

BCCA Individual Competition (Fred Day Cup) Controller Report 2025-2026

After a moderately encouraging revival in the previous season, there was limited enthusiasm for this season's event.

The "tournament over many months" format to determine the county individual championship has been declining in popularity in England.

The most popular alternative, adopted by many counties, is to piggy-back the award on to an existing congress and I have adopted this approach. The two candidate tournaments were the [Berks & Bucks Congress](#) and the [Bourne End One Day Congress](#).

Liam Varnam (organiser of the Berks & Bucks) would be happy to allow the congress as a vehicle for the Fred Day Cup (the Berkshire individual cup is already awarded at this event).

The Bourne End event was deemed more appropriate because

- it is actually held in Bucks
- it seemed likely that more Buckinghamshire qualifying players would be in section A of the Bourne End congress than in the championship section of Berks & Bucks.

That decision is not set in stone.

The highest placed qualifying player was John Sharp of Berkhamsted and the Fred Day Cup has been engraved and presented to him.

Currently, a "qualifying player" will satisfy one of the following conditions:

- has represented the county team in the [Chiltern League](#) during the current season
- has current membership of a [club](#) affiliated to the Buckinghamshire County Chess Association
- has Individual membership of the [BCCA](#) (I don't even know how you get this)

Any thoughts on these conditions would be welcome.