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Karel Mokřý has passed away



Karel Mokřý during his game with Eduard Meduna at the Réti Memorial in Trnava, 1984.

by Frantisek Stross

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[Translation from Czech by ChatGPT.]

On 27 May 2026, Czech chess grandmaster and former national team player Karel Mokřý died at the age of 67. Czech chess has lost an important figure who left an indelible mark not only through his achievements over the board, but also through his lifelong dedication to the chess community as a chess bibliographer and the owner of a well-known chess bookshop.

Karel Mokřý was born on 7 February 1959 in Prostějov. In 1977, he won the Czechoslovak junior championship, and in the same year he finished fifth at the European Junior Championship in Groningen. He was awarded the title of International Grandmaster in 1984. Among his many tournament successes, his victory at Reggio Emilia in Italy at the turn of 1983 and 1984 stands out in particular. In a strong field, he finished ahead of, among others, former world champion Boris Spassky, John Nunn, and Ian Rogers.

On the domestic scene, he won three silver medals at the Czechoslovak Championships, in 1982, 1985, and 1989. He reached his peak in 1995 in Olomouc, where he became Champion of the Czech Republic. Between 1984 and 1996, he represented Czechoslovakia and later the Czech Republic at six Chess Olympiads. He had an especially successful Olympiad in Novi Sad in 1990, where, playing as a reserve, he completed eleven games without a single defeat and, with a score of 8.5 points, made a major contribution to the excellent fourth-place finish of the Czechoslovak team. He also achieved notable success in the team

extraliga, winning championship titles with Lokomotiva Brno in 1995 and with the team A64 MILO Olomouc in 1998.

At the end of the 1990s, he gradually began to reduce his activity as a competitive player. He played his last extraliga game in 2002. He then devoted more and more energy to his chess shop, which he had been successfully running since 1991. For many years, his shop supplied both practical players and chess collectors. It was especially for the latter that Karel Mokrý regularly organized sought-after chess auctions, which were first held on eBay and later moved to the specialized Swedish platform LSAK.

For chess historians and collectors, he left behind an immensely valuable legacy in the form of the extensive bibliography *Czech Chess Literature 1806–1945*, which was published in 2006 and then in a second, expanded edition in 2015. In addition, he was also the author of a lesser-known German-language publication on the theory of the French Defence, entitled *Opening Ideas of Great Chess Masters – French*, published in 1992.

In 2023, Karel Mokrý was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Chess Federation of the Czech Republic.

Honour to his memory.

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/* Brettbreite an Viewport anpassen */ var breite = window.innerWidth; /* linken und rechten Rand  
einbeziehen */ breite = breite - 20; /* Brettkoordinaten einbeziehen, wenn sie angezeigt werden */ if ("=="  
'1') { breite = breite - 15; } var pSize = 46; if((pSize*8) > breite) { switch (true) { case (breite Elemente  
der Seite suchen und onchange zuweisen */ window.onload = function() { // Select-Array mit allen  
Selectelementen erstellen var arrSel = document.getElementsByTagName("select"); // Select-Array  
durchlaufen for(var i=0; i
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