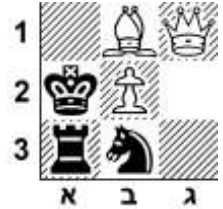


VARIANTIM



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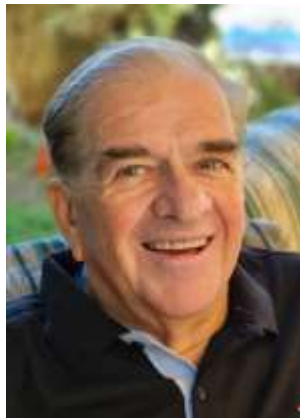
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דוחות תחרויות היובל של שלושה ממחברינו מתפרסמים בחוברת זו: ז'אן היימן (משמאל) 90 – ראו בעמ' 2, מנחם ויצטום (במרכז) 70 – ראו בעמ' 5, ויוחנן אפק (מימין) 70 – ראו בעמ' 15.

The awards of three jubilee tourneys are published in this issue: Jean Haymann (left) 90 – see award in page 2, Menachem Witztum (center) 70 – see award in page 5, and Yochanan Afek (right) 70 – see award in page 15.

Jean Haymann 90 Jubilee Tourney

Judge: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, February 2023

First of all, I want to congratulate Israeli problemist Jean Haymann for his 90th birthday. I wish him good health and joy in life, especially with chess problems.

I felt very honored when I was invited to judge this jubilee tourney. I thank Paz Einat for the invitation and Jean for accepting it. The theme asks for the presentation of at least two out of four motifs [Goethart (Gt), Anti-Goethart (AGt), Inverse-Goethart (IGt) and Gamage (Gm)] according to definitions divulged to composers and to me as follows: **Gt** – the mating move unpins a disturbing black unit which must therefore be obstructed at W1 or B1, B2; **AGt** – a pinned black unit stands initially obstructed by White or by Black. Solving moves clear its line, thus avoiding a dual battery mate which would unpin it; **IGt** – a black unit, indirectly unpinned at W1 or B1, B2, must be obstructed at W1, W2 or B1, B2. Mate must be given by a battery; **Gm** – a black unit pinned by WQ must be obstructed since the pinning WQ will move away at W2 to give mate.

Here a clarification by Jean is necessary. Due to a misprint in the announcement, the IGt-definition did not mention that the thematic interference might possibly occur at W2 and Jean asked me to respect his original intention. Considering his request and taking into account that there is no technical reason not to include W2 as thematic, I decided to use the correct and complete definition, as above, in my analysis.

When the helpmate stipulation is used, the Gt and Gm ideas above must be presented with much care because one can easily reach positions that seem to be correct but are not since they actually present (i) useless / idle white pieces or (ii) pins that are required by the motifs and consequently might be relevant to the solutions but are shown just by accident.

I have already had the opportunity to say (see comments about Special Prize – Variantim H#2/2.5/3 – 2019) that, when a theme from a different stipulation is brought to helpmates, in case some adaptation is needed, it must be applied to the theme, not to the basic characteristics of the helpmate stipulation. I explained my point of view to Jean (and I thank Paz for making this connection), who asked me to be as flexible as possible. I agree that the thematic ideas are very interesting and that they ask for a more comprehensive interpretation and judgment. I decided to award as many entries as possible as a tribute to Jean.

This flexible and broad interpretation led to the loose acceptance of (i) idle white piece (previous pinner) in the Gt solution or (ii) thematic pin not affecting the Gm solution, but as long as the (previous) pinner (or its location) is required by the other solution. However entries showing both thematic motifs, no matter which (Gt, AGt, IGt, Gm) just by chance, affecting the solutions in no way, were excluded.

The exigency of two out of four motifs made the entries very heterogeneous and this increased subjectivity in judging. And more: as a natural consequence of presenting different motifs in a single helpmate, the solutions are not expected to be as harmonic as one might desire.

I call readers' and authors' attention to the fact that the considerations stated above are the core of the award and consequently are of key importance for understanding the individual analysis of the entries.

On August 25th, 2022, I received 22 anonymous diagrams from the director of the tourney, Omer Friedland, to whom I send my thanks. My first analysis led to the conclusion that at least six problems presented drawbacks that could easily (or not so easily) be corrected by their authors. On September 11th, 2022, I asked Omer to inform these authors that they would have seven days to send versions (not new helpmates) with improvements, if they wanted so. On October 21st, 2022, I received the mentioned improvements and my judgment actually started.

Some comments about the entries that did not make into the award are:

No 2, Bhushan & Manikumar (Kh2/kc3): wR is completely useless.

No 4, Navon & Witztum (Kh3/kb4): wQ may be replaced by wB and the solutions remain the same: this means that wQ and consequently the pinning of bBf4 are irrelevant to both solutions. wBf8 may

justify wQ, but this does not change the fact that the thematic motifs (Gt and Gm) are shown just by accident.

No 8, Gavryliv (Kh2/kg4): Mating wBd1 in (a) is useless in (b), and this is not the case (here accepted) of idle white piece in Gt-solution. **No 9, Gavryliv** (Kc2/kf3): The initial square of wQ (b3) is required by neither Gt- nor the Gm-solution, which means that these motifs are accidentally shown and do not affect the solutions, which still occur after wK→a7, wQ→a2, bQ→b2, -bRa3 and +bPd3. **No 10, Gavryliv** (Kh7/kd2): If wK stands elsewhere, then wQ is completely useless. **No 11** (Kd8/kh5): Although Gm-motif is correctly presented in (b) [the pin by promoted wQ avoids hideaway by bRf7], Gt-motif in (a) occurs just by chance as the pin of bRf7 is not effective (wB can be replaced by [wSe8 + bBh8]).

No 14, Pitton (Kh2/kd4): The intended Gm-solution is not thematic: bRg4 is indirectly unpinned by B2 and this should occur directly by wQ mating move (the main characteristic of the Gm-theme).

No 15, Kratschmer (Ka3/kf4): wR is completely useless.

No 21, Stolev (Kh7/kd5): This entry is not thematic: besides presenting the same motif in both solutions, Gm-idea is unsuccessfully shown because of indirect unpin at B1.

First, an original problem by Jean Haymann dedicated to the judge, composers and organizers of the jubilee tourney. Solutions are:

1. ♖e5 ♜e2 2. ♖c5 d5# Goethard 1. ♖d6 ♞f7 2. ♖xd4 ♜e7# Gamage

My ranking is as follows:

1st-2nd Prize ex aequo: Emanuel Navon & Menachem Witztum

Gm and Gt solutions are presented in two different lines that form the initial matrix. It is extremely pleasant (i) that the pin wQ-bR-bK (after W1) is relevant to Gm-solution (bR might hideaway instead of being obstructed if it were not pinned: 1.Ta4 Sc7 2.Sf4 Dd8?!?), (ii) that interference with bRf6 in Gt-solution is not accidental (even if this is not a thematic interference), (iii) that Gm-interference is made by a Pelle move and (iv) that the initial matrix is modified along the solutions due to interplay between its forming units (including the fact that, in Gt-solution, wS is responsible for indirectly pinning and unpinning thematic bQ). Idle wR in Gt-solution is accepted since it is required by Gm-motif, as stated in the preliminary considerations above.

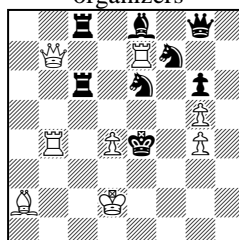
1. ♖c7 ♖b4 2. ♜f5 ♜d8# Gamage 1. ♖d4 ♖e3 2. ♞f6 ♖f5 # Goethard

1st-2nd Prize ex aequo: Emanuel Navon

This entry shows three thematic motifs (Gt, AGt and IGt), the single entry to do so, all of them in the same thematic line. Interfering with bRf7 is a must and each different piece in charge of it will lead to a different motif. If a white piece moves to f6, then bRc6 is unpinned, leading to Gt- or IGt-solutions (wS or wB, respectively). If bBc4 closes the line after a step back by bRf7, bRc6 remains pinned and AGt-motif appears (in this case wBd4 and wS have to do their job from squares other than f6). Three different battery mates are the icing on the cake. wRa6 remains idle in the solutions in which bR is unpinned and this is accepted because wR and its location are necessary for the AGt-motif, as stated in the preliminary considerations above. A very positive aspect is the false impression that it was easy to reach this position (was it, Mr. Author?).

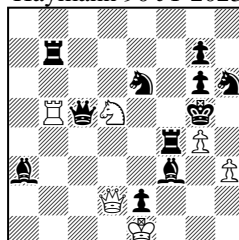
1. ♖c3 ♜b5 2. ♖a2 ♖f6 (♖~?) # Goethard
1. ♖f8 (♖cf5?) ♖xe3 (♖f6?) 2. ♖f7 ♖g3 (♖f6?) # anti Goethard
1. ♖e2 ♖f6 2. ♖h5 ♖c5 (♖c3?) # Inversed Goethard

Jean Haymann
Dedicated to the
judge, composers and
organizers



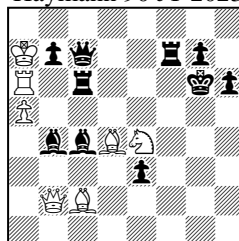
H#2 2.1.1.1 8+8

Emanuel Navon
Menachem Witztum
1st – 2nd Prize e.a.
Haymann 90 JT 2023



H#2 2.1.1.1 6+11

Emanuel Navon
1st – 2nd Prize e.a.
Haymann 90 JT 2023



H#2 3.1.1.1 7+10

3rd Prize: Fadil Abdurahmanovic & Marko Klasinc

Gm and AGt solutions are presented in the same line. Clever construction and excellent use of black and white units. Attention to bBd7, which is responsible for both opening and closing bR's lines. wQ is not necessary at d8 for Gm-solution but this is accepted since it is required by AGt-motif, as stated in the preliminary considerations above.

1. ♖e6! ♜c3+ 2. ♜d4 ♜h8# Gamage
 1. ♜xc6! ♜c3 2. ♖e4!! ♜a3 (♜d4?)# Anti-Goethart

4th Prize: Shaul Shamir

Gm and Gt solutions are presented in the same line. The initial pin wQ-bR-bK is relevant to Gm-solution (bR might hideaway instead of being obstructed if it were not pinned) and this justifies the idle wQ in Gt-solution. Very good use of the pieces involved in the thematic motifs. The use of a B1 piece pinned during the solution in Gm-interference is a bonus. 1. ♜b5 ♜d3 2. ♜b7 ♜d5# Goethart 1. ♜f5 ♜b5+ 2. ♜d5 ♜g8# Gamage

1st Honorable Mention: Fadil Abdurahmanovic & Marko Klasinc

Gm and AGt solutions are again presented in the same line. An entry in which Gm-pin affects the solution, avoiding moves of bB to block b4 instead of bSe7, with reasonable use of thematic pieces.

1. ♜d5! ♜f4! (♜d3~?) 2. ♜b4 ♜h8# Gamage
 1. ♜d1!! ♜c1 (♜c5?) 2. ♜b2 ♜db3! (♜f3?)# Anti-Goethard

2nd Honorable Mention: Emanuel Navon & Menachem Witztum

Gm and Gt solutions are presented in the same line as in No 1 above (4th Prize). Unlike it, the initial pin wQ-bR-bK is relevant to Gt-solution (as it avoids hideaway by bR). Good white battery play: it fires twice (although mates just once).

1. ♖xd3 ♜c2 2. d5(♖~ e4,e3,e2+?) S6d4# Goethard 1. ♖e4 ♜xe7 2. ♜d4 ♜g1# Gamage

3rd Honorable Mention: Fadil Abdurahmanovic & Marko Klasinc

Gm and AGt motifs are presented with changes in the initial matrix. wQ at f1 is required by AGt-solution and its position (f1) is therefore justified for Gm-motif. Black half-pinned pieces and bB work in a cooperative and pleasant way.

- a) 1. ♖e5! ♖b3! 2. ♜xe2! ♜f7# Gamage
 b) 1. ♜b3 ♖f5!! 2. ♖c3 e3! (e4?)# Anti-Goethard

4th Honorable Mention: Emanuel Navon & Menachem Witztum

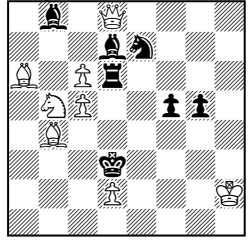
Gm and AGt solutions shown in different lines, as No 19 (3rd HM) and unlike Nos 20 and 18 (3rd Prize and 1st HM, respectively). In Gm solution, thematic interference is made by a Pelle move.

1. ♖e3 ♜xb2 2. ♖d6 ♖xe6 (♖d5?)# Anti Goethard 1. ♜d5 fxg4 2. ♜xd3 ♜f8# Gamage

**F. Abdurahmanovic
 Marko Klasinc**

3rd Prize

Haymann 90 JT 2023

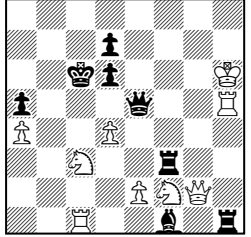


H#2 2.1.1.1 8+7

Shaul Shamir

4th Prize

Haymann 90 JT 2023

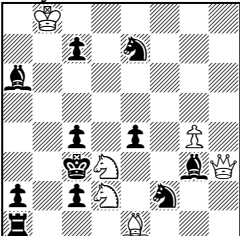


H#2 2.1.1.1 9+8

**F. Abdurahmanovic
 Marko Klasinc**

1st HM

Haymann 90 JT 2023

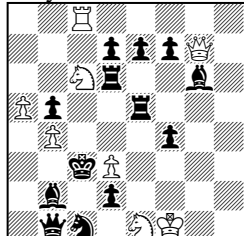


H#2 2.1.1.1 6+11

**Menachem Witztum
 Emanuel Navon**

2nd HM

Haymann 90 JT 2023

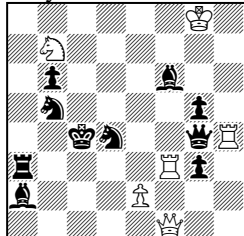


H#2 2.1.1.1 8+13

**F. Abdurahmanovic
 Marko Klasinc**

3rd HM

Haymann 90 JT 2023

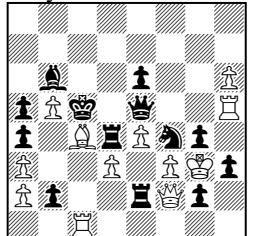


H#2 b) ♜b7→c6 6+10

**Emanuel Navon
 Menachem Witztum**

4th HM

Haymann 90 JT 2023



H#2 2.1.1.1 12+13

1st commendation: Menachem Witztum

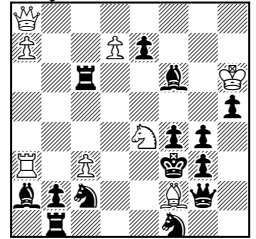
Gm and Gt solutions are presented using zero-position, which already justifies a strong downgrade. Besides, the thematic interference in (b), Gm-solution, is first motivated by check avoidance and this is not desirable. Anyway it is nice to see the correct presentation of Gm-motif (in (b), why not 1.Rc7?) and the overall complexity of the setting, including the self-pin of the thematic bR in Gt-motif.

- a) 1.♖xc3 ♘b6 2.♖b3 ♖c3(♖xc3?)# Goethard
- b) 1.e6 ♖xc3 2.♘c3 ♜f8# Gamage

Menachem Witztum

1st Com

Haymann 90 JT 2023



H#2 zero-pos. 8+14

- a) ♜g2→h1 b) -♙f4

2nd commendation: Valery Gurov

The initial pin wR-bB-bK is irrelevant to Gm-solution but it is important to Gt-motif as bB is interfered with by promoted bS and wR avoids hideaway of this very bB (1.g1=B 2.Bf5). The two motifs are shown in different lines.

1.g1=♖! ♜xc1 2.♖f3! e4# (3.♘e2??) Goethard. 1.♖xe2! a4 2.♘e3! ♜f7# (3.♖e6??) Gamage

3rd commendation: Valery Gurov. Correct presentation of wRh4 since it avoids moves of bQ to block c3 in Gt-solution and is of course relevant to AGt-motif, both motifs in the same line.

1.♘a5 ♘g2! 2.♘c3 f4# (3.♜xcg1??) Goethard 1.♘c7 ♜b2 2.♘e5 f3#! (f4?? 3.♜xcg1!) anti Goethard

4th commendation: Menachem Witztum

Again Gm and Gt solutions but here they are presented in different lines as Nos 3 and 16 (1st-2nd Prize and 2nd Com, respectively). A very interesting justification for correct presentation of Gm-motif in helpmates is shown here: a black piece is pinned after B1/W1 and Gm-motif is subsequently presented. wR is unpleasant since it is used in a passive pin in (a) and it is useless in (b).

- a) 1.♖f2 ♖e2 2.♖d6 ♜c1# Gamage b) 1.♖f4 ♘e4 2.♘f3 ♖f5# Goethard

5th commendation: Michel Caillaud

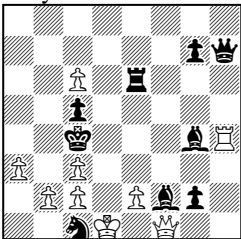
Besides opening wBc1's line, B1 also opens bRg2's line and this is decisive to AGt-motif (hideaway promotion) and to Gt-solution (promotion to a piece that is going to interfere again with bR). Good use of the thematic pieces, except for wBh1, which is a serious drawback as it has a passive role in one solution (AGt) and is useless in the other (Gt).

1.d1=♖ ♘e3 2.♖f2 ♖e4# Goethart 1.d1=♖ ♘f4 2.♜h2(♜xh1?) ♖a4(♖3d5?)# Anti Goethart

Valery Gurov

2nd Com

Haymann 90 JT 2023

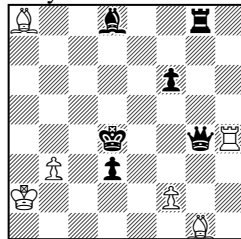


H#2 2.1.1.1 9+9

Valery Gurov

3rd Com

Haymann 90 JT 2023

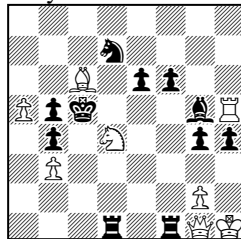


H#2 2.1.1.1 6+6

Menachem Witztum

4th Com

Haymann 90 JT 2023

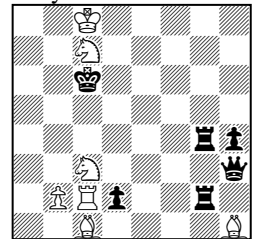


H#2 b) ♘d1 8+11

Michel Caillaud

5th Com

Haymann 90 JT 2023



H#2 2.1.1.1 7+6

Menachem Witztum 70 Challenge Tourney

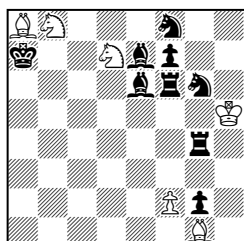
Judge: Menachem Witztum

I would like first to thank my wife Nilly who, even though I hesitated, encouraged me to hold this tourney as a continuation to the Witztum 50 JT. I deliberated a lot in choosing the theme and I finally decided on a challenging one, which seemed original but rather difficult. I was happy to find that the difficulty brought many composers to tackle the theme and to successfully meet the challenge, giving rise to a tourney of a very high level.

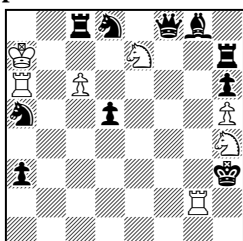
Special thanks to the tourney director, Emanuel Navon, who did far and above my expectations. I also thank Paz Einat for translating the award to English, and Viktoras Paliulionis for programming the theme into his Helpmate Analyzer web site. List of participants in page 19.

I received 72 anonymous problems from 37 composers (28 countries). There were 9 non-thematic problems that were returned to the composers. The theme asked for anticipatory self-interference by B1 and a further interference by W1 of the black piece moving on B1 or B2.

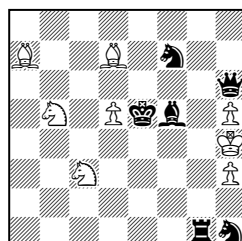
Theme examples: Menachem Witztum, original



H#2 2.1.1.1 6+9
 1.♖ff4 ♘e4 2.♙g5 f3#
 1.♗d5 ♗c6 2.♗d6 f4#



H#2 b)w♗a6 7+10
 a) 1.♗ab7 ♗f5 2.♙f7 ♖xa3#
 b) 1.♗f7 ♗g6 2.♙g7 ♗xc8#



H#2 2.1.1.1 8+6
 1.♗e4 ♗g4 2.♙f4 ♗d4#
 1.♗g5 ♗e6 2.♙f6 ♗b8#

1-2nd Prize: János Csák

The bQ & bR interfere with the mate. The only places to avoid this are the battery lines of the wB & wR on B1, with the bQ or bR moving next to the bK and being pinned when the batteries open on W1. On B2 a B1 piece hides behind the pinned piece and a Holzhausen interference is created. In both phases the bQ unpins g4, enabling once the pin and once the mate, with exchange of function between the two batteries. An exciting execution of the theme.

a) 1.♙c4 g5 2.♖c5 d3# b) 1.♖c3 d3 2.♙c2 g5#

1-2nd Prize: Vitaly Medintsev & Ivan Antipin

The bQ must open wBb8 line to get e5 guarded. The bR & bB move to prevent checks by the bQ and open the mating lines. The wR moves to block the lines of the bB/bR, respectively, and the wQ mates on the opened lines. A beautiful problem with full harmony.

1.♗b6 ♗d4 2.♙b7! (♙~?) ♙f1 # 1.♖c6 ♖c4 2.♙d7! (♙~?) ♙b1#

3rd Prize: Ralf Krätschmer & Franz Pachl

The bB/bR make anticipatory interferences to prevent bQ checks after it moves to open the wRh6 line. The moves by both bQ & bB/bR guard the mating line (AZE) and this is corrected by W1 and W2. In the 1st solution the move c3 is a further thematic interference.

1.♗f6 ♗e4 2.♙xg6 c2-c3# 1.♖f5 ♗f3 2.♙xg4 c2-c4#

4th Prize: Valery Semenenko

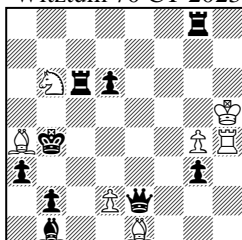
The best from the 3-phase problems & without twins. Three black pieces prevent checks by the bQ that blocks squares around the bK on B2 with mates by three different W pieces. wSc3, like the bQ, moves in all 3 solutions: twice interfering with the bQ lines and once mating. A pity that the interference in the 2nd solution is not clean. A commendable technical achievement.

1.♗d6 ♗d4 2.♙d5 ♗e2# 1.c6 ♗b4 2.♙b5 b3# 1.♗d5 ♗c3 2.♙d3 ♗a3#

János Csák

1-2nd Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023



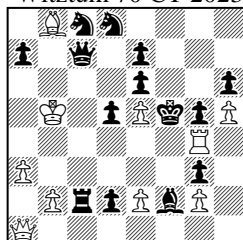
H#2 b)♗b6→b7 7+9

Vitaly Medintsev

Ivan Antipin

1-2nd Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023



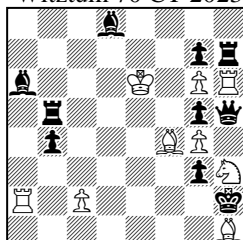
H#2 2.1.1.1 10+14

Ralf Krätschmer

Franz Pachl

3rd Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

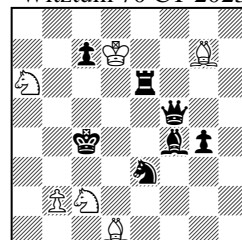


H#2 2.1.1.1 9+10

Valery Semenenko

4th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 3.1.1.1 6+7

5th Prize: Mario Parrinello

The bQ blocks a2/b2 with the mate guarding the non-blocked square. bBd5/bBb6, which move to prevent checks by the bQ, open the mating lines and wRd3, which opens the h7-c2 line, blocks the bB's while continuing to pin bSc3. The wQ 7 wB guard c2 and give the mate, respectively. A complex execution of the theme with full harmony and with dual avoidance.

1. ♖f2 ♖e3 (R4d4?) 2. ♗a2 ♖b7# 1. ♙g2 ♖f3 (♖e4?) 2. ♗b2 ♙xe6 #

6th Prize: Fadil Abdurahmanovic & Marko Klasinc

In the 1st solution the bR & bB interfere with the mate after 1.Bc8. The wS blocks the bB on d7 and the wQ gives a battery mate. In the 2nd solution the same battery performs the Gamage theme and the wS makes an anticipatory interference of the bQ. Although the harmony is not full the varied use of the battery and the rich content is highly entertaining.

1. ♙c8 ♘d7 (♘~?) 2. ♖g8 d6# 1. ♙d4 ♘b7 (♘~?) 2. ♗xd5 ♗f1#

7th Prize: Michel Caillaud

Only 4 pieces (Brochettes theme) execute the theme, in a Meredith and very elegantly. The bR must open the wB line so it can block its lines. The bR must chose its destination square to allow the bQ to hide behind it. However, this is not enough as the bQ still guards the mating line (AZE) requiring a battery interference mate with dual avoidance. A rare implementation of W interferences of the two thematic B pieces and without the need to use the wK check prevention mechanism. Still, the interference by the wB is not clean as it needs also to guard e1/g1 – a pity.

