



PRESS RELEASE
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BRITISH KNOCKOUT: ADAMS, HOWELL, JONES & MCSHANE INTO SEMIS

- England top 4 Mickey Adams, David Howell, Gawain Jones and Luke McShane all negotiate their way through a tough quarter-final stage to qualify for the British Knockout Championship semi-finals.
- David Howell triumphs eventually over IM Ravi Haria in a rapid playoff, despite almost coming to grief in the first Classical game.
- Semi-Finals pit Adams vs McShane and Howell vs Jones.
- **Live coverage** of the Semi-Final matches, starting Tuesday at 11:00 UTC, is available on the [London Chess Classic](http://www.londonchessclassic.com) website.

LONDON (December 10, 2018) – Despite valiant efforts from the underdogs in the British Knockout, England Olympiad team members Mickey Adams, David Howell, Gawain Jones and Luke McShane all managed to win their Quarter-Final matches – although not without a struggle.

<i>Qtr Fina1 1</i>		1	2	3	4	A	
Simon Williams	2466	½	0	-	-	-	½
Mickey Adams	2706	½	1	-	-	-	1½

<i>Qtr Fina1 2</i>		1	2	3	4	A	
David Howell	2697	½	½	1	1	-	3
Ravi Haria	2436	½	½	0	0	-	1

<i>Qtr Fina1 3</i>		1	2	3	4	A	
Gawain Jones	2683	1	½	-	-	-	1½
Alan Merry	2429	0	½	-	-	-	½

<i>Qtr Fina1 4</i>		1	2	3	4	A	
Jonathan Hawkins	2579	½	0	-	-	-	½
Luke McShane	2667	½	1	-	-	-	1½

David Howell had the closest shave of all the top seeds, only managing to qualify for the Semi-Finals after winning a nail-biting playoff match 2-0 against IM Ravi Haria.



Elsewhere, Mickey Adams enjoyed a convincing victory in Game 2 of his match, after putting GM Simon Williams's central king position under pressure in a double-edged Sicilian Richter-Rauzer. As his position started to crumble, Williams launched a desperate knight sacrifice against Adams' king, but to no avail.

Gawain Jones, after his Game 1 win against IM Alan Merry, opted for a pawn sacrifice and active play with an 'octopus' knight to keep the balance, drawing comfortably in a rook endgame to ensure qualification.

Luke McShane played a nicely controlled endgame to knock out GM Jonathan Hawkins, using a strong rook on the seventh rank and an active king to bring home the point.

After being becalmed in the Classical match, David Howell won both rapid playoff games

After a break on Monday, for the Pro-Biz Cup at Google HQ in London, the Semi-Finals resume on Tuesday.

Media enquiries:

For media enquiries related to the 2018 British Knockout Championship, the [London Chess Classic](#) and [Chess in Schools and Communities](#), please contact: Tim Wall – press@londonchessclassic.com

The London Chess Classic is the UK's largest chess tournament and the concluding leg of the Grand Chess Tour, an international circuit of world-class chess events inspired by legendary World Champion Garry Kasparov. It is the flagship event of [Chess in Schools and Communities](#) and includes a range of amateur and age-grade competitions for 1,000s of children from the charity initiative nationwide.