

## WINTERTHURER SCHACHWOCHE



**Winterthur from the sky:** a glance on the old town of Winterthur

(© Copyright [Stadt Winterthur](#) 2007)

With 100'000 inhabitants, Winterthur is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest city in Switzerland. It can be easily accessed from Zurich airport within twelve minutes.

When the Swiss elected their first president in 1848, they chose a politician from Winterthur: Jonas Furrer. His monument stands some steps from the location of the Winterthur Chess Week. Today Winterthur has less political influence compared to the Swiss capital Bern and the economic centres of Zurich, Basel and Geneva. Instead, the biggest Swiss University of Applied Sciences is located in Winterthur. The night life, especially the numerous bars and cinemas, attract many people from the surrounding area.

Winterthur is well-known for its Old Town and its parks. It was also rewarded several prizes for its model traffic and town planning policy. During the past few years Winterthur has evolved to an insider tip for culture enthusiasts. Especially the following museums enjoy an excellent reputation and are well known far beyond the Swiss border:

- The Swiss Foundation of the Photography ([Fotostiftung Schweiz](#)) is dedicated to the preservation, acquisition and presentation of photographic works.
- The [Photo Museum Winterthur](#) is dedicated to photography as art form and document, and as a representation of reality.
- The [Technorama Switzerland](#) is a science centre offering a vivid atmosphere that encourages hands-on experiments.
- The Oskar Reinhart Foundation houses numerous pieces of art from Switzerland and abroad. It conducts the [Museum Oskar Reinhart am Stadtgarten](#) and the [Sammlung Oskar Reinhart am Römerholz](#).
- The [Museum of art Winterthur](#).

The **Winterthur Chess Week** (Winterthurer Schachwoche) has been played as an international Open tournament in twelve editions, held annually from 2001 to 2012. Prominent players include Fabiano Caruana, David Howell (co-winner 2008), Maxim Rodshtein (wo-winner 2004), Vladimir Tukmakov, Florin Gheorghiu, Vadim Milov, Mikhail Ulibin (record four-time winner / co-winner) or Florian Jenni (winner 2005, the only from the hosting nation).

President of the Oragnization Committee was IM **Martin Ballmann**, a strong Swiss player himself.

Beside the annual Open tournaments, there have been a Young Masters, that should allow young players to attain international norms, and a General Masters (Open) for amateur and club players. The Chess Festival was regularly completed by a teams' blitz tournament and / or blitz singles.

Famous game: **GM Caruana (Ita) vs. GM Jenni (Sui) 0-1** (Winterthurer Schachwoche 2007)  
<https://www.365chess.com/game.php?gid=3600362>

Official Site: <http://svwinterthur.ch/> (Schachverband Winterthur, SVW)

Archive:

<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche01/index.htm> (2001)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche02/index.html> (2002)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche03/index.html> (2003)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche04/index.html> (2004)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche05/index.html> (2005)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche06/index.html> (2006)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche07/index.html> (2007)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche08/index.html> (2008)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche09/index.html> (2009)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche10/index.html> (2010)  
<http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche11/index.html> (2011)  
<http://schachwoche.org/> (2012)



**Martin Ballmann**  
(President of the OC  
Winterthur Chess Week  
and of the Winterthur  
Chess Association)

## Winners of the Winterthur Chess Week (Open)

- 2001 GM NORMUNDS MIEZIS (LAT)
- 2002 GM ALIK GERSHON (ISR)
- 2003 GM NORMUNDS MIEZIS (LAT) (2nd win)
- 2004 IM ALBERT VAJDA (ROM) & FM MAXIM RODSHTein (ISR), with IM-norm (GM in 2007)
- 2005 GM FLORIAN JENNI (SUI)
- 2006 FM DOTAN GANOR (ISR), with GM-norm! (Ganor never achieved the GM-title)  
GM RAINER BUHMANN (GER) & GM VADIM MALAKATHKO (BEL);
- 2007 3. GM FLORIAN JENNI (SUI), 4.-10. (4.) GM FABIANO CARUANA (ITA)  
(<https://en.chessbase.com/post/rainer-buhmann-wins-winterthur-open/539>)
- 2008 GM DAVID HOWELL (ENG) & GM AXEL BACHMANN (PAR)
- 2009 GM MIKHAIL ULYBIN (RUS)
- 2010 GM MILOS PERUNOVIC (SRB), IM ANTHONY BELLAICHE (FRA) & MIKHAIL ULYBIN (RUS)
- 2011 GM MIKHAIL ULYBIN (RUS) (3rd win, in total four wins or co-wins at Winterthur)
- 2012 GM MILOS PERUNOVIC (SRB), MIKHAIL ULYBIN (RUS) & EVGENY GLEIZEROV (RUS)



