



# BULLETIN

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**SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION**

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\* Officers marked with an asterisk are also members of the SCCU Management Board.

### SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee consists of the Officers, plus the following County Delegates (or their deputies).

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

Let's dust the hobby-horse down. A county-match QPF this year went to an independent BCF Arbiter on a claim of "not winnable by normal means". You'll know the outcome after appeal, if you've sneaked a look at the top of page 6. It was a clear draw on adjudication, and everything depended on the (absentee) arbiter's interpretation of "normal means". With plenty of time on his clock the defender would certainly have drawn. Any reasonable moves would have held the position easily, and the best moves (pretty obvious ones) would have proved the draw at once. But with 30 seconds on his clock the defender might have panicked and dropped a rook; and if he just played on, no matter how sensibly, he would eventually have lost on time. As one of the match captains said, "It will be very useful to get a judgement in this case as similar cases are bound to occur in the future".

The trouble with precedents is, they may be wrong. Arbiters do the darndest things. No one would suggest that this particular "precedent" is perverse, but it could easily have gone the other way and actually would have done if it had been made by another BCF Arbiter I know of. Besides which no two cases are alike, and I doubt if we'll ever hear learned arbiters quoting Parker versus Jones 1995.

What we do need, perhaps, is a tightening of the arbiters' guidelines. Arbiters are supposed to "determine the probable result of the game", but what do they take into account and what don't they? Clearly they will ignore the fact that the defender was going to lose on time anyway. But they can't reasonably ignore the clock altogether. Can they? A player with 30 seconds left is more likely to blunder than one with 30 minutes. It seems to me that the guidelines should make some reference to this. An obvious pointer is the defender's play so far - *has* he been making sensible moves? - and the guidelines are quite wrong not to require a scoresheet (QPF guidelines, Yearbook p 129, right-hand column, items 2-4). The arbiter who did the Parker - Jones game actually asked if the moves were available, and finding that despite the rules they were, played through them. I feel that the strength of the players should also be taken into account; the bit about unqueenable pawns (same page, last paragraph) would surely madden a grandmaster who had a pretty good idea how to draw it, especially if his play so far had demonstrated that he wasn't going to blunder. And switching to on-the-spot arbiters, if they aren't sure whether the defender knew exactly what he was doing, why not *ask him*? A quick "OK, so how are you going to hold this position?" could resolve a multitude of doubts. Granted, the arbiter has to be a strong enough player to understand the answer. And the general rule would be, the defender gets his draw if the arbiter is satisfied that, playing quickly, he wouldn't have lost.

No rule will ensure complete fairness or uniformity of judgment. But this is not ammunition for the dwindling anti-QPF lobby! I think it's the first time a claim under this rule has got as far as the tournament controller since we introduced QPF in county matches. Adjudications used to be rather more frequent. And adjournment's fine where you've got time for it, but adjudicators are as prone to error and disagreement as arbiters.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Richard,

30.3.95

Congratulations on the new format and style of the Bulletin. I quite liked the "antique charm" of the old one, but for clarity and style it can't compare with the new one.

I'm glad to see you are maintaining the standard of news and comment as usual; the Bulletin mentions that the BCF intends to increase Game Fee by 1p not 5p, and, lo & behold, to-day I receive the agenda for the BCF Finance meeting confirming your report.

Best wishes,

JOHN WHEELER Portsmouth

Dear Richard,

31.3.95

Congratulations on the "new" SCCU Bulletin. It looks good, feels good etc etc. My only comment is that you have given Fred Manning & Martin Cath the same telephone number, as a result of which you owe me the cost of a call or a pint of beer!

I will try & remember to send you results of SCCU teams in the County Championships.

Best regards,

JEFF DOUGLAS Hurst Green, Surrey

Ed: - Telephone numbers are right now. So's the postcode that went BULLETIN7 2LU. That's aroused some comment ("Do all postcodes in the Brighton area now give an unofficial plug for the Bulletin?") and the Union President, whose acquaintance with idiot computers is not extensive, derived innocent merriment from the explanation when I told it him. For anyone else who hasn't worked it out: I like to save typing. I therefore told the beast that when I typed "Bn", what I really meant was "Bulletin". This works fine, except for Brighton postcodes. I thought it knew the difference between "Bn" and "BN", but it didn't.

Dear Richard,

3.4.95

New Look Bulletin looks very good indeed, especially those match results. Doesn't look like a stencil job at all. I'd have guessed photocopied. Excellent!

The snag about bi-monthly publication is that replying to other correspondents has the built-in time-lag, so that

by the time the reply appears everybody has forgotten the original letter. However, I can't let H Trevor Jones get away with being self-appointed Arbiter and an Expert in his own disputes, so I enclose a rebuttal, unless someone has submitted a better one.

One advantage of bi-monthly, on the other hand, is that I can use second class postage with impunity. These particular stamps look like "National Coconut Biscuit Week"!

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H Trevor Jones does *not* know the rules! In case 1, when his opponent offered him a draw after having played his move and started Mr Jones's clock, the experienced Mr Jones, armed with correct knowledge as he would put it, should have replied "Don't distract me" or, more cleverly, "I'll think about it". Instead, he said "No". Of course, Mr Jones was right in claiming his opponent had distracted him. If instead of a club match it had been a tournament game, an Arbiter might well have warned the opponent about offering a draw incorrectly and possibly awarded Mr Jones an extra 5 min thinking time, or perhaps required the opponent to play the rest of the game with one hand tied behind his back. The one thing he could *not* rule was that Mr Jones was now entitled to accept the offer, since he had already rejected it.

In case 2, Mr Jones may very well have been in order claiming a draw under the QPF rules - but what a nerve to criticise his young opponent for saving his own clock time by playing quickly, thus not winning sooner! If Mr Jones left himself insufficient time to play carefully, as he correctly put it, any fault was his own and it could be argued that perhaps he should have had to *try*, instead of relying on the bell to save him.

Mr Jones is a gentleman and I am sure he would not wish to benefit unfairly through use of the Rules alone. So why doesn't he just play quicker?

Yours,  
JACK (SPEIGEL) Southend

Dear Richard,

31.3.95

I am sorry that you did not take up Mr Gibbs's offer of an explanation for the extraordinary result of Reading's match against Crowthorne in the National Club Intermediate competition. I thought it would have appealed to your interest in the wording and application of rules. It also contains a lesson for match captains, namely that you should never throw away a grading list, however old it may be, as you may have the misfortune to be drawn against a club like Crowthorne in this competition.

At the beginning of the season a new player aged 85 joined Reading chess club. He had been a strong player in his youth but had not belonged to a club, or played any serious chess, for many years. On the evidence of about a dozen games so far, mainly in the club championship but also one or two in the Berkshire league, he will have a grade at the end of the season of no more than 140.

The club secretary rang me one evening to see if I could unearth any prior grading information about this player. He said that Crowthorne claimed that he was ineligible for the Intermediate as his last published grade was in excess of 150. I clambered into my loft and eventually found his name in the 1983 list with a grade of 168; I noted that in the previous year he had been 175 and suggested that at that rate of decline in his advanced years he might be expected to be graded below 100 now! More sensibly the club captain put forward the view that, while rules may be rules, it was a bit much to claim that the gentleman concerned was of the same strength as he had been 12 years ago at the age of only 73 years. Furthermore his recent results bore that out. This argument cut no ice with Mr Gibbs and we were given the odd penalty to which you refer.

We did point out that, given their insistence on adherence to the rules and their faith in gradings of whatever vintage, it was odd that Crowthorne had not fielded their team in grading order, notwithstanding the rule that teams must be in order of current playing strength. That argument did not cut any ice either! We live in a peculiar world.

Finally, on a completely unrelated point, the inclusion of grades in the county match results is a great help to the grader (me) in identifying new players. It should be noted however that I use the grades published in the master list when grading results; while it makes no difference in the majority of cases, I have noticed some changes which result, I suspect, from the inclusion of late results in the main database after the Cadogan list was published. This also possibly explains why the master list was sent to graders so late this season!

Yours sincerely,  
ALAN (COX) Reading

Dear Richard,

Re your comment on Intermediate in Bulletin 222:14. See Rule 9.

PETER (GIBBS) Controller

Ed: - This letter came with, indeed was written on, a copy of the National Club rules. I'd not been able to find one last time round. Rule 8 says if you don't have a published grade, your most recent one counts (and it's the match captain's responsibility to check). Same as the SCCU county match rule. Rule 9 says the penalty for playing an ineligible player is the loss of his game and the deduction of half a point from the team's total. Peter Gibbs applied the rules and could not do otherwise. The only discretion lay with Crowthorne who could have chosen to ignore

the infraction (and what Controllers don't know they can't get worked up about). Whether they should have ignored it is not for me to say. I can't think Reading expected their counter-claim to be taken seriously.

On grades in county matches, perhaps I should say that I publish what match captains send me. I certainly don't check the grades, or supply them when none are sent, though I will sometimes look them up when I can't read the match captain's version (yes, it happens). I find grades helpful for identifying players I can't read, and to that extent the grader gets things already a bit pre-digested. Correctly, I hope.

