

The final match of the season in the Lincolnshire League Division 2 South saw Lincoln 'A' playing Lincoln 'B'. Lincoln 'A' have already been crowned champions having won 6 out of 7 matches whilst Lincoln 'B' have lost all 7 but that is no surprise as the 'B' team is there to provide experience for up and coming hopefuls.

Jason Golding has been a shining light winning 2 and drawing 1 of his 7 games as well as taking over the captaincy part way through the season and it was my pleasure to be paired as black against him on board 2 with the opening following the Sicilian Dragon 1. e4 c5 2. Bc4 d6 3. d3 Nf6 4. h3 g6 5. Bg5 Bg7 6. Qf3 0-0 characterised by castling behind the bishop on g7.

Play continued 7. Ne2 Nc6 8. 0-0 Ne5 9. Qe3 Nxc4 10. dxc4 Be6 doubling Jason's c pawns 11. Nd2 Qb6 12. b3 a5 13. a4 Bd7 14. Nf3 Bc6 15. Bh6 Bxe4 winning the pawn while Jason was intent on nullifying my bishop on g7 16. Bxg7 Kxg7 17. Nd2 Bc6 (overlooking 17. ...Bxc2) 18. f3 Rae8 (whilst Jason overlooked 18. Qxe7) 19. Qc3 Kg8 20. Nf4 Qc7 21. Rae1 b6 22. Re6 (see diagram).

I could have played 22. ...fxe6 23. Nxe6 Qd7 24. Nxf8 Kxf8 which would have left me a piece up. However I played 22. ...Bd7 expecting Jason to pull back the rook but he found a better move - can you see it?

Jason played 23. Rxf6 exf6 24. Nd5 Qd8 25. Nxf6+ with the threat of 25. ...Kh8 26. Nxe8+ and Nxd7+. I decided to play 25. ...Qxf6 26. Qxf6 but to no avail as Jason won a few moves later.

Wins for Neil Roberts and William Orr plus a default meant that Lincoln 'A' won 3-1.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.
www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk

