



BULLETIN

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SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION

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Facts we try to get right. Opinions, unless otherwise attributed, are the Editor's.

EDITORIAL

I was surprised, at the September Executive meeting, by the vehemence with which one or two delegates attacked positive discrimination in favour of girls (see Juniors, page 4). I can't recall it ever surfacing so forcibly before, at SCCU level, though Girls events seem to have been with us for ever. I'm something of a fence-sitter myself. I feel that positive discrimination is patronising (except, I suppose, when it's done by women). I wouldn't run an all-female event. But Polgars notwithstanding, lots of female players must disagree with me since they go on playing in them. And accepting Ladies Prizes. So long as there's a demand for discrimination, we may as well go on providing it.

Is positive sexual discrimination patronising? I've never objected to it in tennis or shot-putting. Muscular inferiority is easier to accept, somehow, than intellectual inferiority. Once you accept that females are inherently inferior, in the chess-playing department, I suppose discrimination makes sense. "Feminists" can put the vitriol down, I haven't accepted it. I just try, unlike some of them I think, to avoid facile assumptions. (Did you see someone's just proved that men's IQ is 4 points higher?)

If social engineering's the game, I'm not convinced that positive discrimination's the right way to go about it. Will it stop the girls dropping out at 11+? Hasn't so far. Could be it's just divisive. There is another kind of positive discrimination, in favour of the less able, which no one seems to object to. Grading limits. Is it my imagination, or are grading limits in the conventional sense almost non-existent in junior chess? And is it a coincidence that all-female events are largely confined to juniors? Bruce Birchall is to be congratulated on mooting junior events with grading limits (see page 7), and I'll now be swamped with letters from people who've been mooting them for years.

I've been making a huge, and probably facile, assumption. I assume that female players are weaker than male. So, presumably, do the positive-discriminators. Yet I've never seen any sort of grading breakdown to prove it. Anybody got one?

SCCU GRADING LISTS: price

A mistake by the Bulletin's word processor, for which the Bulletin accepts as little responsibility as it can get away with, resulted in an order form going out last time with incorrect prices on. We got the price of the BCF List right. Correct prices:

SCCU Grading List 1994	£4.00
(5 or more to same address, £3.80; any number collected, £3.60)	
BCF List 1994	£9.00
(collected, £8.60)	
BCF Rapidplay List 1994	£2.25

Cheques payable to SCCU.

Available from Martin Cath, 6 Northwood Avenue, Purley, Surrey CR8 2EP (081 660 6252)
BCF Direct Members may deduct £2 from the price of the BCF List and 25p from the price of the Rapidplay List.

The word processor apologises to Martin Cath for the considerable inconvenience he has been caused.

STAN PEACHEY

Dr Stan Peachey died unexpectedly, from natural causes, while on one of the canal boat holidays which he so much enjoyed, in France on 15 August 1994. He was 52.

Stan was born and brought up in Brighton and he was cremated there on 8 September in the presence of his two sisters, their families and his friends from many walks of life.

Stan obtained a degree in physics from St Johns College, Oxford and was awarded a doctorate at Sussex University (where he once had tea with Virginia Wade). He once claimed that his thesis "mapped a useful blind alley in particle physics".

After a brief period as a schoolteacher, Stan found his niche in the computing world with IBM. He worked for them in various capacities for over twenty years before taking early retirement a couple of years ago. He was mainly based in London but made several trips "abroad" in which category he included both the USA and Basingstoke.

One of his specialities was automatic cash dispensing. He pre-empted any requests for advice on how to break into them by almost always being willing to lend a fiver to his friends at the Kings Head. I think that the only occasion on which he turned me down it was with the words "Sorry (dramatic pause) for technical reasons it will have to be a tenner".

Stan had a talent for music (both classical and jazz) and had the rare gift of sight-reading. He played the piano at a "Barnes soiree" about once a month. He also played the harpsichord and his small (third-floor!) flat contained both instruments. He "confessed" that, in chess terms, his music grade would be about 200 and that he might have made it to master strength if he had chosen to pursue this particular interest. He was also a gifted singer in his youth but in recent years had mainly

restricted his performances to an annual "Festival of Nine Carols and Pints".

He was also dragged to Paris and Cardiff for some international rugby, one of the few matters on which he professed total ignorance. He was, however, fully aware of the gourmet opportunities that such trips offered - especially Cardiff.

I came to know Stan in the snug bar of the Kings Head in Bayswater where he had been a regular since the late 1960s.

The popularity of chess at the Kings Head rekindled Stan's youthful enthusiasm for the game. He started playing again for a few years (including match games at such forgotten venues as St Brides Institute and 7 Lonsdale Rd) but in the early 1980s directed his chess interest mainly to the administration of the game. One of the last occasions on which he pushed a pawn in anger was when he defeated fellow chess administrator Tony Suttill in the Kings Head Rabbits Championship - Tony's last competitive game.

In addition to representing Middlesex at meetings of the British Chess Federation and Southern Counties Chess Union, Stan performed various specific roles for the Middlesex County Chess Association and the Kings Head Chess Club.

Stan was Middlesex grader for over ten years and had just managed to complete the grading of last season's results shortly before his death. He had for the last three years organised the Middlesex Team Knockout Competition (Winters Trophy). From 1991-93 he served the maximum two years as Middlesex president, a role in which his patience and wisdom were invaluable. He was still on the Middlesex committee at the time of his death and his opinions at a difficult meeting held shortly after his death would have been most welcome.

Although Stan always emphasised that he regarded the Kings Head as a pub first and chess club second, he became involved in the chess there in many different ways including as chairman of the AGM and one of the organisers at the twice yearly open tournaments which the club organises at the Porchester Hall. One of these roles was master of ceremonies ("the Voice") and there must be many chess players who think of Stan when they think of the Kings Head.

Many of Stan's happiest hours were spent in the snug bar where he could converse on almost any subject. His wide knowledge was put to good use on the Times crossword where he almost always had "a letter in every space".

He will be sorely missed.

Andrew J Whiteley

SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive met at Tavistocks, where we hold AGMs, on Friday 2nd September 1994. 16 or so attended. Main points:

(1) The BCF and the Grass Roots. Your Editor arrived half an hour late but mistimed it and this item was still in full spate. Reference was made to the NCCU's paper to the BCF the subject. Some topics touched on: (a) attracting new members to clubs (can the BCF help?). (b) twice yearly Grading Lists. Thought mostly impracticable, for leagues at any rate. An NCCU county notoriously submits hardly any games. But the attractions for juniors were obvious. For more on grading, some of it said under "Grass Roots", see below. Grading came up in at least three different places in the meeting. (c) Junior coaching. Some felt that the real grass roots coaching gets done by grass roots people, and were not sure what the BCF's role would be. Apart from providing money. (d) Newsletter to clubs. Pretty well the only NCCU suggestion to get no support. What would it be? What would club secretaries do with it anyway? (Guess.)

