

Barnet Junior Chess Policy A2

-BJC Team Selection (Vs5)

1. Aim

This Policy sets out to explain the processes which occur in the selection of teams to represent Barnet Junior Chess (B.J.C.). These teams will represent the B.J.C. in competitions run by English Primary Schools Chess Association (EPSCA).

2. E.P.S.C.A. Competitions

E.P.S.C.A. runs competitions for three teams - Under 11, Under 9 and Girls Under 11 (Player age determined as at 31 August.) The Under 11 Championship is for teams of 20, whilst the Under 9 and Girls Under 11 are for teams of 12. Four reserves may be taken per team.

Geographically at present the E.P.S.C.A. considers that "Barnet" consists of players not only currently resident or attending school within the London Borough of Barnet, but also those resident or attending school within the Boroughs of Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Harrow.

3. The structure of Team Selection

The Team-selection sub-committee of the management committee of BJC shall be chaired by a member of the committee (normally the Chair) and shall consist of the BJC team managers. It will meet in January, shortly after the BJC Individual Championships.

This sub-committee will consider and agree the team membership and Boards for the three teams, according to the terms of the criteria set out in Section 5 below. The Team selection sub-committee will submit the decisions and Minutes of the meeting to the BJC committee.

4. Identifying potential team players

Early consideration is given to the performances of those players from last year's team. (However playing in the previous year is no guarantee of selection, which depends entirely on current performance.)

The team managers attend tournaments and discuss players with other Barnet coaches/teachers in an attempt to identify all possible starters for consideration for the Selection Process.

The Team Managers will consider teams playing in the Barnet League as an additional check to ensure talented players are identified.

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5. Selection Criteria

Objective data are used from the following sources in the year of selection –

- 5.1 Performance in the EPSCA England Under 11 Team Pre-selection tournaments.
- 5.2 Performance in the L.J.C.C. Finals.
- 5.3 Performance in all BJC tournaments. (with the Barnet Champion at the Individual January tournament having an automatic place within the appropriate age team.)
- 5.4 Performance in any other tournament where hard data, normally in the form of cross-tables, is available.
- 5.5 Other hard data submitted by coaches or parents.

As a general rule, the committee gives weight to candidates who have recently played in many tournaments as an indication both of match readiness and enthusiasm for the game.

The committee shall look carefully at results from the above, considering the cross-tables to note results against other individual candidates. The overall score in any particular tournament is less important than who the individual has conquered or been defeated by. (The committee also understands that any child may have an “off-day” at a particular tournament.)

6 Selection Process

Data from all the above sources are analysed at the Team Selection meeting to produce a Barnet Squad. Where possible, a “Friendly” match is then arranged for the Squad to play another team, to permit the managers to observe each individual’s performance.

Robin Vicary

February 2015

Agreed at committee

2015

