



# BULLETIN

Issue 241

May 1998

Price £1

The News Bulletin of the  
**SOUTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION**

Published September, November, January, March, May and July

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**Subscriptions:** Annual subscriptions run from September, price £6. Part-year subscriptions pro rata. Single issues are sold at the cover price. Back numbers are usually available.

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

### SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive met on Friday 15th May at the Durham Castle, London W1. 12 (out of 18) attended.

**(1) Grading.** When the BCF goes over to six-monthly lists, will we want to follow suit? Not too obvious, and it will probably come up at the AGM (Saturday 27th June). The BCF list will combine standard and rapid play. Better re-phrase that. It will give both. And something Elo-style, we believe. Next year's mid-season list may be the dying gasp of the "Partial" series, and we'd hardly want to do an SCCU version of that.

**(2) SCCU U100 Championship.** As noted last time, Essex had appealed against the application of the tie-break rules following their win by default against Middx. The Controller's application of the rules had put Essex second, by the narrowest of margins, on adjusted game points. The method of calculation is explained in your March Bulletin. The Rules & Appeals Sub-Committee concluded, as it had to, that the rule had been correctly applied. It is understood that the Essex match captain accepts this, but disapproves of the rule.

**(3) County Matches: qualification for BCF Stage.** The outgoing SCCU County Match Controller warned of the possible consequences of defaulted matches in future. Well, there were two this year. The new BCF rules (see last issue, and next item) say a Union gets two nominees, in any division, if at least three teams have *completed their fixtures* in the Union stage; and three nominees if at least seven have. This means that a single defaulted match could cost us a qualifying place.

**(4) Accounts.** The provisional Accounts showed a surplus for 1997-8 of more than £500: very much better than budget. A significant factor was a personal donation of £300 from the Union Match Captain, RCN Lee-Anderson.

**(5) SCCU Junior Individual Championships.** A decade ago, the Union used to hold annual Junior Championships in association with an event organised by a third party. LW Barden had suggested the possibility that we revive the junior championships in one form or another. There seemed no question of introducing a new event, but we could seek involvement with an existing one. The junior budget, already funding other people's events, could equally fund SCCU Junior Championship prizes. (Prizes rather than trophies, someone said.) An U18 title might be associated with whichever congress held the SCCU Championship itself, and we might or might not want to go down to U11 or below. The Junior Organiser was invited to come back with proposals.

**(6) Counties Rapidplay Championship.** We had been thinking of holding our own event, or offering to host the National one. But it now appeared that the BCF Home Director was thinking of making the National event peripatetic anyway. 1999 was thought to be earmarked for the NCCU, but the 1998 slot (maybe late September) might still be available to us. Perhaps Essex would be interested, in their centenary year? Another possibility was Herts in theirs (2001).

**(7) Restructuring of Union: Constitution.** This is on course, and a final draft should be before Council.

**The meeting finished** at 10.40-odd, and your Editor's excuse for missing his last train to Tunbridge Wells this time is that he had to wait so long for a Tube to Charing Cross. (His last train goes at 11.30, and he missed it by a minute. He got the positively-last midnight 06 for Tonbridge, and taxi from there. Is a one-day Travelcard valid for trains leaving after midnight? Maybe not, but it would be a brave guard who'd check tickets on the last train down from London on Friday night.)

### BCF MEETINGS 25.4.98: an SCCU delegate reports

#### MANAGEMENT BOARD a.m.

Not a particularly good meeting, although less acrimonious than of late.

- Concern was expressed at the fact that the 30 April deadline for the submission of the business and corporate plans to the DCMS was not going to be met.
- John Poole was appointed as officer in charge of Direct Membership Scheme.
- John Toothill and Mike Fox were appointed to the Book of the Year judging panel; Ray Edwards remains chairman. There were almost 30 applicants; the opportunity to obtain free books clearly did not influence the level of interest shown.
- Brian Jones, Gary Kenworthy and Bryan Fewell were appointed trustees of the BCF Youth Trust, in addition to Jane Seymour, who is now understood to be continuing as a trustee.

#### FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING p.m.

A considerable improvement on last year's Finance Council meeting in Birmingham.

- The version of the budget included in the papers for the meeting had indicated an unacceptably low projected level of reserves at 30 April 1999, after the budgeted 1998/99 loss of £3,541. Not for the first time in the Federation's history, developments prior to the meeting enabled the circle to be squared. Ironically, one of the positive factors was the break-in at the BCF Office, as the insurance cover provided new equipment to replace the old heavily depreciated items, with a consequent boost to the BCF's net assets.
- The Management Board's recommendation of a 27p Game Fee was accepted, after a slightly less tedious debate than usual. 129 of the 177 weighted votes were cast in favour of this figure, which was therefore clearly the mode as well as the median.

- Ray Clark indicated that the 1999/2002 corporate plan would be presented to the September Council meeting. This would mean that the Federation was finally doing its planning the right way round, and deciding the long term direction before working out the detail of how to get through the next twelve months. Perhaps there is some light at the end of the tunnel.
- The Chairman of the Policy Unit became an ex officio member of the Finance Committee with immediate effect.
- The full £3,000 set aside in the MDCA Development Fund had been spent within the three year period.
- The Policy Unit had proposed that consideration be given to exploring the raising of additional income from linking the publication of individuals' grades to individual membership of the Federation. After debate, a motion to the effect that it would be worthwhile to consider pursuing the Policy Unit's suggestion was extremely close on a show of hands, but lost on a card vote by 100 to 89, with 5 abstentions.
- Gary Kenworthy was appointed Director for Coaching following the death of Fred Appleton.
- In the absence of a suitable candidate, it was decided not to create the post of Director for Marketing at this stage, although this could be revisited in the interim, and the Board could appoint an Officer in the interim if necessary. It was also decided to put on hold the proposal to downgrade the post of Publicity Director to that of Publicity Officer.
- Stan Grundy CBE, the driving force behind the Rotary International Chess Initiative, was appointed an honorary life member of the BCF.
- Cyril Johnson's proposed changes to the County Championship Rules were accepted with a few amendments. In respect of eligibility for the Minor Counties, the SCCU's "average grade under 180" proposal was preferred to the original "must not finish in top half" suggestion. The proposed new first tie break of the lower number of defaults was rejected.
- There was some discussion on the European Team Championships, with many of the questions being of a somewhat predictable nature. A vote of confidence in the organising Committee was proposed from the floor and passed nem con.
- There was little time for discussion of the Hastings Chess Centre. A thick report from the consultants, which was intended to form the basis of the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, had been received and was being reviewed by members of the Steering Group and the BCF Finance Committee. However, the whole project was running about six weeks behind schedule. The meeting voted to include this on the agenda for September immediately after matters arising.
- Discussion about the proposed new Objects clause was also deferred to September. There was no clear consensus as to whether the text should include explicit reference to composers and solvers.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Richard,

7.4.98

Thank you for providing the best report in the UK on what the BCF is talking about at its meetings. Your reports contain both accurate detail and an overall view, something which the BCF's own rag miserably fails to achieve.

I noticed with great interest, that despite the BCF's attempts not to inform "Joe chess player" about its plan for a chess centre, news is slowly leaking out.

What I can not understand is how a centre for Britain, my apologies, England can be located so far from anywhere with sensible transport links. I was wondering if any other town councils had been approached, like Penzance, Keswick or Great Yarmouth. On a personal level I find it difficult to imagine Hastings as central to the SCCU. I would be interested to know what the other Chess Unions feel about this location?

Perhaps there are other reasons, am I correct in assuming that the Hastings congress is looking for a home? I wonder if a venue for this once a year event, is being put before what is best for all of British (English) chess? Could you tell me how many members of the Hastings organising committee are also members of the BCF Management Board. [Ed: - I assume this means the Congress committee. Two. It isn't a secret, and I'm sure their Secretary would be willing to provide a list if asked. The Yearbook can be hard to fathom, and I'm not sure the Congress committee is listed. Their Secretary is Paul Buswell, and he is.]

