

Convekta - Boris Spassky 10th World Champion CD illustrated review v5.11.2006

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<http://www.jovanpetronic.com>

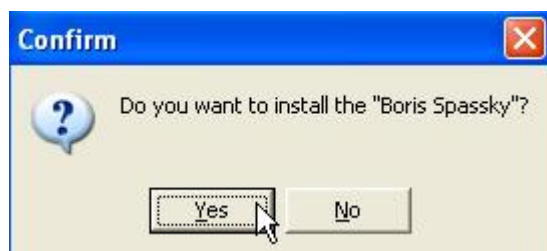
Test machine: Intel® Celeron™ CPU, 1100 MHz, 120 MB of RAM, 14 GB HD.

As part of it's "Great Players Game Collections" series, Convekta continues to honor chess legends. This CD is dedicated to the living legend Grandmaster Boris Spassky, former World Chess Champion.

A fully loaded CD is inside the DVD-like box package, along with a 52-page manual in English, a note about the differences between this CD and the version inside the "Great Players Game Collections" package, and Convekta's 32-page chess catalogue.

Comprehensive installation overview

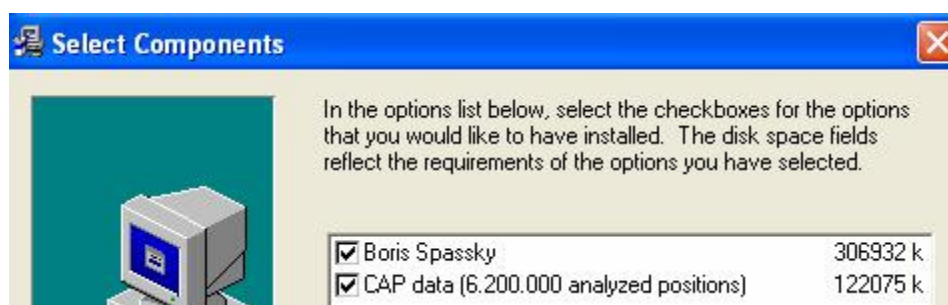
After inserting the CD, you'll be prompted:



I recommend choosing "Yes".

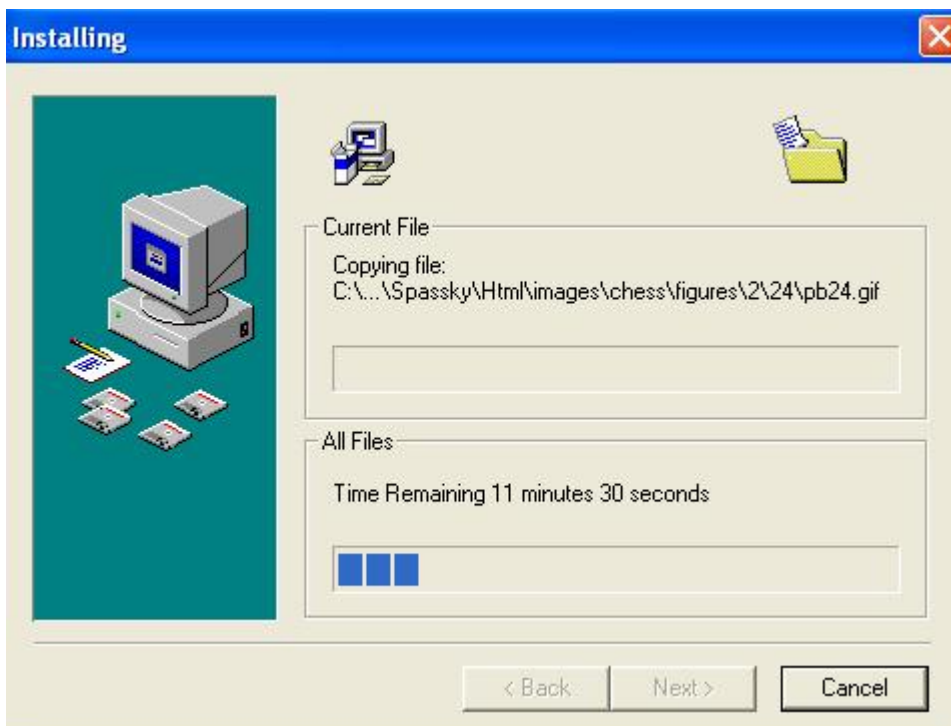
Various languages can be chosen during the installation procedure: US English, French, Spanish, Italian, German and Russian.

