

Lincoln's team in Division 1 of the Lincolnshire League were in action when they played reigning champions Louth. The league table has Grimsby top on 8 points, Louth second on 7 and Lincoln 3<sup>rd</sup> on 4 points with Lincoln playing both Louth and Grimsby in the final two matches of the season. So, if Lincoln could win against Louth and Grimsby then they would be champions, a win for Louth would see them go top with the championship being decided in the final match.

On board 1 Lincoln's Murray Smith was paired as white against David Bale from Louth and we pick up the game after black has just played 26. ...Re8 (see diagram) with Murray already a pawn up in the opening with his rooks looking very strong down the d-file.

Murray played 27. e5 Nb7 28. Bd5 Nd8 having to protect the pawn on f7 29. exd6 e6 and black ops to play e6 giving Murray a powerful passed pawn 30. Bf3 Rf8 31. c4 Nb7 32. Na7 Qe8 33. Nc6 Kh8 34. Nxb8 Qxb8 and black elects to give up the exchange 35. Bc6 Nf6 36. d7 Nd8 37. Bf3 Qc7 38. c5 bxc5 39. bxc5 Ng8 40. Qb6 and black resigned as he cannot avoid an exchange of queens and would find it difficult to stop white's queen-side pawns.

Unfortunately, Murray's win was all the Lincoln could muster and Louth ran out 4-1 winners.

Meanwhile, this season's George Renison Memorial Jamboree will be hosted by Grimsby on September 16 to remember George who was chairman of both Grimsby Chess Club and Lincolnshire Chess Association for many years.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XG on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.  
[www.lincolnchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolnchessclub.co.uk)

