

# Leicestershire & Rutland Chess Association

## Rules for the Chapman and Birstall Cups 2023

### Definitions

A junior is a player who was under age 16 on 1 September **2022**.

A junior side is one containing at least 3 junior players.

### Rules

1. The submission of an entry signifies that a club or individual accepts the charges (£6.00 per team to cover both cups, for a club that pays for its members to be ECF members), and that they undertake to pay them on receipt of an invoice at the end of the event. (Entry fees include the ECF game levy as necessary).
2. It is permissible to enter a team made up from players from different clubs (or with no Leicestershire or Rutland club affiliation). Such a “scratch” team must have a distinctive title, and they *must* nominate an individual who is solely responsible for its playing arrangements and for the payment of its fees. Any team with no normal home venue available must indicate this on their entry form. Neutral venues will be provided if necessary. A player may play for a different club than the one that he/she normally plays for in the league (i.e. like a loan system) provided the Summer Cup controller is notified before the first round.
3. A club may enter more than one team in the Chapman/Birstall Cup. If a club has more than one team in the Chapman/Birstall Cup, then a maximum of 2 players who have played for a given team in the Chapman/Birstall Cup, may play for the other team that the club has in the Chapman/Birstall Cup (eg a maximum of 2 players that have played for Leicester 1 may play for Leicester 2 in the Chapman/Birstall Cup. In addition, a maximum of 2 players that have played for Leicester 2, may play for Leicester 1 in the Chapman/Birstall Cup).
4. Each club (or scratch team) must appoint a single contact, with home or work and mobile phone numbers and e-mail address supplied. This person will be contacted with draw details etc.
5. Each team must have an appointed captain who is responsible for all its match arrangements. The home captain shall contact the away club to indicate the venue for the match and to offer two dates in separate weeks for the fixture, within the time allocated for a given round. One of these dates must be accepted.
6. Any delay or problem must be reported at once to the Summer Cup Controller: any significant delay occurring without the permission of the Summer Cup Controller might result in one or both teams being defaulted.
7. There is no individual rating limit for players in these events.

8. Teams eliminated from the first round & semi-final rounds of the Chapman Cup, will be automatically entered into the Birstall Cup. The same handicapping rules (see below) will apply to both competitions.

**The League Management Committee reserves the right not to run the Birstall Cup if there are insufficient entries.**

9. Wherever possible teams from the same club will not be drawn against each other in the early rounds of the competitions.

### **Matches**

10. Each match must be played between teams of *FOUR* players.

11. The board order of each team must be in descending order of strength. However, a tolerance of 50 rating points applies, the same as for LRCA League games. Therefore 2 players whose ratings differ by no more than 50 points may play in either order.

12. A team with less than four players available at the start of the match must use them on the top boards, e.g. a 3-player team must default board 4.

13. Colours for each match will be decided by the toss of a coin. The winner of the toss can choose to have white on odd or even boards.

### **Handicap System**

14. The 2023 Summer Cup Standard Play rating as published on the LRCA website must be used. This will normally be the player's Standard Play rating as published in the ECF's April 2023 list if they have a Standard Play rating category A or K in that list. If a player does not have an ECF category A or K rating in the ECF's April 2023 list, then check the LRCA website for the Standard Play rating to be used. All the necessary rating information will be provided on the LRCA website:

<http://www.leicestershirechess.org>

Each player's rating must be listed on the match score sheet by the captains, and the total rating points for each team must be calculated and agreed before the match starts. The difference between the two team totals is used in the handicap system as shown below.

If one or more boards are defaulted, a team's rating for those boards shall be the average rating of the players of that team who actually play in the match. If after the match starts, an absent player is replaced by an eligible substitute, then the rating to be used in the handicap calculation will be the higher rating of either the absent player, or the substitute's rating.

15. If a team intends to play an unrated player the Ratings Officer (or in his absence the League Secretary) *must* be informed *in advance* of the match, and a rating of at least 1300 points will be assigned.

16. The handicap system will operate by giving *bonus points* to the lower-rated team according to the following scale:

<b>ECF Rating Difference</b>	<b>Lower Rated Team Bonus</b>
0-199	0
200-574	0.5
575-949	1.5
950-1324	2.5
1325-1500	3.5

If the rating difference between two players on a single board is over 375 it should be treated as exactly 375 points – the maximum rating difference in the table is thus 1500 points.

A consequence of the system is that the match score for two 4-player teams may not add up to 4. For example, if in a match between teams A and B, A wins 2.5-1.5 over the board, but B has a rating total 600 points less than A, B gets 1.5 bonus points, and thus wins the match by 2.5-3.0. The tie-break rules (see below) need only be used when the rating totals of the teams differ by less than 200 points.

## **Play**

17. All games must start by 7.30 pm. Any player who has not started by 8 pm will default their game but eligible substitutes are allowed up to 8 pm. The rating of a substitute may not be over 50 points more than a player on a higher board.

If neither player in a particular game is present at the start of the match, White's clock will be started at that time. When one of the players appears, the White clock will be stopped, and the time that has elapsed will then be divided equally between the two players, before White's clock is re-started. If White is the first player to appear he will move and press his clock, so Black's clock will then run until he appears. If Black is the first to appear, White's clock will continue to run after the clocks have been re-started. This rule can be used in conjunction with Fischer timings as well as with conventional time limits (see below).

18. All games in a match are to be played to a finish on the same occasion – there will be no adjournments and no adjudications.

## **19. TIME CONTROLS**

Time controls will be the same as for LRCA league games (See rule 9 in the online LRCA League handbook for 2022-2023). However, junior teams can insist on having the shorter time control.

20. If the rating totals of the two teams differs by 0-199 points, and the result of the match is 2-2, then tie-break methods are to be used in the following priority order:

a. The team that defaults the fewest boards wins.

- b. Board count: the board numbers on which each team won games are totalled and the team with the lower total wins.
- c. Board elimination: i.e. if one team wins on boards 1 and 4, and the other on boards 2 and 3, giving an equal board count, the result on the lowest board is eliminated.
- d. If *all* boards are drawn the match must be replayed with the venue reversed.

21. The result of the match is to be submitted to the LRCA website as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours of the match being played).

22. Disputes should be referred to the Summer Cup Controller, and if necessary, will be resolved in consultation with the League Secretary and other League Management Committee members: clubs will have the right of appeal, as in League Rule 6.2.

23. Fixture dates must be registered on the results website before the match is played. The fixture should be registered on the website by the away captain at the same time as replying to the home captain's offer of dates.

Iain Dodds, Summer Cup Controller, April 2023