BUENOS AIRES AND MAR DEL PLATA

Originally by Jan van Reek, 1945 - 2015, www.endgame.nl (now inactive), reviewed and extended

35 Mar del Plata closed invitation tournaments (numbered series!), about 20 major Buenos Aires closed invitation tournaments will be presented, plus famous the Mar del Plata Open series, World Championships & Candidates matches and two Olympiads.

After exhibitions and simuls by Géza Maróczy in 1925 & Alexander Alekhine in 1926 given in the city of **Buenos Aires**, and the famous **World Championship match in 1927** between **Raul Capablanca** and **Alexander Alekhine**, Argentine chess improved immensely, when many players stayed in Buenos Aires after the **Chess Olympiad in 1939**, due to the outbreak of World War II. Main immigrants were **Najdorf**, **Eliskases**, **Stahlberg** (later moving to Sweden), or already earlier **Pilnik**, plus today forgotten chess masters. Strong international tournaments could be held. The new events helped them in survival and gave a training. **Keres** co-won the Circulo in 1939.

Other European players joined after WW II: ie. *Euwe*, *Szabo*, *O'Kelly*, or *Pomar* had a hard time in Argentina against mentioned Najdorf, Eliskases, Stahlberg, Pilnik, and Argentine born **Ju. Bolbochán**, **Guimard**, **Rossetto**, **Sanguineti**. Next geographical outsider, not living in South America, who won a tournament, was **Gligoric**, later **Ivkov**, **Larsen** and **Pachman**, followed in 1960 by **Fischer & Spassky**, and **Korchnoi & Reshevsky**, respectively. **Panno** became the new top talent: Junior WCC 1953 and *first native* Argentine GM 1955.



Roberto Grau (1900 - 1944)



Casino Central in Mar del Plata has been used as a tournament hall from 1941 Later, the enormous Hotel Provincial was built next to it

At the beginning, only a handful of Europeans and Americans participated among a majority of South Americans in the Argentine international events. Sometimes, Zonals or continental / national Championships were combined with the series mentioned further below.

The Mar del Plata international invitation (round robin) series started off in 1928, played unregularly but frequently (often year-by-year), and lasting up to the year 2001 (35th edition). This first tournament (1928) took place as the third **South American Championships** and contained competitors (seventeen in all) from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. First prize went to Grau (Argentina) followed by Palau and Souza Mendez: http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/sa1928mp.htm. Beginning as purely South American tournaments, the Mar del Plata events gradually increased in strength and international importance so that, in the period from 1941 (Stahlberg won ahead of Najdorf and Eliskases) to 1971 (Polugaevsky won ahead of joint Panno and Savon), they had developed into tournaments of world wide importance. Watch out for a synopsis of all tournaments, closed invitational and open: https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournoi_de_Mar_del_Plata. Naidorf won 14-times (!) at Mar del Plata: 11x in closed & 3x in open events: A world record for a major chess tournament series of gm status! In 1967, the first edition of the traditional Open of Mar del Plata was organized which became an annual event going on since 1969. (→ Mar del Plata Open survey: https://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/HISTORIAL/ABIERTO-General-Pagina.htm).

The first world elite tournament was held in 1960 at Buenos Aires, as a 150 year celebrations of May Revolution, won by Korchnoi and Reshevsky; meanwhile Fischer, then already a Candidate, finished on shared 13-16 place with Pachman, lvkov and Wexler in a field of 20 players from different continents. Argentines Guimard who maybe had his very best years in the 1930s and 1940, and Rossetto were both awarded the GM title after that tournament for sharing fourth place ahead of reputed grandmasters. The jubilee year of 1960 saw further events with top players facing many local heroes, Fischer and Spassky won at closed Mar del Plata (ahead of Bronstein, and F. Olafsson); Korchnoi claimed also Cordoba (ahead of Taimanov), Szabo and Taimanov shared first place at Santa Fé (above Gligoric).

In January 1967, two days after attaining his fifteenth birthday, Brazilian prodigy Henrique Costa Mecking, won a play-off at Buenos Aires resulting from a quadruple tie in the South Am. Zonal 1966, clear first ahead of Panno, Bolbochan, and Foguelman (with the first three players advancing). This triumph brought Henrique Mecking the IM title by FIDE, he was then the youngest living International Master.

In 1970, Buenos Aires welcomed a fascinating Candidate's final, Bobby Fischer edging out former World Champion Tigran Petrosian. In 1980, Buenos Aires saw a hard fought Candidate's semi-final: Viktor Korchnoi beat Lev Polugaevsky in extra-time (classical chess). San Luis was hosting the FIDE World Championship Tournament from 2005 in Potrero de los Funes, San Luis Province, Argentina (won by Veselin Topalov who was subsequently crowned FIDE World Chess Champion), the only top level chess event happening in Argentina in the last two decades since 2001!

After 1939, Buenos Aires hosted its second Chess Olympiad in the year 1978, with the historical victory of Hungary (Portisch, Sax, Ribli, Adorjan, Csom, Vadasz). Not at least exhausted from Baguio, Korchnoi, Switzerland, took the individual gold medal on board 1.

The four international **Clarin** tournaments (1978, 1979, and 1980 at **Buenos Aires**, 1982 at **Mar del Plata**) happened after the Olympiad. These events revived elite of the world (except Korchnoi). World Champion Karpov twice had little success at the third and fourth Clarin, finishing third to fourth and third to fifth respectively. Larsen as double winner, Andersson took the inaugural event, Timman the final one.

Korchnoi and Ljubojevic won the international **Konex** (aka Konex-Canon) in 1979, it was boycotted by the Soviet Union. In 1987, Tal won a Konex tournament at **Termas de Rio Hondo** (near Buenos Aires). Sometimes the Konex was rather national, switching between open or closed format, and played at various venues. Apart from the mentioned numbered yearly Mar del Plata Open series still existing, Buenos Aires as well hosted some national or / and Open tournaments (swiss system) in unregular intervals and under different names.

A long period of economic depression followed after 1982 (Falklands / Las Malvinas conflict). When no big international invitation events were organised in Argentina, the wealthy Najdorf stepped in ③. He launched a new invitation series in 1990: The **Najdorf Tournament**, held in Buenos Aires. Smyslov was co-winner in 1990, Tal was co-winner in 1991. Kamsky and Shirov won in 1993. The fifth edition in 1994 to honour Lev Polugaevsky, featured a unique **Sicilian theme tournament**, won by Salov (a last-minute replacing; Polugaevsky sadly could not play due to bad health), above 2. Anand, 3.-4. Ivanchuk, Judit Polgar, 5.-6. Kamsky, Karpov in his third try (eight players).

Miguel Najdorf died in 1997, after eight invitational tournaments, the series continued as **Najdorf Memorial**, the 9th edition as an Open, no. 10 as a National Championship. Edition 11, won by Judit Polgar on tie-break above Viktor Bologan, was internationally mixed again (with Anatoly Karpov who finished in sole 4th place after losing his final round game on time against Pablo Ricardi). Memorial 12 in 2001, the last win of an invitation tournament in classical chess by Karpov, he was ahead of septuagenarian Korchnoi and teenager Radjabov as unbeaten runners-up, followed by Short as fourth, Xie Jun (then reigning Woman World Champion) and title defender Judit Polgar as joint fifth (including former child prodigy Mecking in a brief comeback period), became indeed the last truly international invitation chess tournament in Argentina with considerable reputation. The rise and fall of Argentine chess coincided with the (later) life of Miguel Najdorf!

Moishe Mieczslaw Najdorf was born near Warsaw Poland on April 15, 1910. He was a pupil of Savielly Tartakower. At the age of 20, he became a Polish National Master. He played for Poland in the 1935, 1937, and 1939 Chess Olympiads. At the Buenos Aires Olympiad in 1939 when World War II broke out, he decided not to return home, taking Argentine citizenship (1944) and changing his first name to Miguel. His family died in German concentration camps.



World War II broke out during the Olympiad 1939



Miguel Najdorf



Bobby Fischer and Osvaldo Bazan travel by train in 1960

Winners of closed international invitational tournaments in Mar del Plata (all) & Buenos Aires (minor left out) // Open (swiss system) and national events not listed !! That means: Zonals (or Open as an exception) only listed if part of a series!! > World Champions printed in blue, even if they did not win

(1st) Mar del Plata (South Am.) 1928: Grau (2nd) Mar del Plata (South Am.) 1934: Schwartzman (3rd) Mar del Plata (South Am.) 1936: Pleci Buenos Aires Circulo 1939: Keres & Najdorf (11. Sonja Graf) (4th) Mar del Plata 1941: Stahlberg Buenos Aires Circulo 1941: Stahlberg & **Najdorf** (5th) Mar del Plata 1942: Najdorf (6th) Mar del Plata 1943: Najdorf B'A' / La Plata (Jockey) 1944: Najdorf (7th) Mar del Plata 1944: Pilnik & Naidorf (8th) Mar del Plata 1945: Najdorf **Buenos Aires Circulo 1945: Naidorf** (9th) Mar del Plata 1946: Najdorf (10th) M' d' Plata 1947: Najdorf (5.= Euwe) Buenos Aires / La Plata 1947: Stahlberg (2. Najdorf, 3. Eliskases, 4. Euwe, 5. Pilnik) (11th) Mar del Plata 1948: Eliskases Buenos Aires / La Plata 1948: Najdorf (12th) Mar del Plata 1949: Rossetto (13th) Mar del Plata 1950: Gligoric (14th) Mar del Plata (zt) 1951: Ju. Bolbochan & Eliskases (15th) Mar del Plata 1952: Ju. Bolbochan & Rossetto (16th) Mar del Plata 1953: Gligoric (17th) Mar del Plata (zt) 1954: Panno (18th) Mar del Plata 1955: Ivkov **Buenos Aires Circulo 1955: Ivkov** (19th) Mar del Plata 1956: Ju. Bolbochan & Naidorf (20th) Mar del Plata 1957: Keres

(21th) Mar del Plata 1958: Larsen (22th) Mar del Plata 1959: Pachman & Najdorf (3.-4. lvkov, Fischer) (23th) Mar del Plata 1960: Spassky & **Fischer** (both 13.5/15 pts., many local players) **Buenos Aires 1960:** 150th anniversary of the May revolution Korchnoi & Reshevsky (13.-16. Fischer) (24th) Mar del Plata 1961: Najdorf (25th) Mar del Plata 1962: Polugaevsky Buenos Aires 1964 (also called I. International): Petrosian & Keres (3. R. Byrne, 4. Najdorf) (26th) Mar d' Plata 1965: Najdorf (2. Stein) (27th) Mar d' Plata 1966: Smyslov (2. Stein) Buenos Aires 1968 (National): Panno (28th) Mar del Plata (zt) 1969: Panno & Najdorf Buenos Aires 1970 (II. International): Fischer (29th) Mar del Plata 1971: Polugaevsky (30th) M' d' Plat 1976 (nat.): Brond & Sanguineti Buenos Aires 1977 Club Argentino (closed) aka (1st Konex): Sanguineti (2. Panno, 3. Najdorf) Buenos Aires 1978 (1st Clarin): Andersson Buenos Aires 1979 (2nd Konex (-Canon): Buenos Aires 1979 (2nd Clarin): Larsen, 2.= Najdorf (above Spassky or Petrosian) Buenos Aires 1980 (3rd Clarin): Larsen again (2. Timman, 3. Ljubojevic, above Karpov) Buenos Aires 1980 (3rd Konex, Open): Szmetan (31th) Mar del Plata (!) 1982 (4th Clarin): Timman (2. Portisch, 3.= Seirawan, Karpov) Buenos Aires 1983 (National): Larsen Corrientes (zt) '85 (4th Konex): Quinteros & Morovic Rio Hondo 1987 (5th Konex): Tal

Buenos Aires 1988 (6th Konex): Milos & Franco Buenos Aires 1991 (7th Konex, Open): Ricardi, tie-break Buenos Aires 1994 (8th Konex, Open) Zarnicki, tie-break (32th) Mar del Plata 1989 (national): Tempone (33th) Mar del Plata 1990 (national): Cid "Najdorf 80" Magistral Miguel Najdorf, 80 Anniversario Buenos Aires 1990 (1st Najdorf Tournament): Smyslov & GM J. L. Fernandez Garcia Buenos Aires 1991 (2th Najdorf Tournament): Tal, Granda Zuniga & Nogueiras (11.= Larsen) Buenos Aires 1992 (3rd Najdorf Tournament): Chernin (2. Nikolic, 3./4. Morovic, Larsen) Buenos Aires 1993 (4th Najdorf Tournament): Kamsky & Shirov (1/2pts. ahead of 3. Korchnoi) Buenos Aires 1994 Sicilian theme tournament = 5th Najdorf Tournament, sponsored by Joop v. Oosterom to honour Lev Polugaevsky: Salov (above Anand, Ivanchuk, J. Polgar, Kamsky, Karpov) Buenos Aires 1995 (6th Najdorf Tournament): San Segundo & van Wely (3.= De Firmian) Buenos Aires 1996 (7th Najdorf Tournament): Tiviakov & Magem Badals (3.= Almasi) (34th) Mar del Plata 1997 (national): Braga Korchnoi & Ljubojevic (3. Browne, 4.= Miles) B' Aires, May 1997: (8th Najdorf Tournament): Morovic & Sutovsky (Naidorf, born near Warsaw, April 15, 1910, died in Málaga, Spain, July 4, 1997) 9th Najdorf Memorial Open: Krasenkow, on tie-break 10th Najdorf Memorial = LXXIII Arg-Ch: Ricardi Buenos Aires 2000 (11th Najdorf Memorial): Judit Polgar (tb) & Bologan (3. Short, 4. Karpov) Buenos Aires 2001 (12th Najdorf Memorial): Karpov (1/2pts. ahead of Korchnoi (70y) and Radjabov (14y); incl. J. Polgar, Short, Mecking) (35th) Mar del Plata (zt) 2001: Pierrot & Felgaer

➤ i) Buenos Aires, Zonals (if not part of a series) and other / minor international tournaments are left out in the survey above because they were comparatively less strong (selection)

Regence, for instance:

Buenos Aires 1944 (Regence Tournament): 1. J. Christia

Buenos Aires 1946 (Circulo La Régence): Skalicka and Letelier joint winners, 3. Feigins, 4. Pelikán (eight players)

Roberto Grau Memorial series at Buenos Aires, for instance:

Buenos Aires, 2nd Grau Memorial 1945, 1. Najdorf, ahead of 2-3. Ståhlberg and Guimard, followed by Michel and Julio Bolbochán, etc.

Buenos Aires, 3rd Grau Memorial 1947, Ståhlberg, ahead of Letelier

Buenos Aires, Grau Memorial 1951, Francisco Benkö, ahead of Wexler

Club Argentino, for instance:

Buenos Aires 1961 (Club Argentino): Matanovic and Filip (the only European players in a smaller and minor event), 3.-4. Cruz, Esposito (8 players)

Buenos Aires 1963 (Club Argentino): Sanguineti, ahead of Panno (national, 12 players): http://www.thechesslibrary.com/files/1963BuenosAires.htm

Buenos Aires 1965 (Club Argentino): Najdorf (national, 12 players): http://www.thechesslibrary.com/files/1965ClubArgentino.htm

Paulino Frydman Memorial in Buenos Aires 1983: 1. Larsen, 2. Panno, 3. FM Claudio Amado, 4. IM Juan Hase, 5./6. veteran Najdorf, IM Schweber (12 players, national plus Larsen who lived in Argentina)

Zonals, for instance:

Buenos Aires Zonal play-off 1967 (from the Rio Hondo Zonal 1966): 1. Mecking 4.5, 2. Ju. Bolbochan 4, 3. Panno 3, 4. Foguelman 0.5 (eliminated)

Further Matches, for instance:

Friendly match of 18 games (!) between **Reshevsky** (9.5) and **Najdorf** (8.5) at Buenos Aires: http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=82132

ii) Mar del Plata, other event (selection)

America vs. Europe 12.5 – 19.5, Team Match in Mar del Plata, 8 – 22 Il 1981 (aka Match of the "Americans vs. Europe 1981") Players: Andersson, Larsen, Ljubojevic, Portisch versus Browne, Christiansen, Seirawan, Quinteros. Individual best: Andersson

Date	Туре	Elo Average	Game	es	Rou	nds
Feb, 1981	Team	2576	32		8	}
== Ma	r del Plata,	Americans	vs. Eu	rope	1981	
	Na	ame	EL	.O P	oints	
+	GM <u>An</u>	dersson, Ulf	26	10	6.0	
100	GM <u>Ljubo</u>	jevic, Ljubor	<u>nir</u> 26	05	5.0	
-	GM <u>La</u>	arsen, Bent	26	10	4.5	
_	GM Po	rtisch, Lajos	26	50	4.0	
	GM Chris	tiansen, Lar	<u>ry</u> 25	15	4.0	
	GM Brov	vne, Walter	<u>S</u> 25	55	3.5	
-	GM Quir	nteros, Migue	<u>el</u> 25	05	3.0	
E. 10	GM <u>Seir</u>	awan, Yasse	<u>r</u> 25	55	2.0	
http://www.365	chess.com/to	ournaments/A	merica-l	Europe	<u>198</u> 1	1/2206 ⁻

Exhibition: six-board clock simultaneous: GM Kasparov against the Argentine national team!

