

NAME

DateTime::Format::PGN - a Perl module for parsing and formatting date fields in chess game databases in PGN format

VERSION

version 0.05

SYNOPSIS

```
use DateTime::Format::PGN;

my $f = DateTime::Format::PGN->new();
my $dt = $f->parse_datetime( '2004.04.23' );

# 2004.04.23
print $f->format_datetime( $dt );

# return a DateTime::Incomplete object:
my $fi = DateTime::Format::PGN->new( { use_incomplete => 1 } );
my $dti = $fi->parse_datetime( '2004.??.??' );

# 2004.??.??
print $fi->format_datetime( $dti );
```

METHODS

new(%options)

Options are Boolean `use_incomplete` (default 0) and Boolean `fix_errors` (default 0).

```
my $f = DateTime::Format::PGN->new( { fix_errors => 1, use_incomplete => 1 } );
```

PGN allows for incomplete dates while `DateTime` does not. All missing date values in `DateTime` default to 1. So PGN `????.??.??` becomes `0001.01.01` with `DateTime`. If `use_incomplete => 1`, a `DateTime::Incomplete` object is used instead where missing values are `undef`.

I observed a lot of mistaken date formats in PGN databases downloaded from the internet. If `fix_errors => 1`, an attempt is made to parse the date anyway.

parse_datetime(\$string)

Returns a `DateTime` object or a `DateTime::Incomplete` object if option `use_incomplete => 1`. Since the first recorded chess game was played 1485, years with a leading 0 are handled as errors.

format_datetime(\$datetime)

Given a DateTime object, this methods returns a PGN date string. If the date is incomplete, use a DateTime::Incomplete object (the use_incomplete option does not affect the formatting here).

Source

[PGN spec](#) by Steven J. Edwards.

See also

- [Chess::PGN::Parse](#)
- [DateTime::Incomplete](#)
- <http://datetime.perl.org/>

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