



# The Middle Game

## The September 2008

### MCCU County Team Championship Fixtures

Sean Hewitt has posted the fixture list for the 2008-9 season at [www.mccu.org.uk/mccu\\_stage\\_matches.htm](http://www.mccu.org.uk/mccu_stage_matches.htm). Also available at the MCCU website at: [www.mccu.org.uk/county\\_captains.htm](http://www.mccu.org.uk/county_captains.htm), which should be taken as correct in the event the information below is different. If you would like to play for your county, contact your captain!

#### Team Captains

**Derbyshire. Minor:** Paul Kelman, 01773 833007; **U125,** Ron Harrison, 01773 824885

**Gtr Manchester. Open:** David Pardoe, 0161 4852413; **U150,** Jon Lonsdale, 01204 406133 or 07980 604302

**Leicestershire. Minor,** Graham Booley, 01509 816974; **U150,** Pete Harrison, 07931 243365; **U125,** David Reynolds, 01530 411710; U100, Richard Davis, 0116 2763706 or 07901 918003.

**Lincolnshire. Minor:** Denis Georgiou, 01652 652949; **U125,** Peter Sherlock, 01522 888693.

**Nottinghamshire. U150,** Will Place, 0115 9131682 or 07792 500235 or Kevin Harvey, 0115 9373336 or 07913 703451; **U125,** Keith Walters, 0115 9282384; **U100,** Ric Dawson, 01773 782117 or 07903 018747.

**Shropshire. Open:** Peter Kitchen, 01743 467298 or Stefan Tennant, 01952 593430 or 07713 636544; **U125,** Roger Brown, no telephone number; **U100,** Francis Best, 01743 821220; **U100,** Steve Rooney, 01694 723724.

**Staffordshire. Open,** David Anderton, 07970 986373; **U150,** Alan Thomason, 01270 875102; **U125,** John Day, 01782 611164, **Bull-dogs U100,** David Buckley, 01902 843069; **Staffs Terriers U100,** Paul Clapham, 01782 646630.

**Warwickshire. Open,** Joey Stewart, 07723 390839 or 07891 599940; **U150,** John Fahy, 0121 429 9347; **U125,** Dave Brelforth, 0121 382 2458; **U100,** Pauline Woodward, 0121 415 4286.

**Worcestershire. Minor,** Maurice Bissell, 01562 60146 or 07816 289699; **U125,** Giles Stanton, 01527 402436; **U100,** Richard Turner 01527 853 873 or Martin Boreley 01562 886322.

### Upcoming Junior Chess

#### English Under 11 Closed Championship 11 - 12 Oct

To be held at Nottingham High School. Please contact David Levens, telephone 01773 761170, for more information

#### Worcs Junior Open 25 Oct, 29 Nov, 11 Apr

This competition for under 18 year-olds has its first Group Stage at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church Hall, 10 Bransford Road, Worcester. Please contact WJCA, PO Box 4733, Brierley Hill DY5 2WU. Telephone 07789 904835 after 6pm on weekdays, or Email: [andrew.moore\[at\]proactivepersonnel.net](mailto:andrew.moore[at]proactivepersonnel.net). For an entry form visit: [www.englishchess.org.uk/calendar/open-worcs-champs\\_sep08.doc](http://www.englishchess.org.uk/calendar/open-worcs-champs_sep08.doc)

### Upcoming congresses

#### Leicester Congress 10 - 12 Oct

The congress is a British Championship qualifier to be held at Regent College, Regent Road, Leicester, LE1 7LW. There is an Open which is FIDE rated and in addition there are four grade-limited sections. Details, and on-line entry are on the website at [www.leicesterchess.co.uk](http://www.leicesterchess.co.uk) or call Sean Hewitt on 07845 518 972.

#### Birmingham & District Rapid Play 12 Oct

This event is at Quinborne Community Centre, Ridgeacre Rd, Birmingham B32 2TW between 10am and 6:30pm. The website is at <http://users.powernet.co.uk/rees/bdcl/index.html> Entries to: K.J. Langston, 8 Clent View Road, Bartley Green, Birmingham B32 4LN. [kenneth.langston@btopenworld.com](mailto:kenneth.langston@btopenworld.com) or telephone 0121 585 9663

#### Nottinghamshire Championship 1-2 Nov

This event for Notts players is at Nottingham Boys High School, Waverley Mount, Nottingham NG7 4ED. Download further details and entry form at [www.nottschess.org/2008\\_09/pdf/CC\\_entry.pdf](http://www.nottschess.org/2008_09/pdf/CC_entry.pdf). All enquiries to Robert Richmond,

#### Braille Chess Association International 14-16 Nov

The Autumn Tournament will be held at the Midland Hotel, Derby is open to visually handicapped players and to associate members of the Braille Chess Association.. Steve Burnell, 16 Ridgewood Close, Leamington Spa CV32 6BW (Tel: 01926 339900, Email: [stephenburnell@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:stephenburnell@ukonline.co.uk)).

