

VANCOUVER
CHESS SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS BULLETIN 2016

www.vanchess.ca

TABLE OF CONTENTS

p. 3	Student of the Month
p. 4-6	James Li – Lucrative win in Vegas and World Championships in Siberia
p. 7-8	Chess in Schools programs
p. 9	VCS Elementary Schools Championship
p. 10	Team BC Training
p. 11	Chess Teacher Training Program
p. 12	VCS Membership Program
p. 13-19	VCS Statistics
p. 20	Recommended minimum rating to advance to the next level
p. 21	Interim Test
p. 22	Software Update
p. 23-28	Tournament Results
p. 29	Winter Chess Festival 2016
p. 30	Canadian Chess Challenge 2017 qualification
p. 31	Funding Team BC at the Canadian Chess Challenge 2017

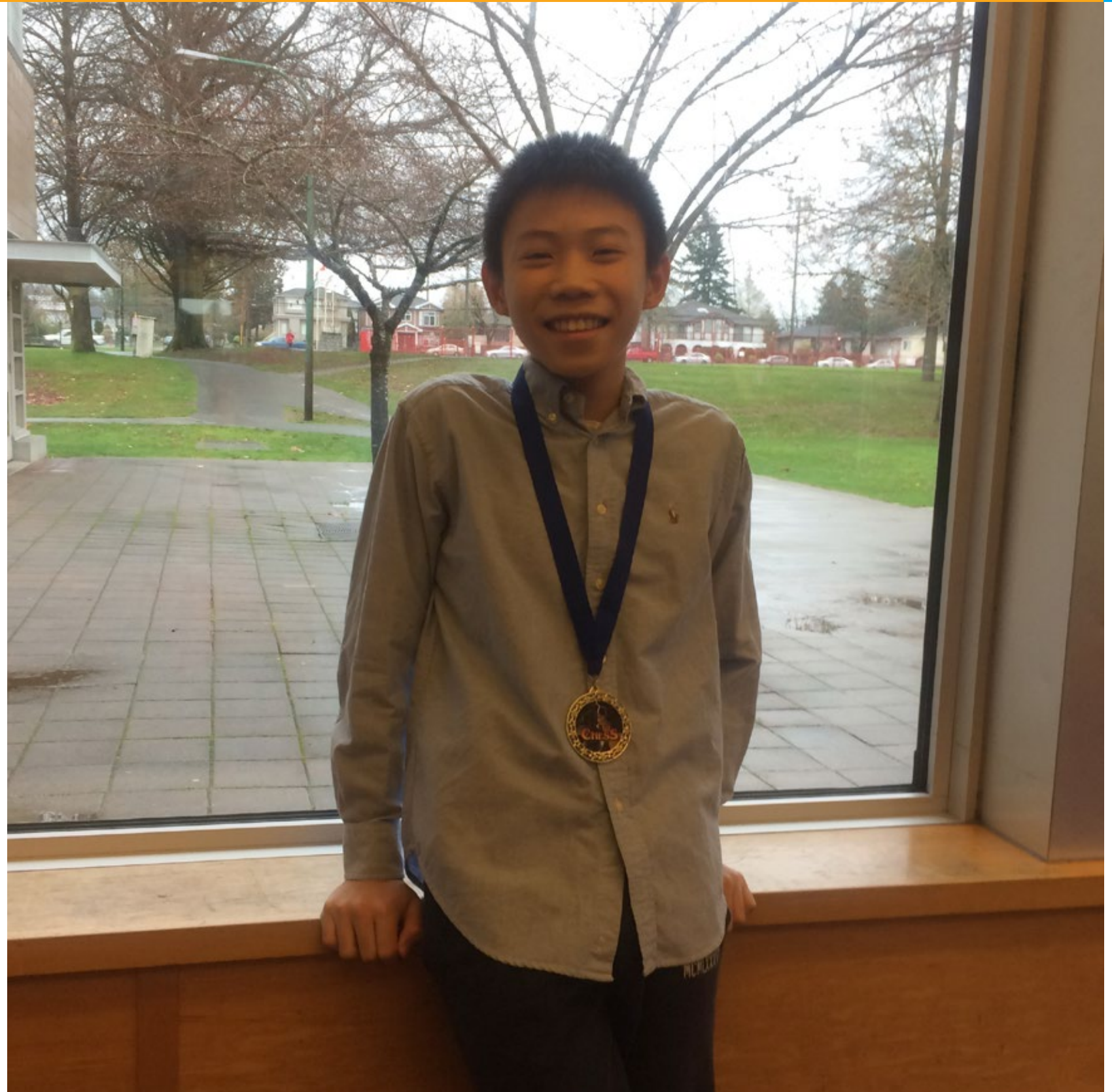
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

ALEX YU

My name is Alex Yu, and I am a Grade 8 student studying at David Thompson Secondary School.

I love chess because it not only helps me improve my logical thinking, but also makes friends with like-minded people. I have been played chess for several years and learned at VCS since April 2016. Now I am in pre-bishop class taught by Gyan. In addition, as October begins, I got a chance to become a volunteer as assistant coach in junior-level. It is wonderful experience in my chess life.

I really appreciate Maxim, Gyan and coaches at VCS for teaching and encouraging me. My dream is to be a chess master one day. My goal for the coming term is to raise my rating over 1200. I expect I could have more opportunities to play against upper-level players and learn from them.



VCS STORY

A LUCRATIVE WIN IN VEGAS AND A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SIBERIA

By James Li

A longtime VCS student with many accolades already to his name, James Li was kind enough to answer some questions regarding his experience in two different tournaments to inspire future generations of aspiring chess players.

WORLD OPEN 2016

Played in a large hotel ballroom, James notes that he heard about this tournament from a fellow VCS classmate and decided to attend the tournament with a group of friends to enjoy the tournament with. He notes that much preparation went into playing in this tournament, and that he “prepared by solving puzzles on [his] Chess Mentor Exercises”. He also says that while he “reviewed openings by playing 100 correspondence games a month before”, he wishes he had “prepared more on [his] black opening repertoire, because [he] was not really sure how to play against some openings”.

Participating in this large event had a strong positive impact on his chess, who appreciated the positive outlook it gave him and only strives to continue to improve his results.

