

US S e l f C l o c k



HOWELL STRIKES GOLD

**DAVID HOWELL WAS IN
SUPERB FORM FOR ENGLAND
AT THE CHENNAI OLYMPIAD**



- Please Start White's Clock – Ben Graff on the unsung heroes of chess
- The 1st Kingston Invitational – Stephen Moss and Vladimir Li explain all
- Back to the Bundesliga – William Watson makes a successful comeback

Chess

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Contents

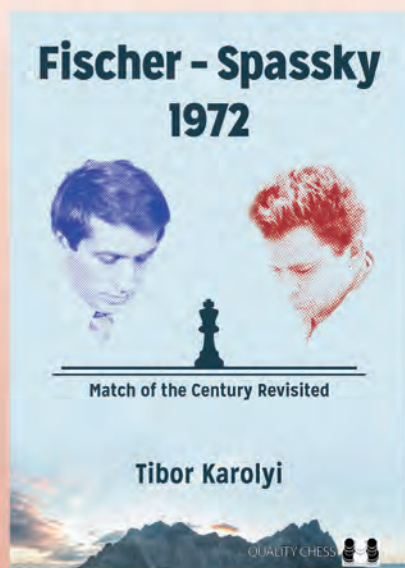
Editorial	4
Malcolm Pein on the latest developments in the game	
Youth Trumps Experience - Just!	8
Uzbekistan pipped Armenia to Gold in a dramatic Olympiad	
Two More Medals	14
Terry Chapman reports on more Seniors success in Lublin	
British Chess Championships: Week One	15
The leading scores from the first week of action at Torquay	
How Good is Your Chess?	16
<i>King's Kalashnikov Sicilian</i> has been published, as Daniel explains	
How to Beat a Grandmaster	19
Paul Littlewood on how he achieved an important win at Hastings	
An Invitational!	20
Stephen Moss and Vladimir Li on Kingston CC's big event	
60 Seconds With... WIM Zsoka Gaal	25
We meet a rising star and Purling Chess Ambassador	
Find the Winning Moves	26
Can you do as well as the players at Bridgend and Edinburgh?	
Please Start White's Clock...	30
Ben Graff discusses arbiting with Alex Holowczak and Adam Raoof	
Are a Board and Pieces Overrated?	33
Steve Firth sees chess differently by going blindfold	
The Hungarian Dragon	36
Brandon Clarke's new weapon comes approved by Junior Tay	
Back to the Bundesliga	40
William Watson's top flight debut for Munich went very well	
Never Mind the Grandmasters...	42
'Polu' lies in Montparnasse Cemetery. Carl went to pay homage	
The Game	44
Darryl Accone and Victor Strugo on Eddie Price's discovered gem	
Overseas News	46
Biel, Dortmund, Corsica and major success for Rajat Makkar	
Home News	50
Stuart Conquest racked up 6/6 at the latest Kensington Rapidplay	
The Chess Tournament That Must Not Be Mentioned	52
Geoff Chandler visited an event which owed much to Dave Clayton	
Solutions	53
This Month's New Releases	54
Sean Marsh reviews a number of Chessable-themed new books	
Forthcoming Events	57
Will you be warming up for the season somewhere this month?	
Saunders on Chess	58
John enjoyed seeing a septuagenarian debuting at the Olympiad	

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Two new books from Quality Chess!

Fischer – Spassky 1972

Match of the Century Revisited



The World Championship match in Reykjavik 1972 was played at the height of the Cold War. The image of a lone American genius defeating the Soviet machine captivated a worldwide audience unlike anything else in chess history. Exactly fifty years later, **Fischer – Spassky 1972** takes a fresh look at both the chess and the human aspects of this monumental match.

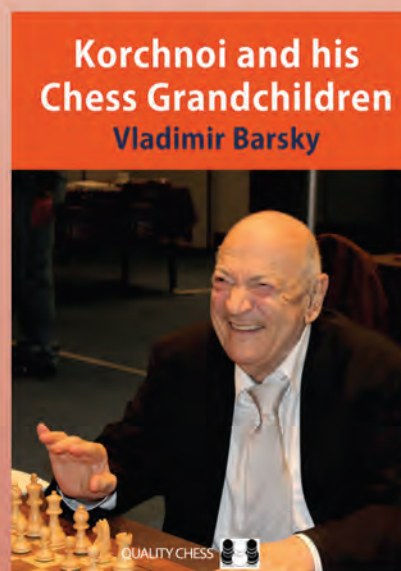
Bobby Fischer is one of the greatest players of all time. His astonishing journey up to the 1972 match was documented in **The Road to Reykjavik**. In this volume, award-winning author **Tibor Karolyi** completes his study of Fischer's career with in-depth analysis of the legendary Reykjavik match and the controversial Fischer – Spassky 1992 rematch.

Out now in paperback and hardcover

Korchnoi and his Chess Grandchildren

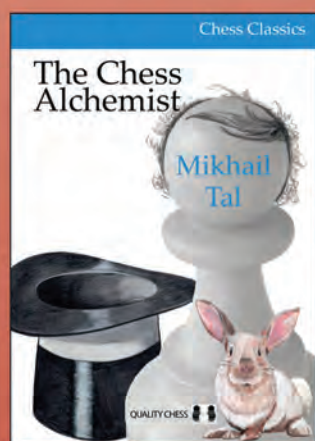
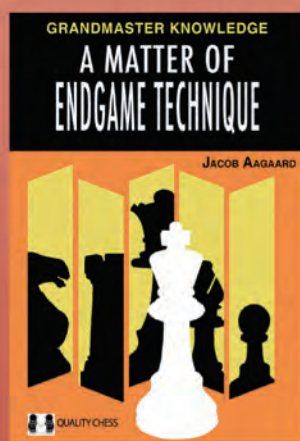
This book features 25 of Viktor Korchnoi's best games from the latter stages of his glorious career. The annotations are mainly in Korchnoi's own words, with insightful additions from other top players and the author. Between the annotated games are numerous articles and interviews – some with Viktor, and others featuring top players talking about the great man.

Viktor Korchnoi is a legendary figure in chess, and is often considered the strongest player never to become World Champion. He was already an elite player in the 1950s and remained a formidable force well into the 21st century, capable of beating top players who were young enough to be his grandchildren.



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The 2022 Senior 65+ European Chess Championship held in Lublin was slightly up on numbers compared to last year's event in Budoni, but down on the last pre-pandemic championship in 2019. The absence of the Russians; the scheduling so soon after the World Senior Team events in Italy, where England won two gold medals; proximity to the Ukrainian border; continuing anxieties about Covid: perhaps all these were factors. Nonetheless the presence of seven IMs and five FMs, with no clear favourite, made for an interesting contest.

After six rounds and various troubles, 3½/6 seemed to put me almost out of contention, but then for some reason my tournament caught fire. IM Renman, Swedish Champion in 1978 (with Schussler) and 1980 was uncatchable out in front (I had lost to him in the second round), but I overhauled Israeli IM Lederman with this win in the penultimate round, my best effort of the tournament.

L.Lederman-T.Chapman
European Senior 65+ Championship,
Lublin 2022



26...Rxe3!? I didn't know if I was better after this, but I was hoping my position would be easier to play.
27 ♖xe3 ♜d6 28 ♜g1 g4!
It was lovely to have this follow-up.
29 ♗e4 ♜b4 30 ♜c3 ♘g5 31 ♗e1 ♜xb2



Indeed, not much fun playing such a position for White.
32 ♜ce3 ♗g3 33 hxg4 ♗xe1 34 ♜xe1 ♜xd4 35 ♗f3 ♘g7 36 ♜xh4 ♗d8 37 ♜e1 ♜c8 38 ♗e2 ♜d4 39 ♜f2 ♜c1+ 0-1
That left me half a point behind early

Two More Medals!

Following hot on the heels of World Senior Teams success, there was more in Lublin. FM Terry Chapman reports

front-runner IM Peter Petran from Slovakia. The endgame we reached initially didn't seem to have enough in it:

T.Chapman-P.Petran
European Senior 65+ Championship,
Lublin 2022



37...♗d7 38 ♖f2 ♖f8 39 ♗e4 ♗f5 40 ♗e1 ♗d8 41 h4 f6 42 hxg5 hxg5 43 f4?
43 g4! ♗c8 44 ♖g3 ♗d7 45 f4 was the way to go. **43...gxf4 44 gxf4 ♗d7 45 ♗g1 ♗e4 46 ♗d1 ♗d6 47 ♖e3 ♗f5 48 ♗g1 ♗d7 49 ♖f3 ♗d8 50 ♗h1 ♖g7? 51 ♗e1? 51...♖f8 52 ♗g1 ♗d7 53 ♗d1 ♗d6 54 ♗d2 ♖g7 55 ♖e3 ♖f8**



56 ♗d3! Giving Black real problems to solve, after the phoney war phase, turned out to be enough in practice. He cracked!

56...♗xd3?
Seeking safety in a rook endgame, but a misjudgement: he should keep the bishops on. The main point was 56...♗xd5? 57 ♗xf5 ♗xf5 58 ♖e4, winning.
57 ♗xd3 f5 58 ♖d2 ♖e7 59 ♗e3+ ♖d7 60 ♗e5 ♗h6?

Playing on instinct to activate the rook, but this position is an exception to that endgame rule, with 60...♗f6 correct. Now it was fairly easy.
61 ♗xf5 ♗d6 62 ♗e5 ♗h2+ 63 ♖d3 ♗h1 64 ♗e6+

64 ♖e4 is also winning, and if 64...♗e1+ 65 ♖f5 ♗b1 66 ♗e3 ♖xd5?? 67 ♗d3#. **64...♗xd5 65 ♗xb6 ♗h3+ 66 ♖c2 ♗h2+ 67 ♖c3 ♗h3+ 68 ♖b2 c4 69 bxc4+ ♖xc4 70 ♗c6+ ♖b4 71 b6 ♗h2+ 72 ♖c1 ♗h1+ 73 ♖d2 ♖xa4**

I had planned 73...♗b1 74 ♖c2 ♗b3 75 b7 ♖xa4 76 ♗c4+ ♖a3 77 ♗c3 and wins.
74 ♗c1 ♗h2+ 75 ♖c3 ♗h7 76 ♖c4 ♖a3 77 ♗b1 ♗b7 78 ♖b5 ♖a2 79 ♗f1 a4 80 ♖c6 ♗b8 81 b7 1-0

Phew! So somehow I now have two consecutive silver medals in this event. Tony Stebbings had a very similar tournament, early disappointments and a very strong finish, good enough for the bronze medal on tie-break. I expect he would have played on in the last round as White against Renman, in the following favourable position (after 26...♜h4-e7), if a win would have been enough to catch him:



Final placings:

1	Nils-Gustaf Renman	7½
2	Terry Chapman	6½
3-6	Tony Stebbings *	6
	* bronze medal on tie-break	
	Peter Petran	
	Ryszard Sokolowski	
	Michal Praszak	

Brian Hewson, Mick Stokes and Roger Scowen and Stephen Berkley were also there for England, while the 50+ Championship was won by Slovakia's Martin Mrva, the only GM in the field. The main interest of the event was the strong showing of WIM Sopiko Tereladze of Georgia, until she lost to Mrva in round 8.

Aleksander Sokolski and his team provided outstanding playing conditions. The hotel was very good and amazing value for money. Lublin proved delightful, much pleasure was had exploring in leisure hours.



Terry Chapman and Vivienne Durham after the closing ceremony. Terry and Vivienne are to be married on 26th August this year. The CHESS team send them all best wishes for the future.

2022 British Chess Championship: Week 1 Round-Up

As we prepared to go to press, the British Championship and Major Open were about to begin round three, with the British Over-65 Championship and various second week events just getting under way. In the opening week in Torquay (August 8-14), Chris Duncan came with a late rattle, finishing with 3/3 to catch Paul Motwani and Phil Crocker in what was a hard-fought 50+ Championship.

The winners from week one:

Over-50 Championship: 1-3 Paul Motwani (Waterloo, Belgium), Chris Duncan (Watford), Philip Crocker (Chester) 5½/7.

Under-16 Championship: 1 Frankie Badacsonyi (Barnet) 6, 2-4 Mohammed Ismail (Newham), Edward Jackson (3Cs), Abigail Weersing (Linton, Girls' Champion) 5½.

Under-14 Championship: 1 Luca Buanne (Richmond) 6, 2 Caleb Caleshu (Plymouth) 5½, 3-5 Kenneth Hobson (Oxford), Stanley Badacsonyi (Barnet), Ruben Evans (Linton) 5; Girls' Champion: Michelle Chan (St Albans) 4½.

Under-12 Championship: 1 Cameron Grose (Barnet) 6, 2-3 Elis Dican (Girls' Champion, Coventry), Sanjit Kumar (Richmond) 5½.

Under-10 Championship: 1 Oleg Verbytski (Charlton) 6, 2-3 Kai Hanache (Hammersmith), Luoke Wang (Colchester) 5½; Girls' Champion: Ruqayyah Rida (Colchester), Rachel Yang (Richmond) 4½.

Under-8 Championship: 1 Supratit Banerjee (Barnet) 6, 2 Bodhana Sivanandan (Girls' Champion, Harrow) 5½, 3-6 Zoe Veselow, Junyi Zhang (both Coulsdon), Ethan Pang (north-west London), George Chen (Hendon) 5.

Week One Open: 1 Gary Lane (Sydney) 6½, 2-3 Matthew Dignam (Berkhamsted), Remy Rushbrooke (Westminster) 4½.

Week One Under-2050: 1 Hugo Fowler (Street) 6, 2-3 Paul Dupre (South Norwood), Ed Stembridge (Hendon) 5.

Week One Under-1900: 1 Jai Kothari (Woking) 6, 2 Steven Watson (Hull) 5, 3-5 John Hickman (Reading), Greg Breed (Hatch End), Ted Paul (Dorchester) 4½.

Week One Under-1750: 1-5 Matthew Ball (St Albans), Dave Burton (Birmingham), Caspian Fowler (Street), Vjekoslav Novak (Croatia), Gursharanjit Gill (West London) 5.

Week One Under-1600: 1-2 Evan McCourt (Dublin), Emma Salazar Eyre (Newcastle) 6, 3 Steve Merchant (Bexhill) 5.

Week One Under-1450: 1 Federico Guarnieri (Italy) 6½, 2 Yashvardan Veeturi (Hammersmith) 5½, 3 Suhayl Abdalla (Newton Abbot) 5.

Open Rapid: 1-5 Danny Gormally (Alnwick), Keith Arkell (Paignton), Stanley Badacsonyi, Frankie Badacsonyi (both Barnet), Soham Kumar (Maidenhead) 5½/7.

Under-1750 Rapid: 1 Joseph Whelan (Coulsdon) 6½, 2 Kushal Jakhria (Charlton) 6, 3 Aditya Mittal (Barnet) 5.

Under-1500 Rapid: 1 Magnus Borissow (Guldford) 6½, 2 Max Michener (Barnet) 6, 3-4 Jiayi Shi (south-east London), Luke Freeman (Crowborough) 5.

Under-11 Rapid: 1 Luoke Wang (Colchester) 6½, 2 Kai Hanache (Hammersmith) 6, 3-5 Supratit Banerjee, George Zhao (both

Barnet), Advait Keerthi Kumar (Watford) 5½.

Week One Blitz: 1 Jonah Willow (Nottingham) 9/9, 2 Anthony Zhang (Crowthorne) 8, 3 Oscar Garcia (Downend) 7.

Weekend Atkins Open: 1-3 Anthony Zhang (Crowthorne), Gary Senior (Hendon), James Golding (Guildford) 4½/5.

Weekend Soanes Under-1750: 1 George Miller (Keynsham) 4½, 2-4 Rob Woolcott (Swale), Reya Li (Oxford), Shree Rao (Crowthorne) 4.

Weekend Yates Under-1500: 1 Rohit Keshari (Reading) 4½, 2-5 Om Nangia (New Jersey), Yueyue Sui (Oxford), Jiayi Shi (south-east London), Jaime Ashworth (Gloucester) 4.



IM Gary Lane - winner of the Week 1 Open



60 Seconds with... WIM Zsoka Gaal



Born: 2nd May 2007, Ajka.

Place of residence: I live in Ajka. It's a wonderful little town in the Hungarian countryside.

Occupation: I'm a high school private student who would like to become a professional chess player and am a proud Purling Ambassador.

Enjoyable: I aim to get my exams done quickly so I have more time to study chess!

And home life: I study chess pretty much all day and when I don't, I do sports and spend time with my family.

But sometimes good to escape to: I love to visit a nearby village, Bakonynána, with its beautiful forest. I like to cycle and hike there.

Sports played or followed: Of course I follow chess tournaments! Besides chess, I like watching handball.

A favourite novel: *The Lord of the Rings*.

Piece of music: I usually listen to retro music like Queen and ABBA. It helps me to relax.

Film or TV series: I am not watching many nowadays, but I like all comedies from Rowan Atkinson. One of my favourite movies that made me laugh is the *Johnny English* trilogy.

What is the best thing about playing chess? I love every part of chess. I like studying at home and improving my game. I also like playing in tournaments. It means a different kind of challenge which I enjoy a lot.

And the worst? It doesn't exist.

Your best move: A pretty finish against Teja Vidic.

Z.Gaal-T.Vidic Budapest 2021



36 ♖f5+! gxf5 37 ♜1h6# 1-0

But less memorable than your best move: When I lost to Nitish Belurkar which cost me a WGM norm.

And a highly memorable opponent: I recently won against top woman player Nino Batsiashvili.

Favourite game of all time: Karpov-Unzicker. The 24 ♗a7 game.

