Fagernes Chess International 2019

THE LAHLUM ROUND

REPORT

5



GM-A

Only the first board draw qualified as a short draw, but still the top boards today had some kind of relaxation after the double round, and the first four games all were drawn. On the fifth board GM Frode Urkedal succeeded squeezing a thin win out of his extra pawn as black against WGM Marsel Efroimsky.

Following this Urkedal and first rated Russian GM Anton Demchenko are now sharing the lead at 4.0/5, half a point ahead of six GMs, two IMs and one FM.

The FM, 16 year old Mads Vestby-Ellingsen, was today's sensation man and played today's best game as he crushed GM Evgeny Vorobiov in 31 moves. Remarkable, the ten GMs following this only made a +1 score this round.

The first one-hour draw on the top board finally arrived this round, as the first board game between second rated GM Evgeny Alekseev (2649) and first rated GM Anton Demchenko (2661) was drawn after 14 moves in a rather solid English Botvinnik line. Although very understandable from both players point of view, it was still a slight disappointment from the tournament point of view.



GM Evgeny Alekseev vs GM Anton Demchenko

Second board meeting between GM Evgeny Romanov (2576) and GM Andriy Vovk (2616) lasted 28 moves and three hours, but also was drawn without too much excitement. White had a space advantage after playing d5 in this Positional King's Indian line, but black had a solid position and proved able to exchange off the potential dangers.



GM Evgeny Postny vs GM Erik Blomqvist

The third board meeting between GM Evgeny Postny (2612) and GM Erik Blomqvist (2496) was a more exciting game. White first established a big center with c4, d4 and e4 against black's Bogo-Indian opening, but black hit back with c6 and a double-edged middle game followed. After both sets of rooks and two sets of minor pieces were exchanged, the position after 25 moves looked rather harmless. This suddenly changed as black sacrificed a pawn with an aggressive

26.--- f5?!. Postny was better for some moves before he for mysterious reasons returned the pawn at f6. Then the game during mutual time pressure just before 40 moves dried out with a repetition of checks against the white king.

FM Anders Hobber (2295) entered a safe (read: boring) London system, after which IM Erlend Mikalsen (2397) chose an ambitious King's Indian set-up with g6 and d6. Black later accelerated in the center with e5-e4-d5-c5-c4, but white got the advantage as his bishops could shoot in behind the black center. The situation appeared critical for black as white after 24 moves had opened the queenside with b3 and c4, although black came up with some counter play on the kingside.

After a tactical queen exchange white remained better in the endgame with rook, bishop, knight and five pawns on each side after 30 moves. Taking into account the opposite colored bishops, the position for sure was difficult to win. Hobber anyway did not look too motivated for a long game and accepted a draw only two moves later on.



IM Timofey Galinsky vs GM Maxim Turov

IM Timofey Galinsky (2378) as white against GM Maxim Turov (2584) went for a rather safe Torre Attack with 1.d4 2.Nf3 and 3.Bg5, and black in this game as well chose a King's Indian like set-up.

Black if anyone came slightly better from the first 12 moves, if so due to his pair of bishops. White however hit back in the center with e4-e5, and black after 18 moves found nothing better than exchanging one of the bishops for a knight and offering a draw.

Galinsky accepted on the spot and is still on schedule for a GM norm.



WGM Marsel Efroimsky vs GM Frode Urkedal

WGM Marsel Efroimsky (2287) today entered the ring armed with a Four Knights opening, and produced another long and tight battle as white against GM Frode Urkedal (2513). After white pseudo-sacrificed her knight on e5, three sets of minor pieces plus the queens and one set of rooks soon were exchanged. In the endgame with rook and opposite colored bishops, black hung on to an extra queenside pawn, but white's more active pieces should have been sufficient for a draw.

In the fourth hour ice-cold Urkedal, still with his rook on a8 and bishop on c8, returned the extra pawn to establish a passed pawn on a4. Although probably not sufficient to win from a theoretical point of view it worked out brilliantly from a practical point of view, as Efroimsky failed to deal with the danger in time, and within a few moves after the first time control lost material on the a-pawn.

FM Mads Vestby-Ellingsen (2333) today went for a Trompovsky with 1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.d5, leading to early complications as GM Evgeny Vorobiov (2565) went for the greedy 3.--- Qb6 followed by 4.--- Qxb2!?. Black after retreating the queen with Qb6 and Qd8 for obvious reasons lagged far behind in development, and white soon hit in the center with e5 to go for a direct attack against the black king.

14.Qh5+! reportedly would have been even stronger than 14.fxg7?! Bxg7 15.Qh5+,



FM Mads Vestby-Ellingsen vs GM Evgeny Vorobiov

but anyway black had to evacuate his king to the queenside with an ongoing white initiative. After 23 moves white's advantage was obvious, as black felt forced to give back the extra e-pawn and play on with the much more airy king and less active pieces.

Around move 25-28 Mads toyed around with a tempting repetition of checks, but then made a well-qualified decision to play on with 29.Nxc5!. The final blow came only two moves later, as white could sacrifice an exchange on the knight defender at d7, and then point killing threats against the king on c8 by 31.Qe5. Vorobiov took a short final look on the horrible black position and then stopped the clock.

Mads Vestby-Ellingsen, a quiet 16 year old chess lover from Tromsø seldom showing up strong feelings inside or outside the playing venue, reportedly felt very happy and proud after this game. He had every reason to be: The young 2300-FM just crushed the experienced 2500-GM today, and is now ahead of schedule for his second IM-norm. The first one by the way came at Fagernes last year.



IM Lars Oskar Hauge vs Sebastian Mihajlov

In the Norwegian IM duel between Lars Oskar Hauge (2472) and Sebastian Mihajlov (2361), Hauge made the first opening surprise as he today played 1.f4.

A tense and complex struggle followed as black used his chance to establish a space advantage on the queenside with d5-d4, while both players tried to attack with both the f-pawn and the e-pawn on the kingside. Black exchanged the e- and f-pawns with dubious timing,

as white later got a promising dominance on the light squares and eventually won a pawn at b7. Hauge played both better and faster in the middle game today, and soon got a winning advantage after Mihajlov in double trouble on the board and clock fatally weakened his kingside with 34.--- g5?. Mihajlov after the time control saved his king from immediate dangers by exchanging off the queens, but Hauge still had no problems winning the remaining rook and knight endgame with an extra pawn and the more active pieces. Hauge following this win is still in the run for a GM-norm, but he will need at least 3.0/4 to make it.



GM Benjamin Arvola Notkevich

GM Benjamin Arvola Notkevich (2495) needed a fast win following yesterday's long loss, and soon turned aggressive after facing a provocative Modern opening from Elham Abdrlauf (2123).

Something went seriously wrong for black in and/or just after the opening moves, as white's active knights on d4 and e4 first gave him a strong initiative and then just won a pawn at d6.

Notkevich in an inspired mood just accelerated further, jumping in with his remaining knight on d6 to create a passed pawn and win decisive material before 40 moves.

I still have the feeling that 14 year old whiz-kid Abdrlauf needs to improve his openings to really challenge the grown-up guys above 2400.



IM Erik Santarius vs Monika Machlik

The game between IM Erik Santarius (2411) and WIM-candidate Monika Machlik (2059) first made a modest start with 1.d4 2.Nf3 3.Bg5 and another Torre opening, but then accelerated as white gave up his bishop on f6 and hit in the center with e4. Probably snatching the testimony pawn with 10.--- Qxb2?! here was too risky, and if not then Qa3? afterwards definitely was wrong. Whether white played the best afterwards remains unclear, but after 16

moves he had successfully evacuated his king out on f3 and had a strong attack on black's bishop on c3. Trying to exchange the exposed bishop for a rook on b1 was a likeable idea from a Machlik point of view. It still backfired badly as white's king later found a safe square on f4 (!?) while black's king on e8 was in deep trouble. Black in desperation sacrificed the queen on b3, but still lost the king at d5 before 30 moves.

Jens Evang Ingebretsen (2300) went for a positional English fianchetto and a queenside pawn storm as white against IM Eirik T. Gullaksen (2324).

Black played Qc8 and Bh3 to exchange the white fianchetto bishop on g2, and then started his counter play on the kingside with 19.--- f5. White's plan to defend actively with e4 and f4 just weakened his kingside, hence black after 23 moves suddenly had a dangerous attack against the king on h1.

The game at first sight appeared to be over as black ten moves later had exchanged off the queens and won a knight. White's active rook and bishop combined with a passed pawn at d6 however gave him some practical chances in the endgame.

