

Harlingen
16 - 24 August

WFD Official Tournament Books

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS CLASSIC 2024

Barentszwerf - Harlingen

Harlingen Town Hall

ORGANISATION

Stifting WFD

www.frisiandraughts.com

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Streaming <https://checkers.tv/> : Damian Reszka

Streaming Youtube; Frisian draughts:

Design / operation: Siward Walinga / Germ van Popta

Stream commentator and analyses: Alexander Shvartsman et al.

Online games: <https://lidraughts.org/> and <https://toernooibase.kndb.nl/>

**Live tournament website
(games, scoring and live comments):**



Locations:

 *Harlingen Town Hall
86 Noorderhaven
Harlingen*

 *Barentszwerf
Nieuwe Willemshaven
Harlingen*

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***“Sport has the power to change the world.
It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does.”***

– Nelson Mandela

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, players and enthusiasts of the game, to the 2024 World Championships Frisian Draughts!

In a time when the world oscillates between moments of conflict and hope, the game of draughts offers a refuge of calm and intellectual challenge. Conflicts, both large and small, place communities under pressure, but even in these times, hope endures. Hope in the form of collaboration, innovation, and human resilience. Frisian draughts embodies this hope by bringing us together through a shared passion and respect for the game.

This prestigious event, organized by the WFD Foundation, will take place from August 16 to 24, across two exceptional locations in Fryslân: the historic Town Hall of Harlingen and the Barentszwerf. The Town Hall of Harlingen, with its grand 18th-century architecture and inviting atmosphere, provides a distinguished setting for the matches. The Barentszwerf, with its rich maritime heritage, adds a unique atmosphere and historical grandeur to the tournament.

Fryslân is renowned for its strong sense of community, deep respect for tradition, and rich cultural heritage. These values are vividly reflected in Frisian draughts. The game mirrors Frisian pride and independence, with each move meticulously planned and each strategy executed with precision. The rules of Frisian draughts, combining both simplicity and complexity, symbolize the balance between tradition and innovation that is so emblematic of Frisian culture.

This year marks a new milestone with Chantal van Sluys serving as the Tournament Director, acting as the primary contact for all practical matters related to the event. We are also fortunate to have Liuwe Westra as the Arbiter, overseeing the adherence to all rules and ensuring fair play throughout the championship.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers, sponsors, and partners who have made this event possible. Special appreciation goes to the Municipality of Harlingen for their invaluable support in hosting this event and for their unwavering commitment to its success.

We are honored to welcome participants from countries such as Lithuania, Poland, Germany, and the Czech Republic. Their presence underscores the international appeal of Frisian draughts and the game's remarkable ability to connect diverse cultures and foster new friendships.

To all the participants, we wish you great success and challenging games. May the best player win, but let us also enjoy the camaraderie and shared passion for Frisian draughts. We hope that every move made during this tournament will help strengthen our connections and that we will return home with new friendships and unforgettable memories.

Frisian draughts is more than just a game; it is a celebration of culture, history, and humanity. Let us come together to create a magnificent championship that will be remembered for years to come and inspire future generations of draughts players worldwide.

With sporting regards,

Jouke Algra

On behalf of the Board of the
World Championships Frisian Draughts





WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FRISIAN DRAUGHTS 2024 IN HARLINGEN

Welcome to Harlingen, the seaport city of Fryslân. Bordering the UNESCO Wadden Sea World Heritage Site, Harlingen is a tough magnet for lovers of wind, water and a glorious past. Here you will find an inner city with more than 500 monuments, lively inner harbours, many events and other cultural highlights. But our municipality is also known for its many opportunities for sports and games as well as a rich club life.

Thanks to maritime shipping, Frisian draughts, and many a variant, can now be found all over the world. There is a good chance that Harlingen, as a seaport city, has played a major role in this. The municipality is therefore proud to host the 2024 Frisian Draughts World Championships. Sport and games are an important binding agent in our society: it brings Harlingers together literally and figuratively.

“We look forward to the opening event in our monumental town hall, at one of the most beautiful places in Fryslân: the Noorderhaven. And we wish all participants every success!”

Events and activities are important for the municipality of Harlingen, because they contribute to happiness in life, pride and solidarity among its residents.

Every year, therefore, with the efforts of volunteers, entrepreneurs, associations and foundations, a surprisingly wide range of events and activities is organised in the municipality of Harlingen.

We look forward to the opening event in our monumental town hall, at one of the most beautiful places in Fryslân: the Noorderhaven. And we wish all participants every success!

More information about Harlingen can be found on our visitor website Harlingen Welkom aan Zee: www.harlingenwelkomaanzee.nl

On behalf of the Municipality of Harlingen,

Alderman Hendrik Sijtsma



THE BARENTSZWERF

Since 2010, work on the construction of the Willem Barentsz expedition ship has been going on at the Barentszwerf in Harlingen. In 2018, the ship was launched and baptised by Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet. It was named Witte Swaen. In the visitor centre at the Barentsz shipyard, there is an exhibition on the construction of the ship and Willem Barentsz's voyage and wintering to Nova Zembla.

