

## LLOYDS BANK MASTERS



**Lloyds  
Bank**

Strong Open swiss system tournament series sponsored by Lloyds Bank, United Kingdom, organised **during each summer in London from 1977 to 1994.**



Year	Champion	Country	Points
1977	<b>Miguel Ángel Quinteros</b> , clear first	Argentina	8/10
1978	<b>John Peters</b> , on tie-break	USA	7'5/10
1979	<b>Murray Chandler</b> , on tie-break	England	7/9
1980	<b>Florin Gheorghiu</b> , on tie-break	Romania	7/9
1981	<b>Raymond Keene</b> , on tie-break	England	7/9
1982	<b>Anthony Miles</b> , on tie-break	England	7/9
1983	<b>Yuri Razuvaev</b> , on tie-break	USSR	7/9
1984	<b>John Nunn</b> , on tie-break	England	7/9
1985	<b>Alexander Beljavsky</b> , clear first	USSR	7'5/9
1986	<b>Simen Adgestein</b> , clear first	Norway	8/9
1987	<b>Michael Wilder</b> , after play-off	USA	8/10
1988	<b>Gary Lane</b> , after play-off	England	8/10
1989	<b>Zurab Azmaiparashvilli</b> , clear first	USSR	8'5/10
1990	<b>Stuart Conquest</b> , on tie-break	USSR	8/10
1991	<b>Alexei Shirov</b> , clear first	Latvia	8/10
1992	<b>Jonathan Speelman</b> , on tie-break	England	8/10
1993	<b>Jonathan Speelman</b> , clear first	England	8'5/10
1994	<b>Alexander Morozevich</b> , clear first	Russia	9'5/10

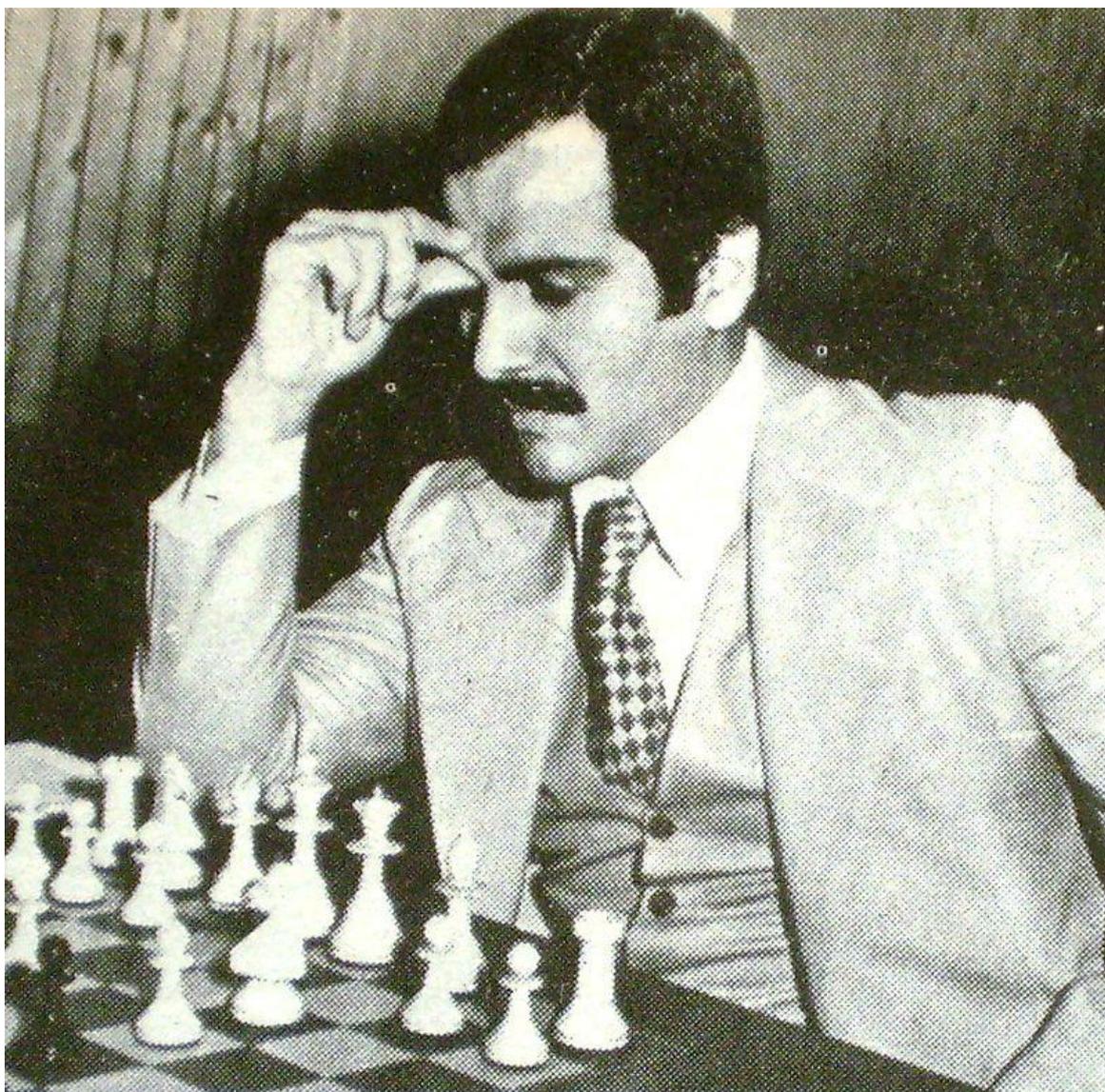
<http://www.ajedrezdeataque.com/05%20Palmares/Torneos/Europa/Lloyds.htm>

