

# Nordisk GoBlad

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*Fusantane 1881, collection Erwin Gerstorfer.*

*See originals of collection Gerstorfer in Villach during EGC2007*



# Winning ways

*From The Economist print edition. Jan 25th 2007*

## Computers have started to outperform humans in games they used to lose

RESEARCHERS in the field of artificial intelligence have long been intrigued by games, and not just as a way of avoiding work. Games provide an ideal setting to explore important elements of the design of cleverer machines, such as pattern recognition, learning and planning. They also hold out the tantalising possibility of fame and fortune should the program ever clobber a human champion.

Ever since the stunning victory of Deep Blue, a program running on an IBM supercomputer, over Gary Kasparov, then world chess champion, in 1997, it has been clear that computers would dominate that particular game. Today, though, they are pressing the attack on every front. They are the undisputed champions in draughts and Othello. They are generally stronger in backgammon. They are steadily gaining ground in Scrabble, poker and bridge. And they are even doing pretty well at crossword puzzles. There is one game, however, where humans still reign supreme: Go. Yet here too their grip is beginning to loosen.

Go was invented more than 2,500 years ago in China (Confucius considered it a waste of time). It is a strategic contest in which two players take turns to place stones on the intersections of a grid with 19 lines on each side. Each player tries to stake out territory and surround his opponent. The rules are simple but the play is extraordinarily complex. During a game, some stones will “die”, and some will appear to be dead but spring back to life at an inopportune moment. It is often difficult to say who is winning right until the end.

Deep Blue and its successors beat Mr Kasparov using the “brute force” technique. Rather than search for the best move in a given position, as humans do, the computer considers all white’s moves—even bad ones—and all black’s possible replies, and all white’s replies to those replies, and so on for, say, a dozen turns. The resulting map of possible moves has millions of branches. The computer combs through the possible outcomes and plays the one move that would give its opponent the fewest chances of winning.

Unfortunately, brute force will not work in Go. First, the game has many more possible positions than chess does. Second, the number of possible moves from a typical position in Go is about 200, compared with about a dozen in chess. Finally, evaluating a Go position is fiendishly difficult. The fastest programs can assess just 50 positions a second, compared with 500,000 in chess. Clearly, some sort of finesse is required.

In the past two decades researchers have explored several alternative strategies, from neural networks to general rules based on advice from expert players, with indifferent results. Now, however, programmers are making impressive gains with a technique known as the Monte Carlo method. This form of statistical sampling is hardly new: it was originally developed in the Manhattan project to build the first nuclear bombs in the 1940s. But it is proving effective. Given a position, a program using a Monte Carlo algorithm contemplates every move and plays a large number of random games to see what happens. If it wins in 80% of those games, the move is probably good. Otherwise, it keeps looking.

This may sound like a lot of effort but generating random games is the sort of thing computers excel at. In fact, Monte Carlo techniques are much faster than brute force. Moreover, two Hungarian computer scientists have recently added an elegant twist that allows the algorithm to focus on the most promising moves without sacrificing speed.

The result is a new generation of fast programs that play particularly well on small versions of the Go board. In the past few months Monte Carlo-based programs have dominated computer tournaments on nine- and 13-line grids. MoGo, a program developed by researchers from the University of Paris, has even beaten a couple of strong human players on the smaller of these boards—unthinkable a year ago. It is ranked 2,323rd in the world and in Europe’s top 300. Although MoGo is still some way from competing on the full-size Go grid, humanity may ultimately have to accept defeat on yet another front.

INVITATION

# Nordic Championship 2007

The Finnish Go association welcomes you to the Nordic Championship 2007. The Tournament will be held in Helsinki at Helsingin Uusi Yhteiskoulu school 6th - 8th April 2007.

## Venue

Helsingin Uusi Yhteiskoulu  
Lucina Hagmaninpolku 5 Helsinki, Finland

## Tournament

MacMahon system. Japanese 1989 rules. EGF tournament rules Thinking time: 80 minutes + Canadian byo-yomi 15 stones in 5 minutes Komi: 61/2 points for white

## Tournament fee

Regular fee: 20 euros.

Late entry fee (For those registering after 31th March 2007): 25 euros

Discount fees:

1. Junior fee (for players under 18 only): 15 euros
2. Double-digit fee: 15 euros
3. Equipment fee (those bringing a board, a clock, and stones): 15 euros
4. Junior + Equipment super discount: 10 euros
5. Late entry with discount: add 5 euros

## Schedule

Friday 6.4.	10.00	Registration opens
	11.30	Registration closes
	12.00	1st round
	16.00	2nd round
Saturday 7.4.	10.00	3rd round
	16.00	4th round
	later	Activity, details to be announced
Sunday 8.4	9.30	5th round
	13.30	6th round
	ca 16.30	Closing ceremony and prizegiving

## Prizes

1st prize is at least 200 euros  
Cash prizes for the 2nd and 3rd place  
Other prizes for good performance

Registration: <http://www.suomigo.net/wiki/PM2007Ilmoittautuminen>

INVITATION

## European Student Go Championship 2007, Stockholm August 6th –8th

The Swedish Go Association and the Stockholm Go Club are pleased to invite students to the third European Student Go Championship which will be played in Stockholm, August 6th – 8th 2007. The championship is supported by the EGF Ing fund.

### Players

Full time students at university or college are admitted, provided that they are at least 18 and at most 29 years of age by August 1st 2007. Players must be European nationals. Participants are expected to be able to prove their student status by means of ISIC card or a letter of acceptance from their place of study. Financial support (free accommodation and no entry fee) is provided to one student from each country, or to one male and one female from each country provided they both have EGF rating above 1600 and register before July 1st. These participants will be called official.

### Venue

Stockholms Schacksalonger, Ringvägen 9 C. The venue is located in central Stockholm, at Zinkensdamm, three subway stations away from the central station.

### Rules

The tournament will be played as 6 rounds McMahon, where the top group of 16 players will be based on EGF ratings. Placement criteria will be McMahon points, SOS, SOSOS. Simplified Ing rules will be used, with 60 minutes basic thinking time.

### Prizes

Three players, two male and one female will get a place in the World Student Go Oza (WSGO) 2008. The male players must be from different countries. Nobody can go to WSG twice in three years.

### Entry fee

The entry fee is 100 SEK / (11 euro). One male and one female player from each country are allowed to enter free of charge, if they register before July 1st.

### Accommodation

The recommended accommodation will be in Zinkensdamm Hotel/hostel (<http://www.zinkensdamm.com/>), which is located in a pleasant park environment within walking distance (about 1km) from the venue. Free accommodation with breakfast is

offered to one student from each country, or to one male and one female student from each country, provided that they have EGF rating above 1600 and register before July 1st. The free accommodation consists of three nights (August 5th-7th) in 4-bed rooms with shared facilities. Official participants may choose upgraded accommodation in 4-bed rooms with shower and WC en suite paying an additional 11 euro per person and night themselves, or accommodation in hotel standard double rooms paying 18 euro per person and night themselves. Official participants who prefer to arrange their accommodation themselves will get 30 euro per person and night as accommodation support.

### Schedule

Monday, August 6	9.00	11.00	Registration
	12.00	12.30	Opening ceremony
	12.30	15.30	1st round
	16.00	19.00	2nd round
Tuesday, August 7	10.00	13.00	3rd round
	15.00	18.00	4th round
Wednesday, August 8	9.00	12.00	5th round
	13.00	16.00	6th round
	16.30	17.00	Closing ceremony

### Further information

A web page for information and registration will be updated at <http://esgc2007.goforbundet.se>

For further information please write to [esgc2007@goforbundet.se](mailto:esgc2007@goforbundet.se) or phone Henric Bergsäker, tel. +46 73 9850300.

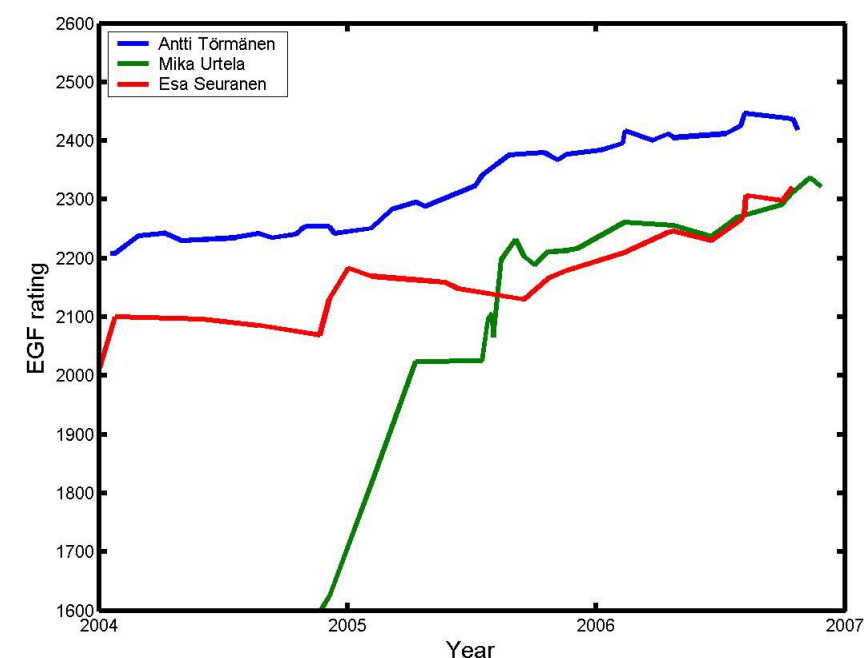
The venue is Stockholms Schacksalonger, Ringvägen 9C. Recommended accommodation in Zinkensdamm Hotel and Youth Hostel, at A on the map.



## The top 20 Nordic players on the EGF rating list for February

1 Michael Yao	5d	Stockholm	Sweden	2557
2 Su Yang Su	5d	Göteborg	Sweden	2524
3 Kasper Hornbaek	5d	Köbenhavn	Denmark	2518
4 Vesa Laatikainen	5d	Helsinki	Finland	2514
5 Qi Xiaoluo	5d	Göteborg	Sweden	2503
6 Jie-Lin Xia	5d	Oslo	Norway	2490
7 Matti Siivola	5d	Helsinki	Finland	2422
8 Antti Törmänen	4d	Oulu	Finland	2419
9 Martin Li	5d	Borlänge	Sweden	2418
10 Thomas Heshe	5d	Århus	Denmark	2403
11 Pål Sannes	4d	Oslo	Norway	2382
12 Kare Jantunen	4d	Jyväskylä	Finland	2374
13 Ulrik Bro-Joergensen	4d	Köbenhavn	Denmark	2364
14 Torben Pedersen	4d	Köbenhavn	Denmark	2363
15 Lauri Paatero	3d	Helsinki	Finland	2362
16 Jostein Flood	5d	Oslo	Norway	2349
17 Morten Ofstad	4d	Oslo	Norway	2342
18 Jannik Rasmussen	4d	Köbenhavn	Denmark	2331
19 Mika Urtela	3d	Helsinki	Finland	2322
Esa Seuranen	3d	Otaniemi	Finland	2322

The three players on the top 20 list who have improved fastest in the last three years are all Finnish: Antti Törmänen, Mika Urtela och Esa Seuranen. The diagram shows the EGF rating development for these three players since January 2004.





# All Roads Lead To... Villach

*A preview of the EGC 2007, July 14-28 by Simon Gemel*

Villach, a fairy tale city with a population of 60.000, at a sea level of 500 m, surrounded by mountains and lakes of drinking water quality, and being a nature reserve, guarantees a climate of "sunny but not too hot". It can be easily reached: the main railway station, only three minutes from the congress venue, serves IC and EC trains, and European roads meet at the motorway junction Villach. In the city, directions to the Congress Center are given at crossroads. Klagenfurt airport is about 40 km to the east of Villach. If you can't find a flight connection to Klagenfurt, try Graz or Ljubljana, both of which are within easy reach of the 900 year-old cultural capital of Carinthia.

By the way, another metropolis is slumbering within this region: 200 B.C. saw a voluntary union, forming the celtic kingdom of Noricum, which spanned the area of what is today eastern Austria. This union was formed to counter the growing monkey business from Rome as well as to set boundaries to the Germanic peoples in the north. The exact location of its capital, Noreia, is uncertain, but it is known to have been in this region.

The congress venue, Congress Center Villach (CCV), at Europaplatz 1, is right next to the Drau, which flows through Villach. Its glass front provides a panoramic view over the mountains beyond the old city center. It offers every modern comfort useful to a Go congress this side of the millennium.

As rich as the choice on the menus of the Carinthian gastronomy is the choice of accommodation. You won't be sandwiched into a multi-bed student hostel, nor will you be limited to expensive luxury hotels. To each his own: Be it a sleeping bag in a gym hall (for the lithuanian youth it's no longer a question of whether they can attend, but whether it will be for one or two weeks), be it a youth hostel or the Kolpinghaus (shared rooms with en suite shower and toilet), or three-star or four-star hotels, everything is within comfortable walking distance. Or, depending on your lifestyle, there are camping grounds, a youth sport hotel and more within cycling distance (around 5-10 km, often connected to bus lines).



We are cooperating closely with the city of Villach and the local tourism board to be able to cope with the accommodation needs of all participants, even beyond the magic 1.000 number. There is plenty of space; we look forward to seeing you there!

Next to the basic structure of main tournament, rapid tournament and weekend tournament (European Masters) there will certainly be 9x9, 13x13, team and blitz tournaments, as well as an experimental variant of rengo where the pairings are generated automatically anew for each round. A pair go event is not certain yet. We try to arrange as many opportunities as possible for professional players to have lecture and analysis sessions with congress participants.

Beyond the Go board there will certainly be a juggling competition. We have noticed that there seems to be quite a number of jugglers among Go players, which might have to do with the coordination between the brain hemispheres.

Also confirmed is a photo competition: Make a nice picture to arouse the interest of non-Go-players and send it to us in a resolution fit for printing.

However, remember that the usual club and tournament snapshots are likely to be much less exciting for outsiders than they are for you and your Go friends.

We are planning table tennis and tabletop football tournaments.

Another novelty will be organisational meetings. Do you have good concepts for organising and spreading Go activities? Do you have good ideas about further developing European Go? Or are you looking for an exchange of ideas on building a local Go community? Then these meetings are for you!

Other social activities include first and foremost the ukiyo-e exhibition taking place beyond the duration of the EGC in the Stadtgalerie Villach. On the basis of Go motives the exhibits from the Gerstorfer collection demonstrate the evolution of the japanese woodcuts art.

Other exhibits will show what Austria has to offer in terms of Go culture, starting from the time of the dual monarchy.

If you are looking for activities beyond Go, you will find in Carinthia many castles, archeology parks, great outdoor locations, museums, baths and other attractions. We recommend the so-called Kärnten Card, which is your admission ticket into over 100 such places of excursions all over Carinthia.

And since Go players are a bit special, we'll get the card with a nice discount.

Furthermore we will place emphasis on the following points:

Press relations will be important to us.



International cooperation will be a priority. For example, two members of the swedish organisation team for the EGC 2008 will work with our team in the hope of making knowledge transfer between EGC organisers a European tradition.

We are working towards a more technology-based and efficient handling, for example, by printing individual time tables so everyone knows which tournaments they are registered for. Also, pairings will be printed in alphabetical order so it's easier to locate a name among the many entries. Thanks go to Christoph Gerlach for offering to help us with the necessary data munging of the tournament data!

For the first time at an EGC, there will be child care. Thanks go to Harald Kroll for this advice!

During and/or after the EGC 2007 there will be opinion polls among the participants, regarding the EGC 2007 in particular, and EGCs and European Go in general.

For the time after the EGC 2007 we plan a review booklet containing poll results, organisational background information, bulletin contents and more. It is intended not just as a souvenir for participants and as support for future EGC organisers, but also as an argument to be presented to potential future sponsors.

Anyone who would like to support our efforts and who is active on KGS can do so in a simple way: Add a short sentence with a link to <http://egc2007.goverband.at> to your user information, and possibly a reference to the KGS user "EGC2007"; that user has been approved by the KGS admins as a multi-account for the organisational team. This form of support is already showing results in countries where Go isn't as well organised as it is in Austria, Germany, Sweden or Finland. For example, we were able to talk to single-digit kyu players from Bulgaria or Greece who didn't even know that the EGC exists. Our aim for the Go congress in Villach is to set new standards. We would like to set a new record for the number of participants at an EGC, but more than that we intend to create a basis for even higher attendance levels in the future. So, we are happy to cordially invite you all to the European Go Congress 2007 in Villach!



- There will be a lecture about artificial intelligence and Go-programming.
- There will be the possibility to play a new Go-prog, and to win prizes there.
- We have already done agreements with pros for 90 pro-working hours in total, divided to workshops, sim-games, lectures with headset and projector in big hall, and bulletin-contributions. Some more pros-activities will be improvised as it was ever done, so that attendees might have to decide between 2 workshops taking place at the same time.
- Statistical info: At EGC2005 Prague, which was very successfull, on 19th Jan 109 participants were registered already. EGC2007 Villach has today, 19th Jan, 197 registrations. One of the accomodations (Kolpinghaus) is already sold out.



# 17th International Amateur Pair Go Championship

*18th - 19th November 2006, Tokyo*

Korea were winners of the International Amateur Pair Go Championships in Tokyo. Their pair, a student Song Ye-Seul and Go instructor Seo Yu-Tae, beat China in the final. China's Yan Ling and Long Lin were second.



All the next places were taken by Japanese pairs (the one from Shikoku coming third).

Only three non-Japanese pairs won three out of five: Taipei in 13th, USA in 14th and New Zealand in 16th. The last two both featured schoolboys: Curtis Wang playing with Wan Chen, and Edwin Phease playing with his mother Yucong. Marie Claire Chaine and Pierre Colmez from France was the top pair on two wins in 17th. Vietnam, Canada, UK (Natasha Regan and Matthew Cocke), Germany (Lisa Ente and Benjamin Teuber), Netherlands (Els Bunstma and Geert Groenen), Mongolia, Indonesia and Russia (Margarita Bogdanova and Victor Bogdanov) all scored 2/5.

Sweden (Kerstin Bergstrom and Charlie Akerblom), Chile, Hungary (Szonia Msciolczi and Gyorgy Csizmadia), Bulgaria (Nina Toleva and Stanislav Traykov) and South Africa won 1/5. Cyprus (Maria Leonidou and Nicholas Rousos) took last place as expected being the lowest graded pair

<http://www.pairgo.or.jp/amateur/17th/players/results.htm>





# 7 problemer

*Pål Sannes*

De første 6 av de følgende 7 problemene er hentet fra boken  
"Five Hundred and One Tesuji Problems" fra Kiseido forlag.

Dette er etter min mening en av de klart beste problembøkene som er  
utgitt på engelsk.

Jeg hører selv blant dem (vet at det er andre som er av en annen mening!)

som ikke er helt overbegeistret over forløperen  
"One Thousand and One Life-and-Death Problems", ettersom jeg fant  
svært mange av problemene i denne boken ganske kjedelige.

Jeg har ingen tilsvarende innvendinger mot 501 Tesuji Problems: alle  
problemene, selv de aller enkleste, er etter min mening morsomme og  
interessante problemer.

Men merk at mens alle problemene i 1001 Life-and-Death Problems er  
meget enkle, er det langt større variasjon i vanskelighetsgrad i tesujipro-  
blemene. Det var alltid minst ett eller to problemer på hver ny side (som  
presenterer 9 problemer) som jeg måtte slite med (som 4 dan).

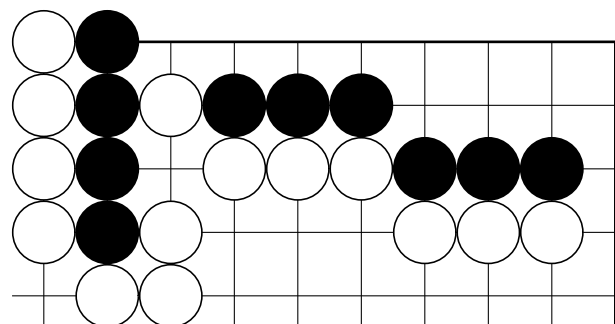
Selv om det altså også er mange lette problemer, tror jeg nok likevel  
utbyttet av boken er størst hvis du er i det minste 5 kyu i styrke.

*Sort i trekket i alle problemene, og du kan forutsette at det ikke er andre  
steiner på brettet enn de som er vist..*

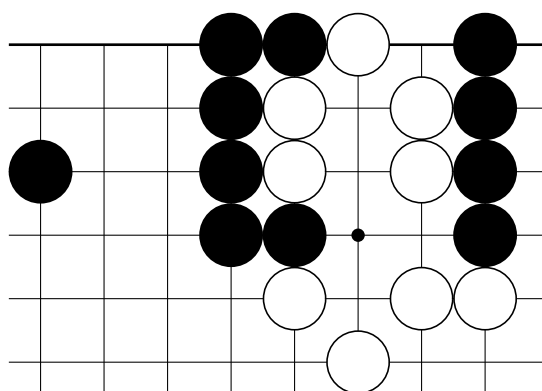
I *problem 3* er spørsmålet om sort er i stand til å unngå å bli stengt inne  
i hjørnet.

I *problem 5* gjelder det å finne en måte å komme seg inn i hvits moyo.

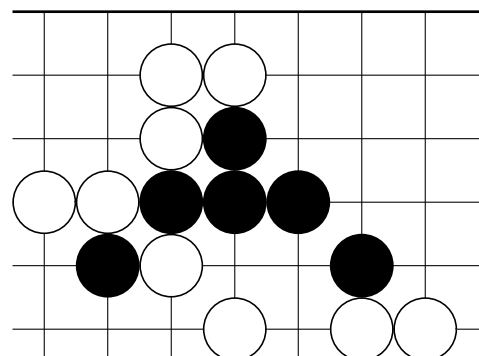
*Problem 7* er tatt med for at også de som allerede har rukket å jobbe seg  
gjennom 501 Tesuji Problems forhåpentligvis skal få noe nytt å bryne  
seg på. Her er det masser av variasjoner å lese på, og i løsningsdiagram-  
mene nøyer jeg meg med å vise noen få trekk i hver variasjon, selv om  
det sikkert ikke for alle er like opplagt at hvit i alle variantene unntatt  
hoveddiagrammet er ubetinget i live etter trekkene vist. Det er utmerket  
og nyttig lesetrening å forvise seg om dette!



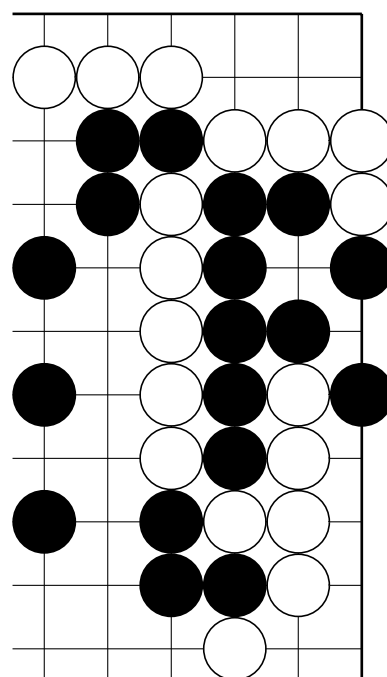
*Problem 1*



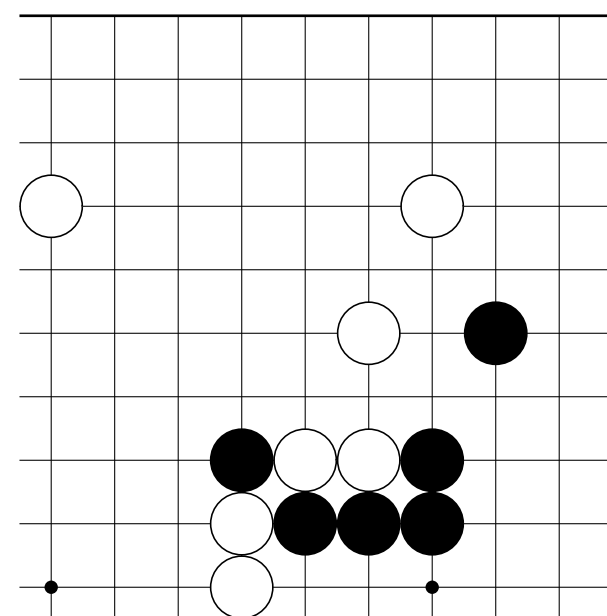
*Problem 2*



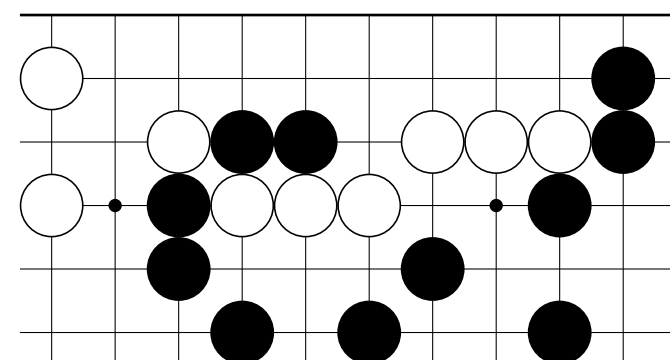
*Problem 3*



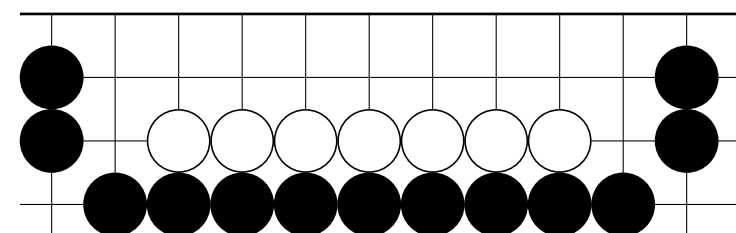
*Problem 4*



*Problem 5*



*Problem 6*



*Problem 7*

Lösningar på sidan 24

# Hvordan legge ned steinene

*Pål Sannes*

Det følgende er en lettere redigering av to innlegg postet i SGF Forum: <http://forum.goforbundet.se/> under kategorien Allmänt, tittel "How to put down the stones".

**Jeg ville med innleggene rette søkelyset på et fenomen som både har overrasket og irritert meg blant mange av de nye spillerne som har kommet til de siste årene. Det gjelder noe så fundamentalt som måten steiner blir lagt ned på brettet.**

Mange, selv langt ned på tosifret kyu-nivå, ser ut til å leve i den misoppfatning at steinene helst skal hamres ned. Dette kan være irriterende nok i seg selv - i sjakk legger man filt under brikkene for at man ikke skal forstyrre andre spillere. Interessant nok fikk jeg høre fra hovedprodusenten for den kinesiske TV-kanalen for Go at det etter hans mening burde medføre straff hvis man under en turnering slår steinene høylydt ned i brettet.

Men atskillig verre er det at denne hardtslående måten å legge ned steiner på i enkelte tilfeller blir ledsaget av et ansiktsuttrykk og kroppspråk som om motstanderen ønsker å knuse deg med hver eneste stein de plasserer. Av og til sitter man nærmest igjen med inntrykket av at det de ønsker å formidle er: "Nå har jeg nettopp gjort et glimrende trekk, og uansett hva din underutviklede hjerne er i stand til å komme opp med av svar, kommer jeg til å møte det med enda et strålende trekk, så hvorfor gir du ikke like så godt opp først som sist?".

Selvsagt(?) er det ikke slik de tenker, og når jeg er blitt bedre kjent med disse spillerne utenom turneringspartiene, viser det seg ofte å være svært hyggelige mennesker som jeg ikke har noe som helst problemer med å omgås med, snarere tvertimot.

Hvor har de så lært seg å legge ned steinene på denne usympatiske måten?

Det er neppe fra de mer erfarne spillerne, for med noen få unntak legger de fleste jeg kjenner som har spilt Go noen år ned steinene pent og rolig. Jeg antar derfor at det i hovedsak er Hikaru no Go som må være inspirasjonskilden.

Jeg regner med at dette temaet vil være kontroversielt - det vil helt

sikkert være de som vil hevde at steiner \*skal\* høres når de legges ned. Når jeg velger å ta det opp, er det fordi jeg faktisk er alvorlig redd for at dette kan være med på å påvirke klubb- og turneringsaktivitet i negativ retning.

Det skal ikke underslås at det å hamre ned steinene faktisk kan innebære et psykologisk fortrinn hvis alt som betyr noe er å vinne partier. Verdens beste spiller gjennom de siste årene: Lee Changho har for eksempel en 'nemesis' i japanske Yoda Norimoto, den eneste japaner som så vidt jeg vet har en positiv statistikk mot Lee. Mens Lee alltid gjør sine trekk pent og forsiktig, er Yoda et nærmest ekstremt eksempel på den hardtslående stilen. Jeg har hørt fra koreanere at det spekuleres sterkt i at nettopp dette er årsaken til at Lee har så store problemer med å spille mot Yoda.

Selv har jeg opplevd å spille enkelte partier med en så stor grad av ulyst fordi mine motstander benytter denne i mine øyne så uvennlige spillestilen, at hvis dette griper om seg vil jeg sterkt overveie å gå over til heller å spille på internett. Her kan man i det minste forsøke å innbille seg at motstanderen er en vennlig og smilende japaner, som nikker anerkjennende til de fleste trekkene du gjør, og som når du gjør noe dumt, legger ned sitt svar forsiktig og med et ansiktsuttrykk som uttrykker både beklagelse og medfølelse over at han dessverre er nødt til å ta fordel av dette...

En reaksjon jeg fikk da dette ble postet i SGF Forum var: "Dock är jag medveten om att det kan verka skrämmande för nybörjare (om den som bankar är en betydligt starkare spelare)."

Dette er en erfaring vi alle (håper jeg?) kjenner igjen: nybegynnere reagerer instinktivt mot banking av steiner. Man må faktisk bruke tid til å venne seg til den hardtslående spillestilen. Burde ikke dette mane til litt ettertanke?

I Kina og Japan (koreanere er generelt langt mindre hardtslående) kan situasjonen være en annen. Dette er samfunn hvor respekt for autoriteter tradisjonelt har betydd mye. Dette er kampsportenes hjemland. Det å slå ned steiner for å markere styrke og selvsikkerhet kan falle mer naturlig i slike samfunn.

Likevel velger svært mange (et økende antall?) profesjonelle Go-spillere den myke varianten når de legger ned steiner. Kanskje finner de at dette samsvarer bedre med deres personlighet, kanskje føler de at den harde varianten er med på å skape avstand til de

man spiller med, at den er en arv fra et autoritært samfunn de ikke lenger ønsker å identifiserer seg med, at den ikke samsvarer med den mer moderne måten man gjerne vil omgås mennesker?

Jeg har merket meg hvordan mange asiatiske spillere som har flyttet til Vesten gradvis har forandret spillestil, uten at jeg har grunn til å tro at noen har bedt dem eksplisitt om å gjøre dette. De tydeligvis bare sanser at den hardtslående varianten ikke passer så godt inn i den vestlige væremåten.

For ikke å bli misforstått, må jeg legge til at jeg kjenner spillere som konsekvent legger ned steinene med atskillig mer kraft enn jeg selv foretrekker, men som gjør det med en så vennlig framtoning at jeg opplever det som helt uproblematisk. Vesa Laatikainen er et utmerket eksempel.

Det er de som hamrer ned steiner ledsaget av et anstrengt eller nedlatende ansiktsuttrykk jeg vil til livs. Høyst trolig er de ikke klar over at de oppfattes slik, og enda mer trolig er de ikke klar over hvilket ubehag de kan framprovosere hos motspillere.

Mitt personlige råd vil være å alltid bevisst forsøke å sette steinene mykt og vennlig ned, da blir det rett og slett vanskelig å skape dette negative inntrykket. Det bør være et mål for alle å forsøke å skape en så god atmosfære over Go-brettet som mulig. Dette er nok mulig å få til selv om man legger kraft i nedslaget, men jeg er av den oppfatning at dette for de fleste vil være lettere å få til ved den myke varianten.

PS: Noen slår ned klokken nesten like brutalt som de legger ned steinene. Jeg håper ikke noen ønsker å forsvare den praksisen også?



# Norgesmesterskapet 2006

*Pål Sannes*

Norgesmesterskapet 2006 ble arrangert 21-22 oktober i Oslo. Med 31 deltakere klarte vi så vidt å slå forrige deltakerrekord fra 2004. En ekstra fjær i hatten var at dette også var tangering av antall deltakere i det svenske mesterskapet for 2006, og 5 mer enn i det danske mesterskapet av 2006. Antakelig er det første gang i historien at Norge har vært på topp i Skandinavia i antall deltakere i et nasjonalt mesterskap!

Mindre fornøyd er vi med at bare 3 av deltakerne kom utenfra Oslo. Fortsatt har vi dessverre bare en fungerende Go-klubb i Norge.

Vinner av Norgesmesterskapet ble som i 2005 Pål Sannes, med Fan Nian Kong og Øystein Vestgården på delt annen plass. Etter som vi i 2007 trolig vil ha både WAGC og Korea Prime Minister Cup å velge norsk representant til, skulle disse to egentlig ha spilt omkamp om hvem som får retten til å bestemme hvilket av disse to arrangementene vedkommende ønsker å delta i. Men Kong var generøs nok til å gi Øystein dette valget, og Øystein valgte VM i Japan, hvilket vil si at Kong vil representere Norge i Korea.

