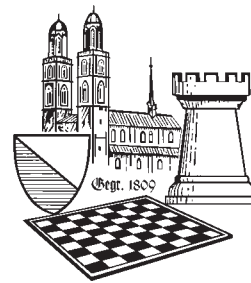


Jubilee Events
9 – 23 August 2009

Programme

Schachgesellschaft Zürich
200 Year Celebration



Jubilee 2009
Schach - Gesellschaft
Zürich

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Programme for
the Schachgesellschaft Zürich's jubilee

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System requirements: Minimum: Pentium 1 GHz, 512 MB RAM, Windows Vista or Windows XP (Service Pack 2), DVD ROM drive, Windows Media Player 9. Recommended: PC Intel Core 2 Duo, 2.4 GHz, 4 GB RAM, Windows Vista 64, GeForce8 graphics card (or compatible) with 256 MB RAM or higher, 100% DirectX compatible sound card, Windows Media Player 11, DVD ROM drive.

Greeting SG Zürich



Dear Chess Lovers

This is something the gentlemen Maurer, Escher, Spöndli, Ziegler, Carl Schulthess and Heinrich Schulthess would not have dared to dream of, when they founded the Schachgesellschaft Zürich in 1809 – that in 2009 this Schachgesellschaft Zürich would celebrate its 200th year of continued existence!

Over and over again Zurich was the centre of the chess world – important tournaments took place there: The Candidates Tournament in 1953 with the soon-to-be World Champion Smyslov and the jubilee tournament 1959 with the future World Champions Tal and Fischer. Or think about the tournament 2001 on occasion of Korchnois 70th birthday, featuring the World Champions Kramnik and Kasparov.

With the exceptions of Steinitz and Capablanca all the classical World Chess Champions played in Zurich. Doesn't it suggest itself to celebrate our jubilee with the Champions of our time? We hoped that some might accept our invitation... but all of them did! From Spassky to Anand we are honoured to welcome Champions that for the last five decades had a lasting impact on the history of chess!

With one of the world's top-class Open, the Champions Simultan and the Champions Rapid, Zurich and the Schachgesellschaft will be once more moved into the focus of the chess world. The world's oldest chess club cordially welcomes you to our jubilee 2009!

Dr. Christian Issler, President of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich

Greeting Credit Suisse



These words of Alfred Binet, the inventor of experimental methods for measuring intelligence and logical thinking, aptly reflect the fascination that the game of chess inspires.

As main sponsor of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich, Credit Suisse is particularly delighted to support its 200-year anniversary. The world's oldest chess club can rightfully look back upon a long-standing tradition with pride. Credit Suisse has been committed to chess for many years. Most recently, as part of the bank's own 150-year anniversary, it organized a «Chess Champions Day» in Zurich featuring chess legends Garry Kasparov, Anatoly Karpov, Viktor Korchnoi, and Judit Polgar.

Dear Chess Enthusiasts

Chess is the most prominent board game in Europe and many other parts of the world. But it's much more than just a game: It combines elements of play, art and science. «If we could look inside the mind of a chess player, we would see a world of feelings, images, emotions, and passion.»

By hosting three major events in the Kongresshaus as well as at Zurich Main Station, the Schachgesellschaft Zürich will be offering chess enthusiasts a chance to take part in its anniversary celebrations and pit their wits against the top players in the game. We wish the participants a great deal of enjoyment and success in competing with the best chess players, and hope all the visitors will have a pleasant time.

Urs Rohner, Member of the Executive Board of Credit Suisse

Greeting City of Zurich



Dear Chess Enthusiasts

Among games, chess is the royal game! No other game enjoys higher appreciation. Fascinated by the 64 squares and 32 pieces, chess players enjoy the greatest respect for their mastery. I'm delighted to note that the world's oldest chess club was founded right here in Zurich 200 years ago and that during the past century, our city has hosted many prestigious international tournaments. Thanks to the Schachgesellschaft Zürich, we have had the opportunity to continually witness chess played at the highest of levels.

This year, marking the 200th anniversary of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich, the world's finest players are meeting in Zurich. As a passionate chess player, albeit with limited experience, I look forward to attending the events at the Zurich Kongresshaus and at Zurich Main Station. I would like to cordially welcome our guests from abroad to Zurich.

*Dr. Elmar Ledergerber,
Mayor of the City of Zurich 2002-2009*

A smart move



History

The Schachgesellschaft Zürich – Milestones of a Swiss Success Story

1809 The Schachgesellschaft is founded by Johann Escher, Sigmund Spöndli, Heinrich Maurer, Leonhard Ziegler, Carl Schulthess and Heinrich Schulthess.

1822 The Club competes against the old Winterthur Chess Club at Baltenswil, marking the first ever Swiss club match. Zurich emerges victorious with a score of 41:35 and five draws.

1825 The Schachgesellschaft organises the first ever Federal Chess Tournament in Baden.

1830 The Saffran Guild House is voted the club house for the first time and – with the exception of few interruptions – remains as such for almost a hundred years.

1842 One of the club's younger members, Johann Escher (junior), founds a second chess club on the «Waag» (Guild). The new club is headed up by a president and a secretary.

1845 The two clubs headed up by Escher senior and Escher junior merge, retaining the name «Schachgesellschaft Zürich».

1867 The club rules appear in print for the first time in a document published by Orell Füssli.

1868 The Schachgesellschaft hosts the First East Switzerland Chess Tournament at the Casino in Winterthur.

1870 Two women apply for membership. They are informed that for the time being there are no plans to change the club rules to allow women entry.

1887 Membership of the club dwindles to just 15 and club life reaches a low. Max Pestalozzi's election as president proves to be one of the biggest strokes of luck in the club's history. Within three months, member numbers climb back up to 35 and soon reach record levels.

Fall sees the start of the Schachgesellschaft's first Winter Tournament.

1889 The Schachgesellschaft organises a two-day chess tournament, similar to the earlier East Switzerland Tournaments. Hosted at the «Pfaunen», this tournament goes down in history as the First Swiss Chess Championship. A spontaneous decision is made to found the Swiss Chess Federation.

1893 The Schachgesellschaft starts up a chess column in the «Neue Zürcher Zeitung».

1895 The 5th Swiss Chess Championship takes place at the «Saffran». SG Zürich member Ulrich Bachmann is crowned the winner. Max Pestalozzi is elected president of the Swiss Chess Federation.

1898 Chess World Champion Emanuel Lasker gives a simultaneous exhibition in Zurich. He wins 21 games in front of an audience of 100, losing only to Eugen Meyer.

1838
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Maurer



Pestalozzi



Thomann



Lasker



Nimzowitsch



Alekhine



Euwe

History

1901 Max Pestalozzi leaves Zurich. The Club bestows a much-deserved honorary membership on their leader. Pestalozzi is succeeded by Reverend Eduard Thomann, who guides the club through a number of difficult years with a great deal of skill and personal warmth over the next 21 years.

Two women grace the members' list for the first time.

1905 Eighteen-year-old Aaron Nimzowitsch comes to Zurich as a student and shakes up the chess scene, both with his strong game and his vocal outbursts.

1909 The Schachgesellschaft celebrates its centenary by organising the 19th Swiss Chess Championship at the Meisen Guild House along with a lavish ceremony at the Üetliberg mountain. A commemorative medal and the jubilee publication by Eugen Meyer pay tribute to this special occasion.

1916 World Champion Lasker gives a simultaneous exhibition, winning 18 out of 25 games.

1921 Grandmasters Alekhine, Réti, Spielmann, and Teichmann give exhibitions at the Schachgesellschaft. After 5 years in Zurich, Teichmann returns to his home country.

1922 The future World Chess Champion Alexander Alekhine plays simultaneously on 25 boards.

1925 The 25th Swiss Chess Championship at the Waldhaus Dolder is the strongest tournament to date and marks the 100th anniversary of the Baden gathering held in 1825. Paul Johner, representing the Schachgesellschaft Zürich, nets a clear victory, winning 10 out of 11 points.

Founded the previous year, the World Chess Federation (FIDE) holds its first assembly of delegates in Zurich alongside the tournament.

1928 Efim Bogoljubow, challenger for the World Championship, takes on the role of Club trainer for a week and plays many individual, simultaneous, and consultation games.

1931 Aaron Nimzowitsch is invited to the club to mark the end of his stay in Switzerland. He delights the chess community with his wit and chess skills.

1934 The club celebrates its 125th anniversary with the tournament to beat all tournaments. The 37th Swiss and International Chess Championship welcomes big names such as Alexander Alekhine, Emanuel Lasker, Max Euwe, Salo Flohr, Aaron Nimzowitsch, Efim Bogoljubow, and Ossip Bernstein making it a key milestone in chess history.

1946 A five-master-tournament in Zurich is won by Bogoljubow, ahead of Grob and Adolf Staehelin.

1952 The 53rd Swiss Chess Championship is hosted by the Chess Club and once again features an international line-up. Erik Lundin from Sweden takes the title, ahead of Martin Christoffel and former World Champion Max Euwe.

1953 The Swiss Chess Federation hosts the World Championship Candidates Tournament and tasks the Schachgesellschaft with a large part of the organisation. The tournament is won by Vassily Smyslov and goes down in chess history as one of the most star-studded and creative tournaments ever. It is documented in several highly reputable tournament books. Alois Nagler in his role as tournament director plays a

History

key part in the success of the event.

The Schachgesellschaft makes its debut at the Swiss Team Championship and wins at the first attempt.

1954 The Clare Benedict Tournament is won by Lothar Schmid, ahead of Erwin Nievergelt from Zurich and former World Champion Max Euwe.

1956 World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik visits Zurich for a clock-simul.

1959 At the 150th anniversary tournament Mikhail Tal (soon-to-be World Champion) prevails, ahead of Svetozar Gligoric, Bobby Fischer and Paul Keres.

Alois Nagler steps down from his post and is named honorary president. He remains a vital contributor to Zurich and Swiss chess for many years.

1961 An international tournament held in Zurich is won by Paul Keres, ahead of future World Champion Tigran Petrosian.

1971 Werner Hug is crowned Junior World Champion in Athens.

1975 The Schachgesellschaft hosts the 75th Swiss Chess Championship. As on previous occasions, the event is held on an international level. The Grandmaster Tournament is won by Guillermo Garcia (Cuba) together with Dieter Keller and Werner Hug. A play-off for the title of Swiss Champion sees Hug win 2:0 with one draw.

1984 The international tournament held at the «Zürichhorn» to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich is won by John

Nunn, ahead of a strong field including ex-World Champion Boris Spassky and twice World Champion runner-up Viktor Korchnoi.

1993 Chess legend Viktor Korchnoi leaves Bienne to join the Schachgesellschaft.

1998 At the Schachgesellschaft's Alois-Nagler-Gedenkturnier Swiss players Werner Hug, Yannick Pelletier, Florian Jenni, Roger Moor, and Richard Forster go head to head with chess legends Viktor Korchnoi, Vassily Smyslov, Bent Larsen, Svetozar Gligoric, and Wolfgang Unzicker.

2001 The Schachgesellschaft hosts a high-calibre rapid chess tournament to mark Viktor Korchnoi's 70th birthday. The line-up includes World Champion Vladimir Kramnik and ex-World Champion Garry Kasparov.

2006 Grandmaster Florian Jenni wins the strongest ever Swiss Championship at Lenzerheide, ahead of Yannick Pelletier and Viktor Korchnoi. The Schachgesellschaft assists at the «CS Champions Day», a startling rapid and simultaneous chess spectacle featuring Judit Polgar, Garry Kasparov, Anatoly Karpov and Viktor Korchnoi.

2008 The Chess Club wins the 22nd title at the Swiss Team Championship.

2009 The Schachgesellschaft celebrates its 200th year of existence.



Nagler



Keres



Smyslov



Petrosian



Korchnoi



Larsen



Tal



Spassky



Fischer



Karpov



Nunn



Kasparov



Polgar

Jubilee Book

More Than Just History – «Die Schachgesellschaft Zürich. 1809 bis 2009»

Richard Forster narrates the exciting history of two centuries of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich in his new book to be published in May.

The author not only delves deeply into the unique history of the club, but also highlights the development of other clubs and Swiss chess in general. In addition, the 576 page volume features a comprehensive biographical dictionary of former and present members – a rich, valuable source of information embracing over 600 club notables, a full account of the most important tournaments in Zurich as well as a complete chronicle of club matches and tournaments and several lists of honour. A detailed index allows you to explore every aspect of these 200 years of chess history in Zurich and Switzerland. Hundreds of illustrations, pictures, chess diagrams, and numerous games complete the beautiful jubilee book.

About the Author

Richard Forster, born 1975, is an experienced chess player, holding the title of International Master since 1997. His chess biography «Amos Burn», published 2004, has received enthusiastic critical acclaim from both chess historians and interested laymen. Nigel Short called it his «favourite tome of the year» (Sunday Telegraph 12.12.2004), and to Harry Schaak it was not only the «ultimate Burn biography», but also an «indispensable reference book of chess history.» (KARL 4/2004, p. 60). For several years Richard Forster meticulously investigated the history of the world's oldest chess club. «Die Schachgesellschaft Zürich. 1809 bis 2009» will be the worthy successor to «Amos Burn».



To order your copy of Richard Forster's «Schachgesellschaft Zürich. 1809 bis 2009» please contact the Schachgesellschaft Zürich via email (info@sgzurich2009.ch), or by mail through Christian Issler, Dufourstrasse 66, 8702 Zollikon, Switzerland.

Programme

Jubilee Events at a Glance

9 – 15 August 2009		Jubilee-Open (Kongresshaus Zurich)	
Sunday	9 August 2009	10 am–0.30pm 2pm	Attendance Check Round 1
Monday	10 August 2009	9.30am 4pm	Round 2 Round 3
Tuesday	11 August 2009	2pm	Round 4
Wednesday	12 August 2009	9.30am 4pm	Round 5 Round 6
Thursday	13 August 2009	2pm 8pm	Round 7 Blitz Tournament
Friday	14 August 2009	2pm	Round 8
Saturday	15 August 2009	9.30am 4pm	Round 9 Distribution of Prizes
22 August 2009		Champions Simultan (Zurich Main Station)	
	2pm		Address of Welcome
	2.15pm		Start of Champions Simultan
	6.30pm		Estimated End of Champions Simultan
23 August 2009		Champions Rapid (Zurich Main Station)	
	11 am		Address of Welcome Round 1
	Noon		Round 2
	1pm		Round 3
	2pm		Round 4
	3pm		Round 5
	4pm		Round 6
	5pm		Round 7
	6pm		Notification of Results, Prize Ceremony

Jubilee-Open

From Rookie to Master

The jubilee events will start with one of the best open chess tournaments of 2009. From the 9th to the 15th of August 2009, players will compete in two tournaments with 9 rounds each for a total prize money of CHF 100,000! The Alois Nagler Memorial (Master Tournament over 2000 Elo) with its exceptionally high prize money will attract players including world-class chess masters.

Players of the Accentus (Swiss Chess) Open (General Tournament under 2050 CH-Elo) will be competing for many attrac-

tive prizes as well. Moreover, in both tournaments players – from rookie to master – can win various special prizes, ordered by age and Elo. The Kongresshaus, not far from Lake Zurich, serves as an attractive location with great playing conditions. Broadcasting games live via Internet will enable every chess lover to watch this spectacle in real time.

Invitation	
Categories	Alois Nagler Memorial (Master Tournament >2000 Elo) Accentus (Swiss Chess) Open (General Tournament <2050 CH-Elo)
Modus	9 Rounds Swiss
Date	9 – 15 August 2009
Place	Kongresshaus Zurich, Garden Room
Schedule	see p.13
Game Time	90 min. for 40 moves plus 30 min. for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 sec. per move, starting from move one
Evaluation	CH-, DWZ- and FIDE-evaluation (Master), CH-evaluation (General)
Entry Fee	Master: CHF 160 Under-20 CHF 80 GM/IM/WGM/WIM free General: CHF 140 Under-20 CHF 70
Accommodation	Please make your reservation as soon as possible, since the Street Parade takes place in Zurich on 8 August 2009!

Principally, the tournament rules and regulations are bindingly stated in the german part of the jubilee-website www.sgzurich2009.ch.

Jubilee-Open

Prizes	
Master	CHF 20'000, 10'000, 6'000, 5'000, 4'000, 3'000 etc.
General	CHF 4'000, 2'500, 1'500, 1'200, 1'000, 900 etc.
Special Prizes	MT best <2400 Elo and <2200 CHF 2'000, 1'200 etc. each GT best <1800 Elo and <1600 CHF 1'000, 600 etc. each Further prizes for best seniors, women, Under-20 and Under-16. For details and Elo-regulations for special prizes see the tournament website. Prize Money Total CHF 100'000
Registration	By filling out the registration form below or registering online www.sgzurich2009.ch . On the website you will find regularly updated starting lists. If you register by 15 July 2009, you will get a confirmation of registration and payment instructions. You also can pay the entry fee at sign in on 9 August 2009.
	Send registration form to Jubiläumsturnier SG Zürich Georg Kradolfer Postfach 1015, 8038 Zurich, Switzerland <i>Registration deadline: 4 August 2009</i>

Registration Jubilee-Open

Category Master General

Name _____

First Name _____

Street _____

ZIP/City _____

SSB-Code _____

SSB-Elo _____

Year of Birth _____

FIDE-Code _____

FIDE-Elo _____

FIDE-Title _____

Additional Elo _____

Country _____

Email _____

Champions Simultan

The Eternal Duel: Champions vs. Amateurs

On Saturday, 22 August 2009, eight world-class chess players will face off against 200 amateurs in simultaneous games – one for every year of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich! In the history of chess, every one of those eight players has been immortalized as World Chess Champion.



Anand



Karpov



Kasparov



Korchnoi



Kramnik



Ponomarev



Spassky



Topalov

These eight players have substantially contributed to the world of chess over the past 50 years. They have created terrific strategic concepts and deeply calculated combinations – no chess textbook is published without including the spontaneous creativity of these geniuses. Every one of these players simultaneously will take on 25 amateurs, who are eager to try to outsmart a world chess champion. This sets the stage for interesting and exciting matches! The main hall in Zurich Main Station provides a dignified setting for this event and is sure to attract numerous chess lovers. But even if you are unable to make it, there is still a chance to catch these simultaneous chess champions: The eternal duel of champion versus amateur can be watched all over the world. It will be broadcast live on the Internet.

Participating in the Champions Simultan

Everyone can qualify for half of the 200 championship seats. It is quite simple: Fill in the questionnaire! Afterward, there will be a lottery for those seats chosen from correctly answered questionnaires. The winners will be notified soon after the entry deadline.

How to Apply?

Via online form www.sgzurich2009.ch or send your entry (e.g. 1c, 2a, 3b, etc.) including personal data (name, address, ideally email address, Elo) by mail to: Champions Simultan, Georg Kradofer, Postfach 1015, 8038 Zurich, Switzerland. Entry deadline: 30 June 2009.

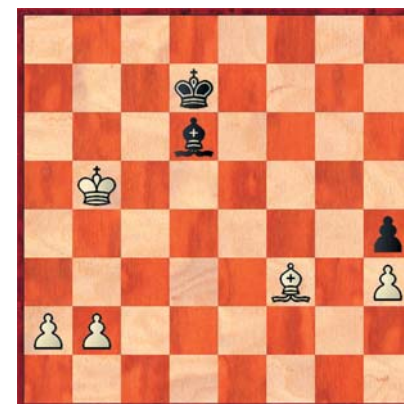
Champions Simultan

Questionnaire for Participation in the Champions Simultan

- 1) How many founding members of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich are known?
a) 7 b) 3 c) 5 d) 6
- 2) Which move characterises the «Zurich Variation?»
a) 4...b6 b) 4...Sc6 c) 4...Lc5 d) 4...Lg4
- 3) Which member of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich won the Swiss Championship 12 times?
a) Josef Kupper b) Dieter Keller
c) Hans Johner d) Paul Johner
- 4) When did a woman become a member of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich for the first time?
a) 1901 b) 1870 c) 1917 d) 1971
- 5) Which city was the Schachgesellschaft Zürich's main rival in the 19th century?
a) Winterthur b) Basel
c) Bern d) Lucerne
- 6) How many times did the Schachgesellschaft Zürich win the Swiss Team Championship (SMM)?
a) 13 b) 9 c) 22 d) 17
- 7) Which of these World Champions never played a simultaneous match in Zurich?
a) Anatoly Karpov b) Viswanathan Anand
c) Garry Kasparov d) Vladimir Kramnik
- 8) Since 1889, how many of the Swiss Chess Championships have been organised by the Schachgesellschaft Zürich?
a) 7 b) 5 c) 6 d) 8
- 9) Which member of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich wrote daily reports for the tournament book of the 37th Swiss and International Chess Championship?
a) Fritz Gygli b) Alexander Alekhine
c) Hans Johner d) Fritz Widmann

- 10) Which 54th move could have been used by Edgar Walther (White) of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich to present Bobby Fischer with unresolvable problems?
(position after Fischer's 53rd move: wKb5,Bf3,Pa2,b2,h3/bKd7,Bd6, Ph4)

a) 54. a4 b) 54. a3
c) 54. Kb6 d) 54. b4



The information needed to fill in the questionnaire is publicly available. The answers are also provided in Richard Forster's commemorative book, «Die Schachgesellschaft Zürich. 1809 bis 2009» (see p. 12).

Champions Rapid

Minute-by-Minute Drama

On Sunday, 23 August 2009, the champions will play against each other. Judit Polgar, the best female chess player ever, and Werner Hug, member of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich and World Junior Chess Champion in 1971, will replace Kasparov and Spassky, who have retired from competitive chess.

Seven rounds played under the attractive rapid chess rules will make for sophisticated games and thrilling moments. Chess lovers will have the opportunity to look over the champion's shoulders, as good fortune changes sides minute by minute! This event will take place at Zurich Main Station. And even if you are not there, you will not have to forgo this extraordinary chess tournament: The Champions Rapid event will be broadcast live on the Internet - anyone in the world can closely watch the Champion's faces reflect the drama on the chess board.



Anand



Hug



Karpov



Korchnoi



Kramnik



Polgar



Ponomarev



Aronian

Champions Rapid

Fascinating Rapid Chess

Rapid chess has been gaining in popularity since the late 1980s. Rapid chess combines the advantages of standard «long» chess and blitz chess: The quality of play is still high, and rapid chess games are often clearly more dynamic than long games due to the shorter time frame (under one hour per game and player). Events of the Schachgesellschaft Zürich often feature rapid chess: In commemoration of Viktor Korchnoi's 70th birthday in 2001, World Champions Kasparov, Kramnik, and Spassky clashed in a rapid chess tournament. Five years later at the «CS Champions Day» rivals Karpov, Kasparov, and Korchnoi were joined by Judit Polgar in an exciting rapid chess tournament.

Viswanathan Anand – Best Rapid Chess Player Ever

The Schachgesellschaft Zürich is honoured by the participation of Viswanathan Anand, who is not only the reigning World Chess Champion, but also the master of all classes and formats: World Champion (FIDE) 2000-2002 (knockout-system); classical World Champion in a round robin tournament, 2007; title defender in a match against Kramnik in 2008. But that's not all: In 2000 he also won the unofficial blitz world championship, the Plus GSM World Blitz Chess Cup. And Anand is undoubtedly the most successful rapid chess player ever. He won the official FIDE World Rapid Chess Championship in 2003, and from 1997 to 2008 he prevailed 11 times at the Chess Classic (Frankfurt, later Mainz), which is considered the unofficial rapid chess world championship. Just one game to give

you a taste of the «Tiger from Madras» – at the same time a typical example of the minute-by-minute drama to which rapid chess owes so much of its appeal:

Anand,V - Ivanchuk,V

Amber 2007 Rapid Monte Carlo, 19.03.2007
 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.h3 Bb7 9.d3 Re8 10.c3 d6 11.Nbd2 Na5 12.Bc2 c5 13.Nf1 Rc8 14.Ng3 g6 15.Bg5 Nd7 16.Bd2 Nb6 17.Nh2 Rc7 18.f4 Bh4 19.Qg4 c4 20.Nf3 cxd3 21.Nxh4 dxc2 22.f5 Nac4 23.Bh6 Bc8 24.Nh5 Nxb2 25.Bg5 gxh5 26.Qg3 Rxc3 27.Nf3 Kf8 28.Bxd8 Rxd8 29.Qg5 Ke8 30.Qg8+ Kd7 31.Qxf7+ Kc6 32.Qe7 Rd7 33.Qe8 Kb7 34.f6 Rcc7 35.Ng5 Nd3 36.Rec1 Nxc1 37.Rxc1 d5 38.f7 dxe4 39.f8Q Rd1+ 40.Qf1 Rxf1+ 41.Kxf1 Nc4 42.Ke2 Rg7 43.Rxc2 h6 44.Rxc4 bxc4 45.Nxe4 Rxc2+ 46.Ke3 1-0



Position after 24...Nxb2

Champions

The World's Best Chess Players in Zurich



Anand, Viswanathan

Born 1969 in Chennai/India; Grandmaster 1988; peak Elo rating: 2803; World Champion since 2007, World Champion (FIDE) 2000-2002, FIDE World Rapid Chess Champion 2003; notable tournament victories: Reggio Emilia 1992, Moscow 1992, Dortmund 1996, 2000, 2004, Dos Hermanas 1997, Wijk aan Zee 1998, 2003, 2004, 2006, Linares 1998, Morelia/Linares 2007, 2008. The «Tiger from Madras» is one of the four players in chess history to cross the 2800 Elo barrier.



Hug, Werner

Born 1952 in Feldmeilen/Switzerland; International Master 1971; peak Elo rating: 2475; World Junior Chess Champion 1971; Winner Swiss Championship in 1975 (first international Swiss Championship). Played on the Swiss team in the Chess Olympiads 12 times (1972-2008). Broke the world record in simultaneous chess 1979 in Emmen near Lucerne (560 boards).



Karpov, Anatoly

Born 1951 in Zlatoust/Russia; Grandmaster 1970; peak Elo rating: 2780; World Champion 1975-1985, World Champion (FIDE) 1993-1999; Chess Olympiad, Gold Medal: 1972, 1974, 1980, 1982, 1986, 1988, 1994; notable tournament victories: Moscow 1971, 1981, Tilburg 1977, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1988, Bugojno 1978, 1980, 1986, London 1982, 1984, Amsterdam 1985, Brussels 1988, Skelleftea 1989, Reykjavik 1991, Dortmund 1993, Linares 1994, Dos Hermanas 1995, Vienna 1996. His 100-plus victories in high-class chess tournaments are unmatched to this day.



Kasparov, Garry

Born 1963 in Baku/Azerbaijan; Grandmaster 1980; peak Elo rating: 2851; World Champion 1985-2000; Chess Olympiad, Gold Medal: 1980, 1982, 1986, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2002; notable tournament victories: Bugojno 1982, Brussels 1986, 1987, Belfort 1988, Tilburg 1989, 1991, 1997, Linares 1990, 1992, 1993, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, Dortmund 1992, Novgorod 1994, 1995, 1997, Wijk aan Zee 1999, 2000, 2001. Many consider him the best chess player ever. One of the four players in chess history to cross the 2800 Elo barrier.



Korchnoi, Viktor

Born 1931 in St. Petersburg/Russia; Grandmaster 1956; peak Elo rating: 2695; Vice World Champion 1978-1984; World Senior Chess Champion 2006-2007; Chess Olympiad, Gold Medal: 1960, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974; notable tournament victories: USSR Chess Champion 1960, 1962, 1964, 1970, Yerevan 1965, Tilburg 1985. Korchnoi is by far the oldest active grandmaster in world chess. In 2007, at the age of 75, Korchnoi was ranked among the 100 best chess players in the world.

Champions



Kramnik, Vladimir

Born 1975 in Tuapse/Russia; Grandmaster 1992; peak Elo rating: 2809; World Champion 2000-2007; Chess Olympiad, Gold Medal: 1992, 1994, 1996; notable tournament victories: Dortmund 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2006, 2007, Dos Hermanas 1996, 1997, Tilburg 1997, Wijk aan Zee 1998, Linares 2000, 2003, 2004, Moscow 2007. The endgame virtuoso is one of the four players in chess history to cross the 2800 Elo barrier.



Polgar, Judit

Born 1976 in Budapest/Hungary; Grandmaster 1991; peak Elo rating: 2735. First women contender ever for the World Chess Championship (FIDE World Chess Championship 2005). Replaced Bobby Fischer in 1991 as the then youngest player to ever hold the grandmaster title. By far the best female chess player ever.



Ponomarev, Ruslan

Born 1983 in Horlivka/Ukraine; Grandmaster 1998; peak Elo rating: 2743; World Champion (FIDE) 2002-2004; World Team Championship 2001; Chess Olympiad, Gold Medal: 2004; notable tournament victories: Odessa 2005, Moscow 2006. In 1998 his grandmaster title made him the then youngest player to ever hold the title.



Spassky, Boris

Born 1937 in St. Petersburg/Russia; Grandmaster 1956; peak Elo rating: 2690; World Champion 1969-1972; Chess Olympiad, Gold Medal: 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1974; notable tournament victories: Moscow 1959, USSR Chess Champion 1961, 1973, Santa Monica 1966, Dortmund 1973, Bugojno 1978, Linares 1983, London 1984, Reykjavik 1985. Played the «match of the century» against Bobby Fischer in Reykjavik in 1972.



Topalov, Veselin

Born 1975 in Rousse/Bulgaria; Grandmaster 1992; peak Elo rating: 2813; World Champion (FIDE) 2005-2006; notable tournament victories: Amsterdam 1996, Dos Hermanas 1996, Novgorod 1996, Vienna 1996, Madrid 1997, Dortmund 2001, Cannes 2002, Sofia 2005, 2006, 2007, Wijk aan Zee 2006, Bilbao 2008. The master of attack is one of the four players in chess history to cross the 2800 Elo barrier.

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Organisation

Arrival at Zurich Main Station

Arrival by public transportation is recommended. Zurich Main Station is the largest railway station in Switzerland and is a hub for all national trains and neighbouring European countries. Most international trains such as Cisalpino, TGV, ICE, EuroCity, CityNightLine arrive in Zurich Main Station. Trains run directly between Zurich Main Station and Zurich Airport.



Arrival at Kongresshaus Zurich

From Zurich Main Station by tram to Stockerstrasse (tram 6, direction Bahnhof Enge; tram 7, direction Zurich Wollishofen; tram 13, direction Albisguetli), then a five minute walk along the Beethovenstrasse. Or by tram 11 (direction Rehalp) to Bürkliplatz, then a five minute walk along the General Guisan-Quai.



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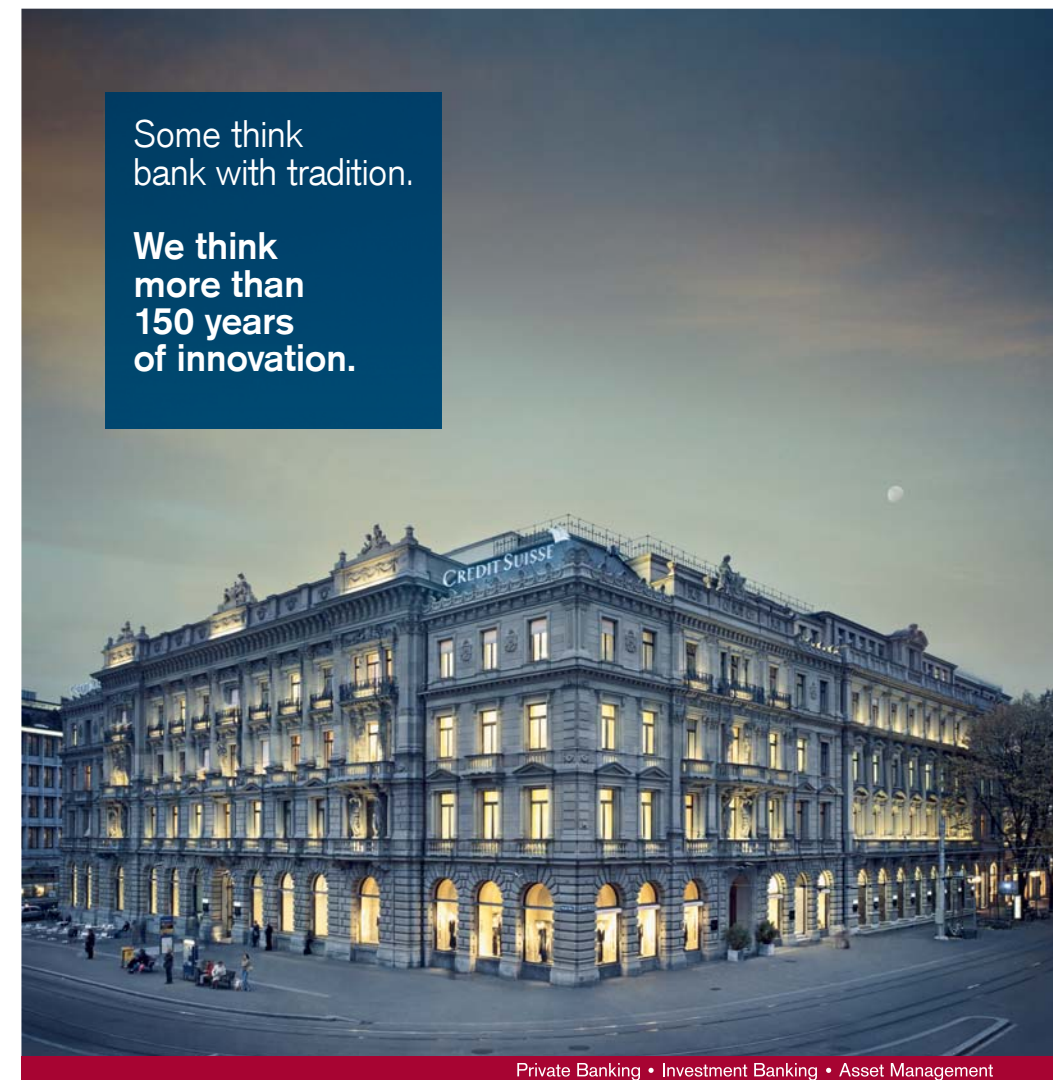
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