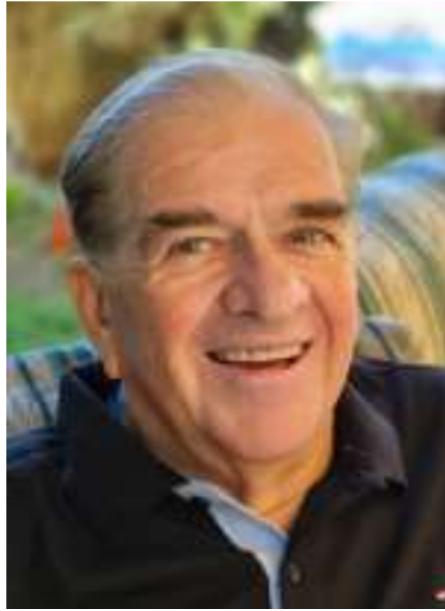


Menachem Witztum 70 Challenge Tourney



Judge: Menachem Witztum

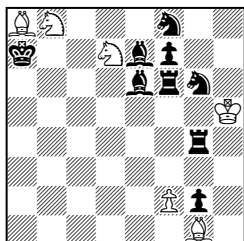
I would like first to thank my wife **Nilly** who, even though I hesitated, encouraged me to hold this tourney as a continuation to the Witztum 50 JT. I deliberated a lot in choosing the theme and I finally decided on a challenging one, which seemed original but rather difficult. I was happy to find 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.

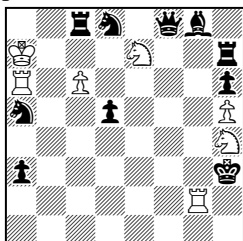
Witztum, 70 Challenge Tourney – List of participants: Bos. Herz: Fadil Abdurahmanović - 3*, Marko Klasinc - 3*; Switzerland: Andreas Schönholzer - 1; Russia: Ivan Antipin - 1*, Eugene Fomichev - 3, Valery Gurov - 1, Vitaly Medintsev - 4*, Anatoly Skripnik - 4*; France: Michel Caillaud - 2*, Maryan Kerhue -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: Lkhundevin Togookhuu - 2; Netherland: Hans Uitenbroek - 1; Brazil: Ricardo de Mattos Vieira- 4.

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.

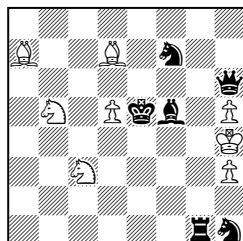
Theme examples: Menachem Witztum, original



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

Vitaly Medintsev
Ivan Antipin
1-2nd Prize

Ralf Krätschmer
Franz Pachl
3rd Prize

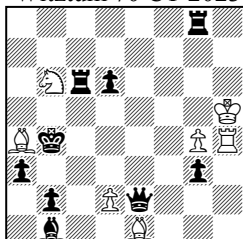
Valery Semenenko
4th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

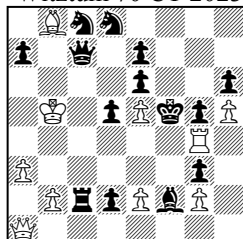
Witztum 70 CT 2023

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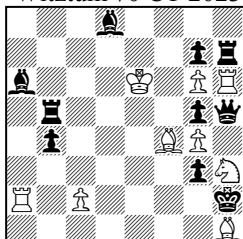
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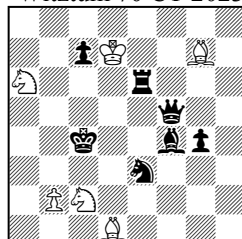
H#2 b) ♗b6→b7 7+9



H#2 2.1.1.1 10+14



H#2 2.1.1.1 9+10



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 ♙xc6 #

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. 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# 1. ♖b3 ♙c3 2. ♗xa2 ♘e2#

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

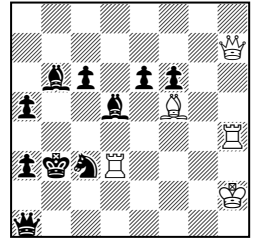
bRe7/bRd4 open a gate to the bQ providing a hideaway square by preventing a check. These are critical moves. wSg5 must choose the right square so it can both block and guard e6. A nice play of line opening and closing that involves dual avoidance.

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

Mario Parrinello

5th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023



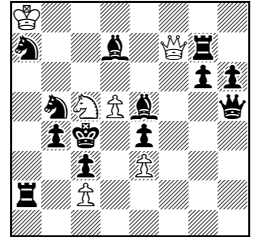
H#2 2.1.1.1 5+10

F. Abdurahmanovic

Marko Klasinc

6th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

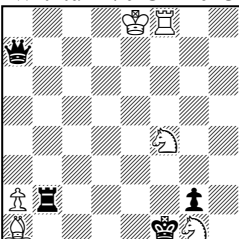


H#2 2.1.1.1 6+13

Michel Caillaud

7th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

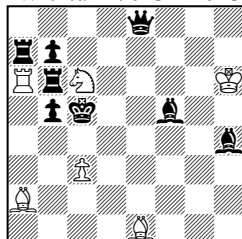


H#2 2.1.1.1 6+4

Ricardo Vieira

8th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

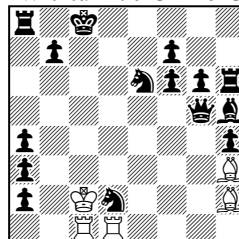


H#2 b)wSe1 6+8

Anatoly Vasylenko

9th Prize

Witztum 70 CT 2023

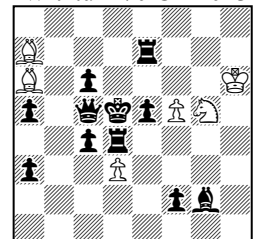


H#2 2.1.1.1 5+15

Mark Erenburg

10th Prize

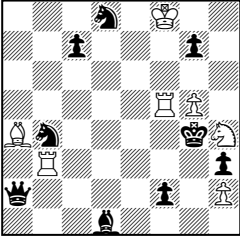
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H#2 b) -♙c6 6+11

S. Shamir & P. Einat
Sp. Prize

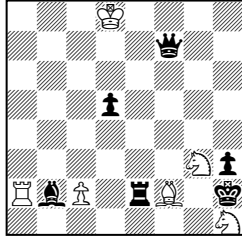
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H#2 b) ♖g4→h5 7+9

Anatoly Skripnik
Sp.HM

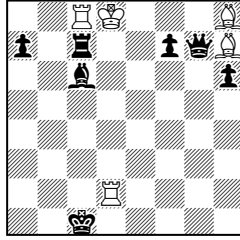
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H#2 6+6
b) Kd8→a4 & ♕f7→h7

Vitaly Medintsev
1st HM

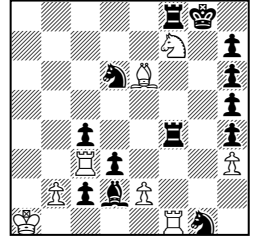
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+7

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#

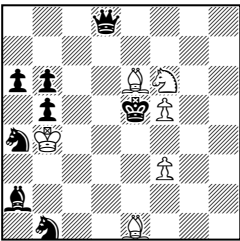
5th Honourable Mention: Viktor Syzonenko. The 2 bSs prevent checks by bQ/bB that block the same square – d3. wSc3 blocks twice on e2/e4. 1. Sc4 Se2 2. Qxd3 Sf1# 1. Sb5 Se4 2. Bxd3 Sf5#

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

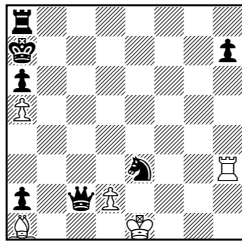
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H#2 b) ♗b1→f1 6+8
c) ♖e1→a7

Dimitris Liakos
4th HM

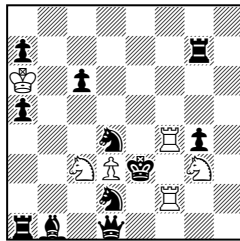
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+7

Viktor Syzonenko
5th HM

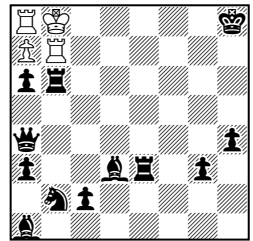
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H#2 2.1.1.1 6+11

L. Togookhuu
6th HM

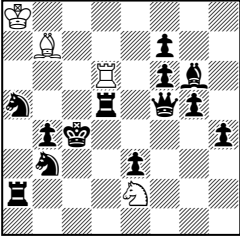
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H#2 b) ♗b2→a5 4+12

János Csák
7th HM

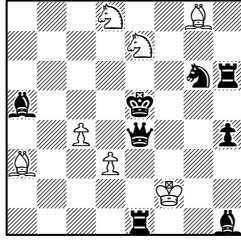
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H#2 b) ♖c4⇒♚f5 4+13

Jorge J. Lois
8th HM

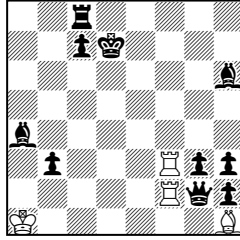
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H#2 b) Sd8→e8 7+8
c) ♖e4⇒♜h6

Aleksandr Semenenko
9th HM

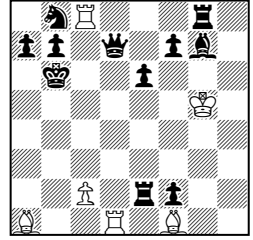
Witztum 70 CT 2023



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.

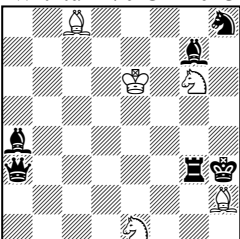
1. ♚c5 ♘e6 2. ♚c6 ♚c4# 1. ♚b6 ♘f7 2. ♚b7 ♚b3#

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

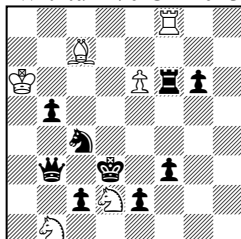
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+6

Nikola Stolev
12th HM

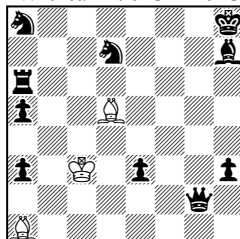
Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 b) ♗c7→e7 6+9

Ricardo Vieira
13th HM

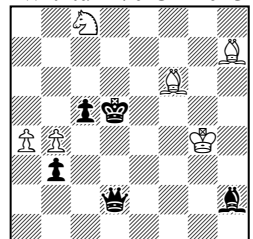
Witztum 70 CT 2023



H#2 2.1.1.1 3+10

Dimitris Liakos
14th HM

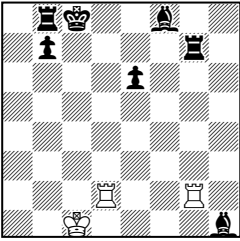
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H#2 b) ♘h2→e5 6+5

Dimitris Liakos15th HM

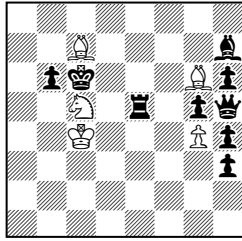
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H#2 2.1.1.1 3+7

Dimitris Liakos16th HM

Witztum 70 CT 2023

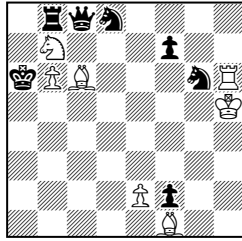


H#2 2.1.1.1 5+9

Vitaly Medintsev

Sp. Com

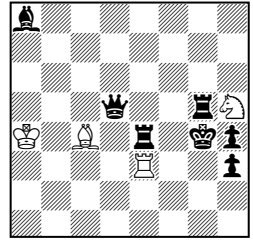
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H#2 b) ♞g6→e6 7+7

Anatoly Vasylenko1st 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.

