

The Lincolnshire County Championships took place at the familiar surroundings of the Lindum Business Park Atrium in North Hykeham provided free of charge by Lindum Group Finance Director Herman Kok.

Last year's champion Chris Dorrington from Grantham, who won all his games last year, was on course to repeat the clean sweep as he won all of his first 4 games this year as well. So all that stood in his way was Jason Dilley, also of Grantham, when they met in the 5th and final round.

We pick up the game after Jason, as black, has just played 20. ...Nfd5 and looked to have two strong knights (see diagram). However, Chris's next move upset Jason's plans - can you see it?

Chris played 21. c3 attacking black's knight. Jason replied 21. ...b5 22. Nxa4 Bxe5 23. Qxe5 bxa4 24. Qxe6 fxe6 25. Rxb4 Nxb4 26. cxb4 Rb8 27. Nxc6 Rb6 leaving Chris with a rook, bishop and knight against 2 rooks with an extra pawn to boot and despite a valiant rearguard action by Jason Chris went on to win.

Lincoln's Ayman Hammam came second on 4½ points and Denis Georgiou from Scunthorpe claimed 3rd place and the Under 165 grading prize with 4 points.

John Grasham and Adam Robinson from Louth shared both the Quilter Trophy, awarded to the best score for players under 160 grade who have not won it before, and the Under 150 grading prize.

Robert Crawshaw from Barton, Julian Brown from Lincoln, Charlie Grainger from Nottingham University and Pawel Szutkowski from Spalding all shared the Under 125 grading prize on 2 points.

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