A.Karpov-W.Unzicker Nice Olympiad 1974 *Ruy Lopez*

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♜e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♖c7 12 ♘bd2 ♘c6 13 d5 ♘d8 14 a4 ♜b8 15 axb5 axb5 16 b4 ♘b7 17 ♘f1 ♗d7 18 ♗e3 ♜a8 19 ♖d2 ♜fc8 20 ♗d3 g6 21 ♘g3 ♗f8 22 ♜a2 c4 23 ♗b1 ♖d8



24 ♗a7!! ♘e8 25 ♗c2 ♘c7 26 ♜ea1 ♖e7 27 ♗b1 ♗e8 28 ♘e2 ♘d8 29 ♘h2 ♗g7 30 f4 f6 31 f5 g5 32 ♗c2 ♗f7 33 ♘g3 ♘b7 34 ♗d1 h6 35 ♗h5 ♖e8 36 ♖d1 ♘d8 37 ♜a3 ♗f8 38 ♜1a2 ♗g8 39 ♘g4 ♗f8 40 ♘e3 ♗g8 41 ♗xf7+ ♘xf7



42 ♖h5 ♘d8 43 ♖g6 ♗f8 44 ♘h5 1-0

The best three chess books: *Dvoretsky's Endgame Manual*, *Improve Your Chess Calculation* by R.B. Ramesh, and Michael Adams and Philip Hurtado's *Think like a Super-GM*.

Is the FIDE doing a good job? I hope so!

Or your National Federation: Yes, I think. They will organise the next Olympiad in Budapest in 2024.

Can chess make one happy: Of course! It's a very exciting sport.

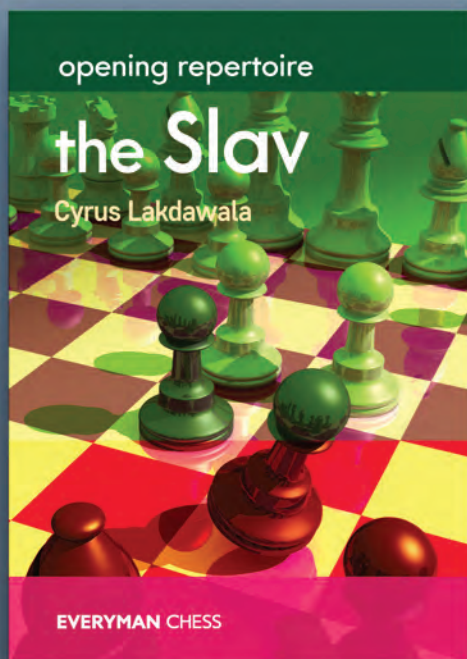
A tip please for the club player: Love playing chess!

Purling are delighted to announce that their first appointed Chess Ambassador, Zsoka Gaal, will be visiting the UK, 13th - 15th September 2022, as part of their 10-year anniversary celebration.

Zsoka's schedule will include an event at Chess & Bridge – a Purling stockist and partner – on the morning of Thursday 15th September, which will include the opportunity for chess enthusiasts to meet and master their skill against Zsoka and gain an insight into her love of chess, via a Q&A session.

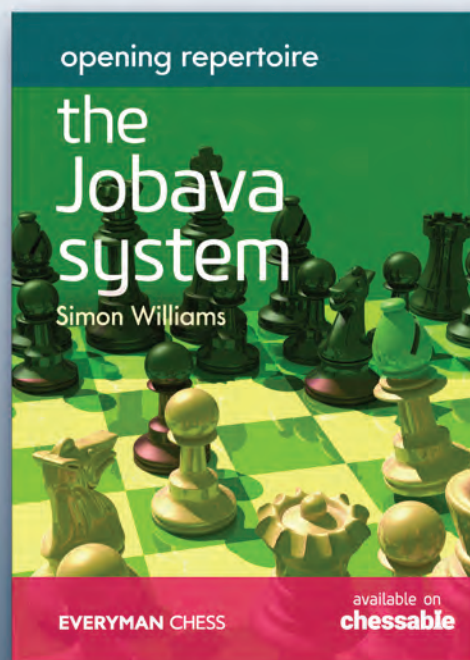
Zsoka will sign any purchase on the day of a Purling Chess set, purchased at either Chess & Bridge or purling.com, including the Purling/Zsoka Gaal bold chess in colours - Peacock & Surf the Web blue.

GREAT NEW TITLES



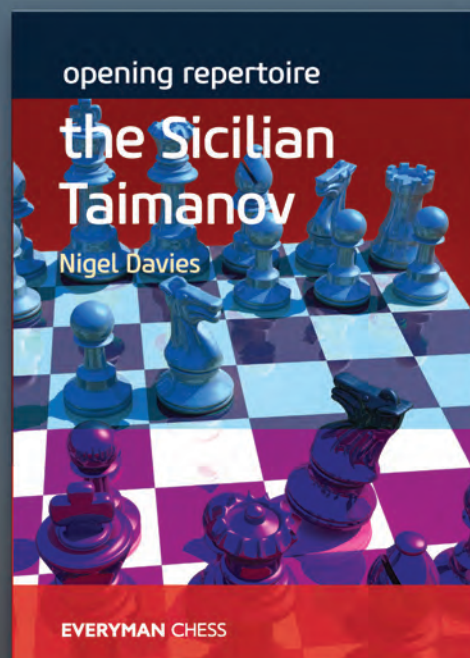
The Slav (1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6) is a great choice against 1 d4 for players who are after a solid position from the opening but one that also contains dynamic possibilities.

Paperback, 448 pages



Based around the opening moves 1 d4 d5 2 Nc3 Nf6 3 Bf4, Simon Williams (the Ginger GM) delves deep into the Jobava and offers up a complete repertoire based on this exciting new system.

Paperback, 256 pages

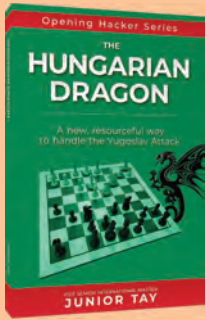


The Sicilian Taimanov (1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nc6) is a very flexible Black system in the Sicilian Defence. Nigel Davies examines all aspects of this highly complex opening and provides the reader with well-researched, fresh, and innovative analysis.

Paperback, 448 pages



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The Hungarian Dragon



Brandon Clarke has been making good use of a new Sicilian line, as Junior Tay explains

Say goodbye to the Yugoslav Attack and hello to the Hungarian Dragon!

I am pleased to inform readers that I have just written a new opening book called *The Hungarian Dragon* (CarstenChess 2022), on an interesting line that circumvents White's typical Yugoslav Attack in the Sicilian Dragon by making White bypass the standard tabiya moves. The line that I analysed goes 1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♙e3 ♘c6 f3 h5!?



At first glance, it looks like just a punt to confuse White, by rendering the standard ♙h6 or g2-g4, h2-h4-h5 charges harder to attain. However, there are some finer points to the 'Hungarian Harry punt'. As for why I named this line the Hungarian Dragon, top Hungarian GM Richard Rapport's use of the variation in the World Blitz 2021 in two games brought it to my attention (yes, I know the joke's on me now that he has moved to represent the Romanian Chess Federation).

I notice that the disorientation brought on by the Hungarian Dragon's strange-looking moves is very evident, especially in online games where White frequently pauses after long castling, not sure of how to respond to Black's queenside attack, given that the normal h4-h5 or g2-g4, ♙e3-h6 ideas are no longer available. The following example is pretty typical in online games.

V.Moura-J.Tay
Internet (blitz) 2022
Sicilian Dragon

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♙e3 ♘c6 6 f3 ♘c6 7 ♙e3 h5 8 ♖d2

In Chapters 13-15, I cover 8 ♙c4! and one might well ask: why not 8...♙d7 9 ♖d2 ♘xd4!? (I advocate 9...♙g7 instead) 10 ♙xd4 ♙h6 with a similar type of Hungarian Dragon? The short answer is 11 ♖f2! ♖a5 12 ♙xf6 exf6 13 0-0 when White has a powerful grip on the d5-square and a weaker on d6 to torture, which Black's bishop-pair does not seem to offer sufficient compensation for.

8...♘xd4 9 ♙xd4 ♙h6



10 ♙e3

On occasion in online blitz, I get 10 0-0-0?? ♙xd2+, thanks to the opponent expecting 9...♙g7 instead and thus pre-moving long castling.

10...♙xe3 11 ♖xe3 ♙e6

This important line is covered in Chapters 3 to 7.

12 ♙b5+

A very common retort as White seemingly gains time by stopping castling. However, Black isn't interested in castling as he hasn't decided whether to use the king rook to enter the fray via the h5-square after ...h5-h4 or to eventually play ...♖fc8.

The bishop on b5 will later become a target too after ...♖a5, with the idea of ...♙xc3 and ...♖xb5.

12...♙f8 13 0-0-0 ♖a5

(See diagram at the top of next column)

This is normally where the opponent starts getting disoriented and spends 20 to 30 seconds trying to work out what to do.



14 a3 ♖c8

And now we may get a long pause as White tries to figure out how to deal with the threat.

15 ♙e2

White fends off the first wave of the attack (tricks on c3 and a3).

15...♙g7

Connecting the rooks.

16 ♖he1

After 16 h3 a good move is 16...h4 is to fix the h3-pawn, as well as to give the rook on h8 the h5-square for a lift to the queenside.

16...♖c5

Preparing to double rooks on the c-file.

17 ♙b1



17...♖c7?!

A chicken move, as I instinctively prevent the b2-b4 fork. I should have continued the piling up with 17...♖hc8!, but I didn't look hard enough to find 18 b4? ♖xa3 19 bxc5

♙a2+! 20 ♖a1 ♙b3+ 21 ♖b1 ♜xc5 22 ♙f1 ♜xc3 23 ♜xc3 ♙a2+.

18 ♖d3 ♜c8 19 ♜c1

If 19 f4 d5 20 exd5 ♙f5, so White huddles down to protect his HQ, but Black still has the battering ram to push through.

19...b5 20 ♙d1?

Understandable, to cover the c2-pawn, but it doesn't stop the onslaught.

20...a5 21 ♗e2 b4 22 ♗d4 ♙d7 23 g4

Finally making a strike on the black king, but it's too little, too late.

23...hxg4 24 f4 e5

Not strictly necessary, but this central hit stops White's future attack cold and fixes the e-pawn.

25 ♖b3 ♜c4 26 fxe5 dxe5 27 ♗d2 ♜c5 28 axb4?

Cracking under time pressure, but Black will crash through first in any case.

28...axb4 29 ♖b3 ♜c4 30 ♗d2 ♜a8!



There's no stopping the infiltration. It's easy to say it's the quality of the material that matters since Black has infiltrated into the enemy ranks.

31 ♗xc4 ♜xc4 32 ♜b3 ♜a6 33 c4 ♜a2+ 34 ♖c2 ♙a4 35 ♜b1 ♜d8 36 ♙e2 ♜d4 37 ♙d3 ♗d7 0-1

Black won on time before completing the rout with ...♗c5.

Chapter 3 of my book demonstrates how the h-pawn punt all the way down to h3 weakens the h1-a8 diagonal considerably (after White plays g2-g3 in response), and how Black gets to put the diagonal to good use.

B.Kovanova-J.Tay
Internet (blitz) 2022
Sicilian Dragon

1 e4 c5 2 ♗f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♗xd4 ♗f6 5 ♗c3 g6 6 f3 ♗c6 7 ♙e3 h5 8 ♜d2 ♗xd4 9 ♙xd4 ♙h6 10 ♙e3

A natural bishop trade.

10...♙xe3 11 ♜xe3 ♙e6

Not just to prevent White playing ♙c4, but also to provoke a check on b5 which can give rise to some tricks as you will later see.

12 ♙e2

White is simply going to castle kingside and defend against the pressure on the c-file.

12...♜a5



13 0-0?

After 13 0-0-0 Black should continue mobilising his pieces with 13...♜c8. Only castle when there's a real need to! The rook belongs here anyway and Black's standard queenside play isn't difficult to attain with ...a6 and ...b5 or by doubling rooks on the c-file after ...0-0 and ...♗f8-g7. After 14 a3 Black is OK after 14...a6 or 14...♗f8, while an interesting line goes 14...0-0 15 ♜d4 ♜c5 16 ♜b4 ♜fc8 17 ♜xb7 ♜xc3 18 bxc3 ♜xc3 19 ♜xa7 ♜g5+ 20 ♙d1 (less accurate is 20 ♖b1 ♜d2 21 ♙d3 ♖g7 22 ♜xe7 and now 22...♙b3! gives Black a powerful attack) 20...♙c4 when White has to defend, though *Stockfish* indicates there are equal chances.

13...♜c8

Black has already attained the better game as it is not easy for White to find active play on either side of the board.

14 ♖h1 h4!

With the idea of ...♗h5-g3 or ...h4-h3. Black's 7...h5 turns out to be useful here.

15 f4?

Weakening. Black now can play for the classic ...♜xc3 and ...♗xe4 Dragon exchange sacrifice.

15...h3! 16 g3 ♜b4! 17 ♙d3?

My idea was to meet 17 ♜ab1 with 17...b6 with the idea of ...♜xc3 and ...♜xe4.

17...♜xb2 18 ♗b5



18...♗g4

Stockfish suggests the spectacular 18...♜xc2!! 19 ♙xc2 ♜xc2 20 ♜f2 ♜xe4+ 21 ♜xe4 ♗xe4 22 ♜e2 f5 with an overwhelming advantage for Black.

19 ♜g1? ♙c4

Once again, *Stockfish* shows an amazing light-square hit with 19...♜xc2! 20 ♙xc2 ♜xc2 21 ♜a1 ♙f5!! and White is helpless.

20 ♜ab1 ♙xd3! 21 ♜xb2

21 cxd3 ♜xa2 is also dead lost for White.

21...♙xe4+ 0-1

What a nice first outing for the 'Hungarian Hogtail Dragon' in tournament play (OK, it was an online blitz event, but I usually struggle to even score 50% in Chess.com's Titled Tuesday events).

The king's rook can get access to active play via the h5-square if necessary. A GM friend whom I discussed the line with won three online games in a row with the Hungarian Dragon. This is his second game with it, utilising the rook lift idea with deadly effect.

American FM-Anonymous GM
Internet (blitz) 2022
Sicilian Dragon

1 e4 c5 2 ♗f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♗xd4 ♗f6 5 ♗c3 g6 6 ♙e3 ♗c6 7 f3 h5 8 ♜d2 ♗xd4 9 ♙xd4 ♙h6 10 ♙e3 ♙xe3 11 ♜xe3 ♙e6 12 ♙b5+ ♖f8 13 e5? dxe5 14 ♜xe5 h4!

Pinning the bishop on b5 with 14...♜a5! is even stronger, but Black's move is not easy to fend off either.

15 ♗e4?

White tries to exploit the pinned knight on f6, but this is exactly the response the GM wanted to provoke.

15...♜h5!

Forcing White to place his knight into a sideways pin as a queen retreat will lose the bishop on b5.

16 ♗g5 ♜a5+



White's pieces are just pinned massively on the fifth rank.

17 c3 a6

White cannot avoid material loss.

18 ♗xe6+ fxe6 19 ♜xe6 ♜xb5 20 0-0-0 ♜e5 21 ♜b3 ♜xb3 22 axb3 ♜e2

And White resigned after 30 more moves.

The h-pawn wedge can also confer an endgame edge for Black. Let me use a recent game from IM Brandon Clarke's tournament victory in the Hamburg IM invitational to illustrate how the h-pawn can be an absolute nuisance in the endgame for White.



A.Bracker-B.Clarke
Hamburg 2022



17...h3!

This example would also be relevant in GM Matthew Sadler's *Game Changer* or *The Silicon Road to Chess Improvement*, since the h-pawn sprints down to lodge itself as a total nuisance to the opponent's king as a mating hook (on g2) or an endgame menace (potential promotion candidate, forcing the white king to keep an eye on it). Sadler's books have analogous examples in the way the h-pawn can be used for such strategic and tactical gains.

18 g3 ♖g4!

By trading off the bishops, the black queen gets access to c5, which guarantees an advantageous ending when White blocks with his own queen.

19 ♖xg7+ ♕xg7 20 ♖d4+ f6 21 ♖a1 ♖c5!



Black sacrifices a pawn to seize the initiative down the d-file. With the wedge formed by the knight and h3-pawn wedge, Black has no fear of material loss.

22 ♖xc5 dxc5 23 ♖xa7 ♖cd8 24 ♖d1 ♖e3

Forcing White to cede the d-file.

25 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 26 ♖d5?

White returns material in order to remove the dangerous knight, hopefully into a drawn rook and pawn ending, but 26 ♖f2 was the only way to resist.

26...♖xd5?

26...♖g4! is just winning for Black as the knight on d5 is easily evicted by ...e6 and once the black rook gets down the second or



Brandon Clarke recently followed up his win at the Hamburg IM event in May, where he made good use along the way of the Hungarian Dragon, by triumphing in Sitges - see Overseas News.

first rank, White is lost.

27 exd5 ♖xd5 28 ♖xb7 ♖f7 29 c3?

29 b4! had to be played.

29...♖d2! 30 b4 ♖g2+



The h-pawn is a massive fish bone stuck in White's throat as it cannot be removed and will be either used as a mate threat or to threaten promotion.

31 ♖h1 ♖xb2 32 ♖g1 ♖g2+ 33 ♖h1 c4!

Once this pawn is kept alive, Black will just remove the c3-pawn to help it along to promotion and victory.