While this whole secret project begs many more questions, I would ask one last question. This letter of intent, how much does it commit the BCF to spending / raising and from what sources? [Ed: - Nothing, as far as I know, and I have asked someone who knows that sort of thing. If the lottery application succeeds, that's when the fund-raising comes in. We'd be required to find a lot of money to supplement the lottery grant, and I imagine the BCF would seek sponsorship.] The previous paragraph of the report talks about putting 2p on the game fee, to cover the "projected" deficit of £20,000 for the 1998/99 season, will there also be a raid on the BCF reserves to pay for this White Elephant? [Ed: - Don't know, but see previous note.]

Regards,

**NIGEL JOHNSON**

Ed: - This letter came by email. No postal address given, but he's the Nigel Johnson you know about. I welcome letters by email (I'm rjh@thefree.net) but would ask for a postal address every time.

6.4.98

Dear Richard,

I am very grateful for the copies of the SCCU Bulletin, I had forgotten how much interesting information I have been missing by not taking your excellent publication. Which brings me to your account of the March meeting of the SCCU Executive Committee (item 12): -

As Chief Controller of the National Club Championship I obviously had some input into the decision to use Ratcliffe College for the finals of the Counties Championship and National Club. I am sorry the SCCU Executive had reservations about the venue. Of course it is impossible to satisfy all the people all of the time. Some people may have selfish motives, and some would find fault even if the venue was next door to where they live! But I should be very interested to know if the Executive could find a comparable venue which also fulfils the required criteria:-

i) According to the National Club entry form the championship finals "will be held at a central venue". To my mind this means somewhere in Central England e.g. Leicestershire, and not somewhere in the North or South where teams from the wrong end of the country will have to make very long and arduous journeys.

ii) The price has to be right. After a lot of very hard work Cyril Johnson managed to negotiate a fee that is about half that charged by the previous venue! Not many chess organisers can claim that.

iii) The venue must have adequate parking - it is a fact that 90+ % of those competing will travel by car and therefore the proximity to a railway station is much less important. Apart from which, it is only 3 miles from the nearest station and I always thought that it was possible to travel such a short distance by taxi.

On the whole, Ratcliffe College is as ideal a venue as we can realistically expect allowing for the location requirements and budgetary constraints.

I cannot see the relevance of the proximity to a hotel. How many people are going to stay overnight? Perhaps two or three BCF Officials and personally I am quite happy to stay in a hotel which is only 6 miles away and pay my own expenses. I have assumed that the distances quoted at the SCCU meeting were in fact correct - perhaps I am being a little naive but I have to take some things on trust as I have rather more important matters to attend to other than check exact distances from railway stations and hotels to the venue! All the best,

Regards,

**BOB TURNHAM**

Chief Controller, National Club Championship

Dear Richard,

Since I understand that the discussion at the last Executive meeting on the County Championship arrangements as reported in the March Bulletin has caused a certain amount of unintended controversy, I thought that it would do no harm if I reported to your readership some first hand impressions of the venue at Ratcliffe College that I gained when Cyril Johnson kindly took me over there in the course of a recent visit to Syston. These comments are written from the perspective of the captain of the Essex U175 team who will be faced, should his team qualify for the final of the competition on 4 July, with a trip to Ratcliffe to defend the title, rather than a return visit to the Clarendon Suites in Birmingham.

(a) The Sports Hall where the games will take place is a spacious building with good light. Unlike the situation at the Clarendon Suites last year, it should be possible to accommodate (within reason) requests for certain of the finals to be played over more than the statutory minimum number of boards. This is a very important consideration as, should the opposition be willing, I would prefer to play over 20 rather than 16 boards in order to give as many as possible of the members of my squad a game.

(b) Access by road is very easy. If one travels from the South via the M1 and exits onto the A46 at junction 21A, it is little more than a ten minute drive to the College gates. The journey as a whole compared favourably with that to Birmingham. There is ample parking space at the College.

(c) I checked the distance from the nearest station (Sileby) to the College and measured it as 1.7 miles rather than the 3 miles referred to at the meeting. A rather steep hill makes walking inadvisable, but Cyril will have arrangements in hand with a local taxi firm to transport players to the venue. The journey from London is slightly longer than the 1 hour 40 minutes to Birmingham and does involve a change at Leicester or Loughborough, but does not seem too unreasonable on the Saturday (for example, the 10.00 from St Pancras will get one to Sileby, with a 30 minute wait at Leicester, by 11.58). However there does not appear to be a Sunday service to Sileby for the benefit of those playing in the finals of the National Club competition. Cyril will therefore be investigating coach times.

(d) The hotel situation is also considerably better than the "nothing within six miles" that had been concerning the Executive. There is a Forte Travelodge less than two miles away, and while this would not be somewhere that I would personally wish to stay, I would be perfectly happy with the Six Hills International Hotel which is four miles from the venue. There is a wide range of other accommodation in the area.

(e) As one who has enjoyed Julie Johnson's catering at matches in Syston on more than one occasion in the past, I am very pleased to learn that the scholars will be providing refreshments under her supervision.

The ultimate success of Ratcliffe as a venue can, of course, only be judged after the event. However, apart from the specific matters that I have noted above, the overall approach that Cyril Johnson is taking towards his

responsibilities leads me to be optimistic about Finals Weekend. As we have seen during the development of the rule changes that were adopted at the Finance Council meeting, Cyril is adopting a pro-active approach to his role but is extremely receptive to suggestions and comments. For the Finals Weekend, the qualifiers who in the past might have received just a map with some instructions on the back can expect a full information pack with tailored directions to the venue and information about the available accommodation; the accommodation can be booked and taxis arranged if captains will advise Cyril of what is required. I consider that the Federation is extremely fortunate to have Cyril occupying the post of County Championship Controller, and hope that he will receive sufficient support for his efforts to be encouraged to retain this position on a long term basis.

Yours sincerely,  
**JOHN PHILPOTT** President, SCCU

Copies to Cyril Johnson, David Sedgwick, George Thirlaway and Bob Turnham.

Ed: - What are the arguments for and against central venues? Discuss, with reference to Counties Finals and Rapidplay Championships and Meetings.

### CONGRESS RESULTS

#### GUILDFORD RAPIDPLAY 8th March 1998

**Open** (21 pl) 1-2 Andrew Kinsman (Guildford), Bogdan Lalic (Sutton) 5½/6; 3-5 David Fryer (East Grinstead), Colin Purdon (Bracknelli), Matthew Rose (Oxford) 4... GRADING U175 Mark O'Neill 3½

**Under 166** (20 pl) 1 Martin Cutmore (Wood Green) 5½/6; 2 Michael Kobylka (Reading) 4½; 3-4 Dan Erichden (Guildford), Julien Shepley (Guildford) 4... GRADING U150 Ross Mooring 3½

**Under 131** (41 ent) 1 Andrew Norton (Southampton) 5½/6; 2 Lucy Broomfield (South Norwood) 5; 3-5 Bernard Bruno (Worthing), Ben Chamberlain, Gary Lee 4½... GRADING U116 Michael Redman (Crowborough) 4; U101 Peter Dallas (Cosham) 3

**Under 101** (56 pl) 1 R Alboni 5½/6; 2-5 Mike Gunn (Guildford), Daniel Hegarty (Richmond), Ben Purton (Bearwood), Victor Litvin 5... GRADING U86 Peter Rogers (Portsmouth) 4½; Ungraded John Taylor (Winchester College) 4 JUNIOR Joel Talbot (Basingstoke) 4½ They called the U101 the Amateur.

Results Winkworth Hill. We'd truly like to believe that, but we think it may be where he lives.

