



Dorset Junior Chess Newsletter

No. 15



Welcome to Newsletter No 15.

It's been a while since the previous Dorset Junior Chess newsletter so welcome back. In this newsletter, we **reflect** on **highlights** of some great junior chess from the last few months including the B&DCL league matches, the Bacchus League, the British Chess Championships, the Delancey UK Chess Challenge, plus many other local, national and international events. We then look **forward** to what the new chess season may bring.

Highlights from the summer of 2022

1. Dorset Chess Juniors shone in local events

Several Dorset juniors played in many of the local league teams, for Wessex and the 4NCL (both online and OTB). Some of these many highlights include:

- **B&DCL and Dorset League:** Junior players in the main league teams included Southbourne's **Jamie Doyle, Florence Spirling, Finn Schell** and Poole's **Zander Booth, Leo Camopy, and Harry Mercer**.

Name	Performance	Team	Score	Games	Including Defaults ↕	Excluding Defaults
Doyle, Jamie	2070	Southbourne A	7½	9	83.33%	83.33%

Jamie Doyle won the Brian Urry cup for the best performance in Division 1, with a fantastic score of 7.5 from 9 matches.



Jamie is pictured receiving his cup.

- **Bacchus League:** **Zander Booth, Leo Camopy** and **Harry Mercer** (Poole Bishops) and **Finn Schell, Florence Spirling** and **Ollie Welch** (Southbourne) all played in the Bacchus League 2021/22. There were some excellent performances, with **Finn Schell** topping the scoring % with **6.5** from **8**, closely

Name	Performance	Team	Score	Games	Including Defaults ↕	Excluding Defaults
Schell, Finn	1514	Southbourne Seagulls	6½	8	81.25%	81.25%
Camopy, Leo	1429	Poole Bishops	6	8	75%	75%
Booth, Zander	1630	Poole Bishops	6½	9	72.22%	72.22%
Spirling, Florence	1445	Southbourne Seagulls	4½	7	64.29%	64.29%
Mercer, Harry	942	Poole Bishops	3	9	33.33%	33.33%
Welch, Oliver	802	Southbourne Seagulls	1	4	25%	25%



matched by **Zander Booth** with 6.5 from 9 and a performance of 1630. Southbourne were the eventual winners, helped significantly by the performance of these young players.

The Bacchus League certainly achieved one of its key goals, that of developing and growing young players.

- **Dorset Closed Chess Championship:** There were further junior successes in the Dorset Closed in June with **Florence Spirling** and **Finn Schell** coming equal 1st in the Minor Section, **Ted Paul** came 2nd in the Major section, followed by **Jamie Doyle** who came equal 3rd.



Pictured left are Finn and Florence collecting the Minor trophy which they shared with Dan Ursell from Highcliffe.

On the right, Ted Paul and Jamie Doyle meet in the Major section.



- **B&DCL Summer Chess League:** Several juniors took part in the very successful B&DCL Summer League played during June / July at various outdoor venues. Again **Finn**, **Florence** and **Zander** were in action along with **Leo Camopy** and **Oliver Bradbury** (Southbourne), playing in his first competitive match, scored a great win for Southbourne against Poole.

Oliver is pictured here concentrating on his next move.



Leo and Finn thinking hard, whilst Florence (below) is looking cool and composed.



- **Southbourne 10 second buzzer tournament:** more recently, on 9th September as one of the preludes to the new chess season, this popular annual fun tournament was **won jointly** by two juniors **Zander Booth** and **Finn Schell**, seeing off the adults. Other juniors playing included **Florence Spirling**, **Cyrus Piao** and **Joshua Richards**.



Pictured left are Finn and Zander with their prizes and pictured right, ready for the big clash on Board 1



2. Dorset Juniors in action further afield.

- **British Chess Championships 2022:** Several Dorset juniors made the trip to the British Chess Championships in Torquay during August with mixed results.

Ted Paul (Dorchester) came joint 3rd in the week 1 U1900 with 3.5 from 7 rounds; **Larissa Cuthbert** (Southbourne) scored 3 from 7 in the week 1 U1600 and 2.5 from 5 in the Weekend Soanes; **Jamie Doyle** (Southbourne) scored 4 out of 7 in the U16 tournament and 2.5 from 7 in the Open Rapid; and **Florence Spirling** (Southbourne) also scored 2.5 out of 5 in the Weekend U1500 and 2.5 from 9 in the Weekend Blitz.

