

# Notts News

## Newsletter of the Nottinghamshire Chess Association

2005–06 No. 29 | April 2006

<http://www.nottschess.org/>

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### Rules Revision Meeting

Ian Kingston

First, a reminder that the Rules Revision Meeting of the NCA will be held on Tuesday 6 June at 7:30 p.m. at Gambit Chess Club. See Issue 26 for the full details about submitting proposals for changes.

I've been hoping that some opinions about rule changes would be discussed in these pages, but so far no one has come forward. Here, then are some personal views (hence the byline on this item) about rules that I think need altering.

- ◆ Rules A12 (match rearrangements) and E7 (penalties for defaulted matches). As several teams have found to their cost, when the opposing team refuses a request to rearrange a match, the league takes a very strict line about authorising the rearrangement. On top of that, however, defaulting teams can have up to four match points deducted from their score, which (1) acts as an incentive to other teams to refuse to rearrange matches and (2) distorts the league tables – take a look at Long Eaton 1 and Nomads 3 in the current tables. I favour removing the penalties (only one other UK league found via Google imposes even a single penalty point, so we are way out of line) and encouraging teams to play by placing the onus on teams that don't want to rearrange to provide a good reason for not doing so. I doubt that we'd see the fixture chaos that some people seem to fear, and the excessive number of defaulted matches would be reduced – as evidence, look at the Derby & District League, in which defaults are rare (one in the last two years if my memory is correct).
- ◆ Rule C5 (penalties for clubs who use players who are not *bona fide* members of a club) is hopelessly vague. 'Bona fide member' is not defined, and the penalties are unspecified. Is a player who plays once or twice a season for a club, without paying a membership fee, a *bona fide* member? What about someone visiting the region for a short period?
- ◆ Rule C2 (players changing clubs). Why shouldn't players change clubs during the season? It happens in every other sport. Provided they don't go back and forth between clubs, the only other restriction ought to be a cut-off date (end February?) to stop clubs strengthening their teams near the end of the season.
- ◆ Rule B4 (exchanging team lists; away team white on odd-numbered boards) and E1 (penalty for infringing B4). If anyone can provide an explanation of this combination of rule and penalty to me, I'd like to hear it.
- ◆ Board order: we have no rule about what order players should play in, although Rule C3 imposes some restrictions on which teams a player can play for. I have seen various instances of strange board orders that violate (to my mind) the spirit in which the game should be played. For example: a first team player turning out on bottom board for his fifth team; a Board 4 being promoted to Board 1 for one match as a tactical way to improve the chances of the usual Boards 1–3

### Nottingham Congress: 22–23 April

Bramcote Hills Sport and Community College, Moor Lane, Bramcote, Nottingham NG9 3GA

Entry forms from the NCA web site (<http://www.nottschess.org/>) or Congress Secretary Tony Wright (0115 917 2468)

(it worked); a captain changing his board order when he saw the opposing team's line-up (imagine what would happen if both captains tried to play that game!); and a team's strongest player consistently playing on bottom board so that he can play top board for a lower team (at least two examples of this). Why not specify that teams play in order of playing strength? Seems to work in other leagues.

- ◆ The league rules currently allow the League Secretary to rule on issues that affect his or her own club, but deny LMC members (Rule A4e) the right to vote on (or even discuss!) matters affecting their clubs. This is an anomaly that needs correcting.
- ◆ Really boring technical point: no procedure is specified for submitting requests to the LMC. One might guess that they should go via either the League Secretary or the LMC Chairman, but this should be clarified.
- ◆ Rule A8f (informing the league about the use of electronic clocks). Since B7b allows players to opt out of using these clocks, A8f is redundant. And I'm baffled by the apparent fear of digital clocks that these rules embody – they're just clocks!

If anyone has any opinions on these or any other league rules, I'll be glad to publish them. I'll also be interested to hear from anyone interested in framing and proposing/seconding any rule changes.

### FIDE announces experimental rule

FIDE has today announced a new experimental rule with regard to blitz finishes. The press release (from Ari Porlof, FIDE's Director of Game Quality) is quite lengthy, so I'll paraphrase.

Essentially, FIDE is concerned that in games that feature blitz finishes some players are playing very quickly, hoping to win by having a big time advantage after the first time control. This is leading to a reduction in the quality of chess. As an experiment, therefore, in selected competitions the time remaining for each player at the time control will be allocated to the other player. FIDE believes that this will encourage players to use their full time allocation, since there is no longer a benefit to be gained from playing quickly. This should result in fewer blunders and higher quality games.

