



# 15<sup>th</sup> Dubai Open Chess Championship

## Sheikh Rashid Bin Hamdan Al Maktoum Cup

6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013, Dubai, UAE • Bulletin 1



*Ibrahim Abdul Malik, General Secretary of the Ministry of Sports, starts the chess clock on top board between GM Vladimir Akopian of Armenia (left) and Samir Nadir of Sudan. Looking on are, from left, Chief Arbiter Mahdi Abdulrahim, Khaled Zayed, Member of Dubai Sports Council, Ibrahim Abdul Malik, Ibrahim Al Bannai, president of Dubai Chess Club, FIDE CEO Geoffrey Borg and Sheikh Saoud Al Mualla, president of Sharjah Chess Club.*

Seeded players won their opening round assignments to lead favorites in the 15<sup>th</sup> Dubai Open Chess Championship going on until 16<sup>th</sup> April at the Dubai Chess Club in Dubai, UAE. Top games can be seen live on the internet at the Dubai Chess Club website [www.dubaichess.ae](http://www.dubaichess.ae).

GM Vladimir Akopian of Armenia, top seed with a rating of 2704, made short work of Samir Nadir of Sudan in 30 moves of a Pirc Defense. Also winning their first day battles were Grandmasters, by seed order, Viktor Laznicka (2674) of Czech Republic, Romain Edouard (2670) of France, Yuriy Kryvoruchko (2668) of Ukraine, Gabriel Sargissian (2666) and Trigran L. Petrosian (2663) of Armenia, Andrei Istratescu (2648) of France, Ivan Sokolov (2643) of the Netherlands,

Amin Bassem (2641) of Egypt, Mikheil Mchedlishvili (2640) of Georgia, Wen Yang (2631) of China, Surya Ganguly (2623) of India, Yuriy Kuzubov (2619) of Ukraine, Jaan Ehlovest (2611) of USA and Mircea Parligras (2602) of Romania.

There were some surprises in the opening round as three untitled players held highly rated Grandmasters to draws.

Ahmed Holi Ali Moaqia of Sudan, rated 2066, drew with GM Viorel Iordachescu (2599) of Moldova in 90 moves, Abdel Rabb Raouf of Yemen, rated 2036, held GM Abhijeet Gupta of India (2591) to a draw while Tarig Elther Mohammed of Sudan, rated 1993, halved the point with GM B. Adhiban (2555) of India.

Other Grandmasters winning in round one were Sergey Volkov (2593), Aleksandr Rakhmanov (2591) and Vladimir Burmakin (2580), all of Russia, Shanava Konstantin (2578) of Georgia, Babu Lalith (2565) of India, Ehsan Ghaem Maghami (2561) of Iran, Levon PANTSULAIA (2556) of Georgia, Mikhailo Oleksienko (2554) of Ukraine, Pavel Kotsur (2552) of Kazakhstan, Rinat Jumabayev (2549) of Kazakhstan, Peter Michalik (2535) of Slovakia, Salem A. R. Saleh (2530) of the UAE, Pontus Carlsson (2520) of Sweden, Mohammed Al-Sayed (2517) of Qatar, Ziaur Rahman (2511) of Bangladesh, Harika Dronavalli (2509) of India, Darini Pouria (2505) of Iran and Indian GMs Sundar Shayam (2505), Chakkavarthy Deepan (2477) and Sahaj Grover (2467).

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Round 1 on 2013/04/07 at 18:00

Bo.		Name	IRtg	FED	Pts	Res.	Pts		Name	IRtg	FED
1	GM	Akopian Vladimir	2704	ARM	0	1 - 0	0	CM	Nadir Samir	2135	SUD
2		Basencyan Mark	2133	ARM	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Laznicka Viktor	2674	CZE
3	GM	Edouard Romain	2670	FRA	0	1 - 0	0	WFM	Pujari Rucha	2132	IND
4		Michelle Catherina P	2123	IND	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Kryvoruchko Yuriy	2668	UKR
5	GM	Sargissian Gabriel	2666	ARM	0	1 - 0	0	WFM	Schmidt Jade	2113	GER
6		Wenzel Birger	2109	GER	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Petrosian Tigran L.	2663	ARM
7	GM	Istratescu Andrei	2648	FRA	0	1 - 0	0	WFM	Raghavi N.	2096	IND
8	WIM	Ivana Maria Furtado	2093	IND	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Sokolov Ivan	2643	NED
9	GM	Amin Bassem	2641	EGY	0	1 - 0	0	WFM	Nekrasova Elena	2089	LIB
10		Mehdi Samer	2089	IRI	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Mchedlishvili Mikheil	2640	GEO
11	GM	Wen Yang	2631	CHN	0	1 - 0	0		Salah Romany	2085	EGY
12	WIM	Blanco Acevedo Maria C.	2080	VEN	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Ganguly Surya Shekhar	2623	IND
13	GM	Kuzubov Yuriy	2619	UKR	0	1 - 0	0		Sameir Ramez	2078	EGY
14		Elnemr Mohamed	2073	EGY	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Ehlvest Jaan	2611	USA
15	GM	Parligras Mircea-Emilian	2602	ROU	0	1 - 0	0		Kohtz Andreas	2068	GER
16	CM	Ahmed Holi Ali Moawia	2066	SUD	0	½ ½	0	GM	Iordachescu Viorel	2599	MDA
17	GM	Volkov Sergey	2593	RUS	0	1 - 0	0		Takrory Hosam	2044	PLE
18		Abdel Rabb Raouf	2036	YEM	0	½ ½	0	GM	Gupta Abhijeet	2591	IND
19	GM	Rakhmanov Aleksandr	2591	RUS	0	1 - 0	0	FM	Ram Aravind L N	2035	IND
20		Rice Chris B	2032	ENG	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Burmakin Vladimir	2580	RUS
21	GM	Shanava Konstantine	2578	GEO	0	1 - 0	0		Klyszcz Michael	2029	GER
22	FM	Elmejbri Ali A.	2008	LBA	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Lalith Babu M.R.	2565	IND
23	GM	Ghaem Maghami Ehsan	2561	IRI	0	1 - 0	0		Mahmoud Haitham	2005	SUD
24		Albers Andreas	1999	GER	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Pantsulaia Levan	2556	GEO
25	GM	Adhiban B.	2555	IND	0	½ ½	0		Mohammed Tarig Elther	1993	SUD
26		Madhurima Shekhar	1991	IND	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Oleksienko Mikhailo	2554	UKR
27	GM	Kotsur Pavel	2552	KAZ	0	1 - 0	0		Ahmed Fayez	1946	UAE
28		Magdy Kassem	1943	EGY	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Jumabayev Rinat	2549	KAZ
29	GM	Michalik Peter	2535	SVK	0	1 - 0	0		Rafee Mohd Hayel	1909	SYR
30		Walid Anwar	1893	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Salem A.R. Saleh	2530	UAE
31	WGM	Ju Wenjun	2521	CHN	0	1 - 0	0		Sultan Ibrahim	1886	UAE
32		Elnaami Hashem A.K.	1854	LBA	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Carlsson Pontus	2520	SWE
33	GM	Al-Sayed Mohammed	2517	QAT	0	1 - 0	0		Al Sori Mohamed	1830	LBA
34		Alnami Salaheddin	1825	LBA	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Akshayraj Kore	2512	IND
35	GM	Rahman Ziaur	2511	BAN	0	1 - 0	0		Faranka Khaled	1823	LBA
36		Vojdani Siavosh	1819	IRI	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Harika Dronavalli	2509	IND
37	GM	Darini Pouria	2505	IRI	0	1 - 0	0	CM	Saleh Naif	1811	UAE
38	WFM	Nouman Amna	1809	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	GM	Shyam Sundar M.	2505	IND
39	IM	Hayrapetyan Hovik	2503	ARM	0	+ - -	0		Mayed Al-Rashedi	1785	UAE
40		Esa A H Almarazeeq	1781	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Khotenashvili Bela	2492	GEO
41	IM	Shoker Samy	2480	EGY	0	1 - 0	0		Abdulla Abdulwahab	1773	UAE
42		Hamdan Marshool	1756	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Paetz Elisabeth	2479	GER
43	GM	Deepan Chakkravarthy J.	2477	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Abdulla Ali	1746	UAE
44		Ali Rashid Ghanem	1741	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Debashis Das	2477	IND
45	IM	Swapnil S. Dhopade	2475	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Murad Abdulla	1741	UAE
46		Adarsh Saji	1737	IND	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Vishnu Prasanna. V	2470	IND
47	GM	Grover Sahaj	2467	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Sultan Marshool	1736	UAE
48		Ahmed Fareed	1725	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Ezat Mohamed	2461	EGY
49	IM	Ghosh Diptayan	2451	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Waleed Mohamed	1724	EGY
50		Sasikumar Anusweud	1721	IND	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Narayanan Srinath	2440	IND

