World Cities Chess Team Championship For the Sheikh Zayed Cup



21-28 DEC 2012, AL- AIN ,U.A.E



Because of the predictable pairings system, teams fought fiercely until the last round of the Preliminaries even if they were sure of qualification into the Knockout phase. They fought hard to avoid being paired against the strongest teams of the other groups since the Round-of-16 pits the champion against runner-up or third placed team.

Eliminated were fourth placed teams Al Ain, Chennai, India, Canberra, Australia, Timisoara, Romania, Kampala,

Uganda and Cairo, Egypt. Also eliminated were third placed Istanbul, Turkey and Tehran, Iran. The four best 3rd placed teams joined the top two of each group in the next phase of matches below.

The final cross tables in the next page tell the story of each group. Above, Lviv beat Riga to win group C by game points, so every point counts.

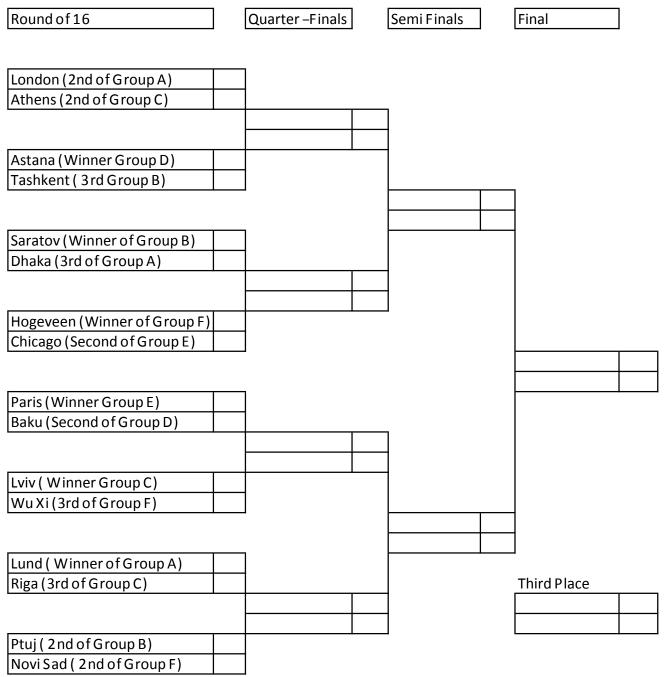
		White	Result	Black	
Match 1	Runner-up Group C	Athens, GRE	:	London, ENG	Runner-up Group A
Match 2	3rd Group B / E / F	Tashkent, UZB	:	Astana, KAZ	Winner Group D
Match 3	3rd Group A / C / D	Dhaka, BAN	:	Saratov, RUS	Winner Group B
Match 4	Runner-up Group E	Chicago, USA	:	Hoogeveen, NED	Winner Group F
Match 5	Runner-up Group D	Baku, AZE	:	Paris, FRA	Winner Group E
Match 6	Winner Group C	Lviv, UKR	:	Wu Xi, CHN	3rd Group A / B / F
Match 7	3rd Group C / D / E	Riga, LAT	:	Lund, SWE	Winner Group A
Match 8	Runner-up Group B	Ptuj, SLO	:	Novi Sad, SRB	Runner-up Group F

Four of the 12 rays of tables shall be removed to leave only 8 matches in the Round-of-16.

Some 26 players from the eliminated 8 countries join Al Ain Classic individual Swiss carrying over their points from the team tournament.

Below is the chart of the knockout phase of the World Cities Chess Team Championship.





RR3

Group A

Group B

Group C

Group D

Group E



3.1	2	Lund - Sweden		2 - 2	4	Dhaka - Bangladesh	
1	GM	Grandelius Nils	2583	0:1	GM	Murshed Niaz	2464
2	GM	Tikkanen Hans	2575	$\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$	GM	Rahman Ziaur	2518
3	GM	Carlsson Pontus	2518	$\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$	IM	Minhazuddin Ahmed	2401
4	IM	Smith Axel	2484	1:0	IM	Abu Sufian Shakil	2364
3.2	3	London - UK		31/2 1/2	1	Al Ain - UAE	
1	GM	Short Nigel D	2692	1:0	GM	Salem A.R. Saleh	253
2	GM	Howell David W L	2634	1/2:1/2	IM	Hassan Abdullah	237
3	GM	Williams Simon K	2515		СМ	Faisal Abdulla	225
4	IM	Zhou Yang-Fan	2419	1:0	FM	Khouri Ibrahim Mohamed	2252
3.1	2	Saratov - RUS		21/2 11/2	4	Tashkent - UZB	
1	GM	Lysyj Igor	2617	1:0	GM	Dzhumaev Marat	253
2	GM	Romanov Evgeny	2616	0:1	IM	Kvon Andrey	250
3	GM	Shaposhnikov Evger	2544		GM	Barsov Alexei	251
4	GM	Iljushin Alexei	2505		GM	Iuldachev Saidali	245
3.2	3	Ptuj - SLO	2000	2 - 2	1	Chennai - IND	2.0
1	GM	Lenic Luka	2637	0:1	IM	Shyam Nikil P.	243
2	GM	Beliavsky Alexande	2630	1:0	FM	Rajesh V A V	237
3	GM	Borisek Jure	2560	$\frac{1}{1/2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1/1	Navalgund Niranjan	216
4	GM	Skoberne Jure	2549	$\frac{1}{1/2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$		Karthikeyan Murali	231
	2	Lviv - UKR	2349	⁷ 2. ⁷ 2 3 - 1	4	Riga - LAT	231
3.1			2710			-	250
1	GM	Moiseenko Alexand	2710	1:0	GM	Miezis Normunds	259
2	GM	Kryvoruchko Yuriy	2671	$\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$	GM	Neiksans Arturs	253
3	GM	Fedorchuk Sergey A	2661	$\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$	GM	Starostits Ilmars	246
4	GM	Kravtsiv Martyn	2593	1:0	FM	Lavendelis Egons	234
3.2	3	Canberra - AUS		1 - 3	1	Athens - GRE	
1	FM	Wallis Christopher	2283	0:1	GM	Papaioannou Ioannis	261
2	IM	Feldman Vladimir	2230		GM	Banikas Hristos	262
3		Schon Eugene	2175	0:1	GM	Halkias Stelios	256
4		Zelesco Karl	2154	1:0		Stathopoulos Ioannis	222
3.1	2	Astana - KAZ		31/2 1/2	4	Istanbul - TUR	
1	~ ~ ~	TT 1 1 3 C		1 0			
1	GM	Kazhgaleyev Murtas	2596	1:0	GM	Esen Baris	257
2	GM GM	Kazhgaleyev Murtas Jumabayev Rinat	2596 2567		GM GM	Can Emre	257 244
				$\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$			
2	GM	Jumabayev Rinat	2567	$\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{2}$	GM	Can Emre	244 238
2 3 4	GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel	2567 2550	$\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{1}{2}$ 1 ÷ 0 1 ÷ 0	GM FM	Can Emre Sanal Vahap	244 238
2 3 4	GM GM IM 3	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM	2567 2550 2452	$ \frac{\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2}}{1 : 0} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1\frac{1}{2} 2\frac{1}{2} $	GM FM FM 1	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE	244 238 235
2 3 4 3.2 1	GM GM IM 3 GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant	2567 2550 2452 2618	$\frac{\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2}}{1 : 0}$ 1:0 1 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ : ¹ / ₂	GM FM FM 1 GM	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE Safarli Eltaj	244 238 235 262
2 3 4 3.2 1 2	GM GM IM 3 GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628	$\frac{\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2}}{1 : 0}$ $\frac{1 : 0}{1 : 2}$ $\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2}$	GM FM FM 1 GM GM	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE Safarli Eltaj Guseinov Gadir	244 238 235 262 262
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3	GM GM IM GM GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisl:	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} 2\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	GM FM FM GM GM GM	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov Rauf	244 238 235 262 262 262 264
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 : 1 \end{array}$	GM FM FM GM GM GM GM	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov Nidjat	244 238 235 262 262 262 264
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM 2	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} 2\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 : 1 \\ \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	GM FM FM GM GM GM	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE Safarli Eltaj Guseinov Gadir Mamedov Rauf Mamedov Nidjat Kampala - UGA	244 238 235 262 262 264 260
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM 2 GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami Et	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2541	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 : 1 \\ \frac{3\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	GM FM I GM GM GM GM 4	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE Safarli Eltaj Guseinov Gadir Mamedov Rauf Mamedov Nidjat Kampala - UGA Ssegwanyi Arthur	244 238 235 262 262 262 264 260 2222
