

## **Magnus League Steps Up Its Fourth Season On November 20th:**

### **Stuyvesant and Collegiate Return For Round 2**

**Sophie Morris-Suzuki, Arjun Rai, Andrew Zheng, Christopher Rovinski, Jonathan Kogan, Stephen Moon And Maxwell Lin Win Individual Games**

**Browning, Stuyvesant and Collegiate Now Each Have 1 Point While Jonathan Kogan Leads Individual Scoreboard**

**By Steve Immitt, National Tournament Director**

**Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School, 36 West 93rd Street**, just west of Central Park West in Manhattan, hosted the second regular season match of the 2016-2017 Magnus High School Chess League on Sunday November 20th. League Founder and Commissioner, International Arbiter Sophia Rohde, as usual, proffered a plentiful provender of refreshments to help wake everyone up for the Sunday morning round.

We welcomed back two Magnus League veteran schools to the Magnus League for Round 2.

New York's Collegiate School fielded the highest average team rating of 1706. They were joined by the two-time defending Magnus League Champions, Stuyvesant High School. Before the round began, Stuyvesant was presented with a plaque commemorating their perfect 6-0 score from 2015-2016.

Stuyvesant and Collegiate were joined by two other Manhattan schools, the Browning School and the home team of Columbia Grammar and Prep.

On Board 1, Collegiate was paired against Columbia. The schools' top two players, Marcello Berger (2000) of Collegiate and Columbia's Daniel Levkov (2076), both Experts, held each other to a tense draw, after a long and hard-fought contest. Their game was outlasted by the battle on next board, where Columbia's Jonathan Kogan (1589) pulled off the day's biggest upset-- nearly 200 points-- over Collegiate's second seed, William Hahn (1786). But their rating advantage held up on Board 3, with Collegiate's Christopher Rovinski (1677) besting Columbia's Adam Perlstein (1247). The same plan worked for Board 4 as well, with Stephen Moon (1345) besting Gabriel Woloz (1179). Collegiate proved that the lower boards count as well in a team contest, with the Dutchmen winning the match against the home team Lions, 2½ - 1½.

The day's other team pairing saw Stuyvesant High School, a team average of 1628, matched against Browning (1331.5). The defending champions were definitely back, and they swept all four boards. Their longest game was on Board 1, where the tournament's highest rated-player, Expert Sophie Morris-Suzuki (2118), piled up the Queenside pressure on her opponent, Max Beem (1820)'s long-castled King. After 35 moves, White's house could hold up no longer.

The results were similar in the rest of the games, with Arjun Rai (1935) defeating Browning's Hugh Chapin (1671), and Stuyvesant's Andrew Zheng (1794) over Michael Jozoff (1096). The first upset of the day occurred when Stuyvesant's Board 4, Maxwell Lin (665) overcame Alexander Young (739).

The loss pushed the Panthers to 1-1, after last month's victorious match against Columbia. Stuyvesant and Collegiate have also each scored one match point as well.

With his draw last month against Browning's top-seed, Maxwell Beem, along with his win on Sunday, Columbia's Jonathan Kogan leads the individual field with 1½ points.

Columbia Prep's B-team of Cole Tambaro and Maxwell Pazzaglini essayed two house games: Dmitry Levkov (1677), the dad of Columbia's Board 1, Daniel, defeated Cole (910), whose brother, Michael (900), of

Bronx Science, won over Maxwell (465)— thereby evening the score of their own personal “house” match which started in Round 1 last month.

Grandmaster Marc Arnold was sidelined by an emergency visit to the dentist; we hope he is feeling better in time for our next match on December 4th. FIDE Master Nils Grotnes graciously analyzed games in his absence (including the interesting Board One game between Stuyvesant and Browning).

The complete results from Round Two on November 20th have been posted at:  
<http://www.chesscenter.cc/Magnus/2016-2017/fs-MagnusLeague-2016-2017-Nov20-2016.htm>

(Magnus standings and match results, along with USCF-rated results, can also be seen at the Magnus League webpage at [www.magnusleague.org](http://www.magnusleague.org) as well).

**The Magnus League wishes all its players, coaches and their families**

***a Very Happy Thanksgiving!***

Be sure to mark your calendars for our next Magnus League match at **10:00 am on Sunday December 4th, at Columbia Grammar School!**

You can register your teams on our website at [www.magnusleague.org](http://www.magnusleague.org) (the advance registration deadline is 6:00 pm on Saturday December 3rd).

***Thank you and welcome (or welcome back) to everyone for our fourth Magnus League season!***