

This season Lincoln have entered two teams in Division 2, Lincoln A and Lincoln B, as well as a team in Division 1. None of teams has yet to play as all the early fixtures have been re-arranged. We thought that Lincoln B, the second team in Division 2 was going to get the season underway, but no, our opponents Grantham were unable to raise a team and conceded the match.

So, captain Jason Golding decided that the four players in the team would play each other under match conditions for practice as a couple of the players are new to competitive chess. This season Jason has asked me to play on board 1 with the other players being Jason himself, Peter Taylor and Sam Barnard. We put our names into a hat and I was drawn as white against Sam.

Sam joined the club a few weeks ago and I have been impressed by his standard of play and I am sure that he will have some good results this season. In our match we pick it up after I, as white, have just played 46. Ne6 (see diagram) with Sam having a dangerous pawn on e2 whilst I have a passed pawn on a5.

Sam now played 46. ...Bb7 47. Nc5 and I am poised to support the a-pawn advance. Sam now played 47. ...Bxf3 and I calculated that 48. gxf3 Kxf3 49. a6 Ke3 50. a7 f3 51. a8(Q) f2 mate would not work. Can you see what I actually played?

I played 48. gxf3 Kxf3 49. Nd3 and Sam resigned as my knight would then move to f2 blocking black's pawn whilst my pawn on a5 was out of reach.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.
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