

A group of people, mostly men, are gathered on a wide stone staircase outdoors. They are playing the board game Go. Some are sitting on the steps, while others are standing. They are wearing various casual clothing, including white and black t-shirts, caps, and pants. In the foreground, two men are seated on the steps, focused on their Go board. One man is wearing a white shirt and a white cap, and the other is wearing a black shirt and a black cap. They are using a Go board and stones. A fan with Japanese calligraphy is visible in the foreground. The background shows a stone wall and some greenery.

Canadian Go Association November - December 2014 Newsletter

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Tournament Announcements

University of Brock Tournament 2015

The Brock Go-Club invites everyone to our third Brock Go-tournament.

When & Where:

Saturday February 28th, 2015

Brock University, St Catharines,

Plaza building, 4th floor, room 408 (building 30 on the campus map BUT beware, the new large Cairns building next to building 30 is missing on the map. The Plaza building is the one with the Brock Campus Store on the ground floor). **See next page for campus map.**

Event details:

Main tournament: 4 rounds, 30 min each side

If there is interest: self-pairing 13x13 tournament

Schedule:

Registration: 9:00

Start 1st round: 10:00

Start 2nd round: 11:30

Lunch time break

Start 3rd round: 13:30

Start 4rd round: 15:00

Prize giving: 16:30

We are open to suggestions especially those coming from Rochester and Toronto about changes in the number of rounds and times in order not to close too late.

Registration:

Please send an email to Thomas Wolf, twolf@brocku.ca

subject: 5th Brock Go tournament

content: your name, playing strength, city/club (if applicable)

Driving Directions:

On the QEW drive towards St Catharines. Shortly before St Catharines exit into Hwy 406 towards Thorold. After about 10km exit on the right into St. Davids West. At the 2nd crossing either

- turn right into Glenridge Ave, after 250m on the right enter parking lot of Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre (green sign with yellow sun drawing) for free parking (in front of building 30 on the campus map), 4 min walk), or

- go straight and then 1/2 around the circle for parking lot D on the campus map), \$6 for 1 day pass and 3 min walk).

Food:

Free: bagels, cream cheese, drinks (coffee, tea, juice, pop, water)

- 3 min walk: dining hall at Brock with a wide selection of good quality warm and cold food from 8:30am - 11pm

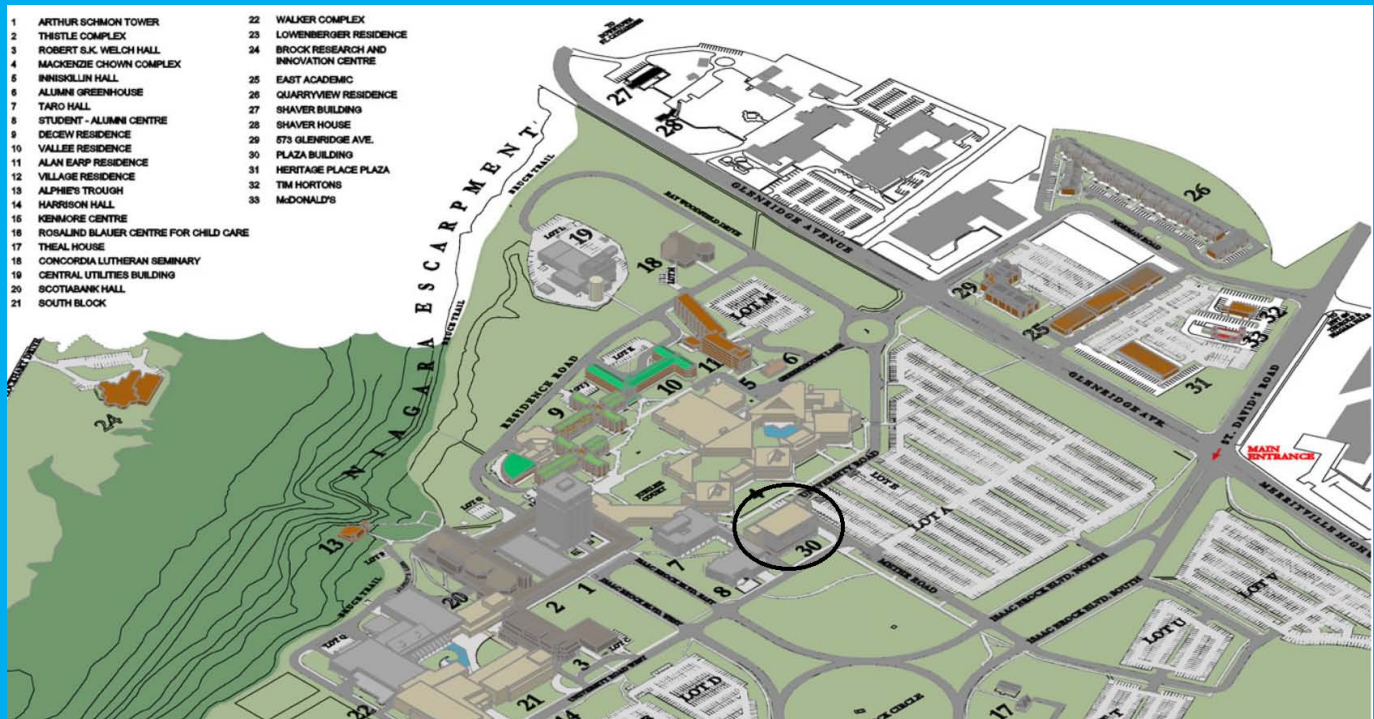
- 5 min walk: McDonalds, Tim Hortens, Subways

Fee:

The tournament is free but a donation of \$5 for the purchase of equipment or the donation of a prize are appreciated.

Prizes:

We will aim at having a prize for every player and cash prizes for the best three of each group. Groups will be decided when we know the number and strength of participants. We are grateful to financial support by the Brock Confucius Institute and the Brock Student Union.



Canadian Open Date Announced!

The Canadian Open tournament date has been announced. The date for the tournament is Friday September 4th to Monday September 7th with Pair Go on the Monday. The location for the Canadian Open is Montreal. More details to follow in the new year.

For all tournament related updates please check the CGA website - <http://www.go-canada.org>

Korean Prime Minister Cup Report

By James Sedgwick
Edited by Dominik Chłobowski

The Korea Prime Minister Cup is played in Korea each year. This year they had 53 players (from 53 countries), down a bit from just over 70 the year before. This year players needed to pay 1/2 air fare, while last year the fare had been fully paid. Presumably this accounted for the attendance drop; for someone coming from Africa, for example, even 1/2 air fare is a big cost. The tournament itself is 6 rounds over two days, but it is preceded by an arrival day and an acclimatization day, and followed by a day of sight seeing. In total I spent perhaps 105 hours on site, requiring 40+ hours in transit, but even so I'd recommend the event to anyone who can go.

On arrival they had a greeter at the airport, who directed me to a local express bus. The greeter gave the driver rough directions on where to drop me, but as I couldn't speak to the driver at all, and my stop was perhaps the 15th, it was a slightly nervous ride in. Seoul is very big; the metropolitan area is 26 million people, the third largest in the world. I don't think the land mass is so much bigger than Toronto's, but it is full of high rises and much more dense. It was funny how they had us on the local bus in, but for the return to the airport and everything else we were on a dedicated bus for the Go players.

We stayed at the Seoul Olympic Parktel, quite a fancy hotel right next to the park built to commemorate the Seoul Olympics. We were bused around to the tournament and all other events. Nothing was closer than a 1/2 hour bus ride, but still it was a nice place to stay, and they had a playing room available for us to play friendly games in the evenings.

The first day we went to a famous local Go school. I believe it is the top Korean Go school. We were each paired with a Korean student. They chose appropriate pairings, but even so 90% of us lost. Even the Chinese rep lost! Then there was a welcome banquet.