#### LETCHWORTH ONE-DAY 15th March 1998

**Open** 1-2 James Vigus (Beckenham & Bromley), Bogdan Lalic (Sutton) 4/5; 3-7 Paul Georghiou (Barnet), Mark Ferguson (Cambridge Univ), Matthew Turner (Cambridge Univ), Gary Kenworthy (also Best Herts: Bumbles Green) 3½... GRADING U190 Jim Lumsden (Watford), Lahenbe Ndhlovu (Charlton) 3; U175 Richard O'Brien (Slough) 3

**Under 160** 1-2 Martin Cutmore (Wood Green), Ian Debbage (New College) 4½/5; 3 Peter Turner (Cambridge) 4... GRADING U140 Lawrence Trent (Ilford) 3½ BEST HERTS Steven Smith (Watford) 3

**Under 125** 1-3 Paul Kennelly (Hammersmith), William Bennet (Cambridge), Mark Wieder (Orleans Park) 4½/5... GRADING U110 Stewart Trent (Ilford) 3½; JUNIOR Lee Dorrington (Rushden) 3½; VETERANS PJ Radley (Royston) 3½; SLOW STARTER Keith Woodhouse (Royston) 2

**Under 95** 1 Chris Kelly (Northampton WMC) 5/5; 2 Richard Mycroft (Royston) 4½; 3-4 David Morgan (Coulson), (Hemel Hempstead) 4... JUNIOR James Purcell (Hollybrook Jnr) 3½; VETERANS John Pepper (Letchworth/Hitchin) 3; SLOW STARTER Alan Maddison (Letchworth/Hitchin) 2½

**Junior U14** 1 Ryan Child (Kings Gambit) 6/6; 2 Julian Winkworth (Wanstead & Woodford) 5; 3-6 David Gunn (Malden), Stephen Mullens (Stanborough School), Gerald Morgan (BMS), Joanna Harbour (Bedford) 4...

**Junior U11** 1-2 Tom Harbour (Bedford), Emos Scappatura (St Matthew School) 5½/6; 3-8 Alex Kolanis (North Bridge House School), Alan Craigen (Bedford), Stephen Weaver (Bedford), Iain Dunkeld, Farid Mohamed (both North Bridge House), Sophie Harbour (Bedford) 4½...

**Team Prize** (for teams of four): the Harbour family 74%

Results Tim Thurstan

#### SOUTH HERTS at St Albans 4-5 April 1998

**Under 201** (20 ent) 1 Philip Potopaev 187 (Crystal Palace) 4½/5; 2 A Reijneveld 2086 (De Uil); 3-4 J Havenaar 2083 (Du Uil), G van Dijk 2050 (De Uil) 3½...

**Under 176** (36 ent) 1 NJ De Peyer 165 (Kings Head) 4½/5; 2-3 Richard O'Brien 171 (Slough), W van Randen 1898 (De Uil) 4; 4-8 Lorin D'Costa 141 (Royston), I Okosieme 157, David Parr 162, S Den Haan 1598 (De Uil), Terry Bean 164 3½...

**Under 150** (53 ent) 1-2 Lara Osiyemi 132 (Kings Head), PK Tart 141 (Camberley) 4½/5; 3-6 MJ Stanners 121 (Athenaeum), KB Nicholas 125 (RGS High Wycombe), Lawrence Trent 120 (Ilford), AC Hall 136 (Watford) 4...

**Under 130** (49 ent) 1-2 PS Gill 123 (Bedford), David Waltham 118 (St Albans) 4½/5; 3-4 Ellen Walker 117

(Southend High), Martin Leman 118 (Barbican) 4...

**Under 110** (62 ent) 1-2 JE Dawson 100 (Linton), Derek Hanson 109 4½/5; 3-5 Rod Burroughs 99 (Metropolitan), Kristian Devoti 95 (Bishops Stortford), MJ Coughtrey 99 (Clacton) 4...

**Team Prize** Holland!

**KENT LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP** at Bexleyheath, 4th April 1998

1 Sue Howell (Crawley) 6/6; 2 (and U100 Champion) Susan Richards (Whitstable) 5; 3 Sara Higgins (age 11: Sevenoaks) 4... 8 played  
Results Roger Holmes

**SOUTHEND EASTER CONGRESS** 10-13 April 1998 attracted 157 players.

Howard Grist writes: The 42nd Southend Easter Congress saw Julian Hodgson attempt to match Mark Hebden's feat of the previous year, when Hebden scored 7/7 to take the first prize of £500 and 40 points in the Leigh Grand Prix. However, whereas Hebden was content to simply outplay his opponents, Hodgson also threw in no less than five exchange sacrifices in his seven games. The material imbalance created by this was sufficient to register six wins, but Andrew Ledger was not bamboozled by this approach and drew. Thus Hodgson scored 6½/7 and took home the £500 first prize and the SCCU Championship, but only 37.1 Onyx Leigh Grand Prix points.

**Open** (75 pl) 1 (and SCCU Champion) Julian M Hodgson GM 254 (Streatham) 6½/7; 2 Andrew J Ledger IM 223 (Bedford) 6; 3-12 Colin S Crouch 220 IM (Barbican), Adrian Jackson 199 (British Airways: British Championship Qualifier), Stephen C Ledger 196 (Bedford), Edmund Player 183 (Stowmarket), John Anderson 190 (Basildon), Russell A James 194 (Rugby), Sheila Jackson WIM 185 (Wood Green), Andrew P Lewis FM 212 (Barbican), David Spence 175 (Ipswich), David J Millward 168 (Writtle) 5... **GRADING** 171-185 E Player, S Jackson, D Spence; 156-170 DJ Millward; 141-155 Thomas J Dougherty 154 (Metropolitan) 4½; 126-140 Peter Walker 136 (Customs Southend), Richard M George 138 (Church Stretton) 4; U126 Lawrence Trent 120 (Ilford), Colin R Payne 117 (Dereham) 4

**Swiss A** (16 pl) 1 Brian Kemish 194 (Swindon) 4½/5; 2-3 Ivor BN Smith 161 (Writtle), John A Dodgson 179 (Hastings & St Leonards) 3½; 4 Ian McAllan 168 (Sidcup) 3...

**Swiss B** (20 pl) 1 Ronald T Gooch 134 (Southend) 4/5; 2-4 William J Elworthy 112 (Newport), David Flynn 116 (Portsmouth), Howard J Berlin 121 (Ilford) 3½...

**Swiss C** (22 pl) 1 Nigel Nice 99 (Upminster) 5/5; 2 William M Elworthy 102 (Newport) 4; 3 Andrew S Brew 105 (Basildon) 3½...

**Swiss D** (24 pl) 1 Gavin I Strachan 78 (Brentwood) 5/5; 2 Finlay Moreland 79 (Newham) 4; 3-6 Alan Trent 78 (Ilford), Roy Middleton 78 (Hadleigh), Heather Walker 77 (Customs Southend), Alastair Gunn 49 (Maldon) 3½...

**SURREY EASTER** at Sutton, 10-13 April 1998 attracted 410 players (459 last year). That's entries, not bodies. Some people played in more than one event.

