

The progress of the competition is maintained
on the internet -
www.wallaseychess.btinternet.co.uk/nccu.htm

4 Sections

Open

No grading limit

Major

Average Grade U150

No Maximum Grade but average of Boards 1 and 2 must not exceed 165

Team total 599 max

Intermediate

Average Grade U125

No Maximum Grade but average of Boards 1 and 2 must not exceed 140

Team total 499 max

Minor

Average Grade U100

No Maximum Grade but average of Boards 1 and 2 must not exceed 115

Team total 399 max

4 Players per Team

ENTER A TEAM FOR YOUR CLUB

This is now a well established and popular competition.

It is a great way to play against other chess clubs you have never met before.

Why not give it a go and see what you find?

Your Club may become Champions of the North—and the trophy and the cash are nice of course!

Ask Clubs who have previously entered what they think. Alternatively contact the Controller, Dave Farley, details on the entry form inside, for any further information.

2005/06

NCCU Club Championships

Northern Counties Chess Union

CALLING NMS MEMBERS



This year has seen the introduction of the Northern Membership Scheme and what better way to celebrate it than having a bumper entry to the NCCU Club Championship?

This Newsletter gives the results for last year's competition and provides details of how to enter for 2005/06.

The Club Championship has proven to be a popular event in

the past few years and players enjoy the chance to compete against clubs they would not otherwise meet.

We hope that now regular players are more aware of the NCCU then they will wish to become involved in its Championship and other events.

Also the NMS means that we are better able to communicate with play-

ers and clubs, some of whom would perhaps not previously even have known about the competition.

The NCCU Club Championship is open only to NMS members so make sure your Club is in it.

See inside to see who the competition will be and what is involved. Places are easy to book so don't delay.

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PRIZES

- In Each Section
- 1st £100
- 2nd £50
- Plus trophy for the winners
- Be Champion Club in the North of England

NEXT SEASON'S TOURNAMENT

The draw for the 2005/06 event will be made in November.

Details of how to enter will be circulated as widely as possible before then

but why not reserve your Club's place or even enter now .

An entry form and the necessary information are inside this Newsletter.

The repêchage system guarantees at least 2 matches for all below the Open.

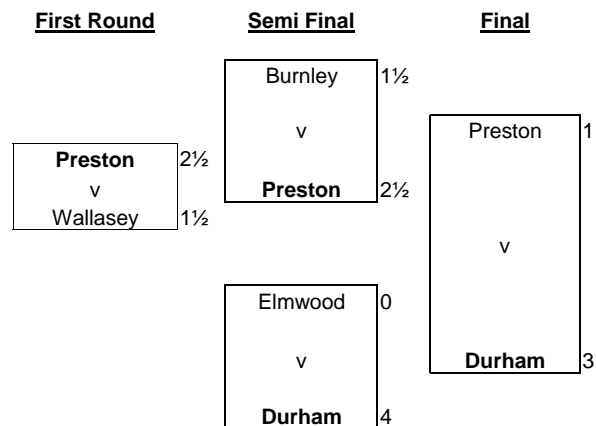
Your Club could be Champions of the North of England.

Book now!

Entry Form Inside! Page 7.

THE OPEN SECTION

It was a triumphant return by Durham. After several years of 'resting' from the event, they returned to win the Open in some style. As previously, the Open usually only attracted a few entries because clubs perhaps think that they need superstars but the average grade of the teams is usually not that high. So have a go!



5 entries

PREVIOUS WINNERS

Open	Major	Intermediate	Minor
1996/7 Durham		1996/7 Grappenhall	
1997/8 Rochdale	1997/8 Hunts Cross	1997/8 Chorley	
1998/9 Morecambe	1998/9 Crusaders	1998/9 Wallasey	
1999/0 Burnley	1999/0 Wallasey	1999/0 Preston	1999/0 Cleveleys
2000/1 Morecambe	2000/1 Wallasey	2000/1 Preston	2000/1 Wallasey
2001/2 Rochdale	2001/2 Wallasey	2001/2 Wallasey	2001/2 Hartlepool
2002/3 Preston	2002/3 Wallasey	2002/3 Hunts Cross	2002/3 Chorley
2003/4 Waterloo	2003/4 Swinton	2003/4 Wallasey	2003/4 Elmwood
2004/5 Durham	2004/5 Sheffield	2004/5 Elmwood	2004/5 Heywood

NCCU Club Championship 2005/06 Entry Form

Club

County

Section Entered

Contact Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone No.

