

Dr Ian Scott, to give him his correct title, is a member of Louth Chess Club and also a GP in the south of the county. However, for the purposes of this week's game he is also a member of the Lincolnshire Correspondence Chess team playing in the National Correspondence Chess Federation tournament. Playing on board 4 of the team he plays two games against the same opponent, one as white and the other as black, in this case against Dennis Thomas of East Wales B in Division 3 of this season's event.

In the game where Ian is black the opening follows an unusual variation of the French defense 1. e4 e6 2. Nf3 d5 3. e5 c5 4. Bb5+ Bd7 5. Nc3 Bxb5 6. Nxb5 a6 7. Nc3 Ne7 and Ian is already targeting the pawn on e5 8. 0-0 Ng6 9. d3 Nc6 10. Re1 Be7 11. Bd2 Qc7 12. a3 0-0 13. Qc1 Ngxe5 and the pawn falls 14. Nxe5 Nxe5 15. Bf4 Bd6 16. Qd1 Rfe8 17. Qe2 and white is attempting to regain the piece (see diagram) can you see how Ian maintains the advantage.

Ian played 17. ...Nf3+ 18. Qxf3 Bxf4 19. g3 Bd2 20. Re2 Bg5 21. Rael Red8 (preventing 22. Nxd5). White instead played 22. Nd1 Qb6 23. c3 d4 24. h4 Bf6 25. Qg4 dxc3 26. bxc3 Rxd3 and Ian gains another pawn and also opens up the d-file 27. Qc4 Qd6 28. Qb3 c4 29. Qc2 (rather than 29. Qxb7 Bxc3 giving Ian a passed pawn) Rd8 30. Ne3 b5 31. Nd1 and white defends the pawn on c3 but loses the piece as Ian played 31. ...Rxd1 32. Qe4 Rxe1+ 33. Rxe1 Bxc3 and white resigned.

Ian also won his game as white so Lincolnshire have 5½ points from 9 matches so far and occupy 4th place.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk

