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EDITORIAL

I anticipated the New Year on the front cover of the November issue (and only two people mentioned it). But I've nothing else to say, so happy New Year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Richard,

4.12.96

It's always fun reading the SCCU Bulletin (November 1996 issue) to see whether there are points of controversy that require comment.

Needless to say, one such issue worthy of examination in the European Court appears on 232:6. You say there is no rule providing for Paul Byway playing on board 1 for the Hertfordshire first team in county matches. No SCCU rule maybe but we in Herts do like to pass our own rules occasionally. This particular one has been there for ages, probably before grading was invented!

Our rule says "The current holder of the Capel Cup (county championship) shall have the right to play top board in county matches." That is why Paul is playing on top board as he has done in previous years given his frequent success in our county championship.

We are naturally sorry if our temerity in having our own rule drives a coach and horses through SCCU arrangements but we do value our independent ability to make our own rules. This particular one obviously provides some benefit and incentive given Paul's good record against many higher graded players.

We would cross the bridge of playing Paul above a GM when we have to. Chance would be a fine thing!

Kind regards,

BRYAN (FEWELL)

President, Hertfordshire CA

Dear Richard,

13.12.96

Judging by your brief note to the Herts v Essex match in the November issue of the SCCU Bulletin, you appear to be a little confused or misinformed.

Rule 10.8 of the Hertfordshire Chess Association's Closed County Championship Rules states: "The current holder of the Capel Cup [i.e. the winner of the County Championship] shall have the right to play top board in county matches." If you or DRS wish to see how flexible we are by getting a GM to play for Herts, I will be delighted!

Do keep up the good work as Editor of the Bulletin.

Yours sincerely,

JOE FRANKS

Ruislip

Ed: - I think parts of the above are tongue in cheek, but even so...! If anyone's confused or misinformed, I don't think it's me. Herts aren't *allowed* to have a private rule saying they can break the rules of SCCU competitions! The SCCU rule, made in Council where Herts can vote like anyone else, is descending order of strength. If your GM didn't win the county championship, perhaps because he didn't play in it, he still goes on board 1. As I said last time, David Sedgwick thought the Herts board order acceptable in terms of strength, so no rule's been broken, and I only mentioned it because *Chessex* - my source - seemed to have unearthed an imaginary rule. I never thought it would turn out to be a Herts conspiracy!

Dear Richard,

13.12.96

(1) I was surprised to see you say that the National Club rules "should have gone to Council". There is no requirement for this to be done. The Management Board is there to govern and mere rule changes should not be referred to Council, where they clog up the agenda, unless the Board is genuinely unable to reach consensus on a controversial and substantive issue. In this instance the Director was of course lamentably out of touch if the matter provoked the Board into such (in)action.

(2) As Sussex U125 team secretary I have written to the U125 county captains to seek views on reverting next season to 12 boards in the SCCU stage. Others' comments would be welcome.

PAUL BUSWELL

St Leonards

Ed: - more about the National Club rules on page 2.

DIRECT MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

Bryan Fewell, who is nationally responsible for the Direct Membership Scheme, has announced his intention of resigning at the end of the financial year (or earlier if his successor prefers). There is no successor yet. (Any takers?) Bryan has administered the scheme since 1990 and has seen membership rise to 1100, with income "net of direct expenses" of £10,000 a year. Membership is now static, which Bryan finds rather disappointing. Did you know that one of his jobs, according to the job description, is "reviewing" *ChessMoves* before publication to ensure that contentious things don't go in without due consideration?

LEIGH 1996

GRAND PRIX			max 200	PRIXETTE			max 100
1 GM	Arkell	Derby	195.1	1 IM	Lalic	Sutton	83.6
2 GM	Hebden	Leicester	193.7	2 (WGM)	Hunt	Oxford	72.3
3 GM	Adams	London	192.2	3	K Arakhamia-Grant	Edinburgh	69.9
4 GM	Lalic	Sutton	188.2	4 WFM	Ruth Sheldon	Manchester	65.8
5 IM	Ledger	Bedford	175.2	5	Mandy Haslinger	Southport	57.5
6 IM	Parker	Edinburgh	167.9	6	Lucy Broomfield	S Norwood	48.9
7 IM	Buckley	Wolverhampton	167.1	7 WFM	Natasha Regan	Gerrards X	46.0
8 IM	Ferguson	Cambridge U	158.5	8	Rosalind Kieran	Bexley	48.3
9 IM	Crouch	Harrow	155.3	9	Heather Richards	Whitstable	45.2
11 IM	Summerscale		148.9	10 WIM	Jackson	London	43.3
12 GM	Emms		140.0	JUNIOR PRIX			max 100
	GM Nunn		140.0	1 IM	Parker	Edinburgh	89.3
14 IM	Turner		139.9	2 IM	Turner	Scunthorpe	82.4
15 GM	McNabb		138.5	3 IM	Ferguson	Haslemere	80.7
16	Tim Wall		117.9	4 FM	Luke McShane	Clapham	79.7
17 IM	Lalic		113.9	5	Kevin Carter	Hastings	55.7
18 GM	Ward		110.9		Chris Dunlop	Blackburn	55.7
19 IM	Martin		110.0	7	Alexander Longson	Ashton U Lyne	55.5
20 GM	Hodgson		109.8	8	Martin Taylor	Rainham	53.7
21 IM	Bryson		93.4	9	Miroslav Houska	Slough	51.1
22	John Richardson		84.5	10 FM	Simon Williams	Woking	49.2
23 FM	Chris Baker		82.2	11	Matthew Broomfield	S Norwood	48.7
24 GM	Sadler		79.6	U18	Luke McShane	U14	Alexander Longson
25 FM	John Shaw		77.9	U18	Girls Ruth Sheldon	U12	Matthew Broomfield
26	Danny Gormally		77.3	U16	Chris Dunlop	U10	Peter Titmas
27 GM	McDonald		76.3	AMATEUR PRIX			max 50
28 GM	Conquest		75.0	1	Paul Kelly	Mendon	45.6
29 FM	Karl Mah		70.1	2	Geoffrey Bishop	Lewisham	45.3
30	James Poulton		68.1	3	Michael Kobylka	Wood Green	43.8
31	Brett Lund		65.5	4	Chris Briscoe	Hampton	43.5
	GM Plaskett		65.5	5	Nigel Blades	Norwich	42.6
				6	Paul Bloom	Bromley	42.5
					Angus James	Surbiton	42.5
					Andrew Price	Leamington	42.5
				9	Geoffrey Thomas	Penkridge	42.0
				10	Richard Allen	Bristol	41.6
				VISUALLY HANDICAPPED PRIX			max 50
				1	Graham Lilley	Prescot	37.5
				2	N Wragg	Sheffield	19.5
				3	Paul Benson	Widnes	18.0
				4	Stan Lovell	Leeds	16.5
				5	Steve Thacker	Peterborough	15.0

Regional Prizes:

Graeme Buckley (W Midlands); Mark Ferguson (E Midlands / East Anglia); Colin Crouch (SCCU); Colin McNabb (Scotland); Tim Wall (North England); Chris Baker (West of England); Brett Lund (NCCU / Manchester)

£25 merit awards for Leigh Congresses helping British Isles Chess: Aylesbury, Bolton Rapidplay, BWCA Womens One-day, Kilkenny, Leamington, Maidstone, North Essex, York

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

We reported last time that the BCF Management Board had reversed some rule changes made by the outgoing Director of Home Chess. He had deleted the rule (Open only) that says you have to have played at least twice for the club in other competitions in the last season; and inserted one saying players can't be paid (except expenses). We were under the impression that he'd done this all by himself. Not so. To quote one of the Nat Club controllers: "During the 1995-6 season, there were some problems relating to eligibility. Various Team Captains made representations on this subject. The revised Rule 6 took account of these representations and was fully discussed with the Chief Controller and later with the Director of Home Chess who approved the changes. The

subject was [subsequently] discussed at the November Management Board Meeting. It was raised without due prior notice and the Director of Home Chess [who is also the Chief Controller] was not present. After discussion it was decided to reverse some of the changes, with retrospective effect... Can you (un)change rules retrospectively? Wasn't what we'd heard, but we weren't there. We haven't seen the minutes either, though they're allegedly unintelligible on the subject. Quite apart from the lack of notice, we've heard it said that the MB had no access to copies of the rules, new or old, when they unchanged them. Some people aren't pleased with the MB. Anyway, the clubs have got some matches played.

OPEN

Rd1 Atherton 3 3 *Hull; Atticus 2 4 Bradford; Cambridge U 4½ 1½ Cowley; Cosham 2 4 Southbourne; Coulsdon & Purley 0 6 Charlton; Crowthorne 4½ 1½ Bristol & Clifton; Gloucester 3½ 2½ Nidum Liberals; Guildford 3½ 2½ Mushrooms; Hastings & St Leonards 2½ 3½ Wood Green; Hayes Kent 1 5 Barbican; Hounslow 1 5 Bedford; Maidstone 2½ 3½ Ilford; Witney 2 4 Slough.

Rd 2 Ilford 4½ 1½ Kings Head; all other teams had byes.

Rd 3 by 2nd March: Barbican v Ilford; Bedford v Hull; Bradford v Crowwood or Glasgow Poly; Cardiff v Gloucester; Castlehill or Edinburgh West v Slough; Charlton v Crowthorne; Southbourne v Guildford; Wood Green v Cambridge U.

Plate Rd 1 by 2nd March: Atticus v Hounslow; Bristol & Clifton v Cosham; Cowley v Atherton; Maidstone v Coulsdon & Purley; Nidum Liberals v Mushrooms. Byes: Hastings, Hayes, Witney.

MAJOR

Rd 1 Gt Lever 3 2 Undercliffe; Morecambe 3 2 Dista; Huddersfield 3½ 1½ Crusaders; Warley Quinborne 2 3 St Johns (EAR) it says here; Hereford 1½ 3½ Exeter; Bury Knights 1 4 Northampton; Milton Keynes 3 2 Witney; Rainham 2 3 Southend; Teignmouth 2½ 2½ *Abercynon; Reading* 2½ 2½ Southampton; Guildford 3 2 Hastings; Eastbourne 2½ 2½ *Maidstone; Kingston w/o Metropolitan; International Students 4 1 Kings Head.

Rd 2 by 16th February: Gt Lever v Morecambe; Prescot & Knotty Ash v Huddersfield; Northampton v St Johns EAR; Exeter v Reading; Guildford v Milton Keynes; Maidstone v Int Students; Southend v Kingston.

Plate Rd 1 by 16th February: Undercliffe v Crusaders; Hastings v Rainham; Witney v Hereford. Byes Dista, Teignmouth, Southampton, Eastbourne, Kings Head.

INTERMEDIATE

Rd 1 Ashford 1 4 Tunbridge Wells; Barrow 4 1 Poulton le Fylde; Bedford 3 2 Northampton; Cosham 3½ 1½ Coulsdon & Purley; Maidstone 2½ 2½ *Hastings; Morecambe 2 3 Gt Lever; Olton 2 3 Hereford; St Albans 3½ 1½ Bourne End; Slough 1 4 Basingstoke; Southend 3½ 1½ Wanstead & Woodford; Syston 1½ 3½ W Quinborne; Wood Green* 2½ 2½ Reading; Yorkshire Copperworks 1½ 3½ Liverpool; Ashfield w/o def Bradford; Rose Forgrove w/o def Grimsby & District; Southbourne w/o def Southampton.

Rd 2 by 3rd February: Hammersmith v Wood Green; Rose Forgrove v Ashfield. Others have byes.

Rd 1 Plate by 3rd February: Bourne End v Maidstone; Bradford v Olton; Grimsby & District v Yorkshire Copperworks; Northampton v Syston; Poulton le Fylde v Morecambe; Southampton v Coulsdon & Purley; Wanstead & Woodford v Ashford; Reading v Slough.

4NCL after round 4 (24th November 1996 and it just missed the last issue) goes 1 Invicta Knights MP 8, GP 23½; 2 Midland Monarchs 8:23; 3 Wood Green 8:22½; 4 Slough 7:21½; 5 Northumbria Vikings 6:19; 6 BCM 6:18½; and 12 other teams going down to 0:9. Believe there was no December weekend but there's a January one we've also just missed, and they're monthly thereafter till May. Some games:

Smith Andrew P (Slough) - Abayasekera Roger (Guildford)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Be2 Be7 8.0-0 a6 9.Qd3 Bd7 10.Rad1 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Bc6 12.e5 Qa5

(diagram)

13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.exd6 0-0-0 15.Qa7 Bf8 16.Bb5 Bxb5 17.Qa8+ Kd7 18.Qxb7+ Ke8 19.Ne4 Bxd6 20.Rxd6 Kf8 21.c4 1-0



Morris Charles (Slough) - Gormally Danny (Invicta Knights)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.g3 Bxc3 4.bxc3 d6 5.Bg2 c5 6.d3 Ne7 7.Rb1 Nbc6 8.Bd5 Nxd5 9.cxd5 Ne7 10.e4 0-0 11.h4 f5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.f3 c4 15.Rb2 cxd3 16.Qxd3 fxe4 17.fxe4 Bg4 18.Rhh2 Qc7 19.Qe3 Rac8 20.Rbc2 Qc4 21.Rhf2 b5 22.Nf3 Bxf3 23.Rxf3 Rxf3 24.Qxf3 Rf8 25.Qe2 Qc5 26.Qg2 Qe3+ 27.Kd1 Rf3 28.Re2 Qxc3 0-1

Bowden K (Barbican) - Friedgood David (BCM)

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Bd3 g6 5.dxc5 dxc5 6.e5 Ng4 7.Qe2 Nc6 8.f4 h5 9.Nf3 Nh6 10.Be3 e6 11.Nbd2 Be7 12.Ne4 b6 13.Bb5 Qc7 14.Nd6+ Kf8 15.Rd1 Nf5 16.Nxc8 Rxc8 17.Bf2 Kg7 18.0-0 Nb8 19.h3 c4 20.Nd2 Rhd8 21.Ne4 Rd5 22.Rxd5 exd5 23.g4 hxg4 24.hxg4 dxe4 25.gxf5 gxf5 26.Qh5 Rg8 27.Kh2 1-0

BRONOWSKI TROPHY is a 20-board league whose nature is (reasonably) well captured in its formal title: the London Business Chess Inter-League Championship. Participants are Civil Service CA, Insurance CC, London Commercial Chess League, United Banks and (new this year) the Central London Legal Chess League. They've just switched to QPF, "thus dispensing with adjudication". What the SCCU does today... Been trying to do it in Kent for years. The season's first two results: Civil Service 9 11 Legal Chess League; United Banks 15½ 4½ London Commercial League.

