



CHESS OLYMPIAD

NORWAY 2014
TROMSØ

Bulletin

Round 5

06.08.14



Veselin Topalov playing board 1 for Bulgaria.
Photo: Georgios Souleidis / chess24

Deadlocks and escapes

Despite Kramnik's imposing play against Topalov on board one, Bulgaria actually took the lead in their match versus Russia, man in form Valentin Iotov torpedoed heavy favorite Sergei Karjakin with the black pieces on board three. But the decision in the battle of the ex-world champions went to Kramnik, who won a nice game over his rival to even things up. Ian Nepomniachtchi could not make an impression on GM Krasimir Rusev in the last game to finish, and the Russians were held to a draw for the second day in a row.

By GM Jonathan Tisdall

The duel between teams with perfect Olympiad records, Azerbaijan-Serbia, also looked set to end in a deadlock after GM Milos Perunovic pulled Serbia even by beating former Azerbaijan number one Teimour Radjabov on board two. The final game to conclude, Mamedov-Markus on board three, saw the Azerbaijan GM unable to convert an extra pawn as white against his Serbian colleague, and the 2-2 draw means that all teams have now dropped match points in the Olympiad.

Other top matches were predictably long, grim and close – China-Netherlands saw four draws, Cuba edged out Israel 2.5-1.5 and Armenian GM Gabriel Sargissian ground out a slow win over GM Simen Agdestein to beat Norway by one - but there were some surprises. Kazakhstan, ranked 49th, beat Turkey soundly 3-1 despite being

outrated on every board, and Georgia moved up the table by beating Belgium by the same margin.

Qatar continues to have a fine event, the 57th seeds holding Germany 2-2, and England also had to split their match vs. Vietnam, with Michael Adams winning a crisp game against Quang Liem Le. English anchor Matthew Sadler was held to a draw for the first time. Third seed France sailed up the points table with a resounding 3.5-0.5 win over Argentina.

Local news

The Norwegian media had been getting progressively more optimistic about the chances of the first team, but while they were clinging on to hopes of a 2-2 split with Armenia, encouraging attention could have been spent on Norway 2 –

they are undefeated, including a spectacular 2-2 draw against second seeds Ukraine. In round 5 they won again, four IMs beating four Slovenian GMs 2.5-1.5.

Ranked 58th, Norway 2 has now won three matches and drawn two, have a better match score than the first team, and they have been comprehensively outrated in the three matches where they faced stronger opposition. They may be led by a Norwegian rather than world champion, but they have earned the attention of an increasingly chess-crazy nation.

Upsets and accidents

The USA benched an out of form Gata Kamsky for their grudge match against North American neighbors Canada, but things are still not going smoothly for the 6th seeds. Canada took the lead thanks to a win by GM Bator Sambuev over GM Varuzhan Akobian, and US number one Hikaru Nakamura was held by GM Anton Kovalyov. US hopes for a split decision rested on GM Sam Shankland, who delivered the necessary point over IM Aman Hambleton.

Ukraine are another big team struggling to find form, and today the second seeds had a tragic result, losing 1.5-2.5 after Ivanchuk crashed to defeat against Rustam Kasimdzhanov, and GM Anton Korobov got tricked and imploded while trying to convert a pawn advantage.

Handshake extra: In the interim round report, we noted that as well as traditionally refusing to shake hands with Topalov, Kramnik had puzzled Carlsen by offering his hand as they passed each other while strolling around just after the start of play - the Norwegian hesitated before smiling and accepting.

Magnus: He said hello. I thought it was funny, because he didn't have any reason to say hello.

Women:

China rolled to a 3.5-0.5 win over Indonesia, but not without some nervous moments. WIM Chelsie Sihite had GM Xue Zhao completely at her mercy after the Chinese grandmaster made a serious error, but let victory slip after trying to cash in too quickly in an overwhelming position.

Iran's hot streak finally came to an end vs. Hungary. GM Thanh Trang Hoang put the 13th seeded Hungarians in front with a win on top board over WGM Atousa Pourkashyan. Hungary pressed for a bigger margin after the bottom boards were drawn, but had to settle for 2.5 points.

