

4NCL Online League – Season 8 – Semi-Final (Round 8) report

Even though the leagues have finished three of our teams made it through to the “Play-offs” to decide the Division winners, with the “semi-final” round on 12th December 2023.

Division 1

Our A team faced a lower graded Charlton Cobras A team and won comfortably 3.5 – 0.5 Gavin had a very comfortable draw with black against a 2195 whilst David, Jaimie & Mark all swept aside their lower graded opponents.

Charlton Cobras A		1821	Wessex Some Stars A		2147	
121	w	Radchenko, Alexey	2195 e	½ - ½	Lock, Gavin R	2224 e
122	b	Verbytski, Oleg	1741 e	0 - 1	Pye, David E	2163 e
123	w	Wagstaff-Hall, James	1644 u	0 - 1	Wilson, Jaimie	2119 e
124	b	Smith, Jonathan D	1705	0 - 1	Cleary, Mark	2082 e
				½ - 3½		

Division 3

Our D team had a tough match against Hebden Bridge 2 and won a tight match 2.5 – 1.5 with wins from Ted & Bill plus a draw from Jamie who defended a tough position to the point of opponent exhaustion who then forced a draw by repetition!

Hebden Bridge 2		1767	Wessex Some Stars D		1830	
311	w	Leonard, Pete	1791 c	0 - 1	Paul, Ted	1855 c
312	b	Allan, John M	1780 c	½ - ½	Doyle, Jamie	1831 e
313	w	Gledhill, Paul	1799 c	1 - 0	Melling, Hugo	1800 u
314	b	Wedge-Roberts, Matthew	1700 u	0 - 1	Adaway, William	1836 e
				1½ - 2½		

Division 4

Our F team faced a very strong Lenzie Basilisks, who out graded both our A & D team opponents! Indeed, Jake Sanger is the 6th highest graded player that any Wessex team has faced all season. We battled hard and eventually succumbed 3.5 – 0.5 , with both Stephen & Tim having promising positions at various points.

Lenzie Basilisks		1905	Wessex Some Stars F		1450	
411	w	Sanger, Jake M	2260 e	1 - 0	Blythe, Douglas	1595 c
412	b	Banerjee, Supratit	2123 e	1 - 0	Herrera, Manuel	1456 u
413	w	Bhatia, Kanishka	1660	½ - ½	Le Fevre, Stephen D	1414 e
414	b	Lukhi, Neev	1580	1 - 0	McCullagh, Tim	1335 e
				3½ - ½		

So a great evening, with both Wessex A and Wessex D reaching the final – our first ever finalists after 7 seasons and 4 previous semi-finals for the A, C (twice) & E teams. Fingers crossed we can take home our first “virtual trophy” next week on December 19th 🙏

Keith Gregory, Wessex Captain, December 14th 2023