

Eva Regina Magacs
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Paul Felix Schmidt A Winning Formula



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PREFACE

The realization of this book reflects in some measure the complicated life of the title figure. Both were shaped by lucky coincidences, but also unexpected setbacks. Originally, it was conceived as a game collection supplemented by biographical data. Ultimately that chess book did not come about, due to insurmountable difficulties. Finally, under the panoply of a new publishing house, a positive resolution, hopefully also for the reader, emerged in the form of this biography. In it still, the game of chess is assigned an essential role.

Many personal, previously undisclosed details about Paul Felix Schmidt can be found in that part of the biography that his daughter Eva Regina Magacs contributed. Also with her help, entire passages from autobiographical memories left behind by her father could slip into the book. Furthermore, the chapters written in German were carefully translated into English by Mrs. Magacs. Both texts were incorporated into the book, each accompanied by different illustrations. This will contribute to a better understanding of those circumstances, in most cases outside of the framework of the chess world, which are verifiable exclusively through original German sources.

My very personal thank you goes to Eva Regina Magacs and her husband Jim, from Binghamton, New York, USA. Without their dedication and indispensable assistance with matters of content, a comprehensive biography of Paul Felix Schmidt would never have come into being. Here also their daughter Hilary L. Magacs deserves mention, since it was she who initially facilitated my first contact with her parents on 10 June 2015.

Michael Negele, Wuppertal, April 2017

Dear Reader,

As the translator, it was my pleasure to work on Michael Negele's excellent book about the life and career of my father Paul F. Schmidt.

As the book drew closer to publication, it became apparent to me that what worked for the German version was not so effective in English. In the German language it worked well to incorporate most footnotes into the main text. I decided to keep the majority of footnotes in place for the English version, as they are interesting asides that, while not intrinsic to the story, present a rich and entertaining tapestry of the times. This does the most justice for the flow of the book when read in English. Although the format and layout will appear to be different, rest assured that the content of the two sections remains the same.

E. Regina Magacs, Binghamton (NY), April 2017

A WINNING FORMULA

by Michael Negele

INTRODUCTION

On occasion, only decades later can a cohesive summary of a life be pieced together from the randomly gathered mosaic tiles of its biography. In this way my interest in Paul Schmidt was awakened 45 years ago, through reading a worn out book of a modest 85 pages.

Paul Felix Schmidt analyzing
with his favourite chess set,
Easter 1974.





Werner Lauterbach (left) and
Ludek Pachman

The somewhat trivial title was *Schachmeister denken* (How Chess Masters Think).¹ However, the contents fulfilled the claim of the publisher to “make the thought processes and patterns of the chess master accessible to the eager-to-learn disciples of this art.” This was the first in the *Südwestschach* (Southwest Chess) series published by Dr. Werner Lauterbach. How could a master with the common name Schmidt take the leading role in a series containing the work of world champions Emanuel Lasker and José Raúl Capablanca?

My source at the time for everything related to chess history was *Lehrbuch des Schachspiels* (Manual of Chess) by Dufresne/Mieses, reworked from its 19th edition onwards by Rudolf Teschner. In the 24th edition of 1972, this Schmidt (ending in ‘dt’) was too unimportant to mention after Schmid (ending in ‘d’). So, how could this “Mr. Nobody” dare to “let the whites and the blacks think aloud,” and then subject them to his objective critique? Considering the players at the board were champions of the caliber of Alekhine, Botvinnik, Capablanca, Eliskases, Euwe, Fine, Flohr, and Keres!

In his 1949 introduction, Dr. Lauterbach gave insight into the development of the book, but no information about the author:

¹ There are five editions, all published by Walter Rau Verlag, finally Düsseldorf: 1949 (Dietmannsried [Allgäu] and Heidelberg), 1960 (second edition, Düsseldorf and Kempten [Allgäu]), 1970 (third edition), 1976 (fourth edition) and 1985 (fifth edition). The English edition of 1988, based on the fifth German edition, was translated by IM Eric Tangborn and edited by Paul Eggers. The book was published by Chess Enterprises, Coraopolis, PA (USA). Tangborn added Paul F. Schmidt’s article “Caveat Emptor” from *Chess Life & Review* October 1983. In 1995 Tangborn used parts of the 1988 edition in his book *A Road to the Master Title*, published by Chess Digest, Dallas, TX (USA).