Russia-Georgia was the kind of tough battle one would expect from a meeting between the second and fourth seeds. Very closely fought, and coming down to one key game after three draws. Nela Khotenashvili looked set to seal the match for Georgia against GM Valentina Gunina on board two, but the Russian escaped and then stole the full point after it appeared her opponent could not readjust to the new situation.



GM Valentina Gunina, Russia Photo: Georgios Souleidis / chess24

This bit of good fortune means that three teams remain with a perfect match record as the Olympiad heads into its first rest day; China, Hungary and Russia.

Ups and downs

Times are tough for the Ukrainian teams, while the sun is shining on Serbia. Third seeded Ukraine stumbled to defeat, like their compatriots in the Open event, while the mood in the Serbian camp will definitely be cheery tonight. Wins on boards 2-3 and a comfortable draw from first board IM Natasa Bojkovic against Ukraine's GM Anna Muzychuk clinched the match for Serbia.

Netherlands upset 11th ranked Spain 2.5-1.5 despite GM Zhaoqin Peng being upended on board one by IM Sabrina Vega Gutierrez, and 8th seed Poland downed 17th ranked Kazakhstan 3-1, thanks to an efficient duo on the bottom boards.

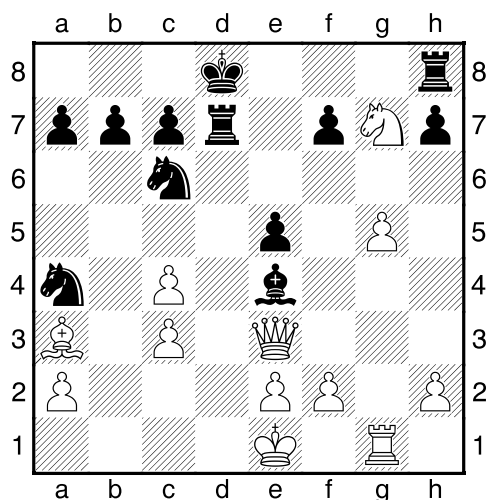
Poland, Serbia and the Netherlands are therefore the chasing trio, with 9/10 match points.

Annotated games

Annotations: GM Einar Gausel

Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (2743) – Ivan Ivanisevic (2613)
WCO2014 Tromso (5.25), 06.08.2014

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4 4.♞c2 ♘c6
5.♗f3 d6 6.g4 e5 7.dxe5 dxе5 8.g5 ♗xc3+
9.bxc3 ♘d7 10.♗a3 ♘b6 11.♞d1 ♗d7 12.♗h3
♗xh3 13.♞xd8+ ♞xd8 14.♞e4 ♘a4 15.♞e3
♞d7 16.♗d4 ♗g2 17.♞g1 ♘d8 18.♗f5 ♗e4
19.♗xg7



19.♞xe4? ♞d1+! 20.♘xd1 ♗xc3+ 21.♔c2
♗xe4

19...♗g6 20.♞h3 ♘b6 21.♗h5 f5 22.gxf6
♗xc4 23.♗e7+ ♗xe7 24.fxe7+ ♞xe7 25.♗f6
♗f7 26.♞g7 ♗e6 27.♞h6 ♗d6 28.♞xe7 ♘xe7
29.♗e4 ♗xe4 30.♞g7+

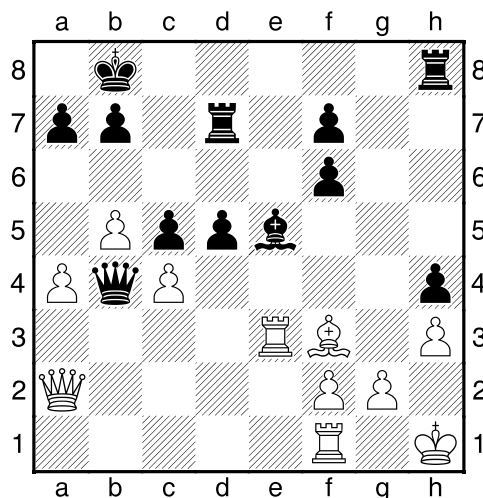
1-0

Sergey Karjakin (2786) – Valentin lotov (2553)
WCO2014 Tromso (5.23), 06.08.2014

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♞xd5 3.♗c3 ♞d8!? This
humble retreat has been making a bit of a
comeback lately.

4.d4 ♗f6 5.♗f3 ♗g4 6.h3 ♗xf3 7.♞xf3 c6
8.♞d3 e6 9.♗e2 ♗bd7 10.0-0 ♗d6 11.♗g5
♞c7 12.♗e4 ♗h2+ 13.♘h1 ♗f4 14.♗xf6+
♗xf6 15.♗xf6 gxf6 16.c4 0-0-0 17.♗f3 ♘b8
18.♞ad1 h5 19.b4 ♞d7 20.b5 c5 21.d5 ♗e5

22.♞de1 h4 23.a4 ♞a5 24.♞a3 ♞d2 25.♞e3
♞b4 26.♞a2 exd5



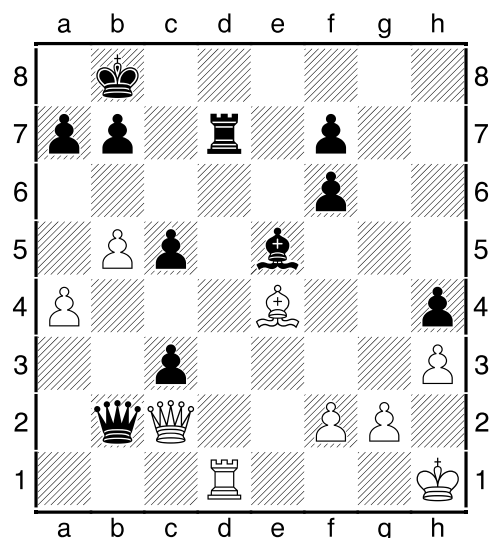
27.♞d3? White could have maintained a small
advantage with 27.♗d5 ♞xd5 28.cxd5 ♞f4
29.♞xe5 fxe5 30.♞d1

27...♞hd8 28.♞c1 28.♗d5 ♞xd5! 29.♞xd5
(29.cxd5 ♞f4 30.g3 ♞e4+ 31.♔g1 ♞xd3)
29...♞xd5 30.cxd5 ♞f4 31.g3 ♞f3+ 32.♔g1
hxg3 33.fyg3 ♗d4+ 34.♞f2 ♞xg3+ 35.♘f1
♞xh3+ 36.♘e1 ♞e3+ 37.♘f1 (37.♞e2 ♞c1#)
37...♞xf2+ 38.♞xf2 ♗xf2 39.♘xf2 ♘c7 and
Black wins the pawn ending.

28...dxc4 29.♞xd7 ♞xd7 30.♞c2 The pawn on
c4 was taboo: 30.♞xc4 ♞d1+! 31.♞xd1
(31.♗xd1 ♞e1+) 31...♞xc4 and Black
effortlessly converts his extra material to a full
point.

30...c3 This monster decides the game.

31.♖d1 ♖b2 32.♙e4



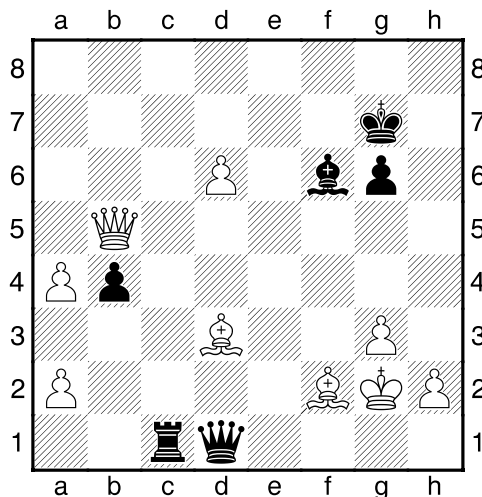
32...♖d2! 33.♖xd2 cxd2 34.♖d1 ♖d4 and White resigned.

