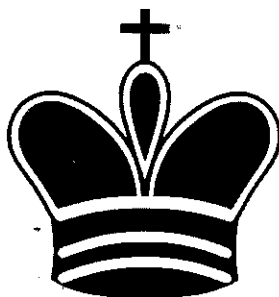


## 81st Montana Open Issue

## MCA NEWS

Montana Chess  
Association  
Volume 1, Issue 1



2015-2016  
Co-Champions



**Congratulations!**  
**David Duke Mark Anderson**

## Standings: 2015 Montana Closed

	Player	Rating	Rd1	Rd2	Rd	Rd4	Rd5	Total	TBrk
1	Mark Anderson	1781	D4	D2	W5	D3	W6	3.5	7.5
2	David Duke	1871	W5	D1	L3	W6	W4	3.5	7.25
3	Wilton Strickland	1845	D6	L4	W2	D1	D5	2.5	7
4	Dan McCourt	1809	D1	W3	D6	L1	L2	2	5
5	Jacob Copley	1636	L2	D6	L1	W4	D3	2	4
6	Romie Carpenter	1800	D3	D5	D4	L2	L1	1.5	3.25

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## Current MCA Board

President	Jim Skovron
Western V.P.	J. Michael Jensen
Eastern V.P.	David Duke
Exec. V.P.	Wilton Strickland
Sec/Treas	Dan McCourt

Greetings of the spring season! The 2016 Montana Open is just days away and will mark the end of another successful year for Montana Chess. Since the 2016 Closed will host 10 participants and 8 spots remain open, most will be settled this weekend. Bring your 'A' gamell!

Keep your thinking cap handy for the annual business meeting too, as this time we have a lot of proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. Mostly these changes are updates and clarifications but some are of more significance. Members should have already received an email containing these proposals. They are also posted on the MCA website and are hard-copy in this issue.

Lastly, TD Murray Strong's email address is:

[murstrong1958@gmail.com](mailto:murstrong1958@gmail.com).



Kalispell Chess Club	
Meeting Location:	Kalispell Regional Hospital
Meeting Time:	Tues. 6pm
Club Info:	Meet us in the cafeteria for some chess!
Club Website:	<a href="http://www.flatheadchess.org">http://www.flatheadchess.org</a>

Jacob Copley swept the Great Falls Open with a perfect 5.0 score. Jim Skovron placed 2nd with 4.0. The younger generation is coming on strong with Hans Mazur and Anthony Raelund tying for third with 3.0 scores.

### Greater Great Falls Open 2016

Total TBrks

1	Jacob Copley	1667	W9	W5	W2	W7	W3	5.0	11.5	12.5
2	Jim Skovron	1739	W10	W7	L1	W4	W8	4.0	12	13
3	Anthony B Raelund [P]	1453	W6	L4	W5	W9	L1	3.0	13	14
4	Hans Mazur [P]	1465	L5	W3	W8	L2	W7	3.0	11.5	13.5
5	Wilton Strickland	1833	W4	L1	L3	D6	W9	2.5	8.5	14.5
6	Mark Anderson	1832	L3	W9	L7	D5	W11	2.5	6.5	10.5
7	Murray Strong	1526	W8	L2	W6	L1	L4	2.0	11.5	16.5
8	Bob Mitchell	1400	L7	W10	L4	W12	L2	2.0	8	12
9	Simon McGlenn [P]	1403	L1	L6	W10	L3	L5	1.0	9	14
10	Frank Miller	1428	L2	L8	L9	D11	D12	1.0	7	11
11	Dennis Petrak	1660	U---	U---	U---	D10	L6	0.5	1	3.5
12	Gary Solomon [house]	1538	U---	U---	U---	L8	D10	0.5	1	3

## 2016 January Thaw

Mark Anderson took clear 1st with 4.5 followed by Tom Mostad at 4.0 and Wilton Strickland at 3.5. Gary Solomon nailed biggest upset.

