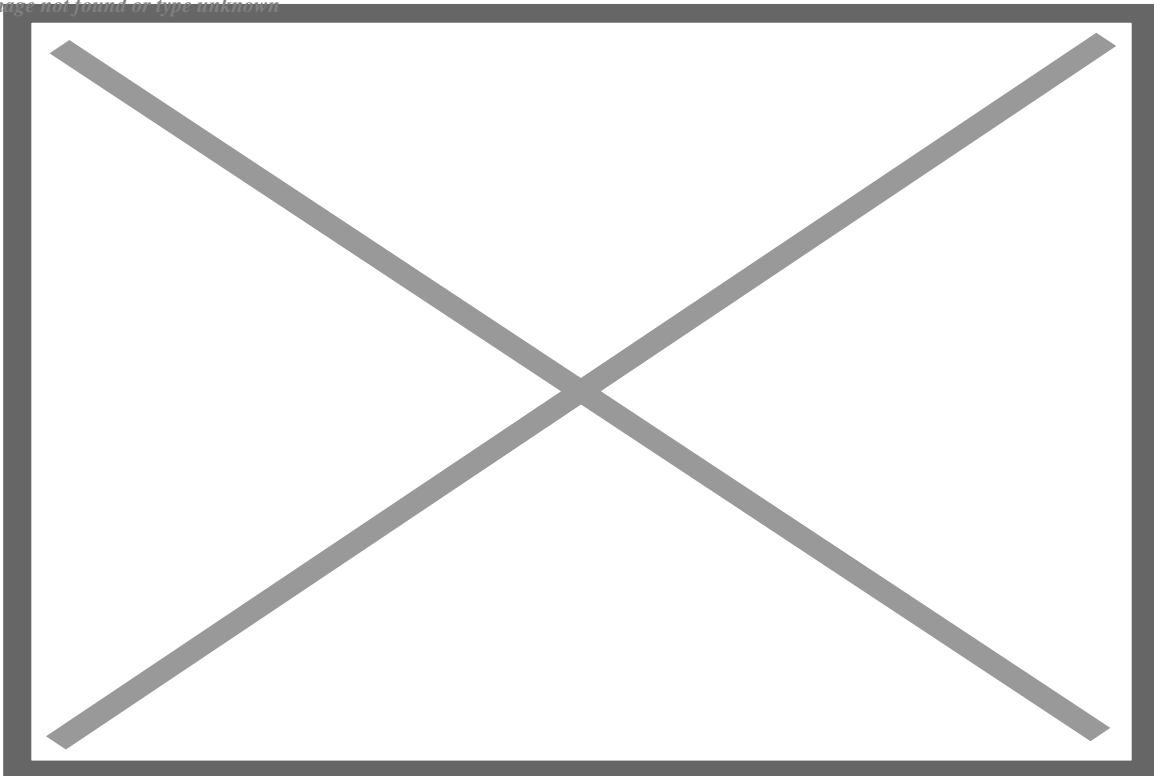


Albornoz says goodbye to the Fide World Cup in Azerbaijan

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Havana, August 5 (JIT) -- Egypt's Bassem Amin left Cuba's Carlos Daniel Albornoz on Friday without options to advance to the third round of the Azerbaijan Fide World Cup 2023, after winning in an extended match until the tiebreaker duels.

The grandmaster from Agramontino, for the first time in the second phase of these competitions, faced a difficult opponent, battled until the last move, but could not avoid the adverse score of 1.5-2.5 points.

After the parity in the two classical games, Albornoz started with white pieces in the first 25 minutes. He repeated the Ruy Lopez Opening, which went through a very similar system to the one that ended Thursday without a winner, but the Cuban did not respond with the same precision.

"The computer analysis programs gave a draw, so in theory equality was also possible, but it's another thing to be the protagonist in the game. With the tension of the duel, always finding the exact move is the most complex thing," commented coach Rodney Perez to JIT, after assessing the defeat after 47 moves.

With the adverse panorama, Albornoz took on the second stop of similar length looking for a comeback. However, Amin's experience was enough for him not to make mistakes, to make peace after 40 moves of an Apertura Reti and thus prevent the match from reaching 10-minute clashes.

The Cuban will be on his way back, while his opponent began to prepare his strategies to hold this Saturday the first classical game of his confrontation with the Swede Nils Grandelius, corresponding to the round of sixteen.

It was noteworthy that no Latin American representative managed to advance beyond the second round. Among the Spanish-speaking nations, only Spaniards Francisco Vallejo and Jaime Santos kept their chances.

The Norwegian genius Magnus Carlsen -number one in the world ranking- fulfilled expectations and will now face his compatriot of Iranian descent Aryan Tari, while India appears as the country with the largest number of "survivors" in the open section, with six players.

Cuba had already lost Luis Ernesto Quesada, Yerisbel Miranda and Yaniela Forgas from the first round of matches.

On Thursday, Lisandra Ordaz was unable to beat the Russian favorite Aleksandra Goryachkina, and she was eliminated in the second round, as she had done two years ago in the edition held in the Russian resort of Sochi.

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