

THE ROAR

CELTIC TIGERS NEWS

Issue 7 / 4NCL 18-19 / Division 1 & 4 / Rounds 5-6 / Half way there, livin' on a prayer!

EDITOR

Christopher Skulte

CONTRIBUTERS

Nick Larter

Jacques Tivillier

Ryszard Maciol

Peter Kitchen



Captain of the Tigers, Christopher Skulte is featured in the latest CHESS magazine.

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WELCOME

Happy Tiger Day! Which is now going to be celebrated across the world at least 11 days every year whenever the 4NCL is on.



Celtic Tigers 4NCL @CelticTigersCC · Feb 8
Happy Tiger day! 🐯🎉🍷

...

I mean @4NCL weekend. 🏁

#chess #4ncl #celtictigers

Can you do that?

Just take over a day?

Well, we are going to take them in the name of all chess fans globally to celebrate this beautiful game we have all come to love!

After an amazing start to the season, which is going better than anyone on the team anticipated (playing the 4 top teams in the group, and winning 2 matches), we surprisingly found our team in a position to make it into the championship pool needing only 2 points from the weekend matches. (i.e. one win, or two draws).

Qualifying for the championship would also mean we qualified for the European Club Cup (which is the world's strongest club tournament... think champions league!).

To give an idea of the opponents we would be facing, here is the team that finished 5th & 6th last year....

🇲🇩 6. Alkaloid (RtgAvg:2741, Cap		
Bo.	Name	Rtg FED
1	GM Ding Liren	2804 CHN
2	GM Yu Yangyi	2765 CHN
3	GM Andreikin Dmitry	2723 RUS
4	GM Jakovenko Dmitry	2752 RUS
5	GM Eljanov Pavel	2703 UKR
6	GM Kryvoruchko Yuriy	2697 UKR

🇳🇴 5. Valerenga Sjakklubb (RtgAvg		
Bo.	Name	Rtg FED
1	GM Carlsen Magnus	2839 NOR
2	GM Howell David W L	2689 ENG
3	GM Grandelius Nils	2655 SWE
4	GM Tari Aryan	2618 NOR
5	GM Predojevic Borki	2616 BIH
6	GM Romanov Evgeny	2614 RUS

As you can see, if we did make this competition, I'm sure many of these players would be questioning:

"What are these bloody amateurs doing here!"

Though as always, with the spirit of the chess community behind us, we continue to show that anything is possible if you do it as a team!

#OneTeamOneDream

RAFFLE – BUY TICKETS NOW!

Celtic Tigers have partnered with our sister-club Hammersmith Chess Club to put together the greatest chess raffle of the year (potentially of the century?!). We have 150 tickets only, going for £10 per ticket or £15 for 2.

There is approximately £2,000 of retail value on offer, so it's a really great cause, along with the chance to win some great prizes.

Contact chrisskulte@gmail.com if you would like to purchase some tickets.



Celtic Tigers 4NCL @CelticTigersCC · Feb 3

These amazing people have all contributed to the @hammer_chess & @CelticTigersCC Raffle. £2,000 of prizes, 44% chance to win per ticket. If you are a London based chess-player. Read more here: bit.ly/2RBHxYT
@GMGawain @chessable @ginger_gm @chessandbridge @WIM_Marorora



MEET THE TIGERS – NICK LARTER

We will be sharing 1-2 profiles throughout the newsletters going forward to get to know the tigers even more. What turns a normal chess player into a tiger? Find out below.

1) When did you start playing chess?

I learnt the moves as a kid, but took it up seriously in 2002, aged 41, needing an outlook for my competitive streak once I was getting too old to play soccer, cricket, volleyball etc. to my former standard.

2) Which players have most inspired you?

Howard Staunton, E.J. Diemer, C.J.S. Purdy, Tony Miles, Judit Polgar. More recently: Daniil Dubov, Baskaran Adhiban.

3) Do you have a favourite opening?

As white, Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. As black, English Defence.

4) What is the best chess advice you have received?

Play without fear.

5) How do you find the 4NCL compared to other team events?

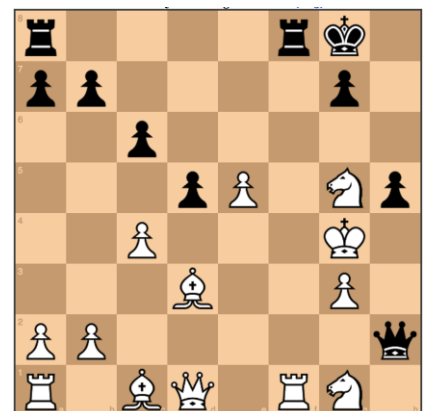
Playing in 4NCL Divs 1 and 2 was great, since my sole aim in chess is to continually test myself against the strongest opponents I can find. For the same reason, I have loved the five times I have competed for my club, Ennis, in the European Club Cup. I hate the lower divisions of 4NCL on account of the constant procession of junior teams you can come up against.

