

SAXMUNDHAM & DISTRICT CHESS CLUB

Secretary's Report: Season 2003 - 2004

This season, the club entered one team in the Suffolk Chess League (in Division2); this was under the captaincy of John Watson. There were ten teams in our division this year and, consequently, there were nine matches which we were scheduled to play. Of these: eight matches were won, one match was drawn and no matches were lost. The team finished the season with a total of 29 points out of a possible maximum of 36 points.

An individual performance of note this year was John Watson, who won all of his games in the league matches.

The club also entered a team the Suffolk Chess U125 Competition this season; this team was also under the captaincy of John Watson. This is a knock-out competition in which each team consists of four players. We were successful in this competition and have won the cup after defeating Stowmarket Chess Club in the final.

The club did not enter a team into the Norfolk & Suffolk Cup this year (this is a knock-out competition in which each team consists of six players). The club also did not enter a team into the Suffolk County Swiss Tournament this year.

The Club Championship for this year was organised by Andrew Paige and there were six entrants. The form of competition which was adopted was a double round knock-out with each player alternatively having the white and black pieces and with further games in the event of a draw in order to decide the outcome. This competition is not yet completed, and consequently, the result is not yet known.

This year the club held a Tournament of Unusual Chess which consisted of four rounds and was organised by Alan Naysmith, this took place on Tuesday 23 March 2004 and was held at the Benhall & Sternfield Ex-servicemen's Club. The competition consisted of four rounds and was won by Alan Cross.

The club was yet again able to enjoy another Christmas Dinner during this year. This pleasant social gathering, which was organised for Tuesday 16 December 2003, was held at The Butcher's Arms (Knodishall), and John Watson deserves thanks for organising this event.

A further matter of note to the members is that, this year, at the Annual General Meeting (which was held in September 2003), the decision was taken that the next Chess Club AGM would be held in July 2004.

Finally, it is with very great sadness that I must inform you of the loss of our Club President Jack Revell who died in a motor vehicle accident earlier this year. Jack was a founder member of the club and, from the beginning, has given the club great service making a significant contribution to its organisation throughout the club's history. In addition to his position of Club President, which he has held for several years, he has previously accepted the responsibilities of a variety of positions on the Club Committee including a great many years in the position of Match Captain. Jack will be greatly missed.