



Chess Chatter

Newsletter of the Port Huron Chess Club

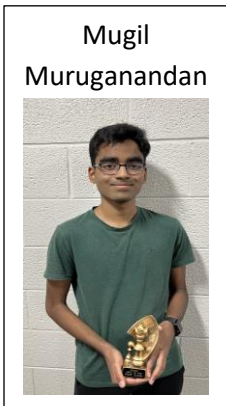
Editor: Lon Rutkofske

April 2025

Vol. 44 Number 3

The **Port Huron Chess Club** meets Thursdays, except holidays, from 6:30-10:00 PM, at Palmer Park Recreation Center, 2829 Armour Street, (NE corner of Garfield Street and Gratiot Ave...1 mile North of the Blue Water Bridge) Port Huron, Michigan. Everyone is welcome. All equipment provided. Email: PtHuronChessClub@aol.com or Website: <http://porthuronchessclub.yolasite.com>

Mugil Muruganandan captures first in April 10th Junior Event



Double-Round April Junior Tournament

#	Name	Rtng-pre/post	1	2	3	Tot
1	Mugil Muruganandan	1210/1244	X	2	2	4
2	Daniel Chen	1000/988	0	X	1	1
3	Johnny Mang	1000/988	0	1	X	1

In the inaugural junior PHCC tournament hosted for the 2025 season, Sarnia native, **Mugil Muruganandan** finished undefeated to capture first place honors with **Daniel Chen** and **Johnny Mang** taking second and 3rd place medals in a rather disappointingly sparse turnout. In efforts to attract younger chess playing talent, the Port Huron Chess Club and the Port Huron Recreation Department led by Jenny Meyers have teamed up to provide funding for awards that hopefully will encourage growth through participation of chess players between the ages of 4 and 18. A regular slate of junior events have been scheduled monthly on the second Thursday beginning at 6:30 PM and ending at 8:30 PM purposely designed to accommodate younger players of school age. (Please review the "Calendar of Events" section of Chess Chatter or the PHCC website for additional information!) Key Players and action are pictured below:



Results from the April Under 1800 (PHCC rated) Round Robin

#	Name	Ratings: Pre/Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot
2	Lonnie Rutkofske	1625/1631	W3 (w)	W4 (b)	W1 (b)	3
4	Mugil Muruganandan	1244/1258	W1 (b)	L2 (w)	W3 (b)	2
1	Daniel Chen	988/1005	L4 (w)	W3 (b)	L2 (w)	1
3	Christine Chen	1000/961	L2 (b)	L1 (w)	L4 (w)	0

It appears that **Mugil Muruganandan** is continuing his domination of the other novice junior players as he repeats in the best of his class in the Under 1800 at the round robin event hosted at the club on April 17th! Lon Rutkofske played a role as the houseman, in order to make sure that the pairings would continue without a bye! The sibling rivalry within the **Chen** family as younger brother, **Daniel** upended his usually steady elder sister, **Christine** to take the win, as she was a bit rusty from taking the PSAT which prohibited her from entering her first junior event the previous week. We are looking forward to see a growth in the number of junior entrants in the remaining monthly junior events for the year!

Members' Games

Please send me what you consider your best games, annotated or not, so that I might be able to showcase them. The following games represent contests that were available at the time of this printing. Email them to me or give them to me personally if you wish. The majority of analyses is done by Fritz 12, unless otherwise indicated. [This a reminder of the change in policy in the PHCC Challenge rules: # 14 - Games can be rated by the USCF, provided both players are members in good standing with the USCF and agree to have it rated by paying in advance to the TD (Lon Rutkofske, or other club official with a valid TD certification card.) of \$1.50@ to cover rating costs.] Updated Challenge rules will follow below:

Format and rules for PHCC Challenge System



- I. Purpose: to provide club members the opportunity to challenge higher rated players on a regular basis to improve and test their skills in over-the-board non-tournament competition.
- II. Regulations: (Effective 11-8-2018)
 - a. Challenges may be made by any club member on the PHCC rating list under the following circumstances:
 1. Can only be made by a lower rated player only.
 2. Can only be made during club hours and cannot be made after 8:00PM.
 3. Must be played on the same day as the challenge was made, so there can be no advanced challenges.
 4. Both players must be present.
 5. Only one challenge may be made per meeting.
 6. A challenger can only challenge a player that is rated less than 400 points above him on the rating list.
 7. All challenges must be accepted.
 8. No challenge may be made while a participant is involved in a tournament or challenge game.
 9. A clock must be used with the time control of G/60 with 5 second delay; must be recorded by both players and submitted to the rating director upon completion of the game. **(See Sample Score Sheet on page 2)**
 10. All challenge games must comply with current tournament rules of chess as established by the US Chess Federation.