The limited screenshot below appears after a few seconds.



CAP data is an amazing project, and a very useful add-on.

An otherwise fast installation procedure may take a few more minutes, if using an older machine, such as I am now:



Registering your product gives you fast access to Convekta's online support.

A screenshot of a registration form titled 'Boris Spassky'. The form contains several input fields and dropdown menus. The fields are: 'First name' (marked with a red asterisk), 'Second name' (marked with a red asterisk), 'Street Address', 'City', 'State', 'ZIP (postal code)', 'Country' (dropdown menu), 'E-mail' (marked with a red asterisk), 'Phone', 'Fax', 'Birthday: Day' (dropdown menu), 'Month' (dropdown menu), 'Serial number', and 'Where did you buy the product'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled 'I would like to receive announcements about new versions and upgrades' which is checked. Below the checkbox are three buttons: 'Proxy...', 'Send', and 'Later'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the 'Send' button.

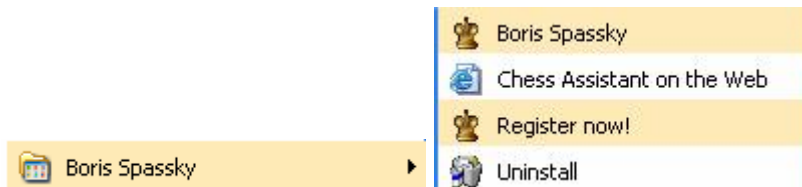
A full product installation took up around 262 megabytes of disk space only.

What else can be found on this CD? Below is a screenshot of its contents:

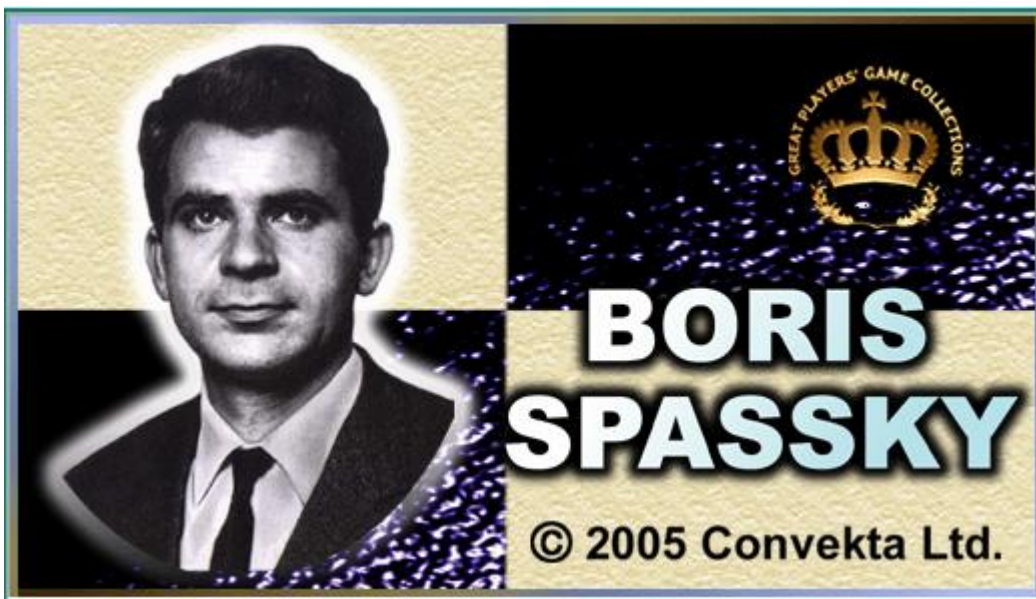
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│   ├── [English-HTML]
│   └── [Spanish-HTML]
├── [Demo]
│   ├── [Advanced]
│   ├── [Blunders]
│   ├── [CA_Light]
│   ├── [Ct-Art]
│   ├── [End1]
│   ├── [End2]
│   ├── [Middle2]
│   ├── [MiddleGa]
│   ├── [Strategy]
│   ├── [Common]
│   └── [Spassky.MM]
│       └── [MMc]
├── [eng]
├── [esp]
├── [fra]
├── [ger]
├── [ita]
├── [rus]
├── [Books]
├── [CAP]
├── [CQL]
│   ├── [common]
│   ├── [eng]
│   │   └── [Charact]
│   ├── [esp]
│   ├── [fra]
│   ├── [ger]
│   ├── [ita]
│   └── [rus]
│       └── [Charact]
├── [DTree]
├── [Fonts]
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│   │   │   │   ├── [1]
│   │   │   │   ├── [2]
│   │   │   │   └── [4]
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│   │   │       ├── [1]
│   │   │       │   ├── [14]
│   │   │       │   ├── [18]
│   │   │       │   ├── [24]
│   │   │       │   ├── [32]
│   │   │       │   ├── [40]
│   │   │       │   ├── [48]
│   │   │       │   ├── [56]
│   │   │       │   ├── [68]
│   │   │       │   └── [80]
│   │   │       └── [2]
│   │   │           ├── [14]
│   │   │           ├── [18]
│   │   │           ├── [24]
│   │   │           ├── [32]
│   │   │           ├── [40]
│   │   │           ├── [48]
│   │   │           ├── [56]
│   │   │           ├── [68]
│   │   │           └── [80]
│   │   │       └── [4]
│   │   │           ├── [14]
│   │   │           ├── [18]
│   │   │           ├── [24]
│   │   │           ├── [32]
│   │   │           ├── [40]
│   │   │           ├── [48]
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│   │   ├── [CBases]
│   │   ├── [Fonts]
│   │   ├── [NSCDDesktop]
│   │   └── [NSSounds]
│   ├── [eng]
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│   ├── [fra]
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│   └── [CELLS]
```



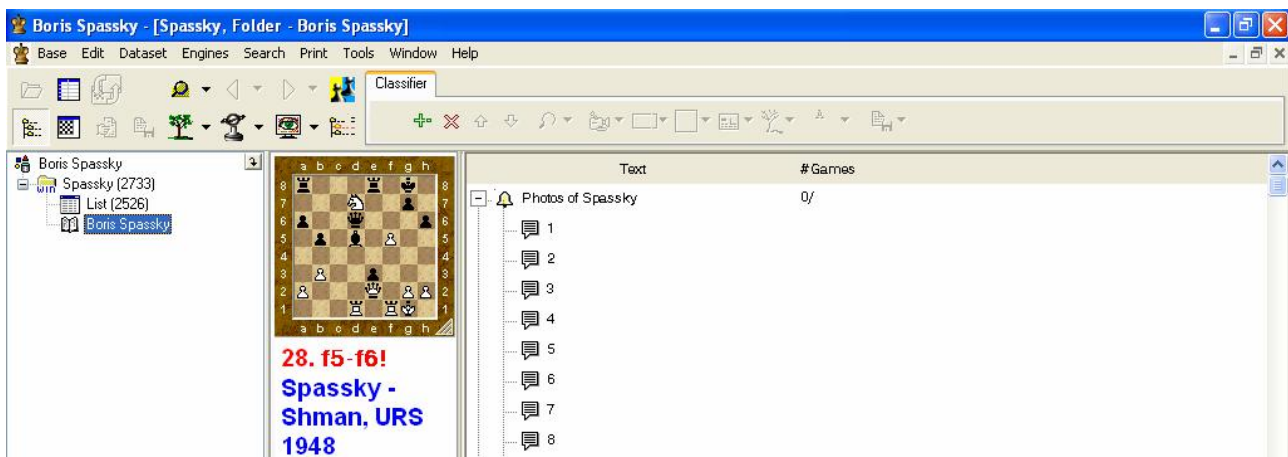
A new icon of Boris Spassky 1.00 (build 100) will be available on your desktop:
The CD can be removed now. PC restart is not required.



A beautifully designed splash screen appears:



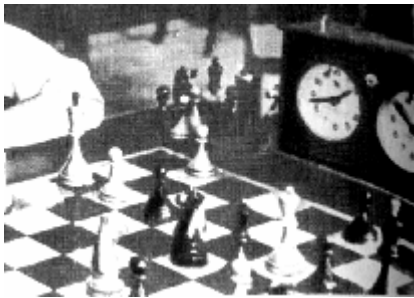
Below is a limited screenshot of the “newborn”:



At <http://www.convekta.com/downloads.asp>, Convekta offers various free program updates and patches. Boris Spassky CD needs no patching up.

Program overview

50 rare photos of Boris Spassky are available on this CD. Below is a limited screenshot of the young future World Chess Champion in action (2nd photo).



Spassky's chess career is followed from 1948.

1948	6/
Leningrad Junior Ch - Leningrad (Russia)	4 (4)
Ch "Trud" -	1 (1)
Ch URS (1/2 final) - Tallinn (Estonia)	1 (1)

Tournament statistics and match records are followed by (annotated) games. All 2526 of them, to be exact.

[...] 1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♘f6 5.♗c3 g6 6.f4 ♗c6
 [6...♗g4 7.♗b5 ♗bd7 8.♗xd7 ♗xd7 9.♗d3 e5 10.♗f3 ♗xf3
 11.♗xf3 ♗g4?? 12.♗d5 1-0, Korchnoi Viktor - Spassky Boris V , Tallinn 1948 Ch URS (1/2 final) (Juniors)]
 7.♗b5 ♗d7 8.♗xc6 bxc6 9.O-O ♗c7 10.h3 ♗g7 11.♗e3 O-O 12.♗d3 ♗ab8 13.b3 ♗bd8 14.♗ae1 ♗c8 15.f5 ♗d7 16.♗d2 ♗e5?!±/= [16...♗a6!?!±] 17.♗h6 f6 18.♗xg7 ♗xg7 19.♗ce2 g5 20.♗g3 d5 21.exd5 ♗xd5 22.c4 ♗dd8 23.♗e3 ♗f7 24.♗e6 ♗xe6 25.fxe6 ♗ff8 26.♗f5 ♗h8 27.h4?!±/= [27.♗d1!?!±] 27...gxf4 28.♗h6?!± [28.♗h6!? ♗d6 29.♗h3 ♗c5 30.♗h1±/=] 28...♗g8 29.♗e4 ♗g6 30.♗h5 ♗g5 31.♗xh4 ♗dg8?!

You may need to install additional fonts, to view all the master annotations available:

[...] 1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.e3 c5 5.♗xc4 e6 6.O-O a6 7.♗e2 b5 8.♗b3 ♗c6

Ñiàðáreà èääé. Á ýòté ááápòñé ñèñòáìá òàñìòñòòáráú áää ieará èáðú çà +áðíúð: iáðáéé ñáýçáí áíðúáíé iðòèá èçíèèðíááíñé iáðèè d4. Á ýòñ ñèó+ää +áðíúá ñáóó òàçáèèáàòú ãñý íá c6, ñ áíèæíú iðáæáá áñááí íááñíá+èòú òíèèðíáèó á áðòòèóð ñòðáó. Ìñýòñáó òíáú 6. ... a6 è 7. ...b5 ñááèáíú íáñááèðáíáíñ.

Áðíðé iear íáòáéáí íá íáááðíæáíèá iáðá+ñáí íáíðýæáíèý á óáíòðá, òàçáí íá d4 (ñòáçó íá iðíèçáíáèòñý, á òèáóðú òàçáèèáàòúñý ñ ñòáíá ♗b7, ♗d7, ♗c7 èèè ♗b8). Íñá+áðíèíáí, +ðí èó+òáá íáñòí òáðçááíáí ãñý iðè ááíñ ieará èáðú - íá d7 **Krogius**

Master annotations are provided by none other than former World Chess Champion Alexander Khalifman, among others.



12. ♖d5
 [12.f5]
 Black resigned as it appeared to him that he was losing the knight after 12... ♙xf3 13. ♗xf6 ♔e7 14. ♖d5 12... ♙xf3 13. ♗xf6 ♔e7 14. ♖d5 [however, Black had a paradoxical possibility of 12... ♗d8 that Spassky failed to notice. After 13. ♙xg4 (13. ♗xf6 ♙h4 14.g3 ♙xf6 15. ♙b3±) 13... ♗xg4 14.h3 ♗h6 15.fxe5 dxe5 16. ♗g5± Black would have been in trouble but it was still possible for him to continue fighting.]

Grandmaster Khalifman annotates approximately 400 games!

Career overview ends with twelve annotated games that Spassky played at the French Team Championship in 2002.



Main line

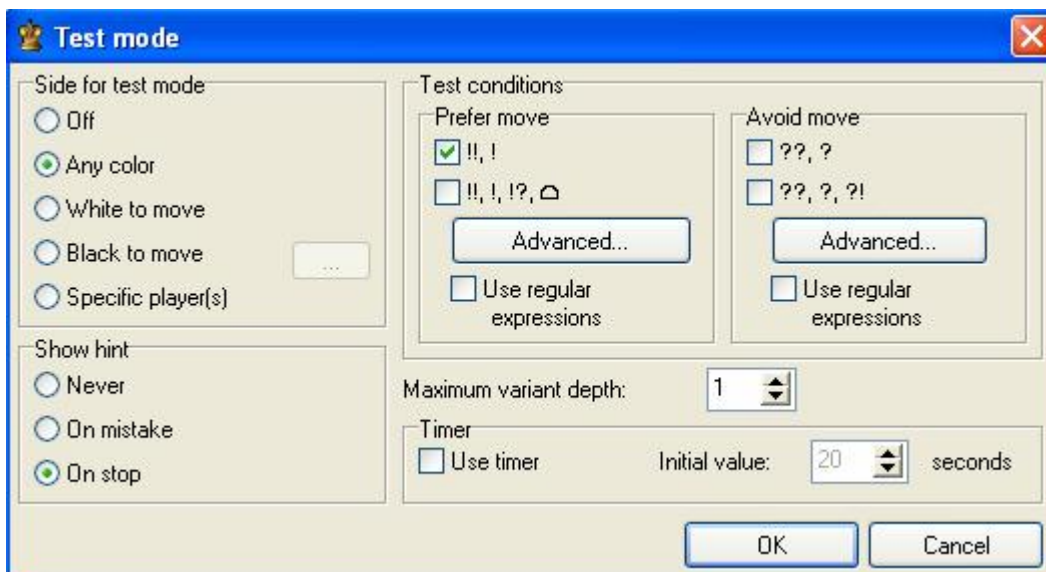
Game header

Header	Comments
White	Spassky Boris V (FRA)
Black	Eliet Nicolas (FRA)
Result	1:0
ECO	C41
Date	2002
Site	France
Remark	
Event	Ch France (team) 2002
Round	10

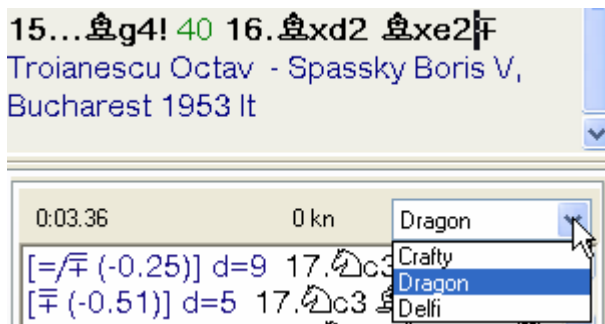
The program offers even more, in a section called “Play like Spassky”!

[-] 📁 Play like Spassky	183/
[-] 📁 Middlegame	169/
📁 Attack onto the king	41 (41)
📁 Combination	23 (23)
📁 Tactical strikes	30 (30)
📁 Traps	1 (1)
📁 Positional sacrifice	28 (28)
📁 Breakthrough	13 (13)
📁 Counter attack	3 (3)
📁 Defense	4 (4)
📁 Exploiting an advantage in development	
📁 Maneuvers	7 (7)
📁 Exchange	9 (9)
📁 Open file	7 (7)
📁 Transposition into an endgame	2 (2)
[-] 📁 Endgame	14/
📁 Positional sacrifice	4 (4)
📁 Using a passed pawn	1 (1)
📁 Principle of the two weaknesses	6 (6)
📁 Two bishops advantage	3 (3)

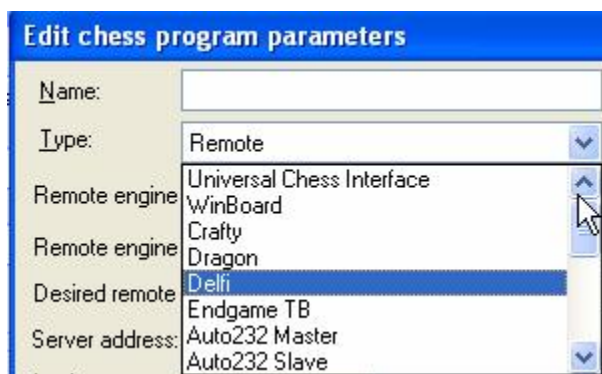
There are 183 selected quiz positions, with multiple questions, sorted by various chess motifs. The Test mode offers many options:



If you're the suspicious type, Convekta's Boris Spassky CD interface provides Dragon, Crafty and Delfi chess engines to challenge its master evaluations.



You have an option to add additional engines, too:



The analysis included go far beyond opening theory:

30.g3 h5 31.♖e2 h4 32.♗f3 ♖e7!
[32...h3 33.♗g4 ♖g1 34.♗xh3 ♖xf2 35.♖d2!+-;
32...g5 33.♗g2 g4 34.♗xh2 h3 35.f3 f5 36.e4 ♖e7
(36...a6 37.a4 ♖e7 38.e5 (38.♖e3 ♗d6 39.♖d4! ♖e7
40.♗g1 axb5 41.axb5 ♗d7 42.♗f1 ♗d6 43.exf5 exf5
44.fxg4 fxg4 45.♖g1 ♗d5 46.♖e2 ♖e4 47.b6+-)
38...♗f7 39.♖e3 ♗g6 40.♗g1 axb5 41.axb5 ♗f7
(41...gxf3 42.♗h2 f4 43.gxf4 ♗f5 44.♗xh3 ♖e4 45.
♖d2 ♗d3 46.♗g3 ♖e2 47.♖e1!+-) 42.♗f2 ♗g6
43.♗f1 ♗h5 (43...gxf3 44.♖g1+-) 44.♖g1 ♗g5 45.
♖h2 ♗g6 46.♖e2+-)
37.♖e3 a6 (37...b6 38.fxg4 fxg4 39.e5! ♗f7 40.a4 ♖e7 41.♗
g1 ♖e8 42.♗f1 ♖e7 43.♖g1 ♖e8 44.♖e2 ♗f7 45.♖e3 ♗
g6 46.♗f4 ♗h5 47.♖h2+-) 38.bxa6 bxa6 39.exf5 (39.fxg4
fxg4 40.♗g1 ♗d6 41.♖d4 e5! 42.♖e3 ♗c6 43.a4 ♗d6 44.♗
f1 ♗c6 45.♖g1 ♗d6 46.♖e2 ♗c6 47.♗d3 ♗d7! 48.♗c4 ♗
d6 49.♗b4 ♗c6 50.♗a5 ♗b7=) 39...exf5 40.fxg4 fxg4 41.♗
g1 ♖e6 42.♗f1 ♗d5 43.♖g1 ♖e5 (43...♖e4 44.♖e2 ♗d5
45.♖e3 ♖e5 46.♖h2+-) 44.♖e1! ♗d5 45.♗d2 ♗c4 46.♗
e3 ♗b3 47.♗f4 ♗xa3 48.♗xg4 a5 49.♖c5 ♗b3 50.♗xh3+-]

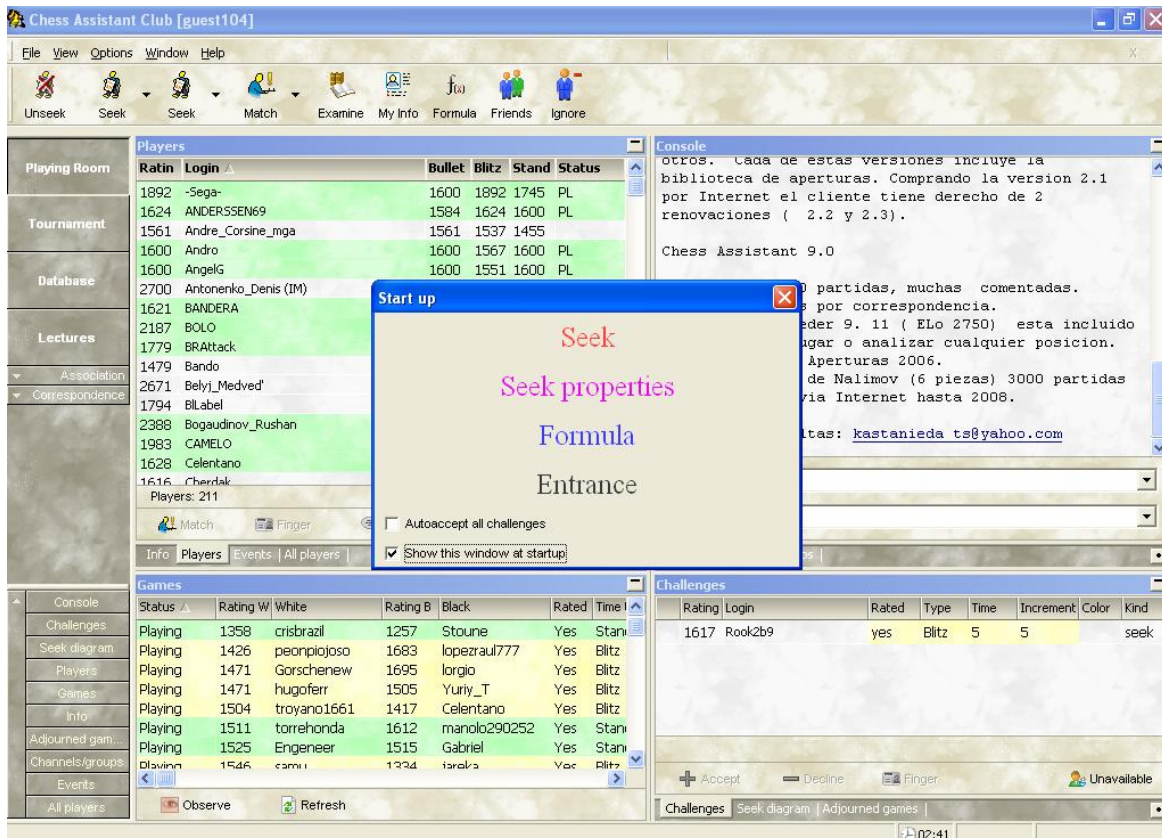
33.♗g2 hxg3 34.fxg3 ♖xg3 35.♗xg3 ♗d6
[35...a6 36.b6 (36.bxa6 bxa6=; 36.a4 axb5 37.♖a3 ♗d7
38.axb5 e5 39.♗f3 ♖e6 40.♖e4 f5 41.♗d3 ♗d5=) 36...♗d6

Move	Q-ty	%	YEAR	ELO	CAP	Compute	Annotations
32...♖e7	0						
32...h3	0						
