forced Ryan to sacrifice the exchange in the endgame. It should have been a win for Black with rook and two pawns against bishop and two pawns but, with both sides playing on the 10 second increment, Colm blundered his rook. Having picked up his king he realised to his horror that his rook was attacked. He tried to get round it by claiming he was simply adjusting his king but the arbiter Gerry Graham stepped in and, after Colm had calmed down, he accepted his loss.

Another fairly early night as Sunday morning was the important Ireland-Italy game! Ireland had scored a notable upset defeating Australia earlier in the competition but still had to beat Italy to advance. After a close first half, Italy suffered an injury to a pivotal prop and fell apart in the second. Meanwhile I had White against the only other player in the section who had travelled over from England, John Merriman. I played the Universal System against the French and he bravely grabbed a slightly poisonous pawn. I was able to get a big time advantage using some analysis I'd had on my computer for a few years. He defended quite well but in the end I crashed through with a kingside attack.

Colm is never far from controversy and again he managed to influence the tournament. After arriving late he disappeared in a complex position against Tony Aherne. We all watched as the 22minutes on his clock ticked away and Tony won on time. I believe Colm later apologised. This meant that Tony rose to 4/5 and was paired with me in the last round. Meanwhile on board two Alex Baburin had White against Alex Lopez who both had 4. Board three saw John Merriman (3.5) with White against Ryan (4).

I played a sideline of the Kings Indian with which I have been very successful. The game was a typical Classical Variation, that's to say very murky. In the end Tony ran short on time and I successfully broke on the kingside.

The two Alexs drew on board two and took 3rd= while Ryan defeated John to take second outright. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Lorcan for putting me up and ferrying me around, Indy and Pete for organising the tournament, Gerry for ensuring the tournament ran very smoothly and the Salthill Hotel for a great venue. Hopefully I'll be able to return again next year in an attempt to hold on to the trophy! Final thanks have to go to Sue for helping me out with my preparation for round 5; she could remember the theory much better than me!

The results can found by clicking the links:

[Masters](http://www.icu.ie/tournaments/display.php?id=639) Crosstable is available - <http://www.icu.ie/tournaments/display.php?id=639>

[Major](http://www.icu.ie/tournaments/display.php?id=637) Crosstable is available - <http://www.icu.ie/tournaments/display.php?id=637>

[Minor](http://www.icu.ie/tournaments/display.php?id=638) Crosstable is available - <http://www.icu.ie/tournaments/display.php?id=638>

### Jones, Gawain - Duffy, Seamus

Galway Masters (1)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6  
4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bh5 7.g4  
Bg6 8.Ne5 c6 9.Bg2 e6 10.h4 h5  
11.g5 Nd5 12.Nxg6 fxc6 13.Qd3  
Ne7 14.Ne4 Qc7 15.Nc5 Qd6  
16.Qb3 b6 17.Nxe6 Nd5 18.Bxd5  
cxd5 19.Qxd5 Nc6 20.Be3 Rc8  
21.Qe4 Kf7 22.Nf4 Re8 23.Qd3 Re7  
24.c3 Nd8 25.O-O-O Rc7 26.Rh3 1-0

### Baburin,Alexander –

Jones,Gawain

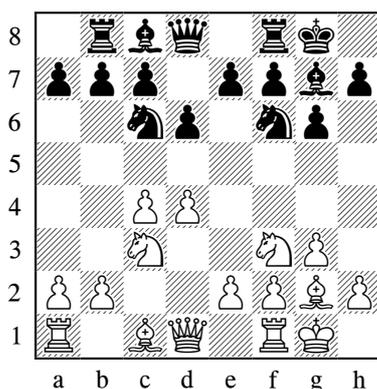
[E62]

Galway Masters (4)

(Notes by Alex Baburin)

Before this game my opponent was leading with 3 points while I had 2.5 points, so I was determined to play for a win.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2  
0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.c4 Nc6 7.Nc3 Rb8



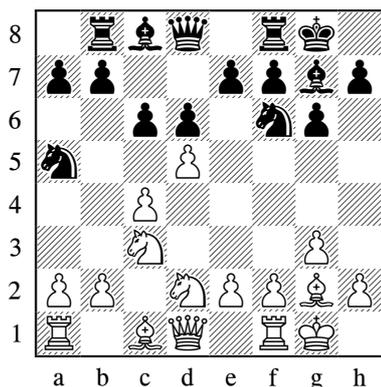
7...a6 8.d5 Na5 9.Nd2 c6 10.b4 Nxc4  
11.Nxc4 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Bxa1  
13.Ndb6 Rb8 14.Bh6 Bg7 15.Bxg7  
Kxg7 16.Nxc8 Rxc8 17.e4 b5 18.Ne3  
a5 19.a3 axb4 20.axb4 Qb6 21.h4  
Ra8 22.h5 Ra4 23.Qd2 Rfa8 24.Rc1  
Kg8 25.Ng4 Ra2 26.Qc3 f6 27.Qb3+  
Kf8 28.hxc6 hxc6 29.Qe6 R8a7?  
30.e5!+- Toprover-Zagorovsky,  
Russian Ch, Voronezh 1959.

### 8.d5

In this position White has many moves (for example 8.h3, 8.Re1 or 8.Qd3) and I tried most them over the years. Gawain Jones only recently started playing the King's Indian, so I wanted to surprise him

with my choice. But it did not work out that way...

**8...Na5 9.Nd2 c6!?**



I knew that after 7. d5 Na5 8.Nfd2 the move 8...c6! is very strong, but I thought that with inclusion of Nc3 and Rb8 Black had to play 9...c5. I was wrong.

**10.b4**

I considered playing 10.Rb1 but felt that only 10.b4 would be a challenge for Black. Indeed, after 10.Rb1 Black seems OK, for example: 10...cxd5 11.cxd5 Bd7 (11...Bf5 12.e4 Bd7 13.b4?! Qc7 14.Ne2 Nc4 15.h3 Rfc8-/+ Aaberg-McShane, Copenhagen 2001.) 12.b3 b5 13.Nde4 Nh5 14.Bb2 Qb6 15.e3 b4 16.Ne2 Bb5 17.Re1 Bxb2 18.Rxb2 Bxe2 19.Rxe2+/- Lerner-Markowski, Metz open 1998.

**10...Nxc4**

10...Nxd5? 11.cxd5 Bxc3 12.Rb1 cxd5 13.bxa5 Bf5 14.Rb5 d4 15.Ne4 a6 16.Rxf5 gxf5 17.Nxc3 dxc3 18.Bh6+ Donner-Naranja, Leipzig 1960.

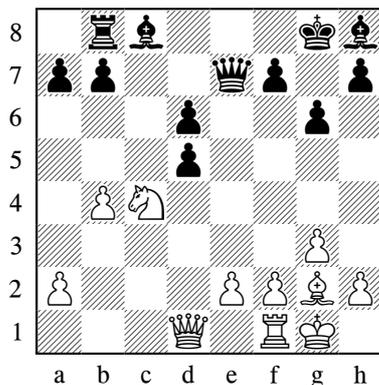
**11.Nxc4 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Bxa1 13.Bh6 Bh8!N**

This move is stronger than 13...Bg7 which was tried over 50 years ago - 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Nde3 f6 16.Qd4 Ra8 17.f4 d5 18.Rd1 Bg4?! 19.Nxg4 dxc4 20.Ne3+/- Pirc-Larsen, Sarajevo 1960.

**14.Bxf8**

White can fight for advantage only after 14.Nf4! Then Black must choose between 14...Re8 (and 14...d5 15.Bxf8 Qxf8 followed by ...e5.) 15.e4.

**14...cxd5 15.Bxe7 Qxe7**



15...Qxe7 Black is fine after 16.Qxd5 (16.Bxd5?? Bh3).

**16...Be6 17.Qxd6 Qxd6 18.Nxd6 b5 1/2-1/2**

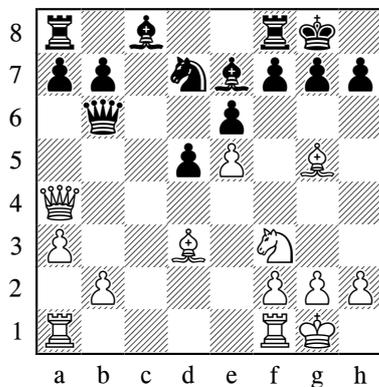
**Jones, Gawain - Merriman, John**

Galway Masters (5)

[ECO C05]

(Notes by Rory Quinn)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ng3 Qb6 8.O-O cxd4 9.cxd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 Qxd4 11.Nf3 Qb6 12.a3 Be7 13.Qa4 O-O 14.Bg5!



**14... f6**

If 14...Bxg5 15.Bxh7+ is possible.

**15.Qh4 g6 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Bxf6 Nxf6 18.b4 Bd7 19.Rae1 Rac8 20.Qh6 Rc3 21.Bxg6 hxg6 22.Qxg6+ Kh8 23.Qh6+ Kg8 24.Qg6+ Kh8 25.Ng5 Be8 26.Qh6+ Kg8 27.Nxe6 Rf7 28.Qg6+ Kh8 29.Ng5 Rf8 30.Rxe8 1-0**

**Baburin,Alex -**

**Astaneh Lopez,Alex**

[ECO A49]

Galway Masters (6)

(Notes by Alex Baburin)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.c4 c6 6.Nc3 d5 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.Ne5 Nc6 9.0-0 Bf5 10.Bf4 Rc8 11.Rc1 Qa5 12.Qd2 Rfd8 13.Rfd1 Ng4 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.h3 Nf6 16.Be5 Bf8 17.a3 Nd7 18.Bf4 Nb6 19.e3 Bg7 20.Qe2 c5?

20...Nc4; 20...Re8.

**21.dxc5 Qxc5 22.e4**

I also considered 22.Nxd5 Qxc1 23.Nxe7+ Kf8 24.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 25.Kh2 Rc2 (25...Kxe7? 26.e4!+- [%csl Rc1, Rf5][%cal Ge4f5,Gf4c1]) 26.Qa6 Kxe7 27.Qxa7+ Nd7 28.e4 Be6 29.b4 Kf8; Fritz12 gives 22.g4 Be6 23.Na2 Qa5 24.Bc7 which is hard to understand.]

