

Batumi Olympiad 2018 Round-Up


Round 11

Wins for both Wales teams today to finish on a high, with some notable successes as a result.

Open Team v Jordan

Jordan's tactical reverse-strength board order continued to not pay off for them, Wales winning a convincing 3-1. A great finish to the tournament, including:

- an **FM Title** for **Jonathan...**
- an **IM scalp** for a returned-to-form **Allan** (just in time for the European Club Cup in Halkidiki, Greece in a week's time)
- **Carl** does it again, but this time turning a loss into a **win** 😊

| Bo. | 74 |  Jordan (JOR) | Rtg - 114 |  Wales (WLS) | Rtg | 1 : 3 |
|------|----|--|-----------|---|------|-------|
| 63.1 | | ☐ Moayed, Obied | 2125 - FM | ♣ Strugnell, Carl | 2327 | 0 - 1 |
| 63.2 | IM | ♣ Ahmad, Al Khatib | 2355 - | ☐ Blackburn, Jonathan L B | 2185 | 0 - 1 |
| 63.3 | FM | ☐ Issa, Rafat | 2388 - | ♣ Bullen, Alex | 2098 | 1 - 0 |
| 63.4 | IM | ♣ Khader, Sami | 2405 - | ☐ Pleasants, Allan J | 2090 | 0 - 1 |

Bd 1



Carl

How did he win that?

Bd 2



Jonathan

Checkmating an IM

Bd 4





Allan

*After 28. Rh1 Nh4 29 Re1 Nf5 30. Rh1 Nh4 31. Re1
Allan's opponent declined the draw; a few moves later he offered the draw himself, which Allan declined 😊*

Replay the games on Chess24 by clicking on the boards.

Women's Team v Mozambique

Almost, but not quite, a whitewash for Wales.

| Bo. | 71 |  Wales (WLS) | Rtg - 117 |  Mozambique (MOZ) | Rtg | 3½: ½ |
|------|-----|---|------------|--|------|-------|
| 49.1 | WFM | ☐ Richmond, Jane | 2053 - WIM | ♣ Vilhete, Vania Fausto Da T. | 1752 | ½ - ½ |
| 49.2 | WFM | ♣ Smith, Olivia | 2013 - | ☐ Efentakis, Katina | 1451 | 1 - 0 |
| 49.3 | WCM | ☐ Camp, Imogen A L | 1940 - | ♣ Jefe, Suzete Vicente | 1379 | 1 - 0 |
| 49.4 | WCM | ♣ Sivarajasingam, Shayanna | 1788 - | ☐ Siteo, Cheila Andre | 1545 | 1 - 0 |

Tournament Highlights

- CM titles for both Alex Bullen and Jonathan Blackburn
- FM title for Jonathan Blackburn
- 6 IM scalps, including:
 - A win and 2 draws from Jonathan
 - A win from Allan
 - A draw from Alex
 - A draw from Imogen
- Open team finishing 14 places above their starting rank
- Open team coming 5th in their category
- Women's team finishing equal with Scotland on both match points (11) and game points (23.5), and equal with Ireland on match points but ahead on game points (23.5 to 19.5). Both were seeded above us in the starting rankings.

| Rk. | SNo | Team | Team | Games | + | = | - | TB1 | TB2 | TB3 | TB4 |
|-----|-----|--------------------------|------|-------|---|---|---|-----|-------|------|-----|
| 1 | 3 | China | CHN | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 372.5 | 28.5 | 149 |
| 2 | 1 | United States of America | USA | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 360.5 | 29.0 | 147 |
| 3 | 2 | Russia | RUS | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 354.5 | 29.0 | 144 |
| 100 | 114 | Wales | WLS | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 163.5 | 19.5 | 105 |

↑ 14

| Rk. | SNo | flag | Team | Team | TB1 | TB2 | TB3 | TB4 |
|-----|-----|------|------|-------------|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1 | 143 | | AFG | Afghanistan | 12.0 | 187.5 | 22.5 | 107.0 |
| 2 | 113 | | BAR | Barbados | 11.0 | 185.5 | 21.5 | 103.0 |
| 3 | 116 | | BOT | Botswana | 11.0 | 176.5 | 21.0 | 112.0 |
| 4 | 121 | | MOZ | Mozambique | 11.0 | 168.5 | 22.5 | 95.0 |
| 5 | 114 | | WLS | Wales | 11.0 | 163.5 | 19.5 | 105.0 |
| 6 | 139 | | HKG | Hong Kong | 10.0 | 185.0 | 22.5 | 104.0 |
| 7 | 120 | | KOR | South Korea | 10.0 | 180.0 | 23.5 | 104.0 |
| 8 | 125 | | BRN | Bahrain | 10.0 | 175.0 | 21.0 | 110.0 |
| 9 | 118 | | NEP | Nepal | 10.0 | 175.0 | 18.5 | 117.0 |
| 10 | 115 | | SRI | Sri Lanka | 10.0 | 174.5 | 21.5 | 115.0 |

Marian, Leonid and Allan attended the Closing Ceremony. The rest of us were either leaving the same evening (Olivia and the Sivas) or had to be up early the next day, and couldn't face yet another couple of hours on a bus...



China won Gold in both the Open and Women's sections, to add to their current Women's World Champion title. Will they follow up with more in the World Championship?

We all gathered in the bar for a post-mortem of the last round and a few drinks to celebrate.

We had our own Awards Ceremony later, when Leonid presented Jane and Imogen with “Top Fighter” and “Highest Scorer” prizes.



Many thanks from both teams to Leonid and Marian for all the coaching and support over the last fortnight.

As well as the help with the chess, it was very handy having two Russian-speakers in the delegation!