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Bo.		Name	IRtg	FED	Pts	Res.	Pts		Name	IRtg	FED
51		Karthikeyan Murali	2432	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Keen Cosima C	1712	ENG
52		Montaser Kamil	1700	SUD	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Ankit R. Rajpara	2421	IND
53	IM	Yap Kim Steven	2418	PHI	0	1 - 0	0		Ambareesh. P	1697	IND
54		Abdullah Al Hamed	1691	UAE	0	0 - 1	0		Sunilduth Lyna Narayanan	2418	IND
55	IM	Houska Jovanka	2417	ENG	0	1 - 0	0		Humaid Abdulla Ali	1668	UAE
56		Ali Abdulaziz	1660	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Tania Sachdev	2409	IND
57	IM	Kanter Eduard	2408	RUS	0	1 - 0	0		Khaled Ahmed Y.	1652	UAE
58		Saif Idrees	1633	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	FM	Anurag Mhamal	2401	IND
59	IM	Nezad Husein Aziz	2400	QAT	0	1 - 0	0		Majed Ali Abdouli	1627	UAE
60		Hassweh Mwaffaq	1886	SYR	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Gagare Shardul	2397	IND
61	IM	Karavade Eesha	2389	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Niranjan R	1614	IND
62		Abdulaziz Abdulla	1610	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Prathamesh Sunil Mokal	2389	IND
63	FM	Vandenbussche Thibaut	2387	BEL	0	1 - 0	0		Abdulla Shaeri	1609	UAE
64		Mohamed Marshool	1604	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Khukhashvili Sopiko	2386	GEO
65		Sagar Shah	2376	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Talal Al-Hammadi	1603	UAE
66	WCM	Al-Maghbali Shama	1599	UAE	0	- - +	0	IM	Isaev Jamshed	2355	TJK
67	FM	De Ramos Julius	2350	PHI	0	1 - 0	0		Santosh Sanath	1597	IND
68		Timi Thomas Mulavana	1590	IND	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Purtseladze Maka	2347	GEO
69	WGM	Hoolt Sarah	2338	GER	0	1 - 0	0		Jehad Aysha	1586	UAE
70		Surya K. Sudarsam	1780	IND	0	0 - 1	0	WGM	Saduakassova Dinara	2336	KAZ
71		Krishna C.R.G.	2334	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Al-Hammadi Fatima Hussein	1565	UAE
72		Faisal Ali	1557	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	FM	Aravindh Chithambaram Vr.	2333	IND
73	IM	Galojan Lilit	2323	ARM	0	1 - 0	0		Harikrishnan Samyuktha	1554	IND
74		Salem Ahmed Salem	1548	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Praveen Kumar C.	2312	IND
75	WGM	Pourkashiyani Atousa	2303	IRI	0	1 - 0	0		Bashaer Khalil	1545	UAE
76		Sultan Fareed	1538	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	FM	Kowsarinia Amir	2301	IRI
77	FM	Das Sayantan	2299	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Naidu Harish	1476	IND
78		Al Taher Saeed	1465	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	WIM	Khademalsharieh Sarasadat	2267	IRI
79	WIM	Olsarova Karolina	2264	CZE	0	1 - 0	0		Al-Zaabi Sultan	1447	UAE
80		Nandu Gagarin	1429	IND	0	0 - 1	0	WIM	Olsarova Tereza	2260	CZE
81		Hemant Sharma (del)	2253	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Al Amoudy Khalifa	1411	UAE
82		Majed Mosallam	1403	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	IM	Gameel Mohamed	2250	YEM
83	WIM	Davletbayeva Madina	2248	KAZ	0	1 - 0	0		Rashid Mosallam	1388	UAE
84	WCM	Kalbani Wadema	1379	UAE	0	- - +	0	FM	Chahrani Ibrahim	2244	LBA
85		Raes Abdul Kader	2241	SYR	0	1 - 0	0		Hamda Sarhan	1349	UAE
86		Al-Harmoudi Mariam	1307	UAE	0	0 - 1	0	FM	Mohannad Farhan	2231	JOR
87	WGM	Makropoulou Marina	2227	GRE	0	1 - 0	0		Aagney L. Narasimhan	1288	IND
88		Soud Mosallam	1242	UAE	0	0 - 1	0		Navalgund Niranjan	2219	IND
89		Ilhomzoda Ikrom	2212	TJK	0	1 - 0	0	FM	Yaaqoub Rashid	2203	SUD
90		Abdalsalam Abubukr	2002	SUD	0	0 - 1	0		Nyazi Nehad	2203	EGY
91		Phadke Sohan	2187	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Tawfeik Moustafa	2081	EGY
92		Al Hosani Omran	0	UAE	0	0 - 1	0		Sobh Amrou	2177	EGY
93	FM	Visweswaran K.	2159	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Hamad Ahmed	0	UAE
94		Bennett John M	2048	ENG	0	0 - 1	0		Osman Abdelgadir	2157	SUD
95	FM	Somoff Abdo	2155	LIB	0	0 - 1	0		Dimarucut Francis Erwin	2120	PHI
96		Pabalan Rocky	2138	PHI	0	1 - 0	0		Nimmy A.G.	2152	IND
97	WGM	Mona Khaled	2147	EGY	0	0 - 1	0		Tabada Jobannie C.	2199	PHI
98	FM	Harshal Shahi	1955	IND	0	1 - 0	0		Altaher Salman Tarek	1482	UAE



