

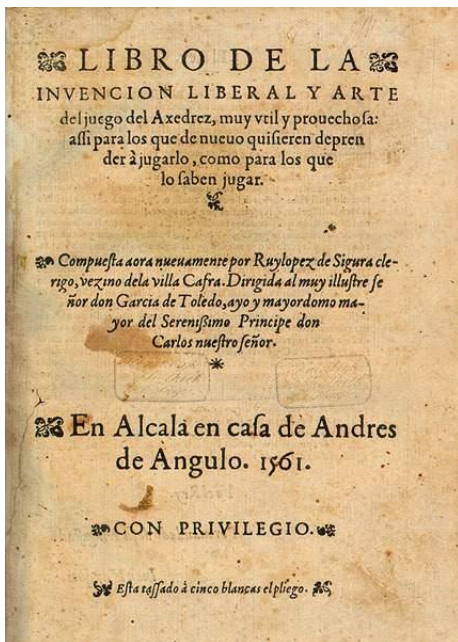
Madrid earlier tournaments

The capital of Spain hosted an annual series of international supertournaments in the 1990s, the *Magistral de Madrid 1992 – 1998*, the winners were 1992 **Karpov**, 1993 **Kramnik** (tie-break), 1994 **Judit Polgar**, 1995 **Korchnoi**, at age of 64, 1996 **Topalov** (tie-break), 1997 **Topalov** (after Armageddon play-off vs. Shirov), and 1998 **Anand**; as well as the third match *Soviet Union vs. Rest of the World (Rapid) in 1988*, involving most of the strongest players of the world at that time, the oldest contestant, **Viktor Korchnoi** emerged as individual best on tie-break, alongside with then World Champion **Garry Kasparov**, both unbeaten, and **Mikhail Gurevich**, a top ten ranked player from 1988 to 1991. The line-up included amongst others also Portisch, Ljubojevic, Andersson, Speelman, and Beliavsky). **This was also one of the first big Rapid events in chess history!**

Prior to that, some unregular organised invitation tournaments have been played in Madrid already, the winners were **Koltanowski**, **Keres**, **Alekhine**, **Prins**, **Darga**, **Pérez**, **Pomar**, **Milic**, **Robatsch**, and **Karpov** → see on the following pages, and prominent *simultaneous exhibition* has been held, for instance **Capablanca** gave a simul in 1920, **Lasker** in 1921, **Alekhine** in 1923, then both, **Alekhine** and **Capablanca** in 1935 again, later **Alekhine** several times during World War II.

→ Compare separate pdf-abstracts: *Magistral de Madrid*; and *World vs. Soviet Union (Rapid)*

But competitive chess in Madrid has a longer **history going back to 1575**, with several games played at the court of the Spanish King Phillip II. It is considered to be the first international master-level tournament in the chess history, in which Leonardo and Boi took part against Lopez and Seron and won most of them. The event remained a singular event, that's why mostly London 1851 (played in a knock-out format) is named as first international tournament of modern times.



title page

Ruy López de Segura López is known as much for his play as for his influential book *Libro de la invencion liberal y arte del juego del axedrez* (translation: *Book of the liberal invention and art of the game of chess*), one of the first books published about modern chess in Europe. It was written by the Spanish priest in 1561.

The first documented international master-level chess tournament was held in Madrid in 1575, and was *not won by Ruy López*, but by the Italian **Leonardo di Bona da Cutri**.

Read more: <https://www.chess.com/blog/kurtgodden/ruy-loacuteppez-on-the-ruy-loacuteppez>

<http://www.thechesspedia.com/blog-post/madrid/>

<https://www.chess.com/blog/kurtgodden/ruy-loacuteppez-on-the-ruy-loacuteppez>

EARLIER CHESS TOURNAMENTS IN MADRID

Jan van Reek (1945 – 2015, founder of www.endgame.nl, which is no longer available)

<http://www.kwabc.org/index.php/17-latest-news-and-reports/235-in-memoriam-jan-van-reek>
<http://www.rebel.nl/vanreek.htm>; <https://chessprogramming.wikispaces.com/Jan+van+Reek>

→ **Torneos de ajedrez en España:** <http://historiadelaajedrezespanol.es/torneos.htm>

International chess tournaments in Madrid were inspired by the great talent of the child prodigy Arturo Pomar Salamanca. He participated in Madrid 1943 as a 12-years-old. Paul Keres won, but Pomar did well at the end. In 1951, Prins started by a score of 10/10 and triumphed. Pomar was less successful – but won the tournament of 1959 (with Perez Perez). Darga won in 1957.



Pomar Salamanca - Fuentes in 1943
Probably, his mother accompanied the boy



Arturo Pomar Salamanca in 1951



Lodewijk Prins





Arturo Pomar Salamanca in 1951

The real successes of Pomar Salamanca began at the end of the fifties. He qualified for the Zonal in Madrid 1960. The event ended tragically for Jan Hein Donner. The Gran Torneo of 1973 did not happen in Palma de Mallarco but in Madrid's Castellana Hilton. Three Soviet players dominated the event, Karpov won ahead of Tukmakov. Pomar Salamanca neared the end of his chess career.



