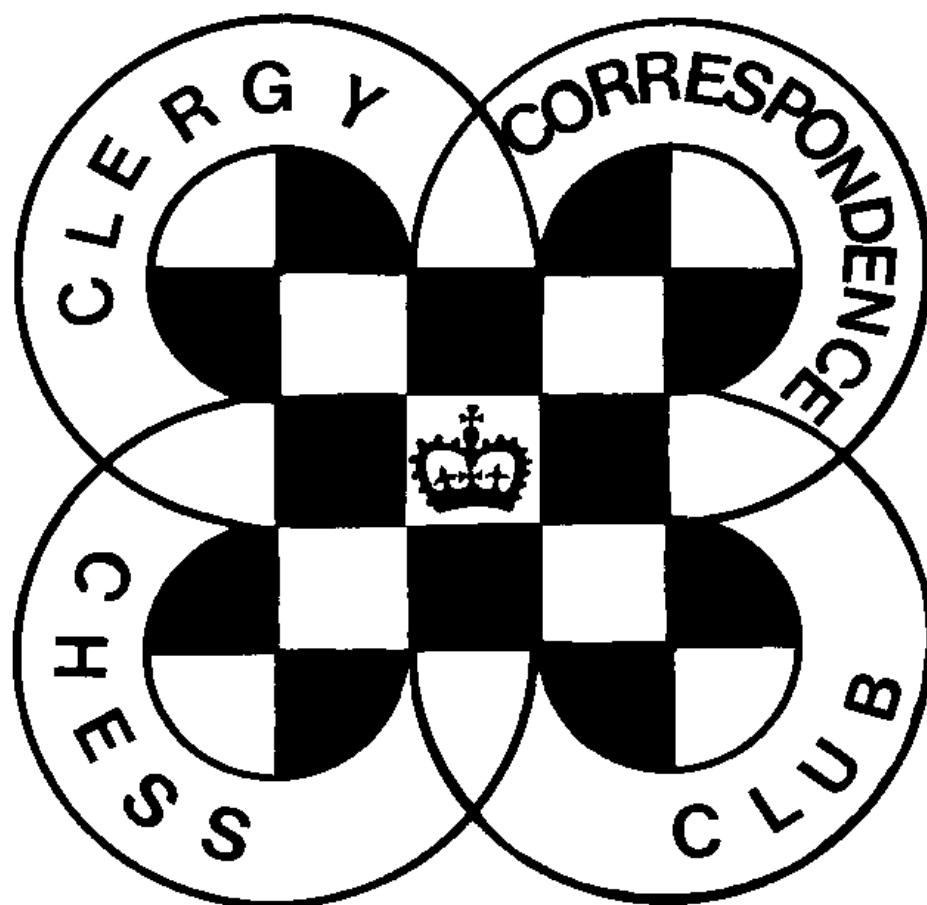


CHESS minister !

The magazine of the

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

www.bfcc-online.org.uk/memberorg/cccc



June 2013

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

(Affiliated to the British Federation for Correspondence Chess)

www.bfcc-online.org.uk/memberorg/cccc

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Subscriptions

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Current Membership Year : October 2012 to September 2013

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act we are exempt from registering providing members are aware of, and do not object to, the use of computers in the keeping of membership records. The Secretary holds members' name, address, phone number, fax and email addresses where provided, their CCCC division, and membership of any team, and the Treasurer holds members' subscription records.

CHESSE Minister!

June 2013

This issue is published a little over a month before the end of our current season and offers a timely reminder to those of you who have not yet completed your games to do so. **Please make sure that I receive all results or claims for adjudication by 31st July.**

We haven't had any games for adjudication for some years so I am not repeating the procedure in this magazine. If anyone does need to submit an adjudication and has not got this information, please request it. But remember we have to pay for games to be adjudicated, which means you have to pay if you submit one!

I will email the final results and put them on the web site. If you want a printed copy and don't want to wait until the October magazine please send me a postage paid envelope and I will send you one.

Congratulations to David Hulme who is confirmed as Champion this season.

*If you are presently a **LEAGUE MEMBER** and have completed your games this season I will assume you wish to continue playing in the league next season. If you do not please let me know by 31st July.*

*If you are a **NON-LEAGUE MEMBER** or if you **WITHDREW** this season you **MUST** tell me by 31st July if you want to be included in the league next season. If you have not played for a while remind me which Division you used to be in and if there is space I will enter you where your strength deserves rather than you starting from the bottom.*

Thanks to those who have sent in games for publication and to Michael Thistlewood for preparing them for the magazine. Please continue sending your games with analysis where possible. Any game score sent will be considered for publication unless you state that you do not want this.

