



UNION ARGENTINA DE PROBLEMISTAS DE AJEDREZ

18th INTERNATIONAL INTERNET TOURNAMENT (UAPA) – 2022

AWARD FINAL

Section A : –Thematic: Rook and a minor piece, or Queen,(White or Black), against two or more minor pieces – (Win or Draw) . Other pieces may be presented at the beginning)– Judge: **Sergey Osintsev** (Russia)

Section B : Theme free

B.1.) Win – Judge : **Daniele Gatti** (Italy)

B.2.) Draw – Judge : **Itay Richardson** (Israel)

Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Ľuboš Kekely (Slovakia); Valery Kalashnikov (Russia); Andrzej Jasik (Poland); Mario G. García (Argentina); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Marc Gelly (France); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Daniele Gatti (Italy); Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia); Michael Pasman (Israel); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Itay Richardson (Israel); Sergey Osintsev (Russia); Alexander Avedisian (Uruguay); Richard Becker (USA); Oleg Pervakov (Russia); Can Aydinoglu (Turkey); Paul Muljadi (USA); Luis Miguel González (Spain); Ognian Dimitrov (Bulgaria); Michael Gromov (Russia); David Gurgенidze (Georgia); Yehuda Hoch (Israel); Petromir Panaiotov (Bulgaria); Leonid Topko (Ukraine); Vasily Murashov (Russia); Yosha Iglesias (France);

We have received 77 studies from 28 composers from 17 countries.

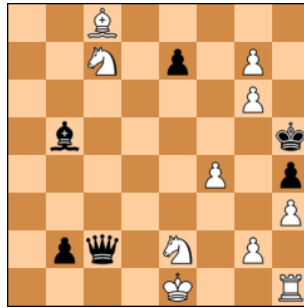
Sebastián A. Palomo
Coordinator of Tournaments (UAPA)

Section A

The thematic material proposed by the organizer of the tournament Mario Garcia turned out to be very extensive. Accordingly, the range of submitted studies turned out to be just as diverse. In section A, I received 21 works by 13 authors from 8 countries (Argentina, Bulgaria, Israel, Spain, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and USA).

Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1st prize



Win

Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1.0–0! 1.Bg4+? Kh6 2.g8Q b1Q+ 3.Kf2 Qc5+—+

1...Bc4! 1...b1Q 2.Bg4+ Kh6 3.g8Q Qxf1+ 4.Kh2+- 1...Qxg6 2.Bg4+ Kh6 3.g8Q Qxg8 4.Nxb5 Qb3 5.Nbc3+-

2.Be6! Thematic try: 2.Ne6? b1Q 3.Rxb1 Qxb1+ 4.Kh2 Qxg6 5.g4+ hxg3+ 6.Nxg3+ Kh4 (the same 6...Kh6 7.Nf5+) 7.g8Q Qxg8 8.Nf5+ Kh5 9.Neg7+ Kg6 10.Nxe7+ Kxg7 11.Nxg8 Kxg8= (11...Bxg8=) bishops on the board!

2...b1Q 3.Rxb1 3.g8Q? Qxf1+ 4.Kh2 Qxg2+! 5.Kxg2 Qxe2+=

3...Qxb1+ 3...Bxe6 4.Rb5+—

4.Kh2 4.Kf2? Qb6+—+

4...Bxe6 5.Nxe6 Qxg6 5...Qb8 6.N2d4 Kxg6 (6...Qg8 7.f5! Qb8+ 8.Kg1+-) 7.Nc6!+-

6.g4+! hxg3+ (en passant) 6...Kh6 7.g5+ Kh5 8.f5+-

7.Nxg3+ Kh6! 7...Kh4 8.g8Q! Qc2+ 9.Ne2! (9.Kg1? Qg2+! 10.Kxg2= stalemate) 9...Qxe2+ 10.Qg2 Qxe6 11.Qg5#

8.Nf5+! Kh5 8...Qxf5 9.g8Q Qxf4+ 10.Nxf4+- no stalemate.