1. ♖b4 ♙d4 2. ♗a3 ♘d3 (♘g2?) # 1. ♖b3 ♙c3 2. ♗xa2 ♘fe2 (♘fh3?) #

8th Prize: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira

The bB's that guard the mating squares move away on B1 and make a hidden interference against a check after Sc6 opens the line to bRb6. bRb6 itself must open the line of wRa6, with W1 blocking it, so the 6th row is the center of the problem. A non-conventional execution of the theme.

a) 1. ♖f6 ♘e5 2. ♖e6 ♙f2# b) 1. ♙e6 ♘d4 2. ♖d6 ♘d3#

9th Prize: Anatoly Vasylenko

To enable the royal battery mates the bQ must find its hiding place after the anticipatory interferences by bSd2 & wRd1. The play dictates the exit square for the wK.

1. ♘f3 ♖d2 2. ♗g2 ♖d1# 1. ♘f1 ♖d4 2. ♗g1 ♖d3#

10th Prize: Mark Erenburg

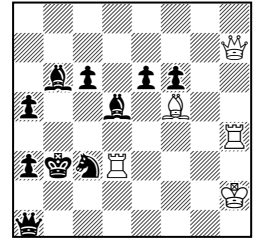
bRe7/bRd4 open a gate to the bQ providing a hideaway square by preventing a check. These are critical moves. wSg5 must choose the right square so it can both block and guard e6. A nice play of line opening and closing that involves dual avoidance.

a) 1. ♖f4 ♘e4 2. ♗e3 ♙xc4# b) 1. ♖g7 ♘f7 2. ♗f8 ♙b7#

Mario Parrinello

5th Prize

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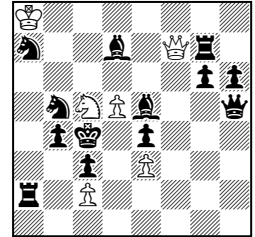


H#2 2.1.1.1 5+10

**F. Abdurahmanovic
Marko Klasinc**

6th Prize

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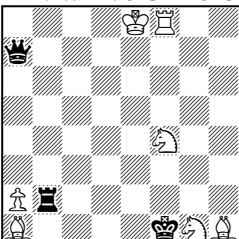


H#2 2.1.1.1 6+13

Michel Caillaud

7th Prize (v)

Witztum 70 CT 2023

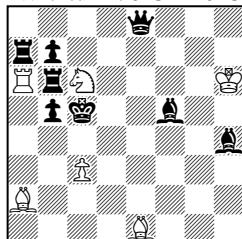


H#2 2.1.1.1 7+3

Ricardo Vieira

8th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

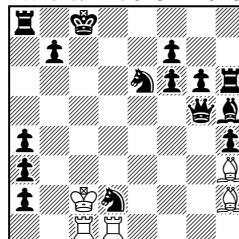


H#2 b)wSe1 6+8

Anatoly Vasylenko

9th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

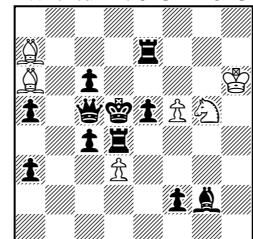


H#2 2.1.1.1 5+15

Mark Erenburg

10th Prize

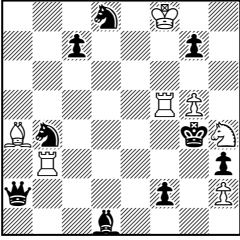
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H#2 b) - ♙c6 6+11

S. Shamir & P. Einat
Sp. Prize

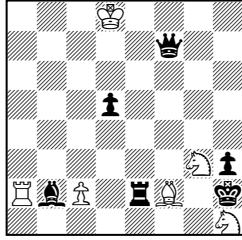
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H#2 b) ♖g4→h5 7+9

Anatoly Skripnik
Sp.HM

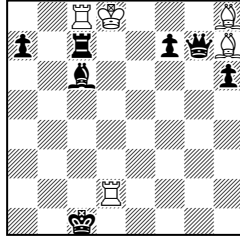
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H#2 6+6
b) Kd8→a4 & ♕f7→h7

Vitaly Medintsev
1st HM

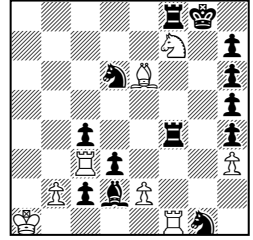
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+7

Dimitris Liakos
2nd HM

Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 b) ♗c2↔♞c3 8+13

Special Prize: Shaul Shamir & Paz Einat. The black queen cannot escape from guarding the mating lines in two moves. This requires black to arrange a hiding place. On B1 black makes an anticipatory interference of the black queen, but open a checking line. White closes the checking line on W1. The “special” prize is due to the repeated move by the wR.

a) 1.♗b7 ♗e8 2.♖a8 ♞xb4# b) 1.♗d3 ♞b4 2.♖a3 ♗xd1#

Special Honourable Mention: Anatoly Skripnik. The mating piece Ra2 hides behind 4 pieces standing on one line and evacuate it one after the other. The theme is done with perfect harmony between the two phases and involves role exchange between the black and white pieces. There is also a white interference in the spirit of the theme. Can this be done with only one change in the twin? a) 1.Re7 Be3 2.Bf6 c3# b) 1.Bd4 c3 2.Re4 Be3#

1st Honourable Mention: Vitaly Medintsev. The bQ that opens the wBh8 line must choose its landing square & B1 moves Be8/Re7 prevent the checks and also opens the mating line. wRd2 blocks once the blocking piece and once the blocked piece.

1.Be8 Rd7 2.Qg8 (Q~?) Rxc7# 1.Re7 Rd5 2.Qg5 (Q~?)Rxc6#

2nd Honourable Mention: Dimitris Liakos. wPe2 blocks twice the blocking B piece & each of the wRs is captured in the respective solution, Zilahi a) 1.Rd4 e4 2.Bxc3 Rxc1# b) 1.Bc1 e3 2.Rxf1 Rg2#

3rd Honourable Mention: Eugene Fomichev & Anatoly Skripnik. Check prevention in 3 phases with one bK interferences. a) 1.♗c4 ♗e4 2.♖d4 ♗g3# b) 1.♗c5 ♗d5 2.♖d6 ♗c3# c) 1.♖d6 ♗d7 2.♖e7 ♗b8#

4th Honourable Mention: Dimitris Liakos. bQ hideaway with role exchange of the wR & wB. The bS once prevents a check and once interferes with an additional bQ guard line.

1.Sd1 Rb3 2.Qb1 Bd4# 1.Sc4 Be5 2.Qc3 Rxh7#

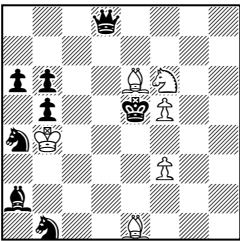
5th Honourable Mention: Viktor Syzonenko. The 2 bSs prevent checks by bQ/bB that block the same square – d3. wSc3 blocks twice on e2/e4. 1.Sc4 Se2 2.Qxd3 Sf1# 1.Sb5 Se4 2.Bxd3 Sf5#

6th Honourable Mention: Lkhundevin Togookhuu. bRb6 unpins the wR and enables the wK to move for the royal battery mate by blocking bB guard-lines. A black-white magnet with the wR blocking the bR and the bQ is also blocked on the way. A nice & original idea.

a) 1.Rc6 Rc7 2.Be4 Kb7# b) 1.Rd6 Rd7 2.Be5 Kc7#

E. Fomichev A. Skripnik
3rd HM

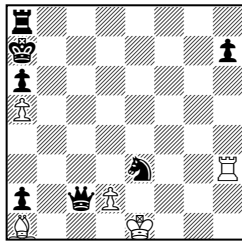
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H#2 b) ♗b1→f1 6+8
c) ♗e1→a7

Dimitris Liakos
4th HM

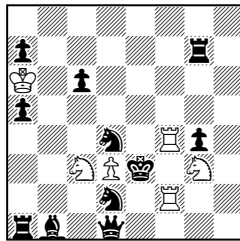
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+7

Viktor Syzonenko
5th HM

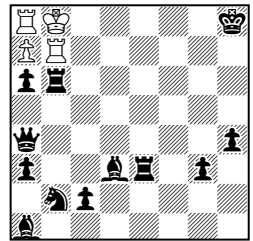
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H#2 2.1.1.1 6+11

L. Togookhuu
6th HM

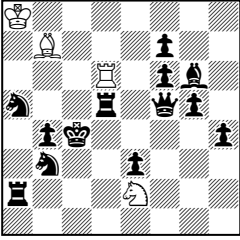
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H#2 b) ♗b2→a5 4+12

János Csák
7th HM

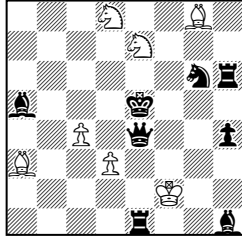
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H#2 b) ♖c4⇒♚f5 4+13

Jorge J. Lois
8th HM

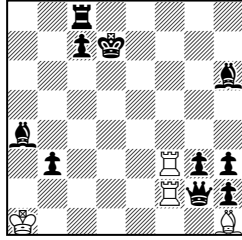
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H#2 b) ♖d8→e8 7+8
c) ♚e4⇒♜h6

Aleksandr Semenenko
9th HM

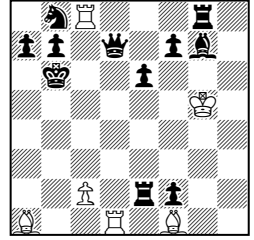
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H#2 b) ♙b3→c4 4+10

Viktor Syzonenko
10th HM

Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 2.1.1.1 6+11

7th HM: János Csák Anticipatory self-unpin with Holzhausen interference. Here, in contrast to most problems, it is the white piece that prevents the check.

a) 1. ♖c5 ♖c6 2. ♚d5 ♘a6# b) 1. ♖e5 ♖d5 2. ♚e4 ♘c8#

8th HM: Jorge J. Lois Three preventive self-interference (check prevention bBf3-bRe3-bSf4) to the bQ. A pity that the white interference in the 1st phase is not clean.

a) 1. ♘f3 ♘d5 2. ♚f5 ♘c6# b) 1. ♖e3 ♘d5 2. ♚d4 ♘d6# c) 1. ♘f4 ♘e6 2. ♚f6 ♘c6#

9th HM: Aleksandr Semenenko The bQ needs to open the line of wBh1 and the wR interference determines where it should go. Exchange of function between the wRs. The twin is not nice.

a) 1. ♘c1 ♖e2 2. ♚f1 ♖d3# b) 1. ♘d1 ♖e3 2. ♚g1 ♖d2#

10th HM: Viktor Syzonenko bRe2 needs to open the line of wBf1. Once it is blocked by bPf5 to prevent check and once it blocks the bQ on e3 for the same purpose. In the 2nd solution Bc3 is an interferer of both thematic B pieces. 1. f5 ♖d5 2. ♖e5 ♘d4# 1. ♖e3 ♘c3 2. ♚d2 ♖b1#

11th HM: Vitaly Medintsev & Anatoly Skripnik Activation of the W royal battery. The bR opens a gate to the wB so it can block it. The bR must move on the 3rd row to block the bQ line and the bB makes a hideaway move behind the bR. A nice Meredith.

1. ♖f3 ♘f4 2. ♘d1 ♚d5# 1. ♖d3 ♘d6 2. ♘c2 ♚e7#

12th HM: Nikola Stolev bR/bQ hideaway moves that create guard lines blocked by the wB. A pity the motivation of the Q & R is not the same.

a) 1. ♘b6 ♘e5 2. ♖xe6 ♖xf3# b) 1. ♘a5 ♘c5 2. ♚a3 ♖d8#

13th HM: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira Another problem with royal battery mates. Dual avoidance of the wK determined by the interfering bS. bRa6 is blocked once by the bQ and once by the bS.

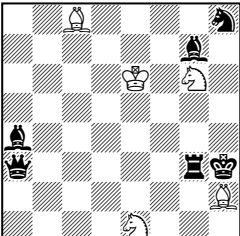
1. ♘c5 ♘e6 2. ♚c6 ♚c4# 1. ♘b6 ♘f7 2. ♚b7 ♚b3#

14th HM: Dimitris Liakos Check preventions by the bK – an interesting idea.

a) 1. ♚c4 b4-b5 2. ♚b4 ♘b6# b) b♘h2-->e5 1. ♚e6 ♘e7 2. ♚d7 ♘g8#

V. Medintsev A. Skripnik
11th HM

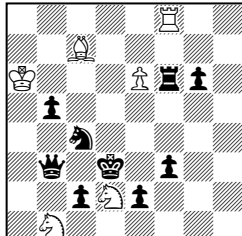
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+6

Nikola Stolev
12th HM

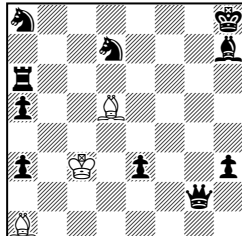
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H#2 b) ♙c7→e7 6+9

Ricardo Vieira
13th HM

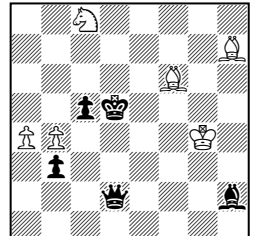
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H#2 2.1.1.1 3+10

Dimitris Liakos
14th HM

Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 b) ♙h2→e5 6+5

Dimitris Liakos
15th HM
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 2.1.1.1 3+7

Dimitris Liakos
16th HM
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 2.1.1.1 5+9

Vitaly Medintsev
Sp. Com
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 b) ♞g6→e6 7+7

Anatoly Vasylenko
1st Com
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 b) ♞a4→c8 4+7

15th HM: Dimitris Liakos

Exchange of interference function between the bR & bB in combination with wRe2 performing the additional interference.

1. ♞g5 ♜d5 2. ♞h6 ♜c2# 1. ♞c5 ♜d6 2. ♞c7 ♞g8#

16th HM: Dimitris Liakos

Check prevention interferences, once with the blk piece and once with the white. 1. ♞e6 ♞e5 2. ♞g8 ♞e4# 1. ♞f5 ♞f4 2. ♞xg4 ♞e8#

Special Commendation: Vitaly Medintsev. The bQ doesn't control the mating line initially, but the wB must open it to allow guard of b6. Very nice but with two white-square wBs.

a) 1. ♞h4 ♞g2 2. ♞h3 e3# b) 1. ♞g5 ♞d5 2. ♞f5 e4#

1st Commendation: Anatoly Vasylenko. Reciprocal Holzhausen interferences between the bQ & bR.

a) 1. ♞f4 ♜e4 2. ♞f5 ♞e2# b) 1. ♞f5 + ♞e6 2. ♞f4 ♞f6#

2nd Commendation: Hans Uitenbroek. Thematic interferences by the bK.

a) 1. ♞c5 ♞c6 2. ♞b5 ♞d7# b) 1. ♞e5 ♞fe6 2. ♞d5 ♞f7#

3rd Commendation: Jorma Paavilainen. Critical moves by the bBs and clean interferences by the wPs. The 1. ♞e2 f3 2. ♞d2 ♜xh1# 1. ♞c5 d6 2. ♞c4 ♜xb8#

4th Commendation: Valery Gurov. Two anticipatory interferences of the bQ.

1. ♞g5 ♞e5 2. ♞f5 ♞c6# 1. ♞g4 ♞e3 2. ♞f3 ♞c2#

5th Commendation: Anatoly Vasylenko. Two anticipatory interferences of the bQ.

a) 1. ♞f6 ♜e7 2. ♞f7 ♞xb7# b) 1. ♞e5 ♜d6 2. ♞xd5 ♞xd8#

6th Commendation: Lkhundevin Togookhuu. White interference following battery checks.

1. ♞e4 + ♞c3 2. ♞e3 ♞e6# 1.e5 + ♞b4 2. ♞c5 ♞f5#

Hans Uitenbroek
2nd Com

Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 b) ♞a2→b1 5+2

Jorma Paavilainen
3rd Com
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 2.1.1.1 6+12

Valery Gurov
4th Com
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 2.1.1.1 5+4

Anatoly Vasylenko
5th Com
Witztum 70 CT 2023

H#2 b) ♞e4→g6 4+8

L. Togookhuu
6th Com
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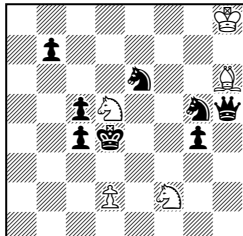
H#2 2.1.1.1 6+6

F. Abdurahmanovic

Marko Klasinc

7th Com

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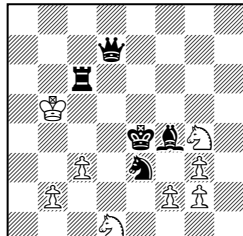


H#2 2.1.1.1 5+8

Ricardo Vieira

8th Com

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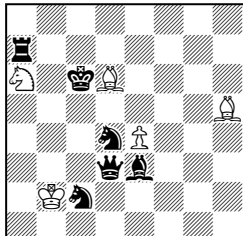


H#2 b) d4-g4-c7 8+5

Gábor Tar

Com

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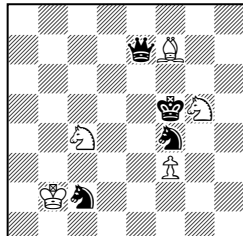


H#2 b) h4-e4-e6 5+6

Pietro Pitton

Com

Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 b) f4-g4 5+4

7th Commendation: Fadil Abdurahmanovic & Marko Klasinc. Two anticipatory interferences of the bQ. 1. d4! (d4~?) d6 (d~?) 2. e5 d3# 1. d8 (d~?) d7 (d~?) 2. e8 d7 #

8th Commendation: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira. Two anticipatory interferences of the bQ. a) 1. d4 d3 2. d3 f3# b) 1. e5 f4 2. f5 d2#

Commendations without order

Gábor Tar

a) 1. d4 d7 2. b7 d8# b) 1. d3 d5 2. b5 d3#

Pietro Pitton

a) 1. d4 d4 2. e5 d3# b) 1. e5 d6 2. f6 d6#

Pietro Pitton

a) 1. d5 d4 2. e5 d3# b) 1. f5 d4 2. g5 d3#

Nikola Stolev

a) 1. h4 f5 2. h5 d5# b) 1. g3 d3 2. d3 b3#

Nikola Stolev

a) 1. d6 d5 2. d6 d4# b) 1. f6 g5 2. g6 h4#

Ricardo de Mattos Vieira

a) 1. e3 d4 2. e5 d3# b) 1. e2 d6 2. e6 d6#

Dimitris Liakos

1. f4 d2 2. d2 b2# 1. b6 d6 2. a5 d8#

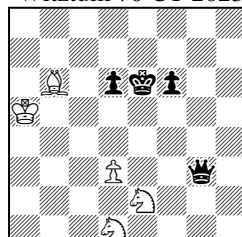
Maryan Kerhuel & Michel Caillaud

a) 1. e2 f3 2. f2 f7# b) 1. d5 d3 2. d4 d6#

Pietro Pitton

Com

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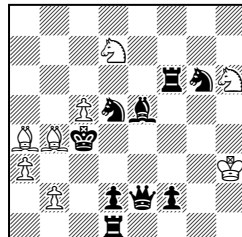


H#2 b) b6-d6 5+4

Nikola Stolev

Com

Witztum 70 CT 2023



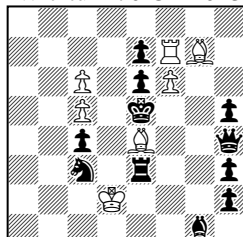
H#2 b) h6-b1 8+9

Maryan Kerhuel

Michel Caillaud

Com

Witztum 70 CT 2023

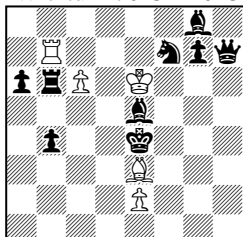


H#2 b) g7-e7 7+11

Nikola Stolev

Com

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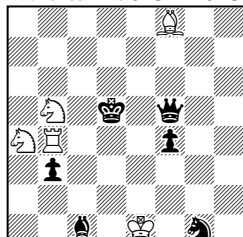


H#2 b) b7-h6 5+9

Ricardo Vieira

Com

Witztum 70 CT 2023

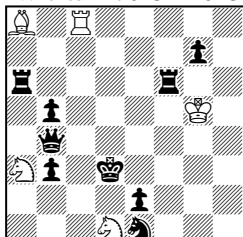


H#2 b) b4-c4 5+6

Dimitris Liakos

Com

Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 2.1.1.1 5+9

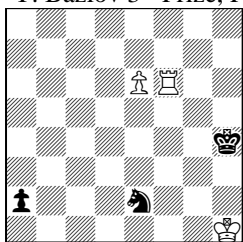
Miniatures – Gady Costeff

Per Wikipedia, the term *miniature*, a composition with seven pieces or less, was coined in 1902 by the German writer, critic, playwright, chess player and chess composer Oscar Blumenthal (1852-1917). The appeal of miniatures is their presumed clarity, and hence their potential to attract a wider audience, evidenced by Yochanan Afek's new *Anthology of miniature endgame studies (Chess Informant)*.

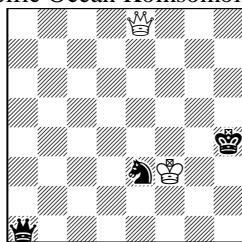
Afek selected 2000 studies, divided into 32 thematic chapters, and occupying 500 pages. Each chapter begins with an explanation of the theme, followed by nine studies per page. The solutions follow at the end of each chapter. Pictures of some of the composers add a welcome human touch.

The studies below are mostly from the book. The styles and content differ widely, including classic minimalism, theoretical positions, sacrificial studies, systematic movement, deep logical foresight, and one-move studies. The richness underscores that varying composing styles and thematic interests express themselves even in the supposedly limited for of miniatures.

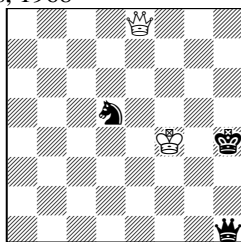
Y. Bazlov 3rd Prize, Pacific Ocean Komsomolets, 1968



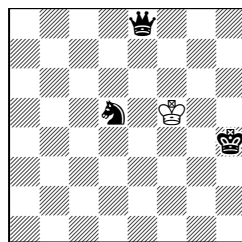
Draw 3+3
1. ♖f1! ♜g3+ 2. ♖g2
♜xf1 3. e7 ♜e3+!
4. ♖f3! a1=♖



5. e8=♖ ♖h1+
6. ♖f4! ♜d5+



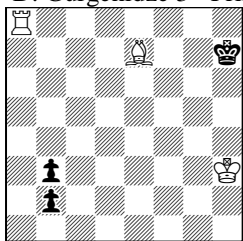
7. ♖e5! ♖e1+ 8. ♖f5
♖xe8



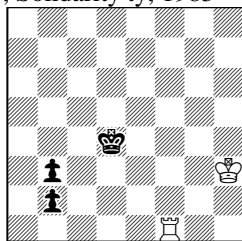
Ideal mirror
 stalemate.

Bazlov seeks simplicity and harmony, which he achieves limiting alternatives through economy, quiet moves, and minimal bloodshed. He rejects ideas that can't be realized within the above constraints.

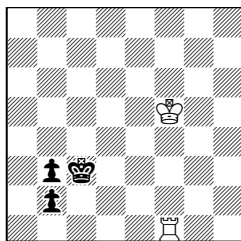
D. Gurgenzidze 3rd Prize, Solidarity ty, 1983



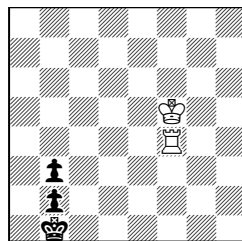
Draw 3+3
1. ♖h8+ ♖g7
2. ♜f6+ ♖xf6
3. Rf8+ ♖e5 4. ♖f1
♖d4!



5. ♖g4!! ♖c3
6. ♖f5!!

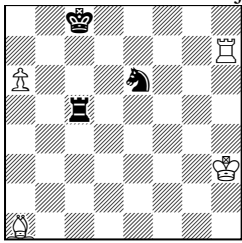


6.. ♖c2 5.. ♖b4 6. ♖e4
♖a3 7. ♖d3 ♖a2
8. ♖c3 = 7. ♖f2+
♖b1 8. ♖f4!!



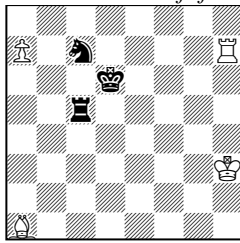
8. ♖f4 explain 6. ♖f5!!
8.. ♖c2 8.. ♖a2
9. ♖a4+ 9. ♖f2+ draw

In the above study the white king's route is determined by the need to keep f4 free for the rook. Gurgenzidze has composed many artistic studies exploring important theoretical positions.