34...♖d4 35.f3 (35.♙g1 ♙g3) 35...♖f2 36.♙c2 ♖e1+ 37.♖xe1 dxe1♖#

0-1

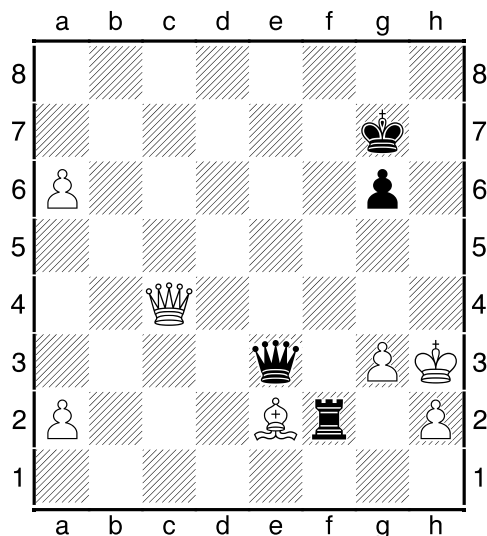
**Bela Khotenashvili (2494) –
Valentina Gunina (2524)**
WCO2014 Tromsø (5.14), 06.08.2014

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e3 ♙f5 5.♘c3 e6
6.♘h4 ♙g6 7.♙e2 ♘bd7 8.0-0 ♘e4 9.g3 ♘d6
10.cxd5 exd5 11.f3 ♙e7 12.♘xg6 hxg6 13.e4
0-0 14.♙e3 dxe4 15.fxe4 ♙g5 16.♙f2 b5
17.♙d3 ♘b6 18.b3 b4 19.♘a4 ♘xa4 20.bxa4
f5 21.exf5 gxf5 22.♖b3+ ♔h8 23.♖ae1 ♙d2
24.♖e5 ♖d7 25.♖d1 ♙h6 26.♖fe1 ♖f7 27.♖c2
♖ad8 28.♖e7 ♖h5 29.♖1e5 ♙g5 30.♖7e6 ♙f6
31.♖xd6 ♖xd6 32.♖xf5 ♖e8 33.♖c5 ♖d5
34.♖xd5 cxd5 35.♖xd5 g6 36.♖c5 ♔g7
37.♖xa7+ ♖f7 38.♖a6 ♖c7 39.♖b5 ♖e6 40.d5
♖g4 41.♔g2 ♖d1 42.d6 ♖c1



43.d7 43.a5 ♖h1+ 44.♔h3 ♖a8 45.a6 and White's passed pawns decide the game in her favor.

43...♖h1+ 44.♔h3 ♖a8 45.♖xb4 ♖d5 46.♖b5 ♖e6+ 47.♔g2 ♖c7 48.a5 ♖xd7 49.a6 ♙d4
50.♖c4 ♖b6 51.♖c8 ♖f7 52.♙xd4+ ♖xd4
53.♖c2 ♖d7 54.♙e2 ♖e3 55.♖c4 ♖f7 56.♔h3 ♖f2



57.♖c7+? White could still have a secured a draw with 57.♙d3 ♖h6+ (57...♖d2 58.♖d4+ ♔h7 59.♖h4+) 58.♖h4 ♖xh4+ 59.♔xh4 ♖xh2+ 60.♔g4 ♖xa2 61.♔f3

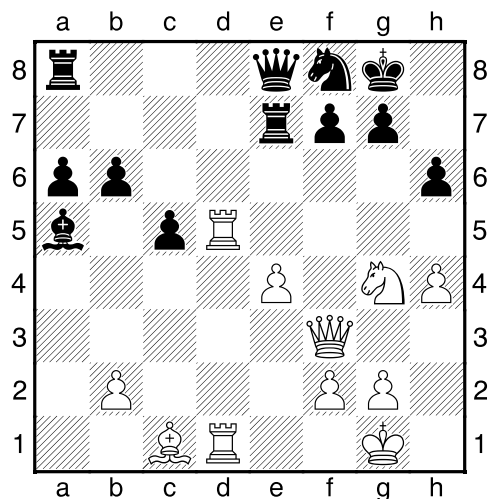
57...♔h6 58.♙c4 ♖g5 Now White's king bears a striking resemblance to the proverbial sitting duck.