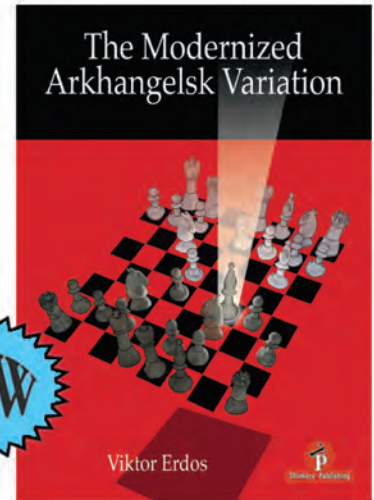
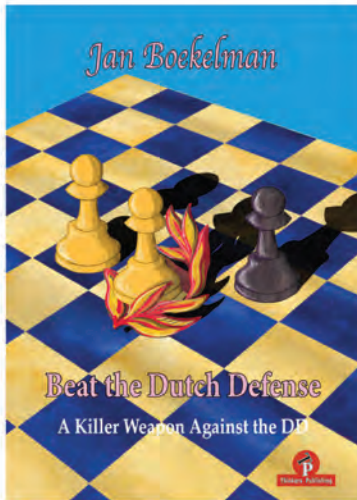
34 b5 ♖c2 35 ♖g1 ♖xc3 36 b6 ♖c1+ 37 ♖f2 ♖h1 38 ♖f3 ♖xh2 There's also the h-pawn to worry about of course.

39 ♖g4 ♖e6 40 ♖c7 ♖d5 41 b7 ♖b2 42 ♖xh3 e6 43 g4 ♖d4 44 ♖g3 c3 45 ♖f3 ♖d3 46 ♖d7+ ♖c2 47 ♖e3 ♖c1 48 ♖h7 ♖b3 49 ♖e2 c2 50 ♖c7 ♖b1 51 ♖d2 ♖b2 0-1

I must thank the prolific and experienced author/publisher FM Carsten Hansen who started off giving me many tips on how to publish on the Amazon platform (without asking for anything in return), and ended up becoming my editor and publisher for this work. I hope you like the book cover too! All I wanted was a Dragon there and the colours are based on the Hungarian flag (green, red and white), which was Carsten's idea.

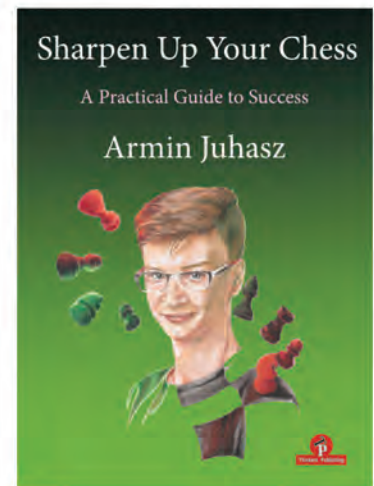
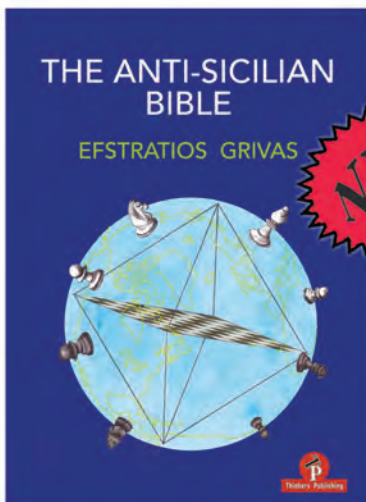
Also, many thanks to your editor, Richard Palliser, who has constantly allowed my opening articles to be published - part of the theory for this work is based on a July 2018 article in *CHESS* ('Harry the h-pawn's Positional Justification') - as well as to Chris Ward and Gawain Jones for their coverage of the Hungarian Dragon on Chesspublishing.com.

Ed. - The Hungarian Dragon is available in a multitude of ebook formats and especially in printed version from Chess & Bridge, retailing at £16.99 or £15.29 for Subscribers.

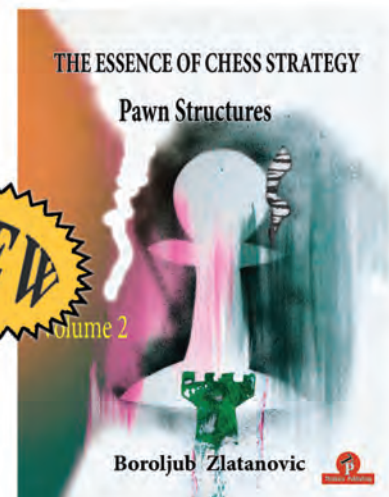
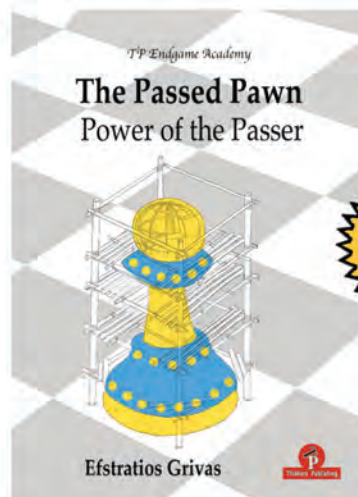
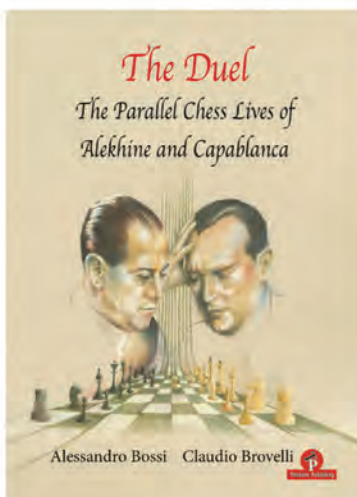


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Back to the Bundesliga

1994 British Champion William Watson celebrated semi-retirement by returning to the super-strong Bundesliga. His top-flight debut for Munich went surprisingly well

This is my first game annotation of the 21st century and I hope readers will indulge me if I start with some background on the event and the players. The occasion was the 10th round of the German national chess league or 'Bundesliga' (forget the footballers), the granddaddy of professional chess leagues which has inspired imitators across Europe. My opponent was Georg Meier, a strong and fairly active German GM (though he seems to have fallen out with the German chess federation and at the Chennai Olympiad represented Uruguay, his mother's country of birth). I was playing my first game in the top division of the Bundesliga for 20 years, after semi-retirement from a 9 to 5 job.

My team is called Munich '36 – it will celebrate its 200th anniversary in 2036 – and features a line-up which includes Gawain Jones, the Iranian number one Parham Maghsoodloo and Ivan Saric of Croatia, who has beaten Carlsen in the past; Jon Speelman is also in the squad, though didn't play in this match. That sounds good until you look at the opposing team, Baden-Baden. This has won the competition in all except one of the last 15 years and in the crunch match in early July it was headed by Caruana, Rapport and Vachier-Lagrave. None of these played against us, but their whole team was still rated comfortably over 2600.

W.Watson-G.Meier

Munich 1836 vs Baden-Baden
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♖c3 dxe4 4 ♗xe4 ♗d7

Meier has been a devotee of the Rubinstein French for many years and with some success, as witness a score of 1½/2 from games against Anand in 2019. White is given complete freedom to choose his method of development – contrast 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♖c3 ♗f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♗xe4 ♗d7 – but Black argues that his position is solid enough to allow this.

5 ♗d3 ♗gf6 6 ♖e2

Though White usually plays 5 ♗f3 ♗gf6 6 ♗xf6+, I have always liked this alternative, ready for 6...♗xe4 7 ♖xe4 ♗f6 8 ♖h4!? or 7 ♗xe4 ♗f6? 8 ♗xb7!.

6...c5 7 ♗g5



6...c5 is the recommended rejoinder, but 7 ♗g5, the product of a quick bit of prep the night before, is unusual. White violates the 'knights before bishops' rule for a second time, aiming to castle queenside as soon as possible.

7...cxd4

Going after the bishop-pair at the cost of a weakened kingside; a safer way to cross White's plans would be 7...♖a5+ 8 ♗d2 ♖b6, when 9 0-0-0 might be a bit extravagant, but 9 ♗f3 cxd4 10 0-0 ♗e7 11 a4 leads to interesting play. After the game Meier preferred the simple 7...♗e7.

8 0-0-0 ♖a5 9 ♗xf6 gxf6

10...♗xf6 11 ♗b5+ ♖e7 12 ♖b1 ♗g7 13 ♗f3 a6 14 ♗c4 ♗d8 15 ♗xd4 does not look very appealing.

10 ♖b1 ♗e7 11 ♗f3 ♗b6

Black is rather struggling to complete his development naturally, a sign that all is not well. A comparison with the line 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♖c3 ♗f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♗xe4 ♗e7 6 ♗xf6 gxf6 highlights the problem here – Black can't adopt a solid defensive crouch with ...c6.

12 ♗xd4 ♗d7 13 ♗b5



Georg Meier often scores well for Baden-Baden, but found his Rubinstein coming unstuck.

I was already itching to get at the black king and dreaming of ♖h5 to come. However, my opponent told me after the game that he was pleased to see this move and I think his pleasure was justified. The computer suggests the cunning 13 ♗b5 as another way of teeing up ♖h5, but then gives a long tactical variation ending in an equal endgame. Meier was concerned about the positionally motivated 13 f4, when White is exerting uncomfortable pressure.

13...♖f8!

The safest square for the king, and preventing ♖h5. While White has some initiative, Black is very much in the game. I considered 14 ♗ed6 in response, trying to insist on ♖h5, but decided it was too artificial to be good. The computer gives the hair-raising line 14...♗a4 15 ♖h5 ♗xd6 16 ♖h6+ ♖e7 17 ♗xd6 ♖b4 18 ♗f5+ exf5 19 ♗he1+ ♗e6 20 ♗xe6+ ♖xe6 21 ♖e3+ ♗d6 22 ♗xf5+, leading of course to equality.

14 ♗bd6 ♗g8

Another good move. If White were to be tempted by 15 ♗xb7, 15...♖e5 followed by ...♗c6 would give Black more than enough initiative for the pawn. Fortunately, for once my instincts chimed with the requirements of the position: having bypassed the calm 13 f4,



No longer working full time for Slaughter and May, William Watson made a very welcome return to the Bundesliga and showed that his famous attacking instincts remain fully intact.

White must continue attacking.

15 ♖e3

Now 15...♗g6 fails to 16 ♘c5, so Black reluctantly parts with his dark-squared bishop.

15...f5 16 ♖h6+ ♗g7 17 ♘f6 ♙xf6

Obviously not 17...♙xd6? 18 ♘xh7+ ♙g8 19 ♘f6+ ♙f8 20 ♖h8+.

18 ♖xf6 ♙c6?!

Black has an elegant method of opposing White's queen in mind, but 18...♘d5 was a simpler and better way to do this. 19 ♖e5 ♖c7 equalises, so White can't do better than a marginal edge after 19 ♖d4 ♖b6 20 ♖xb6 ♘xb6 21 g3 ♙c6 22 ♖he1 ♗d8 24 ♙f1, leaving the rook on g7 a little offside.

19 ♙c4!



Resuming the initiative – from here on my fantasies were firmly focused on f7.

19...♘d7 20 ♖h6 ♘e5 21 ♙b3 ♘g4

Pursuing the plan started with 18...♙c6. I should really have met this with 22 ♖f4, retaining the advantage because Black must then watch the a3-f8 diagonal carefully too.

22 ♖h4?! ♗d8! 23 ♖g3 ♖f6

Black understandably goes for activity – I think Meier was beginning to like his position – but see the previous comment. After 23...♖e7! Black is at least equal as he has covered his soft spots and the rook, knight and bishop coordinate well on the kingside.

24 ♖f4

It was all getting a bit tense as both sides were running short of time, but he had less than me and I had a clear plan. Black should be looking to bale out with something like 24...a5 25 ♖he1 e5 26 ♖xf5, when he escapes to the endgame with some activity for the pawn.

24...♙xg2?!

Meier branded this suicidal after the game and indeed I think it was only after 25 ♖he1 that he realised what I was up to. In fact the computer shows that Black stays on the board with 25...♖g5 26 ♖b4 ♖e7, albeit that White has all the fun after 27 ♖c4!? ♘h6 28 ♘xf7!? ♗g4 29 f4 ♘xf7 30 ♖xe6.

25 ♖he1 ♙c6?



The second time Black has played this move and it's worse than the first. I couldn't believe my luck: not only is White now winning but it's not difficult to play, so I felt that even in my superannuated state I shouldn't mess it up (a feat I achieved with ease a few rounds later).

26 ♘xf7! ♖xf7

The alternative captures are even worse.

27 ♖xe6

I was now expecting 27...♖h4 and mulling over 28 f3 or the crude 28 ♖c4, but rather hoping he would play...

27...♗d8 28 ♗dd6! ♖h4

After 28...♗xd6 29 ♖xd6+ ♖e7 30 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 the computer gives 31 f4 ♙e8 32 ♙e6 as the most efficient method of execution.

29 ♖d4



Centralisation!

29...♗xd6

Black graciously falls on his sword.

30 ♖h8# 1-0



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24) So-Sevian

The game ended **1 ♖e3? ♜b3+ 2 ♕e1 d2+! 3 ♜f2 d1 ♜0-1**, but there was a defence, as John Emms pointed out in his ChessPublishing column: **1 ♜xd3! ♕f5! 2 ♜xg7! ♜h5+** just

seems to be winning, but actually after **3 ♜c1 ♕xd3 4 ♜c7!** (and not **4 ♕c3? ♜c5!**), it's Black who must be careful despite his extra queen. Indeed, **4...♜e7!** is an only move when **5 ♕c3+!** (**5 ♜xe7? ♜c8+ 6 ♕c3+ ♜xc3+! 7 bxc3 ♕g6**

8 ♕d1 ♜a5! sees Black come out on top, as pointed out by Emms) **5...♜xh7 6 ♜xe7+ ♜h6 7 ♜e6+!?** (or **7 ♕g7+ ♜h7 8 ♕c3+**) **7...♕g6! 8 f5 ♜xf5 9 ♜h1+ ♕g5 10 ♜e5** (Emms) sees White finally accepting it's a draw.

This Month's New Releases

Master Your Chess with Judit Polgar

Judit Polgar and Andras Toth,
510 pages, Chessable

RRP £34.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £31.45**

For some time, Chessable resisted the urge to mount an assault on the world of printed chess literature. Chessable courses are popular, their place at the top of the commercial world apparently secure (despite significant recent changes in the company), and they have, of course, permitted a small number of their courses to be made available in printed form, via Everyman Chess, about which, more later. Now, following on from a recent deal with New in Chess, Chessable is able to publish books with their own Chessable branding for the first time.

The first two books under the Chessable imprint push the envelope of quality into new dimensions: sturdy hardback binding, good quality paper, colour diagrams throughout and even key words in the text picked out in colour. Ironically, this all comes at a time when New in Chess appear to have downgraded the paper quality of their own books, although presumably the decision had already been taken before the new Chessable imprint was created. Indeed, I understand that following negative feedback, New in Chess will return to their more traditional paper, so all is well.

In this book, key points are picked out in variety of colours: green for a good move, structure, plan or square; blue denotes options, ideas and possibilities; red is for the piece or square which is threatened or weak.

Judit Polgar needs no introduction, of course, but the strapline reminds us that we are in for "Inspirational Lessons from the All-Time Best Female Chess Player". Polgar freely admits that times have changed since she learned how to play chess:

"Throughout my chess education, I was taught chess through a very unique pedagogical system that meant exposure to the game for extended hours on a day-to-day basis from as early as age 5. Obviously, such dedication is almost impossible in our modern world where one has a job and perhaps a family, and thus limited time for one's most cherished passion: chess. Accordingly, in this book, my co-author Andras Toth and I offer you a concentrated,

yet thoroughly efficient, starter kit that aims to set your chess on the right path: upwards!"

One of the reasons for the substantial number of pages is that "we are going to cover all aspects of the game from the opening to the endgame" with special emphasis on "the main culprits that allow positions to break down early."

The 10 chapters cover everything from Opening Disasters to The Endgame and there are numerous exercises and puzzles along the way. The exercises are placed at the start of the chapters and the reader is to study them before turning the pages to match their own moves and plans against what actually happened in the games.

The 287 illustrative games (or game snippets) are by no means played only by Polgar; world champions from Steinitz to Carlsen are all on parade, alongside a galaxy of other notable chess stars.

Here is a sample, from the chapter on Openings that Thrive on Initiative.

J.Polgar-R.Kasimdzhanov

FIDE World Ch., San Luis 2005



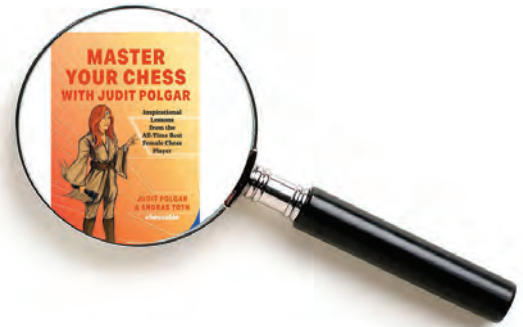
"To retain the initiative, White needs to play very aggressively. Among the many tempting moves, which one is your favourite?"

20 ♕b5!!

"An amazing idea that, in essence, decides the game instantly."

20...axb5 21 ♜e1

"The remaining pieces are wreaking havoc around the black king."



Former FIDE World Champion Kasimdzhanov still made Polgar work hard after **21...b4!!** ("An excellent counterpunch by Black, after which accuracy is still required"), but eventually it was 1-0 (42).

This is a big, impressive and – yes – certainly inspirational book. Chessable have definitely hit the ground running with their first foray into the world of chess literature. It will be interesting to see which other Chessable courses will take the same route, from online course to printed book, and also to see if the remarkably high production values can be maintained.

Sean Marsh



King's Kalashnikov Sicilian

Daniel King, 192 pages, Chessable

RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

The second Chessable book is slimmer than the first, but is equally impressive in its own right. This is because Daniel King uses his accomplished skills of communication to break down one of the more curious Sicilian variations into easily-digested chunks.