6) What is it like being a tiger?

I see myself as the Maurice the Penguin of the team. 😊

7) How about your favourite game? a) Your own. b) you have seen.

- a. <https://ennischessclub.wordpress.com/games/n-larter-e-hermannsson-bilbao-2014/>
- b. Glucksberg – Najdorf, Warsaw 1929 – the ‘Polish Immortal’
&
Shirov – Polgar J., Buenos Aires 1994



DIVISION 1 - ROUND 5 (SATURDAY)

Wood Green is quickly becoming one of our closest rivals, and this match only added to that story.

Sitting out as non-playing captain this weekend, I received the message you want from one of the superstars of the team (Karina) about 20 minutes before the match started (see image to the right).

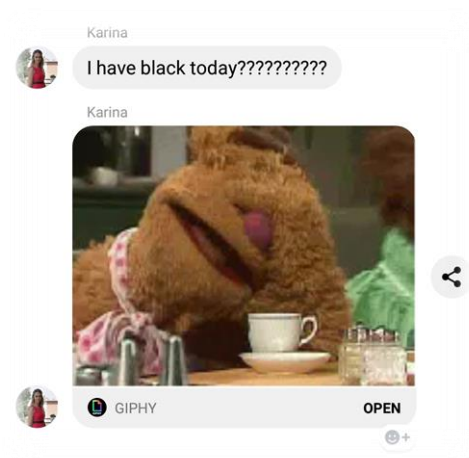


We also brought To strengthen the team, we welcomed 11 year old Marc Andria Maurizzi to the fold, from Corsica. That's right, 11 years old! With a FIDE rating of 2268, he is higher rated than world champion Magnus Carlsen on his 12th birthday (2250).

Though the tigers had a decent advantage at the start of the match. Unfortunately, this wasn't enough to turn the tables against Wood Green who held strong on the boards in the balance, and converted those where they had an advantage. [Apart from Karina who was putting the great wall of China to shame with her determination to hold on to the half point].

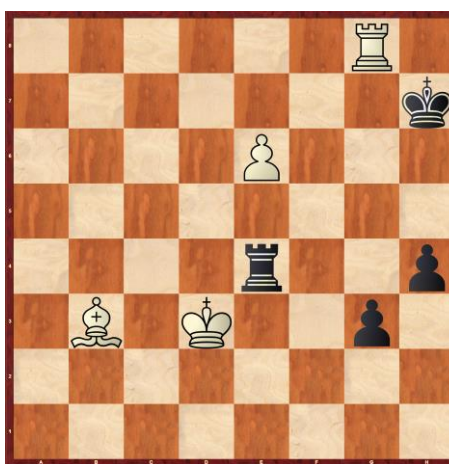
Scorecard from round 5:

Celtic Tigers 1			2322		Wood Green Monarchs	2302	
w	Cornette, Matthieu	g	2584	½ - ½	Taylor, Adam C	f	2372
b	Szczepkowska, Karina	i	2428	½ - ½	Derakhshani, Borna	f	2320
w	Kulon, Klaudia	wg	2347	1 - 0	De Verdier, Michael		2311
b	Maurizzi, Marc Andria	* c	2268	0 - 1	Weaving, Richard	f	2322
w	Reimanis, Ritvars	f	2324	1 - 0	Stepanyan, Henrik		2290 e
b	Maciol, Ryszard		2177	0 - 1	Willow, Jonah B	f	2263
w	Quinn, John M		2127	½ - ½	Sygnowski, Tomasz		2237 e
b	Webster, David		1973	0 - 1	Manelidou, Maria	wf	2069
				3½ - 4½			



Some key moments from the weekend:

- 1: Klaudia (white) pressured her opponent with Bf8. He reacted with f5. How to finish black off now?
- 2: Ritvars (white) just played Kd3. His opponent continued Rb4. Was there a better plan here?
- 3: Ryszard (black) in a strong position here decided to continue with g5. Why does the Qxg5 tactic work here?



DIVISION 1 - ROUND 6 (SUNDAY)

After another great meal had at Ye Olde Robin Hood Inn at Iron bridge (which brought us plenty of good memories from the prior year), to recuperate and recharge.

It was an upsetting evening, but we are tigers, and will always celebrate a hard-fought battle, though we didn't win, we were proud for the effort everyone put in for the win.

This turned Sunday into a must win game, and it was against our swag-rivals, the Sharks!

