

Thursday Night Prizefight is the setting for this week's game when we sat down on our computers to play in the latest online tournament when Covid still had a strangle hold on over the board chess. Robert Arthurton from Skegness is always on hand to give advice and assistance to secretary Andrew Watson and his fellow club mates. Robert was paired against George Caplan from Grimsby, a new name in online circles. Neither expected to win the tournament and in this event they finished 12th and 15th out of a field of 18 but felt it important to support the county chess scene.

This game came in round 1 out of 6 with 10 minutes on the clock plus a 5 second increment with George, as white, opening with 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 4. Nf3 cxd4 an unusual variation which opened up the centre 5. Nxd4 Nc6 6. e3 g6 7. Be2 Bg7 8. 0-0 0-0 and both players have castled king side 9. f3 a6 10. Nxc6 bxc6 11. e4 Bb7 12. Be3 d5 and both players are contesting the centre (see diagram).

White now played 13. e5 Ne8 14. Bc5 and black's rook on f8 is trapped 14. ...Bxe5 15. Bxf8 Kxf8 winning the exchange for white but black took the pawn on e5 and now has a powerful bishop in the centre.

Play continued 16. Qb3 Qc7 17. c5 Bxh2+ 18. Kh1 Rb8 19. Qc2 Qe5 20. Na4 Bg3 21. Nb6 and white is threatening 22. Nd7+ but he does not get the chance as Robert played 21. ...Qh5+ and black resigned.

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