



# Chess Chatter

Newsletter of the Port Huron Chess Club

**Editor: Lon Rutkofske**      **July – September 2023**      **Vol. 42 Number 5**

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](mailto:PtHuronChessClub@aol.com) or Website: <http://porthuronchessclub.yolasite.com>

## Avdic scores a trifecta in capturing the 2023 Speed Crown

2023 PHCC Speed Championships 10-19-23

#	Name	Rtng Pre/Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Rd 8	Rd 9	
1	Huso Avdic	2137 /2167	2	4	5	7	9	11	11	13	15	Champion
2	Andy Bruziewicz	2262/2241	2	4	6	8	10	12	13	13	13	Runner up Champion
3	Ryan Urick	1883/1900	2	4	4	4½	4½	4½	6½	8½	10½	Third Place
4	Alan Gregg	1968/1951	2	2½	3½	5	5	5	6	8	10	
5	Braeden Klaty ( Jr)	1723/1761	0	1½	2½	2½	4	5	6½	6½	8½	Junior
6	Stuart Blunt ( Jr)	unr./1606	0	0	2	3½	4	5	5	5	5	
7	Lon Rutkofske	1763/1686	0	0	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	
8	Trenton Klaty ( Jr)	1384/1402	0	0	0	½	1½	1½	2	3	3	
9	Brad Klaty	1306 /1361	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	3	3	

Double Round Robin – individual results

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Rd 8	Rd 9	Tot
2	Huso Avdic	WW8	WW7	WL6	WW5	WW4	WW3	U---	WW1	WW9	15
1	Andy Bruziewicz	WW9	WW8	WW7	WW6	WW5	WW4	WL3	LL2	U---	13
4	Ryan Urick	WW6	WW5	U---	DL3	LL2	LL1	WW9	WW8	WW7	10½
3	Alan Gregg	WW7	DL6	WL5	WD4	U---	LL2	WL1	WW9	WW8	10
6	Braeden Klaty	LL4	WD3	WL2	LL1	WD9	WL8	WD7	U---	WW5	8½
9	Stuart Blunt	LL1	U---	WW8	WD7	DL6	WL5	LL4	LL3	LL2	5
5	Lon Rutkofske	U---	LL4	WL3	LL2	LL1	WL9	WL8	WL7	LL6	4
7	Trenton Klaty	LL3	LL2	LL1	DL9	WL8	U---	DL6	WL5	LL4	3
8	Brad Klaty	LL2	LL1	LL9	U---	WL7	WL6	WL5	LL4	LL3	3



**Huso Avdic** outlasted a pair of former PHCC blitz icons (**Andy Bruziewicz** - 11 time champion and **Lon Rutkofske** - 15 time champion) to notch his 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive title in the 42<sup>nd</sup> PHCC speed championships hosted by the PHCC on October 19<sup>th</sup>. As the crossable above demonstrates, it was no cake walk for this year's favorites, as they faced some stiff competition, with Huso being dinged by junior winner, **Braden Klaty** in the third round, preventing a clean sweep. Andy fared better than Lon, who was relegated to a 7<sup>th</sup> place finish, with a miserable showing. Congratulations to the prize winners and we hope to see you all in the 2024 club championships!

### Club Speed Champions

1971 Robert Wilson  
1972 Dan Thomas  
1973 Robert Wilson  
1974 No Tourney  
1975 Douglas Cope  
1976 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1977 Chris Scholfield  
1978 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1979 Robert Fiedler  
1980 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1981 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1982 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1983 Holger Seig  
1984 Peter Wood  
1985 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1986 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1987 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1988 Stewart Wilkinson  
S. James Alexander  
1989 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1990 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1991 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1992 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1993 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1994 Andrew Bruziewicz

### Club Speed Champions Cont'd

1995 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1996 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1997 Andrew Bruziewicz  
1998 Lonnie Rutkofske  
1999 Lonnie Rutkofske  
2000-2006 No Tourney  
2007 Lonnie Rutkofske  
2008-2009 No Tourney  
2010 Lonnie Rutkofske  
2011 Eric Roome  
2012 Andrew Bruziewicz  
2013 Alan Gregg,  
Stewart Wilkinson,  
Lonnie Rutkofske  
2014 Stewart Wilkinson  
2015 Lonnie Rutkofske  
2016 Andrew Bruziewicz  
2017 Jason Morris  
2018 Lonnie Rutkofske  
2019 Andrew Bruziewicz  
2020 No tourney due to Covid 19  
2021 Huso Avdic  
2022 Huso Avdic  
2023 Huso Avdic

## Just catching up to round out 2023!

I must apologize for the last few months without the publication of the newsletter, but as you probably know, I have been sidelined with my surgical recovery, and the club meeting site has been under construction for a few weeks, and there really has been little activity to report. I hope everyone has had a great Christmas holiday, and hopefully, 2024 will be more productive with monthly tournaments and activities. Please take a moment to review the 2024 Calendar included here-in which hopefully will provide you with more opportunities to join in club events and activities which always make our club stronger. You will hopefully observe that there are more tournaments for members with Club ratings below 1700 in order to increase their opportunities to participate and improve their play as well as win prizes.

## 2024 PHCC Championships – Begin January 11, 2024

This year's event will feature a different format and hopefully permit more equitable opportunities for club members at all rating levels. I have included the tentative rules for 2024 and have posted them online as well, so please, if you are interested, let me know early.

The following general rules and regulations of play will govern participation in this year's tournament. All participants should be familiar with these rules and any special rules that govern their play.

### **General Rules:**

1. All play will be governed by the official rules of chess as established by the FIDE and USCF as given in the most current edition of the **Official Rules of Chess** published by the USCF.
2. Touch rules will be in effect in all games. Both players must record the moves of the game and submit properly completed score sheets to the tournament director (TD) as soon as possible following the completion of the game. Illegal moves cannot be considered without accurate score sheets.
3. A chess timer (clock) must be used in all games. Time controls will be at the rate of "Game in 90 minutes with 5 second/move delay (1 and ½ hours plus 5/sec delay) per player. Play will begin by 7:00 PM at the PHCC or at a time and place agreed upon by both contestants. There will be no adjournments. All games are to be completed within the round time limits. Mechanical clock time control will be game in 95 minutes and the clock will be set at 4:25. Prior to the beginning of the game both players are responsible for checking the clock to determine if it is functioning properly and set correctly. Sets and clocks can be checked out at the club, should players need to use club equipment. **Players are responsible for correctly setting their clocks.**
4. **Only PHCC club members may participate throughout the event.** See list of current members for your expiration dates at the end of the final page of this document. Dues are payable to Lon Rutkofske. USCF membership may be required as determined by the TD.
5. Players are responsible for interpreting the Round Robin Crosstable and included in packet with rules and list of email addresses and phone numbers (but will **not** be posted on the PHCC website for privacy reasons.) Games may be arranging for and played out of the assigned order on the crosstable if necessary. An updated list of players and phone numbers will be developed and circulated among participants by the TD. Lon will also email the results and round pairings, prior to each round. Valid email addresses and phone numbers are required of all participants prior to the tournament's commencement.
6. Winners, or the player having the white pieces in the case of a draw, must report the results to the TD.
7. All results must be reported to the TD by 8:00 PM ,Wednesday prior to the final round.
8. It is the responsibility of the person **not present** on the date of the scheduled round to meet the reasonable request of his opponent in order to complete an un-played game.
9. Disputes arising from play and unresolved by the players shall be submitted to the TD. His decision will be final. This year's TD will be Lon Rutkofske: 605 Lomasney Ln., Marysville, MI 48040 Ph. 810-388-9219 (Please leave a message with call back number) or email at [ishking@aol.com](mailto:ishking@aol.com).