Finally, we are sad to note the death of Justin Caldwell. Although he had suffered ill-health for a while his death was in the end fairly sudden. Having concelebrated the Mass of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday evening he suffered a fatal heart attack in the early hours of Good Friday.

Bruce Carlin (Secretary)

SCHEMING MIND STANDARD CHESS LEAGUE SEASON 7

We finished the season in 3rd place in our Division, just one point behind the joint winners, having won 4 and lost 2 of our matches. Our best win was a near wipe out of Scotland the Brave 9½-½, while we beat both CCLA and International Chess Friends 6½-3½ and Apple Pie B 6-4. Against that we lost 4-6 to Will's Wonders and 1½-8½ to The Chess Warriors. Congratulations to our Team which has now been promoted to Division 4B for Season 8, which has just begun.

If anyone would like to join our Team please let me know. The more players we have, the fewer games each person needs to play as we can vary our Team between rounds. But you do need Internet access as games are played on the web site.

OBITUARY – JUSTIN CALDWELL

Fr Justin Caldwell OSB died peacefully in his sleep on Good Friday, 29 March 2013 at the age of 83.

Justin joined the Benedictine community at Ampleforth in September 1947. He went to St Benet's Hall in Oxford and read Modern Languages and from 1955 worked in Ampleforth's prep school at Gilling Castle, of which he was later Headmaster.

In 1981 Justin began work in Ampleforth's parishes of Lostock Hall, Leyland, Bamber Bridge and Workington, as well as work as a part-time chaplain in Wymott Prison; St Catherine's Hospice, and St Joseph's School, Workington.



Headmaster Fr. Gabriel (right) by Fr. Justin makes the opening move on the left bishop

In 1999 Justin returned to Ampleforth where he was able to continue one of his great hobbies, chess.

He had joined the Clergy Correspondence Chess Club in 1988 and played for Cumbria from 1990 and for Yorkshire for the last decade. Now he taught chess in Ampleforth College, and was involved in their hosting of the British Chess Federation Junior Masters at the College for several years.

He first played in the CCCC in the 1988/89 season and immediately rose through the Divisions, winning the Championship for the first time in 1991. He joined us for our Silver Jubilee Residential Congress in 1992, and went on to win the CCCC championship a total of 14 times, including ten consecutive wins from 2003 to 2012, a record which is likely to stand for some time. In recent years he had suffered ill health and decided to retire from active play at the end of last season.

John Morris - Justin Caldwell [A00] Division 1 - 1990–1991

In tribute to Justin we reproduce this game between him and John Morris (previously our highest overall winner). This was the first season that Justin took the CCCC title, shared with John and David Hulme, winner this season and most likely their heir apparent!

This game was submitted with analysis by both players, though John Morris (M) only comments from move 32 (diagram), asking “Was there a win for White?” which, if there was, would have made him outright winner for the 4th consecutive season, instead of having to share. Justin Caldwell (C) introduces the game, “A great game – complications around moves 26 to 30, then a fascinating ending. Black has to keep his pawns off the squares of the White Bishop, give up the exchange for the White d pawn, and then strive to ensure that White's remaining pawn will be exchanged off to result in a draw.”

1.b4 c6 2.♘b2 a5 3.a3 axb4 4.axb4 ♞xa1 5.♘xa1 ♞b6 6.c3

C: This method of play against 1.b4 upsets White's idea of pressure along the a1-h8 diagonal, but leaves Black seriously undeveloped.

...d5 7.♗f3 ♘f5 8.e3 ♗f6 9.♘b2 e6 10.♗h4 ♘xb1 11.♞xb1 ♘d6 12.d4 0-0 13.♘d3 ♗a6

C: Hoping to activate the Rook on the a-file.

14.0-0 ♞a8 15.♗f3 ♞c7 16.e4 dxe4 17.♘xe4 ♗b8 18.♘c2 ♗bd7

C: I now have a tidy looking position and it remains to be seen how White attacks.

19.♞e1 ♗f8 20.♘d3 ♗8d7 21.♘c1

C: It turns out that this is in order to attack with the b pawn. It gives me the chance to kick out at e5.

e5 22.b5 cxb5 23.♞xb5 exd4 24.cxd4 h6 25.♘e3 ♗g4

C: To attack h2, with the possibility of Nxe3, leaving opposite coloured Bishops.

