

# 12<sup>th</sup> European Individual Chess Championship



Round 6 report

by  
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The Hungarian player has been faced to Markus Ragger's iron defence and lost the game with white, despite the attacking style we all admire. Bad times for romantic players, as Romanov also lost with white against Paco Vallejo, allowing the Spanish top grand master to reach the second group, more consequent today after several wins in the auditorium. Vladimir Potkin kept control of the lead after a solid draw with Dieter Nisipeanu, and will try to do the same tomorrow, just before the rest day. But let's see a part of this bloody Sunday in Aix-Les-Bains:

*Garry Kasparov climbed the scene as soon as he arrived in Aix-les-Bains, but it was already too late for his former colleague Judit Polgar. The Hungarian player was faced by Markus Ragger's iron defence and lost the game with white, despite the attacking style we all admire.*



Round 6 :  
Nisipeanu vs Potkin

Romanov,E

Vallejo Pons,F

g 2624

g 2707

ECO A11

1.c4 c6 2.♘f3 d5 3.e3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 e6 5.♙c2 ♕d6 6.b3 0-0 7.♕b2 c5

This position occurred twice in chess databases.

8.cxd5 exd5 9.♘g5!?

Trying to exploit the weakening of c5 pawn. The threat is obviously ♘xd5. 9.d4 cxd4 10.♘xd4 ♘c6 11.♘xc6 bxc6 was played in Yagupov - Geller, 2002 and should be equal. but Romanov decides to raise all-in.

9...g6

9...h6 10.h4! ♕e7 11.b4!?! is found by the computer 11...cxb4 12.♘b5 ♖e8 avoiding the mate 13.♘c7 ♕f5!! 14.♙xf5 ♙xc7 15.♕d3 g6 16.♙f3 was a terrible mess!

10.h4

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## Championship

In a direct style, and before achieving development, white looks for a quick knock-out.

10...♖c6 11.♙d3

11.a3 was not in the spirit of the position, and good for black.

11...♗b4 12.♚b1 ♗xd3+ 13.♚xd3 ♙f5 14.♗xd5!?

The only way to keep attacking.

14...♙xd3 15.♗xf6+ ♔h8



This position looks promising for white, but let's remind our readers that the price for this scary attack is a queen !

16.h5?

A bit too much, unfortunately for romantic games amateurs [Better was 16.♗fxh7+ ♔f6 only move 17.♗xf6 ♚xf6!! With this move, Black can hold that game. Maybe Romanov missed this defense when he went into this variation (17...♗xf6 18.♗f7+ ♔g7 19.♗xd8 ♗xd8 should be much better for white) 18.♙xf6+ ♗xf6 19.f4 ♔g7.

16...♙e7!

Simple but accurate. Both players are already in zeitnot.

17.♗fxh7+ ♔g8 18.hxg6 ♙xg6 19.♗xf8 ♙f6 20.♗xg6 ♙xb2 21.♗xf7 ♔xf7 22.♗b1 ♗d3 23.♗xb2 ♚xg6 24.g3 ♗g7 25.♗b1 ♗h8

And black won few moves later. A very pleasant game played by Romanov and Vallejo, like in the good old times! 0-1

The **traditionnal** football match with the usual " world stars" will be organized to morrow  
**Tuesday 29th**  
at 4 pm,  
at the stadium the Hippodrome.

All of you are invited to participate or to watch  
*"the game of the year"* !

**Meeting point :**  
Front of Astoria Hotel at **3.45 pm**  
(opposite of the park)

Inscription or information :  
Pavel Tregubov - Willy Icllicki

Monday, March 28th at 5.30 pm



Press conference of

**GARRY KASPAROV**

at the City Hall  
place Maurice Mollard  
(in front of the Thermes,  
near the Astoria Hotel)

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