Dear Richard,

30.3.95, received 18.4.95

...I feel that sections Under 150 and Under 175 in the SCCU leagues should only be contested by players with official BCF grades. This would not penalise new and inexperienced players, because inexperienced players are unlikely to be playing at Under 150 or Under 175 level. If an ungraded player can say he qualifies as he is "about 170", then a 180-graded player can say, "My grade is too high, I am usually graded about 170, so I qualify as well." Surely the point of limitations is just that: limited to players under 175 now, not last year or even 10 years ago. Especially as some players carry on playing correspondence chess after they stop playing in leagues or tournaments, even if they go abroad.

I hope you can publish this, as I would like everybody to know how I feel. Surrey have never in my time as captain (2 seasons) played any ungraded players in the Under 175 section, but have lost on three occasions to ungraded players, last year missing qualifying for the national stages when **cheated** out of it by Middlesex. After all, you cannot really tell how good a player is currently until next year's grades are published. I will definitely NOT be U175 Captain next season if ungraded players are still allowed.

Yours sincerely,

PAUL DUPRE Surrey U175 Captain

Ed: - This letter has been edited. Mr Dupre's name has not; I find that he spells it without the accent so will do likewise in future. Last year more than one person remarked on an ungraded Middx player but no one complained officially, about cheating or anything else. We've changed all that. Purely as an aside, even next year's grades won't tell you how good a player is (was?) "now". The best you'll get is an idea of how good he was, on average, over the 12-month period ending 30th April 1995.

Dear Richard,

14.5.95

I've just completed my second year as a county team co-captain, and some thoughts come to me quite forcefully. Bear in mind that for Sussex players an away match can involve a round trip of 120+ miles, and a 4½ hour session: you're effectively writing off the whole day, not just an afternoon.

(1) I have been to venues that provide no refreshments, or negligible refreshments. If I'm going to be spending the best part of five hours at a match I'd hope for something reasonably substantial for my tea, but not even getting a cuppa... I suggest it should be an SCCU requirement that the makings for tea and coffee should be available throughout the match.

(2) It is quite unacceptable for a day of one's life to be lost to a default. I know mishaps happen (my team has just defaulted two boards to a car breakdown) but I get the feeling some county captains take things too lightly. SCCU rules provide for a defaulting county to pay the opposing player's board fee and travel, but I further suggest a centrally-levied "fine" of £10 for an away team default and £20 for a home team default, per board; and say half these figures for a board conceded before the day of the match. For a well-organised county those would be occasional irritations; a county for whom they would be a significant burden shouldn't be competing.

(3) Although it's not affected us directly, I'm surprised to see one county with team lists showing top boards ungraded but estimated at one point below the limit. I'm sorry, but I don't have any confidence in those estimates: I don't doubt the captain's good faith, but I wonder whether it contains an element of wishful thinking. It certainly seems a case where the doctrine of Caesar's wife should apply. I suggest that *no* ungraded player should be eligible to play in a grading-limited county match unless clearance has been sought beforehand from the controller; where that is impractical, the captain should be *obliged* to submit full evidence of playing strength with the results.

These are my personal views, but I'll be pushing my county association to advance them.

PAUL BUSWELL

St Leonards

Ed: - Default league tables, SCCU 1994-5.

| Open     | U175     | U150     | U125     | U100    |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Berks 0  | Essex 0  | Essex 0  | Kent B 0 | Herts 0 |
| Essex 0  | Kent 0   | Herts 0  | Middx 0  | Kent 0  |
| Kent 1   | Surrey 0 | Sussex 0 | Sussex 0 | Middx 2 |
| Sussex 1 | Sussex 0 | Kent 4   | Essex 1  | Essex 2 |
| Cambs 2  |          | Surrey 4 | Oxon 2   |         |
| Middx 3  |          |          | Kent A 3 |         |
| Herts 4  |          |          | Surrey 7 |         |
| Oxon 6   |          |          |          |         |
| Surrey 8 |          |          |          |         |

Errors and omissions excepted, and the omissions include a Middx-Herts U100 match we never received. Total defaults 50: home 14, away 36. Defaults other than at bottom end 27. These, of course, were the ones not known about in advance. Two of them were on top board. Don't know how many of the other 23 were conceded in advance. Anyone got league tables for refreshments?

Dear Richard,

18.4.95

In reply to Adam Raoof's letter to the Bulletin March 1995 regarding London/South East England weekend congresses - and I have written a personal letter to him on the subject - I would like to share with the Bulletin and its readers my personal experiences of organising weekend chess congresses, and how I conquered the chess organisers' nightmare known as RPS.

I have been organising the Charlton Village Chess Congress for the last six years, and suffered in the early years from RPS (Reduced Prizes Syndrome). This problem manifests itself when the organiser promises attractive prize funds to tempt the chess punter, and then reduces the prizes when entries "prove insufficient". This monster used to ruin my chess weekend, giving me sleepless nights and worry throughout the duration of the event. Organising chess events is fun, challenging, and here I was suffering, in torment. I wrestled with the problem night after night.

A remedy was found, and it came to me while I was lying in bed one night, looking at a . . . manual. I considered myself reasonably good with figures, I was used to preparing budgets, cashflow forecasts, dealing with ratios etc, in my business life, and I began to examine where I was going wrong. I discovered that I wasn't matching my fixed and variable costs with the advertised prize fund correctly. I was promising something in theory which I couldn't deliver in practice, and I didn't even have a sponsor to bail me out. It then hit me like a bolt out of the blue and I fell off the bed. Why not tailor the prize fund to the actual congress entry? A prize fund divided into prize bands which would accumulate with each entry I received. And there the Village System was born. At last I could budget for profit to carry forward to organise future events, and chess players would know early in the congress timetable the size of the prizes to be won. RPS was defeated in one almighty blow, and I could relax about congress finances and concentrate on more important matters like sorting out the pairings, sorting out disputes, cleaning up excreta in the toilets.

I redesigned my entry forms to accommodate this new system and had a very successful congress last year which I hope will be even better this year.

Yours sincerely,

TY JEFFERIES Village Congress organiser

Ed: - Entry form advertises different prizes depending on total entry, going in jumps of (about) 10 entries. Total advertised prizes, excluding books and anything extra like grading prizes (not mentioned), come to £1840 for an entry of 160 players. 160 players would produce, very roughly, entry fees of £3400 less £10 per junior. Daresay juniors and donations and refreshment money are predictable factors? Game fee (total £200 or so) is included in the entry fee. Barking Congress (quoted only because its entry form came in the same post) advertises fixed prizes with "further prizes according to entries"; published prizes in the Open are explicitly guaranteed, from which we can only conclude that published prizes elsewhere implicitly aren't. (Kent junior congresses, entry fee £5 top whack, never advertise prizes at all. The organisers just work out on the day how much they can afford to give, and winners get a surprise in their envelopes. Maybe adults wouldn't wear that.)

Dear Richard,

26.4.95

As you may have been told, my attempt to reintroduce Bryan Fewell's proposal regarding the Direct Membership Scheme at April's BCF Council Meeting was postponed to September's BCF Council Meeting. After talking with Bryan on the phone, we decided that he would write to *ChessMoves* and I would write to the SCCU Bulletin.

The reason given by David Sedgwick when he suggested the delay was that a Direct Members delegate for whom he held the proxy wanted more time to consider the proposal. As Bryan Fewell first presented the proposal to the Management Board in March 1994; and I asked Direct Members Delegate Rod McShane to second my proposal that Bryan's original proposal be reintroduced in February 1995; and the SCCU Executive supported the proposal by 11-2 at its march meeting; I find the delay in making a decision indefensible. If people travel miles to attend a BCF Council Meeting, they are surely right to expect a decision to be made at that meeting whether for or against, and not postponed at the request of a person who cannot even be bothered to attend the meeting or discuss the matter with the Direct Members delegate who seconded the proposal.

As the decision will(?) be taken in September, is it possible for you to put the relevant parts of Bryan's proposal in the next Bulletin so that no one can ask for another postponement? At the end of Bryan's proposal, the last sentence is "the aim would be to process claims on an honesty box basis...". This was queried at the BCF meeting, but in my opinion, it is obvious that a person has played 20 games if he/she has an "A" or "B" grade, and easy to obtain a computer printout for any dubious claim.

Is it possible for you to publish the name of the person who voted for a game fee of 55p per player per game? Although I realise that the vote was secret, when a person abuses his position when representing others, then the people that he is representing should have the right to change their representative if he is not representing their views.

Best wishes,

LESTER MILLIN

Begbroke, Oxford

Ed: - I gather that when they read out the voting figures, there was a solitary One for 55p. But of course I can't publish his name, I don't know it. I also don't know that he wasn't representing his members' views. LRM has

sent a copy of an LRM paper to Council supporting the (LRM) proposal. I'm not sure how to identify the "relevant parts", in the absence of guidance from the author. But in brief, DMs would be able to claim a rebate on their renewal fee in respect of up to 20 game-fees paid in the previous season. This would include any events, leagues, congresses or whatever, in which game fee has been paid. I believe, though the paper doesn't say, that the BCF would discontinue their rebates to congress organisers in respect of DMs. If so, the proposal seems to have a lot going for it. All DMs get the same rebate entitlement, admin sounds easy, and congress organisers lose a job.