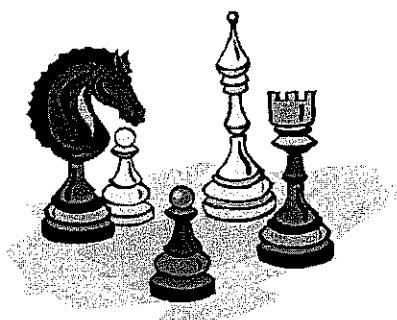
1	M. Anderson	1805	W15	W17	D2	W4	W6	4.5
2	T. Mostad	1640	W18	W3	D1	W5	D4	4.0
3	W. Strickland	1826	W6	L2	D5	W13	W12	3.5
4	S. Moore	1701	W16	W8	H	L1	D2	3.0
5	J. Skovron	1777	W10	W14	D3	L2	D7	3.0
6	J. Henneford	1515	L3	W16	W14	W12	L1	3.0
7	G. Ford	1519	D12	L13	W15	W10	D5	3.0
8	G. Solomon	1431	W13	L4	D11	W17	H	3.0
9	M. Muller	1681	L14	L12	W19	D16	W15	2.5
10	E. Vosen	1471	L5	W18	D13	L7	W19	2.5
11	M. Strong	1525	H	H	D8	H	H	2.5
12	R. Carpenter	1886	D7	W9	H	L6	L3	2.0
13	D. McCourt	1770	L8	W7	D10	L3	H	2.0
14	J. Driscoll	1049	W9	L5	L6	L15	W18	2.0
15	F. Miller	1514	L1	W19	L7	W14	L9	2.0
16	A. B. Raelund	1199	L4	L6	W18	D9	H	2.0
17	R Martin	1666	W19	L1	H	L8	U	1.5
18	A. Gussmann	UNR	L2	L10	L16	W19	L14	1.0
19	M. Aims Back	376	L17	L15	L9	L18	L10	0



University / Community Chess Club	
Meeting Location:	Rm 235 Liberal Arts Bldg, The University of Montana, Missoula
Meeting Time:	Thursdays Start drifting in about 6:45pm, clocks start about 7:00
Club Info:	Dan McCourt 721-0254 Sherwood Moore 728-1695 Generally, 3 rated games per month followed by Blitz tourney. Chess study sessions occasionally.

## 2015-2016 Grand Prix Standings

Name	Nov 2015 Turkey	Jan 2016 Thaw	Mar 2016 GF Open	Total Points
Skovron	16.06	7.21	9.27	32.54
Anderson	4.82	16.46		21.28
Strickland	7.71	10.49		18.20
Copley			17.54	17.54
Mazur	3.85		13.16	17.01
Raelund			13.16	13.16
Henneford	4.82	7.21		12.03
McGlenn	10.28			10.28
Moore	2.89	7.21		10.10
Solomon		9.04		9.04
Mostad		8.87		8.87
McCourt	7.71			7.71
Lee	4.82			4.82
Petrak	4.82			4.82
Jensen	2.89			2.89



## PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

### 1. New Players

- a. Proposal: MCA dues will be waived for a new player in their first-ever MCA or USCF rated event.**

Original text to be replaced: "No entry fee is charged in MCA-sponsored tournaments for individuals in their first-ever USCF rated event. Organizers of MCA-sanctioned events are encouraged to extend the same courtesy to newcomers in their tournaments."

(This standardizes the value of the award for first-time players and protects the prize fund for each event.)

### 2. Grand Prix System

- a. Proposal: Grand Prix points shall be issued to all resident MCA players with a plus score.**

Original text to be replaced: "...all Grand Prix points shall be issued to the first ten resident MCA finishers with a plus score, regardless of place of finish."

(Simpler and more inclusive)

- b. Proposal: ...standings to be published in the MCA website throughout the year.**

Original text to be replaced: "...standings to be published in the MCA newsletter throughout the year."