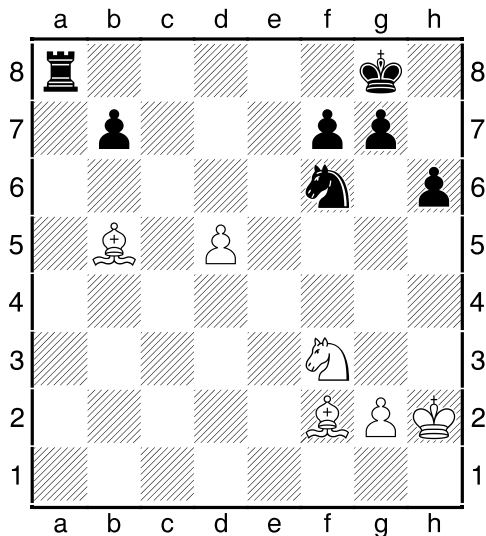
26.♞c1

C: The moment of truth. If 26....Qd8, 27.Qxb7 Nb6, 28.h3 Rb8, 29.Qe4 Nf6, 30.Qf5 it is much better for White. Black's best hope is to go into the fireworks which follow.

...♘h2+ 27.♗h1 ♗xf2+ 28.♘xf2 ♞xc1+ 29.♗xh2 ♞c6 30.d5

C: I did not expect this at all. The d pawn becomes a real problem.

♖xb5 31. ♗xb5 ♘f6 Diagram



M: This position was reached after move 31. White is a piece up; Black has the exchange and two pawns. White thinks his passed pawn on d5 will win material in arriving at the queening square and is hopeful of a win. Black concentrates on damage limitation and aims to keep things as level as possible.

32. d6 ♘g4+ 33. ♗g3 ♘xf2

M: Despite increasing the piece ratio against him, Black decides that one of the White Bishops must go if he is to survive. The exchange also takes the White King a square back from the advancing pawn.

34. ♗xf2

C: I could not have survived against both Bishops. Now my hope is to hold a draw. Decisions: 1. activate my King. 2. My pawns need to be on dark squares where his Bishop can't get them. 3. If I check with my Rook down the a-file (hoping perhaps to play the Rook to d1 behind the pawn) I only help his King forward. I am going to have to give up my Rook for the d pawn when it queens, so I might as well not waste any moves with it.

... ♗f8 35. ♘e5 f6 36. ♘d7+ ♗f7 37. ♘c5 b6 38. ♘b7 ♗e6 39. d7 ♗e7 40. ♗e3 ♗b8

M: White's King has got a bit nearer the action. Before he can get nearer still, Black seals the fate of the advanced pawn. If 41.b6 to defend the Knight, then 41....Rxb7 42.Bxb7 Kxd7 leaves the

Black King one square nearer the centre than if he is obliged to capture on d8. White seeks a vital tempo that will be necessary for any winning plan and so opts for d8.

41. d8♖+ ♗xd8 42. ♘xd8 ♗xd8

C: To hold a draw I must ensure that as his King captures my pawns, I manage to capture or exchange off his final pawn, without which he cannot win.

M: White has not gained as much as he had hoped from the promoted pawn. Could he have arranged things better? Although a Bishop ahead, White has to deal with a Black passed pawn on b6 and the strong connecting triad on the king side, all on black squares. Nothing like this in his ending books – what shall he do?

43. ♗e4 ♗e7 44. ♗f5 ♗d6

M: White's plan is to attack the kingside pawns with his King while blockading the b pawn with his Bishop. But he must ensure that the enemy King does not get a chance to gobble his remaining pawn or all will be lost.

45. g4 ♗d5 46. ♗d7 ♗d6 47. ♗b5 ♗d5

M: White is still looking for that elusive tempo. Black waits, skillfully developing his King in the centre. To avoid draw by repetition, White switches his Bishop around.

48. ♗a4 ♗d6 49. ♗b5 ♗d5 50. ♗e8 ♗d4 51. ♗d7 ♗e3

M: Can White's King now eat the kingside pawns while his Bishop covers his own g pawn and the Black b pawn?

52. ♗g6 ♗f4 53. ♗xg7 ½-½

M: Whichever way you slice it, White cannot win from this position. White has to concede the draw which Black has well earned. If 53....Kg5, either the White g pawn falls or the Black b pawn will queen.

Or 53.Kh5 g6+, 54.Kxg6 b5, 55.Kxf6 b4, 56.Kg6 b3, 57.Kxh6 b2, 58.Bf4 b1=Q, 59.Bxb1 Kxg4.

Or 57.Kh5 b2, 58.Bf5 Kg3, 59.Bb1 Kf4, 60.Kh4 Kf3.

Was there a win for White? No one submitted a proposal for one at the time. Can anyone now?

Much more fun than watching paint dry! Chess on the Internet, by Richard Cleaves

I can date the moment I got the hang of chess Openings ... insofar as it is possible to say that I have ever got the hang of Chess Openings! The primary school my two youngsters were attending had started a chess club and I had volunteered to help the teacher organise it. She presented me to the group as the resident expert and coach! That meant I had furiously to mug up on children's chess books during the week before each club meeting. It was a bit sad that the pinnacle of my week's sporting activity was to beat a nine year old at chess ... and it didn't always happen.

It was twenty years ago that Nigel Short challenged Gary Kasparov for the World Championship. Chess fever swept the country, through our chess club and through me! I followed Leonard Barden in the Guardian and Raymond Keene in the Times, cut out the daily reports in the paper and made a scrap book of all the games. I collected the Times supplements, *Men of War* based on one of Raymond Keene's books. It was as I played out the moves on my pocket chess set, or rather on my wife's rather lovely leather pocket chess set that I spotted that a good number of the games started in the same way. And I got it! It was the Ruy Lopez opening ... and I've been using it ever since! There was something else special about that world championship ... and that was the TV highlights of every round. Raymond Keene became something of a TV celebrity, the Patrick Moore of chess.

Nigel Short lost, of course ... and chess coverage on TV died a death.

Until the arrival of the internet. I remember discovering another world championship on the internet and getting a friend of my younger son to sit and watch live coverage. It was a little bit like watching paint dry as the camera focused relentlessly on a board set up ready to play and two empty chairs. After half an hour of my excitement and his growing frustration it emerged that the start of the championship had been delayed. He was lost to chess, and I was lost to internet coverage.

And then this Spring the world championship returned to London. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, President of FIDE has teamed up with AGON and Azerbaijan's main oil Company SOCAR to bring chess to a new audience in the exciting world of multi-media simulcasting on the internet. I stumbled across it when down with a mild bout of 'flu and feeling like doing nothing else one Saturday afternoon. The top eight contenders to challenge Vishi Anand in Chennai in November fought a round robin tournament in The Auditorium of the Institution of Engineering and Technology in Savoy Place. The live internet coverage was very creative and as exciting as listening to a test match on the radio!

The screen was split in five. In the centre a large board showing the game that was currently being described with pieces that could be moved by the commentators. Top left of the screen were the chess clocks counting down. Bottom left was a fixed web cam sideways on of the two players at the board. Top right another fixed web cam had in view all four games being played on the stage simultaneously. And then bottom right the two commentators. Chief commentator, International Master Lawrence Trent. Nigel Short as his number two was very entertaining. And with guest appearances of the likes of John Nunn it was great fun. I was hooked. And my wife was indulgent. We followed the remaining half of the tournament with mounting excitement as games were lost on time and potential champions defeated. Round 11 was particularly exciting and the whole tournament went to the wire with either Kramnik or Carlsen able to win in the last round. In the event both lost and Carlsen won on a tie break having won more games than Kramnik. The trophy was presented by George Osborne at 11 Downing Street.

I for one am looking forward to the world championship and will be following it on the internet ... though come to think of it we have folk in church from the Church of South India in Chennai, and a standing invitation to visit their family over there so who knows?!!!

Why not see for yourselves by visiting the home of the championships at <http://london2013.fide.com> where you can still find all the TV coverage of every round in the archived videos section of the site.

CHESS RATINGS

International Chess uses the Elo Rating system, named after its inventor, Arpad Elo, a Hungarian born American Physics Professor who also happened to be a rather good chess player. It is a method of Rating players relative to each other and by implication a way of predicting the likely outcome of a game.

If you are a member of a chess club you might have a Rating from the English Chess Federation; if you play internationally you might even get one from the world governing body, FIDE. At one time CCCC members had correspondence chess ratings from the British Federation for Correspondence Chess, but they no longer do them and only members who take part in outside events recognised by the International Federation will gain a Rating. As far as I am aware our only player to have an ICCF Rating was the late Justin Caldwell.

However, those of us who play our games on the Scheming Mind web site once again have the chance to get a Rating. This is based on Elo ratings, but refined by using the Glicko system. Your Rating should therefore relate to International Chess Ratings, though it is only generated from games played on Scheming Mind.

To give an idea of where you stand in the overall scheme of things, FIDE's top 100 International players range from around 2870 to 2650. In Correspondence Chess the ICCF Ratings top 100 range from 2711 to 2571. Justin Caldwell, clearly our best player for some time, was last rated at 2291, while our current Scheming Mind Team has ratings from around 2090 to 1620.

Your Rating varies according to the results of your games. In simple terms if you beat someone with a higher rating yours will go up, if you lose to someone with a lower rating yours will go down. But even if you lose to someone with a much higher rating your rating can increase. Of course it is much more complicated than that, and if you can cope with the maths have a look at the two websites mentioned at the end of this article.

Glicko also takes into account how reliable your rating is, and this is where the figure in brackets in your Scheming Mind rating comes in. Although they allocate a rating to a player after one or two games, really they can't infer very much about your playing strength from those games, so there is some uncertainty about the rating. If, however, the same grade is given to a player who has completed hundreds of games, they can be fairly sure that the rating is accurate.

So the figure in brackets is the player's 'Rating Deviation', and tells us the confidence we can have in a rating - the highest possible value for RD is 350, and if someone has an RD of 350 then we can assume that the rating isn't really much more than a 'best guess'. The lowest value for RD is 30, which means that the player has a well established rating. But RD also increases with inactivity, so if you don't play a game for ten years your actual rating will not change, but your RD is gradually increased as they become less certain about the accuracy of it.

You can read about the Elo Ratings system in detail on Wikipedia at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elo_rating_system

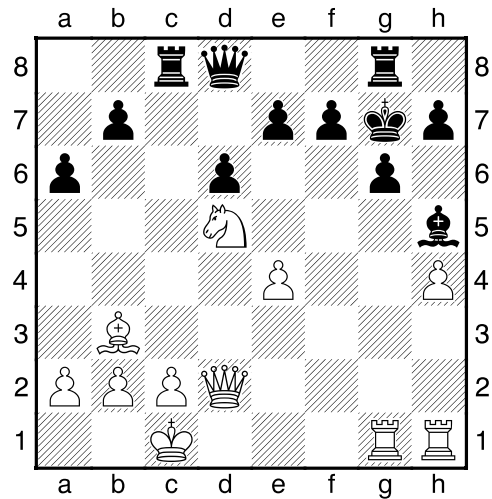
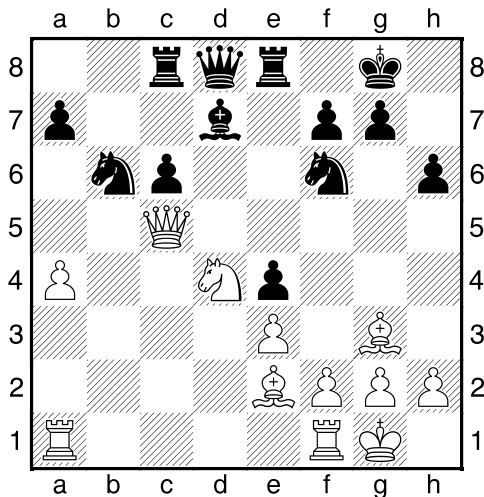
You can read about Glicko in detail at <http://www.glicko.net/glicko/glicko.pdf>

Brian Stevenson - David Lowe [A28]

Division 2 - 2012-2013

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.♗f3 ♗f6 4.d4 ♖b4
 5.a3 ♗xc3+ 6.bxc3 e4 7.d5 ♗a5 8.♗d4
 ♗xc4 9.♗g5 0-0 10.e3 ♗b6 11.c4 d6
 12.♖c2 ♜e8 13.♗e2 ♗d7 14.0-0 h6
 15.♗h4 c5 16.dxc6 bxc6 17.c5 dxc5
 18.♖xc5 ♜c8 19.a4 ♜c7 20.♗g3 ♜c8

Diagram



19.♗f4 ♗f3 20.♜h3 ♗xe4 21.♖b4 e5
 22.♗h5+ ♔f8 23.♖xe4 ♖b6 24.♜hg3
 ♜h8 25.♖d5 ♜c7 26.♜f1 f5 27.♖e6 ♖b5
 28.♖xd6+ ♔e8 29.♗f6# 1-0

