

Lincoln's team in Division 1 of the Lincolnshire League made their merry way to Brumby Hall in the Appleby Froddingham Steel Works sports complex where Scunthorpe were the hosts. In their opening matches Lincoln had lost to Grimsby and Scunthorpe had drawn with reigning champions Louth so a good result was needed by Lincoln to avoid being wooden spoon contenders.

On board 5 it was my pleasure to be drawn as white against Scunthorpe's Joanne Hutchinson and we pick up the game after black has just played 27. ...f6 (see diagram) forcing me to retreat but I needed to prevent black from playing e5 so I played 28. R5e3 h5 29. Qg3 Rd8 30. Qh3 f5 and I can now concentrate on the pawn on e6 31. Qg3 Rf8 32. Qe5+ Rf6 33. Qd6 Kf7 (not 33. ...Qxd6 34. cxd6) 34. Qxd7 Rxd7 35. f4 Rc7.

I can now concentrate on my pawn superiority down the queen's side 36. Rc3 Ke7 37. Re1 Rf8 38. a4 Rfc8 39. Re3 b5 (preventing 40. Rce1 Rc6 41. b5) but allowing 40. axb5 axb5 41. Ra1 Rc6 taking control of the a-file 42. Ra5 Rb8 43. Rea3 Rb7 44. Ra7 Rcc7 45. Rxb7 Rxb7 46. Ra5 Rb8.

I knew I needed to attack the pawns on e6 and g6 so I needed to shore up my defenses 47. Kf2 Kd7 48. Ke3 Kc7 49. Kd3 Rb7 50. Kc3 Rb8 51. Ra6 Kd7 52. Ra7+ Kc6 53. Kb3 Rb7 54. Ra6+ Kc7 an opportunity 55. Rxe6 Rb8 56. Rxc6 Re8 57. g3 Re3+ 58. Kc2 Rf3 59. Rg5 and black resigned.

Wins also for Murray Smith and Jules Brown plus a draw for Ian McDonald gave Lincoln a 3½-1½ win.

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

