Issue 231 September 1996

**SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive met on Friday 13th September 1996 at the Durham Castle. Only 10 attended, and the agenda was a small one. Main points:

**(1) Minute Secretary**. Adrian Laurence was co-opted to the Executive (with voting rights) as Minute Secretary.

**(2) Chess and the DNH**. It was reported, with what degree of assurance we can’t say, that chess has a fair chance of becoming a Sport within the next six months. The DNH is being cautious lest tiddlywinks muscle in. A bridge player said bridge wasn’t tiddlywinks, and the word was that bridge should be OK as well. Don’t know any details.

**(3) MCCU Challenge Match**. This looks like going ahead, to mark the MCCU centenary in 1997. Probably towards the end of the year. They’re also talking about a WECU Challenge, marking the WECU’s 50th anniversary as well as the MCCU’s 100th.

**(4) Grading**. Martin Cath reported that, as far as he could tell, all SCCU events had gone in. The National list was published on time at the start of August, as you’ll know; the SCCU one was still hanging fire through delays at the printers’ but was expected imminently. It was agreed that we really ought to be selling it at the British; especially next year with the British on our patch. (Printer must have given the Kent list a higher priority, because Martin produced some copies at the meeting. Kent *had* asked for it urgently at almost no notice.) Sales and orders, for both BCF and SCCU lists, looked reasonably healthy.

Questions for the future: If and when the BCF list goes twice-yearly, do we follow suit with the SCCU one? How about attaching a Rapidplay list?

Graders please note: if you sent amendments to players’ details in summer 1995, they may have got lost in the BCF’s hard disk crash. Don’t be too surprised if you have to send them again. (Apparently they lost their list of graders as well.)

**(5) SCCU U180 KO**. We reported last time that one match had been played; Oxon had reached the final but Kent and Sussex were bogged down at the semi-final stage. We’d heard, perhaps wrongly, that Sussex were likely to default. In the end nothing happened about the unplayed semi-final and Oxon were declared winners by default. It was agreed that the event should be a jamboree next year if we can find a slot for it in the calendar.

**(6) BCQ places** at SCCU congresses. The Essex Congress may well be enlarged and enhanced next year and there was some discussion of allocating one of our three BCQ places to it. Which would mean taking it away from somewhere else. In the end it was thought that the BCF would probably award an extra place if asked nicely.

**(7) SCCU County Matches 1996-7**. The fixture list had unfortunately not been circulated yet; it should be out imminently. (Later note: it’s on page 7.) Nearly everyone had opted for 16 boards in the Open; this really does look like becoming the norm in a year or two.

**(8) Juniors**. Nigel Dennis sought guidance on what activities were required. He had already said, at the Council Meeting, that he was unlikely to be as visible as his predecessor. In addition, an organiser who had been mooted as unofficial NWD-assistant was no longer available. It was agreed that, apart from the National U18 Qualifier, no event was indispensable. If we run no others, what do we do with the balance of the junior budget? There was a sort of consensus that we should not pour money into events, locally or nationally based, that were already healthy and were going to happen anyway. Better to sound out the organisers and look for gaps in the provision, or events in danger of folding. Whatever we did we should ensure that money spent would increase the provision of junior events.

It was noted that, through no fault of the BCF’s, our three nominations for BCET schools awards in 1996 had never reached them. This is why the recent awards (see next item) include no SCCU names.

**(9) 4th SCCU International** 19-27 August had been successfully completed, with 45 entries. The top few results were reported but, as usual with oral reports and the SCCU International, your Editor had trouble with names and decided to wait till he had them on paper. They’re on page 5. Once again there had been a financial loss which David Sedgwick had borne personally. He has done this four times, as well as arranging the event, and will not continue on the same basis next year. The future of the event is doubly uncertain because other international events are mooted for August next year.

**(10) BCF Congress 1997**. As this was being held in our area, at Hove, it was felt we ought to put on some sort of an SCCU show. Maybe, like Notts this year, we could do a Rapidplay event on the day before the congress for people who turned up early; or man an SCCU information stall during the event. (And sell SCCU grading lists!)

**(11) BCF Management Board**. Initial re-structuring proposals have come from the BCF. The Executive had a (fairly) quick look at them with the following week’s BCF Council Meeting in mind, but came to no real conclusions. More in the next item.

**(12) Future meetings**. Executive Friday 7th March 1997; and provisionally Friday 16th May. Council Saturday 5th July 1997.

**BCF MEETINGS**

at Warrington, 21st September

The BCF Council meeting was preceded, as always, by a short meeting of the Management Board. Well, short compared with its seven-hour marathons. Largely it was preparation for the afternoon’s meeting, and not much happened that needs reporting. Or anything, really. 50‑odd attended the Council meeting, armed with we don’t

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know how many proxies. It was a pretty peaceful affair. Business, pared of the routine and the things we’ve overlooked:

**(1) Game Fee**. Everyone paid eventually, for 1995-6.

**(2) Presidents Awards** for Services to Chess went to Bob Blake (Kent) and Richard James (Richmond), who have both made a lasting mark on junior chess in their areas; and to Stan Lovell of the BCA. British Chess Educational Trust Awards went to two junior schools in the NCCU and WECU; for SCCU nominations, see item 8 in the previous article. Club of the Year is Guildford, and Player of the Year is Michael Adams.

**(3) Publicity Director** asked who’d seen anything about chess in the last week in the press, on Teletext, and on the Internet. Answers were respectively lots, lots, and a handful. People complained about the awful service on Teletext.

**(4) Jobs**. It was agreed to rename the Chairman of the Management Board Chairman of the BCF, and see the role of the President as an ambassadorial one “outside the framework of detailed organisation”. And we have a prestige President: Steve Davis the snooker player, whose interest in chess is well known, had agreed to put his name forward and Council elected him something like unanimously. Chairman of the BCF is Stewart Reuben. Director for Congress Chess is Tim Wall. There was a contested election for Director of Home Chess between Alan Atkinson of Kent, who has been running the National Club, and Nigel Johnson of Slough and the 4NCL. Both had been interviewed by the Management Board in the morning but the MB, recognising the merits of both, made no recommendation to Council. After a short address by each candidate, and prolonged discussion, Alan Atkinson was elected by a substantial but not huge majority. He will continue his National Club job as well. Neither candidate wanted to take on that part of the job which involves the Yearbook; someone will have to be found to do this.

**(5) Womens Chess**. Well, the Director of Womens Chess proposed it. It was agreed to set aside £4000, in case it was needed, for a mixed event in London in 1997 to mark the centenary of the first ever womens tournament (an international sponsored by the London club). It is intended that norm opportunities should be available.

**(6) Yorkshire** applied for, and got, re-admittance to the Federation.

**(7) Restructuring of Management Board**. This actually got past a hurdle, admittedly a rather preliminary one. The working group appointed in April came back with some radical outline ideas and sought approval to develop them into concrete form with a view to proposals next year. It got approval, by a pretty large majority, though many expressed serious reservations. Your Editor, like Paul Buswell who said it, dislikes trendspeak like “Mission Statement” and “core values” and “own the vision for the organisation”; and he got bored during the presentation (with compulsory OHP) because he’d *read* the paper when it was circulated. However, he’s tried not to let this influence his summary of the proposals. Briefly, the MB and Directors would be elected by Council. Directors would just get on with their jobs, with no automatic place on the MB. The MB would be a small body responsible for longer-term overall planning, financial management, and communication with major outside bodies like governments and sponsors. It would include one member (eventually on a full-time salary?!) responsible for overseeing the work of Directors. No one would have delegates on the MB; the delegate body would be Council.

**(8) Counties Championship**. The NCCU had a motion on the agenda calling for the exclusion of ungraded players from the U100. They withdrew this, at least until next year, when Council passed the SCCU’s proposal requiring match captains to get the controller’s permission, providing evidence of strength where possible, before using an ungraded player in any of the grading-limited events.

SCCU proposal on Minor Counties eligibility was agreed (counties to nominate by 31st Oct, and MB to confirm by 30 Nov).

**(9) European Club Cup**. It was agreed that English nominees for 1997 and 1998 could be selected on the basis of National Club and 4NCL. Someone suggested that this might be against the (European) rules, since it would look as though we had two national championships.

**(10) 1997 Council Meetings**: April Birmingham, September London.

The meeting ran from 1.30 to 5.30 p.m. Your Editor would have got home fresher, and probably earlier, if British Rail or whatever they’re called hadn’t concealed the existence of a through train from London. Warrington’s a long drive from Tunbridge Wells.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Richard**, 22.8.96

Thank you for my first subscription copy of the SCCU Bulletin. I had not expected to read an article where I figured quite so prominently.

Your reporting of a casual conversation which we had at East Grinstead has caused me some embarrassment and the need to explain my comments to both David Sedgwick and Richard O’Brien. You will, I believe, have already received correspondence from them.

I believe you have taken a comment I made and elaborated it for your journalistic purposes.

I did tell you that I had run 7 tournaments using the Fischer timings without any major or minor problems. Not a single game had reached a point where it had to be stopped because it was going to interfere with the start of the

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next round.

I did tell you that out of a conversation with David Sedgwick, there was the possibility that they might enter and should they be paired there might be the possibility of their game going to the time control, just to see what I would do - a test for me! This was a light-hearted comment and no way taken seriously by myself and should not have been reported by you - and certainly not in the way that you chose to state it. Neither player said they would only turn up on Sunday and fix a game.

I would appreciate your correcting this article in the next issue.

POINT OF INFORMATION: In my weekend congresses the games would be stopped “sometime” after 3½ hours. Your article could have been read to mean at 3½ hours they are stopped by me.

Although only 53 played at East Grinstead, on the following weekend at the 10th Mill Hill Congress there were 132 players and again no problems.

Fischer timings in my opinion offer an opportunity for a much more relaxed ending to a game of chess where both players display their knowledge of endgame play (often missing the blitz finishes).

I shall try to be clearer in my conversations with you in future and look forward to receiving the next issue of the SCCU Bulletin. Yours sincerely,

**Tony (Corfe)** Potters Bar

**Dear Richard**, 21.8.96

As one of those involved in the preparation of the BCF Millennium Awards Submission, I would like to thank you for the tribute in the July Bulletin. I was rather less ecstatic when I read the extraordinary remarks which you make about me in your report of the Millstream Congress. Let me state for the record that I have never even discussed, let alone reached, any arrangement with Richard O’Brien along the lines which you allege, whether in relation to the Millstream Congress or to any other event. Since I became BCF International Director, I seem to have been rather too busy to go around the place causing trouble. Yours sincerely,

**David Sedgwick** Croydon

**Dear Mr Haddrell**, 19.8.96

I refer to your article in the July edition of SCCU Bulletin headed “Fischer Timing, and DGTs”.

Personally I find the reference to myself offensive as well as being grossly untrue.

(1) At no stage did I ever consider playing at the East Grinstead tournament. I was out of the country at the time which I had planned to be several months in advance. Your implication, at least to those who played at East Grinstead, that I didn’t turn up on the Sunday as planned is thus false.

(2) Your assertion that I, a FIDE Arbiter, would prearrange a tournament game in this country, let alone with David Sedgwick, I find objectionable.

(3) The reason that in the past I (& David Sedgwick!? according to you) have been called “troublemakers” is due to gross misreporting by the likes of you. I note that on the inside cover of the magazine you claim “Facts we try to get right” - clearly this is untrue and is the responsibility not just of you but of the Southern Counties Chess Union.

As you are probably aware I make my living from chess and dishonest comments made by the likes of you do not help my business. Fortunately false stories put around have not stopped me running bookstalls at Maidstone, Hastings and the British Championship (where I am currently writing this letter) etc.

I trust that I will receive a full apology in writing from you within 7 days and a published apology. Hopefully this will be in the same edition which you announce your resignation as editor.

I recently saw David Sedgwick and he made it clear that he was “unhappy” with your comments.

Should I not hear from you the matter will be placed in the hands of solicitors.

You imply that the DGTs are a success. I understand that the average entry of DGT related weekend tournaments such as those run by Spectrum and at East Grinstead is considerably less than 100 so I am not sure that really indicates they are as popular as you indicate. Indeed I believe the Spectrum entries only reach the figures they do because of the excellent playing conditions they provide and not because of the equipment used.

You may be interested to note that at the time of writing I have sold 29 clocks at this year’s British Championship. Only 2 were DGTs. This, in fact, is a higher percentage than I anticipated. The sight of two senior and excellent arbiters, Stewart Reuben and John Robinson, having to go close to the top boards (boards 1-5 are fenced off from the rest) due to the very poor time display on the clock has probably not helped sales, nor indeed the delay in resetting the clock following an illegal draw claim.

Yours sincerely,

**Richard O’Brien** Saltdean

Ed: - I do seem to have put my foot in it. The “facts” I reported in the last issue were clearly quite wrong, though I believed them at the time. I’m sure the misunderstanding was my fault. I wrote light-heartedly; I did not mean to accuse anyone of malpractice or troublemaking, and if it looked that way I’m sorry. Believe it or not, nothing was further from my mind than giving offence! I regret having done so, and I apologise for any offence and embarrassment caused.

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**Dear Richard**, rec 8.8.96

A few comments arising from SCCU Bulletin 230. Firstly, I gave next year’s dates for the National stages of the Counties Championship to the BCF Office last month, for inclusion in the chess calendar, & for your information they are: preliminary round April 26, quarter-finals May 17, semi-finals June 7 and Finals June 28.

Secondly, in the report of the SCCU Annual Council Meeting you say that it was reported that “there were mutterings from the other side when Sussex played in this year’s Final...”. I assume that the “other side” means Wiltshire & I can assure you that at no time did Wiltshire make any complaint or criticism to me regarding their opponents & I feel that this suggestion is unfair to them.

Thirdly, I have some sympathy with Essex in their comments re 20 board matches but the simple fact is that other Unions play 16 board tournaments as far as I am aware. In previous years I have said that 20 board matches at the finals would be acceptable if agreeable to both sides but with the advent of the Under 100 competition space is becoming a problem & I decided, this year, that we could not handle any 20 board matches at the present venue. Mind you there have only been two or three occasions at most when 20 boards have been asked for & some of these not in the Open!

Fourthly, I was a little surprised at the comment attributed to “a Kent source” that their win in the open was “a little bit easier” than it appears to be (see match score on page 230:6). After all, scores were tied & board count is really only a penalty shoot out.

Sincerely,

**Jeff (Douglas)** Oxted

wearing my BCF Counties Championship hat

Ed: - Naturally the “other side” meant Wiltshire. The other side *was* Wiltshire! I’d have named them if I’d thought it mattered. Like my source, I was just trying to illustrate the point that some counties thought Sussex were too strong for the Minor Counties. Of course no one suggested Wilts had approached the Controller.

I didn’t understand the Kent source’s remark either, but it might make sense if you knew the circumstances.

**NEWS FROM THE COUNTIES**

**ESSEX** **1995-6** with acknowledgments to *Chessex*

League Division I play-off: Eastbrook (formerly Barking, but they live in Dagenham) beat Wanstead 6-4. Can’t discover that we ever published the rest of the Essex league results; don’t think we’ve seen them. **Essex Team Blitz** (13 teams of 4): 1 Cavendish 35/48; 2 Southend 33; 3 Writtle 32½... **Individual Lightning** (20 pl) 1-3 P Rossiter (Cavendish), R White (Writtle), P Barclay (Wanstead) 4/5; 4-6 K Mah (Wanstead), Z Harari (Cavendish), L Marden (Wanstead) 3½... We hear the county took division 1 of the Counties & Districts Correspondence with 26/30, 8 points ahead of the runners-up.

**HERTS** **1995-6** with acknowledgments to Herts CA Newsletter

Leagues: Div 1 Hertford I 20/24, 2 St Albans I 17...; Div 2 1 Royston I 21/24, 2 Barnet I 20...; Div 3 1 Letchworth I 20/24, 2 Bumbles Green 17...; Div 4 1 Stevenage II 19/24, 2 Hoddesdon II 18; Div 5 1 Hertford III 19/24, 2 Hemel Hempstead II 18; Div 6 1 Barnet III 21/24, 2 Royston II 18...; Div 7 1 Watford IV 19/24, 2 Hertford IV 18...; Div 8 1 WGC III 15/20; 2 St Albans VII 14... **Club KO Tournaments** (Finals): Russell Trophy Watford 3½ 2½ Hertford; Under 125 Barnet 3½ 1½ Royston; Sharp Trophy Hertford \*3 3 Old Elizabethans. **Individual KO**: Capel Cup Final: Paul Byway 1 0 Alastair Simpson; Burn Cup was APA because only four entries: 1 Peter Bunce 2/3... **Secondary Schools League** in its first season had 7 entries: winners St Christopher School, Letchworth. But there seems to be a **Herts Schools Chess League** as well: Under 18 Haberdashers; Under 16 Watford Boys GS; Under 14 Haberdashers. Herts Grader reports that his most active player had 81 games, and that’s just internal Herts games. Also that Division 5 of the county leagues was stronger than Division 4.

**KENT** **Individual titles**: Open IR Watson, but we said that in May; Major NSW Alfred; Intermediate DC Eden; Minor TR Jefferies. **Summer Quick-play** final is between Hastings and one of the three Maidstone teams. (We know which, but if we said Maidstone C it wouldn’t mean a lot.)

**SUSSEX** **1995-6** with acknowledgments to *Sussex Chess*

County Championships “were marred by some quite serious disputes” (*Sussex Chess,* tantalisingly). **Sussex Championship** (10 played) Bernard Cafferty beat Feliks Kwiatkowski 2½-1½ in the Final. **East Sussex Queen** (4 pl) RR Harper; **West Sussex Queen** (5 pl) IP Judd; **Veterans** (6 pl) FW Brown.

**McArthur Cup** Northern The Holt; Western Chichester, Worthing; Central-Eastern Hastings. Final: Brighton beat Worthing 4-2. Brighton seem to have a habit of going straight to the semi-finals, no doubt because they’re usually the defending champions.

**Mid-Sussex League** Div I (11 teams) 1 Brighton I, 2 Hastings I... Div 2 (11) 1 Lewes II, 2 Hassocks I after a

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play-off with Crowborough I... Div 3 (11) 1 Eastbourne III, 2 Crowborough II... Div 4 (11) 1 Eastbourne V, 2 Hassocks II... “At the Mid-Sussex AGM Eastbourne V declined their promotion [to Div 3] and it was agreed that Brighton III would be promoted in their place.” You weren’t *allowed* to decline promotion in Metropolitan Kent,

maybe that’s one of the reasons we abolished it. (Teams used to default matches to avoid promotion.)

**Jamboree** (10 teams) 1 Worthing; 2 The Holt...

**Junior Championships**: **U18** 1-2 Robin Clark, Glen Parker; **U14** 1 Thomas Rendle; **U11** 1 Joseph Carthew; **U9** Wayne Chim; **U7** Felix Sullivan. School teams: **U18** (8 pl) Christs Hospital Horsham; **U16** (10 pl) Cavendish School, Eastbourne; **U14** (11 pl) Downlands School, Hassocks; **Secondary Girls** (3 pl) Ratton School; **Primary** Great Walstead

**CHILTERN LEAGUE** was won by Herts for the second year running. Unusually, we haven’t seen the full league table.

**INSURANCE CC**

**Individual Major Championship** went to Geoff Naldrett in the end. He won a play-off 1½-½ against Steve Fenyvesi. **Durham Trophy** was still stuck at the Final last we heard (6.6.96): IOB v Bain Hogg. We get the impression there were only three entries and Bain Hogg got to the Final by means of a bye in the semi-final.

**CONGRESS RESULTS**

**THAMES VALLEY CHESS LEAGUE CONGRESS** 4-6 May 1996

**Open** 1-2 Bogdan Lalic, Matthew Sadler 5½/6; 3-6 John Emms (Beckenham), Kevin Richardson (Surbiton), Jovica Radovanovic (Ealing), Nick von Schlippe (Ealing) 4...

**Under 170** 1 Paul Kelly (Hendon) 5½/6; 2 Tony Wheatley (Ealing) 5; 3-5 Gordon Cadden (Hampstead), Mark Ruston (Lewisham) 4½...

**Under 135** 1 Angus James (Surbiton) 5½/6; 2 Anthony Fulton (St Albans) 5; 3 John F McKenna (Beckenham) 4½...

**Under 105** 1 Leighton Powell (Richmond Juniors) 5½/6; 2 Derek Birt (Hayes) 5; 3-5 Oliver Cooley (St Olaves GS), Shekhar Kulkarni (Hounslow), Oliver Luen (Esher) 4½... Results Adrian Laurence

**RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY** 23rd June 1996

**Open** (16 pl) 1 Bogdan Lalic (Sutton) 6/6; 2 Andrew Ledger (London) 4½; 3 Gavin Wall (London) 4...

**Under 170** (16 pl) 1-2 Michael Duggan (Twickenham), Martin Taylor (Rainham) 4½/6; 3 Chris Clegg (Kingston) 4...

**Under 130** (28 pl) 1 Daniel Hutson (Twickenham) 5½/6; 2-4 Andrew Morgan (Twickenham), Marcus Ogden (Cambridge Univ), Tommy Stubbington (London) 4½...

**Under 95** (32 pl) 1 Matthew Down (Twickenham) 5½/6; 2 Roland Rattray (Cheam) 5; 3-4 Marc Pollitt (Hampton), Jonathan Zoubaida (London) 4½... Results Richard James

**4th SCCU INTERNATIONAL** at Golders Green, 19-27 August 1996

David Sedgwick writes: “The schedule was changed this year to 1 round per day and 7-hour sessions. The difficult arbiting decisions in quickplay finishes which so affected the 1995 event did not recur; the availability of a seventh hour of play almost certainly contributed substantially to this.” The 45 contestants, from 11 countries, included two from Sierra Leone who were the first representatives of their country at international level. There were 4 IMs, 2 FMs and 16 other rated players. Richard Bates made his second IM norm. Tournament bulletin £5 from Monica Vann, 1 Kennedy Close, Marlow, Bucks SL7 3JA.

1-2 Richard A Bates, Mathew J Turner 6½/9; 3-5 Mark Ferguson, James R Poulton, Ryad Rizouk (Algeria) 6; 6-9 Mehmet Ali, Colin S Crouch, Daire J McMahon (Ireland), John R Richardson 5½; 10-17 Adway Chowdhuri, Shyamol Dutta, Kishan Chand Joshi (all India), Hysni Pellumbi (Albania), Tania Sachdev, Arpi Shah (both India), Andrew J Whiteley, Melvin J Young 5... Womens Prize Tania Sachdev, Arpi Shah

**WRITTLE** 24-25 August 1996 (for the Essex Championship, we think) attracted 33 players.

1-4 (and will play off) Eddie Dearing (Perth/Writtle), Bill Saunders (Ilford), Russell White, Andrew Brett (both Chelmsford) 4/5; 5-7 Jim Burnett (Doncaster), Howard Grist (Southend), Kerry Chilvers (Writtle: takes U150 trophy) 3½... Grading Matthew Cain (Basildon) 2½; Junior Eric Saunders (Ilford); Best Game Robin Slade (Chelmsford)

**BERKS AND BUCKS** at Maidenhead, 24-26 August 1996 had 16 players in each section.

**Championship** 1-2 GW Lawton (Birmingham), Miroslav Houska (Maidenhead) 4/5; 3 JP Conlon (Reading) 3½...

**Challengers** 1 F Duvall (Sandhurst) 4/5; 2-4 ACP Milnes (Maidenhead), PJ Gregory (Hemel Hempstead), S Menon (age 14: Richmond) 3½...

**Reserves A** 1 AG Kelly (High Wycombe) 5/5; 2 PJ Colby (Reading) 4...

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**Reserves B** 1 N Harris (Charlton) 4½/5; 2 SC Pride (Cambridge) 4...

**Reserves C** 1 Mario Houska (Maidenhead) 4½/5; 2 S Essen (Oxshott) 4; 3 MG Porter (Reading) 3½...

**Reserves D**  1-3 TA Dickerson (Maldon), P Staneland (Southall), Koichi B Nicholas (age 12: Stoke Poges) 3½/5...

**Reserves E**  1 GS Gill (Southall) 5/5; 2 MC Price (Northolt) 4; 3-4 D Birt (Hayes), MK Dent (Caversham) 3½...

**Reserves F**  1 Catherine L David (age 11: Oxford) 4½/5; 2 R Dawson (Crowthorne) 4; 3-4 Julian Smith (Staines),

G Trent (Slough) 3½...

**Mrs Stean Cup** for best U14 performance: Matthew Broomfield (S Norwood) 2½/5 in the Challengers

**Lightning** 1 C Briscoe (West Molesey) Results Nigel Dennis

**THANET** at Broadstairs 30th August - 1st September 1996

**Open** (22 ent) 1 Michael Adams (Falmouth) 5/5; 2-4 DM Moskovic (Charlton), A Jackson (Brit Airways), M Brief (Edgware) 3½... Grading U185 N Alfred (Beckenham)

**Under 165** (41 ent) 1-2 MR Taylor (Rainham), A Luaces (Kings Head) 4½/5; 3-5 M Broomfield (South Norwood), SJ Pullinger (Whitstable), A Stille (Cambridge) 4... Best Thanet Heather Richards (Whitstable); Grading U145 F Carlucci (Whitstable)

**Under 130** (48 ent) 1 K Carter (Hastings) 4½/5; 2-5 D Hartley (Chesterfield), M Feld (Ashtead), P Titmas (Maidstone), JF McKenna (Beckenham) 4... Best Thanet F Cole (Herne Bay); Grading U115 J Green (Dover)

**Under 100** (36 ent) 1 K Smyth (Folkestone) 4½/5; 2-3 Emily Manuel (Grantham), J Thanesan (Maidstone) 4... Best Thanet P Ruffle (Westgate)

**Special Prizes**: Ladies Kate Feld (Ashtead); Seniors (60+) BW Atkinson (Slough); Juniors A Habibi (Maidstone)

Results Tony Hargreaves. We were going to edit out the sexist first names till we noticed Michael Adams is male.

From the 4th SCCU International:

**White** JR Richardson, **Black** H Pellumbi

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 Nf3 d6 5 g3 0-0 6 Bg2 Nc6 7 0-0 a6 8 h3 Bd7 9 e4 e5 10 d5 Ne7 11 c5 Ne8 12 b4 a5 13 Qb3 axb4 14 Qxb4 Qc8 15 Kh2 f5 16 Ng5 f4 17 Bd2 Bh6 18 gxf4 exf4 19 Nf3 g5 20 e5 g4 21 e6 gxf3 22 Bxf3 dxc5 23 Rg1+ Ng6 24 Qb1 Ba4 25 Rxg6+ hxg6 26 Qxg6+ Bg7 27 Be4 Rf6 28 Qh7+ Kf8 29 Rg1 Rh6 30 e7+ Kf7 31 Rxg7+ Nxg7 32 Qxh6 Qh8 33 Qxf4+ Kxe7 34 Qxc7+ Kf6 35 Bg5+ 1 - 0

**White** D McMahon, **Black** M Turner

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 Bd3 0-0 6 Nge2 e5 7 d5 c6 8 f3 b5 9 cxb5 cxd5 10 exd5 Bb7 11 Qb3 Nbd7 12 Be3 Nb6 13 Be4 Nfd7 14 Rd1 f5 15 Bb1 Bh6 16 Bf2 Rc8 17 a4 Nc4 18 Qb4 Be3 19 0-0 Qb6 20 Rd3 Bxf2+ 21 Rxf2 a5 22 Qb3 Nc5 23 Qxc4 Ne4 24 Qxe4 fxe4 25 Nxe4 Rc4 26 N2c3 Bc8 27 Rdd2 Bf5 28 Kf1 Bxe4 29 Bxe4 Rfc8 30 Rc2 Qe3 31 Rfe2 Qh6 32 Kg1 Rd4 33 h3 Qf4 34 Kf2 Qh4+ 35 Ke3 Rb4 36 Rcd2 Rxc3+ 37 bxc3 Rxe4+ 38 Kd3 Rxa4 39 Re4 Rxe4 40 fxe4 Qe1 41 c4 a4 42 Kc3 a3 0 - 1

**White** M Turner, **Black** AJ Whiteley

1 c4 Nf6 2 Nc3 g6 3 g3 Bg7 4 Bg2 0-0 5 e4 d6 6 Nge2 e5 7 0-0 Be6 8 d3 Nc6 9 f4 Qd7 10 Nd5Ne8 11 Be3 Bg4 12 Qd2 Nd4 13 Bxd4 exd4 14 f5 Bxe2 15 Qxe2 Nf6 16 Nf4 g5 17 Nh5 Nxh5 18 Qxh5 Bf6 19 Qxh5 Bf6 20 e5 dxe5 21 g4 h6 22 Qxh6 Qe7 23 Rae1 c6 24 Qh5 Kg7 25 g5 Bxg5 26 f6+ Bxf6 27 Qg4+ Bg5 28 Rf5 f6 29 Rexe5 Qd6 30 c5 Qd8 31 Rxg5+ fxg5 32 Rxg5+ Kf7 33 Rg7+ 1 - 0

Why does one of the English players write his moves in French?

**JUNIOR NEWS**

**BERKS** Secondary Schools League 1995-6: Senior 1-2 Reading School, Meadway; Under 15 1 Charters; Under 13 1-2 Dolphin, Eagle House. Don’t know how many teams competed.

**RICHMOND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** 6-7 July 1996

**Under 18** (20 pl) 1 Max Rich (SW4) 5/6; 2-3 Andrew Bamford (Twickenham), David Edwards (Worcester Park) 4½...

**Under 9** (12 pl) 1 Murugan Thiruchelvam (New Malden) 5½/6; 2 Jonathan Zoubaida (SW19) 5; 3-4 Jay Dienn (Richmond), Jamie Yardley (Kingston) 4...

**Under 8** (17 pl) 1 Jonathan Zoubaida (SW19) 5/6; 2-3 Robert Heaton (New Malden), Jamie Yardley (Kingston) 4½...

**Reserves Tournaments** (age limits not specified): Rooks A John Foster (Richmond) 5/6; Rooks B Natasha Ighodaro (Hampton) 5/6; Knights A Trevor Pettit (Hounslow) 6/6; Knights B Hayley Glover (Twickenham), Kaita Moore (SW14) 5/6; Pawns A Toby Davis (W6), Andrew Sellars (SW19) 5/6; Pawns B Stephen McMahon (Hayes Middx), Georgia Neesham (Kingston) 5/6 Results Richard James

**KENT UNDER 14 SQUAD CHAMPIONSHIP** at Sevenoaks, 8th September 1996

28 played. 1-2 Stephen Casement, Tal Wood 4/5; 3-8 Alex Blake, Richard Cheeseman, Oliver Cooley, Paul Higgins, Steven Pretty, Robert Wilson 3½... Results Sue Casement

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**SURREY: RUSSELL TROPHY JAMBOREE** at RGS Guildford, 13th September 1996

1 St Pauls 6½/8; 2-3 Hampton, RGS 6; 4-5 Tiffin, Whitgift 5; 6 KCS 3; 7 Sutton 2½; 8 Howard of Effingham 2; 9 Westminster 0 Results AJW Thorn

**BASMANIC INTEL TOURNAMENT** is to run next year after all, we hear.

**SCCU UNDER 18 JAMBOREES**

(Qualifiers for BCF U18 Championships)

Volunteers Required!!

The Jamborees are due to be held on Saturday 1st March 1997 and volunteers are sought to provide a suitable venue and organise equipment and arrangements on the day. There are three sections, which need not all be held at the same venue:

**Major Counties** 12 boards, room needed for 24 games

**Minor Counties** 12 boards, room for 30 games

**Girls** 6 boards, room for 21 games

If you can offer venue and organisation for one, two or all of these, please contact the SCCU Junior Organiser: Nigel Dennis, Boundary House, 230 Greys Rd, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 1QY 01491 576052

This appeal has gone to the county junior organisers direct and is printed here as a fail-safe device, but anyone else interested is cordially invited to respond. (Just don’t ask the Editor which counties are Major and which are Minor. He assumes they’ll know.)

**SCCU COUNTY MATCHES 1996-7**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Teams entered:  Br Bu C E H K M O Sy Sx  Open \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  U175 \* \* \* \* \*  U150 \* \* \* \* \* \*  U125 \* \* \* \* \* \*  U100 \* \* \* \* | | | All counties except Berks, Essex and Kent have opted to play 16 boards in the Open. Whether these three will actually play 20 among themselves, we don’t know. | | | |
| **Open**  Oct 5  12 OBr EH SxSy MBu  19  26 CK  Nov 2 SyC HSx KO BrM BuE  9  16 CM SxBr EK HSy OBu  23  30 SyE KSx BrC MO BuH  Dec 7 OC KH  14 BrE BuSy  Jan 11  18 SyK EM HBr SxO CBu  25  Feb 1 BrSy MH CSx KBu  8 OE  15 EC HO SyM KBr BuSx  22  Mar 1 *(SCCU U18 qualifier)*  8 MK OSy CH SxE BrBu  15 MSx  22 | **Under 175**  ME  KM SySx  EK MSy  SyE SxM  ESx SyK  SxK  MK SxSy  KE  ESy MSx  SyM SxE  EM KSx  KSy | **Under 150**  ME  HSy KM SxE  KH SySx  EK SyM  EH SxK  KSy MH  HSx SyE  SxM | | **Under 125**  EH  KSx OSy  SxE  HO  KE OSy SyH  EO SxSy  SyK  HSx  OK SyE  HK | **Under 100**  KE  ESy HK  HE KSy  SyH  EH  EK  KH  SyK  HSy  SyE |

Match captains next page

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Addresses:

**County Match Controller** DR Sedgwick, 23 Tierney Court, Canning Rd, Croydon CR0 6QA 0181 656 7682

**Bulletin Editor** RJ Haddrell, 48 Southview Rd, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9BX 01892 532361

**Match captains**:

Berks O NW Dennis, Boundary House, 230 Greys Rd, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 1QY 01491 576052

Bucks O MS Vann, 1 Kennedy Close, Marlow, Bucks SL7 3JA 01628 486676

Cambs O J Parker, Emmanuel College, Cambridge CB2 3AP   
 Outside term time: 10 Greenhill Place, Edinburgh EH10 4BR 0131 447 6364

Essex O JR Cooke, 35 The Crescent, Loughton, Essex IG10 4PY 0181 281 1083

175 JA Philpott, 50 Cranston Gardens, Chingford, London E4 9BQ 0181 527 4063

150 D Smith, 21 Chigwell Rd, London E18 1LR 0181 530 2118

125 RP Joyce, 215 Waterhouse Moor, Harlow, Essex CM18 6BW 01279 434028

100 A Trent, 52 Barncroft Close, Loughton, Essex IG10 3EU 0181 502 3187

Herts O JVA Franks, 90 Park Avenue, Ruislip, Middx HA4 7UP 01895 639367

150 MM Wali, 56 Rowans, Welwyn Garden City, Herts 01707 331833 (work 01707 326318 ext 4280)

125 Q Latif, 13 Daltry Rd, Stevenage, Herts 01438 352405

100 A Brewis, 5 Cedar Close, Ware, Herts SG12 9PG 01920 463698

Kent O G Botley, 26 Crescent Rd, Bromley, Kent BR1 3PW 0181 464 1357

175 LR Gurr, 13 Neath Court, Northumberland Rd, Maidstone, Kent ME15 7JS 01622 758448

150 GF Steele, 50 Ramsgate Rd, Margate, Kent CT9 5SA 01843 297045

125 IC Smith, 6 Little Paddocks, Molehill Rd, Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3PR 01227 794790

100 LR Jones, 243 Worsley Bridge Rd, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1RW 0181 650 4042

Middx O RJ Pearce, 43 Sinclair Rd, London W14 0NS 0171 602 0756 (work 0171 920 9409)

175 WB Haase, 28 New End, Hampstead, London NW3 1JA 0171 435 3189

150 N Bye, 134 St Thomas’s Rd, Finsbury Park, London N4 2QP 0171 226 9653 from 4 pm; mid evening  0181 956 1234 and ask for Millbridge Wing

Oxon O DG Hackett, 16 Hollis Close, Witney, Oxon OX8 6SW 01993 778374

125 D Metcalfe, 9 Roosevelt Rd, Long Hanborough, Witney, Oxon OX8 8JG 01993 883044

Surrey O PD Dupré, 13 Russell Rd, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 2JZ 01932 887097

175 FC Manning, 44 Willow Rd, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0PF 0181 647 0063

150 N Clifton, 114 Windermere Rd, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2JB 0181 660 8564

125 D Parsons, 3 Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey SM5 4NG 0181 647 7279

100 RG Davey, 1 Greville Park Avenue, Ashtead, Surrey KT21 2QS 01372 813576

Sussex O P Watson, Flat 7, Regency Court, Withdean Rise, London Rd, Brighton, E Sussex BN1 6YG 01273 505480

175 RD Hirsch, 5 Orde Close, Pound Hill, Crawley, W Sussex RH10 3NG 01293 883244

150 P Watson as above

125 MA Bryant, 88 Manor Rd, Hastings, E Sussex TN34 3LP 01424 428830 (U125 team secretary P Buswell, 51 Kenilworth Rd, St Leonards on Sea, E Sussex TN38 0JL 01424 444321)

**NOTES TO MATCH CAPTAINS**

David Sedgwick’s notes to match captains haven’t got here in time for publication, but we guess they’re similar to last year’s:

**Match results**: Result sheets must be sent to DRS within one week of the match, and should also be sent promptly to the Bulletin for publication.

**Ungraded players**:In the grading-limited divisions, ungraded players may play only if cleared with DRS in advance. He’s confirmed that where a player’s last published grade is above the limit and relates to 1991 or later, he does not intend to grant clearance. Beyond this he will proceed on a case by case basis.

**Draw claims**: Match captains should note the BCF’s “additional rules” which apply if there is no arbiter present A scoresheet must be submitted if 2(b) and 4 apply. Even if they don’t apply, either side may still submit a scoresheet or other evidence provided they do so *at the outset*. The Arbiter will expect the claimant to have moved at a reasonable speed up to the time of the claim.

**Bulletin.** Your Editor would add: Please do send all your result sheets to the Bulletin, even if you’re sure your opponents will. I need both copies as a check. Try to be prompt. And *please* be legible, and give full initials (and grades) for all players. Accuracy is important because the grader works directly from the Bulletin. If a player’s just moved into your county, or hasn’t played county chess before, add a note first time round saying where he’s from. BCF reference number is helpful too, and if he hasn’t got one say so. No need for reference numbers generally, unless you think confusion’s possible.

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**CONGRESS DIARY**

Oct 3 HENDON BLITZ (10 min each). Yes, it’s still a Thursday. 7.15 - 10 p.m. at Golders Green Church Hall. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

5 BASINGSTOKE Rapid. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke RG21 2LS 01256 472537

5 HERTS YOUTH CA inaugural congress at St Albans. JG Jones, 28 Hay St, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts SG8 0PE 01763 853873

5 MAIDSTONE JUNIOR. U18 Major/Minor; U12/10/8. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

5-6 METROPOLITAN, London. Open; U161/126. Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate EC2 4QH 0171 247 6844

5-6 SPECTRUM WORCESTER. U200/160/120. Les Day, 10 Oaklawn Court, Barton Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ1 4EN 01803 212136. Or N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT 01705 551617

5-6 CHEPSTOW *Adults Only* Rapidplay. U2000/1600 Saturday; U1800/1400 Sunday. Kevin Staveley, 57 Treharne St, Cwmparc, Rhondda CF42 6LH 01443 772750

5-13 MONARCH INTERNATIONAL, Isle of Man. Open; U175/120. DB Hemsley, 18 St Marys Avenue, Port St Mary, Isle of Man IM9 3ET 01624 833742

6 ESSEX OPEN JUNIOR Rapidplay at Colchester. RD Sharman, Trefoil, Crown Lane North, Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7RA 01206 231025

6 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

11-13 MAIDSTONE Open BCQ; U159/129/104 + Rapidplay Sunday. NC Mackett, 74 Peel St, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2SD; or phone Lyndon Gurr 01622 758448

11-13 LEICESTER. C & J Johnson, 105 Central Avenue, Syston, Leicester LE7 2EG 01162 609012

11-13 LIVERPOOL. JM Harrison, 24 Glenwood Drive, Irby, Wirral L61 4UH 0151 648 1390

12 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

12 OXFORD CITY Rapid. P Vainker, 35 St Bernards Rd, Oxford OX2 6EH 01865 57562

12-13 IPSWICH JUNIOR. Mrs A Durnford, 20 Bucklesham Rd, Ipswich IP3 8TJ 01473 727790

13 INVICTA KNIGHTS Rapid. LR Gurr, 13 Neath Court, Northumberland Rd, Maidstone ME15 7JS 01622 758448

13 ASHTEAD Rapid at Leatherhead. R Davey, 1 Greville Park Avenue, Ashtead, Surrey KT21 2QS 01372 813576

13 KENSINGTON Rapid. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

13 ROYSTON JUNIOR. JG Jones, 28 Hay St, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts SG8 0PE 01763 853873

16-24 WREXHAM INTERNATIONAL. N Davies, 9 Greenfield, Rhosddu, Wrexham, Clwyd LU1 2NR 01978 366911

18-20 DORSET at Weymouth. AD Rookes, 6 Milton Close, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 7NB 01305 767252

19 JOHN HARRADENCE MEMORIAL, London. N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT 01705 551617

19 SOUTHWATER JUNIOR U11 near Horsham. S Deere, 11 East Beeches Rd, Crowborough, E Sussex TN6 2AU 01892 654495

20 SOMERS TOWN Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

20-26 GUERNSEY INTERNATIONAL. S Naftel, PO Box 23, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands

25-27 SCARBOROUGH. K Jones, 24 Lightfoots Avenue, Scarborough, N Yorks YO12 5NS 01732 352044

25-27 WEST WALES at Swansea. L Philpin, 59 Cecil Rd, Gowerton, Swansea SA4 3DF 0172 874984

26 ASHFORD (KENT) JUNIOR. U18 Major/Minor; U14/12/10. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

26 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

26-27 LETCHWORTH. N Camp, 93 Saturn Way, Hemel Hempstead HP2 8ND 01442 399611

27 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

Nov 7 HENDON BLITZ (10 min each). 7.15 - 10 p.m. at Golders Green Church Hall. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

9-10 ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL GUILDFORD. U18 Open; U18 U105; U13/U12A Saturday; U14/U12B Sunday. David Wilks, Royal Grammar School, Guildford GU1 3BB

15-17 TORBAY at Torquay. Open; U155/125/100. VJ Dunleavy, 59 Belle Cross Rd, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 1NL 01548 857623

26 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

30 MUSWELL HILL Rapidplay. Michael Davies, 325 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13 4YB 0181 882 9491

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**Arbiters Corner**

Suggested by the Herts CA Newsletter. Rapidplay. White played an illegal rook move, not noticing he was in check. Black, who (also) had less than 5 minutes left, called the controller and claimed an extra minute as the rules allow. Then White played a king move instead. But this was illegal too, because he could have got out of check by moving the rook. Black didn’t notice the second illegality, or if he did he kept quiet. (It was a blunder, and the legal rook move wouldn’t have been.) But “What would have happened had this been spotted? Does the controller add another minute? How many times can this happen?” Five, presumably!

Talking of illegal moves and rapidplay, no one’s yet answered the question from Dave Vigus which we published a year ago. If White has two kings, how many of them does Black have to checkmate?

**Quote**

“This was my anus horribilis.”

Suppose that had to happen, in the run-up to the millenium. Couldn’t find the funny mistake which Paul Watson tells us is in *Sussex Chess* (from which you’ll gather that the above is not from *Sussex Chess*, and before we get a writ from Buckingham Palace we’d better say it wasn’t from there either). Noticed one thing that came out of Sussex. *ChessMoves* may have changed colour but it’s still got the same date on the front.

**MIDDLESEX SECRETARY** is now Mrs Zoë Ryle, 152 Dudden Hill Lane, London NW10 1AS: tel and fax   
 0181 452 5820

**BCF STAGE COUNTY MATCHES** 1997. Dates, in case you missed it on page 4, are: preliminary round April 26; quarter-finals May 17; semi-finals June 7; and Finals June 28.

**JUNIOR ORGANISERS**, in case you missed it on page 7: please note the important appeal for help with the U18 jamborees.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**  *Chessex* (Essex CA) for October; Herts CA Newsletter 1996; Manchester & District CA bulletin for August; *Sussex Chess* 1996.

Issue 232 November 1996

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Richard,** 3.10.96

As ever, I have read your latest SCCU Bulletin with interest.

One point struck me in relation to your comments on junior activities in reporting the meeting of the SCCU Executive on 13 September. The inference I gained was that the SCCU have funds available for junior activities which on present plans may be unspent in the current year.

May I draw the attention of you and your colleagues to one important requirement emerging from the conditions applying to the Department of National Heritage to the BCF grant for 1996-7. That concerns the objective of promoting formal links between clubs and schools.

The BCF Director of Junior Chess has started to give thought to ways of dealing with this issue and reference is made to a pilot scheme in the newly published BCF Business Plan 1996-7. This is linked with plans to develop a course for chess coaches (pages 16-17). All members of the BCF Management Board will shortly receive a copy of the Business Plan.

Knowing that some SCCU counties such as Kent, Berks and Herts are particularly active in development of junior chess, I would have thought the SCCU would be very interested in pursuing the BCF initiative in discussion with David Newell, if not already planning to do so. Yours sincerely,

**Bryan (Fewell)** Harpenden

copies to Chris Howell, John Philpott, Nigel Dennis

**Richard**, 15.10.96

One or two observations:

Last year’s Sussex County Championship had 20 entrants, not 10.­­1

Any comments about Sussex’s strength for the Minor Counties could equally apply to Wiltshire, seeing as the counties were so evenly matched2. I’m afraid that the judgment of Sussex is often doubted by players whose much stronger counties have occasionally lost to Sussex against the odds. I should be happy to supply details.

Keep looking for the mistake [in *Sussex Chess*]...3 **Paul Watson** Hon Sec Sussex CCA

Ed: (1) I counted wrong. I still don’t make it 20, looks like 18 now, but I expect I’m missing something. (2) Agreed. I said this in the comment that sparked the comment that sparked PW’s comment... (3) Got it, with some prompting. “The achievement of Bernard Cafferty in remaining uneaten in eleven games”. Had a David Friedfood once, now *there*  was an opportunity missed.

**Dear Richard**, 26.11.96

Middlesex, yes Middlesex

I wish to confirm, with considerable regret, that Middlesex have had to withdraw the County’s Open, U175 and U150 teams from the Counties Championships.

Our Open team captain, a regular in the job, had an established hard core squad, essential to any team, and was confident at the start of the season that he would be able to field full teams in spite of problems he has had in the past making up the full number. Unexpectedly, he found his hard core squad beginning to disintegrate, players for one good reason or another not being able to play, and new regular players not being available. In the end he felt he had to resign the post, being unable to find sufficient players. With no one else being willing to take over as captain, we had no choice but to withdraw the team.

Our U175 and U150 captains were new to the job and accepted the handicap that they had not inherited hard core squads, thus having to start from scratch. There was the handicap, too, that the new grading list only comes out at the start of August, and it was the end of August by the time we had obtained a disk, drawn from it the Middlesex players in grade order and separately by club, splitting to show players relevant to each team and sending the two lists to each of the captains. And the telephone numbers had to be found, through contacts or club officials - time consuming job. Our U175 captain reckons he made over 100 telephone calls, with little success. Our U150 captain went further and visited clubs and circulated all clubs in the Middlesex leagues. 2/3 weeks before the Kent match he had a full squad. But, being cautious, he rang round the players as a check the weekend before the match and found that eight players were unable to make the match, none having made contact to inform him. This so disillusioned him that he simply did not want to continue making the effort. The playing season being well under way by this time, the decision was taken to withdraw both teams.

A quite separate problem was a venue for home matches, as the first floor above Chess & Bridge had ceased to be available. One for single matches was found but we have yet to find a venue for double matches at anything like a sensible price.

With high hopes and considerable efforts, we began with three teams but have ended up with none this year. To say I am disappointed is to put it mildly and I must thank the three captains for trying so valiantly.

What really is the problem? Is it that there is now too much chess available? Is it that Middlesex as a county

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exists but then does not really exist? Is it reluctance on people’s part to travel? Is it, more generally, that priorities

have changed? My successor, Chris Fewtrell, is aware of what has happened and he and I will be working through the next eight months to re-establish Middlesex on the Counties circuit in 1997-8.

**WA Suttill** President, Middlesex CCA

**BCF MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Management Board met in London on Saturday 16th November 1996. Your Editor wasn’t there because he had a match. (First things first, though in view of the match result he wishes he’d gone to the Board meeting.) Here’s a potted report, courtesy of the other SCCU representative, mostly.

**(1) Congress Director** Tim Wall resigned, shortly after his appointment, because of new and unexpected personal circumstances. It was felt that Stewart Reuben might be competent to look after next year’s British, and he will. Provisionally at any rate, and the Congress Director’s job will be advertised.

**(2) Game Fee**.The MB is to recommend to Council that internal club games be charged at the full rate. Currently they’re free but that was always, we think, intended as a sweetener to be withdrawn sooner or later. Your Editor can see no reasonable objection to charging the full whack, except that many clubs will stop having their internal games graded. (There’s a small club near Tunbridge Wells that would be set back £100 a year.) Some discussion of junior events, but no proposals for Council.

**(3) FIDE Delegate**. David Jarrett, the existing delegate, has been elected FIDE Treasurer and felt that possible conflicts of interest meant he should resign as BCF delegate. The BCF will advertise the position.

**(5) BCF office**. You may or may not have heard that the freehold of the Hastings premises came up for sale by auction at the start of November. The Management Board was advised that it *was* a worthwhile purchase, and our representatives were authorised to bid up to £28,000. In the end the freehold went to a property developer for more than that. £34,000, we think. He can’t just chuck us out, but the Bulletin gathers - remember, the Bulletin’s a financial and legal imbecile - that we have a couple of years or so before decamping becomes either politic or necessary.

**(4) National Club Championship**. Bit of a cock-up on the Rules front. We’ve not seen a copy of the rules this year, but it seems that the outgoing Director of Home Chess introduced two changes on his own initiative. (1) He abolished the rule that says you have to have played for your club at least twice in the previous year in other competitions; and (2) he introduced a rule saying players can’t be paid. The MB has ruled these changes void because they should have gone to Council, and participating clubs will be told. Clubs will have played round 1 under the new invalid rules. So far as paying players is concerned, some top clubs actually do it (even in round 1!) and they’ve been stalling their round 1 matches pending an MB ruling. The ruling has immediate effect, so OK there. Under the “two-match” rule, clubs may well have played people who will now cease to be eligible. That’s unfortunate. Obviously they won’t be ruled ineligible retrospectively. What’s more, the old (and still official) rule won’t re-apply till round 3 so you’ve still got time to arrange 2 matches for them in other competitions...

**(5) Minor Counties**. SCCU nominees are Berks, Bucks, Herts, Oxon and Surrey, and that went through on the nod.

**(6) National Chess Centre**. Really don’t know any details, but they’re now looking at another site in Hastings.

**ROUND AND ABOUT**

**ESSEX**

County Champion is Andrew Brett of Chelmsford after a rapidplay play-off against Bill Sanders and Russell White. Presidents Team (the Rest) v Eastbrook (League Champions) went to the Champions 11½-9½.

**KENT**

Summer Quick-play League was won, not for the first time, by Hastings & St Leonards who beat Maidstone (well, one of the Maidstone teams) 9-7 in the Final 8.10.96. Hastings’s weaker players seem to be endemically good at using their time handicaps. We note with regret that Hastings - no, we *know* they’re not in Kent - don’t seem to be playing in the Kent mainstream leagues this year. That won’t affect their eligibility for next year’s KSQP; Kent’s a broad church, and they were in the KSQP before they were in the mainstream leagues anyway.

**RALPH BARNETT TROPHY** 17th August 1996

This is an annual jamboree for teams representing leagues in the London area. Grading limits vary with board number but go from Open to U120. 1 Essex 11½/20; 2 Surrey 11; 3 Civil Service 8½; 4 Middx 7

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**4NCL**

We’ve had a very full and helpful report of the first two rounds (19th and 20th October). They left the resurrected Invicta Knights “in the lead” with 4 MP out of 4 and 12½ GP out of 16. Followed by Midland Monarchs 4:12; Wood Green 4:11; BCM 4:10; Northumbria 4:10; and 12 other teams who haven’t got 4 MP. Six 2s and six 0s, actually. Next two rounds are 22-23 November and you’ll be lucky if they’re in this issue. “In the lead” is in quotes because, with 18 teams in it, they can’t manage an APA and they haven’t yet decided how they’re going to split ties. Hope they get round to it some time. Acknowledgments Nigel Johnson

**EUROPEAN CLUB CUP**

**Slough** in Bratislava 6-8 September came fourth. Having beaten EtVaS Vantaa (Finland) 5-1 in the first round, they lost 4-2 to the Yugoslav Partizan Beograd team, then lost to some Ukrainians in the third-place play-off. Individual scores: Hebden 1½/3; Kosten 1½/3; Arkell 1½/3; Summerscale 1/3; Cummings 1/3; Smith 2/3. Partizan Beograd won it. We see from Slough’s press release that Slough, supported by their third-round opponents, lodged a protest against Partizan Beograd on the ground that they had submitted their final team list only a week before the event so their opponents couldn’t prepare for them. Leonard Barden in the Guardian calls this gamesmanship; the press release makes it sound more like cheating. Other sources suggest that it wasn’t as black and white as that. The deadline for team lists was six weeks earlier, and PB broke the rules by changing their list at short notice but there were unusual circumstances and you could at least see why the organisers allowed it, though they might have handled it better. The penalty for the infraction, according to Slough’s press release, “is an automatic 6-0 loss, which in Slough’s case would have guaranteed them a place in the Group 7 final and therefore an automatic qualification to the Finals Weekend”. Slough didn’t get their 6-0 win but they got their entry fee back, so error’s been admitted, and they were (not very helpfully in practical terms) made first reserves for the Finals.

**Maidstone**, in Greece 30th August - 1st September, don’t seem to have run into anything like that. They repeated last year’s performance by coming third. They beat the hosts in round 1, then had the misfortune to draw the eventual winners, the all-GM New Siberia team, in round 2. They lost by a biggish margin but gave New Siberia a much tougher match than they got in the Final. Maidstone then beat a Swiss team in the third-place play-off. Individual scores: Emms 1/3, Ward 2/3, Ivanov 2/3, Dickenson 1½/3, Cooley 1/2, Watson ½/2, Powell ½/1, Bibby 0/1. Meanwhile, back in Maidstone, “Bob Fenn is facing up to the unenviable task of retyping the club’s constitution after former committee member \*\*\*\*\*\*\* forgot the password he’d been using to protect it.”

**Barbican** and **Guildford** haven’t sent us anything but their (disappointing) results have been pretty well reported.

**BRAINTREE** (North Essex Chess League) 21-22 September 1996

**Open** (19 pl) 1-2 Karl Bowden (Writtle), Chris N Dunworth (Croydon) 4/5; 3 Chris E Franklin (Sudbury) 3½... North Essex Champion Karl Bowden

**Under 160** (36 pl) 1 Les J Crane (Upminster) 4½/5; 2-4 Peter J Byford (Braintree), Andrew D Hartland (Writtle), Richard J Weeber (Grays) 4... Grading U140 Simon S Armour (Southend), Chris A Bates (Colchester), Tony Drake (Hadleigh), Ken Groce (Powdermill), Robin J Oakley (Chingford), Patrick C Ribbands (Cambridge City), Robin Slade (Chelmsford) 3; North Essex Challengers Andrew D Hartland

**Under 130** (51 pl) 1-7(!!) Paul Bloom (Chislehurst), Kenn Butcher, Alex Cater, Jim West (all Braintree), Geoff C Elliston (Wickford), Christopher Lovista (Bishops Stortford), Peter M Titmas (Maidstone) 4/5... Grading U110 David J Lilley (Braintree) 3; Junior Iain Gunn (Maldon) 3

**Under 100** (33 pl) 1 Paul Stukas (Chelmsford) 5/5; 2-3 Trevor Adams (Chelmsford), David McRoberts (Woodpushers) 4... Junior Dominic Allen (Powdermill) 3½ Results David J Millward

**SWANLEY RAPID** 11th November 1996 gives no clubs but it gives the grades so we’ve copied them.

**“Group A”** (16 pl) 1 John Bennett 198 5; 2 JJ Thompson 160 4½; 3-5 James Vigus 221, Mark Roberts 169, John Anderson 190 4... Grading U140 Richard Murphy 138, Stephen Casement 130 3

**“Group B”** (24 pl) 1 Michael Redman 108 5; 2-4 Oliver Cooley 116, Paul Richards 63, Russell Scott 97 4½; 5-7 Robert Wilson 99, David Ho 106, Steven Pretty 115 4... Grading U100 Robert Wilson Results Ken Grist

**JUNIOR NEWS**

**NYCA UNDER 18 QUICKPLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Stoke on Trent, 28th September 1996

13 teams of 12: 1 Manchester 42½/60; 2 Surrey 36½; 3-4 Glamorgan, Warwicks 35; 5 Somerset 34½; 6 Richmond 34; 7 Berks 29; 8 Humberside 28½; 9 Bucks 27; 10 Staffs 23; 11-13 Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire 21½. Which makes an odd number of half-draws, but never mind. Your Editor knows what it’s like trying to pick the results up at the end of a jamboree, even when the table you’re copying from is right. Results AJW Thorn.

232:4

**ESSEX JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY** at Colchester, 6th October 1996

**Open** (adults: 28 ent) 1-3 Stephen Gregory, Jim Howson, David Spence 5... Junior Richard Watts; Best Essex Junior Ellen Walker

**Under 14** (16 ent) 1 Ben Collins 5; 2 Iain Gunn 4½; 3-5 Peter Giles, Christopher Bates, Neil Hopgood 4...

**Under 12** (29 ent) 1 Graham Walker 5½; 2-4 Ezra Lutton, Lawrence Trent, Katie Bates 5...

**Under 10** (40 pl) 1 Josiah Lutton 5½; 2-3 Heather Walker, Lee Gold 5; 4-6 Stewart Trent, Daniel Diamond, Joshua Rubin 4½...

**20th ASHFORD (Kent) JUNIOR** 26th October 1996

“Rather a low entry this year - 72, compared with 100 or more in previous years.”

**Under 18 Major** only got two entrants, and both were allowed to play in the Minor instead.

**Under 18 Minor** (13 players) 1 Matthew Noakes (giving time handicaps in all games) 5/6; 2-4 Oliver Cooley, James Warren, Robert Wilson 4...

**Under 14** (10 pl) 1 Konrad Sanders 4½/6; 2-4 Richard Cheeseman, Paul Higgins, Russell Scott 4...

**Under 12** (16 pl) 1 Joseph AlMalah 5½/6; 2 Stephen Milford 4½; 3 Raymond Gosden 4...

**Under 10** (21 pl) 1-2 Sara Higgins, James Regan 5/6; 3 Edmund Birkhamshaw 4½; 4-6 David Ridout, Elliot Seabrook, Robin Jones 4...

**Novice** (13 pl) 1 Matthew Martindale 6; 2 Mark Davidson 5; 3-6 Luke Hunter, Darren Shilling, Robert McKinnon 4... Results Bob Blake

**BROMLEY JUNIOR** 2nd November 1996

**Under 12** (31 pl) 1 Matthew Moore (Haywards Heath) 5½/6; 2 Jayesh Jogia (Dulwich) 5; 3-4 Amir Habibi (Cranbrook), James Thanesan (Maidstone) 4½; 5-9 Sara Higgins, Robert White, James Lowing, Raymond Gosden, Joseph Al Malah 4...

**Under 10** (39 pl) 1 Edmund Birkhamshaw (Worsley Bridge) 6/6; 2 Edward Coughlan (Sevenoaks) 5; 3 Gregory Jones (Maidstone) 4½; 4-11 James Wanstall, Michael Ostheimer, Ryan Nicholls, David Howell, Matthew Hadfield, Alex Partridge, Sam Block, Karim Habibi 4... Results David Brown. Also someone else who just sent the wall charts. Don’t do this!

**SWANLEY JUNIOR** 11th November 1996 had a disappointing entry.

**Under 12** (18 ent) 1-2 Lalin Navaratne, Amir Habibi 4½/6; 3-6 James Chapman, Emily Lerwill, Joseph Al Malah, Raymond Gosden 4...

**Under 10** (29 ent) 1-2 Sara Higgins, James Regan 5/6; 3-4 Zackery Bennett, Harry Shaw 4½; 5-8 Elliott Seabrook, Thomas Stradwick, Antoinette Wilson, Francesca Berlin 4... Best U8 Matthew Hadfield 3½; Best Novice David Clark 3½ Results Miles Roberts

**RGS GUILDFORD** 9-10 November 1996

**Under 18 Open** (12 pl) 1 SK Williams (Farnham) 6; 2 M Broomfield (St Josephs) 4; 3-4 MC Campbell (RGS), M Inglis (Bohunt) 3½...

**Under 18 U105** (11 pl) 1 TK Chase (Danes Hill) 6; 2-3 NJ Bawden (RGS), J Zoubaida (KCS Wimbledon) 4½; 4 S Robati (RGS) 4...

**Under 14** (Sat: 9 pl) 1 AJ Bigg (Caterham) 5½; 2-4 M Elliott (RGS), T Leung (Glyn), S Matthews (Therfield) 4...

**Under 12** (Sat: 12 pl) 1 J Povah (Cranmore) 5; 2-3 D Zoubaida (KCS Wimbledon), CJ Rawlinson (Aldro) 4½; 4 TP Wonnacott (Brixington) 4...

**Under 12 A** (Sat: 31 pl) 1 K Boztas (Greville) 6; 2-3 CM Dixon (Whitgift), J Stephen (Aldro) 5; 4 B Jablonski (St Catherines) 4½...

**Under 12 B** (Sun: 25 pl) 1 O Luen (Shrewsbury House) 5½; 2-3 CJ Rawlinson (Aldro), TP Wonnacott (Brixington) 5; 4 KL Feld (LEH) 4½... Results AJW Thorn

**NYCA UNDER 14 CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Stoke on Trent, 23rd November 1996

1 Richmond A 26½/36; 2 Kent A 25½; 3-4 Manchester, Warwicks 22; 5 Bucks 19½; 6 Wilts 17; 7 Glamorgan 16; 8 Surrey 12; 9 Yorks 10; 10 Richmond B 9½... 39 teams of 12. Results AJW Thorn

**National Chess-a-thon**, sponsored by Contemporary Games and supported by the Scottish and Welsh Federations as well as the BCF, takes place in December. Children get sponsored so much per hour (one day maximum!) for playing chess, and the proceeds go to the BCF Youth Chess Trust, or its Welsh or Scottish equivalent. Top 100 fund-raising schools get a chess computer. Mailings “have gone to more than 32,000 schools” but your Editor’s wasn’t one of them; if yours wasn’t and you’d like details, contact the BCF office.

**SCCU COUNTY MATCHES 1997-8**

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| --- | --- |
| Teams entered:  Br Bu C E H K M O Sy Sx  Open \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  U175 \* \* \* \* \*  U150 \* \* \* \* \* \*  U125 \* \* \* \* \* \*  U100 \* \* \* \* | All matches are over 16 boards except in the  Under 100 (12 boards).  In the fixture list below, the home side is named first. Dates are final unless otherwise agreed by match captains. If match captains agree to change any dates, they must inform the Tournament Controller in advance. And please also the Bulletin Editor, for publication. |

**SCCU COUNTY MATCHES: LEAGUE TABLES**

including all results received up to 27.11.96

**OPEN** Br Bu C E H K O Sy Sx MP

Berks

Bucks

Cambs   
Essex   
Herts   
Kent   
Oxon   
Surrey   
Sussex

**UNDER 175** E K M Sy Sx MP

Essex 10½ 1 :1  
Kent 5 0 :1  
Middx

Surrey 11 6½ 1 :2  
Sussex 5½ 9½ 1 :2

**UNDER 150**  E H K M Sy Sx MP

Essex   
Herts   
Kent 6½ 0 :1

Middx

Surrey 4 0 :1  
Sussex 8½ 1 :1

**UNDER 125**  E H K O Sy Sx MP

Essex   
Herts   
Kent 6½ 0 :1

Oxon 12 1 :1

Surrey 4 0 :1  
Sussex 8½ 1 :1

**UNDER 100** E H M Sy E H M Sy MP

Essex 6 8½ 1½:2  
Herts 6 ½:1  
Middx

Surrey 3½ 0 :1

Please tell the Editor if you spot mistakes in these tables. Everything seems to have come in, up to the matches played 16th November.

Middx have withdrawn all three of their teams (Open, U175 and U150), and Kent have withdrawn from the U100. Kent were a bit careless to lose their match captain; a letter from the Middx President appears on page 1. It was a pity their Open match captain called his first match off at 24 hours notice. Don’t know how relevant it is, but we did hear he took exception when the tournament controller said \*\*\*\*\*\*\* wasn’t eligible to play for Middx. The rules say it as well.

Open: It’s basically a 16-board competition this year. The only teams that haven’t gone for 16 boards are Essex, Berks and Kent, and Essex will play 16 boards against both Berks and Kent anyway. Haven’t heard what Berks and Kent are doing between themselves. The Bulletin *was* going to do its best to confuse itself and everyone else by adjusting all the 16-board scores in accordance with the rules (2 extra points for each side). But David Sedgwick’s not doing it and we’ve decided, if only for consistency, to adopt his commonsense approach. If Berks and Kent play 20 boards, we’ll dock them both 2 points. Which is what David will do. Suppose that could mean someone scoring negative game points, but never mind. (It happens in some leagues anyway!)

On the following pages an asterisk by a county’s name means the result has been received from that side. (r) means reserve. (sic) or (so) means your Editor really has typed what he was given, though he doesn’t necessarily believe it. And he knows most of the offenders will take no notice, but *please* will match captains try to be legible. The Bulletin does not know the grades by heart. Still less the names it’s never seen before. Or even the initials necessarily, for the names it does know. And when it knows the initials, it gets confused if AG comes out as T (for Tony).

Some identifiable mistakes by match captains have been investigated and corrected. Errors will remain, and some of them will be your Editor’s. He’s careful but fallible. If they’re significant (like giving a game result the wrong way round!) please let him know so he can publish a correction. Remember the grader works from the Bulletin.

232:6

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| **OPEN** | |
| **Sussex**\* 12.10.96 **Surrey**\*  1 David B Graham 220 ½ ½ Daniel L Bisby 204 (B)  2 Bernard Cafferty 194 ½ ½ Jon C Benjamin 199  3 FJ Kwiatkowski 204 1 0 Rawle A Allicock 197  4 Luke E Rutherford 203 ½ ½ Peter D Kemp 195  5 Geoff H James 194 ½ ½ Marcus E Osborne 184  6 Steve J Newman 183 ½ ½ Kevin D Richardson 182  7 Martin O Costley 181 0 1 David WW Gunter 181  8 James W Mansson 178 0 1 Alan K Punnett 179  9 Mike R Stott 177 ½ ½ Julien M Shepley 173  10 Andrew G Cooper ½ ½ Philip M Stimpson 171  11 Adrian O Pickersgill 175 ½ ½ Kevin P Mynett 167  12 John A Dodgson 170 1 0 Chris Briscoe 161  13 Chris N Hann 171 0 1 Paul D Dupré 160  14 Stephen ON Hawes 167 1 0 def  15 Jim Graham 164 1 0 Chris RA Clegg 154  16 Ian G Kelly 163 1 0 Ian S McLeod 139  (Horsham) **9 7** | **Essex**\* 12.10.96 **Herts**\*  K Bowden 228 (W) 1 0 Paul Byway 199  JW Rogers 225 0 1 Simon Knott 218  AP Lewis 212 1 0 Neil Bradbury 205  M Twyble 208 ½ ½ Kevin Clark 185  DA Sands 201 1 0 Alistair Simpson 189  E Dearing 195 ½ ½ Phil Maguire 189  G Kenworthy 195 0 1 Alex Ethelontis 180  JH Hodgson 194 ½ ½ Nick Lee 180  J Burnett 190 ½ ½ Howard Tebbs 179  A Dunn 185 ½ ½ Chris Majer 177  Myall 184 1 0 Joe Franks (r) 160  Saunders 181 1 0 Andrew Gilfillan 176  White 178 1 0 Steve Law 169  Parker 177 ½ ½ Terry Turner 155  Brett 175 1 0 David Bower 157  Millward 172 ½ ½ Barry Morris 151  (Writtle) **10½ 5½**  “Herts played their County Champion, Paul Byway, on board 1 (as allowed by the rules)” - *Chessex*. No such rule! DRS is happy with this particular order, but might object if PVB played above a GM... |
| **Oxon**\* 12.10.96 **Berks**\*  1 S Ansell 217 (B) ½ ½ PS Cooksey 194  2 M Truran 208 0 1 PJ Sharp 188  3 A Hunt 203 0 1 KD Smallbone 185  4 N Jakubovics 187 0 1 Jovanka Houska 183  5 T Dickinson 184 ½ ½ AM Leech 183  6 R Starkie 180 ½ ½ I Duvall 174  7 J Stayt 175 ½ ½ JT Munday 170  8 L Millin 176 0 1 L Davis 170  9 G Chapman 174 1 0 MC Bowhay 168  10 J Wittman 172 1 0 IR Henderson 166  11 D Hackett 175 ½ ½ DA Gold 168  12 Nick Jones 167 ½ ½ PJ Colby 155  13 D Bruce 158 1 0 MF Redmond 156  14 P Ball 150 1 0 PR Maul 161  15 M Harrison 143 1 0 SJR Turner 148  16 N Kenrick 142 0 1 DJ Lewis 146  (Long Hanborough) **8 8** | **Cambs**\* 26.10.96 **Kent**\*  J Parker 233 (B) 0 1 N McDonald 236  M Turner 231 1 0 PJ Morris 223  A Cohen 206 1 0 JE Vigus 215  D Cristinacce 200 0 1 AL Mack 202  R Gaughan 190 1 0 AE Hanreck 199  Ed Holland 188 0 1 NF Dickenson 193  M Thornton 186 0 1 RMR O’Kelly 191  D Rosenberg 183 1 0 D Farndon 190  F Pollitz 180 0 1 JN Sugden 189  Derrick Heng 1 1 0 CI Howell 187  T Gooding 176 ½ ½ D Horton 188  P Best 170 1 0 CB Rice 185  M Davey 169 1 0 JR Bayford 185  N Harmer 164 0 1 M Wiper 182  G James 150 0 1 G Botley 180  N Pyper 150 ½ ½ NP Donovan 177  (Emmanuel College) **8 8**  1 from Singapore, 2200 3 years ago |
| **Surrey\*** 2.11.96  **Cambs**\*  1 Richard A Bates 221 (W) 1 0 Matthew J Turner 231  2 Daniel L Bisby 204 0 1 Jonathan F Parker 233  3 Michael J Franklin 200 ½ ½ Mark Ferguson 223  4 Jon C Benjamin 199 ½ ½ David Cristinacce 200  5 Rawle A Allicock 197 0 1 Demis Hassabis 199  6 Peter D Kemp 195 0 1 Mark H Thornton 186  7 Oliver Rosten 195 1 0 Fred Pollitz 180  8 Daniel B Rosen 190 0 1 Ian Gooding 176  9 Marcus E Osborne 184 0 1 Mark Davey 169  10 Kevin D Richardson 182 ½ ½ Nick C Pyper 150  11 Ken FH Inwood 178 1 0 Chris RL Kreuzer 136  12 Tomas M Thrower 173 1 0 Sam Essen 130  13 Sean Thrower 172 1 0 Gulan Zilani 110  14 Martin C Page 176 1 0 def  15 David R Sedgwick 176 1 0 def  16 Julien M Shepley 173 1 0 def  (Sutton) **9½ 6½** | **Herts**\* 2.11.96 **Sussex**\*  PV Byway 199 (B) ½ ½ DH Cummings 219  SJB Knott 218 ½ ½ DB Graham 200  Neil Bradbury 205 ½ ½ B Cafferty 194  JF Rudge 194 1 0 FJ Kwiatkowski 204  KR Clark 185 0 1 LE Rutherford 203  PF Maguire 189 ½ ½ GH James 194  Alex Ethelontis 180 0 1 SJ Newman 183  Nick Lee 180 0 1 PG Farr 184  Simon Roe 181 1 0 MO Costley 181  HL Tebbs 179 ½ ½ MR Stott 177  CE Majer 177 1 0 JM Manson 178  Andrew Gilfillan 176 1 0 RJ Almond 176  John Denton 176 0 1 AG Cooper -  PR Bonafont 173 0 1 M Broom 178  Steve Law 169 0 1 AO Pickersgill 175  John Cook 162 1 0 JA Dodgson 170  (Stevenage) **7½ 9½** |

232:7

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| **Kent**\* 2.11.96 **Oxon**\*  1 Simon D Brown 207 ½ ½ M Truran 208 (B)  2 James E Vigus 215 ½ ½ A Hunt 203  3 Chris M Cooley 205 0 1 J Hastings 197  4 Cliff R Chandler 206 1 0 M Rose 194  5 Alan E Hanreck 199 1 0 A Lewis 190  6 David M Moskovic 196 ½ ½ M Devereaux 188  7 RMR O’Kelly 191 1 0 T Dickinson 184  8 John D Wager 191 ½ ½ R Starkie 180  9 David Farndon 190 ½ ½ S Jayakumar 176  10 John Sugden 189 ½ ½ G Chapman 174  11 James E Scholes 187 1 0 F Buchkremer 174  12 David J Horton 188 0 1 D Hackett 175  13 Chris Rice 185 0 1 N Jones 167  14 Jim Bayford 185 1 0 S Terry 165  15 J Stuart Williams 181 1 0 C Moxley 161  16 Nigel Donovan 178 1 0 P Ball 150  (Charlton House) **10 6** | **Bucks** 2.11.96 **Essex**\*  MV Lambshire (B) 0 1 JW Rogers 225  S Lazarus 0 1 AP Lewis 212  J Beedle 1 0 M Twyble 208  M Armstrong 0 1 DJ Coleman 205  R de Coverly 0 1 A Plug1  LM Wooldridge 0 1 D Sands 201  DF Hill 0 1 G Moore 197  SL Scopes 0 1 JH Hodgson 194  M Egby 0 1 J Burnett 190  M Vann (r) ½ ½ A Dunn 185  A Kelly 0 1 JC Moore 183  RP Ginger ½ ½ W Saunders 181  A Laurence 0 1 RP White 178  M George 0 1 R Parker 177  M Johnson 1 0 A Brett 173  A Jesse 0 1 DJ Millward 172  (Marlow) **3 13**  1 You know what the Bulletin thought. But it seems to be genuine. There *is* an Arjun Plug (“Foreign”) in the list without a grade. |
| **Herts**\* 16.11.96 **Surrey**\*  1 Paul V Byway 199 (W) ½ ½ Daniel L Bisby 204  2 Simon JB Knott 218 ½ ½ Russell G Granat 202  3 Neil H Bradbury 205 1 0 Peter D Kemp 195  4 Jerry F Rudge 194 1 0 Oliver Rosten 195  5 Phil G Maguire 189 1 0 Daniel B Rosen 190  6 Kevin R Clark 185 ½ ½ Marcus E Osborne 184  7 Simon J Roe 181 ½ ½ Kevin D Richardson 182  8 Howard L Tebbs 179 0 1 David WW Gunter  9 Chris E Majer 177 ½ ½ Alan K Punnett 179  10 Andrew Gilfillan 176 ½ ½ Ken FH Inwood 178  11 John R Denton 176 1 0 Julien M Shepley 173  12 Philip Bonafont 173 0 1 Tomas M Thrower 173  13 Steve J Tovey 171 ½ ½ Sean Thrower 172  14 Steve Law 168 0 1 Phillip\* M Stimpson 171  15 John Cook 162 0 1 Paul D Dupré 160  16 Philip J Gregory 170 0 1 Chris RA Clegg 154  (Stevenage) **7½ 8½**  \* Grading list has Philip | **Sussex**\* 16.11.96 **Berks**\*  DH Cummings 219 (B) 1 0 HW Murphy 205  DB Graham 220 1 0 PS Cooksey 194  B Cafferty 194 ½ ½ PJ Sharp 188  FJ Kwiatkowski 204 1 0 DS Tucker 189  LE Rutherford 203 1 0 Jovanka Houska 183  GH James 194 1 0 AM Leech 183  SJ Newman 183 ½ ½ ACP Milnes 178  PG Farr 184 ½ ½ I Duvall 174  MD Nicholas 181 1 0 JT Munday 170  MO Costley 181 1 0 L Davis 170  MR Stott 177 ½ ½ MC Bowhay 168  AG Cooper - 1 0 DA Gold 168  M Broom 178 1 0 DJ Lewis 146  JC Mansson 178 0 1 SJR Turner 148  RJ Almond 176 1 0 NW Dennis 145  AO Pickersgill 175 ½ ½ Mario Houska 128  (Brighton) **12½ 3½** |
| **Oxon**\* 16.11.96 **Bucks**  1 H Hunt 217 (B) ½ ½ S Lazarus 191  2 I Upton 199 1 0 J Beedle 187  3 J Hastings 197 ½ ½ M Armstrong 179  4 M Rose 194 1 0 RD de Coverly 178  5 A Lewis 190 1 0 L Wooldridge 171  6 M Devereaux 188 1 0 DF Hill 170  7 T Dickinson 184 0 1 R O’Brien 168  8 R Starkie 180 0 1 B Shipley 168  9 S Jayakumar 176 ½ ½ B Hughes 155  10 J Stayt 175 ½ ½ T (sic) Kelly 151  11 G Chapman 174 ½ ½ J Springall 150  12 F Buchkremer 174 0 1 C Floyd 148  13 J Wittman 172 1 0 B Atkinson 147  14 DG Hackett 175 1 0 A Laurence 146  15 S Terry 165 1 0 E Bolduc 132  16 N Kenrick 142 1 0 A Hughes 127  (Long Hanborough) **10½ 5½** | **Essex**\* 16.11.96 **Kent**  JW Rogers 225 (B) 0 1 N McDonald 236  AP Lewis 212 0 1 PJ Morris 223  A Plug 1 0 DW Gormally 213  KCC Mah 214 0 1 SD Brown 207  M Twyble 208 ½ ½ CM Cooley 205  JP Manley 205 1 0 CR Chandler 206  D Sands 201 ½ ½ RG Eales  G Moore 197 1 0 AE Hanreck 199  G Kenworthy 195 ½ ½ DM Moskovic 196  JH Hodgson 194 1 0 AM Harakis 191  D Sherman 195 ½ ½ RMR O’Kelly 191  J Goldberg 190 0 1 JD Wager 191  J Burnett 190 1 0 PP Taylor 190  JC Moore 183 ½ ½ D Farndon 190  W Saunders 187 ½ ½ JN Sugden 189  RP White 178 ½ ½ CB Rice 185  (Wanstead) **8½ 7½** |

232:8

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| **UNDER 175** | |
| **Surrey**\*19.10.96 **Sussex**\*  1 def 0 1 John A Dodgson 170  2 TM Thrower 173 1 0 Michael J Reddie 174  3 S Thrower 172 1 0 Chris Hann 171  4 PM Stimpson 171 1 0 David W Fryer  5 JS White 169 ½ ½ SON Hawes 167  6 D Spearman 165 ½ ½ Paul A Batchelor 167  7 C Briscoe 161 ½ ½ Andrew SJ Fleming 165  8 PD Dupré 160 0 1 Graham James 164  9 HT Jones 157 1 0 Ian G Kelly 163  10 D Tuddenham 156 1 0 def  11 CRA Clegg 154 1 0 Keith Davies 157  12 RJ Wilcox 154 0 1 Roy R Harper 156  13 PR Archer 151 1 0 David L Roberts 155  14 SR Jones 150 ½ ½ WH Partridge 151  15 PE Barnard 147 ½ ½ Laurence Rackham 150  16 JB Hawson 138 1 0 R Daniel Hirsch 138  (Sutton) **10½ 5½** | **Essex**\* 9.11.96 K**ent**  Paul L Williamson 173 ½ ½ NSW Alfred 174 (W)  Andrew R Brett 173 0 1 GM Brown 170  Larry E Marden 173 ½ ½ S Firth 170  Ivor BN Smith 173 0 1 Z Mehmet 169  David J Millward 172 1 0 A Atkinson 165  Peter C Doye 166 1 0 PW Eldridge 162  Sid M Kalinsky 165 0 1 SJ Pullinger 163  Steve D Harvey 163 ½ ½ MD Brougham 159  Colin R Ramage 163 1 0 SJ Peters 159  Neville H Twitchell 162 ½ ½ NC Mackett 152  Ian D Hunnable 161 0 1 RJA Winterburn 149  Les J Crane 159 ½ ½ AC Waters 148  Andy King 159 0 1 AJ Sherriff 148  Steve M Williams 157 1 0 def  Peter Walker 154 1 0 def  Mark Weighell 151 1 0 def  (Wanstead House) **8½ 7½** |
| **Surrey**\* 23.11.96 **Essex**\*  1 JM Shepley 173 (W) 0 1 Paul L Williamson 173  2 TM Thrower 173 0 1 Larry E Marden 173  3 Sean Thrower 172 1 0 Ivor MB Smith 173  4 JC Marley 172 1 0 David J Millward 172  5 S Retallick 170 1 0 Steve D Harvey 163  6 JS White 169 ½ ½ Colin R Ramage 163  7 FC Manning137 (r) 0 1 Neville H Twitchell 162  8 Chris Briscoe 161 ½ ½ Ian D Hunnable 161  9 PD Dupré 160 ½ ½ Ken W Clow 158  10 N Maxwell 159 ½ ½ Andrew D Hartland 155  11 TD Phillips 156 0 1 Ray Purse 154  12 CRA Clegg 154 ½ ½ Richard J Weeber 154  13 RJ Wilcox 154 0 1 Roberto E Waldteufel 152  14 CJ Mann 153 0 1 Mark Weighell 151  15 PR Archer 151 0 1 Paul R Barclay 148  16 SR Jones 150 ½ ½ David Smith 145  (Sutton) **6 10** |  |

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| **UNDER 150** | |
| **Herts** 2.11.96 **Surrey**\*  1 A Brewis (B) 0 1 Andrew N Smith  2 A Fulton 0 1 Jed Stone  3 S Charles 0 1 Kevin Wilkinson  4 C Howe ½ ½ Rod Bell  5 K Hardy ½ ½ Ian McLeod  6 P Lawrence ½ ½ John Hawson  7 R Clayton 0 1 Fred Manning  8 S Cook 1 0 Krishna Mehendale  9 D Price 0 1 John Marshall  10 S Blackburn 1 0 Neil Clifton  11 JG Jones ½ ½ Claire Thrower  12 M Waltham ½ ½ Matthew Feld  13 P Myers 0 1 David Hodgson  14 J Marshall 0 1 Don Baldock  15 P May 0 1 Jo Hart  16 M Wali ½ ½ David Moore  (Stevenage) **5 11** | **Sussex**\* 2.11.96 **Essex**\*  PR Selby 148 (B) 1 0 PR Barclay 148  PA Greaves 147 0 1 TG Winter 145  DJ Hopson 146 ½ ½ David Smith 145  LJ Cannon 144 1 0 LJ Burtt 144  PN Kington 143 1 0 DJ Payne 144  DS Hall 143 0 1 S Harwood 143  RA Clement 139 0 1 G Gooding 142  RD Hirsch 138 0 1 DJ Rawlings 139  FW Brown 136 0 1 SS Armour 138  MR Hickman 134 1 0 D Cannan 137  TJ Woods 132 0 1 MRA Murrell 136  CC Dunn 131 0 1 MJ Cresswell 135  SJ Elgie 130 ½ ½ A Drake 135  PH Benson 128 0 1 RD Sharman 134  EJ Hillier 127 ½ ½ CJ Hobbs 134  B Chamberlain 100 (r) 0 1 D Bird 126  (Crawley) **5½ 10½** |

232:9

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| **Surrey**\* 16.11.96 **Sussex**\*  1 Neil Clifton 108 (r) (B) 0 1 DJ Hopson 146  2 ST Kevin Wilkinson 143 1 0 LJ Cannon 144  3 Colin PL Parker 142 ½ ½ IK Edgson 144  4 J Rod Bell 139 ½ ½ PN Kington 143  5 Ian S McLeod 139 0 1 David S Hall 143  6 John B Hawson 138 1 0 RC Grundy 141  7 Fred C Manning 137 ½ ½ RC Davies 140  8 John Marshall 135 ½ ½ Richard A Clement 139  9 R Jim Hale 133 0 1 R Daniel Hirsch 138  10 Claire L Thrower 133 0 1 Mark Finch 135  11 David A Jones 131 ½ ½ Timothy J Woods 132  12 Matthew D Feld 128 ½ ½ C Chris Dunn 131  13 David L Hodgson 128 0 1 Stephen J Elgie 130  14 Don A Baldock 126 0 1 Peter H Benson 128  15 Joanna S Hart 124 ½ ½ Eric J Hillier 127  16 Lucy Broomfield 120 1 0 Kevin Carter 126  (Sutton) **6½ 9½** | **Kent**\* 16.11.96 **Herts**  T Baldwin 149 (B) ½ ½ A Hall 149  A Waters 148 ½ ½ A Fulton 148  A Sherriff 148 ½ ½ S Charles 146  def 0 0 def  C Davis 145 0 1 B Judkins 144  def 0 0 def  G Steele 145 ½ ½ D Webb 141  M Jones 112 (r) 0 1 D Price 141  P Finch 141 0 1 P Lawrence 142  I Hames 139 ½ ½ R Gordonsmith 147  R Kieran 138 ½ ½ J Marshall 134  D Gleed 136 ½ ½ J Coles 134  B Hunter 134 0 1 M Wali 128  S Casement 130 ½ ½ A Philips 122  D Hargrave 129 1 0 R Kearns 125  S Chick 120 0 1 T Wright 124  (Charlton House) **5 9**  The defaults weren’t known about in advance. People were turning up late on both sides and we suspect a certain amount of shuffling around took place to get all the absentees onto two boards. |

