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Bulletin 9 - Monday, 13 October 2008

LATVIA JOINS THE GOLD RUSH



A. Getmanski, A. Georgiev, G. Valneris (Draughts)



T. Chub, Z. Golubeva, T. Tansykkuzhina (Draughts)



Vietnam, China, Iran (Chess)

After a full week's play, both the individual draughts events came to an end last night. The format has not been ideal as the narrow time schedule did not allow possibly endless tie-breaks whenever they might be needed. Still, in both the women's and the men's event the gold medal was won by worthy representatives of this great Mind Sport. It will not come as a great surprise that both champions have Eastern European roots.

In the Chess Mixed Teams, there was an eastern supremacy too, but not from Europe. It was the Far East and the Middle East who qualified for the semis and thus would divide the medals between them. Indonesia reached the dreaded 4th spot, just behind Iran, Vietnam and, at Chess too now, the host country China.



Today's Programs

Bridge

Open Teams, Women Teams, Senior Teams:

At CNCC:

11.00 hrs – 13.20 hrs.: Quarterfinal, segment 4

14.20 hrs – 16.40 hrs.: Quarterfinal, segment 5

17.10 hrs – 19.30 hrs.: Quarterfinal, segment 6

Junior Teams, played at BICC:

Under 21, Under 26 and Under 28:

10.00 hrs – 12.20 hrs.: Finals, segment 1

13.00 hrs – 15.20 hrs.: Finals, segment 2

15.50 hrs – 18.10 hrs.: Finals, segment 3

18.40 hrs – 21.00 hrs.: Finals, segment 4

Youth Pairs (-28), played at BICC

10.30 hrs. – 14.00 hrs.: Semifinals, session 1

15.30 hrs. – 19.00 hrs.: Semifinals, session 2

Chess

Rapid Teams Blitz, Men:

10.00 hrs. -13.30 hrs: Rounds 1-5

15.00 hrs. -19.00 hrs: Rounds 6-11

Rapid Teams Blitz, Women:

10.00 hrs. -13.30 hrs: Rounds 1-5

15.00 hrs. -19.00 hrs: Rounds 6-11

Draughts

64-square Individual Men

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 3

16.00 hrs. – 19.30 hrs.: Round 4

64-square Individual Women

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 3

16.00 hrs. – 19.30 hrs.: Round 4

Go

Teams, women:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 5

15.00 hrs. – 18.30 hrs.: Round 6

Teams, men:

10.00 hrs. – 13.30 hrs.: Round 1

15.00 hrs. – 18.30 hrs.: Round 2

Pairs, Mixed:

10.00 hrs. – 11.30 hrs.: Round 1

13.30 hrs. – 15.00 hrs.: Round 2

16.00 hrs. – 17.30 hrs.: Round 3

Xiangqi

Teams, women:

09.00 hrs. – 12.00 hrs.: Round 6

15.00 hrs. – 18.00 hrs.: Round 7

Teams, men:

09.00 hrs. – 12.00 hrs.: Round 1

15.00 hrs. – 18.00 hrs.: Round 2

First draughts medals!

The ones who made it to the finals were Alexander Georgiev and Alexander Getmanski, both from Russia, Latvian Zoja Golubeva and Dutch Tanya Chub.

Alexander Georgiev

Georgiev has claimed the gold. He defeated Getmanski in the second tie-break (7 minutes + 10 seconds per move). Getmanski had a worse position in the midgame and had to lose a game piece. Although Getmanski managed to get into the endgame, Georgiev still had the one game piece advantage. More importantly he was able to control the important fields, so that all of his remaining game pieces could be promoted.

Guntis Valneris from Latvia has won the bronze medal. In the first tie-break (20 minutes + 10 seconds per move) he defeated Anatoli Gantwarg (Belarus). A spectacular combination ended the game.

Zoja Golubeva

Golubeva won against Chub in the fifth tie-break game. In an interesting classical game, she managed to again put the pressure on Chub. The Dutch national champion collapsed: Golubeva was able to obtain a breakthrough to king for one piece. This meant the end of a long tie-break session, in which the ninefold world champion showed she is back on top.

Tamara Tansykkuzhina (Russia) has beaten the Ukrainian Olga Balthazi in the battle for bronze. In the fourth tie-break game, Balthazi made a mistake in an already difficult position: her short wing was locked up. She lost a piece, and Tansykkuzhina made no error in the struggle that followed.

Medal Standing for the 1st World Mind Sports Games

	Country (Region)	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1	China	6	4	4
2	Russia	2	1	2
3	Korea	1	3	2
4	Ukraine	1	2	1
5	Norway	1	1	0
	Bulgaria	1	1	0
7	Latvia	1	0	1
8	D.P.R.Korea	1	0	0
	Sweden	1	0	0
	Ecuador	1	0	0
11	Vietnam	0	1	1
12	Netherlands	0	1	0
	France	0	1	0
	India	0	1	0
15	Malaysia	0	0	1
	Singapore	0	0	1
	Greece	0	0	1

Go Teams Women

Group 1	cp	Group 2	cp
1 Korea	8	1 China	8
2 USA	6	2 Australia	6
3 Japan	6	3 Chinese Taipei	6
4 Poland	6	4 Hong Kong,China	6
5 Germany	4	5 Russia	4
6 Czech Republic	4	6 France	4
7 Netherlands	4	7 Argentina	4
8 DPR Korea	4	8 Great Britain	4
9 Canada	2	9 Italy	2
10 Spain	2	10 Hungary	2

Talking with the Director

by Team Ranka (courtesy of Int. Go Federation)



Ranka: Exactly what is your job here?

Zhu: I am the deputy chief arbiter of the WMSG. Officially, Wang Runan is the chief arbiter but he's not actively involved in the job. Apart from this, I set up the competitions, train the referees and other things.

Ranka: How many referees are here?

Zhu: There are 25 referees and 3 deputy chief arbiters (including me) here. The deputy chief arbiters are all professional players. The referees are all amateur players, taking time off from their regular jobs.

Ranka: How many years have you been a referee?

Zhu: Actually, being a Go referee is not a full time job in China. I started my career as a professional player 40 years ago, and now I am a coach.

Ranka: With so many large-scale Go tournaments in China, do you consider the WMSG a big tournament?

Zhu: Of course, the WMSG is the biggest for me, with the most players, the most events and the most countries. It is a groundbreaking event for Go and other mind games. I have never seen any tournament like this before.

Ranka: I know there are some differences between Chinese rules and Japanese rules; would you tell me something about it?

Zhu: The differences are more significant theoretically than practically. During the last 100 years no professional or amateur tournament has ever been stopped because of the differences of rules. In practice, the differences will cause problems only in very rare situations, maybe once in 10,000 games.

Ranka: Have any problems been caused by the rules in this WMSG?

Zhu: No, so far there have been no problems.

Ranka: Where do the differences in rules originate?

Zhu: The differences come from culture and history. Go spread to Japan during the Tang Dynasty, about 1500 years ago. Since then the Chinese rules have changed and differentiated from Japanese rules. Under Chinese rules stones and area are both important while under Japanese rules only areas surrounded by stones are taken in consideration. For this reason, playing under Chinese rules, the player who puts the last stone on the board has an advantage. The WMSG rules are based on Chinese rules but with a compromise, if black plays the last move then he must return 1 point.

Ranka: Will the 1st WMSG rules be adopted as an international set of rules?

Zhu: No, the rules are not perfect yet. Some details must be changed in the future.

BRIDGE

OPEN TEAMS Q-Final after 3sessions

Match		Total
1 Poland	Italy	69 - 106
2 China	Norway	63 - 102
3 England	Romania	106 - 62
4 Germany	Netherlands	101 - 95

WOMEN TEAMS Q-Final after 3sessions

Match		Total
1 Germany	China	88 - 66
2 Denmark	USA	82 - 98
3 England	France	97 - 53
4 Turkey	Russia	88 - 73

SENIOR TEAMS Q-Final after 3sessions

Match		Total
1 Hungary	USA	92 - 119
2 Egypt	Australia	106 - 86
3 Indonesia	Netherlands	81 - 98
4 England	Japan	52 - 104

YOUTH TEAMS U-21 Semifinal

Match		Total
1 France	Bulgaria	149 - 132
2 China	England	108 - 125

YOUTH TEAMS U-26 Semifinal

Match		Total
1 Norway	Denmark	69.70 - 140
2 Chinese Taipei	Poland	106.30 - 144

YOUTH TEAMS U-28 Semifinal

Match		Total
1 France	Poland	75 - 158
2 Norway	China	138 - 91

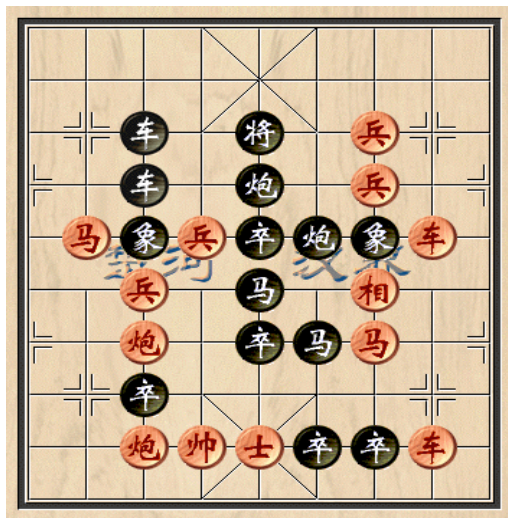


A Chinese Tribute To The 1st WMSG

“世界智力运动会” 象棋字型排局

Xiangqi Layout for Chinese Character Font - "World Mind Sports Games"

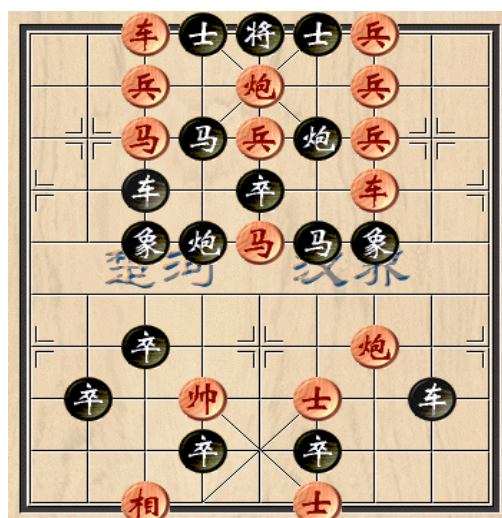
第 1 局 (the 1st set) 世



红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

- 1.前兵平四 将 5 平 6
- 2.兵三平四 将 6 平 5
- 3.前车进二 将 5 退 1
- 4.马八进七 车 3 退 1
- 5.前车进一 将 5 退 1
- 6.前车进一 将 5 进 1
- 7.后车进七 将 5 进 1
- 8.兵四平五 将 5 平 6
- 9.兵五平四 将 6 平 5
- 10.前车平五 将 5 平 4
- 11.兵六进一

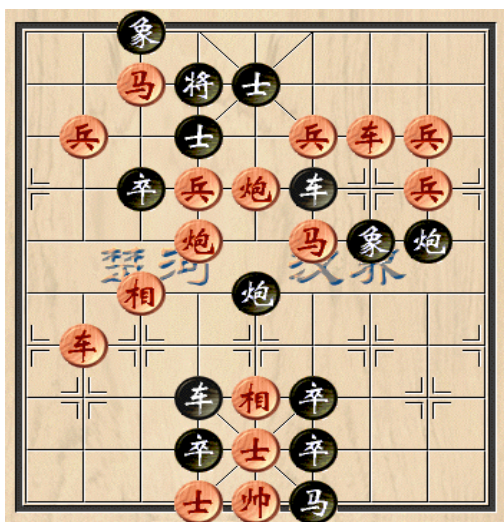
第 2 局 (the 2nd set) 界



红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

- 1.前兵平四 将 5 平 6
- 2.前兵平四 将 6 平 5
- 3.炮五退二 车 3 平 5
- 4.兵五进一 车 5 退 2
- 5.马五进六 车 5 平 4
- 6.车七平六 将 5 平 4
- 7.兵七进一 将 4 平 5
- 8.兵七平六

