

Montana Open Chess Tournaments--Winners and Runners-Up.

Tournament Number	Year	Class	Winner	Runner-Up.
1	1935	A	E.A.Edwards, Livingston	Dr. Ivan Budaeff, Yellowstone Park
		B	A.E.Davidson, Livingston	
		C	Cliff Behre, Livingston	
2	1936	A	Keith A. Neilson, Yellowstone P'k.	Alfred Hammer
		B	W.E.Warren, Hardin	
		C	J.H.Jesser, Hardin.	
3	1937	A	Douglas Graham, Bozeman	
		B	Dr. J.T.Bradbury, Willow Creek	
		C	Cecil Crosby, Miles City, Mont.	
4	1938	A	H.L.Maury, Butte	R.R.Frazier, Big Timber
		B	Robert Stevens, Great Falls	
		C	W.E.Warren, Hardin	
5	1939	A	J.W.Murray, Billings	H.L.Hayward, Butte.
		B	Keith A. Neilson, Yellowstone P'k.	
		C	R.R.Frazier, Big Timber.	
6	1940	A	J. van Teylingen, Great Falls, and Douglas Graham, Bozeman, Tied	Lawrence Dunkin, Great Falls
		B	James Cleary, Great Falls	
		C	John Hamilton, Great Falls.	
7	1941	A	J. van Teylingen, Great Falls	
		B	George Pierce, Billings	
8	1942	A	Douglas Graham, Bozeman	F.G.Erick Peterson, Bozeman. A.W.Roberts, Whitehall
		B	Tom Friedman, Billings	
		C	J. Defrees Holmes, Big Timber George Van Brocklin, Livingston, Tied.	

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9	1943	A	Gerald Moore, Billings.	
		B	A.D.Burkett, Trident,	
		C	Gordong McLeod, Bozeman	
10	1944	A	Gerald Moore, Billings	George Zimmerman, Billings.
		B	George Pierce, Billings	
		C	Lyle Mead, Manhattan.	
1945 Tournament Cancelled				
11	1946	A	J. Van Teylingen, Great Falls	Gerald Moore, Billings.
		B	Dr. J.A.Mueller, Lewistown	
		C	H.A.Lipke	
12	1947	A	J.van Teylingen, Great Falls	Gerald Moore, Billings
		B	E.S. (Bob) Shoemaker, Harlowton	
13	1948	A	Gerald Moore, Billings and J. van Teylingen, Great Falls and Dr. Frank Di Paula, Ft. Harrison Tied for 1st.	Hank Brandt, Great Falls
		B	George Zimmerman, Billings	
		Jr. 10 Sec.	Miss Virginia Mueller, Lewistown Lawrence Dunkin, Great Falls	
14	1949	A	Bernard Copping, Bozeman	H.L.Maury, Butte H.M.G.Brandt, Great Falls Ralph Hanson, Missoula Bob Southern Jr., Missoula H. M. G. Brandt.
		B	Dr. A.J.Griffith, Bozeman	
		C	Art Edwards, Lewistown	
		Jr.	Dick Burrows, Missoula	
		10 sec	J Van Teylingen	

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15	1950	A	Dr. Adam Smith, Butte	Guy Sheridan, Missoula
		B	Archie Sain, Missoula	John R. Barto, Great Falls
		C	Ole Kraav, Great Falls	Chris Burgmaier, Great Falls
		Jr.	Robert Southern, Jr., Missoula	Ben Cramer, Missoula
		10 sec	Paul Shanley, Deer Lodge.	
16	1951	A	Not Completed	
		B	Paul Shanley, Deer Lodge	H. Lundberg, Missoula
		C	R.M.Anderson, Great Falls,	Ernest Martin, Missoula
		Jr.	Bob Sansted, Butte	
		10 Sec.	L.W.Maxson, Butte	
17	1952	A	Dr. Adam Smith, Butte	J.W.Stevenson, Great Falls
		B	James Sheirie, Great Falls	Henry Garretson, Great Falls
		C	Art Thompson, Hilger	Henry Baitis
		Jr.	Kim Miller, Lewistown	
		10 Sec.	John R. Barto, Great Falls.	
18	1953	A	J.Van Teylingen, Great Falls	Robert Southern, Missoula
		Jr.	O. Wittman	
19	1954	A	Gerald Moore, Billings	John R. Barto, Great Falls
20	1955	A	Robert Edberg, Tieton, Wash	Dr. Adam Smithh, Butte
21	1956	A	Robert Edberg, Tieton, Wash.	Dr. Adam Smith, Butte.
22	1957	A	Victor Pupols, Seattle, Wash.	Dr. Adam Smith, Butte.
		B	Herbert A. Wendel, Butte	Helmer Lundberg, Missoula.
		Jr.	Robert Hallibaugh, Missoula	Stan Colenso and Gary A. Wendel, Butte, Tied.