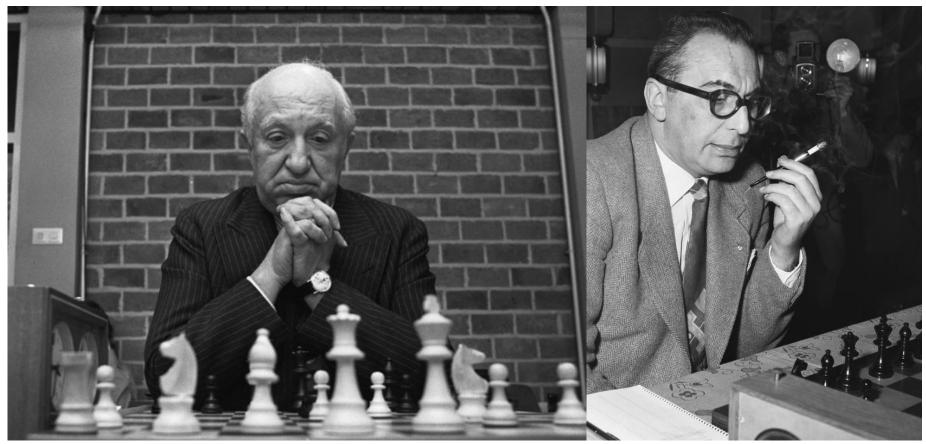
Garry Kasparov vs. Argentina 9-3 in 1992, and Garry Kasparov vs. Argentina 8.5-3.5 in 1997

Further venues of international chess tournaments in Argentina, held apart from Buenos Aires and Mar del Plata (selection)

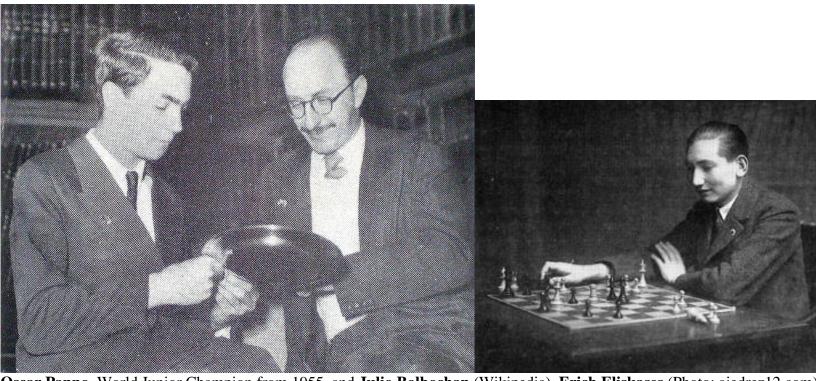
Cordoba, La Plata, Puerto Madryn, Rio Hondo, Rosario, Santa Fé (notably 1949 Pomar, 1960 Szabo and Taimanov, 1961 R. Byrne, as well as some pure national events), and in the 21st century → San Luis, hosting the one-off FIDE World Championship Tournament 2005 in Potrero de los Funes, San Luis Province, Argentina (won by Veselin Topalov who was subsequently crowned FIDE World Chess Champion).

World Champions in a <major> in Argentina: Capablanca, Alekhine, Euwe, Smyslov, Tal, Petrosian, Spassky, Fischer, Karpov, Anand, and Vera Menchik. Plus winners Stahlberg, Reshevsky, Keres, Gligoric, Pachman, Korchnoi, Ivkov, Polugaevsky, Larsen, Ljubojevic, Andersson, Timman, Mecking, Salov, Shirov, Kamsky, Topalov, Judit Polgar. Of course Najdorf, Eliskases, Julio Bolbochan, Panno.

- → Mar del Plata 1928 (Roberto Grau won, 17 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/I_1928.htm I MAGISTRAL CIUDAD DE MAR DEL PLATA and III CAMPEONATO SUDAMERICANO
- → Mar del Plata 1932 (Aaron Schwartzman won, 14 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/II_1934.htm II MAGISTRAL CIUDAD DE MAR DEL PLATA and IV CAMPEONATO SUDAMERICANO
- → Mar del Plata 1936 (Isaias Pleci won, 16 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/III_1936.htm III MAGISTRAL CIUDAD DE MAR DEL PLATA and VI CAMPEONATO SUDAMERICANO
- → IV MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1941 (Stahlberg won, 18 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/IV_1941.htm http://tartajubow.blogspot.ch/2017/10/the-great-tournament-of-mar-del-plata.html
- → V MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1942 (Najdorf won, 18 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/V_1942.htm
- → VI MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1943 (Najdorf won, 14 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/VI 1943.htm
- → VII MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1944 (Pilnik won, tie-break, 16 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/VII 1944.htm
- → VIII MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1945 (Najdorf won, 18 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/VIII_1945.htm
- → IX MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1946 (Najdorf won, 19 players): http://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/magistrales/IX 1946.htm
- → X MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1947 (Najdorf won, including 5.= Euwe)
- → XI MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1948 (Eliskases won) → XII MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1949 (Rossetto won)
- → XIII MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1950 (Gligoric won) → XIV MAGISTRAL Mar del Plata 1951 (Eliskases & Julio Bolbochan won) later winners at closed Mar del Plata were Panno, Ivkov, Keres, Larsen, Pachman, Fischer, Spassky, Polugavesky, Smyslov, Timman, amongst others. 35 editions between 1928 and 2001!
- → Mar del Plata Open: https://www.mdpajedrez.com.ar/arch800/HISTORIAL/ABIERTO-General-Pagina.htm;
- → Mar del Plat winners: https://web.archive.org/web/20160313125414/http://mdpajedrez.org.ar/arch800/magistrales.htm
- → Mar del Plata all (closed and open tournaments): https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournoi de Mar del Plata (really good survey in French language) (World Champions Smyslov, Spassky, and Fischer (co-)won at the Mar del Plata Invitational; Euwe and Karpov failed. Kasparov and his successors never did play)
- → Mar del Plata Opening: https://schach.chess.com/article/view/mar-del-plata, <a href="https://schach.chess.com/article/view/mar-del-plata, <a href="https://schach.chess.com/article/view/mar-del-plata, <a href="https://schach.chess.com/article/view/mar-del-plata, <a href="https://schach.chess.com/art



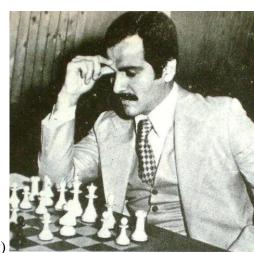
The Fangio of Chess: Miguel (Mieczyslaw) Najdorf playing at Wijk aan Zee, Hoogovens Photo 1973-01-24 ANEFO, Bert Verhoeff. Right: Herman Pilnik in Amsterdam 1956 ANP, G. V.d. Werff



Oscar Panno, World Junior Champion from 1955, and Julio Bolbochan (Wikipedia), Erich Eliskases (Photo: ajedrez12.com)



Enrique Guimard (Photo: ajedrezargentina.org)



Miguel Quinteros (Wikipedia)

Some selected international invitation tournaments with a special distinction:

1939 Buenos Aires Circulo (Najdorf & Keres), Buenos Aires / La Plata ("Jockey") 1944 (Najdorf), Buenos Aires / La Plata 1947 Sextangular (Stahlberg; incl. Euwe), 1960 Buenos Aires 150 Anniversary of the May Revolution (Korchnoi & Reshevsky; incl. Fischer), 1960 Mar del Plata closed (Spassky & Fischer), 1964 Buenos Aires (Petrosian & Keres), 1970 Buenos Aires (Fischer), 1978 Buenos Aires 1st Clarin (Andersson), 1979 Buenos Aires Konex-Canon (Ljubojevic & Korchnoi), 1979 Buenos Aires 2nd Clarin (Larsen; incl. Spassky, Petrosian), 1980 Buenos Aires 3rd Clarin (Larsen; incl. World Champion Karpov), 1982 Mar del Plata 4th Clarin (Timman; incl. World Champion Karpov), 1996 Buenos Aires (Najdorf Tournament / Sicilian theme) (Salov), 2001 Buenos Aires Najdorf Memorial (Karpov in his fifth attempt and first win in Argentina)

Buenos Aires 1939 chess tournament

The event was held in <u>Buenos Aires</u>, immediately after the <u>8th Chess Olympiad</u>, from 2nd to 19 October 1939 at the *Círculo de Ajedrez*, one of the two main chess clubs in the city. Play took place at the club's long-time premises at Bartolomé Mitre 670, with rounds starting at 20.30 hours in the evening. All participants, except of <u>Paul Keres</u>, had decided to stay in Argentina due to outbreak of <u>World War II</u>.