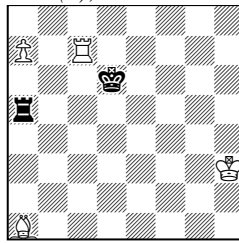


Win 4+3

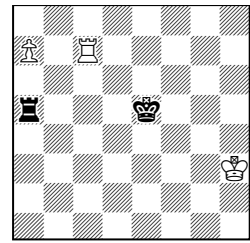
1.♖h8+ ♕d7 2.a7
♞c7 3.♖h7+ ♕d6



4.♖xc7 ♖a5!



5.♕e5+! ♖xe5

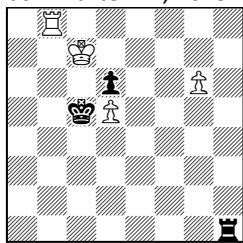


6.♖c5+! ♖xc5

7.a8=♖

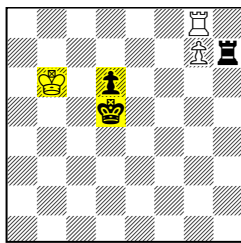
Three sacrifices and capture avoidance are a challenge to fit in a miniature. Thirty-eight percent of Yochanan's studies are miniatures, a high ratio among contemporary composers, so the new anthology is clearly a labor of love. Harold, on the other hand, rarely composes these days, but without the van der Heijden database, no book about studies is conceivable.

A. Rusz *Iriarte MT*, 2019

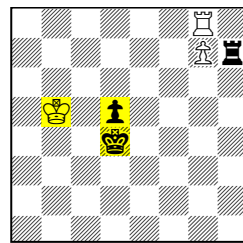


Win 4+3

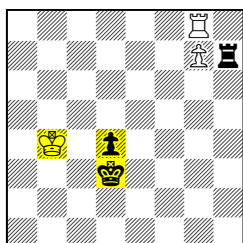
1.g7 ♖h7 2.♖g8
♕xd5 3.♖b6!



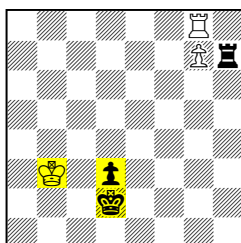
3..♕d4 4.♖c6! d5 5.♖b5!



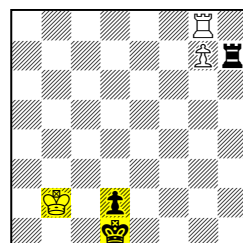
5..♕d3 6.♖c5 d4 7.♖b4!



7..♕d2 8.♖c4! d3. 9.♖b3

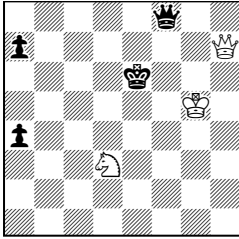


9..♕d1 10.♖c3! d2 11.♖b2



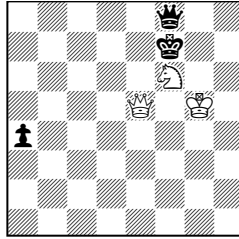
Mutual zugzwang
11..♖h6 12.♖b8

Systematic movement with five-fold chameleon echo. To highlight the theme, one can start at move three. This amazing position is one of many discovered by Rusz, using his software *Syszgy Endgame Explorer* (SEE), which searches seven-piece databases for positions that meet user criteria such as zugzwang or underpromotion. Over the years, the computer helped discover many beautiful positions and studies.

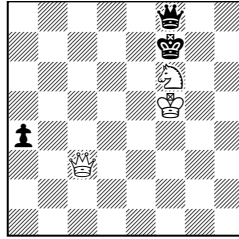


Win 3+4

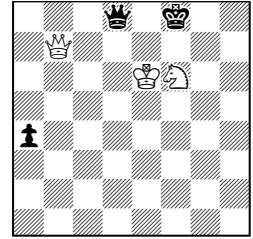
1. ♖f4+! ♜d6
2. ♜d3+ ♜c6
3. ♜a6+ ♜d7
4. ♜xa7+! 4. ♜b7+?
- ♜e8 5. ♜a8+!
5. ♜xa4+? ♜f7
6. ♜d5+ ♜e8
7. ♜c6+ ♜f7
8. ♜e6+ ♜g7
9. ♖h5+ ♜h8
10. ♜e5+ ♜g8
11. ♖f6+ ♜f7



12. ♜d5+ ♜g7
13. ♖h5+ ♜h8
14. ♜d4+ ♜g8
15. ♖f6+ ♜f7
16. ♜c4+ ♜g7
17. ♖h5+ ♜h8
18. ♜c3+ ♜g8
19. ♖f6+ ♜f7
20. ♜f5! possible now that ♜c3 controls c8.



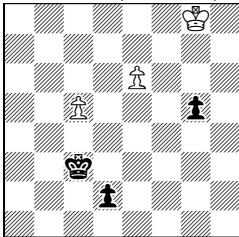
- ♜d8 Now white loses a tempo
21. ♜c4+! ♜g7
 22. ♜g4+ ♜f7
 23. ♜h5+ ♜f8
 24. ♜h6+ ♜e7
 25. ♜e3+ ♜f7
 26. ♜c3! same position with black to move ♜e7
 27. ♜b4+ ♜f7
 28. ♜b7+ ♜f8
 29. ♜e6!



4. ♜b7+? (4. ♜xa7!) is refuted now by
- 29.. ♜b6+
5. ♜xa4+? (5. ♜a8+!) is refuted now by
- 29.. ♜d6+ with stalemate.

Logical choices on move 4 and 5, with foresight of at least 24 moves. To achieve this Becker is willing to accept many possible alternatives, potentially reducing clarity. I required 30 minutes to understand and appreciate this creation, which is probably why the study is not in the anthology. Not a popular sort of study, but popularity is not the only reason to compose studies.

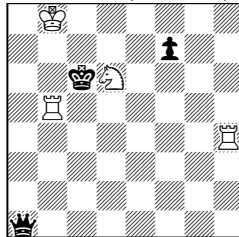
A. Zhukov (internet)



Win 3+3

1. c6!! d1 ♜ 2. c7!
- The backward pawn promotes first.

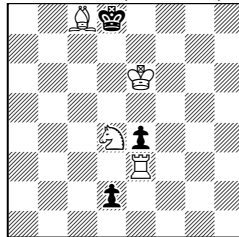
A. Zhukov (internet)



Win 4+3

1. ♖f5!! ♜xb5
2. ♖d4+ wins the queen.

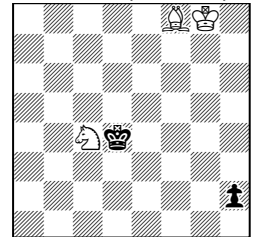
A. Zhukov (internet)



Win 4+3

1. ♜d3!! exd3 2. ♖d7
 - d1 ♜ 3. ♜d6
- white mates.

A. Zhukov (internet)



Draw 3+2

1. ♖b2!! h1 ♜
2. ♖g7+ ♜d5/♜e4
3. ♖d3/♖c4 and
4. ♖e5! draw – Karstadt fortress

Many Zhukov studies are in the book, but not the above four. Across a pawn endgame, queen domination, mating attack, and fortress, the solution rarely exceeds three moves. This structure, which excludes a traditional introduction, almost guarantees surprise, clarity, and enjoyment, if not always depth. Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dU0oFwuM3Mk>

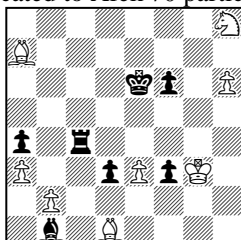
There are nearly 22,000 sound miniatures, so the 2000 in the anthology are the cream of the crop. The book was designed for solving by chess players who wish to improve. I have no such ambition, but every few hours I try to solve a study. When successful, it usually means that I recalled the solution. When I fail, I get to learn something new.

Yochanan Afek 70 Jubilee Tourney (IRT Studies 2022)

Tourney director: Gady Costeff; Judge: Árpád Rusz

Yochanan Afek

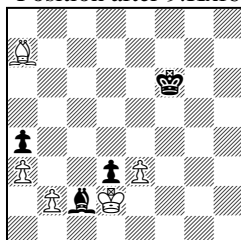
Dedicated to Afek 70 participants



Win 8+7

1.h7 ♖g4+! 2.♜xf3 ♜h4 3.♔g6! ♜xh7
4.♜f8+ ♜f7 5.♜xh7 ♜c2! 6.♜f2! ♜xd1
7.♜e1! ♜c2 8.♜d2! ♜g7 9.♜xf6! ♜xf6

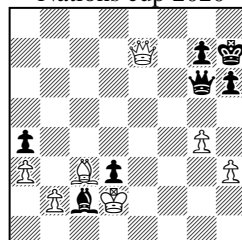
Position after 9.Kxf6



10.b4!! axb3 11.♜d4+ ♜e6
12.♜b2! ♜d5 13.a4 ♜c4
14.e4 ♜b4 15.e5 wins.

Aronian-Vidit

Nations cup 2020



47.b4!! axb3 48.♜b2! and
white won by advancing his a-
pawn

48 studies were published in Variantim during the year 2022. Exactly one-third of them (16) got into my award. While this was pure coincidence, I like this percentage.

This preliminary award will become final following the confirmation period on the 15th of August, 2023. Please send claims to costeff@gmail.com

1st Prize: Var.3981 Sergiy Didukh

A paradoxical study around a harmful black pawn. White manages to keep that pawn on the board by blocking its promotion square by a surprising sacrifice (2.Rf1!!). Its harmful effect will be visible only on move 15.

1.♜b2! 1.♜c1? f1=♖+ 2.♜xf1 ♜xf1 3.♜xf1 ♜e2 (or 3...♜d1) 4.♜f3 c1=♖
5.♜xe2+ not a mate 5...♜c3! +- 1...♜d3! Black has to win a tempo first in order to lose it. 1...f1=♖+ 2.♜xf1 ♜xf1 3.♜xf1 zz 3...♜d1 4.♜b4 c1=♖
5.♜xc4 ♜d2+ 6.♜g2 = 2.♜f1!! The rook doesn't wait for the invitation! Logical try 2.♜c1? f1=♖+ 3.♜xf1 ♜xf1 4.♜xf1 ♜d2! Switching back to d2 the king loses two tempi: one minus two - and White is in zz. 5.♜g2 ♜d1
6.♜b4 ♜d5! 7.♜a4 ♜b6! +- 2...♜xf1 3.♜xf1 ♜d2 sticking to the plan, but it's not a zugzwang anymore! 4.♜g2 ♜d1 4...♜e2 5.♜xf2 c3 6.♜a2 ♜c1
7.♜e6! ♜d3+ 8.♜f3 ♜e1+ (8...c1=♖ 9.♜e2#) 9.♜f2 ♜d3+ 10.♜f3
positional draw. 5.♜b4 ♜d5! 6.♜a4 ♜b6! 7.♜e8! c1=♖ 8.♜h5+ ♜e1
9.♜b5+ ♜d2 10.♜g5+ ♜c2 11.♜g6+ ♜c3 12.♜f6+ ♜b3 12...♜d3
13.♜g6+ 13.♜xb6+ ♜a2 14.♜a6+ ♜b1 15.♜b5+ ♜b2 not a counter-check because of Pf2 16.♜xc4 =

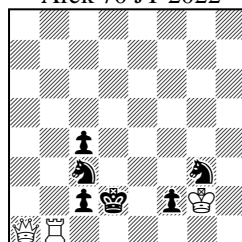
2nd Prize: Var.3893 Vladislav Tarasiuk

Original synthesis of two positions with asymmetry: in the solution (for White 8.h4! - 8.b4?) and try (for Black 8...Ng7! - 8...Nc7?). The capture avoidances of the black pawns by the white king (2.Kb5!, 7.Ke5!!) add an extra spice to this study.

1.e6 1.fxe7? ♜c6 +- 1...c5+! 1...♜d5 2.fxe7 ♜c6 3.exf7 +- 1...fxe6 2.f7 +-
2.♜b5! 2.♜xc5? ♜e4+ 3.♜d4 ♜xf6 +- 2...♜d5 3.fxe7 ♜e4 4.e8=♖
♜d6+ 5.♜xc5 ♜xe8 6.♜xd5 fxe6+ 7.♜e5!! Try: 7.♜xe6? ♜e2! 8.♜e7
♜g7! (Black thematic try: 8...♜c7? 9.h4! ♜d3 10.h5 ♜d5+ 11.♜f7! ♜f4
12.h6 +-) 9.b4 ♜f3 10.b5 ♜f5+ 11.♜d7 ♜d4 12.b6 ♜b3 13.♜d6 ♜a5 =
7...♜e2! 8.h4! White thematic try: 8.b4? ♜f3! 9.b5 ♜c7 10.b6 ♜a6 =
8...♜f3 9.h5 9.b4? ♜g4 = 9...♜g7 10.h6 win.

Sergiy Didukh

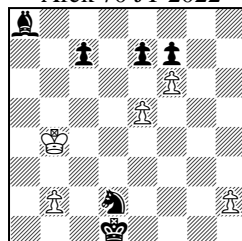
1st Prize
Afek 70 JT 2022



Draw 3+6

Vladislav Tarasiuk

2nd Prize
Afek 70 JT 2022



Win 5+6

3rd Prize: Var.3891 Amatzia Avni & Martin Minski. A study featuring an original positional draw with a pinned piece and an eternal sacrifice of the rook on e8 and g8. This classical content is seriously improved by a little touch of logic (4.d4?, 4.Bd6!!). **1.f7** 1.♞e4+? ♞g5+ + **1...♞d4+!** 1...♞h6+ / ♞c5+ 2.♞e2 = **2.♞xd4 ♞d7** + 2...♞f6+ 3.♞e3! (3.♞e4? ♞xf7 4.♞d8+ ♞g4 -+) 3...♞xf7 4.♞d8+ see main line **3.♞e3!** switchback **3...♞a7+!** **4.♞b6!!** logical try: 4.d4? ♞xf7 5.♞d8+ ♞f6 6.♞f4 ♞g6 7.♞g8 position X with wP on d4 7...♞e4#! **4...♞xf7** 4...♞xb6+ 5.♞e2 ♞b2+ 6.♞e3 ♞c1+ 7.♞e2 ♞c2+ 8.♞e3 ♞c5+ 9.♞e2 ♞f6 10.f8=♞ = **5.♞d8+ ♞f6** 5...♞g4?? 6.♞e4+ ♞f5 7.♞f4+ ♞g6 8.♞xf7 ♞xf7 9.♞g5 ♞g6 10.♞f4 **6.♞f4! ♞g6/♞g7** 6...♞xe8?? 7.♞xf6# **7.♞g8!** position X with wP on d3 7.♞e4? ♞g5+ 8.♞f3+ ♞xe4 9.♞xg5+ ♞xg5+ + **7...♞f7 8.♞e8!** = to prevent ...♞e6; draw by repetition 8...♞g6 9.♞g8 etc. 8.♞f5? ♞d5+ 9.♞f4 (9.♞xf6 ♞xg8 -+) 9...♞e6! + with zugzwang for White.

4th Prize: Var.3989 Branislav Djurašević. A long and surprisingly precise maneuver by the white queen to prepare a classical point by Kubbel.

1.♞h8+! ♞d7! **2.♞g7+!** 2.♞xc3? ♞b1+ 3.♞h2 ♞h1+! 4.♞xh1 d4+ = **2...♞d8** **3.♞xc3! d4!** 3...a3 4.♞f6+ ♞d7 5.♞f5+ ♞d8 6.♞g2! + - 3...h3 4.♞a5+ ♞d7 5.♞xa4+ ♞d8 6.♞h4+ ♞d7 7.♞xh3+ ♞d8 8.♞h8+ ♞d7 9.♞g2! + - (9.♞h7+? waste of time 9...♞d8 10.♞a2? after 20.♞a2!! The only difference is in the position of d5 (d4) pawn. 10...♞b6+! 11.♞h2 ♞c6! =) **4.♞a5+! ♞d7 5.♞f5+!** 5.♞xa4+ ♞e7!! 6.♞e2+ ♞f6! 7.♞xd4+ ♞g5! 8.♞e3+ ♞g4 9.♞e6+ ♞g5! 10.♞g8+ ♞h5! = **5...♞d8** **6.♞g5+ ♞d7 7.♞g4+ ♞d8 8.♞xh4+ ♞d7 9.♞g4+ ♞d8 10.♞g5+ ♞d7 11.♞f5+ ♞d8 12.♞a5+ ♞d7 13.♞xa4+ ♞d8! 14.♞a5+ ♞d7 15.♞f5+ ♞d8 16.♞f8+ or 16.♞f6+ or 16.♞g5+ 16...♞d7 17.♞f7+ or 17.♞g7+ 17...♞d8 18.♞g8+ ♞d7 19.♞h7+!** a long switchback! **19...♞d8 20.♞a2!!** Same position as L.Kubbel, 1925, (hhdbvi.82762) which is only 2 moves long. In the present study the Queen is passively sacrificed, while in the Kubbel's study it is an active sacrifice. **20...♞xh7** 20...♞c8 21.♞g8+ ♞c7 22.♞xa8! ♞b1+ 23.♞f2 ♞f5+ 24.♞f3 + - 20...♞e4 21.♞xa8+! ♞xa8 22.♞g8+ + - **21.♞xa8+ ♞e7 22.♞a7+ 1-0**

Special Prize: Var.3974 Mikhail Gromov & Oleg Pervakov. Clearly, the best study of the tourney. Unfortunately, the same systematic round-trip movement is already 50 years old: it is featured in a cooked study by Dolgov (3rd prize, Sachové Umenie, 1973). The authors not only corrected the old study, but also eliminated the imperfections of the motion from the original intention, and added some logic to the play, so awarding it a special prize seems justifiable. **1.a8=♞!** ♞xa8 ♞bxa2! **3.♞f6+ ♞g7 4.♞xh4+!** Logical try 4.♞h5+? ♞h7 5.♞xh7+ ♞xh7 6.♞xh4+ ♞g8 7.♞e6+ ♞f7 8.♞g4+ ♞f8 9.♞d6+ ♞e7 10.♞f4+ ♞e8 11.♞c6+ ♞d7 12.♞e4+ ♞d8 13.♞b6+ ♞c7 14.♞f6+ ♞c8 15.♞e6+ ♞b7! 16.♞xb3+ ♞c6! 17.♞c4+ ♞d7! 18.♞b5+ ♞c8! 19.♞e8+ ♞b7 20.♞b4+ ♞a7! 21.♞xe3+ ♞a6 22.♞d3+ ♞a7 23.♞e3+ ♞a6 24.♞e6+ ♞a5 = **4...♞h7 5.♞xh7+ ♞xh7 6.♞h5+ ♞g8 7.♞e6+ ♞f7 8.♞g5+ ♞f8 9.♞d6+ ♞e7 10.♞f5+ ♞e8 11.♞c6+ ♞d7 12.♞e5+ ♞d8 13.♞b6+ ♞c7 14.♞f6+!** **♞c8 15.♞e6+!** ♞d7! 15...♞b7 16.♞xb3+ ♞c8 (16...♞b6 17.♞e7+ ♞a6 18.♞c4+ ♞b5 19.♞e6+) 17.♞e6+ ♞b8 18.♞b5+ ♞b7 19.♞g8+! ♞a7 20.♞xa2+ **16.♞c5+ ♞d8 17.♞f6+ ♞e7 18.♞d5+ ♞e8 19.♞g6+ ♞f7 20.♞e5+ ♞f8 21.♞h6+! ♞g7 22.♞f5+ ♞g8 23.♞e6+ ♞h8 24.♞h5+ ♞h7 25.♞f6+ ♞g8 26.♞g5+ 1-0**

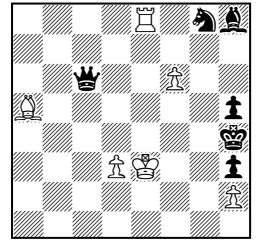
1st Honorable Mention: Var.3811 Carsten Hansen & Steffen Nielsen

A study with mutually hanging rooks inspired by a game. It is good to know that two connected passed pawns still win against a rook when they reach higher ranks. **1.g7 ♞h4 2.f5** 2.♞b3? ♞xg7 3.♞h3+ ♞g4 4.♞g3+ eg 4...♞xf4 = **2...♞e3 2...e4 3.♞e7 ♞e3 4.♞xe4+ transfers 2...♞f4 3.f6 3.♞b4+ e4!** 3...♞g4 4.g8=♞ **4.♞xe4+ ♞g4** 4...♞g4+ 5.♞xg4+ (5.♞h1) **5.♞xe3 5.♞xg4+ ♞xg4+ = 5.g8=♞? ♞f1+ = 5...♞xg7 6.♞h3+ ♞g5 6...♞g4 transfers 7.♞g3+ ♞h4! 7...♞f6 8.♞xg7 + - 7...♞h6 8.♞xg7 8.f6! 8.♞xg7??**

A. Avni M. Minski

3rd Prize

Afek 70 JT 2022

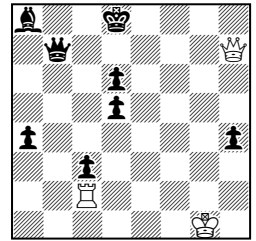


Draw 6+6

Branislav Djurašević

4th Prize

Afek 70 JT 2022

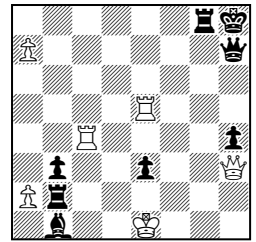


Win 3+8

M. Gromov O. Pervakov

Sp. Prize

Afek 70 JT 2022

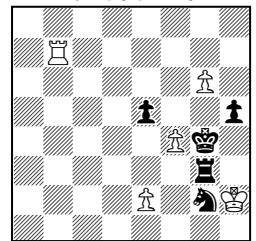


Win 6+8

C. Hansen S. Nielsen

1st HM

Afek 70 JT 2022



Win 5+3

= 8.♖g6? ♖e7! 9.♖g2 ♖f7! 10.e4 ♖xf5 11.exf5 = **8...♖f7** 8...♖xg3 9.f7 ♖g8 10.fxg8=♖ (10.fxg8=♘) **9.♖g6** 9.♖f3 ♖g5 **9...♖g7!** 9...♖e7 10.♖g4+ (10.♖g1) **10.e4!!** 10.fxg7?? 10.♖xg7?? 10.♖g1 ♖f7 11.♖g6 waste of time 10.♖g4+?? ♖xg4 +) **10...♖xg6** **11.e5 ♖h6** **12.f7 ♖h8** **13.e6 ♖g5** **14.e7**

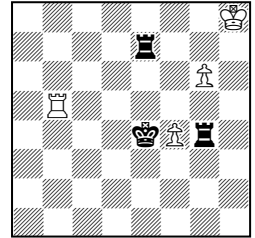
2nd Honorable Mention: Var.3802 Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely
A nice synthesis of two echo positional draws with systematic movement of the rooks. **1.f5 ♖g5** **2.g7 Rexg7** 2...♖xg7 3.f6 ♖h7+ 4.♖g8 ♖a7 5.♖a5 ♖ab7 6.♖b5 ♖bc7 7.♖c5 ♖a7 (7...♖cd7 8.♖g5) 8.♖a5 positional draw **3.f6 ♖g8+** **4.♖h7 ♖g1** **5.♖b1 R1g2** **6.♖b2 R2g3** **7.♖b3 R3g5** **8.♖b5 ♖g1** **9.♖b1** positional draw.