Dear Richard,

27.4.95

I write to you in my capacity as Thames Valley League secretary in regard to the last issue of the SCCU Bulletin which mentions that our league has not paid the game fee to the BCF which in fact we had already paid prior to your publication which stated otherwise.

The Thames Valley League committee has since met and this item was brought up by a couple of concerned individuals who asked for clarification and I have been requested to write to you to ask if it is possible to print a correction in regard to this as we feel that this is misleading and would appreciate an amendment to enable the name of our league to remain untarnished in this respect.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LAURENCE Ealing

Ed: - I am pleased to confirm that the Thames Valley League has paid its Game Fee. Its committee must have guessed the reason for the "error", though. The fee was received by the BCF on the 17th March, some ten days before the Bulletin went out and just seven days before the Executive meeting I was reporting. The information came from the BCF's start-of-March list, the latest then available, and if I'd been thorough I'd have said so.

#### SCCU RULES & APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

The sub-committee met on Friday 28th April 1995 at the Durham Castle. Everyone was there. Chris Howell and Fred Manning attended by invitation, without voting rights. No one voted on any claim/appeal/dispute directly involving his own county. This account of the meeting, though fullish, is not exhaustive and your Editor assures readers that the disputes were very thoroughly gone into. He was there.

(1) **Surrey - Sussex U175.** The Tournament Controller had ruled that R Power, ungraded, was ineligible because his most recent published grade - eighteen years ago! - was 188. Sussex appealed on the ground that the rule couldn't have been intended to apply to such ancient grades, and other people seemed to have got away with breaking it anyway. In fact no one, in the SCCU at any rate, has been challenged on this one and got away with it; a possible case, or something similar, arose last year but no formal claim was made. The sub-committee upheld the Controller's decision. The rules were clear and he had had no choice.

Did the rules need changing? There were times when the last published grade meant nothing. (Another recent case, even more extreme perhaps, appears in the Letters pages.) The sub-committee was not of one mind. It considered a time limit on previous grades (ignore anything more than, say, 5 years old). Or you might give the Controller discretion to waive the rule in special cases, though this would place a heavy burden on him.

The current rule was borrowed from the National Club, no doubt in a desire to follow BCF practice. However, the BCF's rule for inter-union county matches - a rule not available when the SCCU one was drafted - makes no mention of previous grades. The rule for ungraded players with previous grades is exactly the same as for ungraded players without. The match captain merely has to satisfy himself, using all available evidence, that any player currently ungraded is, in fact, "weak" enough to play. It makes obvious sense to fall in line with this. But it would do no harm to beef the rule up and require the captain not merely to satisfy himself, but to produce objective evidence, in advance maybe. Something a bit better than "Grader's never heard of him but I played him in the pub last night and he didn't seem that strong to me". It was agreed to draft a rule along these lines for Executive/AGM consumption. The Controller would naturally want more evidence in the U175 than the U100, and you'd expect him to publish guidelines in advance.

An incidental question was the definition of a "published grade". But everyone knows what it means really.

(2) **Kent v Herts U100.** The sub-committee found this one difficult. Both sides turned up at Kent's usual venue, it wasn't available, and everyone went to Charlton House which was. Then instead of playing the match the Herts team decided they'd been messed around enough and went home, claiming a win by default. What was clear was that: (a) Kent messed the arrangements up; (b) Herts agreed to go to Charlton; and (c) everyone got to Charlton within an hour of the agreed start, and the match could have been played (with Kent presumably taking the lost time on their clocks). The sub-committee was in no doubt that Herts could legitimately have refused to go to Charlton and claimed the match. Their agreement to the Charlton trek, and arrival there in time to play, put a different complexion on it. However, there was a suggestion that they might have been misled about the length and difficulty of the trek (which actually, on the Herts account, took an hour after their on-board Kent pilot got lost). The sub-committee ruled "match void". But like we said, they found it difficult.

It is understood that Kent have agreed to make some reparation to Herts for financial losses. They have certainly apologised in writing for the cock-up. The sub-committee saw no need for any rule changes.

(3) **Sussex v Kent U175.** A Kent player had claimed a (QPF) draw on the ground that his opponent could not win by normal means. His claim had been upheld and Sussex appealed on the ground that the correct procedures did not seem to have been followed. The sub-committee thought they had a case and resolved to start the process again, submitting the position to an independent BCF Arbiter.

The idea of an official "standing arbiter" had some appeal. But it would cause delays if the man was in Peru at the time, and the feeling was that we should just go for the strongest suitable arbiter available. Strongest in playing terms, that is.

Later note (12.5.95): the result's in and it's DRAW. The Arbiter was a titled player.

(4) **Time limits: U100.** Some match captains had found that the time allowed was more than adequate for an U100 match. The sub-committee agreed to draft two new options: 30 in 1½ plus 15/15, and 30 in 1¼ plus 15/15. The AGM could choose either or neither or both, with or without a restriction to the U100.

(5) **Refreshments.** One or two counties don't provide refreshments. It was agreed that the rules ought to require advance notice, with the notice of venue, if you can't provide anything. In particular, there was an important distinction between "can't provide but there's a bar downstairs" and "can't provide and there's no food this side of the county boundary".

(6) **Sussex v Oxon (Open).** Not another dispute, you'll be glad to hear. This match was played over 18 boards and the Bulletin gave the score, last time, as "9½-8½: should be adjusted to 10½-9½ but won't be, Rule 13c being what it is". Shortly after the issue came out, your Editor found to his surprise that the Tournament Controller *had* adjusted it to 10½-9½. "Illegal but sensible, and who's going to object?", he thought. Whether the sub-committee found it illegal isn't entirely clear, but they voted to endorse it. They also decided to propose a rule change allowing 18-board matches by agreement, and one free point apiece.

(7) **SCCU Management Board.** The sub-committee discussed a proposal, left over from last year's Council Meeting, to reduce the MB to 4 members (and change its name). No clear decision was reached, and it was decided to put forward no less than three alternative proposals: leave the MB as it is, change it as proposed, or abolish it and legislate to extend the President's powers.

(8) **Other rule changes.** Other changes discussed, and likely to pop up in Council, are: (a) a rule requiring match results to be submitted within three days; (b) a rule on deadlines for eligibility claims, saying who's entitled to claim; (c) possibly a rule applying board count to jamborees, except you'd have to say how to do it and we don't run all that many jamborees; and (d) lots of little tidying-up points.

The meeting took 3½ hours and your Editor missed his last train to Tunbridge Wells, but wouldn't have done if he hadn't stayed for another beer.

### SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive met on Friday 12th May 1995 at the Durham Castle. 17 attended. Main points:

(1) **Fred** was on time.

(2) **BCF Council report.** Just a quick run-down, but (a) Manchester & District sweetener is to go through, though they're calling it a grant of some sort instead of waiving the game fee payment. (b) John Poole's proposals on Minor Counties eligibility got postponed. Essentially, the less active counties (in game fee terms?) would be Minor. Unless they've won it in the last 10 years or reached the Final in the last 5, or something like that. (c) The SCCU proposals on the draw for the BCF stage went through, except for the bit that kept teams from the same Union apart till the Final. They agreed semi-final, though. (d) The BCF has asked the SCCU, and the SCCU has agreed, to pay the £25 cost of Kent U100's attendance at the Finals prizegiving ceremony. Not sure that came up in Council, but still. And the BCF will provide an U100 trophy, to be awarded from this year. (e) Council reversed, by a large majority, the Management Board's proposal (or was it a decision?) to withdraw Direct Membership benefits from recipients of the Presidents Award. Amazingly the actuaries seem to have been wheeled out, and their advice is that recipients will average 17 years of benefits before dying. This may or may not be the reason for the very large number of nominations this year. (About nine, we think.)

(3) **SCCU Competitions:** (a) There were six entries this year in the U180 KO: Berks, Bucks, Herts, Kent, Surrey and Sussex. (b) SCCU Individual Champion, from the Sutton Congress, is John Emms. G Buckley qualified for the British.

(4) **SCCU Officers.** We shall need a new Secretary and Minute Secretary for next season. Volunteers please step forward. In addition, Martin Cath would like help with the publishing and marketing of the SCCU Grading List. David Sedgwick, the retiring President, has volunteered to take over from Fred Manning as County Match Controller, and Fred will be happy to sidestep into the Fixture Secretary's job.

Of course you can make nominations for any post, whether filled or not.

(5) **Juniors.** Bruce Birchall outlined proposals to set up a charitable trust. Forgive the vagueness of this statement. Your Editor confessed his financial imbecility at the meeting and asked exactly what the benefits were, but didn't understand the answer. Others, who appeared to, saw drawbacks as well as benefits and thought it needed careful study. BHB is to do a paper for the AGM.

(6) **Money.** Provisional accounts indicated break-even, near enough, for the season 1994-5. A thorough examination of the figures suggested new affiliation fees of £30 per county plus £12 per team (currently £25 and £10). To prove that it has the counties' interests at heart, the Executive selflessly agreed that its future meetings would be at the Durham Castle which is much cheaper than the Friends House.

