



Online North v South Challenge 2020

A mega match between two national teams drawn from 2020/21 ECF members/Supporters from the North and South of England respectively.

A challenge for all English chess players from Grandmaster to beginner.

Slow play – all moves in 60 minutes plus 15 second increments.

ECF online standard rated. Played on Chess.com platform.

Registration deadline midnight on 3rd September 2020, register now to avoid disappointment. You will need to hand your new ECF ME number, chess.com username and e-mail address. Conditions of entry apply. See the [Competition Rules](#).



Read below & then click on your team to enter

[ECF NORTH](#)

| [ECF SOUTH](#)

It has taken 126 years for the North of England to issue the long awaited challenge to the South of England for a rematch to determine whether the supremacy established by the South in 1893 in Birmingham and re-affirmed in 1894 in London has stood the test of time. The Online Counties Championships, which conclude on 22nd August 2020, have attracted representative county teams across the nation from all 5 Unions. What better way to celebrate such a summer of online chess than for those counties to rejoiner in those ancient rivalries and combine with the ECF Online Clubs to produce a truly national epic match.

Any chess player can participate in this multi-board challenge provided they hold a new season 2020/21 ECF Membership or Supportership taken out on or before 3 September, have an active playing account on Chess.com, the host platform, and have not been banned from ECF Clubs.

Allegiance will of course need to be declared and here the eligibility rule that applied in 1894 is to be followed with county of birth determining 'northerner' or 'southerner' status or a period of established residency of 1 year or more.

In 1894 it was counties of the North and Midlands that took on the South (then encompassing the western and eastern Unions) and so it will be today with the NCCU

and MCCU combining against the EACU, SCCU and WECU. Oxfordshire, currently unaffiliated, falls into the northern camp by virtue of its historical membership of the MCCU before later affiliating with the SCCU. Take a look at the [Event Webpage](#) maps section of competition website for the Unions and historical counties forming the North v South battle ground divide.

There is no limit on numbers. Those who sign up will play, though we may have to invoke some dual allegiances to balance the numbers. If you qualify as a floater please indicate this by selecting “either” on entry to your Chess.com ECF Club (North or South) of choice. You will need your new ECF ME number.

Back in 1894 there was no ranking system (other than class) and a 4½ hr playing session (with adjudication). In 2020 board orders will be determined firstly by July 2020 grades (as revised) and secondly alphabetically. Players without a July 2020 grade will be assigned a competition grade by the Controller.

All players must abide by the [ECF Online Fair Play and Anti-Cheating Rules](#) (OFPAC Rules), the [ECF Online Code of Conduct](#) and the [Competition Rules](#). For the purposes of ECF sanctions under the OFPAC Rules this is a Tier 1 event. Processing of data is in accordance with the [ECF's Privacy Notice](#) and is set out in the [Competition Rules](#).

All players should familiarise themselves with playing chess on Chess.com and particularly making and receiving challenges. See the instructions in the Competition Documents menu and the series of linked Chess.com guides available from the [Event Webpage](#) or within clubs ECF North and ECF South on Chess.com.

[Pairings](#) will be available on the ECF LMS interactive matchcards. Competition communications, including notification of your match arbiter, will only be by Chess.com messaging through your team's Club (ECF North or ECF South). Keep an eye on your Club for further announcements nearer the time.