The Women’s World Championship was established by FIDE in 1927 as a single tournament held alongside the Chess Olympiad. The winner of that tournament, Vera Menchik, did not have any special rights as the men’s champion did—instead she had to defend her title by playing as many games as all the challengers. She did this successfully in every other championship in her lifetime (1930, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937 and 1939).

Most Brilliant Game

TX Women’s Ch (3.1), 24.06.2018

4.e3 e6 5.c4 c6 6.Nc3 Bd6
7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 Ne4 9.c5
Be7 10.h3 Bd7 11.Ne5
Be8 12.f3! Nxc3 13.bxc3
Nd7 14.a4 g5 15.Bh2
Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Bf6 17.f4!
Bxe5 18.fxe5 Bg6 19.Qc2!
g4 [$\Delta$19...f4? 20.Bxg6 hxg6
21.Qxg6+±]

20.hxg4 Qg5 21.Rf4! fxg4
22.g3! Bxd3 23.Qxd3 Rxf4
24.exf4 Qg6 [25.Qxg6+!]
hxg6 26.a5 a6 27.Kg2 Kg7
28.Rh1 Rh8? [△28...Re8]
29.Rh4 Rxh4 30.gxh4 Kh6
31.Kf2! 31...Kh5 32.Kg3
Kh6 33.Kxg4 Kh7 34.Kg5
Kg7 35.h5! gxh5 36.Kxh5
Kh7 37.Kg5 Kg7 38.f5 ex-
f5 39.Kxf5 Kf7 40.e6+ Ke7
41.Ke5 Ke8 42.Kd6 Kd8
43.e7+! Ke8 44.?? [See
the Tactic Puzzle to see if
you can figure out why
Black resigned after the
next move by White] 1–0

The Deciding Game

Devagharan,D (2015) –
Kao, Camille (1995)
TX Women’s Ch (4.1), 24.06.2018

[D15: Slav Defence: 4
Nc3 a6 and gambit lines
after 4 Nc3 dxc4]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3
3...Nf6 4.Nf3 dxc4 5.e3 b5!? 6.a4 b4 7.Na2 Bf5 8.Nxb4
11.0-0 0-0 12.h3 Nd7 13.Bd3
Bg6 14.Bxg6 hxg6 15.Nc3
N7f6 16.Ne5 Qc7 17.Bd2
Qb7 18.Nd3 Rab8 19.Rb1
Nb4 20.Nxb4 Bxb4 21.b3
Nd5 22.Ne4 Rfd8 23.Qc2
Bxd2 24.Qxd2 Nb4 25.Qc3
Qe7 26.Nd2 Rd5 27.e4

Rdd8 28.Nf3 Qd6 29.Rfd1
Qf4 30.Qe3 Qd6 31.Rd2 a5
32.Rbd1 Qc7 33.Rc1 Qd6
34.Ne5 c5?! 35.Rxc5!±
Rdc8 36.Nc4 Qd8 37.Rxc8
Rxc8

[The game continued to a
Rocks & Pawns endgame
competition. White ended
up with an extra passed
pawn. Which ended up de-
ciding the game] 1–0

Tactic of the Month

Kao, Camille (1995) –
Root, Alexey (2002)

Side to Move

Answer: 44.Ke6!!
...
Mate in 3

any black pawn move is captured,
creating a white passed pawn which will allow promotion =Q# or =R#

Learn More About
Women’s Chess

On the Web:
http://www.goddesschess.com/
http://www.jennifershahade.com/
http://www.kosteniuk.com/
http://www.pogonina.com/

Books:
Vera Menchik: A Biography of the First Women’s
World Chess Champion, with 350 Game
By Robert B. Tanner

Chess Bitch: Women in the Ultimate
Intellectual Sport
By Jennifer Shahade

Videos: (also check out YouTube!)

iChess.net Videos
The Bulmaga Method
The Anna Rudolph Method
The Judith Polgar Method
The Polgar Method (Susan Polgar)
The Krush Method
The Melekhina Method