The Junior budget occasioned some discussion. One delegate thought junior events should pay for themselves, and another questioned grants totalling £100 to two individual county junior organisations. Someone else was a bit unhappy about the preponderance of Girls events. The Executive rejected the first point and supported BHB's contention that money should be spent on getting new events off the ground. A junior budget of £500 was agreed.

It was agreed, by 8 votes to 3, to donate £100 to the Hastings Centenary appeal.

(7) **British Championship Qualifiers.** Doubts were expressed about the Essex Congress as an SCCU qualifying event. One reason was their cock-up with this year's entry form, which incorrectly advertises the SCCU Individual Championship (yes, it *has* just been held at Sutton). The county had undertaken to correct the error, but lots of entry forms had still found their way into circulation without the correcting sticker. There was also some feeling that our three places should go to congresses in three different counties. (The other one's Southend, also in Essex.) The upshot was that the Executive resolved to give a BCQ place next year to the Maidstone congress in preference to the Essex one. Maidstone has been pressing for a place for some time; it has been, perhaps, the strongest non-BCQ event in the country in the last two or three years. It will now be much the earliest BCQ event. Next year's SCCU Championship will be at Southend, and Sutton gets the third BCQ place. (Sutton, in view of its size, got a second BCQ place from the BCF this year and no doubt will do so again.)

(8) **Rules & Appeals.** Nearly forgot. The deliberations of the Rules & Appeals sub-committee were reported, and debate was minimal.

The meeting lasted nearly three hours. The most you can manage at the Friends House, with their early chucking-out time, is 2¼ hours. Your Editor, on Coca Cola, was in plenty of time for his train but missed it because he couldn't find it.

## CONGRESS RESULTS

### WESTMINSTER RAPID 11th February 1995

**Open** (14 pl) 1 Timothy Kett 5½/6; 2-3 Mark Levitt, David Sands 4...

**"Major"** (21 pl) 1 Edgar Flacker 5/6; 2-4 John Capes, Peter Murrey, Kevin White 4½...

**"Minor"** (23 pl) 1 James P Robinson 5/6; 2-3 Paul Blackwell, Ian Murray 4½...

Results John Sargent

### WESTMINSTER RAPID 11th March 1995

**Open** (14 pl) 1 Michael Trent 5/6; 2 Edgar Flacker 4½; 3 Ulrich Hirth 4...

**"Major"** (21 pl) 1-2 Andrew Kitchlen-Haughton, Michael Kubylka 5/6; 3 Marius Gizycki 4½...

**"Minor"** (23 pl) 1 Peter Hayes 5½/6; 2 Alexander Meynell 5; 3-6 Paul Blackwell, Victor Litvin, Steve Taylor, Barry McMurdock 4½...

Results John Sargent

### BOURNE END ONE-DAY 45/45 8th April 1995

**Section A** (18 pl) 1 AP Smith (Slough) 4½/5; 2-3 JP Conlon (Reading), MV Houska (Slough) 4...

**Section B** (24 pl) 1 AM Leech (Maidenhead) 5/5; 2-3 SG Gilmour (Lower Earley), G Gold (Newbury) 4...

**Section C** (24 pl) 1 W Hughes (Aylesbury) 5/5; 2-3 EB Sandercock (Chalfont St Giles), M Vandenberghe (Maidenhead) 4...

**Section D** (24 pl) 1-3 DJ Lewis (Reading), N Towers (Stratford on Avon), M Ward (Hayes Middx) 4/5...

**Section E** (24 pl) 1 A Jesse (Marlow) 4½/5; 2-3 T Quilter (Beaconsfield), RC Thursby (Wendover) 4...

Results AJ Cox

**SURREY EASTER** at Sutton 14-17 April 1995 had 494 competitors, slightly down on the peaks of 1993 and 1994.

**Frank Winter Memorial Open** (102 pl) 1 (and SCCU Champion) John Emms (Maidstone) 6/7; 2-7 Simon Brown (Hampstead), Graeme Buckley (Bath), Lawrence Cooper (Midland Monarchs), Harriet Hunt (Cowley), Andrew Martin (Wood Green), Peter Marusenko (Ukraine) 5½... **GRADING** Christopher Rice (Streatham) 4½; Kevin Richardson (Surbiton), Ben Savage (Chess Forum) 4; Iozeph Okosieme (International Students) 3½. **JUNIOR** Mark Ferguson (Haslemere) 5; Oliver Rosten (Sutton), Simon Williams (Woking) 4½. **British Championship places:** Simon Brown, Lawrence Cooper.

**Under 170** (58 pl) 1 AJ Barwise (Bolton) 6½/7; 2 AM Gregg (Hampton) 5½; 3-6 DJ Faulkner (Welwyn Garden City), JV Kaye (Ilford), AM Leech (Maidenhead), SJ Levy (Wimbledon) 5... **GRADING** S Menon, S Kapadia (both Richmond Juniors), D Heron (Edinburgh) 4½. **JUNIOR MI** Roberts (Dartford) 3½.

**Under 145** (84 pl) 1 JCH Nyman (Kings Head) 6½/7; 2 M Noakes (Maidstone) 6; 3-6 GJ Ball (Staines), AG Bynnersley (W London), DV Gibbs (Flying Teapots), RR Harper (Eastbourne) 5½... **GRADING** G Botfield (East Grinstead), DA Gold (Newbury) 5; D Lewis (Earley) 4. **JUNIOR A** Edmans (St Pauls School) 4½; "Miss" R Bates

(Richmond Juniors), J Ho (Maidstone) 4. (We quote the "Miss" because we've a feeling there may be another R Bates of Richmond Juniors. Other sexist prefixes have been removed. Happy now, Martin?)

**Under 120 A** (78 pl) 1 JB Farrell (Metropolitan) 5/5; 2 GJ Edwards (Richmond Juniors) 4½; 3-6 C Imlay (Christ Church Purley), J McGrath (Bracknell), D Paskins (SW11), W Stewart (New Cross) 4... GRADING H Richards (Whitstable), PW Brown (S Norwood) 4. JUNIOR J Stone (Horley) 3½; AN Kissoon (Maidstone) 3.

**Under 120 B** (65 pl) 1-2 EJ Downham (Lewisham), JB Farrell (Metropolitan) 4½/5; 3-5 M James (Woodpushers), A Kieran (Hayes Kent), J McGrath (Bracknell) 4... GRADING F Howard (Charlton) 4; D Molineux (Kings Head) 3½. JUNIOR P Seet (Oxted), M Broomfield (S Norwood) 4.

**Under 100 A** (58 pl) 1 LY Bennett (Beckenham) 5/5; 2-3 A Adebiyi (E9), D Hutson (Richmond Juniors) 4½... JUNIOR M Feld (Ashted), C Rawlinson (Godalming), D Zoubaida (Richmond Juniors) 4.

**Under 100 B** (49 pl) 1 M Dixon (Trinity School) 5/5; 2-3 D Ho (Maidstone), D Zoubaida (Richmond Juniors) 4½... JUNIOR HE Bates (Richmond Juniors) 4; L Hunt (Cowley) 3; M Zoubaida (Richmond Juniors) 2.

**Congress Special Prizes: Veterans** 1 JE Hall (East Grinstead) U120 A, SG Manning U100 B, PM Shaw (Sutton) U120 B (all 3½/5). **Family** 1 Kate and Matthew Feld 70% in U100 A; 2 Jessica and David Ho 67.6% in U170 and U100. They used to say "The best game prizes will be announced after the entries have been judged", but now it's just a disappointing "in due course". Results Martin Cath

#### READING ONE-DAY 40/40 22nd April 1995

**Open** (25 pl) 1 S Koutsin (Kiev) 4½/5; 2-4 P Marusenko (Kiev), M Rose (Oxford), S Williams (Woking) 4...

**Under 150** (25 pl) 1 P Morrey (Reading) 4½/5; 2 J Coleman (Solihull) 4; 3-4 T Glass (Bracknell), DP Kidd (Wallingford) 3½...

**Under 120** (48 pl) 1 A Hunt (Reading) 5/5; 2-6 I Brooke (Oxford), G Brown (Wantage), P Manning (Farnborough), A Mirukenda (Reading), D Smalley (Bourne End) 4... Results AJ Cox

#### SOUTH HERTS CONGRESS 22-23 April 1995

**Open** 1 J Emms (Maidstone) 4½/5; 2 L McShane (Kings Head) 4; 3-6 A Romanski (Sv Dinslakin 1923), PD Kemp (Streatham), R Sagall (Hendon), T Kett 3½...

**"Challengers"** 1 B Savage (Chess Forum) 4½/5; 2-3 N Blake (Redhill), TJ Bean 4; 4-8 A Punnett (Guildford), JR Holland (Dereham), S Law (?Hemel), R Almond (Hastings), C Evans 3½...

**"Major"** 1-2 RR Harper (Eastbourne), J Ho 4½/5; 3-5 GCW Coomber (Redhill), EB Sandercock, S Jerome 4; 6-10 P Lawrence (St Albans), GJ Ball (Staines), D Titmas (Maidstone GS), B Kreel (Islington), J Billingham (Letchworth) 3½...

