

Reflections SA Closed (3) by Dr Adv Lyndon Bouah

The games started this afternoon and what titanic battles there were!

1. The Open Section

The top of the table clash was between Van Den Heever and Kobese. Both international Masters elected to have an early shower because after ten moves a grandmaster draw was agreed to. Saving their energy for the marathon! I don't even think Donovan FIU I shed his 80% chocolate!



IM Van Den Heever vs IM Kobese

The match between Klaasen and Mosehle was a humdinger. I thought Mosehle had a good positional bind with Black handcastling. He decided to play pawn to h4 to further weaken Klaasen but Black instead used the h file! A strong start from Klaasen.



Klaasen and Mosehle and in back ground IM Johannes Mabusela played FM Charles De Villiers

The two youngest players Barrish and Bhawoodien agreed to a draw when they played to a closed position.

IM Johannes Mabusela, the Atteridgeville Shark played FM Charles De Villiers. De Villiers essayed the Samisch which Mabusela was very happy to nurse through. Many complications later Mabusela emerged with white on top and exploiting his spatial advantage.

Jacob Mnguni beat CM Denis Ovcina who somehow contrived to place his queen in a position where it was exposed with no retreat. Jacob joyfully accepted the free gift.

Ryan Van Rensburg drew with Ben Hercules.

2. Women Section

In the Women's section defending champion WIM Frick played against WCM Nina Marais. Marais sacrificed her queen for three pieces. WIM Frick absorbed the pressure but could only draw.

Robyn Van Niekerk played Sonia Modi. Van Niekerk exploited the fact that her opponent didn't castle and took advantage of the debutant to record a win.

WFM Michelle Fisher lost to a strong attack against Jackie Grobbelaar. Jackie essayed a queen, knight and rook sortie on the black king and exploited the fact that blacks queenside pieces were not participating in the game,

WFM Dantelle Joubert drew with Marni Oberholzer. Joubert pushed hard but Marni held her own.



WFM Dantelle Joubert vs Marni Oberholzer

Megan van Niekerk lost to WIM Jesse February. The game was evenly balanced for a long time with February having slight pressure which she brought home,

WIM Anzel Laubscher beat WIM Charlize Van Zyl in a nice attacking game, both players went for

broke but at the end experience won the day.

3. Senior Section

Mark Lewis drew with his old team mate Deon Pick. An early queen exchange meant that the two players went into an endgame fairly early!



Mark Lewis vs Deon Pick

Gordon Lawrence beat Alfred Pesa. Lawrence played a nice positional game in which he exploited his spatial advantage.

Andrew Southey versus Jannie Saffier was an action packed affair. Saffier triumphed at the end but not without many adventures.



Andrew Southey versus Jannie Saffier

Malcolm Fredericks drew with Cecil Ohlson. I thought Fredericks was better but Ohlson played well defensively.

CM Anton Goosen beat Roland Willenberg. Goosen had an opening advantage but Willenberg equalised and had a nice position in the middle game. Goosen however kept pressing and secured the point.

Edwin November was surprised by FM Bhawoodien who stopped any Stonewalls when he played 1. e5 after 1d4. ! The Englund Gambit had the desired effect. Bhawoodien securing the win.

4. B section

Sandile Mfundisi played a wild game against one of the favourites Alex Kromhout from Nelson Mandela Bay. The two players had pieces attacking the respective kings and then exchanged down to opposite coloured Bishops which both players still tried to win!

Kenny Willenberg drew with Dumisa Nkosi.

Betheul Gandhi lost on time in the middle game against Micheal James. Gandhi will have to improve his time usage because there was nothing wrong with his position but losing in the middle game with a board full of pieces is not good tournament praxis.



Betheul Gandhi against Micheal James

Warrick Erlank beat Cavan Jacobs. Erlank appeared to have things under control from early on.

Ashley Vermaak lost to Heinrich Basson.

George Lawerlot had a lucky escape again Jacques Basson from the West Coast. Basson missed a two move combination which would've won a queen for a rook.

Makhosonke Kuhlase lost to Cherwin Kleinsmidt. The latter had strong pressure throughout the game and converted neatly.

5. Under 23 Section

Seth Riley Adams beat Luan De Jager in a well played game. The game started off without much fanfare but Adams showed why he is a force to be reckoned with.

Alexander van Der Merwe lost to Heinco Du Plessis.

Craig Bornheim beat Keith Khumalo (aka Keithonsky) in a nice positional game.

David Lubbe (1304) beat Stefan Du Toit (1918). Du Toit picked up two pieces for a rook but could not get them going. Lubbe used his active rook to shepherd a pawn through which cost one of the bishops.



David Lubbe and Stefan Du Toit

Jordan Verster drew with Hishaam Essop. Both players played hard.

Gluckman versus Kolver. Kolver never pitched. I don't know the reasons because he signed a sheet saying he is playing and sent it to the organisers. By not informing the organisers another player who could've played was not able to be selected because we only learnt too late that he is not coming.

Visit the venue at Curro, Durbanville. It's round two of a great event! Spectators will be allowed and the top sections will be on chess24. The round starts at 4pm.

Regards

Dr Lyndon Bouah