

# 2015 BC Senior



by Victoria Jung-Doknjas+

On June 26-28 2015, the 2015 BC Senior Chess Championship returned to Surrey, BC with a record number of 32 BC players who were 50 years old or better and who got to enjoy playing 5 rounds of 90 mins + 30 sec. increment games with their peers.

At the opening ceremony, Co-Organizer Paul welcomed all the players to the 2015 edition of the event; and thanked our generous

Opening Cer- Organizer Paul welcomed all and spectators

sponsors. Paul also provided the players with a friendly word of caution about our floater, Neil Doknjas, whose rating puts him in the top third of the players' list. Similar to last year, Neil agreed to return as the floater for this year's event in order to guarantee that all players would get five full rounds of games instead of possibly being given a forced bye.

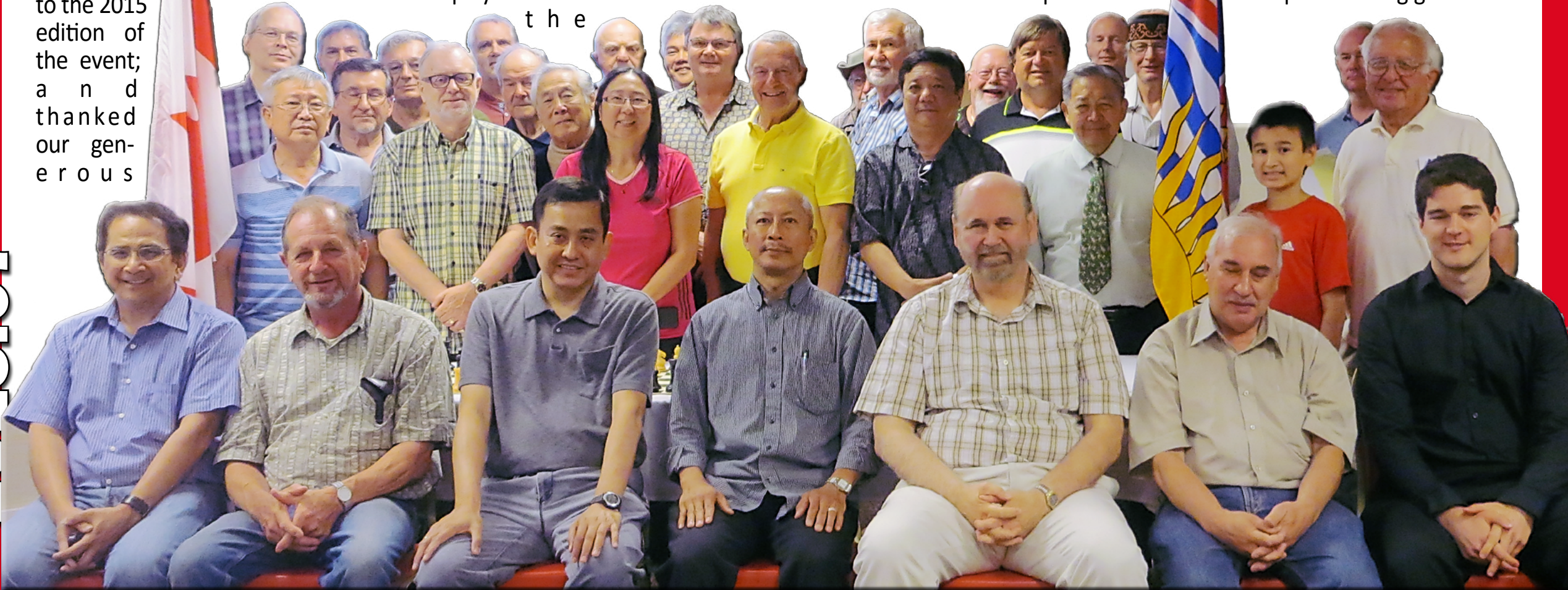
The other co-Organizer, Victoria Jung-Doknjas, also addressed the players and introduced the

special guest speaker, BC Minister of Education Peter Fassbender. Minister Fassbender also spoke with many of our players prior to the Opening Ceremony and made the ceremonial first move. He then joined in on our traditional group photo.

## Winners and Games

Victoria Jung-Doknjas captured the title of the **first-ever BC Senior Woman Champion**, which included the Woman Champion trophy.

It could be said that she won the award for being the only woman brave enough to admit that she is 50 years or better; however, her tournament performance rating was 1733, due to playing opponents who were all higher rated, and scoring 2.5/5 by beating two of them, and drawing Ross Richardson in the first round (who was 400 pts higher rated at 1884). Her performance resulted in a 100+ points rating gain.



Chess Canada  
2015.07



**Notes by Victoria Jung-Doknjas  
Richardson, Ross (1884)  
Jung-Doknjas, Victoria (1471)  
E12**

*BC Senior Championship Victoria  
(1), 26.06.2015*

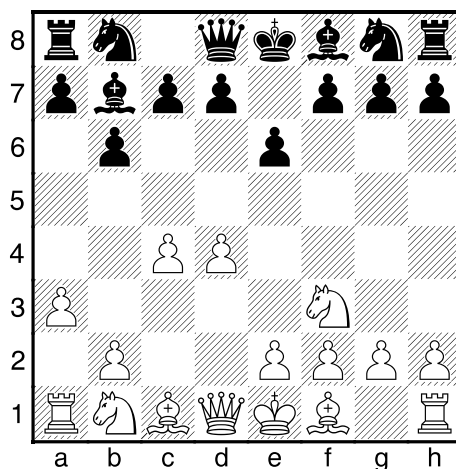
After a long absence from tournament chess, I had compelling reasons to play in the 2015 BC Senior Chess Championship. 2 weeks prior I was part of the organizing team of the Peter Yee Memorial and where I played games with NM Brian McLaren and Mau-Seng Lee. I was satisfied with my play enough to want to test my game at the BC Senior Championship. One of my sons is NCM Joshua Doknjas. Joshua helped to prep me for these two tournaments, including introducing the Owen's Opening to me just 2 weeks ago. Being a co-organizer for the BC Senior tournament, I did not have much time to do intensive training for this event; so I asked Joshua to teach me an opening for Black that I could use for most games. I didn't want to blunder in the opening and I knew if I could get to the

middlegame in an equal position that I would have fighting chances, as I did daily chess problems to prep for tournament play.

**1.d4 b6 2.♘f3 ♙b7 3.c4 e6**

I have found that against most White openings that the first few moves for Black are essentially the same. This opening was ideal for me, as I also had to take photos during the first few minutes of each round at the BC Senior event, so I didn't have to spend a lot of time thinking about the first few moves.

**4.a3**



I played a few practice games before the tournament with our oldest son, NM John Doknjas. I

recalled John saying something about "be careful if your opponent plays a3". Unfortunately, that's all I remember John saying. a3 did prevent me from pinning the impending Knight on c3 with ...♙b4.

**4...♞f6**

When we do chess workshops in schools and during private lessons, one of the things that we instruct our students to do is ask "Why did my opponent move there?" after each move. In my case, instead of asking

"Why did he move there?" to try to discover my opponent's plan, I found myself constantly asking "What did Joshua say to do??" I struggled in deciding to move ...♞f6 or ...d5 at this point.

**5.♞c3 ♙e7**

Still thinking about moving d5, but not being able to put my Bishop on b4, I just moved ♙e7 to enable castling. 5...d5 6.cxd5 exd5 7.♙f4 ♙d6 Now I can counter White's ♙f4 with my own dark-squared Bishop.



*Victoria Jung-Doknjas vs Ross Richardson*



6. ♖c2 d5

Finally, I decided to play d5.

7. cxd5 exd5 8. ♕f4 c6

I was concerned about ♘b5; but, maybe ...c5 would be more active: 8...c5 9. ♘b5 ♘a6.