**"Intermediate"** 1-2 R Hunt (Streatham), M Joseph 4½/5; 3-5 MW Thomas (Corby), MA Baig (Barnet), M Waltham (St Albans) 4; 6-8 PT Housden (Bedford), M Tsentides (Edmonton), CAJ Costello 3½...

**"Minor"** 1 D Webb (Gerrards Cross) 5/5; 2-7 S Chick (Chislehurst), T Wheeler (Barbican), S McGregor (Herts Univ), C Kreuzer (Richmond Juniors), AR Howie, M Coughtrey 4...

### JUNIOR NEWS

#### TUNBRIDGE WELLS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 1st April 1995

**Under 19/16/Parents** (26 pl) 1 James Vigus (Chislehurst) 5½/6; 2-3 Mark Roberts (Sevenoaks: U16 title), Paul Fenn (Sittingbourne) 5; 4 David Moskovic (Welling) 4½; 5-8 Russell Jones (Bromley: parent), John Weatherlake (Ashford), John Wood (Beckenham & Bromley: parent), Jessica Ho (Maidstone) 4...

**Under 14** (19 pl) 1 Matthew Noakes (Maidstone) 5½/6; 2-4 David Titmas, Trevor Jarrett (both Maidstone), Richard Murphy (Hayes) 4½; 5-6 Leigh Bennett (Catford), Timothy Holmes (Eltham) 4...

**Kent Under 12 Championship** (46 pl) 1 Desmond Tan (Dulwich) 6/6; 2 Oliver Cooley (Orpington) 5; 3-6 Stephen Casement (Canterbury), Rosalind Kieran (Hayes), Thomas Rendle (Crowborough), Heather Richards (Whitstable) 4½...

**Under 10** (41 pl) 1 James Veltman (Sevenoaks) 5½/6; 2-3 Andrew Welch (Folkestone), Daniel Bulger (Biggin Hill) 5; 4-6 Matthew Burgess (Oxford), Stephen Milford (Phoenix), Benjamin Edwards (Kilndown) 4½...

**Under 8** (21 pl) 1-3 Jack Leonard (Bishop Challoner), Zakerey Bennett (Balgowan), Thomas Stradwick (Bromley) 5/6; 4-5 Sara Higgins (Sevenoaks), Mark Dickinson (Tonbridge) 4...

#### SCCU SCHOOLS GIRLS JAMBOREE at Imperial College 2nd April 1995

1 Sheen Mount Primary 13/18; 2 Southend Girls High 12½; 3 Hasmorean (heard that name before) Girls High 10½; 4 Cophall Girls 10; 5 Oxford Girls High 8. Six rounds, teams of 4 as far as we can make out, best 3 scores counted. No age limit mentioned. Bruce Birchall hopes to hold similar events termly. He is very keen to develop girls chess and would like to know of any schools having active girl players.

#### UNDER 14 FRIENDLY JAMBOREE at Colchester 25th March 1995

1 Kent 14½/24; 2 Suffolk 13½; 3 Essex 8

Results Roger Holmes

**NATIONAL UNDER 18 TEAM FINALS**, or what we've got of them, Nuneaton 8th April 1995

**Open** 1 Manchester 10/12; 2-3 Surrey, Devon 6½; 4 Humberside 5; 5 Lancashire 4½; 6 Cleveland 3½

**Open Girls** 1 Kent 6/6; 2 Middx 4½; 3 Staffs 3½; 4 Cleveland 1; 5 Devon 0

**Minor Girls Second Teams** 1 Devon 5/6; 2 Kent 4; 3 Leicestershire 0

Results AJW Thorn and an anonymous Kent contributor

**SUSSEX JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Ditchling 18.3.95

**Under 9** (62 pl) 1 Tom Whitehouse (Cuckfield) 22/24 (i.e. 7-and-a-bit out of 8); 2 Kieran Snowdon (Cuckfield) 21; 3-8 William Abbott (Crowborough), Joseph Carthew (Battle and Langton), Wayne Chim (Lindfield), Georgina Gunn (Ditchling: Girls title), Alex Thompson (Horsham), Jonathan Thompson (Cuckfield) 18...

**Under 7** (16 pl) 1 Matthew Moore (Haywards Heath); 2 Tom Garland (Haywards Heath); 3 Nicholas Campion (Hurstpierpoint); 4 Richard Howell-Peake (Hurstpierpoint)...

Results Tim Greenhill

**21st MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR** 10-12 April 1995

**Under 18** (14 pl) 1-3 E Dearing (Perth), MC Campbell (Guildford), J Houska (Maidenhead) 6/8; 4-5 NJ Harmer (Hindhead), I Henderson (Earley) 5...

**Under 13** (25 pl) 1 JJ Foster (Newbury) 7/9; 2-3 RC Thursby (Wendover), R Knight (Yeovil) 6½; 4 M Bovey (Slough) 6...

**Under 11** (35 pl) 1-2 D Kay (Guildford), M Broomfield (SE25) 8½/9; 3-6 A Navias (Ascot), KB Nicholas (Stoke Poges), J Lutton (Basildon), RJ Hansell (Great Kingshill) 6...

**Under 9** (27 pl) 1 T Thiruchelvam (New Malden) 9/11; 2 CG Hansell (Great Kingshill) 8½; 3 GR Hargreaves (Beenham) 8; 4-7 GP Morris (Abingdon), D Bareham (Cricklade), JP Mela (Earley), L Goodwin (High Wycombe) 7...

Results Nigel Dennis

**EPSCA UNDER 9 TEAM FINALS** at Leatherhead 29th April 1995

1 Wey Valley 30½/36; 2 Richmond 27½; 3 Kent 23... No other details except that six teams had qualified from the Southern Zone, and five of them finished in the top six.

**SUSSEX JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** (part 2) at Brighton 6-7 May 1995

**Senior** 1-2 Robin Clark, Glen Parker (both Eastbourne) 6½/7; 3 Gavin Lock (Crawley) 4½...

**Junior** 1 Laurence Rackham (Chichester) 6½/7; 2 Anthony Higgs (Horsham) 6; 3 Thomas Rendle (Hastings) 5½...; **Best U11** Joe Davey (Hurstpierpoint), Edward Lamb (The Holt) 5; **Girls** Kate Banwell, Vicki Banwell (Hassocks) 4

Results Paul Watson

**EPSCA UNDER 11 GIRLS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP** at South Camden Community School, 20th May 1995

1 Somerset 30½ (out of 42, possibly?); 2 Wey Valley 29½; 3-4 Nottingham, Devon 28½; 5 Liverpool 27; 6 Suffolk 25; 7 Solihull 22½; 8 Wilts 19; 9 Richmond 16½; 10 Barnet 16; 11 Northants 15; 12 Kent 14; 13 Hants 7.

**"TIMES" NATIONAL SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Quarter-finals:** Truro School (16.7) 5½ ½ Arden, Solihull (14.3); Maidstone GS (14.11) 4½ 1½ Haberdashers Elstree (16.5); Ipswich School (14.8) 5½ ½ RGS Newcastle (14.0); Methodist College Belfast (17.0) 4 2 Manchester Grammar (15.10). **Semi-finals and Final** (and third place play-off) are at the Charing Cross Hotel 29th and 30th June.

**Plate quarter-finals:** Northgate Ipswich (16.6) \*3 3 RGS High Wycombe (16.6); Nottingham High School (16.3) 4 2 Shrewsbury (16.3); Westminster School (16.10) 5½ ½ Torquay Boys GS; St Columbs Derry (16.9) 5 1 Dame Allens Newcastle (14.7)

Results Mitchell Taylor

**KENT** Schools League U16 and U13 titles duly went to Maidstone GS, completing their clean sweep.

Croydon's joined the Initiative (what is it about that word?). The Croydon Borough Chess Initiative, new this year, intends to establish a weekly junior club and a schools league. Ten schools have joined so far. Objectives, not confined to juniors, include coaching and a pubs league. Question: why does Chris Dunworth live at Bunny Cottage?

**FORTHCOMING SCCU EVENTS** (but not confined to SCCU teams, we think)

**SCCU Girls U14 inter-county** team championships Saturday 10th June 1995 at North London Collegiate School, Edgware. Teams of four. Options seem a bit complicated; for details contact Bruce Birchall 0171 792 8031.

Entries to Tony Suttill, 7 Lonsdale Rd, London W11 2BY.

**SCCU Girls U14 inter-school** team championships Sunday 2nd July 1995 at Imperial College. U18 and U11.

Same contacts as above.

## SCCU STAGE COUNTY MATCHES

Just to tidy things up. We left the Under 100 League table in limbo last time.

| UNDER 100 | K  | M  | H  | E  | K | M  | H  | E  | GP  | MP |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|----|
| 1 Kent    |    | 7  | 8  | 8½ |   | 7  | -  | 8  | 38½ | 5  |
| 2 Middx   | 5  |    | 5½ | *6 | 5 |    | 6½ | 6½ | 34½ | 3  |
| 3 Herts   | 4  | 6½ |    | 5½ | - | 5½ |    | 8½ | 30  | 2  |
| 4 Essex   | 3½ | 5  | 6½ |    | 4 | 5½ | 3½ |    | 28  | 1  |

And CORRECTIONS FROM LAST TIME (with rambling remarks).