The way the ship was built is unique because the construction method common in the 16th century was used again for the first time after three centuries.

This was not done with previous replicas such as the Batavia and the VOC ship Amsterdam. The ship was built entirely by volunteers. In September 2023, a trial run under sail was made and the crew was able to experience sailing the ship for the first time.

Shipping played an important role in spreading Frisian draughts around the world in the 16th and 17th centuries.





ALEKSEJ DOMČEV

Vilnius, Lithuania

In the international game Aleksej Domčev is an international grandmaster. But also in the Frisian game Aleksej is a great player with a lot of experience. Aleksej has played many Frylân Open Tournaments in which he has performed admirably. In 2017 he was the highest placed international player at the Fryslân Open. He has participated in FRYSK World Championships and international draughts. Will Aleksej revive the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and go for world domination this time?



AUKE ZIJLSTRA

Utrecht, The Netherlands

Frisian in exile Auke Zijlstra has some experience as a world champion. He won the FRYSK! world championship in 2023. FRYSK! is all about the endgame. It's safe to say that the endgame is no mystery to Auke. Auke plays both Frisian and international and is a regular participant in the Frylân Open. Will he quickly turn every opening position into a five to five where he'll kill and destroy with his magical FRYSK! skills? Then he could be unstoppable and take the big prize.



DICKY VAN DER MEER

Terherne, The Netherlands

Dicky learned the Frisian game at school in his early childhood. He took part in many youth tournaments, but somehow gave up the game at the age of fifteen. Almost twenty years later, he felt an irresistible urge to get back into the game, and so he did. Being an entrepreneur doesn't leave him much time to study the game, but he compensates for this lack of study with an overdose of passion. His hope is not so much to become world champion himself, but to show the world how beautiful the Frisian game is. A non-Frisian world champion would help this cause.



MARTEN WALINGA

Waaksens, The Netherlands

The WCC 2024 is only the second World Cup ever. But it will be the third time the title has been up for grabs. Both times before (tournament and match) it was Marten Walinga who won the coveted title. He has been at the top of the Frisian draughts universe for more than 30 years and is certainly one of the players who can be expected to challenge for the top spot. With Marten, the question is always whether he will be able to control his creative impulses, which sometimes lead him into muddy waters...



ŁUKASZ KOSOBUDZKI

Mińsk Mazowiecki, Poland

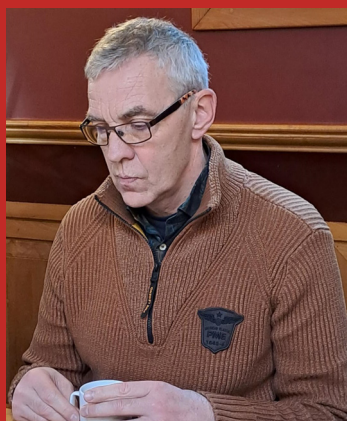
Łukasz Kosobudzki is an all-round draughts player. He lives in Mińsk Mazowiecki, where he plays and teaches draughts. Łukasz learnt the Frisian game from former Frisian player Martijn van Gortel. Besides the Frisian game, he plays International, Turkish, Russian, well, basically any kind of draughts he can find. Łukasz qualified for the World Championship by winning the Master's group of the Fryslân Open 2024. Quite an achievement for a debutant! In fact, he is also making his debut at this World Championship...



FEDDE KRAMER

Nieuwolda, The Netherlands

Fedde is co-founder of the draughts platform www.lidraughts.org and organiser of the Frisian draughts tournaments in Groningen. He earned his ticket to the World Championships by finishing second in the Fryslân Open Masters 2024. Fedde doesn't play Frisian draughts very often, but when he does, he has shown that he can beat the most experienced and hardened Frisian players. Fedde is definitely a dark horse in this tournament.



HEIN DE VRIES

Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

Some people come from money, Hein comes from draughts. His father was a Frisian draughts pioneer who was one of the first players to use the computer to improve his game. Hein took part in two Olympiads in mental sports and won the gold medal in the Frisian competition both times. He seizes every opportunity to enter a tournament with both hands. Hein is a solid player who can beat anyone, and when he does, he'll be the next world champion.



SIWARD WALINGA

Groningen, The Netherlands

Soon to be chemistry student, Siward Walinga is one of many descendants of the royal Frisian draughts family, the Walinga's. A blood test would probably reveal that his white blood cells are shaped like draughtsmen's figures. Despite his heritage, it is only in recent years that Siward has really taken an interest in the game. This has led to his qualification for the World Championship. Will he keep the title in the family?