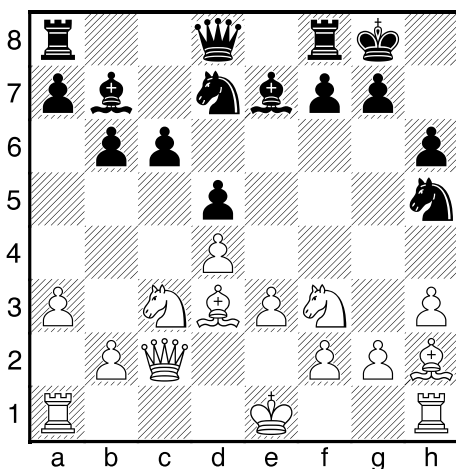
9. e3 ♘bd7

9...♘h5 I should have done this move before White played h3, which allowed him to save his Bishop.

10. h3 ♘h5

After h3, ...♘h5 isn't very useful, as the White's Bishop can tuck safely away on h2.

11. ♕h2 0-0 12. ♕d3 h6



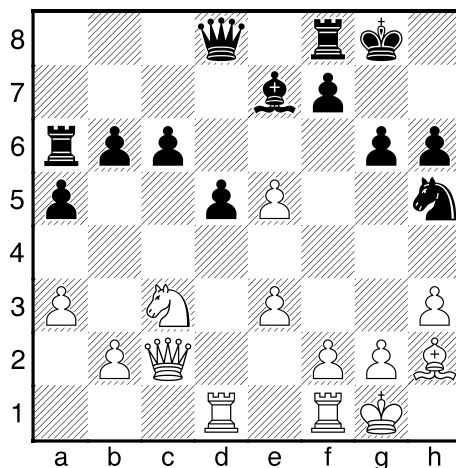
Maybe ...g6 is better to block the attack from White's Bishop sup-

ported by the Queen, and also to give Black's Knight on h5 a place to go without blocking the Bishop and Queen's attack on the King-side.

13. 0-0 a5

I didn't like the Bishop on d3 shooting at my castled King, so I decided to exchange Bishops.

14. ♖ad1 ♕a6 15. ♕xa6 ♖xa6  
16. ♘e5 ♘xe5 17. dxe5 g6



If White plays g4, the Black Knight on h5 would be trapped. So ...g6 to allow ...♘g7 to retreat to safety.

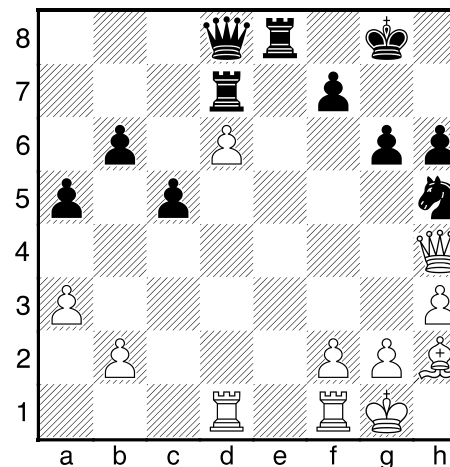
18. ♘e2

18.e6! undermines f7 and gives White a much better position.

18... ♖c8

I wanted to move out of the pin and protect the c6-pawn.

19. e4 dxe4 20. ♖xe4 c5  
21. ♘c3 ♖a7 22. ♘b5 ♖d7  
23. ♘d6 ♕xd6 24. exd6 ♖e8  
25. ♖h4 ♖d8



I felt that I was in the game still, even though my opponent is 400 points higher rated than me. So after playing for so long, I certainly didn't want to get a big fat zero for my efforts, especially for the first game of the tournament. So, I wanted to see if I could trade Queens or start pressuring the passed d6-pawn.

26. ♖g4

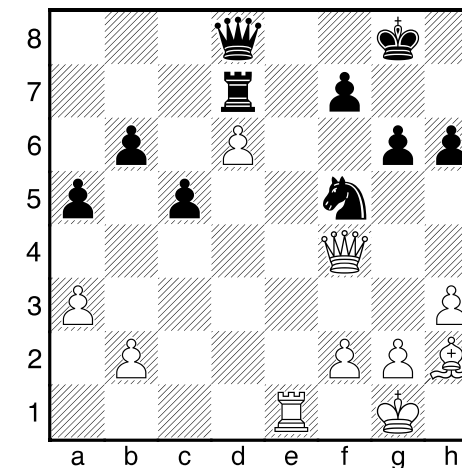
White has more play with ♖a4: 26. ♖a4 ♘g7 27. ♖fe1 ♘f5

28. ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 29. ♖c6.

26... ♘g7

I needed the Black Knight to help remove the d6-pawn and also to move in a more active square.

27. ♖fe1 ♖xe1+ 28. ♖xe1 ♘f5  
29. ♖f4



My plan previously was to take the d6-pawn with the Knight since the White had the option of exchanging his Bishop for my Knight; however, since White moved ♖f4 to block his Bishop, I realized only last minute that I could now instead capture the d6-pawn with the Black Rook.

29... ♖xd6

29... ♘xd6 30. ♖xh6 ♘f5 31. ♖c1



Gives White a bit more play. My Kingside dark squares are very weak here, which White can take advantage of by playing ♕e5 sometime.

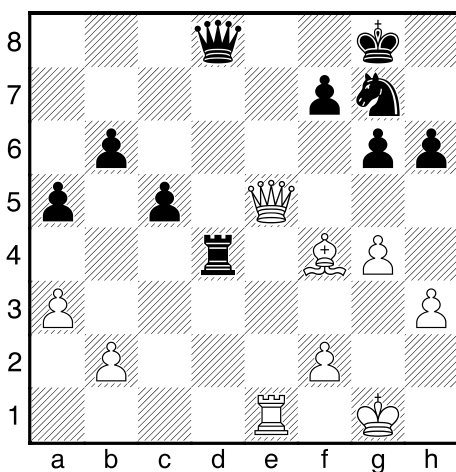
### 30.g4?

This allows me to play the strong ♖d1. 30. ♖a4 prevents Black's Rook from moving ♖d1.

### 30...♖d4

30...♖d1! 31. ♖e4 ♖xe1+ 32. ♖xe1 ♜h4 33. ♖e2 ♖d5 34. f4 ♜f3+ 35. ♔h1 ♜g5+ 36. ♖g2 ♖d1+ 37. ♖g1 ♜xh3 38. ♖xd1 ♜f2+ Black is winning.

### 31. ♖e5 ♜g7 32. ♕f4

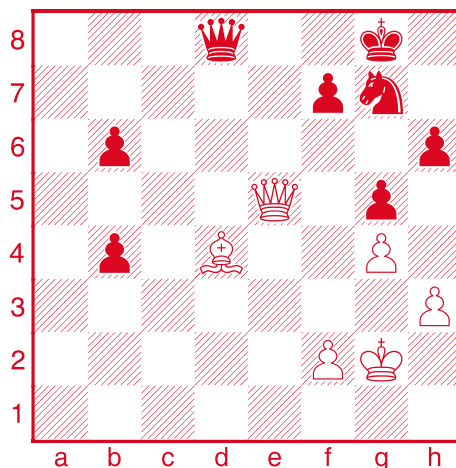


### 32...g5

32...♜e6 33. ♕xh6? g5! Even though this looks risky, it does

trap the Bishop: 34. ♖e3 ♖d5 35. ♖e4 ♖d1+ 36. ♔h2 ♖d6+ 37. ♖e5 ♔h7 38. ♖xd6 ♖xd6 39. ♕xg5 ♜xg5 Black is winning.

33. ♕e3 ♖d1 34. ♖xd1 ♖xd1+ 35. ♔g2 ♖d8 36. b4 axb4 37. axb4 cxb4 38. ♕d4



### 38...♖f8

38...f6! This endgame is no good for White. The two outside passed pawns give Black a winning position. The following moves are an example of how things could play out: 39. ♖e4 (39. ♖xf6 ♖xf6 40. ♕xf6 ♔f7-+) 39...♖d6 40. ♔f3 ♔f7 41. ♖b7+ ♔f8 42. ♕xb6 ♖d3+ 43. ♔g2 ♜e6 44. ♕e3 b3 Black is winning.

### 39. ♕xb6

I was now low on time and

thought I was winning, but was concerned with possibly getting mated after such a long struggle on the board to get to this point. I looked to see if I could check the White King until I got into a position to exchange Queens.

*editor* – ♕xb6 is a blunder, instead, ♔g1 (getting out of checks before going after the queenside pawns) keeps White in the game. Perhaps even more clever is 39. ♖f6!? planning to oscillate the ♕ on the long diagonal and asking Black if she can untangle.

### 39...♖a8+ 40. ♔f1?

I was planning ...♖a1+ all along; but, then last second I realized White could just take my Queen with QxQ! That unnerved me a bit that in one second, one move, I could have thrown all my hard work away. Time was quickly ticking away and I wanted to avoid making a total blunder like ...♖a1+, that I completely overlooked the obvious ...♖a6+ which captures the White's Bishop.

### 40...b3?

Now trying to find an alternate plan that would not make me instantly blunder, I simply pushed my passed pawn, and with that simple pawn move, I gave up my chances to beat a much higher rated player.

40...♖a6+ 41. ♔g1 ♖xb6-+.

### 41. ♕d4 ♖f8 42. ♖f6 ♔h7

Black offered a draw that was accepted.

1/2-1/2

After we drew our game and throughout the tournament, Ross gave me some excellent feedback and encouragement, even when my play at times was not up to par. His words of encouragement made a very long, and at times stressful, weekend much easier to bear, as a player and Organizer. Ross reinforces the reason that I first thought of creating a BC Senior Championship event; as when our sons started playing more serious chess, it was their senior opponents who were always encouraging to our kids no matter if it ended as a win, lose, or draw. This event was created to be fun and competitive; and to hon-



our and celebrate our seniors who are an important part of our BC chess community.

I think this BC Senior tournament is special because of the seniors themselves who play in it and how their attitudes toward the game and their opponents may be a bit more mature and “big picture” than some of their younger competitors. Comradery and respect, mixed in with a nice dose of competitiveness, makes for a weekend that is very enticing and highly satisfying.

## **80+, U1600, U1800**

**Case Dekker** won 1st Place - **80 years or better** trophy. As mentioned in the awards ceremony to be 80 years or better and still be

playing competitive chess is an accomplishment in itself.

**Marionito Jose** won the **U1600** Champion trophy and \$60 with 3/5. His tournament performance rating was 1768 and went up 40 rating points.

Two players who were vying for the title of the **U1800** BC Senior Champion were **George Kim** and **Neale Monkhouse**. George and Neale played well and had tournament performance ratings of 2009 and 2069, respectively.

George Kim beat his first round opponent, and in Round 2 he beat Darko Dimitrijevic, who had won 2nd place overall in the inaugural 2013 BC Senior Championship and who was rated almost 300 pts higher than George. George

also beat the defending 2014 Co-Champion, Joe Soliven, in Round 4 (another almost 300 pts higher rated opponent) and finished his tournament with a draw against Dr. Dale Hoshizaki, who was exactly 300 pts higher rated and who was one of only two senior players with an undefeated score yet was out of the money (the other one was Ross Richardson who scored 3.5). George's only loss was to Graham Swett. His performance resulted in a 100+ points rating gain.

After winning his first round game, in Round 2, Neale Monkhouse caused the biggest upset

by beating Brian McLaren who was over 339 pts higher rated and then later in Round 4 Neale beat the defending 2014 Co-Champion, Jose Kagaoan, who was over 200 pts higher rated than Neale. Neale finished his tournament drawing Ross Richardson who was 100 pts higher rated. Neale's only loss was to NM Roger Patterson. His performance resulted in a 100+ points rating gain.

We often hear the increasing number and popularity of junior events. But what about the senior sector of our chess community. I asked **Paul Leblanc**, CFC Rating Auditor and Co-Organizer of the 2015 BC Senior Championship:

*Why do you think this year's BC Senior Chess Championship is so popular?*

Paul: "There is a renewed interest in senior chess as people finish raising families or retire and have more time to devote to a pastime they have always enjoyed. In addition to the camaraderie of associating with lifelong chess friends, many are aware of the research showing that chess competition helps preserve mental acuity and stave off aging diseases such as Alzheimer's and dementia."





# Chess Canada 2015.07

## Notes by John Doknjas McLaren, Brian (2112) Monkhouse, Neale (1773)

B26  
BC Senior Championship Victoria  
(2), 26.06.2015

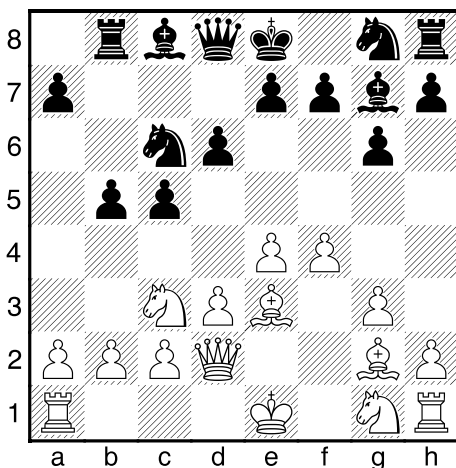
1.e4 c5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 g6  
4.♙g2 ♙g7 5.d3 ♖b8 6.♙e3  
b5!?

This move avoids protecting the  
c5-pawn for one move.

7.♚d2

7.♙xc5? b4 8.♘ce2 ♙xb2 9.♖b1  
♙g7 Black is comfortably better  
here.

7...d6 8.f4



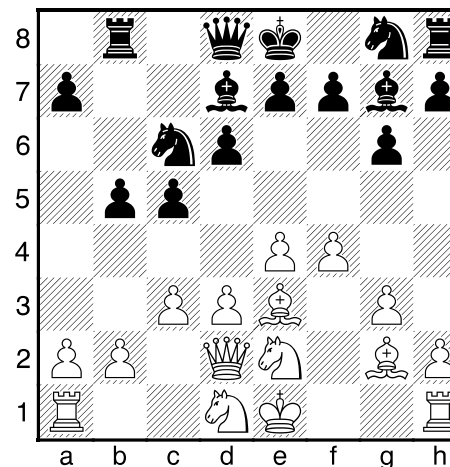
8...♘d4?!

This move may be slightly

dubious because White can  
bring his Knight to d1 and then  
drive the ♘d4 away by playing  
c3, which is what happened in  
the game. A better idea would  
be to wait for White to play ♘f3  
or ♘e2, so that when White  
tries to drive ♘d4 away with c3,  
Black can exchange Knights: 8...  
b4 9.♘d1 e6 10.♘f3 ♘d4 11.c3  
bxc3 12.bxc3 ♘xf3+ Exchanging  
Knights rather than moving back  
to c6 saves Black time. Also,  
White's Bishop on f3 is worse  
than the Knight that used to be  
on f3. 13.♙xf3 ♘e7 The position  
is probably about equal, although  
Black scores 3/3 in this position.  
Here is a sample game: 14.0-0  
0-0 15.g4 f5 16.h4 fxg4 17.♙xg4  
e5 18.♚g2 exf4 19.♙xf4 ♘c6  
20.♙xc8 ♖xc8 21.♚g3 ♘e5  
(21...d5!) 22.♘f2 ♚a5± (0-1, 39)  
Semenova, S (2076)–Piraeu, P  
(2400) Tula, 2002.

9.♘d1! ♙d7  
9...b4.

10.c3 ♘c6 11.♘e2



11...e6

11...♘f6 may have been better,  
as the Knight is more active here  
and it threatens to jump to g4,  
attacking ♙e3. Also, Black may  
want a pawn on e7 defending d6

after White opens the d-file with  
d4.

12.0-0 ♘ge7 13.d4 cxd4  
14.♘xd4

14.cxd4?! Bring the c-pawn  
into a good center square may  
intuitively seem like a good idea,  
but what White did in the game is  
better. This move allows Black to  
get a favourable pawn structure.  
14...d5 15.e5 0-0 16.♖c1 ♘f5  
17.♙f2 ♚b6= the position is  
balanced.

