碁 IRISH GO ASSOCIATION

Newsletter No. 9 April 28, 1993

News and Results

The first Irish Open Handicap Tournament was held in The Royal Dublin Hotel, O'Connell St., on November 14-15th, 1992. There was a disappointing turnout of only 7 participants for this 5 round competition which was won by John Gibson (5-kyu) with 3/4. In second place was Noel Mitchell (1-Dan) with 3/4. Thanks to Baron Alday for coming over from Wales for what we hope will become an annual event.

The first round of this year's national championship was a round-robin league of eight invited players to select a challenger to play the current champion (Noel Mitchell) for the title. This Challenger's League commenced in November and ran through January 1993. The following table shows the results, although the full competition was not completed.

Challenger's League

	B. Palmer	J. Gibson	B. Gallagh.	C. Rafferty	C. Maguire	T. Murphy	P. Atling	A. Murphy	TOTAL
B. Palmer		1	0	1	1	1	1	1	6-1
J. Gibson	0		1	1	1		1	0	4-2
B. Gallagh.	1	0		1	1	1	1	0	5-2
C. Rafferty	0	0	0		1		0	0	1-5
C. Maguire	0	0	0	0			0		0-5
T. Murphy	0		0				0	0	0-4
P. Atling	0	0	0	1	1	1			3-3
A. Murphy	0	1	1	1		1			4-1

Irish Open

The Irish Open was held in the Royal Hospital on Saturday 21/3/92. 14 players attended with and competing in the main tourna- ment Mr Matsumoto beat Noel and Aidan to comfortably win the

Collegians also: Bernard Palmer, Eugene Mallon, Tom Molloy,

Collegians (??): Chris Maguire, Mike Lyons, Ger Whelan.

Trim: Aidan Murphy, Justin Wallace, Padraig O'Hannelly,

The result was therefore: 1st place - Bernard Palmer, 2nd - Aidan Murphy and 3rd -Brian Gallagher.

As Challenger, Bernard Palmer (3-kyu) played Noel Mitchell (1-dan) in the Irish National Championship Final. This was a best-of-three match played in February 1993; Noel won 2-0 and will represent Ireland in the 15th World Amateur Championship in Fukuoka, Japan, in May. We wish him the best of luck.

Just before Christmas a friendly night of Rengo was organised in The Pembroke. With teams of three the games were typically chaotic but very enjoyable and useful for teaching weaker players.

The fourth Irish Open was held in The Royal Dublin Hotel on March 13th, 1993. There were 10 participants for this 3 round MacMahon competition. The result was a three way tie, with each of the top three players losing to one of the others. The winner on SOS was Gerry Mills (1-dan) from the U.K. with 2/3. Joint second were C. Klawe (1-dan) and N. Mitchell (1-dan) with 2/3. No player in the tournament managed to win all their games.

Two supporters of go in Ireland have returned home to Japan, Mr. Sasada of JETRO and Mr. T. Iwanami of the Embassy of Japan. We thank them for their support.

The first Irish Women's Go Championship was held in the Teacher's Club, Parnell Square, in November 1992. Naomi Gibson defeated Tara Mitchell. No effort should be spared to recruit new women players.

Current Ratings

The following is a list of current ratings for active players in Ireland. Note that inactive players and new players who have not yet developed a rating are not included.

T. Matsumoto	3D	A. Walshe	8k
J. Kim	1D	T. Molloy	10k
C. Klawe	1D	P. O'Hannelly	10k
N. Mitchell	1D	H. Bacik	10k
Dong-Dong Jia	1D	E. Mallon	11k
G. Mills	1D	M. Lyons	12k
B. Palmer	3k	J. Wallace	12k
A. Murphy	3k	G. Whelan	17k
J. Gibson	4k	E. Keogh	17k
P. Atling	4k	D. MacBrien	17k
B. Gallagher	5k	N. Gray	17k
C. Rafferty	5k	C. Dalton	17k
C. Maguire	6k	D. Foster	20k
T. Murphy	7k	P. Brennan	20k

Upcoming Events

Irish:

From May 5-7th there will be a 6-dan amateur and a 6-dan professional visiting Ireland from Osaka, Japan. They are interested in doing some teaching and will be in the Pembroke on Wednesday 5th from 8 pm. Everyone is welcome. Other events will be organised for the 6th or 7th.

It is our intention to organise the inter-club team matches over the summer, details to be arranged.

Due to the recent expansion in player numbers, particularly at the higher strengths, a Top Players tournament will be run during May and June. It is open to all dan players and will be a round-robin event. The following participants are expected - Matsumoto (3d, Japan), Mitchell (1d, Ireland), Kim (1d, Korea), Klawe (1d, Germany) and Dong Dong Jia (1d, China).

Abroad:

There are several go congresses in the coming months which may be of interest. Not enough Irish players travel abroad to these very worthwhile events. For more information see John Gibson or Noel Mitchell.

37th European Go Congress - Prague, July 24-August 7.

Go Isle of Man 1993 - Isle of Man, August 14-21.

1993 Scottish Open - Edinburgh, May 29-30.

Barmouth Go Tournament - Barmouth, Wales, May 8.

1993 U. S. Go Congress - Massachusets, August 7-15.

Miscellaneous

The Irish Go Association is seeking membership subscriptions from players in Ireland to support the organisation of events and production of this newsletter. For an annual subscription of £5 members receive this irregular newsletter and reduced entry fee to competitions.

Alan Held, the President of the European Go Federation came to Ireland for a few days last November, and we are pleased to welcome him back this week.

Game Record

The following was the first game of the 1993 Irish National Championship between Noel Mitchell and Bernard Palmer. Although hardly a model game it may be instructive to some players. Apologies for the atypical board orientation. Commentary by Noel Mitchell.

Played: February 10, 1993. The Pembroke, Pembroke St.
Black: B. Palmer
White: N. Mitchell
Komi: 5.5

Figure 1.

11: better at 19.
19: this is an ugly move and should probably have been played at A.
24: probably should be at 28.
27: should cut immediately at 32.
31: again white misses the chance to cut at 32.
40: better played at B.

At this stage white has secured a 25 pt. corner and damaged black's potential on the left side while chasing the black group.

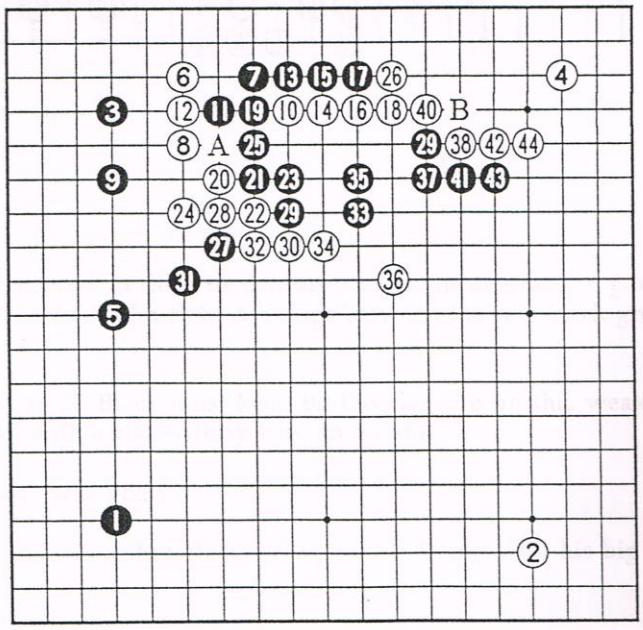

Figure 1

Figure 2

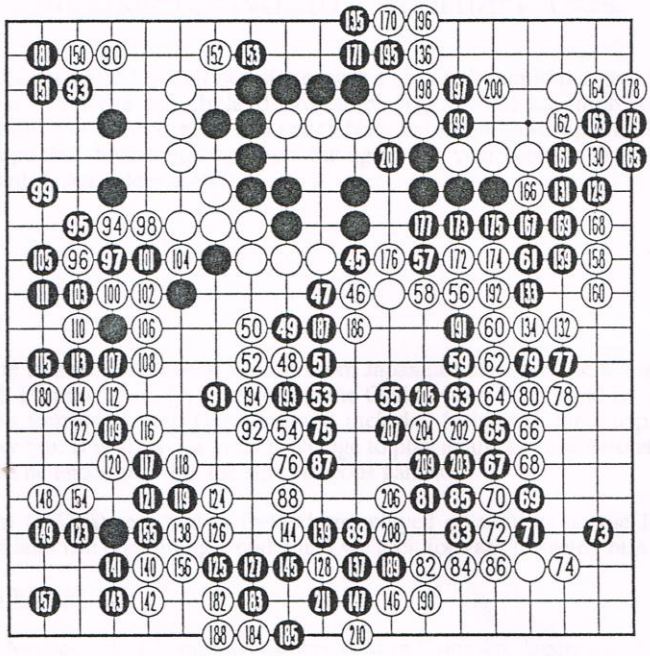

Figure 2

50: Must be played at 187, to capture the stone at 47. The game would be practically over. Instead a fight develops between the two black groups and two white ones.

61: should be at 62. Black must keep up the pressure on this weak group. Now white ends up with a big territory here on the side.

69: an overplay, white cuts.

90: after this move white will have no trouble living with his big group and is well ahead.

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