

Following on from last week in the National Correspondence Championship when Neil Roberts gained a win as white against Neville Twitchell from Essex C, this week's game is where Neil has the black pieces against the same opponent.

The opening moves followed the Blackmar-Diemer gambit 1. d4 Nf6 2. f3 d5 3. e4 dxe4 4. Nc3 exf3 5. Nxf3 Bf5 developed in the late 19th century by Armand Blackmar from New Orleans and German master Emil Josef Diemer where white gives away a pawn in return for faster development as play continued 6. Ne5 c6 7. g4 Be6 8. g5 Nfd7 and Neil is being pushed back by white's pawn advance 9. Nd3 g6 10. Be3 Bg7 11. Qd2 Na6 12. Nf4 Bf5 13. Bxa6 bxa6 and this exchange doubles the pawns on the a-file but opens up the b-file for his rook 14. 0-0-0 Qa5 and white castles queen side 15. h4 Rb8 16. h5 0-0 while Neil castles king side with both players looking to build an attack on the opposing king.

Play continued 17. hxg6 fxg6 18. Nd3 Nb6 19. Rdf1 and white is concentrating on his attack (see diagram) but has provided an opportunity for Neil to gain an advantage - can you see it?

Neil played 19. ...Nc4 20. Qe2 Nxb2 21. Nxb2 Qxc3 gaining a pawn giving him a two pawn advantage 22. Qc4+ Qxc4 23. Nxc4 Rb4 24. Na5 Rc8 25. Nb3 Ra4 26. Kb2 c5 27. c3 cxd4 28. Bxd4 e5 29. Be3 a5 30. Bxa7 regaining a pawn for white Rac4 31. Rc1 a4 32. Nd2 R4c7 33. Be3 a3+ 34. Ka1 Rxc3 35. Rxc3 Rxc3 and Neil regains in 2 pawn advantage and opens up white's king 36. Re1 Bd3 37. Nf3 Rc4 and white resigned.

So far Lincolnshire are next to bottom on 4 points, so need some positive results from the last three games to avoid relegation.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm although we are not meeting during the Coronavirus crisis.
www.lincolnchessclub.co.uk

