

The Tuesday night online tournaments continued, this time with a field of 12 players, just enough for the full 5 rounds to be played with 10 minutes on the clock at the start of each game with a five second increment being added to the time for each move made.

Top seed Peter Cusick from Grantham playing under the pseudonym of Putter123 won all his games followed by Simon Green from Skegness, otherwise known as Thefatreaper, with 4 out of 5. The key game came in round 3 when the two met with Peter as white. The opening followed an unusual variation of the queen's gambit 1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. c4 c5 4. cxd5 cxd4 5. Qxd4 Qxd5 6. Nc3 Qxd4 7. Nxd4 e5 and after the carnage where the c & d pawns plus the queens had been captured black advanced his pawn to dislodge the knight.

Play continued 8. Ndb5 Na6 9. Bg5 Bb4 10. 0-0-0 Bd7 and further sharp play ensued with the knights on both sides under threat 11. Nd6+ Bxd6 12. Rxd6 Ke7 13. Rd2 Rac8 14. e3 b5 15. Kbl b4 and black has advanced his pawn to dislodge the knight on c3 but this has opened up an opportunity to gain material for white (see diagram).

Peter played 16. Nd5+ Kf8 17. Bxa6 winning the piece Nxd5 18. Rxd5 Bf5+ 19. Bd3 Bxd3+ 20. Rxd3 f6 21. Bh4 Ke7 22. Rhd1 Rhd8 23. Rxd8 Rxd8 24. Rxd8 Kxd8 and with the remaining piece being the unopposed bishop Peter won a few moves later.

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

