

THE NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY CONGRESS 2009

This event was held at the Parks Leisure Centre, North Shields from 25th - 27th September, with the Junior rapidplay event on the Sunday.

Three juniors took part in the main tournaments against the grown ups. 14-year old Jean-Luc Weller (York) had won the Major Tournament last year but this year had to play in the Open tournament this time round. He scored a very creditable 2/5 against the very best adult players in the North. His brother, Pierre, age 13, repeated Jean-Luc's performance of last year by winning the Major with 4/5. He won his first three games and coasted home with two solid draws. Callum Ballard (Kings; 15), playing in his first grown-up competition, managed 1/5 in the Minor.

The one-day Under-13 Rapidplay Tournament was thin on numbers, three late withdrawals due to 'flu contributing. The competition was won, oh, so easily, by 7-year old Zheming Zhang. He was only in difficulty in one game, but fought back to win, finishing on 8/8. Two other under-9s, William Wilkinson and Joseph Dalton also shone. Here is the full table. (With age given as well as club/school in the brackets)

1 Zheming Zhang (Jesmond C.C.; 7)	12w1 4b1 6w1 3w1 5b1 2b1 7w1 9b1	8
2 Naman Garg (RGS; 10)	3w0 10b1 7w1 6b1 8b1 1w0 4w1 12b1	6
3 William Wilkinson (RGS; 8)	2b1 7w1 8w1 1b0 4w0 5b1 10b½ 13w1	5.5
4 Mark Rowden (S Shields; 11)	9b1 1w0 14b1 8w1 3b1 6w1 2b0 5w0	5
5 Hugo Meecham (Kings; 9)	6b0 9w1 12w1 11b1 1w0 3w0 15w1 4b1	5
6 Parth Mannikar (RGS; 9)	5w1 13b1 1b0 2w0 10w1 4b0 11w1 15b1	5
7 Joseph Dalton (RGS; 8)	10w1 3b0 2b0 9w1 12w1 13b1 1b0 14w1	5
8 Thomas Posner (RGS; 10)	bye 14w1 3b0 4b0 2w0 12b1 13w1 10b1	5
9 Daksh Sharma (RGS; 9)	4w0 5b0 13w1 7b0 bye 11b1 14w1 1w0	4
10 James Ferrier (RGS; 10)	7b0 2w0 bye 14w1 6b0 15b1 3w½ 8w0	3.5
11 Aaranya Nodiyal (NPS; 8)	13w½ 12b0 15b1 5w0 14b1 9w0 6b0 bye	3.5
12 Christopher Ferrier (RGS; 8)	1b0 11w1 5b0 15w1 7b0 8w0 bye 2w0	3
13 Daniel Bell (St Teresa's; 9)	11b½ 6w0 9b0 bye 15w1 7w0 8b0 3b0	2.5
14 Hisham Nasser (RGS; 10)	15w1 8b0 4w0 10b0 11w0 bye 9b0 7b0	2
15 Rick McDonnell (St Cuthbert's; 11)	14b0 bye 11w0 12b0 13b0 10w0 5b0 6w0	1