

(31) Pakhomov,Alexey (2335) – Smirnov,Alexey (2446)

2. WCCD Dresden (4.1), 21.10.2015

1.d4 [this is a very instructive game on how to play slowly, but surely with a slight advantage with bishop pair against bishop and knight, and go for the win. A great technique shown by black, but also a very good defense by white!]

1...d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 [2...e6 3.e4]

3.Bg5 Nbd7 4.f3 [to prepare e4]

4...c5 5.dxc5 [5.e4 the idea had to be continued 5...cxd4 6.Bxf6 Nxf6 7.Qxd4 dxe4 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.fxe4]

5...Qa5 [5...e6 is another way to get the pawn back 6.e4 Bxc5 7.exd5 Bxg1 8.dxe6 fxe6 9.Rxg1 Qb6=]

[this way black maintains a good pawn structure and a central pawn]

6.Qd2 e6 7.e4 Bxc5 [if 7...dxe4 8.Nb5 looks like an interesting intermediate move 8...Qd8 (8...Qxd2+ 9.Bxd2 Rb8 10.b4 exf3 11.Nxf3 a6 12.Nc3±) 9.Qf4 e5 10.Qxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxd8 Kxd8 12.fxe4 Bxc5=]

8.exd5 Nxd5 [⊖8...exd5 9.0-0-0 0-0=]

9.Nxd5 Qxd2+ 10.Kxd2 exd5 11.Re1+ Kf8 12.Kc1 [12.Be3 d4 13.Bf4]

12...f6 13.Bf4 [this endgame is slightly better for white and black has the d5 isolated pawn and is a little less developed, but with a normal play the game should end in a draw]

13...Nb6 [13...Kf7 14.Bd3 Nb8 I think c6 is a better square for the knight in this endgame]

14.Bd3 Kf7 15.h4 [15.Ne2 finishing the development 1st]

15...Bd7 16.Ne2 Rae8 17.c3 Nc4 18.Nd4 h5 19.Bxc4? [here is no need to give away the bishop pair and help black improve his pawn structure]

[19.Kc2 it is an endgame so bringing the king closer to the center is a must]

19...dxc4 20.Bg3 a6 21.Rxe8 Rxe8 22.Re1 Rxe1+ 23.Bxe1 g5 24.hxg5 [24.g3 would have created a weakness in f3 and black would have continued 24...b5 followed by Bc8-b7 (or 24...Be6 25.Nxe6 Kxe6 26.Kd2 gxh4 27.gxh4 Bd6 28.Ke3 b5≠ with big chances to win for black)]

24...fxg5 25.Bg3 Be7 26.Kd2 h4 27.Bf2 Kf6 28.Be3 Ke5 29.Ke2 g4 [a very nice improvement of the position]

30.Kf2 [30.fxg4 Bxg4+ 31.Kd2 Ke4]

30...g3+ [black is trying to push his pawns on the king side to stabilize the position and/or create a weakness. Then he will push the pawns on the queen side and do exactly the same. Later, he will try to enter with his king as close as possible to white's pawns, and then white will be in zugzwang if he doesn't find a good position for his pieces to just hang on and protect his weaknesses]

31.Kg1 [now white will have to stay with the king around the g pawn or else some h3 will happen followed by g2 and Bh2 and win for black]

31...Bf5 32.Kf1 Bb1 33.a3 Bd3+ 34.Kg1 Kd5 35.Kh1 Bd8 36.Kg1 Bf6 37.Kh1 Ke5 38.Kg1 Bf5 39.Ne2 Bd7 40.Nd4 Kd5 41.Kf1 [until here, we have seen some repetitions of the position. Black does not have any entrance for his king so now prepare the push of the pawns to create one on the queen side]

41...b5 42.Kg1 a5 43.Nc2 Be8 44.Nd4 [now that the knight left the control of the b4, black goes for it]

44...b4 45.axb4 axb4 46.Ne2 [46.cxb4 Bxd4]

46...Bd7 47.Nd4 Ba4 48.Kf1 bxc3 49.bxc3 [the weakness has been created in c3 and now it's time for the king to march]

49...Bd7 50.Kg1 Kd6 51.Kf1 Kc7 52.Ke2 Kb7 53.Bg1 Bg5 54.Be3 Bd8 55.Bf4 Kb6 56.Be3 Ka5 57.Bf4 Ka4 58.Kd2 Ka3 59.Nc2+ Kb3 60.Nd4+ Kb2 [his step has been completed, now it is time to find a way to combine both flanks weaknesses]

61.Be3 Bf6 62.Ne2 Bc6 [gives the winning chance away for some time]

[62...Bf5! and white is in zugzwang 63.Nd4 losses after (63.Bf4 Bd3 64.Nd4 Bf1; 63.Kd1 Bc2+ 64.Kd2 Bd3-+) 63...Bd3 and either g2 will fall or c3]

63.Bf4 h3 64.gxh3 g2 65.Be3?? [after which white resigned. Instead]

[65.Ke3 would have kept the game going, and give white small chances to save the game, but small is better than nothing 65...Bh4 (65...Bxc3? 66.Kf2=) 66.Bh2 Bb7 67.Nf4 Bg5 68.Kf2 g1Q+ 69.Kxg1 Kxc3; 65.Be3 Bxf3-+]

0-1

(32) Yarmonov,Igor (2335) – Strzelecki,Jerzy (2063)

2. WCCD Dresden (4.2), 21.10.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 [and he have the Rubinshtein Variation in the Nimzovich]

4...0-0 5.Bg5 d6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Nge2 b6 8.a3 Bxc3+ 9.Nxc3 c5 10.Be2 [I personally prefer 10.Bd3 but there isn't a big difference between the two 10...h6 11.Bh4 Ba6 12.0-0 Qc7 13.Qa4 Bb7 14.f3]

10...Bb7 11.0-0 a6 12.f3 Qc7 13.Rac1 Rac8 14.Bh4 [14.Qd2 is a little bit more natural as the queen is not placed very well on the c file anymore with black having a rook on that same file; also to wait for h6 to play Bh4.]

14...h6?! [there is no need for this move now]

[14...cxd4 15.exd4 d5 16.cxd5 Nxd5 with the Be2 there's nothing to fear about the pawn being on h7 17.Bg3 Qd8]

15.Rfd1 Rfd8 16.Qd2 Kf8 [16...cxd4 this is the typical idea for black and later play d5 but now 17.Qxd4 is possible as well in fact much better than ed 17...g5 (17...d5 would be just a blunder as 18.cxd5 exd5 19.Bxf6 Nxf6 20.Nxd5 Qxc1 21.Nxf6+ gxf6 22.Qxd8+-; 17...Qc5 18.Qxd6 Qxe3+ 19.Bf2 Qg5 20.Bxb6±) 18.Bf2 Ne5 19.e4±]

17.Qe1 Re8 18.Qf1 [18.dxc5 dxc5 19.Rd2 is a typical idea for these Nimzo style positions to win the control of the d file]

18...Kg8 [white seems to have had a more dynamic plan of attacking the king]

19.g4!? cxd4 20.exd4 e5 [good when we are attacked on a side we have to counterattack in the center!]

21.d5 Rb8?! [21...e4 22.f4 Nc5 or (22...e3 23.Qf3 Nc5 seems to be more in the spirit of the position) ; 21...a5]

22.b4 g5 [an interesting way to stop white's attack with g5. However, now black's king has been weakened a lot and h4 is going to be in white's plan after saving his bishop]

23.Be1 [23.Bf2 seems better to me keeping b6 under attack and next Be3 to keep the queen opened in case Ne4 and the knights will get traded]

23...Nf8 24.Bd3 [24.Ne4 Nxe4 25.fxe4 Kg7 now opening the other side 26.c5±]

24...Ng6 25.Ne4 [25.h4 was possible as well 25...Nf4 26.Bg3]

25...Nxe4 26.Bxe4 Bc8 27.c5 [it seems that white preferred to look on the other side now, and he's not to blame for, as he has the space there and the rooks perfectly placed for this break through]

[still I think more planning was required 27.Bg3 Nf4 28.Bxf4 exf4 29.Re1±]

27...bxc5 28.bxc5 Nf4 29.Rc2 [making sure the 2nd rank is safe]

[29.cxd6 Qxd6 30.Bb4 Qb6+ 31.Kh1 Bd7∞]

29...h5 [black found a nice idea of conterplay]

30.h3 hxg4 31.hxg4 Kg7 32.Bd2 Rh8 [it seems that here white lost his advantage]

33.Bxf4 gxf4 34.c6 Rb3 [black is activating and here could have changed the result of the game to a draw possibly after]

35.Rh2 Rxh2??? [instead 35...Qb6+ had to be considered 1st 36.Qf2 (36.Kh1 Rxh2+ 37.Kxh2 Rxa3=) 36...Qxf2+ 37.Rxf2 Rxa3= probably would lead to a draw]

36.Kxh2 Rb2+ 37.Kh1 Qb6 [now it is a little too late]

38.Qh3 Qf2 39.Rg1 Rd2 40.Qh7+ Kf8 41.Qh8+ Ke7 42.c7 [white is mating 1st. Although white's king might seem less safe, it is better protected than black's]

42...f6 43.Qg7+ [followed by mate the next move]

1-0

(33) Tsapalin, Sergey (2060) – Meshkov, Yuri (2331)

2. WCCD Dresden (4.3), 21.10.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 e5 4.d5 a5 5.g3 Nbd7 6.Bg2 Nc5 7.Nf3 Bf5 8.Nh4 Bd7 9.0-0 Be7 10.Nf3 0-0 [an interesting approach of this Old Indian by black]

11.b3 h6 12.h3 [two moves to improve the position and make sure the kings will have a place of escape, also of course stop any N/Bg4/g5]

12...Bf5 13.Be3 [13.Nd2 I think this is the right idea to prepare some e4 and f4 soon 13...Qd7 14.Kh2]

13...Nce4! [trades are good for black as he doesn't have much space]

14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.Ne1 Bh7 16.Kh2 Nd7 17.Nd3 f5 [17...a4!? as well 18.b4 e4 there are no good squares for the knight 19.Nb2 Bf6]

18.f4 [a typical move to stop the king side attack]

18...Bf6 19.Rc1 b6 [19...Qe7 is more natural to finish up the development. Now 20.c5 doesn't give white much play 20...exf4 21.Bxf4 g5 22.cxd6 cxd6 23.Bd2 Ne5]

20.a4 g5 [it's time to attack the king side as, it is there that black's play should take place looking at the structure of pawns]

21.Rg1 Qe7 22.Qd2 Rae8 [notice black did not hurry to give away tensions. First, he is placing his pieces on the best squares possible and only later will figure out which trade/s benefit/s him the most]

23.fxe5 [now exf4 was a threat]

23...Nxe5 [23...dxe5 followed by f4 looks pretty annoying as well]

24.Nxe5 Qxe5 25.Bf2 Qxe2+ 26.Rcd1 Qxd2 [26...f4 seems to be easier for black 27.gxf4 Bc2 28.Rge1 Qxd2 29.Rxd2 Bxb3-+]

27.Rxd2 Bc3 28.Rd3 Bb4 [black has a pawn up and winning advantage, from here on till the end of the game it was just a matter of technique]

29.Rf3 Bg6 30.Bf1 Bh5 31.Rd3 Bc5 32.Bxc5 bxc5 33.Rg2 f4 34.Rf2 Bg6 35.Rdd2 fxg3+ 36.Kxg3 Re3+ 37.Kh2 Rxf2+ 38.Rxf2 Rxb3 39.h4 g4 40.Rf6 Kg7 41.Re6 Bf5 42.Re7+ Kf6 43.Rxc7 g3+ 44.Kg1 Rb1 45.Kg2 Be4+ 46.Kxg3 Rxf1 47.Ra7 Bd3 48.Rxa5 Bxc4 49.Ra8 Ke5

