

Dorset Junior Chess Newsletter

No. 3



Welcome to Newsletter No 3.

Thank you for the positive feedback and responses to the previous newsletters. Your on-going feedback is invaluable so please keep it coming. We're also keen to hear of any news and results from junior players.

B&DCL Senior Inter-School Championship: entries now open!

This annual Bournemouth & District Chess League (B&DCL) competition between senior school chess teams takes place in Term 2, between February/ March (Round 1) and April when the final will take place.

Highcliffe School are the current holders beating Poole Grammar in an exciting match in 2019 and have won the trophy for the past two years.



We welcome any senior school with a chess team to enter the Championship. Teams should comprise 6 players. Please contact Nikki Forster (Dorset Junior Chess Coordinator -contact details at the end of this newsletter) to enter.

Recent Dorset Junior results

Several Dorset junior players have been in action at tournaments recently. **Well done to all!**



Larissa Cuthbert recently played for Wessex D in the 4NCL on 9 and 10th November winning her first game against an opponent nearly 300 rating points higher than her. She then came up against an opponent rated 1990 in Round 2 to whom she unfortunately lost.



We wish **Larissa** the very best of luck as she heads of to play for the **England** team in the European Youth Rapidplay and Blitz Chess Championships in Tallinn, Estonia. Larissa's success story was published in the Bournemouth Echo and the following Talbot Heath newsletter. <https://www.talbotheath.org/news/2019-11-19/Junior-Chess-Queen>

Larissa also played in the Open section of the 2019 English Girls Championship achieving a fantastic 2.5 out of 5 in a tough section. **Florence Spirling**, also from Dorset, played in the U 11 Section, winning two games.

Jamie Doyle came 9th in the Under 120 section of the Golders Green Rapidplay on 9th November. He was originally ranked 16th. Jamie has also been on top form in the B&DCL for Poole Chess Club, winning five of his games and drawing one. **Declan Lovelock** remains unbeaten in Division 1 of the B&DCL for Southbourne Chess Club and in the DCL for Highcliffe with 7 wins and one draw.

Chess Facts: From the starting position, there are 8 ways to Mate in two moves and 355 ways to mate in 3 moves! How many can you find???

Future Chess Tournaments for junior chess players

Southbourne Chess Club Christmas Quickplay Handicap Tournament: 20 December 2019.



Keep the date free for this ever popular and fun **Christmas** tournament.
7.15pm at Southbourne Chess Club, Tuckton Social Club.

Play chess to the accompaniment of carols and festive music. Lots of prizes!
<https://southbournechessclub.weebly.com/>

Festive snacks and drinks, plus there's a chess book and DVD sale during the interval.

All players and abilities welcome as a handicap system applies. Entry fee £2.

Dorset County Junior Chess Championships: Saturday 8 February 2020. Dorset County Chess Association will be hosting this year's Dorset County Junior Chess Championship. Junior chess players in school years 3 to 13 are invited to come along for a fun & competitive day of chess, irrespective of whether a relative novice or more experienced player. Further details to follow in next newsletter.

Further afield (information also available on the English Chess Federation website under Calendar):

London Chess Classic Open Rapidplay and Blitz: 7 December / 8 December 2019. Rapid and Blitz tournaments held as part of the famous London Chess Classic at Kensington Olympia.
<http://www.londonchessclassic.com/>



English Open Women and Girls Rapidplay Championship: 7 December 2019. This women and girls tournament is being held as part of the famous London Chess Classic at Kensington Olympia.
<http://www.londonchessclassic.com/>

London Junior Chess Championships: 28 to 30 December 2019. This prestigious three-day event at University of Westminster, Harrow has sections for U8, U12, U16 and U18/21. The U8 is held over two days, and is rapidplay. The other sections play on all three days. The U18/21 and Under 16 are both FIDE rated. Competitors must gain qualification to play in the U8 and U12. <http://www.ljcc.co.uk/>

Maidenhead and Earley Junior Tournament: 4 January 2020 Beginners section and other sections for more advanced players to be held at Radstock Community Centre, Reading. Open to all under the age of 18. <https://nigelwdennis.wixsite.com/mysite>



Q: Which knight always gave up at chess?

A: Sir Render.



News from Castlepoint Library Junior Chess Club

The junior chess club at Castlepoint Library is going from strength to strength with an average of 12 very keen and enthusiastic juniors. A ladder competition is now going to be introduced. Any juniors interested in attending the Library should contact Nikki Forster (contact details below).

Count down to Christmas with Chess Puzzles

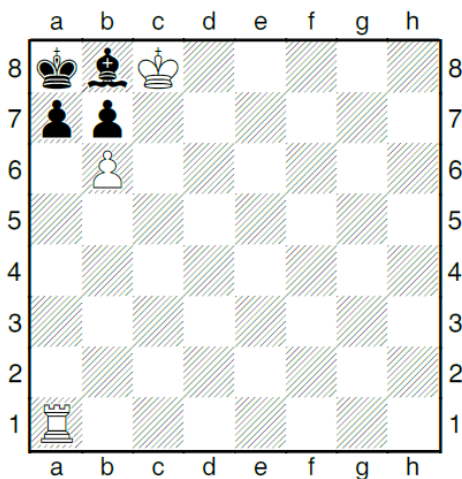


Instead of a boring chocolate advent calendar, Dorset Junior Chess is giving you something far better: **a chess puzzle a day!!!!**




Between now and Christmas, I'll be sending you **24** chess puzzles to complete.


Puzzle number 1 is here (there's a hint at the bottom of the page!).

White to mate in less than 6 moves



This will be followed by batches of puzzles on a weekly basis up to day 21 as follows:

 2 December: puzzles 2 to 7,  9 December: puzzles 8 to 14;  16 December: puzzles 15 to 21

 The final three puzzles will arrive **daily** thereafter.

Should you wish to submit your answers to me, I will make sure they are forwarded to **Father Christmas** for marking. There will be special prizes for the highest number of correct solutions!



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.

Hint: Father Christmas found a mate in 2!