59.g4 ♖f3+ 60.♔g2 ♜xg4+ 61.♔h1 ♖f2
62.♜g3 ♜e4+ 62...♜e4+ 63.♔g1 ♜e1+ 64.♔f1
♜xf1#

0-1

**Bator Sambuev (2528) –
Varuzhan Akobian (2653)**
WCO2014 Tromso (5.18), 06.08.2014

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♖b4 4.e3 0-0 5.♗d3
d5 6.♘f3 c5 7.0-0 dxc4 8.♗xc4 ♘bd7 9.♜e2
a6 10.a3 ♗a5 11.a4 b6 12.♞d1 ♗b7 13.d5
exd5 14.♘xd5 ♘xd5 15.♗xd5 ♜c7 16.e4
♗xd5 17.♞xd5 ♞fe8 18.♗g5 ♘f8 19.♞ad1 h6
20.♗c1 ♜c6 21.♘e5 ♜xa4 22.♞f3 ♞e7 23.h4
♜e8 24.♘g4



24...♞xe4? Black still seems to have a reasonably solid position after 24...♞e6

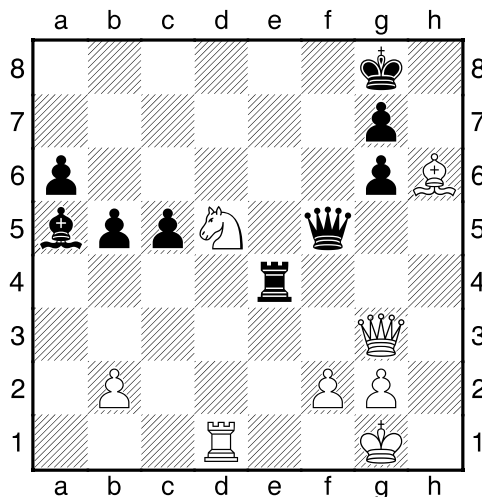
25.♗xh6! ♜e6 25...gxf6 26.♘f6+ and White picks up the queen.

26.♞g5 White is a pawn down, but he now gets the material back with interest.

26...♘g6 27.h5 ♞f8 27...gxf6 28.♘xh6+ ♔h7
29.hxg6+ fxf6 (29...♔xh6 30.♜h5+) 30.♘f5
♞e1+ 31.♔h2 and there's no saving Black's exposed king.

28.hxg6 fxf6 29.♜g3 b5 29...gxf6 30.♘xh6+
♔h7 31.♞d6 was no improvement for Black.

30.♘e3 ♞f6 31.♘d5 ♞f5 32.♞xf5 ♜xf5



33.♗g5 Simple and strong. White now simply threatens Ne7+.

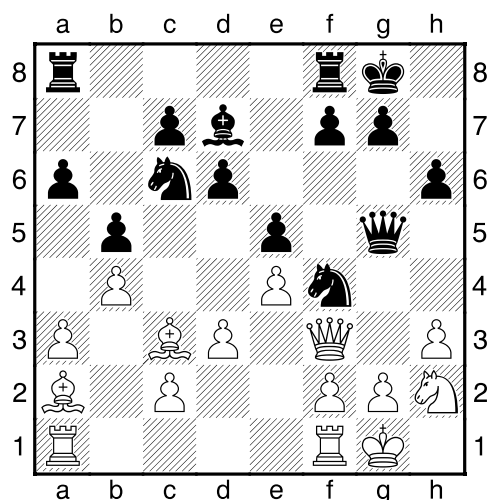
33...♔f7 34.♘e3 ♜e5 35.♞d7+ ♔g8 36.♞f3
♜e8 37.♞a7 ♔h7 38.♗f6

