

Chess Boot Camp  
for the  
Busby Grand Masters

**DRAFT LESSON PLAN  
OVERVIEWS  
(Ten Sessions)**

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*Other Chess resources available from the Inter Alia page of  
[www.gpryce.com](http://www.gpryce.com)*

Chess board images produced using Chessmaster and Fritz software

# Training Session 1

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - Tips for a good opening:
    1. Develop your pieces
    2. Get your King safe
    3. Control the centre
    4. Protect your pieces
    5. Knights before bishops
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - Forking out:
    1. Pawn forks
    2. Knight forks
    3. Queen forks
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  1. Knight on e7
  2. Missing f-pawn

# • Training Session 2

- **A. Improve Your Openings**

- *Open Games 1: The Giuoco Piano*

- » 1. e4 e5, 2. Nf3 Nc6, 3. Bc4 Bc5

- **B. Get Tactical**

- Pins and Skewers:

1. Pins with Bishops
2. Pins with Queens and rooks
3. Skewers

- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**

1. Arabian Mate
2. Philidor's Legacy

# Training Session 3

- **A. Improve Your Openings**

- *Open Games 2: The Evans Defence*

- » 1. e4 e5, 2. Nf3 Nc6, 3. Bc4 Bc5 (Giuoco Piano)
- » 4. b4

- **B. Get Tactical**

- **Decoys and Deflections:**

1. Decoy sacrifices using rooks and queens
2. Deflections

- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**

1. Rook sacrifices on h8
2. Taimanov's Knight Check

# Training Session 4

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - *Open Games 3: The Ruy Lopez*
    - » 1. e4 e5, 2. Nf3 Nc6, 3.Bb5
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - Overloads
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  1. The See-Saw
  2. The Petrosian Draw

# Training Session 5

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - *Open Games 4: The Sicilian Defence*
    - » 1. e4 c5
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - Discovered Attack
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  1. Blackburne's Mate
  2. Boden's Mate

# Training Session 6

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - Closed Games 1: The Queens Gambit
    - » 1. d4 d5, 2. c4
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - Discovered Check
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  1. Double rook sacrifice
  2. Double bishop sacrifice



# Training Session 7

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - Closed Games 2: The Nimzo-Indian Defence
    - » 1. d4 Nf6, 2. c4 e6, 3. Nc3 Bb4
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - Double Check
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  - 1. Morphy's Mate
  - 2. Pillsbury's Mate



# Training Session 8

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - *Closed Games 3: The Slav Defence*
    - » 1. d4 d5, 2. c4 c6
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - The Cunning Caro-Kann Trap
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  1. Greco's Mate
  2. Lolli's Mates

# Training Session 9

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - *Flank Openings 1: The English Opening*
    - » 1. c4 ... 2. b3 ... 3. Bb2
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - The Zwischenzung!
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  - 1. Back-Rank Mate
  - 2. Anderssen's Mate

# English Opening

## 1. c4 e6



- The battle at the start of the game is to gain control of the central 4 squares:
  - d5, e5, d4, e4
- White can try to achieve this by moving his e and d pawns but this has disadvantages
  - What are these disadvantages?
- The alternative is to attack the central squares from the c or f files.
  - What are “files”?
- One of the most famous methods of doing this is the “English Opening”
  - 1. c4 ..., 2. b3 ..., 3. Bb2 ... , 4. g3 ..., 5. Bg2 ...
  - How do you think black should respond?

# Training Session 10

- **A. Improve Your Openings**
  - *Flank Openings 2: The English Opening*
    - 1.Nf3
      - » 1. Nf3 ... 2. g3 ... 3. Bg2
- **B. Get Tactical**
  - ‘Elastic band’ trap
- **C. Check-up on your Check-Mates**
  - 1. Legall’s Mate
  - 2. The Fischer Trap