

The Tuesday Night Torture series of tournaments continued but with a disappointing turnout of only 8 players which restricted the event of only 4 rounds with the usual time limit of 10 minutes plus a 5 second increment.

It was my turn to come top of the leader board this time winning my first 3 games. I was winning my last game as well but my opponent, Tom Wilson, managed to gain a draw by stalemate, so my final tally was 3.5 points followed by Tom on 3.

My best game came in round 2 when I was paired as white against Skegness secretary Andrew Watson and we pick up the game after Andrew has just played 19. ...d5 (see diagram) and I saw a way to gain material - can you see it?

I played 20. Bd3 Rd6 21. Bxe7 Rxe7 22. Bxf5+ Kb8 23. Bh3 Rg7 but I had to guard against a counterattack 24. g3 h4 25. Bg2 hxg3 26. hxg3 Rh6 27. Rd4 Rgh7 28. R1d1 c5 29. bxc5 bxc5 30. Rh4 Rxh4 31. gxh4 Rg7 32. Kh2 Rg4 33. Kh3 Bc8 34. Kh2 Rxh4+ losing the pawn 35. Kg1 Rg4+ 36. Kh2 Rh4+ 37. Kg3 Rh7 38. Bxd5 but I managed to regain the pawn advantage 38. ...Rg7 39. Kh2 Rh7+ 40. Kg1 Rd7 41. e4 Rg7+ 42. Kf1 Bh3+ 43. Ke1 Rg1+ 44. Kd2 Rg7 45. Rb1+ Kc8 46. Ke3 Rc7 47. Rh1 Bg4 48. Rh8+ Kd7 49. Rh7+ Kd8 50. Rxc7 Kxc7 and with the rooks off the board I was able to shepherd home my e & f pawns 51. f4 Kb6 52. f5 Kc7 53. f6 Kd8 54. e5 Ke8 55. e6 a5 56. Bc6+ and black resigned.

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

