

THE MIDDLE GAME

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2003

MCCU's Chief Executive to Retire!

The MCCU's Chief Executive, Lee Collier, has announced that he is stepping down at June's AGM. Lee, Chief Executive since 2001, followed protocol by advising the MCCU's President, Roy Woodcock, before publicising his decision. Lee said that family and work demands had become overwhelming this year. "Standards are dropping; it's time to go!

"The MCCU needs someone who can spend more time on the organisation and be pro-active with BCF issues. Whoever takes over will have the benefit of a highly experienced Executive team."

I am sure many will be very sorry to see this announcement, and will feel that Lee's tenure of office has been all too brief. However, Chess is only a game and family must always come first. We must therefore respect his decision, thank him for all his hard work and wish him well.

The election of a new Chief Executive and other MCCU posts will be at our AGM on Sunday, 15 June 2003, 2.30pm @ Birmingham University.

BCF BOARD MEETING

Cyril Johnson, Director of Home Chess provides this report highlighting the main areas of discussion at the Management Board meeting in Birmingham on 15 th March.

The first observation was that because of clashes with county matches, the attendance was only 13 members present. The beneficial aspect of this was that, coupled with the new attitude permeating board meetings, the agenda was completed without undue haste.

The report on the centenary celebrations outlined the opportunities and the problems. This is our centenary, but not much seems to have been done so far. We are hoping for a commemorative first day cover and stamp from the Isle of Man. It is also hoped to have a medal struck as a collectors item.

The director of Home Chess proposed some rule changes to the County Championships which will be discussed at the April Council Meeting. (*The complete text of these proposals appears on page 7 of this Newsletter*) He also gave notice of some changes to the National Club Championships. A third paper suggested the creation of a new level of official called a "Match Referee" to officiate at matches and to assist arbiters at congresses. This had found some degree of support from the Chief Arbiter.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, who continues to cover the vacant Finance Director functions, presented a consolidation of the budgets he

Continued on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Club Spotlight
- 4 MCCU History
- 5 Forthcoming events & recent Congress results
- 9 Chess clocks – history and rules
- + County team results supplement & tables & much more

SPOTLIGHT ON A CLUB

Stockport Chess Club

Stockport Chess Club was founded in 1889 and has been in continuous existence ever since. It is a big (40 members) strong (6 players rated above 170) and friendly club. With a membership of 40, it is not always easy to field the 8 teams in the two Winter leagues we play in.

The top players in the club are David Hulmes, Richard Beach (British U21 champion in 1961) Roger Newman, Andy Reeve, Vincent Maher (Irish champion in 1950), and Jonathan Fish (one the country's top juniors). Rising stars are Marc Clancy and Daniel Sheppard. The club's most famous player was Vic Knox (1945 - 2001).

The club organises the Stockport Rapidplay, that takes place on the first Sunday in February at the Guildhall in Stockport. This attracts about 200 players.

There are on-going internal tournaments, knockouts and handicaps. There is a Xmas Lightning tournament (10 seconds on the buzzer) that is open to non-members and has about 50 competitors.

It is one of the top clubs in the Manchester & District League having 4 teams in the league. The first two teams are in A division; the third team in C division and the fourth team in D division. These teams are mainly separate players, to maximise the benefit for the members, rather than obtain the best possible results for the lower teams.

It is the 'Manchester United' of the Stockport & District League, having won the League Championship 13 times in the last 15 years and the Charnley Cup Knockout 10 times in the last 12 years. Like its famous counterpart, it did not win any trophies in the last season. The Club fields 4 teams in the League. There are two teams (Reds & Blues) in the first division and one each in the second and third divisions. Mainly separate groups of players are used for the teams. Seeded (6) players for the Reds & Blues cannot play for the other team.

There are also two teams in the South East Lancashire Summer League, but the stronger players in the club

do not take part in this.

Stockport Chess Club welcomes new members, both for casual play and for league teams. Come and join us! Membership is only £30 per year or £20 for OAPs, Juniors, Officials and unemployed. These are needed before you can play in a league match.

Each team is made up of players within a rating range. No matter what your grade, if you are interested in match play then we have a team for you! If you just want to play friendly games then no problem.

There is a very well attended Junior section that meet from 6:00 to 7:00 pm on Thursdays. There is no annual fee, but a charge of £1 per night.

We play in a large, quiet, well-furnished room above the bar. In the bar, there is a good selection of draught beers, and meals are served in the early evening. We even cater for smokers, in a comfortable area next to the playing room. This area is also good for loud, casual chess games!

We have an excellent venue at The Ladybrook Hotel, Fir Road, Bramhall, Cheshire, SK7 2NP. (A-Z P114 E3). 0161-440-0176. Club Night: Thursday at 7.30pm.

Directions: South from Stockport (A6), turn right at Blossoms Pub into Bramhall Lane (A5102). After 1.5 miles you reach a roundabout. Take the second exit turning left straight away into Fir Road. Hotel is 150 yards on the right. North on Macclesfield Road, turn left into Dean Lane (A5143) signed to Bramhall Hall. Go straight at mini-roundabout. At next roundabout, turn left & left straight away into Fir Road.

S&DCL Club officials

Secretary: David Biddulph 0161 442 7237 E mail: d.biddulph@tesco.net

Reds Captain: Mike Taylor 0161 456 6093

Blues Captain: Daniel Sheppard 01625 858321

C Team Captain: Peter Taylor 0161 440 0733

D Team Captain: Ray Bradney 0161 494 8585

The website is www.stockportchess.co.uk, that also covers the Stockport & District Chess League. As well as the results and league tables, this also includes the Average Grades This Season for all qualifying players.

OLDIES BUT GOODIES 2

In Issue 1 I mentioned a Leicestershire player aged 91 & suggested that he might be the oldest player still playing league chess in the Midlands. However, I learned from Geoff Leeming of the Newdigate team in the Coventry league that they have an even older player still turning out regularly for them.

Reginald Francis Pardoe, known to his friends as Reg was born on 27th July 1910. He comes from a chess playing family. His father taught him to play at about 8 yrs of age and his grandfather played county chess for Hampshire.

Reg hasn't had a particularly long league chess career. He spent a number of years away at sea where chess was an obvious way of whiling away off duty time. He didn't become involved with league chess until after he retired. He started his league career with Tile Hill Social, with the 1988 Grading book recording him under that club with a grading of 113, the 1989 gradings show him as having made his move to Newdigate. Whilst his age has since overtaken his grading, he clearly enjoys his chess and is still regularly scoring points in division 3 of the Coventry league.

Geoff tells me that Reg is amazingly fit, and only a couple of years ago turned up at the club during the winter period complaining of feeling cold. He then went on to explain that he had been fitting a new exhaust to his car! It appears that Reg may well have several more years chess left in him yet. However, it seems he has some way to go in National terms, as the recent BCF Chessmoves reported an active player in London of 101!

Is there anyone else out there that can top Reg as the oldest person in the Midlands still playing competitive chess?

~~~~~  
"All is new that is well forgotten"

*Russian chess proverb*

had received from directors. His best estimate was that the BCF was facing a loss of £18K next year, based on the figures received and computed. This meant that the BCF faced three choices. Cut back activities, increase Game Fee by 20%, or dramatically increase the membership take up or any combination thereof. (*The situation has moved on since the meeting, I hope to receive an update from the Finance Chairman for inclusion in a late new supplement to this Newsletter*)

The New Director of Marketing, David Levens, reported that he was optimistic that he could fill some of the shortfall by raising some sponsorship. He was wished the very best of luck.

The proposal to create new BCF Arbiters was remitted because the necessary paperwork had not been completed.

### Future Publications

Issue 4 – Publication date 31<sup>st</sup> May 2003

Deadline for copy 18<sup>th</sup> May

Provisional dates for 2003/4 -

Publication date 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003

Deadline for copy 18<sup>th</sup> July

Publication date 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003

Deadline for copy 18<sup>th</sup> September

Hopefully the AGM will agree to continued bi-monthly publication of the Newsletter.

### Contact the editor

Telephone – 0116 260 9012

Post – 105 Central Ave Syston Leics LE7 2EG

Email – [juliedjohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:juliedjohnson@yahoo.com)

~~~~~  
"When the game is over, the pawn and the king go back into the same box "

Irish chess proverb

MCCU: A Meander through History.

It struck me that few seemed to know anything of the history of the Midland Counties Chess Union. Lee Collier kindly looked back through the information he had inherited as Chief Executive and gleaned data from other sources to put this article together.

In the 1890s, enthusiasm for chess increased with the Lasker-Steinitz World Championship matches (1894 and 1896/7). Lasker also held simultaneous displays in Birmingham on 1-2 March 1897.

