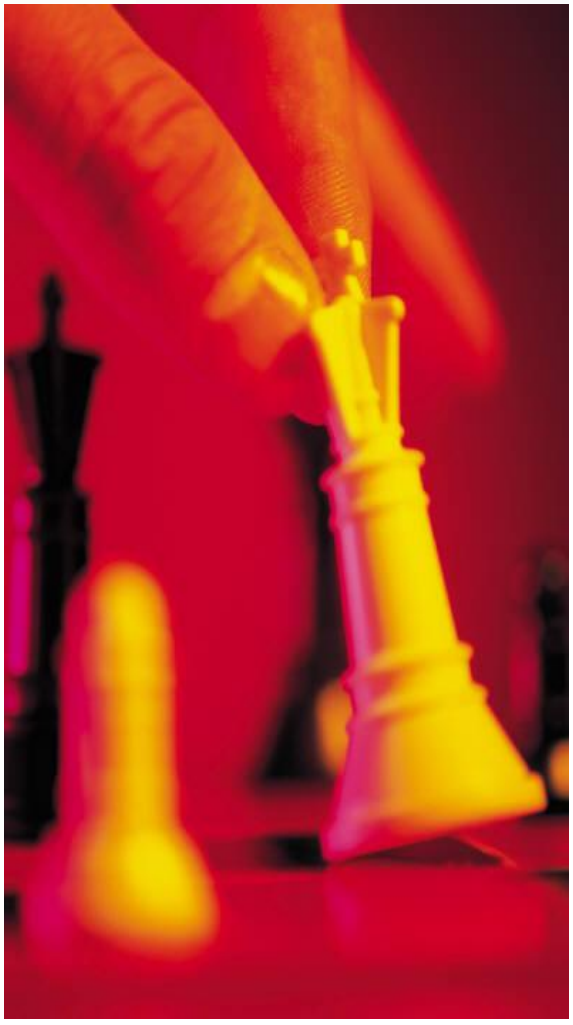
Sussex Chess News



Welcome

Making the grade

IT'S never easy being a chess team captain – and it could be about to get even tougher!
New gradings (see Julie Denning's report) mean an air of uncertainty hangs over the forthcoming season.

It's understood the new bands - Open/U180/U160/U140/ U120/U100 – will have approximately 100%, 90%, 80%, 60%, 40% and 20% of players eligible for each section respectively.

It's very difficult to assess the impact of the new grades and bandings until the details are actually released.

But it is likely to lead to a lot of "overlapping", with more players than usual being called upon to represent more than one county team.

In the season just gone, it's probably fair to say that the county did not have a particularly successful time of it

This was no great surprise, the county having enjoyed a run of success in recent years, we were, perhaps, due a less successful one at last.

However, it seemed at times that teams are becoming increasingly difficult to assemble…and that shows no sign of getting any easier.

A glance will reveal an unfortunate number of defaults and a discussion with any of the captains would reveal the difficulties they have encountered in fielding 16-member teams.

Although early games are regionalised, there are still many long trips to be endured and many alternative activities competing for players' attention.

The Under 175 team's experiment of hiring a minibus for their national stage match was innovative - and may be an approach others could adopt in future.

No-one would pretend internet chess can compete for enjoyment with over-the-board play – but to ensure we protect the future of competitive county chess isn't it time, perhaps to consider, say, 12-board matches?

Easier to organise, easier to ensure the best players are selected… and perhaps next season there will be volunteers who come forward so that Sussex could enter teams for the U120 and U100 tournaments.

Mick Plumb

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Let the captains know

ONCE the new gradings are announced, could all clubs email the team captains (contact details at the back) with a list of players keen to play for the county? This will make their lives a lot easier for the forthcoming season.

Reports

Grading

AN uneventful year, from my point of view. By now, everyone will be well aware of the "new" grades that were published for information alongside the "old" grades for the 2008 / 09 season, but which will become the definitive grades from this autumn.

Given that this change will generally result in higher grades for lower graded players, the bands for county matches will be adjusted. The grade-limited teams will now be Under-180, -160 and –140, as opposed to Under-175, -150 and –125 in past seasons.

If there are any other clubs or tournament organisers who would like assistance with submitting results for grading, just get in touch.

Julie Denning
Grading officer

Adjudications

THE panel consists of Mike Nicholas, Feliks Kwiatkowski, David Graham, Bernard Cafferty, Geoffrey James, Gareth Anthony , Peter Kemp and myself.

Three neutrals consider each position. Ten positions were decided. Five verdicts were unanimous and five were by majority. There was one appeal, which was lost.

When submitting positions, please make cheques for £5 payable to Sussex County Chess Association or SCCA.

Robert Elliston

ECF Council

DUE to ill-health I have not been able to attend the meeting this year. I do go through the papers, half a rain forest, and instruct a proxy who reports back. The important points this year are changes to the county competition team tournaments grading bands, in line with the grading adjustments. They are: Open; Under 180; U160; U140; U120 and a new U100.

The game fee for next year is 50p per full game, 25p for rapid play and 17p for internal club games. I doubt I will be able to make the Birmingham meeting next season, the London ones will depend on my health at the time. I am improving, but do get setbacks, so if anyone wants to take over please come forward. When I do go, I get the Portsmouth League proxy, which shares out the travelling expenses.

Ray Williams
ECF delegate

Trophies

West Sussex Queen

No entrants

East Sussex Queen

Dr A.Pickersgill. Runner-up J, Anstead

Veterans

G.H. James. Runner-up J. Anstead

County Championship

Final: Luke Rutherford beat B.J. Denman (holder) after fourth game

Paul Watson Trophy

No entrants

Ken Gunnell Trophy

To be awarded

McArthur Cup

Brighton 4 Hastings 2

The above competitions have proceeded smoothly this year and were completed on time.

Dr Douglas Opie, tournament controller

County teams

Open

THE highlight of the season was qualifying for the national stages after a two-year absence. However, as we finished fourth in the SCCU competition, we qualified for the Minor Counties, rather than the Open.

Critical was the first match against Essex, which could have gone either way with four boards remaining, but rather unexpectedly turned out in our favour, 9-7. We lost the next two matches by this score, but with creditable efforts against stronger teams. Firstly, to the now regularly strong Surrey, and then to Middlesex, when we were under-strength.

We then had a comfortable 11-5 win over Hertfordshire, as they were under-strength and even defaulted three boards, despite home advantage. In the last match, we played Kent, who had already sealed the SCCU Championship, and duly outclassed us by 10½-5½.

Apart from a drawn match between Surrey and Middlesex, all the other individual match results conformed to the final rankings; 1 Kent 5/5; 2 Surrey 3.5/5; 3 Middlesex 3.5/5; 4 Sussex 2/5; 5 Hertfordshire 1/5; 6 Essex 0/5.

We were drawn at home to Derbyshire in the Minor Counties quarter-finals. As expected, they wanted to play at a halfway venue. Consequently, it was their responsibility to rustle one up, and as they failed to do so, conceded the match.

The semi-final was a repeat trip to Hertfordshire. Unfortunately, many players were unavailable and we had a much weakened side, whereas Hertfordshire had got their act together and were extremely close to the maximum average grade of 180 for this competition. Our average grade was just above 167. Regrettably, the result even exceeded the predicted one by some margin, as we suffered a 12½-3½ defeat with only Paul Batchelor winning.

Thank you to everyone who played in the team this season. In particular, those who helped with setting up and clearing away at home matches.

New players are always welcome, so please get in touch if you are 160+ (2009 grades) and would like to play, or if you know of anyone at your club or elsewhere who is eligible for Sussex.

Richard Almond and Paul Selby

11.10.08	Essex	v	Sussex	8.11.08	Sussex	v	Surrey
1	Andrew Lewis	½	Brian Denman	1	Luke E Rutherford	1-0	Chris Briscoe
2	David Sands	½	Gareth Anthony	2	Brian J Denman	0-1	Graeme N Buckley
3	John Hodgson	0-1	Peter Kemp	3	Donald Macfarlane	½	Ian W Sharpe
4	David Haydon	½	Feliks Kwiatkowski	4	Peter D Kemp	½	Stephen H Berry
5	Justin Baptie	1-0	Mark Broom	5	Feliks Kwiatkowski	1-0	Michael J Basman
6	Subin Sen	1-0	Geoffrey James	6	Kenneth I Norman	0-1	Gordon Meyer
7	Ivan Myall	0-1	Peter Farr	7	Peter G Farr	1-0	Philip G Maguire
8	Kevin White	0-1	Richard Almond	8	Mark Broom	½	Matthew N Anderton
9	Robert Parker	½	George Salimbeni	9	Dominic Lawson	½	Marcus E Osborne
10	Jeff Goldberg	½	Brian Donnelly	10	Richard J Almond	0-1	Michael J Franklin
11	Ian Hunnable	0-1	David Grant	11	Robert V Elliston	0-1	Tom R Chivers
12	Chris Fegan	½	Rasa Norinkeviciute	12	George Salimbeni	1-0	Owen S Phillips
13	Tim Hebbes	½	Adrian Pickersgill	13	Grant W Bucher	½	Adrian Jackson
14	Philip Gregory	½	Tim Spanton	14	Brian P Donnelly	0-1	Mark Josse
15	David Spearman	0-1	Chris Hann	15	James C Mansson	0-1	Daniel B Rosen
16	Larry Marden	1-0	Paul Selby	16	Rasa Norinkeviciute	½	Alain S Dekker
		7-9				**7-9**	

10.1.09	Middlesex	v	Sussex	14.2.09	Herts	v	Sussex
1	David Moskovic	0-1	Brian Denman	1	Simon JB Knott	½	Luke E Rutherford
2	Colin Crouch	½	Gareth Anthony	2	Simon J Roe	0-1	Brian J Denman
3	Andrew Stone	½	Feliks Kwiatkowski	3	Philip R Bonafont	0-1	Donald Macfarlane
4	David Okike	½	Peter D Kemp	4	Phillip G Maguire	½	Feliks J Kwiatkowsk
5	Julian Ward	1-0	Peter G Farr	5	Paul V Byway	1-0	Peter D Kemp
6	Simon Spivack	½	Geoffrey James	6	Howard L Tebbs	½	Kenneth I Norman
7	John Quinn	1-0	Mark Broom	7	Peter Rice	0-1	Peter G Farr
8	Carsten Pedersen	½	Richard J Almond	8	Stephen Law	½	Geoffrey H James
9	Michael Brown	0-1	Brian Donnelly	9	Chris E Majer	½	Mark Broom
10	Joseff Thomas	½	Bernard Cafferty	10	Mike A Boyce	½	Richard J Almond
11	Colin Mackenzie	0-1	David N Roberts	11	Stephen J Tovey	½	George PW Salimbeni
12	Ben Purton	½	Rasa Norinkeviciute	12	Tim M Thurstan	0-1	Brian P Donnelly
13	Zafer Djabri	1-0	Tim Spanton	13	Stephen C Pride	½	David R Oates
14	George Dickson	1-0	Adrian Pickersgill	14	def	0-1	David J Grant
15	Michael Tasker	1-0	Martin Costley	15	def	0-1	Rasa Norinkeviciute
16	D Ian Calvert	½	Paul Batchelor	16	def	0-1	Tim R Spanton
		9-7				**5-11**	

14.3.09	Sussex	v	Kent	13.6.09	Herts	v	Sussex
1	Luke Rutherford	0-1	Neil McDonald	1	Simon Knott	1-0	Luke E Rutherford
2	Brian Denman	½	Martin Taylor	2	V Tiruchipall	1-0	Brian J Denman
3	Gareth Anthony	0-1	Rawle Allicock	3	Steve Swanson	½	Kenneth I Norman
4	Feliks Kwiatkowski	0-1	Callum Kilpatrick	4	Simon Roe	½	Peter G Farr
5	Peter Kemp	0-1	Paul Talsma	5	Phil Bonafont	1-0	Geoffrey H James
6	Kenneth Norman	½	Ian Snape	6	Jacek Winter	1-0	Richard J Almond
7	Peter Farr	0-1	Tony Stebbing	7	Jerry Rudge	½	George Salimbeni
8	Geoffrey James	½	Alan Hanreck	8	Paul Byway	1-0	Brian P Donnelly
9	Richard Almond	½	John Sugden	9	Howard Tebbs	1-0	David N Roberts
10	Robert Elliston	0-1	Chris Howell	10	Steve Law	1-0	Rasa Norinkeviciute
11	George Salimbeni	½	J Stuart Williams	11	Chris Majer	½	Tim Spanton
12	Brian Donnelly	½	Laurence Ball	12	Alastair Hunter	1-0	Adrian Pickersgill
13	David Grant	1-0	Nigel Donovan	13	Matthew Simmon	0-1	Paul Batchelor
14	David Oates	1-0	Dave Tucker	14	Stephen Tovey	½	Paul Taylor
15	Rasa Norinkeviciute	½	Dave Horton	15	JN Fraser-Mitchell	1-0	L John Cannon
16	Paul Batchelor	0-1	Vic Southern	16	Barry Morris	1-0	Timothy J Woods
		5½-10½				**12½-3½**	

Under 175

I TOOK over the team from Daniel Hirsch following the home match on November 1, 2008, when we defaulted on the bottom four boards to Surrey, losing the match by 5 - 11. The low point of the season occurred in the next match against Kent, on November 15, when we lost by 12.5 - 3.5, once again defaulting on four boards. For a time afterwards, other teams began to ask if we had a full team on the day of the match!

