Hi, I'm Mark Wong. I'm the newsletter editor for the Canadian Go Association. I currently attend the newly renamed Western University in London, Ontario; but my home residence is in Toronto.

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The Canadian Go Newsletter Mar 2013

The 2013 Canadian Go Open
By: Joanna Liu

Hosted by Golden Key Cultural Center Inc, the Canadian Go Open will take place from June 28th to July 1st. The lowest rates ($10 off) are available to those who register by March 31st, so do not wait, register today!

Even if you must miss part of the event (perhaps the work day, Friday), you can be given byes for the games you cannot attend. For those who register by March 31st rates are:

Children  $25 (2 days only)
Kyu level  $45
1-5 Dan   $50
6d+       $60

Attending professionals:

So Hyun Park 3P

After spending 3 months in Toronto, she will return for another 6 weeks, which includes teaching at the Canadian Go Open.
Wu ZhengYu 2P:

Some of Wu ZhenYu’s achievements include.
2001- Passed the Professional Go Exam as the first place with 9 consecutive wins.
2005- TCL Cup National Undergraduate Go Champion.
2005- Asian Cup Student Go Championship (3rd place for individual, first place for team-go)

He is currently a Go coach for Shanghai, Xuhui district second sports school.

I think it is safe to assume that Gansheng Shi will be attending, and he will likely be the first professional player to compete in the Canadian Go Open. If we are lucky, the other AGA pro, Andy Liu might come to defend his title.
We have also invited Gansheng Shi’s teacher, who was the first Canadian citizen to earn professional status.

It is possible that Chen Zhaofeng 5P might also be a guest lecturer there. He has been training professional go players for over 20 years. Among them include: Piao Wenyao 9P and Wang Lei 8P.

For more information, visit: http://canadiango2013.com

**2013 GTA Children’s Go Tournament**

On March 11, 2013. Golden Key hosted the first GTA Children’s Go Tournament. The Tournament attracted 14 players under age of 12. The first place went to Judy Liu (1K) with 3 wins, 2nd place went to John Nicholson (1K) with 2 wins, third place went to Qingyuan Wu (1D).

For other divisions, 5K to 9K, winner is Richard Bao (5K). 10K to 14K, winner is David Kang (10 K), and beginner division winner is Richie Zhang (15K)

The 3rd Annual Brock Go Tournament

By: Johnathan Dew

The 3rd Annual Brock Go Tournament took place on March 17th in St. Catharine’s, ON. Participating in the tournament were 21 Go players who split into 3 divisions based on rank: Dan, SDK, DDK. Players came from the Mountain Go Club in Hamilton, Forest City Go Club in London, and Brock Go Club in St. Catharine’s.

The tournament included complimentary bagels, and drinks. Prizes included cash for the top 2 players in division A and C, and the top 3 players in the largest division B. Books, and accessories along with the cash prizes were provided so that everyone was able to leave with a prize.

Special thanks goes out to the Toronto Go Club, for providing extra boards, stones, and clocks; Brock Student Union, for providing the room, the bagels, and funding; and the Brock Confucius Institute for financial support.

Division A
1. Oliver Wolf 4D
2. Mark Wong 1D
3. Nicholas Prince 1D
Division B
1. Daniel Zou 4k
2. Peter McMain 2k
3. Musa Al-hassy 9k

Division C
1. Kyle Barbas 15k
2. Keiran Brown-MacFayden 15k
3. Adam Balint 20k

Above: Intense games during break time. The Division A winner, Oliver Wolf, is in the green, and the person dressed obnoxiously red is the newsletter editor. Below: Thomas Wolf announcing the winners and their prizes as Oliver strodé off towards the prize table to claim his cookies.
Report on the 4th Annual Waterloo Go Tournament
By: James Sedgwick

On Saturday, March 2nd, the Waterloo Go Club hosted their annual Go tournament. A record number of 61 players took part in this year’s event. Participating clubs included the Brock Go Club, the University of Toronto Go Club, the Brampton Go Club, and the Mountain Go Club.

There were many exciting match-ups during the tournament, the most notable of which was Ryan Li (7d) vs. Jianing Gan (7d). Their match ended in a close finish, with Ryan defeating Jianing by 0.5 points. Jianing had won all of the previous Waterloo Go tournaments. Ryan Li eventually finished 4-0 to take 1st place. The 2nd and 3rd place titles were awarded to Ben Mantle (5d) and Jianing Gan (7d) respectively.

Right: The close match between Ryan Li and Jianing Gan.
Overall, the event was a tremendous success. The tournament charged no entry fees, but asked participants to make a donation to the Canadian Go Association, collecting $160 for the CGA. The CGA wishes to express its gratitude for this support. The tournament also provided invaluable experience for the growing Go community in Southern Ontario. Clubs and organizations in the region can look to the Waterloo Go Club’s success as a model to build upon for future tournaments and events.”

Right: The Toronto Go players. We see Ryan Li (the first one on the left), and Ben Mantle hiding beside James Sedgwick.
BadukTv Free Live English Title Matches
By: Matt Mennie

BadukTV is now offering free live video streaming of Asian title matches with english commentary. They can be viewed on UStream at http://www.ustream.tv/channel/baduktvcorp. This is an exciting new development and with any luck, there will be lots more in the future. For more future english commentaries check out “Upcoming Shows” on the channel link above.

Game Commentary
By: James Sedgwick

Editor’s notes: The moves that are titled “Follow” are the variations. James has given us an in-depth analysis of his exciting game against Bill Lin.
Move 0: This was the A-1 League game between Bill and I. An interesting position came up on the left side at move 28. I failed to find the most urgent Fuseki point, and Bill showed me why another choice was more urgent. The choices around move 28 are reviewed in some detail, the rest of the game is provided for the curious, with a couple comments at moves 54/55 and move 70.

Move 28: At this time black needed to choose where was urgent. In the game I chose to play in the upper right, as I have a double wing formation, and a white move like Q17 would be unpleasant. If white triangle had been at A I would have peeped at B. If white connected I would have defended the left at F and aimed at a follow up at E. If white had answered the peep with C that in itself would have helped the left side enough so I could leave it alone. With the game move triangle I did not want to play F, as it seems to have only one function, defence.

However, Bill noted there is a move which defends the left and has an impact on the white top group. Do you see it? See the variation for the next move.

When I failed to find it, black invaded the left and made a nice sabaki, taking the lead in the game.
Move 29: This move both expands the left side, and weakens the top white stones. As any good move in Go it as multiples functions. Bill noted this is the usual move in pro games with this left side position, and after seeing it I agree it should be best.

Move 32: Maybe this would be better for black?
Figure 6 (31 - 31, Follow 4)

Move 31: This may not be the only choice for black here, perhaps A? However there is no clearly good variation.

Move 35: This triangle move is dubious. Maybe A or B. I didn’t want to allow white to take triangle, but it seems slow, and certainly with the game variation it winds up badly placed. I didn’t see Black’s next move coming. If you were white where would you play to make sabaki?

Figure 7 (32 - 35)

Figure 8 (36 - 36)
Move 36: I went "ouch" when I saw this move. After this I cannot find a good variation for black. If black A white will cross cut with B, and can again make reasonable sabaki. Can you find anything better for black than the game variation?

Move 44: Through here white has taken the corner, and the left lower side which used to be part of black's moyo is is in danger of becoming white territory. Black has only gotten some extra cash in their upper left corner. There is still alot of game to play, but white has clearly taken the lead. Black's move at triangle has been left badly placed...

Figure 9 (37 - 44)

Figure 10 (45 - 49, Follow 9)

Move 49: Black can attack the triangle stones, and since black has A left the white capture of B is not so large.
Move 45: In hindsight this might have been better placed at A (See variation).

Move 54: Black's reply to this move seems to be the losing move. Where would you play?

Move 55: Connecting here appears to be a clear error. This cut was not the critical weakness. Instead black should have worried about the strike at the vital point of A. A black move at B would have been a good defence. T
Figure 14 (67 - 72, Follow 13)

Move 72: sedgwick [4d?]: this didn't seem good, but the fight in the game was too hard

Move 70: When white take this point, the game feels lost for black. So many problems, with the ko on the left, the cut at p4, the lower right corner unsettled, and the triangle stones threatening to be captured on a large scale. I struggled on for a while, but I don't think there is much of interest and no further comment are given.

Figure 15 (67 - 70, Follow 13)

Figure 16 (71 - 90)
Figure 21 (171 - 172)
I’m really happy that there are so many tournaments in Canada. Tournament organizing is quite tough and they not only help you meet people from other clubs, but they also help you strengthen bonds between your own club members.

I would like to show my appreciation to them by having a checklist compilation of tournament organizers from across the country. So, if you have organized a tournament, please send me an email with your thoughts on what you need to do to have a successful tournament.

I also want to ask the readers:
- What do you think of the newsletter?
- Are you okay with this font size, or do you want it bigger or smaller?
- What did you think of the Go game review?

There will be a Go game file, like the review every month. I also want people to notice Go clubs around Canada, so if you love your club and want to talk about it, send me an article and it will be in the next Club Spotlight. My e-mail is markwong14@hotmail.com
I give my thanks to James Sedgwick for his amazing contribution to the newsletter. Thanks also go to Johnathan Dew, Joanna Liu, Matt Mennie, and The Golden Key. Without them, this newsletter would not have happened.

If you see these people and enjoy this newsletter as much as I did, then please give them your thanks.

-Mark Wong