

## Barnsley Chess Club Ladder Rules

1. Before starting play both players must know the game is a ladder match.
2. Initial positions on the ladder are determined randomly. New members of the Club are added to the bottom of the ladder.
3. The time limit for all ladder games is 60 minutes per player per game.
4. All games must be played with a clock. Normal rules apply but a player can choose not to record the game.
5. Ladder game colours to be determined by the toss of a coin.
6. Challenges can be made at the club on a club night or by email or WhatsApp beforehand.
7. You must only challenge anyone who is one to six spots above you on the ladder.  
**Except** Where any player(s) ranked one, two three or four spots above you are playing league matches on that ladder night. These can be substituted by higher placed player(s) on the ladder. This amounts to the number of spots taken by the players playing league matches. eg If one of the players in spots 1-4 above you are playing in a league match you can challenge the next person above you in the ladder, ie spot 5.  
If two of the players in spots 1-4 above you are playing in a league match you can challenge the next two people above you in the ladder, ie spots 5 and 6.
8. If the lower-ranked player wins, the players swap positions in the ladder.
9. If the higher-ranked player wins or the game is drawn, there is no change in the players rankings.
10. If the higher ranked players refuses to accept a challenge at the club on the night and there is enough time to play the game he is deemed to have **lost** the game (see rule 8) unless rule 11 applies. .
11. After a ladder game is played, at least one of the players must play a ladder game against someone else before they are allowed to play each other again.
12. You must play at least once every six weeks to keep your position on the ladder. If you do not play in six weeks you will drop six places.  
Players playing league matches on a ladder night will be excluded for that night from this rule. If you attended a ladder night and could not be paired please let Martin know on WhatsApp or email by the Friday of that week to be exempt for that week.

## Game Results

The winner of each game should contact Martin via Whatsapp or email of the result. If the game is drawn the player of the white pieces should contact Martin.

All game results must be given at the latest **by the Friday of the week the game was played.**

If no result is given after two days of the game being played then that game will be **counted void.**

## Ladder Updates

Ladder updates will be made weekly .Updates will be sent to the Barnsley Chess Club WhatsApp group and by email. Players may wish to print a copy of the latest before going to the club.