**22...dxe4 23.Nd5 Rxd5?**

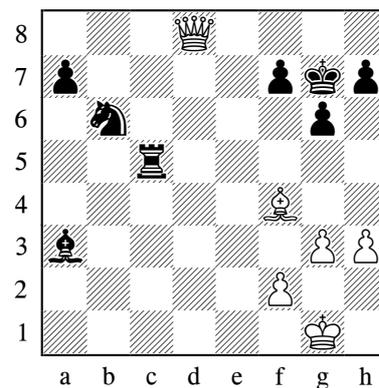
23...Qxd5.

**24.Rxc5 Rdx5?! 25.Bxe4 Bxe4 26.Qxe4 Bxb2 27.Qxe7 Bxa3**

27...Nd5 28.Rxd5! Rxd5 29.Qb7 Rd1+ 30.Kg2 Rc2 31.Qb3 Rdd2 32.Bxd2 Rxd2 33.Qe3!+-

**28.Rd8+ Rxd8 29.Qxd8+ Kg7**

At that moment I had 20 minutes, while my opponent had just 2. I had seen the winning line, but then changed my mind and decided to play a 'stronger' move...



**30.Be3?**

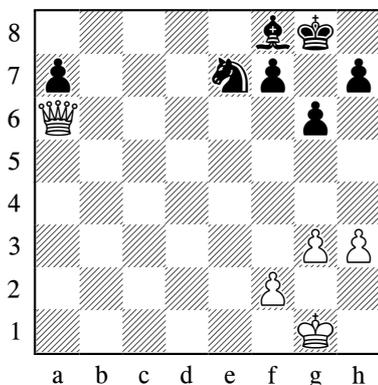
Initially I was planning 30.Qd4+ Then after 30...f6 31.Qe3 Ra5 32.Bh6+ Kf7 33.Qb3+ Ke7 34.Qg8 Black won't survive - and he probably would lose on time, despite 10 seconds

increment. Instead of that I 'won' the exchange.

30...Rd5 31.Bd4+ Rxd4 32.Qxd4+ Kg8 33.Qe5

33.Qa1 would win the a7-pawn faster, but that does not matter.

33...Bf8 34.Qa5 Nc8 35.Qa6 Ne7



I am not even sure that White can win here - and Black's defence is pretty easy - just keep the enemy pieces away from the f7-pawn.

36.g4

I wanted to prevent ...h5, but this move has drawbacks too.

36...Nd5 37.Qxa7 Nf4 38.h4 h6 39.Kf1 Ne6 40.Qb8 g5 41.hxg5 hxg5 42.Ke2 Kg7 43.Qe5+ Kg8 44.Kd3 Bc5 45.Qf5 Kg7 46.Kc4 Be7 47.Kd5 Bf6 48.Kd6 Nf8 49.Kc7 Be7 50.Kc8 Bf6 51.f4 Ne6 52.fxg5 Nxg5 53.Kd7 Ne6 54.Qd5 Bg5 55.Qc4 Bf4 56.Ke7 Bg5+ 57.Ke8 Bf6 58.Qc6 Kg8 59.Kd7 Kg7 60.Qd5 Ng5 61.Qf5 1/2-1/2

Quinn, Rory - Fitzsimons, David [ECO C12]

Galway Masters (6)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4 5.e5 h6 6.Be3 Ne4 7.Qg4 g6 8.Bd3 h5 9.Qf3 Nxc3 10.a3 Ba5 11.Bd2 c5 12.bxc3 Nc6 13.dxc5 Nxe5 14.Qe3 Qf6 15.Ne2 Bd7 16.Nd4 Nxd3+ 17.cxd3 0-0 18.0-0 e5 19.Qf3 Qxf3 20.Nxf3 f6 21.Rfb1 b6 22.cxb6 Bxb6 23.a4 Ba5 24.Rb7 Bc6 25.Re7 Rfe8 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.d4 e4 28.Nh4 Kf7 29.Kf1 Rb8 30.Ra3 Bd7 0-1

Aherne, Anthony - Jones, Gawain [ECO E94]

Galway Masters (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Be3 c6 9.d5 c5 10.Ne1 Kh8 11.Nd3 Ng8 12.Rb1 f5 13.f3 a6 14.b4 b6 15.a4 a5 16.bxc5 Nxc5 17.Nxc5 bxc5 18.Qb3 Ra6 19.Qc2 Nf6 20.Rb8 f4 21.Bd2 g5 22.Nd1 Qc7 23.Qb1 h5 24.Kf2 Nd7 25.Rb5 Bf6 26.Ke1 Bd8 27.Nf2 Qa7 28.Nd3 Nb6 29.Nb2 Bd7 30.h3 Qa8 31.Rb3 Bc7 32.Qa2 Rb8 33.Kf2 Rb7 34.Rb1 Qe8 35.Ra3 Ra8 36.Nd1 Bd8 37.Nc3 g4 38.Rh1 Bh4+ 39.Kf1 gxh3 40.gxh3 0-1

I would like to acknowledge the following excellent resources used in the construction of this article.

[www.icu.ie](http://www.icu.ie)

[www.chesstoday.net](http://www.chesstoday.net)

[www.ennischessclub.wordpress.com](http://www.ennischessclub.wordpress.com)

<http://gawainjones.co.uk/wp/>

## CHESS SPY!

PETER CAFOLLA

My first two tournaments of the new season could hardly have been more contrasting affairs. The City Of Dublin started off in chaos with the first round draw taking more than one and a half hours due to a software hitch. Given that there were only eight participants present at the time one would imagine that someone could have worked out the draw in their head and let us get on with the games while they played with their computer but sadly this was not the case. By the time the event did start most of us just wanted to get out of there and this apathy for the contest prevailed for most of the weekend with a complete lack of atmosphere and almost every contestant taking a bye at some stage. By Sunday I think that only four of the ten contestants had actually played all six rounds. The two lower sections had healthier numbers than have been seen in recent years so that was encouraging but Dublin city centre events continually fail to deliver decent numbers in the top sections.

Galway on the other hand was a marvellous event with a very strong field in the Masters of forty four players including two Grandmasters and an I.M. and no less than four ex Irish champions in total. There was also a nice sprinkling of foreign players to provide some variety. The playing conditions were excellent, comfortable seating, plenty of space, digital clocks and an incremental time control, carpeted floor, good lighting, a water cooler and an excellent controller in Gerry Graham, even if he did delay round five for a silly rugby match when he never does the same in Bunnratty for the much more important Carling Cup final!

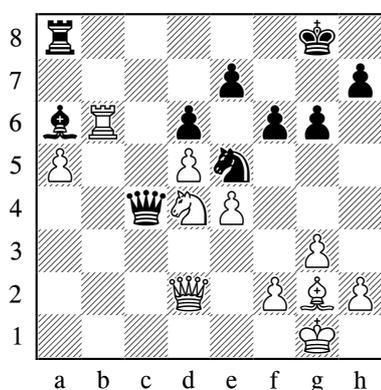
I think the LCU should ask themselves why more strong Dublin players play in events like Kilkenny, Bunnratty, Cork and Galway than do in the City of Dublin and the Leinster Senior? I think that Dublin traffic and the lack of parking is the reason but perhaps there are other reasons. I would like to see venues like the D4 Hotel in Ballsbridge and the Green Isle used to see if the situation improves.

Written in October 2011.

# 2011 Limerick Open **By Rory Quinn**

IM Sam Collins won the 2011 Limerick Open 2011 held on the Halloween holiday weekend (29th-31st Oct) at the South Court Hotel Limerick. There were 82 entries in both the Philip Hogarty Open (49 players including three IMs) and the Under 1400 Sections (33 players).

Romanian IM Dragos Dumitrache (2482) was top seed, fresh from a 2534 performance rating on board 1 for Adare at the recent European Club Cup. He found that Irish weekenders are a different kettle of fish however as first Liam O'Brien of Sarsfields and then Carl Jackson of Gonzaga overturned 600+ rating point gaps to score victories at his expense.



**Dumitrache - Jackson**  
(White to play)

The position above is taken from the game Dumitrache vs Jackson on move 32. White is obviously better in this position however Black has a sneaky tactic which White missed. What did White play now and what was Black's response?

Not that the other top seeds had things so easy either. Bernd Thee had his chances against Adare teammate Alex Lopez and Ennis player Gerry Casey made Sam Collins work for the full point in round 1.

## Gerry Casey-Sam Collins IM Limerick Open 2011 Round 1 (Notes by Rory Quinn)

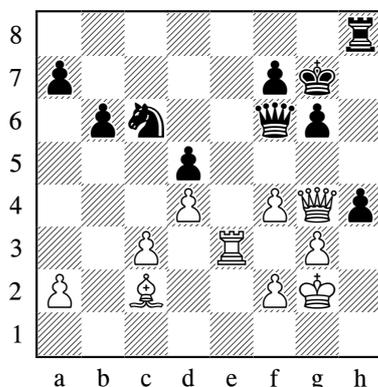
I asked Gerry for this game for the blog and he kindly supplied it, though without any annotations. I am not

going to add much to the game score (I am manifestly not the person to be annotating these games!).

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5**

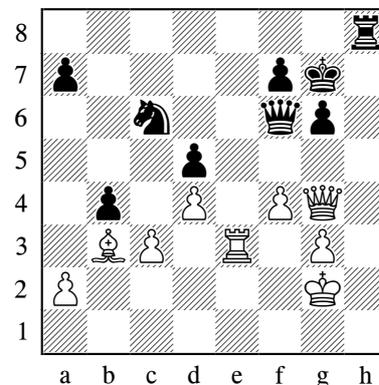
Sam plays his favourite Tarrasch. My knowledge of this system could probably be safely written on the back of a postage stamp. Just from looking at the game it seems White played the opening quite solidly if a little unambitiously

**4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.e3 Nf6 7.Be2 cxd4 8.exd4 Ne4 9.0-0 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Be7 11.Bf4 0-0 12.Re1 Bd6 13.Bg3 Bxg3 14.hxg3 Bg4 15.Qb3 b6 16.Bd3 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Qd6 18.Re3 Rae8 19.Rae1 Rxe3 20.Rxe3 h5 21.Kg2 g6 22.Qd1 Kg7 23.f4 Rh8 24.Qf3 h4 25.Qg4 Qf6 26.Bc2?!**



After the game Sam suggested 26.f5 as an alternative for white here. From talking to Gerry later he was quite upbeat about his chances after f5 but I don't see anything special for white, after black exchanges on g3 he can play g5 if white takes back with the f pawn and if white plays f4 planning to take with the rook on g3, Ne7 seems to cover everything. The position still seems fairly equal.

**26...b5 27.Bb3 hxg3 28.fxg3 b4**



## 29.Bxd5?

As Sam pointed out after the game 29.Qg5 was the right way to try and hold the balance.

**29...bxc3 30.Qd7 c2 31.Rc3 Nxd4 32.Rc7**

I was watching the game at this point and was wondering if 32.Bxf7 might be worth trying here and in fact it does have the advantage over the game continuation that it doesn't lose immediately however Black is still better after 32...Rd8 33.Qb7 Kf8.

**32...Rd8 0-1**

Sam went on to win the event for the second year running on a perfect 6 out of 6 score. The crucial game was between Alex Lopez and himself in round 6 when both players were on 5 out of 5. Sam had the white bits and the game went into a Slav system. Sam's win in the second last game to finish meant he finished on a 100% score and allowed Gordon Freeman and yours truly to catch Alex on 5 and finish in joint second place. Incidentally the last game to finish was between the two giant killers (Liam O'Brien and Carl Jackson) and ended in a draw after some strange twists and turns in a rook and pawn ending. Those who were watching will know what I mean! Other prize

winner in the Open were Henk de Jonge and Valentine Kalinins.

Well done to the organisers, particularly John Cassidy (assisted by Ray O'Brien) who took over the running of the event at short notice after Jamie Flynn's burgeoning poker career precluded him from running the event this year. Hopefully the competition will continue and go from strength to strength as it is a nice memorial to Philip Hogarty and has been a fixture in the Irish chess calendar for the last number of years.

Prize winners list:

**OPEN SECTION:**

1st Philip Hogarty Open prize IM Sam Collins 6 pts.

Joint 2nd-4th Philip Hogarty Open prize Gordon Freeman, IM Alex Lopez, Rory Quinn all on 5 points.  
Best U-2000 Philip Hogarty Open prize Henk de Jonge 4 points.  
Best U-1800 rating prize Philip Hogarty Open prize Valentine Kalinins 4.5 points.  
Best U-1600 rating prize Philip Hogarty Open prize Len Hackett 4 points.  
Special prize Open for beating a titled player prize Liam O'Brien and Carl Jackson who both beat IM Dumitrache 4 points.

**UNDER 1400 SECTION:**

1st U-1400 Major James Danaher 5.5 points.

Joint 2nd-5th U-1400 Major John P Dunne, Jack Fitzgerald, Jeffrey Alfred and Thomas Keating 4.5 points.  
1000-1200 rating prize Jeffrey Alfred 4.5 points.  
800-1000 rating prize Ali Suliman and Muthu Thangaramanujam 4 points.  
Unrated prize Kevin Kilduff 4 points.

Congratulations to all prize winners!

Solution: in the Dumitrache-Jackson game, White moved the knight allowing Nf3+.

<http://ennischessclub.wordpress.com/page/2/>



## Darren the Tiger against Philip the Heffalump

Annotated by Darren McCabe

This game is interesting as it's a good demonstration of what kind of game plan you should have when you are playing somebody who is much higher rated than you! Recently I read a book called Chess for Tigers in which the author gives a lot of good practical advice on how to deal with players who vastly out rate you. He compares these players to a mythical creature called a Heffalump. These creatures are stronger than you (the Tiger) in every conceivable way and to go toe to toe with them on equal terms is suicide. The author goes on to state that instead of fighting these players on open terrain or in the jungle where they are stronger than you, you should try to entice them into a swamp! The idea of which is that they may come unstuck in the muddy conditions! So what does this mean on a chessboard? My gameplan should be to entice him into a complicated position where he has more chances to go wrong and this is what I tried to do.

**Darren McCabe (1949) –**

**Philip Short FM (2293)**

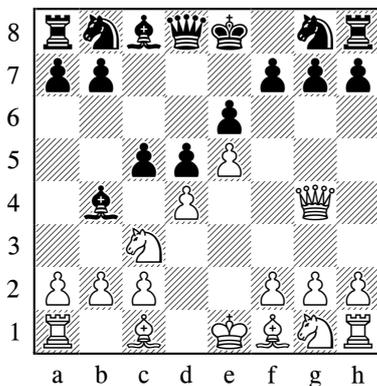
Irish Championships 2011

**French Winawer**

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4**

The Winawer, I was happy to see this move as the mainline of this lead to complicated positions. My problem with going into the mainline is that Philip has played this position for the last 30 years with success. I needed to come up with something a little different.

**4.e5 c5 5.Qg4**



This was the move I had prepared. White attacks the pawn on g7, the capture of which complicates the game. Another idea is that white can play Nf3 without cutting the queen off from the Kingside and white can also play dxc5 which attacks the bishop on b4. This move has been criticised in a lot of books and therefore is unpopular. I did manage to find some interesting analysis on this line which generally had an assessment of "Black can probably equalise with best play but the positions are

extremely messy which can give white good practical chances". According to my gameplan this opening was a perfect choice. It must also be said that the likelihood that my opponent had played these positions before was slim and that by studying these positions before the game gave me a huge advantage.

### 5...Ne7

This move is best. Black gambits the pawns much like the main line of the Winawer. The idea of which is that while white is busy taking pawns on the Kingside with his queen, it may become misplaced allowing the Black queen to strike on the queenside. Kf8 misplaces the King and g6 weakens the dark squares around the Black kingside.

