

Chess League: Tussle for First Division Honours

INTEREST in the Portsmouth District Chess League is very much focussed at the moment on the struggle for First Division honours.

Portsmouth beat Fareham in what will probably prove to be the decisive match so far as Fareham's chances are concerned.

Chess Notes

Division I.—Portsmouth 3½, Fareham "A" 1½ (W. H. Pratten 1, R. Walmisley 0; H. C. Bailey 1, J. Borland 0; A. Carter 1, W. C. Martin 0; J. P. Price 0, F. Johnson 1; D. M. Heywood ½, N. G. Taylor ½).
Gosport 2, NALGO 3 (E. Taylor ½, N. Lefevre ½; G. O. Pike 0, R. Nattrass 1; W. J. Eaton ½, E. Blockley ½; J. S. Perry 1, C. H. Durman 0; H. Tripp 0, H. Williams 1).

Division III. — Westminster 1, St John's "B" 4 (P. Perch 0, P. Wilcox 1; T. Randall ½, R. O'Neil ½; S. Scammell ½, A. Green ½; J. Blair 0, M. Gilmore 1; Z. Navara 0, J. Young 1).

Division I	P	W	D	G	Pt
NALGO	6	3	1	16	3½
Portsmouth	5	3	0	15	3
Comm. Ctr. "A"	6	3	0	12½	3
Fareham "A"	5	2	0	13	2
Gosport	4	1	1	8½	1½

Division II	P	W	D	G	Pt
Coll. Apps. "A"	7	3	2	18½	4
Fareham "B"	6	3	1	16½	3½
Vosper	7	2	2	17	3
Coll. of Tech.	6	3	0	14	3
St John's "A"	6	2	2	13½	3
R.N.P.L.	6	2	1	15½	2½

Division III	P	W	D	G	Pt
St John's "B"	6	5	0	19½	5
Fareham "C"	5	4	0	16½	4
Comm. Ctr. "B"	6	3	1	17½	3½
Coll. Apps. "B"	5	2	1	12	2½
Westminster	6	1	2	13	2
Bridgemary	6	0	0	6½	0

More players have qualified for a rating by completing five games this season. Those whose rating figure at present exceeds 100 are W. H. Pratten (160), N. G. Lefevre (130), H. C. Bailey (128), R. Walmisley (128), A. Carter (123) and J. Borland (107).

Sixth Round results so far received in the Individual Tournament are: Davis beat Heywood, White beat Miller, West beat Pike and Ross beat Eaton (def).

HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE

Portsmouth Chess Club have withdrawn their team from the Hampshire League because of transport difficulties, and their results to date have been deleted from the records. Portsmouth Community Centre narrowly lost their match

against Southampton, but have risen to fifth place as a result of the re-workings.

Detailed results:—
Portsmouth Community Centre 2, Southampton 3 (R. W. Davis 0, A. C. Barton 1; S. F. Adams ½, G. L. Pritchard ½; D. O'Donovan 0, J. D. Barham 1; L. West ½, H. Runham ½, R. Ross 1, W. J. Rhodes 0).
Bournemouth 2½, Andover 2½ (G. J. Coleman ½, S. L. Russell ½; E. W. Chandler 1, A. S. Dance 0; S. H. Lucas 0, I. Clarke 1; G. W. S. Goggin 1, J. R. Hoyle 0; M. Bodinets 0, G. D. Young 1).

Table

	P	W	D	G	Pt
Woolston	3	3	0	13	3
Fareham	4	2	0	10	2
Basingstoke	4	2	0	8½	2
Bournemouth	3	1	1	7	1½
Ports. Comm. Ctr.	2	1	0	6	1
Southampton	3	1	0	6	1
Andover	3	0	1	4½	0½

COUNTY NEWS

At a recent fixtures meeting of the S.C.C.U., a re-grouping of counties for next season's matches was agreed. Seven Western Counties (Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucester, Wiltshire and Monmouthshire) are forming a union of their own. The remaining 14 counties will be divided into a Northern and a Southern section, the latter consisting of Hampshire, Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Oxfordshire, Berks, and Bucks.

This will give Hampshire a much more attractive programme. Fifty board matches will be played against Kent, Surrey and Sussex (Amboyna Shield and S.C.C.U. Championship) and 20 board matches against the rest.

The result of the changes will be to give more local players a chance to represent their county.

CHESS AT PETERSFIELD

A reader has expressed regret that there seems to be no chess club in the Petersfield area and is willing to form one if sufficient support is forthcoming. Anyone interested should contact Mr. A. W. Warner, 28, Oaklands Road, Petersfield (Phone Petersfield 627).