From then on, Sussex turned out a full team for the remainder of the season, and its fortunes improved. A 9 -7 victory against Middlesex was followed by an 8 - 8 draw with Essex. The new year brought victories against Surrey by 9.5 to 6.5, and Kent by 13 - 3, when this time it was Kent who defaulted on six boards. The final two games saw us with a chance of qualifying for the national stages, which was achieved with a 8.5 - 7.5 win in London against Middlesex in February. Our last SCCU game saw us lose to Essex by 5 - 11 in March, which ensured Essex came first and we finished second in the table.

The national stages followed, with a quarter-final against Lancashire at a neutral venue at Warwick University on May 9, which we narrowly lost 8 - 8 on board count. The match could have gone either way, and hung in the balance with the last two games in progress. As the last game came to a conclusion, 30 players were grouped round the board!

In all, Sussex had 33 different players during the season who turned out for one or more matches. Paul Batchelor, alone, played in all nine matches during the season, and Adrian Pickersgill played in eight. Players who scored above 50per cent in the season were: Grant Bucher 2/3; George Salimbeni 3.5/5; David Roberts 4/5; David Grant 3/4; Rasa Norinkeviciute 3.5/6;, Tim Spanton 3.5/5; Stephen Blewitt 2/3 and David Norton 2/2.

My thanks in the national stage match are due to the two drivers who took us to the edge of Coventry and back, one with a mini-bus and one with a car. The experiment of hiring a minibus was a huge success, although we ended up with a nine- seater, rather than a larger minibus, due to the hire company's insurance on the day. My thanks are also due to Daniel Hirsch, who travelled with the team to Coventry, and discovered on route that he was going to have to play, due to a withdrawal of one of our players on the day. Finally, my thanks are due to Paul Batchelor, who took equipment to the home games and also Tim Woods, who helped set up the hall for home games. My thanks to everyone who turned out for the team this year.

Adrian Pickersgill

1.11.08	Sussex	v	Surrey	15.11.08	Kent	v	Sussex
1	Grant Bucher	1-0	Paul Barasi	1	Victor Jones	0-1	David N Roberts
2	Adrian Pickersgill	½	Julien Shepley	2	William Jones	0-1	David Grant
3	Rasa Norinkeviciute	1-0	Angus French	3	Mark Robertson	1-0	Adrian Pickersgill
4	Tim Spanton	0-1	Phil Stimpson	4	David Barnes	0-1	Tim Spanton
5	Paul Batchelor	1-0	Phil Stimpson	5	Andy Mayhew	1-0	Paul Batchelor
6	Paul Taylor	0-1	David Sedgwick	6	David Tucker	1-0	Chris Hann
7	Mick Reddie	½	Simon Wrigley	7	Tom Stonehouse	½	Raymond Brooks
8	Alan Palmer	½	Alasdair Macleod	8	Jerry Anstead	1-0	Alan H Palmer
9	L John Cannon	½	Paul Archer	9	Bob Everson	1-0	Bob Fisher
10	Dave Cork	0-1	H Trevor Jones	10	Bob Lane	1-0	def
11	Tim Woods	0-1	Peter Lalic	11	Paul Rutland	1-0	John Scholey
12	R Daniel Hirsch	0-1	Adrian Waldock	12	David Sandham	1-0	Peter Benson
13	def	0-1	Chris Clegg	13	Richard Cheeseman	1-0	Daniel Hirsch
14	def	0-1	Ian Deswarte	14	Peter Wood	1-0	def
15	def	0-1	Graham Alcock	15	Syd Jacob	1-0	def
16	def	0-1	Hugh Fenwick	16	Mike Wiltshire	1-0	def
		5-11				**12½-3½**	

29.11.08	Sussex	v	Middlesex	13.12.08	Essex	v	Sussex
1	George Salimbeni	1-0	Paul McKeown	1	Ian Reynolds	0-1	George Salimbeni
2	David Grant	1-0	George Dickson	2	Kevin White	1-0	David Roberts
3	Adrian Pickersgill	½	David Ebbett	3	Jeff Goldberg	½	Adrian Pickersgill
4	Rasa Norinkeviciute	0-1	Michael Tasker	4	Chris Fegan	0-1	Rasa Norinkeviciute
5	Paul Kelly	½	Martin Lee	5	Philip Gregory	0-1	Tim Spanton
6	Martin Costley	½	D Ian Calvert	6	John Moore	½	Paul Kelly
7	Ahmed Hassan	½	Anthony Fulton	7	Martin McCall	½	Martin Costley
8	Paul Batchelor	1-0	David White	8	Larry Marden	1-0	Ahmed Hassan
9	Chris Hann	1-0	Joe Franks	9	David Spearman	1-0	Paul Batchelor
10	Anthony Higgs	0-1	Martin Crichton	10	Terry Whitton	1-0	Chris Hann
11	Paul Taylor	½	Nigel Colter	11	Neville Twitchell	½	Alan Palmer
12	Michael Reddie	½	Richard Thursby	12	Terence Donnelly	½	Ben Silverstein
13	Joseph Quinn	0-1	Michael Price	13	Howard Grist	½	David Cork
14	L John Cannon	½	John Woolley	14	David Millward	½	L John Cannon
15	Timothy Woods	½	Geoff Hermes	15	David Brock	½	Timothy Woods
16	Robert Fisher	1-0	Matthew Staneland	16	John Philpott	0-1	Robert Fisher
		9-7				**8-8**	

25.1.09	Surrey	v	Sussex	31.1.09	Sussex	v	Kent
1	Alain Dekker	½	Brian Donnelly	1	Brian Donnelly	½	David Barnes
2	Ian Heppel	½	George Salimbeni	2	Grant Bucher	0-1	David Tucker
3	Paul Barasi	0-1	David N Roberts	3	George Salimbeni	½	Tom Stonehouse
4	Julien Shepley	1-0	David Grant	4	David N Roberts	1-0	Bob Everson
5	Angus French	1-0	Rasa Norinkeviciute	5	David Grant	1-0	Paul Rutland
6	Phil Stimpson	0-1	Adrian Pickersgill	6	Martin Costley	0-1	Peter Wood
7	Peter Williams	0-1	Tim Spanton	7	David Norton	1-0	Syd Jacob
8	Paul Dupré	½	Paul Kelly	8	Paul Batchelor	1-0	Roger Winterburn
9	Simon McCullough	0-1	Paul Batchelor	9	Anthony Higgs	1-0	David Helsby
10	Geoff Marchant	0-1	Anthony Higgs	10	Tim Woods	1-0	Laurence Jones
11	Chris Clegg	½	Michael Reddie	11	Paul Kelly	1-0	def
12	Simon Wrigley	½	Alan Palmer	12	Paul Taylor	1-0	def
13	Ian Deswarte	0-1	David Cork	13	Michael Reddie	1-0	def
14	Peter Lalic	½	L John Cannon	14	Alan Palmer	1-0	def
15	Adrian Waldock	1-0	Tim Woods	15	David Cork	1-0	def
16	Graham Alcock	½	Robert Fisher	16	L John Cannon	1-0	def
		6½-9½				**13-3**	

21.2.09	Middlesex	v	Sussex	7.3.09	Sussex	v	Essex
1	Paul McKeown	½	Brian Donnelly	1	Brian Donnelly	½	Kevin White
2	Peter Ackley	½	George Salimbeni	2	R Alan Barton	0-1	Jeff Goldberg
3	Stian Hjoberg	0-1	David Roberts	3	Rasa Norinkeviciute	1-0	Ian Hunnable
4	Nevil Chan	0-1	R Alan Barton 165	4	Adrian Pickersgill	0-1	Tim Hebbes
5	Steven Coles	½	Adrian Pickersgill	5	Paul Kelly	0-1	Ivor Smith
6	David Ebbett	½	Tim Spanton	6	Stephen Blewitt	½	Philip Gregory
7	George Dickson	1-0	Paul Kelly	7	Paul Batchelor	0-1	Larry Marden
8	Mark Davey	0-1	Stephen Blewitt	8	Chris Hann	½	David Spearman
9	D Ian Calvert	1-0	Paul Batchelor	9	Anthony Higgs	0-1	Kanwal Bhatia
10	Martin Lee	½	Michael Reddie	10	Michael Reddie	½	Peter Doye
11	Jim Falzarano	0-1	Alan Palmer	11	Alan Palmer	½	John White
12	Martin Crichton	1-0	Ben Silverstein	12	David Cork	0-1	Neville Twitchell
13	Jonathan Kay	0-1	David Cork	13	L John Cannon	½	Terry Donnelly
14	David White	1-0	L John Cannon	14	Adam Squibbs	½	Colin Ramage
15	Charles McAleenan	0-1	Tim Woods	15	Timothy Woods	½	Howard Grist
16	V Ray Harper	1-0	Robert Fisher	16	Robert Fisher	0-1	David Millward
		7½ 8½				**5-11**	

9.5.09	Lancs	v	Sussex
1	Peter E Jowett	1-0	Brian P Donnelly
2	Robert A Newton	0-1	Grant W Bucher
3	Mark A Whitehead	1-0	Nadezda Somova
4	Martyn Hamer	½	R Alan Barton
5	Steve J Horrocks	0-1	David Norton
6	D George Ellison	½	Rasa Norinkeviciute
7	John D Lyth	½	Adrian O Pickersgill
8	Mike J Conroy	½	Stephen Blewitt
9	Dennis Owen	½	Anthony RJ Higgs
10	Oleg Cukovs	½	Paul A Batchelor
11	Mark A Talbot	1-0	Michael J Reddie
12	Robert K Taylor	0-1	Ben JC Silverstein
13	Michael L Parker	½	Paul R Selby
14	Emlyn DG Dobson	½	L John Cannon
15	John Whitfield	0-1	Robert Fisher
16	Abigail Pritchard	1-0	R Daniel Hirsch
		8-8*	**Lancs win on board count*

Under 150

LOGIC suggested that Sussex might improve on the half match point scored in 2007-08, since 22 players turned out for the team in 2008-09, compared with 31 in the previous season, and Sussex outgraded both Kent and Herts, with the teams of virtually equal strength in the Surrey match. However, the opposite happened, with Sussex unluckily losing the Kent and Herts matches 7½ - 8½ and finishing bottom of the U150 table, with "nil points". There were no defaults on either side in any of the four matches, and seven Sussex ever-presents, namely: Paul Taylor (3 from 4); Jerry Stone (2½); Alan Palmer, Jaimie Wilson, Paul Kington and John Cannon (all 2); and Timothy Woods (1½). Paul Batchelor flew the Sussex flag strongly by winning both his top board games.

On a personal note, and as some readers are aware, the Herts match on February 14 was my 450th county match, played over 58 years. Due to a combination of circumstances this seemingly established a national record by some distance, and was reported at the SCCU website and in the April issue of "Chess", with details also to be found at the Horsham C.C. website. My thanks go to all who turned out for the team.