There is no word yet on which competitions will be affected by the experiment or how long it will last.

## Handicap Knockout Final

The Handicap Knockout has been won by Bigmat Yobs, who beat The League Champions 5½–3½ in the final on 28 March. According to Michael Barnes, the crucial game was probably Tony Wright hanging on in a worse position against Jon Tait and winning on time. This gave Bigmat a slight edge which they kept to the end.

### Bigmat Yobs – The League Champions

| Bigmat Yobs      |       | B1 | B2 | B3 | Total |
|------------------|-------|----|----|----|-------|
| A1 Barnes, M.    | (190) | 1  | 1  | 1  | 3     |
| A2 Wright, A. J. | (134) | 1  | 1  | ½  | 2½    |
| A3 Sudar, D.     | (131) | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0     |

5½

### The League Champions

|                  |       | A1 | A2 | A3 |    |
|------------------|-------|----|----|----|----|
| B1 Tait, J.      | (194) | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  |
| B2 Morrison, K.  | (159) | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  |
| B3 Wagenbach, J. | (133) | 0  | ½  | 1  | 1½ |

3½

## EPSCA Under 11 Girls Inter-Association Championships

Nottinghamshire's Under 11 Girls team finished 9th of 13 teams at this year's national finals, scoring 17/36 points in a three-round jamboree tournament played over 12 boards. Oxfordshire took first place with 30 points. See <http://www.epsc.org.uk/events/u11g06.htm> for the full results.

## National Club Championship

Graham Ladds

Newark experienced mixed fortunes in the quarter finals of the Minor competition (for teams with an average grade below 125). Newark A won 2½–1½ at Bishop Stortford with wins from Daniel Wells and myself and a draw from Ian Burridge. However, the other Newark team were beaten at Lancaster 3–1 – Newark's point came from draws by Alex Combie and Richard Myers.

## League results

Thanks to everyone who sent copies of their results to me as well as to Ian Fillingham this week. I've been able to update the website with results within a few hours of receiving them. Please carry on emailing the results.

Most of the promotion and relegation issues are still to be decided. Compared with last week, Ashfield 4 are relegated from Division 3, Ashfield 5 made sure of staying in Division 4, Gambit 4 lost their chance of promotion to Division 3, and Long Eaton 2 have secured promotion to Division 4.

### Division 1

No matches this week.

### Division 2

#### West Nottingham 2 – Grantham 1

|                |       |   |   |   |             |       |
|----------------|-------|---|---|---|-------------|-------|
| 1 Mehton, A.   | (153) | 0 | – | 1 | Payne, N.   | (168) |
| 2 Kingston, I. | (144) | ½ | – | ½ | Palmer, T.  | (107) |
| 3 Keetley, M.  | (137) | 1 | – | 0 | Mason, B.   | (102) |
| 4 Burley, P.   | (115) | 1 | – | 0 | Cumbers, C. | (84)  |
| 5 Clegg, T.    | (49)  | 1 | – | 0 | Default     | (–)   |

3½ – 1½

#### Radcliffe & Bingham 1 – Ashfield 2

|              |       |   |   |   |              |       |
|--------------|-------|---|---|---|--------------|-------|
| 1 Day, T.    | (154) | 1 | – | 0 | Taylor, R.   | (124) |
| 2 London, N. | (133) | 0 | – | 1 | Morgan, D.   | (128) |
| 3 Toms, D.   | (131) | 1 | – | 0 | Robinson, A. | (114) |
| 4 Murfet, G. | (131) | ½ | – | ½ | Cranmer, S.  | (132) |
| 5 Taylor, M. | (126) | 1 | – | 0 | Lewis, T.    | (109) |

3½ – 1½

### Division 3

#### Nomads 2 – Fiveways 2

|                |       |   |   |   |               |       |
|----------------|-------|---|---|---|---------------|-------|
| 1 Marriott, R. | (131) | ½ | – | ½ | Bowen, L.     | (106) |
| 2 Rossiter, A. | (113) | 1 | – | 0 | Griffiths, D. | (106) |
| 3 Cronshaw, D. | (105) | 0 | – | 1 | Thorsen, A.   | (104) |
| 4 Exton, O.    | (98)  | 1 | – | 0 | Dunne, D.     | (99)  |
| 5 Darby, L.    | (97)  | 1 | – | 0 | Default       | (–)   |

