

Lincolnshire's team in the Correspondence Championship Division 3 has now concluded with the final game being the drawn game between Neil Roberts and Gerald Jenkins from North Wales.

Earlier in the competition Ian Scott from Louth was playing on board 6 for Lincolnshire against Phillip Beckett playing for Yorkshire C. In the game with Ian as white the opening followed the queen's gambit accepted 1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. g3 dxc4 leaving black a pawn up 5. Bg2 a6 6. 0-0 Nc6 7. e3 Rb8 8. Nfd2 Bd7 9. Nxc4 b5 and Ian regains the pawn 10. Ncd2 e5 11. Nb3 h5 12. Bd2 Bd6 13. Qc2 Rb6 14. Na5 e4 (see diagram) which allowed Ian to gain the pawn after 15. Bxe4 Nxe4 16. Qxe4+ Be7. Ian piled on the pressure with 17. Rc1 Rh6 18. d5 f5 19. Qg2 Ne5 20. e4 g5 but black's knight escaped for the time being.

Play continued 21. Bc3 Nd3 22. Rd1 fxe4 23. Qxe4 Nc5 24. Qe3 Bg4 25. f3 Rbe6 26. Qf2 (not 26. dxe6 Qxd1+) Bf5 27. Bg7 c6 28. b4 and now black has two pieces under attack but he played 28. ...cxd5 29. bxc5 and the knight falls Rhg6 30. Bc3 Qd7 31. Bb4 h4 32. Nc3 hxg3 33. hxg3 Bf6 34. c6 Qh7 35. c7 Qxc7 36. Nxd5 Qc2 37. Nxf6 Rgxf6 38. Qa7 Re2 and after a series of exchanges black looks like he has the upper hand controlling the second row but Ian played 39. Rd2 and black resigned as 39. ...Rxd2 40. Qe7 is mate with any alternative losing more material.

Ian won his game as black meaning that Lincolnshire finished in equal 3rd place on 9.5 points just missing out on promotion.

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

