

4 Sections

Open

No grading limit

Major

Average Grade U150

No Maximum Grade but average of Boards 1 and 2 must not exceed 165

Team total 599 max

Intermediate

Average Grade U125

No Maximum Grade but average of Boards 1 and 2 must not exceed 140

Team total 499 max

Minor

Average Grade U100

No Maximum Grade but average of Boards 1 and 2 must not exceed 115

Team total 399 max

4 Players per Team

ENTER A TEAM FOR YOUR CLUB

This is now a well established and popular competition.

It is a great way to play against other chess clubs you have never met before.

Why not give it a go and see what you find?

Your Club may become Champions of the North—and the trophy and the cash are nice of course!

Ask Clubs who have previously entered what they think. Alternatively contact the Controller, Dave Farley, details on the entry form inside, for any further information.

NCCU Club Championships

Northern Counties Chess Union

REPÊCHAGE SUCCESS



The second chance for first round losers proved to be a resounding success in this year's the NCCU Club Championships.

Some of the smaller clubs had commented that the possibility of a first round exit and therefore only one match was a disincentive for them. So we introduced the repêchage system. Borrowed from

sports such as rowing, the concept is quite simple. If you lose your first round match then rather being out of the competition then you have another chance to progress by then being paired against one of the other first round losers.

In practice, this worked out even better than we expected.

In the Minor, Elmwood lost in the first

round but went on to win the event! Elmwood almost did the same feat in the Intermediate but still reached the final, which was won by Wallasey. Heywood reached the semis in the Major thanks to the repêchage but the Section was won by new entrants Swinton.

The Open was well won by Waterloo in their second attempt at the highest prize.

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PRIZES

- In Each Section
- 1st £100
- 2nd £50
- Plus trophy for the winners
- Be Champion Club in the North of England

The 2004/05 event will start by the end of October

Details will be circulated as widely as possible before then but why not reserve

your Club's place or even enter now .

An entry form and the necessary information are inside this Newsletter.

The repêchage sys-

tem guarantees at least 2 matches for all below the Open.

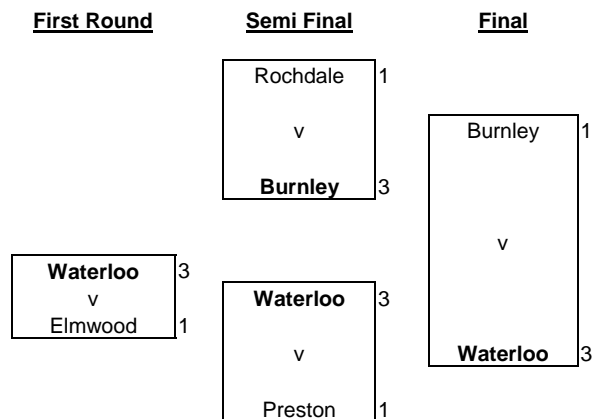
Your Club could be Champions of the North of England.

Book now!

Entry Form Inside! Page 7.

THE OPEN SECTION

Waterloo had an excellent event and won their three matches all by 3-1. As always, the Open does not draw many entries and the average grades of the entrants are not as high as you might think (176 for the winners and 166 for the runners-up) so why not enter a team from your Club?



5entries

PREVIOUS WINNERS

Open	Major	Intermediate	Minor
1996/7 Durham		1996/7 Grappenhall	
1997/8 Rochdale	1997/8 Hunts Cross	1997/8 Chorley	
1998/9 Morecambe	1998/9 Crusaders	1998/9 Wallasey	
1999/0 Burnley	1999/0 Wallasey	1999/0 Preston	1999/0 Clevelleys
2000/1 Morecambe	2000/1 Wallasey	2000/1 Preston	2000/1 Wallasey
2001/2 Rochdale	2001/2 Wallasey	2001/2 Wallasey	2001/2 Hartlepool
2002/3 Preston	2002/3 Wallasey	2002/3 Hunts Cross	2002/3 Chorley
2003/4 Waterloo	2003/4 Swinton	2003/4 Wallasey	2003/4 Elmwood

NCCU Club Championship 2004/05 Entry Form

Club

County

Section Entered

Contact Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone No.

