

Notts News

Newsletter of the Nottinghamshire Chess Association

2005–06 No. 35 13 May 2006

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

Rules Revision Meeting

As mentioned last week, Drag Sudar has compiled a streamlined set of rules for consideration at this year's Rules Revision Meeting. A copy is attached to this issue of *Notts News*.

County Championship Quarter-Finals

Just a reminder that the U100, U125 and U150 teams are all in action next weekend (20 May) in Milton Keynes.

British Land UK Chess Challenge

Notts juniors took most of the top prizes at the Trent Megafinal of the British Land UK Chess Challenge, held at Foremarke Hall School, Derbyshire, on 6 May. The competition is a national tournament for schoolchildren, of which the Megafinal is the second stage. Successful players qualify for one of two Gigafinals, which leads to the national Terafinal. A total of 343 players competed in the Trent Megafinal.

Winners from NCA clubs were:

- ◆ *Under 7 Boys*: Daniel Thurgood (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 9 Girls*: Mathilda Pynegar (Nomads)
- ◆ *Under 10 Boys*: Andrew Garside (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 10 Girls*: Ella Macleod (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 11 Girls*: Sarah McKeating (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 12 Boys*: Toby Thurgood (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 13 Boys*: Oliver Exton (Nomads)
- ◆ *Under 13 Girls*: Anjali Lakhani (Long Eaton)
- ◆ *Under 14 Boys*: Kishan Lakhani (Long Eaton)
- ◆ *Under 14 Girls*: Amisha Parmar (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 15 Boys*: Ankush Khandelwal (Nomads)
- ◆ *Under 16 Boys*: Thomas Quinn-Gregson (West Nottingham)
- ◆ *Under 17 Boys*: Nigel Wright (Ashfield)
- ◆ *Under 18 Boys*: Balvinder Grewal (West Nottingham)

Many more Nottinghamshire players scored 4 points or better to qualify for the Gigafinal – too many to list here. The

tournament web site (<http://www.ukchesschallenge.com/MFResults06/MFResTRENT06.shtml>) has a full list of results.

Letchworth & Hitchin One-Day Congress

Ankush Khandelwal scored 3½/5 to finish 3rd in the Letchworth & Hitchin One-Day Congress on 30 April. He also picked up the Under 175 Grading Prize.

As always, if you have any news about NCA members playing in congresses around the country, please drop me a line. I keep an eye on the ECF news pages, but many results don't get published there.

EPSCA All-England U11 Girls Match

Two NCA players represented the East of England in the EPSCA All-England U11 Girls Match held at St Albans High School for Girls on 1 May. Ella Macleod (West Nottingham) scored 1 point (out of 2) on Board 8, while Sarah McKeating (also West Nottingham) made the same score on Board 12. The East beat the West 28–16.

International events

There is a flurry of top-level activity in Europe at the moment. Currently in progress are tournaments in Sarajevo (featuring Norwegian prodigy Magnus Carlsen; http://www.skbosna.ba/bosna2006/eng/info_eng.htm) and Sofia (Topalov, Anand etc.; <http://www.mtelmasters06.com/>), and the Olympiad starts in Turin on 20 May (<http://www.chessolympiad-torino2006.org/eng/>).

Watching the games online (if you have the time, that is) can be very educational. In Sofia, where draw offers are not allowed, Gata Kamsky beat Etienne Bacrot in the theoretically drawn endgame of K+R vs. K+N, which arose after Bacrot was forced to underpromote in order to avoid being mated. There may yet be hope for us mere mortals

Nottinghamshire Chess Association League Rules 2006-2007

Schedule A - Administration

- 1) The Nottinghamshire Chess League shall be controlled by a League Management Committee (LMC) elected at the AGM of the NCA, consisting of a League Secretary, a Records Secretary, 5 members and 3 reserves. The LMC shall:
 - a) Elect a chairman, who shall have a vote and a casting vote
 - b) Organise the league into such divisions as circumstances permit and compile a fixture list
 - c) Arbitrate on all disputes, its decisions being final, and publish its decisions and interpretations
 - d) Distribute to clubs, at least 14 days before the start of the season, match result cards and the fixtures handbook
- 2) LMC Meetings:
 - a) No club may be represented by more than one member, except when the League Secretary and Records Secretary belong to the same club
 - b) A member of the LMC, including the League Secretary & Records Secretary, may not be present during a discussion or vote on any issue concerning his or her club, unless personally involved, when he or she may give evidence
- 3) The League Secretary shall:
 - a) Have the discretion to admit new teams into the bottom division not later than 31st December
 - b) Receive notification of disputes, call LMC meetings, prepare witnesses and collect relevant information
 - c) Send entry forms for the following season to all clubs
- 4) The Records Secretary shall:
 - a) Validate match results, send them to the grading officer and bulletin editor, and compile league tables
 - b) Deal as he or she deems most equitable with incorrectly formulated results
- 5) Rule Alterations:
 - a) Alterations to these rules may be made only at an annual Rules Revision Meeting
 - b) No later than 31st March the Association Secretary shall call the meeting to be held normally in the first half of June
 - c) Proposals must be submitted in writing not less than 35 days before the meeting to the Association Secretary, who shall circulate them to all association officers and club secretaries at least 21 days before the meeting
 - d) The proposer and seconder must be from different clubs, and may be the League Secretary, the Records Secretary or an officer of an affiliated club.

Schedule B – The League

- 1) The season is from 1st September to 1st May and clubs must be affiliated to the NCA before entry into the League
- 2) Clubs must, by 15th July, return the completed entry form to the League Secretary
- 3) A team must immediately notify the League Secretary and all captains in that team's division of a change to the venue, the team captain or his or her details.
- 4) If two or more teams from the same club play in the same division, the first match of the club's two highest teams in that division shall be between them. Matches between teams from the same club must be played by 31st January
- 5) A team not completing at least half of its fixtures shall have its record deleted and be regarded as having withdrawn
- 6) Final positions of teams in a division will be determined by match points (win = 2 pts, draw = 1, loss = 0); game points; results between tied teams (match points; game points) fewest defaulted boards and playoff matches at a neutral venue, which if drawn will be decided by board count; bottom board elimination; toss of a coin by a neutral LMC member
- 7) All matches must start at 7.15pm or 7.30pm as notified by the home club unless both team captains have agreed an alternative time. The home team will ensure the equipment is properly laid out at the agreed time of starting.
- 8) A match will be defaulted by any team that fails to field at least half the number of players scheduled to play in a match.
- 9) A team that defaults a match must provide an explanation to the Records Secretary or League Secretary within 7 days.
- 10) All games must be played with chess clocks
 - a) The time limit shall be 30 moves in 60 minutes in the bottom division, or 35 moves in 75 minutes in all other divisions, after which the clocks will be set back 15 minutes and the game played to a finish
 - b) Where electronic clocks are proposed for use, either player may provide an analogue clock and insist on its use
 - c) Where electronic clocks are used, the required time periods must be set at the beginning of the match, so that no further adjustment of the clocks is required
- 11) Each match must be played over 4 boards in the bottom division and over 5 boards in all other divisions

Nottinghamshire Chess Association League Rules 2006-2007

- 12) Before the start, the captains must exchange team lists. The away team shall have white on the odd-numbered boards.
- 13) The Laws of Chess, as interpreted by FIDE, must be adhered to. Exceptions or additions to these laws:
 - a) English descriptive notation is permitted
 - b) Smoking must not be permitted in the playing area during the match
 - c) Mobile phones must be switched off or, by prior agreement with the opponent and opposing captain, set to silent
- 14) A member of each team must sign the match result card and the home team must send it to the Records Secretary, postmarked within 7 days, or deliver it personally to his/her address within 7 days or scan and e-mail it within 7 days.
- 15) Fixture Rearrangements:
 - a) A captain seeking to rearrange must inform the opposing captain and seek permission from the League Secretary.
 - b) If the League Secretary decides there is a compelling reason for rearrangement then, no later than 14 days after the scheduled fixture, the team captains must agree a new date and inform the League Secretary otherwise the League Secretary may choose the date.

Schedule C - Players

- 1) The LMC may penalise any club that uses a player who is not, in the opinion of the LMC, a *bona fide* member of that club
- 2) A player may only play one game in any one evening, including wins by default.
- 3) No player may play in the League for more than one club in any one season except at the discretion of the LMC.
- 4) No player may play for a club lower team if he (or she) has, previously in the same season, played twice for higher teams other than on the bottom two boards played. If a club has more than one team in the first division, each such team shall be considered the higher team for the purposes of this rule.
- 5) All appearances above the bottom two boards played will count for eligibility even if that team fails to complete its fixtures
- 6) If a player fails to arrive at the board within 30 minutes of the clock being started, that board shall be defaulted unless a qualified substitute is found in the meantime.
- 7) New Players
 - a) A club wishing to field a player new to that club must inform the Records Secretary of the player's grading code and grade, date of birth (juniors only) and details of clubs or counties previously played for.
 - b) If a player has not previously played in the league and does not reside or work in Nottinghamshire, he or she cannot play for the club until the above information has been supplied and permission has been granted by the LMC.
 - c) Otherwise the information must be provided with the result of his or her first match for the club

Schedule D - Penalties

- 1) The penalty for infringing rule B3, B4, B12 or B15a is the loss of the match by default.
- 2) The penalty for infringing rule B10, B13, C2, C3, C4 or C7 is the loss of the game by each offending player.
- 3) The penalty for infringing rule B7 is a time penalty on the clocks of the offending team equal to the period of delay.
- 4) The penalty for infringing rule B2 is a fine of £20
- 5) The penalty for infringing rule B14 is a fine of £1 in respect of each infringement.
- 6) The penalty for playing an ineligible player in a match is the transfer of one game point from the offending team to their opponents, in addition to any other penalty, provided that the total game score of a team shall not become negative.
- 7) The penalty for defaulting a match is the loss of two match points and a fine of £10, in addition to any other penalty imposed. The LMC may take any action it deems equitable if defaulted matches affect promotion or relegation.
- 8) The penalty for infringing rule B9 is the loss of two more match points by the team concerned.
- 9) Defaults that occur above the bottom board played will incur not only the loss of that game but also the transfer of 0.5 game points from the offending team to their opponents.
- 10) The LMC may revoke or reduce any of the above penalties if the club penalised can show to the Committee that the infringement was due to circumstances not reasonably within the club's control.