The MCCA, as it was initially called, was founded on Saturday 24 July 1897 at the St George's Chess Club, Athletic Institute, John Bright Street in Birmingham. One of the founders, Arthur John Mackenzie (1871-1949) also helped form the:

Birmingham and District Chess League (31 August 1897)

Warwickshire Chess Association (1900)

British Chess Federation (7 May 1904).

The latter is unconnected with the British Chess Association, which existed from 1861-1892.

Mackenzie was the first honorary secretary of both the Warwickshire Chess Association and the MCCA. He was the MCCU President in the early 1930s and he served on the BCF Executive from its foundation in 1904 until the 1930s. He also played board one for Warwickshire.

He was the first Warwickshire Champion in 1931 with 4½ out of 5, finishing ahead of Ritson Morry (3rd).

Mackenzie left Birmingham in 1931 to live in St Leonards but continued to play for Warwickshire until after World War II.

Mackenzie won the Scottish championship 3 times:

1908 ; 1909 & 1913

His first title was in Dundee in 1908 when he scored 7/7, winning by 2½ points. He won the title again in 1909 and 1913, both in Glasgow.

Mackenzie drew with Capablanca in the Cuban's simultaneous display at Hastings on 23 August 1919.

AJ Mackenzie was the first regular columnist of

Birmingham's Daily Post from 6 October 1896 to 1948. There have been only 3 columnists in more than 100 years; Baruch Wood succeeded Mackenzie in 1948 and Peter Gibbs took over in February 1967.

At the end of 2002, I received the MCCU's records from Tony Wright, my predecessor as Chief Executive. Although the organisation was founded in 1897, the papers only go back to 1954.

The Minutes of the meeting for 23 April 1955 recorded that those assembled stood in tribute to Leicester-born Henry Ernst Atkins who had died aged 82 on 31 January 1955. Atkins won the British Championship 9 times (1905-11, 1924-5) in eleven attempts, a record subsequently surpassed by Dr Jonathan Penrose (10 times from 1958-63 & 1966-69)

That 1955 meeting had some famous names amongst the attendees:

P.E. Collier (Leics), W.Ritson Morry (Warks), H.O Bidgood (Staffs)...and Graham Humphreys (Staffs), who is our current Director for Junior Chess! Graham has given more than 50 years valuable service to chess. Staffordshire honoured Graham last year for his long and unselfish service. And we are also honoured to still have Graham's expertise.

HE Atkins - Isidor Gunsberg, Queen's Gambit Accepted, 1902.

1 d4 d5. 2 c4 dc4. 3 Nf3 c5. 4 e3 Bg4. 5 Bc4 e6? 6 Qa4† Nd7. 7 Ne5 Bf5. 8 Nd7 1-0.

AJ Mackenzie - W Gunston, Queen's Gambit, London 1904.

1 d4 d5. 2 c4 e6. 3 Nc3 Nf6. 4 Bg5 Be7. 5 e3 Nbd7. 6 Nf3 00.7 Rc1 c6. 8 Bd3 dc4. 9 Bc4 b5. 10 Bb3 Qa5. 11 Ne5 b4. 12 Bf6 bc3. 13 Be7 cb2†. 14 Kf1 bc1(Q). 15 Qc1 Ne5. 16 de5 Ba6†. 17 Kg1 Rfe8. 18 Bd6 c5. 19 a3 Rac8. 20 h4 c4. 21 Bc2 Red8. 22 Rh3 f5. 23 Rg3 Bb7. 24 e4 g6. 25 ef5 ef5. 26 Bf5 Rd6. 27 Bc8 Rb6. 28 Bb7 Rb7. 29 Qc4† Kg7. 30 Qc3 Qd8. 31 e6† Kg8. 32 Qc4 Re7. 33 Rd3 Qb6. 34 Qc8† Kg7. 35 Rf3 1-0.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOTTINGHAM CONGRESS (INC MIDLAND IND CHAMPS)
RUSHCLIFFE LEISURE CENTRE WEST BRIDGFORD NOTTINGHAM
25-27 APRIL 2003
CONTACT G GIBSON 0115 972 9258

WALLSALL KIPPING RAPIDPLAY
WALLSALL CAMPUS WOLVERHAMPTON UNIVERSITY
10TH MAY 2003
CONTACT M SAVIN 01922 456240

MANCHESTER CHESS FEDERATION SPRING CONGRESS
WESTLEIGH HIGH SCHOOL LEIGH
23-25TH MAY 2003
CONTACT PETER DODSWORTH 0161 795 4856

MCCU OPEN
MACDONALD DE MONTFORT HOTEL KENILWORTH
20-22ND JUNE 2003
CONTACT JOHN ROBINSON 01536 261697

MANCHESTER CHESS FEDERATION SUMMER CONGRESS
ALLEN HALL
27-29TH JUNE 2003
CONTACT PETER DODSWORTH 0161 795 4856

CONGRESS RESULTS

LEICESTERSHIRE RAPIDPLAY 8TH MARCH

The winner of the Major and £80 cash was Jeff Musueci from Akron Ohio, USA who travelled up from London for the event with 5 points from 6. Joint Second was Peter Gibbs of Hinckley and Peter Mercks of Nottingham, both on 4½ points.

The Minor was very strong, with R Burton (Kynoch) winning with 6/6, from F Jimenez (Birmingham) and Peter Harrison (Littlethorpe) coming joint second with 5 points. The ratings prize was shared between J Ganatra and M Mkwana (Rushey Mead), C. Hopkinson (Sheffield), N Young (Northants) and R King (Syston). The entry of 50 was an welcome increase on the last event.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE RAPIDPLAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2003

The 14th Nottinghamshire Rapidplay was held for the first time in several years at the Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, West Bridgford, Nottingham, the previous venue finally becoming unavailable after being under threat for some time.

Despite this change, entries again came in briskly and the end result was a virtually unchanged total entry of 183 competitors.

In the **OPEN** section (27 competitors) the absence of any competing GM's or IM's ensured a close contest throughout, and first place was eventually shared between 4 players who each scored 4.5/6 and won £55 each.

The **MAJOR** section, for players graded below 155 (28 competitors) was also a very hard-fought affair and, after the smoke had cleared, Alexander Combie of Newark held his nerve best to emerge victorious with 5.5/6. Thomas Pym of Newport recovered from an early loss to clinch second place with 5/6 whilst two players shared 3rd with 4.5/6.

The **INTERMEDIATE** section, for players graded below 120 (53 competitors) was a new innovation for this year and proved to be a triumph for Ben Griffiths of Loughborough who dominated throughout and won with a perfect 6/6. Two players shared second place, both with 5/6.

The **MINOR** section, for players graded below 90 (75 competitors) saw the leader after five rounds held to a draw, enabling him to be caught and ensuring that Dave Dunne (Bunkers Hill) and John Asbury (Shirley) shared first place with 5.5/6. Three players tied for third, each scoring 5/6.

The **TEAM** competition was won by Swinton (13.5/18) followed by Grantham (12/18) and Calderdale (11.5/18).

The tournament again ran smoothly and to time, for which huge thanks are due to the team of controllers and assistants. Thanks also to the Leisure Centre staff for their help both before and during the event.

It is hoped that the event will take place on the equivalent date next year at the same venue. Finally, I hope to see as many of these competitors as possible at the 27th Nottingham Congress from Friday 25th -

Sunday 27th April this year, also at the Rushcliffe Leisure Centre.

GEOFF GIBSON ORGANISER

Prizes

OPEN

Paul Cumbers Sheffield 4.5/6 1st= £55.00
Alex Posazhennikov Nottm University 4.5/6 1st= £55.00
Nigel Birtwistle Grantham 4.5/6 1st= £55.00
Alan Edwards Wigston 4.5/6 1st= £55.00
Martin Burrows Wigston 3.5/6 U170 Grd £20.00

MAJOR

Alexander Combie Newark 5.5/6 1st £100.00
Thomas Pym Newport 5/6 2nd £70.00
Shabir Okhai Birstall 4.5/6 3rd= £25.00
Ed Goodwin Whoberley 4.5/6 3rd= £25.00
Oliver Graham Worksop U130 Grd £20.00

INTERMEDIATE

Ben Griffiths Loughborough 6/6 1st= £ 100.00
Callum Gordon Checkmate 5/6 2nd= £60.00
Charlotte Wilcox Rushall 5/6 2nd= £60.00
Ian Harris Stapleford U101 Grd £20.00

MINOR

John Asbury Shirley 5.5/6 1st= £85.00 (*)
Dave Dunne Bunkers Hill 5.5/6 1st= £85.00 (*)
Victoria Crompton Swinton 5/6 3rd= £16.67
Peter Moss Calderdale 5/6 3rd= £16.67
Adam Sykes Kenilworth 5/6 3rd= £16.67
A Somerfield Stourbridge 5/6 U73 Grd £20.00
Sean Foreman Mansfield 5/6 Best U/G £20.00
* each share trophy for best Minor performance

