



5th European Small Nations Individual Championship

2nd European Small Nations Individual Women Chess Championship

CENTRE DE CONGRESSOS D'ANDORRA LA VELLA

From 22nd to 30th June 2024

Newsletter 03



Federació d'Escacs Valls d'Andorra

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Round 2

Leading players with two points after the morning round.

Open Category



Arbiter's Team

Double rounds are always challenging as there is the possibility of playing for more than eight hours if we add up the time of the morning and the afternoon round. The second round began at 9:00AM and all the players were in the room ready to start this tough day.

The Andorran representative in the open category, FIDE Master Serni Ribera, was the first who finished, defeating his opponent, San Marino player Nicola D'Amico. The game, which lasted just over two hours, was resolved in 21 moves.

Black was unable to neutralize the initiative of the Principality's player, and despite playing the solid Petrov Defence, they soon found themselves in trouble. Serni took advantage of this to launch a pawn attack on the opponent's castling that gave him victory, becoming the first player to score two consecutive wins.



Tournament Hall, Centre de Congressos d'Andorra la Vella



ROUND 2 RESULTS

2. ROUND 2024/06/24 at 9:00

B.	ELO			NAME	RESULT		NAME		ELO
1	1957			Strade, Arita	0 - 1	GM	Efimov, Igor		2312
2	2317		FM	Michaelides, Konstantinos	0 - 1	IM	Berend, Fred		2235
3	2184		CM	Pace, Colin	½ - ½		Apol, Luitjen Akselsson		2251
4	1907			Frick, Renato	1 - 0		Carpenter, Paul A		1969
5	2341		FM	Ribera Veganzones, Serni	1 - 0		D'amico, Nicola		1832

2. ROUND 2024/06/24 at 9:00

B.	ELO			NAME	RESULT		NAME		ELO
1	0			Biordi, Mariane	0 - 1		De La Riva Real, Ariadna		1774
2	1966		WFM	Henderson De La Fuente, Andrea	1 - 0		Muratet Carmona, Julia		1834
3	2230		WGM	Berend, Elvira	1 - 0	WCM	Ruddy, Rachel		1719
4	1676		WFM	Markidou, Christianna	0 - 1	WIM	Zvereva, Marija		2040
5	1872		AFM	Nevska, Gerda	1 - 0	WFM	Thornton, Filipina		1787



Serni Ribera Veganzones (AND)

Renato Frick of Liechtenstein is the other player who is in the lead with 2 out of 2 thanks to his victory with the white pieces against Paul A. Carpenter of Guernsey. When his opponent had an advantageous position, he underestimated the consequences of a knight sacrifice on g5, and his acceptance allowed White to achieve a direct checkmate attack.

With 1½ points we have Grandmaster Igor Efimov (MNC) who, with the black pieces, defeated Jersey player Arita Strade. In a variation of the advance of the French Defence, the Monegasque player obtained a clear positional advantage thanks to the pair of bishops and control of the c-file, which allowed him to increase the pressure on the queenside until achieving decisive material gains.

Also, with 1½ points, there are the players from Malta and Faroe who faced each other today and drew their game. The truth is that Colin Pace (MLT) had achieved, thanks to a mistake by his opponent, a very promising position where he could have won a pawn (move 19. Nxe6!) in a tactically possible combination. Instead, he chose a second option that simplified the position, drawing after minor piece exchanges in an equal position.

The last game to finish was the one between FIDE Master Konstantinos Michaelides (CYP) and Fred Berend (LUX). The game was

always even, but in the resulting endgame the black pieces were more active and thanks to several small inaccuracies, Berend was able to put pressure on the opponent's position until provoking the error that gave him the advantage. From there, he kept increasing it until he finally took the win and placed himself in the group of players with 1½ points.



Andrea Henderson (AND) vs Júlia Muratet (AND)

Women's Category

As for the women's category, Grandmaster Elvira Berend defeated Jersey representative Rachel Ruddy very quickly. Black rushed into a central break, 8...e5 in the opening, reaching an inferior position with an isolated pawn. The Luxembourg player resolved the game with a direct checkmate attack on the opponent's castling and moved to 2 points.

Gerda Nevska (GCI) also achieved her second victory by defeating Filipina Thornton (MLT) with the white pieces in a game where both players had chances.

