

This edition

- Round 2013-4 Bill Lin defeats young Aaron Ye in Dragon match
- A-1 league—Round 2013-5
- CGA membership stalls as web development takes priority.
- League games vs. Canadian Open games—a comparison
- Call to join the leagues
- Round 5—Chuck goes to China
- Looking forward—the CGA future

Round 2013-4 Bill Lin defeats young Aaron Ye in Dragon match



Round 2013-4 went 4 games and Aaron Ye must have shocked Bill Lin with a surprising 1.5 point victory in game 1. However, Bill came back to win the next 3. Game 3 was another very close match so Aaron Ye has proven himself worthy of the A league and we can expect to see more of him in future rounds. He will no doubt get better but Bill Lin also is growing in strength. This could become a battle of USA youth vs. Canadian youth. It seems to me that the A division is for 7 and 8



dans so to get there the competitors in the A-1 league need to be very close to 7 dan strength. This is all good news for GO in Canada and for our American friends who have joined the leagues. Aaron Ye from California is pictured on the right while Bill Lin is on the left.

A-1 league—Round 2013-5

So Aaron has dropped back to the number one spot in the A-1 league for the coming round. He will be hard to overcome as his #1 position in the league means he automatically wins in case of a tie in points. Sedgwick is capable of winning against Aaron but he will need a bit of luck I think. Aaron plays very quickly and this can cause his opponents to get into time trouble.

This round was a bit of a disaster for the A-1 players. One dropped out early and another Remi Campaigne never played any games so the other 3 players only had 2 games to play. Harry Cheng, 6 dan lost both but survived the cut to A-2 by luck.

Andrew Huang, 6 dan and Yingzhi Chen, 6 dan have moved up from A-2. This is the first appearance for Yingzhi in A-1. He will be looking to improve his position from 5th place but he did manage to survive round 1.

Zi Wang (right) beat both Sedgwick and Harry Cheng to get another chance at Bill Lin in the Dragon League.



CGA membership stalls as web development takes priority.

Membership in the CGA is currently frozen until web and database development progresses sufficiently. This could be by round 2013-6 in mid October. New members can join free on line but they won't see their names on the membership list and they will be unable to join the leagues. By late fall we should see many new members join including many Americans.

League games vs. Canadian Open games—a comparison since 2009

The chart on the right shows that from 2009 until now there were only 904 games in total processed for ratings from CGA Open tournaments. If you look closely you will note that for this year, 2013 there were only 28 games processed. This is because the tournament organizers only data entered the game results for round 1. The other 5 rounds were not entered. I hope these problems can be resolved in the future. But even if they were entered the total number of games would be about 1027.

Let's look at the number of league games processed in the same time period.

The chart on the right shows about 2460 games which is more than double the number.

I must conclude that the leagues are a very important source of measurement for skill development for Canadian GO players. Furthermore, they are able to all levels from 15 kyu up and include those who cannot attend Open tournaments. They are spread out as well it time. This is important no doubt.

As the membership database goes on-line, management of the leagues will improve to a point where in one or two years participation could double.

The CGA can look forward to this growth but with it will come a certain responsibility to the membership.

Total CGA Open Games

Tournament	Game #
2009 CGA Open	320
2010 CGA Open - Vancouver	241
CGA Open - 2012 - Ottawa	252
CGA Open - Toronto - 2013	28
CGA Open 2011 - Calgary	93
	<hr/> 934

Total League Games

Tournament	Game #
2009 CGA Challenge League - Round 2	116
2009 CGA Challenge League - Round 3	111
2009 CGA Challenge League - Round 4	140
2009 CGA Challenge League - Round 5	91
2009 CGA Challenge League - Round 6	92
2010 CGA Challenge League - Round 10-3	73
2010 CGA Challenge League - Round 10-4	59
2010 CGA Challenge League - Round 10-5	58
2010 CGA Challenge League - Round 10-6	23
2010 CGA Challenge League - Round 7	84
2011 CGA Challenge League - Round 11-3	73
2011 CGA Challenge League - Round 11-4	58
2011 CGA Challenge League - Round 11-5	71
2011 CGA Challenge League - Round 11-6	71
2012 CGA Challenge League - Round 12-1	92
2012 CGA Challenge League - Round 12-2	135
2012 CGA Challenge League - Round 12-3	157
2012 CGA Challenge League - Round 12-4	145
2012 CGA Challenge League - Round 12-5	114
2012 CGA Challenge League - Round 12-6	139
2013 CGA Challenge League - Round 13-1	139
2013 CGA Challenge League - Round 13-2	131
2013 CGA Challenge League - Round 13-3	133
2013 CGA Challenge League - Round 13-4	123
Handicap League	32
	<hr/> 2460

Call to join the leagues

If you are a current member of the leagues and would like to participate please let me know. Here are the requirements.

- You must register on KGS (free) in order to play your games on line.
- You must be at least 15 kyu in strength. If you are not sure just submit a game to me and I will review it. The most important strength is an ability to recognize dead and living stones.
- Each player plays 4 games (sometimes 5) in a round which lasts 6 weeks. There are 6 rounds/year with time off in August, December and April.
- You cannot drop out in the middle of a round. You can drop out after completing your games in the current round.
- Players are required to schedule their own games by email and report to the manager.
- Results are submitted also in the same way. These functions will be automated in the near future.

How to Join?

Step 1. Check out the information on the League web page.

www.go-canada.org/league

Step 2. Email me. Provide your name, citizen status, rank, KGS ID, city and phone number

Say

"Hello Chuck, I'm in".

This tells me you are serious about playing your games.

Chuck@kakari.com

Round 5—Chuck goes to China

I will be in China from mid September to mid October when round 2013-5 ends. Do not worry about this. My wife Brenda will fill in for me.

I know you will all schedule your games and report results as in the instructions.



Looking forward—the CGA future

This message is intended to be a guideline for the current executive and the league management. The leagues are important but I also want to mention the large group of beginners who are just learning about GO. What can the CGA do for them?. Here are my suggestions regarding what looks to be important in the coming years.

- **Donations.** To complete the web development the CGA may require a bit of cash. Now I know none of you want to see the return of membership fees. The abolishment of these fees has resulted in a huge increase of members, participation in the leagues by Americans, and recognition that GO in Canada is growing. So what can you do? Simple, when the CGA asks for donations, give generously and cheerfully what you can afford.
- **Feedback:** If you enjoy the league play and it has brought benefits send an email to me as a brief comment and I will publish them at the next opportunity. You may also comment on a CGA that is driven by freely given donations or mandatory annual fees.
- **Teaching Beginners** There are many beginners who cannot play in the leagues because they lack basic understanding of the game. In other words their need is simple teaching rather than serious competition on a 19x19 board. I have tried to define this class of player as below 15 kyu which may or may not be effective. What the CGA is missing is a teaching system to get players up to the 15 kyu level. My attempts to build a set of basic lessons using the .sgf format have all failed. The main reason from my perspective is due to weaknesses in the .sgf software analysis programs such as CGOban3 that allow interactive teaching. Now, I must be honest. Many people do not understand my frustrations and think I simply do not know how to use the tools. They may be right, I honestly do not know. I actually hope they are right but no one has been able to help me sufficiently but I do thank them for their efforts. I think the main problem is that tools that exist were designed to analyze a GO game, not teach GO concepts

The CGA needs to bridge this gap because there are many members out there who, like myself would be willing and are able to teach those basics

- **Communication—Improve the League web page:** There are far too many players who want to join the leagues but need help in many ways such as -
 - Getting a KGS ID
 - Knowing how the league works. There is a document but I think it is too much for some.
- **Better Communication—Membership Registration Procedure:** Automatically, putting a new member or a returning member on the Waiting List” for the next round if they meet the requirements would be very helpful.

Thanks, enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Chuck

This edition

- Round 2013-1 Deng slays the Dragon (Bill Lin)
- Round 2013-2 Zi Wang topples Deng
- Round 2013-3 Bill Lin off to a good start against Zi Wang
- The strong players get stronger.
- Harry (Hai) Cheng returns as A1 gets stronger
- Growth of the CGA membership
- Young players to watch
- Join the Leagues

Round 2013-1 Deng slays the Dragon (Bill Lin)

Round 2013-1 ended with Deng victorious over Bill Lin 3-1. These were difficult games and I and most observers never seemed to know who was winning. Bill Lin is never defeated easily so Deng had to be at his best. Bill had been victorious in the previous 9 Dragon matches, an amazing achievement for such a young man.

**Round 2013-2 Zi Wang (left) topples Deng (right)**

In Round 13-2 Lin moved back to the top of A-1 league while Zi Wang moved up to challenge Bill Lin. Of course, Deng was favoured to win this match after his great victory over Bill Lin but Zi Wang surprised Deng winning 3-1. Bill Lin won all his 4 games in A-1 by resignation to challenge Zi Wang in Round 2013-3. He had to defeat Sedgwick, Aaron Ye, Sarah Yu and Patrick Lemaster.

**Round 2013-3 Bill Lin (challenger) off to a good start against Zi Wang (dragon)**

The first game finished with a 5.5 point win over Zi Wang. Bill Lin won the second game as well. Bill seemed to leading throughout but hung on to win by 4.5 points. Zi now needs to win 3 straight against the very experienced Bill Lin.

The strong players get stronger by Leagueman

Why do I say this? How do I know this? Well, as I watch the games in A-1 and the Dragon leagues I notice something. I don't understand many moves at all. Some moves I think are blunders turn out to be winning moves. In other words, it's like watching professional games I think. I am only a 3 dan but I can understand moves of 4 and 5 dans and most 6 dans. . Now I used to understand Sedgwick's play but even some of his moves now are strange to me. They can't be bad because he is consistently near the top of the A-1 division. Is my mind is failing in my old age? I don't think so. I really think these players are getting stronger. Bill Lin has been pulling the others up to a higher lever and possibly the other way round also. What do you think?

Harry (Hai) Cheng returns as A1 gets stronger

Round 13-4 will see the return of Harry (Hai) Cheng, a former dragon. He was a very strong 6 dan. Has he improved? He will likely start in the A-2 division because of his 6 dan rank.

Growth of the CGA membership

Membership in the CGA is now up to 664 and will grow to about 675 by the time I retire from membership registrar in July. If the self registration software is in place it will likely grow even faster then. If it is not in place it will not grow at all until the new database is ready. New members wanting to join may have to wait in a queue. This is important for players who are thinking of playing in the CGA leagues but are not even registered with the CGA. I would advise them to register now even if they are not ready to play in the leagues.

**Proposal for Dragon League**

The following is only an idea and the readers and players are asked to think about the pros and cons and send in their opinions

There would be a Dragon and a Dragon challenger as before. However, there would be 4 players in the Dragon league. They are 1, 2, 3, and 4. No. 1 is the current Dragon and No 2 is the challenger from the previous round. The format is this. Players 3 and 4 are the 2 top players in A-1 from the previous round. The top player in A-1 gets to choose who he plays in the Dragon league (No. 1 or No. 2. Let's say he chooses to play No. 2

Week 1 No 1 (Dragon) vs. No 4 (second in A-1)

Week 2 No 2 vs. No 3 (first in A-1)

Proposal for Dragon League ...cont.

Week 3 Game 1 of the best of three between the week 1 winner and the week 2 winner

The 2 losers play a best of 3 and drop back to A-1 for the next round

Week 4 Game 2

Week 5 Game 3 if necessary to determine new Dragon and No 2 for next round.

What are the advantages of this change?

- There would be a total of 9 top players in the A and A-1 leagues rather than 7.
- New players have a chance to advance to the A league faster because 2 move up every round.
- The games are deliberately spaced out but there is flexibility if a game is delayed.

What are the disadvantages of this change?

- The format is a little more complex for the audience and perhaps for the manager.

Young players to watch

- **Aaron Ye (Hyperbeam) in A-1**

Aaron Ye (Hyperbeam on KGS), who is only 11 is getting stronger. He surprised himself by defeating Deng in the current round and has no losses so far. He could be the next Dragon challenger. That would be amazing for an 11 year old. Sarah Yu also defeated Deng but she lost to Sedgwick.

- **Oliver Wolf (sinsai) in A-3**

Oliver has played all his games as a 4 dan and is guaranteed to surpass two 5 dans in the next round.

- **Gabby Su (Dragoneye)**

A 2 dan in A-5, has 3 wins and one of them over a 4 dan. Gabby is very young.

**Join the Leagues**

If you wish to join the next round starting in mid June just email me at Chuck@kakari.com and say "I'm in." You will need to get a KGS ID if you don't already have one. If you have been evicted for not playing sufficient games you are welcome to return. The penalty for this infraction is to sit out one round. All that is asked is that you understand and follow the rules posted on the League web page and play all your games (4 or 5 in a 6 week period).

www.go-canada.org/league

Year 2012 – The CGA asks for and welcomes donations.

First, the CGA would like to thank all its members and supporters across the country and also those members in the USA who join in the league competition.

We also thank the parents of youth members who encourage their sons and daughters to participate in our events and especially the leagues which are ongoing. We delight in watching them enjoy the competition and grow strong in rank and the confidence that goes with it.

We thank the many volunteers who give their time and energy in hosting tournaments that bring players together to meet for fun and competition.

We thank the executive who give their time in providing leadership in working together and supporting each other. James is the team leader who calls us together on SKYPE whenever the need arises but seems to be about every 6 weeks or so. Brenda, my wife does a marvelous job of managing the CGA funds and making sure we follow the Canadian law regarding organizations like ours. We are thankful for new additions to the executive that want to volunteer.

Since the CGA cancelled membership fees we have focused on building a larger membership and improving the way we do things. This has been successful and now we ask the members to give what they feel is appropriate as the year 2012 comes to a close.

Why we rely on your donations:

- The CGA has annual expenses related to international competition. These are about \$700/year.
- The CGA currently awards League prize money of \$450/year.
- We support new clubs by providing start-up equipment through the AGA.

We have been fortunate in that our web site development and database development has been provided by volunteers to date. The web site has been designed by Nick Prince from Ontario. He has done a great job so far and will continue into phase II.

All the current membership software, the league management software and the ratings software was provided by myself and my wife Brenda through our private company..

However, the technology it is based on is totally obsolete and is not compatible with the modern web technology. It must be re-written and the time is now.

We cannot do this but now we have a volunteer who can work with Nick to do the programming. He is a CGA member and GO player who is keen to work on this important project. He wishes to remain anonymous at this time. He has time to do this because he is currently unemployed and finds it difficult to pay rent, food and other things you can imagine. The CGA has approved a motion to pay a small monthly fee of \$400 to help him and help get this job done. The commitment is only for two months but can be extended and possibly increased through your generous donations.

Please consider this request seriously. Support the CGA with a generous donation if it is in your heart to do so.

How to Donate:

You may donate any amount that you feel is appropriate at this time. Large or small, it is appreciated.

Donating by cheque: Make cheque payable to "Canadian Go Association" Send to Brenda Elliott, 10828 122 St, Edmonton, AB T5M 0A6

By Paypal: Simple send an email and tell us the amount you wish to donate and we will send you a PayPal link to pay by credit card or your own PayPal account but you do not need one to use this service.

All donations will be acknowledged by province and month on the CGA web site.

Note: We are not authorized to give tax deductible receipts.

Thank you from the CGA executive

Patrick Lemaster, 7 dan drops into the A-1 Division**By Chuck Elliott**

Patrick, from Arizona in the USA recently registered in the CGA as a 7 dan and desired to join

the CGA leagues. This creates a problem for a league manager (myself). Is he really a 7 dan?

I asked him and he wasn't sure but KGS thought he was. He said that living in Arizona didn't give him opportunity to play in tournaments. I think he hadn't ever played anyone face to face. Also, you will note that his name indicates he is not a product of the Chinese, Korean or Japanese systems. Was this just a young man (about 18) living in the mid west of USA who rises to 7 dan on the internet? Anyway, I registered him as a strong 6 dan (rating 580).

I put him on the waiting list for round 13-6 wondering if he should start in A-2 or A-1. If I start him in A-1 someone would get pushed out. Is that fair? Surely there would be an objection. If He were started in A-2 and dominated, well it would be safer. Anyway, the problem was solved for me when Changlong Wu, a strong 6 dan unexpectedly dropped out of A-1 early in the second week. He had played 1 game against James Sedgwick and lost.

I pounced (like a lion) on this opportunity to solve the Lemaster problem. I removed Wu and Patrick was in. At the time of this writing he had played 2 games, losing the first to Hugh Zhang, 7 dan and winning the second against Deng, 6 dan. The game with Deng was beyond me but that's not surprising. I seemed to sense that Patrick, given an opportunity to attack will do so fiercely and his opponent must constantly be on guard.

Conclusion:

I think Patrick really is a 7 dan. How strong? Time will tell. With four 7 dans in the top 2 divisions and many 6 dans then just getting into A-1 and staying in will be an accomplishment.

I look forward to future games.

Update:

Patrick is now 2 wins and 1 loss and is guaranteed to survive the A-1 league. Patrick's most recent league game was a convincing win over James Sedgwick.

Unfortunately, Daniel Gourdeau, former Dragon has had to withdraw from the league because of school commitments. However he is being replaced by Sarah Yu, 6 dan, another former Dragon Champion. Can she survive in this strong league? We will see. She inherits the advantage of second position from Daniel.