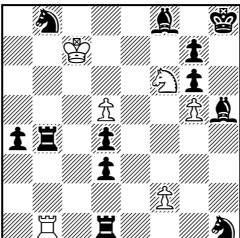
a) 1. ♛f6 ♜e7 2. ♜f7 ♛xb7# b) 1. ♛e5 ♜d6 2. ♜xd5 ♜xd8#

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

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

Jorma Paavilainen3rd Com

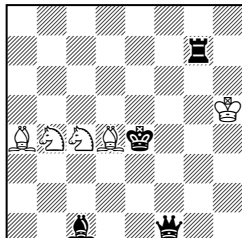
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H#2 2.1.1.1 6+12

Valery Gurov4th Com

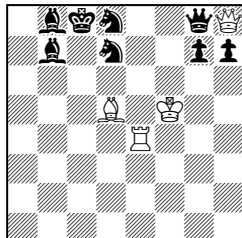
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+4

Anatoly Vasylenko5th Com

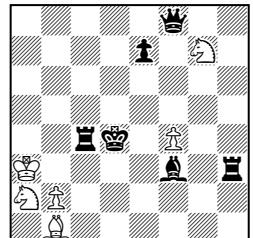
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H#2 b) ♜e4→g6 4+8

L. Togookhuu6th Com

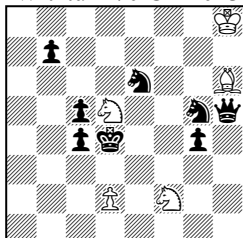
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H#2 2.1.1.1 6+6

F. Abdurahmanovic**Marko Klasinc**7th Com

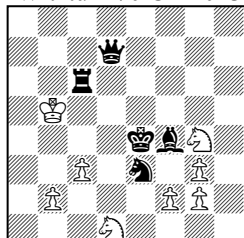
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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+8

Ricardo Vieira8th Com

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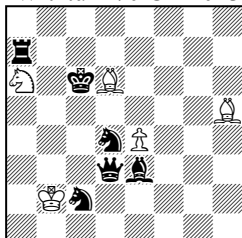


H#2 b) d4→c7 8+5

Gábor Tar

Com

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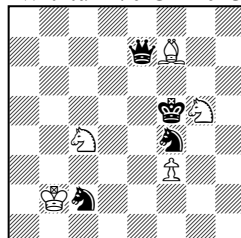


H#2 b) e4→e6 5+6

Pietro Pitton

Com

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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#

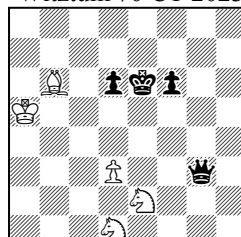
Maryan Kerhuel & Michel Caillaud

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

Pietro Pitton

Com

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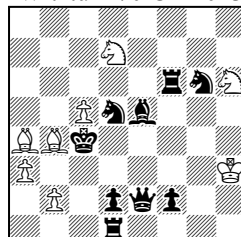


H#2 b) b6→d6 5+4

Nikola Stolev

Com

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H#2 b) h6→b1 8+9

Maryan Kerhuel**Michel Caillaud**

Com

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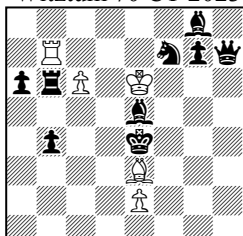


H#2 b) g7→e7 7+11

Nikola Stolev

Com

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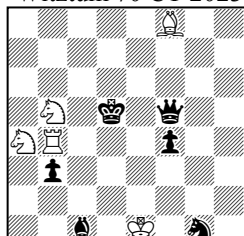


H#2 b) b7→h6 5+9

Ricardo Vieira

Com

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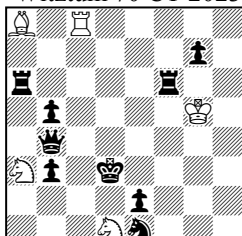


H#2 b) b4→c4 5+6

Dimitris Liakos

Com

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H#2 2.1.1.1 5+9