

# Reflections 1 on CWP League 2018 by Dr Lyndon Bouah

## First day of the Chess WP league

A magnificent sight greeted all the teams and player that gathered for the first day of the Chess WP league at the Western Cape sport school in Kuilsriver. The hall was packed to capacity with chess boards for miles to see. Saturday 4 August was the start of the 11 round league. The league is divided into five sections with the first four sections consisting of 12 teams each who contest a round robin. The fifth section consists of a Swiss section with 23 registered teams. A grand total of just about seventy teams are competing in the Chess WP league.



In the Premier section MRL created a few important milestones which other clubs will find hard to emulate. MRL fielded in round one for the first time ever in the Premier league :

- 1.) A team consisting of four female players and four male players
- 2) A team consisting of five Protea players. They were Calvin Klaasen, Jesse February, Megan, Robyn and Lauren Van Niekerk. Justin Lynch has his Junior colours.
- 3) A team consisting of four Olympiad players Calvin Klaasen, Jesse February , Robyn and Lauren van Niekerk.
- 4) A team consisting of two reigning SA Closed Champions jesse February and Co Champion Calvin Klaasen.
- 5.) A team consisting of two zone 4.3 champions Jesse who won in 2016 and Megan who won in 2018.
- 6)In the second round MRL featured Maxwell Solomon who thus becomes the sixth Protea player to play this season for MRL and just to top it all off
- 7 ) MRL has appointed Robyn van Niekerk as captain.

Congrats MRL for leading the way! As defending champions you take your responsibility on and off the board seriously!

In the first round quite a few interesting clashes. IM Mohammed Henry Steel beat CM Lyndon Bouah. The first game saw Bouah equalising in the opening but the middle game saw Steel getting a bind on the

position. The match between Stellenbosch and Steinitz is traditionally a tough one for Steinitz. I felt like we starting with Kaizer Chiefs Versus Sundowns on day one of the league. The match swayed with each game a tense one. Mark Lewis the SA Over fifty champion beat Rebecca Selkirk who will probably rue her chances after being two passed pawns up. In the final match WIM Steel had a winning position against Luan De Jager who just found the right sequence to defend to secure the draw and also a four each result.



UWC beat Grassy Park with Marcel Roberts from NMMU making a surprise appearance for UWC on board three. Roberts won the Sa Junior championships a few years ago and also played against Kasparov at the foot of Table Mountain in 2012.

Blackjacks drew with Bellville. Kenny Willenberg, debutant on board one for Blackjacks lost to Bennie Levin. Both teams are hoping to do well this year.

African Chess Lounge beat Cape Town 5-3 in a spirited encounter. IM Kobese drew with IM David Gluckman who was forced to give up his queen when Kobese found a neat combination. Gluckman defended well and secured the draw with the remaining pieces.

National Champion Manyanani suffered an unexpected loss to The University of Cape Town when they lost 2.5-5.5. The surprise of the round was Paul Darling beating FM Shabier Bhawoodien. Paul has taken time off for his studies made his appearance after a long absence. So well done to UCT.

MRL beat CPUT 7.5 to 0.5. CPUT will find the going tough because all the teams will be going for them. MRL played well and besides the female imports Lorenzo Van Niekerk has also beefed up his team by recruiting Bernard Klein and Trevor April. Both these Paarl players are fiercely competitive so the sparks should fly.

As we played a double round the second round started at 2pm. Steinitz beat CPUT 7-1 with Veroe September finding a neat combination to beat me in our individual encounter. September has been working on his chess and all credit to him for seeing further in the position than I did. On board eight though the CPUT captain should speak to his player who wrote on the scoresheet that he is a 2500 rated player. He wrote this on his opponents' scoresheet to do what no one knows. If you want to play and stay in the Premier you need to respect the rules and decorum of the event!

MRL beat UCT 6.5 to 1.5. MRL is certainly setting the pace with a squad rich in depth.

African Chess Lounge beat Manyanani 4.5 to 3.5. On the top board some wild chess was played which was very entertaining with Kobese beating Bhawoodien, Johan Laurie beat Charles De Villiers while Deon Pick showed the fruits of his German trip when he defeated talented youngster Keegan Agulhas. The back three of Manyanani lost unfortunately thus bringing to a close a bad day at the office.

Cape Town and Bellville drew 4-4 with Paul Gluckman playing top board for Cape Town.

Blackjacks beat Grassy Park 4.5 to 3.5 in a tense match. Kenny Willenberg had the crowd enthralled when he beat Jordan Verster in pawn race. Both players had pawns marching but alas for Verster, Willenberg had an extra one.

Stellenbosch beat UWC 5.5 to 2.5.

So after the first day MRL with their two victories are on top followed by African Lounge and then Steinitz.

### Premier Section

#### Ranking crosstable

Rk.	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	MRL	*							6½				7½	4	14,0	0	2343
2	African Chess Lounge		*							5		4½		4	9,5	0	1568
3	Steinitz			*	4								7	3	11,0	0	1765
4	Stellenbosch			4	*			5½						3	9,5	0	1578
5	Blackjacks					*	4				4½			3	8,5	0	1397
6	Bellville					4	*			4				2	8,0	0	1343
7	University of the Western Cape				2½			*			5			2	7,5	0	1228
8	University of Cape Town	1½							*			5½		2	7,0	0	1120
9	Cape Town		3				4			*				1	7,0	0	1139
10	Grassy Park					3½		3			*			0	6,5	0	1064
11	Manyanani		3½						2½			*		0	6,0	0	1022
12	Cape Peninsula University of Technology	½		1									*	0	1,5	0	273

Further reports on all the league sections will follow later. For now we end off with the cross tables of each division.

