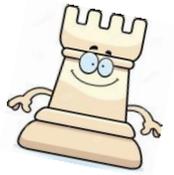


# Dorset Junior Chess Newsletter

No. 11



## Welcome to Newsletter No 11.

It's been very encouraging to see and hear of so many juniors not only continuing to play chess during the last few months but also rapidly developing as players and getting better and better. Well done everyone!

**This newsletter includes a look back over some recent successes and forward to upcoming tournaments.**

## Dorset Junior Chess battle against the might of Hampshire, Devon and Berkshire Juniors

On **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May**, in an inaugural four way junior chess team battle, **Dorset Juniors** took on the might of fellow junior chess players from Hampshire, Devon and Berkshire. With an average team rating of 1475 and with only one player above the age of 12, the 13 **Dorset** players were the significant underdogs against Devon, which had an average team rating of 1775, and Berkshire and Hampshire which, with similar average ratings, had 19 and 21 players in their squads.

All **Dorset** players battled hard and the juniors should be proud of themselves. We may not have had the 'big-hitters' that the other county teams had but it was a great effort and shows that with a bit more experience, this very young team has lots of potential which augurs well for the future!

At around the halfway mark, **Dorset** were in **third place** and **only 6 points** behind the leaders, in a very close battle. Plus at this point, **Jamie Doyle** was in **second place** on the leader board with **25 points**, only one point behind the leader! Unfortunately, **Dorset** could not quite maintain this form in the second half but it was a great credit to our juniors that we performed so well with the team scoring an average of 19 points per player (which would have placed us 2nd of the four teams).

Top scorer for **Dorset Juniors** was **Jamie Doyle** who amassed a very commendable 33 points against some tough opposition; indeed, he had the highest average 'opponents rating' of all the 65 players in the team battle!

Player	No. games	Opponent Rating	Performance Rating	Win %	Score	Berserk rate
<b>Jamie (2060)</b>	16	1717	1780	56%	33	50%
<b>Jack (1678)</b>	12	1594	1803	67%	27	50%
<b>Zander (1843)</b>	11	1615	1888	73%	26	0%
<b>Matthew (1461)</b>	13	1435	1473	54%	20	23%
<b>Leo (1805)</b>	14	1626	1626	50%	18	0%
<b>Florence (1636)</b>	16	1556	1557	50%	18	0%

For more scores and details, the full report is available on the Dorset website at [Dorset Junior Chess battle against the might of Hampshire, Devon and Berkshire Juniors | Dorset Chess](#)

## Dorset Junior Chess – Highly popular Friday evening online Chess events

The Friday evening Dorset Junior Chess sessions have continued and the junior chess players are going from strength to strength. The sessions start at **5pm** with 30 minutes of coaching, followed at **5.30pm** by a tournament which lasts until around **6.15pm**

To accommodate the different levels of experience, the online coaching takes place in two virtual rooms; in one room, the extremely keen **Rookies**, who are learning the core chess concepts, and the hard working **Improvers** who are learning slightly more advanced chess concepts in the other. Tournaments are run on **Chesskid.com**, which is an entertaining and safe platform for junior chess.



It has been great to see up to 18 keen junior players at one session and **more are always welcome.** Please spread the word amongst your friends.

Full reports on some of these Friday evening events can be found on the **Dorset Chess website** on the junior events page: [Junior Chess Events | Dorset Chess](#)

## Dorset Junior chess players in action over the past few months.

### ECF England Juniors – online competition success

**Jamie Doyle, Florence Spirling** and **Harry Mercer** notched up excellent performances in the ECF England Juniors competitions on 25th March.

In the **Open** section, **Jamie** came **first** out of 72 juniors with a staggering **2367** performance. **Congratulations, Jamie, on a fantastic result.**

In the **under 1600** section, **Florence** came 4th out of 28 juniors with a **1865** performance. **Harry** also performed well coming equal 8th in the **under 1600** section.



### The Ringwood Lockdown Online Team Battle

Dorset Juniors **Larissa Cuthbert, Jamie Doyle, Florence Spirling, Jack Baskett** and, more recently, **Jake Doyle** continue to take part in the highly popular Ringwood Lockdown Online Team Battle and Ringwood Chess Tournaments – Blitz which run fortnightly on a Monday evening, putting in some excellent performances. It's very exciting to see juniors taking part in these type of events.

Regular reports from this tournament can be found on the **Dorset Chess website**.

### Chess jokes:

**If you forget the rules of chess, don't worry – you are allowed to check!!**

**What's a chess player's favourite kind of crisps? Pawn flavoured.**

## UK Chess Challenge – new format for weekly puzzles

The UK Chess Challenge team have introduced a new online format for their weekly puzzles.



We are very fortunate to have **free** access to some of the junior chess material produced by the UK Chess Challenge team (who also run the Delancey UK Chess Challenge and several other UK junior chess initiatives).

The quizzes are being posted on the Dorset Chess website each week, on the junior page [Junior Chess | Dorset Chess](#) Doing puzzles is very important in developing chess skills. **Please do take this opportunity to try these out.**

## Delancey UK Chess Challenge announces timing for 2021 events



The Delancey UK Chess Challenge team have announced the format and timing for this year’s tournament. The 2021 the UK Chess Challenge will take part over three stages as follows:

- 1) **Megafinals** (online)- June (weekends of 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>)
- 2) **Gigafinals** (online) – July (weekends of 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>)
- 3a) **Terafinal** preliminaries - online on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> September
- 3b) **Terafinal** ‘Elite’ (Over the Board 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October)

The tournament is a 7 round Swiss with a time control of 10 minutes plus 5 seconds per move. Players must play in each stage and qualify for the next stage by meeting the qualifying score.

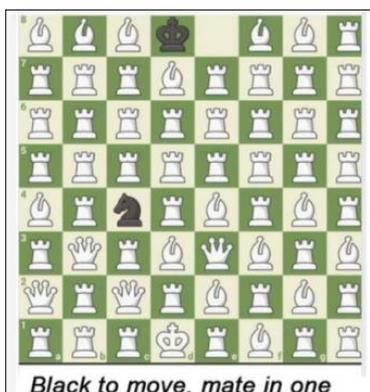
For the purposes of the 2021 competition ages will be calculated as at **31/08/2020**. The challenge is separated into 5 age group categories; under 8, under 10, under 12, under 14 and under 18.

All the events will take place online on **lichess.org** except for the very final stage – the Terafinal Elite – which will take place **over the board**.

Full details of how to enter and the rules can be found at: [Delancey UK Schools' Chess Challenge | Chess Competition for Schools](#)

**This is an excellent competition for young chess payers and we encourage everyone to take part**

**Just for fun!**



*Many thanks to Tony Sullivan, a cartoonist, humour writer/illustrator who is creating a book of cartoons dedicated to chess. Find him on Facebook.*

## Future Junior Chess Tournaments on Chesskid

### 1. Intercontinental ChessKid/FIDE Challenge Returns!



**ChessKid** has announced that, following the tremendous success of the first edition, the **Intercontinental ChessKid FIDE Challenge** will return! This second edition will be on **19<sup>th</sup> June, 2021** and is once again open to any child **aged 12 and below**. **Max Teverson** played in the first challenge back in January and came 52<sup>nd</sup> out of 524 under 8's which was in the top 10%.

In the first edition in January, 1900 Chesskids from 86 countries competed. The target is to get a record breaking 2,500 Chesskids from 100 countries this time around. And there are lots of prizes including top grandmasters giving mini-camps.

The Challenge will run twice to cater for different time zones. To register: [click here for the earlier "Eastern Edition"](#) (beginning at 9am UK) or [click here for the later "Western Edition"](#) (beginning at 9am Pacific U.S./5pm UK time).

### 2. Coming Soon: ChessKid UK Championship!



The inaugural **ChessKid UK Championship** will be run on **Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> June** starting at **12.00 noon**. After the USA, the UK has the second-most number of **ChessKids**.

