

This week's game comes from the match between Lincoln A and Lincoln B in Division 2 South of the Lincolnshire league. With 2 teams in this division they have to play each other twice both "home" and "away" and in this fixture Lincoln A were the home team and thus had white on odd boards.

This brought up an interesting encounter on board 1 where Herman Kok, captain of Lincoln A, was paired as white against Neil Roberts who the top board for Lincoln B. Interesting because, as reported a few weeks ago, the two had met in round 3 of the Christmas Blitz when Neil came out on top and went on to lift the trophy.

This time around Herman was out for revenge with the phrase wounded tiger coming to mind and the opening followed the four knight game 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 Nc6 4. Bc4 (see diagram) and Neil played 4. ...Nxe4 expecting Herman to play 5. Nxe4 d5 forking knight and bishop winning back the piece - however Herman had other ideas can you see it?

Herman played 5. Bxf7+ Kxf7 6. Nxe4 d5 7. Neg5+ Kg8 forcing Neil's king to retreat 8. Qe2 e4 9. Nxe4 and Neil cannot play 9. ...dxe4 as 10. Qc4+ Be6 11. Qxe6 is mate. 8. ...h6 or 8. Qf6 were perhaps better options.

Play continued 9. ...Nb4 10. c3 Nc2+ 11. Kd1 dxe4 12. Qc4+ and Neil resigned.

On the other boards (Lincoln A players first) William Orr drew with yours truly, Graeme Rae beat Lincoln B captain Jason Golding and Charlie Moss lost to Ben Ashcroft giving defending champions Lincoln A a narrow win by 2.5 to 1.5 and remain top of the table with a maximum 8 points.

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