“Attending this event further encouraged me to continue playing chess because it showed me results of my training paying off, and I can definitely achieve more than this.”



VCS STORY



When asked to reflect on the more general impact participation in this tournament had on his life outlook, James referred to the perseverance that is required in both a chess game and in life, citing an example from his third game:

"I had to really fight for my win on round 3 that tournament, because I had made a mistake in the early game, but I was not ready to give up. I continued playing the game and waited until my opponent made his losing mistake. Although it is true that my opponent could have not made any mistakes, no one is able to predict what happens, so keep working hard and keep playing. If you work hard enough, good things will definitely happen."

James Li is the sole winner of U1800 section at the World Open took home a whopping US\$12000!

<http://chessevents.com/2016/07/world-open-2016-standings-under-1800-section/>

WORLD YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP (WYCC)

Following his participation in a tournament as prestigious as the World Open, James continued to make time for chess by working tirelessly to participate in the 2016 World Youth Chess Championships. As the premier youth tournament in the world, even just participating in this event is a huge accomplishment and a coveted

VCS STORY

goal for any youth chess player. Due to his financial success at the World Open, James was able to use part of those winnings to fund his trip to Russia for the WYCC, describing his World Open win as “a ticket to really see the world out there, and [he thinks] it was worth it”.

When asked about his preparation for this tournament, James noted that he shifted his focus to his Black opening repertoire because he “learned from [his] past mistake at the World Open that playing Black needed improvement”. He also cited mental preparation as more challenging for this tournament due to the fact it occurred during the school term. James also said that participating in this tournament opened his eyes to how chess is played on the world stage and this tournament showed him that “there are people out there who work even harder, and that [he] must work hard to become a better player”.

Finally, James was pensive with regards to whether or not the experience was worth all his hard work and expenses. In spite of the lessons he learned such as the importance of “[looking] at how my opponents play” and going “more in depth to achieve an advantage in the opening”, missing several weeks of school proved stressful and difficult to catch up. Summing up, he gives the final words of advice:

“I would recommend if you ever get the chance to play in a tournament like this when you are younger, do take the chance. You will see a variety of interesting things from play styles to pretty sights you can only see where the tournament is held.”



VCS NEW PROGRAM

CHESS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Chess in Schools (CIS) program is VCS's newest initiative to fulfill the core mandate of continuing chess education throughout the Lower Mainland. With 15 participating schools, CIS allows our chess school to have a much broader reach, and enables students throughout the region to have access to our comprehensive chess program. Open to everyone, CIS is able to teach groups of students with varying levels using our unique software and by assigning different class material and homework according to student's level of chess ability.

The CIS program consists of the same format as our usual VCS classes, with the coach presenting the class material and students playing against each other as well. Using custom software VCS is able to cater each lesson to the student's needs and the online homework provides extensive practice and exposure to key concepts for optimal improvement.

A special thank you goes out to VCS's dedicated CIS volunteers Stephanie Gu, Alex Yu and Bill Wang. These VCS students give their time to assist both the coach and students in these classes and their dedication and efforts are much appreciated. VCS is always happy

to have more senior students volunteering in CIS classes – if you are interested in volunteering next semester please contact VCS to inquire about schedules and opportunities.

We are accepting students on a rolling basis – see the schedule below and the webpage for full details:

<http://vanchess.ca/content/view/page/chess-in-schools>

CIS programs list:

http://vanchess.ca/groups/index/city/vancouver/location_type_id/2 as of January 2017.

As part of VCS's mandate to increase junior chess participation throughout the Lower Mainland and to make chess available to all students, we are always looking to expand our Chess in Schools program by welcoming new schools. If you believe your school or your child's school would be interested in having a Chess in Schools program, please contact us at info@vanchess.ca. We look forward to working with you!

VCS NEW PROGRAM



VCS Before & After School Chess Program

Chess is the gymnasium of the mind.

(Blaise Pascal)



VCS

Before & After School Chess Program

Comprehensive and Flexible



Professional Instruction



Interactive and Fun



Effective Training



All Inclusive Chess Education Service



We are a Local Company



VCS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP



VCS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Columbia College
Sunday, April 9th, 2017

Section A & Section B Team Championship.

5 Rounds. Time control 25/5.
CMA rated.

Trophies for top 3 teams in sections A&B.

Medals for all winners

OPEN TO ALL PARTICIPATING VCS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

On April 9th 2017 VCS will be hosting the first ever VCS Elementary Schools Championship tournament (<https://vanchess.ca/tournaments/view/id/1204>). Open to all students from participating CIS schools, this tournament is an opportunity for students to test their skills against players from other schools, gain tournament experience and be part of a team.

Each team will consist of four players, and each school may send multiple teams if they wish. Teams will be placed in either the more advanced Section A or the beginner Section B groups and competition in both sections consists of five rounds played at 25/5. The winning teams will be awarded with team trophies and medals will be awarded to all winning players.

A first of its kind, all students at VCS CIS schools are encouraged to come out, participate as a team, represent their schools, make new friends and compete for the title of Elementary School Champions. The top teams will be recommended to join the annual BC Elementary School Championships in May 2017 to compete with their schoolmates against schools from throughout the province and vie for the chance to become provincial champions.

TEAM BC TRAINING

VCS is proud to announce a rare chance to learn directly from a Grandmaster. GM Evgeny Bareev, formerly the fourth ranked player in the world, will be lecturing via Skype with BCCF President and BCCF President Stephen Wright leading ensuing analysis and practice sessions. This course is intended to help Team BC hone its already talented roster of provincial representatives to match the level of training received necessary to compete with the best provinces in Canada. In 2016, Team BC came in 3rd place at the Canadian Chess Challenge. We hope that with hard work and Evgeny Bareev's guidance in this course, we can be champions in the near future.

Lectures by GM Bareev will concentrate on middlegame and endgame positional concepts such as piece exchange, controlling open files, playing against the two Bishops, the principle of two weaknesses, positional evaluation, Bishop vs. Knight, doubled pawns and attacking the uncastled King. This course is available by invitation only – invitations will be extended to current Team BC members and the highest rated player in each grade.

TEAM BC GRANDMASTER TRAINING



Join a select group of invited chess players representing BC's strongest featuring GM Evgeny Bareev lecturing via Skype and BCCF President Stephen Wright leading ensuing analysis and practice sessions.

GRANDMASTER **Evgeny Bareev**

- Top rated Canadian Player
- Former **World Number Four**
- Organizer of Grandmaster Russian Junior Chess School
- Two-time **World & European Team Champion**
- Leader of Russian Men, Women and Junior teams

BY INVITATION ONLY

CHESS TEACHER TRAINING



36-HOUR CHESS TEACHER TRAINING INTENSIVE LEVEL 1

Broaden your horizons and
expand your job opportunities -
become a chess teacher today!



VCS is proud to announce the opening of our first Chess Teacher training course. The purpose of this training course is to provide future chess instructors a fundamental skillset on which they can accumulate skills, and equip them with the essential knowledge needed to be a chess instructor at the basic level. Details can be found on the course webpage: <http://vanchess.ca/teacher-training>.

It is not expected that students will have a strong knowledge of chess upon entrance to the program; in fact, it is not a requirement to know how to play chess. All the basic rules and strategies will be covered in the course, as well as methods of chess instruction and tournament organization strategies.

Chess has been shown to improve mental capacity, spatial reasoning, memory and concentration. This course has been designed to instill these qualities in its students, and instruct future coaches on how to instill these qualities in their students. We hope that students will find this course interesting, practical, and rewarding.

Registration & Information: <http://vanchess.ca/teacher-training>

Email info@vanchess.ca **Phone** 604.568.3283

VCS MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM



VCS MEMBERSHIP AND CHESS MENTOR EXERCISES

As part of our mission to help our students progress faster and become stronger chess players, we are constantly working on improving and extending our software system and chess content to make chess practice available outside of the VCS classroom. Beginning in the fall of 2017, all VCS parents will be offered to obtain a VCS membership allowing students to access an additional set of personalized chess tools. Two featured new tools are the Chess Mentor Exercises (CME) and the Tactics Trainer.

CME is a very valuable tool that provides personalized additional practice to students. Containing opening repertoire, endgame training, tactics and more, a record tracker and final test score are also recorded and provided to the student to allow them to monitor their own progress. As a tool crafted individually for each student, with exercises chosen to be geared towards each students' weaknesses, CME is an invaluable opportunity for all

students to have access to additional practice.

In addition to the valuable CME tool, students will also have access to a Tactics trainer that consists of two types of exercises: checkmate in one, two, three or four moves, and anti-blunder exercises. The latter is particularly important especially at junior levels where a chess game is typically decided not by the good moves but by the bad moves. This training aims to help students eliminate blunders from their games, which will raise their overall tournament performance significantly. These checkmate and anti-blunder exercises sharpen students' tactical vision and accelerates improvement.

[Chess Mentor Exercises and Tactics Trainer](#) are free of charge for all VCS students till September 2017. To have access to CME simply click request Chess Mentor Exercises button on your parent account. Tactics trainer is available on student account under the tab labeled 'Tests'.

VCS STATISTICS

VCS DIAMOND STANDARD JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 1

Using our 'diamonds' on the new Wall of Fame feature, we would like to recognize the top students with the most diamonds at VCS. These students show dedication to active

participation and success in tournaments and in class and we would like to congratulate them for their continued perseverance and determination.

#	First Name Last Name	Class Performance (5 stars)	Group Tournaments (100%)	Tournaments: Weekly events (100%)	Tests (75%)	Chess Mentor Exercises (75%)	Interim Tests (75%)	Total
1	Adam Long							15
2	Kevin Zhang							15
3	Nicholas Wu							14
4	Roy Zhou							14
5	Jonathan Xiao							13
6	Bruce Chen							12
7	Jason Li							12
8	KevinZhengYi Wang							12
9	William Zhang							12
10	Gillian Mok							11

VCS STATISTICS

THE FOLLOWING TABLES SHOW THE VCS STUDENTS WITH THE LARGEST RATING INCREASES OVER THE PAST 5 MONTHS:

CFC RATING

#	STUDENT	GRADE	RATING ON JUL 1, 2016	PROGRESS	RATING ON DEC 1, 2016
1	Nathan Wu	Grade 3	400	819	1219
2	Sophia Yu	Grade 3	522	387	909
3	Kevin Butchart	Grade 6	1083	309	1392
4	Stephanie Gu	Grade 9	792	276	1068
5	Henry Yang	Grade 6	940	271	1211
6	Leo Chung	Grade 6	1111	237	1348
7	Brian Yang	Grade 8	807	207	1014
8	Eric Jiang	Grade 3	800	151	951
9	Daniel Wang	Grade 3	1144	135	1279
10	Daniel Du	Grade 7	1656	196	1762

VCS STATISTICS

CMA RATING

#	STUDENT	GRADE	RATING ON JUL 1, 2016	PROGRESS	RATING ON DEC 1, 2016
1	Nathan Wu	Grade 3	839	602	1441
2	Benjamin Wu	Grade 4	400	448	848
3	Benjamin Canama	Grade 8	400	354	754
4	Roy Zhou	Grade 3	388	279	667
5	Alex Zou	Grade 2	400	250	650
6	Bruce Chen	Grade 6	543	231	774
7	Enoch Liang	Grade 4	792	229	1021
8	Evan Peng	Grade 4	400	205	605
9	Carl Xiong	Grade 6	716	197	913
10	Ryan Yang	Grade 2	1261	193	1454

VCS STATISTICS

Between weekly homework, chess mentor exercises and tests, students have a wide variety of material available to them. Although some of it is mandatory and some optional, all additional training outside the VCS classroom is the student's responsibility to take initiative and complete. Additional practice outside the classroom is crucial to a chess player's continuous improvement, and VCS would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate the school's top performing students in exercise completion:

#	Student	Activity	Position	Positions to play
1	Raymond Yao	Homework	288	40
		Chess Mentor Exercises	509	109
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	2308	0
		Total	3105	149
2	Ryan Yang	Homework	232	2
		Chess Mentor Exercises	424	55
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	847	0
		Total	1503	57

