

As mentioned last week, Lincolnshire are also playing in the National Online County Championships Under 1825 grade section. The 9 counties have been split into 2 groups and Lincolnshire are in Group A with 4 others playing in a round robin with their first match against near neighbours Leicestershire.

The format is the same as the Open section with 12 players on each team with 60 minutes on the clock at the start of the game with a 3 second increment added for each move.

On board 2 Stuart MacDonald from Grimsby was paired as white against Lawrence Hayden from Ashby and we pick up the game after black has just played 39. ...Re8 (see diagram) defending the passed pawn on e4 - can you see Stuart's next move?

Stuart played 40. c3 and black cannot move along the 4th rank as 41. b3 follows so instead played 40. ...Rdd1. Stuart took advantage with 41. Rxe4 Rxe4 42. Rxe4 Rd2+ 43. Re2 Rd3 winning the pawn but there was more work to do 44. Kg2 Rd7 45. h4 Rd3 46. a3 a5 47. Rc2 b5 48. b3 b4 49. axb4 cxb4 50. cxb4 Rxb3 51. Rc6+ Kf7 52. bxa5 and Stuart is now 2 pawns up and went on to win on move 64.

Wins also for Herman Kok, Edward Knox, Ben Mason, John Grasham, Martin Pettinger, Behzad Parnian, Neil Milson, Tim Smith and yours truly plus a draw for Ian McDonald gave Lincolnshire a comprehensive victory by 10.5 to 1.5.

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

