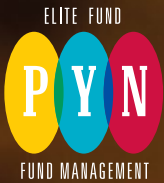


Thailand Open Chess Championships 2014 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open

12-19 April 2014 • Dusit Thani Bangkok

www.BangkokChess.com

Dusit Thani
BANGKOK



The Thailand
Open Chess

Championships, at
the renowned Dusit

Thani Bangkok,

attracted over

200 players from

45 countries.

Former Champions

have described the

tournament as the

“best in the world”

and the “chess event

of the year”.



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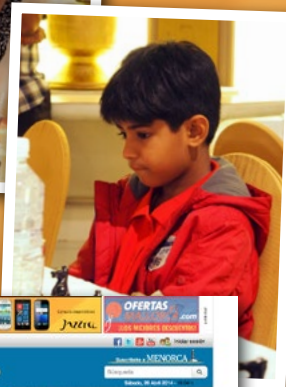
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Bangkok Chess Club Organises the “Best Tournaments in the World”

Since its founding in the year 1999, The Bangkok Chess Club (BCC) has grown from a handful of enthusiasts gathering in a quiet ex-pat pub to a respected international chess club with hundreds of members from all over the world and all walks of life.

The first international open tournament was held in Pattaya’s Amari Orchid Resort in 2002 with 50 competitors. Each year the tournament has grown in numbers and in prestige: the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open was held in the Dusit Thani Bangkok with over 200 competitors from 40 different countries, and was described by former World Championship contender Grandmaster Nigel Short as “the best tournament for amateur players in the world”.

Thailand is not generally known for chess playing, as other games are more popular: *Go*, *Scrabble* and the unique variant *Thai Chess*. With the support of the Thailand Chess Association (TCA) and a growing

number of chess schools such as the Jirapak Chess Academy and Grandmaster Schebler’s Chess School in Pattaya, there is much more interest amongst young people in Thailand. BCC’s annual open tournaments are the most important route for players to get vital exposure to international players of the very highest standards, to help them learn and progress, and to give them a taste of what is needed to succeed at the Chess Olympiads.



GM Nigel Short
cooling down with WGM Irene Sukandar

Gold Sponsors



PYN Fund Management Ltd

PYN Fund Management Ltd is an independent fund management company licensed by the Finnish Government to engage in mutual fund activity and which is entered in the Finnish Trade Register. It is owned by the company's executive management.

PYN Elite seeks significant value increases through active portfolio management, focusing on individual companies and markets. Mutual Fund Elite seeks a clearly higher return than equity funds with diversified global portfolios.

Website: www.PYN.fi



The Tourism Authority of Thailand

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) was established on the 18th March 1960. TAT was the first organisation in Thailand to be specifically responsible for the promotion of tourism.

TAT supplies information and data on tourist areas to the public, publicizes Thailand with the intention of encouraging both Thai and international tourists to travel in and around Thailand, conducts studies to set development plans for tourist destinations, and co-operates with and supports the production and development of personnel in the field of tourism.

Since the inception of the first local office of TAT in Chiang Mai in 1968, there are now 35 regional offices throughout Thailand. TAT has also established many overseas offices the first being in New York, which was opened in 1965. During the past 30 years, TAT has since established 15 more offices in different parts of the world.

Website: www.tourismthailand.org



The Dusit Thani Bangkok

Since opening in 1970, Dusit Thani Bangkok has become an icon of luxury in the heart of Thailand's capital, delivering distinctive service featuring Thai artistry and graciousness.

Dusit Thani Bangkok is a 5-star luxury hotel which embodies the very essence of Thailand and blends it with modern conveniences, affording guests a truly singular experience. The well-appointed rooms and suites feature distinctive Thai elements and include furnishings made of traditional materials, immersing guests in the mystique of the 'Land of Smiles'.

Conveniently located adjacent to two rapid transit stations as well as the lush expanse of Lumpini Park, the luxury hotel is within close proximity to Bangkok's major business, shopping and entertainment districts.

Website: www.dusit.com





Gold Sponsors

ThaiBev

Thai Beverage Public Company Limited was established in 2003 with an aim to consolidate its leading spirits and beer businesses in Thailand, which belonged to shareholders and other investors, into a group company. In 2006, ThaiBev registered its listing on the Singapore Exchange ("SGX") and afterwards, expanded to the non-alcohol and food businesses in order to diversify its product portfolio, enhance the logistics efficiency, and mitigate business risks. Presently, ThaiBev is not only the leading beverage producer in Thailand, but also one of the largest beverage producers in Asia. Their business consists of 4 segments: spirits, beer, non-alcohol beverages and food.



Univentures

Univentures Public Company Limited (UV) was founded and registered on 13th August 1980, with the initial objective of operating the business of producing zinc oxide products under the trade name picture of "CRUCIBLE". The Company was listed in the Stock Exchange of Thailand in 1988. In 2006, the Company was approved by the Stock Exchange of Thailand to shift the business from Petrochemicals and Chemicals Sector to be traded under Property Development Sector.



Silver Sponsors

Chess4Thai

Chess promoter, organiser and school, encouraging the development of chess in Thailand especially in young people. Website: www.chess4thai.info



FinPro – Devoted to Finnish Success

Finpro is a global expert network established by Finnish companies, with a national task for promoting the growth and competitiveness of Finnish companies through internationalisation. Website: www.finpro.fi



JCA – Jirapak Chess Academy

A brand new School opening in Bangkok by current Thailand Champion, FIDE Master Jirapak Pitirojtirathon. Facebook: [jirapakchessacademy](https://www.facebook.com/jirapakchessacademy)



Tournament Organisation

This stellar tournament would not be possible without the dedication of our hardworking volunteers, bringing a range of different skills to the table:

- ♣ Tournament Director: IO Kai Tuorila
- ♣ Deputy Tournament Director: Peter Darby
- ♣ Chief Arbiter: IA Markku Kosonen
- ♣ Deputy Chief Arbiter: IA Panupand Vijjuprabha
- ♣ Arbiters: IA Kwai Keong Chan, IA Peter Long, FA Kyaw Kyaw Soe, FA Myo Zaw Min, FA Patcharawee Brahmawong, NA Sant Pongkietisak
- ♣ Tournament Officers: Bruce Bell, Jakkraphon Saengsrijan, Jurairat Bhupisetsak, Manunthon Atikankhotchasee, Natta Khunawutvanit, Patcharada Brahmawong, Pimolpun Tuorila, Prakarn Klubwong, Siriporn Ritdetch, Worawong Pattanawong
- ♣ Pairings Officer: Poompong Wiwatanadate
- ♣ Interviews: Dr. Alexander J. Klemm
- ♣ Photographers: Thomas Brady, Panupand Vijjuprabha
- ♣ DGT Wizard: KK Chan

The tournament was fortunate to have many other able assistants for the tasks needed, too numerous to name individually.

Bangkok Chess Club (BCC)

When IO Kai Tuorila settled in Thailand, there was nowhere to indulge his passion for chess – so he founded the Bangkok Chess Club, which used to meet weekly in a small pub owned by a fellow Finn. Over the years the club has grown and, with the organisation of the annual Bangkok Chess Club Open, has become well known to many around the world. This year's tournament was the 14th International Open organised by the BCC team.

Website: www.BangkokChess.com



The Thailand Chess Association (TCA)

The TCA is the official Sport Association under the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT), presided over by Kittiratt Na-Ranong, Minister of Finance.

Website: www.thailandchess.or.th



THAILAND OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2014

14th Bangkok Chess Club Open

Dusit Thani Bangkok. 12-19 April 2014



*The 2014 tournament team performed seamlessly,
with everyone fulfilling their roles to perfection,
and many willing extra hands for the hard work
between rounds.*



Bangkok Chess Club Open Champions

Tournament	Venue	Winners	Country
1st Open	Amari Orchid Resort Pattaya 2002	1. IM Tejas Bakre 2. IM Rahul Shetty 3. IM Chris Baker	India India England
2nd Open	Novotel Siam Square Bangkok 2003	1. GM Ruslan Pogorelov 2. IM Richard Polaczek 3. FM Banjuab Jiravorasuk	Ukraine Belgium Thailand
3rd Open	Amari Orchid Resort Pattaya 2003	1. GM Rogelio Antonio Jr. 2. GM Alexei Barsov 3. GM Ruslan Pogorelov	Philippines Uzbekistan Ukraine
4th Open	Novotel Siam Square Bangkok 2004	1. GM Rogelio Antonio Jr. 2. GM Ian Rogers 3. FM Colm Daly	Philippines Australia Ireland
5th Open	Regent Cha-Am Petchaburi 2005	1. GM Ian Rogers 2. GM Eugenio Torre 3. GM Wu Shaobin	Australia Philippines Singapore
6th Open	Century Park Hotel Bangkok 2006	1. GM Rogelio Antonio Jr. 2. FM Rico Salimbagat 3. IM Chandrashekhar Gokhale	Philippines Philippines India
7th Open	Phuket Graceland Resort & Spa Phuket 2007	1. IM David Smerdon 2. GM Rogelio Antonio Jr. 3. GM Ian Rogers	Australia Philippines Australia
8th Open	Century Park Hotel Bangkok 2008	1. Xiu Deshun 2. Zhang Ziyang 3. GM Li Shilong	China China China
9th Open	Aisawan Resort & Spa Pattaya 2009	1. Xiu Deshun 2. GM Elshan Moradiabadi 3. GM Nigel Short	China Iran England
10th Open	Century Park Hotel Bangkok 2010	1. GM Sune Berg Hansen 2. GM Nigel Short 3. IM Mokal Prathamesh Sunil	Denmark England India
11th Open	Dusit Thani Pattaya Pattaya 2011	1. GM Jan Gustafsson 2. GM Nigel Short 3. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons	Germany England Spain
12th Open	Dusit Thani Bangkok Bangkok 2012	1. GM Nigel Short 2. GM Farrukh Amonatov 3. IM Nguyen Duc Hoa	England Tajikistan Vietnam
13th Open	Dusit Thani Pattaya Pattaya 2013	1. GM Zhao Zong-Yuan 2. IM Wan Yunguo 3. GM Jan Gustafsson	Australia China Germany
14th Open	Dusit Thani Bangkok Bangkok 2014	1. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons 2. GM Oliver Barbosa 3. GM Jan Gustafsson	Spain Philippines Germany



Clockwise from top left:

- GM Sune Berg Hansen, Danish Champion (10th Open, Century Park Hotel, Bangkok)
- GM Ian Rogers, Australia's first Grandmaster (5th Open, Regent Cha-Am)
- GM Rogelio Antonio Jr., Philippine Champion (7th Open, Phuket Graceland Resort and Spa)
- GM Zhao Zong-Yuan, Australian Champion (13th Open, Dusit Thani Pattaya)
- GM Nigel Short, British and Commonwealth Champion (12th Open, Dusit Thani Bangkok)
- GM Jan Gustafsson, German Champion (11th Open, Dusit Thani Pattaya)

THAILAND OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2014

14th Bangkok Chess Club Open

Dusit Thani Bangkok. 12-19 April 2014



Francisco Vallejo Pons, 2014 Thailand Champion

An interview with GM Francisco "Paco" Vallejo Pons, by Alexander J. Klemm

Right after the final ceremony, GM Francisco gave an interview in which he talked about his feelings after having won the tournament, some of his games, his impressions about the playing venue and the strength of the Open, his collaboration with Chess24.com, why Thailand feels like home, and much more.

AJK: Congratulations for your great achievement. You are the new Thailand champion. How do you feel now that the tournament is over?

FVP: Very happy of course. It's been a long tournament with lots of games. I've played decent chess, so I'm happy about that as well. After all, becoming the champion is something special. I was third when I played here for the first time three years ago in Pattaya 2011. I shared first place too but was a little bit unlucky with the tiebreak. This time I'm a bit luckier.

AJK: What was your best game and is there a game with which you were not satisfied?

FVP: Well, there were a couple of strong games. I won against strong players like Suat Atalik and Qingnan Liu. These were interesting games. I wouldn't say they're the best games of my life, but in order to beat such strong players you have to play a very good game. And my worst games – this morning at 9am. The position was equal and my opponent IGM Oliver Barbosol played a solid game, so I couldn't do much. It was a draw. And especially the game against John Paul Gomez. I really felt like my brain wasn't working. I didn't play so badly, but I felt like something was going wrong, so at some point I decided to offer a draw, after about 30 moves. My position may have been slightly better, but my feelings were bad, so I thought it was better to stop it. With this game especially I thought it wasn't my day.

AJK: What do you think about the overall strength of the competition in the open section?

FVP: This is a tournament that's growing year by year. It is more known all over the world now. Of course, this year was a bit inconvenient because of the demonstrations. When I was on the plane I thought that maybe it was dangerous to be coming to Bangkok. I was a bit worried but was already on the plane when I realized I wasn't going to turn around. Anyway, absolutely nothing has happened. It has been perfectly safe here. As I've heard and felt, Thailand is one of the safest places to be. I really feel like at home in Thailand. People are so respectful and so kind. I like it very well here. And back to the strength of the tournament. It's growing but the political uncertainty didn't help to encourage more people to come. Without this situation I think there could have been an extra 100 players.

AJK: What do you think about our host the Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel and the overall organization of the tournament?

FVP: The Dusit Thani Hotel is simply a very good place. The rooms are wonderful and the playing venue is very good too. My only suggestions for improvement are these: to play the last round in the morning is tough for chess players. We're not used to it. And I'm not so happy about the double-round, but understand it's a need of the tournament. When I decided to come here I agreed on the schedule too. Playing a double-round isn't my favorite, but it's the way it is. And about the playing location: somehow I've enjoyed Bangkok much more than Pattaya. It's much more full of life. Pattaya was a wonderful tournament too. It was beautiful and fun. But here, it's the big city, it's more entertaining, and it's all interesting for me.

AJK: What are your further plans for 2014?

FVP: I actually have many tournaments coming up. First I play a closed tournament in Cuba against top players in the world. For example I will play against Vassily Ivanchuk and Leinier Dominguez, who are world-rated players [Copablanca Memorial Chess Tournament in Havana, 7-18 May 2014. Also invited are grandmasters GM Zoltan Almasi, GM Wesley So, and GM Lázaro Bruzon.] It's going to be a nice

tournament to be in. Then I will play the very strong rapid Leon tournament. [He's probably referring to the Magistral Ciudad de Leon, Spain, 5-9 June 2014. In a series of short games he will face off against the GM Yifan Hou and the 14-year old GM Yi Wei both from China, and against Spanish GM Ivan Salgado Lopez.] Afterwards, I have the Olympiad coming up as well [Tromsø, Norway, 1-18 August 2014] and probably some club competitions.

AJK: Do you have any chess-related projects?

FVP: I'm collaborating closely with this website called chess24.com. It's been a pleasure to work on it because everyone involved has such a great vision. They have many people working on it and are developing the website constantly. I've made lots of videos for them, explaining openings, games, and chess in general. I have never done this before. I have to say during my first few videos I felt a bit strange in front of the camera. I'm alone there and felt a bit stupid. But after a while and a few dozens of videos I started to feel better and to be more confident in front of the camera. I think my work there is improving.

Chess24.com: *"Fact or fiction? The Candidate's Tournament is the chess event of the year..."*

Paco Vallejo: *"Fiction. Isn't that the Thailand Open?"*

AJK: This sounds like you have a long-term commitment to chess24.com.

FVP: Yes I hope so. It's a beautiful project. The preparation ran for a year and we came out with it not long ago. We're still improving lots of things.

AJK: Who else is involved?

FVP: There are many collaborators. Peter Svidler has made amazing videos. Even for a player like me, being ranked 40 to 50 in the world, I enjoy his videos. You can watch them at many levels.

AJK: Now that you have won the title, you have a



very good reason to come back to Thailand and to defend it. What are the chances to have you back in the tournament next year?

FVP: I would love to come back. I'm not exaggerating when I say it's one of my favorite places. I've probably been to more than 30 countries and this place is ... It feels so good to be here. It's like home. People are so respectful and kind. Of course there are some bad things too, but being here only for ten or twenty days you don't realize them so easily. In general I'm a bit tired of Europe. Europe is all the same and I'm a little bored there. I'd love to be in Asia or South America more often. But South America – it's getting a crazy there. There are so many political issues, so much instability, and the crime rate is high.

AJK: But most top-100 players are based in Europe.

FVP: Yes, because the best tournaments are supposed to be there, but I hope in the future it will move more to the East. China and India already have very good players.

AJK: Sure, but for you to make a living ...

FVP: I don't actually play that much. I don't play so many tournaments. I play some team competitions and a few private tournaments. Probably, ten years ago, it was more important to me to be in Europe, but now it isn't. My family and friends are there, but they're more important than the tournaments because there aren't

so many of them. Especially in Spain, for example, we used to have lots of tournaments but nowadays we don't.

AJK: In Thailand, too, there aren't many tournaments, there are just a handful of FMs, and the overall playing strength isn't that high.

FVP: That is because there is no tradition here for international chess. Vietnam and the Philippines have a strong tradition though. It's something that takes time.

AJK: Maybe next year you could combine this tournament with the open in Kuala Lumpur. Many players first play the open there and then come to Thailand to play this one. If you want to play 18 games in a row, that is.

FVP: I'll think about it. Playing 18 games in a row is quite tiring, but I'll think about it. In Malaysia, right? That would be a new place for me and that's something I value. It's not like I play tournaments just for money. Not at all. I prefer to earn less but to have fun and to enjoy the atmosphere of new places.



GM Oliver Barbosa, BCC Blitz Champion 2014

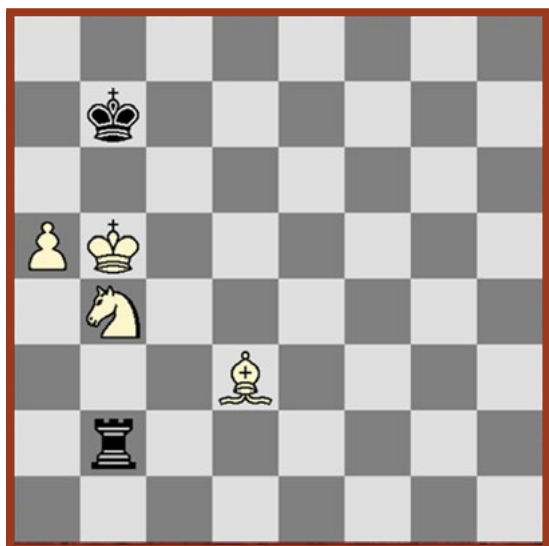
An interview with GM Oliver Barbosa, by Alexander J. Klemm

Shortly after the tournament, runner-up Grandmaster Oliver Barbosa from the Philippines talked about his great performance and his impressions of the tournament, coming 2nd Place in the main draw and BCC Open Blitz Champion for the second year running.

First, here's a profile: Oliver Barbosa (b. 1986) is a Filipino chess grandmaster. He earned his International Master title in 2008 and his Grandmaster title in 2011. Barbosa won the 10th Parsvnath International Grandmasters Tournament in New Delhi, with 9.5/11 and an astounding performance rating of 2710. He has trained with Wesley So and John Paul Gomez. Barbosa played in the 42nd Chess Olympiad and scored 7/10, with an overall performance rating of 2668. Fide rating: 2580 (April 2014). Peak rating: 2596 (May 2012).

AJK: Congratulations for your impressive achievement. You are the runner-up with the same number of points as the winner GM Vallejo Pons. How do you feel now that the tournament is over? How do you see your performance?

OB: I feel very relieved that this tournament is over because my last four or five games were very long and hard-fought. I was quite tired during these games. I'm happy with the way I played here. I only lost one game against GM Schebler, but I won against compatriots Laylo and Torre, two strong grandmasters from the Philippines. In the penultimate round I won against GM Atalik, which was not a clear win for me until the end. Luckily I won that game. Today in the last game against Vallejo Pons I just tried to equalize, and when he offered a draw I readily accepted it. I didn't play



Oliver Barbosa vs. GM Suat Atalik. In this position white has a decisive blow. How did GM Barbosa finish the game? (solution at end of interview).

against the second and third seed, maybe that's why I managed to become co-champion.

AJK: What went wrong in your game against GM Schebler?

OB: I didn't think that black would be better after some exchanges in the middle game. I thought it was just going to be equal and black has a slight push, but after the exchanges it became very hard for me. That's when I thought I shouldn't have exchanged some pieces and noticed I'm in trouble.

AJK: What was your most interesting game?

OB: Maybe the one against GM Atalik in the penultimate round. I've checked the game and the engine says it's equal until the end. I thought the position could be won because I had two pieces and a pawn for his rook. I wasn't quite sure how to win this, but luckily in the end he made a mistake. It was a very tiring 5-hour game.

AJK: What do you think about the Dusit Thani Hotel, the organization of the tournament, and the overall strength of the competition?

OB: I want to congratulate the organizers for putting together this tournament. I think it's well organized, and thanks also to the Dusit Thani Hotel for this beautiful venue. There was one minor problem because the lighting was a bit dim, but it was fine with the additional

lamps next to the boards. This is a strong tournament with 13 grandmasters and also strong international masters like Liu Quingnan who is over 2500 and a World Cup qualifier. There are three or four 2600s, and Vallejo Pons came down from 2700, so he plays at that level.

AJK: You've played in Bangkok this year and last year in Pattaya. Do you have any preference?

OB: I prefer to play near the beach because it's pretty relaxing. You can walk in the afternoon or evening and get some fresh air.

AJK: What are your professional plans for the rest of the year?

OB: This year we have the national championship in July, which also counts as the elimination for our Olympiad team. I need to reach a top-four spot in order to qualify for the team. Then, I would like to play the Annual Washington International in August but am not sure yet whether I can actually go to the US. And for next year I'm planning to start a chess school in Manila so that I can share my talent with kids.



AJK: Do you intend to come back to Thailand next year?

OB: Definitely. As I've already said, it is a well-organized tournament and an excellent venue.

AJK: Thank you so much for your time and best of luck.

OB: Thanks too.

Solution to puzzle: Bc2! traps the rook



GM Jan Gustafsson, 11th BCC Open Champion

An interview with German Grandmaster Jan Gustafsson, by Alexander J. Klemm

GM Jan Gustafsson won the tournament in 2011. This time he finished with a strong seven points out of nine games, reaching shared 3rd to 5th place. After the tournament he gave an interview, talking about his performance, the website chess24.com, and Vishy Anand's chances against Magnus Carlsen in the upcoming world championship rematch.

AJK: Congratulations for your achievement. How do you feel now the tournament is over?

JG: Well, I'm tired and *[smiling]* I blame it on Kai, the tournament director, for starting the last round at 9 am. That's a tough one for me. I think the jetlag goes away but still I could never manage to fall asleep before 4 am, which is also self-imposed but it's just hard to change the rhythm. I wish the tournament wasn't over just yet. I always enjoy coming to Thailand, and I'm not so desperate to go back to work in Germany.

AJK: What was your best game and is there a game with which you were not so satisfied?

JG: That's hard to tell. I won five games but all against weaker players, and against the four strong players I got unexciting draws. I was unhappy with myself for making too early draws both against GM Marat Dzhumaev and GM John Paul Gomez. If I want to win the tournament I have to try to win these games. Well, I won some games, but those were more business as usual and nothing to brag about.

AJK: What do you think about the overall strength of the competition this year?

JG: I hope it doesn't get too strong because I also want to have a chance to compete here. The great thing about this tournament is that you see a lot of returning players. This is my fourth year in a row and there are a lot of familiar faces. It's a strong open. The special situation is that there are 80 or 90 percent foreigners while in most other opens I've played there are 80 to 90 percent locals. So it's interesting for me because I don't get to play against people from countries such as India or Australia all that often.



AJK: What are your impressions of the playing venue and the overall tournament organization?

JG: I've been playing here for four years now - if I didn't like it I wouldn't return. The Dusit Thani Hotel is a fantastic venue both here and in Pattaya, and the tournament is very well organized. Kai knows my complaints about double rounds, having the tournament during Songkran, and starting the last game at 9 am, but those are minor complaints. I think it's a fantastic tournament and recommend it to anybody.

AJK: What are your plans for the rest of the year? Do you have any tournaments or chess projects lined up?

JG: I'm a fulltime employee. I have twenty days of holidays per year and have just taken ten of those, so there won't be much further travelling for me this year. I work in a company that has a chess project called chess24.com, which we launched just a couple of months ago. I'll be working on this project providing a lot of content. Now I'm going back to Hamburg to do a live commentary on this super-tournament in Baku. It

has a very sad cause: Vugar Gashimov, a very talented grandmaster and beloved guy, died this year at age 27, so they're having this tournament in his honor. [*The Vugar Gashimov Memorial was held in Shamkir, Azerbaijan, 20-30 April 2014, and won by GM Magnus Carlsen.*] GM Peter Svidler is going to join me. That should be fun.

And other than that, as boring as it sounds, I'm going back to the office and work. I won't be playing that much chess. But maybe you could start a second Thailand Open. Then I'd have a good reason to use the remainder of my holidays.

AJK: Please tell me more about chess24.com. How did it start, what is your involvement, and what are the future plans?

JG: It's quite an ambitious project. I've been working for them for two years now. I believe the plans started a bit earlier even. The goal is to create an all-in-one chess platform that offers learning techniques, coaching opportunities for players of all levels, and a zone where you can play games. Then we also have some fancy



tools for following tournaments live. That is the part I really enjoy, following and doing live commentaries on big events. That's pretty much it. I'm quite happy with the site. It's a serious project with a lot of people working on it. The great thing is that we're live now and no longer in the planning stage.

AJK: Who are the other people involved in it?

JG: The people you might now are all chess players from around the world. 'Paco' Vallejo, the tournament winner, has been working with us. He's been providing content in Spanish. Vishy Anand and Peter Svidler have also been contributing material. We're trying to do something high-class, ambitious, and hopefully entertaining in English, German and Spanish.

AJK: Since you have just mentioned Anand. Many people were surprised that he won the candidates ...

JG: ... everyone was surprised!

AJK: What do you think about his chances?

JG: It's hard to say. He was basically written off after losing that match against Magnus Carlsen. Actually, 'written off' is probably too strong. But many people didn't believe he could come back so strongly and win the candidates. His chances will be better than last time because first of all by winning the candidates he proved to himself and everyone that he still has it in him to win such a tournament. He will have a lot more confidence, and he has the experience of having played against Magnus. But then again, Magnus isn't the world number one and dominator for nothing. Against him everybody is an underdog. I think Vishy will have a better chance and we'll get to see a better match, but I still consider him the outsider against Carlsen.

AJK: Final question. Are you planning to return to Thailand next year?

JG: Yes of course I am. I'm very worried though because Kai looks tired and he's always teasing he will quit - but I'm always planning to return.

14th Bangkok Chess Club Open



The open tournament attracted players of all ages and abilities, from juniors to seniors, beginners to grandmasters, from all corners of the earth.





The Bangkok Chess Club Challenger 2014



The Challenger tournament is a popular secondary tournament, with many juniors seeking their first official chess rating, and some strong international players competing for the first prize.



Titled Players at the 14th BCC Open 2014



GM Eugenio Torre of the Philippines (standing centre), Asia's first ever Grandmaster,



GM Vladimir Lazarev was originally Russian but now plays under the French flag.



GM Monica Socko was with her husband Bartosz, also a Polish Grandmaster.



Grandmaster Oliver Barbosa of the Philippines faces FM Tim Reilly of Australia.



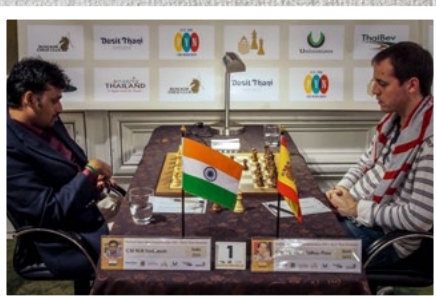
Uzbekistan GM Marat Dzhumaev plays former BCC Open Champion GM Jan Gustafsson.



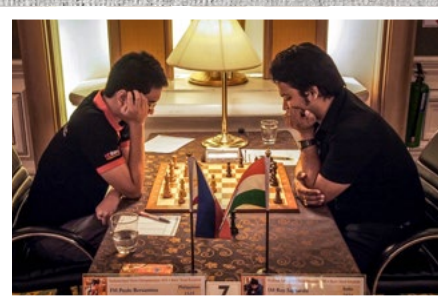
Turkish GM Suat Atalik with GM Gerhard Schebler of Germany



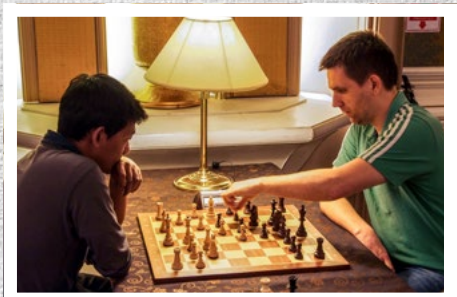
GM John Paul Gomez of the Philippines vies with GM Marat Dzhumaev



GM Venkatesh of India faces the new champion, GM Francisco Vallejo Pons of Spain



FM Paulo Bersamina of the Philippines vs. Tournament regular IM Roy Saptarshi of India.



FM Deniel Causo at the Blitz tournament with GM Bartosz Socko of Poland.



International Master Bogdan Borcos came all the way from troubled Ukraine.



WGM Gu Xiaobing of China was a keen participant in our waterfall photo session.

Amazing Junior Players!

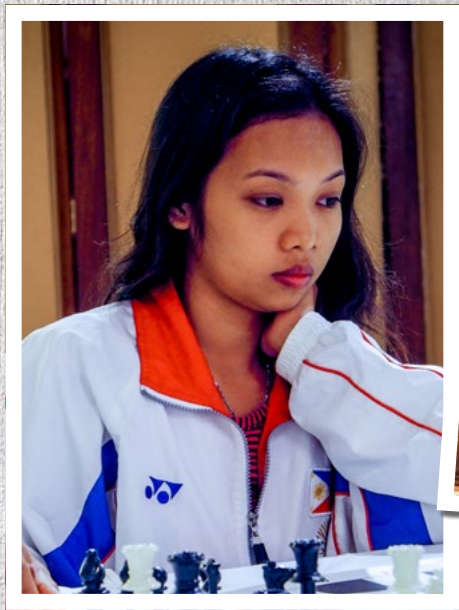
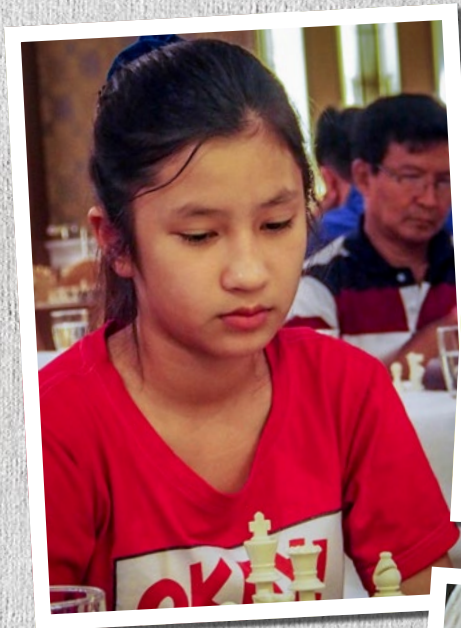


*The future champions were
amazingly focused and
knowledgeable even at a young age!*





Beauty in Chess



*The future of chess looks better than ever!
Some of the young ladies at the tournament
showed the game is not just for nerds.*



United Nations of Chess



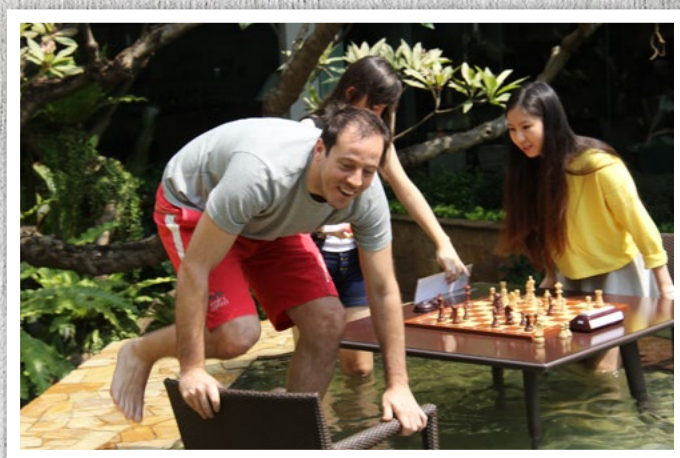


45 countries were represented in the tournament:
 Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada,
 China, Denmark, England, Fiji, Finland, France,
 Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, Iran, Italy,
 Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Luxembourg, Macedonia,
 Malaysia, Malta, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand,
 Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Scotland,
 Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden,
 Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan,
 Vietnam and the USA.





**Cooling off
in the
Dusit Thani
Waterfall**



*Opposite and top row: husband and wife team,
Grandmasters Bartosz and Monica Socko;
2nd row: GM Paco Vallejo Pons and WGM Gu Xiaobing;
3rd row: Grandmasters Jan Gustafsson and Nina Tuorila.*



Grandmaster Oliver Barbosa of the Philippines defended his title to become BCC Open Blitz Champion 2 years running





The BCC Blitz Championship 2014

Grandmaster Oliver Barbosa retains his Blitz crown with an outstanding performance

Each year, alongside the main Challenger and Open tournaments, the Bangkok Chess Club also runs a Blitz Championship. The games are played at great speed, with only 5 minutes on the clock for each player to complete all their moves.

The tournament is run over two days, in the evenings after the long games are completed. On the first day players were divided into groups of up to 14 players competing in a round robin for the opportunity to take part in the final, with the best 15 players going through.

Top players in the Open tournament are usually too concentrated on their preparations to take part, but this year six grandmasters competed in the final, including the Polish husband and wife grandmasters, Monika and Bartosz Socko.

Despite the incredibly high standard, two of our local club members made it to the final - Conrado Diaz and Deniel Causo, both of Philippine origin.

Grandmaster Oliver Barbosa successfully defended his title with an outstanding 12/14, 1.5 points ahead of

second placed GM Bartosz Socko.

The winners were:

- 1. GM Oliver Barbosa (Philippines)
- 2. GM Socko Bartosz (Poland)
- 3. IM Kuderinov Kirill (Kazakhstan)





Top row: Erik Frederiksen (Denmark), Tarun Mathur (India), Sean Watharow (Australia)
 Second row: IM Saptarshi Roy (India), Timo Tuomala (Finland), FM Shinya Kojima (Japan)
 Left: FM Tim Reilly (Australia)
 Opposite: Stein Sollid (Norway) and David Gates (England)



Most Frequent Overseas Visitors

competing at Bangkok Chess Club's annual Open Championships

There have been many people returning year after year, from far and near, such as Australia, Denmark, England, Finland, India and Japan. This year we rewarded our regular visitors with a certificate accompanied by a bottle of fine Australian wine or, for the teetotalers, a box of Belgian chocolates.

FM Tim Reilly deserves a special mention, our most regular visitor having competed at 11 of the 14 BCC Open Tournaments!

Regular international visitors helping with the running of the tournaments include Chief Arbiter Markku Kosonen and IA Peter Long.





Thailand's Talented Chess Players



Trophy winners at the Thailand Open 2014



Clockwise from top left:
 GM Paco Vallejo, 2014 Champion;
 GM Monica Socko, Best Lady;
 IM Liu Qingnan, 3rd Place;
 FM Wisuwat Theerapabpaisit, Best Thai;
 GM Oliver Barbosa, 2nd Place.



Drinks and Dinner at the Dusit Thani 'Library 1918'



*PYN Fund Management hosted drinks
and dinner for 26 of our top players and
organisers, in the luxurious Library 1918
of the Dusit Thani*

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GM Vallejo Pons beats GM Atalik

By Peter, April 17, 2014

GM Vallejo Pons beats GM Atalik in round 6 and takes lead at 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014

Report by Alexander J. Klemm

Round six saw an exciting matchup on board one where number one seed GM Francisco Vallejo Pons and number five seed and tournament leader GM Suat Atalik. After a less than optimal opening, GM Vallejo Pons had to dig deep to squeeze out a win against his Turkish opponent. "Paco" is now in the sole lead with 5½ points, while GM Atalik stays in contention with 5.

On board two Filipino GM John Gomez and 3rd seed GM Jan Gustafsson, repeated moves early in an equal position. While their draw keeps both players in close contact with "Paco", it may prove to be too little to reach first place in the end. In a matchup between spouses on board 3, Mr. & Mrs. Socko battled it out until only the king's were left standing. Playing with the black pieces, GM Eugenio Torre had a slightly better position against GM Oliver Barbosa, but in time trouble the veteran went wrong several times and soon lost to his fellow countryman. In the game on board eight between Pattaya-based German GM Gerhard Schebler and Thai FM Wisuwat Teerapapaisit, the former player came out on top. GM Schebler has recovered from his round 5 loss against GM Atalik and has a good chance for a strong finish.

Round 6 results at top boards:

1. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (4 ½) 1 – 0 GM Suat Atalik (5)
2. GM John Paul Gomez (4½) ½ – ½ GM Jan Gustafsson (4½)
3. GM Monika Soelo (4) ½ – ½ GM Bartosz Socio (4)
4. GM Oliver Barbosa (4) 1 – 0 GM Eugenio Torre (4)
5. GM Darwin Laylo (4) 1 – 0 Rolando Andador (4)
6. Hamed Nouri (4) 0 – 1 IM Qingnan Liu (4)
7. GM Marat Dzhumaev (4) 1 – 0 Yan Liu (4)
8. GM Gerhard Schebler (4) 1 – 0 FM Wisuwat Teerapapaisit (4)

Ranking after round 6:

1. 5½ pts.: GM Francisco Vallejo Pons
2. 5 pts.: GM Suat Atalik, GM Jan Gustafsson, GM John Paul Gomez, GM Oliver Barbosa, GM Darwin Laylo, GM Gerhard Schebler, GM Marat Dzhumaev, IM Qingnan Liu

Top pairings of round 7:

1. GM Jan Gustafsson (5) vs. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (5½)
2. GM Darwin Laylo (5) vs. GM Oliver Barbosa (5)
3. GM Suat Atalik (5) vs. GM Marat Dzhumaev (5)
4. IM Qingnan Liu (5) vs. GM John Paul Gomez (5)
5. GM Bartosz Socio (4½) vs. GM Gerhard Schebler (5)

Here is the round six game GM Vallejo Pons vs GM Atalik
 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bd4 Nf6 5.0–0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0–0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 Nxvd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Rxe5 c6 12.d3 Bd6 13.Re1 Bf5 14.Qf6 15.Bxd5 cxd5 16.Be3 Qe5 17.g3 Bxd3 18.Nd2 Rfe8 19.Kg2 Be4 20.Ne6 dxe4 21.Qe2 Bf8 22.Rad1 Qe6 23.a3 Rad8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8 25.Rd1 Rdx1 26.Qxd1 f6 (weakening the e6-square) 27.Qd4 Qc4 28.a5

The position is roughly equal, yet with his 3–2 pawn majority on the left side of the board white can put pressure on black. Now black should keep his queen on white squares in order to protect his pawns on a6 and e4, for example: 28...Qc5 29.Qd8 Kf7 30.Qb6 Qc8 31.Qd4 Qc5 32.Qa7+ Kg8 33.Qb6 Qc7 34.Qa7 Qe6 =

However, Atalik went for the weak 28...b4 (?). After this mistake, white missed the strong continuation 29.cxb4 h6 30.Qd7 Qb4 31.Qe6+ Kh7 32.Qxa6 Bc5 33.Bxc5 Qxc5 34.Qe6 Qxa5 35.Qxe4+ f5 36.Qd7. This would have given white a winning position, as the b-pawn is unstoppable and perpetual checks impossible.

However, Vallejo Pons opted for the imprecise but still sufficient 29.. b3 (!?) Qc5 30.Q4 Qxa5 31.c5 Qc7 32.Qd5+ Qf7 33.Qxe4 f5 34.Qxd4 g5 35.h3 h4 36.qxf4 qxf4 37.Qxf4 Qxf4 38.Bxf4 Bxc5.

The queens are off the board and white is a pawn up. Black can't defend his weak pawn on a6 from attacks by the white king and stop white's f-pawn at the same time. Vallejo Pons makes the rest look easy: 39.Be3 Bb4 40.Kf3 Kf7 41.Kxh6 Kx6 42.f4 Bc3 43.Bb4 Be1 44.Be5 f5 45.f5+ Kf7 46.Kd3 Ke7 47.Kc4 Kd7 48.Bc3 Bf2 49.KD5 Ba6 50.f6 Bg5 51.Kxe5 Bh6 52.Bb4.

In the final position, black will soon be forced to give up his bishop for white's f-pawn. 1 – 0

A short profile of the new leader and nominally the strongest player at the BCC Open is indicative of the great caliber of professionals the tournament has managed to attract year after year:

Player's profile: GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (nickname "Paco")

The top seed at the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 was born on October 1962 in Es Castell, Minorca, Spain. His current Elo-rating of 2693 puts the 31-year-old at 52nd place on Fide's World ranking. Over the last few years Vallejo Pons has consistently reached ratings of over 2700, peaking at 2724 in July of 2011.

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Turkish GM Suat Atalik takes sole lead after round 5 of the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open

By Peter, April 16, 2014

A photograph showing two men playing chess at a table. One man, wearing glasses and a light-colored shirt, is looking at the board. The other man, wearing a blue shirt, is also looking at the board. There are flags of Turkey and Germany on the table.

Report by Alexander J. Klemm

After 5 rounds of play the Thailand Open Chess Championships 2014 / 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open, taking place in Bangkok 12-19 April 2014, is well under way.

As in 2012 this year's tournament is hosted by the beautiful 5-star Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel, which is located in Bangkok's business district Silom. During the last few years the BCC Open has been hosted either by the Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel or by the Dusit Thani Pattaya Hotel. Thanks to the great cooperation with these outstanding venues, the BCC Open one of the most attractive chess events in Asia, with established a loyal base of strong amateurs and professionals, and keeps attracting new players from around the world.

As is tradition the tournament features an Open (9 rounds) and a Challenger (7 rounds) category. With over 200 players in both categories combined, the tournament has again drawn a big and internationally diverse crowd. The number of participants is lower than a year ago when the tournament took place in Pattaya, which may be due to some players' concerns about lingering political tensions in Thailand. Nevertheless, the first half of the tournament has shown that the chess is as strong and the event is as competitive as ever:

The Open section includes a tough field of 55 titled players (!), among them 13 grandmasters and 12 international masters. Obvious favorites for the title are first-seed GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (Spain, ELO rating 2693, =1st place in 2011), GM Bartosz Soćko (Poland, 2635), and GM Jan Gustafsson (Germany, 2634, winner in 2011, 3rd place 2013). Their closest rivals GM Oliver Barbosa (Phi, 2580) and GM Suat Atalik (Tur, 2562) certainly also have a shot at the championship. GM Zong-Yuan Zhao, last year's champion and Australia's strongest player, has not returned to Bangkok to defend his title.

Notable is the solid number of female players fighting for accolades in both categories. The strongest among them this year are GM Monika Soćko (Pol, 2450), WGM Anna Safrańska (Fra, 2286), WGM Xiaobing Gu (Chi, 2265), IM Nisha Mohota (Ind, 2233) and WGM Kularni Bhakti (Ind, 2246). For the first time in several years British GM Nigel Short, winner in 2012, is absent, yet with veteran GM Eugenio Torre (Phi, 2427), Asia's first GM, one of the world's strongest players from the 1970s/80s and the most successful player to herald from the Philippines, the BCC Open has welcomed back an outstanding veteran of the sport. Torre reached second place in the 2005-edition of the tournament, and with his great experience he can beat any of the younger masters of today. The Philippines is the nation with the strongest representation in the Open section. Alongside Barbosa and Torre, other Filipino players are battling for Elo points and good results. They include GM John Paul Gomez (2524), GM Darwin Laylo (2511), IM Rolando Nolte (2417), and a good dozen of their countrymen. Thailand's strongest players FM Jirapak Pitrojirathorn (2274), Uaychai Kongsee (2271), FM Wisuwat Teerapabpaisot (2250) and FM Boonsuek Seeheng (2200) are also participating. While they may not have the consistency to break into the top ranks, they all have the ability and experience to beat higher rated opponents.

After four rounds GM Francisco Vallejo Pons, GM John Paul Gomez (Phi, 2524), GM Suat Atalik, and GM Gerhard Schebler (Ger; 2451) were the remaining players with a clean sheet.

In hard-fought battles, the former two players drew their game, while in the latter encounter GM Atalik kept the upper hand against GM Schebler in a marathon match.

Round 5 results at top boards:

1. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (4 ½) - ½ GM John Paul Gomez (4)
2. GM Suat Atalik (4) 1 - 0 GM Gerhard Schebler (4)
3. GM Jan Gustafsson (3 ½) 1 - 0 IM Lodhi Mahmood (3 ½)
4. Yan Liu (3 ½) ½ - ½ GM Darwin Laylo (3 ½)
5. IM Qingnan Liu (3 ½) ½ - ½ GM Marat Dzhamiev (3 ½)

Ranking after round 5:

1. 5 pts.: GM Suat Atalik
- 4 ½ pts.: GM Francisco Vallejo Pons, GM John Paul Gomez, GM Jan Gustafsson

His win in round 5 has made GM Atalik, the second seed of the tournament and Turkey's second strongest player, the sole leader, confirming his role as a favorite to win the tournament. Yet much can still happen in the remaining four rounds. The competition is heating up and the stakes are high. GM Atalik is on a roll, but now he is facing top-seed GM Vallejo Pons, who will do everything to stop him.

Top pairings of round 6:

1. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (4 ½) vs. GM Suat Atalik (5)
2. GM John Paul Gomez (4 ½) vs. GM Jan Gustafsson (4 ½)
3. GM Monika Soćko (4) vs. GM Bartosz Soćko (4)
4. GM Oliver Barbosa (4) vs. GM Eugenio Torre (4)
5. GM Darwin Laylo (4) vs. Rolando Andador (4)
6. Hamed Noori (4) vs. IM Qingnan Liu (4)

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By: Rashed Asar

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21 April 2014, 17:55

#	Name	Rating
1	Carlsen	2699.2
2	Aronian	2614.8
3	Grischuk	2792.1
4	Anand	2795.0
5	Kramnik	2783.0
6	Caruana	2782.6
7	Topalov	2772.0
8	Karjakin	2769.7
9	Nakamura	2768.7
10	Dominguez	2768.3

Women - 2708chess.com

21 April 2014, 18:33

#	Name	Rating
1	Pelgar, J	2685.0
2	Hou Yifan	2629.2
3	Koneru	2613.0
4	Muzychuk, A	2560.5
5	Dzagnidze	2541.3
6	Lagno	2540.4
7	Zhao Xue	2538.2
8	Kosteniuk	2532.1
9	Ju Wenjun	2525.6
10	Cmilyle	2525.0

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GM Vallejo Pons is the new Thailand Champion

By Peter, April 19, 2014



GM Vallejo Pons wins 14th BCC Open 2014, GM Barboza is runner-up on tiebreak

Report by Alexander J. Kiemm

The last round of the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 saw the much anticipated clashes GM Oliver Barboza (7) vs. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (7) on the first board, and GM Jan Gustafsson (6½) vs. GM Bartosz Socko (6½) on the second. Yet, their games were somewhat antidramatic, as no risks were taken. The players agreed to strategic draws after two hours, assuring them all top rankings and prize money.

The Spanish grandmaster and tournament number one seed GM Francisco Vallejo Pons wins with 7½ points. Congratulations to "Paco" and many thanks for his return to the BCC Open after his first appearance in 2011. We hope he will come back again next year to defend his title. The runner-up is GM Oliver Barboza, who also reached an impressive 7½ points. GM Barboza also won the Blitz tournament for the second year running, against stiff competition. Congratulations to the mighty Filipino for his outstanding performance. GM Jan Gustafsson, IM Qingnan Liu and GM Bartosz Socko all reached a very solid 7 points, putting them in 3rd to 5th place.

Round 9 results at top boards:

1. GM Oliver Barboza (7) ½ – ½ GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (7)
2. GM Jan Gustafsson (6½) ½ – ½ GM Bartosz Socko (6½)
3. GM Suat Atalik (6) ½ – ½ GM Darwin Laylo (6)
4. GM John Paul Gomez (6) ½ – ½ GM Marat Dzhumayev (6)
5. GM M.R. Venkatesh (6) 0 – 1 IM Qingnan Liu (6)

Final ranking of top players after round 9:

- 1-2 (7½ pts.): GM Francisco Vallejo Pons, GM Oliver Barboza
- 3-5 (7 pts.): GM Jan Gustafsson, IM Qingnan Liu, GM Bartosz Socko
- 6-12 (6½ pts.): GM John Paul Gomez, GM Suat Atalik, GM Marat Dzhumayev, IM Aleksandar Wohl, IM Roy Saptarshi, IM Rolando Nolte, GM Monika Socko

A GM norm was achieved by fourth-placed IM Qingnan Liu from China and a WIM norm by Ying Zhu (5 ½), also from China. Best lady player is Polish GM Monika Socko (6½). Best Juniors are the Chinese youngsters Yan Liu (6) and Xiongling Peng (6), as well as Richi Sardana (5½) from Australia. Congratulations to these players for their well-earned successes.

In the **Challenger category**, this year's 14th BCC Open champion is Leonardo Alidani from the Philippines. He scored six points, as did his fellow countryman Marvin Ting, who is second based on tiebreak. Thotsaporn Thanatipanonda (THA), Kumar Samuel (IND) and Trong Binh Phan (VIE) scored 5½ points, which puts them on 3rd to 5th place.

Please visit chess-results.com for complete rankings, results and further details about the tournament.

A very big thank you goes to the 210 players from Asia and around the world for their hard-fought games and the many chess fans who followed the action in the playing hall and live online.

We thank our sponsors Thai Dev, Univerities, PYN Fund Management, Tourism Authority of Thailand, Chess4Thai, and the marvelous playing venue hosted by the Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel. The tournament could not happen without their wonderful and generous support.

Many thanks also to all the members of the dedicated BCC Open tournament team who kept the tournament running smoothly at all times.

Coming soon at www.bangkokchess.com are interviews with some of the top GMs.

News, Tournaments Edit

One Response to "GM Vallejo Pons is the new Thailand Champion"

Daily Chess News Links April 19, 2014 | blog.chesscafe.com April 19, 2014 at 9:19 pm (Edit)

says:

[...] GM Vallejo Pons is the new Thailand Champion Bangkok Chess Club GM Vallejo Pons wins 14th BCC Open 2014, GM Barboza is runner-up on tiebreak ... [...]

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GM Vallejo Pons and GM Barboza lead 14th BCC Open 2014, clash in final round

By Peter, April 19, 2014



GM Vallejo Pons and GM Barboza lead 14th BCC Open 2014, clash in final round

Report by Alexander J. Kiemm

Rounds 7 and 8 of the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 saw again exciting and some very long-fought games at the top boards. In the much anticipated round 7 clash between German GM Jan Gustafsson and Open leader GM Francisco Vallejo Pons, the players drew after solid play on both sides. Obviously, the teammates of German chess league winner OSG Baden Baden know each other very well and may find it hard to surprise each other in the opening. Playing with white, GM Gustafsson put pressure on "Paco", but the Spaniard's choice of the Nimzo-Indian Defense proved to be a good one. He equalized in the middle-game and a draw was agreed on move 34. This result made it possible for several players to close the gap.

GM Oliver Barboza won against fellow Filipino GM Laylo Darwin on board two, GM Suat Atalik had obviously recovered from his defeat against GM Vallejo Pons in the previous round and won against GM Marat Dzhumayev in a 92-move marathon match. IM Qingnan Liu also used the opportunity to stay on track to success with a fine win against GM John Paul Gomez.

Round 7 results at top boards:

1. GM Jan Gustafsson (5) ½ – ½ GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (5 ½)
2. GM Darwin Laylo (5) 0 – 1 GM Oliver Barboza (5)
3. GM Suat Atalik (5) 1 – 0 GM Marat Dzhumayev (5)
4. IM Qingnan Liu (5) 1 – 0 GM John Paul Gomez (5)
5. GM Bartosz Socko (4 ½) 1 – 0 GM Gerhard Schebler (5)
6. IM Aleksandar H. Wohl (4 ½) 1 – 0 GM Monika Socko (4 ½)
7. FM Paulo Bersamina (4 ½) 1 – 0 IM Roy Saptarshi (4 ½)
8. Rishi Sardana (4 ½) ½ – ½ FM Shinya Kojima (4 ½)

In round 8 the four leading players of the tournament were paired against one another, as were the four players on their heels. GM Vallejo Pons reached a clear advantage early in the game, but IM Qingnan Liu was tough and fought on until he finally had to resign in a rook vs. 2 pawn endgame. GM Suat Atalik again played a five-hour game, but this time lost against GM Oliver Barboza. The Turkish GM must be commended for his outstanding fighting spirit. He has won six and lost two games with no draws to his account.