First German edition (1949)



First (and only) English edition (1988),
with a drawing of Paul Keres!

In a conversation months ago with [chess] master Paul Schmidt the publisher learned that the latter had possessed, for some time, an almost publishable manuscript. Time and again, technical difficulties had stood in the way of publication, to the point where the master had almost lost joy in his own work. A look at the design showed that here was no everyday collection of games and no textbook of traditional style. Rather the theme of 'logic and intuition in masterly chess' was tackled ably and thoroughly from skillful knowledge and much practical experience.

In 1985 the preface by Manfred Mädler to the 5th edition, gave further information but also contradictions (underlined in the citation):

Paul Schmidt died in Autumn 1984, at age 68 in Allentown, USA. Although he had been retired from tournament chess for a long time, he still occupied himself regularly with chess literature and occasionally wrote articles for chess magazines. With *Schachmeister denken* Paul Schmidt has authored a classic that without a doubt belongs with the world literature of the royal game. ...

Born in Reval, Schmidt was in a chess club with Paul Keres, with whom he was friends for many years. After Schmidt had to leave his home country in 1945, he first lived for several years in Heidelberg, before emigrating to America.

A short obituary by Alfred Diel (1924–2011) appeared in the December 1984 issue of the *Deutsche Schachblätter* p. 311. This revealed not only an astounding chess career, but also a chemist with a Ph.D. Immediately I sought information concerning my chemistry colleague, who had achieved noteworthy recognition not only in chess: the physical chemist Paul Schmidt had been a pioneer in the field of semi-conductor research in the USA. After 1950, Schmidt had rarely demonstrated his expertise in chess in favour of his professional career and family, and had refrained from participating in any US national tournaments.

Curiously enough, in the Summer of 2002 it was again Alfred Diel who reminded me of Paul Schmidt, with his contribution “Ein Schachmeister aus dem Baltikum” (A Chess master from the Baltic States) in the (now defunct) *Kaissiber* issue 18 (p. 68 ff.).

Thereafter, supplemented by further details, the “Schmidt file” remained in my drawer for more than a decade.

Thus when my long-time chess friend Anthony (Tony) J. Gillam asked me to collaborate with him starting in Autumn 2014 on a biographical testament about Paul Schmidt, the prospect especially attracted me. My modest attempt was considerably enhanced due to the excellent digital documentation in the Estonian and Latvian archives² and, through amazing circumstance, collaboration with Eva Regina Magacs.

So the people and their motives moved into greater focus.³ Chess becomes the connecting link in a family saga from the Baltic States. It’s astonishing connection to the pedagogical, medical, and artistic endeavours of the Schmidt family gives us a deeper insight into the life story, stamped by the political upheavals of two world wars, of a highly gifted scientist.

² Excellent search engines, also in English and German are: <http://www.digar.ee/archiiv> and <http://www.ra.ee/>; resp. <http://www.periodika.lv/> and <http://www.riga-digitalis.eu> (updated January 2017).

³ A greatly shortened version of the brief chess career of Paul Schmidt appeared in the cultural chess magazine *KARL* (issue 1/2016, pp. 28–33) with the subject title “Die zweite Reihe” (The Second Rank).

Eva Regina and Paul Felix
Schmidt, Philadelphia, August
1953



FROM CHESS BOARD TO PERIODIC TABLE DR. SCHMIDT GOES TO AMERICA

by Eva Regina Magacs

Growing up, I did not think of my father as an internationally known chess master – he was merely my father. And as such, I have many memories of him spanning the broad spectrum of our parent-child relationship. Some are very happy; others are intertwined with the issues of growing up in a Baltic German home in America in the 1950s and 60s.

Paul F., Eva Regina, Alma Irene,
and Eva Schmidt.
Friends Hospital Gardens,
Philadelphia, Spring 1954



Our small family (my father, my mother, and I) came to America in March of 1952, after crossing the ocean in a retro-fitted troop carrier named the “General Stewart”. My father was 35, my mother 32, embarking on this adventure in a new country and culture. My mother left behind her mother and some cousins; my father left his parents and older sister, their only relatives remaining after the horrors of World War II. My father wanted to escape from the oppression and narrowness of Europe and was determined that Soviet Russia would never again be a threat to his family. So that we might emigrate, my father searched for a position in Australia, Argentina, and Canada.