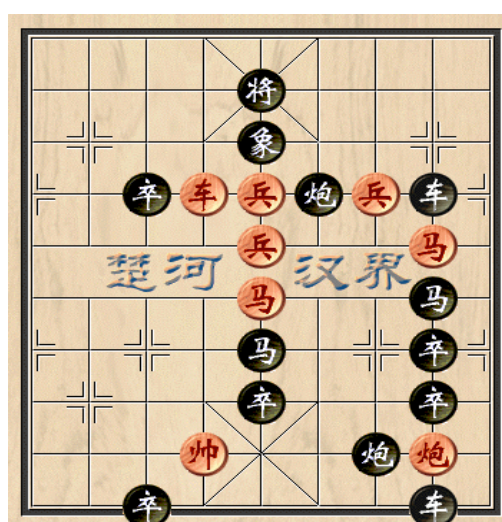
第 3 局 (the 3rd set) 智



红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

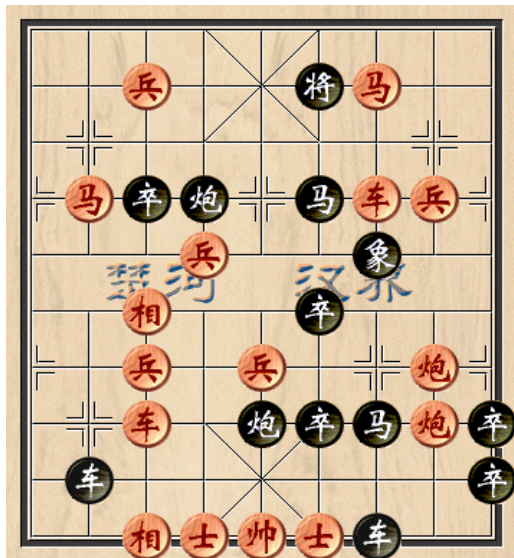
- 1.兵六进一 将 4 进 1
- 2.马七退六 车 4 退 3
- 3.兵八平七 将 4 退 1
- 4.兵七进一 将 4 退 1
- 5.车三进二 士 5 退 6
- 6.车三平四

第 4 局 (the 4th set) 力



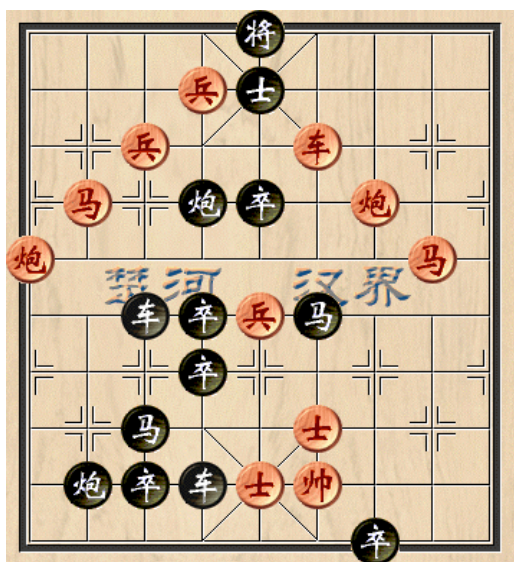
红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

- 1.前兵进一 将 5 进 1
- 2.兵五进一 将 5 退 1
- 3.兵五进一 将 5 进 1
- 4.车六进一 将 5 退 1
- 5.马二进四 将 5 平 6
- 6.车六进一 将 6 退 1
- 7.车六进一 将 6 进 1
- 8.马四进六 将 6 平 5
- 9.马五进四 将 5 进 1
- 10.车六平五 将 5 平 6
- 11.兵三进一

第 5 局 (the 5th set) 运

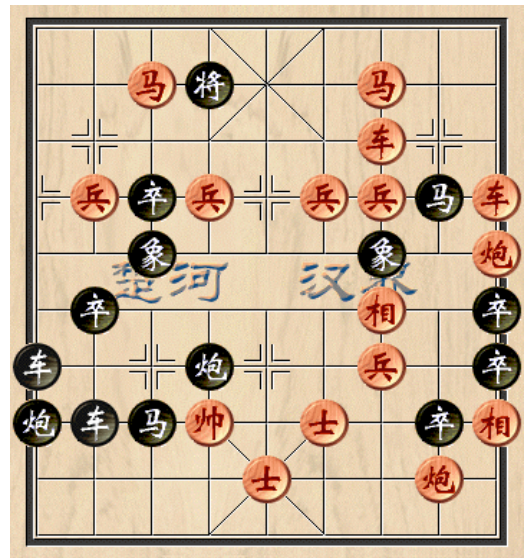
红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

1. 车三平四 将 6 平 5 2. 前兵平六 将 5 平 4
3. 车四平六 将 4 平 5 4. 马三退四 将 5 退 1
5. 马八进七 将 5 平 6 6. 车六进三 将 6 进 1
7. 马四进二 将 6 平 5 8. 马七退六 将 5 进 1
9. 车六平五 将 5 平 4 10. 马二进四 将 4 退 1
11. 车五平六

第 7 局 (the 7th set) 会

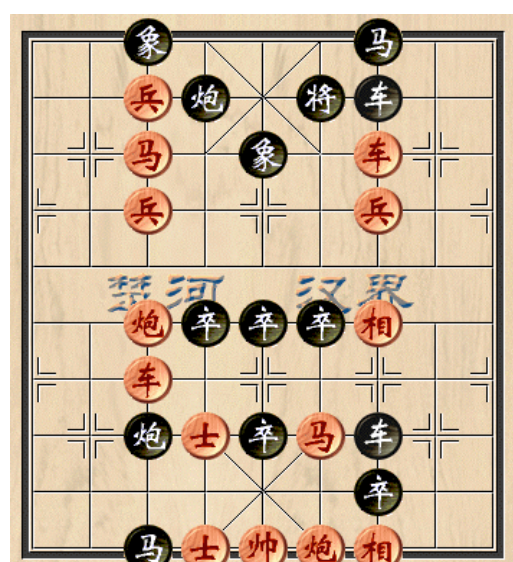
红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

1. 兵六进一 将 5 平 4 2. 车四平六 士 5 进 4
3. 炮三平六 将 4 平 5 4. 马八进六 将 5 进 1
5. 马二进四 将 5 进 1 6. 马四进三 将 5 平 6
7. 马三进五 将 6 平 5 8. 马五退七 将 5 平 6
9. 马六进五 将 6 退 1 10. 炮九进三 炮 2 退 7
11. 马七退五 炮 2 进 7 12. 兵七进一 炮 2 退 7
13. 兵七平八 车 3 退 4 14. 兵八平七

第 6 局 (the 6th set) 动

红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

1. 车三平六 炮 4 退 4 2. 兵六进一 将 4 平 5
3. 兵六进一 将 5 平 6 4. 兵四进一 将 6 进 1
5. 炮二平四 车 1 平 6 6. 前兵平四 车 6 退 3
7. 马三退二 将 6 退 1 8. 兵六平五 将 6 平 5
9. 车一进二 车 6 退 2 10. 车一平四

第 8 局 (the 8th set) M (Mind) S (Sport)

红先胜 (Red wins initiatively)

1. 车三平四 将 6 进 1 2. 兵三平四 将 6 退 1
3. 炮四进四 后卒平 6 4. 炮七平四

王兴勤 (Wang Xingqi)

周文彬 (Zhou Wenbin) 创作 (Author)

朱宝位 (Zhu Baowei) 修正 (Revisor)

An interview with Li Zhe

by Max & Chen (courtesy of Ranka/International Go Federation)



This afternoon in the playing hall of Teams Women tournament, among the "VIP" spectators we found Li Zhe (6p, China), the 19-year-old bronze medal winner of the Individual Men tournament. Since the games between Chinese women team and Australian women team have been moved to the VIP room, his unexpected presence in the "amateur" playing hall really surprised us.

He wandered around, sometimes stopping at a table to watch the game. Luckily, we "caught" him when he was about to leave the hall.

Ranka: Do you enjoy the 1st WMSG?

Li Zhe: Yes, very much. I think it's a very interesting tournament, also a great party for all the Go players, including me. I'm very happy to see players from all over the world communicating with each other through Go in a friendly atmosphere.

Ranka: Did you feel bored when playing with low-level amateurs?

Li Zhe: Not at all. I had a very good understanding with the amateur players. We were all very serious and concentrated when we played.

Ranka: Have you had any contact with non-Asian countries?

Li Zhe: I went to USA during the last Chinese Spring Festival. There I had the opportunity to take part in some activities in the Go clubs. Some players in USA are quite strong. I hope that there will be more and more people enjoying playing Go in the future.

Ranka: We are very surprised to see you here. In China, for a great majority of Go lovers, it seems that the women tournaments are much less attractive than the men tournaments. What is your opinion?

Li Zhe: For me, this WMSG is a very rare and precious occasion. No matter whether you are a man or a woman, a professional or an amateur, it's just great to get together to enjoy this game. Everyone should be highly respected.

Ranka: Earlier, when we interviewed Gu Li, he mentioned the Chinese team's special training for this event. Could you tell us a bit more?

Li Zhe: Actually there always are training programs in the Chinese Weiqi Association. To prepare for the 1st WMSG, from September onwards we have been following the daily schedule of the 1st WMSG strictly. The training programs were also reset according to the competition schedule.

Ranka: What do you think about the time and byo-yomi rules of the WMSG?

Li Zhe: In most national tournaments and international tournaments, each player has 2 hours or more, and the byo-yomi is 1 min. per move. Compared with that, the individual tournaments can be called fast game tournaments with only 1 hour for each player and 30 seconds per move byo-yomi. I think that professional players from South Korea should feel quite comfortable with this rule since in South Korea there are many

telecasted fast game competitions.

Ranka: What do you think about the final game of the Individual Open between Jo Taewon of DPR Korea and Ham Youngwoo of the Republic of Korea?

Li Zhe: I watched that game yesterday. Both players are quite strong. I would say that both of them have reached the professional level. DPR Korea is one of the biggest surprises in this event. I believe that once the professional system is established in DPR Korea, there will be more and stronger DPR Korea players.

Ranka: Have you ever thought about writing a Go book? Would you like to have it translated into other languages and introduced to players in other countries?

Li Zhe: I really hope that I will have this opportunity. I think China should make more efforts in promoting Go all over the world. I will be very happy if I can make my own contribution.

Ranka: What is your next international tournament?

Li Zhe: The Samsung Cup in Korea, in December.

Ranka: Do you think that you will be the champion?

Li Zhe: Nowadays the levels of professional players are quite close. Each one wants to be the champion and each one has his chance.

Ranka: Thank you very much!

Chess China take Gold, Vietnam Silver, and Iran Bronze.

The Chinese duo of GM Ni Hua and Hou Yifan extended their dominance of the Pair Rapid event at the 1st World Minds Sports Games - winning Gold while propelling China into the overall lead - with victories first over Indonesia (1.5-0.5, 1-1) in the semi-Finals and then Vietnam (2-0, 2-0) in the finals.

In the first semi-final match between China and Indonesia, the now in form Hou's win ensured a narrow 1.5-0.5 victory, and although GM Utut Adianto went one step further in the second match with a nice win against Ni to compensate for Hou's second win over WIM Irine Sukandar, the 1-1 draw was enough to see China through.

The finals were a different story, the first match being a 2-0 victory which put China well on its way as in the second match all China needed was a draw in any game and despite some tense moments this was easily exceeded with yet another 2-0 victory! So the surprising Vietnamese team had to settle for a well-deserved Silver.

Iran duly took Bronze by beating Indonesia (2-0, 0.5-1.5) in the third place play-off. There was drama in the second match when Sukandar notched her first-ever win against the until then impressive WIM Atousa Pourkashiyani but Adianto, in the end, could not do more than draw against GM Eshan Ghaem Maghami.

In the other earlier semi-final match, Vietnam had showed great character and determination by coming back from a loss in the first match (0.5-1.5) to edge out Iran by sweeping the second match (2-0). GM Dao Thien Hai first levelled his personal match score against GM Maghami and then the steady WIM Le Kieu Thien Kim made sure of the victory with a nice win to put them into the finals.

Li Lanqing Visited the 1st World Mind Sports Games



Mr. Li Lanqing, member of the Committee of Honour of the 1st World Mind Sports Games and Honorary President of the Chinese Contract Bridge Association, visited the 1st World Mind Sports Games on October 12, accompanied by Ms. Xiao Min, assistant minister of the General Administration of Sports of China and Vice President of the Chinese Olympic Committee, and other leading officials.

Li Lanqing came to the China National Convention Center first, the competition venue for Bridge Men's Team and Women's Team. He was much interested in the bridge scoring machine. Then, he visited the duplication room. After that, he visited the Beijing International Convention Center, the main competition venue for the sports of bridge, chess, go, draughts and xiangqi. He was informed of the results and performance of the Chinese delegation. Li showed great happiness when he learned that the Chinese delegation stands first in the medal tally with 6 gold medals, 4 silver medals and 4 bronze medals in the nine events that have already concluded.

Among the 5 sports of the 1st World Mind Sports Games, the only sport which was new to Li Lanqing was draughts. The head coach of the Chinese draughts team then introduced him to the rules of draughts and Li learned it with great interest. At the end of the visit, Shi Sixuan, a player of Chinese Draughts Women's Team, presented a set of draughts to him on behalf of the whole team.



Accompanying Li Lanqing's visit were Ms. Xiao Min, assistant minister of the General Administration of Sport of China; Mr. Wang Lusheng, deputy director of the General Office of the General Administration of Sport of China; Mr. Liu Siming, Mr. Chu Bo, Mr. Fan Guangsheng and Mrs. Chen Zelan from the Board and Card Games Administrative Center of the General Administration of Sport.

The Return of the Champion

by Wang Ruixue

Who can tell whether there is a real champion?
Who can tell how he looks like?

Whenever there is morning light, people associate it with victory.

Someone told me, the Chinese civilization is a history of wisdom. Through the veil of time, Xiangqi, the symbol of national wisdom, is always there to show the way.

In this life, everyone needs to make his own magic. Devoting oneself to one's beloved career is always the best way to redound upon oneself. At the 1st World Mind Sports Games every player is able to change his life in an instant. Though there will be failures, they are victims of no one and nothing.

In my opinion, perseverance and aspiration are the essence of competition. Everyone is devoted to conveying the spirit of the WMSG worldwide. Half of the Xiangqi competition has passed by. As a volunteer, every time when I'm seeing the players' earnest faces, a sense of inspiration will strike me. Xiangqi brings the passion to every volunteer. Xiangqi, which is considered as the symbol of wisdom handed down from ancient China, condenses the long historic Chinese civilization. Xiangqi spreads its wisdom to every corner of the world, making the motto "civilization varied, wisdom unbounded" a reality.

There are no losers at the venue. Every player is the champion. As a volunteer, I would like to show my passion by singing a song of praise for all competitors:

I would rather that my sparkle should burn out in a brilliant blaze, than it should be stifled by the commonplace.

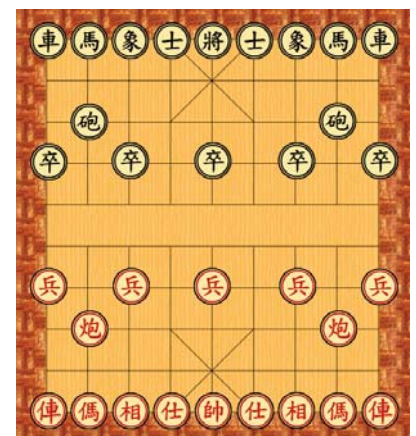
The meaning of life is to strive, not to lose or win.

Every honourable player, you stand for the moment at a brand new start, full of promise and possibility. See it, know it, strive for it, and allow the joy to flow more abundantly than ever before.

The joy is called Xiangqi.

女子团体象棋循环赛
Women Team Xiangqi Round Robin

No. 代号	Team 代表队	Round 轮次	Score 总分
1	UKR 乌克兰	1	1
2	USA 美国	2	2
3	AUS 澳大利亚	8	8
4	SIN 新加坡	4	4
5	CHN 中国	8	8
6	CAN 加拿大	0	0
7	VIE 越南	4	4
8	INA 印尼	5	5



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