

Reigning champions on Division 2 South Lincoln A played hosts to Louth when they visited Grafton House. Having won their opening 2 matches Lincoln A led the table whilst Louth were yet to get off the mark having lost their only match.

On board 2 Lincoln's Ian McDonald was paired as black against Louth captain Cameron Marnoch and we pick up the game after white has just played 9. Bg2 (see diagram).

Ian played 9. ...Re8 threatening to play 10. ...e5 forking white's knight and bishop so white played 10. Nb3 Bb4 11. 0-0 Bxc3 12. bxc3 doubling up white's c-pawns 12. ...h6 13. h4 e5 and white's bishop is trapped. With damage limitation in mind white played 14. Bxh6 gxh6 15. Nc5 e4 16. Rb1 Qe7 preventing white from playing 17. Nxb7 so instead he retreated with 17. Nb3 Kh7 18. f3 exf3 19. Qxf3 Kg7 20. Nc5 perhaps offering 20. ...Qxc5 21. Qxf6+ but instead Ian played 20. ...Qxe3+ winning a pawn and an exchange of queens 21. Kh2 Qxf3 22. Rxf3 Ne5 23. Rf4 b5 24. Rbf1 Ra7 and it looks like Ian has lost the knight on f6, and so it proved, but this was a trap - can you see it?

White duly played 25. Rxf6 Ng4+ forking king and rook 26. Kh3 Nxf6+ and white resigned losing the rook with discovered check. Had he played 26. Kh1 Nxf6 27. Rxf6 Kxf6 would have had the same outcome.

Wins also for Herman Kok and William Orr plus a draw for Graeme Rae gave Lincoln A a win by 3.5 to 0.5 extending their lead at the top of the table plus a sizable points difference.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.  
[www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk)