JELLE WIERSMA

Wommels, The Netherlands

Jelle Wiersma is an accountant in real life, but he's a bloodthirsty warrior on the Frisian board. A legend in his own right, the reigning and multiple Frisian champion came third in the last (and first) World Championship. His adventurous nature leads him to structurally avoid the most played opening for white in the game. Will he be able to add a little more accountancy to his game, while occasionally trapping the warrior? If so, we could see Jelle on the top step of the podium at this World Championship.



TAEKE KOOISTRA

Hartwert, The Netherlands

If toughness had a face, it would probably look like Taeke Kooistra. In 2023, Taeke won the Dutch FRYSK! championship and the classic championship. Retirement seems to suit him. The godfather of Frisian draughts, Taeke holds the most Frisian draughts titles in Fryslân and is undoubtedly one of the top favourites for this year's WCC. Talented players come and go, but nothing ever seems to disrupt Taeke Kooistra's near-perfect flow.



TIES SLAGTER

's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands

Ties Slagter has been playing international draughts for most of his life. During the Corona crisis, Ties discovered the infinite beauty of the Frisian game on lidraughts.org. The limitations of space and time were removed by the internet, allowing Ties to play regularly despite living relatively far from the holy Frisian soil. Ties Slagter even left the virtual world and travelled to the north of the Netherlands to compete in several live tournaments. Each time he played, his strength grew. This sleeping giant could very well erupt in Harlingen and give the favourites a run for their money.



PETRA DUŠKOVÁ

Prague, Czech Republic

Czech champion, mother and grand-lady of Frisian draughts, Petra Dušková is a draughts coach in Prague. She has been playing the Frisian game since 2017, and has visited the Netherlands several times to participate in several tournaments. Her win against Foeke Tiemensma in the Fryslân open 2019 with a smashing combination was one of the most memorable examples of the complexity and beauty of the game in recent history. Petra is one of the strongest draughts players in the Czech Republic. This is her chance to establish Czech hegemony in Fryslân and ensure that her name will be sung for centuries to come.



PORTER RICHARDSON

Monster, The Netherlands

Porter Richardson is the youngest participant in the World Championship. He started (and still plays) in the international game, but became fascinated by the many possibilities for crazy combinations that the Frisian game offers. This led to his participation in the Fryslân Open 2024 and an online qualification for the World Championship. Will the boy from Monster become the monster of the World Championship and eat all his opponents alive? He just might.



MALTE SCHULZ

Hamburg, Germany

If Frisian Draughts can be an addiction, then Malte Schulz is probably the biggest junkie. This German youngster can be found on lidraughts.org almost every day. There he takes the scalp of anyone who plays against him. Malte studies the game thoroughly and with great zeal. As one of the youngest players in the tournament and with a steep learning curve, Malte Schulz is definitely a force to be reckoned with. Will Malte extend the Frisian area all the way to Hamburg?



FOLKERT GROENVELD

Jutryp, The Netherlands

Former Dutch champion Folkert Groenveld is an established name in Frisian draughts. He also comes from a family of draughts players. This high school teacher has an impressive track record. He won the Fryslân Open in 2020 and 2023. In 2021, Folkert played Marten Walinga in a world championship match in Harlingen. He didn't make it that time, will his revenge be sweet?



WILLEM SCHAAP

Jirnsum, The Netherlands

Willem Schaap could be described as a late bloomer. He has always been known as a dangerous opponent and king of the combination. But somehow he never really made it to the top of the Frisian draughts. That all changed in 2024. Willem has qualified for the group of champions in the Frisian championship, which, apart from the World Championship, can be considered the Valhalla of Frisian draughts. Will the crane operator continue to flourish in his year of great success and go on to win the world title?

16 - 24
AUGUST
2024

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE



📍 Harlingen Town Hall
86 Noorderhaven
Harlingen

📍 Barentszwerf
Nieuwe Willemshaven
Harlingen

1. After seven rounds of the Swiss system, the four highest ranked participants will play a final round-robin grandmaster tournament, 2 games between them each round.
2. Time control: Fischer, 90 minutes + 30 seconds per move
3. Pairing:
First seven rounds, according to Swiss Perfect
Finals: R1(1-3, 2-4) R2(3-1 4-2), R3(3-2, 4-1). R4 2-3, 1-4), R5(1-2, 3-4), R6(2-1, 4-3)

The winner receives the title Frisian Draughts World Champion.
Prize fund: € 10.000

Every day a live stream of the games can be followed on a big screen at the Barentszwerf

