

The Tuesday night tournaments continued with a good turnout of 12 players. Top seed, Steve Prior was again the champion winning all his games. However, the game of the day came in the last round between Martin Pettinger, rated 2075 and Jason Gillatt rated 1138. Jason plays for the Lincoln University team who are aiming to start playing in the Lincolnshire League once this re-commences in the new year.

I am featuring this game as there was lots of chatter on Whatsapp afterwards complementing Jason's play and we pick it up after Martin has just played 17. ... c5 (see diagram). Jason spotted an opportunity to gain an advantage - can you see it.

Jason played 18. g5 Nh5 19. Nxc5 winning the pawn as 19. ... dxc5 20. Rxd7 would follow. Martin responded with 19. ... Ng3 20. Nxd7 Rd8 21. Rg1 Nxf1 22. Rxf1 Rxd7 and the advantage is maintained 23. c4 a5 24. e5 a4 25. Kb2 axb3 26. axb3 Rdb7 27. exd6 Rxb3+ 28. Kc2 Rb2+ 29. Kc3 R7b3+ 30. Kd4 exd6 and Martin regains the pawn.

Play continued 31. Rd3 Rb6 32. Kc3 Rh2 33. Rfd1 Rxh4 34. Rxd6 Rb7 35. c5 Rc7 36. R1d5 Rf4 37. c6 Rxf3+ and now Martin has the pawn advantage but Jason has the advanced pawn on c6 38. Rd3 Rf5 39. Kd4 Rxc6 40. Rc3 Rg1 41. Kc5 Re1 42. Kb6 Ree7 43. Rcd3 Rc8 44. Rd7 Re6 45. Rc3 h5 46. Kb7 Ree8 47. c7 g5 48. Rcd3 g4 49. R7d5 Kg6 50. Rd8 Rxd8 51. Rxd8 Re7 52. Kc6 Rxc7 53. Kxc7 and Jason has a rook against 3 pawns and after a protracted finish the game ended in a draw with the players sharing second place on 3.5 points.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Now open after lockdown. www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk

