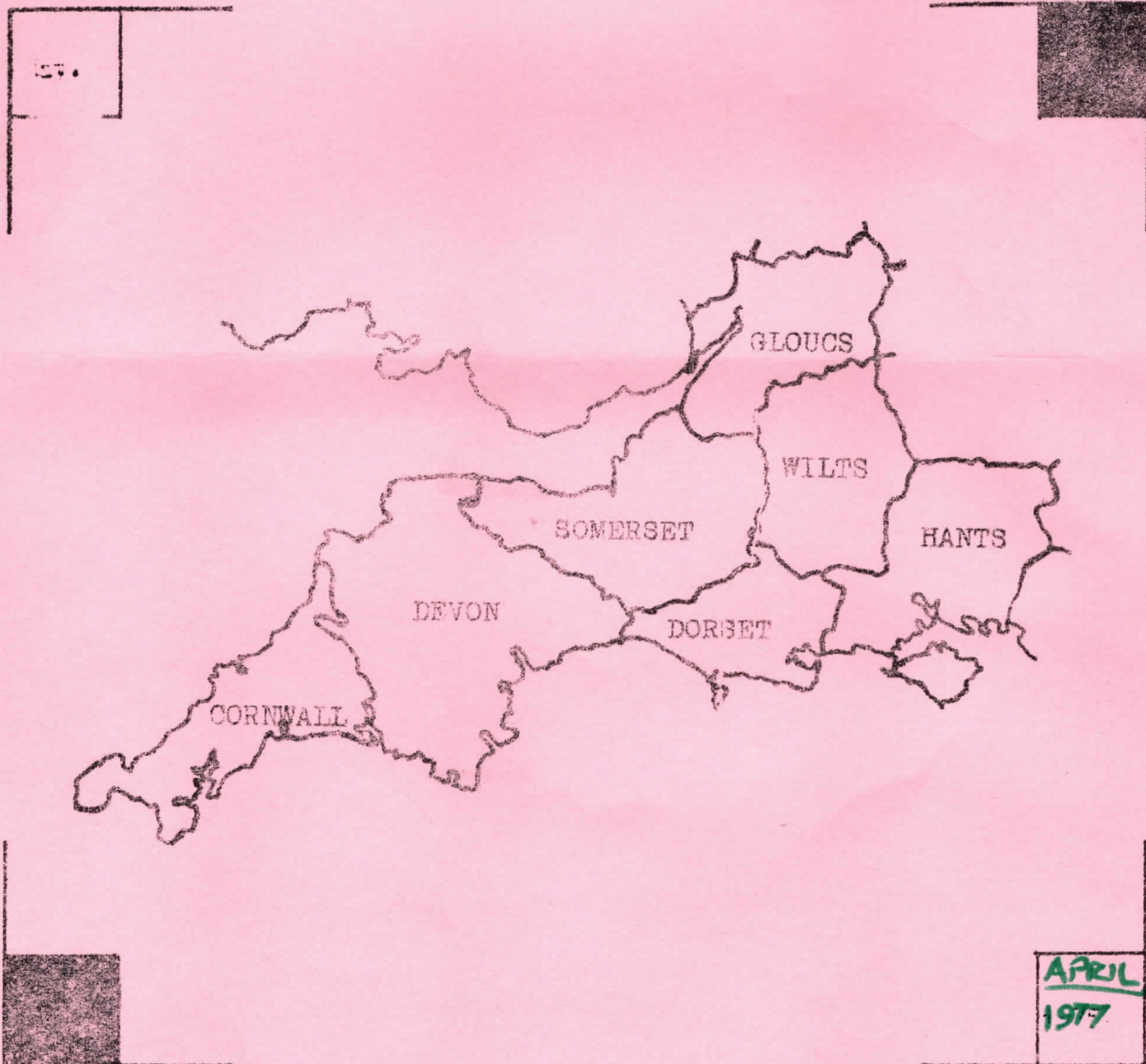


WEST OF ENGLAND

CHESS UNION



WESTWARD HO!

The Old Order Changeth.....

At long last real progress is being made in the re-organisation of chess administration in England. For many years an unwieldy, cumbersome and multi committed structure has struggled week in week out to provide facilities, rules, guide lines, gradings and all the multifarious paper work relating to finance, sponsorship, junior chess, senior chess, senile chess, congresses, home and international chess, etc., etc. In fairness to the B.C.F. they have done a very good job handicapped by a system that has by virtue of its complexity delayed decision making and caused frustration at all levels. In this they have been assisted by loyal and dedicated chess players from the Unions, the Counties and the Clubs, and to those the whole of the chess playing public owe a great debt.

