



**GM Dr. Karsten Müller**  
Kommentar



**IM Sergey Salov**

## **Salov,S (2234) – Suvorov,A (2135) [B19]**

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(by GM Dr.Karsten Müller)

**GM Dr.Karsten Müller** was born November 23, 1970 in Hamburg, Germany. He studied mathematics and graduated 2002. Müller has played for the Hamburger SK in the Bundesliga from 1988 to 2015 and earned the Grandmaster title in 1998. He is the co-author with IM Frank Lamprecht of the highly acclaimed *Secrets of Pawn Endings* (2000) and *Fundamental Chess Endings* (2001), with Martin Voigt *Danish Dynamite* (2003), with Wolfgang Pajeken *How to Play Chess Endgames* (2008), with Raymund Stolze *Kämpfen und Siegen mit Hikaru Nakamura* (2012) and finally between 2004 and 2012 the *Chess (Cafe) Puzzle Books 1-4* (3 with Merijn van Delft, 4 with Alex Markgraf), recently with Stefan Becker the fritztrainer/chess coaching DVD *Ask the Pieces* (2013). Attention is also paid to Müller's book *Bobby Fischer, The Career and Complete Games of the American World Chess Champion* (2009), and particularly to his excellent series of *ChessBase-Endgame DVDs Schachendspiele 1-14*. Müller's popular rubric *Endgame Corner* has appeared at [www.ChessCafe.com](http://www.ChessCafe.com) since January 2001, the rubric *Endgames in ChessBase Magazine* since 2006. The busy endgame expert recognized worldwide was honoured in 2007 as "trainer of the year" by the German chess federation (DSB).

**Sergey Salov** is a FIDE and ICCF IM. He was six times champion of the ICCD. He is also a very active chess coach. Among his pupils was 18 year old GM Rasmus Svane from 2005-2012.

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.0-0-0 Be7 13.Ne4**

## Nxe4

Against 13...0-0 S.Salov had prepared the following fascinating idea:  
14.g4 Nxg4 15.Rhg1 f5 16.Qc4 fxe4? (16...Rf7 is critical and unclear.)  
17.Qxe6+ Rf7 18.Rxg4 exf3 19.Rxg7+ Kxg7 20.Qxh6+ Kg8 21.Rg1+ Bg5  
22.Bxg5 Rg7 23.Qxg7+ Kxg7 24.Bxd8+ Kh6 25.Bg5+ Kxh5 26.Be3+-

### 14.Qxe4 Nf6 15.Qd3!?

The modern trend. The most often played move is 15.Qe2

### 15...Qd5 16.c4 Qe4 17.Qb3!

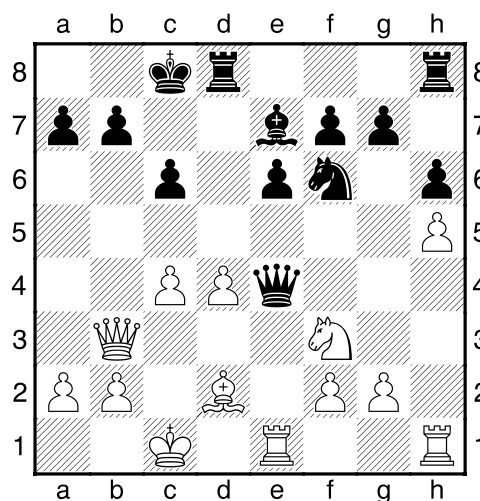
White keeps the queens on the board to gain time attacking Black's queen.

### 17...0-0-0?!

Now Black gets problems with his queen and king. The more active 17...b5 is the main line, but White also scores well here, e.g. 18.Rde1 Qg4 19.Rh4 Qf5 L.Shytaj (2494)–S.Brunello (2537), Otranto 2011 and here 20.d5!? is interesting.

### 18.Rde1!?

18.Rhe1 is played more often and also scores well.



An interesting choice to active the king's rook via h3 or h4.

## 18...Qh7?!

Now the queen hides here after the bishop had done so on move 8. The computer prefers 18...Qf5. One dangerous option is then 19.Re5 Qg4 20.Ra5 with an attack.

