

March 2009

Greetings Colorado chess players! This is the seventh 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 February's CO Tour Events

There were two CO Tour Events in the month of February. The Loveland Open attracted 36 players during the 1st weekend of February. In the open section, Mitesh Shridhar won with section with a perfect score (4.0/4). Renard Anderson, George Voorhis, Julian Evans, Frank Deming tied for 2nd-5th (2.5/4). In the reserve section, Norbert Martinez won clear first with 3.5/4, Joseph Aragon, Herbert Conley, and Edward Cronin were just a half point behind in 2nd-4th with 3 points each. The following week was the Valentine's day tournament which had thirteen participants in one open section. Igor Melnykov won the tournament by a full point with 4.5/5. Mitchell Anderson and Paul Covington followed in 2nd-3rd with 3.5/5.

Although it was not a tour event, the Scholastic State Championships were the following week. In the K-3 section, Ryan Swerdlin was the only player in the entire four section, 263-player tournament to get a perfect score, 6.0/6. Luke Thurman and Andrew Richardson followed a point behind with 5 points. In the 4-6 section, Jackson Chen won with 5.5/6. Just a half point behind, six players tied for 2nd place (Daniel Zhou, Kurt Kondracki, Peter Cannici, Amrita Nag, Brady Barkmeyer, and Alex Li). The 7-9 section was the only section with two winners as both Rhett Langseth and Evan Taylor both scored 5.5/6. Dave Bitzko, Benjamin Twerskoi, and Gabriel Sanders tied for 3rd-5th with 5.0 points. In the 10-12 section, Richard Herbst won with 5.5/6, winning the right to represent Colorado in the Denker Tournament in August. Alexa Lasley and Gurpreet Nanda both scored 5.0/6 for 2nd-3rd place, with Alexa winning the right to play in the Polgar tournament.

Upcoming CO Tour Events

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

March 7th-8th: Colorado Springs Open (Manitou Springs) 5-SS 40/90 G/60, Rds. 4-5 40/2 G/1. Contact: Richard Buchanan buckpeace@pcisys.net. 39 players last year

March 21st: DCC March Madness 4-SS G/60. Contact: Joe Haines joehaines@comast.net

March 28th-29th: Colorado Class Championship 4-SS 40/120 G/60. Contact: Klaus Johnson boulderchessclub@yahoo.com

April 4th: Spring is Sprung (Pueblo) 5-SS G/30. Contact: Liz Wood chessliz@comcast.net. 14 players last year.

April 10th-12th or April 11th-12th: 2009 Boulder Open: 5-SS 40/120 G/60, (2-day option, Rds 1-2 G/90. Contact: Klaus Johnson boulderchessclub@yahoo.com 46 players last year

April 18th: Springs Fundraiser. Contact: Buck Buchanan buckpeace@pcisys.net

May 2nd: Super Saturday I (Fort Collins): 6-SS G/29. Contact: Lee Lahti (lee.lahti@comcast.net)

May 16th: DCC May Flowers: Contact: Joe Haines joehaines@comcast.net. 15 players last year

June 6th : Pueblo Open III: 5-SS G/30. Contact: Liz Wood chessliz@comcast.net. 17 players last year.

June 13th-14th: Southern Colorado Open: 6-SS G/90. Contact: Dean Brown navajo36us80917@comcast.net 26 players last year.

June 20th: June Swoon (Denver): 4-SS G/60. Contact: Joe Haines (joehaines@comcast.net)

August 1st-2nd: Pikes Peak Open (Colorado Springs): Rds 1-3 40/90 G/60, Rds 4-5 40/120 G/60. Contact: Jerry Maier pmjer77@aim.com. 28 players last year.

Other Upcoming Events

March 28th: USAFA Quads #8 (CO Springs) 3-RR G/60. Contact: Dean Brown navajo36us80917@comcast.net.

March 31st: March 2009 G/29 Grand Prix Event (Denver) 3-SS G/29. Contact: Joe Haines joehaines@comcast.net

April 16th: April 2009 G/29 Grand Prix Event (Greeley) 3-SS G/29. Contact: Lee Lahti lee.lahti@comcast.net

April 18th: DCC April Showers Denker-Polgar Fundraiser 7-SS G/15. Contact: Joseph Haines joehaines@comcast.net

There are also weekly rated games in Denver on Tuesday nights, and in Boulder and Colorado Springs on Wednesday nights. Contact Joe Haines joehaines@comcast.net, Klaus Johnson boulderchessclub@yahoo.com, or Jerry Maier pmjer77@aim.com respectively.

The CO Tour Standings are attached along with this. We've reached the half-way point of the season, but there's a lot of events coming up. There are eleven more events in the next four months alone, so there's plenty of time to catch up with the leaders.

CSCA Board Meeting

At the Colorado Scholastic Championship this past month, the CSCA board had our second meeting. We plan to meet one more time in the summer. Our meeting was brief, and we talked about three main points

- 1) Tournament directors can be the house player of a tournament and still get the CO tour points from directing. The only condition is that director does not play for prizes.
- 2) We're aiming to schedule the Colorado Quick Championship this summer. This event has been a favorite in the past but hasn't been held for a while.

- 3) The Colorado Open format (two sections, no membership open, two-day tournament) was so successful last year, we decided to stick with it this year. A location for the tournament should be found by mid-April.

Klaus Johnson
CSCA President