(Simpler and more practical)

- c. Proposal: Where C = Average rating of all players in the event divided by 1500.**

Original text to be replaced: Where C = Average rating of all players in the event [15  
(Correcting a typo & clarifying the arithmetic)

**d. Proposal: Eliminate or modify the value of the Travel Bonus Multiplier.**

Original text: Where  $M = \text{Travel Bonus Multiplier}$ .

(Concern that the Travel Bonus degrades the skill/performance value of Grand Prix points.)

**3. State Open Tournament**

Site and Date for the State Closed

**a. Proposal: The site and date of the Closed will be determined after the MT Open to accommodate the participants and encourage attendance for the satellite tournament.**

Original text to be replaced: When the Executive Board members arrange for the date and site for the State Open, they shall also arrange for a date and site for the State Closed. This information is to be published in the newsletter in advance of the Open in order that the membership and potential participants in the Closed (and satellite Barto Memorial) may plan accordingly.

(This is not the current process and does not work as currently written.)

**b. Proposal: The Closed will be held sometime between June 1 and October 31st.**

Original text to be replaced: "The Closed will be held sometime between June 1 and September 30.

(Correct all inconsistent references to this date.)

**c. Proposal: Concerning TD for the Closed—remove the original text.**

Original text to be removed: "The president (or designee) who served during the preceding year shall be the tournament director of the Closed and Barto Memorial.

(Any TD should be acceptable and the President is not necessarily a TD.)

**d. Proposal: Replace all current text for alternate players with:  
"Each vacancy in the seeded categories will be filled from the Grand Prix standings."**

Original text to be replaced: All of the current text for alternates.

(Greatly simplified and still meets the intent for selecting alternates.)

#### 4. Notification to MCA Membership

##### a. **Proposal: Update all instances of text to where the primary method of notification will be in the MCA website.**

(Newsletters are slow, irregular, and labor intensive methods of communication. Email is being used to supplement informational communications. Newsletters may still be published but not mandated.)

#### 5. References to USCF Rules publication edition.

##### a. **Proposal: Remove references to a specific edition of the USCF Rules.**

(“the edition in force” is sufficient and will not become an obsolete reference.)

#### 5. Article Five D. Change:

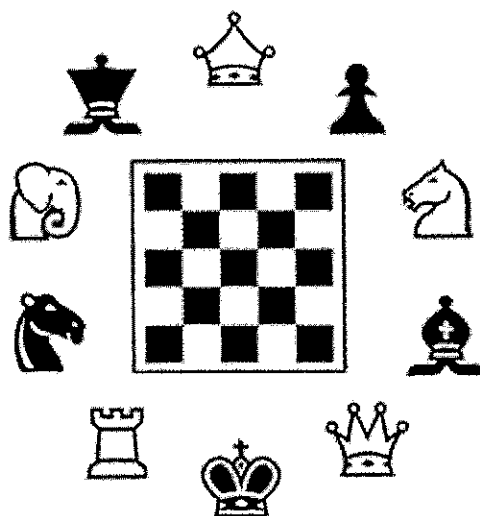
##### a. **Proposal: Change the deadline for annual business meeting agenda items to 30 days prior to the tournament.**

Original text to be changed: Members wishing to place items on the agenda must provide the Secretary/Treasurer with written text no later than February 15.

(Reflecting current technology in as a newsletter is not required to be published to announce the agendas.

#### 6. Preamble: A ‘wordsmithing’ suggestion:

“The Montana Chess Association is the state chapter affiliate of the United States Chess Federation, promotes activities that enhance the enjoyment of the game for the membership, supports chess education and general interest in chess.”



## 2015 TURKEY OPEN

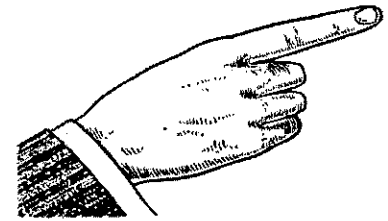
The 2015 Turkey Open enjoyed nice facilities at the Best Western Grant Creek Inn together with a large turnout of 38 players, thanks to an influx of quite a few new players along with another large contingent of our friends to the west, with whom we were able to reciprocate by sending them back with lots of prize money.