Any student in **Year 1-13**, whose school is anywhere in the UK, is eligible! There will be four sections: Years 1-4, Years 5-6, Years 7-9, and Years 10-13. All sections will play **7 rounds** with a time control of Game **10+5** (10 minutes starting time with 5 seconds increment per move).

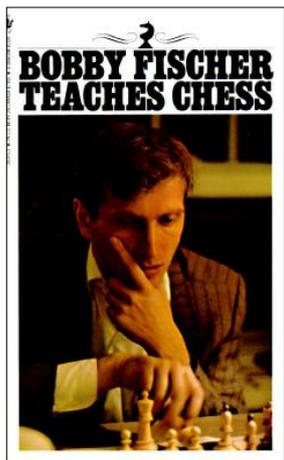
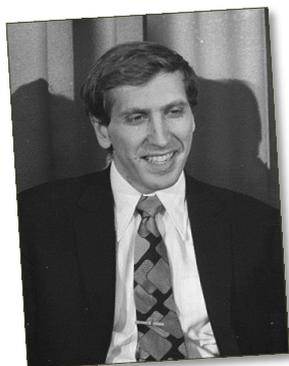
For further details and how to enter: [Junior Chess | Dorset Chess](#)

**Chess Movies:** Grab your popcorn – here is a selection of some of the best chess movies to watch:

- [Searching for Bobby Fischer](#) (The story of US junior champion Josh Waitzkin – closely based on a true story. Watch the trailer: [Searching for Bobby Fischer - Trailer - YouTube](#))
- [Magnus](#) (Tells the story of Magnus Carlsen from childhood. See [MAGNUS Official Trailer | Magnus Carlsen Documentary \[HD\] - YouTube](#))
- [Queen of Katwe](#) (Based on the life story of Ugandan chess player Phiona Mutesi, growing up in the slums who becomes an international player - [Queen of Katwe - Official Trailer - YouTube](#))

## Get to know famous chess players: Bobby Fischer

The famous chess player featured in this newsletter is **Bobby Fischer**, one of the greatest players although sometimes controversial



**Bobby Fischer** was born in Chicago, SA in 1943. He is the **first and only** USA World Chess Champion in history.

He started to play chess at age 6 when his sister bought him a chess set, and soon was playing at the Brooklyn and Manhattan Chess Clubs. At age 14 he became the youngest ever winner of the US Chess Championship.

In 1958 at age 15, Bobby Fischer became, what was at the time, the youngest grandmaster. (Do you know who the youngest ever is now?). He won the 1963/1964 U.S. Championship with a score of 11/11, the only perfect score in the history of the tournament.

He reportedly had an IQ of 181 and was known as a brilliant and highly competitive player. He was also known for his erratic behaviour, both on and off the chessboard. Known for his brilliant opening play as well as his fantastic mid-game play, his endgame play was also exceptional and his games are well worth studying.

Fischer qualified for the 1971 Candidates tournament in which he won both his quarter final and semi-final matches 6-0, and then went on to win the final 6½–2½, earning the right to challenge for the World Championship.

In 1972, Fischer faced World Champion GM Boris Spassky in the World Championship match in Iceland, publicised as a USA vs Russia confrontation that attracted more worldwide interest than any chess championship before or since. It has been called 'The Match of the Century'.

After starting the match down 0-2 (he did not even show up to play the second game), he won an electrifying game three, went on to win game five with the black pieces and played a positional masterpiece to win game six. Spassky himself gave Fischer a standing ovation after this game.

Fischer eventually defeated Spassky by the score of **12.5-8.5**

Fischer elected not to defend his world champion title—the only World Champion not to.

Afterward, Fischer became a recluse and disappeared from the chess scene. He died in Iceland in January 2008 at the age of 64, the same number of squares as on a chessboard!

Answer: Sergey Karjakin

*We hope you enjoyed this newsletter. We always welcome new juniors of all levels and volunteers, so please contact the B&DCL and DCCA junior chess coordinator, Nikki Forster at [nikkiforster2015@gmail.com](mailto:nikkiforster2015@gmail.com) if you wish to find out more on any junior chess matters or check out the Dorset Junior chess webpage <https://www.dorsetchess.co.uk/junior-chess/>*