



Robin represents!

Chess in the Far North has started with a bang for 2008, with our top rated junior Robin Wei catching a plane to Sydney to represent at the Australian Junior Chess Championships.

As of Round 6 on January 19, Robin was on 4 points - 3 wins, 2 draws and only 1 loss. A pretty good effort against top class opposition!!

He's competing directly with the likes of Gene Nakauchi, the reigning champion in his age group and a rated FIDE Master. You might have seen Gene featured on the ABC's 7:30 Report earlier this month!

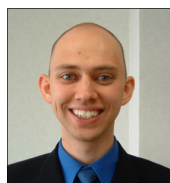
Robin's efforts are further highlighted by the fact that he's one of the youngest in the field - despite being only 12 years old, he has to compete in the under-18 division! Go, Robin! Keep an ear to the ground for full results from the championships, especially for news of Robin!

Hopefully by this time next year, we'll have more young chess players joining Robin to challenge the best of the best. And in 2008, I'm sure we'll see many more students challenging themselves to improve their chess. I'm looking forward to it!

In the meantime, it's time to get back to school. I'm available to visit schools and speak at assemblies for any schools that are interested. Let's make 2008 a big one for FNQ chess! See you all on the chess board!

Yours in chess,

David Cowland-Cooper
IQ Chess FNQ Director



Best of the Far North

The top rated juniors in FNQ as at January 2008 are:

Robin WEI	1601
Dan SALIER	992
Justin SABBADIN	910
Andrew TO	882
Henry HARDING	837
Joshua HARTIGAN	825
Luther TAGO	782
Mimi DEVINE	781
Tim SCHWEINSBERG	764
Conor HARNISCHFEGER	756

The ratings list has grown significantly over the past year. Now there's more than 100 juniors on the list. Let's keep that number growing, team, keep up the good work!

Cairns Chess Club

The Cairns Chess Club is now seeing regular attendances of more than 10 players every Thursday. The record turnout so far is 20! It's a great venue for adults and children alike to play against new opponents and improve their play, in a very casual atmosphere. Here are the details, hope to see you there!

Weekly on Thursday nights
6pm to 8:30pm

@ The Coffee Bean
Stockland Shopping Centre, Earville

FREE first attendance
then a small annual fee
\$40 for adults, \$20 for juniors and concession

2008 Calendar of Events

Here's a full list of major chess events going on around Queensland for the current year. Be sure to get along to any events in or near FNQ if you can!

For schools, pay special attention to the FNQ Interschool Chess dates. Also note that chess coaching will commence from Week 2 of Term 1 (starting Feb 4) and continue right through to the end of Term 4.

For more information about any of these events, just get in touch with us directly.

Jan 13-25	Australian Junior Championships Sydney
Jan 29	Term 1 START
Feb 21	FNQ Inter-School Ch. Rd. 1 TAS White Rock
Mar 21-24	Easter Weekend
Apr 4	Term 1 END
Apr 5-13	Junior Chess Challenge Smithfield Centre, Cairns
Apr 14	Term 2 START
May 6	FNQ Inter-School Ch. Rd. 2 TAS White Rock
Jun 9	Cairns Chess Challenge
Jun 27	Term 2 END
Jun 28 - Jul 13	Junior Chess Challenge Smithfield Centre, Cairns
Jul 14	Term 3 START
Aug 2-3	Mackay Open
Aug 7	FNQ Inter-School Ch. FINAL TAS White Rock
Aug 9-10	North Queensland Open Townsville
Aug 30-31	Bundaberg Open
Sep 19	Term 3 END
Sep 20 - Oct 5	Junior Chess Challenge Smithfield Centre, Cairns
Oct 6	Term 4 START
Oct 11-12	Queensland Interschool Finals TBA
Oct 13	Queensland Girls Teams Finals TBA
Dec 12	Term 4 END

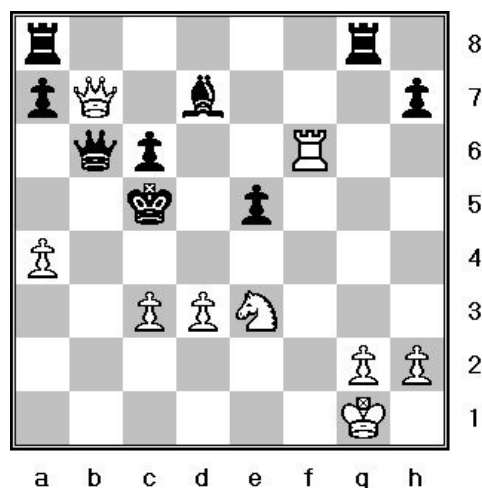
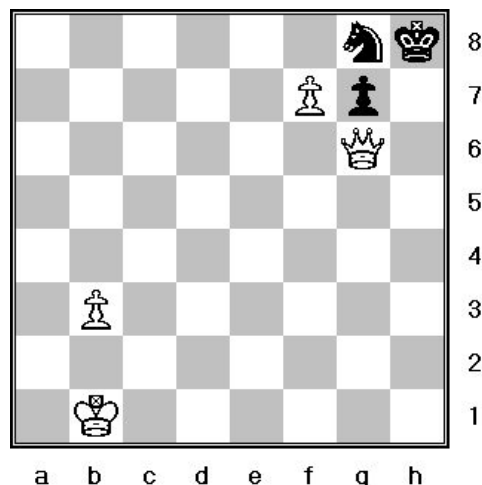
Check it out, mate!

The puzzle in TropiChess #4 was a tough one. Queen sacrifice, knight sacrifice, and then mate with the bishop... all of White's pieces came to the party!

1. Qxh5! gxh5
2. Nh6+! Nxh6
3. Bxh7++

If Black refuses the initial sacrifice, mate will ensue on f7 instead. And Black sacrificing the Queen on h2 would simply delay the inevitable.

To start the New Year off on a good note, here's a double. White to mate in 2 in both!



IQ Chess Far North Queensland

ABN 88 923 504 101
PO Box 12321
Cairns DC QLD 4870

0405 435 035
www.iqchess.com.au