Round 8 results at top boards:

1. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (6) 1 – 0 IM Qingnan Liu (6)
2. GM Oliver Barboza (6) 1 – 0 GM Suat Atalik (6)
3. GM Bartosz Socko (5 ½) 1 – 0 IM Aleksandar H. Wohl (5 ½)
4. IM Roy Saptarshi (5 ½) 0 – 1 GM Jan Gustafsson (5 ½)
5. IM Mahmood Lodni (5) 0 – 1 GM John Paul Gomez (5)
6. Hamed Nouri (5) 0 – 1 GM M.R. Venkatesh (5)
7. Ellan Asuela (5) 0 – 1 GM Darwin Laylo (5)
8. GM Marat Dzhumayev (5) 1 – 0 Rishi Sardana (5)

Ranking of top players after round 8:

- 7 pts.: GM Francisco Vallejo Pons, GM Oliver Barboza
- 6½ pts.: GM Bartosz Socko, GM Jan Gustafsson
- 6 pts.: GM Suat Atalik, GM Marat Dzhumayev, GM John Paul Gomez, GM M.R. Venkatesh, GM Darwin Laylo, IM Qingnan Liu

GM Barboza and GM Vallejo Pons are the two leaders before the ultimate round tomorrow. They will cross swords in what promises to be a nail-biting finish to the tournament. While GM Barboza has the small advantage of playing with white, GM Vallejo Pons had the much shorter game today and may be more refreshed going into the last round. The winner will be new BCC Open champion. But if they draw, either GM Jan Gustafsson or GM Bartosz Socko may pull even with the two leaders in their matchup on board two. Both players are trailing the leaders by only half a point.

Top pairings of (final) round 9:


1. GM Oliver Barboza (7) vs. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (7)
2. GM Jan Gustafsson (6 ½) vs. GM Bartosz Socko (6 ½)
3. GM Suat Atalik (6) vs. GM Darwin Laylo (6)
4. GM John Paul Gomez (6) vs. GM Marat Dzhumayev (6)
5. GM M.R. Venkatesh (6) vs. IM Qingnan Liu (6)

In the Challenger category, things have been heating up as well, and the last round has to decide over who will be the new champion. In round 5 the sole leader Behrang Kaboodi (4 pts., Elo 2064) lost against Andrej Vospernik (3½, 2053), which made the latter player tournament leader. Leandro Alidani (3½, 1959) won against Ko Khin (3½, 2087) on board 2. In the round 6 clash between leaders Andrej Vospernik (4½) and

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8	Kosteniuk	2532.1
9	Ju Wenjun	2525.6
10	Comlyte	2525.0

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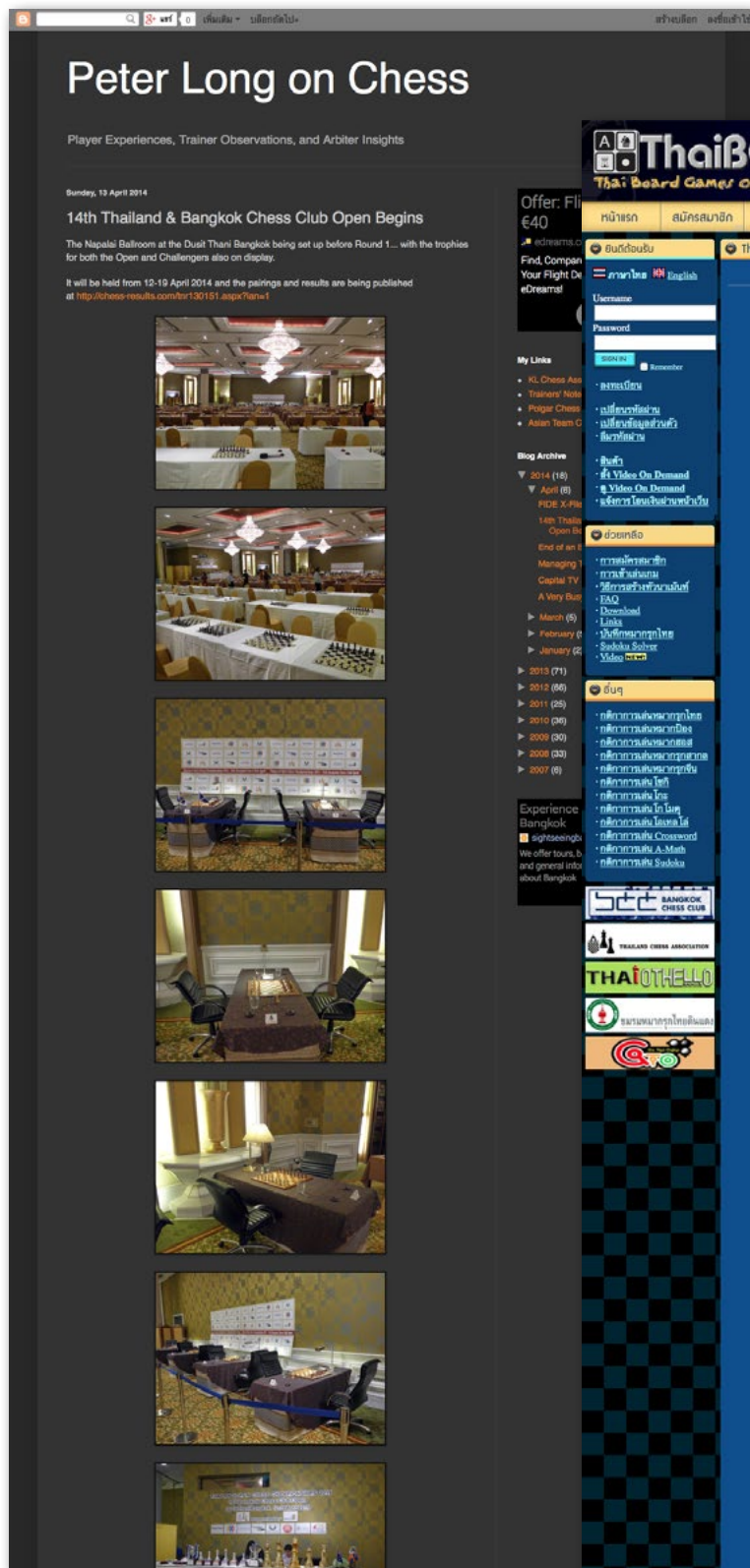
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Asian Websites




Peter Long (Malaysia)



ThaiBG (Thailand)

International Websites



CHESS NEWS BLOG: chessblog.com
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SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2014

Thailand Chess: GM Vallejo Pons wins 14th BCC Open 2014, GM Barbosa is second on tiebreak

Hi everyone,

Thailand has annually held the BCC Chess Open regularly. Here is a report by Alexander J. Klemm via the [official website](#).



GM Vallejo Pons wins 14th BCC Open 2014, GM Barbosa is second on tiebreak
 The last round of the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 saw the much anticipated clashes GM Oliver Barbosa (7) vs. GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (7) on the first board, and GM Jan Gustafsson (6½) vs. GM Bartosz Socko (6½) on the second. Yet, their games were somewhat anticlimactic, as no risks were taken. The players agreed to strategic draws after two hours, assuring them all top rankings and prize money.

The Spanish Grandmaster and tournament number one seed GM Francisco Vallejo Pons wins with 7½ points. Congratulations to 'Paco' and many thanks for his return to the BCC Open after his first appearance in 2011. We hope he will come back again next year to defend his title. The runner-up is GM Oliver Barbosa, who also reached an impressive 7½ points. GM Barbosa also won the Blitz tournament for the second year running, against stiff competition. Congratulations to the mighty Filipino for his outstanding performance. GM Jan Gustafsson, IM Qingnan Liu and GM Bartosz Socko all reached a very solid 7 points, putting them in 3rd to 5th place.

Round 9 results at top boards:
 GM Oliver Barbosa (7) ½ – ½ GM Francisco Vallejo Pons (7)
 GM Jan Gustafsson (6½) ½ – ½ GM Bartosz Socko (6½)
 GM Suat Atalik (6) ½ – ½ GM Darwin Laylo (6)
 GM John Paul Gomez (6) ½ – ½ GM Marat Dzumaev (6)
 GM M.R. Venkatesh (6) 0 – 1 IM Qingnan Liu (6)

Final ranking of top players after round 9:
 1-2 (7½ pts.): GM Francisco Vallejo Pons, GM Oliver Barbosa
 3-5 (7 pts.): GM Jan Gustafsson, IM Qingnan Liu, GM Bartosz Socko
 6-12 (6½ pts.): GM John Paul Gomez, GM Suat Atalik, GM Marat Dzumaev, IM Aleksandar Wohl, IM Roy Saptarshi, IM Rolando Nolte, GM Monika Socko

A GM norm was achieved by fourth-placed IM Qingnan Liu from China and a WIM norm by Ying Zhu (5½), also from China. Best lady player is Polish GM Monika Socko (6½). Best juniors are the Chinese youngsters Yan Liu (6) and Xiongjian Peng (6), as well as Richi Sardana (5½) from Australia. Congratulations to these players for their well-earned successes.

In the Challenger category, this year's 14th BCC Open champion is Leonardo Alidani from the Philippines. He scored six points, as did his fellow countryman Marvin Ting, who is second based on tiebreak. Thotsaporn Thanatipanonda (THA), Kumar Samuel (IND) and Trong Binh Phan (VIE) scored 5½ points, which puts them on 3rd to 5th place.

Please visit [chess-results.com](#) for complete rankings, results and further details about the tournament.

A very big thank you goes to the 210 players from Asia and around the world for their hard-fought games and the many chess fans who followed the action in the playing hall and live online.

We thank our sponsors Thai Bev, Univentures, PYN Fund Management, Tourism Authority of Thailand, Chess4Thai, and the marvelous playing venue hosted by the Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel. The tournament could not happen without their wonderful and generous support.

Many thanks also to all the members of the dedicated BCC Open tournament team who kept the tournament running smoothly at all times.

From Alexandra Kosteniuk's [www.chessblog.com](#)
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General Apr 21, 2014 08:45 by Jan

Thai Break

The Gashimov Memorial is upon us and the chess world is eagerly anticipating seeing Carlsen back at the board. I'm feeling rather sad, though, as my favourite tournament of the year - the *Bangkok Chess Club Open* - is over and the journey home awaits.

Jan Gustafsson reports from Thailand

The tournament




View of the playing hall

Since my first visit (and glorious triumph!) in 2011 I've remained true to the Bangkok Open each year, as I know of no more enjoyable tournament. I don't think I'm the only one that's happened to. In contrast to the majority of opens this one draws in 85% foreign players, and I still haven't come across a Thai player in all my 36 games.


Despite the name the tournament only finds itself in Bangkok every other year, and has recently been alternating with Pattaya, which is also the favourite for 2015. For this year's 14th edition it was once again the turn of Bangkok, although due to the political situation the number of participants was a little more limited than usual. The headquarters of the protest movement is located directly in front of the Dusit Thani Hotel, where we play and live, although at least for me everything seemed perfectly peaceful.

The hotel choice is also another reason for the popularity of the event. I've visited my fair share of hotels but the Dusit Thani Bangkok undoubtedly makes my Top 3 (right behind the Dusit Thani Pattaya).



View of the lobby

So then, there's not too much to moan about. The team around organiser Kai Tuorila ("I want to play a tournament in Thailand. No-one else is organising one, so I'll do it myself") has everything under control. For example, year after year I'm surprised to be invited to a "VIP dinner" - since when have participants participated in anything of the kind?



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Player profiles

1. Magnus Carlsen
2. Anna Rudolf
3. Vugar Gashimov
4. Viswanathan Anand
5. Levon Aronian
6. Garry Kasparov
7. Vladimir Kramnik
8. Teimour Radjabov
9. Jan Gustafsson
10. Hou Yifan

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Ajedrez

Paco Vallejo, el regreso triunfal

El genial ajedrecista de Es Castell, reciente ganador del Abierto de Tailandia, asegura que ha vuelto porque «añoraba la competición» e indica que no habría ido a la Gala del CIM si le hubiesen invitado

Miguel Juan Urbano | 24/04/2014

Valorar: ★★★★★

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Fotos

Distraído. Vallejo, que sigue de vacaciones en Tailandia, juega al ajedrez en los jardines del hotel, sede del torneo, en Bangkok.

23-04-2014 | B.C.C.

«He vuelto porque añoraba la competición que es un poco adictiva, me apetece y echaba de menos esa lucha, la adrenalina que hay en los torneos». Así explica Paco Vallejo (Es Castell, 1982) su reciente retorno a la competición más exigente del ajedrez mundial después de un año y medio de semiretiro dorado, que no fue tal, porque siempre cumplió con compromisos pactados con el club de Sabadell, en el que milita, y en el Baden Baden, con el que disputa la bundesliga alemana. Si entonces había perdido parte de la motivación, se sentía triste por algunas decepciones con los tableros, ahora ha regresado con el propósito de divertirse y seguir adelante.

Aún de vacaciones en Koh Samui, Tailandia, donde acaba de conquistar el Abierto Internacional, en el hotel Dusit Thani de Bangkok, Vallejo declaraba a este diario su satisfacción por esta reinserción en la élite del ajedrez universal, coronada con el triunfo asiático. «Me siento como en casa en Tailandia, hace tres años quedé empatado a puntos con el primero aunque acabé tercero y ahora lo he ganado», explica. Eso sí, con 2.699 puntos de ELO era el principal favorito al triunfo que finalmente consiguió por delante del filipino Oliver Barbosa y el alemán, Jan Gustafsson.

[Lee el reportaje completo en nuestra edición impresa o en **Kiosko y Más o Mynews**]

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Posted by 64 SICA on March 7, 2014

14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014

December 19th, World Chess (an ongoing)

14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014

By Peter, November 25, 2013 From Official Web Site of the Bangkok Chess Club.

Bangkok Chess Club has the honor of inviting all Chess Players to participate in the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 from 12th to 19th of April 2014 at the 5-star Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel.

The 13th Open hosted more than 300 players from 40 countries, and this year the tournament is expected to be the biggest and strongest open tournament ever held in Thailand.

Tournament Regulations

- This is an individual tournament, open to all players with FIDE ID (if you do not have FIDE ID number, please contact your country's rating officer).
- There are two groups of play: Open category for all players, and Challenger category for players rated below 2100 or unrated (ratings based on FIDE ratings - national ratings will be validated by the organizer). When registering, players must indicate in which group they wish to play.
- FIDE (International Chess Federation) rules and regulations shall apply. Results will be sent for FIDE rating calculations, and are eligible for FIDE title norms.
- Both groups will be played using the Swiss System, with 9 rounds for Open, and 7 rounds for Challenger. For the pairings, a Swiss Manager program will be used.
- The matches shall be conducted according to the schedule, which will be made known to the respective players before the start of the tournament.
- Each player is accorded with a time control of 90 minutes for 40 moves + 30min for the rest of the game. In addition there is 30 seconds increment per move, starting from the move 1.
- Five minutes before the games start, the Chief Arbiter shall make the announcement accordingly. If any player is not present within an hour after the game is started, he shall lose by default.
- Players are not allowed to bring mobile phones or other electronic devices to the tournament hall, any violation shall result in loss of game.
- Officials and players should be smartly attired at all times while in the playing hall.

Tournament Programme

Open Tournament	Time	Activity
Sunday, 12 April	12:00	Registration closed
	15:00 - 15:30	Welcome & announcements
	15:30 - 20:30	Round 1
Sunday, 13 April	08:00 - 14:00	Round 2
	15:30 - 20:30	Round 3
Monday, 14 April	14:00-19:00	Round 4
Tuesday, 15 April	14:00-19:00	Round 5
Wednesday, 16 April	14:00-19:00	Round 6
Thursday, 17 April	14:00-19:00	Round 7
Friday, 18 April	14:00-19:00	Round 8
Saturday, 19 April	09:00 - 14:00	Round 9 / Final round
	16:00	Closing Ceremony

Challenger Tournament

Challenger Tournament	Time	Activity
Sunday, 13 April	12:00	Registration closed
	15:00 - 15:30	Welcome & announcements
	15:30 - 20:30	Round 1
Monday, 14 April	14:00-19:00	Round 2
Tuesday, 15 April	14:00-19:00	Round 3
Wednesday, 16 April	14:00-19:00	Round 4
Thursday, 17 April	14:00-19:00	Round 5
Friday, 18 April	14:00-19:00	Round 6
Saturday, 19 April	09:00 - 14:00	Round 7 / Final round
	16:00	Closing Ceremony

BCC Open Blitz

BCC Open Blitz	Time	Activity
Monday, 14 April	19:00	Registration closed
	20:00 - 21:30	3-5 Qualifier groups (10-14 players each)
Tuesday, 15 April	20:00 - 22:00	Blitz Final (16 players)

* Entry fee for "Winner-takes-all" blitz tournament is Baht 100 (GME fee).

Prizes

- 14th BCC Open 2014: 1st prize 100,000 Baht, with additional prizes for 3-5 ranks and 5 best Thai players
- BCC Challenger 2014: 1st prize Baht 20,000, with additional prizes for 3-5 ranks
- Certificates/trophies for top 3 Juniors and Best Lady Player in both categories
- Please note: Under Thai law, 5% tax must be deducted from the prize money. All prizes are in Thai Baht

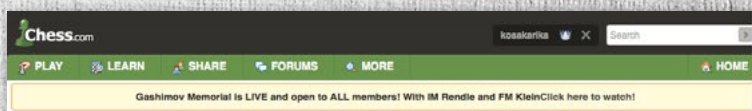
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Vallejo First on Tiebreak at Bangkok Open

PeterDuggers 2017 on 4/21/14, 5:53 AM

He's not a professional chess player anymore, but he can still win tournaments: Francisco Vallejo Pons. The Spanish grandmaster edged out Piny GM Oliver Barbosa on tiebreak at the Bangkok Open after both had finished on 7.5/9. GMs Jan Gustafsson of Germany & Bartosz Socha of Poland and IM Lili Qingnan of China tied for third place with 7 points.

Photos courtesy of the Bangkok Chess Club

After a painful loss in the final round of the 2012 Masters Final against Sergey Karjakin, Vallejo announced his retirement from competitive chess. Since then he played some games in the German and Catalan team championships, but also the 2013 European Championship, where he qualified for the FIDE World Cup in Tromsø. There he defeated Diego Flores of Argentina, but was eliminated by Le Quang Liem of Vietnam.

The 31-year-old Spanish grandmaster is still a very strong player of course, and he showed it last week in Bangkok, Thailand. "Paco" won the tournament, a Swiss open, with 7.5 points out of 9 games, getting on the verge of a 2700 rating again. Oliver Barbosa of the Philippines ended on the same number of points, but had a worse tiebreak.



After a good start of 3.5/4, he won an important game against Turkish grandmaster Suat Atalik. Normally Black stays a pawn down in the Marshall, but here he didn't and so the position was dead equal after 23 moves. Vallejo decided to play on, set a nice trap and Atalik fell for it.

Vallejo Pons, Francisco (2693) vs. Atalik, Suat (2582)
14th BCC Open 2014 | Bangkok THA | Round 6.1 | 16 Apr 2014 | ECO: C89 | 1-0



After a draw with Jan Gustafsson, the next round Vallejo won again:

Vallejo Pons, Francisco (2693) vs. Liu, Qingnan (2500)
14th BCC Open 2014 | Bangkok THA | Round 6.1 | 16 Apr 2014 | ECO: B06 | 1-0



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Susan Polgar Chess Daily News and Information

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Monday, December 02, 2013
14th Bangkok Chess Club Open



Bangkok Chess Club has the honour of inviting all chess players to participate in the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 from 15th to 18th of April 2014 at the Siam Thai Bangkok Hotel.

The 14th Open is expected to have 300 players from 40 countries, and this year the tournament is expected to be the biggest and strongest open tournament ever held in Thailand.

There are two groups of play: Open category for all players, and Challenger category for players rated below 2100 (ratings based on FIDE ratings - national ratings will be validated by the organizers).

FIDE (International Chess Federation) rules and regulations shall apply. Results will be sent for FIDE rating calculations, and are eligible for FIDE title norms.

Both groups will be played using the Swiss System, with 9 rounds for Open, and 7 rounds for Challenger.

Prizes

14th BCC Open 2014: 1st prize 100,000 Baht, with additional prizes for 2-10 ranks and 5 best Thai players.

Open Challenger 2014: 1st prize 50,000 Baht, with additional prizes for 2-5 ranks.

Certificate trophies for top 7 Junior and Senior Thai Players in both categories.

Please note: Under Thai law, 1% tax must be deducted from the prize money. All prizes are in Thai Baht.

Advisors

Chief Advisor: SA Marko Knezevic (France)

Deputy Chief Advisor: SA Paragat Vijayakumar

Venue: The tournament will be held in the Siam Thai Bangkok, 999 Rama IV Road, Bangkok, Thailand 10110, Thailand.

Tournament website: www.bangkokchessclub.com

Posted by Chess Daily News at 12/02/2013 05:00 PM

Reactions: ☐ funny ☐ interesting ☐ cool ☐ informative

Labels: Bangkok, Thailand

1 comment:

Anonymous said...

How much is it in US dollars?

Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7:00 PM CST

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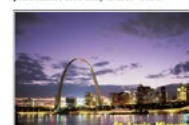
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We welcome players of all levels from juniors to grandmasters - past visitors include famous players such as Grandmaster Nigel Short and World Champion Hou Yifan. The Dusit Thani is offering beautiful rooms at special rates, so join us in Bangkok for Asia's favourite chess tournament.

Thailand Open Chess Championships 2014 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open

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BANGKOK CHESS CLUB has the honor of inviting all Chess Players to participate in the 14th Bangkok Chess Club Open 2014 from 12-19 April 2013 at the 5-star Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel.

The 13th Open hosted more than 300 players from 40 countries, and this year the tournament is expected to be the biggest and strongest open tournament ever held in Thailand.

Tournament Regulations

1. This is an individual tournament, open to all players with FIDE ID (if you do not have FIDE ID number, please contact your country's rating officer).
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7. Five minutes before the games start, the Chief Arbiter shall make the announcement accordingly. If any player is not present within an hour after the game is started, he shall lose by default.
8. Players are not allowed to bring mobile phones or other electronic devices to the tournament hall, any violation shall result in loss of game.
9. Officials and players should be smartly attired at all times while in the playing hall.

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Open / Challenger		From		Round	
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☐ White won
☐ Black won
☐ Game drawn

White: _____ Signature _____
 Black: _____ Signature _____

Bangkok Chess Club Challenger 2014

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Dusit Thani
BANGKOK



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Thailand Open Chess Championships 2014

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- 📄 Nameplates
- 📄 Press Release
- 📄 Tournament Passes

This page

- 📄 Tournament Wallcharts

Final Standings – Open Tournament

Rank	Title	Name	Country
1	GM	Vallejo Pons Francisco	ESP
2	GM	Barbosa Oliver	PHI
3	GM	Gustafsson Jan	GER
4	IM	Liu Qingnan	CHN
5	GM	Socko Bartosz	POL
6	GM	Gomez John Paul	PHI
7	GM	Atalik Suat	TUR
8	GM	Dzhumaev Marat	UZB
9	IM	Wohl Aleksandar H.	AUS
10	IM	Saptarshi Roy	IND
11	IM	Nolte Rolando	PHI
12	GM	Socko Monika	POL
13	GM	Laylo Darwin	PHI
14	GM	Venkatesh M.R.	IND
15		Andador Rolando	PHI
16	FM	Teerapabpaisit Wisuwat	THA
17	IM	Lahiri Atanu	IND
18	IM	Lodhi Mahmood	PAK
19		Liu Yan	CHN
20	FM	Kojima Shinya	JPN
21	IM	Kuderinov Kirill	KAZ
22	GM	Torre Eugenio	PHI
23		Peng Xiongjian	CHN
24		Vaarala Eric	SWE
25	GM	Schebler Gerhard	GER
26	CM	Nanjo Ryosuke	JPN
27		Sardana Rishi	AUS
28		Diaz Conrado	PHI
29		Zhu Ying	CHN
30		Rohan Ahuja	IND
31		Causo Deniel	PHI
32	FM	Saeheng Boonsueb	THA
33	GM	Lazarev Vladimir	FRA
34	IM	Dale Ari	AUS
35	FM	Bersamina Paulo	PHI
36		Hoffman Ron	NED
37	IM	Kreisl Robert	AUT
38		Asuela Ellan	PHI
39		Peng Hongchi	CHN
40		Nouri Hamed	PHI

Rank	Title	Name	Country
41		Zhang Ziji	CHN
42		Gotel Michael	PHI
43		Xu Xiangyu	CHN
44	FM	Sauravh Khherdekar	IND
45		Pranav Vijay	IND
46	WGM	Safranska Anda	FRA
47	WGM	Kulkarni Bhakti	IND
48		Shukin Andrey	RUS
49		Griffiths Paul V	ENG
50	FM	Reilly Tim	AUS
51	FM	Frosch Erich	AUT
52		Steinbrecht Ralf	GER
53	WGM	Gu Xiaobing	CHN
54		Phadke Sohan	IND
55	FM	Pitirojtjirathon Jirapak	THA
56		Dr. Tischendorf Michael	GER
57		Arellano Robert	PHI
58	WIM	Zhou Guijue	CHN
59		Alahakoon Isuru	SRI
60	IM	Mohota Nisha	IND
61	FM	Aschenbrenner Robert	AUT
62		Doostkam P	IRI
63	IM	Sorensen Torben	MLT
64		Bitoon Jimson	PHI
65		Sadhu S Adithya	IND
66		Krumm Johannes	GER
67		Lam Daniel King-Wai	HKG
68		Tuomala Timo	FIN
69	FM	Wegerer Fred	AUT
70		Wang Xinyue	CHN
71		Hornell Colin	SCO
72		Eriksson Jon	FIN
73	CM	Puccini Jack	AUS
74		Portugalera Ric	PHI
75	WFM	Savant Riya	IND
76	WFM	Swati Mohota	IND
77	IM	Borsos Bogdan	UKR
78		Vinay Kurth Koti	IND
79		Kohtz Andreas	GER
80		Kienitz Andre	GER

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Country</i>
81		Thanarotrung Ratchaphon	THA
82	WIM	Thipsay Bagyashree Sathe	IND
83	FM	Thompson Ian D	ENG
84		Eri Purnama	INA
85	WCM	Tejaswini Sagar	IND
86		Wiwatanadate Poompong	THA
87		Jayaram R.	IND
88		Hirt Markus	SUI
89		Low Zhen Yu Cyrus	SIN
90		Wismeijer Jeroen	NED
91		Markovitz Neil	AUS
92		Kulpruethanon Thanadon	THA
93		Holming Patrick	SWE
94		Hansing Saphong	THA
95		Sollid Stein	NOR
96		Balasubramanian Akshaj	IND
97	CM	Norris Damian C	FIJ
98		Tuorila Kai	FIN
99		Sivara Poompat	THA
100		Calacday Henry	PHI
101	FM	Menkinoski Riste	MKD
102		Yutithamnon Surapole	THA
103		Watharow Sean	AUS
104		Darby Peter	ENG
105		Mccready Mark	ENG
106		Dungca Ryan	PHI
107		Kongsee Uaychai	THA
108		Baumgartner Martin	AUT
109		Tobor Detlef	GER
110		Frederiksen Erik	DEN
111		Culasing Michael	PHI
112		Sandhiratne Akkarawut	THA
113		Akharaboollasez Akharin	THA
114		Liu Hongyan	CHN
115		Karasmaki Seppo	FIN
116		Svensson Gert	SWE
117		Yao Licia	AUS
118		Frost Peter	AUS
119	WFM	Milligan Helen	NZL
120		Raja Harshit	IND

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Country</i>
121		Anant Prabhudesai	IND
122		Sanghera Parminder	SCO
123		A. Jaradpong	THA
124		Mitev Krassen	BUL
125	CM	Antoniazzi Francesco	AUS
126		Atthaworadej Woradej	THA
127		Trinkl Andreas	GER
128	WFM	Bolon Karelle	FRA
129		M. Chanavuth	THA
130		Tianopart Ruengyot	THA
131		Chander Mohan Sharma	IND
132		Hutzheimer Alfred	AUT
133		Ding Tze How Dilwen	MAS
134		Noel Nicolas	FRA
135	WCM	Atthaworadej Worasuda	THA
136		Fixmer Eric	LUX
137		Greenwood Martin C	ENG
138		Gates David A	ENG
139		Wuest Andreas	SUI
140		Tan Fischer	SIN
141		Lie Terje	NOR
142		Srivatanakul Pricha	THA
143		Rao Manogna	IND
144		Suresh Seethapathy	IND
145		Rao Manas	IND
146		Bashirinia Omid	IRI
147		Jennewein Norbert	GER
148		Kinoshita Akira	USA
149		Laosaengpha Napat	THA

<i>Title</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
<i>International Grandmaster</i>	<i>GM</i>	<i>WGM</i>
<i>International Master</i>	<i>IM</i>	<i>WIM</i>
<i>FIDE Master</i>	<i>FM</i>	<i>WFM</i>
<i>Candidate Master</i>	<i>CM</i>	<i>WCM</i>

Final Standings – Challengers

Rank	Name	Country	Rank	Name	Country
1	Alidani Leonardo	PHI	31	Kuich Gero	SUI
2	Ting Marvin	PHI	32	Kirk Louis	USA
3	Thanatipanonda Thotsaporn	THA	33	Diller Andreas	GER
4	Samuel Kumar	IND	34	Ruhaan Mahindru	IND
5	Phan Trong Binh	VIE	35	Dhrupad Kashyap	IND
6	Nandan Buragohain	IND	36	Khan Akbar	ENG
7	Kaboodi Behrang	IRI	37	Pheephacharakan Pinatpong	THA
8	Gavilan Jr Arnulfo	PHI	38	Krishi Pallab Chutia	IND
9	Caluza Juni	CAN	39	WCM Phitchayarom Ruja	THA
10	Hanumantha R.	IND	40	Tuorila Christina	FIN
11	Khin Ko	MYA	41	Janset Pakpoom	THA
12	Vospernik Andrej	SLO	42	Rangkaew Pojawan	THA
13	Behere Ravi	IND	43	Barker Tyson	AUS
14	Nouri Alekhine	PHI	44	Laosaengpha Napat	THA
15	Yao Yuan	CHN	45	Chaipornpisuth Chadin	THA
16	Kavisha S Shah	IND	46	Long Siyu	CHN
17	Fugal Jeremy	USA	47	Ahn Juyong	KOR
18	Cuizon Loreshyl	PHI	48	Nguyen Minh Dat	VIE
19	Kamphusan Thaphat	THA	49	Chanchieovichai Kittipong	THA
20	Williams Michael	USA	50	Halvorsen Benjamin	NOR
21	Mathur Tarun	IND	51	Asawayathpol Pattarapong	THA
22	Khanijou Rajbir Singh	THA	52	Norris Christopher	THA
23	Eliseev Egor	RUS	53	Brady Thomas	THA
24	Smet Louis	BEL	54	Tuorila Nina	FIN
25	Olsson Lars F	SWE	55	Sasha Patil	IND
26	Curry Stephen	ENG	56	Sagar Siya	IND
27	Dale Finley	AUS	57	Pham Xuan Duc	VIE
28	Sela Prajak	THA	58	Calacday James	PHI
29	Shanbhag Rohan	IND	59	Simawit Tirasak	THA
30	Gong Patrick	AUS	60	Svendsen Trond Ove	NOR



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