



Paris “City of Love”

Le Marais is one of Paris oldest and most visually stunning district. It exudes old-world charm and modern-day functionality in the city. Le Marais hosts many outstanding buildings of historic and architectural importance as well as trendy restaurants, fashion houses, and hip galleries. The district spreads across the 3rd and 4th arrondissements in Paris.



The Place des Vosges, situated in Marais, is the oldest planned square in Paris and one of the finest in the city. The square (140 m × 140 m) was built in 1605 by the King of France Henri IV



Typical Brasserie in Paris, Marais



Rue des Ecouffles, the street where the chess club Lutece Echecs is located. Lutece is the ancient name of Paris



The 5th Chess Festival of Marais was held between 4-6 April in the splendid City Hall of the 4th district of Paris. The event is traditionally organised by the Lutece Echecs chess club, located in the heart of Le Marais. It is the biggest and most beautiful chess event held in Paris - 8 tournaments with over 400 participants.

This year the Festival took place on Easter weekend. Many children coming with their parents celebrated the Easter in the chess family. About 1500 people visited the festival during those three days.

The Festival included two classic tournaments, Open A for the players rated under 2200 and Open B for those under 1600. Besides that, five youth tournaments for the children who qualified from their school chess tournament.



Chess players from Paris schools. For some of them it was their first chess tournament!



And the president of Lutece ready to announce, the winner is....



...actually there are lot of winners! :)



If in the Open A, the victory of Talbi Boumedienne, 2123, was pretty predictable, then the biggest surprise came in the Open B under 1600. A 9 year old non rated kid won the event with an extraordinary result 6,5 out of 7! His name is CAI Dawnn Xinhe from Lutèce Echecs and he moved from China to Paris few months ago. He doesn't even speak french yet but he has already won a chess tournament! Happily chess language is international: the moves are talking themselves.



The winner of Open B under 1600, non rated Cai Dawnn Xinhe, 6,5/7

Final Standing Open A

<http://www.echecs.asso.fr/Resultats.aspx?URL=Tournois/Id/33319/33319&Action=Ga>

Final Standing Open B

<http://www.echecs.asso.fr/Resultats.aspx?URL=Tournois/Id/33320/33320&Action=Ga>

The cherry of the event was the Rapid Tournament where 7 Grand Masters and 8 International Masters participated.



Tension in the last round. French GM Christian Bauer 2610 (left) won against Sergey Fedorchuk 2790 (right) from Ukraine and took second place



The winner of the Rapid of Marais GM David Alberto 2580 (left) vs french GM Jean-Luc Chabanon 2580 (right), 1-0. Alberto represents Italy, but is living in the 4th district of Paris. He's also one of the coaches of the elite of Lutèce club. Not surprisingly, he won on his territory.

Final Standing <http://www.lutece-echecs.fr/page.php?idArticle=1254>

During the festival, the City Hall hosted a match from French Cup between Lutece and Chalons en Champagne, the team of the President of French Federation Diego Salazar.

Chalons en Champagne	1 - 2	Lutece
m VELTEN Paul 2460	1 - 0	RODRIGUEZ Adrien 2271
m DOURERASSOU Jonathan 2430	X - X	f LAMORELLE Julien 2340
f FAVAREL Antoine 2388	0 - 1	CHANDESRIS Ludovic 2244
SALAZAR Diego 1991	0 - 1	MORICE Ludovic 2081



President of French Chess Federation, Diego Salazar 1991 (right) lost his game against Ludovic Morice 2081 (left)



One of the key games which brings victory to the team of Lutece Echecs, f Favarel Antoine 2388 vs Chandesris Ludovic 2244, 0-1

The game commented by Chandesris Ludovic to be placed here



We are the Champions !



Always smiling french ladies from the tournament buvette, Florence and Catherine

The next Chess Festival of Marais will take place next year in March, 25 to 27, in Paris. New edition, new players and new surprises, say the organisers Julien and Yves Lamorelle. So, if you plan to visit the French capital next spring and you like chess, do not miss this Festival!

Photos Philippe Durand
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