John Cannon

11.10.08	Sussex		Kent	9.11.08	Essex	v	Sussex
1	Anthony RJ Higgs	0-1	Andy Heard	1	Colin Ramage	0-1	Paul Batchelor
2	Paul Taylor	½	Bob Lane	2	David Millward	0-1	Paul Taylor
3	Michael J Reddie	½	Paul Rutland	3	Howard Grist	1-0	Michael J Reddie
4	Alan H Palmer	1-0	David Sandham	4	Rod Johnson	½	Alan Palmer
5	Jaimie Wilson	½	Peter Wood	5	Gavin Strachan	½	Jaimie Wilson
6	Ben Silverstein	0-1	Syd Jacob	6	Ray Purse	½	Ben Silverstein
7	David J Cork	0-1	Roger Winterburn	7	Jason Klimach	1-0	David J Cork
8	Ray TF Williams	0-1	Dave Helsby	8	Peter Laundy	½	Paul N Kington
9	Paul N Kington	1-0	Mike Wiltshire	9	Aidan Corish	1-0	Rolandas Lukoshus
10	Rolandas Lukoshus	½	Nigel Norman	10	David Payne	½	Jerry LA Stone
11	Jerry LA Stone	1-0	Geoff Bishop	11	Ken Clow	½	L John Cannon
12	L John Cannon	½	Derek Davis	12	Mark Murrell	1-0	Adam M Squibbs
13	Adam M Squibbs	0-1	Mike Harrison	13	Ian Morgan	1-0	Timothy J Woods
14	Rufo Suarez Prendes	0-1	Peter Childs	14	Malcolm Kingsley	1-0	Robert Fisher
15	Timothy J Woods	½	Alan Sherriff	15	Ian Woodward	1-0	Marc Bryant
16	Robert Fisher	0-1	Andrew Sangster	16	Alan Riddoch	1-0	Brian Izzard
		6-10				**11-5**	

10-1.09	Sussex		Surrey	14.2.09	Herts	v	Sussex
1	Anthony RJ Higgs	1-0	Chris Clegg	1	Simon Morris	0-1	Paul A Batchelor
2	Paul Taylor	½	Paul Stokes	2	Jon Barnes	1-0	Anthony RJ Higg
3	Michael J Reddie	½	Simon Wrigley	3	David Bower	0-1	Paul Taylor
4	Alan H Palmer	½	Ian Deswarte	4	James Aldred	½	Joseph R Quinn
5	Jaimie Wilson	1-0	Peter Lalic	5	Paul Kenning	0-1	Michael J Reddie
6	David J Cork	0-1	Graham Alcock	6	Andy Tinker	1-0	Alan H Palmer
7	Paul N Kington	½	Paul Archer	7	Tarisai Savanhu	1-0	Jaimie Wilson
8	R. Lukoshus	½	H Trevor Jones	8	Paul Lawrence	½	Ben Silverstein
9	Jerry LA Stone	½	Adrian Waldock	9	Mark Harris	1-0	Paul N Kington
10	Chris W Heath	0-1	Paul Carlucci	10	Bruce Toper	1-0	Rolandes Lukoshus
11	L John Cannon	½	Eric Brodie	11	R. Gordonsmith	½	Jerry LA Stone
12	Timothy J Woods	½	Francis Fields	12	Ian Mutton	½	L John Cannon
13	Robert Fisher	0-1	Steve Ashworth	13	Simon Charles	0-1	Adam M Squibbs
14	Marc Bryant	0-1	Jasper Tambini	14	Brian Judkins	½	Timothy J Woods
15	Brian J Izzard	½	Theo Albrecht	15	Mark Topham	0-1	Bob Fisher
16	Neil Tasker	1-0	Theo Albrecht	16	Alan Gore	1-0	Brian J Izzard
		7.5-8.5				**8½-7½**	

Under 125

THE 2008-09 season proved to be a tough season for the U125 team. The previous campaign had seen us reach the final in Leicester. A similar looking squad failed to pick up any wins or draws this time around.

A series of bad luck and inability to fill all 16 boards certainly didn't help our cause. In our first match, we fielded a side that looked very strong on paper and outgunned our opponents from Essex on 14 of the 16 boards. Inexplicably, we were beaten 10-6 on home ground. The reason for the defeat remains unclear but it set the tone for the rest of the season as we were unable to recover from such a big defeat.

Our next two matches away proved just as tough, except that we had the added problem of not filling the 16 boards. A combination of sickness and two players travelling together finding themselves stuck in busy London traffic meant that we left empty seats in front of complete sets of pieces.

Two more defeats followed and a disappointing season was over. Best performances were achieved by Richard Barrowclough and Chris Yates 2½/3, Thomas Fitzgerald 2½/4 and David Curtis 2½/5.

Thank you to all 30 players who turned out for the team.

Gary McCulloch

1.11.08	Sussex	v	Essex	29.11.08	Middlesex	v	Sussex
1	Gary McCulloch	½	David Gatheral	1	DJ Lawrence	0-1	Neil Tasker
2	John Marshall	0-1	Keith Cook	2	A Johnstone	0-1	John Marshall
3	David Chilvers	0-1	Mustapha Rahaman	3	G Breed	1-0	John Marshall
4	Don Banks	0-1	Howard Berlin	4	D McNish	½	Mark Attree
5	Vince Ellis	1-0	David Cannan	5	W Ransome	½	Chris Yates
6	Julie Denning	0-1	Barry McMurdock	6	BA Tysoe	½	Alex Von Der Becke
7	Thomas Fitzgerald	½	Richard Joyce	7	A Aniecko	1-0	David NcGladdery
8	Ray Hunt	0-1	Simon Moth	8	P Grant-Ross	0-1	Thomas Fitzgerald
9	Richard Barrowclough	1-0	Herbie Alley	9	W Porter	1-0	Julie Denning
10	David Curtis	½	Phil Foley	10	P Szabo	½	David Curtis
11	Roger Waddingham	0-1	Peter Brander	11	AA Fraser	½	Mick Plumb
12	David Wallis	0-1	Vladimir Chtym	12	P Parfett	1-0	David Wallis
13	Graham Salmon	½	Steve Woodall	13	T Crouch	1-0	def
14	Michael Dean	½	Geoff Lane	14	J Farrell	½	Gary McCulloch
15	Oskar Schortz	1-0	Wim de Jong	15	S Sonnis	1-0	Nick Yates
16	Daryl Brooks	½	Nikhil Sanghani	16	R Mumford	0-1	Daryl Brooks
		6-10				**9-7**	

13.12.08	Surrey	v	Sussex	24.1.09	Sussex		Kent
1	Theodore Albrecht	½	Gary McCulloch	1	Neil Tasker	0-1	Peter Thomas
2	Tom Middleton	0-1	Neil Tasker	2	John Marshall	0-1	Neil Lister
3	Kevin Wilkinson	½	John Marshall	3	Matthew Pane	0-1	Richard Bedwell
4	Ken Chamberlain	½	David McGladdery	4	David Chilvers	1-0	Peter Childs
5	Mike Williams	1-0	Bob Lanzer	5	Gary Charles	1-0	Simon Court
6	Mike Gunn	0-1	Thomas Fitzgerald	6	Chris Yates	1-0	Matthew Bunn
7	Krishna Mehendale	0-1	Richard Barrowclough	7	Alex von der Becke	½	Andrew Sangster
8	Roger Barnett	1-0	Julie Denning	8	Richard Barrowclough	½	Alan Sherriff
9	Allen Miller	1-0	Ray Hunt	9	David McGladdery	0-1	Malcolm Mourant
10	James Schenck	0-1	David Curtis	10	Thomas Fitzgerald	0-1	Richard Woodfield
11	Ben Andrew	1-0	Dave Wallis	11	Bob Lanzer	1-0	David Myles
12	Selva Somupillai	½	Michael Dean	12	Ray Hunt	½	Nicholas Clanchy
13	Julian Walker	1-0	def	13	Julie Denning	½	Mark Houghton
14	Sam Porter	½	Doug Opie	14	David Curtis	½	David Fowler
15	Jon Andrew	1-0	Daryl Brooks	15	Roger Waddingham	0-1	Gary Sharp
16	David Howes	1-0	def	16	Mick Plumb	0-1	Bob Fenn
		9½ -6½				**6**½ 9½	

21.2.09	Herts	v	Sussex
1	Keith Woodhouse	1-0	Neil Tasker
2	Mir Wali	1-0	Gary McCulloch
3	James Abrams	½	John Marshall
4	Mike Price	0-1	Matthew Payne
5	Nick Cornish	0-1	Chris Yates
6	Chris Russell	½	Alex von der Becke
7	Alan Adams	1-0	Bob Lanzer
8	Graham Howard	½	Julie Denning
9	Paul Laskier	1-0	David Langridge
10	Austin McMahon	1-0	David Curtis
11	Stephen Dicks	1-0	David Wallis
12	David Belton	½	Graham Salmon
13	Barry Saunders	½	Nick Yates
14	Ray Butcher	1-0	Douglas Opie
15	Mike Connock	1-0	Daryl Brooks
16	Kidge Elder	1-0	def
		11½-4½	

Correspondence Chess

IN a virtual re-run of last season's Ward-Higgs, Yorkshire retain the Championship and Sussex finish in second place.
Currently (July 26): 1 Yorkshire 16½/21, 2 Sussex 14/22. Eleven counties competed.
Almost half the Sussex team won their individual encounter.
Bernard Cafferty drew with a Senior International Master and his regularly good results on a high board earned him recognition as Sussex CC Player of the Year 2009.

Sussex Ward-Higgs 2008/9 Individual results

Bd.	Sussex		Opponent		County
E1	Graham, DB	0	Donnelly, MJ	1	Warwickshire
E2	Cafferty, B	½	Nicholson, M	½	Northumberland
E3	Macfarlane, D	½	Walker, A	½	Nottinghamshire
E4	James, GH	0	Martindale, D	1	Lancashire
E5	Fryer, DW	1	Vaughan, I	0	Staffordshire
E6	Mansson, JC	½	Obey, DE	½	Kent
E7	Norton, T	½	Ward, R	½	Hampshire
E8	Norman, KI	1	Bowden, K	0	Essex
E9	Bryant, JL	½	Slinger, AJ	½	Yorkshire
E10	Wheeler, JM	0	Stokes, Paul	1	Surrey
E11	Roberts, DN	1	Williams, GW	0	Hertfordshire
N1	Brookes, JG	1	Byway, PV	0	Hertfordshire
N2	Broom, M	1	Grayland, SJ	0	Warwickshire
N3	Dodgson, JA	1	Palmer, LM	0	Northumberland
N4	Stimpson, PM	½	Lane, T	½	Nottinghamshire
N5	Cunliffe, SD	1	Foulkes, S	0	Lancashire
N6	Elliston, RV	½	Lead, B	½	Staffordshire
N7	Batchelor, PA	1	Kingdon, R	0	Kent
N8	Almond, RJ	1	Dean, S	0	Hampshire
N9	Eastoe, LKG	½	Smith, IBN	½	Essex
N10	Selby, PR	0	Milton, D	1	Yorkshire
N11	Britnell, MJ	1	Sweetman, B	0	Surrey
	Sussex =	**14**	**Composite Team =**	**8**	

Bernard Cafferty, Sussex CC Player of the Year, holding the GE Anslow cup

Clubs

Bognor and Arun

www.bognorandarunchessclub.co.uk

THE club has enjoyed one of its best seasons. Thanks, in part, to its splendid chandelier-lit clubroom, membership has increased and so has its playing strength. The temporary (we hope) demise of the South West Sussex Chess League has been amply replaced by the club's participation, in partnership with Chichester, in the Portsmouth Chess League, now in its third season. This last season resulted in our three teams finishing first, second and first in the Portsmouth League's three divisions. A remarkable performance.

The same success was not repeated in the McArthur Cup in its encounters with Brighton. The club beat Brighton B then lost decisively to Brighton's very strong A team.

Influential in the club's success has been the emergence of Jaimie Wilson and Rolandas Lukosius as the club's strongest players. Jaimie has been rewarded with success in the club championship and Knockout . He also shared first place with Rolandas in the 10-second tournament. The club's Rapidplay tournament yet to be decided.

Bill Partridge

Brighton & Hove

www.brightonandhovechessclub.org

2008-9 has been a busy, exciting, season for Brighton & Hove Chess Club. Our AGM in September elected Sue Chadwick as president and Simon Hayward as librarian. Consequently, we modernised our library by reorganising our books into a room of their own and added an internet- enabled computer with Fritz.

Of the five teams we entered for the Mid Sussex League, Simon led the fourth team to victory and promotion to the third division and Sue led the third team to victory and promotion to the second division. Paul Batchelor led the first team to victory in the McArthur Cup. Inside the club, Charles "MBE" Holcombe generously funded a new cash prize handicap competition and Andrew Caswill - elected as the new fifth team captain at the AGM - commissioned a beautiful oak rapid- play ladder board. These two competitions are for the summer months when our five long-play competitions are over.

A special mention is due to Geoffrey James who played top board for England 1 in the European Senior Team Championships at Velden, Austria in April, scoring 4/9 against mostly masters, including a draw against a GM. Membership has steadily grown throughout the year, before our planned recruitment campaign. Our 210+ page website now shows our regularly updated cross tables.

The chess club from Dieppe visited us for our second international match, which we won 8-7. We'll be returning to Dieppe for the third match this year, subsidised by the EU. The following month the GLC club will be visiting us for a similar match. Our expanding membership means that we shall probably enter at least six teams in the Mid Sussex League next season. A world tour beckons with matches in Paris, Berlin, Prague, Moscow, Baghdad… we may even invade America (but only with UN approval).

Duncan Roy

Chichester

CHICHESTER Chess Club has had a very active and successful season having changed venue and, jointly with Bognor & Arun Chess Club, finished top in two of the three divisions in the Portsmouth Chess League.

After a long association with the Regnum Club, we have moved to The Fountain Inn, South Street, Chichester. We meet there every Tuesday, from 7pm. The club's membership has now risen to 15 and the move has proved very popular with both club members and opposing teams.

On the playing side of things, the combined teams of Chichester and Bognor & Arun won the Portsmouth League's championship itself, just missed out on the Second Division championship by coming runners-up, just one point behind Cosham B. The C Team rounded things off by finishing top of the Third Division.

We run two interclub competitions. The main Club Championship was won, for the ninth time, by Steve Smith. The runner-up, also a nine-time winner, was Ray Williams. They finished with 6½ out of 8 points each but Steve won by virtue of having the better record in their two games against each other.

The under 80 competition is yet to be completed but, with a maximum of 8 games to be played, the favourite is Philip Carr with 4 out of 4 although Andy Tate 5/7 and Mike Spence 5/8 are still in with a chance.

We are looking forward to our association with Bognor and Arun continuing and also having another successful season at the Fountain.

Philip Wake

Crawley

www.crawleychessclub.website.orange.co.uk

DESPITE the loss of several members from last season, Crawley was still able to run two teams in the Mid-Sussex League.

The first team, despite being considerably strengthened by the addition of Chino Atako and Aiden Leech on the top two boards, were still the lowest graded team in the division. We were frequently outgraded by 20-30 points a board, but wins against Lewes 1 and Knoll Knights and draws against Hastings 1 and Hastings 2 allowed us to avoid relegation by finishing in seventh place out of 10.

The second team, playing in division 4, struggled to field full teams and defaulted boards in about half their matches. Despite this, they performed reasonably well, winning four and drawing one of their eight matches to finish in mid-table.

In the knockout cup, we won away against both Horsham and Woodpushers before beating Crowborough 6-0 at home in the final. This was a particularly satisfying result as Crowborough had won the knockout in each of the last four seasons.

Jim Graham won the club championship with a score of 11/11, followed by Mick Harris on 10/13, Jim also won the rapid-play with 8/11, followed by Dave Cork on 6/8.

The club meets on Thursdays from 7.30 to 11.00pm between September and April at Green Fields Baptist Church, Ashdown Drive, Crawley. New members of all strengths are always welcome. Full details of the clubs activities can be found either by ringing Jim Graham on 01293 415929 or by e-mailing crawleychessclub@blueyonder.co.uk or by visiting the club's website.

Jim Graham

Crowborough

www.crowboroughchess.org

CROWBOROUGH 1 shared the championship with Hastings1 with identical records for match and game points. An unusual feature was that both teams won their last fixture 5-0.

Crowborough II finished the season in a respectable mid-table postion. However, they went down 5-0 in their last game against joint champions Hastings I when even a half point would have given Crowborough I the championship outright.

Crowborough III had a disappointing season, which resulted in a second successive relegation, ending in the penultimate spot in Division 3.

Crowborough IV attained promotion after being runners-up after spending only one season in Division 4.

In the "Roll of Honour" only one player achieved at least 75 per cent for best match average, David Grant, with 6/8, 75per cent.

Worthy of note was the feat of Caroline Campion who, in averaging only 71 per cent overall, achieved a creditable 81.25 per cent from her eight games as captain for Crowborough IV.

Cup-holders Crowborough B lost the final dramatically 6-0 to Crawley. Crowborough A went out narrowly to Woodpushers. These brought an end to three successive victories in the competition.

(Continued)

Honours were as follows: Club Championship (Kenright Trophy)

1. Chris Dunn 6 pts
2. Wade Rickaby 4½ pts

Most Games in Club Championship (Simon Deere Cup)

1. Chris Dunn 8 games
2. Don Grant 8 games

Richard Chamier Trophy

1. Chris Dunn 80 pts
2. Graham Salmon 62 pts
3. Don Grant 60 pts

Top Junior (Friends Cup)

1. George Salimbeni 39 pts
2. Adam Squibbs 32½ pts
3. Sam Amis 21½ pts

Rapid Play

1. Michael Redman 9½ pts
2. Chris Dunn 8½ pts

Adam Squibbs 1½ pts (top junior)

Autumn Lightning 2007

1. Peter Kemp 5 pts (on countback)
2. Gerald Michaud 5 pts
3. George Salimbeni 4 pts (top junior)

Spring Lightning 2008

1. Robert Elliston 5½ pts
2. Gary McCulloch, Gerald Michaud and George Salimbeni 4 pts

Chess Personality of the Year

1. David Fryer

Don Grant

Eastbourne

I HAVE commented in the past on the problems that arise in a club when most of the members are retired. This season, we have seen a very welcome increase in younger faces. Two newcomers have indicated that they would like to play county chess next season. Currently, we have a membership of just under 30.

In the Mid-Sussex League, our first finished top of Division Two, with 7.5 points out of 8, while the second team finished last with only 1 point. The third team occupied a mid-table position.

Rasa Norinkeviciute made a vital contribution to the first team's success, with five wins and three draws on board one, and on board two or three, John Herbert won a tankard with 7.5 points. Apart from the second team captain, Warwick Silber, there often seemed little to distinguish the standard of our second and third Teams. Vince Ellis, an ungraded player, played for all three teams and won 7 of 9 games. The ones he lost were for the third team!

Our internal club competitions are not usually finished until August. At the time of writing, Vince is ahead of Rasa in the championship.

John Herbert

Hastings & St Leonards

PATRICK Donovan regained the title of club champion. After a slow start, he came from behind to finish with 7½ points from 10 games, ahead of Adrian Pickersgill on 7. Richard Almond, who for a long time set the pace, finished third with 6½ points.

The second division - the Pelton Cup - was shared for the first time in recent years. Paul Buswell, John Felton of Hastings and Alfred Mikurenda of Battle shared first place with five points from eight; a play-off shed Felton but could not split Buswell or Mikurenda, who now share.

The third division, the Rush Cup, went to Steve Oakman who had a runaway victory with 7½ points from 8, ahead of Anna Pontonutti on 5½.

In league chess, the club shared the Mid-Sussex title with Crowborough, needing to win its last match 5-0 against, of all people, Crowborough B – that was a momentous feat. Our own B team avoided relegation with help from others, but our C team were not so fortunate and bounced straight down.

In the Kent League, our average <100 and <80 teams failed to shine, but the average <60 reached the Kent Final only to lose on board count.

Twinning played its part again: we were invited to a four-nations event by Oudenaarde in Belgium, which we won, and we also won comfortably in our visit to Béthune

Membership numbers have just about held up but the club does need new blood. We have received a grant of just under £3,000 from the Sussex Community Foundation to promote membership and participation to those suffering social exclusion through economic hardship; we hope that this may bring in people with an interest in chess who otherwise might not feel able to invest in the club subscription.

And we need new blood: at time of writing, president, and chairman, and secretary, and treasurer, and premises officer, are all standing down and only one putative successor has been identified. There is a real risk that the club will be unable to carry out some of its core functions.

Finally, I regret to report the death in April of our honorary life member, Iris Bourne, who many visitors will know as our housekeeper and provider of teas; and in March we lost another honorary life member, Ted Wheeler.

Paul Buswell

Haywards Heath

HAYWARDS HEATH teams 1 & 2 had a satisfactory year playing in Division 3 in the Mid-Sussex Chess League, finishing third and seventh respectively. It was a year of consolidation after the previous season's winning ways and a subsequent departure of some senior players.

Internal competitions were won by Carl Blinco (long-play challenge) and Feliks Kwiatkowski (lightning).

The prospects for the forthcoming season nominally look fair from the playing perspective, but the future is clouded. Issues regarding our venue at St Francis Sports and Social club, with the possibilities of moving or amalgamating or name-changing are currently being discussed. We'll be in action, "but watch this space!"

Norman Hawkins

Horsham

www.horshamchessclub.btik.com

ON October 25, Horsham Chess Cub will be celebrating its 130th anniversary and I am pleased to report that we are going stronger than ever. We have a strong junior section, vibrant internal competitions and, for the first time, five teams in the Mid Sussex League.

Our junior section attracts more than a dozen players every week, with ages ranging from 6 to 15. Anthony Higgs' alternation between coaching evenings and match nights has caught their imagination and the winner of the season long all-play-all competition is awarded the Peter Alford cup. This year's winner was Robin Fells, who is a budding player.

Our internal competitions remain strong, with 30 players participating in a busy competition schedule appealing to all standards. In conjunction with the knockout, lightning and quickplay competitions, we have had a long history of playing two all-play-all competitions. Due to expanding numbers, we are expecting to extend this to three competitions next year.

Gavin Lock won the club championship and Adam Squibbs won the other all-play-all competition. Gavin Lock and Ben Silverstein are in the final of the knockout which, following an initial draw will be resolved over the summer. Adam Squibbs won the knockout plate and Paul Taylor won the ten second lightning competition.

In the Mid Sussex League, we must have set some sort of record this year in having a team finish in third place in all four divisions. In the end, only our second team did enough to earn promotion and they look forward to joining the first team in division 1 next year.

Another record has been the number of county games played by members – 75 games (by 14 players), which easily eclipsed the previous highest total of 65 games played in 2001-02 Our chairman, John Cannon, managed the remarkable and unequalled feat of playing in his 450th county match. Amy Hoare has represented England in both Poland and Italy and Joseph Quinn scored a creditable 4.5 at Capelle La Grande, an International 9 round FIDE event.

Ian Comley

The Args

THE Args only possess six players at present, so any illness or other unavailability sometimes forces us to default games. Otherwise, we might have been one of the contenders in Division 3, instead of avoiding relegation by a narrow margin.

Peter Farr scored 5.5/6 - again proving the best player in the division. Kington 5/8, Collard 3.5/8, Huston 1/6, Garson 2/5 and Card 0.5/3 were the other scores this season.

We'll be keen again for next season and anyone who likes to mix their chess with a little humour and alcohol is welcome to join us!

Paul Kington

Worthing

www.worthingchessclub.co.uk

WORTHING Chess Club has a new website, and the impact has been immediate with new members the main benefit. Unfortunately, our first team could not stay in division one, going down with fighting draws against Brighton and Knoll Knights and just missing out on game points.

The future, however, looks bright. Our second safely negotiated the season and the club has several ex-180s back at the club, and with several juniors coming through the ranks the club is already looking to increase its presence in the Mid-Sussex with another team.

The club lost Bernard Bruno after a sudden illness late last year. He was a long-standing member and will be sadly missed.

Chris Jones

Leagues

Mid-Sussex

www.midsussexchess.org.uk

Division 1

CROWBOROUGH 1 and Hastings 1 completed the campaign with identical match and game points. This has not happened in the last 10 years. Rather than risk all in a play-off, they opted to share the trophy. Hastings 1 approached their final game knowing they could not claim the trophy outright but that an unlikely maximum 5-0 win against Crowborough II would bring them a share of the spoils. They achieved this despite only a slight grading difference on the bottom two boards. In third position was Horsham I, 2½ points behind.

Relegated to Division 2 was the fate of Knoll Knights (2 pts) and Worthing I (2½ pts). Hastings II also had 2½ points but retained their status with more game points.

Division 2

CHAMPIONS were Eastbourne I (7½ pts) and also promoted were Horsham II (6 pts). Ironically, these two teams were relegated last year. Relegated were Eastbourne II and Woodpushers (2pts) who both suffered a loss of form having finished in mid-table last season.

Division 3

BRIGHTON III came out as champions (23½ pts) and Uckfield I (23 pts) were runners-up. Horsham IV and St Francis & Haywards Heath II finished joint third on 22½ points. Uckfield, in their first season, were permitted to start in this division and justified the decision. Horsham IV were promoted only last year and St Francis were in their initial season after merging with Haywards Heath. Hastings III, their only score being a draw against Crowborough III (2½ pts), suffered a second successive relegation and descended into Division 4. The Args also ended on 2½ points.

Division 4

BRIGHTON IV (7pts) were champions and will be joined in Division III by Crowborough IV (5½ pts) who spent only one season in the division. East Grinstead III and Horsham V making their debut also collected 5½ points. Bottom of the heap were Uckfield II who finished scoreless with the penultimate spot being occupied by East Grinstead II (2pts). Aldrington House played two losing games before dropping out of the league.

Mid-Sussex Cup (Handicap)

CRAWLEY , in a magnificent display, ended Crowborough's monopoly of the shield which dated back to the 2004/5 season. Their maximum 6-0 victory was achieved despite the holders possessing higher grades on the top two boards.