### 6.dxc5

With this move, white attacks the bishop on b4 and opens lines for his pieces. The downside is that he's weakening his centre and allowing a pawn majority in the centre. (6. Qxg7 Rg8 7. Qxh7 cxd4 8. a3 Qa5 9. axb4 Qxa1 10. Nce2 Nbc6 and Black stands better.)

### 6... Nbc6

Black wastes no time putting pressure on the vulnerable d4 and e5 squares. (6... Bxc3+ is an alternative. Black cripples the queenside pawns with this move. However, compared to a mainline Winawer, white hasn't had to play the move a3. This has won him a tempo and keeps open ideas of Ba3. I could give pages of analysis on this move but I'm supposed to be annotating a game not writing an opening book! The game can continue 7. bxc3 O-O 8. Bd3 Nd7 9. Nf3 Ng6 10. Bxg6 hxg6 11. Ng5 Nxe5 12. Qh4 and Black will not survive. Ok Black can defend better but I gave this line as a taste of what can happen if Black plays too routinely.)

### 7.Qxg7 Rg8 8.Qxh7

White takes the two pawns causing massive complications on the board. This puts pressure on Black to prove compensation for the pawns. I'm now

3 pawns up so Philip has to play accurately and not allow me to consolidate the position.

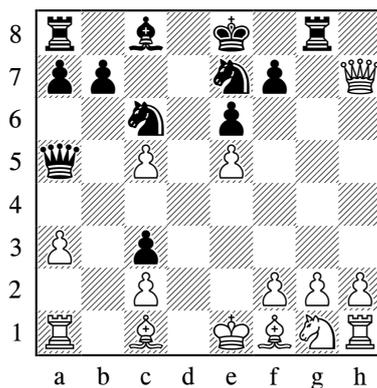
### 8...d4

This move is critical. Any other moves allow White an easy time. Black attacks the pinned knight.

### 9.a3 Ba5

This is a mistake. (9... Qa5 This move is clearly better. The bishop is immune to capture as the rook will hang. The queen also exerts more pressure on the c3 knight. I had looked at this position the night before and was confident that 10. Rb1 dxc3 11. Be3 gives white an edge. A sample line may continue Bxc5 12. b4 Bxb4 13. axb4 Nxb4 14. Nf3 Bd7 15. Be2 Rxc2 16. Bg5 Ng6 17. Kf1 Rg4 18. Qg8+ Nf8 19. h3 Re4 20. Bf6 with a good position for White.)

### 10.b4 dxc3 11.bxa5 Qxa5



Ok, time to take stock of the position. White for the moment is 2 pawns up. The pawns are however weak and the likelihood is that Black will be able to win them back. White has the two bishops, which in an open position can cause havoc and White also has a passed h-pawn. Black will endeavour to try win back his lost material by capturing on c5 and hopefully e5 with his queen. If he can achieve this, he will stand very well. So the battle will be contested around whites weak pawns. These pawns are most likely destined to be lost but White's advantage lies in the fact that he can give them back on his own terms. While Black is trying

to round them up, White will get counterplay by pushing his h-pawn down the board. This in turn ties the Black pieces down.

### 12. Nf3 Qxc5 13. Qe4

The White queen returns to protect the e5-pawn and moves out of the way of the passed h-pawn.

### 13...Ng6

Black in turn gangs up on e5. 14. Be3 White develops the bishop with tempo.

### 14...Qa5 15.h4

This move is correct. White gives his e5-pawn to open the position further for his bishops. With the pawn on e5 gone, whites dark squared bishop can influence the important a1-h8 diagonal after a move like Bd4.

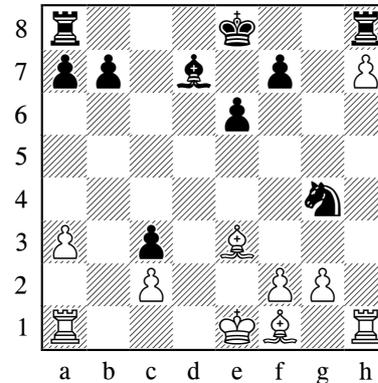
### 15... Bd7

Black declines the offer for the moment but I don't think it changes much.

### 16. h5

On it goes!

### 16...Ngxe5 17. Nxe5 Qxe5 18. Qxe5 Nxe5 19. h6 Ng4 20. h7 Rh8



And Black's rook is tied down! I must admit here I over estimated my position. I thought that after Bd4 I was completely winning. Black has a few hidden resources in the position and Philip does well to find them.

### 21.Bd4

Played fairly quickly and without much thought. I put the Bishop on its ideal diagonal and attacked the c3-pawn. This seems the most natural move in the position but its inaccurate. It occurred to me after the game that the manoeuvre Bc5-Bd6 may be stronger. Fritz gives this

line: 21. Bc5 b6 22. Bd6 Rc8 23. Rh4 f5 24. Be2 Rc6 25. Rd1 with the idea of Bxg4 and Be5, when Black can pretty much resign.

**21... e5 22. Bxc3**

White snatches the pawn. This gives Black counterplay. White could have have still played the Bc5-Bd6 manoeuvre with similar ideas to the last note.