The next day we got down to business. Unfortunately they have struggled to find a good pairing system for this event. This year there was no seeding system at all, so the draws were critical. I'd have to say mine were fair, but with the pairings as they were, I had two easy wins, two blowout loses (China, Chinese Taipei), and two fairly competitive

matches (France, Israel), of which I won the Israel match. My 3-3 score put me in 21st place. It was entertaining seeing, each round, Seo Beong Su, famous 9D world champion, walk up to the microphone and say one word (“begin” in Korean). This was then translated for us, and then we could start. He was the chief referee. The only excitement I saw for the referees was dealing with malfunctioning clocks. I guess Go tournament problems are the same the world over. :)

Attached is a review of my game with the Chinese player. It was exciting to get the chance to play him. Yuqing Hu is the number one Chinese amateur, and as you’d expect extremely strong. I also got to play some friendly games of “tetris go” with him in the evening. Tetris go bans any 4 stone shape. It makes for a very different game, but even so I couldn’t compete. :)

An example of beneficiaries of the pairings were the USA (who finished 5th), and Mexico (placing in the top 10). Ben from the USA didn’t have a competitive game until the 5th round with Russia. I guess the USA were due for some luck; last year’s pairing system left them in 15th or so with a 5-1 score, something that shouldn’t be possible.

In the evening we went to the Seoul N tower, roughly a CN tower equivalent. Very nice views of the city. On the day off we went to a Baduk festival. They were aiming for a world record simultaneous game with 100 pros playing 1000 amateurs (in the end they only got about 800, a bit under the record). We all got to play and had lots of fun. Other than us, 90% of the amateurs were kids, but of course many of them were still very strong, and there were lots of fun games to watch. Then we continued on to a palace tour and a dinner out with friends, and all of sudden it was over. I wish I could have stayed longer, but I guess it is an excuse to return to Korea another time. I think I need to work on my flexibility before I return though; several meals were at restaurants where kneeling is the seating style. For me and a fair number of others this was a good test. :)



Seoul Tower in the distance

Please check the attached SGF file for James’s review of his game from the Korean Prime Minister Cup

Article To The Reader

By Matthew Mennie

It brings me great happiness to bring you this November and December 2014 Canadian Go Association newsletter. I would like to thank the editors; Nicholas Zacharewicz, and Dominik Chłobowski; and article submitters; James Sedgwick, Ben Mantle, Irene Sha, and Thomas Wolf. Without their help the newsletter would not have been possible.

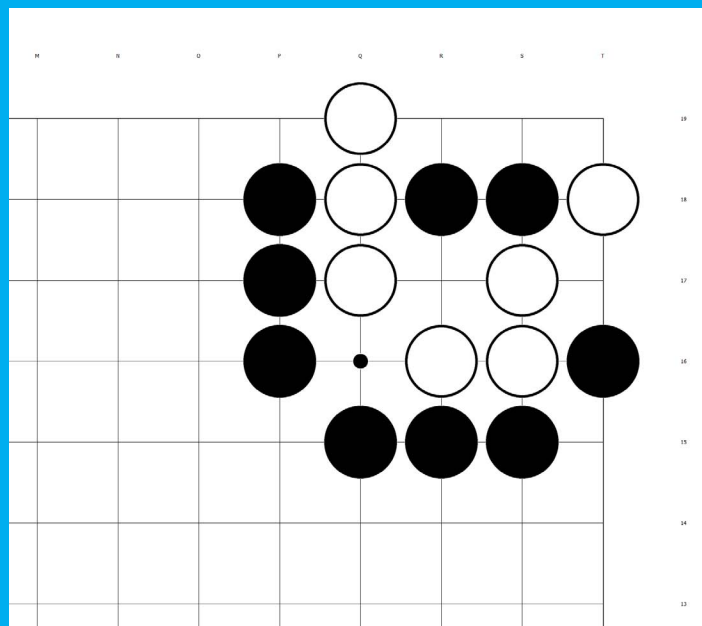
There are currently some interesting developments at the Canadian Go Association, the website is in the process of never ending improvements and the member forum hosted on the website is now open for registrations, without spam. We at the Canadian Go Association are investigating low cost equipment, and Go books. Both of these we hope to be available in the new year.

Speaking of the new year, the Canadian Go Open now has a date, see tournament announcements, we hope to see you there.

The next newsletter submission deadline is February 25th 2015. Please submit your articles to my email address - kenshin767@gmail.com. We look forward to your article submissions.

Go Problems - Beginner Problem

By Irene Sha



Black to capture. Black to play. - Solution attached as SGF

Samsung Cup 2014 Finals

By Matthew Mennie

Korea Wins Samsung Final!