**Frank Winter Memorial Open** (80 pl) 1 Mark Hebden GM 2585 (Midland Monarchs / Birstall) 7/7(!.. and see previous congress); 2-3 Michael Basman IM 2350 (Chessington), Simon Williams FM 2315 (Hackney / Richmond) 5½; 4-8 Richard Bates IM 2430 (Richmond), Daniel Bisby 2190 (Redhill), Tryfon Gavriel 2170 (Barnet), Peter Kemp 2200 (Streatham), Gavin Wall 2320 (Richmond) 5... **GRADING** U2205 Daniel Bisby, Tryfon Gavriel, Peter Kemp; U2155 Justin Marley 2005 (Crystal Palace); U2155 Gordon Botley 2125 (Lewisham) 4½; U2055 Justin Marley 2005 (Crystal Palace), Shanker Menon - (Richmond), Clifford O'Connor - (SW19) 4; Unrated Shanker Menon 167 (Ed), Clifford O'Connor 175 (Ed), Philip Potopaev 187 (Ed) (Crystal Palace) 4 **JUNIOR U18** Jovanka Houska 2185 ("Eng") 4½; **SLOW STARTERS** Sujit Kapadia 149 (Ed) ("Eng") 3½

**Under 170** (69 pl) 1-2 Ilya Shevelev (Wood Green), Joseph Skielnik (Battersea) 6/7; 3 David Edwards (Richmond Juniors) 5½; 4-8 Terry Bean (Bracknell), SD Chaudhry (Hounslow), Paul McIntyre (South Norwood), Martin Page (Insurance), Paul Shepherd (Sutton) 5... **GRADING** U160 SD Chaudhry, Paul McIntyre; U151 Philip Nizetic 4½; **JUNIOR U18** Nicholas Frost, Thomas Walton 4½; **SLOW STARTERS** Ross Rattray, Paul Visser 3

**Under 145 Eric Weimann Memorial** (73 pl) 1-3 Dominic Gibbs (Flying Teapots), Jon O'Neill (Kings Head), Peter Titmas (Maidstone) 6/7; 4 David Hall (Brighton) 5½... **GRADING** U136 Simon Illsley 5; U126 Sophie Tidman 5; U119 Garry Fox, Mark Thoms 4½ **JUNIOR U18** Andrew Bigg 5 **SLOW STARTERS** David Bates, Frank Carlucci, Simon Lawrence, David Varley 2½

**Minor A U120** (58 pl) 1-2 Antony Crabb (East Grinstead), Paul Seet (Oxford Univ) 5/5; 3-7 AG Bynnersley (West London), Anthony Duncan (Islington), Kwok Man (Charlton), Donny Muter, Thomas Nixon (both Richmond Juniors) 4... **GRADING** U111 Kwok Man 4; John Baldwin, Norman Tidy 3½; U100 Andrew Foster-Yeow, Alison Winston 3½ **JUNIOR U18** Donny Muter, Thomas Nixon; U13 Andrew Foster-Yeow, Alison Winston

**Minor B U120** (47 pl) 1-2 Ben Chamberlain, Donny Muter (both Richmond Juniors) 4½/5; 3-4 Harry Gold (East Grinstead), Thomas Nixon (Richmond Juniors) 4... **GRADING** U113 Paul Seet, ER Tapper 3½; U105 Norman Tidy 3 **JUNIOR U18** Rachid Zoubir 3; U13 Michael Healey 3½

**Novice A U100** (49 pl) 1 Sarah Hurst (Edmonton) 5/5; 2-3 Ricky Albani (Richmond Juniors), Joseph Al Malah (Danson) 4½... **JUNIOR U18** Anna Partington, James Wingfield 3½; U12 Zakerey Bennett, Lakshman Ruthirapathy 3

**Novice B U100** (34 pl) 1 John Bussman (Wood Green) 5/5; 2-5 Ben Morgan (Coulsdon), Jonathan Somekh

(Richmond Juniors), Oliver Wilson (Wallington GS), James Wingfield 4... JUNIOR U18 Ben Morgan, Jonathan Somekh, Oliver Wilson, James Wingfield; U12 Mark Goodwin, Tarek Zoubir 3½

**Veterans Prize** Harry Gold; **Ladies Prizes** censored; **Family Prizes** 1 Ben & David Morgan, 2 Rachid & Tarek Zoubir; **Questionnaire Lucky Draw** Andrew Foster-Yeow  
Results Martin Cath

#### 17th RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY 26th April 1998

**Open** (21 pl) 1-2 IM Peter Large (London), FM Simon Williams (Farnham) 5/6; 3 IM Andrew Kinsman (Brighton) 4½... **GRADING U200** 1 Abimbola Adelaja (London) 4½; 2 Michael Duggan (RJCC/Twickenham) 3½; U180 1-4 Paul Dupré (Walton on Thames), Dan Mayers (Wadhurst Sussex), Shanker Menon (RJCC/London), Murugam Thiruchelvam (RJCC/New Malden) 3

**Under 160** (18 pl) 1-2 Thomas Dougherty (RJCC/London), John Woolley (London) 5/6; 3 Simon Randall (London) 4½... **GRADING U140** 1-3 Ben Chamberlain (RJCC/Surbiton), Michael Healey (RJCC/London), Nigel Young (Northampton) 3½

**Under 120** (30 pl) 1 Warren Dennison (London) 5½/6; 2 Peter Turner (Royston) 5; 3 Chris O'Bea (Watford) 4½... **GRADING U100** 1 Michael Mkpadi (London) 4½; 2 Alex Kelly (Caterham) 4

**Under 80** (48 pl) 1 Inaki Garcia (London) 5½/6; 2-4 Danielle Gross (London), Harvey Murray-Smith (Esher), Trevor Pettit (RJCC/Hounslow) 5...

**Two-generation family prize:** the Alleys and the Fabiszcs (both London) 7

Results Richard James

### JUNIOR NEWS

#### WEY VALLEY GIRLS U11 TRIALS at Coulsdon, 7th February 1998 (29 pl)

1 Sarah Hegarty (Year U: Knaphill) 5/5; 2-3 Eloise Horsey (S: Milbourne), Louise Newlands (T: Croydon High) 4; 4-7 Heather Megaw (T: Danes Hill), Clare Briscoe (T: Danes Hill), Lara Moffat (T: Danes Hill), Fiona Smailes (U: Flexlands) 3½...

Results Neil Clifton

#### BEXLEYHEATH JUNIOR 4th April 1998

**Under 18 / Adult** (28 pl) 1 Simon Moate (Danson) 5½/6; 2-6 Robert Wilson (Sevenoaks), Raymond Gosden (Whitstable), David Ho (Maidstone), Konrad Sanders, Russell Scott (both Danson) 4½...

**Under 11** (18 pl) 1 Thomas Stradwick (Bromley) 5½/6; 2 Zak Nathan (Hastings) 4½; 3-5 Adam Boakes (Bromley), Edward Coughlan (Sevenoaks), Gregory Jones (Maidstone) 4...

**Under 9** (11 pl) 1 Alex Cook (Hastings) 5½/6; 2-5 Joseph Arigho-Stiles (Sevenoaks), Sebastian Elliott (Hastings), Jason Halle (Bexleyheath), Aram Karakashian (Danson) 4...

**Schools Prize:** Amherst, Sevenoaks

Results Roger Holmes

#### 24th MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR 7-8 April 1998

**Under 18** (12 pl) 1 KB Nicholas (13: Stoke Poges) 5½/6; 2 S Spikings (13: Chesham Bois) 4; 3-5 J Povah (13: Guildford), C Hoffman (17: Oxshott), R Hansell (13: Great Kingshill) 3½...

**Under 13** (23 pl) 1-2 C Hansell (11: Gt Kingshill), D Bareham (11: Cricklade) 5/6; 3 C David (12: Oxford) 4½; 4-7 L Gold (9: N12), A Thorpe (12: Chinnor), A Navias (12: Ascot), A Turner (12: Finchampstead) 4...

**Under 11** (40 pl) 1 GP Morris (10: Abingdon) 8/9; 2 JM Purcell (10: Southampton) 7; 3-5 J Hillman (9: N20), AJ O'Toole (9: Southend), M Harborne (10: Mytchett) 6½; 6-8 M Dignam (9: Berkhamsted), JD Appleyard (9: Witney), JDW Hall (9: Swindon) 6...

**Under 9** (40 pl) 1 DJ Hall (7: Swindon) 9½/11; 2 PJ Makepeace (8: Gerrards Cross) 8½; 3-4 D Hitchens (8: Oxford), Y Ball (7: Crowthorne) 8; 5-9 NL Baranga (7: NW2), PDH Armstrong (8: Old Windsor), L Neatherway (8: Abingdon), L Brown (8: Beenham) 7...

**Schools Tournament** 1-2 Dr Challoners Amersham, Garden Suburb London 12½/18...

Results Nigel Dennis

#### TONBRIDGE JUNIOR 26th April 1998

**Under 18/14** (28 pl) 1-2 Andrew Bigg (Hayes Kent), Oliver Cooley (St Olaves) 5½/6; 3 Steven Pretty (Judd) 5; 4-8 Paul Higgins (Judd), David Howell (Seaford), Alistair Taylor (Whitstable CC), David Woods (Tonbridge School), Alex Woodfield (Judd) 4...

**Under 12** (Kent Championship: 16 pl) 1 David Ho (Maidstone) 5/6; 2-4 Lalin Navaratne (Maidstone), James Regan (Tonbridge Wells), David Ridout (Maidstone) 4½; 5-6 James Chapman (SE3), Sara Higgins (Sevenoaks) 4...

**Under 10** (20 pl) 1-2 James McKeever (Horton Kirby), Stephan Wassermann-Fry (Canterbury) 5/6; 3-4 Laura Weatherhead (Sevenoaks), Chathu de Silva (Maidstone) 4½; 5-7 James Graves (Coulsdon), Samuel Lim (Aylesford), David Franklin (Sevenoaks) 4...

**Under 8** (7 pl) 1 Geoffrey Walters (Edenbridge) 6/6; 2 Peter Haffenden (Sevenoaks) 5; 3 Karen Jones (Bromley) 4...



**SUSSEX JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS** at Brighton, 2-3 May 1998

**Under 18** (6 pl) 1-2 JL Bryant, ER Lamb (both The Holt) 4½/5; 3 N Street (The Holt) 2½...

**Under 14** (20 pl) 1 Sang Nguyen (Christ's Hospital) 6/7; 2 Charlie Linford (The Holt) 5½; 3-5 Ruo-Lai Chen (Christ's Hospital), Peter Baker (The Holt), Grace Yip (Seaford Head) 5... **BEST GIRL** Grace Yip; **BEST U11** Danny Glebocki (The Holt) 4

Results Paul Watson

**KENT SCHOOLS LEAGUE** Champions 1997-8: **SENIOR** Maidstone GS; **UNDER 16** Maidstone GS; **UNDER 13** Judd School, Tonbridge. **PRIMARY** Finals are 6th June.

**"TIMES" SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP**

Round 2 Manchester Grammar (15.11) 6 0 Radyr, Cardiff (13.5); Hyndland Glasgow (16.6) 6 0 Nairn Academy (14.6); Nottingham High (15.7) 5 1 Northgate High Ipswich (14.3); QE Wakefield (13.6) 3½ 2½ Bluecoat Liverpool (14.6); St Pauls (16.5) 4½ 1½ Aylesbury GS (15.3); KESS Camphill (15.8) 4 2 Magdalen College School (14.10); Tiffin (15.7) 3½ 2½ Maidstone GS (15.9)

Quarter-finals: Manchester Grammar v Hyndland; Nottingham High v QE Wakefield; St Pauls v Camp Hill; Tiffin v Hampton Twickenham *or* Torquay Boys GS

**Plate Round 2** Kings Grantham (15.11) 5½ ½ QE Wakefield Junior School (10.6); Arden Solihull w/o scr Shrewsbury School; Methodist College Belfast (16.8) 5½ ½ Nicolson Institute Stornoway (14.6); Ipswich School (14.9) 6 0 Northbridge House London (11.1); St Olaves Orpington (15.4) 6 0 K Harold Waltham Abbey (13.8); Torquay Boys GS ("B" team?) (13.6) 4 2 Magdalen College School ("B" team?) (12.8); Kings College School Wimbledon (15.0) 4 2 Westminster School (17.6)

Quarter-finals: Kings Grantham v Arden; Lancaster RGS *or* RGS Newcastle v Methodist College; Ipswich School v St Olaves; Torquay GS v Kings College School

Results Mitchell Taylor

**NATIONAL U18 FINALS** 4th April 1998

**Major:** 1 Kent 9½/12; 2 Yorks 7½; 3-4 Warwickshire, Wiltshire 5½; 5 Glamorgan 4½; 6 Suffolk 3½

**Minor:** 1 Berks 9/12; 2 Notts 7½; 3 Cambs 1½. Wales and the other two Unions obviously have no Minor counties. Herts were invited, but could not make it at short notice.

**Girls events** 23rd May: we did hear someone's half-remembered account, and we've forgotten half of that. Believe Surrey won the Minor Girls Second Teams, but weren't allowed to take the title because they're not Minor.

Went to the **KENT MEGAFINAL** the other week. There must have been about 180 children there. The most noticeable thing was new faces: new schools, new players.. and the almost complete absence of schools we knew about. The strongest school in the county was there, but hardly any of their traditional rivals. There were strong players from the Kent circuit, but not very many. It seemed to be most marked at secondary level. Not that the secondary entry was large; more than 90% of the players were U11s or younger. The competition is clearly succeeding in its aim of bringing in new players, ones the traditional events can't reach. (*Why* can't they?) It was nice to see lots of newcomers, playing (mostly) rather bad but enthusiastic chess. Some of them will get the bug and go on to become strong players, and those that don't will have gained something. The Kent circuit can only be the gainer. But where were the established schools, and why isn't the competition getting more support at secondary level? Maybe it's just Kent.

**NATIONAL CLUB** seems to have had more than its share of defaults in the quarter-finals.

**OPEN** Quarter-finals Crowood scr w/o Wood Green; Ilford 4½ 1½ Crowthorne; Maidstone 4 2 Wandering Dragons; Slough scr w/o Atticus

Semi-finals: Atticus v Wood Green; Maidstone v Ilford

**Plate** Quarter-finals Bedford w/o scr Grimsby & District; Charlton 5 1 Gloucester; Guildford 1 5 Hayes Kent; Mushrooms 4 2 Southbourne

Semi-finals: Charlton v Mushrooms; Hayes v Bedford

**MAJOR U175** Quarter-finals Great Lever 1 4 Morecambe; Guildford 3 2 Gloucester; Hastings & St Leonards 3½ 1½ Writtle; Southampton 1½ 3½ Southbourne

Semi-finals: Morecambe v Guildford; Hastings v Southbourne

**Plate** Quarter-finals Undercliffe 1 4 Bradford; Huddersfield w/o scr Warley Quinborne; Kingston scr w/o Milton Keynes; Reading 1 4 Cosham

Semi-finals: Bradford v Huddersfield; Milton Keynes v Cosham

**INTERMEDIATE U150** Quarter-finals Bourne End 3½ 1½ Eastbourne; Rose Forgrove 4 1 Gt Lever; Thornbury\* 2½ 2½ Ashfield; Waltham Forest 1 4 Maidstone

Semi-finals: Maidstone v Bourne End; Rose Forgrove v Thornbury

**Plate** Quarter-finals Cardiff 3½ 1½ Northampton WMC; Cosham 2 3 Hastings; Kings Head 3 2 Southend; Prescot & Knotty Ash 2 3 Yorkshire Copperworks

Semi-finals: Hastings v Cardiff; Yorkshire Copperworks v Kings Head

**MINOR U125** Quarter-finals Aberystwyth ½ 4½ Rushall; Amber Valley 1½ 3½ Alwoodley; Tamworth 1 4 Cowley; Tunbridge Wells 3½ 1½ Whitstable

Semi-finals: Alwoodley v Rushall; Cowley v Tunbridge Wells

**Plate** Quarter-finals Ashfield w/o scr Hull; Musketeers 2 3 Reading; Walsall Kipping 1½ 3½ Gt Lever; Waltham Forest w/o scr Hastings

Semi-finals: Gt Lever v Ashfield; Reading v Waltham Forest

**HANDICAP RAPIDPLAY** (Try to work the handicap out, if you didn't manage it last time. Solution below. The handicap did not affect any results.)