3½ – 1½

#### Ashfield 4 – Mansfield 2

|                   |       |   |   |   |               |       |
|-------------------|-------|---|---|---|---------------|-------|
| 1 Morrey, A.      | (108) | 0 | – | 1 | Wagenbach, J. | (133) |
| 2 Jackson, M.     | (108) | 0 | – | 1 | Ze, C.        | (–)   |
| 3 Clarke, P.      | (96)  | 0 | – | 1 | Smith, V.     | (119) |
| 4 Default         | (–)   | ½ | – | ½ | Default       | (–)   |
| 5 Norris-Hunt, T. | (71)  | 0 | – | 1 | Epro, J.      | (93)  |

½ – 4½

#### University 3 – Fiveways 2

|              |      |   |   |   |               |       |
|--------------|------|---|---|---|---------------|-------|
| 1 Jacobs, P. | (98) | ½ | – | ½ | Griffiths, D. | (106) |
| 2 Murphy, A. | (–)  | 0 | – | 1 | Birks, D.     | (93)  |
| 3 Shah, K.   | (–)  | 1 | – | 0 | Barton, J.    | (–)   |
| 4 Default    | (–)  | ½ | – | ½ | Default       | (–)   |
| 5 Default    | (–)  | ½ | – | ½ | Default       | (–)   |

2½ – 2½

### Division 4

In the result for Gambit 4–Newark 2 in No. 25, Newark's Boards 3 and 4 were transposed.

#### Ashfield 5 – Bunkers 3

|                   |      |   |   |   |              |      |
|-------------------|------|---|---|---|--------------|------|
| 1 McIntosh, S.    | (96) | 1 | – | 0 | Wilson, R.   | (–)  |
| 2 Wright, N.      | (87) | 1 | – | 0 | Radford, T.  | (74) |
| 3 Norris-Hunt, T. | (71) | 1 | – | 0 | Chubb, A.    | (66) |
| 4 Beeby, F.       | (–)  | ½ | – | ½ | Blampied, D. | (66) |
| 5 Lam, L.         | (–)  | 0 | – | 1 | Parham, S.   | (62) |

3½ – 1½

#### Gambit 4 – West Nottingham 4

|               |       |   |   |   |                   |       |
|---------------|-------|---|---|---|-------------------|-------|
| 1 Harper, M.  | (107) | 1 | – | 0 | Heining, D.       | (120) |
| 2 Hobson, B.  | (104) | 0 | – | 1 | Messam-Sparks, L. | (107) |
| 3 Padvic, D.  | (104) | 0 | – | 1 | Lin, D.           | (104) |
| 4 Gibson, G.  | (99)  | 0 | – | 1 | Day, J.           | (99)  |
| 5 Gretton, M. | (80)  | 1 | – | 0 | Williamson, E.    | (96)  |

2 – 3

### Division 5

#### Long Eaton 2 – West Nottingham 6

Details awaited

3½ – 1½

## League tables

### Division 1

*Champions:* Gambit 1 or Mansfield 1

*Relegated:* West Nottingham 1 and either Gambit 2 or West Bridgford 1

| Team                | P  | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | Df  | Pn | Pt |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1 Gambit 1          | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2  | 46½ | 23½ | 23  | 0  | 23 |
| 2 Mansfield 1       | 15 | 9  | 5 | 1  | 42  | 33  | 9   | 0  | 23 |
| 3 Ashfield 1        | 14 | 7  | 3 | 4  | 37  | 33  | 4   | 0  | 17 |
| 4 Newark 1          | 13 | 6  | 2 | 5  | 33½ | 31½ | 2   | 0  | 14 |
| 5 University 2      | 15 | 5  | 4 | 6  | 38  | 37  | 1   | 0  | 14 |
| 6 University 1      | 15 | 4  | 4 | 7  | 32  | 43  | -11 | 0  | 12 |
| 7 West Bridgford 1  | 14 | 3  | 4 | 7  | 32  | 38  | -6  | 0  | 10 |
| 8 Gambit 2          | 14 | 2  | 5 | 7  | 29½ | 40½ | -11 | 0  | 9  |
| 9 West Nottingham 1 | 14 | 3  | 0 | 11 | 29½ | 40½ | -11 | -2 | 4  |

### Division 2

*Promoted:* Bunkers 1 and one of West Nottingham 2, Grantham 1 and Nomads 1

*Relegated:* Fiveways 1 and one of Long Eaton 1, Ashfield 2 and Radcliffe & Bingham 1

| Team                    | P  | W | D | L | F   | A   | Df  | Pn | Pt |
|-------------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1 Bunkers 1             | 12 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 38½ | 21½ | 17  | 0  | 19 |
| 2 West Nottingham 2     | 13 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 38  | 27  | 11  | 0  | 17 |
| 3 Grantham 1            | 12 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 32  | 28  | 4   | 0  | 13 |
| 4 Nomads 1              | 12 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 29½ | 30½ | -1  | 0  | 13 |
| 5 Long Eaton 1          | 12 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 31½ | 28½ | 3   | -4 | 10 |
| 6 Ashfield 2            | 13 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 28½ | 36½ | -8  | 0  | 10 |
| 7 Radcliffe & Bingham 1 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 28  | 32  | -4  | 0  | 8  |
| 8 Fiveways 1            | 12 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 19  | 41  | -22 | 0  | 4  |

### Division 3

*Promoted:* Two from Ashfield 3, Bunkers 2, Mansfield 2 and Gambit 3

*Relegated:* Ashfield 4 and one from Fiveways 2, University 3 and Nomads 2

| Team           | P  | W | D | L  | F   | A   | Df  | Pn | Pt |
|----------------|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1 Ashfield 3   | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3  | 36½ | 23½ | 13  | 0  | 18 |
| 2 Mansfield 2  | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2  | 37  | 23  | 14  | 0  | 17 |
| 3 Bunkers 2    | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2  | 35  | 25  | 10  | 0  | 17 |
| 4 Gambit 3     | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4  | 36  | 29  | 7   | 0  | 15 |
| 5 Fiveways 2   | 12 | 2 | 6 | 4  | 27½ | 32½ | -5  | 0  | 10 |
| 6 University 3 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 5  | 30  | 35  | -5  | -2 | 9  |
| 7 Nomads 2     | 13 | 2 | 4 | 7  | 25½ | 39½ | -14 | 0  | 8  |
| 8 Ashfield 4   | 13 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 22½ | 42½ | -20 | 0  | 4  |

### Division 4

*Champions:* Newark 2

*Promoted:* Either West Nottingham 3 or Radcliffe & Bingham 2

*Relegated:* Bunkers 3 and either Nomads 3 or West Nottingham 4

| Team                    | P  | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | Df  | Pn | Pt |
|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1 Newark 2              | 12 | 11 | 1 | 0  | 43  | 17  | 26  | 0  | 23 |
| 2 West Nottingham 3     | 12 | 7  | 2 | 3  | 34½ | 25½ | 9   | 0  | 16 |
| 3 Radcliffe & Bingham 2 | 13 | 7  | 0 | 6  | 33½ | 31½ | 2   | 0  | 14 |
| 4 Gambit 4              | 13 | 5  | 3 | 5  | 35  | 30  | 5   | 0  | 13 |
| 5 Ashfield 5            | 13 | 6  | 0 | 7  | 28½ | 36½ | -8  | 0  | 12 |
| 6 West Nottingham 4     | 13 | 5  | 1 | 7  | 29  | 36  | -7  | 0  | 11 |
| 7 Nomads 3              | 13 | 5  | 2 | 6  | 33½ | 31½ | 2   | -2 | 10 |
| 8 Bunkers 3             | 13 | 0  | 1 | 12 | 18  | 47  | -29 | 0  | 1  |

### Division 5

*Promoted:* Long Eaton 2 and one from West Bridgford 2, Long Eaton 3 and Grantham 2

| Team                | P  | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | Df  | Pn | Pt |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 1 Long Eaton 2      | 16 | 11 | 1 | 4  | 41½ | 22½ | 19  | 0  | 23 |
| 2 West Bridgford 2  | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 35½ | 20½ | 15  | 0  | 19 |
| 3 Long Eaton 3      | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 30½ | 25½ | 5   | 0  | 19 |
| 4 Grantham 2        | 14 | 8  | 1 | 5  | 33  | 23  | 10  | 0  | 17 |
| 5 West Nottingham 5 | 15 | 6  | 2 | 7  | 31½ | 28½ | 3   | 0  | 14 |
| 6 University 4      | 14 | 7  | 2 | 5  | 27  | 29  | -2  | -6 | 10 |
| 7 Bunkers 4         | 14 | 3  | 1 | 10 | 20½ | 35½ | -15 | 0  | 7  |
| 8 Gambit 5          | 12 | 4  | 2 | 6  | 21½ | 26½ | -5  | -4 | 6  |
| 9 West Nottingham 6 | 15 | 1  | 1 | 13 | 15  | 45  | -30 | 0  | 3  |