TEAM PRIZE

1st - Swinton(13.5/18) win £16.00
2nd - Grantham(12/18) win £10.00
3rd - Calderdale(11.5/18) win £6.00

Staffordshire Chess Association
2nd Rapidplay Tournament - Cannock
23rd March 2003

Major (Under 145) 18 players

1st Simon Fowler, Coddon - 4½/5; 2nd Colin Roberts, Shifnal - 4/5; =3rd Alistair Dawson, Coventry; Sola Folyan, Sutton Coldfield - 3½/5.
Grading Prize (U135) Ian Johnson, White Swan; John Sawiak, Corby - 3/5

Intermediate (Under 120) 26 players

=1st Gavyn Cooper, Newport; Mike Groombridge - 4½/5; Walsall Kipping 3rd Thomas Robinson, Redditch - 4/5. **Grading Prize** (U100) Sam Cloake, Grappenhall - 3½/5

Minor (Under 90) 38 players

=1st Phil Bull, Nuneaton; A Fowkes, Nuneaton - 4½/5; 3rd Adrian Somerfield, Stourbridge; Mark Keady, Goodyear; Gary Jackson, Redditch 4/5
Grading Prize (U75) George Cloake, Grappenhall; Kevin Moore, Walsall Kipping; Craig Whitfield, Cheddleton - 3½/5



Now I'm the tournament controller here!

Proposals for Counties Championship

I propose to increase the entry fee for each team in the sections except for the U100 to £20.00 and the U100 to £15.00 This is the first increase for many years, and will be used to offset increased costs.

Rules

We have had several cases this year of teams being involved in matches where opponents had either defaulted or conceded at short notice costing innocent parties places in the national stages.

I proposed to change rule 3.5 to read as follows

3.5 Any union, which has three teams entering a union stage, has the right to nominate two entries to the national stages of that championship, provided that neither team has defaulted or conceded a match by their own volition. The national controller may give a dispensation if the last round of fixtures could not be completed because of inclement weather. Any union which has 7 or more teams entering a union stage, has the right to nominate three entries to the national stages of that championship, provided that none of the teams has defaulted or conceded a match by their own volition. The national controller may give a dispensation if the last round of fixtures could not be completed because of inclement weather

The reasoning is that we do not wish teams to be excluded from the National Stages because of others actions.

I have had several proposals to change the qualification rules because of counties having problems especially in the Under 175.

To enable a reasoned discussion, I therefore propose that Rule 1 read:

The Championships shall be established in Divisions dependent on the grades of players; Division 1 having

no upper grade limit, Division 2 under 160 average grade, Division 3 under 135 average grade, Division 4 under 110 average grade and Division 5 under 90 average grade, the Divisions 2 –5 being the average grading for the players used.

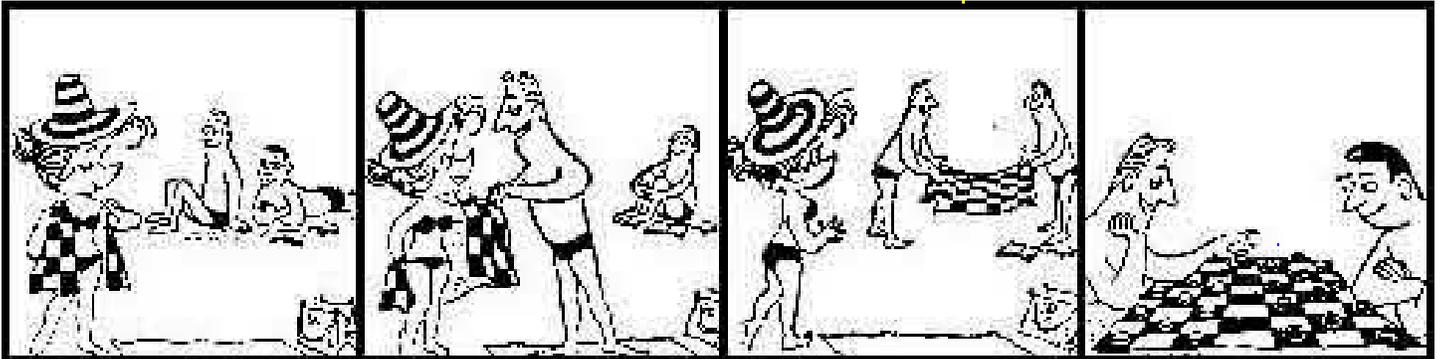
My own views will not be divulged. This motion is to enable discussion. If Council wishes to support this rule change, so be it.

If anyone has any comments please give them to your county or league representative for the BCF Council. If you wish to copy the detail to the Director for Home Chess feel free to do so. Emails to cyriljohnson@yahoo.co.uk or by post to the same address as given for the Newsletter editor.

NOT FOR ME

Allegro games are just a mess,
They spoil the clocks and ruin chess.
The opening goes off all right,
The middle game, a good hard fight.
The time control them comes along,
And suddenly it goes all wrong.
The clocks are stopped, as we all know
And fifteen minutes back they go.
There then begins that "free for all"
Until a flag is seen to fall,
Or maybe we can force a mate
(That is, if can concentrate)
For as games finish, one by one,
The "inquists" start, (and they go on).
The noise gets louder - louder still,
Will they shut up? They never will.
"Be quiet, time is short" I hiss,
But no one seems to notice this.
How can I think in all this row?
(And mate in two is threatened now).
I've got a frightful aching head,
(Why don't I take up golf instead?)
And then my blood just seems to freeze,
I've gone and left my queen en prise.
So, though this poem may sound tame,
Give me a good old-fashioned game.
A good hard "scrap", a friendly drink,
But no allegro games. THEY STINK!

L HESBROOK



CHESS ADDICTS

CONCERNING CHESS

In his witty essay **CONCERNING CHESS** H.G. Wells wrote in 1901:

"There is a class of men who gather in coffee-houses and play with a desire that dieth not, and a fire that is not quenched. The passion for playing chess is one of the most unaccountable in the world. It is the most absorbing of occupations, the least satisfying of desires, an aimless excrescence upon life. It annihilates a man.

"You have, let us say, a promising politician, a rising artist that you wish to destroy. Dagger or bomb are archaic, clumsy, and unreliable -- but teach him, inoculate him with chess! Our statesmen would sit with pocket boards while the country went to the devil, and our breadwinners would forget their wives in seeking after impossible mates."

CHESS WIDOWS

An anecdote has it that wives of two chess addicts, after deciding that enough is enough, threw away all chess pieces. Undeterred, the addicts continued playing with vegetables and fruits, they could lay hands on.

The next item appears in slightly different versions in several publications and on several websites. You may have already seen it somewhere, but I still think it's enough to raise a smile or two, even on re-reading.

HOW TO SPOT A CHESS ADDICT

1. Looks at a newspaper's chess column before any other section.
2. Mumbles "J'adoube" when bumping into things.
3. Keeps a chess book and chess set in the bathroom.
4. Asks new acquaintances if they know how to play chess.
5. Asks all chessplayers, "What's your rating?"
6. Directly walks to the games/chess section in any bookstore.
7. Owns more books about chess than any other subject.
8. Owns more chess clocks than watches.
9. Keeps a board and pieces at the office or in a backpack.
10. Multiplies 8x8 faster than 7x7.
11. Thinks "the olympics" take place every two years.
12. Names first child Bobby or Judit and decorates nursery in black and white squares "just in case."
13. Panics for an instant when a waiter says "Check?"
14. Pays more attention to the game in a movie than the action.
15. When asked about that movie, says a white square was not in the right hand corner of the board.

TIME IS ON YOUR SIDE (OR IS IT?)

History of clocks

The idea for chess clocks took root in the mid-19th century. Thomas Bright Wilson (1843-1915) of Manchester, England, is generally credited with the invention of the first chess clock, used for the great London international tournament of 1883. The first patent for a clock was issued in 1884 to Amandus Schierwater of Liverpool.

Modern analog clock

The flag, located a few minutes left of 12:00, signals the exact instant when a player's time expires. Flags were first proposed in 1899 by H.D.B. Meijer of the Netherlands. In the early days of clocks, overstepping the time limit was not equivalent to losing a game. Claiming a win was considered unsporting.

Digital clock

Digital clocks were introduced in the 1980s. These allowed more sophisticated time controls than are possible with an analog clock.

The *Fischer clock* gives a player a fixed time plus additional time after each move. This avoids the worst time scrambles, where a player may have a few minutes to make 10-15 complicated moves.

The *time delay clock* gives both players a main thinking time plus a fixed time for every move. The countdown of the main time starts only after the fixed time has been used. If a player moves before the expiration of the fixed time, the main time does not change, even if the fixed time has not been used completely.

How a clock is used

The game starts when White's clock is started. On an analog clock, the flag is usually set to fall at 6:00. That means for a 30 minute time control the clocks are set at 5:30, while for a 2 hour control, the clocks are set at 4:00. The rules require that both players handle the clock properly. Players must use the same hand to move the piece and press the clock. They can't keep a finger on the clock or 'hover over it'. It is also forbidden to punch it forcibly, pick it up, or knock it over. The penalty can be loss of the game.

The time limit for a game is also known as the *time control*. The earliest time controls were for a fixed time per move, but it was soon recognised that this was not optimal. Much more common is a fixed time for a certain number of moves or for an entire game. This allows easier tournament planning and scheduling.

The most important thing to remember about a chess clock is that you must press your clock after you have moved. Your opponent has no obligation to inform you when you forget to do this.

Even World Champions can forget. During the second game of the 1987 Kasparov - Karpov title match ('KK IV'), in a difficult position with a few minutes left on his clock, Kasparov forgot to stop it after playing his 26th move. When he finally noticed, he had only one minute left. He resigned on his 33rd move.

EXTRACT OF THE CURRENT FIDE LAWS

The parts in bold type highlight areas of common misunderstanding which are commented upon in italics.

Article 6: The chess clock

(The very basic rules of this section have been omitted)

6.4 Before the start of the game **the arbiter decides where the chess clock is placed.** *(It is a common misconception that clocks go on a particular side or that the players simply decide. In a friendly game it doesn't matter, but where an arbiter, either alone or with a small number of assistants, is trying to keep an eye on many clocks, it does. Having all the clocks facing the same way is an obvious method of being able to watch several clocks at the same time. An arbiter simply couldn't do this with some clocks in a line of boards facing one way and some the other. Which side the arbiter chooses will most likely be linked to the layout of the playing area)*

6.6 If neither player is present initially, the player who has the white pieces shall lose all the time that elapses until he arrives; unless the rules of the competition specify or the arbiter decides otherwise.

6.7 Any player who arrives at the chessboard more than one hour after the scheduled start of the session shall lose the game unless the rules of the competition specify or the arbiter decides otherwise. *(Both 6.6 & 6.7 allow the arbiter to deal with exceptional circumstances, such as a case where players were stuck in a lift at the venue)*

6.8 During the game each player, having made his move on the chessboard, shall stop his own clock and start his opponent's clock. A player must always be allowed to stop his clock. **His move is not considered to have been completed until he has done so, unless the move that was made ends the game.** *(Certain moves e.g. checkmate, are considered to end the game thus there is no requirement to press the clock)* **(See Articles 5.1, and 5.2)** *(These rules setting out the moves that end a game the are reproduced below)* **The time between making the move on the chessboard and stopping his own**

clock and starting his opponent's clock is regarded as part of the time allotted to the player. *(Thus in a 36 move time control, if a player makes the 36th move on the board, but his flag falls before he has pressed his clock, he will lose on time, unless the move in itself completes the game – see above)*

A player must stop his clock with the same hand as that with which he made his move. It is forbidden for a player to keep his finger on the button or to 'hover' over it. *(The “hand jive” of moving the pieces with one hand and pressing the clock with the other is seen all too often)*

The players must handle the chess clock properly. It is forbidden to punch it forcibly, to pick it up or to knock it over. Improper clock handling shall be penalised in accordance with Article 13.4.

If a player is unable to use the clock, an assistant, who is acceptable to the arbiter, may be provided by the player to perform this operation. The clocks shall be adjusted by the arbiter in an equitable way. *(This is seen as harsh by some, but the idea is that a player who is not pressing his clock should not gain a time advantage over a player who is)*

6.9 A flag is considered to have fallen when the arbiter observes the fact or when either player has made a valid claim to that effect.

6.10 Except where Articles 5.1 or one of the Articles 5.2 (a), (b) and (c) apply, if a player does not complete the prescribed number of moves in the allotted time, the game is lost by the player. **However, the game is drawn, if the position is such that the opponent cannot checkmate the player's king by any possible series of legal moves, even with the most unskilled counterplay.**

(This refers to situations where the opponent has only a bare King, and obviously cannot achieve checkmate; or in most cases a King plus a Knight or Bishop. There are certain positions where it is still possible to checkmate with a King plus a Bishop or Knight, but in the vast majority of positions mate is not possible.)

6.11 Every indication given by the clocks is considered to be conclusive in the absence of any evident defect. A chess clock with an evident defect shall be replaced. The arbiter shall use his best judgement when determining the times to be shown on the replacement chess clock.

6.12 If both flags have fallen and it is impossible to establish which flag fell first, the game shall continue.

6.13 If the game needs to be interrupted, the arbiter shall stop the clocks. **A player may stop the clocks only in order to seek the arbiter's assistance,** *(not to go to the toilet, or get a*

cup of coffee or the like, and yes this does happen!) for instance when promotion has taken place and the piece required is not available.

The arbiter shall decide when the game is to be restarted in either case.

If a player stops the clocks in order to seek the arbiter's assistance, the arbiter shall determine if the player had any valid reason for doing so. If it is obvious that the player has no valid reason for stopping the clocks, the player shall be penalised according to article 13.4.

6.14 If an irregularity occurs and/or the pieces have to be restored to a previous position, the arbiter shall use his best judgement to determine the times to be shown on the clocks. He shall also, if necessary, adjust the clock's move counter.

6.15 Screens, monitors, or demonstration boards showing the current position on the chessboard, the moves and the number of moves made, and clocks which also show the number of moves, are allowed in the playing hall. However, the player may not make a claim based on information shown in this manner.

Articles 5.1 & 5.2 referred to above

5.1 The game is won by the player who has checkmated his opponent's king. This immediately ends the game, provided that the move producing the checkmate position was a legal move. The game is won by the player whose opponent declares he resigns. This immediately ends the game.

5.2 The game is drawn when the player to move has no legal move and his king is not in check. The game is said to end in 'stalemate'. This immediately ends the game, provided that the move producing the stalemate position was legal. The game is drawn when a position has arisen in which neither player can checkmate the opponent's king with any series of legal moves. The game is said to end in a 'dead position'. This immediately ends the game, provided that the move producing the position was legal. The game is drawn upon agreement between the two players during the game. This immediately ends the game. (See Article 9.1) The game may be drawn if any identical position is about to appear or has appeared on the chessboard at least three times. (See Article 9.2) The game may be drawn if each player has made the last 50 consecutive moves without the movement of any pawn and without the capture of any piece. (See Article 9.3)

GREATER MANCHESTER'S APPEAL: MCCU 3 - U150s, 2003:

The Facts:

In the MCCU under-150 over-the-board County Teams' semi-finals in 2003, Greater Manchester lost to Notts 10½-5½, with a board count of 42½. It is noted that Greater Manchester defaulted on boards 1 & 8

Leicestershire lost to Warks 10½-5½, with a board count of 39 and no defaults.

Board count is based on 1 point x board number for each game won and ½ point x board number for drawn games, with the lowest team score providing the winner.

The Controller referred to the MCCU's County Teams' Rule 13 (paragraph 3) to decide which team qualified as MCCU 3 for the National stages. (A copy of the Rules is published on the MCCU's website):

If a third MCCU entry into the BCF national stages is required, the County with the best losing score in the MCCU semi-finals shall become MCCU 3.

In the absence of clarification within the Rule of a tie-break procedure, the Controller used the traditional method of board count to split the teams and declared Leicestershire as MCCU 3, which allows them to progress to the BCF National Stages.

This tie-breaking method gives greater importance to the boards higher up, as can be demonstrated in the following simplistic example:

Team A loses and scores a total of 1 board point, with draws on boards 14 & 15. Total board count is $(0.5 \times 14) + (0.5 \times 15) = 14.5$.

Team B loses and scores 1 board point, winning board 16. Board count is $1 \times 16 = 16$.

Team A has performed better on the higher boards, has the lower board count and wins the tie-break.

Greater Manchester's Appeal:

The main points of the Greater Manchester Appeal and subsequent e-mails were:

- Greater Manchester should be awarded the place because they were the MCCU under-150 Champions in 2001/2 and therefore had more legitimacy to being designated as MCCU 3 in 2002/3.
- Greater Manchester should be awarded MCCU 3 because they had played more competitive matches to reach the semi-final.
- Greater Manchester should be awarded MCCU 3 based on the following board count system put forward by David

Pardoe: 1 x board number where games were won; 2 x board number where...drawn, which meant that Greater Manchester would win.

