

Lincoln's team in Division 2 North were on the road to the Appleby-Frodingham sports complex where Scunthorpe were the hosts. Having drawn with Skegness in their opening fixture Lincoln, reigning champions, needed a win to bolster their title defence. Newly formed Skegness currently lead the table with 3 points from 3 games but it is early days as this is Scunthorpe's opening fixture.

On board 1 Lincoln's Herman Kok was paired as black against Scunthorpe secretary Denis Georgiou with the opening following the Hungarian defence 1. e4 e5 2. Bc4 Nc6 3. Nf3 Be7 4. c3 Nf6 5. d3 d5 6. exd5 Nxd5 and Herman was expecting 7. Bxd5 Qxd5 but instead white played 7. Qb3 threatening the knight on d5 or the pawn on f7. Herman replied with 7. ...Na5 but white now played 8. Qa4+ c6 9. Bxd5 Qxd5 10. b4 b5 11. Qxa5 and Herman is now a piece down.

Herman had some compensation with 11. ...Qxd3 preventing white from castling but play continued 12. Qc7 0-0 13. Qxe7 and now Herman is two pieces down (see diagram), so how does he win from here? Read on.

Herman played 13. ...Bg4 14. Qg5 Rad8 (threatening 15. ...Qd1 mate) 15. Nbd2 e4 16. Qe3 exf3 winning back a piece 17. Qxd3 fxe2 18. Rg1 Rxd3 19. Rxe2 Re8+ 20. Kf1 Bh3 pinning the rook 21. a4 Rd6 and white resigned as Herman is now threatening 22. ...Rg6 with white's bishop and rook out of the game.

A draw for yours truly was not enough as Scunthorpe took the honours by 2.5 to 1.5.

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