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RESULTS

Candidates' Tournament, Weekend 14th - 15th March

The new format for the British Championship saw a four-round Candidates' held at the Nippon Club in Piccadilly, London. 20 players from 3 dan to 1 kyu entered. In order to get reserves in case of an odd number a small side event of 4 players was run, which included Francis Roads at 4 dan and stronger than any in the main section. The top 9 were: on 4/4 Martin Smith (1 dan), Jim Clare (3 dan); on 3/4 Phil Achard (1 dan), Tony Atkins (2 dan) and Bill Brakes (3 dan), Jay Rastall (2 dan); on 2/4 Simon Goss (2 dan), Geoff Kaniuk (1 kyu), David Keeble (1 dan).

9th Irish Open in Dublin (EGP), 18th - 23rd March

22 wise players played in this year's Irish Open in Dublin the weekend after St. Patrick's Day. Yuki Shigeno (professional 2 dan) was in town for the week and attended the go club, the tournament and a reception held at the Japanese ambassador's held in her honour. Yuki analysed many games and taught much to the players in return for being taught about Guinness, liar dice, joker go, pits and Mornington Crescent. In the Friday night fast play after five rounds, despite the plus one handicap, it was Yuki and Christoph Gerlach (5 dan D) who were on four wins. Christoph won the play off to win the top prize. On 3/5 were Tony Atkins, Des Cann, Scott Hopkins, Mathias Kegelmann and Noel Mitchell. In the Irish Open nobody could beat Matthew Macfadyen (6 dan) who became the first person to win the event twice. Second on 4/5 was Christoph Gerlach and third was young Dutchman Emil Nijhuis (4 dan) on tie break from Des Cann (4 dan), neither of whom could beat the top two. Fifth was Tony Atkins (2 dan), sixth was Michael Marz (1 dan), seventh and eighth were top Irish players Noel Mitchell (2 dan) and Stephen Flinter (1 dan), ninth was Colin Adams (1 dan) and tenth was Scott Hopkins (1 kyu). Prizes went to EGF vice-president Alan Held (3 kyu) for 4/5, to Mathias Kegelmann for the best 2/5 and to those on 3/5: Scott Hopkins, Bernard Palmer (1 kyu), Paul Brennan (7 kyu) and Fergus O'Connell (15 kyu). Colin Adams and Fred Holroyd were rewarded for constantly supporting the event and Ernad Mulaomerovic (16 kyu) for best improvement despite only playing for a couple of weeks.

Monday's Handicap Tournament attracted 10 die-hards. First on 3/3 was the American living in Dublin, Scott Hopkins. Second was Des Cann, third was Colin Adams and fourth equal were pals from Birmingham Michael Marz and Mathias Kegelmann. Scott was awarded the overall weekend prize.

Bournemouth Go Tournament, Saturday 4th April

No player stronger than 2 dan entered this year's Bournemouth at West Parley Village Hall. Alan Thornton (2 dan St. Albans) got his first ever tournament win. The others of the 38 going away with engraved drinking glasses were Alex Bell (4 kyu Portsmouth), Jim Edwards (6 kyu Wycombe) and D. Smeed (14 kyu Hursley) for 3/3, and Peter Fisher for entering first.

31st British Go Congress at Chester, Friday 17th - Sunday 19th April

For the 31st British Go Congress a break was made with tradition, abandoning schools and colleges and venturing into industry. British Aerospace, Chester, provided the venue allowing use of their spacious work's dining hall. The congress was also the first ever held in Wales (about two miles across the border) and also the first not to provide on site accommodation. Battle commenced with the British Lightning run by Tony Atkins and his playing card draw system; exactly 32 players made this work especially well. All vied to get the Ace of Hearts and for the second year the player with this lucky card at the end of five rounds was Des Cann (4 dan Leamington). Others with four wins were losing finalist Michael Marz (1 dan Birmingham), Michael Zhang (2 dan London), Paul Barnard (1 dan Swindon), T. Mark Hall (4 dan London) and Baron Allday (1 dan West Wales).

74 players took part in the British Open. This year the grade range was remarkably small, from 6 dan to 12 kyu only. Nine of the players this year had an added interest as the top eight women would score points towards trips to the Women's World amateur. The separate qualifying tournament of previous years was replaced by the Ladies Go and Social Weekend held in March in Leamington Spa and featuring training by Guo Juan. Matthew Macfadyen won all six to take the British Open title to go with his British one. Francis Roads won five to hold second place. Three players of the top group ended on four out of six. As the top four places received trophies from KNT0 a tie break had to be done. Third went to Chinese 3 dan from Scotland Xiaoning Shi, fourth was Des Cann and fifth was T. Mark Hall. Patrice Vicente (4 kyu) won 4 with one draw to win a prize. Two players won a creditable five namely Ron Bell (9 kyu Reading) and Dave Skidmore (12 kyu Nottingham). The Nippon Club Team Cup went to Leamington Spa who narrowly squeezed out Reading into second. Runaway winner in the continuous 13x13 was Anna Griffiths (8 kyu Maidenhead) with 10/12; Joe Hampton (2 dan West Wales) was rewarded too for scoring 9.5/18 in a vain attempt to catch Anna.

Winner of the Terry Stacey Grand Prix for the most games won "above the bar" in the year was Francis Roads. Runner up was Matthew Macfadyen. Winner of the WKD title (most losses by a 2 dan) was Tony Atkins.

Challenger's League, Weekend 2nd - 4th May

This year the format of the Challenger's League was a 24 player tournament over six rounds on three days with 2 hour time limits. The worthy 24 were selected by position last year, five dan grade, being our representative at the World Amateur or by coming in the top half of the Candidates' Tournament. This meant no less than four 5 dans, down to three strong 1 kyus. The final ordering after tie breaking was: Shaw (6/6); Cocke, Goddard (5/6); Matthews, Shepperson, Cann, Roads (4/6); Clare (3.5/6). The best on 3/6 were Hall, Martin Smith (soon to be 2 dan), Wall and Ward.

Bar-Low Go Tournament at Cambridge, Sunday 3rd May

32 kyu players fought over five rounds and ended with a four-way tie between Nick Wedd (Oxford), Jonathan Chin (Cambridge), Pengfei He (Cambridge) and Robert Salkeld, all 1 kyu. Robert Beigler (10k Newcastle) also won 4/5.

Bracknell Go Tournament, Saturday 9th May

62 players found their way to the Brownlow Memorial Hall. Winner was Michael Zhang (3 dan CLGC). On 3/3 were Eric Hall (3 kyu Swindon), Bill Streeten (4 kyu Wanstead), Graham Lamont (7 kyu Portsmouth), Nick Gonzalez (15 kyu Reading) and James Taylor (20 kyu Epsom Downs). Winner of the 13x13 based on a points system was David Grimster (16 kyu Bracknell).

Pair Go Tournament, Sunday 17th May

17 pairs took part, with the top 8 playing in a swiss system and the others in a handicap section. The overall winners were Matthew Macfadyen & Kirsty Healey, and the runners up were Des Cann & Sue Patterson. Third equal were Francis Roads & Jackie Chai, and Tony Atkins & Alison Jones. The Handicap section was won by Steve & Pauline Bailey.

Scottish Open Go Tournament at Glasgow, Weekend 23rd - 24th May

There were 23 players at this year's Scottish. The winner was Matthew Macfadyen (6 dan Leamington) with 6/6, and in 2nd place was Xia-Ming Shi (4 dan Edinburgh). Tom Joldersma (4 kyu Lncaster) won 5/6. Players on 4/6 were John O'Donnell (2 kyu Glasgow) and David King (2 kyu Glasgow).

NEWS

- * **Promotions :-)** The Council has approved the following promotions:
 Simon Shiu and Antonio Moreno to 4 dan. Martin Smith to 2 dan. Ian Marsh to 1 dan.
- * **BGA AGM:** This was held at the British Go Congress Chester on 18/04/98. Agenda items included reports, elections and so on and discussions on the five-year eligibility rule for the British Championship (to remain), whether BGA subscriptions should be increased for 1999 (going up by a pound) and whether they should be allowed to start any quarter (to be referred to an EGM later).
- * **EGM announcement:** There will be an EGM of the BGA held at the Northern Go Tournament on September 12th. The purpose is to make some changes to the constitution. The main one is to change the definition of membership period so that a subscription can run for a year from the enrolment time rather than just for a calendar year. More details will be posted on the BGA web site.

- * **Alison Jones** will represent the UK in the Women's World Amateur this August.
- * **Japanese Festival:** This will be held in London on 11th July from 2pm. The address is Maeda Gakuen Yochien sports ground, Queens Drive, West Acton. The exhibits will cover music, food, crafts, and of course go. The BGA will put on a display. Volunteers to help teach would be appreciated and should contact Alex Rix (see addresses below).
- * **The Mind Sports Olympiad will be held in August again this year.** Volunteers are needed to help man the BGA stall. Please contact Charles Matthews (see addresses below). Andrew Grant ran the tournaments last year, but would prefer not to this year, so a volunteer for this is needed. Contact Charles Matthews.

FORTHCOMING

The 6th Welsh Open Go Tournament @ Barmouth, Weekend 27-28th June

Location: Barmouth Youth Centre. Registration by 1:30 on Saturday. 5 rounds (3 on Saturday to about 8:30 and 2 on Sunday to about 3pm).

Fees: £10. Check for concessions. After 22nd June add £2.

Accommodation: This is cheap and plentiful in Barmouth. Contact Jo for details. Check with Jo if you wish to arrive earlier.

Contact: Jo Hampton, 1, Glan-y-Don, High Street, Barmouth, Gwynedd, LL42 1DW. ☎ 01341-281336. ***Note changed address.***

The 4th Devon Go Tournament, Sunday 5th July

Location: Moorlands Hotel, Haytor Vale, Dartmoor. The hotel phone number is 01364-661407. Registration by 10:15. 3 rounds.

Fees: £10 or £7 if age 16 and under. A **Buffet Lunch** is included in the fee. Vegetarian lunches by prior arrangement.

Accommodation: available at tournament venue, or for the more intrepid, free camping 400 yards away in Tom's field (no hot showers).

Contact: Tony Putman ☎ 01803-555676. Email: tony@putwet. demon.co.uk or: Tom Widdicombe ☎ 01364 661470.

The Sanilhac Go Camp in France, 5th -18th July

Information about the Sanilhac Stage de Go is at <http://bat710.univ-lyon.fr/~ffg/1998/STAGE/Welcome.html>

European Go Congress 1998 at Mamaia in Romania, 25th July - 7th August

Location: Mamaia is a holiday resort on the Black Sea adjacent to Constantza. **Contact:** robert@cnfis.sfos.ro

US Go Congress 1998 at Santa Fe in New Mexico, 1st - 9th August

Location: The University in the state capital. High altitude makes the weather pleasant. **Contact:** Grant H Franks ghfranks@clark.net

1st Norwich Biennial Go Tournament, Saturday 8th August

Location: St Gregory's Church, St Gregory's Alley, Norwich. Registration by 10:15. 3 rounds.

Fees: BGA members £5.25, British non-members +£1.25, concessions £2. Late entries after 3rd August + £1.

Accommodation: An information brochure from the Tourist Office (including a map and accommodation list) is available free on request.

Contact: Tony Lyall, 37 Winter Road, Norwich, Norfolk. NR2 3RR. ☎ 01603 613698 (evenings). Email: tlyall@ccn.ac.uk

2nd Mind Sports Olympiad at London, 24th - 30th August

Location: The Royal Festival Hall, London.

Event: The go competitions will be: 19x19 Championship, 24-28 August am, £25 / £10; 19x19 Weekend, 29 August whole day, 30 August am, £20 / £8; Go 13x13, 24-28 August pm, £25 / £10; Go 9x9, 30 August pm, £13 / £5. The entry fees are full price / concessionary, and reflect the prizes. The Mind Sports web site is at www.mindsports.co.uk/index.html. It features a full schedule of all events in all games, and also provides an electronic entry form. You can write to Mind Sports Olympiad Ltd., PO Box 13388, London NW3 2ZF, for more details and an entry form for all events. The contact email for queries is: dlevy@intelligent-group.com

24th Northern Go Tournament, Weekend 12th - 13th September

Location: The Allen Hall, Wilmslow Road, Manchester. Registration by 10:00 on Saturday. 6 rounds.

Event: This will be a six round McMahon Tournament. Closing date for entries is Saturday September 5th. Late entries (if accepted) + £5.

Fees: £10. Under 18 £5. Not Go Association members +£3. Various B&B and lunch options available for Friday/Saturday/Sunday, extra.

Contact: John Smith, 21 Gwynant Place, Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 4AE. ☎ 0161 445 5012 (home), 0161 275 4756 (work)

Email: J.H.Smith1@man.ac.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Barmouth (27-28 Jun), Devon (5 Jul), Norwich (8 Aug), Mind Sports (24-30 Aug), Northern (12-13 Sep), Milton Keynes (19 Sep), Shrewsbury (4 Oct).

FUJITSU EUROPEAN GRAND PRIX TOURNAMENTS FOR THE 97/98 SEASON

Zagreb CRO (13-14 Jun), Warsaw PL (20-21 Jun), Helsinki SF (27-28 Jun), St Petersburg RUS (4-5 Jul), European Go Congress ROM (25 Jul - 7 Aug).

For European GP events see: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~egcc/egf/gptour.html>

For European Calendar see: <http://www.win.tue.nl/cs/fm/engels/go/tourn.html>

For American Calendar see: <http://www.usgo.org/usa/tournaments.html>

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