

Complete Games of Mikhail Tal

1960-66

Hilary Thomas



Mikhail Tal, the Latvian (USSR) grandmaster and World Champion in 1960-61, is acknowledged as the greatest attacking player, and the most dynamic, of the last 25 years. His games have stimulated chess players at every level all over the world.

This volume contains all available games that Tal played during his most successful period, including the two world championship clashes with Botvinnik. Many of the games have notes based on contemporary annotation that derived from Tal himself.

Such a game collection will give years of pleasure to the casual dipper. But, much more important, it is a vital working tool for the serious player, who may wish to model himself on a super-master like Tal. He can appreciate how Tal tackles and develops opening ideas from game to game and how he copes with masters of various strengths and styles; he can see too the tactical possibilities revealed by these games, and try to acquire Tal's flair. In short, by studying a top grandmaster in depth, he can understand the realities of modern chess.

Hilary Thomas, a first team player of the Athenaeum Chess Club and a close collaborator with Batsford's adviser R G Wade, has for many years been systematically collecting all Tal's games.

The jacket illustration of Tal (playing against Botvinnik) is reproduced by courtesy of Novosti Press Agency.

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