Pl	Name	Str	Cl	MMS	Pt	SOS					
1	Sannes Pål	4d	Os1	35	5	162	6+/w0	11+/b0	2+/b0	3+/w0	4+/b0
2	Kong Fan Nian	4d	Os1	33	3	165	5+/b0	3+/b0	1-/w0	4-/w0	7+/b0
2 3	Vestgården Øystein	2d	Os1	33	3	165	4+/b0	2-/w0	7+/w0	1-/b0	5+/w0
4	Ofstad Morten	4d	Os1	33	3	164	3-/w0	9+/b0	5+/w0	2+/b0	1-/w0
5	Gustad Christian	1d	Os1	32	2	162	2-/w0	13+/b0	4-/b0	6+!w0	3-/b0
6	Thorstensen Trond	1d	Os1	32	2	161	1-/b0	7-/w0	10+/w0	5-!b0	12+/w0
7	Haga Sverre	1k	Tro	32	3	159	14+/w0	6+/b0	3-/b0	9+/w0	2-/w0
8	Rødal Samuel	1k	Os1	32	3	153	11-/b0	10-/w0	15+/w0	14+/b0	9+/b0
9	Kikuchi Minori	1k	Os1	31	2	158	10+/b0	4-/w0	14+/b0	7-/b0	8-/w0
10	Røe Per	1k	Os1	31	2	155	9-/w0	8+/b0	6-/b0	12-/w0	16+/w1
11	Lindalen Jørgen	1k	Os1	31	1	154	8+/w0	1-/w0	0=	0=	0=
11 12	Haga Erik Nilsen	2k	Os1	31	3	154	15+/b0	14-/w0	13+/w0	10+/b0	6-/b0
13	Jensen Daniel	2k	Göt	31	3	152	16+/w1	5-/w0	12-/b0	15+/b0	14+/w0
14	Niitsuma Yuichi	1k	Os1	30	1	157	7-/b0	12+/b0	9-/w0	8-/w0	13-/b0
15	Malinowski Aleksander	2k	Os1	30	2	151	12-/w0	16+/w1	8-/b0	13-/w0	17+/w0
16	Forselv Kristian	4k	Os1	28	2	143	13-/b1	15-/b1	17+/w0	19+/b0	10-/b1
17	Hestvik Frank	5k	Os1	28	3	138	18+/w0	19+/w0	16-/b0	23+/w2	15-/b0
18	Hoff Per Kristian	5k	Os1	28	2	129	17-/b0	20+/b0	0=	0=	21+/w1
19	Refsahl Tor Egil	6k	Os1	26	2	132	20+/w0	17-/b0	21+/w0	16-/w0	22-/w1
20	Milkovic Alen	6k	Os1	25	0	126	19-/b0	18-/w0	0=	0=	0=
20 21	Nilsson Mads Stormo	8k	Os1	25	3	126	23+/w0	22+/b0	19-/b0	24+/w0	18-/b1
22	Alvarez Orvik Andreas	8k	Os1	25	3	121	24+/b0	21-/w0	23-/b0	25+/w0	19+/b1
23	Haugland Jan Kristian	8k	Ber	24	2	124	21-/b0	24+/w0	22+/w0	17-/b2	26-/w1
24	Hoffman Torgeir	8k	Os1	24	2	119	22-/w0	23-/b0	26+/w0	21-/b0	29+/w1
25	Berthelsen Michael	10k	Os1	23	3	113	26+/w0	27-/b0	29+/w0	22-/b0	31+/w9
26	Valle Lars	10k	Os1	23	3	112	25-/b0	28+/w0	24-/b0	30+/w7	23+/b1
27	Haagensen Arne	10k	Os1	23	2	105	28+/b0	25+/w0	0=	0=	0=
28	Kelly Kaitlyn	11k	Os1	22	3	106	27-/w0	26-/b0	0+	31+/w7	30+/w7
29	Rødseth Alexander	12k	Os1	21	3	103	30+/w5	31+/w7	25-/b0	0+	24-/b1
30	Bergsaker Håkon	18k	Os1	13	1	72	29-/b5	0+	31-/w1	26-/b7	28-/b7
31	Bakkevig Haugli Fredrik	20k	Os1	12	2	66	0+	29-/b7	30+/b1	28-/b7	25-/b9



## 10 years ago (1996)

*Matti Siivola*

Vesa Laatikinen, 5 dan was the Finnish champion 1996 out of 15 players.

He also won the Nordic championship, played in Stockholm, losing only to Matti Siivola. Sari Kohonen, 3 kyu was the 1996 Finnish ladies champion and Miika Minkkinen was the 1996 Finnish junior champion.

Xiangdong Li, 3 dan won the Swedish championship out of 28 players and 1 Mikael Lindstedt was the junior champion.

Thomas Heshe, 5 dan was the Danish Champion from 20 players.

The Norgian chanmionship had 12 players and was won by Jostein Flood, 5 dan.

Helsinki Grand Prix was won by Alexei Lazarev.

Guo Juan was the European champion in Abano terme 1996. Jun Liu (CHINA) won the world amateur Championship.

Finland got its sixth dan player in early 1997, when Markku Jantunen was promoted.

## Tournaments in the Nordic countries 2006

*Source: European Go Database, [http://lnx.agi.go.it/EGD/EGD\\_index.php](http://lnx.agi.go.it/EGD/EGD_index.php)*

Date	Tournament	Location	Country	Participants	Winner
06-01-06	Kuopio	Kuopio	Finland	7	Olli Hella 1k
06-01-06	Jusandan	Stockholm	Sweden	34	Michael Yao 5d
06-01-07	City Championship	Oulu	Finland	6	Antti Törmänen 4d
06-02-11	Takapotku Open	Helsinki	Finland	94	Vesa Laatikainen 5d
06-02-11	Ambassador's Cup	Copenhagen	Denmark	21	Jannik Rasmussen 4d
06-02-18	Västerås Open	Västerås	Sweden	30	Michael Yao 5d
06-03-11	Jaakko Munkki Memorial	Helsinki	Finland	35	Vesa Laatikainen 5d
06-03-25	Lund Open	Lund	Sweden	26	Su Yang 5d
06-04-08	PoGo Open	Espoo	Finland	24	Juho Mäkinen 1d
06-04-14	Nordic Championship	Oslo	Norway	26	Matti Siivola 5d
06-04-15	Oulu	Oulu	Finland	32	Antti Törmänen 4d
06-04-22	Team Tournament	Tampere	Finland	57	( Team)
06-05-06	Oslo Open	Oslo	Norway	14	Morten Ofstad 4d
06-05-12	Danish Championship	Copenhagen	Denmark	26	Kasper Hornbaeck 5d
06-05-20	Jyväskylä Open	Jyväskylä	Finland	40	Markku Jantunen 2d
06-05-26	Swedish Championship	Kjesäter	Sweden	31	Xiaoluo Qi 5d
06-06-17	Turku Open	Turku	Finland	42	Kari Visala 3d
06-06-10	Stockholm Open	Stockholm	Sweden	21	Teemu Rovio 2d
06-07-08	Oulu	Oulu	Finland	32	Annti Törmänen 4d
06-07-15	Meidokan Open	Helsinki	Finland	26	Mika Urtela 2d
06-07-24	Leksand Open	Leksand	Sweden	46	Na-Yeaon Kang 6d
06-08-26	Finnish Female Championship	Espoo	Finland	11	Suvi Leppanen 2k
06-09-02	Finnish Championship Qualification (stage I)	Espoo	Finland	26	Jesse Savo 1d
06-09-04	Club Autumn Tournament	Copenhagen	Denmark	8	Uffe Rasmussen 2d
06-09-10	City Championship Qualification	Turku	Finland	10	Jesse Savo 1d
06-09-23	City Championship Qualification	Oulu	Finland	6	Janna Maatta 1d
06-09-23	Linköping Open	Linghem	Sweden	37	Michael Yao 5d
06-09-30	Finnish Championship Qualification (stage II)	Helsinki	Finland	16	Lauri Paatero 3d
06-10-14	European PandaNet-Toyota Tour	Tampere	Finland	91	Seok-Bin Cho 7d
06-10-14	Copenhagen Open	Copenhagen	Denmark	7	Torben Pedersen 3d
06-10-21	Mind Sports Festival	Oulu	Finland	33	Janne Kosso 2d
06-10-21	Norwegian Championship	Oslo	Norway	31	Pål Sannes 4d
06-11-04	European PandaNet-Toyota Tour	Göteborg	Sweden	25	Pål Sannes 4d
06-11-10	Finnish Championship League	Espoo	Finland	6	Vesa Laatikainen 5d



# Jusandan 2007

*Mattias Svanström*

Det var en gråmulen men ganska mild helg när femtiotalet gospelare samlades i Stockholm för att delta i 2007 års Jusandan. Tävlingen ägde åter rum i Aspudden, efter att flera turneringar i Stockholm anordnats i andra lokaler. Jag tycker själv att lokalen i Aspudden funkar förträffligt som spellokal, och som icke-Stockholmare har jag inte några åsikter om att den kanske inte är så centralt placerad.

Efter att inte ha spelat i turnering på några år var det trevligt att se att mycket var som förr i tiden. Mikael Erikssons mamma ordnade på sedvanligt sätt med smörgåsar, dryck och lättlunch. Detta var mycket uppskattat och bidrog starkt till trivselfaktorn. Även Michael Yaos stora avskedsfest på fredagkvällen var starkt uppskattad av oss som var där. Det var dessutom verkligen trevligt att se finnar, gamla bekanta tyskar, amerikaner och en engelsman ställa upp och kämpa mot svenskarna. Förutom att träffa på flera gamla bekanta som jag inte sett på länge var det skoj att träffa några av de nyare spelarna som jag bara känner från KGS.

Det kändes dock som om det kunde varit någon mer som hjälpt till med arrangerandet. De två huvudorganisatörerna verkade vara en aning för hårt belastade så det var svårt att hålla reda på lottningen (flera gånger följdes en lottning efter ett par minuter av en omlottning) samt vilka tider man hade satt upp. Nu är detta nog inte något jättestort problem, men de som ska resa hem ganska direkt efter turneringen uppskattar nog om tidsschemat hålls så bra det går. En sak som jag störde mig mer på, och som gäller generellt och inte bara denna turnering, är att lottas mot motståndare som inte dyker upp andra eller tredje dagen. Vi var minst tre som blev utan motståndare i rond tre, och det är inte särskilt roligt att sitta av en timme. Jag skulle faktiskt föredra att det gjordes en närvarokontroll varje dag och att deltagare som inte är närvarande eller meddelat att de kommer lite sent plockas bort ur lottningen. Jag tycker det är viktigt att visa respekt för de deltagare som faktiskt kommer genom att inte ge dem onödiga ronder att sitta av mot motståndare som inte dyker upp.

Bortsett från dessa problem var det en alldeles utmärkt turnering med god stämning och många glada ansikten. Michael hade ett litet bokbord och Leif Pettersson ordnade med försäljning av tröjor med den ursnygga EM-logon inför 2008. Som sidoarrangemang hölls på fredag- och lördagkvällarna en lagturnering med tremannalag och kortare betänketid än i huvudturneringen, ett arrangemang som verkade uppskattas av deltagarna. Lagtävlingen togs hem av laget med Fredrik, Sam och Solomon, medan Michael avgick segrande ur huvudturneringen. När solen gått ner på söndageftermiddagen färdades vi hemåt efter en härligt positiv goupplevelse.

#	Namn	Klubb	Rank	MMS	1	2	3	4	5	6	Pt.	SOS	
1	Yao, Michael	Sto	5d	22	11+	4+	3+	5+	2+	7+	6	115	
2	Börjesson, Martin	Kun	1d	20	4-	7+	11+	3+	1-	8+	4	117	
3	Aitken, Sam	Lea	2d	20	12+	10+	1-	2-	15+	6+	4	114	
4	Ouchterlony, Erik	Lin	3d	19	2+	1-	13+	6-	8-	14+	3	116	
5	Blomback, Fredrik	Sto	1k	19	8+	14+	10+	1-	7-	18+	4	113	
6	Helenius, Jan-Kriste	Åbo	1k	19	13-	17+	9+	4+	10+	3-	4	111	
7	Choe, Solomon	Tac	1k	19	20+	2-	24+	11+	5+	1-	4	110	
8	Savolainen, Aleksi	Hel	1k	19	5-	20+	16+	13+	4+	2-	4	109	
9	Ternström, Johan	Öst	1k	19	15+	11-	6-	21+	12+	10+	4	106	
10	Sigvald, Joakim	Lin	1d	18	14+	3-	5-	12+	6-	9-	2	113	
11	Strand, Krister	Väs	1d	18	1-	9+	2-	7-	--	--	1	112	
12	Bergsåker, Henric	Sto	1d	18	3-	13-	14+	10-	9-	17+	2	110	
	Damberg, Victor	Upp	1k	18	6+	12+	4-	8-	14-	15+	3	110	
14	Boman, Tomas	Lin	2d	18	10-	5-	12-	16+	13+	4-	2	109	
15	Bringmann, Torsten	Tri	1k	17	9-	16-	20+	18+	3-	13-	2	107	
16	Merikaarnio, Magnus	Sto	1k	17	17-	15+	8-	14-	18-	25+	2	103	
17	Larsson, Richard	-	2k	17	16+	6-	18-	24+	20+	12-	3	102	
18	Flystam, Peter	Lin	3k	17	22+	23+	17+	15-	16+	5-	4	102	
19	Svanström, Mattias	Lin	4k	17	26+	24-	28+	25+	21+	22+	5	91	½
20	Pettersson, Leif	Väs	1k	16	7-	8-	15-	--	17-	--	0	102	
21	Eriksson, Anders	Eke	3k	16	23-	22+	25+	9-	19-	24+	3	98	
22	Haecker, Achim	Osn	3k	16	18-	21-	27+	26+	24+	19-	3	95	
23	Jeppsson, Daniel	Lun	3k	16	21+	18-	--	--	--	--	1	85	
24	Stoehr, Marc	Sto	3k	15	25+	19+	7-	17-	22-	21-	2	100	
25	Kjellström, David	Lun	3k	15	24-	28+	21-	19-	27+	16-	2	94	½
26	Gamelli, Joacim	Sto	5k	15	19-	31+	34+	22-	29+	32+	4	86	
27	Hjalmarsson, Mats	Sto	5k	15	31+	29+	22-	34+	25-	30+	4	85	
28	Holm, Jan	Sto	4k	14 ½	29+	25-	19-	--	30-	34+	2	85	
29	Gaebler, Thomas	Åbo	4k	14	28-	27-	30-	32+	26-	36+	2	82	½
30	Eriksson, Mikael	Sto	6k	14	--	--	29+	31+	28+	27-	3	76	½
31	Lundqvist, Peter	Upp	5k	13	27-	26-	33+	30-	--	--	1	79	
32	Kolk, Martin	Sto	6k	13	36+	34-	37+	29-	33+	26-	3	77	
33	Böttiger, Harald	Sto	7k	13	37+	36+	31-	35+	32-	39+	4	69	½
34	Aspelin, Lars-Åke	Sto	6k	13	49+	32+	26-	27-	37+	28-	3	68	½
35	Makinen, Max	Hel	9k	12	38+	39+	36+	33-	42+	37+	5	62	½
36	Persson, Jenny	Ume	6k	11	32-	33-	35-	37-	39+	29-	1	72	½
37	Majholm, Björn	Eke	7k	11	33-	38+	32-	36+	34-	35-	2	72	
38	Steidele, Martina	Väs	8k	10	35-	37-	39-	--	40+	--	1	57	½
39	Johansson, Henrik	Sto	8k	9 ½	--	35-	38+	40-	36-	33-	1	63	
40	Hellström, Johan	?	11k	9	41-	45+	43+	39+	38-	42+	4	48	
41	Harczuk, Ignat	-	11k	8 ½	40+	44+	42-	--	--	--	2	38	
42	Yllman, Jens	Sto	11k	8	--	--	41+	44+	35-	40-	2	45	½
43	Jin, Feng Quan	Sto	12k	7	--	--	40-	47-	49+	48+	2	32	½
44	Svensson, Håkan	Sto	13k	6	45+	41-	48+	42-	--	--	2	27	½
45	Karlsson, Jonas	Eke	13k	5	44-	40-	--	--	47-	49+	1	36	½
46	Broberg, Joakim	-	14k	4 ½	--	--	--	48-	--	--	0	10	
47	Edlund, Henrik	Bor	25k	4 ½	48-	free	49+	43+	45+	--	4	6	½
48	Westergårdh, Jessica	Sto	22k	4	47+	49+	44-	46+	free	43-	4	54	
49	Braden, Rebecca	Upp	15k	2	34-	48-	47-	free	43-	45-	1	45	½





*Artikelförfattaren själv Mattias Svanström Foto: Larske*



*Martin Börjesson gjorde ett fint resultat. På den här bilden spelar han till höger mot Erik Ouchterlony.  
Foto: Larske*



*Prisutdelningen. Henric Bergsåker, Martin Börjesson och Sam Aitken. Foto Tomas Boman*



*Michael med sonen i famnen vann turneringen och kanske försvinner från Sverige snart. Till höger Erik Ouchterlony  
Foto Krister Strands*



# Svenska Pokalen 2006

*Henric Bergsåker*

Svenska Goförbundet delar sedan 2003 ut ett vandringspris och penningpriser baserat på de sju största fasta svenska turneringarna. Var och en som vinner mer än 50% i dessa turneringar får poäng och de som vinner mest får penningpriser, lika stora i tre rankingsegment. Under 2006 var det 47 spelare som tog pokalpoäng. Klubbvis tog Stockholm flest pokalpoäng, därefter Göteborg och Uppsala.

## *Samtliga spelare med pokalpoäng:*

Michael Yao 5d, Stockholm 8  
Erik Ouchterlony 3d Linköping 6  
Xiaoluo Qi 5d Göteborg 5  
Martin Börjesson 2k A Tenuki 5  
Viktor Damberg 2k A Uppsala 5  
Peter Lundqvist 8k B Uppsala 5  
Fredrik Blomback 3k A Stockholm 4  
Mika Elias 14k C Uppsala 4  
Martin Li 5d Borlänge 4  
Ulf Olsson 4d Göteborg 3  
Joakim Broberg 29k C Stockholm 3  
Stefan Bengtsson 16k C Göteborg 3  
Richard Larsson 8k B Västerås 3  
Mikael Eriksson 6k B Stockholm 3  
Sven Abelson Runing 4k A Göteborg 2  
Magnus Merikaarnio 2k A Stockholm 3  
Danjell Elgebrandt 13k C Stockholm 2  
Klas Almroth 1d A Göteborg 2  
Marc Stoehr 5k B Stockholm 2  
Richard Sandström 11k C Tenuki 2  
Sven Abelson Runing 4k A Göteborg 2  
Urban Nilsson 5k B Göteborg 2  
Yatao Zhang 1d A Stockholm 2  
Max Nilsson 2k A Lund 2  
Daniel Jensen 2k A Göteborg 2  
Robin Keskiärkkä 5k B Norrköping 2  
David Kjellström 6k B Lund 2  
Mattias Sörlin 10k B Stockholm 2

Marcus Weiland 1d A Stockholm 1  
Joakim Sigvald 1k A Linköping 1  
Basti Weidemyr 2k A Luleå 1  
Kerstin Bergström 2k A Linköping 1  
Öyvind Johannessen 3k A Stockholm 1  
Anders Johansson 8k B Västerås 1  
Semirko Jugo 10k B Västerås 1  
Jan Holm 8k B Stockholm 1  
Tomas Boman 2d Linköping 1  
Thomas Christiansson 1k A Lund 1  
Leif Pettersson 1k A Västerås 1  
Kenny Chung 9k B Norrköping 1  
Mattias Nilsson 10k B Tenuki 1  
Henning Gong 16k C Norrköping 1  
Charlie Åkerblom 1d A Norrköping 1  
David Kjellström 4k A Tenuki 1  
Simon Gullberg 5k B Tenuki 1  
Jonas Collberg 5k B Tenuki 1  
Daniel Hjalmarsson 6k B Tenuki 1  
Martina Steidele 8k B Västerås 1  
Daniel Bengtsson 10k B Tenuki 1

## *Klass A:*

Viktor Damberg 2k A Uppsala 5  
Martin Börjesson 2k A Tenuki 5  
Fredrik Blomback 3k A Stockholm 4  
Sven Abelson Runing 4k A Göteborg 3  
Magnus Merikaarnio 2k A Stockholm 3  
Klas Almroth 1d A Göteborg 2

Yatao Zhang 1d A Stockholm 2  
Max Nilsson 2k A Lund 2  
Daniel Jensen 2k A Göteborg 2  
Marcus Weiland 1d A Stockholm 1  
Joakim Sigvald 1k A Linköping 1  
Basti Weidemyr 2k A Luleå 1  
Kerstin Bergström 2k A Linköping 1  
Öyvind Johannessen 3k A Stockholm 1  
Thomas Christiansson 1k A Lund 1  
Leif Pettersson 1k A Västerås 1  
Charlie Åkerblom 1d A Norrköping 1  
Henrik Rydberg 2k A Göteborg 1  
David Kjellström 4k A Tenuki 1

## *Klass B:*

Peter Lundqvist 8k B Uppsala 5  
Richard Larsson 8k B Västerås 3  
Mikael Eriksson 6k B Stockholm 3  
Marc Stoehr 5k B Stockholm 2  
Urban Nilsson 5k B Göteborg 2  
Robin Keskiärkkä 5k B Norrköping 2  
David Kjellström 6k B Lund 2  
Mattias Sörlin 10k B Stockholm 2  
Anders Johansson 8k B Västerås 1  
Semirko Jugo 10k B Västerås 1  
Jan Holm 8k B Stockholm 1  
Kenny Chung 9k B Norrköping 1  
Mattias Nilsson 10k B Tenuki 1  
Simon Gullberg 5k B Tenuki 1

Jonas Collberg 5k B Tenuki 1  
Daniel Hjalmarsson 6k B Tenuki 1  
Martina Steidele 8k B Västerås 1  
Daniel Bengtsson 10k B Tenuki 1

## *Klass C:*

Mika Elias 14k C Uppsala 4  
Joakim Broberg 29k C Stockholm 3  
Stefan Bengtsson 16k C Göteborg 3  
Danjell Elgebrandt 13k C Stockholm 2  
Richard Sandström 11k C Tenuki 2  
Henning Gong 16k C Norrköping 1

## *Svenska Klubbpokalen 2006*

Stockholm 32  
Göteborg 19  
Uppsala 14  
Tenuki 13  
Linköping 9  
Västerås 7  
Norrköping 5  
Lund 5  
Borlänge 4  
Luleå 1

# Utvecklingsteorier

*Pål Sannes*

Som forhåpentligvis de fleste har fått med seg, har man på hjemmesiden til det svenske Goforbundet et eget diskusjonsforum, hvor det i perioder kan være meget hektisk aktivitet. En slik travel periode fant sted i desember i fjor. Et annet sted i bladet har vi trykket (en lettere editert utgave av) hovedinnleggene til en slik diskusjon.

Her vil vi sakse litt fra tråden “utvecklingsteorier” (<http://forum.goforbundet.se/viewtopic.php?t=659>), samt helt til slutt fra et innlegg i tråden “The Hikaru wave - why it backfired” (<http://forum.goforbundet.se/viewtopic.php?t=657>).

## henric:

Vi har sett det gå både opp og ner i goaktiviteten i Sverige (förbluffande oppgang 2000-2004, tilbakegang under 2005 og 2006). Det er også store skillnader mellom ulike land. I Finland fortsätter till exempel en sterk oppgang sedan mer än 10 år. Utvecklingen över tiden, landsvis eller klubbvis kan enklast studeras med statistikverktygen i European Go Database ( [http://lnx.agi.go.it/EGD/EGD\\_index.php](http://lnx.agi.go.it/EGD/EGD_index.php) ). Man tycker att det borde gå att forstå vad vi gör rätt och fel utifrån det faktamaterialet. Ändå verkar det inte helt lätt. Låt mig räkna upp några olika teorier som jag hört eller varit i kontakt med:

### *I. Ulf's kontinuitetsteori.*

Ulf menar att det för en god utveckling behövs individer som är med hela tiden, i centrum för utvecklingen, som fasta punkter. Det gäller då inte bara själva spelet utan också den sociala miljön. Ulf menar att detta gäller både på nationell nivå (skillnaden mellan Sverige och Finland skulle vara att Finland har Matti i centrum hela tiden) och på klubbnivå (en klubb behöver åtminstone någon pålitlig person som alltid finns med och håller ihop det hela, inte minst socialt).

### *II. Förändringsteorin.*

Ulf är faktiskt en av de främsta som fört fram den här teorin också, men han är inte ensam. Tanken är att om man ändrar och tänker nytt hela tiden och hittar på nya saker så blir verksamheten mer attraktiv och stimulerande. Stagnationen vi sett på senare tid kan bero på förstelning och brist på förnyelse.

### *III. Hikaruteorin*

En teori som kanske förtjänar separat rubrik är att allt vi sett beror på HnG. Vi såg en drastisk oppgang 2001-2004 beroende på HnG, och när det slutade komma nya avsnitt av HnG anime upphörde effekten och vi hamnade i samma situation som innan.

### *IV. Teorin om synergistiska effekter och kritisk massa*

Det här är en tankegång som jag själv talat för då och då. Den går ut på att flera positiva initiativ och trender kan förstärka varandra (liksom å andra sidan också nedgångstecken och undergångsstämningar). Kring 2000-2001 sammanföll i Sverige många positiva trender, initiativ och effekter: Hikaru dök upp, Stefan Rosengren drog igång två nya turneringar i Stockholm, Martin Stiassny dök upp med sin Leksandsturnering med mera, KGS startade och Svenska Rummet blev en livlig och stimulerande mötesplats, mycket tack vare CJR, det blev i samma veva också lite bättre ordning på goförbundet och gobladet. Michaels personliga insatser med turneringsdeltagande och undervisning hör också till de stora sakerna, men börjar kanske lite senare.

Jag tror att den samlade känslan av flera framsteg och nyheter var stimulerande för att göra fler saker (starta nya klubbar och turneringar bl.a.). Senare har flera av dessa saker fallit bort eller försvagats, utan att nya kommit till i deras ställe, det ger en dystrare stämning och mindre entusiasm för att ordna saker eller delta. Om man lyckas komma över en tröskel i aktivitetsnivå kan man tänka sig att den ömsesidiga stimulansen att gå vidare blir stabil, oberoende av om någon person eller annat faller ifrån. Finland skulle kunna vara ett exempel på det. Vlad Dumitrescu och Catalin Taranu har uttryckt sig på liknande sätt om den starka utvecklingen i Rumänien för ett antal år sedan. De och andra rumäner har också hänvisat till vissa personer som viktiga (enligt teori I alltså), som George Stihl nationellt och en viss lärare i en by på landet.

### *V. Behov av generationsskifte*

Det inledande citatet av Pål antyder att relativt nytillkomna spelare behöver ta över mer när det gäller att organisera saker. Han saknar nya personer bland organisatörerna. Det är ju också lätt att

se att många som ofta var med och ordnade saker förr har tröttnat och fallit ifrån. Om de gamla inte stannar (teori I ) behöver förstås nya personer ta över, vilket antagligen också leder till förnyelse (teori II).

### *VI. Teorin om rankingsystemet*

En teori som förts fram ibland är att problemet vi har nu främst är rankingsystemet. Nya spelare utvecklas snabbare nu än förr, p.g.a. internetspel, men rankingsystemet (i första hand det svenska, men även EGF-rankningen) hänger inte med, spelarna blir underrankade och därmed frustrerade och lägger av.

### *VII. Teorin om SM och VM-uttagningen*

Enligt denna teori beror nergången i första hand på hur VM-uttagningen går till i Sverige. Många spelare som snabbt blivit starka kan eller vill inte spela i många turneringar för att samla poäng och är missnöjda med att behöva vänta flera år på uttagning till EM. De är därför inte med och spelar, vilket leder till att andra också uteblir.

## Kawe:

Något som överraskade mig är att det inte finns någon “Social teori” bland alla teorier. Något som liknar mest är väl teori IV med en ganska skrattretande rubrik. Tycker dock att det är helt fel synvinkel på hela problemet faktiskt. Alla klubbörelser handlar i grund och botten om att binda upp folk rent socialt. Det gäller att ha något gemensamt med folk som spelar eller skapa något som man kan ha gemensamt. Behöver ju inte vara gemensamt med alla men tillräckligt många och tillräckligt starkt. Det lättaste sättet att skapa gemenskap är nog om starkare spelare dyker upp regelbundet och intresserar sig för dem unga och nya.



## Martin:

Det finns väldigt distinkta sociala strukturer i sveriges go-samhälle, något som är tämligen uppenbart när man betraktar det från ett klubblost perspektiv. Tyvärr verkar det finnas någon slags osynlig mur mellan erfarna och nybörjare (naturligtvis finns det undantag, särskilt bland spelare från samma klubb). Detta är också starkt relaterat till det jag skrev om brist på motivation för nya spelare. Vad har egentligen gjorts, under det senaste året, för att skapa en miljö där nybörjare kan känna att de har möjligheten att utvecklas och att denna utveckling inte heller går omärkt förbi? Leksand tål ju naturligtvis att nämnas här, ett ypperligt arrangemang, men det är ju helt Stiassnys förtjänst.

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Jag har själv mycket goda minnen från tenuki, och det är min tro att återväckandet av densamma skulle ha enormt stor betydelse i att få nybörjare att framförallt börja delta i turneringar.

## henric:

Jag tror att I är en ansats till en social teori: en klubb behöver en pålitlig kärna, en eller flera personer som fixar saker och lyckas skapa en samlande atmosfär.

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Kvar står alltså: har gosverige misslyckats med något de senaste åren? Är det iså fall klubbarna som har misslyckats? Det egendomliga iså fall är ett det har varit en nergång i nästan alla klubbar samtidigt. Hur kan det komma sig, vi borde väl inte alla ha gjort samma misstag samtidigt?

## weiland:

En teori som inte nämnts är att det skett en attitydsförändring till go. Jag upplever det som att de allra flesta av de nya spelare som kommer till är väldigt tävlings- och rankingintresserade. Väldigt mycket av godiskussionen de senaste åren har handlat om rankingsystemet och uttagning till VM. Det kan i sin tur ha lett till att dessa frågor blivit ännu viktigare för sveriges gospelare. När jag började spela (vilket var 1999 tror jag) upplevde jag det som att de flesta spelade go för att det är roligt. Folk ville självklart utvecklas men det fanns ganska gott om personer som inte blev starka så fort. Det spelades även mycket mindre på nätet då och det var väldigt få som tog lektioner i go så vitt jag vet. Sedan dess har nivån höjts avsevärt i Sverige men det är tveksamt ifall intresset ökat lika mycket. Ganska många gamla eldsjälur har ju försvunnit, inte bara starka spelare utan spelare som älskar att spela go för att det är så spännande.

Jag är medveten om att detta är en ganska romantisk teori. Men kanske är det så att vi tappat lite av klubbsammanhållningen och

den sociala aspekten och istället låtit fokus hamna på tävlande och ranking. Det finns ju flera saker som kan ha lett till detta. Ett ökat antal spelare (p.g.a. Hikaru) som blev starka fort (på grund av internet) och som var tävlingsinriktade (på grund av lektioner, internet och senare ranking- och VM-diskussionerna) och som saknade bas i någon viss klubb (på grund av internet) ledde till rankingproppar och svagare klubbkänsla vilket ledde till ytterligare fokus på ranking och tävlingar.

Det tråkiga med den här teorin är att den inte erbjuder så mycket uppslag för förbättring. Ha trevligt på klubbarna! Sluta stressa efter segrar och njut av det vackra spelet go! Lätt att säga men det ändrar inte mycket. Tycker dock luciablixten verkar varit en kul grej där det sociala betonades framför tävlingsselementet. Mer sådant tror jag på. Att stärka klubben som enhet borde också vara bra, t.ex. med klubbmästerskap och klubbaktiviteter samt med tävlingar mellan klubbar.

## Frank:

Hikaru no Go har hjulpet masse (veldig motiverende og effektiv “propaganda”!), men det jeg misliker i HnG er at go bare er en sport - spillet go kunne i serien nesten vært byttet ut med karate eller håndbak - ultrakonkurrerende og brutalt (en blir definert som enten en vinner eller en taper basert på ens “kamper”). Alt dreier seg om hvor sterk en er og om en klarer å slå en gitt motstander. Husker å lese en artikkel du skrev for Nordisk Go Blad hvor du forbigående luftet litt frustrasjon over vestlige spillere som ga opp når de først møtte motstand med å stige i kyu-rankene. Jeg har en teori om at det kom flere av dem etter HnG (?), og at trenden vil fortsette... Det legges heller lite vekt på hvordan en kan mer fredelig fortape seg i selve spillet (jf. den nydelige kinesiske Ranka-legenden...), eller hvordan det å lære seg go kan være som å lære seg et nytt språk. Det er slik jeg prøver å se på go; jeg vil lære å snakke og skrive bedre (i go-språket). Det gir plutselig mindre mening å snakke om “nemesiser” for å skrive bedre kinesisk, eller å “holde kappløp” med noen i å lære seg å snakke best mulig fransk. Før HnG kan jeg tenke meg at flesteparten av go-spillerne var programmerere, matematikere/statistikere, folk som liker mattenøtter og intellektuelle gåter...? Jeg merker iallfall på internett og engelske go servere så har HnG brakt mange til go som har en personlighet mer tilbøyelig for pur konkurranse enn for go i seg selv.

# Review of the Italian problem

Henric Bergsåker

Henric from Sweden has here described the war which two groups of Italian goplayers waged on one another. He started as soon as the war broke out, as he understood that it would become serious and more memorable than any other similar conflict before it. The conflict came to involve many individuals and organisations outside Italy as well.

## 1. Introduction

When I was first elected secretary of the Swedish go association, in 2000, one of my tasks was explicitly to work towards a solution of the problem that had developed in Italy, or at least to make sure that the Swedish association would not become co-responsible for any injustice. Now, the issue has been gone over again and again for many years, in particular in the European Go Federation, with scarce success. In a few years time, the Swedish go association, as well as other EGF members, will probably have to face more or less the same problem again, and I feel that a kind of review may be in order, to help deciding what more can be done about it, if anything.