Please remember the grader works from the Bulletin. So check our typing next year, if you haven't this. We're careful but not infallible, and to prove it:

**U175 Surrey - Essex** p 10: Surrey bd 5 was Parsons, not Parson. Expect the grader solved it.

**U150 Kent - Surrey** p 10: we got the results the wrong way round on bds 1 and 15. Should read:

1 Barnes 0 1 Brodie; 15 Stock 1 0 Woods.

Yes, we told the grader a couple of months back. This one was entirely our mistake and it was just bad luck that the errors cancelled out, defeating the adding-up check. The check works on the assumption that we're unlikely to mistype two results in the same match, and if we do the errors are unlikely to cancel out. Foolproof it ain't.

**U125 Surrey - Kent B** p 12: Surrey bd 14 was Palmier, 15 Sweetman. Copied Kent's version, which came first. Palmer rang no alarm bells, but we did think Swiftman looked suspect and we made a mental note to check with Surrey's version. Surrey's version, when it came, was not too clearly written and was capable of being read Kent's way. Which was, no doubt, why Kent had read it that way. Given a second initial we'd have looked further; we know there's a BS Sweetman. Without it we just took the line of least resistance. We do try to get things right and we wish match captains would make it easier sometimes. One way is writing clearly; another (why not?) is checking your opponents' score sheet for spellings. The worst way is doing neither and pointing the mistake out afterwards. This may be the time to thank those match captains who send typed results in the standard layout. Makes life much easier. One of them sent three word-processed results on disk the other month, and even took the trouble to convert them for the Bulletin's word processor. Unfortunately they were in a tabular form not readily compatible with the way we do it, and editing them would have taken longer than typing them out again. Match results on disk aren't really useful unless your layout's very similar to the Bulletin's own.

And it's not exactly county matches, but:

**Under 18 Jamboree (Major)** p 3. David Parsons observes that the Surrey scores don't add up. The offending result is on board 9 and it should read Horton 0 1 Johnson (and Johnson is Surrey, not Middx, and presumably the Kent scores didn't add up either). Never checked the adding up. With matches we check. Jamborees are a pain to type and a pain to add up, and we confess to being less thorough with them. We're not alone. The NYCA actually gave a trophy to the wrong team in this year's national U16 jamboree, having done their sums wrong at the end of the event. The rightful owners of the trophy risked life and limb retrieving it from the usurpers' departing coach.

## BCF STAGE COUNTY MATCHES

(Editor's note: I regret that clarity of handwriting and quality of photocopying have not everywhere improved.)

|                       | OPEN          |     |                        |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----|------------------------|
|                       | QUARTER-FINAL |     |                        |
| Lancs                 | 13.5.95       |     | Middx*                 |
| 1 Brett Lund 204 (W)  | 0             | 1   | Jon S Speelman 251     |
| 2 William Giblin 198  | 0             | 1   | Jonathan Levitt 227    |
| 3 Howard Hughes 192   | 1             | 0   | Kenneth Shovel 230     |
| 4 Steve Barnes 192    | 0             | 1   | Steve H Berry 220      |
| 5 Graham Lilley 189   | 1             | 0   | Peter J Sowray 213     |
| 6 Natasha Regan 188   | 0             | 1   | Mats Carlson 208       |
| 7 David Lees 184      | ½             | ½   | RJ McMichael 208       |
| 8 Mike Conroy 180     | 0             | 1   | Paul S Cawte 208       |
| 9 Malcolm Peacock 180 | ½             | ½   | Matthew Piper 203      |
| 10 Alan Barton 177    | 0             | 1   | Mark Lyell 197         |
| 11 Bob Newton 176     | 1             | 0   | Tim Kett 197           |
| 12 Steve Appleby 174  | 0             | 1   | Aleks Trifunovic 197   |
| 13 Philip Seery 169   | ½             | ½   | Luke McShane 183       |
| 14 def                | 0             | 1   | Colin McKenzie 194     |
| 15 def                | 0             | 1   | (notice given in time) |
| 16 def                | 0             | 1   | (to save travelling)   |
| (Nuneaton)            | 4½            | 11½ |                        |

You'll not be surprised to hear that the Bulletin hasn't received all the results. But bare match scores, gleaned from Jeff Douglas:

**OPEN** quarter-finals: Cambs 8½ 7½ Staffs; Warwicks 9 7 Devon; Hants 9 7 Notts. Semi-finals: Warwicks v Middx, Cambs v Hants

**MINOR COUNTIES** quarter-finals: Beds 8½ 7½ Staffs; Suffolk 8½ 7½ Cheshire. Semi-finals: Herts v Beds, Suffolk v Surrey

**UNDER 175** Quarter-finals: Greater Manchester 9½ 6½ Merseyside; Notts 9 7 Hants. Semi-finals: Essex v Gtr Mcr; Notts v Kent

**UNDER 150** Essex lost 7 9 to Notts in the preliminary round; see *May Chess Moves*. Quarter-finals: Devon 8½ 7½ Cleveland; Sussex 10 6 Hants; Lancs 10 6 Notts; Warwicks \*8 8 Suffolk. Semi-finals: Warwicks v Devon; Lancs v Sussex

**UNDER 125** Quarter-finals: Cheshire 10 6 Gtr Mcr; Suffolk 10½ 5½ Staffs; Lancs 9 7 Sussex. Semi-finals: Cheshire v Middx; Suffolk v Lancs

## MINOR COUNTIES

## PRELIMINARY ROUND:

| <b>Dorset</b>       |    | 22.4.95 | <b>Surrey*</b>  |  |
|---------------------|----|---------|-----------------|--|
| 1 MJ Simons 192 (B) | 0  | 1       | M Ferguson 214  |  |
| 2 GA White 185      | ½  | ½       | DB Rosen 183    |  |
| 3 MJ Freeman 182    | 0  | 1       | JM Shepley 182  |  |
| 4 JR Hopkins 174    | 1  | 0       | KP Mynett 176   |  |
| 5 IC Clark 173      | 0  | 1       | ME Osborne 171  |  |
| 6 RM Pegg 169       | ½  | ½       | PM Stimpson 170 |  |
| 7 T Lines 166       | ½  | ½       | CR Clegg 166    |  |
| 8 PJ Taylor 162     | 1  | 0       | JJ Skielnik 163 |  |
| 9 LJ Crane 163      | ½  | ½       | RJ Wilcox 158   |  |
| 10 TE Simms 161     | ½  | ½       | K Hurst 156     |  |
| 11 KA Sarahs 155    | 1  | 0       | RGR Harris 153  |  |
| 12 SR Iyengar 149   | 0  | 1       | PE Barnard 152  |  |
| 13 DE Papworth 148  | 0  | 1       | PR Archer 152   |  |
| 14 FC Kingdon 148   | 1  | 0       | JB Hawson 145   |  |
| 15 JA Oldfield 146  | 0  | 1       | SR Jones 142    |  |
| 16 L Laker 141      | 1  | 0       | FC Manning 134  |  |
| (Winchester)        | 7½ | 8½      |                 |  |

Surrey outgraded Dorset by three-sixteenths of a point on average, and only on top and bottom boards were opponents separated by more than five points. Is this some sort of record?

## QUARTER-FINALS:

| <b>Gloucestershire</b> |    | 14.5.95 | <b>Herts*</b>   |  | <b>Surrey*</b>         |    | 13.5.95 | <b>Derbyshire</b> |  |
|------------------------|----|---------|-----------------|--|------------------------|----|---------|-------------------|--|
| 1 S Dilleien 182 (B)   | ½  | ½       | A Simpson 199   |  | C O'Shaughnessy 200    | 0  | 1       | P Madden 199 (B)  |  |
| 2 M Burn 186           | ½  | ½       | C Maduekwe 186  |  | PD Kemp 195            | ½  | ½       | J Shannon 183     |  |
| 3 P Meade 179          | 0  | 1       | B Savage 174    |  | RA Allicock 195        | 1  | 0       | M Alderson 174    |  |
| 4 J McMillan 171       | 0  | 1       | A Gilfillan -   |  | Oliver Rosten 184      | ½  | ½       | R Forey 172       |  |
| 5 D Smith 170          | 1  | 0       | S Law 153       |  | DB Rosen 183           | 1  | 0       | P Moore 172       |  |
| 6 G Taylor 168         | 0  | 1       | C Major 177     |  | JM Shepley 182         | 1  | 0       | I Iglesias 165    |  |
| 7 P Denison 164        | 1  | 0       | M Robertson 159 |  | KP Mynett 176          | 0  | 1       | R Gamble 177      |  |
| 8 J Boyce 163          | 1  | 0       | S Tovey 174     |  | Kevin D Richardson 175 | 0  | 1       | S Gilmore 164     |  |
| 9 M Kambites 146       | 0  | 1       | J Denton 172    |  | Marcus E Osborne 171   | 1  | 0       | DJ Brown 151      |  |
| 10 R Comley 169 or 161 | 1  | 0       | J Cook 171      |  | S Macdonald-Ross 164   | 1  | 0       | D Pickering 149   |  |
| 11 R Powis 159         | 0  | 1       | T Sinkinson 169 |  | PD Dupre 186           | ½  | ½       | J Collins 151     |  |
| 12 D Jordan 156 or 150 | 0  | 1       | S Rawlings 167  |  | JB Hawson 145          | 1  | 0       | R Nath 150        |  |
| 13 P Day 143           | 1  | 0       | J Franks 165    |  | Stuart R Jones 142     | 0  | 1       | S Bracey 146      |  |
| 14 G Mann 137          | 0  | 1       | T Ray 159       |  | D Spearman 141         | ½  | ½       | DJ Williams 155   |  |
| 15 S Roberts 132       | 0  | 1       | A Atkinson 152  |  | FC Manning 134         | 1  | 0       | P Kelman -        |  |
| 16 S Roberts 123       | ½  | ½       | B Judkins 145   |  | DA Baldock 131         | ½  | ½       | D Beckford 122    |  |
| Frampton on Severn     | 6½ | 9½      |                 |  | (Nuneaton)             | 9½ | 6½      |                   |  |