Gullaksen is known as an excellent endgame technician and after 60 moves landed safely in a totally won endgame with rook, bishop and pawn versus rook and pawn.

Noam Vitenberg (2203) versus Olli Sisättö (2276) also started with 1.c4, but then transposed into some kind of tactical Queen's Gambit Tarrasch, in which white had to misplace his king on f1 after letting in the black queen on b2.

White felt forced to exchange off the queens with 14.Qc2?!, after which black's pair of bishops combined with a passed c-pawn gave black a pleasant advantage. Vitenberg first sacrificed an exchange and then blundered a piece, consequently he came a rook down in the rooks and bishop endgame. White finally realized this was not his day and resigned as he blundered the remaining rook after 37 moves.

Sigve Hølleland (2024) inspired by the results so far played for a win as white against FM André Nielsen (2201), sacrificing a pawn on d5 to open lines in a sharp Queen's Indian fianchetto line. Black pulled the brake a bit too early and hard, as white came clearly better after black returned the dpawn. In the critical middle game stage around move 20-30 Nielsen however found the better plan and made the better calculations, first finding sound positions for his pieces



Sigve Hølleland vs FM André Nielsen

and then winning the new white d-pawn. Nielsen apparently played a very good game after the opening, gradually activating his pieces and advancing his passed d-pawn until he won decisive material just after the first time control.



FM Trygve Dahl vs Abyl Kizatbay

Always entertaining and unpredictable FM Trygve Dahl (2275) today went for an open Sicilian duel as white against Abyl Kizatbay (2108). After exchanging his d- and e-pawns white (not too surprisingly) castled long and went for a kingside pawn storm.

Play slowed down with an

approximately balanced position as black used his right to castle long as well. As black weakened his pawn shelter with a6, white had two helpful squares on d5 and b6, and got the more active pieces with queen, bishop, knight and six pawns on each side after 28 moves.

16 year old Kizatbay however continues his good play this week, and defended very well in a demanding position. As black succeeded exchanging one of the minor pieces, more or less eliminating the danger of mate, the queen and knight endgame at the first time control was drawn by a repetition of checks.

Morten Andersen (2223) as white against Pål Røyset (2167) went for a sensible Trompovsky opening with 1.d4 2.Bg5, but it suddenly turned mad as black played 5.--- Qb6 followed by 6.--- Qxb2 and 7.--- Qxa1. Black eventually was able to return the queen via b2 and b6 to d8 (!), but white had excellent compensation for the exchange with one center pawn and much more active pieces.

The tide gradually turned in the middle game as black succeeded in defending his kingside and activating his pieces. Despite the annoying bishops, black had a winning position when he after 31 moves could pick up white's extra pawn on e5 to play with queen, rook, bishop and four pawns versus queen, two bishops and four pawns. White's king now became the hunted one, and after 38 moves white stopped the clock instead of allowing his king to be mated on b4.



Aleksander Lindbøl vs Isha Sharma

Something went wrong for Aleksander Lindbøl (2139) and his English Fianchetto today, as Isha Sharma (1989) with the black pieces had all the time needed to develop her pieces AND to play d5 and e5 with a sound space advantage.

Then 18. Qb5?? was a blunder, as black could win decisive material with 18.--- e4! followed by 19.--- Nd4 (threatening the

Lindbøl in desperation gave up his queen for a rook, but realizing the true horror of

queen on b5 and a fork on e2).

the following endgame he gently stopped the clock after 24 moves.

Sigurd Loe Grøver (2020) as white against FM Daniel Nordquelle (2264) made a very modest start with 1.e3. The opening later transposed into some kind of Dutch Stonewall in which white came better, as he could break up the black queenside with 16.c5! and 17.cxb6. White first had an extra pawn on b6 and then a strong pair of bishops, and for sure was positionally winning when he after 30 moves also had opened the g-file against black king. Nordquelle however somehow again succeeded to create tactical complications and made the much better calculations as both players ran short of time for 40 moves.

Black's passed pawn on c4 was disturbing, but white still was much better until he withdrew his bishop with 38.Ba1?. Nordquelle efficiently used his chance to lock in the bishop with 38.--- c3, and white had to exchange queens and sacrifice an exchange to get it out. White still had some practical chances with rook, two bishops and four pawns against two rooks, knight and three pawns in the fifth hour. But the tide definitely had turned at that stage, and Nordquelle in a suddenly inspired mood efficiently activated his rooks and advanced his passed a-pawn.

