



SOUTHERN COUNTIES SCRABBLE® LEAGUE

NEWS

ISSUE 30
SEPTEMBER 2009

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SEPTEMBER 2009

We are now into the third part of the league programme. Most of the Group 1 and 2 matches have been completed but where I have not received results I have left a gap in the Match Results table (see page 12) so if perchance any results have been lost in the post please let me know ASAP.

The key date is November 10, all matches must be completed by then so the Playoffs can start.

The League Arbitration Panel comprises myself tel: 01202 707148, Peter Sime tel: 01243 785413 and Alan Bailey tel: 023 8055 8013. If you have any urgent/last minute problems that need a clarification of the rules, please give one of us a call.

www.southerncountiesscrabbleleague.co.uk

The web site is now fully accessible and we would be pleased to receive your thoughts and suggestions. A useful feature is the ability to download copies of the SCSL News. In 2010 I am intending to offer a discount on League entry fees for those who do not require me to mail them the SCSL News but will be willing to download.

I hope that all existing teams will be able to continue next season and hopefully some more teams may join us. I know some find the travelling tiring and expensive but the more teams we have the more geographically compact we can make the divisions. **The League needs you!**

As the individual Match results come in during the session, they will be posted on the web site so you will be able to see how everyone is doing! The web site can now also be accessed via a link from the ABSL site.

Ruth Marsden

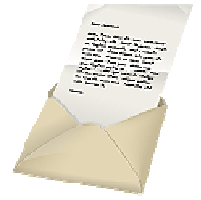


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Please send your comments,
news and ideas to
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email rtmrsdn@aol.com

POSTBAG



Dear Ruth,

3/4 or 6/7?

Alan Bailey's letter in the last issue produced some interesting results, he asked:

- 3 or 4:** League matches currently involve 4 team players in 3 games each. Should we
- (a) increase each match to 4 games so that we all play each other, but over a longer time?
 - (b) keep at 3 games per contest but reduce the team sizes to 3 also?
 - (c) continue as at present?
 - (d) adopt a different set-up altogether (if you say yes to this one, you had better specify!)?

6 or 7: Do those of your Club members who attend tournaments hope that in future they play 7 games rather than 6, without the day being necessarily any longer?

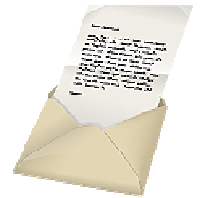
The Replies:

- (a) **From: David Young, Dorking Scrabble Club**
We considered AB's letter at our AGM, there was a clear preference for keeping 3 games per contest with a reduced team size of 3. Those who play in tournaments like 7 games provided the day is not lengthened.
- (b) **From: Peter Sime, Portsmouth and Southsea Scrabble Club**
Overall the results of a survey by questionnaire were: we do not want 7 game tournaments (11 to 2) and we do not want to change the current league match set up (9 to 3), the 3 favoured playing all 4 opponents.
- (c) **From: Alan Bailey, Southampton Scrabble Club**
Two other Clubs to proffer opinions verbally were **Andover and Southampton**. Both on balance favour the present set-up. The minority view was stronger in favour of 4 players playing 4 games than 3 playing 3.

I have come across existing teams that seem to have (practically) no reserves already. A move towards 4 playing 4 might bring a reduced number of teams in its wake. Although I personally am one of the minority I would prefer the status quo to anything which reduced the teams.

Editor's comment: Several people I have spoken to are not keen on either 7 games or Round Robins. The Round Robin being the easy way to add an extra game to a tournament without extending the play time. The reasons given being that in a RR you meet fewer people and do not play a wide spread of ratings.

The October 2010 Bournemouth tournament will revert to a 6 game match play format.



Dear Ruth,

Bournemouth Scrabble Club has just celebrated 21 years with a one-day Scrabble Tournament and a special Scrabble Birthday Cake.

At the same time the club was presented with a Challenge Shield in memory of Margaret Bright, who was Chairman until she passed away last year and who was also one of the founder members. Elisabeth Jardine started the Club in 1988 with just four members after the Daily Echo reported her success in the National Scrabble Finals.

At one point the club reached nearly 40 members, but has now settled at around 20 players.



Val Wright,
Chairman

Current chairman, Val Wright (far right) with three previous chairmen before the cake was cut.

(left to right: Ruth Marsden, Kathy Gibbons, Elisabeth Jardine, Val Wright)

Dear Ruth,

I hope you don't mind me contacting you like this. I'm one of the associate producers for the Channel 4 quiz Countdown, and I wanted to get in touch to see whether any members of the Southern Counties Scrabble League might be interested in joining us as contestants. We're looking for the best and brightest people in the land to take part in our 61st series, and we want to hear from Scrabble league members who think they may have what it takes to be a Countdown champion, hence my e-mail to you.

I've attached above a copy of our contestant application form and a list of the towns where we hold auditions. If any of your members would like to join us as contestants, or indeed as part of our audience, we'd love to hear from them.

We don't have a closing date as such - Countdown runs two series per year and we're currently commissioned by Channel 4 until the end of 2010, but if your members are interested in appearing on the programme before the end of the year, it's best to apply by the end of September. Many thanks for your time, and I hope to meet some of your members at an audition in the near future.

Very best wishes,
Sarah Foulkes.
Associate Producer

Editor's comment: Application form and list of venues can be found on our web site.

SCRABBLE NEWS ROUND UP

WESPA Dictionary Committee

A new word list is being compiled and the intended implementation date is quarter 2 2011.

The Last Word June 2009

Self-Adjudication at Tournaments also much open to ongoing discussion.

The 5 Point Penalty rule is again being championed by a minority group of players

See UK-scrabble web-site for the ongoing discussion on these and other topics.

Why not send ***your*** views to this magazine by email or snail mail.

PUZZLE BY DAVID SUTTON

To stimulate the little grey cells!

The Two Tier Toughie

Here is a rather tough anagram test. It comprises twenty seven-letter alphagrams, each of which has a unique solution, and each of which, furthermore, takes one and only one anahook to make a single eight-letter word.

A moderately strong player should be able to get most of the seven-letter words, but finding the unique anahook and then solving the eight-letter word will, I think, tax even the best. For those who need a hint, an intermediate spoiler is supplied that gives the anahook letter.

I suggest allowing up to thirty minutes, then rating yourself as follows:

10+ average; 15+ fair; 20+ good; 25+ very good; 30+ excellent; 35+ world-class

1. DLOORSU = ? +? = ?
2. AABEMNS = ? +? = ?
3. AABELTV = ? +? = ?
4. AABELLO = ? +? = ?
5. AACEGHS = ? +? = ?
6. ADDEMRY = ? +? = ?
7. BCEELOS = ? +? = ?
8. ADEISVV = ? +? = ?
9. ADIISY = ? +? = ?
10. ABMNSTU = ? +? = ?
11. AHIMORZ = ? +? = ?
12. AFLRTUU = ? +? = ?
13. AGIINNZ = ? +? = ?
14. EEIJKLT = ? +? = ?
15. CDEEEFL = ? +? = ?
16. AABDRSY = ? +? = ?
17. ABCILOU = ? +? = ?
18. ABDEFST = ? +? = ?
19. AEEIUVX = ? +? = ?
20. BEEFGIT = ? +? = ?

Answer on Page 14

Other Hats

We have a poet amongst us, Andy Becher who plays for East Berks. Andy has now had two books of poetry published the latest "Teenage Zombie Super Vixens and other poems"

Extracts from some of the less naughty ones:

I've started
Talking to the Sat Nav
I tell her
We could go places together.
She just says, "Right"

You Have No Messages

For my birthday
(last Wednesday,
November the third)
My dear wife she sent me
Some rather nice words:
Such as

lickpenny, scuzzball.
titanosaur,
hornswoggle, boondoggle
conquistador,

Some Rather Nice Words

I'm getting on with the neighbours,
Getting on with the wife,
Getting on famously,
Getting on with my life.
I know where I am going,
I just need a map.
And pass me the brandy,
There's a good chap.

Getting On

If you would like to read more of Andy's work or find out how to obtain his books visit his web site: www.andybecher.co.uk

Does anyone else have other interests, other hats they wear, that they would like to share with fellow scrabblers? Do you write, produce craftwork, paint etc for gain we will be pleased to give you some publicity.

TOURNAMENT REPORTS

Brighton and Hove, July 19

64 players competed.

Prize Winners

Division	First	Second	Third
A	Danny Bekhor	Phil Kelly	Gareth Williams
B	Ruth Marsden	Pamela Windsor	Mary Siggers
C	Sheila Tutt	Janet Vokes-Taylor	Betty Simmonds

This was the swan song of Jim Lyes who has run previous Brighton events. Jim has now moved out of the area and will be sadly missed by the Brighton club both at their tournaments and as a regular Southern League player. Future Brighton and Hove tournaments will be directed by George Newman.

West Sussex Round Robin, August 16

58 took part, all proceeds to the local hospice.

Division	First	Division	First
A	Gary Oliver	E	Pamela Windsor
B	Brian Jones	F	Peter Bailey
C	Stephen Wintle	G	Cindy Hollyer
D	Mary Siggers		

TOURNAMENT ACTIVITY

Get out and about over the weeks to come and participate in these Southern Counties tournaments. If you have a fixture you would like included in the next edition, let Ruth Marsden have the details – contact info on page one.



Bournemouth	7 games	Contact	Ruth Marsden 01202 707148
		Venue	Roper Hall, 5 Victoria Park Road, Moordown, Bournemouth
Sunday 4 October		Cost	M £13 / NM £15
		Registration	09.30
		First game	10.00
		Refreshments	Tea and coffee provided
			Finish 17.45
Salisbury	7 games	Contact	Bob Lynn , 01722 325623
		Venue	Winterbourne Glebe Hall, Vicarage Lane, Winterbourne Earls, Salisbury SP4 6HA
Sunday 11 October		Cost	M £14 / NM £16
		Registration	09.00
		First game	10.00
		Refreshments	Tea and coffee provided
			Finish 17.50
Vectis / Isle of Wight	5 games/ 11 games	Contact	Noel Turner , 01983 614426
Friday 13 – Sunday 15 Nov			

Dates for several tournies in Spring 2010 are already booked, look out for these in the next issue.

NOTABLE SCORING FEATS

Highest Word Score

Sheila Tutt, of Southdowns Scorpions, played OVERLAID for 149 in the match against Carshalton Curlews, this remains the top score. Another high score, Tim Lawrence of Brighton & Hove Regents played BORSTALS for 140 against East Berks Beavers.

Highest Team Score

5432 by Southampton Saints in their match against Salisbury. In the same match Gary Oliver bettered 500 to win each of his games with scores of 520, 539 and 505. This remains the highest score although ten other matches this session have resulted in total scores better than 5000.

High Game Scores

No one has managed to better 600 as yet this season but Gary Oliver almost made it to 600 with a score of 599. Those who have scored over 550 are listed below:

Gary Oliver of Southampton Saints	599 also 590, 560
Ivan Swallow of Ryde Hornets	596
Bob Lynn of Salisbury	591
Ed Breed of Southdowns Scorpions	578
Chris Downer of Bournemouth Magpies	574
James Rossiter of Southampton Saints	564
Elizabeth Hull of Reading Whiteknights	559
Alan Childs of Bournemouth Ospreys	554

Highest Win Ratio

Eastern Division

Joy Coomer of Southdowns Scorpions was top with 83% based on 12 games. Barbara Allen of Carshalton had 78% wins after 9 games.