JUNIOR NEWS

SCCU UNDER 18 JAMBOREES

will be held on Saturday 1st March 1997.

Major Counties (12 bds)	Sutton Adult School, Benhill Avenue, Sutton, Surrey
Girls (6 bds)	
Minor Counties (12 bds)	Mary Hare School for the Deaf, Newbury, Berks

Entries so far (well, up to Christmas anyway):

Major Counties - Essex, Kent, Surrey. Middx will not play.

Minor Counties - Berks, Bucks, Herts. Oxon and Sussex either haven't decided yet, or haven't said.

Girls - Kent, Surrey. Essex and Oxon undecided, and the others will not play.

Girls Second Teams - no entries, perhaps because the idea's only just been floated, but if anyone is interested will they please contact Nigel Dennis.

Just a thought, but it's a pity the Girls event has to be held on the same day. Is there any rule that says it must be, or is it just the shortage of Saturdays? They couldn't play in two teams in the Finals, but even so.

SURREY GIRLS CONGRESS at Therfield School, 1st December 1996

The number of players, at 79, was a 58% increase on last year.

Under 18/14 (7 pl) 1 Ruth Bates (Tiffins) 4½/5; 2 Annabel Yadoo (LEH: takes U14 title) 4; 3 Joanna Hart (Croydon H) 3½; 4 Lucy Broomfield (Wallington H) 3...

Under 12 (36 pl) 1-2 Alexandra Kelly (Croydon High), Kate Feld (Lady Eleanor) 4½/5; 3-5 Harriet Bates (Waldegrave), Anna Partington (Sutton High), Teresa Khoo (St Maurs) 4; 6-8 Alexandra Wilson (Croydon High), Nicole Mangion (Danes Hill), Katherine Stoker (Wimbledon) 3½...

Under 10 (36 pl) 1 Jessie Gilbert (Croydon H) 5/5; 2-6 Sarah Hegarty (Knaphill: takes U8 title), Sophie Eagle (Claremont), Charlotte Roe (Putney H), Heather Megaw (Danes Hill), Alicia Snelling (Connaught) 4; 7-9 Maria Fort (St Teresas), Clare Briscoe (Danes Hill), Lynda Clark (Connaught) 3½...

Results anonymous but we suspect Neil Clifton. Surrey Girls have a fancy system showing ages by letters of the alphabet. Your letter stays with you as long as you're a junior. This year's U18s are K, U17s are L, U16s are M, they've got as far as V for U7s, and we don't know what provision has been made for this year's Under 2s.

CANTERBURY JUNIOR 7th December 1996

Under 18 Major/Minor (14 pl in a combined tournament; only 5 had entered the Major) 1 Phillip Zabrocki 5½/6; 2-3 Mark Roberts, Martin Taylor 4; 4-6 Andrew Bigg, Paul Higgins (= 1st Minor entrants), Matthew Noakes 3½...

Under 13 (20 pl) 1 Oliver Cooley (takes 1995-6 Kent U12 Championship) 6/6; 2-6 Stephen Casement, Amir Habibi, Steven Pretty, Thomas Rendle, Alistair Taylor 4; 7-9 Richard Cheeseman, Markku Slattery, James Thanesan 3½...

Under 11 (19 pl) 1 Sara Higgins 5/6; 2-3 Nikhil Arora, Edmund Birkhamshaw 4½; 4-5 Lalin Navaratne, Mark Richards 4; 6-10 James Chapman, Robin Jones, Thomas Stradwick, Robert White, Antoinette Wilson 3½...

Under 9 (8 pl) 1 Laura Weatherhead 7/7; 2 Karim Habibi 6; 3 Stephan Wassermann-Fry 5; 4 Richard McKinnon 3½...

Results Sue Casement

KASPAROV COMPUTERS / SAVE THE CHILDREN 2ND UK CHESS CHALLENGE

is under way. 705 schools and 23,323 players have enrolled, and the leading county by a mile is Surrey with 3423 players (and 99 schools). Essex are 2nd with 1380; Middx 4th 1305; Kent 7th 1025; Herts 9th 855; Sussex 13th 525; Berks 17th 470; Bucks 19th 465; Oxon 28th 330. Some of the "counties" are a bit notional. Every county except the Isle of Wight is represented, and bottom equal (40-41) are IOM and Rutland 30 (1 school each). No idea what this proves. Megafinals 3rd or 4th May, Gigafinal 13th July, and they *are* having a Terafinal this year for the 16 Gigawinners.

SCCU COUNTY MATCHES: LEAGUE TABLES

including all results received up to 26.1.97

OPEN	Br	Bu	C	E	H	K	O	Sy	Sx	MP
Berks			7	5	7½		8		3½	½ :5
Bucks			2	3	6½		5½	8½		1 :5
Cambs	9	14				8	6	6½		2½ :5
Essex	11	13			10½	8½		9½		5 :5
Herts	8½	9½		5½		3		7½	7½	2 :6
Kent			8	7½	13		10	9½	8	4 :6
Oxon	8	10½	10			6			7½	2½ :5
Surrey		7½	9½	6½	8½	6½			7	2 :6
Sussex	12½				8½	8	8½	9		4½ :5
UNDER 175	E	K	Sy	Sx		E	K	Sy	Sx	MP
Essex		8½	10	11						3 :3
Kent	7½		11							1 :2
Surrey	6	5		10½					5	1 :4
Sussex	5		5½					11		1 :3
UNDER 150	E	H	K	Sy	Sx					MP
Essex		9	8		10½					2½ :3
Herts	7		9	5						1 :3
Kent	8	5			8					1 :3
Surrey		11			6½					1 :2
Sussex	5½		8	9½						1½ :3
UNDER 125	E	H	K	O	Sy	Sx				MP
Essex			4½	5		5				0 :3
Herts				9½	8					1½ :2
Kent	11½					6½				1 :2
Oxon	11	6½			12	7½				2 :4
Surrey		8		4						½ :2
Sussex	11		8½	8½						3 :3
UNDER 100	E	H	Sy		E	H	K			MP
Essex		6	8½			7				2½ :3
Herts	6		3½		5					½ :3
Surrey	3½	8½								1 :2

Please tell the Editor if you spot mistakes in these tables. A few people did, last time!

Everything seems to have reached us, up to and including matches played 18th January. Not always from both sides, mind you. Remember an asterisk by a county's name, on the following pages, means we've had the result from that side.

Open. We hear that Kent and Berks will play each other over 16 boards.

A Plug (Essex): some details from *Chessex* and a couple of correspondents, one of whom was his match captain. He's Andreas Plüg with an unlaut, Andreas P Plüg if the *Chessex* match tables are to be believed, he's from Hamburg but is teaching in Colchester for a year, and he has a FIDE rating of 2310. Hamburg is in Germany, and Colchester is in Essex.