- Have a play-off to decide MCCU 3.
- Toss a coin to decide MCCU 3.
- A tie-break system to decide MCCU 3 is not mentioned in the MCCU's County Teams' Rules (Article 13).
- That the tie-break method of board count was "flawed" in being applied to two teams not playing one another.
- That the tie-break method was "discredited".
- That the Controller made a "late decision".

Reply to Greater Manchester's Points:

The MCCU acknowledges the achievement of Greater Manchester in winning the MCCU under-150 event in 2001/2.

The 2002/3 Tournament is a separate event. The competition and qualification for the BCF national stages is governed by the MCCU Rules for County Teams'.

Playing more matches awards no greater legitimacy to being awarded MCCU 3.

There was no foundation to the claim that there was a "late announcement of the MCCU 3 place". The Controller's decision was speedy and within accepted time limits. Notification regarding qualification must be lodged with the BCF by March 31.

David Pardoe's description of the tie-break procedure as "discredited" was supported by no other testimony. Indeed, even after decrying a tie-break system between two teams not playing one another, David Pardoe then suggested an alternative one of his own. Under the *Pardoe* tie-break system, using the example described earlier, it produced the following anomaly:

Team A draws on boards 14 & 15. *Pardoe* board count $(2 \times 14) + (2 \times 15) = 58$.

Team B wins on board 16. $1 \times 16 = 16$.

Team B wins despite having poorer scores on the higher boards. This system wrongly benefits the team in a match with more decisive board results.

The traditional board count method appears to be the fairest way of separating two sides that have not played and will not play one another.

It is noted that the tie-break procedure for splitting teams on equal board points to decide MCCU 3 is not described in Article 13.

Neither the MCCU Rules nor the traditional tie-break procedure currently allows a play-off to decide MCCU 3.

Tossing a coin to decide MCCU 3 is not a favoured option.

Decision:

The decision of the Controller to award the MCCU 3 qualification place to Leicestershire is upheld.

In the absence of specific reference within the MCCU's Rules of a tie-break to separate the two losing semi-finalists, the Controller had followed the traditional method of board count. It was not possible to change the Rules at such a late stage of a tournament.

Defaulting on boards 1 and 8 had a major impact on Greater Manchester's failure to qualify as MCCU 3. I accept, however, David Pardoe's explanation that the defaults were due to misfortune rather than any attempt to gain an advantage in the match by not defaulting on the bottom two boards instead.

Recommendations:

- That the MCCU's County Teams' Rules are reviewed for 2003/4 to clearly state the tie-break procedure.
- That consideration is given to having a play-off to decide MCCU 3 from 2003/4.
- That the MCCU formalise an Appeal system to deal with such internal disputes.
- That the BCF ensures clarity and fairness in qualification rules.
- That team captains do their best to ensure against board defaults.
- That MCCU members are cautious when using e-mail and be mindful about issues relating to libel.

Lee Collier,

MCCU Chief Executive

The above is a slightly distilled version of that transmitted to the parties directly involved with the appeal.

~~~~~

“A chess game is divided into 3 stages; the first when you hope you have the advantage, the second when you believe you have the advantage, the third when you know you're going to lose “

(Tartakower)

~~~~~

LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS FINALS

With thanks to Francis Bowers for the information

Eight Teams Competed in the Finals of the Lincolnshire Schools Team

Chess championships.

Held at Spalding Grammar School on Saturday 22nd March 2003.

Titles of U14 Team champions went to Alford C.

Titles of U19 Team Champions went to Spalding Grammar School A.

Final Results

- 1.Alford A u19 26/35 2nd Place
- 2.Alford B u19 12/35 4th Place
- 3.Alford C u14 23 1/2/35 1st Place
- 4.Alford D u14 7/35 3rd Place
- 5.Birkbeck A u14 5 1/2/35 4th Place
- 6.Spalding A u19 28/35 1st Place
- 7.Spalding B u14 12 1/2/35 2nd Place
- 8.Stamford A u19 25 1/2/35 3rd Place

It's good to hear that Lincolnshire have some junior players in this age group. I hope we can look forward to seeing a Lincolnshire team in the MCCU Under 18 event next year. As one who lived in the County for the first 18 years of my life, the fortunes of Lincs Chess are of some import to me.

If anyone else has news of Midlands Junior events please let me have it for inclusion in future issues Ed



MCCU COUNTY COMPETITION RESULTS SUPPLEMENT

MATCH - Derbyshire v. Worcestershire

SECTION - BCF MINOR Play-off

DATE - 1 March 2003

Bd	Derbyshire	Grade	Score	Score	Worcestershire	Grade
1	S. Gilmore	180	0	1	P. Kitson	182
2	M. Alcock	177	1	0	A. Crombleholme	177
3	M. Alderson	173	0.5	0.5	G. Boyce	176
4	A. Toothill	162	1	0	J. Edge	176
5	R. Farley	160e	0.5	0.5	M. Bethel	152
6	R. Forey	158	1	0	M. Bissell	151
7	M. Johnson	162	0.5	0.5	S. Mellor	150
8	D. Pickering	152	0.5	0.5	R. Pinder	150e
9	J. Hoddy	151	0.5	0.5	S. Jukes	144
10	M. Hill	148	0	1	E. Horwill	138
11	D. Brown	147	0	1	J. Wilson	137
12	P. Moore	146	0	1	M. Riley	131
13	D. Williams	129	1	0	I. Truscott	122
14	D. Jarvis	138	1	0	C. Dent	121
15	M. Cobham	138	1	0	Default	
16	P. Kelman	130	1	0	Default	
TOTALS			9.5	6.5		

MATCH - Greater Manchester v. Leicestershire

SECTION - OPEN - Semi-Final

DATE - 1 March 2003

Bd	Gtr Manchester	Grade	Score	Score	Leicestershire	Grade
1	M. Surtees	184	0	1	Mas Hafizulhimi	218
2	A. Jaunoby	199	1	0	M. Burrows	180
3	S. Gordon	188	1	0	R. Burgess	181
4	A. Smith	202	0.5	0.5	A. Morley	172
5	A. Ashton	190	1	0	G. Sharpe	169
6	D. Hulmes	192	1	0	P. Clarke	170e
7	S. Pickles	189	0.5	0.5	A. Edwards	171
8	A. Longson	187	1	0	J. Robinson	164
9	D. James	191	1	0	J. Mitchell	161
10	R. Taylor	187	1	0	J. Bartley	157
11	D. Shaw	187	1	0	A. Jex	155
12	R. Beach	182	1	0	D. Farrell	146
13	A. Walton	180	1	0	D. Hardy	150
14	P. Adams	182	1	0	G. Bolteley	141
15	G. Burton	182	0.5	0.5	J. Glover	146
16	H. Lamb	174	0	1	G. Boleley	135
TOTALS			12.5	3.6		

MATCH - Greater Manchester v. Staffordshire

SECTION - OPEN

DATE - 25 January 2003

Bd	Gtr Manchester	Grade	Score	Score	Staffordshire	Grade
1	S Gordon	188	0.5	0.5	L Cooper	216
2	A Jaunoby	200e	0	1	JLB Blackburn	199
3	A Smith	203	0.5	0.5	D Anderton	194
4	A Ashton	190	0.5	0.5	D Wheeler	186
5	D Hulmes	192	1	0	J Mangwengwende	186e
6	S Pickles	195e	0.5	0.5	R Allen	179
7	R Taylor	187	0.5	0.5	A Richardson	178
8	D Shaw	187	0.5	0.5	G Acey	178
9	D James	191	0.5	0.5	L Ginsell	172
10	M Surtees	183	1	0	P Bennett	171
11	R Beach	183	1	0	C Hibbard	168
12	H Lamb	174	0	1	M Armstrong	165
13	A Walton	180	1	0	C Tavar	158
14	G Burton	183	0	1	J Turner	156
15	J Fish	184	1	0	D Pritchard	146
16	A Lewis	167	1	0	S Blackburn	140
TOTALS			9.5	6.5		

MATCH - Warwickshire v. Greater Manchester

SECTION - OPEN

DATE - 1 February 2003

Bd	Warwickshire	Grade	Score	Score	Gtr Manchester	Grade
1	Ameet Ghasi	217	0.5	0.5	Stephen Gordon	188
2	Nick Thomas	203	1	0	Ali Jaunoby	200e
3	Tony Hynes	202	0	1	Alan Smith	203
4	Don Mason	191	0.5	0.5	Adam Ashton	190
5	Andrew McCumiske	184	0.5	0.5	David Hulmes	192
6	Sumeet Ghasi	185	0.5	0.5	Robert Taylor	187
7	Stewart Fishburne	185	1	0	David Shaw	187
8	Andrew Baruch	183	0.5	0.5	Mike Surtees	183
9	David Buckley	183	1	0	Richard Beach	183
10	Keith Ingram	177	1	0	Alan Walton	180
11	Ian Galloway	171	0.5	0.5	Harry Lamb	174
12	Mark Addis	170e	0	1	Graham Burton	183
13	Richard Millward	173	0	1	Andy Lewis	167
14	Keith Escott	171	1	0	Adam Tyton	165
15	Malcolm Hunt	170	1	0	Default	
16	David Cooper	160	1	0	Default	
TOTALS			10.0	6.0		