3rd Honorable Mention: Var.3813 Jaroslav Polášek & Emil Vlasák
White's ninth move is stunning even if the motivation for it is not very deep. **1...h1=♖+ 2.♖b2!** 2.♖c2 ♖e4+ **2...♖h2+** 2...♖g2+ 3.♖a3/♖b3 3.♖b3! 3.♖a3 ♖d6+ or 3.♖c3 ♖g3+ **3...♖g3+** **4.♖a4!** 4.♖b4 ♖d6+ 5.♖a5 ♖c5+ 6.♖a6 ♖c4+ 7.♖b7 ♖b5+ 8.♖c8 ♖a6+ **4...♖f4+** **5.♖a5!** 5.♖b5 ♖c4+ **5...♖d2+** **6.♖a6!** 6.♖b6 ♖b4+ **6...♖a2+** **7.♖b7!** **♖b3+** **8.♖c8 ♖c6** **9.♖g8!!** The point. 9.♖h8 ♖b7+ 10.♖d8 ♖xc7+ 11.♖e8 ♖xd7+ 12.♖f7 ♖d5+ 13.♖g6 ♖e4+ or 9.♖f8 ♖b7+ 10.♖d8 ♖xc7+ 11.♖e8 ♖xd7+ 12.♖f7 ♖f5+ 13.♖g8 ♖g6+ 14.♖g7 ♖e8+ **9...♖b7+** **9...♖xg8+** 10.e8=♖ **10.♖d8 ♖xc7+** **11.♖e8 ♖xd7+** **12.♖f8 ♖f5+** **13.♖f7 ♖c5** **14.♖g7** or **14.♖g8** **14...♖g5+** **15.♖g6+** **1-0**

4th Honorable Mention: Var.3890 Jan Rusinek. A complex fight around a mutual zugzwang position with a rarely used material imbalance. The bishop pair proves to be much stronger than the rook. **1.♖f6+!** 1.♖e4 ♖f7 2.♖h4 ♖g5 3.♖f6+ ♖g7 4.♖d7+ ♖h7 5.♖f8+ ♖g8 **1...♖h6** **2.♖g4+** **♖h7** **3.♖e4 ♖g8** 3...♖f7 4.♖f6 4.♖d5+ ♖f7 4...♖h7 5.♖f6+ ♖h6 6.♖g8+ ♖h7 7.♖e7 + **5.♖f6+!!** 5.♖e5 ♖f6 6.♖g4 ♖f1 7.♖c4 ♖f6 mzz with white to move 8.♖g3 ♖f5 9.♖e6 ♖f6 10.♖b3 ♖f5 11.♖g4 (11.♖c4 ♖f8) 11...♖f1 12.♖c4 ♖f6 = mzz with white to move so white must lose a move. Therefore a next preparatory improvement of position of white knight: **5...♖g7** 5...♖f8 6.♖c5+ ♖g7 7.♖e8+ ♖g8 8.♖d6 + - eg. 8...♖g7 9.♖a3 ♖h7+ 10.♖g4 ♖g7+ 11.♖f4 ♖h7 12.♖a2 ♖g7 13.♖f5 **6.♖d7+** Now f8 will be guarded **6...♖g8** **7.♖h4!** **♖a6** 7...♖h6+ 8.♖g4 ♖g6+ 9.♖f4 is easier 9...♖h6 10.♖e5 ♖h4+ 11.♖e3 ♖h3+ 12.♖f2 ♖h7 13.♖c5 domination - the wK will travel up the f-file **8.♖e5 ♖f6** **9.♖h5!!** The right moment and the right way for a losing move! 9.♖g4 ♖f1 10.♖c4 ♖f6 mzz white to move **9...♖f4** 9...♖h6+ 10.♖g4 ♖f6 11.♖c4 the mzz with black to move arrives earlier 10.♖c3! 10.♖b2 ♖f2 = 10.♖a1 ♖f1 = **10...♖f6** black could not lose a move because he must guard g6 from the wK! **11.♖c4** 11.♖b3 ♖h6+ 12.♖g4 ♖f6 13.♖c4 ♖f2 14.♖d4 ♖f6 mzz white to move **11...♖h6+** **12.♖g4 ♖f6** **13.♖d4** mzz black to move **13...♖f8** **14.♖d7+** **1-0**

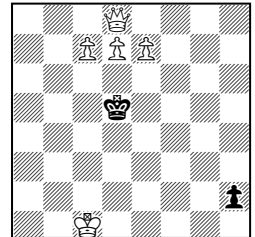
5th Honorable Mention: Var.3899 Luboš Kekely & Sergey Osintsev
Sincerely, in this study I was impressed only by the play after the fifth move with the two echo mate positions. I hope others will also like those rook sacrifices from the foreplay. **1.♖f6+!** 1.♖d4+? ♖xd4! 2.♖f6+ ♖d6!! echo 3.♖xd6+ = **1...♖e6!!** echo position B 1...♖c7 2.♖xg2 +- (2.♖f7+? ♖e7!! echo chameleon position B1 3.♖xe7+ ♖d8! 4.♖xg2 f1=♖ =) 1...♖b5 2.♖xg2 +- (2.♖f5+? ♖e5!! echo chameleon position B2 3.♖xe5+ ♖a4 4.♖xg2 f1=♖ =) **2.♖xe6+** **♖a5** 2...♖b5 3.♖xg2 f1=♖ 4.♖e3! ♖a1+ 5.♖b3! change of false try and main (position D) (5.♖d3? (position C1)) 5...♖xg7 6.♖c3+ ♖c5 (6...♖a5 7.♖c4#) 7.♖a4+ ♖b5 (7...♖d4 8.♖f5+ +) 8.♖b6+ ♖a5 9.♖c4# 2...♖c7 3.♖xg2 f1=♖ 4.♖e5+! ♖c8 5.♖f4! ♖a1+ 6.♖b3 + 2...♖b7 3.♖xg2 f1=♖ 4.♖e7+! ♖c8 5.♖e3! ♖a1+ 6.♖b3 +- **3.♖xg2** 3.♖e5+? ♖a4! 4.♖xg2 f1=♖ 5.♖e1 ♖f7! 6.♖g5 ♖b3+! = **3...f1=♖** **4.♖e3!** 4.♖e5+? ♖a4! 5.♖e4+ ♖a5! = positional draw (5...♖b5? 6.♖b4+! ♖a6 7.♖e3! ♖a1+ 8.♖b2 +) (5...♖a3? 6.♖e1! ♖h3+ 7.♖d3! ♖g2 8.♖f8+! ♖xa2 9.♖b4+ ♖a3 10.♖c2+ ♖a2 11.♖a4+ ♖b1 12.♖a1#) **4...♖a1+** **5.♖d3!** change of false try and main position C

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
2nd HM
Afek 70 JT 2022



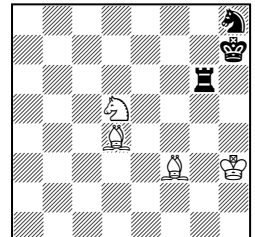
Draw 4+3

Jaroslav Polášek
Emil Vlasák
3rd HM
Afek 70 JT 2022



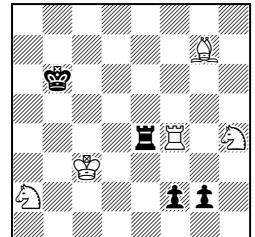
Win B→ 5+2

Jan Rusinek
4th HM
Afek 70 JT 2022



Win 4+3

E. Kekely & S. Osintsev
5th HM
Afek 70 JT 2022



Win 5+4

5.♖b3? (position D1) 5...♗xg7 6.♖c4+ ♖b5 7.♖c3+ ♖c5 8.♖a4+ ♖d4 (8...♖b5? 9.♖b6# echo mate position A1) 9.♖d6+ ♖e4 = **5...♗xg7** 5...♗b1+ 6.♖d4! ♖b2+ 7.♖c3 ♖b4+ 8.♖d3! **6.♖c4+ ♖b5** 6...♖a4 7.♖c3+ ♖b3 8.♖b6# **7.♖c3+ ♖c5** **8.♖e4+ ♖d5** 8...♖b5 9.♖b6+ ♖a4 10.♖c5# **9.♖d6#** echo mate position A

6th Honorable Mention: Var.3977 Jan Timman. After a cute stalemate avoidance with the help of a rook promotion, follows a long struggle featuring some mutual zugzwangs. The black knight is eventually defeated but the fight is not really memorable. **1.♖e8!** 1.♖e5 fxe5 2.♖d5+ e4 3.♖xe4+ ♗xe4 4.dxe4 ♖f6 5.♖e8 ♖h5 **1...♗xe8** **2.♖e5 c4** Foresight; preparing to play for stalemate 2...fxe5 3.♖d5+ e4 4.♖xe4+ ♗xe4 5.dxe4 **3.♖xc4** 3.♖xe8? ♖f5 **3...fxe5** **4.♖d5+ e4** **5.♖xe4+ ♗xe4** **6.dxe4 ♖f5** 6...f6 7.a8=♗ ♖f5 8.♖a3 + **7.exf5 f6** **8.a8=♖** Phoenix **8...b6** **9.♖a5** Reciprocal zugzwang **9...♖h6** Again **10.♖e3** And again **10...♖f7!** **11.♖a1** ♖d6 **12.♖e2 ♖e4** 12...♖xf5 13.♖xf5 ♖g2 14.♖e3+ ♖g3 15.♖f1+ ♖g2 16.♖a8 h1=♗ 17.♖g8+ ♖h3 18.♖h8+ ♖g2 19.♖e3+ +- 12...♖xb5 13.♖f3 ♖d4+ 14.♖g3 (14.♖g4 ♖c2 15.♖xc2 f1=♗ 16.♖xf1 ♖g2 17.♖f3 ♖f2! =) 14...♖e2+ 15.♖g4 +- **13.♖d1** To control the d-file 13.♖c1 ♖g3+ 14.♖f3 ♖f1 15.♖c4 ♖g3 16.♖d2 ♖xf5 17.♖f1 ♖d4+ = **13...♖g3+** 13...♖c3+ 14.♖f3 ♖xd1 15.♖f1! +- **14.♖f3 ♖f1!** **15.♖c4!** **♖g3** **16.♖d2!** **♖f1** 16...♖e2 17.♖f1 ♖d4+ 18.♖g4 (18.♖g3 ♖e2+ 19.♖g4 ♖g3 20.♖xg3+ ♖g2 =) 18...♖g2 19.♖e3+ +- **17.♖e4!** **♖d2+** **18.♖xd2 f1=♗** + **19.♖xf1 1-0**

1st Commendation: Var.3805 Pavel Arestov & Steffen S. Nielsen. Such sacrifice on a square defended three times will always make a good impression even if the motives involved are quite basic. **1.h8=♗ b2!** 1...♖b8+ 2.♖xb8 +- **2.h5+!** 2.♖xb2? ♖b8+ 3.♖e7 ♖xh8 = **2...♖g5!** 2...♖f5 3.♖f8+ ♖xe5 4.♖c5+ ♖e4 5.♖c6+ ♖d3 6.♖xb7 +- **3.♖xb2 ♖b8+** **4.♖f7 ♖xh8** **5.h6!** 5.♖xg7? ♖xh5 = **5...♖c8!** 5...gxf6 6.♖xh8 +- 5...♖xh6 6.♖c1+ ♖f5 7.♖xh6 +- **6.h7!** Try: 6.hxg7? ♖c7+ 7.♖e6 ♖c8 8.♖f7 (8.a6 ♖g6 =) 8...♖c7+ 9.♖g8! ♖c4!! (9...♖g6h5 10.♖h8 +) 10.a6 ♖g6 11.♖a3! ♖a4! 12.♖h8 ♖h4+! 13.♖g8 ♖a4! 14.♖f8 ♖f4+! 15.♖g8 ♖a4! positional draw **6...♖h6** 6...♖c7+ 7.♖e6 ♖c8 8.♖xg7 +- **7.h8=♗** +! 7.♖xg7+? ♖xh7 = **7...♖xh8** **8.♖xg7+ ♖h7** **9.♖xh8**

2nd Commendation: Var.3897 Jan Sprenger. Black's stalemate trap is avoided by a startling passive rook sacrifice on move 5. The two white pawns win against the black pieces due to a mutual zugzwang position, and black's new stalemate trap is again avoided, this time by a minor promotion. **1.♖d1** 1.a6? ♖f6+ 2.♖g5 ♖xa6 = **1...♖b8** **2.♖e6!** **♖xe6** 2...♖g4+ 3.♖g5 +- **3.♖d8+** **♖g8** **4.♖xb8 ♖f8!** stalemate counterplay **5.a6!!** thematic try 5.♖c8? ♖xc8 6.bxc8=♖ 6...♖e6! (6...♖c4? 7.♖f6 ♖g8 8.♖e6+! +-) 7.♖a6 ♖c4! 8.♖b7 ♖g8 = (8...♖d5? 9.a6 +-) logical try 5.♖h6? ♖e8!!/or ♖d8 with transposition 6.a6 ♖xb8 The position is identical to the mainline after 6. ♖h6, but now it is White who is in zugzwang. He must either play 7. a7 with draw or expose his king to checks, e.g., 7.♖g6 (or 7.a7 ♖xb7 8.a8=♗ ♖h7+ =) 7...♖d5/♖h7+ 8.a7 ♖g8+! +- 5.♖a8? ♖xa8! 6.bxa8=♗ /bxa8=R stalemate **5...♖xb8** **6.♖h6** Mutual zugzwang- Black must lift the pressure on b7 or abandon the stalemate defense. **6...♖f8** 6...♖d5 7.a7 ♖xb7 8.a8=♗+! **7.a7 ♖a8** **8.bxa8=♖!** +- 8.bxa8=♗? stalemate 8.bxa8=♖? ♖d5! 9.♖xd5 stalemate 8.bxa8=♖? stalemate inspired by Minski/Huschenbeth, Sachova Skladba 2020.

3rd Commendation: Var.3808 Michael Pasman. A curious switchback play by the rooks followed by a completely unrelated ending with R+B against Q. **1.♖a8!** **♖d7!** **2.♖a5!** 2.♖xd7+ ♖xd7 3.♖a7+ ♖d6 4.♖a6+ ♖d5 5.♖a5+ ♖xd4 6.♖a4+ ♖d3 7.♖a3+ ♖d2 **2...♖xd4** **3.♖a8!** Switchback **3...♖d7!** Switchback **4.♖a4!** Switchback **4...♖a7!** 4...♖d5 5.♖e4+ ♖e5 6.♖xe2 = **5.♖xa7 e1=♗** **6.♖a4!** switchback 6.♖e8 ♖f2+ or 6.♖a3 ♖f2+ 7.♖b1 ♖b6+ **6...♖f2+** 6...♖d2+ 7.♖b3 ♖d3+ 8.♖b4 **7.♖a1!** 7.♖b3 ♖b6+ **7...♖b6** 7...♖g1+ 8.♖a2 **8.♖e4!** 8.♖e8 ♖f6 9.♖f4+ ♖g5 10.♖a4 ♖e6 **8...♖b3!** 8...♖b5 9.♖c2 **9.♖a8!** switchback

Jan Timman
6th HM
Afek 70 JT 2022

Win 9+11

Pavel Arestov
Steffen S. Nielsen
1st Com.
Afek 70 JT 2022

Win 5+4

Jan Sprenger
2nd Com.
Afek 70 JT 2022

Win 5+4

Michael Pasman
3rd Com.
Afek 70 JT 2022

Win 4+3

9...♘e7! 9...♘e5; 9...♘c3+ 10.♙c2! 10.♙a7+? ♘f6 11.♙c2 ♘xc2 12.♙f7+ ♘g5 13.♙g7+ ♘h6 -+ or 10.♙b1? ♘c3+ 11.♘a2 ♘c4+ 12.♘a1 ♘d4+ 13.♘a2 ♘d5+) **10...♘xc2 11.♙e8+** and the final with model stalemate is like in Pogosiants, 1976 1/2-1/2

4th Commendation: Var.3980 Yehuda Hoch. The bishop maneuver starting from move five is pretty surprising. The study features the theme of the 7th WCCT. . 1.c8=♙+ ♙xc8 2.♙d8+ 2.♙xf6 ♘xb7 3.♘g6 ♙g4 4.h6 ♙d1 5.h7 ♙c2+ 2...♘d7 3.♙xf6 a1=♙ 4.♙xa1 ♘xd8 5.♙f6+ 5.♘f6 ♙b7 6.♘e5 ♘e7 7.h6 ♘f7 8.h7 ♘g7 5...♘c7 6.♙e5+ ♘d8 7.♙c7+!! 7.♘f6 ♙b7 8.♙c7+ ♘e8 9.♘e5 ♘f7 7...♘xc7 8.♘f6 ♙b7 9.♘e5 1-0

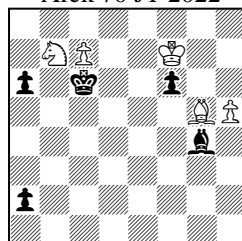
5th Commendation: Var.3804 Yehuda Hoch & Itay Richardson
On move 8, white has to make a big decision: where to move the king in order to make a threat. Eventually, it becomes clear that the threat of an instant checkmate is less effective than the threat of a perpetual check.

1.♙b5! 1.♙c6? ♙h4+ 2.♘xg6 ♙xa4 -+ 1.♙b3+? ♙xb3 2.♙c6 ♙xe3 3.a7 ♙h3+ 4.♘xg6 ♙a3 5.♘h6 ♙xa7 -+ **1...♙xb5** 1...♙xe3 2.♙c6 ♙xb5 3.♙e7+ = **2.♙c6!** 2.♙axb5? f1=♙ 3.a7 ♘f8+ 4.♘xg6 ♙xe3 -+ 2.♙ac8? ♙e5 3.a7 f1=♙ 4.♙e7+ ♙xe7 5.a8=♙+ ♘f8+ 6.♘xf8+ ♘xf8 -+ **2...♙xg5!** 2...f1=♙ 3.♙e7+ ♘f8 4.♙xg6+ ♘g8 5.♙e7+ = perpetual check 2...♙e5 3.a7 f1=♙ 4.a8=♙+ ♘f8+ 5.♘xf8+ ♘xf8 6.♙xe5 +- **3.a7** 3.♙e7+? ♘f8 4.a7 ♙h5+ 5.♘xg6 ♙a5 6.♘h7 ♘e7 -+ **3...♙h5+** 3...f1=♙ 4.a8=♙+ ♘f8+ 5.♘xf8+ ♘xf8 6.♘xg5 = **4.♘xg6 ♙h6+!** 4...f1=♙ 5.a8=♙+ ♘f8 6.♙e7+ ♘h8 7.♘xf8# **5.♘xh6 ♙xe3+** **6.♘g6 ♙xa7** 7.♙e7+ 7.♘h6? ♙e3+ -+ **7...♘f8** 7...♘h8 8.♙f7# **8.♘h6!!** Thematic try: 8.♘h7? ♘e7 9.♙f5+ ♘e6 10.♙g3 ♙b8 11.♙f1 ♘f5 -+ White is a move short **8...♙e3+** 8...♘e7 leads to a study by Bron as follows: 9.♙f5+ ♘e6 10.♙g3 ♙b8 11.♙f1 ♘f5 12.♘h5 ♘f4 13.♘h4 ♘f3 14.♘h3 ♙f4 15.♙g3! ♙d6 16.♙f1 ♘e2 17.♘g2 ♙f4 18.♘h1 ♘f3 19.♙g3 draw **9.♘h7** this time, the bishop is on e3 compared to the thematic try where it was on a7, so the position is a draw **9...♘e7 10.♙f5+ ♘e6 11.♙xe3 =**

Yehuda Hoch

4th Com.

Afek 70 JT 2022



Win 5+5

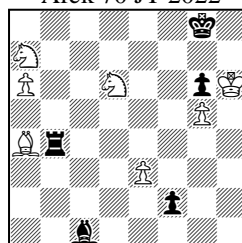
Yehuda Hoch

Itay Richardson

(After Bron)

5th Com.

Afek 70 JT 2022



Win 7+5

IRT #2 2021 award correction

We received the following claim for a predecessor to the 1st Prize problem.

1.b4 ? [2.♙c5 **A**, ♙d2 **B**, ♙c4 **C#**] but 1...axb4 !

1.♙a6 ? [2.♙c5 **A#**] 1...♘xc6 2.♙d2 **B#** 1...♘f2 2.♙c4 **C#** but 1...♘d6 !

1.♙b6 ? [2.♙d2 **B#**] 1...♘f2 2.♙c4 **C#** 1...♘xf1 2.♙c5 **A#** but 1...♙f2 !

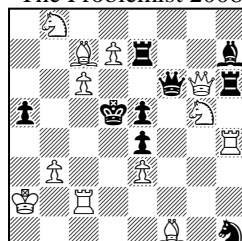
1.♙xe4 ! [2.♙c4 **C#**] 1...♘xf1 2.♙c5 **A#** 1...♘xc6 2.♙d2 **B#**

Judge, Peter Zabiorkhin, decided as follows: Predecessor (Marco Guida, The Problemist, 2008, 1st prize) is really strong, but only partial. The schemes are very close but the set of themes is different. In 3581 there is Arnhem theme and Neva theme, which is important. So, I propose to change the award: 3581 Gerard Doukhan first prize → special prize. 3719 Vasyl Dyachuk: 2nd prize → Prize The rest of the award - no change.

Marco Guida

1st Prize

The Problemist 2008



#2 12+9

Witztum, 70 Challenge Tourney – List of participants: Bos. Herz: Fadil Abdurahmanović - 3*, Marko Klasinc - 3*; Switzerland: Andreas Schönholzer - 1; Russia: Ivan Antipin - 1*, Eugene Fomichev - 3, Valery Gurov - 1, Vitaly Medintsev - 4*, Anatoly Skripnik - 4*; France: Michel Caillaud - 2*, Maryan Kerhue - 1*, Pietro Pitton - 2; Hungary: János Csák - 6*, Gábor Tar - 3*; Israel: Paz Einat - 1*, Mark Erenburg - 2, Shaul Shamir - 1; Raffy Ruppin - 4, North Macedonia: Zoran Gavrilovski - 2, Nikola Stolev - 4; Germany: Ralf Krätschmer - 1*, Franz Pachtl - 1*, Sven Trommler - 1; Greece: Dimitris Liakos - 6; Argentina: Jorge J. Lois - 1; Finland: Jorma Paavilainen - 1; Italy: Mario Parrinello - 1; Ukraine: Aleksandr Semenenko - 1, Valery Semenenko - 1, Viktor Syzonenko - 3, Anatoly Vasylenko - 3; Czech Rep.: Miroslav Svitek - 3; Mongolia: Lkhundeivin Togookhuu - 2; Netherland: Hans Uitenbroek - 1; Brazil: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira - 4.

Israel Ring Tourney: Threemovers 2020-21

Judge: Sergey Bilyk, International Judge, Saint-Petersburg, Russia

In 2020-2021, the magazine published 26 mate in-3 problems submitted by 17 authors from 9 countries. Var.3517 (Lyubashesky & Makaronez) was excluded from the competition as previously published. There were almost no really weak problems, but there were unexpectedly only few strong ones. There were very few tactically homogeneous problems with the same motivation for both defensive and weakening motives. Quite a lot of works have the potential to improve positions - the authors finished work on the problems too early.

Since the overall level of the competition turned out to be relatively low, the judge considered it possible to mark more than half of the published three-movers, some of which would have remained out of award in a stronger tournament. Preference was given to works with tactically rich, systemic content.

The following ranking is proposed:

1st Prize: Var.3584 Alexandr Kuzovkov (v)

In a logical framework, a four-variant complex is made with a change in the functions of White's moves. In the central pair of variations, White also responds to defenses on one square with quiet moves on one square, realizing the pseudo-le Grande and Dresden themes. In the threat and its paired variation, the mating moves of the central pair of variations come second. For these thematic moves Qd7 and Se3, a two-move form of the Urania theme was performed (second move, threat on a mating move, mating move). It's a pity that the author couldn't get rid of the variation 1...Rg5 with a repetition of the thematic variation and allowed the capture of the black pawn on the opening move of the solution. 1.♙c5? 1...f2! 1.♘c5? 1...f5!

1.hxg4! [2.♖d7+ A ♘e4 3.♗f5#] 1...c4xd3 2.♗e3+ B ♘d4 3.♙c5#
 1...♖3xg4 2.♙c5! [3.♗e3 B#] 2...♗e4 3.♗d7 A# 1...♖6xg4 2.♗c5! [3.♗d7 A#] 2...♖xd4 3.♗e3 B# 1...f5 2.♗e5+ ♘c6 3.♗b5# 1...Rg5 2.Sc5 [3.Qd7,Qe4#]

2nd Prize: Var.3435 Yuri Gorbatenko

The introduction with the formation of the second white battery opens up a five-variant solution in which these batteries play. The options can be divided into two pairs in two ways. By playing batteries: as indirect (on the second move) and direct (on mating move) - with alternating batteries - and by playing batteries as direct (in response to the moves of the black king to free squares). According to the functions of the moves Sxe6 A and Sxc6 B, acting in pairs of variations as second and mating. We note the easy construction and the presence of two free squares for the black king, however, in the initial position, with answer only to 1...Kd6 prepared. There are similar tasks. Compare: A. Lobusov, YUK A. Gulyaev-80, 1990, 1 prize YACPDB No. 93748; S. Bilyk, MK "N. Ivanov", 2002, 1-2 prize (n1BQK3/2p1Np2/2p5/2P1k2P/bP2Nr2/3Pp1Pn/8/8).

1.♗d2! [2.♗xg4 + ♘d6 3.♗xe6 A#] 1...♘d6 2.♗xe6+ A ♘e5 3.♗d4#
 1...exf5 2.♗xc6+ B ♘f4 3.♗f1# 2...♘e6 3.♗d5# 1...♗xf5 2.♗c4+ bxc4
 3.♗xc6 B# 1...♘f4 2.♗d5+ ♘g3/♘e5 3.♗g2/♗f4#

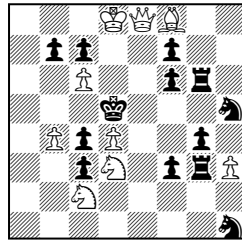
1st Honorable Mention: Var.3720 Semion Shifrin

An excellent introduction with an active sacrifice of the white knight on the square provided to the black king opens up a solution with a complex of options with different tactical loads. Shifman's theme is implemented in the central pair of variants with defenses on one square.

