

The New British Grading List

The observations are the compilers' own; we make no editorial comment, not having had time to analyse the lists. We should be interested in readers' reactions. We have received curiously little correspondence about any of these grading lists. Is nobody very interested? We really should welcome views.

This is the first list under the decentralised system; the B.C.F. Grading Committee is now responsible for grading players in an above grade 3a only. The Unions are now responsible for grade 3b and below.

The B.C.F.'s list, grades 1a to 3a, contains 45 names. Of the names in grades 3b to 5b, the S.C.C.U. and London League have supplied 153, the N.C.C.U. 65, the M.C.C.U. 52 and the West of England C. U. 23, making a total of 338.

All lists are prepared by the same method, described in the 1957-1958 B.C.F. Year Book. The work is co-ordinated by the National Grading Committee, and the lists are comparable. The Unions make their own rules for eligibility and qualification, and may diverge in this and in the number of grades covered. This would not affect the comparability of the lists.

The lists cover the period October 1955 to September 1957. The qualification is 50 games in the period, including at least ten in 1956-1957. This is waived in appropriate cases.

The B.C.F. National List contains 45 names compared with 48 in the same grades last year. Kottnauer is now alone in 1a for Alexander's results at Hastings and in the British Championship bring him down to 1b. Golombek and (J.) Penrose are again in 1b and are joined by P.H. Clarke, now becoming established in the front rank of British players.

There are two newcomers to 2a: A. W. Bowen (playing for Hampstead after some years' absence from competitive play) and M. J. Haygarth (Leeds); Fairhurst appears for the first time since the 1953 list; J.A. Fuller, R.J.A. Persitz and R.G. Wade are once more

in 2a. These performances contribute towards the qualifications of Clarke and Fuller for the title of British Master, and begin those of Bowen and Haygarth.

Both newcomers to 2b are young players: M. Davis of Cambridge University who, as a boy in Hastings was in 3b in the 1954 list, and N. Hammond of Civil Service and Kent. This year there is a promising emergence of younger players into the higher grades.

The Union lists total 293, so that the aggregate for the whole set is 338, against 322 last year. Of the 260 appearing in both years, 53 have gone up, 66 down and 141 are unchanged. 78 have come into the lists and 62 have dropped out.

In the five lists 1953-1957, 495 players have been graded. Of these, 150 have appeared once only (62 this time), 201 twice or three times and 144 four or five times. Only 28 of the 49 in the first list have remained in the lists throughout, and only four of these in the same grade throughout.

The results of B.C.F. and other "national" events will continue to be evaluated centrally. All other records are now collected by the Union graders, whose addresses are in the Year Book. The National Grading Committee and the Union graders appreciate the nation-wide support that they are receiving, and hope to improve the lists steadily from year to year.

In the following lists, the number in each grade is put in brackets. Each player's club or county and 1956 grading (if any) are given in brackets after his name. IM and BM indicate International Master and British Master respectively. In the B.C.F. list, the four unions are indicated by S, N, M, and W respectively. CS indicates Civil Service.

Grade 1a (1)

C. Kottnauer (IM: 1a)

Grade 1b (4)

C. H. O'D. Alexander (IM: 1a)
P. H. Clarke (S: 2b)
H. Golombek (IM: 1b)
J. Penrose (BM: 1b)

Grade 2a (6)

A. W. Bowen (S)
W. A. Fairhurst (IM)
J. A. Fuller (S: 2a)
M. J. Haygarth (N: 2b)
R. J. A. Persitz (S: 2a)
R. G. Wade (IM: 2a)

Grade 2b (12)

L. W. Barden (S: 2b)
R. J. Broadbent (BM: 2b)
H. E. G. Courtney (M: 2b)
M. Davis (S)
M. J. Franklin (S: 2b)
O. Friedman (S: 2b)
A. Y. Green (S: 2b)
N. G. Hammond (S)
P. S. Milner-Barry (BM: 2a)
F. Parr (S: 2b)
W. Tabakiernik (M: 2b)
P. N. Wallis (M: 2b)

Grade 3a (22)

