

Match Secretary's Report 2011

League Divisional winners

41 teams competed in our Four Divisions last season. This compares to 39 teams last season in 2009 2010.

Division 1 Clifton A won by an impressive margin of 8 pts between them and 2nd place Downend A. Five teams were in the running for 2nd place until the final week of the season. At the bottom of the table Clevedon A struggled after losing key players from last season.

Division 2 was won convincingly by University A by the same margin 8pts ! The University only dropping 4 pts all season. Grendel finished in second spot and will be looking forward to a return to Division One. Keynsham A and Bath University finished in the bottom two places.

Division 3 Cabot won the Division Three title by the smallest of margins after finishing only half a game point ahead of South Bristol. Harambee & Hanham B finished in the bottom two places.

Division 4 12 teams competed in the bottom division and unfortunately this was reduced to 11 teams by Christmas as the UWE were unable play the remainder of their games. Thornbury B & Horfield D fought it out for top spot in a very competitive division. Thornury B emerging as winners in the last week of the season.

Knockout winners

LKO – Clifton played Bath in the final of the League Knockout – a repeat of last season's clash. The eight board match didn't disappoint as the last four boards were decided with only minutes left on the clock. Clifton emerging as winners 5- 3 in the end.

MLKO – Clifton wrapped up the Minor Knockout with a convincing 5.5 – 0.5 win over Hanham in the final.

Steve Boniface Tankard with Real Ale (1st award)

I need a few more entries to add to what I have and the winner will receive the tankard at the Steve Boniface Congress in August.

Alan Ashby

The winner of the Alan Ashby competition this season goes to Mike Minshall – Played 20 Won 16 Drew 2 lost 2 17/20 points. The competition is won by the player that achieves the most points for his registered team. A winner from Division Four (12 teams) was always on the cards.

Who is on Form ?

Players that have excelled this season include Harvey Atkinson (Horfield) with a 71% score from a 29 game haul. James Jackson achieved 14/15 wins for Bath University & Sarah Hegarty's 7/7 maximum in Division Two. And a mention for those that manage to play every week of the season – Alan Papier & Bob Radford – knocking up 34 games each.

Statistics

The Grading thresholds for next season are as follows:

(1-2) (2-3) (3-4) (4-5) - Divisions

157, 126, 108, 80 New Grading Thresholds (slightly higher in Div 1 & Lower in Div 2)

151, 131, 109, 80 Old Grading Thresholds

Grading

All games played in the league and the knockout will soon be sent to the ECF for Grading in time for the new published list that comes out in August. The cut off date for sending in the results is the end of June. My intention is to display the results on the website for about a 10 day period so that league members can check that all their results are correct. The grades shown are likely to differ from the ECF published grade in August as all results including congresses count and in the case of players that have played under 30 games in a season – the ECF will make up the results by adding games from last season.

Results sheets

I get the majority of results sent in now via email and this probably accounts for the majority of all results. This has worked well with only the odd error needing to be sorted out but it is still important for captains to keep a record of results as a backup. Home & Away Captains are urged to print out their own result sheets from the website and keep hold of a signed copy themselves.

Website

The League Website at www.chessit.co.uk has now been online since 2005. It has enabled us to promote chess in our area and put ourselves on the map. Here you are able to access everything from Fixtures & Results to Games & even video's on Youtube !

Events happening this summer include – Downend Summer Quickplay – (see the website for the schedule) and if enough teams will enter – a Summer Lightning competition.

David Tipper

E mail: Chessit@blueyonder.co.uk

Website address: www.chessit.co.uk