

# The way it should be done

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**T**HIS YEAR'S Phillips and Drew Kings in London was virtually the model top international tournament. The field consisted of 14 grandmasters, including Russian world champion Anatoly Karpov and legendary Soviet defector Viktor Korchnoi. Games were transmitted move-by-move into many thousands of homes via the BBC television teletext system, and at the playing venue, in magnificent County Hall, there were enough sideshows to keep the most lethargic of spectators alert. These included discussions of games in progress by a master in another room, and earphone commentaries — possibly a world first. By hiring what resembled an anaemic parsnip, a spectator could sit watching the grandmasters in action while listening to various experts analyse the games over a hearing-loop system.

In return the grandmasters responded with the sort of fighting chess that has characterised the past two P & D events. Although it was soon apparent that Korchnoi was not in top form, Karpov set off at a blistering pace. Clearly he was taking no chances in a contest containing four past world championship candidates, and where the lowest-rated player was English GM Jon Speelman. After six rounds the 32-year-old Soviet ace had five points, along with his countryman Lev Polugayevsky. Probably the biggest surprise, however, was the closest Western challenger ... some fellow called Chandler. When I first got my invitation to the Kings, I looked at the list of participants, then I looked at last prize (\$430), and then I accepted. Little did I imagine that I would be in contention for first (\$7600). Anatoly, however, was ruthless and once again confirmed his status as the most successful champion of all time.

Final results were: 1, Karpov 9 points; 2-3 Chandler (New Zealand/England) and Polugayevsky 8; 4, Timman (Holland) 7½; 5-6, Ribli (Hungary) and Seirawan (USA) 7; 7-8 Korchnoi (Switzerland) and Vaganian (USSR) 6½; 9-11 Andersson (Sweden), Miles and Speelman (both England) 5½; 12-14, Mestel and Nunn (England) and Torre (Philippines) 5. While I scored the same number of wins as the world champion, Karpov took far fewer risks and lost only one game — to bottom marker Eugene Torre! The clash of the tournament, however, was pre-ordained. A capacity 600-strong crowd assembled for the encounter between Karpov and Korchnoi, the first tournament game these two once-bitter rivals have played in 11 years.

53-year-old Korchnoi arrived three minutes late, and briefly apologised to his opponent: as it was a Saturday the normal County Hall entrance had been closed and he had got lost. Then he and Karpov shook hands for the first time in 44 games, accompanied by spontaneous and prolonged applause. The Soviet boycott of Korchnoi has now officially ended, though that made little difference to Karpov, who took up where he had left off at the last world championship challenge in Merano. Here is his incisive victory.

## GRUNFELD DEFENCE

A. KARPOV	V. KORCHNOI
1. Nf3	Nf6
2. c4	g6
3. Nc3	d5

4. d4	Bg7
5. Bg5	Ne4
6. cxd5	Nxg5
7. Nxg5	e6
8. Nf3	exd5
9. e3	0-0

*I can claim to have invented the idea 9...c6 10.b4 Bf8!? but I wouldn't necessarily recommend it against Karpov!*

10. b4	Be6
11. Be2	Nd7
12. 0-0	f5
13. Re1	g5
14. Rc1	Kh8
15. Bd3	c6
16. b5	g4
17. Nd2	c5
18. dxc5	Nxc5
19. Nb3	Nxb3
20. axb3	

*Korchnoi's strategy of advancing the pawns in front of his own king is a typical one in such positions. The trouble is, against Karpov attacks are often snuffed out before they start.*

20. ...	Rc8
21. Ne2	Rxc1
22. Qxc1	Qb6
23. Nf4	Bg8
24. g3	d4
25. Bc4!	Rc8
26. Qb1	dxe3
27. Rxe3	Qc5
28. Qe1	Bd4

*Perhaps 28...Bxc4 29.bxc4 Qxc4 30.Re8 ch Rxe8 31.Qxe8 ch Qg8, though after 32.Qd7 White still has all the winning chances.*

29. Re2	Bxc4
30. bxc4	Rg8
31. Qc1!	Rc8
32. Qc2	Bg7

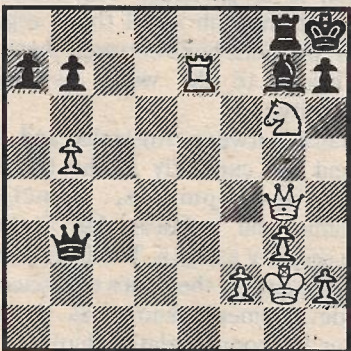
*A lesser time-trouble expert than Korchnoi might have fallen for 32...Qxc4? 33.Re8 ch.*

33. Qd3	Qd4
34. Qxf5	Qxc4
35. Re7	

*Closing in for the kill. White's pieces converge on the Black king.*

35. ...	Rd8
36. Kg2	Qb3
37. Qxg4	Rg8
38. Ng6 ch	Resigns

KORCHNOI



KARPOV

*After 38...hxg6 39.Qh4 ch Bh6 40.Qxh6 is mate. Afterwards Korchnoi was quoted as saying he had made no detectable error, but had been gradually outplayed. "My bishops were hitting into a vacuum and whichever one I exchanged I was worse."*