

Chess Scotland's phoney (name) war

Chess Scotland has declared war on the increasingly widespread practice of adopting Eastern European type names. Crafty chess players are, so it seems, taking up this practice for one of two reasons.

The first group, according to Chess Scotland president, Jan Glendinskov, are players who want to sound East European to gain a psychological advantage over opponents who will assume they are up against someone trained in the former Eastern Bloc.' Glendinskov went on, 'Some have even been putting on phoney accents. We've heard of one chap wandering around Glenrothes pretending to be Bulgarian.'

The other group has an entirely different motive. As the *Daily Mail* and *Daily Express* have conclusively proven, Scotland is being swamped by literally millions of illegal East European immigrants, many of them women. With jobs hard to find, many of these East European beauties have turned to hanging around the Scottish chess circuit, becoming, in effect, 'chess groupies'. Chief arbiter, Alexi Makfarlinski, explained, 'It's easy to understand the attraction for your average Jock patzer. Usually as a chess player you have to choose between chasing skirt and pushing wood, but, since East European women play chess, there is an opportunity here to mix chess and going on the pull. Some of the lads believe that, by sounding East European, they'll have more chance of pulling.'



Two of the Chess groupies

Both Jan and Alexi wanted to stress their abhorrence at the practice of adopting false names.

Chess Scotland Test

From now on, anyone in Scotland with an East European name will have to pass the following test to prove they are genuine:

- ◆ Pick tatties at Fat Bob's farm in Coaltown for a week on hardly any wages at all
- ◆ Drink half a bottle of vodka in one sitting
- ◆ Live with their wife and five kids in a single, damp room for a month without complaining
- ◆ Put up with lots of abuse from the right wing press

In Glenrothes, however, not everyone supports the new ruling. Pjeter Selbski, who claims to be Polish-Ukrainian, thought it very unfair. 'I'm as Polish-Ukrainian as the day is long', he told me on the 23rd of December. 'Anyway, the test will not prove anything I know a lot of Scottish people in the Dundee area who can pick tatties and drink vodka at the same time.'



Pjeter Selbski