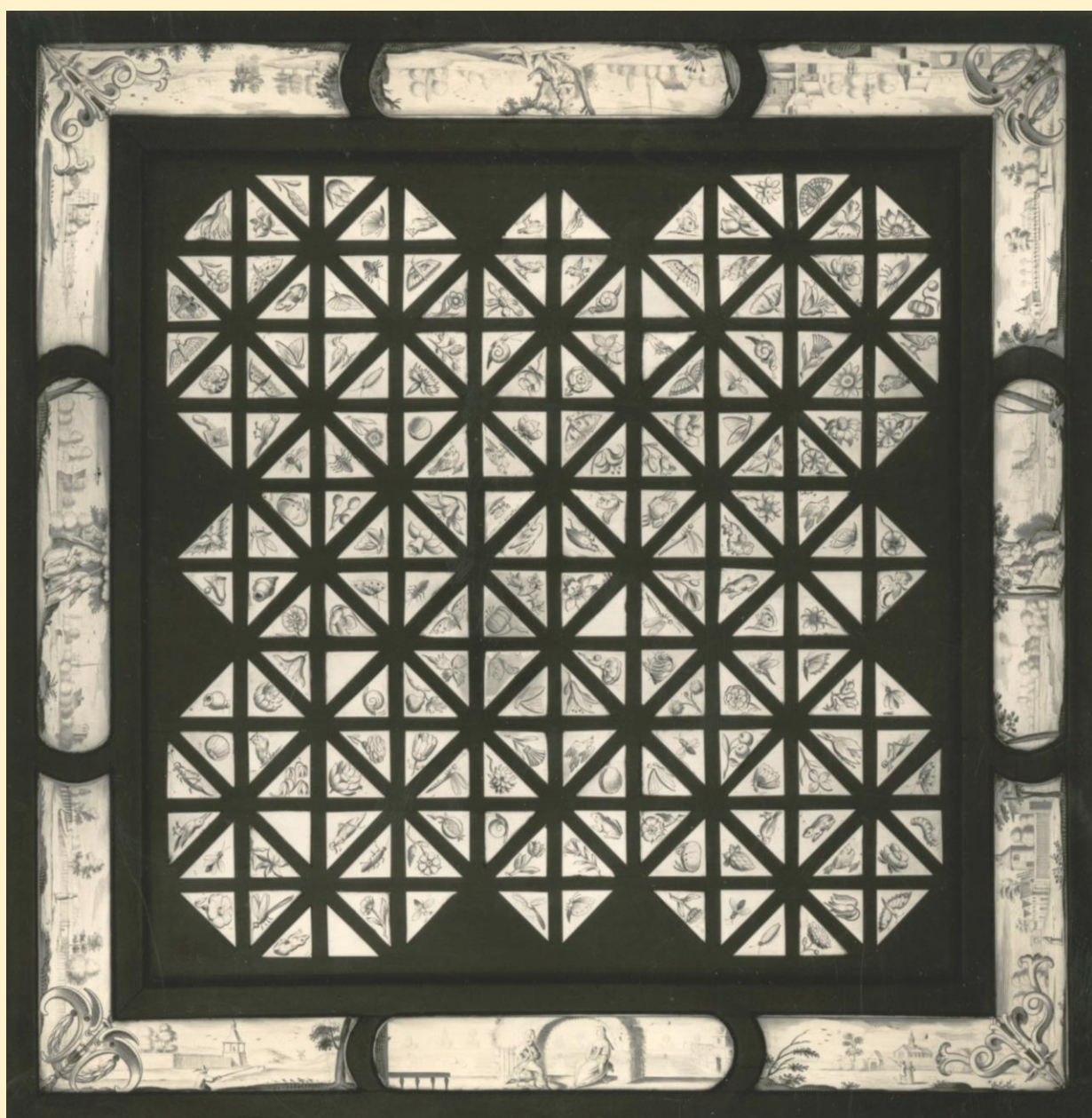




**Franeker**  
**20 February - 25 February 2024**  
**Waadhoeke School Tournament,**  
**Fryslân Open 2024,**  
**Masters and Grandmasters,**  
**Qualification FRYSK!**  
**7th World Championships FRYSK!**





### Locations in Franeker

The Koornbeurs Theatre is the venue for the Waadhoeke Schools Tournament on Tuesday 20 February and for the qualification tournament FRYSK! on Saturday 24 February. The unique Royal Eise Eisinga Planetarium will host the first round of the (grand)master tournament on Friday evening, 23 February. The Town Hall is the venue for the (grand)masters on Saturday 24 February and Sunday 25 February the WC FRYSK!

The opening of the Tournament will take place at De Bogt fen Guné on Tuesday evening, 20 February.

Clipper Elizabeth is one of the venues for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Tallship Antigua is also one of the venues for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday as well as the accommodation for the players from outside Fryslân. The sponsors' evening will take place here on Thursday 22 February too.



- 1 Train station
- 2 Tall ships
- 3 Bogt Fen Guné
- 4 Town Hall
- 5 Planetarium
- 6 Koornbeurs



### On the cover page

The origins of draughts have been debated for centuries. The origin of the game of draughts on the 64-field board (the most widely used in the world) has its origins in the Andaraya game, which can be transferred one-to-one to a chessboard. For the oldest form (Frisian draughts) of draughts on the 100-field board, it seemed logical that

there must also have been a similar transitional game. Until last year, no source could be found for this. A visit to the Rijksmuseum changed this: an 'Alquerque-like' game mentioned in the catalogue on one side of a gameboard was in one of the rooms of the Rijksmuseum. It was dated to early 17th-century! Every draughts player will recognise the 'Frisian' way of playing in the patterns on the board, which makes this draughts board the oldest of its kind and further proof that the origin of the 100-checked board must be sought in Friesland.





### Foreword

The WFD Foundation has a busy programme this year as a full World Championship Frisian Draughts is scheduled for 2024. The first qualifiers for this (basically) quadrennial tournament have already been held such as the Czech Championship Frisian Draughts, with winner Petra Duskova, the Dutch Championship Frisian Draughts played in Drachten with winner Taeke Kooistra and the recently held Fries Championship Frisian Draughts with winner Jelle Wiersma. These three players have already qualified for the World Championship Frisian Draughts to be held in Harlingen from Friday 16 to Saturday 24 August. In the qualification cycles, the Fryslân Open is the most important tournament because as many as eight players qualify for the WC here! And since the three players who have already qualified are also competing in the Fryslân Open, the players who perform well but do not qualify for the Masters or Grutmaster stand a good chance of qualifying for the WC.

Franeker has had an important role in competitive draughts for centuries. The first championships were played here 100 years ago and 200 years ago the first important matches were played in Franeker. Throughout the centuries, draughts has been played at many locations in Franeker, further on in this magazine there is an overview of this and it is definitely worth a 'city tour'.

As in previous editions, we are delighted to be guests of the Planetarium for the first round of the (Grut)Master tournament. The world's oldest working planetarium was awarded Unesco World Heritage status last year and, as far as is known, this will also be the first time a draughts competition is held at a location with this special status.

Without the support of the Tall ship company from Franeker, the municipality of Waadhoeke, province of Fryslân and the dozens of entrepreneurs and individuals who support us financially or in other ways, we would not be able to realise this and we are very grateful to them for that. In addition, the volunteers and staff in the organisation are indispensable to make this a successful event.

It only remains for me to wish all players from home and abroad a successful and especially sporting tournament.

Marten Walinga  
Chairman of Stifting WFD



### WFD Foundation

Waaksenserwei 2  
8823 SX Lollum  
The Netherlands  
KvK 602 002 35  
IBAN: NL72ABNA 0830 0429 11

### Organisation

The WFD Foundation is the executive organisation of the World Championships Frisian Draughts and all related tournaments and events. The WFD Foundation is affiliated to the Frisian Draughts Federation DFS, to the Royal Dutch Draughts Federation KNDB and, in addition, Frisian draughts is recognised as an international draughts sport by the FMJD.

### Mission statement

The WFD Foundation aims to develop Frisian draughts, which is internationally regarded as the most complex form of draughts, to a fully-fledged international standard.

### Approach

The WFD Foundation organises draughts events and offers tools to learn or practice Frisian draughts.

### Board

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### Website

[www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)

### Online players team

WFD Team at [www.lidraughts.org](http://www.lidraughts.org)

### Club of 100

Members of the Club of 100 support the work of the WFD Foundation by donating at least 100 Euro per year. Members are kept informed about the latest developments and are listed as sponsors on the website





### Day 1 Programme: Tuesday 20 February

#### 5th Waadhoeke Schools Tournament

Location: Koornbeurs Theatre

Participation is free of charge.

15.00 Arrival and registration in The Koornbeurs Theatre

15.30 - 17.30 Schools tournament: round I-VI

17.30 Award ceremony



The winner will receive an invitation to the qualification round FRYSK! on Saturday 24 February, prior to the WC FRYSK! on 25 February.

#### Opening and draw will be at The Bogt fen Guné

Location: Vijverstraat 1

The Netherlands

+31 (0)517 392 416

[www.debogt.nl](http://www.debogt.nl)



20.00 Arrival and registration with coffee and cake, accompanied by Sterk Spul shanty choir from Lollum

20.30 Opening and welcome by Waadhoeke municipality's Alderman for Sport René de Vries

20.45 Draw by notary Siebe Swart

The Fryslân Open will be played according to the Swiss system. The ranking always determines the opponent for the next round. Before the first round, a draw will be held to ensure that as many international players will have a Frisian opponent, as possible. Placement numbers and programme booklets will be handed out during the draw.

21.15 Rules Explanation

The main arbitrator will briefly explain the game and match rules. How the software is used to live-track the matches will also be explained.

21.30 Press moment and Meet and Greet

The press will have the opportunity to interview the draughts players.





### Day 2 Programme: Wednesday 21 February

#### Antigua and Elizabeth

Location: Oosterlijke Industrieweg

- 9.00           Arrival and registration
- 9.30           Official opening of the tournament:
- Opening of the tournament by the first move performed by an important person.
- 10.00-12.00   Round I  
                  Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua  
                  and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)
- 12.00-13.00   Lunch on the Antigua
- 13.00-15.00   Round II  
                  Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua  
                  and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)
- 15.30-17.30   Round III  
                  Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua  
                  and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)
- 18.00           Dinner on the Antigua







### Day 3: Thursday 22 February

#### Antigua en Elizabeth

Location: Oostelijke Industrieweg

- 9.30            Arrival
- 10.00-12.00   Round IV  
Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua  
and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)
- 12.00-13.00   Lunch on the Antigua
- 13.00-15.00   Round V  
Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua  
and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)
- 15.30-17.30   Round VI  
Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua  
and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)
- 18.00           Dinner on the Antigua
- 20.00           Sponsor evening
- Musician Joop Obama will be the host at an informal evening on the Antigua  
for players, volunteers and sponsors.





### Day 4 Daytime Programme: Friday 23 February

#### Antigua en Elizabeth

Location: Oostelijke Industrieweg

9.30 Arrival

10.00-12.00 Round VII

Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com).

12.00-13.00 Lunch on the Antigua

13.00-15.00 Round VIII

Games and livestream can be followed live on the Antigua and on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)

15.00-16.00 Barrages

17.30 Dinner on the Antigua

### Day 4 Evening Programme: Friday 23 February

#### Royal Eise Eisinga Planetarium

Location: Eise Eisingastraat 3

19.00 Arrival and tour of the Planetarium

19.30-22.30 Round I Grandmaster tournament

Games and livestream can be followed on [www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)

The four strongest players as well as numbers 5-8 in the rankings start the Master and Grandmaster tournament.







### Day 5 Programme: Saturday 24 February

#### A: Grandmasters and Masters

Town Hall

Location: Raadhuisplein 1

9.30           Arrival

10.00-13.00   Round II Grandmaster tournament  
Games and livestream can be followed in the Town Hall and on  
[www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)

13.00           Lunch

13.30-16.30   Round III Grandmaster tournament  
Games and livestream can be followed in the Town Hall and on  
[www.frisiandraughts.com](http://www.frisiandraughts.com)



#### B: FRYSK!

The Koornbeurs Theatre

Location: Noord Noordzijde 2, Upper Foyer

10.00-16.30   Qualifying tournament FRYSK!



FRYSK! is draughts played according to the Frisian draughts rules, and has only five pieces per player. Normally such a starting position invariably ends in a draw in other draughts variants. However, in Frisian draughts, with just five pieces per player, the beauty of the endgame comes to the fore and a draw is still a rarity! FRYSK! is easy to learn, no opening theory is needed, and the positions are always clear. So anyone can participate! In any case, the four strongest players will qualify for the World Championship FRYSK!

As the number of places is limited, please register as soon as possible in advance by emailing [liuwe.westra@mensa.nl](mailto:liuwe.westra@mensa.nl) or [martenwalinga@hotmail.com](mailto:martenwalinga@hotmail.com)

#### C: After the tournament

17.00           Closing ceremony and announcement of the WC FRYSK! participants at the Town Hall.

18.30           Dinner with Alderman Jan Dijkstra of the municipality of Waadhoeke.





### Day 6 Programme: Sunday 25 February

Town Hall

Location: Raadhuisplein 1

10.00-16.30 Seventh World Championships FRYSK!  
First move by Siep Buurke, board member of the FMJD

During the tournament, sixteen players will compete over seven rounds for the FRYSK! world Title. Each player gets 10 minutes thinking time and 10 seconds for each move played.

Placement/Ranking as per SwissPerfect:

- 1: Winner Dutch Championships FRYSK! 2023 Taeke Kooistra
- 2: Winner Italian Championships FRYSK! 2024 Andrea Peirano
- 3: Winner Czech Championships FRYSK! 2023 Petra Dušková
- 4: Winner Masters
- 5: Winner Grandmasters
- 6: 2nd place Masters
- 7: 2nd place Grandmasters
- 8: 3rd place Masters
- 9: 3rd place Grandmasters
- 10: 4th place Masters
- 11: 4th place Grandmasters
- 12: Winner Qualification Tournament FRYSK!
- 13: 2nd place Qualifying Tournament FRYSK!
- 14: 3rd place Qualifying Tournament FRYSK!
- 15: 4th place Qualifying Tournament FRYSK!
- 16: 5th place Qualifying Tournament FRYSK!



Reserves:

- 1st reserve: 6th place Qualifying Tournament FRYSK!  
2nd reserve: 7th place Qualifying Tournament FRYSK!  
3rd reserve: and so on....



16.00 Award and Closing ceremony of:

Fryslân Open 2023, Grandmasters and Masters Tournaments,  
Qualifying Tournament FRYSK! and WC FRYSK!

King's Commissioner Arno Brok will attend the Awards Ceremony.

18.00 Dinner







### Draughts tournaments in 19th century Franeker (Marten Walinga)

In the period 1800 to 1900, Frisian draughts was abundant and there were more draughts matches here than anywhere else in the Netherlands, even more than of chess and Dutch games combined. We can therefore safely say that Frisian draughts was the largest in the Netherlands in terms of competitive thinking sport. The city of Franeker was no exception in this. We go back in time no less than 200 years and end up in the Franeker of 1824. On 6 February 1824, innkeeper Freerk Haijes van der Stal, owner of the old inn De Roskam in Franeker, advertises in the Leeuwarder Courant for a draughts competition. As many as two silver tobacco boxes are to be won.



Lodge *De Roskam*, now Dijkstraat 42.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker

**Dampartij te Franeker.**  
De Kastelein P. H. BOLLEMA, te *Franeker*, zal, op Zaterdag den 12 Maart e. k., des namiddags ten één uur, ten zijnen huize laten Verdammen: Een **GOUDEN WILLEM** tot Prijs, en een **GOUDEN PIJPGULDEN-STUK** tot Premie.

**LIEFHEBBERS VAN DAMMEN.**  
Met permisse van heeren Burgemeesteren der Sted Franeker, gedenkt den kastelein FREERK HAIJES van der STAL en eenige Ingezetenen, te laten verdammen: Een of twee fraaie **ZILVEREN TABAKSDOZEN**, om dat, de Advertentie van 23 Januarij, des Vrijdags is blijven liegen, zoo worden nu, ten tweeten maal, alle voorliefers van des Spel uitgenoodigd op Maandag den negenden Februarij 1824, des middags ten een uur precies te beginnen. Alle Liefhebbers van Dammen worden uitgenoodigd op tijd en uur, **ZEG HET VOORT**.

In the first half of the 19th century, it was probably not yet very common to place advertisements for all draughts matches, and so we are 12 years further on before we find another announcement of a draughts match in Franeker, this time at Bollema's, then the innkeeper of De Oosterbleek. This was probably also immediately his last as the premises were destroyed by fire in 1837. After rebuilding, the name remained the same

It was not until 1878 and 1879 that draughts were played again in the Oosterbleek, including for a crystal cigar set and a heavy silver spoon, this competition organised by Klaas Bijlsma. A decade later, the property burns down again and after rebuilding, the café and livery stable is run by F. U. Otter. And this building too burns down again and is currently known as "Gate of Franeker".



Café and Stable keeper the *Oosterbleek* in 1905, Stationsweg 1.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker

Not far from here is the Stadsherberg of our caterer Eelco Bootsma, where draughts were also played. As early as 1836, we find the first draughts game set up here by the innkeeper B. Wijtsma at the time.

**D A M P A R T I J.**  
Met toestemming van het Bestuur, gedenkt de Kastelein B. WIJTSMA, in de zoogenaamde Stads Herberg te Franeker, op Maandag den 28 dezer, des namiddags om twee uren, een **fraaie ZILVEREN PRIJS en PREMIE** te laten Verdammen; waartoe alle Liefhebbers worden uitgenoodigd.

And 20 years later, on March 22 at innkeeper Hein Molenaar's house in "Het Kaatsveld", draughts were played, this time over a petroleum pump lamp..



The City Inn, *Stadsherberg*, around 1900, Oude Kaatsveld 8.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker





A year later, on Thursday 26 February 1857, innkeeper Reinsma of the Logement "De Zon" organises a competition where as many as 12 silver-studded knives are to be won.

And on 2 June, in the same location but by the new owner, Albertus Lucas Soorwold, another competition is played, competing for a pump lamp and 2 porcelain cigar stands.

Lodge "De Zon" (former inn De Gulden Engel) was a real draughts venue in those years, despite the changing owners, competitive draughts remained active here. This could indicate that a draughts company was active that continued to encourage the owners to issue matches.

On Monday 9 January 1860, innkeeper J. Bolta organised a competition here where once again a pump lamp was to be won, a popular prize



Former Logement *De Zon* located at Godsacker 2.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker

In 1862, "De Zon" again had a new owner called J. Piersma and he called for a draughts competition on Saturday 15 February, again draughts were played for 12 silver knives and a silver picker. One pub owner did not want to be inferior to the other it seems. Later in the same year on Saturday 15 November, he wrote another competition, this time for two marble draughts boards.



Another location where games are played is "De Belt" owned by innkeeper Jan Bijlsma. On Monday 25 January 1858, draughts were played for a silver milk spoon and 12 silver knives, and two years later, on Monday 7 February 1859, draughts were played here for a pump lamp.

In 1860, there was a pump lamp and a silver cigar pipe to be won, and in 1861, 12 silver knives and a silver picker.

On Monday 5 February 1866, innkeeper Jan Bijlsma of "De Belt" organised another competition in which draughts were played for 12 silver knives and a matchbox decorated with silver, and a year later on Monday 28 January 1867, draughts were played here for flower vases and cigar cups.

In 1869, we find here the last competition for a petroleum lamp and 2 marble cigar cups.



Former inn *De Belt*, Harlingerweg 9.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker







In Franeker, even the town fair was an occasion to hold a draughts competition can be read in an advertisement in the Franeker Nieuwsblad of 20 October 1867. And two months later another competition:

Ter gelegenheid der kermis gedenkt de Bierhuishouder C. PIERSMA te Franeker, op Woensdag den 23 a. k. des namiddags ten 3 ure te laten VERDAMMEN:

**een Schildpadden SIGAREN-KOKER met Zilver gemon-teerd, tot Prijs,**  
**en een porceleinen ASCHBAKJE met Zilveren stander, tot Premie.**

Waartoe alle liefhebbers worden uitgenoodigd.  
Aangifte op den dag der speeling van 12 tot 2 ure.

**DAMPARTIJ.**

Met vereischte toestemming, gedenkt de Onder-geteekende op Dingsdag den 31 December 1867 te laten Verdammen:

Tot PRIJS: Een fraaie schildpadden Sigarenkoker met zilver gemon-teerd.  
„ PREMIE: Een fraaie lederen Si-garenkoker, met zilver gemon-teerd.

Aangifte van 12 tot 3 uur. Daarna aanvang.  
C. PIERSMA,  
Bierhuishouder.  
Franeker.



Lodge "De Prins" later *The Beer House*, Academiestraat 16.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker

In 1870, for all we know, the last draughts match will be played in Cornelis Piersma's Bierhuis.

The Rustenburg inn (est. 1846) was nicknamed "Krit in de pipstal" (chalk on the pipe shaft), and owed this nickname to Ybeltje Tjepkes Jorna's broken bow, which she replaced with a chalk-rubbed chalk pipe shaft, thus continuing a festive evening in Rustenburg with music. Besides cosy evenings with music, draughts were also played here, at least from 1871 to 1884, a total of seven matches were advertised by innkeeper Wijpkje Attema.

**DAMPARTIJ**

bij den kastelein W. ATTEMA, op Rustenburg (*Krit in 'e Pipstal*) onder Franeker, op Maandag den 25 December 1871.  
PRIJS en PREMIE nader te bepalen.  
Aangifte vóór 's middags 3 uur.  
Alle liefhebbers worden uitgenoodigd.

**DAMPARTIJ**

bij W. ATTEMA, op Rustenburg (*Krit in 'e Pipstal*) onder Franeker, op Woensdag den 26 Februari a.s., door liefhebbers die geen geadverteenden prijs hebben gewonnen.  
PRIJS twee Fraaie Bloemvasen  
PREMIE een dito  
Aangifte 's namiddags te 2 uur.  
Bij bovengenoemde is voor een klein gein een KAMER te huur.



Inn Rustenburg in 1947 ", Leeuwarderweg 18.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker

**DAMPARTIJ**

bij W. ATTEMA op Rustenburg (*Krit in 'e Pipstal*) onder Franeker, door liefhebbers die geen geadverteenden prijs hebben gewonnen, op Donderdag den 13 Februari 1873.  
PRIJS: Een fraaie Petroleumlamp.  
PREMIE: Een Tabakspot.  
Aangifte 's namiddags te 3 uur.

**DAMPARTIJ**

bij W. ATTEMA, op Rustenburg, aan de Leeuwarder Straatweg onder Franeker, op Donderdag 29 Januari 1874, door liefhebbers die niet meer dan een geadverteenden Prijs hebben gewonnen.  
PRIJS: een fraaie tinnen Koffijkan.  
PREMIE: een Tabakspot.  
Aangifte 's namiddags 4 uur.

**DAMPARTIJ**

op Maandag 25 December a. k., bij W. ATTEMA op Rustenburg aan den Leeuwarder Straatweg onder Franeker.  
PRIJS een fraaie tinnen Koffijkan.  
PREMIE nader te bepalen.  
Door liefhebbers die geen geadverteenden prijs hebben gewonnen.  
Aangifte om 3 uur 's namiddags.

The last documented contest in 19th-century Franeker was played in "De nieuwe Doelen". In 1888, the then innkeeper Anne Gerardus Keijzer wrote out draughts competition.

**DAMPARTIJ**

in de NIEUWE DOELEN te Franeker.  
Om nader te bepalen prijs en premie.  
Aangifte Maandag 5 Maart, tot 's namiddags 3 uur. Daarna loten.  
Inleg 50 Cents.



*De Nieuwe Doelen* on Breedeplaats 6.  
Source: Historical Centre Franeker

The villages around Franeker also played draughts to their hearts' content, such as Sexbierum, Tzum, Herbaijum, Wijnaldum, Sweins, Winsum, Peins, Menaldum, Dronrijp, Kingmatille, Baijum, Kubaard, Schalsum, Hitzum, Wier, Beetgum, Minnertsga, Oosterbierum, Kimsward, Achlum and Midlum.

Those were the days....



### Seventh World FRYSK! Championship!

Seemingly simple with 5 pieces each

Frisian draughts with five pieces each. Many thinking game enthusiasts who are not yet familiar with the game still wonder how this is possible, such a large draughts board with only a few handfuls of pieces each, and then also exciting!

The secret of this endgame lies in a few simple rules, the best of which is surely the three-move rule. This is an elegant rule that ensures progression in the game, but also results in different positions being possible with the pieces in the same positions. As an example, a simple-looking endgame of a king and piece for both players. First the question arises as to whose move it is: 2 possibilities. Then comes the question of how many times the king has played: 1, 2, 3 or none. That is 4 possibilities for both players, so then we are at  $4 \times 4 \times 2 = 32$  possible starting positions. If the question is then also asked who plays which way, twice as many possibilities arise: there are 64 possible starting positions for just one starting position. That gives even the best mindsporters a headache!

With the arrival of the computer programme Scan at [www.lidraughts.org](http://www.lidraughts.org), the secrets of the endgame can be unravelled by anyone. But for us, it remains human work, and therefore even a 'thin' endgame, with only a few pieces, remains difficult to comprehend.

That is why we are once again holding a FRYSK! world championship, and once again in the form of a final for 16 players. Eight places will be filled by the masters and grandmasters of the Fryslân Open 2024, one place is reserved for Dutch champion Taeke Kooistra. Andrea Peirano qualified by winning the FRYSK! championship in Italy and Petra Dušková did the same in the Czech Republic. The final places will be completed from the qualification FRYSK! to be played on Saturday 25 February. Because FRYSK! is quick to learn and good to practice with the App, strong youth players may also have a good chance of qualifying for the final

To all those who are competing in FRYSK: good luck and great end games!!!

WFD Foundation







## Participants FRYSLÂN OPEN 2024

### 1. Aleksej Domchev (Litouwen) *International grandmaster draughts from Lithuania*

Aleksey Domchev is now among the regulars. In 2017, he was the highest finishing international player at the Fryslân Open, taking second place in the Grutmastertoernooi. Last year, he finished a shared fifth and in the play-off he just failed to qualify at the Masters. At the world championships FRYSK! 2023, he came joint sixth.



### 2. Auke Zijlstra (Nederland) *World champion FRYSK! 2023*

After winning the world title of FRYSK! last year, Auke Zijlstra can safely be called the endgame specialist of Frisian draughts. In the strong field of participants of the Fryslân Open 2023, he finished in a shared 12th place. Many games lately are only decided in the endgame and in this he definitely has an advantage..

### 3. Fedde Kramer (Nederland) [Lidraughts.org](http://Lidraughts.org) and [Friesyngrun.nl](http://Friesyngrun.nl)

The co-founder of the draughts platform [www.lidraughts.org](http://www.lidraughts.org) and organiser of draughts tournaments Fries Spel in Groningen has earned a ticket for the Fryslân Open tournament in July 2023. In 2020, Fedde already played the qualifying tournament FRYSK! and managed to secure a shared fifth place. He could well be a dangerous outsider this year.



### 4. Herbert Tulleken (Nederland) *A mindsporter from Amsterdam*

Tulleken began his thinking experiences on the 100-squared board as a draughts player of the diagonal game but could not swallow the fact that so many games in which clear advantage had been gained nevertheless ended in a bloodless draw. Besides being a lover of chess, he also embraced Frisian draughts.

### 5. Leo van Dorp (Nederland) *Mindsports and flutes, a striking combination.*

Van Dorp is a creative thinker who has to go very deep if he is not to lose out in these tough contestants. Fortunately, there has been strong software to practice with in recent years and he will undoubtedly emerge strong as a result.



### 6. Lukasz Kosobudski (Polen) *Two times Polish Classic and five times Polish rapid champion*

The 35-year-old draughts player lives in Mińsk Mazowiecki, where he plays draughts and teaches draughts. He likes all draughts variants, such as playing on 64 and Turkish. Fryslân Open 2024 will be his first tournament in Frisian draughts. In his spare time, he plays the game with his wife and friends and watches matches of Frisian tournaments in Toernooibase. His former coach - Martijn van Gortel taught him to play Frisian.



### 7. Menno Kamminga (Nederland)

Kamminga is the father of Porter Richardson and now an avid Frisian Draughts Game player in addition to playing draughts at two clubs in the west of the country. It is a challenge for him as a novice senior to make opponents sweat and sigh, prefers to play longer games on the board than the quick ones at Lidraughts. We are curious to see where he will end up.

### 8. Patrick Casaril (België) *Multiple Belgian champion*

Casaril has been playing in international tournaments in Franeker since the early years. Managed to make it to the WC FRYSK! several times and usually finishes in the middle of the Fryslân Open. We do see progression in the game he plays every year.



### 9. Petra Dušková (Tsjechië) *Czech champion FRYSK!*

Dušková is a draughts coach in Prague and has been focusing on Frisian draughts for several years. And with success! Her final place in the first world championship FRYSK! was widely admired, and by training a lot on the app, her game has only got stronger recently. Petra is one of the Czech Republic's strongest draughts players and has already qualified for the FRYSK! Championship.

### 10. Porter Richardson (Nederland) *An aspirant in Frisian and international draughts*

The 15-year-old Porter from Monster is the current champion of South Holland among the aspirants and also has a lot of fun in the Frisian Game. What fascinates him the most are the many battle combinations and in addition, he is a lover of the endgame and enjoys participating in the tournaments FRYSK! He has been training a lot lately and we can expect something from him.



### 11. Renaud Braye (België) *Versatile draughts artist from Belgium*

This player of draughts is a true multi-talent. Not only does he play several mind games, he is also a professional musician and does not shy away from conducting a choir when asked. Moreover, he is one of the most active international players on the online version of the app. Via [www.lidraughts.org](http://www.lidraughts.org), he has been playing in De Rûge Wolf's club competition for a few years now.

### 12. Ties Slagter *Stronger and stronger, heading for the top*

Slagter is showing himself more and more often both online and in real tournaments, and rightly so, because he is playing stronger and stronger every tournament. He only learnt Frisian draughts at a later age and by playing many games and studying it seriously, he shows that age does not matter when it comes to mastering a complex game like Frisian draughts.





### Frisian players



#### **13. Bauke Dijkstra** *Original and surprising draughts player*

Those who think they have completely mastered a particular opening often get surprises from Dijkstra. These surprises may cause his opponents some headaches, but they always enrich the opening theory. But also in the middlegame and the endgame, he often manages to find the way to victory.

#### **14. Henk Haanstra** *Winner of the Grutmasters 2023*

Henk Haanstra has been playing in the Frisian Championship for years and is often close to the title. He is one of those draughts players who literally has the game in his genes, but nevertheless (or because of it?) always manages to enrich opening theory with strong new variants.



#### **15. Cor Kooistra** *Creative draughts player with theoretical game knowledge*

Anyone who replays Cor Kooistra's games quickly sees that he likes frivolous play. Preferably postponing solid exchanges for as long as possible to keep as many *flypflapkes* as possible in the game. It is therefore an art not to fall for this and for Cor an art not to end up with a disadvantageous endgame.

#### **16. Taeke Kooistra** *Both Dutch champion FRYSK! and classic in 2023.*

Holder of the most Frisian draughts titles in Fryslân and last year won two important titles, there are few players who can emulate him. In recent years, it seems as if the level of the game is going up with the rise of the new training facilities. For someone like Kooistra, this does not seem to be a problem and he keeps up with the pace of the players.



#### **17. Dicky van der Meer** *Strong player from Terherne*

A resident of Kameleon village Terherne, Van der Meer will no doubt feel right at home at a tournament held mostly on the water. He recently qualified for the Dutch championship. He has been playing for years and every year we see progression. The opponents know they have to take him into account!

#### **18. Foeke Tiemensma** *Grandmaster*

Without exaggeration one of the strongest players in the tournament. Plays both international tournaments international draughts and the Frisian tournaments. When Tiemensma competes, most people already know he will end up at the top. He is a creative draughts player who goes to extremes and is a winner.







### 19. Hein de Vries *Grandmaster*

Hein de Vries was one of the first Frisian draughts players to take part in international exchanges playing different variants, long before the tournaments in Franeker. Played an extremely strong tournament in this year's Frisian championship and narrowly missed out on the title.

### 20. Hidde de Vries *A challenge*

In recent years, Hidde de Vries has been making more and more progress in his game and is edging towards the top. At local tournaments, he plays with the best players. Now, for the first time, he has taken the step to an international tournament. We are not only curious to see how he performs, but also whether he will be able to place in the top eight, which is certainly possible.



### 21. Marten Walinga *contender and world champion*

For more than 30 years he has been playing at the top of the champions league and he is certainly one of the players who can be expected to establish himself at the top. Yet he still regularly misses the strongest continuation at the critical moments. Creative player who does not shy away from a tough game.

### 22. Piet Sikma *Draughts and chess player*

Sikma is someone who only started playing Frisian draughts after moving from Sneek to the village of Hartwerd, which can boast a strong Frisian draughts club. By now, he plays a formidable game, and his opponents know not to underestimate him.



### 23. Fedde Wiersma *A strong sub-topper for many years*

Wiersma is a solid player who has been in the sub-top of Frisian draughts for years. He particularly excels by playing strong positions in the thinner positions. He is also a regular participant in the Fryslân Open.

### 24. Jelle Wiersma *Multiple Frisian champion*

Wiersma is also a very strong Frisian draughts player; he is the current Frisian champion. He was the first to call himself world champion FRYSK! in 2016. With the title of champion Frisian draughts, he has already qualified for the upcoming world championship of Frisian draughts but that will be no reason for him not to fight for the top spot now.



### 25. Tsjerck Wijbenga *Plays regularly at champion league*

This year, Tsjerck played in the championship class and could have won many games there, built up strong positions but due to inaccuracies caused by loss of concentration he often missed out on a win. He now knows what the problem is and may well come out strongly at the Fryslân Open.



### Tournament schedule Fryslân Open 2024: see Toernooibase

For the first eight rounds of the Fryslân Open, each player has 40 minutes + 20 seconds per move playing time.

### Tournament schedule Grutmasters and Masters:

For the three rounds of the (Grut)Mastertoernoai, each player has 90 minutes + 30 seconds per move playing time.

Grutmasters 2024							
Speler		1	2	3	4	Totaal	Uitslag
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						

Masters 2024							
Speler		1	2	3	4	Totaal	Uitslag
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						

### Competition schedule Grutmasters and Masters:

First round on Friday evening: 1 – 4 and 2 – 3

Second round on Saturday morning: 3 – 1 and 4 – 2

Third round on Saturday afternoon: 1 – 2 and 3 – 4



### in memoriam Sjoerd Couperus

Sjoerd Couperus was born 7 April 1930 in the hamlet of Tritsum as the ninth in a family of eleven children. His father was a small-scale farmer and Sjoerd, together with his brothers and sisters, was raised in the traditional Frisian sports and pastimes: jumping over canals, looking for eggs of wild fowl and handball in Spring and Summer, skating and draughts in Autumn and Winter. He practised a lot with his brothers Johannes, Mollerus and Jacob and soon was one of the best. Playing draughts ran in the family, by the way: his maternal uncles Sjoerd and Klaas Tigchelaar both became champions of Frisian Draughts between the years 1936 and 1968. In particular Sjoerd Tigchelaar, the first to become champion after the famous Jurjen Tolsma, was champion no fewer than ten times.

Sjoerd Couperus never won the Frisian championships, but he was a lifelong and devoted player. After his marriage with Gerbrig Westra he settled in the village of Idaard and became a member of draughts club Wurdum. As a draughts player he bore the nickname 'de foks' ('the fox'). This was probably a reference to the nickname of the inhabitants of Idaard in the first place ('Idaarder foksen'), but soon it became his trademark as a cunning and devious opponent, a player who tried to oust his adversary with traps, shots and ruses until the very last moment.

Not only was he an enthusiastic player who hardly missed a tournament, he also assisted his lifelong friend Hiele Walinga in the latter's research of the history of Frisian Draughts. Many a day they scanned century-old newspapers for advertisements of draughts tournaments and their efforts resulted in what is still a standard work, published by the Frisian Academy: *Oer Alles!* (2004).

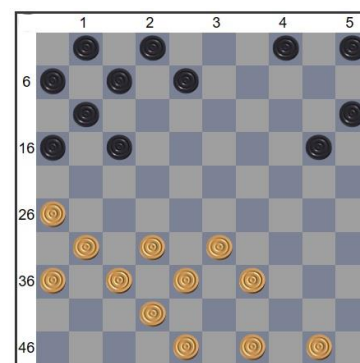
From the beginning of the tournaments in Franeker/Frjentsjer, Sjoerd Couperus was one of the participants. He was thrilled to play against world champions like Alexander Georgiev and Michele Borghetti and after some initial scepticism ('Do you really want to make the whole world play Frisian Draughts?'), he became a staunch supporter of the work of the

WFD Foundation, both in a material and an immaterial way.

