

NEWTON ABBOT CHESSCLUB – NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2019

Dear club member

With the chess season reaching its climax along with the Brexit negotiations (!) I thought it was time for an update on recent happenings and a look ahead.

It has been really gratifying to see so many new members this year and to see their enthusiasm. I am sure that Paul Brooks' work on setting up our excellent website has been one of the main reasons for this influx as we continue to buck the trend seen in other clubs of declining membership and activity.

The highlight of January was undoubtedly the Simultaneous Display given by Grandmaster Keith Arkell on the 10th. Thanks to all who supported this event. I know that Keith himself enjoyed the evening. The star of the display, apart from Keith, was 12-year old Aarv Paul whose win can be seen on the website.

Another big get-together was the annual DCCA Inter-Area Jamboree which we hosted at the Courtenay Centre on Sunday 13th. The three-sided 12-player-per team competition was won by the West team (Plymouth and South Hams) followed by the East (Exeter/Exmouth) and the South (Newton Abbot/Teignmouth/TBGS). Thanks to our President Andrew Kinder for organising and captaining the South team

Results of recent matches:

Torbay League :

Premier Division: NA "A" v Teignmouth (H 17.1.19) won 3 ½ - ½ (Stephens 1 Homer ½ Brooks 1 Kennedy-Bruyneels 1)

NA "B" v South Hams (H 17.1.19) Won 3-1 (Brusey 1 Kinder 1 Blackmore ½ Cole ½)

Division 3: NA v South Hams (A 24.1.19) Lost 1-3 (Miller 0 Barber-Lafon ½ Hussey 0 Niranjana Narayanan ½)

Division 4: NA v Plymouth (A 27.1.19) Lost 1 ½ - 2 ½ (Barber-Lafon ½ Hussey 1 Kashap 0 Naru Narayanan 0)

DCCA league: Division 1 (Bremridge) NA v Exeter (A 12.1.19) Lost 1 ½ - 4 ½ (Brusey 0 Brooks ½ Thynne 1 Blackmore 0 Allen 0 Bonds 0) (Exeter's team had 6 players graded from 176 to 188!)

Division 2 (Mamhead) NA v Barnstaple (A 5.1.19) Won 2 ½ - 1 ½ (Brusey 1 Ramesh 1/2 Brooks 1 Blackmore 0). Two wins out of two so far in the Mamhead.

Division 3 (Schofield) NA v Teignmouth (A 19.1.19 Won 4-0 by default – Teignmouth unable to raise team)

Division 4 (Moyle) NA v Barnstaple (H 2.2.19) Won 3 ½ - ½ (Barber-Lafon 1 McMullan 1 Hussey ½ Paul 1) Two wins so far on this division!

Forthcoming matches:

Thursday 7th: TL Premier: NA “B” v South Hams (A) Captain Andrew Kinder’s team (Brusey, Howard, Kinder, Blackmore) is eyeing up the title after 3 straight wins but this will be a tough match!

Thursday 7th: TL Rapidplay NA v Plymouth (H) Team: Miller, Cole, Barber-Lafon, Hussey

Thursday 7th DCCA Junior division(Bloodworth Shield) – teams from Plymouth CC, Torquay Boys’ G.S, Colyton G.S and Broadclyst PS will contest this four-board team jamboree event in the downstairs hall at the Courtenay Centre from 5-8 p.m. NA team: Aarv Paul, Niranjana Narayanan, Jacob Warren, Caleb Greeves)

Saturday 9th DCCA KO Rooke Cup): NA v Teignmouth (A) Team: Brusey, Brooks, Howard,Blackmore, Mark Bowhay, Taylor, Leon Farmer , Nathan Hardaker (captain Wilf Taylor has selected 3 of our new members plus Charlie Howard back from Spain)

Thursday 14th TL division3: NA v Plymouth (H) (team to be selected by Jacquie)

Saturday 16th DCCA Division 1 NA v Exmouth (A) Team: : Brusey, Ramesh, Nyman, Howard Blackmore, Kinder

Saturday 16th DCCA Division 3 NA v Barnstaple (H) team to be selected by Wilf Taylor

Thursday 21st TL Premier NA “A” v NA “B” - the big return clash with the A team hoping for revenge for last October’s ½ - 3 ½ reverse!

Thursday 21st TL division 4 NA v South Hams (A) Team to be selected by Mike Hussey

New Grades:

Most members will by now be aware that the **new grades** came out at the end of January and can be seen on the ECF website. Congratulations to those (numerous) members whose grade has gone up. It is worth a reminder (captains please note) that the new grades **DO** apply in the Torbay League from 7th February but **DO NOT** apply in the Devon league which continues to use the August 2018 grades for the whole season.

Juniors:

A reminder to junior members that your parents should have received a letter and a form from me relating to CHILD PROTECTION. I have had a few completed forms back but there are still a lot outstanding.

Juniors – on the Junior Tournament chart all the games played before Xmas have been graded as Rapidplay games (those are the results which I have marked in pink). Don't forget to put ALL results in the Results' Book as well as (carefully) on the chart.

New members: we have created two tournaments for new members to compete in for the remainder of the season: a Standard-play and a Rapidplay. Rates of play are as for the main club tournaments i.e 60 minutes plus 30 spm for standard play and 25 minutes plus 10spm for Rapidplay. Again all results in the main Results' Book as well as on the charts. These games will of course count for grading as will any other non-tournament games played between any members which are entered in the Non-Tournament games results' book.

Library: We are grateful to new member Ricahrd Brenton for the donation of half a dozen new books for the library. Members are reminded that they can borrow books at any time by entering details in the (pink hardback) book on the bookshelf. We may need to think about getting a bigger bookcase soon!

Congresses: members may be interested in competing in the East Devon Congress (9-10 March, Exeter) and the West of England Congress (19-22 April, Exmouth). The Teignmouth Rapidplay Congress takes place on 6th April. Details available on www.chessdevon.org.uk

I hope I haven't overlooked any important aspect of the club's busy season but please come and tell me if I have!

Good luck with your games for the remainder of the season!

Trefor Thynne

Secretary, 3.2.19