

## 4NCL Online Round 5

In round 5 of the 4NCL we were drawn against the Broken Herts 1 team. Not sure if they intend to try to break our hearts but hopefully we will make them suffer a short circuit. (I know but bad jokes are all I got.)

On paper, we out grade them on 3 out of 4 boards, but remember in this game never underestimate your opponents.

		<b>Rugeley</b>	1604		<b>Broken Herts 1</b>	1540
581	w	Whatmore, Steve ( <i>SteveWhatmore</i> )	1817 c	-	Hutton, Allan ( <i>shutuplegs</i> )	1600 c
582	b	Carr, Matthew ( <i>mattcarr2600</i> )	1692	-	Elder, Kidge ( <i>egdik</i> )	1555 c
583	w	Sullivan, Luke ( <i>death2rooks93</i> )	1585 c	-	Kapur, Gul ( <i>guloo</i> )	1510 e
584	b	Wood, Ryan ( <i>RyanWood01</i> )	1322 c	-	Zsibrita, Steve ( <i>SteveJZ</i> )	1495 c

Matthew was the first to finish this time. The game started with a black knight's tango and the opponent attempted to lock things up early. Probably a good idea against a stronger opponent. The game certainly felt like a hard slog. Eventually Matt began to push forward in the centre and make life very difficult for the opponent who switched over to defence mode. Now I don't know about you but the following looks and feels like a fortress?



Looking at this it felt like a draw. Trouble is, that ominous music in the background is there to help go aggressive. Shouldn't have listened to it at that moment as Matt decided to attack the queenside pawns with a lone Rook and with a simple move of the bishop defending the attacked pawn, meant Matt was effectively a Rook down right when he needed it. The centre got demolished and black found himself in the position of losing a Bishop. Seeing a few moves ahead and how white was going to win the game Matt resigned on move 35.

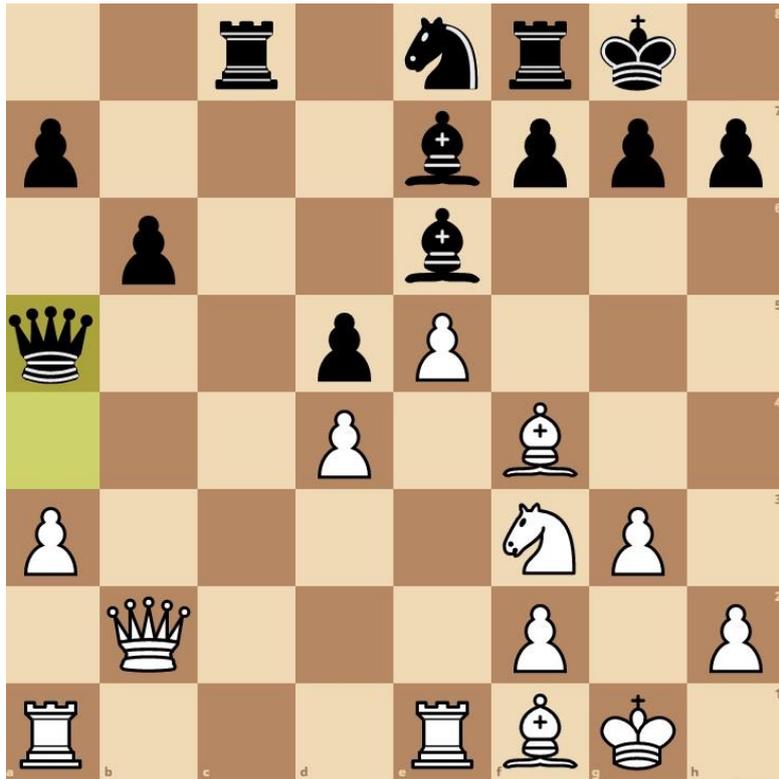
Word of advice, know when to embrace the dark side and attack and when to go with the light and keep your position safe.

### Rugeley 0-1 Broken Herts

Steve was the next game to finish. Steve's was a Queen's Indian Defence: Capablanca Variation with white getting two pawns in the centre that Steve made good use of. Black's position felt at move 17 very cramped with most of the heavy pieces on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> rank. Black had to hit out somehow. So, chose the following:



With Qd7 it attacks Steve's advanced b pawn and prepares for a c5 push to put some extra pressure on the centre. Steve had a cunning plan though. With the en passant ability of the pawns, yes, the c file gets broken open and the black queen and rook can get to it but the centre pawns are stay safe. Now black decided to go for Steve's queenside with said queen. Pulling it into a4, black was trying to attack and make use of the extra pawn there. Trouble is black missed the following problem.



White to play and find the continuation. Answer at the end.

Fair to say Steve's moves were so good Black resigned a few moves later.

#### Rugeley 1-1 Broken Herts

Ryan was the next to finish. This one was a stonewall variation. I have heard Grandmasters groan when they see one of those. Supposedly this thing is a dead draw. Strangely enough according to my silicon friend white played the variation of it that loses!

