

C H E S S N O T E S

15th May, 1978

A team of 10 Portsmouth youngsters recently took part in a contest with five other teams from Southampton, N.E Hants 'A', N.E. Hants 'B', Basingstoke 'A' and Basingstoke 'B' and came up against a very unusual method of scoring. 10 points were awarded for a win on board 1, 9 points for a win on board 2, down to a meagre 1 point for a win on board 10.

Our team's actual scores were :

	<u>v. N.E. Hants B</u>	<u>v. N.E. Hants A</u>	<u>v. Basingstoke B</u>
M. Vernon	1	0	1
P. Spurgeon	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
G. Scotney	1	1	1
J. Baillie	1	1	1
K. McPhee	0	0	1
S. Evans	1	1	1
C. Pink	1	0	1
N. Ruff	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
T. Guit	1	1	1
A. Tucker	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>
Points score	45	26	55

The total points score of N.E. Hants A was 126 $\frac{1}{2}$, so they were declared the winners; but as their actual game scores totalled only 21, Portsmouth were a trifle unlucky to be beaten into second place. Perhaps hardest to bear was the adjudication of an unfinished game between M. Vernon (Portsmouth) with the White pieces and the move, and S. Chittenden, which is shown in the diagram. The adjudicator is alleged to have said "This position is clearly a win for black and requires no analysis". On the face of it, Michael Vernon was robbed and Portsmouth should have won. Or have I missed some devastating play by black?

The line up of Western Union Counties for the national stages is now known, and Gloucestershire plays Greater Manchester at Birmingham in the Quarter Finals. Devon II play Yorkshire II in the Minor Counties Semi-finals.

J.E.C.G.

8; 5pk1; pp4pp; r7; 5P1P; 2P2PK1; P3R3; 8.