This month S. Korea's professional player Kim JiSeok won the Samsung Cup. Kim JiSeok is currently ranked number one in S. Korea and beat Tang Weixing 9p, defending titleholder, to take Kim JiSeok's first international title. With a final score of 2-0.

S. Korea had been in a slump for international titles since Park YongHoon lost the final of the ING cup last year. It is glad to see they are rebounding to challenge China.

Kim JiSeok has an impressive record of 15 wins and 1 loss for non-team 2014 international tournaments. I hope the readers look forward to seeing him play in more tournaments.

Please check out the games. You can find them attached to the newsletter.



Kim JiSeok holding the trophy

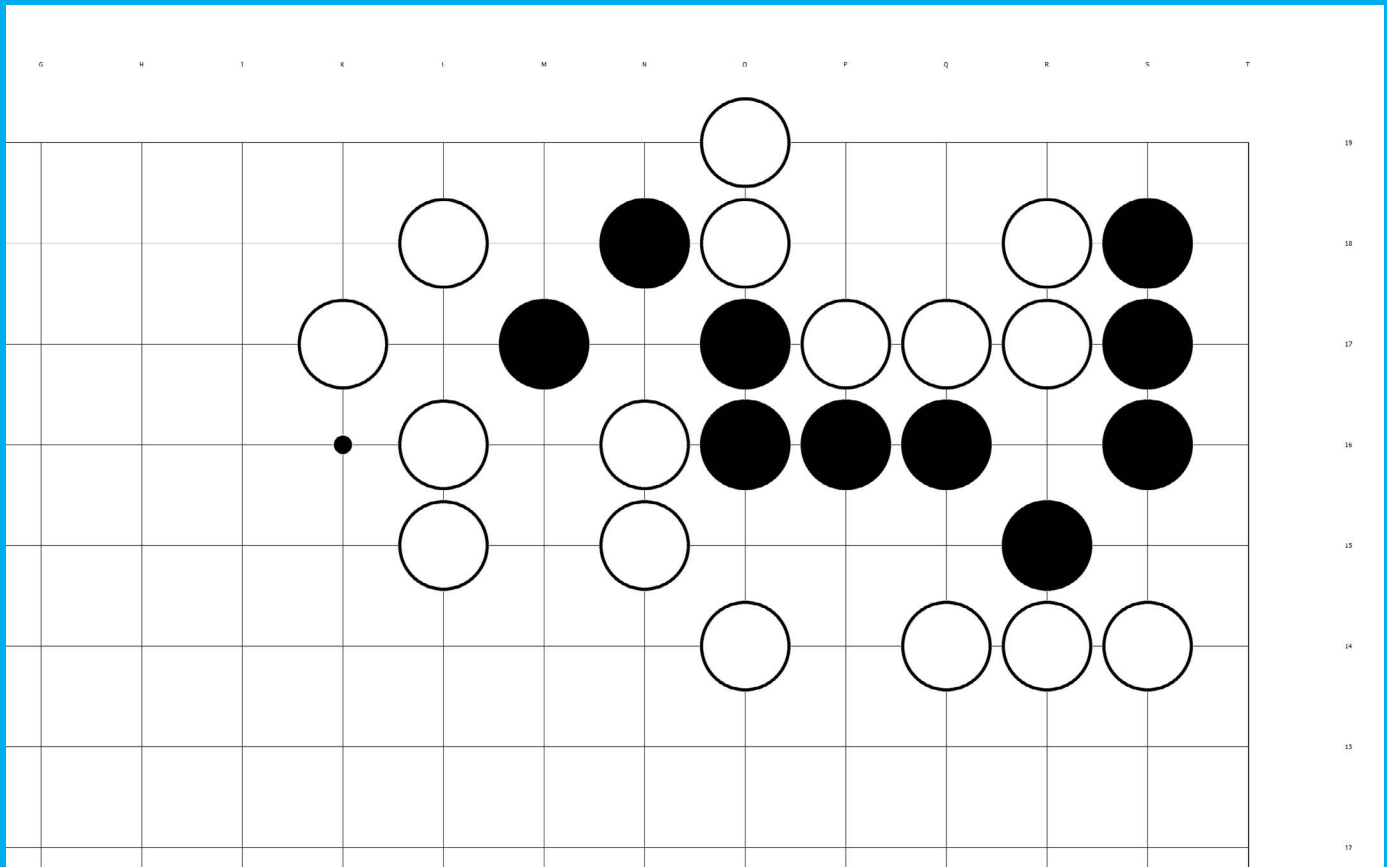


Tang Weixing (left) and Kim JiSeok (right) reviewing the final game.