0-1

(34) Myronenko,Natalya (1901) – Gedgafov,Chamal (2243)

2. WCCD Dresden (4.4), 21.10.2015

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Bd3 [and we have the Exchange Variation in the French]

4...g6 [I hadn't seen this move played before, but it is definitely an interesting approach to this line]

[4...Bd6 is the main continuation here for black 5.Nf3 Ne7]

5.Nf3 Bg7 6.c3 [now Bg7 is quite closed by white's b2-c3-d4 chain, but it is definitely a nice addition to the protection of the king once black will be castling short]

6...Ne7 7.Bf4 0-0 8.0-0 Re8 9.Nbd2 Bf5 10.Qc2 [it isn't much, but white could have played 10.Bxf5 Nxf5 and 11.Qb3 weakening a little bit blacks king side 11...b6 12.Rae1 Rxe1 13.Rxe1 Nc6 14.Nf1 it isn't very much though]

10...Nd7 11.Rfe1 Nf6 12.Ne5 Nh5 13.Bg3 Nxg3 14.hxg3 Be6 15.Re2 f6 16.Nef3 Qd7 17.Rae1 Bf7 [until here both players played very well finishing their development; now white should prepare some g4-g5 to get rid of the doubled pawns]

18.Nh4 [is placing the knight to the margin without a clear idea]

[18.Qb3 b6 19.g4 Nc6 (19...Qxg4?? 20.Rxe7) 20.g5]

18...Rad8 19.Nf1 Nc8 20.Nh2 Nd6 [black has improved the position of his knight, but white has placed them badly...]

21.b3 b6 22.f3?? [weakening move that could have cost white the point]

[22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8 24.N4f3 we have to bring that knight back into play]

22...Rxe2 23.Rxe2 Re8 [23...c5 immediately might have been even better 24.Nf1 (24.dxc5 bxc5; 24.Ng4 c4 25.bxc4 dxc4) 24...cxd4 25.cxd4 Rc8 26.Qb2 g5]

24.g4 c5 25.Nf1 cxd4 26.cxd4 Rxe2 27.Bxe2 f5! 28.Qd3 Qe7 29.g3 Qf6 30.gxf5 Qxd4+ [black hurried taking this pawn. Instead should have played]

[30...g5! 31.Ng2 Nxf5 32.f4 Nxd4-+]

31.Ne3! gxf5 [31...Qa1+ 32.Kf2 g5 33.Nhg2; 31...g5 32.Nhg2 Qa1+ 33.Kf2 d4 34.Nc2 Qc1±]

32.Kg2 f4 33.Nef5 Qxd3 34.Bxd3 Nxf5 35.Nxf5 fxd3 36.Kxg3 Be5+? [36...Kf8 followed by Bg6 and black would have maintained his winning ideas; 36...Bg6? 37.Ne7+ Kf7 38.Bxg6+ hxg6 39.Nxd5=]

37.f4 [helps white get more active]

37...Bg7 38.Kf3? [38.Ne7+ it is important to activate the knight and also grab the pawn back if possible 38...Kf8 39.Nc8=]

[allowing]

38...Bf8 [stopping the knight from getting active]

39.Nd4 Bc5 40.Nc2 [now again the bishop restricts the knight]

40...Kg7 41.b4 Bh5+ 42.Kg3 Bd6 43.a3 Bg6 44.Bxg6 Kxg6 45.Nd4 a5 46.bxa5 bxa5 47.a4 Bc5 [47...h5 would have put white in zugswang 48.Nb5 (48.Kf3 Kf6 49.Kg3 Bc5 50.Nc6 Bb6 51.Ne5 Kf5 52.Kf3 d4-+) 48...Bc5-+]

48.Nc6 d4?? [allowing white to save the game]

[48...Bb4 49.Nxb4 axb4 50.a5 b3 51.a6 b2 52.a7 b1Q 53.a8Q Qg1+± black still has big chances to convert this into a win]

49.Nxa5 d3 50.Kf3 Kf5 51.Nc6 [51.Nc4= white only needs to give the knight away on the d3 pawn and bring his king to h1 as it is bishop of opposite corner]

51...h5 52.Ne5 d2 53.Ke2 Be3 54.Nc4 Bxf4 55.Nxd2 Kg4 56.Nf1 Bc7 57.Kf2 Kh3 58.Kg1 [A very nice game with chances on both sides.]

