

Albornoz achieves Cuba's best in Ibero-American Chess Championship

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Havana, February 20 (RHC)-- Carlos Daniel Albornoz achieved Cuba's best result in the Ibero-American Chess Championship, won in Mexico City by Argentina's Sandro Mareco, a man who appears among those confirmed for the next Capablanca in Memoriam.

The double champion of the Island said goodbye with a victory against the Cuban -now playing for Mexico- Zenia Corrales and completed seven points out of a possible nine to climb up to seventh place in a competition that gathered 167 contestants.

Albornoz had the worst tiebreaker in the group of six men who left with a similar accumulated seven points, as followers of Mareco who reached 7.5 after beating Cuba's Omar Almeida (6 points and 16th place).

Benefited by a better tiebreaker, Spain's Jaime Santos and Paraguay's Guillermo Vázquez took second and third place, in that order, according to the specialized website www.chess-results.com.

Santos had held the lead during almost the entire tournament, but this Saturday he gave way to the Peruvian Jorge Cori and "dropped" to second place. Incidentally, Cori was defending the 2019 crown and had to settle this time with a fourth step, as part of the seven-stripe finishers.

Almeida's aforementioned 16th place was the next best for those defending the colors of Cuba, while in 19th said goodbye Luis Ernesto Quesada, also with six scores.

Losing the last round cost Zenia a drop to 23rd place, but even so she deserved the prize for the best woman with six points.

The event was held in the nine-round Swiss system and was a good moment of preparation for several of the Cubans who will be playing in the National Men's Chess Championship starting next March 1st.

Albornoz, Almeida and Quesada will go straight to the final stage in which 12 men will try to win a crown that was last disputed in 2020

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