

South Wales and South West Team Jamboree Team Tournament – BGS 11/1/25

Bristol & Gloucestershire Juniors

With 4 other county teams taking part in this year's jamboree (Glamorgan, Devon, Wiltshire and Somerset), and teams at Under 9, Under 11, Under 14, and Under 18, it was sure to be a busy and hectic day (definitely so for Igor and Vince).

A lovely new venue at BGS (Great Hall), and the first time we had managed to take teams at all 4 age groups - Under 9, Under 11, Under 14 and Under 18.

Our squad was therefore our largest yet with a total of 34 payers. This included B & D League players from Downend, South Bristol and Clifton. Also players from Wotton Hall and Stroud in the North Gloucestershire League, plus players from Knights of Bristol Chess Club, Bristol Grammar School, Wheatfield Primary School and Brunel Field Primary school.

In the Under 11's, Under 14's and Under 18's (including reserves) there were three rounds in the day (time control 30 mins + 10). The Under 9's had 4 games and a shorter time control. We could never have imagined just how well all our teams would do ?

My goodness didn't they do themselves proud !

The Under 18's had an amazing score of 16/18 and were clear winners.

Well played to Freddie, James, Alex, Henry, Soumil, Advay and Elliott.

This was the first time we had won Gold in the Under 18 section.

A truly great team effort.

The Under 14's also won Gold ! Another excellent score of 19/24

We had 11 players in the Under 14's and whether in the main tournament or in the reserve section they all played with tremendous gusto.

Well played to Evan, Alexis, Rayyan, Jake, Anay, Noah, Tarun, David, Nayra, Avina and Adam

The Under 11's, guess what... they also won Gold. This time with an outstanding score of 21/24 ! The defending champions did it again, with some lovely wins along the way.

Well played to Carolus, Hector, Siddharth, Lucca, Ryan, Aarav G, Felicity, Aarav T J, Luke, Ivan and Jayden.

The Under 9's (all from BGS) won the Silver Medal with a fine score of 12/24.

For nearly all of the 8 players it was their first tournament, and we certainly look forward to monitoring their progress.

Well played to Max, Ethan, Shiv, Otto, Henry, Hugo, Louis and Austin
(a big thank you to Graham Iwi for arranging our first Under 9 team)

Well, what a fantastic day for our players and the whole **Bristol & Gloucestershire** squad. Three golds and one silver... The wins just kept coming in all day long. What was also pleasing was that everyone won at least one game, with many managing a full house of 3 out of 3.

We have a fantastic crop of juniors right now. They are playing a lot of chess, and showing great promise. It won't be too long before many more of them are playing in Opens and 1st division league chess. A few Fide titles as well I fancy !

Thanks

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mark Morris (Downend Junior Officer) for supporting our younger players so well throughout the whole day. He and Oli were constantly on the go; going over games, and keeping round scores updated. Thanks a million to both !

Thanks also to Ian and Kevin for again organising this great junior county event. To Igor, Vince and Adam (arbiters) for running a very busy, but smooth day. With over 150 players, a team Jamboree is a tricky format, yet somehow they always managed to keep a smile on their face.

I must also thank Fran, Tania and Neha for their fine Art and Design skills (they will know what I mean), and indeed all the parents for keeping our young stars fed/ watered and ready to play. It was a lovely atmosphere in our team rooms, and nice to see both players and parents getting along so well.

N.B Thanks to the B & D Chess League and North Gloucestershire Chess Association for once again covering their junior players entry fees. Similar thanks to Knights of Bristol Chess Club for also contributing to entry fees

John Stubbs
(Bristol & Gloucestershire Juniors)