

Michael Water: 2005 Master Class

Opening Repertoire 23rd July 2005

(notes: Mark Newman)

Cover opening looking at positional play. Things we will cover :

1. Choosing a repertoire
2. How changes in the order of play can be used to advantage
3. Learn the two openings – the Nimzo and the Bogo

The two moves :

1. d4 Nf6
2. c4 e6

lead to 3 different openings : Nimzo, bogo, queens

3. Nc3 Bb4 Nimzo
3. Nf3 Bb4+ Bogo
3. Nf3 b6 Queens

Choosing an opening repertoire – do I do e4 or d4 – there are two main categories of openings. One where it is important to know the theory for instance the kings gambit is an opening where there is an immediate fight/conflict. The other is knowing the games or the positions the pieces should be place onto. The English (c4) is a such an opening as is the Nimzo and the Bogo.

Distinguish openings – theory and games / positioning the pieces

It is good for your game to play as many different openings as possible both 1 e4 and 1 d4 – the variety of positional play will improve your game.

Move order can stop your opponents plan of using a certain opening.

Example – Steve Scannell v Michael Waters

1. d4 Nf6
2. c4 e5 Budapest Gambit (need to know theory as straight into battle)
3. dxe5 Ng4 Black is looking to move Bc5, castling quickly, Nc6, d6 or f6 gambit – giving up the idea of winning back the pawn.

However 2. Nf3 for white stops the gambit – Steve used this to avoid the gambit.

Can play e6 and transpose into bogo. Or g6 Michael transposes into Grunfield. However for this white really wants his knight on e2 but has committed it to f3. Steve thought for ten minutes on next move and placed Nc3 which is anti theory – a move out of book.

1. d4 Nf6

2. Nf3 avoids Budapest closing certain openings while opening others for instance the Grunfield, bogo, Indian, Queens Gambit.

If you decided to play e4 instead lets look at the kind of repertoire you would need.

Common most replies are 1 e4 c5, 1 e4 e5.

If c5 – moves to avoid the Sicilian –

1 e4 c5

2 f4 Grandprix attack

or

2 c3 Morra gambit

black could decline with 2.....d6

or different order of moves for white – Nf3, c3 then d4.

Or Bd5 + Moscow variation.

1. e4 e5

2. f4 Dangerous opening would need to study a good book

2. Nf3 Nc6

3. Bb5 Spanish or Ruy lopez – well known lines – beginners know them very sometimes very well

3. d4 The scotch – minor piece conflict – recommend this line.

Another opening to prepare for is the French –

1. e4 e6 French – can transpose into Sicilian or Nimzo Indian

2. Nf3 possible two knights

2..... c5 Open Sicilian

3 Nc3 two knights

1. c4 e5 English

2. Nc3 Nc6

3. g3 Bc5

4. Bg2d6

5. e3 f5

6. Ne2 Nf6

Black looking for f4, O-O, Qe8 – h4, Bh3, Ng4

If white continues with queenside attack will miss point – Rb1, a3, a4

1. e4 c5 Mirror has white (above).

2. Nc3 Nc6

3. f4 g6 Grandprix attack

4. Nf3 Bg7

5. Bc4 e6

Changes the game – white out of comfort zone – f4 has to be delayed.

Caro Cann

1. e4 c6

2. Ne2 d5

3. e5 Bf5
4. Ng3 Bg6
5. h4 h6
6. h5 Bh7
7. e6

Look for d4 and Bd3 Swap pawns

Against this

1. e4 c6
2. Ne2 d5
3. e5 e6 or c5 or Bf5, Ng3 e6.

1. e4 e6 (French)
 2. Nc3
 3. Nf3
- or –
3. Qe2 c5 scilian
- g3
Bg2
C3
D3 white side of closed scilian
F4
Nf3
Nd2
O-O

Against the French

1. e4 e6
2. Nc3 d5
3. b3 dxe
4. Bb2 Nf6
- 5 Qe2 Qd4 French player now out of book
- 6 O-O-O Bc5
7. f3 ef3
- 8 Nxf3 Qd8 (Qf2?!)
- 9 g4 Nxg4
10. Qc4 Never been played

First illustrative game is the bogo – not got a good reputation perhaps unfairly. Alexander Kaifarm v Michael Adams (2003) where to put the pieces.

1. d4 Nf6
2. Bg5 Tromposky – need to know how to deal with
2. c4 e6 Family of openings – Nimzo Indian, Bogo Nf3 Bb4+, Queens Indian b6
3. Nf3 Bb4+

4. Bd2 avoids Nimzo (Nv3 Nimzo)
 Qe7

5. g3 Nc6 important note – here we are developing in front of the pawns.

6. Nc3 Bxc3

7. Bxc3 Ne4 aim to eliminate bishop on long diagonal
 (if white can get in b3 he can save the bishop)

8. Rc1 to maintain pawn structure
 d6 clear plan to push e5 – prepare

9. Bg2NxB There is no immediate conflict – white active rook

10. RxB e5 according to plan

11. d5 kick knight – where will it go – some discussion lets see

12. Nb8 (N aiming for c5)

13. O-O O-O

14. Nd2 a5

15 c5 Na6

16 cxd cxd

Black will block the open file with Nc5 – and it will be difficult for white to dislodge

17. Nc4 Qd8

18. a3 * b5

19. Nd2 Bd7

20 Qb1 b4

21 axb axb

22 Rc1 Nc5

23 Ne4 Bf5 Pin the knight – the game is over

24 Rg4 b3

25 Qc1 BxN

26 BxB f5

27. Bg2 Qa5

28. h4 Qb5

29. Qc3 Na4

30. Qb4 Qxb4

31. Rxb4 Rb8

32 RxR RxR

33 Rb1 Rc8

34 Bh3 g6

35 e4 Rc2

36 Ra1 Nc5

37. exf5 Rxb2

38 g6 hxg

39. Be6+ Kf8

white resigns

Another Bogo – whites plan is to put the knight onto c5.
 This example not on any internet database. From Mark Deeson lecture.
 (chess.fm flash lectures)

1. d4 Nf6
 2. c4 e6

3. Nf3 Bb4+
4. Bd2 Qe7
5. Qc2 BxB
Stops Ne4 and prepares for e4
6. NxB d6
7. e4 e5
8. d5 O-O
9. Rc1 a5
10. c5 Nd7
11. cxd cxd white undeveloped bishop
12. b3 Nc5
13. a3 Nxd5
14. exd5 e4
15. Nd4 Nd3+