11. No challenge game may be adjourned, but if an unusual circumstance arises, the club rating director may adjudicate.
12. No member may be challenged more than one consecutive time by the same challenger. This means that the lower rated player cannot challenge the same player two times in a row. He/she must play another match before this can take place, but this also means that the higher rated player may be challenged by the same rated player consecutively if he has not participated in a match in between challenges within a six- week period. Abuse (I.E: Constant challenges and re-challenges or other annoying or inconsiderate behavior) must be reported to the Director and he has the option of suspending the violator indefinitely from participation in the Challenge system. Disputes will be adjudicated by the ratings director, with the advice of other players as he so wishes.
13. Challenges can take place on the first Thursday of each month, or at any time there is no other tournament or event scheduled.
14. **Games can be rated by the USCF**, provided both players are members in good standing with the USCF and agree to have it rated by paying in advance to the TD (*Lon Rutkofske, or other club official with a valid TD certification card.*) of \$1.50@ to cover rating costs. Results will be rated by the PHCC (*Using the USCF rating system.*) using current PHCC ratings posted at the club and will be adjusted as necessary by the club rating director.
15. Changes will also be posted on the club website. Results will be rated by the PHCC (*Using the USCF rating system.*) using current PHCC ratings posted at the club and will be adjusted as necessary by the club rating director. Changes will also be posted on the club website.

Huso Avdic Ties for Second Place in 2025 Mi Senior Champs – See Standings and Games below:

2025 MICHIGAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP: OPEN – Wall Chart

#	Name/Rating/ID	St/Tm	Cl/Gr	Cb/Sx	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
1	Evgeniy Khain 2154 14933417	MI	52		W 8 1.0	bye 1.5	B 2 2.5	W 5 3.0		3.0
2	David Felix Hahn 2100 11232779	MI	64		B 9 0.5	W 15 1.5	W 1 1.5	U1.5	---	1.5
3	Ariel S Levi 2085 10433592	MI	72		W 10 0.5	B 9 1.5	W 6 2.5	B 4 2.5		2.5
4	Anthony T Nichols 2055 12753902	MI	55		B 11 1.0	W 7 2.0	B 5 2.5	W 3 3.5		3.5
5	Krishnan Sudharsan 2050 12710548	MI	50		W 12 1.0	B 6 2.0	W 4 2.5	B 1 3.0		3.0
6	Faris F Gabbara 2000 12187800	MI	69		B 13 1.0	W 5 1.0	B 3 1.0	W 15 2.0		2.0
7	Huso Avdic 1977 12786740	MI	62		W 14 1.0	B 4 1.0	W 11 2.0	B 8 3.0		3.0
8	Gregory E Bailey 1900 10302994	MI	74		B 1 0.0	B 10 1.0	W 12 1.5	W 7 1.5		1.5
9	Jeff R Aldrich 1900 12448994	MI	52		W 2 0.5	W 3 0.5	B 15 1.0	B 11 1.5		1.5
10	R Raymon Garrison 1869 11453431	MI	63		B 3 0.5	W 8 0.5	U0.5	U0.5	---	0.5
11	Kenneth E Fee Jr 1828 12480902	MO	61		W 4 0.0	B 14 1.0	B 7 1.0	W 9 1.5		1.5
12	Stephen Pentescu 1786 12142470	MI	67		B 5 0.0	W 13 1.0	B 8 1.5	---	---	1.5
13	Olaf Haakonstad 1600 12406916	MI	77		W 6 0.0	B 12 0.0	W 14 1.0	---	---	1.0

2025 MICHIGAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP: OPEN – Wall Chart

#	Name/Rating/ID	St/Tm	Cl/Gr	Cb/Sx	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
14	Dwight Quin Evans 1400 12577534	MI	75		B 7 0.0	W 11 0.0	B 13 0.0	bye 1.0		1.0
15	Scott K Russell 1273 12694200	MI	57		bye 1.0	B 2 1.0	W 9 1.5	B 6 1.5		1.5

PHCC's Top player, **Huso Avdic** once again demonstrated his prowess scoring 3/4 dropping only a single game to Champion Tony Nichols at the Michigan Senior Championships on the weekend of April 12 & 13 hosted in Troy. The Shelby Twp native has played well against some of the top seniors in the state as he continues his quest for a state title!

