

West Nottingham Chess Club

The chess club for Stapleford, Bramcote, Beeston and all points west of the city centre
<http://www.westnottinghamchess.org/> secretary@westnottinghamchess.org

T H E P A S S E D P A W N

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Membership renewals

There are still a few people who haven't paid the annual membership fee. Please cough up soon or we'll make you play all your games in the car park (or something).

Christmas Party

The club's annual Christmas Party will take place on Monday 19 December. As last year, this will take the form of a general knowledge quiz on practically every subject other than chess. There'll be prizes handed out throughout the evening. It's a fun event for members and their families – just bring some Christmassy food to share with everyone else.

Monday night junior session

The new Monday night junior sessions start on 9 January. These sessions are for our younger members (roughly speaking those under 13 years old) and will run from 6:15–7:30 p.m.

During these sessions, free from the need to provide silent conditions for league matches, we will be able to provide coaching and put on some special events. The first of these will be the qualifying round of the British Land UK Chess Challenge, a national junior competition.

Juniors selected to play in league matches will of course need to attend during normal match hours. Those with family members playing in league matches are also welcome to stay for the later session.

National Club Championship

The club has entered the Major section of this year's National Club Championship. The

first round match (against Rose Forgrove of Leeds) takes place at the club on Sunday 11 December, starting at 1:00 p.m. Spectators/supporters welcome throughout.

Whatever happened to Fridays?

Several people have asked when Friday sessions will start again. We learned last season that if we simply open the club on a Friday, with no particular event planned for the evening, no one comes. Therefore we have to put on specific events, which in turn requires someone with the necessary skills to run each event. The snag is that all of the people concerned are currently not free of other commitments on Fridays, which means that we haven't been able to get things started yet.

We will take a fresh look at the situation in the New Year.

Club championship

It won't have escaped anybody's notice that the club championship hasn't started yet. The reason is very simple: the overwhelming number of league fixtures (two extra teams this year means even more matches than last year) makes fitting in championship games effectively impossible.

Consequently, the club championship will now take place after the league season is over, probably on alternate weeks in May, June and July. More details nearer the time.

Handicap Knockout tournament

The club's three remaining teams have now played their first round matches. West Nottingham Daydream led for most of their match against Fiveways, but faded in the last three games, losing 5–4.

West Nottingham Nightmare hit a rich vein of form against Radcliffe Rockets, sweeping to a huge 8–1 win.

West Nottingham Fantasy fought hard against Gambit Boys, and the 7½–1½ defeat didn't reflect how closely the match was contested.

In Round 2, the Nightmare take on Bunkers A.

East Midlands Junior Rapidplay Grand Prix

Several of our members won prizes in this event, among them Reece Needham, who took the Under 12 title, and Lateefah Messam-Sparkes, who won the Under 16 event. For more details, see <http://www.westnottinghamchess.org/emj/>.

Derby League: Cup and Plate

Fixture clashes left West Nottingham A unable to field a representative team in the second session of the Cup competition, and the team opted to withdraw. In the Plate, West Nottingham B cruised into the semi-final, finishing 2nd after the rapidplay games.

In the semi-final, the team faced Spondon B in what looked like a tight match on paper. Instead, it was almost a whitewash, with our side winning 3½–½. They face Rolls Royce A in the final on 7 February.

Notts League Results

No room for league tables this time. You can find them on the club's web site and on the NCA web site (<http://www.nottschess.org/>).

West Nottingham 1 (Division 1)

A narrow defeat against Ashfield followed by a tremendous win against University 1 kept the team bobbing along in mid-table.

Ashfield 1 3 – 2 WN1
WN1 3½ – 1½ University 1

West Nottingham 2 (Division 2)

Currently the team of the moment: two more wins have taken the side to the top of the division.

WN2 3½ – 1½ Long Eaton 1
WN2 4½ – ½ Nomads 1

West Nottingham 3 (Division 4)

Solid but unspectacular performances have moved the team into second place.

Newark 2 3 – 2 WN3
WN3 3 – 2 Bunkers 3
WN3 3½ – 1½ Nomads 3

West Nottingham 4 (Division 4)

WN4 just can't get their season going. There's still plenty of time though.

Ashfield 5 3 – 2 WN4
WN4 1 – 4 Gambit 4

West Nottingham 5 (Division 5)

One good win; one defeat that could have gone the other way.

WN5 3½ – ½ University 4
WN5 1 – 3 Long Eaton 3

West Nottingham 6 (Division 5)

It's all about experience for WN6, and maiden league wins for Vidoshan Vijayadurai and Lawrence Alfred were the high points.

Long Eaton 3 3 – 1 WN6
WN6 1 – 3 West Bridgford 2

Derby & District League Results

West Nottingham A (Division 3)

A stuttering start for WNA, with both defeats coming against weaker teams.

WNA 1 – 3 Derby & Mickleover D
Rolls Royce B 1 – 3 WNA
WNA 2½ – 1½ Spondon B
Belper C 2½ – 1½ WNA

West Nottingham B (Division 4)

No wins yet, but WNB continues to provide experience for the younger players.

WNB 1½ – 2½ Spondon D
Foremarke 3½ – ½ WNB
WNB ½ – 3½ Rolls Royce C

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