## 19.Qa4

The direct 19.Ne5!? might be slightly more precise, e.g. 19...Rxd4 20.Be3 Re4 21.Nxf7 Rf8 22.f3 Rxf7 23.fxe4 Qxe4 24.Qc2± V.Zakharov (2324)–A. Strebkovs (2312), Pardubice 2013

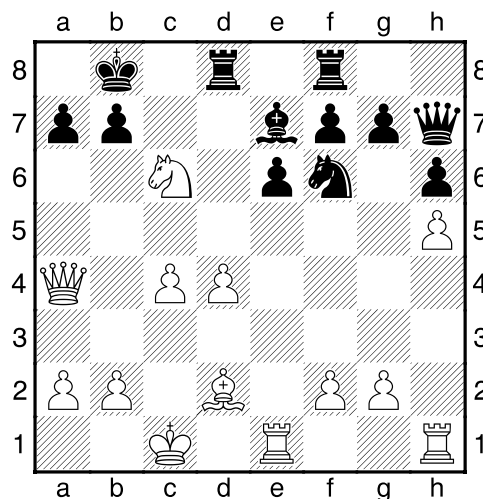
## 19...Kb8?

19...a6! 20.Ne5 Rxd4 21.Nxc6 Rd7 22.Nxe7+ Rxe7 23.Qa5 Qd3 was the lesser evil. White's pressure on the dark squares gives him an edge, but not more than that.

## 20.Ne5! Rhf8?!

20...Rxd4! 21.Be3 Qe4 22.Bxd4 Qxd4 23.Qb3 Rc8 was the last chance to limit the damage, but White's advantage is of course not in doubt.  
20...Ne4? 21.Be3 Nd6 (21...Qf5 22.Qc2 Bb4 23.g4 Qf6 24.Qxe4+-) 22.c5 Nb5 23.Nxf7+-

## 21.Nxc6+!!



A mighty blow, which destroys Black's castle.

## **21...bxc6 22.Qxc6 Bd6**

There was no defence anywhere to be found, e.g. 22...Rd6 23.Bf4 Rfd8 24.Rh3+-; Even 22...Nd5 is met by the rook lift 23.Rh3 (23.cxd5? allows the defence 23...Rd6 when White is only slightly better.) 23...Rd6 24.Bf4 Qc2+ (24...Nxf4? 25.Rb3#) 25.Kxc2 Nb4+ 26.Kb1 Nxc6 27.c5+-; 22...Rxd4 23.Rh3 Bd8 24.Rb3+ Bb6 25.Rxb6+ axb6 26.Qxb6+ Kc8 27.Qxd4+-

## **23.Rh3!**

This strong typical rook lift brings the next attacker to the queenside.

## **23...Bc7 24.Rb3+ Kc8**

24...Bb6? runs into 25.Bf4+ Rd6 26.Bxd6#

## **25.Rb7**

25.Ba5 Ne8 26.Rb7+- transposes to the game.

## **25...Rd7 26.Ba5**

Another attacker joins the party. Black's defensive forces can not weather the coming storm.

## **26...Ne8 27.Rxa7 Kd8 28.Ra8+**

28.Qc5!?! even forces mate in 5 moves according to the computer, e.g. 28...Nd6 29.Bxc7+ Ke8 30.Bxd6 Rxd6 31.Qc8+ Rd8 32.Qc6+ Rd7 33.Qxd7#

## **28...Ke7 29.Bxc7!?**

The start of a small combination. 29.Bb4+ wins as well due to 29...Bd6 30.Bxd6+ Rxd6 (30...Nxd6 31.Rxf8 Kxf8 32.Qxd7+-) 31.Ra7+ Kf6 32.Qc5 Qf5 33.Qe5+ Kg5 34.Qg3+ Kf6 35.Re5+- but is much more messy.

## **29...Rxc7**

29...Nxc7?! is met by 30.Qc5+ Kf6 31.Rxf8+-

## **30.Rxe8+!**

Salov's point.

**30...Rxe8 31.Qxc7+ Kf8 32.Qc5+ Kg8 33.Qc6 Rd8 34.Qe4 1-0**

and Black resigned as the exchange of queens can only be avoided by giving more material or the extremely artificial ...Qh8. A strong attacking performance by Sergey Salov from start to finish! His further plans include writing three books in three languages: German, English and Russian. Two on the USSR chess Individuals and teams championship of the deaf 1957-1991 und one on his rich chess career from 1953 until 2018, which includes a win against German GM Niclas Huschenbeth in the Olympiad Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia 2010 on the 4th board in the match ICCD-Germany 3:1. So stay tuned!