#### Milton Keynes 14 - 16 Nov

This Midland Grand Prix congress is at De Veres Harben House, Tickford Street, Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire MK16 9EY. Visit the website at [www.e2e4.org.uk](http://www.e2e4.org.uk) for details or to enter online. Entries and enquiries to Sean Hewitt (Tel: 07845 518972, Fax: 0870 288 4393, Email: [sean@e2e4.org.uk](mailto:sean@e2e4.org.uk))



#### Bolton Rapid Play 16 Nov

The venue for this Midland Grand Prix event is at Bolton Excel Centre, Lower Bridgeman Street, Bolton and the website is: [www.boltonchess.btik.com/p\\_People.ikml](http://www.boltonchess.btik.com/p_People.ikml). Please send entries to R Middleton, 97 Dovedale Road, Brightmet, Bolton BL2 5HS. Further information from 01204 383634. You can also write to [gmccacongress@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gmccacongress@yahoo.co.uk)

#### Bury Rapidplay 9 Dec

This established tournament is in the Elizabethan Suite, Town Hall, Bury BL9 0SW. Entries to Anthony Lee, 22 Campbell Close, Walshaw, Bury, Lancs BL8 3BB (Tel: 0161 764 2243, Email: [burychess2008@btinternet.com](mailto:burychess2008@btinternet.com))

# League Winners

## **Birmingham & District**

Division 1: South Birmingham A  
Division 2: Sutton Coldfield  
Division 3: Boldmere St Michael's 'A'  
Division 4: Bushbury  
Division 5 Olton  
Division 6: Aldridge & District

## **Bolton & District**

League champions: Bolton A  
Roger Griffiths Cup: Radcliffe

## **Bury & Rochdale**

Division 1: Rochdale A.  
Division 2: Heywood B

## **Cannock & District**

Division 1: Stafford A  
Division 2: Stafford B  
Division 3 St Mary's

## **Coventry**

Division 1: University A  
Division 2: Whoberley C  
Division 3: Meriden Knights

## **Derbyshire**

Division 1: Breadsall  
Division 2: Derby-Michleover  
Division 3: West Nottingham B  
Division 4: Rolls Royce B

## **Dudley & District**

Division 1: Warley Quinborn  
Division 2: Stourbridge  
Division 3: Mercia A

## **Leamington**

Division 1: Shirley & Lucas A  
Division 2: Solihull Checkmates  
Division 3: Banbury B  
Division 4: Shirley & Lucas C  
Open Knock-out: Olton  
U-125 Knock-out: Kenilworth  
U-100 Knock-out: Nuneaton

## **Leicestershire & Rutland**

Division 1: Wigston  
Division 2: Scraftoft  
Division 3 Braunstone 2  
Division 4 Loughborough 3  
Division 5: Melton 2  
Charity Quickplay: Wigston 1  
Chapman Cup: Market Harborough  
Birstall Cup: Spinney Hill 1  
Wylie Cup: Braunstone  
Harrod Cup: Ashby 1

## ***The Middlegame***

*The Middlegame* is an occasional newsletter of the Midlands Counties Chess Union edited and produced by Ray Collett, MCCU Public Relations Director. Views are those of contributors alone and do not necessarily represent MCCU policy. If you have comments, wish corrections to be made, or want news items included, please contact Ray Collett, 7 Ogilvy Square, Worcester WR3 7LU, telephone 01905 454754, e-mail collett@clara.co.uk.

