

Portsmouth Retain The Championship

PORTSMOUTH Chess Club wound up their programme with a 5—0 win against Gosport and thereby make certain of retaining the championship title of the Portsmouth and District League, which they won from Fareham in 1955/56.

Although not strong numerically, Portsmouth have created a team which blends youth with experience. They called upon nine players during the season but their team was built around five players who achieved the remarkable record of losing between them only six of the 43 games played:—

A. Carter, P.10, W.7, D.3.
H. C. Bailey, P.9, W.4, D.3.
A. Hayes, P.10, W.7, D.0.
D. M. Heywood, P.8, W.6, D.1.
M. Dymond, P.6, W.6.

Players come and go, and it is difficult to predict next season's results. As it is, Portsmouth have not lost a match since December 1956, and if they can keep their present team in being it seems likely that they will be keeping the championship trophy for some time to come.

Detailed scores:—

Division I.—Portsmouth 5, Gosport 0. (A. Carter 1, G. O. Pike 0; H. C. Bailey 1, E. Taylor 0; A. Hayes 1, W. J. Eaton 0; W. Maker 1, D. F. Rhoades 0; D. M. Heywood 1, H. W. Tripp 0).

| Division I | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|---|---|-----|----|
| | P | W | D | G | Pt |
| Portsmouth | 10 | 8 | 2 | 37 | 9 |
| Fareham "A" | 8 | 6 | 0 | 26 | 6 |
| Cosham | 8 | 3 | 2 | 22½ | 4 |
| Gosport | 9 | 3 | 2 | 17½ | 4 |
| Comm. Centre | 9 | 2 | 1 | 16½ | 2½ |
| Coll. Apps. "A" | 10 | 0 | 3 | 15½ | 1½ |

| Division II | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|---|---|-----|----|
| | P | W | D | G | Pt |
| R.N.P.L. "A" | 8 | 7 | 1 | 26 | 7½ |
| St Johns "A" | 9 | 6 | 2 | 28½ | 7 |
| Fareham "B" | 9 | 5 | 0 | 25 | 5 |
| A.S.R.E. | 10 | 4 | 0 | 22 | 4 |
| Ports. Grammar "A" | 8 | 2 | 1 | 18½ | 2½ |
| Coll. of Tech. | 8 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |

| Division III | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|-----|----|
| | P | W | D | G | Pt |
| Coll. Apps "B" | 7 | 5 | 0 | 21 | 5 |
| Bridgemary | 6 | 4 | 0 | 14½ | 4 |
| Fareham "C" | 6 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 3 |
| St Johns "B" | 8 | 2 | 1 | 17½ | 2½ |
| R.N.P.L. "B" | 7 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 2½ |

Chess Notes

BOGNOR CONGRESS

A number of local players achieved quite a measure of success at the recent Bognor Easter Congress.

A. F. Garner (Fareham) won the five-day second class event while Richard Hughes (Fareham and Portchester Modern School) did well to finish mid-way in the final placings of the S.C.C.U. junior boys championship tournament with three points from seven games. He will still be eligible for this contest next year and with the extra experience, should stand a very good chance of winning.

W.H. Pratten shared a triple tie for first place in the five-day Major tournament but J. Borland (Fareham), who also took part in this section, could only muster 1½ points.

R.I. Ross (Cosham) played in the Minor "A" week-end event and all concerned agreed that it was one of the most enjoyable Congresses that they have attended.

COUNTY CHESS

Two further results have been received in the County and District Correspondence Championship Tournament.

Bd. 3, P. A. Ursell (Bournemouth) beat R. McCleod (Norfolk).

Bd. 20, W. C. Martin (Fareham) beat R. D. Fleming (Kent).

Hampshire have now won seven of ten games with 20 results to come.