(2) Grading. Martin Cath, Grading Secretary, said the SCCU List should be out any time. It had attracted more advertisements than last year. Herts, Kent and Surrey had ordered county lists.

It was widely felt that the grading list should have a more legible typeface. The SCCU list is reproduced from a print-out supplied by the BCF's computer, and therefore shares the dot-matrix appearance of the BCF's own list. Someone said he had heard that the BCF had given somebody a county list on disc. If they could provide selective lists on disc, we could use one to produce an SCCU List to our own specifications. We would investigate. It was remarked that if the BCF are indeed supplying county lists on disc, they are taking away potential Union sales.

The Hammersmith League grader had submitted no results this year, so that was excluded from the BCF and SCCU lists. However, it was possible the results might arrive in time to go in the BCF Master List - the one graders work from. You may remember the same thing happened with the Hillingdon League last year, with the result that lots of people got Master List grades differing from their published ones. On that occasion Martin Cath produced a comprehensive list of changes and sent it to the relevant club secretaries. The "A"-grade ones went in the Bulletin as well. That will not happen this year, because Martin was told last time round, by the BCF Grading Director, that publication was contrary to BCF policy. The rule seems to be that if you complain about your grade and they change it, you get a bit of paper to wave at

anyone, like congress organisers, who might want to know. But if the BCF change your grade on their own initiative - because of late results, for example - you will not be told. Your original grade is official, and counts for eligibility purposes; your new one, in the Master List, will be used only for the purpose of next year's calculations. The Executive asked Martin to pass on its reservations about this. Many congress organisers, for example, have Master Lists and will use them. (Ed: - At the very least the BCF ought to tell everyone what the policy is.)

The story of the "thrown" games at Hastings continues. Martin excluded these games from his calculations at the congress secretary's request. However, the congress secretary then got into trouble with his committee who felt that the player should have been given the chance to speak for himself. Martin was therefore asked to put the games in after all, and did. Then the BCF Grading Officer, who we believe was at Hastings and may have witnessed some of the games, took them out again. It is unlikely that Martin will exclude games in future unless he is sure the player has been told and allowed to defend himself.

(3) SCCU International events. The results of the recent event, run by David Sedgwick, should be on another page. (He did announce the names of the top scorers, but the Bulletin can't spell any of them till the typed results arrive.) 59 players had taken part, a pleasing advance on last year's 41. He said he would no doubt be willing to continue for another year. He has personally guaranteed the event against financial loss both times so far; the Deputy President hoped this wasn't part of the President's job.

The Executive discussed the wider International scene in the Southern Counties. What was around, and to what extent should the Union take the initiative in organising events? The Lloyds Bank Masters - "the only major International in London" - has, of course, lost the Bank's hefty financial support and is set to disappear. The BCF, so far as we know, has no big sponsors in sight but its "first priority" is the BCF Championship Congress. (Which is not to say, of course, that if a company wanted to fund an International in London the BCF would tell them they had to sponsor the British instead.) Potentially there is an International in Hastings for August 1995, and plans are well in hand for the Menchik Memorial at Maidstone 24 Oct - 2 Nov 1994. There had been a "very good" response from strong foreign female players. It looked at the moment as though the event would probably be a Swiss, with all players FIDE-rated and all norms available. Sponsorship promised is (very) well into four figures and includes Menchik money from the BCF and something from the Friends of Chess. (Your Editor doesn't think the Kent Association will object if he reveals that it is also chipping in substantially.)

The Executive took no view on the extent to which the Union should involve itself. The Treasurer was not happy about committing the Union financially, at least without going to an AGM. All county reps were urged to get their counties to discuss this and report back. Someone said he was sceptical about feedback to counties from the Executive, and would take this as a test.

(4) The Welch Inquiry. No, we hadn't forgotten. The report was not ready. The Executive provisionally arranged a Special Meeting to discuss it on the 21st October, which time it ought to be available. There was always the possibility that the report might not call for urgent discussion, and in that case we doubt if anyone would object to cancelling the meeting.

(5) SCCU Individual Championship and British Championship Qualifiers. There was some support for the idea of giving the SCCU Championship a permanent home. (Sutton probably, since it is now much larger than Southend and Essex as well as being more central. The SCCU International was also mentioned.) The Executive on the whole, however, preferred to keep it moving. It is Sutton's turn anyway in 1995. The Executive did not feel able to make a decision pending the outcome of the Welch inquiry; the meeting referred to under (4) was about the latest we could leave it.

SW Reuben had said he would consider giving extra BCQ places to SCCU congresses, though he would not put them in the Union's gift. Since then he had rejected Southend 1995 as lacking both size and strength; Kings Head, and the Hastings Weekend in January, had both got one. Sutton, we believe, had thought it best to postpone their application. The Union still has three places in its gift, and it is unlikely that any congress is going to lose what it's traditionally had. The Autumn congresses still have nothing.

(6) BCF Things. A Management Board meeting, if you remember, was called at very short notice for the 7th August to discuss a proposal not to consider ND Short for the Olympiad. NDS saved them the bother by telling them, a few days before the meeting, that he was not available. We understand his reasons have nothing to do with animosity towards the BCF, or English chess, and he would expect to be available in future years. Let us hope the MB does not get the same proposal to talk about next time round.

When this was reported to the SCCU Executive your Editor asked, naively, how long the MB had managed to make the meeting last. Answer: about 2½ hours. The meeting had been called for the NDS proposal but nevertheless had five other items on the agenda. One of them was the question of who to support in the FIDE elections. Your Editor knows nothing about the various tickets. The BCF MB will either make a decision, or

mandate their - our - delegate to vote as he thinks fit.

David Sedgwick suggested in the last issue of the Bulletin that the MCCU had abused proper procedure in calling the meeting at the last possible moment. He accepted at the meeting that the MCCU had had no improper intent.

(7) SCCU Leagues 1994-5. It was confirmed that if counties play extra, friendly, boards there will be a game fee surcharge later. If they want them graded, anyway. There was little else to discuss but it was reported that Middx might have to withdraw their U100 team; which would mean a completely new U100 fixture list. (Ed: - This has got rather overtaken by internal Middx events. See pages 5 and 9).

(8) Juniors. Bruce Birchall proposed a new "Mixed Team" U18 event, for which he had secured an offer of £130 from Menchik funds. There would be a minimum requirement of so many girls per team (and so many boys as well, just in case anyone was thinking of entering an all-girls team). Not all of the Executive were happy. Some felt that you ought to consult the counties before doing a thing like this, and others were against any sort of discrimination in favour of girls. BHB said the aim was to encourage counties to find out who their girl players were. Points which seemed to carry weight with the Executive were that (a) this would be a new event, not supplanting anything else; (b) someone had to take initiatives, and you could always drop it next year if it was a disaster; and (c) if you're going to take Menchik money you have no choice about the positive discrimination anyway.

BHB has found a suitable new venue, five minutes (walk, we think he said) from Haverstock School. This is the Maitland Park Gym, and costs much less than Haversack.

(9) Future meetings. Executive 21st October (see 4 above); 24th March; 12th May. SCCU Council Meeting 24th June 1995.

The meeting lasted about three and a quarter hours.

BCF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING 24th September 1994

If you want to skip the Bulletin's personal account of this meeting, you'll have wait till a later page. Somewhere at the end, no doubt. The earlier pages will get duplicated before the meeting happens. Mustn't be late again...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Richard,

5.8.94

With no July Bulletin in sight I was just about to send out a search party when - plop - it finally arrived. I say, you do know it's August?!

Ref previous Bulletin: OK, you don't like adjudications, I detest quick-play finishes. Administratively convenient, yes, good way to conclude a game, no. My suggestion was to avoid first flag-fall deciding a game, or blunders being made to avoid it. Anything is better than that! Neither is there any way I would control a tournament with an infinite-moves QP. [Ed: - We excise what seems to be a reference to something in the July "Chess".]

Anyway, here's next year's sub, and a short story the August/July Bulletin reminds me of, going back many years now, when invitations used to read "Please bring a clock if you have one". One lad turned up to a junior county match with an alarm clock. It's perfectly true: you can't invent a story like that!

Kind regards,

Jack (Speigel)

Southend

Ed: - Don't people ever lose at the first time check in traditional chess? Or blunder avoiding it? I see the SCCU International used QPF rules but without the initial time check. And stressed that they really meant QPF not QP, though they didn't offer a new name for the rationalised QP"F". The Bulletin hasn't thought of one yet, either. Expect Jack will have one.

Richard,

8.8.94

Sussex Chess 1994 will be delayed until the end of August, as we hope to get the other team fixtures published - it's a pity entries don't close until August 15th, but I understand some counties want to see the new grading list before deciding what to enter. I will, of course, send you a copy...

I'm sorry the Sussex-Leics semi-final didn't reach you - I thought I'd sent it out: June was a particularly hectic month. One enclosed for interest [see page 8]...

I have every sympathy with Chris Howell's comment. To hold the Finals at Birmingham gives midland teams an inbuilt advantage, especially in terms of travelling. You will notice that Leics' concept of a $\frac{1}{2}$ way venue was Amphill (where?). There was, for some players, the consolation of Shefford [Ed: - sorry if wrong: not quite legible] Bitter at 98p a pint.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Watson

Hon Sec, Sussex CA

Dear Richard,

Sundays [218:7] have inferior public transport to Saturdays - particularly disadvantageous for any venue requiring use of a local bus from the railway station (e.g. Oxford, arguably Orpington) or a train journey with complicated connections. (Or a local station with a poor or zero Sunday service, but I can't think of any applicable to known venues.) I would also probably have to miss church for a Sunday match.

Yours sincerely,

H Trevor Jones

Guildford

Ed: - This arises from a comment last time, by Bruce Birchall, about the Middx U100 team. I printed it as "U150", having failed to read his writing.

Dear Richard,

12.9.94

Middlesex County Chess Association

I write to let you know that a clash on the proper running of the affairs of the MCCA between on the one hand Bob Turnham, President, and Simon Spivack, Treasurer, and on the other Bruce Birchall, came to a head at a meeting of the Association's Executive Committee on 5th September, the result of the ensuing debate being such that both Bob and Simon felt they had no option but to resign, this taking effect immediately.

A special meeting of the Association's Council, by resolution of the Executive Committee that same evening, is to be called to appoint a new President and Treasurer and to discuss other matters that have arisen. The meeting will probably be held in early November. In the meantime I, as the deputy President, have been appointed by the Committee as acting President and, perforce, acting Treasurer.

You are, I believe, reporting elsewhere in the Bulletin the unexpected death of Stan Peachey while on holiday in August. Striking a personal note, I find it very sad that all that has occurred took place three days prior to Stan's funeral. His loyalty to the Association, the respect in which he was held and his sheer common sense are already sorely missed.

Chris Fewtrell has been appointed to succeed Stan as Middlesex grader for the season 1994-5. Chris has agreed also, at my request, to be the County's temporary delegate to the SCCU Executive Committee.

Stan was also controller of the 1994 Winters Trophy. All his working papers are in his flat but I can announce that Barbican I won the Trophy. The Plate has been won by Metropolitan II, on tie break. It will be some time before all Stan's chess papers can be sorted and then released by the family and the administrative hiatus within the Association resolved, and I would ask prize winners to bear with us just for the moment. I shall prepare a report on the competition for the Bulletin once I have all the papers.

County teams 1994-5 season. Middlesex have entered teams in the Open, the U125 and the U100. We do not now have teams in the U175 and the U150, the newly appointed captains having resigned and it being too late to be certain of finding replacements.

Yours sincerely,

Tony (Suttill) Acting President, MCCA

Ed: - The two match captains resigned about the same time as the President and Treasurer. Whether their reason was the same I can't say, but I did hear disputes came into it.

Dear Richard,

13.8.94

Permit me to clarify [Ed: - amplify?] the game fee exemption situation affecting BCF Direct Members as reported in the July issue of the SCCU Bulletin.

(1) Direct members are exempt from payment of the game fee when playing in congresses registered with the BCF under the Game Fee Scheme. This means a saving of 20p per "standard play" game or 5p per "rapid play" game. These reductions are based on the game fee set for the year commencing 1 May 1994.

(2) Registered congresses should allow Direct Members to deduct the relevant amounts from entry fees e.g. a saving of £1 for a 5 round "standard play" event. In turn registered congresses do not pay the game fee to the BCF for 5 games played by Direct Members.

(3) Some congresses offered reduced entry fees to Direct Members even before the Game Fee Scheme was introduced. It is entirely up to each congress organiser to decide whether to offer Direct Members a reduction in entry fee over and above the game fee calculation. As many Direct Members are enthusiastic congress players, a generous discount on entry fee will no doubt encourage them to play in the particular congress!

(4) BF Corporate Vice Presidents can obtain the following reductions in entry fees to the Leigh Interests National Club Championships in 1994-5: Open £5 per team; Major/Intermediate/Minor £3 per team; Rapid Play £1 per team. There is no limit to the number of teams for which a club may claim these entry fee reductions.

I am pleased to say there is an encouraging increase in BCF Direct Membership and full details of entry fees and benefits for individuals or clubs and other organisations can be obtained from the BCF at 9a Grand Parade, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN38 0DD.

Incidentally, should any county decide to take out Corporate Vice President membership, they can claim a £3 reduction in the entry fee for each team entered into the counties championships 1994-5.

A Game Fee Scheme Information Pack is available on request to the BCF office at St Leonards.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Fewell Officer i/c Direct Membership Scheme

Dear Richard,

Another Bulletin success! The first to tell me that I am on the BCF constitution committee (218:3) is your production! (And, so far, the only one!)

Chris (Lean) Herts

Ed: - I took this ironically at first ("another Bulletin cock-up"). Re-reading it I don't know. In fact I'm assured that Chris was elected to the position, in absentia, and I daresay the BCF will have told him by now. Will he accept it?