Mid-Sussex League (2008/9) Best Match Average

Overall (At least 7 games)			
John Herbert	Eastbourne I	7½ pts/8 games	93.75%
David Fryer	Uckfield I	7½ pts/8 games	93.75%
Division 1 (at least 7 games)			
Dominic Lawson	Lewes I	5½ pts/7 games	78.57%
Division 2 (at least 6 games)			
John Herbert	Eastbourne I	7½ pts/8 games	93.75%
Division 3 (at least 6 games)			
David Fryer	Uckfield I	7½ pts/8 games	93.75%
Division 4 (at least 6 games)			
Simon Hayward	Brighton IV	7 pts/8 games	87.50%

Don Grant

The story behind division one

THIS was perhaps the strongest Division 1 ever: nine of the 10 teams could field sides with an average grade of 160+ and four were over 175. The competitiveness was shown by the fact that out of the 45 matches there were 10 ties and15 3-2 results.

The struggles for the championship and to avoid relegation both went to the wire. At season's end, Hastings & St Leonards 1, the 2008 champions, had to win their last two matches and gain eight game points from 10 to equal Crowborough 1 on both match and game points. They barely scraped the first, against Brighton & Hove 1, winning 3-2, and therefore had to beat the strong, mainly junior, Crowborough 2 team, 5-0 to share the title. Incredibly, that was the result. Both clubs declined the possibility of a play-off.

The relegation battle was equally fraught. Knoll Knights earned the wooden spoon after they could only draw against another of the relegation candidates, Worthing 1, in their last fixture. The latter seemed to have booked their place for a quick return to Division 2 after losing five out of their first six fixtures, including a shattering 5-0 defeat, but mounted a spirited surge in their last three matches. Draws against Knoll Knights and the much stronger Brighton & Hove 1 produced a real cliffhanger of a deciding last match, where they needed to win against Lewes 1 to consign Hastings & St Leonards 2 to the second division. They appeared to have the win within their grasp until one of their players blundered in time trouble, thus producing their third consecutive draw. Lucky Hastings & St Leonards 2.

Coincidentally, the two teams relegated in 2008, Eastbourne 1 and Horsham 2, have gained promotion back into Division 1 at the expense of the two previously promoted teams, Knoll Knights and Worthing 1. The latter pair are, on paper, stronger than the former, which should make it rather easier for this season's lower-order teams to avoid the drop next season. But who knows? It is possible (even likely) that the four teams will swap places once again.

Rather a controversial season, firstly because of players appearing on the league website's results pages with misleading "shadow" grades based on ECF software calculations derived from hopelessly small result samples. But a far more heated debate has appeared in the *Forum* pages over the proposal to introduce the option of quickplay finishes into the league. This is being vehemently resisted by some of the more experienced lovers of "purist" chess who fear that the motion before this month's annual meeting has been designed as a "wedge" with a view to establishing a fully quickplay system to replace the present (admittedly flawed) adjudication procedure. Dire predictions of the potential for squabbles resulting from the temptation to win on time have added spice to the debate.

Joseph Sharp

Division 1

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	No.	MP	GP
1	Crowborough 1		2	4	3	3½	3	3½	3	3½	5	9	8	30½
2	Hastings & St L 1	3		2½	3	5	3½	2½	3½	3½	4	9	8	30½
3	Horsham 1	1	2½		2½	3	3	3	2½	5	2	9	5½	24½
4	Brighton & Hove 1	2	2	2½		3	1½	4½	3½	2½	3½	9	5	25
5	Crowborough 2	1½	0	2	2		2½	4½	3	3	3	9	4½	21½
6	Lewes 1	2	1½	2	3½	2½		2	3½	2½	3½	9	4	23
7	Crawley 1	1½	2½	2	½	½	3		2½	2	4	9	3	18½
8	Hastings & St L 2	2	1½	2½	1½	2	1½	2½		3½	2½	9	2½	19½
9	Worthing 1	1½	1½	0	2½	2	2½	3	1½		2½	9	2½	17
10	Knoll Knights	0	1	3	1½	2	1½	1	2½	2½		9	2	15

Division 2

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	No.	MP	GP
1	Eastbourne 1		3½	3	3	4½	4½	4½	2½	4½	8	7½	30
2	Horsham 2	1½		2½	3	3½	2½	3	3	4	8	6	23
3	Horsham 3	2	2½		3½	3½	4	2	3	4½	8	5½	25
4	St Francis & Haywards Heath 1	2	2	1½		2	3½	3½	3	3½	8	4	21
5	Brighton & Hove 2	½	1½	1½	3		2½	4	4	2½	8	4	19½
6	East Grinstead 1	½	2½	1	1½	2½		4	2½	2½	8	3	17
7	Lewes 2	½	2	3	1½	1	1		3	3½	8	3	15½
8	Woodpushers	2½	2	2	2	1	2½	2		4	8	2	18
9	Eastbourne 2	½	1	½	1½	2½	2½	1½	1		8	1	11

Division 3

		1	2	3=	3=	5	6	7	8	9	No.	MP	GP
1	Brighton & Hove 3		1½	2½	3½	2½	3	3½	3	4	8	6	23½
2	Uckfield 1	3½		3½	1½	1½	3	3	3½	3½	8	6	23
3=	Horsham 4	2½	1½		2½	3	3½	2	4	3½	8	5	22½
3=	St Francis & Haywards Heath 2	1½	3½	2½		2	3	4	2½	3½	8	5	22½
5	Eastbourne 3	2½	3½	2	3		2	2½	3½	2½	8	4½	21½
6	Worthing 2	2	2	1½	2	3		3½	4	3	8	4	21
7	The Argumentatives	1½	2	3	1	2½	1½		2	4	8	2½	17½
8	Crowborough 3	2	1½	1	2½	1½	1	3		3½	8	2½	16
9	Hastings & St L. 3	1	1½	1½	1½	2½	2	1	1½		8	½	12½

Division 4

		1	2	3=	3=	5	6	7	8	9	10	No.	MP	GP
1	Brighton & Hove 4		3½	2½	2½	4	5	4½	3½	4	~~5~~	8	7	29½
2	Crowborough 4	1½		3	3	4½	2½	4	2	4	X	8	5½	24½
3=	East Grinstead 3	2½	2		2	3	3	4	3	4½	X	8	5½	24
3=	Horsham 5	2½	2	3		2	3½	3½	3½	4	X	8	5½	24
5	Crawley 2	1	½	2	3		2½	3	3	4	X	8	4½	19
6	Brighton & Hove 5	0	2½	2	1½	2½		2½	4½	5	~~4~~	8	3½	20½
7	St Francis & Haywards Heath 3	½	1	1	1½	2	2½		3	5	X	8	2½	16½
8	East Grinstead 2	1½	3	2	1½	2	½	2		4	X	8	2	16½
9	Uckfield 2	1	1	½	1	1	0	0	1		X	8	0	5½
10	Aldrington House	~~0~~	X	X	X	X	~~1~~	X	X	X		~~2~~	~~0~~	~~1~~

South West Sussex

DESPITE committee efforts to revive it, the league remained inactive during the past season. The Bognor & Arun club remain willing to restart and Chichester, sadly depleted for the last few seasons, is showing signs of recovery. However, whether the impetus is there is debatable; Worthing are adequately served by the Mid Sussex League and Bognor & Arun/Chichester by the Portsmouth League. There remain some hopeful signs but no-one is holding their breath.

Bill Partridge

McArthur Cup

IN the light of Chichester's difficulties in fielding a six-board team with strength in depth the decision was taken to look to Brighton to add a third team to the western section of the competition.

In response, Brighton fielded an 'A' and a 'B' team. Brighton 'A' emerged worthy winners; results as follows: Bognor & Arun 3½ Brighton 'B' 2½ (played at Bognor)
Brighton 'A' 5½ Bognor & Arun ½ (played at Brighton)

BRIGHTON reclaimed the trophy, defeating Hastings 4-2 in the final.

Brighton & Hove CC 4-2 Hastings & St L CC (holders)

Luke Rutherford	1-0	Patrick Donovan (W)
Brian Denman	1-0	Default*
Geoff James	.5	Chris Howell
Adrian Pickersgill	.5	Richard Almond
Paul Batchelor	0-1	Bernard Cafferty
Nadezhda** Somova	1-0	Rasa Norinkeviciute

* Misfortune struck early in the form of Brighton's fearsome parking restrictions and confusing road system. John Sugden, who had a fine start to this season (grading averaging over 200) but who had tailed off in recent contests, had intended to come by train, but finally came by car. He got lost in the morass of Brighton's central roads. He finally extricated himself, got to the station to purchase a map, but still had difficulties in locating the venue and arrived over an hour after the 2.00pm start.

** Known by the affectionate diminutive of Nadya, she is a Russian student from Latvia, and a new member of Brighton & Hove CC

Bernard Cafferty

Junior chess

www.sussexjuniorchess.org

JUNIOR chess continues to thrive in Sussex with both teams and individuals enjoying considerable success this season. We saw many of our most experienced juniors moving on to compete in adult events, while some very encouraging new talent emerged in our younger age-groups.

As usual, we hosted nine training days at various locations around the county; each attracting upwards of 50 children aged between six and 14. Almost all our coaches were able to attend all the events - a commitment which meant the juniors benefited from continuity and built good relationships within their coaching groups.

Our series of 11 tournaments all attracted strong entries. In particular, the series of six grand prix events attracted a very loyal following. As in previous years, we hosted a 'Megafinal' for the "British Land UK Chess Challenge" which saw 350 entrants - and were pleased to put more than 100 of them through to the regional Gigafinal. At the Gigafinal, 16 of our juniors qualified for the final stage - the Terafinal - six of them qualifying in style as section winners.

We entered teams in various national competitions at U9, U11, U11 girls, U12, U13, U14, U16 and U18 levels! For the first time, we entered both a boys and a girls team into the U13 competition.

All our teams put in enormous effort and acquitted themselves well - in particular, the U12s becoming the NYCA National Champions and the U14s retaining their title. Both the U13s and the U13 girls finished second in their competition, although in the interests of impartial reporting we have to admit there were only two teams in the girl's tournament! There were also some very near misses - the U11s were just squeezed into fourth place, the U11 girls finished sixth, and the U9s seventh.

Finally, congratulations to Otto Pyper (U10), Sambhav Aggarwal (U11), and Daniel Sutton (U12) who all qualified for the England squad this season.

It just remains to thank all the parents and other volunteers - without them giving their time freely it simply would not be possible for us to offer the range of chess experience that we currently do.

Carol and Dave Graham

Best Games

Luke Rutherford white v Francis Rayner black Mid Sussex League 2009 Symetrical English

1 Nf3 c5 2c4 Nf6 3Nc3 nc6 4g3 d5 5 cxd5 Nxd5 6 Bg2 nc7 7 0-0 g6 (e5 is much more common) 8 Na4 (I've met this move in online games without success, so it was good to try it as White) Ne6 (b6 is, I believe, a better try) 9d3 Bd7 (Black feared 9...Bg7 10 Ng5 eg Nxg5 11 Bxc6+ spoiling the pawns, but this loses tactical control over d4) 10 Be3 b6 11 d4 cd4 12Nxd4 Nexd4 13 Bd4 f6 (Afurther capture on 'd4' leaves both rooks attacked) 14Qd2 Bg7 15 Rfd1 Rc8 16 Nxb6! Nxd4 (if ab6 17 Bxb6 Qxb6 18Qxd7+ Kf7 19 Bd5+ wins) 17 Nxc8 f5 18 Nxa7 qc7 19 e3 Ne6 20 Nc6 Bc6 21 Rac1 Qe5 22 Rxc6 Black resigns

Brian Denman white Luke Rutherford black County Final first game 2009

1 e4 c5 2 nf3 d6 3 d4 cd4 4 nd4 nf6 5 nc3 a6 6 be2 e6 7 o-o be7 8 be3 o-o 9 f4 nc6 10 qe1 nxd4 11 Bxd4 b5 12 a3 Bb7 13 Qg3 g6 14 Bd3 a5 (rc8 is more usual) 15 Nxb5 Nxe4 16 Qe3 f5 17 Rad1 Qd7 18 c4 Qc6 19 Rfe1 g5 (A very radical attempt to mobilise the centre pawns. Maybe too radical. Fritz likes 20 Qh3 for White) 20 Bxe4 fe4 21 fg5 e5 22 Bc3 Rf5 23 Rf1 Raf8 24 Rxf5 Rxf5 25 h4 d5 26 cd5 qxb5 27 qxe4 Bc5+ A Fritz generated oops moment. 27..Qc5+ is better, since if 28 Bd4 Qxd5 saves the 'f5' rook due to the mate threat on 'g2'. 28 Kh2 Qd7 29 Qg4 Bd6 30 Rf1 e4+ 31 kh3 Bxd5
This tactic maintains a material advantage, since if Rxd5 Be6 32 g6 h5 33 Qxf5 Be6 34 g4 hg4+ 35 Kxg4 Bxf5+ 36 Rxf5 Qe6 37 h5 e3 38 Bf6 e2 39 h6 Qe4+ 40 Kg5 Qg2+ 41 Kh5 Qh3+ White resigns

