

JESMOND SHARKS v JESMOND WASPS

Jesmond Junior Chess Club continues to meet at RGS Junior School on Friday evenings (5.30pm - 6.45pm normally for juniors, though those who get involved in League matches may have to stay up much later). Obviously most of the children involved are from RGS, but we welcome children from many other schools – children from 10 other schools came to the club all last season. We have run a junior team, JESMOND PAWNS, in Division 2 of the adult Northumberland League. We had so many youngsters wanting to play League Chess last that this year we have decided to run two league teams – JESMOND SHARKS and JESMOND WASPS. The Sharks are mainly over 11 and the Wasps are all of primary school age.

On Friday 30th September the Sharks met the Wasps in the first league match of the season. I allowed all the children present, and who could write down a game of chess to take part and we had a splendid 11 board match between the two teams. Six other children – beginners were taking their first steps in chess in the next room. The older team, the Sharks, took an early lead in the match, but after 1½ hours play the Wasps had fought back to 4½ - 5½. It all hung on the last game in which Anthony Lai (Wasps) appeared to be winning against Sam Trevelyan. A slip by Anthony allowed Sam a perpetual check meaning that the final score was 6-5 to the Sharks. There were however some noticeable successes by the younger team. Zheming Zhang and William Wilkinson won the top two boards for the Wasps; 8-year old James Moreby won handsomely on board 6 and Abel Harvie-Clark won on board 9. Winners for the Sharks were James Ferrier(4); Manav Gupta (5); Nicholas Fajardo(7); Peter Owen (10) and William Slater (11). Onboard 8, Darina Andriychenko (Wasps), the only girl playing in the match, drew with Arif Alam, one of a number of 9-year olds who slipped into the Sharks team to even up the numbers.

JESMOND JUNIOR CHESS CLUB meets at the RGS Junior School, Lambton Road, Jesmond, every Friday in school Autumn and Spring term times (NB not in holidays or at half terms nor in the Summer term). We welcome any children who want to come and play chess. Organiser, Paul Bielby, is an ECF arbiter and coach – he can be contacted by e-mail, paulbielby@btopenworld.com.

The Club is an English Chess Federation accredited 'Centre of Excellence'.