

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 08



Federació d'Escacs Valls d'Andorra

www.escacsandorra.com

esna.escacsandorra.com

Round 9

Igor Efimov from Monaco wins with 8 out of 9! WGM Elvira Berend (LUX) becomes the champion of the second edition.

Open Category



Visit to "Casa de la Vall"

This last round began at 3:00 p.m. with the first move by Mr. Ion-Serban Dobronauteanu, treasurer of the European Chess Union (ECU), who made White's first move in the game between Andrea Henderson (AND) and Marija Zevereva (MNC).

From here on, in the open category, the focus was on the games of Efimov and Berend, since the former, with only half-point advantage over the latter, was not guaranteed victory.

The GM of Monaco has come up with a solid scheme to combat the King's Indian Defence raised by the young Faroese player, who is dangerous in complications. In the middle game, however, he accepted the pawn sacrifice offered by black and from there, with quite precise play, he increased his advantage until he obtained the victory and, with it, the first place in the championship with an impressive 8 out of 9!



First move by Mr. Ion-Serban Dobronauteanu (ECU)

ROUND 9 RESULTS

9. ROUND 2024/06/29 at 15:00

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

9. ROUND 2024/06/29 at 15:00

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

It is certain that Efimov has removed a thorn, since he had obtained the runner-up position on three occasions, but this is the first occasion that he has won it. Congratulations!

With this result, Fred Berend had to win to secure second place and not have to depend on the tiebreaker, but his position seemed very delicate since Arita Strade (GCI) with black had a decisive advantage with a strong attack on the white king. However, he did not hit the best follow-up and gave options to the Luxembourgish international master to come out alive and continue playing. A draw was finally achieved and therefore second position when his rival settled for a tie by repetition.

The surprise of the day was achieved by the representative of Guernsey, Paul A. Carpenter who, playing with the black pieces, managed to beat the FIDE master Konstantinos Michaelides after taking advantage of two serious mistakes when his position was clearly inferior. The Cypriot player, who was fighting for third place, was kept off the podium at the last moment, remaining with 5½ points, in fourth place.

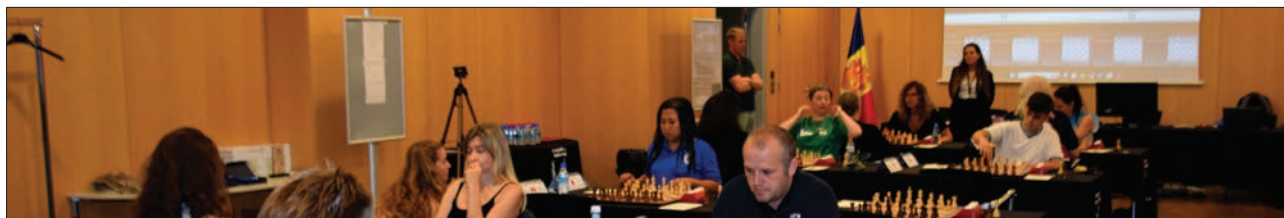
The big beneficiary of this result was the Andorran Serni Ribera who, with the victory in the last round, achieved 6½ points and finally occupied the last place on the podium. He played a very serious game today with the black pieces against Renato Frick (LIE).



WGM Elvira Berend (LUX)

In the opening there was a quick exchange of queens and black kept with the pair of bishops. Serni has progressed adequately on both flanks, overtaking his rival.

The other game of the round was the one between Colin Pace (MLT) and Nicola D'Amico (SMR) that ended with the victory of the former.



Women's Category

The WGM Elvira Berend of Luxembourg wins the game of the last round and, with $7\frac{1}{2}$ points out of 9 possible, becomes the champion of this second edition of the Women's Individual Championship of the Small States of Europe. Elvira takes over from Monegasque WGM Tatiana Dornbusch who was the first champion of the edition held in 2022 in Monaco.

