

Rostov-on-Don

In 1896, **Wilhelm Steinitz** played a famous match with **Emmanuel Schiffers** at Rostov-on-Don, winning 6.5-4.5. A close match that had Schiffers leading four games to three. Steinitz won three of the last four games to take the match (6 wins, 4 losses, 1 draw) <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=79941>

Savielly Tartakower, leading Polish and French Chess master, was born on 22 Feb 1887 in [Rostov-on-Don](#), Russia, to Austrian citizens of Jewish origin.

Igor Bondarevsky, was born in Rostov-on-Don on 12 May 1913. He was one of the 'Glorious 27' the first chess players to be awarded the title of International Grandmaster by FIDE in 1950.

Rostov-on-Don ([Russian](#): Ростов-на-Дону́, [tr.](#) *Rostov-na-Donu*); is a port [city](#) and the [administrative center](#) of [Rostov Oblast](#) and the [Southern Federal District](#) of [Russia](#). It lies in the southeastern part of the [East European Plain](#) on the [Don River](#), 32 kilometers (20 miles) from the [Sea of Azov](#).

In 1806, it was officially renamed Rostov-on-Don. During the 19th century, due to its river connections with Russia's interior, Rostov developed into a major trade center and communications hub. A [railway](#) connection with [Kharkiv](#) was completed in 1870, with further links following in 1871 to [Voronezh](#) and in 1875 to [Vladikavkaz](#).

Concurrent with improvements in communications, heavy industry developed. [Coal](#) from the [Donets Basin](#) and [iron ore](#) from [Krivoy Rog](#) supported the establishment of an [iron foundry](#) in 1846. In 1859, the production of [pumps](#) and [steam boilers](#) began. Industrial growth was accompanied by a rapid increase in population, with 119,500 residents registered in Rostov by the end of the nineteenth century along with approximately 140 industrial businesses. The harbor was one of the largest trade hubs in southern Russia, especially for the export of [wheat](#), [timber](#), and [iron ore](#).

In 1779, Rostov-on-Don became associated with a settlement of [Armenian](#) refugees from the [Crimea](#) at [Nakhichevan-on-Don](#). The two settlements were separated by a field of wheat. In 1928, the two towns were merged. The former town border lies beneath the Teatralnaya Square of central Rostov-on-Don. By 1928, following the incorporation of the hitherto neighboring city of Nakhichevan-on-Don, Rostov had become the third largest city in Russia.

In the early 20th century, epidemics of [cholera](#) during the summer months were not uncommon. During the [Russian Civil War](#), the [Whites](#) and the [Reds](#) contested Rostov-on-Don, then the most heavily industrialized city of South Russia. The [Bolsheviks](#) demolished two of Rostov-on-Don's principal landmarks: St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and St. George Cathedral.

During [World War II](#), German forces occupied Rostov-on-Don, at first for seven days from November 21, 1941 after attacks by the German First Panzer Army in the [Battle of Rostov](#) and then for seven months from July 24, 1942 to February 14, 1943. The town was of strategic importance as a railway junction and a river port accessing the [Caucasus](#), a region rich in oil and minerals. It took ten years to restore the city from the damage during World War II.

27,000 Jews and Soviet civilians were massacred by the German military on August 11 and August 12, 1942 in Rostov-on-Don on a site called [Zmievsкая Balka](#). The city has suffered an upsurge in crime during the early 21st century, being listed as the most dangerous city in [Europe](#) with rankings based on composite crime indices. A major contributor to this phenomenon has been the proximity of the city to the nearby [conflict](#) in the [Donbass](#).

The [Rostov Arena](#), a [association football](#) stadium in [Rostov-on-Don](#), [Russia](#), is one of the venues for the [2018 FIFA World Cup](#). It will have a capacity of 45,000 spectators. (Source: Wikipedia)

Rostov-on-Don (2nd Chigorin Memorial) 1961

Date	Type	Elo Average	Games	Rounds
1961	Tourn		66	11

https://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Rostov_1961/25664

This tournament has been followed by the **Chigorin Memorial series**, held mainly at Sochi 1963 – 1990 as a closed international invitation, and since 1993 organised at St. Petersburg, now in open format.

