

SUNCOAST CHESS CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOL 1 NO 6

JUN, 1998

Ratings are something a chess player cannot do without. They are the means by which we gauge whether or not we are improving. It is relatively easy to maintain a watch on our own ratings, however a useful gauge of your performance can also relate to how your peers are performing.

Now fair warning is offered. Some of you will hate what follows and some will love it. It does give an entirely different perspective.

The table at the bottom of the page provides ratings for Noosa players over the last 4 years. April is the relevant month. The last two columns are the important bit. The second last provides the difference between the first rating and the 1998 rating and the last column provides the difference in percentage terms. Strangely, the three best performers are players who we seldom see these days. Best give them a gee up (or a copy of this) and get them along again.

The Noosa Rapid Championships (30 mins. per clock) have been completed with the following results:-

- 1st **Kevin McColl** with a picket fence 6/6.
- 2nd **Paul Summers** with 5/6
- 3rd **Otto Mehlreter** with 4/6.

Congratulations to **Kevin McColl**, the **1998 Noosa Rapid Champion**. Best performer in this tournament was **Allan Wilkes** whose club rating jumped by 37 points. **Darren Trethewey** scored the most number of upset points improving his rating by 23 points.

A handicap lightning was also held in early June when FM Bob Smith visited for the Noosa tournament. Bob's FIDE rating put him at a significant disadvantage though, giving every Noosa player 15 minutes, while he was off 5. It was sufficient for **Otto Mehlreter** and **Paul Summers** who each obtained a win. Otto emerged as overall winner, with Bob second and Paul Summers third.

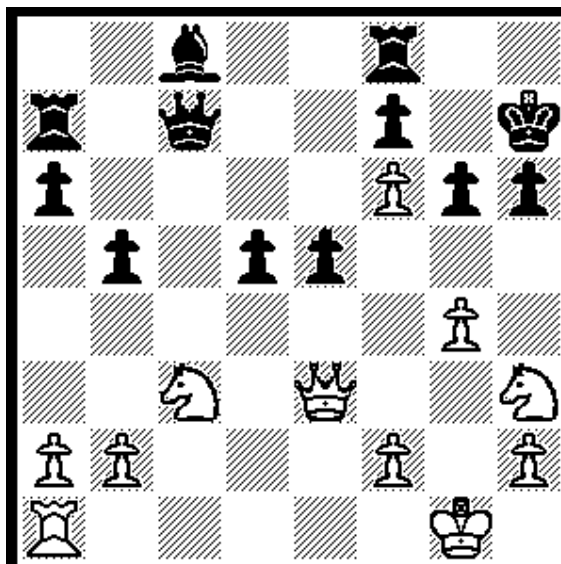
PLAYER	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Change Since First Listing	% Change Since First Listing
Hawkins, Mitchell			816		983	983	16.99%
Hamilton, Don	1195	1314	1300	1314	1397	202	14.46%
Romano, Ross	1152	1205	1309	1312	1315	163	12.40%
Young, Peter				971	1039	68	6.54%
Powell, Bill	1469	1470	1454	1514	1526	57	3.74%
Crabbe, Peter			1435	1446	1486	51	3.43%
Koch, Wolf				1285	1320	35	2.65%
Hochstadt, Robert	1297	1296	1363	1303	1332	35	2.63%
Summers, Paul	1620	1642	1637	1644	1639	19	1.16%
M ^c Coll, Stuart	1163	1198	1149	1160	1173	10	0.85%
Mehlreter, Otto				1661	1635	-26	-1.59%
O'Connor, Gerry		1283	1235	1243	1254	-29	-2.31%
Edgar, Arch	1381	1374	1384	1352	1342	-39	-2.91%
Patissier, Dominique	1311	1318	1292	1308	1230	-81	-6.59%
M ^c Coll, Kevin	1854	1834	1776	1719	1735	-119	-6.86%
Simic, Lazar	1195	1151	1117	1096	1073	-122	-11.37%
Wilkes, Allan	1465	1467	1415	1420	1297	-168	-12.95%
Runciman, Alan	1312	1265	1166	1186	1141	-171	-14.99%

Games Section This month **Derrick Jeffries** has supplied a recent game from the Buderim tournament. The game has notes by **Fide Master Craig Laird**. Apologies to Derrick and Craig if some of these have been incorrectly transcribed, they were a tad difficult to decipher.

White: Derrick Jeffries
Black: Val Valentine
Opening: SICILIAN DEFENCE,
Event: Buderim Autumn Tournament, 1/4/98

Two club presidents do battle, with a classic K'side attack prevailing for White **1 Nf3 c5 2 e4 Nc6 3 Bc4** (This early development of the B is quite common on move 2 in the Sicilian at club level. While there is nothing to condemn the move absolutely, at move 2 it is a very early commitment of the B. Here it is a little better - Ed.) **3...g6 00 Bg7 5 Re1** (A Komives-R Jamieson, Australian Open, 1973 continued 5 c3 e6 6 d4 cxd 7 cxd d5 8 exd exd which was assessed by Jamieson as equal) **5...e6 6 c3 a6 7 d4 b5 8 Be2** Better is Bf1 cxd **9 cxd Nge7 10 Nc3 00 11 Bf4 d5 12 e5** Now the middle game begins. Black has a target in the weak pawn at d4. White has space to attack on the K'side **12...Qb6 13 Qd2 Re8** Consistent is 13...Nf5. The R's belong on the c-file **14 Bh6 Bh8 15 Bg5 Nf5 16 Red1 Rf8 17 Bf6 Ng7** Black's 16th and 17th moves allow White to dictate play. Active play on the Q'side would be better **18 Qh6 Nf5 19 Qd2 Ra7 20 g4!** Thematic, keeping the N from focussing on d4, while gaining more space on the K'side **Nfxd4?! 21 Ng5!?** The piece for the centre pawns must be good, but White prefers to keep attacking. **21 Nxd5 Nxe5 21...h6 22 Nh3 Kh7? 22...Nxe5** with threats to both the B on f6 and the Q via Nf3+ **23 Qe3!** Now White's pieces coordinate wonderfully. Ideas like 24 Ng5+ Kg8 25 Qh3 appear **23...Qc7 24 Rxd4 Nxd4 25 Qxd4 Bxf6 26 exf6 e5 27 Qe3!** (Diagram 1) If 27...d4 28 Ng5+ ±± **Bb7 28 Ng5+ Kh8 29 Qh3 h5 30 gxh Bc8 31 Qh4 Kg8 32 hxg?** 32 Nxd5± with the idea of Ne7+ fxe3 **33 Nxd5 Qf7?** and **Black resigned**. Cracking under the pressure. 33...Qd6 gave much better resistance, but Black's K is in real trouble. After Rd1 White's pieces are too active

Diagram 1 Position in Jeffries-Valentine after 27 Qe3!



Tactics Section Diagram 2 introduces a new theme, we look at the X-Ray Attack which Reinfeld describes as when a piece attacks a hostile piece which is situated on a line with another piece of lesser value. When the attacked piece moves off the line, it exposes the second piece to capture. Not the greatest of descriptions, it must be admitted. Essentially, an X-Ray Attack is when 2 pieces are situated on the same line, one is threatened and when it moves it exposes the other to attack. The answers are upside down below, don't cheat!!

Diagram 2 Black to play

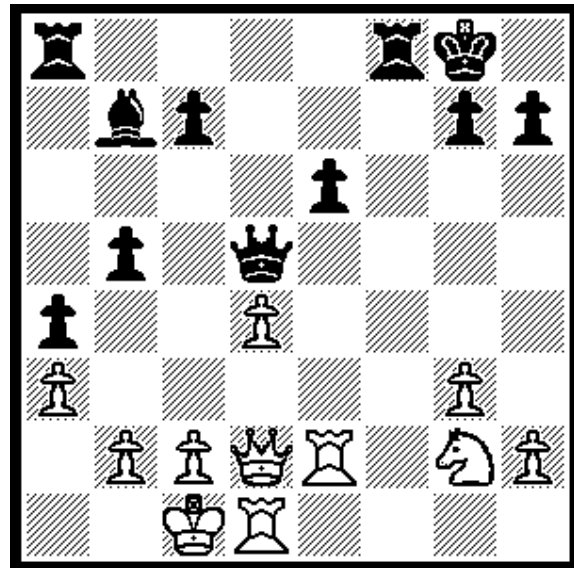


Diagram 2 Answer: 1...Qa7! 2 c3 Bf3 and Black picks up a handy exchange