KENT Summer Quick-play, finishing for once before September was a week old, went to Maidstone for the second year running. They beat Rainham 10-6 in the Final.

SUSSEX County Championship went to BJ Denman who beat GH James $1\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$ in the final. East Sussex Queen JA Dodgson; West Sussex Queen RD Hirsch; Veterans Champion FW Brown.

McArthur Cup Northern The Holt; Western Worthing; Central-Eastern Hastings. Semi-finals: Hastings 5 1 Worthing; The Holt 2 4 Brighton. Final Hastings 3 3 Brighton; Brighton won on board count.

Sussex Jamboree (Bickerstaff Cup) 9.7.94 1-3 Brighton II, The Holt, Worthing; 12 teams played.

Schools Championships: U18 (12 entries) Christs Hospital; U16 (9) Bexley High School; U14 (16) Dorothy Stringer High School; Girls (4) Farlington School. Entries include 8 schools that played no matches!

Mid-Sussex League: Div 1 Brighton I; Div 2 Eastbourne II; Div 3 Crowborough II; Div 4 Bognor & Arun. A bizarre occurrence in a (5-board) league match: "After the games had been in progress for some time it was realised that board 5 was competing against board 1 and so on. The two captains agreed to continue..."

South-west Sussex League: Bognor & Arun.

From a club report: "The Any-Play-Any is likely to be won by *****, the current leader." Must ask them for a copy of the rules.

HERTS results on page 11.

JUNIOR NEWS

Bruce Birchall, SCCU Junior Organiser, writes:

GIRLS UNDER 18

National Second Team Girls Finals are to be run for the first time this year, alongside the rest of the County U18 Finals, in Nuneaton on the 8th April.

There will be a "Major" and a "Minor" final, both of 6 boards, both for 6 teams. Our SCCU Jamboree on the 4th March will be a qualifying event. Girls 3rd Teams will be allowed in the Minor Final, if all the places are not taken up. Preference would be given to 3rd teams that played in their local qualifying event.

So start finding out who the girls are in your county, and whether you could muster 3 teams! You can do it, as the song says, if you really want. Note the following rules:

- A player in a Girls Second Team in the Finals may not have appeared in a Girls First Team at or above board 4 in the Union stage in the same season.
- No county may enter a Girls Second Team, at either National or Union stage, if it does not enter a First Team at Union stage. [Comment suppressed - Ed]
- A player in a Girls Third Team in the Finals may not have appeared in a Girls First Team, or in a Girls Second Team at or above board 2, in the Union stage in the same season.
- No county may enter a Girls Third Team if it does not also enter a First and a Second Team at the Union stage.

Dave Newell has asked me to be the Controller of these Second Team Finals, on the sound principle: if you make a suggestion, expect to do the work.

SCCU U12 JAMBOREE Saturday 5th November

A new event. It's complicated and we won't give all the details, but there are three divisions: 2-game (teams of 4, 24 in 1 + QPF 20/20); 3-game (teams of 6, all moves in 55 min); and 4-game (teams of 4, all moves in 40 min). And an All-Girl Section for them as want it. You'll really have to ask Bruce if you want details (but entries to Tony Suttill, address inside front cover).

The venue is new as well: Maitland Park Gymnasium, Maitland Park Villas, Chalk Farm NW3. An "underused sports hall" with access for the disabled and, we hear, staff who promise to be helpful. Five minutes walk from Haversack.

SCCU U18 MIXED-TEAMS JAMBOREE Saturday 3rd December at Haversack.

Under 140 for teams of 8, including at least 2 of each sex. At least 2 girls if you will, in practical terms. Under 100 for teams of 12, including at least 4 of each sex. Both sections have 2 games: 24 in 1 plus QPF 30/30. Arrangements could be flexible if counties would like something different.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS KITTY

Counties wishing to set up a new junior project could be eligible for a modest financial grant (up to £50) from the SCCU. Contact Bruce Birchall if interested.

CLERICAL MEDICAL(?) at Southampton 10th September 1994

Sorry if the name's wrong; the event has been called that, up to last year anyway, but this time it's just come through as "Southern Counties". Teams were of 12.

Under 14 1 Hants 27/36; 2 Middx 25½; 3 Kent 20½; 4 Suffolk 10; 5 Wilts 7

Under 13 1 Kent 27½/36; 2 Somerset 22; 3 Middx 18½; 4 Hants 4

RICHMOND CHESS INITIATIVE (not sure how this differs from Richmond Junior Chess Club, but there seems to be a technical distinction) have been awfully active of late. We have received their impressive Newsletter for September. How come Bulletin Publications Inc are the only ones still using steam Gestetner stencils while everyone else does professional jobs?

RUSSELL TROPHY SCHOOLS JAMBOREE at RGS Guildford, 16th September 1994

1 RGS 6½/8; 2 Whitgift 5; 3-6 Hampton, Howard of Effingham, Trinity, Westminster 4½; 7 Tiffin 4; 8 Sutton 2; 9 Glyn ½. Results anonymous.

We hear that a nationally known organiser, who ran a couple of "Times" zones last year, asked for a £50 "goodwill payment" in return for his continued services. We welcome his replacements.

SCCU UNDER 100 JAMBOREE at Ashford Kent, 5th June 1994

Better late than never. Should have gone in last time, but it got overlooked among other papers. White on left (we assume); on unnumbered boards White "floated" up. 36 moves in 1½ hours plus 30/30 QPF.

1 C Trifunovic M	0	1	T Stock K	7 S Flucker M	0	1	MJ Owen E
S Kelly K	0	1	MJ Lewsey E	J Jackson E	1	0	R Gosden K
2 CA Bates E	½	½	K Berry M	8 T Lawson K	1	0	V Sgontzos M
3 L Mirvis M	0	1	A Day E	9 S Sanders M	0	1	MR Avery K
T O'Brien E	½	½	M Howard K	AS Williams K	0	1	R Giddens E
4 TR Jefferies K	1	0	T Trifunovic M	10 R Medcalf E	1	0	N D'Cruz M
5 E Chevern M	0	1	GJ Broadhead K	11 S Morton M	1	0	E O'Neill E
J Sullivan K	0	1	C Hobbs E	H Walker E	1	0	A Wright K
6 G Walker E	1	0	T Miller M	12 C Wright K	0	1	D Leadon M

Positions: 1 Essex 10/12; 2 Kent 5½; 3 Middx 2½

And the two missing semi-finals from the SCCU U180 KO (grader please grade):