Luke Rutherford white Feliks Kwiatkowski black County Semi-final 2009 Nimzo Indian Defence

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 b6 5 Nge2 c5 6 a3 Ba5 7 Bd2 o-o 8 Rb1 Na6 9 Qa4 Qe7 10 Ng3 Bb7 11 f3 Bc6 12 Qc2 Nc7 13 b4 cb4 14 ab4 Bxb4 15 Rxb4 Qxb4 16 Nb5 Qe7 17 Nxc7 Rac8 18 Na6 Qa3 19 Nb4 Ba4 20 Qd3 Bb3 21 Be2 Qa4 22 c5 bc5 23 dc5 Rc5 24 Kf2 d5 25 Qd4 Rfc8 26 Ra1 Qd7 27 Ba6 R8c7 28 Bd3 Bc4 29 Na6 Bxa6 30 Rxa6 Qc8 31 Ne2 Nd7 32 Bb4 Rc4??
Black is a lot worse anyway. 33 Bxc4 Rxc4 34 Qxa7 Rxb4 35 Qxd7

Luke Rutherford

Mark Broom (Sussex) white v Stan Grayland (Warwickshire) black Ward-Higgs

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nc6 (An unusual move, and as I only generally play 1 e4 at postal chess, one I was not familiar with. Still, there was plenty of time to look it up.) 4 Ngf3 Nf6 5 e5 Nd7 6 Nb3 (Which of the two knights on c6 and b3 is the most awkwardly placed? Black can swap off his bad bishop, but I want to make sure that it costs time) a5 7 a4 Be7 8 Bf4 b6 9 c3 Ba6 10 Ba6 Ra6 11 h4 Ra8 12 Rh3 (This is the point of h4. Not my usual style at all, and I had found it played in a similar position, so thought it worth a go, as I must not allow him to develop easily.) 0-0 (My opponent bravely castles. He will face a big attack, but he has already swapped off my most dangerous piece.) 13 Ng5 Re8 (Not yet a mistake, but he should take the pawn now or on the next move. It would then be important to put the queen on c2 rather than h5, so that the queen does not get in the way of the

rooks on the open file after the pawn capture) 14 Be3 (This would have been a necessary part of my attack, allowing the f4 advance, so it allows a transposition if he now takes the knight) Nf8 (This is the big, and losing, error) 15 Qh5 (He now has to take, but I can now take back with the bishop) Bg5 16 Bg5 Ne7 17 Qg4 h5 (An extraordinary move, but there is nothing better as the attack is too strong otherwise) 18 Qh5 Nh7 19 Qg4 Ng5 20 Qg5 Nf5 21 g4 Nh6 22 Qd8 (We now have an endgame where I have a solid extra pawn, and just need to be careful) Rad8 23 f3 Kh7 24 Rh2 Ng8 25 Kf2 Ne7 26 Kg3 Rb8 27 Rf2 Rec8 28 f4 g6 29 h5 Rh8 30 Rh1 Kg7 31 Rfh2 Rh6 32 hg Rh2 33 Rh2 Kg6 34 Kf3 Kg7 35 Rh5 Rh8 36 Rh8 Kh8 37 Nc1 Kg7 38 Ne2 Kf8 39 Ng3 c5 40 f5 cd 41 cd Nc6 42 Ne2 Black resigns

Mark Broom

Bernard Cafferty v Paul Batchelor McArthur Cup final, Brighton 6 vi 2009 King's Indian

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 b4 Bg7 4 Bb2 0-0 5 e3 c6 6 d4 d5 7 Nbd2 Bg4 8 Qb3 Bxf3 9 gxf3 Double-edged. White hopes to rule out ...e5, but facilitates a later opening of the g-file. 9...Nbd7 10 f4 e6 11 Bg2 Nh5 12 a4 f5 13 0-0 Nhf6 Black could be more ambitious by 13...h6 intending ...g5. Not 13...g5 at once, as after 14 Qd1! Qe8 15 Bf3 he would have to close lines by 15...g4. 14 b5 Kh8 15 a5 Qb8 16 Rfb1 Rfc8 17 a6 Nb6 This should lose to 17 c5 Nbd7 18 Qa4! and White enforces a rook entry at b7, or similar unpleasantness for Black. Yet it is hard to suggest a good 17th move for Black. His decision to go for defence in depth at move 13 turns out to have been unwise. 18 Bf1?! cxb5 19 cxd5 exd5 20 Bxb5 bxa6 21 Bxa6 Rc7 22 Ba3 Bf8 23 Rc1+ Rxc1 24 Rxc1 Bxa3 25 Qxa3 Qd8 26 Bb7 Rb8 27 Qxa7 Nbd7 28 Qxb8! The computers might tell you 28 Rc6 is stronger, but Black would retain chances of attack on the points f2 and h2 with his Q and N, or of a perpetual check by ...Qg4+, Kf1 Qd1+. 28...Qxb8 29 Rc8+ Qxc8 30 Bxc8 Nb6 31 Ba6 Kg7 32 Kg2 Kf8 33 Nf3 Na8 34 Ne5 Nc7 35 Bd3 Kg7 36 Bc2 Ne6 37 Bb3 Nc7 38 Ba4 Kg8 39 Nd7 Ne4 40 Bc6 Kf7 41 f3 Black could put long resistance by guarding d5 with both knights and his K but White would finally penetrate by Ka5 and so on, not even needing to advance e3-e4 till much later. 41...Nd6? 42 Kf2 Ke7 43 Ke2 Na6? 44 Nb6 Nb4 45 Nxd5+ Nxd5 46 Bxd5 Resigns.

Bernard Cafferty

White Phil Stimpson 158, Guildford 3 v Kieran Smallbone 194, Oxford 4NCL Div.2, Bd. 6, May 3

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Bd3 Bxd3 5.Qxd3 Qa5+ 6.Nc3 Qa6 7.Qh3 (7.e6! Qxd3 8.exf7+ Kxf7 9.cxd3 e6 10.f4! (Ufimtsev – Ravkin, Russia 1961)]7....e6 8.Nge2 Nd7 9.0-0 Ne7 10.a4 (to deter.... c5, which is answered by Nb5 aiming at d6) 10…Rc8 11.f4 g6 12.g4 h5 13.f5 gxf5 14.gxf5 Nxf5 15.Rxf5!? exf5 16.Qxf5 c5 17.Nf4 Rg8+ 18.Kf2 cxd4 (18....Be7!)19.Ncxd5 Be7 20.Nxe7 Kxe7 21.Nd5+ Kf8 22.Nf6 Nxf6? (22....Qe6 23.Bh6+ Ke7 24.Nxg8+ Rxg8 25.Bg5+ Ke8 26.Qxe6+ fxe6 27.Bf4=) 23.Bh6+ Ke7? (better 23....Ke8 24.Qxc8+ Ke7 25.Qc5+Ke8 26.Qc8+=, not 26 Qb5+? Qxb5 27.axb5 Ng4+) 24.exf6+ Kd6 (24....Qxf6 25.Re1+) 25.Bf4+ Kc6 26.Qe4+ Kc5 27.Qe5+ Kc4 28.Bd2! 1- 0

White Phil Stimpson 158, Richmond v Alan Scrimgour 163, Kingston Thames Valley League, Bd.1, March 23

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bb5 Nge7 5.0-0 a6 6.Bxc6 Nxc6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Qc7 9.Re1 b5 (9….Be7 is more prudent - 10 Nd5 11 0-0 12 dxc6 dxc6=) 10.Nd5 (10.Nxc6 dxc6 11.e5 b4 12.Ne4 Qxe5 13.Qf3 Bb7 14.Bf4 Qf5 15.Rad1 Be7 16.Qd3 0-0 17.Qd7 Qxf4 18.Qxb7 Rfe8 19.Rd7 Bf8=) 10....exd5 (10 Qb8) 11.exd5+ Ne7 12.d6?! Qxd6 13.Qf3 Qb8? (better 13...Qxd4 14.Qxa8 Qc4 15.a4 f6 16.axb5 axb5 17.Ra3 Qc6) 14.Nf5 Bb7 15.Qa3! Bd5? 16.Rxe7+ Kd8 17.Qa5+ Kc8 18.Re8+ Kb7 19.Rxb8+ Rxb8 20.Be3 1- 0

Phil Stimpson

White Gavin Lock 2252 Coulsdon Chess Fellowship v Julian Shepley (2115) Guildford, Surrey League, December 4

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.Bg5 Ne4 4.Bh4 Bb7 5.Nbd2 d5 6.e3 Nd7 7.c4 Ndf6 8.Rc1 e6 9.cxd5 Bxd5? (9...Qxd5 is correct, sacrificing the c7 pawn for development.) 10.Bb5+ c6 11.Rxc6! (securing a big advantage) 11....Ke7 (the only move) 12.Ne5 (again the best move, which ties B up completely and introduces the idea of Qh5) 12....Rc8 13.Rxc8 (consolidating W's advantage, although 13.Qh5 is crushing, with a possible picturesque finish, after 13...g6 14.Nxe4! and if 14…. gxh5 15.Bxf6+ Ke8 16.Rxe6 mate) 13….Qxc8 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.0-0 h6?! (a serious weakening of the kingside) 16.Qh5! (the key attacking move, threatened by 12.Ne5) 16….g6 17.Bxf6+ Kxf6 18.Nd7+ Ke7 19.Qe5 Rh7? (19...Bc6 was the best defence, although B is still lost) 20.Qxe4 (this was enough to win, although 20 d5 was a spectacular alternative that wins in all variation, i.e. 20...Bxd5 21.Qf6+ Kd6 22.Qf4+ Ke7 23.Qb4++- or 20...Bg7 21.d6+ Kd8 22.Qxe4+-) 20....Bg7 21.Ne5 h5 22.Qc6 and 1-0.

White Ian Snape (2204) v Gavin Lock (2232) Coulsdon Chess Fellowship Premiership (2), September 8

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bc4 Nd7 7.0-0 Ngf6 8.c3 Bd6 9.Be3 0-0 10.Nbd2 Qc7 11.h3N Bh5 12.Qb3 Rae8 13.Bd3 Bg6 14.Nh4?! (this decentralising move is a mistake - a more defensive move such as 14.Qc2 keeps the balance). 14...exd4! 15.Nxg6? (after this move W can only react with defensive moves) 15...Nc5 16.Qc2 dxe3 17.Nxf8 Nxd3 18.Nxh7 (18.Rxf6 also loses) 18...Nxh7 19.Qxd3 exd2 20.Qxd2 (W has a rook and pawn for two pieces, but his kingside weaknesses now decide the game) 20...Nf6 21.g4 Nxe4 22.Qc2 Bc5+ 23.Kh1 Ng3+ 0-1

Gavin Lock

White John Cannon, Horsham v Ahmed Hassan, Eastbourne
MSL Div.2 January 16

1 e4 d5 2 exd5 Nf6 3 d4 Nxd5 4 Nf3 e6 5 Be2 Be7 6 0-0 Nbd7 7 c4 Ndf6 8 Nc3 c6
9 Bf4 0-0 10 Ne5 a6 11 Bf3 Re8 12 h3 Nxe5 13 dxe5 Nd7 14 Ne4 Qc7 15 Nd6 Rd8 16 Qe2 Nf8 17 c5 Ng6 18 Bg3 Bf8 19 Bh5 (prevents Ne7 followed by Nd5) 19….Be7 20 b4 Bd7 21 f4 f5 22 Qf2 Rf8 23 Bxg6 hxg6 24 Bh4 Be8 25 Qg3 Kh7 26 Rfd1 Rh8 27 Rd4 b6 28 Bxe7 bxc5 29 bxc5 Qxe7 30 Rad1 Rb8 31 Nxe8 Rhxe8 32 Rd7 32 Rd6 gives a clear advantage) 32….Qxc5+ 33 Kh2 Rb7? (missing the danger. 33….Qf8 34 R1d6 still with an advantage) 34 Qh4+ Kg8 35 Rxg7+! 1-0

John Cannon

White Phil Stimpson v Nick Warren, Horsham Club Championship, February 10

1.f4 d5 2 e3 Nf6 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 Be2 Nbd7 5 b3 e6 6 Bb2 Bd6 7 Ne5 Bxe2 8 Qxe2 c6 9 0-0 Qe7 10 d3 0-0-0 11 a4 Rhg8! (looks crude but is very effective) 12 d4? (critically loses control of e4) 12….g5 13 Nxc6? (not justified by Ws development) 13….bxc6 14 Qa6+ Kb8 15 Qxc6 gxf4 16 exf4 Ne4 17 Na3 Rxg2+!! 18 Kxg2 (Kh1 Rxh2!) 18….Rg8+ 19 Kf3 (Kh1 Qh4 gives B more to do) 19….Qh4 20 Ke3 Qh3+ 21 Rf3 Bxf4+! 22 resigns (22 Kxf4 Qh6 mate or 22 Ke2 Rg2+ and curtains)

Anthony Higgs

Sussex U150 v Surrey, board 1, January 10 White Chris Clegg (Surrey) v Anthony Higgs

1e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 3 Nc3 e5 4 dxe5 dxe5 5 Qxd8+ Kxd8 6 Bc4 Be6! 7 Bxe6 fxe6 (As one commentator describes this line "B has to put up with some funny looks from spectators for a while". In actual fact B is fine here, with the e Ps controlling lots of vital central space) 8 Nf3 Bd6 9 Bg5 Nc6 10 0-0-0 Ke7 11 Rhe1 a6 (W later commentated that he struggled to find a plan – a common problem in this line, as the W Ns cannot find any decent squares. Meanwhile B can advance his a,b,g and h Ps according to the needs of the position, and shuffle his Rs to the breakthrough point) 12 Re2 b5 13 Red2 h6 14 Bxf6+ gxf6 15 Nh4 Rhg8 16 f3? (weakens the dark squares when B has a dark-squared B and puts the WN out of the game) 16 ….Rad8 17 Ne2 Nd4! (unforeseen, 17….Bc5 was also good, but now W goes wrong) 18 Nxd4 exd4 19 Rxd4? (probably already the losing move. 19 g3 is mandatory, but after 19….c3 B is much better) 19….Bf4! 20 Kb1 Rxd4 21 Rxd4 Bxh2 (threatens Bg3 winning the N) 22 g4? (if 22 Rd1 Bg3 23 Rh1 Rg5 24 Rh3 and his kingside is paralysed) 22…. h5 23 Rd2 Bg3 24 Ng2 h4! (much stronger than winning a P) 25 Rd1 h3 26 Ne3 Bf4 27 Re1 Rh8 28 Nd1 h2 29 Rh1 Rh3 30 c3 Rxf3 31 Kc2 Kf7! (W's centre and kingside are in zugzwang) 32 Kb3 Kg6 Kb4 Kg5 34 Ka5 Kxg4 35 Kxa6 Kg3 36 Kxb5 Kg2 0-1

Anthony Higgs

Bernard Cafferty v Paul Batchelor McArthur Cup final, Brighton 6 vi 2009 King's Indian

1 Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 b4 Bg7 4 Bb2 0-0 5 e3 c6 6 d4 d5 7 Nbd2 Bg4 8 Qb3 Bxf3 9 gxf3 Double-edged. White hopes to rule out ...e5, but facilitates a later opening of the g-file. 9...Nbd7 10 f4 e6 11 Bg2 Nh5 12 a4 f5 13 0-0 Nhf6 Black could be more ambitious by 13...h6 intending ...g5. Not 13...g5 at once, as after 14 Qd1! Qe8 15 Bf3 he would have to close lines by 15...g4. 14 b5 Kh8 15 a5 Qb8 16 Rfb1 Rfc8 17 a6 Nb6 This should lose to 17 c5 Nbd7 18 Qa4! and White enforces a rook entry at b7, or similar unpleasantness for Black. Yet it is hard to suggest a good 17th move for Black. His decision to go for defence in depth at move 13 turns out to have been unwise. 18 Bf1?! cxb5 19 cxd5 exd5 20 Bxb5 bxa6 21 Bxa6 Rc7 22 Ba3 Bf8 23 Rc1+ Rxc1 24 Rxc1 Bxa3 25 Qxa3 Qd8 26 Bb7 Rb8 27 Qxa7 Nbd7 28 Qxb8! The computers might tell you 28 Rc6 is stronger, but Black would retain chances of attack on the points f2 and h2 with his Q and N, or of a perpetual check by ...Qg4+, Kf1 Qd1+. 28...Qxb8 29 Rc8+ Qxc8 30 Bxc8 Nb6 31 Ba6 Kg7 32 Kg2 Kf8 33 Nf3 Na8 34 Ne5 Nc7 35 Bd3 Kg7 36 Bc2 Ne6 37 Bb3 Nc7 38 Ba4 Kg8 39 Nd7 Ne4 40 Bc6 Kf7 41 f3 Black could put long resistance by guarding d5 with both knights and his K but White would finally penetrate by Ka5 and so on, not even needing to advance e3-e4 till much later. 41...Nd6? 42 Kf2 Ke7 43 Ke2 Na6? 44 Nb6 Nb4 45 Nxd5+ Nxd5 46 Bxd5 Resigns.

Bernard Cafferty

Tunks, D (174) - Wilson, J (140) Portsmouth Premier Round 2, February 21

1. e4 e6 2. d3 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6 4. Ngf3 Be7 5. c3 b6 6. Qa4+ An interesting move with the idea of misplacing black's pieces. Qd7 7. Qc2 O-O 8. e5 Ne8 White's idea; the knight is forced to a passive square. 9. d4 Ba6 Getting the problem piece outside of the pawn chain. 10. h4 c5 Bxf1 first would perhaps have been more consistent. 11. dxc5 bxc5 12. c4 Nc6 13. a3 d4 Nd4 was stronger, as any doubled 'd' pawns that black may incur will only be of a temporary nature. 14. Bd3 f5 15. exf6 Nxf6 16. Ne4 Ng4 17. Neg5 The beginning of a dangerous looking attack which luckily for me has a tactical refutation. h6 18. Bh7+ Kh8 19. Bg8 d3 The winning resource; suddenly 3 white pieces are hanging. 20. Bxe6 dxc2 21. Bxd7 Rad8 A fun move to play, leaving 2 knights en prise. 22. Bxg4 22.Bxc6 fails to 22...Rd1+ 23.Ke2 Bxc4 mate. Rd1+ 23. Ke2 Rxh1 24. Bd7 Bxg5 With hindsight, it's obvious that Bxc4+ is best. Perhaps I missed that Nf7+ isn't possible after 24...Bxc4+ 25.Kd2 Rd8 (25.Ke3 Na5 is no better). 25. hxg5 Na5 Not realising that I would have 2 dangerous passed pawns after 25...Nd4 26.Nxd4 cxd4, I decided that the more complicated option of sacrificing a rook with check would be the way to go instead. 26. Ne5 Nb3 27. Ng6+ Kh7 28. Nxf8+ Kg8 29. gxh6 Bxc4+ 30. Kf3 Kxf8 31. Bh3 A final trick which had me worried for a moment. 31...gxh6 32.Bxh6+ wins for white. Kg8 0-1

Jaimie Wilson

W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B: Uwe Nebel. Hastings Masters' Tournament 2008-9; Round 3; December 30. Sicilian Scheveningen.

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 d6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6; 5.Nc3 a6; 6.Be2 e6; 7.f4 Be7; 8.O-O Qc7; 9.Kh1 b5; [This is a dangerous line: it is normal to castle first. If Black wants to survive 9. ... b5, then he has to know it very well.] 10.Bf3 Bb7; 11.e5 Nd5? [Any survival chances are based on capturing on e5 and retreating Nfd7. The game is already over.] 12.Nxd5 ed; 13.ed Bxd6; 14.Nf5 Qc5; 15.Be3 Qc7; 16.Bxd5 Nc6; 17.Bxc6+ Qxc6; 18.Nxd6+ Black resigns. 1-0.

W: L. Rhodes. B: F. J. Kwiatkowski Mid-Sussex League Division 2; Eastbourne 2 v St Francis & Haywards Heath 1; Board 1, February 23 Sicilian Sveshnikov

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nd4 Nf6; 5.Nc3 e5; 6.Ndb5 d6; 7.Bg5 a6; 8.Na3 b5; 9.Nd5 Be7; 10.Bxf6 Bxf6; 11.c3 O-O; 12.Be2 Bg5; 13.O-O?! ... [13.Nc2 ..., with the idea of Nce3, is more logical] 13. ... Ne7; 14.Nc2 Nxd5; 15.Qxd5 Be6; 16.Qc6? ...; [White must pull the Queen back, when he is only a little worse.] 16. ... Qb8!; [Black is now sure of heavy material gain.] 17.Rfd1 Be7; 18.Nb4 Rc8; 19.Qxa6 Rxa6; 20.Nxa6 Qb7; 21.Nb4 Qxe4; 22.Bxb5 d5; 23.f3 Qe3+; 24.Kh1 Bxb4; 25.cb Rc2. White resigns. 0-1.

W: M. Basman [I.M.]. B: F. J.Kwiatkowski Surrey 1 v. Sussex 1, Horsham, November 8. Board 5. Grob's Opening.

1.g4 d5; 2.h3 e5; 3.d3 c6; [This opening, in which Basman specialises, is of course ridiculous, but I know of no direct refutation. I decided to keep a firm hold on the centre and to refrain from premature adventures. White's aim is to provoke Black into over-reacting.] 4.c3 Be6; 5.Qc2 Bd6; 6.Nf3 Ne7; 7.g5 Nd7; 8.Rg1 Qc7; 9.h4 O-O-O; 10.e4 Ng6; 11.Be3 de; 12.de Bc5; 13.Bxc5 Nxc5; 14.b4 Nd7; 15.N1d2 c5; 16.O-O-O Kb8; 17.b5?! c4; [Black is seriously better.] 18.Qa4 Nf4! [If White captures on c4 now, various combinations of ... Nb6 and Ne2+ will assure heavy material gains.] 19.Qa3 Nc5; 20.Kc2 Nc5-d3; 21.Bxd3 Nxd3; 22.b6 ab; 23.Rb1 Qc6; 24.Rb4 ... [Desperation.] 24. ... Nxb4+ 25.Qxb4 f6; 26.gf gf; 27.Qe7 Qd6; 28.Qxf6 Rhf8; [The idea was to penetrate on f2 if White had played Qxe5 next.] 29.Qg5 Rg8; 30.Qe3 Rxg1; 31.Nxg1 Qa3; 32.Kb1 Rd3; 33.Qxb6 Rxd2. 0-1. White resigns.

W: Grant Bucher. B: F. J. Kwiatkowski. Sussex County Championship 2008-2009, round 1. 25th January 2009. Sicilian Sveshnikov.

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6; 5.Nc3 e5; 6.Ndb5 d6; 7.Nd5!? ... [This is a very respectable alternative to the standard Bg5. The positional point is that White will try to make something of his q-side pawn majority and extra space. The psychological point is that Black is forced to deal with structures that are unlike those in any other line in the Sveshnikov.] 7. ... Nxd5 8.ed Nb8; 9.c4 Be7; 10.Bd3 ... [I have always thought that 10.Be2 is harder to play against. On d3, the bishop is often more of a target than an asset.] 10. ... O-O; 11.O-O a6; 12.Nc3 f5; 13.Qh5?! ... [This has to be premature.] 13. ... e4; 14.Bc2 Nd7; 15.Qe2 Ne5; 16. Bf4 Bf6; 17.Rac1 Qc7; [Black's pieces are coming out on sensible squares, so I thought I was better.] 18.Bxe5 Bxe5; [Now the advantage is seriously large.] 19.Bb1 Bd7; 20.Kh1 Rac8; 21.Nd1 b5; [There was also point to the idea Qd8-Qh4. The monster on e5 is useful on both sides of the board.] 22.f3 ... ; [Why? The answer is: why not? White senses he is seriously worse and rightly decides to confuse the issue by opening up the k-side.] 22. ...bc; 23.fe f4! [This idea is stolen from the King's Indian: the White bishop is locked behind the e-pawn, while the monster on e5 can be released at will with ...f3.] 24.b3 Bb5?! [This loses the thread. Black should play 24. ... c3! and if 25.Qxa6 Qd8, threatening Qh4.] 25.Qf3 Qa5; 26.a4 Bd7;[Black has lost much of his advantage.] 27.Rxc4 Rxc4; 28.bc Qxa4; 29.Bd3 Qa3; 30.Nf2 a5; 31.Rb1 a4; 32.Rb7? Qc1+ 33.Qd1 Qe3! 34.Qf1 a3; 35.Bb1 ...; [if 35.Rxd7 a3; and the a-pawn runs: the queen guards a7 and the bishop watches a1.] 35. ... f3! 36.g3 ...; [If 36.Rxd7 fg+ wins. For instance 37.Kxg2 Qf3+; 38.Kg1 Bd4; or even 37. ... Qg5+; 38.Kh1 Qh4.] 36. ... Qe2; 37.Kg1 ... [Now there are probably several ways to win. I was getting short of time and ran for the first clear exit that I could find.] 37. ... a2; 38.Bxa2 Qxa2; 39.Rxd7 Rb8; 40.Nd1 Bd4+. Here the session ended, and White sealed a move. He sealed 41.Kh1, as I had foreseen. Because 41. ... Qe2! wins, as I had calculated on move 37, White resigned without resumption. 0-1.