John Julian returned to chess after a fairly long hiatus and took 1st. Nikolay Bulakh and Brad Bodie shared 2nd. Jim Skovron took the "B" prize. Ted Baker and John Henneford shared the "C" prize, while Braxton Casey got the "D/E" money.

Arlene Hiatt earned the Biggest Upset prize with a 5th round "triple nickel" (555pt) upset.

All in all it was a very good turnout with lots of new faces who we'd like to welcome back again next year.

The tournament was directed by Romie Carpenter with tons of assistance from Dan McCourt and Gary Solomon.



### 2015 Turkey Open Crosstable

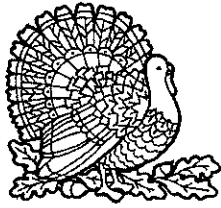
#### Mazur Scores Big at Barto

Hans Mazur topped the field at the Barto Memorial giving up only a 3rd round draw on his way to a whopping 259 point USCF rating gain! Jim Skovron's 4 points took clear 2nd and Frank Miller came 3rd with 3.5. Miller's 355 point upset in the 4th round stood as biggest among the non-provisional players.

	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot	TBrk	TBrk	TBrk	TBrk
1	Hans Mazur	1220	W12	W10	D3	W2	W4	4.5	12.5	13.5	13.5	36.5
2	Jim Skovron	1765	W7	W3	W4	L1	W6	4.0	13.5	15.5	13	47
3	Frank Miller	1365	W8	L2	D1	W5	W7	3.5	13	15	9.5	44.5
4	Gary Solomon	1480	W11	W5	L2	D6	L1	2.5	9.5	14.5	10	42.5
5	Robert Martin	1720	W9	L4	H---	L3	W8	2.5	6.5	10	7	29.5
6	John Henneford	unr.	U---	W11	W7	D4	L2	2.5	5	9	8	30
7	Simon McGlenn	1217	L2	W8	L6	W11	L3	2.0	9	13	6	36.5
8	Erick Pakas	unr.	L3	L7	W12	W9	L5	2.0	7.5	11	5	28
9	Aaron Patterson	560	L5	W12	L10	L8	W11	2.0	6	8.5	5	17
10	Robert Mitchell	1401	U---	L1	W9	H---	U---	1.5	2	6.5	3.5	18.5
11	Allie Armstrong	unr.	L4	L6	H---	L7	L9	0.5	6.5	9.5	1	29
12	Jean McDonald	unr.	L1	L9	L8	H---	U---	0.5	4	8.5	0.5	23.5