Berks	11.6.94	Surrey	Oxon	12.6.94	Herts
1 M Marlow 174 (W)	½ ½	D Rosen 179	A McGettigan 174	½ ½	C Majer 178 (W)
2 D Roberts 172	1 0	J Shepley 179	R Starkie 171	½ ½	S Law 176
3 J Munday 172	0 1	K Richardson 171	G Chapman 170	0 1	J Cook 172
4 L Davis 168	0 1	A Punnett 169	T Dickinson 168	1 0	K Ellis 169
5 J Ramsdale 164	½ ½	C Clegg 161	N Jones 168	0 1	J Denton 165
6 P Watkins 159	0 1	D Hill 158	D Bruce 150	½ ½	T Ray 163
7 M Redmond 156	½ ½	F Manning 147	T Thompson 158	1 0	A Cooper 157
8 J Hickman 151	1 0	def	H Searle 161	1 0	K Hardy 151
9 S Gilmour 149	1 0	def	P Hastings 144	0 1	A Atkinson 151
10 K Savoy 136	1 0	def	J Yates 158	½ ½	B Judkins
(Bracknell)	5½ 4½		(Long Hanboro)	5 5	Herts won on bd ct

And two late results from the BCF National stage:

Minor Counties Final				Open semi-final					
Surrey		2.7.94		Middx	Leics	4.6.94		Sussex	
1	CR Blackwell	208	0	1	SH Berry 227 (B)	M. Hebden (W)	1	0	BJ Denman
2	B Connell	201	0	1	K Shovel 222	G Flear	1	0	FJ Kwiatkowski
3	M Ferguson	191	½	½	PJ Sowray 212	G Lawton	½	½	GH James
4	WA Linton	198	0	1	RJ McMichael 203	R Richmond	1	0	KI Norman
5	RA Allicock	193	0	1	JT Ward 201	C Flear	1	0	B Cafferty
6	S Retallick	143	0	1	M Lyell 198	A Cohen	1	0	SJ Newman
7	O Rosten	159	0	1	C Gant 196	J Mitchell	½	½	N van Noorden
8	RJ Stockwell	183	1	0	def	AJ Morley	1	0	RV Elliston
9	JM Shepley	178	0	1	C Mackenzie 187	PC Gibbs	0	1	SON Hawes
10	DR Sedgwick	173	½	½	RJ Pearce 183	R Ilersic	½	½	RJ Almond
11	KDRichardson	171	1	0	MR Collins	A Hyslop	0	1	DB Graham
12	RJ Wilcox	170	0	1	DA Tarbuck 175	J Robinson	½	½	R O'Brien
13	KP Mynett	170	1	0	AM Dunn 168	L Robinson	½	½	JA Dodgson
14	CR Clegg	161	½	½	J McVicar 158	PA Hogan	0	1	J Graham
15	RGR Harris	159	1	0	BH Birchall 157	I Cragg	½	½	MR Stott
16	FC Manning	147	0	1	CICH Wallace 147	M Salisbury	0	1	IG Kelly
	(Birmingham)		5½	10½		(Amptill)	9	7	

SCCU COUNTY MATCHES: FIXTURES 1994-95

This wouldn't be the September issue without the Bulletin's traditional requests to match captains.

(1) Publication. Please send a copy of the complete result sheet to the Bulletin for publication. Don't rely on your opponents to do it, they may not. Even when they do, they may have your players' details wrong. The grader works directly from results as published in the Bulletin, so no publication no grading.

(2) Speed. Don't hang around. Don't assume, because the deadline's miles away, that a three-week delay won't matter. I like to space my typing out. If your opponents' version has been with me a fortnight when yours arrives, I may well have typed it already and not be too careful about checking for inconsistencies. And don't assume, because the deadline's officially past, that you won't get in. You may do. Unofficially, the Bulletin nearly always goes out on a Sunday towards the end of the month and I'll squeeze results in if they come on the Saturday.

(3) Players' details. Please give all grades. I publish these. Also give full initials. Or first name plus other initials: I often have to edit first names out for reasons of space, but will still print full initials. (From which it follows that if a first name is essential to avoid confusion with someone else, you should underline it or something. It may disappear otherwise.)

If a player is new to your county teams, add a note saying where he's from. This is to help the grader identify players. If you think the BCF grading reference number might be helpful, on the odd occasion, by all means give it. But don't make a habit of this. If you gave all the reference numbers - not that anyone ever does! - I'd just omit them all and the ones that mattered would go out with the bathwater.

Nearly forgot. I refuse to publish first names given purely because the player is female.

(4) Accuracy. Please try to spell names right. I try not to introduce any more of my own mistakes than I can help. Apart from obvious slips of the pen, I always try to copy the spelling used by the player's own match captain. Even when I don't believe it. "Sic" (or "so") in brackets after a player's name means I really have typed what I was given. If it doesn't say that and a spelling looks dubious, suspect an error on my part.

(5) Legibility. Are you sure your writing's legible? You may feel that people can normally read your writing without difficulty. And maybe they can. The occasional squiggle, in the middle of an English sentence, can usually be deduced. But names and initials, like telephone numbers, are cussed things. If you can't read them you can't read them and that's that. "Eni???tic" I can solve; "??? Smith" I can't, if it's a player I'm unfamiliar with. And even if it is a regular player, I can't be sure it's him. Typing is the best solution, if you doubt your legibility. Writing in capitals isn't a solution at all.

(6) Check up on me. I make mistakes. If an error is likely to mislead the grader, or anyone else, tell me promptly and I'll publish a correction. I don't know how the grader works but I doubt if he leaves everything to the end of the season, and the sooner corrections are made the better.

TEAMS ENTERED 1994-5

	Br	Bu	C	E	H	K	M	O	Sy	Sx	
Open	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	(20 bds)
U175				*		*			*	*	(16 bds double round)
U150				*	*	*			*	*	(16 bds)
U125				*		**	*	*	*	*	(16 bds)
U100				*	*	*	*				(12 bds double round)

Middlesex originally entered teams at all levels but have since withdrawn from the U175 and U150 because the match captains resigned (see Letters, page 5). Their U175 and U150 fixtures have been left in the schedule below, just in case they unwithdraw. Ignore them if they don't. The remaining U150 match captains have agreed they don't want double round, even with only five teams in the competition.

FIXTURES

A couple of new dates (asterisked) have already been notified. If you have any more, please tell not only Fred Manning but also the Bulletin. For publication, and to save it fretting about "missing" results.

	<u>Open</u>	<u>U175</u>	<u>U150</u>	<u>U125</u>	<u>U100</u>
Sep 17		*MSy			
24		KE		KbKa	
Oct 1					
8		SySx EM			
15	BrSy MH OE CSx		MSy HSx KE	OE	
22		MK SxE		KbSx KaM	ME
29	EC HO SyM KBr				HK
Nov 5		ESy KSx		ESy	
12	MK OSy CH SxE			OKb SxKa *MSy	
19	OB		SySx EM KH		EH KM
26		SxM SyK		SySx	
Dec 3	HSx SyG KO BrM			KO EM	HM EK
10		SxSy ME			
17					
Jan 7					
14	CK SxSy EH		SyE SxK MH	MSx	
21		KM ESx			
28	SyE KSx BrC MO		KSy HE SxM	SyO	
Feb 4		SyE SxK		MKb SxE	MK
11	CM SxBr EK HSy				HE
18		EK SyM		KaSy KbE	
25	KH BrE MSx OC		HSy MK ESx	OM	KH EM
Mar 4					
11	SxO EM HBr SyK			SxO EKa SyKb	
18		MSx KSy			MH KE
25					

Your Editor remembers the days when Bucks played, and every other year he got the chance to type BuM. Come back Bucks, all is forgiven.

