

The District Board

The monthly newsletter of the CHCA

September 2026 · No. 01



The Forever Knights Chess Club is turning up the heat

Their second rated tournament hopes to firmly place Nxuba as another chess powerhouse on the CHCA map.

↓ *entry details on page 3*



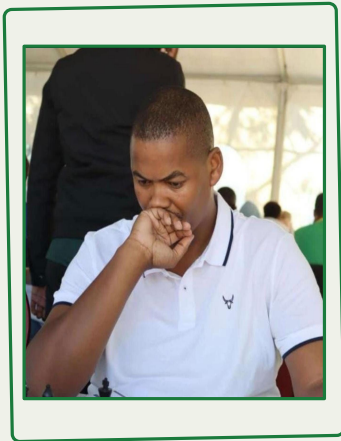
*a magazine by the
players, for the
players*

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President's Note



*Luzuko Ndinise
President, CHCA*

Greetings, chess family.

It is with great pride and gratitude that I welcome you to this edition of the Chris Hani Chess Association Magazine.

Chess is more than a game; it is a journey of discipline, courage, creativity and continuous learning. Through our Association, we remain committed to creating opportunities for players of all ages, developing young talent, supporting our clubs and schools, and building a stronger chess community across the Chris Hani District.

This magazine celebrates not only our achievements, but also the people behind them — our players, coaches, parents, officials, volunteers, schools and clubs. Every tournament played, every lesson learned and every young player inspired contributes to the growth of chess in our district.

I thank everyone who continues to believe in the potential of chess and in the vision of the Chris Hani Chess Association. See you over the board.

Some fun facts about our president.

- He has been playing and coaching chess for more than 20 years
- He's the first CHCA president, having formed it in 2021, and served as EC Chess president between 2022–2024
- He is one of only 30 Fide Instructors in South Africa
- Everyone calls him 'coach', few people actually knows his real name



Results & What's Coming

LAST FEW MONTHS ACROSS THE DISTRICT

EVENT	DATE & VENUE	RESULT
Forever Knight's Winter Rapid	12 July · Nxuba	Kaden Muller 6/6 , runner-up Lwam Dubeni 5/6 pts
Women's Day	9 August · Komani	Misuthando Ndinise 6/6 , runner-up Lulutho Ntsukwana 5/6 pts
Team Battles	22 August · Online	u20 – 27 , runner-up Adults – 10 pts
iWS inter-campus league	29 August · Komani	Ongoing
Team Battles	30 August · Online	Adults – 82 , runner-up u20 – 75 pts

COMING UP — PUT THESE ON THE FRIDGE

5
SEP

Lichess Team Battles
Each age group battling it out
check CHCA website for entry link

12
SEP

Forever Knights Spring Rapid
Vusubuntu Cultural Village, Nxuba
Entry fee: R80
WhatsApp 078 361 4165 by 10 Sep

12
SEP

Wellness Day
Mlungisi Stadium, Komani
entry details to follow

~
NOV

Coaches & Arbiters Seminar
Komani · venue to be confirmed
full details in the October issue



Kings of the Hill

the biggest rating gains in the district over the last rating period

Lwam Dubeni

+134

now 1355

biggest jump in the district

1

Chuma Stokwe

Fresh Minds Chess Club

+75

now 1277

2

Zimzonke de Beer

+46

now 1231

3

...and the rest of the climb

#	PLAYER	CLUB	CHANGE	NOW
4	Psyfo Mohlwayo		+38	1224
5	Luzuko Ndinise	Fresh Minds Chess Club	+31	1231
6	Angelo March	Fresh Minds Chess Club	+28	1248
7	Kholo Tyobeka	Cofivamba Chess Masters	+28	1228
8	Vuyolwethu Mkhize	Fresh Minds Chess Club	+28	1213
9	Athenkosi Mbovane		+24	1191
10	Darrel Mushope		+18	1218

FROM THE RATING OFFICER

It's clear the rating system works as intended, a few periods in a few players are starting to settle towards a realistic elo, an opportunity they would not have otherwise. Most players are still distributed in the 1200-1300 range.

Only rated events count towards this list. If your club ran something and it is not here, it was not submitted.

