

August 2009

Greetings Colorado chess players! This is twelfth of thirteen email newsletters that I will be sending out regarding Colorado Chess. Each letter will be a report of the most recent CO tour events, a list of upcoming CO events, and any new general information about Colorado Chess.

Results of Previous CO Tour Events

The CO Quick Championship was held in Boulder on July 11th 2009. NM Tyler Hughes won the event for a second time with 6.5/7. Mitesh Shridhar was also undefeated in clear 2nd with 5.5/7. FM Renard Anderson and Timothy Martinson followed in 3rd-4th with 5.0/7.

On the first weekend of August, the Pikes Peak Open was held with 36 players. Julian Evans and FM Renard Anderson tied for the lead with 4.5/5. Jeff Baffo and Brian Wall followed in 3rd-4th with 4.0/5.

Although others there are still games left to be played, Jeff Baffo has clinched the 2009 Colorado Correspondence Championship with an undefeated 7.5/8. It's still too early to say who will get 2nd and 3rd place.

Upcoming CO Tour Events

See <http://www.colorado-chess.com/newtourn.shtml> for more details.

2008-2009 Tour Events

August 8th: It's a Hot Time in Town Tonight Tournament (Pueblo): 5-SS G/30. Contact: Liz Wood chessliz@comcast.net.

August 15th: Super Saturday II (Boulder): 6-SS G/29. Contact: Klaus Johnson boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

August 22nd-23rd: Monument Open (Monument): 6-SS G/120. Contact: Jerry Maier pmjer77@aim.com

2009-2010 Tour Events

September 5th-6th: 2009 Colorado Open (Greenwood village): 5-SS (Rd 1: G/90, Rd 2-5 40/90 G/60). Contact: Richard Buchanan (buckpeace@pcisys.net). 72 players last year.

October 3rd: SOCO Open II Tournament (Pueblo): 5-SS G/30. Contact: Liz Wood (chessliz@comcast.net). 14 players last year.

December 5th-6th: Winter Springs Open (Manitou Springs): 4-SS 40/2 G/1. Contact: Richard Buchanan (buckpeace@pcisys.net). 35 players last year.

December 12th: Winter Wonderland Tournament (Pueblo): 5-SS G/30. Contact: Liz Wood (chessliz@comcast.net)

Other Upcoming Events

August 25th: August 2009 G/29 Grand Prix Event (Fort Collins) 3-SS G/29. Contact: Lee Lahti (lee.lahti@comcast.net)

August 29th: USAFA Quads #13 3-RR G/60. Contact: Jerry Maier (pmjer77@aim.com)

There are also weekly rated games in Denver on Tuesday nights, in Boulder and Colorado Springs on Wednesday nights, and at the Air Force Academy on Thursday nights. Contact Joe Haines joehaines@comcast.net for the Denver Tuesday night games, Klaus Johnson boulderchessclub@yahoo.com for the Boulder Wednesday night games, or Jerry Maier pmjer77@aim.com for both CO Springs and Air Force weekly games.

CO Tour Standings through the CO Quick Tournament (July 11th) are available on the website www.colorado-chess.com.

Sad News

It is with sadness that I report that a Colorado chess player has recently passed away. Joel Williams had been an active CO chess player during 2002-04 and recently began playing in tournaments again. Joel finished tied for 1st in CU Rapid XI, and had also recently played in the DCC June Swoon and the World Open (U1800 section). If anybody close to Joel would like to write a tribute to him for the October Informant, please let me or Randy Reynolds, the Informant Editor, know by the end of the month.

Several-time CO champion Mikhail Ponomarev was hit by a car earlier this week and is now in the intensive care unit in serious condition. Please add both him and his son Philipp (philipp.ponomarev@colorado.edu) to your thoughts and prayers. I remember that Mikhail played at a moment's notice last year at the 2008 Boulder Invitational. Even with the short notice, he lost only one game during the 3-day schedule, and tied for 2nd place with 4.0/7 along with Renard Anderson, Pierre DuCharme, and Ted Doykos (Philipp won with 5.5/7).