Finally, he made contact, through an acquaintance, with Dr. Aristid von Grosse, the president of the Research Institute at Temple University in Philadelphia. Dr. von Grosse was also of Baltic descent. This must have helped, because my father was offered a job, after an investigation to prove that neither he, nor my mother, were involved with Nazi organizations during the war. The move to the United States effectively ended my father's chess career, but it did great things for his developing profession as a physical chemist.

My parents had next to nothing when we arrived in the US. We moved into a small apartment in a Philadelphia neighborhood called Olney. A family in the Presbyterian Church sponsored us although we were not Presbyterians. The church members donated furniture, clothing, etc., along with friendship and support. My parents were still poor, but they were happy. To add to their happiness, my sister Irene was born in August of the following year.

I have some very good memories of my father from this time period. To help better my English, he would often read to me. My favorite book was the original *Bambi*, which he patiently read again and again. Often I suffered from terrible migraines – and he would sit with me and put his warm hand on my aching head. More than anything, I wanted a pet of my own. So, our first Christmas in America, my parents gave me a green parakeet¹ named Zeetov. That sounds like a Russian name because my father loved the Russian language as much as he hated the Communist system.

After a year and a half, my father was doing well enough that we were able to move to a larger apartment – a row house on a nearby street. *And*, he was able to afford to buy a car – a used green Buick Special of which he was very proud.

After three years in Olney and working for the Temple Research Institute², my father found a new position working for the Philco Corporation³, also in Philadelphia. He would succeed at this new job to the point of managing his own small research group.

As my parents began prospering more, they were able to purchase a brand new house in Abington, a northeastern suburb of Philadelphia. They paid it off in just two years. Even despite this, my father always sent money back to Germany to help support his parents and sister there. As long as he lived, he also sent them a weekly letter with all our news, typed out on an old black *Adler* typewriter.

My father loved nature and nature photography. He liked to take my mother, myself, and my little sister Irene to a nearby arboretum in our new yellow Buick Special that he named the “Yellowstain”.⁴ He always loved to make puns like this. We went to the arbo-

1 Wellensittich in German – MN. The name of the bird is based on the Estonian word *sitt* plus a Russian ending.

2 Temple University (commonly referred to as Temple) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was founded in 1884. It is a state-related public research university – MN.

3 Philco (founded in 1892 as Helios Electric Company, renamed Philadelphia Storage Battery Company) was a pioneer in battery, radio, and television production. In late 1953, engineers at Philco Corporation invented the surface barrier transistor – MN.

4 A pun on Yellowstone National Park, which my father dreamed of visiting, and finally did – ERM.

Our house in Abington, near
Philadelphia, late 1950s



return every weekend, and that served to inspire in me a lifelong love of plants and the outdoors.

Once in a while we entertained visitors from Europe. Most meaningful for my father was when Dr. Juza, the professor who had guided his Ph.D. program at Heidelberg University, came to visit. I think Dr. Juza (and later, many others) were impressed that we children could still speak German. Although they were excellent English speakers, my parents wanted us to grow up bilingually. So we spoke German at home and often got German books as gifts to read on birthdays and Christmas. Our home life stayed culturally German, and this led to early disagreements with my father. A typical issue was that we were allowed no television, and I naturally craved to watch all the shows the other children were talking about at school.

Although he was strict, my father was willing to be flexible. During the hot and muggy Philadelphia summer evenings, he let us children stay up until midnight hunting lightning bugs outside. And he satisfied my heart's desire when we finally adopted a dog, whom we named Chorney (Russian for "black"). She was a six-month-old Labrador mix that from then on accompanied my parents on all their walks. My father could never understand why Americans did not walk more, as people did in Europe.

Soon our family began taking vacation trips. First to a rented cottage in the Pocono Mountains, and then to Beach Haven, a town on Long Island off the New Jersey shore. We always went for two weeks. I remember those trips as idyllic – some of the happiest times for our family. My father was relaxed and we all enjoyed being together. I even



Paul Felix Schmidt and Chorney,
Pittsburgh 1963

remember the first time, on one of these vacations, that we ate pizza! Our dog always came with us, and went to the beach regularly. My father never paid too much attention to the American notion of “private property – no trespassing”. He pretty much went wherever he wanted to go.