Go Problems - Intermediate

By Irene Sha

Black to live



See attached SGF files for the solution.

Go Game Guru Affiliated With The CGA

This just fresh off the press. The website Go Game Guru has agreed to be affiliated with the Canadian Go Association. Now when you purchase items off of Go Game Guru's store, using the link on our website, you will be donating to the Canadian Go Association. Go Game Guru offers a wide variety of Go equipment and books. We at the Canadian Go Association look forward to working with Go Game Guru. In the next few days there will be an ad posted on the Canadian Go Association's website to take you to their store.

The screenshot shows the Go Game Guru website. The header features the logo, a search bar, and navigation links. The main content area displays four product categories: Go Sets, Go Boards, Go Stones, and Go Bowls. Below these are four service boxes: Worldwide Shipping, Faster Service, Secure Online Checkout, and Money Back Guarantee, each with a list of benefits and a 'Learn more' link.

Go Game Guru

The World's Specialty Go Store
Fast, Affordable Worldwide Shipping!
From the USA, Europe and Asia [Learn more](#)

Search ... [Search](#)

[Go Game Sets](#) [Go Boards](#) [Go Stones](#) [Go Bowls](#) [Go Books](#) [Downloads](#) [Login](#) [My Account](#) [Cart](#)

Go Sets **Go Boards** **Go Stones** **Go Bowls**

Worldwide Shipping

- Multiple worldwide warehouses
- Local, affordable shipping
- Get your order faster
- Save money

[Learn more](#)

Faster Service

- Next business day processing
- Instant quotes on shipping
- Fast, secure checkout
- Save time

[Learn more](#)

Secure Online Checkout

- Order safely, quickly and easily
- Credit card & PayPal accepted
- Bank transfer & check
- Bitcoin (save 5%)

[Learn more](#)

Money Back Guarantee

- We stand behind our products
- 30 day guarantee
- 100% refund
- No risk

[Learn more](#)

