

This week's game has been sent to me by Ivan David from Grantham. Originally from Eastern Europe Ivan moved to Grantham to take up a position as an anesthetist at Grantham Hospital. Now retired he regularly plays for Grantham Chess Club in both the Lincolnshire League and the Nottinghamshire League. You can follow Ivan and Grantham on [grantham-chess-world.blogspot.com](http://grantham-chess-world.blogspot.com).

Ivan's game was from the Midland Counties combined Open/Minor final where Lincolnshire beat Worcestershire 9-7 to become combined champions. Counties can elect to play in either the Open section or the Minor section and a couple of years ago Staffordshire elected to compete in the Open and seven counties in the Minor so it seemed sensible to combine the sections and split into two zones East and West.

Lincolnshire topped the East Zone with 5 points and then beat West Zone runners-up Greater Manchester in the semi-final.

On board 16 Ivan was paired as white against John Knee and we pick up the game after black has just played 40. ...Bb3 (see diagram) after a bit of cat and mouse play with the two bishops.

Ivan played 41. Bc4 forcing an exchange of bishops 41. ...Bxc4 42. dxc4 Kc6 43. Kd3 Kd6 44. b5 Kc5 45. Kc3 but now black has to move his king 45. ...Kd6 46. Kb4 f5 47. exf5 e4 48. c5+ bxc5+ 49. Kc4 and both players have two passed pawns but black resigned as he realized that Ivan's king can stop the pawns on c5 and e4 but his pawns on b5 and f5 are too far apart for black's king.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. [www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk)