Under 125. J Spencer (Essex) occasioned some research. "We think this is the J Spencer in list - has Leeds connections." That was Essex's opponents speaking. Essex give 117 and confirm that he's the one in the published list. Believe his Leeds connections are university ones, and he may or may not be the same as the J Spencer (unpublished at 84!) who's down as Leeds University.

Has this struck you as well? The grading limits produce a lot of very even matches. On paper. Often enough, there's hardly a game where the players are more than five or six points apart on the top 14 boards or so. If it's six-and-a-bit points in the same direction all the way down, the stronger team's "supposed" to win 9-7. But results are often much more lopsided than that, even where the average difference is tiny (and I'm not thinking of matches where games are defaulted). 11-5 seems quite popular. Is this just random fluctuation, the sort of thing you'd expect? Perhaps it's inspired match captaincy. Haven't checked to see whether it's always the same teams that get the unexpected lopsided wins. It isn't always the (un-jet-lagged) home teams. Any statisticians out there with time to kill?

Games. Last time we actually published a game from a county match. That was a Bulletin first, since 1978 anyway. Got the players the wrong way round, but still. (The apology's on page 11.) We were only able to publish this game because a match captain sent it. More would be welcome. The excellent *Chessex* publishes quite a lot from Essex matches, with notes and all, but we can't just lift those!

OPEN

Surrey*	30.11.96	Essex*	Berks*	30.11.96	Cambs*
1 Richard A Bates 221 (B)	1 0	Andrew P Lewis 217	def (W)	0 1	M Turner 231
2 Daniel L Bisby 204	0 1	David J Coleman 205	PJ Sharp 188	0 1	J Parker 233
3 Michael J Franklin 200	½ ½	Michael S Twyble 208	KD Smallbone 185	0 1	M Ferguson 223
4 Paul D Dupré 160 (r)	0 1	Graham J Moore 197	DS Tucker 189	½ ½	A Cohen 206
5 Peter D Kemp 195	½ ½	Jim Burnett 190	Jovanka Houska 183	½ ½	D Rosenberg 183
6 STK Wilkinson 143 (r)	1 0	Andrew Dunn 185	AM Leech 183	½ ½	M Thornton 186
7 Daniel B Rosen 190	0 1	John C Moore 183	ACP Milnes 178	½ ½	D Heng -
8 David WW Gunter 181	0 1	William L Saunders 181	I Duvall 174	½ ½	I Gooding 176
9 Marcus E Osborne 184	0 1	Russell P White 178	L Davis 170	0 1	M Davey 169
10 Kevin D Richardson 182	1 0	Ivor BN Smith 173	MC Bowhay 168	½ ½	P Webster 161
11 Stephen G Walker 182	½ ½	David J Millward 172	DA Gold 168	½ ½	C Howell 158
12 Ken FH Inwood 178	½ ½	Trevor D Coote 171	IR Henderson 166	1 0	B Weller 152
13 David R Sedgwick 176	0 1	Colin R Ramage 163	BG Millis	½ ½	A Mills 149
14 Martin C Page 176	0 1	Steven D Harvey 163	SJR Turner 148	0 1	N Pyper 150
15 Julien M Shepley 173	1 0	Ian D Hunnable 161	PR Maul 161	1 0	def
16 Chris RA Clegg 154	½ ½	Tim Hebbes 156	DJ Lewis 146	1 0	def
(Sutton)	6½ 9½		(Sindlesham)	7 9	

Kent*	30.11.96	Sussex*	Bucks*	1.12.96(?)	Herts*
1 DW Gormally 213 (W)	1 0	DH Cummings 219	MV Lambshire 194	0 1	Paul Byway 199 (B)
2 SD Brown 207	0 1	DB Graham 220	A Hammond 191	0 1	Jerry Rudge 194
3 AL Mack 202	0 1	B Cafferty 194	J Beedle 187	1 0	Phil Maguire 189
4 AE Hanreck 199	1 0	FJ Kwiatkowski 204	M Armstrong 176	0 1	Alex Ethelontis 180
5 AM Harakis 191	½ ½	LE Rutherford 203	RD de Coverly 178	0 1	Nick Lee 180
6 JD Wager 191	0 1	GH James 194	D Chin -	0 1	Howard Tebbs 179
7 DA Farndon 190	1 0	SJ Newman 183	A Robbings 173	1 0	John Denton 176
8 PP Taylor 190	1 0	PG Farr 184	L Wooldridge 171	0 1	Andrew Gilfillan 176
9 JN Sugden 189	0 1	MD Nicholas 181	R O'Brien 168	1 0	def
10 JE Scholes 187	½ ½	MO Costley 181	B Shipley 168	½ ½	Steve Law 169
11 DJ Horton 188	½ ½	MR Stott 177	M Egby 162	½ ½	John Cook 162
12 CB Rice 185	0 1	AG Cooper -	J Springall 150	0 1	Philip Gregory 170
13 M Wiper 182	½ ½	M Broom 178	RP Ginger	½ ½	David Bower 157
14 G Botley 180	½ ½	JC Mansson 178	C Floyd	0 1	Tim Sinkinson 157
15 NSW Alfred 174 j	1 0	RJ Almond 176	B Atkinson 147	1 0	Barry Morris 151
16 JR Cordner 167	½ ½	AO Pickersgill 175	A Laurence 143	1 0	Joe Franks 160
(Charlton House)	8 8		(Marlow)	6½ 9½	

"The Sussex team was unchanged from the previous match - same players, same board, same colour. (Not same result!) Not a frequent occurrence. Or is it?" - P Watson

Thank you, Herts, for all the grades. (Chin seems to have one though.) Bucks seem to be single-initial-and-no-grade merchants.

Kent*	7.12.96	Herts*	Oxon*	1.12.96	Cambs*
1 Phillip (so) J Morris 223	1 0	Chiedu Madueke ' 193	S Ansell 217 (B)	½ ½	M Turner 231
2 Steve W Giddins 207	1 0	Phil Maguire 189 (W)	H Hunt 217	0 1	J Parker 222
3 Andrew L Mack 202	½ ½	Kevin Clark 185	A Hunt 203	½ ½	M Ferguson 223
4 Alan E Hanreck 199	½ ½	Alex Ethelontis 180	M Rose 194	0 1	A Cohen 206
5 David M Moskovic 196	1 0	Howard Tebbs 179	T Dickinson 184	0 1	D Cristinacce 200
6 Neil F Dickenson 193	½ ½	Chris Majer 177	R Starkie 180	½ ½	D Rosenberg 183
7 Alexis M Harakis 191	1 0	Andrew Gilfillan 176	G Chapman 174	½ ½	I Gooding 176
8 Peter P Taylor 190	0 1	John Denton 176	J Wittman 172	1 0	M Davey 169
9 John D Wager 191	½ ½	Philip Bonafont 173	D Bruce 168	1 0	N Pyper 150
10 John N Sugden 189	1 0	Steve Law 169	F Buchkremer 174	0 1	C Kreuzer 136
11 David Farndon 190	1 0	John Cook 162	J Stayt 175	1 0	def
12 Chris I Howell 187	1 0	Philip Gregory 170	D Hackett 175	1 0	def
13 David J Horton 188	1 0	Tim Sinkinson 157	C Moxley 161	1 0	def
14 Chris B Rice 185	1 0	David Bower 157	S Terry 163	1 0	def
15 Jim R Bayford 185	1 0	Simon Charles 146	N Hepworth 153	1 0	def
16 J Stuart Williams 181	1 0	Dick Boardman 132	P Ball 150	1 0	def
(Charlton House)	13 3		(Long Hanborough)	10 6	

Neither side has this spelling. Herts say Madueke.

