

MONTHLY BULLETIN May - June 2015

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p. 27-30 VCS tournaments outlook

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



ANNA VAN.

My name is Anna Van and I am 10 years old. I'm in 4th grade and I love playing chess so much. The first time that I became interested in chess was when I turned 8 and I went to a chess camp at Vancouver Chess School. Since then I started loving chess right away and I also got involved in some chess tournaments at VCS.

At that time I also had synchronized swimming lessons and that was too much work for me to practice in, so my mom asked me to pick either synchronized swimming or chess. It took me awhile but my final decision was chess because I was so intrigued with it.

I had an opportunity to have a few different chess coaches during class progress at Vancouver Chess School to help me with all sorts of different things that I need to know in order to become a great chess player. Also playing in different chess tournaments helped me to earn lots of trophies, meet new challenges, gain the experience and learn from my mistakes.

I currently have 10 chess trophies at home and I can't wait to get involved in more chess tournaments. My parents are very involved and contribute a lot to my chess practice schedule; they help me to get what I need like printing chess practice pieces, buying books for reading that and enhancing my chess skills.

I really appreciate all my coaches helping and encouraging me with my studying skills. And I really enjoy playing chess!!!!

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

JASON QIAN.

My name is Jason Qian! I have been student at Vancouver Chess School for 3 years now! I made many good friends there and I love playing chess with all those friends!

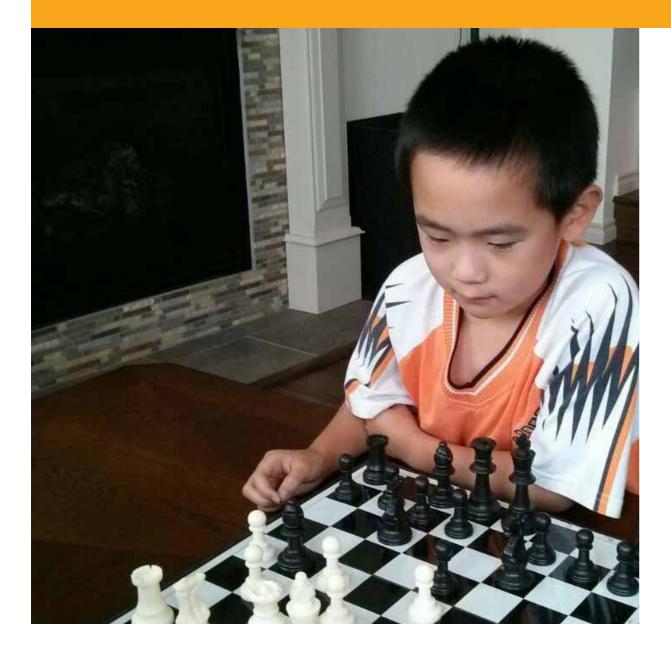
If you ask me why I love chess so much, my answer will be that chess makes me smart! I enjoy every moment of the game after I checkmate my opponent or after I solve those difficult puzzles by myself!

I learned something from chess, first of all to never give up! That is what my coach Gyan always teaches me! Second is that if you really want to get something, you should work hard on it! Sometimes the result maybe not what you want, but you at least tried your best! Another is chess always let me take challenge against myself!

Sometimes chess makes me very happy, sometimes very sad, but I love this game and try to never give up! That is why I have to improve myself all the time! I hope I can become a chess grandmaster one day. And I keep working hard and enjoy chess game!



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



BINARY XIAO.

Hello, my name is Binary Xiao. I go to Heritage Mountain Elementary school in Port Moody and will be in grade four in September.

I started playing chess when I was 6 years old. I got a new set of Chess as a Christmas gift at that time. After I grasped the rules of chess from the instructions, then I had to teach my dad how to play chess, so I didn't have to play and practice by myself.

From Feb 2015, I started to attend Vancouver Chess School. I have learned a lot of chess ideas and techniques from Maxim, my chess teacher. I like chess because it takes brain effort and strategy. I sometimes teach my friends at school who don't know how to play. After they learn how, they always have fun playing against other people. Also, I met many of my close friends in Vanchess classes, they always support me in tournaments and help to practice in class. At home, besides playing with my dad, I also can practice from the school website. By the way, I can easily beat my dad when I play with him now.

There is one thing that I believe really helps me to improve my chess skills, is playing in the tournaments every Saturday afternoon. In every tournament I have chance to play with three different players, and we are required to record every step. I lost all three games in my first tournament, and I felt so sad. However, my parents told me not to be frustrated, and encouraged me to review all the steps in the games to find out my mistakes, and think what would be a better choice in that situation. Thus, not so long, I won all the three games in a tournament and was the 1st player. From May 9-June 20, 2015, after seven tournaments my CMA rating has increased from 400 to 508. However, with my rating increasing, I will be facing more advanced players, and there is a chance that I might lose. The most important thing is I know I will gain experience from losing games, and this is the foundation of my future success.

Other than chess, I also do swimming, skating, soccer and basketball.

VISIT TO THE MAX EUWE CENTRUM

MAY, 2015 VISIT TO THE MAX EUWE CENTRUM: BY OUR STUDENT GRAHAM ALLEN

Having a free day in Amsterdam while visiting with my son last month, I could not miss the opportunity to pay my own respects to the formidable career of Dr. Max Euwe. It was delightful to arrive at Max Euweplein, and to see a game being played on the giant chessboard outside – it looked as if one excellent player was taking on all comers!

Machgielis (Max) Euwe (can you pronounce his name?) was the most famous and distinguished Dutch chess champion. His achievements were considerable:

- he earned a Ph.D. in mathematics and taught it all his life;
- he was the World amateur chess champion in 1928;
- he held the Dutch championship 12 times, still a record;
- he defeated Alexander Alekhine for the World Championship in 1935, winning after 30 games played in 13 different venues in the Netherlands (or 23, depending on source!) over a period of 80 days, an astonishing length of time to us today;
- he wrote over 70 chess books;
- he was the President of the FIDE from 1970 (when he was 69) until 1978.



The Max Euwe Centrum itself is a comprehensive museum of Dr. Euwe's career and, even though that's entirely in Dutch, a very helpful curator explained to us in English the various exhibits. There is also a library of hundreds of chess books, with boards ready to be played. A shrine to chess in every way! I was thrilled and honoured to have been able to visit this well-organized and deserving tribute to the exemplary Max Euwe.

SUMMER CHESS CAMPS

SUMMER CHESS CAMPS JUNE 29TH - AUG 28TH

I am excited to inform you that our VCS Summer Camp program and schedule is ready now. In addition to our quality chess education program, we have introduced more fun and enriching activities to make this summer unforgettable for your child. We will run our camps every week from June 29th to August 28th. Our small camp size allows more individual attention to your child.



CHESS CAMPS

Chess lessons using electronic presentations and videos.

Chess Tournaments in a variety of fun formats:

- Rapid, Blitz, Bughouse, Blindfold
- Chess Puzzle exercises
- Game Analysis
- Chess Simultaneous Exhibitions

Camp outlines: <u>New to chess</u>, <u>Intermediate &</u> <u>Advanced</u>





CHESS + ROBOTICS

We organize our program based on STEM concepts with hands-on activities and challenging friendly competition.

Campers will have many opportunities to work on their skills as follows:

- Problem solving & planning
- Communication skills: verbal and digital literacy
- Team work and sharing

BE Creative!

REGISTER



CHESS + SOCCER

Let your kids enjoy summer outside and play soccer. It is a great outdoor sport activity that will bring kids lots of fun, new friends and good physical shape. Your child will develop technical and tactical playing ability and also will learn:

- Movement training
- Strategy and position drilling
- Passing
- Goaltending

REGISTER



CHESS + ART

Arts camps not only inspire kids, but also challenge their creative thinking and imagination.

Kids explore and learn how to express their ideas and creativity in their own unique ways using:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Mixed media
- Sculpture & more



MAY ACTIVE, MAY 09/2015

This month's guaranteed \$250 first prize goes to NM Butch Villivieja with a perfect 6/6 score. Alfred Pechisker placed clear 2nd for \$100 and Mayo placed clear 3rd for \$50. Nathaniel Knox won the U1700 prize for \$40. The 2nd U1700 was split 3 ways between Ethan, Low, Ryan Leong, and An Yu. This month's active was greeted by Dale Hoshizaki (2021 CFC) who made a debut appearance after years of illusively being in the top-50 of BC.





Andrew Hemstapat won the 1st placed trophy with a perfect 5/5 score. Anna Van and Andrew Xu took the 2nd and 3rd places respectively.



CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE, MAY 17/2015

The 27th annual Canadian Chess Challenge, sponsored by the Chess & Math Association of Canada, was held this year in Quebec City. The venue for the Grades 1 to 12 competitors from all 10 provinces was a spacious and comfortable playing hall in the campus of Laval University.

A big congratulations to Team BC for representing the province of British Columbia so well this year. Despite not having a few of our top BC players at this year's competition, this resilient BC team was able to maintain its top three position, behind only to the Ontario and Quebec teams. Trophy winners include:

- Grade 4 Patrick Huang: 2nd Place, 8/9
- Grade 5 Leo Qu: 3rd Place, 6/9
- Grade 6 Ethan Low: 2nd Place, 8/9
- Grade 8 Matthew Geng: 3rd Place, 6/9
- Grade 11 Jeremy Hui: 2nd Place, 7/9

https://vanchess.ca/media/static-content/CCC_2015_Report.pdf (Courtesy of Ron Hui)

FANTASY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS #3

Congratulations to the Ninja Rabbits team, led by **Samuel Taplin** (team captain), for winning the 3rd Fantasy League championships!

It was a keenly contested match with 4 teams tying for first place. However, the Ninja Rabbits were declared the champions having the highest number of points. (16 wins /25 games).

Ninja Rabbits team: Samuel Taplin, Ryan Wang, Artin Hajihosseinlou, Owen Tan, Anais Bonnis.

They entered the tournament as the weakest team by cumulative rating, but managed to beat their nearest rivals by 1.5 points, emphasizing the importance of team spirit, and morale boosting team meetings in between rounds.

It was a fun filled event, followed by a blitz round robin championships. Players got to face off with opponents on their corresponding boards, which produced 5 blitz champions.

Board 1 Andy Zhang; Board 2 Sophia Yu; Board 3 Richard Chen; Board 4 Ray Zhang; Board 5 Venkata Kodali.

This was followed by a bughouse knockout that was won by **Gyan** Awatramani and Alex Sabaratnam!





VANCOUVER WEST OPEN #5

June's CFC-rated West Vancouver Open was full of surprises and upsets. The premium section typically comprises some of the more ambitious students of the Vancouver Chess School as well as an assortment of adults: both regulars and wild cards. One such notable player was the preeminent **Tanraj Sohal** (2013 BC Closed Champion, 2347 CFC).

Tanraj displayed an outstanding 6/6 performance against strong opposition. This won him the astonishing guaranteed \$600 1st prize. The real West Vancouver Open success story was **George Kim** (1535 CFC and member of the Chigorin Team of the Vancouver Rapid Chess League) who scored 5/6 of the \$150 for 2nd place. **Daniel Chen** won the \$100 U1700 prize with a clear 3.5/6. The 2nd U1700 prize was split 3-ways: **Robert Hao, Kevin Li, and James Li.**





VANCOUVER JUNIOR OPEN / VANCOUVER YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP (VYCC)

As with the previous Vancouver West Open there was an adjunct junior event, in fact several events which also constituted a Vancouver Youth Chess Championship, a final qualifier for the CYCC coming up in July. In the 2-day Junior Open Ryan Leong gave up just a single draw in claiming the first place, ahead of Andrew Hemstapat and Kevin Butchart; the U1000 prizes were won by Samuel Taplin, Charles Van, and Ciro Zhang. In the 1-day Junior Open the overall winners were Uros Jeremic, Marco Poon, and Jacky Tang, while Jiayi Shi, Johnny Zhou, Ryan Yang, Jeremy Reyes, Venkata Vikhyath Kodali, Visisht Kodali, Michael Yang, and Francesco Coltellaro took home the hardware in the U600 Section.