Central Division

Carol Stanley of Guilford was top with 89% wins after 9 games, followed by Lorna Foster, also of Guildford with 86% after 6 games.

Western Division

The top three players achieved over 80% wins:

James Rossiter Southampton Saints	(15 games)	94%
Gary Oliver Southampton Saints	(15 games)	87%
Penny Downer of Newport Blue	(12 games)	83%



MATCH RESULTS JUNE 2009

Western division

Group one matches

1 March to 31 May

Southampton Saints	6	6	Bournemouth Magpies
Newport Red	5	7	Bournemouth Ospreys
Salisbury	12	0	Basingstoke
Southampton Saints	8	4	Basingstoke
Bournemouth Magpies	10	2	Southampton Sinners
Basingstoke	6	6	Southampton Sinners
Newport Blue	8	4	Newport Red
Bournemouth Ospreys	9	3	Salisbury
Bournemouth Magpies	7	5	Newport Blue
Bournemouth Ospreys	4	8	Newport Blue
Southampton Sinners	5	7	Newport Red
Salisbury	1	11	Southampton Saints

Group two matches

1 June to 31 August

Basingstoke			Bournemouth Magpies
Southampton Sinners			Bournemouth Ospreys
Bournemouth Ospreys	11	1	Basingstoke
Newport Red			Salisbury
Southampton Saints	8	4	Newport Red
Newport Blue			Southampton Sinners
Bournemouth Magpies	6	6	Bournemouth Ospreys
Basingstoke			Newport Blue
Salisbury	5	7	Bournemouth Magpies
Newport Blue	3	9	Southampton Saints

Group three matches

1 September to 10 November

Newport Red			Basingstoke
Bournemouth Ospreys	2	10	Southampton Saints
Southampton Sinners			Salisbury
Southampton Saints			Southampton Sinners
Bournemouth Magpies			Newport Red
Newport Blue			Salisbury

Note: Blanks indicate no results received. Please check that nothing has gone missing in the post.

Central division

Group one matches

1 March to 31 May

Ryde Hornets	9	3	Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
Reading Whiteknights	2	10	Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
Ryde Bees	6	6	Guildford
Ryde Hornets	5	7	Guildford
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	9	3	Ryde Ladybirds
Guildford			Ryde Ladybirds
Reading Oaks	5	7	Reading Whiteknights
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	2	10	Ryde Bees
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	10	2	Reading Oaks
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	10	2	Reading Oaks
Ryde Ladybirds	7	5	Reading Whiteknights
Ryde Bees	6	6	Ryde Hornets

Group two matches

1 June to 31 August

Guildford	5	7	Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
Ryde Ladybirds	4	8	Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	3	9	Guildford
Reading Whiteknights			Ryde Bees
Ryde Hornets	9	3	Reading Whiteknights
Reading Oaks	4	8	Ryde Ladybirds
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	8	4	Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates
Guildford	11	1	Reading Oaks
Ryde Bees	5	7	Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers
Reading Oaks			Ryde Hornets

Group three matches

1 September to 10 November

Reading Whiteknights	Guildford
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	Ryde Hornets
Ryde Ladybirds	Ryde Bees
Ryde Hornets	Ryde Ladybirds
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	Reading Whiteknights
Ryde Bees	Reading Oaks

Note: Blanks indicate no results received. Please check that nothing has gone missing in the post.

Eastern division

Group one matches

1 March to 31 May

Rustington	4	8	Carshalton Curlews
East Berks Rack Pack	6	6	Dorking
Ramsgate	1	11	Brighton & Hove Regents
Rustington	3	9	Brighton & Hove Regents
Carshalton Curlews	7.5	4.5	Southdowns Scorpions
Brighton and Hove Regents	8	4	Southdowns Scorpions
East Berks Beavers	2	10	East Berks Rack Pack
Dorking	5	7	Ramsgate
Carshalton Curlews	5.5	6.5	East Berks Beavers
Dorking	4	8	East Berks Beavers
Southdowns Scorpions	8	4	East Berks Rack Pack
Ramsgate	3	9	Rustington