Andorrans Ariadna de la Riva and Andrea Henderson are also in the leading group with two points, completing this group of 4 players with 2 points.

Ariadna won with a direct attack on the long castling of San Marino player Mariane Biordi. In the Dragon variation of the Sicilian, it is very common castling on opposite flanks, and on this occasion, Black got there first.

The craziest game of the day was precisely the one between the two Principality players, Andrea Henderson and Júlia Muratet. In an irregular opening, Andrea made a dubious sacrifice and Black decided to return the piece in exchange for the initiative. The game was very complicated until Black took advantage of several inaccuracies to gain a decisive advantage. When it seemed that Júlia was taking the victory, two serious mistakes just before move 40 allowed Andrea to bring the king to a safe zone and obtain the point thanks to a double threat.

The game between Marija Zvereva (MNC) and Christianna Markidou (CYP) did not have much history due to the serious mistake in the opening by the Cypriot representative where Black came out with a material advantage winning on move 31.

Photo Gallery Round 2



Round 3

Serni Ribera in the lead with 3 points. In the women's category, three players are tied at the top with 2½ points.

Open Category



Chief Arbiter, Alexandra Muratet

The double round day has been very favorable for the interests of the Andorran representative, the FIDE master Serni Ribera, with today's two victories is placed at the top of the classification with 3 out of 3 points, being the only player who is managing to transform his encounters in points.

This afternoon he has beaten Paul A. Carpenter of Jersey with the black pieces. With a very ambitious game plan to combat the double fianchetto proposed by his rival, he reached the middle game with an advantage and the truth is that from there on, he was given no options, increasing the pressure until he took the victory.

With 2½ points we find the representative of Faroe, Luitjen A. Apol and the representative of Luxembourg, Fred Berend.



Tournament Hall, Centre de Congressos d'Andorra la Vella

ROUND 3 RESULTS

3. ROUND 2024/06/24 at 16:00

B.	ELO		NAME	RESULT		NAME	ELO
1	1832		D'amico, Nicola	0 - 1		Strade, Arita	 1957
2	1969		Carpenter, Paul A	0 - 1	FM	Ribera Vezanzones, Serni	 2341
3	2251		Apol, Luitjen Akselsson	1 - 0		Frick, Renato	 1907
4	2235		IM Berend, Fred	1 - 0	CM	Pace, Colin	 2184
5	2312		GM Efimov, Igor	½ - ½	FM	Michaelides, Konstantinos	 2317

3. ROUND 2024/06/24 at 16:00

B.	ELO		NAME	RESULT		NAME	ELO
1	1787		WFM Thornton, Filipina	1 - 0		Biordi, Mariane	 0
2	2040		WIM Zvereva, Marija	1 - 0	AFM	Nevska, Gerda	 1872
3	1719		WCM Ruddy, Rachel	0 - 1	WFM	Markidou, Christianna	 1676
4	1834		Muratet Carmona, Julia	½ - ½	WGM	Berend, Elvira	 2230
5	1774		De La Riva Real, Ariadna	½ - ½	WFM	Henderson De La Fuente, Andrea	 1966

The first player won with the black pieces against Renato Frick (LIE) in a complicated game where he ended up winning.

On the other hand, the player from Luxembourg has overcome Colin Pace (MLT) with the whites in a positional game where he has done well on the checker's flank to achieve victory thanks to a sacrifice on the opposite flank taking advantage of the fact that the rival pieces were displaced.

Grandmaster Igor Efimov (MNC) has signed some fast draw with the young player from Cyprus, Konstantinos Michaelides and therefore, remains with 2 points.

To finish, Guernsey's player, Arita Strade, has scored her first point against San Marino's representative Nicola D'amico.



Renato Frick (LIE)



Ariadna de la Riva (AND) vs Andrea Henderson (AND)

Women's Category

In the women's category, three players are tied at the top with $2\frac{1}{2}$ points.

The players of the Principality Andrea Henderson and Ariadna de la Riva, who had 2 out of 2 points, have draw against each other. The truth is that Andrea wasted a very good chance to obtain an almost decisive advantage in the opening where Ariadna was not correct in the order of moves. Instead, she chose to sacrifice thinking that the complications were in her favor, but she did not care for more than a triple repetition since otherwise, she would have fallen into an inferior position.