VANCOUVER WEST ALL-GIRLS CHESS JAM

We've ran one of the biggest girls chess event in the recent BC history. It was a lot of "drama" in each game, tears and joy; girls had a lot of fun and made good friends among other girls players. We are looking to run more events for girls in the future.

All Girls' event was ran in two sections: Agata Seyfi, Sherry Tian, Anna Van, Sophia Yu, Angelina Yang, Jemelyn Reyes, Atrina Shadgan, and Vivian Xu were the prize winners in the Open Section, while in the U600 Section Kitty Wei, Gloria Yu, Simarleen Kaur, Annie Cai, Anais Bonnis, Sreeja Veeraghanta, Elaine Shangguan, and Amy Chen won trophies and medals. Go girls go!



JUNE ACTIVE, JUNE 21/2015

The June edition of the Monthly Actives held at the Vancouver Chess School was, as usual, split into two components, one for adults and stronger juniors, the other for juniors rated below CFC 1100/CMA 1200. The fifteen-player field was headed by **Luc Poitras**, but whether from rust other reasons he did not have a great event, finishing with 3.0 points. **Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj** scored a perfect 6.0/6 to take the first prize, while second/third was shared by newcomer **Igharas Gilberto**, **James Li**, and **Daniel Wang's father Kai** (it was Father's Day, after all). The spot for the year-end Grand Prix tournament goes to **James Li** on tiebreak.





The junior portion of the June Active consisted of two sections, Open and U600. In the Open trophies were awarded to Jemelyn Reyes, Xuanying Yu, Bill Wang, Jiayi Shi, Alexander Lu, and Andrew Xu and a medal to Anna Van, while the U600 Section winners were Ryan Yang, Jeremy Reyes, and Ethan Zheng; in addition, Ray Zhang, Alex Chen, Matthew Ji, Yiguo Song, Adrian Zheng, and Andy Huang earned medals. A total of twenty-two players took part in the two sections.

ADVANCED CAMP

The camp's intensive program included lectures, tactics training, opening preparation, and tournaments of different formats. All the camp's activities were directed towards training our students/players to reach their peak performance at the CYCC.







Ryan Leong & Elvin Sun the winners of the "Planning in chess" contest.



James Li, Kevin Li and Sherry Tian took top three places in the final blitz tournament.



CANADIAN YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP, WINDSOR, ONTARIO (JULY 6-9, 2015)

Twelve of our VCS students ventured in early July to Windsor, Ontario, to challenge the best youth talents across Canada. It was an intense and rewarding experience. For some of the students, it was their first time attending a national competition with over 250 players. Our students started making their preparations in the 4-day chess camp at VCS prior to their departure.

CYCC kicked off with a national anthem on Jul 6, and a group photo session with each section. It was wonderful to see the players, each holding his/her provincial flag, so excited to be a part of this event. This was followed by the chief arbiter explaining all the rules of the tournament to make sure the event was run at a professional level. Our heartfelt thanks to Coach Maxim, who travelled to Windsor to support our students. During the 7 rounds of games in four days, Coach Maxim offered encouraging words and advices in each pre-game meeting, and he gave post-game analysis to the students at the skittle room, and often was the last one to leave. Some of our older players had games that lasted over 4 hours long! It was a steep learning curve for our students as they faced top-seeded players from all across the country. They were being challenged in every way, from game strategies to endurance.

Facing these new challenges, our students gave impressive performances: 10 were ranked top 20 in their respective sections. Special congratulations to Sherry Tian who achieved the best result of 4th place in U10 Girls.



We celebrated their efforts together as a team at a bistro by the water after the last round.



