

Vishy Anand, became the undisputed World Champion in Mexico City! The 37-year-old Indian ace led from start to finish with an undefeated score of 9/14 to capture the most elite title in chess, and confirm his new status as world number 1 ranked player.

NAME	FED	FIDE	PTS	RK	
Anand	IND		2792	9	1
Kramnik	RUS		2769	8	2
Gelfand	ISR		2733	8	3
Leko	HUN		2751	7	4
Svidler	RUS		2735	6.5	5
Morozevich	RUS		2758	6	6
Aronian	ARM		2750	6	7
Grischuk	RUS		2726	5.5	8

Apart from the title and top prize of \$390,000, Anand now has a lucrative rematch lined-up next year (12-game match to be played between May and September 2008) with former champion Kramnik. This will surely determine once and for all who the undisputed champion will be. Elsewhere Topalov, who recently lost a match to Kramnik for the World Championship, missed out on the opportunity to challenge for the World title in Mexico City. Instead he will play the winner of the FIDE World Cup, with the winner of that match challenging the winner of Anand-Kramnik for the World title.

Anand proved to be in a different league to his rivals throughout, mainly due to his awesome preparation and his only times of danger was salvaging draws in two difficult rook endings a pawn down to Russians **Vladimir Kramnik** and **Alexander Grischuk**.

Elsewhere Gelfand had a great tournament scoring +2, but this could have been blunted by a bad finish had Morozevich spotted Ne6!!

The usually rock solid Peter Leko collapsed against Aronian early on, and struggled versus Kramnik when playing Kramnik's own opening idea against him in the Catalan. However wins against Grischuk and Morozevich left him on 50%.

Svidler was rooted to the bottom of the table without a win for a long while, but a big win in the last round bumped him right up the leaderboard. This was another case of hitting his opponent with a big opening Novelty 20.Rc1 in a Sicilian Najdorf, Improving on a previous game he had lost to Topalov in that line.

Morozevich was typically aggressive and exciting, and surprised many fans when he disposed of former World Champion Vladimir Kramnik, by playing a funny move order and coaxing Kramnik away from his traditionally solid Petroff/Slav defense and into a type of benoni structure. However he struggled like mad with his Sicilians in an attempt to avoid the French defense which has continued to struggle at top level in recent years.

Aronian lost early on to Anand with white, but bounced back with a win against Leko and a later win against Grischuk. By the time he met Gelfand he was keen to win at all costs, but his pawn advance g2-g4-g5 looked too risky and when he backed it up with another dubious looking move it was all over. This meant he lost 2-0 to Gelfand, the only whitewash of the tournament. The last round was another case of being massively outprepared by Kramnik, and he dropped to -2.

Grischuk was another player who suffered badly with black. With white he did well though, beating Gelfand and coming very close to doing the same to Anand in the penultimate round.

Game Analysis to follow: