



BULLETIN

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Important grading announcements: page 4

The News Bulletin of the
SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION

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Mr Lauder holds the office of Life Vice-President.

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Here we are again. The new Grading List has one or two notable omissions; for a complete list of events graded, see Brian Locke's introduction printed in the List itself. For extra information on supplementary grading services available, see the article by Trevor Jones on a later page of this Bulletin.

The Local Grader is an endangered species. The proposed BCF central grading computer (which could be taking over in 3 years time) would do the sums itself, though it would still need local organisers to feed it the game results, identifying players by reference numbers. Looking up the reference numbers and filling the form in doesn't sound like my idea of fun; it would be just as tedious as grading and less rewarding, and the possibilities for error would be huge. Not that they aren't already, of course; but the LG network does help cut the errors down a bit.

I confess to a profound ignorance about the proposed scheme. I've read through BCF material strong on technicalities (meaningless to me) and weak on what the thing would actually do. Maybe I've just not read the right things. One thing that seems clear is that it would cost a lot. If it can make up for that by saving time, that would be a plus. Has it ever occurred to you that even the average "Y" grade is virtually a year out of date at the moment of publication? (And yet the interim list, which goes some way towards solving that problem, has not sold well. Curious.)

The SCCU system will not be accepting grading results this year from non-affiliated congresses (except for junior events and some County ones). I have no idea what proportion of congresses has affiliated so far but time will tell. The Charlton organisers have rumbled and refused but I hope they're in a minority. It would be nice if the cumbersome levy system could be entirely replaced by payment-by-event; but I think I've said that before.

SCCU BULLETIN

The September issue of the Bulletin is given away "free" with the Grading List. Sorry if you didn't want it, but why not read it anyway? Who knows, it could be a revelation to you! And no, you haven't paid 40p for it despite what it says on the cover. That's the price if you want a single issue posted to you.

If you happen to be a County Secretary or Match Captain, you need the Bulletin. We give full results of all County matches and other details essential to County Officers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The SCCU Executive met on Friday 4th September 1981. Apart from purely routine matters, the main points covered were:

- (1) Grading: There was some discussion, in the nature of things rather inconclusive, on the proposed central grading scheme.
- (2) County Second Team and Minor Counties competitions: The Union had just received, rather to its surprise, some rules from PM Shaw suggesting that both these competitions were to start this season. The rules did not appear to have been seen by the BCF Management Board, and there was no way the Executive could discuss them until it had had a chance to read them. The only thing it could do was to accept them provisionally and ask the Counties if they were interested. Obviously more thought will be needed. (Ed:- We hope to give more details on a later page if we get hold of a copy of the rules in time.)
- (3) Counties and Districts Correspondence Championships: The Union's request for promotion and relegation throughout has been turned down. Surrey were particularly incensed about this, but the general feeling was that we had done all we could or should.
- (4) Junior Organiser: The Executive appointed Peter Morrish to fill the vacant post. He has long been associated with SCCU junior organisation.
- (5) London Indoor Games Exhibition 26-7 September: The Union had wondered whether it could assist with the Chess Stand. Unfortunately the organiser had proved uncontactable, and the idea had to be dropped.
- (6) London Junior Championships: Without the Evening Standard sponsorship to draw on, these are in some financial difficulties. The Executive agreed to guarantee up to £50 from Union funds against possible loss.
- (7) Berks Juniors: It was proving very difficult to bring Berks into the "Metropolitan" Under 18 matches, though they had agreed to play at the central venue used by the other four Counties. (The issue was complicated by the fact that nobody seemed to know whether the competition was really an SCCU one or not.) Mr Morrish will be asked to consider Berkshire's case sympathetically.
- (8) Dates:

Executive meetings	4 Dec	Annual Council Meeting 1982;
	5 Feb	
	25 Apr	19 June

Ed: please don't write in to say you expect formal notice of the Annual Council Meeting to be given in the proper way. It will be.

BCET SCHOOL SHIELDS

The British Chess Educational Trust awards Shields annually for outstanding attainments and enthusiasm in British schools. The usual procedure is for Counties to make nominations to the Union, which will adopt (normally) one nomination and pass it on to the BCET. Nominations should reach the SCCU Secretary by the end of November. Please allow plenty of time for the Executive to make its decision.

LETTERS

In the last issue we commented that players shouldn't be allowed to appear for more than one team on a regular basis in the course of a season (in the SCCU competitions, that is) and suggested a rule to prevent it. The brainchild was: "No player may in the course of a season make more than three appearances outside the team he plays for most often." Mr Green, whose original letter provoked our comment, speaks first:

Dear Mr Haddrell,

In the first paragraph of your note about Distinctive County Teams you stress how greatly you agree with me. I fear that the rest of your note shows that we are far apart.

I think that for most players the honour lies in playing for his County; which team doesn't matter. Why then this concern for a "distinctive" team? Is it something to do with the Minor Counties Championship?

The example you give of a keen player who in a season plays thirteen times for his County doesn't horrify me - it delights me, and would I expect delight most County Captains. Yet you call him a "freelancer", which is meant to be disparaging, isn't it? If he'd done anything illegal it would be his captain who should be blamed. You agree that no rules were broken, and I can't see that his keenness merits disparagement.

You offer a "remedy", but until the "defect" (if there is one) is defined, no new rule can be drafted. Isn't a reasonable list of nominated players a better protection against abuses? You will have observed that your draft rule wouldn't have had any effect on your "freelancer" until his 11th game. (Ed:- I protest! It would have disqualified him on his 7th game.) By then, late in the season, with the Captain of the I team desperate for him to fill a vacancy, your rule says that he can't - he's tied to the II team and has played more than three games outside it. The Captain will clearly have already tried all the better players, so by your rule he must play an inferior one. Surely that couldn't be the effect you wished to achieve?

I suggest a New Season's Resolution - be kind to County Captains! They are hard workers taking on a frustrating task. A good standard by which to judge any change of rule would be - does it make a Captain's job easier or harder?

Yours sincerely,

FPE Green

Hove

Dear Mr Haddrell,

I hope your invitation to reply to your comments of the July Bulletin extends further than Mr Green.

If I were a county match captain I think I should be very happy to have one or two "freelancers", as you call them, to step into the breach at a moment's notice - certainly I'd not regard their keenness as "out of place". As to the suggested remedy, your remark about refinements to the drafting is a little gem of understatement.

I wonder if the real point might be quite a different one: namely, that there are players who ought to appear in a 1st or 2nd team's nomination list but do not because, like the player in your example, they like to put themselves about. If that is the case, then the course of action I would recommend is as follows:

- (a) an amendment to the rules so as to require the counties to nominate, as a minimum, their x strongest regulars;
- (b) conferment on the Tournament Secretary of discretionary powers of acceptance or rejection, e.g.
 - i) if a nominated player had made fewer than, say, 3 appearances the previous season, it would be reasonable to question his nomination;
 - ii) conversely, if a previous season "regular" were self-evidently stronger than the weakest of the nominees, it might be equally reasonable to add his name to the list as a supernumerary.

It seems to me that the present rules are an open invitation to nominate "ghost" players - and the more of these the more scope for freelancing.

Yours sincerely,

WJ Hawthorn

Ilford

Dear Sir,

I noted from your report of the Annual Council Meeting that one member suggested that he would like to see the First and Second team matches of the Inter-County Competitions played simultaneously. It was no doubt proposed in view of the Executive considering ideas for reducing travelling expenses and fixture congestion, and there is indeed some merit to the suggestion.

On reading further the letter from Mr Green to your good self and your reply, I thought that if the First and Second teams did play simultaneously then the problem of overlapping would be eliminated. There perhaps would be only the necessity to introduce the rule that players who take part in such matches should be immediately barred from playing for the Third or Fourth teams etc.

It appears to me that should no other problems exist to prevent the idea from operating, then travelling expenses should be considerably reduced by hiring a coach for the two teams. This would ensure that each player makes a contribution towards the travelling expenses. In addition, fixture congestion should be overcome, and possibly the expense of hiring one hall instead of two would be more economical. Furthermore,

instances of one player playing for three teams as you have noted would be overcome, although the overlapping of the marginal players of the lower First team boards and the higher Second team boards should not be considered unreasonable. The Captain of the Third team would really have to discover talent on occasions and not just rely on First and Second team players to complete his team.

To conclude, perhaps the aforementioned member has enabled a solution to be attained on a number of items, and I believe his suggestion should be seriously considered.

Yours sincerely,

FRE Elliott

Brentwood

Ed:- The eligibility rules come up for discussion at the next Executive meeting (4th December). Will Counties or individuals with ideas to offer please tell the Secretary (and of course the Bulletin if they want to go into print).

Stung by accusations of understatement we have refined the Brainchild. It now reads: "Any game played such that there is no team such that the player has not played more than three games in any other team or teams will be lost for him by default and will be deemed thereafter not to have been played."

Seriously, though, we do need to decide what we mean by 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams.

CONGRESS RESULTS

NINTH ANNUAL CHARLTON CONGRESS 17-19 July 1981

Open 1 SM Taulbut IM (Swindon and Charlton) 6/6; 2 R Bellin IM (Gt Yarmouth) 5½; 3 C Chandler (Gravesend) 5; 4-8 AC Kosten (Islington), D Murphy (Petts Wood), W Watson (CentYMCA), M Pein (Wood Green), CW Pritchett (Islington) 4½... 92 played. Grading 180-190 SG Dighton (Athenaeum), ID Thompson (Tunbridge Wells/WECU), RW O'Brien 4; 170-179 RV Elliston (Hastings); U170 JW Kamps (NL). Under 18 SC Conquest (Hastings), JR Richardson (Lewisham).

Major 1 K Faber (NL) 6/6; 2 PJ Gibbons (Sutton) 5½; 3-5 SJ Abbott (Upminster), CS Swick (Harrow), RJ Everson (Dartford) 5... 95 played. Grading 140-150 PJ Needham (W10), D Conterno (NW11) 4½; U130 JD Pratt (Popley), OA Namouk (Athenaeum), DJA Hughes (Lewisham) 3½; 130-139 WW Francis (Western District PO) 4½. Under 14 CM Hawthorne (Paignton).

Minor 1-2 G Imbens (NL), TJ King (Swanley) 5½/6; 3-6 B Engelkes (NL), P Finch (Beckenham), M Hennigan (Muswell Hill), W Stanton (Islington) 5... 104 played. Grading 100-115 H Bakhshi (CentYMCA), G Clifford (Charlton) 4½; U100 R Charlton (Charlton!), SM Goss (Wimbledon), C Knight (Sidcup), L York (Frome) 3½. Jnr U14 JD Bakhshi (YMCA); U12 P Hawthorne (Paignton); U10 A Eachus (Muswell Hill). Results "Checkmate"

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL BERKS AND BUCKS Amersham 28-31 Aug 1981

Championship 1-2 WR Hartston, SM Taulbut 4/5; 3 JC Saunders 3½; 4-5 CE Hill, D Weyns (Belgium) 3... 16 played.

Premier 1 D Carless 4/5; 2-3 A Hall, APR Lewis 3½... 14 played

Challengers A 1 MJ Buxton 4/5; 2-4 W Broome, RN Dixon, M Johnstone 3½... 14 pl

Challengers B 1 PR Rawcliffe 4½/5; 2 M Lucey 4; 3 H Manning 3½... 14 pl

Reserves Tournaments: "A" 1 N Lane 4½/5; 2 EB Sandercock 4; 3-4 J Beedle, P Rose 3... 14 pl

"B" 1 A Buckland 4; 2 D Lewis 3½... "C" 1 I Pagani 4; 2-3 R Noakes, S Knight 3½... 14 pl

"D" 1 RPF Whitewood 4; 2-4 C Leigh, FN Copping, TJ Brown 3½... "E" 1 TJ Wainwright 4½; 2-4 R Buzzard, Gareth Parker, J Fairclough 3½... "F" 1 TS Norways 4½; 2-4 R Davis, T Jarvis, R Jones 3½... (All 5rds, 14 players except "E" 16)

Bucks Examiner Cup: Ian Pagani. Bucks Free Press "Tripartite Shield": Bourne End Club. Mrs J Stean Cup for most promising U14: Gareth Parker.

Lightning Tournament 1 R Granat; 2 JJ Ady; 3 A Jackson... 60 played

Simul: Bill Hartston scored +25 =3 -4 (RD Barnett, Jonathan Beedle, GW Naldrett, P McTighe) Results AJ Cox

WORLD GIRLS UNDER 16 TOURNAMENT Westergate 24-30 Aug 1981

1 Zsuzsa Polgar (Hungary) 6/7; 2 Jolanza Rojek (Poland) 5½; 3-5 Susan Walker (England), Heleen de Greef (Holland), Baraka Shabazz (USA) 5; 6-8 Cathy Forbes (England), Anja Dahlgrun (W Germany), Vesna Markov (Yugoslavia) 4½; 9-12 Mandy Hepworth (England), Teresa Needham (England), Jessica Harmson (Holland) 4... 32 played.

Girls from 18 countries took part in the first ever World Girls U16 "Championship". This was the first international women's/girls' event in this country for nearly 40 years. Space forbids a list of local sponsors (44, at least). "Farmers, Directors, Managers, public relations officers and in particular, secretaries were astonished at the breadth of the plans to bring girls from all parts of the World to a Sussex village, but requests for practical and financial help received an amused and sympathetic response. The first cheque came from a Parish Council, then a sack of potatoes, what about a gross of eggs, a box of apples, a stone of fish, daily deliveries of bread and milk, then a cheque from an industrial manufacturer, and so it went on and it soon began to accumulate."

The girls and their seconds were all accommodated at a local residential centre.

Results P Barton (Tournament Director)

(HT Jones, Flat 2, 11 Guildford Rd, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1SW: TW (0892) 35639)

1. GRADING SERVICES

The range of grading services has been greatly enhanced over the past year by my writing a program that can: -

(1) Select all players noted as belonging to a given county or club (with optional restrictions about being juniors or alternatively about having played at least 15 games in 2 years);

(2) Sort these players into any desired order (e.g. by clubs, by counties (with a few exceptions), alphabetically, in grade order, etc);

(3) print out the resulting list in various different formats giving (inter alia) 3 or 4 years history and either up to 3 clubs for each player or current and past years' totals of games and grading points (as well as grades).

Note that besides giving more details these lists include players insufficiently active to get officially published grades.

I can supply immediately on a first-come-first-served basis:

(A) All players noted in any specified club with at least 1 game in 2 years (the requirement for inclusion in the graders' "master list"), giving current and previous 2 years' grade, games and points.

Price £0.50 + SAE at least 9" x 4" (or £1 without SAE)

(B) All players noted in any specified county with at least 15 games in 2 years and 1 game in current year, listing 4 years' grades and up to 3 clubs per player, sorted into order of grade except (for technical reasons) Kent which comes out as 3 lists and Essex as 2.

Price £2.50 without SAE.

(Item B may be repeated if there is sufficient demand, but otherwise unsuccessful cheques will be returned within a month.)

(C) On a special order basis, the complete list selected as for B, with either type A or type B information.

Price £15

(D) A county or individual can have a complete list of the county's players sorted properly and printed to its own requirements, using type A selection.

Price £5; one or two duplicate copies £0.50 each. Or the list can be re-sorted and printed in a different order at the same time for £1 extra.

(E) A club or individual can have the "itemised input" for up to 8 players. In a general way this means that each player's record is split up to show his results for each separate congress/league etc, giving in each case his total of games and points and his average grading performance. Occasionally things get lumped together. This job involves more work for me than A to D and can take up to one month to be run. There is no refund if the job shows up any errors, though of course errors can be put right for future years.

Price £1.60, plus £0.20 for each additional player after the 8th.

(F) An appeal fee of £5 against a grade can be paid. But this is not recommended as a refund is only made if there is an error of more than 4 points due to a mathematical or administrative error (e.g. giving you somebody else's games). This does not cover results omitted and you do not get a printout; but you do have to list all your games and results with the events played in.

2. GENERAL ENQUIRIES

All enquiries to me, or to another grader, should be accompanied by either a stamped addressed envelope or the appropriate fee payable (for SCCU services) to the Southern Counties Chess Union. (If you want the cheque paid in within days rather than a month or so, I accept cheques payable to me personally; but this is not preferred.) Please note that grading takes a lot of time - 140 hours for me since June - so replies, unless very brief, may take a month. Furthermore I am not prepared to spend time assessing an individual's set of results, except possible as may be required under (F), or investigating why particular games are not graded, except possibly for a fee by negotiation. The latter sort of enquiry should be taken up with the organisers of the event concerned. I see my job for the SCCU merely as:

i) writing and amending programs;

ii) providing computer-printed information;

iii) making "final corrections" during the summer months to grading data actually submitted by graders and discovered to be in error (most commonly due to problems with identification of players and sometimes due to clerical errors).

HT Jones

Editor's note: I quite often get enquiries about grading, presumably because I distribute the Grading List. I am not a grader, except in a very small way, and the most I can usually do is to refer enquirers to their local grader or to the organiser of the event they're worried about. I am happy to help where I can; only please don't try me until other avenues have failed.

ESSEX: Championship was won by GF Yates 6/7 ahead of P Birleston, IJ Myall, IBN Smith 5. Minor Championship P Heath 5½/7.

Essex League Div I 1 Writtle 22 (in their first season); 2 Wanstead 20. Div II 1 Harlow 24; 2 Wanstead II 21. Div IV 1 Greys 18; 2 Barking III 12; Div III 1 Barking II 21; 2 PERME 17

KO Trophy: Upminster beat Chelmsford 3½-2½ in the Final to win for the 5th consecutive year(!).

Lightning Championship 1-2 IJ Myall, RW O'Brien 5½/8

Junior Lightning Championship ES Lee 6/7

North Essex League: Div I 1 Chelmsford A 23/24; 2 Writtle A 19...; Div II 1 Writtle B 17/22; 2 Chelmsford C 15. Div III 1 Harwich A 23/26 1 2-3 Witham C, Writtle C 17...

N Essex League KO: Chelmsford beat Billericay A 3½-½

N Essex Individual Premier R Latter (Braintree) 6/6; Challengers G Langosz (Marconi). Al Scibor Trophy for best individual score in league matches: I Robson (Writtle) 6/6.

KENT: County Cup Final, after a lot of argy-bargy, has eventually gone to Charlton.

Individual Championship 1 IR Watson 1½/2; 2 JD Wager 1/2; 3 MP Cook ½/2 after a play-off. The County is considering plans to turn this event into a congress instead of the played-in-people's-homes event.

Correspondence Champion is Ian Telfer (Canterbury).

Charlton CC 15 minute Handicap Tournament was won by Clive Davis 32/40.

Annual match Thanet v Rest of E Kent 4.7.81 at Ramsgate was won 15½-9½ by the East Kent side.

Leonard Barden gave a simul at the Lindown club 13.7.81, scoring +?23 =2 -1 (AR Bellinger). His verdict: Kilndown, with 55 members, can claim to be England's village club. Six ladies and girls played, including 14 year old Susan Scott who drew. The only other adult club in England which can boast so many active female members is Portsmouth Co-op and there are plans for a match between them by telephone.

6th Ashford Junior Championships: U18 Simon Fairhall 4%/5; 2-3 Phillip Beale, Christopher Burn 4...; U13 1 Graeme Jenkins 6/6; 2-3 Lovene Bhatia, Darren Temple 5...; U10 1-2 Roland Rosier, Keith Dolding 6/7... (1 Sep 1981; 64 played. JJ Ady gave a simul after the prizegiving +14 =1 -0.

SUSSEX: The county second team, victim of the lost central venue and "politicking in the SCCU" (sorry: - Ed) has gone the way of all flesh. With the 2nd team now in the Amboyne competition, the Union will have its work cut out deciding how to nominate 2 teams (or is it 1?) for the new BCF 2nd teams Championship. (We see it's 2. Thank you News Flash.)

SCCA Jamboree in May: 1 Brighton I 6/6; 2 Crawley 5...

SW Sussex League: 1 Worthing A 14/16; 2 Chichester 13...

McArthur Cup was won once again by Brighton.

The Other Westergate Event will be sponsored again by Amey Roadstone Corporation in 1982. (We mean the Young Masters, if you hadn't realised.)

Nothing much from the other Counties. Please send in your local news, County bulletins and what have you. Club news is not despised! If Kent tend to figure largely in "Round the Counties" that has little to do with the Editor's affiliations and a great deal to do with the fact that the County has two independent magazines which arrive on our doormat with gratifying frequency.

LLOYDS BANK MASTERS 25 Aug - 2 Sep 1981

1 RD Keene (Eng) 7/9 (tie-break); 2-3 Y Seirawan (USA), AJ Miles (Eng) 7; 4-7 F Gheorghiu (Rom), Kraidman (Israel), M Hebden (Eng), Murey (Israel) 6½; 8-21 V Smyslov (USSR), Arnason (Israel), MG Chandler (NZ), Formanek (USA), Ginsburg (USA), Saily (USA), van der Sterren (NL), Barua (Ind), Cox (Eng), Flear (Eng), Gerbert (W Germany), Gobet (Switz), McCambridge (USA), Treppner (W Germany) 6... 112 played.

The players, from 22 nations, included 7 GMs, 13 IMs and numerous other titled players; the event was the strongest ever international Swiss after Lone Pine.

The Lady Masters, incorporated in the main event, was won ex aequo by WIMs Jackson, Fischdick (W Germany), Miles and Polihroniade (Rom) 4½. Jana Miles was the only one to make a plus score against the men (4/7).

The Masters is part of the Lloyds Bank £18000 sponsorship programme to help British chess, with the emphasis on juniors. Lloyds Bank Scholarships enabled a number of BCF Squad juniors to take part; J Cox of Eton College made an IM norm and three others drew with Smyslov (but didn't everyone).

In a 25 board Lloyds simul the England U17s won 7 games and drew 9. Smyslov made the traditional complimentary remarks ("as good as our juniors in Russia"). We forgot to say Smyslov was giving the simul.

Lloyds Bank Junior Masters (incorporated in the main event): 1 Dibhendy Barua 6; 2-4 John Cox, Philipp Gerbert, Fernand Gobet 6...

Junior Invitation (alongside the Masters): 1 Neil Carr 6½/8; 2 Kenny Shovel (Highgate) 6½; 3-6 J Emms (Norwich), D Holmes (Paisley), P Johnstone (Teddington), N van Noorden (Farnham) 6... 100 played.

Second Team and Minor Counties Competitions 1981-2

The BCF Council Meeting 11.7.81 decided in principle to run both these competitions without, so far as we know, deciding when. The SCCU heard 4.9.81 that they would start this season and received the next morning an (amended) version of the rules "as they will appear in the Year Book". The BCF has not informed the Counties, but the SCCU has and if County Secretaries have not had details they should contact Jeff Douglas (SCCU President and Inter-County Organiser) as soon as possible. We need to know which Counties are prepared to accept nomination for the BCF stages. Nomination is up to the SCCU and we have at present no agreed method of deciding which teams to nominate; the Executive must decide at its next meeting 4.12.81. This means, if we are to use the normal inter-County competitions, that we shall be making the decision after some of the relevant matches have been played. There could be problems over Sussex II who play in a different competition from the other 2nd teams, and it is not at all clear how we go about finding a Minor Counties nominee. The Bulletin is delighted the BCF has got these competitions under way this season, but can't quite see why it took them 7 weeks to inform the Unions. In the circumstances more notice would have helped. Anyway, the basic details are:

Second Teams. The only BCF restriction seems to be a grading one: for the final stages, every player must have a published grade under 200. We can't actually find anything in the rules to bar first or third teams from entering. The Union nominates two Counties, the "Champion" and "runner-up", selected in whatever manner it thinks fit.

Minor Counties. Open to all Counties which have not reached the BCF stage of the Counties Championship in the last 5 years. Excluded therefore are Middx, Kent, Essex and Herts. ("Does look a little like Cambs or Surrey as favourites!" - Newsflash.) The Union nominates one County. (Could Surrey II enter?)

The Championship is as before. Final-stage matches in all three competitions are played simultaneously (last Sat in April, first Sat in June, first Sat in July) barring mutual agreement to play a match earlier. What happens if the same team reaches the final stages in both Championship and MC we don't know.

The old rule making a player ineligible for the second team if he has played more than twice for the first team on boards 1-16 is retained. In the first team's previous 5 matches, that is. It's not clear how the "previous 5 matches" would be defined if the 1st team were an MJ Minor County playing some matches which did not count for the Minor Counties competition. Well, that's impossible this season.

It would be open to the Union to run a special Minor Counties qualifying competition (?jamboree; ?KO) quite distinct from the Championship and MJ leagues. We notice that one MJ match is scheduled for the 3rd April, 2 days after nominations have to reach the BCF. That's a second team match, so problems there too...

All ideas, comments etc to Jeff Douglas, please. And of course the Bulletin if you wish.

NOTES FOR MATCH CAPTAINS

season 1981-2

Jeff Douglas's notes should have reached match captains but in case any have gone astray we give a summary:

- (1) Lists of nominated players must reach Jeff before the start of the season.
- (2) Adjudication fees. These are: Adjudication £2; Appeals £3. Over the last 2 or 3 seasons most Counties have found it convenient to deposit a sum of money with the adjudications secretary against future fees. In future such deposits should come from County treasurers rather than individual match captains. They should be sent direct to the adjudications secretary, Dr RHS Philips, 16 Cae Rhedyn, Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran, Gwent. He will keep accounts and advise you if funds are running low. Any balance at the end of the season will be returned or credited against next season as you wish. If you do not lodge a deposit, you must send the adjudication fee with each claim.
- (3) Adjudications must be sent to Jeff in duplicate. They must reach him within 7 days of the match; if they do not, your claim may be forfeit.
- (4) Match results must also reach Jeff within 7 days. (And please also send them very promptly to the Bulletin, in full. A photo- or carbon copy of the one you send Jeff will do fine. Don't wait for adjudication results, the Bulletin gets those direct. If you don't send it we can't publish it, and if we don't publish it it won't get graded.)
- (5) Please tell Jeff, and Nigel Dennis, if you change the date of a match.
- (6) Rules: Copies have been sent to the Counties. More are available if required.

ADJUDICATION RESULTS from way back:

Essex - Oxon (Championship) 25.4.81 14 R Heppinstall v S Horwood is still obscure. We have a note saying Heppinstall resigned the game but suspect that could be the wrong way round.

Essex III - Kent III 25.4.81 5 R Young 1 K Staines (conceded).

SOME BCF NOTES

BCF Congress 1982 has lost its venue: the Twickenham people upped their rent unacceptably. A replacement venue is urgently sought and anyone with ideas is asked to contact the BCF.

NATIONAL CLUB/NATIONAL MINOR CLUB 1981-2: You should be in time to enter if you contact the BCF quickly.

Controllers are urgently required for the National Club/Minor Club and BCQC zones. For BCQC contact PM Shaw, 47 Summerville Gardens, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey O1 642 4836; for the others contact the BCF.

Times National Schools KO: last we heard they were still accepting entries. Send SAE to BCF office.

BCF Yearbook 1981-2 is "scheduled" to appear 1st October. Price before then £2, after £2.50. Orders to BCF office.

MORE CONGRESS RESULTS

12th THANET 4-6 Sep 1981

Open 1 MJ Franklin (S Norwood) $4\frac{1}{2}/5$; 2-4 S Brown (Gravesend), B Eley (Rotherham), JR Richardson (Sydenham) 4; 5-9 JJ Ady (Ashford), D Carless (High Wycombe), RG Eales (Canterbury), R Granat (Merton Park), ID Thompson (Tunbridge Wells) $3\frac{1}{2}$... 36 played. Thanet prize GR Tidmarsh (Herne Bay).

Major 1 I Hames (Ramsgate) $4\frac{1}{2}/5$; 2 C Hann (Hastings) 4; 3-7 NR Calver (Dartford), DM Cooper (Coventry), M Greaves (Broadstairs), RW Parsons (Ashford), RE Walker (Orpington) $3\frac{1}{2}$... 34 played

Minor 1 AR Wise (Catford) $4\frac{1}{2}/5$; 2-4 A Carpenter (Eastleigh), AD Hargreaves (Whitstable), SC Robinson (W Wickham) 4; 5-10 G Coleman (Cricklewood), F Dussetti (Ashford), J Halse (Ramsgate), J Horton (Birchington), GSM Jenkins (Ashford), K Konior (W Wickham) $3\frac{1}{2}$... 40pl
There was a Special Prize in each section for the outright winner. Results MR Croft

LEWISHAM 11-13 Sep 1981

Open 1-5 KC Arkell (St James's Rednell), SG Dighton (Athenaeum), M Hebden (Leicester), JR Richardson (Lewisham), JN Sugden (Beckenham) $5/6$... 93 played. Grading U200 S Macauley (Wood Green), SD Brown (Hayes Kent), PP Taylor (ditto) $4\frac{1}{2}$; U180 RA Barton (Loughborough), Miss T Needham (Guildford), SJ Rodericks (Finchley), CNJ Rose (Streatham), BL Baer (Muswell Hill) $3\frac{1}{2}$; U160 JE Pattle (Kingston), PJ Rossiter (Portsmouth) $3\frac{1}{2}$. Junior (Batsford books) U18 NF Dickenson (7oaks) 4; U16 SC Conquest (Hastings) $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Major U150 1-2 I Galloway (Hayes), AR Wise (Lewisham) $5\frac{1}{2}/6$; 3-5 MA Brewer (Charlton), W Stanton (Islington), JW Cunningham (Lewisham) 5... 92 played. Grading U130 P Dansey (St Neots), MH Wood (Lewisham) $4\frac{1}{2}$; U120 N Redmond (Metropolitan) 4; U100 DH Ramsey (Fulham) 3. Batsford Junior: U18 M Barnes (Nottingham) 4; U15 A Raoof (Catford) $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Best game prize (judged by RG Wade) went to D Murphy (Petts Wood). Results AP Smith

REVIEW

2 SICILIAN Murray Chandler: Batsford 110 pp £4.95 paper covers. Figurine algebraic.

Yet another offering from Batsfords in the "Tournament player's repertoire of openings" series edited by RG Wade. This difficult variation has been occurring with increasing frequency at master level and has to date had the disadvantage of limited published material. Murray Chandler has changed all that by successfully writing a book which is not only useful for reference but instructional for players wishing to tackle a new version of the Sicilian. The explanations of the variations at the beginning of each chapter are satisfyingly clear and for once this is not a sorted series of games. The book divides into three distinct parts a) 2...d5 b) 2...Nf6 c) others; which are each treated with sufficient detail and without undue bias.

The quality and layout of the book seems above the usual Batsford standard except for their abysmal text checking. Yet again impossible moves and un-English spellings occur which are so unnecessary and can be so easily avoided by good text checkers.

Nevertheless this is the most impressive Batsford publication that I had read and all credit to the author, Murray Chandler, this young International Master from New Zealand who has been living in Britain for some years has had many successes on the UK Swiss circuit and has won some notable international tournaments. May he succeed and write even better books. Good value.

JES

STUDY CHESS WITH TAL Mikhail Tal and Alexander Koblenc: Batsford 178 pp £6.95 paper covers. Translated from the original 1978 German edition by Mike Price. English descriptive.

Beware the title. This isn't a course of study, it's an annotated collection of 40 Tal games played 1956-1976 (or thereabouts: they're not arranged chronologically). The annotations are mostly Tal's, though that is the extent of his co-authorship. Koblenc has prefaced each game with pseudo-didactic comments and (more usefully) attempted to involve the reader by stopping now and then to ask him what the next move should be, or

could have been; often hiding the answer away at the back. There is no very obvious pattern to the book except that until half way through you get the impression that Tal's opponents never castle.

