

Chešs KIDS KNIGHT TIMES

Chess World Australia Pty. Ltd. ABN 41 118 087 862



**WHO SAYS
CHESS
IS NOT A
SPECTATOR
SPORT!**

**RJ SHIELD
27 AUGUST**

Message from the Guru

It's Mega-Finals time of year... and someone is one step closer to winning \$1000 in the OzSchools Chess Challenge.

Most schools have now completed their school challenge and players are starting to register on www.chesschallenge.com.au to

take part in the Mega-Finals. This is a wholly online tournament with all players playing 7 games of chess and a select few progressing to the next stage.

A total of 5340 players started and we're down to around 400 who will be taking part in the Mega-Finals. The Tera-Finals (where you win the cash) will end up with around 40 players and be played alongside the RJ Shield Finals on November 24, 2013.

Speaking of which, the August RJ Shield will give players one final chance to reach the magic 15 points. There are 28 players already with 15 points and another 50 within arms-reach. Full results on www.rjshield.com.

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David Cordover,

Managing Director,
Chess Group of Companies



RJ SHIELD

The RJ Shield now has its own website - www.rjshield.com

Check it out!

Events are held on the last Sunday of most months. Venues at Bentleigh, Mildura and Yarrawonga.

July RJ Shield Tournaments

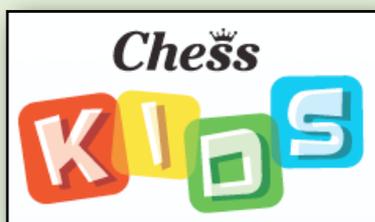
Sam Trewin won the Yarrawonga event with 7/7 whilst Gal Dekel won at Carnegie with 6.5/7.

Full Results are on:

<https://au.tornelo.com>



Gal Dekel and RJ



THE CHESS KIDS CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Sessions for all standards are held during the week and on weekends.

Please contact us on 1300 424 377 for enquiries or bookings.

VICTORIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

29 June - 12 July 2013

This year's junior championships were split into three tournaments which were all hard fought. I was very impressed with the standard of play - particularly in the 18U - there were no easy games!

Under 10s (51 players)

Leading Scores:

7/7 Luis Chan

6 Christopher Lim

5.5 Bobby Yu & Brendan Zuo

Under 12s (55 players)

Leading Scores:

6/7 Bobby Yu, Chris Chan, Ryan Kam & Max Phillips.

Under 18s (34 players)

Leading Scores:

8/9 Karl Zelesco and Ari Dale

7 Jack Puccinni

6 Joseph Wong

Here is the only blemish on Karl's score ... he gets outplayed in a rook ending because he opts for a passive rook rather than an active one.

2013 Victorian Juniors U18

Savithri Narenthran 1673

Karl Zelesco 2153

English: King's, 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2

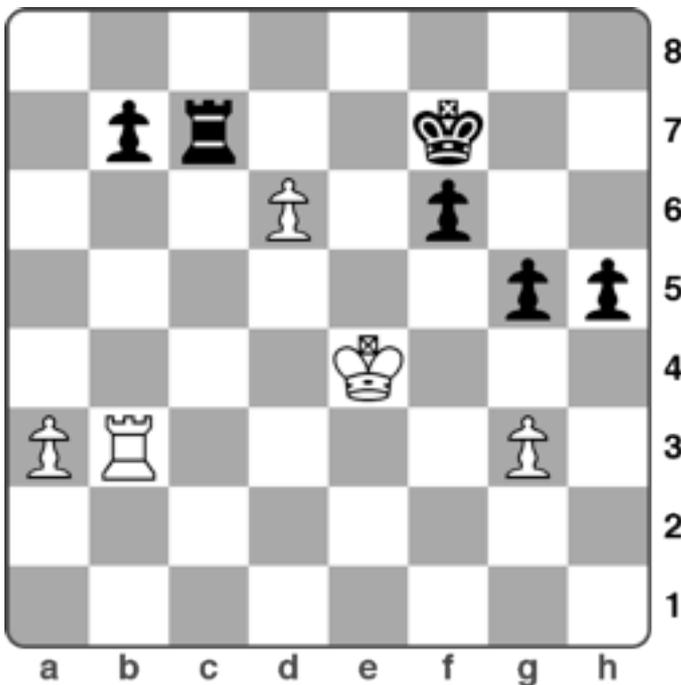
1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 h6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.e4 Nc6 6.Nge2 Bc5 7.O-O d6 8.d3 Nh7 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.fxe3 Ne7 11.b4 O-O 12.d4 a5 13.a3 Bg4 14.Qc2 Nc6 15.b5 Nb8 16.Na4 Nd7 17.Rad1 Qg5 18.Qd3 Qh5 19.Rf2 Ng5 20.c5 Nf6 21.b6 Nf3+ 22.Bxf3 Bxf3 23.bxc7 Bxe4 24.Qd2 Ng4 25.Nec3 Nxf2 26.Qxf2 dxc5 27.Rc1 Qf3 28.Qxf3 Bxf3 29.Nb6 Rac8