Today's draw from Håkon Bentsen (2155) came as black against Andreas Skotheim (2182). White had some pressure after exchanging off the queens in this Catalan opening, as he controlled the open c-file and the long diagonal h1-a8. Black however defended accurately from that point on. As white spent much time without finding any plan, except exchanging some more minor pieces, the players well before 40 moves landed in a very drawish endgame with two rooks and six pawns on each side.

WGM Olga Dolzhikova (2231) again was starring a very interesting and exciting six hours chess drama, this time winning in the end as black against Sander Fuglestein (2000). Black went for a Modern opening and a positionally double-edged Ukrainian line, in which black exchanges her fianchetto bishop for knight on c3 to destroy the white pawn structure. Theory is a bit skeptical and the plan first backfired badly today, as white before 15 had repaired his pawn structure and developed a strong initiative. Although failing to make any concrete use of it, white kept a strong initiative the third and early fourth hour. Dolzhikova defended bravely and was rewarded as white suddenly lost the thread with 30.Rad3?, allowing 30.--- e4! with a powerful counterattack against the white king. Olga in turn first did not find the best attacking continuation, and then just before



Sander Fuglestein

40 moves overlooked a neon lights flashing knight sacrifice on g6.

Following this white after the time control was an exchange up with a passed pawn on a7 – in short totally winning. Another sudden turnaround followed, as white four moves later for very mysterious reasons moved his rook away from the defense of the key pawn on a7. As black first looked totally confused for a short while and then took the pawn, a totally unclear position with queen, two rooks and three pawns versus queen, rook, knight and five pawns appeared on the board.

While white failed to find any plan for his two rooks, black later methodically improved her pieces and moved the passed c-pawn forward. After queens were exchanged black's two passed pawns soon decided in a controlled time pressure duel.

FM Richard Bjerke (2156) and WFM Anita Grønnestad (1954) entered a Queen's Gambit Tartakower line, leading to a closed position in which black struggled with a truly bad bishop on b7, hence white's pair of knights was superior to black's pair of bishops. Bjerke after the first time control still exchanged his knight for the bishop to win the isolated black pawn at d5. The position with queen, rook, bishop and six pawns against queen, rook, knight and five pawns later was winning for



FM Richard Bjerke

white, due to his better pieces and passed pawn on c5.

The game lasted 5 hours and 45 minutes. Bjerke however was in full control then as he had ten minutes more on the clock, while his safe king combined with a passed pawn made the queen endgame a luxury win.



Edit Machlik vs Frode Lillevold

Edit Machlik (2109) and Frode Lillevold (2076) started up with a positional Anti-Meran line of the Semi Slav opening. Black came better after he was allowed to play e5 followed by e4, as the space advantage in this position was important and white's knight on e5 had to be exchanged on d7.

Black within a few moves more had a dangerous kingside attack rolling.
Although the game lasted for 16 more moves, black in effect decided the game

with his rook sacrifice on g2 after 24 moves. White would go mate if she took the rook and lost her queen in a few moves when she did not.

GM-B (ROUND ROBIN)

Four out of five games today had winner in the closed GM group. GM Alon Greenfeld had another disastrous opening with the white pieces, but still strengthened his lead as he succeeded winning a lost bishop endgame against a suddenly cramped FM Andreas Garberg Tryggestad. GM Eduardas Rozentalis on the other hand cramped in the early middle game and lost in 24 moves against suddenly hard-kicking GM Felix Levin.

The only good news for a norm candidate today was IM Kristian Stuvik Holm winning a patient and convincing black game against FM Alexander Betaneli.

Gunnar Lund meanwhile suffered his first loss after playing too loose against IM Oskar von Bahr. IMs Tor Fredrik Kaasen is formally out of the run for GM norm as he failed to win a won rook endgame against Valeryi Kazakovskyi, while the Belarus IM following this miracle can still make it if winning all his four remaining games.

Midway GM Greenfeld is in pole position with 4.0/5, ahead of IM Holm at 3.5 and IM Kazakovskyi at 3.0.