Some say, that our two clubs have the greatest online banter seen on Twitter since the great Hammersmith Chess Club-Battersea Chess Club twitter trolling of 2018.

Obviously, we know they are a good team, but let's be honest, chess is a land game, the tiger will always have an advantage over it's water breathing foe.

Celtic Tigers started the day showing that we can not only win on the board, but off the board, with the ladies of the team winning the Instagram challenge for most artistic post of the day. Great team branding ladies, keep it up!

After a few opening scares, and Klaudia sacrificing herself on move 7 for what we discussed at the time *"To inspire the rest of the team"*, the Tigers all started to look better and better.

The two remaining games were looking tight, and we needed 1.5/2 to take the win and qualify, Matthieu decided to mix it up and go into a worse endgame for some counter chances, as he decided board 2 would probably be a draw. Karina then came up with a great plan to make progress and obtained a winning position. Unfortunately by this point Matthieu had gone all in on an off-suited 2 & 7, and was slowly ground down by IM Robo, who depressingly said before the match, *"Oh great, I'm playing Matthieu, guess my streak of draws of coming to an end"*, little did he know he would be on the more favorable side of this quote..

The final score allowed us to share the honors for the Sunday was as follows:

Grantham Sharks 1			2277		Celtic Tigers 1			2322
w	Roberson, Peter T	i	2420	1 - 0	Cornette, Matthieu	g	2584	
b	Rendle, Thomas E	i	2378	0 - 1	Szczepkowska, Karina	i	2428	
w	Daskalov, Dimitar		2325	½ - ½	Reimanis, Ritvars	f	2324	
b	Smith, Murray		2190	0 - 1	Maurizzi, Marc Andria	* c	2268	
w	Holland, James P		2263	1 - 0	Kulon, Klaudia	wg	2347	
b	Dong, Bao Nghia		2170	½ - ½	Maciol, Ryszard		2177	
w	Bremner, Adam	c	2194	0 - 1	Quinn, John M		2127	
b	Foisor, Mihaela-Veronica	wi	2220	1 - 0	Webster, David		1973	
				4 - 4				

Celtic Tigers 4NCL @CelticTigers4NCL Feb 10
The much anticipated match of the @4NCL season has begun. Tigers vs @GSharks4NCL.
Regardless of the result, our two teams swag game is miles in front of the other teams 🐯🦈



Some key moments from the weekend:

- 1: Karina (white) a few moves earlier played e5 preparing for this tactic. Why can't black take the pawn?
- 2: John (black) kept pressure on his opponent, and finally got a chance to finish him. What should black play?
- 3: David (white) took the knight and eventually lost the game. Was there a stronger move here?



SEASON SUMMARY – AFTER 6 ROUNDS

Unfortunately we only received 1 of the 4 points we needed from the weekend, as we lost the Saturday match 3.5-4.5, and drew Sunday 4-4.

This meant that even though we are currently 4th, a likely loss in the final round against Cheddleton, means our destiny relies on the match between the 7th and 8th placed teams at the moment. As after round 7 the top-4 go up to the championship, and bottom 4 go down into the demotion pool.

Therefore, in division 1, we are now *livin' on a prayer!*

All will be decided on the 16th March, where we hope the Sharks can win or draw against the 3Cs.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	GP	Pts
1	Chess.com Manx Liberty 1		4½-3½	5-3	7½-½	6-2		4½-3½	6-2	33½	12
2	Cheddleton 1	3½-4½		5½-2½		5-3	7-1	7½-½	6-2	34½	10
3	Guildford 2	3-5	2½-5½		5½-2½		6½-1½	7-1	5½-2½	30	8
4	Celtic Tigers 1	½-7½		2½-5½		4½-3½	3½-4½	4½-3½	4-4	19½	5
5	Blackthorne Russia	2-6	3-5		3½-4½		5½-2½	4-4	4-4	22	4
6	Wood Green Monarchs		1-7	1½-6½	4½-3½	2½-5½		2-6	4½-3½	16	4
7	3Cs 1	3½-4½	½-7½	1-7	3½-4½	4-4	6-2			18½	3
8	Grantham Sharks 1	2-6	2-6	2½-5½	4-4	4-4	3½-4½			18	2

MEET THE TIGERS – RYSZARD MACIOL

We will be sharing 1-2 profiles throughout the newsletters going forward to get to know the tigers even more. What turns a normal chess player into a tiger? Find out below

1) When did you start playing chess?

I think I was 7 or 8 when we were playing chess with my grandfather.

Only when I was 11 I signed up for a club. It was the influence of some older friend from a primary school (Maciej Stachura).

He actually decided to go into politics later and is doing a decent career in my home city of Katowice.

