

The second Lincoln Rapidplay took place recently in the very plush surroundings of the Atrium in the Lindum Business Park in North Hykeham. The prize fund of nearly £600 attracted a high calibre field with the prizes being presented by The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Lincoln, Councillor Hilton Spratt.

In the first of the six rounds I was given a bye so when watching the other games one in particular caught my eye between 10 year old James Bowler from Alwoodley in Yorkshire and 13 year old Samuel Milson from Louth.

We join the game after Samuel, as white, has just played 28. h4 looking to build an attack against black's king (see diagram). James, though, played a decisive move, can you spot it?

James played 28. ...Bxh4 29. Qxh4 Rxe2+ 30. Kg3 Rxe1 31. Bxe1 Rxe1 leaving him two pawns up 30. Rxe2 Rxe2+ leads to the same position and James went on to win. James finished with 4 points taking the U-95 grading prize - definitely one for the future.

In the Open section IM Andrew Ledger took first place on 5½ with Mike Basman of Surbiton and Peter Mercks of Gambits joint second on 4½. Grimsby's Terry Bean and Nigel Birtwistle from Grantham shared the U-170 grading prize on 3½, the same score as David Coates from Lincoln who took the U-155 grading prize.

In the U-140 section Ross Blake from Newark won with 5½ with Ti Chen from Oxford Univ and Janos Wagenbach from Mansfield sharing second place on 5 points. Other grading prizes included Keith Noons from Barton who took the U-125 prize with 4½ points.

