

Opening report

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6



B34, 4...Nc6

20043 Games in 'Reference Big 2004'

1. History

Earliest game:

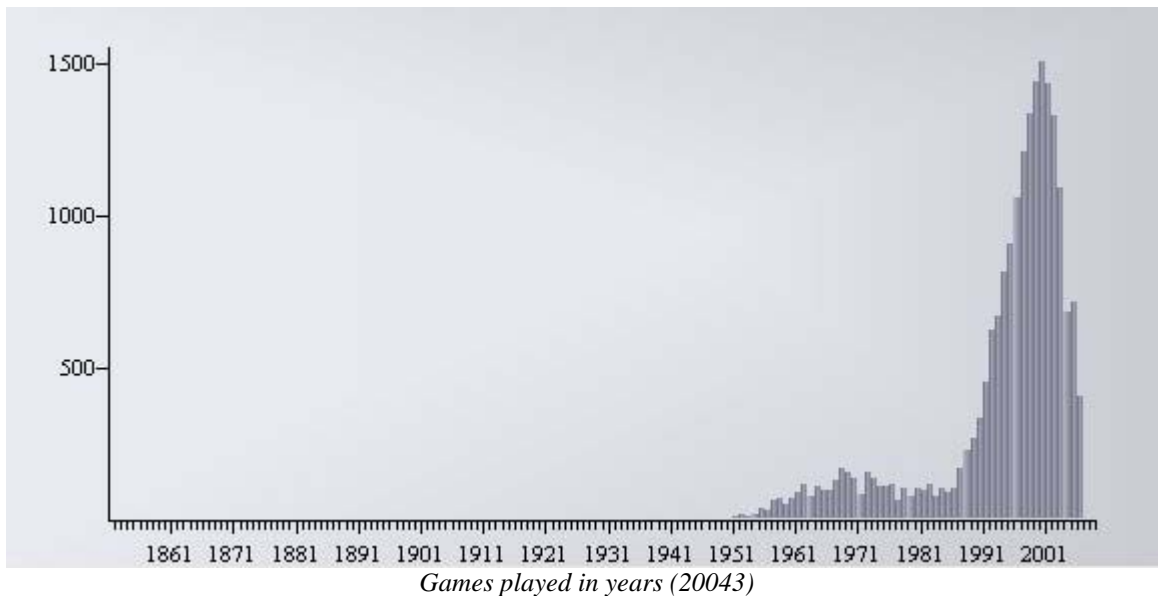
[Kennedy,H - Wyvill,M 0-1](#)

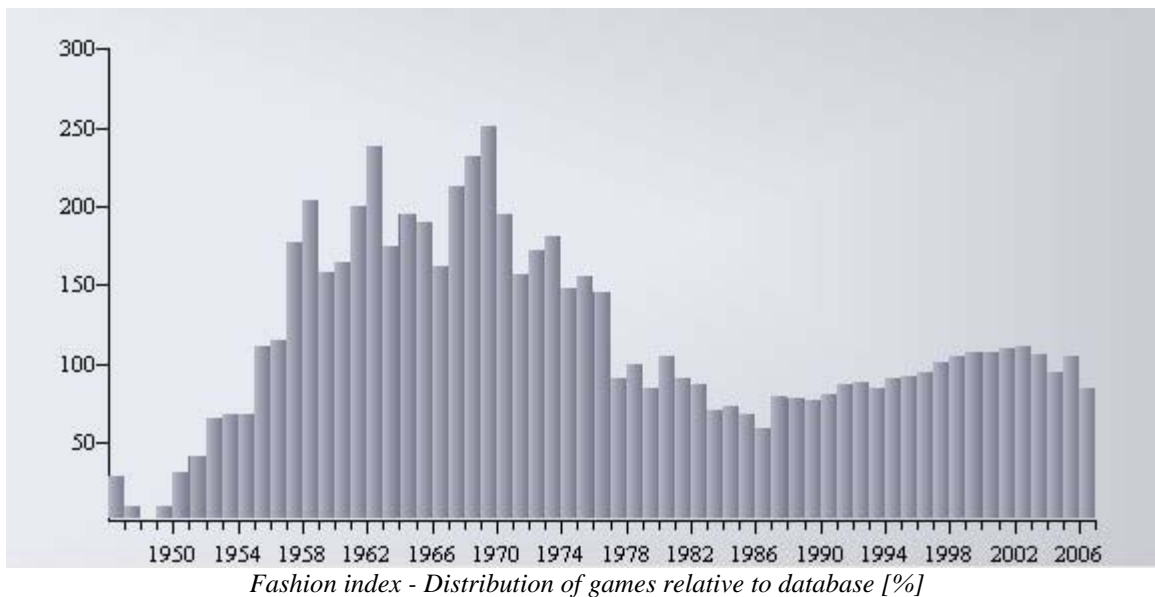
Latest grandmaster game:

[Shomoev,A - Savchenko,B ½-½](#)

Latest game:

[Malofeev,A - Krylov,K 0-1](#)





2. Players

a) Strong grandmasters who used this line as Black:

Vladimir Malakhov	Result=12/25	2002-2005	Elo-Ø: 2684	Games: 25
V Malakhov	Result=6/10	2005-2006	Elo-Ø: 2686	Games: 10
V Zvjaginsev	Result=3.5/5	2005-2006	Elo-Ø: 2662	Games: 5
Vadim Zvjaginsev	Result=3.5/8	1999-2005	Elo-Ø: 2653	Games: 8
Vassily Ivanchuk	Result=3/5	1994-2005	Elo-Ø: 2721	Games: 5
Gata Kamsky	Result=2/4	1994-1996	Elo-Ø: 2705	Games: 4
Viswanathan Anand	Result=1.5/4	1994-2001	Elo-Ø: 2731	Games: 4
Veselin Topalov	Result=1.5/4	2001	Elo-Ø: 2725	Games: 4
Kiril Georgiev	Result=1/2	1997-2002	Elo-Ø: 2662	Games: 2
S Tiviakov	Result=1/4	2005-2006	Elo-Ø: 2679	Games: 4

b) Other notable players:

Margeir Petursson	Result=52.5/90	1978-2004	Elo-Ø: 2513	Games: 90
Dragoljub Velimirovic	Result=42.5/72	1961-2002	Elo-Ø: 2519	Games: 72
Antonio Frois	Result=38.5/70	1981-2005	Elo-Ø: 2369	Games: 70
Sergei Tiviakov	Result=38/75	1991-2005	Elo-Ø: 2609	Games: 75
Roman Hernandez	Result=36.5/68	1975-2004	Elo-Ø: 2438	Games: 68
Bent Larsen	Result=29.5/56	1957-2002	Elo-Ø: 2546	Games: 56
Sebastien Maze	Result=28/42	1995-2005	Elo-Ø: 2275	Games: 42
Claudio Javier Minzer	Result=27.5/38	1995-2004	Elo-Ø: 2394	Games: 38

3. Statistics

Black scores above average (49%).

Black performs Elo 2236 against an opposition of Elo 2243 (-7).

White performs Elo 2251 against an opposition of Elo 2245 (+6).

White wins: 7005 (=35%), Draws: 6442 (=32%), Black wins: 6589 (=33%)

The drawing quote is lower than average. (6% quick draws, < 20 Moves)

White wins are of average length (39).

Black wins are of average length (40).

Draws are shorter than average (36).

4. Moves and Plans

a) 5.c4

7417 Games, 1907-2006, Ø=1994

White scores above average (57%).

Elo-Ø: 2307, 5242 Games. Performance = Elo 2341

played by: [Reinaldo Castineira](#), 3361, 0/1; [Kasparov](#), 2831, 3.5/6; [Pinto Coelho](#), 2773, 1/1; [Morozevich](#), 2745, 0.5/1; [Ivanchuk](#), 2731, 1/1;

You should play: [5...Bg7](#) [Click for games](#)



[Kashtanov,R - Guseinov,G 0-1](#); [Spassky,B - Savon,V 0-1](#); [Shabalov,A - Georgiev,V 0-1](#); [Short,N - Larsen,B 0-1](#); [Gabriel,C - Ibragimov,I 0-1](#); [Chandler,M - Larsen,B 0-1](#)

Main line:

6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.Be2 d6 9.0-0 Bd7 57%, 2341 [1348 Games](#) [Opening report](#)

6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 Ng4 8.Qxg4 Nxd4 9.Qd1 Ne6 58%, 2318 [1021 Games](#) [Opening report](#)

Critical line:

6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 Ng4 8.Qxg4 Bxd4 49 % Black. [Click for games](#)

Alternative: 5...Nf6

[Reinaldo Castineira,R - Perelshteyn,M 0-1](#); [Ivanchuk,V - Anand,V 0-1](#); [Leko,P - Anand,V ½-½](#); [Almasi,Z - Georgiev,K 0-1](#); [Minasian,A - Malakhov,V 0-1](#); [Morozevich,A - Topalov,V ½-½](#)

b) 5.Nc3

8744 Games, 1889-2006, Ø=1993

White scores below average (50%).

Elo-Ø: 2214, 4546 Games. Performance = Elo 2220

played by: [Nakamura](#), 3010, 1/1; [Anand](#), 2772, 2/2; [Ivanchuk](#), 2748, 1/1; [Ivanchuk](#), 2719, 1.5/3; [Grischuk](#), 2719, 1/1;

You should play: [5...Bg7](#) [Click for games](#)



[Karjakin,S - Ivanchuk,V 0-1](#); [Short,N - Kamsky,G 0-1](#); [Timofeev,A - Malakhov,V 0-1](#); [Bologan,V - Zvjaginsev,V 0-1](#); [Lastin,A - Malakhov,V 0-1](#); [Short,N - Christiansen,L 0-1](#)

Main line:

6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3	57%, 2357	2085 Games	Opening report
6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 Qa5	49%, 2215	1291 Games	Opening report
6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0	41%, 2117	1594 Games	Opening report
6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3	38%, 2018	1215 Games	Opening report

Critical line:

6.Nb3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Nf6 8.Bd3 d5 46 % Black. [Click for games](#)

c) **5.Ne2**

13 Games, 1981-2006, Ø=1997

White scores above average (62%).

Elo-Ø: 2390, 9 Games. Performance = Elo 2346

played by: [Rodriguez](#), 2487, 2/4; [Cid](#), 2425, 1/1; [Kanovsky](#), 2352, 1/1; [Shevelev](#), 2310, 0/1; [Jacoby](#), 2245, 0.5/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Rodriguez,A - Aguerreberry,C ½-½](#); [Rodriguez,A - Bonaveri,A ½-½](#); [Jacoby,G - Bialas,W ½-½](#); [Rodriguez,A - Hadad,D 1-0](#); [Kanovsky,D - Poslusny,M 1-0](#); [Caramia,J - Gallo,E 1-0](#)

Main line:

6.Nbc3 Nf6 7.g3	58%, 2305	190 Games	Opening report
6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2	65%, 2301	33 Games	Opening report

d) 5.Nb3

77 Games, 1971-2006, Ø=1995

White scores badly (46%).

Elo-Ø: 2313, 60 Games. Performance = Elo 2290

played by: [Kotsur](#), 2600, 0/1; [Lima](#), 2533, 1/2; [Kupreichik](#), 2525, 0/1; [Zapata](#), 2515, 1/1; [Kholmov](#), 2510, 0.5/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#) [Click for games](#)



[Kotsur,P - Moradiabadi,E 0-1](#); [Mateo,R - Gonzalez,B 0-1](#); [Lima,D - Mieves Palau,D ½-½](#); [Garcia Luque,A - Alvarez Ibarra,R 0-1](#); [Tolnai,T - Kallai,G ½-½](#); [Danin,A - Inarkiev,E 0-1](#)

Main line:

6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Be3 Be6 10.f4	44%, 2224	192 Games	Opening report
6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Bg5 Be6	54%, 2335	112 Games	Opening report
6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Re1	53%, 2340	140 Games	Opening report
6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.Be3 d6 9.f4	45%, 2256	112 Games	Opening report
6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.Be3 a5 9.a4	58%, 2349	86 Games	Opening report
6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Nc3	64%, 2277	14 Games	Opening report

Plans White:

Bf1-e2/Nb1-c3/0-0/Bc1-g5 (20)	Click for games
Bf1-e2/Nb1-c3/Rf1-e1/Be2-f1 (10)	Click for games
Bf1-e2/0-0/Kg1-h1/Be2-f3 (3)	Click for games
Bf1-e2/Nb1-c3/f2-f4/Be2-f3/Nc3-d5 (2)	Click for games
0-0/Nb1-c3/Bc1-e3/Kg1-h1 (3)	Click for games
Bf1-e2/0-0/Kg1-h1/e4-e5/Be2-d3 (2)	Click for games

Plans Black:

d7-d6/Ng8-f6/0-0/Bc8-e6 (30)

[Click for games](#)

d7-d6/Ng8-f6/Qd8-c8/d6-d5/Nf6-e4 (2)

[Click for games](#)

Bc8-e6/Ra8-c8/Be6xd5/Nc6-a5/Na5-c4 (2)

[Click for games](#)

0-0/a7-a6/b7-b5 (9)

[Click for games](#)

d7-d6/Bc8-e6/Rf8-d8/d6-d5 (2)

[Click for games](#)

d7-d6/Bc8-e6/Qd8-c8/Be6-g4 (2)

[Click for games](#)

Alternative: 5...Nf6

[Vukovic,Z - Motylev,A 0-1](#); [Kupreichik,V - Martinovic,S 0-1](#); [Lengyel,B - Ristic,N 0-1](#); [Aronian,L - Milu,R ½-½](#); [Pablo Marin,A - Sanchez Guirado,F ½-½](#); [Ciolac,G - Piven,I ½-½](#)

e) 5.Be2

447 Games, 1891-2006, Ø=1992

White scores below average (49%).

Elo-Ø: 2294, 295 Games. Performance = Elo 2279

played by: [Polgar](#), 2656, 1/1; [Vasiukov](#), 2567, 1.5/2; [Kharlov](#), 2555, 0.5/1; [Baramidze](#), 2554, 1/1; [Torre](#), 2538, 2.5/5

You should play: [5...Bg7](#) [Click for games](#)



[Thipsay,P - Adianto,U 0-1](#); [Torre,E - Miles,A 0-1](#); [Thorhallsson,T - Pigusov,E 0-1](#); [Garcia,G - Petursson,M 0-1](#); [Kindermann,S - Cebalo,M 0-1](#); [Thorhallsson,T - Petursson,M 0-1](#)

Main line:

6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Be3 Be6 10.f4	44%, 2224	192 Games	Opening report
6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Bg5	55%, 2335	257 Games	Opening report
6.Nb3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 d6 9.Re1	53%, 2340	140 Games	Opening report
6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 d5	41%, 2099	665 Games	Opening report

Critical line:

6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.c4 29 % Black. [Click for games](#)

Plans White:

Nd4-b3/Nb1-c3/Bc1-g5/0-0 (132)

[Click for games](#)

Nb1-c3/0-0/e4xd5/Nc3xd5 (20)

[Click for games](#)

0-0/Kg1-h1/Bc1-g5 (64)

[Click for games](#)

0-0/f2-f4/Kg1-h1 (79)

[Click for games](#)

Nb1-c3/0-0/Be2-f3/Nc3-d5 (10)

[Click for games](#)*Plans Black:*

Ng8-f6/0-0/d7-d6/Bc8-e6/Ra8-c8 (84)

[Click for games](#)

Ng8-f6/0-0/Nf6xd5/Qd8xd5 (12)

[Click for games](#)

Ng8-f6/d7-d6/d6-d5/Nf6xd5 (5)

[Click for games](#)

0-0/a7-a5 (88)

[Click for games](#)

Ng8-f6/a7-a5/Nc6-b4 (31)

[Click for games](#)

Ng8-f6/d7-d5/Nf6xd5 (22)

[Click for games](#)**f) 5.Be3**

2024 Games, 1887-2006, Ø=1994

White scores badly (40%).

Elo-Ø: 2035, 732 Games. Performance = Elo 2043

played by: [Nakamura](#), 2571, 0/1; [Tiomkin](#), 2566, 1/1; [Nataf](#), 2559, 0.5/1; [Campora](#), 2540, 0.5/1; [Cao Sang](#), 2507, 1/1*You should play:* [5...Bg7](#)[Nakamura,H - Vlassov,N 0-1](#); [Kamble,V - Bu Xiangzhi 0-1](#); [Nataf,I - Kupreichik,V ½-½](#); [Fernandes,A - Andersson,U ½-½](#); [Cardoso,R - Kraidman,Y 0-1](#); [Campora,D - Cebalo,M ½-½](#)Alternative: [5...Nf6](#)[Tomic,D - Romanishin,O 0-1](#); [Colovic,A - Kovacevic,A 0-1](#); [Torrallardona,E - Ashe,B 0-1](#); [Frolov,A - Shabalov,A ½-½](#); [Koch,J - Tal,M ½-½](#); [Boehmfeldt,B - Miles,A 0-1](#)**g) 5.Nxc6**

600 Games, 1851-2006, Ø=1991

White scores badly (46%).