### **Special Rules:**

1. This year's event will feature a two section 5 round Swiss system if over 7 sign up to play for at least the A section. PHCC ratings will be used for parings in each section. Section A is open to those rated 1700 and over ; B section for all under 1700 or unrated.. Time controls will be G90; with 5 sec delay. Score keeping is required. Please let me know if you are committed to playing by Jan 10th....no onsite entries will be permitted

2. Players will be paired after registration ends at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.
3. All games will be PHCC rated, and USCF rated at TD discretion.
4. Rounds and Pairings: **Rounds will tentatively be on Jan 11, 18, 25 and Feb 8 and 15 with makeup days on Feb 1 and 22. Awards will be presented on February 29<sup>th</sup>. Weather issues:** If the Port Huron Area School District is closed due to inclement weather, PHCC will be cancelled as well. Please call or email Lon if you have questions before proceeding to the club. Lon will post information on the website and email participants as soon as conditions have been determined.
5. Players do not have to play their games at the club, if their opponents agree to play at an alternate time and place. If this happens, please report any changes to Lon prior to the next scheduled round. All results must be submitted to Lon by 9:00 PM. prior to the next round.
6. **Courtesy:** Please contact your opponent, if you cannot make it to the club to play your scheduled round with sufficient time so as not to inconvenience your opponent. If you email them, but get no response, please call before the scheduled round. Please copy the TD if you use email.
7. A bulletin of completed games will be circulated every other week of play, so make sure that your score sheets are complete and accurate.
8. Phone numbers and email addresses will be circulated to all players for their records and information in general. The official crosstable will be kept at the club, and will be kept current as results are reported.
9. Ties will be broken using the following methods in order: Median/Harkness; Solkoff; and Cumulative.
10. Prizes: All awards/prizes will be presented Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>.
11. Entry Fee: \$5:00
12. Awards based on PHCC ratings of 10 entries per section (only one prize per contestant, except upset prizes):

**A Section:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$50 + Plaque; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$40 + Plaque  
 Top Under 1801 = \$20 + Plaque

**B Section:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$40 + Plaque; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$30 + Plaque  
 Top Under 1700 = \$20 + Plaque  
 Top Under 1500 = \$20 + Plaque

**Additional Prizes**

Top Junior = \$10 + Junior Champion Plaque  
 Top Unrated = \$20 + Plaque  
 Biggest Upset/section - \$10

**Options for Make-up games:**

1. The Port Huron Recreation Department will provide space for Make-up games on Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM (Hours may change due to Covid). They have the keys to the equipment cupboard. Please call in advance to make sure if it is okay at 810-984-9760.
2. The Marysville Public Library (1175 Delaware Ave. across the street East of the Middle School and High School) also has invited PHCC members to make up their games anytime M-Thurs. between 9:00 AM and

8:00 PM and on Friday or Saturday between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Please contact the library at 810-364-9493 (Hours may change due to Covid). You will have to furnish your own equipment in this case.

**Game Scores:** Publication of games on our website: Alan Gregg has volunteered to publish our game on the PHCC website. Please send your corrected games, with analyses if you so desire, to Alan as well as Lon so we can have a complete record of this event.

## 2024 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!

January 11- Feb. 29, 2024 -The final format for the 2024 Club Championships will be determined by the number of pre-tournament entries, so please contact Lon by Saturday, Dec 30, 2023 to register for the event. The tournament will be held between January 11- Feb. 29, 2024 and format, rules and appropriate details will be emailed and published to the website for those wishing to pre-register.

March 2nd - Port Huron Area Schools District Tournament – At Port Huron High School - 9am-1pm – seeking PHCC volunteers - see flyer in January & February Issues of Chess Chatter.

April 18<sup>th</sup> - PHCC Under 1800 Rated Only :Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/10 EF: \$5.00 ...Prizes based on entries. 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. Prizes: if Quad: 1st = \$15; 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.)

May 16<sup>th</sup> - PHCC Rated Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/10 EF: \$5.00 ...Prizes based on entries. 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. Prizes: if Quad: 1st = \$15; 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 20<sup>th</sup> - PHCC Under 1800 Rated Only: Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/10 EF: \$5.00 ...Prizes based on entries. 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. Prizes: if Quad: 1st = \$15; 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 18<sup>th</sup> - USCF/PHCC Rated Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) G/25 with 3 sec. delay EF: \$5.00 ...Prizes based on entries. 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. Prizes: if Quad: 1st = \$15; 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 8, 15, 22 – 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 8, 15, 22)! Play will begin at 7:00PM. EF: \$5.00 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 19<sup>th</sup> – PHCC Rated Thematic tournament: G/25 with 3 sec. delay EF: \$5.00 ...Prizes based on entries. 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. Prizes: if Quad: 1st = \$15; 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 17<sup>th</sup> PHCC Speed Championships - The Port Huron Chess Club's 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Speed Championship Tournament will be held on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 PM. Registrations will determine the number of rounds and prizes. PHCC membership required. Entry fee will

be \$5.00. Please contact Lon if you plan to play. There will be no registrations on-site. If you intend to play, contact Lon before October 14<sup>th</sup>. (Will be USCF rated if all entrants are USCF members.)

**November 16<sup>th</sup> – PHCC Rated Quick Tournament DRR Game/15 PHCC Rated Action Quads (or Mini-Swiss depending on registration) EF: \$5.00** ...Prizes based on entries. 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. Prizes: if Quad: 1st = \$15; 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.)

December 12 – Bughouse Christmas Tournament – Partners based on club ratings (ie: must be at least 400 rating points between them.)

## 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. 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.
    15. 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.

## 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 9/22/23*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andy	2118
Avdic, Huso	2101
West, Tony	1976
Gregg, Alan	1930
Urick, Ryan	1844
Morabito, Matt	1830
Rood Eric	1822
Rutkofske, Lon	1763
Klaty, Braeden	1731
Webb, Austin	1729
Young, William	1640
Oriel, Paul	1569
Wingrove, Bill	1497
Kuhn, Timothy	1478
Klaty, Trenton	1444
Malburg, Drew	1400
Ledsworth, Brian	1400
Beneker, Gerrit	1380
Klaty, Brad	1332
Bryne, Brandon	1294
Schmidt, Mark	1216
Fisher, Sandi	1156
DePuey, Nathan	Unr
Douglas, Cameron	Unr
Gibson, William	Unr

### *PHCC Blitz Ratings as of 12/29/23*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andy	2241
Avdic, Huso	2167
Gregg, Alan	1951
Urick, Ryan	1900
Rood Eric	1810
Morabito, Matt	1804
West, Tony	1774
Klaty, Braeden	1761
Webb, Austin	1729
Rutkofske, Lon	1686
Young, William	1640
Blunt, Stuart	1606
Wingrove, Bill	1519
Kuhn, Timothy	1500
Klaty, Trenton	1402
Bryne, Brandon	1365
Klaty, Brad	1361
Beneker, Gerrit	1354
Ledsworth, Brian	1317
Schmidt, Mark	1216
Malburg, Drew	1021
Fisher, Sandi	1000
DePuey, Nathan	Unr
Douglas, Cameron	Unr

### *USCF Ratings as of 9/18/23*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andy	2054
Avdic, Huso	1940
West, Tony	1901
Alan Gregg	1893
Rutkofske, Lon	1800
Morabito, Matt	1780
Webb, Austin	1692
Rood, Eric	1577
Kuhn, Timothy	1500
Ledsworth, Brian	1308
Malburg, Drew	1274/P17
Fisher, Sandi	781/P12

### *USCF Quick/Action Ratings as of 9/18/23*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andy	2027
Avdic, Huso	1968
Morabito, Matt	1908/P
Gregg, Alan	1852
Rutkofske, Lon	1775
West, Tony	1774
Kuhn, Timothy	1494
Webb, Austin	1363
Rood, Eric	1321
Ledsworth, Brian	1058
Fisher, Sandi	Unr

### *USCF Blitz Ratings as of 9/18/23*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Bruziewicz, Andy	2152
Avdic, Huso	2035
Gregg, Alan	1837
Morabito, Matt	1732
Rutkofske, Lon	1612
Rood, Eric	1579
Kuhn, Timothy	1545
Ledsworth, Brian	1317
Malburg, Drew	120
West, Tony	Unr
Fisher, Sandi	Unr

## 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 \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for those under 19. 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 October 2023:** Beneker, Gerrit; Urick, Ryan; **Memberships expiring in November 2023:** Byrne, Brandon; Klaty, Braeden; Klaty, Brad; Klaty, Trenton; Schmidt, Mark. **January 2024:** Fisher, Sandi; Gregg, Alan; Kuhn, Tim; Malburg, Drew; Morabito, Matt; Rood, Eric; Rutkofske, Lon; West, Tony; Wingrove, Bill.