E-mail (if any)

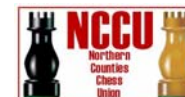
Entry fee £15 per team (exceptions below) (*Cheques payee NCCU*)

Junior Teams (1 non-junior allowed) £5 (unless previous prize winners)
Clubs entering more than 3 teams - the cost will be £15 for each of the first 3 then £5 for each additional team- ie 2 teams cost £30, 3 teams cost £45, 4 teams cost £50 etc.

Please send to

Dave Farley
 NCCU Club Championship Controller
 41 Ashford Road
 Meols
 Wirral
 CH47 5AN
 Tel: 0151 632 4761

*Closing date for entries -
 14th November 2004*



Places can be reserved by e-mail -
 Farleys@btinternet.com

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Practicalities of the Club Championship

Each Competition is run as a knockout, but a repêchage round will take place for first round losers (apart from the Open Section)

Rounds are zoned, if there are sufficient entries, as follows:

West Zone—Cheshire & North Wales, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside

East Zone—Cleveland, Durham, Northumberland, Yorkshire

The winners of each zone will play in the final.

The number of rounds will depend on the number of entries but last year the finalists played at most 5 matches.

Regard is had to minimising travelling while trying to avoid near neighbours from playing each other in the early rounds.

The Competition runs from October to May. The draw will be made as soon as the entries are gathered and at least a month (usually longer) will be allowed for each match to be played

A full version of the rules (which are as simple as possible) will be issued with the draw for the first round.

If you have any queries about the competition then please contact the Controller (details opposite).

Ungraded players may represent a Club only if the match captain feels certain they are eligible and evidence of an estimated grade may be requested.

Players in the Minor Section *must* have a registered grade—except for Juniors (U16 @ 1/9/04).

Matches usually take place at the weekend, though if travelling permits, they can happen by mutual consent on mid-week evenings.

The official time limit is 40 moves in 2 hours and all remaining moves in ½ hour. However, by agreement between Captains a reduced time limit can, and indeed usually is, agreed.

The home team will be expected to provide light refreshments especially if the away team has travelled some distance.

The chess is serious but it's a friendly tournament and gives Clubs and players a chance to play Clubs they don't normally encounter.

THE MAJOR SECTION

Average—Under 150

The 4 year monopoly of Wallasey was ended by the new entrants, Swinton.