The results and standings:

	В	ueno	os Aires (C	iro	cul	o)	19	39								
#	Player	(Country	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
1-2	Miguel Najdorf		Poland	X	1	<mark>1/2</mark>	1	1/2	1/2	1	O	1	1	1	1	8.5
1-2	Paul Keres		Estonia	0	X	<mark>1/2</mark>	1	1/2	1	¹ / ₂	1	1	1	1	1	8.5
3-4	Gideon Ståhlberg	+	Sweden	1/2	1/2	X	0	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	7
3-4	Moshe Czerniak	## ·	<u>Palestine</u>	0	0	1	X	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	0	7
5-6	Paulino Frydman		<u>Poland</u>	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	0	1	1	1	1	6.5
5-6	Carlos Guimard	•	Argentina	1/2	0	0	0	1/2	X	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	6.5
7	Roberto Grau	•	Argentina	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1	0	1/2	1	5.5
8	Markas Luckis		<u>Lithuania</u>	1	0	1/2	0	1	0	1/2	X	0	1	1/2	1/2	5
9-10	José Gerschman	•	Argentina	0	0	1/2	0	0	0	0	1	X	0	1	1	3.5
9-10	Francisco Benkö	•	Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	X	1	1/2	3.5
11	Sonja Graf		<u>Germany</u>	0	0	1/2	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	0	X	1	2.5
12	Luis Argentino Palau	•	Argentina	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1/2	0	1/2	0	X	2

References: http://www.mdpajedrez.org.ar/arch800/magistrales.htm, Wikipedia

Buenos Aires / La Plata 1944

La Plata 1944 (Jockey tournament): 1. Najdorf, ahead of 2. Stahlberg, 3. Julio Bolbochan, then Pelikan, Michel, Rossetto, Maderna, Pilnik, Iliesco, Guimard, Sanguinetto, Czerniak; including Sonia Graf (17 players)

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	Najdorf, Miguel	*	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0 / 11	
2	Stahlberg, Gideon	1/2	*	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	1/2	8.5 / 11	
3	O'Kelly de Galway, Alberic	1/2	1/2	*	1/2	1	0	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	8.0 / 11	36.50
4	Michel, Paul	1/2	1/2	1/2	*	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1	1	8.0 / 11	36.25
5	Guimard, Carlos Enrique	0	0	0	1/2	*	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1	1	6.5 / 11	
6	Rossetto, Hector Decio	1/2	0	1	1/2	1/2	*	0	0	1/2	1	1	1	6.0 / 11	
7	Pilnik,Herman	0	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1	*	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	5.5 / 11	22.75
8	Iliesco, Juan Traian	0	0	0	1/2	0	1	1	*	1	0	1	1	5.5 / 11	21.00
9	Camara,Luciano W	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	*	1	1	1	4.0 / 11	
10	Medina Garcia, Antonio	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1	0	*	1	1	3.5 / 11	
11	Garcia Balado,L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	1	1.0 / 11	
12	Bolbochan, Julio	0	1/2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0.5 / 11	

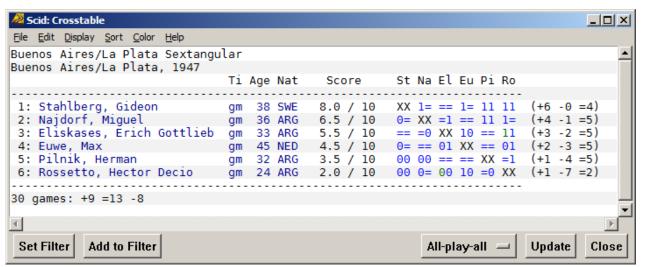
(click on image to enlarge)

Beware however – there is some complications from Julio Bolbochan's apparent withdrawal from the tournament which could alter the above.

For example, if Ju. Bolbochan withdrew before playing six games, all his results would be dropped *. That would mean Stahlberg would lose 1/2, while all others would lose 1 point (Stahlberg drew Bolbochan in round 1). In that case, Najdorf would be tied with Stahlberg for 1st place with 8/10.

* Under modern rules. The cbh file from *ARGbase* has only five games with moves from Julio Bolbochan listed (including a loss to Najdorf, and a draw to Stahlberg). It is likely that modern rules were used in the 1948 tournament, but contemporaneous confirmation would be nice to have.

From ARGbase, comes the cross table for the strong Buenos Aires / La Plata Sextangular (1947), a 6-player double round robin:



Or, maybe you'd prefer a screenshot of SCID HTML's version of the xtab:

Buenos Aires/La Plata Sextangular Buenos Aires/La Plata, 1947

	Player	Ti	Age	Nat	Score	St	Na	El	Eu	Pi	Ro	+/-/=
1:	Stahlberg, Gideon	gm	38	SWE	8.0 / 10	XX	1=	==	1=	11	11	(+6 -0 =4)
2:	Najdorf, Miguel	gm	36	ARG	6.5 / 10	0=	XX	=1	==	11	1=	(+4 -1 =5)
3:	Eliskases, Erich Gottlieb	gm	33	ARG	5.5 / 10	==	=0	XX	10	==	11	(+3 -2 =5)
4:	Euwe, Max	gm	45	NED	4.5 / 10	0=	==	01	XX	==	01	(+2 -3 =5)
5:	Pilnik, Herman	gm	32	ARG	3.5 / 10	00	00	==	==	XX	=1	(+1 -4 =5)
6:	Rossetto, Hector Decio	gm	24	ARG	2.0 / 10	00	0=	00	10	=0	XX	(+1 -7 =2)

30 games: +9 =13 -8

So, we see that Euwe was the "old" man of the tournament, and Rossetto, the "baby"

Buenos Aires (1960)

This tournament to celebrate the **150th Anniversary of the May Revolution** took place in the **Aula Magna of the Faculty of Medicine**. The best of East and West, **Korchnoi** and **Reshevsky**, shared first place, while Argentinian masters Guimard and Rossetto gained the GM title.

A major disappointment for Bobby Fischer, already a Candidate from the previous year, who was doing unexpectedly bad, coming in below 50%, and Gligoric, or Olafsson, who would have been among the pre-tournament favorites. Oddly, Argentine top chess is underrepresented. Eliskases, Guimard, Rossetto and Wexler, National Champion from 1959 participated, of course, but Najdorf, Panno, and Pilnik were absent.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	V.
1.	Kortschnoj (Sovétr.)	×	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	0	13
2.	Reshevsky (Bandar.)	1/2	×	1/2	0	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	13
3.	Szabó (Ungverjal.)	1/2	1/2	×	1	0	1	1	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	- 12
4.	Evans (Bandar.)	1/2	1	0	×	0	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	11
5.	Guimard (Argent.)	0	0	1	1	×	0	1	1/2	0	1	1	1	0			1	1/2			1/2	11
6.	Rossetto (Argen.)	1	0	0	0	1	X	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	0	1	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	11
7.	Taimanov (Sovétr.)	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	0	1/2	×	1	1/2	1/2	0	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	1:	_11
8.	Friðrik Ólafsson	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0.	×	1/2	1/2	1	. 1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0	. 1	101/2
9.	Unzicker (V-Þýzkal.)	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	. 1	1/2	1/2	1/2	×	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0	0	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	101/2
10.	Gligoric (Júgósl.)	0	1/2	1/2	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	0	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	10
11.	Benkö (Bandar.)	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	0	1	0	1/2	1/2	×	1	1	0	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	0	9 -
12.	Uhlmann (A-Þýzkal.)	1/2	1/2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1/2	1	0	×	1	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	1	1	9
13.	Fischer (Bandar.)	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	0	0	×	1/2	0	1/2	.0	1/2	1/2	1	8 1/2
14.	Pachman (Tékkósl.)	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1	0	1				1	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1	. 81/2
15.	Wexler (Argent.)	0	0	0	1	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0	1/2	1/2	1	0	×	0	1	1/2	1/2	-1	81/2
16.	Ivkov (Júgósl.)	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	8 1/2
17.	Eliskases (Argent.)	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0	0	1/2	1	1/2	0	1/2	×	1	0	1/2	8
18.	Bazán (Argent.)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1/2	0	1	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	0	×	0	1	6
19.	Foguelman (Argent.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1/2	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	×	0	51/2
20.	Wade (England)	1	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	0	1	X	5 1/2

 $Original\ collection:\ \underline{Game\ Collection:\ Buenos\ Aires\ 1960},\ by\ \underline{User:\ sneaky\ pete}.$

Source: http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=79303

Buenos Aires (Konex) (1979)

The event was sponsored by Luis Ovsejevich and his Konex-Canon Company (since 1980: Konex Foundation), and is also known as the 2nd Konex Tournament. It came after the Buenos Aires olympiad in October-November (1978) and the following Buenos Aires (Clarin) (1978) tournament. Later in the year it was followed by Buenos Aires (Clarin) (1979).

The russians boycotted the tournament because Viktor Korchnoi was invited. Playing time was 5-10 pm with five games a week. Saturdays and Sundays were free days or days for adjourned games. Play was governed by a limit of 40 moves in two and a half hours and 16 moves per hour thereafter. Due to other obligations, Korchnoi played his last two games in advance, on 21 and 27 July. When the game Miles vs Ljubojevic, 1979 in round 12 ended in a draw, the tournament had two joint winners (ex-aequo) before round 13 started.

Universidad de Buenos Aires, 12-30 July 1979, final standings and crosstable:

	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 1 2 3 4	
=1 Ljubojevic	* ½ ½ 1 ½ 1 ½ ½ 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	01/2
=1 Korchnoi	½ * ½ ½ 1 ½ 1 ½ 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	01/2
3 Browne	1/2 1/2 * 0 1/2 1/2 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9
=4 Liberzon	0 ½ 1 * ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ 1 1	L 7½
=4 Miles	1/2 0 1/2 1/2 * 1/2 1 0 1/2 1 1 1 1 0	71/2
=6 Najdorf	0 ½ ½ ½ ½ * 1 ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½	1 7
=6 Rubinetti	1/2 0 1 1/2 0 0 * 1/2 1 1/2 1/2 1/2 1	7
=6 Quinteros	1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 * 0 0 1/2 1 1 1	7
=6 Diez del Corral	0001/21/201*1/21	6
10 Emma	0001/201/211/2*1/21/21	51/2
11 Trois	0001/201/201/21/21/21	5
=12 Szmetan	0 0 0 1/2 0 1/2 1/2 0 0 1/2 1/2 * 1/2 0	3
=12 Schweber	0 0 0 0 0 1/2 1/2 0 1/2 1/2 0 1/2 * 1/2	3
14 Bernat	0000100000011/2*	21/2

Tournament leader: Dr. Renato Sanguineti.

Tournament book: Buenos Aires 1979. Sämtliche Partien des Konex-Canon-Grossmeisterturniers im Juli 1979 by <u>Albert Becker</u> (Schwarz-Weiss Verlag, Bamberg 1982, 79 pp.). There were daily reports by Najdorf, Quinteros and <u>Oscar Panno</u> in the newspaper Clarín, of which the first nine rounds are online at http://najdorf-miguel.blogspot.no/s...

Original collection: <u>Game Collection: Buenos Aires (Konex) 1979</u> by <u>User: Tabanus</u>. (§) <u>Wikipedia article: Konex Foundation</u>. #Information from <u>User: Fusilli</u>, who also provided the Najdorf blogspot link

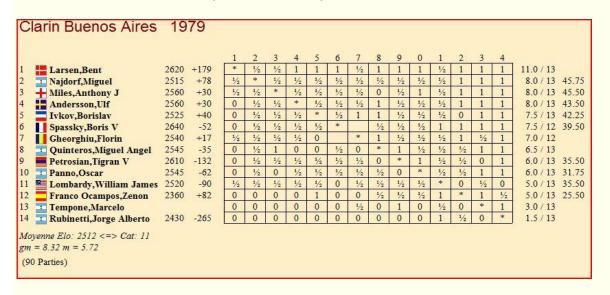
Source: http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=82327

Buenos Aires (Clarin) (1979)

The event was sponsored by the newspaper *Clarin*, and is also known as the *2nd Clarin Tournament*. It followed up the success of <u>Buenos Aires (Clarin) (1978)</u>, and was continued next year with <u>Buenos Aires (Clarin) (1980)</u>. The playing venue was Casacuberta Salon (1) of the Teatro General San Martín (2) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. (3) Together with huge pictures of Miguel Najdorf and <u>Roberto Grau</u>, the theatre had an exhibition of about 100 objects to commemorate the Buenos Aires olympiad in 1939 and the players who had decided to stay in Argentina during the War. (3) In addition to local players, the foreign masters included Spassky (ranked World #3), Larsen (#7), and Petrosian (#10). Tournament Director: <u>Carlos Enrique Guimard</u>. FIDE category: 11 (GM norm 7½, IM norm 6, FM norm 4 points). (3)

An impressive performance by 69-year-old Najdorf. For Petrosian (6 points only) the tournament was a kind of warm-up before the <u>Korchnoi-Petrosian Candidates Quarterfinal (1980)</u>. "The great Danish master, **Bent Larsen**, didn't have a very successful 1979. He failed to make the Candidates' matches, scored only 50 percent at Tilburg (1979), and perhaps the worst blow of all, finished sole last at <u>Montreal (1979)</u>. But: Dead last is not dead, though, and Larsen appeared fully recovered at Clarin tournament in Buenos Aires." (4)

Teatro General San Martín, Buenos Aires, 26 November - 14 December 1979



Tournament books: Los magistrales de Clarín I-II 1978-79 (Buenos Aires 1980. 194 p.); Second Clarin Tournament. Buenos Aires 1979 by Tony Miles (The Chess Player, Nottingham 1980. 56 p.); 3 points' forspring by Bent Larsen (Samlerens Forlag, Copenhagen 1980. 128 p.). The Spanish book has round dates. There was no bulletin, but daily reports in Clarín.

^{(1) &}lt;a href="https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipe...">https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipe...; (2) Wikipedia article: Teatro General San Mart%C3%ADn; (3) The Spanish tournament book;

⁽⁴⁾ Orlando Lester in Boston Herald, 20 January 1980. p. 40. Original Chessgames collection: Game Collection: Buenos Aires (Clarin) 1979 by User: Tabanus.

Buenos Aires & Mar del Plata, Clarin series (1978-1982)

#	Year	Winner(s)	Country	No.	Major Participants
1	1978 Nov/Dec	Ulf Andersson	SWE	14 incl. 7 PP	24. Panno, Smyslov, Vaganian, 5./6. Browne, Gheorghiu, 6./7. Dzindzichashvili, Najdorf, 9. Szmetan, 10.= Quinteros; 14. Torre No player from the top ten, top seeded was Panno (clear #18), followed by Smyslov (#19=)
2	1979 Nov/Dec	Bent Larsen	DEN	14 incl. 8 PP	25. Najdorf, Miles, Andersson, Spassky, 6./7. Gheorghiu, Ivkov, 8. Quinteros; 9./10. Petrosian, Panno, 11./12. Lombardy, Franco Ocampos (Larsen (then FIDE Elo #7) wins unbeaten at 11/13, three full points ahead of the rest! An impressive performance of 69½ years old Miguel Najdorf, too, finishing as runner-up (on tie-break). Ex-World Champions Spassky (#3=) and Petrosian (#10) outclassed)
3	1980 Oct/Nov	Bent Larsen	DEN	14 incl. 11 PP	2. Timman, 3. Ljubojevic, 4./5. Karpov, Andersson, 6./7. Najdorf, Hort, Beliavsky, 810. Kavalek, Olafsson, Balashov; 11. Quinteros, 12. Panno, 13. Browne (The then reigning president of the World Chess Federation FIDE, Fridrik Olafsson (Iceland), beats the then reigning World Champion, Anatoly Karpov. Only top ten player: Karpov (#1). Three reputed participants from the USSR, and none of them made it to the podium)
		No contest 1981			
4	1982 Feb (held in Mar del Plata)	Jan Timman	NED	14 incl. 9 PP	2. Seirawan, 35. Portisch, Karpov, Polugaevsky, 6. Andersson, 7. Larsen; 8./9. Garcia Palermo, Najdorf, 10./11. Panno, Braga, 12.= Quinteros (Five of the world top ten ranked players participated. World Champion Karpov (#1), Timman (#2) from Holland, Portisch (#5) from Hungary, Larsen (#10=) from Denmark, and Andersson (#10=) from Sweden. Carlos Garcia Palermo, then IM (Argentina), won against Karpov, and is still the only Argentine player to have beat a reigning World Champion in a clasical game)

If joint places, the player with the better tie-break is named first. There were no play-offs.

Andersson above Panno; Larsen above Najdorf; Larsen above Timman, and Timman above Seirawan. Where are the Soviets?

Unbelievable Fiasco for the Soviet Union at the Clarin series: They came with the reigning World Chess Champion Karpov (2x), plus Spassky, Petrosian, Smyslov (three former World Champions), Polugaevsky, Beliavksy, Vaganian, Balashov, a strong theoretician, but never finished first or second!! Vice World Champion Viktor Korchnoi could not play in the Clarin series to secure Soviet participation.

Venue was Buenos Aires. In 1982, the fourth and final Clarin tournament had been held in Mar del Plata. Initiator was great Miguel Najdorf. Grandmaster fellow Carlos Guimard acted as tournament director. All four international invitationals had been sponsored by the newspaper *Clarín*.

Najdorf Memorial 2001

1	Karpov,An	2692	+65	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1	1	1	6.5 / 9	
2	Korchnoi,V	2617	+101	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	1/2	6.0 / 9	25.50
3	Radjabov,T	2558	+166	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	6.0 / 9	23.75
4	Short,N	2664	-35	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	0	1	1/2	1/2	1	5.0 / 9	
5	Xie Jun	2553	+47	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	4.5 / 9	20.25
6	Polgar,Ju	2686	-101	0	0	1/2	1	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	4.5 / 9	17.25
7	Felgaer,R	2471	+97	1/2	0	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	1	4.0 / 9	
8	Mecking,H	2552	-34	0	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1/2	1/2	3.5 / 9	14.50
9	Ricardi,P	2545	-26	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	1	3.5 / 9	12.25
10	Milos,G	2614	-313	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	0	0	1/2	0	X	1.5 / 9	
	Avera	ge Elo	: 2595	<=	=> (Cat	: 14	l gr	n =	4.7	77 i	m :	= 2	.97	

This turned out to be the last tournament win in classical chess for Karpov.

