

🇩🇪 Saemisch Friedrich (20.09.1896 - 16.08.1975)



German GM (1950 at the title inauguration), theorist and writer.

(Unofficial) first Austrian Champion at Vienna in 1921 (Austrian Chess Association Congress - Master Tournament) above luminaries as Euwe, Breyer, Grünfeld, and Tartakower, see below.

Best results: **Vienna 1921** (ahead of 2. Euwe, 3. Breyer, 4.-7. Grünfeld, Tartakower, Vajda, etc.), **Baden Baden 1925, 3rd** (behind Alekhine and Rubinstein), **Dortmund 1928, 1st**, an early Prequel of the series today (ahead of 2. Réti, 3. Paul Johner, including also Bogoljubov, Spielmann, Colle), **Spa, Belgium 1926, 1st** with Sir George Thomas (above Tartakower, Koltanowski, Dunkelblum), **Brünn (Brno) 1928, 1st** with Réti (ahead of 3. Kmoch, 4.-5. Opocensky, Marshall, 6. Lajos Steiner, 7. Engel, 8. Kostic, etc.); **Swinemünde** (today: Świnoujście) **1930 1st** (ahead of Flohr); Margate-II (Premier Reserves Section A) 1939, 1st.

In a match, he beat Richard Reti 5½-2½ in 1925. A participant in the Olympiad of 1930 with a team bronze medal.

Perhaps his most famous game is his loss to Nimzowitsch at [Copenhagen](#) 1923 in the [Immortal Zugzwang Game](#). He also played many beautiful games though, one of them being his win against Grünfeld at [Carlsbad](#) 1929, which won a brilliancy prize. In the same tournament he also won against Capablanca. The former World Champion lost a piece in the opening but did not resign, which usually happens in such cases in grandmaster games, but to no avail, this disadvantage being too much even for a player of his class.

At the age of 73, in 1969, Sämisch played a strong international tournament *in memoriam* of [Adolf Anderssen](#) in [Büsum](#), Germany, and another tournament, the Nordic Championship in [Linköping](#), Sweden, but lost all games in both events (fifteen in the former and thirteen in the latter) on time!!

He was mostly known for his contribution to the opening theory of the King's Indian and Nimzo-Indian openings.



Sources: <http://www.chessnc.com/biography/person-332.html> (CNC)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friedrich_S%C3%A4misch (Wikipedia)
<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=23751> (Chessgames)