

Auckland Chess Association, Inc.

Annual Report 2020

In 2019 ACA ran Interclub A, B, and Junior events, and the Auckland Interschools Finals. There were no valid Jenkins Trophy challenges, and no suitable date was found for the Lightning Teams. ACA was again constructively involved in Auckland regional Interschool qualifying events, providing equipment in the form of sets, boards, clocks, and tables. The website chessauckland.nz (generously loaned for free by Keong Ang) continued to report results, information, history, and forthcoming events in the Auckland area.

In a new initiative, the Auckland Interschools Finals were both FIDE- and NZCF-rated. FIDE rating for rapid events is free; fees were not paid for NZCF rating as the organisers assumed that ACA was regarded by NZCF as a member – therefore eligible to run rated events (with no entry fee) for its own members free. The NZCF President subsequently stated that Council did not regard ACA as having that status, and that any rating of events in future would require ACA to pay a rating fee (\$5) per player as well as advising players that they must be members of NZCF-affiliated clubs.

The assistance of all those who participated in the organisation and running of ACA over 2019 is gratefully acknowledged.

A-grade Interclub

This was played at Alexandra Park over three Sunday evenings, with 4 teams participating. This year, Auckland Chess Centre won the Peter Stuart Memorial Trophy despite losing the match to Howick-Pakuranga. ACC will be grateful that the result is determined by game points, not match points! Full results, with individual pairings and games, can be found on chessauckland.nz.

B-Grade Interclub

For teams of players rated under 1800 (NZCF rating). Played at Alexandra Park. The B-Grade had 6 entries, with one from new member Summit and two from Papatoetoe. Auckland Chess Centre won this section too.

Junior Interclub

Played at Alexandra Park. There were 14 teams in total, 4 from ACC, 4 from North Shore, 3 from Summit, 2 from Howick-Pakuranga, and 1 (mostly) from Papatoetoe. The event was not decided until the finish of the final game. The top three teams were split only by the smallest of tie-breaks. During the event, North Shore A beat Summit A who beat ACC A who beat North Shore A - and finally Summit A finished ... at the summit!

ACA Auckland Interschools Finals

Played at Auckland Chess Centre. It is traditional for ACA to invite the regional Interschool winners (North Shore, East, West, South and Central Auckland) to fight it out for the title of best Auckland team in each of the age categories, just before they head to the National Finals. This year, Secondary champions were Auckland Grammar School, Intermediate champions were Takapuna Normal, and Hillsborough won the Primary section. Detailed results are available on chessauckland.nz.

Helen Milligan
President