Group two matches

1 June to 31 August

Brighton & Hove Regents			Carshalton Curlews
Southdowns Scorpions	6	6	Dorking
Dorking	3	9	Brighton & Hove Regents
East Berks Rack Pack	7	5	Ramsgate
Rustington	8	4	East Berks Rack Pack
East Berks Beavers	5	7	Southdowns Scorpions
Carshalton Curlews	8	4	Dorking
Brighton & Hove Regents	12	0	East Berks Beavers
Ramsgate	4	8	Carshalton Curlews
East Berks Beavers	5.5	6.5	Rustington

Group three matches

1 September to 10 November

East Berks Rack Pack			Brighton & Hove Regents
Dorking			Rustington
Southdowns Scorpions			Ramsgate
Rustington			Southdowns Scorpions
Carshalton Curlews			East Berks Rack Pack
East Berks Beavers	8	4	Ramsgate

Note: Blanks indicate no results received. Please check that nothing has gone missing in the post.

LEAGUE POSITIONS JUNE 2009**Western division**

	Played	W	D	L	Games	Points
Southampton Saints	6	5	1	0	52	16
Bournemouth Magpies	5	3	2	0	36	11
Bournemouth Ospreys	6	3	1	2	39	10
Newport Blue	4	2	0	2	24	6
Salisbury	4	1	0	3	21	3
Newport Red	4	1	0	3	20	3
Southampton Sinners	3	0	1	2	13	1
Basingstoke	4	0	1	3	11	1

Central division

	Played	W	D	L	Games	Points
Portsmouth and Southsea Buccaneers	6	5	0	1	44	15
Guildford	5	3	1	1	38	10
Portsmouth and Southsea Pirates	6	3	0	3	37	9
Ryde Hornets	4	2	1	1	29	7
Ryde Ladybirds	4	2	0	2	22	6
Ryde Bees	4	1	2	1	27	5
Reading Whiteknights	4	1	0	3	17	3
Reading Oaks	5	0	0	5	14	0

Eastern division

	Played	W	D	L	Games	Points
Brighton and Hove Regents	5	5	0	0	49	15
Carshalton Curlews	5	4	0	1	36	12
East Berks Beavers	7	3	0	4	35	9
Rustington	5	3	0	2	30.5	9
East Berks Rack Pack	5	2	1	2	31	7
Southdowns Scorpions	5	2	1	2	29.5	7
Ramsgate	6	1	0	5	24	3
Dorking	6	0	2	4	28	2

Erratum

Addendum

Captains please note Bob Lynn has been appointed as the Match Liaison officer for Salisbury and he should always be contacted when arranging matches.

Tel: 01722 325623

Email: RLynn71911@aol.com

Answer to David Sutton's puzzle

The Two Tier Toughie:

Hints

The required anahook letters in order are:

O D I N G A U O L E M N G U H T C L T D

The Two Tier Toughie: Solutions

1. DOLOURS + O = DOLOROUS
2. BASEMAN + D = BEADSMAN
3. VATABLE + I = ABLATIVE
4. ABOLLAE + N = LOANABLE
5. ACHAGES + G = GANACHES
6. DRAMEDY + A = DAYDREAM
7. ECBOLES + U = BOUCLEES
8. SAVVIED + O = VAIVODES
9. SAIYIDS + L = DIALYSIS
10. NUMBATS + E = SUBMENTA
11. RHIZOMA + M = MAHZORIM
12. FUTURAL + N = UNARTFUL
13. ZINGANI + G = AGNIZING
14. JETLIKE + U = JUTELIKE
15. FLEECED+ H = FLEECHED
16. BAYARDS + T = BASTARDY
17. BOULIC + C = CUBOIDAL
18. BEDFAST + L = FLATBEDS
19. EXUVIAE + T = EXUVIATE
20. BIGFEET + D = BEGIFTED