

CHESS NOTES By J.H.J.

THE FINAL of the Mike Cole Cup (the league quick-play k.o. championship) proved to be as close and tense an encounter as the elimination matches indicated; IBM had scored 18-2 and Cosham 16-4.

In the league, IBM have been making a concerted effort to regain promotion to the first division and, at this time, head the second division. Meanwhile, Cosham have had an indifferent season in division one and after four consecutive league championships, languish in mid-table.

Arthur Brameld has been kind enough to give me a report on the match (played at Manglers). IBM White on boards 1, 3 and 5 . . .

Board 3 was an even game and the first to finish (½-½).

On top board, Black went into a slightly inferior variation up to move 17 but subsequently won a pawn. As the match appeared to be very favourable to Cosham (three pawns up on board 2, winning board 4 and equal on the bottom board) a draw was conceded (1-1).

Curious things happened on board 2 (remember — Cosham pawns ahead) when White blundered into a mate in his opponent's time trouble (1-2 to IBM).

White was well up on material on board 4 but had to win with about 30 seconds left on his clock. Fortunately, this he managed! (2-2).

The last game transferred from a drawish R + Ps ending into a superior K + Ps ending but at the critical junction a number of pawn exchanges (instead of King moves = win) led to a drawn game (2½-2½).

Details — COSHAM A 2½, IBM A 2½: 1. A. F. Brameld ½, G. Nicholson ½; 2. S. Dean 0, W. M. McDougall 1; 3. A. F. C. Carter ½, J. F. Wheeler ½; 4. D. Gibson 1, J. M. Morris 0; 5. C. W. Bryan ½, R. E. Hartley ½.

To resolve the match the elimination rule applied. Congratulations to the Cole Cup Champions, IBM A!

DIVISION I

FAREHAM A 3, GOSPORT A 3 was the outcome after the last game was completed. 4. D. A. Evans 1, S. P. Pezet 0.

Meanwhile, Cosham A ran out useful 4½-1½ winners over Portsmouth B when played-on games were finished as 5. G. Train 1, S. Kent 0; 6. C. W. Bryan ½, B. Cochran, but all was not as it seemed for Geoff Train went into the second session a piece down (yet won!) while Colin Bryan the exchange ahead could not capitalize his advantage.

The League Committee were required to arbitrate in the match Portsmouth B v. Manglers A and handed down the decision, 2. S. Kent 0, D. Hannham 1, which gave Manglers a 3½-2½ win and also ensured that Portsmouth would be relegated.

My own opinion, based upon the same information as that available to the committee, is that the game should have gone for adjudication but this simplistic solution was probably beyond the group mind. The fact that the issue affected the relegation situation was academic; after all nearly all games at the end of the season must have some influence on league positions. Let's hope the committee were at pains to stress that this decision would not be cited as future precedent in similar cases!

DIVISION II

FAREHAM B 3, COSHAM B 3 was the final result after the long running game was resolved, 1. J. R. Poulton 0, A. D. Crossin 1. With this result Cosham moved out of the relegation position and also ended Fareham's hope of winning the division.

COSHAM B 2½, PLESSEY ½: 1. G. Train ½, D. W. Pownall ½; 2. R. R. Carter 1, Default 0; 3. M. R. Baker v. C. Wood (u); 4. A. D. Smith 1, A. C. Rodger 0; 5. G. F. Abercrombie v. J. B. S. Cairns (u); 6. A. F. Langley v. P. Maddocks (u).

IBM B 1, IBM A 5: 1. S. J. Smith 0, J. G. Nicholson 1; 2. J. M. Morris 0, W. M. McDougall 1; 3. A. J. R. Wilkinson ½, J. F. Wheeler ½; 4. S. M. Prince 0, R. E. Hartley 1; 5. M. Jones 0, P. J. Burns 1; 6. A. J. Ball ½, B. S. Pratt ½.

LEIGH PARK A 1½, FAREHAM B 3½: 1. A. J. Peters 1, J. Poulton 0; 2. S. D. LeFevre v. T. A. Wykes (u); 3. N. G. LeFevre 0, J. Eva 1; 4. J. N. Mortlock ½, M. Street ½; 5. R. Smith 0, D. Coates 1; 6. J. D. J. Gatt 0, A. Harris 1.



White to move