E-mail (if any)

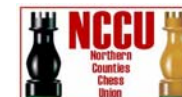
Entry fee £15 per team (exceptions below) (*Cheques payee NCCU*)

Junior Teams (1 non-junior allowed) £5 (unless previous prize winners)
Clubs entering more than 3 teams - the cost will be £15 for each of the first 3 then £5 for each additional team - ie 2 teams cost £30, 3 teams cost £45, 4 teams cost £50 etc.

Please send to

Dave Farley
 NCCU Club Championship Controller
 41 Ashford Road
 Meols
 Wirral
 CH47 5AN
 Tel: 0151 632 4761

*Closing date for entries -
13th November 2005*



Places can be reserved by e-mail -
 Farleys@btinternet.com

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Practicalities of the Club Championship

Each Competition is run as a knockout, but a repêchage round will take place for first round losers (apart from the Open Section)

Rounds are zoned, if there are sufficient entries, as follows:

West Zone—Cheshire & North Wales, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside

East Zone—Cleveland, Durham, Northumberland, Yorkshire

The winners of each zone will play in the final.

The number of rounds will depend on the number of entries but last year the finalists played at most 5 matches.

Regard is had to minimising travelling while trying to avoid near neighbours from playing each other in the early rounds.

The Competition will run from November to May. The draw will be made as soon as the entries are gathered and at least a month (usually longer) will be allowed for each match to be played

A full version of the rules (which are as simple as possible) will be issued with the draw for the first round.

If you have any queries about the competition then please contact the Controller (details opposite).

Ungraded players may represent a Club only if the team captain feels certain they are eligible and evidence of an estimated grade may be requested. In the Minor, an ungraded player may only be used if agreed in advance with the Tournament Controller.

All players will be expected to be NMS or BCF members.

Matches usually take place at the weekend, though if travelling permits, they can happen by mutual consent on mid-week evenings.

The official time limit is 40 moves in 2 hours and all remaining moves in ½ hour. However, by agreement between Captains a reduced time limit can, and indeed usually is, agreed.

The home team will be expected to provide light refreshments especially if the away team has travelled some distance.

The chess is serious but it's a friendly tournament and gives Clubs and players a chance to play Clubs they don't normally encounter.

THE MAJOR SECTION

Average—Under 150

After several years of being runner-up, Sheffield were the well deserved winners.