The core of the following review is a selection of facts – what has in fact happened. As in any other description, a selection is necessary, but can always be disputable: some facts which might have been reported are of course left out, while some might have preferred if some of the facts which have been reported were omitted. The principles of selection here are that I'm presenting the facts which I'm aware of myself and which I find relevant and important. Besides facts, I'm going to express my own opinion here and there. I trust that the reader will be able to distinguish between statements of fact on the one hand and expressions of opinion on the other. To help making this distinction I have made an effort to postpone as far as possible the expressions of opinion to the discussion section or to mark clearly where opinions are being expressed, by prefixing them with phrases like "I think" or "in my opinion".

## 2. Pre-history (the situation in Italy prior to 1998)

Italy is probably the first western country where go received any attention at all, thanks to the early observations by Francesco Carletti and in particular Matteo Ricci, around 1600 [1-3]. At a more practical level the early efforts by count Daniele Pecorini in the 1920-ies also place Italy among the pioneering go nations in Europe [2,3]. In the 1970-ies Italian go was represented mainly by a certain Roberto Mercadante, an egocentric character with an agenda reaching far beyond the mere game [3]. In the early

1980-ies the level of Italian go was significantly improved thanks to some foreigners residing in Milano, including the American Marvin Wolfthal and the strong British player T Mark Hall, while the organisational conflicts within the then national organisation AIGG, or between it and other Italian players, led to controversies, e.g. around the 1982 selection of the Italian representative to the WAGC [3]. In the mid-1980-ies the organising efforts in Italy were centred in Rome around Fulvio Savagnone and Alberto Rezza [3]. The present officially recognised Italian go association, the FIGG, was created in Milan in 1989 and has since then been dominated by its permanent secretary Gionata Soletti [3].

In 1996 the European go congress was organised by FIGG/Soletti in Abano Terme. In 1996-1998, as shown in Figure 1 the number of active Italian players was stable, at around 70 [4,5]. The majority, some 45-50 of these players, lived in Milan [5]. There were large tensions within the community, in particular the FIGG management was criticised for paying attention only to Milan, for being too centralised, for rigidity and for a repressive structure. My impression, having been in contact with the Italian players since about 1993, is that the players did not feel much stimulus to develop the activities, as everything was being taken care of by Soletti and his closest friends.

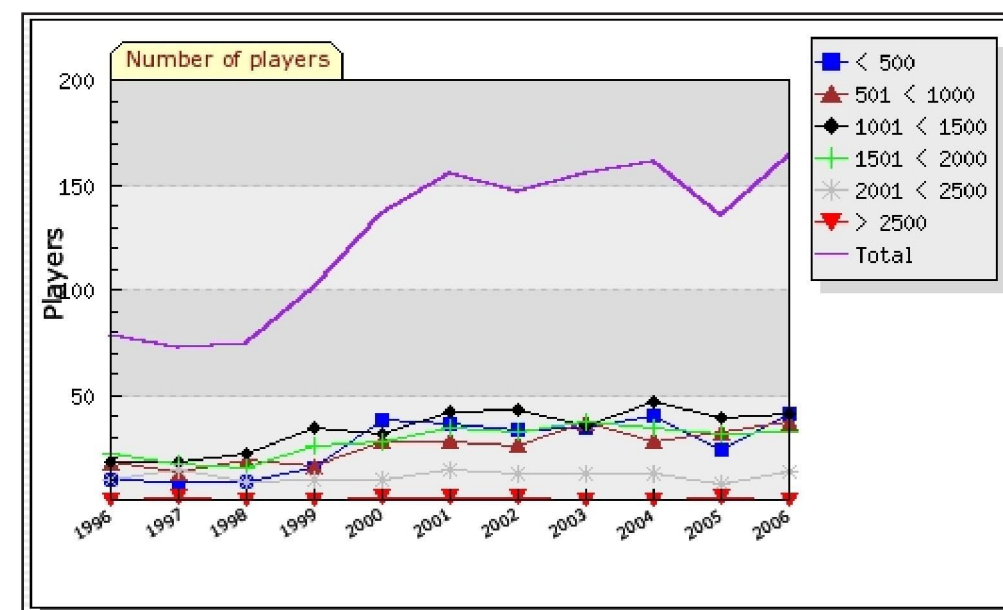
Figure 1. Development of the number of active Italian go players from 1996 to 2006. From the European Go Database [5].

At the time, the FIGG had very elaborate by-laws, which appeared to be written with the purpose of providing the FIGG board with instruments of complete closure and control of the members. For instance, disciplinary sanctions were foreseen against members who disclosed internal information to outsiders or "discredited" the FIGG board. There was strict control of the information flow within the FIGG: some information was to be known to the

President alone, some to the President and the Secretary, some to the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, etc. It was the prerogative of the board to call in any FIGG member for interrogation in Milan at any time. It was the prerogative of the board to change the by-laws without consulting the members, to appoint the internal appeals commission, etc. By contrast, any instruments to provide transparency or powers for the ordinary member were conspicuously absent.

Personal conflicts were developing between Soletti and individual players and FIGG members. Most notably there was a serious conflict between Soletti and Raffaella Giardino.

The nature of this conflict was indeed very personal/private, originating in the relationship between Raffaella and Soletti's brother. The conflict was a bitter one. According to Raffaella, Soletti and his then girlfriend Nicoletta Corradi were spreading slanderous rumours related to her love life, such as the false rumour that she had had an abortion at the age of 14. According to Soletti's friends, Raffaella was spreading unspecified unfavourable opinions of Soletti and his FIGG management among her French friends. At the time, for some reason the opinion of the French appeared to be very important to the FIGG. Personal conflicts occur of



course in any society, the sinister aspect of this conflict was that it transmogrified somehow into disciplinary sanctions by the FIGG against Raffaella.

Raffaella Giardino was an intelligent, active, attractive and independent young woman and a talented go player, one of the strongest in Italy, certainly the strongest female player, a remarkable and



brilliant person in many ways. In my opinion it is fair to say that she has been for more than 10 years and continues to be a victim of persecution by the FIGG management. In a sense it is very odd that this campaign has been so successful. Most countries would be grateful to have such a strong female player, very active also in promoting go, rather than turn her into a paria. One may speculate that Italy remains more paternalistic than most western societies, and that there tends to be a lot of irrational resentment and envy directed at any strong and independent woman in such a society. In an underdeveloped society or among underdeveloped people, alas, smearing campaigns can still be a very efficient weapon against a woman, to make her appear irrelevant and not to be taken seriously. However, there are also other lines of argument open and apparently situations like in Italian go are not rare among other Italian sports organisations.

According to Raffaella, she had been threatened with expulsion from the FIGG well before 1996 [6]. According to Carlo Tibaldi, one of Soletti's supporters, Soletti was in the habit of threatening practically everybody with expulsion, but this was to be understood as a joke and not to be taken seriously [7].

During the congress in 1996 there was a very unpleasant incident. Apparently, during the go camp in France prior to the congress, some Chinese professionals had expressed a wish to visit Rome. Mrs. Guo had directed them to Raffaella, being Italian. In Abano, Raffaella presented the pros to the roman Alberto Rezza, who offered to accommodate them for a weekend at his home. Neither Raffaella nor Alberto had or pretended to have any official role in the FIGG. When Soletti got to know of these plans, he decided to pay for hotel rooms in Rome for the pros, but started a process against Raffaella, aiming at "disciplinary sanctions": as usual she was threatened with expulsion or "suspension". At some point, as she had been told that Soletti had powers to prevent her from participating in European tournaments, such as the go congress, she went and asked Alan Held (then president of the EGF) if this could really be true. Held said no. I was myself present at that meeting. As a result of all this, Raffaella was "suspended" by the FIGG. I have enquired later about the reasons for this "suspension", but I got different answers from different individuals involved in taking the decision: that Raffaella had caused expenses to the FIGG, that Raffaella had talked to Alan Held, or that Raffaella had for years been saying negative things about Soletti to her French friends [8]. The people who were formally responsible

*In Italy we do things differently.*  
Gionata Soletti, EGF meetings, several occasions.

for the "suspension" besides Soletti were the other members of the FIGG board at the time: Luciano Ghelli, Fernando Fernandez, Linda Poletti and Maurizio Vitari.

Already in 1996 then, we see the pattern that was going to repeat itself in 1998: some problem and controversy involving Soletti occurs and regardless of who else was involved or how many, the end result was that Raffaella was punished. In fact, it appears to have been common in the inner FIGG circles to spread rumours portraying Raffaella as a diabolical prime mover behind every kind of problem and whenever anybody has ventured to express an unfavourable opinion of Soletti. An amazing example of this is that already when I first started to participate in the discussions on the web of the problems in the FIGG, Nicoletta Corradi started to try and convince people that it was actually not I who was writing, according to her it was Raffaella(!). I've found that false rumour pretty flattering for my command of the Italian language, as well as reassuring as regards the accuracy of my insights in what was going on in Italy, however it is in fact completely false and yet a component in a very foul witch hunt. Another perhaps amusing rumour that has been circulating within the FIGG is that Raffaella must in fact have voted in favour of her own expulsion (!), presumably with the purpose of harming the FIGG or Soletti somehow. I have noticed that as late as fall 2006, both these absurd rumours were still being spread (at least by Carlo Tibaldi).

### 3. The 1998 WAGC selection

The FIGG does have a fairly unambiguous points system to decide who should be appointed to participate on behalf of Italy in the World Amateur Go Championship. In 1998 the FIGG board failed to arrange for the WAGC selection to be communicated in time to Japan, and then went on to select a player (Giacomo Bazini) who did not have any points in the points system, claiming an emergency. A number of players who had points and according to the rules should have been in line for selection (including Alberto Rezza, Marco Vajani and Raffaella Giardino) felt that they had been treated unfairly and complained. Since some of these players were not on very friendly terms with Soletti, a suspicion even arose that the "emergency" had been created on purpose. Soletti arranged for false statements to be inserted in the WAGC entry form for Baizini, regarding his rank and the way he had qualified for selection. This chain of events were described as follows in Alan Held's subsequent report from the IGF directors meeting [9]:

"A week after the deadline (March 31) for submission of the name of the player who would represent Italy, the name had not yet arrived in Japan. The FIGG received a letter from Japan (April 8) which they claimed said that if the name was not forthcoming within 48 hours Italy would be omitted from this years cham-

pionship. Declaring this to be an emergency situation, the FIGG made an executive decision and by-passing five or so players in their point accumulation system they named a player who had as yet no points. The deadline of 48 hours however was however a fiction. The letter from Japan, dated April 1, declared that if the name was not in Japan within two weeks (April 14) the place would be lost. A clear misrepresentation of the I.G.F. letter. The entry form for the player which was sent to Japan contained what could only be described as deliberate falsehoods.

1. The player was listed as being a 2-dan (Italian). He was according to the Italian rating system a 1-kyu.
2. It claimed that he had qualified for the WAGC by placing 4th in the Italian championship - a tournament in which he did not play."

An internal appeals committee in the FIGG (which had been appointed by the FIGG board) found no reason for complaints. The discontented players then contacted Alan Held (vice president of the IGF), which lead to the discovery of Soletti's lies to the IGF about Baizini's qualification, and the misrepresentation of the emergency situation vis à vis the FIGG members.

The people who were formally responsible for the 1998 WAGC selection were the FIGG board at the time: Gionata Soletti, Luciano Ghelli, Fernando Fernandez, Maurizio Vitari and Gigi Albieri. Enzo Pedrini was also a member of the board in spring 1998, but resigned in May 1998, presumably because of disagreement with how the affair was handled by the FIGG board.

The 1998 WAGC selection and the events around that were the subject of very voluminous public discussions on the FIGG web site. This discussion has subsequently been removed from the site, but can possibly be retrieved through contacts with the FIGG webmaster [10].

### 4. The expulsion and the break-down of democracy

The FIGG board decided to expel Marco Vajani and Raffaella Giardino from the FIGG, for having protested, or having protested in the wrong way, against the 1998 WAGC selection (in the case of Marco Vajani the charges were specified as his having threatened the FIGG board with legal action, while for Raffaella Giardino they focussed on having discredited the FIGG board).

According to the statutes of the FIGG, a member who had been expelled by the board had the right to appeal to the FIGG Annual General Meeting, in which case the expulsion needed ratification

by the AGM. The way the FIGG board chose to carry out this process was the following. They first announced a deadline for September 10th 1998, prior to which any member who had not already done so had to pay their membership fees or confirm their intention to do so, otherwise they would be removed from the list of members. This deadline was applied for the first time and was of particular consequence to the players in Rome, who were accustomed to pay their fees only at the annual AGM in Milan in December. On September 12th the board sent out letters to Vajani and Giardino, to inform them that they had been expelled. Between then and the AGM in December, players who had not confirmed their membership before September 10th were given to understand that it was too late for them to do so in order to have the right to vote at the AGM. Board member Paolo Montrasio even published a message on the FIGG website saying that those who did not approve of the expulsions but who had not reconfirmed their membership before September 10th had not been very clever [10], in other words, if they had been more clever they would have understood that the board was planning to expel somebody and respected the deadline. The board also made it clear that the expulsions were to be a confidence issue: if the AGM did not ratify the expulsions, the board would resign. There was nothing about the expulsions in the invitation to the AGM which was distributed to all members through the official FIGG journal. There was also nothing to be seen about any expulsion on the AGM agenda on the FIGG website, but an addendum in a separate information section stated that appeals by Vajani and Giardino were going to be voted on at the AGM. Obviously, those members who had followed the lively discussion in the online discussion forum were well informed about what was going to happen, but there were others who failed to attend the AGM because they were unaware of the controversy.

At the AGM in December 1998 some 40 people were present and additionally about 30 were represented through proxy votes [3]. The expulsion of Raffaella Giardino was confirmed by a margin of one vote, while that of Marco Vajani was quashed by a margin of two votes. The different outcomes have usually been explained by the attitudes of the expellees at the meeting: while Raffaella took up a more political position, calling for the resignation of the board, Marco presented apologies for his earlier behaviour [11].

*For not being a native speaker, Mr. Bergsaker is very good at Italian insults, depicting our representative and ourselves as “idiots”, “insolent” and “cheaters”.*

FIGG, letter to the president of the Swedish Go Association, June 20th 2002

The FIGG board immediately resigned as it had announced it would, and a very similar grouping presented itself for re-election at an extraordinary general meeting, to be held in January 1999. After efforts to find a compromise team failed, an opposing team also presented its candidature, with a program of widening the attentions of the FIGG beyond Milan and to remove much of the secretiveness and obsession with discipline they perceived in the FIGG [3,11]. The dissidents did not have access to any list of FIGG members or their addresses, but were offered the chance to hand over a letter presenting their candidacy intended for the members, to a FIGG board representative, who would then put address stickers (presumably in complete number) on the envelopes and post the letters in the presence of a dissident. At the December AGM, the board had declared that any applications for membership (such as from those Romans who had not registered in time for the “clever” deadline in September) were to be examined at the beginning of the extra meeting in January [12].

The January FIGG meeting was scheduled to start shortly after the regular meeting of a certain Judo club in Milano [13], headed by Cesare Barioli. A considerable number of people from that judo club turned up at the FIGG meeting, headed by their sensei Barioli, as well as judo people from Biella. Apparently these judo clubs were used to practice go as well, and Barioli himself has been well known in the Italian go world since the 1970-ies, but the bulk of these meeting participants have not shown up before or after January 1999, neither in go competitions, nor in general meetings of the FIGG [3]. At the beginning of the meeting, it was announced that 37 people had recently applied for FIGG membership (some of these were in fact old FIGG members of long standing, such as Alberto Rezza, who had been discarded following the September 1999 deadline). After a short discussion, followed by a vote where Barioli and his followers took an active part, it was decided that the 37 applications would not be accepted before the meeting [3,13]. When asked to give an example of anyone whom the FIGG board might have reasons not to accept as a member, Soletti mentioned Alberto Rezza [12]. As the dissident party felt that the meeting had been rigged against them, that the FIGG board had effectively decided itself who was to be allowed the right to vote, and that the differences consequently could not be settled in a democratic way, they decided to leave the meeting at once and set up a new Italian go association.

The people who were formally responsible for proposing the expulsion, for the “clever” deadline and for locking out the 37 players in January 1999 were in the first place the Figg board: G. Soletti, L. Ghelli, F. Fernandez, M. Vitari, G. Albieri and Paolo Montrasio. Additionally the major campaign leaders for punishment have to

be included: Nicoletta Corradi, Carlo Tibaldi and Ramon Soletti, as well as the obliging sensei Cesare Barioli and his disciples.

### 5. The creation of Agi and early negotiations between Agi and Figg

The new Italian go association was wittily given the name AGI (Associazione Goistica Italiana). The decision to set up a new association was made on January 29th 1999, the constitution and so on were thoroughly discussed in internet from February 1999 and the first General Meeting was held on May 15th 1999 [3,14]. AGI was obviously given properties deliberately contrary to Figg characteristics: complete transparency, guarantees for being geographically representative, freedom of repressive measures against the members, guarantees against an individual staying on indefinitely in office, et cetera. In June 1999, some negotiations were going on between Figg and AGI, focussing around the concept of setting up some kind of umbrella organisation, which could manage the contacts between Italy and the international organisation. At some point in these negotiations, Figg accepted a proposal to set up a committee of three people from Figg, three people from AGI and Yuki Shigeno, which was to decide on selections for international competitions and other international issues. AGI rejected that proposal [3].