1-0

Blunders, upsets and knockouts

Annotations: GM Einar Gausel

Elza Hoareau - Ama Edoh
WCO2014 Tromso (5.48), 06.08.2014



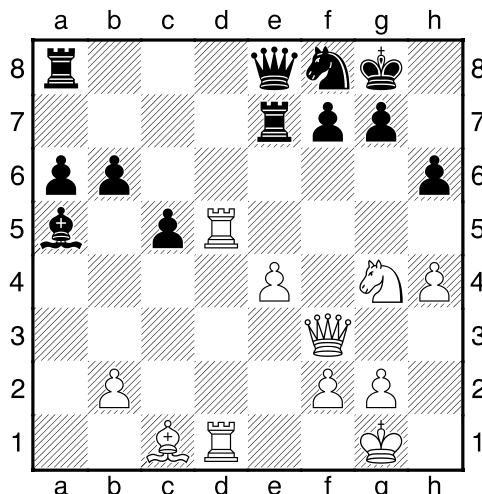
16. ♙d2? ♜d4 17. ♚e3 17. ♚g3 ♜fe2+ and Black wins everything.

17... ♚xg2\#

0-1

Bator Sambuev (2528) – Varuzhan Akobian (2653)
WCO2014 Tromso (5.18), 06.08.2014

1. d4 ♜f6 2. c4 e6 3. ♜c3 ♙b4 4. e3 0-0 5. ♙d3 d5 6. ♜f3 c5 7. 0-0 dxc4 8. ♙xc4 ♜bd7 9. ♚e2 a6 10. a3 ♙a5 11. a4 b6 12. ♞d1 ♙b7 13. d5 exd5 14. ♜xd5 ♜xd5 15. ♙xd5 ♚c7 16. e4 ♙xd5 17. ♞xd5 ♞fe8 18. ♙g5 ♜f8 19. ♞ad1 h6 20. ♙c1 ♚c6 21. ♜e5 ♚xa4 22. ♚f3 ♞e7 23. h4 ♚e8 24. ♜g4



24... ♞xe4? Black still seems to have a reasonably solid position after 24... ♞e6

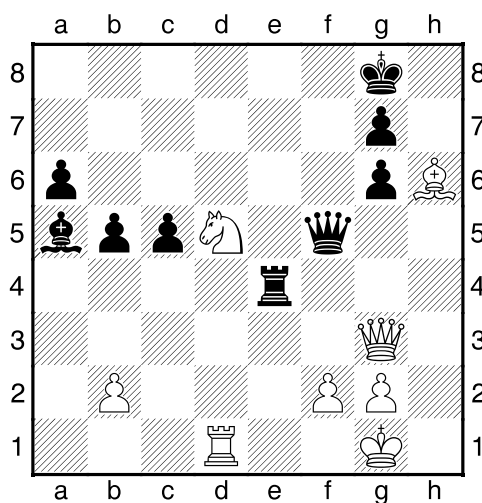
25. ♙xh6! ♚e6 25... gxf6 26. ♜f6+ and White picks up the queen.

26. ♞g5 White is a pawn down, but he now gets the material back with interest.

26... ♜g6 27. h5 ♞f8 27... gxf6 28. ♜xh6+ ♜h7 29. hxf6+ fxg6 (29... ♜xh6 30. ♚h5+) 30. ♜f5 ♞e1+ 31. ♜h2 and there's no saving Black's exposed king.

28. hxf6 fxg6 29. ♚g3 b5 29... gxf6 30. ♜xh6+ ♜h7 31. ♞d6 was no improvement for Black.

30. ♜e3 ♞f6 31. ♜d5 ♞f5 32. ♞xf5 ♚xf5



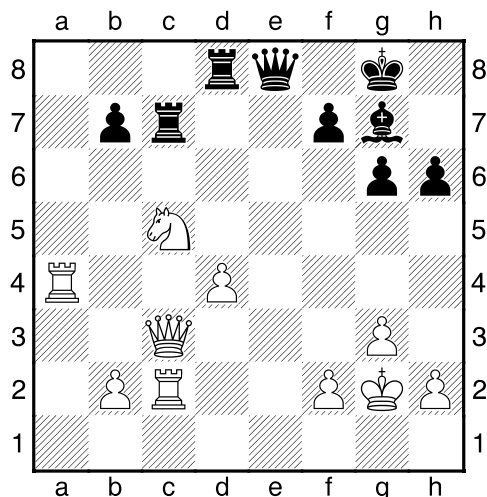
33. ♙g5 Simple and strong. White now simply threatens Ne7+ .