Not only did he (and we) keep up the German language, but he also stayed current in Russian by reading profusely (his favorite author was the poet Alexander Pushkin). He once told me that there had been a contest to see which the most beautiful language was. Italian won, followed by Estonian, the language of his mother country, in which he was also fluent.

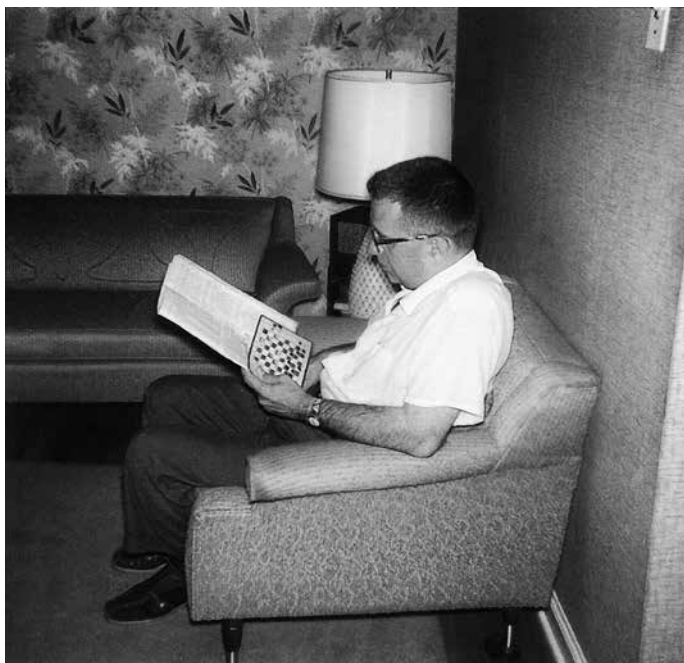
Probably because of the war and the move from Germany, he never developed many close friendships in the United States. He did stay in touch with his German friends, and formed one enduring friendship with another researcher in the US. Our whole family would travel to New Jersey to socialize with that man and his family.

Although loving nature, my father's health was never good enough to perform arduous gardening tasks himself. So my parents employed a gardener and handyman – an unheard-of thing for that time and that neighborhood. This was a man who had survived his ship being torpedoed in WW II, who had the habit of going into trances where he relived his war time experiences. One time my mother had to telephone my father at his office. He came home to find Johnny mowing around and around the willow tree in the backyard. He was able to calm him down and bring him out of his trance.

My father's health began to decline, partially due to pressure in his job at Philco. He was diagnosed with having had a mild heart attack (although that was never completely established); he suffered from bouts of sciatica⁵, and had to deal with annoying episodes of allergies.

⁵ Ischias-Schmerzen in German – MN.

Paul F. Schmidt replaying chess games on his pocket chess set, Abington, Christmas 1958



While working at Philco, he began cultivating his life-long habit of meticulously keeping up with research relating to his interests in scientific journals. He was passionate in his interest in matters scientific. Years later, he told me that being a scientist was the only truly fascinating profession. Every evening he would study his journals, and then often finish up re-playing chess games from a book or magazine. I can remember him playing chess on a little hand-held pocket chess set. So, he never gave up on chess, but it did get relegated to the “back burner” as he focused on building his career in physics and chemistry at Philco.

Although he did not personally play an instrument, my father loved classical music. He was especially fond of Schubert’s *lieder* cycles as sung by famed German singer Heinrich Schlusnus⁶.

By 1959 my father had secured another position, in the Pittsburgh area, with Westinghouse Research Labs⁷. The plant was state-of-the-art and very large, and my father got to be the manager of his own semi-conductor research group, eventually totalling 17 people. He never performed only a management role; he always was personally involved in all the projects. In many ways that stretch of years, 1959–1965, was the highlight of his life, both professionally and privately.

⁶ Heinrich Schlusnus (1888–1952) was Germany’s foremost lyric baritone in the period between World War I and II. He sang opera and *lieder* with equal distinction – MN.

⁷ The Westinghouse Research Laboratory was built in East Pittsburgh and was devoted to science-based research separate from the manufacturing plant – MN.



Westinghouse Research Labs,
near Pittsburgh (PA), early 1960s

Life was very good for a number of years. We children were doing well in school, and financially our family was well-off. My father had bought a nice house in the Pittsburgh suburb of Penn Hills (my mother saw it only after the move), my parents had friends and acquaintances, and could afford to take nice vacations. Several years our family went on a “farm vacation” in West Virginia, and once, for two weeks, my parents visited Arizona, while we children stayed behind with a neighbor.

At age 49, in the year 1965, my father left Westinghouse. He made the move because of disliking the aspect of his work there that had him constantly searching for government contracts to support his research. His new employer was Bell Labs⁸, in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Although promising at the time, this move introduced a dangerous element to his research: he began working with radioactive substances.



Our house in Penn Hills,
near Pittsburgh, ca. 1960

⁸ Nokia Bell Labs (formerly named AT&T Bell Laboratories, Bell Telephone Laboratories and Bell Labs) is nowadays an American research and scientific development company, owned by Finnish company Nokia – MN.

Eva and Paul F. Schmidt,
Allentown, Christmas 1966



Otherwise, life continued in a positive vein, with a new house and also a vacation cottage on a lake an hour's drive north of Allentown. We spent some happy summers there as a family. My father especially enjoyed being out in nature with his German Shepard, Elsa. She was the second Elsa – the first having died after being hit by a car during one of my parents' evening walks.

My father and mother took many trips together to a wide variety of destinations. They visited Washington State, Florida, Hawaii, and the Caribbean, as well as Europe to see family and friends. They also hosted my grandmother and aunt on their visit to the U.S. There

Winning team of four at Bell
Labs' Bridge Club Tournament,
May 1971



were weddings (both my sister and I got married) and lots of evenings playing bridge. Contract bridge was the craze at the time, and my parents got into the habit of playing weekly. They enjoyed the game both from the social, and the intellectual standpoint, since it demanded sharp analytical skills similar to chess. They competed in local bridge competitions, and once in a while they won!

Both my sister and I moved away from Allentown, which was doubtlessly hard on our parents. My sister Irene was deeply devoted to her career, and eventually became vice-president for corporate development at the Alcoa Corporation⁹. My father was always extremely proud of her accomplishments. I myself gravitated towards teaching, not the scientific career my father would have wished for me. Eventually, I gave birth to my father's only grandchildren – two girls and a boy.



A. Irene Schmidt in front of our house in Allentown, 1971

In 1967, after getting settled in Allentown, my father began having a renewed interest in chess. When he re-played matches every evening, he used his favorite chess set, which was a beautiful hand-made set commissioned years ago for him by his father. It was made of birch wood and ebony. Representing a medieval confrontation between the Christians and the Moors, the birch king had an ivory cross, and the ebony king an ivory half-crescent.

He gave chess exhibitions against employees at Western Electric, in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1972, and at the Allentown Chess Club. In 1973, he gave an exhibition playing 24 games simultaneously, winning 19, drawing four, and losing only one.

⁹ Alcoa Inc. (from Aluminum Company of America) is an American public company best known for its work with lightweight metals – MN.

Paul F. Schmidt playing 15 simultaneous games against employees of Western Electric, Reading, Pennsylvania, 1972



He also headed one of two teams from Allentown competing in a Middle Atlantic Regional chess championship in Allentown. He travelled to Bermuda to participate in a simultaneous chess match against five of the best local players. He also authored several articles annotating interesting chess games for *Chess Life & Review*.¹⁰ It took him a long time to write such articles, because for each move he saw a multitude of possibilities that the player might have been considering.

Paul F., A. Irene, and Eva Schmidt,
Lake Hauto vacation home,
near Allentown, 1972.
Note his favorite chess set.



¹⁰ We could only retrieve *Chess Life & Review* March 1973 p. 143 "Comments on the Match" (Fischer–Spassky); April 1976 p. 212 ff. "Kolti Corrected" (Klaus Junge); and finally October 1983 p. 650 ff. "Caveat Emptor" (Game Mikhailchishin–Kasparov). Schmidt was assisted in writing the last article by Walter Meiden, of Columbus, Ohio. My friend John Donaldson (San Francisco, CA) provided an article by Schmidt in a rather obscure publication of the Players Chess Association (PCA), Los Angeles (CA): *Players Chess News*, Volume 3, 1982, issue 1, p. 28 ff. (Karpov–Spassky, Tilburg 1980) – MN.

My father stayed in touch with a variety of chess masters in the U.S. and Europe. Most notable was the Czech and German Champion Ludek Pachman (1924–2003), who once came to visit him in Allentown.



Grandmaster Ludek Pachman visiting in Allentown, July 1977. Note the dog Elsa under the table.

At this time, my father became very involved in politics. He was dismayed by the slow drift towards socialism, which he had moved his family here to escape. So he tried to do his part to stem the tide by writing letters to the editor of the local newspaper, and giving his opinions when political discussions came up.



Paul F. Schmidt out for a walk with his dog Elsa, Pennsylvania State Game Lands, near Lake Hauto, March, 1982

Eva Louise and Paul Felix
Schmidt, 1983



The time in Allentown was very productive where his work was concerned. In 1969, he and two other researchers from Bell Labs were awarded the prize for most outstanding paper at the IEEE¹¹ Conference on Nuclear and Space Radiation Effects, held at Penn State University. Additionally, over the years he applied for, and was granted, many patents for his ground-breaking work.

The 17 years at Bell Labs came to an end in 1982, when my father retired. He continued with some consulting work, but soon afterwards his health declined.

Approximately one year later he became ill with cancer. The disease was doubtless a product of his years of research on radioactive substances – a possibility he always denied, such was his dedication to his work.

My father survived his grandson's birth by only 11 days. He was never able to see his grandchildren grow up, or teach them anything about the game he had loved so passionately. The last chess tournament he played in was a postal chess tournament in 1983/84, involving Estonian players. It was called the Paul Keres/Paul Schmidt Memorial Correspondence Tournament. Paul Felix Schmidt won that tournament.¹²

¹¹ IEEE, pronounced "Eye-triple-E," stands for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers – MN.

¹² Two results are circled in the handwritten copy of the table; we don't know why. The table also appears to show a double round tournament with only 8 or 9 of the games being played in the second round. However, there are clearly mistakes – see Nestra's results against Sildmets and Täht. Schmidt appears to have played a second game, winning each time, against three opponents, Sildmets, Romanenko and Nestra – Tony Gillam (2016).

Paul Kers - Paul Schmidt Memorial
Correspondence Tournament, 1983/1984.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
	SILONETS	TÄHT	KORD	TULLUS	dr. SCHMIDT	ROMANENKO	NESTRA	Totals	PLACE
1. SILONETS	/	1/2	1/2	0	0	1	0	2	6/7
2. TÄHT	1/2	/	1/2	1/2	0	0	1/2	2 1/2	6/7
3. KORD	1/2	1/2	/	1	1/2	1/2	1	4	(2)
4. TULLUS	1	1/2	0	/	1/2	1/2	1/2	3	(3)
5 dr. SCHMIDT	1	1	1/2	1/2	/	1	1	5	(1)
6. ROMANENKO	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	/	1/2	2 1/2	4/5
7 NESTRA	1/2	1	0	0	0	1/2	/	2 1/2	4/5

