

The NCCU PENNINE CUP COMPETITION 2016

(report from Paul Bielby who also took the pictures)

The NCCU Pennine Cup was established in 2001 at the instigation of Gary Kenworthy who presented us with the handsome trophy. The competition was to be between teams of 12 players in the Under-16 age group and the event was to include an element of coaching as well as being an inter-county competition. To begin with the competition went well, but in recent years it has fallen out of favour, largely because of the amount of travel involved and the difficulty of finding a suitable central venue. As happened this year, several times Northumberland were the only county to offer to stage the event. And this year only Cumbria were able to send a team to Newcastle and the event, most disappointingly, became a straight match between the two northernmost Northern Counties.

Cumbria were only able to muster a 10 board team, so the match was played over that number of boards. Kevin Southernwood (Cumbria organiser) and I agreed on a two round format; each game was to be played at 1¼ hours per player which would allow for standard grading. No player was to be paired against the same opponent twice. The captains of the teams tossed up as to which was team A and which team B. Northumberland became team A and so had the white pieces in all games in the first round. Cumbria had white in all games in round 2.

As can be seen from the gradings given on the next page, it soon became clear that Northumberland had the stronger side (It had been picked with idea of having to give Yorkshire and Lancashire a run for their money!) and the outcome was rather too easy for them. In R1 there were a few close games; at least in R2 Cumbria scored in a couple of games but it was all a bit overwhelming. However at the end all seemed to have enjoyed their day and we hope to play in the same competition next year. But we would like to see more counties take part!

Thanks are due to Forest Hall Chess Club who allowed us to host the event at their club.

It was an excellent venue

PENNINE CUP 2016

ROUND 1

A1	James Moreby (193)	1 – 0	B1	Holden Davis (163)
A2	Zheming Zhang (180)	1 - 0	B2	James Corbishley (99)
A3	Max Turner (170)	1 – 0	B3	Angelina Shcherbakova (97)
A4	Josh Fernandes (170)	1 - 0	B4	Sebastian Gosling (85)
A5	Mark Broughton (113)	1 – 0	B5	Guy Griffiths (-)
A6	Johnny Wall (120)	1 - 0	B6	Jacob Reid (-)
A7	Darina Andriychenko (90)	1 - 0	B7	Andy Irvine (-)
A8	Weiming Xu (89)	1 – 0	B8	Jamie Irvine (55)
A9	Jamie McIntosh (89)	1 – 0	B9	Justin Corbishley (34)
A10	Rohan Rawat (99)	<u>1 – 0</u>	B10	Luka Labram (-)
Totals R1		10- 0		

ROUND 2

B1	Holden Davis	1 – 0	A2	Zheming Zhang
B2	James Corbishley	0 – 1	A1	James Moreby
B3	Angelina Shcherbakova	0 – 1	A4	Josh Fernandes
B4	Sebastian Gosling	0 – 1	A3	Max Turner
B5	Guy Griffiths	0 – 1	A6	Johnny Wall
B6	Jacob Reid	½ - ½	A5	Mark Broughton
B7	Andy Irvine	0 – 1	A8	Weiming Xu
B8	Jamie Irvine	0 – 1	A7	Darina Andriychenko
B9	Justin Corbishley	0 – 1	A10	Rohan Rawat
B10	Luka Labram	<u>0 - 1</u>	A9	Jamie Mcintosh
Totals R2		1½-8½		

Final result : **NORTHUMBERLAND 18½ CUMBRIA 1½**