

NBCC / CHESS BIOGRAPHY OF DENNIS PRAWIRA

On May 1, the NBCC hosted its second honoree event of 2018 for veteran member USCF NM Dennis Prawira. Master Prawira, like many of the members who the club has recently honored, has belonged to our family for over a decade. Shortly after joining the club, Dennis competed in his first tournament - the 2007 Oktoberfest Open Chess Championship. After sweeping the competition, going an incredible 5-0, defeating experts and masters, Dennis attained a record-breaking 2700 USCF provisional rating, the highest of any member. The master set the bar extremely high with this astounding tournament performance, one that definitely was a shining and unforgettable moment in his very early chess career in our organization. Over the last ten years, the master has achieved many tournament victories and has risen quickly in the NBCC tournament standings, currently ranking fifth overall. Last year, nearly ten years from when he made his stunning performance in Oktoberfest 2007, Master Prawira won Oktoberfest 2017. This win, however, was even more momentous for the master. His solo win in Oktoberfest 2017, along with his wins in the Arkadijs Strazdins Cup and the NBCC Championship held earlier that year, placed Master Prawira into the NBCC Hall of Fame for being only the fifth person in our club's history to have won or tied for first place in three or more classical time-controlled events in the same year. But there is no doubt that Dennis' major achievement in the club was earning the title of Club Champion for three consecutive years (2015-2017) before taking this year off. In spite of Dennis' long commute, he is a regular participant in most club tournaments, especially those with long time controls. Dennis, who is playing more online than over-the-board chess these days, is one of the most friendly people in our community. Master Prawira really enjoys the club's spirit. We are so delighted that Dennis has been a part of our club's history, and we look forward to have him be a part of our club's future. Before the tournament, FM Richard Bauer reviewed the critical game that Dennis played against FM Nelson Castaneda in the 2015 NBCC Championship, which propelled the master to his first of three consecutive club championship victories. David Herscovici won the open section of the Dennis Prawira Quick Chess Tournament, and Elizabeth Smith won the U1700 section. David and Liz played like Prawira that evening, with their outstanding play.