



## ECF Secondary School Chess News

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<http://englishchess.org.uk/NSCC/>

Many thanks to our sponsors, Winchester College and St Catherine's, Bramley

### U19 Open National School Chess Championships

Congratulations to RGS Guildford for winning the 2017 National School Chess Championships. They have often been finalists over the past 15 years but this is their first ever championship win. Runners up Hampton School, who also play in Surrey's Briant Poulter Schools' League, are the inaugural winners of the Richard Haddrell Memorial Trophy. You can read all about the finals in the attached report.

Do consider entering the Championships for 2017/18. It is not just for strong teams, indeed they normally gain automatic qualification to the Regional stage in the spring term. This means that the "qualifying events" and leagues in the Autumn term are normally enjoyable for all. Some dates are already fixed and you can find out more on the website.

### 2017/18 Tournaments

As well as the U19 Championships you can also enter Team Chess Challenge (for teams of 4 players), Junior Team Chess Challenge (4 players in year 8 and below). The girls U19 is for teams of just 3 players. Two events can be mainly run at your chess club, the Problem Solving and Blitz championships.

At present the website still mainly reports this year's competitions, with next year's being in the 2017/18 tab <http://englishchess.org.uk/NSCC/201718-2/>

We already have the date for the National Blitz final (teams of 4): Saturday 17th March 2018 10am to 4pm at The King's School, Grantham. Put it in your diaries, as any school can enter.

Over the summer the website will be updated to launch the new seasons tournaments – I will email when this happens, as that is when you can enter the Championships using the online entry forms.

We do still need some more schools to host events – please do email me if you can help with this.

### Eton College Rapidplay

This year the popular Eton College Rapidplay will be taking place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Last year 319 players from 40 schools took part and we are preparing for even more this year. You can see photos of last year's event [here](#). If you would like to enter this year please [click here for online entry](#) or email me for more information. Already 47 teams from 32 schools have entered, but this year we have room for even more!

### Summer Time

Now is the time for holidays – some schools have already broken up others have a bit longer to go. Whichever I hope you have a good break. The new [ECF grades](#) will be out by the end of the month, which I know is an exciting time for many.