



# **UGANDA CHESS FEDERATION**



## **NATIONAL CHESS LEAGUE**

**2017**

**(20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER)**

## **TOURNAMENT REPORT**

## 1.0 Introduction

The National Chess League got underway on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June at Hotel Africana, with (38) teams on board in the newly formed rated league that had two divisions of the previous year 2016 merged into one pool and use of the Swiss pairing system of 14 rounds.

During this year's league, UCF invited professional guest speakers from different organizations for inspirational (15-30 min) talks to the participants. This was one way to inspire chess players to aim higher on top of playing the Royal Game.

The league registered a 26.7% increase in club participation from (30) clubs combined from the two divisions in 2016, to (38) clubs competing in the same pool. This is an illustration of the growth and popularity of the game amongst the youth and adults Uganda hence for the UCF to seek out to potential sponsors to enable them facilitate the growing numbers.

Among the clubs that competed this year, were the debuting sides of Royal Knights Chess Club and Stands Chess Club (*youngsters under the age of 12*). SOM Chess clubs also registered (4) new clubs and Kireka Chess club registered Kireka B to play alongside Kireka A. The league also lost one team – City chess club from the previous league.

There are new clubs i.e. West Nile Chess Club and Mbale Chess club which expressed interest to play in the 2018 National League. This comes as an important element in regional representation of clubs in the league and UCF has to make necessary arrangements to absorb such clubs and ensure they participate comfortably alongside the city clubs. They will join Jinja Warriors Chess club which is the only consistent upcountry representative of chess club participating in the League.

## 2.0 Status Report

Uganda Chess Federation (UCF) in partnership with the Hotel Africana (Kampala district) Capital city of Uganda organized the National Chess League at the hotel premises. (*Summary of the status report is in Annex III*).

The event attracted (417) players compared to (320) players registered in 2016 representing a 30% increase in participation. Only 10% players were ladies.

## 3.0 Rounds and Rated players;

(14) Rounds were played in the Swiss system for the league of 1 hour 30 min with increment and the league recorded (72) players with FIDE ratings.

**5.0 Final Ranking after 14 Rounds**

Rk.	SNo	Team	Games	+	=	-	TB1	TB2
1	11	Kireka Chess - Team A	14	13	0	1	39	56
2	27	SOM Katwe	14	11	2	1	35	44
3	8	DMARK Chess Club	14	11	1	2	34	51
4	12	Kireka Chess - Team B	14	9	1	4	28	44
5	2	Bank of Uganda	14	8	3	3	27	45
6	20	Mulago Knights Chess	14	9	0	5	27	42
7	13	Lweza Chess	14	8	1	5	25	36
8	10	Gambit Chess Club	14	6	4	4	22	39
9	1	Aviation Chess Club	14	7	1	6	22	38
10	15	Makindye Chess	14	7	1	6	22	37
11	19	Mulago Kings Chess	14	7	1	6	22	37
12	21	Mulago Overs Chess	14	7	1	6	22	34
13	18	MUBS Chess Club	14	6	3	5	21	35
14	6	Chess Warriors	14	7	0	7	21	34
15	17	Mighty Bishops Chess	14	7	0	7	21	33
16	33	Mulago Rooks Chess	14	6	2	6	20	35
17	16	Mengo Chess Club	14	6	2	6	20	34
18	30	SOM Nateete	14	6	2	6	20	34
19	14	Makerere University	14	6	2	6	20	33
20	28	SOM Kawempe	14	6	2	6	20	32
21	34	Comrades Chess	14	5	4	5	19	35
22	29	SOM Kibuli	14	6	0	8	18	36
23	35	Kyambogo University	13	6	0	7	18	32
24	4	Busitema University Chess	14	6	0	8	18	31
25	5	Chess Dynasty	14	6	0	8	18	31
26	9	Jinja Knights Chess	14	5	2	7	17	34
27	7	Crestals Chess	14	5	1	8	16	34
28	26	SOM Children's Team	14	5	0	9	15	34
29	3	Bunamwaya Chess Club	14	5	0	9	15	31
30	22	Mulago Pawns	14	5	0	9	15	23
31	31	UCU Knights CC	14	4	2	8	14	29
32	24	Ndejje University	13	4	1	8	13	26
33	36	Stands Chess Club	12	4	1	7	13	21
34	23	Mulago Queens Chess	14	4	0	10	12	24
35	32	UCU Queens CC	14	3	0	11	9	20
36	25	Royal Knights Chess	14	1	2	11	5	6.5
37	37	Maisha Chess Club	11	1	0	10	3	5

**Annotation**

Tie Break1: Matchpoints (3 for wins, 1 for Draws, 0 for Losses)

Tie Break2: points (game-points)

## 6.0 Prizes and Winners

The main winner of the league was awarded a Trophy and Gold Medals for 12 players from the winning team. The 1<sup>st</sup> runner up and the second runners-up were awarded with silver and bronze medals for the 12 players of the respective teams.