14...♚c7 15.♘f2 0-0±

White is slightly better, but

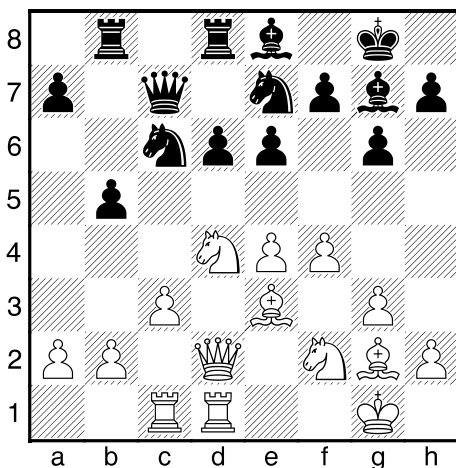


Neale Monkhouse vs NM Brian McLaren



Black's position is solid. White has to watch out for various pawn breaks, such as b4 or d5 or even f5.

16. ♖ac1 ♜fd8 17. ♜fd1 ♘e8!



This Bishop move looks passive, but it allows Black to defend d6 nicely. In this position the Bishop may be better placed on e8 because it still does the work it did on d7 while at the same time it defends the f7 pawn. This could be useful if White starts attacking on the Kingside.

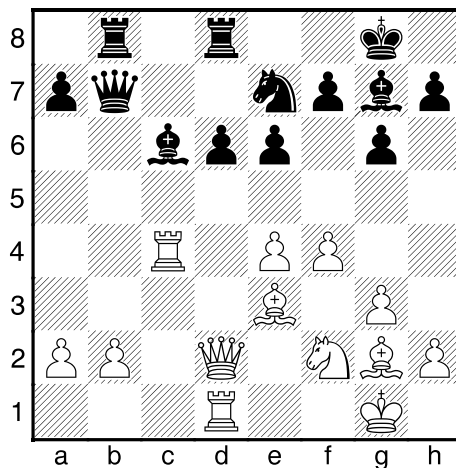
18. c4?!

This may have been too soon, and in the game Black gained counterplay. However, without this move it is unclear how White could make much progress. The

best course of action may have been to just maneuver and wait for Black to make a mistake.

18. ♘d3 ♚a5 19. ♘xc6 ♙xc6  
20. ♚f2 ♜d7 21. ♘b4 ♙a8  
22. ♙d4±.

18...bxc4 19. ♜xc4 ♚b7  
20. ♘xc6 ♙xc6



21. ♚c2?!

This move allows Black to play ...d5, and it does not protect the b2 pawn. Better would have been to bring the f2-Knight in the game: 21. ♘d3 d5 22. ♜b4 This is the point of playing ♘d3: White can play ♜b4 and attack Black's Queen with tempo. 22... ♚a8 23. ♜xb8 ♚xb8 24. ♘e5 ♙xe5 25. fxe5∞ Black has a superior pawn structure but his Kingside dark squares are weak. White's

dark squared Bishop will provide him with excellent attacking chances.

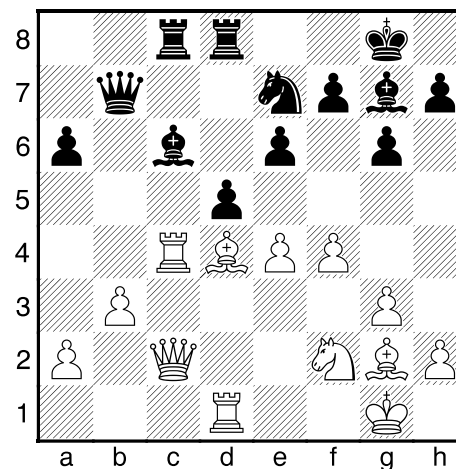
21... ♜bc8?!

Black misses an excellent chance to strike in the center: 21...d5! 22. exd5 ♘xd5↑ Black has a strong initiative.

22. b3 a6

22...d5! Once again, this is a strong move.

23. ♙d4 d5



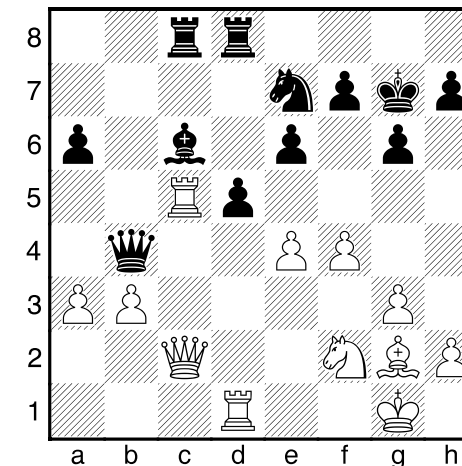
This move is still good, but it lost some of its punch because White is better organized now.

24. ♜c5 ♚b4

24... ♙xd4 25. ♜xd4 ♚b6 26. ♜d1 dxe4 27. ♜xd8+ ♜xd8 28. ♙xe4

♙xe4 29. ♘xe4 ♚b4 Black is comfortable equal.

25. ♙xg7 ♚xg7 26. a3



26... ♚b7

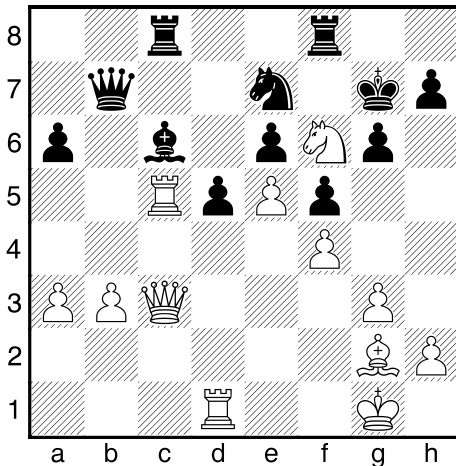
Correctly resisting the temptation of taking on a3.

26... ♚xa3? 27. ♚c3+ f6 (27... ♙g8? 28. ♘g4→ Black is much worse. The engine evaluates this position at about +1.33 for White, and that is if Black defends perfectly.

editor – 27... ♙f8!? 28. ♜a5! d4! 29. ♜xd4 ♚xa5!∞) 28. ♘g4 ♜f8 29. exd5 ♙xd5 30. ♜xc8 ♘xc8 31. ♙xd5 exd5 32. ♜xd5± White has pressure and it would not be much fun to defend here as Black.



27. ♖c3+ f6 28. ♘g4 ♜f8 29. e5  
f5 30. ♘f6



30... ♘g8

30... ♜fd8!? Since the ♘f6 is not really doing much, it was possible to just leave it there. However, most people would not want an enemy Knight firmly posted right next to their King.

31. ♘xg8 ♔xg8 32. ♜d4

32. ♜c1 Simply adding pressure to the c-file was probably better. White could play ♙f1 after this and then start attacking the a-pawn with his major pieces.

32... ♙d7 33. ♜b4??

An unfortunate blunder, but the winning tactic for Black is not too obvious. This move was probably

made in a time scramble.

33... ♙a7

White loses the ♜c5 and the game.

0-1



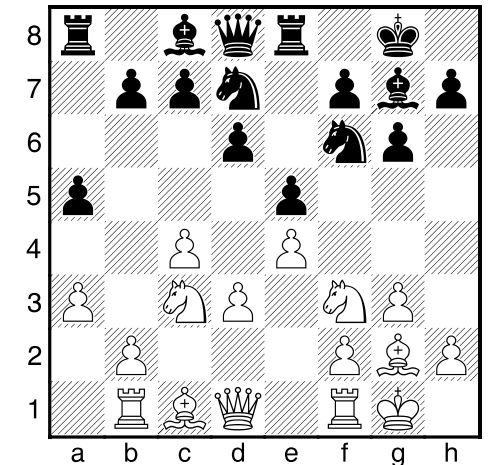
George Kim and Neale Monkhouse tied for 1st Place - U1800 as both scored 3.5/5. Even after the first tiebreak (cumulative score) they were still tied. After applying the second tiebreak (opponents cumulative score), George wins the U1800 Champion trophy and split the prize money of \$80 equally with Neale.