APPENDIX

PAUL SCHMIDT'S CAREER RECORD

Date	Event	Games	Result	Rank
1931 Dec	Tallinn: TEMS club	?	?	?
1932 June	match vs. Leo Laurentius	6	3-3	draw
1932/3 Oct/Mar	VRS Club Championship	14	+9 =4 -1	2nd
1933 Feb/Apr	Tallinn: City Championship	15	+11 =4 -1	2nd
1933 Apr	Tallinn First Class	7	+5 =1 -1	1=
1933 May?	Tallinn team match	1	+0 =1 -1	—
1933 June	Play-off match vs. Valter Kappe	2	+2 =0 -0	won
1933/4 Dec/Jan	Tallinn: 4th Estonian Champ.	7	+4 =2 -1	2nd
1934 Feb	TEMS vs. VRS	1	+0 =0 -1	—
1934/5 Oct/Mar	VRS Club Champ.	8	+8 =0 -0	1st
1934/5 Dec/Jan	Tallinn: 5th Estonian Champ.	3	+0 =2 -1	—
1935 June	Tallinn International	8	+5 =2 -1	1st
1935 June	Helsinki International	7	+2 =2 -3	6=
1935 June/July	Loviisa International	7	+0 =6 -1	5=
1935 Oct	Tartu student team	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1935/6 Dec/Jan	Pärnu: 6th Estonian Champ.	9	+7 =2 -0	1st
1936 Apr	match vs. Gunnar Friedemann	4	2-2	draw
1936 May	match vs. Paul Keres	7	+3 =1 -3	draw
1936 July/Aug	Riga Olympiad training	7	+3 =3 -1	4th
1936/7 Oct/Jan	Tallinn: TEMS Club Champ.	15	+13 =1 -1	1st
1936/7 Dec/Jan	Tallinn: Olympiad training	9	+5 =3 -1	2nd
1937 June/July	Tallinn: 7th Estonian Champ.	10	+5 =3 -2	1st
1937 July	Pärnu International	7	+5 =1 -1	1st

1937	July/Aug	Stockholm Olympiad	16	+4 =8 -4	—
1937	Nov/Dec	Estonia vs. Lithuania	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1938	Feb	Tallinn: Estonian team champ.	5	+3 =2 -0	—
1938	Mar	Estonia vs. Latvia	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1938	June	Noordwijk International	9	+1 =3 -5	8=
1938	June/July	Bad Harzburg Gästeturnier	5	+5 =0 -0	1st
1938	Sep	Estonia vs. Finland	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1938/9	Dec/Jan	Tallinn: 8th Estonian Ch.	15	+8 =6 -1	2nd
1939	Feb	Helsinki: student teams	3	+2 =1 -0	—
1939	Feb	Latvia vs. Estonia	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1939	Feb/Mar	Lithuania vs. Estonia	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1939	Aug/Sep	Buenos Aires Olympiad	13	+2 =6 -5	—
1940	Aug	Bad Oeynhausen German Ch.	15	+7 =7 -1	2nd
1941	Aug	Bad Oeynhausen German Ch.	15	+7 =7 -1	1=
1941	Oct	Krakow/Warsaw Internat.	11	+8 =1 -2	1=
1941	Oct	Play-off match vs. Klaus Junge	4	+3 =1 -0	won
1942	June	Salzburg International	10	+3 =4 -3	3=
1943	June	Salzburg International	10	+2 =5 -3	3rd
1943	Aug	Vienna German Champ.	15	+8 =7 -0	2nd
1946	May/June	Hamburg HSV Whitsun	15	+9 =5 -1	2=
1946	July	Heidelberg 4 Cities	2	+1 =1 -0	—
1946	Oct/Dec	Heidelberg (5 local players)	8	7 out of 8	1st
1947	May	Kassel International	9	+4 =4 -1	2nd
1948	Mar/Apr	Leeuwarden Quadrigular	3	+1 =2 -0	2nd
1948	Nov	Pfalz vs. Baden	1	+0 =1 -0	—
1948/9	Oct/Jan	Heidelberg Club Champ.	11	+10 =1 -0	1st
1948/9	Dec/Jan	Hastings International	9	+1 =7 -1	6th
1949	Jan	Beverwijk International	9	+4 =4 -1	2=
1949	Apr	Karlsruhe vs. Heidelberg	1	+0 =1 -0	—
1949	May	Bad Pyrmont German Ch.	12	+3 =8 -1	5=
1949	June	Heidelberg International	9	+2 =6 -1	3=
1950		Mannheim vs. Heidelberg	1	+1 =0 -0	—
1950	Apr	Saarbrücken Internat.	9	+5 =3 -1	2nd
1950	Apr	Karlsruhe vs. Heidelberg	1	+0 =1 -0	—
1950	May	Bad Pyrmont German Ch.	17	+4 =9 -4	9=
1950	Sep	Karlsruhe vs. Heidelberg	1	+0 =1 -0	—
1952	Apr	Philadelphia vs. Washington	1	+0 =1 -0	—
1953	Mar	Philadelphia Metrop. League	1	+1 =0 -0	—
1953	Mar	Marshall vs. Franklin	1	+1 =0 -0	—
1953	Oct	Franklin vs. Marshall	1	+0 =0 -1	—

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