Quarter-finals White Swan (186) 3 5 Cowley (184); Bourne End (144) 1 7 Guildford A (200); Slough (235!) 4½ 3½ Maidstone (231, they saw each other coming); Bedford (199) 1½ 6½ Keynsham (206)

Semi-finals: Cowley v Keynsham; Guildford A v Slough

**Plate** Quarter-finals Abercynon (177) 4½ 3½ Cardiff (177); Gt Lever (134) 1½ 6½ Imperial College (165); Mushrooms (204) 8 0 Basildon (116); Southampton Univ (146) 4½ 3½ Guildford B (165)

Semi-finals: Abercynon v Soton Univ; Imperial College v Mushrooms

*Did you work it out?* Scores required by higher-graded team are as follows. Difference 6-15 pts: 4½; 16-25 pts: 5; 26-35 pts: 5½; 36-45 pts: 6; more than 45 pts: 6½. We assume that lower scores lose, and drawn matches are possible only between teams playing even. Like the *Times*.

**SCCU U180 JAMBOREE** 18th April 1998

White		Black	White		Black
1 PG Farr 179 Sx	1 0	JM Shepley 174	RJ Nixon 175 O	1 0	LM Wooldridge 174 Bu
AR Brett 173 E1	0 1	G McNally 172 E2			
2 RD de Coverly 173 Bu	0 1	TD Coote 173 E1	RK Thomas 174 Sy	1 0	Phil Vainker 174 O
WL Saunders 171 E2	1 0	JC Mansson 178 Sx			
3 MR Stott 177 Sx	½ ½	Majid Mashayekh 173 Bu	Graham Chapman 172O	1 0	RA Heppinstall 170 E1
CRA Clegg 168 Sy	0 1	NH Twitchell 160 E2			
4 LE Marden 169 E1	½ ½	MJ Reddie 168 Sx	AD Hartland 160 E2	½ ½	JN Stayt 166 O
M Armstrong 166 Bu	1 0	AM Andrews 161 Sy			
5 PA Batchelor 168 Sx	0 1	DJ Bruce 166 O	Matthew George 160 Bu	½ ½	DG Pearse 158 E2
DJ Millward 168 E1	1 0	PD Dupré 158 Sy			
6 Andy King 156 E2	½ ½	Steve Law 156 Bu	NC Jones 166 O	½ ½	AO Pickersgill 169 Sx
HT Jones 152 Sy	0 1	IBN Smith 161 E1			
7 Eugene Bolduc 135 Bu	½ ½	Sean Terry 160 O	RJ Wilcox 152 Sy	0 1	IG Kelly 167 Sx
PR Barclay 156 E2	1 0	CR Ramage 167 E1			
8 Arthur Hall 163 Sx	1 0	RJ Weeber 154 E2	Peter Ball 150 O	1 0	John Nyman 146 Sy
LJ Crane 164 E1	½ ½	Ivana Houska 123 Bu			
9 Mark Weighell 161 E1	0 1	Will Burt 149 O	Roy Watts 153 E2	½ ½	FC Manning 133 Sy
SL Turvey 119 Bu	1 0	PR Selby 153 Sx			
10 Paul Watson 147 Sx	0 1	SM Kalinsky 157 E1	SE King 142 O	1 0	TG Winter 147 E2
KN Mehendale 132 Sy	½ ½	Andrew Hill 115 Bu			

Oxon	Essex 2	Essex 1	Bucks	Sussex	Surrey
1	1	0	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	½	½	0
½	½	½	1	½	0
1	½	1	½	0	0
½	½	1	½	½	0
½	1	0	½	1	0
1	0	½	½	1	0
1	½	0	1	0	½
1	0	1	½	0	½
<hr/> 7½	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 4½	<hr/> 2

Mean grd	162.0	158.7	166.3	149.4	166.9	155.0
Oppts mean grd	160.4	160.6	157.0	160.9	160.1	159.3

Tie-break:  
 (1) most wins  
 (2) board count: bds won plus ½ x bds drawn  
 (3) bottom board elimination

**COUNTY MATCHES: BCF STAGE**  
Quarter-finals, unless labelled "Preliminary"

**OPEN**

<b>Kent*</b>	16.5.98	<b>Dorset</b>	<b>Sussex*</b>	16.5.98	<b>Lancs</b>
1 Neil McDonald 237	1 0	Bob Noyce 195	FJ Kwiatkowski 204	1 0	J Horner 221 (B)
2 Ian Watson 214	½ ½	Martin Simons 184	DB Graham 204	0 1	JE Littlewood 214
3 James Vigus 210	1 0	Alan Pleasants 191	LE Rutherford 198	1 0	DB Lund 208
4 Alan Hanreck 201	1 0	Bruce Jenks 172	GH James 197	½ ½	NW Ivell 202
5 Lyndon Gurr 201	1 0	Paul Kemp -	BJ Denman -	½ ½	D Bisby 197
6 John Sugden 196	1 0	Len Laker 166	B Cafferty 192	½ ½	H Hughes 193
7 John Wager 193	½ ½	John Tyrer -	KI Norman 198	0 1	B Hague 192
8 Peter Taylor 191	1 0	David Keddie 166	M Broom 193	½ ½	P Jowett 181
9 Nathan Alfred 190	0 1	Tim Lines 159	MD Nicholas 192	½ ½	S Barnes -
10 Paul O'Donovan 190	1 0	Steve Crisp 155	SJ Newman 187	0 1	L Kay 186
11 Iain Galloway 184	1 0	Derek Needham 153	JA Dodgson 179	1 0	D Lees 178
12 RMR O'Kelly 183	1 0	David Balfour 151	PG Farr 179	1 0	M Peacock 173
13 Nigel Donovan 181	1 0	Dennis Papworth 146	MR Stott 177	1 0	CV Murray 170
14 Stuart Williams 180	1 0	Michael Litchfield -	MO Costley 176	½ ½	S Appleby 156
15 David Horton 179	½ ½	Gavin Cartwright 137	RJ Almond 175	½ ½	S Riley 168
16 Martin Taylor 178	1 0	Neal Phillips 139	IG Kelly 167	0 1	C Hanley 155
(Crawley)	13½ 2½		(Syston)	8½ 7½	

Ed: Should such encounters occur in the National stage?

**M1 v Cambs**

Cambs lost.

**MINOR COUNTIES**

<b>Herts*</b>	16.5.98	<b>Beds</b>	<b>Lincs</b>	16.5.98	<b>Berks*</b>
1 SJB Knott 226 (W)	0 1	Dave Ledger 203	N Djipa 213 (W)	1 0	PS Cooksey 200
2 Steve Swanson 201	½ ½	Steve Ledger 196	JD Ball 202	0 1	Jovanka Houska 195
3 Philip Borman 201	½ ½	M Macdonald-Ross 194	N Stead 190	1 0	HW Murphy 193
4 Paul V Byway 196	0 1	Laurent Berlandier 2225	J Dilley 196	½ ½	DS Tucker 187
5 Jerry F Rudge 186	½ ½	Graham Smith 188	N Birtwistle 181	1 0	KD Smallbone 184
6 Kevin R Clark 188	½ ½	Richard Freeman 176	P Levermore 181	½ ½	PJ Sharp 183
7 Howard L Tebbs 182	½ ½	Paul Kendall 173	J Mutton 175	1 0	JT Munday 175
8 JN Fraser-Mitchell 179	1 0	Kieran Bush 172 j	A Bulbeck 172	½ ½	C Purdon 172
9 Chris E Majer 180	0 1	Brian Valentine 168	K Palmer 165	1 0	IR Henderson 170
10 John R Denton 177	1 0	Richard Ormesher 166	G Ladds 160	½ ½	ACP Milnes 170
11 Philip Gregory 169	½ ½	Adrian Elwin 163	D Georgiou 159	1 0	PS Janota 168
12 D Ross Brennan 175	½ ½	Pete Taylor 159	MJ Turp 157	1 0	J Townsend 167
13 Lorin D'Costa 147 j	1 0	Kevin Williamson 157	E Nottingham 153	0 1	MC Bowhay 166
14 CD Lovisa 147 j	1 0	Phil Thomas 151	R Blake 148	0 1	MF Redmond 156
15 David E Bower 159	1 0	John Shaw 149	S Allott 143	0 1	DJ Lewis 149
16 Steven Weston 150	1 0	Charles Bullock 143	J Van Gemeren 135	½ ½	LD Varnam 124
(St Albans)	9½ 6½		(Oundle)	9½ 6½	

**UNDER 175**

<b>Devon</b>	16.5.98	<b>Surrey*</b>
1 P Lane 170 (B)	1 0	JM Shepley 174
2 A Brusey 166	1 0	def
3 D Regis 164	0 1	DR Sedgwick 173
4 A Pickering 163	½ ½	C Briscoe 171
5 CJ Bellers 161	½ ½	PM Stimpson 170
6 PE Halmkin 159	½ ½	CR Clegg 168
7 N Frost 156	1 0	MC Page 164
8 D Hill 153	1 0	ND Grey 156
9 J Gorodi 148	0 1	AN Smith 156
10 RC Towers 149	0 1	AS James 156
11 M Abbott 149 <sup>1</sup>	0 1	SR Jones 152
12 I Taggart 148	½ ½	SR Jones 152
13 W Ingham 144	0 1	PE Barnard 141
14 S Homer 144	0 1	FC Manning 133
15 IS Annetts 142	1 0	def
16 RH Jones 128	1 0	def
(Bristol)	8 8	

Devon won on board count.

**Lancs v Essex 16.5.98**

Lancs pulled out on the eve of the match, suspected victims of a clash with the FA Cup Final. We understand that there were no Lancs teams playing in the FA Cup Final. We believe there were no Essex ones either. But we did hear that an Essex U175 player, a lifetime supporter of a team that was in it, had given up the chance of a Cup Final ticket in order to play chess. This must have annoyed him.

<sup>1</sup> Bd 11 (left): given as 128, and he is so listed until you look in the August supplement. Our guess is that Devon knew, and he's given as 149 in their U150 match against Essex. Funny thing, we've never met an August correction that took anyone across an eligibility boundary, for county matches. Suppose there must be some.

## UNDER 150

## Preliminary match:

Essex*	25.4.98	Devon
1 Robin Slade 149 (B)	½ ½	R Towers 149
2 John White 147	1 0	M Abbott 149
3 Steve Williams 147	0 1	M Cox 147
4 Tom Winter 147	½ ½	W Ingham 144
5 Keith Jones 146	½ ½	P Kennedy 141
6 Tony Drake 145	1 0	S Pope 141
7 Jason Roberts 145	1 0	J Duckham 136
8 Laurie J Burt 144	0 1	A Roderick 130
9 Mike J Cresswell 143	½ ½	R Jones 128
10 Peter Walker 136	0 1	P Roberts 128
11 Phil Zammit 138	½ ½	W Moffatt 126
12 Roger Sharman 132	0 1	G Sparke 124
13 Mark E Brazier 130	1 0	T Praile 121
14 Barry Sheppard 130	1 0	J Vasey 117
15 Terry Cole 123	½ ½	A O'Reilly 113
16 Iain Gunn 116	½ ½	L Guard 110
(Wootton Bassett)	8½ 7½	

## All divisions:

Some non-SCCU names have been corrected, in line with the grading list. We only checked the ones that rang alarm bells. One of them turned out to be in the "February" supplement, with a corrected grade which the match captain hadn't used. Was he supposed to? The Bulletin is not aware that there's been a ruling. Eligibility was not affected anyway.

We've also corrected one SCCU name, in line with the grading list and with the spelling the match captain has been using all season.

Kent*	17.5.98	Lancs	Yorks	17.5.98	Essex*
1 C Charles 149 (B)	1 0	J Whitfield 147	Roger Jennings 146	0 1	John White 147 (B)
2 D Helsby 149	1 0	J Tennant-Smith 143	Eddie Hurwitz 145	0 1	Stephen M Williams 147
3 G Steele 149	1 0	A Bosworth 148	Mark Reishmann 147	½ ½	Thomas G Winter 147
4 M Wiltshire 148	½ ½	J Hopkins 148	Paul RH Clarke 134	½ ½	David Smith 146
5 A Heard 148	1 0	E Dobson 145	Alan Coupe 133	0 1	Mark RA Murrell 146
6 M Finch 146	0 1	C Liddle 141	Clive W Davies 133	1 0	Tony Drake 145
7 A Sherriff 146	1 0	R Townsend 146	S Alexandrowicz 135	½ ½	Jason Roberts 145
8 M Jordan 146	1 0	P Furlong 149	Ron Summerskill 135	½ ½	Laurie J Burt 144
9 K Kingston 146	½ ½	D Talbot 145	Bob Letton 133	1 0	Mike J Cresswell 143
10 D Davis 145	1 0	D Palmer 139	Tom Wheldon 136	½ ½	Philip Zammit 138
11 I Hames 140	½ ½	R Wild 136	Geoff M Smith 130	½ ½	David J Rawlings 136
12 S Casement 137	½ ½	D Gaston 129	Colin Proctor 132	1 0	David FC Bird 133
13 S Chick 128	0 1	P Jones 129	J Alexandrowicz 126	0 1	Roger D Sharman 132
14 P Childs 128	1 0	I McNeill 110	Ian Strickland 121	0 1	Ian Maclachlan 132
15 MR Jones 121	0 1	W O'Rourke 136	Alan Miles 111	0 1	Mark E Brazier -
16 def	0 1	Fred Jones -	Norman Matthews 107	½ ½	Terry Cole 123
(Syston)	10 6		(Uppingham School)	6½ 9½	

## UNDER 125

Lancs	17.5.98	Herts*
1 A Dunkerley 124 (B)	½ ½	L Noble 121
2 G Jones 123	½ ½	S Collins 123
3 S Flaherty 119	½ ½	C Byrne 117
4 P Worsley 122	1 0	L Roche 122
5 A Smith 112	1 0	T Lowson 112
6 D Jones 118	1 0	T Sims 112
7 M Hamer 109	0 1	P Laskier 117
8 K McMahon 115	½ ½	M Barnes 121
9 B O'Rourke 114	1 0	K Griggs e120
10 S Shokrollahi 114	1 0	J Lanaway 118
11 B Howells 119	1 0	T Berg 110
12 E Anderson 105	0 1	D Marchand 109
13 G Hughes 113	0 1	J Moore 110
14 C Tillotson 92	½ ½	D Chapman 108
15 S White 114	1 0	G Lunn 106
16 A Rigby 105	1 0	Q Latif 104
(Syston)	11 5	

## Oxon v N2/W

Oxon won.