**Notes by Roger Patterson  
Patterson, Roger (2109)  
Monkhouse, Neale (1773)**

A24

BC Senior Championship Victoria  
(3), 06.2015

1. c4 ♘f6 2. ♘c3 g6 3. g3 ♙g7  
4. ♙g2 0-0 5. ♘f3 d6 6. 0-0 e5  
7. d3 ♘bd7 8. ♜b1 a5 9. a3 ♜e8  
10. e4



I asked Jose Kagaoan, 2014 BC Senior Champion:

*What do you find most appealing about the BC Senior Championship tournament?*

Jose: "It is the highly competitive nature of the BC Senior chess that appeals to me the most. The passage of time has not lessened the desire of the senior chess player to play for the win and a number of the senior chess players can still give their young and upcoming counterparts a run for their money."





Not usual in this position but as a lifelong e4 player, I find it hard to resist e4 whenever possible.

10...♞f8 11.b4 c6

A surprise to me. It's not bad but taking seems so natural 11...axb4 opening the a-file for Black's ♖.

12.b5 ♞e6

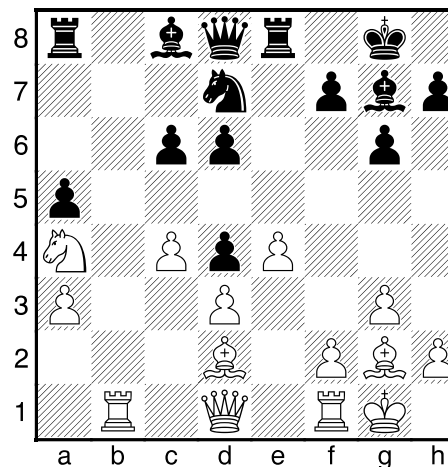
12...c5 is equal although Black has blown off a few tempi (c6, c5 and ♞d7-e6-d4 in comparison

to c5 in one move and ♞c6-d4) compared to White. Black tries to maintain the option of playing ...d5 but gives White at least temporary command of the b-file and some piece play involving b6.

13.bxc6 bxc6 14.♙e3 ♞d7  
15.♞a4 ♞d4

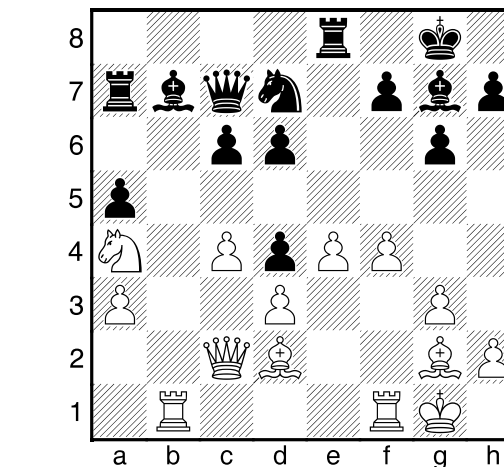
15...♞ec5 16.♞xc5 ♞xc5  
17.♞xe5.

16.♞xd4 exd4 17.♙d2



White has some initiative and space now on the queen side and a5 is weak but has paid for that in the form of an off-side knight on a4. It that knight can be dealt with, probably by trading it for something, White will be better. Black logically enough declines to allow the exchange of this knight.

17...♖a7  
18.♙c2 ♙c7  
19.f4 ♙b7



20.♞b2?!  
20.c5 ♙a6 I thought exposed both my a3 and d3 pawns, although it does solve my offside knight problem.

Analyzing this position I became concerned that the natural 20.♖b2 would lead to problems after 20...c5 21.♖fb1 f5 22.exf5 ♙xg2 23.♙xg2 when White's king is exposed to Black's pieces and is all alone. Hence the text move to bring my knight back into play and switch over to kingside play. The computer suggests 20.♙h3 as maintaining an edge for White.

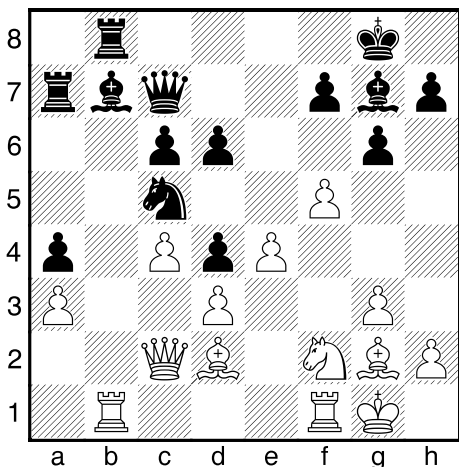
20...♖b8 21.♞d1 ♞c5 22.♞f2 a4 23.f5



Roger Patterson vs Neale Monkhouse



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**23...gxf5?**

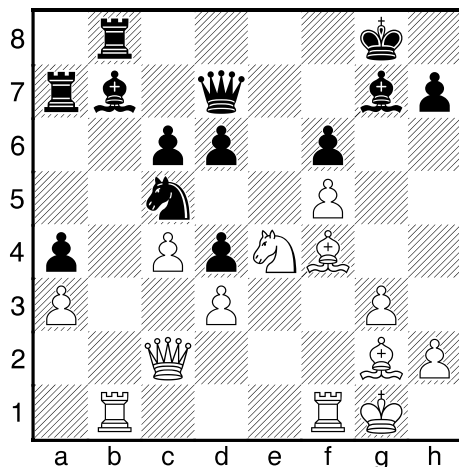
Black panics. Although things look threatening on the king side with white pieces set to invade on f6 and h6 Black keeps the balance with 23...♙c8= which will control the white squares that *White* wants to use for his knight.

**24.exf5 f6?**

And this is fatal. With his last two moves *Black* has weakened his king and killed the activity of his dark-squared bishop, not to mention that the pawn on d4 will now be lost. 24...♙c8±.

**25.♙f4 ♖d7 26.♘e4**

The computer likes the immediate 26.♙b2.

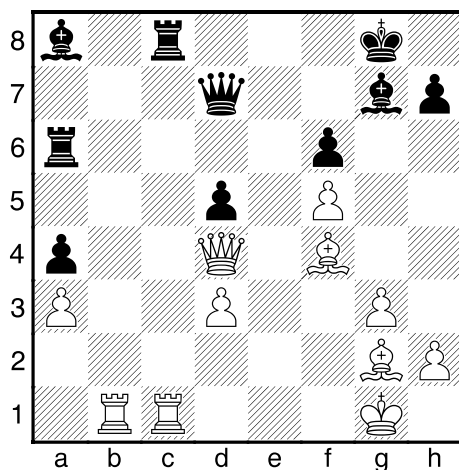


**26...♘xe4 27.♙xe4 ♖c8**

**28.♙b2 d5 29.cxd5 cxd5**

**30.♙xd4 ♙a8 31.♙g2 ♖a6**

**32.♖fc1**



Exchanging a pair of rooks is strong here as Black's back rank is weak and the remaining rook on a6 is out of play. Black finds it hard to deal with the tactical idea of a rook check to the back rank

followed by taking the white-squared bishop and a subsequent fork on d5 winning a piece.

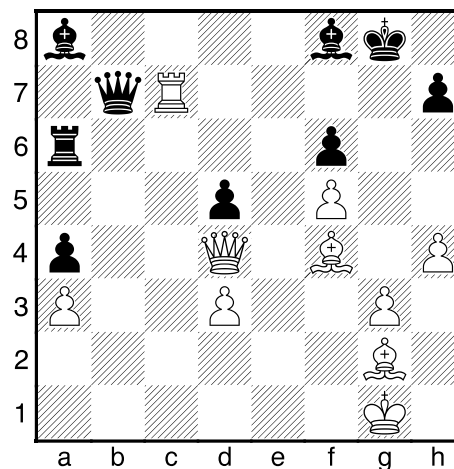
**32...♖xc1+ 33.♖xc1 ♙b7**

**33...♙xf5 34.♙e3** and the back rank crumbles.

**34.h4**

A natural move giving *luft* to the white king, but apparently unnecessary as: 34.♖c7 ♙b1+ 35.♙c1 wins immediately.