### 6. The reactions of the EGF and the IGF

The IGF and Figg had an exchange of letters in 1998. The IGF protested against the lies in connection with the 1998 WAGC selection. Later on, the IGF also protested against the Figg expulsion of players, for having protested against the selection and made the lies known. The Figg wrote an angry letter in reply to the IGF, which was also published in rec.games.go [15]. As the expulsions became known, protests started to pour in from all over the world. The Figg board did never communicate any of all this to the Figg members, and it was not allowed to read the correspondence at the December Figg meeting. The selections of Italian representatives for the 1999 WAGC and for some European tournaments in 1999 were made by the EGF.

#### 6.1 EGF AGM in 1999 – prostration

Before the 1999 Annual General Meeting of the EGF, the EGF had appointed Matthew MacFadyen to investigate the situation in Italy. He presented a report to the EGF members before the meeting [13]. MacFadyen recommended (alternative A) that the EGF announce an extra meeting, by postal vote, for December 1999 in order to give the negotiations in Italy some time to arrive at a result. It appears from the MacFadyen report that he had in mind in the first place the possibility of setting up some kind of umbrella organisation, where Figg and AGI members could all be represen-



ted and fair selections could include all Italian players. MacFadyens alternative B was to expel Figg from the EGF immediately and alternative C to leave things as they were. During the EGF congress Peter Zandveld took over the negotiations and preparations for the AGM. Zandveld worked out a proposal called C++ [16], which did not question Figg's role as representing the Italian goplayers, but which suggested some changes in the EGF constitution in order to be able to deal better with problems of the Italian kind for the future. I was not present myself at the 1999 EGF AGM. Peter Zandveld told me after the meeting [17] that Soletti had threatened to take legal action against individual members of the EGF board, if the EGF decision were to go against Soletti. He also told me that Soletti had expressed fears of being expelled himself, were his critics to take over power somehow in Italian go, and that the role as Italian go secretary was somehow very important to Soletti in some broader games political context. A detail which is unclear to me is why AGI representatives were not allowed to speak at the AGM. According to Peter Zandveld [17] the board had decided to let AGI representatives speak at the meeting, if any EGF member asked for it. According to Neil Mitchison [18] some member did ask for AGI to be allowed to speak, but the board permitted Soletti to say no, on behalf of the meeting. Peter Zandveld pointed out another difficulty in dealing with the Italian problem: nowhere in the EGF constitution or elsewhere did it say that EGF members had to be democratic, so one could not criticise EGF members for undemocratic behaviour [17]. The 1999 EGF AGM also decided to entrust the organisation of the 2006 EGF congress to Figg/Soletti. Already at the 1998 EGF AGM, Soletti had claimed that in Italy it is necessary to book venue etc. at least 7 years before an event like the EGF congress. At the 1999 meeting he added to this the argument that 2006 would be a particularly suited year for holding the congress in Italy, since it would be in the summer before (!) the winter Olympics in Turin [19]. The EGF AGM obliged Soletti with the congress, already 7 years before the event, but as a unique demonstration of decisiveness and independence, the meeting decided that a complete financial plan for the 2006 congress had to be presented to the EGF at least 4 years in advance [17,19]. The matter of the financial plan came up for discussion a couple of times at subsequent AGMs, but the FIGG never gave any and nobody insisted.

*As with a famous political problem in Europe of the 19th Century, there are only three people who understand it at all, one is mad, one dead and I have forgotten the question.*  
T Mark Hall, rec.games.go March 19th 2006

## 6.2 EGF AGM in 2000 – a new constitution

At the 2000 EGF AGM the EGF constitution was changed, in view of the Italian problem. For instance, an Appeals Commission was installed, for dealing with future conflicts, and it was decided that future members of the EGF must have some procedure for handling internal conflicts, with the option to turn to the EGF as a last resort. At my suggestion, the AGM also decided that EGF members should be democratic, so as to remove one of the obstacles which Peter Zandveld had seen against dealing with the Italian affair [17]. Following a motion from the French Go Association, the AGM decided that an EGF commission should be appointed, to investigate what could be done about Italy. The EGF board, headed at the time by Zoran Mutabzija, appointed both the Appeals Commission and the Commission for Italy. To chair the latter, Oleg Gavrillov was appointed. The Swiss Go Association had nominated Roberto Morrison for the Commission for Italy, a player of Italian descent, who was a member of both Figg and AGI. Figg did not want Morrison however, so he was discarded.

## 6.3 EGF AGM in 2001 – a casting vote

In 2001, the EGF Commission for Italy had not achieved much. The only member of the commission who had done anything at all was Oleg Gavrillov. However, it is understandable if he had difficulties to take up an impartial position on the issue, since he was, in the words of Nicoletta Corradi [10] “an old friend” of the FIGG leadership. In fact, Oleg Gavrillov never talked to any AGI representative, only to FIGG. At the 2001 AGM Gavrillov presented a report on Italy, which was only a few lines long, which consisted mostly of mistakes as far as facts are concerned, and concluded that the situation in Italy was normal. The AGM did not accept the report, but did not appoint any new commission either (there was a tied vote on whether to keep the commission on Italy going, but the chairman and newly elected EGF president Tony Atkins decided against).

The French Go Association proposed to take away the 2006 congress from Italy. The AGM discarded that proposal.

The Swedish Go Association had prepared a motion for the 2001 AGM. At first, I had investigated the prospects for a motion to the effect that all EGF members should open up all their selections to all nationals, not only to members of the national organisation which was a member of the EGF. It was clear that many EGF members would not approve of such a rule. The second idea I had prepared was to open selections to all players who were members of a national organisation, which met certain criteria, not only to

members of the EGF member – this would have applied equally to all EGF members, but would also have given a loophole for the AGI members. However, I soon found out that quite a few EGF members were against that proposal as well, so it seemed necessary to propose something which singled out Italy as the peculiar case it in fact was.

In the end, the proposal was:

“Until a solution has been found to the Italian problem of representativity, the EGF will invite Italian participants to European competitions in which a national selection is made only if they are approved by both the Figg and the Agi and encourages the selection to be made irrespectively of affiliation. The EGF will advice the IGF to act in the same way for the international competitions.”

The arguments for this solution were that it would open up selections to all Italian players, force the two parties into co-operation and create some incentive for the FIGG side to do something about the problem, which they otherwise don't have.

When the Swedish motion came to a vote, the result was once again tied, but Tony Atkins decided against. Two interesting details concerning the voting are worth mentioning at this point. Firstly, over those years, in the hands of the EGF secretary Matti Siivola the formal demands on the credentials of the delegates at the AGM:s were gradually increased. It used to be the case that any national arrived at the meetings and was accepted as representing his national organisation, and often paid the EGF membership fee on the spot. In Strausberg in 2000 however, the Danish AGM participant was not allowed to vote, as the EGF membership fee had not been paid. In Dublin 2001 the Danish participant was not allowed to vote because he could not prove that he had been appointed by the Danish Go Association. Another novelty at the Dublin AGM was that Armenia was represented by the Russian Viktor Zilberberg. The EGF constitution does not allow proxy votes, delegates at the AGM should be members of the organisations they are representing. Following this Russian/Armenian innovation, something which can only be described as de facto proxy votes were used by several countries.

Finally, considering the tied vote, it may be interesting to note that the president of the Belgian Go Association Dieter Verhofstadt had told me before the meeting that Belgium would vote in favour of the Swedish proposal. As it turned out however, Belgium was represented by Giovanni della Giovanna, an Italian himself and a member of FIGG. He sat down beside Soletti and voted against the motion.

#### 6.4 EGF AGM in 2002 - ... lies and video tapes

The Swedish Go Association decided to propose the same motion again at the 2002 AGM in Zagreb. By way of reply to this, FIGG brought the following motion to the AGM:

“Considering that, during the last years, the Board of the Swedish Federation (and in particular its Secretary Mr. Bergsaker) has indulged in various forms of defamation directed towards the Italian Federation and its Board.

Furthermore, the level of insults has reached even beyond the Italian Federation, with messages about the EGF and its officials publicly posted in the past on rec.games.go. In particular, during the last months the Secretary of the Swedish Federation has circulated a motion with comments (posted also in an Italian speaking newsgroup) which contained false and damaging statements.

Considering that, as a confirmation of his attitude against the Italian Federation, the above mentioned Secretary has sponsored for EGF recognition a non EGF-recognized Italian Go group (of which he is an active member), thus trying to demote the Italian Federation and damaging its international image.

Taking into account that the results of such actions are also a loss of membership fees (since some people will not register while this state of uncertainty remains) and thus of revenue to the EGF itself, as stated by the EGF President.”

It is worth commenting immediately on this Italian smokescreen motion. The phrase “messages about the EGF and its officials” in fact refers to just one message, posted by me on August 3rd 1999 at rec.games.go (i.e. three years before the Dublin AGM and before I came to represent the Swedish Go Association in any way):

“Thank you, mr Zanfeld, mr Puyt and others, you have shown what the EGF is worth and given, I am sure, a great encouragement to nepotism, ostracism, bullying and manipulation of democracy as principles of management in the Go world.”

I still think that this was an adequate reaction to the outcome of the 1999 EGF AGM. Figg claims in the motion that I had made false statements. Fortunately, Tony Atkins demanded that the Figg specify what these “false statements” might be. In the end Figg came up with the following three statements (by me), which they claimed were untrue:

ου νεμεσις Τρwas και ευκτημιδας Αχαιους  
τοιηδ’ αμφι γυναικι πολυν χρονον αλγεα πασχειν  
αινωs αθανατησι θεης εις πα εοικεν  
ΙΛΙΑΔΟΣ Γ 156-158

A. For the Pair Go in Cannes for instance the Figg does not have any pair go championship or other qualifications but on unknown grounds selected a member of their board, 5k, and her boyfriend, 12k. They are very nice people I’m sure, but if a selection had been made among all italians and based on strength, no doubt a more representative pair could have been found.

B. In reply to a member counting proposal by van Rongen: How do you apply that principle if you are dealing with an organisation with a secret list of members and where for instance the Secretary has been offering to pay membership fees for people out of his own pocket?

C The EGF could not just take for granted the number of members that the organisation tells it that it has. For instance the Figg claims since 1998 on the EGF web site “survey of go players by country” to have 300 members, but everyone knows that this is pure fiction. Some kind of verification procedure would have to be devised.”

In fact, all three statements are perfectly true. In the case of the statement B for instance, I had been told by the president of the Florence Go Club, Olivier Turquet, that Soletti had offered to pay Figg membership fees for the Florence goplayers himself. Later Isamu Oka himself confirmed this to me personally. Turquet interpreted this in the way that Soletti would pay for any number of members he needed. In the case of statement C, the number 300, probably from 1998, is still today on display at the EGF webpage, under “survey of players by country”[16]. The number of members in the Figg has always been a sensitive subject to the Figg leadership. Already in fall 1998 the Figg board apparently assumed that questions from Figg members on how many members there were must be suspect and illegitimate. Considering the doubts around voting powers and membership, which are the root of the whole Italian problem, this is potentially important.

In the Italian smokescreen motion, please note also the somewhat funny claim that the Swedish Go Association must be to blame for the missing members in the Figg, after the expulsion and the split.

The meeting in Zagreb became very lively. The EGF board had had a suggestion from Soletti to remove the Swedish proposal, along with the Italian smokescreen motion from the agenda. When the meeting started, the board (including Tony Atkins, Zoran Mutabzija and Matti Siivola) in fact did propose just that, clearly in violation of the EGF constitution, which stipulates that any point which a member organisation has submitted in time

must be put on the agenda. The meeting did not accept that, so the motions stayed on the agenda. The meeting was adjourned after it had already started, mainly to deal with claims from Soletti that some delegates should not be allowed to vote, for various reasons. It was also decided that the whole meeting should be registered on video. The board promised the meeting that the only person who would be allowed to see the registration was the EGF secretary, for the purpose of helping him in preparing the minutes. Soletti threatened both the EGF board and individual AGM delegates with legal action, if they were to vote against him on the Swedish proposal. A very curious procedure was adopted for the vote, where each delegate in turn had to state out loud his name and how he voted. This time the Swedish proposal was accepted by 12 votes versus 10. Nobody voted in favour of the Italian smokescreen motion, peculiarly not even Soletti himself. The video tapes were never heard of again and the EGF board has never explained why they were not handed over to the secretary as promised. One can only assume that either they were a complete technical failure, or the registration was only a ploy intended to intimidate participants who wanted to vote in favour of the Swedish proposal.

The IGF secretary Riichi Yamamoto was present at the EGC in Zagreb, but to my knowledge the EGF did not do anything to communicate the EGF decision on Italy to the IGF until Tony Atkins wrote a letter to the IGF on December 1st. The reply from the IGF president Matsuo Toshimitsu arrived the following day, saying that the IGF was perplexed and hesitant to adopt the EGF policy for the selections. Between December 2002 and June 2003 there was extensive communication between the EGF and the IGF on the matter, and I believe that Erik Puyt and Tony Atkins did try to argue the EGF decision as well as they could to the Japanese. The position of the IGF was then summarised in the following way [20]:

- “1. One of the statutory aims of the IGF is to organise the world of Go. The WAGC is a key element to stimulate Go players in any given country to unite in an association,
2. As a consequence of 1. the IGF can’t open qualification to two associations in the same country,
3. Again as a consequence of 1. the IGF expects Member organisations to represent all players in their country.
4. The IGF office suggests in case of conflict (Italy but also other conflicts have occurred) to open selection events to all players as a positive action towards reconciliation (this suggestion worked in at least one occasion).

Ad 4. The FIGG replied that all players in Italy can join the WAGC selection events if they register (meaning also becoming



member of FIGG). Registering is possible until a few moments before the start of the event. As for qualification for the WAGC this is an appropriate measure from IGF point of view. (It is individual decision to value independence from FIGG higher than (possible) participation in WAGC.)

5. Fundamental issue is the fact that if not all Go players are united, the IGF has no possibilities to enforce unity. Rather the IGF stimulates leniency with both parties. The IGF will continue to urge our member organisations to take any necessary positive action towards solving possible conflicts.”

#### 6.5 EGF AGM in 2005 – stepping back

As decided in Zagreb in 2002, the EGF policy was re-examined at the AGM in Prague in 2005. This time the EGF policy on Italy was dropped. The vote this time was 12 in favour, 13 against, however the meeting also thought this time that a qualified majority should be required for this sort of decision.

#### 6.6 Who voted how?

FIGG representatives have claimed sometimes that there are different lines of thought in Europe and that the Figg sides with one of them. It may be interesting to know which EGF members have supported the Swedish proposal on how to solve the Italian problem. It is difficult for me to say exactly, but I believe the votes have been approximately like this: The countries who were

in favour of the Swedish solution most of the time were: Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, Netherlands, UK, Germany, France, Ireland, Spain and Hungary. Finland has usually voted against, but abstained at least once. Lithuania has voted once in favour, once abstained. Poland has abstained at least once. The countries which voted consistently against were: Italy, Croatia, Romania, Russia, Armenia, Ukraine, Belarus, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czechia and Serbia.

Those who voted one way or another have given different reasons for voting as they did. It is not so clear that these choices are associated with any particular “lines of thought”. However, there does seem to have been a bit of a block pattern in the EGF. I believe this may be well illustrated in Figure 2, where the countries are plotted according to how they have voted on the so called “Swedish motion”. The axes which have been chosen are the 2006 Democracy Index by The Economist [22] and the 2006 rating of (absence of) perceived corruption according to Transparency International [23].

#### 7. The consequences in Italy

The first years following the split in the Italian organisation, it appears to have been stimulating. Figure 1 shows the development of tournament activity in Italy [5]. The number of active players doubled in 1999-2001, and many more tournaments and other activities were developed, all over the country. Franco Pratesi describes some of the practical effects of the split like this (translated from Italian): ” With the split, a more or less open competition started, to win new groups for the friendly side. In short, Italy had been transformed into a goban for a large-scale game. There were a number of cities where Figg and Agi were practically racing to promote go and help the players to improve. This was the case in Emilia, Florence, Pisa, even in Gaeta, where the teaching arrived from Agi and the equipment from Figg” [3]. Judging from the S-shape of the development curve for Italy, this development slowed down a little once the new clubs and groups had become stable and a number of annual

tournaments had been established in cities like Rome, Bologna, Florence and Pisa. Figg spokesmen have suggested other explanations to the rapid Italian development, such as the eminent leadership and foresight of Soletti, Hikaru and Internet. None of these seems convincing though. Hikaru became known only in 2001 and later, whereas Internet go started much earlier than 1999 and is constantly growing.

On the negative side, following the split many Italian players remain excluded from selections for international competitions and are not represented in the international organisations. It is not possible to say for sure who is a member of Figg and who not, but presumably those who appear on the Figg rating list [10] are at least eligible for selections. In spring 2005, I compared that list with the AGI list of members and the EGF list of tournament active Italian players. The affiliation numbers then came out as in the following table:

Figg members only	48	38%
Agi members only	30	24%
Figg & Agi members	20	16%
None	27	22%
Sum	125	100%

In other words, those who are excluded from selections in that they were not Figg members were then 46% of the total number of active Italian players. I have not examined the lists again since then. Of course, the selections for the WAGC are of concern mainly to the stronger players. Of them only a few are not Figg members. Probably only Raffaella Giardino, Alberto Rezza and perhaps one or two more of the “dissidents” could have been expected to be selected since 1999, if the selections had been open to all. For the World Pairgo selections and for some other events, the problem has been more severe, since many of the strongest female Italian players are Agi members and not Figg members.

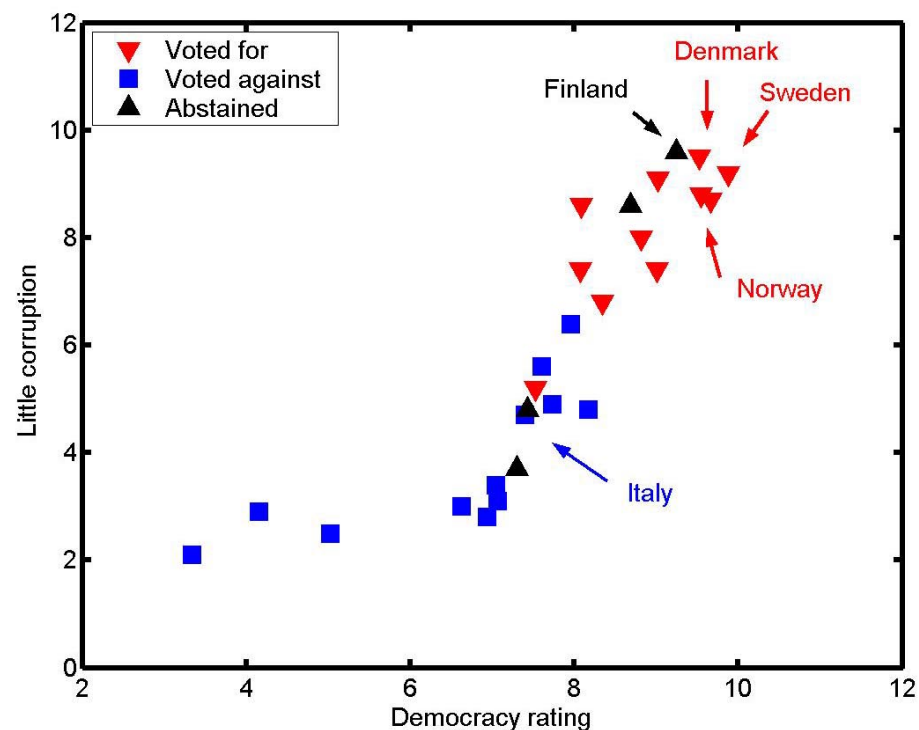


Figure 2. The figure shows how different EGF members have voted on the “Swedish motion”, broadly in the groups “In favour”, “against” and “abstained” (or mixed). The horizontal axis shows the position of the country in the 2006 Democracy Index [22], while the vertical axis shows the 2006 perceived corruption index rating (less corruption upwards in the diagram) [23].

The EGF policy 2002-2005 had limited success, since Figg refused to take any notice of Agi or the Agi players anyway. The selections for European events were open, but AGI and Figg managed to make converging selections just once (for the 2003 European Pairgo Championship, and the selected pair in the end did not go). For the 2003 World Pairgo, Figg first announced that selections would be open to all. However, when Raffaella Giardino 1d and Enzo Pedrini 3d presented their candidature, Figg selected instead Figg board member Cristiano Garbarini 1d and Odette Ranfagni 12k, even though according to Figg's own published rules female WPGC participants had to be 6k or stronger.

As the following table of Figg selection shows, it often happens (in more than 50% of the selections) that Figg officials are selected:

WAGC 2000	Paolo Montrasio, 1k	Figg webmaster
WAGC 2001	Marco Vajani, 3d	
EPGC 2002	Francesca Antonacci 5k, Emanuele Cisbani 12k	Figg board member
E. Oza 2002	Marco Vajani 3d	
WAGC 2002	Paolo Montrasio, 1d	Figg webmaster and travel officer
WAGC 2003	Francesco Marigo, 3d	
WPGC 2003	Cristiano Garbarini, 1d Odette Ranfagni, 12k	Figg board member
WAGC 2004	Gionata Soletti, 1k	Figg secretary
WAGC 2005	Cristiano Garbarini, 1d	Figg board member
ESGC 2005	Francesco Marigo 4d	
WAGC 2006	Maurizio Vitari 1k	Figg treasurer
ESGC 2006	Sandro Poldrugo 3k	
KPMC 2006	Ramon Soletti 4d	

This is problematic, in that the individuals who are in the best position to do something about the problem with excluded players don't have any incentive to do so, on the contrary, in status quo they have less competition themselves for selections.

## 8. Discussion and Conclusions

It has proven extremely difficult to do anything about the Italian problem, either in Italy or at the European or international levels. It looks very much like some of the Italian players will remain permanently excluded from all selections for international events. At least we can try and learn as much as possible from the conflict. Obviously for instance, if an official in a national sports organisation gets into a personal conflict with an individual member, then he should avoid to let this develop into persecution of that individual by the organisation; he should for instance avoid to take an active part in any organisational decisions concerning that individual. If he is not able to do that, he should resign or be replaced. As for the international organisations, it is not obvious that it's a good strategy to oblige always the most self-opinionated character, in the interest of peace and quiet, it may be necessary to say stop at some point anyway, sooner or later, and it is probably much easier at an early stage.

Some of those who voted against the Swedish proposal at the EGF AGM in Prague 2005 argued that there are better chances that the Italians will sort out their problems themselves if they are left alone. This is of course a viable theory. So the obvious course at the moment is to wait and watch for a couple of years and see if the situation in Italy improves. If it doesn't, I think it will be necessary to reconsider if anything can be done by the EGF and the IGF. As we have seen however, it is not easy to do anything about it from outside. An Italian player, Giuseppe de Buoi, has likened FIGG to an organism which is infected by a parasite. As long as the organism itself doesn't realise that it is infected, it will defend itself with all means against any attempts to cure it from outside [21].

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*The EGF wants members which goplayers want to be members in.*  
EGF secretary Martin Finke in EGF meeting in Strausberg 2000



# Game from the New Fuseki Era

*Japan Promotion Tournament Fall 1933, Round 2*

Siden ingen denne gang har bidratt med kommenterte partier, velger vi å gjengi et berømt parti fra 1933, i en periode hvor det ble eksperimentert ganske vilt med nye og utradisjonelle fusekier, noe dette partiet er et utmerket eksempel på.

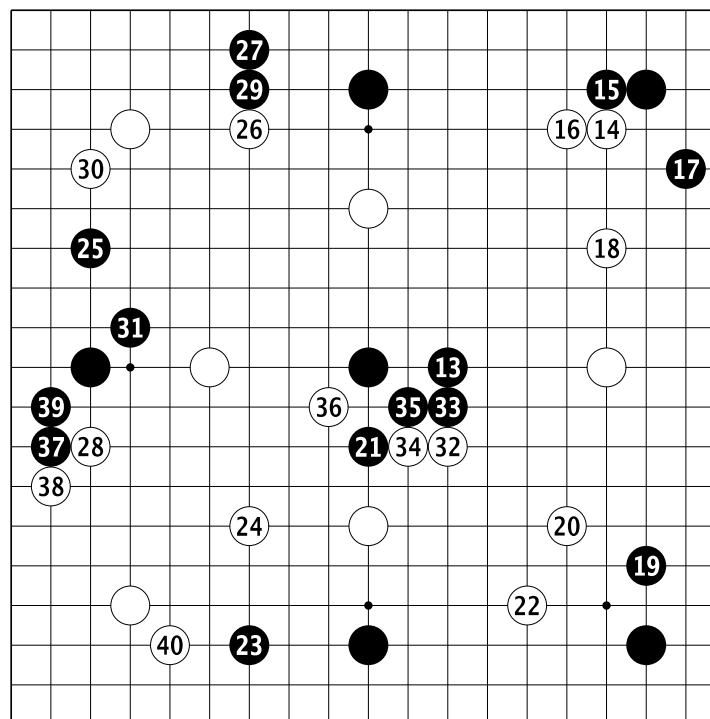
Jeg tror det er en finsk dan-spiller som har sort 1-3-5 som en av sine favorittfusekier. Det er kanskje fra dette partiet inspirasjonen er hentet?

De som ønsker kommentarer til dette partiet, kan finne det på slutten av <http://senseis.xmp.net/?ShinFusekiHo>

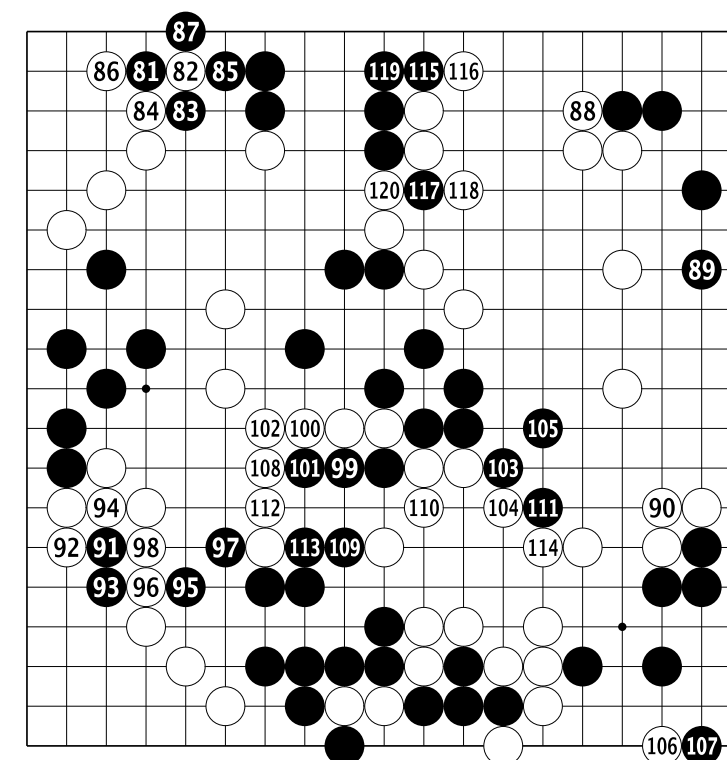
Black: Kosugi Chokufu 4D

White: Go Seigen 5D

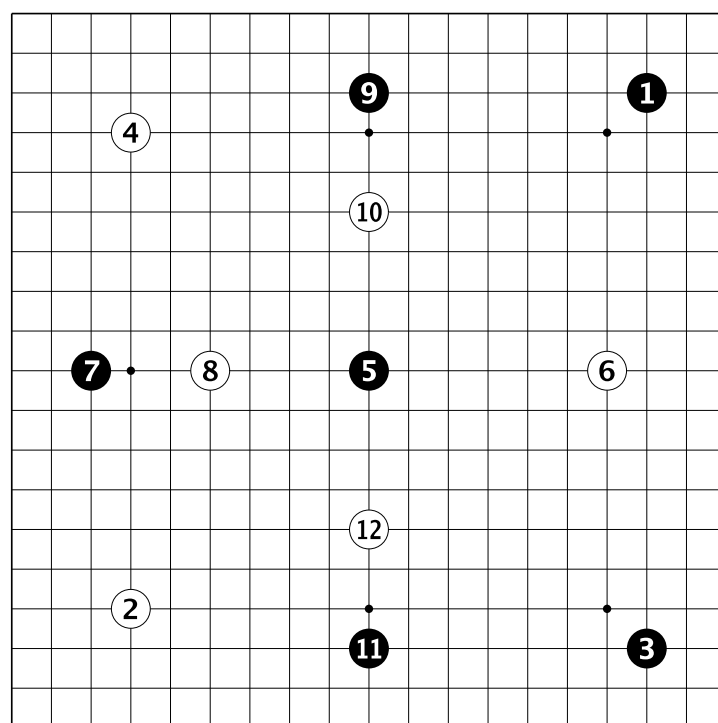
Source: Wu Qingyuan, Vol. 4, pg. 43



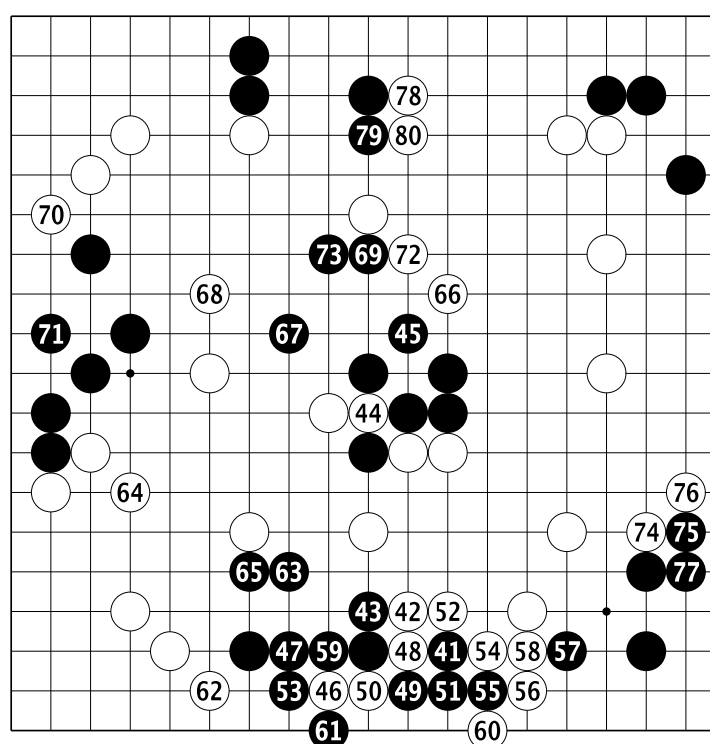
13 - 40



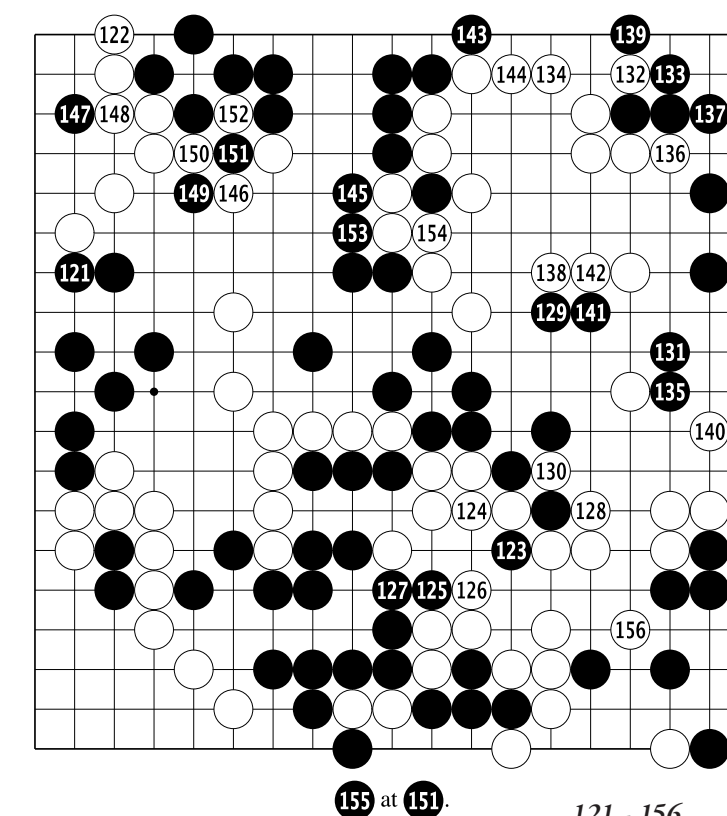
81 - 120



1 - 12

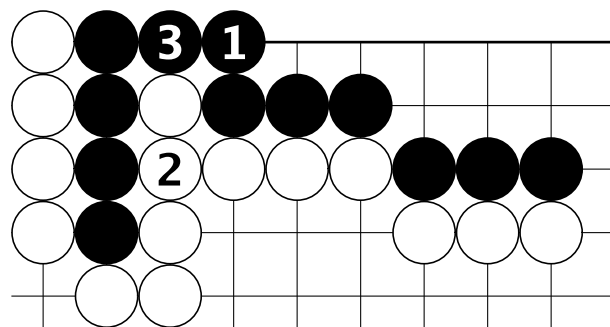


41 - 80

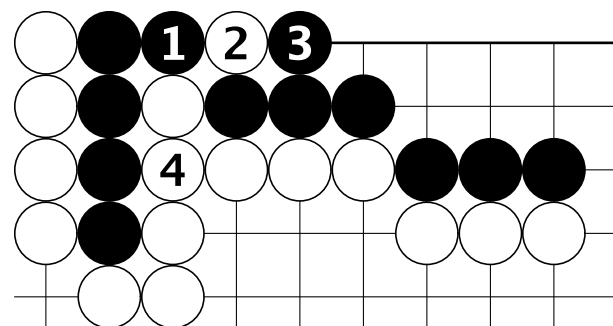


155 at 151.

