

# Notts News

## Newsletter of the Nottinghamshire Chess Association

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

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### Nottinghamshire County Championship

The Nottinghamshire County Championship was held at The Summit Centre, Kirkby in Ashfield, on 1–2 April 2006. Neil Graham sends the following report.

The County Championship was split into two sections and attracted 25 entrants. In the past the Championships have been held at the Ashfield District Council Offices, but a policy decision to stop the use of these premises meant that a new venue had to be found. The Summit Centre is a purpose-built complex in a quiet location with ample free parking. The café and bar were open for the duration of the event and everyone that attended found the venue excellent. We were originally due to play in the Sports Hall, but the relatively small attendance meant that all the games were played in the Committee Room.

From a planning viewpoint we've lost a year somewhere, although the engraving on the Silver Rook tends to disguise

### Nottingham Congress: 22–23 April – Two weeks to go!

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)

this. It's clear that a definite weekend should be set apart rather than the *ad hoc* arrangements made over recent years.

The Championship itself was dominated by Kishan Lakhani (Long Eaton) and current champion Mike Barnes (Gambit) who successfully saw off all the opposition. Their individual game was drawn. In the Minor event, newcomer Chen Ze (Mansfield) won his first four games (which included a full point bye) but a last round loss to Daniel Lin (West Nottingham) ensured that

### Results

#### Championship

Name	Grade	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1 Barnes Mike	190	+6b	+7w	=2b	+5w	+8b	4½
2 Lakhani Kishan	152	+4b	+10w	=1w	+3b	+6w	4½
3 Hill Maurice	135	=9b	=6w	+10b	-2w	+5b	3
4 Sudar Drag	131	-2w	-8b	+bye	+7w	=9b	2½
5 Webster Richard	154	-10w	+9w	+7b	-1b	-3w	2
6 Blake Ross	133	-1w	=3b	+9w	=bye	-2b	2
7 Soki Zdenek	140e	+8w	-1b	-5w	-4b	+bye	2
8 Morgan Phil	128	-7b	+4w	=bye	=9b	-1w	2
9 Combie Alex	126	=3w	-5b	-6b	=8w	=4w	1½
10 Wagenbach Janos	133	+5b	-2b	-3w	w/d	w/d	1

#### Under 125

Name	Grade	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1 Ze Chen	u/g	+bye	+9w	+3b	+4w	-2b	4
2 Lin Daniel	104	+5b	=4w	+7b	=bye	+1w	4
3 Gibson Graham	99	+7w	+11b	-2w	+6b	+5w	4
4 Taylor Bob	124	+8w	=2b	+11w	-1b	+6w	3½
5 Hobson Ben	104	-2w	+12b	+8w	+9w	-3b	3
6 Thurgood Toby	105	+15b	+14w	=bye	-3w	-4b	2½
7 Sayer Ray	109	-3b	+bye	-2w	+11b	=8w	2½
8 Yang Jixin	104	-4b	+15w	-5b	+14w	=7b	2½
9 Thomson James	114	+10w	-1b	=12w	-5b	+14w	2½
10 Lakhani Anjali	101	-9b	=13w	-14b	+15w	+12b	2½
11 Nailard Mike	121	+13b	-3w	-4b	-7w	+bye	2
12 Buttery John	84	=14b	-5w	=9b	+13w	-10w	2
13 Walker Roger	103	-11w	=10b	=bye	-12b	+15b	2
14 Morrey Alan	108	=12w	-6b	+10w	-8b	-9b	1½
15 Falgate Mike	73	-6w	-8b	+bye	-10b	-13w	1

the title ended in a three-way tie between Daniel, Chen and Graham Gibson (Gambit). Despite the relatively small entry both competitions were well contested and trouble-free.

Unfortunately, the question of play-offs (not mentioned on the entry form) then had to be considered. The Championship itself has been decided by tiebreak since the early 1980s when the event moved to a congress rather than playing in people's front rooms. Mike played one play-off game, beating Kishan and thus retaining the title. The Under 125 event ended in a contrived three-way tie. At the time there was some debate about the method of tiebreak and I am referring the matter to the powers that be. The situation needs a good look at, not withstanding the problems this year.

Finally, can I thank the players who competed for making the event a success and on behalf of the Notts Chess Association can I thank those who made donations towards the costs.

### County Championship quarter-final draws

The ECF has published details of the quarter-final draws for the national stages of the various County Championship competitions. Nottinghamshire's opponents are:

- ♦ **Under 150:** Home vs. Sussex
- ♦ **Under 125:** Home vs. Sussex (preliminary round); if successful, Away vs. Bedfordshire
- ♦ **Under 100:** Away vs. Essex

The preliminary round is on or before the weekend of 22/23 April; quarter-finals on or before 20/21 May. Your team captain will let you know all the details.

### Rules Revision Meeting discussion

*Steve Burke has sent a response to my comments about possible rule changes. Any more?*

**Rule E7 (Penalties for Defaulted Matches).** I remember the days before we had the penalties, and the number of defaulted matches we had back then when some teams didn't bother to turn up. This happened particularly against teams they had no realistic chance of beating or were more than 300 yards down the road. You don't see many defaulted home games do you?

In any case, why *should* every home team have to rearrange any match that the opposition finds a little inconvenient? I might be persuaded that the penalty should be reduced to 1 point, but you're a long way from convincing me that it should be removed!

I suppose we *might* include (in addition to the current rules on this) the possibility for mutually agreed rearrangements, but either side *must* have the right to refuse such a request.

**Rule C2 (Players Changing Clubs).** I honestly don't see the benefit of changing this rule. I know we had a case this year that caused a dispute, but we're hardly snowed under with such requests.

I assume there would have to be some sort of rule anyway; otherwise players could play for any team in any match they fancied? So why not keep it simple as it is? It would also destabilise the smaller clubs. If they only have one team and half a dozen players, they would probably fold mid-season if a couple of players decided to go and play for another team.

**Board Order.** We did have rules about this until quite recently. The minutes of the relevant LRRM might explain why they were removed. For myself, I haven't come across that

many players who are willing to sacrifice themselves on a regular basis by playing "out of position" in the team.

As to the consequences you mentioned, I don't agree with a couple of them.

Firstly – it should not be possible to change the team after seeing the opposition board order as team lists are supposed to be exchanged. If a captain can't be bothered to write down his team beforehand, that's his lookout!

Secondly – forcing teams (including the "floater" bottom boards) to play in strict grading order probably would stop some "doubling up". But doing that may force some clubs who are short of players to drop teams from the league.

Finally, I can't think of any other sport that forces a team to play in a fixed order. I imagine if you told the Ryder Cup Captain that he had to pick his team order each day based on their qualification ranking, he might find a few choice words to describe the situation.

**League Secretary's Decisions.** I think the point would be that the LMC could overrule the League Secretary if it thought it necessary whereas the LMC is the final court of appeal and so must be completely impartial – if that's ever possible!

### Nottinghamshire Chess Association Blitz Championships

*Tuesday 2 May 2006*

At Gambit Chess Club, Federation House, Clarendon Road (off Hucknall/Nottingham Roads). Enter on the night up to 7:20 p.m.

**Entry fee:** £3.00

**Time limit:** all the moves in 10 minutes each (20 minutes per game)

Six rounds 7:30–10:30 p.m.

**Individual prizes:** The winner will be entitled to hold for a year the Nottingham Evening Post Cup and will receive a cash prize of not less than £20.

- ♦ The highest placed players graded under 160 and under 120 will receive cash prizes.
- ♦ The highest placed veteran (aged 50 and over) will receive a cash prize.
- ♦ The highest placed junior (under 18 on 1/9/05) will receive a cash prize.

**Team prize:** a chess clock will be awarded to the Nottinghamshire club with the highest combined score from three players (not two!), providing not more than one player is graded over 140 and at least one player is graded or has a playing strength known to be under 110.

Rapidplay or normal play grades will be used (whichever is the higher).

The exact value of cash prizes will depend on entry numbers. No player may win more than one prize. In the event of a tie for any prize, Sum of Progressive Scores will be used, followed, if necessary, by Sum of Opponents' Scores.

- ♦ Ample car parking
- ♦ Bar adjacent to the playing area

### Eligibility

To qualify, entrants *must* satisfy one of the following:

- ♦ born in Nottinghamshire
- ♦ reside in Nottinghamshire
- ♦ work in Nottinghamshire
- ♦ attend an educational establishment in Nottinghamshire
- ♦ be a member of a club based in Nottinghamshire

In the event of any dispute, the Controllers' decision (Derek Padvis and John Swain) will be final. Further details from John Swain: tel. 0115-8540034 or email [jt.swain@ntlworld.com](mailto:jt.swain@ntlworld.com)

## Finance Committee meeting

Andrew Walker

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on Thursday 11 May. As previously, this meeting will also serve as an informal 'Executive Committee'; any issues that you feel we should discuss should be addressed either to the President, Michael Barnes <[mhbchess@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mhbchess@yahoo.co.uk)>, or to me, Andy Walker <[anw@maths.nott.ac.uk](mailto:anw@maths.nott.ac.uk)>.

