

THE UDF POOLCHECKERS NATIONAL OPEN INDIVIDUAL DRAUGHTS CHAMPIONSHIP, 10th MARCH 2018, GULU

The UDF had a poolcheckers draughts championship in Gulu town on 10th March 2018 in the Alobo Ltd, Main Hall. A total of 22 participants (all men) took part in the tournament. The tournament attracted players from Kampala, Iganga, Amuru and Gulu. It was played over 9 rounds of Swiss system (Solkoff model) in the rapid category of timing. The time allocated per game was 5 minutes 3 seconds per move. Despite the number of participants being small, the tournament was very tough and 5 people went into the round with a chance of winning the tournament.

The Guest of Honour was Hon. Betty Aol Ocan, the women member of parliament, Gulu District. She used to despise draughts thinking that the game was for idlers but the exposure and level of organisation of the tournament changed her attitude. She pledged to support formulation of better policies for mind games in the country and promised to urge the members of parliament to include draughts in the East African Parliamentary games. She was told that many politicians had shied away from supporting the game and that UDF had limited financial support from Government compared to the physical sports Federations. She noted that the game of draughts required great focus and critical planning to outwit the opponent and requested that ladies needed to be attracted to the game. There was no lady among the players in the tournament unlike in some other tournaments where a few ladies take part in the competitions. The draughts players were urged to vigorously market the game of draughts to the ladies and make the necessary plans to attract them into tournaments. The MP bought water/drinks for the participants before officially declaring the tournament open. The photo below shows the Guest of honour opening the tournament by making a few moves and a capture on the board.



Infront, on the left is the Guest of Honour, Hon. Betty Aol Ocan opening the championship with George Omaya (front, right), the chairman Gulu District Sports Association. The Guest of Honour pledged to support policies to promote mind games in the country and requested UDF to promote draughts among the women in the country.

2018-03-10/2018-03-10
Classic, FMJD on Solkoff,
Arbiter: Dan Isabirye

Tournament table

S.No.	Title	Name	Fed.	FMJD	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	Total	Place
1		George, William Omay	UGA	0	12b 2	11w 0	16b 1	20w 1	2b 2	4w 2	21b 2	7w 2	15b 0	12	3
21		Stanley, Odeke	UGA	0	10b 2	8w 1	4b 1	18w 2	14b 2	7b 2	1w 0	12b 2	11b 2	14	1
12		Bob, Abuu Olwoch	UGA	0	1w 0	19b 1	10b 2	5w 1	18b 2	20b 2	7w 2	21w 0	4b 0	10	9
7		Simon, Otika	UGA	0	18b 2	20w 2	11b 2	14w 1	4b 2	21w 0	12b 0	1b 0	9w 2	11	6
11	MF	Dan, Isabirye	UGA	0	0b 2	1b 2	7w 0	4w 0	16b 2	14w 2	8b 1	13b 2	21w 0	11	5
13		Daniel, Comboni	UGA	0	2b 2	4w 1	14b 1	8w 0	9b 1	16w 2	20b 2	11w 0	5w 2	11	7
15		Julius, Mwita	KEN	0	4b 0	10w 1	2b 1	0w 2	5b 2	8w 1	14b 2	9b 1	1w 2	12	4
4	MF	Isaac, Bafaki	UGA	0	15w 2	13b 1	21w 1	11b 2	7w 0	1b 0	19w 2	8b 2	12w 2	12	2
8		Abdu, Hafiz	UGA	0	19w 2	21b 1	5w 1	13b 2	20w 0	15b 1	11w 1	4w 0	3b 2	10	8
9		Denis, Kirk Ongwech	UGA	0	20b 0	18w 0	3w 2	17b 2	13w 1	19b 1	16b 2	15w 1	7b 0	9	11
20		Patrick, Umala	UGA	0	9w 2	7b 0	0w 2	1b 1	8b 2	12w 0	13w 0	5b 0	6w 2	9	10
5		Louis, Martin Odoch	UGA	0	16b 2	14w 0	8b 1	12b 1	15w 0	17w 2	3b 1	20w 2	13b 0	9	12
3		Richard, Amone	UGA	0	14b 0	16w 0	9b 0	6w 2	17b 2	18w 2	5w 1	19b 1	8w 0	8	17
14		Billy, Charles Alobo	UGA	0	3w 2	5b 2	13w 1	7b 1	21w 0	11b 0	15w 0	10b 1	0w 1	8	14
18		Samuel, Ochola	UGA	0	7w 0	9b 2	17w 2	21b 0	12w 0	3b 0	6w 2	2b 1	10w 2	9	13
19		Karl, George Max	UGA	0	8b 0	12w 1	6b 2	16w 0	0b 2	9w 1	4b 0	3w 1	2b 1	8	15
16		Francis, Odongkara	UGA	0	5w 0	3b 2	1w 1	19b 2	11w 0	13b 0	9w 0	6b 0	17w 0	5	21
10		Lawrence, Opira	UGA	0	21w 0	15b 1	12w 0	2w 0	6b 1	0w 1	17b 2	14w 1	18b 0	6	19
0		Alfred, Ocitti	UGA	0	11w 0	6w 2	20b 0	15b 0	19w 0	10b 1	2w 2	17w 2	14b 1	8	16
2		Denis, Malinga Oryem	UGA	0	13w 0	17b 1	15w 1	10b 2	1w 0	6b 0	0b 0	18w 1	19w 1	6	18
6		Christopher, Ojok	UGA	0	17w 1	0b 0	19w 0	3b 0	10w 1	2w 2	18b 0	16w 2	20b 0	6	20
17		Paul, Kidega	UGA	0	6b 1	2w 1	18b 0	9w 0	3w 0	5b 0	10w 0	0b 0	16b 2	4	22

The tournament was won by Stanley Odeke (14 points) after defeating Dan Isabirye in the last round. In 2nd position was Isaac Bafaki (12 points), 3rd was George William Omayo (from Gulu with 12 points) and in 4th position was Julius Mwita (12 points), a draughts player from Kenya. In 5th position was Dan Isabirye with 11 points. The first 4 players obtained cash prizes while the first 3 obtained medals as well. This was the first time Stanley Odeke was winning a national draughts championship. The victory was a pay from the hard work he has endured in learning draughts by playing computer software, playing online games, solving draughts puzzles and being committed to regular training. Below is a photograph of Dennish Kirk Ongwech from Amuru Ditriect (front, left) and Patrick Umala from Iganga Draughts Club (front, right).



Dennish Kirk Ongwech (front, left) versus Patrick Umala (front, right) in round 1. Umala won the encounter 2 – 0.

Report compiled by

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