It was obvious several years ago that something had to be done, and a small select committee comprising of Messrs. Williams, Mildwater and Poole after a lot of hard work produced a report in February 1975.

This report was studied in depth by the Development Committee under my chairmanship, and a great deal more hard work was done, involving liason with all Unions and as many Counties as possible. The end product has now been summarised in a paper that has been widely circulated and the first three of the five proposals are being put on the Agenda for the Council Meeting of the B.C.F. in July. They will be specific and detailed. The last two proposals, whilst having full support by the B.C.F. Executive have still to be detailed - especially the proposal relating grading to finance. As I shall be very involved in this any views (I have many already) would be welcomed.

Finally, I apologise for this lengthy (and perhaps biased!) editorial. Schubert in writing on Beethoven once stated "I feel I am marching in the footsteps of a giant." In following Derek Bond as editor I know exactly how he felt.

RALPH NEWMAN

Rock Lodge,
Lynton, Devon.

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THE WEST OF ENGLAND CHESS UNION.

(Founded 1st June 1947.)

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A.R.B. Thomas

MATCH CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

Both the English Counties and the Minor Counties Championships were so evenly poised that everything depended on the results of the last matches played on Saturday March 27th. In beating Dorset in both matches Devon secured both trophies and so march on to the quarter finals of the English County Championships and the semi-finals of the Minor. At the time of writing the Minor Counties team have drawn Middlesex.

It must surely be a great tribute to the inspired captaincy by Ron Bruce in both competitions. Ron has captained Devon for exactly 30 years and both he and his team must be congratulated on achieving the "double" for the first time. In his teams he has a very promising and ever improving number of youngsters and their teams spirit has been excellent.

The other team to go through with Devon to the quarter finals of the English Counties is Gloucester, who finished second to Devon.

Perhaps the most spectacular result in the series was the result of the Cornwall - Gloucester match. Heavily outgraded Cornwall beat the formidable Gloucester team by 10 points to 6. This result really put the cat amongst the pigeons and left the championship wide open. Fortunately for Devon the Tamar separates them from Cornwall so encroachment into Plymouth will be viewed with grave suspicion!

The Junior Jamboree was held as usual at Ilminster and once again, Hampshire proved too strong for the other counties - although Dorset gave them a very rude shock. The girls event was also won by Hampshire. The Jamboree was ably controlled by David Woodruff.

Summing up I would say a very highly successful chess season for all in the Union and may I conclude with thanking all County Match Captains for the prompt way they have sent in all results - and most important of all - adjudication results.

The final tables are as follows:-

ENGLISH COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Position
1. Cornwall	x	0	0	1	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	6
2. Devon	1	x	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$	1
3. Dorset	1	0	x	0	1	0	1	3	4
4. Gloucester	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	x	1	1	1	$4\frac{1}{2}$	2
5. Hampshire	1	0	0	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$2\frac{1}{2}$	5
6. Somerset	1	0	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	1	$3\frac{1}{2}$	3
7. Wilts	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	7

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Position
1. Devon	x	1	1	1	0	1	4	1
2. Dorset	0	x	1	0	1	1	3	2
3. Gloucester	0	0	x	1	1	1	3	2
4. Hampshire	0	1	0	x	1	1	3	2
5. Somerset	1	0	0	0	x	1	2	5
6. Wilts	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	6

WEST OF ENGLAND JUNIOR GIRLS' JAMBOREE Continued

1. W. C.Nolan	1 - 0	Gl. Elizabeth McGarvey	
2. Gl. Frances Green	0 - 1	Ha. Sharon Prince	(133)
3. Ha. Carey Groves (118)	1 - 0	W. A.Hunt	
4. W. J.Reynolds	0 - 1	Ha. Julia Scotney	(94)
5. Ha. Pauline Wragg	0 - 1	Gl. Catherine Adams	
6. Gl. Pauline Carrington	1 - 0	W. S.Francis	
7. W. A.Hearn	0 - 1	Gl. Jane Egan	
8. Gl. Claire Placito	0 - 1	H. Terri Ruff	
9. Ha. Tina Ruff	1 - 0	W. H.Child	

ENGLISH COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

Devon 11½, Wilts. 4½

1.P.Waters 1, S.Taulbut	0
2.A.R.B.Thomas ½, W.Lowe	½
3.P.Broad ½, D.O'Byrne	½
4.J.Wheeler ½, R.Jaydon	½
5.Mrs.R.Bruce ½, G.Chapman	½
6.D.Richardson 1, L.White	0
7.S.G.Ottoson 1, E.C.Baker	0
8.P.Walden 1, J.Denning	0
9.T.F.Thynne 1, P.Edginton	0
10.R.M.Bruce 0, D.Ward	1
11.R.Heasman 1, M.C.Lovell	0
12.B.W.Clapp 1, B.Baddeley	0
13.K.Scholfield ½, T.Dodson	½
14.S.J.V.Bellers 0, N.Freebury	1
15.S.Williams 1, M.N.Saunders	0
16.P.Halmkin 1, R.Wakdell	0

Cornwall 10, Gloucestershire 6.

1.P.H.Clarke	1	M.K Jones	0
2.R.Kneebone	½	A.Ashby	½
3.R.J.Grime	½	R.O.Powis	½
4.P.Breach	½	D.Hulme	½
5.D.Mcfarlane	1	M.C.Goodland	0
6.P.J.Williams	0	M.E.Poolake	1
7.S.Shirley	0	M.Cook	1
8.K.Gay	1	R.J.Dixon	0
9.P.Hutchings	1	R.C.Last	0
10.M.Prettejohn	1	G.Anthony	0
11.A.D.Meakes	0	K.W.Derrick	1
12.W.R.Provis	1	J.A.R.Cousins	0
13.S.Blackford	½	M.G.Powis	½
14.A.J.Gunn	1	P.Ashworth	0
15.L.G.Shroll	0	J.C.B.Date	1
16.W.H.Peek	1	J.R.B.Steadman	0

Hampshire 10½, Cornwall 5½

1.M.Thompson ½	P.H.Clarke ½
2.G.Keane 1	R.Kneebone 0
3.M.Newbury 1	J.Anstead 0
4.J.Corfield ½	R.Grime ½
5.A.Killick 0	P.Breach 1
6.T.Cowling 1	B.Turner 0
7.S.Chivers ½	D.McFarlane ½
8.P.Marshall ½	S.Shirley ½
9.R.Hartley 0	M.Prettejohn 1
10.D.Beer 1	P.Hutchings 0
11.L.Walters 0	K.Gay 1
12.M.Meaton 1	A.Meakes 0
13.S.Perry 1	J.v.d.Velde 0
14.L.Allen 1	W.Provis 0
15.D.Drew 1	L.Schroll 0
16.I.Stenhouse ½	C.Cable ½

Hampshire 8, Somerset 8.

1.M.Thomson ½	G.Moore ½
2.D.Bell 0	R.Northage 1
3.S.Hooker 0	J.Whitcutt 1
4.A.Cullinane ½	A.Roberts ½
5.M.Newbury ½	J.Tuck ½
6.D.Bower ½	D.Hick ½
7.S.Dean 1	K.Shipton 0
8.A.Killick 1	M.Sellars 0
9.R.Hartley 0	R.Gregory 1
10.J.Corfield ½	B.Crouter ½
11.S.Chivers 1	C.Parsons 0
12.D.Beer 0	D.Stringer 1
13.A.Barton 1	C.Chapman 0
14.P.Marshall ½	J.Borkowski ½
15.W.Silner ½	H.Brocklesby ½
16.L.Walters ½	C.Winch ½

Gloucestershire 12½, Wiltshire 3½

1.A.Kendry 0	S.Taulbut 1	9.M.C.Goodland 0	N.Freebury 1
2.M.K.Jones 1	W.Lowe 0	10.D.Hulme 0	E.C.Baker 1
3.Dr.J.Aitken 1	P.Watson 0	11.M.E.Burn 1	D.Ward 0
4.M.E.Binks 1	R.F.Bradley 0	12.M.I.Davis 1	S.Sowden 0
5.P.J.Meade 1	D.O'Byrne 0	13.D.C.Jarrett 1	B.Baddeley 0
6.D.Osborne 1	R.Haydon 0	14.S.W.Dilke 1	M.Higgs 0
7.R.O.Powis 1	G.Chapman 0	15.P.J.Tolhurst 1	G.Broughton 0
8.M.E.Poolake ½	B.Walker ½	16.R.J.Dixon 1	M.Buck 0

ENGLISH COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP Continued

Somerset 5½+2½		Gloucester 8½+2½		Dorset 6		Somerset 10	
1. G. Moore	½	M. E. Burn	½	G. H. Bennett	½	G. Moore	½
2. R. Northage	0	Dr. J. M. Aitken	1	R. Valentine	0	R. Northage	1
3. J. Whitcutt	0	M. E. Binks	1	J. Anderson	0	J. Whitcutt	1
4. R. J. Gregory	0	P. J. Meade	1	R. H. K. Mann	½	R. J. Gregory	½
5. J. Tuck	½	D. Osborne	½	Dr. P. Merrett	0	J. A. Tuck	1
6. D. Hick	0	A. Ashby	1	H. D. Needham	0	D. Hick	1
7. K. Shipton	½	R. O. Powis	½	S. Street	½	K. Shipton	½
8. M. Sellars	½	M. C. Goodland	½	M. Charter	½	M. Sellars	½
9. R. W. Gregory	½	M. I. Davis	½	D. K. Bevis	½	R. W. Gregory	½
10. B. Crouter	1	A. Kendry	0	D. W. Lock	1	B. T. Crouter	0
11. C. Parsons	½	D. Hulme	½	D. P. Lock	1	C. C. Parsons	0
12. D. Stringer	½	D. C. Jarrett	½	F. C. Kingdon	1	D. Stringer	0
13. T. O'Mahoney	½	M. E. Poolake	½	S. J. Shutler	0	T. O'Mahoney	½
14. C. F. Chapman	1	I. R. Pickup	0	P. Curtis	½	C. F. Chapman	1
15. D. Neagle	0	P. J. Tolhurst	1	Dr. J. F. T. Bassett	0	D. Neagle	0
16. J. A. Borkowski	½	S. W. Dilke	½	M. J. Roth	0	J. Borkowski	1
Wilts 2½		Dorset 13½		Devon 9½		Hampshire 6½	
1. S. Taulbot	½	Dr. J. Roebuck	½	P. Waters	½	M. Thompson	½
2. W. Lowe	0	R. Valentine	1	A. R. B. Thomas	1	G. Keane	0
3. R. E. Bradley	0	J. Anderson	1	G. W. Wheeler	0	A. Gullinane	0
4. D. O'Byrne	0	D. Beedham	1	J. Wheeler	1	J. Corfield	0
5. R. Haydon	0	S. Street	1	D. Richardson	½	A. Killick	0
6. P. Cooley	½	R. H. K. Mann	½	P. Walden	1	R. Cameron	0
7. G. Chapman	0	Dr. P. Merrett	1	T. F. Thynne	0	D. E. Bower	0
8. D. Hale	½	M. Charter	½	R. M. Bruce	½	S. Chivers	1
9. N. Freebury	0	D. K. Bevis	1	R. H. Newman	0	D. Beer	0
10. E. C. Baker	0	D. W. Lock	1	K. Schofield	½	W. Yeeles	0
11. D. Ward	0	F. C. Kingdon	1	R. Heasman	1	P. Marshall	0
12. C. Sowden	½	S. J. Shutler	½	B. W. Clapp	0	W. Silber	0
13. B. Baddeley	0	D. P. Lock	1	C. J. V. Bellers	1	R. Walmsley	0
14. T. Dodson	0	P. Curtis	1	S. Williams	½	L. Walters	½
15. P. Watson	½	Dr. J. T. Bassett	1	P. Halmkin	1	I. Stenhouse	0
16. T. Musgrove	0	M. J. Roth	1	R. Liggitt	1	S. Perry	0
Gloucester 8		Devon 8		Cornwall 5½		Dorset 10½	
1. J. Kinlay	0	P. Waters	1	P. H. Clarke	1	G. H. Bennett	0
2. A. Ashby	½	A. R. B. Thomas	½	R. Kneebone	1	Dr. I. Roebuck	0
3. M. K. Jones	0	P. Broad	1	J. Instead	½	R. Valentine	½
4. Dr. J. M. Aitken	½	G. W. Wheeler	½	R. J. Grime	0	J. Anderson	½
5. M. E. Binks	0	J. Wheeler	1	P. H. Breach	½	H. D. Needham	½
6. P. J. Meade	0	D. Richardson	1	D. A. McFarlane	0	S. Street	1
7. D. Osborne	½	P. Walden	½	S. Shirley	0	R. H. K. Mann	1
8. M. E. Poolake	1	T. F. Thynne	0	P. J. Williams	0	M. Charter	1
9. R. O. Powis	½	R. M. Bruce	½	M. Prettejohn	1	D. K. Bevis	0
10. M. C. Goodland	½	K. Schofield	½	Dr. C. Taylor	0	D. W. Lock	1
11. M. E. Burn	1	R. Heasman	0	A. D. Meakes	0	D. P. Lock	1
12. J. M. Will	1	B. W. Clapp	0	K. Gay	0	S. J. Shutler	1
13. M. I. Davis	½	C. Bellars	½	P. Hutching	0	Dr. J. T. Bassett	1
14. M. Cook	½	S. Williams	½	J. J. v. d. Velde	½	M. J. Roth	½
15. R. Johnson	1	P. Halmkin	0	L. G. Scroll	0	R. Burton	1
16. R. Dixon	½	G. Lawrence	½	W. R. Provis	1	A. Pike	0
Hampshire 11		Wiltshire 5					
1. M. Thompson	½	W. Lowe	½	9. S. Chivers	1	A. Beaumont	0
2. I. Stenhouse	0	R. F. Bradley	1	10. A. Griffiths	1	B. Baddeley	0
3. D. Bell	1	R. Haydon	0	11. W. Silber	0	T. Dodson	1
4. A. Cullinane	1	L. White	0	12. L. Walters	1	Dr. P. Hopkins	0
5. K. Gregory	½	B. Walker	½	13. B. McDougall	1	R. Wardell	0
6. M. Newbury	½	D. Ward	½	14. R. Hartle	1	A. Dawkins	0
7. R. Cameron	½	E. C. Baker	½	15. E. J. Miles	0	M. N. Saunders	1
8. D. Beer	1	C. Sowden	0	16. D. Spurgeon	1	D. Grimshaw	0

ENGLISH COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP - Continued

<u>Dorset 5½+2A</u>		<u>Devon 8½+2A</u>		<u>Somerset 11+1A</u>		<u>Cornwall 4+1A</u>	
1. C.R.Orchard	½	P.Waters	½	C.Moore	0	P.H.Clarke	1
2. G.H.Bennett	½	A.R.B.Thomas	½	R.Northage	Δ	R.Kneebone	Δ
3. Dr.I.Roebuck	½	P.Broad	½	J.Whitcutt	1	J.Instead	0
4. J.Anderson	0	G.W.Wheeler	1	R.W.Gregory	0	R.J.Grime	1
5. S.Street	0	J.F.Wheeler	1	J.A.Tuck	1	P.H.Breach	0
6. R.H.K.Mann	1	D.Richardson	0	D.Hick	1	D.A.McFarlane	0
7. M.Charter	Δ	P.Walden	Δ	M.R.Sellars	1	S.Shirley	0
8. D.K.Bevis	0	R.M.Bruce	1	R.J.Gregory	1	M.Prettejohn	0
9. D.W.Lock	½	C.J.V.Bellers	½	B.T.Crouter	0	K.Gay	1
10. B.P.Lock	0	S.Williams	1	T.O'Mahoney	1	J.J.v.d.Velde	0
11. P.C.Kingdon	0	T.F.Thynne	1	G.F.Chapman	1	C.Taylor	0
12. S.J.Shutler	½	K.Scholfield	½	C.Bradley	½	A.D.Meakes	½
13. P.Curtis	1	R.H.Newman	0	T.Headlong	1	P.Hutchings	0
14. Dr.J.F.T.Bassett	0	R.Heasman	1	J.E.Fewkes	½	W.R.Provis	½
15. M.J.Roth	1	B.W.Clapp	0	D.T.Byron	1	L.G.Scroll	0
16. R.Burton	Δ	G.Lawrence	Δ	C.E.Winch	1	R.Saines	0

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

<u>Gloucestershire 11</u>		<u>Wiltshire 5</u>		<u>Hampshire 9</u>		<u>Somerset 7</u>	
1. R.Johnson	½	T.Dodson	½	M.Clarke	0	C.Bradley	1
2. D.W.Harper	1	M.C.Lovell	0	A.Griffiths	1	T.Headlong	0
3. K.W.Derrick	½	Dr.P.Hopkins	½	M.Meaton	1	B.Bristow	0
4. R.C.Last	0	P.Musgrove	1	I.Stenhouse	½	J.Fewkes	½
5. J.A.R.Cousins	1	R.Wardell	0	I.Sherman	½	M.Hick	½
6. M.Powis	1	D.Jones	0	K.Davies	½	H.Thomas	½
7. S.Hampton	0	T.O'Brien	1	T.Joslin	0	K.Payne	1
8. D.Spencer	1	R.Allen	0	D.Spurgeon	1	D.Byron	0
9. S.W.Maggs	1	H.Beckett	0	R.Noyce	½	T.Farrell	½
10. J.C.B.Date	½	D.Oldridge	½	C.Harris	1	B.King	0
11. G.Miller	1	Mrs.C.Williams	0	M.Street	1	D.Woodruff	0
12. L.A.Dorrington	1	M.N.Saunders	0	D.Drew	0	R.Gray	1
13. Mrs.M.Powis	½	G.Wheeler	½	S.Bell	0	G.Jepps	1
14. H.K.Millbank	1	P.Saunders	0	K.Hancock	0	J.Dagnall	1
15. J.R.B.Steadman	1	E.Bromilow	0	B.Grant	1	R.Maishman	0
16. Default	0	A.Clark(WO)	1	J.Evans	1	K.Hillier	0

