



# FOUR NATIONS CHESS LEAGUE

## Division 2 Round 5 report by Ben Purton

### Pool A



### Sambuca Sharks vs AMCA Dragons ( 3-5)

As captain of the Sharks, I felt our loss was quite unfortunate. Thomas Rendle went for a win when it was not there and ended up ground down by the ever solid Richard Webb. I thought Ken Coates was going to win but the in-form James Adair came back and won! Congratulations to him for reaching 2200 after a great last month. James Holland played very well, as expected, and put away our other in-form player this year, Selina "Bluebolt" Khoo.

RD 5		SAMBUCA SHARKS	2151	v	AMCA DRAGONS	2123
1	w	Rendle, Thomas E	2396	0 - 1	Webb, Richard M	2260
2	b	Varnam, Liam D	2148	½ - ½	Richardson, Keith B	2168
3	w	Adair, James	2167	1 - 0	Coates, Kenneth G	2220
4	b	Purton, Ben J	2150	0 - 1	Turner, Caius AW	2122
5	w	Williams, Samuel G	2198	½ - ½	Frostick, Clive A	2160
6	b	Edgell, Ben P	2100	½ - ½	Hart, David PO	2012
7	w	Foster, James J *	2069	½ - ½	Sparkes, Daniel A	2066
8	b	Khoo, Selina (F)	1981	0 - 1	Holland, James P (J)	1973
				3 - 5		

### Brown Jack vs Kings Head (4-4)

The average ratings of these two teams would suggest that this was a good result for Kings Head. However, the average ratings are skewed because of the 1066 bottom board fielded by Kings Head. Mark Davey of Kings Head played very well against a higher rated opponent and then the game was pulled back by Jane Richmond against Maria Sant on bottom board. Julian Ward might have been the guilty party at dinner, considering there was a point at which moves were repeated and White clearly decided that a draw was no good and then proceeded to lose to Paul Girdlestone.

RD 5		BROWN JACK	2157	v	KINGS HEAD	2026
1	w	Truran, Michael C	2215	½ - ½	McMichael, Richard J	2286
2	b	Richmond, Peter A	2247	½ - ½	Wittmann, Jochen	2266
3	w	Hall, Daniel J	2138	0 - 1	Thomas, Rik H	2220
4	b	Girdlestone, Paul C	2135	1 - 0	Ward, Julian T	2132
5	w	Headlong, Timothy	2188	½ - ½	Mackenzie, Colin	2120
6	b	Padilla Cabero, Pablo	2142	½ - ½	Stevenson, James AB	2097

7	w	Rabbitt, Michael	2074	0 - 1	Davey, Mark	2020
8	b	Richmond, Jane (F)	2118	1 - 0	Sant, Maria L (F) *	1066
				4 - 4		

### Wessex 1 vs Anglian Avengers (4.5-3.5)

This league is going for a record number of close matches this season and this game could prove vital in the relegation pool, to which both teams are now assigned with one round to spare. Wessex were the victors. The pivotal game came on board 2, where both players had good counter-play throughout the game.

RD 5		WESSEX 1	2118	v	ANGLIAN AVENGERS	2116
1	w	Lock, Gavin R	2170	½ - ½	Talsma, Paul A	2252
2	b	Kawuma, Steven Male	2187	1 - 0	Munson, Shaun D	2172
3	w	Neil, David R	2157	1 - 0	Gray, Mark S	2089
4	b	Simons, Martin J	2200	½ - ½	Player, Edmund C	2156
5	w	de Coverly, Roger D	2109	0 - 1	Gregory, Stephen J	2126
6	b	Yeo, Michael J	2147	½ - ½	Cook, Michael P	2073
7	w	Clark, Ian C	2072	½ - ½	Merry, Alan B (J)	2074
8	b	Thilaganathan, Jessica (F)	1900	½ - ½	Wallis, Ian J	1982
				4½-3½		

### White Rose 2 vs Barbican 4NCL Youth (1.5-6.5)

Barbican Youth could be confused with Barbican 2, they appear to be so strong and bouncing back to possibility of Utopia that is division 1. However, the youth was missing. Felix had another commitment and other juniors were also missing. This left the mantle up to Barbican stalwart and organiser FM Jonathan Rogers. The best game won by Barbican was that on board 2. Terry Chapman who has put so much in to chess in Britain showed an almost textbook way to play the English. Not only is it a great game, he would probably rival Elliott Auckland for the best dressed person at the 4NCL.

Jonathan Rogers reports:

The youth team continues to go from strength to strength and heads its pool. It so happens that this year the 4NCL has managed to clash with both half-term holidays, when other events take place. This means that while we had six juniors in January (when we also won both matches) we have had less juniors in the October and February weekends, and on this occasion I proudly made my youth team debut against White Rose 2 as various middle aged second teams players were shunted down the hierarchy to replace the missing youngsters.



With hindsight, we can now look back at the fateful meeting between Barbican 4NCL Youth and Anglian Avengers, in the third round. Both teams started that match with 50% from the previous weekend and were roughly evenly matched; but AA went 3.5-0.5 ahead. Who knows what would have happened if they had made an extra point to win the match? But they lost all four remaining games (all to junior players), by no means all from lost positions. Since that match Barbican 4NCL Youth has won its other matches, with relative comfort, to go top of the table while AA have added three more defeats by 4.5-3.5 to lie bottom!

RD 5		WHITE ROSE 2	2057	v	BARBICAN 4NCL YOUTH	2164
1	w	Lewyk, Ihor	2115	½ - ½	Rogers, Jonathan W	2329
2	b	Arnott, Jonathan W	2154	0 - 1	Chapman, Terry PD	2221
3	w	Shaw, Peter	2156	0 - 1	Coleman, David J	2239
4	b	O'Driscoll, Keiran	2062	½ - ½	Sen, Subin	2117
5	w	Faulks, Nick	2111	½ - ½	Hodgson, John H	2181
6	b	Webb, Matthew D	1986	0 - 1	Smith, Ivor BN	2145
7	w	Whitaker, Thomas R	1954	0 - 1	Farrand, Julian T	2112
8	b	Rajeswaran, Kiruthika (F)	1914	0 - 1	Cumming, Rhys (J)	1969
				1½-6½		

## Pool B

### e2e4.org.uk vs Bristol 1 (5.5-2.5)

Whilst it being a subjective statement, it's fair to say that Bristol 1 were probably the favourites pre-season to win the league. As it is, they will be battling to avoid relegation to the bottom flight, let alone winning the league. Credit where credit's due, e2e4 have some really under-rated players, such as James Jackson (of Bath University) and Alistair Compton (of about 100 teams!). e2e4 totally outclassed their opponents, with only my report predecessor winning for Bristol 1. This leaves Sean Hewitt's (right) team needing a result to get into the promotion group, which I am sure he would have taken at the beginning of the season.



RD 5		E2E4.ORG.UK 1	2136	v	BRISTOL 1	2161
1	w	Hulmes, David I	2227	1 - 0	Buckley, David E	2274
2	b	Byron, Alan M	2196	0 - 1	Rudd, Jack	2286
3	w	Sugden, John N	2219	½ - ½	Beaumont, Chris R	2306
4	b	Jackson, James P	2067	½ - ½	Collier, David O	2118
5	w	Denton, John R *	2146	1 - 0	Franklin, Michael	2190
6	b	Mansson, James C	2142	1 - 0	Bicknell, Carl	2194
7	w	Compton, Alistair	2066	½ - ½	Curtis, John E	2106
8	b	Norinkeviciute, Rasa (F)	2027	1 - 0	Oliver, Martin (J) *	1810
				5½-2½		

### Guildford-A&DC 3 vs Celtic Tigers 1 (1.5-6.5)

Like a Tiger being given a free steak, whilst the victory tastes nice, I am sure some players did not wish to play 140-150's on nearly every board in division 2. Celtic Tigers will probably need something from their last match in order to secure promotion. Megan Owes (Celtic Tigers) and Mike Johnson (Guildford) deserve special mention, as they both won games that perhaps their opposing sides hoped to get a result from.