1.♗e4! [2.♖d6 + ♘xe4 3.♗c5#] 1...♗xd4 2.♗c3 + ♘e5 3.♗xd4# 1...♗xd4 2.♗f6 + ♘e5 3.♗xf4#
 1...c3 2.♗xf4 + ♘c4/♘xe4 3.♗a4/♗d3# 1...♘xe4 2.♗c5 + ♘d5 3.♗f7# 1...♗e5 2.♖xa5 + ♘xe4
 3.♖xe5# 2...♘xe6 3.♖xe5# 1...♗c6 2.♗xf4 + ♘xe4 3.♗xc6#

Alexandr Kuzovkov

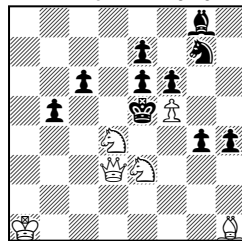
1st Prize IRT 2020-21



#3 9+13

Yuri Gorbatenko

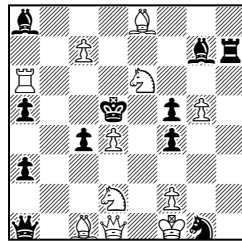
2nd Prize IRT 2020-21



#3 6+10

Semion Shifrin

1st HM IRT 2020-21



#3 11+11

2nd Honorable Mention: Var.3722 Sergey Khachaturov. A complex of options with a change of functions of moves by both sides with different tactical elements. White's 2nd moves of some variations become mates in other variations (including alternating 2nd and mating moves). Black's 2nd moves in the variation 1...fxg5 open up new variations. In the threat and variation 1...Rxb8 the black king's moves form an asterisk. The author declares the existence of the Vissermann theme, but it implies the presence of at least two options, in each of which a quiet second move by White creates a threat against which Black has at least two defenses.

1. ♖b5 ! 2. ♗e7+ ♜xe7 3. ♗xd7 # 2... ♜c7 3. ♗b7 # 1... ♗xh8 2. ♗xd7+ ♜c5/♜e5 3. ♗d4/♗g6#
 1...fxg5 2.e4 A [3. ♗d5 #] 2... ♗e5 3. ♗b6 B # 2... ♗c5 3. ♗b8 C #
 1... ♗e5 2. ♗b6 B + ♗d5 3. ♗b3 # 1... ♗c5 2. ♗b8 C + ♗d5 3.e4 A #

3rd Honorable Mention: Var.3383 Yitzhak Nevo. The main unifying elements of the complex of variations are the change in the functions of moves of both sides and the overlapping of the lines of action of the wQ. White's moves act as 2nd moves in some variations, and as mating moves in others (including alternating for moves A & B). Two groups of variations with defenses on the same square, three 2nd moves by black open up new variations, the play of the pieces of the black semi-pin (the pin is used in only two mates and only the bR). In the initial position, there is no set reply to the bK flight. Not the best entry (there's no answer to the capture in the initial position), although it is also under the blow, but the capture is followed by a short checkmate. The weak loading of the white rook makes one want to eliminate this shortcoming, which is quite possible: B7/1n1p4/1prppK2/1p1kN1p1/1p1p4/1P6/2b1QP2/N7.

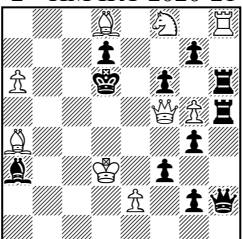
1. ♖f4 ! [2. ♗xc4 + A ♗d4 B 3. ♗xc6 B# 2... ♗d4 c 3. ♗d3 C#]
 1... ♗d4 B 2. ♗xc6 + B ♗d5 3. ♗xc4 A# 1... ♗d4 c 2. ♗d3 + C cxd3 3.cxd3#
 1... ♗e2 2. ♗xe2 [3. ♗f3#] 2... ♗d4 3. ♗xc3# 1... ♗xc2 2. ♗f3+ ♗d4 3. ♗xc2# 1...e2 2. ♗f3+ ♗d4
 3. ♗xe6# 1... ♗d4 2. ♗xe6 + ♗e4 3. ♗xf5# 1... ♗d3 2. ♗xc6+ ♗d5 3. ♗xc4# 2... ♗d4 3. ♗xe6#

4th Honorable Mention: Var.3519 Gerard Doukhan. The task is a zugzwang block with changed play on 1...cxb5, and a defense with a cross-check. Mutual walling up of black pieces after playing on the same square, in tries and solution - the Banny theme, try refutations and attempts open solutions, white's quiet play on the second move in thematic variants. Unfortunately, there is a replay of the game in thematic versions. Also, the lack of self-pinning of black pieces on b5, the almost complete absence of counter-play and the crowded position should be attributed to the disadvantages. There is a similar task. Compare: H. Schogt, B. de Haas, Probleemblad, 1976 (YACPD B No. 183163). 1...cxb5 2. ♗xd4 [3. ♗b2#] ♗c8+ 3. ♗xc8# 1. ♗xd4? A [2. ♗b2#] but 1... ♗bxb5 a! 1. ♗a3? B [2. ♗b2#] but 1... ♗cxb5! b 1. ♗b8? zz. but 1... ♗xb5! 1. ♗e7? [2. ♗c8 [3. ♗xb6#]] but 1...cxb5! 1. ♗a7! zz. 1... ♗bxb5 a 2. ♗a3 B [3. ♗b2#] 1... ♗cxb5 b 2. ♗xd4 A [3. ♗b2#] 1... ♗xb5 2. ♗xb6 [3. ♗xc5#] 1...cxb5 2. ♗xb6 [3. ♗xc5#] 2... ♗d~/♗c7+ 3. ♗xd4/♗xc7# 1... ♗~ 2. ♗xe5+ fxe5 3.d3#

5th Honorable Mention: Var.3520 Eugene Fomichev. Consistent "leave-arrive" maneuvers with quiet play on the 2nd move with a good thematic introduction and the play of different white pieces on the same squares. The disadvantages include the lack of defenses on the 2nd move, the crowded position and the overload of the position with wPs. 1. ♗h3! [2. ♗f1! ~ 3. ♗e1#] 1...g3 2. ♗f1! gf2+ 3. ♗e2# 2...g2 3. ♗e2# 1... ♗xa2 2. ♗f1! ~ 3. ♗d2#

Sergey Khachaturov

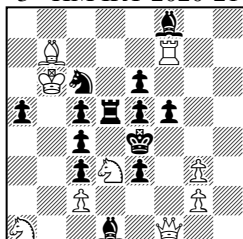
2nd HM IRT 2020-21



#3 9+11

Yitzhak Nevo

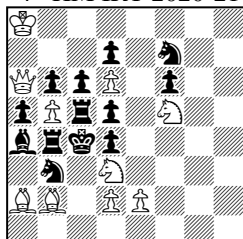
3rd HM IRT 2020-21



#3 9+13

Gerard Doukhan

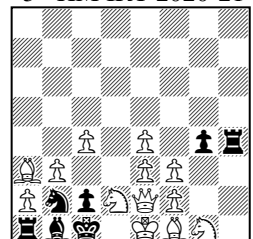
4th HM IRT 2020-21



#3*v 10+13

Eugene Fomichev

5th HM IRT 2020-21



#3 13+7

1st Commendation: Var.3651 Leonid Lyubashesky, Leonid Makaronez & Viktor Volchek

White half-battery play created by the key, defenses on one field, various checkmates. Note that the bK has a flight. The wQ plays like a queen only in the additional line 1...bxa3. This can be changed by replacing the wQ with a wBp, for example: 5n2/1K2p1q1/1p2p1p1/2Pk2N1/1p2N3/1p1PPR1B/8/2R5. 1.♖h1? but 1...bxa3! **1.♜g2!** [2.♙c3+! ♜xc3 3.♖f5# 2...♞e5 3.d4# 2...♞xc5 3.♙ge4#] 1...♜d4 2.♙f6+! ♜xf6 3.♖f5# 2...♞e5 3.♙f7# 1...e5 2.♖f7! [3.♙f6#] 2...bxc5 3.♖xc5# 1...♞e5 2.♞c6! bxa3 3.d4# 1...bxa3 2.♙a2 + ♞e5 3.d4#

2nd Commendation: Var.3654 Zoltan labai

Four-variant play of the white battery created by the key with a quiet threat. We note the weakness of the wQ, as it plays only once (2.Qxd4+), and replacing it by a wB (super-complete), the solution is preserved, and the variation even improves: 1...e4 2.Bxd4 ~ 3.Rxc5#, 2. ...cxd4 3.Rc4#. Rough captures of the bQ also reduce the impression.

1.♙b8 ! [2.♙b7 ♜f5 3.♖e7#] 1...♜xf5 2.♙xf5 ~ 3.♖c8#
1...♜h2/e4 2.♙(x)e4+ ♖xe4 3.♖c5# 2...♞d5 3.♙b7# 1...e4 2.♜xd4+ cxd4 3.♖c4#

3rd Commendation: Var.3655 Jose. A. Garzon

An entry with unleashing the bS and provoking battery checks to the wK opens up a solution with cross checks and black correction in one precise move. In the central variant, both the white and black knights return to their original squares. The author shows two tries 1.Sg4? [2.Rd~#] 1...fxg4 2.Rf2+ Ke5 3.Qxe4# 1...Bxg4! and 1.Rxe4+? Rxe4 2.Qb8+ Re5 3.Rd4# 1...fxe4!, which adds a change in the functions of some moves by white and black, a new game and a change of mate to 2...Ke5, but this rather distracts from the main content. The key takes a flight from the bK, however, in the initial position, the answer to the move to this square is prepared. This point is ambiguous, but it is best to avoid it. Not a plus and a double short threat.

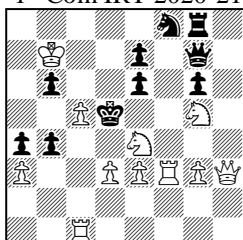
1...♞e5 2.♙c4+ ♜f4 (a) 3.♖d4 (A), ♖f2 (B)# *1...♖b8 (b) 2.♜xb8# (C)
1.♙g4? [2.♖d~#] 1...fxg4 2.♖f2+ ♞e5 (c) 3.♜xe4# (D) 1...♙xg4!
1.♖xe4+? ♖xe4 2.♜b8+ ♖e5 (d) 3.♖d4# (A) 1...fxe4!
1.♙c4! [2.♖d4 (A), ♖f2# (B)] 1...♙~+ 2.♖e2+ ♖e3 3.♙xe3# 1...♙xd2+ 2.♙c4-e3+ ♙e4 3.♙g4#
2...♖e4 (e) 3.♜b8# (C) 2...♞e5 (c)/♙xa4/♖xa4/♙c4 3.♜f5#

4th Commendation: Var.3434 Leonid Lyubashesky & Leonid Makaronez

The author's main idea is the three-variant play of the wP battery. The co-authors showed only one variant of the set play, although there is also a second one: 1...exd6 2.Rxf4+ Ke5 3.Qg7, Qg5#. Since the mates in the variants of the set play are different, we can talk about the change of defenses according to Rukhlis, that is, there is a 2x2 change in the problem. Apparently, the co-authors did not consider this variant because of the repetition of White's 2nd move, so they also left a dual mate, which is easy to eliminate: q1nrR1NK/n3p2p/1N1PP2P/2pp1k2/b3Rp2/4P3/3P2Q1/2B5.

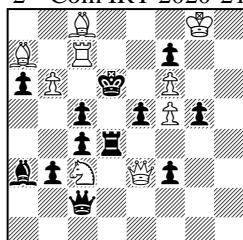
Another problem with a capture of the bP by the key. 1...♙c6 2.♖xf4 + ♞e5(e6) 3.♜xd5 #
1.exf4! [2.♖e5+ ♜xf4 3.d4#] 1...♙c6 2.♙xd5 ~ 3.♙e3 # 2...♙e5 3.♖xe5# 1...d4 2.♜h3+ ♜g6
3.♜g4# 2...♞xe4 3.d3# 1...dxe4 2.♜g5+ ♞xe6 3.♜f6# 1...exd6 2.d3 ~ 3.♜g5#

**Lyubashesky
Makaronez & Volchek**
1st Com IRT 2020-21



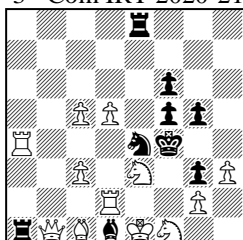
#3 11+10

Zoltan laba
2nd Com IRT 2020-21



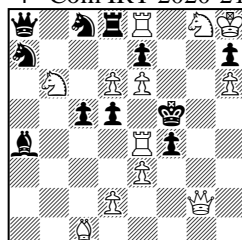
#3 9+1

Jose. A. Garzon
3rd Com IRT 2020-21



#3 12+9

**Leonid Lyubashesky
Leonid Makaronez**
4th Com IRT 2020-21



#3 12+11

5th Commendation: Var.3518 Leonid Makaronez & Viktor Volchek

The use of overlapping lines of action of black pieces, including Grimshaw on f2. Three-phase arbitrary change of play for two black moves.

1...d5 2.c5 ♖f4 3.♖f4# 1...♗xb6 2.♖xb6 ♖f4 3.♖d6#
1.c5? [2.♖d4#] 1...♗d5 2.♗d3+ ♕c6 3.♗a4# 1...dc 2.♖c5+♗d5 3.♖d4#
but 1...♗f4!

1.♖e1! [2.♖g3+ ♖f4 3.♖f4#] 1...♗f2 2.♖xd1! ♖f4 3.♖d6#
1...♗f2 2.♗e3+ ♖e3 3.♖c3# 1...♗f3 2.♖a5+ d5 3.♖d5#

6th Commendation: Var.3586 Leonid Makaronez & Viktor Volchek

A play of a disguised full black half-pin, moreover, on the second move, White uses the pin of one black piece, and when a checkmate is given, the second black piece. However, the checkmate is repeated.

1.♖e2 ! [2.♖g2 + ♗d3 3.♖c2#] 1...♗f7 2.♗d6 + ♕xf4 3.♗xg6# 2...♗d5 3.♖xc4#
1...♗f6 2.♗c5 + ♕xf4 3.♗xg6#

7th Commendation: Var.3588 Semion Shifrin

#3588 is a correction to #3521 proposed by Paz Einat. Defending against the threat by overlapping the two black pieces on the e5 square, these black pieces make anti-critical moves across the overlapping square to the threat mating squares. White uses the attraction of these black pieces, creating threats with quiet second moves in order to distract the equally spaced black pieces in order to repeat the threat checkmate. Again, the bP capture by the key affects the place in the award.

1.♗xc2 ! [2.♗e5+ ♖xe5 3.♖d4# 2...♗xe5 3.♖d5#] 1...♗d5 2.♗b1 [3.♗b5#] 2...♗h1 3.♖xd5#
1...♗d4 2.f8=♖ [3.♖c8#] 2...b5/♖xf8,g8 3.♗a7/♖xd4# 1...♗d8,e7,♖xf7 2.♖e3+ ♖,♗d4 3.♖xd4#

8th Commendation: Var.3721 Yitzhak Nevo

A beautiful key with the self-pinning of two white pieces provokes checks to the white king. Black accepts passive sacrifices of white pieces both on the first and on the second move. An additional variant adds an alternation of White's second and mating moves. It is a pity that this option is not paired. And in this problem, the author allowed the capture of the black pawn on the first move, although it was very close to the desired position: 6B1/6p1/5kN1/2Kpp1pP/pBR1P1p1/8/1r1Rb3/8 - even three pieces less.

1.♖xb5 ! [2.♖a5 ~ 3.♗c6,♗e7#] 1...♗xb4 + 2.♖xb4 [3.♗c6#] 2...♗xc4 3.♗f2#
1...♗xc4+ 2.♖a5 [3.♗e7#] 2...♗xb5 2.♗f2# 1...♗d3 2.♗f2+ ♖xf2 3.♗e7#

9th Commendation: Var.3723 Antonio Tarnawiecki, Steven Dowd & Paz Einat

Change of move functions: mating moves in the central variation 1...Sg6 become second in other variations.

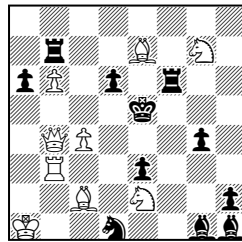
(1.♖xf4? [2.♖c4,♖e4#] but 1...♗xg4!)

1.♗a6! [2.♗e7+ ♗xe7 3.♗xd6#] 1...♗g6 2.♖xe5+ ♕xe5 3.♗h5# 2...♗xe5 3.♗f4# 2...♗xe5 3.c4#
2...dxe5 3.♗xe6# 1...♗d4 2.c4+ ♕xc5 3.♗c6# 1...e4 2.♗xf4+ ♕e5 3.♗h5#

Leonid Makaronez

Viktor Volchek

5th Com IRT 2020-21

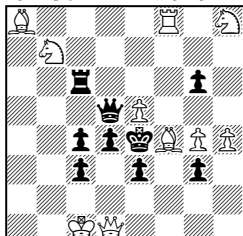


#3 9+11

Leonid Makaronez

Viktor Volchek

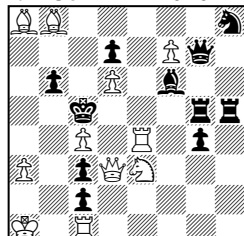
6th Com IRT 2020-21



#3 10+9

Semion Shifrin

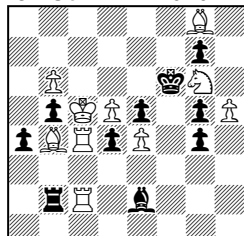
7th Com IRT 2020-21



#3 11+11

Yitzhak Nevo

8th Com IRT 2020-21

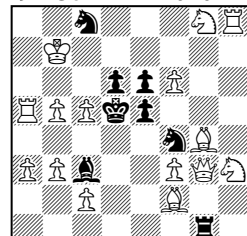


#3 10+10

Antonio Tarnawiecki

Steven Dowd, P. Einat

9th Com IRT 2020-21



#3 15+8

Comments are accepted within two months from the publication date of the award.

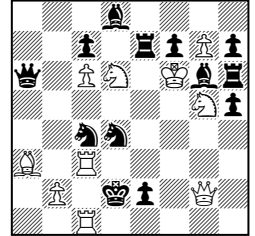
Israel Ring Tourney: Selfmates 2017-18
Judge: Petko Petkov, International Judge

I made this award almost 4 years ago, but then I suddenly became very ill and for a very long time. For this reason, I was not able to send my report to the editors on time. Please excuse me. Only 11 problems were presented, but among them there are some pretty interesting opuses that deserve attention. I distinguish 5 problems.

1-2nd Prize: Var.3047 Evgeni Bourd

Great mechanism showing original play of two black corrections. Try 1.Qg3? Sf3! and 1.Qf3? e1=S! are a nice addition here, but strategically they are not identical. However, let's note that there is also another try: 1.Qh3? e1=S! 1.♖g3? [2.♗d3 ♘xd3#] but 1...♗f3! 1.♗f3? [2.♗d3 ♘xd3#] but 1...e1=♘! **1.♗g1!** [2.♗xd4 ♘d3#] 1...♗c4~ 2.♖e3 ♗xe3# 1...♗e5! 2.♗de4 ♘xe4# 1...♗d4~ 2.♗1c2 ♘xc2# 1...♗f5! 2.♗ge4 ♗xe4#

Evgeni Bourd
1-2nd Prize IRT 2017-18



S#2vv 10+13

1-2nd Prize: Var.2991 Hartmut Laue

Correction of the white Queen with some small but very nice logical and anti-dual motifs. At the shortest distance S#2 it is very difficult to realize such a

theme. 1...exd2 2.dxe4+ ♖xe4# 1.♖~? [2.dxe4+ ♖xe4#] 1...exd3! 1.♖xc2!? [2.♖c5+ ♗xc5#, not 2.dxe4+?] 1...♗xc2 2.dxe4+ ♖xe4# 1...b3! **1.♖xb4!** [2.♖d4+ ♗xd4#, not 2.dxe4+?, 2.♖c5+?] 1...♗xb4 2.dxe4# 1...♗b2 2.♖c5+ ♗xc5# 1...exd3 2.♖e4+ ♖xe4#

Special Prize: Var.3135 Valery Kopyl & Gennadi Koziura

Echo-model mates after unpin of Sf6 and active play of the white king. Although not new, this idea deserves special attention, since it is presented at a long distance - 6 moves.

1.♗d2! 1...dxc4 2.♖c3 ♖c5 3.♖e7+ ♖c6 4.e5 ♖d5 5.♖e6+ ♖c5 6.♗e4+ ♗xe4# 1...dxe3 2.♖e3 ♖c5 3.♗b6+ ♖c6 4.♖c8+ ♖d6 5.♗c5+ ♖e5 6.♗g4+ ♗xg4#

Honourable Mention: Var.2992 Menachem Witztum & Evgeni Bourd

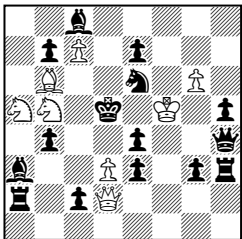
Strategically, the play is rich enough, but here the Rukhlis theme only "half-exists", as correctly noted in the previous comments.

1...♖xg5 2.♗d2+ 2...♗xd1 3.♖e4 fxe4# 1.♗g1? [2.♖f1+ 2.♖xg3 3.♖xf4 ♖xf4#] but 1...♗b4! **1.♗d4!** [2.♖f1+ 2.♖xg3 3.♖xf4 ♖xf4#] 1...♖xg5 2.♗eg2+ 2...♗xd1 3.♖e4 fxe4# 1...♖xg3 2.♗d2+ 2...♗xd1 3.♖e3 fxe3# 1...fxg3 2.♗e4+ 2...♗xd1 3.♗f4+ ♖xf4#

Commendation: Var.3189 Yosi Retter

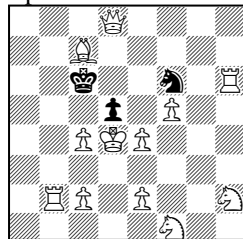
1.♗f8 ? but 1...♗xf2 ! 1.h6 ? but 1...♗g2 ! 1.♖d8 ? but 1...♗xh3 !
 Set: 1...♗xf2 2.♗f6 + ♖xe4 3.♗xf2 ♗d2,a3#
 1...♗g2 2.♗g6 + ♖xe4 3.♗xg2 ♗d2,a3# 1...♗xh3 2.♗d6 + ♖xe4 3.♖xh3 ♗d2,a3#
1.♖d3 ! zugzwang. 1...♗xf2 2.♗f4 + ♖xe6 3.♗xf2 ♗d2,a3#
 1...♗g2 2.♗g4 + ♖xe6 3.♗xg2 ♗d2,a3# 1...♗xh3 2.♗xh4 + ♖xe6 3.♗xh3 ♗d2,a3#

Hartmut Laue
1-2nd Prize IRT 2017-18



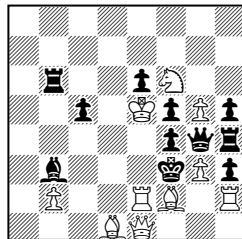
S#2*vv 8+15

**Valery Kopyl
Gennadi Koziura**
Sp. Prize IRT 2017-18



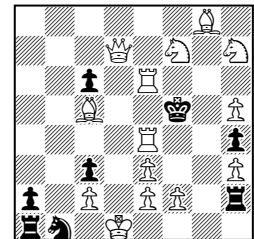
S#6 12+3

**Menachem Witztum
Evgeni Bourd**
HM IRT 2017-18



S#3*v 10+11

Yosi Retter
Com. IRT 2017-18



S#3* 14+8

Pre-Annual Meeting 2023 Composition Tourney

Tourney Director: Omer Friedland, Judge: Paz Einat

Theme: a certain piece, black or white, moves at least twice during the solution. It can reach its target square in at least two ways but only one of them leads to the solution and the other is a try. Problem types: H#2-3 & HS#2-4. Fairy pieces & conditions are allowed.

I received from the tourney director 17 problems. The quality was high and ranking the problems was not an easy task. In principle, the theme can be realized using negative or positive effects. For negative effects, a move to a certain square is avoided since it will prevent further moves or remove guards, while for a positive effect a move to a certain square, and not to another, is needed for the solution to work, e.g. opening a line, evacuating a square and more. Importantly, for a positive effect to be significant it must be subtle. For example, if black needs to capture a wP on its first move and move away on its second move to open a white line needed for movement of the mating piece, a move that does not capture the pawn (but reaching the same destination on B2) is less effective as a dual avoidance tool. In contrast, opening of a pin-line, as done in the 2nd Prize, looks subtle and more effective.

Some comments on problems left out of the award.

No. 15, a clear prize candidate, is largely anticipated. See **A & B** in the appendix in page 39.

No. 1 could have been upgraded significantly, without compromising its economy, by adding dual avoidance on the nature of the piece self-blocking on e5. **C** in the appendix (p.39) is a possible version.

1st Prize: Ofer Comay (dedicated to Menachem Witztum)

There are two interesting thematic elements, one by black and one by white. The bK must decide which of the wPs, h3 or h4, to capture and this is determined by the need to guard g4 or g5 in the respective solutions. The thematic element by white involves the unguarding of d7 & c5 in the respective solutions. This can be done by capturing the bB or bR, respectively, but since white must play Rc6 or Bc6 in the respective solutions it will create a self-interference. Thus, white plays the hesitation moves Be8 or Rc4, respectively, before mating. An excellent problem and clear winner!

a) 1. ♖xh3 (1. ♖xh4?) ♜e8 (♜xa4?) 2. ♜g4 ♞c6 3. ♜f5 ♜d7#

b) 1. ♖xh4 (1. ♖xh3?) ♞c4+ (♞xc8?) 2. ♜g5 ♜c6 3. ♜f5 ♞c5#

2nd Prize: Menachem Witztum & Emanuel Navon

The bK can reach c3 (in a) and g5 (in b) without capturing the wPs on d4 and f5, respectively. However, it must open a pin-line to pin the bQ. The theme is realized here with positive effects: a certain route is selected since it has a positive effect needed for the solution; here it is the pinning of the bQ. The twin is amusing with W1 being a move with that same pawn on the two edges of the board. The wK can be placed on h7, removing bPh6 and having a model mate also in b.