33...♙f7 34.♗e3 ♖e5 35.♞d7+ ♔g8 36.♞f3
♞e8 37.♞a7 ♔h7 38.♙f6

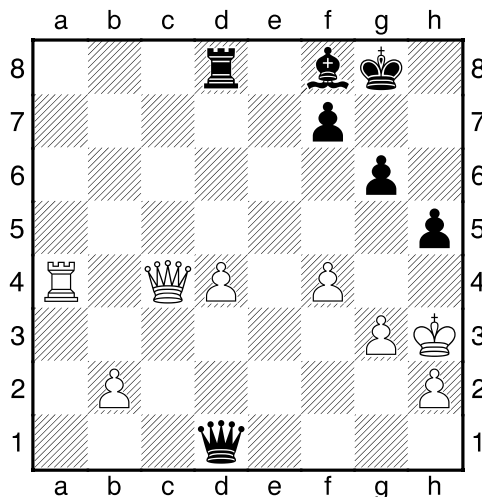
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Liem Le Quang (2710) –
Michael Adams Michael (2740)
WCO2014 Tromso (5.9), 06.08.2014

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.♙g2 ♙b4+ 5.♙d2
♙e7 6.♗f3 c6 7.♞b3 0-0 8.0-0 ♗bd7 9.♞c1 a5
10.♙g5 h6 11.♙xf6 ♙xf6 12.♗a3 ♖e7 13.e3
♞d8 14.♞ab1 g6 15.♞c2 ♙g7 16.♞d1 ♗f6
17.♗e5 ♙d7 18.♗xd7 ♞xd7 19.♞d2 e5
20.dxe5 ♞xe5 21.♞bd1 ♞ad8 22.cxd5 ♗xd5
23.♗c4 ♖e6 24.♙xd5 cxd5 25.♗xa5 d4
26.exd4 ♞xa2 27.♗b3 ♖a4 28.♞a1 ♞b4
29.♞c3 ♞b6 30.♞a4 ♖e6 31.♗c5 ♖e1+
32.♔g2 ♞c7 33.♞c2 ♖e8



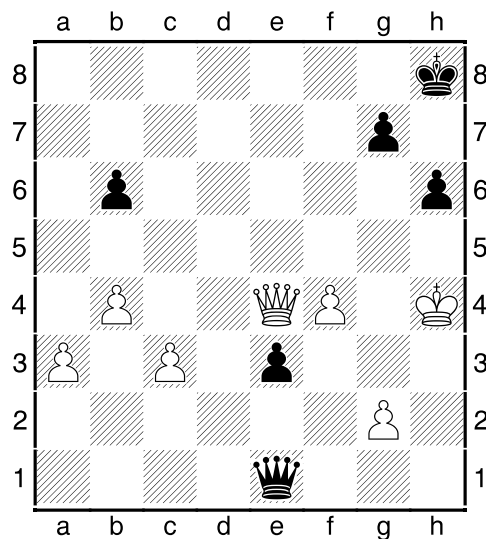
34.♞c4? b5-+ 35.♞b4 ♞xc5! 36.♞xc5 ♙f8
37.♞xb5 ♖e4+ 38.♔g1 ♞xc2 39.♞a4 ♖b1+
40.♔g2 ♖e4+ 41.f3 ♞c2+ 42.♔h3 ♖d1 43.f4
h5 44.♞c4



44...♞xd4! 44...♞xd4 45.♞xd4 ♖f1+ 46.♔h4
♙e7+

0-1

Dritan Mehmeti (2416) –
Khalil Bengherabi (2170)
WCO2014 Tromso (5.31), 06.08.2014