Last year, 2023, his health was already so frail that it was uncertain for a long time whether he could join the tournament. But he really wanted to, and he accepted the offer of playing without having to climb the stairs wholeheartedly. He could remain in a comfortable place on tallship Elizabeth, where it was even possible to take a nap, and his opponents came up to him, some of them with fear and trembling, because Sjoerd soon showed that he had not lost his sharpness as a draughts player.

In November 2023, he slipped in the bathroom and incurred a hip fracture. This proved too much for his health - even if he had played some games of draughts in the village of Hartwert only one day before. He passed away on 12 November in the age of 93. The world of draughts has lost a unique player, but Sjoerd Couperus will be remembered for many years to come.

Liuwe H. Westra



In this position Sjoerd Couperus (black) made a winning combination against Alexander Shvartsman during the Fryslân Open tournament 2019



Sjoerd Couperus against Rein Jan Walinga during the Fryslân Open tournament 2023.





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Shipdock Draaisma

Couperus Hydroliek

Bakkerij Siesling

Groot Amswert

Groencentrum Witmarsum

Bouwhandel Friesland



### The oldest working Planetarium in the world

#### The solar system at home

On the ceiling of the living room of a beautiful canal house in Franeker is the oldest working planetarium in the world. This precise moving model of the solar system was built between 1774 and 1781 by the Frisian woolcomber Eise Eisinga..



#### Eise Eisinga

In Eise Eisinga's former workshop, you can learn about his profession as a woolcomber. Astronomy and mathematics were just his hobby. Based on self-study, he wrote a mathematics book at the age of 15. Two years later, he completed an astronomy book.

#### Current position

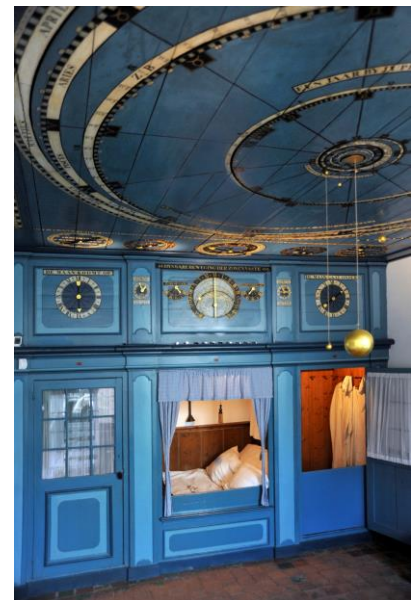
To this day, the Planetarium shows the current position of the planets. In fact, the Planetarium's planets move around the sun in the same time as the real planets: Mercury, for example, in 88 days, Earth in a year and Saturn even in more than 29 years!

#### Clockwork

The planetarium runs through an impressive cog of wooden hoops and discs, with six thousand hand-forged nails as teeth. A pendulum clock and nine weights drive the whole thing.

#### Collection

But the Eise Eisinga Planetarium is more than a planetarium. It is also a museum that houses an extensive collection of historical astronomical instruments and focuses on modern astronomy. There is also a cinema where documentaries are shown continuously.



#### History

The Planetarium has a rich history. It has been visited since its opening in 1781. While only a few hundred visitors came to the Planetarium in the first few years, by 2019 it had risen to more than 65,000. To give space to these visitors, the Planetarium was expanded in 2008 with an adjacent building. Here used to be Van Balen's coffee roastery. It has a beautiful shop interior in Art Nouveau style. In 2016, a third building was added. The entrance was moved to this, creating space for a cinema and an interactive exhibition



*Adrie Warmenhoven, conservator-director*



### Studbook draughts boards

As far as we know, there is no known region other than Fryslân where so many old draughts boards have been preserved, so it is high time to record these data. This starts with making an inventory of the draughts boards and finding out where they are located. This is already known for a number of draughts boards and good pictures are already available. To give you an impression of what kind of boards they are, what they look like and when they were made, here is a small overview.



Left: Draughts board from 1769 used in a horse-drawn barge.  
Right: an image from 1770 of travellers sitting together in the deckhouse of a barge. As a pastime, draughts were also played; the same checkerboard is still known to have been dredged up in an old tow canal..

[Scheepvaartmuseum in Sneek]



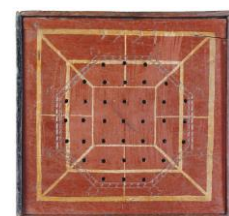
Left: Gameboard from 1774, possibly made by the master carpenters of a shipyard in Joure who became co-owners of a sawmill in 1774. (detail right)

[Klaas Regts, Franeker]



Left: Draughts board from 1877, used in the inn "De Drie Kogels" in Follega. (Right). The board appears to have been repainted and is therefore probably much older.

[Siebren Dyk, Jorwert]



Left: Draughts board with solitaire game and merels board on the back from 1724. A former aunt and former owner of the draughts board ran the station coffee house in Deinum.

[Loonstra-van Dijk, Gytsjerk]

In the future, we hope to create as complete a studbook of checkerboards as possible. Here, this Frisian sport culture will be recorded and made accessible to a wider public, and the owners will also become aware of this special cultural asset.





### Thanks to:

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The many volunteers who make this thinking sports event possible and:

- Jan Bruinsma and crew of the Tall Ship Company from Franeker for making the tall ship Antigua and the clipper Elizabeth available. They will provide sleeping accommodation and breakfast for the foreign players and make their ships available for the Fryslân Open 2024.

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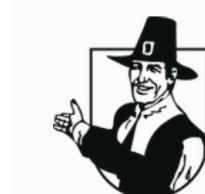
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