9.g8N!! Domination. 9.g8Q? Qg2+ 10.Qxg2= stalemate. 9.g8B? Qf6! 10.Ned4 e5=

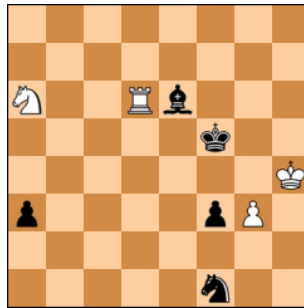
9.Nfd4? Qf7! 10.f5 Kh4 11.Kg1 Qe8! 12.Nf8 (12.Nc6 Qxc6 13.g8Q Qc1+= perpetual check) 12...Qf7 13.Nde6 Kg3! 14.h4 Kg4! 15.h5 Kxh5 16.Ng6 Qxf5 17.Ngf4+ (17.Nef4+ Kg5!)=) 17...Kh6! 18.g8Q Qb1+ 19.Kh2 Qh1+! 20.Kxh1= stalemate; 9.Ned4? e6! 10.Ng3+ Kh6=

9...Qxg8 10.Neg7+ Kg6 11.Nxe7+ Kxg7 12.Nxg8 Kxg8+ “No bishops, White wins. Valladao task with thematic try” (author's comments).

The rough exchanges of pieces in the introduction are compensated by the presence of a thematic try in which White unexpectedly does not win in the bishops ending with two extra pawns. After the Bishops left the board in the solution, Black had stalemate counterplay, refuted by promotion to the Knight. Castling on the first move made it possible to implement the Valladao task.

Michael Pasma (Israel)

2nd prize



Draw

Michael Pasma (Israel)

Thematic try: 1.Nb4? Ne3! 2.g4+ Nxf4 3.Rd3 f2 4.Rf3+ Ke5! (4...Ke4? 5.Kg3=) 5.Kg3 Kd6! (5...Bc4? 6.Rxf2 Nxf2 7.Kxf2=) 6.Nc2 a2 7.Rxf2 Nxf2— Thematic try: 1.Rd3? Nh2 2.Rxa3 f2 3.g4+ Kf4 4.Ra1 Nf3+ 5.Kh3 Ne1—

1.g4+! Ke5 1...Kf4 Rxe6+-

2.Rd3! 2.Rd1? Ne3--

2...a2 2...f2 3.Rxa3 Nd2 4.Ra1 Nf3+ 5.Kg3= A line showing the importance of a preliminary check on the first move.

3.Ra3 f2 3...Kf4 4.Ra4+! Ke3 5.Ra3+! Kd2 6.Nb4 f2 7.Nd3=; 3...Bc4 4.Nb4! f2 5.Rxa2! =

4.Nc5! Attack on the black Bishop, 4.Nb4? Kf4! 5.Nd3+ Kf3!—

4...Bc4 5.Rxa2! Nd2! 5...Bxa2 6.Nd3+ Kd4 7.Nxf2=

6.Ra1! Kf4! 6...Nf3+ 7.Kg3=

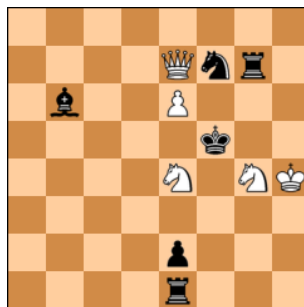
7.Kh3! Nf3 And now what? 8.Kg2? Ke3 9.Ra3+ Ke2 10.Rxf3 Bd5—; 9.Rh1 Bd5!—; 9.Ne4 Ne1++ In a hopeless situation, White is rescued by the Knight's sacrifice, which distracts the Bishop from the f1-square **8.Ne6+!! Bxe6 9.Rf1!** 9.Kg2? Ke3 10.Ra3+ Ke2 11.Rxf3 Bd5—

9...Ke3 10.Rxf2! 10.Kg2? Ne1+ 11.Kg3 Nd3!—

10...Kxf2= ideal stalemate. Dynamic stalemate study with the game of all actors and laconic clean lines.