After **1 e4 c5 2 ♖f3 ♗c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♗xd4 e5**, it is easy to see why traditionalists and staunch adherents of positional chess would feel unhappy with the defence. Black has gone out of their way to ensure the key d5-square cannot be defended by a pawn. Surely, once a white knight occupies that square, Black will be made to suffer?

Yet there is clearly much more to the story and the current world champion, Magnus Carlsen, would not have relied upon the Kalashnikov Sicilian at the highest level if Black was merely going to have to suffer for the duration of the game.

King instils confidence in the material to come in the first paragraph of the introduction, when he reminisces about his early chess days, under the guidance of his coach, Nigel Povah. "After **4...e5** White has

the choice of six moves with the knight, and five of them give Black an easy game. The odds were already in my favour!"

Indeed, White has to do *something* with his attacked knight and anything other than 5 ♖b5 will give Black a very comfortable position. This book still covers the fifth-move alternatives in good depth, because they are still likely to be seen at club level.

The main material starts with over 40 pages of model games and introduces the recurring and important themes which are picked out in blue text throughout the book. King also traces the evolution of 4...e5 from the time when it heralded a rare Lowenthal Sicilian (5 ♖b5 a6), through the Sveshnikov years (5 ♖b5 d6), and up to the current trend.

King utilises a number of terms to emphasise recurring themes, such as the Bad Bishop Bounce (...♗e7-d8-b6), Liberation Station (...d7/d6-d5), and The Trojan Horse (...♗d4). These are useful, as they help readers to recognise the themes more easily, which will help the memorisation and understanding processes.

Here is an instructive moment from one of the model games, showing the current world champion utilising the Steamroller theme, which sees Black pushing the e- and f-pawns boldly into the attack, against the man who may yet be the king.

I.Nepomniachtchi-M.Carlsen Abidjan (rapid) 2019



Here, Carlsen ignored the attack on his bishop to keep the pawns focused on their quest:
29...e3!! 30 hxg5 ♗e8

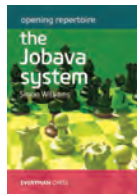
The dangerous pawns turned out to be much more valuable than the jettisoned bishop. Indeed, Carlsen soon had two queens on the board and Nepomniachtchi resigned on move 47.

Interested readers may be curious to know if there are changes from the original Chessable course. According to King, he has "simplified some sections, improved some variations based on feedback (and my revisions), included a few theoretically significant games that have appeared since the course appeared online, and added a few more model games in the first section."

I felt I understood a lot more about the

Kalashnikov Sicilian after reviewing this book, all thanks to Daniel King's polished communicative skills. It is a very good book indeed, but readers beware that it is only a repertoire for Black after 4...e5; there are no anti-Sicilian lines covered here. That aside, I can recommend this book to anyone wanting to really get to grips with this very tricky member of the Sicilian family.

Sean Marsh



Opening Repertoire: The Jobava London System

Simon Williams, 256 pages Everyman Chess
RRP £18.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.09**

The London System has certainly seen a degree of evolution in recent times, after decades of stagnation. Playing 1 d4, 2 ♖f3 and 3 ♗f4 against virtually anything used to be considered dull, boring and lazy. This is partly because the system was difficult to play against, at least in terms of creating winning chances as Black.

However, more and more chess players decided they didn't want to keep up with trying to remember copious amounts of theory in other, more popular openings and it became apparent that there was nothing wrong with playing three sensible developing moves at the start of the game after all. This proved particularly useful in the increasingly popular rapidplay format, in which any quick, easy and sound moves are always useful.

One modern twist came about when it was realised that delaying the knight move and playing 1 d4, 2 ♗f4 gave some London lines a little more bite. Players of a certain age may still refer to this particular line as the Mason Attack, which may derive funny looks from the Internet generation. What, though, is the Jobava London System?

The system starts with 1 d4, 2 ♖c3 and 3 ♗f4. After centuries of people allowing early catastrophes on the f7-square, some players have worked out that c7 is also a happy hunting ground and the Jobava London has claimed many an early victim with the simple idea of ♖c3-b5-c7. Players as Black need to work out whether or not ♖b5 is a real threat and if a tempo needs to be spent preventing the leap with an early ...a6 or ...c6.

The system is named after Grandmaster Baadur Jobava, a high-flying free spirit who has claimed some big scalps with this unusual opening. Nor is it just Jobava wielding the tomahawk; Kasparov and Caruana are also to be found on the wrong end of hair-raising encounters in this book.

As is the case with so many of these relatively new and tricky openings, the onus has fallen on Simon Williams to do the honours in terms of offering grandmasterly coverage and advice. Therefore, it is clear that the reader will find an abundance of sharp lines and an

optimistic air about White's chances.

Williams guides the reader through Black's responses including the classical approach (1...d5, 2...♗f6), the fianchetto options (a very early ...g6), and then wraps up the alternatives in the third and final part of the book (including his own favourite, the Dutch Defence; "Of course 1...f5 is a good move!").

The initial chapters on Common Ideas for White and the Quickstarter guide are valuable, as the majority of readers may well be looking at the Jobava London System for the first time.

Club players will no doubt have a lot of fun and a reasonable number of quick wins along the way. Williams has even claimed some speedy victories over titled players – albeit in blitz games – after **1 d4 d5 2 ♖c3 e6 3 ♗f4 c5 4 e3 ♗c6?** ("practically a losing mistake") **5 ♖b5!**



Black is already in serious trouble.

However, it would be foolish to expect every line to end with an advantage to White. In particular, 1 d4 ♖f6 2 ♖c3 d5 3 ♗f4 e6 4 e3 ♗b4, directly attempting to exploit White's unusual knight move, looks to be a tough nut to crack, and the illustrative games – which show Jobava himself commanding the white forces to victory – are not without improvements for Black, as Williams acknowledges.

Additionally, as usual for books on Queen's Pawn systems, coverage of the early deviations is rather skimpy. For example, 1 d4 c5 2 dxc5 isn't realistically going to deter experienced Benoni practitioners from trying it to steer the opening into their chosen domain.

Theory will evolve once more if the system becomes popular and some of the lines in this book will doubtlessly be overturned. Meanwhile, the plan should be to get in quickly before the best antidotes are worked out in greater detail.

The story of the Jobava London System is just beginning. As Williams says, it is "An opening that is young in its life, but has a great future."

Incidentally, this is a slightly updated version of Williams's original (2020) course, as well as one of the aforementioned Everyman books to take a Chessable course and produce a version of their own. It will be interesting to see if the creation of Chessable's own imprint will have any impact on the Everyman editions.

Sean Marsh



A Matter of Endgame Technique

Jacob Aagaard, 896 pages, hardback
RRP £39.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £35.95**

While we do these group new releases in alphabetical order, in any case Aagaard's latest book fully deserves to be top of the list. The leading trainer and author is quite aware that the most hated cliché in chess is: And the rest is a matter of technique. Here his goal is to stop readers losing any more winning positions, by looking at how others have done just that and delving into the patterns of misplayed highly promising positions. Quality Chess point out that this is actually six books in one (the main chapters are: endgame elements, lack of technique, fortresses, rook vs bishop, exchanges and illustrative games), which certainly explains the Herculean size. Just about every conceivable endgame topic is covered from passed pawns to overpressing, and even reading just some of this vast and important new work will surely improve readers' technique.

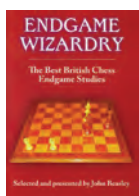


Chess Informant 152 – Equinox

Sahovski Informator, 328 pages, paperback
RRP £34.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £31.45**

The latest 'Informator' once again supplies languageless annotations to all the latest games and theoretical novelties, as well as a great wealth of instructive and enjoyable content, including Douglas Griffin on the most entertaining draw at the USSR Championships. There are also a number of detailed opening surveys and 'Danny's Chess Diary' where we get to see the Gormally take on the 4NCL. If you'd like *Chess Informant 152* in CD format, that is available too for £44.95 (Subscribers – £40.45), or the CD can be purchased on its own for £19.95 or £17.95 for Subscribers.

The Belgrade chess publishing house has also recently released *Tactic Workbook*, subtitled a 'Collection of Instructive Tactics and Studies'. Featuring 500 puzzles to solve from games played last year, which are divided into five levels of difficulty, and there's also a bonus section of 42 prize-winning studies. This hardcover runs to 344 pages and is available for £34.95 or £31.45 for Subscribers.



Endgame Wizardry: The Best British Chess Endgame Studies

John Beasley, 160 pages, paperback
RRP £9.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £8.95**

This self-published work features the best of British chess composition, involving studies dating from the thirteenth century to the present day. Leading endgame study authority and problemist Beasley clearly explains each of the studies, the vast majority of which even the most ardent OTB enthusiast may enjoy trying to solve, while throughout the layout is assisted by a large number of diagrams.



The Mammoth Book of Chess

Graham Burgess, 592 pages, paperback
RRP £14.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £13.49**

This is a fully revised and updated version of a bestseller from Robinson Publishing. Burgess has added sections on endgame studies and chess problems, while especially updating the very helpful pages on playing online and getting the best out of chess software. Pound for page this remains arguably the best book out there and whether you're looking to purchase a chess book for someone keen but new to the game or a club player who has somehow never read *The Mammoth Book of Chess*, this modern-day classic comes highly recommended.



Move by move - (how to) get into a master's mind!

Daniel King, Robert Ris & Simon Williams,
PC-DVD; running time: 9+ hours
RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

This new DVD from Hamburg presents 10 top-level games, featuring some 170 questions, taken from the 'Move by move' column in *ChessBase Magazine*. The format isn't dissimilar to our 'How Good is Your Chess?', with the experienced presenters going through an instructive encounter, pausing regularly to ensure the user remains fully engaged and with plenty to ponder.



Opening Repertoire: The Black Lion

Simon Williams, 336 pages, paperback
RRP £18.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.09**

For now at least it appears that Everyman are still converting some Chessable courses into book format. Following hot on the heels of *The Jobava London System* comes another popular Williams course, this time devoted to 1 e4 d6 2 d4 ♟f6 3 ♟c3 followed by 3...e5 or 3...♟bd7. Throughout the repertoire, the reader usually has a choice between a Risky Lion and a Tame Lion approach, although at times one is undoubtedly more suitable than the other, as Williams points out. He is also especially good at highlighting all the main motifs and potential pitfalls for Black, while unsurprisingly aiming to be aggressive wherever possible. For those looking for something new and an ideas-based defence to 1 e4, the Black Lion may fit the bill and note too that once again both the editing and theoretical content of the original course have been updated by Everyman.

The Motif

Gyula Meszaros, 80 pages, paperback
RRP £9.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £8.99**

Hungarian IM and coach Meszaros's pupils include Tamas Fodor and Akshaya Kalaiyalahan. The highly experienced chess educator defines a motif as "the effect that a chess piece has towards another (own or opposing) piece, or square", while they can be basic or combinational. In this self-published work, Meszaros presents plenty of material for those new to the game and the club player on such topics as undefended pieces or squares, X-ray attacks and blockading.



The Taimanov-Scheveningen Hybrid

Semko Semkov, 264 pages, paperback
RRP £21.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £19.75**

Chess Stars certainly like their Taimanov repertoires, although this new work doesn't seem to overlap with their best-selling *The Most Flexible Sicilian*. Bulgarian IM and regular Chess Stars author Semkov advocates the move order 1 e4 c5 2 ♟f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♟xd4 ♟c6 5 ♟c3 ♟c7 followed by either staying in pure Taimanov waters or switching across to the Scheveningen variation, as is the case after 6 ♟e3 a6 7 ♟e2. An anti-Sicilian repertoire is also supplied should White prefer something other than 3 d4 on his third move, such as 3 c3, 3 b3 or 3 g3.



Tricks, Traps, and Tips in the Chess Opening

Dean Ippolito, 224 pages, paperback
RRP £21.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £19.75**

Leading American coach and IM Ippolito presents some 'Practical Lessons for Ambitious Improvers'. Each chapter is devoted to a specific tactical theme, meaning that the reader will not just learn some new tricks, traps and openings, but also improve their general understanding. They'll also get to see what can be wrong with early queen moves, while being introduced to such fun openings for the novice as the Centre Game and Fried Liver.



Winning Chess Strategies Volume 1: The Art of Sacrifices and Initiative

Romain Edouard, PC-DVD;
running time: 5 hours

RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

The strong French Grandmaster and former Guildford 4NCL regular makes a welcome appearance in the ChessBase studio. Edouard's English is fluent and here he

examines a number of important attacking concepts, selecting several highly instructive positions from various high-level games to help. Topics include the two bishops, the exchange sacrifice, why opposite-coloured bishops favour the attacker and how to build up an attack.

There's also an accompanying DVD, *Winning Chess Strategies Vol. 2: The Initiative: Train Yourself!* (RRP £26.95; Subscribers £24.25), where over four hours of video Edouard poses a number of positions for users to solve before going through the solution to each one in detail.



The Youngest Chess Grandmaster in the World

Abhimanyu Mishra, 208 pages, paperback
RRP £21.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £19.75**

Trivia fans will know that Mishra became the youngest-ever GM at the age of 12

years, 4 months and 25 days, but did you also know that it happened on June 30th last year? Now New in Chess tells Mishra's story, with the reader taken on a journey from the early training methods favoured by his father to how various coaches were chosen and then the title aimed at and secured in Hungary.



Your Second Chess Book

Zenon Franco, 204 pages, paperback
RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

This Zenonchess Ediciones imprint is for basic and intermediate level players, with the author aiming to help those who've mastered basic mates and captures to progress with their chess. He does this via 275 puzzles, the difficulty of which gradually builds up, and which all come with highly-detailed solutions. Along the way the reader will master more advanced tactical themes such as a double-attack, overloading and pinning.



Forthcoming Events

September 1 Hendon Blitz
hendonchessclub.com

September 2-4 South Wales Late Summer Congress, Cardiff
welshchessunion.uk/Summer2022/index.html

Sept 3 or 4 UK Blitz Championship Qualifiers, Belfast, Bolton, Edinburgh, Kenilworth, London
www.englishchess.org.uk/uk-blitz-championships-2022/

September 3 Bangor Rapid Congress
ulsterchess.org/events

September 4 East Kilbride Allegro
congress.popmalc.org.uk/congress/190/home

September 4 Northamptonshire Rapidplay, Rushden
rushdenchessclub.wixsite.com/mysite/about-4

September 4 Warwickshire Rapidplay, Kenilworth
wrc.warwickshirechess.org/

Sept 10 or 11 UK Blitz Championship Qualifiers, Swindon (10/9) & North Shields (11/9)
www.englishchess.org.uk/uk-blitz-championships-2022/

September 10 Golders Green Rapidplay
goldersgreenchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537

September 11 Bothwell Scarecrow Allegro, Motherwell
chessscotland.com/calendar/scarecrow-allegro-2022/

September 13 Muswell Hill Rapidplay
muswellhillchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537

September 16-18 Ilkley Congress
chesscentre.online/festival

September 17 Crowborough Rapid Congress
bookwhen.com/crowboroughchessclub

September 17 Poplar Rapid
spanglefish.com/docklandschessclub/

September 25 Cambridgeshire Rapidplay, Whittlesford
<https://tinyurl.com/3wmvz2cn>

September 27 Muswell Hill Rapidplay
muswellhillchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537

Sept 30 - Oct 2 Northumberland Congress, North Shields
northumberlandchess.wixsite.com/congress

And for the Online Connoisseur:

September 2-11 Sinquefield Cup, Saint Louis
grandcheststour.org; Carlsen, Caruana, Firouzja, Rapport, So, MVL, etc.

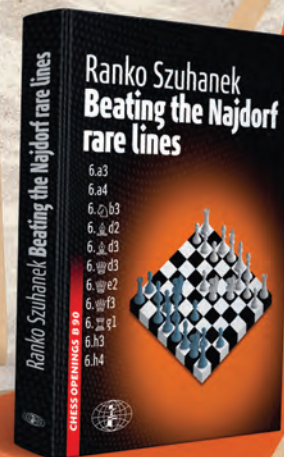
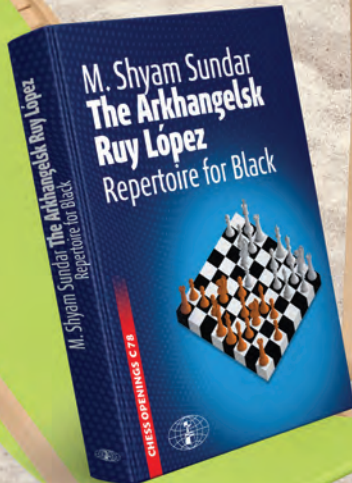
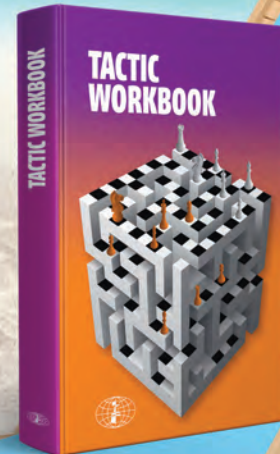
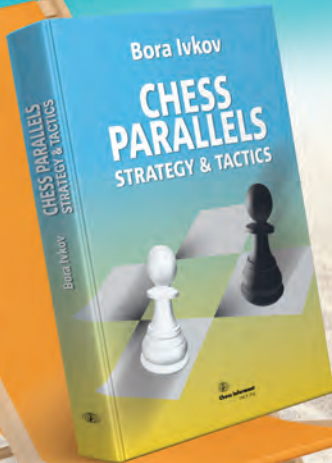
Congress organisers – Don't forget to email editor@chess.co.uk to ensure your event is listed, or if you really want to guarantee a good entry, contact Matt@chess.co.uk to discuss having it advertised.

New instructive books from Chess Informant



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Chess Informant books are available from sahovski.com and London Chess Centre chess.co.uk