With the same points we have the main favorite Grandmaster Elvira Berend, who could not overcome the player from Andorra, Júlia Muratet. Despite the fact that the Luxembourger had an advantage, she was not able to materialize it so they signed draw.

Then, with two points, the players Marija Zvereva (MNC) and Gerda Nevska (GCI) played together this afternoon and the Monacan player won in a game that lasted only fifteen moves.

Finally, with $1\frac{1}{2}$ points, Filipina Thornton of Malta and Christiana Markidou of Cyprus.



Marija Zvereva (MNC)



Elvira Berend (LUX)



Photo Gallery Round 3



THE GAME OF THE DAY

IM Berend, Fred (2235) LUX
CM Pace, Colin (2184) MLT
Kings Indian [E61]

5th European Small Nations Individual
 Andorra la Vella (3.4), 24.06.2024
[De la Riva Aguado, Oscar]

**1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♘g7 4.♗f3 0-0 5.♙g5
 h6 6.♙h4 c5 7.d5 d6 8.e3 e6**

8...♙f5 9.♗d2 g5 10.♙g3 ♖b6 An alternative
 idea, although it seems that after e4 White is
 a little better.; 8...g5 9.♙g3 ♗h5 10.♗d2 ♗xg3
 11.hxg3 e6 it is also possible.

9.♙e2 [9.♗d2!?] **9...exd5 10.cxd5 ♖b6** [10...g5!?
 11.♙g3 ♗h5=] **11.♖c1 ♙f5?!**

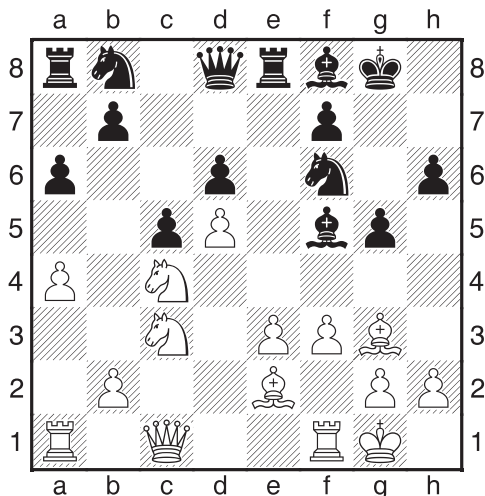
♙1...♙g4 12.0-0 ♗bd7=

12.♗d2!

White knight aims to c4, gaining an extra
 tempo.

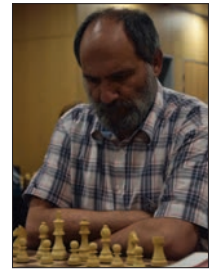
12...♖e8 13.♗c4 ♖d8 14.f3 [14.0-0 g5 15.♙g3±]

14...a6 15.a4 g5 16.♙g3 ♙f8 17.0-0



The pressure on d6 gives white a big
 advantage.

17...♗h5 18.♙f2 ♙g6 19.g4!



Expanding on the kingside, the black knight
 does not have good squares.

**19...♗g7 20.e4 ♗d7 21.♙g3 ♗b6 22.♗e3 ♗d7
 23.♗c4** [23.a5!? ♗e5 24.h3±]

**23...♗b6 24.a5 ♗xc4 25.♙xc4 b5 26.axb6
 ♖xb6 27.♖a2** [27.h4!?+-]

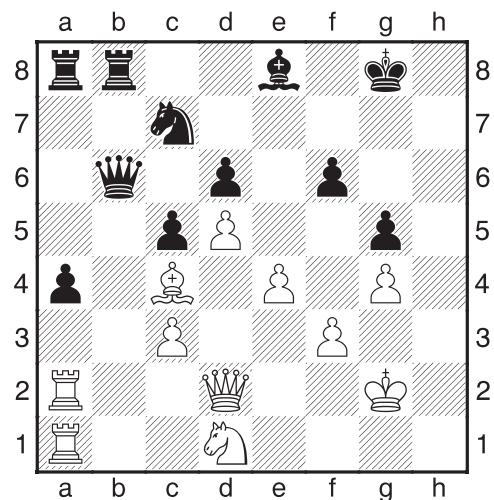
27...♖eb8 28.♖e3

Black lacks counterplay and cannot activate
 his pieces, therefore white can manoeuvre on
 both flanks.