**22...Rc8 23.Kd2**

Not best, White leaves the f2-pawn en-prise. I thought that the pawn was immune due to the weakness of the e5-pawn. (23. Rh3 is better. Nxf2 24. Bxe5)

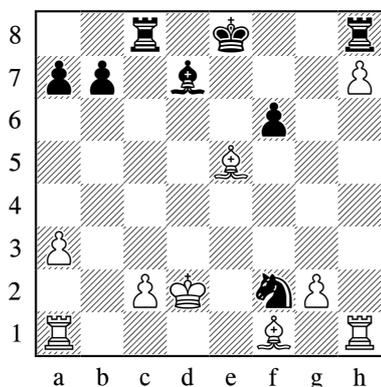
**23...Nxf2**

I thought my opponent had blundered! Here I got really excited at the prospect of beating a Fide Master and instantly played.

**24. Bxe5**

As so happens in chess, you see tactics after you make the move. Philip instantly replied.

**24...f6**



My heart sank! I felt sick to my stomach. I realised straight away that the f6-pawn was immune and with the rook and the bishop both attacked, I knew I was losing one of them.

**25.Re1**

Not the best continuation I could have chosen. It can be very hard to

regain composure after the disappointment of allowing a winning position to turn into a losing one. (25. Bd4 is the best, when Black can struggle to convert the point. Nxh1 26. Bd3 Ng3 27. Bxf6 Kf7 28. Bxh8 Rxh8 29. Rb1.)

**25...fxe5 26.Rxe5+ Kf7**

Here is a very important moment. I knew I was lost. So what can I do? Do I resign? Do I cheekily offer a draw? Or do I say to myself, "Okay I know im probably going to lose but I'm going to make it as hard for him as possible." In that Chess for Tigers book I mentioned earlier, the book has a chapter on the Art of Swindling. The book says that most swindles occur when the weaker side captures the initiative and creates problems for the stronger side to solve. With this in mind I played my next move quickly and confidently.

**27.Rh4**

This move threatens Rf4 forking King and knight.

**27...Ng4 28.Rg5**

I played this move with the thought of giving up a rook for two pieces and maybe being able to set up a fortress with the Rook, Bishop and Pawns.

**28... Nf6 29.Bd3 Be6 30.Bg6+ Ke7 31.Bd3**

Threatening Rg7.

**31...Rcf8**

Stopping any g7 ideas. I was playing these moves almost instantly. Philip was short of time in this position as he had used a lot of time earlier in the game. By playing quickly, I'm exerting more pressure on him.

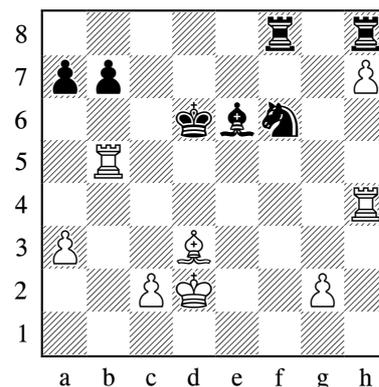
**32. Re5**

Threatening Bf5 ideas.

**32...Kd6 33. Rb5**

Threatening the b7 pawn. Over the last few moves I have been creating as many problems as possible for Philip to solve. If he solves them

correctly I will lose but if he makes a slip especially in time trouble, I might be able to save myself.



**33... Bd5**

33...b6 or Rf7 might be better.

**34.Rd4**

Pinning the bishop and threatening c4.

**34...Ke5**

Philip makes a mistake, allowing me to save the game with the following tactic:

**35.Rdx5+ Nxd5 36.c4 Rf2+ 37.Ke1 Rxc2 38.Rxd5+ Ke6**

This position is drawn. Black's h8-rook is tied down to stopping the h7-pawn. Black cannot make any progress without that rook. White on the other hand will play a4-a5 to set up a fortress in which all of whites pieces are defended.

**39.a4 Rg7 40.Kd2 Rc7 41.Kc3**

And the game was drawn.

**1/2-1/2**

[www.rathmineschessclub.com](http://www.rathmineschessclub.com)

*Editor: I'm sure Heffalump's have their own problems too.*



# Irish Grandmaster Fund

Irish Chess is 100 years old in 2012 and we have yet to grow a Grandmaster. We have seven International Masters and have been waiting decades for one to make Grandmaster. What may not be generally known is that many IM's take a year off or more, to achieve this great quest. The step from IM to GM is not trivial.

John Alfred is setting up a fund with the aim of looking for voluntary contributions for an Irish GrandMaster Fund. The idea is to offer expense-assistance to an IM who is willing to devote the time and effort to achieve GM status in a reasonable time of 1 to 2 years. If we are successful with one, more could follow in a short time.

It has been determined that one of the best approaches to achieve GM is for a candidate to attend monthly 'First Saturday' GM Norm tournaments in Budapest, Hungary (or similar tournaments).

Research has shown that typical monthly expenditure is as follows:

1. Tournament entry fees	320
2. Accommodation and expenses @ €60/day x 12	720
3. Flights/Transport (Dublin-Budapest) @ €250	250
TOTAL	€1290 per month

Total per year is €1290 x 12 = 15480, say €16,000, or €8,000 for 6 months

## Funding:

There are many ways this could be funded, and here are a few:-

1. One or several large donations could come from a few people or companies.
2. The general membership could contribute maybe €18 each. e.g. 900 members paying €18 each would amount to €16,200
3. Combinations of the above, e.g. 5k + 3k + 1k + (360 players x €18) = €15,480

## Selecting the Candidate:

Once enough funding has been secured for 6 months, offers will be extended to Irish players in the order of their FIDE ratings on the most recently available fide ratings list, to accept or decline the offer. This will be offered simultaneously to all candidates with a fide rating above 2350.