Karl Zelesco v Max Chew Lee in the U/18s

30.Nxc8 Rxc8 31.Nb5 exd4 32.exd4 Bc6
 33.Rxc5 Bxb5 34.Rxb5 Rxc7 35.Kf2 Kf8
 36.Rxa5 Rc2+ 37.Kf3 Rxh2 38.Rb5 Rc2
 39.Rb3 Rc7 40.Ke4 Ke7 41.Ke5 h5 42.d5 f6+
 43.Kf5 Kf7 44.Ke4 g5 45.d6

Perhaps the critical position in this endgame. Black to play. Where should he move his rook to?



Black to Play

45...Rd7??

Rooks belong behind passed pawns! I've lost track of how many times I've yelled this at my students. The most important thing in rook endings is an active rook. Rd7 is a terrible move.

45...Rc5 46.Rxb7+ Ke6 47.d7 Re5+ 48.Kf3 Rd5 This line is OK as Black can eliminate the dangerous "d" pawn.

45...Rc1 46.Rxb7+ Ke6 47.d7 Re1+ 48.Kf3 Rd1 *And Black is going well because of his active rook.*

46.Kd5

Black can probably still draw if he finds the correct move here.

46...g4?

The losing move

46...f5 *This move allows Black's King to hide on f6 if White's rook threatens to come to c7.*

47.Rc3 (47.Ke5 Ke8 48.Kxf5 Rxd6 49.Kxg5 Rd5+ and the danger has passed.) 47...Kf6 48.Rc7 Rd8 49.Rxb7 Ra8 Rooks operate best from a distance! 50.Rb3 f4 51.gxf4 g4 52.Rb6 Rxa3 53.Rb8 Rd3+ 54.Kc6 Rc3+ 55.Kd5 Rd3+ and my computer thinks it's a draw.

47.Rc3 Rd8 48.Rc7+ Kf8 49.Ke6

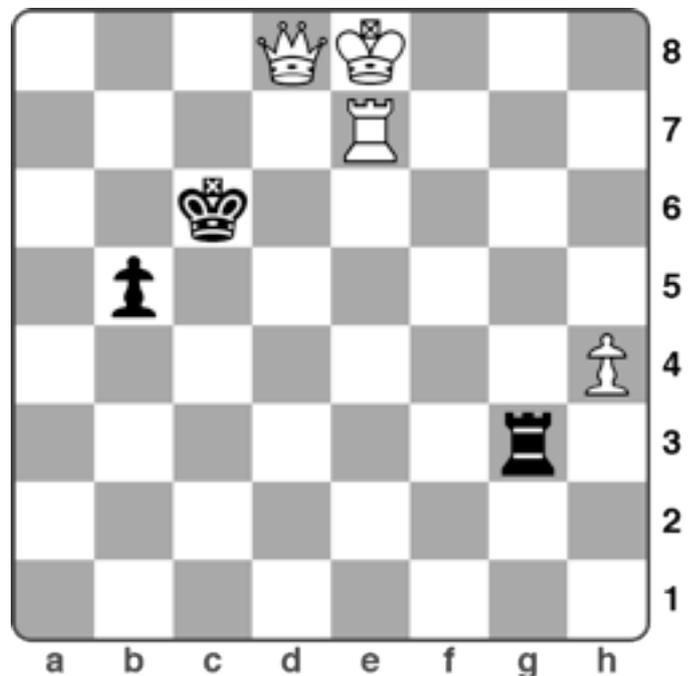
Once White gets her King to e6 it's all over.

49...h4 50.gxh4

d7 would have won more quickly.

50...Ra8 51.Rf7+ Kg8 52.Rxf6 Rxa3 53.Rg6+ Kf8 54.Rxg4 Re3+ 55.Kd7 b5 56.Kd8 Kf7

57.d7 Ke6 58.Rb4 Rd3 59.Re4+ Kd6 60.Ke8 Kc7 61.Re7 Rg3 62.d8=Q+ Kc6



White to play and mate in 3 moves.

White now has mate in 3 moves but misses it. Can you do better?

63.Re6+?

Continued page 8.....

The Chess Endgame Camp

With IM Robert Jamieson

The Chess Kids Annual Camp was held this year at Phillip Island was attended by 34 keen students, 8 coaches and assorted parents and siblings.

We all had a great time, starting with a simul in the town square followed by endgame coaching and a team tournament. Between chess games there was a visit to the maze and the chocolate factory.

Great work to the "Grandmasters" for winning the event and top board prizes:

Board 1 – Rebecca Strickland

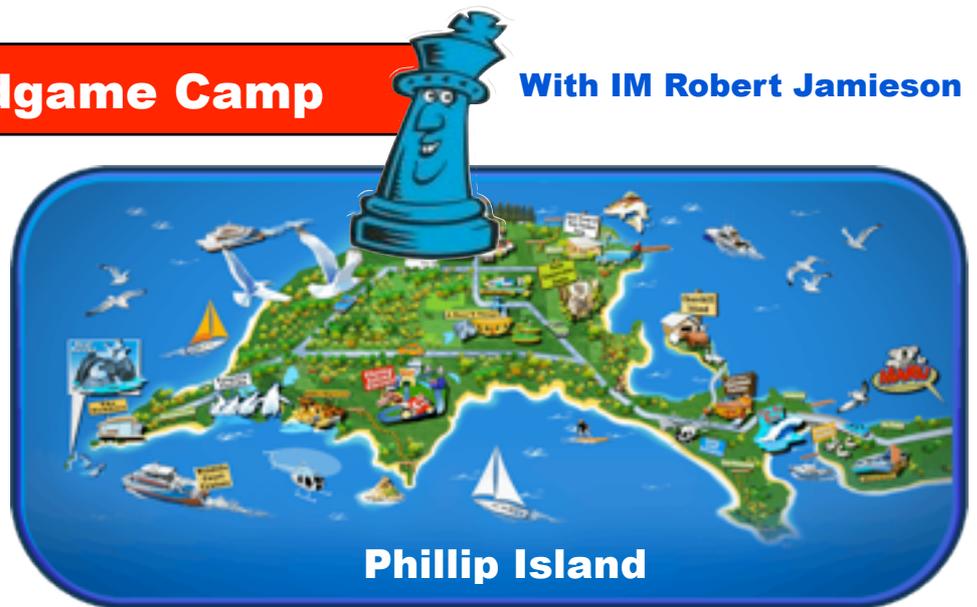
Board 2 – Callum McGrath

Board 3 – Connor Franes

Board 4 – Isobel Nixon

Board 5 – Spencer Franes

And after such a great experience we've decided to run 2 camps next year ... one for Training Squad and one Open Camp for any players!



A simul in the town square...



Not just chess...



A crowd follows the final game...



With IM Robert Jamieson

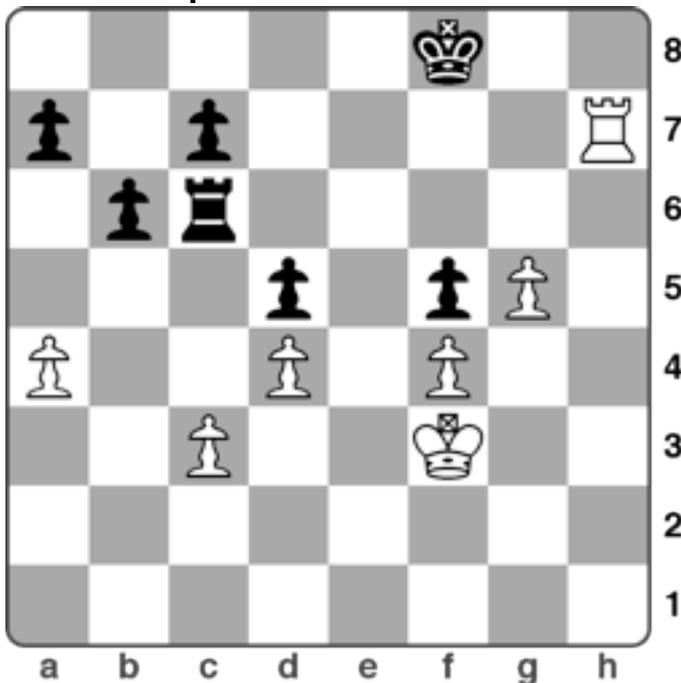
Fun in the Ending

This month I thought we'd look at a very famous rook endgame won by Capablanca. Capa was World Champion from 1921-27 and was famous for his positional understanding and excellent technique.

I've been noticing lately that some of my students can identify factors which may be relevant in a position (such as having an outside passed pawn) but what they struggle with is deciding which factors are important in the position they are looking at. That is a great chess skill (understanding what is relevant in the position) and Capablanca had it in abundance.

Have a look at the position below:

Capablanca v Tartakover



White to Play

Which statement best describes the most important aspect of this position:

- A) White is better because he has a passed pawn.
- B) White is better because Black's King is cut-off.
- C) Black is better because White cannot defend his queenside pawns.



World Champion and endgame expert - Jose Capablanca.

The key factor in this position is that White has a passed pawn on g5. He can use this passed pawn, together with an active rook and an active King, to tie Black down to defence and thereby win the game. True, Black can win material on the queenside, but that doesn't matter in this position.

1.Kg3!

To allow the King to move forwards and support the passed pawn.

1... Rxc3+ 2.Kh4 Rf3 3.g6 Rxf4+ 4.Kg5 Re4 5.Kf6

Now White has active King and rook and passed pawn and mate threats on the back rank. He is two pawns down but so what!

5...Kg8 6.Rg7+ Kh8 7.Rxc7 Re8 8.Kxf5 Re4 9.Kf6 Rf4+ 10.Ke5 Rg4 11.g7+

Black cannot take as the pawn ending is lost so now his King is tie down on g8.

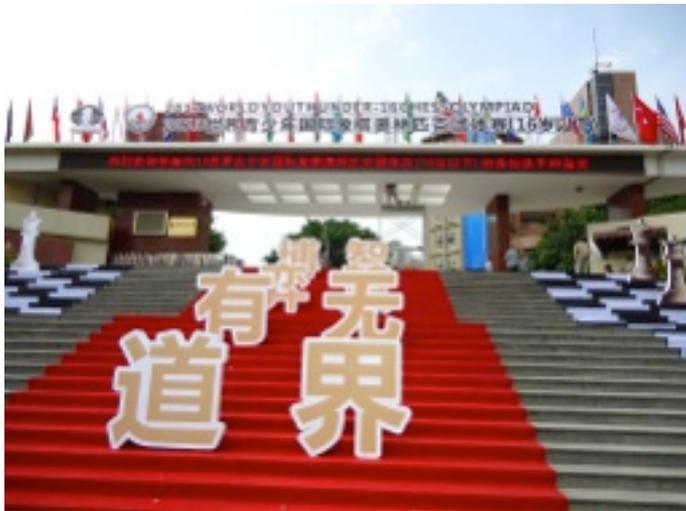
Meanwhile White will just gobble up the pawns on the queenside.

11...Kg8 12.Rxa7 Rg1 13.Kxd5 Rc1

14.Kd6 Rc2 15.d5 Rc1 16.Rc7 Ra1 17.Kc6 Rxa4 18.d6 1-0 Black Resigned

WORLD U16 YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

22 July - 30 July 2013
Chongqing, China



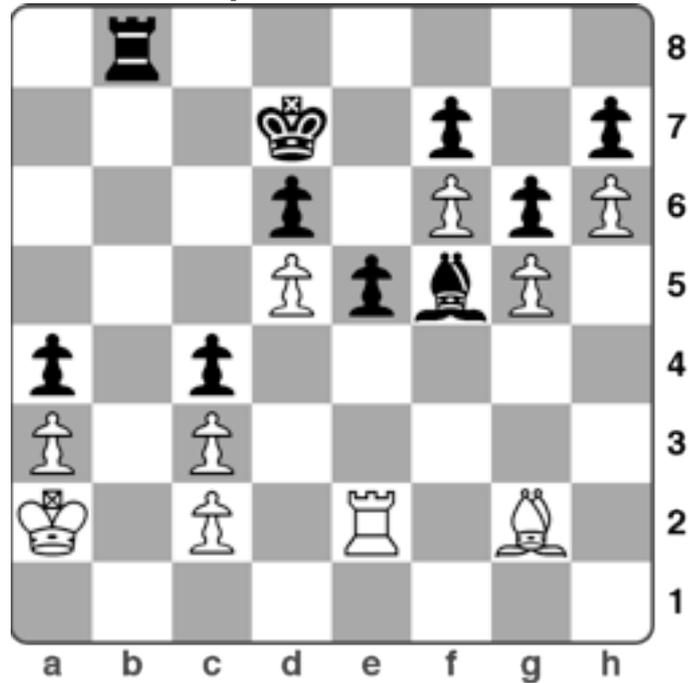
Australia sent two teams to this event with our very strong top team of IM Bobby Cheng (2438), FM Anton Smirnov (2289), FM Justin Tan (2322), IM Ari Dale (2310) and Yi Liu (2174) being seeded fifth. The host federation (China) fielded an unprecedented 40 teams!

Our team lost to China and India and had to play Russia in the last round. It was looking good for a while with both Bobby and Anton pressing hard for a win but in the end we lost 1.5 - 2.5. Ari lost but had the consolation of winning the silver medal for the best result on board 4.

Anton's opponent looked to be in trouble

in the position below but he found a clever defence.

G.Oparin v A.Smirnov



White to Play

Anton plans to bring his King to c5 with what looks like a winning position. His opponent however threw a spanner in the works with 1.Re4! Bxe4 2.Bxe4 Kc7 3.Ka1 Kb6 agreed drawn as Black cannot break through White's blockade.

WORLD YOUTH UNDER-16 CHESS OLYMPIAD 2013						
Final Ranking						
Rank	Team	Gam.	+	=	-	MP Pts. Res.
1	India	10	8	2	0	18 30.5 0
2	Russia	10	8	1	1	17 30.0 0
3	Turkey	10	7	1	2	15 26.0 0
4	Hungary	10	6	3	1	15 25.0 0
5	China 1	10	6	2	2	14 29.0 0
6	USA 2	10	6	2	2	14 26.0 0
7	Iran	10	7	0	3	14 23.0 0
8	China 2	10	6	1	3	13 26.0 0
9	Australia 1	10	6	1	3	13 24.0 0
10	Vietnam	10	6	1	3	13 23.5 0

New!

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Decisions, Decisions



With IM Robert Jamieson

I'm facing an interesting dilemma in my chess coaching. How to teach young players to make the correct decisions in their chess games?

Most students can identify the factors that may be important in any given chess position (like one side has an outside passed pawn or a open king) but how can they judge which factor is important in THIS position?

I've lost count of how many times I've asked "why did you make this move?" and the student has a reason ("I wanted to double his pawns" for example) but it is the WRONG reason. Doubled pawns may be irrelevant in the position we are looking at.

I guess you get better decision making with experience, so let's get started now! Try yourself on a couple of positions from recent junior games.

In the first example Max Chew Lee, a good player, but not as good as his opponent (the Victorian Junior Champion) faces a difficult decision in the diagrammed position. Material is level but White has a strong passed pawn. Should Max play safe and go for a draw or should he take a risk in the hope of victory. It all depends on which move he makes in the diagram.

Box Hill Grades Tournament

Karl Zelesco 2153

Max Chew Lee 1862

Gruenfeld: Three Knights Variation

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7

5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 O-O 7.e4 a6 8.Be2 b5

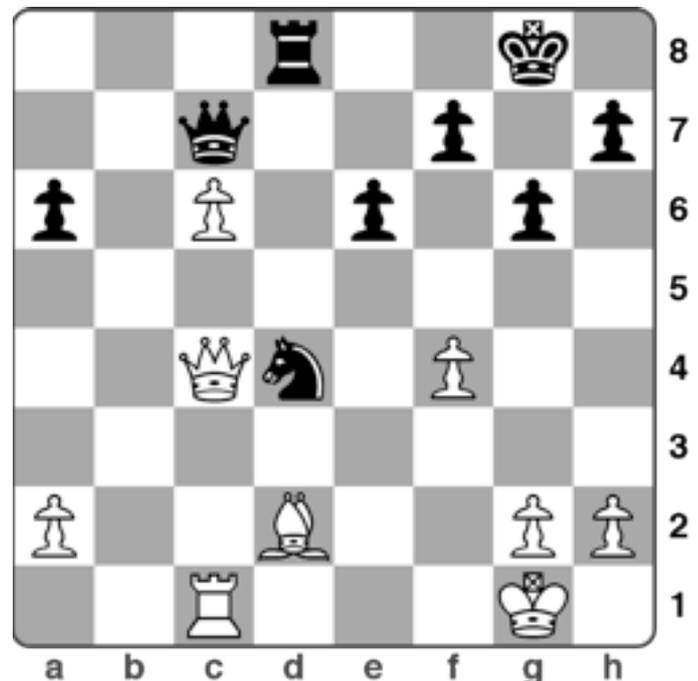
9.Qb3 c5 10.dxc5 Bb7 11.e5 Nfd7 12.Be3

Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Rd1 Qa5 15.O-O

e6 16.f4 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Bd5 18.c4 bxc4

19.Bxc4 Bxc4 20.Qxc4 Nc6 21.Rd6 Ne7

**22.Bd2 Qc7 23.Rc1 Rfd8 24.Qb4 Nf5
25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.c6 Nd4 27.Qc4**



Black to Play

I was following this game live and decided that if I was Black I'd just go straight for an easy draw with 27...Qxc6 28.Qxc6 Nxc6 29.Rxc6 Rxd2 30.Rxa6 Rd4 31.g3 Rd2 and as everyone who went to the chess camp knows, Black's really active rook will secure him a simple draw.

27...Nf3+

Max thinks he can do better and takes a risk....

28.gxf3 Rxd2 29.Kh1 h5 30.Qe4 Qb6??

He could still play 30...Rd5 (to stop Qe5) and probably hold a draw, but he has hopes of checkmate on h2.

31.c7 Qf2

Now someone is going to win (they have mate in 4 moves) - but who?

32.c8=Q+?

Missing 32.Qxg6+!! fxg6 33.c8=Q+ Kh7 34.Rc7+ Kh6 35.Qh8#

**32...Kh7 33.Qxg6+! Kxg6 34.Qg8+ Kh6
35.Qh8+ Kg6 36.Rg1+ 1-0**

Our next decision involves Ari Dale playing against India in the World Youth 16U Teams Championship in China.

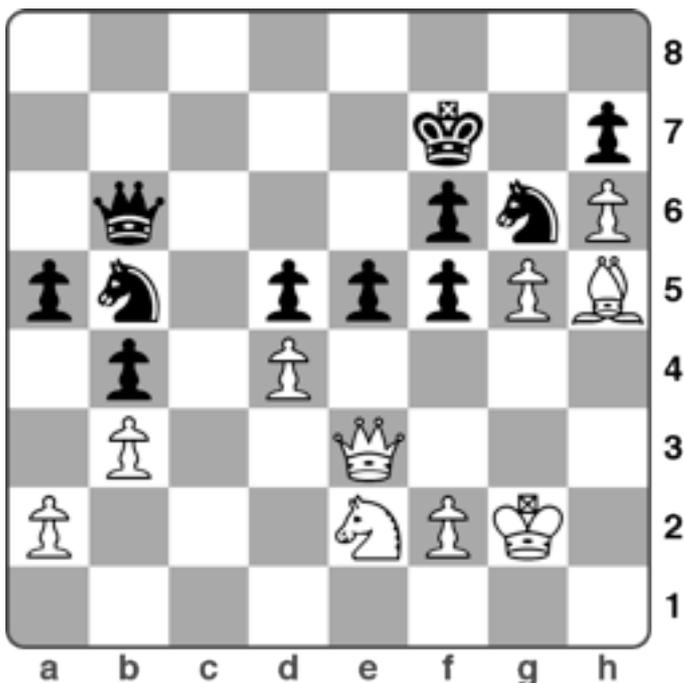
Ari has been defending a poor position all game, but in time trouble he has been able to generate some play on the kingside. With his opponent having just 4 minutes to Ari's 1.5 minutes Black played 38...e5 and offered a draw. What should Ari do?

Would 16U Team 2013

IM Ari Dale AUS 2310
FM Das Sayantan IND 2368

Slav: Exchange, 4.Bf4

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Bf4 Nc6
5.e3 Nf6 6.Nc3 a6 7.Bd3 Bg4 8.Nge2 Bxe2
9.Bxe2 e6 10.Qb3 Na5 11.Qa4+ Nc6 12.O-O
Bd6 13.Rfc1 Bxf4 14.exf4 O-O 15.Rd1
Qb6 16.Rab1 Qa7 17.Rd2 b5 18.Qd1 Rac8
19.Bf3 Rfd8 20.Ne2 Rc7 21.Rc1 Rdc8
22.Rdc2 g6 23.g3 Ne8 24.Kg2 Nd6 25.h3
Nc4 26.b3 Nd6 27.Qd2 a5 28.g4 Ne7
29.Rxc7 Rxc7 30.Rc2 b4 31.Rxc7 Qxc7
32.h4 Nb5 33.h5 Qb6 34.h6 f6 35.Qe3 Kf7
36.f5 gxf5 37.g5 Ng6 38.Bh5 e5**



Draw agreed.

I asked my Thursday On-llne squad whether they would accept a draw in this position and almost all shouted back “decline!”

To quote the team Coach, GM Ian Rogers, “Ari saw that he might be better - he had been much worse for most of the game - but in time trouble he missed 39.gxf6 e4 40.Bxg6+! and also wasn't sure about 39.gxf6 Nxd4 40.Qxe5 Qxf6 41.Qxd4 Qg5+ (which also wins for White after 42.Ng3 because of the Qg7+ threat). In any case he decided that the match was lost so there was no point in going on.”

So it looks like Ari made the wrong decision and was winning in the final position. Should he have accepted a draw? Nigel Short says “If your opponent offers you a draw try to work out why he thinks he is worse.” My philosophy is not to accept draws - be brave and play out the position even if you run the risk of losing. 39.gxf6 looks OK even though there are a number of possible replies. Perhaps 39...Qxf6 is the most natural but after 40.dxe5 Qe7 41.f4 White seems to have the better position.

Unfortunately our decisions are often influenced by what has happened earlier in the game and I guess Ari has been in the mind set for most of the game that he would be lucky to get a draw. It's hard to switch to the new reality that he might be winning.

Continued from Page 3...

Missing 63.Rc7+ Kb6 64.Qd6+ and mate next move.
**63...Kc5 64.Qd6+ Kc4 65.Re4+ Kc3 66.Qxg3+
Kd2 67.Qf3 b4 68.Re2+ Kd1 69.Qf1#
Checkmate**

I've never understood why some good players play on until mate. It's a waste of time and an insult to your opponent.

Notes by Robert Jamieson