- **Czech Open:** In latter part of July, **Larissa Cuthbert** (Southbourne) took part in the Under 1700 section of the Czech Open and performed well. Larissa scored 4½/9 with an excellent 1694 FIDE rating performance.



Here is Larissa in action.

- **Delancey UK Chess Challenge:** The **Delancey UK Chess Challenge** is the UK's largest Chess competition for young UK chess players under the age of 18 years, played across three stages: Megafinal, Gigafinal and Terafinal. Well done to **Finn Schell** and **Max Teverson** for making it through to the **Gigafinals** where both performed very well and narrowly missed out on qualification to the next level.



- **Coulsdon Rapidplay:** **Florence Spirling** also performed well at the Coulsdon Rapidplay event on 3rd September, scoring a 3.5 out of 7 and winning an U1150 rating prize

Looking forward

Looking forward to the 2022/23 season, here are some chess activities and events to look out for:

- **Local junior chess clubs / coaching:** The two local junior chess clubs have re-opened after the summer break. Joining a chess club is a great way to improve and make friends with other junior chess players.

Southbourne junior chess club at **Tuckton Social Club**, the home venue of **Southbourne Chess Club**, between **6pm to 7.20pm on Friday evenings**.

The junior club combines playing over the board, with informal tips and advice as they play, a free junior coaching session and, from time to time, a fun event such as a mini tournament. Contact Nikki Forster (nikkiforster2015@gmail.com).



The independent **Bournemouth Junior Chess Club** sessions on **Saturday mornings at the Elstead Hotel** between **10am and 12noon** where there is a £5 charge. Contact the organiser, Eric Sachs (eric.sachs@btinternet.com).

Wimborne chess club are planning to start a junior chess club, prior to their main chess club evening, in October. Any interested juniors should contact Graham Hillman

Junior chess clubs such as these are very dependent on the tireless work of volunteers such as local club members and teachers. Sadly, there are not always enough of these volunteers to run as many clubs and chess events as we would like. We therefore need support of local chess players, parents, and others to help continue the development of junior chess. If you can assist, please reach out and contact Nikki Forster.

- **School Chess Clubs and inter-school league:** Several local secondary schools including **Highcliffe, Twynham, Avonbourne, Lytchett Minster, Ringwood, Poole Grammar, Bournemouth School** and **BSG** now have active school chess clubs, led by enthusiastic teachers with a passion for chess, and are keen to take part in a local school's league. We hope to have this up and running soon.

If your school isn't mentioned in the list above and has a chess club, please let Nikki (nikkiforster2015@gmail.com) know as we would love to get your school involved!

Highcliffe School were the winners of the last Bournemouth and Poole Inter-School Chess Competition in **2019**, retaining the cup for a second year. **Who will be next?**



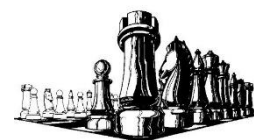
- **Dorset Junior Chess Championships:** This prestigious local junior championship was last played in February 2020 in Bournemouth when over 50 young players competed in this all-day event. The **Championships** are planned to return in **early 2023** and we hope to attract an even bigger field of players.



Pictured here, looking somewhat younger than his picture on the first page (as we all do!), is the Dorset Junior Champion 2020, Jamie Doyle.

[Dorset Junior Chess Championship 2020 - Dorset Chess](#)

- **West of England and South Wales Junior Chess Jamboree:** Dorset Junior chess have been invited to take teams to the **West of England and South Wales** annual friendly inter-county **Jamboree**. The next jamboree will be held in Chepstow in January 2023 with teams in **U18, U14, U11** and **U9** categories (no requirement to enter a team in every age group). More details to follow.



It would be **very exciting** to enter some **Dorset Junior Chess teams!**

- **Chess tournaments:** As junior chess players start to improve, a very good way to progress even more is by playing in tournaments.

A list of local tournaments suitable for juniors can be found on the Dorset Chess website

[Tournaments for Juniors - Dorset Chess](#), with a wider selection from across the UK on the ECF website [Calendar – English Chess Federation](#).



Coming up soon on **1st and 2nd October** is the **South of England Junior Chess Congress** in Yateley. This is an annual junior chess tournament, with sections from U7 up to U15, and a new U18 section. The result counts towards the ECF Youth Grand Prix. See [South of England Junior Chess Congress - Home](#).

*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 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>*

