

Fareham Chess Club Wins

Promotion

FAREHAM CHESS CLUB finished in the first three in Division II of the Postal Chess League of Great Britain, and have therefore won promotion into the top Division for 1957.

Although they just failed in their attempt at winning the Lord Brabazon Trophy for the championship of the Second Division, their performance must be considered creditable in view of their promotion from Division III only last season.

Their second team finished in fifth place in Division IV.

Altogether, 64 teams competed and the Waterloo Club of Liverpool were the champions of the First Division.

CHESS MASTER'S VISIT

Fareham Chess Club has been fortunate indeed in securing the services of Mr. H. Golombek for a simultaneous display at Melgrade Hall, Fareham, on January 26.

Three times British champion, Mr. Golombek is one of Britain's few international masters and was captain of the English team that took part in the recent international tournament at Moscow.

He will be playing on 20 boards and his opposition, while predominantly made up of players from Fareham, will include several invited from other local clubs.

There will be plenty of room at the hall for visitors and spectators, who are invited.

HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE

Fareham played their Hampshire League match against Bournemouth at Southampton by mutual arrangement and were unfortunate in having their top board, R. E. Walmisley, withdraw from the team at the last minute. A replacement could not be found in time and of the four players who travelled, N. C. Taylor lost on the clock to G. J. Coleman. W. C. Martin drew with G. W. S. Goggin and J. Grant was soundly beaten by Bournemouth Grammar schoolboy, M. S. Bodinetz. J. Borland's game against D. Richards on top board was unfinished, so the score at the moment is 3½—½ in Bournemouth's favour, with one game for adjudication.

Basingstoke beat Southampton by three games to two, and Portsmouth lost their match against Southampton by default.

Table:—

Woolton Com. Ctr.	P	W	D	O	Pt
Basingstoke	2	2	0	0	2
Southampton	2	2	0	0	2
Bournemouth	3	1	0	0	4
Portsmouth	2	1	0	0	3
Fareham	3	1	0	0	4
Port. Com. Ctr.	1	0	0	0	0
Andover	1	0	0	0	0

First-round results in the Hampshire Chess Association Individual Championship are: Basingstoke beat Ryewski, Vine beat Russell, Dance beat Henshaw, Edmunds beat Ventham, Martin beat Taylor, and Pratten beat Borland.

LIGHTNING CHESS

Fareham Chess Club held its annual "Ten-seconds-a-move" lightning chess tournament with 14 members competing. The feature of the event was the struggle between the club President (W. C. Martin) and the winner for the previous two seasons, J. Borland. After running neck and neck for the first five rounds Borland broke down in the final game and allowed Martin to become the club's new "lightning" champion.

PORTSMOUTH LEAGUE

NALGO scored a spectacular win against Portsmouth last week and are rewarded by a jump of two places in the First Division table.

In Division II, Fareham "B"

suffered their first defeat of the season at the hands of Collingwood Apprentices, who were without their star player, J. Beardsmore-Hyde.

Detailed results:—

Division I.—NALGO 4, Portsmouth 1 (N. G. Lefevre 0, W. H. Pratten 1; R. P. Natrasa 1, H. C. Bailey 0; E. M. Spreadbury 1, A. Carter 0; H. W. Bignell 1, J. P. Price 0; C. M. Durman 1, D. M. Heywood 0).

Division II.—Fareham "B" 2, Collingwood Apprentices "A" 3 (G. W. Farmer 1, C. R. Lee 0; T. Saunders 0, C. Wright 1; E. G. Potter 0, T. J. Search 1; B. Hatcher 1, —, Bartie 0; G. Ratter 0, —, Giles 1).

TABLES

Division I

	P	W	D	O	Pt
Com. Ctr. "A"	4	3	0	10	3
Fareham "A"	4	2	0	11½	2
NALGO	4	1	1	10	1½
Gosport	3	1	1	6½	1½
Portsmouth	3	1	0	7	1

Division II

	P	W	D	O	Pt
Fareham "B"	5	3	1	15	3½
Coll. Appa. "A"	5	2	2	13	2
R.N.P.L.	4	2	1	12	2½
Vospur	4	1	1	8½	1½
St John's "A"	4	1	1	8	1½
Coll. of Technology	4	1	0	7½	1

Division III

	P	W	D	O	Pt
Fareham "C"	4	4	0	14½	4
St John's "B"	5	4	0	15½	4
Coll. Appa. "B"	4	3	0	9½	2
Com. Ctr. "B"	3	1	0	9	1
Westminster	3	1	0	7	1
Bridgeman	5	0	0	4½	0

Results so far received in the fourth round of the Portsmouth and District Individual Championship are:

Chess Notes

Davis beat West, Grant beat Brading, Farmer beat Adams, Walmisley beat Heywood, Eaton beat Ratter, Pike beat Pinhornes (def.), Ross beat White, and Taylor beat Lee.

GRADING LIST

The British Chess Federation Grading List for 1956 has just been published.

Local players included are W. H. Pratten (3b) and J. Borland, of Fareham (5b), while other Hampshire players are D. J. Richards (Bournemouth and Oxford University) (4a), M. E. Ventham (Woolston) (5a), and L. Vine (Eastleigh) (5a). Other names which will be recognized locally are I. R. E. Clark (5b), one time of Portsmouth and now West London, and J. B. Howson (3b), who played for Fareham during his period of National Service.

BOGNOR CONGRESS

The Bognor Regis and Southdean Chess Congress is being held from April 24 to May 4. Last year there were 184 entries and as the figure has risen by a steady 40 per annum since 1952, the organizers look forward with some confidence to a new record for 1957.

Apart from the Stevenson Memorial Tournament and the official S.C.C.U. Championships, there are five-day and seven-day minor tournaments catering for players of all strengths.

LOCAL CLUBS (12)

Cosham Chess Club is the last of the local clubs to be described in this column. They were one of the original six teams which combined to form the Portsmouth and District Chess League in 1947 and were League Champions in the seasons 1952-3 and 1954-5.

The season 1955-6 saw a falling-off in membership and they

had to withdraw one of their two teams. This season they felt that their membership did not justify even one team and they withdrew from the local League.

The club is still functioning and it is strange that, with its headquarters conveniently placed at Court Lane School, in an area not served by any other club, it does not have a much larger membership.

The acting Secretary, Mr. P. C. Way, of 12 Court Lane, Cosham, is carrying on in the firm belief that the present situation is only temporary and that the club will shortly return to its place of honour in Division I of the Portsmouth League.

All chess players will wish him success in his difficult job, because in chess, as in other things, "nothing succeeds like success" and the job of keeping a club's head just above water is one which all honorary club officials know to be one of the most arduous tasks they can be asked to face.