Take the book for what it is rather than what it pretends to be, and it's superb. All the old Tal magic is here; some of the games are almost incredible. The notes are deep and objective (Tal errors are noticed). The layout is acceptable, though I do like to see the actual moves in column form rather than jumbled in as here, albeit in heavy type, with the notes. (Yes, I know that takes more room.) The diagrams, no doubt lifted from the German edition, have a dated look not typical of Batsfords but will do. The translation reads like English, and I have not spotted any textual errors apart from some aberrations with players' names (including that of Koblenc which is spelt two different ways).

The book is not cheap at £6.95. My copy of PH Clarke's 1961 Tal collection (which incidentally contains 11 of these games) cost 21s; which probably inflates to something similar but then there's more in it and it is a hardback. I know this is irrelevant.

Afterthought: Who is the young man on the cover? Can it be Tal in 1956?

RJH

SOME JUNIOR ODDMENTS

Kilndown Chess Club in Kent (and sorry about the odd spelling of their name on page 5) held a "Junior Day" 25.7.81 attended by 15 members aged 7 to 14. The children were split into two groups for tuition on various aspects of the game, with an hour off in the middle for a game of football. The day ended with a sponsored simul given by RG Bellinger who made +14 =0 -1 (R Bellinger!). The children were charged nothing for the day - indeed refreshments were free - and it is anticipated that over £70 will be made for club funds. The event was felt to be a considerable success and extremely worthwhile. You can do this sort of thing without...

BCF Assistant coaches. A recent BCF weekend course produced 11 more qualified ACs. We were going to print the names of the SCCU ones until we realised we couldn't locate some of the towns they live in. See September Newsflash. Afraid we have not heard when and where the next course is to be held.

Kent Schools League entries are down this year, to 208 teams. Can this be the result of County cutbacks on things like mini-bus subsidies? Are other Counties feeling the pinch?

The British Chess Educational Trust is appealing for donations/deeds of covenant. The Trust supports the BCF Junior Training Scheme as well as helping local organisations and assisting our best juniors to compete in international events. Demand grows each year. Write to The British Chess Educational Trust, 13 Whitecross Avenue, Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 9HZ.

And Congratulations to Stuart Conquest on his World Under 16 Championship.

From the SCCU Junior Organiser

Peter Morrish, the new Junior Organiser (address inside front cover), sends us the following message for all County Junior Organisers.

- (1) With your co-operation I hope to keep abreast of much of the activity in all the Counties; only you can tell me! No one can liaise or co-ordinate in a vacuum.
- (2) Please note the Junior dates listed on the back page, and tell me when you have fixed dates for your own events.

(Ed: - Apologies for putting this under "oddments", but the September Bulletin is always a bit haphazard. Please remember that Peter Morrish, whilst hardly a stranger to junior chess, is new in this job and needs to make as many contacts as possible.)

NATIONAL CLUB

The Final between Kings Head and Wood Green was due to be played 6.9.81 but we have not heard the result. What we have heard is that Kings Head presented the BCF earlier this year with a 6000 word (!!) report recommending the establishment of a National Club League - presumably in addition to the existing National Club Championship. England is "the only major European chess nation which does not already operate a national league". All clubs which reached the last 16 of this year's National Club were asked their opinions; 11 replied and 6 of those were "strongly in favour" in principle, though some expressed financial reservations. Sponsorship money would have to come from somewhere.

The report also made recommendations affecting the European Club Championship. (No English club has ever got beyond round 2.) We understand the BCF has agreed to put appropriate proposals to FIDE.

Kent Summer Quick-play Tournament has been won by Ashford who beat Charlton 10½-5½ in the Final - no mean feat.

A reader complained last time that one of his favourite congresses hadn't been included. Reason: we didn't know about it. Moral: if you want to make sure your pet congress gets a mention, ask the organisers to send us a brochure. If you're a congress organiser yourself... verb sap.

- Oct 2-4 EAST WALES at Llanwrtyd Wells. Open. JS Evans, 11 Park Close, Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan.
- 2-4 WORCESTERSHIRE at Bromsgrove. Open; U151; U126. K Morgan, 8 Little Orchard, Droitwich, Worcs.
- 4 BEDFORDSHIRE at Dunstable. Graded sections. K Liddle, 1 Lime Tree Close, Sundon Park, Luton, Beds.
- 9-11 PERTH. Three graded Swisses, about U120, U150, 150+. A Borwell, 3 Broomhill Ave, Perth.
- 9-18 NORTH DEVON at Woolacombe:
9-11 Minor U131; Golden coast U176
12-16 Open
16-18 Minor U141; Open.
MFE Clarke, Chapel House, Morwenstow, Bude, Cornwall.
- 11 BELPER. I Iglesiaas, 10 Broom Close, Belper, Derbyshire.
- 18 CITY CHESS OPEN QUICKPLAY at Highbury Hill. Open. G Goodwin, 63 Aberdeen Park, London N5
- 18-24 LLOYDS BANK GUERNSEY INTERNATIONAL. Open. Chess Festival Secretary, St Peter Port, Guernsey.
- 23-25 ROCHDALE CENTENARY. Open; U160; U120; Junior U16/12. R Plant, 7 Harrow Ave, Bamford, Rochdale.
- 23-25 SCARBOROUGH. Open; U161; U136; U111; Junior U18. DCG McGregor, 15 Pinewood Drive, Scarborough, N Yorks.
- 24-25 HERTS at Hitchin. U211; U166; U146; U126; Junior U11 Sat, U13 Sun.
33 Brampton Park Rd, Hitchin, Herts.
- 24-25 LONDON JUNIOR OPEN TEAM. U21/16/12, 4 bds, club or school teams. G Goodwin, 63 Aberdeen Park, London N5
- 30-1 LIVERPOOL. Open; U150; U125. J Johnson, 7 Hetherlow Towers, Liverpool L4 6SL
- Nov 6-8 SEAHAM. Open; U136. E Fawell, 36 Burdon Crescent, Seaton, Seaham, Durham.
- 15 STEVENAGE. Graded sections, 40 min each per game. Stevenage CC, 33 Ely Close, Stevenage, Herts.
- 20-22 WEST WALES at Aberavon, near Port Talbot. Open; U151; U114. AM Davies, 2 Pwlldu Lane, Bishopston, Swansea SA3 3HA
- 27-29 TORBAY at Torquay. 5 rd Swisses: Open; U156; U126. P Short, Blue Horizon, Nut Bush Lane, Shiphay, Torquay TQ2 6LD

COUNTY SECRETARIES and others: please note these new officers. We don't know if all will be in the new BCF Yearbook.

Essex Junior Organiser GA Novik, 121 Woodford Ave, Gants Hill, Ilford O1 550 2633
Publicity/Bulletin Editor NH Twitchell, 41 Mayfair Ave, Ilford O1 554 5497

Herts Secretary John Leake, 26 Oakfield Rd, Harpenden, Herts
1st team captain P McGuire, 240 Grace Way, Stevenage 2912
Magazine Editor Dr JE Priddle, 46 Warren Way, Digswell, Welwyn 5489

Kent 4th team captain R Parsons, 31 Gorse Mead, Brookfield, Ashford 35127

Middx 1st team captain DJ Stewardson, 16 Brambles Close, Isleworth O1 560 4298

Sussex 2nd team captain Dr DJ Opie, 21 Fairfield Way, Haywards Heath 51541 (only we have a feeling they're still calling it the 3rd team. We hope so.)

ADVERTISEMENT

TOURNAMENT CHESS SUPPLIES

PE Morrish, 3 Elmside, 55 Stoneyfields Lane, Edgware HA8 9SG

The April 1981 price list is still (Sep 1981) in force but I regret I shall have to revise this soon. Note the special collection points - organisers in Kent, Middlesex and Essex who are collaborating to eliminate the heavy costs of postage.

Book orders are now being dealt with at the Edgware address as Edward Penn is expecting to move shortly.

Ring O1 959 1758 with enquiries.

We hear that Phillips and Drew and the Greater London Council will once again sponsor the Phillips and Drew Kings Tournament (15-30 April 1982). There will be a record-breaking prize fund of £12500 and the event should be the strongest ever held in London.

SCCU FIXTURE LIST 1981-2

This list was correct on the 5th September 1981 though there may be subsequent alterations. The home team is named first.

Teams competing:

Championship: Berks, Bucks, Cambs, Essex, Herts, Kent, Middx, Norfolk, Surrey, Sussex

Montague-Jones: Beds, Essex II, Herts II, Kent II, Middx II, Oxon, Suffolk, Surrey II

Amboyna: Essex III, Kent III, Middx III, Surrey III, Sussex II

Ebony: Essex IV, Kent IV, Surrey IV

Date	Championship	M-Jones	Amboyna	Ebony	Junior	
Oct 3		MO BdK ESk				3
10				ESy		10
17	CBu SyM KH BrN SxE		SxE KSy			17
24		SkH KM OSy		KSy		24
31	SxC EBr NK HSy MBu		EK MSx			31
Nov 7		SyK BdSk HE			KE MSy	7
14	CM BuH SyN KE BrSx		KM SyE			14
21		EBd SkM KO		KE		21
28	BrC SxK ESy NBu HM		MSy SxK			28
Dec 5			EM		KM SyE	5
12		OE SyH	SySx			12
19						19
Jan 9		MBd				9
16	CH MN BuE SySx KBr		ESx SyK			16
23		SySk ME BdH		SyE		23
30	KC BrSy SxBu EM NH		KE SxM			30
Feb 6		HM Esy SkO		EK	SyK ME	6
13	CN HE MSx BuBr SyK		MK ESy			13
20		KSk				20
27	SyC KBu BrM SxH EN		SyM KSx			27
Mar 6		BdSy HO EK			SCCU U18 Jam.	6
13	EC NSx HBr MK BuSy		SxSy ME			13
20						20
27		KH OBd				27
Apr 3		SyM		SyK	BCF U18 Jam.	3

Some other junior dates:

- Oct 24-25 North London Junior Team
- Dec 30-3 London Junior Championships
- Mar 26-28 SCCU Junior/BCF Junior Squad U21/16/12/10
- Apr 15-18 North London Junior Championships
- 23-25 SCCU Junior/BCF Junior Squad U18/14, Girls U18

Will all match captains please send the full score of County matches, junior included, to the Bulletin for publication. They are unlikely to get graded otherwise. Be prompt!

SCCU BULLETIN

Complimentary copies are sent to all known editors of County publications and we would appreciate reasonably frequent copies in return. Drop us a line if we've missed you. We are also hungry for copy from all sources (club news, simuls, views, grouses, anything). We do publish games when we've room but prefer them shortish and annotated.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: BCF Newsflash for August and September; Charlton Chess Club Annual Report; Check Mate for September; Open File for July and August; SE London Primary Schools CA News; Sussex Chess News for summer/autumn; Westward Ho! Grading Edition.