#	Student	Activity	Position	Positions to play
3	Stephanie Gu	Homework	400	9
		Chess Mentor Exercises	642	45
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	428	0
		Total	1470	54
4	AnNing Zhang	Homework	400	18
		Chess Mentor Exercises	930	113
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	0	0
		Total	1330	131

VCS STATISTICS

#	Student	Activity	Position	Positions to play
5	Sophia Yu	Homework	227	2
		Chess Mentor Exercises	378	99
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	722	0
		Total	1327	101
6	Alex Yu	Homework	500	9
		Chess Mentor Exercises	791	64
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	0	0
		Total	1291	73
7	Daniel Wang	Homework	278	6
		Chess Mentor Exercises	976	68
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	0	0
		Total	1254	74

#	Student	Activity	Position	Positions to play
8	Charles Wang	Homework	387	17
		Chess Mentor Exercises	839	51
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	0	0
		Total	1226	68
9	Sean Shen	Homework	539	30
		Chess Mentor Exercises	587	131
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	0	0
		Total	1126	161
10	Ethan Song	Homework	202	2
		Chess Mentor Exercises	673	40
		Tests	0	0
		Tactics Trainer	339	0
		Total	1214	42

VCS STATISTICS

TEAM RANKING

As part of the Vancouver Chess School's mission to get as many of BC's youth involved in chess as possible, VCS will be soon introducing a new school team ranking system. Although tournaments are all on an individual participation basis, players' tournament participation and their results in those tournaments are tallied to give each school a total tally as well. VCS plans to reward students from the top schools each year starting in 2017. Winners will receive a perpetual trophy and a special letter of recognition sent to their schools principal. We encourage students to encourage their friends to join their schools team, become involved in chess and become active in tournaments. The following table shows the top 5 most active schools and students based on the number of events participated in:

School	# of Events	# of Games	Score %	Score
1. Citadel M.S.	12			58
1.1. David Li (Grade 5)	8	24	64.58%	15.5
1.2. Byron Lee (Grade 7)	8	24	64.58%	15.5
1.3. Carl Xiong (Grade 6)	7	21	66.67%	14
1.4. Bruce Chen (Grade 6)	4	12	83.33%	10
1.5. Jason Li (Grade 7)	1	3	100.00%	3
2. Summit M.S.	11			53
2.1. Ryan Shen (Grade 8)	7	21	59.52%	12.5
2.2. Brandon Wei (Grade 7)	5	15	83.33%	12.5
2.3. DanielChunning Wu (Grade 7)	5	15	66.67%	10
2.4. Evan Yan (Grade 6)	4	12	79.17%	9.5
2.5. Sean Shen (Grade 7)	5	15	56.67%	8.5
3. Lord Kitchener E.S.	11			28
3.1. Bruce Zhang (Grade 4)	9	27	44.44%	12
3.2. DavidGuanXuan Zhou (Grade 4)	9	27	38.89%	10.5
3.3. Bill Wang (Grade 7)	1	3	83.33%	2.5
3.4. Fangxun Wang (Grade 5)	1	3	67.67%	2
3.5. TaoMing Chen (Grade 4)	1	3	33.33%	1
4. Walton E.S.	7			27
4.1. Leon Chen (Grade 3)	5	15	60.00%	9
4.2. JohnsonTingYou Zhang (Grade 3)	3	9	77.78%	7
4.3. Jonathan Xiao (Grade 4)	2	6	83.33%	5
4.4. Austin Chen (Grade 3)	3	9	55.56%	5
4.5. Nathan Song (Grade 5)	1	3	33.33%	1
5. Hampton Park E.S.	9			26.5
5.1. YiCheng Yang (Grade 2)	6	18	55.56%	10
5.2. Charles Wang (Grade 4)	7	21	42.86%	9
5.3. Jason Yang (Grade 5)	6	18	41.67%	7.5

TOP 10 CFC/CMA

TOP 10 CFC/CMA RATED PLAYERS FROM OUR SCHOOL AS OF DEC 1, 2016.

#	NAME	CFC RATING
1	Brandon Zhu	1939
2	Kevin Low	1866
3	Victor Zheng	1849
4	Daniel Du	1762
5	Daniel Chen	1755
6	Kevin Li	1751
7	Ethan Low	1749
8	Kai Wang	1712
9	Maven Zheng	1705
10	James Li	1621

Check your CFC rating
<https://www.vanchess.ca/rating-cfc>

#	NAME	CMA RATING
1	Kevin Low	1924
2	Brandon Zhu	1809
3	Ryan Leong	1800
4	James Li	1755
5	Ethan Low	1739
6	Maven Zheng	1711
7	Kai Wang	1707
8	Victor Zheng	1706
9	Kevin Li	1679
10	Dylan Fox	1624

Check your CMA rating
<https://www.vanchess.ca/rating-cma>

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM RATING TO ADVANCE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

PROGRAM	RATING
Pawn->Knight	600 (CMA)
Knight->Bishop	1100 (CMA)
Bishop->Rook	1500 (CMA)
Rook->Queen	1800 (CMA)
Queen->King	2000+ (CMA)

INTERIM TEST

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM RATING TO ADVANCE TO THE NEXT LEVEL & INTERIM TEST

As VCS follows the school calendar and will be closed from Dec 17th – Jan 2nd, we have created an OPTIONAL interim test for students to complete over the break if they choose to do so. Covering all the material they learned this past semester this test helps both the student and the coach gauge how much of the material the student is grasping. This test can be found on the student account, under Test -> Chess Mentor Exercises. The students can start, pause and continue the test over the course of the break, and also have the choice to reset the test if they wish to improve upon their score. Each question can be attempted 1-2 times. With a score of 75% or higher on this test the student will be awarded a diamond on their Wall of Fame. It is not mandatory to complete this test, and the completion of this test does not count for or against the student in any way. It is simply extra practice for those who are interested, and a good way to judge their own improvement.

VCS SOFTWARE UPDATES

To allow students to improve their homework scores and increase their practice opportunities and exposure to chess problems, a homework reset feature has been introduced. If not satisfied with their performance, students can reset the homework to 0% and attempt it unlimited additional times. Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this feature as it will help increase their homework scores and improve their tactical skills due to the increased practice and time spent on the homework. This feature can be found on students account under Lessons -> Reset link.