Day 1
**Friday,
16 August**

Location: Town Hall

1:00 PM
**OPENING AND WELCOME
BY ALDERMAN HENDRIK
SIJTSMA**

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM
ROUND 1

Location: Barentszwerf

1:00 PM - 5:30 PM
OPEN

Day 2
**Saturday,
17 August**

Location: Town Hall

9:30 AM
OPENING
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
ROUND 2

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM
BREAK

2:30 PM - 6:30 PM
ROUND 3

Location: Barentszwerf

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
OPEN

Day 3
**Sunday,
18 August**

Location: Town Hall

9:30 AM
OPENING
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
ROUND 4

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM
BREAK

2:30 PM - 6:30 PM
ROUND 5

Location: Barentszwerf

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
OPEN

Day 4

Monday, 19 August

Location: Town Hall

9:30 AM

OPENING

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

ROUND 6

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

BREAK

2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

ROUND 7

Location: Barentszwerf

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

OPEN

5:00 PM

**MEET & GREET FOR
SPONSORS AND PLAYERS**

Day 5

Tuesday, 20 August

Location: Town Hall

9:30 AM

OPENING

10:00 AM - 12:00

PLAY-OFFS IF NECESSARY

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

BREAK

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

PLAY-OFFS IF NECESSARY

Location: Barentszwerf

CLOSED

Day 6

Wednesday, 21 August

Location: Town Hall

9:30 AM

OPENING

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FINALS, ROUND 1A

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

BREAK

2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

FINALS, ROUND 1B

Location: Barentszwerf

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

OPEN

Day 7

Friday, 23 August

Location: Town Hall

9:30 AM

OPENING

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FINALS, ROUND 2A

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

BREAK

2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

FINALS, ROUND 2B

Location: Barentszwerf

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

OPEN

Day 8

Saturday, 24 August

Location: Town Hall

8:30 AM

OPENING

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

FINALS, ROUND 3A

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

BREAK

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

FINALS, ROUND 3B

7:00 PM

**AWARD CEREMONY BY
MAYOR INA SJERPS**

Location: Barentszwerf

9:15 AM - 12:30 PM

OPEN

SIDE EVENTS

Location: Barentszwerf

Prize fund: € 2.000

■ Wednesday, 21 august

10:15 AM: Teams
tournament FRYSK!

■ Friday, 23 august

10:15 AM: Teams
tournament Italian draughts

2:45 PM: Teams
tournament diagonal
draughts

■ Saturday, 24 august

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Teams
tournament Malay draughts

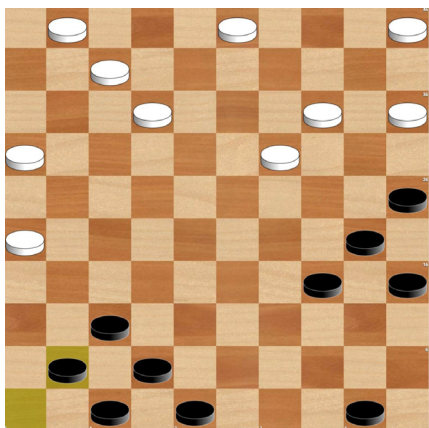
SOME COMBINATIONS OF THE TWO PREVIOUS FRISIAN DRAUGHTS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Marten Walinga

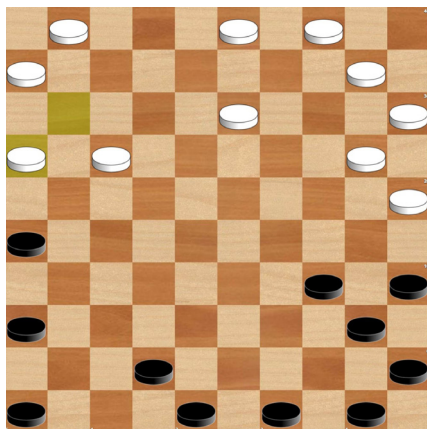
In 2018, the Frisian Draughts World Championships were held for the first time. For me as a co-organiser, it was of course the pinnacle of all the work we had done to turn Frisian Draughts into an international mind sport. Personally, I was relieved that I could just manage to qualify in the last qualification round. Here you will find a small anthology of beautiful fragments that I encountered on my way, both in 2018 and in 2021, when I had to play a match against Folkert Groenveld for the Second World Championships.

THE 2018 OPEN DUTCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The first fragment is from the third round of the 2018 Open Dutch Championships against Auke Zijlstra (white). I played 5-10 to pull off a nice combination. Auke played 39-34 and I was able to execute my move.

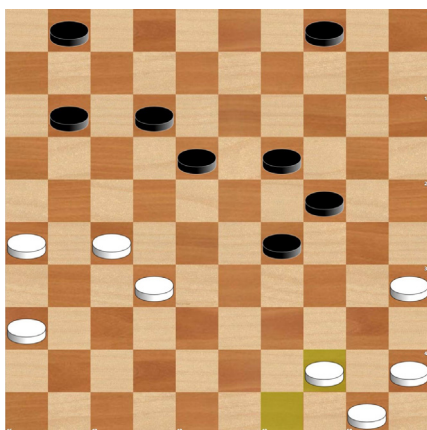


In the semi-finals I had to play against Hein de Vries with black. Sometimes a shot is too nice not to make it, even if it does not bring any advantage. This is such a case. After white's last move (40-34), I made a six to six exchange.