**34...♙f8 35.♖c7**



**35...♙b3**

**35...♙b6 36.♙xb6 ♖xb6**

**37.♙h2+-** as the back rank problems and tactics remain, plus the black pawns are loose.

**36.♖c8**

36.♙h6 also wins:

**36...♙xh6 37.♙g4+ ♙f8**

**38.♖c8+ ♙e7 39.♙e2+ mates.**

**36...♙b7 37.♙h6 ♙d1+ 38.♙h2**

**♙xc8 39.♙xd5+ ♙h8 40.♙d8+-**

To avoid the capture on a8 and fork on d5 Black must play

**36...♙g7** but 37.♖xa8 anyway,

**37...♖xa8 38.♙h6+.**

**1-0**

## Round 4

Some of the offerings included at each round had players enjoying complimentary coffee and snacks of baked goods and fruit. And on the 4th round, each player found at his/her board a personally addressed envelope containing a thank you card from the Organizers with the group photo that was taken before the first round.

The battle for the 2015 BC Senior Championship title came to a head on Round 4, where the top rated player, NM Mayo Fuentesbella met up with NM Roger Patterson, both of whom were the only ones with perfect scores at that point. The game ended in a draw which al-



# Chess Canada 2015.07

lowed Jofrel Landingin, who took a bye in the first round, to join Mayo and Roger as the leaders with 3.5/4 going into the 5th and final round.

## Notes by John Doknjas Patterson, Roger (2109) Fuentebella, Mayo (2298)

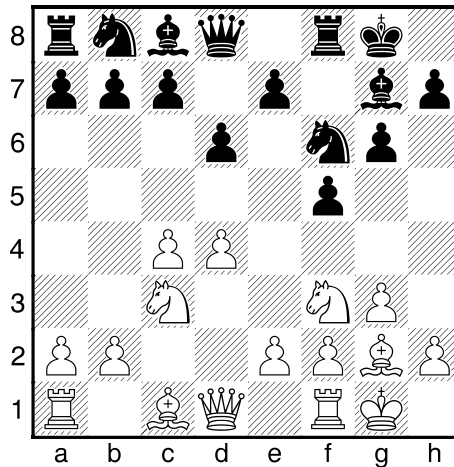
A89

BC Senior Championship Victoria  
(4), 28.06.2015

1.c4 f5 2.♘c3 ♘f6  
3.d4

Another option is to try and keep the game in English waters: 3.g3 g6 (3...e5 4.♙g2 ♘c6 5.d3 ♙b4 now the game is a reversed Closed Sicilian. 6.♙d2 0-0 7.a3 ♙xc3 8.♙xc3 d6 9.♘f3 ♙e8 10.0-0) 4.♙g2 ♙g7 5.d3 0-0 6.e4!? fxe4 7.dxe4 d6 8.♘ge2∞.

3...g6 4.g3 ♙g7  
5.♙g2 0-0 6.♘f3  
d6 7.0-0

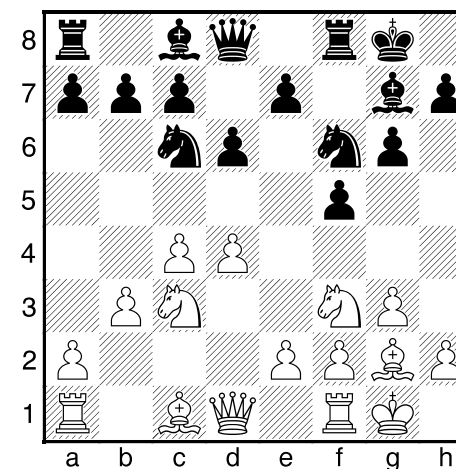


7...♘c6!?



The second most popular move in this position. It is rather unorthodox, but the move makes sense. Like the main move (♙e8), this move prepares the ...e5 push. It also puts pressure on White's center, namely the d4 pawn. However, the Knight is not too stable on c6 and can easily be pushed away.

7...♙e8 is the most popular move, with the obvious aim of pushing e5. The main line runs: 8.d5 (trying to prevent the e5 push) 8...♘a6 (taking advantage of the fact that White has weakened his control over c5 with his last move) 9.♘d4 ♙d7 10.♖b1 c6 11.b3 ♘c7 12.♙b2±. **8.b3?!?**



This is not the critical test of

♘c6. If White does not act swiftly, then Black should equalize without too much difficulty: **8.d5!** Putting the question to the Knight. Now Black has two options, which are both unclear:

8...♘a5 9.♙d3 c5 10.b3 a6  
11.♙b2 ♖b8±.

8...♘e5 9.♘xe5 dxe5 10.e4 f4∞.

**8...♘e4?!?**

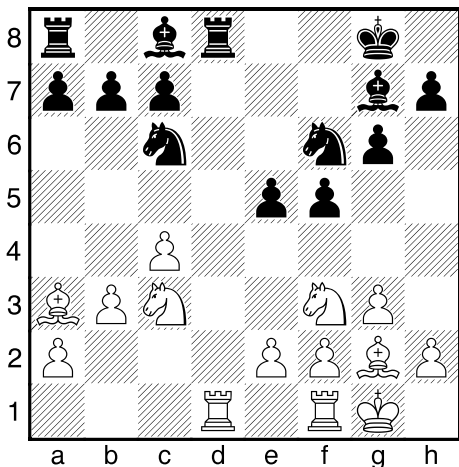
Missing the chance to take advantage of b3. Also, ♘e4 does not seem very justified in this position. White will simply defend his c3-Knight and then drive the ♘e4 away by moving his Queen to c2 or d3. After that, White can push e4 with a comfortable game. The engine seems to agree, stating about a +0.3 score.

**8...e5!** 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.♙a3  
Black's position may seem dangerous, but with careful play it seems that he is fine: 10...♖e8 11.♙xd8 ♖xd8 12.♖ad1:

*Analysis Diagram*



# Chess Canada 2015.07



**12...♖xd1?!** does not put up enough of a fight: 13.♖xd1 e4 14.♘g5 h6 15.♘h3 g5 16.f3!↑ White has plenty of pressure on Black's position. His g2-Bishop is about to control the long diagonal, putting great pressure on the Queenside. Black's center is collapsing, and his Rook and light-squared Bishop are still out of the game; e.g. **Kazakevich,A (1922)–Gardner,R (2275) Edmonton, 2004.**

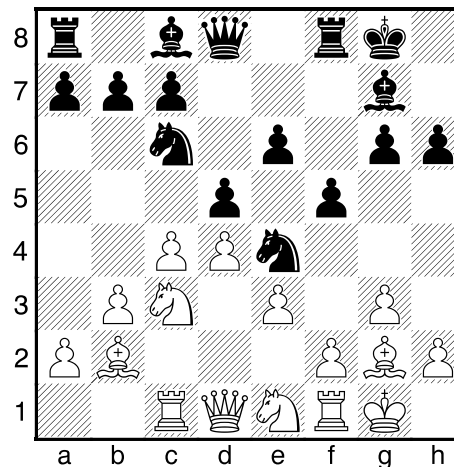
**12...e4!** A very key move. It blocks White's ♗g2, and forces White to decide where to put the Knight. On e1 it will block the coordination between White's Rooks, while on g5 it will be very isolated. 13.♖xd8+

White does not want to play this move, but it is forced. (13.♘g5?! ♗d7 Black seems fine. He will be playing h6 and g5, effectively shutting White's Knight out of the game for a while.) 13...♘xd8 14.♘d4 ♘e6=. Here is a sample game demonstrating Black's prospects: 15.♘xe6 ♗xe6 16.♖d1 ♔f7 17.f3 exf3 18.exf3 c6 19.♘e2 ♖e8 20.♔f2 ♗c8 21.♗c5 b6 22.♗e3 c5 23.a3 ♗b7 24.♘c1 ♖e7= (0-1, 62) Gerber,R (2414)–Moser,E (2409) Zemplinska Sirava, 2004.

**9.♗b2 e6 10.♖c1**  
10.♔d3! White should immediately put the question to Black's Knight leap. 10...♘xc3 11.♗xc3 ♗d7 12.e4↑

**10...d5!?**  
The Stonewall structure seems dubious in this position, but perhaps it was Black's only way to stop White from eventually advancing in the center.  
10...♗d7 11.♔d3!↑ once again White has the initiative.

**11.e3 h6 12.♘e1!**



Correctly planning to play f3. ♔d3 ideas do not work anymore due to the added protection the d5-pawn gives, but pushing the Knight away with the f3-pawn will always work.

**12...♔h7 13.♔c2**  
**13.♘d3!** a5 14.cxd5 exd5 15.♘f4 ♘e7 16.♔c2 c6 17.♘a4 ♖e8 18.♘c5↑ Black's position

I asked former BC Champion NM **Brian McLaren:**

*What do you find most appealing about the BC Senior Championship?*

Brian: "It is nice to play in seniors' tournaments and meet up with old friends from the days when chess was only three dimensional and the clocks actually had little flags. Opening theorists had names like Fine, Botvinnik and Bronstein... not Stockfish and Critter. The BC Senior Championship is a great opportunity to play chess in a well-organized and friendly environment."

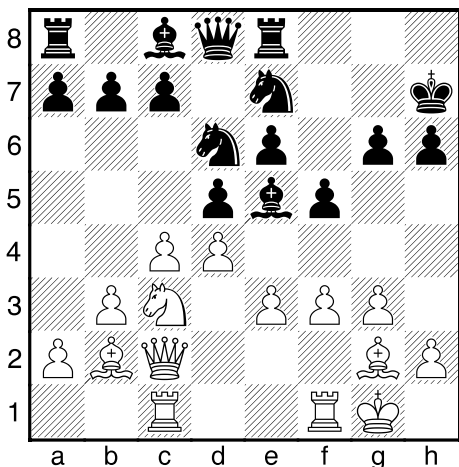
is under a lot of pressure, both in the center and on the Queenside.

**13...♘e7 14.f3 ♘d6 15.♘d3 ♖e8 16.♘e5 ♗xe5?**





# Chess Canada 2015.07



Generally in these Stonewall structures, Black should never give up his dark squared Bishop for White's e5-Knight. Black's Bishop is one of his best pieces, and in this situation it is the main protector of Black's King. Also, when White takes back with his d-pawn, the new pawn on e5 tends to cramp Black's pieces.

**17.dxe5**

**♞f7**

**18.cxd5**

**exd5**

**19.♞e2?!**

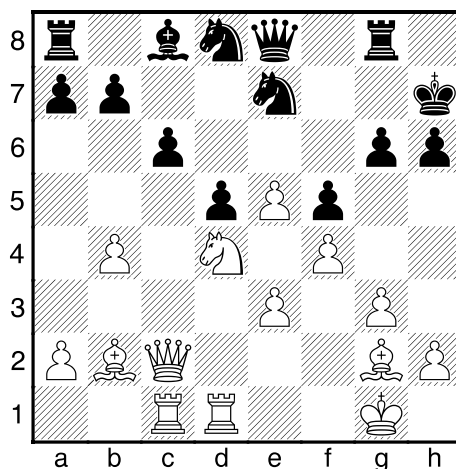
The Knight should be closer to the Queenside.  
**19.f4!**



Protecting e5 with a pawn rather than a piece. By doing this White can leave his Knight on c3, which can attack the d5-pawn or even move to c5 via a4.

**19...c6 20.f4 ♖g8 21.♞fd1**

**♞e8 22.♞d4 ♞d8 23.b4!**



This minority attack is White's best course of action. There really is nothing else to do. White's

Knight on d4 is set up very nicely, attacking the c6-pawn.

**23...a6 24.a4 ♞e6 25.♞b3**

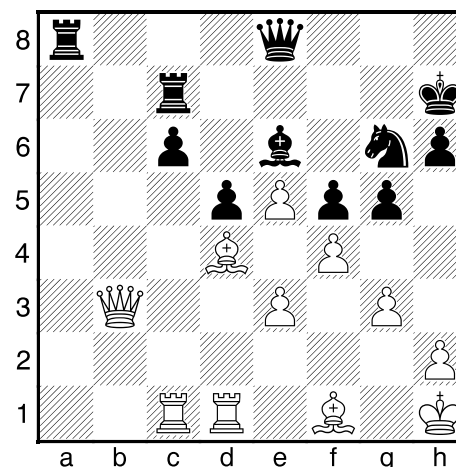
**♞d7 26.♞xe6 ♞xe6 27.♞d4!**

White's position is dominating. Black's Bishop is bad and White's "bad" Bishop on d4 is very active.

**27...♞g7 28.♞f1 g5 29.b5**

**axb5 30.axb5 ♞g6 31.♞h1**

**♞c7 32.bxc6 bxc6**



**33.♞c5?!**

The Rook can get easily attacked on this square, and in the game Black did bring his Knight to d7. Since Black can probably defend his c6-pawn, it could have been better to fight for the open Queenside files instead:

**33.♞a1 ♖xa1 34.♞xa1 c5**

**35.♞b6 ♞e7 36.♞xc5 ♞xc5**

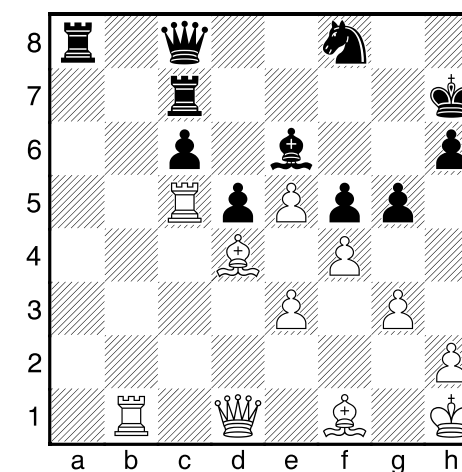
**(36...♞xc5?? 37.♞a7+-)**

**37.♞xe6 ♞xe3 38.♞xf5±.**

**33.♞c2** If White wants to attack the c6-pawn, then putting the Rook on the c2-square would have been better because it is safe there.

**33...♞c8 34.♞b1 ♞f8**

**35.♞d1!?**



This more or less forces Black to close the Kingside with ...g4. However, it is difficult to say who benefits from this.

**35...g4?!**

Black misses his chance to spring free with ♞d7 and c5:

**35...♞d7! 36.♞c2 c5.**

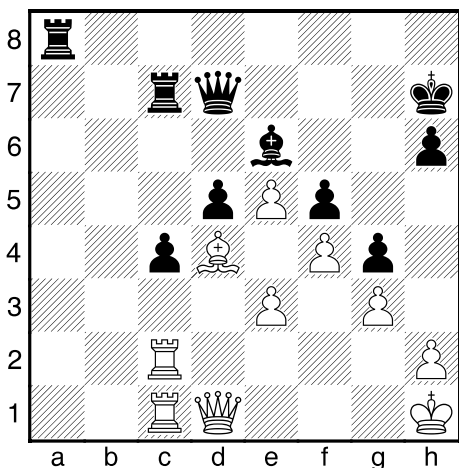
**36.♞bc1 ♞d7 37.♞5c2 c5**



### 38.♙b5

A smart decision, deciding to exchange Black's Knight off and enter a calm position. Black was starting to unravel fast and was developing a strong position with his two central pawns.

38...c4 39.♙xd7 ♚xd7=



Now the position is dead equal. White has a blockade on the dark squares while Black has a blockade on the light squares. This is typical of opposite coloured Bishop positions.

40.♖a1 ♜b8 41.♖b1 ♜cb7  
42.♖xb7 ♜xb7 43.♚a1 ♔g7  
44.♖b2 ♜xb2 45.♚xb2 ♚a4  
46.♚b7+ ♔g6 47.♚e7

1/2-1/2

## Round 5

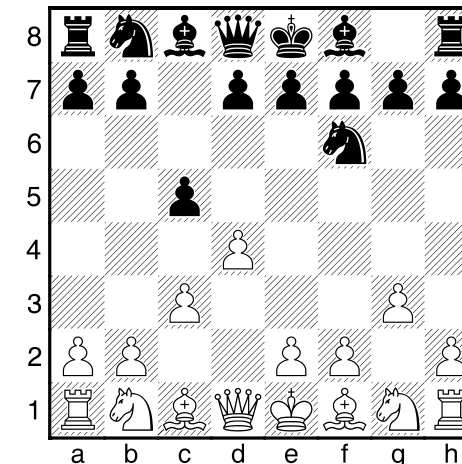
In the last round on Board 2, Roger was paired with Graham Swett, who had 3pts. A draw emerged very quickly, perhaps due in part to fatigue of a long tournament and that their early exchanges of centre pawns lead to a dry position. Mayo was paired with Jofrel on Board 1 and both seeing the early results on Board 2, knew whoever could win their game, would be crowned the 2015 BC Senior Champion.

