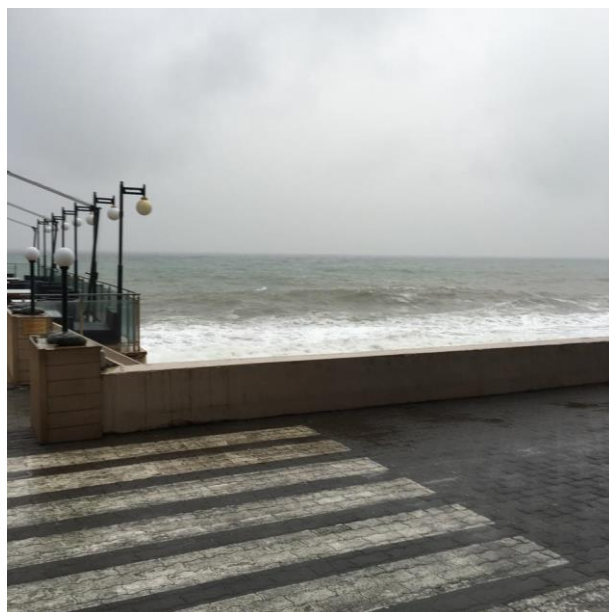


# Handbags and Glad Rags

## Welsh Weather in Batumi

A stormy night with thunder and lighting and crashing waves was followed by a wet morning, a good 10 degrees cooler.

We've brought the Welsh weather with us! But it didn't dampen the teams' spirits. With tough pairings for both teams, we'd everything to gain and nothing to lose...



They seem to have got the access and security arrangements sorted now. No changes to procedure for today and everyone got into the hall without incident. Handbag searches thorough, but rules on whether or not you can take them in at least consistently applied!



## Round 3

### Women's Team

The team is getting into their stride now.

An excellent result by Imogen, drawing against IM Paula Rodriguez Rueda, Colombia's top woman player, former Pan-American U20 champion and winner of the 2014 Sub-Zonal (where she gained her IM title).

We were unfortunate not to score more points; Jane had a better position and then later on a difficult-to-find draw, and Olivia could perhaps have scored a point too. On another day it could have been a drawn match.

Bo.	71	 Wales (WLS)	Rtg -	32	 Colombia (COL)	Rtg	½ : 3½
28.1	WFM	<input type="checkbox"/> Richmond, Jane	2053	- WIM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Castrillon Gomez, Melissa	2248	0 - 1
28.2	WFM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Olivia	2013	- WGM	<input type="checkbox"/> Franco Valencia, Beatriz Irene	2191	0 - 1
28.3	WCM	<input type="checkbox"/> Camp, Imogen A L	1940	- IM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rodriguez Rueda, Paula Andrea	2298	½ - ½
28.4	WCM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sivarajasingam, Shayanna	1788	- WIM	<input type="checkbox"/> Franco Valencia, Angela	2188	0 - 1

The shine was taken off Imogen's result a little though: our team captain, Leonid, was approached by three different officials during the game asking that our players observe the (undocumented and uncommunicated) Dress Code and not wear flip-flops. This is something of a problem, because Imogen brought only flip-flops (nice leather/gold ones, not beachwear) and one pair of high heeled shoes for the party! Heels it is for tomorrow then – but a trip shoe-shopping looks like it is on the cards for the rest day.



I wonder whether the archetypal chess-player attire of “sandals with socks” is also banned?



Speaking to some friendly arbiters afterwards, it seems that they have **now** been instructed to enforce a Dress Code including no shorts or flip-flops (and potentially some other so-far unknown rules).

No-one said anything about shorts though yesterday; it seems to be a drip-feed of new rules each day – very tiresome! The girls all brought shorts with them (smart ones, again not beachwear) as the weather was forecast to be very hot, but at least they have dresses/jeans too and can do some washing to sort that problem.

What next though? I've asked for a copy of what the arbiters have been told to enforce, so we can be in the loop; *Thank you Matthew Carr!*

## Open Team



A couple of excellent draws from Alex and Jonathan in the Open section

Bo.	114	 Wales (WLS)	Rtg -	77	 New Zealand (NZL)	Rtg	1 : 3
46.1	FM	<input type="checkbox"/> Strugnell, Carl	2327 -	FM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hague, Ben	2405	0 - 1
46.2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blackburn, Jonathan L B	2185 -	FM	<input type="checkbox"/> Kulashko, Alexei	2349	½ - ½
46.3		<input type="checkbox"/> Bullen, Alex	2098 -	IM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ker, Anthony F	2315	½ - ½
46.4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rayner, Francis	2083 -	FM	<input type="checkbox"/> Gong, Daniel Hanwen	2276	0 - 1

## Looking Forward



### Women – Round 4 pairings – Hong Kong

We won't be lulled into a false sense of security by their ratings; they could be very much stronger than they look on paper. But the objective this round is to get back into **Playing Hall 1** for the next round, and this may need maximum points!

Bo.	134	 Hong Kong (HKG)	Rtg -	71	 Wales (WLS)	Rtg
61.1		<input type="checkbox"/> Anandpara, Jayendra Saloni	1326 -	WFM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Olivia	2013
61.2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leung, Hoi Ting	1284 -	WCM	<input type="checkbox"/> Sivarajasingam, Venetia	1771
61.3		<input type="checkbox"/> Ng, Sau Wai	1222 -	WCM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camp, Imogen A L	1940
61.4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Li, Joy Ching	1137 -	WCM	<input type="checkbox"/> Sivarajasingam, Shayanna	1788

### Open – Round 4 pairings – Saudi Arabia

This one is “definitely doable”. Could be an exciting encounter!

Bo.	142	 Saudi Arabia (KSA)	Rtg -	114	 Wales (WLS)	Rtg
71.1	CM	<input type="checkbox"/> Al Ghamdi, Ahmed M	2126 -	FM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strugnell, Carl	2327
71.2	CM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Masrahi, Abdulrahman A	1879 -		<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburn, Jonathan L B	2185
71.3		<input type="checkbox"/> Al Thebaiti, Ahmed M	1988 -		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bullen, Alex	2098
71.4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Al Mutairi, Hassan S	1809 -		<input type="checkbox"/> Pleasants, Allan J	2090