

Cubans dodge defeat in Biel Chess Festival



Havana, July 21 (JIT) - Carlos Daniel Albornoz's victory and Luis Ernesto Quesada's draw extended the undefeated record of the Cubans in the Masters Tournament of the Biel 2023 Chess Festival, in Switzerland.

In a day marked by the celebration of the International Chess Day, Albornoz was successful over the German Dieter Morawietz after 45 moves of a Sicilian Defense in which he moved the black pieces.

The player from Camagüey dominated in an endgame with a pair of bishops against his opponent's bishop and knight, a position in which he showed an extra pawn together with the effective centralization of his king.

With that outcome, he completed three units in four games to appear for the moment in 15th place in the ranking, which is led by China's Yan Liu, owner of four stripes.

Liu overtook India's Chopa Aryan on Thursday, one of the players who was with him in the lead before the start of the day. The other tenant at the top before the round, also Indian Aditya Samant, agreed a draw with Vietnamese Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son and dropped to fourth place with 3.5 scratches.

The peace signed by Cuban Luis Ernesto with Indian A Ra Harikrishnan was his second in a row. Accumulated three units put him in eighth place after applying the tiebreaker system, according to the site www.chess-results.com.

Canadian Shawn Rodriguez-Lemieux and American Gus Huston also have three points. Together with the Cubans, they are the only representatives of the Americas among the first 20 places in an event with several players with more than 2,600 Elo points.

Albornoz will have as opponent in the fifth round the Chinese Renjie Huang and Luis Ernesto the Indian Al Muthaiah. On the first table, Liu will defend his privileged position against one of the favorites for the crown, his compatriot Xiangzhi Bu, owner of the fourth seat.

The latter appears as the highest ranked among the 99 contestants, shows 3.5 points and comes from winning a week ago in the open tournament of Benasque, in Spain.

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