½-½

(35) Messalla, Jamal (2057) – Eremin, Anatoly (2201) [C41]

2. WCCD (4.5), 21.10.2015

1.e4 d6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 c6 4.Bg2 e5 5.d4 Nbd7 6.Nf3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.h3 b5 9.Qe1 [9.Nh4 is an interesting idea 9...a5 10.a3]

9...Bb7 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Bg5 h6 [♠11...b4 12.Na4 c5☞]

12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Rd1 [13.Nd1 the Nc3 is not doing anything with the c6 pawn restricting him, so it is important to recycle it to e3-f5 13...Qe7 14.Ne3 a5 now 15.Rd1 Rfd8= but white's knights are much better placed]

13...Qc7 14.Qe3 Rfe8 [14...Rfd8 this is the right place for the rook]

15.g4 Nf8 16.Ne2 Ne6 17.h4 Nf4 [17...Be7 18.g5 hxg5 19.Nxg5 Bc8☞]

18.g5 hxg5 19.hxg5 Be7 [19...Nxe2+ 20.Qxe2 Be7=]

20.Nxf4 exf4 21.Qb3 Bc5?? [big blunder by black]

[21...Bc8 had to be played to bring the bishop into play and to protect the king 22.g6 Be6 23.gxf7+ Bxf7☞]

22.g6! [now white is on roll]

22...Qe7? [22...Bc8 23.Ng5 Be6 24.Qc3 Bb6 25.e5±]

23.Ne5! [23.Ng5! Qxg5 24.Qxf7+ Kh8 25.Rd3 Be3 26.fxe3 Re7 27.Qxf4 Qxf4 28.Rxf4]

23...Qxe5 24.gxf7+ Kh7 25.fxe8Q [25.Qh3+ Kg6 26.fxe8Q+ Rxe8 27.Qg4+ Kh6 28.Rd3 Qg5 29.Qxg5+ Kxg5 30.Rd7+-]

25...Rxe8 [now black has some defensive ideas again]

26.Qh3+ Kg8 27.Qb3+ Kh7 28.Rd3 Bc8 29.Rfd1? [29.Qc3 trading the queens would have probably brought the win to white]

29...Bg4 30.R1d2 Rf8 31.Bh3?? [big blunder that changes the course of the game]

[31.Rh3+ Bxh3 32.Qxh3+ Kg8 33.Qb3+=]

31...f3! [and now there's no way to defend the mate anymore]

32.Bf1 Qg3+ 33.Kh1 Bxf2 34.Rxf2 Qxf2 35.Rd1 Rf6 [and mate will follow]

0-1

(36) Scebin,Dmitrij (2368) – Miozga,Tomasz (1995) [B12]

2. WCCD (4.6), 21.10.2015

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nc3 e6 5.g4 Bg6 6.Nge2 h6 7.Nf4 Bh7 8.Bd3 Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Nd7 10.Be3 Qb6 [♠10...Bb4 11.0-0-0 Ne7]

11.0-0 c5 [getting in the French structure, but on this move order and with the Qb6 white had a beautiful trick]

12.dxc5 [12.Ncxd5! exd5 13.e6! fxe6 14.Qg6+ Ke7 15.Rae1 Ngf6 16.dxc5 Qc6 17.Bd4 no way to defend e6 17...e5 18.Bxe5 for the piece white has a huge compensation 18...Kd8 19.Bxf6+ Nxf6 20.Re6]

12...Qc6 13.Bd4 [now the game is back to normal]