Most Featured Clubs

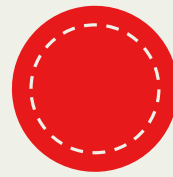
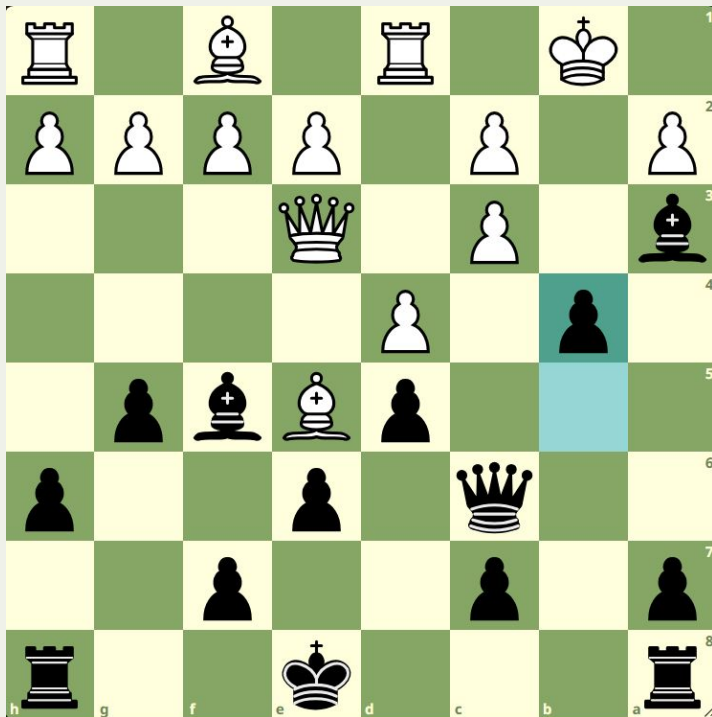
Fresh Minds Chess Club	4
Cofimvaba Chess Club	1

nothing yet from Forever Knights, dw well fix that soon.



Move of the Month

submitted by a player



24. b4

Submitted by Angelo March, Fresh Minds Chess Club

Game Unknown

Result 0-1

WHY IT WON THE VOTE

The rook is not really being given away as there is a more pressing threat on the white King, white played g3 (??) black followed up with by ignoring the hanging rook again with bxc3 (!!)

from there the white King cannot escape mate

Puzzles

answers on the back page – no peeking

1



Black to play.

EASY

Win material

White played their bishop out to a sketchy square on b4, punish them!

2



Black to play.

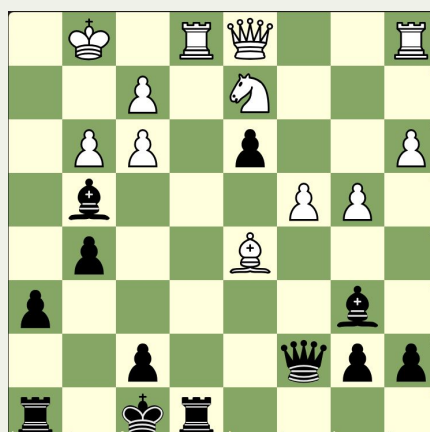
MEDIUM

Mate in 3

This is the type of checkmate that gets everyone excited, finish the game off in style.

Khanyi actually got this one over the board

3



Black to play.

HARD

Mate in 5

White captures a pawn on f3 (??), be clinical and do not let the chance go to waste



The Lighter Board

a few lighthearted chess memes



SEND US YOURS

Submissions can be done in private to Khanyisile, at this point you already know where :)



Player Interview



Khanyisile Majiba, Forever Knights Chess Club

Rating	1581
Playing since	2018
Best result	7.5/9, Moja Chess Extravaganza, Section C

Lwam Dubeni, in conversation with Khanyisile Majiba

You've worn quite a few different hats within chess. You're the deputy president, a rating officer, a tournament organiser, a chess coach, a software developer, a Computer Science and IT student, and of course, a player yourself. Which of those roles do you enjoy the most, and how do you manage to balance university, chess, your work with the association, and everything else you have going on?

I would say my favourite role is the Deputy President. I'm at my most comfortable in an administrative role. I was captain of my school chess team during its most successful years, and I've grown to become a leader more than anything else. I manage the workload by tackling whatever task seems the most difficult first. Leaving something difficult for another day is the worst mistake one can do.

Some people might not know this, but you actually built the district's chess website as well as the rating system we use. What made you decide to take on those projects, and can you describe the process of going from the moment the ideas first hit you to actually building them all, yourself?

I noticed we didn't have an archive of all the activities we're doing nor a centralised space to share information on, so I decided we'd need a website for posterity's sake. Mr. Ndinise was the one who encouraged me to design the Chris Hani Chess rating system and player database, so that's all thanks to him.



Player Interview (cont.)

You're studying Computer Science and IT in Cape Town while still being heavily involved in chess back home. Virtually all of the most creative people in history have had their hands in multiple honeypots, so has studying technology had any effect on the way you think about chess or the way you approach problems within the association? Have you noticed any interesting patterns or ideas that overlap between these different fields?

With many difficult challenges in life, there's always the question of, "where do I even start?" Studying IT has shaped the way I plan and approach complex problems by breaking something down into its simplest parts, mapping how the parts are related and the best practices when finally piecing everything together.

You're also the founder of the Forever Knights Chess Club, which not only has a badass name, but recently hosted a Winter Rapid tournament that featured a fantastic field of players and, perhaps most importantly, a catering setup that I genuinely hope becomes a staple of chess tournaments going forward. What inspired you to start Forever Knights in the first place, and what is your vision for the club? And with the Spring Rapid coming up on September 5th, what can people expect from this one?

At the time I noticed there was a problem with the chess culture in my town. There was no home for chess players that were not in the few schools that had chess. My vision for the club is for it to be the heartbeat of chess in the community, for it to be a safe space for children outside school hours, and for it to give purpose and direction to our impressionable youth. The intention behind hosting a tournament like this is to attract the players that have long left the game and provide a competitive environment for those who are active.