In today's game, playing with the white pieces, she beat Filipina Thornton, from Malta, in a game where she always maintained at least a slight advantage. In the complications of the middle game, she was much more accurate than her rival and took a victory that mathematically gave her first place.

The fight for second place centered on the match between Andrea Henderson (AND) and Marija Zvereva (MNC). During many moves the position has remained equal, but in the advanced phase of the middle game, some inaccuracies by the player from Monaco have allowed Andrea to gain an advantage and therefore fight for the victory. From here she was able to take advantage of the lack of coordination of the black pieces and with quite precise movements she ended up taking the point and, with it, second place in the tournament, just the same place she occupied in Monaco 2022.

The third place on the podium, therefore, went to the international master Marija Zvereva who, despite the defeat, at least was able to stay on the podium with $6\frac{1}{2}$ points.

Gerda Nevska from Guernsey with 6 points has occupied the fourth position of the classification thanks to her victory in the final round against the Cypriot representative, Christianna Markidou.

Júlia Muratet with $5\frac{1}{2}$ points took fifth place. In fact, her game against Mariane Biordi (SMR) was the story of the day, as her rival lost the game in the ninth move due to her mobile phone ringing. The main arbiter had to intervene and award the point to Júlia Muratet from the Principality.

The other Andorran player, Ariadna de la Riva, said goodbye to the tournament with a defeat against Rachel Ruddi (JCI) in a poor game where she had no options as she gave up the initiative too quickly to her rival. Ariadna has taken 8th place in the classification, the same as the sixth and seventh place players, but with a worse tiebreaker.

Photo Gallery Round 9



Closing Ceremony

With the presence of the Secretary of State for Sports, Mr. Alain Cabanes and ECU treasurer Mr. Ion-Serban Dobronauteanu.

The closing dinner and award ceremony took place at Borda Estevet from 9:00 p.m. The event, in a typical Andorran “Borda”, was attended by the Secretary of State for Sports of Andorra, Mr. Alain Cabanes and the ECU Treasurer, Mr. Ion-Serban Dobronauteanu who accompanied the president of the Andorra Chess Federation, Mr. Francesc Rechi, and the director of the tournament, Mr. Joan A. Obregón.

After the dinner was over, the awards were given to the first three players of the blitz championship, which was dominated by WGM Luxembourg Elvira Berend.

This was followed by the recognition of all the players in the women’s category, and the prizes for the top three : 1st Elvira Berend (LUX), 2nd Andrea Henderson (AND) and 3rd Marija Zvereva (MNC). .The open category prizes went to the top three: : 1st Igor Efimov (MNC), 2nd Fred Berend (LUX) and 3rd Serni Ribera (AND).

With the words of thanks for their participation, the Andorran Chess Federation closed this edition and handed the flags of all participating countries to the representative of Cyprus, as Cyprus will host the team competition on 2025.



Restaurant “Borda Estevet”



FINAL STANDINGS OPEN

Rk.	No.Ini.		Nombre	FED	FIDE	Club/Ciudad	Pts.	Des 1	Des 2	Des 3
1	6		GM Efimov, Igor	MNC	2312	MONACO	8	0	30,75	7
2	5		IM Berend, Fred	LUX	2235	LUXEMBOURG	7	0	27,25	5
3	1		FM Ribera Vezanzones, Serni	AND	2341	ANDORRA	6,5	0	21,50	6
4	7		FM Michaelides, Konstantinos	CYP	2317	CYPRUS	5,5	0	20,00	5
5	4		Apol, Luitjen Akselsson	FAI	2251	FAROE ISLANDS	5	0	16,25	4
6	8		CM Pace, Colin	MLT	2184	MALTA	4,5	0	11,00	4
7	3		Carpenter, Paul A	JCI	1969	JERSEY	3,5	0	11,50	3
8	9		Frick, Renato	LIE	1907	LIECHTENSTEIN	3	0	5,50	3
9	10		Strade, Arita	GCI	1957	GUERNSEY	2	0	5,25	1
10	2		D'amico, Nicola	SMR	1832	SAN MARINO	0	0	0,00	0