<u>Somerset 6+2A</u>		<u>Gloucester 8+2A</u>		<u>Dorset 11</u>		<u>Somerset 5</u>	
1. G.N.Jepps	0	M.Cook	1	R.Burton	1	C.Bradley	0
2. G.Bradley	½	R.Johnson	½	J.E.Crewe	1	C.Lasper	0
3. C.E.Winch	0	D.Pye	1	E.W.Chandler	1	C.E.Winch	0
4. T.Headlong	½	R.C.Last	½	A.Pike	½	T.Headlong	½
5. J.E.Fewkes	Δ	M.S.Davies	Δ	P.Holt	½	Dr.B.Brisdon	½
6. H.G.Thomas	1	K.W.Derrick	0	P.Anderson	½	J.E.Fewkes	½
7. K.Payne	0	J.A.R.Cousins	1	D.R.Twamley	½	H.G.Thomas	½
8. E.G.Walker	0	S.Rice	1	E.Wilson	1	K.Payne	0
9. D.T.Byron	1	R.J.Dixon	0	P.Dearlove	0	D.P.Wilkinson	1
10. B.T.King	0	G.Anthony	1	B.J.Broadhouse	½	E.G.Walker	½
11. R.G.Gray	½	S.Hampton	½	H.R.Holmes	0	D.T.Byron	1
12. D.Woodruff	Δ	D.H.T.Spencer	Δ	R.Underhill	1	P.Allen	0
13. J.Dagnall	½	S.W.Maggs	½	H.N.Dulson	1	D.Woodruff	0
14. C.Stanford	1	L.A.Dorrington	0	E.J.Clark	1	G.N.Jepps	0
15. R.Maishman	1	H.K.Millbank	0	P.Colmer	1	R.Maishman	0
16. D.Holmes	0	J.R.B.Steadman	1	W.J.Shutler	½	D.Holmes	½

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP Continued.

Wiltshire 4		Dorset 12		Devon 11½+1A		Hampshire 3½+1A	
1. M.C.Lovell	0	R.Burton	1	G.Lawrence	1	M.Meaton	0
2. R.Wardell	1	E.W.Chandler	0	R.Lingham (WO)	1	D.Fryer(Def)	0
3. J.Beaumont	½	A.Pike	½	N.Roberts	½	L.Allen	½
4. A.W.Dawkins	½	P.J.Holt	½	A.Dunlop	1	S.Cool	0
5. F.O'Brien	½	C.T.Wanley	½	K.J.BloodworthA	1	I.Sherman	A
6. D.Jones	0	E.Wilson	1	Mrs.R.M.Bruce	½	M.Buckmaster	½
7. M.N.Saunders	0	P.C.Dearlove	1	A.F.Footner	1	C.Trotter	0
8. R.Allen	0	B.J.Broadhouse	1	J.Hutchings	1	R.Noyce	0
9. D.Perrett	0	H.R.Holmes	1	J.Parker	½	J.Evans	½
10. G.Broughton	1	R.Underhill	0	C.Gilby	½	S.Bell	½
11. Mrs.C.Williams	0	H.N.Dulson	1	S.Arnold	1	J.Coburn	0
12. M.M.Spindler	½	R.Kinnersley	½	E.G.Sparke	0	K.Hancock	1
13. Dr.R.Hopkins	0	P.Colner	1	D.Miles	½	C.O'Bee	½
14. R.J.Clark	0	J.Gragg	1	A.M.Tyrell	1	J.Ball	0
15. Default	0	W.S.Shutler(WO)	1	H.R.Pearce	1	P.Hart	0
16. Default	0	R.A.G.Marples(WO)	1	D.Smith	1	R.Ellis	0
Gloucestershire 5½		Devon 10½		Dorset 5+1A		Devon 10+1A	
1. D.Pye	0	R.Liggitt	1	J.E.Crewe	A	P.Halmkin	A
2. R.C.Last	0	R.Lingman	1	N.Cowling	½	R.Liggitt	½
3. J.A.R.Cousins	0	M.Roberts	1	A.Pike	½	M.Roberts	½
4. G.Anthony	1	A.Dunlop	0	P.Holt	½	A.F.Footner	½
5. M.Powis	½	A.F.Footner	½	E.Wilson	0	Mrs.R.M.Bruce	1
6. S.Hampton	0	Mrs.R.M.Bruce	1	P.C.Dearlove	½	A.Dunlop	½
7. D.H.T.Spencer	½	K.J.Bloodworth	½	B.J.Broadhouse	½	K.J.Bloodworth	½
8. C.Bowley	1	J.Hutchings	0	H.N.Dulson	0	J.Hutchings	1
9. S.Maggs	1	Dr.R.Hitchcock	0	H.R.Holmes	½	Dr.R.Hitchcock	½
10. K.W.Derrick	½	J.Parker	½	R.Underhill	½	S.Arnold	½
11. G.Miller	½	C.Gilby	½	E.J.Clark	0	A.M.Tyrell	1
12. J.C.B.Date	½	S.Arnold	½	R.Kinnersley	½	J.Parker	½
13. H.K.Millbank	0	A.M.Tyrell	1	P.Colner	½	D.Miles	½
14. L.A.Dorrington	0	D.Miles	1	I.Cragg	½	E.G.Sparke	½
15. J.R.B.Steadman	0	E.G.Sparke	1	W.J.Shutler	0	D.Smith	1
16. C.Weeks	0	D.Smith	1	R.A.G.Marples	0	G.Lane	1