You're also a tournament organiser, so you've experienced chess events from both sides of the board, both as a player and as the person responsible for putting everything together. What have you learned from organising tournaments that has changed the way you approach them as a player?

For one, I'm a little more appreciative of the organisers — there are a lot of stressful and unpredictable variables at play when organising one. I'm happy with whatever conditions there are as long as the laws of chess are being observed.



Player Interview (cont.)

As a rating officer, you're probably one of the people who deals most directly with the numbers behind our players' progress. What do you find most interesting about that side of chess? Has working with ratings changed the way you look at your own development as a 1500+ rated player?

Yes, it made me understand that a rating does not tell the whole story. Through observing the changes in our custom rating system, I noticed that many players are extremely underrated — myself included. Many factors are at play, such as the level of their opponents and the frequency with which they play rated tournaments. With whatever rating system you choose to perceive your strength with, take it easy on yourself.

You recently won a medal in the C Section of the Moja Chess Extravaganza, one of the biggest chess tournaments in the country. So, apart from imbuing my soul with immense envy, I'm sure it was a pretty special achievement for you. What was that experience like, and what does winning that medal mean to you personally as a player?

It was an extremely special moment for me. When I arrived in Cape Town last year I suffered from a bit of imposter syndrome. I felt behind in terms of my development and I felt as if I could've done more when I was younger. After some time I grew to realise that this road I'm on is my own and that life is not a race but a marathon. So I put my head down and started taking my chess more seriously. The reward for that turned out to be a medal in the C Section of the biggest tournament in the country. Who would've thought, hey?

Looking ahead, what are your plans for Inxuba and the Chris Hani district? What would you like to see the community, clubs, players, and technology develop into over the next few years, and what role do you hope to play in helping bring that vision to life?

I actually designed a five-year plan for that, but if I recite it we'll be here all day long. I would like to form a chess club in each major area: Lingelihle, Michausdal, Town, Middleburg, and so on. I would like each club from that area to deploy a coach into every school. From there we'll divide and conquer!



Gallery

CHCA in action



Get Ahead vs St. Johns



Cofivamba High School



Queen's Gambit: Womens Day Tournament



iWS inter-campus league

Editor's note

We believe that every little moment counts, and therefore deserves to be immortalized, feel free to submit anything, anytime.



Prize-giving, Forever Knights Winter Rapid



Board & Book Corner

one thing worth your money this month

How to Reassess Your Chess

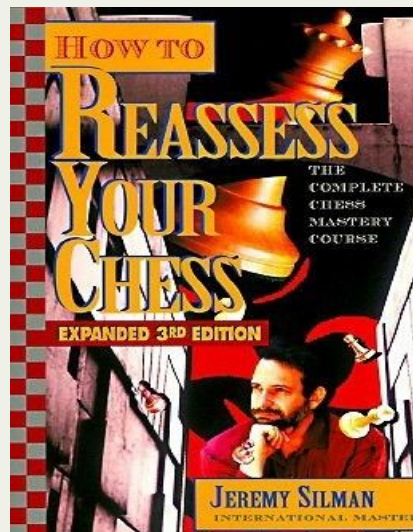
Jeremy Silman

How to Reassess Your Chess is the popular step-by-step course that will create a marked improvement in anyone's game. In clear, direct language, Silman shows how to dissect a position, recognize its individual parts and ultimately find the move that conforms to the needs of that particular situation.

By explaining the thought processes that go into a master's choice of move, the author presents a system of thought that makes advanced strategies seem clear, logical and at times even obvious. How the Reassess Your Chess offers invaluable knowledge and insight that cannot be found in any other book.

PRICE

R580 – R690



ALSO WORTH HAVING

Chessis (App)

Chessis is one of the best chess analysis apps for Android. It turns every game into a chess lesson: analyze your games with latest Stockfish engine, get a full game report with Blunders, Missed Wins and Best Moves and see not just where you went wrong, but WHY.

Authors/Contributors

this issue would not exist without you



Lwam Dubeni



Linathi Mfulana



Angelo March



Khanyisile Majiba



Luzuko Ndinise



The Back Page

PUZZLE ANSWERS

from g7

1

Easy — win material

11. Bb4 Qd4+ 2. Kh1 Qxb4

2

Medium — mate in 3

1... Nxb3+ 2. Kh1 Qg1+ 3. Rxb3 Nf2#

3

Hard — mate in 5

1... Qxg3+ 2. Kh1 Qh4+ 3. Kg1
Qxf2+ 4. Kh1 Qh4+ 5. Kg2 Qh3#

SEND US YOUR IDAS

Photographs — landscape, largest size your phone can send.

Games — moves properly notated. Tell us the event and the round.

Puzzles — can be any puzzle you find interesting. One paragraph and the position.

Questions — any burning question you have always wanted answered.

*Deadline for the October issue:
Saturday 20 September.*

FIND US

Chris Hani Chess Association Komani, Eastern Cape

chrisanichess.co.za

NEXT ISSUE

**October 2026
Issue No. 02**

out on the first Friday