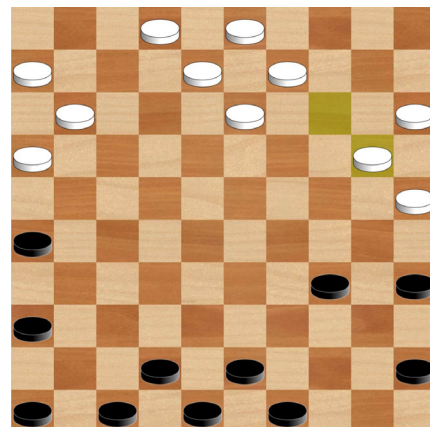
THE 2018 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the sixth game of the 2018 Harlingen World Championships, I faced Taeke Kooistra (black). Kooistra was left with a troublesome centre piece after the opening and that was the beginning of more serious problems. Here I just played 49-44 to keep combination pressure on the game. After 1-7 by black, the game ended in a spectacular way with a 5 to 4 shot.

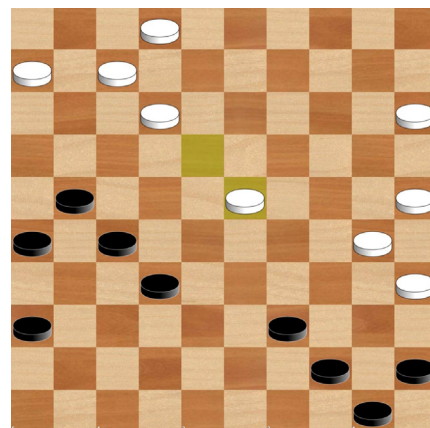


In round seven of the same tournament I encountered Folkert Groenveld with black. Folkert played 31-27, suggesting 43-39 as his next move. So I played 2-7, both to increase the pressure on white's long corner wing and to create the

possibility of a shot as unobtrusively as possible. White indeed played 43-39 and gave me the opportunity of making a winning combination.



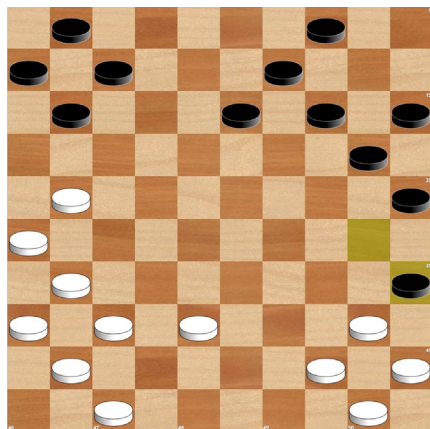
In the 2018 finals, I had to play my first two games against Alexander Georgiev. The first game with black became a mirrored double angle attack game. This type of game is rarely a draw, it's make or break.



An exchange back seems obvious, but by playing 15-20 now I kept the number of possible moves for white very limited. There followed 36-31 and pinning this side by 6-11. White could do no better than 39-33 followed by 11-17 16x18 12x34. Well 2 pieces ahead, but three white pieces keep five in place. 31-27 was played and after 19-24 the threat is 23-28.

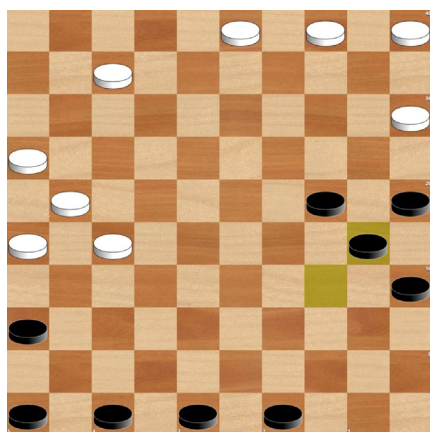
27-22 is now obligatory and not much later the game was won. I continue to find this type of play very complex and it is often difficult to figure out where the crucial moments are in such a game type.

In the second game against Georgiev, a similar game type was set up and this time it could be won combinatively.



After black's last move 30-35, I set up a trap by playing 37-32. Georgiev missed this one and played 20-24.

In the finals I ended up tied with Alexander Georgiev on 3.5 points and in the play-off we got an almost mirrored position, this often applies to the batting combinations.