Glos bds 15 and 16 as received

## UNDER 175

## QUARTER-FINALS

| <b>Norfolk</b>      |    | 13.5.95 | <b>Essex*</b>         |  | <b>Lancashire</b>   |    | 13.5.95 | <b>Kent*</b>     |  |
|---------------------|----|---------|-----------------------|--|---------------------|----|---------|------------------|--|
| 1 J Allison 153 (r) | 1  | 0       | R Heppinstall 174 (W) |  | JD Lyth 169 (B)     | ½  | ½       | PD Fenn 174      |  |
| 2 R Savory 167      | 0  | 1       | DJ Millward 172       |  | P Fallon 168        | ½  | ½       | PW Eldridge 174  |  |
| 3 J Dawson 162      | 0  | 1       | PC Doye 171           |  | S Foulkes 168       | ½  | ½       | PJ O'Donovan 170 |  |
| 4 def               | 0  | 1       | CR Ramage 171         |  | RK Taylor 168       | 0  | 1       | Z Mehmet 170     |  |
| 5 S Moore 153       | 0  | 1       | SD Harvey 168         |  | S Woodcock 170      | 1  | 0       | TH Owens 168     |  |
| 6 D Golder 150      | 0  | 1       | IBN Smith 165         |  | P Muleady 163       | 0  | 1       | AG Ropek 169     |  |
| 7 N Latter 149      | 0  | 1       | TD Whitton 168        |  | KJ Gornall 161      | ½  | ½       | LR Gurr 164      |  |
| 8 P Badger 149      | ½  | ½       | R Waldteufel 162      |  | MA Whitehead 152    | 0  | 1       | SJ Pink 163      |  |
| 9 J Wickham 146     | 0  | 1       | M Weighell 162        |  | J Tennant-Smith 155 | ½  | ½       | NC Mackett 163   |  |
| 10 F Bowers 144     | 1  | 0       | A King 161            |  | PJ Taylor 154       | 0  | 1       | SJ Jacob 162     |  |
| 11 C Tuffin 140     | ½  | ½       | NH Twitchell 160      |  | P O'Mara 153        | 1  | 0       | RJ Everson 158   |  |
| 12 T Buttolph 130   | 0  | 1       | JA Philpott 157       |  | PM Taylor 169       | ½  | ½       | AB Mata 157      |  |
| 13 D Lubbeck 128    | 0  | 1       | S Harwood 150         |  | R Tokeley 146       | ½  | ½       | RE Lane 155      |  |
| 14 I Smith 125      | 1  | 0       | SM Williams 152       |  | FS Rushworth 130    | 0  | 1       | DJR Barnes 148   |  |
| 15 J Danger 127     | 0  | 1       | David Smith 152       |  | def                 | 0  | 1       | AC Waters 151    |  |
| 16 W De Jong -      | ½  | ½       | MRA Murrell 137       |  | def                 | 0  | 1       | PR Lloyd         |  |
| (Norwich)           | 4½ | 11½     |                       |  | (Nuneaton)          | 5½ | 10½     |                  |  |

**UNDER 125**  
QUARTER-FINAL

| Norfolk                | 13.5.95     | Middx*                 |
|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 1 Owen Green 121 (B)   | 1 0         | Valerie Vangucht e124  |
| 2 Len Hall 119         | 0 1         | O Onanunga e124        |
| 3 Jo Barger 116        | 0 1         | Greig Sweetland 124    |
| 4 Richtry Green 117    | 1 0         | Mike Whitworth 124     |
| 5 Mark James 117       | ½ ½         | Bob Okrzeja 123        |
| 6 Phil Suggsey 113     | ½ ½         | Dougald Agbley 123     |
| 7 Cock Bayue 113       | 0 1         | Stan Lazarz 122        |
| 8 Lucy Carter 109      | ½ ½         | Roy Maddock 121        |
| 9 William Courtney 108 | ½ ½         | Alastair Johnstone 121 |
| 10 Steve Griggs 102    | ½ ½         | Dennis Ramsey 121      |
| 11 Mike Wietrl e100    | ½ ½         | Gary O'Grady 121       |
| 12 Pam Hwpec 98        | 1 0         | Gareth Smith e120      |
| 13 Joe Schrtz e100     | 0 1         | Alex Goodman e120      |
| 14 Ray Cashier 104     | 0 1         | Nigel Bye e120         |
| 15 Park Allen 97       | 0 1         | Richard Balatoni 117   |
| 16 Pave Johnsod 89     | 0 1         | Steve Myatt 114        |
| (Norwich)              | <b>6 10</b> |                        |

**SCCU COUNTY FIXTURES 1995-6**  
(OPEN DIVISION)

|        |      |      |     |     |        |
|--------|------|------|-----|-----|--------|
| Oct 7  | KM   | SyO  | HC  | Esx | (BuBr) |
| 21     | CSy  | SxH  | OK  | MBr | (EBu)  |
| Nov 4  | KC   | SySx | HE  | BrO | (BuM)  |
| 18     | ESy  | SxK  | CBR | OM  | (HBu)  |
| Dec 2  | MC   | BrSx | KE  | SyH | (OBU)  |
| Jan 27 | HK   | EBr  | SxM | CO  | (BuS)  |
| Feb 10 | OSx  | ME   | BrH | KSy | (CBu)  |
| 24     | SyBr | HM   | EO  | SxC | (BuK)  |
| Mar 9  | CE   | OH   | MSy | BrK | (SxBu) |

This is provisional, for two reasons. One, at this stage counties have the right to insist on changes. And two, the position of Bucks is not yet clear.

**SCCU UNDER 180 KO**

| Sussex*              | 6.5.75       | Kent*             | Surrey              | 20.5.95    | Herts*          |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 AO Pickersgill 178 | 0 1          | CI Howell 178 (W) | K Mynett 176 (W)    | 0 1        | B Savage 174    |
| 2 RJ Almond 175      | 1 0          | PD Fenn 174       | K Richardson 175    | 1 0        | C Majer 177     |
| 3 SON Hawes 173      | ½ ½          | JR Bayford 174    | M Osborne 171       | 1 0        | P Georghiou 173 |
| 4 IG Kelly 168       | 0 1          | LR Gurr 164       | D Sedgwick 168      | ½ ½        | M Robertson 159 |
| 5 CN Hann 168        | 1 0          | NC Mackett 163    | D Tuddenham 165     | 1 0        | N Lee 153       |
| 6 A Hall 167         | 1 0          | RJ Everson 158    | S McDonald-Ross 164 | 0 1        | S Law 153       |
| 7 IP Judd 160        | ½ ½          | AB Mata 157       | J Skielnik 163      | 1 0        | D Webb 157      |
| 8 AS Fleming 159     | 1 0          | AC Waters 151     | P Brown 157         | 1 0        | R Noakes 153    |
| 9 LJ Cannon 154      | 0 1          | HT Jones 150      | P Dupre 156         | 1 0        | A Atkinson 152  |
| 10 AH Palmer 154     | ½ ½          | SC Howell 147     | F Manning 134       | ½ ½        | B Judkins 145   |
| (Brighton)           | <b>5½ 4½</b> |                   | (Sutton)            | <b>7 3</b> |                 |

**CHILTERN LEAGUE 1994-5** courtesy Nigel Dennis

|             | H  | O  | Bu  | Br  | BuJ | BrJ | H  | O   | Bu | Br  | BuJ | BrJ | GP   | MP |
|-------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|------|----|
| 1 Herts II  |    | 12 | 8   | 10½ | 11½ | 14½ |    | 20d | 13 | 13  | 16  | 12  | 130½ | 9  |
| 2 Oxon II   | 8  |    | 10½ | 11½ | 16  | 14  | 0d |     | 8  | 12  | 12  | 14  | 106  | 7  |
| 3 Bucks II  | 12 | 9½ |     | 9   | 6½  | 11½ | 7  | 12  |    | 10½ | 11½ | 10½ | 100  | 6  |
| 4 Berks II  | 9½ | 8½ | 11  |     | 13  | 13½ | 7  | 8   | 9½ |     | 14½ | 15  | 109½ | 5  |
| 5 Bucks U18 | 8½ | 4  | 13½ | 7   |     | 5   | 4  | 8   | 8½ | 5½  |     | 14  | 78   | 2  |
| 6 Berks U18 | 5½ | 6  | 8½  | 6½  | 15  |     | 8  | 6   | 9½ | 5   | 6   |     | 76   | 1  |

