

🇺🇸 Bisguier, Arthur B. (08.10.1929-05.04.2017)



Photo taken from Dr. Mark Ginsburg – A Personal Chess History

International Master 1950. Grandmaster 1957.

**Best international results:** winner at **Southsea (2<sup>nd</sup> Agnes Stevenson Memorial), Open 1950** alongside with Tartakower (ahead of 3.-5. L. Schmid, Penrose, Golombek, 6. Bogoljubov, etc.), **Vienna Invitation 1952/3** (moderate field), *he tied for second place behind then World Champion Boris Spassky at San Juan, Puerto Rico 1969*, and won the pre-eminent **Lone Pine Open in 1973** as clear first. Participant in two Interzonal tournaments (1955, 1962).

Arthur Bisguier also won the **U.S. Open Chess Championship in 1950, 1956, 1957** (sharing with Bobby Fischer for first–second places at the U.S. Open that year, 1957, held in Cleveland, where Fischer was awarded the tournament title on tiebreak), **1959** and once again in **1969** (co-winner). Bisguier took the **National Open in 1970, 1974, and 1978**, too.

He also won the **2nd Pan American Chess Championship held at Los Angeles 1954**.

**U.S. Champion in 1954**, losing his national title to then 13-year old Bobby Fischer in 1957/8 (there were no national championships played in the years 1955 and 1956).

He won the U.S. Junior in 1948 and 1949. He is a three-time winner of the US Senior Open, winning in 1989, 1997 and 1998.

Bisguier played 5 times for the U.S. Olympiad team between 1952 (Helsinki) and 1972 (Skopje).

**In 2007, Bisguier was competing in his record 55<sup>th</sup> U.S. Open!**

Bisguier was on the losing end in the longest ever GM versus GM uninterrupted-winning-spree (with possible other results before and / or after). Bobby Fischer beat Bisguier 13:0 in a row, in competitive classical chess between 1957 and 1970. PS: Bisguier won their very first game.

Inductee into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. On March 18, 2005, the [United States Chess Federation](#) (USCF) proclaimed him "Dean of American Chess", in honor of his promotion of and contributions to the game.

Author of *The Art of Bisguier: Selected Games 1961-2003* and *American Chess Master from Morphy to Fischer* (1974).

#### **Famous games:**

Arthur Bisguier vs. Anthony Miles 1-0

Lone Pine, round 6, March 23, 1973 (Lone Pine, CA USA)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.O-O Nc6 8.Be3 O-O 9.Qd2 Ng4 10.Bxg4 Bxg4 11.Nd5 Bd7 12.c4 Ne5 13.b3 Bc6 14.Bh6 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 e6 16.Nc3 Qb6 17.Rad1 Rad8 18.h3 Qc5 19.Rfe1 a6 20.Qe3 Rfe8 21.Rd2 Nd7 22.Nxc6 Qxc6 23.Red1 Nb6 24.e5 d5 25.Ne4 Kg7 26.Nf6 Rf8 27.Nh5+ gxh5 28.Qg5+ Kh8 29.Qf6+ Kg8 30.Rd3 Rfe8 31.Qh6 h4 32.Rd4

➔ Replay: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1434748>

Bisguier vs. Bent Larsen, Zagreb international tournament 1965, 1-0: The Art of War – A Blitzkrieg

➔ Replay: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1028482>

THE 2nd STEVENSON MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

S O U T H S E A 1950  
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The Players

Dr.S.G.Tartakower...7½) 1st and 2nd  
 Arthur Bisguier.....7½)  
 Jonathan Penrose....7 )  
 Lothar Schmid.....7 ) 3rd and 4th  
 Harry Golombek.....7 )  
 E.D.Bogoljubow.....6½

F.F.L.Alexander )		W.J.Fry )	
L.W.Barden )		A.H.Knight )	
R.H.Newman )		I.A.R.Napier )	
L.Prins )	6	J.J.O'Hanlon )	4½
A.R.B.Thomas )		P.A.Ursell )	
H.V.Trevenen )		H.G.Wright )	
R.G.Wade )		Mrs.R.M.Bruce )	
J.M.Aitken )		J.Duthilleul )	4
B.G.Brown )		Alfred Eva )	
L.Illingworth )	5½	A.T.Watson )	
R.Reifenberg )		Miss J.Doulton )	
A.H.Trott )		Capt.H.W.F.Heneage )	3½
H.H.Cole )		D.Leslie )	
L.Derby )		E.G.Attenborough )	3
J.Poole )		D.Fawcett )	
K.Winterton )	5	Cmdr.J.P.Britton )	2
R.C.Woodthorpe )		A.S.Dance )	1½
F.S.Woolford )			
R.F.G.Wright )			

Modern Technology: Typewriting instead of Handwriting. The tournament table from the famous Agnes Stevenson Memorial (Open) in 1950. Bisguier earned the International Master title in 1950 from this Southsea co-victory (there was no play-off).

Copy taken from <http://www.chesslund.com/detail.asp?id=6608&n=1950-SOUTHSEA-2nd-STEVENSON-MEMORIAL-TOURNAMENT>

Sources:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=16122> (Chessgames)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur\\_Bisguier](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Bisguier) (Wikipedia)

<http://www.thechesspedia.com/bisguier-arthur-b/> (Chesspedia)

<https://new.uschess.org/news/former-us-champion-dean-chess-arthur-bisguier-dies-87/>

(Obituary by the United States Chess Federation with games to replay)

[https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/05/us/obituary-arthur-bisguier-dead-chess-grand-master-bobby-fischer.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/05/us/obituary-arthur-bisguier-dead-chess-grand-master-bobby-fischer.html?_r=0) (Obituary in the New York Times by Dylan Loeb McClain)

The 1970s (**post-Fischer boom**) were a great time to play in tournaments in the USA:

<https://nezhmet.wordpress.com/2008/04/23/the-fabulous-70s-arthur-bisguier-and-other-american-powerhouses/> (The Fabulous 70s, A Personal Chess History by IM Mark Ginsburg)

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chess.pl?tid=80952> (Lone Pine 1973)

<http://graeme.50webs.com/chesschamps/us/1954.htm>

(9th National US Championship, and World Championship Zonal, 1954 at New York, NY)

<**The Art of Bisguier**>, compiled by **Resignation Trap**. A book of Arthur Bisguier's games from 1945 to 1960, was published by 3rd Millennium Press in 2003. It was written by GM Bisguier himself with Newton Berry. Here are the games from that book, with their punny subtitles:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chesscollection?cid=1008527>



*Arthur Bisguier, around 1981 (USCF)*