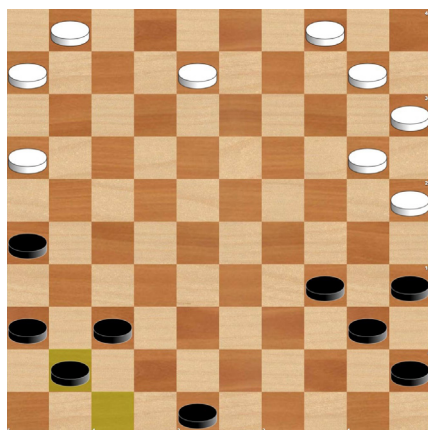


I had not been allowed to play 3 or 4 - 9 here for some time, Georgiev did play 48-42 now and with a combinatorial stroke the title was secured.

THE 2021 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

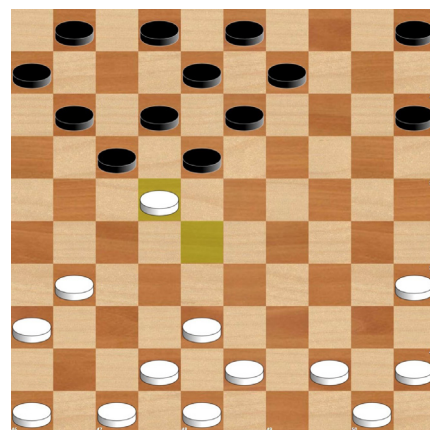
At the subsequent World Cup, the set-up was different, now a match of 11 games. The opponent came from the candidate tournament, the Fryslân Open 2021. Folkert Groenveld and Alexander Georgiev played a strong tournament and finished equal at the Grutmasters. The thrilling barrage was eventually won by Groenveld.

Meanwhile, I was already preparing for a match by researching how this is done in other thinking sports, such as chess. What I found was that the gambit, a sacrifice, is a frequently used strategy, because in it the opponent can hardly prepare. In Dutch draughts, we had already investigated whether this is possible and it turns out that a piece sacrifice is not a good plan, but Frisian draughts is different, apparently more like chess. The next series of positions includes the gambit. In the second game, I played 4-10 here, with such strange moves the alarm bells should go off. There followed 43-39 and now 16-21 which made the combination ready. After playing 50-44, the move could be executed.



In the third round, a prepared gambit opening could be played.

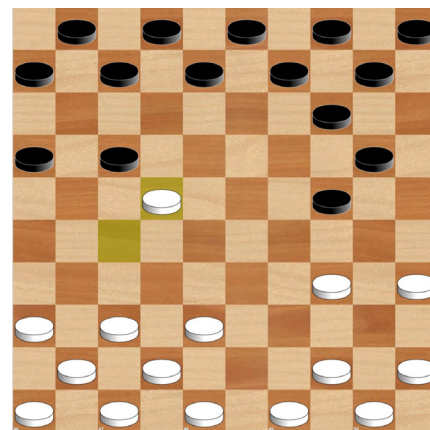
1.31-26 20-25 2.34-30 25x34 3.40x29 19-23 4.44-40 23x34 5.39x30 18-23 6.30-25 23-29 7.33x24 14x34 8.40x29 15-20 9.25x14 4x31 10.41x21 16x27 11.26x28 12-18 12.37-31 10-15 13.49-44 7-12 14.28-22 and now so a piece sacrifice!



17x28 15.35-30 11-16 16.31-26 1-7 17.30-25 15x35 18.45x25 12-17 19.44-40 7-12 20.40-35 2-7 21.50-45 9-14 22.43-39 and Groenveld now chooses to give the piece back, but his position continues to look tricky 28-33 23. 38x29 14-19 24.29x9 13x4 25.25-20 3-9 26.20-15 5x25 27.35x15 18-23 28.39-34 23-29 29.34x23 7-11 30.26-21 17x26 31.45-40. The gambit did its job.

In round 5, I got another chance to play a gambit, this one also prepared.

1.32-27 19-24 2.31-26 24-29 3.34x23 18x29 4.33x24 20x29 5.39x19 13x24 6.40-34 17-21 7.26x17 12x32 8.38x27 11-17 9.43-38 15-20



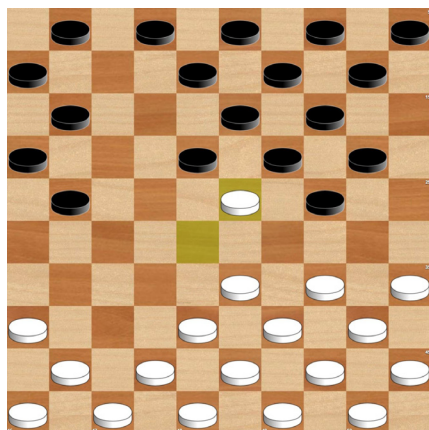
Here I sacrificed a piece, the compensation for this gambit was: a wild piece for the opponent and a pinned piece on 24. 10.27-22 17x28 11.38x18 8x28 12.37-31 3-8 13.48-43 8-12 14.41-37 12-17 15.31-26 16-21 16.47-41 7-11 17.37-31 2-7 18.45-40 9-13 19.50-45 13-19 20.43-39 The position had become quite complex by now and Groenveld decided to give away his front post: 28-33 21. 34x32 10-15 22.42-37 4-9 23.39-34 9-13 24.49-43 13-18 25.32-27 21x32 26.37x8 7x9 27.41-37 17-22

28.43-38 11-17 29.38-32 22x42
 30.37x48 17-22 31.31-27 22x31 32.
 26x37 9-13 33.37-32 19-23 34.46-41
 13-19 35.41-37 6-11 36.34-30 11-16
 37.30x10 15x4 38.40-34 4-10

The advantage built up disappeared after the next move 39.48-42? 24-29 40.34-30? and after this back move the game was lost 14-20 41.30x28 23-29 42.28x30 20x49 43.42-38 1-6 44.35-30 10-15 45.36-31 15-20 46.30x10 5x14 47.31-27 19-23 48.32-28 49x46 49.28x10 46x5. So that's how it can go.

After the eighth round, the title was secured and so the 9th round could be played freely.

1.32-27 20-24 2.31-26 15-20 3.27-21 16x27 4.26x28 11-16 5.37-31 7-11 6.31-26 17-21 7.26x17 12x21 8.28-23?

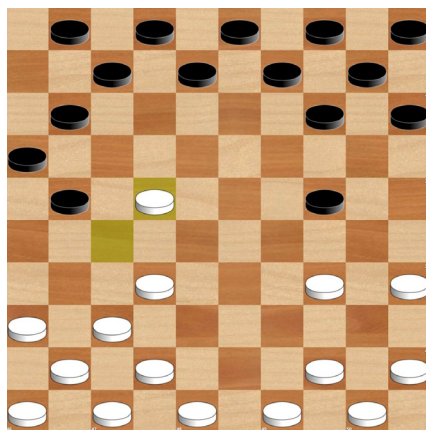


An experimental gambit devised on the spot 24x22 9.33-29 In this unfamiliar territory, Groenveld chose to simplify 22-28 10.29x27 21x32 11.38x27 18-22 12.27x18 19x17 13.34-30 17-21 14.30-25 21-27 15.39-33 2-7 16. 33-29 10-15 17.43-38 11-17 18.49-43 with the threat 19.29-20 20x29 20 20.43-39 and now a free move so that it can be combined to the king line 17-22 19.38-33 7-11 20.44-39 13-19 21.42-37 11-17 22.43-38 and now the threat 29-24! 16-21 23.29-23 19x28 24.38x16 6x26 25.37x28 21-27 26.36x16 27x49 27.48-42 49-38 28.33-29 38x24 29.25x23 the complex game thus yielded piece gain and a strong wing 8-12 30.42-37 3-8 31.23-18 12x23 32.37-31 23-28 33.41-36 20-24 34.47-41 14-20 35.40-34?

Breaking through with 16-11 would have been a lot better 24x44 36.45x43 20-24 37.16-11 1x21 38.31x11 8-12 39.11x13 9x18 40.36-31 18-22 41.41-36 24-29 42.43-39 also this exchange is dubious 29x49 43.50x48 15-20 44.31-27 22x31? 45.36x29 4-10 46.29-24 20x29 47.35-30 29-33 48.48-43 33-38 49.43x32 10-15 50.32-28 15-20 51.30x10 5x14 52.28-23 14-20 53.23-18 20-24 54.18-12 24-29 55.12-7 29-34 56.7-1 34-40

In the last game one more gambit opening:

1.32-27 19-24 2.31-26 24-29 3.34x23 18x29 4.33x24 20x29 5.39x19 13x24 6.40-34 17-21 7.26x17 12x32 8.38x27 11-17 9.43-38 6-11 10.38-32 17-21

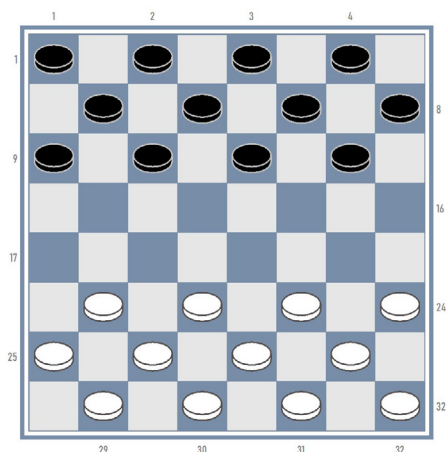


And now a piece sacrifice: 11.27-22 21x23 here the exchange 34-29 could also have been done; a variation on this gambit opening 12.34-30 14-19 13.30-25 10-14 14.36-31 8-13 15.31-27? After this move it became a kind of survival game for me, complex and many threats from the opponent 11-17 16.44-39 17-21 17.50-44 1-6 18.44-40 7-12 19.49-43 12-18 20.43-38 24-30 21.35x22 15x31 22. 37x17 one piece behind and a hopeless position 5-10 23.42-37 10-15 24.37-31 2-8 25.38-32 15-20 26.41-37 20-25 27.47-41 25-30 28.41-36 30-34 29.32-28 18x38 30.37x30 16x18 31.31-26 19-23 32.22x24 14x25

