

## 4NCL Online League – Season 8 – Final (Round 9) report

So the long Season 8 finally concluded with the “Finals” on 19<sup>th</sup> December with our A & D teams chasing Division 1 & 3 titles – spoiler alert => the boys ‘dun good.

### Division 1

Our A team faced a strong Shropshire & Friends team with a GM on board 1. Bizarrely Keith Arkell was a no-show (apparently he was playing in an OTB tournament and miscalculated when his OTB game would finish) so we started with a default win plus they received a half-point penalty. It then went down to the wire with Oscar & David losing tough battles before Jaimie saw us over the line with a solid grinding win – phew !

**So Wessex A are Division 1 Champions !!!** 😊

<b>Shropshire &amp; Friends 1</b>		2127		<b>Wessex Some Stars A</b>		2178	
111	w	Arkell, Keith C	g	2497 e	d - 1	Lock, Gavin R	2224 e
112	b	Higgie, Charles L		2074 e	1 - 0	Garcia Oscar Hernandez,	2208 e
113	w	Altinsoy, Mehmet Nuri		2005 e	1 - 0	Pye, David E	2163 e
114	b	Walsh, Marcus		1932 e	0 - 1	Wilson, Jaimie	2119 e
					-1/2		
					1½ - 2		

### Division 3

Our D team had a tough match against Heffalump Hunters and drew 2 – 2 to (provisionally) take the title on tie-break. Ted defended a tough position on board 1 (v an FM) to hold the draw whilst Jamie won on board 2 and Hugo drew on board 3. A word of consolation to Bill who lost to a wildly under-graded player on board 4, who is both 2300+ ECF / 2100+ FIDE! Unfortunately the opposing captain turned out to be a “less than sporting” character who sent private messages to one of our players threatening to report him for cheating unless he immediately agreed a draw. He also then complained that another of our team “must have cheated” - 4NCL will do their routine game analysis checking programme stuff and then we will receive the Div 3 title formally. I have complained to the 4NCL arbiter ref the private messages and the complaint was upheld so the opposing captain is now on a “yellow card”.

<b>Heffalump Hunters</b>		1883		<b>Wessex Some Stars D</b>		1830	
311	w	Sterck, Arno	f	1968 e	½ - ½	Paul, Ted	1855 c
312	b	Green, Michael		2035 e	0 - 1	Doyle, Jamie	1831 e
313	w	Carpentier, Jannes		1825 e	½ - ½	Melling, Hugo	1800 u
314	b	Vanden Bussche, Steven		1704 e	1 - 0	Adaway, William	1836 e
					2 - 2		

So, a great evening, with both Wessex A and Wessex D\* winning their respective finals, (\*subject to stewards inquiry)

*Keith Gregory, Wessex Captain, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023*