

Zambian Report (4) by Dr Lyndon Bouah

Ex aliquid semper Africa (There is always something new from Africa)

It is now ten pm as I write this sitting peacefully in my room. The day was a mixed one for me with a brilliant win in the morning and then a seventy move loss in the evening. So let's recount the day a bit.

In the morning round SA Champion IM Daniel Cawdery was held to a draw by IM Gillan. They played a Grunfeld and when IM Cawdery saw that progress would not be possible he offered a draw which was accepted. On board two IM Andrew Kayonde went for too much and ending up drawing. On board three a huge upset occurred when IM Daniel Jere lost. On board five Matt Pon played well and held IM Mwali to a draw. A good result for Matt.



In my game I won a clear piece on move 21. Let's spend some time here. So my opponent goes into a deep think. It's now 10:50 and if he resigns we will be the first to finish. This would suit me because then I would go to the museum etc. Instead he goes deeper and deeper into thought and then just as I think he is going to play he rises up and goes to get a glass of water just outside the playing hall. I then spoke to Tinus Goosen, the Arbiter, who informed me that it is well within the rules to get up when it is your turn to move. This was a huge surprise to me as I always assumed that when it's your turn to move then you must first make your move and then get up.

So now we played on a few moves and then my opponent again gets up when it's his turn to move. I say nothing as I am already a piece up. Of course it's very irritating because he has no compensation. Then I win a second piece and then he goes into a deep think again. After ten minutes he goes to the bathroom. This time I informed the arbiter that surely this can't go on like this. Of course I am sure that there is no computer that will save him two pieces down. I just don't want Chessbase to report Zambigate with a player found in the bathroom with a Fritz seven version you know! So the intrepid Tinus Goosen now informed him that he can't go the bathroom when it is his turn to move. After he resigned I requested Tinus the arbiter to show me the rule. And yes it says that a player may with

leave of the arbiter get up when it is his turn to move. I must say I find this very strange because my opponent showed today that even after he thought for a few minutes he simply then just got up to go to the bathroom. Surely that cannot be allowed!!!! All the players I spoke to were very surprised that you can get up from the board when it is your turn to move...

The arbiters and I had a good look at the rule and I informed them ethically at this level when you go down one piece and then two pieces without compensation you should resign. My friend in the Eastern Cape Jannie Saffier used to tell his opponents that resignation was also a move!

Our recording books were also requested by the arbiters. We had to give this back because of the new anti-cheating regulation. Gosh I thought I was in George Orwell 1984 now. The anti-cheating mechanisms are very dramatic. We also everyday have to use different black Bic pens issued by the arbiters. So now we may not take our recording books back to the rooms because we may write notes in it. I'm not sure if these regulations must be this rigid because the booklet also has the schedule and branding on. So we need to review these aspects a bit.



Security check at entrance.

12:24

So off to lunch. I'm eating quite a lot of pap. Really!! We ate quickly as many people wanted to prepare. The internet is not really working which is frustrating to all players because we can't see the draw and preparation becomes difficult. I am informed that in Estonia that the right to internet access is a human right there. Perhaps it should be a right for all chessplayers too!

So the second game of the game started at 5pm. GM Kenny Solomon now assumed board one and he quickly demolished his opponent. Kenny told me at supper that his opponent didn't see the cunning trap he set and then his opponent had to drop a piece. So Kenny is on 3/3.



GM Kenny Solomon

On board two Stanley Chumfwas is still playing. Stanley may be known to South Africans when he on the SA Open in 2003 with a score of 10.5/11 with only Kenny Solomon getting a draw that year.

On board three fireworks was happening as Matt Ponn essayed an exchange sacrifice in the French. Both players seem to know the line as they played quite fast. It was a very exciting game with Matt Ponn holding IM Cawdery to a draw. Well played Matt. I told Matt at breakfast he should push for the SA Closed as he is doing very well and his chess is strong.



Matt Ponn against IM Daniel Cawdery

IM Kayonde and IM Mwali drew their game which means Kenny is on 3/3 with his toughest rivals now a point a drift.

I lost a seventy mover where I was probably better. But these things happen. Roland was still playing when I left the playing venue so I shall report on his tomorrow. The ladies section had some vicious games and tomorrow evening I shall do a roundup of their games.



Roland Bezuidenhout

So GM Kenny will play white in the morning as we are having a double round again tomorrow. So I shall be signing off now and chatting tomorrow. Of course I can't leave you without some interesting facts:

1. The total land area of Zambia is 753 square kilometres.
- 2 it is three times the size of the United Kingdom.
3. Zambia's population was 15 million as at 2015.
4. The capital is Lusaka and covers a 360 square kilometre radius.
5. There are about 2.1 million people living in Lusaka.

Regards

Dr Lyndon Bouah
Reporting live from The warm Harbor hotel
In Livingstone, Zambia.