Note: The next **Najdorf Memorial 2002** had been played as a **national contest** (incl. Larsen) in a Knock-Out Modus: There are two standard time rate games followed by a pair of rapid playoff games and a pair of blitz games if required (http://theweekinchess.com/html/twic413.html#9 and http://theweekinchess.com/html/twic414.html#9)

NAJDORF MAGISTRAL (Tournament / Memorial / Festival) series

A tournament held in Buenos Aires co-sponsored by the Najdorf Chess Foundation, becoming a memorial after the death of Miguel Najdorf in 1997. The winners were: 1990 Smyslov and J. L. Fernandez Aguado, 1991 Granda Zuniga, Mihail Tal and Jesus Nogueiras, 1993 Gata Kamsky and Alexey Shirov, 1995 Pablo San Segundo and Loek Van Wely, 1996 Jordi Magem Badals and Sergey Tiviakov, 1997 Ivan Morovic and Emil Sutovsky, 1998 (Open) Mikhail Krasenkow, Aleksander Wojkiewicz, Pablo Ricardi, Garcia Palermo and Bent Larsen, 1999 (Open) Marcelo Tempone, 2000 Judit Polgar, 2001 Anatoly Karpov. Since then only national tournaments, matches or exhibitions at Buenos Aires: 2002 Hugo Spangenberg (K.O.-format, national), 2003 (Exhibition) Anatoly Karpov beat a selection of Argentine players 5-1, 2004 Diego Flores, 2010 Ernesto Real De Azua (selection).

Oct-12-17 diagonal: Argentina really was a Great Chess Nation in the 20th century, when many players stayed in the country after the outbreak of the WW II while the Chess Olympiad was held in Buenos Aires in 1939:

Both in terms of <player strength> (immensly during the Chess Olympiads in the 1950s) and in terms of <strong international tournaments > (especially in the cities of Buenos Aires and Mar del Plata), the World Championship match between Raul Capablanca and Alexander Alekhine in 1927, two FIDE Candidate matches, Fischer vs. Petrosian in 1971, and Korchnoi vs. Polugaevsky in 1980, the Chess Olympiad held in Buenos Aires 1939 and again in 1978. Plus the FIDE World Championship Tournament from 2005 in Potrero de los Funes, San Luis Province in Argentina (won by Topalov who then was crowned FIDE World Chess Champion).

Those were the days: Buenos Aires <150th Anniversary May Revolution > in 1960, Korchnoi and Reshevsky won, contesting in the Aula Magna of the Faculty of Medicine, where Bobby Fischer, already a Candidate in the previous year, is doing unexpectedly bad, coming in below 50%, amongst others Szabo on third position, followed by shared fourth Rossetto (awarded the GM title), Guimard (awarded the GM title), Evans, and Taimanov, Olafsson, Unzicker, Gligoric, Benko, Uhlmann, Ivkov, Pachman, Wexler, Wade who beat Korchnoi, or legendary Eliskases. All-play-all with 20 players.

Great Chess Nations: All-time leading players from Argentina

Roberto Grau, Isaias Pleci, Damian Reca,

Miguel Najdorf, Herman Pilnik, Erich Eliskases,

Jorge Pelikán, Carlos Skalicka, Movsas Feigins, Paul Michel (Pablo Michel), and other Asilados,

Julio Bolbochán, Héctor Rossetto, Carlos Guimard, Raúl Sanguineti,

Alberto Foguelman, Bernardo Wexler (born in Bucharest, beating Fischer at Buenos Aires 1960),

Oscar Panno (first Argentine born Grandmaster, World Junior Chess Champion in 1953),

Miguel Quinteros (maybe the best-looking player in the 1970s and the last big name of an era),

Carlos Bielicki (World Junior Chess Champion in 1959, retired soon from active chess, inactive),

Pablo Zarnicki (World Junior Chess Champion in 1992, as third Argentinian player, inactive),

Gerardo Barbero (1961-2001), Jorge Szmetan (1950-2015),

Current: Carlos Garcia Palermo (moved to Italy), Daniel Campora, Pablo Ricardi, Pablo Lafuente, Rubén Felgaer, Diego Flores, Sandro Mareco

Trivia:

Garcia Palermo is the only Argentine player to have beat a reigning world champion in classical chess, Karpov in Mar del Plata (Clarin) 1982!

Asilados 1939: https://www.webcitation.org/5kg6Gf6Rc?url=http://ar.geocities.com/carloseadrake/AJEDREZ/Asilados 1939.htm

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The first ever Argentine-born Chess Grandmaster and the first top world chess player born in South America



OSCAR ROBERTO PANNO

17/03/1935 born in Buenos Aires

03/1953 - Campeón - CAMPEONATO DE ARGENTINA JUVENIL.

1953 - Champion - II. CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD, YOUTHFUL, held in Copenhagen (first on tie-break, with Darga, above F. Olafsson, title defender Ivkov, Penrose, D. Keller, Larsen).

Following winning the World Junior Championship in 1953, he was awarded the IM title in 1954.

Following the Gothenburg Interzonal 1955, third behind Bronstein and Keres, ahead of Petrosian, Geller, Szabo, Filip, Spassky, Pilnik, Ilivitsky, Pachman, Najdorf, Guimard and others (Panno beat Spassky in their individual game), **Panno was awarded subsequently the GM title in 1955 at the age of 20** (at that time an exceptional young grandmaster!), playing the Amsterdam Candidates 1956, coming in 8th/9th of the ten strongest chess players behind the reigning World Champion, resting his only Candidates tournament. Oscar Panno participated in five Interzonals.

His highest historical ranking (according Sonas' chesmetrics) was on position 18 in the late 1955. His best FIDE ranking was also on position 18 in 1978 (full year list), with his peak rating in 1973 (on position 19=). Highest Sonas Elo: 2680, highest FIDE Elo rating: 2585.

Panno has a plus lifetime-score against Boris Spassky, born in 1936 (+2=5-1, winning at the 1955 Gothenburg Interzonal and at the 1976 Manila Interzonal, losing at the inaugural World Team Chess Championship in Lucerne 1985). Against the other top stars from South America, Panno is plus/minus even versus Najdorf and Mecking in a substantial amount of games.

He won the national Argentine Chess Championship on three occasions between 1953 and 1992:

1953 - Campeón - CAMPEONATO DE ARGENTINA ABSOLUTO.

1975 - Sub-Campeón - <u>CAMPEONATO DE ARGENTINA ABSOLUTO</u>. (shared with Najdorf who took the title as first on SB tie-break)

1985 - Campeón - CAMPEONATO DE ARGENTINA ABSOLUTO.

1992 - Campeón - CAMPEONATO DE ARGENTINA ABSOLUTO.



Oscar Panno played eleven times for Argentina in **Chess Olympiads**

(1954–58, 1962, 1966–70, 1976, 1986–88, and 1992). The 1954 Olympiad team won the Silver medal, while the 1958 & 1962 teams won the Bronze medal. In 1966 (Habana), Panno won an individual gold medal for best score on board two. Plus a gold medal for the individual best overall score at the Pan American Team Championship in 1985. He played board one for Argentina at the WTCC in 1985.

Winner 3rd Pan American Chess Championship at Bogota in 1958 (ahead of Lombardy / Najdorf)

Multiple South American champion; at Mar del Plata, zt 1954, at Rio de Janeiro, zt 1957, at Rio Hondo, zt 1966 (jointly, Mecking won the play-off) and at Mar del Plata, zt 1969 (jointly): thus taking twice the traditional Mar del Plata closed international tournament series, namely Mar del Plata 1954, also a Zonal (ahead of Najdorf, Pilnik, Guimard, Eliskases, Rossetto, Sanguinetti), and Mar del Plata 1969, also a Zonal (shared with Najdorf, ahead of Mecking)

Three times winning the Mar del Plata Open: 1986, 1988, and at the 25th edition in 1994 as clear first (202 participants, a.o. GM Urday, Peru; GM Sunye Neto, Brazil, GM Najdorf, Argentina)

- > Winner Palma de Mallorca (1971) (+7, =8) with Ljubojevic (best on tie-break); and
- > Winner Palma de Mallorca (1972) (+6, =8, -1) with Korchnoi, and Smejkal. Panno first on tie-break (this was the last edition of the Palma de Mallorca series), maybe Panno's biggest adult successes

Double-winner at **Torneo Internacional de (Santa Fé de) Bogotá** 1976 (1st edition) & 1977

> Winner at the famous **Lone Pine Open** (7th Louis D. Statham Tournament) in 1977 (a four-way tie at the top shared with Balashov, surprising Sahovic and Nona Gaprindashivili)

Winner **Buenos Aires 1968** (strong National) (+8, =2, -1), ahead of 2. Najdorf, followed by 3./4. Schweber, Rossetto, 5. Quinteros, including Guimard, Rubinetti, Foguelman, 12 players)

Co-Winner Buenos Aires WOBRON 1971 (National), together with Quinteros (six players)

Winner **Buenos Aires San Miguel International Open 1980**: alongside with Browne (first on tie-break), Smyslov, and IM Jaime Emma at 7.5/9 (184 players, including Taimanov, Quinteros)

Panno won several regional Open events, eg. at Ushuaia (Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego) 1987 (clear first, beating also the Mephisto Amsterdam Computer), Fortaleza Open 1994, or Mendoza (Manuel Pereyra Puebla Memorial (biography: http://www.inforchess.com/pereyra/MPereyra.htm) Open 2003, further tournament wins in Rosario 1975, in Quito 1976, amongst others.