13...Bxc5 14.Nh5 [14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Qd4 Ne7=]

14...g6 15.Nf4 Ne7 16.Rfe1 a6 [△16...h5 17.gxh5 (17.Nb5 could have been something black feared, but simply 17...hxg4 18.Nd6+ doesn't scare me 18...Kf8 black's king is safe) 17...Bxd4 18.Qxd4 gxh5 19.Qd1 0-0-0]]

17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.b4?? [white simply gives away a pawn for no real conterplay]

[18.Rad1 0-0-0 19.Qf3 h5→]

18...Qxb4 19.Ncxd5 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Qxg4+ 21.Kh1 exd5 22.e6 0-0 23.h3 Nc5 [23...Qh4 was much simpler 24.exd7 Rad8-+]

24.hxg4 Nxd3 25.cxd3 Rfe8 [25...Rac8 26.Rab1 fxe6 27.Rxe6 Rxf2 28.Rxg6+ Kh7 29.Rd6 Rc7]

26.exf7+ Kxf7 27.Reb1 b5 [this endgame is not easy to win at all, but thanks to some mistakes by white black was able to convert]

[27...Re7 is better as b5 helps the trade of pawns]

28.a4 Rab8 29.axb5 Rxb5 30.Rc1 a5 31.Kg2 g5 32.Kf3 Re6 33.Rc7+ Kg6 34.Ra4 Rf6+ 35.Ke3 Rb2 36.f3 Re6+ 37.Kd4 Rb4+ 38.Rxb4 axb4 39.Rb7 Rf6 40.Kxd5 Rxf3 41.Rxb4 Rxd3+ 42.Ke5 Re3+ 43.Kd5 Rf3 44.Ke5 Kg7 45.Rb7+ Rf7 46.Rb4?? [46.Rxf7+ this endgame is a simple draw 46...Kxf7 47.Ke4 Ke6 48.Kd4 Kd6 49.Ke4 Ke6 50.Kd4=]

46...Ra7 [46...h5 winning simply here because white's king is cut and far from the g pawn 47.gxh5 Kh6 48.Rb8 Kxh5-+]

47.Rb5 Ra6 48.Kf5 Rf6+ 49.Ke5 Kg6 50.Ra5 Rb6 51.Rc5?? [51.Ra8 Rb5+ 52.Ke4 Rb4+ 53.Kf3 now that the king got close to the pawn there is no way black for convert the game anymore]

[allowing the creation of a passes pawn and we will see Lucena's position with the bridge]

51...h5-+ 52.gxh5+ Kxh5 53.Rc1 Rb3! [cutting the king laterally]

54.Ke4 g4 55.Rh1+ Kg5 56.Rh8 Rf3 57.Rh7 Rf8 58.Ke3 g3 59.Ke2 Kg4 60.Ke1 g2 61.Ke2 Rf4 62.Rg7+ Kh3 63.Rh7+ Kg3 64.Rg7+ Kh2 65.Rh7+ Kg1 66.Rh8 Ra4 67.Rh7 Re4+ 68.Kd3 Re8 69.Kd2 Re5 [now the bridge which wins this position of Lucena]

70.Rh8 Kf2 71.Rf8+ Kg3 72.Rg8+ Kf3 73.Rg7 Re4

0-1

(37) Raibl,Zoltan (1987) – Varezhkin,Viktor (2267) [D15]

2. WCCD (4.7), 21.10.2015

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bf5 5.Qb3 Qb6 6.c5 Qxb3 7.axb3 Nbd7 8.b4 g6 9.h3 Ne4 10.Bf4 Nxc3 11.bxc3 [a very balanced game until here]

11...a6 12.e3 Bg7 13.Be2 0-0 14.0-0 Rfe8 15.g4 Be6 [15...Be4? 16.Nd2 and black has to be careful not to lose his bishop]

16.Nd2 f5 17.g5 [17.Kg2 fxd4 18.hxd4 Bf7=]

17...Bf7 18.Rfe1 e5 19.Bg3 [19.dxe5 would be the typical response followed by 19...Nxe5 20.Nb3=]