Mayo played very decisively in the last round and won the 2015 BC Senior Championship, which included the BC Senior Champion trophy and \$120 prize money.

**Notes by John Doknjas**  
**Landingin, Jofrel (1804)**  
**Fuentebella, Mayo (2298)**  
D02

*BC Senior Championship Victoria (5), 29.06.2015*

1.d4 ♘f6 2.g3 c5 3.c3



This leads to a reverse Slav defence with a Kingside fianchetto. In my opinion I do not think that the Slav defence with the inclusion of ...g6 and ...♙g7 is particularly great. In this position a better try for White would be to play d5, entering a Benoni-like structure.

In both of the following variations White has a small edge: **3.d5:**

**3... g6** 4.♙g2 ♙g7 5.♘f3 0-0  
6.c4 d6 7.0-0.

**3... e6** 4.c4 exd5 5.cxd5 d6  
6.♘c3 g6 7.♙g2 ♙g7 8.♘f3 0-0  
9.0-0.

**3... e6** 4.♙g2 ♘c6

This setup could have also been considered: 4...d5 5.♘f3 ♘bd7

**NM Mayo Fuentebella vs Jofrel Landingin**

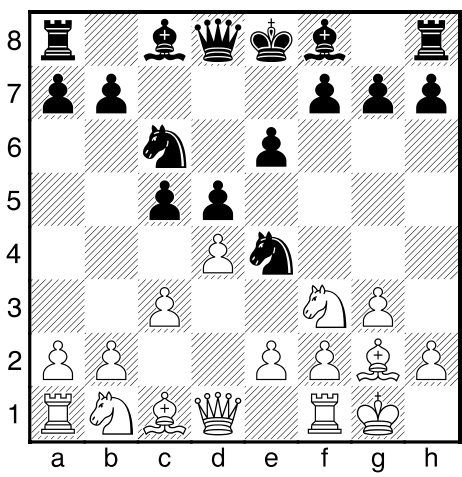


# Chess Canada 2015.07



6.0-0 ♖d6 7.♘bd2 b6 8.e3 ♙b7  
Black's pieces seem to work very harmoniously here. Black can play moves such as ...♘e4 and ...e5. He could even consider advancing with Queenside pawns. The main problem with White position is that he cannot create real counterplay in the center due to Black's better coordinated pieces.

5.♘f3 d5 6.0-0 ♘e4?!  
This seems a bit too early. I think it makes more sense to castle first and only then consider a plan of attack: 6...♙d6 7.♘bd2 0-0.



7.♙a4?  
The Queen is attacking by itself, and I do not see what the main idea would be here. What White

should be doing is developing his pieces and trying to get rid of the ♘e4 as soon as possible.

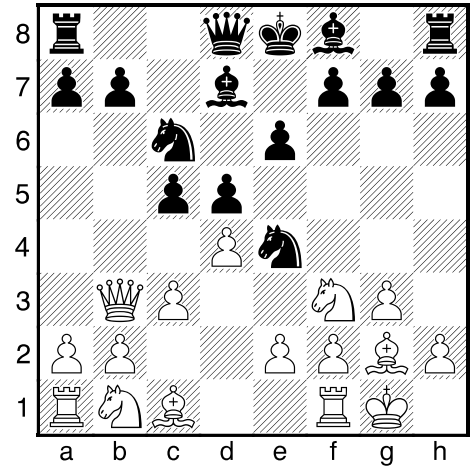
7.♘bd2 is a normal developing move that challenges Black's somewhat questionable Knight leap.

7...♙d7!  
This is a good move because it prevents all ideas involving ♘e5. Many players would have just developed their dark-squared Bishop in order to castle. However, White would then play ♘e5 and attack Black's pinned ♘c6. White could then play f3 and drive Black's ♘e4 backwards: 7...♙d6? 8.♘e5 ♙c7

9.♘xc6 bxc6 10.f3 ♘f6 11.e4  
In this scenario White would have a good share of chances.

Essentially, ♙d7 prevents White from 'unraveling' his pieces.

8.♙b3



8...♙d6?!  
Black is better, so taking a risk by offering the b7 pawn does not seem like a good idea. After 8...♙b6 9.♙xb6 axb6 10.♙e3 ♙d6 11.♘bd2 f5 Black has a comfortable advantage.

9.♙f4?  
This just weakens the Kingside and makes Black's job easier. White may have not found a good square to put his Bishop on, but e3 and d2 are both better than here on f4.

Since Black's pieces are working much more harmoniously than White's, perhaps the best chance would have been to take this



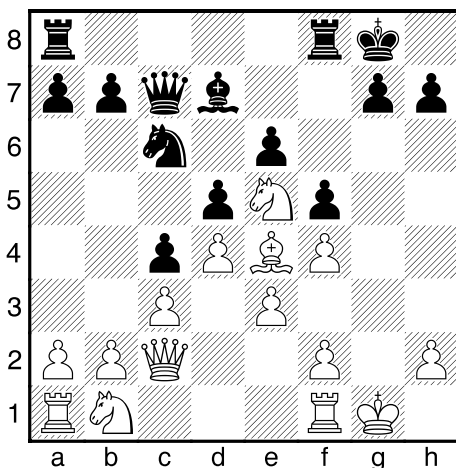


# Chess Canada 2015.07

pawn. If White got away with this move then he would have something to balance out Black's big advantage in the center:

**9. ♖xb7!?** ♖b8 10. ♔a6 0-0 11. ♘bd2 f5 12. ♔d3 and although White is passive, an extra pawn is an extra pawn. The game is probably about equal, but White must be careful.

**9... ♗xf4 10.gxf4 ♔c7 11.e3 c4 12. ♖c2 0-0 13. ♘e5 f5 14. ♗xe4?!**



Exchanging this Bishop will make White's defense much more difficult. Perhaps White was hoping to exchange his ♘e5 for ♘c6 and then obtain a good Knight vs bad Bishop scenario. However, in the concrete position White's b1-Knight is passive and

his King is weak.

### 14...fxe4 15.f3?

While this move is a good idea, it is bad due to exactly what Black played in the game. White should have exchanged Knights first: **15. ♘xc6 ♖xc6 16.f3 exf3 17. ♘d2 ♗e8 18. ♘xf3 ♗g6** Black is only slightly better, and the position could arguably be equal. White will have a great Knight on e5.

### 15...♗xe5 16.dxe5?!

Now White loses due to ♖b6, but taking with the f-pawn was not so great either. Still, that option was the lesser evil: **16.fxe5 exf3 17. ♘d2 ♗e8 18. ♘xf3 ♗g6 19. ♖g2 ♗d3** Black is easily better, but White is still hanging on.

**16... ♖b6! 17. ♖f2 exf3 18. ♖xf3 ♖xb2 19.e4 dxe4 20. ♖xe4 ♗c6**

0-1

## Next Year?

I also have some potentially good

news for those seniors across Canada who want to experience this special tournament. Our Organizing Team has submitted a bid to the CFC to host the 2016 Canadian Senior Championship in BC. Keep an eye on the CFC website for updates on this!

## Thanks

Another noteworthy item was the incredible sponsorship (see list below) that we received from both our corporate sponsors and many individuals. Their support made a BIG difference in the quality and niceties that we could provide for this special event. Thank you and God bless our sponsors and players who made this year's BC Senior Championship yet another special event.

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## photos

Additional photos, including individual players' photos were also made available for download from the 2015 BC Senior Chess Championship website:

<http://wordpress.cvining.com/photos-2015-bc-senior-chess-championship/>

- Victoria Jung-Doknjas

Co-Organizer of the 2015 BC Senior Championship and the FIRST EVER BC Senior Woman Champion ;-)