The Go Academy - Singapore's New Go School

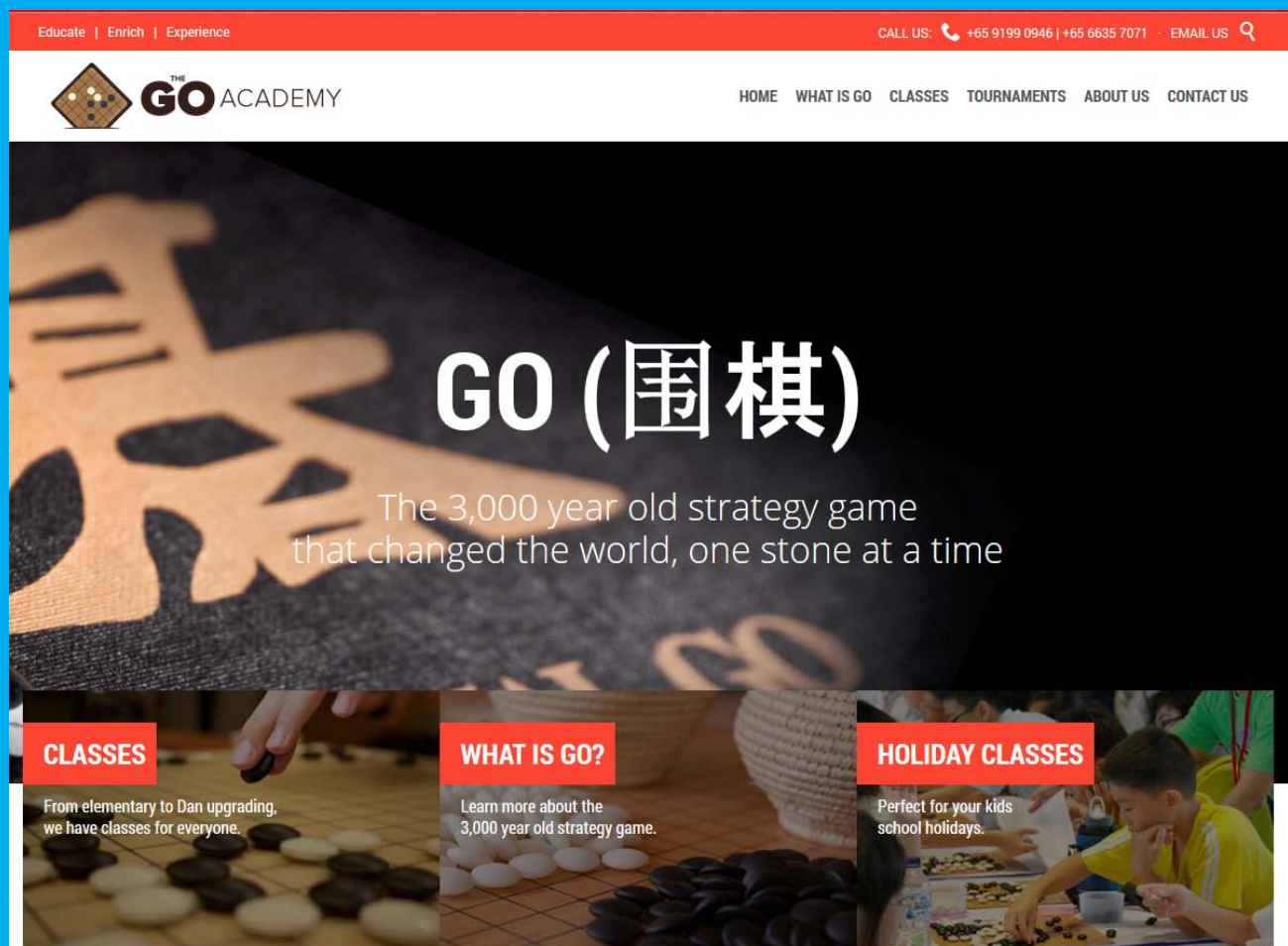
By Matthew Mennie

The Go Academy is a new Go school in Singapore. The academy specializes in providing Go classes for all levels. These classes help improve your Go skill and provide a rating certificate at the end of the class.

There are four types of classes available; general, semester, holiday, and groupon. The general class is private lessons, this will be available soon. For semester classes these are generally 18 weeks in duration and vary in time per lesson. Holiday classes range from 3 days to 10 days in length, perfect for a holiday. Groupon classes are up to three days long and are introductory classes to the game.

The Go Academy offers tournaments too. These are from different categories, and there is an open tournament for those who are not attending school in Singapore.

