

Lincolnshire's team in the Under 140 grade competition played hosts to near neighbours Nottinghamshire at the Lindum Business Park atrium in North Hykeham. This is the first time Lincolnshire have played in this section for several years and having lost to Derbyshire in their opening match Lincolnshire needed a good result however Nottinghamshire, playing their first match of the season, fielded a very strong team.

On board 11 Chris Cumbers from Grantham was paired as white against Peter Gorecka-Marshall from the Gambit Club in Nottingham and we pick up the game after black has just played 22. ...f6 reaching the position in the diagram with Chris a pawn up. However, Chris's pawn on d4 is at the mercy of black's rooks.

Chris played 23. Nc5 and black duly obliged with 23. ...Rxd4 24. Ne6 forking the rooks but black played 24. ...Re4 and Chris cannot play 25. Rxe4 Rd1 mate but instead played 25. Nxf7+ Ke5 26. Rxe4+ Kxe4 27. Re3+ effectively regaining the pawn advantage.

Chris still had work to do as play continued 27. ...Kd5 28. a3 Nc6 29. Rd3+ Nd4 30. Rxd4+ Kxd4 31. Ne6+ Kc4 32. Nxd8 and although Chris had to sacrifice his knight to stop the black's queen side pawns he eventually went on to win.

There was a win also for Mike Dew of Barton on Humber and draws for Bill Egan from Scunthorpe, Mike Comben from Horncastle, Phill Beckett from Grantham, David Scott from Louth, Keith Noons from Barton on Humber and Francis Birkbeck from Louth but these could not prevent Nottinghamshire from running out 11-5 winners.

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

