

Frodsham Congress 2018

This year's congress (the 15th) took place at Frodsham Community Centre on 2nd-4th February, with 132 players, considerably up on recent years. Mike Surtees (Great Lever) was again the winner of the FIDE-rated Open, ahead of five players who were equal second (see below). This was his sixth win, to add to his wins in 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2016 (shared) and 2017.

First place in the Under 160 section went to John Cawston (Yorkshire Terrier), with Harry Lamb (Bolton) and Keith Maudsley (Culcheth) sharing second place.

The winner of the Under 120 section with a perfect 5 points was 16-years old Mark Waterfield, playing in his first standardplay congress. Khalid Khokhar (Chorlton), last year's winner, had to be content with sharing second place with Paul Taylor (Holywell) and Roy McCormick. Formby (Michael Barooah, Mike Barrett, Robert Owens and Ed Patten) won the team prize of a DGT 2010 clock, to add to the one they won in 2016.

Additional grading prizes were awarded in the Under 160 and Under 120 sections in view of the unusually large entries in those sections. It was particular pleasing to see seventeen entries from juniors this year, including four girls.

The Congress was ably controlled by International Arbiter Alex Holowczak and FIDE Arbiter Christina Pachaki.

Detailed results:

Open (29 players)

1st Mike Surtees (Great Lever) 4.5.

2nd = Jacob Boswell (Cheddleton & Leek), Philip Crocker (Chester), Oliver Jackson (no club), William McDougall (Chichester) and Paul Roberts (Edinburgh) 3.5.

Grading Prize: Thomas Carroll (Hoylake) 3.5.

On 3: John Altham (Bury), Dominic Bennett (no club), Martin Burns (no club), Max French (Wells) and Robert Furness (Culcheth).

Under 160 (51 players)

1st John Cawston (Yorkshire Terrier) 4.5.

2nd = Harry Lamb (Bolton) and Keith Maudsley (Culcheth) 4.

Grading Prize (135-149): Michael Connor (Great Lever) and David Hall (Perth) 3.5.

Grading Prizes (Under 135): David Buckell (Clitheroe) and Ken Johnson (Winwick) 3.5.

Others on 3.5: Andrew Barber (Buckley/Mold), Robert Clegg (Huddersfield) and Sam Davies (Tiger Chess).

On 3: David Ashton (Pensby), Michael Carroll (Great Lever), William Clinton (no club), Reg Clucas (Altrincham & Hale), Martin Coles (Runcorn), Seth Collinson (Chester), Neil Coward (no club), Mark Cromwell (Frodsham), Paul Doherty (Bolton), James Lee (Chester), Karl Lockett (Crewe) and Stephen Williams (Cwmbran).

Under 120 (52 players)

1st Mark Waterfield (no club) 5..

2nd = Khalid Khokhar (Chorlton), Roy McCormick (no club) and Paul Taylor (Holywell) 4.5.

Grading Prize (95-104): Andrew De Santos (Preston), Edward Patten (Formby), Stephen Tulett (Oswestry) and Jeff Wilson (Oldham) 3.5.

Grading Prize (Under 95): Joe Hirst (Newcastle-under-Lyme) 3.5.

Others on 3.5: Mike Barrett (Formby), Ian Stent (Wallasey) and Chris Rhodes (Crewe).

On 3: Lee Bishop (Wandering Dragons), Julian Hawthorne (Kidsgrove), William Heyes (Skelmersdale), Robert Owens (Formby), Jon Reese (Runcorn), David Scorer (Barnoldswick), Gordon Sommerville (Buckley/Mold) and Angus Weir (Holywell).

The Team Prize (a digital clock) was won by Formby with 10/15, ahead of Bolton (9.5) and Crewe, Treffynnon (Holywell) and Wallasey (9).

The full cross-tables are at <http://www.kisekigo.com/frodsham.html>.