DEVOLUTION and STREAMLINING

All Counties will have received a copy of the proposed new structure of the B.C.F. as drawn up by the Development Committee. At a meeting of the Western Union Executive all counties in the Western Union unanimously voted to support the 5 main proposals, i.e.:-

1. The B.C.F. shall be reconstituted as the English Chess Federation.
2. The Aims and Objects of the E.C.F. shall be those of the B.C.F. but in an English context except for the British Championships.
3. To efficiently pursue its aims and objects the E.C.F. shall, under the Council be managed by a Chief Executive and Policy Board: Responsibility for and authority over sectors of chess activity shall be concentrated in fewer hands.
4. The finances of the E.C.F. as raised from its members shall be principally related to grading, the E.C.F.'s most popular service.
5. The Administrative infrastructure of the E.C.F. shall be strengthened by placing responsibility with regional bodies who shall be expected to respond to the pressures of the decision making process.

The Union Executive further supported unanimously the Development Committee's suggested structure of the Policy Board, i.e.:-

1. President (ex officio)
2. Chief Executive
3. Treasurer
4. National Grading Officer
5. Sector Directors - International, Junior, Services, Congress, etc.
6. Regional Representatives - 2 per region.

In effect this really means that if passed at the Council Meeting of the B.C.F. there will be only one committee and the present Unions will have a majority vote. It will also mean devolution to the Unions who would adopt a far more important role inasmuch as all Counties would be administered by the Unions who would be, in fact, regional bodies of the existing B.C.F. and represented on the Policy Board by 2 members.

Of course, in the West of England we welcome devolution. Our Union is well organised, financially sound and perfectly capable of administering to the Counties under its control. We already run our own Union, County and Individual Championships A. Union Congress every Easter, Union Grading and we are the first Union to appoint its own Registration Officer. Nothing would suit us better than the proposed scheme.

With regard to relating Grading to finance - this we have already done by stating quite clearly our policy for 1977 in refraining to publish grades for unregistered players.

It is understood that detailed proposals for the first 3 of the above stated propositions will be submitted to the Council in July and a date for implementation be fixed.

The last 2 proposals need further detailed study and can at this stage be passed only in principle. It is understood that item 4 will be studied by the Development Committee in conjunction with the Grading Committee.

What is certain is that at long last action for streamlining and devolution is taking place and hopefully July 1978 should see the end of the existing unwieldy and cumbersome structure of Chess Organisation.

For many years I have been baffled and bewildered by the ever-increasing volume of administrative work involved in permitting two ordinary people to sit down and play a game of chess. Club Committees, County Committees, Union Committees, B.C.F. Committees flourish like the proverbial green bay tree. All these are subdivided into further committees and they in turn to working parties of sub-committees. In addition every club, league, county, country or continent has hordes of officials, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Deputy Presidents, Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen, Secretaries, Grading Officers, Match Captains, Vice Captains, Treasurers, Finance Officers, Registration Officers, Official (and unofficial) Draughtsmen (NOT to be confused with chessmen). Saturday after Saturday is devoted to meetings embracing all aspects of chess from the under 11's to the over 80's, from the mentally alert to the mentally infirm. So much time is devoted to administration that so little is devoted to playing.

