

**Michael Adams**



## Inside story of a winning tournament

There was good news at the closing ceremony of the British Championship, as ECF president CJ de Mooi announced that he has secured increased funding to enhance the 2011 tournament: the participation of the top four English players is already confirmed and all junior entrance fees are to be cut in half.

Things ran smoothly for me at this year's event and I was able to secure the title with this victory in the penultimate round.



**Adams, M - Williams, S**  
British Championship  
Canterbury 2010

**17.Nd4xc6**                      **b7xc6**

**18.Nc3-e4**

The queen opposition allows me the opportunity to transfer the knight to greener pastures.

**18...**                              **Nc7-e8**

I thought 18...a7-a5 keeping the knight within touching distance of the useful outpost on e6 was better.

**19.Ne4-c5**                      **Qd7-e7**

**20.Nc5-d3**

An important withdrawal, now Black's steed will be stuck on the back rank for a while.

**20...**

**21.Qd1-f3**

**22.Nd3-c5**

**23.Be3-f2**

Now 23...Ne8-c7 is refuted by 24.Nc5-a4, so Black remains bottled up.

**24.Qf3-h3**

**f7-f5**

It was getting difficult for Black to move anything, but this leaves White with a passed 'e' pawn to go with his other trumps.

**25.Qh3-c3**

**Rb8-a8**

I thought Simon could try 25...Qe7-d8 26.Bf2-d4 Bg7-f8 27.Nc5-e6 Qd8-d7 28.Ne6xf8 Kg8xf8 intending to bring his knight to e6, but 29.e5-e6 Qd7xe6 30.Rf1-e1 tears Black's position in two.

**26.Nc5-a4**

**Ra8-a6**

Giving up a pawn with 26...Ra8-b8 27.Qc3xa5 was relatively best.

**27.Qc3-d3**

Black resigned as material is dropping off: 27...Ra6-a7 28.Bf2xa7 Qe7xa7+ 29.Kg1-h1 is pretty hopeless.



**Gordon, S - Adams, M**

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**29.Rf1-d1**

White should have covered up with 29.Rf1-f2 Qe7-d6 30.Bg2-f1 Nd7-e5 31.Qc2-c3, although the black pieces dominate the board. Instead the game comes to an abrupt end.

**29...**

**Qe7-c5**

White resigned as 30.Rd1xd4 Qc5xc2 31.Rd4xd7 Qc2-c5+ 32.Kg1-f1 Qc5xf5+

**Qe7-e6**

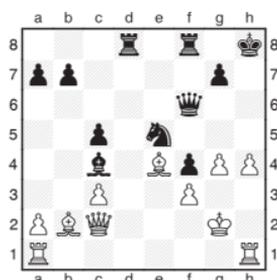
**a7-a5**

**Qe6-e7**

**Ra8-b8**

mops up. The queen can't be captured due to the intermediate check 30.Qc2xc5 Rd4xd1+.

This is the first year that Paul Littlewood has presented the brilliancy prize to an under-18 player in honour of his late father: John Littlewood would have approved of the stylish attack below by this year's winner Victor Jones.



**Addison, B - Jones, V**  
British Championship  
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White's position is looking very shaky and Jones wastes no time getting to grips with White's king.

**22...**                              **Ne5xg4**  
**23.f3xg4**                              **f4-f3+**

**24.Kg2-h3**

The King tries to hide on the side of the board as 24.Kg2-f2 Qf6-f4 25.Ra1-d1 Rd8xd1 26.Qc2xd1 Qf4xe4 is also problematic.

**24...**                              **f3-f2**

**25.Ra1-f1**

25.Be4-f5 meets with the same recipe 25...Rd8-d3+ 26.Kh3-g2 Qf6-c6+ 27.Kg2xf2 Rd3-f3+.

**25...**                              **Rd8-d3+**

This devastating deflection enables the black queen to get up close and personal with the white monarch.

**26.Be4xd3**                              **Qf6-f3+**

**27.Kh3-h2**                              **Qf3-f4+**

**28.Kh2-h3**                              **Qf4-e3+**

**29.Kh3-h2**                              **Rf8-f3**

White resigned as mate can only be prevented by desperate measures.