

Lincoln's team in Division 1 played the last match of the season when they visited the familiar surroundings of St. James Church hall in Louth. Grimsby had already retained the title they have won for the last few seasons but a draw between them and Louth meant that coming into the match Louth were one point ahead of Lincoln, so Lincoln needed to win to take second place.

On board 5 it was my pleasure to be paired as white against 15 year old Adam Cook who has impressed at both club and county level and we pick up the game after Adam has just played 12. ...Qb6 (see diagram). I replied 13. e4 threatening to fork bishop and knight with 14. e5 but allowing black to play 13. ...Nxd4 but this was a little trap that I had set - can you see it?

I played 14. Nxd4 Qxd4 15. Be3 Qe5 black's only possible move 16. f4 Qh5 again his only move which allowed me to play 17. e5 after all. I was expecting 17. ...Qxd1 but instead he played 17. ...Ng4 threatening 18. ...Qxh2 so I played 18. h3 losing the piece but he played 18. ...Nxe3 19. Qxh5 losing his queen g6 20. Qf3

He did have some compensation with 20. ...Nxf1 21. exd6 Nd2 22. Qe3 Nb3 23. Rb1 d4 24. Qe1 dxc3 winning the exchange and a knight for a pawn 25. Qxc3 but his knight on b3 is trapped 25. ...Rac8 26. Qxb3 and I am now a queen and rook against 2 rooks and went on to win.

Wins also for Murray Smith and Andreas Sivacenko plus draws for David Coates and Herman Kok gave Lincoln a 4-1 win finishing in second place.

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

