**Results/Vega:**

**Summer Rapid 15+5 (Feb 17th, 24th and March 3rd):**1st John Liu 2nd= Wang Ying, Zoe Guan, Simon Lyall and Elina Chen.
<http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/SummerRapid/>

**Fun Blitz 5+2 (March 10th/March 17th):**1st= Chris Thurner and Tom Fu 3rd Simon Lyall<http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/FunBlitzI/>

**Summer Knockout 20+0 [16 or 32 players] (March 24th and 31st):**Top 16 Rated Players will compete at this event. Please let me know as early as possible if you wants to play in this event.

**Our Final 4 contestants are: Simon Lyall, Karl Holdo, Stephen Peak and Kendrick Zhang! Semi Finals and Finals are Best of 3. The colours will be randomised using a random number generator. 1-5 gets white, 6-10 gets black. If the result is 1.5-1.5, the player who had two blacks will win.**

**If you are knocked out of the Knockout, you will be playing in the Rando Rapid II.**

**1st Simon Lyall 2nd Stephen Peak 3rd Karl Holdo 4th Kendrick Zhang**
**5th= Tom Fu,  John Liu, Winston Weng and Wang Ying.**
**Vega Link (for the entries):** <http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/SummerKnockout/>

**Results:**
<http://challonge.com/SummerKnockoutAKL.svg>

**Rando Rapid I 10+0 (March 24th):**
Players who didn't make it into the Summer Knockout tournament were to play in this tournament. Then, the other players who were knocked out from the Summer Knockout joined in too. Then, all the players joined in.
 **1st= Michael Steiner and Brian Zhao (9 wins each) 3rd= Philli Parks-Tamati and Tomas Wang (7 wins each).**

**Rando Rapid II 10+0 (31st March):**

1st Brian Zhao (10 wins) 2nd= Michael Steiner and Uday Jain (I forgot who it was, probably it was Uday. I will confirm this on April 7th.) (9 wins)

**Fun Blitz II 5+2 (7th April):**

I've decided to change the schedule. We will do a one week blitz tournament instead of Rando Blitz, since we ran Rando Rapid in the past two weeks. Link to be updated.

**1st Tom Fu (5/5 points) 2nd= Karl Holdo and Uday Jain (4/5 points)**
[http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/FunBlitzII/](http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/FunBlitzII)

**Fast Blitz 3+2 (21st April):**

We will have one week break on the 14th April due to Good Friday. Vega Link to be created.

Only six players turned up because everyone else thought it was the holidays.

**We changed the format to a Double Round-Robin so that 10 games were played.**

1st Rishit Patel (8/10 pts) 2nd= Jivitesh Khullar, Stephen Peak and Tom Fu (6/10 pts)

[http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/FastBlitzI/](http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/FastBlitzI/standing.html)

**Autumn Rapid 15+5 (28th April, 5th May and 12th May)**

3 nights of rapid chess action. 3 games a night.

Leading the tournament after April 28th is Simon Lyall, Michael Steiner and John Liu with 3.0/3 points.

Leading the tournament after May 5th is Simon Lyall, Michael Steiner and Stephen Peak with 5.0/6 points.

1st Simon Lyall (9/10 points) 2nd= Michael Steiner and Stephen Peak (8.5/10 points).

[http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/AutumnRapid/](http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/AutumnRapid/standing.html)

**Fun Blitz III 5+2 (19th May)**

1st Aaron Wang (7.0/7) 2nd Simon Lyall (6.0/7) 3rd Philli Parks-Tamati (5.0/7)

<http://www.aucklandchess.nz/vega/2017j/FridayNight/FunBlitzIII/>

**Autumn Knockout 20+0 (26th May and 2nd June)**

A change in schedule, to start one week early on 26th May instead.
Top 16 ranked players compete. Players are added to Rando Rapid II (10+0)
once knocked out.

Our Final Four are Stephen Peak, Rishit Patel, Karl Holdo and Grant Burrows.

<http://challonge.com/AutumnKnockoutAKL.svg>

Semi Finals/Finals continue next week, on the 2nd June.

Karl Holdo was absent on the day, so he was replaced by Tom Fu.
Tom Fu defeated Grant Burrows in the Semi Final, while Rishit Patel defeated Stephen Peak.

The Finals was won by Rishit Patel Winning the first game with the black pieces and drawing the 2nd game with the white pieces. The rule is, in the best of three scenario, if the match is tied 1.5-1.5. The player who is playing two games with the black pieces will win the match.

**Winter Rapid (June 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th):**

Winter is here! We will have four nights of Rapid Chess.

I'm not sure who reads this page, so from this point on, I will only post the results and not the Vega.

1st Tom Fu (9.5/12), 2nd Stephen Peak (8.5/12) 3rd Simon Lyall (8.0/12)

**Winter Blitz 5+5 (July 7th only)**

Last club tournament for Term 2. Two weeks holiday break after this one.

Simon won the tournament with 5.5/6.

**Club Champs 15+10 (July 28th, Aug 4th, Aug 11th, Aug 18th)**

Simon Lyall won the tournament with 7.0/8 points. 2nd= Stephen Peak and Philli Park-Tamati.

Well done to these players! The field certainly was not easy and there were plenty of good players who participated. We had a total number of 34 entrants at the event.

**Winter Blitz (5+5) Handicap Format**

Rules: Different Rating Brackets (1400-1700+), (1000-1400) and (unrated-999).

If same bracket, no handicap. If 1 bracket higher, 1 pawn will be handicapped and if 2 brackets higher, 2 pawns will be handicapped. If you are 1600-1700+ and they are unrated-800, you should play without a rook.

1st= Simon Lyall and Philli Park-Tamati (5.0/6 points)

**Spring Rapid (15+5) August 25th to September 1st**

To be updated. Eight rounds were played in two nights. The kids were playing too quickly, so the rounds were shorter.

Tom Fu won the tournament with 7.0/8 points. 2nd= Philli Park-Tamati and Stephen Peak.

**Spring 10 (10+0) September 8th**

5 rounds were played. Stephen Peak won the tournament with the perfect score of 5.0/5 points. 2nd= Philli Park-Tamati and Kelvin Xiao.

**Spring Blitz (5+2) September 15th**

6 rounds of Blitz, possibly more depending on the speed in which these games end. To be updated. Simon won this tournament.

**Spring Knockout (20+0) September 22nd and 29th**

**NOTE:** Due to the issue with people coming in to use the venue on the 29th of September to set up for the George Trundle event, **we will only have the Final contestants to attend this next club night on the 29th of September** so that it doesn't interfere with their set-up of the George Trundle. This means that for most of our players, the club will start the school holidays from the 29th until the next club tournament, which will start on the **20th of October**.

The night was exciting and fun for our players. Many players were knocked out today and we have our final contestants for the Knockout tournaments.

Roy Seabrook and Ray Li will play against each other on September 29th for the Finals of the Open Section.

Gordon Yan and Joe Wang will play against each other on September 29th for the Finals of the Lower Section.

**Results (Only including the results of the Semi Finals. Finals to be added after September 29th):**

**Open Section:**

Tom vs Ray : Ray wins 2-0

Stephen vs Roy: Roy wins 2-0

**Lower Section:**

Joe vs Terry: Joe wins 2-0

Gordon vs Bobby: Gordon wins 2-1

In the Open Section, we had a relatively much stronger field of players compared to past club tournaments. Unfortunately, many of them were knocked out at some point and so were unable to continue deeper into the tournament.

We look forward to seeing the match between our players, Roy and Ray in the Open Section and also Joe and Gordon in the Lower Section.

Ray was away for the finals and so Philli replaced Ray and lost 3-0 to Roy.

Joe beat Gordon 3-0 very quickly.

------------------------------------------------Holidays---------------------------------------------

After the holidays, we split the club night into two groups and made the cut at 900, so that the kids from below 900 rating could have their separate competition. We also decided to turn the U-900 group into a study group, where most of the time they will work with a partner to do tactics for the first 30-40 minutes when they arrive at the club.