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Touranment Number	Year	Class	Winner	Runner-up
23	1958	A	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula	Dr. Adam Smith, Butte Wasył Jarosz, Bozeman, and Dirk Duykers, Butte, Tied John Buttler, Missoula
		B	Jack Thompson, Lethbridge, Alberta	
		Jr.	Robert Hallibaugh, Missoula	
24	1959	A	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula	
25	1960	A	Gerald Moore, Billings	Ellak Papp, Billings George Zimmerman, Billings Carl Jensen
		B	John Reddy, Helena	
		Jr.	Wayne Roney	
26	1961	A	Ellak Papp, Billings	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula Dr. J.B. Spaulding, Helena. Dhristoffer.
		B	Don DeVore, Helena	
		Jr.	Liddell	
27	1962	A	Don B. Devore, Helena	Peter Irwin, Missoula Ded Reeves, Drummond Chris Swanberg, Kalispell
		B	Gerald Cole, Kalispell	
		Jr.	Dick Southern, Missoula	
28	1963	A	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula	Wally Albert, Missoula Aaron Hitchcock, Missoula. John Ogden, Whitefish
		B	Ted Brown, Missoula	
		Jr.	Lee McDonald, Columbia Falls	
29 Jr.	1964	A	Ted Brown, Missoula	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula Edgar Reeves, Drummond George McFadden, Glasgow.
		B	Ted McDonald, Columbia Falls	
		Jr.	John Haker, Great Falls	
30	1965	A	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula	Wally Albert, Missoula Robert Giden, Missoula. Steve Hanson, Missoula
		B	Richard Fuhrer, Great Falls	
		Jr.	Mike Jensen, Missoula	

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31	1966	A	Wally Albert, Missoula	Mike Murray, Missoula
		B	J.R.Ward, Tacoma, Wash	Mike Jensen, Missoula
		Jr.	Cody Montalban, Billings	Steve Butler, Billings.
32	1967	A	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula	Mike Murray, Missoula
		B	C. Wallace	Chris Burgamier, Great Falls.
		Jr.	J Carr	J. Markle, Glasgow.
33	1968	A	Edward McCaskey, Bozeman	Dr. Dmitry Berkoff, Bozeman
		B	John Hammen, Missoula	John Haker, Great Falls.
		Jr.	Steve Butler, Billings	Don Applebaum, Billings.
34	1969	A	Dr. Peter Lapiken, Missoula	Daniel T. Rogers, Bozeman
		B	Tai Hum, Butte	Dave Loy, Bozeman
		Jr.	Dave Holzworth, Helena	Roger Reichert, Great Falls
35	1970	A	Tai Hum, Butte	David Reynolds, Pocatello
		B	Gary Wendel, Butte	Leonard Deadlicker, Dillon
		Jr.	Jeff Markle, Glasgow	Jim Sullivan, Butte
36	1971	A	Peter Lapiken, Missoula	Loren Meierding, Missoula
		B	John Reddy, Helena	James Weirson
		Jr.	Bob Griffith, Butte	Rick Dunigan, Butte
37	1972	A	Larry Ross, Great Falls	James Ostby, Froid.
		B	Dr. Bert Spaulding	John Ward, Tacoma.
		Jr.	Gary Solomon, Butte	Jim MC Cormic Butte.
38	1973	A	Wally Albert, Missoula; K.A. Shinn, Billings; Tai Min Hum, Glendive: TIE	
		B	John R. Ward, Tacoma Wash.; Peter Joseph McKeon, Butte: TIE	
		Jr.	Dan Owen Clark, Great Falls	Lon Michael Doll, Bozeman

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Notes on the attached tabulation.

The Montana Open Chess Tournament, sponsored by the Montana Chess Association, had its beginning in Livingston, Montana, in 1935. In the following years considerable experimentation was carried on in an endeavor to fit an increasing number of entrants into the time limitations of a week end tournament, and at the same time not leave half the players completely eliminated after the first round.

Straight knock-out tournaments, with first round losers forming a Class "B" group have been tried. The dividing of players into small round-robin elimination groups with the group winners playing for the championship was experimented with. The use of three classes to reduce the number of players in any one class was another effort. Finally in the tournament of 1951 held in Butte, the Swiss System Tournament was introduced for the first time, and five round Swiss tournaments have been used at all succeeding tournaments.

During 1953, 1954, 1955, and 1956, a single class Swiss system was used. However, as the number of entrants increased, it became difficult to determine a winner with only five rounds of play, and the two class tournament was again resorted to.

While these changes were taking place, there was also a considerable change in the nomenclature used for the various classes. The top class has been variously designated as "Masters", "Championship", "Class AA" and "Class ". In the following tabulation the top ranking class has been marked "A", the next "B", and the third class, "C", without regard to the designation which may have been used in the particular tournament involved.

In 1953 the Great Falls Chess Club presented the state Association with a plaque on which the names of the champions for each year could be engraved. However the terms of the presentation were that the name to be engraved on the plaque would be that of the highest ranking Montana chess player. It has developed that Montanans have not always been able to keep their Chess Championship within their own state, and hence in a few cases it will be found that the name engraved on the plaque does not agree with the champion shown in the attached tabulation.

It will be noted that some information is missing--an address or two, the names of some runners-up, the class B winner for 1959, etc. If anyone can fill in any of these gaps, please do.