It was an incredible learning experience for all. Windsor Chess Club has done a marvellous job hosting this event, from booking a beautiful waterfront playing hall, to organizing volunteers in all kinds of assistance possible, to name a few: driving, orientation, set-up and clean-up, opening and award ceremonies.

Congratulations to the following students for giving their best at this prestigious event:

U8 Open section Daniel Wang, Andrew Xu

U10 Girls section Anna Van, Sherry Tian

U10 Open section Kevin Butchart, Kevin Low

U12 Girls section Angelina Yang

U12 Open section Ethan Low

U14 Open section Dylan Fox, Kevin Li, Brian Butchart

U16 Open section James Li

We are looking forward to double the number of VCS students playing in the Canadian Youth Chess Championship next year.



FRIDAY QUADS WINNERS

VANCOUVER

# QUAD/DATE	MAY-1-2015	MAY-08-2015	MAY-15-201	MAY-22-2015	MAY-29- 2015
Quad #1	Fox, Dylan	Yang, Matthew	Chai, Connor	Yuan, David	Yuan, David
Quad #2	Chai, Connor	Yuan, David	Yao, James	Hemstapat, Andrew	Yao, James
Quad #3	Yao, Raymond	Zhang, Daniel	Taplin, Samuel	Sun, Elvin	Wang, Bill
Quad #4	Wang, Yiwang	Yuan, Marc	Zhang, Bruce	Wang, Yiwang	Le, Paul
Quad #5	Eirew, David	Wang, Yiwang	Liu, Colby	Zhang, Bruce	Zhang, Bruce
Quad #6	Yang, Nicholas	Guo, Veronica	Chen, Jason	Wang, Edward	Wu, Stanley
Quad #7	Yan, Joseph	Yan, Joseph	Amjadi, Borna	Yang, Nicholas	Chen, Richard
Quad #8	Sharp, Samuel	Shi, Eric	Yang, Nicholas	Wu, Will	Yang, Ethan
Quad #9	Nie, Severn	Sharp, Samuel	Nie, Severn	Nie, Severn	Liang, Jeremy
Quad #10	Xu, Ray	Xu, Ray	Liang, Jeremy	Wang, Patrick	Deng, George
Quad #11	Yang, Ryan	Warman, Emily	Wong, Henry	McBride, Jacob	Wong, Henry
Quad #12	Liu, Austin	Zhang, Ray	Wei, Vincent	Yu, Gloria	Jiang, Stanley
Quad #13	Zhang, Ray		Ye, Juntian	Lee, Kenneth	Li, Alvin
Quad #14			Shang, Rena	Chen, Amy	Shao, Brian

FRIDAY QUADS WINNERS

VANCOUVER

# QUAD/DATE	JUN-5-2015	JUN-12-2015	JUN-19-2015	JUN-26-2015
Quad #1	Yuan, David	Tian, Sherry	Wang, Kai	James Yao
Quad #2	Hadar, Ophir	Xu, Andrew	Wang, Daniel	Raymond Yao
Quad #3	Yuan, Marc	Wang, Bill	Yao, Raymond	Henry Yang
Quad #4	Yang, Nicholas	Yao, Raymond	Yang, Matthew	David Eirew
Quad #5	Wang, Jerry	Chen, Richard	Zang, Anthony	Colby Liu
Quad #6	Yan, Joseph	Yu, Sophia	Wang, Jerry	Benjamin Cooknagy
Quad #7	Jiang, Stanley	Yan, Joseph	Yang, Ethan	Jacky Tang
Quad #8	Tang, Jacky	Tang, Jacky	Guo, Vincent	Patrick Wang
Quad #9	Wei, Vincent	Guo, Veronica	Nie, Severn	Daniel Wu
Quad #10	Stjohn, Lincoln	Nie, Severn	Li, Alvin	Amy Chen
Quad #11	Liu, Austin	Li, Alvin	Tan, Owen	
Quad #12		Shao, Brian	Pompas, Codrin	
Quad #13		Lee, Kenneth		
Quad #14		Yu, Jerry		
Quad #15		Yu, Kayden		

SATURDAY
QUADS
WINNERS

BURNABY



# QUAD/DATE	MAY-09-2015	MAY-16-2015	MAY-23-2015	MAY-30-2015
Quad #1	Borna Amjadi	Marc Yuan	Marc Yuan	Marc Yuan
Quad #2	AnNing Zhang	Alex Fu	David Yuan	David Yuan
Quad #3	Angelo Zhu	Henry Yang	Binary Xiao	Binary Xiao
Quad #4		VenkataVikhyath Kodali		

# QUAD/DATE	JUNE-06-2015	JUNE-13-2015	JUNE-20-2015
Quad #1	Marc Yuan	Henry Yang	Marc Yuan
Quad #2	David Yuan	KevinZhengYi Wang	AnNing Zhang
Quad #3	Nikhil Biju	David Yuan	

VANCOUVER RAPID TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Vancouver Rapid is a Team Chess Championship held in Vancouver every year. The competitions consist of two stages. During the first stage, the teams are playing Round robin or Swiss system tournament against each other (depending on the quantity of teams). In the end of qualification tournament, the strongest teams take part in the final play off to identify a sole winner. The first year was victorious for Vancouver Chess School as it was represented mainly by VCS teachers. Starting 2014, VCS team consists exclusively of VCS students.



The VCS team for 2015 be will formed based on the CFC rating. **Top 10 CFC** rated players (on Sep-01-2015) from our school will be invited to join the team in September 2015.

TOP 10 CFC/CMA

TOP 10 CFC/CMA RATED PLAYERS FROM OUR SCHOOL AS OF JULY 15, 2015.

#	NAME	CFC RATING
1	Kevin Low	1776
2	Victor Zheng	1764
3	Maven Zheng	1735
4	Kevin Li	1698
5	Adam Li	1656
6	James Li	1627
7	Daniel Chen	1576
8	Ethan Low	1540
9	Jim Guo	1533
10	Daniel Du	1486

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

#	NAME	CMA RATING
1	Kevin Low	1894
2	Maven Zheng	1763
3	James Li	1761
4	Daniel Chen	1660
5	Ethan Low	1619
6	Victor Zheng	1615
7	Ryan Leong	1597
8	Kevin Li	1547
9	Jim Guo	1435
10	Adam Li	1422

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)

WEBSITE UPDATES

A new computer player Batman has arrived! Dare to meet him face to face in a chess game.

PLAY VS COMPUTER





Spiderman (500)









Iron Man (800)

Superman (1000)

Batman (1200)

Please select Computer player

Time control	Rapid	×
Color	White	~

Simba (400)



Kung Fu Panda (600)



You can find your games played vs computer on your student's profile under Games.



Please find registration and tournament details here http://vanchess.ca/events%5B0%5D=13



VANCOUVER WEST OPEN TOURNAMENT



SIGN UP NOW, THE SPACE IS LIMITED!

Please find registration and tournament details here http://vanchess.ca/events%5B0%5D=14

VCS QUADS ONGOING WEEKLY TOURNAMENTS

VANCOUVER FRIDAYS, 7 - 9:30 pm

BURNABY SATURDAYS, 4:30 - 7 pm

- 3-4 CMA rated games
- Time control: Rapid
- Open to all players
 Children and their parents are both welcome.

ENTRY FEE \$10

- Chess sets and clocks are provided.
- Please bring your own scorebook.



- Let your kids have fun by playing chess with their friends and classmates
- Earn a rating and track your performance

- Reinforce the lessons
 learned in weekly classes
 through practice
- Take a chance to relax on a Friday night, while your kids play in the tournament



ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

Please find registration and tournament details here http://vanchess.ca/events%5B0%5D=8



SIGN UP NOW, THE SPACE IS LIMITED!

Please find registration and camp details here <u>http://vanchess.ca/events[0]=12</u>



WWW.VANCHESS.CA