

## **NCCU Webmaster's Report to 2023 NCCU AGM**

I took over the NCCU website when my predecessor Lewis Self decided he no longer had the necessary time to devote to it. Rather than take over an existing site written and managed using software unknown to me and structured in a way contrary to my own way of thinking, I set up an NCCU website in my own style in September 2022 ([mannchess.org.uk/NCCU.htm](http://mannchess.org.uk/NCCU.htm)) and I was formally appointed NCCU Webmaster at the 2022 AGM.

Most of Lewis's site material got transferred across. The one casualty was the part on past correspondence chess activity from when the Union ran inter-county team correspondence competitions. The link on the old site went to the wrong page and attempts to retrieve that data failed. (There may have been no more data than I have retrieved from other sources.)

Such websites obviously hold much data which is largely static or lasts for a year. My aim was to incorporate more ongoing news of Northern chess activity run within the Northern Counties.

I have covered NCCU inter-county matches in a manner more "accessible" than resorting to the copout of hyperlinks to the ECF LMS website. Thus, all match results, the league table and the cross-chart for a given rating section appear on a single page. In this way what is held on LMS as 27 different pages is held on the NCCU website on 5 pages.

As a new feature, I have as far as possible reported results of congresses held in NCCU territory and open to all to enter. True, if you know about it, you can root out results on Chess-Results.com, but rather than display links to the source website, I convert the source data into full wallcharts, as far as possible correcting name-spelling quirks of the source sites and adding in clubs and progressive scores, thus giving added value to Chess-Results data. Congress organisers are welcome to send in reports to add to the basic coverage I give.

Where an event publishes games during its progress or soon after, I am able to give selected games for playing through on screen, but that actually has happened so far only for the Harrogate 4NCL congress in January 2023. However, I see live coverage is advertised for the Northumbria Masters in late August, so I shall be ready with my own software to convert .pgn files to game-playing webpages on the NCCU website ("if re-elected" as the saying goes).

Steve Mann,  
09/08/2023