He was shared second, above Karpov, in Caracas 1970 (Stein won), in Biel GM 1977 (Miles won), in Buenos Aires Clarin 1978 (Andersson won), and joint second in the Lone Pine Open from 1976 (Petrosian clear first), he shared third place in Las Palmas 1973 (Stein and Petrosian won).

In matches, **Panno beat Quinteros twice**, 1970 and 1990 (with the same result of 5.5 – 3.5).

Panno helped Korchnoi as an assistant during the 1978 WCC match against Karpov.

Note:

During the decade from 1958 to 1968, Panno actively pursued his civil engineering career and played very rarely. He never devoted himself entirely to the game.

Panno Oscar Roberto (17.03.1935)



First Argentinian born Chess Grandmaster (1955). Civil Engineer.

World Junior Champion in 1953, Argentine champion in 1953, 1985, and 1992. Finished sole third at the Interzonal's Tournament in 1955, and shared eighth at the Candidates' Tournament in 1956.

Oscar Panno won or shared first prizes at Mar del Plata Zonal 1954, Rio de Janeiro Zonal 1957, Bogota (1st Torneo de las Americas, Pan American Ch) 1958, Rio Hondo 1966 Zonal (Mecking won the play-off), Mar del Plata Zonal 1969 (shared with Najdorf, ahead of Mecking), Palma de Mallorca 1971 & 1972 (supertournament series, shared with Ljubojevic in 1971, and as best on tie-break with Korchnoi and Smejkal in 1972), the famous Lone Pine Open 1977 (shared), Santa Fé de Bogotá International 1976 & 1977, plus thrice at the traditional Mar del Plata Open: 1986, 1988 & 1994.



Aug-14-07 Fusilli (Prof. Mariano Sana): In an interview (posted on an Argentine website: (http://www.ajedrezmutante2.galeon.com) Panno remembers the 1953 World Junior Championship that he won in Copenhagen. He was at a disadvantage when it came to opening theory and novelties, as all chess magazines arrived in Argentina way too late from Europe.

So he and his coach, Julio Bolbochan, worked intensively on opening ideas and plans trying to guess what novelties the European players might have already come up with. At that time, the World Junior Championship (it was the 2nd, with Ivkov having won the first) was organized with limited resources, and Panno and Bolbochan were assigned rooms with hosting families.

Bolbochan wanted to be with Panno, so they took a room in a rather cheap hotel instead. They would go to sleep at 3am but their hotel room had no thick curtains and the sun would rise at that time in the Copenhagen summer, so they hang a spare bed cover to cover the window.

When he returned to Buenos Aires as a world champion, Panno was a celebrity. Perón's government had already scheduled a number of commitments, exhibitions, simuls, etc., around the country for him. It took a while for his life to return to its normal pace.

Mar-17-11 talisman: happy birthday Oscar! the only man to have Bobby Fischer come to him, and ask him not to forfeit!

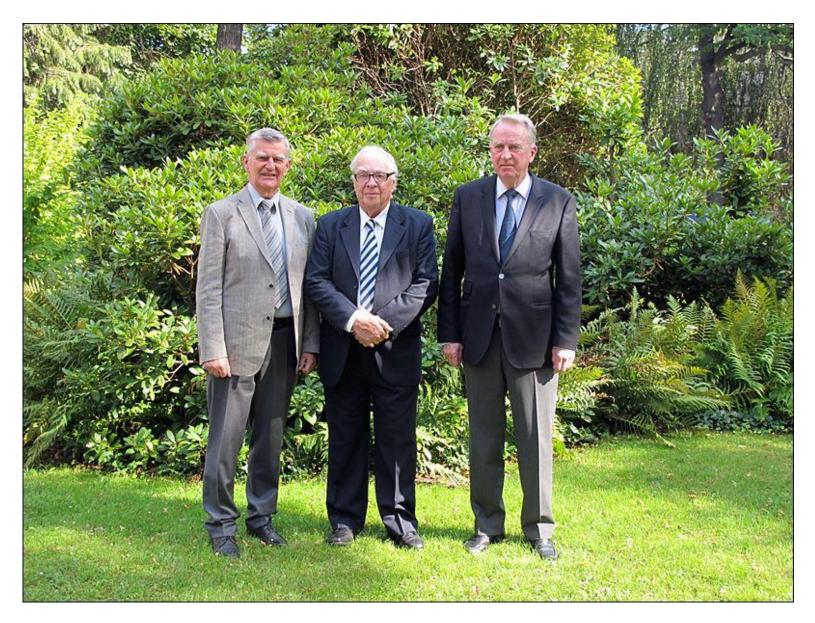
Mar-17-11 <u>Penguincw</u>: < talisman: happy bithday Oscar! the only man to have Bobby Fischer come to him, and ask him not to forfeit! > Oh yah. Now I remember. He resigned to Fischer in one move. Thanks talisman. <u>Fischer vs Panno</u>, 1970

The respected statistician Jeff Sonas (www.chessmetrics.com), ranks Oscar Panno as the # 18 player of the world in 1955. His best ranking in the FIDE ELO list was the # 18 player in the world in 1978, Oscar Panno remained a top forty player (today regarded as Super GM from the mid fifties until the mid / late seventies (during the decade from 1958 to 1968, Panno actively pursued his civil engineering career and played rarely).

His highest ELO rating was 2585 (FIDE), his highest historical ELO 2680 (SONAS).



Oscar Panno crowned as World Junior Chess Champion 1953: Klaus Darga (from whom Panno won the title on tie-break score) and, to Panno's left, Friðrik Ólafsson. Photo: skaksogufelagid.is



Still going strong: Darga, Panno, Olafsson in Dresden at the Pegasus Chess Summit 2015 (incl. also Korchnoi, Taimanov, Uhlmann), more than sixty years later. Photo: organiser

Magistral Oscar Panno



To honour his lifetime achievements, in 2012 the first **Magistral Oscar Panno** was organized. http://ajedrezfaogba.com.ar/web/cronicas-del-magistral-oscar-panno-12-210512/ (inactive)

Panno King's Indian variation

The 3rd Magistral Internacional Marcel Duchamp 2011, taking place 14-23rd December at the Club Argentino de Ajedrez, Paraguay 1858, Buenos Aires. The 13th FIDE category event will be played as a double-round robin with six players.

This tournament featured thematic opening to honour the legendary Argentine Grandmaster Panno:

All games will have to be opened with the Panno King's Indian variation – 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.0-0 a6.

Panno tournament director at age of 82 in the year 2017

The closed International Magistral Memorial Jorge Szmetan was held from 16-27th April 2017 at the Néstor Kirchner Cultural Centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Jorge Guillermo Szmetan (1950-2015) was International Master from Argentina. He was the national champion in 1976 and represented his country in three Chess Olympiads (1974 – 1978).

The event was organized by Dr. Ricardo Costianosky and the tournament director was legendary GM Oscar Panno.

Diego Flores (ARG) emerged clear winner with 7,5/11 points, leaving a pretty strong group of followers behind, including 2.-4. Sandro Mareco (ARG), Alan Pichot (ARG), and Julio Ernesto Granda Zuniga (PER), 5. Ivan Morovic Fernandez (CHI), 6.= Axel Bachmann (PAR), as well as veteran Herman C. van Riemsdijk (BRA), or Argentine-Italian GM Carlos Garcia Palermo, still the only Argentine player to have beat a reigning world champion under classic time controls.

memorialjorgeszmetan.wordpress.com

http://www.4semanas.com/oscar-panno-director-del-torneo-magistral-internacional-ajedrez-memorial-jorge-szmetan/ (Oscar Panno: director del torneo magistral internacional de ajedrez 'Memorial Jorge Szmetan' 2017)

Congratulations & Testimonials (2013):

Dear Mr. Panno,

On behalf of the World Chess Federation (FIDE) let me express my sincere congratulations on the special occasion - the 60th anniversary of winning the title of World Junior Chess Champion and Argentine Chess Champion.