Zi Wang, 7 dan makes his first appearance in the Dragon league**By Chuck Elliott**

Unlike Patrick, Zi had to work his way slowly to the A (Dragon) division. Now, Bill Lin has been Dragon for 9 rounds and he hasn't really had a strong challenge yet. It looks like this could very well be his toughest challenge to date as the series is now tied 1 – 1. Zi won the first game easily. Bill got off to a poor start and Zi never gave him a chance to get back into the game. However, Bill came back in the second game. All I know is that Bill eeked out a 1.5 point win. It looks like it could go to 5 games.

Late Addition:!! - It only went 4 games but Zi Wang is very strong and if he continues to pursue the Dragon he will be back. Count on it. Meanwhile, Bill Lin gets stronger.

Bill Lin repeats as league Dragon

Bill Lin has won the Dragon league 9 straight times which is outstanding. I'm sure you all agree that his rank deserves a step up to 8 dan as well. The first round of 2013 sees Xiaofei Deng as challenger. Xiaofei is a strong 6 dan at the least. He may be 7 dan so I expect his rank will go up. How will he do against Bill? I don't know but Deng is the underdog. If you haven't heard that expression before it's a common expression meaning the opposite of "favoured". I wish him luck.



To all league players and those considering joining the CGA leagues:
The following additional rules are now immediately in effect.

The Most Important Rules

- You are expected to schedule and play your own games. You schedule by emailing and agreeing on a time and date.
- You must answer emails promptly, and preferably each day. If you do not then you are in danger of eviction when your opponents email the manager in frustration because their emails go unanswered.

You are expected to play all your games.

The only way the league can work well is if everyone plays all of their games starting on week one. **Do not be selfish.** Make it work for everyone. I do not want to evict you.

What are the main reasons for not playing all the required games?

1. Some players simply wait for others to contact them. The difficulty here is when there are 2 or more players with this idea in the same league.
2. Some fail to read the rules or understand the importance of the rule.

Evictions (red card)

An eviction will result in a red card as in a soccer game. This means you must sit out the next round. So if you are evicted near the end of a round you will be removed and you will sit out the next round. Then you can return.

Warnings (yellow card)

You may be issued a warning during a round. For example, after 3.5 weeks of a 6 week league and a player has not scheduled or played a game he may be given a warning. A second warning will result in an automatic eviction (red card).

This system may seem harsh but I know of no other way. Each player has a responsibility to his opponents to make himself available to play. It is selfish to only consider one's self.

Q. What if I email an opponent and he doesn't have time to play me. Can I still get penalized?

A. Yes. It's unfortunate. However, reporting problems may lead to eviction of the player at fault in which case the unplayed game is not held against you.

Next League starts January 1, 2013

To join contact Chuck at Chuck@Kakari.com and say "I'm in". You will need a KGS ID. For beginners below 15 kyu a special series of 30 min lessons will begin in December.

Bing Sheng Cup – A first place prize for a Go player

By: Sarah Yu

The Bing Sheng Cup is the first place prize for a women's Go knockout tournament since 2010. This year, it took place at Qionglong Mountain again, from October 28th and November 4th. After winning the qualifying match against Janice Kim (3P) of the United States, I earned the right to represent North America to take part in this knockout tournament as an amateur Go-Game player, since focusing on academic studies have prevented me from becoming a professional in this field.

I landed in Pudong Airport in Shanghai, China, on October 28 and was immediately transported to the tournament site at the foot of Qionglong Mountain where Sun Tzu's *Art of War* was written. The area around the tournament site was tranquil and beautiful.

The Opening Ceremony of this tournament included sixteen Go-Game players from China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Europe, North America and Oceania. There was lots of fanfare with singing, dancing, and speeches by well-known officials.

During my entire stay for this tournament, I was blessed with the opportunity of meeting some of my "former and old rivals" in China some ten years ago. People like Li He, Song Ronghui, and Tang Yi, just to name a few. I lost to Rui Naiwei in my first game in the tournament. Her sharpness in thinking in the match won my respect and deep admiration. Moreover, I learned a lot about how one lives as a Go-Game professional in China these days.

It goes without saying that there were also journalists and staff members in the tournament site. In my spare time, I had befriended some of them. They were eager to know how the "Go-Game" had been and could be promoted in North America, and particularly in Canada. It was truly a rewarding experience for me to have had the opportunity of being a North America representative in this tournament this year in China. I hope that in the near future, female Go-Game players in this part of the world will be stronger competitors in worldwide tournaments. I also hope that they will receive more attention from the media and support from corporate sponsors.

Thank you



Canada Online Go Tournament

The Canada Online Go Tournament takes place once every season. Signups are done via Challenge and results recorded through it.

-KGS Go Server- Canadian Room.

-Time settings: 45 minutes main time and 10 minutes /25 stones overtime.

For more info., please visit: <http://canadaonlinegotournament.wordpress.com/>.

Canada Online Go Team

The Canada Online Go Team is recruiting for Online Go Team Tournaments. The requirements for the team are: having a Dan rank, and not being a member of another online Go team. If you are interested,

please contact Matt Mennie at kenshin767@gmail.com to sign up.

Signups are limited to 8 members for the team, so register soon to not miss out.

Some of the tournaments already played are between the European Go Team, Blackie's International Baduk Academy, and Jinseok Baduk School.

There is now a website to keep track of these online go team tournaments. The site can be found at <http://goteamtournaments.wordpress.com/>. This site keeps track of the results in real time for online go team tournaments. It also lists if there is a live video stream of the event and provides the link to it. Just in case you don't have KGS. Commentary may sometimes be provided as well. As of this moment, we're looking for volunteers for amazing skype commentary.

Please contact Matt Mennie.

This edition

- 2012 CGA Open report by James Sedgwick
- League News by Chuck
- New CGA Executive faces
- WMSG (World Mind Sports Games)
- Canadian Professional Qualifiers

**2012 CGA Open****2012 CGA Open (Ottawa) —Report by James Sedgwick**

This past Thursday evening June 28th 87 Go players and many family members arrived at the Université du Québec en Outaouais. The facilities were first class, with a large main playing room that could have held 150 players if needed, and teaching classrooms with projection equipment also available. Also on offer were apartments with 2-4 bedrooms, within a stones throw of the playing hall. This years event was the first Canadian Open held outside Labour day to take full advantage of the cheap student housing available in the summer. A 10 minute walk away is a lovely park with swimming. Friday morning we commenced the 3 day main tournament.

In the main tournament the top group was one of the toughest I've seen. There were 9 7D+ players, and 23 total in the 6D+ open division. Each round the top board was broadcast on kaya.gs, and 1.5 hours after the rounds started the attending professionals Guo Juan 5P and Mr. Seung-Hyun Park 7P would review the top game in the classroom for those finished their games. Guo Juan also reviewed some lower division games as time permitted. Each day we played two games, which gave a much more relaxed schedule than the often used 3 games per day. The time limits were 75 minutes main time and 20 stones in 10 minutes repeating Canadian byo-yomi. Friday and Saturday night's the professionals as well as top amateurs Andy Liu and Youngsam Kim played simultaneous games.

Of the top group there were two foreign players who finished 1-2 in the tournament. First place was taken by Andy Liu from the United States, earning him the 1000\$ top prize. Many players will be aware he won the ING cup in 2009, he is one of the leading contenders to achieve professional status in the North American professional qualifying taking place the last week of July in North Carolina, before the Go congress. Second place went to Youngsam Kim from Korea. He was the 2011 European Congress champion, so very stiff competition indeed. In Round 5 they played likely the game of the tournament, Mr. Kim had a lead, the commentary from Guo Juan suggested the game was close to over, but Andy fought back to take the game by 0.5 points.



Andy Liu, 2012 CGA Open winner from New York, USA

2012 CGA Open report by James Sedgwick—cont.

In third place was Yongfei Ge, losing only to ninth place finisher Wang Zi, earning him the 700\$ Canadian champion prize. Early on Wang Zi looked to be the favorite for Canadian champion after scoring 3 wins, but he had a tough final 3 rounds. Yongfei was perhaps fortunate not to face either of the top two finishers, although he did score wins over Juyong Koh(5), and Tiger Gong(7).



Wang Zi



Yongfei Ge



Juyong Koh



Ganshen Shi



Bill Lin



Jianing Gan

There were 5 players in the open division scoring 4 wins; taking places 4-8. Tianyu(Bill) Lin, Juyong Koh, Jianing Gan, Tiger Gong, and Gansheng Shi. The top four of these by the tournament tie break rules Tianyu(Bill) Lin, Juyong Koh, Jianing Gan, and Tiger Gong will place off for the 2-5 international selection points. Expect to see a schedule on www.go-canada.org for these playoff games this week. Tianyu(Bill) Lin had likely the toughest schedule in tournament as the only player to face both the 1 & 2 finishers.

The four win group represents most of the Canadian contenders in professional qualifying. Only Yang Jing from Vancouver is competing for professional qualifying but was unable to attend the open. Tianyu(Bill) Lin, Jianing Gan and Gansheng Shi are our other contenders. These three average well under 20 years old, with Jianing and Bill both 15 years old, and Gansheng only 19. A tough future is ahead for those in the top group, with so many fine young players

On site during the Open was the "Surrounding Game" documentary team. They have raised more than twenty thousand dollars through a kick starter fund raiser <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1750734787/the-surrounding-game-a-documentary-film> . This fund raising effort will support the production of new DVD to aid in the introduction of Go to a wider audience. See the web site for details of their activities. I'm told they got a lot of good footage from the open and associated interviews.

After the final round Sunday a banquet was held in the open playing room. The buffet style meal even included a complementary wine bottle per table courtesy of the Outaouais Go club. Afterwards two complimentary buses took perhaps 60 of us down to beside the Museum of civilization where there is a prime viewing area for the Canada day fireworks.

2012 CGA Open report by James Sedgwick—cont.

There was something like a small fair set up with food vendors and a concert while we waited. Of course being go players we pulled out the Ipad Guo Juan's husband Darrell had brought and played a team game 4 on 4 (with various substitutions) while waiting for the fireworks. A complicated capturing race was just about to resolve itself when the fireworks started, allowing both teams to claim victory.

Monday brought the Pair Go and speed Go tournaments. 10 Pairs played; since we had two top pairs we decided to split the event in to a 3 game match between the Rita Li(5D)/Bill Lin(7D) and Amira Song(4D)/Juyong Koh(7D) and an 8 pair handicap tournament playing for third place. Rita and Bill took the match 2-0. In the 8 pair field Melissa Zhang(1D) James Sedgwick (6D) won the tournament, after come from behind wins over Guo Juan(5P)/Darrell Mallick(3K) and Rebecca Torrey/Andy Sohn(3D).

In the 5 round speed Go(20 minutes sudden death per player) Wang Zi won a 0.5 squeaker over Min-Sung Suh to secure the victory.

Also on Monday was the tournament winner -professional match between Andy Liu and Mr. Park. I was absorbed in running the pair go and so saw only glimpses, I'm eagerly awaiting the SGF to be circulated for review.

With all the activity taking place I only wish I'd had more time to take it all in. Marc St-Onge set out to set a new standard for what can be offered at a Canadian open, inspired by what is on offer at the US Go congress, and I think he has done so. The Toronto hosts for 2013 were there Sunday and they seemed to agree.

Now all we can do is wait anxiously for 2013, and train hard to be ready, Can't wait to see you all there.

James Sedgwick

Note: The game sgf files cannot be opened by clicking in the newsletter so they are being circulated as email attachments.

Games from the Open

We could not provide links to the following games so they are being emailed with this newsletter.
Andy Liu - Bill Lin.sgf Andy Liu - Wang Zi.sgf Deng Xiaofei - Gan Jianing.sgf
Fedora Michael - Ge Yongfei.sgf Ge Yongfei - Juyong Koh.sgf Kim Youngsam - Andy Liu.sgf

Click on the attached sgf files to view the games.

Canadian Professional Qualifiers– by James Sedgwick

As you may have heard, North America will start certifying professionals this summer, with two to be selected at a qualifying tournament running July 30th-August 4th in North Carolina, at the venue to be used for the Go congress the following week. The AGA is organizing this (with the plans having been discussed with and approved by the CGA), and the Korean Professional Association is sponsoring the event.

Of the 16 finalists, 7 were selected through a Tygem online tournament open to any North American citizen (they started with a field of 130+ players);, 7 were selected by the AGA through a variety of events and seeding processes and 2 were nominated by the CGA.

The CGA requested interest from its top players. As it happened we wound up with 4 top players interested. In the Tygem qualifying tournament 3 Canadians qualified, Tianyu(Bill) Lin, Jianing (Will) Gan, and Juyong Koh. Juyong Koh cannot go to North Carolina this year. The other top Canadian's interested were Yang Jing, and Gansheng Shi. Since Canada had two spots to fill this all worked out perfectly, and thus no Canadian qualifying round was needed.



Tianyu(Bill) Lin - 15 years old now and living in Vancouver having emigrated 5+ years ago from China, he will represent Canada at the World Youth (under 16) event in August. Over the last year he has dominated Canadian league play, holding the top spot through the year. His resume includes second placing Canadian at this past Canadian open (fourth overall). He placed 6th in the 2011 US Open, and 4th in the strong players invitational at the 2011 US Go Congress. Unless he turns professional he will represent Canada at the next World Amateur tournament. In addition to his Go play he is also an enthusiastic competitive swimmer



Jianing(Will) Gan - 15 years old, in the last couple years he has shot up to the top ranks of Canadian play. He lives in Windsor ON, having emigrated with his family from China 5+ years ago. This year he has been battling Tianyu Lin, both in league play and at the Canadian open (finishing on spot behind Bill in the selection tournament playoff). so far Tianyu has come out on top; Jianing will be looking to turn this around in North Carolina.



Gansheng Shi: Now in University, he arrived in Canadian 10+ years ago from China as a young boy and settled in Toronto. For the last several years he has been making his mark on Canadian and North American play. His resume includes winning the Redmond cup twice as the top North American youth, and representing Canada at the 2009 Prime Ministers cup, placing 8th. He was one of the group of 5 Canadians scoring 4 wins at this Canadian open along with Tianyu and Jianing, but the SOS score kept him out of the four player tiebreak.

Cont. ->



Yang Jing: Having arrived in Canada 10+ years ago from China as an adult and now living in Vancouver, Yang Jing has been at the top of Canadian Go ever since. He holds a 6D Chinese rank, which for those who don't know is extremely difficult to earn, requiring top placements at national level tournaments. He is the only immigrant to Canada I'm aware of who has held this certification. Since then his resume includes Canadian open wins in 2005, 2006, and 2011. He placed 6th in the World Amateur in 2007, and 4th at the Prime Ministers cup in 2011. He was unable to attend the 2012 Canadian open. He was the North American representative to the 2012 Chunlan Cup, having defeated several North American resident professionals and other top amateurs to earn the spot.

The AGA E-Journal can be expected to provide reporting on the event as it happens, watch usgo.org for details, and cheer on your Canadian players. A follow on report with a Canadian focus on how it all turned out can be expected in the next Canadian newsletter.

WMSG (World Mind Sports Games) by James Sedgwick

Here is the nominated Canadian team for the WMSG. I believe they all have their airline tickets and are set to go. Their Canadian rank, and my "best guess" as to an appropriate European equivalent rank. An AGA rating is given where known

Sarah Yu (Canadian 6D, European 5D)

Irene Sha (AGA rating 7.06, Canadian 6D, European 5D)

Andrew Huang (AGA rating 6.34, Canadian 5D, European 4D)

Amira Song (Canadian 4D, European 3D)

Here are the events that they will compete in.

Mens: Andrew Huang

Womens: Sarah Yu, Irene Sha, Amira Song

Team: Sarah Yu, Irene Sha, Andrew Huang, Amira Song

Pair Go: Sarah Yu, Andrew Huang

Youth: Irene Sha, Amira Song

From the left, Andrew, Sarah, Irene.
Amira's photo not available.



League News by Chuck

Dragon League. Bill Lin continues his dominance of the Dragon League by defeating Jianing Gan 3-1 in a best of five. This was the 7'th straight Dragon victory for Bill and the second time Jianing failed to find a way. In their first match Bill won 3-1. Now Bill faces James Sedgwick. Sedgwick was Dragon winner just before Bill Lin appeared in the leagues. He will have to be in top form to match the young Bill.

New Face in top divisions: Raymond Wang, a 7 dan from Markham is making his first appearance in the league. He may start out in the A-2 league.

Other New Entries: There were 10 new entries in the main leagues altogether and about 8 in the lower handicap leagues which now go non stop. Total entries in the main leagues are now 86.

Evictions: Unfortunately, there were several players who failed to play sufficient games and were forced to sit out a round. This is like a 2 minute penalty in hockey or perhaps more like a 1 game suspension. When the penalty is served the player can return. So the penalty is a necessary reminder of the importance of playing all the required games. So, those players evicted from round 12-5 will be invited back in round 12-6. The best way to avoid trouble is to schedule your games early and not wait until the final few days.

Handicap Leagues: There are 32 entries in the handicap leagues (20 kyu—10 kyu).

Teaching beginners the basics. July has been a busy month for me and August will also be busy but still I hope to lay a better foundation for teaching Go on KGS. Hopefully by September it will be happening. There are new volunteers ready to contribute. This is great.

