



# B.S.C.C.

The Bishop's Stortford Chess Club



## Match Report

### B.S.C.C. T3 V St Albans 4

AWAY

DATE: 7/1/20

### Captains Report

A great win and an ace start to 2020! Our victory was initiated by a typical performance by Neil and cemented by a great win by Adam and a 'team draw' (in a winning position) by Charles. Many thanks to Charles for driving too (I hope he got home on the fumes left in his car!). This was our second won match of the season – the spectre of NOT being relegated now haunts us!

### Results

St Albans 4	Bishops Stortford 3
Board 1 : Ball, Matthew P	137 0-1 Hirst, Adam 128
Board 2 : Narbeth, Simon	129 0-1 Thompson, Neil 125
Board 3 : Cale, Chris	130 1/2 Willbe, Charles 120
Board 4 : Kalyviotis, Alexandros	122 1/2 Jurd, Peter 118
Board 5 : Whitworth, Michael H	121 1-0 Hobden, David 110
Match Score :	2 - 3

### Individual Players Report

Board 1:	<p>Standard stuff at the beginning with E4 and Bishop to C4. And nothing particularly novel from black. I was able to develop my Queenside more with pawn Lines on A3, B4 &amp; C2, D3, E4 while eventually settling my bishops on B2 &amp; B3. He never really mounted much of a challenge to these pieces, nor did he to my castle king which now had both knights sitting in front of three flat pawns. Meanwhile his development looked slightly muddled with knights in front of bishops and both these not terribly well positioned on D7 &amp; E7.</p> <p>Nothing had been taken throughout the opening or the middle game, indeed the first piece to be taken was taken by my opponent when he had only 5 mins &amp; 27 seconds left on his clock! I had begun to attack the centre with my pawns and I thought he countered well but had to think about how to do it which made his clock countdown perilously close to completion (albeit with 10 seconds added per move).</p> <p>I took a gamble and sacrificed 2 pawns in order to open up both lines for my bishops. I thought he had managed to get out of it when he attacked my queen with his G pawn. But I used my abundant time well and realised this was a mistake. I could simply take the pawn with my queen with his F pawn pinned by my white Bishop and with his king on G8. He hadn't realised it but this was checkmate.</p> <p>Adam</p>
Board 2:	<p>I played the Sicilian defensive against his e4 - his 3rd move was bishop to c4 - so I didn't go into the dragon variation but played e6 to get in d5 to attack the bishop.</p> <p>He made a few passive moves that allowed me to get my d and e pawns to e4 and d3. He then blundered- as he thought he could sack his bishop to get my two central pawns- but he could only take one as I could pin the bishop on d3 to his queen in d1 - in a few moves I was a bishop and pawn up and I had a clear plan to attack his castled king while his pieces were not working well together. He resigned in the 28th move :-)</p> <p>Neil</p>
Board 3:	<p>I played the Vienna but black responded with the rather tame d6. Frankly it was rather quiet game with my attacking intent being defended against fairly easily and a couple of more aggressive options missed by me. After the Queen side pawns simplified, I found myself one up and by move 37 it was 2. I then chickened out of the exchange of my rook for two pieces when I saw the ghost of only obtaining one piece ... but I was still a couple of pawns up albeit with my King now subjected to repeated checks. It was</p>

	still eminently winnable but I needed to be careful. Just then we went to 2 ½ to 1 ½ so I immediately offered a draw to secure the match and it was accepted with “grateful alacrity”! ½ - ½ Charles
Board 4:	The Spanish opening was followed by fairly standard development until I found a queen move threatening to win a pawn. After a very long think by my opponent I was able to attack and win a pawn. I was well placed and had a huge time advantage but it was another good lesson in the futility of trying to win on time when playing Fisher. I foolishly swapped down to a 2 rook, pawn and knight ending and with his knight infiltrating and my pieces very passive I was going to lose at least my pawn advantage and probably more. But with so little time (fluctuating around a minute) he accepted my offer of a draw. In retrospect I should have kept the queens on and have played as carefully as I would have if our time had been equal. Oh, well, lesson learnt and it was enough to help secure the team win. Pete
Board 5:	I lost David