G. Abrahams (N: 3b)
J. M. Aitken (W: 3b)
J. Ansell (W: 3b)

M. Blaine (S: 3a)
J. W. Cornforth (S: 3a)
S. Fazekas (IM: 3a)
P. C. Gibbs (N: 3a)
D. G. Horseman (M: 3a)
F. E. A. Kitto (W: 3a)
D. G. Mackay (S: 3a)
D. V. Mardle (W)
G. J. Martin (S: 3a)
S. Milan (N: 3a)
R. H. Newman (S: 3a)
P. J. Oakley (M: 3a)
D. Paffley (N: 3a)
D. B. Pritchard (S: 3a)
A. R. B. Thomas (W: 3a)
W. Veitch (S: 2b)
J. A. Wall (S: 3b)
B. H. Wood (M: 2b)

UNION LISTS

Grade 3b (33)

S.C.C.U./L.C.L. (22):—

- J. Birnberg (Athenaeum: 3b)
 M. F. Collins (Camb. U.: 4a)
 F. Fischer (West London: 4a)
 T. Goodhill (West Ham: 4a)
 R. Hartnett (Clapham Common: 3a).
 E. C. Hughes (CS and Midx: 3a)
 H. Israel (Middlesex: 3b)
 J. Levin (Metropolitan: 3a)
 D. E. Lloyd (CS & Middx.: 4a)
 R. Payne (Southend and West Ham: 3b)
 N. A. Perkins (CS and Finchley: 3b)
 W. H. Pratten (Hampshire: 3b)
 W. E. C. Richards (CS and Surrey: 4a)
 L. Rosselson (Hampstead: 4b)
 A. Samuels (Croydon)
 E. G. Sergeant (BM: 3b)
 A. R. Spiller (Athenaeum: 4a)
 R. W. Stevenson (Clapham Common: 3b)
 J. Stone (Hampstead: 3a)
 B. Sturgeon (Ilford: 3b)
 J. D. Taylor (Camb. Univ.)
 P. C. Tomlin (Harrow)
 N. C. C. U. (6):—
 T. J. Beach (Liverpool: 3b)
 J. H. Beaty (Doncaster: 3b)
 D. Harding (Sale: 4a)
 C. G. Hilton (Manchester: 3b)
 P. C. Hoad (Liverpool: 3b)
 J. Wolstenholme (Manc'r: 3b)
 M. C. C. U. (4):—
 G. F. Harris (Lye, Worcs.: 3a)
 B. J. Moore (Erdington: 3b)
 W. R. Morry (Erdington: 3b)
 P. D. Sanderson (Leicester: 3b)
 W. E. C. U. (1):—
 P. F. Copping (Wiltshire: 3a)

Grade 4a (56)

- W. Broome (Clap'm Com.: 4a)
 C. G. Butcher (Wimbledon: 3b)
 A. Calder-Smith (Clapham Common)
 P. B. Cook (CS and Ilford: 3b)
 F. Davy (Southgate: 3b)
 W. S. Deeth (Hampstead and Oxford University: 4b)
 A. Distler (Athenaeum: 4a)
 R. A. Fuller (Southend)
 D. Gilbertson (Southgate: 4a)
 C. F. Girling (Kent: 4b)

- D. J. P. Gray (Camb. U.: 4a)
 J. E. Guthrie (Middlesex)
 J. B. Harmer (W. London: 4a)
 J. B. Hawson (Ilford: 4a)
 A. Hirsch (Finchley: 3b)
 J. Hobbs (Twickenham and North Thames Gas: 4b)
 R. F. Holmes (Cambridge City)
 J. B. Howson (Kent: 3b)
 G. B. Lewis (Civil Service: 3b)
 D. Miller (Hampstead: 4a)
 A. J. Morrell (Ilford: 3b)
 A. G. C. Paish (Insurance)
 J. S. Parker (Wimbledon: 3b)
 Mrs. E. Pritchard (4a)
 D. J. Richards (Oxford U.: 4a)
 S. A. Seale (Ealing: 3b)
 J. V. Skilleter (West Ham: 4a)
 R. A. Slade (Kent: 4a).
 J. M. Soesan (Ilford: 4a)
 F. E. Tinworth (Muswell Hill & Aquarius: 4a)
 G. H. F. Tredinnick (Insurance and Wimbledon: 4a)
 R. G. White (Stock Exch.: 4b)
 H. I. Woolverton (Ilford: 4a)
 W. J. E. Yeeles (Kent: 4b)
 N. C. C. U. (8):—
 I. Goldberg (Leeds: 5a)
 N. Littlewood (Sheffield)
 J. W. Naylor (Liverpool)
 J. H. Pollitt (Manchester: 4a)
 J. E. Povey (Leeds: 3b)
 H. G. Rhodes (Southport: 3a)
 J. T. Smith (Manchester: 4a)
 S. Wilkinson (Harrogate: 4a)
 M. C. C. U. (9):—
 R. W. Bonham (Worcester: 3b)
 A. G. Burbidge (Kynoch: 4b)
 A. J. G. Butcher (Wolvhtn.: 4b)
 K. L. Gardner (Solihull: 4b)
 P. Harris (West Bromwich: 4a)
 V. J. A. Russ (Leicester: 4a)
 A. Starosolsky (Ukrainians, Leicester: 4b)
 C. G. Tayar (Birmingham: 4a)
 D. J. Youston (Kynoch: 4a)
 W. E. C. U. (5):—
 R. M. Bruce (Devon: 4a)
 J. C. Cock (Gloucesters.: 4b)
 J. E. Jones (Devon)
 J. Neale (Gloucestershire: 3b)
 C. Welch (Gloucesters.: 4b)
 S.C.C.U./L.C.L. (31):—
 F. W. Allen (Athenaeum: 4a)
 G. A. C. Ashcroft (Battersea: 4b)
 J. M. Bee (Metropolitan: 4b)
 A. Bernfield (Metropolitan: 4b)
 R. E. Borland (Harrow and London University: 4a)
 T. H. George (Ilford: 5a)
 D. Gowler (West Ham and Lensbury: 5a)
 N. H. S. Lavers (Hertfords.: 4a)
 H. C. Lewis (CS and Herts.: 4b)
 M. Macdonald-Ross (Athenaeum and Kent: 4b)
 P. May (Southgate: 5b)
 A. Mazitis (Finchley: 4b)
 K. C. Messere (Athenaeum: 4b)
 J. A. Moore (Metropolitan: 5a)
 H. G. Mutkin (Oxford Univ.: 5a)
 G. M. Norman (West London and Sussex: 4a)
 A. Philpott (Finchley: 4b)
 W. E. B. Pryor (Herts.: 4a)
 J. S. Regruto (Battersea)
 I. P. Russell (Southgate: 4b)
 D. Sherman (Athenaeum)
 R. Smith (Civil Service: 5a)
 R. Speirs (Harrow: 4a)
 K. E. Stanley (Bristol Univ. & Essex)
 R. F. Streater (Wimbledon and Sussex: 4a)
 Miss Anne Sunnucks (Middx.)
 G. Tanfield (Civil Service)
 V. Tarnofsky (CS and Essex: 5a)
 A. A. Thomson (Richmond and Twickenham: 4a)
 Miss Eileen Tranmer (Hampstead: 4b)
 S. Wilkinson (West Ham)
 N. C. C. U. (15):—
 A. W. Bachini (Liverpool: 5a)
 E. G. Berg (Bradford: 4b)
 M. E. Binks (Hull)
 J. G. Cockcroft (Bradford: 4a)
 R. B. Edwards (Harrogate: 5a)
 W. C. Evans (Sheffield: 4b)
 S. Haggas (Bradford: 5a)
 M. A. Haigh (Leeds: 5a)
 P. W. Hempson (Durham)
 K. Hilton (Liverpool: 5a)
 H. Howarth (Bradford)
 B. H. Neumann (Manchester: 4a)
 J. R. Nicolson (Wirral: 4b)
 W. A. Oddy (Harrogate: 4b)
 D. G. Tranter (Sheffield: 4a)
 M. C. C. U. (5):—
 G. Carlin (Braunstone, Leics.)
 P. E. Collier (Leicester: 5a)
 H. G. T. Matchett (Birm'm: 4a)
 L. B. Pawson (Grimsby: 5a)
 J. M. Tayler (Braunstone, L'cs.)