We were buying a chess magazine Szachista and I looked through the games there.

In particular I saw the game from my age group Polish championship (Tomczak - Heberla, I believe) and I thought I could actually play better.

It took me to my first open tournament in February 2017 to realise how wrong I was at that time.

A couple of years later, I did play better than those 11-years-old from the magazine.

Well better than when they were 11.

2) Which players have most inspired you?

I think it would be Kramnik and Aronian. And of course Ivanchuk.

These guys are coming with so many ideas.

And Fisher - I think is the father of modern fighting chess from any position and regardless of objective evaluation.

3) Do you have a favourite opening?

I have no clue about openings. Exchange Slav can be fun!

4) What is the best chess advice you have received?

I guess something like this "the time is the most important". Not that I listen to advices. Maybe I should start.

5) How do you find the 4NCL compared to other team events?

I can see some patterns:

1) Games are truly long and epic fights thanks to longer time control. Unless you really mess up like I did last weekend.

2) Relaxing time after games is even longer and more intensive.

What is unique in 4NCL is playing for Celtic Tigers of course.

We come from various directions, even various countries and unite for a weekend to play chess.

It makes the whole event really special.

6) What is it like being a tiger?

It is one of those few things in life one can be truly proud of!

7) What is your favourite game that:

a) You have played,

Some exchange Slav theme from ages ago. This is when I started to like Slav:

Maciol, Ryszard - Szoen, Dariusz 1/2-1/2

D10 Polanica Zdroj op-A 41st 2005

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. cxd5 cxd5 4. Nc3 Nc6 5. Bf4 Nf6 6. e3 Qb6 7. Bd3 Bg4 8. f3 Bh5 9. Nge2 Bg6 10. O-O e6 11. Nb5 Bxd3 12. Nc7+ Kd7 13. Nxa8 Qa6 14. Nc3 Bd6 15. Bxd6 Kxd6 16. Re1 Rxa8 17. e4 dxe4 18. fxe4 Ke7 19. Re3 Nb4 20. Rc1 Qb6 21. e5 Nd7 22. a3 Qxd4 23. Qd2 Nc6 24. Qxd3 Qxd3 25. Rxd3 Ndx5 26. Rd2 f5 27. Ne2 Kf6 28. b4 a6 29. Nd4 Rd8 30. Nb3 Rxd2 31. Nxd2 Nd3 32. Rc3 Nf4 33. Kf1 Nd5 34. Rc5 Nd4 35. Rc8 Nc2 36. Rb8 Nxa3 37. Rxb7 Nb5 38. Nb3 Nxb4 39. Nc5 Nd5 40. Nxa6 Nd6 41. Rd7 Ne4 42. Nc7 Nxc7 43. Rxc7 Ng5 44. Ke2 e5 45. Ra7 Ne6 46. Ke3 h6 47. Ra6 g5 48. h3 h5 49. g3



g4 50. hxc4 hxc4 51. Rb6 Ke7 52. Rb7+ Kd6 53. Rf7 Nd4 54. Rf6+ Kd5 55. Rf8 Ke6 56. Re8+ Kf6 57. Rf8+ Ke7 58. Ra8 Kd6 59. Rd8+ Ke7 60. Ra8 Ne6 61. Ra6 Nc5 62. Ra5 Kd6 63. Kf2 Kd5 64. Ra8 Ke4 65. Rb8 Nd3+ 66. Kg2 Ke3 67. Rf8 Ke4 68. Re8 Ne1+ 69. Kf2 Nf3 70. Ra8 Nd4 71. Rc8 Kd3 72. Re8 Ke4 73. Re7 Nc6 74. Re6 Nb4 75. Rf6 Nd3+ 76. Kg2 Nb2 77. Rf8 Nd1 78. Re8 Nb2 79. Rf8 Nc4 80. Kf2 f4 81. gxf4 exf4 82. Rg8 Ne5 83. Re8 Kf5 84. Rf8+ Kg5 85. Rg8+ Ng6 86. Ra8 g3+ 87. Kg2 Kg4 88. Rg8 f3+ 89. Kg1 Kf5 90. Rg7 Kf6 91. Rg8 Kf7 92. Ra8 Nf4 93. Ra1 Kg6 94. Kf1 Kf5 95. Ra5+ Kg4 96. Ra4 Kf5 97. Ra5+ Ke4 98. Ra4+ Ke3 99. Ra3+ Nd3 100. Ra2 Nc1 101. Ra3+ Kf4 102. Ra4+ Kg5 103. Ra5+ Kg4 104. Ra4+ Kh3 105. Ra8 Ne2 106. Rh8+ Kg4 107. Rg8+ Kf4 108. Rf8+ Ke3 109. Re8+ Kd3 110. Rd8+ Nd4 111. Rg8 Nf5 112. Rd8+ Ke3 113. Re8+ Kf4 114. Rf8 Kg4 115. Rg8+ Kh5 116. Rh8+ Nh6 117. Rf8 Kg4 118. Rh8 Nf7 119. Rg8+ Ng5 120. Kg1 Kf4 121. Rf8+ Ke5 122. Re8+ Ne6 123. Rg8 Kf4 124. Kf1 Ng5 125. Rf8+ Ke3 126. Re8+ Ne4 127. Re7 g2+ 128. Kg1 Kd3 129. Rg7 1/2-1/2