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| **UNDER 125** | |
| **Oxon**\* 26.10.96 **Surrey**\*  1 Alan Collins 124 (B) 0 1 L Evboumwan 124  2 Ian R Brooke 124 1 0 G Morse 121  3 Lee Collins 121 1 0 R Balatoni 121  4 Tony Heslop 119 1 0 D Parsons 117  5 AJ Wyeth 112 1 0 KW Lovel 116  6 Wayne Tutty 115 1 0 DJ Howes 115  7 Malcolm Brindley 108 1 0 W Waterton 110  8 Frank Fallon 97 1 0 PM Shaw 105  9 DAS Buckland 100 1 0 AP Palmier 105  10 James Buchanan 90 1 0 M Curran 104  11 Catherine David 71 0 1 LI Makinson 97  12 John Findlay 82 0 1 S Smyth 97  13 Graham Morris 87 0 1 D Innes 96  14 David Metcalfe 104 1 0 def  15 G Spalding 115 1 0 def  16 M Creasey 74 1 0 def  (Long Hanborough) **12 4** | **Kent**\* 26.11.96 **Sussex**\*  Stephen Chick 120 ½ ½ BK Horscroft 120  Peter L Childs 123 ½ ½ Ben McManus 123  Neil Lister 116 1 0 David Simpkins 120  M Zukunft 115 0 1 PJ Helliwell 119  G Battye 114 0 1 Alan J Quant 119  Anthony Hargreaves 113 0 1 Graham P Salmon 117  Michael R Jones 112 1 0 Marc A Bryant 115  Peter D Poland 112 ½ ½ SP Deere 114  I Stoneman 112 ½ ½ Michael Curtis 110  Colin G Gregory 111 1 0 N Pestelle 111  Ivor C Smith 109 0 1 Adam JP Wood 111  David SJ Shipp 103 ½ ½ Charles Holcombe 108  James C Robertson 103 ½ ½ Paul Buswell 100  Robin Thompson 98 0 1 N Clive 110  Brian J Thatcher 96 ½ ½ Stephen D Carter 60  def 0 0 def  (Sevenoaks) **6½ 8½** |

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| **UNDER 100** | |
| **Essex**\* 2.11.96 **Surrey**\*  1 Ron Prickett 99 (B) 1 0 Edward Radford 99  2 Bijan Mehdinejad 99 1 0 William Upton 95  3 Chris Wiggins 99 ½ ½ Chris Dixon 93  4 Bobby Payne 98 1 0 Laila Tillett 89  5 Lawrence Trent 95 1 1 0 Philip Castle 89  6 Alex O’Neill 94 1 0 Chris Manders 89  7 Fred Riley 88 1 0 David Manders - 1  8 Andy Denny 84 1 0 Storm Ballard - 1  9 John Sneezby e84 ½ ½ Graham Curtis 88  10 Stewart Trent 82 ½ ½ Richard Jones 84  11 Heather Walker 69 0 1 Richard Davey 84  12 Bryan Edwards 64 0 1 Chris Baker 69  (Wanstead House) **8½ 3½** | **Herts**\* 16.11.96 **Essex**  Adam Humphreys 99 ½ ½ Ron Prickett 99 (W)  Remi Strauss 94 0 1 Chris Wiggins 99  Wolf Hamm 89 ½ ½ Robert Payne 98  David Bate-Smith 89 1 0 Lawrence Trent 87 1  Frank Batchelor 80 1 0 Alex O’Neil 94  David Aburrow 94 0 1 Fred Riley 88  Maurice Kenton 81 1 0 John Sneezby  Mark Senn e80 0 1 Stewart Trent 72 1  Alan Brewis 73 1 0 Jason Klimach 66  Stephen Burt e70 1 0 Martin Taylor 62  John Dalton 48 0 1 Alan Trent  Matthew Noble e50 0 1 David Sneezby  (Stevenage) **6 6** |
| 1 Manders unpublished on 60 (8 games); Ballard 102 (5 games). Trent L is 87 in published list, 97 in master list; Trent S 72 published, 82 ML. Someone at Ilford’s been slipping a few late results into the grading. Published grade is what counts, if you’d forgotten. | |

232:10

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| **SCCU FIXTURE LIST 1996-7**  To end of season. New dates asterisked. | | Teams entered:  Br Bu C E H K M O Sy Sx  Open \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  U175 \* \* \* \*  U150 \* \* \* \* \*  U125 \* \* \* \* \* \*  U100 \* \* \* | | |
| **Open**  Nov 30 SyE KSx BrC BuH  Dec 7 OC KH  14 BrE BuSy  Jan 11  18 SyK HBr SxO CBu  25  Feb 1 BrSy CSx KBu  8 OE  15 EC HO KBr BuSx  22  Mar 1 *(SCCU U18 qualifier)*  8 OSy CH SxE BrBu  15  22 | **Under 175**  ESx SyK  SxSy  KE  ESy \*SxK  SxE  KSy  \*KSx | **Under 150**  EK  EH SxK  KSy  HSx SyE | **Under 125**  HO  KE OSy SyH  EO  SyK  HSx  OK SyE  HK \*SxSy | **Under 100**  \*SyH  (EH)1  EK  KH  SyK  HSy  SyE |

1 To be changed

**KENT** Under 150 match captain is now Steve Chick, 85 Poverest Rd, Orpington, Kent BR5 2DZ 01689 877358.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A Hunt 203** - **KD Smallbone 185**  County match Oxon - Berks 12.10.96  1e4 c5 2Nf3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 f4 Qc7 7 Nf3 Nbd7 8 Bd3 g6 9 0–0 Bg7 10 Qe1 b5 11 e5 dxe5 12 fxe5 Ng4 13 e6 Qb6+ 14 Kh1 Qxe6 15 Be4 Rb8 16 Ng5 Bxc3 17 bxc3 Qb6 18 Rxf7 Qc5 **(Diagram)**  19 Rxh7 Nf2+ (19...Rg8 20 Rh8) 20 Qxf2 Qxf2 21 Bxg6+ Kf8 22 Ne6+  “mate”, it says here, but they were close.  **McDonald, Neil - Baker, Chris** | White to move |

Invicta Knights - Bristol, 4NCL 1996  
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.e5 Ne4 7.Qg4 Qa5 8.Qxg7 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Qxc3+ 10.Ke2 Qxd4 11.Qxh8+ Ke7 12.Ba3+ Nc5 13.Qf6+ Ke8 14.Qh8+ Ke7 15.Rd1 Qc3 16.Qf6+ Ke8 17.Qh8+ Ke7 18.Bc1 Ne4 19.Bh6 d5 20.exd6+ Kd7 21.Qxh7 Qxc2+ 22.Ke3 Qxf2+ 23.Kxe4 Nc6 24.Bf4 Qc2+ 25.Bd3 Qa4+ 26.Kf3 1–0

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Houska, Miroslav - Williams, Leighton**  Slough - Celtic Knights, 4NCL 1996 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 e5 6.Nde2 Bb4 7.a3 Bc5 8.b4 Bd4 9.Nxd4 **(Diagram)**  exd4 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Qe7+ 12.Be2 Qe5 13.dxc6 d3 14.Qxd3 Qxa1 15.Qe4+ Kf8 16.0–0 Qc3 17.cxb7 Bxb7 18.Qxb7 Qc6 19.Bf3 Qxb7 20.Bxb7 Rb8 21.Bd5 a5 22.Bf4 Rc8 23.Bd6+ Ke8 24.b5 1–0 | Black to move |

232:11

**CONGRESS DIARY**

Nov 30 MUSWELL HILL Rapidplay. Michael Davies, 325 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13 4YB 0181 882 9491

Dec 1 BASINGSTOKE RAPIDPLAY. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke RG21 2LS 01256 472537

1 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

5 HENDON BLITZ (10 min each). 7.15 - 10 p.m. at Golders Green Church Hall. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

7 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

7 CANTERBURY JUNIOR. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

7-8 KENSINGTON. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

8 SURREY GIRLS. N Clifton, 114 Windermere Rd, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2JB 0181 660 8564

14 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

14-15 LONDON JUNIOR U14,10,8. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080

28-30 LONDON JUNIOR U21/18/16/12. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080

28-12 HASTINGS various. Con Power, 418 Harold Rd, Hastings, E Sussex TN35 5HG 01424 431970

Jan 3-5 FULPRINT at York. NR Pearce, 6 Tyneham Valley, Strensall, York YO3 5BH 01904 491287

3-5 SOUTH WALES WINTER at Chepstow. I Eustis, Tyr Bach Farm, Rhos, Pontardawe, Swansea SA8 3EG 01792 862115

4-5 BARNET U206/151/111. J Venn, 117 Woodville Rd, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5NS 0181 449 9538

10-12 SHROPSHIRE. D Gostelow, 7 Field Lane, Kemberton, Shifnal, Shropshire TF11 9LR 01952 587208

11 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

12 KENSINGTON Rapid. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

17-19 GMCCA WINTER at Wigan. H Lamb, 134 Junction Rd, Deane, Bolton BL3 4NQ 01202 402241

18-19 SPECTRUM at Sheffield. Les Day, 10 Oaklawn Court, Barton Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ1 4EN 01803 212136. Or N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT 01705 551617

18 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

18-19 BERKSHIRE SCHOOLS at Wokingham. U10/12/18U125 Sat, U9/11/13/Open(U18?) Sun. JP Sutherland, 34 Middle Rd, Whaplode, Spalding, Lincs PE12 6TW 01406 370166

19 SOMERS TOWN Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

24-26 REDCAR. Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, Majuba Rd, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 5BT 01642 479277

25 KINGS HEAD RAPID. WA Suttill, 7 Lonsdale Rd, London W11 1BY 0171 229 9750

25 LANGLEY PARK (BROMLEY) JUNIOR. DJ Brown, 32 St Johns Rd, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent  01689 821854

25-26 WIGAN (alongside 4NCL). U160/120. 4NCL Events Manager: Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

25-26 SPECTRUM at Torquay. Les Day, 10 Oaklawn Court, Barton Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ1 4EN 01803 212136. Or N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT 01705 551617

26 RICHMOND RAPID. R James, 95 Lyndhurst Avenue, Twickenham TW2 6BH 0181 898 1190

**KENT** Under 150 match captain is now Steve Chick, 85 Poverest Rd, Orpington, Kent BR5 2DZ 01689 877358. (DRS please note: we *know* it says that on page 10 as well!)

**Quotes**

None, that we can use.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

*Chessex* for November; Maidstone CC newsletter, issue 1 (and we won’t tell anyone it’s called *Poisoned Porn*).

Issue 233 January 1997

**EDITORIAL**

I anticipated the New Year on the front cover of the November issue (and only two people mentioned it). But I’ve nothing else to say, so happy New Year.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Richard**, 4.12.96

It’s always fun reading the SCCU Bulletin (November 1996 issue) to see whether there are points of controversy that require comment.

Needless to say, one such issue worthy of examination in the European Court appears on 232:6. You say there is no rule providing for Paul Byway playing on board 1 for the Hertfordshire first team in county matches. No SCCU rule maybe but we in Herts do like to pass our own rules occasionally. This particular one has been there for ages, probably before grading was invented!

Our rule says “The current holder of the Capel Cup (county championship) shall have the right to play top board in county matches.” That is why Paul is playing on top board as he has done in previous years given his frequent success in our county championship.

We are naturally sorry if our temerity in having our own rule drives a coach and horses through SCCU arrangements but we do value our independent ability to make our own rules. This particular one obviously provides some benefit and incentive given Paul’s good record against many higher graded players.

We would cross the bridge of playing Paul above a GM when we have to. Chance would be a fine thing!

Kind regards,

**Bryan (Fewell)** President, Hertfordshire CA

**Dear Richard,** 13.12.96

Judging by your brief note to the Herts v Essex match in the November issue of the SCCU Bulletin, you appear to be a little confused or misinformed.

Rule 10.8 of the Hertfordshire Chess Association’s Closed County Championship Rules states: “The current holder of the Capel Cup [i.e. the winner of the County Championship] shall have the right to play top board in county matches.” If you or DRS wish to see how flexible we are by getting a GM to play for Herts, I will be delighted!

Do keep up the good work as Editor of the Bulletin.

Yours sincerely,

**Joe Franks** Ruislip

Ed: - I think parts of the above are tongue in cheek, but even so...! If anyone’s confused or misinformed, I don’t think it’s me. Herts aren’t *allowed* to have a private rule saying they can break the rules of SCCU competitions! The SCCU rule, made in Council where Herts can vote like anyone else, is descending order of strength. If your GM didn’t win the county championship, perhaps because he didn’t play in it, he still goes on board 1. As I said last time, David Sedgwick thought the Herts board order acceptable in terms of strength, so no rule’s been broken, and I only mentioned it because *Chessex* - my source - seemed to have unearthed an imaginary rule. I never thought it would turn out to be a Herts conspiracy!

**Dear Richard**, 13.12.96

(1) I was surprised to see you say that the National Club rules “should have gone to Council”. There is no requirement for this to be done. The Management Board is there to govern and mere rule changes should not be referred to Council, where they clog up the agenda, unless the Board is genuinely unable to reach consensus on a controversial and substantive issue. In this instance the Director was of course lamentably out of touch if the matter provoked the Board into such (in)action.

(2) As Sussex U125 team secretary I have written to the U125 county captains to seek views on reverting next season to 12 boards in the SCCU stage. Others’ comments would be welcome.

**Paul Buswell** St Leonards

Ed: - more about the National Club rules on page 2.

**DIRECT MEMBERSHIP SCHEME**

Bryan Fewell, who is nationally responsible for the Direct Membership Scheme, has announced his intention of resigning at the end of the financial year (or earlier if his successor prefers). There is no successor yet. (Any takers?) Bryan has administered the scheme since 1990 and has seen membership rise to 1100, with income “net of direct expenses” of £10,000 a year. Membership is now static, which Bryan finds rather disappointing. Did you know that one of his jobs, according to the job description, is “reviewing” *ChessMoves* before publication to ensure that contentious things don’t go in without due consideration?233:2

**LEIGH 1996**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **grand prix** max 200  1 GM Arkell Derby 195.1  2 GM Hebden Leicester 193.7  3 GM Adams London 192.2  4 GM Lalic Sutton 188.2  5 IM Ledger Bedford 175.2  6 IM Parker Edinburgh 167.9  7 IM Buckley Wolverhampton 167.1  8 IM Ferguson Cambridge U 158.5  9 IM Crouch Harrow 155.3  11 IM Summerscale 148.9  12 GM Emms 140.0  GM Nunn 140.0  14 IM Turner 139.9  15 GM McNabb 138.5  16 Tim Wall 117.9  17 IM Lalic 113.9  18 GM Ward 110.9  19 IM Martin 110.0  20 GM Hodgson 109.8  21 IM Bryson 93.4  22 John Richardson 84.5  23 FM Chris Baker 82.2  24 GM Sadler 79.6  25 FM John Shaw 77.9  26 Danny Gormally 77.3  27 GM McDonald 76.3  28 GM Conquest 75.0  29 FM Karl Mah 70.1  30 James Poulton 68.1  31 Brett Lund 65.5  GM Plaskett 65.5  Regional Prizes:  Graeme Buckley (W Midlands); Mark Ferguson (E Midlands / East Anglia); Colin Crouch (SCCU); Colin McNabb (Scotland); Tim Wall (North England); Chris Baker (West of England); Brett Lund (NCCU / Manchester)  £25 merit awards for Leigh Congresses helping British Isles Chess: Aylesbury, Bolton Rapidplay, BWCA Womens One-day, Kilkenny, Leamington, Maidstone, North Essex, York | **prixette** max 100  1 IM Lalic Sutton 83.6  2 (WGM) Hunt Oxford 72.3  3 K Arakhamia-Grant Edinburgh 69.9  4 WFM Ruth Sheldon Manchester 65.8  5 Mandy Haslinger Southport 57.5  6 Lucy Broomfield S Norwood 48.9  7 WFM Natasha Regan Gerrards X 46.0  8 Rosalind Kieran Bexley 48.3  9 Heather Richards Whitstable 45.2  10 WIM Jackson London 43.3  **junior prix**  max 100  1 IM Parker Edinburgh 89.3  2 IM Turner Scunthorpe 82.4  3 IM Ferguson Haslemere 80.7  4 FM Luke McShane Clapham 79.7  5 Kevin Carter Hastings 55.7  Chris Dunlop Blackburn 55.7  7 Alexander Longson Ashton U Lyne 55.5  8 Martin Taylor Rainham 53.7  9 Miroslav Houska Slough 51.1  10 FM Simon Williams Woking 49.2  11 Matthew Broomfield S Norwood 48.7  U18 Luke McShane U14 Alexander Longson  U18 Girls Ruth Sheldon U12 Matthew Broomfield  U16 Chris Dunlop U10 Peter Titmas  **amateur prix** max 50  1 Paul Kelly Mendon 45.6  2 Geoffrey Bishop Lewisham 45.3  3 Michael Kobylka Wood Green 43.8  4 Chris Briscoe Hampton 43.5  5 Nigel Blades Norwich 42.6  6 Paul Bloom Bromley 42.5  Angus James Surbiton 42.5  Andrew Price Leamington 42.5  9 Geoffrey Thomas Penkridge 42.0  10 Richard Allen Bristol 41.6  **visually handicapped prix** max 50  1 Graham Lilley Prescot 37.5  2 N Wragg Sheffield 19.5  3 Paul Benson Widnes 18.0  4 StanLovell Leeds 16.5  5 Steve Thacker Peterborough 15.0 |

**NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

We reported last time that the BCF Management Board had reversed some rule changes made by the outgoing Director of Home Chess. He had deleted the rule (Open only) that says you have to have played at least twice for the club in other competitions in the last season; and inserted one saying players can’t be paid (except expenses). We were under the impression that he’d done this all by himself. Not so. To quote one of the Nat Club controllers: “During the 1995-6 season, there were some problems relating to eligibility. Various Team Captains made representations on this subject. The revised Rule 6 took account of these representations and was fully discussed with the Chief Controller and later with the Director of Home Chess who approved the changes. The

233:3

subject was [subsequently] discussed at the November Management Board Meeting. It was raised without due prior notice and the Director of Home Chess [who is also the Chief Controller] was not present. After discussion it was decided to reverse some of the changes, with retrospective effect...” Can you (un)change rules retrospectively? Wasn’t what we’d heard, but we weren’t there. We haven’t seen the minutes either, though they’re allegedly unintelligible on the subject. Quite apart from the lack of notice, we’ve heard it said that the MB had no access to copies of the rules, new or old, when they unchanged them. Some people aren’t pleased with the MB. Anyway, the clubs have got some matches played.

**OPEN**

**Rd1** Atherton 3 3 \*Hull; Atticus 2 4 Bradford; Cambridge U 4½ 1½ Cowley; Cosham 2 4 Southbourne; Coulsdon & Purley 0 6 Charlton; Crowthorne 4½ 1½ Bristol & Clifton; Gloucester 3½ 2½ Nidum Liberals; Guildford 3½ 2½ Mushrooms; Hastings & St Leonards 2½ 3½ Wood Green; Hayes Kent 1 5 Barbican; Hounslow 1 5 Bedford; Maidstone 2½ 3½ Ilford; Witney 2 4 Slough.

**Rd 2** Ilford 4½ 1½ Kings Head; all other teams had byes.

**Rd 3** by 2nd March: Barbican v Ilford; Bedford v Hull; Bradford v Crowwood or Glasgow Poly; Cardiff v Gloucester; Castlehill or Edinburgh West v Slough; Charlton v Crowthorne; Southbourne v Guildford; Wood Green v Cambridge U.

**Plate Rd 1** by 2nd March: Atticus v Hounslow; Bristol & Clifton v Cosham; Cowley v Atherton; Maidstone v Coulsdon & Purley; Nidum Liberals v Mushrooms. Byes: Hastings, Hayes, Witney.

**MAJOR**

**Rd 1** Gt Lever 3 2 Undercliffe; Morecambe 3 2 Dista; Huddersfield 3½ 1½ Crusaders; Warley Quinborne 2 3 St Johns (EAR) it says here; Hereford 1½ 3½ Exeter; Bury Knights 1 4 Northampton; Milton Keynes 3 2 Witney; Rainham 2 3 Southend; Teignmouth 2½ 2½ \*Abercynon; Reading\* 2½ 2½ Southampton; Guildford 3 2 Hastings; Eastbourne 2½ 2½ \*Maidstone; Kingston w/o Metropolitan; International Students 4 1 Kings Head.

**Rd 2** by 16th February: Gt Lever v Morecambe; Prescot & Knotty Ash v Huddersfield; Northampton v St Johns EAR; Exeter v Reading; Guildford v Milton Keynes; Maidstone v Int Students; Southend v Kingston.

**Plate Rd 1** by 16th February: Undercliffe v Crusaders; Hastings v Rainham; Witney v Hereford. Byes Dista, Teignmouth, Southampton, Eastbourne, Kings Head.

**INTERMEDIATE**

**Rd 1** Ashford 1 4 Tunbridge Wells; Barrow 4 1 Poulton le Fylde; Bedford 3 2 Northampton; Cosham 3½ 1½ Coulsdon & Purley; Maidstone 2½ 2½ \*Hastings; Morecambe 2 3 Gt Lever; Olton 2 3 Hereford; St Albans 3½ 1½ Bourne End; Slough 1 4 Basingstoke; Southend 3½ 1½ Wanstead & Woodford; Syston 1½ 3½ W Quinborne; Wood Green\* 2½ 2½ Reading; Yorkshire Copperworks 1½ 3½ Liverpool; Ashfield w/o def Bradford; Rose Forgrove w/o def Grimsby & District; Southbourne w/o def Southampton.

**Rd 2** by 3rd February: Hammersmith v Wood Green; Rose Forgrove v Ashfield. Others have byes.

**Rd 1** **Plate** by 3rd February: Bourne End v Maidstone; Bradford v Olton; Grimsby & District v Yorkshire Copperworks; Northampton v Syston; Poulton le Fylde v Morecambe; Southampton v Coulsdon & Purley; Wanstead & Woodford v Ashford; Reading v Slough.

**4NCL** after round 4 (24th November 1996 and it just missed the last issue) goes 1 Invicta Knights MP 8, GP 23½; 2 Midland Monarchs 8:23; 3 Wood Green 8:22½; 4 Slough 7:21½; 5 Northumbria Vikings 6:19; 6 BCM 6:18½;

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| and 12 other teams going down to 0:9. Believe there was no December weekend but there’s a January one we’ve also just missed, and they’re monthly thereafter till May. Some games:  **Smith Andrew P (Slough) - Abayasekera Roger (Guildford)** 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Be2 Be7 8.0–0 a6 9.Qd3 Bd7 10.Rad1 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Bc6 12.e5 Qa5  (diagram)  13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.exd6 0–0–0 15.Qa7 Bf8 16.Bb5 Bxb5 17.Qa8+ Kd7 18.Qxb7+ Ke8 19.Ne4 Bxd6 20.Rxd6 Kf8 21.c4 1–0 |           |

**Morris Charles (Slough) - Gormally Danny** (**Invicta Knights)**

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.g3 Bxc3 4.bxc3 d6 5.Bg2 c5 6.d3 Ne7 7.Rb1 Nbc6 8.Bd5 Nxd5 9.cxd5 Ne7 10.e4 0–0 11.h4 f5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.f3 c4 15.Rb2 cxd3 16.Qxd3 fxe4 17.fxe4 Bg4 18.Rhh2 Qc7 19.Qe3 Rac8 20.Rbc2 Qc4 21.Rhf2 b5 22.Nf3 Bxf3 23.Rxf3 Rxf3 24.Qxf3 Rf8 25.Qe2 Qc5 26.Qg2 Qe3+ 27.Kd1 Rf3 28.Re2 Qxc3 0-1

**Bowden K (Barbican) - Friedgood David (BCM)**  
1.e4 c5 2.c3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Bd3 g6 5.dxc5 dxc5 6.e5 Ng4 7.Qe2 Nc6 8.f4 h5 9.Nf3 Nh6 10.Be3 e6 11.Nbd2 Be7 12.Ne4 b6 13.Bb5 Qc7 14.Nd6+ Kf8 15.Rd1 Nf5 16.Nxc8 Rxc8 17.Bf2 Kg7 18.0–0 Nb8 19.h3 c4 20.Nd2 Rhd8 21.Ne4 Rd5 22.Rxd5 exd5 23.g4 hxg4 24.hxg4 dxe4 25.gxf5 gxf5 26.Qh5 Rg8 27.Kh2 1–0233:4

**BRONOWSKI TROPHY** is a 20-board league whose nature is (reasonably) well captured in its formal title: the London Business Chess Inter-League Championship. Participants are Civil Service CA, Insurance CC, London Commercial Chess League, United Banks and (new this year) the Central London Legal Chess League. They’ve just switched to QPF, “thus dispensing with adjudication”. What the SCCU does today... Been trying to do it in Kent for years. The season’s first two results: Civil Service 9 11 Legal Chess League; United Banks 15½ 4½ London Commercial League.

**JUNIOR NEWS**

**SCCU UNDER 18 JAMBOREES**

will be held on Saturday 1st March 1997.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Major Counties** (12 bds) **)**  **Girls** (6 bds) | Sutton Adult School, Benhill Avenue, Sutton, Surrey |
| **Minor Counties** (12 bds) | Mary Hare School for the Deaf, Newbury, Berks |

Entries so far (well, up to Christmas anyway):

Major Counties - Essex, Kent, Surrey. Middx will not play.

Minor Counties - Berks, Bucks, Herts. Oxon and Sussex either haven’t decided yet, or haven’t said.

Girls - Kent, Surrey. Essex and Oxon undecided, and the others will not play.

Girls Second Teams - no entries, perhaps because the idea’s only just been floated, but if anyone is interested will they please contact Nigel Dennis.

Just a thought, but it’s a pity the Girls event has to be held on the same day. Is there any rule that says it must be, or is it just the shortage of Saturdays? They couldn’t play in two teams in the Finals, but even so.

**SURREY GIRLS CONGRESS** at Therfield School, 1st December 1996

The number of players, at 79, was a 58% increase on last year.

**Under 18/14** (7 pl) 1 Ruth Bates (Tiffins) 4½/5; 2 Annabel Yadoo (LEH: takes U14 title) 4; 3 Joanna Hart (Croydon H) 3½; 4 Lucy Broomfield (Wallington H) 3...

**Under 12** (36 pl) 1-2 Alexandra Kelly (Croydon High), Kate Feld (Lady Eleanor) 4½/5; 3-5 Harriet Bates (Waldegrave), Anna Partington (Sutton High), Teresa Khoo (St Maurs) 4; 6-8 Alexandra Wilson (Croydon High), Nicole Mangion (Danes Hill), Katherine Stoker (Wimbledon) 3½...

**Under 10** (36 pl) 1 Jessie Gilbert (Croydon H) 5/5; 2-6 Sarah Hegarty (Knaphill: takes U8 title), Sophie Eagle (Claremont), Charlotte Roe (Putney H), Heather Megaw (Danes Hill), Alicia Snelling (Connaught) 4; 7-9 Maria Fort (St Teresas), Clare Briscoe (Danes Hill), Lynda Clark (Connaught) 3½...

Results anonymous but we suspect Neil Clifton. Surrey Girls have a fancy system showing ages by letters of the alphabet. Your letter stays with you as long as you’re a junior. This year’s U18s are K, U17s are L, U16s are M, they’ve got as far as V for U7s, and we don’t know what provision has been made for this year’s Under 2s.

**CANTERBURY JUNIOR** 7th December 1996

**Under 18 Major/Minor** (14 pl in a combined tournament; only 5 had entered the Major) 1 Phillip Zabrocki 5½/6; 2-3 Mark Roberts, Martin Taylor 4; 4-6 Andrew Bigg, Paul Higgins (=1st Minor entrants), Matthew Noakes 3½...

**Under 13** (20 pl) 1 Oliver Cooley (takes 1995-6 Kent U12 Championship) 6/6; 2-6 Stephen Casement, Amir Habibi, Steven Pretty, Thomas Rendle, Alistair Taylor 4; 7-9 Richard Cheeseman, Markku Slattery, James Thanesan 3½...

**Under 11** (19 pl) 1 Sara Higgins 5/6; 2-3 Nikhil Arora, Edmund Birkhamshaw 4½; 4-5 Lalin Navaratne, Mark Richards 4; 6-10 James Chapman, Robin Jones, Thomas Stradwick, Robert White, Antoinette Wilson 3½...

**Under 9** (8 pl) 1 Laura Weatherhead 7/7; 2 Karim Habibi 6; 3 Stephan Wassermann-Fry 5; 4 Richard McKinnon 3½... Results Sue Casement

**KASPAROV COMPUTERS / SAVE THE CHILDREN 2ND UK CHESS CHALLENGE**

is under way. 705 schools and 23,323 players have enrolled, and the leading county by a mile is Surrey with 3423 players (and 99 schools). Essex are 2nd with 1380; Middx 4th 1305; Kent 7th 1025; Herts 9th 855; Sussex 13th 525; Berks 17th 470; Bucks 19th 465; Oxon 28th 330. Some of the “counties” are a bit notional. Every county except the Isle of Wight is represented, and bottom equal (40-41) are IOM and Rutland 30 (1 school each). No idea what this proves. Megafinals 3rd or 4th May, Gigafinal 13th July, and they *are* having a Terafinal this year for the 16 Gigawinners. 233:5

**SCCU COUNTY MATCHES: LEAGUE TABLES**

including all results received up to 26.1.97

**OPEN** Br Bu C E H K O Sy Sx MP

Berks 7 5 7½ 8 3½ ½ :5  
Bucks 2 3 6½ 5½ 8½ 1 :5

Cambs 9 14 8 6 6½ 2½ :5  
Essex 11 13 10½ 8½ 9½ 5 :5  
Herts 8½ 9½ 5½ 3 7½ 7½ 2 :6  
Kent 8 7½ 13 10 9½ 8 4 :6  
Oxon 8 10½ 10 6 7½ 2½ :5

Surrey 7½ 9½ 6½ 8½ 6½ 7 2 :6  
Sussex 12½ 8½ 8 8½ 9 4½ :5

**UNDER 175** E K Sy Sx E K Sy Sx MP

Essex 8½ 10 11 3 :3  
Kent 7½ 11 1 :2  
Surrey 6 5 10½ 5 1 :4  
Sussex 5 5½ 11 1 :3

**UNDER 150** E H K Sy Sx MP

Essex 9 8 10½ 2½ :3  
Herts 7 9 5 1 :3  
Kent 8 5 8 1 :3  
Surrey 11 6½ 1 :2  
Sussex 5½ 8 9½ 1½ :3

**UNDER 125**  E H K O Sy Sx MP

Essex 4½ 5 5 0 :3  
Herts 9½ 8 1½ :2  
Kent 11½ 6½ 1 :2

Oxon 11 6½ 12 7½ 2 :4

Surrey 8 4 ½ :2  
Sussex 11 8½ 8½ 3 :3

**UNDER 100** E H Sy E H K MP

Essex 6 8½ 7 2½ :3  
Herts 6 3½ 5 ½ :3  
Surrey 3½ 8½ 1 :2

Please tell the Editor if you spot mistakes in these tables. A few people did, last time!

Everything seems to have reached us, up to and including matches played 18th January. Not always from both sides, mind you. Remember an asterisk by a county’s name, on the following pages, means we’ve had the result from that side.

**Open**. We hear that Kent and Berks will play each other over 16 boards.

A Plug (Essex): some details from *Chessex* and a couple of correspondents, one of whom was his match captain. He’s Andreas Plüg with an umlaut, Andreas P Plüg if the *Chessex* match tables are to be believed, he’s from Hamburg but is teaching in Colchester for a year, and he has a FIDE rating of 2310. Hamburg is in Germany, and Colchester is in Essex.

**Under 125**. J Spencer (Essex) occasioned some research. "We *think* this is the J Spencer in list - has Leeds connections." That was Essex’s opponents speaking. Essex give 117 and confirm that he’s the one in the published list. Believe his Leeds connections are university ones, and he may or may not be the same as the J Spencer (unpublished at 84!) who’s down as Leeds University.

Has this struck you as well? The grading limits produce a lot of very even matches. On paper. Often enough, there’s hardly a game where the players are more than five or six points apart on the top 14 boards or so. If it’s six-and-a-bit points in the same direction all the way down, the stronger team’s “supposed” to win 9‑7. But results are often much more lopsided than that, even where the average difference is tiny (and I’m not thinking of matches where games are defaulted). 11-5 seems quite popular. Is this just random fluctuation, the sort of thing you’d expect? Perhaps it’s inspired match captaincy. Haven’t checked to see whether it’s always the same teams that get the unexpected lopsided wins. It isn’t always the (un‑jet‑lagged) home teams. Any statisticians out there with time to kill?

**Games**. Last time we actually published a game from a county match. That was a Bulletin first, since 1978 anyway. Got the players the wrong way round, but still. (The apology’s on page 11.) We were only able to publish this game because a match captain sent it. More would be welcome. The excellent *Chessex* publishes quite a lot from Essex matches, with notes and all, but we can’t just lift those!

233:6

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| **OPEN** | |
| **Surrey**\* 30.11.96 **Essex**\*  1 Richard A Bates 221 (B) 1 0 Andrew P Lewis 217  2 Daniel L Bisby 204 0 1 David J Coleman 205  3 Michael J Franklin 200 ½ ½ Michael S Twyble 208  4 Paul D Dupré 160 (r) 0 1 Graham J Moore 197  5 Peter D Kemp 195 ½ ½ Jim Burnett 190  6 STK Wilkinson 143 (r) 1 0 Andrew Dunn 185  7 Daniel B Rosen 190 0 1 John C Moore 183  8 David WW Gunter 181 0 1 William L Saunders 181  9 Marcus E Osborne 184 0 1 Russell P White 178  10 Kevin D Richardson 182 1 0 Ivor BN Smith 173  11 Stephen G Walker 182 ½ ½ David J Millward 172  12 Ken FH Inwood 178 ½ ½ Trevor D Coote 171  13 David R Sedgwick 176 0 1 Colin R Ramage 163  14 Martin C Page 176 0 1 Steven D Harvey 163  15 Julien M Shepley 173 1 0 Ian D Hunnable 161  16 Chris RA Clegg 154 ½ ½ Tim Hebbes 156  (Sutton) **6½ 9½** | **Berks**\* 30.11.96 **Cambs**\*  def (W) 0 1 M Turner 231  PJ Sharp 188 0 1 J Parker 233  KD Smallbone 185 0 1 M Ferguson 223  DS Tucker 189 ½ ½ A Cohen 206  Jovanka Houska 183 ½ ½ D Rosenberg 183  AM Leech 183 ½ ½ M Thornton 186  ACP Milnes 178 ½ ½ D Heng -  I Duvall 174 ½ ½ I Gooding 176  L Davis 170 0 1 M Davey 169  MC Bowhay 168 ½ ½ P Webster 161  DA Gold 168 ½ ½ C Howell 158  IR Henderson 166 1 0 B Weller 152  BG Millis ½ ½ A Mills 149  SJR Turner 148 0 1 N Pyper 150  PR Maul 161 1 0 def  DJ Lewis 146 1 0 def  (Sindlesham) **7 9** |
| **Kent**\*30.11.96 **Sussex**\*  1 DW Gormally 213 (W) 1 0 DH Cummings 219  2 SD Brown 207 0 1 DB Graham 220  3 AL Mack 202 0 1 B Cafferty 194  4 AE Hanreck 199 1 0 FJ Kwiatkowski 204  5 AM Harakis 191 ½ ½ LE Rutherford 203  6 JD Wager 191 0 1 GH James 194  7 DA Farndon 190 1 0 SJ Newman 183  8 PP Taylor 190 1 0 PG Farr 184  9 JN Sugden 189 0 1 MD Nicholas 181  10 JE Scholes 187 ½ ½ MO Costley 181  11 DJ Horton 188 ½ ½ MR Stott 177  12 CB Rice 185 0 1 AG Cooper -  13 M Wiper 182 ½ ½ M Broom 178  14 G Botley 180 ½ ½ JC Mansson 178  15 NSW Alfred 174 j 1 0 RJ Almond 176  16 JR Cordner 167 ½ ½ AO Pickersgill 175  (Charlton House) **8 8**  “The Sussex team was unchanged from the previous match - same players, same board, same colour. (Not same result!) Not a frequent occurrence. Or is it?” - P Watson | **Bucks**\* 1.12.96(?) **Herts**\*  MV Lambshire 194 0 1 Paul Byway 199 (B)  A Hammond 191 0 1 Jerry Rudge 194  J Beedle 187 1 0 Phil Maguire 189  M Armstrong 176 0 1 Alex Ethelontis 180  RD de Coverly 178 0 1 Nick Lee 180  D Chin - 0 1 Howard Tebbs 179  A Robbings 173 1 0 John Denton 176  L Wooldridge 171 0 1 Andrew Gilfillan 176  R O’Brien 168 1 0 def  B Shipley 168 ½ ½ Steve Law 169  M Egby 162 ½ ½ John Cook 162  J Springall 150 0 1 Philip Gregory 170  RP Ginger ½ ½ David Bower 157  C Floyd 0 1 Tim Sinkinson 157  B Atkinson 147 1 0 Barry Morris 151  A Laurence 143 1 0 Joe Franks 160  (Marlow) **6½ 9½**  Thank you, Herts, for all the grades. (Chin seems to have one though.) Bucks seem to be single-initial-and-no-grade merchants. |
| **Kent**\* 7.12.96 **Herts**\*  1 Phillip (so) J Morris 223 1 0 Chiedu Maduekwe 1 193  2 Steve W Giddins 207 1 0 Phil Maguire 189 (W)  3 Andrew L Mack 202 ½ ½ Kevin Clark 185  4 Alan E Hanreck 199 ½ ½ Alex Ethelontis 180  5 David M Moskovic 196 1 0 Howard Tebbs 179  6 Neil F Dickenson 193 ½ ½ Chris Majer 177  7 Alexis M Harakis 191 1 0 Andrew Gilfillan 176  8 Peter P Taylor 190 0 1 John Denton 176  9 John D Wager 191 ½ ½ Philip Bonafont 173  10 John N Sugden 189 1 0 Steve Law 169  11 David Farndon 190 1 0 John Cook 162  12 Chris I Howell 187 1 0 Philip Gregory 170  13 David J Horton 188 1 0 Tim Sinkinson 157  14 Chris B Rice 185 1 0 David Bower 157  15 Jim R Bayford 185 1 0 Simon Charles 146  16 J Stuart Williams 181 1 0 Dick Boardman 132  (Charlton House) **13 3**  1 Neither side has this spelling. Herts say Madueke. | **Oxon**\*1.12.96 **Cambs\***  S Ansell 217 (B) ½ ½ M Turner 231  H Hunt 217 0 1 J Parker 222  A Hunt 203 ½ ½ M Ferguson 223  M Rose 194 0 1 A Cohen 206  T Dickinson 184 0 1 D Cristinacce 200  R Starkie 180 ½ ½ D Rosenberg 183  G Chapman 174 ½ ½ I Gooding 176  J Wittman 172 1 0 M Davey 169  D Bruce 168 1 0 N Pyper 150  F Buchkremer 174 0 1 C Kreuzer 136  J Stayt 175 1 0 def  D Hackett 175 1 0 def  C Moxley 161 1 0 def  S Terry 163 1 0 def  N Hepworth 153 1 0 def  P Ball 150 1 0 def  (Long Hanborough) **10 6**  Thank you, Cambs captain, for being more legible in response to our recent rude letter. You were actually more legible than your opponents this time (Oxon please note, dammit). But please try to get the grades right as well. |

233:7

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| **Berks**\*14.12.96 **Essex**\*  1 PS Cooksey 194 (B) 0 1 AP Lewis 212  2 KD Smallbone 185 0 1 A Plüg  3 DS Tucker 189 ½ ½ M Twyble 208  4 Jovanka Houska 183 ½ ½ DA Sands  5 AM Leech 183 1 0 G Moore  6 MW Marlow 170 0 1 G Kenworthy 195  7 ACP Milnes 178 0 1 JH Hodgson 194  8 I Duvall 174 0 1 J Burnett 190  9 MC Bowhay 168 0 1 A Dunn 185  10 DA Gold 168 1 0 IJ Myall 184  11 IR Henderson 166 ½ ½ JC Moore 183  12 PS Janota 167 1 0 W Saunders 181  13 BG Millis 158 0 1 RP White 178  14 PR Maul 161 ½ ½ R Parker 177  15 MF Redmond 156 0 1 DJ Millward 172  16 SJR Turner 148 0 1 SD Harvey 163  (Newbury) **5 11** | **Bucks**\* 14.12.96 **Surrey**  J Beedle (W) 1 0 PD Kemp  MV Lambshire 1 0 DB Rosen  MJ Armstrong 0 1 KD Richardson  RD de Coverly 1 0 DWW Gunter  A Robbings 0 1 RBE Bryant  DF Hill 0 1 DR Sedgwick  B Shipley ½ ½ JM Shepley  AG Kelly 1 0 KP Mynett  CD Floyd 0 1 C Briscoe  RP Ginger 0 1 PD Dupré  BW Atkinson 0 1 D Tuddenham  E Bolduc 1 0 CRA Clegg  MS Vann 0 1 RW Gleave  B Hughes 1 0 def  21 Hughes 1 0 def  A Hawkins 1 0 def  (Marlow) **8½ 7½**  1 Well, that’s what it says. |
| **Herts**\* 18.1.97 **Berks**\*  1 Neil H Bradbury 205 0 1 HW Murphy 205 (W)  2 Jerry F Rudge 194 0 1 PS Cooksey 194  3 Chiedu Madueke 193 0 1 PJ Sharp 188  4 Phil G Maguire 189 1 0 KD Smallbone 185  5 Kevin R Clark 185 ½ ½ DS Tucker 189  6 Simon J Roe 181 ½ ½ Jovanka Houska 183  7 Alex N Ethelontis 180 ½ ½ AM Leech 183  8 Nicholas S Lee 180 0 1 ACP Milnes 178  9 Chris E Majer 177 ½ ½ I Duvall 174  10 Geoff A Hollis 178 1 0 DA Gold 168  11 Andrew Gilfillan 176 0 1 IR Henderson 166  12 John R Denton 176 1 0 MC Bowhay 168  13 JN Fraser-Mitchell 172 ½ ½ BG Millis 158  14 Stephen J Tovey 171 1 0 PR Maul 161  15 Steve Law 169 1 0 DJ Lewis 146  16 John Cook 162 1 0 NW Dennis 145  (Stevenage) **8½ 7½** | **Sussex**\*18.1.97 **Oxon**\*  DH Cummings 219 1 0 MC Truran 208 (B)  APH Kinsman 217 1 0 M Rose 194  DB Graham 220 0 1 T Dickinson 184  FJ Kwiatkowski 204 1 0 RJ Starkie 180  LE Rutherford 203 1 0 G Chapman 174  GH James 194 ½ ½ J Wittman 172  SJ Newman 183 ½ ½ JN Stayt 175  MD Nicholas 181 ½ ½ LR Millin 176  PG Farr 184 0 1 DG Hackett 175  MO Costley 181 ½ ½ N Jones 167  MR Stott 177 1 0 D Bruce 158  AG Cooper - 1 0 C Moxley 161  M Broom 178 ½ ½ F Buchkremer 174  RJ Almond 176 0 1 S Terry 165  JC Mansson 178 0 1 P Ball 150  AO Pickersgill 175 0 1 M Hannon -  (Brighton) **8½ 7½** |
| **Cambs** 18.1.97 **Bucks**\*  1 J Parker (W) 1 0 AP Smith  2 M Turner 1 0 RD de Coverly  3 M Ferguson 1 0 R O’Brien  4 A Cohen 1 0 DF Hill  5 D Hassabis ½ ½ BD Shipley  6 N Noden 1 0 R Fox  7 D Rosenberg 1 0 JH Springall  8 P Pollitz 1 0 W Hughes  9 I Gooding 0 1 A Kelly  10 M Davey 1 0 SL Turvey  11 P Webster 1 0 NJ Butland  12 B Morgan1 1 0 E Bolduc  13 B Weller ½ ½ R Thursby  14 N Pyper 1 0 MS Vann  15 P Hastings 1 0 A Hughes  16 A Mills 1 0 J Burke  (Cambridge) **14 2**  1 Our guess. It *says* Muryan, but that’s the way Cambs (it’s a Cambs hand) would write Morgan. Bucks don’t believe in grades, and Cambs version hasn’t arrived yet. | **Surrey**\* 18.1.97 **Kent**  Richard A Bates 221 0 1 Neil McDonald 236 (B)  Russell G Granat 202 0 1 Danny W Gormally 213  Michael J Franklin 200 1 0 Simon D Brown 207  Jon C Benjamin 199 ½ ½ Andrew L Mack 202  Peter D Kemp 195 ½ ½ Alan E Hanreck 199  Oliver Rosten 195 0 1 Alexis M Harakis 191  Daniel B Rosen 190 ½ ½ Rory MR O’Kelly 191  Marcus E Osborne 184 0 1 John D Wager 191  Kevin D Richardson 182 ½ ½ David Farndon 190  David WW Gunter 181 1 0 John D Sugden 189  Ken FH Inwood 178 ½ ½ Peter P Taylor 190  David R Sedgwick 176 ½ ½ James E Scholes 187  Steven Retallick 170 ½ ½ David J Horton 188  Chris Briscoe 161 1 0 Chris B Rice 185  Kevin Hurst 153 0 1 Gordon Botley 180  Chris RA Clegg 154 0 1 Nigel P Donovan 177  (Sutton) **6½ 9½** |

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| **UNDER 175** | |
| **Essex**\* 7.12.96 **Sussex**  1 Roy Heppinstall 174 (B) 0 1 John A Dodgson 170  2 Paul L Williamson 173 1 0 Michael J Reddie 174  3 Larry E Marden 173 ½ ½ Chris Hann 171  4 Andrew R Brett 173 1 0 SON Hawes 167  5 Ivor BN Smith 173 0 1 Paul A Batchelor 167  6 David J Millward 172 ½ ½ Andrew SJ Fleming 165  7 Peter C Doye 166 ½ ½ James Graham 165  8 Colin R Ramage 163 1 0 Evki Pesonen 164  9 Trevor D Coote 171 (r) 1 0 Ian G Kelly 163  10 Neville H Twitchell 162 1 0 Susan C Howell 159  11 Ian D Hunnable 161 ½ ½ David G Ratcliffe 157  12 Les J Crane 159 ½ ½ Keith Davies 157  13 Andy King 159 1 0 David L Roberts 155  14 John A Philpott 157 (r) ½ ½ WH Partridge 151  15 Andrew D Hartland 155 1 0 Laurence Rackham 150  16 Roberto E Waldteufel 152 1 0 R Daniel Hirsch 138  (Wanstead) **11 5** | **Surrey** 7.12.96 **Kent**\*  S Retallick 170 (W) 0 1 NSW Alfred 174  JS White 169 0 1 BM Spink 173  D Spearman 165 1 0 RJ Everson 173  C Briscoe 161 ½ ½ S Firth 170  PD Dupré 160 1 0 Z Mehmet 169  S Macdonald-Ross 157 0 1 JR Cordner 167  D Tuddenham 156 0 1 SJ Pullinger 163  TD Phillips 156 ½ ½ A Atkinson 165  CRA Clegg 154 ½ ½ MD Brougham 159  RJ Wilcox 154 0 1 SJ Peters 159  PS Brown 153 ½ ½ JH Lewin 159  CJ Mann 153 0 1 SGB James 156  PR Archer 151 ½ ½ SJ Jacob 155  SR Jones 150 0 1 NC Mackett 152  AN Smith 149 ½ ½ RJA Winterburn 149  JB Hawson 138 0 1 AC Waters 148  (Sutton) **5 11** |
| **Sussex** 11.1.97 **Surrey**\*  1 JA Dodgson 170 0 1 JC Marley 172  2 MJ Reddie 174 ½ ½ D Spearman 165  3 C Hann 171 1 0 HT Jones 165  4 SON Hawes 167 1 0 D Tuddenham 156  5 IP Judd 168 ½ ½ CRA Clegg 154  6 J Graham 164 ½ ½ RJ Wilcox 154  7 E Pesonen 164 1 0 PS Brown 153  8 IG Kelly 163 1 0 PR Archer 151  9 SC Howell 159 ½ ½ PE Barnard 157  10 JP Munday 159 1 0 J Stone 147  11 K Davies 157 1 0 STK Wilkinson 143  12 DL Roberts 155 0 1 CPL Parker 142  13 WH Partridge 151 1 0 JR Bell 139  14 L Rackham 150 ½ ½ JB Hawson 138  15 P Greaves 147 ½ ½ FC Manning 137  16 RD Hirsch 138 1 0 DA Baldock 126  (Three Bridges) **11 5** |  |

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| **UNDER 150** | |
| **Esse**x\* 30.11.96 **Kent**\*  1 PR Barclay 148 (W) ½ ½ A Mata 148  2 G Cook 148 ½ ½ M Wiltshire 148  3 TG Winter 145 0 1 G Steele 145  4 David Smith 145 1 0 M Jordan 145  5 LJ Burtt 144 ½ ½ R Parsons 145  6 DJ Payne 144 ½ ½ A Kissoon 145  7 S Harwood 143 1 0 S Moate 146  8 G Gooding 142 0 1 P Finch 141  9 DJ Rawlings 139 1 0 I Hames 139  10 P Zammit 139 0 1 R Kieran 138  11 D Cannan 137 ½ ½ D Gleed 136  12 MRA Murrell 136 ½ ½ S Casement 130  13 A Drake 135 ½ ½ B Hunter 134  14 RD Sharman 134 0 1 D Hargrave 129  15 PJ Lunny 134 ½ ½ S Chick 120  16 I Maclachlan 132 1 0 T1 Kieran 65 (r)  (Wanstead)  **8 8**  1 Kent say T (for Tony), Essex say A (for Anthony, presumably). The Kieran graded 65 is Tony, and his daughter’s called A for Amy L. Will match captains please try to be clear! | **Essex**\* 18.1.97 **Herts**  PR Barclay 148 (B) ½ ½ A Hall 149  TG Winter 145 1 0 A Fulton 148  David Smith 145 ½ ½ D Young 148  LJ Burtt 144 1 0 S Charles 146  S Harwood 143 1 0 C Howe 146  DJ Payne 144 0 1 R Gordonsmith 147  AJ Parsons 141 ½ ½ S Weston 146  G Gooding 142 1 0 def  P Zammitt 139 0 1 P Lawrence 142  DJ Rawlings 139 ½ ½ M Wali 128 (r)  D Cannan 137 ½ ½ J Coles 134  MJ Cresswell 135 1 0 D Price 141  RD Sharman 134 0 1 M Waltham 136  JT Luck 106 (r) 1 0 J Marshall 134  I Maclachlan 132 ½ ½ P Myers 136  R Medcalf 111 0 1 R Kearns 125  (Wanstead) **9 7** |

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| **Sussex**\*18.1.97 **Kent**\*  1 PR Selby 148 (B) 0 1 Trevor Baldwin 149  2 PA Greaves 147 ½ ½ Andrew Mata 148  3 DJ Hopson 146 1 0 Alan Sheriff (so) 148  4 LJ Cannon 144 0 1 Mike Wiltshire 146  5 IK Edgson 144 1 0 Geoff Steele 145  6 PN Kington 143 1 0 Roy Parsons 145  7 DS Hall 143 0 1 Simon Moate 145  8 BJ Izzard 141 0 1 Peter Finch 141  9 RD Hirsch 138 (r) ½ ½ Rosalind Kieran 138  10 RC Davies 140 1 0 Ian Hames 139  11 RA Clement 139 0 1 Edward Bromilow 139  12 FW Brown 136 1 0 Robert Pooley 136  13 M Finch 135 ½ ½ Paul CL Bradford 136  14 TJ Woods 132 0 1 Stephen Casement 130  15 CC Dunn 131 ½ ½ Steve Chick 120  16 SJ Elgie 130 1 0 Mike Jones 112  (Brighton) **8 8** |  |
| **UNDER 125** | |
| **Sussex**\* 23.11.96 **Essex**\*  1 PJ Helliwell 119 (B) ½ ½ RJV Davies 124  2 G McCulloch 123 1 0 J Spencer 117 1  3 Alan J Quant 119 ½ ½ ME Ashkettle 116  4 PD Britton 116 0 1 IR Rook 114  5 David Simpkins 120 1 0 R Medcalf 111  6 CJ Parker 115 0 1 Michael Grieve 113  7 DB Wilkinson 118 0 1 Robert Ianetta 110  8 John A Povey 114 ½ ½ JA Figgins 109  9 Anthony RJ Higgs 118 1 0 GC Benger 108  10 Michael Curtis 110 ½ ½ Peter W Pattison 102  11 Charles Holcombe 108 1 0 EG Lodge 99  (Eastbourne) **11 5**  1 See page 5  Essex defaulted boards 12-16. Their juniors defected to junior events and apparently took some transport with them, leaving Essex with 15 players and transport for 13. They told Sussex. Then one of the 13 dropped out on the day and another went to the wrong meeting place.  All the first names and extra initials came from Sussex. They also gave us:  Friendlies (grader please grade)  BK Horscroft 120 Sx 0 1 Marc A Bryant 115 Sx  Ben McManus 123 Sx ½ ½ Richard P Joyce 125 E  So at least RPJ, Essex's (ineligible) match captain, got a game! | **Herts**\* 30.11.96 **Oxon**  T Wright 124 (B) ½ ½ A C0llins 124  C? (illegible) Kidd 124 0 1 IR Brooke 124  R Edmonds 123 1 0 L Collins 121  M Connock 123 ½ ½ A Heslop 119  A Phillips 122 ½ ½ G Spalding 115  A Sims 121 ½ ½ AJ Wyeth 112  A Gore (scarcely legible) 120 1 0 W Tutty 115  G Lunn 119 0 1 M Brindley 108  J Moore 118 1 0 J Booker 104  D Belton 118 0 1 F Fallon 97  K Baggs 115 1 0 D Metcalfe 104  B Saunders 114 0 1 DAS Buckland 100  A Jeffries 113 ½ ½ Simon Booker 80  S Collins 112 1 0 M Creasey 74  J Leake 110 1 0 G Morris 87  C Lovisa 111 (or 117?) 1 0 C Morris 60  (St Albans) **9½ 6½** |
| **Surrey**\* 7.12.96 **Herts**  1 L Evboumwan 124 (W) 0 1 Tom Wright 124  2 Joanna Hart 124 0 1 Ron Edmonds 123  3 G Morse 121 ½ ½ Mike Connock 121  4 J Mcging (sic) 120 0 1 A Phillips 122  5 R Fisher 118 ½ ½ Tony Sims 121  6 DH Ramsey 117 ½ ½ Alan Gore 120  7 D Parsons 117 0 1 John Moore 118  8 D Woodward 117 ½ ½ George Lunn 119  9 KW Lovell 116 1 0 D Belton 118  10 DJ Howes 115 1 0 Paul Laskier 114  11 H Wylie 114 1 0 Berry (so!) Saunders 114  12 H Curtis 111 0 1 Terry Lawson 116  13 RJ Wright 109 1 0 Steve Collins 112  14 D Innes 96 (r) 0 1 John Leake 110  15 LI Makinson 97 1 0 Quazi Latif 108  16 MB Green 94 1 0 John Lanaway 108  (Sutton) **8 8** | **Oxon**\*7.12.96 **Sussex**\*  Alan Collins 124 (B) ½ ½ C Power 121  IR Brooke 124 ½ ½ Ben McManus 123  R Jacobs 119 1 0 G McCulloch 123  Stephen C Bough 119 0 1 MA Bryant 115  A Heslop 119 1 0 David Simpkins 120  G Spalding 115 1 0 Tim Smith 1  AJ Wyeth 112 0 1 Anthony RJ Higgs 118  Wayne Tutty 115 0 1 Michael Curtis 110  Malcolm Brindley 108 1 0 N Pestelle 111  J Booker 104 0 1 C Holcombe 108  Frank Fallon 97 ½ ½ Paul Buswell 100  DAS Buckland 100 0 1 N Clive 110  James Buchanan 90 0 1 T Peffer 93  Graham Morris 87 0 1 D Fane 98  M Creasey 74 1 0 Stephen D Carter 60  D Metcalfe 104 1 0 def  (Long Hanborough) **7½ 8½**  1 of Brighton CC, unpublished at 119. No connection with Tim J Smith of Hants. |

233:10

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| **Kent** 7.12.96 **Essex**\*  1 S Chick 120 (B) 0 1 R Davies 124  2 P Giddens (sic) 123 ½ ½ C Barrett 120  3 P Childs 123 1 0 E Walker 120 j  4 P Thomas 117 0 1 M Ashkettle 116  5 D Picton 115 1 0 I Rook 114  6 C Battye 114 1 0 R Giddens 115 j  7 M Jones 112 ½ ½ M Grieve 113  8 P Poland 112 1 0 def  9 I Stoneman 112 1 0 R Ianetta 110  10 R Springett 110 1 0 J Figgins 109  11 D Shipp 103 1 0 G Benger 108  12 I Bryan 103 1 0 P Pattison 102  13 J Robertson 103 ½ ½ E Lodge 99  14 R Thompson 98 1 0 D Allen 87 j  15 A Fabian 97 0 1 C Turner 83 j  16 B Thatcher 96 1 0 def  (Charlton) **11½ 4½** | **Essex**\* 11.1.97 **Oxon**\*  R Davies 124 0 1 IR Brooke 124  P Flint 121 1 0 A Collins 124  C Barrett 120 ½ ½ L Collins 121  J Spencer 117 0 1 R Jacobs 119  I Rook 114 ½ ½ A Heslop 119  K Grieve 113 0 1 G Spalding 115  R Medcalf 111 ½ ½ W Tutty 115  B Alexandrou 110 0 1 AJ Wyeth 112  J Figgins 109 0 1 M Brindley 108  G Benger 108 0 1 J Booker 104  G Walker 108 j 0 1 D Metcalfe 104  P Pattison 102 1 0 DAS Buckland 100  EG1 Lodge 99 0 1 J Buchanan 90  L Trent 95 j 1 0 C David 71  D Allen 87 j 0 1 G Morris 87  C Turner 83 j ½ ½ M Creasey 74  (Wanstead) **5 11**  1 Well, Essex say E and Oxon say G. |

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| **UNDER 100** | |
| **Surrey**\* 7.12.96 **Herts**  1 Bill Upton 95 (B) ½ ½ Adam Humphreys 99  2 Chris Dixon 93 0 1 David Bate-Smith 89  3 Laila Tillett 89 ½ ½ Wolf Hamm 89  4 Philip Cable 89 1 0 James Palmer 82  5 Chris Manders 89 0 1 Frank Batchelor 80  6 David Manders - 1 0 Mark Senn 80  7 Storm Ballard - ½ ½ Alan Brewis 73  8 Graham Curtis 88 1 0 Stephen Burt 70  9 Ben Morgan 84 1 0 John Dalton 48  10 David Morgan - 1 0 def  11 Richard Jones 84 1 0 def  12 Chris Baker 69 1 0 def  (Sutton) **8½ 3½** | **Essex**\* 18.1.97 **Herts**\*  Ron Prickett 99 (B) 0 1 Adam Humphreys 99  Chris Wiggins 99 0 1 Gary Halsall 99  Bejan Mehdinejad1 99 1 0 Steve Zsibrita 91  Robert Payne 97 1 0 David Bate-Smith 89  Lawrence Trent 87 1 0 Wolf Hamm 89  Alex O’Neil 94 0 1 Frank Batchelor 80  Fred Riley 89 1 0 Tobit Roth e85  Andy Denny 84 1 0 Mike Kaye e85  James Berlin 82 0 1 James Palmer 82  Stewart Trent 72 1 0 Jeff Wilson 79  Heather Walker 69 0 1 Alan Brewis 73  Mark Huntley 1 0 Stephen Burt e70  (Wanstead) **7 5**  1 That’s the Herts version, consistent with what’s in the grading list. Essex say Bijan Mehanjadad. |

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| **SCCU FIXTURE LIST 1996-7**  To end of season. | | Teams entered:  Br Bu C E H K M O Sy Sx  Open \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  U175 \* \* \* \*  U150 \* \* \* \* \*  U125 \* \* \* \* \* \*  U100 \* \* \* | | |
| **Open**  Feb 1 BrSy CSx KBu  8 OE  15 EC HO KBr BuSx  22  Mar 1 *(SCCU U18 qualifier)*  8 OSy CH SxE BrBu  15  22 | **Under 175**  ESy \*SxK  SxE  KSy  \*KSx | **Under 150**  KSy  HSx SyE | **Under 125**  \*EH  HSx  OK SyE  HK \*SxSy | **Under 100**  HSy  SyE |

233:11

**SOUTHEND CC** have their centenary this year. They played a match v Rest of Southend League back in September (and lost 6½-13½) but that was more a League Champions do than over-hasty celebration. The **ESSEX** centenary’s next year and a committee’s looking at things to do. Like, a special weekend in Autumn 1998. Saturday, a match Essex Past v Essex Present and a celebration dinner. And Sunday, a 100-board match Essex v Rest of SCCU. (Essex v SCCU it says here, but we don’t think they’re planning secession just yet.)

**GRADING NOTES**

Remembered, the other week, that the BCF are proposing to charge Game Fee on internal club games from next season. Vote on it comes up at the April Council Meeting. Your Editor’s county grades quite a lot of internal games, and as he’s supposed to be the County Grader it occurred to him that it might be a good idea to ask the clubs whether they’d go on sending their games if they had to pay. And how much difference it would make if the charge was at (say) half the standard rate. The information might affect the way Kent votes, after all. The committee thought so, and we’ve just asked the clubs. Don’t know how many answers we’ll get. Has *your* county thought about this? Formal notice of the proposal isn’t out yet, of course, but *you* know it’s coming up because you read the Bulletin. The BCF won’t ask the clubs for you, and some figures could be useful to them as well as you.

From time to time we hear noises about the new national grading system that’s coming on stream next season. Must admit we still don’t know a lot about it. One of these months we’ll persuade Someone Who Knows to write us an article about it. Be warned, Chris.

**Quote**

“If Essex win the Southern Counties Championship this year then it says a lot for the players willing to make such long journeys to support the team. This season Essex has been paired away against Berks, Bucks, Oxford and Sussex whilst home against Herts, Surrey, Cambridge, Kent and Middlesex (now withdrawn) - strangely unbalanced.” - *Chessex*. The Bulletin’s geography’s a bit vague but that does seem to give them all the longest journeys. At least they had the extra home match, till it went away. Will it be equally unbalanced next year in the other direction?

**OXON**: **CHILTERN CUP**. Matchcaptain John Wood is in hospital. All Chiltern Cup correspondence should go to Dave Metcalfe, 9 Roosevelt Rd, Long Hanborough, Oxon OX8 8JG 01993 883044.

**Correction**

Last issue, page 10. Game Hunt-Smallbone was Smallbone-Hunt. Sorry Smallbone.

233:12

**CONGRESS DIARY**

Feb 1-2 KIDLINGTON U226/171/126. Ian Brooke, 174 Cowley Rd, Oxford OX4 1UE: “Oxford” 245447 (You’ll have to look it up. Thought everyone *told* you their area code these days!)

1-2 CAMBRIDGE WINTER. P McMahon, 91 Cambridge Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge CB3 7QQ 01954 212256

2 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

2 BASINGSTOKE RAPIDPLAY. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke RG21 2LS 01256 472537

8 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

8 ROCHESTER JUNIOR U18 + parents, U11, 9. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

8-9 MILL HILL. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080

12 ROYSTON JUNIOR. JG Jones, 28 Hay St, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts SG8 0PE 01763 853873

15 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

16 SOMERS TOWN Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

21-23 PORTSMOUTH. PJ McEvoy, 77 Lime Grove, Portsmouth, Hants PO6 4DQ 01705 388341

22-23 KENSINGTON. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

22-23 SPECTRUM IPSWICH. Les Day, 10 Oaklawn Court, Barton Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ1 4EN 01803 212136. Or N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT 01705 551617

22-23 4NCL CARDIFF U160/120. 4NCL Weekend Congress, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF

23 RICHMOND RAPID. R James, 95 Lyndhurst Avenue, Twickenham TW2 6BH 0181 898 1190

28-2 EAST DEVON at Exeter. A Maynard, 27 Downeshead Lane, Crediton, Devon EX17 1HH

28-2 DONCASTER. P Tate, 99 Woodlands Rd, Woodlands, Doncaster DN6 7JY 01302 728493

Mar 1 KENT PRIMARY CHAMPIONSHIPS at Maidstone. U11, 10, 9, 8. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

2 BASINGSTOKE RAPIDPLAY. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke RG21 2LS 01256 472537

2 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

7-9 COUNTY DURHAM. G Thirlaway, 32 Magdalene Place, Woodland, Bishop Auckland, Durham DL13 5RQ 01388 710590

7-9 BLACKPOOL. GM Jones, 27 Clarke St, Leigh, Lancs WN7 4HU 01942 604262

8-9 1st CHESHUNT CONGRESS U182/122. G Kenworthy, 53 Abbotts Drive, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3HH 0181 214 3110

8-9 MILL HILL. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080

9 KENSINGTON Rapid. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

15-16 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. J Weightman, Flat 1, 225a Finchley Rd, Hampstead, London NW3 6LP 0171 435 7205

16 SOMERS TOWN Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

21-23 MIDLAND CENTENARY at Derby. R Milner, 411 Cheadle Rd, Cheddleton, Leek, Staffs ST13 7BH 01782 50112

22 BOURNE END. G Parker, 1 Thames Close, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5QJ 01628 522297

22 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

22-23 4NCL ROTHERHAM U160/120. 4NCL Weekend Congress, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF

28-30 BOLTON EASTER. R Middleton, 21 Argo St, Bolton, Lancs BL3 6TT 01204 651523

28-31 SOUTHEND EASTER. Open 7rds, plus 5-rd graded Swisses. GMA Smith, 41 Westwood Gardens, Hadleigh, Benfleet, Essex SS7 2SH: tel and fax 01702 556086 but entries cannot be accepted over the phone.

28-31 SURREY EASTER at Sutton. FC Manning, 44 Willow Rd, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0PF 0181 647 0063

Apr 1-3 MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR U18,13,11,9. R Brugge, 16 Wootton Way, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4QU 01628 36276 (we thought that number looked like a misprint but it isn’t)

**COACHING** at the Barbican 1997: 1 February, 15 March, 19 April, 31 May, 14 June, 19 July, 2 August, 6 September, 4 October, 8 November. Sessions 2-6 pm. Adults £20 per session or £90 for the year (but you may not be in time for the February one!); Juniors - not defined - £6 or £30. G Kenworthy, 53 Abbotts Drive, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3HH 0181 214 3110

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**  *Chessex* for December 1996 and January 1997; Surrey Girls CA Newsletter for December 1996

Issue 234 March 1997

Let’s get the Meetings out of the way first.

**SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive met on Friday 7th March 1997, at the Durham Castle as usual. 14 attended. The lighting failed as we dispatched the Minutes, but the ensuing gloom only enhanced the brilliance of the debate. Shortened it, too.

**(1) Minute Secretary**. Adrian Laurence, who had stepped into the breach at the previous meeting, had been obliged to resign. His place was taken, for this meeting only, by David Smith, the Essex delegate. The Union is badly in need of a permanent Minute Secretary.

**(2) Friendly matches**. The President had received a challenge to a match Essex v Rest of SCCU, to mark the county’s centenary next year, and it is hoped to proceed with it. He said the MCCU Centenary Match (later this year) had been lying a bit low recently.

**(3) Grading**. It was reported that the BCF’s interim grading list was on the way, and it should be out by the time you read this. It would be two lists really: (a) corrections to August grades, mostly due to results coming in late; and (b) new entries for people who had not, in August, played enough games to qualify. Don’t know what cut-off date they’ve used for (b). Partial lists. Hate them or ignore them, you can’t *like* them. The meeting touched on the forthcoming New Improved System, but proper discussion was postponed till the next meeting when some details would be available. CI Howell promised a paper for the Bulletin, and it’s on page 4.

**(4) Junior chess**. NW Dennis reported the results of the previous weekend’s U18 qualifiers: see page 8. Glynne Jones had offered to hold all the events at one venue (Watford Boys School) next year.

**(5) SCCU U180 KO**. Last year the KO juddered to a halt with only one match played; so this year it’s a Jamboree. Date and venue: Saturday 12th April at Sutton. Teams of 10; U180 on top three boards and U170 elsewhere. The Executive was unsure whether there was still a market for this event, given the “new” grading-limited leagues. But then, for all we knew, there might be a market for it and others like it with lower grading limits. Have to ask the counties.

**(6) SCCU County matches**. There had been something in the last Bulletin about lopsided homes-and-aways for one county. Lopsided in terms of distance, that is. The Tournament Controller said he had noticed the same thing with a different county; the problem was that correcting it would mean disrupting the seasonal alternation of venues. The Executive took no view on priorities.1

Sussex had suggested reverting to 12 boards in the U125. They had invited support from other counties, and not got much. One delegate said he favoured 16 boards because it meant more match fees towards the rent. No action is proposed.

The U100, in the nature of things, has a lot of juniors in it. (No one mentioned any figures, and someone said *his* U100 team also had a lot of seniors moving in the opposite direction.) If it was to be a largely junior event, that would have fixture implications. A different (or extra) set of clashes to avoid. Tangentially, the 4NCL hoped to have their fixtures arranged earlier next time, making it easier to avoid clashes at the top end.

**(7) Game Fee**. The Executive discussed the forthcoming BCF proposals, especially with regard to club internal games. (For a few details, see item 1 in the next meeting down.) Some said club games should have been chargeable in the first place, some feared administrative nightmares, others talked of the grass roots, and others again said the clubs would just stop sending their games. How should the Union mandate its delegates? A proposal to oppose the new charge was lost by 5 votes to 7; after which it was agreed (10-1 or very like) to support phased introduction. Over two or three years, maybe. Few spoke against the increase for Rapidplay from one-third to one-half of the standard rate. Even the congress organisers seemed to think one-third was too low.

**(8) Maidstone Congress**. It was announced that the 1997 event would be 17-19 October. Nearly forgot to say the next bit, and we can’t think of anywhere else to say it, so: you may have been in doubt, if you read the Bulletin report of the last Executive meeting, about what was happening to the Union’s three BCQ places for 1997-8. Nothing is, they’re staying where they were. Maidstone, Sutton and Southend.

1 Nothing to do with the Executive meeting, but since then a county committee (guess which) has debated proposing rule changes on SCCU venues. Some thought a county should be able to insist on a half-way venue, and they cited a certain venue which they thought unreasonably remote. The commonsense answer prevailed: if you don’t like going to \*\*\*\*\*\*\* you can always make them come to Margate next year.

**BCF MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Management Board met in London on Saturday 1st March 1997. Your Editor represented the SCCU. This report’s rather brief, but the meeting wasn’t. Time was wasted on things that shouldn’t *take* time. Like, twenty minutes to vet the minutes (sorry). We take five seconds over it in Kent, because they’re right to start with. The BCF *are* casting round for a Minute Secretary; must be catching. Inevitably, some people talked too much. The chairman, who wasn’t one of them, made a pretty civilised fist of controlling a meeting that once or twice threatened to become unpleasant. Re-reading that, it could be taken by the cynical as a tacit reference to SCCU meetings. It isn’t one. Now get on with it, Haddrell.

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**(1)** **Game Fee: internal club games**. The previous meeting had decided to recommend to the April Council Meeting that Game Fee should be charged at the full standard rate on club games with effect from autumn 1997. Some queried the wisdom of this, and one person said a survey within his county suggested that most clubs would stop having their games graded. At half the standard rate, a lot of them would continue. This was obviously going to come up at the Council Meeting anyway, so discussion was brief. Ish. It will also be proposed that standard rate be increased from 23p to 25p, and the Rapidplay fee to half of that, and the meeting had an interesting discussion on how to divide 25 by 2.

**(2) Money**. The MB spent something over an hour thrashing out some fine points of the accounts and budget for the April Council Meeting. You know your Editor has no head for money, and you’ll excuse him a blow-by-blow account. He *did* understand most of it. The revised budget is for an overall loss of somewhere around £5000. Give or take a thousand quid, and they did cosmetic things with the reserves to make the answer look different.

**(3) Counties Championship**: draw for National Stage. See page 10.

**(4) Structure of Management Board**. Or whatever we’re going to call it. The autumn Council Meeting had, as you know, approved in principle the idea of a rationalised structure. The working group set up to study this had been quite unable to agree, and a minority report held out firmly for some kind of delegate structure. This may not have been what Council had in mind but it was sympathetically received by the MB, and people mentioned the lack of representation of leagues and congresses. Maybe the Unions could come down to one rep each to make room for them. Discussion was wordy, and your Editor is not sure anything’s going to happen.

**(5) BCF Constitution**. More or less as an aside, and arising out of the above, someone said we *ought* to be the “English Chess Federation”. And we really shouldn’t play under the Union Jack just to annoy the Scots.

**(6) British Championships**. The Federation has secured substantial sponsorship from Smith & Williamson, which should help to restore the standing of the event as a true British Championship. SWR: How would we feel about Liverpool, say, or Manchester or Leeds or Sheffield, as venues for the British? No one had any views in particular, except that we should ask the players. His question was perhaps not entirely idle. Incidentally there had been no applications for the Congress Chess directorship, and SWR is soldiering on.

**(7) BCF Arbiters.**  Approved: Ken Groce (Waltham Abbey); Lyndon Gurr (Rainham Kent). **Senior Arbiters**: Steve Boniface, Neil Graham, David Sedgwick.

**(8) Grading**. With the departure of Lorraine Harding from the BCF office, there’s no one there who knows a blind thing about grading and Roger Edwards is more or less doing everything himself. The timing of the 1997 grading list should not be affected. It emerged that the New Improved grading system, scheduled for autumn 1997 and the Bulletin’s been known to throw in the odd “allegedly”, will now come on stream in autumn 1998. The postponement came as a surprise to everyone. Including, when we told him afterwards, a member of the development committee who might have been expected to know about it. Believe what you will. No one from the development committee was at the meeting.

**(9) BCF Yearbook**. John Poole, who resigned as Home Director at the autumn Council Meeting, will continue to look after the Yearbook.

**(10) National Club**. There was some disquiet about the practice, among the top few clubs, of bringing in paid players; and some feeling that there might be a case for introducing a new division (U215 or U220?) for genuinely amateur and representative teams. Not sure about the viability of the resulting “professional” division that would leave on top. Someone said that the National Club had been more or less superseded, as a credible European Club qualifier, by the 4NCL.

**(11) MCCU Centenary**. A match MCCU v BCF Management Board is planned for Friday 25th April: the evening before the BCF Counties Championship Finals.

**SCCU RULES & APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE**

The sub-committee is Chris Howell, Nigel Dennis, Richard Haddrell, Jonathan Melsom and John Philpott. It met, minus NWD, on Tuesday 25th March 1997. David Sedgwick and Lester Millin were in attendance. Some problems had arisen but, in the event, few decisions were needed.

**(1) SCCU U18 JAMBOREE: MINOR COUNTIES QUALIFIER** 1.3.97

A very young Oxon player had complained to an adult, apparently believing him to be an official, that his opponent was not writing the moves down in a QPF. The (unidentified) adult wrongly said that you didn’t have to, and Oxon stopped as well. Oxon lost on time in a lost position. His county appealed against the result, suggesting that the opponent should not be allowed to benefit from his breach of the rules. The sub-committee declined to take action, feeling that the incident had probably not affected the result, but agreed that important rules should be made very clear to players before play began. It would also be helpful if tournament officials wore badges.

**(2) SCCU LEAGUE U175: SUSSEX v KENT** 8.2.97

Nothing to discuss, because neither side had appealed against the Controller’s ruling, but what happened was that a Kent player played an illegal move in (apparently) the dying moments of a QPF. The illegality was pointed out, by whom is not clear, and corrected in *Sussex’s* time. No arbiter was present. Sussex lost on time with K+Q v K+R. Sussex objected and the Controller, feeling that the illegality might well have affected the result of the game, said

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“draw”. Not sure how satisfied anyone was but, as it turned out, it made no difference to Sussex’s second-place nomination. The sub-committee wondered if counties should be given guidelines on what to do in such cases. (At least re-start his clock, if he’s made an illegal move!) On the whole it was thought that players knew what to do but, in the heat of the moment, might easily not think to do it. Match captains might or might not be considered “arbiters”; was the SCCU’s position clear? No action is proposed.

**(3) SCCU LEAGUE U175: KENT v SUSSEX** 22.3.97

Kent had switched the venue from Sevenoaks to Charlton at one week’s notice. Noises had been made but it was not clear that anyone was actually making claims. Sussex won the match. It was agreed that Kent should be cautioned about changing venues at short notice. Any repetition could lead to significant penalties. (They *have* done it before, only last time they were as surprised as their opponents and they gave about 20 minutes’ notice!)

**(4) SCCU LEAGUE OPEN: OXON v SURREY** 8.3.97

Surrey had defaulted on the top two boards. The Controller, having spoken to the Surrey match captain, was satisfied that the 2 named players had been genuinely expected to turn up (though the match captain agreed that his communication with them might have been better). No one suffered except Surrey, and no action was proposed.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Richard**,4.2.97

Thank you for sending me issue 233 of the Bulletin which I found most interesting. However, on the subject of Girls Chess, I fear you may have been misinformed. The Girls U18 Second Teams, far from being a new idea, dates back to 1994. Its raison d’être was the suggestion, before that date, that the Girls competition be extended to 12 boards to parallel the Open (mainly boys) competition. No, please, said the smaller counties, who could not have found twelve players. Okay, said the biggies, we’ll have second teams. The competition was SCCU only in 1994, but in 1995 and 1996 it went to National finals in Nuneaton, Surrey being the winners in 1996, along with the First Teams Girls event as well as the Open. As for there being no entrants in 1997, this is quite false, as there are already two - one being Surrey and the other Middlesex, whose girls, in spite of what the officials of that county(?) might decree, actually want to play chess, and guess what, have found a very kind and hardworking person to organise them. We hope to even play a Third Team competition as well.

As to the Year Letter system in use by the Surrey Girls Chess League, it has quite a venerable history, having formerly been in use elsewhere in the country (dare I mention anything to do with white roses?) for some time. It is very convenient, and as most people will have deduced, this year’s Under 2s will become, in their turn, A Year. No confusion is ever caused as there are only around 14 letters in use at any one time. I commend the system to other junior organisations.

Incidentally, if anyone would like to challenge Surrey Girls to a match, as National Girls Champions we will be pleased to accept. We are playing a match against Welsh Ladies very soon, and against Wey Valley Boys at U12 level in June. We had hoped to organise matches on the European mainland also, but have had no takers so far.

Best wishes,

**Neil Clifton** Coulsdon

Ed: - On the “new idea”, I think I was more misunderstood than misinformed. I didn’t express myself very well, but what I *meant* to say was that the SCCU invitation had only just gone out as an afterthought. And I did say my information was from before Christmas. I offer no opinion on the Year Letter system, but we do need a handy way of referring to year groups. “He’s an U13” may be clear in the right context, but what’sthe English for “How many of your U13 team are U13s?” I’ve heard “real” U13s called natural U13s! However, doesn’t the English school system do the trick? U13s are Year 8. That’s easier to understand than Year, er, P is it? Year P keeps changing its meaning, as well. Oh dear, I seem to have offered an opinion.

NC’s letter was followed, a few days later, by one from Bruce Birchall correcting the same misinformation. Must try to say what I mean in future. It turns out, as you may have guessed, that he is the kind and hardworking person Neil Clifton alludes to. His letter complained of the Middx refusal to let him enter Girls teams. (I believe the matter had given rise to other correspondence as well.) Then he rang shortly afterwards with the good news. The Middx Association had no objection after all to his entering “unofficial” teams. It was all a misunderstanding, apparently. Don’t know what caused it, but it seems to have gone on quite a while. In the circumstances, Bruce has withdrawn his letter.

**Dear Richard**, 9.2.97

It must be worth pointing out that there is not any conflict between Herts and SCCU rules. [See letters, last issue, page 1.] There is simply a corollary, something like: “No player who is indisputably better than the Herts County Champion may play for a Herts team at the same time as the Herts County Champion”. The precise wording depends on that in the written rules, eg it may be that the Herts Champion is allowed under Herts rules to agree to forgo top board; that I don’t know.1

Note also that “order of playing strength” or whatever phrase is used is not necessarily the same as “in grade order” or “in order of international status”.

If a grandmaster played in but failed to win the Herts Championship, I would personally consider that

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justification for playing on a lower board than the champion. If however he (or she) failed to play in the county

championship, then I applaud a rule giving precedence *for places in the team* to those who do get more involved in county activities, viz by playing in the championship, even if that means a weaker team than would be the case without a county-champion-on-board-1 rule.

Yours sincerely,

**H Trevor Jones** Guildford

1 Ed: - The Herts rule, as quoted by both Herts correspondents last time, says the Champion has the *right* to play top board.

**Dear Richard**, 18.2.97

I should like to pick up a couple of points in your reference in your January issue to my decision to relinquish my responsibilities for managing the BCF Direct Membership Scheme.

I do not administer the scheme, as such. As the job description makes it clear, my responsibilities primarily focus on marketing the scheme and on providing overall management. It is important for any would be officer to know that the BCF Office provides the basic administration including processing subscriptions. Our central office is very supportive which is essential if the scheme is to continue to be successful.

Your comment1 about “contentious things” should not be taken out of context. As the BCF’s official newsletter, it is obviously important that the policies of the Federation are explained to its members and also that *ChessMoves* does not carry misleading information. There is no intention to stifle criticism, on the contrary, *ChessMoves* provides an excellent medium for contributions from those who may disagree with BCF policies. Constructive argument is to be welcomed, assuming it is accurate in its reference to BCF policies.

The Officer in charge of the Direct Membership Scheme has an obvious responsibility to consider content which is what the particular point you mention is all about. The number of times content has been seriously questioned during the past six years can be counted in single figures. Paul Buswell, as editor for most of this time, made it very clear he would not allow interference with editorial freedom and I absolutely agreed with him. At the same time, Paul never shut his mind to comments or suggestions from me which is the hallmark of good teamwork.

We still await applications from prospective officers to run the scheme. It is a particularly good opportunity for a young marketeer who wishes to gain experience.

Regards,

**Bryan (Fewell)** Harpenden

1 Ed: - What comment? I only said it was in the job description!

We asked Chris Howell for a piece on the new grading system. Here it is.

# THE NEW BCF GRADING SYSTEM

Most of you will have heard by now that the BCF is in the process of updating its Grading System, the software for which has been unchanged for many years. There is no real choice about doing this, as the old system was not designed to cope with two different types of results ( longplay and rapidplay ) or a number of other subsequent developments, and the whole system is very near breakdown - only enormous efforts by Roger Edwards (BCF Grading Officer) and Lorraine Harding (until last year at the BCF Office but now departed) have got the last few Grading Lists out more or less on time.

The internals of the system will change totally, and many new features will be incorporated to aid the smooth running of the Grading System, Game Fee, the Direct Members Scheme, International Ratings and Norms, etc., but this article is concerned with the effects the chess-playing and game-fee paying public are likely to see directly; hence the following sub-headings.

### What Has To Change Because of the New Grading System?

Nothing.

The new system will be configurable to be exactly equivalent to the existing one; all results can be accepted in the ‘old’ formats, and lists can if desired also be printed identically and at the same times of the year. This is deliberate, so that any changes brought in with the new system are optional, and can be introduced gradually during a ‘transition’ stage. This cautious approach will make it a longer job to produce the new system, however.

### What Will Change (Because Everyone Thinks It’s a Good Idea)?

The system will have many new facilities and approaches that simply don’t exist in the present one, and taking advantage of some of these will result in the following improvements:

* Central calculation - the new system will be capable of collecting the results of individual games (including colour), thus eliminating any miscalculations by local graders (I have witnessed these from both sides!), and removing the necessity to estimate new players’ strengths.

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* Dates of birth - the storage of dates of birth (when and only when freely given by the individual) will eliminate the possibility of two players being confused when they have similar names, as happens frequently at present - I have personal experience of that one, too!
* Rolling calculation - it will be possible to take a snapshot of any player’s grade at any time, going back for 12 months from that time or exactly (say) 30 games over as long a time as that needs. This allows for monthly, quarterly, half-yearly lists etc., and allows a ‘current’ list to be produced, say for a junior selection meeting. It is

hoped that organisers/graders will send results in much more quickly than at present, as preliminary calculations are no longer required.

* Club details - it will be possible to dynamically update and order each player’s club list dependent on his/her activity for that club, removing any redundant clubs when no game has appeared for a given time; for this to work really well all results (even at congresses) will need a nominated club affiliation. Honorary or inactive memberships could still be specifically included by request.

### What Things Could Happen (If People Want Them To)?

There are all sorts of things the new system will allow us to do which are impossible under the present system. Here are a few I and various others have already come up with, but remember, they will only happen if they are popular.

* Six-monthly combined grading lists, with titles, ELO ratings , Longplay and Rapidplay BCF grades, both current and previous, published each February and August both on paper and on CD-ROM. The latter would include a browser allowing the publication of any list you can think of, e.g. all players from a club in descending grade order, all 150-174s in a given county, the top 30 women by ELO rating in the country etc. - all available from one issue.
* Monthly lists of juniors by gender and/or age category.
* New calculation methods, including ‘real ELO’ system or simply translating the BCF grades by the ‘times 8 + 600’ rule, adjusting the ‘40 point’ rule, biassing results on colour played, etc.

### How Will Organisers’ and Graders’ Roles Change?

As part of the grading system update, user-friendly software will be made available to organisers which will assist in the running of leagues and tournaments, and supply data in the ideal format for the new grading system. For organisers using programs such as Tournament Director, the BCF is working with the suppliers to make sure output will also be directly compatible with the new system. The new result file formats will be public and text-based (similar to Windows 3 .INI files for you techies out there) and therefore easily read. Any organiser with access to a Windows 3.1or later compatible PC will thus be able to produce results in the ideal format for the BCF, ensuring the maximum accuracy of grading for his or her competitors. It is hoped that many events will be able to combine the roles of organiser and grader into one role with a lower workload than either previously.

It is envisaged that those without computer facilities will do best to send their raw results (crosscharts, pairing cards, match result sheets or simply lists of individual games) to a regional grader with an Internet link to the BCF office, or the office itself. These will be using scanning devices and OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software to automate the task of inputting the raw results where possible. Although it will still be possible to send in old-style ‘bundled’ results as in the past and these will contribute to new grades perfectly well, they may somewhat reduce the effects of some of the improved facilities of the new system.

The new system will send back far more readable and detailed reports to organisers, ensuring a greater integrity of results than is possible with the current system. Reports might also be prepared automatically for Game Fee and International Rating/Title Norm purposes with no further effort.

Overall the workload on organisers and local graders, when considered together, will be drastically reduced for a given event, hopefully allowing them to run more events and increasing chess activity in the country as a whole.

### Timescales

Some parts of the new system are already running, and have already been used to help create lists. More and more of the new system will come on line within the BCF in 1997/98, but the full release of the Organiser’ s software will probably not be until 1998. 1997/1998 and 1998/1999 at least will be a period of transition with results expected in both old and new forms. So steady evolution is the order of the day rather than overnight revolution; please be patient, the work is being carried out by a small team of chess-loving computer professionals giving up their spare time for no monetary reward (estimated cost at commercial rates would be a minimum of £40,000).

**What Will the Bulletin Say?**

Sorry, I’ve sneakily copied his layout but this isn’t Chris, it’s me. The lack of information on the new system has bothered me and it’s nice to have something now. Even so, there’s something Chris hasn’t said. Well, I expect there’s lots he hasn’t said but there’s one thing that *will* affect the ordinary player. He told the KCCA, the other week, that the Kent Grading List next year wouldn’t include any “starred” grades. Non-techies please read on, it gets better. Starred grades are grades based on less than 10 games. They never get published usually, but they exist, and us Kent backwoodsmen like as much information as we can get, so we’ve always arranged to have them 234:6

in our private list. Only we can’t any more, because the new system *won’t do any calculations at all for new players’ games* until they’ve made the magic ten. This will affect their opponents as well. Play a game against someone new, and it’ll be graded this year next year sometime never. No way of telling. Grade’s not quite what you expected? Could be it’s been suddenly infiltrated by those games you played two years ago against new players and had forgotten all about. There’s a reason, of course. Until you’ve got a good few games from someone it’s impossible to be sure of his strength. So if you grade his first few games straight away you risk error. Sure you do, but I’d sooner get it wrong and know the answer than wait indefinitely and get it “right”. (If you think those quotation marks are unfair, remember that grading’s not an exact science. I think you can try too hard to make it one.) Speaking for myself, I’ve paid my Game Fee and I want to know that my games will be graded. And graded this year, not as an ambush the year after next. Don’t know what other players will think, but this is an important change and it shouldn’t be done without an airing.

After the grouse, the plaudits. Of course it’s right to do things centrally. The current system’s a nonsense. A hundred and ninety-eight local graders doing their own thing, maybe sometimes the wrong thing, and all the BCF does is add their answers up. It doesn’t even have any records of who’s played who. The new system, to state the obvious, will not only eliminate arithmetical mistakes but also do you a much better estimate for a new player because it’s doing all his results, wherever they’re from, in one go. It opens up all sorts of possibilities. Chris mentions some, but of course there’s others. Ever wanted to know what percentage White *really* scores? And how it changes with different categories of player? I have. And if you want details like who’s played who, the beast will know and it will tell you. Or if it won’t, shoot its handlers. I think its handlers have the right intentions, though.

I await the user-friendly software with interest, I’ll use my own till it’s superseded, and I’ll shut up while this comment is shorter than the article it goes with. I invite readers’ opinions.

**CONGRESS RESULTS**

**NORTH HAMPSHIRE** at Basingstoke 11-12 January 1997

**Open** (25 pl) 1 NE Povah (Guildford) 4½/5; 2 A Corkett (Fareham) 4; 3-5 J Fraser-Mitchell (Richmond), RC Noyce (Crowthorne), RM Webb (Crowthorne) 3½...

**Under 171** (43 pl) 1-7(!) DW Bell (Southampton), C Briscoe (W Molesey), M Broomfield (S Norwood), G Crockart (Didcot), M Kobylka (Wood Green), TE Simms (Dorset), M Smart (Guildford) 4...

**Under 131** (41 pl) 1 DJ Abbott (Wantage) 4½/5; 2-5 Lucy Broomfield (S Norwood), R Carter (Shaw), RE Langham (Caversham), M Silman (Reading) 4...

**Under 101** (6 pl) 1-2 D Menary (Cosham), I Sayer (Reading) 3½/5; 3 D Archer (Godalming) 3... Results AJ Cox

**RICHMOND RAPID** 26th January 1997

**Open** (32 pl) 1=2 Aiden Leech (Maidenhead), Peter Varley (Addlestone) 5/6; 3 Alan Perkins (London) 4½... Grading U200 1-2 Abimbola Adelaja (London), Andrew Horton-Kitchlew (London) 4½; U175 1 Chris White (Twickenham) 4; 2-3 Steven Coles (Teddington), Ian Henderson (Southampton) 3½

**Under 150** (37 pl) 1-3 Thomas Dougherty (London), David Lewis (Maidenhead), Daniel White (London) 5/6... Grading U125 1 Ben Chamberlain (Surbiton) 4½; 2 Tomothy Woodward (London) 4

**Under 100** (30 pl) 1 Thomas Nixon (Kew) 5½/6; 2 Kate Feld (Cobham) 5; 3-4 Oliver Wilson (Sutton), James Wingfield (Sutton) 4½... Grading U75 / Never Graded 1 Ricky Alboni (Twickenham) 4; 2 Eric Pollitt (Hampton) 3½ Results Richard James

**NORTH ESSEX RAPIDPLAY** at Colchester, 16th February 1997

**Open** (36 pl) 1 Andreas Plüg (Colchester) 5½/6; 2 Tony Rubin (Ipswich) 5; 3 John Moore (Southend) 4½... Junior Trophy Eddie Dearing (Writtle) 4.

**Under 13** (14 pl) 1-3 Mark Gray (Ipswich), David Gunn (Maldon), Graham Walker (Southend) 5...

**Under 11** (20 pl) 1 Jonathan Livesley (Colchester) 5/6; 2-3 Michael Bridger (Southend Customs!), Nicholas Jellett (Temple Sutton) 4½; 4-5 Heather Walker, Tye Byram (both Temple Sutton) 4...

**Under 9** (23 pl) 1-2 Tom Swift (Southend Juniors), Daniel Hedges (Temple Sutton) 5/6; 3-4 Jacob Rubin (Ipswich), Edward Morris (Earls Hall, Southend)... Results *Chessex*

**RICHMOND RAPID** 23rd February 1997 was the 10th in the series.

**Open** (22 pl) 1 Abimbola Adelaja (London) 5/6; 2-3 Alan Perkins, David Rumens (both London) 4½... Grading U200 1-3 Hysni Pellumbi (Albania), Charles Tippleston (Northampton), Peter Varley (Addlestone) 4; U175 1-2 Ken Inwood (Hersham), Paul Kelly (London) 3

**Under 150** (21 pl) 1-2 Peter Lim (Harrow), Ross Rattray (Cheam) 5/6; 3 Daniel White (London) 4½... Grading U125 Ben Chamberlain (Surbiton) 3½

**Under 100** (33 pl) 1 Adam Swann (Twickenham) 5½/6; 2 Tom Boesen (Hayes Middx) 5; 3-5 Luke Pettit (Hounslow), Adam Rose (London), James Wingfield (Sutton) 4½... Grading U75 / Never Graded Anna Partington (Epsom) 3½... Results Richard James

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**JUNIOR NEWS**

**LANGLEY PARK** at Beckenham 25th January 1997

**Kent Under 18 Championship** (10 pl) 1 James Vigus (St Dunstand College) 5/6; 2 David Moskovic (City of London) 4½; 3-4 Martin Taylor (Sir Joseph Williamsons: Under 16 Champion), Phillip Zabrocki (Harvey GS) 3½... This is the fourth time in five years that James Vigus has won the event, and it is his 13th Kent Junior title in 11 years.

**Kent Under 14 Championship** (26 pl) 1-3 and joint Champions Andrew Bigg (Hayes CC), Thomas Rendle (Crowborough CC), Robert Wilson (Tunbridge Wells GSB) 5/6; 4-7 Paul Richards (Joy Lane), Konrad Sanders (Eltham College), Russell Scott (Danson CC), Simon Thanesan (Maidstone GSB) 4...

**Under 11** (non-Championship: 38 pl) 1-2 Thomas Sharp (Sandhurst), Robert White (Eltham College) 5½/6; 3 Thomas Stradwick (Scotts Park) 5; 4-6 James Chapman (Brooklands), Sara Higgins (Riverhead), James Regan (Claremont) 4½...

**Under 9** (non-Championship: 12 pl) 1 Karim Habibi (DCPS Cranbrook) 6/6; 2 Aram Karakashian (Danson CC) 5; 3-4 Matthew Hadfield (Palace Wood), James O’Sullivan (Scotts Park) 4... Results Dave Vigus

**SURREY GIRLS SUPERSTRONG TOURNAMENT** (only they didn’t invite the top four!) 11th January 1997

15 played. 1 Kate Feld 3½/4; 2-5 Jaimini and Priya Kothari, Zoë Perry, Nicole Mangion. Results Neil Clifton

**BERKSHIRE SCHOOLS** at Bearwood College (where?) 18-19 January 1997

**Open** (5 pl) 1 Mark Campbell (RGS Guildford) 4/4; 2-3 James Foster (St Barts), Chola Mukanga (Bearwood) 2½..

**U125** (10 pl) 1 Stephen Clark (South Bucks) 4½/5; 2-3 James Foster (St Barts), Chola Mukanga (Bearwood) 3½; 4-5 Koichi Nicholas (RGS High Wycombe), Joshua Pitts (Langtree) 3...

**Under 13** (17 pl) 1 Koichi Nicholas (RGS High Wycombe) 6/6; 2-4 Andrew Navias (Bearwood), Thomas Landais (RGS Guildford), Stephen Spikings (Dr Challoners) 4...

**Under 12** (24 pl) 1 David Bareham (Swindon) 5½/6; 2 Christopher Hansell (Little Kingshill) 5; 3-4 Lydia Goodwin (South Bucks), Ezra Lutton (Basildon) 4½; 5-8 Michael Healey (Richmond), Kenneth Hunt (MCS Oxford), John Sneesby (Basildon Essex), Adam Thorpe (South Bucks) 4...

**Under 11** (18 pl) 1 Oliver Coddington (Southampton) 5½/6; 2 Christopher Hansell (Little Kingshill) 5; 3 Ezra Lutton (Basildon Essex) 4½; 4 Dominic de Silva (RGS Guildford) 4...

**Under 10** (22 pl) 1 Matthew Harborne (Frimley) 5½/6; 2 Josiah Lutton (Basildon Essex) 5; 3-4 Graham Morris, Claire Moris (both Caldecott Oxon) 4½; 5-7 Ben Briegel (Hillside), Oliver Dyar (MCS Oxford), Mark Goodwin (South Bucks) 4...

**Under 9** (19 pl) 1 Daniel Diamond (South London) 8/8; 2-3 Bruno Bamberger (Beenham), Matthew Miles (St Edwards) 6; 4-5 Ross MacLeod (Eagle House), James Snowling (Beenham) 5...

**Under 8** (6 pl) 1-2 Richard Bennett (Courthouse), Christopher Emery (Dolphin) 5½/7; 3 Jamie Harding (Ridgeway) 4½... Results Nigel Dennis

**EPSCA SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP**: Qualifying Zone 10 (of how many?) at Gt Missenden 25th January 1997

**Under 11** 1 Barming, Maidstone 18½/20; 2 Hamilton, High Wycombe 15; 3-6 Caldecott, Abingdon; Magdalen College, Oxford (it says here); Gayhurst, High Wycombe; Whyteleafe, “Surrey” 10½; 7 Gateway, Gt Missenden; 8 Ridgeway, Maidenhead; 9 Dolphin, Hurst, Reading 9; 10 Magdalen College B 8; 11 Ridgeway B 5; 12 Oxford High 3. Teams of five (presumably); 4 rounds. Top six qualified for finals.

**Under 9** 1 Hamilton, High Wycombe 17/20; 2 Gateway, Gt Missenden 12; 3 Dolphin 8½; 4 Gateway B 8; 5 Barming 6½. Top two qualified. Results Nigel Dennis

**ROCHESTER JUNIOR** 8th February 1997

**Under 18 Major** (combined with Minor: 24 pl altogether) 1-2 Phillip Zabrocki, Martin Taylor 5½/6; 3 Trevor Jarrett 4; 4-5 Heather Richards, Mark Roberts 3½...

**Under 18 Minor** 1 Simon Thanesan 4/6; 2-3 Russell Scott, Markku Slattery 3½; 4-10 Andrew Bigg, Richard Cheeseman, Raymond Gosden, Emily Lerwill, Steven Pretty, Paul Richards, Alistair Taylor 3...

**Under 11** (18 pl) 1 Andrew Welch 5½/6; 2 Zakerey Bennett 5; 3-5 Edmund Birkhamshaw, James Chapman, Thomas Stradwick 4; 6-8 Harry Shaw, James Regan, Robert White 3½..

**Under 9** (12 pl) 1 David Ridout 6/6; 2-3 Matthew Hadfield, Richard McKinnon 4; 4 Jennifer Munroe 3½... Best Newcomer Samuel Lim 3 Results Roger Holmes

**SURREY JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** 8-9 February 1997 at Whitgift School, Croydon

**Under 18** (2 days: 7 pl) 1 M Broomfield (St Josephs) 4½/6; 2-4 MC Campbell (RGS), S Kapadia (KCS), DP Wilks (RGS) 4; 5 L Broomfield (Wallington High) 3½...

**Under 18 + U105** (2 days: 9 pl) 1 NJ Bawden (RGS) 4½/6; 2-4 G Chu (Whitgift), MW Short (RGS), K Tam

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(KCS) 4; 5 M Moore (Whitgift) 3½...

**Under 16** (Sun: 9 pl) 1 S Patel (Trinity) 5½/6; 2 M Byrne (Trinity) 5; 3 S Chui-Webster (Trinity) 4½; 4 M Young (Ewell Castle) 4...

**Under 14 A** (Sat: 7 pl) 1 M Sachdev (Whitgift) 5½/6; 2 M Robinson (Whitgift) 4½; 3 DP Gillbe (RGS) 4; 4

LH Dawson (Whitgift) 3½...

**Under 14 B** (Sun: meaning of “B” not stated: 11 pl) 1 CM Dixon (Whitgift) 5½/6; 2 TD Booth (RGS) 5; 3 SN Gadher (Whitgift) 4; 4-5 F Ayles (Whitgift), DM Coles (Ewell Castle) 3½...

**Under 12 A** (Sat: 13 pl) 1 KL Feld (LE Holles) 5½/6; 2-3 CM Dixon (Whitgift), A Hegarty (Knaphill) 4½; 4 D Hegarty (Winston Ch) 4; 5 C Manders (Therfield) 3½...

**Under 12 B** (Sun: 18 pl: at last!!) 1 J Mulhern (Danes Hill) 5½/6; 2 A Spencer (Cumnor House) 4½; 3-6 A Foster-Yeow (Danes Hill), N Gauge (Whitgift), A Wilson (Croydon High), R Woodrow (Caterham) 4...

Results AJW Thorn

**SCCU UNDER 18 JAMBOREES**

1st March 1997

Your Editor, keenly spotting that all the first names belonged to girls, has taken them out. Complaints will be noted but not acted on. *Some* counties just gave initials.

**MAJOR COUNTIES** at Sutton (on right hand side, White “floated” up)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 DS Gibeon 196 H ½ ½ DM Moskovic 196 K  2 O Rosten 195 S 0 1 NS Lee 180 H  3 C Harris 153 H 1 0 M Broomfield 157 S  4 MD Noakes 169 K 1 0 S Arefin 106 H  5 S Kapadia 143 S 0 1 MI Roberts 169 K  6 A Tang - H 0 1 O Payne 147S  7 W McKie 129 S 1 0 N Chandler 87 H  8 TR Jarrett 141 K 0 1 MD Watts 127 S  9 RA Kieran 138 K 1 0 J Griffin - H  10 G Lamond - S 1 0 def K  11 PD Richardson 127 K ½ ½ DP Wilks 123 S  12 def H 0 1 R Scott - K | DJ Harwood 175 K ½ ½ RA Bates 221 S  MC Campbell 149 S 1 0 PH Potopaev 163 K  MR Taylor 166 K 1 0 RE Morris 101 H  G Chien - H 0 1 HS Richards 143 K  P McGowan - H 0 1 MCA Moore - S  J McKie 120 S 1 0 def H |

Positions: 1 Surrey 8/12; 2 Kent 7½; 3 Herts 2½. Mean grades: Surrey 147, Kent 153, Herts not calculated. We understand that Essex had been due to play but withdrew. BCF Qualifiers Surrey and “probably” not Kent.

**MINOR COUNTIES** at Mary Hare School for the Deaf, Newbury

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 KJC Bush 155 Bu ½ ½ GD Parker 164 S  2 L Rackham 150 S 0 1 J Houska 183 O  3 SP Clark 134 Bu 0 1 AM Leech 183 Br  4 LB Collins 121 O ½ ½ K Carter 126 S  5 DJ Lewis 146 Br 1 0 AR Higgs 118 S  6 TE Rendle 110 S 0 1 KB Nicholas 113 Bu  7 T Quilter 104 Bu 1 0 AJP Wood 111 S  8 S Marley 101 S 0 1 MEO Bovey 110 Br  9 CG Hansell 94 Bu 1 0 I Houska 101 Br  10 C Cookson 93 O 0 1 J Bryant 70 S  11 T Sams - Br ½ ½ D Triggs 82 S  12 E Lamb 84 S ½ ½ RJ Hansell 91 Bu | KD Smallbone 185 Br ½ ½ AC Hunt 203 O  C Moxley 161 O 0 1 MP George 131 Bu  PCL Bradford 136 S ½ ½ S Crockart 153  DA Gold 168 Br 1 0 RC Thursby 131 Bu  AJ Hughes 127 Bu ½ ½ SC Bough 119 O  WS Tutty 115 O 0 1 JJ Foster 121 Br  RA Hogg 110 Br 1 0 J Buchanan 90 O  GP Morris 87 O 0 1 H Lossock 87 Bu  M Poulson 94 S ½ ½ C David 71 O  AMS Jones - Br 0 1 L Goodwin 91 Bu  A Kalinin - Bu 1 0 J Kennedy 94 O  K Hunt - O 1 0 A Navias 88 Br |

Positions: 1 Bucks 8½/12; 2 Berks 8; 3 Sussex 4; 4 Oxon 3½. Mean grades: Bucks 112; Berks 131; Sussex 112; Oxon 115. Bcf Qualifiers Bucks.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GIRLS FIRST TEAMS** at Sutton  **Surrey Middx**  1 R Bates 160 ½ ½ G Rajarakse 114  2 C Thrower 133 1 0 A Winston 93  3 L Broomfield 120 1 0 M Hinks-Edwards 85  4 J Kothari 93 ½ ½ L Styles 71  5 A Yadoo 86 0 1 D Leadon 61  6 K Feld 83 1 0 Maneen Piracha -  **4 2** | **GIRLS SECOND TEAMS** at Sutton  **Surrey Middx**  R Larking 94 1 0 E Bowdery -  N Mangion 86 ½ ½ Y Weinstein -  P Kothari 83 1 0 S-W Man -  H Leidecker 76 1 0 R Lambert -  H Bates 68 1 0 O Raitt -  T Khoo 61 1 0 def  **5½ ½** |

We’re surprised that no other counties entered. But some of them had girls in their “Boys” teams. Bcf Qualifiers: First Teams Surrey, and presumably Second Teams Surrey though we think the Second Teams is a law unto itself. Speaking of laws, has anyone ever seen any rules for these events? Don’t be silly, Richard, there *must* be some.

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**NYCA UNDER 16 CHAMPIONSHIP** at Walsall, 8th March 1997

Kent retained their titles in both Championship and “Major” (and provided both halves of a tie for first place in the Reserves tournament).

**Championship** 1 Kent 30½/36; 2 Richmond 26; 3 Warwicks 25½; 4 Bucks 24½; 5 Glamorgan 24; 6 Cheshire 22½; 7 Wilts 22; 8 Humberside 17; 9 Staffs 16; 10 Yorks 15; 11 Derbyshire 14; 12 Berks 13½; 13 Northants 12; 14-15 Surrey, Lincolshire 10; 16 Herts 6½.

**“Major”** (9 teams) 1 Kent B 30/36; 2 Warwicks B 27; 3 Glamorgan B 24... Results AJW Thorn, R Holmes

**BCF UNDER 18 FINALS** at Walsall, 22nd March 1997

We only have the Major “Boys”, from AJW Thorn (thank you). 1 Suffolk 9/12; 2 Warwicks 8; 3 Surrey 6; 4-5 Glamorgan, Northumberland 3½.

**KENT PRIMARY CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Maidstone, 1st March 1997

**Under 11** (15 pl) 1 Paul Richards 5/6; 2-4 Nikhil Arora, Mark Richards, James Thanesan 4½; 5 Andrew Welch 4

**Under 10** (23 pl) 1-2 Edmund Birkhamshaw, Thomas Stradwick 5/6; 3-5 Sara Higgins, Harry Shaw, Antoinette Wilson 4½; 6 Adam Boakes 4...

**Under 9** (21 pl) 1 Amir Habibi 6/6; 2 David Ridout 5; 3-7 David Franklin, Guy Aust, Matthew Moore, Jennifer Munroe, Laura Weatherhead 4...

**Under 8** (11 pl) 1 Thomas Sharp 6/6; 2-3 Matthew Hadfield, Gregory Welman 4...

**KENT** Schools League 1996-7: Senior St Olaves GS, Orpington; Under 13 Judd GS, Tonbridge (their first title). Under 16 and Under 11 will be decided next term.

**“TIMES” NATIONAL SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP**

**National Stage Rd 1** Arden Solihull (14.0) 4 2 Magdalen College School (16.10); Bluecoat Liverpool (15.5) 5½ ½ Hereford Cathedral School (17.11); Hampton School (15.6) 4½ 1½ Q Elizabeths Boys School Barnet (16.1); Tiffin (14.10) 6 0 Temple Sutton Primary Southend (9.11); Greenwod Academy Irvine (16.4) 4½ 1½ RGS Lancaster (16.1); Millfield School (15.8) 5½ ½ Winchester College (16.0); RGS Newcastle (13.3) 5 1 Perth High School (17.0); Yarm School Eaglescliffe (13.6) \*3 3 Hymers College Hull (14.7); St Pauls (15.5) 6 0 Haberdashers Elstree (15.10)

**Rd 2** Arden v Oakham School; Bedford Modern v Ipswich School; Buecoat v Manchester Grammar; Hampton v Tiffin; Methodist College Belfast v Greenwood; Millfield v Torquay Boys GS; RGS Newcastle v Yarm; St Pauls v Maidstone Boys GS

Results Mitchell Taylor, who also sent the Plate results but we can’t find them.

**CHILTERN LEAGUE** 1996-7 (20 boards, grading U170, 36 in 1½ + QPF 30/30)

had an interesting new structure. Four adult teams (Berks, Bucks, Herts, Oxon) and three junior ones (Berks, Bucks, Herts). Adult teams played double round amongst themselves and single round against the juniors. Junior teams played double round amongst themselves and, well, you’ve guessed the rest of it. This setup exactly matches, right down to the numbers of teams, the setup used by the Insurance CC for their inter-office league. (For adult and junior, read Div 1 and Div 2.)

Chiltern League had three matches outstanding, last we heard, but the match point scores were: adults (total 9 matches) Herts 7/8 (GP 101); Oxon 6/8 (92½); Berks 6/9 (106½); Bucks 3/8. Juniors (total 8 matches) Bucks 3/7; Herts 2/7 but can’t catch up on games; Berks 0/7. No, we don’t actually know how they split ties. No junior team scored more than 8 points out of 20 against any adult team. Sounds like one of those vile and so called “logic problems”. Acknowledgments Nigel Dennis

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**SCCU COUNTY MATCHES: LEAGUE TABLES 1996-7**

Tables are all but final: there’s one missing game result which affects no one’s standing. Results boxed have been used to split ties where teams were level on match points. In one case the tie remained, and it went to overall game points.

**OPEN** E K Sx C H O Sy Bu Br GP MP

1 Essex 8½ 8 12 10½ 10 9½ 13 11 82½ 7½

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2 Kent 7½  3 Sussex 8 | 8  8 | 8 13 10 9½ 12½ 13½ 82 6  6½ 8½ 8½ 9 10½ 12½ 71½ 6 | | |
| 4 Cambs 4 | 8 9½ | 8 6 6½ 14 9 65 4 | | |
| 5 Herts 5½ 3 7½ 8  6 Oxon 6 6 7½ 10 | | | 11  5 | 7½ 9½ 8½ 60½ 3½  9 10½ 8 62 3½ |
| 7 Surrey 6½ 6½ 7 9½  8 Bucks 3 3½ 5½ 2  9 Berks 5 2½ 3½ 7 | | | 8½ 7  6½ 5½  7½ 8 | 7½ 9½ 62 3  8½ 9½ 44 2  6½ 6½ 46½ ½ |

**UNDER 175** E Sx Sy K E Sx Sy K GP MP

1 Essex 11 10 8½ 7 9 8½ 54 5

2 Sussex 5 5½ 8 9 11 9½\* 48 3½

3 Surrey 6 10½ 5 7 5 9½ 43 2

4 Kent 7½ 8 11 7½ 6½\* 6½ 47 1½

\* full score sheet not received

**UNDER 150** E H K Sx Sy GP MP

1 Essex 9 8 10½ 11 38½ 3½

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2 Herts 7  3 Kent 8 | 9  5 | 9 5 30 2  8 11 32 2 |

4 Sussex 5½ 7 8 9½ 30 1½  
5 Surrey 5 11 5 6½ 27½ 1

**UNDER 125** H Sx Sy K O E GP MP

1 Herts 8½ 8 14 9½ 9½ 49½ 4½

2 Sussex 7½ 9½\* 8½ 8½ 11 (45 ) 4

3 Surrey 8 5½\* 10½ 4 8½ (36½) 2½

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4 Kent 2 6½ 5½ | 8½ | 11½ 34 2 |
| 5 Oxon 6½ 7½ 12 | 7½ | 11 44½ 2 |

6 Essex 6½ 5 7½ 4½ 5 28½ 0

\* Full score sheet not received, and there’s a game undecided (don’t know why).

**UNDER 100** S E H S E H GP MP

1 Surrey 3½ 8½ 6½ 6½ 25 3

2 Essex 8½ 6 5½ 7 27 2½

3 Herts 3½ 6 5½ 5 20 ½

Please tell the Editor if you spot mistakes in these tables.

**Draw for National Stage**

The draw was made, with the participation of Union representatives, at the Management Board meeting on 1st March. Home teams first.

**Open** Quarter-finals: (A) S1 M3 (invited to make up numbers); (B) M1 W2; (C) N M2; (D) W1 S2.

**Minor Counties** Quarter-finals: (A) M1 W2; (B) E1 S2; (C) W1 E2; (D) S1 M2.

**Under 175** Prelim: W2 M2. Quarter-finals: (A) S1 W1; (B) M1 N2; (C) N1 S2; (D) E v winner of prelim.

**Under 150** Prelim: E2 S2. Quarter-finals: (A) M1 E1; (B) S1 N2; (C) N1 M2; (D) W v winner of prelim.

**Under 125** Prelim: E2 M2. Quarter-finals: (A) S1 E1; (B) M1 N2; (C) N1 S2; (D) W v winner of prelim.

**Under 100** Quarter-finals: (A) E N2; (B) M1 S2; (C) N1 M2; (D) S1 W.

The semi-finals in each competition will be winner of A v winner of B, winner of C v winner of D.

Dates: Prelim 26 April; Quarter-finals 17 May; Semi-finals 7 June; Finals 28 June (Birmingham).

**SCCU Nominations**

**Open** 1 Essex, 2 Kent

**Minor Counties** 1 Herts, 2 Oxon. (All but the top four were “Minor”.)

**Under 175** 1 Essex, 2 Sussex

**Under 150** 1 Essex, 2 Herts

**Under 125** 1 Herts, 2 Sussex

**Under 100** 1 Surrey, 2 Essex

We hope to publish National-stage results in full, where they involve SCCU teams. Will match captains please go on sending them to the Bulletin.

“The SCCU tables refer to our opponents as Oxon although others prefer Oxford(shire).” - *Chessex*.

“Oxford’s wrong, and Oxfordshire’s long.” - SCCU Bulletin.

“We agree.” - The Post Office.

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **OPEN** | |
| **Cambs**\* 1.2.97 **Sussex**\*  1 M Turner 231 (B) 1 0 DH Cummings 219  2 J Parker 233 1 0 DB Graham 220  3 M Ferguson 223 ½ ½ B Cafferty 194  4 G Burgess 211 1 0 FJ Kwiatkowski 204  5 A Cohen 206 0 1 LE Rutherford 203  6 D Hassabis 199 0 1 GH James 194  7 D Cristinacce 200 0 1 AG Cooper -  8 M Thornton 186 1 0 PG Farr 184  9 N Noden 186 0 1 SJ Newman 183  10 D Rosenberg 183 ½ ½ MD Nicholas 181  11 M Davey 169 1 0 MO Costley 181  12 E Goodall 162 1 0 MR Stott 177  13 B Morgan “160”1 1 0 M Broom 178  14 B Weller 152 ½ ½ JC Mansson 178  15 N Pyper 150 ½ ½ RJ Almond 176  16 C Kreuzer 136 ½ ½ AO Pickersgill 175  (Cambridge) **9½ 6½**  **1** Not in grading list; believe the grade given is a couple of years old. | **Berks**\* 1.2.79 **Surrey**\*  HW Murphy 205 (B) 0 1 DL Bisby 204  PS Cooksey 194 1 0 JC Benjamin 199  DS Tucker 189 ½ ½ PD Kemp 195  Jovanka Houska 183 ½ ½ DB Rosen 190  AM Leech 183 0 1 ME Osborne 184  ACP Milnes 178 1 0 KD Richardson 182  Ian Duvall 174 1 0 DWW Gunter 181  IR Henderson 166 ½ ½ AK Punnett 179  PS Janota 167 0 1 RBE Bryant 178  JT Munday 170 0 1 KFH Inwood 178  Lee Davis 170 ½ ½ JM Shepley 173  MC Bowhay 168 ½ ½ Steven Retallick 170  BG Millis 158 0 1 Chris Briscoe 161  PR Maul 161 1 0 PD Dupré 160  MF Redmond 156 0 1 CRA Clegg 154  WP Tickner 151 0 1 Kevin Hurst 153  (Twyford) **6½ 9½** |
| **Kent**\*1.2.97 **Bucks**\*  1 PJ Morris 223 (W) ½ ½ AP Smith  2 DW Gormally 213 1 0 N Regan  3 RG Eales 1 0 J Beedle  4 John Naylor 202 1 0 M Armstrong  5 AL Mack 202 ½ ½ RD de Coverly  6 AE Hanreck 199 ½ ½ HP Hansen1  7 DM Moskovic 196 ½ ½ L Wooldridge  8 NF Dickensen 193 1 0 R O’Brien  9 RMR O’Kelly 191 1 0 W Hughes  10 PP Taylor 190 1 0 M Egby  11 JD Wager 191 1 0 S James  12 David Farndon 190 1 0 B Atkinson  13 JE Scholes 187 ½ ½ D Turner  14 JR Bayford 185 1 0 MS Vann  15 CB Rice 185 0 1 J Burke  16 Gordon Botley 180 1 0 def  (Charlton) **12½ 3½**  1  Could also be Hanzen, Hensen, Henzen. Kent say Hanson. | **Oxon**\*8.2.97 **Essex**\*  H Hunt 217 (B) ½ ½ JW Rogers 225  A Hunt 203 1 0 AP Lewis 212  J Hastings 197 1 0 M Twyble 208  M Rose 194 0 1 JP Manley 205  A Lewis 190 0 1 DA Sands 201  N Jakubovics 187 0 1 G Kenworthy 195  M Devereaux 188 0 1 J Burnett 190  T Dickinson 184 0 1 IJ Myall 184  R Starkie 180 0 1 W Saunders 181  J Stayt 175 0 1 RP White 178  G Chapman 174 ½ ½ R Parker 177  D Hackett 175 1 0 IBN Smith 173  D Bruce 158 ½ ½ DJ Millward 172  C Mocley 161 ½ ½ TD Coote 171  S Terry 165 1 0 CR Ramage 163  M Hannon - 0 1 TD Hebbes 156  (Long Hanborough) **6 10** |
| **Bucks**\*15.2.97 **Sussex**\*  1 J Beedle 187 (B) 0 1 DH Cummings 219  2 N Regan 187 1 0 DB Graham 220  3 MV Lambshire 194 0 1 FJ Kwiatkowski 204  4 M Armstrong 179 0 1 LE Rutherford 203  5 RD de Coverly 178 ½ ½ GH James 194  6 M Egby 162 0 1 KI Norman 195  7 RP Ginger 148 1 0 AG Cooper -  8 N Butland 144 0 1 SJ Newman 183  9 J Springall 150 ½ ½ MD Nicholas 181  10 S James 142 ½ ½ PG Farr 184  11 EW Bolduc 132 0 1 MO Costley 181  12 SL Turvey 128 0 1 MR Stott 177  13 A Laurence 146 1 0 M Broom 178  14 DJ Rurner 129 0 1 JC Mansson 178  15 J Burke 115 0 1 RJ Almond 176  16 R Thursby 131 1 0 AO Pickersgill 175  (Marlow) **5½ 10½**  All grades from Sussex | **Kent**\* 15.2.97 **Berks**\*  Philip J Morris 223 ½ ½ PS Cooksey 194  Daniel W Gormally 213 1 0 PJ Sharp 188  John Naylor 202 1 0 DS Tucker 189  Andrew Mack 202 1 0 I Duvall 174  Alan E Hanreck 199 1 0 I Henderson 166  RMR O’Kelly 191 ½ ½ MC Bowhay 168  Peter P Taylor 190 1 0 BG Millis 158  Alex (sic) Harakis 191 0 1 PR Maul 161  John Wager 191 ½ ½ DJ Lewis 146  David Farndon 190 1 0 M Colgate 130  Nathan Alfred 174 j 1 0 LB Varnam 114  John Sugden 189 1 0 def  James E Scholes 187 1 0 def  Chris (so!) Howell 187 1 0 def  Chris Rice 185 1 0 def  Stuart Williams 181 1 0 def  (Charlton) **13½ 2½** |
| 234:12  **Essex**\* 15.2.97 **Cambs**  1 K Bowden 228 (B) 0 1 JF Parker 233  2 JW Rogers 225 0 1 MJ Turner 231  3 AP Lewis 212 0 1 AJ Cohen 206  4 A Plüg - 1 0 D Cristinacce 200  5 D Coleman 205 1 0 S Larski 187  6 M Twyble 208 0 1 N Noden 187  7 JP Manley 205 1 0 def  8 D Sands 201 1 0 MH Thornton 186  9 G Moore 197 1 0 D Rosenberg 183  10 G Kenworthy 195 1 0 M Davey 169  11 J Burnett 190 1 0 C Howell 158  12 JC Moore 183 1 0 N Pyper 150  13 W Saunders 181 1 0 CRL Kreuzer 136  14 R Parker 177 1 0 def  15 DJ Millward 172 1 0 def  16 TD Coote 171 1 0 def  (Writtle) **12 4** | **Herts**\* 15.2.97 **Oxon**\*  Paul V Byway 199 ½ ½ A Hunt 203 (W)  Neil H Bradbury 205 ½ ½ M Rose 194  Jerry F Rudge 194 0 1 A Lewis 190  Phil G Maguire 189 1 0 T Dickinson 184  Kevin R Clark 185 1 0 R Starkie 180  Chiedu Maduekwe 193 1 0 D Lee 180  Alex N Ethelontis 180 ½ ½ G Chapman 174  Simon J Roe 181 1 0 J Wittman 172  Alistair M Simpson 189 1 0 J Stayt 175  Chris E Majer 177 0 1 D Bruce 158  Howard L Tebbs 179 ½ ½ S Jayakumar 176  John R Denton 176 1 0 S Terry 165  Geoff A Hollis 178 ½ ½ P Ball 150  Andrew Gilfillan 176 1 0 def  Steve Law 169 1 0 HAJ Searle 135  John Cook 162 ½ ½ W Tutty 115  (Stevenage) **11 5** |
| **Cambs**\*8.3.97 **Herts**\*  1 M Turner 231 (W) 1 0 Neil H Bradbury 205  2 J Parker 233 1 0 Jerry F Rudge 194  3 M Ferguson 223 ½ ½ Chiedu Maduekwe 193  4 A Cohen 206 ½ ½ Phil G Maguire 189  5 D Cristinacce 200 ½ ½ Kevin R Clark 185  6 A Hon 198 1 ½ ½ Chris E Majer 177  7 S Larski 182e2 0 1 Howard L Tebbs 179  8 N Noden 187 1 0 John R Denton 176  9 D Rosenberg 183 ½ ½ Andrew Gilfillan 176  10 I Gooding 176 1 0 Paul D Hatchett 172  11 M Davey 169 ½ ½ Stephen J Tovey 171  12 P Webster 161 0 1 Philip J Gregory 170  13 B Weller 152 ½ ½ Steve Law 169  14 N Pyper 150 ½ ½ Terry J Turner 155  15 C Krewzer 136 0 1 Tim Sinkinson 157  16 S Essen 1303 0 1 David E Bower 157  (Cambridge) **8 8**  1 Herts say 200e. It does *look* like the A Hon who’s 195. 2 Estimate from Herts. Cambs say 187 in brackets. 3Cambs say 134. | **Sussex**\*8.3.97 **Essex**\*  DH Cummings 219 ½ ½ A Plüg 214e (W)  APH Kinsman 217 1 0 AP Lewis 212  DB Graham 220 0 1 MS Twyble 208  FJ Kwiatkowski 204 1 0 JP Manley 205  LE Rutherford 203 0 1 DA Sands 201  GH James 194 0 1 GI Moore 197  AG Cooper - ½ ½ JH Hodgson 194  SJ Newman 183 1 0 J Burnett 190  MD Nicholas 181 1 0 JC Moore 183  PG Farr 184 1 0 WL Saunders 181  MO Costley 181 0 1 RP White 178  MR Stott 177 ½ ½ R Parker 177  M Broom 178 0 1 PL Williamson 173  RJ Almond 176 0 1 DJ Millward 172  MJ Reddie 174 ½ ½ R Heppinstall 174  SON Hawes 167 1 0 T Hebbes 156  (Brighton) **8 8** |
| **Berks**\* 8.3.97 **Bucks**\*  1 PS Cooksey 194 0 1 AP Smith 190 (B)  2 KD Smallbone 185 ½ ½ J Beedle 187  3 J Houska 183 ½ ½ RD de Coverly 178  4 AM Leech 183 1 0 M Armstrong 179  5 ACP Milnes 178 0 1 H Hansen 180  6 IR Henderson 166 0 1 A Robbings 173  7 PS Janota 167 1 0 SC Scopes 161  8 L Davis 170 0 1 DF Hill 170  9 MC Bowhay 168 1 0 M Egby 162  10 PR Maul 161 ½ ½ R Fox -  11 DJ Lewis 146 ½ ½ N Butland 144  12 MF Redmond 156 0 1 A Kelly 151  13 WP Tickner 151 0 1 JH Springall 150  14 Alan B Jones 147 0 1 BW Atkinson 147  15 NW Dennis 145 ½ ½ DJ Turner 129  16 Mario Houska 128 1 0 S Turvey 128  (Twyford) **6½ 9½** | **Oxon**\* 8.3.97 **Surrey**\*  Harriet V Hunt 217 (B) 1 0 def  Adam C Hunt 203 1 0 def  Matthew Rose 194 ½ ½ Daniel B Rosen 190  Alex Lewis 190 0 1 Marcus E Osborne 184  Nick S Jakubovics1 187 ½ ½ Alan K Punnett 179  Tim R Dickinson 184 ½ ½ David R Sedgwick 176  Ray J Starkie 180 0 1 Julien M Shepley 173  Graham W Chapman 174 0 1 Sean Thrower 172  Jochen Wittman 172 ½ ½ Philip M Stimpson 171  Dave G Hackett 175 1 0 Paul JJP Gibbons 171  Nick C Jones 167 1 0 Chris Briscoe 161  Dave J Bruce 158 ½ ½ Paul D Dupré 160  Carl Moxley 161 ½ ½ Chris RA Clegg 154  Sean Terry 165 ½ ½ Ian S McLeod 139  Alan Short 142 ½ ½ Fred C Manning 137  Lester R Millin 176 1 0 def  (Long Hanborough) **9 7**  1 Oxon have Ja*c*kubovics |

