

All budding chess players are invited to an coaching event for 11 to 18 year olds followed by a 4 round quicklpay tournament next Saturday 4th November at Lincoln Chess Club on South Park.

Coaching will be given by Rotherham based Paul Blackman - all abilities welcome - entry fee only £3. Details and entry form are available from Robert Dale on rdale2@ntlworld.com.

Meanwhile Lincoln's Division 1 season got underway with a visit to reigning champions Boston in the salubrious surroundings of Boston Tennis Club.

On board 1 the two captains went head to head with Lincoln's David Coates playing against this year's county champion and 4NCL team mate Nigel Birtwistle and we pick up the game after Nigel, as black, has just played 41. ...e6, an interesting end-game with David's two knights countered by Nigel's two bishops (see diagram).

What would be David's next move? 42. f4 perhaps preventing 42. ...Kg5 and 43. ...Kxh5 which seemed to be Nigel's next line of attack forecast by 41. ...e6 which would prevent 42. Nxe7.

With both players under time pressure David's next move proved decisive 42. e5+ dxe5 43. d6 giving David a passed pawn that was difficult to defend (42. ...Kg5, 43. exd6 - Nigel's only other option - would lead to a similar conclusion), 43. ...Bb7 44. Nd7+ Kg5 45. Nxb6 Bxc6 46. d7 Bxd7 47. Nxd7 and the uncontested knight helped David to win although when the end came both players had only seconds to spare.

Unfortunately the rest of the Lincoln team, with a few of their top players unavailable, were not able to follow David's lead and Boston ran out winners by 4-1.