**Mikhail Ulibin** (FIDE: Ulybin), born 31 May 1971, is a Russian chess grandmaster since 1991

Photo Winterthur 2009: <http://www.svwinterthur.ch/schachwoche09/alben/tiltAlbumLastDay/images/Ulibin2.jpg>



Prior to that series, Winterthur organised some Young Masters (Jungmeisterturniere), and a strong International Invitation Tournament in 1996 to celebrate 150 years of existence of its association:

GM Hjartarson wins International Invitational in Winterthur

Johann Hjartarson from Iceland wins the invitation tournament held in Winterthur, Switzerland. The event was held to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Winterthur Chess Federation.

In the last round Johann Hjartarson drew quickly against young Yannick Pelletier to secure first place alone.

Daniel King took clear second in spite of losing his last round game with the Black pieces against Nedeljko Kelecevic who shared third place with Joe Gallagher. In retrospect, round 6 was decisive, Hjartarson winning against King a Queen's Gambit as white in 34 moves.

Werner Hug, the former World Junior Chess Champion drew all his eleven games!

Vitezslav Rasik and Alisa Maric shared first prize in the B - tournament held alongside. Valeri Atlas and Antoaneta Stefanova finished as joint third.

Winterthur A Tournament (SUI), VIII 1996. cat. IX (2459)

					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2		
<b>1</b>	<b>Hjartarson, Johann</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>ISL</b>	<b>2565</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>2660</b>
2	King, Daniel J	g	ENG	2535	0	*	=	0	=	=	=	1	1	1	1	1	7.0	2554
3	Gallagher, Joseph G	g	SUI	2530	=	=	*	1	=	=	=	=	1	0	0	1	6.0	2488
4	Kelecevic, Nedeljko	m	BIH	2475	=	1	0	*	=	1	=	=	0	=	=	1	6.0	2493
5	Hug, Werner	m	SUI	2445	=	=	=	=	*	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	5.5	2460
6	Van der Sterren, Paul	g	NED	2510	=	=	=	0	=	*	=	1	0	=	1	=	5.5	2454
7	Zueger, Beat	m	SUI	2460	0	=	=	=	=	=	*	=	=	=	1	=	5.5	2459
8	Ballmann, Martin	f	SUI	2360	0	0	=	=	=	0	=	*	1	1	1	=	5.5	2468
9	Vogt, Lothar	g	GER	2505	0	0	0	1	=	1	=	0	*	1	=	1	5.5	2455
10	Pelletier, Yannick	m	SUI	2440	=	0	1	=	=	=	=	0	0	*	=	1	5.0	2424
11	Forster, Richard	f	SUI	2320	0	0	1	=	=	0	0	0	=	=	*	1	4.0	2369
12	Huss, Andreas	m	SUI	2365	0	0	0	0	=	=	=	=	0	0	0	*	2.0	2205

Winterthur (SUI), B Tournament VIII 1996. cat. IV (2329)

					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2		
<b>1</b>	<b>Rasik, Vitezslav</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>CZE</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>2581</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Maric, Alisa</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>YUG</b>	<b>2460</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>2579</b>
3	Atlas, Valeri	m	LIE	2470	=	0	*	=	1	=	1	1	1	1	1	1	8.5	2527
4	Stefanova, Antoaneta	wg	BUL	2365	0	=	=	*	=	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8.5	2536
5	Sievers, Stefan	f	GER	2380	=	0	0	=	*	0	=	1	=	1	1	1	6.0	2360
6	Kaenel, Hansjuerg	m	SUI	2405	=	0	=	0	1	*	1	0	=	0	0	1	4.5	2257
7	Belotti, Bruno	m	ITA	2400	0	=	0	0	=	0	*	0	=	1	1	1	4.5	2257
8	Hochstrasser, Michael		SUI	2295	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	*	=	1	=	=	4.5	2267
9	Hirzel, Rene		SUI	2175	0	0	0	0	=	=	=	=	*	=	1	=	4.0	2241
10	Wittwer, Moritz	f	SUI	2170	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	=	*	1	1	3.5	2210
11	Von Allmen, Alain		SUI	2220	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	=	0	0	*	1	2.5	2128
12	Benz, Rolf		SUI	2170	=	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	=	0	0	*	1.5	2034

Source: <http://theweekinchess.com/html/twic98.html> (Mark Crowther)