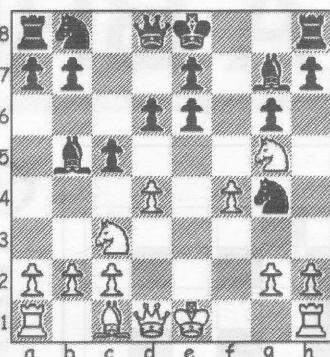


CHESS

by Alan Dommett

28 AUG 2010

DIAGRAM 1



B&DCL members are reminded that the Two Towns Match between Bournemouth and Poole, the traditional curtain-raiser to the new season, will be held at the Royal British Legion Club, North Road, Poole on Tuesday, September 14 (7pm team registration).

All league players interested in playing in this event, for which games will not be graded, should contact Alan Primett and Norman Mackie, the respective team captains.

The following game, taken from the British Championship, is a good example of how even the soundest knowledge of opening theory and the dullest reputation of certain lines is sometimes not enough when your opponent finds an improvement and is looking for a win.

Brown, M – Helbig, P

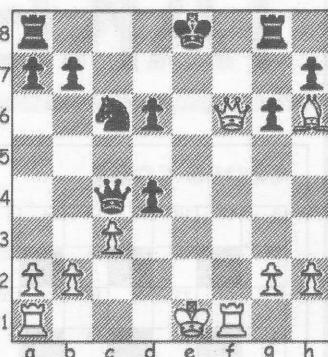
British Championship, 2010

Pirc Defence: Austrian Attack (B09)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.f4 Nf6 5.Nf3 c5 6.Bb5+ A viable alternative to 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Bd3 Qxc5 8.Qe2 0-0 9.Be3 Qa5 that built up a strong following when the variation was all the rage fifty years ago, this natural check precedes a central pawn advance in a line that soon became something of a safe haven for players seeking a "grandmaster" draw. 6...Bd7 7.e5 Ng4 8.e6 fxe6

9.Ng5 Bxb5 (Diag 1) All theory up to here and after 10.Nxe6 Bxd4 11.Nxd8 Bf2+ 12.Kd2 Be3+ many a game ended as a draw by perpetual

DIAGRAM 2



check. However, White has another move at his disposal should he be disinclined to agree on the sharing of a point. 10.Nxb5!? Qa5+ 11.c3

Qxb5 12.Qxg4 Now both sides have chances in a less contrived contest where one slip can be fatal.

12...cxd4 13.Nxe6 Qc4!? Black appreciates that the knight can be trapped on capturing the bishop whereas, after 13...Kf7 14.Ng5+ Kf8 15.Qe6 Qe8 16.Qb3, he is struggling. 14.Nxg7+ Kf7 15.f5 Kxg7

16.Qh4 Nc6 17.Bh6+ In Gruenfeld-Tal (Tel Aviv, 1990) White tried 17.Rf1 first, but after 17...Kg8 18.Bh6 Re8 19.Re1 Ne5 he could do little more than regain his pawn and the game was drawn in 61 moves. The difference in move order turns out to be crucial as now the black king is forced to run for cover.

17...Kf7 18.Rf1 Ke8 19.f6! exf6 The intermezzo 19...Qe6+ is of no help because 20.Kd1 exf6 21.Re1 Ne5 22.cxd4 pins the knight. 20.Qxf6

Rg8 (Diag 2) 21.0-0-0!? Qxa2? Lured by a few retaliatory checks and the prospect of winning the exchange, Black leaves his own king in the lurch. 22.Qxd6 Qa1+ 23.Kc2 d3+ 24.Rxd3 Nb4+ 25.Qxb4 Qxf1 26.Qb5+ Kf7 27.Qd7+ Kf6 28.Rd6+ and it was here that Black resigned rather than face 28...Ke5 29.Qe6 mate.

● Any enquiries regarding the Chess column should be addressed to Alan Dommett by emailing a.j.dommett@btinter.net.com