**NATIONAL CLUB**

**OPEN** Quarter-finals Barbican \*3 3 Charlton; Bedford v Wood Green; Guildford 3 3\* Dundee & Victoria; Hull ½ 5½ Maidstone. **Semi-final draw** Dundee & Victoria v Barbican; Maidstone v Bedford/Wood Green

**PLATE** Quarter-finals Atherton 3½ 2½ Bristol & Clifton; Crowthorne 3½ 2½ Cavendish; Mushrooms 3½ 2½ Hounslow; Hertford 1½ 4½ Ilford. **Semi-final draw** Atherton v Mushrooms; Ilford v Crowthorne

**MAJOR** Quarter-finals Prescot & Knotty Ash 2 3 Great Lever; Kings Head 4½ ½ Rainham; Milton Keynes 2 3 Lichfield; Guildford 3½ 1½ Teignmouth. **Semi-final draw** Lichfield v Gt Lever; Kings Head v Guildford

**PLATE** Quarter-finals Dista 3½ 1½ Rochdale; Warley Quinborne 2½ 2½\* Coddon; Thamesdown 1½ 3½ Exeter; Kingston 3½ 1½ Hastings & St Leonards. **Semi-final draw** Coddon v Dista; Exeter v Kingston

**INTERMEDIATE** Quarter-finals Kings Head \*2½ 2½ Maidstone; Prescot & KA 1½ 3½ Crowthorne; Sherwood House 3 2 Grays; Tamworth & District 1½ 3½ Cosham. **Semi-final draw** Cosham v Crowthorne; Sherwood House v Kings Head

**PLATE** Quarter-finals Darnall & Handsworth 3½ 1½ Morecambe; Ipswich 2 3 Southampton; Rainham 2 3 Eastbourne; Solihull Youth \*2½ 2½ Slough. **Semi-final draw** Darnall & Handsworth v Solihull Youth; Eastbourne v Southampton

**MINOR** Quarter-finals Basingstoke 3½ 1½ Hastings; Morecambe 3½ 1½ Great Lever; Metropolitan 1 4 Kings Head; Walsall Kipping 1½ 3½ Tamworth. **Semi-final draw** Kings Head v Basingstoke; Tamworth v Morecambe

**PLATE** Quarter-finals Horfield & Redland 2½ 2½\* Sherwood House; Maidstone 3½ 1½ Bognor & Aron; Amber Valley 2 3 Yorkshire Copperworks; Reading 4 1 Hayes & Harlington. **Semi-final draw** Yorkshire Copperworks v Sherwood House; Reading v Maidstone

Acknowledgments PI Clemow, JA Leake, PC Gibbs, D Rowe

**KENT** leagues 1995-6: Finals Day. Div 1 Charlton 3½ 2½ Maidstone; Div 2 Maidstone III 3½ 2½ Hayes II; Div 3 Rainham II 3½ 2½ Maidstone V; Div 4 Charlton V 4 2 Chislehurst III; Div 5 Welling IV 4 2 Lewisham VI; Div 6 Sidcup \*2 2 Maidstone VIII. Division 6, new this year, is for teams with mean grade not exceeding 80. (We should have made it Under 80, it's easier to say.)

**County Chess Match Surrey v Dorset**

Venue:-Weeke Community Centre, Taplings Rd, Winchester 01962 880349

Date:-Saturday, April 22nd 1995 at 1300 hours

The Grid Reference of the Community Centre is 467312. The approach path is as follows:-

All Surrey players will proceed south-west on the M3. At Junction 8 (GR 574459) they will leave the M3 and take the A303 towards Andover. At Bullington Cross (GR 466420) they will turn south on the A34 towards Winchester. Bullington Cross is marked with a GREEN A on MAP ONE.

At GREEN Z on MAP ONE they will leave the A34 and take the B3420 south-east. GREEN Z is also marked on MAP TWO. GREEN Z is (GR 462340).

Taplings Rd is in SQUARE B2 of MAP TWO. The Community Centre is on the north side of Taplings Rd between Rowlings Rd and Taplings Close. The RED SPOT on MAP TWO marks the target.

From 1030 hrs to 1330 hrs the Dorset captain will maintain a listening brief on Mobile 0850-646455.

Dorset match captain, to Surrey match captain.

## CONGRESS DIARY

- Jun 3-4 KENSINGTON Open; U165/35. D Agble, 15 Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB  
0171 594 9456
- 9-11 MIDLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP BCQ in Birmingham. Open; U160/130/100. No smoking.  
Bruce Holland, 2a Bertie Rd, Kenilworth, Warwicks CV8 1JP 01926 53280
- 10-11 KINGS HEAD Open; U160/120. WA Suttill, 7 Lonsdale Rd, London W11 2BY
- 11 POTTERIES at Stoke on Trent. C Hankey, 374 Barks Drive, Norton, Stoke on Trent ST6 8EU  
01782 544249
- 17 WESTMINSTER CHESS. John Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU  
0181 595 5881
- 17-18 CAMBRIDGE BCQ. Open; U170/145/125/100. D Martin, 12 Caribou Way, Cherry Hinton,  
Cambridge CB1 4XG 01223 242958
- 23-25 EAST GLAMORGAN at Bridgend. Open; U151/113. DK Evans, 121 Llangewydd Rd, Bridgend,  
Mid(!) Glam 01656 658476
- 23-25 PETERLEE Open; U156/116/novice. B Hesler, Burdon House, Horden, Peterlee, Durham SR8 4JF  
0191 586 4342
- 24 GOLDERS GREEN U150. AN Raof, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF 081 202 0982
- 24-25 HEYWOOD Open; U171/141/116/91. W O'Rourke, 101 Queens Park Rd, Heywood, Lancs  
OL10 4JR 01706 627874
- 25 BASINGSTOKE JUNIOR. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke 01256 472537
- 30-2 SANDWELL. Open; U166/136/106; junior U18/16/14/12/9. JA Crump, 21 Shaftesbury St, West  
Bromwich B71 1LP 0121 525 1407
- Jul 1 MILL HILL BLITZ. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar EN6 3HA 01707 659080
- 2 FAMILY TOURNAMENT at Sevenoaks. U150. M Roberts, 61 Chipstead Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent  
TN13 2AJ 01732 453523
- 7-9 VILLAGE CONGRESS at Charlton. Open; U161/126. TR Jefferies, 112 Austen Close,  
Thamesmead, London SE28 8AZ
- 7-9 GREATER MANCHESTER SUMMER. P Clissold, 4 Vale St, Turton, Bolton BL7 0EB  
01204 852036
- 14-16 SOUTH WALES at Monmouth. Open; U151/113/82. K Staveley, 57 Treharne St, Cwmparc,  
Rhondda, Mid Glam CF42 6LH 01443 772750
- 14-16 CLEVELAND at Middlesbrough. Open; U161/136/111/novice. PO Box 41, Middlesbrough  
TS3 0YZ 01642 327583
- 16 HAMPSHIRE JUNIOR. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke 01256 472537
- 16 CHESTER. RA Furness, 9 Cranwell Avenue, Culcheth, Warrington QA3 4JX 01925 762654
- 21-23 SKEGNESS Open; U161/121/81. F Bowers, 34 Middle Rd, Whaplode, Spalding PE12 6TW  
01406 370166
- 22 WESTMINSTER CHESS. John Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU  
0181 595 5881
- 22-23 MILL HILL NW7. Open; U160/120. No smoking. 4th Mill Hill Congress, 51 Borough Way,  
Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA
- 29-30 JRW Harradence Memorial, London. N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT  
01708 551617

We are sorry to hear that Lorraine Harding, BCF Grading Administrator and Membership Secretary, has gone into hospital and is expected to be off work for at least two months. This is bound to have some effect on BCF services, especially in grading at a very busy time of year. Graders are urged to keep up to date with deadlines. They should continue to send things to the BCF office but it might be a good idea if letters were marked "Grading", or something, in prominent letters. We believe Roger Edwards will be in the office at regular intervals.

## Reminder:

**ARBITERS COURSE** at the Barbican 10th June, 8th and 22nd July. Details from David Sedgwick, 23 Tierney Court, Canning Rd, Croydon CR0 6QU 0181 656 7682. He's doing another one Wednesday evenings at Maidstone June-Julyish, don't know exact dates. One thing they do at these sessions is a "practical" where stooge players behave as badly and illegally as possible. Not sure where they recruit the people for this job. We hope to publish some kind of account next time.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** *Chess Circuit* 3/95; *ChessIns* for April; *Croy Chess* (Croydon Borough Chess Initiative) for spring; Richmond Chess Initiative Newsletter for April.