Students will also have access to a new feature called Tactics trainer that consists of two types of exercises: checkmate in one, two, three or four moves, and anti-blunder exercises. The latter is particularly important especially at junior levels where a chess game is typically decided not by the good moves but

PLAY VS COMPUTER



Simba (400)



Spiderman (500)



Kung Fu Panda (600)



Iron Man (800)



Superman (1000)

Please select Computer player

Time control

Color

by the bad moves. This training aims to help students eliminate blunders from their games, which will raise their overall tournament performance significantly. These checkmate and anti-blunder exercises sharpen students' tactical vision and accelerates improvement.

The popular Play vs. Computer online feature is now also available for CIS students as well,

allowing students to have the opportunity to practice complete games at any time from their home. Students log onto their VCS accounts, select the Play vs. Computer tab, select an opponent based on the rating level they wish to play against, as well as their color and time control. Games are automatically recorded so that students are able to go back after a game and analyze their play.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

ACTIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Stephen Wright



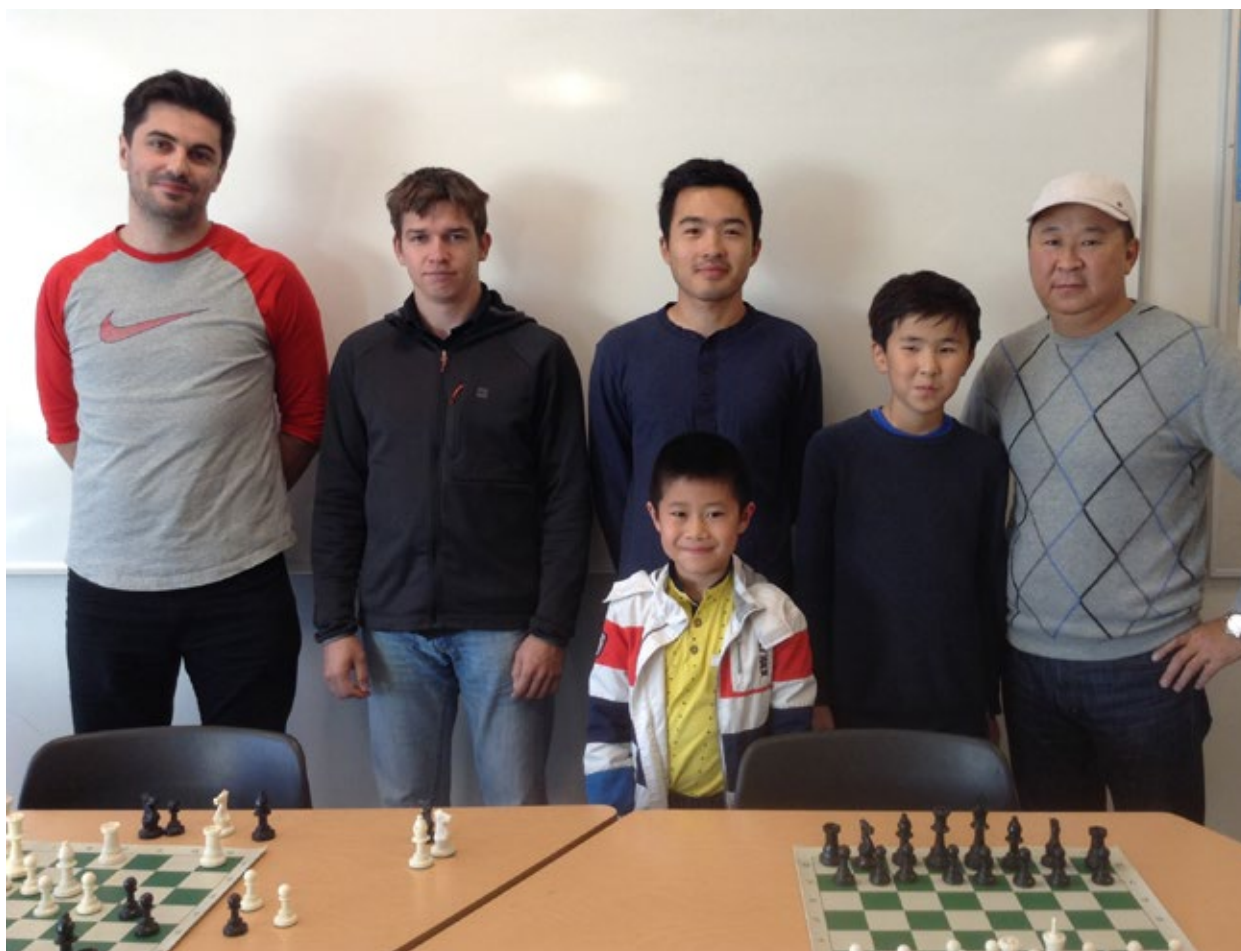
AUGUST 27TH

The August edition of the monthly VCS active was down slightly in numbers, with thirty-six overall. Continuing the trend from the July event, many of the participants registered at the last minute; the Open Section doubled in size in the last couple of days. A number of the usual suspects were missing, but Tanraj Sohal returned with a new look to demonstrate that a 300-point rating cushion is sometimes meaningful: he won his first five games and took a quick last-round draw with Andrew Hemstapat to claim the first prize. Close behind in second place was Alex Sabaratnam with 5.0 points, who only lost to Sohal. The U1800 prizes were split four

ways between Gilberto Igharas, James Li, Shahrouz Khoraman, and Jonathan Steif.

The Junior Section was consistent with twenty-two entries, one less than last month. The three class trophies went to Raymond Zhang (U600), Eugene Liang (U1000), and Brian Yang (1300); notably Eugene finished first overall with 5.0/5, while Brian lost to Eugene and finished second. Medals were awarded to Eric Jiang, Alex Yu, Borna Amjadi, Sophia Yu, Binary Xiao, Andrew Sabaratnam, Kirill Zubo, and Codrin Pompas. Watch for the next tournament coming up at Columbia College in two weeks (September 17).