Thank you, Cambs captain, for being more legible in response to our recent rude letter. You were actually more legible than your opponents this time (Oxon please note, dammit). But please try to get the grades right as well.

Berks*		14.12.96	Essex*		Bucks*		14.12.96	Surrey	
1 PS Cooksey 194 (B)	0	1	AP Lewis 212	J Beedle (W)	1	0	PD Kemp		
2 KD Smallbone 185	0	1	A Plüg	MV Lambshire	1	0	DB Rosen		
3 DS Tucker 189	½	½	M Twyble 208	MJ Armstrong	0	1	KD Richardson		
4 Jovanka Houska 183	½	½	DA Sands	RD de Coverly	1	0	DWW Gunter		
5 AM Leech 183	1	0	G Moore	A Robbings	0	1	RBE Bryant		
6 MW Marlow 170	0	1	G Kenworthy 195	DF Hill	0	1	DR Sedgwick		
7 ACP Milnes 178	0	1	JH Hodgson 194	B Shipley	½	½	JM Shepley		
8 I Duvall 174	0	1	J Burnett 190	AG Kelly	1	0	KP Mynett		
9 MC Bowhay 168	0	1	A Dunn 185	CD Floyd	0	1	C Briscoe		
10 DA Gold 168	1	0	IJ Myall 184	RP Ginger	0	1	PD Dupré		
11 IR Henderson 166	½	½	JC Moore 183	BW Atkinson	0	1	D Tuddenham		
12 PS Janota 167	1	0	W Saunders 181	E Bolduc	1	0	CRA Clegg		
13 BG Millis 158	0	1	RP White 178	MS Vann	0	1	RW Gleave		
14 PR Maul 161	½	½	R Parker 177	B Hughes	1	0	def		
15 MF Redmond 156	0	1	DJ Millward 172	2 ¹ Hughes	1	0	def		
16 SJR Turner 148	0	1	SD Harvey 163	A Hawkins	1	0	def		
(Newbury)	5	11		(Marlow)	8½	7½			
				Well, that's what it says.					

Herts*		18.1.97	Berks*		Sussex*		18.1.97	Oxon*	
1 Neil H Bradbury 205	0	1	HW Murphy 205 (W)	DH Cummings 219	1	0	MC Truran 208 (B)		
2 Jerry F Rudge 194	0	1	PS Cooksey 194	APH Kinsman 217	1	0	M Rose 194		
3 Chiedu Madueke 193	0	1	PJ Sharp 188	DB Graham 220	0	1	T Dickinson 184		
4 Phil G Maguire 189	1	0	KD Smallbone 185	FJ Kwiatkowski 204	1	0	RJ Starkie 180		
5 Kevin R Clark 185	½	½	DS Tucker 189	LE Rutherford 203	1	0	G Chapman 174		
6 Simon J Roe 181	½	½	Jovanka Houska 183	GH James 194	½	½	J Wittman 172		
7 Alex N Ethelontis 180	½	½	AM Leech 183	SJ Newman 183	½	½	JN Stayt 175		
8 Nicholas S Lee 180	0	1	ACP Milnes 178	MD Nicholas 181	½	½	LR Millin 176		
9 Chris E Majer 177	½	½	I Duvall 174	PG Farr 184	0	1	DG Hackett 175		
10 Geoff A Hollis 178	1	0	DA Gold 168	MO Costley 181	½	½	N Jones 167		
11 Andrew Gilfillan 176	0	1	IR Henderson 166	MR Stott 177	1	0	D Bruce 158		
12 John R Denton 176	1	0	MC Bowhay 168	AG Cooper -	1	0	C Moxley 161		
13 JN Fraser-Mitchell 172	½	½	BG Millis 158	M Broom 178	½	½	F Buchkremer 174		
14 Stephen J Tovey 171	1	0	PR Maul 161	RJ Almond 176	0	1	S Terry 165		
15 Steve Law 169	1	0	DJ Lewis 146	JC Mansson 178	0	1	P Ball 150		
16 John Cook 162	1	0	NW Dennis 145	AO Pickersgill 175	0	1	M Hannon -		
(Stevenage)	8½	7½		(Brighton)	8½	7½			

Cambs		18.1.97	Bucks*		Surrey*		18.1.97	Kent	
1 J Parker (W)	1	0	AP Smith	Richard A Bates 221	0	1	Neil McDonald 236 (B)		
2 M Turner	1	0	RD de Coverly	Russell G Granat 202	0	1	Danny W Gormally 213		
3 M Ferguson	1	0	R O'Brien	Michael J Franklin 200	1	0	Simon D Brown 207		
4 A Cohen	1	0	DF Hill	Jon C Benjamin 199	½	½	Andrew L Mack 202		
5 D Hassabis	½	½	BD Shipley	Peter D Kemp 195	½	½	Alan E Hanreck 199		
6 N Noden	1	0	R Fox	Oliver Rosten 195	0	1	Alexis M Harakis 191		
7 D Rosenberg	1	0	JH Springall	Daniel B Rosen 190	½	½	Rory MR O'Kelly 191		
8 P Pollitz	1	0	W Hughes	Marcus E Osborne 184	0	1	John D Wager 191		
9 I Gooding	0	1	A Kelly	Kevin D Richardson 182	½	½	David Farndon 190		
10 M Davey	1	0	SL Turvey	David WW Gunter 181	1	0	John D Sugden 189		
11 P Webster	1	0	NJ Butland	Ken FH Inwood 178	½	½	Peter P Taylor 190		
12 B Morgan ¹	1	0	E Bolduc	David R Sedgwick 176	½	½	James E Scholes 187		
13 B Weller	½	½	R Thursby	Steven Retallick 170	½	½	David J Horton 188		
14 N Pyper	1	0	MS Vann	Chris Briscoe 161	1	0	Chris B Rice 185		
15 P Hastings	1	0	A Hughes	Kevin Hurst 153	0	1	Gordon Botley 180		
16 A Mills	1	0	J Burke	Chris RA Clegg 154	0	1	Nigel P Donovan 177		
(Cambridge)	14	2		(Sutton)	6½	9½			

¹ Our guess. It says Muryan, but that's the way Cambs (it's a Cambs hand) would write Morgan. Bucks don't believe in grades, and Cambs version hasn't arrived yet.