**28...♗e8 29.♖e2 ♙g7 30.♖fa1 a5 31.♙e1 ♗d4+
 32.♗g2 h5 33.h3 ♗c7 34.♗d1 a4 35.♙c3**
 [35.♖xa4±]

35...♙xc3 36.bxc3 f6 37.♖d2 [37.e5!?]

37...hxg4 38.hxg4 ♙e8



39.e5!

Opening the position with a winning attack.

39...fxe5 40.♖xg5+ ♗f8 41.♗e3 ♙f7 42.♖h1
 [42.♗f5+-]

42...♙g8 43.♗f5

1-0



Press Clipping

el Periòdic

Dimarts, 25 de juny del 2024

Esports 27

ESCACS

Ribera, Henderson i De la Riva, en el grup de líders dels Petits Estats

Els campionats s'estan disputant des del 23 fins al 29 de juny

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Els representants d'Andorra Serni Ribera (2341 FIDE), Andrea Henderson (1966 FIDE) i Ariadna de la Riva (1774 FIDE) es troben, després de dues rondes, en el grup de líders del 5è campionat individual i del 2n campionat femení dels Petits Estats d'Europa que es disputen del 23 al 29 de juny a la sala Aria del Centre de Congressos d'Andorra la Vella.

Ribera va estar el primer a signar la victòria de la jornada matinal contra el representant de San Marino, Nicola D'amico (1832 FIDE), amb qui l'andorrà va mantenir un clar avantatge durant tota la partida. Ahir a la tarda Ribera també va puntuar contra la jugadora de Guernsey, Arita Strade (1957 FIDE), i aquesta tarda s'enfrontarà amb negres a Paul Carpenter (1969 FIDE), de Jersey. En



Andrea Henderson i Júlia Muratet en un moment de la partida.

el grup de lideratge actualment només l'acompanya el liechtensteinès Renato Frick (1907 FIDE).

Pel que fa al campionat femení, Ariadna de la Riva va derrotar la jugadora de San Marino, Mariane Biordi (sense ELO FIDE). El duel andorrà d'ahir al matí va estar el d'Andrea Henderson (1966 FIDE) i Júlia Muratet (1834

Els representants andorrans estan disputant el 5è campionat individual i 2n campionat femení

FIDE), les quals van acabar les últimes amb victòries per a les blanques. Així doncs, la classificació de jugadores amb dos punts està conformada per la Gran Mestra femenina de Luxemburg Elvira Berend (2234 FIDE), Henderson, la jugadora de Guernsey Gerda Nevska (1872 FIDE) i de la Riva. ●

ESCACS CAMPIONAT PETITS ESTATS D'EUROPA

Ribera, Henderson i De la Riva, entre els líders

REDACCIÓ
ANDORRA LA VELLA

Els representants d'Andorra Serni Ribera (2.341 FIDE), Andrea Henderson (1.966 FIDE) i Ariadna de la Riva (1.774 FIDE) es troben, després de dues rondes, en el grup de líders del 5è

campionat individual i del 2n campionat femení dels Petits Estats d'Europa, que s'estan disputant del 23 al 29 de juny a la sala aria del Centre de Congressos d'Andorra la Vella. Ahir es va disputar la tercera ronda i les respectives partides dels dos campionats.

Escacs

M. S.



El campionat s'està disputant al Centre de Congressos.

Victòries de Ribera, Henderson i De la Riva

Redacció
ANDORRA LA VELLA

Serni Ribera va sumar una nova victòria en el Campionat individual de Petits Estats d'escacs en derrotar el sanmarinès Nicola D'Amico en la segona ronda de la competició.

Pel que fa al Campionat femení, Ariadna de la Riva, que va derrotar Júlia Muratet en la ronda inicial, va guanyar la

sanmarinesa Mariane Biordi, mentre que Andrea Henderson va sumar també el segon punt en vèncer Muratet.

Al tancament de l'edició es disputava la tercera ronda, on Ribera s'enfrontava al representant de Jersey, Paul Carpenter, Muratet jugava contra la luxemburguesa i favorita del torneig Elvira Berend, i De la Riva i Henderson protagonitzaven un nou duel andorrà.

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