**Oct 20th Spring Rapid Once Again (15+5)**

Joe won the tournament 4/4, Philli 3.5/4 and a few on 2.5/4 points

**Oct 27th The Gambit Rapid (15+5) 3 Nights of Gambits**

We just had a couple of fun nights of playing the gambits. The King’s Gambit, the Blackmar Diemer Gambit and the Benko Gambit. They all enjoyed it. We will do this again next year.

Simon won two of them, The King’s Gambit and the Benko Gambit one. Not sure who won the Blackmar Diemer Gambit one, one of the usual winners perhaps.

**Final Results for Nov and Dec 2017:**

**The 5+3 Blitz Special: (Nov 17th)**

We were just testing a new format suggested by Ying and it turns out to be very good and people were enjoying playing blitz. It makes a lot of sense to have a 3 second increment instead of 2 seconds or no increment because a lot of our players, especially older players (as well as players who often play on the Monday Nights too) are used to playing longer time controls. A 3 second increment will allow them to make decisions better when they are low on time, and be less likely to be low on time than the alternatives above. One can calculate a lot of things in 3 seconds, first matching their opponent’s move with the move they had in mind to counter that move, and then confirming whether if the move they intend to play would answer their opponent’s move adequately.

Next year we will remove the formats 3+2, 5+0 and 5+2, and only have 5+3 as well as 5+5 for the Blitz section. While in the Rapid Section, we will have 15+5, 15+0, 20+0, and 10+0 (only in the Semis and Finals of the Knockout Tournaments). For the U-900 group, they will still be playing mostly 10+0 regardless, since their games finish very quickly.

Simon won the tournament with the perfect score of 7.0/7, Philli was 2nd with 6.0/7 (only loss was to Simon) and Joe was 3rd with 5.0/7.

**The Queenless Rapid 15+5 (Nov 24th and Dec 1st)**

We realised that often juniors do not have enough practice with their endgames. So this will help them in regards to practicing their endgames and the ‘queenless positions’ they are often called in textbooks. Also, people tend to rely too much on their queen to do the job of attacking when they have the initiative, and in defending a number of squares when they don’t. We hope this will be an enjoyable experience and would like to run this every year.

**The Christmas Blitz 5+5 (Dec 8th)**

An awesome night of blitz just before our final night the prizegiving. Simon won the event.

**Prizegiving and Survival Knockout (15+0) (Dec 15th)**

We gave out certificates to the winners of the Seasonal Rapids and Seasonal Knockouts, as well as the winner and runners up of the Club Championship. There are a number of kids who still hasn’t received their certificates since they were absent on the night. Simon Lyall is our Friday Night Club Champion for 2017.

We had a very exciting Survival Knockout. Both our first and second seeds, Simon and Stephen, were knocked out in the Quarter Finals against the final two survivors, Oscar and Philli. Oscar and Philli continued their journey to defeat Joe and Paul respectively. Then in the final deciding matches, we decided they were to play a bo3 5 minute blitz match without increments, in order to make this a very exciting finale to the tournament. The boys very quickly agreed to a draw in the first game, without knowing that they weren’t allowed to ask for a draw in the Knockout Tournament. Since the number that was randomly generated was a 9, which was an odd number. It gave Oscar two whites out of the three games. The first game Oscar had white and quickly agreed to a draw, which meant Philli only had to win one more of the two games in order to win the tie-break. Oscar won the 2nd game but he was very nervous and insisted to take a break before the final decisive game. There was no doubt that he has to win this last game or force a draw. Philli was able to win this last game and through tie-breaks, Philli won the Survival Knockout tournament 1.5-1.5.

The kids who were knocked out of the tournament were to play some 10 minute games against each other in the Rando Rapid tournament. Whoever won the most games is the winner of our mini tournament. William Zhang-sun won 7 games on the night and he won our mini tournament.

Congratulations to all the winners this year. We are finished for this year. Next year, we will resume our Club Nights on the 9th of February 2018. I will send a txt to everyone to remind them just a week before. If I don’t have your contact number and you wish to be part of our txting group which I send announcements to, please message me on 021-0543891. Thank you for your support. Hope you will enjoy the rest of the year. See you next year! Alex.