Grade 4b (60)

- W. E. C. U. (9):—
 R. W. M. Baxter (Gloucesters.)
 E. Faierman (Gloucesters.: 4a)
 J. B. Goodman (Devon: 4b)
 I. R. Napier (Cornwall)
 A. R. Pitt (Gloucesters.: 5a)
 M. E. Poolake (Gloucesters.: 4a)

R. O. Powis (Gloucesters.: 4a)
I. T. Sifton (Devon: 4b)
D. A. Thomas (Somerset)

Grade 5a (75)

S.C.C.U./L.C.L. (38):—

G. P. Barnard (Civil Service)
H. W. Calvert (Ilford: 5a)
D. J. Casiot (Kent)
D. J. Collins (Harrow: 5a)
E. E. Colman (Wimbledon: 4b)
J. R. Cooke (West Ham)
P. Dean (Leyton, London U.: 5a)
S. Dean (CS and West Ham: 5b)
P. C. Doye (West Ham)
R. G. Duce (Lensbury and Middlesex: 4b)
W. Evans (Battersea and Buckinghamshire: 5b)
B. E. Glaze (CS and Metropolitan: 5a)
L. A. J. Glyde (Ilford: 4b)
T. T. Godwin (West Lond'n: 5a)
D. J. Groen (CS & Twicken'm)
W. B. Haase (Southgate: 5b)
A. Hall (Harrow & Oxf'd U.)
R. H. King (Civil Service: 5b)
B. Medhurst (Cambridge U.)
G. C. Nurse (Insurance and Surrey: 5a)
R. Pinner (Richmond, Twick'm)
M. Podoba (Middlesex: 5a)
M. R. Porter (Ilford: 5a)
A. P. Primett (Herts.: 5a)
T. Pruchnicki (Polish YMCA 5b)
J. E. Redon (Battersea and Middlesex: 5a)
J. D. Rosse (Middlesex: 4b)
P. M. Shaw (Civil Service and Twickenham: 5b)
G. Sutton (Twickenham)
G. Tarjan (B. B. C. : 5a)
P. Tillson (Civil Service: 5a)
R. W. Tyndale (Atheneum: 5a)
M. E. Ventham (Civil Service 5a)
F. W. Viney (Finchley and Civil Service: 5b)
P. R. Vivian (Civil Service)
W. S. Wallis (CS and West London: 5a)
A. Weber (Clapham Common and Twickenham: 5a)
S. T. K. Wilkinson (Atheneum)

N. C. C. U. (20):—
C. G. Addingley (Leeds: 5a)
K. Beaumont (Huddersfield 4b)
J. H. B. Bennett (Manchester)
D. G. Ellison (Bolton: 4b)
J. Espley (Stockport: 5b)
B. Ewart (Wallasey: 5b)
R. Fletcher (Huddersfield)
D. B. Grayson (Manchester 4b)

C. R. Gurnhill (Sheffield: 5a)
O. H. Hardy (Wakefield: 5a)
R. W. Ives (Wakefield: 5b)
H. R. Jenkins (Manchester)
D. W. McGough (York)
A. G. Midgley (Huddersfield 5a)
L. W. Oliver (South Shields 5a)
E. Priestley (Hudd'rsf'd: 5b)
J. Rushton (Huddersfield: 5b)
F. Smith (Blackburn: 4b)
A. F. Stobo (Manchester: 5a)
B. L. Wilkinson (Chorley: 5a)
M. C. C. U. (13):—
C. C. Cordel (Leicester: 5a)
D. O. Gould (Leicester: 5a)
T. Harman (Coventry: 4b)
S. Hryniw (Ukrainians, Leices- ter: 5a)

