

LRCA AGM 6th June 2017 - Juniors Training & Competition Report

Training

Approx 30 saturday afternoon sessions run in the Sept - June period, including a monthly rapidplay competition (4 round swiss squeezed into 3 hours) mainly at Westleigh Christadelphian Church in LE3.

Numbers are around 20-30 each week. Divided into 3 groups and each coached for an hour (by volunteer coaches from LRCA) and then juniors play games in 2nd hour. All games graded using internal real time grading system to monitor progress.

Introduction of Online chess club on Wednesday evenings using Chesskid.com. Block premium membership of site purchased and given free to any child who works through to Kings Level.

Future plans for next season include:

1. Move towards using a more permanent coach for training sessions to aid continuity and consistency of approach and ease burden of administration.
2. Development of dedicated Leicester Juniors website with facility to book on to training sessions and pay subs

Competitions

U100 team is roughly 50% juniors and finished 2nd in Midland group and beat Lancashire in National Quarterfinal to now face Surrey in Semi Final on June 10th.

Leicester Juniors entered 2-3 teams in the Junior 4NCL and were Div2 winners on 2nd and 3rd weekends.

LJ won the 4 Counties U130 match against Notts, Yorks, Lincs in November for the first time in November and finished a respectable 2nd in the March edition of the competition which we hosted at Leicester Grammar School.

A developmental U11, U9 and U11 Girls team took part in a 4 counties match against Warks, Oxon and Northants in November and then the Midland Team Championships in Feb where the U9s finished 3rd. Numbers of players at sufficient level precluded competing in the EPSCA team events this year.

Junior congresses were organised by LRCA at Leicester Grammar in July 2016 and March 2017 with 73 and 88 entrants respectively. Sections in March's congress were organised by grade rather than age.

Individual highlights include Milly Kotecha being brought into the U11 England Girl's squad last June. Anika Khare and Daniel Chen qualifying for the U11 England Trials in April. Tom Brown placed 6th in the U16 London Junior Champs and Shyam Modi finishing 8th in the U18/21 event. Tom received an invitation to join the England squad as a result.

Training, Events & Teams Organiser
Paul Mottram