

The Lincoln Chess Club internal competitions are continuing during the summer and recently we have acquired a new member to our ranks. Qais Karimi, originally from Afghanistan but now lives in Lincoln, has become a regular at the club.

Recently, I played him in the long play competition where the time control is 36 moves in 75 minutes after which the clocks are put back by 15 minutes. This mirrors the time control for league matches so is good practice for players looking to finding a place in one of our teams.

In our match in the Summer competition I had the white pieces and had just played 28. f4 (see diagram) threatening 29. f5 and also looking to advance my pawns even further against Qais's king. Play continued 28. ...Nc7 29. f5 Ne7 30. g4 Na6 31. Nf3 Nb4 32. Qd2 a5 and Qais now has turned the tables by posting a menacing knight on b4.

I played 33. Re2 with the view to then playing 34. Ne1 and 35. Nd3 to combat the knight but did not get the chance as Qais found a move to unhitch my defence - can you see it?

Qais played 33. ...Nxf5 34. gxf5 Qxf5 35. Kg2 Re6 and now black's rook is poised to enter the fray 36. Nh4 Qe4+ 37. Nf3 Rg6+ 38. Kf2 Nd3+ and now I am in all sorts of problems and resigned a couple of moves later and it looks like we now have a valuable addition to our squad for the league season starting in October.

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