TOURNAMENT RESULTS



SEPTEMBER 17TH

The September edition of the VCS monthly active at Columbia College attracted thirty-one players in two sections. Grigorii Morozov and Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj were the only two players rated over 2000 and unsurprisingly took the first two places, Grigorii with a perfect 6.0/6 and Davaa only losing to Grigorii. Ulvi Ibrahimov beat Davaa's sister Uranchimeg in claiming the first U1700 prize, while two Mongolian newcomers, father Sanjjav Purevjav and son Bilguun tied for the second U1700 prize with Ryan Yang – they all scored 3.0 points.

In the Junior Section there was a four-way tie for first; it looked like Andrew Xu was going to walk away with the tournament but he lost in the last round to Yawen Zheng, setting up the tie. Andrew won the U1300 Trophy, Yawen the U1000, and Raymond Yao and Alex Yu were awarded medals. The U600 Trophy went to newcomer Aaron Vickers, and Eric Jiang, Gurbaz Singh, and Borna Amjadi also won medals. Watch for the next event on October 15.

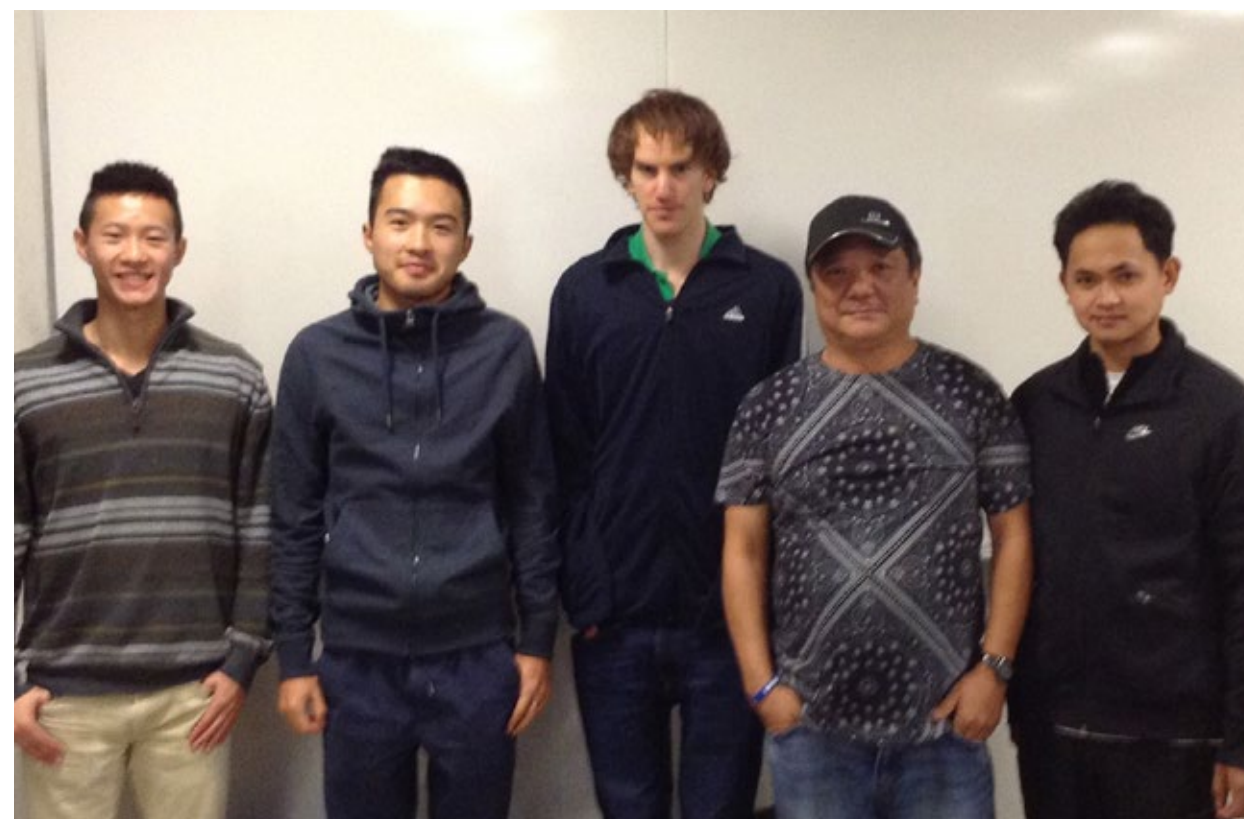


TOURNAMENT RESULTS

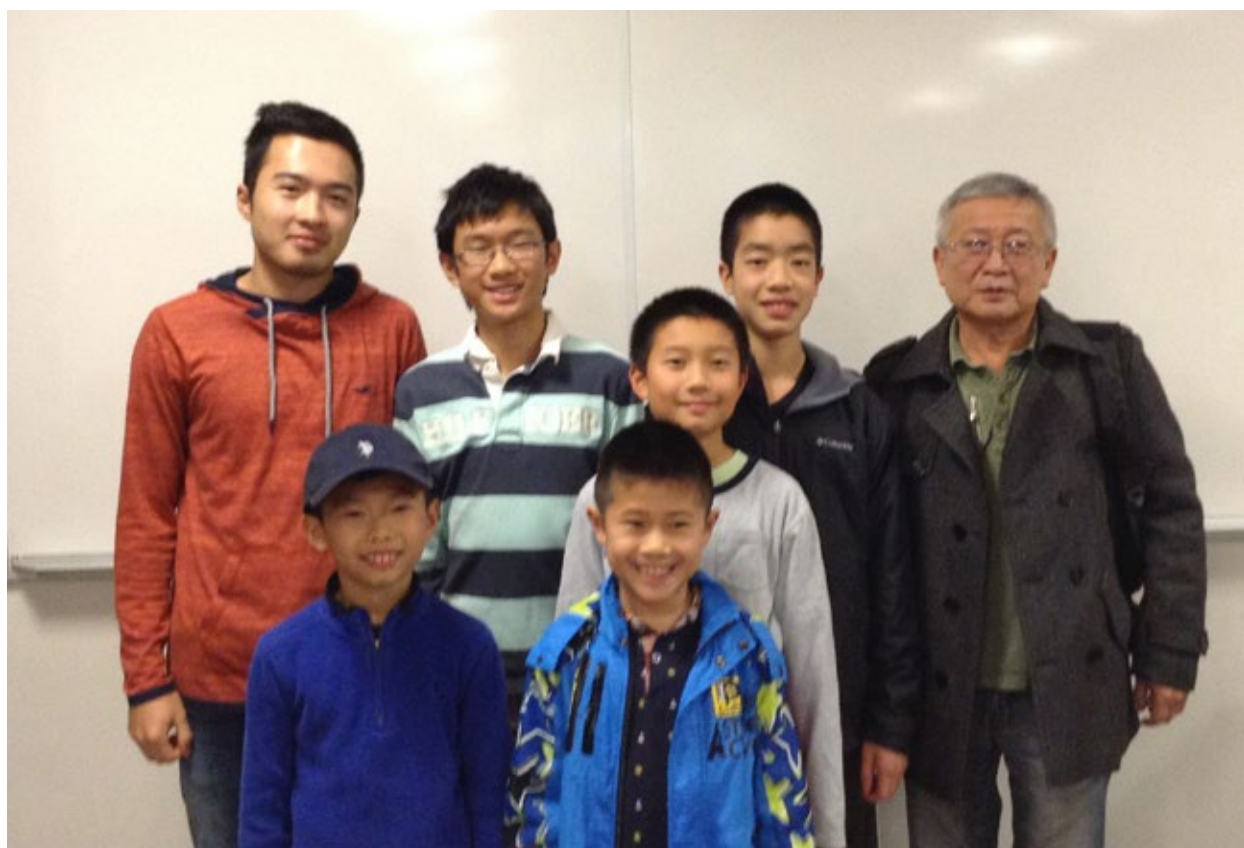
OCTOBER 15TH

The October edition of the VCS active saw a larger turnout than in September but again there were only two players rated over 2000. This time around it was Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj and Mayo Fuentesbella who outclassed the rest of the field by two hundred points. Their round five encounter decided first place – Davaa won, while Mayo had to be content with the second prize. Coming in third was Jaylord Talosig, who last played in one of these events in July 2014. Tying for the U1700 prizes were Gilberto Igharas and Jonathan Steif, while Jeff Chen was first U1400 and Ryan Yang second.