More information can be found on their website: <http://thegoacademy.com.sg>

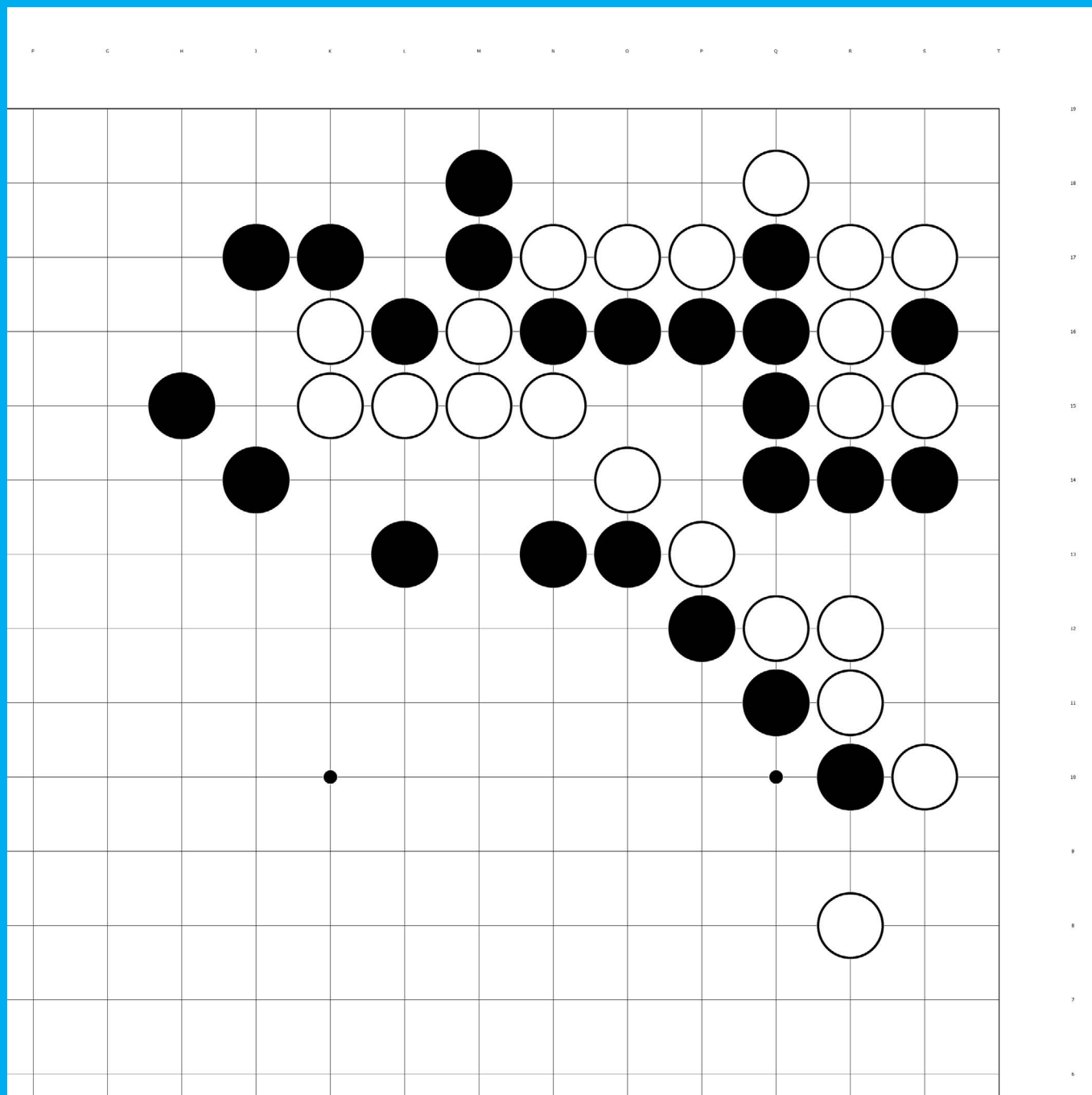


The screenshot shows the homepage of The Go Academy website. At the top is a red navigation bar with the text "Educate | Enrich | Experience" on the left and "CALL US: +65 9199 0946 | +65 6635 7071 EMAIL US" on the right. Below this is a white header containing the logo (a Go board with stones) and the text "THE GO ACADEMY" on the left, and a menu with links: "HOME", "WHAT IS GO", "CLASSES", "TOURNAMENTS", "ABOUT US", and "CONTACT US" on the right. The main content area has a dark background with a large, stylized Go board pattern. In the center, the text "GO (围棋)" is displayed in large white characters. Below this, in smaller white text, it says "The 3,000 year old strategy game that changed the world, one stone at a time". At the bottom, there are three red-bordered boxes with white text: "CLASSES" (From elementary to Dan upgrading, we have classes for everyone.), "WHAT IS GO?" (Learn more about the 3,000 year old strategy game.), and "HOLIDAY CLASSES" (Perfect for your kids school holidays.). Each box has a corresponding image: a hand placing a stone on a board, a pile of stones, and children playing Go.

Go Problems - Expert Problem

By Irene Sha

Black to live. Black to play.



