

# Montevideo (unregular)

1921 **Grau**

**1° Torneo Sudamericano at Montevideo** in Carrasco (Paso de Carrasco)  
<http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/sa1921mv.htm>

1925 **Palau** (Grau South-American sub-champion)

**2° Torneo Sudamericano at Montevideo** in Carrasco (Paso de Carrasco)  
<http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/sa1925mv.htm>

1938 **Alekhine**

**8° Torneo Sudamericano at Montevideo** in Carrasco (Paso de Carrasco)  
<http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/sa1938mv.htm>

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montevideo\\_1938\\_chess\\_tournament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montevideo_1938_chess_tournament)

## South American Championships

N	Ano	Local	Vencedor	
1	1921	*Montevideo	Roberto Grau	ARG
2	1925	*Montevideo	Luis Palau	ARG
3	1928	Mar del Plata	Roberto Grau	ARG
4	1934	Mar del Plata	A. Schwartzman	ARG
5	1934	Buenos Aires	Luis Piazzini	ARG
6	1936	Mar del Plata	Isaias Pleci	ARG
7	1937	São Paulo	Rodrigo Flores	CHI
8	1938	*Montevideo	Alexander Alekhine	FRA
9	1938	Rio de Janeiro	Virgílio Fenoglio	ARG

\* **Carrasco** is a *barrio* (neighbourhood or district) in [Montevideo](#), Uruguay

→ For full survey: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South\\_American\\_Chess\\_Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_American_Chess_Championship)

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## Major international invitation tournaments in Montevideo

1939 **Millington Drake Tournament**, played for the benefit of the Polish Red Cross: **Alexander Alekhine**, *reigning World Champion*, **won with a perfect score of 7/7**, ahead of 2. Harry Golombek, 3. Vera Menchik, *reigning Women's World Champion*, round robin of 8 players, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 21 till 29 September 1939.

Tournament "Millington Drake" 71  
 (To the benefit of the Polish Red Cross) Montevideo, 21-29/9/1939

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Points	Place
Alekhine	X	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	I
Golombek	0	X	½	1	1	1	1	1	5½	II
Vera Menchik	0	½	X	1	1	1	½	1	5	III
Hounie Pizgora	0	0	0	X	½	1	½	1	3	4
Olivero	0	0	0	½	X	½	½	1	2½	5-7
Luis Cabral	0	0	0	0	½	X	1	1	2½	5-7
Wood	0	0	½	½	½	0	X	1	2½	5-7
Gulla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	8

Here are all my games from this tournament

Handwritten crosstable by Alekhine: <http://alekhine-nb.blogspot.ch/2013/09/queen-sacrifice-in-montevideo.html#/2013/09/queen-sacrifice-in-montevideo.html>

1941 **Eliskases** (12 players):

[https://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Montevideo\\_1941/28660](https://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Montevideo_1941/28660)

1949 **Cincuentenario Club Nacional de Fútbol: Bolbochan** (10 players):

<http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/ti1949mv.htm>

1953 **Gligoric** (ahead of Trifunovic, 10 players, all stars from South America missing):

[http://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Montevideo\\_1953/25031](http://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Montevideo_1953/25031)

## 1954 **Gran Torneo Internacional UNESCO**

1. **Letelier Martner (Chile)**

2./3. **Bernstein (Fra), Najdorf (Arg), 4. Toran Albero (Esp), 5=. Trompowsky (Bra),**

including the Swedish champion in 1954, Bengt-Eric Horberg, **Lorenzo Bauzá**, champion of Uruguay in 1945, 1950, 1951, 1954 and 1955, and Ronald Cantero, national champion of Paraguay in 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1961, 1962 and 1965, all finishing as joint 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> out of 18 participants (!), among them eight from the hosting nation Uruguay as it was common in those years (large fields of participants, some top competitors mixed with local players, of course not fully comparable with the so-called supertournaments of modern type in much smaller fields - but important for the development of chess).

<http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/ti1954mv.htm> (Tournament table)

<http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/foto05...> (Picture of all Participants)

**Letelier won the Gran Torneo Internacional Unesco in 1954**, supposed to be the strongest / largest closed international chess tournament in Montevideo after WWII, organized as a special event during the campaign of the UNESCO Montevideo resolution in support of the Esperanto language: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte...> (Resolution)

*René Letelier beat both GMs, Najdorf and Bernstein!!*

*Nevertheless he had to wait until 1960 to be awarded the International Master title.*

<https://www.fenach.cl/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=55> (Biography)

Also at Montevideo UNESCO 1954, septuagenarian Ossip Bernstein showed a great game and victory over Miguel Najdorf:

[O Bernstein vs Najdorf, 1954](#) (Game to replay in Chessgames)

1956 **Torneio Internacional Parque Hotel: Najdorf** (ahead of Eliskases,

all 12 players living in South America): <http://www.brasilbase.pro.br/ti1956mv.htm>

1959 **Wexler** (6 players, no big stars)

1961 **Rossetto** (10 players, no big stars)

1976 **Parque Hotel: Trois** (14 players, no big stars)

Most of the tournaments showed at least one prominent foreign players, the strongest and internationally mixed event after World War II held at Montevideo was organised in 1954.

Three South American Championships were played in the years 1921, 1925, and 1938. Plus some further, minor and mostly continental tournaments (Invitation as well as Open).

→ Uruguayan national champions: <http://fuaiedrez.tripod.com/campeones.htm>

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