3rd Prize: Raffi Ruppin

A very nice rendering of the theme with Antircirce! In the two solutions, white must avoid opening the lines to g1 and a1, respectively, as this will allow black to prevent the mate by moving to the rebirth square of the wS and wR in the respective solutions. Harmonious and convincing.

a) 1. ♜f4 ♜xe7[♜g1] (♜xe3[♜g1]?) 2. ♜h5 ♜f3#

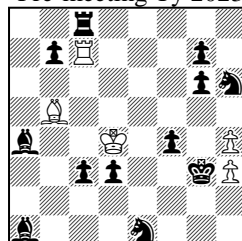
b) 1. ♜g7 ♞xe5[♞a1] (♞xa5[♞a1]?) 2. ♜g5 ♞h1#

Ofer Comay

Ded. to M. Witztum

1st Prize

Pre-meeting Ty 2023

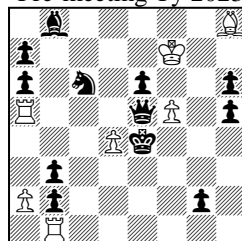


H#3 b) ♜d4→e7 5+12

M. Witztum E. Navon

2nd Prize

Pre-meeting Ty 2023

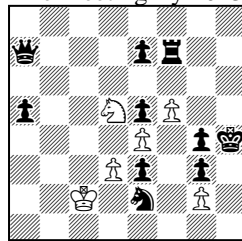


H#2.5 b) ♜a2→h2 7+12

Raffi Ruppin

3rd prize

Pre-meeting Ty 2023



H#2 b)+♞d5 6+10

AntiCirce

4th Prize: Emanuel Navon

The theme is doubled. The black part is a simple avoidance of capturing a white guarding piece but the white part is subtle, with avoidance of self-pins. The problem would have been ranked higher if a more subtle thematic element was used for the black move. For example, in the first solution, with black rook on c2 and white pawn on c4, the move 1.Rxc4 is prevented due to line opening of the bR on c2. Clearly, it is difficult to implement such an idea also in the 2nd solution in this scheme and a major change is needed.

- 1.♠xd5 (♠xc4?) ♠d7 (♠xe4?) 2.♠xc5 ♠xc5#
 1.fxg3 (fxe3?) ♠xe4 (♠xg4?) 2.gxf2 ♠xf2#

Emanuel Navon
 4th Prize
 Pre-meeting Ty 2023

H#2 2.1.1.1 11+12

5th Prize: Menachem Witztum & Emanuel Navon

The theme is shown twice by white. In the first solution the wS mates on f4. It can reach this square through c5, d4 or c1 but moving to c1 require further moves to e2 or d3, both of which will block the bQ line towards c4. Moving to c5 fails as bPc5 will be removed and the bQ will check from c4. A similar scenario occurs in the 2nd solution, but without the element of check avoidance that exists in the 1st solution. Additional elements include two different selfblocks on e5 and selfblocks on the square evacuated on B1.

- 1...♠d4 (♠xc5,c1?) 2.♠e5 ♠e6 (♠e2) 3.♠c4 ♠f4#
 1...♠xc5 (♠d4?) 2.♠e5 ♠a6 (♠e6?) 3.♠d6 ♠c7#

1st Honourable mention: Raffi Rupp

An interesting use of Madrasi in three solutions. In two solutions black makes a hideaway (the one with the bQ is especially nice) and in the 3rd (on b) a selfblock is used. The thematic avoidance of Sxf1 in “c” is very nice. I think this could have been done with three hideaways, including one with the bR in b.

- a) 1.♠a8 ♠e5(♠xd6?) 2.♠a5 ♠e6#
 b) 1.♠xc3 ♠xg4 (♠xe3?) 2.♠d5 ♠xe4# c) 1.♠b2 ♠f5 (♠xf1?) 2.♠d3 ♠xe3#

2nd Honourable mention: Menachem Witztum.

There are two potential black pin-lines, which are even transformed into masked pin lines after the first black move, making the entire concept more subtle. The wQ must avoid self-pinning on these line on its way to the mating squares.

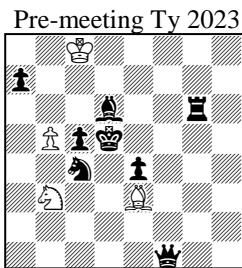
- a) 1...♠xf6 2.♠d7 ♠e6 (♠xf7?) 3.♠b5 ♠a2# b) 1...♠f4 2.♠g3 ♠f1 (♠xe5?) 3.♠b3 ♠a1#

3rd Honourable mention: Ehud Goldberg.

An excellent concept: reciprocal changes driven by the twin change of the two bRs to rook-lions. The mate repetition in the two solutions (repeated in the twin) is a distinct flaw. With some changes in the scheme two different mates can be obtained, see **D** in the appendix (p.39); a version on these lines would have been placed much higher in the award.

- a) 1.♠c7 ♠xh5 (♠xb3?) 2.♠b7 ♠d7# 1.♠c7 ♠xb3 (♠xh5?) 2.♠b7 ♠d7#
 b) 1.♠c7 ♠xb3 (♠xh5?) 2.♠b7+ ♠d7# 1.♠c7 ♠xh5 (♠xb3?) 2.♠b7+ ♠d7#

M. Witztum E. Navon
 5th Prize



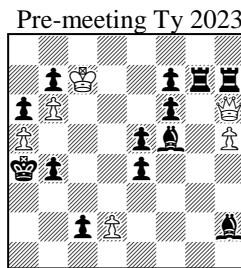
H#2.5 2.1.1.. 4+8

Raffi Rupp
 1st HM



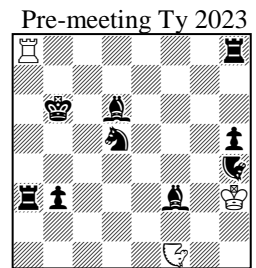
H#2 Madrasi 4+13
 b) ♠g3 c) ♠g3

Menachem Witztum
 2nd HM



H#2.5 b) ♠a4→a3 6+13

Ehud Goldberg
 3rd HM



H#2 2.1.1.1 4+9
 b) ♠'s = Rook-lions
 Nightrider ♠

4th Honourable mention: Jean Haymann & Shaul Shamir

The different promotions provide an entertaining background. Twice the wS must avoid the self-pin on f2 (and in the version, it must avoid self-pin on c4 in the 2nd solution). I prefer the more balanced version, but surely a version in which the two solutions have the additional element shown in version b would have been ranked higher. I like the way to two mates are arranged such that in one two selfblocks are needed (with bSe6 blocking-unblocking) and in the other only one, with two different selfblocks on g7.

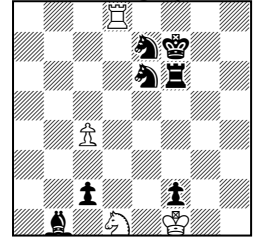
- 1.c1=♖ (c1=♗?) ♖c3 (♖xf2?) 2..♗g6 (♗g7?) ♖e4 3.♗g7 ♖g5#
 1.c1=♗ (c1=♖?) ♖b2 (♖xf2?) 2..♗h6 ♖d3 3..♗g7 ♖e5#

Jean Haymann

Shaul Shamir

4th HM

Pre-meeting Ty 2023



H#3 2.1.1.. 4+7

5th Honourable mention: Raffi Ruppin

A harmonious circe implementation of the theme. White must capture a BL

piece (bQ or bR) that will capture wBf8, which will be reborn on c1 for guarding duty. The necessity to capture on W1 prevents the dual as the wS can reach the mating square from d7 (in a) and f7 (in b). The thematic element is somewhat weak since the needs to bring the wB to c1, and thus capture the black pieces that will, in turn, capture the wB, is central to the solution. Black pawns f4 & g3 can be removed (with the wB reborn on c1 now guarding also f4). The possibility of turning this into H#2.5, avoiding the twin and adding unpins on the 5th row, on d5 & f5, is a possibility that should be explored.

- a) 1.♖b6 ♖xg4[♗d8] (♖d7?) 2.♗xf8[♗c1] ♖f6#
 b) 1.♖a7 ♖xc4[♗a8] (♖xf7?) 2.♗xf8[♗c1] ♖d6#

6th Honourable mention: Shaul Shamir & Jean Haymann

In the first solution the wS, after being unpinned, must avoid blocking the way of bBb8 to g7. In the 2nd solution the avoidance is more subtle: the wS should mate again on e3 but it cannot reach the destination through a5 since it will require making its 2nd move to c4 blocking bBb5 route to e2. The two different selfblocks on g1 are nice as is the replacement of the selfblock on e2 in the 2nd solution. Without the repeated mate the problem would have been ranked much higher.

- 1..♗d7 ♖a5 (♖d6?) 2..♗h2 ♖c4 3..♗g1 ♖e3# 1..♗c7 ♖d6 (♖a5?) 2.♖g1 ♖f5 3..♗e2 ♖e3#

1st Commendation: Menachem Witztum & Emanuel Navon.

The thematic element here involves the need to evacuate a square for the wS by capturing a wP standing on it. As I have discussed in the introduction, this thematic element is central to the solution, and rather direct: black must capture the wPs to let the wS move into this square. The additional dual avoidance of the wK tempo move is good and elevates the quality of the problem, but thematically I see it as a weak rendering of the theme.

- a) 1.♗xf5 (♗e5,d4?) ♖b3 (♖a3?) 2.♗c5 ♖f5 3.b5 ♖xe7#
 b) 1.♖xe6 (♖d3?) ♖a3 (♖b3?) 2.♖c5 ♖e6 3.♖d5 ♖d4#

2nd Commendation: David Stern.

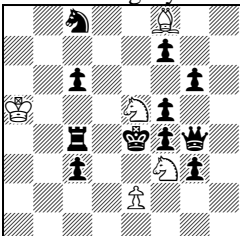
In each solution a different preventive effect is employed, once by W and twice by B.

- a) 1.♖fd5 ♗f4 (♗xe7?) 2.♗xd6 ♗xd6#
 b) 1.♖e6(♖xe2?) ♗c1 2.♖d4 ♗a3# c) 1.♗c6(♗xd6?) ♗xe7 2.♗d7 ♗b5#

Raffi Ruppin

5th HM

Pre-meeting Ty 2023

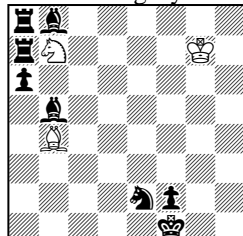


H#2 b) ♗f5→d5 5+11
 Circe

S. Shamir J. Haymann

6th HM

Pre-meeting Ty 2023

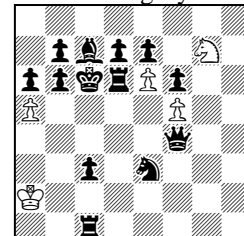


H#3 2.1.1.. 3+8

M. Witztum E. Navon

1st Com.

Pre-meeting Ty 2023

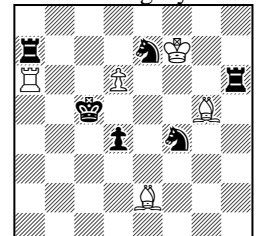


H#3 b) ♗f4 5+13

David Stern

2nd Com.

Pre-meeting Ty 2023



H#2 b) ♗d4→d5 5+6
 c) ♗a6→a8

Israeli Successes Abroad – Emanuel Navon

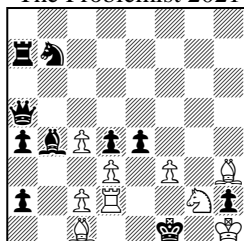
ישראלים מצטיינים בחו"ל – עמנואל נבון

emanuel.navon@gmail.com המחברים מתבקשים לשלוח את הצלחותיהם האחרונות אל

A.

Raffi Ruppin
3rd HM

The Problemist 2021

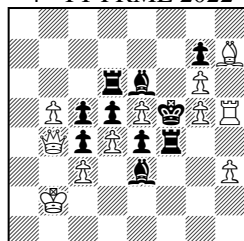


#7 9+10

B.

Emanuel Navon
4th HM

4th TT FRME 2022

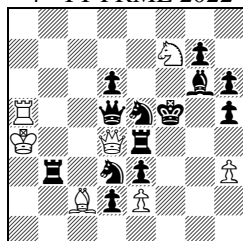


H#2 2.1.1.1 11+10

C.

Jean Haymann
Shaul Shamir
5th HM

4th TT FRME 2022

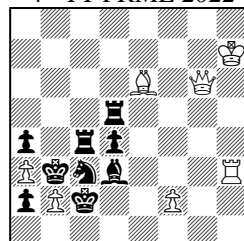


H#2 2.1.1.1 7+13

D.

Jean Haymann
Shaul Shamir
6th HM

4th TT FRME 2022



H#2 2.1.1.1 7+9

Judge Eddy van Beers wrote on A: "The key forces Black to underpromote, and Rd2 is no longer under attack. This gives White time to threaten mate with the move 3.dxe4 forcing Black to close the 5th row, so that after a switchback of the white knight the black queen can no longer defend against the new threat of 7.Sf3. A good problem".

1.c3! [2.dxe3+ ♖e1 3.dxc2#] a1=♖ (1...exd3 2.dxf4+ ♖e1 3.dxd3#) 2.dxf4+ ♖e1 3.dxe4 (4.dxd3#) ♖c5 4.dg2+ ♖f1 5.dh4+ ♖e1 6.f4 ~ 7.dxf3# The first foreplan guards against the capture of the rook (♙b4x♙d2). The continuation 2.dh4+ ♖e1 3.fxe (4.dxf3#) still does not work because of 3...♙h5! The aim of the second foreplan is to close the line a5-h5.

In **B** to **E** we continue to present the Israeli achievements in the Honorable Mention category of the 4th TT FRME 2022. Theme: play of the white queen in all phases.

In **B**: Pin-mate B1- is making Hideaway by opening a gate - for B2 and sacrifice himself for mating. In B2 – Hideaway and self-pinning. Chumakov theme and Pin-mates.

1.♙c8 (~?) ♙xc5 2.♙xg6 (~?) ♙xc8# 1.♙f1 (~?) ♙xc4 2.♙xg5 (~?) ♙xf1#

In **C** Reciprocal unpin of the wQ with pieces of black half-pins.

1.dxb4 ♙a1 2.♙e6 ♙f1# 1.dxc4 ♙xe3 2.♙e6 ♙f3#

In **D**, although there is no linkage in the starting position, there are two halfpin systems and during the play double pin-mate take place.

1.dxe4 ♙e8 2.♙c2 ♙b5# 1.♙f5 ♙d5 2.♙c2 ♙b6#

E: Entrance the wQ by taking the white B/R and harmonious play. Pleasant problem. 1.♙xg1 ♙xg1 2.dxb6 ♙e3# 1.♙xg3 ♙xg3 2.dxc3 ♙e3#

F-H - theme: each solution or set play must show an unpin, with anticipatory unpins also regarded as thematic. The judges were Jorge Joaquin Lois and Jorge Marcelo Kapros.

In **F** we see indirect unpinning to anticipate the indirect pin by the captured piece. A complicated idea that reveals a lot of work to be able to duplicate and realize. Congratulations on a great achievement (judges). Of note, the theme is doubled as there is an unpin on B1 and the bQ dual avoidance are an important addition.

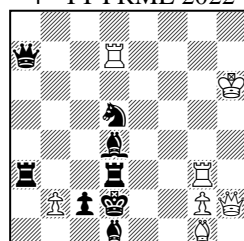
a) 1.♙f4 ♖f5 2.dxf6 ♖xf6# (1.♙g5? ♖f5 2.dxf6 ♖xf6?, 1.♙e3+ ♖f3? 2.dxf6 ♖xf6?)

b) 1.♙g5 ♖f3 2.dxe4 dxe4# (1.♙f4? ♖f3 2.dxe4 dxe4?, 1.♙g5 ♖f5? 2.dxe4 dxe4?)

E.

Misha Shapiro
7th HM

4th TT FRME 2022

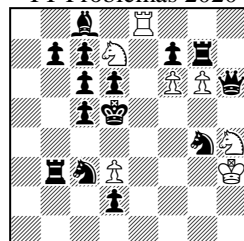


H#2 2.1.1.1 7+8

F.

Menachem Witztum
Ricardo Vieira
6th Prize

TT Problemas 2020



H#2 b) ♙c5→c4 7+14

G. Emanuel Navon
9-10th Prize
TT Problemas 2020

H#2 2.1.1.1 8+13

H. Menachem Witztum
12th Prize
TT Problemas 2020

H#2 b) ♖d6 7+12

I. Menachem Witztum
Ricardo Vieira
3rd Prize Bulletin
Problemistic-50 2021

H#2.5 Duplex 4+10

J. Menachem Witztum
Emanuel Navon
1st Sp. Prize
Problem Paradise 2022

HS#2.5 2.1.1.. 5+10

G: Exchanges in order of moves of the black knights which are unpinning the white pieces. the first anticipated and the second direct. They also open a line of defense for the White rook. and Exchange of functions between the wS & wB.
1. ♖f6 ♕g4 2. ♗de4 ♖e5# 1. ♗e4 ♗d2 2. ♗df6 ♕c4#

H: The bishop must unpin the knight and the black rooks must be interfered with by the bishop and the knight. Two solutions with full harmony, where the first black and white moves must be chosen carefully.

a) 1. ♗g5 ♗e6 2. d2 ♖c6# b) 1. ♗e7 ♗gf5 2. dxc2 ♗xe4#

I: Another nice rendering of interesting play by two pairs of rooks and bishops: Reciprocal active sacrifices with the feature that the pieces guarding flights and giving mate in one solution are both captured when the opposite side mates.
1...cxb3 2...♗f1 ♗xf1 3. ♖b5 ♖xb5# 1...h2 2. ♖h5 ♖xh5 3. ♗d5 ♗xd5#

In **J**, active battery creation. In three phases, Black makes three different batteries with his Queen, with moves by the same white knight. One of the best HS# I ever seen. 1...♗h5 2. ♗c1 ♖g3 3. ♗e2 + fxe2#
1...d5 2. ♗xb2 ♖a7 3. ♗xa4 + ♗xa4# 1...♖e7 2. ♗b4 ♗d3 3. ♗d5 + exd5#

In **K**, theme: at least three thematic Black pieces execute one or several moves and then, in reverse order by any routes, return to squares on which these pieces were located in diagram position. 11-piece Meredith with 4 thematic Black pieces and undoubtedly the best composition in tourney. Wonderful thematic realization included 2 Excelsiors with switchbacks of promoted Pawns to their original squares! Also two promoted pieces and Black Queen create self-blocks on f7, g7 and h8. Bewitched me how one very difficult idea can be realized in so light setting!
1.f5 (fxg6?) 2.f4 3.f3 (fxg3?) 4.f2 5.f1=B 6. ♗d3 7. ♗xg6 8. ♗e8 (♗xh5?) 9. ♖f7 10. ♖g8 11.g6 12.gxh5 13.h4 14.hxg3 15.g2 16.g1=R 17. ♖g7 18. ♖h8 19. ♖g8 20. ♗b7 ♗f6#

Judge Kjell Widlert wrote on **L**: "There is a well-known reciprocal change mechanism whereby the key switches a wQ pin-line so that the self-pinning effects of two black defences are reversed; it has been shown both in orthodox and in Breton. This problem cleverly extends the idea to a 2x3 Lačný using the Chinese effect of checking or pinning over a hurdle. Three black rooks each control one mating square on their file. In the try, the thematic defences cause a double pin of the two remaining rooks, but there is dual avoidance by capture of one of the possible mating pieces. In the solution, White can pin the rook that moved by moving to the mating square on its file (no dual avoidance here)".
1. ♗f3? [2.a8=♗ #] 1...♖xe7 a 2. ♗c4 A # 1...♖xd6 b 2. ♗e1 B # 1...♖xc5 c 2. ♗ed4 C # but 1...♖g8!
1. ♗f8! [2.a8=♗ #] 1...♖xe7 a 2. ♗e1 B # 1...♖xd6 b 2. ♗ed4 C # 1...♖xc5 c 2. ♗c4 A #
1...♗b5, ♗d5 2. ♗(x)b5#

K. Ofer Comay
Menachem Witztum
Ricardo Vieira
1st Prize TT-270,
SuperProblem 2022

Ser-h#20 5+6

L. Paz Einat
Peter Gvozdják
2nd Prize
The Problemist 2019

#2 Leo ♘ 8+9
Lancer (leaper 2,4) ♘
Camel (leaper 1,3) ♝

Israeli Study Successes Abroad – Michael Pasman

I'll start from the last published results of 2023:

Sinfoni Scacchistiche Rossi MT 2022, the two sections included several prizes for Israeli composers: Amatzia Avni & Vladislav Tarasiuk won 1st Prize, Yochanan Afek 6th Prize and me 2-4th Prize, 3rd Prize and special Prize.

Problemist Ukraine 2022: M. Pasman won 1st Prize. Polish Chess Fed 2022 was also successful for me: I received 2nd and 6th Prizes.

ChessStar 2022: Pasman 3rd Prize and 2nd HM & Avni 1st HM.

Zhigulovskie Zori 2022: Pasman 3rd Prize.

Ceskoslovensky-Sach 2022: Amatzia Avni co-production with Vladislav Tarasiuk: 1st HM, Pasman 2nd HM.

Chess Art Study 2022: I won 2nd Prize.

Seven ChessNotes 2022: M.Pasman 1st and 2nd HM.

Strategems 2022: Pasman - special Prize and special HM for my second study.

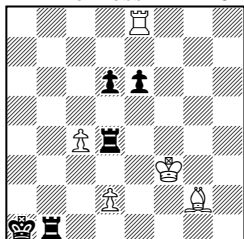
Schach 2020-2021: Avni & Minski's coproduction 1st Prize and also Avni 7th HM.

Here are selected studies by Israeli composers from those events:

A. Amatzia Avni

Vladislav Tarasiuk

1st Prize Rossi MT 2022



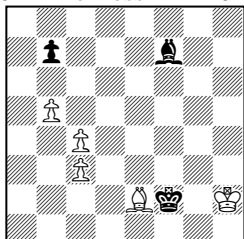
Draw 5+5

Many subtleties during bishop vs rook ending

1. ♖e3! ♜xc4 [1...e5 2.d3!= ♜b3 3.♙e4= with fortress] **2. ♜xe6 ♜e1+ 3. ♖d3 ♜xe6 4. ♙d5!!** [4. ♖xc4? ♜e2 5. ♙d5 ♜xd2+] **4... ♜h4** [4... ♜c5 5. ♙xe6 ♖b2 6. ♖d4! ♖c2 7.d3=] **5. ♙xe6 ♖b2 6. ♙f7!!** [6. ♙g8? ♜h2 7. ♖e3 ♖c2+; 6. ♙d5? ♜h2 7. ♖e3 ♜h3+ 8. ♖d4 ♖c2+] **6... ♜h2! 7. ♖e3 ♜h4 8. ♖d3!** [8. ♙e6? ♖c1 9.d4 ♖c2+] **8... ♜h2 9. ♖e3 ♖c2 10. ♙g6+** [10.d4? ♜h4! 11. ♙e6 ♖c3+] **10... ♖b3 11. ♙f7+ ♖c2 12. ♙g6+ ♖b3 13. ♙f7+ ♖b4 14.d4 ♖c3 15. ♖e4 ♜d2 16. ♖d5 ♜xd4+ 17. ♖c6 ♖d3 18. ♙d5!=**

B. Yochanan Afek

6th Prize Rossi MT 2022



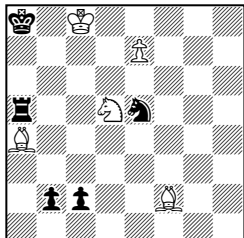
Win 5+3

We can see in this study an interesting bishop ending

1. ♙d3 ♖e3 2. ♙f1 ♖f2 [2... ♖e4 3.c5 ♖e5 4. ♖g3! ♙d5 5.c6! bxc6 6. ♙c4+! ♖xc4 7.b6+] **3. ♙g2! ♙xc4 4.b6 ♙a6 5. ♙d5!** [5. ♙h1? ♖e3 6. ♖g3 ♖d3 7. ♖f4 ♖c4! =] **5... ♖e3 6. ♖g3 ♖d3 7. ♖f4! ♖xc3 8. ♖e5 ♖b4 9. ♖d6 ♖b5 10. ♖c7+- 1-0**

C. Michael Pasman

2-4th Prize Sinfonie Scacchistiche 2022



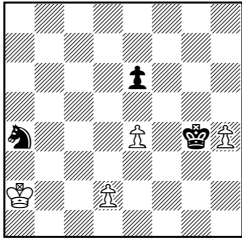
Win 5+5

1. ♙d5!! [1.e8=♖? ♜c5+!; 1. ♙xc2 ♜c5+] Main A: **1... ♖c1=♖+** [Main B : 1... ♜xd5 2. ♙xc2 ♖c4 3.e8=♙!! Phoenix (3. ♙e4 ♖d6+ 4. ♖c7 ♖e8+! 5. ♖c8 ♖d6+) 3... ♖d6+ 4. ♖xd6 ♜c5+! 5. ♙xc5 b1=♖ 6. ♖b5!! ♖xb5 7. ♙e4+ ♖b7+ 8. ♙xb7# Ideal mate.] **2. ♙c6+!!** [Logical try : 2. ♖c7+ ♖xc7+ 3. ♖xc7 ♜a7+ 4. ♙xa7 b1=♖ 5.e8=♖+ ♖xa7 Position X1 - ♙a4 takes a4 square and not allows mate] **2... ♖xc6+ 3. ♖c7+ ♖xc7+ 4. ♖xc7 ♜a7+ 5. ♙xa7 b1=♖ 6.e8=♖+ ♖xa7** [Position X2 without a4 Bishop] **7. ♖a4#** [model mate.]

D. Michael Pasman

2nd Prize

Polish Federation 2022

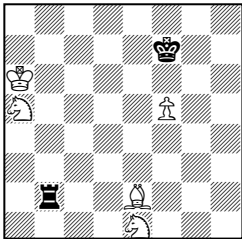


Draw 4+3

1.h5! [Try: 1.♖b3 ♖c5+ 2.♗c4 ♖xe4 3.♙d4 ♖f5 /f4] **1...♗g5!** [1...♖xh5 2.♖b3 ♖c5+ 3.♗c4 ♖d7 4.♖b5] **2.h6!** [Thematic try : 2.♖b3 ♖c5+ 3.♗c4 ♖xe4 4.h6 ♖d6+! 5.♗c5 ♖f7 6.h7 ♖g6! 7.♗c6 ♖xh7 8.♙d7 ♖g5!—+] **2...♗xh6 3.♖b3 ♖c5+ 4.♗c4 ♖d7!** [4...♖xe4 5.♙d4 ♖g5 6.♗e5 ♖g6 7.d4 ♖f7 8.d5=] **5.♗b5! ♖f6** [5...♖g6 6.♗c6 ♖e5+ 7.♙d6 ♖f6 8.d4 ♖f3 9.♗c5! ♖g5 10.e5+ ♖f5 11.d5=] **6.♗c5!** [6.♗c6 ♖xe4 7.♙d7 ♖g5!—+] **6...♗g6 7.♙d6!** [Logical try : 7.d3 ♖g7!! 8.♙d6 ♖f7!—+ White is in zugzwang] **7...♗f7 8.d3!** [zz Reciprocal zugzwang] **8...♖e8+ 9.♗c6!** [zz again reciprocal zugzwang] **9...♗e7 10.e5! ♗d8** [10...♖g7 11.d4] **11.d4 ♖c7 12.♗d6!** zz 3rd reciprocal zugzwang positions 1/2

E. Michael Pasman

1st HM 7-Notes 2022



Win 5+2

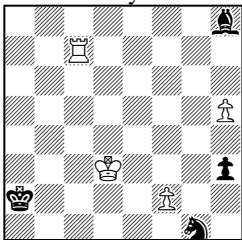
White has difficulties to keep all his pieces and f5 pawn

1.♙d3 ♙d2 [1...♙f2 2.♖c4 ♖f6 3.♖e3+—] **2.♖c4! ♙d1 3.♖e5+** [3.♖f3 ♙xd3 4.♖ce5+ ♖f6] **3...♗f6 4.♖g4+ ♗g5 5.f6!** ♙a1+ [5...♙xe1 6.f7 ♙a1+ 7.♖b7+—] **6.♗b6!** [6.♖b7 ♙xe1 7.f7 ♙e7+—] **6...♗xg4 7.♖f3!! ♗xf3** [7...♙a8 8.♖e5+ ♖g5 9.♖d7 and f7] **8.♙b5! ♗e3 9.f7 ♙a8 10.♙e8 1-0**

F. Michael Pasman

2nd Prize

Chess Study Art 2022



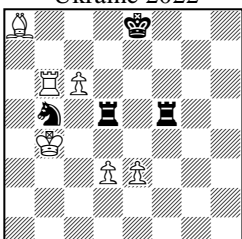
Draw 4+4

1.♙c4! [Thematic try : 1.f4 ♙b2! 2.♙c2 ♖f3! 3.♙f2 h2—+; 1.♙c2+ ♙b2 2.♙c4 ♖f3] **1...♙f6 2.f3!** Festina lente [Thematic try: 2.f4 ♙b2! 3.♙c2 (3.f5 ♖f3!) 3...♖f3 4.♙f2 h2—+] **2...♗b3 3.♙c2 ♙e5 4.f4!** [Thematic (Logical) try : 4.h6 h2 5.♙xh2 ♙xh2 6.♗e4 ♖h3 7.♖f5 ♙g1 8.♗g4 ♖f2+ 9.♖f5 ♖d3!] **4...♙xf4 5.♙c3+!** [Logical try: 5.h6 h2 6.♙xh2 ♙xh2 7.♗e4 ♖h3! 8.♖f5 ♙g1 9.♗g4 ♖f2+—+ Position X1 with Black king on b3 - black is winning] **5...♗b2** [5...♗b4?? 6.♙c4+] **6.♙c2+ ♗b1** [6...♗b3 7.♙c3+] **7.h6 h2 8.♙xh2 ♙xh2 9.♗e4! ♖h3 10.♗f5! ♙g1 11.♗g4! ♖f2+** Position X2 with Black king on b1 **12.♗f5!** Switchback [12.♖f3 ♖d1 13.h7 ♙d4—+] **12...♖d1** [12...♖d3 13.h7 ♙d4 14.♗e4=] **13.♗e5! ♖c3** [13...♗b2 14.h7 ♖c3 15.♗e6 ♙d4 16.♖f7=] **14.h7 ♖e2 15.♗e4!** [Thematic try: 15.♗e6 ♙d4 16.♖f7 ♖f4 17.♗g8 ♖g6] **15...♙d4 16.♗d3!** After a long trip the king is back on d3 with a fork 1/2

G. Michael Pasman

1st Prize Problemist of

Ukraine 2022



Draw 6+4

It looks like white needs to find a way to fork with e4...

1.c7! [Thematic try : 1.e4 ♙d4+! 2.♗a5 ♖c3+! 3.♖xf5 ♙a4#] **1...♖xc7 2.♙c6+! ♗f8 3.♙b8+** [Thematic try : 3.e4 fork 3...♙f4! 4.♙b8+ ♗e7 5.♙b7 ♙d8! 6.♖c5 ♙c8! 7.♖b6 ♙d8!—+] **3...♗e7 4.♙b7!** [4.♙xd5 ♖a6+!] **4...♙c5! 5.e4!** [5.♙xc7+ ♙d6 6.♙c8 ♙xc6—+] **5...♙h5** [5...♙g5 is the same 6.♙xc7+ ♙d6 7.e5+!] **6.♙xc7+ ♗d6 7.e5+!! ♖hx5** [7...♙xc5 8.♙c8=] **8.d4!** Now comes the fork with d-pawn **8...♗xc7 9.♙a4!** While thematic try is the fork with e-pawn to black d5 and f5 rooks, the real solution and main line is with rooks moved one file to left and fork with d-pawn 1/2

מקוריות Originals

IRT judges: #2: Marco Guida (2023); #3: Hartmut Laue (2022-23) #n: Aleksandr Kuzovkov (2021-23); Studies: Jan Sprenger (2023); H#: undetermined (2023); S#: undetermined (2023-24); Fairies: James Quah (2023)

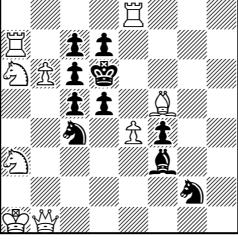
Editors:

Orthodox (#n,H#n,S#n): **Ofer Comay** ofercomay@gmail.com
 Studies: **Gady Costeff** costeff@gmail.com
 (Please send originals in pgn format)
 Fairies: **Michael Grushko** bargrushko@bezeqint.net

עורכים:
 בעיות רגילות: עופר קומאי
 סיומים: גדי קוסטף
 (נא לשלוח מקוריות בפורמט pgn)
 בעיות אגדתיות: מיכאל גרושקו

All fairy definitions can be found here: <http://www.variantim.org/FairyDefinitions.pdf>

4046
David Shtern
 Petach Tikva



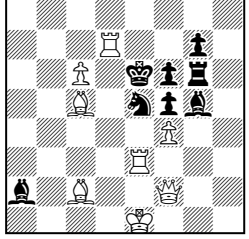
#2vvv 9+10

4047
Givi Mosiashvili
 Georgia



#2vv 8+11

4048
Alexander Pankratiev



#2* 8+8

4049
Miroslav Svitek
 Czech Rep.



#2vv 10+12

4050
Mykola Cherniavskiy
Daniil Yakimovich
 Ukraine/USA



#2vv 9+6

4051
Zoltan Labai
Miroslav Svitek
 Slovakia/Czech Rep.



#2*v 12+7

4052
Rauf Aliovsadsade
Leonid Makaronez
 USA/Haifa



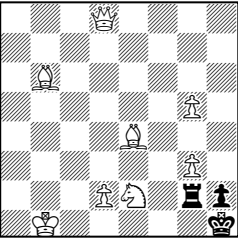
#3* 8+8

4053
Petrasin Petrasinovic
 Serbia



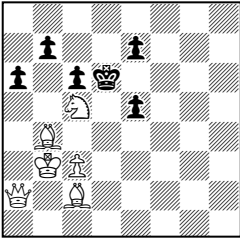
#4* 5+3

4054
David Shtern
 Petach Tikva



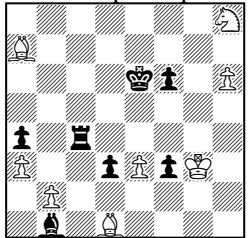
#4 8+3

4055
David Shtern
 Petach Tikva



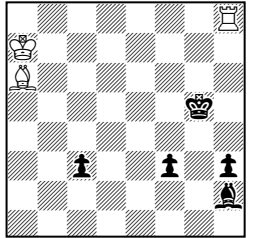
#4 6+6

4056
Yochanan Afek
 Netherlands
 Dedicated to the
 Afek 70 participants



Win 8+7

4057
Michael Pasman
 Meitar



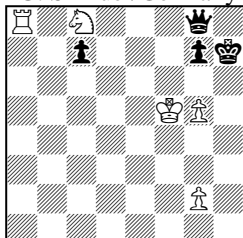
Draw 3+5

4058

Amatzia Avni

Martin Minski

G. Shmuel/Germany

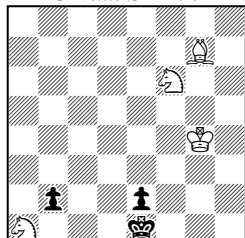


Win 5+4

4059

Amatzia Avni

Givaat Shmuel



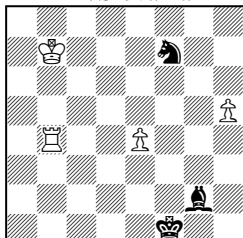
Draw 4+3

4060

Pavel Arestov

Michal Hlinka

---/Slovakia



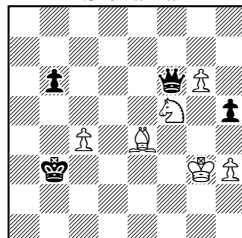
Win 4+3

4061

Michal Hlinka

Luboš Kekely

Slovakia



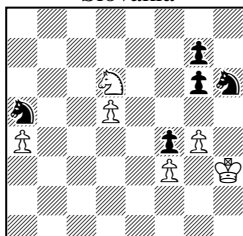
Win 6+4

4062

Michal Hlinka

Luboš Kekely

Slovakia



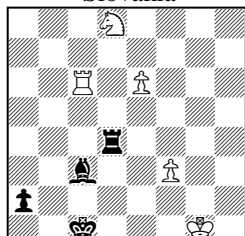
Win 6+6

4063

Michal Hlinka

Luboš Kekely

Slovakia

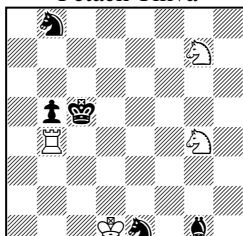


Draw 5+4

4064

Yehuda Hoch

Petach Tikva

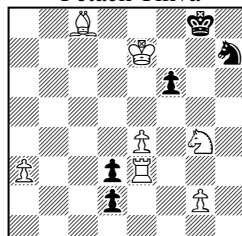


Win 4+5

4065

Yehuda Hoch

Petach Tikva

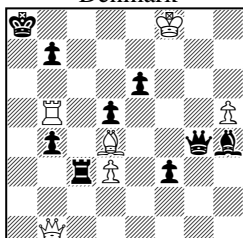


Win B→ 7+5

4066

Steffen Nielsen

Denmark

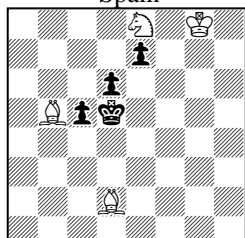


Win 6+9

4067

Miguel Uris

Spain

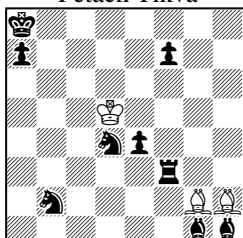


H#2* 4+4

4068

David Shtern

Petach Tikva

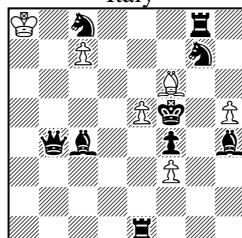


H#2 2.1.1.1 3+9

4069

Mario Parrinello

Italy



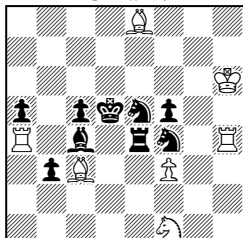
H#2 b) ♖c7→f2 6+9

4070

Mykola Vasyuchko,

Mykhailo Galma

Ukraine

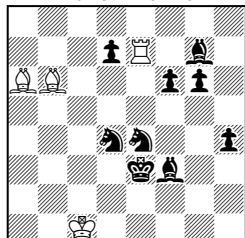


H#2 b) ♖f3→b2 7+9

4071

Shaul Shamir

Rishon LeZion

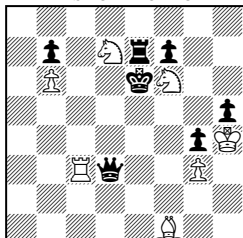


H#2 b) ♗g7→c3 4+9
c) ♜h4→d5 d) ♜d7→d5
e) ♞b6→f8

4072

Shaul Shamir

Rishon LeZion



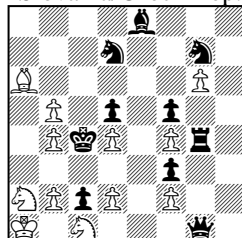
H#2 2.1.1.1 7+7

4073

Zoltan Labai

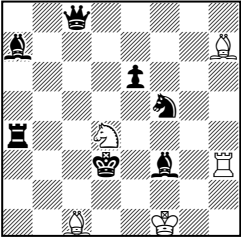
Miroslav Svitek

Slovakia/Czech Rep.



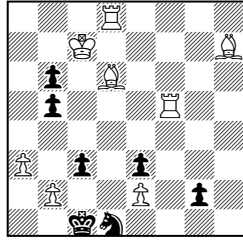
H#2 2.1.1.1 12+10

4074
Evgeny Gavryliv
Ukraine



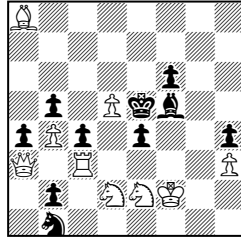
H#2 2.1.1.1 5+7

4075
Alexander Pankratiev



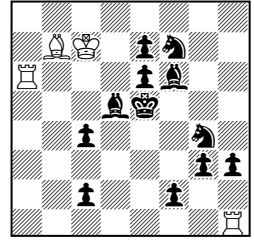
H#2 b) ♞d1→f3 8+7

4076
Hans Uitenbroek
Netherlands



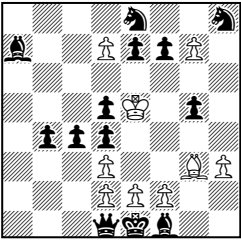
H#2 3.1.1.1 9+10

4077
Nikola Stolev
North Macedonia



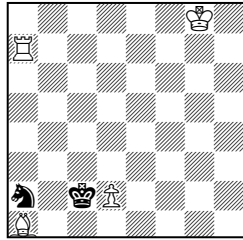
H#2.5 b) ♜e7→e4 4+12

4078
Evgeny Gavryliv
Ivan Soroka
Ukraine



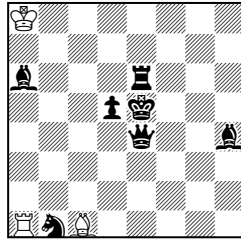
H#2.5 4.1.1.. 9+13

4079
Yehudah Hoch
Ofer Comay
Petach Tikva/Tel Aviv



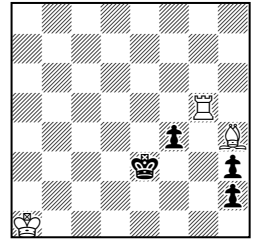
H#3 b) ♞a1⇌♞a7 4+2

4080
Alexey Ivunin
Alexander Pankratiev



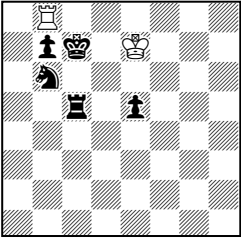
H#3 2.1.1.. 3+7

4081
Alexey Ivunin



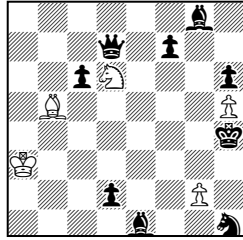
H#3 2.1.1.. 3+4

4082
Mykhailo Galma
Ukraine



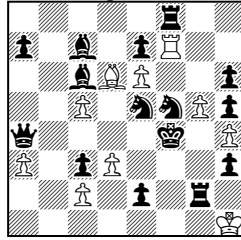
H#3 2.1.1.. 2+5

4083
Valery Barsukov



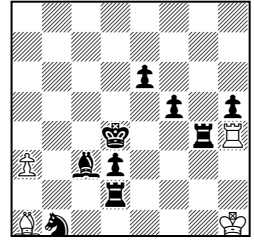
H#3 2.1.1.. 5+9

4084
Jorge Lois
Argentina



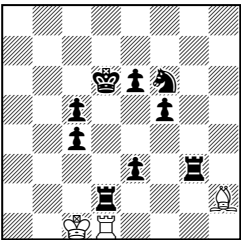
H#3 2.1.1.. 10+15

4085
Evgeny Gavryliv
Ukraine



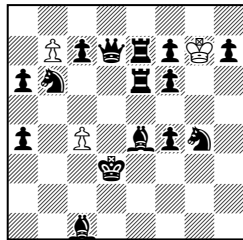
H#3.5 b) ♜e6→d5 4+9

4086
Alexey Ivunin
Alexander Pankratiev



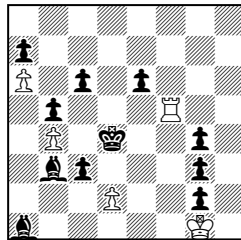
H#3.5 2.1.1.. 3+9

4087
Ofer Comay
Tel Aviv



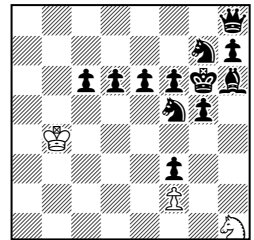
H#3.5 2.1.1.. 3+15

4088
Christopher Jones
UK



H#4 2.1.1.. 5+11

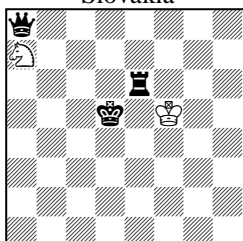
4089
Zlatko Mihajlovski
North Macedonia



H#4.5 2.1.1.. 3+12

4090

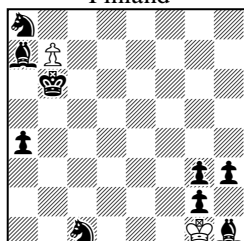
Alexander Fica
Zoltan Labai
Slovakia



H#5 b) ♖f5→d3 2+3
c) ♘a7→d8 d) ♙a8→a1

4091

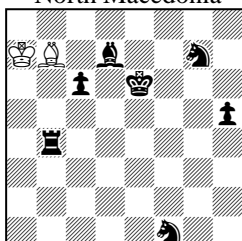
Marko Ylijoki
Finland



H#5.5 2.1.1.. 2+9

4092

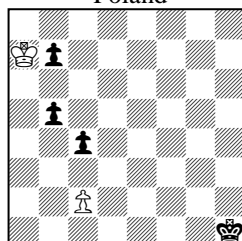
Zlatko Mihajlovski
North Macedonia



H#6.5 2.1.1.. 2+7

4093

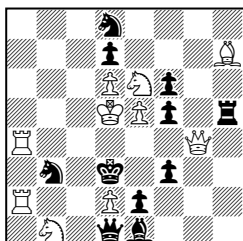
Krzysztof Drazkowski
Poland



H#8 2+4

4094

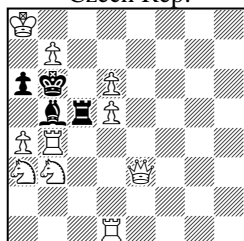
Alexander Pankratiev
Yuri Gorbatenko



S#3 10+11

4095

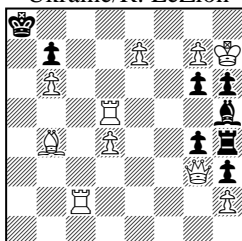
Jiri Jelinek
Alexander Fica
Czech Rep.



S#6 2 sol. 10+4

4096

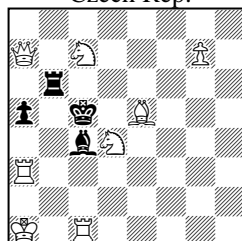
Sergey I. Tkachenko
Leonid Lyubashevsky
Ukraine/R. LeZion



S#7 10+8

4097

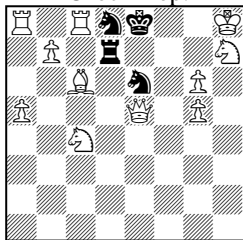
Alexander Fica
Czech Rep.



S#7 8+4

4098

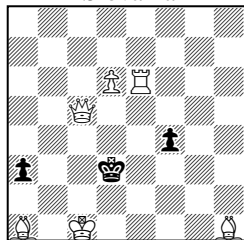
A. Fica J. Jelinek
Czech Rep.



