

Reflections 10: 2018 – Steinitz Chess Festival by Dr Advocate Lyndon Bouah

[The Steinitz Festival](#) is only a few days away! In an exciting development IM Mohammed Henry Steel will be headlining the field. He and his wife Khadidja have registered to play. I am glad he is playing again because he has an exceptional grasp of chess. In 2012 he beat grandmaster Luke McShane when South Africa played England at the Olympiad. In 2014 I was a witness to his fine win against GM Gata Kamsky (USA) at the Norway Olympiad



*1st Edition of BRICS Chess Masters in Fufeng, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, April 26, 2017*

Seed number two is the roaring lion IM Watu Kobese who loves the swashbuckling tournament scene! He revels in open events. He often has advice for younger players but please don't give him an open file or diagonal. It may be fatal. IM Kobese impressive chess curriculum vitae is very long but I enjoyed his victory against Peter Leko in the World Cup in Moscow in 2003 and then his victory against GM Georgiev from Bulgaria in 2012 was a joy to behold. I watched that game on my iPad while travelling down to Port Elizabeth. Kobese is the current WP and Cape of Good Hope champion.



*IM Watu Kobese winning WP Open early in March*

The third seed is IM David Silva. The young Angolan is the current African Junior champion. He holds the remarkable record of winning the African junior event three times with remarkable scores of 9/9 and 8.5/9. The tall lad is a nice chap as well. I played against him in Uganda in 2016. I essayed the Kalashnikov and obtained a slight opening advantage. Then I made one mistake and a few moves later I had to resign. The young man apologised after the game saying I should've won. I said No! You played

better! Watch his games. En passant he has two grandmaster norms to his credit!



*IM David Silva - African Junior Chess Championship 2015*

We also have Namibian champions in the field CM Charles Eichab and FM Dante Beukes. Eichab has played ten Olympiads for Namibia whilst Beukes is a young talent.

Headlining the Steinitz club challenge is FM Deon Solomons , Craig and Kenny Willenberg. Between them Kenny and Craig have won nine SA junior titles and are both tried and tested. Solomons have played board one for South Africa on a number of occasions and is the current WP Close Champion. WIM Denise Bouah headlines the women players and she is getting in practice for the Olympiad.

Registration closes on Tuesday. [Register](#) today to compete against these top players. The prize fund is a generous one. Let's make the event a memorable one!

Prestige Section Entries: [Chess-Results](#)

Regards

Dr Lyndon Bouah