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DEADLINE for next issue Sunday 5th April 2009

RESULTS

MAIDENHEAD FURZE PLATT 17/01/09 67 players attended the HQ of HITACHI Europe Ltd for the 18th Maidenhead Tournament. Du Qing won the tournament, following his second place in London, by beating Jon Diamond in the last round. Other players winning 3/3 were Matt Crosby (2 dan Epsom), Christian Scarff (1 dan Swindon) and Neil Cleverly (8 kyu Bournemouth). In addition all on 1.5 or 2/3 won a prize thanks to generous sponsorship from HITACHI. Team winner was the Cardiff Killers on tie break from Dani's Team. Andrew Boughton won the 9x9 with 6/7 ahead of Xinyi Lu on 7/10.

LONDON OPEN 28/12/08-31/12/08 126 players assembled for the first day of the 35th London Open (132 over all days). It was held again at ISH, Great Portland Street. Special guest was the teaching professional from Amsterdam, Guo Juan. Also Kobayashi Chizu popped in for a visit. Last year's winner had returned from London to China, so there would be a new winner. Favourites included some Chinese and Korean players, Csaba Mero and Merlijn Kuin. The top board games were being broadcast live on Pandanet as the event was a Pandanet Major in the Pandanet Go European Cup. After two rounds, 6 players at the top were unbeaten.

On day 2 Chi-Min Oh remained unbeaten to top the field after an exciting game v Qing Du. Qing headed the list of 3 wins players: Lluís Oh, Viktor Lin, Arnoud Rutgers van der Loeff, Merlijn Kuin, Csaba Mero, Tumo Salo and Antti Holappa were the others. Day 2 evening was the Pair Go with 10 pairs. The winners were Guo Juan and Ian Davis. Scoring 3/4 were Martha McGill and Matt Crosby, and Annika Piironen and Antti Holappa.

On day 3, Chi-Min Oh won his 5th game against Csaba Mero. Qing Du beat Lluís Oh and there were wins for van der Loeff, Lin, Kuin and Danek (who missed the first day). Oh also won in round 6 against Viktor Lin to give a seemingly uncatchable lead. During the evening, Guo Juan gave a lecture on common mistakes, whilst another group of 45 took part in the Lightning Tournament, won by Qing Du 6d

The final round on day 4 saw Chi-Min Oh beat van der Loeff to end on a perfect 7 and first place. Qing Du beat Merlijn Kuin to come second with 6. There were wins for Lluís Oh, Csaba Mero and Viktor Lin. These three ended on 5 wins like Kuin. Vladimir Danek who missed the first day got 4/5. Aurelien Cluzen (4 kyu Paris) won all 7 games and Eric Lebert (13k Rouen) won 6/7 and got the special merit prize. All players with 5 wins got a paperweight prize and those with 4 wins a certificate. Prizes were presented by Gemma Cochrane of Winton Capital, who sponsored on the event. The final order was 1. Chi-Min Oh, 2 Qing Du, 3 Lluís Oh, 4 Csaba Mero (equal on SOS), 5 Merlijn Kuin. Viktor Lin was equal fifth.

SCOTTISH BARLOW 13/12/08 35 players made it to the Quaker Meeting House in Edinburgh. Proceedings kicked off with the belated presentation of May's Scottish Open trophy to Yohei Negi (1 dan St Andrews). Yohei was the favourite for this event too and indeed, he ended up joint winner with Alex Kent (2 kyu Durham). Unfortunately, due to an organiser's error Alex was not announced as such and did not get a prize. Yohei had lost in the last round to Adam Heslop (3 kyu Edinburgh), who won all 4 games and, as the four-wins players got their prizes first, won the malt whisky. Two others on 4 wins were Jan Korthmann (6k Aberdeen) and Jenny Radcliffe (7 kyu Durham). On 3 wins were: Robbie Miller (1 kyu Dundee), Sandy Taylor (3 kyu Durham), Ron Bell (4 kyu Borders), John Shafer (9 kyu Durham), Andrew Thurman (10 kyu Durham), Colin MacLennan (11 kyu Twickenham) and Andre Mazanke (20 kyu Edinburgh) who had only taken up Go three weeks ago. Robbie Miller, Adam Heslop and Edwin Brady join 2008 champion Piotr Wisthal in the semi-finals of the 2009 Scottish Championship.

NEWS

BRIAN DACKOMBE With regret the BGA announces the sudden death of Brian Dackombe on Christmas Day 2008, whilst on family holiday to his mother on the Isle of Wight. Brian was often seen at tournaments, usually with his son Ken, and sometimes with daughter Kay or some of the boys from Greenwich College or St Olave's School where he was helping to run Go Clubs. Our condolences go to his wife Mitsu and the family.

STACEY POINTS 2008-2009 After London and Maidenhead, with Belfast added in, it was a three-way tie: 1= Toby Manning, Matthew Cocke and Yohei Negi each with 22 points; 4 David Ward 19; 5 Tony Atkins 17; 6 Alistair Wall 15.5 and 7 Gerry Mills 15.

YOUTH GRAND PRIX 2008 The Youth Grand Prix started after the 2007 London Open. After the BYGC, which counts double points, 50 young players had played in a tournament. With a strong showing from Aston at Coventry and from Cambridge at the Bar-Low, it had become a contest between the two clubs. After the Pair Go, Roella Smith moved up to 5th with 308. As all the top players were at the UK Go Challenge, only the order changed, but Ken and Jack scored points at Epsom. Those who played the summer events pulled ahead. There was a good Wessex for Jack and a good Three Peaks for Danielle. Danielle and Matthew were at the final event, the London Open. Final points were: 1 Danielle Ward with 893 points; 2 Matthew Hathrell 862; 3 Jack Drury 756; 4 Ken Dackombe 738; 5 Huw Talliss 546; 6 John Perkins 472; 7 Stewart Smith 442; 8 Roella Smith 438 and 9 Owen Walker 412.

OVERSEAS The same weekend as Maidenhead, UCC in Cork ran their second tournament with 16 players. This time it was over two days and five games. Excitement came in round 2, when wind damage to the university buildings caused evacuation to a nearby pub that was using candles until they could get their lights back on. Local player Wang Wei, 7dan, was the winner for the second time. Cao Tong Yu came second, with Javier Fernandez third on tie-break. IGA Secretary Eoghan Barry, 7kyu, won four games.

CLUBS
BATH new email for Paul Christie paul@widcombe.me.uk
EPSOM back to regular Wednesdays
FARNBOROUGH VILLAGE no longer meeting
LONDON, SOUTH now moved to Mondays
SUSSEX UNIVERSITY New club. Meets every Wednesday during term time, in the Pevensey Bridge Cafe, at the Falmer Sussex Uni campus, from 4pm onwards until we have played enough games. No cost, just play. Contact William Farr, wfarr@hotmail.com

FORTHCOMING

There is no **OXFORD** tournament in 2009

FIFE, Saturday 21st February Registration by 10:00.

Location Age Concern Hall, Provost Wynd, Cupar, KY15 5HE.

Event 4-round McMahon tournament with 40 minutes time limit, then 50 stones in 5 minutes overtime. Prize giving 17.40.

Contact Colin Simpson gosoc@st-andrews.ac.uk

TRIGANTIUS, CAMBRIDGE, Saturday 7th March Registration: 9.15-9.45am

Location Frank Lee Centre, Addenbrooke's site, Cambridge, CB2 0SN

Event Main tournament: 3 round McMahon, time limits: 50 minutes + fast overtime, Prize giving: 5pm

Contact Alex Selby. trigant2009@pobox.com. 07810 488300 <http://www.societies.cam.ac.uk/cugos/competitions/trig2009.html>

NOVICES' TOURNAMENT AND TEACHING SESSIONS, CAMBRIDGE, Saturday 7th March

Location Frank Lee Centre, Addenbrooke's site, Cambridge, CB2 0SN

Event Teaching for absolute beginners: 10.30am. Teaching for all: 11am-1pm. Friendly 13x13 tournament: 2-4pm

Contact Paul Smith. paul.smith25@ntlworld.com 01223 563932 <http://www.societies.cam.ac.uk/cugos/competitions/trig2009.html>

IRISH OPEN, DUBLIN, Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd March.

Location Teachers Club, 36 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland.

Event Friday evening: Irish Rapid Play. Saturday and Sunday: Irish Open, 5 round McMahon tournament. 60 minutes time limit with 15 moves in 5 minutes overtime. A Pandanet Super Tournament in the Pandanet Go European Cup.

Contact Olivier Deme info@irish-go.org

BRITISH YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, BIRMINGHAM, Sunday 22nd March.

Location King Edward VI Aston School, Frederick Road, Aston, Birmingham, B6 6DJ

Event Youth titles at U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18 will be contested, in addition to the titles of overall British Youth Champion and British Schools Team Champions. A mixture of even and handicap games. Beginners and those new to the game will be made particularly welcome.

Contact Mike Lynn, Hillcroft, Barston Lane, Barston, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 0JZ 01675 442753 michael.lynn@keaston.bham.sch.uk

For on the day emergencies only ring 0781 4446812

BRITISH LIGHTNING, CHESTER, Friday 3rd April. Registration 18:15 - 18:45.

Location Ye Olde Custom House, 65-67, Watergate St, Chester, Cheshire CH1 2LB.

Event 5 rounds. Part of the British Go Congress.

Contact Patrick Ridley, Lee Brook, Wood Lane, Sutton Weaver, Runcorn WA7 3EN or patrick.ridley@ntlworld.com

BRITISH OPEN, CHESTER, Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th April. Registration Saturday 09:00-10:00.

Location Westminster Hotel, City Road, Chester CH1 3AF.

Event 6-round McMahon tournament. 50 minutes time limit with 30 moves in 5 minutes overtime. Part of the British Go Congress.

Round 4 Sunday 09:15. Prize giving 17:00. BGA AGM on Saturday evening at 18:30

Contact Patrick Ridley, Lee Brook, Wood Lane, Sutton Weaver, Runcorn WA7 3EN or patrick.ridley@ntlworld.com

SCOTTISH TRAINING DAY, EDINBURGH, Saturday 18th April.

Location Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2JL

Contact Edwin Brady eb@cs.st-andrews.ac.uk 30 Market Street, Saint Andrews, Fife, KY16 9NS. 01334 470585

COVENTRY, Sunday 26th April. Registration by 10:00. Prize giving by 18:30.

Location Library and Science Concourse, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL.

Event 3 round McMahon tournament. 1 hour time limits and 30 moves in 5 minutes overtime

Contact gotournament@bucko.me.uk David Buckley, 27 Crosbie Road, Coventry, CV5 8FX. For urgent problems phone: 07790 456431

BARLOW, CAMBRIDGE, Sunday 3rd May. Registration by 09:30.

Location Trinity College, Cambridge.

Event 5 round McMahon tournament for kyu players only. 35 minutes time limit with no overtime. Finish 17:30. Part of MSO Cambridge

Contact Andrew Kay ak524@cam.ac.uk or call 07792 165701

BRACKNELL, Sunday 10th May. Registration by 10:00.

Location Woosehill Community Centre, Emmview Close, Wokingham, RG41 3DA.

Event 3 round McMahon tournament. 60 minutes, with overtime 30 moves in 5 minutes. Prize giving 18:45. Also afternoon Novices' Tournament.

Contact bracknell@kisekigo.com

WELSH OPEN, BARMOUTH Saturday 20th–Sunday 21st June. Registration by 12:30 Saturday.

Location Min-Y-Mor Hotel, The Promenade, Barmouth, LL42 1HW

Event 5-round McMahon tournament. 50 minutes time limit with overtime of 20 stones in 5 minutes. Prize-giving 15:30 Sunday.

Contact Tony Pitchford. tony@towbarsdirect.co.uk

NORTHERN TOURNAMENT, STOCKPORT Sunday 6th September. Registration 09:45 to 10:00.

Location Stockport Masonic Guildhall, 169 Wellington Road South, Stockport, SK1 3UA. Large car park at rear, near to public transport links.

Event 3-round McMahon.

Contact Chris Kirkham chris@cs.man.ac.uk

FUTURE EVENTS: Mind Sports Olympiad Saturday 22nd – Monday 31st August. Penzance, Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September, contact John Culmer 01326 573167 johnculmer@btinternet.com Shrewsbury, Saturday 3rd October, contact Gerry Mills 01938 556484 gerry@27stars.co.uk East Midlands, Saturday 21st November, contact Peter Fisher 0116 2871362 West Surrey Teach-In and Handicap, Guildford, Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th December, contact Pauline Bailey, pab27@stocton.org, tel. 01483 561027. London Open, Monday 28th–Thursday 31st December 2009.

BRITISH GO ASSOCIATION

WEBSITE: www.britgo.org

MEMBERSHIP: Annual Rates: UK £18, UK concession £11, UK Family £24, Europe £20, Rest of World £24, UK School £18.

Members receive one year's subscription to the British Go Journal and BGA Newsletter, can buy books and equipment, and get reduced tournament entry fees. Further details www.britgo.org/membership

Membership Secretary: Phil Beck, 41 Kingston Street, Cambridge, CB1 2NU. Tel. 01223 367022 mem@britgo.org

AGA BGA members are entitled to receive the American Go Association's email newsletter. www.britgo.org/aga-ejournal/

BGA MOBILE: For emergency calls to tournament organisers on the day of most tournaments: **07506 555366**