

37th LONDON OPEN GO CONGRESS

OPENING SPEECH NOTES

The time spent on this is between 10 and 15 minutes maximum.

- Welcome all players for 37th London Open. Largest group from abroad is Finland with [12] players.
- Pandanet sponsorship is most welcome. It provides cash prizes for the top three European players and support for game relay and professional teaching.
- We thank Winton for their sponsorship this year and for the last two years. This enables us to provide cash prizes for the top five players as well as inviting Guo Juan to be our teacher.
- All information governing the tournament is displayed in the Information Centre. Far left of hall. Players in the top group (3d and stronger) are expected to play **all** rounds. If other players need to rest for a round, or if anyone wants to change any other details then please **do not** tell an organiser. You **must** fill in a pink slip and leave it in the box below the register, and you **must** do this at least half an hour before the next scheduled round starts.
- All rounds start on time. If for some reason you discover you are going to be late then please phone the Tournament mobile phone. The number is displayed in the Information Centre.
- All the rules of the tournament are displayed in the Information Centre. In particular, rules of play are AGA-style modified by EGF - see the details in the Information Centre.
- The Pair Go tournament takes place tomorrow. Guo Juan will play with Ian Davis and you are most welcome to watch and learn! If you are playing please register by 18:00 - see the notice along the left hand wall.
- The traditional lightning knock-out tournament will take place on Thursday evening. You will be entered with your rank determined by your McMahon score at the end of round 6. Please register for this by 18:00 on the day - see notice along left hand wall.
- Guo Juan is our tournament teacher, and will analyse your game in the Nash room. You must supply a game record and try to bring your opponent along! She will teach players of **all** strengths. Please don't be afraid if you are only a beginner - she will already have had breakfast!
- Please sign up for one of the New Year's Eve Meals. There are a limited number of places and if oversubscribed, places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Please add your name to the meal lists along the left hand wall.
- There is unfortunately no bookshop as Gerry Mills has after many years stood down as BGA bookseller.