Join Now:

Join the CGA leagues now. Round 12-5 starts on September 1, 2012 Round 12-6 will start in mid October and end the end of November when we take a break for Christmas. Round 13-1 will start Jan 1.

Email me, Chuck at Chuck@Kakari.com and say "I'm in!"

This edition

- 2012 CGA Open Latest from Marc St. Onge
- Meet Zi Wang, new face in Leagues
- League News
- Feng Yun, 9P—Game analysis
- 4th Trans-Atlantic Youth Match This Sunday



The dragon league started with Xianyu Li defeating Bill Lin by resignation. Is Li going to hold onto this advantage? Will he be the one to dethrone Bill Lin?

The A-1 division gets stronger. Not only has Zi Wang, 7 dan moved up from A-2 (see next page) but Wei Qiu, 7 dan from Edmonton will move in making the A-1 division an almost exclusive club of 7 dans.

It is clear that any six dan whom makes it into the A-1 and survives for one round will be promoted to 7 dan. If there are enough 7 dans to spill into A-2 division then just gaining entry into A-2 will be sufficient for promotion to 7 dan. This concept will be used regularly to promote players where the rating systems are too slow to do so.



News Flash: Bill Lin wins game 2 to tie the series 1-1 Game 3—Sat. June 2, 3:30 pm ET

Feng Yun, 9P—Game analysis

Feng Yun, 9 dan professional female Go player living in New Jersey, USA has kindly offered to do a game review from our league play. A game between Oliver Wolf, 5 dan and Hanxi Zhang, 6 dan was selected.

I know you will enjoy her commentary and improve your skill as I did no matter what your level. We are grateful to her for this contribution.

You can find out more about her and her GO school from the link below.

<http://www.fengyungoschool.com/>

The commentary. Is being sent as an email attachment as the link below will not work unless you cut and paste it into your browser. Sorry

http://www.go-canada.org/game/Oliver-Hanxi_Feng_Yun.sgf



Meet Zi Wang, 8 dan, Canadian resident (Toronto)

I was born in 1980. I learned GO from my father when I was 4 years old. A Japanese 7P Mr. Nakaoka invited me to his home in Japan to study GO in 1990 when i was 10 years old. I joined the Japanese insei for one year recommended by Mr. Nakaoka. I reached my peak time when I was 11. Cho U was my classmate and friend that time who is now top 9p.

Teacher Nakaoka thought I was strong enough and advised me to take part in the Pro test in Japan. But i insisted to join the Pro test in China. However, because of some family tragedy and emergency I quit the pro competition test when there was only one win left for me to get that certificate. If I didn't quit, my life might have led down another path. Maybe it's a little pity for me though, I didn't regret it.

My life now is also wonderful! I married a perfect woman and we are going to have a daughter this August. I was working as a development engineer for several years and now we immigrated to Canada.

GO is always the thing I love most. I never stopped playing it even though I can't become a top pro player like Cho U. I took part in competitions during college and university and started playing GO online from 2005. Sometimes I teach some beginners for free.

When I went to U.K. to study for my master degree in computer science, I discovered KGS online and began to give lessons to European amateur players in 2009 when I won the London open.

As a grown-up and after teaching several years, I discovered that not only the reading ability and accuracy but also the ability of global evaluation are essential for players higher than 4d level to improve. I didn't realize it when was a child. At that age, I thought reading more moves than your opponent will definitely lead to a win.

This is why I ask all my students to pay attention to slow moves. Think twice before you play it, if you played a slow move, that means your global evaluation at that moment was wrong and your opponent will easily take advantage.

I quite enjoyed the league so far, and it provides many chances to play with different types of strong players. I'm sure I'm not as strong as i was when i was 11 years old, but I try my best. It's not about winning and losing for me now. it's all about the feeling and joy I have when playing.

It would be very kind of you if you help me advertise my teaching service. Anyone who loves to play and learn GO is welcome. I'm interested to help the Canada GO Association and promote GO across Canada, I'd love to do it!



Canadian Open June 29-July 2, Ottawa, Ontario

Only a few weeks left before the 2012 CANADIAN OPEN !!

Don't miss the MUST-ATTEND go event of the year, held in Gatineau from June 29th to July 2nd.

- Great cash prizes in open division
- Critical to qualify to represent Canada internationally
- Large number of players of all levels
- Great prizes in all divisions
- Affordable and comfortable accommodations
- High quality modern venue
- 6 games – 2 games per day (with tie breaks on 4th day), leaving time to enjoy other Canadian Open activities
- Lessons, reviews and simultaneous games with Guo Juan (5P) and Seung-Hyun Park (7P) AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN THIS AMAZING DOOR PRIZE:



For all the information on the tournament and to register please visit:

http://www.go-ouataouais.com/index_e.php

League Schedule—Start times for round 12-4

Round 4 of the 2012 CGA leagues will start June 10. If you are not currently in the leagues or are not on the WAITING list you must register before June 5 to join.

To join: Email me, Chuck at Chuck@Kakari.com and say "I'm in." Give name, KGS ID If you are not a CGA registered member you can join at no cost

4th Trans-Atlantic Youth Match This Sunday , June 3

Submitted by James Sedgwick

The strongest north American kids will face off against their counterparts in Europe, this Sunday, June 3, on KGS. Canada and the US will play as a team, top players Calvin Sun, 7d, from the US and Bill Lin, 7d, from Canada will lead the fight taking on Pavel Lisy 5d and Lukas Podpera 5d. Each side will field ten players. Europe won last year, but North America won the two years prior. Spectators are welcome and can watch the action in the TransAtlantic Youth Go Tournament room. Due to the wide time ranges, the matches will take place at two different times. Group 1 will be at 11 am EDT, and group 2 at 2 pm EDT. -*Paul Barchilon, E-J Youth Editor*

Canadian players are bolded in the 2 groups below.

Players marked in red are American players playing in CLIG. (Hugh recently dropped out of CLIG)

As you can see there are 5 Canadians playing (all of whom play in CLIG), and two of the five American youth are playing in CLIG. Aaron Ye and Andrew Zhou are the under 12 division.

<http://www.usgo.org/news/2012/05/4th-trans-atlantic-youth-match-this-sunday/>

1st group - 11:00 Eastern Daylight Time

1. Hugh ZHANG - sume vs. Alexander VASHUROV - ALEX575
2. Andrew LU - GoUSA vs. Stepan POPOV - StepanP
3. **Peter ZHANG** - peterzhang vs. Alexandru PITROP - alpi
4. Aaron YE - hyperbeam7 vs. Silvestru STATE - silvestru
5. **Andrew ZHOU** - Star1 vs. Valerii KRUSHELNYTSKYI - valeryi

2nd group - 14:00 Eastern Daylight Time

1. Calvin SUN - kbag vs. Pavol LISY - cheater
2. **Bill LIN** - billin vs. Lukas PODPERA - lukan
3. **Jianing GAN** - hkkyeen vs. Mateusz SURMA - drakula
4. Vincent ZHUANG - VISA (vczhuang@gmail.com) vs. Mihai SERBAN - mihi
5. **Andrew HUANG** - donvalley (anannj@yahoo.com) vs. Yurii MYKHALIUK - mamont1

This edition

- The CLIG—Bill Lin's winning ways continue
- League Start Schedule
- Strange ending—KGS makes mistake
- Professional Certification in North America
- 2012 CGA Open Announcement
- CLIG grows by another 20% or more
- 2012 World Mind Sports Games—France

**The CLIG—How 2012-2 ended and 12-3 will start.****Bill Lin defeats Jianing Gan 3-1 to extend his record to 6 straight Dragon appearances.**

This was Gan's first appearance in the top A division. Bill's wins came in the first game by 3.5 points and in the 3rd and 4th games by 8.5 points and 7.5 points. Gan won the second game by resignation. Gan has some strong competition in the A-1 in Changlong Wu and Hugh Zhang, both 7 dans.



in

Bill meets Xianyu Li (at right) in 12-3 again. They met the Dragon league 3 times earlier and Bill won all three times, 2-0, 1-0, and 3-1. In an earlier match in 2011 Li defeated Bill 3-1 but it seems Bill is stronger now. We will allow the Dragon matches to start earlier than the others to allow extra time to schedule and more opportunity for observers to watch. Keep your eye on the schedule.

The A-1 league gets stronger. With the 3 7 dans in A-1 I think Gan is a slight favourite because he is in the top spot and therefore is an automatic winner if a tie occurs.



The other two players are Remi Campagnie and James Sedgwick who returned to A-1. The game between those two will likely determine who remains in A-1. Can either of them rise to a level and defeat 7 dans? I think so.



Hugh Zhang (right) won all four matches in A-2 to easily advance to A-1. I expect him to make a very strong showing in 12-3.

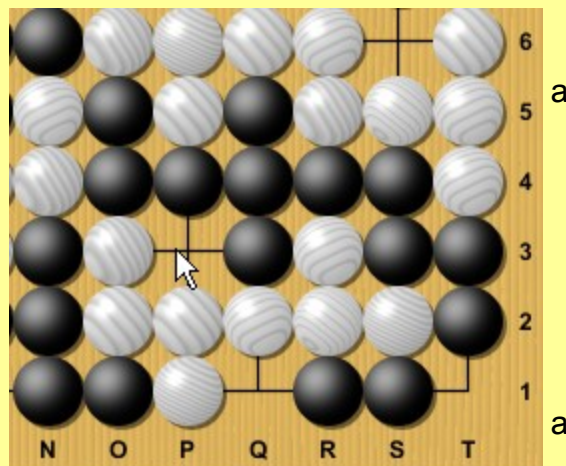
League Schedule—Start times for 12-3

- **Deadline to join round 12-3** Friday, April 20
- **League posted -** Monday April 23
- **Final corrections** Thursday, April 26 (scheduling starts)
- **Games start** Saturday, April 28

To join: Email me, Chuck at Chuck@Kakari.com and say "I'm in." Give name, KGS ID

Strange ending—KGS makes mistake I happened to log into KGS and I caught the end of a match between Daniel Gourdeau and Wu. It was very close. No one could predict the outcome until both players passed and KGS announced Wu won by 0.5 points. See the diagram on the right. You will all see that the result is seki but KGS counted the lone point at T-1 as point for black and it wasn't noticed until the game was over.

An observer pointed out correctly that KGS was wrong. There was much discussion about whether KGS was using Chinese counting or Japanese rules. I believe that KGS was confused because the point T-1 was not an internal liberty (between White and black) but between the black group and the edge of the board. I was drawn into the discussion and felt obligated to rule. But it was clearly a mistake by KGS so it was recorded in the league as a 0.5 win for Daniel and was not contested by Wu who agreed with the decision..



Moral:- Don't always trust a computer, especially when the margin is 0.5 point.

Professional Certification in North America

As of 2012 North America (The AGA & CGA, in cooperation with the Korean professional association) will start certifying professional players. This will be done through a qualifying tournament held the week before the US Go congress. Of the 16 player field Canada can nominate two participants, and Canadians may also qualify through the online AGA/Tygem run preliminary qualifiers.

The number of accepted professionals is not fixed, but 2 is likely for the first year, and probably 1 in subsequent years. The top qualifiers in addition to having an acceptable win loss record will have their games reviewed by the Korean Professional association to confirm the play is at an acceptable level before professional status is granted.

Should a player become professional there are some implications

- No longer eligible for World Amateur events like the World Amateur or Prime Ministers Cup
- Could get stipend for working at the congress (currently this is 2000 USD) assuming you do the teaching work
- Some funds may be available through the year for those doing teaching
- Can go to Asia and participate in tournaments only open to professionals

More details will be circulated later, but I'd like to start collecting information on interested players.

Please email president@go-canada.org if you might wish to be selected as a Canadian participant. You might wish to participate out of a desire to qualify, or just for a week of top level play.

http://www.usgo.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/2012.01.30_KBAmou.pdf

<http://senseis.xmp.net/?AgaProfessionals>

Submitted by James Sedgwick, links submitted by Vincent Bilodeau

The 2012 Canadian Go Open

May 26 through July 2
Register on line now!

You can register now for the 2012 Canadian Open in Gatineau, Quebec near Ottawa.

http://go-outaouais.com/index_e.php (English)

C'est maintenant le temps de s'inscrire pour le championnat canadien 2012, qui se déroulera à Gatineau (près d'Ottawa), du 29 juin au 2 juillet. Veuillez visiter le lien suivant pour plus d'information.

<http://go-outaouais.com/index.php> (French)

I checked out these links. You can switch from English to French. It looks awesome. Plan now to go.. This is a busy time to travel so book early Marc St. Onge has worked hard to get great accommodation deals.

The Leagues grow by 20%

The leagues grow by 20%. More than 20 players have entered round 12-3 making the leagues more uniform and easier to manage.

At the current rate of expansion there will growth of at least 2 leagues every round. Participation will likely exceed 100 players by the start of round 12-3.

Participation is close to 22% of registered members. This is fantastic.

CGA and league expands East: In the last issue we told you about a member from the Yukon. Well, now we have a member living in China who wants to play in the leagues. Christopher Day is a Canadian living in Beijing. He tells me that he can play in the mornings which is evening time in Canada and he is used to it so it was approved. He is a 2 kyu player so watch for him if he is in your league

2nd World Mind Sports Games (WMSG)

August 9-23 at the Lille Palais in Lille , France .

The CGA had previously been told this event would not take place in 2012. IMSA has now decided to hold an event, the details of Go participation are unclear currently.
Some details we know

- No professional participation (as opposed to first event in Beijing where the prize was dominated by professionals).
- Minimal sponsorship, so participants can expect to have to pay close to their full costs
- Perhaps 200 participants in Go, as compared to the 600 that were in Beijing .

It's not clear if there will be a team format as per 2008. Also this event overlaps with US Go congress, likely eliminating many top North American players. However if 2 weeks in France fits your schedule and budget I'm sure the event will be very worthwhile.

At this stage I'd like to collect names of interested players 5D+.

Please email president@go-canada.org

Submitted by James Sedgwick, president, CGA

Helping new Go players learn GO

Here is a statistic to think about. There are about 90 players registered in the leagues now. More than 40 are 1 dan or stronger. Only 10 are below 9 kyu in the H-1 and H-2 divisions, excluding teachers. Wouldn't you expect more beginners? I believe the problem is the lack of organized teaching and mentoring. There is also a shortage of available self-help problem books on GO. The internet is a good source but people like and need human contact and encouragement.

My hope is that the leagues can become a means of reaching others and getting to know them. I have enjoyed playing several on 9x9 with handicap. SKYPE provides voice communication which makes typing unnecessary. Each game is like a complicated Go problem with several key lessons. Beginners usually play positive moves but in the wrong order. They may attack when they should defend or play small end game allowing the opponent to attack and kill a weak group. Because the board is small the player can see the big difference a single mistake makes; perhaps 30 or 40 points in the outcome.

I tell a beginner that if he can win with a 4 stone handicap he is about 17-18 kyu. If he can win with a 3 stone handicap he is about 12-13 kyu and winning with 2 stones his technique is good enough for 9 kyu. (Note: One handicap stone on a 9x9 is like 4 on a 19x19 board approximately)

I also tell them that playing on a large board (19x19) requires the skill of an army general managing many battles all at once. Before one can be a general he needs to learn hand to hand combat skills first. This makes sense. Anyway, I have had some students progress to 9 kyu in one day.

Enjoy the Easter celebrations. He gave His life that we may have eternal life.
May the Lord bless you all.

Chuck

This edition

- The CLIG—How 2012-1 ended
- What's happening in 2012-2
- A look at some new faces
- CGA runs on low cost budget
- CGA membership grows 30% since Jan. 1
- Let's help the new people learn.



The CLIG—How 2012-1 ended

Jianing Gan's leap to the top in A-1. In the last few days of the last round Jianing had 3 wins, no losses in the tough 6 person division. I thought, probably with others, that he wasn't going to get the games in but he did. The schedules were posted very late also. He won both giving him 10 points for undisputed first place and entry into the Dragon league to challenge Bill Lin in the current round. I was fortunate to be able to watch the end of Gan's final game against Dainiel Gourdeau. A tie would not have been good enough as Remi Compagnie was sitting with 9 points in position 2 which would give him the tie breaker over Gan in position 6.



Time Trouble for Daniel When I logged in the game was well under way and seemed filled with complex problems. It seemed that Gan was controlling the game and then I looked at the clocks—Gan had more than 20 minutes left in regular time while Daniel was almost in byo-yomi. It was clear that the pressure was too much and Daniel was forced to resign in byo-yomi. I hope I will have time to watch more of his games in the coming rounds.

Jianing brings a lot of power to the Canadian GO forces as they prepare to meet the US players led by three 7 dans. These are going to be interesting match ups. Game 1 scheduled for Saturday, Feb 18. See link on page 4

Bill Lin's record 5 straight Dragon League appearances Bill defeated Xianyu Li 2-0 in a best of 3 to remain in the Dragon League and meet Jianing Gan, 7 dan. Will he be able to prevail against this new challenge?



Why is Leagueman smiling?

- Because the leagues are growing
- Because the Americans are accepting our invitation
- Because players are scheduling games earlier now
- Because members are donating happily and generously
- Because I didn't mess up with all the changes (not too much)
- Because there's lots to look forward to this year

Praise the Lord!

American new faces: Hugh Zhang, 7 dan from San Jose, CA. tells us a bit about himself.

I am a high school student living in California. I just enjoy playing go. It's fun to read out the variations and fight, as well as strategize in other parts of the game. I improve by doing go problems and playing games. I am looking forward to playing in the leagues because I will have many strong opponents to play. Titles I won include the Redmond Cup and YKNOT 6D division.

Hugh has been seeded in the A-2 division with Aaron Ye, also from California, Peter Zhang, James Sedgwick and Norman Chadwick. Hugh is in the bottom position as is the custom when new players first come in. They kind of have to work their way up. Good luck Hugh. I look forward to watching you play. I'm sure the others in A-2 look forward to playing you.

I talked to James Sedgwick, 6 dan recently.

Leaguerman: James, you just barely escaped from ending up in the A-3 league. You managed to only drop to A-2.

James: That's good. I want to get back in the A-1 league. I'm going to have to play really well this round.

Leaguerman: Good luck James. You've got tougher competition this round with these new players coming in.



Note: Young Aaron Ye from California (age 9) has proven himself again by winning the A-2 division with a 4-0 record but still not advancing to A-1 because of the expansion. He did manage to overtake Sedgwick however. This A-2 league features 3 youth players and 2 Canadian veterans.

CGA Membership continues to grow

CGA membership is now at 427 and growing steadily at about 4-5 players/week, mostly Canadian. I expect about 600 + by the end of 2012.

Today, the first player from Whitehorse, Yukon in Canada registered. He is waiting to play in the next league. Our American players represent about 15 different states in the US.

I predict that Go will go rapidly in popularity in the coming years. Why do I say that?

- There is a large growth in immigration from the oriental countries. They bring their culture with them which includes a love of GO.
- The economy in the US is in decline. Canada may follow. GO is something that all ages can share at no cost and build friendship.

CGA Expands North: Todd Bowlby from Whitehorse, Yukon has just joined the CGA as I write this. Whitehorse in the Yukon is very far north (north of 60 degrees latitude). Well Todd tells me as far as GO goes he is alone but trying to generate interest and start a club. We wish him well. Any Go players planning to visit that area? I'm sure Todd would be happy to see you.

American new faces: Changlong Wu, 7 dan from North Carolina, USA may be the strongest of the latest group of 7 dans to join the leagues. I asked him to tell us a bit about himself.

Changlong: I earned to play go (Weiqi) back in high school in China years ago. I made some progress by playing with friends and studying books. Although my strength is limited due to lacking of formal training, I still enjoy it all the time and keep playing because I find the game always enjoyable. I came to the USA several years ago and had won several state tournament titles. I joined a local club and have been promoting Go within my colleagues and friends. I took part in the US GO Congress the first time last year and ended with poor results. Nevertheless, I will try to be there more often.



The League is a wonderful tournament that encourages Go fans to play serious games and improve their strength without asking for huge commitment of money and time from players. While the KGS is full of meaningless blitz games and the AGA is stingy to hold this kind of (online) tournaments that really popularize and promote Go, the CGA League seems to be unique for providing a platform for us to play with others of the same level on a regular basis and will show great value in the long run. That is why I immediately joined when I saw the news. Thank you.

Leagueman: Thank you Changlong for your faith in this event. We hope you make many friends and perhaps you will meet them at a future US GO Congress. We are hoping to have a joint US-Canada GO Congress in 2014 in BC.

Note: Changdong has his first game scheduled this Saturday with Remi.

Schedule link: www.go-canada.org/league Click on **Game Schedules** to see the time.

CGA abolishes membership fees! Donations begin to grow.

The CGA is alive and well. Donations received since Jan 1, 2012 are \$595 and we are very grateful for the generosity of our members, including US members.

- To manage the CGA we cover fees imposed by international organizations for the international tournaments we sent Canadian representatives to. These costs are about \$750/year.
- CLIG - In 2011 total prize money was \$450 paid for from the CGA funds. This year I will ask to increase it to \$1200 on the condition that donations are sufficient to cover it. We cannot spend what we do not have.
- We have offered new clubs beginner game sets and want to continue this in 2012.

To Donate:

You can donate through our Paypal account (credit card) or by mailing a cheque.

PayPal- Send email to leagueplay@go-canada.org and specify the amount.

To mail a cheque: - Mail to Canadian GO Association

10828 122 St.

Edmonton, AB, T5M 0A6 Canada

Wanted- a 5 or 6 dan for the A-3 league: Jiandong Li, 6 dan had to leave for somewhere and won't be back until next year. There is a vacancy in the A-3 league. If there is a 5 or 6 dan out there who would like to join for the current round let me know and I'll put you in immediately.
ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca

First Dragon match scheduled: Jianing Gan will challenge Bill Lin in game one of the best of 5 series Saturday, Feb 18.
Check the Game Schedule report for games scheduled:
<http://www.go-canada.org/league/documents/League-S2M.pdf>

The old days: I recall about 40 years ago when I became president of the CGA while living in Edmonton. There were no computers, no internet. I had been receiving newsletters from the CGA executive in the east by mail (that's snail mail). I would get a batch of them to distribute to the members at my club. Well, sometimes I would forget to take them. When I did I would put them on a table and some members would see them and take one. If a member didn't show up he never knew about the newsletter. I realized that I wasn't very good at getting them out.

I thought that it might be better to mail to individuals rather than club organizers because probably others were as bad as I was or possibly worse. The idea was not popular because the cost would go up, there would be more work in stuffing envelopes and someone would have to keep track of the extra information. You see, members at that time were really clubs and club leaders including myself were not reliable at times.

Well, I thought about trying a new idea—members would be individuals and there would be direct contact by mail. I collected names, addresses from club contacts, and sending out CGA news directly. Here is what happened.

- Membership started growing
- Members were willing to pay an annual fee to cover mailing costs.
- One member from the far north joined as one did this week. Unheard of before.
- I started selling books and raised a few thousand dollars.

What did I learn? Communication is what drives an organization like the CGA. But you know we still have problems today, even with email. Some people are too busy to even look at their email. There is too much of it. But I'm not complaining. No. This sure beats the old days of licking stamps and sticking mailing labels on envelopes.

Chuck (Leagueman)

Wanted : Any 6-7 dans to give either game commentaries or teaching problems
As newsletter editor I would welcome anyone willing to help. Don't worry about your English if it isn't your first language. You could submit a KGS game file and your commentary on any league game of your choice. If you are French well, we have many French members who would like that.

Wanted : Game review teachers for levels 20 to 11 kyu in handicap leagues
If you check out the H-1 league you will see me in there but I am a 3 dan. I like to play handicap games on line with beginners and review them so they understand better the principles. I like to use 9x9 board for beginners. Also, I like to use SKYPE because I don't type well. If you would like to help I anticipate a growth in this strength range. There are many in need. Email me. (Chuck)

This edition

- The Americans have arrived — CLIG grows
- CGA Membership doubles in first month.
- League news
- Call for Donations
- Waterloo Tournament

This newsletter is an early addition but there is news I am eager to tell you about. The big news is what's happening to our **membership** since the fees were reduced considerably. Well, actually to zero. There are no more fees. Read about it in the second article.

The next big news item has to do with the invitation to the **Americans** (AGA members) whom we now accept as CGA members who can participate in our leagues. The only requirement is that they must be AGA members. This change is less than 2 weeks old and our waiting list of AGA members is growing and covers 13 states. Read about this in the second article.

The third important item is the call for **donations** which reaches out to all members and anybody with a heart to support GO in Canada and our inclusion of fellow American players. Please read this.

The Americans have arrived — CLIG grows

I sent Karoline in the AGA the invitation to American GO players to join the CGA leagues (CLIG) free of charge. This was before Christmas so I was eagerly waiting for this to appear in the weekly AGA E-Journal. It finally appeared about January 8. Early in the morning I had 3 players wanting to register. Then more came in. Canadians were registering to join the CGA also. Who were these players?

By Jan. 13 there were three 7 dans, three 6 dans, a 5 dan and 9 kyu players including 3 or 4 Canadians for a total of 16 new players. Two new A leagues will be created. Altogether there will be at least 4 new leagues and possibly 6. The waiting list is published on the league web page now.

What will be the results of this?

- Tougher competition. No easy games likely.
 - Improved GO. Strong players will get stronger.
 - Good for young players. On line opportunity to play strong players is important.
 - CLIG can become a teaching opportunity for beginners. (explained later)
 - A larger, healthier CGA
- cont.

Join the CGA Leagues: Deadline for new entries Round 2 league is January 31, 2012

More League information - <http://www.go-canada.org/league>

Note: We need players of all strengths. There is a shortage of 3 and 4 dan players.

Game Review GO teachers wanted: All levels. Contact Chuck ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca

CGA Membership doubles

At the time of this writing CGA membership has almost doubled to just below 400. That includes the 16 Americans who play in the league.

League News The on lookers are eagerly awaiting the Dragon matches between Xianyu Li, 7D and Bill Lin, 7D. So far they haven't scheduled a match. Come on you guys. We are waiting.

Bill Lin, Dragon



Xianyu Li, Challenger



Returning Canadian Players: These include Hanxi Zhang, 6D and Harry Cheng, 6D. Also, Jiandong Li from Montreal is expected to join.

American 7 dans: These include Changlong Wu from North Carolina, Jimmy Guo from New York and Hugh Zhang from San Jose, CA.

A (Dragon) and A-1 Divisions to be dominated by 7Ds. With five 7 dans in these top 2 divisions and a third one lurking below in the A-2 division there are only two spots left for six dans. Who of the 8 six dans will be up to knocking off a 7 dan in the coming rounds. I have no idea. Do you? However, I believe that young Aaron Ye, 5D from California is a good bet to make 6D soon and follow that up with a 7D promotion this year or next.. I say this because I watched him play a game with Yingzhi Chen. He made a move against a strong white group that I thought was end-game. It seemed to surprise Chen who took a lot of time to answer. I realized then that it was a serious threat to kill the group. Chen counter attacked against Ye's black corner stones. I thought that Aaron's group would die. It was difficult. But why would Aaron risk the attempt to kill in the first place if he hadn't read it all out. It just seemed to me that this was more like a 7 dan fight. I was also impressed with Chen's play.

These matches will provide ongoing opportunity for learning by watching.

Waterloo GO Tournament: Feb 5, 2012, Waterloo, Ontario

Click here for details: <http://hsu.ahed.ca/waterloo/info.php>

Questions: Contact: Greg at uwgoclub@gmail.com

CGA Membership Fees abolished —new direction

CGA Membership Fees now voluntary.

From now on anyone who is a Canadian or who resides in Canada is eligible for free membership in the CGA. In times when prices only go up this will come as a surprise. However, it was passed by the CGA executive. Here are the immediate **benefits**.

- Membership will most certainly increase (hopefully triple at least)
- Salaries will not increase. (That's because there are none)
- Management of money will be simpler.
- I believe we can sustain our organization on donations alone.
- We will continue to function without government assistance.
- I believe many Americans will join to participate in the leagues. One has already, Aaron Ye, a 5 dan from California. Membership in the AGA is acceptable and CGA membership will be given automatically.

Q. How will it work—current members?

A. All current members whose membership is currently valid to March 1, 2012 will continue to be registered. However, they will be sent an email message reminding them that they must re-register and notify us of any address or phone or email change. They can request to be removed from the registered list. Those who do not respond will be flagged to not receive newsletters and be permanently deleted within one month. Those who register will be given a 2 year free registration (membership) after which they must again re-register.

Q. How will it work—expired members?

A. They will be given 1 month to reply and request free registration. They will be given two years free registration. Tell your friends. Take advantage immediately.

Q. How will the CGA survive financially?

A. Good question. When anyone registers they will have an opportunity to donate money for our expenses. Many of our members have shown generosity by purchasing 2 and 5 year memberships. Many parents who appreciate the opportunities we have provided through our programs want to help. In the past we have not encouraged donations because we had a surplus and still do but soon we will need your donations. We know only some will give or can afford to give so now they will have an opportunity and we will be encouraging you to give.

Q. Why do you think this is a better system (model)?

A. Another good question. I can only speak for myself but what is important is the attitude of the CGA and its members and executive. If we totally depend on our members for support then we are forced to offer value for that support. In other words, the quality of what we offer must not only be maintained but should improve. We must listen to the members. Only time will tell. I could be wrong.

The first donation has come in from Alberta. When he asked how much the membership fee was I told him not to pay because a change is coming very soon but he could make a donation. He did. It was a cheque for \$100. This encouraged me. I hope it will encourage you to at least support the idea and even be part of it if that is in your heart to do so.

The CGA Needs your Support

We are now looking down the road to a new era in the CGA. It exciting and at the same time a little scary. I say this because, as you know, we have eliminated membership fees in order to reach out to many more GO players. When I first became president 3 1/2 years ago membership was very low. People didn't seem to have much reason to join the CGA except to participate in the CGA Open tournament so membership typically did not go much higher than the attendance at the Open in the previous year.

At the CGA Open in Winnipeg in Sept. 2007, Chuck and I talked about a new vision and we agreed to give it a try. He and Brenda came out from Edmonton and I came out from Toronto. We talked about a new vision where players would see real value in a national CGA promoting GO in Canada. Of course, the CGA would actually have to offer value for the players to see it. Winnipeg was far from both the east and BC where most of the players lived so the attendance was only about 20 in total. Chuck didn't play in the tournament. He was interested in meeting people and getting buy in. His wife Brenda came with him. She stood for treasurer. Chuck wanted to build the membership so he took that job. I would do the president's job. Joseph Levasseur from Quebec would host the next CGA Open in 2008. Christopher So also pitched in. Slowly, many changes took place. Here is a summary:

- **Executive meetings** in time where held on the internet using SKYPE. Previously, we tried to discuss ideas and vote using email which was very clumsy. SKYPE was a huge improvement.
- A **beginner club program** offered free GO sets for new clubs. We worked with the AGA on that. Tyler Reynolds manages that program.
- In 2009, Chuck introduced the **on-line leagues**. The idea here was to offer year round value at no extra cost and help players improve. It has been very successful. Parents of young players in the league praise it highly.
- In 2011, league prizes included a cash sum of \$450. We hope to grow this annually.
- In 2009, the leagues were recognized as replacing the annual **Winter Cup** on-line event.
- Membership policy began to include 2 year and 5 year memberships at a discount. Members liked this. It reflected both generosity and an appreciation of less bureaucracy.

How to Donate:

Consider how much you wish to donate. Suggested amounts

- \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$300 _____
- Other amount \$ _____ CDN or US _____

Any amount is appreciated. You may pay by PayPal on line or mail a cheque to the CGA.

By **PayPal**: Send me an email to ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca specifying the amount. I will send you a PayPal link for the amount.. You will get a receipt from PayPal.

By **Cheque**: Send your cheque to the CGA CGA treasurer, Brenda Elliott
10828 122 St., Edmonton, AB, Canada T5M 0A6

We depend totally on your financial support and commitment. Thank you

CGA Open—2012, report from Marc St. Onge

Just a quick note to tell you that I have reserved GREAT facilities for the Canatian Open at the Université du Québec en Outaouais, for June 29th to July 2nd. The facilities are really nice, and state of the art. There is one large room and 3 classes. They are all equipped with great audio-video systems, and of course all the chairs and tables required.

Now I will try to convince the University to give us all that for FREE.

Good luck Marc. We all wish you success on the negotiations.

A Wonderful cake — story by Nick Prince, Hamilton, ON.

This delectable cake was created by Philip and Heather Wonder to celebrate the one year anniversary of the Mountain Go Club in Hamilton, Ontario. Our short club history started when Philip said in passing, "We should start a Go Club" and I impulsively agreed. We found our meeting location at The Canadian Japanese Cultural Center, who has been very generous in allowing us to use their facilities. Through the Center we were able to meet one of our members, Yuki Nogami, who has been instrumental in our success. We also had the privilege to host our first ever tournament with approximately 20 attendees. The best part is all the other Go players we've been able to meet and play around Southern Ontario. It's been a great year for Go in Hamilton, and I hope this year will be even better.



The CGA wishes you success in the New Year.

Grant Kerr of Regina, SK tells about using GO to explore ideas in Project Management

Grant Kerr used the game of Go to explore and expand project management concepts, receiving a PhD degree from Skema Business School (one of France's grandes ecoles) for his efforts. He used 83 Go proverbs to create analogies with project management, then developed project management strategies based on these proverbs for dealing with uncertainty, with conflict, with change, with weaknesses, etc. One area of future research will be to gather feedback from other project managers on these ideas. If you are a project management person and would like to discuss some of these ideas, contact Grant at gkerr@cips.ca. Grant is a student of Yuan Zhou.

Grant Kerr, Regina SK

Apology from the Newsletter Editor

The last newsletter 2011-Vol 6 was published but never sent out. I was holding it back for approval on the membership motion (see page 2). Because of the delay and my failing memory, I totally forgot to send it out so you will get 2 newsletters this time.

I am sorry for the inconvenience.
Chuck

League News:**Bill Lin retains Dragon title for start of 2012**

The final round of 2011 has completed. Bill Lin won over Daniel Gourdeau by 2—0.

**A-2 Division**

James Sedgwick has redeemed himself by winning the division with 3/4 wins. He lost only to Bin Tang. Wei Cheng also had 3 wins but lost because of his 3rd place standing in the division. This means that James will return to the A-1 division. The competition is very tight in both the top two divisions.

Also, I noted that Oliver Wolf lost all 4 matches. We have been used to seeing Oliver finish at the top of the division ever since he joined the leagues. It looks maybe like the 5 and 6 dans are taking this young player seriously. Oliver will be demoted back to the A-3 division but He will return I am sure. The question is—Will he make the A-1 division in 2012 or 2013?

A-1 Division

Xianyu Li but on a great burst in the final week of play, collecting 4 wins (1 by default) to finish first and become the Dragon challenger in the next round. I believe all wins were by resignation. The next round should be very exciting to watch

**The Purpose of a Go Club.**

Every GO club should decide on its purpose and strive to work at it all the time. I will tell you what I think the main purpose ought to be and why.

“To teach GO to new players and especially young ones” Why do I say this.? In every organization there must be continual renewal or the organization will die. Have you observed this? It is the same with family. Families must produce children and teach them the values they believe and have been taught.

Some will say “I’m not a good teacher” or “They’re not interested” or “They can’t learn.” or “Its boring teaching beginners.” or “I’m too busy”. All these are merely obstacles in the head. When your stones are under attack, do you not fight back when its important to do so? Of course.

So, my message here is too encourage club leaders to gain a renewed focus on what they are doing to teach GO to beginners. It’s everyone’s responsibility, not the responsibility of one person. Over the years I have learned that teaching becomes one of the most enjoyable experiences. Try it. It builds strength. It builds commitment

League Rules:

Several members have made suggestions to improve the operation of the CLIG (CGA KGS on-line leagues). Before announcing any changes please allow me to summarize some problems:

- Many players do not or are unable to schedule and play their required quota of games.
- There are 2 reasons for this. It causes the opponents to get frustrated.
 - Some players leave their opportunities to play too late. No time left.
 - Some don't seem to take the responsibility seriously.
 - Sometimes a player usually forgets to show up. If this is reported then a default is awarded.

For the manager it is difficult sometimes to identify the players who are not taking the leagues seriously enough.

The leagues can only operate effectively when the responsibility to play is taken seriously. I have come to the conclusion that there must be consequences for the above violations and they must also be simple to implement.

Here are the proposed changes:

1. After the league play begins and the deadline announced then that deadline will not change under any circumstance. Therefore players are encouraged to play there games sooner rather than later.
2. Each player will be assigned a league rating based on points, something like a driving record. There will be penalty points for the following:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| • not showing up for a game | 10 points |
| • not playing all required games. | 10 points/game |
| • Not answering email requests to play | 8 points each infraction |

For each infraction the round (eg. 2012-1) and points will be recorded. If the accumulated points exceeds or equals 30 points within 3 rounds then the player will face an automatic eviction for 1 round. His points will be set to 0. A second eviction will result in a 3 round penalty and 3rd penalty will result in a one year (6 round) suspension.

There will be no penalty for a no-show if the game schedule was not reported prior to the game. It is up to player who is not reporting it to check that it was reported. This will prevent misunderstandings concerning game time and date.

These penalties will not apply to the handicap division.

To avoid a penalty for not playing a player should email the league manager and forward the request to play a game only after the opponent has not replied within 1 week and a penalty for the opponent should be requested to protect receiving a penalty yourself.

I do want to thank the players who do make effort to contact their opponents and schedule and play games.

GO growth in Edmonton

Irene Sha's kid's class

Late this spring Irene Sha started a Go class for kids aged 5, 6 and 7. She has 10 students, all Chinese. The parents bring them to Irene's house on Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Some parents stay and help. I was told that some students don't want to leave at 4:00 o'clock after the session. They want to continue to play. I was amazed at how well the space in her basement was organized. The room was large (originally a recreation room) and there were 3 6 ft. tables in a row. They are

shown playing on 9 x 9 boards in the picture.



Irene uses a large magnetic board for teaching. The kids compete with each other and a large display shows all the names with little stickers for wins or other good behaviour. The walls are decorated with historic GO pictures and other pictures making an excellent playing environment.

MacEwan University GO Club?

Irene, her parents and I were investigating possibilities of a new club location in Edmonton with an emphasis on teaching. This started before her class was formed but we weren't very successful initially when we tried community associations. When we inquired at MacEwan University there was better luck.

There was finally an opportunity to present to some students. 8 showed up but considering exam time it was good. The University staff are very encouraging and want to see a club formed in January when we get the required number of students. A club that puts emphasis on teaching and kids must have suitable hours so we restricted possibilities that allowed Saturday afternoon meetings.

Oh yes, the use of the MacEwan facility is free when it is finally approved. Irene's parents, Lei and Penny have been most helpful and encouraging in both these projects. Wish us luck in starting up in January.

Chuck Elliott

Fourth US-Canada Youth Friendship Match

Canada's Youth Victorious over US 4-1

The future of North American go was on full display this past Sunday at the 4th US-Canada Youth Friendship Match, held on KGS and viewed by over 250 go fans. With many exciting matches featuring intense middle games, the Canadians managed to pull away for the third year in a row, posting a 4-1 victory over the U.S. In a rematch of last year's top board, Ryan Li, the runner up to the 2010 and 2011 Canadian Opens, once again managed to best Calvin Sun in a close match featuring a territory versus influence battle. Intense fighting was the theme of the next few boards, with Gansheng Shi, Jianing Gan, and Andrew Huang of Canada posting victories for Canada, and the lone American win from USYGC Champion Vincent Zhuang. With such a strong showing overall, the North American team has a chance to reclaim victory against the European youth in the Transatlantic Match that will be played next spring. Full results can be seen [here](#). -Special report by Lawrence Ku See more results on the US link below.

<http://www.usgo.org/news/2011/12/canada-3-peats-in-4th-youth-friendship-matches/>



From above left, Ryan Li 7 dan, Gansheng Shi, 6 dan, Andrew Huang, 6 dan, Jianing Gan, 7 dan, the 4 Canadian winners. Daniel Gourdeau, 6 dan, lower right lost to Vincent Huang of the US by 4.5 points

This is a marvelous result for Canadian youth. We are thankful for their dedication to study and excellence. They hopefully will encourage other Canadian youth to follow.



Svetlana's Go Course and League Schedule

Svetlana's internet course has finished the first round. I heard back from one student., Paul in Quebec

"I liked it, although I still have to integrate the material I picked up in the last month. Funny enough, with all the stuff, the games (together with the games on the CGA) I'm a bit "over GO" (the same as being "over golf" - when you play too much). I'm however convinced I will bounce and progress further."

Svetlana, herself has said she covers topics such as history of GO as well as technique.

Please consider signing up for the next session. Starting in January. You will surely improve your GO.

To register send an email to Svetlana. Email me ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca if you are not sure of your CGA registration status. There probably is no other professional teaching course available anywhere and at no cost. The CGA is most grateful for Svetlana's generous offer.

Round		Main League
1	Jan,	
2	Feb.	
	Mar	
	April	break
3	May,	
4	June	
	July	
	Aug.	break
5	Sept.	
6	Oct.	
	Nov.	
	Dec.	break

Svetlana Shikshina, 3p.

www.shikshina.com

www.go-players.com

The previous session was limited to kyu players but now Svetlana is hoping to expand to include low dan players as well.

Here is the 2012 league schedule for the coming year.

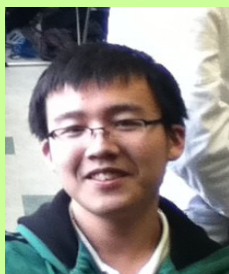
Note: If you play in the leagues and also take Svetlana's course doing both may be too much. The leagues are on going so sitting out a round to improve is perhaps the best course. Dropping out of the leagues or Svetlana's course in the middle because of lack of time is like a reckless invasion without a plan.

September, 2011 Edition:

- Svetlana's generous offer to CGA members (page 4)
- Yongfe Ge wins US Go Congress Open
- CLIG News. Bill Lin victorious in defeating Xianyu Li (Dragon)
- CLIG News. Round 4 ends strangely.
- CLIG News—Round 5—The Americans are coming!
- 2014 CGA Open - Combined with US Go Congress
- CGA Membership likely to double or triple soon!!

CLIG Round 2011-4 - Dragon Division

**Remi Campagnie, 6 dan
Round 11-5**



**Peter Zhang, 6 dan
Should have been
11-5 Challenger**



**Bill Lin, 6 dan
Round 11-5
Dragon**

In a single game playoff Bill Lin was victorious over Xianyu Li, 7 dan in a surprise upset. There wasn't time to play a best of 3 or best of 5 so it everything on the line. You can check the game in KGS.. Li resigned after move 113 following an earlier misread in the fighting. But no doubt about it Bill Lin is getting stronger. He may be hard to upset. I expect Li to be back in the Dragon division for round 6.

Round 4 ends strangely in deciding the challenger.

After all games but 1 was played There was a 4 way tie for first place, all with 6 points but Peter Zhang held the top spot so there was no question that he should be promoted. Remi Campagnie, in second place also with 6 points asked in an email if he could play his final game even though it was after the deadline. I said OK but I didn't intend to count the result. Remi played the game and won which would have given him 8 points. I posted the results without the win and Remi objected as I hadn't clarified the decision. I had a little sympathy with the complaint so I suggested he offer to play Peter a game and the winner would be promoted. Peter was graciously obliging. They played the game and Peter lost. Looking back, I don't think this suggestion by myself was the best but there was no going back now. It did bring out the seriousness of the top leagues and the importance of playing all the games on time. I apologize for this officiating slip and resulting confusion.

More League information - See <http://www.go-canada.org/league> (join now)

Membership to double or triple!!

Did you think I am talking about the membership fees? No. I am referring to the number of CGA members. Oh. Then the fees are going to be cut in half or more? No. They are already very low and a fraction of the \$40 US Go Association's fees. So what's going to happen? At the next CGA meeting on Sept. 16 there will be motion to introduce a voluntary free membership which can be renewed every 2 years. This is why the membership will grow. Anyone interested in Go and what the CGA offers will continue to be a member. Wouldn't you? OK, you ask "But how will the CGA fund itself? Doesn't it need money to pay it's bills, help new clubs, subsidize the CGA Open, provide prize money in the CLIG, pay for the web site and other things? Good question. Answer -

Members will be given a choice to make a donation of a suggested amount or larger. We know many will be happy to do this because they tell us this and we are continuing to offer better service. You may have your doubts but I for one am not worried and whatever the details that are decided we do hope you support the CGA decision with a generous heart.

We may soon have 100 members but maybe only 250 will be financially supporting. There may be some very wealthy who choose not to contribute and there will be others who are not well off but give generously. This will be up to individuals and I for one would encourage anyone to give to the CGA unless they give willingly.

Comments are welcome, especially before the final motion and vote takes place.

ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca (Put **Vote** in the subject line)

CLIG News—Round 5—The Americans are coming!

Aaron Ye, a 9 year old 4/5 dan from California in the US has joined the CGA CLIG. He is excited about this opportunity and I am also because the leagues are getting good publicity in the Go community. Aaron was encouraged to join by Canadian friends at the US Go Congress.

Another, bonus to having Americans join us is that there is better hope of a single unified rating system, Aaron's US rating was 405 which is a dan in KGS. He is starting at 350, an average Canadian 4 dan. I will be watching him. His mother will be scheduling and he is in the Pacific time zone, the same as BC.

He is in the A-3 league with Oliver Wolf of similar age

Wei (Water) Cheng at the bottom of the A-2 league must be nervous. He told me a couple of years ago that playing these kids is hard on him. They don't give up easily and they keep getting better.

US GO Congress, US Open Champion—Canadian Yongfei Ge, 7 dan

(From the AGA Journal)

Yongfei Ge 7d (I) won the 2011 U.S. Open, edging out ZhaoNian Chen 7d and ZiYang Hu 7d, who were also 5-1. Ge – who defeated pros ZiYang Hu 1P and Mingming Yin 1P (I) — collected \$2,000 for the title while Chen won \$1,000 and Hu \$500. Yin, who came in fourth in the Open, won the Strong Player Open, winning \$500, with Gangshen Shi in second (\$400) and Cathy Li third (\$300). Other top winners in the U.S. Open were Mengchen Zhang (5th) and Tianyu (Bill) Lin (6th); other top winners in the Strong Player's Open were Tianyu Lin (fourth) and Hugh Zhang (5th).

Yonfei's comments

I was lucky in the US Open as some very strong Americans didn't show up, such as Jie Li and Andy Liu - I haven't beaten them even once.

The toughest match was with ZiYang Hu 1P from China, he is very very strong, I made more mistakes than him but he made the last mistake which ended up to be the deadly one.

In round 6, ZhaoNian Chen beat me. ZhaoNian Chen, ZiYang Hu and I were all at 5-1, and I had the same SOS as ZhaoNian Chen. I won 1st place only because I had a higher SOSOS, which is really lucky by any means.

In the middle of the games, I went to a horse riding tour - I really enjoyed it and I learned how to ride a horse in that tour.



Yongfei Ge, 7 dan
US Open Champion 2011



Ganshen Shi, 7 dan came second in the Strong Player Open winning \$400



Bill Lin, 6 dan came 4th. Bill Lin, however placed 6th overall in the US Open



Irene Sha, 6 dan at right won the 6 dan division including a win over a 7 dan.



Cathy Li, Canadian 1P at right came third in the Strong Players Open

Oliver Wolf, currently ranked CDN 4 dan had an excellent 5-1 performance including wins against 5 dans at the Congress Open



2014 CGA Open - Combined with US Go Congress

At the US Go Congress in Santa Barbara, CA CGA president, James Sedgwick was approached by the AGA GO Congress organizers about hosting the 2014 US GO Congress in a Canadian city. I see this as great opportunity to further unite the 2 organizations enabling them to work together better. Besides it would be an awesome event. Vancouver is a possibility. Comments or suggestions welcome. Response will be required shortly.

Svetlana Shikshina's generous offer to CGA members

Last year, I developed my **go-players.com** program as a 'thank-you' to my dedicated on-line students. It was a trial-run, but it went over well with all of them. Since then, I've been thinking about what to do with the program. Instead of charging money for it, I've decided to cut the 10-week program down to 4-weeks and offer it monthly to a select group of different Go players at no charge.

It's difficult for me to find interested Canadian Go players alone, but I think there must be some who would like to take advantage of this program. If you feel like the CGA would like to offer this to their members or to their youth amateurs, could you or someone at the CGA please gather names of those wishing to participate. Please include their names, ranks, contact information (e-mail), and location (it will be important to know which time zone they live in).

Because I'm playing a couple big tournaments this month and next, I'd like to start my next group in October. If there isn't enough interest to start at that time, I will keep the program open to the CGA, but will offer it elsewhere.

Brief explanation about the program

It was developed for 6~12 go players between 6kyu and 1dan. I will take 10 participants each month. It includes weekly tasks, such as **problem solving** (covering joseki, fuseki, middle game, life and death, tesuji, yose), **Go research** (answering questions which are intended to build their knowledge about the history of Go around the world), **game play** against the other players, and a **group lecture** by me.

Weekly tasks will be assessed by me, and at the end of the program, the player with the best results will win a 1-on-1 90 minute game and review with me.

The program uses a combination of my website (www.go-players.com), KGS (go server), and Skype. All tasks must be submitted by a due date via e-mail.

Best regards,
Svetlana Shikshina, 3p.
www.shikshina.com
www.go-players.com

To request to accept Svetlana's offer email me at ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca and I will put you on the list for selection. If more than 12 answer within 4 days the lucky ones will be selected by criteria determined by the CGA. Please provide the following: (name, email, age if youth, rank, city, Years playing Go and anything else that would be helpful)

Special Edition:

- **2011 CGA Open** Report from Calgary
- **CLIG** news. CLIG Grows steadily.
- **CGA ratings**
- **CGA 3.5 year membership** graph
- **International / Ing Points debate, standings**
- **James Sedgwick** reports from **Shanghai**.
- **The Sherbrooke Go Club**—P. I. LaFleche
- **2012 CGA Open**—Gatineau, Quebec.

CLIG Round 2011-3— Dragon Division

Xianyu Li
7 dan
Dragon

Bill Lin, 6 dan
Round 11-4
Challenger



In the best of 3 Li defeated Daniel 2-1. Daniel was threatening after he won game 2 but Li prevailed and he continues to dominate. Daniel is taking a leave of absence overseas and will return for round 5 in September. Bill Lin, 7 dan won the A-1 league which ended in a tie with Peter Zhang but Bill Lin occupied the higher position which gave him the right to move up. Bill had lost one game

Against Remi Campagne who has improved considerably recently.

Bill took a game against Li in a previous Dragon match. He will have to do better this time. Sedgwick is back in the A-1 league with a score of 5 wins, 1 loss. Two others were right behind with scores of 4 wins and 2 losses.

CLIG Round 2011-4

The CLIG grew only slightly to 44 players in round 4 but that is because 9 players are on holidays for the summer or overseas and are expected back for round 5. This isn't counting the handicap division. Overall it is very healthy and growing.

In A-1 division Remi Campagnie, #2 upset #1, Peter Zhang So Remi is favoured to become the Dragon Challenger. With Sedgwick sitting out Remi's chances are looking good but Harry Cheng beat him in round 3 and that should be an important matchup this round.

New entries Li, Jian Dong, 6 dan, Ben Mantle, 5 dan and Clayton Skibinski, 4 dan are all starting out in the A-2 division. Strong players will not be automatically injected into the A-1 division from now on, even if they are 7 dans. This is simply based on fairness. You must earn your entry into that league. There are now serious prizes at stake. The ones who have earned their spot there deserve respect.

More League information - See <http://www.go-canada.org/league> (join now)

Special—James reports from Shanghai.

I've signed up to study Go in Shanghai June 26th - July 19th. Every 5 years we get an extra 2 weeks off at work, and this seemed like the perfect way to use the time. We're staying in Songjiang university town. It is section of Shanghai with 7 different universities. From Pudong airport I could reach the town with a two hour subway ride. The shanghai subway is very nice, missing the annoying squeaks we get in Toronto. The name on the gate just says "Student University", so I'm not quite sure how to distinguish this one, beyond the address. The university itself is gated off from the rest of the city. It's large campus with many grand stone buildings. The campus is almost empty in summer. We've staying in dorm rooms, your choice of single/double. 50\$ more for the single, to me it was a reasonable price to pay.

It's rainy season here now. We've actually only had a few hours of drizzle, although it's been constantly humid. The only complaints I've heard are about the mosquito's. There are a lot of them, and somehow they find their way into most places even indoors. I don't react much and so haven't been bothered, but some of the others are suffering.

There are 10 students in the class. They have one pro teaching, 3 strong amateurs, and an extra translator. The professional is the only non English speaker. 3 Spanish players are attending (Antonio, Ricardo, and Maria), a father (Phillis) and his daughter (Sally 9 years old) from Hong Kong, a swedish fellow Max and finish fellow Peter, and two older Taiwanese Americans Vincent and a friend of hist who's name I haven't caught. It's not a large group. There are trade offs with that. Not so much competition between the attendees (not easy to run league style play for example). but on the other hand lots of individual attention from the instructors.

We have class in the morning from 9:30 - noon approximately. Then lessons or teaching games in the afternoon 2-5. In the evening after about 8 pm we have what's basically a comfortable house for social time. Mostly we play more Go games:) The living quarters and social building are about a 15 minute walk from the study area. You don't want to forget things in the morning! The study area is inside the sports stadium, right by the gate. On break we have a large sports facility free for our use, often we kick a soccer ball, or sometimes go into the gym for badminton.

Here's a lesson on a popular Shanghai trick play.

http://www.go-canada.org/game/Shanghai_trick_play.sgf

League players should especially study this so James won't trick you when he returns in the next league round.

Thanks James for the warning.

The Sherbrooke Go Club—Pierre Ives Lafleche

The Sherbrooke Go Club meets on Wednesday evenings at 7pm at the University of Sherbrooke, in the science faculty cafeteria. The club has seven members that have joined the CGA, four of which are currently active in Canadian League play and there are about a dozen other players that show up at the club on occasion. Strengths currently vary from 12 kyu to 4 dan, but several players joined the club as beginners and progressed up to single digit kyu levels.

Recent participation and trophies at the Ottawa's embassy tournament (3 players, including François Porzio 1kyu, 1st place group E, Vincent Bilodeau 1-kyu, 2nd place Group D) and the Montreal Winter tournament (6 players, including Ram Homier 1-kyu, 1st place group E) are motivating for the entire club and we are on the edge of having several new dan-level players active on the canadian scene!

The club organizes through google groups at the following link:
<http://groups.google.com/group/SherbrookeGoClub>

CGA Rating System reporting has changed.

For dan players the CGA will no longer report rating and rank independently. In the past when a player's rating increased into the next band by some arbitrary amount such as 20 points then his rank was increased. The problem was that there was no good way to reduce the rank when the rating dropped. Sometimes, a player was simply awarded a high rank because that what he claimed to be. Enough said, let's look at the new way.

The new way: The CGA only tracks a player's rating.

For example a 3 dan rating is a rating between 200 and 299. This is divided into 3 sections -

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Rank</u>
First 25 points (200 - 224)	3– dan
Next 50 points (225 - 274)	3 dan
Next 25 points (275 - 299)	3+ dan

So the difference between a 3+ dan and a 4– dan is no more than a half rank.
 The difference between a 3– dan and a 4+ dan is at least 1.5 ranks and at most 2 ranks.

Advantages:

It is a simple way to describe one's strength more accurately.
 It can be used to assign handicaps more accurately.
 It's easier to manage either manually or by computer.
 Promotions by rank appear faster. Even a rating of 601 will result in a **7- dan** rank.

Disadvantage:

Some will not be happy to see their rank fall.

2012 CGA Open—Gatineau Quebec

The CGA is expecting to receive a formal proposal from Marc St. Onge. It only then needs to be approved by the CGA executive.

Immediately following this tournament the CGA membership will surely reach a record high of at least 350 players (currently at 284) It will be held on the July 1, 2012 weekend. Gatineau is just across the St. Lawrence River from Ottawa, a short drive. A great place for the Canada Day celebrations.

The 2011 CGA Open - Calgary, Alberta

As I was there for all three days and saw everything, was involved in registrations, talked to many people and attended the banquet I thought I would give you my impressions while they are fresh in my mind.

Overall This a great tournament, a success. It was short of kyu players, mostly because there were not many local players registered. However, they all seemed to have a good time. The venue was excellent. The large playing room was separate from the other two rooms. There was lots of space for the 32 registered players plus the many volunteers and parents. The organizers did a great job. Construction workers sealed off the main entrance on the first morning so we all had to go up 2 flights of stairs on the fire escape. No harm done. We had advertised mountain climbing as an option didn't we?

Banquet The banquet had about 30 people (3 tables). The food was excellent and the Chinese restaurant was only 3 blocks from the venue in Chinatown.

3 day format The 3 day format was new. The 6 round Swiss McMahon was scheduled with 2 games/day making everything very relaxed. It was a big success in my own opinion. Even the last day was a day of Go for everyone preceeding the awards.

It was indicated by strong players that the time allotment could have been increased say to 1 hour/ player instead of 45 minutes. This will be decided at the next CGA meeting and I'm sure there will be no opposition. I will move to also increase byo-yomi time to 12 minutes/25 stones from 10 minutes/25 stones. This is for top division and possibly others.

Where and Who

- BC - Some drove from BC. Some flew.
- Edmonton - About 5 players drove or bussed down from Edmonton as well as 4 volunteers.
- Winnipeg - Adam Fritz drove a carload from Winnipeg. Awesome.. Deryk left by car also but unfortunately his car broke down at the Saskatchewan border and he never made it.
- Many came from Ontario, including a 10 year old girl (1 dan).

Jing Yang dominates with six wins—See next page



The 2011 CGA Open - Calgary, Alberta continued

		Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5		Round 6		Re.	
		Opp.	Scr.	Opp.	Scr.	Opp.	Scr.	Opp.	Scr.	Opp.	Scr.	Opp.	Scr.	O. S.	Re.
1	Ge Yongfei	(2)	2	3	4	(6)	4	12	6	7	6	(10)	8	38	4
2	Wang Dong	1	0	4	0	(12)	2	(9)	4	6	4	(8)	4	34	10
3	Lin Bill	(4)	2	(1)	2	11	2	5	2	(8)	4	9	6	34	6
4	Sha Irene	3	0	(2)	2	(7)	2	8	2	9	4	(5)	4	30	11
5	Cheng Wei	(6)	0	8	0	(9)	2	(3)	4	11	4	4	6	38	5
6	Yang Jing	5	2	(7)	4	1	6	(11)	8	(2)	10	12	12	40	1
7	Koh Juyong	(8)	2	6	2	4	4	10	6	(1)	8	(11)	8	44	3
8	Luo Simon	7	0	(5)	2	(10)	2	(4)	4	3	4	2	6	32	7
9	S. Clayten	(10)	0	12	0	5	0	2	0	(4)	0	(3)	0	28	12
10	Yu Liang	9	2	(11)	2	8	4	(7)	4	(12)	4	1	4	36	9
11	Li Ryan	(12)	2	10	4	(3)	6	6	6	(5)	8	7	10	40	2
12	Wang Z L	11	0	(9)	2	2	2	(1)	2	10	4	(6)	4	38	8

The A-1 division of 12 players was dominated by Jing Yang, Yongfe Ge, Bill Lin, Ryan LI, and Juyong Koh. Jing Yang prevailed over the others with 6 wins. In doing so, his rating moved him up but not enough to overtake Ryan Li who is number two amateur in Canada, below Zi Yang Hu from BC. Yongfe Ge also moved up.

Ing / International Points Total by Player

CGA ID	Name	Total Int.	Total Ing	Cash Award	Year	Award	Playoff Needed	Int. Pts	Ing Pts
3137	Yang, Jing	80	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 1st	<input type="checkbox"/>	80	0
3863	Li, Ryan	60	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 2nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	60	0
1092	Ge, Yongfei	45	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 3rd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	45	0
1152	Koh, Juyong	30	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 4th	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30	0
3015	Cheng, Wei (Tiger)	20	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 5th	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	0
3796	Lin, Bill (Tianyu)	15	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 6th	<input type="checkbox"/>	15	0
3831	Luo, Simon	10	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 7th	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	0
3370	Wang, Zongliang	10	0	0.	CGA Open 2011	CGA 8th	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	0

The 2011 CGA Open - Calgary, Alberta continued

The Pairs Competition: The four pairs entered were

Final place	Female	Male
1	Irene Sha, 6 dan Edmonton	Bill Lin, 6 dan Vancouver
2	Amira Song, 4 dan, Toronto	Juyong Koh, 7 dan Vancouver
3	Shan Lu, 5 dan	Bing Xiao, 3 dan Edmonton
4	Icy Bin, 10 kyu? Toronto	Clayten Skibinski, 4 dan Calgary

In round 1 team #1 defeated team #4. And team #2 defeated team #3

In round 2 team #1 defeated team #2.

Congratulations to all players.

Unlike past years where there was never time to play a pairs match on days 1 and 2, there was time and the matches were I believe finished on day 2. Others had time to watch.

The A-2 division (4-5 dan) There were 8 players in this division Zu Bai from Edmonton won with 5 wins (one by default). Shan Lu (Richmond, BC) was second also with 5 wins followed by Wei Cheng (The Water) and Jasper Wong also from Richmond, BC) each with 4. Zu defeated Shan in their matchup game.

The B, C, D divisions were combined and players played with handicaps. The software wasn't allowing players to compete in other divisions so this is why they were combined. It resulted in too many large handicap games but there wasn't much complaint.

Tony Adria (Edmonton) won the B division

Miki Ishikawa (Winnipeg) won the C-D division

Cathy Li, pro from Vancouver was there reviewing games, giving lectures and she even played 9 or 10 simultaneous games on the second day before the banquet. This could never have happened with the 2 day format. Her opponents were all kyu players with big handicaps. They all lost. Cathy apologized for that. She wanted to take on the strong players in a separate event but there wasn't enough time.

Cont....

Cathy Li playing about 12 simultaneous games with kyu players and lower dan players.

She won them all.

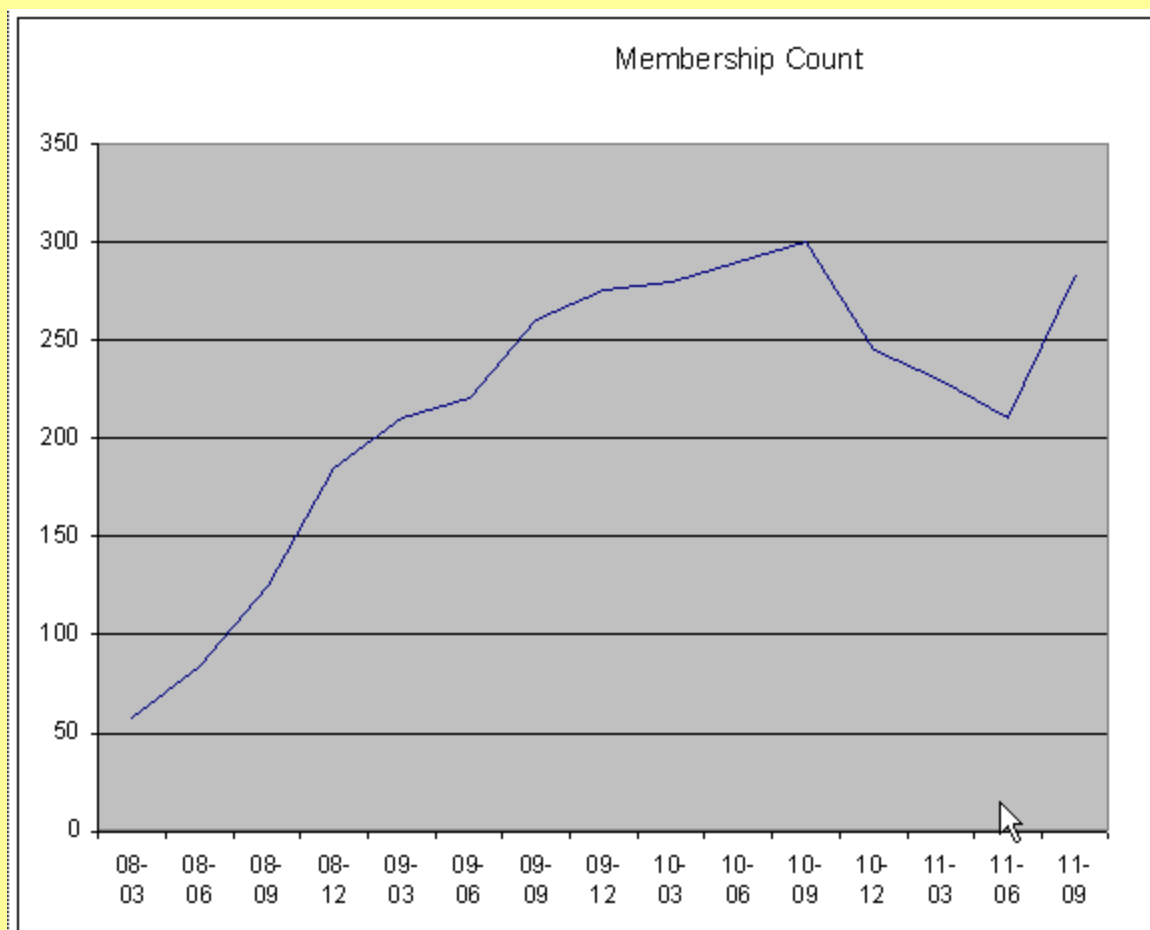
To see more pictures see the Calgary Web site

www.calgarygo.ca

Hopefully it will be updated when you get This newsletter.



CGA membership from 2008-03 to present



The above graph shows how membership has climbed since March in 2008 when a new direction was taken by a new executive.. The large dip in 2011 is due to the failure of most new members recruited at the Canadian Open in Vancouver and Toronto to renew memberships. We are working on correcting the impression for many of those players that the CGA offers any value. It is slowly changing. For example, in the past 4 days 8 members across the country bought 5 year memberships while only one bought a one year membership.

International Ing/International points

To see the current list of Canadian point holders click on the following link

<http://www.go-canada.org/documents/League6aT.pdf>

There was considerable discussion at the CGA Open regarding possible errors and confusion as to how points are awarded. The question of eligibility and citizenship also came up. These questions were not answered at the tournament but there was a commitment to clarify the information at the next executive meeting in August.

From the annual CGA news report

The past year has been an excellent one for the CGA.

International Scene - Great results

Ryan Li represented Canada in **2010 Prime Minister's Cup** in Korea. Ryan wins 6 of 8 games under very difficult conditions finishing in 7'th place..

Congratulations Ryan on the excellent performance.

2010 World Amateur Pairs: Gansheng and I got 10th place, and the U.S. team ended up in 15th this year.

Jun Fan placed 6th.in the World Amateur this year losing only to Taiwan and Japan including important wins over the Netherlands (10th place) and Poland (13th place).

Canadian youth dominate Canada-USA youth matches

Well, spring has finally arrived. You see, I write this from Edmonton and there's still snow on the front lawn but very little now. The robins have recently returned. Most of you are from warmer parts of the country and your winter has long passed.

There isn't much news that I am aware of. If you have any send it in. Anyway, the CLIG is always newsworthy. The CGA Open 2011 and the CGA in general deserves some comment. Read on.

CLIG Round 2011-2— Dragon Division



Xianyu Li
7 dan
Dragon

Daniel Gourdeau
6 dan
Challenger



In the best of 5 Li defeated Bill Lin 3-1. Li is now in a very strong position to pull ahead in the prize departments. He now is a little behind Bill Lin who has 30 points to Li's 25 points. So he also follows Lin in the cash prizes with \$125 to Lin's 150. However Li is in the Dragon league which guarantees at least 10 points but I expect him to be able to handle Daniel Gourdeau.

I'm sure Bill Lin is eager to get back up in the A division. He has Harry Cheng and Peter Zhang to get past. There's also Remi Campagnie who is new to the A division and how did he get up there? He's getting stronger. Andrew Huang is back also but he was placed in the A-2 division and will have to fight his way up but look - Sedgwick's in the way. The battle to the top is now a 2 step process. Win the A-2 league. Fight your way to the top, win that and you're in the Dragon league.

Ing / International Points Total by Player

CGA ID	Name	International Pts. Total	Total Ing Pts.	Cash Award	Year	Round	Award	Int. Points	Ing Points
308	Gourdeau, Daniel	7	15	75.	2011	1	.Dragon Second	4	10
					2011	2	A1 - 1	3	5
1183	Li, Xianyu	10	25	125.	2011	1	A1 - 1	3	5
					2011	2	.Dragon	7	20
1261	Sedgwick, James	2	5	25.	2011	1	A1 - 2	2	4
					2011	2	A1 - 5	0	1
3433	Cheng, Hai (Harry)	2	6	30.	2011	1	A1 - 4	0	2
					2011	2	A1 - 2	2	4
3485	Campagnie, Remi	0	4	20.	2011	1	A1 - 5	0	1
					2011	2	A1 - 3	0	3
3796	Lin, Bill (Tianyu)	11	30	150.	2011	1	.Dragon	7	20
					2011	2	.Dragon Second	4	10
3933	Zhang, Peter	0	5	25.	2011	1	A1 - 3	0	3
					2011	2	A1 - 4	0	2
Total Cash Prizes:				450.					

CLIG Round 2011-2— Dragon Division - cont.

What a wonderful opportunity these young players have to make serious challenges against strong opponents and really improve their strength.

This is what the plan was all about. I'm excited to see it working out. Will other's want in? The door is open. With a \$15 CGA membership fee we could even attract Americans. However, one step at a time.

By Chuck Elliott

CGA news:

Every so often the CGA executive, led by James, the president presides over a Skype meeting. This is an awesome internet tool for groups to get together and discuss things with little or no cost. You can even pass documents around. This has truly transformed how the CGA functions. Really, in the past, having a very rushed meeting once a year at the Open tournament for those who could make it was really difficult or near impossible.

So what kind of things are we discussing?

A topic of much interest is whether the CGA Open should move to the July long weekend in the first week of July from Labour Day weekend in early September. Let me first give you the advantages of July.

- **Accommodations:** In September, universities and colleges are starting up and the campuses are very busy. In July they are empty and inexpensive accommodations are often available with food and meeting room facilities. The US Go Congress usually has their event in summer often taking advantage of affordable accommodation.
- **School Sessions:** In some cities these sessions start in August so it is difficult for those Go players.
- **Longer time period:** The current CGA format has 6 games in 2 days using the Swiss McMahon system which is brutal and leaves little time for getting to know people, teaching games, other events, executive meetings, planning, etc. The option to extend the CGA Open another day or even longer for those interested would be available.

Without saying more I invite CGA members to send in their thoughts about this. The executive would appreciate any feedback. Send to: membership@go-canada.org

Used Go books and equipment for sale - Ontario (The Stan Williams collection)

Stan is an old go friend that I haven't heard from in years. Stan's father was John Williams, a founder of the CGA I understand. However, Stan now living in the Hamilton area has suffered a brain injury, a stroke and other difficulties and must move to a smaller living place. This means selling things including his Go collection.

He has 33 Go books, mostly older ones but include many excellent and rare ones such as Vital Points of Go, Go Proverbs, Strategic Concepts of Go, 1971 Honinbo Tournament.

Cont...

Used Books and Equipment for sale - Ontario (The Stan Williams collection) cont ..

The equipment he describes include the following:

- a beautiful, fancy antique Go-ban in black lacquer and inlaid ivory shell with matching bowls with old shell stones.....
- nice quality game boards and bowls and some nice stones, including shell.
- some smaller size game sets for travelling,
- chess clocks

If you are interested, contact Stan at mail4willy@gmail.com for more information. Make an offer.

CGA - How you can help the CGA grow.

The CGA is slowly developing a vision that is being felt by Go players of all ages and parents. I sense this from the many encouraging emails I receive. It used to be a challenge to get players to voluntarily join the CGA. Now it seems they not only want to join but they want to join for 2 years or even 5 years. Yes the \$50 5 year membership has become very popular. Yes, part of the reason is the discount but I believe the important factor is that it is now recognized that the CGA is reaching out to Go players and responding to their needs. There is a growing confidence and a feeling of unity among Go players.

My purpose in this request is to ask you for a donation towards the CLIG prize money fund. The CGA approved an amount of \$450 to start. This showed executive confidence. The CGA has shown the Go world that Canada has a powerhouse of Go potential in the western world in not only our youth but also our strong adults. This is the time not to sit back and pat ourselves on the back but to push forward and never look back.

On page one I suggested a prize fund of a minimum of \$1000. We need \$550 more to meet that and why stop there. Also this CLIG will continue every year. I know this because it is in the software design for our new on line system. So consider an annual donation. You can pay by cheque or PayPal. \$25 will be appreciated. \$50 or \$100 will also be appreciated. If you can give more and want to help you can give more. We cannot give tax receipts because we are not a registered charity.

Reply to Membership@Go-Canada.org

CLIG—Round 3- Remi Campagnie 5 dan upsets Bill Lin 6 dan (at right)

In the first match of round 3 in the A-1 division Bill Lin in top position was upset by Remi Campagnie who had moved up to 3rd position after knocking out James Sedgwick in round 2.

This win earned Remi a promotion to 6 dan. With 3 6 dans in the A-2 division it is clear that it is no longer good enough to be a 6 dan to qualify for the A-1 division. Remi said after the game - "Next step is 7 dan.". Good luck Remi.



Go Review and Go World bound collection available.

Chuck Elliott collected Go review magazines and had them bound (6 per volume) until the magazine became Go World and he continued the collection. There are about 20 volumes in all. Chuck wishes to dispose of this collection. If you are a parent of a youth who is a serious student of Go and likes Go books in English let Chuck know and he will decide. It is possible to divide the set.

The books are filled with historical games, events and pictures mostly from the Japanese and include many problems, and teaching articles you don't find in books..

Shipping is not a problem if you plan to attend the 2011 Canadian Open tournament. Chuck will deliver them to the tournament site (see next article.)

Reply to ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca

CGA Open Tournament—2011 Moved to Calgary, Alberta

The CGA executive voted to move the 2011 CGA Open tournament. Irene Sha from Edmonton is working with the Calgary organizers on the details which will be made public very shortly. Be ready

Problem - Black to play in lower left saving the 3 black stones and preventing the 2 black stones at F9,10 from coming under attack. White has just played the circled stone.

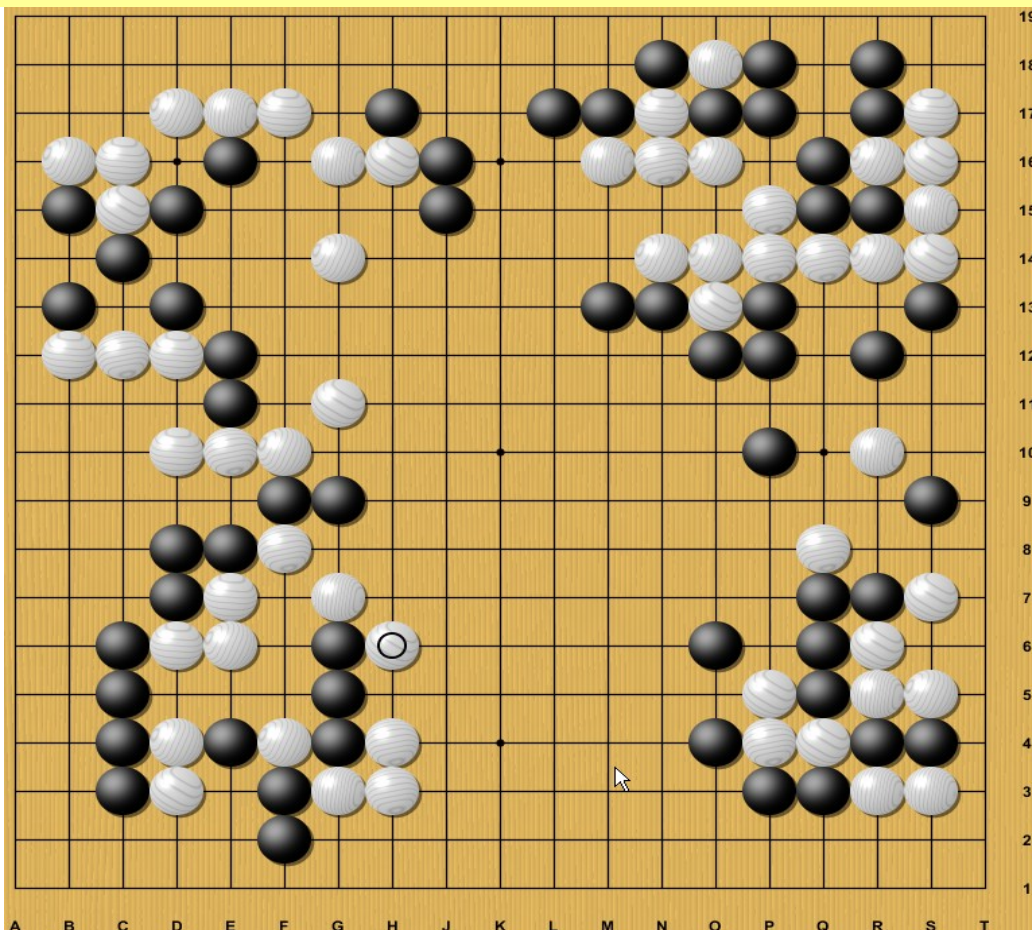
This problem is from the game between Remi and Bill Lin.

Bill had apparently captured the black stones in the upper left but Remi had destroyed white's left side territory but Bill was ready to wipe out most of black's centre and right side influence.

Remi's solution to this problem impressed me.

What would you do?

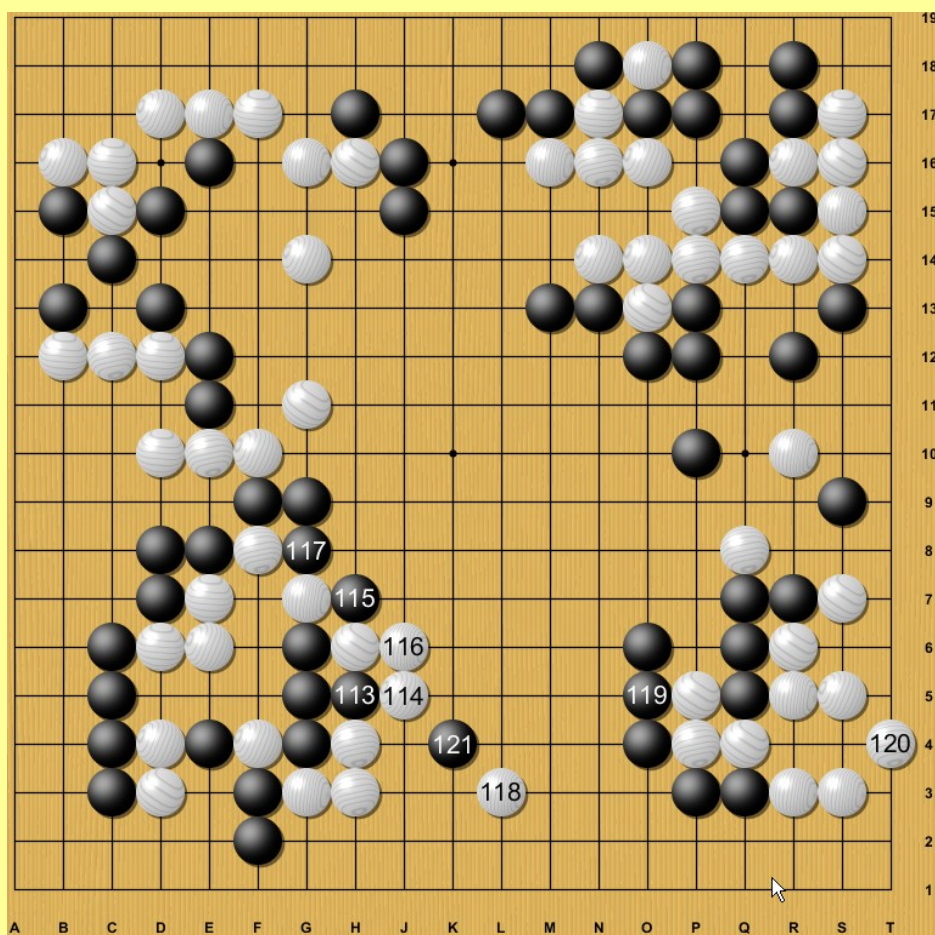
See Remi's move next page. Black wins by 49.5.



Problem - Black pushes first to create cut points even though it reduces black's liberties. Black then cuts with 115 forcing white to connect and the double ataris with 117.

White cannot connect because black kills at D5. **All white stones in the corner are dead!** White extends to 118 to live but black attacks and gets a huge centre. Notice black never has to worry about the cut at E9.

Such moves are beyond me so I thought you might like this study. Although, This is mostly about Remi's fine moves at this point The moves by both players were equally impressive and I'm sure Bill will be eager for an opportunity for revenge.



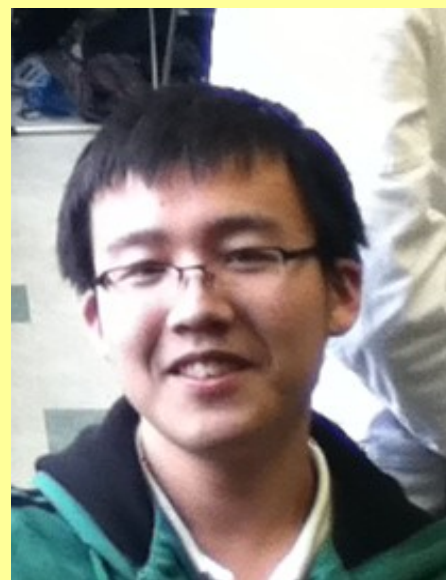
Want to play in the Leagues? Join now. Players of all levels wanted.

Email Chuck at ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca and say **I'm in.**
CGA membership required.
Must know how to play on KGS.

Interview with Peter Zhang

Leaguelman, CGA

Well, the A-1 league was once a peaceful domain of respectable 6 dans. Then in the final round of 2010 there were several new entries, stangers. Who were these guys? Your right to remain there was suddenly at stake. One of these players is Peter Zhang, 6 dan. So far his record in A-1 is 5 wins and 2 losses. It looks like he will be around for a while. I watched the end of his match against Harry Cheng last night. It looked like end game was starting. The observers were commenting that it was very close. Then suddenly, Peter dropped a black stone (bomb) in the midst of the upper white fortress (move 139 below). Was this a tactic to steal some end game points or did Peter have a much more destructive plan. I suspected the latter.



See diagram.. As many players including myself don't know much about Peter I thought it would be an opportunity to find out more.

Leaguelman: Peter, can you tell the readers a bit about yourself and comment on the moves 136-139 in the game with Harry Cheng last night? I'm also curious about your 8+? KGS dan rank. Are you really 8 dan?

Peter Zhang::

I am 16 years old. I am a Grade-10 student from China and I've been in Canada for almost two years. I started to play Go since 8 years old, but haven't been playing too much since 12, because I have to focus more on studying. I think I am getting weaker, because I don't have time to play a lot. Anyway, I enjoy playing Go, because it involves thinking and strategy. In terms of KGS rating, I have no idea why my rating is 8D+, as I play league games on KGS only. I enjoy the league play, and feel quite confident of winning A+1 league.

However, Xianyu is tough. Last time I won by pure luck. Once again, it won't be an easy game this round. About the game against Harry, I felt good before move 100. I believed it was an easy win. However, after 100, I made the situation more complicated. 136 is pretty big, but I still felt OK. Anyway, I began to feel a little uneasy about the game. In retrospect, I don't think B 137 is a good move, because I wasn't 100 percent sure I can kill the white stones. I think Harry should not try to kill the 139 stone. It's kind of impossible. If that white group lives with only two eyes. I would probably win by 10 points or so.

Montreal GO Tournament—Sat. Feb. 26 (details attached to newsletter)

Soyez nombreux à venir à ce tournoi le samedi 26 février, voyez les informations attachées!
En espérant vous voir,

Be sure to show up on this tournament in Montreal on Saturday February 26: registration from 9:00 to 9:30, fee \$10, a one-day three round tournament in groups of 8. See the address and the access map in the attachment.

Hoping to see you,

Interview with Peter Zhang

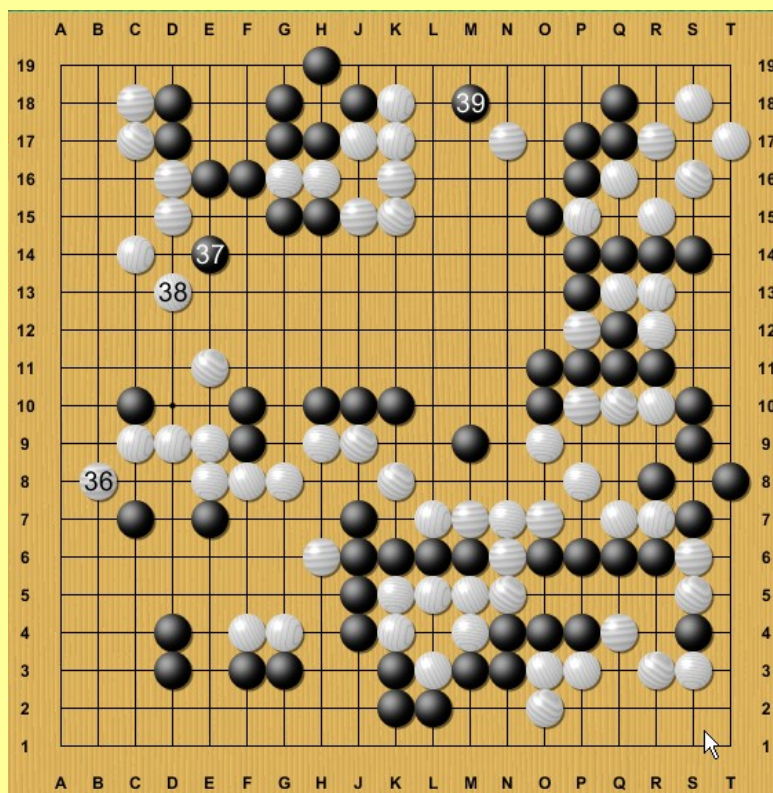
Leagueman, CGA

In round 2010-6 Peter did well with 3 wins and 2 losses. He defeated Xianyu Li and had he not lost to Bill Lin he would have been the Dragon Challenger this round.

I watched the end of his match against Harry Cheng last night. It looked like end game was starting. The observers were commenting that it was very close. Then suddenly, Peter dropped a black stone (bomb) in the midst of the upper white fortress (move 139 below). Was this a tactic to steal some end game points or did Peter have a much more destructive plan. I suspected the latter.

See diagram.. As many players including myself don't know much about peter I thought it would be an opportunity to find out more. I asked Peter about this move.

Peter: About the game against Harry, I felt good before move 100. I believed it was an easy win. However, after 100, I made the situation more complicated. 136 is pretty big, but I still felt OK. Anyway, I began to feel a little uneasy about the game. In retrospect, I don't think B 137 is a good move, because I wasn't 100 percent sure I can kill the white stones. I think Harry should not try to kill the 139 stone. it's kind of impossible. If that white group lives with only two eyes. I would probably win by 10 points or so.



Round 2011-2— A-1 Division - Xianyu Li is victorious.

Xianyu Li won all 4 games including wins over Peter Zhang and Harry Cheng. Round 2011-2 will see Xianyu Li against Bill Lin. This should be a good match up. Xianyu Li has a 7 dan CGA rating which will make him a very serious target for strong 6 dans.

I hope these players have time to battle best of 7 but that could be asking too much. The rules allow the players themselves to decide on best of 5 or best of 7. So far, a best of 5 match has been most popular.

Round 2011-1— A Division - Bill Lin takes 3 straight from Daniel Gourdeau.

Bill seemed to have an easy time in this match. The upcoming Dragon match against the A-1 winner Xianyu Li should be interesting. Unless there is an upset in round 2 Peter Zhang will be challenging the winner in round 3.

Bill Lin - A new Dragon emerges



Round 2011-1— A-1 Division - Xianyu Li is victorious.

Xianyu Li won all 4 games including wins over Peter Zhang and Harry Cheng. Round 2011-2 will see Xianyu Li against Bill Lin. This should be a good match up. Xianyu Li has a 7 dan CGA rating which will make him a very serious target for strong 6 dans.

I hope these players have time to battle best of 7 but that could be asking too much. The rules allow the players themselves to decide on best of 5 or best of 7. So far, a best of 5 match has been most popular.

Round 2011-1— A-2 Division - Remi Campagnie moves up.

Unless there are new entries worthy of A-1 Remi Campagnie will move up to the A-1 division. This will be a great opportunity for him to get established there. He will probably need 2 wins to keep his A-1 status. Can he do it?

Also in A-2 is **Norman Chadwick, 6 dan**. Norman has taken a beating in the past 2 rounds. Can he recover? I believe he is a six dan in a slump and I hope he pulls out of it.

A-3 Division - Bin Tang wins 4/4.

Bin's rating on KGS shows a steep climb from 2 dan to 3 dan. How far can he go in the next rounds?

\$\$\$ cash Prizes for CLIG

At the next CGA meeting Chuck will put in a motion for the CGA to fund cash prizes for top CLIG players who accumulate the most ING points over all rounds in 2011. How much money and how many will share will be decided and announced in the next newsletter. So far after 2011-1 here are

Ing / International Points Awarded (CLIG)

Award	Year	Round	International Points	Ing Points	CGA ID	Name
A1 - 1	2011	1	3	5	1183	Li, Xianyu
A1 - 2	2011	1	2	4	1261	Sedgwick, James
A1 - 3	2011	1	0	3	3933	Zhang, Peter
A1 - 4	2011	1	0	2	3433	Cheng, Hai (Harry)
A1 - 5	2011	1	0	1	3485	Campagnie, Remi
Dragon	2011	1	7	20	3796	Lin, Bill
Dragon Second	2011	1	4	10	308	Gourdeau, Daniel

the standings. You can see that Bill Lin gets a head start on the others with 20 points. Will others want to join in now as the stakes get higher?

CLIG Round 2011-2— Call for more participants

Act now to join CLIG. Round 2 will start in a matter of days. It goes for 6 weeks and you will be required to play 4 or 5 games depending on whether you are in a 5 or 6 player league. The bottom leagues H-1, H-2 are reserved for kyu players 10 kyu and weaker. You can decide your own handicap.

I put myself in and played handicap games of 6 or 9 stones. This is an opportunity to teach. (I will put 1 dan player in each H league to give stones and review.) Some players have received automatic promotions

The leagues are providing an excellent opportunity to play serious games with players of your strength. All games are rated.

Requirements:

You must have a KGS ID and know how to play a game on KGS. All games are played in the Canadian room following the CGA guidelines. All game are scheduled by the players via email and both schedules and results are emailed in. These are posted on the CGA CLIG web site within 24 (usually). Your CGA membership must be paid up. Join now and I will get you signed up.

Benefits

- Fun
- Top level International points prizes and Ing points prizes.
- Lower rank handicap games and teaching games.
- Rating games—get stronger
- Promotions

Email chuck at ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca and say “I’m in.” Give your KGS ID.

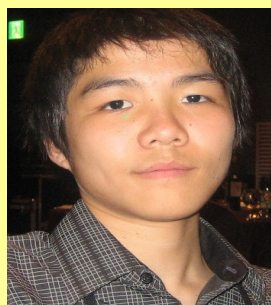
Redmond Cup—Registration deadline February 15

Young American(Canadian) go players can now sign up for the 19th annual Redmond Cup Tournament. Preliminary games will be played on the Internet, courtesy of IGS-PandaNet, and the four finalists will be invited to the 2010 US Go Congress to play the final games. There are two divisions in the Cup; the Junior league for those aged less than 12 years and the Senior league for those 12 and older, but younger than 18, on August 1st 2011. Competitors in the Senior League must be playing at dan strength, in the Junior 5 kyu or stronger. The participants must be members of the American Go Association or the Canadian Go Association and either residents of the U.S., Canada or Mexico or citizens of the United States living anywhere in the world, provided that they are also members of the AGA. The tournament director for the Redmond Cup is Michael Bull; Ing rules of Go for all games. To register e-mail youth@usgo.org with your name, address, phone #, date of birth, email address, AGA rating, and citizenship. The registration deadline is February 15, 2011 The Cup is sponsored by Michael Redmond 9P and his family, the American Go Association and the American Go Foundation. *Photo: 2010 champions, Oliver Wolf 2d (l) Sponsor None Redmond (c), Henry Zhang 1K (r). Photo by Ling Shan. – Paul Barchilon, Youth Editor.*

CANADA VICTORIOUS IN 3RD YOUTH FRIENDSHIP MATCH

Lawrence Ku, AGA

Over 300 go fans showed up on KGS to watch the future of North American go display their talent at the 3rd US-Canada Youth Friendship Match. Neither team disappointed, with many exciting games featuring intense fighting. The 7-man Canadian team won all but the last two boards, repeating their dominant victory over the U.S. in last year's edition of the friendship match. On the top board, Calvin Sun, the U.S. WYGC representative, battled Ryan Li, the runner-up in the 2010 Canadian Open. Li gained an early edge, claiming a lot of territory, but a weak group during the midgame gave Sun a chance. However, Li squeaked out life, but Sun could not gain any advantage while attacking the group, giving Li the victory. The Canadians asserted their dominance in the next few boards, with Gansheng Shi, Tianyu (Bill) Lin, Jianing Gan, and Andrew Huang all claiming commanding victories, leaving Ben Lockhart and Vincent Zhuang of the U.S. as the only on their side victorious. With such a strong showing from both sides, the North American team will definitely make for an exciting matchup against European youth in the 3rd Transatlantic Youth Go Match in Spring 2011. (Full results can be seen here: <http://www.usgo.org/tournaments/YouthFriendship/3/>)



Ryan Li



Gansheng Shi



Tianyu (Bill) Lin



Jianing Gan



Andrew Huang



Daniel
Gourdeau



Irene Sha

This awesome performance by Canadian Go youth can only mean a bright future for Canadian Go. They have set a standard. We wish them well as they continue to get stronger.
Congratulations to all of them. We are proud of you, And more youth are waiting their turn.

2011 CLIG Schedule

Chuck—Leagueman

Round		Main League
1	Jan,	
2	Feb.	
	Mar	
	April	break
3	May,	
4	June	
	July	
	Aug.	break
6	Sept.	
	Oct.	
7	Nov.	
	Dec.	break

The 2011 schedule will consist of 6 rounds similar to 2010.

We will try to finish round 7 earlier because of exam time in December. Delays in 2010 were mostly my fault.

Dragon match upset

Daniel Gourdeau upset Sedgwick in Dragon match 3 wins to 1. It appeared Sedgwick had a couple of the games well under control attacking 2 of Daniel's weak groups simultaneously. However, Daniel found strong counter moves that put Sedgwick in serious time trouble. Youth have taken over the Dragon league to start 2011.



Dragon—Gourdeau



Challenger—Lin

A-1 League

It looked like Xianyu Li would win the A-1 league as he was 1 step higher in the league than Bill Lin and so would win in a league tie. However Peter Zhang played a very strong game against Li and Li lost

WANTED! - More players to participate in the CGA Leagues.

To join: - Email Chuck now at ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca and let me know if you want in the first round of 2011.

More information on . <http://www.go-canada.org/league/>

Ing / International Points Awarded (CLIG)

Award	Year	Round	International Points	Ing Points	CGA ID	Name
A1 - 1	2010	6	3	5	3796	Lin, Bill
A1 - 2	2010	6	2	4	1183	Li, Xianyu
A1 - 3	2010	6		3	3433	Cheng, Hai (Harry)
A1 - 4	2010	6		2	3933	Zhang, Peter
A1 - 5	2010	6		1	3016	Cheng, Wei (The Water)
Dragon	2010	6	7	20	308	Gourdeau, Daniel
Dragon Challenger	2010	6	4	10	1261	Sedgwick, James

Round 6 of 2010 was the first to award points to participate in the Ing Masters tournament and in international tournaments. Daniel and James were the big winners this round and Daniel is also guaranteed 2nd place in 2011 Round 1.

What will happen in 2011? Kunio Aihara predicts Bill Lin will be next Dragon.

I will predict Xianyu Li to be the winner of 2011 Round 1 but Peter Zhang defeated him in the past round so it's anyone's guess.

Hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and will have a great year in 2011.

Chuck

CLIG—A new way to earn points for international competition

The CGA is now allowing CGA League players to earn points towards the selection process. What does this mean? It means you can now get recognitions from performing well in the leagues as well as performing well in the CGA Open. Of course, it is less expensive to play in the CLIG because there are no travel expenses.

For each round in the CLIG these will be the International selection points allocated.

Dragon	7
Dragon Challenger	4
1'st place A1 league	3
2'nd place A1 league	2

For each round in the CLIG these will be the Ing Masters points allocated.

Dragon	20
Dragon Challenger	10
1'st place A1 league	5
2'nd place A1 league	4
3'rd place A1 league	3
4'th place A1 league	2
5'tht place A1 league	1

- Don't wait. Join the CLIG now. There is still time to enter round 2010-6.
- If you are 7 dan or higher you will have already earned the top division (A).
- This is **not** a Swiss McMahon system. If you are at the top you stay there until you down by defeat.
- Expect 4 or 5 games in 6 weeks on KGS.
- Breaks between rounds.
- This does not replace the CGA Open to select players. It provides another way.
- You can still play in CGA Open to earn points.

To play—email Chuck now at ChuckBrenda@shaw.ca Deadline for this round—Nov.13

Sedgwick—New Dragon

James Sedgwick 6 dan wins Dragon league 3-2 over young Andrew Huang 6 dan. The young kids are getting tougher. This was James' second challenge for the Dragon title. Daniel Gourdeau will challenge him in 2010-6 round by winning all 5 league games in the A1 division.



New League underway.

New entries Bill Lin, 6 dan and Xianyu Li, 6 dan have added new power to the top A-1 league. Bill Lin has already asserted himself with an impressive 2 victories over Hai Cheng 6 dan and Xianyu Li. Both these victories were by resignation early in the fighting

Daniel Gourdeau stuns Sedgwick with 2 early victories in the Dragon league. Can James come back to take 3 in a row?

Chuck - Leagueman

Ryan Li represented Canada in 2010 Prime Minister's Cup in Korea. Ryan wins 6 of 8 games under very difficult conditions. Congratulations Ryan on the excellent performance. Here is his report.

My Trip to the 2010 Korean Prime Minister's Cup

by Ryan Li

On Oct. 21, after an 11-hour plane ride, I arrived at Incheon International Airport, and met the interpreter and most of the other players at 6:40 in the evening. We went out to eat a traditional Korean bulgogi barbecue dinner, and I got acquainted with some of my competition by asking around to find out where other players were from. Almost everyone seemed to speak at least some English.

Many of us slept badly because of jet lag, and at breakfast most of the players looked exhausted. After breakfast we went by bus to Changwon. Most of us tried to get some sleep on the way but it was not easy. We had a boxed lunch then checked into the City 7 Hullman, a five-star hotel.. We were all supposed to have roommates, but mine did not show up for some reason.

At 5:30 in the evening we went to the opening ceremony where we got two handouts: one about the rules, schedule and prizes, the other consisting mainly of profiles of the 68 representatives and some guest officials. The time control was 30 minutes, plus three byoyomi periods of 30 seconds. Anyone who was not accustomed to playing fast might find this a little severe, but I was not worried. The pairings for the first round were projected on a big screen. I was to play the Belgian, who was listed as 1 dan, so that seemed like it would be an easy win. After the opening ceremony we had dinner, and as I did not feel like I could sleep, I looked around the mall next to the hotel for a couple of hours.

The tournament schedule was a bit grueling: three games on Oct. 23, four on the 24th. As expected, I had an easy win against Belgium, then played Thailand in the second round. He was not very strong, but an overplay on my part led to a difficult fight where I had to save a dragon that sprawled across half the board. After using up all my spare time, I found a move to save it and won the game.

My final game of the day was against the Hong Kong representative, Chan Chi Hin. He is a well known player on KGS, kghin. I was quite nervous because Hong Kong had placed third last year, but I was determined to make a good showing. The opening was unbalanced, and I ended up with a lot of territory while he was ahead in power. He was heading for a win until he made a bad move that allowed me to live in the middle, so I got my third win in a row. A very successful first day!

After dinner I recorded and reviewed my games in my room. It seemed to me that the players were nervous, including me, and some very uncalled-for mistakes were made.

Oct. 24 was the final day of the tournament, but unfortunately I could not sleep the night before. Then when I started to play, it seemed I could not stay awake. As the big international tournaments are all held in East Asia, jet lag is quite a burden on players from countries in faraway time zones. Maybe they should be granted a few days to get over their jet lag before they have to play. More sightseeing could be done before the tournament rather than after. If it is allowed, I would encourage Canadian players to arrive a few days before their tournaments to get their sleeping pattern in order.

My first opponent was Artem from Ukraine, a KGS 8 dan. He is strong, but I was leading through the whole game, and had many opportunities to secure the win. In the end I made a silly mistake that turned my territory into his. It was very discouraging to lose a good game like that. My second game was very perilous because I was still upset over losing the first one in such a horrible way, and could not concentrate as well as I should. But I managed to play well – or my opponent just played badly – in the endgame, and won easily.

Continued next page

Canadian's in the international Go news.

By James Sedgwick

Russian Professional Alexandre Dinerchtein 3P maintains a web site commenting on interesting games and players on various Go servers. 2 of the 10 articles since September have featured Canadian content. On September 28th he wrote about Yutae Sateo (playing as sky77), a former first class Korean In-sei, now visiting Canada. With luck he will be teaching in Toronto for the next year. See the article (including the game with some comments) at http://gosensations.com/?id=2&server_id=1&new_id=970

Then on October 31st he wrote about Ryan Li. Ryan is a 16 year Canadian citizen living in Vancouver. He was the top placing Canadian at this years Canadian Open, and represented us at the Prime Ministers cup in Korea, finishing in an impressive 7th place. You can see the article at http://gosensations.com/?id=2&server_id=1&new_id=978