# The making of a Chess Tradition: 15 years of the Dubai Open

Addressing the opening ceremony, Dubai Chess Club Executive Director Mohammed Hussein credited the success of the Dubai Open Chess Championship to teamwork. Speaking to guests and players who are regular participants in the Dubai Open, he said "We are a family."

"The 1986 Dubai Chess Olympiad opened the door to major sports events in Dubai. After the Olympiad came the big events of ATP Tennis, Golf "Race to Dubai", Championship Football and Mega Million Dollar Horse Racing. And it all started with the Chess Olympiad," Hussein reminisced.

Chief Arbiter Mahdi Abdulrahim is a bundle of energy as he attends to the technical matters, supervising the local Arbiters, and directing the support staff of the Dubai Chess Club.



*Ibrahim Al Bannai  
Dubai Chess Club president*

Casto Abundo said that in all Dubai Open Championships, the Appeals Committee has not received any protest.

In the Dubai Open, tournament conditions are excellent because of the state of the art Dubai Chess Club, cen-

trally located, well lit, cool and spacious.

Months before the tournament, Hussein negotiates with hotels to get the best conditions for players even if it is peak season for hotels all year round in Dubai.

Ahmed Toukhi has always been caring for players in the Dubai Open, coordinating transport, helping with their needs in the hotel and giving guidance to the chess tourists.

The Dubai Open has kept up with technology as Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh broadcasts the games on top boards live on the internet to millions of viewers around the world.

Most important to the success of the Dubai Open Chess Championship is the city itself. Since 1986, Dubai has grown by leaps and bounds with an enlightened leadership.



*Clockwise from top: Mahdi Abdulrahim, Casto Abundo, Mohammed Hussein, Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh and Ahmed Toukhi.*