FINAL STANDINGS WOMEN

Rk.	No.Ini.		Nombre	FED	FIDE	Club/Ciudad	Pts.	Des 1	Des 2	Des 3
1	8		WGM Berend, Elvira	LUX	2230	LUXEMBOURG	7,5	0	28,25	6
2	7		WFM Henderson De La Fuente, Andrea	AND	1966	ANDORRA	7	0	26,50	6
3	3		WIM Zvereva, Marija	MNC	2040	MONACO	6,5	0	21,25	6
4	1		AFM Nevska, Gerda	GCI	1872	GUERNSEY	6	0	22,50	5
5	5		Muratet Carmona, Julia	AND	1834	ANDORRA	5,5	0	19,00	4
6	2		WFM Thornton, Filipina	MLT	1787	MALTA	3,5	1	7,25	3
	9		WFM Markidou, Christianna	CYP	1676	CYPRUS	3,5	1	7,25	3
8	6		De La Riva Real, Ariadna	AND	1774	ANDORRA	3,5	3	15,00	3
9	4		WCM Ruddy, Rachel	JCI	1719	JERSEY	2	0	3,50	2
10	10		Biordi, Mariane	SMR	0	SAN MARINO	0	0	0,00	0



Restaurant "Borda Estevet"

Photo Gallery Closing Ceremony at Borda Estevet



Photo Gallery Closing Ceremony at Borda Estevet



THE GAME OF THE ROUND



Efimov, Igor (2312) MNC
Apol, Luitjen Akselsson (2251) FAI
King's Indian [E61]

5th ESNA Individual Chess Championship
 Andorra la Vella (9.2), 29.06.2024
 [De la Riva Aguado, Oscar]

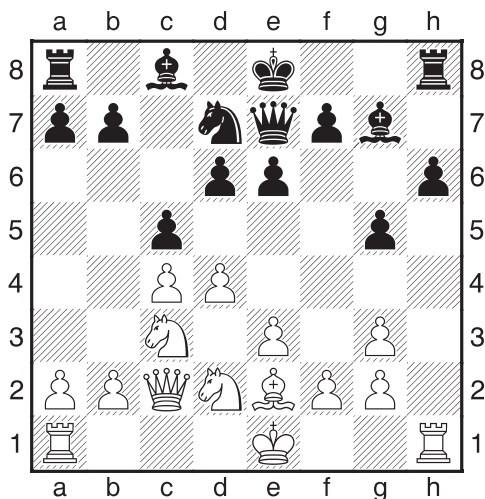
1. d3 d6 2. d4 g6 3. c4 g7 4. c3 d6 5. g5
 [Avoid the King's Indian mainlines.]

5... h6 6. g4 g5 7. g3 d5 [The theoretical plan. Black secures the exchange of the opponent's bishop.]

8. e3 e6 [8...c5!? Pressing the centre and the diagonal a1-h8.]

9. e2 e7 10. c2 d7 11. d2! [White has prepared the long castling and now wants to open the h-file by forcing a capture on g3.]

11... dxc3 12. hxc3 c5



13. 0-0-0! cxd4 14. exd4 0-0 [14... dxd4? 15. d5 b6 16. d4+!]

15. f4! [With space advantage and pressure on black castling.]

15... a6 [The Faroese player seeks counterplay on the queenside.]

16. b1 gxf4

16...b5!? was the logical consequence, but Efimov's would have a clear advantage after: 17. fxg5! xg5 18. d3 e7 (18... g6 19. xg6 fxg6 20. cxb5±; 18... xg3 19. d4! g6 20. d4 h7 21. d3+!) 19. g4!± to continue with g5]

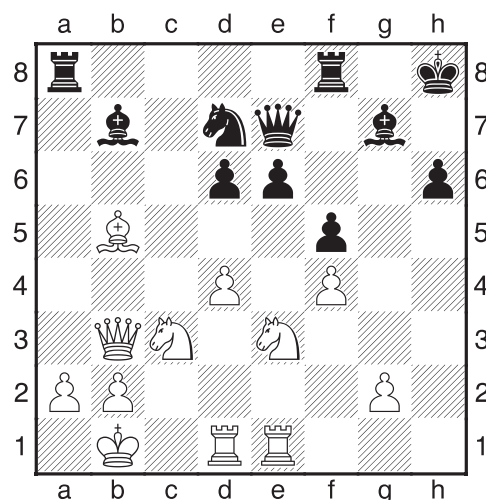
17. gxf4 f5 [17...b5 18. g4!]

18. d1 [Strange! 18. d3+ to d4 is simple and very strong.]

18... b5 19. cxb5 axb5 20. b5±

Accepting sacrifice is possible. White king's position is more solid than it looks.

20... b7 21. d3 e3 22. b3 d8 23. h1 f8



24. d5!

Black has too many weaknesses.

24... d5 25. d5 f7 26. c7 ab8 27. xe6

The game is over. An excellent way to finish the tournament and take first place!

27... d6 28. c1 d4 29. c2 [29. a4+]

29... d4 30. xh6+ g8 31. e6 b2 32. xe4 fe4 33. b2 fc8 34. c4 b2+ 35. b2 xc7 36. g6+ 1-0



Press Clipping

ESCACS

Efimov i Berend guanyen els Petits Estats

ANDORRA LA VELLA. El Gran Mestre de Mònaco, Igor Efimov (2313 FIDE), és el nou campió dels Petits Estats d'Europa, i el tercer lloc va ser per a l'andorrà Serni Ribera (2341 FIDE), amb 6,5 punts. En dones, la victòria va ser per a Elvira Berend (2330 FIDE) amb 7,5 punts.



El Gran Mestre Igor Efimov, campió masculí.

ESCACS ANDORRA

Bronze de Serni Ribera a l'Europeu de Petits Estats

Redacció

ANDORRA LA VELLA

El monegasc Igor Efimov i la luxemburguesa Elvira Berend es van adjudicar el Campionat individual de Petits Estats d'escacs i el Campionat femení de Petits Estats després de sumar 8 i 7,5 dels 9 punts en joc, respectivament i de mantenir-se invictes durant tota la

competició.

Serni Ribera, que va liderar la cita les primeres rondes, va acabar finalment tercer, amb 6,5 punts, gràcies a la derrota del xipriota Konstantinos Michaelides, mentre que en categoria femenina, Andrea Henderson va aconseguir el subcampionat, amb 7 punts, en derrotar Marija Zvereva.



ESCACS ANDORRA

El monegasc Igor Efimov es va adjudicar l'Europeu de Petits Estats.

Serni Ribera, tercer a l'Europeu de Petits Estats d'escacs

Esports 29 de juny, 2024



Serni Ribera ha finalitzat en tercera posició l'Europeu de Petits Estats que s'ha disputat durant aquesta setmana al Centre de Congressos d'Andorra la Vella. El vencedor ha estat el representant de Malta Igor Efimov.

Per la seva banda, en la competició femenina, Andrea Henderson ha estat segona a només mig punt de la guanyadora Elvira Berend de Luxemburg. Henderson ha tancat el torneig amb una gran partida davant Marija Zvereva de Malta, que tot i tenir més Elo ha acabat perdent.

Social Networks



www.instagram.com/escacsandorra/



www.x.com/escacsandorra



www.facebook.com/escacsandorra



www.flickr.com/feva



www.youtube.com/escacsandorra



www.twitch.tv/escacsandorra



@escacsandorra



www.escacsandorra.com
esna.escacsandorra.com
open.escacsandorra.com
info@escacsandorra.com