

ECF Secondary School Chess News, May 2024

Details of all the ECF inter-school events can be found at <https://www.englishchess.org.uk/NSCC/>

English School Chess Championships

26 school teams have qualified for the National Final to be played on Thursday 27 and Friday 28 June 2024, at Nottingham University. See [here](#) for details – the games will be broadcast live if you want to watch them.



There are some important changes for the 2024/25 English School Chess Championships, in particular:

1. No automatic qualification – all teams must qualify through a qualification or similar event.
2. The score needed to qualify at a qualifying event is reduced from 'more than 50%' to '50% or more'.

Because of these changes we expect to need more qualification events in autumn 2024. Please contact me if your school would consider hosting such an event and I can send you more information about it. Entry will open later this term.

British Team Chess Challenge and Junior Team Chess Challenge

Team Chess Challenge for team of 4 players and every game counts towards your team's total score. Teams winning their regional finals, and few runners up, qualify for the National Finals.



Wilson's Schools performed a remarkable double in winning both the British Team Chess Challenge (BTCC) and Junior Team Chess Challenge (JTCC) at King Edward VI Grammar School Aston, West Midlands on Saturday, 20 April 2024. You can read about the finals on their web pages: [BTCC](#) and [JTCC](#).

Next year there will be third such event: Primary Team Chess Challenge (PTCC), for year 6 and below. If you would like to find out more about hosting a regional final for any of the Team Chess Challenges please let me know.

Harrow School Blitz



This tournament took place on Sunday 21st January at the 'Blitz' rate of play of 3 minutes with a 2 second increment. 12 rounds were played and the individual winner was Shivam Agrawal of Wilson's School who scored 10½ out of 12, he was just ahead of Liam Clery-Luta (St Paul's School) on 10 points. St Paul's won the team competition (the sum of the best six scores of players representing their schools) with 50½ points ahead of Wilson's on 48½. More details can be found [here](#). It is hoped to repeat the event at Harrow School next academic year.

Eton College Rapidplay

This tournament will be on Sunday 13th October, from 11am to 5pm. Rate of play will be 20 min + 5 sec increment. Entry is now open for this popular event. Please see details [here](#).

Inter-school lichess Battles

Fortnightly online "Battles" continue on Fridays from 6 to 7pm on [lichess Secondary School Chess](#). Past events can be seen at [here](#). These are inclusive events with schools fielding as many players as they wish. Please email me if your school would like to join these events.

National Online School Chess League.

The league runs fortnightly on Mondays from 4.15 to 5.15pm. Teams are of 6 players being supervised in school. After each round of fixtures there is promotion and relegation between the leagues. More details are available at <https://lichess.org/team/noscl> Again, please email me if your school would like to join these events.

Further details on all these events can be obtained by emailing me, Neill Cooper manager.secondary@englishchess.org.uk