## FIDE's experimental rule explained

It was a pretty obvious April Fool, I know, but when I realised that last week's issue had a 1 April publication date I had to do something – the next time that happens will be in 2017 (I'll take bets on whether or not I'll still be doing this eleven years from now – make it worth my while!). For some better chess-related japes, take a look at ChessBase's explanation of why they weren't doing an April Fool story this year (<http://www.chessbase.com/newsdetail.asp?newsid=3014>) and the Daily Dirt Chess Blog's revelation of the new name at the top of the FIDE rating list ([http://www.chessninja.com/dailydirt/archives/ilyumzhinov\\_tops\\_april\\_rating\\_list.htm](http://www.chessninja.com/dailydirt/archives/ilyumzhinov_tops_april_rating_list.htm)). I also thought about adding this one to the list – [http://www.englishchess.org.uk/national/2006/ecf-new-logo\\_mar06.pdf](http://www.englishchess.org.uk/national/2006/ecf-new-logo_mar06.pdf) – but it's actually true.

## EPSCA Under 9 Inter-Association Championships

Nottinghamshire's Under 9s scored 20½/36 to finish in a creditable 7th place (of 18 teams) in the national final, held on 1 April in Rotherham. The title was won by Wey Valley (Surrey), who scored 33 points. Full details at <http://www.epsc.org.uk/events/u906.htm#Final>.

## 4th Leicester Rapidplay

The latest Leicester Rapidplay on 2 April unfortunately clashed with the Notts County Championship, held on the same weekend. Several Notts players opted to go to Leicester:

- ♦ **Open:** Ankush Khandelwal (Nomads) 4½/6; 1st equal (shared with IM Andrew Ledger)
- ♦ **Major (U171):** Daniel Wells (Newark) 2½/6
- ♦ **Intermediate (U136):** John Collins (West Nottingham) 3½/6; Janos Wagenbach (Mansfield) 2/6
- ♦ **Minor (U101):** David Dunne (Fiveways) 3½/6

## Correction

In the final table for the U150 Midlands County Championship (Issue No. 27), Leicestershire should have five points, not four. The standings are otherwise unchanged. Thanks to Neil Graham for spotting this.

## League results

A number of issues were settled this week. In Division 2, Bunkers 1 sealed the Division 2 title in a match that also saw Ashfield 2 avoid relegation. Nomads 1 are out of the promotion race, despite their win over Radcliffe & Bingham 1,

because all possible tie-break scenarios are against them. Everything in Division 4 has now been decided: West Nottingham 3 have claimed the second promotion place, while West Nottingham 4 won the relegation decider against Nomads 3, sending the latter down to Division 5.

### Division 1

Gambit 2 – West Nottingham 1						
1	Sudar, D.	(131)	½	– ½	Levens, D.	(155)
2	Wright, A.	(134)	1	– 0	Grewal, B.	(177)
3	Soki, Z.	(–)	½	– ½	Jarvis, D.	(153)
4	Hunter, S.	(140)	1	– 0	Collins, J.	(136)
5	Roper, K.	(125)	1	– 0	Lin, D.	(104)
			<b>4</b>	<b>– 1</b>		

Newark 1 – West Bridgford 1						
1	Wells, D.	(153)	½	– ½	Richmond, R.	(188)
2	Shutt, K.	(159)	0	– 1	Truman, R.	(164)
3	Ladds, G.	(144)	0	– 1	Walker, T.	(160)
4	Blake, R.	(133)	0	– 1	Budd, C.	(–)
5	Combie, A.	(126)	0	– 1	Thompson, B.	(156)
			½	– 4½		

### Division 2

Nomads 1 – Radcliffe & Bingham 1						
1	Khandelwal, A.	(177)	1	– 0	London, N.	(133)
2	Hill, M.	(134)	½	– ½	Day, T.	(154)
3	Kendall, T.	(119)	½	– ½	Toms, D.	(131)
4	Ince, D.	(119)	½	– ½	Nicholson, I.	(132)
5	Marriott, R.	(131)	1	– 0	Murfet, G.	(131)
			<b>3½</b>	<b>– 1½</b>		

Ashfield 2 – Bunkers 1						
1	Taylor, R.	(124)	½	– ½	Harrison, J.	(153)
2	Morgan, D.	(128)	½	– ½	Brameld, K.	(142)
3	Graham, N.	(136)	0	– 1	Jennings, G.	(133)
4	Robinson, A.	(114)	1	– 0	Harvey, K.	(138)
5	Cranmer, S.	(132)	½	– ½	Carter, M.	(124)
			<b>2½</b>	<b>– 2½</b>		

