

# CHESS NOTES

by J.H.J.

DURING the coming weeks I shall float several ideas concerning the conditions of play in the Portsmouth and District League. These ideas (not always my own!) will encompass the issue of playing-on versus adjudication; promotion and relegation; the size of teams and that hoary perennial the rate of play.

Should you wish to become involved in this (debate?) or any other similar topic then I would be glad to hear your views and I will give appropriate credit for any quotes I use.

To start the exchange my first suggestion concerns the size of teams. Sides in the top two divisions should consist of eight players (even nine, or 10 might be manageable but then the number of "nominated" players would need to be adjusted) and other teams might be increased to seven (my prime intention to enlarge the "senior" teams but the arguments could equally apply throughout the league).

Undoubtedly chess (playing) is on the increase mainly due to better media exposure. In the case of Gosport this had led to a (near) doubling of membership in the past year. Enlarging the top teams will expose more players to a higher standard and hopefully would lead to an improve-

ment in playing ability. Transport should prove no barrier it is as easy to get eight to a match as six (two cars!).

The only real problem that I see is a club having two or more teams in the top divisions as the current rules would force all the players within their team i.e. eight A's can't play for B and vice versa. In this situation I would suggest say five (or six!) "nominated" players and simply allow the others to float between A and B.

Any thoughts that you would like to offer on this (or other) suggestion(s) should be sent to 103, Queens Road, Gosport PO12 1LG.

## DIVISION II

Leigh Park A closed the gap in their match with Fareham B to 2½-3½ as a result of the played-on game 2, S. D. LeFevre 1, T. A. Wykes 0.

## DIVISION III

FAREHAM C 2½, PETERSFIELD A 3½: 1, J. Monk 0, S. Le Blancq 1; 2, A. Chandler 0, H. Storr-Best 1; 3, A. Stroud ½, G. Gardner ½; 4, M. Butler 1, B. Chambers 0; H. Tadevossian 0, P. Flack 1; 6, J. Eva 1, P. Mayer 0.

PORTSMOUTH D 4, IBM C 2: 1, S. Kent 1, G. Jeftha 0; 2, B. K. Maund 1, A. Wilksinson 0; 3, S. Cragg 0, A. Picton 1; 4, D. Jeffery 0, R. Cole 1; 5, J. Steward 1, M. Passant 0; 6, P. Rogers 1, Default 0.

GOSPORT B 4, PORTSMOUTH C 0 is the current state of the match but I have no details to hand.

## DIVISION IV

EMSWORTH A 2½, MANGLERS B 2½: 1, M. body 0, A. G. Scoffin 1; 2, G. Vosper 1, Default 0; 3, R. Perry 0, K. J. Frisby 1; 4, K. Hyman ½, S. Millard ½; A. Quick 1, R. Davies 0; B. Walker v J. Brussell (a).

John Peters, who acts as the grading officer for our local area (but whose work pulls in results from all over the country!) has asked me to mention that May 15 is the deadline for game-results to reach him. Clubs anxious to have their Championship tournaments graded should send the details immediately to John as any late information will only be processed at leisure after an imminent extended holiday (which means your grade may not be accurate or ready for satisfactory processing by the national computer!).

This week's study by J. Rinck, 1908, is not too difficult and it is White to move and draw.

White to move.

