

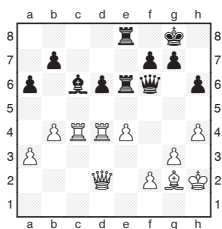
**Michael Adams**



## A Russian shuffle does the trick

The Russians triumphed at the World Team Championship – a welcome success for them after a long period where gold has often been elusive. With the event coming hot on the heels of the European Team Championships, strength in depth proved important, as Russia and Ukraine shuffled their line-ups to compete against the fresh Chinese and American outfits.

Ian Nepomniachtchi, one of the new call-ups, was the star performer for the winners:



**I. Nepomniachtchi - Y. Kryvoruchko**  
World Teams Antalya 2013

**32.f2-f3 Qf6-e7**

It was better to grab the opportunity to get rid of the weak pawn with 32...d6-d5 33.e4xd5 Re6-e2 34.Qd2-f4 (Not 34.Qd2-c3 Re8-e3 35.Rd4-d3 Qf6xf3 winning for Black) 34...Qf6xf4 35.g3xf4 Bc6-b5 36.Rc4-c1 Re2-a2 37.Kh2-g3 Ra2xa3 when Black should hold.

**33.Rc4-c2**

Covering the second rank before redeploying the bishop.

**33... Bc6-a4**

**34.Rc2-c3 Ba4-c6**

**35.Bg2-f1**

**36.Bf1-c4**

**37.Bc4-d5**

**38.Rd4xd5**

**39.Rc3-d3**

**40.Kh2-g2**

An unfortunate error on the last move of the time control, Black should sit tight with 40...Rd8-d7.

**41.Rd3-c3**

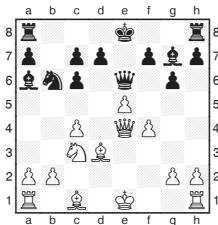
The black queen is caught behind enemy lines.

**41... Rd8-e8**

Black could have saved his queen, but not the game with 41...Re6-g6 42.e4-e5, or 41...a6-a5 42.b4xa5 Qa1-b1 43.Rc3-c7.

**42.Qd2-c2**

Black resigned, as Rd5-d1 is a fatal threat.



**B. Amin - D. Baramidze**  
World Teams Antalya 2013

**13.b2-b3 d7-d5**

It appears that this drops a pawn, but matters are not so clear.

**14.c4xd5 c6xd5**

**15.Nc3xd5 Nb6xd5**

**16.Qe4-a4+**

**16.Bd3xa6 Qe6xa6**

**17.Qe4xd5 Ra8-d8** also gives Black counterplay.

**16... c7-c6**

**17.Bd3xa6 Bg7xe5**

**18.f4xe5 Qe6xe5+**

**19.Ke1-f2 Qe5-f6+**

**20.Kf2-g3 Qf6-c3+**

**21.Kg3-h4**

Rather foolhardy. 21.Kg3-f2 Qc3-f6+, settling for perpetual, was wiser.

**21... O-O**

**22.Bc1-h6 Nd5-e7**

**23.Qa4-f4**

It was time to bail out with 23.g2-g3 Ne7-f5+ 24.Kh4-h3 Nf5xh6.

**23... Ne7-f5+**

**24.Kh4-g4 Rf8-e8**

It was very hard to find the

**Re6-f6**

**Re8-d8**

**Bc6xd5**

**Rf6-e6**

**Qe7-f6**

**Qf6-a1**

best move. 24...Ra8-d8, which wins immediately 25.Ra1-d1 (25.Bh6xf8 Rd8-d4 26.g2-g3 Rd4xf4+ 27.Kg4xf4 Qc3-e3+ 28.Kf4-g4 Qe3-e4+ 29.Kg4-h3 g6-g5 leads to mate) 25...Nf5xh6+ 26.Qf4xh6 Qc3-c2 27.Rd1xd8 Qc2xg2+ 28.Kg4-f4 Rf8xd8 leaves White's forces scattered to all corners of the board.

**25.g2-g3 Qc3-a5**

**26.Ba6-d3**

This seems logical, but 26.Ba6-c4 Nf5xh6+ 27.Kg4-h3 was the best chance to resist.

**26... Ra8-d8**

**27.Bd3xf5 Rd8-d4**

This spectacular rook move into thin air brings down the curtain.

**28.Ra1-e1**

The point is 28.Qf4xd4 Qa5xf5+ 29.Kg4-h4 Qf5-h5 mate.

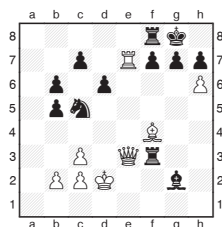
**28... Qa5xf5+**

**29.Kg4-f3 Rd4xf4+**

**30.Bh6xf4 Re8xe1**

**31.Rh1xe1 g6-g5**

**O-1**



**D. Baramidze - V. Akobian**  
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**24.Qe3-d4**

White keeps the initiative with 24.Qe3-e1 Bg2-h3 (24...Rf3xf4 25.Qe1-g3 Nc5-e4+ 26.Re7xe4 wins) 25.h6xg7 Rf8-a8, but thought this was stronger, missing an unusual tactical riposte.

**24... Rf3-d3+**

**25.Qd4xd3**

25.c2xd3 Nc5-b3+ also wins the queen.

**25... Nc5xd3**

**26.c2xd3 Rf8-c8**

and Black later converted the three extra pawns.