## 2015 Turkey Open



			Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot	TBrk	TBrk	TBrk
1	JOHN C JULIAN	WallaWalla	2036	W32	D10	W19	W9	W2	4.5	12.5	14	13
2	NIKOLAY IV BULAKH	Spokane	1931	W16	W30	W4	W3	L1	4.0	15.5	18.5	14
3	BRAD R BODIE	Cd'Alene	1919	W15	W14	W5	L2	W9	4.0	13	16	13
4	JAMES J SKOVRON	GreatFalls	1785	W28	W23	L2	W25	W11	4.0	11	13	12
5	DANIEL MCCOURT	Missoula	1797	W7	W26	L3	X30	D6	3.5	12.5	12.5	10.5
6	WILTON STRICKLAND	Missoula	1828	D19	D25	W23	W10	D5	3.5	10.5	12.5	10
7	SIMON BLA MCGLENN	Whitefish	1394	L5	W34	W22	D14	W18	3.5	10.5	11.5	9
8	BRAXTON WAL CASEY	Spokane	1483	L11	W24	H---	W33	W22	3.5	8.5	8.5	8
9	SAVANNA NACCARATO	Spokane	1696	W24	W11	W12	L1	L3	3.0	14.5	16.5	12
10	CONRAD CHRIST LEE	Bozeman	1737	W20	D1	W18	L6	D13	3.0	13.5	16	10.5
11	MARK C ANDERSON	Browning	1808	W8	L9	W32	W26	L4	3.0	12	13.5	10
12	J MICHAEL JENSEN	Missoula	1835	W17	W22	L9	D13	H---	3.0	11	11	10
13	SHERWOOD MOORE	Missoula	1677	W31	D18	H---	D12	D10	3.0	10.5	10.5	9.5
14	DENNIS F PETRAK	GreatFalls	1664	W37	L3	W28	D7	H---	3.0	10.5	10.5	9
15	JOHN HENNEFORD	GreatFalls	1485	L3	W36	L30	W35	W23	3.0	10	11	7
16	HANS MICHAEL MAZUR	Whitefish	1469	L2	L29	W24	W34	W25	3.0	10	11	6
17	TED BAKER	Spokane	1501	L12	W37	H---	D27	W26	3.0	7.5	7.5	7
18	JEREMY ADA KRASIN	Spokane	1828	W27	D13	L10	W19	L7	2.5	8.5	14	9
19	FRANK E MILLER JR	St. Ike	1519	D6	W33	L1	L18	W27	2.5	8	14	7.5
20	ARLENE HIATT	Cd'Alene	1169	L10	L32	H---	W28	W33	2.5	5	8	4
21	ROBERT H HARDER	Spokane	1135	L22	W35	L33	W32	H---	2.5	4	6	6
22	KEVIN M KORSMO	Spokane	1698	W21	L12	L7	W29	L8	2.0	11	14.5	7
23	DAVID B GRIFFIN	Spokane	1530	W39	L4	L6	W31	L15	2.0	8.5	12.5	7
24	ANTHONY B. RAE LUND	Kalispell	1168	L9	L8	L16	W37	W35	2.0	8	11.5	3
25	GARRETT WAL CASEY	Spokane	1474	W35	D6	H---	L4	L16	2.0	7.5	11.5	8
26	MURRAY STRONG	Helena	1532	W34	L5	B---	L11	L17	2.0	7	10	7
27	ROBERT JAM RAJALA	Missoula	1457	L18	W31	H---	D17	L19	2.0	7	10	6
28	COLTON QUIRK	Missoula	1321	L4	W39	L14	L20	W34	2.0	6.5	10.5	5
29	JESSE DY DRISCOLL	Missoula	1053	L30	W16	H---	L22	D32	2.0	6.5	9.5	5.5
30	JACOB THOM COPLEY	Missoula	1663	W29	L2	W15	F5	U---	2.0	5	9	8
31	DANIEL THACKERAY	Lewistown	935	L13	L27	W39	L23	W36	2.0	5	8	4
32	GARY J SOLOMON	Kalispell	1439	L1	W20	L11	L21	D29	1.5	10	14.5	4.5
33	DALE M GROSS	Missoula	1513	H---	L19	W21	L8	L20	1.5	7.5	11	5
34	ANTHONY RAE LUND	Kalispell	1075	L26	L7	W37	L16	L28	1.0	7.5	11	3
35	TYNE M FLANNIGAN	Missoula	794	L25	L21	W36	L15	L24	1.0	7.5	10.5	3
36	COLTON RAE LUND	Kalispell	577	L38	L15	L35	W39	L31	1.0	6	9	2
37	BRETT THACKERAY	Lewistown	938	L14	L17	L34	L24	W39	1.0	6	9	1
38	RON ERICKSON	Missoula	1661	W36	U---	U---	U---	U---	1.0	0	1	5
39	CRICKETT RAE LUND	Kalispell	350	L23	L28	L31	L36	L37	0.0	6	8	0



# Montana Chess



Montana Chess Association

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

• 81st Montana Open	Helena	April 16-17
• Idaho Chess Spring Open	Pocatello	April 23
• John Small Scholastic	Browning	May 6
• Joey Razo Memorial	Browning	May 7
• Inland Empire Open	Spokane	May 14-15
• MIS Scholastic	Missoula	May 21
• Qualchan Quads	Spokane	June 4

Dan McCourt  
608 West Central  
Missoula, MT 59801