UNDER 175

Essex*	7.12.96	Sussex	Surrey	7.12.96	Kent*
1 Roy Heppinstall 174 (B)	0 1	John A Dodgson 170	S Retallick 170 (W)	0 1	NSW Alfred 174
2 Paul L Williamson 173	1 0	Michael J Reddie 174	JS White 169	0 1	BM Spink 173
3 Larry E Marden 173	½ ½	Chris Hann 171	D Spearman 165	1 0	RJ Everson 173
4 Andrew R Brett 173	1 0	SON Hawes 167	C Briscoe 161	½ ½	S Firth 170
5 Ivor BN Smith 173	0 1	Paul A Batchelor 167	PD Dupré 160	1 0	Z Mehmet 169
6 David J Millward 172	½ ½	Andrew SJ Fleming 165	S Macdonald-Ross 157	0 1	JR Cordner 167
7 Peter C Doye 166	½ ½	James Graham 165	D Tuddenham 156	0 1	SJ Pullinger 163
8 Colin R Ramage 163	1 0	Evki Pesonen 164	TD Phillips 156	½ ½	A Atkinson 165
9 Trevor D Coote 171 (r)	1 0	Ian G Kelly 163	CRA Clegg 154	½ ½	MD Brougham 159
10 Neville H Twitchell 162	1 0	Susan C Howell 159	RJ Wilcox 154	0 1	SJ Peters 159
11 Ian D Hunnable 161	½ ½	David G Ratcliffe 157	PS Brown 153	½ ½	JH Lewin 159
12 Les J Crane 159	½ ½	Keith Davies 157	CJ Mann 153	0 1	SGB James 156
13 Andy King 159	1 0	David L Roberts 155	PR Archer 151	½ ½	SJ Jacob 155
14 John A Philpott 157 (r)	½ ½	WH Partridge 151	SR Jones 150	0 1	NC Mackett 152
15 Andrew D Hartland 155	1 0	Laurence Rackham 150	AN Smith 149	½ ½	RJA Winterburn 149
16 Roberto E Waldteufel 152	1 0	R Daniel Hirsch 138	JE Hawson 138	0 1	AC Waters 148
(Wanstead)	11 5		(Sutton)	5 11	

Sussex	11.1.97	Surrey*
1 JA Dodgson 170	0 1	JC Marley 172
2 MJ Reddie 174	½ ½	D Spearman 165
3 C Hann 171	1 0	HT Jones 165
4 SON Hawes 167	1 0	D Tuddenham 156
5 IP Judd 168	½ ½	CRA Clegg 154
6 J Graham 164	½ ½	RJ Wilcox 154
7 E Pesonen 164	1 0	PS Brown 153
8 IG Kelly 163	1 0	PR Archer 151
9 SC Howell 159	½ ½	PE Barnard 157
10 JP Munday 159	1 0	J Stone 147
11 K Davies 157	1 0	STK Wilkinson 143
12 DL Roberts 155	0 1	CPL Parker 142
13 WH Partridge 151	1 0	JR Bell 139
14 L Rackham 150	½ ½	JB Hawson 138
15 P Greaves 147	½ ½	FC Manning 137
16 RD Hirsch 138	1 0	DA Baldock 126
(Three Bridges)	11 5	

UNDER 150

Essex*	30.11.96	Kent*	Essex*	18.1.97	Herts
1 PR Barclay 148 (W)	½ ½	A Mata 148	PR Barclay 148 (B)	½ ½	A Hall 149
2 G Cook 148	½ ½	M Wiltshire 148	TG Winter 145	1 0	A Fulton 148
3 TG Winter 145	0 1	G Steele 145	David Smith 145	½ ½	D Young 148
4 David Smith 145	1 0	M Jordan 145	LJ Burt 144	1 0	S Charles 146
5 LJ Burt 144	½ ½	R Parsons 145	S Harwood 143	1 0	C Howe 146
6 DJ Payne 144	½ ½	A Kissoon 145	DJ Payne 144	0 1	R Gordonsmith 147
7 S Harwood 143	1 0	S Moate 146	AJ Parsons 141	½ ½	S Weston 146
8 G Gooding 142	0 1	P Finch 141	G Gooding 142	1 0	def
9 DJ Rawlings 139	1 0	I Hames 139	P Zammit 139	0 1	P Lawrence 142
10 P Zammit 139	0 1	R Kieran 138	DJ Rawlings 139	½ ½	M Wali 128 (r)
11 D Cannan 137	½ ½	D Gleed 136	D Cannan 137	½ ½	J Coles 134
12 MRA Murrell 136	½ ½	S Casement 130	MJ Cresswell 135	1 0	D Price 141
13 A Drake 135	½ ½	B Hunter 134	RD Sharman 134	0 1	M Waltham 136
14 RD Sharman 134	0 1	D Hargrave 129	JT Luck 106 (r)	1 0	J Marshall 134
15 PJ Lunny 134	½ ½	S Chick 120	I Maclachlan 132	½ ½	P Myers 136
16 I Maclachlan 132	1 0	T ¹ Kieran 65 (r)	R Medcalf 111	0 1	R Kearns 125
(Wanstead)	8 8		(Wanstead)	9 7	

¹ Kent say T (for Tony), Essex say A (for Anthony, presumably). The Kieran graded 65 is Tony, and his daughter's called A for Amy L. Will match captains please try to be clear!

Sussex*	18.1.97	Kent*
1 PR Selby 148 (B)	0 1	Trevor Baldwin 149
2 PA Greaves 147	½ ½	Andrew Mata 148
3 DJ Hopson 146	1 0	Alan Sheriff (so) 148
4 LJ Cannon 144	0 1	Mike Wiltshire 146
5 IK Edgson 144	1 0	Geoff Steele 145
6 PN Kington 143	1 0	Roy Parsons 145
7 DS Hall 143	0 1	Simon Moate 145
8 BJ Izzard 141	0 1	Peter Finch 141
9 RD Hirsch 138 (r)	½ ½	Rosalind Kieran 138
10 RC Davies 140	1 0	Ian Hames 139
11 RA Clement 139	0 1	Edward Bromilow 139
12 FW Brown 136	1 0	Robert Pooley 136
13 M Finch 135	½ ½	Paul CL Bradford 136
14 TJ Woods 132	0 1	Stephen Casement 130
15 CC Dunn 131	½ ½	Steve Chick 120
16 SJ Elgie 130	1 0	Mike Jones 112
(Brighton)	8 8	

UNDER 125

Sussex*	23.11.96	Essex*	Herts*	30.11.96	Oxon
PJ Helliwell 119 (B)	½ ½	RJV Davies 124	T Wright 124 (B)	½ ½	A Collins 124
2 G McCulloch 123	1 0	J Spencer 117 ¹	C? (illegible) Kidd 124	0 1	IR Brooke 124
3 Alan J Quant 119	½ ½	ME Ashkettle 116	R Edmonds 123	1 0	L Collins 121
4 PD Britton 116	0 1	IR Rook 114	M Connock 123	½ ½	A Heslop 119
5 David Simpkins 120	1 0	R Medcalf 111	A Phillips 122	½ ½	G Spalding 115
6 CJ Parker 115	0 1	Michael Grieve 113	A Sims 121	½ ½	AJ Wyeth 112
7 DB Wilkinson 118	0 1	Robert Ianetta 110	A Gore (scarcely legible) 120	1 0	W Tutty 115
8 John A Povey 114	½ ½	JA Figgins 109	G Lunn 119	0 1	M Brindley 108
9 Anthony RJ Higgs 118	1 0	GC Bengier 108	J Moore 118	1 0	J Booker 104
10 Michael Curtis 110	½ ½	Peter W Pattison 102	D Belton 118	0 1	F Fallon 97
11 Charles Holcombe 108	1 0	EG Lodge 99	K Baggs 115	1 0	D Metcalfe 104
(Eastbourne)	11 5		B Saunders 114	0 1	DAS Buckland 100
¹ See page 5			A Jeffries 113	½ ½	Simon Booker 80
Essex defaulted boards 12-16. Their juniors defected to junior events and apparently took some transport with them, leaving Essex with 15 players and transport for 13. They told Sussex. Then one of the 13 dropped out on the day and another went to the wrong meeting place.			S Collins 112	1 0	M Creasey 74
All the first names and extra initials came from Sussex. They also gave us:			J Leake 110	1 0	G Morris 87
Friendlies (grader please grade)			C Lovisa 111 (or 117?)	1 0	C Morris 60
BK Horscroft 120 Sx	0 1	Marc A Bryant 115 Sx	(St Albans)	9½ 6½	
Ben McManus 123 Sx	½ ½	Richard P Joyce 125 E			

So at least RPJ, Essex's (ineligible) match captain, got a game!

Surrey*	7.12.96	Herts	Oxon*	7.12.96	Sussex*
1 L Evboumwan 124 (W)	0 1	Tom Wright 124	Alan Collins 124 (B)	½ ½	C Power 121
2 Joanna Hart 124	0 1	Ron Edmonds 123	IR Brooke 124	½ ½	Ben McManus 123
3 G Morse 121	½ ½	Mike Connock 121	R Jacobs 119	1 0	G McCulloch 123
4 J Mcging (sic) 120	0 1	A Phillips 122	Stephen C Bough 119	0 1	MA Bryant 115
5 R Fisher 118	½ ½	Tony Sims 121	A Heslop 119	1 0	David Simpkins 120
6 DH Ramsey 117	½ ½	Alan Gore 120	G Spalding 115	1 0	Tim Smith ¹
7 D Parsons 117	0 1	John Moore 118	AJ Wyeth 112	0 1	Anthony RJ Higgs 118
8 D Woodward 117	½ ½	George Lunn 119	Wayne Tutty 115	0 1	Michael Curtis 110
9 KW Lovell 116	1 0	D Belton 118	Malcolm Brindley 108	1 0	N Pestelle 111
10 DJ Howes 115	1 0	Paul Laskier 114	J Booker 104	0 1	C Holcombe 108
11 H Wylie 114	1 0	Berry (so!) Saunders 114	Frank Fallon 97	½ ½	Paul Buswell 100
12 H Curtis 111	0 1	Terry Lawson 116	DAS Buckland 100	0 1	N Clive 110
13 RJ Wright 109	1 0	Steve Collins 112	James Buchanan 90	0 1	T Pepper 93
14 D Innes 96 (r)	0 1	John Leake 110	Graham Morris 87	0 1	D Fane 98
15 LI Makinson 97	1 0	Quazi Latif 108	M Creasey 74	1 0	Stephen D Carter 60
16 MB Green 94	1 0	John Lanaway 108	D Metcalfe 104	1 0	def
(Sutton)	8 8		(Long Hanborough)	7½ 8½	

¹ of Brighton CC, unpublished at 119. No connection with Tim J Smith of Hants.

Kent	7.12.96	Essex*	Essex*	11.1.97	Oxon*
1 S Chick 120 (B)	0 1	R Davies 124	R Davies 124	0 1	IR Brooke 124
2 P Giddens (sic) 123	½ ½	C Barrett 120	P Flint 121	1 0	A Collins 124
3 P Childs 123	1 0	E Walker 120 j	C Barrett 120	½ ½	L Collins 121
4 P Thomas 117	0 1	M Ashkettle 116	J Spencer 117	0 1	R Jacobs 119
5 D Picton 115	1 0	I Rook 114	I Rook 114	½ ½	A Heslop 119
6 C Batty 114	1 0	R Giddens 115 j	K Grieve 113	0 1	G Spalding 115
7 M Jones 112	½ ½	M Grieve 113	R Medcalf 111	½ ½	W Tutty 115
8 P Poland 112	1 0	def	B Alexandrou 110	0 1	AJ Wyeth 112
9 I Stoneman 112	1 0	R Ianetta 110	J Figgins 109	0 1	M Brindley 108
10 R Springett 110	1 0	J Figgins 109	G Bengler 108	0 1	J Booker 104
11 D Shipp 103	1 0	G Bengler 108	G Walker 108 j	0 1	D Metcalfe 104
12 I Bryan 103	1 0	P Pattison 102	P Pattison 102	1 0	DAS Buckland 100
13 J Robertson 103	½ ½	E Lodge 99	EG ¹ Lodge 99	0 1	J Buchanan 90
14 R Thompson 98	1 0	D Allen 87 j	L Trent 95 j	1 0	C David 71
15 A Fabian 97	0 1	C Turner 83 j	D Allen 87 j	0 1	G Morris 87
16 B Thatcher 96	1 0	def	C Turner 83 j	½ ½	M Creasey 74
(Charlton)	11½ 4½		(Wanstead)	5 11	

¹ Well, Essex say E and Oxon say G.

UNDER 100

Surrey*	7.12.96	Herts	Essex*	18.1.97	Herts*
1 Bill Upton 95 (B)	½ ½	Adam Humphreys 99	Ron Prickett 99 (B)	0 1	Adam Humphreys 99
2 Chris Dixon 93	0 1	David Bate-Smith 89	Chris Wiggins 99	0 1	Gary Halsall 99
3 Laila Tillet 89	½ ½	Wolf Hamm 89	Bejan Mehdinejad ¹ 99	1 0	Steve Zsibrita 91
4 Philip Cable 89	1 0	James Palmer 82	Robert Payne 97	1 0	David Bate-Smith 89
5 Chris Manders 89	0 1	Frank Batchelor 80	Lawrence Trent 87	1 0	Wolf Hamm 89
6 David Manders -	1 0	Mark Senn 80	Alex O'Neil 94	0 1	Frank Batchelor 80
7 Storm Ballard -	½ ½	Alan Brewis 73	Fred Riley 89	1 0	Tobit Roth e85
8 Graham Curtis 88	1 0	Stephen Burt 70	Andy Denny 84	1 0	Mike Kaye e85
9 Ben Morgan 84	1 0	John Dalton 48	James Berlin 82	0 1	James Palmer 82
10 David Morgan -	1 0	def	Stewart Trent 72	1 0	Jeff Wilson 79
11 Richard Jones 84	1 0	def	Heather Walker 69	0 1	Alan Brewis 73
12 Chris Baker 69	1 0	def	Mark Huntley	1 0	Stephen Burt e70
(Sutton)	8½ 3½		(Wanstead)	7 5	

¹ That's the Herts version, consistent with what's in the grading list. Essex say Bijan Mehanjadad.

SCCU FIXTURE LIST 1996-7

To end of season.