They were worthy winners and included in their victo-

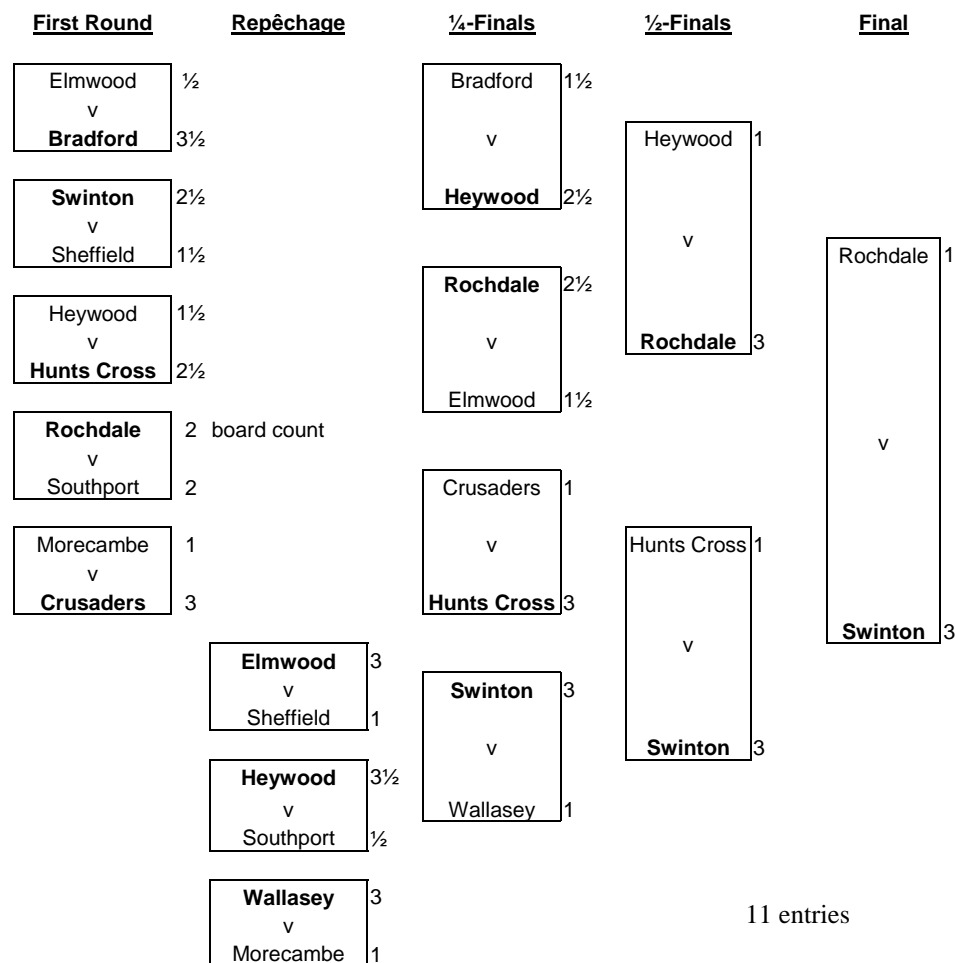
ries one over the reigning champions—so nobody could doubt their right to the title.

Rochdale had a good run but were just

edged out in the season.

The repêchage system produced several interesting progressions and we will try it again next

The Major is always a fiercely contested Section and this year's lived up to expectations again.



INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Average—Under 125

Twice previous winners, Wallasey made it three with some well judged performances and good team work. Elmwood, as in the Minor, made their way to the final after losing in the first round but were too stretched to make a showing in the final itself. The holders, Hunts Cross went out in the semis and Heywood again came close. Another well contested Section.

First Round	Repêchage	¼-Finals	½-Finals	Final
Barrow 1½ v Windermere 2½		Elmwood 3 v Preston 1	Elmwood 2½ v Heywood 1½	Elmwood 0 v Wallasey 4
Crusaders 1 v Heywood 3	Crusaders 1½ v Elmwood 2½	Heywood 3 v Hartlepool 1	Wallasey 3 v Hunts Cross 1	
Hartlepool 2½ v Elmwood 1½	Barrow 2 v Clitheroe 2 grades	Windermere 1½ v Wallasey 2½		
Clitheroe 1½ v Wallasey 2½		Hunts Cross 3 v Clitheroe 1		
Hunts Cross Bye				
Preston Bye				

10 entries

MINOR SECTION

Average—Under 100

A triumph for the repêchage system as Elmwood fight back from a first round defeat to go on and win the tournament! The Minor is always a good Section and this one was as open and as hard fought as ever. Elmwood were Chorley's nemesis beating both their teams, including the holders, on the way to the final. Heywood made the semis in 3 Sections but no finals—perhaps next year! Also a good showing from previous winners, the ubiquitous Wallasey.

First Round	Repêchage	¼-Finals	½-Finals	Final
Chorley B 4 v Crusaders 0		Waterloo A 1½ v Chorley B 2½	Chorley B 1 v Elmwood 3	Elmwood 2½ v Wallasey B 1½
Elmwood 2 v Morecambe 2		Chorley A 2 v Elmwood 2	Morecambe ½ v Wallasey B 3½	
Board Count Heywood 3 v Wallasey A 1	Elmwood 4 v Wallasey A 0	board count Wallasey B 3 v Waterloo B 1	Wallasey B 3 v Heywood 1	
Wallasey B 3 v Waterloo B 1	Crusaders ½ v Waterloo B 3½	Waterloo B ½ v Heywood 3½		
Chorley A Bye				
Waterloo A Bye				

10 entries