

The Tuesday Night Tournament continued with a slightly better turnout of 10 players so the organisers decided that the full 5 rounds were possible with 10 minutes on the clock with a 5 second increment.

Top seed Martin Pettinger from Grantham was again on his best form winning all his matches. Martin's best game came in round 4 when he was paired as black against Stuart MacDonald from Grimsby and we pick up the game after white has just played 25. Ba3 (see diagram) from b2 where it was protecting the pawn on c3.

Martin took advantage with 25. ...Nxc3 26. Qc2 Bd3 27. Bd6 and Stuart was hoping for an exchange of queens but instead Martin played 27. ...Rxd6 28. exd6 Qxd6 sacrificing the exchange but regained it after 29. Rd1 Nxd1. However, Stuart counter attacked with 30. Bxf7+ Kxf7 31. Ng5+ Kg8 32. Qa2+ Kh8 33. Nf7+ and it looked like Stuart had won Martin's queen but he overlooked the continuation 33. ...Kh7 34. Nxd6 Re1 mate so instead he had to play 33. Rf1 Qe6 34. Qxe6 Rxe6 leaving Martin a piece up and he went on to win a few moves later.

Stuart himself finished in joint second place on 3 points with Robert Arthurton from Skegness and John Pocock from Grantham both adding to their tallies of impressive performances.

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

