

This week's game is from the match between Lincoln and Grimsby featured a couple of weeks ago where Lincoln won 3½ to 1½, a result that was good enough to secure the Division 1 title for Lincoln for the fourth season in succession.

The captain of the victorious Lincoln team, David Coates, was paired on board 2 as white against Grimsby's Joe Kilshaw and we pick up the game after Joe has just played 16. ...Bxh2+ (see diagram) giving him a pawn advantage so David has it all to do.

David played 17. Kh1 Bf4 18. Qg4 Bxg5 19. Qxg5 putting his queen in a strong position 19. ...f5 20. f3 Rf7 21. Rbe1 Raf8 22. Kg1 f4 and black has his rooks attacking the f-file but his own pawn on f4 is blocking progress.

David switches his attention to the queen's side 23. Rb1 Qd7 24. Rb5 Qb7 25. a4 Qa6 26. Ra1 Qc8 27. Qe5 Re8 28. a5 e6 29. axb6 exd5 30. Qxd5 Rd8 and David has regained the pawn and could have played 31. Qxc5 winning another pawn but found a better move with 31. b7 with multiple threats 31. ...Qc7 32. Qxd8+ and black resigned as 32. ...Qxd8 33. b8(Q) follows.

Meanwhile, good news on the ECF Membership Scheme front. I asked the question of Andrew Farthing, the chief executive of the ECF, whether the Lincolnshire County Championship should require players to have a Bronze or Silver level of membership. The answer is Bronze as the event is restricted to Lincolnshire players only. Open events will still require Silver - hope this is clear.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. www.lincolncchessclub.co.uk