234:13

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| **UNDER 175** | |
| **Kent**\* 25.1.97 **Essex**\*  1 RJ Everson 173 (W) 0 1 Paul L Wiliamson 173  2 GM Brown 170 1 0 Larry E Marden 173  3 S Firth 170 ½ ½ David J Millward 172  4 JR Cordner 167 0 1 Trevor D Coote 171  5 SJ Pullinger 163 0 1 Peter C Doye 166  6 A Atkinson 165 1 0 Sid M Kalinsky 165  7 AG Ropek 161 1 0 Terry D Whitton 165  8 MD Brougham 159 ½ ½ Colin R Ramage 163  9 SJ Peters 159 1 0 Neville H Twitchell 162  10 JH Lewin 159 0 1 Ian D Hunnable 161  11 G Josephs 158 0 1 Les J Crane 159  12 SGB James 156 ½ ½ Andy King 159  13 SJ Jacob 155 ½ ½ Ken W Clow 158  14 P Rutland 152 ½ ½ Steve M Williams 157  15 NC Mackett 152 ½ ½ Richard J Weeber 154  16 AJ Sherriff 148 ½ ½ Roberto E Waldteufel 152  (Sevenoaks) **7½ 8½** | **Sussex**\*22.2.97 **Essex**\*  John A Dodgson 170 (W) 1 0 Paul L Williamson 173  Michael J Reddie 174 ½ ½ Larry E Marden 173  Chris Hann 171 ½ ½ David J Millward 172  Robert V Elliston 173 ½ ½ Peter C Doye 166  SON Hawes 167 ½ ½ Colin R Ramage 163  Paul A Batchelor 167 1 0 Neville H Twitchell 162  Ian G Judd 168 0 1 Ian D Hunnable 161  Andrew SJ Fleming 165 1 0 Andy King 159  James Graham 164 1 0 Ken W Clow 158  Evki Pesonen 164 1 0 Steve M Williams 157  David L Roberts 155 0 1 Ray Purse 154  G Scamardella 155 ½ ½ Richard J Weeber 154  WH Partridge 151 0 1 John A Philpott 153  PR Selby 148 ½ ½ Mark Weighell 151  P Greaves 147 0 1 Paul R Barclay 148  R Daniel Hirsch 138 1 0 John White 148  (Crawley) **9 7** |
| **Essex**\* 1.3.97 **Surrey**\*  1 P Williamson 173 (B) ½ ½ J Shepley 173  2 R Heppinstall 174 1 0 J Marley 172  3 T Coote 171 0 1 P Stimpson 171  4 L Marden 173 0 1 D Spearman 165  5 DJ Millward 172 1 0 C Briscoe 161  6 S Kalinsky 168 1 0 P Dupré 160  7 N Twitchell 162 ½ ½ D Tuddenham 156  8 I Hunnable 161 1 0 RJ Wilcox 154  9 L Crane 159 0 1 CRE (so) Clegg 154  10 A King 159 1 0 PR Archer 151  11 K Clow 158 ½ ½ S Jones 150  12 A Hartland 155 1 0 AN Smith 149  13 R Purse 154 0 1 STK Wilkinson 143  14 R Weeber 154 ½ ½ CPL Parker 142  15 M Weighell 151 0 1 K Mehendale 135  16 R Waldteufel 152 1 0 def  (Wanstead) **9 7** | **Kent** 15.3.97 **Surrey**\*  NSW Alfred 174 (B) 1 0 JM Shepley 173  S Firth 170 ½ ½ JC Marley 172  RJ Everson 173 0 1 D Spearman 165  MR Taylor 166 0 1 C Briscoe 161  DJR Barnes 167 1 0 PD Dupré 160  JR Cordner 167 0 1 N Maxwell 159  def 0 1 S Macdonald-Ross 157  A Atkinson 165 1 0 A Andrews 155  JJM Thomson 160 ½ ½ CRA Clegg 154  MD Brougham 159 ½ ½ RJ Wilcox 154  SGR James 156 0 1 PS Brown 153  PC Rutland 152 0 1 PE Barnard 147  NC Mackett 152 1 0 STK Wilkinson 143  DR Heath 152 ½ ½ IS McLeod 139  AJ Sherriff 148 0 1 JB Hawson 138  PD Poland 112 ½ ½ FC Manning 137  (Sevenoaks) **6½ 9½** |
| **Sussex**\* 8.2.97 **Kent**  1 John A Dodgson 170 ½ ½ NSW Alfred 174 (B)  2 Michael J Reddie 174 ½ ½ GM Brown 170  3 Chris Hann 171 1 0 RJ Everson 173  4 SON Hawes 167 0 1 S Firth 170  5 Paul A Batchelor 167 0 1 JR Cordner 167  6 Ian P Judd 168 0 1 SJ Pullinger 163  7 Andrew SJ Fleming 165 0 1 A Atkinson 165  8 James Graham 164 1 0 AG Ropek 161  9 Erki Pesonen 164 ½ ½ MD Brougham  10 Ian G Kelly 163 ½ ½ 1 JH Lewin 159  11 James P Munday 159 1 0 SJ Jacob 155  12 David G Ratcliffe 157 ½ ½ PC Rutland 152  13 WH Partridge 151 0 1 NC Mackett 152  14 Laurence Rackham 150 ½ ½ RJA Winterburn 149  15 P Greaves 147 1 0 RE Lane 144  16 R Daniel Hirsch 138 1 0 def  (Crawley) **8 8**  1 See page 2 |  |

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| **UNDER 150** | |
| **Kent**\* 25.2.97 **Surrey**\*  1 Trevor Baldwin 149 ½ ½ Paul Barnard 147 (B)  2 Andrew Mata 148 1 0 Kevin Wilkinson 143  3 Alan Sherriff 148 ½ ½ Colin Parker 142  4 Mike Wiltshire 146 ½ ½ Rod Bell 139  5 Alvin Kissoon 145 1 0 Ian McLeod 139  6 Simon Moate 145 ½ ½ John Hawson 138  7 Mark Jordan 145 1 0 Fred Manning 137  8 Clive Davis 145 0 1 Krishna Mehendale 135  9 Trevor Jarrett 141 1 0 John Marshall 134  10 Peter Finch 141 ½ ½ Jim Hale 133  11 Paul Challis 141 ½ ½ Claire Thrower 133  12 Rosalind Kieran 138 ½ ½ Don Baldock 126  13 Ian Hames 139 1 0 Jo Hart 124  14 Paul Bradford 136 ½ ½ Lucy Broomfield 120  15 David Gleed 136 1 0 Howard Curtis 111  16 Stephen Casement 130 1 0 Alex Kelly SG1  75  (Charlton) **11 5**  1 Surrey Girls? | **Surrey**\* 15.2.97 **Essex**\*  Andrew N Smith 149 0 1 PR Barclay 148 (B)  Paul Barnard 147 1 0 def  Jed1 Stone 147 1 0 TG Winter 145  Kevin Wilkinson 143 0 1 David Smith 145  Rod Bell 139 ½ ½ LJ Burtt 144  Ian McLeod 139 0 1 S Harwood 143  John Hawson 138 ½ ½ DJ Payne 144  Fred Manning 137 0 1 P Zammit 139  Krishna Mehendale 135 0 1 DJ Rawlings 139  John Marshall 134 0 1 D Cannan 137  Jim1 Hale 133 0 1 MRA Murrell 136  John W Halls 129 0 1 A Drake 135  Don Baldock 126 ½ ½ I Maclachlan 132  Jo Hart 124 ½ ½ D Bird 126  Howard Curtis 111 1 0 def  Alex Kelly 75 0 1 Iain Gunn 116  (Sutton) **5 11**  1  And the Bulletin always thought *Hale* was Jed! |
| **Herts**\* 15.2.97 **Sussex**\*  1 A Fulton 148 (W) ½ ½ PR Selby 148  2 S Charles 146 ½ ½ PA Greaves 147  3 R Gordonsmith 147 1 0 DJ Hopson 146  4 S Weston 146 1 0 LJ Cannon 144  5 P Lawrence 142 ½ ½ PN Kington 143  6 K Hardy 142 0 1 BJ Izzard 141  7 D Webb 141 1 0 RC Grundy 141  8 S Cook 141 1 0 NS Clarke 145  9 R Clayton 141 ½ ½ RD Hirsch 138  10 R Cooper 138 1 0 MR Hickman 134  11 M Waltham 136 1 0 TJ Woods 132  12 D Price 141 0 1 CC Dunn 131  13 S Blackburn 139 ½ ½ SJ Elgie 130  14 C Lake 137 ½ ½ PH Benson 128  15 P Myers 136 0 1 EJ Hillier 127  16 J Marshall 134 0 1 K Carter 126  (Stevenage) **9 7** |  |

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| **UNDER 125** | |
| **Surrey**\* 25.1.97 **Kent**\*  1 L Evboumwan 124 1 0 S Chick 120 (B)  2 Chris Goode 123 ½ ½ W Stock 116  3 G Morse 121 0 1 P Thomas 117  4 R Balatoni 121 0 1 M Jones 112  5 J McGing 120 1 0 DC Picton  6 D Weston-Lewis 118 1 0 DG Battye 114  7 R Fisher 118 1 0 I Stoneman 112  8 DH Ramsey 117 1 0 A Hargreaves 113  9 J Xuereb 116 0 1 PD Poland 112  10 K Lovel 116 0 1 D Beaven 108  11 D Howes 115 1 0 IC Smith 109  12 H Wylie 114 1 0 IB Bryan 103  13 H Curtis 111 1 0 K Hendrikse 104  14 R Wright 109 1 0 R Thompson 98  15 PM Shaw 105 0 1 AP Fabian 97  16 A Thake 104 1 0 def  (Sutton) **10½ 5½** | **Essex**\* 15.2.97 **Herts**  R Davies 124 (B) 1 0 T Wright 124  P Flint 121 ½ ½ R Edmonds 123  C Barrett 120 0 1 M Connock 121  E Walker 120 j 0 1 A Phillips 122  J Spencer 117 1 0 M Flatt 120  M Ashkettle 116 0 1 L D’Costa 118  I Rook 14 0 1 J Moore 118  M Grieve 113 ½ ½ G Lunn 119  D Allen 87 j ½ ½ M Read 109  R Ianetta 110 0 1 K Baggs 115  J Figgins 109 0 1 J Leake 110  G Benger 108 1 0 D Belton 118  G Walker 108 j 0 1 P Laskier 114  P Pattison 102 1 0 T O’Sullivan 111  E Lodge 99 0 1 C Louisa 109  C Turner 83 j 1 0 R Harrison 107  (Wanstead) **6½ 9½** |

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| **Surrey**\* 22.2.97 **Essex**\*  1 L Evboumwan 124 0 1 R Davies 124 (B)  2 Chris Goode 123 1 0 P Flint 121  3 R Balatoni 121 0 1 C Barrett 120  4 J McGing 120 1 0 E Walker 120 j  5 D Weston-Lewis 118 1 0 J Spencer 17  6 R Fisher 118 ½ ½ M Ashkettle 116  7 K Lovel 116 ½ ½ R Giddens 115 j  8 J Xuereb 116 1 0 M Grieve 113  9 D Howes 115 0 1 R Ianetta 110  10 H Wylie 114 0 1 J Figgins 109  11 H Curtis 111 0 1 G Benger 108  12 R Wright 109 1 0 G Walker 108 j  13 W Waterton 110 1 0 P Pattison 102  14 PM Shaw 105 0 1 R Payne 99 j  15 A Thake 104 1 0 D Allen 87 j  16 LI Makinson 97 ½ ½ C Turner 83 j  (Sutton) **8½ 7½**  Friendly (Grader please grade):  D Parsons 117 0 1 R Joyce 125  Match played early by agreement, to avoid clashes | **Herts** 1.3.97 **Sussex**\*  Thomas C Wright 124 ½ ½ PJ Helliwell 119 (W)  C Kidd 124 1 0 BK Horscroft 120  MB Connock 121 0 1 Ben McManus 123  A Phillips 122 ½ ½ G McCulloch 123  M Flatt 120 ½ ½ IA Richardson 118  S Kumar 119 ½ ½ Alan J Quant 119  J Moore 118 0 1 PD Britton 116  T Lawson 116 0 1 CJ Parker 115  L D’Costa 118 1 0 Toby Rolls 110  David Waltham 118 0 1 DB Wilkinson 118  C Louisa 111 1 0 MA Bryant 115  G Lunn 119 ½ ½ Michael Curtis 110  K Baggs 115 1 0 SP Deere 114  John A Leake 110 ½ ½ C Holcombe 108  Paul Laskier 114 ½ ½ David Simpkins 120  QA Latif 114 1 0 N Pestelle 111  (St Albans) **8½ 7½** |
| **Oxon**\*8.3.97 **Kent**\*  1 A Collins 124 (W) ½ ½ S Chick 120  2 R Carr 124 0 1 P Childs 121  3 D Metcalfe 104 0 1 P Thomas 117  4 R Jacobs 119 0 1 N Lister 116  5 A Heslop 119 1 0 M Jones 112  6 M Duck 117 0 1 G Battye 114  7 G Spalding 115 1 0 PD Poland 112  8 W Tutty 115 1 0 I Stoneman 112  9 M Brindley 108 1 0 CG Gregory 111  10 F Fallon 97 1 0 IC Smith 109  11 J Booker 104 0 1 IB Bryan 103  12 D Buckland 100 0 1 DSJ Shipp 103  13 J Buchanan 90 0 1 JC Robertson 103  14 G Morris 87 0 1 AP Fabian 98  15 C David 71 1 0 BJ Thatcher 96  16 M Creasey 74 1 0 def  (Long Hanborough) **7½ 8½** | **Herts**\* 22.3.97 **Kent**  I Wright 124 (W) 1 0 P Childs 123  R Edmonds 123 1 0 P Thomas 117  M Connock 121 1 0 N Lister 116  A Phillips 122 ½ ½ M Jones 112  M Flatt 120 0 1 G Battye 114  L D’Costa 118 1 0 PD Poland 112  I Sims 121 1 0 D Beavens (so) 108  A Gore 120 1 0 CG Gregory 111  S Kumar 119 1 0 IC Smith 109  J Moore 118 ½ ½ IB Bryan 103  C Lovista 111 1 0 J Robertson 103  I Lowson 116 1 0 K Hendrikse 104  J Leake 110 1 0 AP Fabian 97  G Lunn 119 1 0 B Thatcher 96  P Laskier 114 1 0 def  D Belton 118 1 0 def  (St Albans) **14 2** |

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| **UNDER 100** | |
| **Herts**\* 15.2.97 **Surrey**\*  1 Adam Humphreys 97 ½ ½ Edward Radford 99 (W)  2 Gary Halsall 99 0 1 Bill Upton 95  3 Frank Batchelor 80 0 1 Laila Tillett 89  4 David Bate-Smith 89 1 0 def  5 Peter Tuck 88 1 0 Kate Feld 83  6 Keith Sears 87 1 0 Graham Curtis 88  7 Nick Chandler 87 1 0 David Morgan -  8 James Palmer 82 1 0 Ben Morgan 84  9 Mike Kaye e80 0 1 Harvey Murray-Smith 66  10 Simon Morris e80 0 1 Richard Davey 84  11 Alan Brewis 73 0 1 Marian Warner 77  12 Stephen Burt e70 0 1 Chris Baker 69  (Stevenage) **5½ 6½** | **Surrey**\* 1.3.97 **Essex**\*  Edward Radford 99 0 1 Ron Prickett 99 (B)  Bill Upton 95 ½ ½ Bijan Mehanjedad1 99  Chetan Deva 97 1 0 Robert Payne 98  Maurice Green 94 0 1 Lawrence Trent 95  Oliver Wilson 96 0 1 Ezra Lutton 95  Chris Dixon 93 1 0 Fred Riley 88  Lana Boztas 93 1 0 John Sneezby2 84  Bernard Sweetman 89 1 0 Josiah Lutton 81  Laila Tillett 89 1 0 Stewart Trent 82  Storm Ballard - 0 1 Alan Trent 80e  Philip Cable 89 1 0 Heather Walker 69  Graham Curtis 88 0 1 3 Jason Klimach 64  (Sutton) **6½ 5½**  1 The Essex spelling. They still disagree with the grading list, but in a different way this time.  2  Surrey say Sneesby. The published list doesn’t know him, spelt either way. The unpublished list has a John Sneesby (not Sneezby) but doesn’t give him a grade. It says he’s an U12. Maybe 84’s his last published grade or something?  3 Essex give this result as a win for both sides, but agree the totals. |

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**NATIONAL CLUB**

**Open** **Rd 3** Barbican 3 3 \*Ilford; Bedford 4 2 Hull; Bradford ½ 5½ Crowwood; Cardiff 5 1 Gloucester; Edinburgh West 2½ 3½ Slough; Charlton 3 3 \*Crowthorne; Southbourne 1 5 Guildford; Wood Green 3½ 2½ Cambridge Univ. **Rd 4 (Quarter-final)** Crowthorne v Wood Green; Crowwood v Ilford; Guildford v Cardiff; Slough v Bedford

**Plate Rd 1** Atticus 4 2 Hounslow; Bristol & Clifton 5½ ½ Cosham; Cowley 2½ 3½ Atherton + others not played, last we heard. **Rd 2 (Quarter-final)** Atherton v Atticus; Maidstone or Coulsdon & Purley v Hastings; Hayes Kent v Bristol & Clifton. Bye: Nidum Liberals or Mushrooms.

**Major Rd 3** Ashfield\* 2½ 2½ Liverpool; Basingstoke 3½ 1½ Bedford; Gt Lever 4½ ½ Barrow; Hastings 2 3 Cosham; Hereford 3 2 Thornbury; Tunbridge Wells 2½ 2½ \*Southbourne; Warley Quinborne\* 2½ 2½ St Albans; Wood Green 2½ 2½ \*Southend. **Rd 4 (Quarter-final)** Cosham v Southend; Gt Lever v Ashfield; Southbourne v Basingstoke; W Quinborne v Hereford.

**Plate** **Rd 2** Maidstone 1½ 3½ Wanstead & Woodford; Slough 3 2 Coulsdon & Purley; Syston 2 3 Grimsby & District + 1 result delayed. **Rd 3 (Semi-final)** Grimsby & District v Morecambe or Bradford; Slough v Wanstead & Woodford.

**Intermediate** and **Minor**: Rd 3 results expected any time!

**THE NEW LAWS OF CHESS**

come into force on the 1st July 1997. Practical changes:

* If the position is such that neither player can possibly checkmate, the game is drawn.
* You are not obliged to write your opponent’s move down before replying to it. But you may not move unless your previous move has been recorded.
* The offer of a draw must be recorded (“=”) on the scoresheet.
* The scoresheet “shall be visible to the arbiter at all times”. Not sure whether this means you can no longer write your move down, hide it, and go on thinking.
* You are not allowed to leave the venue without the arbiter’s permission. If it’s your move, you are not even allowed to leave the “playing area”. (Please sir...) They dropped the bit saying you could hardly speak to your opponent or anyone else.
* Incorrect draw claims (50-move or repetition): the arbiter adds three minutes to your opponent’s time. He also deducts three minutes from yours (or halves your time, if you’ve got less than 6 minutes left).
* Illegal moves: QPF. First offence, your opponent gets an extra two minutes. Second offence in the same game, another two minutes. Third offence, you lose.

**OBITUARY: JOHN DAVID WOOD** 13.10.36 - 6.3.97

John Wood moved to Oxfordshire in 1968 to take up a teaching post at King Alfred’s Comprehensive School, Wantage. He joined Wantage Chess Club, which at that time boasted one team. He was soon made secretary, and retained the position until his untimely death.

The Wantage Club grew to three teams, and benefited from the fact that he was also the manager of the Church Hall. For the past 11 years, John Wood also captained the Oxfordshire Chiltern Cup Team.

In 1992 John escorted four Oxford Juniors to Bonn to play in an U20 tournament as part of the Oxford - Bonn exchange. As a teacher of foreign languages, he was the ideal person to escort the group. He also used his language skills to the benefit of the County when he entertained Mr and Mrs Suetin when they visited Oxfordshire to update some books for Pergamon. Suetin gave a 10-board clock simul at Cowley Chess Club against leading Juniors from Oxon and Berks, after which a tour of the Oxford shops was undertaken.

On Friday March 14, a packed church for his funeral at Charlton, Wantage, bore testimony to the high regard in which John was held by his church, his chess playing friends, and his past pupils and colleagues. He will be missed. LRM

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**CONGRESS DIARY**

Apr 1-3 MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR U18,13,11,9. R Brugge, 16 Wootton Way, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4QU 01628 36276

5-6 SOUTH HERTS at St Albans. R Claret, 7 The Park, St Albans, Herts AL1 4RU 01727 867295

6 KENSINGTON Rapid. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

11-13 NOTTINGHAM. J Collins 01773 760852

12 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU

12 KENT LADIES CHAMPIONSHIPS at Bexleyheath. Open, U100. C Higgins, 3 Charterhouse Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3YE 01732 457740

12 BEXLEYHEATH JUNIOR. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

13 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031

18-20 RHYL. Dr H Jones, 17 Bryntirion Drive, Prestatyn, Clwyd LL19 9NT 01745 854110

19 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

20 RICHMOND RAPID. R James, 95 Lyndhurst Avenue, Twickenham TW2 6BH 0181 898 1190

25-27 NORFOLK at Norwich. Francis Bowers 01406 370166

26 PRUDENTIAL at READING. Gordon Caskie 01189 615637

26-27 4NCL WEST BROMWICH. 4NCL Weekend Congress, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF

May 3 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

3-5 THAMES VALLEY. A Laurence, 62 Langham Gardens, Ealing W13 8PZ 0181 991 0120

3-5 DART VALLEY (S Devon). B Fairbairn, Peake Cross, Dartington, Totnes, S Devon TQ9 6DH 01803 862313

10-11 MILL HILL. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080

11 LLOYDS BANK NATIONAL GIRLS SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS at Hampton, Middx. U18, U13,U11. Neil Clifton, 114 Windermere Rd, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2JB 0181 660 8564

16-18 FROME. G Jepps, 27 Lockley Rd, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA4 5RD 01749 344191

17 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

17 SUSSEX JUNIOR U11 at Bury, near Pulborough, W Sussex. S Deere, 11 East Beeches Rd, Crowborough, E Sussex TN6 2AU 01892 654494

17 EARLEY & READING RAPIDPLAY at Reading. TE Conlon, 491 Basingstoke Rd, Reading, Berks RG2 0JB 01189 868113

24-26 ESSEX. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 0181 270 9106

24-26 COTSWOLD at Stroud. RO Powis, Gordano, Farmhill Lane, Stroud, Glos GL5 4DD 01453 762518

24-26 MORECAMBE. FS Rushworth, 21 Douglas Drive, Morecambe, Lancs LA3 2LW 01524 859860

28 ROYSTON JUNIOR. JG Jones, 28 Hay Street, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts SG8 0PE 01763 853873

31-1 KENSINGTON Rapid. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456

**Quotes**

“In all disputes the tournament Arbiter’s decision is final. If you wish to appeal a decision...” - tournament leaflet

“He wasn’t sure about the rule for claiming draws in QPFs so I explained it to him. But he was a bit deaf, and by   the time I’d explained it his flag had fallen.” - a controller.

“4NCL dates should be easily memorable because of the nature of the people who play in the 4NCL.” - a 4NCL   official.

“Those of you involved with the grass roots...” - heard at a meeting of the BCF Management Board.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** *Checkpoint* (GMCCA) for January; *Chessex* for February / March; *ChessIns* for February; Surrey Girls Newsletter for February.

Issue 235 May 1997

A heroic attempt to get the May issue at least posted in May has led to parts of it being hastily typed and stuck together, and not even spell checked. (I can spell, but I can’t type.) So apologies for blunders. We’ll get the meetings out of the way first, as usual.

**BCF COUNCIL MEETING**

Birmingham, 26th April 1997

The annual Finance Meeting was attended by something like 50 people, though proxies and postal votes pushed it close to 200. It wasn’t entertaining, apart from the bits where needle crept in. But then, the main function of Council is to allow people to sound off. Main points, and reading it through we’re struck by how little was actually done in 4½ hours:

**(1) Voting**. It was agreed, just for this meeting, to use multiple voting throughout. Took the best part of half an hour to decide that. If you’re vague about single and multiple voting you won’t be the only one, which is mostly why they wanted to change it. People at the previous Council Meeting voted now one way, now the other, as fancy or confusion led them.

1. **Budget** went through unscathed.

**(3) Game Fee**. Standard fee went up from 23p to 25p per player per game, as proposed by the Management Board. Much discussion, but the vote was clear. If you want to know, it went: 26p 11 votes; 25p 112; 24p 31; 23p 32. The median vote takes it, and it’s not hard to see where the median comes when one answer gets more than half the votes. Rapidplay fee went up to 50% of standard, that is 12½p. (Management Board, after some deliberation, had proposed rounding it up to the next whole number of pence rather than down. Council saw no need to round it.)

Club internal games. Yes, well, the MB wanted to remove the Game Fee exemption. Discussion was long, heated, and pointless. Your Editor doubts if anyone had the slightest intention of being influenced by the debate, and mandated delegates generally won’t even have had the *right* to be. We’ll spare you the arguments; you know them. The MB proposal was lost by 88 votes to 106, approximately. (The exact numbers depended on which count you believed.) Mercifully, this saved us the bother of deciding what rate to charge. SCCU, as you know, supported the motion and would have voted for phased introduction. So we lost.

**(4) FIDE Delegate**. Another contested election, that makes two in two meetings. Candidates were Gerry Walsh of the NCCU, and Peter Wilson of Guernsey. They spoke, and answered questions, and Council elected Gerry Walsh by a substantial majority.

**(5) National Club Championship**. The Director of Home Chess had a string of proposals, including an upper grading limit in the “Open” of 214 and the introduction of a new section above that which would not be restricted to *bona fide* club members. Sound like anything to you? The proposals were controversial and shelved, but could be raised at the September Council Meeting. So no change for next season.

**(6) Restructuring of BCF Management Board**. This came up at quarter to six and it seemed as good a reason as any for your Editor to start packing his bags. (He didn’t want to be home too late. He still had the pairing cards and wall charts to do for a congress next day.) As he left, a spokesman for the working group was complaining that such an important matter should be left till the dying moments of a meeting. We’ve heard, since the meeting, that at the end of it people were pursuing the chairman with formal requests for a Special General Meeting. The BCF office confirms 14.5.97 that an SGM has indeed been formally requested, and it’s been fixed for Saturday 12th July in London. This clashes with your Editor’s School Fete, and it’s a toss-up.

**Postscript**

It didn’t come up at the Council Meeting, but buried in the Management Board papers for their morning session (and noticed there only *en passant*) was a paper from the Federation’s Development Unit. Mostly it was about Membership. First sentence: “With the grading system changing this is an appropriate time to consider a lower tier membership fee where players who didn’t pay would not have a published grade.” After a while your Editor worked out that they were talking about Direct Membership and, *as an innovation*, wanted to link it to grading. Italics ours; they don’t seem to enlarge on the point, but they must have known it was radical. Thought we’d been there before actually, a while back. We called it Registration, and non-publication of grades was tried in one or two Unions. And abandoned fairly quickly; we won’t rehearse the objections to it. We didn’t have Game Fee then. Presumably, since Game Fee is linked to grading as well, they’ll abolish it. They don’t seem to say, though. What sort of a think tank is this? Maybe they intend to have both, to triple the paperwork and quadruple the remarks about screwing people.

Heard later: they *do* intend to have both. Better re-phrase that. They intend to propose having both.

**SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive met on Friday 16th May 1995 at the Durham Castle. 15 attended. A few points of interest:

**(1) SCCU Secretary**. Basically, we haven’t got one. The incumbent - who took the job on reluctantly and never undertook to be zealous - has been inactive and lately uncontactable. We *need a Secretary*. Ideas, anyone?

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**(2) Grading**. Martin Cath said he thought the BCF system was verging on collapse. Important routine checks didn’t seem to be happening, and he feared a large crop of errors in the August grading list. Chris Howell said it

was becoming obvious how much the system had depended on Lorraine Harding, the old Grading Administrator. The computer programs are very old, not the sort of thing your average secretary works with, and she knew them. The new list was expected to be on time, with corners cut. They *are* re-writing the programs, but it’s hard to get news of progress. CIH, who is officially co-ordinating the programming team, had heard very little.

**(3) Juniors**. The Union has nominated one school for a BCET award; won’t name them till they get it. And it looks as though the SCCU U18 Jamboree will go ahead next year in JG Jones territory on the 7th March.

**(4) Fixtures** Secretary said there would be some changes in response to comments about imbalance. No details. Cambs and Oxon want their match to be the first one of the season so they can postpone it.

**(5) Equipment**. It’s all there, apart from a clock that walked in the Surrey Congress. This is quite rare in the Surrey Congress, apparently. Another organiser said his congress had lost several in two or three years. Some of the other clocks want mending. “Not worth spending money on”, someone said. The clocks are not, perhaps, in first-rate condition but most people seem to find them usable.

**(6) Money**. The Executive went through the draft accounts and budget in, shall we say, some detail. The budgeted deficit had turned into a “healthy” surplus. Won’t try to give details. The Junior Organiser, whose activities leave him well within budget, proposed giving £50 to EPSCA and £100 to the BCF Junior Squad for assistance with travel and other expenses of SCCU Juniors. No one voiced any objections to this. Oh, and it appears that chess is unlikely to become a sport till it’s in the Olympics and that’s not imminent.

**(7) U100 Trophy**. Following a donation by JA Philpott it was agreed to name this new trophy in commemoration of Harry Woolverton, a late stalwart of Essex chess.

**(8) Executive venue**. Not exactly of general interest, but there was some feeling that our regular meeting place was insufficiently central (and the wrong shape). Can’t say the Bulletin’s ever objected to it, when the lights are working. And it *is* a pub.

**(10)** **SCCU U180 Jamboree** had duly taken place (see page 11).

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Mr Haddrell**, 8.4.97

I have had reason to turn the spotlight on a question concerning ungraded players in a chess congress. It seems that fairness is struggling to prevail, and the congress controllers can only say, “What can we do?”.

I played in the “Major” (U145) section at the recent Surrey Easter Congress. My grade is 138. Two of my games were against ungraded players who, in my opinion, performed very much better than their estimated grades would suggest. I scored 4½ points out of 5 against the other players with a current grade, but lost both games against the ungraded players. One of them was allocated a grade of 113! and the other 121, and they both played about 30 or 40 points above these figures. At least they did against me, and the 121 player won his first four games.

The emergence of my good friend Michael Franklin in support of my complaint enabled me to summon up the energy to try to find a possible solution. Michael is firmly of the opinion that the ungraded should be obliged to enter the highest section below the “Open”. In the Surrey Congress, that would be the “Premier” (U170). This idea has much merit, although I can imagine a great deal of despondency on the face of a player graded, say, 169 if he lost to someone with an estimated grade of 113!

I thought the best solution was for the players without an authentic grade to be banned from entering congresses until such time as they had achieved a current grade by playing in league matches, official club tournaments or County games. Of course I appreciate that it makes life difficult if they are not members of a club.

Michael Franklin suggested that I write to Stewart Reuben to get his views on the matter and I duly sent a letter to Stewart. He replied promptly and I have thanked him for putting at my disposal his admirable advice. I am enclosing a photostat copy of his letter as I thought you might wish to publish these comments and invite the views of other Bulletin readers. Stewart Reuben has no objection to his letter being published.

Yours sincerely,

**John Hawson** Worcester Park

Ed: This letter has been shortened. SWR’s reply:

**Dear John**, 4.4.97

Thank you for your letter of 2 April. The matter which you raise has been discussed at great length many times, especially since I introduced grading restricted tournaments to Britain in 1968. Each event is a law unto itself so that how the matter is dealt with is at the discretion of the congress director, in this case Martin Cath.

I think it would be quite wrong to bar players from a Major prior to their achieving an established grade. Currently this can easily take more than a year. We need to attract players, if nothing else, otherwise entry fees 235:3

would continue to soar. It is perfectly possible to prevent such unestablished players winning the main prize money

- which Surrey does. However that doesn’t overcome the problem of their competing in the wrong section.

The solution lies in more regular grading lists. In the US your rating changes after each event. I have been in favour of something like this for over 20 years. By contrast I believe Martin Cath believes one grading list a year is quite adequate (I could be wrong, perhaps he believes more is simply unworkable).

The problem which concerns you directly is that some players have extremely inaccurate grades. Surely this will always be with us. At least we haven’t made the same mistake as the Americans. They have some tournaments with huge prize money that are restricted to players under a certain rating. This results in players deliberately seeking to falsify their rating and make it artificially lower. Even here some players do deliberately throw games when scoring poorly, so that their grade goes down.

In answer to the comment from the director, “What can we do about it?”, the answer is, bar anyone who is known to you to be considerably under-graded. A player was allowed in the Premier whose most recent proper grade was 210. He has a shadow grade of 169. He was only allowed to win a small fraction of the prize money, but still anybody who played him was meeting too strong an opponent. Here the problem is getting the information to the organiser.

I hope you still enjoyed the event and I look forward to seeing you next year, if not before.

Yours sincerely,

**Stewart Reuben**

Ed: - I’ve always thought frequent lists impracticable. The new grading system in the pipeline makes them sound much more plausible, if everyone co-operates. But how do you promulgate all the new grades? Congress organisers will have computers and modems, naturally. Congress players might not have. Any thoughts?

**Middlesex County Chess Association** 22.5.97

**Dear Mr Haddrell**,

We were somewhat concerned to note the innuendo and misinformation supplied as a part of one of the recent letters. (That from Neil Clifton, with the Editor’s comments, in the March 97 issue.) As a result of this we have checked our records and discovered that we are partially to blame.

We would like to set the record straight. The first official information was Tony Suttill’s letter published by you in September 94. This letter informed the SCCU of the problems the Middlesex County were experiencing.

We held a Special General Meeting on November 25th 1994. During the course of that meeting Mr Bruce Birchall was debarred from holding any position in Middlesex County Chess. This was passed by a substantial majority after a lengthy discussion. Mr Birchall had ample opportunity to defend his position. This information, and our resolution, should have been passed to the SCCU through your Bulletin. Please accept our apologies for our failure to do so at that time.

Other business was conducted, as required by the agenda. This included an alternative captain of the U100 team for the rest of that season; he was to take Mr Birchall’s place. Any other activities organised by Mr Birchall were delegated to him by Mr Ransome, our then Junior Organiser.

Mr Ransome retired at the end of that season. Since that time we have been unable to fill the post of Junior Organiser. A variety of reasons have been put forward as to why people cannot accept the post. Two people have subsequently admitted to me, personally, that they would have felt unable to contend with the degree of expected interference.

During the chess season of 95-96 Mr Birchall continued to organise the Middlesex Girls Squad. As far as Middlesex were concerned he did this as the SCCU Junior Organiser. Without our consent, nor our approval. They were unofficial teams and therefore probably infringing SCCU rules.

During the current season we received a letter from a parent complaining that we were preventing the Girls from playing chess. This was the first we had heard that they wished to play. It was also the first time we had a name and address of a team member. Mr Suttill, with my full approval, and after negotiations with the SCCU Junior Organiser (who quite rightly refused to accept an unofficial entry), then arranged for that same parent to be the captain of the Girls Squad. He, Mr Bowdery, has full powers. But he also has the responsibility to report, and account to the executive for the activities undertaken. The information imparted by you was therefore incorrect. As was the information from Mr Clifton.

I trust this letter will have answered everybody’s misunderstandings.

Yours sincerely,

**Zoë Ryle** Hon Sec

Ed: - The information imparted by me wasn’t about Mr Bowdery’s job description. What I said was that there seemed to have been a misunderstanding and Middx had, after all, no objection to Mr Birchall’s entering “unofficial” teams. Perhaps I just wasn’t paying attention, but this was the impression I got from both Mr Birchall and the Middx President shortly before the event. There’s been a lot of ignorance floating around. I didn’t know about Mr Bowdery’s appointment. I believe his letter to Middx was written about the same time as Neil Clifton’s to the Bulletin, not many weeks before the event on the 1st March; so presumably Mr Clifton didn’t know about it either. I note that Middx knew nothing of the girls’ wishes till Mr Bowdery wrote.

I am glad that Middx have clarified their position, and this subject is closed.235:4

**NATIONAL CLUB**

**OPEN**

**Quarter-finals** Crowthorne 1½ 4½ Wood Green; Crowwood 1 5 Ilford; Guildford 5 1 Cardiff; Slough 4 2 Bedford

**Semi-finals** Wood Green v Slough; Ilford v Guildford (ugly!). Should be completed by now.

Plate

**Quarter-finals** Atherton w/o def Atticus; Maidstone 4 2 Hastings & St Leonards; Hayes Kent 4 2 Bristol & Clifton. Bye: Nidum Liberals.

**Semi-finals** Hayes v Atherton; Nidum Liberals v Maidstone

**MAJOR**

**Quarter-finals** Prescot & Knotty Ash 3 2 Great Lever; Exeter 2 3 Maidstone; Kingston ½ 4½ Guildford; St Johns Ear 4½ ½ Abercynon. No. St Johns EAR 4½ ½ Abercynon.

**Semi-finals** St Johns EAR 4 1 Prescot & KA; Maidstone 3½ 1½ Guildford

PLATE

**Quarter-finals** Dista 2 3 Undercliffe; Hereford 3 2 Teignmouth; Southampton 2½ 2½\* Eastbourne; Hastings 2 3 Kings Head

**Semi-finals** Undercliffe 4 1 Hereford; Kings Head 2 3 Eastbourne

**INTERMEDIATE**

**Quarter-finals** Cosham 1½ 3½ Southend; Gt Lever 3 2 Ashfield; Southbourne 2 3 Basingstoke; Warley Quinborne 1½ 3½ Hereford

**Semi-finals** Hereford v Gt Lever; Southend v Basingstoke

PLATE

**Quarter-finals** Grimsby & District 2 3 Morecambe; Slough 3 2 Wanstead & Woodford

**ESSEX**: First Eastbrook Open Team Blitz 23rd March 1997. 1 Avalon 33½/40; 2 Writtle 29½... 21 teams of four. Yes, a one-day 10-round Swiss!

**KENT** Finals Day at Sevenoaks 18th May 1997

**County Cup** Charlton 5 1 Maidstone; **Lewis Cup** Dartford & Swanley II 3½ 2½ Rainham II; **Stevenson Cup** Rainham III 3½ 2½ Thanet II; **En Passant** Charlton IV 3½ 2½ Hayes IV; **Harvey Cup** Maidstone V 3½ 2½ Rainham IV; **Tom Fuller Cup** Kilndown IV 3 1 Danson III

The Individual Finals are supposed to get played at Finals Day as well. Or before, if those involved are playing in a team Final. In practice it doesn’t happen much, and it didn’t happen at all this year.

**CHILTERN LEAGUE** 1996-7: final positions

**Adults** 1 Herts 8/9; 2 Oxon 7; 3 Berks 6; 4 Bucks 3. **Juniors** 1 Bucks 4/7; 2 Herts 2; 3 Berks 0

**CONGRESS RESULTS**

Time to repeat an old request. One organiser - make that two now - sent results in (apparently) Order of Prizes Won. So Jim and Fred were 3rd= on 4/6. Only they weren’t, because further down you came to Sheila with 4½ and they’d listed it as a Grading Prize. And then a couple more players on 4 but they’d won grading prizes too. Then another one, with a different grading prize. Please don’t do this. Finishing order, dammit. If you want to say who’s won grading prizes (and why not?), you still can.

While we’re about it, please give date and venue and grading limits (not just “Major”), and players’ clubs. Grades as well if you like. One organiser did, this time, and it seems like a good idea. Say how many played in each section. Don’t want to know how many *entered*. Unless you’d like to list the ones who didn’t turn up, for publication. I’ll publish it.

**5th GUILDFORD RAPIDPLAY** 16th March 1997

**Premier** (Open: 27 ent) 1 Michael Hennigan (London) 5½/6; 2 Hamid Ksdhi (Liverpool) 5; 3-6 Simon Williams (Farnham), Peter Kemp (Streatham), Russell Granat (Wimbledon), Clive Frostick (Farnham) 4½... Grading U180 Simon Bibby 4. “Also Susan Lalic 3½; Desmond Tan 3; Ritan Hennigan, Noemi Lendvai 2½.”

**Challengers** (U166: 34 ent) 1 Rod Nixon (Dagenham) 5/6; 2-5 Chris Purry (Guildfrod), Toby Stock (Folkestone), Anthony Kelly (High Wycombe), Martin Cutmore (Wood Green) 4½... Grading U155 Ian Henderson (Reading) 4; U140 Andrew Morgan (Richmond) 3½. “Also Andrew Morgan 3½; P Dhonau, Matthew King, Pawel Koziol 3”

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**Intermediate** (U131: 34 ent) 1-3 Bernard Bruno (Worthing), Jeremy Cowle (Cobham), Adam Norton (Southampton) 5/6... Grading U120 Brian Cochrane (Portsmouth) 4½. Junior Paul Flack (Petersfield) 4½; Piers Cox (Winchester), David Ho (Maidstone) 4

**Amateur** (U101:47 ent) 1 Andrew Denny (Dagenham) 5½/6; 2-4 Richard Miles (Oxted), Ben Morgan (Whyteleafe), Peter Alexander (Richmond) 5... Grading U90 James Wingfield (Richmond); U75 Brian Edwards (Cranham); Ungraded P O’Hagan (Cheam) 4½. Junior Chris Rawlinson (Aldro) 4½

Correspondent supplied an address in Godalming, but no name.

**SOUTHEND** 28-31 March 1997

**Open** (72 ent) 1 Mark Hebden 245 7/7; 2-4 David Ledger 202, Eddie Dearing 195, Philip Gregory 170 5½; 5-9 Colin Crouch 222, David Sands 201, Adrian Jackson 195, Stephen Ledger 199, R Alan Barton 181 5; 10-16 Andrew Lewis, John Moore, John Anderson, Tim Hebbes, John Feavyour, Edmund Player, Leon Wooldridge 4½... Grading 171-185 RA Barton; 141-155 John Allison, Stan Harwood, Mark Weighell; 126-140 Jason Roberts; U126 John Bennett, John Jestico

**Swiss A** (18 ent) 1-4 David Tucker, James Stevenson, John Holland, Ross Walker 3½/5...

**Swiss B** (18 ent) 1-2 Ronald Gooch, Richard Nash 4/5; 3-4 David Cannan, Kevin Cook 3½...

**Swiss C** (20 ent) 1-3 Robert Arthurton, David Hutchings, Gerald Luetchford 4/5...

**Swiss D** (18 ent) 1-3 Roy Shaw, John Sneesby, Maurice Forward 4/5...

**Swiss E** (20 ent) 1 Carey Hemmings 4½/5; 2-3 Donald Cuckson, Nicholas Jellett 4...

**Lightning** (10 seconds a move: 34 pl) 1 Rod Nixon 6/6. “Prize - 1 litre of spirits. (I presume that the organiser had allowed for the possibility of a junior winning the event!)” Results *Chessex*

**SURREY EASTER** at Sutton, 28-31 March 1997

“The overall number of entries for the Surrey Congress was up on last year, 459 competitors playing in the seven events compared to 429 last year. *[Ed: - Not that many* bodies*. Some people played in more than one event.]* The Congress retains its position as the third-largest in the country (behind the British Championships and Hastings) and therefore the largest Congress for a weekend event. A quarter of the competitors are DIRECT members of the BCF, almost the same proportion as last year. The increased numbers allowed the Congress Committee to increase the prize fund by an extra £1100, and still make a modest profit.” Kings Head meanwhile have cancelled the 12th London Open because of falling numbers and substantial losses on the last two London Opens.

**Frank Winter Memorial Open** (101 pl “plus one filler”) 1 Michael Adams (Slough) 6/7; 2-6 Adam Collinson (Gambit Nottingham), Mark Ferguson (Cambridge Univ), Susan Lalic (Slough), Karl Mah (Wanstead: BCQ place), Timothy Wall (Coulsdon) 5½; 7-10 Richard A Bates, Anthony R Corkett, Stephen Dishman, Michael J Franklin 5... Grading (think that should be Rating) U2220 Matthew Anderton, Paul Cooksey, Alex Harakis, Costas Karayiannis, Richard McMichael, Kevin Richardson, Robert Willmoth 4½; U2100 William Lowe 4; Unrated Rawle Allicock, Alek Ethelontis, James Mansson, Philip Potopaev, Stephen Pullinger 3½. Junior U18 1 Richard Bates; 2-5 Daniel Bisby, Charles Cobb, Oliver Rosten, Simon Williams 4½; U15 Richard Palliser 3½. “Michael Adams was the clear favourite, even more so when GM James Plaskett withdrew through illness on the second day, but when he was held to draws by Mark Ferguson and Adam Collinson, there was a six-way tie going into the final round. However he emerged as the only winner from this group and becomes the highest-rated SCCU Individual Champion in the history of the Championship. There were 72 rated players in the Open; five more completed their full ratings and a further ten achieved a part-rating (all subject to ratification).” There was a second BCQ place, don’t know who got it. In the following sections, an ungraded (or E-graded) player was limited to winning at most one-third of first prize.

**Premier U171** (61 pl) 1 Martin Taylor (Rainham Kent) 6/7; 2-3 Kevin Hurst (Surbiton), Dominic Mackle (Hackney) 5½; 4-11 Kevin Bailey (Mitcham), Ricky Barcenas (Philippines), Paul Dupré (Cobham), Bobo Lo (Australia), Ilya Shevelev, Jeremy Kaye, Stephen MacDonald-Ross, Nicholas Mitchem 5... Grading U160 Jeremy Kaye, S MacDonald-Ross; U150 Nicholas Mitchem. Junior U18 Mark Campbell 4.

**Eric Weimann Memorial Major U145** (88 pl) 1 Anthony Brown (Hendon) 6½/7; 2 John Flanagan (South Norwood) 6; 3-5 Mark Finch (Eastbourne), Andrew Thake (Streatham), Mark Webley (Wallington) 5½... Grading U135 Paul Kennelly 5; U125 Paul O’Brien 5; U115 Andrew Curran 4½. Junior U18 Thomas Rendle 5; U14 Thirumurugagan Thiruchelvam 5.

**Minor A U120** (69 pl) 1-3 CJ it says here (Brighton), David Ho (Maidstone), Robert Springett (Rainham Kent) 4½/5; 4-8 Michael Gunn (Guildford), Dominic Howard (Charlton), Kenneth Smith (Sidcup), Hugh Wylie (Ashtead), Simon Thanesan (Maidstone) 4... Grading U111 John Baldwin, William McLaughlin, Martin Smedley 3½; U102 Trevor Dickerson, Norman Tidy 3. Junior U18 Simon Thanesan; U14 Peter Titmas 3½

**Minor B U120** (51 pl) 1 Ray Robinson (Streatham) 5/5; 2 Andrew Bigg (Hayes Kent) 4½; 3-5 Ben Chamberlain (Richmond Juniors), Muhammed Daood (Coulsdon), William Philpott (London N8) 4... Grading U110 Dieter Beavan (so), Julian Ward 3½; U103 Michael Gunn, Russell Scott 3. Junior U18 Leighton Powell, David Waltham; U13 Peter Titmas, David Zoubaida 3

**Novice A Under 100** (56 pl) 1-4 Thomas Boesen (Hayes Middx), Tristan Clayton (Cambridge Univ), Chris Dixon (Ashtead), Keith Findley (Birchington) 4½/5... Junior U18 Jessie Gilbert 4; U12 Leila Nathoo 3½

**Novice B Under 100** (34 pl) 1 Konrad Sanders (Lewisham) 4½/5; 2 Tristan Clayton (Cambridge Univ) 4; 3-10 David Bate-Smith (Barnet), Martin Garrod (Portsmouth), Laurence Jones (Beckenham), Danielle Wells (Petts Wood), David Wheatley (Broadstairs), Ben Roberts, James Wingfield, Jonathan Zoubaida 3½... Junior U18 Ben

235:6

Roberts, James Wingfield; U15 Jonathan Zoubaida

**Special Prizes**: Ladies Susan Lalic 78.6% (Open); Jessie Gilbert 80% (Novice A). Veterans Michael Franklin 71.4% (Open); Family 1 Leila and Karim Nathoo 70%; 2-3 David and Kwok Wai Ho, James and John McKenna 65%. Best Game to be announced. Results Martin Cath

**SOUTH HERTS** at St Albans 5-6 April 1997

**“Premier”** 1-2 Eddie Dearing (Hertford), Gary Kenworthy (Barbican) 4/5; 3-7 Abimbola Adelaja (Hackney), John Anderson (Grays), Paul Georghiou (Barnet), Alan A Smith (White Swan), Alan P Spice (Cardiff) 3...

**“Challengers”** 1 JM Shepley (Guildford) 4½/5; 2-5 Philip Bonafont (Berkhamsted), Martin Cutmore (Wood Green), Desmond TH Tan (St Pauls), Andrew H Kitchlew 4; 6-9 David Parr, Adam Raoof, Mark Rogerson, Pritpel Thethi 3½...

**“Major”** 1-2 Dave Holmes (Eastleigh), Peter Lim 4½/5; 3-5 Russell Goodfellow (Tunbridge Wells), Alan Prince (Edinburgh Civil Service), Edward B Sandercock 4; 6-12 Thomas Allen (Powdermill), Simon Armour (Southend High), Sam Essen (Queens College Cambridge), David Faldon (Hendon), Paul Lawrence (St Albans), Mir Mohamed Wali (Chess Forum), Donald Quinn 3½...

**“Intermediate”** 1-4 Richard G Carter (Letchworth), Stephen Burridge (Colchester), Tony Heslop (Leys), J Brief 4½/5; 5-7 Ross AC Mooring (Richmond Juniors), Peter T Housden, Ian Willmore 3½...

**“Minor”** 1 David J Webb 5/5; 2 Simon Thanesan (Maidstone) 4½; 3-6 Anthony Duncan (Islington), James Luck (Grays), RC Harrison (WGC), Alan Trent 4; 7-9 Ronald Prickett (Grays), Ronald Prickett (Grays) it says here, KW Smith (Sidcup) 5... Results John Leake

**KENT LADIES CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Bexleyheath 12th April 1997 attracted 15 players.

**Open** 1-2 Rosalind Kieran, Heather Richards 5½/6; 3 Sue Howell 4...

**Under 100** (combined) 1 Susan Richards 4; 2-3 Emily Lerwill, Antoinette Wilson 3½... Results Roger Holmes

**11th RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY** at Hampton 20th April 1997

**Open** (28 pl) 1 Michael Adams (London) 5½/6; 2 Bogdan Lalic (Sutton) 5; 3 Peter Varley (Addlestone) 4½; 4-7 Susan Lalic (Sutton), Gavin Wall (London), Abimbola Adalaja (London), David Wood (Chatham), Marcus Osborne (Wallington) 4... Grading U200 1 Peter Varley, 2-3 Abimbola Adelaja, David Wood. U175 1 Marcus Osborne; 2-5 Michael Duggan, Richard James, Chris White (all Twickenham), Alan Punnett (Woking) 3

**Major U175** (28 pl) 1-3 Thomas Dougherty (London), David Edwards (Worcester Park), John Reid (London) 5/6... Grading U125 1-2 Keith Morris (Hayes Middx), Ray Robinson (London) 4½

**Minor U100** (34 pl) 1-2 Nigel Knott (London), Robert Skinner (Twickenham) 5/6; 3-4 Kate Feld (Cobham), Robert Hansell (High Wycombe), Robert Rundaba (Kingston) 4½... Grading U75 / Never Graded 1 Robert Rundaba 4½; 2-3 Tom Boesen (Hayes Middx), Edward Leung (London) 4 Results Richard James

**JUNIOR NEWS**

**ESSEX JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Southend 8-9 March 1997

**Under 18/16/14** (10 pl, all of them U14 and half of them U11) U18 Iain Gunn (Maldon) 5½/6; U16 Graham Walker (Southend) 4½; U14 Ezra Lutton (Basildon) 4...

**Under 11** (24 ent) 1 Matthew Jellett 6/6; 2 James Berlin 4½...

**Under 9** (36 ent) 1 Daniel Hedges 6/6; 2 Tom Swift 5...

“In view of the success of our U11s and U9s, it would appear that Essex chess is not only doing well but can look forward to continuing good fortune in the future. However the situation at secondary school level is very disappointing... It is also unfortunate that the County was unable to raise a team for the recent SCCU U18 Jamboree.

“The Essex Secondary Schools League established just after the war reached a peak in the early 70s when over 50 teams took part (U18/15/13). Today there are none as support for the League has dwindled during the past ten years. A decline in extra-curricular activities in schools is now more apparent, so much needs to be done by chess clubs and individuals.

“The recent formation of the Essex Junior Chess Association will no doubt help to improve the situation... One proposal, put forward by the EJCA, is the formation of an Essex Inter-Club Junior League - a venture that would require considerable support from chess players and parents alike.” - Ivor Smith in *Chessex*. Are other counties seeing the same thing? (Kent Schools League soldiers on but the number of teams - 100+ including Primary - is half what it was fifteen years ago.)

235:7

**MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR** 1st-3rd April 1997

**Under 18** (11 pl) 1 M Broomfield (12: London SE25) 7/8; 2 MC Campbell (17: Merrow) 6½; 3 OG Payne (16: Godalming) 6; 4 KB Nicholas (12: Stoke Poges) 5½...

**Under 13** (12 pl) 1 A Smith (12: Swindon) 7/9; 2-3 A Navias (11: Ascot), R Hansell (12: Great Kingshill) 6½; 4 J Buchanan (11: Thame) 6...

**Under 11** (26 pl) 1 C Hansell (10: Great Kingshill) 7/9; 2-3 VS Aarons (10: London NW3), CL Boyles (10: Swindon) 6½; 4-5 D Bareham (10: Cricklade), GP Morris (9: Abingdon) 6...

**Under 9** (33 pl) 1-2 J Zhang (8: London NW2), J Hillman (8: London N20) 9½/11; 3 CH Morris (8: Abingdon) 8½; 4 W Foster (8: Newbury) 8; 5 T Hollings (8: Caversham) 7½; 6-9 D Hitchens (7: Oxford), PDH Armstrong (7: Windsor), J Pither (8: London NW11), R Lall (8: Oxford) 7... Results Nigel Dennis

**BEXLEYHEATH JUNIOR** 12th April 1997

**Under 18 / Adults Major** (8 pl) 1-2 David Moskovic, Mark Roberts 5/6; 3-4 John Bennett, Martin Taylor 4½...

**Under 18 / Adults Minor** (24 pl) 1 David Ho 5½/6; 2 Oliver Cooley 5; 3-6 Steven Pretty, Konrad Sanders, Russell Scott, Simon Thanesan 4...

**Under 11** (21 pl) 1 Andrew Welch 5½/6; 2 Zakerey Bennett 5; 3 Nikhil Arora 4½; 4-6 Edmund Birkhamshaw, Thomas Stradwick, David Ridout 4...

**Under 9** (13 pl) 1 Daniel Diamond 5½/6; 2 David Franklin 4½; 3-5 David Howell, Alex Partridge, Stephen Wassermann-Fry 4... Results Roger Holmes

**EPSCA UNDER 11 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP** (Three rounds, teams of 20)

**Zonal** at Barnet 19th April 1997: 1 Essex 44½/60; 2 Richmond 42; 3 Kent 41½; 4 Wey Valley 40; 5 Barnet 30; 6-7 Herts, NW London 20; 8 S london 17; 9 Bucks 15; 10 Croydon absent. Top 5 qualified. Results Arnold Lutton

**Final** at St Dunstans College (Kent) 10th May 1997: 1 Richmond 46½/60; 2 Kent 45½; 3 Essex 44½; 4 Wey Valley 42½; 5 Hants 38; 6 Devon 32; 7 Notts 27½; 8 Manchester 26½; 9 Cambs 25½; 10 Lancs 24½; 11 Barnet 24; 12 Cornwall 23½; 13 Lincs 22; 14-15 Cheshire & N Wales, Oldham 20½; 16 Liverpool 16½. SCCU first and the rest nowhere, pretty well, and the U9 was similar. Results Bob Blake

**EPSCA UNDER 9 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP** (Three rounds, teams of 12)

**Zonal** at Leatherhead 15th March 1997: 1 Richmond 32/36; 2 Kent 24; 3 Essex 22; 4 Wey Valley 20; 5 NW London 19; 6 Barnet 16; 7 Herts 13½; 8 Croydon 10; 9 South London 5½. Top four qualified.

**Final** at Liverpool 26th April 1997: 1 Kent 28½/36; 2 Richmond 27½; 3 Wey Valley 26; 4 Devon 22½; 5-6 Essex, Yorks 21; 7 Oldham 19½; 8 Notts 17; 9-10 Liverpool, Norfolk 16; 11 Wilts 14; 12-13 Sussex, Northants 13; 14 Cambs 12½; 15 Lancs 11½; 16 Wirral 9. Results Hamid Habibi

**EPSCA UNDER 11 GIRLS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP** (Three rounds, teams of 12)

**Final** at Corby 17th May 1997: 1 Wey Valley 31/36; 2 Devon 27½; 3 Kent 24; 4 Liverpool 23½; 5 Notts 22½; 6 Wilts 19½; 7 Essex 19; 8 Somerset 18½; 9 Barnet 17½; 10 NW London 17; 11 Manchester 16½; 12 Hants 15½; 13-14 Lincs, Northants 13½; 15 Suffolk 12; 16-17 Herts, South London 7½ Results Chris Higgins

**TONBRIDGE JUNIOR** at Tonbridge School, 27th April 1997

**Under 18 / Under 14 / Parents** (35 played. The U18 was supposed to be split into Open and U121, but only three entered the Open. An U14 with six players didn’t seem like a good idea either.) 1 Mark Roberts (Sevenoaks) 6/6; 2-5 Oliver Cooley, Richard Cheeseman (both St Olaves), Andrew Bigg (Hayes Kent), Martin Taylor (Gillingham) 4½... Under 14 (and U91) Andrew Welch (Folkestone) 4

**Kent U12 Championship** (16 pl) 1 Daniel Diamond (Dulwich) 5/6; 2-3 Lalin Navaratne (Maidstone), Raymond Gosden (Whitstable) 4½; 4 James Chapman (London SE3) 4...

**Under 10 / Under 8** (29 pl) 1 Thomas Stradwick (Bromley) 6/6; 2 Tom Shillingford (Croydon: U8 Prize); 3-4 Edward Coughlan (Amherst), James Regan (Tunbridge Wells) 4½; 5-8 Antoinette Wilson (Amherst), Andrew Hallam (Bearsted), Andrew Byfield (Maidstone), Arwen Van Der Elst (Bromley) 4...

**BASMANIC MEGAFINALS** 3/4 May 1997

Supremo first, Suprema second. Well, we couldn’t type them simultaneously.

**Essex**/**Suffolk** (180 pl) **U18** No qualifier; Ellen Walker. **U15** Edward Hawker; Sarah Manning. **U12** Graham Walker; Amy Stone. **U11** Ezra Lutton; Katie Bates. **U10** Robert Payne; Heather Walker. **U9** Josiah Lutton; Francesca Berlin. **U8** Chris Maynard; Christina Gargan. **U7** Philip Gibbs; Tulin Rufaioglu.

**Kent/Sussex** (194 pl: 152 boys, 28 girls) **U18** Paul Wood; no qualifier. **U15** Paul Higgins; Elizabeth Giddings. **U12** Andrew Maynard; Lyndsey McDonald. **U11** David Ho; Grace Yip. **U10** Thomas Stradwick; Antoinette Wilson. **U9** Matthew Moore; Kathleen Watson. **U8** Thomas Sharp; Megan Wheatley. **U7** David Howell; Kristina Allen. We gather the entry from secondary schools was disappointing.

235:8

**Middx/Herts/Bucks** (316 pl: 245+71) **U18** Anthony Mohipp; no qualifier. **U15** J Daykin; Elaine Bettaney. **U12** Lorin d’Costa; Elizabeth O’boyle but we’re not sure we believe that spelling. **U11** Daniel Caps; Vanessa

Aarons

**U10** Marco Lizzul; Rachel Lambert. **U9** Lee Gold; Danielle Gross. **U8** Philip Makepeace; Anna Savitsky. **U7** Andrew Regan; Philippa Macintyre.

**Surrey** (465 pl: 299+166) **U18** ?Alexei Moisseenkov; Lucy Broomfield. **U15** Matthew Robinson; Tracy Gent. **U12** Chris Rawlinson; Kate Feld. **U11** Kenan Boztas; Alexandra Wilson. **U10** Chetan Deva; Sophie Eagle. **U9** Jonathan Zoubaida; Meenatchy Kanagasapay. **U8** Robert Heaton; Sarah Hegarty. **U7** Graham Hantman; Hannah Dale.

Plus nine other Megafinals (“2500 turn out for Megafinals”) from all over GB. National Gigafinals (Nottingham University 13 July) will decide the Ultimi for the different age groups. Might all be girls. Feminine of Ultimi, anyone? Terafinal (RFH 23 August) will decide one overall winner, who for some reason will be called the Strat.

**SUSSEX JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Brighton, 3-4 May 1997

**Under 18** (8 pl) 1 Thomas Rendle (Hastings) 6½/7; 2-3 Glen Parker (Eastbourne), Kevin Carter (Battle) 5½...

**Under 14** (26 pl) 1-2 Edward Lamb (The Holt), Ben McManus (Eastbourne) 6/7; 3 Stephen Carter (Battle) 5½...

Best U11 Roland Foxcroft (Aldrington) Results Paul Watson

**KENT** Schools League 1996-7 (U16) went to Maidstone GS. We reported the Senior and U13 last time (St Olaves Orpington and Judd GS Tonbridge); Primary, watch this space.

**“TIMES” NATIONAL SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Round 3** Hampton School Twickenham (15.0) 4½ 1½ Bedford Modern (17.5); Manchester Grammar (15.5) \*3 3 Torquay Boys GS (17.3); Methodist College Belfast (16.8) 5 1 RGS Newcastle (13.6); Oakham School (14.3) \*2½ 3½ Maidstone Boys GS (16.5). Semi-finals and Final at the Charing Cross Hotel 3-4 July.

**Plate Semi-finals** St Olaves GS Orpington beat North Bridge House, London; K Edward VI Camp Hill Birmingham beat Truro School. **Final**: St Olaves beat Truro School. Sorry no details. Results Mitchell Taylor

**SCCU LEAGUE TABLES 1996-7**

Well, one of them. The U125 wasn’t quite complete last time. Not that the missing game result made any real difference.

**UNDER 125** H Sx Sy K O E GP MP

1 Herts 8½ 8 14 9½ 9½ 49½ 4½

2 Sussex 7½ 10½ 8½ 8½ 11 45½ 4

3 Surrey 8 6½ 10½ 4 8½ 37 2½

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| 4 Kent 2 6½ 5½ | 8½ | 11½34 34 2 |
| 5 Oxon 6½ 7½ 12 | 7½ | 11 44½ 2 |

6 Essex 6½ 5 7½ 4½ 5 28½ 0

There were also two match results we hadn’t published.

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| **UNDER 175**  **Kent** 22.3.97 **Sussex**\*  1 Nathan SW Alfred 174 ½ ½ John A Dodgson 170 (W)  2 Stephen Firth 170 ½ ½ Michael J Reddie 174  3 Robert J Everson 173 1 0 Chris Hann 171  4 Mark I Roberts 169 1 0 Robert V Elliston 173  5 David JR Barnes 167 ½ ½ SON Hawes 167  6 John R Cordner 167 ½ ½ Paul A Batchelor 167  7 Alan Atkinson 165 0 1 Andrew SJ Fleming 165  8 Peter W Eldridge 162 ½ ½ Graham James 164  9 Jeremy JM Thomson 160 0 1 Ian G Kelly 163  10 Mark D Brougham 159 0 1 James P Munday 159  11 John H Lewin 159 ½ ½ David G Ratcliffe 157  12 Stephen GB James 156 ½ ½ G Scamardella 155  13 Sydney J Jacob 155 1 0 David G Roberts 155  14 def 0 1 Laurence Rackham 150  15 Nicholas C Mackett 152 0 1 P Greaves 147  16 def 0 1 R Daniel Hirsch 138  (Charlton) **6½ 9½** | **UNDER 125**  **Sussex** 22.3.97 **Surrey**\*  P Helliwell 119 (B) 1 0 L Evboumwan 124  B McManus 123 1 0 G Morse 121  B Horscroft 120 1 0 J McGing 120  G McCulloch 123 ½ ½ M King 119  T Rendle 110 0 1 D Weston-Lewis 118  A Higgs 118 ½ ½ M Bolan 117  A Quant 118 0 1 K Lovel 116  P Britton 116 ½ ½ D Howes 115  J Parker 115 ½ ½ 1 H Wylie 114  B Wilkinson 118 1 0 W Waterton 110  MA Bryant 115 1 0 R Wright 109  M Curtis 110 ½ ½ A Thake 104  SP Deere 114 ½ ½ D Parsons 117  C Holcombe 108 1 0 LI Makinson 97  D Simpkins 120 1 0 PM Shaw 105  N Pestelle 111 0 1 D Innes 96  (Crawley) **10 6**  1 Controller’s ruling: QPF claim |

235:9

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| **BCF STAGE COUNTY MATCHES**  **OPEN** | |
| Quarter Finals  **Hants** 17.5.97 **Kent**\*  1 Tony Kosten 242 (W) 1 0 Neil McDonald 236  2 def 0 1 John M Emms 239  3 Philip Rossiter 210 ½ ½ Daniel W Gormally 213  4 Richard Webb 210 ½ ½ Ian R Watson 212  5 Tony Corkett 209 ½ ½ Cliff R Chandler 206  6 Ian Thompson 202 1 0 Chris M Cooley 205  7 Mike Yeo 201 1 0 Richard Eales  8 Gerald Bennett 203 0 1 John Naylor 202  9 Nigel Johnson 128 0 1 Andrew L Mack 202  10 Arthur Brameld 199 0 1 David M Moskovic 196  11 Ken Coates 193 0 1 Alan E Hanreck 199  12 Mathew (so) Anderton 190 ½ ½ Neil F Dickenson 193  13 Bob Noyce 189 ½ ½ Alexis M Harakis 191  14 Dominic Tunks 189 ½ ½ RMR O’Kelly 191  15 Colin Purdon 183 ½ ½ Peter P Taylor 190  16 Roger Marsh 176 0 1 John N Sugden 189  (Basingstoke) **6½ 9½** | **Essex** 18.5.97 **Notts**  A Plüg ½ ½ A Collinson 221  J Rogers 225 0 1 A Dyce 199  AP Lewis 212 1 0 BD Beake 189  M Twyble 208 1 0 T Hinks-Edwards 205  JP Manley 205 1 0 JA Tait 200  D Sands 201 1 0 NA Lazonby 188  G Moore 197 1 0 AN Walker 178  G Kenworthy 195 1 0 M Thomas 176  J Hodgson 194 1 0 PJ Mercs 173  J Goldberg 190 0 1 JT Swain 173  J Burnett 190 0 1 RJ Savory 172  A Dunn 185 1 0 AJ Wright 166  IJ Myall 184 ½ ½ JUI (Jul?) Cast 161  JC Moore 183 1 0 BM Hayward 160  W Saunders 181 1 0 RJ Webster 159  R Parker 177 0 1 HR Edwards 150  (Bedford) **10 6** |
| **MINOR COUNTIES** | |
| Quarter Finals  **Herts**\* 10.5.97 **Derbyshire**  1 Simon JB Knott 218 1 0 M Alderson 175 (B)  2 Jerry F Rudge 194 ½ ½ R Gamble 174  3 Chiedu Maduekwe 193 ½ ½ S Gilmore 168  4 Phil G Maguire 189 1 0 M Johnson 161  5 Kevin R Clark 185 1 0 M Altinsoy 22151  6 Alistair M Simpson 189 1 0 P Moore 160  7 Alex N Ethelontis 180 ½ ½ I Iglesias 156  8 Simon J Roe 181 ½ ½ D Williams 155  9 Howard L Tebbs 179 1 0 S Bracey 150  10 John R Denton 176 1 0 D Beckford 146  11 Andrew Gilfillan 176 1 0 M Hill 149  12 Paul D Hatchett 172 0 1 J Hoody1 147  13 Philip J Gregory 170 ½ ½ D Brown 148  14 Steve Law 169 ½ ½ J Collins 151  15 John Cook 162 0 1 A Stevens 141  16 David E Bower 157 ½ ½ J Murphy 125  (St Albans) **10½ 5½**  1 Derbys say team position correct. 2 Not found, but there’s a JD Hoddy with that grade. | **Suffolk** 17.5.97 **Oxon**\*  K Bowden 228 (B) 0 1 H Hunt 217  M Cook 187 0 1 J Hastings 197  S Gregory 184 0 1 M Rose 194  S Munson 182 0 1 M Devereaux 188  C Franklin 177 0 1 A Lewis 190  I Wallis 176 0 1 N Jackubovics1 187  P Botham 176 ½ ½ T Dickinson 184  D Whitehead 175 0 1 R Starkie 180  D Spence 173 0 1 G Chapman 174  R Sanders 173 ½ ½ J Stayt 175  T Lunn 169 0 1 L Millin 176  A Charity 165 1 0 J Wittman 172  J Feavyour 163 0 1 D Hackett 175  M Taylor 160 ½ ½ D Bruce 158  T Rubin 153 0 1 N Jones 168  C Rutlidge 153 1 0 S Terry 165  (Wanstead) **3½ 12½**  1 So how *do* you spell it? |
| **UNDER 175** | |
| Quarter Finals  **Essex**\* 17.5.97 **Hants**  1 Paul L Williamson 173 ½ ½ John R Wilkinson 171  2 Roy Heppinstall 174 ½ ½ John H Jones 168  3 Larry E Marden 173 1 0 DW Bell 167  4 David J Millward 172 0 1 ML Newbury 166  5 Ivor BN Smith 173 1 0 M Body 163  6 Peter C Doye 166 ½ ½ Martin GS Buckley 159  7 Sid Kalinsky 165 ½ ½ Stephen J Smith 157  8 Colin R Ramage 163 ½ ½ JM Ramsdale 155  9 Neville H Twitchell 162 1 0 MC Priest 152  10 Ian D Hunnable 161 1 0 Peter C Copper 151  11 Andy King 159 1 0 Richard D Perrin 149  12 Ken Clow 158 1 0 K Byard 148  13 Steve M Williams 157 ½ ½ P Barber 147  14 Andrew D Hartland 155 1 0 D Kinsler 145  15 Ray Purse 154 1 0 David F Thompson 143  16 Mark Weighell 151 1 0 BJ Knight 137  (Crawley) **12 4** | **Lancs** 17.5.97 **Sussex**\*  Stephen Milligan 170 1 0 John A Dodgson 170  S Appleby 158 ½ ½ Michael J Reddie 174  P Mulleady 166 ½ ½ Robert V Elliston 173  Mark A Whitehead 158 1 0 SON Hawes 167  John D Lyth 154 1 0 Paul A Batchelor 167  Simon Woodcock 161 ½ ½ Ian P Judd 168  PT Seery 166 1 0 James Graham 164  S Foulkes 165 0 1 Susan C Howell 159  J Tennant-Smith 152 ½ ½ Keith Davies 156  P Furlong 151 1 0 David L Roberts 156  M Lythgoe 148 ½ ½ Paul Watson 152  A Catz 142 0 1 WH Partridge 151  G Jones 101 ½ ½ Laurence Rackham 150  M Hamer 109(?) 1 ½ ½ PR Selby 148  Steven White 117 0 1 P Greaves 147  E Andersons 118 ½ ½ R Daniel Hirsch 138  (Syston Lincs) **8½ 7½**  1 We can’t find him either.  Nor can we make the scores add up. Looks like 9-7 to us. Sussex |

match captain tells us it *was* 8½-7½: “Essentially, we lost on board count. The score was 8-7 to Lancashire and the likely win I had on bottom board would not have mattered. The Lancs captain, Armand Catz, is to be congratulated for sensing the actual playing strength of his individual team members on the day. At first I thought his team order rather odd, but as the match progressed it became clear that his judg­ment was sound. I hope to meet him again. Thanks go to the Leicestershire President, Julia Hodgson, for hosting an interesting day’s play.”

235:10

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| **UNDER 150** | |
| Preliminary  **Cambs** 26.4.97 **Herts**\*  1 M Szymanski 148 1 0 A Hall 149  2 A Gregory 146 0 1 A Fulton 148  3 M Pollard 146 ½ ½ D Young 148  4 T Bramley 142 ½ ½ R Gordonsmith 147  5 P Barkas 141 ½ ½ S Charles 146  6 M Wells 140 0 1 S Weston 144  7 S Halliday 140 1 0 C Howe 146  8 R Newman 139 0 1 B Judkins 144  9 P Ribbands 136 ½ ½ P Lawrence 142  10 R Ferrer 133 0 1 K Hardy 142  11 S Pride 132 0 1 D Webb 141  12 A Bailey 129 0 1 S Cook 141  13 C Norton 128 1 0 M Wali 128  14 S Hart 120 0 1 M Waltham 136  15 F James 119 ½ ½ D Price 141  16 T Hazel 120 0 1 J Marshall 134  (Cambridge) **5½ 10½** | Two of the quarter-final results came from AJ Douglas, not the match captains.  Semi Finals (from AJD again):  **Open** Essex v Greater Manchester; Lancs v Kent  **Minor Counties:** Dorset v Oxon; Beds v Herts  **U175** Essex v Warwicks; Lancs v Devon  **U150** Warwicks v Essex; Notts v Herts  **U125** Herts v Salop; Lancs v Notts  **U100** Suffolk v Essex; Notts v Surrey  Semi Finals are to be played 7/8 June; Finals are 28 June in Birmingham. |
| Quarter Finals  **Essex**\* 18.5.97 **Cleveland**  1 PR Barclay 148 (W) 0 1 D Baillie 148  2 J White 148 1 0 A Collins 146  3 TG Winter 145 ½ ½ M Haslam 146  4 David Smith 145 0 1 J Garnett 145  5 LJ Burtt 144 1 0 C Tart 144  6 S Harwood 143 1 0 B Addison 144  7 DJ Rawlings 139 1 0 S McCormack 143  8 P Zammit 139 ½ ½ P Welford 143  9 D Cannan 137 1 0 EJ Lazenby 142  10 SA Taylor 137 0 1 B Myers 140  11 MRA Murrell 136 0 1 M Creaney 133  12 A Drake 135 ½ ½ S Morgan 130  13 RD Sharman 134 ½ ½ P Mitcheson 125  14 JA Speigel 134 ½ ½ D Richardson 124  15 I MacLachlan 132 0 1 G Jones 117  16 D Bird 126 1 0 B Rowe 115  (West Bridgford) **8½ 7½** | **Herts v Hants**  or it may have been Hants v Herts; Herts match captain wasn’t sure offhand. “Neutral” venue was Nuneaton!  **Herts** won by default. This probably means the BCF will be asking Hants awkward questions. |
| **UNDER 125** | |
| Quarter Finals  **Herts**\* 18.5.97 **Cambs**  1 T Wright 124 1 0 def  2 C Kidd 124 1 0 M Barnes 122  3 C Byrne 124 1 0 def  4 M Connock 121 1 0 S Hart 120  5 L D’Costa 118 ½ ½ F Jones 119  6 A Phillips 122 0 1 R Palumbo 119  7 T Sims 121 1 0 R Hickford 117  8 M Flatt 120 1 0 A Nicholson 117  9 S Kumar 119 1 0 D Rayner 116  10 J Moore 118 1 0 A Lynch 115  11 T Lawson 116 1 0 W Gruse1 114  12 G Lunn 119 ½ ½ I Stone 114  13 K Baggs 115 ½ ½ Z Harper 112  14 def 0 1 M Friday2 110  15 M Read 109 1 0 I3 Eckersley-Waites 109  16 Q Latif 108 1 0 G Ellwood 108  **12½ 3½**  1 aka W Cruse? 2 Neither did we, but there *is* an R Mike Friday graded 110. 3 T, probably. | **Sussex\* 10.5.97 Lancs**  PJ Helliwell 119 0 1 Craig Hanley 113  Con Power 121 0 1 Chris Dunlop 122  Brian Horscroft 120 0 1 Roy Wild 116  Gary McCulloch 123 0 1 Stephen Flaherty 124  J Quant 119 1 0 William O’Rourke 116  MA Bryant 115 0 1 D Jones 114  Andrew Hix 118 ½ ½ Anthony Smith 111  D Simpkins 120 0 1 Ray Ashcroft 119  John Povey 114 0 1 Ken McMahon 113  Mick Curtis 110 ½ ½ Ben O’Rourke 115  Simon P Deere 114 ½ ½ Derek Brent 118  Adam Wood 111 1 0 Steve Hughes 110  Charles Holcombe 109(?) ½ ½ E Andersons 118  Nigel Pestelle 111 0 1 Steven White 117  Paul V Buswell 100 1 0 Neil Fawcett 97  T Peffer 94 0 1 Martin Hammer 109  **6 10**  Scores don’t seem to add up (5-11?). We had this result by telephone so can’t be sure. |

235:11

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| **UNDER 100** | |
| Quarter Finals  **Surrey**\* 17.5.97 **Devon**  1 Edward Radford 99 ½ ½ Roy Greenhalgh 97 (W)  2 Bill Upton 95 1 0 B Tindal 1 95  3 Chetan Deva 97 ½ ½ Tony Tatham 94  4 Oliver Wilson 96 ½ ½ Sean Ariss 90  5 Chris Dixon 93 0 1 Patrick Gwynne 89  6 Lana Boztas 93 1 0 Ian Greenhalgh 89  7 Tim Chase 90 1 0 Adam O’Reilly 77  8 Philip Cable 89 1 0 Matthew Allen 84  9 Laila Tillett 89 ½ ½ John Britten 84  10 Storm Ballard - 0 1 Ian Dudley 83  11 Graham Curtis 88 1 0 Paul Dransfield 83  12 Richard Davey 84 1 0 Robert Lock 83  (Frome) **8 4**  1aka W Tindall? | **Shropshire** 18.3.97 it says here **Essex**  G Viszokai 98 ½ ½ Ron Prickett 99  G Matthews 97 ½ ½ Bijan Mehanjedad 99  J Squires “E9x” 1 0 Chris Wiggins 99  S Jones 95 0 1 Robert Payne 98 j  SL Davies 90 0 1 Lawrence Trent 95 j  I Davies 89 ½ ½ Ezra Lutton 95 j  BC Brown 87 0 1 Alex O’Neill 94 j  D Ogundipe 82 0 1 Caius Turner 83 j  R Hinsley 88 0 1 Dominic Allen 87 j  P Broderick 78 ½ ½ Josiah Lutton 81 j  L Roberts 76 0 1 Stewart Trent 82 j  T Jones 72 ½ ½ Alan Trent e80  (Adamston Salop) **3½ 8½** |
| Oxford friendly:  **Town** 10.5.97 **Gown**  1 M Rose 194 0 1 M Devereaux 188  2 T Dickinson 184 1 0 B Savage 186  3 G Chapman 174 0 1 A Lewis 190  4 J Stayt 175 1 0 J Bosson 118  5 N Jones 167 ½ ½ C Blake 184  6 S Terry 165 ½ ½ N Rizvi 154  7 D Bruce 158 1 0 N Cundy 147  8 C Moxley 161 0 1 SP Ng -  9 P Ball 150 ½ ½ M Ludbrook 146  10 W Burt 142 1 0 M Cundy 140  11 D Robson 145 1 0 B Hadwen 147  12 L Smith 127 1 0 C Tan -  (Keble College) **7½ 4½** |  |

**SCCU UNDER 180 JAMBOREE**

at Sutton, 12th April 1997

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| White Black  1 Larry E Marden 173 E 1 0 Michael R Stott 177 Sx  2 Julien M Shepley 173 Sy ½ ½ Ivor BN Smith 173 E  3 Paul Stimpson 171 Sy ½ ½ Chris N Hann 171 Sx  4 Nicholas C Jones 167 O ½ ½ John S White 169 Sy  5 Neville H Twitchell 162 E 0 1 KP Mynett 167 Sy  6 Philip Vainker 162 O 1 0 Ian D Hunnable 161 E  7 DJ Bruce 158 O 1 0 Paul D Dupré 160 Sy  8 David G Ratcliffe 157 Sx 1 0 N Hepworth 153 O  9 Richard J Weeber 154 E ½ ½ P Bell 150 O  10 Paul Watson 152 Sx ½ ½ John A Philpott 153 E | White Black  E Horton 178 O 1 0 David Sedgwick 176 Sy  John A Dodgson 170 Sx ½ ½ James N Stayt 175 O  David J Millward 171 E 0 1 Dave G Hackett 175 O  SON Hawes 167 Sx 0 1 Colin R Ramage 163 E  ASJ Fleming 165 Sx 1 0 Sean Terry 165 O  David Spearman 165 Sy ½ ½ Jim Graham 164 Sx  Andy King 159 E 0 1 Ian G Kelly 163 Sx  Thomas D Phillips 156 Sy ½ ½ David G Pearse 155 E  CRA Clegg 154 Sy 1 0 Laurence Rackham 150 Sx  Peter B Hastings 145 O 0 1 Ian S MacLeod 139 Sy |

Positions: 1 Surrey 6½/10; 2 Oxon 5½; 3-4 Essex, Sussex 4. Mean grades, in descending order: Sussex 163.6; Surrey 163.0; Oxon 162.8; Surrey 162.5 (!)

They sent half a zillion games with the Sutton Congress results. Neatly typed as well (only no notes). No time to look through all of them, so here’s two of the shortest we could find.

White **RA BatesB,** Black **K McEwan**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 g6 4.e4 Bg7 5.Be3 0–0 6.Qd2 c6 7.Bh6 Nbd7 8.e5 Nd5 9.h4 Nxc3 10.bxc3 f6 11.h5 Qe8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.hxg6 Qxg6 14.Bd3 f5 15.Nh4 Qg4 16.Be2 Qe4 17.Qg5+ Kh8 18.Ng6+ 1-0

White **C Cobb**, Black **DM Moskovic**

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 0–0 8.Nb3 d6 9.g4 Be6 10.f4 Rc8 11.f5 Bxb3 12.axb3 Ne5 13.Rxa7 b5 14.0–0 Nc6 15.Rb7 b4 16.Nd5 Nxe4 17.Bb5 Nc5 18.Bxc6 Nxb7 19.Bxb7 Rb8 20.Bb6 Qe8 21.Bc6 1-0

235:12

**CONGRESS DIARY**

Jun 6 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

6-8 AINTREE. J Dilworth, 5 Edge Lane, Thornton, Merseyside L23 4TF 0151 931 3788

6-9 MIDLAND OPEN Birmingham. JM Robinson, 7 Manor Rd, Stanion, Kettering NN14 1DL 01536 261697

8 KINGS HEAD RAPIDPLAY. WA Suttill, 7 Lonsdale Rd, London W11 2BY. (12th Kings Head London Open cancelled.)

14 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU

14-15 CAMBRIDGE. Open; U170/145/125/100. P McMahon, 91 Cambridge Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge 01954 212256

21 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

21 1st ST OLAVES TOURNAMENT at Orpington. Open; U160/120; Junior U18/14/11. St Olaves Chess Club, St Olaves School, Goddington Lane, Orpington, Kent BR6 9SH

21 COULSDON Rapidplay. Scott Freeman, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Rd, Coulsdon, Surrey 0181 645 9586

21-22 SPECTRUM FOLKESTONE. L Day, 2 Ferncroft Avenue, Mosborough, Sheffield 01142 485726

22 BASINGSTOKE JUNIOR. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2LS 01256 472537

22 RICHMOND. R James, 95 Lyndhurst Avenue, Twickenham 0181 898 1190

Jul 5 KENT JUNIOR GRAND PRIX: Final event 1996-7 at Maidstone. U18/11/9. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005

11-13 2nd MILLSTREAM at East Grinstead. U180/135/105. 2nd Millstream Congress, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA

12-13 6th ISH (International Students House!) London W1. Open; U160; U130. J Weightman, ISH Chess, 225a Finchley Rd, London NW3 6LP 0171 435 7205

12 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU

26 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** *Chessex* for April 1997

Issue 236 July 1997

**SHE WON’T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS, ZAPHOD**

Do you remember the *Hitchhikers Guide* episode about hairdressers and telephone sanitisers? Anyway, it’s the season for meetings. An informal meeting recently, at a venue I won’t divulge, made its own private plans for Reorganisation of BCF Management Board. All the people who talk most at MB meetings were elevated to the Permanent Supreme Council for Owning the Vision for the Federation, and everyone else was left behind to run the chess. The Supreme Council will be in permanent session. To mark the Rump’s lower status the statutes don’t allow it to make personal remarks, or to use hard words and Managementspeak. Papers at meetings will be limited to 150 words and will meet the statutes. They will not be tabled. They will be circulated in advance, and the Rump will read them in advance. They will be circulated once, because Rumps get confused if you circulate things twice, even if they do turn out to be the same both times on inspection. Written proposals will be clearly recognisable as such, even to a Rump, and will be set out in simple Rumpspeak with the paragraphs in the right order. Rumppersons will never say anything at meetings which should have been said by post or telephone, or other efficient means of long-distance communication. They will never say anything at meetings which can just as well be said in the coffee break. They will say things once. They will never say anything which another Rumpperson has already said. Speeches will be limited to two minutes (or less, if the chairman gets bored). Meetings will be limited to two and a half hours (or less, if the chairman gets bored). The chairman will be instantly replaced if he fails to get through an agenda.

These are harsh measures, but it was felt that those who aren’t prepared to contribute fully to meetings shouldn’t be *allowed* to have long meetings.

There are one or two people on the Supreme Council who arguably aren’t worthy of it because they *do* run a lot of chess. The Rump can beam them down if it wants, improbability factor permitting, but they’d have to abide by the statutes.

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| **ORDERS FOR NEXT YEAR**  All Bulletin subscriptions expire with this issue, unless you’re the oddball who’s just renewed in advance by accident. There’s a renewal form in the envelope somewhere. Return it straight away if you want to renew. You know you’ll forget otherwise. County Secretaries get a free copy automatically courtesy of the SCCU, so long as I know who they are. Other county officers receiving free copies, match captains for example, do so because their counties have subscribed on their behalf. I don’t automatically know who match captains are and I don’t send them free copies anyway. I’m not allowed to, unless their counties pay. Prod your county treasurer or secretary if you think it prudent. Some people get free copies for odd reasons, and they need not renew unless I forget.  There is also an order form for Grading Lists. It goes to a different address. Don’t try to combine the two in one order. (We’re only human. At best you’ll get what you ordered, at worst we’ll shred half of it.) County Secretaries are being sent lots of GL order forms, with a request to distribute them to clubs when convenient.  The Bulletin form says Don’t Staple your Cheque to Anything. To be fair, Bulletin subscribers never do. They’re buggers in the Kent Schools League. If you emulate them, expect a shrapnel response. You can decline to go in the circulation database if you want (see form) and you’ll probably only get the Bulletin a week or two late. |

**SCCU ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

at the Fountains Abbey (near Paddington Station), 5th July 1997

23 attended, and your Editor believes that every county was represented except Cambridgeshire. Before proceedings began, the meeting stood in silence as a mark of respect to Alan Cox, the County Match Grader and perhaps the most active of all our graders, who had died very recently. He had died in the saddle more or less, leaving everything so clearly labelled you couldn’t go wrong, and Jonathan Melsom spoke of his selfless and unexampled services to Southern Counties chess. Martin Cath spoke of his unique attention to detail.

**(1) Minutes** of last year’s Council Meeting. John Philpott, Minute Secretary by default, said that the (proper) Secretary had disappeared leaving neither minutes nor notes. The minutes before Council were thus a makeshift

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effort, constructed from such notes and recollections as were available. No one thought them the least bit

inadequate, barring the omission of one delegate from the attendance list, and with that amendment they were accepted.

**(2) Officers’ Reports** (selective)

**Deputy President**, with a Game Fee hat on, said he was a member of the BCF Game Fee Committee but the retiring Game Fee Director had managed to complete his stint without holding any meetings of it. All SCCU leagues and congresses had paid as required, with the exception of one league which we won’t name in case we got it wrong but we’ve a feeling they came up in a similar connection a year or two ago.

**Grading Secretary** said he’d just received a New Player list but he gathered there was another version which superseded it. The Kent grader, who’d sent all his results in, decided to ignore the New Player list if ever it came his way. Chris Howell mentioned the new system under development and said it “runs your league for you”, but he did conclude with “That’s the idea”.

**Individual Tournament Controller**. Well, that’s where it came up. It’s about the Sutton BCQ places really. The organisers had much difficulty in determining which players were pre-qualified, and it was suggested that the BCF should always provide a list in advance. No good asking the players, *they* often won’t know. By the time the BCF provided information, AR Corkett (who would have qualified) had made other arrangements for the August period. ACTION: BCF. In the end, the paid nomination went to Karl Mah.