## UNDER 100

Surrey*	9.5.98	Notts	S Staffs	18.5.98	Essex*
1 Nick Bawden 93 j	1 0	Graham Neil 99	J Button 95	1 0	J Sneesby 98
2 Bartek Jablonsky 91 j	1 0	Rob Davies -	B Hall 94	0 1	J Winkworth 98
3 Laila Tillett 98	1 0	Harvinder Landa 94	D Buckley 94	0 1	G Walker 96
4 Harvey Murray-Smith 96	½ ½	E Fredericks 72	D Bull 93	½ ½	J Lutton 96
5 Lana Boztas 93	0 1	Dorothy Blampied 97	D Mackintosh 89	0 1	M Bridger 95
6 Richard Davey 96	1 0	Ken Heath 71	P Gavin 89	0 1	R Prickett 95
7 David Briscoe -	½ ½	Dave Dunne 68	R Dolan 77	1 0	def
8 David Wallis 91	1 0	Suzanne Cobb 67	J Evans 92	0 1	S Trent 93
9 Graham Curtis 79	0 1	S Tys 56	P Nixon 71	½ ½	M Cain 90
10 Chris Manders 78 j	1 0	Somia Rana -	K Moore 71	1 0	def
11 Simon Matthews 81 j	0 1	C Parish 59	J Hennion 68	½ ½	E Morris 77
12 David Manders 73 j	1 0	Ben Lamy -	B Lynham -	0 1	A Trent 78
(Milton Keynes)	8 4		(Bicester)	4½ 7½	

## 4NCL 1997-8: FINAL TABLES

The last two rounds were played over the weekend of 23-24 May. Actually, in Division 2 they played Round 1 last. We believe ties are split by (1) overall game points and (2) result of match between tied teams.

## DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	MP	GP
1 M Monarchs	11	10	1	0	21	60
2 Invicta Knights	11	9	0	2	18	57
3 Slough	11	9	0	2	18	54½
4 Wood Green	11	8	0	3	16	54
5 Barbican	11	7	0	4	14	50
6 Richmond	11	5	1	5	11	43
7 BCM	11	5	0	6	10	46
8 NW Eagles	11	3	1	7	7	40
9 Bristol	11	3	0	8	6	35
10 Guildford	11	3	0	8	6	35
11 Northumbria	11	1	2	8	4	26
12 SW Dragons	11	0	1	10	1	27½

"With a final desperate lunge, Bristol escape the drop by virtue of beating Guildford early in the season!"

## DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	MP	GP
1 Barbican 2	11	7	2	2	16	53
2 Simpsons	11	7	2	2	16	51½
3 Wessex	11	8	0	3	16	45½
4 White Rose	11	7	1	3	15	50
5 Witney & Swindon	11	7	0	4	14	50
6 Gwent Dragons	11	4	2	5	10	41
7 Invicta Knights 2	11	4	1	6	9	41½
8 Kings Head	11	4	1	6	9	41½
9 Bristol 2	11	2	4	5	8	42
10 Coulsdon & Purley	11	4	0	7	8	41½
11 Nidum Knights	11	3	1	7	7	35½
12 Guildford 2	11	1	2	8	4	33

Results Nigel Johnson

## Thoughts of a Grader (instalment 197.b)

Postman's been. Oh, here's my February Supplementary List. Well, the page headings say February, the Introduction says March, and it's the 9th April. Hate supplementary lists. Hang on, though. "This Supplementary Grading List has been issued to assist congress organisers and graders." Gosh. Must be something new about it. But now I think of it, didn't it say the same thing last time?

Two parts. Part One shouldn't be any problem, it's just corrections to the July list and I've already got those on my hard disk in the master list. Expect most of them are in the August Supplement as well. Let's have a look at Part Two. Hmm, only a couple of pages. New and Reactivated Players, wonder what that means. I see, it's people who weren't in the July published list. Some are new, and some are in my master list but they've got different grades now because recent results have been included. I can tell the difference because the old ones have an "old grade" in brackets and the new ones haven't. Seems anomalous, to include recent games for someone who only had nine in July so didn't get published, while the feller with ten has to wait till the new main list comes out. Some grades are more up to date than others now. Never mind, it'll be all right when we're millenniumed.

Part One *does* look big. The August Supplement was never this size. Shit. I bet there's corrections I haven't got in my master list. Hi, Chris? Richard. Are there new corrections in Part One? Bother. How do I pick them out? ... You cannot be serious. So *every* time I look someone up, I have to check the February Supplement in case he's in it?

He was serious. He got me an electronic Supplementary List in the end, and my beast checked for new corrections in Part One. There were five. In a list of 892 names. But quite a few of the others, while in the master list, were not in the August Supplement. Part Two contains 157 (updated) grades for people already in the master list, but not active enough for publication in July. Four of them have come out with the same grade as before. Mixed in with them are 60 entirely new players, mostly foreign, five of whom sport "old grades" which seem to be fictitious.

## SCCU COUNTY MATCHES 1998-9: OPEN FIXTURES

Oct	10	BrH BuK ESy	Jan	16	BrE CSx HK OSy
	17			23	(4NCL)
	24	(4NCL)		30	BuBr EC SyH SxO
	31	HC KBr SyBu SxE	Feb	6	
Nov	7	CO		13	CBu HSx KSy OE
	14	BrSy BuSx CK OH		20	
	21	(4NCL)		27	CBu BuO EH SxK
	28	EBu KO SyC SxBr	Mar	6	(SCCU U18 qualifier)
Dec	5			13	HBU KE OBr SySx
	12			20	

These fixtures are identical to last year's except that venues have been reversed. Not sure whether the counties have been asked about dates to avoid. If you have problems with any of them, make noises QUICK. Don't re-arrange anything for the 7th March, that's the date of the SCCU U18 team qualifier. And do tell the Controller and Bulletin about re-arranged dates.

4NCL dates include the Sunday as well.

Other SCCU divisions: entry deadline 15 August.

## CONGRESS DIARY

- June 6-7 READING. Open; U171/131. CA Fieldsend, 12 Rokeby Close, Bracknell, Berks RG12 2NA 01344 869076
- 7 RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY. Open; U160/120/80. Stephen Mooring, 65 Lincoln Avenue, Twickenham TW2 6NH 0181 893 8003
- 20 GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY. Adam Raof, 21 Golderton, Prince of Wales Close, Hendon, London NW4 4QZ
- Jul 4 KENT JUNIOR GRAND PRIX Final Event at Maidstone. MPJ Whitwood, 8 Iden Crescent, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0NU 01580 892005 (home); 01622 726472 (school)
- 11-12 9th ISH (well, don't they know?) WEEKEND CONGRESS London W1. Open; U160/130/80. J Weightman, ISH Chess, 225a Finchley Rd, London NW3 6LP 0171 435 7205
- 18 GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY. Adam Raof, 21 Golderton, Prince of Wales Close, Hendon, London NW4 4QZ
- 26-8 BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP CONGRESS at Torquay. One- and two-week events plus Weekenders. Congress Secretary, BCF, 9a Grand Parade, St Leonards, E Sussex TN38 0DD 01424 442500

## Quotes

## THE CENTENARY OF THE ESSEX (COUNTY) CHESS ASSOCIATION 1998

From the April Council meeting:

"From one Yorkshireman to another..." - "I'm a Lancastrian."

"I'm not getting any older." - P\*\*1 B\*sw\*11

And from our postbag:

"The organisers reserve the right to reduce the prize fund if insufficient entries are received. However prizes *will not be less than 75% of those stated.*" - Reading Congress leaflet. At least they warned you, even if it was on a different page. Oh, here's another one:

"All prize money will be changed if entries are insufficient." - ISH

## PEOPLE

Philip Borman 201 (Herts). We said last time that we couldn't identify him. The only Borman in the list is PJ Borman of Guernsey and Manchester University, graded 151. Turns out it *is* him; apparently Herts quoted a converted Elo or something. Don't know how he came by the 151; his Herts results make him better than that.

Steve Sorenson, also 201 and also Herts, was Steve Swanson. *Think* the rule was, Swanson when typed and Sorenson when handwritten.

**Kent representative** on the Management Board

When we said Nick Mackett's new phone number didn't ring a bell, we were wrong. It rang a bell, but in the wrong house. Correct number is 01622 762079.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** *Checkpoint* (GMCCA) for Spring; *Chessex* for April/May; ChessIns for April; Surrey Girls Newsletter for May.