19...f4 20.Bh2 fxe3 21.fxe3 Be6 22.Bf1 [22.Kg2 exd4 23.cxd4 Bf5 24.Bf4 Nf8= still no more than equal]

22...Rad8 23.Nb3 Nf8 24.Na5 Re7? [24...Rd7 there is a difference between these two rook movements, but probably neither of the players noticed this difference 25.Bxe5 Bxe5 26.dxe5]

25.Rad1 [25.Bxa6 Bc8 26.Bf1 not sure if it enough for white, but a pawn up is a pawn up]

25...Bc8 26.Bg3 Rde8 27.Kh2 Kf7 [27...Ne6 28.h4 Nd8 29.Bh3 Bxh3 30.Kxh3 Nf7=]

28.Bd3 exd4 29.exd4 Re3 30.Rf1+ [30.Rxe3 Rxe3 31.Kg2 Ne6 32.h4±]

30...Kg8 31.Rde1 R8e6 32.Rd1 Re7 33.Rfe1 Rxe1 34.Rxe1 Rxe1 35.Bxe1 Ne6 36.Bd2 Bf8 37.Be2 Be7 38.Bg4 Kf7 39.Kg3 Bd8 40.h4 Bc7+ 41.Kf3 Ke7 42.Be3 [I had many equal lines in this game, but what can I do, it was a very balanced game!]

½-½

(38) Gerasimov,Aleksander (2189) – Sponheim,Marko (2024) [A57]

2. WCCD (7.8), 21.10.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.b6 [refusing the Volga Gambit]

5...Qxb6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Nf3 g6 8.Nd2 Bg7 9.e4 0-0 10.a4 [10.Be2 is more natural]

10...Re8 11.a5 Qb4 12.Ra4! [the more we restrict black the harder it will be for him to get play in this Volga/Benoni type of position]

12...Qb7 13.Nc4 Nbd7 14.Be2 Qc7 15.0-0 Rb8 16.h3 Rb4 17.Ra3 [I like 17.Qc2 much more 17...Ne5 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Be3±]

17...h6 18.Bf4 Nh5 19.Be3 Nh6 20.Qd2 Kh7 21.Rd1 Qb8 22.Qc2 Rf8 [black is really packed here without a clear plan]

23.Na4! [going for b6]

23...Ne8 24.Bd2 Rb7 25.Bc3 Nc7 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.Ncb6 Nb5 28.Bxb5 [I don't like this trade as black has no space, why help him get rid of a couple pieces?]

[28.Re3 I am not worried about 28...Nd4 the knight looks beautiful, but it doesn't do much, plus a6 will be hanging eventually 29.Qc3 f6 30.Bf1 Nxb6 31.Nxb6 Nb5 32.Qd2 white's plan now is to prepare b4 and activate on the c file]

28...axb5 29.Nxd7 Bxd7 30.Nb6 b4 31.Rg3 [31.Nxd7 Rxd7 32.Ra2 Qb5 33.a6 Ra8 doesn't give white anything]

31...Qa7 32.Nxd7 Rxd7 [from here on it's about equal and the players agreed to a draw soon]

33.Ra1 Qa6 34.b3 Rc7 35.Qb2+ Kh7 36.e5 c4 37.bxc4 Rxc4 38.Rb3 Rb8 39.exd6 Qxd6 40.Qe2 Qxd5
41.Qxe7 Re4 42.Qc7 Qxb3 43.Qxb8 Qb2 44.Rf1 Re7

½-½

(39) Wirth,Adam (1964) – Kasimov,Rustam (2159) [B17]

2. WCCD (4.9), 21.10.2015

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nxd5 4.Bc4 c6 5.d4 e6 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.0-0 Be7 8.Qe2 0-0 9.Re1 Re8 10.Bb3 h6
11.Ne4 Qc7 12.c4± [white has a slight advantage due to his center and much more active pieces]

