

## The NCCU Junior Team Championship, 2008

Played at Darlington on St David's Day, 1<sup>st</sup> March

Once again this supposedly Jamboree event degenerated into a straight match between the two teams who turned up on the day. Organiser, Bill Metcalfe, had been taken ill shortly before the event; so it was left to the two team managers to sort out how the event would take place. It was decided to play two rounds, each game being of two hours (1 hour each on the clock)

### N.J.C.A

### Cheshire & N.Wales

1. Jonathan Lai (RGS + Jesmond)	$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 - 1	Sam Cloake Martin Brown
2. Thomas Glover (RGS + Durham City)	0 - 1 0 - 1	Martin Brown Sam Cloake
3. Daniel Lai (RGS + Jesmond)	$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 - 0	George Cloake Mitchell Burke
4. Jack Bradshaw (QEHS + Tynedale)	0 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$	Mitchell Burke George Cloake
5. Matthew Taylor (QEHS + Tynedale)	1 - 0 0 - 1	James Lobo Sam Towse
6. Yueyang Chao (RGS + Jesmond)	0 - 1 0 - 1	Sam Towse James Lobo
7. Max Jones (RGS + Jesmond)	$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$	Steven Jones David Menon
8. Tom Gholkar (RGS + Jesmond)	$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 - 1	David Menon Steven Jones
9. Daniel White (Framwellgate Moor + Durham City)	0 - 1 0 - 1	James Fidel Peter Gerlagh
10. Andrew Douglas (RGS + Jesmond)	$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 - 1	Peter Gerlagh James Fidel
11. Chris Johnston (Belmont + Durham City)	0 - 1 1 - 0	Charles Gilman Oliver Manley
12. Michael Taggart (Astley)	$\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 - 1	Oliver Manley Charles Gilman

Altogether a massive 17-7 win for Cheshire & North Wales who thoroughly deserved it, if only for their willingness to face a 6-hour return journey to take part in the event. They retain the trophy that they won last year. We were well outgraded (by an average 11 points per board), but despite this result our boys put up a good fight in many cases and should have learnt a lot from the event. And we came second and can claim to have done better than Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cleveland, etc.!

If this is to continue as a worthwhile event more counties must be prepared to take part and a more central venue found.