Elo-Ø: 2105, 232 Games. Performance = Elo 2137

played by: [Beliavsky](#), 2620, 0.5/1; [Nagy](#), 2455, 0/1; [Igrishvili](#), 2425, 0.5/1; [Kremenetsky](#), 2410, 1/1; [Kujovic](#), 2406, 1/1*You should play:* [5...bxc6](#)[Nagy,E - Dely,P 0-1](#); [Beliavsky,A - Karlsson,L ½-½](#); [Wolff,P - Serper,G 0-1](#); [Papastavropoulos,A - Banikas,H 0-1](#); [Balinas,R - Donaldson,J 0-1](#); [Ahlander,B - Hansen,M 0-1](#)

h) 5.g3

96 Games, 1952-2006, Ø=1995

White scores averagely (53%).

Elo-Ø: 2184, 43 Games. Performance = Elo 2230

played by: [Kosanski](#), 2420, 1/1; [Gazik](#), 2415, 1/1; [Mallahi](#), 2394, 1/2; [Priehoda](#), 2365, 1/1; [Cioara](#), 2353, 1/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Mallahi,A - Al Sayed,M 0-1](#); [De Bortoli,P - Chatalbashev,B 0-1](#); [Depasquale,C - Solomon,S 0-1](#); [Beck,F - Ivanov,M 0-1](#); [Arbakov,V - Lerner,K 0-1](#); [Chahrani,I - Taleb,M 0-1](#)

i) 5.Bc4

355 Games, 1893-2006, Ø=1992

White scores badly (39%).

Elo-Ø: 2062, 104 Games. Performance = Elo 2067

played by: [Milos](#), 2563, 0.5/1; [Iordachescu](#), 2550, 0.5/1; [Ivanovic](#), 2495, 0.5/2; [Lanka](#), 2490, 1/1; [Zagrebelny](#), 2489, 1/2

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Zagrebelny,S - Ljubojevic,L 0-1](#); [Iordachescu,V - Moiseenko,A ½-½](#); [Milos,G - Vescovi,G ½-½](#); [Bellon Lopez,J - Hernandez,R 0-1](#); [Hoffmann,A - Dzindzichashvili,R 0-1](#); [Ivanovic,B - Velimirovic,D ½-½](#)

j) 5.f4

32 Games, 1980-2006, Ø=1996

White scores below average (52%).

Elo-Ø: 2117, 14 Games. Performance = Elo 2134

played by: [Mrva](#), 2390, 1/1; [Herrera](#), 2260, 1/1; [Zsiltzova Lisenko](#), 2235, 0.5/1; [Armas](#), 2230, 0.5/1; [Liang Zhihua](#), 2224, 1/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Berntsen,S - Stanojoski,Z 0-1](#); [Berntsen,S - Johansson,V 0-1](#); [Armas,J - Andres Mendez,M ½-½](#); [Mrva,M - Polak,T 1-0](#); [Vasiliev,O - Gilbert,J 0-1](#); [Zsiltzova Lisenko,L - Dobierzin,O ½-½](#)

k) 5.h4

13 Games, 1957-2002, Ø=1986

White scores averagely (54%).

Elo-Ø: 2182, 8 Games. Performance = Elo 2180

played by: [Ivanovic](#), 2502, 0.5/1; [Karner](#), 2350, 1/1; [Rikkonen](#), 2315, 1/1; [Kuhlenbaeumer](#), 2165, 0/1;

[Jahnz](#), 2135, 0.5/2

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Karner,H - Raaste,E 1-0](#); [Duarte,T - Maggiolo,E 0-1](#); [Kuhlenbaeumer,W - Hoge,R 0-1](#); [Sonmez,Y - Dimitris,H 1-0](#); [Perovsek,M - Coklin,M 0-1](#); [Jahnz,F - Abraham,J 0-1](#)

l) 5.c3

124 Games, 1885-2006, Ø=1995

White scores badly (37%).