12...Nf4 13.Qe3 Ng6 14.Bd2 b6 15.Rac1 [15.Rad1 in more natural]

15...Bb7 16.Bc2 c5 17.dxc5 bxc5 [17...Nxc5 has to be played here to try to get rid of or at least improve
some pieces or else black will remain passive]

18.Bc3 Red8 19.Rcd1 Qf4 20.Qxf4 Nxf4 21.Ne5 Nf6 [21...Nb6 22.g3 Nh3+ 23.Kg2 Ng5]

22.Bd2 Nxe4 23.Bxf4 Nf6 24.f3 Rac8 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.Rd1 Rc8? [26...Rxd1+ 27.Bxd1 Bd6 28.Nd3
Bxf4 29.Nxf4 Nd7 30.Bc2 Bc6=]

27.Kf2 [27.Ba4 g5 28.Be3±]

27...g5 [weakens the king side and gives white winning ideas]

28.Be3 Rc7 29.h4! Ne8 30.hxg5 [30.Ng4 Kg7 (30...Kf8 31.hxg5 hxg5 32.Bd2 Nf6 33.Ne5!) 31.Bd2]

30...hxg5 31.Rd7 f6 32.Rxc7 Nxc7 33.Nd3 Na6 34.Ba4 [34.Ke2 e5 35.a3 Kf7 36.Ba4]

34...Nb4?? [black just blundered a pawn]

[34...e5 35.Ke2 e4 36.Nf2 exf3+ 37.gxf3 white still has the edge, but black at least traded an extra pawn;
getting closer to the draw]

35.Nxb4 [35.Nxb4 cxb4 36.Bxa7+-]

1-0

(40) Stachanczyk,Jacek (2240) – Gerasimova,Olga (2058) [B35]

2. WCCD (4.10), 21.10.2015

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 [and we have the Accelerated
Dragon]

7...Qa5 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nb3 Qc7 10.Bg5 Na5 11.Be2 Nxb3 12.axb3 Qe5 13.f4 Qc5+ 14.Kh1 h6? [is just
weakening]

[14...d6 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Bxb2 17.Ra2 Bg7 18.Nxe7+ Kh8 19.f5→]

15.Bh4 [15.Bxf6 had to be played 15...Bxf6 (15...exf6 16.f5!± a very typical idea) 16.b4 Qxb4 17.e5 Bg7
18.Nd5 Qe4 (18...Qc5 19.b4 no good square for the queen) 19.c3 black's queen might get trapped]

15...d6 16.Bf3 [16.Bf2 Qc6 17.Bf3]

16...e5 17.b4! Qc7 18.Nb5 Qb6 19.Qxd6 [19.Nxd6 is in the spirit of this opening 19...Be6 (19...exf4 20.e5 Ne8 21.Be7 Nxd6 22.exd6 Be6 23.Bd5+-) 20.c3± there's no way to stop fe 20...exf4 21.e5 Nd7 22.Bxb7 Rab8 23.Ra6]

19...Qxb5 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Qxf6 exf4 22.e5 [22.c3 Qg5 23.e5! now 23...Re8 24.Bd5 Qxf6 25.exf6]

22...Qxb4 [22...Bf5= good developing a defending move for black]

23.Bd5 Bf5 24.Bb3? [24.c3 first 24...Qb5 25.Rad1]

24...Qd4? [exposing the queen]

[24...Rae8! 25.Ra4 Qb5 26.Rxf4 Qxe5 27.Qxe5 Rxe5 28.Kg1 a5 pawn up]

25.Rad1 Qe4 26.Rfe1 Qc6 27.e6! Kh7?? [27...fxe6 would have given black chances to hold a little longer 28.Bxe6+ Qxe6 29.Rxe6 Rxf6 30.Rxf6 Re8]

28.Rd7 [and from here on white won nicely]

28...f3 29.Rxf7+ Rxf7 30.Qxf7+ Kh8 31.e7 fxg2+ 32.Kg1 Re8 33.Qf8+ Kh7 34.Bg8+ Kh8 35.Bd5+

1-0