Note: Sometimes shared winners (for full list, see further below), in case of a tie, mostly the Buchholz tie-break score was used, but in some years, a speed play-off between the two leading players had been organised.

In the first two editions 1977 & 1978, and again from 1987 on, ten rounds had been played at the Lloyds Bank Masters, from 1979 to 1986, the Open was organized with nine rounds (swiss system).

Prize money wasn't that impressive, i.e. 1'200 £ for the clear winner in the year 1985.

**The winners** (including the co-winners): 1977 (inaugural edition of the series) Miguel Quinteros (clear first at 8/10, Birnboim second, above joint third to fifth Torre, Nunn, and Webb; 68 players), 1978 John Peters, USA (making a GM norm), Rantanen, Littlewood (three-way tie), 1979 Murray Chandler, Westerinen, Haik (three-way tie), 1980 Florin Gheorghiu, Chandler, Ligterink (three-way tie), 1981 Raymond Keene, Seirawan, Miles (three-way tie), 1982 Anthony Miles, Gutman, Hort, Hebden, Johansen from Australia (five-way tie), 1983 Yuri Razuvaev, Nunn, Matanovic, William Watson (four-way tie), 1984 John Nunn, Chandler, Kudrin, Miles, Spassky (five-way tie), 1985 Alexander Beliavsky (then no. 3= of the world), 1986 Simen Agdestein, 1987 Michael Wilder (after play-off over Chandler), 1988, Garry Lane (after play-off over Adams), 1989 Zurab Azmaiparashvili, 1990 Stuart Conquest, Adams, Sturua (three-way tie), 1991 Alexey Shirov (just after winning the Biel GMT), 1992 Jonathan Speelman (first on tie-break above grandmaster Gennadi Timoshchenko), 1993 Jonathan Speelman (clear first ahead of 2./3. Miles, Nunn), 1994 (last edition) young Alexander Morozevich (clear first at amazing 9.5/10!).



Miguel Quinteros, the winner of the very first Lloyds Bank Masters (Open). Photo from Wikipedia

**Lloyds Bank Masters, London, 1977-1994**

**18 consecutive Open editions:**

First winner in 1977 was Miguel Quinteros from Argentina

Last winner in 1994 was young Alexander Morozevich from Russia, both outright



Alexander Morozevich, the winner of the very last Lloyds Bank Masters. Photo from [www.BestofChess.com](http://www.BestofChess.com)

**Nigel Short** played, too, astonishingly, he could never win or co-win at the Lloyds Bank Masters in London!

Further famous players:

**Viktor Korchnoi** in 1982 (then no. 3 of the world, he had a bad tournament and lost three games versus Kudrin, Barua from India, and John Hawksworth, another talented English player who gave up competitive chess for the security of a career and regular income), or **Boris Spassky** in 1984 (co-winner), young **Vishy Anand** four times in a row (1984, 1985, 1986, 1987), veteran **Vasily Smyslov** in 1981, again in 1988 (finishing on joint third place, third on tie-break, only half a point close to the two eventual winners) and in 1989, veteran **David Bronstein** twice in 1989 and in 1992, plus **Maia Chiburdanidze**, or **Pia Cramling**, and **Yasser Seirawan** (co-winner 1981), **Vlastimil Hort** (co-winner 1982), young **Michael Adams** (co-winner 1990), **Eugenio Torre**, **Gyula Sax**, a.o., played once or several times.

The Lloyds Bank Masters was an important tournament in the career development of Vishy Anand, both in 1984 and 1985, he won the Lloyds Bank Junior.

Reminiscences:

<https://nezhmet.wordpress.com/2008/02/12/the-fabulous-70s-lloyds-bank-1978/>,  
<https://nezhmet.wordpress.com/2007/06/22/the-fabulous-70s-the-lloyds-bank-open/>,  
<https://nezhmet.wordpress.com/2007/06/24/the-fabulous-70s-part-x-1/>  
(Games and anecdotes in a personal chess history by IM **Mark Ginsburg**)

<http://www.saund.co.uk/britbase/pgn/198508lloyds-viewer.html>  
(1985, Beliavsky clear first, scroll down for full standings and norms achieved)

Background:

The driving force and soul of the Lloyds Bank behind the Masters was **Jeremy Morse** (1928-2016): <https://www.asc.ox.ac.uk/person/45>;

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy\\_Morse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Morse) (Wikipedia), and chess compositions from him: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy\\_Morse](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Morse); [https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy\\_Morse](https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Morse).