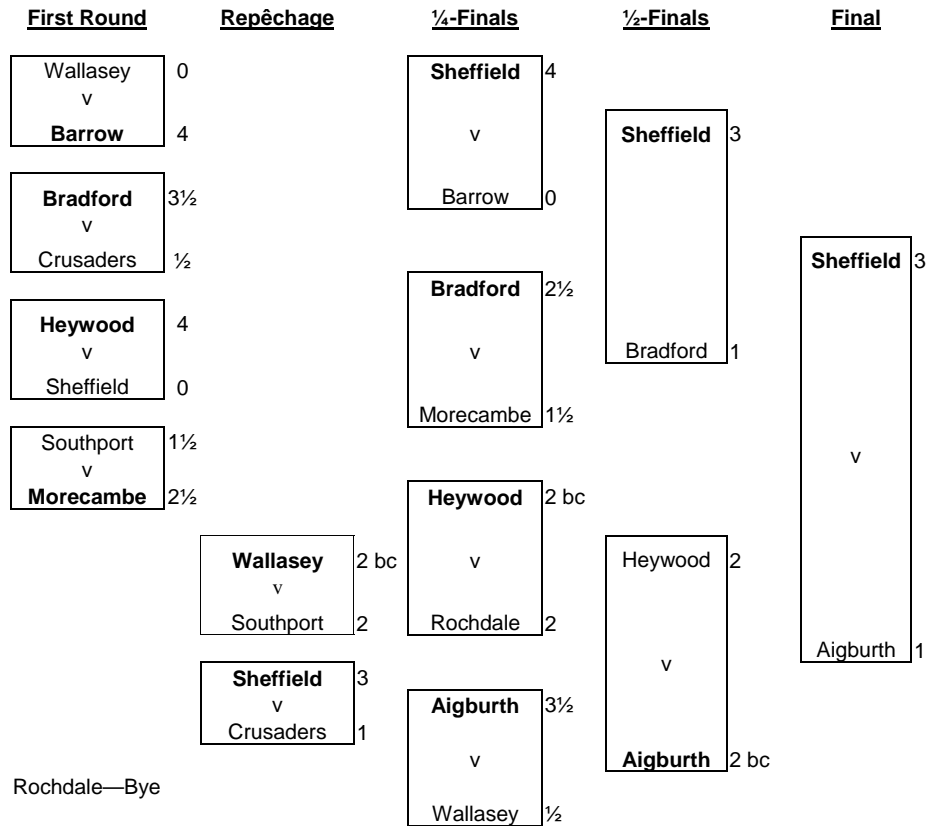
The Major is always well contested and

the repêchage system added an extra bit of interest by giving the first round losers another chance – particularly Sheffield!

Aigburth, previously Hunts Cross, were semi-finalist last year and got one step closer. Perhaps next year?

again and with Bradford, the other losing semi-finalists, will again be in with a chance in the 2005/06 event.

Heywood came near



Rochdale—Bye

Aigburth—Bye

bc = board count

10 entries

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Average—Under 125

After several years of coming close, including final appearances, Elmwood won the Intermediate for the first time.

This was an excellent, very close section and this grading band is particularly popular.

Preston have previously won the Section twice but just missed out this time. Heywood were again semi-finalists and Chorley, previous winners, also reached the last four.

First Round	Repêchage	¼-Finals	½-Finals	Final
Penrith ½ v Elmwood 3½		Barrow 2 v Heywood 2 bc	Heywood ½ v Elmwood 3½	Elmwood 2½ v Preston 1½
Preston 3½ v Windermere ½		Elmwood 2 bc v Waterloo 2		
Barrow 1½ v Chorley 2½		Chorley 2½ v Windermere 1½	Chorley 1 v Preston 3	
Waterloo 3½ v Crusaders ½		Preston 3 v Southport 1		
Southport 1 v Heywood 3	Penrith 1 v Windermere 3			
	Barrow v Crusaders			
	Southport 3 v Morecambe 1			
Morecambe 3 v Wallasey 1				

12 entries

MINOR SECTION

Average—Under 100

Finally, after untold numbers of semi-final and final appearances in various sections, Heywood have won a title — Minor Cham-pions.

We tried a different system this year with 2 groups but a late withdrawal meant that one group only had 3 teams. However, it was an interesting

experiment and we will see how many entries we get this year before deciding whether to repeat it or go back to the repêchage.

The Minor is always a wide open section with a different winner in each of the 6 years since we established it!

Group A		
Crusaders 0 v Waterloo B 4	Rochdale 2 v Crusaders 2	Crusaders 2 v Wallasey A 2
Wallasey A 1 v Rochdale 3	Waterloo B 2 v Wallasey A 2	Rochdale 2 v Waterloo B 2
Group B		
Heywood 4 v Wallasey B 0	Waterloo A 2 v Heywood 2	Waterloo A 3 v Wallasey B 1
Semi-Finals		
Waterloo B 2½ v Waterloo A 1½		
Heywood 2 grades v Rochdale 2		
Final		
	Waterloo B 1½ v Heywood 2½	

7 entries