The home team is named first. Details of venue to be supplied, with map, at least one month in advance.

Match captains.

Ed: - I have slightly "corrected" a few of the addresses Dave Metcalfe sent. In most cases I'm sure my version's right, occasionally I just think it is. None of the changes should make a lot of difference to the postman. Please let me know of errors, and supply things like missing postcodes or phone numbers.

Berks NW Dennis, Boundary House, 230 Greys Rd, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 1QY
0491 576052

Cambs A Hon, Clare College, Cambridge

Essex 0 JR Cooke, 35 The Crescent, Loughton, Essex IG10 4PY 081 508 3622

175 D Smith, 21 Chigwell Rd, South Woodford E18 1LR 081 530 2118

150 M Tucker, 130b Barking Rd, East Ham E6 3BD 081 471 5078

125 R Joyce, 215a Waterhouse Moor, Harlow CM18 6BW 0279 434028

100 D Smith as U175

Herts 0 T Ray, 137 Abbots Rd, Abbots Langley, Herts WD5 OBJ 0923 270488

150 MM Wali, 56 Rowans, Welwyn Garden City 0707 331833

100 MM Wali as above

19:10

Kent O G Botley, 26 Crescent Rd, Bromley, Kent BR1 3PW 081 464 1357
175 LR Gurr, 13 Neath Court, Northumberland Rd, Maidstone ME15 7JS 0622 758448
150 RC Shilling, 184 Kingsnorth Rd, Ashford, Kent TN23 2LS 0223 629175
125a IC Smith, 19 Osgood Gardens, Orpington, Kent BR6 6JU 0689 858568
125b W Stock, 27 Turketel Rd, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2NZ 0303 251285
100 S Moate, 2 Carey Ct, Gravel Hill, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7NT 0322 555484
Middx O R Pearce, 43 Sinclair Rd, London W14 071 602 0758
(175 F Carpenter, 4 Dawlish Rd, Willesden Green NW2 4EY 081 208 1994)
(150 G Brown, 7 Western Avenue NW11 9HG 081 455 9563)
125 S Myatt, 30 Kimble Hfuse, Lileston St NW8 8TG 071 224 8693
100 BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 071 792 8031
Oxon O D Hackett, 16 Hollis Close, Witney, Oxon O993 778374
125 D Metcalfe, 9 Roosevelt Rd, Long Hanborough, Witney, Oxon OX8 8JG
0993 883044
Surrey O FC Manning, 44 Willow Rd, Wallington, Surrey SM6 OPF 081 647 0063
175 PD Dupre, 13 Russell Rd, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 2JZ 0932 241550
150 FC Manning as above
125 David Parsons, 3 Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3NG 081 647 7279
Sussex O P Watson, Flat 7, Regency Court, Withdean Rise, London Rd, Brighton,
E Sussex O273 505480
175 RD Hirsch, 5 Orde Close, Pound Hill, Crawley, W Sussex RH10 3NG 0293 883244
150 Dr DL Roberts, Flat 1, 28 High St, Lewes, E Sussex BN7 2LU 0273 475275
125 MA Bryant, 88 Manor Rd, Hastings, E Sussex TN34 3LP 0424 428830

Tournament Controller: FC Manning (see Surrey)

Fixtures Secretary: D Metcalfe (see Oxon)

25th THANET CONGRESS 19-21 August 1994

Premier (34 ent) 1 JE Haynes (unattached) 4½/5; 2-4 G Botley (Lewisham), K Hyde (Sittingbourne), P Georghiou (Barnet) 4...

Under 160 (34 ent) 1 RJ Everson (Dartford) 4½/5; 2-4 RR Harper (Eastbourne), P Childs (Beckenham), BJ Westover (Birchington) 4... Best Thanet F Carlucci (Whitstable)

Under 130 (52 ent) 1 MR Croft (Margate) 4½/5; 2-4 CJ Gardiner (Reading), M Taylor (Rainham), M Broomfield (S Norwood) 4... Best Thanet J Couzens (Broadstairs. So where's Margate? - Ed)

Under 100 (40 ent) 1 L Broomfield (S Norwood) 4½/5; 2-5 W Jeffery (Birchington), TD Lawson (Ramsgate), D Ho (Maidstone), A Blake (Lewisham) 4...

Ladies Prize S Richards (Whitstable); Seniors I Josephs (Monaco); Juniors JD Titmas (Maidstone); Vera Menchik Memorial Clock Jessica Ho (Maidstone). Results AD Hargreaves

13th BERKS AND BUCKS at Maidenhead 27-29 August 1994

Championship (16 pl) 1-3 NF Dickenson (Maidstone), RB Edwards (*Jordans, Bucks), SG Peters (*Aylesbury) 3½/5...

Challengers (14 pl) 1-5 PJ Colby (Reading), I Duvall (Camberley), RP Ginger (Bourne End), IR Henderson (Christ's Hospital School), CJ Mann (Kingston) 3½/5...

Reserves A (14 pl) 1-4 RA Brown (Reading), DS Hall (Brighton), KF Hawkins (Bourne End), AG Kelly (High Wycombe) 3½/5...

Reserves B (16 pl) 1 AB Jones (Newbury) 5/5; 2 PL Szabo (Metropolitan) 3½; 3-7 GB Blight (Reading), DJ Lewis (*Emmer Green, Reading), FC Manning (Wimbledon), GW Naldrett (Bracknell), A Solomon (Willesden & Brent) 3...

Reserves C (16 pl) 1-2 M Sims (*Ealing), DTN Tan (Richmond Juniors) 4½/5; 3 AP Challenger (Slough) 3½...

Reserves D (14 pl) 1-2 DC Maddock (Reading), DJ Webb (Gerrards Cross) 4/5; 3 A Dicker (Southern Water) 3½...

Reserves E (16 pl) 1-3 DAS Buckland (Cowley), R Mooring (Richmond Juniors), MG Porter (Reading) 4/5...

Reserves F (12 pl) 1-2 J Broome (*Wendover), S Mooring (*SW13) 4/5; 3-6 AM Cox (*Spencers Wood, Reading), R Dawson (*Crowthorne), DS Morrison (Barnet Knights), LD Varnam (Berks Juniors) 3...

Mrs J Stean Cup (most promising U14 performance): DTN Tan.

Results AJ Cox. Places asterisked are places, not clubs.

COUNTY CHESS ("following the demise of City Chess") is a new series of fortnightly one-day congresses, planned to start 12th November, at the Maitland Park Gymnasium, Chalk Farm NW5. Grading limits will rotate cyclically: U160/135/110/U95G for first event, deduct 10 points from all of those for the second, another 10 for the third, then back where you started. All profits will go to help develop junior chess in Middlesex. Bruce Birchall, the organiser, says in typical style that he hopes people will prefer to put their money into a non-commercial event "rather than to help fat cats get fatter".

CHESSE CIRCUIT 6 quotes another of those controversial flag-fall rulings: K + totally unqueenable Rooks Pawn was given a win v lone K on the ground that "White" had been trying to win. With Queens on, which had only just been exchanged, and Black had not had time to demonstrate that he knew how to draw with them off(1). If that's what the rules say, they're silly and we're pleased to see the Circuit's correspondent thinks so as well. The Bulletin's rules, which it uses when it gets the chance, say you don't win on time in a position that offered no reasonable winning chances. In anything stronger than the Tunbridge Wells U3½, this position would be ruled drawn. Must say we agree with the Circuit's correspondent again, when he says White should take a draw without even waiting for the arbiter to turn up. And if the fool of an arbiter's already there and says "win", White should tell him to mind his own business.

How about a P other than a RP, when Black has a cast-iron draw? The BCF's guidelines (YB 1994, p 109) seem to suggest that White wins if he's been pushing the P at every opportunity. Ludicrous. The Bulletin wouldn't lose one of those at a hundred moves a minute and would be most put out if it exchanged bits to reach an ending it knew was drawn, only to be given a loss because its opponent hadn't had time to stalemate it. But then yes, we know, you might go wrong with the defence and who is the arbiter to say how likely it was? Not easy, writing rules to cover every conceivable set of players and circumstances. Which puts the responsibility even more firmly in White's lap to do the right thing.

HERTS internal results, just received:

Div 1 Watford from Bs Stortford; Div 2 St Albans I from Barnet I; Div 3 Stevenage I from Watford II; Div 4 Borehamwood from St Albans IV; Div 5 Hoddesdon III from Barnet II; Div 6 Pin Green II from Letchworth III; Div 7 Barnet III from Hoddesdon IV.

KOs: Russell Trophy Watford from Barnet, on board count; Sharp Trophy Hertford from Hoddesdon; U125 Hoddesdon from Hertford.

Individual KOs: Capel Cup Paul Byway from Phil Maguire; Burn Cup Brian Judkins from Alan Atkinson.

Puller Cup (Jamboree), fixed for Sunday 15th May, was cancelled at 4 days notice with only two teams entered. Support for this event has dwindled in the last three years.

Schools: Premier Cup Haberdashers; Schools Cup St Albans School; U19 Haberdashers; U16 Verulam; U14 Haberdashers. Don't know what the first two are. A spurt of junior activity in Herts (belatedly, some might say). There is now a Youth Organiser (A Burrows). Glyn Jones and Ian Sanderson have just set up a Hertfordshire Primary Schools' CA (U11 and below Year 6 it says here, but that'll be a misprint). JGJ reports that a couple of juniors at a recent event were observed to be playing on with opposite-coloured Bishops, but no Kings. They said they'd swapped them some time ago.

SCCU INTERNATIONAL results haven't arrived. 1 A Cherniaev (Russia) 6/8; more next time. OLYMPIAD is off, FIDE elections are off, no room for details and we hardly know any.

BCF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING London, 24.9.94

It's a good few years since your Editor went to one of these. His memories were of interminable speeches in hot rooms, some pointless ritual acrimony if you got lucky, and thirty minutes' business compressed into five and a half hours. They've changed all that, if this year's meeting was anything to go by. (We did say "if", we're not that naive.) The AGM was, for the most part, disappointingly good humoured and lasted only three and a quarter hours including tea break (SCCU take note). Somewhere round 45 attended, which was lucky because it nearly filled the room, but your Editor kept wondering how they counted all the proxies so fast every time there was a vote. Don't think anyone was waving cards around saying "I've got six". Here are some of the less boring bits, and skip where you disagree.

(1) Presidents Awards. This has to come first, because your Editor got one. It's why he was there. (The other reason was, so he could write this Report and have it in the post next day.) Other awards went to Les Roberts, a long-serving administrator from the Midlands whom we confess we hadn't heard of, and Rodney James of the Insurance Chess Club whose work goes way way back, as long as mine and Les Roberts's put together, and of course we knew of him, who doesn't, though we'd never met. The Bulletin, interest aside, approves the recognition of services at levels perhaps closer to grass-roots (that Word again) than hitherto. Only thing that gives it pause is the knowledge that for every person recognised there'll be a dozen others, equally deserving or more so, who just never happened to get noticed by the right official at the right moment. On which note of (genuine, if unaccustomed) humility we close the topic.

(2) Report: Director of Home Chess. SWR's report mentioned, and so did a Council delegate, the curious incident of Middx winning the Minor Counties. SWR's view appears to be that the "Minor Counties" is really a consolation competition for those that didn't quite make the Open nominations, and should be re-named accordingly; and that we need a new competition that really is for minor counties. The Bulletin's view is that the Minor Counties was always supposed to be what its name says it is, and we don't

need a new competition at all, just a new definition of Minor Counties which won't include teams with mean grades of 198. Middx are a "Minor County" through repeated accidents and cock-ups over what seems like five years or so, with the result that the county has consistently under-achieved in SCCU competition. The Bulletin doesn't think they should have accepted "Minor County" nomination in 1993-4. Not with the team they'd got, and went on to use. We suggested, last time, a possible change to the definition of Minor Counties. Same as at present, but add a mean-grade limit. The limit would be open to discussion. No one's reacted to the suggestion, so far, but it's on the table and seriously meant.

Inevitably, Sussex raised the matter of Jeff Douglas's bloomer in the U150 quarter-final. See last issue if you've forgotten what this is about and want to know. The BCF had sent a formal written apology to Sussex, and Sussex had replied that the apology "lacked true sincerity". We have seen neither document; we believe that SW Reuben wrote the apology, and the identity of the Sussex respondent was not divulged. At all events, the BCF President thought Sussex's response objectionable and felt obliged to vacate the chair during discussion of the matter. He came back afterwards with a mostly-consumed pint, so won't have wasted his time completely. Bryan Fewell took over the chair in his absence. All Sussex appeared to want was that Council should "note" the errors committed. Details of the errors were fully rehearsed. JA Poole proposed that Council should endorse the Management Board's rejection of Mr Douglas's resignation. Someone said that if every officer who made a mistake resigned, there'd be none of us left. Someone else wondered why Sussex wouldn't let it rest, and Council accepted JAP's proposal by a large majority.

(3) Special events. SWR had proposed, in the original Council papers, allowing an extra £1000 for Menchik events (which really meant the Kent one). He now wished to amend this to £2000, an amount which would definitely ensure the event went ahead. This was agreed. He had also proposed £4000 for the centennial event in Hastings, August 1995, and this was agreed as well. It wasn't as quick as our report suggests, but the Bulletin has no head for money.

(4) Sports Council: lottery money. Like we said, we've no head for money. But we couldn't help noticing that the BCF has engaged a Professional Lobbyist, and the best of luck to it. On a (?)related topic, the government has asked for details of how our Grant has been spent over the last few years, in terms nearly impossible to comply with for an amateur body, and it's suspected the writing is on the wall there as well in the long term.

(5) Durham CCA have just written saying they want to re-affiliate. Yorkshire haven't.

(6) Money again. The Federation showed a surplus of £16,000 in 1993. The Game Fee has exceeded expectations, raising £12,000 offset by a £6000 reduction in levy and affiliation fees. British Chess Congresses Ltd (who?) submitted a report saying, among other things: "The principal activity of the company is to organise chess congresses for the British Chess Federation. There were no events held during the year." Plus three A4 sides of accounts. It is our understanding that Council agreed to transfer all its shares to the BCF Trustees, or something, to simplify accounting procedures. "They" know what's going on.

(7) Counties Championship Rules. A long list of proposed amendments by the MCCU turned out to be mostly a tidying-up exercise, arising partly out of changes to the Constitution; the MCCU had discovered that the Constitution Committee had no plans to look at the tournament rules. SW Reuben became irritated during this part of the proceedings, saying it wasn't Council's job to amend the rules and it would be ridiculous if every minute amendment had to go to a general meeting. Our guarantee that the rules were sound was our knowledge that the Management Board had done the necessary. (Ed: - Except when they haven't.)

(8) Election of Officers. Home Chess got split in two again, SWR having found the combined job far too heavy for one man. SWR is once again the Congress Director, and John Poole takes over at Home Chess. The proposed Game Fee Director had withdrawn his candidature, but the MB had found a suitable replacement in Alan Morris, Chairman of the British Postal Chess Federation. A letter had been received from Adam Black offering his services as Publicity Director. The President asked the meeting if anyone wished to nominate Mr Black, and after a pregnant silence the MB's recommended candidate was elected. He is Robin Mackley, a PR consultant or something like that, from the north.

(9) Meetings. The MB proposed: Finance 22 April 1995 in London; AGM 23 September 1995 in Derby. No one minded the dates, but the venues got talked about. Someone commented on the fact that the MB was proposing two successive meetings in London. The President said it was the MB's understanding that we were supposed to have one of the two meetings in London every year, alternating between April and September, which inevitably meant two successive London meetings. Others disputed the MB's understanding, saying it had reneged on "the agreement made in Chester". The Bulletin is continually amazed at the lack of agreement about what happened in Chester. Anyway. Access by rail being considered important, someone said "Crewe". The Bulletin thought he was joking, but a vote ensued and London beat Crewe comfortably. Then Derby beat Birmingham 21-20 and the MB will book whichever's cheaper.

CONGRESS DIARY

- Oct 1 EDGWARE Open. AN Raof, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF 081 202 0982
 2 ESSEX JUNIOR at Colchester. R Sharman, Trefoil, Crown Lane North, Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7RA 0206 231035
 7- 9 MAIDSTONE (no smoking) Open; U160; U130; U105; Junior Saturday. NC Mackett, 74 Peel St, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2SD; enquiries to Stephen Webb 0634 233322. Juniors MPJ Whitwood, 3 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent 0580 892005
 8 COWLEY. I Brooke, 174 Cowley Rd, Oxford OX4 1UE 0865 245447
 8- 9 METROPOLITAN. TF Deery, 24 Beckford Rd, Croydon CRO 6HU
 9 BWCA Womens. M Griffiths, Flat 19, 17 Broad Court WC2B 56N (it says here) 071 240 0556
 9 WARLEY QUINBORNE. J Lewis, 405 Court Oak Rd, Birmingham B32 2DX 021 427 4988
 15 WESTMINSTER. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU 081 595 5881
 15-16 HIGH WYCOMBE JUNIOR. AJ Ackermen, 54 Roberts Ride, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 7AF 0494 718482
 16-22 GUERNSEY Open; U145. PO Box 23, St Peter Port, Guernsey
 21-23 WEYMOUTH. AD Rookes, 6 Milton Close, Weymouth DT4 7NB 0305 774044
 22-23 HERTS at Letchworth. Open; U66; U146; U126; U111; U91. N Camp, 93 Saturn Way, Hemel Hempstead HP2 5ND 0442 248408
 22 JRW HARRADENCE MEMORIAL in London. N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT
 28-30 LIVERPOOL. JM Harrison, 24 Glenwood Drive, Irby, Wirral 051 648 1390
 28-30 WARWICKS at Nuneaton. B Holland, 2a Bertie Rd, Kenilworth CV8 1JP 0926 532890
 28-30 WEST WALES at Swansea. Open; U157; U119; ungraded. L Philpin, 59 Cecil Rd, Gowerton, Swansea SA4 0792 374984
 28-30 SCARBOROUGH. K Jones, 24 Lightfoots Avenue, Scarborough YO12 5NS 0723 352044
 29 EDGWARE U150. AN Raof, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF 081 202 0982
 Nov 4- 6 HANHAM at Bristol. U160; U125; U100. R West, 2 Ellacombe Rd, Bristol BS15 6AZ 0272 325576
 5 MUSWELL HILL U160. Wil Ransome, 25 Jacksons Lane N6 5SR 081 348 7882
 5 BROMLEY JUNIOR U12/11/10/8. DJ Brown, 32 St Johns Rd, Petts Wood, Kent 0689 821854
 5- 6 RICHMOND JUNIOR U18/12/10/8. Mrs Hilary Clifford, 47 Palewell Park SW14 8JQ
 11-13 LLANDUDNO. RA Furness, 9 Cranwell Avenue, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4JX
 12 EDGWARE Open. AN Raof, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF 081 202 0982
 12 COUNTY CHESS at Chalk Farm NW5. U160; U135; U110; Girls U95. Ralph Miller, 17 Heron Rd, Twickenham.
 12 SWANLEY Open; Junior U12/10/8. Ken Grist, 51 St Davids Rd, Hextable, Kent BR8 7RJ 0322 667748
 12-13 RGS GUILDFORD U18/15/13/12. Nicholas Harmer, Royal Grammar School, Guildford GU1 3BB
 13 LEIGHTON BUZZARD. D Francis, 16 Riverside, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 7HX 0525 378929
 26 COUNTY CHESS as 12th Nov, but grading limits 10 points lower.
 Dec 3 EDGWARE U150. Adam Raof as 29 Oct
 10 COUNTY CHESS as 12th Nov, but grading limits 20 points lower.

Quotes

"Donations will be much appreciated by the organisers: should the congress show a profit the donations may be used to defray part of the expenses of the entirely voluntary workers."

Courtesy Herts Newsletter:

"As a large number of county graders work the grades out by hand, time could be saved using computers. [This would] cost less, be more accurate and enable more frequent lists to be published." Letter to "Chess", May 1969.

SCCU Deputy President

Chris Howell's new phone number, if you hadn't noticed, has now joined his new address inside the front cover. 0293 885176.

SCCU Secretary

And please note Chris Fewtrell's new telephone number: 081 723 8028. He hasn't moved.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: ChessIns for August; Chess Circuit 6; Herts CA Newsletter 1994; Richmond Chess Initiative Newsletter for September.