In the Junior Section Andrew Xu continued his impressive play of late by taking first overall and the U1300 trophy; the U1000 trophy went to Gillian Mok and Daniel Zhenghao Pan was the best U600. Medals were awarded to Eric Jiang, Alex Yu, Luka Spasojevic, Enoch Liang, and Raymond Zhang. A total of thirty-seven players participated, nine of whom registered at the very last minute or showed up at the door. The next active is on November 5th – a reminder to all potential players that registering early is a big help to the organizers and tournament director. Strictly speaking there is no onsite registration, players are expected to preregister online. Please follow the instructions on the website, or contact us if you experience difficulties.



TOURNAMENT RESULTS



NOVEMBER 5TH

The November VCS active attracted a total of thirty-three players; the Open had twenty-three, one more than in October, but for whatever reason the Junior Section had an unusually low turnout of only ten players. In the Open Section there were three players over 2000, with Edward Tang trying this format for the first time. For the second event in a row Andrew Hemstapat defeated Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj to claim sole first place (they tied for first at the Vancouver West Open #11); Davaa won his remaining games and was clear second. Lucian Wu continued his excellent results of late by taking the first U1800 prize, despite being rated only 1460. There was a four-way tie for the second U1800 prize between George Kim, Maven Zheng, Jonathan Steif, and Boya Yang, while Nathan Wu and Ryan Yang split the U1400 prize.

In the Junior Section top-ranked Andrew Xu had an off-day, and it was Eric Jiang who won the U1300 trophy. The other trophies went to Joseph Yan (U1000) and Benjamin Wu (U600), while Samuel Taplin and Borna Amjadi were awarded medals.