Teams entered:

	Br	Bu	C	E	H	K	M	O	Sy	Sx
Open	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*
U175				*		*			*	*
U150				*	*	*			*	*
U125				*	*	*		*	*	*
U100				*	*				*	

	Open	Under 175	Under 150	Under 125	Under 100
Feb 1	BrSy CSx KBu		KSy		
8	OE	ESy *SxK			
15	EC HO KBr BuSx		HSx SyE	*EH	HSy
22		SxE			
Mar 1	(SCCU U18 qualifier)			HSx	SyE
8	OSy CH SxE BrBu			OK SyE	
15		KSy			
22		*KSx		HK *SxSy	

SOUTHEND CC have their centenary this year. They played a match v Rest of Southend League back in September (and lost 6½-13½) but that was more a League Champions do than over-hasty celebration. The **ESSEX** centenary's next year and a committee's looking at things to do. Like, a special weekend in Autumn 1998. Saturday, a match Essex Past v Essex Present and a celebration dinner. And Sunday, a 100-board match Essex v Rest of SCCU. (Essex v SCCU it says here, but we don't think they're planning secession just yet.)

GRADING NOTES

Remembered, the other week, that the BCF are proposing to charge Game Fee on internal club games from next season. Vote on it comes up at the April Council Meeting. Your Editor's county grades quite a lot of internal games, and as he's supposed to be the County Grader it occurred to him that it might be a good idea to ask the clubs whether they'd go on sending their games if they had to pay. And how much difference it would make if the charge was at (say) half the standard rate. The information might affect the way Kent votes, after all. The committee thought so, and we've just asked the clubs. Don't know how many answers we'll get. Has *your* county thought about this? Formal notice of the proposal isn't out yet, of course, but *you* know it's coming up because you read the Bulletin. The BCF won't ask the clubs for you, and some figures could be useful to them as well as you.

From time to time we hear noises about the new national grading system that's coming on stream next season. Must admit we still don't know a lot about it. One of these months we'll persuade Someone Who Knows to write us an article about it. Be warned, Chris.

Quote

"If Essex win the Southern Counties Championship this year then it says a lot for the players willing to make such long journeys to support the team. This season Essex has been paired away against Berks, Bucks, Oxford and Sussex whilst home against Herts, Surrey, Cambridge, Kent and Middlesex (now withdrawn) - strangely unbalanced." - *Chessex*. The Bulletin's geography's a bit vague but that does seem to give them all the longest journeys. At least they had the extra home match, till it went away. Will it be equally unbalanced next year in the other direction?

OXON: CHILTERN CUP. Match captain John Wood is in hospital. All Chiltern Cup correspondence should go to Dave Metcalfe, 9 Roosevelt Rd, Long Hanborough, Oxon OX8 8JG 01993 883044.

Correction

Last issue, page 10. Game Hunt-Smallbone was Smallbone-Hunt. Sorry Smallbone.

CONGRESS DIARY

- Feb 1-2 KIDLINGTON U226/171/126. Ian Brooke, 174 Cowley Rd, Oxford OX4 1UE: "Oxford" 245447
(You'll have to look it up. Thought everyone *told* you their area code these days!)
- 1-2 CAMBRIDGE WINTER. P McMahon, 91 Cambridge Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge CB3 7QQ
01954 212256
- 2 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031
- 2 BASINGSTOKE RAPIDPLAY. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke RG21 2LS
01256 472537
- 8 WESTMINSTER Rapid. JM Sargent, 903 Longbridge Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2BU
0181 270 9106
- 8 ROCHESTER JUNIOR U18 + parents, U11, 9. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent
TN12 0NU 01580 892005
- 8-9 MILL HILL. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080
- 12 ROYSTON JUNIOR. JG Jones, 28 Hay St, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts SG8 0PE 01763 853873
- 15 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982
- 16 SOMERS TOWN Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031
- 21-23 PORTSMOUTH. PJ McEvoy, 77 Lime Grove, Portsmouth, Hants PO6 4DQ 01705 388341
- 22-23 KENSINGTON. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456
- 22-23 SPECTRUM IPSWICH. Les Day, 10 Oaklawn Court, Barton Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ1 4EN
01803 212136. Or N Went, 53 New Zealand Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 8JT 01705 551617
- 22-23 4NCL CARDIFF U160/120. 4NCL Weekend Congress, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF
- 23 RICHMOND RAPID. R James, 95 Lyndhurst Avenue, Twickenham TW2 6BH 0181 898 1190
- 28-2 EAST DEVON at Exeter. A Maynard, 27 Downeshead Lane, Crediton, Devon EX17 1HH
- 28-2 DONCASTER. P Tate, 99 Woodlands Rd, Woodlands, Doncaster DN6 7JY 01302 728493
- Mar 1 KENT PRIMARY CHAMPIONSHIPS at Maidstone. U11, 10, 9, 8. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden
Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005
- 2 BASINGSTOKE RAPIDPLAY. J French, 31 Brocas Drive, South View, Basingstoke RG21 2LS
01256 472537
- 2 CHALK FARM Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031
- 7-9 COUNTY DURHAM. G Thirlaway, 32 Magdalene Place, Woodland, Bishop Auckland, Durham
DL13 5RQ 01388 710590
- 7-9 BLACKPOOL. GM Jones, 27 Clarke St, Leigh, Lancs WN7 4HU 01942 604262
- 8-9 1st CHESHUNT CONGRESS U182/122. G Kenworthy, 53 Abbots Drive, Waltham Abbey, Essex
EN9 3HH 0181 214 3110
- 8-9 MILL HILL. AC Corfe, 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA 01707 659080
- 9 KENSINGTON Rapid. D Agble, Flat 15, Beit Hall, Prince Consort Rd SW7 2BB 0171 594 9456
- 15-16 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. J Weightman, Flat 1, 225a Finchley Rd, Hampstead, London
NW3 6LP 0171 435 7205
- 16 SOMERS TOWN Rapid. BH Birchall, 26d Colville Square, London W11 2BQ 0171 792 8031
- 21-23 MIDLAND CENTENARY at Derby. R Milner, 411 Cheadle Rd, Cheddleton, Leek, Staffs
ST13 7BH 01782 50112
- 22 BOURNE END. G Parker, 1 Thames Close, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5QJ 01628 522297
- 22 GOLDERS GREEN Rapidplay. Adam Raof, PO Box 1962 NW4 4NF 0181 202 0982
- 22-23 4NCL ROTHERHAM U160/120. 4NCL Weekend Congress, PO Box 1962, London NW4 4NF
- 28-30 BOLTON EASTER. R Middleton, 21 Argo St, Bolton, Lancs BL3 6TT 01204 651523
- 28-31 SOUTHEND EASTER. Open 7rds, plus 5-rd graded Swisses. GMA Smith, 41 Westwood Gardens,
Hadleigh, Benfleet, Essex SS7 2SH: tel and fax 01702 556086 but entries cannot be accepted over
the phone.
- 28-31 SURREY EASTER at Sutton. FC Manning, 44 Willow Rd, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0PF
0181 647 0063
- Apr 1-3 MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR U18,13,11,9. R Brugge, 16 Wootton Way, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4QU
01628 36276 (we thought that number looked like a misprint but it isn't)

COACHING at the Barbican 1997: 1 February, 15 March, 19 April, 31 May, 14 June, 19 July, 2 August, 6 September, 4 October, 8 November. Sessions 2-6 pm. Adults £20 per session or £90 for the year (but you may not be in time for the February one!); Juniors - not defined - £6 or £30. G Kenworthy, 53 Abbots Drive, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3HH 0181 214 3110

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: *Chessex* for December 1996 and January 1997; Surrey Girls CA Newsletter for December 1996