



Swindon Chess Club

Pairing & Sit-Out Guide

Pairing System:

At the start of a Rated Group evening, attending players are matched against each other by ranking them in descending order according to their current standing in the Club Championship. Starting at the top, players are paired with the next lower player, against whom they have not already played. The process is continued until all the players in attendance are paired up.

An attempt is then made to try to balance the number of games each attending player gets to play with the black/white pieces over their season.

Some discretion is then allowed for adjusting the pairings if this is deemed desirable.

This system aims to provide players with a similar strength opponent who they have not yet played during the season.

Sit-Outs:

In the event of an odd number of players turning up to a Rated Group evening, which can happen from time to time, then one player will be asked to stand down (i.e. "sit-out"). The following criteria are used to determine which player in attendance is asked to sit-out, applied in the order shown:

- A verbal request for a volunteer willing to sit-out
- A player who has played the maximum 15 club championship games
- A player who has played the most games in the club championship

Alternatively, three volunteers maybe requested to sit-out and play some quicker time-format casual games, taking turns to play. In this case, these games will not be rated.