## 7.0 Challenges

1. Funding of the league is still not forthcoming so, dependency is from the clubs subscription which has its limitations e.g. club subscription not submitted to treasurer on stipulated time. – before start of league
2. Lack of “*playing Venue*” is lacking hence Federation having to improvise by hiring from hotel premises around the city Centre
3. Players lack of knowledge of FIDE rules of Chess 2017 also contributed to some of the misconduct during the tournaments
4. Lack of a favorable “*playing area*” for the teams was an issue to consider for the next league
5. Facilitation of clubs is a problem especially the non-sponsored clubs which may contribute to poor performance of clubs.
6. Inadequate lady players for clubs which led to “byes” on board 5
7. Shortage of qualified FIDE arbiters
8. Regional representation still very low for a National League
9. Lack of office space is also a problem

## 8.0 Way forward

1. UCF must secure National league sponsor before start of next season
2. UCF works more closely with FIDE, ACC and NCS to get the necessary assistance during national and international engagements so as to be able meet the top level of performance.
3. UCF drafts rules and regulations in accordance to national laws and FIDE rules of chess to improve players behavior while in “playing venues”
4. UCF in partnership with clubs should incentivize more female participation in the National league
5. UCF develop a communication strategy to attract more spectators and well-wishers of the Royal Game.
6. UCF plans to absorb up-country clubs into the league

7. UCF prepares a detailed program to have club friendly games at respective club premises and proceeds of these competitions be given to hosting clubs to further improve the game in their area code
8. UCF works with clubs on how to adopt youngsters into the clubs for purposes of continuity and encouraging the young generation to join.

ANNEX I

Publications

1. <https://www.kawowo.com/chess/>



Gabriel Kirabo (L) checkmated his opponent in the 12th move

Table 13, round 2 between Mulago Pawns and UCU Queens in the second round. A startling result was recorded on that board when a seven-year-old Gabriel Kirabo stunned M/s Grace Isabellah Asimwe from UCU.



*Inspirational speakers*



*Chessing*

**ANNEX II**

<b>National Chess League 2017</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<i>2017/06/25 to 2017/09/17</i>
<b>Organizer</b>	<i>Uganda Chess Federation</i>
<b>Venue</b>	<i>Hotel Africana (Kampala City)</i>
<b>Tournament Director</b>	<i>Mr. Henry Ategeka (General Secretary)</i>
<b>Chief Arbiter</b>	<i>FA Turyahabwe Christopher</i>
<b>Deputy Arbiters</b>	<i>Etyangat Augustine, Mukalazi John Vianney, Twinamasiko Ronald</i>
<b>Number Of Participants</b>	<i>417 players</i>
<b>Number Of Rounds</b>	<i>1hr 30 Min, 30 Min after 40 moves and Bonus 30 Sec per Move</i>
<b>System Of Play</b>	<i>Swiss-Manager from Heinz Herzog, Swiss-Manager tournament file</i>
<b>Time Management</b>	<i>Players did not keep time of arrival at the venue to start the games</i>
<b>Rules And Laws Of Chess</b>	<i>FIDE Laws of Chess 2017</i>
<b>Disciplined Players</b>	<i>One recorded incident (use of mobile phone engines)</i>
<b>Champions 2017</b>	<i>Kireka Chess Club</i>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Runner up 2017</b>	<i>SOM Katwe Chess club</i>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner up 2017</b>	<i>DMARK Chess Club</i>
<b>Best Board 1</b>	<i>Wanyama Harold (Kireka Chess Club)</i>
<b>Best Board 2</b>	<i>Nsubuga Haruna (Kireka Chess Club)</i>
<b>Best Board 3</b>	<i>Gonza Simon (Kireka Chess Club)</i>
<b>Best Board 4</b>	<i>Lubega Michael (Kyambogo Chess Club)</i>
<b>Best Board 5</b>	<i>Kigeni Grace (Bank of Uganda Chess Club)</i>
<b>Best Media Company</b>	<i>Kawowo Sports Publications &amp; The New Vision</i>

**NATIONAL LEAGUE CHESS CHAMPIONS 2017**

**KIREKA CHESS CLUB**