T. Lee (Kenilworth: 5a)
N. E. Lewis (Circle, Birm'm: 5a)
W. S. Powell (Victory, Stoke: W.S. Powell (Stoke Victory 5a)
D. Saunderson (Chesterfield 5a)
G. H. Simmons (Appleby- dingham)
G. N. Stokes (Solihull: 5a)
J. H. Watts (Coventry: 4b)
K. Whyld (Boots, Nottm.: 4b)
C. B. Wood (Sutton Coldfield)

W. E. C. U. (4):—
Mrs. R. M. Bruce (Devon: 5a)
R. B. Copleston (Devon: 5a)
I. F. Grix (Devon)
P. Keffler (Somerset)

Grade 5b (69)

S.C.C.U./L.C.L. (28):—

M. Biggs (CS & Battersea)
H. T. Callaghan (Enfield: 5a)
F. J. Camm (West London: 5b)
T. I. Casswell (Hampstead: 5a)
P. A. Cooke (CS & Battersea 5b)
Miss J. Doulton (B. B. C. and Middlesex: 5b)
M. Duda-Morena (Polish Y.M.C.A.: 5a)
J. Foley (L. C. C.)
B. Forsyiaik (Polish YMCA: 5b)
H. C. Garner (Civil Service: 5a)
W. J. Gillies (Civil Service: 5b)
P. W. Haddock (Old Parkon- P.W. Haddock (Old Parkonians)
S. G. Hill (CS, Metropolitan 5a)
C. Jahn (Harrow: 5a)
R. E. James (Insurance and Sut- ton and Cheam: 5b)
S. Jezewski (Polish YMCA: 5a)
S. Leff (Atheneum)
A. E. Nield (Hastings: 4b)
J. T. Pascoe (West Ham)
G. A. Rain (Insurance: 5b)

M. J. Reddie (L. C. C.)
R. E. Rushbrook (Stock Ex- change: 5b)
A. F. Stammwitz (Harrow: 5b)
J. C. Thompson (CS & Kent)
L. Vine (Hampshire: 5a)
R. A. Wagstaff (Ilford: 5a)
R. Weisz (Wimbledon: 5a)
H. Zamojski (Polish YMCA: 5b)

N. C. C. U. (16):—
R. C. Beevers (Sheffield: 5b)
A. Bucys (Bradford: 5a)
A. Eva (Manchester)
J. Johnson (Liverpool)
J. Kenyon (Bolton)
B. J. McGreevy (Liverpool: 5b)
A. Milner (Manchester)
J. E. Morton (Sheffield)
J. W. Narcross (Leeds: 5b)
F. Rolls (Parsons Marine, Wallsend)
R. P. Ross (Hull: 5b)
E. L. Taylor (Sale: 5b)
T. Thomas (M. P. N. I., New- castle-upon-Tyne)
H. H. Watts (Southport: 5b)
A. Wilson (Bradford)
F. Whitham (Manchester: 5b)

M. C. C. U. (21):—
R. Asch (Solihull)
J. H. Baines (West Bromwich)
C. G. Burton (Erdington)
A. R. Chamberlain (City of Birmingham: 5b)
E. B. Chapman (N.A.L.G.O., Leicester: 5a)

F. Clough (Circle, B'm'ham)
M. E. Davis (Erdington)
N. A. Dent (Birmingham Univ)
J. C. Dore (Birmingham Uni- versity: 5b)
A. Freyer (Leicester: 5a)
C. Hammersley (City of Bir- mingham: 5a)
G. E. James (N. A. L. G. O., Leicester: 5b)
R. G. Lillwall (Lockheed, Leamington)
C. Linnell (Circle, Birming'm)
A. Marshall (Leicester)
A. P. Nicholas (Erdington: 5b)
O. Schalscha (Wellington: 5b)
W. Slowik (Derby: 5b)
P. M. Thomas (Leicester)
O. Weiss (Leicester)
R. D. Wormald (Worcester 5a)

W. E. C. U. (4):—
K. W. Bloodworth (Devon: 5a)
S. H. Brocklesby (Somerset)
R. M. Morgan (Somerset)
J. F. Wheeler (Devon)