

Meijin-Sen 2012

33rd Meijin-Sen in
Tokyo Japan

One of the toughest Othello tournaments boasting the highest standards of play will be held in Tokyo.

Date:March 4th 2012

Time: 8.30a.m. to 6.00p.m.

Venue:

The Sumida Riverside Hall, Azumabashi area.
Entry Fee: 4000JPY

Singapore Tournament Calendar 2012

| Tournament | Date | Time | Venue | Entry Fee | System |
|---|-------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Singapore Schools Othello Championship (SSOC) 2012 | 2/6/12 Sat | 9.00am ~6.00pm | Nanyang Girls' High School | Student: \$15 (Lunch inc.) | 7 Rounds Swiss Pairing (20m) |
| Singapore National Othello Championship (SNOC) 2012 | 4/8/12 Sat | 9.00am ~6.00pm | Yuhua Community Club | Public: \$25 Student: \$15 Early Bird: \$12 | 6 Rounds Swiss Pairing (25m) + 1 Game Semis/Finals |
| Singapore Othello Masters Series (SOMS) 2012 | 8/12/12 Sat | 10.00am ~5.00pm | Guilin View Poolside Function Room | Free Invitational to the Top 8 local players | 7 Rounds Round Robin (20m) |

BY ALEX KOH B. C. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEX KOH B. C. & Ying K.S.

World Champion
2011

Mr. Hiroki Nobukawa of Japan wins the World Othello Championship 2011

World Female
Champion 2011

Ms. Cai Jian of United States of America wins the World Female Champion Title 2011



The World Othello Championship (WOC) 2011

The World Othello Championship 2011 was held at the Hilton Newark Airport in Newark, the metropolitan area of New York. The most prestigious event of the year saw a total of 54 Participants from 23 nations gather at the United States to vie for the highest honour in the world of Othello.

At end of Day One, after 7 rigorous rounds of Swiss pairing play, Piyanat Aunchulee of Thailand held the lead of 7 wins out of 7 games to achieve a perfect start in his bid for the World Othello Championship title of 2011. He was closely followed behind by Toda Tomoya, the Ouza (王座) of Japan and Hiroki Nobukawa, the Meijin (名人) of Japan with 6 points each to round up the long day of play.

Tension filled up the atmosphere as players poured into the playing hall of Day Two. With 6 games to play, there were still many chances for players to fight for a spot in the top four.

Hiroki Nobukawa of Japan wasted no time to hand the first loss to Piyanat Aunchulee of Thailand as he defeated him 37-27 in round 8. After the 13 preliminary rounds concluded, Japan emerged as the expected Team Champions once again achieving a 7th Straight World Team Championship Title. The top four players to enter the semi-finals were Nicky van den Biggelaar of Netherlands, Piyanat Aunchulee of Thailand, Mathias Berg of Germany, and Hiroki Nobukawa of Japan. The top two female players were Cai Jian of USA and Yoko Sano of Japan.

Othello Organisation
(Singapore)

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LEE FOUNDATION

The First Ever Blind WOC Participant



Kelvin Yang from Hong Kong was the first ever blind player to play in the prestigious World Othello Championship this year. Given the disadvantage of not being able to see the board, he was still able to put up an impressive performance to win 5 out of the 13 preliminary rounds which is truly inspiring!

The Youngest Ever WOC Participant



Arthur Juigner of France was the youngest player ever to compete in the World Othello Championship at the tender age of 9! He finished with 7.5 points and overall 14th place in the world!

Team Singapore is Back!



Team Singapore: Alex Koh Bo Chao and Wu Jinfeng at the WOC 2011 in USA

After 3 years since 2007 when Mr. Chew Ching Wuen was the sole representative of Singapore in Athens, Team Singapore is once again back into action at the World Othello Championship with the support from the **Lee Foundation** of Singapore.

This year, Nationals 3rd and 4th ranked Singaporean players, Alex Koh Bo Chao and Wu Jinfeng represented Singapore in the World Othello Championship 2011.

Alex Koh Bo Chao, finished the tournament with 8 wins out of 13 games finishing 13th place in the World. He is the first Singaporean to ever achieve 8 wins in the World Othello Championship (WOC), recording wins over previous WOC Top 10 players such as Jacky Fu of Canada and Norwegian National Champion Martin Odegard. He is also the standing record holder of the Highest World Othello ranking ever achieved by a Singaporean with 2340 in the year 2010.

Wu Jinfeng finished the tournament with 6.5 wins out of 13 games finishing 28th place in the World. He started the tournament moderately, but finished strongly to win his last 3 games of the tournament to record an impressive 6.5 point finish in the top 30 of the World Othello Championship 2011.

The pair which represented Singapore collected a combined total of 14.5 points to place Singapore in joint 10th Place in the World out of 23 Nations which participated. Of the nations that sent only two representatives to WOC, Singapore was joint first place with Poland!



From left: Table Judge Martin Fransen, Nicky van den Biggelaar and Alex Koh Bo Chao

The 1st Singapore Othello Masters Series

The inaugural Singapore Othello Masters Series 2011 is launched! This event is an exclusive invitational event to the Top 8 local players based on the World Othello Federation Rating after the conclusion of the World Othello Championship every year. The tournament will be a 7 rounds round-robin tournament to allow the Top 8 local players to contest in an intensive tournament battle for honour and glory in the local Othello scene. After the tournament, a year-end Othello dinner and games for everyone in the local Othello community was held.



From left: Alex Koh with Lee Choon Foong



Singapore Top 10 Players (World Othello Federation Rankings)

| No. | World Rank | Rating | Error | Games | Name |
|-----|------------|--------|---------|-------|--------------------|
| 1 | 57 | 2224 | +/-105 | 59 | Lee Choon Foong |
| 2 | 60 | 2220 | +/-87 | 80 | Koh Bo Chao Alex |
| 3 | 71 | 2208 | +/-107 | 52 | Koh Bo Xiang |
| 4 | 145 | 2127 | +/- 151 | 27 | Paw Su Lin Kenneth |
| 5 | 186 | 2087 | +/-112 | 49 | Leong Chee Kit |
| 6 | 205 | 2072 | +/- 84 | 83 | Chew Ching Wuen |
| 7 | 246 | 2040 | +/-133 | 41 | Lin Wei Hao Roy |
| 8 | 353 | 1974 | +/-222 | 13 | Ng Qi Han |
| 9 | 442 | 1920 | +/-110 | 54 | Chong Sky |
| 10 | 497 | 1889 | +/-101 | 60 | Wu Jin Feng |

Singapore Othello Masters Series 2011 Results

Champion-
Koh Bo Chao Alex

1st Runner Up-
Koh Bo Xiang

2nd Runner Up-
Ng Qi Han

Othello Organisation (Singapore) New Committee 2012

President:
Koh Bo Chao Alex

Vice-President:
Koh Bo Xiang

Treasurer:
Set Zhi Wei

Secretary:
Ying Ke Sin

Publicity Director:
Tan Yan Shao

Events Director:
Ng Qi Han