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM QM CM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami Ef Golizadeh Asghar	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 : 1 \\ \frac{3}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	GM FM FM GM GM GM GM CM	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE Safarli Eltaj Guseinov Gadir Mamedov Rauf Mamedov Nidjat Kampala - UGA Ssegwanyi Arthur Kawuma Patrick	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 3	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM CM GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami El Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : 1$	GM FM FM GM GM GM GM CM FM	Can Emre Sanal Vahap Ali Marandi Cemil Can Baku - AZE Safarli Eltaj Guseinov Gadir Mamedov Rauf Mamedov Nidjat Kampala - UGA Ssegwanyi Arthur Kawuma Patrick Wanyama Harold	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 222 224 225
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.1 4	GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM FM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami El Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1$	GM FM I GM GM GM GM CM FM CM	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa Bob	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 222 224 225
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.1 4 3.2 3 4 3.2	GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM FM 3	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami Ef Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima Paris - FRA	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426 2406	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1$	GM FM I GM GM GM GM GM CM FM CM T	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa BobChicago - USA	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 225 221
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 3 2 3 1	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM FM S GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami Ef Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima Paris - FRA Vachier-Lagrave Ma	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426 2406 2406 2711	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : 1$	GM FM I GM GM GM GM GM CM FM CM T CM I GM	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa BobChicago - USAAkobian Varuzhan	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 225 221 262
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 2	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM GM GM FM S GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami Ef Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima Paris - FRA Vachier-Lagrave Ma Fressinet Laurent	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426 2426 2406 2406 2711 2700	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{12} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}$	GM FM I GM GM GM GM CM FM CM FM CM GM	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa BobChicago - USAAkobian VaruzhanEhlvest Jaan	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 225 221 262 262 260
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 3	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM GM GM FM S GM GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami Ef Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima Paris - FRA Vachier-Lagrave Ma Fressinet Laurent Edouard Romain	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426 2426 2406 2406 2711 2700 2686	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{12} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}$	GM FM FM GM GM GM GM CM FM CM FM CM I GM I M	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa BobChicago - USAAkobian VaruzhanEhlvest JaanHungaski Robert Andrew	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 225 221 262 260 246
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 4	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami El Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima Paris - FRA Vachier-Lagrave Ma Fressinet Laurent Edouard Romain Hamdouchi Hicham	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426 2426 2406 2406 2711 2700	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{12} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : $	GM FM FM GM GM GM GM CM FM CM CM I GM GM IM GM	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa BobChicago - USAAkobian VaruzhanEhlvest JaanHungaski Robert AndrewFinegold Benjamin	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 225 221 262 260 246
2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.1 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 3.2 1 2 3 4 4	GM GM IM GM GM GM GM GM GM FM S GM GM GM	Jumabayev Rinat Kotsur Pavel Kuderinov Kirill Timisoara - ROM Lupulescu Constant Parligras Mircea-En Nevednichy Vladisla Manolache Marius Teheran - IRI Ghaem Maghami El Golizadeh Asghar Mahjoob Morteza Javanbakht Nima Paris - FRA Vachier-Lagrave Ma Fressinet Laurent Edouard Romain Hamdouchi Hicham Hoogeveen _ NED	2567 2550 2452 2618 2628 2545 2541 2572 2476 2426 2406 2406 2406 2711 2700 2686	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ 1 : 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{$	GM FM FM GM GM GM GM CM FM CM FM CM I GM I M	Can EmreSanal VahapAli Marandi Cemil CanBaku - AZESafarli EltajGuseinov GadirMamedov RaufMamedov NidjatKampala - UGASsegwanyi ArthurKawuma PatrickWanyama HaroldBibasa BobChicago - USAAkobian VaruzhanEhlvest JaanHungaski Robert AndrewFinegold BenjaminWu Xi - CHN	244 238 235 262 262 264 260 222 224 225 221 262 260 246
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Bangladesh team members, from left, IM Abu Sufian Shakil, IM Minhazuddin Ahmed, GM Niaz Murshed, Md. Saif Uddin (Captain), FM Debaraj Chatterjee and GM Ziaur Rahman