GM Alon Greenfeld (2514) as white went for 1.d4, and opponent FM Andreas Garberg Tryggestad (2305) for a rather solid and closed Grünfeld set-up. Apparently it first worked out very well, as black advanced on the queenside without risking too much on the kingside. Greenfeld against was far from impressive in his white opening, as black apparently had a pleasant advantage after parking a GM Alon Greenfeld vs FM Andreas Garberg Tryggestad knight on the strong c4 square at move 20. Eventually black won a pawn at c5 and

reached a very promising endgame with queen, bishop and six pawns versus queen, bishop and five pawns. White was strangely helpful exchanging queens, as the endgame with equal colored bishops and a sound extra pawn appeared close to winning for black. But then, after the first time control, black somehow missed the plank and lost his mind completely, as he gave up his bishop to intervene on b4 with his king and win the black b3-pawn. Probably black overlooked 46.e4!, making it possible for white to activate his bishop on g2. Black later still had a draw within reach as he could advance his a-pawn and force white to sacrifice his bishop for it. Instead he went for a very strange king maneuver and lost. To tell the truth, although both players of course made many strong moves this was a rather shocking game. The 2500-player collapsed in the middle game, but still won as the 2300player collapsed totally in the endgame.



FM Alexander Betaneli vs IM Kristian Stuvik Holm

IM Kristian Stuvik Holm (2467) without losing any game will need five won games to make a GM norm in this tournament. The second game win came as planned with the black pieces against FM Alexander Betaneli (2235). Following an aggressive black start with 1.c4 f5, the game entered an English Botvinnik line in which white remained too passive while black before 15 moves started a threatening pawn storm on the kingside. The game became all the more like a

Classical King's Indian, and black after opening the h-file smashed through on the kingside by sacrificing his knight on g4. In a short run white won a piece for two pawns, but his position still was lost as he could not stop g4 with a killing attack.

White avoided immediate mating dangers by sacrificing back a piece, but the remaining queen and minor pieces endgame was hopeless as black was a pawn up with a dominating pair of bishops and an ongoing attack. Holm probably could have won this much faster, but true to his safety belt policy he instead won it in 60 moves without running any risk. Holm remains the only GM candidate in this group, but still needs three more wins without any loss in the final four rounds. Betaneli now at 1.5/5 needs three more wins without any loss for an IM-norm, but is on schedule for a score above expected.

GM Felix Levin (2476) defeating GM Eduardas Rozentalis (2568) probably is only a small surprise. But Rozentalis losing to anyone with white in 24 moves is very surprising – and so of course is Levin getting his first win in round five against Rozentalis.

Rozentalis made a slow start with 1.e4 2.Nc3 3.g3 and a King's Pawn Game, but although black had no problems in the opening chances were about equal and the position rather slow after 12 moves. Levin at move 13 started a kingside advance with



GM Eduardas Rozentalis vs GM Felix Levin

f5 and a few moves later sacrificed a pawn on e4 to start an attack with f4. Apparently this was a strong plan and 17.g3 is not a move you like to play after playing h3 and castling short, of course. But still it should not have been such a disaster. Which it suddenly was, as black put his pawn on f3 and after 24 moves directed a killing threat against h3 with 24.--- Qh6!. Levin at his best is a great attacking player and demonstrated it in this game, which might very well have been a very impressive one from a black point of view. Still it was a confusing game and a strange second collapse from Rozentalis.



IM Tor Fredrik Kaasen vs IM Valeriy Kazakovskyi

The young IM duel between Norwegian Tor Fredrik Kaasen (2385) and Belarus Valeriy Kazakovskyi (2440) started as a closed Ruy Lopez, in which white temporarily sacrificed his pawn on e4 and came slightly better after regaining it on e5. Sudden tactical complications between move 20 and 25 left an interesting endgame with rook, bishop and seven pawns versus two rooks and five pawns. It seems white had made the better evaluation before entering the tactics,

as the remaining endgame soon became much better for him. As white's bishop on f6 turned out to be a monster in disguise, black in pure desperation sacrificed back an exchange to land in a lost rook endgame with two pawns less. This dubious strategy succeeded as white stumbled in the final hurdles between move 30 and 40, hesitating way too long to advance his three connected kingside pawns.

Kazakovskyi defended very well by active counter play, and after winning back one of the pawns established a passed a-pawn which by a miracle saved a draw after 42 moves.

