



**INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION**

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# Press Release

## ***Bryce Avery Earns the ICCF IA Title***

Bryce Avery has been granted the title of International Arbiter (IA) by International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF). His Medal and Title Certificate will be awarded at the 2014 ICCF Congress to be held from October 11th through 18th in Sydney, Australia. The path to the IA title is a challenging one. The applicant, in his role as a Tournament Director (TD), must pass muster on both quantitative as well as qualitative bases. The first criterion consists of two parts: 1) a minimum of 4 years of tournament directing without a break (or 6 years with a break in service) and 2) a minimum of at least 1,000 games presided over in those qualifying tournaments. The second criterion requires that the Mentor Tournament Directors (MTDs) that are assigned to a prospective IA approve of the person's body of work on the basis of "response to problems or queries from players, games archiving, delivery of information for marketing purposes", etc. The process originates with the national federation of the candidate IA having to provide supporting evidence of such competence to the ICCF Arbiter Committee (ACO). At a minimum this includes a listing of the qualifying tournaments directed along with the MTDs assigned and recommendations from the MTDs, ICCF Officers or others with knowledge of the candidate's work. The ACO meets to review the application and a vote of the committee members follows. Their recommendation is then forwarded to the Qualifications Commissioner for final certification. In the case of Bryce, he has volunteered as an ICCF TD continuously since 2006 presiding over no less than 84 completed tournaments which included 2,397 games; all metrics that are well in excess of the quantitative thresholds established for the IA title. As for the qualitative requirement, he received a unanimous 7-0 vote of the ACO approving his application based upon his meticulous directing history.

Bryce was about 6 years old when he learned the chess moves from his father, but he didn't start playing until high school when a schoolmate challenged him to a game. After discovering that he could hold his own, Bryce looked for a local club but discovered that the nearest one was too far to travel from where he lived in the suburbs of Los Angeles. That spurred him to answer a USCF ad for the Golden Knights. He has played correspondence ever since, for more than 30 years now only taking a break for 2 years while as a Mormon missionary. Most of those games have been with CCLA, where he served several years as CCLA's Historian and on the Board of Directors. In 1999, Bryce authored the book *Correspondence Chess in America* (McFarland). After moving to Colorado, he volunteered as a thematic TD for several ICCF e-mail events. In 2006, Bryce switched over to server events only and has also supervised several non-thematic sections. He points out that the "best thing about server thematics is that the players and games are less difficult to manage because there are no rating points, championships, titles or involvement with filling in crosstables by hand."

He also enjoys playing and hopes to continue do so for many years to come. The following is an example of his attacking style <http://www.iccfus.com/gameofthemoth/games/Avery.html>. After his opponent plays an inferior 7<sup>th</sup> move, the outcome is never in question.

**For Immediate Release 12:00 p.m. EST, January 15, 2014 more**

[ECO "C02"]  
 [Opening "French Defense: Advanced Var. "]  
 [Event "North American Class B Ch."]  
 [Site "ICCF"]  
 [StartDate "2008"]  
 [White "Evans,Lorin (USA)"]  
 [Black "Avery,Bryce (USA)"]  
 [Result "0-1"]  
 [WhiteElo "2000"]  
 [BlackElo "1854"]

**1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bd7 6.Be2 Nge7 7.Bg5?! This has been scoring around 20% for white in both correspondence and over the board play. It is difficult to envision what white's intentions were here. [7.Na3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Nf5 9.Nc2 Qb6 10.h4 Nb4 11.Nxb4 Bxb4+ 12.Kf1 Bb5 13.g4 Ne7 14.a3 Qa6 15.h5 h6 16.Bxb5+ Qxb5+ 17.Qe2 Qxe2+ 18.Kxe2 Ba5 19.Be3 Kd7 20.Nd2 Bxd2 21.Bxd2 Rac8 22.Kd3 Rhg8 23.Raf1 b6 24.Rh3 a6 25.Rf3 Rcf8 26.Rc1 Nc6 27.Bb4 Nxb4+ 28.axb4 f6 29.Ke2 fxe5 30.dxe5 Rxf3 31.Kxf3 a5 32.b5 Rf8+ 33.Kg3 Rd8 34.Rc6 Ke7 35.Kf3 d4 36.Ke2 Rd5 37.Rxb6 Rxe5+ 38.Kd3 Rd5 39.f4 a4 40.Rb7+ Kd6 41.Rxg7 Rxb5 42.g5 Rxb2 43.gxh6 Rb5 44.Rg5 Rb8 45.Kxd4 Rh8 46.Rg6 a3 47.f5 a2 48.Rxe6+ Kd7 49.Ra6 Rxh6 50.Rxa2 Rxh5 51.Ke5 Rh6 52.Ra7+ Ke8 53.f6 Rh1 ½-½ Pospisil,L (2496)-D'Adamo,E (2559)/ICCF 2010/OM Corr 0113a] 7...Qb6 8.b3 [8.Qd2 Nf5 9.g4 h6 10.Bf4 g5 11.gxf5 gxf4 12.f6 0-0-0 *Houdini*] 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Nf5 From this position, white is scoring 0%. It is just a matter of technique from here. 10.a3 Ncxd4 11.Nxd4 Qxd4 12.Qxd4 Nxd4 13.Bd1 Rc8 14.Nd2 Be7 15.Be3 Nc6 16.0-0 a6 17.b4 Nxe5 18.Bd4 Bd6 19.Nf3 Nxf3+ 20.Bxf3 0-0 21.Rac1 e5 22.Bb2 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 e4 24.Bd1 Rc8 25.Rxc8+ Bxc8 26.Bb3 Be6 27.g3 f5 28.Bd4 Kf7 29.Kf1 Be7 30.Ke2 Bf6 31.Ke3 g5 32.Bxf6 Kxf6 33.Kd4 f4 34.Bxd5 Bxd5 35.Kxd5 e3 0-1**