**Leicester & Rutland Chess Association: League Secretary’s Report 2025**

The 2024-25 League Season has just been completed with the division winners as follows:

Division 1: Wigston 1

Division 2: Ashby 1

Division 3: Wigston 4

Division 4: Wigston 5

Division 5: Latimer

As in the previous season there were 40 teams entered in five divisions of eight teams.

The rules this year were slightly more restrictive (and complicated) with regard to the DTS rules in terms of who can play in the team below from the team directly above (one ‘A’ cat player or 2 ‘B’ cat players). This didn’t seem to cause too many problems in it’s operation but the effects of the change were modest. In the review of the 23/24 season Harborough proposed a move to a more restrictive system where just one player from the team above can play in the team below. There was quite a lot of support for this change, which would create a greater distinction between club’s teams, but in the end it was rejected in favour of the change specified above.

This may not be the case, but it felt like there were perhaps more instances of matches being postponed from their original scheduled date and possibly more board defaults than in prior years. A possible explanation for this is the greater volume of students and juniors in club teams at the moment, who are less likely to be consistently available for their clubs throughout the season

Stewart Gordon has been instrumental (as usual) in ensuring the smooth running of the LRCA results site and getting the batches of league games rated on a monthly basis in his role as Ratings Officer.

The GC will be meeting very shortly to review the 2024-2 season and look at any possible changes for 2025-26.

Paul Mottram

League Secretary

May 2025