Obituary (*Telegraph.co.uk*. 4 February 2016)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/12140770/Sir-Jeremy-Morse-banker-obituary.html>

**Stewart Reuben** and **Leonard Barden**, were the principal founders, promoters and organisers of this magnificent series of tournaments and they deserve a huge vote of thanks for it.

One purpose of the publicity was to attract more sponsorship, in summer 1976 Leonard Barden secured backing from **Lloyds Bank**. The bank's chairman, Sir **Jeremy Morse**, was an eminent chess problemist, and its sponsorship manager, **Pat Bowman**, liked the concept of the bank financing a serious challenge to Soviet chess supremacy.

The first Lloyds Bank event was a pilot, a **London** v **New York City telex** match, to celebrate the **United States bicentennial**, in which the American captain agreed to Barden's proposal to include extra under-11 boards, on one of which Short (who lived near **Manchester**) beat the future US champion **Joel Benjamin**. By then many juniors were advancing towards master strength, but lacked official FIDE international ratings and titles.

Subsequently in 1977 the annual **Lloyds Bank Masters** in London was launched, modelled on a successful US event at **Lone Pine** where the best US juniors competed against strong grandmasters.

This legendary Lloyds Bank Masters Open lasted until 1994 (18th edition, won by **Alexander Morozevich**), and backed the legendary 'English Chess Explosion', the golden age of British chess.

Barden also organised an all-play-all tournament, the **Lord John Cup** in London, where three young and promising English masters – **John Nunn**, **Michael Stean** and **Jonathan Mestel** – met reputed international grandmasters as **Vlastimil Hort** who won this one-off event, **Miguel Quinteros**, the first winner of the Lloyds Bank Open the same year and joint runner-up at the Lord John Cup, **Eugenio Torre**, or legendary **Alexander Kotov**.

Barden and the British chess explosion: By summer 1975 Barden believed that **Nigel Short**, then aged 9, also had world title potential. The simultaneous programme was intensified for Short, who in the next few years played three world champions and several other top grandmasters. Barden also used his columns to promote his juniors, whom some called "the Barden babes". Nigel Short defeated **Viktor Korchnoi**, the world's second strongest active player, in a 1976 Evening Standard simultaneous, Short also beat former World Champion Tigran Petrosian in a simul in January 1978.

In 1976, **Tony Miles** became the first ever British born otb chess grandmaster. For his achievement, Miles won a £5,000 prize from wealthy businessman and chess backer **Jim Slater (accountant)**.

By the 1980s the 'English Chess Explosion' was in full swing, the golden generation was on the way to the Olympiad silver medals achieved in 1984, 1986 and 1988. Barden continued to seek new primary school talent, and in 1980 recognised the exceptional promise of the then 8-year-old **Michael Adams**.

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## PCA / Intel Rapid Chess Grand Prix (k.o. – format) after the last London Lloyds edition in 1994

Immediately after the tournament from 1994, which turned out to be the last edition of the Lloyds Bank Masters series, the PCA / Intel Rapid Chess Grand Prix (leg 3 - 1994) had been played in London, with the best player from the Open, including a special guest promoted by the sponsor, were given a chance to face the chess world's top stars in rapid k.o. - format.

Morozevich lost twice against a player more than fifty years older than him, meanwhile Kasparov was eliminated in the first round against a rather inhuman opponent.

The drawing of lots had a little to be driven by hand, because Kramnik and Ivanchuk principally rejected to play an engine. Garry was fearless, at least.. and Anand saved the human dignity.

Round 1:

Ivanchuk 1.5-0.5 Akesson

Tkachiev 2-0 Malaniuk

Kramnik 2-1 Adianto

Vyzmanavin 1.5-1.5 Mainka

Anand 2-1 Adams

Korchnoi 2-0 Morozevich

**Genius (comp)** 1.5-0.5 Kasparov

Nikolic 1.5-1.5 Short

Quarterfinals:

Ivanchuk 1.5-0.5 Tkachiev

Kramnik 1.5-0.5 Vyzmanavin

Anand 1.5-0.5 Korchnoi

**Genius (comp)** 2-0 Nikolic

Semifinals:

Ivanchuk 1.5-1.5 Kramnik, Ivanchuk winner (draw in blitz with black)

Anand 2-0 **Genius (comp)**

Final:

Ivanchuk 2.5-2.5 Anand

**Ivanchuk winner** (draw in final blitz game with black, after two games Rapid 25 minutes, then next two games in Blitz 5 minutes)

Many spectators in London, and huge mass media coverage, just before the breakthrough of the Internet.....

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