Round 1

Avdic,Huso (1977) - Evans,Dwight Quin (1400) [D15] Slav Defense

2025 Michigan Senior Troy (1), 12.04.2025

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 h6 5.e3 Bg4 6.Qb3 b6 7.Ne5 e6 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd3 Be6 10.f4 Qc7 11.Bd2 Nbd7 12.Rc1 Nxe5 13.fxe5 Ne4 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.d5 cxd5 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Qxd5 Qd8 18.Qc6+ 1-0

Round 2

Nichols,Anthony (2055) - Avdic,Huso (1977) [A59] Benko Gambit

2025 Michigan Senior Troy (2), 12.04.2025

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 d6 7.e4 Bxf1 8.Kxf1 g6 9.g3 Bg7 10.Kg2 0-0 11.Nf3 Nbd7 12.Qc2 Qb6 13.a4 Rfb8 14.Nb5 Ne8 15.Rb1 Nc7 16.Nxc7 Qxc7 17.b3 Qb7 18.Be3 Nf6 19.h3 Qb4 20.Nd2 Nd7 21.Nc4 Qb7 22.Rhd1 Qb4 23.Bd2 Qb7 24.Na5 Qa6 25.Nc6 Re8 26.Bc3 Nb8 27.Bxg7 Nxc6 28.dxc6 Kxg7 29.b4 cxb4 30.Rxb4 Rec8 31.Qc3+ f6 32.Rc1 Ra7 33.Qd4 Qa5 34.Rcc4 Rcc7 35.Qd5 Qa6 36.Rb8 Rc8 37.Rxc8 Qxc8 38.g4 Qc7 39.g5 Ra5 40.gxf6+ exf6 41.Qxa5 Qxa5 42.c7 Qg5+ 43.Kf1 d5 44.exd5 Qxd5 45.c8Q Qd1+ 46.Kg2 Qd5+ 47.Kg3 Qd3+ 48.f3 Qd6+ 49.Kh4 Kh6 50.Qc6 Qe5 51.f4 Qe3 52.Qc5 Qf3 53.Qf8# 1-0

Round 3

Avdic, Huso (1977) - Fee,Kenneth E Jr. (1828) [E90] Classical King's Indian Defense

2025 Michigan Senior Troy (3), 13.04.2025

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 a5 8.g4 Nbd7 9.Nf3 Nc5 10.Nd2 Bd7 11.Be2 Ne8 12.h4 f5 13.gxf5 gxf5 14.h5 f4 15.Bxc5 dxc5 16.Rg1 Kh8 17.Bg4 Nd6 18.a4 f3 19.b3 Bxg4 20.Rxg4 Qf6 21.Qc2 Bh6 22.0-0-0 Rg8 23.Rdg1 Rxg4 24.Rxg4 Rg8 25.Rxg8+ Kxg8 26.Kb2 Qf4 27.Nf1 Qg4 28.Ng3 Bf4 29.Nf5 Qxh5 30.Qd3 Qh1 31.Nb5 Nxb5 32.cxb5 Qc1+ 33.Ka2 Qd2+ 34.Qxd2 Bxd2 35.b6 cxb6 36.Nh4 Kf7 37.Nxf3 Bf4 38.Kb2 h5 39.Kc2 Ke7 40.Kd3 Kd6 41.Kc4 Bh6 42.Kb5 Bf8 43.Kxb6 Be7 44.Kb5 h4 45.Ng1 Bd8 46.Nh3 b6 47.Kc4 Be7 48.Kd3 Bd8 49.f3 Be7 50.f4 exf4 51.Nxf4 Bf6 52.Ke2 Be5 53.Nd3 Bg3 54.Kf3 Bh2 55.Nb2 Bg3 56.Nc4+ Kc7 57.Kg4 Kb7 58.e5 Kc7 59.e6 Be1 60.d6+ Kd8 61.Nxb6 Bg3 62.Nc4 Ke8 1-0