I would particularly like to receive notices of future tournaments in MCCU areas, changes in county officials, and results of MCCU county matches, scores of interesting games, problems or end game studies by MCCU players. Thanks – Ray

## **Lincolnshire**

League champions: Lincoln

## **Manchester Federation**

Division A: 3Cs 1  
Division B: Bolton 2  
Division C: Bolton 3  
Division D: Chorlton 4  
Reyner Shield: 3Cs 1  
Wahl Tuch Cup: Altrincham  
Alfred Milner Cup: Chorlton 4

## **North Staffordshire & District**

Division 1: Cheddleton A  
Division 2: Cheddleton B  
Division 3: Alsager A  
Division 4: Cheddleton H  
8-Board Cup: Cheddleton  
U-125 Cup: Macclesfield  
U-110 Cup: Fenton  
U-90 Cup: Cheddleton

## **Northamptonshire**

Silver Kings Division 1: Peterborough  
Silver Kings Division 2: Kettering B  
Knock-out: Kettering A

## **Nottinghamshire**

Division 1: University 1  
Division 2: Grantham 1  
Division 3 Nomads 1  
Division 4: Ashfield 4  
Division 5: West Bridgeford 2

## **Shropshire**

Division 1: Telepost A  
Division 2: Telepost B  
Division 3: Shifnal-Telford C  
Cox Trophy: Telepost A  
Minor Knock-out: Shrewsbury B

## **South East Lancashire**

Division A: Oldham 1  
Division B: Rochdale  
Division C: Denton  
Division D: Stockport 3  
Alan Yarker Cup: Oldham

## **Staffordshire**

Hickman Trophy: Stafford  
Gothard Trophy (U-151): Boldmere St Michael  
Jackson Trophy (U-121): Lichfield  
Withnall Trophy (U-101): Boldmere St Michael  
Lightening Trophy: Stafford  
Lightening Major: Stafford  
Lightening Minor: Stafford  
Club of the year: Rushall for encouraging junior players and participation in so many events.

## **Wolverhampton & District**

Division 1: Bushbury  
Division 2: Shifnal & Telford  
Division 3: Rushall  
Division 4: Northfield Checkmates  
Pittaway Cup: Lichfield  
Humphreys Cup (U-110): Stourbridge  
Division 1 Summer: St George's  
Division 2 Summer: Rushall  
Division 3 Summer: North: Stafford  
Division 3 South Summer: Wolverhampton

## **Worcestershire**

Division 1: Malvern  
Division 2: Greenlands  
Wheatley Cup: Worcester City

# Individual Winners

## Birmingham & District

Division 1 champion: David Anderton (Walsall Kipping)  
Division 2 champion: Robert Glass (South Birmingham)  
Division 3 Trophy: Chris East (Sutton Coldfield)  
Division 4 Trophy: Adam Draper (Northfield Checkmates)  
Division 5 Champion: Malcolm Phipps (Boldmere St Michael)  
Division 6 Trophy: G Bates (Wolseley)

## Northamptonshire

Cole Trophy: James Jackson (Red Dragons)  
Cole U-120: Ray Ilett (Peterborough)  
Cole U-90: Ben Jackson (Red Dragons)  
Cole Junior Prize: Nick Caldwell (Kettering)

## Shropshire

Joint County Champions: Trevor Brotherton & Jamie Hopkins

## Staffordshire

Personality of the year: Guy de Visme for his quarter of a century organization of Staffs correspondence chess.

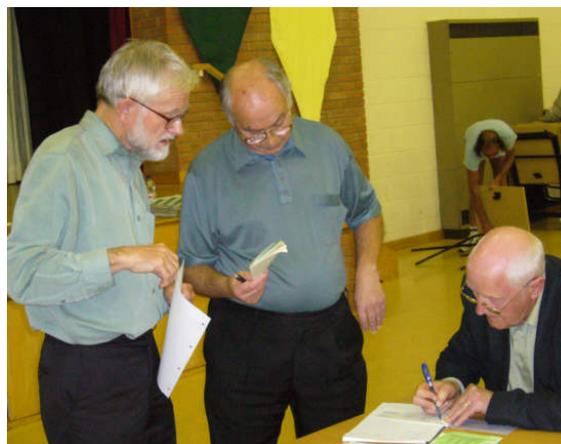
## Wolverhampton & District

Bidgood Cup: Stephen Harris (Stafford)  
Rock Cup: Lee Collier (St George's) and Peter Leary (Rushall)  
Most improved player: Alf Schroeder (Bushbury)  
Best player Division 1: Adam Draper (St George's)  
Best player Division 2: William Rae (Walsall Kipping)  
Best player Division 3: Peter Nixon (Walsall Kipping)

## Worcester & District

Bennett Cup: Maurice Bissell (Kidderminster)

**Major:** 1st, Rob Thompson (Newton Abbott) 5, followed by 2nd-7th placed Paul Barker (Hereford), Sheila Dines (Croydon), Roger Greatorex (Llangollen), Brendan O'Gorman (DHSS, London), Chris Purry (Frome), and Gary Rawlings (Hereford), all on 4. Grading prizes: Ray Collett (Worcester) and RE Jones (Swansea) with 3½. **Minor:** 1st-2nd, G Darling (Newton Abbott) and Alex Freeland jnr (Cardiff), 5, followed by Ken Alexander (Tiverton), Alexander Harris (Perse School), and John Loynes (Worcester, Stourbridge) all on 4½. Grading prize: Hazel Welch (Seaton) with 4.



Phil Meade, Controller at Hereford, left makes sure the prizes go to the winners

# Correction

Apologies to Astghik Stepanyan (Sutton Coldfield School, Warks) who I accused of being a boy last issue. She won the Under-14 Ultima, **Girls**, title at the UK Chess Challenge Northern Gigafinals at Manchester.

# Congress Results

## Manchester 4 – 6 July

There was an increase of 20% in numbers for this popular congress directed by Harry Lamb. There were three sections. In the **Open:** 1<sup>st</sup> was Prasun Chakraorty (Sheffield Nomads) on 4½, followed by El Gehani Ghassan (Withington Peoples) on 4, and in 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> places Dan Masson (Shirley), Mithran Chakravorty (Sheffield University) and Leo Keely (Withington Peoples). In the **Major:** six players shared places 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> by Martin Burns (Stockport), Carl Heald (Morcambe), Andy Price (Leamington), Mark Taylor (Rochdale), David Boulden (Stalybridge) and Philip Olbison (Chorlton) all with 4/5 points. In the **Knights** section: 1<sup>st</sup> was Noel Boustred (Gosforth) with 4½, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> were Daniel Broughton (West Bridgeford) and Colin Sinclair (Preston West) with 4/5.

## Leicester All-Play-All 23/24/25 Aug and 6/7 Sep

An international field of 20 players participated in this FIDE rated all play all. **Group A** was dominated by juniors as 1<sup>st</sup> and unbeaten on 7/9 was 12 year old Brandon Clarke (Littlethorpe) with a TPR of 2236 gaining 80 rating points, 2<sup>nd</sup> was 16 year old James Jackson (Red Dragons) 6½. In **Group B:** 1<sup>st</sup> was Chris Jones (Kettering) on 6½/9, followed by 2<sup>nd</sup>= Mark Lim (Cambridge) and Nasrul Humaimi (Malaysia & Warwick University) each on 5½. All the unrated players were successful in achieving a full FIDE rating at this event.

## Hereford 23 - 5 Aug

**Open:** 1st Tyson A Mordue (Downend & Fishponds) 5; followed by 2nd-3rd placed Paul Wallace (Lichfield) and R S Jones (Swansea) on 4½. The grading prize was won by Roy Shapland (Barnstable) with 4.

## Leamington Rapidplay 14 Sep

There were 144 entrants Richard Weaving (Solihull Checkmates) was 1<sup>st</sup> in the U-120 and John Gilbert (Solihull Checkmates) was the best junior. Other winners will be reported next issue.

## Leek 12 – 14 Sep

After a one-year break, Roger Edwards was back in charge at Leek. In this “stars barred” event, there were three sections all sponsored by local enterprises. The format was a little unusual with just the single time-control to finish the game. This seems a good idea because it simplifies the controller's work and setting the clocks. Also, controllers placed players in sections strictly according to grade leading to close finishes in each section

**Alton Towers (U210):** This section saw a tie for top slot between: David Hulmes (Stockport), Oliver Jackson (Cheshire & N Wales), Peter Anderson (Leeds) all on 4/5.

**AH Brooks, Solicitors (U132):** David Boulden (Denton) and Paul Smith (Brighton & Hove) shared the top two prizes with 4½ points followed by Mark Radford (Navigation) and Jon Blackburn (Holmes Chapel).

**Moorlands Housing (U97):** Derrick Jones (Newcastle-u-Lyme) was first with 4½, followed by Samuel Onions (Newcastle-u-Lyme) and Matthew Wyza (Cheddleton & Leek).

Alan Smith (Cheddleton & Leek) received the prize for best player from the N Staffs League and Newcastle-u-Lyme won the team prize.



The controlling team at Leek, 1 to r: Roger Edwards, Jim McPhillips & Robert Milner