**Equipment**. FCM said we had 40 boards and sets and at least 42 clocks. One or two duff clocks, chosen from the more respectable among them, had been sent for repair.

**(3) Money**. The Accounts for 1996-7, showing a surplus of £585, were adopted subject to audit. The budget was approved.

**(4) SCCU Fixtures 1997-8**. The Open fixture list, only just circulated, had already drawn fire from at least two counties. It was a revamped set, designed to alleviate the imbalance of travelling which people had complained of last year. Inevitably, many fixtures (in fact 19 out of 36) were at the same venue as last time. Essex and Sussex said the imbalance was largely still there, and in the same direction as last year. Someone suggested reversing all the venues in the new list, and they said that would satisfy them, and it was done (vote 8-2). Your Editor is puzzled.

**(5) SCCU county matches: rule changes**. Don’t worry, it was only a tidying-up exercise to reflect current realities. The next paragraph goes beyond that, but you can ignore it if you want. (1) County matches are now officially over 16 boards in the Open. (2) some references to non-existent trophies were deleted. And (3) a reference to the BCF Quick-play finish rules was deleted, since they ceased to exist when the new FIDE Laws came into force on the 1st July. (Wondered what was happening to them, but who *says*? Who does say, when the BCF changes its playing rules? BCF please tell us.)

(1) occasioned debate. Changing the rule made obvious sense, but one or two counties were concerned that some of their 175+ players were getting crowded out of county chess. It was suggested that an obvious remedy was to introduce a new U200 competition. On an unofficial basis to start with, of course. So Kent went away and had an AGM (24 hours later, how’s that for quick work?) at which they decided to do exactly that if they can find some opponents. Can’t say this really, because it wasn’t the SCCU Council Meeting. They’ve got a match captain, though. Counties may expect to hear from them proposing an U200 league in the coming season. Realistically, they’re not expecting to get more than one or two matches. But these things mushroom. It’s not long since the U100 was a twinkle in someone’s eye.

**(6) Minor Counties nominations**. It was agreed that our Minor Counties, in the coming year, were Berks, Bucks, Herts and Surrey. Basically our policy is, nominate whatever counties you think the BCF’ll wear. Someone said it always seemed odd to think of Surrey as a Minor County, but there’s no denying their results justify it. (Remember when Middx were a Minor County? Come to that...)

It was felt that the BCF needed some rules dammit, saying what a Minor County *is*. They used to have some, admittedly not very satisfactory. We had a vote on it, and the SCCU will propose to the BCF that it get itself some proper rules.

**(7) Elections**. Chris Howell stepped down as President at the end of his two-year stint, and John Philpott duly took over. Chris is the new Grading Secretary. Martin Cath, his extremely efficient predecessor, was elected a Life Vice-President of the Union. As far as anyone knew, he was only the second person to have received this honour. 1 Only other thing you want to know is, have we got a Secretary now. We have, and he’s still Bulletin Editor as well. Someone’s got to do it. (Unofficial reports are in circulation that he agreed to be Minute Secretary. He didn’t. He *probably* will, but he hasn’t yet.)

**(8) Re-structuring of BCF Management Board**. We didn’t spend much more than half an hour on it, and we topped up first. How should our delegates vote, assuming they can stay awake long enough to get to the vote? For starters we decided that the Unions should still be represented. Here’s a few figures the meeting arrived at.

How many people here are entitled to attend the BCF Special Council Meeting? - Lots.

How many actually expect to be there? - About 3.

How many would: (a) Throw out the minority element on the BCF working group, and accept a report from the

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majority? 0. (b) accept two reports? 11. (c) Ask an individual to produce a report? 1. (d) Start all over again? 0. (e) Call the whole thing off? 2.

**(9) Wood Green v Slough**. We weren’t allowed to discuss this at the Management Board meeting on the 21st July (see below). It may even have been Confidential. But the SCCU AGM talked about it, and half the world will know about it anyway. If you’re in the other half: they had to play in the semi-final of the National Club. This is Slough’s version, and we hope we’ve got it right. Wood Green offered three weekend dates very early, in a three-week period when they knew half of Slough’s regular team would be unavailable. You have to accept one of the three. Slough complained, and the controller declined to take action even though one of the dates was a bank holiday Monday. So Slough imported three irregulars, and won. Wood Green contested the eligibility of all three irregulars, and the controller upheld their claim in respect of one of them. This reversed the match result. Slough appealed to the BCF, protesting that the player was clearly eligible. The Bulletin doesn’t know the details, but there are people outside the Slough club who agree with them. The MB (see below, again) didn’t discuss it, on the ground that the controller’s decision is final. Your Editor (SCCU delegate) wanted to discuss it but was overruled by the Chair.

1 The records confirm that he is.

**SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive had its usual get-together immediately (well, almost) after the Council Meeting. Routine things.

**Representatives to BCF Management Board**: JA Philpott; plus RJ Haddrell for the 12th July, and for other meetings we could decide as we went along.

**Representatives to BCF Council**: JAP, RJH, CI Howell, C Lean.

**Representative on Game Fee Committee**: JAP, should it ever meet.

**Representative to London Chess League**: DR Sedgwick.

**Rules & Appeals sub-committee**: JAP, RJH, CIH, JT Melsom, NC Mackett.

**Next meeting**: Friday 12th September. Other dates to be fixed then.

**BCF MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Management Board met on Saturday 21st June 1997 at the Hotel Ibis near Euston Station. That’s the London Hotel Ibis. 16 attended. They talked from 11 am to 6 pm as is their wont, with a 45-minute lunch break. Your Editor, who was there with an SCCU hat on, was occasionally infuriated by the slowness of proceedings. So what’s new. But an NCCU delegate said before we started that personally he’d be through that agenda by four o’clock, and we’re not about to disagree with him.

**(1) Grading: current year**. Grading was in a state of crisis, and we never knew till a few days before the meeting. (This meant we had a Management Problem, as someone didn’t fail to point out.) The national Grading Officer, Roger Edwards, had been doing everything single-handed at the BCF end. You knew that. What you didn’t know, and neither did anyone else, is that he’d been spending something like 35 hours a week on it and expected to go on doing so until the end of August. Mostly it’s work of mind-numbing tedium, typing other graders’ results into a computer. A lot of material *does* come in on floppy disk and you just poke it in, but there’s still people out there doing their sums by hand and sending the results on paper, and you type it out. You know, “137754D 16 2164”. Hundreds of times over. He had just called for help, realising that without it the new list could be several weeks late. In the last couple of days two helpers had been found. One’s getting paid and the other isn’t. Roger isn’t, of course. This worries the Bulletin a bit. It’s thought we *should* make the deadline now. More help would be nice, though. One MB member offered, but said if someone was getting paid he’d want to be as well.

The MB was determined to have the list out on the 1st August, and will keep an eye on the situation. It was recognised that a job of this size and importance should not be dependent on the time and goodwill of one person.

**(2) Grading: the future**. The 1997 list had to be our first priority. But the MB also spent a good while - and quite rightly - discussing progress on the new programs. We’ll come to the progress in a couple of paragraphs. But the new programs, when fully in place, will do away with the mind-numbing job we mentioned above. There’s actually a mistake in the example we gave. Never mind what, but wouldn’t *you* make mistakes with mindless entries like that? In due course the BCF computer will reject the entry, and then you spend more time finding out what it should have been in the first place. If you’ve *got* the time. The mistake could just as well arrive on a floppy; even the graders with computers, or lots of them anyway, are doing the sums by hand. Then they type “137754D 16 216” into their computer - whoops, there’s another mistake - and the antiquated program they’re using won’t notice anything wrong. (Should have done, even by the standards of 1980-whatever-it-was, but there

you are.) This is a ridiculous way of working. When we get the new system running, graders will be supplied with

new software which will not only eliminate the mind-numbing bit, it will also entirely eliminate the need for

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calculations at their end. It will eliminate local graders, if you like. There is existing software which does that for congresses, but not for leagues as far as we know. Well, there’s one or two private jobs around and we’ve got first-hand knowledge of one of them. You tell them “Smith beat Robinson” and the computer does the rest. *All* the rest, and it can’t make mistakes. You’ll have told it in advance who Smith and Robinson were. If you’ve done that correctly you’ll find it difficult to make mistakes yourself, short of typing the result the wrong way round. This is, or should be, pretty much how the new BCF software will work.

That’s the “outer face” of the new programs. At the BCF end they’re making the old ones jump through hoops to do things they were never designed to do, and the new software will change that. It is estimated that the software might cost £45,000 if done commercially. It’s maybe four man-months of work for a professional.

We were supposed to be talking about progress. The development team consists of three or four programmers, speaking in a fluid sort of way and sorry if that sounds vague but it’s how we heard it, plus a co-ordinator who allocates jobs to them. And a liaison officer (Chris Howell, *him* we can name) who apart from other things reports to the Management Board. He did that, and confessed himself disappointed with the rate of progress. The Specification had been written, partly by him. What? Oh, the specification of what the software is required to do. Its functionality, we think he said. He had not seen a recent version of the Project Plan. The project plan is - or would be - a plan prepared by the co-ordinator indicating which programmer is doing what and by when. There is no particular reason to think that an up-to-date project plan doesn’t exist, but the co-ordinator had been under a lot of pressure lately and was difficult to contact. Chris’s e-mail had gone worryingly quiet. He knew that some programming had been done, because he’d seen it. He still expected the “grader’s” software to be ready in time for 1998-9 (though it would remain possible to submit results in the old way).

The MB was understandably concerned. Considering our immediate priorities it was agreed to leave the future till the British Championship Congress, where some of the team members were expecting to get together. Then progress really would have to be reviewed.

**(3) Money**. A relatively brief topic, this time. It was on the routine technical side and didn’t concern your Editor directly, and he went into sleep mode. Sleep mode, at least in theory, is a mode in which he instantly wakes up if something interesting happens.

**(4) Bumf and the DNH**. The minutes of the meeting have a different slant, but here’s one or two reflections that came up. Do the civil servants actually read any of the stuff they make us write? Does *anyone* read it? Do they overburden voluntary organisations with paperwork on purpose, hoping they’ll go away and raise their money somewhere else? Just idle speculation. But a civil servant has told the Federation, honest to God, that Corporate Plans and Business Plans are designed to help *us*. We’ve heard that one before, and we’re cynic enough to think that one or two MB members might have been capable of saying it.

**(5) The Special General Meeting**. We managed to dispatch Restructuring of Management Board in 45 minutes with no more than the odd flurry of raised voices. Some feared that the SGM would achieve nothing. The MB agreed its own position on the National Club proposals.

**(6) Isle of Man CA**. It was agreed to support the IOM’s application for FIDE membership.

**(7) Women**. The Womens Director said a proposal about the U18 “Boys” Team Championship would be coming up at the autumn Council Meeting. We’ve called it “Boys” in quotes because Open without means something else, but we won’t be able to if the proposal goes through. Each team would be required to include at least a specified number of females. If the number was mentioned we didn’t note it [but see next meeting down]. Expect the proposal will be suitably non-sexist: “at least x males and at least x females” maybe. [Afraid not. See next meeting down.] The 4NCL rule (not more than x players may be of the same sex) is even better because it doesn’t name one sex before the other. There may also be a proposal to abolish the Girls U18 events; watch this space. The DNH bumfophages have remarked that the BCF has no equal opportunities policy. If it had one, it couldn’t run Girls events and the Bulletin doesn’t see how it could impose sex requirements in any events at all.

**(8) Succession Planning**. Bryan Fewell had done an unprovoked paper. Noting that several BCF offices were vacant, he thought we should have a structured plan for identifying, encouraging and training future officers. Potential officers would be introduced to jobs gently by giving them part of an existing officer’s work. A data base would be set up holding not only names and chess CVs but also skills possessed outside chess. There would also be provision for evaluation of performance.

One or two parts of the paper were felt to be a bit over the top, in a voluntary organisation. Someone said he’d probably resign if expected to undergo appraisal. In addition the time was wrong. You could hardly ask an officer to nurture someone for his particular job when there were several other jobs vacant already. Even if he could find someone to nurture. But it was recognised that there was good sense in the paper, and it was agreed to start the ball rolling by having each MB member identify his or her own particular skills and relevant interests.

**(9) Juniors**. Rotary International have set up a chess initiative called “It’s your Move”, designed to promote junior chess. Local Rotary Clubs will be participating, and providing the money, and the intention is to work with the local chess infrastructure already in place.

**(10) Vacant posts**. The following jobs are vacant, or coming vacant by the next Council Meeting. There are no obvious takers for any of them. Director of Women’s Chess. Director of Junior chess. (You could split it in two,

home and international.) Director for Congress Chess. Officer i/c Direct Membership Scheme. Minute Secretary. Officer i/c School-Club links. Director of Game Fee. Editor, *ChessMoves*. The last two were announced at the

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meeting. The Hodgsons have been at *ChessMoves* for a year and have found the work load much heavier than anticipated. The Bulletin regrets this.

There was another item, not reported here because it wasn’t discussed. It was discussed later at the SCCU Council Meeting 5.7.97 (see above), and readers are referred thereto.

**BCF MANAGEMENT BOARD**

meeting 12.7.97 in preparation for the following (mostly)

One or two things.

**(1) Grading** officer was now much happier about getting everything done on time. [Postscript: he spent the (long) weekend of 18-20 July at the BCF office putting everything to bed, and actually accepted a last-minute grading amendment telephoned to him there by your Editor on the Friday evening, and as far as we know everything’s on schedule.]

**(2) Juniors**. The proposals under (7) above were reviewed. Seems they really are coming up in September, and the draft says “at least 2 girls” (wrong). There was opposition on the ground that it’s wrong to select your team on grounds of sex, and we look forward to the September meeting.

**(3) European Team Championships 1999**. This is important. David Sedgwick, International Director, was absent but had submitted a paper on our application to host the European Team Championships in 1999. The MB appreciated the obvious hard work which had gone into his paper and (more importantly) his preliminary negotiations. The application had the support of Duncan Lawrie. We are obviously not yet committed to anything, and our application will not be considered until the FIDE Congress in Moldova in September. However, it was felt unofficially that no one would be likely to oppose us. If it went ahead, we’d want to do it right. Where? London was not thought to be a popular venue. It all depended on what sort of event we wanted. We could go for a Mega event spilling over with sideshows in a major conurbation, or we could just try to run a damn good European Championships. The MB, pretty well unanimously we think, favoured the less grandiose end of the spectrum. Venues were discussed, in an abstract sort of way, but it would be premature to say more here. We wanted the best venue possible. Refreshingly, no one talked Union-partisanese and the MB seemed agreed that the best venue was the best venue wherever it was.

**BCF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

at the Ibis Hotel near Euston Station, 12th July 1997

God, how am I going to report this? I know, I’ll tell the truth. An inconclusive meeting was predictable. The shambles it turned out to be was not, unless you’re even more jaundiced about BCF meetings than I was. Note the tense. It was rambling, undirected and confused, and marred by numerous ill-mannered interruptions. Largely from one delegate, whose approach to MB and Council meetings is generally boorish and obstructive and I don’t know why the body he represents goes on electing him. Half way through a difficult meeting someone else took three minutes and 22 seconds to say how important it was that we shouldn’t go away feeling we’d wasted our time. The papers of the meeting had in some cases been circulated in two or more versions. Proposals appeared in differing forms on different pages, and sometimes in differing forms on different versions of the same page. The appalling layout of some of them, and the vaguest of guidance when we got there, didn’t help; though admittedly your Editor was the only one who *said* he’d got lost. When we came to the National Club rules it emerged, gradually and to general bewilderment, that the circulated version we were trying to amend was inconsistent with two other versions they had at the top table. Which were, of course, inconsistent with each other. Your Editor has never been closer to agreeing with Bryan Fewell about Management Skills.

No harm was done, time and expense and boredom and frustration aside, and we made some decisions, and the SCCU has no reason to be dissatisfied with any of them. You could be forgiven for thinking that the decisions under (1) and (2) were as close to “let’s forget it” as possible and politic, and the Management Skills lobby didn’t like them.

**(1) Management Board** to remain a delegate body. Unions to have only one delegate; two new delegate places to be created for the two largest game-fee contributors interested and not already entitled. A proposal to restrict this to leagues was lost, or to be precise a proposal not to was carried, and a league delegate (only two to guess from) called for a card vote and there wasn’t time. Do it in September. MB structure to be reviewed in (say) two or three years, but that may not have been actually agreed. It was hard to tell.

**(2) Development Unit** (which hasn’t done a lot so far) to be reconstituted as a Policy Unit answerable to Council. It would (probably?) be able to co-opt from outside the Federation. Draft for September.

**(3) Objects of the BCF**. No time, do it in September.

**(4) European Club**. This *was* important, and close, and there were strong feelings on both sides. Decision: both

English nominees will be selected via the 4NCL, rather than one via the 4NCL and one via the National Club. Card vote, 92-86. We’ve heard on the grapevine that the Bulletin’s speech may have significantly influenced

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floating voters in the right direction. The Bulletin doesn’t remember saying anything at all on the subject and it had only had a pint and a bit. But its single vote, which won’t have affected the outcome, *was* cast in the right direction.

**(5) National Club** eligibility. In the Open (but not its Plate) you must have played for the club at least twice in the preceding 12 months, in a local or regional standard-play event in the UK. No idea what the old rule was.

**ESSEX** Leagues 1996-7

Div 1 1-2 Southend, Wanstead 17/20. They weren’t equal on game points but they had a play-off anyway, which is presumably what the rules dictate, and last we heard Southend were ahead 4-3 with three games to finish. Div 2 Newham 19/22; Div 3 Wanstead IV 16/18; Div 5 Eastbrook V 16/18

North Essex League overlaps hardly at all with the Essex League; offhand we can only spot one club that plays in both. Div I Colchester A 20/20; Div 2 Colchester B 17/20; Div 3 Colchester E 17/18. Andreas Plüg has gone back to Germany. Colchester (and Essex) will miss him next year.

Southend & District League: Div 1 Rayleigh; Div 2 Wickford; Div 3 Southend IV.

**KENT** Champions 1996-7: Major Steve James; Intermediate Terry Sandon; Minor Terry Matthews. The Championship itself should be decided by now but last we heard it was still between Ian Watson and David Moskovic.

**LONDON LEAGUE** 1996-7

**Division 1** 1 Barbican 10/11 (with a game-point score bettered only once, by Kings Head); 2 Charlton 8½; 3 Wood Green 8... Relegated Wimbledon ½, Mitcham 1½.

**Division 2** 1 Mushrooms 9/10; 2 Beckenham & Bromley 8 (both promoted); 3 Richmond 7½... Relegated Kings Head II -1½, Streatham II 0; also Wimbledon II ½ as a consequence of their first team’s relegation, because a club can’t have two teams in any division except the lowest.

**Division 3** 1 Gravesend 8/9; 2 Wood Green II 7; 3 Hackney II 6½ (all promoted)... Relegated Philippine 0

**Division 4** 1 Kings Head III 8/10 (but cannot be promoted because Kings Head II blocked them by getting relegated into Division 3: obviously this rule works top down); 2 Hammersmith 7½; 3 International Students 7 (both promoted)... Relegated Islington -1.

**Division 5** 1 Ilford II 10/10; 2 Ateneo Monarchs 6½ (both promoted); 3 DHSS 6 (by half a game point ahead of West London)... Relegated nobody, because a team’s dropping out.

**Division 6** 1 Beckenham & Bromley II 6/6; 2 GLCC I 4 (both promoted); 3 Morley College II 2½... No one has to apply for re-election, and they’re expecting three new teams to make it eight next year.

**EASTMAN CUP** (London League KO) was won by Wood Green who beat Barbican 6½-3½ in the final.

Results Bob Turnham

**OXON**

Blackwells Oxfordshire Champion 1996-7 is Matthew Rose of Oxford City CC. He took three half-hour games to beat club-mate Jochen Wittmann after their 2-game final was drawn. **Plate** competition (don’t know exactly what this means) was won by Peter Ball, also of Oxford.

**Cowley Blitz** 23rd June 1997 raised £130 to assist Harriet Hunt with her expenses in the World U20 in Poland. 1 K Arkell GM (Long Eaton) 9/10; 2-3 S Hartlieb (Germany), J Wittmann (Oxford) 8; 4 T Headlong (Witney).

Results Lester Millin

**INSURANCE CC**

Individual Championship was a three-way tie (play-off coming) between PR Barclay, AGC Paish and MR Wiltshire. Major: 1 E Lovegrove, after a play-off with KS Parrott.

Inter-office leagues: Div 1 Ombudsmen; Div 2 Eagle Star/ABI. You played twice against the teams in your own division, and once against the teams in the other division. Ian Hunnable remarks that, if you count only the inter-division matches, all the Div 2 teams finished ahead of all the Div 1 ones. (This could have something to do with the fact that the Div 2 teams got four inter-division matches and the Div 1 teams only got three.)

**CONGRESS RESULTS**

**CHESHUNT** 8-9 March 1997

**Premier U182** (18 pl) 1 DG Flower 169 (Barbican) 4½/5; 2-3 R Bryant 178 (Guildford), M Mashayekh 174 (Ealing) 4... Grading U151 SC Pride 132 (Cambridge) 2

**Intermediate U122** (19 pl) 1-2 J Bradley 120 (Dunmow), B Culverhouse 95 (Chingford) 4/5; 3-6 B Alexandrou 110 (Powdermill), J Gorman 94 (Pin Green), L Trent 87 (junior: Ilford), C Turner 83 (junior: Powdermill) 3½...

Results Gary Kenworthy

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**21st KINGS HEAD RAPIDPLAY** 8th June 1997

135 played. 1 M Adams GM (Slough) 6/6; 2-7 S Lalic IM (Slough), A Summerscale IM (Slough), RH Thomas (Kings Head), C Tipplestone (Northampton), C White (Cavendish), J Xie GM 5; 8-16 J Anderson (Grays), S Berry (Kings Head), J Burnett (Chelmsford), D Cutmore, K Dan (?both Kings Head), H Hunt (Cowley), D Kumaran, G Moore (?both Hounslow), I Timmermanns (Kings Head) 4½... Grading 204-190 RH Thomas; 189-175 C Tipplestone; 174-160 DE Mayers (Marshall) 4; 159-145 K Dan; 144-130 R McSharry (West London) 4; 129-115 A Joelson (Hendon) 3½; 114-100 F Fields (Crystal Palace) 4; U100 D Muter 3. Junior 16-17 SK Williams 4; 14-15 M Roberts (Dartford) 4; 12-13 M Lewsey (Colchester) 3; U12 T Pettit (Richmond Juniors) 1. Best Game D Muter Results WA Suttill

**RICHMOND CHESS INITIATIVE** 22nd June 1997

**Open** (28 pl) 1-2 Gerald Moore (Hounslow), Gavin Wall (London) 5/6; 3-4 Susan Lalic (Sutton), Alan Perkins (Hanwell) 4½... Grading U200 1-2 Tom Hinks-Edwards (London), Steve Ledger (Bedford) 4; U175 1-2 Chris Clegg (Kingston), Russell Manning (Richmond) 3½

**U150** (37 pl) 1-3 Sarfaraz Chaudry (Hounslow), Gerald Jacobs (Stanmore), Simon Randall (Hanwell) 5/6... Grading U125 1 Nigel Knott (London); 2 Michael Henley (London) 3½

**U100** (29 pl) 1 Ricky Alboni (Twickenham) 5½/6; 2 Jonathan Somekh (London) 5; 3 Christopher Dixon (Sutton) 4½... U175/Never Graded 1-3 Christopher Manders (Ashtead), Jamie Manfield (London), Jack Seaman (Hounslow) 3

This was the last of six events in the **Latoka Engineering Grand Prix**, with seven prizes of £75 in seven grading categories. Unfortunately they don’t say what the categories were, but here’s the winners. Category A (top section) Alan Perkins (Hanwell); B Abimbola Adelaja (London); C Alan Punnett (Woking); D Daniel White (London); E Timothy Woodward (London); F Luke Pettit (Hounslow); G Ricky Alboni (Twickenham).

Results Richard James

**JUNIOR NEWS**

**BASMANIC KASPAROV COMPUTERS MEGAFINAL: WESSEX ZONE** 3rd (or 4th) May 1997

This one got missed out somehow last time round. Either it wasn’t in the list we received, or we just never thought “Wessex” would mean SCCU. Well, you wouldn’t. It meant Hants, Wilts, Glos, Berks and Oxon and it was held at Swindon. 192 boys and 44 girls played. Supremos first. **U18** None. **U15** Alister Smith, Joe Senior; Jennifer Smith. **U12** Kenneth Hunt; Catherine David. **U11** Joseph Mela; Alpa Jobanputra. **U10** Philip Hayward; Emily Constance. **U9** William Foster; Claire Morris. **U8** Richard Grantham-Reynolds; Emma Wilkinson. **U7** Peter Mennear; Naomi Miller.

**AND THE GIGAFINAL** 13th July 1997

They promised us Ultimi from this event. We wondered what the feminine of Ultimi was, and got an unexpected answer. Results (Ultimos first, Ultimas second): **U18** Richard Cleveland (Wales); Lucy Broomfield (Surrey). **U15** Richard Jones (Wales); Rachael Wilkinson (Somerset). **U12** Nicholas Timms (Somerset), Catherine David (Oxford). **U11** David Ho (Kent); Teresa Khoo (Surrey). **U10** Robert Payne (Essex); Jessie Gilbert (Surrey). **U9** Lee Gold (Middx); Margaret Donald (Cambridge). **U8** Robert Heaton (Surrey); Sarah Hegarty (Surrey). **U7**David Howell (Sussex); Naomi Miller (Oxford).

Terafinal (RFH 23 August) will be a one-day KO sponsored by Rotary Clubs of Great Britain.

**KENT** Schools League: Barming Primary retained their Under 11 title, winning the Congress 7.6.97 with a record score of 24/25. Barming’s the only school we know that has chess on the curriculum. Their “A” squad seems to have been their “A” squad for two years now, but it’s moving on in September. Bad news for everyone else is that their “B” squad qualified for the Congress as well and didn’t disgrace itself. Should be more open next year, though.

**“TIMES” NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Final stage took place at the Charing Cross Hotel 3rd and 4th July 1997. Semi-finals: Manchester Grammar 4 2 Methodist College Belfast; Oakham School\* 3 3 (bd count) Hampton School. Final Manchester Grammar 3½ 2½ Oakham School. Steve Davis (“indeed he is personality but with no side or affectation”) spoke at the prize-giving dinner and presented Fred Manning with his newly gained Presidents Award. We cannot say who the other recipients are because their names have not been released. Results Mitchell Taylor

**ENGLAND v WALES** at Chepstow (no date). No one’s sent these results and we don’t know who organised it - details picked up from *Chessex*. England won at all age levels, rather comfortably: U14 11½-4½; U11 24½-7½; U11 Girls 16½-3½; U10 20½-3½.

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| 236:8  **COUNTY MATCHES: BCF STAGE**  **OPEN** | |
| Semi-finals  **Lancs** 6.7.97 **Kent**\*  1 JE Littlewood 202 (W) ½ ½ Neil McDonald 236  2 B Lund 213 ½ ½ John M Emms 239  3 N Ivell 212 ½ ½ Philip J Morris 223  4 H Hughes 194 ½ ½ Ian R Watson 212  5 B Hague 197 1 0 Cliff R Chandler 206  6 P Jowett 183 0 1 Chris M Cooley 205  7 D Lees 182 0 1 John Naylor 202  8 B Dabulawicus 191 ½ ½ Andrew Mack 202  9 L Kay 182 ½ ½ Alan E Hanreck 199  10 S Barnes 0 1 Neil F Dickenson 193  11 D Newhouse ½ ½ Alexis M Harakis 191  12 CV Murray 167 ½ ½ RMR O’Kelly 191  13 S Appleby 158 ½ ½ John N Sugden 189  14 K Hoadley 161 ½ ½ David Farndon 190  15 P Fallon 1 0 David J Horton 188  16 S Riley 165 0 1 Gordon Botley 180  (Nuneaton) **7 9**  Lancs grades supplied by the Bulletin. No guarantees. | **Gtr Manchester** 7.6.97 **Essex**\*  MJ Surtees 203 (B) 0 1 A Plüg  AA Smith 198 0 1 J Rogers 225  M Firth 196 ½ ½ AP Lewis 212  P Adams 195 0 1 M Twyble 205  H Kampmann - 1 0 JP Manley 205  RA Beach 196 ½ ½ D Sands 201  DI Hulmes 183 1 0 G Moore 197  JL Powell 181 1 0 G Kenworthy 195  JP McKenna 80 ½ ½ J Hodgson 194  JL Burgess 175 ½ ½ J Goldberg 190  AK Reeve 173 0 1 J Burnett 190  GP Burton 173 0 1 A Dunn 185  RA Doney 161 1 0 JC Moore 183  A Tyton 154 1 0 W Saunders 181  D Sander - 0 1 RP White 178  A Longson 141 j ½ ½ R Parker 177  (Nuneaton) **7½ 8½** |
| Final  **Essex** 28.6.97  **Kent**\*  1 AP Lewis 212 ½ ½ Neil McDonald (W) 236  2 KCC Mah 213 ½ ½ DW Gormally 213  3 M Twyble 205 ½ ½ PJ Morris 223  4 J Manley 205 ½ ½ IR Watson 212  5 D Sands 201 ½ ½ SW Giddins 207  6 E Dearing 195 ½ ½ SD Brown 207  7 G Moore 197 0 1 CM Cooley 205  8 G Kenworthy 195 1 0 Richard Eales  9 J Burnett 190 ½ ½ Andrew Mack 202  10 J Goldberg 190 0 1 DM Moskovic 196  11 S Dunn 185 ½ ½ AE Hanreck 199  12 IJ Myall 184 0 1 NF Dickenson 193  13 JC Moore 183 0 1 AM Harakis 191  14 W Saunders 181 ½ ½ RMR O’Kelly 191  15 R White 178 0 1 PP Taylor 190  16 R Parker 177 ½ ½ JN Sugden 189  (Birmingham) **6 10**  All Essex grades except one supplied by the Bulletin. Kent grades supplied by the Bulletin as well, then Kent’s version arrived and we didn’t check too carefully. |
| **MINOR COUNTIES** | |
| Semi-finals  **Beds** 7.6.97 **Herts**\*  1 A Ledger 223 (B) 1 0 Paul V Byway 199  2 D Ledger 202 0 1 Steve Swanson 212  3 S Ledger 199 0 1 Neil Bradbury 205  4 P Habershon 186 ½ ½ Jerry F Rudge 194  5 R Richmond 184 ½ ½ Paul T Georghiou 195  6 J Koponen 181 0 1 Chiedu Maduekwe 193  7 B Valentine 175 ½ ½ Phil G Maguire 189  8 M Smith 174 ½ ½ Kevin R Clark 185  9 P Kendall 171 0 1 Simon J Roe 181  10 R Freeman 170 0 1 Alex N Ethelontis 180  11 R Mahoney 168 ½ ½ Howard L Tebbs 179  12 K Williamson 166 1 0 Chris E Majer 179  13 A Elwin 164 1 0 John R Denton 176  14 K Bush 155 1 0 Andrew Gilfillan 176  15 I Bacon 152 ½ ½ Stephen J Tovey 171  16 C Bullock 149 0 1 Steve Law 169  (Bedford) **7 9** | **Dorset** 7.6.97 **Oxon**\*  MJ Simons 194 (W) 0 1 S Ansell 217  GA White 186 0 1 H Hunt 217  B Hirsch 177 0 1 I Upton 199  MJ Freeman 180 ½ ½ M Devereaux 188  IC Clark 175 ½ ½ A Lewis 190  A Pleasant **- ½ ½** N Jakubovics1 187  MP Waddington 173 1 0 R Starkie 180  J Tyrer - ½ ½ G Chapman 174  CB Jenks 163 ½ ½ J Stayt 175  T Lines 162 0 1 L Millin 176  M Clancy 154 0 1 J Wittman 172  SC Crisp 153 0 1 D Hackett 175  KA Sarahs 153 ½ ½ D Bruce 158  TE Simms 152 0 1 N Jones 167 2  FC Kingdon 152 0 1 P Ball 150  LJ Laker 149 0 1 S Terry 1squigglesquiggle3  (Winchester) **4 12**  1 Match captain has Ja*c*kubovics again, but we’ve been assured the *c* is wrong. 2 Well, it *looks* like a seven. There’s a lot of N Joneses and one of them’s graded 167. 3*You* look it up. |

236:9

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| Minor Counties Final  **Herts**\* 28.6.97 **Oxon**  1 Simon JB Knott 218 ½ ½ S Ansell 217 (B)  2 Paul V Byway 199 0 1 H Hunt 217  3 Steve Swanson 212 0 1 A Hunt 203  4 Neil H Bradbury 205 0 1 J Hastings 197  5 Jerry F Rudge 194 1 0 M Rose 194  6 Chiedu Maduekwe 193 ½ ½ M Devereaux 188  7 Phil G Maguire 189 0 1 A Lewis 190  8 Kevin R Clark 185 1 0 N Jakubovics 187  9 Ben D Savage 186 ½ ½ T Dickinson 184  10 Alistair M Simpson 189 ½ ½ R Starkie 180  11 Simon J Roe 181 1 0 G Chapman 174  12 Alex N Ethelontis 180 ½ ½ J Stayt 175  13 Howard L Tebbs 178 ½ ½ J Wittman 172  14 Nicholas S Lee 180 ½ ½ D Hackett 175  15 John R Denton 176 ½ ½ D Bruce 158  16 Chris E Majer 177 0 1 N Jones 167  (Birmingham) **7 9** |
| **UNDER 175** | |
| Semi-final  **Essex**\* 7.6.97 **Warwicks**  1 Paul L Williamson 173 1 0 Keith L Escott 170 (W)  2 Roy Heppinstall 174 ½ ½ G Davies 166  3 Larry E Marden 173 ½ ½ Martin D Smyth 165  4 David J Millward 172 ½ ½ RT Farley 163  5 Peter C Doye 166 ½ ½ D Price 162  6 Sid Kalinsky 165 ½ ½ Colin Searle 162  7 Terry Whitton 165 1 0 Colin Green 161  8 Colin R Ramage 163 1 0 Wiatt Ropp 160  9 Neville H Twitchell 162 1 0 Karl L Foreman 157  10 Andy King 159 1 0 J Broadmore 155  11 Ken W Clow 158 ½ ½ Joseph M Soesan 155  12 Andrew D Hartland 155 0 1 Geoffrey N Stokes 153  13 Ray Purse 154 1 0 R Greatrex 150  14 Richard Weeber 154 0 1 Ian P Fisher 145  15 Roberto E Waldteufel 152 ½ ½ Arthur F Kent 144  16 Mark Weighell 151 1 0 B Briscoe 134  (Bedford) **10½ 5½** | Final  **Essex**\* 28.6.97 **Lancs**  Paul L Williamson 173 ½ ½ Stephen Mulligan 170 (B)  Roy Heppinstall 174 ½ ½ R Taylor 162  Larry E Marden 173 1 0 A Catz (r) 142  Ivor BN Smith 173 0 1 C Timmins 166  David J Millward 172 0 1 S Appleby 158  Peter C Doye 166 0 1 Mark Whitehead 158  Sid Kalinsky 165 0 1 P Mulleady 166  Terry Whitton 165 1 0 J Lyth 154  Colin R Ramage 163 ½ ½ S Riley 165  Neville H Twitchell 162 1 0 S Woodcock 161  Ian D Hunnable 161 1 0 S Foulkes 165  Andy King 159 1 0 Paul Isherwood 158  Ken W Clow 158 ½ ½ Joanne Alston 155  Andrew D Hartland 155 ½ ½ Jim Tennant-Smith 152  Ray Purse 154 ½ ½ P Furlong 151  Mark Weighell 151 ½ ½ AA Clarkson 145  (Birmingham) **8½ 7½** |
| **UNDER 150** | |
| Semi-final  **Warwicks** 7.6.97 **Essex**\*  1 Rob Reynolds 149 (B) ½ ½ PR Barclay 148  2 RJ Wallman 147 0 1 J White 148  3 SC Smith 146 0 1 TG Winter 145  4 K Thomas 146 1 0 David Smith 145  5 W Archibald 143 1 0 G Gooding 142  6 D Reeves 146 ½ ½ AJ Parsons 141  7 MA Drugan 141 1 0 P Zammit 139  8 K Jones 143 ½ ½ J Thompson 139  9 WJ Harwood 140 1 0 D Cannan 137  10 AM Russell 139 0 1 MRA Murrell 136  11 LE Collier 139 ½ ½ RD Sharman 134  12 TW Walker 136 1 0 JA Speigel 134  13 G Bates 136 0 1 CA Bates 132  14 M Soszynski 141 ½ ½ I Maclachlan 132  15 PD Hufton 120 ½ ½ D Bird 126  16 H Hughes 107 1 0 W Paterson 122  (Bedford) **9 7** | Can’t discover that we’ve had the other semi-final, but Herts lost to Notts. Notts beat Warwicks 9-7 in the Final.  We thank Jeff Douglas for sending all results from the Finals; also such SCCU match captains as bothered. Afraid we’re missing the odd semi-final result.  Congratulations to Kent on retaining their title, Oxon on picking up the Minor Counties, and Essex on winning the Under 175. Bit better than last year. We even managed one finalist lower down - which, again, is more than we did last year. |

236:10

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| **UNDER 125** | |
| No news, except that Herts must have lost to Shropshire in their semi-final. The Final was Shropshire 4½ 11½ Lancashire. | |
| **UNDER 100** | |
| Semi-final  **Notts** ?7.6.97 **Surrey**\*  1 Graham Gibson 99 (B) 1 0 Edward Radford 99  2 Mick Clark 98 1 0 Bill Upton 95  3 Dean Eggleston 97 0 1 Chetan Deva 97  4 Alan Freeman 96 ½ ½ Oliver Wilson 96  5 Richard Dyce 94 1 0 Chris Dixon 93  6 Steve Turner 94 1 0 Lana Boztas 93  7 Dorothy Blampied 94 ½ ½ Alistair Oaks 92  8 Ric Dawson 87 0 1 Tim Chase 90  9 Tim England 86 0 1 Laila Tillett 89  10 Alf Kowalkowski 73 1 0 Philip Cable 89  11 Ian Kwasny - 0 1 Richard Jones 84  12 Daniel Isterling - 0 1 Richard Davey 84  (Kirkby in Ashfield) **6 6**  Notts won on board count.  In the other semi-final, Essex played Suffolk and presumably beat them. | Final  **Essex** 28.6.97  **Notts**  1 R Pickett (?) 99? 0 1 G Gibson 99  2 B Mehanjedad 99 0 1 A Flint  3 C Wiggins 99 0 1 M Clark 98  4 E Lutton 95 1 0 D Eggleston 97  5 A O’Niel(?) 94? 0 1 E Middleton  6 C Turner 83 1 0 A Freeman 96  7 D Allen 87 0 1 S Turner 94  8 A Trent 80 0 1 O Graham  9 J Sneesby 84 ½ ½ D Blampied 94  10 S Trent 82 1 0 R Dawson 87  11 J Lutton 81 1 0 T England 86  12 H Walker 69 1 0 A Kowalkowski 73  (Birmingham) **5½ 6½**  Result from AJ Douglas; grades copied from the match on the left and from previous Bulletins. |

**SCCU COUNTY MATCHES 1997-8: OPEN FIXTURES**

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| Oct 11 HBr KBu SyE  18  25 *(4NCL)*  Nov 1 CH BrK BuSy ESx  8 OC  15 SyBr SxBu KC HO  22 *(4NCL)*  29 BuE OK Csy BrSx  Dec 6  13 | Jan 17 EBr SxC KH SyO  24 *(4NCL)*  31 BrBu CE HSy OSx  Feb 7  14 BuC SxH SyK EO  21 *(4NCL)*  28 OBu HE KSx CBr  Mar 7 *(SCCU U18 qualifier)*  14 BuH EK BrO SxSy | These dates should be regarded as final barring agreement by match captains. Don’t re-arrange anything for the 7th March, that’s the date of the SCCU U18 team qualifier. And do tell the Controller and Bulletin about re-arranged dates.  All Open matches are over 16 boards.  4NCL dates include the Sunday as well, and the one that wouldn’t fit is May 23-25.  Other SCCU divisions: entry deadline 15 August. |

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Dear Richard (and Stewart)**, 4.6.97

Re: Jack Hawson’s letter about ungraded Congress entrants, I suggest calculating their grades after 3 rounds (or 3 graded opponents) and then transferring them, with their scores, to more appropriate sections if necessary. I realise this could disturb the maintenance of even numbers within sections but (a) some players will have withdrawn by the end of rd 3 and (b) any “left-overs” could be cross-paired between sections, as already occurs sometimes. The only problem would be getting the grading computer to understand what has happened, but that is *its* problem: it must do what we want it to.

Grading lists once a year are sufficient. More frequently would create difficulties for local graders and everybody would be uncertain how up to date a list was, i.e. whether handfuls of additional results were simply not yet included. Result: confusion.

Yours sincerely,

**JA Speigel** Southend

PS After all these years Jack Hawson is suddenly calling himself John again?!

**Jack** (definitely not John) **Speigel**

Copy to SW Reuben

236:11

**CONGRESS DIARY**

Aug 3-16 BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP CONGRESS at Hove. Congress Secretary, BCF, 9a Grand Parade, St Leonards, E Sussex TN38 0DD

8 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

9 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU

23-25 BERKS & BUCKS at Maidenhead.

31-6 PAIGNTON (unhelpfully named the Holiday Congress, sideways on). 7 rds except U150. Open; U170, 125; U150 5 rds; plus small graded sections U160. EA Crickmore, 5 Hereford Close, Exmouth, Devon EX8 5QT

Sep 5 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

28 LIVERPOOL Stars Barred Rapidplay. U130, 100. First Prize, both events, £500 (no misprint). I Lever, 34 Rushlake Drive, Netherley, Merseyside L27 7BN

Oct 3 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raoof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982

4-5 SPECTRUM WORCESTER. Norman Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM18JT  01708 551617

17-19 MAIDSTONE BCQ. Open; U160, 130, 105; Open Rapidplay Sunday, under BCF rules it says. You get a surprise when you open the congress leaflet. NC Mackett, 74 Peel St, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2SD

**Correction**

**SCCU U180 Jamboree** 12.4.97: Result board 1 should be Horton 0 1 Sedgwick; 8 should be Ratcliffe 0 1 Hepworth. Sorry. *Think* the scores add up now. (I didn’t check them. For matches, I check. Jamborees, no.)

Surrey appear twice in the list of mean grades; the one on the end should be Essex.

**Quotes**

“Isle of Man CA.” - Bulletin, page 4.

“Gender-specific expression. Consider replacing with ‘Person’.” - Bulletin’s grammar-check. (For those who care about such things, the word it was looking for is “sex”.)

“Beginners, children and weak chessplayers.” - Congress leaflet.

“Do you mind if I stand up? My hearing’s not very good.” - Someone at a meeting recently, on rising to speak.

**Apologists’ Corner**

“Excuse me, before we all die of boredom.” Not the politest person at the BCF Council Meeting 12.7.97

“Excuse me!” - But this one had him beaten all ends up. Same meeting, lost count of the number of times.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** *Chessex* for May/June and July; *ChessIns* for July.