



En Passant

02/98

THE HAMPSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

From: Ken Retallack, 83 Firs Drive, Hedge End, Southampton, S030 4QQ

1. **Affiliation Fees** for Soton League Clubs are now being paid with Team Entry Fees. Please ensure that these are sent to John Drew by 31 Dec. **Thank you for your support.**

2. **The Hampshire Individual Championship** was held over the weekend of 20 - 22 Nov at Eastleigh Unity Club. There were only 24 entries with grades ranging from 86 to 187. The low turnout was attributed to the fact that the championship was arranged late and the dates clashed with some other events (e.g. 4NCL) Nevertheless it was an enjoyable weekend which ran smoothly under the control of Pat McEvoy to whom we are very grateful. Prizes of trophies and/or cash were won by the following:

Open Championship	Winner	5/6	D. Tunks
	Runners-up	4 1/2/6	J. N. Fraser-Mitchell and W. Purkiss
U-175 Grading Prize	Winner	4 1/2/6	P. J. Patience
U-150 Grading Prize	Winner	4/6	T. Anderson
U-125 Grading Prize	Winner	3/6	J. Zastapilo

Next year it is hoped to have separate competitions for each of the above grading categories as it is thought that this will attract more players from lower grades.

3. **County Matches.** Our **1st and 2nd Teams** played their first match of the current season against Somerset on 3 Oct. The 1st Team was able to record a win but the 2nd team was less successful. The match against Cornwall which was to have been played on 5 Dec has been postponed until the new year. The next scheduled match is at home to Wiltshire on 16 Jan. Any players who have not already been involved and would like to be considered for these teams should contact Match Captain, Dominic Tunks.

Our **U-125 Team** played a W.E.C.U. elimination match against Devon on 28 Nov and, despite having to default on one of the 12 boards, still managed a win. We are now through to the National Championships. We have also been invited to play some friendly? matches in the Chiltern League so, subject to confirmation, we play Bucks on Sat 30 Jan and Berks on Sat 27 Feb. Both these matches, over 16 boards are due to be played at home. I should like to hear from any players in the grade range 110 - 124 who would like to be considered for this team.

There is a **Jamboree Match** scheduled for 17 Apr when our 20 board team will consist of 4 open, 4 u-175, 4 u-150, 4 u-125 and 4 u-100 graded players. Interested players should contact one of the team captains.

4. **Junior Chess.** Many chess clubs are unsuitable or unwilling to accept young players and consequently, although there is an enthusiastic following for chess in junior and prep schools, many of the children are never integrated into the club system and are lost to the sport. At present the exception to this is the Basingstoke Club where Joe French does a great job of organising and encouraging junior chess. We need to have a similar set-up in the southern part of the county and I should like to hear from clubs and or individuals who would be willing to make a contribution towards achieving this.

5. At the next committee meeting we hope to determine the dates of the next **HCA Rapid Play Tournament** and the next **HCA Individual Championship**. It is hoped that advance notification and a new format will encourage a substantial increase in entries

6. **I am still looking for someone to take over production of the Newsletter !**