https://www.365chess.com/view_game.php?g=3221035

There was also (more recent from 2016) fun:
MACIOŁ, Ryszard - HELIS, Tadeusz (PGN)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Be2 O-O 6. Bg5 Nbd7 7. h4 c5 8. d5 Qa5 9. Bd2 a6 10. a4 Re8 11. g4 Nf8 12. f4 Qc7 13. Nh3 e6 14. Nf2 exd5 15. cxd5 Rb8 16. O-O Qe7 17. g5 N6d7 18. Qc2 h6 19. Rae1 hxc5 20. hxc5 f6 21. gxf6 Qxf6 22. Kg2 Qf7 23. e5 dxe5 24. Nfe4 exf4 25. Bxf4 Ra8 26. Bg5 Nf6 27. Nxf6+ Bxf6 28. Rxf6 Qg7 29. d6 Be6 30. Bf3 Rab8 31. Rxe6 Rxe6 32. Bd5 Rbe8 33. Qe4 Qd7 34. Rxe6 Rxe6 35. Bxe6+ 1-0

http://www.chessarbiter.com/turnieje/2016/tdr_4321/pgn.html?l=pl&id_pgn=f_3_178_289

b) In general, that you have seen or have inspired you,

Of course famous Kasparov - Topalov:

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1011478>

But Giri-Aronian linked below I like a lot especially after watching Aronian's commentary. Giri relied basically on a computer evaluation which reads "exchange up" while Aronian took more pragmatic attitude :)

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1654443>

8) Anything else you wanted to add?

Go Tigers! Roar!

CELTIC TIGERS 2 – DIVISION 4 REPORT BY PETER KITCHEN

Two hard fought matches, two draws, too much to do to gatecrash the promotion party? I don't think so!

On the face of it, this weekend was a bit of a missed opportunity for the second team, dropping from 9th to 12th in the table and failing to cash in fully on our Sunday opponents Warwickshire Select 2 being considerably weaker than the previous day.



Seeing some teams (Fischer's Catch, for example) pick up two wins to leapfrog us shows just how different things could have been and how close we could be to the top four.

But enough of this. We're two points off fourth spot. There was some great fighting chess played over the two days and we showed some real spirit as a team to keep up a proud record of only losing once so far this season. All to play for in my book.

Interestingly as a team we fared much better with the white pieces – picking up three wins and three draws – than black, where we were winless with three draws and three losses. Make of that what you will – it does show how difficult it is even in division four south to get victories with black. Every match is very competitive.

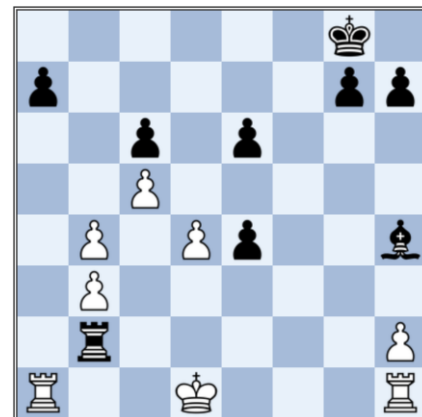


In truth on Saturday we were perhaps a little fortunate to claim a draw against Sussex Martlets 3. Our team showed four changes from the previous weekend at Bedford, with only Jacques and David retaining their places and there was a debut for new signing Bajrush.

Jacques drew quickly in 14 moves on board two, something I certainly won't criticise. It's all well and good a computer saying you are a bit better – you have to be happy with your position and Jacques wasn't. Charlie went down next on board six, falling victim to a very well played attack by junior Arjun Kolani. Charlie was unfortunate to run into a player bang on form – Arjun's ECF grade was higher than the next two or three boards and he could easily have played higher up the order.

Then we got a break. David looked in all sorts of trouble after his opponent sacrificed a piece to break through to his king, only to go wrong and allow David to turn the tables spectacularly with flying passed queenside pawns. Nicely done, all square.

Diagram: David Buttell v Gerald Michenaud in round five, after black's 32nd move. Black had mistakenly invaded with on f2 with his rook first a few moves earlier and now David found a simple but effective way to turn the tables.



The remaining games all went on a while. Bajrush and John (both white) both appeared to have the edge in their games but neither could find a way through and had to settle for a share of the spoils. John's in particular seemed a very wild game – and strange in that his opponent seemed to be falling asleep and forgetting to record moves early on but had enough about him to meet all of John's threats later on!

I had enjoyed a pleasant middlegame position on the black side of a QGD, but lost the thread slightly and found myself short of time and then facing a difficult queen ending a pawn down.

Fortunately in the rush to move 40 I was able to exchange off my teenage opponent's queenside passed pawn, and then come up with a plan to make life as difficult as possible. After five hours he conceded the draw, match saved. Phew!



Celtic Tigers 2		1871	Sussex Martlets 3		1785
w	Kelmendi, Bajrush	1985	1/2 - 1/2	Finn, Thomas	1960 e
b	Tivillier, Jacques	1915 e	1/2 - 1/2	Neale, George	1877 e
w	Buttall, David	1945 e	1 - 0	Michaud, Gerald	1795 c
b	Kitchen, Peter J	1915 e	1/2 - 1/2	Finn, Daniel	1810 e
w	White, John	1787 c	1/2 - 1/2	Woods, Timothy J	1682 e
b	Sturt, Charles A	1682 c	0 - 1	Kolani, Arjun	1589
		3 - 3			

There was some healthy analysis of each other's games over our evening meal down t'pub, but it was all very civilised with a big game to come the following day. I was fearing we'd draw my local team Shropshire 2 (who were sat on the next table in the bar) but happily we avoided each other!

On to Sunday, and as mentioned earlier a drastically changed and weaker Warwickshire Select 2. More juniors to face too for boards four, five and six.

This time John was first to finish on board five, agreeing a draw with black in a complex middlegame position. Charlie won a piece early on in his game and was looking good on board six, only to get his white squared bishop trapped on the queenside and have to return it, agreeing a draw shortly after. A shame, but Charlie put up a good fight on both days.

Now it was time for Jacques and me to suffer. Jacques has done an excellent video commentary on his game that I recommend Tigers check out if they haven't already (see link below). Basically, we both had dominant positions but were made to work really hard to see them through.

Jacques finished his game off nicely to give us the lead, shortly after I had blown a totally won position by missing a simple tactic and allowing my opponent to give up her useless knight for my two queenside passed pawns. Facing the real prospect of my opponent setting up a fortress an exchange down, I turned down a draw offer and battled on.

Diagram: Peter Kitchen v Imogen Dicen in round six, after black's 50th move. I played 51.c6 thinking it was the best move to win... See what I missed?

Fortunately a good 30 moves later I delivered checkmate to put us 3-1 up, but a real lesson to look out for all of your opponent's opportunities even when they are dead lost!

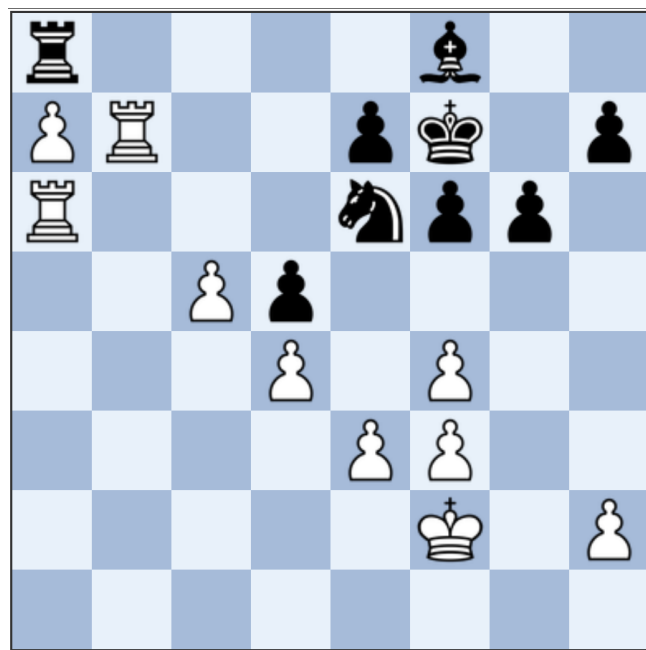
I didn't get to see the conclusion of the remaining games. Bajrush on board three was involved in a very open game which ultimately he lost – looked like his opponent played really well. David, moved up to top board, was playing by far Warwickshire's top player and looked solid for a long time only for things to go wrong when the f-file was prised open shortly before the time control. So 3-3 it finished.

