

"Sir Tim Rice once remarked to me that it was ironic that the (otherwise hugely successful) musical Chess flopped on Broadway largely because the American critics panned it for having a hopelessly implausible plot. Quite right, Tim; those familiar with the chess world know that, however absurd the musical, it is but nothing compared with the real thing.

The outrageous decision of the Dutch Chess Federation to allow the computer program "Fritz" to play in their national championship is a case in point. Not that I have an objection to computers, you understand. Any sort of domestic appliance should be allowed to participate in that national championship, be it a washing machine, a hair-dryer or a microwave oven, so long as it is Dutch."

- Nigel Short

**FINAL LEAGUE TABLES FOR 2002/03**

**DIVISION ONE**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
Walsall Kipping	11	8	2	1	18
Halesowen A	11	8	1	2	17
Lichfield	11	7	2	2	16
Olton	11	8	0	3	16
South Birmingham	11	7	1	3	15
Sutton Coldfield	11	4	4	3	12
Shirley & Lucas	11	4	3	4	11
Tamworth & District	11	3	2	6	8
Kynoch/Barn	11	2	2	7	6
Warley Quinborne	11	2	2	7	6
Solihull	11	2	1	8	5
Halesowen B	11	1	0	10	2

**DIVISION TWO**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
Lichfield	12	8	4	0	20
South Birmingham A	12	7	4	1	18
Bushbury	12	6	4	2	16
Olton	12	6	2	4	14
Stourbridge	12	6	2	4	14
Warley Quinborne	12	6	2	4	14
Redditch	12	4	3	5	11
Birmingham	12	2	6	4	10
Handsworth Wood	12	2	6	4	10
Sutton Coldfield	12	2	6	4	10
South Birmingham B	12	2	4	6	8
West Bromwich	12	1	4	7	6
Solihull	12	2	1	9	5

**DIVISION THREE**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
Wolverhampton ++	12	8	1	3	17
Rushall ++	12	8	1	3	17
Shirley & Lucas A ++	12	8	1	3	17
Boldmere St Michaels	12	6	3	3	15
Mutual Circle	12	7	1	4	15
Shirley & Lucas B	12	6	0	6	12
Walsall Kipping	12	4	3	5	11
Warley Quinborne	12	5	1	6	11
Birmingham University	12	4	2	6	10
Mercia	12	4	2	6	10
Olton	12	3	4	5	10
Tamworth & District	12	2	3	7	7
West Mids Municipal	12	2	0	10	2

**DIVISION FOUR**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
South Birmingham ++	11	6	5	0	17
Lichfield ++	11	8	1	2	17
Birmingham	11	6	3	2	15
Boldmere St Michaels	11	4	4	3	12
Westminster	11	5	2	4	12
Halesowen	11	4	3	4	11
Warley Quinborne	11	4	2	5	10
Handsworth Wood	11	4	1	6	9
Mutual Circle	11	3	3	5	9
West Midlands Police	11	3	3	5	9
Wolverhampton	11	2	2	7	6
Wolseley	11	1	3	7	5

**DIVISION FIVE**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
St James	12	9	3	0	21
Stourbridge	12	9	2	1	20
Tamworth & District	12	9	1	2	19
South Birmingham	12	7	3	2	17
Walsall Kipping	12	6	2	4	14
Lichfield	12	5	2	5	12
Rushall	12	5	2	5	12
Olton	12	4	1	7	9
Redditch	12	3	3	6	9
Halesowen	12	2	3	7	7
West Midlands Police	12	2	3	7	7
Shirley & Lucas	12	2	1	9	5
Aldridge	12	1	2	9	4

**DIVISION SIX**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
Sutton Coldfield	11	10	1	0	21
South Birmingham A	11	9	0	2	18
Lucas & BS	11	6	4	1	16
Mercia	11	6	2	3	14
Solihull Youth	11	5	3	3	13
Walsall Kipping	11	5	1	5	11
Redditch	11	4	2	5	10
Boldmere St Michaels	11	4	1	6	9
Kynoch/Barn	11	3	3	5	9
Halesowen ++	11	2	1	8	5
South B'ham B ++	11	2	1	8	5
Birmingham University	11	0	1	10	1

The two West Midlands Municipal teams each have two points deducted for late payment of league fees.

++ final positions after play-offs in Divs 3 and 4. South B'ham 'B' conceded in Division 6.

**DIVISION SEVEN**

	Pl.	W	D	L	Pts.
Sutton Coldfield	12	11	1	0	23
Warley Quinborne	12	10	0	2	20
Boldmere St Michaels	12	7	2	3	16
Tamworth & District	12	7	1	4	15
Northfield Checkmates	12	4	4	4	12
Solihull	12	5	2	5	12
Wolseley	12	3	5	4	11
West Midlands Police	12	4	2	6	10
Westminster	12	4	2	6	10
Olton	12	3	3	6	9
West Mids Municipal	12	3	4	5	8
Birmingham University	12	2	2	8	6
Halesowen	12	1	0	11	2

**RULES COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Rules Committee meeting held on 15th April 2003 at the South Birmingham CC venue.

1. Match 3-67. Walsall Kipping v Shirley & Lucas 'B'

Shirley & Lucas complained about the board order of the Walsall Kipping team in the above match. The walsall captain, Dr N Young, had placed himself on top board when he had previously only played on board 6. Shirley & Lucas supplied evidence from the League Bulletin which they claimed showed that Dr Young's record did not justify such a promotion. Also, he was the lowest graded player in the team. In mitigation, Walsall claimed that they had sought no advantage by their action. The team that Dr Young had expected to name had been upset by their top board no longer being able to play and another player wishing to take advantage of the default on board 6 by Shirley. Rather than make further alterations to the match card Dr Young elected to place himself on board 1.

