

# Match Secretary's Report 2017

## League Divisional winners

Last season we had 40 teams competing in four divisions.

**Division 1** Downend A won the championship with a game or two to spare after giving themselves a 100% return on results until they were held by Clifton B on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. The top division in our league is very competitive with players travelling far and wide to play for teams. Bath, Clifton & Horfield A teams all finished on the same points and a very similar tally of game points to fill in the slots for 2-4<sup>th</sup>. Clifton B fought their way out of relegation trouble to leave South Bristol A and Horfield B routed to the bottom of the table.

**Division 2** There was a three horse race to see who was going to finish top of Division two. Downend C became favourites after a 5-1 win in February over their rivals Clevedon A but then handed back control after a 3-3 draw at Keynsham. South Bristol B then put themselves back in the mix with a 4-2 win at home to Clevedon A to set up a final encounter with Downend C with winner takes all. Downend came through the test to claim top spot but gave their captain ( A Munn ) a fright or two when Robert Taylor seemed to disregard a draw by perpetual but settled on it when it was next on offer to the relief of his captain. At the bottom a nail biter of a match took place at Keynsham where North Bristol had to win to avoid the drop into Division 3, North Bristol to their credit notched up a convincing win.

**Division 3** The race for the division three title saw a two horse race between Downend D and Clevedon B only decided on the last Tuesday in April when Downend grabbed the 2 points needed to finish top.

**Division 4** North Bristol B matched their points tally of 28pts last season to again pick up the Division four trophy ahead of Clevedon C. For the first time in a few years we have a complete set of match results for division four.

## Knockout winners

**LKO** – The Knockout Final was played between Downend & Bath, even though Downend were strong favourites in this one, Bath put up a good fight and nearly pulled off a shock board count win if they would have managed a win on bottom board but the time scrabble went in Downend's favour.

All the games are available on Chessit & the Downend Website along with photos taken of the evenings match

**MLKO** – The Minor KO went to Clevedon after they snatched victory against South Bristol in the last game with seconds to go. After just missing out in Div 2,3 & 4 this season they can at least celebrate a trophy from a successful season.

*( This is probably the most successful season on record for Downend re picking up silverware )*

## Steve Boniface Tankard with Real Ale ( 1<sup>st</sup> award )

Announce when appropriate !

## Alan Ashby

The winner of the Alan Ashby competition this season goes to Ian Pickup ( Downend D ) – Scoring 14pts for his registered team in Division 3. Right behind in second place was Andrew Munn ( Downend C ) on 13.5 pts.

Who is on Form ? A mention for those players that have improved notably this season .....

Charlie Fry & Grant Daly ( Downend ), Alice Lampard ( University ) , Roy Harron ( North Bristol )  
Juniors - Oliver Stubbs, Toby Kan & Jack Tye ( Downend )

## Statistics

The Grading thresholds for next season are as follows:

(1-2) (2-3) (3-4) (4-5) – Divisions

169, 141, 108, 80	New Grading Thresholds 2016-2017
171, 136, 104, 81	Last Seasons Grading Thresholds 2016-2017
166, 129, 104, 80	2015-2016 Thresholds
164, 127, 104, 65	2014-2015 Thresholds
161, 124, 102, 74	2013-2014 Thresholds
158, 134, 102, 76	2012-2013 Thresholds
157, 126, 108, 80	2011-2012 Thresholds

Division Two thresholds jump up 5pts

## Grading

All games played in the league and the knockout will be sent to the ECF for Grading in time for the new published list that comes out in July/Aug. The cut off date for games played is June 30<sup>th</sup> and results will be sent in before the end of this month. If anyone does spot a mistake then they need to let me know ASAP so they can be corrected. Most players will be aware that they have an up to date January 2017 Grade as I have already sent in the results for games played prior to last Christmas, The results I send in now will enable the ECF to calculate a new grade for this summer which is still based on the last 30 games played so all the games played this season should count.

## Results sheets

Very few results are sent by post nowadays as sending results by email is now the norm. This has worked well with only the odd error needing to be sorted out but it is still important for captains to keep a record of results as a backup. Home & Away Captains are urged to print out their own result sheets from the website and keep hold of a signed copy themselves.

## Postponements

We have a tight schedule for the fixture list and it is important to keep postponements to a minimum. Captains are encouraged to avoid postponing games unless absolutely necessary. The odd player missing shouldn't trigger a postponement. If games are postponed it is important to inform the match secretary and arrange a date with the opposing captain inside 30 days.

## Website

The League Website at [www.chessit.co.uk](http://www.chessit.co.uk) has now been online since 2005, passing the 12 year mark ! The website has links now to many of the clubs that have their own websites. Cabot, Clevedon, Clifton, Downend, Hanham, Horfield, South Bristol, University & Yate all have their own sites and some have included interesting match reports and games. The League website is updated weekly to include the latest results and league tables and stats.

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