THE 1993 UNIFORM-PLATFORM COMPUTER-CHESS TOURNAMENT

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Following the successful running of the first QMW Uniform-Platform Computer-Chess Tournament last year, QMW will hold a similar tournament in 1993. The date will be 2-6 August.

As in 1992, programs will run on identical machines, and there will be two divisions: (1) the "PC" division for programs running under MSDOS on IBM-PC compatibles, and (2) the "C"-language division, for programs written in C that can run under UNIX.

Each game will be played without human operators or human intervention (unless a computer or network failure occurs). The two chess programs will run in separate computers, but both computers will be connected to a network, and will be able to communicate using communication software supplied by the organisers. A supervisor program in a third computer on the network (invisible to the competing programs) will monitor and record the game progress. The organisers will supply all the computers.

Existing programs need modification for automatic play. The modification is designed to be simple for a chess programmer to make. The communication software is provided by the organisers and details of how to modify existing programs will be supplied to anyone who might be interested in participating.

The automation of actual play means that attendance at the event is optional, thus potentially saving considerable time and money, and creating more flexibility for those who do attend.

All program submissions will be handled as confidential unless the programmer indicates that confidentiality is not important. Original discs will be returned, no copies will be made, and C compilations will be performed without human inspection of C code or copies made.

The tournaments will be Swiss system, with one round for every 2 entrants. It is expected that 2 (possibly 3) rounds will be played each day.

For 1993, the distinction between amateur and professional entrants is abolished. Titles of Overall Champion, and Runner-up, will be awarded in each divison.

To cover costs, there will be an entry fee for all programs of 40 pounds. The fee will be reduced to 30 pounds if the payment is made before 14 May 1993. A test version of the program (for confirmation of automatic-play compatibility) has to be made by July 2, but a final version can be submitted up to July 23.

Accommodation in University Halls is available for participants who wish to be present (if booked by 31 May) at 25 pounds per night, and hotel accomodation at a variety of prices can be arranged.

For more details write to:

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