Round 4

Bailey,Gregory (1900) - Avdic,Huso (1977) [A40] QP Game

2025 Michigan Senior Troy (4), 13.04.2025

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.d4 d5 4.Nd2 Nf6 5.Nb3 0-0 6.Nf3 b6 7.0-0 Bb7 8.Re1 Ne4 9.Nfd2 Nd7 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.e3 f5 12.c4 e5 13.Bd2 a5 14.d5 g5 15.g4 a4 16.Nc1 Nc5 17.gxf5 Rxf5 18.Bb4 Qf6 19.Bxc5 bxc5 20.Bxe4 Rxf2 21.Nd3 Rf8 22.Nxf2 Qxf2+ 23.Kh1 Qh4 24.Qd3 Rf2 25.Bg2 a3 26.e4 axb2 27.Rab1 Ba6 28.Rf1 g4 29.Qb3 g3 30.Qxg3 Qxg3 31.hxg3 Rc2 32.Bf3 Bxc4 33.Bd1 Rd2 34.Bb3 Bxf1 35.Rxf1 c4 36.Bxc4 Rc2 37.Bd3 Rc1 38.Kg2 Bf8 39.Kf2 Bc5+ 40.Ke2 Kg7 41.Bb1 Kg6 42.a4 Bb6 43.Rd1 Kg5 44.d6 cxd6 45.Rxd6 Rxb1 46.Rxb6 Rh1 0-1

Calendar of Events:

First Thursday of Each Month: Free Chess Clinics – 6:30 to 7:00 PM; **Private Lessons** can be arranged @ \$15/person per hour; **Open play:** 7:00 until 10:00 PM. Players wishing to play Challenge matches with longer time controls of G/60 with 5 sec delay can choose to play match games if they so desire. Participants will be required to follow the rules and regulations for **Challenge Play** (As outlined in **Chess Chatter**, our website under "Club Member Ratings Lists", or posted at the club.) and colors will be selected by lot. PHCC club ratings will be used. Players should turn their game scores into Lon, so he can adjust ratings appropriately and showcase the games in **Chess Chatter**. **Monthly Tournaments** will be held, **usually** on the third Thursday of the month - See the events schedule below for specifics!

May 8th - Junior Tournament 6:30-8:30 pm

May 15th- PHCC Rated Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/10. A minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register. Onsite registration 6:30-7:00PM - Play begins at 7:00 PM; if Mini-Swiss: Based on entries! (Recording games is optional, for players that wish to keep score, neither player is required to keep score if either has 5 minutes or less on their clock.)

June 12th - Junior Tournament 6:30-8:30 pm

June 19th- PHCC Under 1800 Rated Only: Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/10 A minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register. Onsite registration 6:30-7:00PM - Play begins at 7:00 PM. if Mini-Swiss: Based on entries! (Recording games is optional, for players that wish to keep score, neither player is required to keep score if either has 5 minutes or less on their clock.)

July 10th - Junior Tournament 6:30-8:30 pm

July 17th - USCF/PHCC Rated Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/25 with 3 sec. delay; USCF membership required. A minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register. Onsite registration 6:30-7:00PM - Play begins at 7:00 PM; if Mini-Swiss: Based on entries! (Recording games is optional, for players that wish to keep score, neither player is required to keep score if either has 5 minutes or less on their clock.)

August 14th - No Junior Tournament

August 14, 21, 28 - USCF/PHCC Rated Mini-Swiss (or Quads based on entries) 3 Round- USCF Rated Mini-Swiss. Game/90 minutes with/5 sec. delay. USCF and PHCC membership required. One game per night (August 14, 21, 28)! Play will begin at 7:00PM. Play will begin at 7:00PM. A minimum of 4 participants are required. Prizes: based on entries. Please register in advance by contacting Lon Rutkofske by August 4th so he can determine if there are enough entries to hold the event.

September 11th - Junior Tournament 6:30-8:30 pm

September 18th - PHCC Rated Thematic tournament: G/25 with 3 sec. delay A minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register. Onsite registration 6:30-7:00PM - Play begins at 7:00 PM. if Mini-Swiss: Based on entries! (Recording games is optional, for players that wish to keep score, neither player is required to keep score if either has 5 minutes or less on their clock.) Players with the white pieces will be playing a game with a predetermined opening sequence such as the Ruy Lopez, or KI Attack based on one of the openings drawn at random by the TD. The game will begin from that opening position.

