Chess Strategies and Tactics for Budding Players by Cody

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Chess is one of the oldest games that are being predominantly played all over the world. There are references citing that the game was first played in the 2nd century B.C. However, due to lack of adequate evidence there is indifference in opinion regarding the same. Nevertheless, there are acceptable evidences to prove that chess was being played in the middle of the sixth century in Persia.

Strategies and tactics

For any chess players, the playing style can be divided into opening game, middle game, and end game.

Opening game

This is a vast topic. There are hundreds of openings in chess and itâ€™s not possible to discuss all of them. However, let me try and explain some basic strategies that will help you knock your opponent out.

First you need to choose which opening you are going to play. If you take white pieces, then you may play any of the popular openings such as the Ruy Lopez, King's Gambit, or Larsenâ€™s opening (b3). Just pick a couple of openings and learn the corresponding theories and variations. This will give a strong foundation to your game. Once you have made the first ten moves correctly and spread the powers and pawns across the board, your next focus should be on building a strong center. You may consider the following strategic positions for building a strong center.

Playing with the knights and bishops

Having the bishops and knights in the centre will only make life difficult for your opponent. Let the white and black bishops take control of the white and black squares respectively. The purpose of having the knights is to ensure your attack is unrestricted. Fortunately, the knight is the only coin on the board that can never get blocked by any other power on its way.

Building a strong pawn structure

The primary goal of building a pawn structure is to prevent the opponentâ€™s powers from entering your territory. In this case, he might give you an exchange for pawns! However you need to make the right move; this comes only by practice though.

Middle game

Thus after a theoretical opening and strong follow-up, itâ€™s important to consolidate your winning position with some brilliant moves. When the board is flooded with powers, there is always a possibility for a series of exchanges to happen. Nevertheless, one has to lay more emphasis on the importance of the power and make the exchanges accordingly. After a few exchanges have taken place, itâ€™s now time to bring the big pieces to the center. Yes, the rooks! Whether the rooks are castled or not they have to be brought to the center along with the queen. Then you can start attacking the opponentâ€™s king by aggressively entering into his territory. While attacking, look for several combinations. For example, a rook-queen combination or a knight-bishop combination can put more pressure on the opponent as opposed to them working individually. Itâ€™s all about finding the

right combination and putting things into place!

End game

If your opponent is clever enough to block your powers from attacking his king, then you can counter the situation by advancing your pawn to the end square of his area and try to convert it into a â€˜passed pawnâ€™. This will divert his attention a bit. Eventually, the jeopardy may make him lose his concentration. So after you have ensnared his powers it is now your turn to put more pressure by continually giving a few checks to his king. At one stage, there will no place for the king to hide. However, in the process of giving checks, beware of stalemates! Thatâ€™s about it. Hope you win the match in style!

Becoming a chess champion needs a lot of practice. While practicing, it is always good to play with players of higher caliber. At home, you can play online games using any of the Fast Internet connections and gradually hone your skills.

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