

Newsletter number 4 3-5-90

The Irish Go Association
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REPORT ON THE IRISH OPEN GO TOURNAMENT

The tournament started shortly after 10 am on Sunday 18th in Power's Hotel. Most players had come along early although people continued to drop by all day. Not everyone could enter in the full tournament, as in the case of the players from the Isle of Man who couldnt stay all day, so there was plenty of informal Go playing.

Various prize categories had been suggested, first place, youngest player, dumbest move in the tournament, etc. But as we didnt have any prizes this didnt come to much. Hopefully our summer tournament (see coming events) will be a different story.

The tournament was advertised in the national newspapers and we were delighted to hear from players in Trim (see Go venues section) and Bray who we had not previously contacted. In all 26 people attended. Countries represented include Czechoslovakia, England, Ireland, Israel and Japan.

About 8 pm the final round finished up, 1st and 2nd place coming as no suprise.

First	Isao Toshima	2 nd Dan
Second	Noel Mitchell	1 Kyu
Third	Paul Eustace	5 Kyu

Special thanks go to Power's Hotel's manager Mr. Bernard Connaughton for his support, to John Gibson for lending us the Chess clocks and to Damien Lynch for his artistic efforts in producing our logo.

THE ISLE OF MAN CHALLENGE

The Isle of man players arrived in Dublin on Saturday evening. After a warmup game in college park we broke for dinner. Play resumed later with David Phillips, Roly, John and Leo on the Isle of Man side and Noel, Ken, Damien and Paul Eustace on the Irish Side. The result was a draw with two wins for each side. The next round will be played in Douglas on the Isle of Man in the summer. The players were at the tournament the next morning but had to leave at lunchtime to catch their flight home. We hope their next visit will be less hurried and that they get a better chance to see more of Ireland.

THE 1990 WORLD AMATEUR GO CHAMPIONSHIP (WAGC)

This year for the first time Ireland will be represented at the WAGC! The news that the International Go Federation (IGF) is willing to accept an Irish representative this year reached us just before the tournament on St. Patrick's weekend. Based on the tournament results and by unanimous assent Noel Mitchell was selected.

The WAGC, organised by the Nihon Ki-in, will be held in Hiroshima from the 19th to the 26th of May. All entrants recieve free return flights to Japan as well as meals and accommodation. Ireland is the 22nd European country to enter the WAGC since it started 11 years ago.

BEGINNING GO

From "Solution to Teaching Problem" by Francis Roads - British Go Journal 78 - Spring.

Anyone who has taught much Go knows the immense benefits of keeping the weaker player on smaller boards. In summary, they are (a) quick games, (b) understandable strategy and (c) offer the possibility of very large handicapps. The need to spend most time actually playing re-emphasises once more the need to play many quick games on small boards, rather than spending a whole evening agonising over moves on the full board.

