

Dear Member

Welcome to the Fred Day Cup, the Buckinghamshire County Chess Association's individual competition for 2019-2020 which, once again, welcomes some new faces.

Games are usually played at one of the two player's clubs, but they can be played within players' homes, pubs, clubs, or at neutral but mutually convenient chess clubs. If you intend to take the last option, you should consult an official of that club first. Also, if you are hosting the match, you should advise your opponent if your choice of venue will be significantly noisier than would be expected for a regular league match. The visiting player can choose either to live with it or request to play at a quieter location. As the host it is your responsibility to provide a working clock and a "proper" chess set, so not, for example, Napoleonic pieces which did happen many years ago!

There are four relevant documents:

- This document:
http://www.buckschess.org.uk/Downloads/2019-2020/fred_day_cup_2019_intro.pdf
- The rules:
http://www.buckschess.org.uk/Downloads/2019-2020/fred_day_cup_2019_rules.pdf
- Pairings for the three divisions:
http://www.buckschess.org.uk/Downloads/2019-2020/fred_day_cup_2019_div1_pairings.pdf
http://www.buckschess.org.uk/Downloads/2019-2020/fred_day_cup_2019_div2_pairings.pdf
http://www.buckschess.org.uk/Downloads/2019-2020/fred_day_cup_2019_div3_pairings.pdf
- Contact details for players in your division (attached)

This year there are twenty-two entrants, division one has eight players while divisions two and three have seven.

Firstly, will you please check that your contact details are correct - if not, then advise me and I will issue an updated document. Also check that the pairings are correct. Division one players should have three games with one colour and four with the other. Players in divisions two and three should have an equal number of games with white and black. Finally, no-one should be paired more than twice in the same month and no-one should be paired against the same player twice. This season, for the first time, the pairings were generated by The ECF's LMS (League Management System) - if you seen an error, let me know ASAP.

The rules are definitely worth reading, they do highlight a few laws of chess of which some entrants may be unaware. As far as the requirement to complete your games in the allocated month goes, this has historically been managed with a light touch - I do not propose to enforce it too rigorously but if, at the end of the month (except November), you have not even arranged to play your games(s) then I will be getting slightly nervous. The divisions are smaller this year and although the playing schedule looks relaxed, the reduction in the number of scheduled games increases the likelihood of play-offs to determine the places for promotion (two up) and relegation (two down).

If you have not heard from black at the start of the month you that you are due to play, feel free to ignore their lack of courtesy and contact them! Also, I have no objection to matches being completed ahead of schedule.

Finally, please advise me of all results or any problems promptly. Currently, results will be posted at <http://www.buckschess.org.uk/Individuals> although this may change while further functionality is added to ECF LMS.

Good luck to you all.

Regards Dave

Hard copies to: Ian Hall, Arthur Godwin