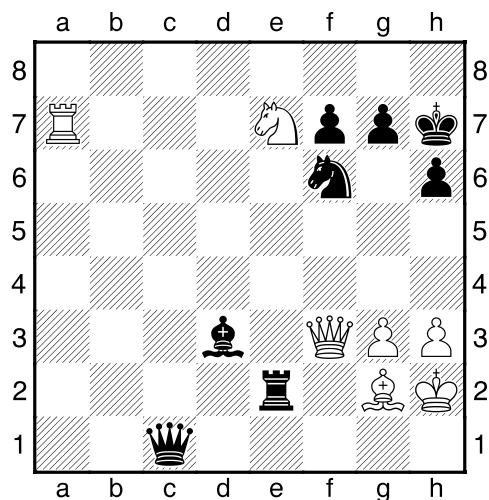


42.♔h5? 42.♔g4=

42...♞g3! 43.a4 g6+! 43...g6+ 44.♞xg6
(44.♔xh6 ♖h4+ 45.♔xg6 ♖h7+ 46.♔f6 ♖xe4)
44...♞h2+ 45.♔g4 ♖xg2+ 46.♔f5 ♖xg6+
47.♔xg6 e2-+

0-1

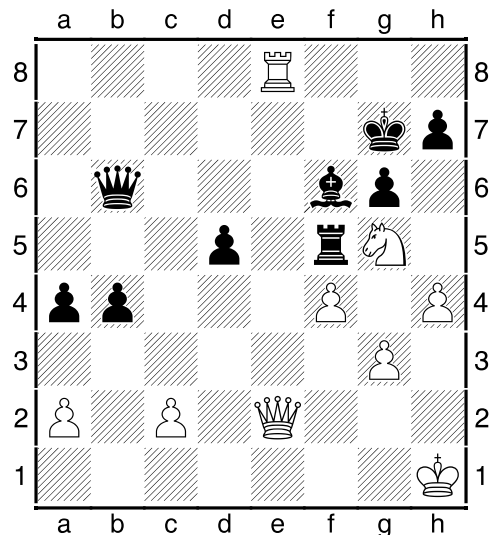
**Matej Sebenik (2537) –
Aryan Tari (2440)**
WCO2014 Tromsø (5.25), 06.08.2014



33...♖xg2+! 33...♖xg2+ 34.♗xg2 (34.♔xg2 ♕e4) 34...♕e4 35.♗g1 ♖d2+ and mate next move.

0-1

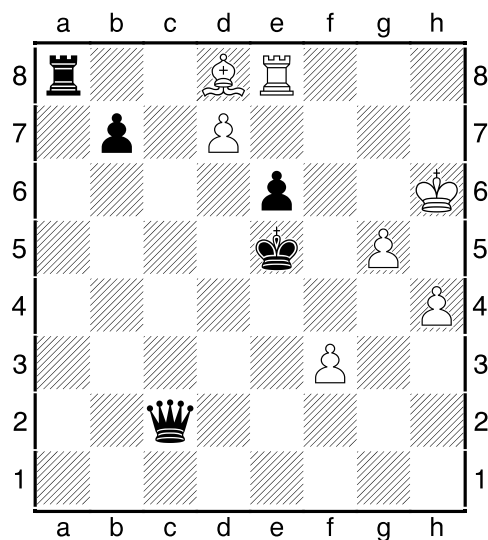
**Lazaro Bruzon Batista (2664) –
Maxim Rodshtein (2671)**
WCO2014 Tromsø (5.43), 06.08.2014



38.♖g8+! 38.♖g8+ ♔xg8 (38...♔h6 39.♔f7#) 39.♗e8+ ♔g7 40.♗f7+ ♔h8 41.♗xh7#

1-0

**Marcos Ortiz (2214) –
Mircea-Emilian Parligras (2574)**
WCO2014 Tromsø (5.22), 06.08.2014



42...♔d6? 42...♖xd8 43.♖xd8 ♖c7 44.♖f8 ♗xd7 45.g6 ♖e7 46.g7 ♗xh4+ 47.♔g6 ♗g3+ 48.♔h7 ♗h4+=

43.♗f6 ♔xd7 44.♖xa8 e5 45.g6 ♖c6

1-0

46.♖f8 [46.♖f8 ♗xf3 47.g7 ♗f4+ 48.♔g5+-]