MATCH - Nottinghamshire v. Warwickshire

SECTION - OPEN - Semi-Final

DATE - 1 March 2003

Bd	Nottinghamshire	Grade	Score	Score	Warwickshire	Grade
1	A R Collinson	217	0.5	0.5	Ameet Ghasi	217
2	A Posazhennikov	195e	1	0	Nick Thomas	203
3	G Campitelli	171	0	1	Tony Hynes	202
4	A Walker	175	0	1	Don Mason	191
5	P Mercs	172	1	0	Russell James	189
6	T W Day	164	0	1	Sumeet Ghasi	185
7	J Harrison	162	0	1	Andrew McCumiskey	184
8	R T Webster	158	1	0	Andrew Baruch	183
9	H R edwards	145	0.5	0.5	David Buckley	183
10	D A Toms	157	0	1	Ian Galloway	171
11	JH Cast	155	0	1	Maik Addis	
12	K D Brnald	154	0	1	Keith Escott	171
13	B M Hayward	150	0.5	0.5	Richard Millward	173
14	B Grewal	150	1	0	Malcolm Hunt	170
15	A J Wright	141	0.5	0.5	David Cooper	160
16	D Flynn	136	0	1	Paul Lam	154
TOTALS			6.0	10.0		

MATCH - Staffordshire v. Lincolnshire

SECTION - BCF MINOR Play-off

DATE - 1 March 2003

Bd	Staffordshire	Grade	Score	Score	Lincolnshire	Grade
1	L Cooper	216	1	0	J Dille	178
2	D Anderton	194	1	0	F Bowers	162
3	D Wheeler	186	0	1	K Shutt	156
4	J Mangwengwende	186e	0.5	0.5	J vanGemenen	145
5	R Allen	179	0	1	G Ladds	137
6	A Richardson	178	1	0	R Blake	137
7	G Acey	178	1	0	G Colyer	134
8	L Ginsell	172	0.5	0.5	D Georgiou	130
9	P Bennett	171	1	0	R Wilson	130
10	C Hibbard	168	1	0	M Kelly	124
11	M Armstrong	165	1	0	I McDonald	113
12	D Pritchard	146	1	0	D Coates	107
13	R Westwood	142	1	0	R Kerrigan	107
14	C Simpson	142	0.5	0.5	P Sherlock	107
15	S Blackburn	140	1	0	H Dale	90e
16	J E Blackburn	108	1	0	Default	
TOTALS			12.5	3.6		

MATCH - Shropshire v. StaffordshireSECTION - Under 150

DATE - 25 January 2003

Bd	Shropshire	Grade	Score	Score	Staffordshire	Grade
1	Philip Saxon.	148	0.5	0.5	J. Staniforth	145
2	Glyn Pugh.	145	1	0	C Simpson	142
3	Gerald C. Link.	142	0	1	B Armstrong	142
4	Colin Roberts.	141	0.5	0.5	K Francis	139
5	Thomas W. Pym	141	1	0	S Pedder	136
6	Mr. Steve Rawlings.	140	1	0	A Leadbetter	135
7	Graham Shepherd.	133	0	1	S Wilcox	133
8	Gareth Edwards.	129	0.5	0.5	D Perks	127
9	Keith K. Tabner.	127	0	1	C Pohrbryj	125
10	Stefan Tennant.	125	0.5	0.5	J Sadler	123
11	Steve Tarr.	124	0.5	0.5	M Moruzzi	122
12	Richard G. Thomps	122	0	1	G Rossier	120
13	Neil Allen.	121	0	1	R Lewis	119
14	Gavyn Cooper	120	1	0	C Wilcox	116
15	Mark Billington.	112	0.5	0.5	D Bell	101
16	Eugene B. Raby.	110	1	0	K Jones	79
TOTALS			8.0	8.0		

MATCH - Leicestershire A v. WarwickshireSECTION - Under 150 - Semi-Final

DATE - 22 February 2003

Bd	Leicestershire A	Grade	Score	Score	Warwickshire	Grade
1	G BOTTELEY	141	0.5	0.5	M FOX	149
2	J GLOVER	146	0	1	K THOMAS	145
3	A COMBIE	145	1	0	R REYNOLDS	144
4	M COWLEY	145	0	1	S C SMITH	144
5	J BINGHAM	142	0.5	0.5	R REYNOLDS	139
6	I SEALEY	135	0	1	G HOPE	138
7	G BOOLEY	135	1	0	R WALLMAN	134
8	I DODDS	131	0.5	0.5	R WOODCOCK	133
9	S TURVEY	130	0.5	0.5	D REEVES	129
10	A FOWKES	129	0	1	A MOXLEY	113
11	J JARVIS	122	1	0	W MACEVOY	87
12	B POURMOZAFARI	109	0	1	J FAHY	119
13	J OLIVER	117	0.5	0.5	A BURNETT	117
14	C JOHNSON	110	0	1	S MOXLEY	117
15	K DRAPER	127	0	1	K KOASHA	101
16	P BULL	108	0	1	C GORDAN	97
TOTALS			5.5	10.5		

MATCH - Nottinghamshire v. Greater ManchesterSECTION - Under 150 - Semi-Final

DATE - 22 February 2003

Bd	Nottinghamshire	Grade	Score	Score	Gtr Manchester	Grade
1	H. R. Edwards	145	1	0	Default	
2	A. J. Wright	141	1	0	J. Lonsdale	145
3	D. Sudar	142	0	1	M. B. Pollard	139
4	S. Cranmer	139	1	0	J. Clissold	138
5	I. Nicholson	138	0	1	D. Pardoe	135
6	G. J. Murfet	134	0.5	0.5	M. Connor	128
7	D. Flynn	136	0	1	A. Beresford	131
8	N. Graham	136	1	0	Default	
9	R. P. Taylor	132	1	0	D. Owen	125
10	A. Carlton	129	0.5	0.5	M. Plant	115
11	S. Wells	127	0.5	0.5	P. Worsley	124
12	J. Tassi	130	1	0	P. King	124
13	A. S. Robinson	119	1	0	P. Horwell	109
14	D. Ince	115	0	1	P. Hargreaves	110
15	M. Nailard	123	1	0	I. Brusby	104
16	D. Dunne	97	1	0	J. McHugh	95
TOTALS			10.5	5.5		

MATCH - Nottinghamshire v. LeicestershireSECTION - Under 125

DATE - 1 February 2003

Bd	Nottinghamshire	Grade	Score	Score	Leicestershire	Grade
1	M Jackson		0.5	0.5	Harrison, PK	121
2	T Sevm		0	1	Turvey, Mark S	121
3	T Lavelle		0.5	0.5	Hill, Cyril D	118
4	M Nailard		1	0	Poumozafari Ben	109
5	M Taylor		0	1	Oliver, John A	117
6	B Hobson		0.5	0.5	Toon R	111
7	D Ince		1	0	Wylie, S	116
8	M Harper		1	0	Cooper, Barrie D	117
9	D Fidler		0.5	0.5	Johnson, Cyril FW	110
10	M Clark		0.5	0.5	Machin, Stephen J	112
11	P Herring		0.5	0.5	Cresswell, P	109
12	M Herbert		0	1	Toon, J	108
13	G Gibson		0	1	Bull, Philip	108
14	A Khandelwal		1	0	Doidge, Charles	108
15	A Rossiter		0	1	Peters, S	108
16	L Morrell		1	0	Moore, D	103
TOTALS			8.0	8.0		

MATCH - Worcestershire v. WarwickshireSECTION - Under 125

DATE - 1 February 2003

Bd	Worcestershire	Grade	Score	Score	Warwickshire	Grade
1	I. Truscott	122	0.5	0.5	F. Jimenez	122
2	W. Watson	121	0	1	N. Malka	119
3	J. Cole	113	0.5	0.5	P. Boynton	119
4	K. Dumell	112	0	1	J. Asbury	118
5	D Scriven	111	0	1	S. Moxley	117
6	R. Branford	110	0	1	D. Horsley	117
7	A. Kirkland	109	1	0	L. Rawson	113
8	D. Curry	109	0	1	D. Brelsforth	113
9	C. Billinge	108	0	1	A. Moxley	112
10	G. Stanton	108	1	0	M. Walker	111
11	T. Pountney	106	0	1	K. Gilbert	110
12	G. Jackson	105	1	0	J. Turner	u/g
13	I. Clack	102	0.5	0.5	W. Rawlings	108
14	P. Banks	102	0.5	0.5	C. McKay	95
15	J. Varlone	101	0	1	J. Pakenham	84
16	M. Hore	95	0	1	P. Woodward	83
TOTALS			5.0	11.0		

MATCH - Shropshire v. StaffordshireSECTION - Under 125

DATE - 1 February 2003

Bd	Shropshire	Grade	Score	Score	Staffordshire	Grade
1	Roger R. Brown	91	0	1	Jon Sadler	123
2	Steve Tarr	124	1	0	Mark May	122
3	Richard G. Thomps	122	1	0	Dave Friend	121
4	Norman Andrews	120	0	1	Geoff Rosser	121
5	Peter Crean	119	0.5	0.5	Frank Wood	120
6	Robert Simpson	118	0	1	Robin Lewis	119
7	Jim Copley	118	0.5	0.5	Dominic Carter	119
8	Alan Silver	114	1	0	Charlotte Wilcox	116
9	Mark Billington	112	1	0	Peter Broomhall	116
10	Gavin Cooper	115e	0	1	Phil Denner	114
11	Eugene Raby	110	0.5	0.5	Robert Fell	114
12	George Visokai	106	0	1	John Phillips	113
13	Gary White	104	1	0	John Blackburn	108
14	Chris Bayliss	99	0	1	Richard Wilkinson	108
15	John Westhead	95	1	0	Ray Gogerty	108
16	Louis Graham	95	1	0	Michael J. Page	105
TOTALS			8.5	7.5		

MATCH - Shropshire v. Leicestershire A

SECTION - Under 125 Semi-Final

DATE - 1 March 2003

Bd	Shropshire	Grade	Score	Score	Leics A	Grade
1	Norman O'Connor	124	0.5	0.5	Harrison, P.K.	121
2	Steve Tarr	124	1	0	Oliver, John A.	117
3	Peter Crean	119	0.5	0.5	Jarvis, James	122
4	Jim Copley	118	0.5	0.5	Hulford, Frank S.	113
5	Alan Silver	114	0.5	0.5	Wylie, S.	116
6	Gavin Cooper	115e	0	1	Steel, Martin	116
7	Mark Billington	112	1	0	Johnson, Cyril F.W.	110
8	Eugene Raby	110	0	1	Smith, Stephen	111
9	George Visokai	106	0	1	Pourmozafari B.	110
10	Gary White	96	1	0	Robinson, Anthony	107
11	Chris Bayliss	99	1	0	Bull, Philip	108
12	John Westhead	96	0.5	0.5	Cresswell, P.	109
13	Craig Murray	96	1	0	Toon, J.	108
14	Mike Flavell	96	1	0	Moore, D.	103
15	Steve Cooper	95e	1	0	Clay T.	91
16	Roger Brown	91	0.5	0.5	King R.	64
TOTALS			10.0	6.0		

MATCH - Shropshire v. Nottinghamshire

SECTION - Under 100 - Semi-Final

DATE - 16 Feb 2003

Bd	Shropshire	Grade	Score	Score	Notts	Grade
1	K. Grice	99	0	1	D. Wells	97
2	J. Westhead	96	0	1	D. Dunn	97
3	L. Graham	95	1	0	R. Dawson	95
4	S. Cooper	95e	0.5	0.5	D. Cronshaw	88
5	R. Brown	91	1	0	E. Fredericks	88
6	M. Patterson	88	0	1	I. Fillingham	87
7	S. Jones	87	1	0	P. Smith	87
8	D. Powell	87	1	0	D. Blampied	69
9	P. Broderick	78	1	0	K. Heath	68
10	B. Jones	76	1	0	S. Tys	74
11	A. Pickles	76	1	0	R. Watson	30
12	G. Hampson	71	1	0	C. Parrish	58
13						
14						
15						
16						
TOTALS			8.5	3.5		

MATCH - Warwickshire v. Staffordshire

SECTION - Under 100

DATE - 25 January 2003

Bd	Warwickshire	Grade	Score	Score	Staffordshire	Grade
1	W. Morgan	98	1	0	A. Meakin	99
2	D. Dixon	97	0	1	A. Collabella	93
3	W. McAvoy	74	0	1	P. Allan	89
4	D. McCarthy	92	1	0	P. Evans	88
5	F. Higgins	92	0.5	0.5	B. Hall	87
6	M. Clack	90	1	0	S. Heath	85
7	B. Butcher	88	1	0	R. Dolan	85
8	C. Lee	87	0	1	D. Buckley	84
9	J. Pakenham	84	0.5	0.5	P. Gavin	81
10	P. Woodward	83	0	1	B. Lynam	70
11	D. Rowe	81	0.5	0.5	K. Moore	66
12	P. Church	74	1	0	A. Lynk	54
13						
14						
15						
16						
TOTALS			6.5	5.5		

MATCH - Leicestershire A v. Warwickshire

SECTION - Under 100 - Semi-Final

DATE - 22 February 2003

Bd	Leicestershire	Grade	Score	Score	Warwickshire	Grade
1	D. Crane	99	1	0	W. Morgan	98
2	N. Wyld	96	0	1	D. Dixon	97
3	M. Thornton	95	0	1	D. Gilchrist	96
4	R. Veitdh	93	0.5	0.5	D. McCarthy	92
5	G. Winterlon	91	0	1	F. Higgins	92
6	T. Clay	91	1	0	M. Clack	90
7	J. Ganatra	91	1	0	B. Butcher	88
8	J. Creasey	85	0	1	C. Lee	87
9	D. Foulds	77	0	1	J. Pakenham	84
10	R. Price	ug	0	1	P. Woodward	83
11	R. King	ug	1	0	D. Rowe	81
12	D. Lockton	ug	0	1	P. Church	74
13						
14						
15						
16						
TOTALS			4.5	7.5		

MATCH - Shropshire v Nottinghamshire

SECTION - Under 125 - FINAL

DATE - 29th March 2003

Bd	Shropshire	Grade	Score	Score	Notts	Grade
1	Norman O'Connor	124	0.5	0.5	M Jackson	124
2	Steve Tarr	124	0	1	T Severn	124
3	Peter Crean	119	1	0	T Lavelle	123
4	Robert Simpson	118	0	1	M Nailard	123
5	Jim Copley	118	0.5	0.5	M Taylor	122
6	Alan Silver	114	1	0	M Herbert	119
7	Mark Billington	112	1	0	M Keetley	118
8	Gavin Cooper	u/g	1	0	B Hobson	116
9	Eugene Raby	110	0.5	0.5	D Ince	115
10	Gary White	104	0	1	M Harper	114
11	Ian Davies	103	0	1	D Fidler	113
12	Chris Bayliss	99	0	1	M Clark	111
13	John Westhead	96	1	0	P Herring	u/g
14	Louis Graham	95	0	1	I Harris	106
15	Steve Cooper	u/g	0	1	D Heiring	99
16	Roger Brown	91	1	0	L Morrell	u/g
TOTALS			7.5	8.5		

MATCH - Shropshire v. Warwickshire

SECTION - UNDER 100 - FINAL

DATE - 16 March 2003

Bd	Shropshire	Grade	Score	Score	Warwickshire	Grade
1	K. Grice	99	0	1	W. Morgan	98
2	C. Murray	96	0.5	0.5	D. Gilchrist	92
3	L. Graham	95	1	0	C. Gordon	92
4	S. Cooper	95e	1	0	C. McKay	95
5	R. Brown	91	1	0	F. Higgins	92
6	D. Powell	87	1	0	M. Clack	90
7	M. Patterson	88	1	0	B. Butcher	88
8	S. Jones	87	0	1	C. Lee	87
9	P. Broderick	78	0.5	0.5	J. Pakenham	86
10	A. Pickles	76	0	1	P. Woodward	83
11	B. Jones	76	0.5	0.5	D. Tait	ug
12	G. Hampson	71	0	1	P. Church	74
13						
14						
15						
16						
TOTALS			6.5	5.5		

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES 2002-2003 SEASON

WEST ZONE	G MAN	SHROP	STAFFS	WARKS	WORCS	PTS	POS
GTR MANCHESTER		14.5-1.5	9.5-6.5	6 - 10	15 - 1	6	2nd
SHROPSHIRE	1.5-14.5		6 - 10	7 - 9	0-16def	0	5
STAFFORDSHIRE	6.5-9.5	10 - 6		8 - 8	13 - 3	5	3
WARWICKSHIRE	10 - 6	9 - 7	8 - 8		13.5-2.5	7	1st
WORCESTERSHIRE	1 - 15	16-0wo	3 - 13	2.5-13.5		2	4

EAST ZONE	DERBY	LEICS	LINCS	NOTTS	PTS	POS
DERBYSHIRE		7.5-8.5	12.5-3.5	7.5-8.5	2	3
LEICESTERSHIRE	8.5-7.5		8.5-7.5	10.5-5.5	6	1st
LINCOLNSHIRE	3.5-12.5	7.5-8.5		4.5-11.5	0	4
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	8.5-7.5	5.5-10.5	11.5-4.5		4	2nd

MAJOR	Warwickshire	10	Nottinghamshire	6
SEMI-FINALS	Leicestershire	3.5	Gtr Manchester	12.5
MAJOR FINAL:-	Warwickshire	5.5	Gtr Manchester	10.5
MINOR	Staffordshire	10	Lincolnshire	6
SEMI-FINALS	Derbyshire	9.5	Worcestershire	6.5

UNDER-175 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE 2002-2003 SEASON

	NORTHS	WARKS	PTS	POS
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE		4.5-11.5	0	2
WARWICKSHIRE	11.5-4.5		2	1st

B.C.F. QUALIFIER Warwickshire

UNDER-150 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES 2002-2003 SEASON

WEST ZONE	GMAN	SHROP	STAFFS	WARKS	PTS	POS
GTR MANCHESTER		16-0wo	7.5-8.5	8.5-7.5	4	1st
SHROPSHIRE	0-16def		6 - 6	4.5-10.5	1	4
STAFFORDSHIRE	8.5-7.5	6 - 6		0-16def	3	3
WARWICKSHIRE	7.5-8.5	10.5-4.5	16-0wo		4	2nd

EAST ZONE	LEICSA	LEICSB	NOTTS	PTS	POS
LEICESTERSHIRE A		12 - 2	8.5-7.5	4	1st
LEICESTERSHIRE B	2 - 12		0-16def	0	3
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	7.5-8.5	16-0wo		2	2nd

SEMI-FINALS:-	Gtr Manchester	5.5	Nottinghamshire	10.5
	Leicestershire	5.5	Warwickshire	10.5
FINAL:-	Nottinghamshire	8	Warwickshire	8
		WON		

UNDER-125 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES 2002-2003 SEASON

WEST ZONE	SHROP	STAFFS	WARKS	WORCS	PTS	POS
SHROPSHIRE		8.5-7.5	8.5-7.5	7.5-8.5	4	2nd
STAFFORDSHIRE	7.5-8.5		11 - 5	7.5-8.5	2	3
WARWICKSHIRE	7.5-8.5	5 - 11		11 - 5	2	4
WORCESTERSHIRE	8.5-7.5	8.5-7.5	5 - 11		4	1st

EAST ZONE	DERBY	LEICS	NOTTS	PTS	POS
DERBYSHIRE		0-16Def	8 - 8	1	3
LEICESTERSHIRE	16 - 0wo		8 - 8	3	1st
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	8 - 8	8 - 8		2	2nd

SEMI-FINALS:- Worcestershire Def Nottinghamshire Walkover
 Leicestershire 6 Shropshire 10

FINAL:- Nottinghamshire 8.5 Shropshire 7.5

UNDER-100 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES 2002-2003 SEASON

WEST ZONE	SHROP	STAFFS	WARKS	PTS	POS
SHROPSHIRE		9 - 3	6.5-5.5	4	1st
STAFFORDSHIRE	3 - 9		5.5-6.5	0	2
WARWICKSHIRE	5.5-6.5	6.5-5.5		0	2nd

EAST ZONE	LEICSA	LEICSB	NORTHS	NOTTS	PTS	POS
LEICESTERSHIRE A		12 - 3	W/D	7.5-4.5	4	1sr
LEICESTERSHIRE B	3 - 12		W/D	0 - 12	0	3
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	W/D	W/D		W/D	0	-
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	4.5-7.5	12 - 0	W/D		2	2nd

SEMI-FINALS:- Shropshire 8.5 Nottinghamshire 3.5
 Leicestershire A 4.5 Warwickshire 7.5

FINAL:- Shropshire 6.5 Warwickshire 5.5

BFC NATIONAL DRAW**OPEN****Preliminary Round**

A: Cambs v Leicestershire

Quarter-Finals

Lancs v A: Manchester v Yorks : Somerset v

Essex: Kent v Warwicks

Semi Finals

Winners of Lancs /A v Winners Somerset /Essex

Winners Manchester/Yorks v Winners

Kent/Warwicks

MINOR COUNTIES**Quarter-Finals**

Norfolk v Herts: Staffs v Suffolk: Surrey v
 Wiltshire : Gloucestershire v Derby

Semi Finals

Winners of Norfolk/Herts v Winners

Gloucester/Derby: Winners Staffs /Suffolk v

Winners Surrey/Wiltshire

Continued on next page

U175

Quarter-Finals

Sussex , Warks byes: Cambs v Essex: Lancs v Devon

Semi Finals

Sussex v Winners Lancs/Devon: Warks v Winners Cambs/Essex

U150

Preliminary Round

A: Warks v Lancs : B: Surrey v Norfolk: C Dorset v Leicestershire

Quarter-Finals

Cambs v A: Yorks v Sussex: Nottingham v B: Hants v C

Semi Finals

Winners Cambs/A v Winners Hants/C: Winners Yorks/Sussex v Winners Notts /B

U125

Quarter-Finals

Lancs v Shropshire : Herts v Merseyside: Devon v Nottingham: Norfolk v Middlesex

Semi-Finals

Winners Lancs/Shropshire v Winners Norfolk/Middlesex: Winners Herts/Merseyside v Winners Devon/Notts

U100

Quarter-Finals

Kent v Cheshire : Norfolk v Essex: Somerset v Warwickshire: Shropshire v Lancs

Semi-Finals

Winners Kent /Cheshire v Winners Somerset /Warwickshire: Winners Norfolk/Essex v Winners Shropshire/Lancs

Dates

Preliminary Rounds	26th April 2003
Quarter Finals	17th May 2003
Semi-Finals	14th June 2003
Finals UPPINGHAM SCHOOL	5th July 2003

MATCH - Warwickshire v. Greater Manchester

SECTION - Open Final

DATE - 29 th March 2003

Bd	Warwickshire	Grade	Score	Score	Gtr Manchester	Grade
1	Ameet Ghasi	217	1	0.5	Stephen Gordon	188
2	Nick Thomas	203	0	1	Ali Juancooby	200e
3	Tony Hynes	202	1	0.5	Alan Smith	203
4	Russell James	189	0	1	Adam Ashton	190
5	Sumeet Ghasi	185	0.0	1	David Hulmes	192
6	Alan Lloyd	181	0	1	Dale James	191
7	Philip Holt	181	1	0.5	Robert Taylor	187
8	Paul Davies	176	1	0.5	David Shaw	187
9	Ian Galloway	171	1.0	0	John Bentley	184
10	Richard Millward	173	0	1	Alan Walton	180
11	Keith Escott	171	0.5	0.5	Richard Beach	182
12	David Cooper	160	1	0.5	Graham Burton	182
13	Colin Searle	160	0	1	Lloyd Powell	180
14	Rob Walker	158	0	1	Adam Tyton	165
15	Ann-Marie Ashby	163E	1	0.5	Tony Robinson	ung
16	Paul Lam	154	1	0	Don Gordon	ung
TOTALS			5.5	10.5		

MATCH - Warwickshire v. Nottinghamshire

SECTION - Under 150 - FINAL

DATE - 15 March 2003

Bd	Warwickshire	Grade	Score	Score	Notts	Grade
1	Mike Fox	149	0.5	0.5	David Saprz	Ug
2	Trevor Holt	147	0	1	H R Edwards	145
3	Keith Thomas	145	0	1	A J Wright	141
4	Richard Reynolds	144	1	0	S Cranmer	139
5	Simon Smith	144	0	1	A Mehton	134
6	Robert Reynolds	139	0	1	N Graham	136
7	Gary Hope	138	1	0	J K Walters	133
8	Tom Robinson	134	1	0	O Lyne	134
9	Robert Wallman	134	0.5	0.5	R P Taylor	132
10	Roy Woodcock	133	0	1	J Tassi	130
11	Derek Reeves	127	0.5	0.5	A Carlton	129
12	Andrew Moxley	112	1	0	R M Sayer	129
13	John Fahy	119	0.5	0.5	A S Robinson	119
14	Steve Moxley	117	0	1	M Nailard	123
15	Keiran Koasha	101	1	0	M Keetley	118
16	Callum Gordan	97	1	0	D Dunne	97
TOTALS			8.0	8.0		

NOTE

The hoped for BFC finance update did not arrive in time for inclusion in this Newsletter. The next issue will cover the BFC Finance meeting held in April.