W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B: Luke Rutherford Sussex County Championship 2008-2009, semi-final, Game 1. Brighton Chess Club, April 4. Sicilian Scheveningen.

[This game, and the next, are offered simply 'for the record'. You can't expect anything too sensible or instructive from the County Championship.] 1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 d6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6; 5.Nc3 d6; 6.Be2 e6;[Black avoids the Najdorf move ...e5, which involves a major positional commitment, and opts for the more flexible Scheveningen.] 7.O-O 8.f4 O-O; 9.Kh1 Qc7; 10.Be3 ...; [10.g4!? ...] 10. ... Nc6; 11.Qe1 Bd7; 12.Qg3 b5; [The first critical point. The setup with Qg3 is normal, and Black has a number of plans to counter it, some more provocative than others. 12. ... b5 invites the unclear sacrifice 13.e5, which would have been a serious player's choice. I opted for conservatism.] 13.a3 Nxd4; 14.Bxd4 Qb7; [This is typical of the Sicilian. Black attacks the White e-pawn, with the aim of either restraining it or tempting it to advance in circumstances where the centre will become weak.] 15.Bf3 Bc6; 16.Rae1 Rad8; 17.e5 de; 18.fe Nh5; 19.Bxh5 Rxd4; 20.Rxf7 Rxf7; 21.Bxf7+ Kh8; 22.Bxe6 Bh4; 23.Rf1! g5; [I had seen this well in advance, but was – and remain – clueless about the proper assessment of the position. In this competition, the player whose nerves are less bad on the day will profit.] 24. Rf8+ Kg7; 25.Qe3 Bxg2+; 26.Kg1 Qb6; 27.Rf7+ Kh8; [Of course the logical outcome now is a draw, but I expect each of us was trying to avoid that.] 28.Kxg2 Rg4+; 29.Kf3 Qxe6; 30.Qa7 Rf4+; 31.Rxf4 Qh3+; 32.Ke4 gf; [By this point I was so low on the clock that I headed for the draw.] 33.Qb8+ Kg7; 34.Qc7+ Kg6; 35.Qc6+ Kg7; [The last trap was 35. ... Kh5; 36. Qe8+ Kg4?? 37. Qe6+ ...] 36.Qc7+ Kg6; 37.Qc6+ Kg7; 38.Qc7+ ... Agreed drawn. ½- ½.

W: Luke Rutherford. B: F. J. Kwiatkowski. Sussex County Championship 2008-2009, semi-final, Game 2. Haywards Heath, April 19. Nimzo-Indian Defence, Rubinstein Variation.

1.d4 Nf6; 2.c4 e6; 3.Nc3 Bb4; 4.e3 b6; 5.Ne2 c5; 6.a3 Ba5; [This is a very challenging continuation which is rumoured to be almost sound. The critical lines involve Rb1 and Qa4 without Bd2.] 7.Bd2 O-O; 8.Rb1 Na6; 9.Qa4 Qe7?; [This is the first misjudgment. I simply had not penetrated the merits of 9. ... d5! After 10.b4 Bd7! Black looks to have an active game. If 11.Nb5 ... ; then 11. ... cb; 12.ab Nxb4; 13.Bxb4 a6! 14.Bxa5 ab; and I see no problems for Black at all.] 10.Ng3 Bb7; 11.f3 Bc6; 12.Qc2 Nc7. [This may be the second misjudgment. The knight needs attention, as it is unprotected and in potential trouble from the bishop on f1. The method that I chose exposed me to tactical exchanges resulting in a White plus. I still don't know whether I mishandled the exchanges or whether they were bound to result in a bad game. If the exchanges were always dubious, then I should have settled for 12. ... Bxc3; followed by Nb8 or Nc7. White is better, but Black's game is playable.]
13.b4! cb; 14.ab Bxb4; 15.Rxb4 Qxb4; 16.Nb5 Qe7; 17. Nxc7 Rac8; 18.Na6 Qa3; 19.Nb4 Ba4; 20.Qd3 Bb3; 21.Be2 ...; [Here I thought that I was very active; however, I was clearly worse three moves later so either I was mistaken or I misplayed the position.]21. ... Qa4; 22.c5 bc; 23.bc Rxc5; 24.Kf2 d5; 25.Qd4 Rfc8; 26.Ra1 Qd7; 27.Ba6! Rc8-c7; 28.Bd3 Bc4; 29.Na6 Bxa6; 30.Rxa6 Qc8; 31.Ne2 Nd7; 32.Bb4 Rxc4; 33.Bxc4 Rxc4; 34.Qxa7 Rxb4; 35.Qxd7! ... A classic finish, exploiting the back rank. Black resigned. 1-0.

W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B: Daniel Rocks. Hastings Masters' Tournament; 2008-2009; Round 7; January 3. Ruy Lopez, Chigorin Variation, 11. ...Nd7.

[Black is a talented Scottish junior. He had a tactical advantage. When I was preparing for this game, I could find no relevant games of his in any database, while he could examine my many entries at leisure and take his pick.] 1.e4 e5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.Bb5 a6; 4.Ba4 Nf6; 5.O-O Be7; 6.Re1 b5; 7.Bb3 d6; 8.c3 O-O; 9.h3 Na5; 10.Bc2 c5; 11.d4 Nd7; [This was very fashionable for a time instead of the usual 11. ... Qc7. I cannot believe it is useful to take the knight away from influence over e4 and d5. However, I had lost a game in this line with White at Hastings a couple of years previously, and Rocks perhaps thought he could repeat the process.] 12.Nbd2 ed; 13.cd Nc6; 14.d5 Nce5; 15.Nxe5 Nxe5; 16.a4 Rb8; [This was the main line at one point. 16. ... Bb7 is also playable.] 17.ab ab; 18.f4 Ng6; 19.Nf3 Bh4; [Now 20.Nxh4 is playable. I tried this against Andrew Greet IM at Hastings 2005-6. White should still be better. However, at that point I was ignorant of the variation and had reached move 20 by accident, not design. I was blind to the needs of the position and was gradually pushed off the board. In the three years between the games, I had had a chance to assess the various plans available.] 20.Rf1 Bg3; 21.f5 Ne5; 22.Ng5! ... [All this is theory. I believe White is significantly better here and that Black must try 22. ... Nd7, upon which 23.e5! ... is hard to meet – but that's another story!] 22. ... h6? 23.f6! hg; 24.Bxg5 g6; 25.Ra3! ... . [The point is that White gets the piece back, with a large advantage.] 25. ... Kh7; 26.Rxg3 Rh8; 27.Bf4 ... [I could not find a forced mate, so switched to pressuring the Knight. I was planning to create a passed d-pawn and a weak Black e-pawn by exchanging on e5.] 27. ... Re8; 28.Rg5!? Qxf6; 29.Qe1 Qg7; 30.Bxe5 Rxe5; 31.Qh4+ Kg8; 32.Rxe5 de; [32. ... Qxe5; 33.Qd8+ and Qc7.] 33.Qd8+ Qf8; 34.Qc7 Rb7; 35.Qxe5 Qe7; 36.Qxe7 Rxe7; 37.Ra1 ... .[Of course the endgame should be won, but Black puts up a surprising amount of resistance.] 37. ... Kf8; 38.Ra8 Re8; 39.Rb8 Bd7; 40.Rxe8+ Kxe8; 41.Kf2 Ke7; 42.e5 Be8; 43.Ke3 f6; 44.Kf4 Bf7; 45.Be4 c4; 46.h4 b4; 47.d6+ Kd7; 48.ef Kxd6; 49.g4 c3; 50.bc bc; 51.Bc2 Ke6; 52.g5 Be8; 53.Ke4 Kf7; [Black tries to set up a 'fortress' in the corner.] 54.Bb3+ Kf8; 55.Kd4 Bd7; 56.Kxc3 Bg4; 57.Kd4 Be2; 58.Ke5 Bf3; 59.Be6 Be2; 60.Ba2 Bd1; [Now I worked out a study-like finish.] 61.f7! Be2; [If 61. ... Ke7; 62.f8[Q]+! and Kf6.] 62.Kf6 Bc4; 63. h5! Bxa2; [63. ... gh; permits 64.Bxc4, because there is no stalemate.] 64.h6 Bxf7; 65.h7 ... . Black resigns. 1-0.

W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B: Tomas Civin. Board 2, King's Head v Pandora's Box, 4NCL Division 2, May 3. Modern Defence.

Like many active Sussex players, I turn out for a national league team and thus find myself playing daunting people in daunting locations. Black is a young Czech who is rated 2427 and heading for a master title. 1.e4 g6; 2.d4 Bg7; 3.Nc3 d6; 4.Be3 a6!?; [This line of the Modern has been worked into a respectable system by the Swedish IGM, Tiger Hillarp-Persson.] 5.Qd2 b5; 6.f3[!] Nd7; [Black later assured me that he had not prepared specifically for me, but you have to wonder. In a previous 4NCL game I had tried an early f4 here, and drew a lost game only after extreme luck. Theory on this line is still being shaped, but my opinion is that f3 is better, because it seriously impedes the Black light-squared bishop.] 7.O-O-O Bb7; 8.h4 h5; 9.Nh3 Rc8; 10.Ng5 ...; [This is the point behind provoking ... h5. The knight cannot be dislodged without extreme measures.] 10. ... c5; 11.dc Nxc5; 12.Bd4! Bxd4? [It cannot be right to give up this powerful piece so lightly. The immediate ... Nf6 is necessary. After the game we looked at plans involving the structures resulting from the logical Nd5/Bxd5 sequence, followed by Bh3 and f4, with the threat of f5. We concluded that Black's position remains playable, but White stands better.] 13.Qxd4 Nf6; 14.e5! ... [This is one of the many reasons why the knight is so good on g5. Should Black exchange, White plays Qxd8 with the fork on f7 to follow.] 14. ... Nfd7; 15.e6 Ne5; [Here I had the bewildering task of trying to maximise my plus. I am by no means sure I got it right – if anyone wants to show me a quick win that I overlooked, be my guest!] 16.f4 f6; 17.fe fg; 18.ed ...; [I suspect that 18.Bd3 is very strong here. I have to confess I had forgotten that Black could castle and still make some sort of fight.] 18. ... O-O; 19.d7 ...; [The d7 pawn fortunately restricts counterplay.] 19. ... Rc6; 20.hg Rf5; 21. Be2 ... ; [The only pawn I have to be attached to is the d7 pawn. My priorities were to complete development and threaten g4.] 21. ... Nxe6; 22.Qe3 Nf4; 23.Bf3 Re6; 24.Qa7 Bxf3; 25.gf ... ; [The plan is to penetrate with the Queen on c8 or the Knight on b7.] 25. ... b4; 26.Ne4 Rf8; 27.Nc5 Re2; 28. Nb7 Qc7; [This threatens mate, and was a reasonable try in mutual time trouble. Fortunately I had seen it in advance and had prepared an answer.] 29.Qc5! Qxb7; 30. Qc4+! ...; [The pieces on f4 and e2 are now exposed after the d7 pawn promotes.] 30. ... Re6; 31. d8[Q] Qxf3; [This gamble is justified by the mutual lack of time to reach move 40.] 32.Qd2 Rf5; 33.Rhf1 Ne2+ 34. Kb1 ... . Black resigned . 1-0.

May 3rd is a special day for the Poles – it is when we mark the establishment of our constitution in the 18th century. It magnified the enjoyment of the win to have brought it off on one of our national days.

Feliks Kwiatkowski

Entry Form – SCCA Competitions 2009-10

Entries are invited for the various competitions run by the county, organised as in previous years.

- The Paul Watson Trophy (entry fee £4 per team). For Sussex clubs, to consist of 4 players graded under 175 ☐
- County Championship (entry fee £3.50). Open to players who live in Sussex or who are members of Sussex clubs ☐
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- Veterans Competition (entry fee £3.50). Open to players aged 60 or over on or after October 1, 2009, who live in Sussex or who are members of Sussex clubs ☐
- McArthur Cup (entry fee £8 per team – 6 players). Open to all clubs in Sussex with preliminary round between West Sussex clubs and Mid-Sussex clubs and the winning club playing the holders in the final. ☐

All entries should be sent to the tournament controller, Dr Douglas Opie, 12 Bramble Close, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 6XA, with the fees, by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9. All results must be sent to Dr Opie as soon as matches are completed.

Please tick the box/boxes for the tournament(s) you wish to enter and send with your cheque, made payable to the SCCA.

Name ……

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