

East Cheshire

CHESS Club

**NEWSLETTER # 18, 7th December 2015**

**Forthcoming events**

1. **East Cheshire** **Christmas** **Social Evening on December 16th 2015.**

It is that time of year again, when we rack our brains to think of suitable gifts for friends and family, and eat and drink far too much! It is also the time of year for food and drink at the East Cheshire Christmas Social, in between a few rounds of 10-minute games. We hope you can come! If you do, please bring along some food/drink to share, and if at all possible arrive by 7.30 so we can start at 7.45 p.m.

2. **Stockport Chess Club Christmas Rapidplay Evening.**

This is another Christmas event, hosted by Stockport at their Mellor Road venue on Tuesday 22nd December. Details are on the East Cheshire noticeboard.

1. **League Match Results.**

Our four teams have been competing in each Division of the Stockport Chess League. The A-team, in the 1st Division, lost both its early league matches, but managed to draw3-all with Chorlton in the Charnley Cup Knockout. Unluckily, the rule for resolving draws in the knockout competition meant that the match was effectively lost. The B-team, in the other Stockport knockout competition (the President’s Cup), also drew its first match with the highly unusual outcome of a draw on each board. There being no rule to decide such a result, this match will be replayed later this month. In other matches the B-team has one draw and one loss to its credit. After four matches in the 3rd Division, the C-team sits on 50% with two draws one loss and one win. Our D-team, in the grade-limited league, also has 50% after one win, one loss, and one draw. There are still four matches to be played before Christmas: we need wins!

1. **Digital clocks**.

The club now has ten of the new digital clocks, and it is important that all members know how to set them up at the start of a game. There are instructions with the clocks, and if you are uncertain, ask one of the other members to show you how they work.

1. **Christmas closure**.

The club will be closed on December 23rd and on December 30th, but will re-open on Wednesday January 6th when there is a home match for the A-team against Stockport.

Best wishes for an enjoyable Christmas and for a successful New Year 2016

David Taylor (Club Secretary)

Here are some puzzles for you to solve over Christmas….



1. Black (to move) wins the exchange



1. Black (to move) can mate in 2 moves



1. Is the black king safe behind the pawns? White to play and win



1. Can white (to move) escape black’s attack? Time to improvise!