

The seventh Cambridgeshire Rapidplay, held at Whittlesford on Sunday 28th October, attracted exactly one hundred competitors, a new record. Players came from 18 different counties as far away as Sussex and Derbyshire.

The three tournaments catered for all standards and ages of players. It was particularly pleasing to see so many junior entrants. The youngest player, Tristian See, aged 7 from Cambridge, was a prize winner in the Challengers Tournament.

Cambridgeshire players did well in all three events.

In the Open Tournament International Master Richard Tozer from Cambridge shared first place and won the Jack Taylor Trophy for the highest-placed Cambridgeshire player.

The Major Tournament saw three Cambridgeshire players share first place in a five-way tie: Phil Turp and Michael Dunkley from the New England Club in Peterborough, and Mark Lim from Linton.

The Challengers Tournament saw Paul Spencer, again from New England, score 5/5 to win outright, the only player to achieve a clean sweep of victories. Patrick Heneghan (Linton) and juniors Austin See and James Xu (Cambridge) were among five players to share second place.

I would like to thank Francis Bowers and Patrick Ribbands for running the Open and Challengers Tournaments, and for their invaluable help in organising the event, and Claire Turp and my wife Alison who provided the catering.

The full list of prize winners is given below.

OPEN

First equal: Richard Tozer (Cambridge) and Stephen Swanson (Hertford) 4.5/5
Third: Andrew Timoshenko (Peterborough) 4/5
Under 175 grading prize: Somton Ukken (Bury St Edmunds), Adam Taylor (Colchester), Louise Head (Crowthorne) and Steven Burke (Ashfield) 3/5
Under 16 junior prize: Tarun Malhotra (Habs School) 3.5/5

MAJOR

First equal: Michael Dunkley (New England), Mark Lim (Linton), Phil Turp (New England), Dean Hartley (Amber Valley) and Richard Desmedt (Wombwell) 4/5
Under 140 grading prize: Sam Herring (Oundle School) 3.5/5
Under 15 junior prize: Sam Herring and Scott Borland (Ardingly College) 3.5/5

CHALLENGERS

First: Paul Spencer (New England) 5/5
Second equal: Patrick Heneghan (Linton), Stephen Crockett (Redditch), James Cole (Magdalen College School), Austin See (Cambridge) and James Xu (Cambridge) 4/5
Under 100 grading prize: Stephen Crockett (Redditch) 4/5
Under 15 junior prize: James Cole and Austin See 4/5
Under 13 junior prize: James Xu 4/5

Under 11 junior prize: Tristian See (Cambridge) and Iga Kaszuba (Peterborough)
2.5/5

The next Cambridgeshire Rapidplay will be held in Peterborough on Sunday 21 April
2013.

PAUL KEMP