For the audience, the games of this match were nice to follow, complex for both players and therefore fascinating for the commentators in the livestream to analyse. ■

TEAM COMPETITIONS:

ITALIAN DRAUGHTS



Frisian draughts originated and developed on a small piece of earth, similarly many variants of draughts have developed around the world, each with its own place and potential. Out of mutual respect for each other's draughts, the WFD organisation organises team competitions at the same time as the World Championship finals, in which several draughts variants are played. This year, Frisian, International, Italian and Malay draughts will be played, and the latter two in particular need some extra explanation. First of all, Italian draughts:

GAME SETUP

The Italian draughts board is an 8x8 grid with 64 squares, each of which is alternately light and dark in colour. Each player starts the game with 12 pieces, which are placed on the dark squares in the first three rows. Pieces are placed and moved along the dark squares in the first three rows. Pieces are placed and moved along the dark squares. The left corner is white!

Objective: A game of Italian Draughts is won when all of your opponent's pieces are either captured or blocked. A game can also end in a draw if both players agree, or automatically if a position is repeated three times with the same player moving each time.

How to play: In Italian Draughts, pieces move diagonally across the board, but they can only move forward.

CAPTURING RULES

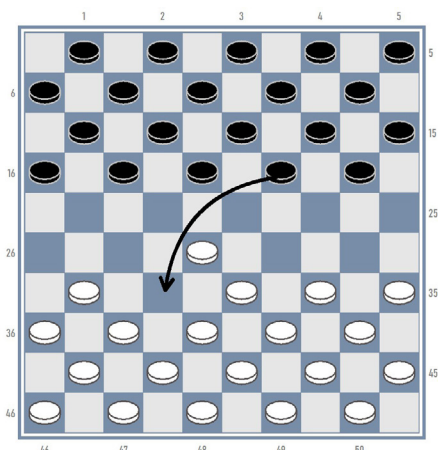
Men cannot capture backwards. Mandatory capture; Italian Draughts has a mandatory capture rule. If a player has a capture move, he must make it. If there is more than one capturing move available, the player must choose the move that captures the most pieces. If multiple moves would capture the same number of pieces, they must make the capture with a king if possible. If there are still several possible moves, the move that captures the most kings must be chosen. If this still leaves an ambiguity, then the capture sequence that captures a king first must be chosen, e.g. a capture sequence that captures a king then a man must be chosen over a sequence that captures a man then a king. Otherwise any capture order can be chosen.

KINGS

In Italian Draughts, a piece can be crowned a king when it reaches the last row on the opponent's side of the board. Kings can move diagonally in any direction and can make multiple captures in one turn. If a king is captured, it is removed from the board, and the capturing player keeps the piece. Kings cannot be captured by men.

TEAM COMPETITIONS:

MALAY DRAUGHTS



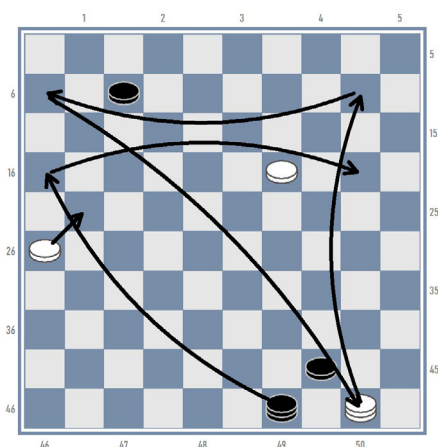
We do not know when Malay draughts originated, but we do know that it was derived from Frisian draughts and that it was described with examples by the Rotterdam mathematician Pieter Curten in an 18th century manuscript.

GAME SETUP AND PLAY

The game setup is the same as Frisian Draughts and the rules are basically the same, with the following differences:

- Capture with a piece: Only possible if there is an empty square between your piece and the opponent's piece.
- Capture with a king: Only possible if there is at least one empty square between your king and the opponent's piece.

Here are two more examples of how to capture with a piece and how to capture with a king.



Move with the king: Also possible in vertical and horizontal direction.

ADDING AN EXTRA RULE

At the draughts club

'De Rûge Wolf', we regularly play this special game of draughts and that has also led us to an extra rule of the game: The one who gets stuck with the pieces and cannot capture or make a move has won.

This rule is opposite to the normal rule and adds an extra dimension so that the game offers chances for both players until the very end.

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