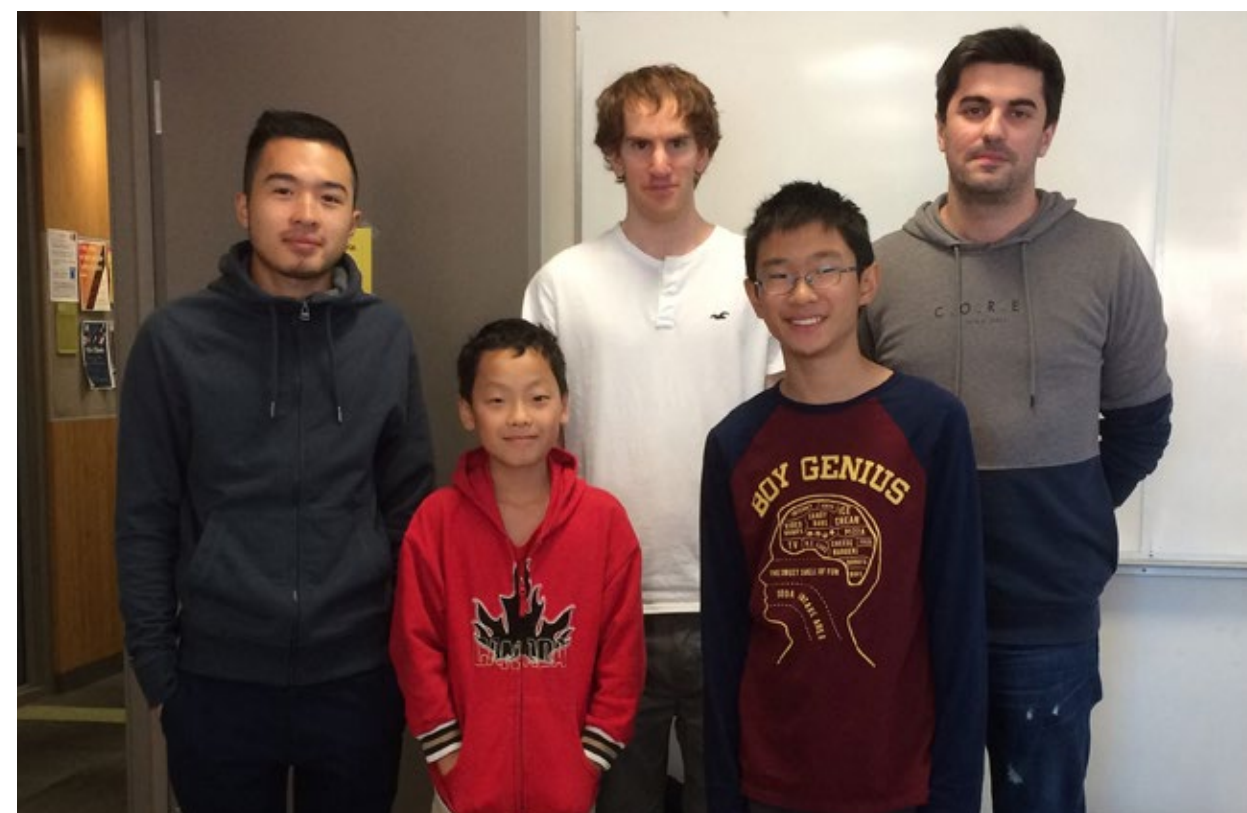
TOURNAMENT RESULTS

VANCOUVER WEST OPEN TOURNAMENTS

By Stephen Wright

OCTOBER 11-12TH 2016

The eleventh edition of the Vancouver West Open had the usual tripartite format: a two-day open section, a two-day junior section, and a one-day junior section. The first two were both CFC-regular and CMA rated, the latter only CMA rated. Twenty players registered for the Open Section but most of the highly-rated usual suspects were missing, Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj being the only player rated over 2000. However, Davaa did not have everything his own way – in round five he lost to rising junior Andrew Hemstapat, who also had a good result at the recent Langley Open. This resulted in Davaa and Andrew tying for first with 5.0/6; as a consequence Andrew pushed his rating over 2000 for the first time.



Ulvi Ibrahimov won the first U1700 prize, Jonathan Steif the second (although he's actually rated under 1300), and Jerry Wang won the U1300 prize.

In the Junior 2-day Andrew Xu dominated, taking the U1300 trophy with a score of 5.5/6, a point and a half ahead of the field. Ryan Yang won the U1500 trophy, Gillian Mok the U1000, and medals were awarded to Henry Yang, Ethan Song, Brian Yang, Bill Wang, and Veronica Guo. And in the Junior 1-day trophies went to Raymond Zhang (U800), Aaron Vickers (U600), and Edward Jeong (U400), and medals to Codrin Pompas, Jermey Liang, Kirill Zubo, and Kiran Sun.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS



With difficult competition including four players rated over 2000 and a three-time past BC Junior Champion, VCS students showed their skills and fared very well. Of notable mention are Brandon Zhu with an outstanding tie for 1st place overall finish, Leo Chung achieving a tie for 2nd place in the Reserve section, Borna Amjadi with a 2nd place finish in the Booster Section and Gillian Mok with a 1st place finish out of the girls in the Booster Section.

BC JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016

The prestigious annual BC Junior Championship took place at Lansdowne Mall on Nov 11-13. Hosted by the Chess2Inspire organization, this tournament featured the strongest players under 20 in the province. With a minimum rating cutoff for the three-day championship section event, the tournament also featured a Reserve Section for lower rated players and a 1-day Booster Section event for beginners.



WINTER CHESS FESTIVAL 2016

WINTER CHESS FESTIVAL 2016 AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE

On December 17th VCS will be hosting its second annual Winter Chess Festival. Hosting three events in one day, this event includes the prestigious Active Grand Prix (by invitation only), as well as the Winter Open followed by a Blitz Championship which is open to all players. With an Open section and a separate Junior Section for both the Winter Open and the ensuing Blitz Championship, this event is a good opportunity for players of all strengths to improve their practical tournament skills in a competitive yet friendly environment. Come out and sharpen your chess skills at one last tournament event before this holiday season! Details about the Winter Chess Festival can be found at: [http://vanchess.ca/events?events\[0\]=8](http://vanchess.ca/events?events[0]=8).



CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE 2017 QUALIFICATION

BC CHESS CHALLENGE 2017



The **Winners**
of **BC Chess**
Challenge will
form **Team BC.**

1 day event , K-12
Regular 5-round Swiss,
25/5, CMA Rated

CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE 2017 QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENTS:

Please find registration and
tournament details here
[http://vanchess.ca/
events?events\[0\]=9&events\[1\]=10](http://vanchess.ca/events?events[0]=9&events[1]=10)

Regional #1

Date: Jan 15, 2017

Location:
Columbia College
Vancouver

Regional #2

Date: Feb 11, 2017

Location:
The Executive
Airport Plaza Hotel
Richmond

Regional #3

Date: Mar 5, 2017

Location:
Columbia College
Vancouver

SIGN UP NOW, THE SPACE IS LIMITED!

FUNDING TEAM BC AT THE CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE 2017



FUNDING TEAM BC AT THE CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE 2017

Every year the Canadian-based Chess N' Math Association hosts the Canadian Chess Challenge (CCC), featuring not only a contest between the best players in each grade across the country, but a competition between provinces as well. The event has traditionally

been dominated by Ontario and Quebec, and BC, although always putting forward a strong showing, has in over 25 years never finished in first. Despite having very strong players in every grade, it is difficult for BC to assemble all these strong players to attend the Canadian Chess Challenge together. One of the main reasons for this is cost, as there is very limited funding available to support our team. While this is possible for some families, for many it is a reason not to attend.

In May 2017, the CCC will be held in Toronto. As BC team captain, it is my belief and hope that we can have a very good chance at winning one of the top places if we can assemble a team comprised of our very strongest players in every grade. However, as mentioned above, cost is a limiting factor in accomplishing this. I am asking you, not as the Vancouver Chess School director, but as the Team BC captain, to help fund team BC to the CCC this year. Any donation you can make would be highly appreciated by all of team BC.

Additionally, if you believe your company or a company you know would be interested in sponsoring Team BC in exchange for advertising, please do let us know. The amount necessary is a small cost for many large companies, and any contribution to such a worthy endeavor would be immensely helpful in allowing BC to put together the strongest team possible with the best chances of winning this year's Canadian Chess Challenge.

Thank you for your continued support,
Maxim Doroshenko

WWW.VANCHESS.CA