Now it is perfectly obvious to me that for so many thousands of people to get involved in these secretarial and administrative problems there must be a need for it, and perhaps it should be expanded further. The one thing standing in the way is the stupid people who will insist in actually playing chess.

Quite obviously this must be stopped. Their selfish action in occupying valuable Saturdays by playing chess when they could be devoted to more chess administration is deplorable.

It is therefore suggested that no further "over the board play" be permitted. All players at the beginning of the season should be required to submit 12 of their best games to a supreme panel of computer experts. County Match Captains would be required to submit their teams in board order to the same panel and the match could then be decided by feeding the players records into the computer and publishing the results by a special results panel. Matches on lower levels could possibly be by a team of non playing experts and thus avoid the expense of computerisation.

By adopting this new method far more time could be spent in Committee and the money saved by travelling to matches, room hire, teas, board fees, etc. devoted to purchasing more stationery, typewriter and other secretarial paraphernalia.

R. H. NEWMAN,

Chess Administrators Ward,
Lynton Mental Asylum.

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING COMPETITION 1976/77.

ZONE L STAGE FINAL.

Results to date:-

J.Walker 0,	A.R.B.Thomas 1.
P.H.Clarke $\frac{1}{2}$,	S.Taulbut $\frac{1}{2}$.
S.Taulbut 1,	J.Walker 0.
A.R.B.Thomas $\frac{1}{2}$,	R.J.Pool $\frac{1}{2}$.
J.Walker $\frac{1}{2}$,	R. J. Pool $\frac{1}{2}$.
S.Taulbut $\frac{1}{2}$,	A.R.B.Thomas $\frac{1}{2}$.
P.H.Clarke 1,	A.R.B.Thomas 0.

From this Zone Final, two players will go forward to places in the British Championships, to be held at Brighton, August 8th - 20th, 1977.

INFLATION AND COUNTY CHESS - A SUGGESTION

The cost of playing inter-county chess matches has increased sharply in recent years, and has reached the stage where teams are often unrepresentative of a county's strength because many players are unwilling to pay for the privilege of taking part. Transport in particular has become more expensive, but hiring premises is also an increased burden.

One way in which the cost of some matches could be reduced would be for four adjacent counties to meet at one venue for a whole day. Each county would play two matches, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, for one set of transport costs and lower per county cost for room hire.

The great majority of players for the counties involved would need to be within approx. $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours of the venue. The timetable could be as follows:-

Matches start at 9.30 am, county A playing county B, C playing D.

Session finishes at 1 pm, followed by lunch. Second round of matches start at 2.30 pm, A playing C, B playing D. Tea at 4.30 - 4.45 pm. Play ends at 6.30 pm.

The usual time limit of 42 moves in $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours could be adopted. An example of four counties that could play two matches in this way is Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire and Hampshire, with a venue in South Wiltshire or North Dorset.

Estimates for one county - Hampshire - show that at least £30 would be saved on transport and £2.50 on room hire.

There would be other advantages besides saving money: 1) less administration - only one venue to be booked; 2) with 128 players in one place, a bookstall would be very viable, perhaps with loan of playing equipment; 3) one or more Saturdays would be freed for other chess activities.

Iain Stenhouse.

F I N A L E.

I am afraid that this edition of "Westward HO!" has rather departed from the usual format. With regret, there is little news from the Counties. Also this is the first (and after the expected torrent of abusive letters from readers) probably the last time I shall even act as an Editor. I am indebted to Joan Parker for her assistance in typing the whole of this edition and also for the tactful manner in which she corrected my grammatical and spelling mistakes, erased all actionable and libelous matter and ignored completely a few questionable adjectives which I felt had added a little colour to some of the more mundane matters that have to be included in a technical magazine of this nature.

In conclusion I would like to make a suggestion to the Counties. It would be helpful if each County could submit to me in good time for the next issue a typewritten report on County affairs that requires little editing and can be printed (subject to the aforesaid law of libel) verbatim. I feel that actual NEWS of what is happening around the Counties is of far greater interest to all readers than reams of statistical tables and detailed league results. Of course, results are important but if carried too far can cause the reader to confuse "Westward Ho!" with an old edition of Bradshaw.

A compromise please !!!

R.H. NEWMAN,
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Lynton, Devon.