Fifth round became a tough one for the IM-norm chances as Gunnar Lund (2271) suffered his first loss as white against IM Oskar von Bahr (2404). Lund made an aggressive and original start with 1.d4 2.Bf4 3.Nc3 4.e3 5.h4 followed by a long castle. It did not work out too well as black more or less blocked the kingside with h5 followed by Bxf3, leaving white with a more or less worthless half-open g-file. While his king was relatively safe on e8, black after 18 moves had planted a strong knight



Gunnar Lund vs IM Oskar von Bahr

on c4 and was rolling on with his pawn storm on the queenside. Sacrificing a bishop on g6 in this situation was an interesting bet from white. It still did not pay off, as white did not go for the critical continuation – sacrificing an exchange on the g7-bishop to create a total mess afterwards. Given the one move needed to consolidate his kingside with Rag8!, black soon came better. Although white for some moves had four pawns for the piece, he still was in deep trouble, as the pawns were loose and his own king became exposed.

White later in desperation sacrificed another piece for one more pawn and some more air. Following this black after the first time control had one pawn against five, but due to one knight AND one more bishop more he still was totally winning in the queen and minor pieces endgame. White finally resigned after blundering his queen at move 52, but then the position was beyond hopeless anyway.

OPEN GROUP (SWISS)

The fighting spirit is remarkable in this Open group: As all the top four boards again had a winner today, we after round five still have two players sharing the lead with a 100 % score!



Omer Amir Akdag vs Alf W. Lundberg

First board meeting between Omer Amir Akdag (1901) and Alf W. Lundberg (1932) today was some kind of Sicilian Dragon in which black played g6 without Bg7 (?!), hence white came much better from the opening and after 15 moves had a threatening initiative. It all changed in one move as white instead of the very promising 16.Nxe6! played the very passive 16.Nb1?, losing the key pawn on e4 with a decisive advantage for black.

Lundberg later used his chances very well and won another powerful attacking game before 40 moves. It is a bit fascinating that you can actually play a Sicilian Dragon without Bg7, and even more fascinating that you can actually win if you do.



Sondre Melaa vs Jonas Hodneland Rasmussen

Second board game between fifth rated Sondre Melaa (1991) and fourth rated Jonas Hodneland Rasmussen (1993) was a closed Ruy Lopez which opened around move 11-16, leaving white with a pleasant space advantage after three sets of minor pieces were exchanged. Chess calculator Rasmussen worked hard, finally succeeded to equalize after 30 moves – and efficiently used the chance he suddenly got for a kingside attack after 31.--- d5! 32.Nc5? Qg3!

(with the killing threat of 33.--- Re1+). Following this Lundberg and Rasmussen are well deserved sharing the first place at an amazing 5/5, and needless to say their meeting tomorrow might well be decisive for the first prize.

Still three rounds to come after tomorrow and the big sharks are steaming up now: Second rated Jo Kristian Løberg (2045) came better from the opening as black and looked very confident as he later outplayed the 12 year old and highly talented Sergey Eliseev (1867) on the third board today. Fourth board on the other hand was a tight four hours battle between teenagers Haakon Wright (1849) and Afras Mansoor (1965). White was better during most of the game and won decisive material following a tense time trouble duel.

Akdag, Løberg and Wright following this are sharing the third place at 4.0/5, together with 13 year old Gunnar Brandshaug Dale (1903) and 43 year old Torbjørn Dahl (1917).

Dale today won a rook and minor piece endgame with an extra pawn as black against Lars Erik Brobakken (1841), while Dahl after six hours finally succeeded realizing his extra piece as white

against Bjørn Robert Unhjem (1847).

Curiously Dahl appeared about to



Haakon Wright vs Afras Mansoor

cramp in a totally won position, but suddenly took the wakeup call after he himself made an illegal move.

First rated Henrik Øie Løbersli (2102) is in the crowd at 3.5/5, but accelerated as he today won a fine game against 76 year old Jan Svenske (1781).

Third rated and 12 year old Shazil Shehzad (2024) has been too uneven so far, but again hit back with a nice win as white against Elias Hestvik (2024) in a double edged battle today.

On the lower board ranks eight year old Andreas Gautestad Anfindsen (1182) got a sensational game win and probably won the prize for the fastest mate in this tournament today, as his anonymous opponent (Linnea Larre, 1563) fell into a classical opening trap and overlooked an elegant 6.Nd6 smothered mate in a Caro Kann!

All photos by Anniken Vestby