Ryan developed his pieces very carefully and began to attack down the queenside while white decided to apply the same logic and attack on the kingside. Sadly, right where Ryan's king was. Both players must have heard the advice:

**An attack on the wings must be met with an attack in the centre. Only attack with the wing pawns if the centre is locked.**

White however had decided to attack on the same side his king was also. Running the risk that if this attack failed he leaves his own king open to attack. Both players were on the attack, one on the queenside, another on kingside. Who wins, let's find out.



How's this going to end?

Ryan went through with the attack on the queenside taking on c3 prepared to sacrifice the knight on f6 but the opponent didn't go for it. Capturing the pawn in c3, Ryan's Bishop took on e5 and the f pawn captured back opening lines to black's king. After the knight went in to e4 and an exchange, black got the initiative, taking the g pawn and attacking whites king. Now sadly Ryan had to go defensive. The knight on c6 is double attacked so needs to be protected, this allows more pieces to point at the queen and subsequently the king.

Ryan had to go an exchange down to nullify the attack and get some security in his position, down but not out Ryan fought on taking it to a king Rook and Bishop vs King and two rooks ending. Ryan refused to give up breaking out the dirty tricks (as I like to call it), and keeping the opponent on his toes. Ryan kept an eye on the queenside but went on the attack along the kingside and got a passed pawn. White had to come back to try and stop it. That was when he made his mistake. White in his attempt to attack missed that Ryan's reply and went a rook down.



From there White still has some play. White takes the pawn on the edge and Black advances to pressure the centre pawns. A few moves later came another blunder and it was all over.

### Rugeley 2 – 1 Broken Herts

Finally, we turn to Luke. Luke opened with a Reti, controlling the centre with his pieces and advanced c pawn rather than take the centre with d4 or e4. The opponent replied in kind, moving his pieces into position and kept hold of the centre with d4 and c5.



Black now tries to break put the pressure on and claim the centre with e5. Luke in kind threatens that centre and developed a Rook and knight into the game and pointing towards the opponent's position. White gets pieces in the centre so black attempts to start attacking on the queenside. When Luke doubled the rooks on the C-file, then black made his mistake. While attempting to stop the rooks coming into his position black missed the bishop guarding the square it wants to go to. Black goes the exchange down.

Luke centralises the knight on f1 by getting it into e4, but this allows black to push the pawns and try to cramp up Luke's position.



I'll admit that position looked double edged for me. Luke retreated his queen allowing the knight and queen to come in and black to go up a pawn. Then tragedy as a mouse slip hands the exchange back to the opponent who now has an advanced extra pawn. Luke begins using his king, bringing it into the position to get rid of the advanced pawn on d3. Once the rook and extra pawns come off, the position becomes symmetrical and both players agree a draw.

Final Score

Rugeley 2½ - 1½ Broken Herts

My thanks to all our players tonight and well done Rugeley.

Steve – <https://lichess.org/wuaXryYq>

Matt - <https://lichess.org/i0p9UxhDzT0I>

Luke - <https://lichess.org/eVc3gFzy>

Ryan - <https://lichess.org/Ru6iCn3i/black>

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**Division 5**

		rd 1	rd 2	rd 3	rd 4	rd 5	P	W	D	L	GP	Pts	
1	Wirral League Wanderers	wlw	<a href="#">bln1</a> 4	<a href="#">dah</a> 2½	<a href="#">dod</a> 3	<a href="#">baw</a> 2½	<a href="#">her</a> 2½	5	5	0	0	14½	10
2	Bolton & Worsley	baw	<a href="#">shr4</a> 3	<a href="#">warb</a> 2½	<a href="#">chw</a> 3	<a href="#">wlv</a> 1½	<a href="#">marb</a> 3	5	4	0	1	13	8
3	CSC 5	csc5	<a href="#">bau2</a> 4	<a href="#">kesd</a> 3½	<a href="#">her</a> 2	<a href="#">marb</a> 2	<a href="#">chw</a> 2½	5	3	2	0	14	8
4	Gonzaga D	gond		<a href="#">ekb</a> 4	<a href="#">wim3</a> 3	<a href="#">mcs</a> 3	<a href="#">bub</a> 3	4	4	0	0	13	8
5	Nottingham University 2	nun2	<a href="#">she</a> 4	<a href="#">bub</a> 2	<a href="#">mjub</a> 2	<a href="#">bud</a> 2½	<a href="#">kesd</a> 3	5	3	2	0	13½	8
6	Wessex Some Stars C	wesc		<a href="#">she</a> 3	<a href="#">uxb</a> 3	<a href="#">bsp</a> 4	<a href="#">bau1</a> 3	4	4	0	0	13	8
7	Hertford	her	<a href="#">wim3</a> 2½	<a href="#">bud</a> 3½	<a href="#">csc5</a> 2	<a href="#">bau1</a> 3½	<a href="#">wlv</a> 1½	5	3	1	1	13	7
8	Manchester Juniors B	mjub	<a href="#">sta2</a> 2½	<a href="#">rgl</a> 2	<a href="#">nun2</a> 2	<a href="#">wfja</a> 3	<a href="#">tps</a> 2	5	2	3	0	11½	7
9	Rugeley	rgl	<a href="#">hatb</a> 3½	<a href="#">mjub</a> 2	<a href="#">bub</a> ½	<a href="#">bau2</a> 3½	<a href="#">brh1</a> 2½	5	3	1	1	12	7
10	Temple Sutton	tps	<a href="#">sabc</a> 2½	<a href="#">uxb</a> 2½	<a href="#">bau1</a> 1	<a href="#">bub</a> 2½	<a href="#">mjub</a> 2	5	3	1	1	10½	7
11	Bishop Trojans	bau1	<a href="#">har4</a> 4	<a href="#">4ge</a> 2½	<a href="#">tps</a> 3	<a href="#">her</a> ½	<a href="#">wesc</a> 1	5	3	0	2	11	6
12	Chess Warriors	chw	<a href="#">grg</a> 3	<a href="#">bsp</a> 4	<a href="#">baw</a> 1	<a href="#">dah</a> 4	<a href="#">csc5</a> 1½	5	3	0	2	13½	6
13	Doughnuts of Doom	dod	<a href="#">brh2</a> 3½	<a href="#">ydr</a> 2	<a href="#">wlv</a> 1	<a href="#">sta3</a> 2	<a href="#">sta4</a> 4	5	2	2	1	12½	6
14	East Kilbride	ekb		<a href="#">gond</a> 0	<a href="#">brh3</a> 4	<a href="#">wat3</a> 3	<a href="#">sta2</a> 3	4	3	0	1	10	6
15	Kent KJCA Kestrels D	kesd	<a href="#">wfja</a> 3½	<a href="#">csc5</a> ½	<a href="#">warb</a> 3½	<a href="#">sta2</a> 3	<a href="#">nun2</a> 1	5	3	0	2	11½	6
16	Maryport Assassins B	marb	<a href="#">sta3</a> 2	<a href="#">wig2</a> 2½	<a href="#">ydr</a> 3½	<a href="#">csc5</a> 2	<a href="#">baw</a> 1	5	2	2	1	11	6
17	MCS Oxford Juniors	mcs	<a href="#">ydr</a> 1	<a href="#">brh2</a> 3½	<a href="#">shr4</a> 2½	<a href="#">gond</a> 1	<a href="#">uxb</a> 2½	5	3	0	2	10½	6
18	Warwickshire Bears B	warb	<a href="#">mjuc</a> 3	<a href="#">baw</a> 1½	<a href="#">kesd</a> ½	<a href="#">sabc</a> 4	<a href="#">dah</a> 2½	5	3	0	2	11½	6
19	Battersea Pawnbreakers	bsp	<a href="#">wat3</a> 2	<a href="#">chw</a> 0	<a href="#">sta3</a> 4	<a href="#">wesc</a> 0	<a href="#">wqb2</a> 2	5	2	1	2	8	5
20	Bristol University B	bub	<a href="#">bln2</a> 4	<a href="#">nun2</a> 2	<a href="#">rgl</a> 3½	<a href="#">tps</a> 1½	<a href="#">gond</a> 1	5	2	1	2	12	5
21	Broken Herts 1	brh1	<a href="#">wig2</a> 2	<a href="#">sta3</a> 0	<a href="#">4ge</a> 3½	<a href="#">ydr</a> 3	<a href="#">rgl</a> 1½	5	2	1	2	10	5
22	Bude Surfers	bud	<a href="#">brh3</a> 3	<a href="#">her</a> ½	<a href="#">har4</a> 3½	<a href="#">nun2</a> 1½	<a href="#">sta3</a> 2	5	2	1	2	10½	5
23	East Cornwall Clowns	ecoc	<a href="#">dah</a> 1	<a href="#">bln1</a> 2	<a href="#">sta2</a> 1	<a href="#">wig2</a> 2	<a href="#">warc</a> 3	5	2	1	2	9	5
24	Oxford 4	oxf4			<a href="#">hatb</a> 4	<a href="#">shr4</a> 4	<a href="#">wig2</a> 1½	3	2	1	0	9½	5
25	St Albans 3	sta3	<a href="#">marb</a> 2	<a href="#">brh1</a> 2	<a href="#">bsp</a> 0	<a href="#">dod</a> 2	<a href="#">bud</a> 2	5	1	3	1	8	5
26	Warley and Quinborne	wqb2	<a href="#">4ge</a> 1	<a href="#">har4</a> 1½	<a href="#">mjuc</a> 3½	<a href="#">brh2</a> 4	<a href="#">bsp</a> 2	5	2	1	2	12	5

Solution: 23. Bd2 Qa4 24. Bb5 and black resigns.

