

**Joachim Beyer Verlag**  
**Chess Book Publisher**



**Chess Books**  
**in English**  
**2019**

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ISBN 978-3-95920-977-9

Jerzy Konikowski/Uwe Bekemann

€ 21,50

## Openings – Semi-Open Games

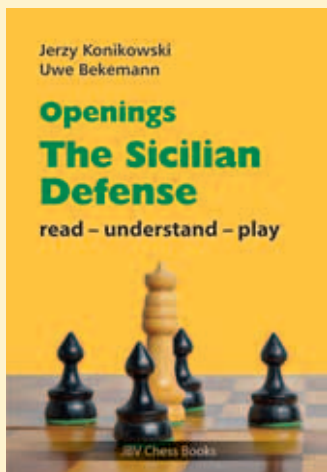
read – understand – play

**First Edition 2019, 240 pages, paperback**

What does a chess player need who is familiar with the rules, but often gets into trouble right away in the opening? This question was the starting point for the authors before they began to compile their material. The result is a book that gives explanations to help the reader understand the 'Semi-Open Games' – such as the French Defense and the Caro-Kann Defense (note that the 'Sicilian Defense' was discussed in a separate volume) – and instructions to show him how to use them.

And no matter if he is little or even completely unfamiliar with opening theory, this book gives him easy access to this difficult and comprehensive field. The ideas and plans behind each line are explained in detail to ensure that the reader understands them properly instead of just playing moves that he has learned by heart. Even the sense and purpose of single moves are explained, if they are not quite obvious.

Based on the knowledge that the reader will surely acquire by studying this book, it will be easy to build a game and play interesting, entertaining and – last but not least – successful chess.



ISBN 978-3-95920-976-2

Jerzy Konikowski/Uwe Bekemann

€ 18,50

## Openings – The Sicilian Defense

read – understand – play

**First Edition 2019, 168 pages, paperback**

What does a chess player need who is familiar with the rules, but often gets into trouble right away in the opening? This question was the starting point for the authors before they began to compile their material. The result is a book that gives explanations to help the reader understand the Sicilian Defense – and instructions to show him how to use it.

And no matter if he is little or even completely unfamiliar with opening theory, this book gives him easy access to this difficult and comprehensive field. The ideas and plans behind each line are explained in detail to ensure that the reader understands them properly instead of just playing moves that he has learned by heart. Even the sense and purpose of single moves are explained, if they are not quite obvious.

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ISBN 978-3-95920-981-6

Jerzy Konikowski/Uwe Bekemann

€ 18,50

## **World Chess Championship 2018 Fabiano Caruana vs. Magnus Carlsen**

**First Edition 2018, 184 pages, paperback**

The duel for the crown of the world's best player has been the absolute highlight of international chess since the beginning of tournament chess. In November the world champion was determined in London in a match over 12 games and a tie-break – between the title defender Magnus Carlsen from Norway and his challenger Fabiano Caruana from the USA.

In the run-up there was no doubt that an interesting showdown was to be expected, as the two protagonists were holding the first two places in the world rankings. Accordingly, the chess world was feverishly awaiting this event. After winning the Candidates Tournament in Berlin earlier this year, the American Grandmaster had also shown great form at numerous other top events, and his accomplishments left no doubt that he was an absolutely worthy opponent for the defending champion.

In this book all the games are analyzed in detail and commented in an entertaining and understandable way. In addition, it also offers a close look at the framework conditions and the events that led to the finale. So you will find, for example, chapters like 'The Opponents in Short Portrait' and 'The Previous Fights of the Protagonists'. Then there are interviews with various top players and experts under the title 'Predictions Before the Fight' – rounded off by a playful opportunity to compete with the champions: 'Try to Find Combinations Like Carlsen and Caruana!'



ISBN 978-3-95920-975-5

Jerzy Konikowski/Uwe Bekemann

€ 18,50

## Openings – Open Games

read – understand – play

**First Edition 2018, 160 pages, paperback**

What does a chess player need who is familiar with the rules, but often gets into trouble right away in the opening? This question was the starting point for the authors before they began to compile their material. The result is a book (the first of a small series) that gives explanations to help the reader understand the openings that arise after the initial moves 1.e4 e5 (e.g. such renowned and important openings as the 'Ruy Lopez', the 'Four Knights Game' or the 'King's Gambit') – and instructions to show him how to use them.

And no matter if he is little or even completely unfamiliar with opening theory, this book gives him easy access to this difficult and comprehensive field. The ideas and plans behind each opening are explained in detail to ensure that the reader understands them properly instead of just playing moves that he has learned by heart. Even the sense and purpose of single moves are explained, if they are not quite obvious.

Based on the knowledge that the reader will surely acquire by studying this book, it will be easy to build a game and play interesting, entertaining and – last but not least – successful chess.



ISBN 978-3-95920-974-8

Jerzy Konikowski/Robert Ullrich

€ 21,50

## **The King's Indian Attack – Properly Played**

**First Edition 2018, 300 pages, paperback**

Any player who prefers to rely on main lines will be well acquainted with the problem of the sheer masses of opening theory. And as they do not stop growing, there's always the risk that sooner or later they will grow over one's head.

Therefore, the wish for a simpler approach is understandable. The wish for an opening that does not necessarily aim for the earliest possible advantage. The wish for general conditions which ensure that the beginning of the game can be carried out without great risks and that the actual combat action begins in the middle game.

And, indeed, such an opening does exist - the so-called 'King's Indian Attack'. It offers a strategically interesting approach to the treatment of the opening which allows one to avoid all elaborate lines. In a simplified way one might call it: a lid that fits every pot. White initially only puts the king's pawn in the center. Then he turns it into a very solid central bridgehead and develops his forces in the spirit of the 'King's Indian Defence'. And what happens next depends on the defence that Black is going to choose.

And far from being 'second-rate stuff', this opening must be taken very seriously. This becomes clear after a look at which top players have or had it in their repertoire. We only want to mention (representative of many others) the reigning World Champion Magnus Carlsen and the former World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik right now. Hear about others in the book.



**Ulrich Geilmann**

**ISBN 978-3-95920-973-1**

## **Malik Mir Sultan Khan**

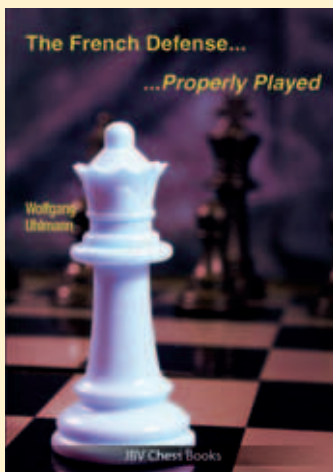
**€ 18,50**

### **His life and his games**

**First Edition 2018, 220 pages, paperback**

In 1929, Malik Mir Sultan Khan (born in 'British India' in 1905) came to England. There, the young man who belonged to the entourage of an Indian diplomat, soon entered the world stage of chess. He earned remarkable tournament successes, and was temporarily one of the ten best players in the world. However, the amazing career ended abruptly in 1933 when Khan returned to his home country. He never played chess on an international level again, and died in 1966. This book traces the exceptional life of this chess master, as far as the narrow sources allow.

Ulrich Geilmann (born in 1963) has already published two chess novels in German. He graduated as an urban planner and works in the public sector. He is an amateur chess player and a member of the Emanuel Lasker Gesellschaft (Emanuel Lasker Society). For a certain period he was the manager of a team which competed in the highest German league (Bundesliga). On the Internet he reports regularly and in a witty narrative style about his various experiences at chess tournaments.



**Wolfgang Uhlmann**

**ISBN 978-3-95920-972-4**

## **The French Defense – Properly Played**

**€ 18,50**

**First Edition 2018, 185 pages, paperback**

The French Defense (1.e4 e6) caught the attention of the chess world in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and has developed to be one of the most important and popular openings. The author of this book, the German Grandmaster Wolfgang Uhlmann, is a world-renowned expert who has tested this opening and enriched its theory over his entire career. 76 selected games (mostly his own) document the considerable success he has achieved with his favorite opening, often against the strongest opponents. The theoretical remarks integrated into the annotations provide the reader with well founded instructions for the treatment of this opening.

It was not the author's goal to present a complete survey of all the systems and lines that build the French Defense but instead to put the positional evaluation and the creation of a plan in the foreground. At the same time this compilation traces the career path that the author has taken with his favorite French lines. Uhlmann's work is now available in the 4<sup>th</sup> updated and amended edition. In particular, the author has added five more recent games by other French specialists to the collection.

Grandmaster Wolfgang Uhlmann (born in Dresden in 1935) was the strongest player of the GDR from 1958 to 1989 and participated in 11 chess Olympiads (10 times at the top board). At his peak, he belonged to the world's top players and celebrated outstanding successes in many national and international tournaments. And last but not least, he was active for many years in the German top league (Bundesliga) and has made a name as the author of numerous publications.





Patrick Karcher

ISBN 978-3-95920-971-7

## Increase your Chess

€ 18,50

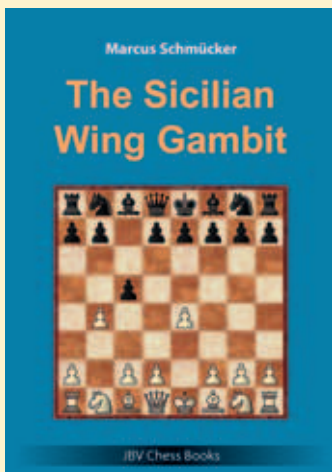
### Talent is Overrated

**First Edition 2018, 183 pages, paperback**

With his work, the author primarily addresses amateurs and club players (up to a rating of approx. 2000), who want to improve their level through targeted and effective training. For this purpose he uses an unconventional approach, and a sometimes unusual terminology. The reader is thus presented with an innovative model of thinking which enables him to quickly grasp the material and positional characteristics of a position. A model that aims to make a comprehensive set of rules dispensable and focuses on the essentials, namely on intense exercises of seeing and independent thinking.

On the basis of well-selected exercises, the reader can learn and internalize how to find solutions to key problems – such as recognizing patterns and detecting strong moves. With all this, the author gradually progresses from simple beginnings to more difficult and eventually quite demanding content, which requires the reader's thorough cooperation. Those who steadfastly follow him on this path will experience how their own potential in terms of combat power and skill level increases.

Patrick Karcher is a strong amateur and club player, who has risen to the level of a candidate master in a short time thanks to his own training method. The study of his book will also pave the reader's way to a deeper understanding of the game.



**Marcus Schmücker**

**ISBN 978-3-95920-970-0**

## **The Sicilian Wing Gambit**

**€ 18,50**

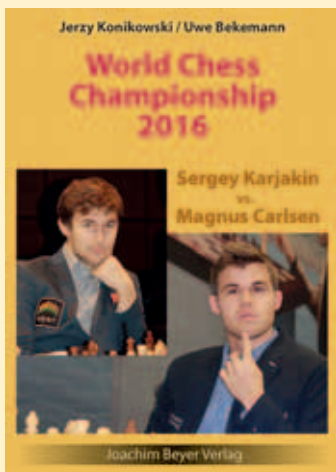
**First Edition 2017, 135 pages, paperback**

In his book about the Sicilian Wing Gambit (1.e4 c5 2.b4 cxb4 3.a3) Marcus Schmücker takes a closer look at a very interesting opening, which for a long time has been regarded as a daredevil's approach or, at best, as an exotic option to avoid the enormous theoretical material of the Sicilian Defence. As a matter of fact, the idea of this gambit is quite serious. By eliminating Black's c-pawn and ensuring a swift development of his queen side, White wants to obtain positional compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

The author concentrates on the best answer 3...d5, which enables Black to prevent his opponent from building a strong center with pawns on e4 and d4. The often ensuing sharp tactical skirmishes in most cases fill white spots on the theoretical maps. White has good chances to obtain advantage early on, which can even lead to a quick win if the opponent is completely unprepared.

Of course, it's not to be expected that the Sicilian Wing Gambit will be used more often in GM tournaments from now on. But maybe the book can encourage more main stream players to include this neglected but serious anti-Sicilian weapon in their opening repertoire. Whether the popularity of this gambit will grow depends, however, on its success in practical games.

It's the author's intention to treat all alternatives of the 'standard move' 3... d5 in a second volume.



ISBN 978-3-95920-969-4

Jerzy Konikowski/Uwe Bekemann

€ 18,50

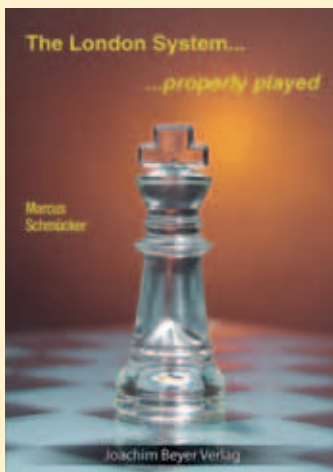
## World Chess Championship 2016

Sergey Karjakin vs. Magnus Carlsen

First Edition 2016, 141 pages, paperback

In 2013 Magnus Carlsen became world champion after his victory over Viswanathan Anand. He has been dominating the top of the international chess scene ever since – and almost at his liking. Now, defending his title against the not much older Russian Sergey Karjakin was on the agenda. All their prior matchups were ‘teeth and claws’ affairs with the Norwegian only scoring a slight plus.

However, Sergey Karjakin surely did his best to push his opponent off the throne. From November 11<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> the Fulton Market Building in New York became the arena of the fight for the crown of the world chess champion. Exciting games, played at the highest level and thoroughly annotated, will guarantee the reader’s delight.



**Marcus Schmücker**

**ISBN 978-3-95920-968-7**

## **The London System – properly played**

**€ 18,50**

**First Edition 2016, 196 pages, paperback**

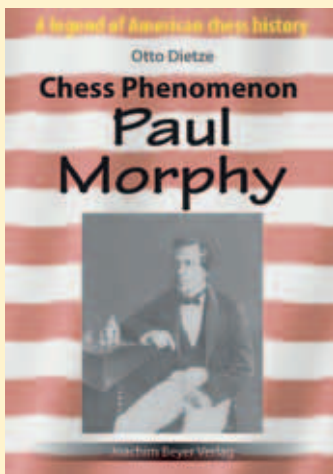
When the author's first book about the London System was published a decade ago, this opening was almost exclusively played among amateurs. However, within the last years many things have happened, even including some sort of breakthrough on the highest level! And so none other than world champion Magnus Carlsen has developed such a liking for the London System, that he has used it even in important games and has achieved a number of nice victories.

And he is by no means the only top player, as Kramnik, Grischuk and others have added it to their repertoire, too. The absolute guru of the London System, however, is and remains GM Gata Kamsky. He trusts it and applies it since his childhood, so to speak, and he sees no reason to change his mind.

Meanwhile the London System has stepped out of the shadows, and so its surprise factor has lost some significance. However, this increase in publicity has no impact on its overall reliability because, on the other hand, its advantages have remained.

- It's easy to learn.
- It's extremely solid.
- It's often underestimated.
- It leads to interesting positions.
- It leaves space for own ideas.

Mostly due to the quality of computer analysis, the opening theory of the London System has evolved tremendously. And so in almost every chapter improvements are to be found, just waiting for a chance to be tried out in practice!



Otto Dietze

ISBN 978-3-95920-967-0

## Chess Phenomenon Paul Morphy

€ 18,50

**First Edition 2016, 148 pages, paperback**

Paul Charles Morphy – compared with famous contemporaries like Adolf Anderssen or Howard Staunton – belongs to the ‘enigmatic’ personalities of chess history. Such a fate remains mostly reserved to those great players whose biography states, sooner or later: showed psychological abnormalities, isolated himself, became moody, a weirdo, a loner ...

In short – he was one of those who nourish and thus keep alive the folklore maintaining there’s a fine line between genius and insanity.

However, it’s not the aim of this book to illuminate the more or less obscure areas of Morphy’s life, as it’s not a psychological study, but a chess book. Thus, instead of a research of the soul, a search is to be conducted, a search for a reliable answer to the question as to what sort of chess player Morphy was.

The author is a chess historian whose main interest has always been this American ‘superstar’ of the 19<sup>th</sup> century – rightly regarded as one of the ‘uncrowned world champions’. He has selected and annotated 100 of Morphy’s most instructive games and traced his life’s journey in detail – from the discovery of the child prodigy to his early death.

The result is a very vivid insight into a highly interesting part of chess history, which has certainly not deserved to fall into oblivion.



Uwe Bekemann

ISBN 978-3-95920-966-3

## **Better late than never** **The Tennison Gambit**

€ 18,50

**First Edition 2016, 111 pages, paperback**

This is one of these old stories from chess history which can neither be confirmed nor ultimately refuted. According to the story, and so far there is no doubt about its authenticity, Otto Tennison was a Danish player who lived in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

He used to open all his games categorically with the strongest first move 1.e4 until one day he became so fed up with all the elaborate variations his opponents threw onto the board without even thinking that he said to himself, "Enough is enough! From now on I will choose a completely different approach."

Thus spoke Otto Tennison, and at the next opportunity when he played with the white pieces, he threw 1.Nf3 onto the board without even thinking. Alas, when his opponent answered 1...d5, he was overcome by doubts about what he had done.

He sat and stared at the board as if in deep meditation, but suddenly, like struck by lightning, he took his king pawn, pushed it to e4 with great decisiveness and uttered – more to himself than to anybody else, "Better late than never!"

The Tennison Gambit is one of these openings which the chess world has almost entirely neglected up to now. The initial move order 1.Nf3 d5 2.e4 (or less often 1.e4 d5 2.Nf3) leads to positions which are new territory for most players. As a surprise weapon it is the ideal approach to lure your opponent into theoretical no man's land almost from move one.

Uwe Bekemann holds the title of 'National Correspondence Chess Master' and is the author and co-author of several opening books.