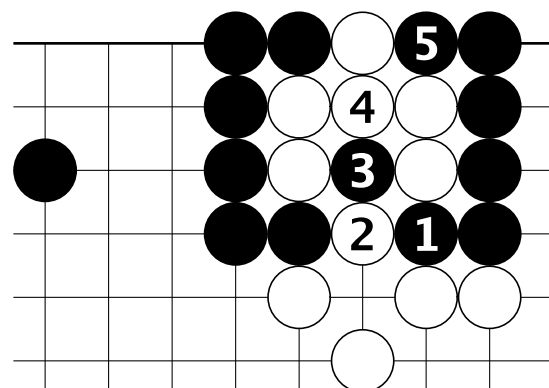
121 - 156



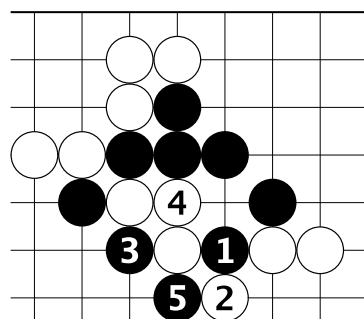
Lösning 1



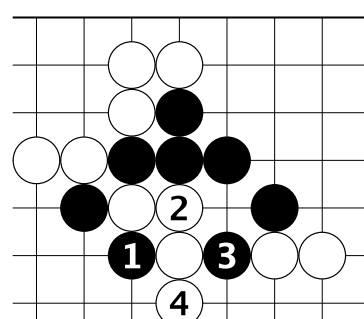
Variant 1



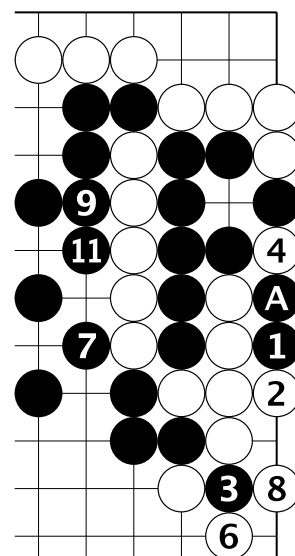
Lösning 2



Lösning 3

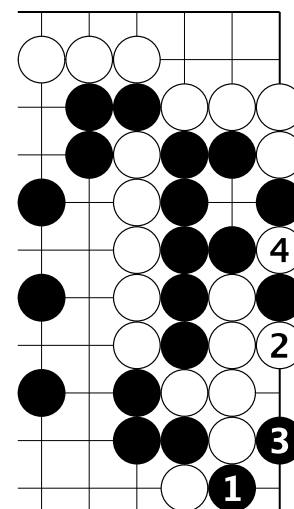


Variant 3

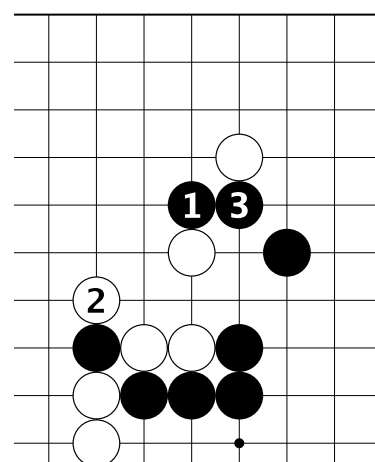


5 at A, 10 at 1.

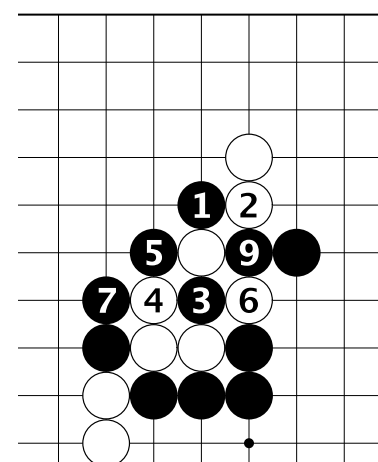
Lösning 4



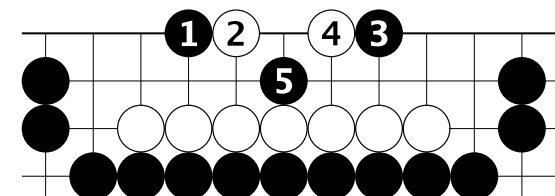
Variant 4



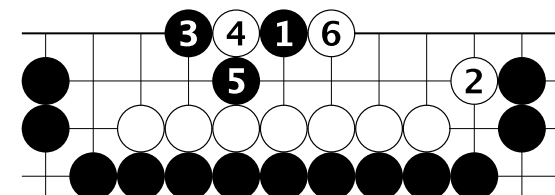
Lösning 5



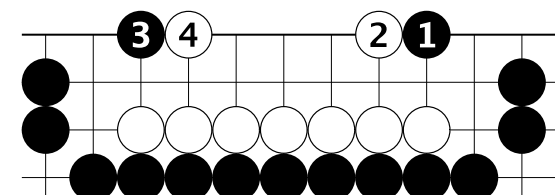
8 at 3. Variant 5



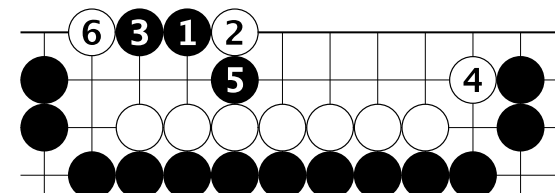
Lösning 7



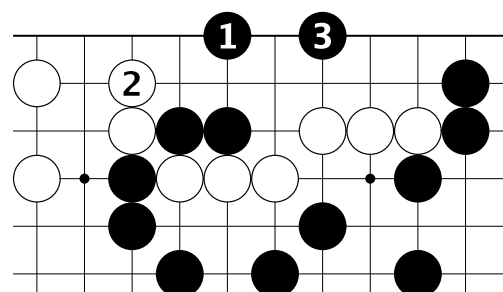
Variant 7A



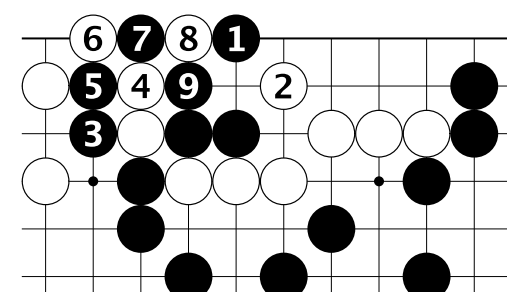
Variant 7B



Variant 7C



Lösning 6



Variant 6



# Goförbund i Norden

Nordisk Mästare: Matti Siivola 5d

## *Dansk Goforbund*

Styrelse: Formand: Frank Hansen  
(frank.hansen@econ.ku.dk ),  
sekretær: Lene Jakobsen,  
kasserer Per Marquadsen,  
Bestyrelsesmedlem Kjeld Pedersen  
Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 31 (oktober 39)  
Dansk Mester: (2006): Kasper Hornbæk 5D

## *Go i Norge*

<http://norway.european-go.org/>  
President: Terje Christoffersen (terch2@online.no)  
Kasserer: Christian O'Cadiz Gustad  
Antall på EGF:s rankingliste: 34 (oktober 37)  
Norsk mester (2006): Pål Sannes 4d

## *Suomen go-liitto (Finska Goförbundet)*

<http://finland.european-go.org/>  
Styrelse: Ordförande: Matti Siivola  
(matti.siivola@helsinki.fi )  
Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 237 (oktober 226)  
Suomen Mestari (2006): Vesa Laatikainen 5 dan

## *Svenska Goförbundet*

<http://www.goforbundet.se>  
Styrelse: Ordförande: Michael Yao  
(michaelyao@hotmail.com ),  
sekreterare Henric Bergsåker,  
kassör Leif Pettersson, koordinatör Tomas Boman, webmaster Peter Lundqvist, suppleanter Krister Strand och Mats Hjalmarsson  
Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 107 (oktober 118)  
Svensk Mästare (2006): Martin Li 5d, juniormästare Fredrik Blomback, snabbgomästare Peder Wiklund och pargomästare Liya Sang och Martin Li .

### För statistikintresserade

Antalet spelare på EGF:s rankinglista i februari  
samt förändringarna sedan oktober 2006.

Danmark	30	-1
Norge	37	±0
Finland	235	-2
Sverige	117	+10

# Nordiska goklubbar

## Danske goklubber

### *Edo Go Club*

Kontakt: Lene Jacobsen, lene@jakobsen.dyndns.dk , +4545814895  
Antal medlemmer: Juniorer 4, Voksne 15  
Antal medlemmer på EGF rankingliste: 7.  
Hemsida: <http://www.danskgoforbund.dk/edo>  
Spiller hver onsdag 19.30-23.00 på Henrik Thomsens Vej 12,  
3460 Birkerød

### *Københavns Go Klub*

Kontaktpersoner: Brian Poulsen, brian@kgok.dk Torben Peder-  
sen, torben@kgok.dk  
Antal medlemmer: 20 Antal københavnerne på EGF:s rankinglista:  
16.  
Hemsida: <http://www.kgok.dk>  
Spiller hver mandag aften på Mellemtoftevej 11 i Valby.

### *Odense Goklub*

Kontaktperson: John Nielsen, 6618 2911, johnerling@mail.tele.dk  
Spiller hver mandag kl. 18.30-23 i Bolbro Brugerhus,  
Stadionsvej 50, Odense.  
Desuden spilles der handicapturering ca. en søndag om måne-  
den.  
Antal medlemmer på EGF:s rankingliste: 7  
Hemsida: <http://www.netby.dk/Nord/Valmuevej/OdenseGoKlub/>

### *Ringsted Goklub*

Kontaktperson: Peter Andersen, 5752 7292

### *Sønderborg Go Klub*

Kontaktperson: Kjeld Petersen, 7442 4138,  
dsl222888a@post.cybercity.dk

### *Studentergaarden Go-klub*

Kontaktperson: Theodor Harbsmeier, Kasper Moth (tourist@stud-  
entergaarden.dk ),  
Andreas S Habsmeier (harbsmeier@studentergaarden.dk ).

### *Århus Go Klub*

Kontaktperson: Peter Brouwer, 82505793, brouwer@worldonline.  
dk  
Antal medlemmer på EGF:s rankingliste: 2  
Hemsida: <http://home.worldonline.dk/brouwer/go/>

## Finska goklubbar

### *Helsingin Go-kerho ry. (Helsingfors)*

Kontaktperson: Vesa Laatikainen, +358-9-5482852,  
vesa.laatikainen@teamware.com  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 100  
Hemsida: <http://finland.european-go.org/helsinki>

### *Helsingin yliopistollinen go-seura*

Kontaktperson: Deni Seitz, jrj\_ylig@helsinki.fi  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 62  
Hemsida: <http://www.helsinki.fi/jarj/yligo/>

### *Tengen (Jyväskylä)*

Kontaktpersoner: Einari Niskanen  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 31  
Hemsida: <http://www.suomigo.net/wiki/Tengen>

### *Kuopio Go Ballei*

Antal medlemmar: 3  
Hemsida: <http://www.cs.uku.fi/~vaisala/KGB.htm>  
Antal spelare på EGF:s rankinglista: 5  
Totalt antal från Kuopio på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 10

### *Oulun Goonpellaajat (Uleåborg)*

Kontaktperson: Tiia Kekkonen, +358-44-5573440,  
tii@iki.fi  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 82  
<http://www.suomigo.net/wiki/OulunGoonpellaajat>

### *PoGo, Otaniemi*

Kontaktperson: Esa Seuranen, pogo@tky.hut.fi  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 50  
Hemsida: <http://www.tky.hut.fi/~pogo/english/index.html>

### *Kanpai, Tampere (Tammerfors)*

Kontaktperson: Markku Jantunen, 040-5214206,  
markku\_jantunen@yahoo.com  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 67  
<http://www.suomigo.net/wiki/Kanpai>

### *Turku Hayashi (Åbo)*

Kontaktperson: Jaakko Virtanen, 050-360 36 49,  
jaolvi@utu.fi  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 69  
Hemsida: <http://vco.ett.utu.fi/hayashi/>

## Norske go-klubber

### *Oslo Goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Pål Sannes, pal.sannes@met.no  
Antall medlemmer: 20,  
Antall spillere på EGF:s rankingliste: 34  
Totalt antal från Oslo på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 73  
Hjemmeside: <http://foreninger.uio.no/go/>

### *Trondheim Goklubb*

Kontakt: Robert Biegler, robert.biegler@svt.ntnu.no  
Antall spillere på EGF:s rankingliste: 1  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 5  
Hjemmeside: <http://www.pvv.org/~vlarsen/trhm-go/>

## Svenska goklubbar

### *Falun/Borlänge Goklubb*

Kontakt: Johan Jacob Sporrøng ,  
Nedregruvrisvägen 23, 791 56 Falun  
073-531 53 11 jsporrøng@hotmail.com  
Hemsida: <http://www.go.glory.eu.org>  
Antal medlemmar: 22.  
Antal spelare på EGF:s rankinglista: 8  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 16

### *Göteborgs goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Urban Nilsson d7urban@gmail.com  
Hemsida : <http://www.gbgo.nu/index.html>  
Antal medlemmar: 14. Antal Göteborgare på EGF:s rankinglista: 29.  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 59  
Klubbmästare: Ulf Olsson 4d.

### *Härnösands go-klubb*

Kontaktperson: Mats Wiklund, Artillerigatan 43, 871 52 Härnösand,  
Mobil: 073-998 58 48  
Antal medlemmar: 13  
Klubbens e-postadress: Harnosandgo@gmail.com  
Hemsida: [www.harnogo.com](http://www.harnogo.com)

### *Lidköpings goklubb*

Kontakt: Johannes Karlsson,  
johannes.karlsson3@comhem.se , 0510-21654  
Antal medlemmar: 5  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 4  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 4

### *Linköpings goklubb*

Kontaktperson: : Tomas Boman, tomas.boman@bredband.net  
013-261223, 0702-562378  
<http://www.lysator.liu.se/~ejlo/lingo/index.html>  
Antal medlemmar: 38  
Antal Linköpingspelare på EGF:s rankinglista: 16.  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 32  
Spel: Torsd. 18.00 Zenithuset (alt. Café Java, ingång B.27), på universitetsområdet.  
Söndagar från kl 12.00 i Stadsbibliotekets café  
Klubbmästare: Tomas Boman 2d

### *Luleå gosällskap*

Kontaktperson: Basti Weidemyr, 070-5806460,  
basti@weidemyr.com  
Hemsida: [www.lulego.org/](http://www.lulego.org/)  
Antal medlemmar: 12.  
Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 11.  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 11.

### *Malmö / Lund goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Carl Johan Ragnarsson, cjr@gongames.com  
eller Daniel: coderboy@hotmail.com  
Hemsida: <http://www.ekstrand.org/MalmoeGo/>  
Antal medlemmar: 21.  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 14  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 18

### *Norrköpings Go-klubb*

Kontaktperson: Charlie Åkerblom,  
charlie\_post@hotmail.com  
Antal medlemmar: 10.  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 4.  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 6

### *Stockholms goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Henric Bergsåker, henricb@telia.com, 6421713,  
073-9850300.  
Hemsida: <http://klubbar.goforbundet.se/stockholm/>  
Antal medlemmar: 25.  
Antal Stockholmsspelare på EGF:s rankinglista: 49  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 111.  
Spel: Onsd. 18.00-22.00,  
Dragons Lair, Kungsholms Torg 8.  
Spel: Sön. 14.00-18.00,  
Dragons Lair, Kungsholms Torg 8.  
Klubbmästare: Michael Yao 5d

### *Tibro goklubb*

Kontakt: Mattias Aronsson, Nyholmsgatan 1A, 54332 Tibro,  
woboloko@hotmail.com ,  
Tel. 0504-12781, mob. 0702986958.  
Antal Medlemmar: 8. Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 2  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 5

### *Uppsala goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Per-Erik Martin, pem@pem.nu  
<http://www.pem.nu/uppgo/> Uppsala go-klubb WAP-sida: <http://www.pem.nu/uppgo/index.wml>  
Antal medlemmar: 37. Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 9  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 23

### *Västerås goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Leif Pettersson,  
pettersson\_leif@bredband.net  
<http://www.vgo.se>  
Antal medlemmar: 14. Antal på EGF:s rankinglista: 10.  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 17  
Speldagar: tis. 18.00 och lörd. 14.00  
Klubbmästare: Krister Strand 1d.

### *Umeå goklubb*

Kontakt: Albin Karlsson, 073-5739648  
info@umego.se  
Hemsida: <http://www.umego.se/>  
Antal medlemmar: 15.

### *Östersunds goklubb*

Kontaktperson: Johan Ternström,  
johan\_ternstrom@yahoo.com  
Antal medlemmar: 13.  
Antal medlemmar på EGF:s rankinglista: 6.  
Totalt antal på EGF:s lista sedan 1996: 8

Redaktör är Björn Wendsjö [bj@wend.cc]  
Medredaktörer är Pål Sannes [pal.sannes@met.no]  
och Matti Siivola [matti.siivola@helsinki.fi].