RD 5		GUILDFORD-A&DC 3	1901	v	CELTIC TIGERS 1	2100
1	w	Shepley, Julien M	2022	½ - ½	Hoffman, Hendrik	2252
2	b	Hunt, Daniel (J)	2018	0 - 1	Maciol, Rycha	2245
3	w	Higgs, Anthony RJ	1962	0 - 1	Mueller, Jan	2165
4	b	Shaw, Matthew H	1956	0 - 1	Pedersen, Carsten	2157
5	w	Johnson, Mike J	1858	1 - 0	French, Angus J	2096
6	b	Armour, Philip	1850	0 - 1	Josse, Mark	2064
7	w	Waldock, Adrian DP	1850	0 - 1	Thomas, Mark	2049
8	b	Ward, Matthew J	1688	0 - 1	Owens, Megan R (F)	1774
				1½-6½		

### FCA Solutions 1 vs Warwickshire Select 1 (2-6)

Warwickshire select are now monster “odds on” for promotion and favourites in my view to win the league. The main reason is their strength in depth, having your ‘women’ board as a 190 improving junior in Brandon Clarke who destroyed his opponent in this match will always help. From a fellow captain’s point of view, I don’t know where I’d find my “banker boards” against Warwickshire Select. Their top 3-4 are all really solid and then they have 4 dangerous bottom boards. Quite looking forward to playing against them in the next weekend but hope they don’t destroy us also. FCA are quite an old team on average, but they are capable of good results and Graham Smith beat Tony Hynes, despite being out-rated by 113 points.

RD 5		FCA SOLUTIONS 1	2038	v	WARWICKSHIRE SELECT 1	2179
1	w	Tippleston, Charles E	2137	0 - 1	Mason, Donald J	2255
2	b	Almond, Richard J	2145	0 - 1	Thomas, Nicholas	2291
3	w	Smith, Graham M	2106	1 - 0	Hynes, AM (Tony)	2219
4	b	Brown, Alan M	2118	½ - ½	James, Russell A	2224
5	w	Reuben, Stewart	2152	½ - ½	Pitcher, John	2193
6	b	Borrowdale, Graham E	2074	0 - 1	Clarke, Brandon GI (J)	2058
7	w	Williamson, Kevin J	2045	0 - 1	Baruch, Andrew JD	2089
8	b	Shields, Callum T (J)	1530	0 - 1	Fishburne, Stewart K	2106
				2 - 6		

### Cheddleton vs Poisoned Pawns 2 (6.5-1.5)

Whilst discussing Warwickshire in general, Dr Andrew Oswald of Warwick University is the foremost expert on Money correlating with happiness, or should I say not correlating with happiness. However, money does appear to correlate with good Chess results and the only professional side in the Village (league) won as they should, given the strength of their opponents. Most of the players in Poisoned Pawns were out-rated by 300 odd points in this match. This therefore led to no wins for the PP boys and whilst this defeat is not ideal, they still look quite likely to get in to the Promotion pool. Great proof that even the teams not expected to get there, might.



Keith Arkell the master of the grind, actually won in clinical fashion. Jonathan Hawkins opponent allowed clear equality in the opening. Well done to Cheddleton, see you soon no doubt....

RD 5		CHEDDLETON	2318	v	POISONED PAWNS 2	2065
1	w	Arkell, Keith C	2462	1 - 0	Rosen, Daniel B	2145
2	b	Gormally, Daniel W	2479	½ - ½	Winfridsson, Ola	2133
3	w	Eggleston, David J	2367	1 - 0	Kemp, Paul R	2109
4	b	Hawkins, Jonathan	2383	1 - 0	Hutchinson, Norman A	2092
5	w	Bellin, Robert	2373	½ - ½	Doci, Stefan	2071
6	b	Wallace, Paul A	2234	1 - 0	McCorry, Robert T	2061
7	w	Jackson, Sheila (F)	2160	½ - ½	McMahon, Paul	2043
8	b	Bennett, Patrick J	2087	1 - 0	Redman, David J (J)	1866
				6½-1½		

You can find all of the games from this round here:

PGN [http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910\\_div2-05.pgn](http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910_div2-05.pgn)

Game viewer [http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910\\_div2-05viewer.htm](http://www.4ncl.co.uk/0910_div2-05viewer.htm)

And view results and information about the 4ncl here: <http://www.4ncl.co.uk/>