Nationally Ranked Coloradoans (August 2008)

Michael Mulyar	Overall	81 st	2439
Tyler Hughes	Age 18	2 nd	2377
Tyler Hughes	Under 21	16 th	2377
Mikhail Ponomarev	65 and Over	T-24 th	2200
Richard Herbst	Age 17	23 rd	2052
Josh Divine	Age 18	T-96 th	1782
Daniel Zhou	Age 12	44 th	1774
Jackson Chen	Age 11	35 th	1750

Ben Reilly	Age 14	98 th	1742
Ryan Swerdlin	Age 9	25 th	1587
Alexander Yu	Age 10	62 nd	1496
Alexa Lasley	Girls Under 16	83 rd	1459
Amrita Nag	Girls Under 13	T-54 th	1368

Personal Statements, CSCA Board

Lee Lahti, Gerald Maier, Randy Reynolds, and Buck Buchanan are running for various positions on the CSCA Board next year and have written short personal statements that I will include in this newsletter. This is not an endorsement for these candidates either by CSCA or myself. Anybody who is willing to put in the effort in helping run the CSCA should run for a position on the board at the CO Open on September 6th. There will be five positions open for members 21 years of age or older (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member-At-Large), and Junior Representative will be open for members under 21 years of age. All seven board members get one vote on the board. For more information on how the CSCA board works, read the by-laws on www.colorado-chess.com.

Lee Lahti, running for President

I am the current Vice President of the CSCA. With Klaus as President, the current Board has led an improvement in the state of chess in Colorado. There are now more options for playing chess in Colorado, with more tournaments and higher turnouts than a year ago. There are many things and people that have contributed to this improvement, with the leadership of Klaus a major component. Unfortunately, Klaus is leaving Colorado - heading east for new opportunities. Because of this, someone must step up and be the strong leader need to continue the work started by the current Board. Even with the improvements this year, there is more to do – there are still problems to solve and new ideas to implement. Leading the CSCA in this task is an opportunity I would like to have. Thank you.

Jerry Maier, running for Vice-President

To my fellow chess players:
I am running for the position of Vice-President of the CSCA board. I have served on boards in the past: as Treasurer for the Rochester Community Chess Club, as President of my undergraduate theatre club, President of my high school chess club, and as my high school's Senior Class President. I am accustomed to leadership, having had a successful 12 year career as a professional stage manager of theatre and opera. I am a very active player/tournament director. I work in Denver, live in Colorado Springs yet travel to tournaments between Pueblo and Fort Collins. My job is not likely to interfere with my CSCA Board obligations; however, it does prevent me from running for Treasurer. I am a certified PMP (project manager professional). Thank you for your support.

Randy Reynolds, running for Secretary

Hi, my name is Randy Reynolds, and I'd like to be re-elected as CSCA secretary. This has been my role for the last 5 years (except for a hiatus 2007-08) so I feel very comfortable in the role. During the last year, I offered suggestions to our webmaster to remove some obsolete sections of our CSCA web page and also came up with the idea of having an online CSCA membership list, which has helped TD's for tour events figure out who is a CSCA member and provides a convenient way for CSCA membership to check their status. Over the next year, I'd like to continue keeping the Colorado Tour calculations accurate and membership list up-to-date for you. We need a better process for keeping track and accessing our PGN games on the CSCA website and I'd like to work towards making that a reality. Thanks for your consideration.

Richard Buchanan, running for Treasurer

I would like to have the chance to continue to serve Colorado chess as the CSCA Treasurer. Last year people had the chance to read and evaluate the financial statements I prepared for the Membership Meeting. This will happen again this year and in any future years I hold this position. The records I keep are clear, constantly updated, and easy to understand. I have also been able to get donations that have added greatly to the Tour prizes and the Denker/Polgar fund. The Springs Fundraiser tournament I direct has been running for many years. I also have prolonged experience as the Treasurer of the Colorado Springs Chess Club. As a longtime CSCA officer, I would like to state my appreciation of the fine work done by Klaus Johnson as President; Randy Reynolds as Secretary, Tour Statistician, and Editor; and Tom Nelson as Scholastics Director.

Next month will be my last newsletter, which will be written jointly with the new CSCA president. It's been a pleasure serving Colorado chess.

Klaus Johnson
CSCA President