21.♗a6 ♜c7 22.♜fc1 ♗c8 23.♗xc7 ♖xc7
 24.♗xc8 ♗xc8 25.♖xc6 ♖e7 26.♖a6
 ♖d7 27.♗c6 ♜e6 28.♖xc8+ ♖xc8
 29.♗e7+ ♜xe7 30.♜xc8+ ♜e8 31.♜ac1
 ♔f8 32.♜1c7 a6 33.♜xe8+ ♗xe8 34.♜a7
 ♗d6 35.♜xa6 ♔e7 36.a5 ♔d7 37.♜a8
 ♗c8 38.a6 ♔c7 39.a7 1-0

David Lowe - John Loxton [B77]

Division 2 - 2012-2013

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6
 5.♗c3 g6 6.♗e3 ♗g7 7.f3 0-0 8.♖d2 ♗d7
 9.♗c4 ♗c6 10.h4 ♗xd4 11.♗xd4 ♔h8
 12.0-0-0 ♜c8 13.♗b3 a6 14.g4 ♗xg4
 15.♗xg7+ ♔xg7 16.fxg4 ♗xg4 17.♜dg1
 ♗h5 18.♗d5 ♜g8 Diagram

David Lowe - Scheming Mind [B96]

Scheming Mind – 2012

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6
 5.♗c3 a6 6.♗g5 e6 7.f4 ♖c7 8.♗xf6 gxf6
 9.♖f3 b5 10.a3 ♗b7 11.g4 ♗c6 12.0-0-0
 ♗g7 13.♗g2 e5 14.♗d5 ♖d8 15.♗f5 ♜g8
 16.♖h3 h6 17.♗f3 ♗c8 18.♔b1 ♗xf5
 19.exf5 ♖a5 20.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 21.♗xc6+
 ♔e7 22.fxe5 ♗xe5 23.♜he1 f6 24.♖xh6
 ♜xg4 25.♗xa8 ♖d8 26.♖h7+ ♔f8
 27.♗d5 ♖e8 28.♖h8+ ♔e7 29.♖xe8+
 ♔xe8 30.♗b7 b4 31.♜xd6 bxa3 32.bxa3
 ♔e7 33.♜xa6 ♜g8 34.a4 ♜b8 35.♜e6+
 ♔f8 36.♜b6 ♗d4 37.♜a6 ♔g7 38.♜a8
 ♜h8 39.♜xh8 ♔xh8 40.a5 1-0

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

RESULTS 2012 / 2013

DIVISION 1	Hu	S	A	Ha	F	N	C	Pts	%	Smith beats Alexander on the first criterion of tie break – the most wins. Foster beats Nye on the 5 th criterion of tie break, that he drew with Black against Nye.
Hulme	X	1	½	1	1	1	1	5½	92	
Smith	0	X	½	1	1	1	1	4½	75	
Alexander	½	½	X	1	1	1	½	4½	75	
Hall	0	0	0	X	1	1	1	3	50	
Foster	0	0	0	0	X	½	1	1½	25	
Nye	0	0	0	0	½	X	1	1½	25	
Carlin	0	0	½	0	0	0	X	½	8	
DIVISION 2	Lw	Y	W	T	Lx	S		Pts	%	
Lowe	X	½	1	1	1	0		3½ / 5	70	
Yates	½	X		1				1½ / 2	75	
Williamson	0		X	0	1	0		1 / 4	25	
Thistlewood	0	0	1	X	1	0		2 / 5	40	
Loxton	0		0	0	X	0		0 / 4	0	
Stevenson	1		1	1	1	X		4 / 4	100	
DIVISION 3	Pa	Co	Cl	Pr	B			Pts	%	
Partridge	X	1	½	1				2½ / 3	83	
Couch	0	X	0	1				1 / 3	33	
Cleaves	½	1	X	1				2½ / 3	83	
Procter	0	0	0	X	½			½ / 4	13	
Boddy				½	X			½ / 1	50	
						X				

Division 1 is now complete. Congratulations to David Hulme, this year's champion with a near perfect score, dropping just ½ point to Wilf Alexander, who is also unbeaten but finishes 3rd behind Mike Smith on tie break. Stanley Hall stays in the top Division with a 50% score, while Antony Foster just survives on tie break over David Nye who is relegated along with Bruce Carlin.

Brian Stevenson is now sure of promotion from Division 2 with either David Lowe or Andrew Yates. Loxton is certain to be relegated along with either Williamson or Thistlewood, or even possibly Andrew Yates, who with 3 games outstanding could actually go either way, or stay where he is!

Unless David Boddy wins all his remaining games, Tim Partridge and Richard Cleaves will be promoted from Division 3.