It was a really good weekend and a great effort from the team. Probably a fair result getting two draws, we were certainly close to the win on Sunday. Great to see Jacques keep up his fine form this season, both he and I came out with 1.5/2.

We'll need to push on at weekend four in April to keep up with the promotion pack. If the team shows more of the spirit from this weekend, I know we'll do just fine.

Round 6 result:

Warwickshire Select 2		1825		Celtic Tigers 2		1871
w	Paterson, Andrew I	2065 e	1 - 0	Buttell, David		1945 e
b	Ingram, Keith R	1965	0 - 1	Tivillier, Jacques		1915 e
w	Ali, Golam S	1782	1 - 0	Kelmendi, Bajrush		1985
b	Dicen, Imogen	1832 e	0 - 1	Kitchen, Peter J		1915 e
w	Sandhu, Manvith	1742 e	½ - ½	White, John		1787 c
b	Pal, Rohan	1568	½ - ½	Sturt, Charles A		1682 c
			3 - 3			



Check it out!

Jacques created a great YouTube video on the weekend games in Division 4, it is well worth a watch, here is the link:

<https://t.co/yhOSQIQ6t4>

SEASON SUMMARY – TIGERS 2ND TEAM (DIVISION 4)

We are sitting in 12th place after 6 rounds in this division which is pairs like a swiss tournament.

The swiss format open's itself to getting a lot of luck with the pairings, and often the promotion places come down to a tiebreak.

Usually to get promoted a team will require 17 points to guarantee promotion, and 16 points will come down to tiebreaks.

With 5 rounds left, we need 5W or 4W/1D, a tough ask, but have the Tigers ever said no to a challenge?

Table after Round 6:

			rd 1	rd 2	rd 3	rd 4	rd 5	rd 6	P	W	D	L	GP	TB	Pts
1	Crowthorne 1	cro1	pit 5½	ash2 4½	tit 3	aad 4½	wks2 4½	ash1 4½	6	5	1	0	26½	0	11
2	Ashfield 1	ash1	cyj 6	cel2 4	fis 4	tit 4	wat1 4	cro1 1½	6	5	0	1	23½	0	10
3	Watford 1	wat1	bkn4 5	mkp2 3½	cim2 5	wesb 4	ash1 2	wib3 3½	6	5	0	1	23	0	10
4	Wessex B	wesb	bkn2 5	csc3 5½	wib3 4	wat1 2	oxf3 3	wgn3 4	6	4	1	1	23½	0	9
5	West is Best 3	wib3	rar 5	shr2 3½	wesb 2	mkp2 4	cim2 3½	wat1 2½	6	4	0	2	20½	0	8
6	Oxford 3	oxf3	wgn3 4	fis 2½	rar 4	ash2 3½	wesb 3	mkp2 3	6	3	2	1	20	0	8
7	Fischer's Catch	fis	tfp 3½	oxf3 3½	ash1 2	cim2 1	ash2 3½	aad 3½	6	4	0	2	17	0	8
8	The Full Ponty	tfp	fis 2½	wgn3 2½	wat2 5	cim3 5½	shr3 4	sxm3 3	6	3	1	2	22½	0	7
9	Check Innmates 2	cim2	cht 6	sxm3 5	wat1 1	fis 5	wib3 2½	shr2 3	6	3	1	2	22½	0	7
10	MK Phoenix 2	mkp2	ice3 6	wat1 2½	shr3 4½	wib3 2	ban 4	oxf3 3	6	3	1	2	22	0	7
11	Throw in the Tal	tit	oxf4 3½	shr3 5	cro1 3	ash1 2	shr2 2½	cro2 5½	6	3	1	2	21½	0	7
12	Celtic Tigers 2	cel2	wesc 4½	ash1 2	wgn3 2½	oxf4 6	sxm3 3	wks2 3	6	2	3	1	21	0	7
13	Shropshire 2	shr2	wat2 6	wib3 2½	wks2 2½	bkn2 3	tit 3½	cim2 3	6	3	1	2	20½	0	7
14	Poisoned Pawns - Next Generation	psp2	shr3 1	wat2 5½	aad 3	ice3 5	wgn3 2	pit 3½	6	3	1	2	20	0	7
15	Warwickshire Select 2	wks2	sxm3 3	wib4 3	shr2 3½	ban 5	cro1 1½	cel2 3	6	2	3	1	19	0	7
16	Sussex Martlets 3	sxm3	wks2 3	cim2 1	cyj 5	pit 4	cel2 3	tfp 3	6	2	3	1	19	0	7
17	Wood Green Youth	wgn3	oxf3 2	tfp 3½	cel2 2½	wib4 3½	psp2 4	wesb 2	6	3	1	2	17½	0	7
18	Ashfield 2	ash2	cro2 6	cro1 1½	csc3 4½	oxf3 2½	fis 1½	ban 6	6	3	0	3	22	0	6
19	Rook & Roll	rar	wib3 1	cht 4½	oxf3 2	cro2 1½	wesc 4	bkn2 4	6	3	0	3	17	0	6
20	Oxford 4	oxf4	tit 2½	wesc 2½	bkn2 4½	cel2 -2	bkn3 5½	shr3 3½	6	3	0	3	16½	0	6
21	West is Best 4	wib4	csc3 1 ; cam3 3	wks2 3	ice3 3	wgn3 2½	pit 1½	bkn3 6	6	1½	2	2½	20	0	5
22	The Pitstop	pit	cro1 ½	cro2 6	ban 3	sxm3 2	wib4 4½	psp2 2½	6	2	1	3	18½	0	5
23	All Anands on Deck	aad	cim3 6	ban 2½	psp2 3	cro1 1½	cro2 2½	fis 2½	6	1	3	2	18	0	5
24	Crowthorne 2	cro2	ash2 0	pit 0	bkn3 4	rar 4½	aad 2½	tit -½	6	2	1	3	10½	0	5
25	Shropshire 3	shr3	psp2 5	tit 1	mkp2 1½	wesc 3	tfp 2	oxf4 2½	6	2	0	4	15	0	4
26	Barnet Knights 2	bkn2	wesb 1	oxf4 1½	wesc 3½	shr2 2	ice3 3½	rar 2	6	2	0	4	13½	0	4
27	Banbury Bulldogs	ban	bkn3 5½	aad 2½	pit 3	wks2 1	mkp2 2	ash2 -1	6	1	2	3	13	0	4
28	CSC 3	csc3	cam3 3 ; wib4 2	wesb ½	ash2 1½	wat2 4			4	2	0	2	11	0	4
29	Check Innmates 3	cim3	aad 0	bkn3 5½		tfp 0		ice3 4½	4	2	0	2	10	0	4
30	Cambridge University 3	cam3	wib4 -1 ; csc3 -2				wat2 4½	wesc 5	3	2	0	1	6½	0	4
31	Iceni 3	ice3	mkp2 -1	bkn4 3	wib4 3	psp2 1	bkn2 2½	cim3 1½	6	1	1	4	10	0	3
32	Wessex C	wesc	cel2 1½	bkn2 2½	oxf4 3½	shr3 2	rar 2	cam3 1	6	1	0	5	12½	0	2
33	Watford 2	wat2	shr2 0	psp2 ½	tfp 1	csc3 2	cam3 ½	bkn4 5	6	1	0	5	9	0	2
34	Barnet Knights 3	bkn3	ban ½	cim3 ½	cro2 2	cyj 4½	oxf4 ½	wib4 0	6	1	0	5	8	0	2
35	Barnet Knights 4	bkn4	wat1 1	ice3 2				wat2 1	3	0	0	3	4	0	0
36	Barnet Knights 5	bkn5							0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	Camberley Juniors	cyj	ash1 -1		sxm3 0	bkn3 -1½			3	0	0	3	-2½	0	0
38	Chesstivus	cht	cim2 -3	rar 0					2	0	0	2	-3	0	0

OTHER NEWS

T-Shirts: If you played this year, you get a t-shirt for free. Otherwise you will get it with your membership fees for next year. If anyone wants a 2nd t-shirt (or for fans/friends of tigers), it will cost £15 per shirt. For people we don't like it's £40.

Jumpers/Hoodies: I will be looking to get some of these soon, and will share pricing with everyone shortly, if you want to buy one, it will cost about £35 I think, so start saving!

New Members: We might introduce a 3rd team, if you are interested in playing for the club and are around 90-180 ECF please get in touch. This is to be confirmed. Please know that we will NEVER accept people on rating alone, the preference is always to friends of Tigers, and those who clearly resemble our way of thinking. The tigers are not a team, it's a lifestyle and way of thinking.

Donations: Thank you to everyone who helped to support the tigers this season (both financial and non-financial). If you know anyone that might be interested in sponsoring our club next season, please put me in contact with them.

NEXT SEASON DATES

Weekend 4 | Rounds 7-8

16-17 March 2019

Divisions 1 & 2 [Park inn Telford](#)

13-14 April 2019

Divisions 3 & 4 South [Mercure Daventry Court](#)

Weekend 5 | Rounds 9-11

4-6 May 2019

Divisions 1 & 2 [Park inn Telford](#)

Divisions 3 & 4 South [Mercure Daventry Court](#)

THANKS FOR READING 'THE ROAR'

