



2014 Australasian Masters



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Bulletin 1 – Saturday December 13, 2013
Editor – Kerry Stead

Welcome to the Australasian Masters for 2014! Once again, tournament organiser Leonid Sandler has managed to assemble two excellent fields for the annual Australasian Masters. The feature tournament is a GM-norm round robin event, while the second tournament is a round-robin event with IM-norms available for players.

Participants

GM Event

GM Murtas Kazhgaleyev	2576	Kazakhstan
GM Vasily Papin	2502	Russia
IM Max Illingworth	2493	Australia
GM Rustam Khusnutdinov	2472	Kazakhstan
IM Moulthun Ly	2463	Australia
IM Bobby Cheng	2435	Australia
IM Anton Smirnov	2420	Australia
IM Junta Ikeda	2418	Australia
FM Luke (Zuhao) Li	2342	New Zealand
Karl Zelesco	2256	Australia

IM Event

IM Kanan Izzat	2402	Azerbaijan
IM Igor Bjelobrck	2355	Australia
FM Greg Canfell	2349	Australia
Eugene Schon	2287	Australia
FM Robert Smith	2245	New Zealand
FM William Jordan	2233	Australia
Yi Liu	2233	Australia
IM Mirko Rujevic	2211	Australia
Carl Gorka	2089	England
Mehmedalija Dizdarevic	1923	Bosnia & Herzegovina.



Top seed GM Kazhgaleyev

Tournament Information

9 round round-robin

Games at 4pm daily starting on Saturday December 13

Round Two will begin at 5:30pm; Final round on Sunday December 21 will begin at 2pm;

Venue: Box Hill Chess Club – 3 Rochester Rd, Canterbury

Time Control: All moves in 90 minutes, with 30 seconds per move added from move 1

Forfeit Time: 30 minutes from advertised starting time for each round

Arbiter: International Arbiter Kerry Stead

Websites: http://www.boxhillchess.org.au/live/tfd_full.htm

<http://www.chesschat.org/showthread.php?15710-Australasian-Masters-GM-Norm-tournament-2014>

<http://www.chesschat.org/showthread.php?15718-Australasian-Masters-IM-Norm-event-2014>

Sponsors

Thanks to all the companies and people who are involved in sponsoring & supporting this year's event!

The main sponsors are the Space Hotel, the Best Western Travel Inn, the Australian Chess Federation, Chess Australia Pty Ltd, Box Hill Chess Club and a number of sponsors who wish to remain anonymous.

Hallsten Pty Ltd is the main sponsor of the IM event.

Thanks to those in the Victorian chess community who are hosting visiting players.

Raelene Zelesco is the official photographer of the tournament.



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Prizes

GM Event

1st \$1500

2nd \$1000

3rd \$500

IM Event

1st \$1000

2nd \$500

3rd \$300

In the event of a tie for a title or a placing, prize money will be divided equally amongst those who are tied.

In the event of a tie for the title, the title shall be shared by all players on the highest score. Any ties for trophies will be decided based on the following tie-breaks (as per FIDE Handbook recommendation): Direct encounter; then the greater number of wins; then Sonneborn-Berger; then Koya System;

Tournament Preview & some history

Last year's inaugural GM-norm event saw visiting Grandmasters Vasily Papin & Normunds Miezis share the title, with Tu Hoang Thong finishing in third place. This year Vasily Papin has returned, but he is joined by two Grandmasters from Kazakhstan, top seed Murtas Kazhgaleyev & Rustam Khusnutdinov. The locals will not be so keen to have a repeat of 2013, with the prizemoney going to all the foreigners. IM Max Illingworth has had another stellar year & is on the hunt for his final GM-norm. He is also very close to the magical 2500 mark & would love to fulfil the requirements for the Grandmaster title on home soil! His fellow Olympiad team members, IMs Moulthun Ly, Anton Smirnov & Junta Ikeda are all looking to continue their excellent form which saw Australia have one of its best Olympiads in recent history. IM Bobby Cheng has been quiet on the chess front this year, concentrating on his studies, but with the academic year over he will be looking to return to his best form. FM Luke Li & Karl Zelesco are both in the running for GM & IM norms, with Karl looking for another IM norm after scoring his first in the IM norm event last year. The traditional IM norm event is once again being run, this time for the twenty-sixth time. Once again a number of keen IM-norm aspirants will be looking for an opportunity to get one step closer to the International Master title.

Past winners can be seen on the Wikipedia page:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Masters_\(chess\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Masters_(chess))

Will an Australian be able to win a GM event on home soil, or will it be a visiting foreigner who will take out the tournament? Will anyone achieve an elusive GM or IM norm?

Bulletins will be produced daily & will contain games, photos & anecdotes from the event.

Best of luck to all players! May you make this a chess event to remember!

Norm Requirements

GM Event – GM Norm

IM Max Illingworth – 7 points

IM Moulthun Ly, IM Bobby Cheng, IM Anton Smirnov, IM Junta Ikeda, FM Luke Li & Karl Zelesco – 6.5 points

GM Event – IM Norm

FM Luke Li – 5 points

Karl Zelesco – 4.5 points

IM Event – IM Norm

All non-IMs – 7 points



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FUN • SOCIAL • RELAX • PLAY

Ideally located in the heart of the city, Space Hotel is a perfect choice for backpackers wanting to explore all that Melbourne has to offer.

Our facilities include:

- Free in-house cinema
- Fully-equipped kitchen
- Gym
- Laundromat
- Rooftop deck
- Spa

Housed on the ground floor, Blue Moon Bar will have your entertainment covered with \$5 meals, drinks specials, and the famous Backpacker Night on Wednesdays!

BLUE MOON BAR RESTAURANT CAFE

The advertisement features a red and white color scheme. It includes a photograph of a hotel room with two beds and a photograph of a computer workstation area. The bottom section shows a photograph of a busy bar scene.