



# B.S.C.C. Rapid Play Tournament 24/25



Sat 08/02/25

Back again for the 14<sup>th</sup> BSCC Rapid Play Competition.

A cold and slightly windy day outside, but lovely and warm in our venue for the day. This year, we had 12 players taking part. And some pretty strong contenders too! 4 members of T1 were present. T2 had 3. And for those from T3, there was little to judge between them. This was going to be a tough tournament to call!

The standard grades are used as most players currently do not have a formal Rapid Play grade.

Players involved:

The Crosby Cup	
Player	Standard
Ieuan Ward	2241
William Young	1972
Paul Shellard	1928
Andrew Cowlin	1853
Osilara Osiyemi	1734
Kai Rundell	1721

The Capsey Cup	
Player	Standard
Matthew Farley	1600
Charles Willbe	1576
Sam Richardson	1477
Perry Greenberg	1428
Nathan Wong	1372
Craig Osborne	1258

(\* Estimates Only)

The tournament is a Swiss 5 rounder and the results for each round can be found below.

For the first time, we had 12 members taking part this year.

The timing was Fischer Rapid (25 mins +10 secs per move).

Round 1		
White		Black
Ieuan	1-0	Matt
Charles	0-1	Billy-Bob
Paul	1-0	Sam
Perry	0-1	Andrew
Osilara	1-0	Nathan
Craig	0-1	Kai

### Highlights

This round tends to be a formality. That said, surprises can appear. Not for Perry, however. First to finish, but sadly with a loss against Andrew. Lara then beat Nathan. Kai beat Craig. Charles got to an end game, but ultimately, Billy's pawn advantage told. Sam had a great start and middle game, which he duly celebrated by throwing pieces away at the end!

Round 2		
White		Black
Andrew	0-1	Ieuan
Billy-Bob	1-0	Lara
Kai	0-1	Paul
Matt	0-1	Perry
Nathan	½ - ½	Charles
Sam	1-0	Craig

### Highlights

This round is far harder to call (except, maybe, Andrews)... Any victory here will be well won. Paul won his rather tight game. Perry won his. Playing well, he was helped by a mistake from Matt. A very respectable draw for Nathan. Sam got a great win. Ieuan got an inevitable win? 😊 Billy and Lara went the distance

Round 3		
White		Black
Ieuan	1-0	Billy-Bob
Paul	½ - ½	Andrew
Lara	1-0	Sam
Perry	0-1	Kai
Charles	0-1	Matt
Craig	1-0	Nathan

### Highlights

"I'm playing Lara? FFS!"

This round, shit got real! Kai got the first win of the round. Matt and Charles were respecting the 'Magenot Line' by keeping all their pieces in their own half. Then, all hell broke loose with Matt ultimately the victor. Paul and Andrew served a respectable draw. Lara won, but Sam never made it easy. Craig got a great win at the end but nearly left himself with a stalemate with a wrong move that he, fortunately, saw before completing it. Ieuan started with some crazy ass opening which really scuppered Billy. It felt planned! And worthwhile 'cos he won.

Round 4		
White		Black
Paul	0-1	Ieuan
Kai	1-0	Lara
Billy-Bob	½ - ½	Andrew
Matt	1-0	Craig
Sam	0-1	Charles
Nathan	0-1	Perry

### Highlights

This round, historically, is the best round of them all.

Charles went for the jugular on this one. Going up early, he loaded pressure onto Sam's pieces and eventually told.

Ieuan was coiling his pieces around Paul's and slowly squeezing the life out of Paul's options.

The tightest game looked to be between Kai and Lara. Very similar abilities, this game was going the distance. Kai actually had some really sweet-looking moves, but Lara is too wily a fox to fall for those. He wiggled out, but it cost him. The superior numbers told for Kai.

Matt too was picking his targets by overwhelming his opponents' pieces and slowly wearing him down. But Craig would not go quietly. He made Matt work, but again, superior numbers ensured the win.

Perry outmuscled Craig. Billy and Andrew played a doozy. It was a game with 2 different approaches and difficult to see who would win. Ultimately a draw seemed fair.

Round 5		
White		Black
Ieuan	1-0	Kai
Billy-Bob	0-1	Paul
Andrew	0-1	Matt
Lara	0-1	Perry
Charles	1-0	Craig
Nathan	0-1	Sam

### Highlights

And so to the final round...

The big game is Ieuan and Kai. With Ieuan not dropping points so far. Only Kai could knock him off his perch. A great start, but the Ieuan did what Ieuan does and started to get ahead. And this eventually ended in the inevitable.

Some of the other pairings were really quite intriguing...

Paul and Billy were after blood when they realised that Paul's medium score had him ahead. There was some great play from both here. Paul got there in the end.

Matt was determined to go out with a bang, and so was Perry. In fact, Perry gave us our first real shock. Some brilliant play allowed him to queen a pawn and really attacked Lara, forcing him to eventually resign.

Justified back slapping ensued, but then we all focused on Matt's game. A tricky position that he played masterfully and he too, walked away with a brilliant win. Well done both!!!

Thus, we conclude this year's B.S.C.C. Rapid Play Tournament. Sincere congratulations to **Ieuan** for winning the Tournament. Very well done also to **Matt** for being the winner of the Capsey Cup. And my thanks to everyone who took part. The final standings can be found below. Please remember, the top 8 players are automatically drawn into the quarter finals of the Club Championship. Details on that will follow from Ieuan.

The night was ended at The Shadona restaurant where an incredibly good meal, and (not many) brews, were had by all. Photos of the day can be found on Instagram/website. A favourite haunt, a really good day ending in style!

Pos.	Player	Score	Modified Median	Winners
1 <sup>st</sup>	Ieuan Ward	5	12	Crosby Cup Winner
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul Shellard	3½	12½	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kai Rundall	3	13½	
	Matt Farley	3	12½	Capsey Cup Winner
	Perry Greenberg	3	10	
	Billy-Bob Young	2½	8	
	Charles Willbe	2½	5½	
	Andrew Cowlin	2	12	
	Lara Osiyemi	2	8	
	Sam Richardson	2	6	
	Craig Osborne	1	8	
	Nathan Wong	½	7.5	

Please note: the software uses the 'Modified Median' system (a revision of Harkness/Buchholz system) for tie breaking in Swiss-system tournaments. Ieuan has kindly volunteered to explain this to anyone interested.

YNWA

*Adam Hirst*