

Hampshire Chess Association 2007 Congress.

(Eastleigh, 2-4 Nov, 2007)

We have a new county champion.

26-year old Steven Kawuma, recently settled in Southampton, emerged half a point clear of the field at Eastleigh at the weekend, to win the silver rook and the title of county champion.

Former champion Mike Yeo made the early running, taking the sole lead after three rounds with 3 straight wins. But the turning point came in round four, when Mike played Steven. Steven has played international matches for Uganda in the recent past, and he unleashed a superb rook and queen sacrifice which obliterated all Mike's chances of a win. The game was drawn.

Mike drew the next 2 rounds, but Steven won both his, including a nail-biting finish in the last round, watched by a crowd of spectators including the Mayor of Eastleigh.

Final scores-

1. Steven Kawuma 5 points,
- 2=. Mike Yeo and Dominic Tunks, 4½ points.

The Round 4 position was –

White - K g1, Q g4, R a3 d5, P a4 b4 c3 f5 f2 g2 h2.

Black - K h8, Q e7, R b8 c8, B g7, P e5 f6 h7.

Black (Kawuma) to move.

24.....Rxb4, 25 cxb (Not 25.Qxb4 Qxb4, 26.cxb Rc1 mate)

25.....Qxb4, 26.Qd1 (Not 26.Qxb4 Rc1...)

26.....Qxa3, 27.Rd8+ Rxd8, 29.Qxd8 Qf8 and white has no winning chances left. The game ended in perpetual check a few moves later.

The detailed results are given on the next page.

Full Results

Open

- 1. Steven Kawuma 5 pts
- 2= Mike Yeo 4½ pts
- 2= Dominic Tunks 4½ pts

Grading Prizes:

Under-160 - Peter Williams 3½ pts

Under-140 - David Deacon, Les Allen & Ed Davies 3½ pts

Under-125

- 1. Simon Roberts 5 pts
- 2= John Wiseman 4½
- 2= Kevin Sawers 4½
- 2= Ray Hunt 4½

Grading Prizes:

Under-100 - Trevor Dickerson & John Carr 4 pts

Under-80 - Ken Sullivan 4 pts

John Wheeler
Sec, Hampshire C.A.
5/Nov/2007