S#8 b) ♖h8→a6 11+4

4099

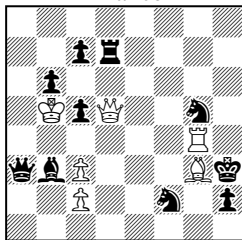
Jozef Holubec
Slovakia



S#10 a) ♙a3→b3 6+3
b) ♙d6→g6

4100

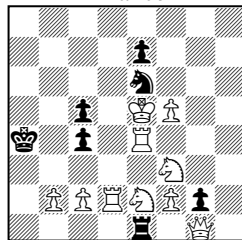
Abdelaziz Onkoud
France



HS#3.5 2.1.1.. 6+10

4101

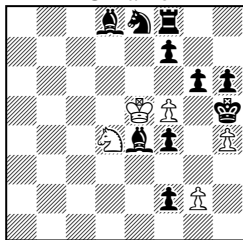
Abdelaziz Onkoud
France



HS#4 2.1.1.. 10+7

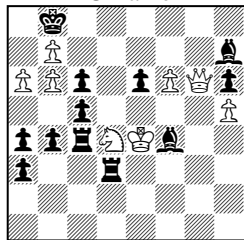
4102

Oleg Paradzinskij
Ukraine



Ser-S=11 Masand 5+10

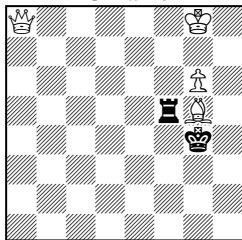
4103 M. Vasyuchko
M. Galma
Ukraine



HS#3 b) ♙e6→e2 8+12

4104

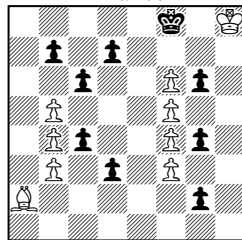
Ivan Bryukhanov
Ukraine



S#9 Circe 4+2

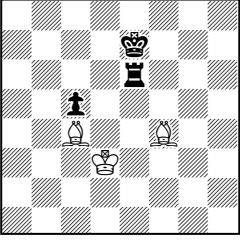
4105

Sébastien Luce
France



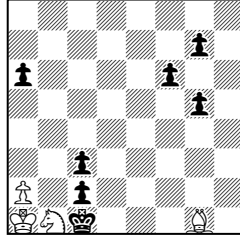
Ser==20 9+9

4106
Niels Danstrup
Denmark



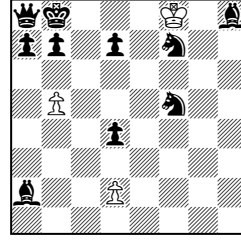
H#4 DuellistChess 3+3

4107
Luboš Kekely
Slovakia



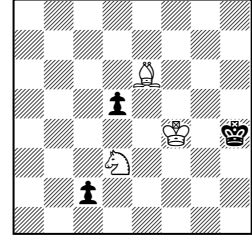
PSer-S#12 4+7

4108
Luboš Kekely
Slovakia



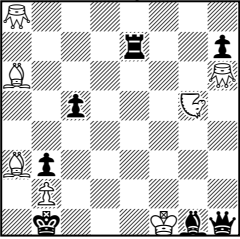
Ser-S#35 3+10

4109
Pascale Piet
France



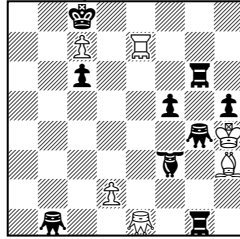
Ser-H#10 Circe 3+3

4110
Antonio Garofalo
Italy



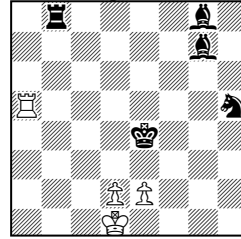
H#2 b) ♖g5→g4 7+7
G.hopper ♞ N.rider ♜

4111 A. Garofalo
Paz Einat
Italy/Nes Ziona



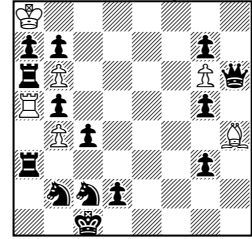
HS#5 6+9
Gr.R.B hopper ♞ ♞ ♞

4112
Jorge Lois
Argentina



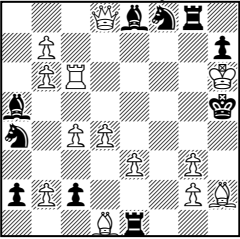
H#2 b) ♖a5→a6 4+5
MirrorAntiCirce

4113
Armin Geister
Germany



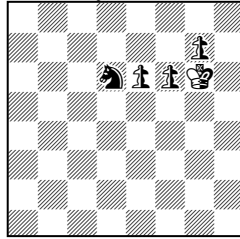
HS#3 b) HS=3 6+14
AntiCirce Calvet

4114 Armin Geister
Daniel Papack
Germany



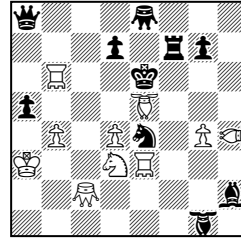
HS#3 b) ♞a4→a6 13+10
AntiMarsCirce MarsCirce

4115
Michael Grushko
Kiryat Bialik



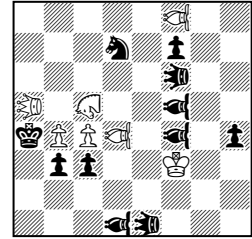
Ser-H#23 4+1
ABC Circe Einstein
Take&Make Neutrals

4116
Semion Shifrin
Nesher



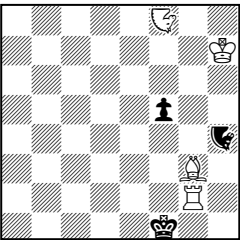
H#2 b) ♖e3→a5 10+10
R-hopper ♞ B-hopper ♜
B-Lion ♞

4117
Semion Shifrin
Nesher



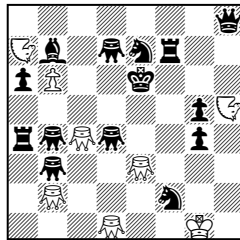
HS#4 2.1.1.. 7+11
Leo ♞ Vao ♞ Nao ♞

4118 M. Vasyuchko
M. Galma
Ukraine



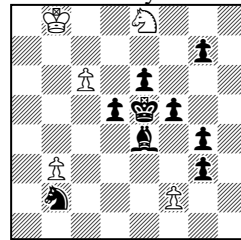
Ser-H#8 b) ♜f5→a7 4+3
Nightrider ♜

4119
Juraj Lörinc
Slovakia



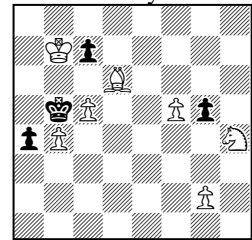
H#2 b) ♖g1♞♞♞a4 8+14
G.hopper ♞ N.rider ♜

4120
Alberto Armeni
Italy



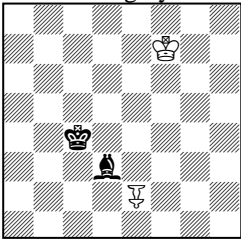
H#2 2.1.1.1 5+9
Take&Make

4121
Alberto Armeni
Italy



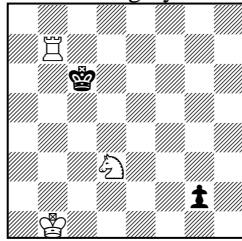
H#2 b) ♜h4→g4 7+4
Take&Make

4122
Janos Mikitovics
 Hungary



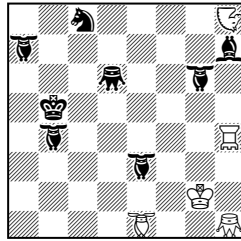
H#3 b) ♖c4→f1 2+2
 CirceDoubleAgents
 Berolina superpawn ♚

4123
Janos Mikitovics
 Hungary



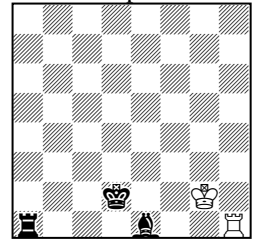
H#3 3+2
 SwappingKings
 Twins see below

4124
Waldemar Tura
 Poland



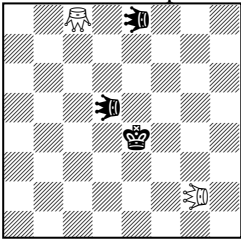
H#3* 5+9
 G.hopper ♖ N.rider ♚
 R.hopper ♖ B.hopper ♚

4125
Hironori Oikawa
 Japan



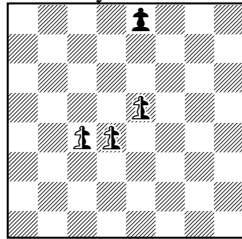
H#3 2.1.1.. 2+3
 EinsteinChess

4126
Vaclav Kotesovec
 Czech Rep.



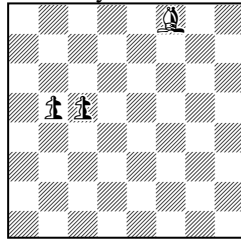
H#6 4.1.1.. 2+3
 G.hopper ♖ Lion ♚

4127
Michael Grushko
 Kiryat Bialik



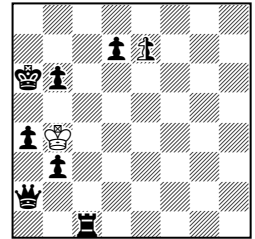
HS#15 Neutrals 0+3+1
 ABC Circe Einstein
 RepublicanChess

4128
Michael Grushko
 Kiryat Bialik



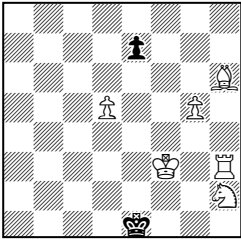
HS#12 Neutrals 0+3+0
 ABC PWC Einstein
 RepublicanChess

4129
Sébastien Luce
 France



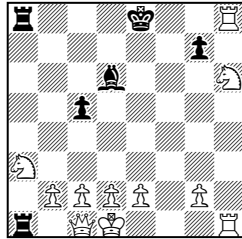
Ser-#9 2.1.1.. 2+7
 Circe, Neutral ♚

4130 Euboš Kekely
 Slovakia



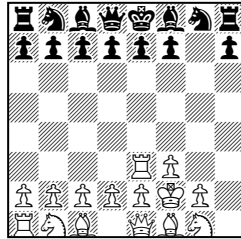
Ser-H=13 6+2
 ChecklessChess

4131 Ofer Comay
 Tel Aviv



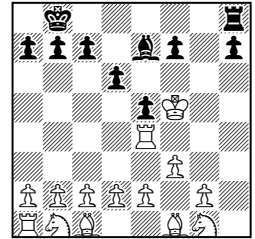
PG16.5 11+6

4132a Paul Raican
 Romania



PG6 #remove 15+15

4132b Paul Raican
 Romania



PG #remove 14+10

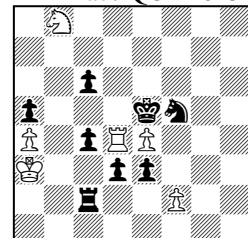
4123 twins: b) ♖d3→b3 c) b+ ♖b3→d6 d) c+ ♖b1→c2
 e) d+ ♖c2→d4 f) e+ b♖c6→e6 g) f+ ♖d6→b6 h) g+ ♚g2→a2
 i) h+ ♖b6→g6 j) i+ ♖d4→e4 k) j+ ♚a2→b2 l) k+ ♖e4→g1
 m) l+ w♖b2 2 sol. n) m+ ♖g6→f5 o) n+ ♖g1→b1
 p) o+ ♖b2→d7 q) p+ ♚c7 r) q+ ♚c7 s) r+ -♖b7 ♖b1→b7
 t) s+ ♖f5→e7 u) t+ -♚c7 v) u+ ♖b7→d8 z) v+ Kb7→d8

מנחם ועמנואל שתפו פעולה דרך הוואטסאפ ובבעיה שזכתה במקום הרביעי
 המעמד והפתרון מראים מטי מודל נחמדים עם שינוי מיקום של המלך
 השחור.

...2.♖g7 fxe3 3.♖e6 ♖d7#

1...♖xd3 2.c5 ♖xe3 3.♖d4 ♖c6#

Menachem Witztum
Emanuel Navon
 4th Place QCT 2023



H#2.5*

6+8

כנס שנתי 2023 – פז עינת Annual Meeting 2023

הכנס השנתי נערך ב 13- באפריל והתקיים בקמפוס יח"ד למחוננים ברעננה. משתתפים: עופר קומאי, עומר פרידלנד, מרק ארנבורג, רפי רופין, מנחם ויצטום, מיכאל גרושקן, לב גליאנצשפיגל, אהוד גולדברג, דריה דווגלזובה ופז עינת. מזכיר הכנס היה עומר פרידלנד והיו"ר פז עינת.

הכנס נפתח בדקת דומיה לזכרו של יוסי רטר. פז עדכן את הנוכחים בעיקרי ההחלטות מהקונגרס הבין לאומי ובאירועים הבינלאומיים השונים. תחרויות חיבור: הזוכה הזכייה של ישראל במקום ה-6 באליפות העולם בחיבור, WCCT-11, למרות שכמה מהבעיות שלנו דורגו נמוך באופן משמעותי מהצפוי. העדכון על התחרויות המתמידות כלל הסכמה של עופר לשפוט את תחרות מטי העזר לשנת 2016 (במקום השופט שנקבע במקור). יש צורך למצוא שופט למטי עזר לשנת 2018. דוח האגדתי החסר לשנת 2014 נמצא בתהליך שיפוט על ידי השופט המקורי (אריק הובר). הוסכם לקיים תחרויות חיבור לזכרם של אריה גרינבלט ויוסי רטר.

תחרויות פתרונים: פז עדכן על התקדמות אליפות הארץ בפתרון בעיות. שלבי רבע הגמר וחצי הגמר הסתיימו במספר משתתפים דומה לשנה שעברה. הגמר יערך במסגרת של תחרות פתוחה ב-25 ביוני ברעננה.

לאחר העדכון על המצב הכספי של האיגוד שאלו חברי ועדת הביקורת מספר שאלות וקבלו תשובות מפורטות. הדוח לשנת 2022 ניתן עם פירוט מלא וסיכום ייתן לאחר שרואה החשבון יעבור על כל הפרטים.

בחירות לוועד: ההצעה להשאיר את הוועד בהרכב הנוכחי (פז, עופר, מרק, מיכאל ושאל) התקבלה פה אחד. כנציג לקונגרס נבחר שוב יוחנן אפק. אם לא יוכל להגיע פז ימלא את התפקיד.

התקבלה ההצעה להעלות את דמי החבר החל משנת 2024 כדלקמן: דמי חבר רגילים – 250 ש"ח, גמלאים, נוער חיילים ונשים – 200 ש"ח, דמי עמית – 300 ש"ח, מי שלא היה חבר באיגוד ב-3 השנים האחרונות – 120 ש"ח.

תחרויות בכנס. בתחרות הפתרונים זכה במקום הראשון לב גליאנצשפיגל, בשני עומר פרידלנד, בשלישי אהוד גולדברג וברביעי דריה דווגלזובה.

תחרות החיבור למט ב-2 נשפטה על ידי עופר קומאי ודרשה הגנה של שחור הסוגרת קו לבן ומונעת בכך את האיום, אך מאפשרת מט על ידי פתיחת קו לבן. בפרס זכתה הבעיה היחידה שהוגשה של פז עינת המראה שלושה שינויי מטים, העברת מט והופעה של המטים התמטיים כאיום כפול בהתעיה נוספת.

Set play: 1...♠d2 a 2.f4 A #
 1.♠a2 ? [2.♠h2#] 1...♠b2 a, 2.♠e6 B # but 1...♠d2 b ! 1.♠c3 ? [2.f4 A,♠e6 B #] but 1...gxf6 !
 1.♠c2 ! [2.♠h2#] 1...♠d2 a 2.♠xc7# 1...♠d2 b 2.f4 A # 1...♠f7 2.♠f5#

תחרות החיבור למט עזר נשפטה ע"י מרק ארנבורג וביקשה בעיות ב-2.5 מסעים עם משחק במעמד בו ללבן אין מסע טמפו. עופר זכה במקום הראשון עם בעיה נהדרת המראה את ארבעת הגלגולים. בוורסיה יש שלושה גלגולים במעמד ושלושה בפתרונים עם מניעת דואלים, התעיות ומסעים לאותה ערוגה.

Set: i) ...2.♠f6 e8=♠ 3.♠d5 ♠g7# (2.♠b7 e8=♠? 3.♠d5 ♠g7#? 4.♠xg7!) ii) ...2.♠b7 e8=♠ 3.♠d5 ♠d7# (2.♠f6 e8=♠? 3.♠d5 ♠d7#? 4.♠xd7!) iii) ...2.♠d5 e8=♠ 3.♠c6+ ♠xc6#

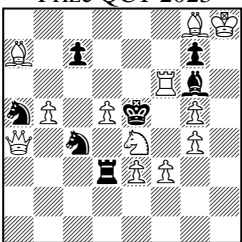
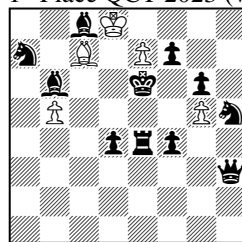
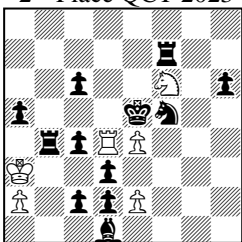
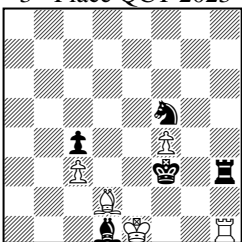
Tries: 1...e8=♠ 2.♠f6? zz 3.♠d5 ♠g7# 1...e8=♠ 2.♠b7? zz 3.♠d5 ♠d7# 1...e8=♠+? 2.♠d5 zz
 3.♠c6+ ♠xc6# Solutions: i) 1...e8=♠ 2.♠c5 ♠xf4 3.♠f5 (f5?) ♠c7# ii) 1...e8=♠ 2.♠xb5 ♠xb5 3.f5 (♠f5?) ♠c4# iii) 1...e8=♠+ 2.♠f5 ♠xe4 3.♠g4 ♠e5#

בבעיית המקום השני של מנחם משחק במעמד כפול ושני פתרונים, עם משחק נאה של הרגלים הלבנים.

...2.♠f4 e4-e5 + 3.♠g5 ♠g4 # ...2.♠e7 e2-e3 3.♠e6 ♠d7#
 1...♠d8 2.♠e6 e4-e5 3.♠e7 ♠e8# 1...xf5 2.♠xd4 e2-e3 + 3.♠c3 ♠e4#

בבעיית המקום השלישי משחק נחמד סביב ההצרה הלבנה.

...2.♠g3 0-0 3.♠g4 ♠e1# 1...0-0 + 2.♠e2 ♠g2 3.♠d3 ♠f2#

Paz Einat Prize QCT 2023	Ofer Comay 1 st Place QCT 2023 (v)	Menachem Witztum 2 nd Place QCT 2023	Paz Einat 3 rd Place QCT 2023
			
#2	H#2.5* 3.1.1.. 5+11	H#2.5* 2.1.1.. 6+12	H#2.5* 5+5

דבר המערכת

כנס הפרובלמאים השנתי נערך ב-13 באפריל ברעננה ודיווח עליו ועל תחרויות החיבור והפתרונים מופיע בעמ' 38. דוח תחרות קדם הכנס מופיע בעמ' 25. השתתפו בכנס 11 חברים ואנו מקווים להשתתפות ערה יותר בשנה הבאה.

במוקד החוברת הגדולה ביותר שהוצאנו אי פעם שלוש תחרויות יובל: יובל ה-90 של ז'אן היימן (בשיפוטו של ריקרדו ויירה), יובל ה-70 של מנחם ויצטום בשיפוטו ויובל ה-70 של יוחנן אפק (התחרות המתמדת ל 2022 בשיפוטו של ארפד רויז). שלוש התחרויות הן ברמה גבוהה מאד ותמצאו בהן שלל של בעיות וסיומים משובחים.

תחרות יובל ה-90 של ז'אן (עמ' 2) היתה על נושאי גמאז' ווריאציות של גוטהרט. שלושה מארבעת הפרסים הלכו לעמנואל נבון, מנחם ויצטום ושואל שמיר. תחרות אתגר ה-70 של מנחם (עמ' 5) ביקשה סגירות קווים מראש על ידי לבן ושחור. בין 11 הפרסים דורגו בעיות של מרק ארנבורג, שאול שמיר ופז עינת. בין המשתתפים בתחרות יובל ה-70 של יוחנן (עמ' 15) דורגה יצירה משותפת של אמציה אבני ומרטין מינסקי. ברכותנו לכל הזוכים בפרסים!

המדור של גדי (עמ' 12) עוסק הפעם במיניאטורות בהשראתו של ספרו החדש של יוחנן אפק "אנתולוגיה של סיומים מיניאטוריים". גדי מביא כמה דוגמאות ליופי הטמון בהדגמה של עושר רעיוני במספר מצומצם של כלים.

דוח התחרות המתמדת למט ב-3 לשנים 2020-21 בשיפוטו של סרגי ביליק מופיע בעמ' 20. בין ציוני הכבוד, בעיות של סמיון שיפרין ויצחק נבו.

דוח התחרות המתמדת למט לדעת לשנים 2017-18 בשיפוטו של פטקו פטקוב מופיע בעמ' 24. בפרס ראשון-שני זכתה בעיה של יבגני בורד, בציון כבוד זכתה בעיה משותפת שלו עם מנחם ויצטום ובעיה של יוסי רטר ז"ל זכתה בציון שבה.

במדור של עמנואל רפי חוזר אל הרב מסעיות, בעיה סדרתית נהדרת בשיתוף פעולה בין עופר, מנחם וריקרדו ויירה ובעיית לצ'ני אגדתית בשיתוף בין העורך למומחה העולמי בתחום, פיטר גבוודיאק.

מבול ההצטיינות בתחום הסיומים נמשך ללא לאות ומיכאל פסמן במדורו מונה למעלה מ-20 הצטיינות ומפרסם מהן שבעה סיומים נהדרים של אמציה, יוחנן ומיכאל.

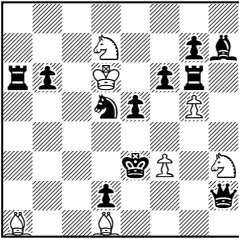
גמר אליפות הארץ בפתרון בעיות שחמט 2023

גמר אליפות הארץ ה-38 בפתרון בעיות שחמט יערך ב-25 ביוני בקמפוס יח"ד למחוננים, רעננה. התחרות היא בין לאומית ותערך בו-זמנית בעוד כמה מדינות באותו זמן. מוזמנים אל הגמר 50 הראשונים משלב חצי הגמר, 5 הראשונים מאליפות השנה שעברה, כל מי שהוא בעל תואר בין-לאומי בפתרון בעיות שחמט וכל מי שיש לו מד כושר של לפחות 2400 נקודות בפתרון בעיות שחמט. התארים ומד הכושר הם על ידי האיגוד העולמי לקומפוזיציה שחמטית. במקביל לתחרות הראשית תערך תחרות משנית קלה יותר, שתכלול 6 בעיות בכל סיבוב (כמו בתחרות הראשית), כאשר המשתתפים יוכלו לבחור באיזו תחרות הם משתתפים. בשלב חצי הגמר השתתפו השנה 56 פותרים מהם 14 פתרו נכונה את כל 6 הבעיות וצברו את מלוא 30 הנקודות. בפרסי ספרים זכו הפותרים החדשים חי סלם, עמוס נוי ורועי קר.

Appendix - Pre-Annual Composing Tourney 2023

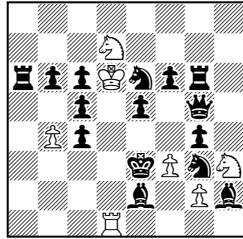
A. Francesco Simoni 2nd Prize

The Problemist 2018



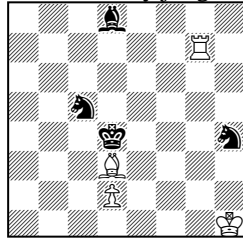
H#2 3.1.1.1 7+11

B. Raul Jordan Daniel Papack Gaudium 2019



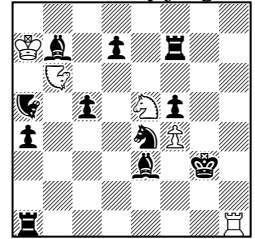
H#2 3.1.1.1 7+15

C. No.1 Version by judge



H#2 b) ♗d3→e4 4+4

D. No.17 Version by judge



H#2 2.1.1.1 5+11
b) ♖'s=Rook-lions

A: 1. ♖e2 ♗xe5 2. ♖d3 ♗g4# 1. ♖a3 ♗xb6 2. ♖d3 ♗c4# 1. ♖g5 ♗xf6 2. ♗d3 ♗xd5#

B: 1. ♗f1 ♗xb6 2. ♗e2 ♗xc4# 1. cxb4 ♗xf6 2. c5 ♗d5# 1. ♖h6 ♗xe5 2. ♗g5 ♗xg4#

C: a) 1. ♗f3 ♖g6 2. ♗e5 ♖d6# b) 1. ♗f6 ♖b7 2. ♗e5 ♖b4#

D: a) 1. ♗f2 ♗xd7 2. ♗g2 ♗h5# 1. ♗f2 ♗xa4 2. ♗g2 ♗e2#

b) 1. ♗f2 ♗xa4 2. ♗g2 + ♗e2# 1. ♗f2 ♗xd7 2. ♗g2 + ♗h5#

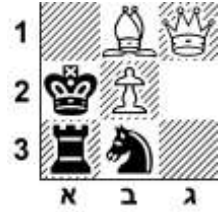
וּרְיָאנְטִים

ביטאון האיגוד לקומפוזיציה שחמטית בישראל

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מס' 89 – אפריל 2023



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עורכי מדורי בעיות מקוריות:

רגילות: עופר קומאי

סיומים: גדי קוסטף

אגדתיות: מיכאל גרושקו, ת.ד. 363, קרית ביאליק 27019

האיגוד לקומפוזיציה שחמטית בישראל הוא עמותה שמטרתה לקדם את תחום בעיות השחמט בישראל. העמותה עורכת תחרויות חיבור, תחרויות פתרונים, ומפרסמת פרסומים שונים. העמותה משתתפת באירועים בינלאומיים הכוללים את אליפות העולם בפתרון בעיות שחמט, אליפות העולם בחיבור בעיות שחמט ואירועים נוספים.

הברות באיגוד לקומפוזיציה 2023

החברות באיגוד הקומפוזיציה פתוחה לכל חובבי השחמט ובעיות השחמט.

דמי החבר כוללים קבלת חוברת וריאנטים ופרסומים נוספים והשתתפות במגוון אירועים.

דמי חבר רגילים: 210 ש"ח. דמי חבר לנוער, חיילים בחובה וגמלאים: 160 ש"ח. דמי עמית: 260 ש"ח.

למצטרפים חדשים, או מי שלא היה חבר בשלוש השנים האחרונות, דמי החבר הם 100 ש"ח.

ניתן לשלם את דמי החבר בהעברה בנקאית, פרטים אצל העורך.



הזוכים בתחרויות המהירות בכנס הפרובלמאים: משמאל, עופר קומאי מקבל את הגביע בתחרות למטי עזר

מהשופט, מרק ארנבורג. מימין, פז עינת מקבל את הגביע בתחרות למט ב-2 מהשופט עופר קומאי.

Winners of the quick composing tourneys in the annual meeting. Left: Ofer Comay receiving the cup on the helpmate tourney from judge Mark Erenburg. Right: Paz Einat receiving the cup on the #2 tourney from judge Ofer Comay.