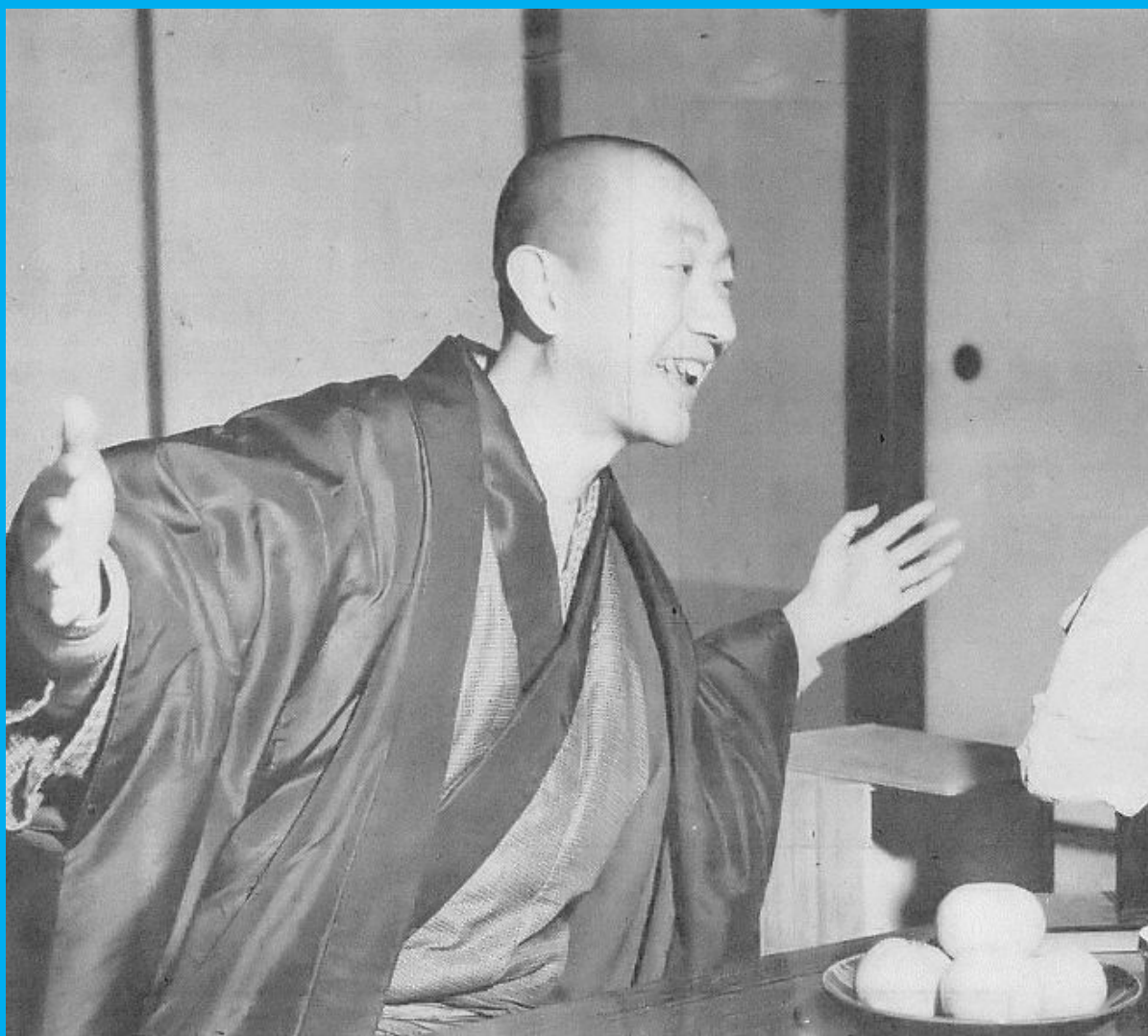
Answer attached as SGF file

Go Seigan

1914-2014

By Matthew Mennie

Go Seigen passed away on November 30th 2014 of natural causes. He was 100 years old. Through his life Go Seigen advanced modern Go fuseki, and a lot of his theories are still in use today. During his retirement, from 1983 to 2014, he authored several Go books that are still relevant today.



Kyu Level Baduk

By Ben Mantle

Edited by Nicholas Zacharewicz

“Kyu Level Baduk” is a brief manual on how to think about the game of Baduk (both on and off the board) and an analysis of some common pitfalls of mistaken thinking. In this article I summarize some of my Baduk world knowledge and experience as it pertains to kyu players. I also offer suggestions and criticism regarding the philosophy of Baduk training and practice.

An objective of “Kyu Level Baduk” is to rectify mistaken Baduk philosophies and training methodologies while entertaining and educating the reader with practical know-how and a feast of food for thought. It covers tsumego training, point-value assessment, and the study of joseki. “Kyu Level Baduk” is a must-read for kyu and lower-dan level players.

Full article is attached as PDF file.