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## ROUND 5 RESULTS

♙ GM D. Liren	1
♜ GM A. Giri	0
♙ GM I. Nepomniachtchi	1
♜ GM H. Nakamura	0
♙ GM M. Carlsen	1/2
♜ GM S. Karjakin	1/2
♙ GM W. So	1/2
♜ GM F. Caruana	1/2
♙ GM L. Aronian	1/2
♜ GM S. Mamedyarov	1/2
♙ GM M. Vachier-Lagrave	1/2
♜ GM V. Anand	1/2

## CURRENT STANDINGS

1. GM V. Anand	3
2. GM F. Caruana	3
3. GM D. Liren	3
4. GM M. Carlsen	2 1/2
5. GM M. Vachier-Lagrave	2 1/2
6. GM W. So	2 1/2
7. GM S. Karjakin	2 1/2
8. GM S. Mamedyarov	2 1/2
9. GM I. Nepomniachtchi	2 1/2
10. GM L. Aronian	2
11. GM A. Giri	2
12. GM H. Nakamura	2

# CUP★CHRONICLE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019 | ISSUE 5

## ROUND 5 HIGHLIGHTS

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



GM DING LIREN AND GM ANISH GIRI, ROUND 5  
PHOTO BY LENNART OOTES

The round before the day off had the highest number of decisive results and a shake up in the leaderboard. There is now a three way tie for first place as Ding Liren joins Viswanathan Anand and Fabiano Caruana with a win over Anish Giri. Anand had an easy day in the office while Caruana had to put in quite a lot of work to earn his half a point. With a win over Hikaru Nakamura, Ian Nepomniachtchi joins the big tie for fourth place. The games will resume Friday with a lot of exciting matchups ahead!



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# DING LIREN - ANISH GIRI

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



With this beautiful high quality win, Ding Liren deservedly joins the leaders. Giri essayed the Ragozin Defense, the same line he played against Ding during Gashimov Memorial in April of this year. The Chinese player deviated from their earlier game on move 7, choosing a less common variation. In the resulting middlegame, White had control over the open d file, while Black was controlling the semi-open c file, attacking the isolated c3 pawn. The main mistake for Black was 25...g6, when Giri weakened his king and put another pawn on a light square, hindering his own light squared bishop. On move 33, Ding found a tactical way of creating a passed pawn and penetrating along the d file. Giri resigned after losing all of his kingside pawns.

**1.d4**      **Nf6**  
**2.c4**      **e6**  
**3.Nf3**     **d5**  
**4.Nc3**     **Bb4**

[Giri chooses the Ragozin Defense]

**5.Bg5**      **h6**  
**6.Bxf6**      **Qxf6**  
**7.Qa4+**

[7.e3 0-0 8.Rc1 dxc4 9.Bxc4 c5 is another huge theoretical line]

**7.**            **Nc6**  
**8.e3**        **0-0**  
**9.Rc1**

[9.Be2 is the more common continuation 9...Bd7 10.Qb3 dxc4 11.Qxc4]

**9.**            **Rd8**  
**10.Be2**     **dx4**  
**11.Bxc4**     **Bxc3+**

[new move in an already fresh position. Black gives back the bishop pair but will play Bd7 and e5 quickly]

GM A. GIRI // LENNART OOTES

[11...Bd7 has been tried both by Leko and Movsesian before]

**12.bxc3**     **Bd7**  
**13.Be2**      **e5**  
**14.Qc2**

[14.0-0? loses a pawn to a simple tactic 14...Nxd4]

**15.Qb2**      **14...Bf5**  
                 **e4**

[closing the center in order to play c5]

**16.Nd2**     **Na5**  
**17.0-0**     **c5**  
**18.Rfd1**     **Rac8**  
**19.Nf1 B**    **g6**  
**20.Ng3**     **Qg5**  
**21.Qb1**      **f5**





22.dxc5

[It's hard for White to make progress without a committal decision. Ding gives himself a weak pawn but will control the open file]

23.Rd4      22...Rxc5  
24.Rcd1     Bf7  
25.Bb5      Rdc8  
              g6?



[defending the f5 pawn to free the queen but now the king becomes permanently weak]

26.Ne2      Qf6  
27.Ba4      Qe5  
28.Bb3

[great bishop maneuver! Black now

has to exchange on b3, fixing white's pawn structure and being left with a bad bishop for a good knight]

28...Nxb3  
29.axb3     R5c7  
30.c4        a6  
31.Nf4       b5  
32.Nd5       Rc6  
33.c5!

[excellent way to utilize the tactics in the position to create a passed pawn]

33.           a5

[33...Rxc5 34.Nb6 R8c6 35.Nd7+- winning the exchange]

34.b4        axb4  
35.Qxb4      Rb8

[35...Rxc5 36.Nb6 the pawn is untouchable for the same reason 36...R8c7 37.Nd7]

36.Nb6      Be6  
37.Nd7      Bxd7  
38.Rd5       Qe7  
39.Rxd7

[penetrating on the 7th rank. Now we see the weakness of the king being exploited]

39.           Qxc5  
40.Qb3+     Qc4

[40...Kh8 41.Qf7 is mate]

41.Qb2      Qc3  
42.Qa2+     Rc4  
43.g3

[White controls the position completely and is in no rush.]

43.           Rbc8  
44.R1d6



[the rook will collect all the kingside pawns now]

44.           Kf8  
45.Rxg6      b4  
46.Rxh6      f4  
47.gxf4

[great game by Ding Liren!]

1-0

# IAN NEPOMNIACHTCHI VS HIKARU NAKAMURA

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



GM H. NAKAMURA // CRYSTAL FULLER

The Russian player finally bounced back from his first round loss and after missing winning chances in earlier rounds. Nakamura blundered a pawn on move 15 and had to suffer for the rest of the game. He forced the game into a dark colored bishops endgame where he had very decent chances of holding. Nepomniachtchi felt that he had to win the game three times, as he kept letting the advantage go. The fatal mistake happened on move 57, when Nakamura decided to push his pawn to b4, where it could be attacked by his opponent's bishop. Nepomniachtchi explained that time trouble played a role and that Nakamura probably felt that White can make progress, winning another pawn. However, this decision also forced Nakamura to misplace his bishop on a3, and made losing another pawn inevitable.

<b>1.d4</b>	<b>Nf6</b>
<b>2.c4</b>	<b>e6</b>
<b>3.Nf3</b>	<b>d5</b>
<b>4.Nc3</b>	<b>Be7</b>
<b>5.Bf4</b>	<b>0-0</b>
<b>6.e3</b>	<b>c5</b>
<b>7.dxc5</b>	<b>Bxc5</b>
<b>8.cxd5</b>	<b>Nxd5</b>
<b>9.Nxd5</b>	<b>exd5</b>

<b>10.Bd3</b>	<b>Bb4+</b>
<b>11.Nd2</b>	<b>Nc6</b>

[11...d4 has been played by Nakamura several times before 12.e4 Na6 13.0-0 Nc5 14.Nb3 Be6 was played in the game between Nepomniachtchi and Nakamura from May this year]

<b>12.0-0</b>	<b>Be7</b>
<b>13.Rc1</b>	<b>Qb6</b>

[has been tried once before by Anand]

[13...Bf6 14.Nf3 Qe7 15.h3 g6 happened in the game between Carlsen-Nakamura during the 2017 Sinquefield Cup]



Photo: Lennart Ootes

<b>14.Qc2</b>	<b>Nb4?</b>
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[a blunder. Maybe Nakamura assumed that the pawn can't be captured]

[14...g6 simply defending the pawn and the game continues]

<b>15.Bxh7+</b>	<b>Kh8</b>
<b>16.Qc7</b>	<b>Qxc7</b>
<b>17.Rxc7</b>	<b>Bd8</b>

[17...Re8 18.Bb1 Nc6 is an attempt to trap the rook but since the f7 pawn hangs, Bd8 is not an immediate threat 19.e4 d4

20.Bd3 and the bishop will go to either c4 or b5]

**18.Bd6!**

[White hangs on to the pawn tactically]

18. Bxc7  
19.Bxf8 a5  
20.Bb1 Be5  
21.b3 Bg4  
22.Bc5 Rc8  
23.Bb6

[23.Bxb4 axb4 is also possible, but Nepo didn't want to give up his bishop pair and calculated the line he played thoroughly]

**23. Nxa2**

[Black found a tactical way of winning the pawn back]

24.Bxa2 Rc2  
25.Nf3! Bxf3  
26.gxf3 Rxa2  
27.Rd1

[winning the pawn again]

27. Ra1  
28.Rxa1 Bxa1  
29.Bxa5

[White still has a lot of work to do to convert this endgame]

29. f5  
30.Kf1 Kg8  
31.Ke2 Kf7  
32.Kd3 Be5  
33.Bc3 Bd6

[33...Bxh2 taking the pawn is not possible 34.f4 and the bishop gets trapped!]

34.e4 dx4+  
35.fxe4 Ke6  
36.Bxg7 Bxh2  
37.Bd4 b5  
38.Bb6 Be5

39.Ke3 Bb2  
40.Bd4 Bc1+  
41.Kd3 Ba3  
42.Bb6 Bb2  
43.Bc7 Bf6  
44.Ba5 Be5  
45.Bb4 Bf6  
46.Bc5 Be5  
47.Ba7 Bf6  
48.Bd4 Be7  
49.Ke3 Bg5+  
50.f4

[After some bishop dances, Nepo finally puts his pawn on f4. In a way it becomes a target as it can always be attacked by Nakamura's bishop. At the same time, after exchanging the pawn on f5, White will have a further advanced passed pawn and will try to get the b pawn]

50. Be7  
51.Bb6 Ba3  
52.Kd3 Bc1  
53.Bc7 Bb2  
54.Bb8 Bf6  
55.Ke3 Bb2  
56.Be5 Bc1+

[56...Bxe5? Black can't win the pawn back as the king and pawn endgame is lost 57.fxe5 Kxe5 58.exf5 Kxf5 59.Kd4 Ke6 60.Kc5 Kd7 61.Kxb5]

**57.Kd3 b4?**



[putting the pawn on a dark square looks suicidal but Nepo explained that Hikaru was already in time trouble and White has a clear plan of making progress with the idea of taking on f5 followed by Kd4]

58.Bb8 Kf6  
59.Bd6 Ke6  
60.Be5 Ba3  
61.Bd4 Bc1  
62.Be3

[with this maneuver, White limits his opponent's bishop stopping it from attacking f4.]

62. Bb2  
63.Bd2 fxe4+  
64.Kxe4 Ba3  
65.Kd4 Kf5  
66.Kd5 Kf6

[66...Bb2 67.Bxb4 Kxf4 68.Bd6+ Kf5 69.b4 because the black king is cut off, the endgame is winning for White]

67.Kc5 Kf5  
68.Kb5 Ke4  
69.Bxb4

**1-0**



# MAGNUS CARLSEN - SERGEY KARJAKIN

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



CARLSEN VS. KARJAKIN // LENNART OOTES

"Finally I showed some of my preparation [for] New York 3 years later", Karjakin told Maurice Ashley after the game, referring to his World Championship match against Carlsen. He played a novelty on move 14, stopping White's e pawn push. Carlsen got stuck at that point, and thought for a long time but couldn't make up his mind. Ultimately, he went for an endgame that he thought was better but in fact wasn't—it wasn't hard for Karjakin to neutralize the pressure. The players set up a stalemate in the king and pawn endgame, a cute way to end the game. The World Champion didn't seem too bothered by the fact that he's behind the leaders, pointing out that he started playing well after the rest day in Zagreb and hopes to do the same here.

1.d4 Nf6  
2.c4 e6  
3.Nf3 d5  
4.Nc3 Be7  
5.Bf4 0-0  
6.e3 b6  
7.Bd3 dxc4  
8.Bxc4 Ba6  
9.Qe2 Bxc4  
10.Qxc4 c5  
11.dxc5 Bxc5

12.0-0 Qc8  
13.Rfd1 Nbd7  
14.Qe2 Re8



15.Nd2 Qb7  
16.Qf3 Qxf3  
17.gxf3 Rec8  
18.Nde4 Bf8  
19.Nd6 Rc6  
20.Bg3 a6  
21.Rac1 Bxd6  
22.Rxd6 Rxd6  
23.Bxd6 Rc8  
24.Rd1 h6  
25.f4 b5  
26.Be7 Rc6  
27.Kg2 Nb6  
28.e4 Nc4

29.Rd8+ Kh7  
30.Bxf6 gxf6  
31.Nd1 Kg6  
32.b3 Rd6  
33.Rxd6 Nxd6  
34.f3 Kh5  
35.Kg3 b4  
36.Ne3 f5  
37.exf5 Nxf5+  
38.Nxf5 exf5  
39.Kf2 Kh4  
40.Kg2 a5  
41.Kf2 Kh3  
42.Kg1 h5  
43.Kh1 h4  
44.Kg1 f6  
45.Kh1 a4  
46.bxa4 b3  
47.axb3



1/2-1/2

# WESLEY SO - FABIANO CARUANA

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



SO VS. CARUANA // CRYSTAL FULLER

The all-American matchup was a wild battle where Caruana had to play a brilliant defense to survive. Yesterday, his opening preparation paid off as Aronian went into a deep think and eventually blundered in time trouble. Today, So was seemingly ready for his opponent's novelty and in fact, Caruana was the one who couldn't remember his preparation and got low on time in the opening. So sacrificed two pieces on the f6 square: first a knight then an exchange in order to make the enemy king vulnerable. Caruana had to do an enormous amount of calculation to find the most precise way to hold his position, which ultimately ended with a perpetual after he gave up his bishop.

1.c4 e5  
 2.g3 Nf6  
 3.Bg2 c6  
 4.Nf3 e4  
 5.Nd4 Qb6  
 6.Nb3 a5  
 7.d3 a4  
 8.N3d2 Bc5  
 9.0-0 e3  
 10.fxe3 Bxe3+  
 11.Kh1 Ng4

12.Ne4 0-0  
 13.Nbc3 d5  
 14.cxd5 Bxc1  
 15.Qxc1 Ne3  
 16.Rf3 Nxcg2  
 17.Kxg2 Qd8  
 18.Qg5 f6



19.Nxf6+ Rxf6  
 20.Ne4 Nd7  
 21.Raf1 Kh8  
 22.Nxf6 Nxf6

23.e4 Bd7



24.Rxf6 gxf6  
 25.Rxf6 Qe7  
 26.Qf4 Kg8  
 27.d6 Qg7  
 28.e5 Re8  
 29.Qc4+ Kh8  
 30.Rf7 Qxe5  
 31.Rxd7 Qe2+  
 32.Kh3 Qf1+  
 33.Kh4 Qf6+  
 34.Kh3 Qf1+  
 35.Kh4 Qf6+  
 36.Kh3 Qf1+

1/2-1/2



# MAXIME VACHIER-LAGRAVE - VISWANATHAN ANAND

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



GM V. ANAND // CRYSTAL FULLER

A well prepared line in the Giuoco Piano gave Anand a comfortable draw with the black pieces. Vachier-Lagrave was surprised by 8...a5. He went for a forcing line opening the center, trading queens and grabbing the f7 pawn. However, Anand had quick counterplay on the kingside due to being ahead in development. The former World Champion joked that in the final position where he forced a perpetual check, he was in the perfect position to attack were it not for his king and bishop on the back rank



16.Be3      Bxe3  
 17.fxe3      h5  
 18.Bc4      h4  
 19.Nd2      h3  
 20.gxh3      Rxh3  
 21.Rf1      Rg3+  
 22.Kh1      Rh3+  
 23.Kg1      Rg3+  
 24.Kh1      Rh3+  
 25.Kg1

1/2-1/2



11.dxe5      Nxe5  
 12.Nxe5      dxe5  
 13.Qxd8+      Kxd8  
 14.Bxf7      g4  
 15.hxg4      Nxg4

1.e4      e5  
 2.Nf3      Nc6  
 3.Bc4      Bc5  
 4.c3      Nf6  
 5.d3      d6  
 6.0-0      a6  
 7.a4      h6  
 8.Re1      a5  
 9.d4      Ba7  
 10.h3      g5



# LEVON ARONIAN - SHAKHRIYAR MAMEDYAROV

BY WGM TATEV ABRAHAMYAN



GM L. ARONIAN // JUSTIN KELLAR

In Levon Aronian's own words, there wasn't much to say about this game. Aronian essayed the 5.Bd3 variation against the Petroff Defense. By move 12, the players reached a symmetrical position in an exchanged French structure, an opening that is known for being very drawish. Neither player showed any ambition in the game, reaching a knight endgame with a locked pawn structure, ending the game with a repetition.

1.e4	e5
2.Nf3	Nf6
3.Nxe5	d6
4.Nf3	Nxe4
5.Bd3	Nf6
6.0-0	Be7
7.c3	0-0
8.Bc2	Bg4
9.d4	Re8
10.Bf4	d5
11.Nbd2	Bd6
12.Bg5	Nbd7



13.Qb1	h6
14.Bh4	c6
15.Bh7+	Kh8
16.Bd3	Qc7
17.Qc2	Re6
18.Rfe1	Rae8
19.Bg3	Rxe1+
20.Rxe1	Rxe1+
21.Nxe1	Bxg3
22.hxg3	g6
23.Qa4	b6
24.Qa3	Kg7
25.Nc2	Be6
26.Ne3	Ne8
27.Nf3	Nd6
28.Qa4	a5
29.Qc2	c5
30.Qd1	c4

31.Bc2	b5
32.a3	Nc8
33.Qd2	Qb8
34.Ne1	Ne7
35.Bd1	Nf6



36.Bf3	h5
37.N1c2	Qh8
38.Nd1	Bf5
39.Ne1	Qh6
40.Qxh6+	Kxh6
41.Ne3	Bd7
42.Kf1	Kg7
43.Bd1	Ng4
44.Nxg4	Bxg4
45.Bxg4	hxg4
46.Nc2	f5
47.Ke2	Ng8
48.Ne3	Nf6
49.f3	Kf7
50.fxg4	fxg4
51.Ke1	Ke6
52.Ke2	Kf7
53.Ke1	Ke6
54.Ke2	Kf7

1/2-1/2



ARONIAN VS. MAMEDYAROV // CRYSTAL FULLER



GM S. MAMEDYAROV // CRYSTAL FULLER





# CURRENT STANDINGS

#GrandChessTour

AFTER ROUND 5



POS.	PLAYER	ROUND 5 RESULT	SCORE
T-1	GM VISWANATHAN ANAND	1/2	3 PTS
T-1	GM FABIANO CARUANA	1/2	3 PTS
T-1	GM DING LIREN	1	3 PTS
T-4	GM MAGNUS CARLSEN	1/2	2 1/2 PTS
T-4	GM M. VACHIER-LAGRAVE	1/2	2 1/2 PTS
T-4	GM WESLEY SO	1/2	2 1/2 PTS
T-4	GM SERGEY KARJAKIN	1/2	2 1/2 PTS
T-4	GM S. MAMEDYAROV	1/2	2 1/2 PTS
T-4	GM IAN NEPOMNIACHTCHI	1	2 1/2 PTS
T-9	GM LEVON ARONIAN	1/2	2 PTS
T-9	GM ANISH GIRI	0	2 PTS
T-9	GM HIKARU NAKAMURA	0	2 PTS



# RESULTS

#GrandChessTour

ROUND 5



WHITE	PLAYER	VS	PLAYER	BLACK
	GM WESLEY SO	1/2   1/2		GM FABIANO CARUANA
	GM MAXIME VACHIER-LAGRAVE	1/2   1/2		GM VISWANATHAN ANAND
	GM MAGNUS CARLSEN	1/2   1/2		GM SERGEY KARJAKIN
	GM DING LIREN	1   0		GM ANISH GIRI
	GM IAN NEPOMNIACHTCHI	1   0		GM HIKARU NAKAMURA
	GM LEVON ARONIAN	1/2   1/2		GM SHAKHRIYAR MAMEDYAROV

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## ULTIMATE MOVES

AUGUST 29

Following the conclusion of the Sinquefield Cup, the Saint Louis Chess Club will host an Ultimate Moves Exhibition with all players on August 29 at 2pm. The event will include Saint Louis Chess Club founder Rex Sinquefield, President of Spectrum Studios Randy Sinquefield, legendary World Champion Garry Kasparov, and the Sinquefield Cup players in a team vs. team matchup. All tournament players will compete in this fun-spirited event where players swap out after every fifth move and are encouraged to talk amongst each other and their opponents throughout the match. Free admission!



2018 ULTIMATE MOVES // AUSTIN FULLER

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Thursday, August 15**

5-6 PM Autograph Session, Kingside Diner

**Thursday, August 15**  
6 PM Opening Ceremony,  
World Chess Hall of Fame\*

**Saturday, August 17**  
1 PM Round 1

**Sunday, August 18**  
1 PM Round 2

**Monday, August 19**  
1 PM Round 3

**Tuesday, August 20**  
1 PM Round 4

**Wednesday, August 21**  
1 PM Round 5

**Thursday, August 22**  
Rest Day

**Friday, August 23**  
1 PM Round 6

**Saturday, August 24**  
1 PM Round 7

**Sunday, August 25**  
1 PM Round 8

**Monday, August 26**  
1 PM Round 9

**Tuesday, August 27**  
1 PM Round 10

**Wednesday, August 28**  
1 PM Round 11

**Thursday, August 29**  
10 AM Playoff (If Necessary)

**Thursday, August 29**  
2 PM Ultimate Moves

**Thursday, August 29**  
6-7 PM Closing Ceremony,  
World Chess Hall of Fame\*

\*Private Event

## SIDE EVENT HIGHLIGHT

### Sinquefield Action Quads

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 30**

3 Rounds | Game in 20; 3 second delay

**Entry Fee**  
\$10

**Registration**  
6-6:50 PM

Space is limited to the first 50 players.

**Round 1**  
7:00 PM

**Winner of each quad receives \$36.**

Quick Ratings will be used for  
Pairings and Prize purposes.

Free Entry for GMs and IMs. USCF membership required.  
Arbiter has the discretion to appoint ratings.