Name	ELO	Points
 GM Taimanov, Mark E		8.0
 IM Tarasov, Vitaly Georgievich		7.5
 IM Nezhmetdinov, Rashid		7.5
 GM Polugaevsky, Lev		6.5
Soviet Master Khodos, German L		5.5
 GM Circic, Dragoljub M		5.5
 FM Drozd, Ryszard		5.0
 IM Liebert, Heinz		5.0
Bulgarian Master Bobekov, R.		5.0
 GM Bondarevsky, Igor		4.5
Estrada Degrandi, Walter		3.0
Ujtelky, Maximilian		3.0

Rostov-on-Don (Bondarevsky Memorial) 1993

Date Type Elo Average Games Rounds
 May, 1993 Tourn 2578 66 11

https://www.365chess.com/tournaments/Rostov_1993/16920

Name	ELO	Points
 GM Tiviakov, Sergei	2575	7.5
 GM Epishin, Vladimir	2620	7.0
 GM Psakhis, Lev	2575	7.0
 GM Dolmatov, Sergey	2615	6.5
 GM Smirin, Ilia	2590	6.5
 GM Vaganian, Rafael A	2615	5.5
 GM Tukmakov, Vladimir B	2605	5.5
 GM Razuvaev, Yuri S	2525	5.5
 GM Oll, Lembit	2585	5.0
 GM Smyslov, Vassily (at age or 72!)	2530	4.0
 GM Lputian, Smbat G	2610	3.0
 GM Pushkov, Nikolai	2485	3.0

Rostov-on-Don, Russia (Bondarevsky Memorial) 1993, closed round robin, 12 players, parallel there was an → **Memorial Open** (incl. Akopian, Dreev, Kuzmin, Tseshkovsky, or young Svidler). **Children and the widow of Igor Bondarevsky** were invited guests of honour at the Memorial!

Since 2010, the **Bondarevsky Memorial** has been revitalized in **Rostov-on-Don** under various formats at a moderate level of strength:

Igor Kovalenko won the **Bondarevsky Memorial Invitation Tournament in December 2010** with 7.5/10 one point clear of Viacheslav Zakhartsov who was outright runner-up (11 players, all coming either from RUS, UKR, or BLR, closed round robin in classical chess).

FIDE President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov opened the Bondarevsky Memorial 2010 personally.

<http://www.fide.com/component/content/article/1-fide-news/4950-fide-president-opened-bondarevsky-memorial-in-rostov-rus.html> (Opening Ceremony)

https://ratings.fide.com/tournament_report.phtml?event16=55829&t=0 (Standings)

Selection of further **Bondarevsky Memorial** Tournaments (Open and / or Rapid) in **Rostov-on-Don**, dedicated to [Igor Bondarevsky](#) (born in Rostov-on-Don in 1913, died in 1979)

2013, July

A Rapid tournament dedicated to the memory of legendary Grandmaster Igor Bondarevsky was held on 19-20th July 2013 at the VertolExpo Congress & Exhibition Centre in Rostov-on-Don, Russia.

129 players competed for the prize fund of 11,800 EUR. There were 15 regular awards, and also prizes for women, veterans and juniors.

The event was completed over 11 rounds of swiss pairings with the rapid time control of 15'+10". The results were valid for the Rapid Grand Prix Cup of Russia.

Grandmasters Ivan Popov, Vladimir Belous, Alexander Riazantsev, and Sanan Sjugirov have shared the first place with 8,5/11 points each. **Ivan Popov** took the winner's trophy on best Buchholz score.

<http://www.chessdom.com/bondarevsky-memorial-in-rostov-on-don/>

2013, December

GM Vladimir Belous with a perfect score in the Bondarevsky Memorial (Open)!

The [Rostov Region Chess Federation](#) organized another Bondarevsky Memorial from 30th November to 8th December 2013 to mark 100 years since the birth of the legendary Grandmaster.

This Memorial tournament in classical chess was held in a swiss system, at the Chekhov chess club in Rostov-on-Don, Russia. 71 players competed, among them two GMs and a few IMs.

Grandmaster [Vladimir Belous](#) convincingly won the tournament with a perfect 9/9 score! The nearest followers finished on 6,5 points.

<http://www.chessdom.com/gm-vladimir-belous-with-perfect-score-in-bondarevsky-memorial/>

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