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## TOURNAMENT RESULTS

## 24th London Open Go Congress (EGP), Sponsored by Hitachi

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January

146 players from 16 countries attended this at the Highbury Roundhouse in North London. Although part of the European Grand Prix circuit not so many strong players from overseas attended this year. After six rounds the GP points were awarded according to the following ranking: 1 Guo Juan, 2 Shutai Zhang, 3 E. Sim (4 dan Singapore), 4 Matthew Cocke (5 dan UK), 5= Matthew Macfadyen (6 dan UK) and T. Mark Hall (4 dan UK), 7 John Rickard (4 dan UK), 8 Francis Roads (4 dan UK), 9 J. Fincke (4 dan D), 10 Caspar Nijhuis (4 dan NL). The top two and two at random from the next six played in the semi-finals: Guo beat Rickard and Zhang beat Macfadyen. In the final Ms Guo Juan, the 7 dan from Netherlands, beat Shutai Zhang, the 7 dan living in London, by half a point. Third in the tournament was Cocke on 6/8. On 5/8 and fourth on tie-break was Rickard and fifth was Macfadyen. Players lower down winning 7/8 were Michael Zhang (1 dan China) and Inez Teles de Menezes (14 kyu Portugal). On 6/8 were B. Maison (3 kyu Belgium) and Anna-Marie van Berkel (10 kyu NL); France Ellul (3 kyu UK) won 5/6. Also all players who won 5/8 who stayed to the closing ceremony received a prize, as did three players in the lottery: Dieter Lanz, Robin Upton and Shast Stettner.

The Lightning was played over two days. The first day saw tables play a five round contest and survivors played another five rounds on four tables two nights later. Then came semi-finals in which Emil Nijhuis (5 dan NL) beat Miguel Teles de Menezes (16 kyu P) on 20 stone handicap, and G. Dickfeld (3 kyu D) beat M. Gonzalez-Carnicier (5 kyu E) on two stones. In the final Nijhuis beat Dickfeld giving 7 stones. The night in between was occupied with the rengo where the teams were selected according to height: the winning team was called Jozu. The continuous 13x13 was won by young Philip Marshall (9 kyu Isle of Man) with 13 out of 18; worthy mentions went to Emil Nijhuis for 7/7 and Ron Bell (9 kyu UK) for 5/7.

## Furze Platt Go Tournament, Sponsored by Hitachi

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January

The Furze Platt Tournament was again held at Hitachi Europe's headquarters in Maidenhead. Local knowledge was important this year as a quiz on Berkshire and Furze Platt Go Club was set; winner was Reading's Tony Atkins. 75 players took part in the tournament, down on the previous year as the Marx group were unable to get there. So few was a shame as Hitachi's generosity means a free buffet lunch and prizes to all with two or more. T. Mark Hall (4 dan) won the event again, but had to point out to the organisers that this was not his third win in a row as the trophy omitted to record Harold Lee's win in 1996. Others who won 3/3 were Stephen Ashing (6 kyu West Surrey), Francis Weaver (7 kyu Brakenhale), Tony Lyall (8 kyu Norwich), Malcolm Hagan (12 kyu Portsmouth), Neil Moffatt (12 kyu Portsmouth), Neil Ings (15 kyu Brakenhale), Eike Ritter (16 kyu D) and Aaron Dickson (30 kyu Brakenhale). Brakenhale's "A Team" of Nicola Hurden (17 kyu), Aaron Dickson (39 kyu) and Shaun Hearn (30 kyu) won 100 percent to win the team prize. Aaron also won the 9x9 with 9/9 and other prizes went to Jiri Keller, Steve Ashing, Peter Fisher and Mike Charles.

## The Youth Championships

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January

The day after Furze Platt has become the date for the Youth Championships. This year the venue moved from Brakenhale to Milton Community Centre Cambridge, a venue that provides good facilities such as swings and lots of grass to run about on. The hosts were new Youth Coordinator Paul Smith and his wife Andrea and Tim Hunt from Cambridge Club. Simon Goss ran the draw as usual and again managed to come up with winners in each category. 34 youngsters from age 5 to 17 and 5 to 35 kyu took part and played six rounds during the day. The battle for the Youth Champion Title was between a 5 and a 6 kyu; the correct result ensued with Tom Blockley (Worcester) gaining the title over Francis Weaver (Brakenhale). Tom also won the under 14 by beating Sam Hughes (15 kyu Brakenhale); Francis won under 16 ahead of runner up Phillip Marshall (9 kyu Isle of Man). The under 18 category was won by Paul Hyman (12 kyu Brakenhale) who beat Anna Griffiths (8 kyu Furze Platt). The main interest this year was in the under 12 and 10 sections. Here the new Cambridge prodigies battled it out for the trophies newly donated by Paul Smith. Tom Eckersley-Waites (13 kyu) won the under 12 ahead of his twin brother Adam (14 kyu), reversing last year's under 10 result. In the under 10 section it was just Williams as William Brooks (14 kyu) took the title easily beating William Bennett (34 kyu). Some folks are placing money on an under 14 dan player within two years, so watch out! Under 8 was won by Paul Blockley (Worcester) ahead of Luise Wolf (London) and Conor Breslin (Cambridge). Brakenhale kept the Castledine Team Trophy unchallenged. Prizes were awarded to those who did well in the main event, the 13x13 continuous and for solving go puzzles, with a limit of one prize each, so over three quarters of those present went home clutching sweets or chocolates. Special mention must go to those on 5/6: Nola Fairbairn (Isle of Man), James Donald (Cambridge) and the two Williams. William Brooks was the best too at 13x13.

## Oxford Go Tournament

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February

From the 90 Players who took part, the winner was Matthew Macfadyen. Players with 3/3 were: Simon Shiu (3 dan Bristol), Bob Bagot (2 dan Manchester), Ian Marsh (1 kyu Bracknell), Martin Harvey (2 kyu Manchester), Mathias Kegelmann (2 kyu Birmingham), Peter Shiu (2 kyu Loughborough), Yvonne Margetts (12 kyu Epsom Downs), David Pearce (20 kyu Oxford), Claas Roever (20 kyu Oxford), Oliver Edwards (26 kyu High Wycombe). Malcolm Hagan (11 kyu Portsmouth) won 2.5/3.

## NEWS

- **Promotions :-)** The Council has approved the following promotions: John Hobson to 2 dan and Nick Mandache to 1 dan.
- **Stacey Trophy** points following Furze Platt are: 1. Francis Roads 26, 2. Matthew Macfadyen 22, 3. Alistair Wall 19.
- **The Korea National Tourism Organisation**, who are supporting this year's British Congress, are hoping to run a go-tourism holiday from 30/8 to 5/9 visiting Seoul and Kyongju. There will be visits to ancient sites/parks, go clubs, matches and the Women's World Amateur. Cost will be about 500 usd + airfares (cheap rates being negotiated). There will be an article in the forthcoming Journal giving more details. Contact Charles Matthews or Tony Atkins.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## Candidates' Tournament

Weekend 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March

The Candidates' Tournament is the first of the three phases of the British Championship. It will take place in the Nippon Club, 6 St. Albans Street in Piccadilly on March 14 and 15. It will be a four round Swiss with 90 minutes each and overtime. At least six players, and probably a number of reserves, will qualify to play in the Challenger's League, this year of 24 players. All BGA dan players not already in the League are invited to play, together with the following: Bill Aldred, Simon Bexfield, Barry Chandler, Jonathan Chin, Paul Clarke, Alison Cross, John Crow, Austin Dilks, Edward Greig, Kirsty Healey, Steve Jones, Geoff Kaniuk, David King (of Brakenhale/Swindon), Chris Kirkham, Nicolae Mandache (now 1 dan), Simon Marlow, Ian Marsh, Hermann Marxer, Art McKendrick, Geoff Molloy, Vic Morrish, J.S. Park, Christian Scarff, Nick Wedd, Colin Williams, Peter Yim.

Please note that (a) all these players will also receive invitations by post (b) only current BGA members may play (c) there is a nationality requirement to take part (British or five years' residence in the UK). For the avoidance of doubt, the following players have already qualified for the Challenger's: Matthews, Cann, Shiu, Thornton, Rickard, Roads, Holton, Ward, Selby, Bagot, Wall from the 1997 Challenger's top 12; Zhang, Diamond, Cocke, Goddard, Shaw, Shepperson by BGA grade, TM Hall as first choice WAGC rep in 1997.

Organiser is Geoff Kaniuk, phone 0181-874-7362 (home, leave message). Queries on rules and qualification to Charles Matthews. Closing date for entries Wednesday 11 March will be enforced. There will be an entry fee of five pounds. Depending on entry there may be a chance to play in a side tournament (1 and 2 kyus preferred, short notice only may be given, register your interest with Geoff in advance).

9<sup>th</sup> Irish Open in Dublin (EGP)20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> March

**Location:** Teachers club, 36 Parnell Sq. Dublin 1 Yuki Shigeno 2 Dan Pro will be in attendance.  
**Events:** **Irish Rapid:** 5 rounds, Friday 20th 7pm. **Grand Prix:** 5 rounds MacMahon, start Saturday 21st 10am finish Sunday 22nd 4pm.  
**Irish Handicap:** 3 rounds. Monday 23rd 10am.  
**Fees:** Open = 15, Rapid = 5, Handicap = 8. A limited amount of private accommodation is available.  
**Contact:** John Gibson +353-1-4908779 (home), +353-1-2643486 (work), +353-88-555420 (mobile). **Email:** mhgibson@homenet.ie

## Bournemouth Go Tournament

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April

**Location:** As last year, West Parley Memorial Hall (B3073), Bournemouth. Registration by 10.30. 3 round McMahon.  
**Fees:** In advance, BGA members £6, non members £7, concessions £3. On the day extra £2. Places to eat and to (free) park are nearby.  
**Contact:** Marcus Bennett, 24 Cowper Road, Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 2UJ. ☎ 01202 512655. **Email:** zima@easynet.co.uk

31<sup>st</sup> British Go Congress at ChesterFriday 17<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April

**Sponsored by:** British Aerospace, Korea National Tourism Organisation.  
**Location:** British Aerospace Building, Broughton, Chester. Registration by 10.15 on Saturday.  
**Events:** The **British Open** will be a 6 round McMahon on Saturday and Sunday. The **British Lightning** will be held on Friday evening at 19.30. The **Women's Championship** will be incorporated in the British Open. The **AGM** will be held on Saturday evening.  
**Contact:** Tony Pitchford, Meadow Brook, Taporley Road, Whitley, Warrington WA4 4DS. ☎ 01925-730583 **Fax:** 01925-730005  
 Helen Harvey, 10 Shirley Drive, Grappenhall, Warrington WA4 2PA. ☎ 01925-602388

## Bar-Low Go Tournament at Cambridge

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**Location:** University Centre, Granta Place, Mill Lane, Cambridge. Registration by 10.  
**Event:** The Bar-Low tournament is designed to appeal to kyu players—in fact dan players are strictly forbidden. The time limit of 35 minutes and no overtime means that you get 5 rounds in the day and since the McMahon bar will be set no higher than 3 kyu (it was 5 kyu last year) it might be your chance to win a tournament outright. There will be prizes for 4/5 wins and better. Also for best junior, and maybe others.  
**Fees:** £6. Concessions £3. Add £1 for non-BGA and £1 for later entry after 16<sup>th</sup> April.  
**Contact:** Tim Hunt, 63 Pantons Street, Cambridge CB3 9ET. ☎ 01223-500769. **Email:** tjh1000@damtp.cam.ac.uk

## European Go Congress 1998 at Mamaia in Romania

25<sup>th</sup> July - 7<sup>th</sup> August

**Location:** Mamaia is a holiday resort on the Black Sea adjacent to Constantza. **Contact:** robert@cnfis.sfos.ro

## US Go Congress 1998 at Santa Fe in New Mexico

1<sup>st</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> August

**Location:** The University in the state capital. High altitude makes the weather pleasant. **Contact:** Grant H Franks ghfranks@clark.net

## Mind Sports Olympiad at London

**Web:** <http://www.mindsports.co.uk/>24<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Cambridge (1 Mar), Candidates @ London (14-15 Mar), Women's Coaching Weekend (28-29 Mar), Bournemouth (4 Apr), British Congress @ Chester (17-19 Apr), Challengers @ London (2-4 May), Bar-Low (3 May), Bracknell (9 May), Pairs (16 May), Leicester (13 Jun), Barmouth (27-28 Jun), Norwich (8 Aug), Mind Sports (24-30 Aug), Milton Keynes (19 Sep), Shrewsbury (4 Oct).

## FUJITSU EUROPEAN GRAND PRIX TOURNAMENTS FOR THE 97/98 SEASON

Dublin IRL (21-22 Mar), Vienna A (27-29 Mar), Paris F (11-13 Apr), Bled SLO (17-19 Apr), Milan I (25-26 Apr), Budapest HUN (9-10 May), Amsterdam NL (21-24 May), Hamburg D (30-31 May), Zagreb CRO (13-14 Jun), Warsaw PL (20-21 Jun), Helsinki SF (27-28 Jun), St Petersburg RUS (4-5 Jul), European Go Congress ROM (25 Jul - 7 Aug).

For European GP events see: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~egcc/egf/gptour.html>

For European Calendar see: <http://www.win.tue.nl/cs/fm/engels/go/tourn.html>

For American Calendar see: <http://www.usgo.org/usa/tournaments.html>

## BRITISH GO ASSOCIATION

There is a vacancy for the BGA Press Officer, who gets to hold (perhaps I should say use) the BGA fax machine. The job is to fax promptly reports of tournaments to local press unless organisers do it. Contact Tony Atkins if you are interested or would like to know more.

## MEMBERSHIP

In the UK only £10 for a year's membership, all UK members receive direct mailing. UK OAP/Student/Child/Unemployed £4.50. UK Family £15. Overseas: Europe £12 World £15 (plus bank charges). To reduce the impact of bank charges multiple membership of up to five years is possible. Stirling cheques or drafts only, VISA / email transfer not yet available. USA members may join by sending 25 dollars to the AGA.

In a calendar year members receive 4 British Go Journals and 6 news letters, can purchase books and equipment and get reduced tournament entry fees. **Contact:** Alison Jones, 29 Forest Way, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0QF ☎ 0181-504-6944. **Email:** bga@acjamj.demon.co.uk

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