**B Section****Ranking crosstable**

Rk.	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	Steinitz B	*									4½	6	4	10,5	0	6,0	
2	Belhar Knights A		*			4			5				4	9,0	0	10,5	
3	Mitchells Plain A			*				5		3½			4	8,5	0	9,0	
4	Stellenbosch B				*		2½				5		2	7,5	0	3,0	
5	UCT B					*			2½		4		2	6,5	0	3,0	
6	Uitsig A		2				*					4	2	6,0	0	2,0	
7	GPCA B				3½			*	2				2	5,5	0	7,5	
8	Mitchells Plain B			1				4	*				2	5,0	0	5,5	
9	Elsies River A		1			3½				*			2	4,5	0	6,5	
10	Steinitz C	1½	2½								*		0	4,0	0	0,0	
11	Bellville B				1	2						*	0	3,0	0	0,0	
12	Capablanca A	0					2						*	0	2,0	0	0,0

**C Section****Ranking crosstable**

Rk.	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	Sanlam A		*									5½	6	4	11,5	0	3,5
2	Crossroads A			*				6			4			4	10,0	0	8,0
3	Blackjacks B				*				6	3½				4	9,5	0	9,0
4	Maties					*	4			3½				4	7,5	0	12,5
5	GPCA C					2	*						5½	2	7,5	0	0,5
6	Goodwood A							*	2			3½		2	5,5	0	3,0
7	Steinitz D			0			4	*						2	4,0	0	5,5
8	Aurecon A				0				*		4			2	4,0	0	4,0
9	Stellenbosch C				2½	2½				*				0	5,0	0	0,0
10	En Passant A			2					2		*			0	4,0	0	0,0
11	African Chess Lounge(ACL)- B	½					2½					*		0	3,0	0	0,0
12	Manyanani B		0				½						*	0	0,5	0	0,0

## D Section

### Ranking crosstable

Rk.	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	GPCA D	*									6	6		4	12,0	0	1,0
2	Drakenstein Dragons A		*					4					6	4	10,0	0	6,0
3	Elsies River B			*						4			6	4	10,0	0	3,0
4	UWC B				*	3						6		3	9,0	0	4,0
5	Kraaifontein A				3	*				5				3	8,0	0	7,5
6	Stellenbosch D						*	3		5				3	8,0	0	3,5
7	Observatory A		2					*	4					2	6,0	0	5,0
8	UCT C					3	2	*						1	5,0	0	4,0
9	Crossroads B			2	1					*				0	3,0	0	0,0
10	Blackjacks C	0				1					*			0	1,0	0	0,0
11	Capablanca B	0		0								*		0	0,0	0	0,0
	African Chess Lounge C	0	0										*	0	0,0	0	0,0

## Saturday Swiss

### Rank after Round 2

Rk.	SNo	Team	Team	Games	+	=	-	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	1	Stellenbosch E	Stellenbosch E	2	2	0	0	4	9,5	0	790
2	4	Elsies River C	Elsies River C	2	2	0	0	4	9,0	0	768
3	3	Mitchells Plain C	Mitchells Plain C	2	2	0	0	4	9,0	0	740
4	8	UWC C	UWC C	2	2	0	0	4	8,0	0	686
5	5	Bellville C	Bellville C	2	2	0	0	4	7,5	0	595
6	6	GPCA F	GPCA F	2	1	1	0	3	5,5	1	503
7	7	Kraaifontein B	KRAAIFONTEIN B	2	1	1	0	3	5,5	1	461
8	20	Sibanye Khayelitsha Chess Club A	Sibanye Khayelitsha Chess	2	1	0	1	2	6,0	0	502
9	17	Surrey Estate A	Surrey Estate A	2	1	0	1	2	5,5	0	483
10	2	Manyanani C	Manyanani C	2	1	0	1	2	5,0	0	438
11	9	GPCA E	GPCA E	2	1	0	1	2	5,0	0	420
	22	Sibanye khayelitsha Chess Club C	Sibanye khayelitsha Chess	2	1	0	1	2	5,0	0	420
13	14	Kraaifontein C	KRAAIFONTEIN C	2	1	0	1	2	5,0	0	402
14	18	Kraaifontein D	KRAAIFONTEIN D	2	1	0	1	2	3,0	0	272
15	11	GPCA G	GPCA G	2	0	0	2	0	3,0	0	230
16	15	Crossroads C	Crossroads C	2	0	0	2	0	2,0	0	172
17	10	En Passant B	En Passant B	2	0	0	2	0	1,0	0	100
18	13	Mitchells Plain D	Mitchells Plain D	2	0	0	2	0	1,0	0	86
19	16	Drakenstein Dragons B	Drakenstein Dragons B	2	0	0	2	0	0,5	0	36
20	12	Bellville D	Bellville D	0	0	0	0	0	0,0	0	0
	19	Crossroads D	Crossroads D	0	0	0	0	0	0,0	0	0
	21	Sibanye Khayelitsha Chess Club B	Sibanye Khayelitsha Chess	2	0	0	2	0	0,0	0	0
	23	Sibanye Khayelitsha Chess Club D	Sibanye Khayelitsha Chess	0	0	0	0	0	0,0	0	0

Regards

Dr Lyndon Bouah