The successful candidate will be offered enough funding to attend a monthly Norm tournament for a period of 6 consecutive months, and more as funding comes available. Payment will be made from the Fund on production of expenses, or foreseen expenses.

In the event of no one accepting the offer in the short term, the Fund will remain in place until an offer has been accepted. If excess funding is available, it will be decided what is the best use of the funds.

## Control:

There can be no guarantee that the selected candidate will achieve GM status, but there will be an expectation that a GM Norm tournament is being attended monthly, and this can be monitored.

Progress will be reviewed monthly and a hope that the Candidate's FIDE rating will be higher than 2470 after a year. The Fund administrator/s will then decide on whether to extend more funding to the Candidate.

## Committee:

It is hoped to set up a small committee to achieve this, and volunteers are welcome.

## Donations:

If you would like to make a contribution, or discuss same, please contact me....

**John Alfred**

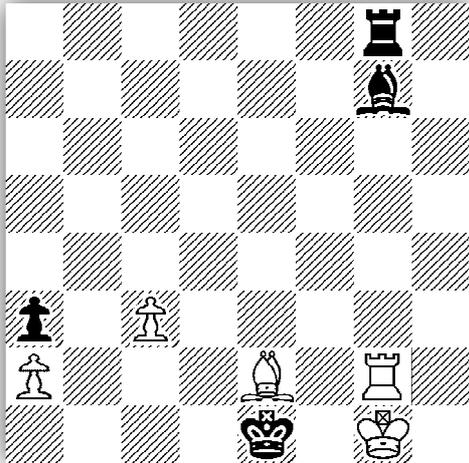
**Tel: 087-6794211**

**chessadare @ yahoo.co.uk**

# WHY STUDIES?

Nicolas Rossolimo (1910-1975) was a taxi-driving Grandmaster who played two Olympiads for France and three for the USA. As a young man he also composed a number of endgame studies. Below I present one for your entertainment this issue.

Nicolas Rossolimo  
3rd HM., *Ceskoslovensky sach*, 1930



White to play and win

Black is all tied up. His rook protects his bishop, which shields his rook and if he moves his king, Bc4+ will win the rook. Direct attack on the rook doesn't work yet - 1.Bc4? Rc8 2.Be6 Rc7=. So White must play to avoid the bR defending the bB along the 7th rank.

**1.Ba6!**

On this and subsequent moves, the wB forces the bR onto white squares where it can be attacked.

**1...Ra8**

If 1...Kd1 2.Bc4 Rc8 3.Bb3+ 1-0

**2.Bb7 Rg8 3.Bc6!**

Again, direct attack fails - 3.Bd5? Rd8!

**3...Rc8**

3...Kd1 4.Bd5 Rd8 5.Bb3+ 1-0

**4.Bd7 Rg8 5.Be6 Re8 6.Bf7 1-0**

Notice the step-like movement of the wB from a6 to f7. This may well have been Rossolimo's initial inspiration for the study.

## Solutions:

### Are you a problem Solver?

V. Liskovets - **1.Qh8!**

O. Wurzburg - **1.Rg1!**

H. des Marands and P. Monreal - **1.Nh4!**

## CHESS MAGIC

(1) Delaney - Lanzani

**1.Qa8+ Kg7 2.Nf5+! 1-0**

(2) Euwe - Yates

**1...c2! 2.Qc4 Qb6+ 3.Kf1 c1=Q+ 4.Qxc1 Qb5+ 0-1**

(3) Szabo - Cebalo

**1.Rc5! 1-0**

(4) Mjagmasuren - MacGrillen

**1.Rxc6!! bxc6 2.b7 Ke7 3.Kxa6 Kd7 4.Kb6! 1-0**

(5) Eingorn - Beliavsky

**1.Nd4+!! Nxd4 2.Kf6! Nc2 3.h5 Ne3 4.Kg5! Nc4 5.h6 1-0**

(6) Szalancy - Vancsura

**1.Qf7! 1-0 (1...Rxf7 (1..Qxd8 2.Bxg7#) 2.Rxe8+ Rf8 3.Rxf8#)**

## Puzzled?

(1) H.F.L. Meyer (1885)

1.f4 loses (1...d2 2.f5 d1Q 3.f6 Kc5 4.f7 Qd6+

5.Ke8 Qe6+ 6.Kf8 Kd6 etc), and the way to draw

is **1.Bc3! Now 1...Kxc3 2.f4 d2 3.f5 d1Q 4.f6** and Black cannot prevent the pawn from advancing.

(2) David Joseph (1921)

**1. Bg1+ Kb8! 2. Bb6 Rxb6 3. axb6 a3 4. h7 a2**

**5. h8Q a1Q! 6. Qg8!**

6. Qxa1? is stalemate, however White can

threaten mate by discovery. Also not 6. Qe8? Qg7 and Black draws..

**6... Qa2 7. Qe8 Qa4 8. Qe5+! Ka8 9. Qh8**

and the counter Qa1 no longer works.