

Lincolnshire's team in the Under 120 grade competition played their third match (out of 6) in this season's qualifying competition when they met Warwickshire in the familiar surroundings of Thurmaston Old School near Leicester. Warwickshire had won all their opening 3 matches whereas Lincolnshire with 2 points from 2 matches needed a good result.

On board 10 John Pocock from Grantham was paired as black against Penny Wood from Solihull and we pick up the game after white has just played 28. R1e2 (see diagram) looking to concentrate her efforts to win the pawn on e6 in order to regain the pawn lost earlier.

John replied with 28. ...e5 29. Bc2 e4 and now has a passed pawn 30. Re1 Re6 31. Bd1 f5 32. h3 Rf8 33. Rf1 Ne7 34. Bh2 Ng6 35. g3 Ref6 and now John is looking at advancing his f-pawn 36. Re1 f4 37. Bg4 Qd6 38. Bh5 fxg3 39. Rxf6 gxh2+ winning a piece 40. Qxh2 Qxf6 41. Bg4 Nh4 42. Qg3 Nf3+ 43. Bxf3 Qxf3 44. Qh2 Bc8 45. h4 Qg4+ 46. Qg2 Qxh4 47. Re3 Qf4 48. Re1 Qf3 49. Qd2 Qg3+ 50. Qg2 Qxe1+ and white resigned.

Wins also for captain John Grasham, Kiat Huang and Amogh Pilani all from Louth and Andrew Watson from Horncastle plus draws for Kishore Muruges, Mark Newstead, Paul Fischer, Terry Bennett and Adam Cook meant that Lincolnshire won by 7½ to 4½ and are now in equal second place on 4 points looking for a top 3 qualifying place for the national stages.

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