32...g5	0						
Total	0						

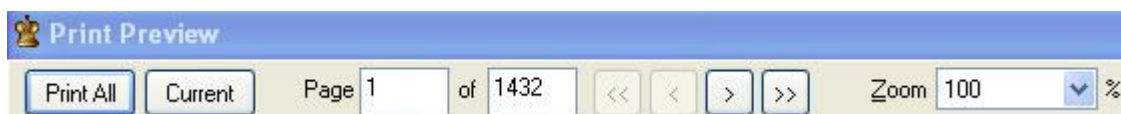
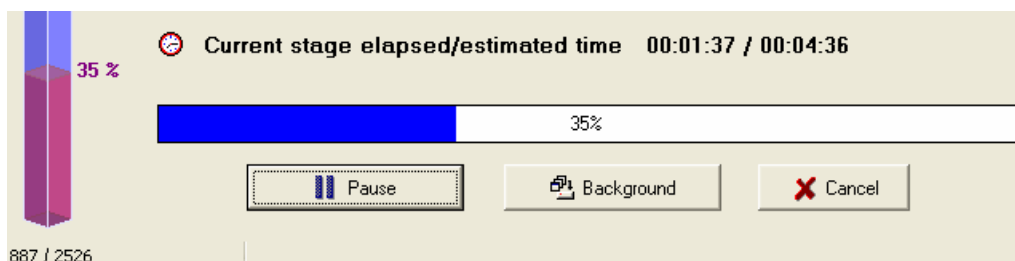
The "Internet Chess Assistant Club" mode:



brings you to Convekta's World of Internet Chess, a free playing zone, tournaments with prizes and lessons.



How much work has been done to produce this CD, I cannot even imagine guessing. A print preview of the available games will uncover an astonishing 1432 (!) two-column pages of annotated material....

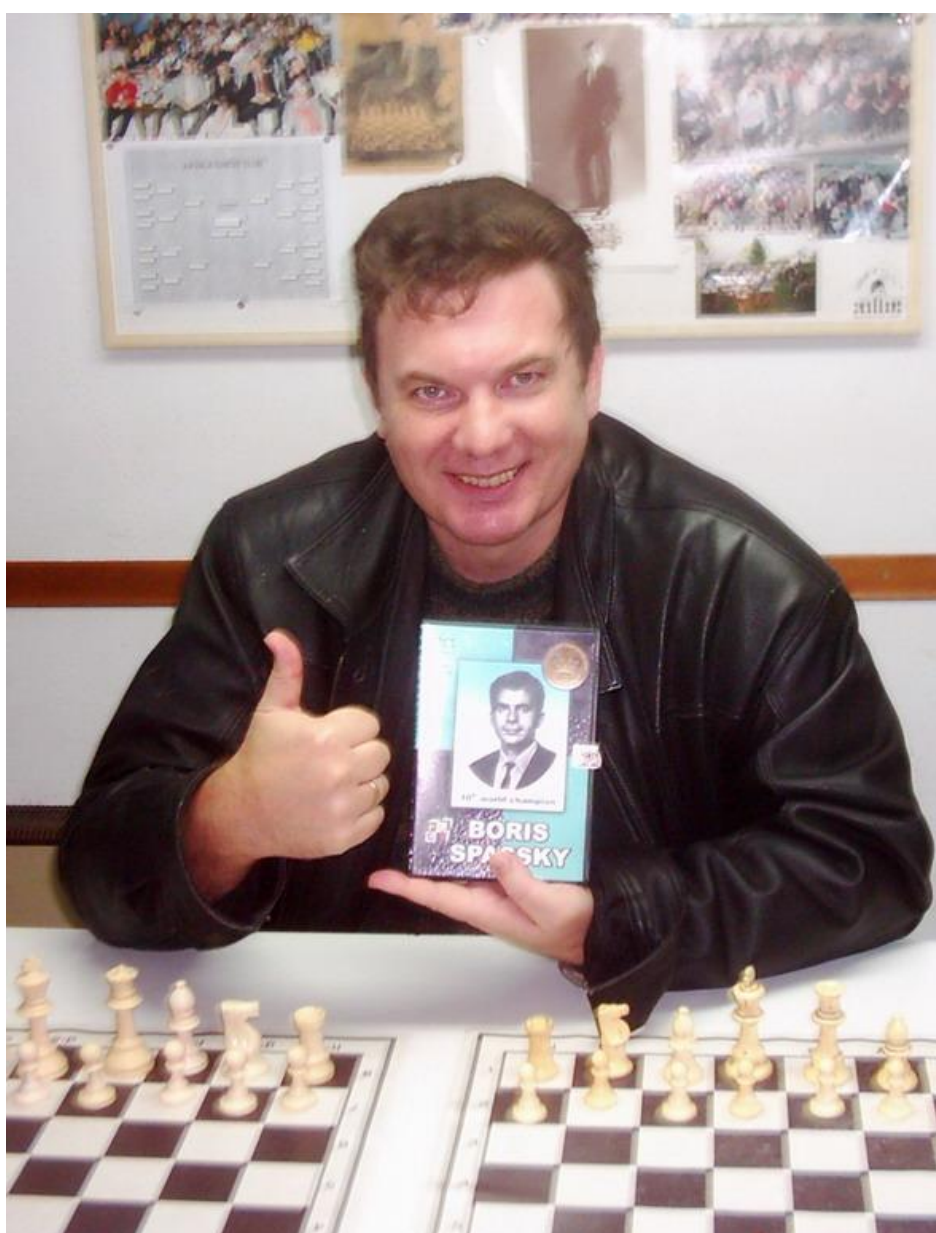


Conclusion

One cannot ask too much more from this product. World Champions career overview with World Champions annotations and a professional interface will provide you with many, many hours of chess enjoyment. The “Play as Spassky” training mode, the “Test mode” and the “Internet Chess Assistant Club” mode are valuable additions that differentiate this program from the “Great Players Game Collections” one.

Grandmaster Boris Spassky played an important positive role in my personal development as a chess player and trainer. The privilege I had, of observing him as a chess player and person, during the “Revenge Match of the Century” with Robert Fischer, Sveti Stefan/Belgrade 1992, has raised even more my respect for the former World Chess Champion and his chess mastery, preserved for generations to come with this CD.

I recommend this CD for all chess fans and professionals alike.



Product link: <http://products.convekta.com/999/2/>