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## ROUND UP OF OUTSTANDING RESULTS

### Division 1

#### 1-39 Sutton Coldfield 3½ v Halesowen 'B' 2½

K Escott	1	A Priest	0
M Addis	1	W Peck	0
A Brown	½	R Grimes	½
T Cox	½	A Ambrose	½
R Jones	½	M Hadley	½
B Briscoe	0	J Bingham	1

#### 1-40 Olton 2½ v Walsall Kipping 3½

P Holt	½	D Anderton	½
A Lloyd	1	J Bellin	0
D Gostelow	½	D Wheeler	½
M Cundy	0	M Wheeler	1
D Cheshire	0	D Pritchard	1
R Reynolds	½	D Whitmore	½

#### 1-42 Halesowen 'A' 3 v Sutton Coldfield 3

D Bissell	½	K Escott	½
S Fishburne	0	T Cox	1
J Edge	1	B Briscoe	0
R Thomas	0	M Soszynski	1
M Bethel	1	L Hayden	0
M Hadley	½	N Owen	½

#### 1-70 South B'ham 4 v Warley Quinborne 2

Outstanding result			
J Swindells	½	D Pugh	½

#### 1-75 Sutton Coldfield 4 v South Birmingham 2

K Escott	1	R James	0
A Brown	0	S Tidman	1
T Cox	1	J Swindells	0
R Jones	0	D Dunn	1
B Briscoe	1	M Smyth	0
S Folan	1	A Ashby	0

### Division 2

#### 2-05 Stourbridge 3 v Bushbury 3

M Bissell	½	L Grinsell	½
N Fallowfield	½	R Parry	½
S Jukes	½	P Pinfold	½
E Horwill	½	J Staniforth	½
J Wilson	0	A Schroeder	1
R Evans	1	P Staley	0

### Division 2 - continued

#### 2-70 Olton 4 v Redditch 2

Outstanding result			
T Holt	0	P Robertson	1

#### 2-73 Lichfield 3 v Birmingham 3

R Farmery	½	GJ Gee	½
G Lamb	0	C McConkey	1
M Maher	½	A Pready	½
A Mieleniewski	1	J Fender	0
A Grant	1	R Daniels	0
D Abell	0	E Varley	1

### Division 3 - Championship Play-off

#### Rushall (A) 3 v Wolverhampton (B) 4 v

<u>Shirley &amp; Lucas 'A' (C) 2</u>			
J Mang'wende (B)	1	E Ward (C)	0
R Westwood(A)	1	R Purcell (C)	0
S Wilcox (A)	0	Martin May (B)	1
K Hadley (A)	1	P Porter (B)	0
J Sadler (A)	½	G Christie (C)	½
M Morrison (B)	½	K Warren (C)	½
F Wood (B)	½	F Jimenez (C)	½
R Lewis (A)	½	K Gilbert (C)	½
R Hancox (A)	0	G Rosser (B)	1

### Division 4

#### 4-76 Lichfield 5 v Wolverhampton 1

Outstanding result			
P Griffiths	½	C Eddies	½

#### 4-CPO Lichfield 2 v South Birmingham 4

D Abell	½	C Boivin	½
P Griffiths	½	S Ralph	½
J Lakin	½	S Evans	½
M Cooper	0	D Stockhall	1
D Short	0	P Swatridge	1
A Hall	½	S Killarney	½

### Division 7

#### 7-51 Wolseley 2 v West Mids Municipal 2

P Joiner	0	K Wise	1
G Bates	1	M Hood	0
K Nooney	def	P Bibbings	1
A Siddiqi	1	-	def

### Terrill Trophy

#### Final - Lichfield(2) 3 v South Birmingham(1) 5½

J Smith	0	J Pitcher	1
A Smith	0	S Tidman	1
G Lamb	0	D Dunn	1
R Farmery	0	A Ashby	1
M Maher	½	M Smyth	½
A Mieleniewski	0	G Varnom	1

Warning to grader: boards 1, 3 and 4 repeated from last Bulletin.

### Homer Plate

#### Final - Wolverhampton(4) 5 v Olton(2) 3½

outstanding result			
M Griffiths	0	T Holt	1

### INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENT FINALS

#### Division 1

T Cox	0	A Hynes	1
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#### Division 2

F Jimenez	0	T Lane	1
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#### Division 3

A Cottom	1	A Wilson	0
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#### Division 4

D Brelsforth	0	L Collier	1
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#### Division 5

S Folan	1	C Pitt	0
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#### Division 6

C Dandy	0	C East	1
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#### Division 7

D Rowe	½	P Woodward	½
(agreed to share trophy)			

## RULES COMMITTEE REPORT (continued from previous page)

1. Match 3-67. Walsall Kipping v Shirley & Lucas 'B' (continued)

#### *Decision*

The Rules Committee is clear that there was no intent by Walsall Kipping to gain an advantage by playing Dr Young on board 1. However, it finds that there is a breach of Rule 7.2 which under Rule 13.1(b) results in loss of the match by Walsall Kipping.

2. As indicated in the report in Bulletin 8, the Rules Committee propose the following new rule concerning the postponement of adjournments. This will be discussed at the next Management Meeting.

10.5 A player wishing to postpone an adjourned game shall first seek the agreement of his opponent and then inform the Honorary Records Secretary before the date of the original resumption. Within 7 days of the agreement to postpone both players must agree a new date subject to the conditions of Rule 10.2. It is the duty of both players to inform the Hon. Records Secretary of the new date. Failure by players to agree a new date should be communicated to the Hon. Records Secretary who should take appropriate action.