This anniversary is a great date, not only for you, but for all of us – those who love you, your colleagues and friends. You have created your own fate and have achieved a lot in your life. You are known as an open person of a principle, who has a lot to offer and to learn from. You are actively sharing your rich life and sportive experience to younger chess players and serve as a true model of an International Chess Grandmaster!

Your professionalism and great experience have secured you respect and indisputable authority among your colleagues.

Let me on this wonderful day wish you the best of health, all the success, new opportunities, victories, optimism and endurance in any life situations, well-being and all the best. Always stay a winner and reach your aims!

Yours sincerely, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov , FIDE President It is a great honor for me to congratulate one of the greatest players from the era that always will be remembered as the golden age of chess. Exactly 60 years ago Mr. Oscar Panno proved that chess has a universal language, and you don't have to be born in Europe to win a prestigious tournament, such as the World Cadet Championship!

Continuing to play on the highest level and by winning many events during his active career, Mr. Panno did not just became of the strategical wizards of the game, but also greatly contributed to a rise of interest towards chess in the world and especially in his native Argentina and Latin America.

Dear Mr. Panno! I want to sincerely wish you good health, and many wonderful moments for you to see in the future!

With great respect,

Levon Aronian

I'm very pleased to be able to send an affectionate greeting to GM Oscar Panno commemorating the heroic deeds that managed to win 60 years ago the world youth championship chess. I had the great satisfaction of playing against him some times and receive live his master clases, which were full of his deep understanding of chess. Once occurred the happy circumstances of be I in Buenos Aires, training with the master, and the imprint of his legacy endures forever. It is worth the occasion to publicly express my gratitude for all his teachings not only taught on the Board but in the great space of life.

Julio Granda Zúñiga

I congratulate to GM Oscar Panno - my successor - 60th anniversary of wining the Second Junior chess championship of the world in Copenhagen 1953.

If I remember well the last time we met was in Puerto Rico 1984. It was only as if yesterday that both Copenhagen and Puerto Rico days have passed.

Dear Pannito, in my virtual life in the last 20 years, traveling in the time machine, I visited the places of our meetings multiple times: Copenhagen 1953, Mar del Plata 1955, Buenos Aires 1955, Moscow (olimpiada) 1956, Palma de Mallorca (international) 1972, Sao Paolo 1973, Buenos Aires 1979, Puerto Rico 1984..

In the first Olimpic Games after Second World War in Dubrovnik 1950 Argentina had a fearsome team: Najdorf, Bolbochan, Guimard, Rosseto, Pilnic, and it is a miracle that Yugoslavia won those Olimpic Games.

The next two Olimpic Games in Helsinki 1952 and Amsterdam 1954 (your first ol), Argentina, led by great Najdorf, won the second place both times behind unparallel pleiad of Soviet Grand masters: Botvinik, Keres, Bronstein, Smyslov, Boleslavski, Kotov, Taimanov, Geller...

Argentina was, as Yugoslavia, (the country which doesn't exist any more), leading chess force of the world for decades.

In my memory Najdorf, Bolbochan, Eliskases, Pilnic, Rossetto, Guimard, Sanguineti and many more live on, and are still marching proudly.

Dear Oscar shaking your hand I send you sincere wishes that you remain in good health for a very, very long time.

Hasta siempre.

Boris Ivkov

Hi Oscar, I already would like to be there to give you a hug and congratulate you personally, but as the distance does not allow it, I send you a few lines through Marina. My greeting is not only for your sporting success which is historic and impressive, but for everything that you mean as a teacher and as a person, as my teacher and my friend. A big hug, which you can enjoy the tribute and I hope we meet soon. Alejandro

Alejandro Hoffman, Chess Grandmaster

Source: http://www.fide.com/component/content/article/4-tournaments/7418-tribute-to-gm-oscar-panno.html



Nace en Buenos Aires el 17 de marzo de 1935. De profesión Ingeniero Civil, la carrera ajedrecística de Panno comienza en 1951 con su triunfo en el Torneo Nacional de Segunda Categoría, y luego al año siguiente ganar el Torneo Mayor.

En 1953 los triunfos se suceden. Primero gana el Campeonato Nacional Juvenil, luego el Torneo Magistral del Club Argentino, sigue su memorable triunfo en el Campeonato Mundial Juvenil en Klampenborg, Dinamarca, gana el Campeonato Argentino por primera vez y obtiene el título de campeón del Club Argentino en un match contra Luis Piazzini. Este último título lo retendrá hasta 1992!

En 1954 gana el Segundo Torneo Zonal Sudamericano y al año siguiente compite en el Interzonal de Gotemburgo donde termina tercero y se clasifica para el torneo de Candidatos en Amsterdam donde termina octavo.

En el Zonal de 1958 no tiene una buena actuación y deja de jugar al ajedrez de manera activa por un período de casi 5 años donde se dedica a terminar sus estudios universitarios y de paso expresar su disconformidad con la Federación Argentina ante las exigencias de obligarlo a jugar instancias preliminares para el campeonato local a pesar de los logros obtenidos en el exterior.

En 1954 Sub Campeón Mundial por equipos, Olimpíada de Amsterdam. En 1962 vuelve a la competición activa y logra la Medalla de Oro al segundo tablero en la Olimpíada de la Habana en 1966, además vence en tres importantes torneos: Buenos Aires 1968 (+8=2-1) delante de Najdorf; Palma de Mallorca en 1971 (+7=8-0) junto a Ljubojevic y adelante de Portisch y Larsen; y nuevamente en Palma de Mallorca en 1972 (+6=8-1) empatado con Korchnoi y Smejkal delante de Ljubojevic y Polugaievsky. Otros buenos resultados en torneos internacionales son sus segundos puestos en Caracas 1970 detrás de Stein, en Buenos Aires Clarin 1978 (+4=9-0) detrás de Andersson e igualado con Smyslov y Vaganian, en Lone Pine 1976 compartido con otros ocho GM y a medio punto detrás de Petrosian, y en 1977 segundo puesto en el Torneo Internacional de Biel, Suiza, detrás de Miles.

Representante olímpico 11 veces: Amsterdam 1954, Moscú 1956, Munich 1958, Varna 1962, La Habana 1966 (medalla de oro en el segundo tablero), Lugano 1968, Siegen 1970, Haifa 1976, Dubai 1986, Tesalónica 1988 y Manila 1992.

Campeón argentino en tres oportunidades 1953, 1985 y 1992.

http://web.archive.org/web/20131019164528/http:/www.ajedrezargentina.org/biografias/panno.html

1953: Campeón Mundial Juvenil (Menores de 20 años) en Copenhague

1953: Campeón Argentino, Buenos Aires

1954: Campeón Sudamericano, Zona 9, en Mar del Plata

1957: Campeón Sudamericano, Zona 9, Río de Janeiro

1958: Campeón Panamericano en Bogotá

1965: Ganador del Torneo Aniversario Y.M.C.A.

1966: Segundo 3er Sudamericano Zona 9, en Río Hondo

1969: Co-Campeón Sudamericano, Zona 9, en Mar del Plata

1971: Co-Campeón Torneo Palma de Mallorca

1972: Co-Campeón Torneo Palma de Mallorca

1976 & 1977: Campeón Torneo de Santa Fé de Bogotá

1997: Co- Campeón Torneo de Lone Pine

1985: Campeón Argentino, Buenos Aires

1992: Campeón Argentino, La Plata

Famous game: Panno vs Spassky, 1-0, Interzonal in Gothenburg 1955 to replay in Chessgames

Biography:

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Biography:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oscar_Panno (Wikipedia in english)

https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oscar_Panno (Wikipedia in spanish)

http://www.thechesspedia.com/panno-oscar-roberto/l (Chesspedia)

http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=14024 (Chessgames)

http://web.archive.org/web/20131019164528/http:/www.ajedrezargentina.org/biografias/panno.html

http://es.chessbase.com/post/oscar-panno-cumpli-70-aos-el-reino-del-maestro-

Oscar Panno, cumplió 70 años - El reino del maestro

http://web.archive.org/web/20100727142625/http://www.asterionxxi.com.ar/numero7/panno50.htm CINCUENTA AÑOS DEL PRIMER TITULO MUNDIAL

http://www.szachy.lo.pl/Historia/wchu20_1953.htm (Crosstable World Junior-ch, final stage 1953) http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/w20b1953.htm (Crosstable World Junior-ch, all stages 1953)

http://blogs.lanacion.com.ar/ajedrez/noticias/el-agora-del-maestro-oscar-panno/ (Portrait) http://www.tabladeflandes.com/zenon2006/zenon_311.htm (Portrait by Franco Ocampos) +++++ https://periodicoelbarrio.com.ar/tablas-con-oscar-panno/ (Tablas con Oscar Panno, El Barrio)

https://chess24.com/es/informate/noticias/oscar-panno-el-legado-del-maestro (Oscar Panno. El legado del Maestro by Carlos A. Ilardo for Chess24)

http://tartajubow.blogspot.com/2019/10/oscar-panno-living-legend.html (Tartajubow on Panno) +++++

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