

# 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

## THE PASSED PAWN

NO. 16 5 FEBRUARY 2007

### Introduction

We're just past the halfway point of the league season in Notts, and our teams are collectively having a fine season. We have serious promotion challenges in all four divisions in which we play, no team is at serious risk of relegation, and the juniors in WN6 and WN7 are gaining the experience they need for the future.

Things are equally good in the Derby & District League, where WNA and WNB look set to go up.

But (and there had to be a 'but'): we've reached the current situation in the Notts League by means of juggling players between teams and trying to keep as many people available for as many teams as possible. We have now reached the point at which no more juggling is possible. Players will soon be tied, by the league rules, to teams higher than the ones that they have been playing for. On behalf of the committee and the individual team captains, *I'm therefore making an appeal to all players to try to make themselves available for as many matches as you possibly can between now and the end of April.*

That will make it easier for captains to pick their best teams, and in turn will maximise our chances of providing the right level of competitive chess for all players next season.

### Notts League results

#### West Nottingham 1 (Division 2)

Apart from one hiccup in the busiest week of the season, WN1 have continued on their way at the top of the division.

Ashfield 2 3½ – 1½ WN1  
WN1 3½ – 1½ Gambit 2  
West Nottingham 2 2 – 3 WN1

#### West Nottingham 2 (Division 2)

WN2 continue to ride shotgun for WN1, holding a steady third place and losing only to the two teams above them.

Nomads 1 1 – 4 WN2  
Long Eaton 3½ – 1½ WN2  
Ashfield 2 2½ – 2½ WN2  
WN2 2 – 3 West Nottingham 1  
Grantham 1 2 – 3 WN2

#### West Nottingham 3 (Division 3)

WN3 have maintained their promotion challenge, holding their rivals and beating the rest.

Gambit 3 2½ – 2½ WN3  
Newark 2 2 – 3 WN3  
WN3 2½ – 2½ Fiveways

#### West Nottingham 4 (Division 4)

More steady progress keeps WN4 on top of Division 4, but the race is tight.

WN4 3 – 2 Radcliffe & Bingham 2  
WN4 2 – 3 Nomads 3  
Gambit 4 2½ – 2½ WN4

#### West Nottingham 5 (Division 5)

There was a big slip-up just before Christmas, when WN5 contrived to lose to WN6. Wins in all their other matches nevertheless put them on top of Division 5.

University 4 1½ – 2½ WN5  
West Nottingham 6 3 – 1 WN5  
Gambit 5 ½ – 3½ WN5  
WN5 4 – 0 West Nottingham 7

#### West Nottingham 6 (Division 5)

Beating WN5 was an unexpected highlight. Jordan Nicholson has jumped straight into league chess with three wins out of three,

while Ross Mackay scored an impressive win against a strong opponent in the draw against University 4..

Gambit 5 3 – 1 WN6  
WN6 3 – 1 West Nottingham 5  
Bunkers 3 3 – 1 WN6  
West Nottingham 7 3 – 1 WN6  
WN6 2 – 2 University 4

### West Nottingham 7 (Division 5)

WN7 are winning the private battle with WN6.

WN7 1 – 3 Gambit 5  
West Nottingham 5 4 – 0 WN7  
WN7 3 – 1 West Nottingham 6

### Handicap Knockout

Our three second round matches are over, and two teams have reached the semi-finals:

Newark B 4½ – 4½ WN Nightmare  
WN Daydream 6½ – 2½ Ashfield Academicals  
Ashfield Astra 6½ – 2½ WN Fantasy

WN Nightmare went through as the lower-graded team in their drawn match.

### Derby & District League results

#### West Nottingham A (Division 2)

Two comfortable wins see WNA fighting for the top spot.

WNA 3 – 1 Belper C  
WNA 4 – 0 Lichfield A

#### West Nottingham B (Division 4)

WNB remain undefeated and are one of two teams running away at the top of the division. Promotion seems a near certainty already.

Foremarke B 0 – 4 WNB  
WNB 2 – 2 Lichfield B  
West Nottingham C 0 – 4 WNB  
WNB 3 – 1 Derby & Mickleover D  
Spondon D 1 – 3 WNB

#### West Nottingham C (Division 4)

A tough spell, taking on both of the leaders without much luck. There are easier matches to come.

WNC ½ – 3½ Derby & Mickleover D  
WNC 0 – 4 West Nottingham B  
Long Eaton C 1 – 3 WNC

### D&DL Cup and Plate

There were mixed fortunes in these competitions. WNB had a poor second session in the rapidplay phase and missed out on the semi-finals by half a point. They won't be retaining the Plate trophy won by a much stronger team last season.

In contrast, in the Cup WNA qualified comfortably in a tie for second place. However, the semi-final always looked like a tough proposition. Facing a Breadsall team graded 20 points per board higher on average, a 2–2 draw was an excellent result. Unfortunately, the tie-break operated against us and a good run came to an end.

### Other news

Amisha Parmar and Lateefah Messam-Sparks both competed in the Hastings Masters just after Christmas, scoring 2/6 and 3/9 respectively against very strong opposition. Lateefah also played in the New Year Morning B competition, winning the event with a perfect 4/4.

Heather Garside claimed second place in the Under 12 section of the 3rd Girls' Day School Trust Championships, held at Oxford High School on 20 January.

Several of our junior members contributed to Nottinghamshire's clean sweep of the Under 11, Under 9 and Girls titles at the Midlands Inter-Association Primary Schools Championships on 3 February.

---

*Ian Kingston*  
*Secretary, West Nottingham Chess Club*  
*secretary@westnottinghamchess.org*  
*0115 967 8367*  
*48 Bramcote Avenue, Beeston, Nottingham*  
*NG9 4DT*