


## **ECF Online Monthly Roundup – October Newsletter**

### **ECF Members Club tournaments**

ECF members clubs are open to all ECF members and supporters with joining instructions here:


<https://englishchessonline.org.uk/joinus/>

We have continued to run the regular Club tournament on chess.com and lichess with the current weekly schedule as follows:


 Friday Evening (Diamond) Blitz \* @ 8:00 pm on chess.com (\*One month 'Diamond' chess.com upgrade for the winner) - 90 minutes Arena format tournament, 10 | 0

 Saturday Evening Slow Blitz / Rapid @ ECF Online @ 8:00 pm on lichess.org, 90 minutes Arena format tournament 10 | 0 blitz or 10|5 rapid

 Sunday Evening Rapid @ 8:00 pm on chess.com, 4 round Swiss format, time control 15| 2

 Monday Afternoon Blitz @ 2:00 pm on lichess.org, 7 round Swiss format, time control 5 | 2


 Wednesday Evening Blitz @ 8:00 pm on lichess.org, 9 round swiss format time control 3 | 2

 Thursday Afternoon Blitz @ 2:00 pm on chess.com, 7 round Swiss format, time control 5 | 2

Tournament links for the coming week can be found on the club events page here:

<https://englishchessonline.org.uk/upcoming-club-events/>

### **National Tournaments - North v South 2020 - The Oldest Challenge**

 The much awaited challenge started at 6-30 pm on Saturday 5th September at 60| 15 time control. The match was played on Chess.com over 108 boards matching the last encounter in 1894.

Honour was restored to the North of England after a 126 wait with a victory over the South of England, particularly across the top 20 boards where the North held a significant and decisive grading advantage.

GM Matthew Sadler & WIM Natasha Regan provided an excellent live commentary on their game changer channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIj0q1Fv0LA>

You can find full details at the link below:

<https://ecflms.org.uk/lms/node/61351/efixtures>

This puts the overall score in the longest running competition at 2-1 to the South based on their wins in the first two matches in 1893 and 1894 followed by the 2020 victory to the North. We can look forward to next year's event when the story continues.

## Internationals

You can find a calendar of ECF Online and Team England Internationals at the link here:

<https://englishchessonline.org.uk/england-online-international-calendar-autumn-2020/>

### chess.com Internationals

chess.com Nations League

There were no Nations League fixtures during the month – we are expecting the next season to start in October when we will again be entering an English Team in the top division.

Team England Live had a series of fixtures in the chess.com World league as per the club match page here:

<https://www.chess.com/clubs/matches/live/team-england-live>

### lichess Internationals

✂ lichess World Team Battles

The World Series came back this month with the 7th World Ten Countries team battle set up by the Pakistan team Aaqil at the link here on 10<sup>th</sup> September:

<https://lichess.org/tournament/WCyCFASC>

The English Players team finished 7<sup>th</sup> in a field which included the Philippines, India, Pakistan, Arab Team, Austria, Bangladesh and Spain.

✂ lichess Nations Cup and League

We took part in the usual monthly Nations Cup event including a group stage and final on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The ECF English Players came second in our European group stage behind Donbass and comfortably clear of the other 8 teams. We then finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the final in a very strong field with the cup going to the Syrian team headed up by the (Egyptian) GM Adham Fawzy. You can see full details of the results at the links here:

<https://lichess.org/tournament/8qKx8Z5D>

<https://lichess.org/tournament/U8TaKKwO>

✂ lichess World 'Hasta La Victoria' Americas v Europe Team Battles

We also played in a series of Americas/ Europe Team Battle organised by the Venezuelan Federation and starting at 9-00 pm on Saturday. We have been steadily improving our performance during the month, finishing 9<sup>th</sup> in the first event and moving up to 5<sup>th</sup> in the latest event.

I <https://lichess.org/tournament/XAzWmlk>

II <https://lichess.org/tournament/CgaxCrw3>

IV 3<sup>rd</sup> October - <https://lichess.org/tournament/kynJpzbN>

## ✂ lichess England Friendlies

English Players took part in a friendly international team battle against the South African Federation on lichess winning by 220 -182 points. The match was played on Sunday Morning 27/09 from 10-30 am to midday in Team Battle Arena Format at 3|0. Results can be found here with some great individual performances against a strong South African team.

<https://lichess.org/tournament/bj4QKViX>

Many thanks to all those who took part including WIM Natasha Regan.

## **England Women's Invitational**

The England Women's club played in an International Team Battle on lichess at 18:00 on Saturday Evening 26th September finishing 5th in a field of ten teams.

<https://lichess.org/tournament/pYnCZAWv>

## **England Juniors**

As noted by Alex Holowczak in the newsletter, an England Juniors team has been set up on lichess, and runs weekly events on Thursday at 6.00 pm with occasional matches against other countries. The club link and joining instructions are here - <https://lichess.org/team/england-juniors>.

## **ECF Online Ratings**

All club events and other ECF-registered/ affiliated events are ECF online rated at the relevant time control (Standard, Rapid or Blitz).

The September online rating list is out now with results to end of August and will be followed shortly by the October list.

<https://englishchessonline.org.uk/monthly-ratings/>

We have a growing number of online leagues and competitions now being rated. You can register an online league or event for online rating and ECF calendar entry on the web site here:

<https://britchess.wufoo.com/forms/register-your-event-for-ecf-online-rating/>

## **Membership**

Our online club memberships continue to increase - current figures as below:

chess.com ECF Open club	3,605
chess.com ECF Members	1,036
lichess English Players	794

Club joining instructions can be found here as ever: <https://englishchessonline.org.uk/> together with events calendars as follows:

<https://www.englishchess.org.uk/event-calendar/>

<https://englishchessonline.org.uk/upcoming-club-events/>