The Dhaka team placed among the best 3rd teams. Ranking was based on Match Points with Game Points as first tie break.

Tehran and China were tied by both Match Points and Game Points and the tie had to be broken by Sonnenborn Berger system calculated as weight $(1, \frac{1}{2}, 0 *$ total Game Points of opponents).



Asian Chess Federation Treasurer Mehrdad Pahlavenzadeh, left, with GM Nigel Short of the London, England team.

Rank	Group A	1	2	3	4	MP	Pts.
1	Lund - Sweden	*	21/2	2	21/2	5	7
2	London - UK	11/2	*	3	31/2	4	8
3	Dhaka - Bangladesh	2	1	*	3	3	6
4	Al Ain - UAE	11/2	1/2	1	*	0	3

Rank	Group B	1	2	3	4	MP	Pts.
1	Saratov - RUS	*	21/2	$2^{1/2}$	3	6	8
2	Ptuj - SLO	11/2	*	21/2	2	3	6
3	Tashkent - UZB	11/2	11/2	*	31/2	2	6½
4	Chennai - IND	1	2	1/2	*	1	31/2

Rank	Group C	1	2	3	4	MP	Pts.
1	Lviv - UKR	*	1	3	4	4	8
2	Athens - GRE	3	*	11/2	3	4	71/2
3	Riga - LAT	1	21/2	*	31/2	4	7
4	Canberra - AUS	0	1	1/2	*	0	11/2

Rank	Group D	1	2	3	4	MP	Pts.
1	Astana - KAZ	*	2	31/2	21/2	5	8
2	Baku - AZE	2	*	3	21/2	5	71/2
3	Istanbul - TUR	1/2	1	*	3	2	41/2
4	Timisoara - ROM	11/2	11/2	1	*	0	4

Rank	Group E	1	2	3	4	MP	Pts.	SB
1	Paris - FRA	*	3	3	4	6	10	
2	Chicago - USA	1	*	3	31/2	4	71/2	
3	Teheran - IRI	1	1	*	31/2	2	51/2	1
4	Kampala - UGA	0	1/2	1/2	*	0	1	

Rank	Group F	1	2	3	4	MP	Pts.	SB
1	Hoogeveen _ NED	*	21/2	2	4	5	81/2	
-	Novi Sad - SRB	11/2	*	21/2	3	4	7	
3	Wu Xi - CHN	2	11/2	*	2	2	51/2	3
4	Cairo - EGY	0	1	2	*	1	3	



Interview with Laurent Fressinet

It's good to play in Al Ain after tough chess in Beijing

Laurent Fressinet, the second board of Paris team (FRA), represents one of the favorites of the World Cities Team Chess Championship 2012. Having done well in two first rounds, he decided to rest in the third and made a draw against the Chicago player Jaan Ehlvest. Let's see what his impressions on the tournament are.

- At the beginning of any tournament organizers usually are interested in whether all the participants are happy with the organization, hotel, food, etc. Plus, we guess that for your strong team the first three rounds of this format were easy to go. That is why our first question is almost traditional: how do you like playing here in Al Ain?

- You are right, the serious chess starts tomorrow. As for the organization, everything is very good. Accommodation is nice, we are located very close to the playing venue. I like the food very much. Probably it is kind of late to start playing at 6 in the evening but it can be still accepted. Though I came from Beijing now and still have this jet lag but it's not a big problem. Plus, to play in a place where it is plus 30 while in my city it is cold and windy, it is very good. I did not swim in the pool on 24th of December before in my life. Also, after the tough battles against very strong professionals in Sport Accord tournament, it is pleasant to relax a bit.

- The championship format is new to almost all participants. We need to know the opinion of all chess players, especially strong professionals like you. So, what do you think?

- The format is fantastic. I always like to play Knock outs. In addition it is great that if you are not lucky at the main

tournament you have two choices: you can go home or continue playing in the Open. Isn't it great?

- As you said the serious tournament will start from Round 4. What do you expect from further performance of your team? Are you ready to go till the end?

- Yes, we are ready to go till the end. Though there are teams that we have to be careful with. Lviv, Hoogeveen, Greek guys have good chances: they defeated Lviv the other day. Generally there are 7 or 8 teams that have the same goals as we do. Anything can happen. As I said before, serious chess starts tomorrow.

- Let the strongest win. You have a very strong team composition. Tell us about your teammates? You have a new member Hicham Hamdouchi. How did you welcome him to your French chess family?

- Hicham is a very good person. By the way we are here thanks to him. Frankly speaking we were not qualified to the championship, we finished 27th in the Olympiad. But thanks to Hicham's good relations with the UAE Federation and Al Ain chess club and the fact that some teams could not come due to this or that reason, we are here.

- What about your other activities? What do you do apart from playing chess?

- Well, I like to play tennis, poker, all kinds of card games. Chess is a priority, but there are many other things I like to do in life.