Madrid 1960



Castellana Hilton, playing hall 1973

Winners in Madrid, earlier international invitation tournaments (played in unregular intervals)

- 1936 Koltanowski**, then Belgium (ahead of 2./3. Oscar Blum and Alexander Koblenz, 8 players)
- 1943 Keres** (*Alekhine* was commentator, other players including child prodigy Pomar Salamanca)
- 1945 Alekhine** (minor tournament, all other players were from Spain, including Pomar Salamanca)
- 1951 Prins** (including H. Steiner, Pilnik, Bernstein, Canal, Grob, Toran Albero, Pomar Salamanca, 18 players). Full standings see below (**Prins started with an incredible 10 out of 10 streak!**)
- 1957 Darga** (Pomar Salamanca, Unzicker, O'Kelly, Rossolimo, Perez Perez, and others)
- 1959 Pérez** (first on tie-break), **Pomar** (Rellstab, Golombek, Prins, Paoli, Bernstein, and others)
- 1960 Zonal - Pomar Salamanca, Portisch, Gligoric and Donner:**
<http://www.thechesslibrary.com/files/1960Madrid.htm>
- 1960 Zonal Playoff - Donner failed:** <http://www.thechesslibrary.com/files/1960MadridPO.htm>
- 1961 Borislav Milić** (first on tie-break), **Karl Robatsch** (O'Kelly, Pirc, Sämisch, and others)
- 1971 18th Clare Benedict Chess Cup** (Six nations team event, The Netherlands won, players incl. Timman, Ree, Keene, Botterill, Pomar, Toran, Medina, Hecht, Robatsch, Dückstein, or Lombard)
- 1973 Karpov** (after the tournament, he was awarded the Chess Oscar 1973, Karpov's first Oscar), 2. Tukmakov, 3. Furman, 3./4. Hort, Uhlmann (16 participants, including Pomar Salamanca)

➔ **1992 – 1998 Magistral de Madrid supertournament series, see separate pdf**

Madrid 1951

Lodewijk Prins starting by a score of 10/10 (!) at Madrid international tournament in 1951:

http://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Madrid_1951,

Prins triumphed outright, but also lost four games

1	Prins, Lodewijk	X	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	½	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	12.5
2	Steiner, Herman	1	X	½	½	0	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	1	½	0	1	1	1	1	11.5
3	Pilnik, Herman	1	½	X	0	½	½	½	0	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	½	1	1	1	11.5
4	Bernstein, Ossip	0	½	1	X	½	½	0	½	1	1	1	1	0	½	1	1	1	1	1	11.5
5	Toran Albero, Roman	0	1	½	½	X	0	1	½	½	1	½	1	0	½	1	½	1	1	1	10.5
6	Llado Lumbea, Jaime	1	½	½	½	1	X	½	0	½	0	0	0	1	1	½	1	1	1	1	10
7	Canal, Esteban	0	0	½	1	0	½	X	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	10
8	Medina Garcia, Antonio Angel	0	½	1	½	½	1	½	X	½	1	½	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	9
9	Giustolisi, Alberto Mario	0	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	X	½	½	1	½	1	1	0	½	1	1	9
10	Enevoldsen, Jens	0	0	½	0	0	1	½	0	½	X	1	1	1	1	½	1	0	1	1	9
11	Grob, Henry	½	½	0	0	½	1	½	½	½	0	X	½	½	1	½	½	1	1	1	9
12	Fuentes, Juan Manuel	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	½	X	1	½	1	1	1	1	1	8
13	Perez Perez, Francisco Jose	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	½	0	½	0	X	1	½	1	1	0	1	7.5
14	Sanz Aguado, Jose	1	½	0	½	½	0	0	1	0	0	0	½	0	X	1	½	1	1	1	7.5
15	Pomar Salamanca, Arturo	0	1	0	0	0	½	0	1	0	½	½	0	½	0	X	1	½	½	1	6
16	Tramoyeres, P	0	0	½	0	½	0	0	0	1	0	½	0	0	½	0	X	1	1	1	5
17	Moura, J	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	1	0	0	0	0	½	0	X	1	1	3
18	Torrens, O	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	½	0	0	X	2.5

<https://web.archive.org/web/20141022215349/http://www.rogerpaige.webspace.virginmedia.com/Tables%2022.htm>

LODEWIJK PRINS

(born Jan-27-1913, died Nov-11-1999, 86 years old) Netherlands

Lodewijk Prins was born in Amsterdam. Awarded the IM title in 1950 at ist title inauguration, was made an International Arbiter in 1960, and was awarded the Emeritus GM title in 1982. He was Dutch champion in 1965. His best tournament result was **1st at Madrid in 1951**.

He organized Amsterdam International 1950, Amsterdam Olympiad 1954 and Amsterdam Candidates tournament 1956. Prins was an arbiter and an endgames judge, and in his later years he had a problems column, organizing yearly composing competitions. Lodewijk Prins also was a well respected writer and coauthored several chess books with [Max Euwe](#).

http://www.chessgames.com/player/lodewijk_prins.html (Chessgames)

2016, published in: <http://www.chessdiagonals.ch/>