

2005 Checker/Draught Three-Move World Championship

- Dates:** May 23-June 3, 2005
- Times:** 10 am – 7 pm each day
- Location:** City Council Chambers
Anderson City Hall
401 S. Main St.
Anderson, SC 29621
- Competitors:** Alexander Moiseyev (USA), world champion and #1 ranked player
Ron "Suki" King (Barbados), challenger and #2 ranked player
- Competitor Biographies:** See the attached pages
- Format:** The match will consist of 40 games; four games will be played each day
- Opening Ceremony:** Monday, May 23, 9 am
- 3-Move Checkers, explained:** In 3-Move, the first 3 moves (Red-White-Red) are chosen at random from a list of accepted 3-Move openings. The list contains no openings that are known losses. 3-Move is more popular in serious tournaments and matches, as it decreases the number of draws. After playing a game with one of the 3-Move openings, you play a second game with the same opening, but from the other side of the board, to even out the disadvantage of having to play a weak opening.
- Origin of Checkers:** Checkers is the oldest game in the world and dates back over 4000 years. According to inscriptions in the temples of Thebes, the Egyptian kings took time out from building the Pyramids to mop up their courtiers at Checkers. In Homer's Odyssey, reference is made to games being played in the palace of Ulysses in Ithaca; also Plato makes frequent mention of the games in his writings. The earliest checker book was published by Antonio Torquemada, a Spanish author at Valencia, Spain, in 1547.
- Many famous people of the past were fond with the game of checkers, most notably George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Edgar Allen Poe, Teddy Roosevelt, Thomas Edison, Harry Houdini and Will Rogers.
- Local Contacts:** Dr. Tommy Martin, (864) 369-2660
Bobby Joe Redd, (864) 369-1415

Alex Moiseyev was born in Moscow, Russia, in 1959. By the age of 15 years old, he had obtained a Master rating in Russian draughts. In 1979, Mr. Moiseyev switched from Russian draughts to International draughts. Two years later, he won the Moscow Championship in this style, earning the title of Grandmaster.

Alex Moiseyev immigrated to the United States in 1991 with his wife and family to work in New York as a computer programmer. In 1996, Mr. Moiseyev won the U.S. Championships in International draughts and with it the right to play for the world championship at that style of play. However, following this victory, he retired from the International game and took up the Anglo-American game of draughts / checkers instead. He competed in the U.S. National Three-Move Championship in 1996 and finished fifth in the Master Division. Two years later, Alex was runner-up to Richard Hallett at the U.S. National Championship at Danville, Virginia. In 1999, Alex Moiseyev won the U.S. National GAYP Championship at Niagara Falls ahead of a strong field of players, five of whom had previously contested world championship matches. Mr. Moiseyev followed this up in 2000 by winning the U.S. Three-Move Championship at Toledo, Ohio, giving him ownership of both American tournament titles at the same time!



In 2000, Alex Moiseyev challenged GAYP World Champion Ron King to a GAYP World Title Match. The match was played at the International Checker Hall Of Fame in Petal, Mississippi, and ended in a tie score - three wins each and 18 games drawn. Since that time, Alex Moiseyev has won the Canadian Open, won the World Championship Elimination Match against British Tournament Champion William Docherty (2001), finished as runner-up to Ron King in the U.S. GAYP Championship (2001), and finished as runner-up to Ron King in the British Open Championship (2002). Mr. Moiseyev played First Board for the U.S. against Britain and Ireland in the Seventh International Match in 2001, scoring 11 wins and nine draws in 20 games played.

Following an aborted Three-Move World Title Match in 2001 against Ron King, Mr. Moiseyev contested a Three-Move Title Match in 2002 against former American Champion and World Title Challenger Elbert Lowder (USA) for what the American Checker Federation (ACF) claimed was the Three-Move World Championship. This match was won by Mr. Moiseyev by the score of 12-0 and 17 draws. More recently, Alex Moiseyev contested the U.S. GAYP Championship held at Honea Path, South Carolina, during early August 2003, emerging victorious once again.

In October 2003, the long awaited Three-Move Title Match between Alex Moiseyev and Ron King occurred at the International Festival of Draughts in Cookstown, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland. Mr. Moiseyev won the match decidedly by the score of 8-2 and 25 draws, laying claim to the undisputed Three-Move World Championship Title.

Alex Moiseyev's incredible record has earned him Grandmaster status in all three variations of the game (Russian, International, and English draughts)! His ability to adapt is unprecedented. Mr. Moiseyev already stands out as one of the great players in the history of the game.

Alex Moiseyev is married to Galina. They have two sons and one daughter.

Ron ("Suki") King was born in 1956 at St. George's, Barbados, and learned to play the game among the backstreet clubs and rum shops of Barbados. Mr. King first traveled to the United States in 1986 to compete in his first major tournament where he shocked the established American checker players with his flamboyant style, almost winning their National Championship on his first attempt! Since then, he has won the U.S. Championship at both GAYP and Three-Move and has also gone on to win the World Championship Title at both styles of play.

Ron King's 2003 Three-Move World Title Match against Alex Moiseyev was his eleventh such match, a record that exceeds the achievements of any other player in the history of the game. Mr. King has traveled widely in promoting draughts, having contested matches in the USA, Barbados, Ireland, and England, and undertaking promotional tours in the Caribbean Islands, South Africa, and Ireland. In 1998, Ron King set a new Guinness World Record for simultaneous play at Houston, Texas, where he played 385 opponents at the same time, winning every single game!



Ron King has been honored in his native Barbados and was awarded Sportsman of the Year in both 1991 and 1992. In 1992 he was awarded the Barbados Service Star, the highest national honor that can be bestowed on a citizen for outstanding service and achievement. He also received the Kiwanis Club National Award in 1995 and was honored at the Caricom Heads of Government meeting at St. Lucia in 1998 as one of the top 25 sports personalities from the region.

Mr. King has also achieved success in the following events:

- English Open Championship Winner: 1991, 1993, 1995, and 1997
- Irish Open Championship Winner: 1994, 2001, and 2003
- British Open Championship Winner: 2002

Ron is married to Hazeldin. They have two daughters and one son.