### Division 3

Fiveways 2 – Ashfield 3						
1	Bowen, L.	(106)	0	– 1	Cranmer, S.	(132)
2	Thorsen, A.	(104)	0	– 1	Sayer, R.	(109)
3	Dunne, D.	(99)	0	– 1	Lewis, T.	(109)
4	Birks, D.	(93)	½	– ½	Morrey, A.	(108)
5	Default	(–)	0	– 1	Jackson, M.	(108)
			½	– 4½		

### Division 4

West Nottingham 4 – Nomads 3						
1	Williamson, E.	(96)	0	– 1	Exton, O.	(98)
2	Heining, D.	(120)	½	– ½	Smith, P.	(87)
3	Messam-Sparks, L.	(107)	1	– 0	Ivas, A.	(–)
4	Lin, D.	(104)	1	– 0	Default	(–)
5	Day, J.	(99)	1	– 0	Craig, G.	(–)
			<b>4</b>	<b>– 1</b>		

½ point penalty applied (Rule E8)

**Bunkers 3 – West Nottingham 3**

1 Wilson, R.	(–)	0	–	1	Heining, D.	(120)
2 Radford, T.	(74)	0	–	1	Burley, P.	(115)
3 Chubb, A.	(66)	0	–	1	Willoughby, R.	(111)
4 Blampied, D.	(66)	0	–	1	Williamson, E.	(96)
5 Parham, S.	(62)	1	–	0	Harris, I.	(122)

**1 – 4**

**Newark 2 – Ashfield 5**

*Details awaited*

**3½ – 1½**

**Division 5****West Nottingham 6 – Long Eaton 3**

1 Macleod, E.	(–)	0	–	1	Bryce, W.	(71)
2 Keetley, C.	(–)	0	–	1	Somers, M.	(–)
3 Needham, D.	(–)	0	–	1	Bentley, A.	(50)
4 Garside, H.	(–)	0	–	1	Watling, T.	(11)

**0 – 4**

**Long Eaton 2 – West Nottingham 6**

1 Davies, N.	(104)	1	–	0	Alfred, A.	(–)
2 Bentley, A.	(50)	1	–	0	Zhang, M.	(–)
3 Robins, L.	(34)	1	–	0	Henegan, S.	(–)
4 Carr, W.	(–)	½	–	½	Alfred, L.	(–)

**3½ – ½**

**West Bridgford 2 – Gambit 5**

*Walkover*

*Default*

**4 – 0**

**League tables****Division 1**

*Champions:* Gambit 1 or Mansfield 1

*Relegated:* West Nottingham 1 and one of University 1, Gambit 2 and 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 University 2	15	5	4	6	38	37	1	0	14
5 Newark 1	14	6	2	6	34	36	–2	0	14
6 West Bridgford 1	15	4	4	7	36½	38½	–2	0	12
7 University 1	15	4	4	7	32	43	–11	0	12
8 Gambit 2	15	3	5	7	33½	41½	–8	0	11
9 West Nottingham 1	15	3	0	12	30½	44½	–14	–2	4

**Division 2**

*Champions:* Bunkers 1

*Promoted:* Either West Nottingham 2 or Grantham 1

*Relegated:* Fiveways 1 and either Long Eaton 1 or Radcliffe & Bingham 1

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Df	Pn	Pt
1 Bunkers 1	13	9	2	2	41	24	17	0	20
2 West Nottingham 2	13	8	1	4	38	27	11	0	17
3 Nomads 1	13	6	3	4	33	32	1	0	15
4 Grantham 1	12	5	3	4	32	28	4	0	13
5 Ashfield 2	14	4	3	7	31	39	–8	0	11
6 Long Eaton 1	12	7	0	5	31½	28½	3	–4	10
7 Radcliffe & Bingham 1	13	3	2	8	29½	35½	–6	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	13	10	0	3	41	24	17	0	20
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	13	2	6	5	28	37	–9	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:* West Nottingham 3

*Relegated:* Bunkers 3 and Nomads 3

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Df	Pn	Pt
1 Newark 2	13	12	1	0	46½	18½	28	0	25
2 West Nottingham 3	13	8	2	3	38½	26½	12	0	18
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 West Nottingham 4	14	6	1	7	33	37	–4	0	13
6 Ashfield 5	14	6	0	8	30	40	–10	0	12
7 Nomads 3	14	5	2	7	34½	35½	–1	–2	10
8 Bunkers 3	14	0	1	13	19	51	–32	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	15	10	1	4	39½	20½	19	0	21
3 Long Eaton 3	15	10	1	4	34½	25½	9	0	21
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	13	4	2	7	21½	30½	–9	–6	4
9 West Nottingham 6	16	1	1	14	15	49	–34	0	3