Elo-Ø: 1838, 38 Games. Performance = Elo 1956

played by: [Kreuzer](#), 2285, 0.5/1; [Schuette](#), 2245, 0/1; [Rodriguez Rebull](#), 2225, 1/1; [Carmona](#), 2192, 0/1; [Duraõ](#), 2175, 0/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Kreuzer,M - Kraft,V ½-½](#); [Tessedik,K - Babos,C 0-1](#); [Nemeth,J - Olah,S 0-1](#); [Gruener,P - Oblitas Guerrero,C 0-1](#); [Fleischmann,A - Niedermayr,H 0-1](#); [Bokanyi,I - Toth,M 0-1](#)

m) 5.Nf3

19 Games, 1995-2005, Ø=1999

White scores badly (37%).

Elo-Ø: 1744, 4 Games. Performance = Elo 1568

played by: [Duarte](#), 2127, 0/1; [Levacic](#), 1993, 0/1; [Stratmann](#), 1529, 0/1; [Osmanodja](#), 1330, 0/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Levacic,M - Pavlogianni,D 0-1](#); [Stratmann,H - Gradl,R 0-1](#); [Osmanodja,B - Grimm,P 0-1](#); [Duarte,L - Garnier,R 0-1](#); [Legendre,E - Ip,V 0-1](#); [Stoffers,J - Tan,M 0-1](#)

n) 5.b3

36 Games, 1958-2004, Ø=1997

White scores miserably (26%).

Elo-Ø: 1803, 5 Games. Performance = Elo 1539

played by: [Knezevic](#), 2205, 0/1; [Talha](#), 2200, 0/1; [Caravaggi](#), 1830, 0.5/1; [Palacios Aguilar](#), 1490, 1/1; [Masouras](#), 1290, 0/1

You should play: [5...Bg7](#)

[Knezevic,K - Sale,S 0-1](#); [Talha,A - Turner,J 0-1](#); [Caravaggi,G - Larramendy,P ½-½](#); [Masouras,S - Efkarpidis,S 0-1](#); [Palacios Aguilar,D - Flotte,A 1-0](#); [Soltysik,A - Huddleston,H 0-1](#)

o) 5.Bf4

8 Games, 1983-2004, Ø=1998
White scores miserably (31%).

You should play: 5...Bg7

[Jungblut,P - Konz,C 0-1](#); [Martin,C - Cochet,C 0-1](#); [Bulke,S - Wessel,J 0-1](#); [Van Assendelft,F - Van Landeghem,P 0-1](#); [Pramateftakis - Cholis ½-½](#); [Illig,U - Lauchner,G 1-0](#)

p) 5.Bb5

13 Games, 1968-2004, Ø=1997
White scores badly (35%).
Elo-Ø: 1450, 2 Games. Performance = Elo 1549
played by: [Barreira](#), 1760, 1/1; [Behrens](#), 1140, 0.5/1

You should play: 5...Bg7

[Barreira,M - Sainz Aguirre,I 1-0](#); [Behrens,M - Von Harder,S ½-½](#); [Kramer,M - Klingel,M 0-1](#); [Koernlein,D - Henneberg,O 0-1](#); [Monzonis,J - Vikman,D 0-1](#); [Carracedo Rodriguez,A - Fidalgo Fernandez,L 0-1](#)

q) 5.f3

9 Games, 1995-2004, Ø=2000
White scores badly (39%).
Elo-Ø: 1710, 4 Games. Performance = Elo 1855
played by: [Vazquez Cortado](#), 2164, 0/1; [Nemes](#), 1650, 1/1; [Severijnen](#), 1626, 1/1; [Sennholz](#), 1400, 0/1

You should play: 5...Bg7

[Sennholz,C - Ip,V 0-1](#); [Severijnen,A - Van de Schootbrugge,G 1-0](#); [Manzur,C - Alayola,J 0-1](#); [Vazquez Cortado,M - Sanfeliu Fabregas,A 0-1](#); [Merino Perez,M - Gil Rodriguez,I 0-1](#); [Nemes,S - Stetco,A 1-0](#)