October 9th - Junior Tournament 6:30-8:30 pm

October 16th PHCC Speed Championships - The Port Huron Chess Club's 41st Annual Speed Championship Tournament will be held on Thursday, October 16th beginning at 7:00 PM. Registrations will determine the number of rounds and prizes. PHCC membership required. Please contact Lon if you plan to play. There will be no registrations on-site. If you intend to play, contact Lon before October 14th. Will *be USCF rated if all entrants are USCF members.*)

November 20th - PHCC Rated Quick Tournament DRR Game/15 PHCC Rated Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration; a minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register. Onsite registration 6:30-7:00PM - Play begins at 7:00 PM. if Mini-Swiss: Based on entries! (Recording games is optional, for players that wish to keep score, neither player is required to keep score if either has 5 minutes or less on their clock.)

Ratings:

The following list represents only current members of the Port Huron Chess Club. Current USCF ratings were used for members that had them, to establish the initial club rating list. The USCF rating format is used as the basis for calculating our club rating list. Members that had no USCF ratings are *given* a provisional rating based on their performances against regular club members who had USCF ratings. Club rated events will use these ratings for pairing purposes.

PHCC Ratings as of 4/4/25

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andrew	2267
Avdic, Huso	2104
Gregg, Alan	1952
Seth, Samarth	1832
Morabito, Matt	1830
Urlick, Ryan	1802
Klaty, Braeden	1760
Rutkofske, Lon	1728
Klaty, Trenton	1526
Wingrove, Bill	1499
Malburg, Drew	1425
Ledsworth, Brian	1400
Shardool, Mhaskar	1380
Klaty, Brad	1368
Marsh, Nolan	1185
Mang, Johnny	1000
Chen, Christine	800
Willard, Parker	684
Muruganandam, Mugil	638
Bussone, Stephen	630
Chen, Daniel	600

PHCC Blitz Ratings as of 4/25/25

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andrew	2152
Avdic, Huso	2035
Gregg, Alan	1951
Urlick, Ryan	1900
Seth, Samarth	1881
Morabito, Matt	1804
Klaty, Braeden	1766
Rutkofske, Lon	1631
Blunt, Stuart	1579
Shardool, Mhaskar	1535
Wingrove, Bill	1519
Willard, Parker	1436
Klaty, Trenton	1402
Klaty, Brad	1387
Ledsworth, Brian	1317
Muruganandam, Mugil	1258
Malburg, Drew	1120
Bussone, Stephen	1000
Chen, Daniel	1005
Mang, Johnny	988
Chen, Christine	961

USCF Ratings as of 3/7/25

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andrew	2054
Avdic, Huso	1972
Alan Gregg	1893
Rutkofske, Lon	1800
Morabito, Matt	1780
Wingrove, Bill	1520
Urlick, Ryan	1712
Klaty, Braeden	1584
Shardool, Mhaskar	1380
Klaty, Brad	1344
Klaty, Trenton	1170
Ledsworth, Brian	1314
Malburg, Drew	1277
Marsh, Nolan	959
Willard, Parker	823
Muruganandam, Mugil	640

USCF Quick/Action Ratings as of 3/7/25

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andrew	2027
Avdic, Huso	1974
Morabito, Matt	1908
Gregg, Alan	1852
Rutkofske, Lon	1720
Wingrove, Bill	1510
Klaty, Braeden	1468
Klaty, Brad	1354
Klaty, Trenton	1170
Ledsworth, Brian	1087
Marsh, Nolan	954
Willard, Parker	772
Muruganandam, Mugil	565

USCF Blitz Ratings as of 3/7/25

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andrew	2152
Avdic, Huso	1997
Gregg, Alan	1837
Morabito, Matt	1732
Rutkofske, Lon	1602
Klaty, Trenton	1342
Ledsworth, Brian	1317
Malburg, Drew	1203
Klaty, Brad	1289

Dues News:

While dues are not required for anyone interested in playing at the club, they are required for those competing in tournament play. Annual Dues are \$30.00 for adults and \$15.00 for those under 19. Family rates available upon request. Dues funds are used to offset miscellaneous expenses not funded by the Recreation Department. United States Chess Federation memberships are available through the club. **Memberships expiring in April: Sandi Fisher; Alan Gregg; Ryan Urlick; Parker Willard; Bill Wingrove**