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

3rd prize



Win

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.Ng3+! 1.Nd6+? Nxd6 2.Qf6+ Ke4 3.Qe5+ Kd3! 4.Qxd6+ Bd4=

1...Kg6 2.exf7 2.Qf6+? Kh7 3.exf7 Rh1+! 4.Nxh1 e1Q+ 5.Ng3 Rxc4+! 6.Kxc4 Qd1+=

2...Rh7+ 3.Nh6 3.Nh5? Rh1+—

3...Rxb6+ 4.Kg4 Rf1! 5.Nxf1! 5.Qxe2? Rxf7 6.Qe6+ Kg7 7.Nh5+ Rxb5!= or 7.Nf5+ Rxf5!; 5.Nxe2? Rxf7 6.Qe6+ Kg7= (6...Rf6?? 7.Qg8#)

5...Rh4+! Play for stalemate. 5...exf1Q 6.f8N+! Qxf8 7.Qxf8 Kh7 8.Qf7(e7)+ Kh8 9.Qe8+ Kg7 10.Kg5! f6 11.Qe7+ Rf7 12.Qe5+ Kh7 13.Qh2+ Kg8/Kg7 14.Qb8/Qh6++-

6.Kxb4 6.Kg3?! Rh3+ 7.Kg4 Rh4+; 6.Qxb4? exf1Q 7.Qh5+ Kg7=

6...Bd8! pin. 6...exf1Q 7.f8N+!+-

7.f8N+! 7.Qxd8? e1Q+!=

7...Kh6! Play for stalemate. 7...Kf5 8.Ng3(e3)++-

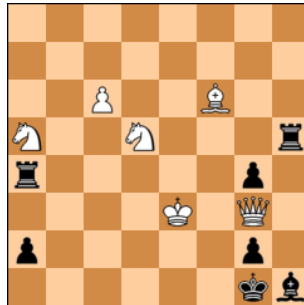
8.Qxd8 e1Q+! 8...exf1Q 9.Qg5#

9.Ng3 Qe7+! **10.Kg4!** 10.Qxe7?= stalemate.

10...Qxd8 11.Nf5# model mate. The author tried to overcome the difficulties of the introductory game. It was not possible to manage without a compromise capture by a pawn of a non-playing Knight. Further game with mutual effects.

Mario G. García (Argentina)

4th prize



Win

Mario G. García (Argentina)

Black threatens not only to promote the pawn, but also to pin the Queen. 1.c7? Ra3+! 2.Nb3 Rxb3+ 3.Nc3 a1Q 4.c8Q Rh3 5.Bd4 Rxc3+ 6.Ke2+ Kh2 7.Qh8+ Rh3 8.Be5+= 1.Qxf2+? Kh2= However, White ignores the second threat. **1.Nb3!** allows Black to exchange White's strongest piece.

1...Rh3 1...Rf5 2.c7 Rf3+ 3.Qxf3 gxf3 4.c8Q+-

2.Qxh3 gxh3 3.c7! With the following lines:

B) 3...Rc4 4.Nd2 Rxc7 4...a1Q 5.Bxa1 Rxc7 6.Bd4!+-

5.Nc3!! Unexpected move: refusal to capture the Rook and cover the Bishop. Try: 5.Nxc7? a1Q 6.Bxa1 h2! 7.Nf3+ Kf1 8.Nxh2+ Kg1! 9.Nf3+ Kf1 10.Nd2+ Ke1 11.Nf3+ Kf1= positional draw.

5...Rxc3+! playing for stalemate.

6.Bxc3 a1Q! 6...h2 7.Ke2 a1Q 8.Nf3#

7.Nf3+! 7.Bxa1? h2 8.Bd4= stalemate.

7...Kf1 8.Nh2+! Kg1 Two preliminary checks and only now 9.Bxa1 Kxh2 10.Be5+ Kg1 11.Ke2 h2 12.Bd4#! mate.

A) 3...a1Q 4.Bxa1 Ra8 5.Nd2! Try: 5.Be5? Kf1! (5...Re8? 6.Kf3 Rf8+ 7.Ke2 Rf2+ 8.Kd3 Rf3+ 9.Kc2 Rf2+ 10.Nd2+-) 6.Nd2+ Ke1 7.Nf3+ Kf1 8.Nh2+ Ke1 positional draw 9.Bg3+ Kd1 10.Nc3+ Kc2=

5...Re8+ 6.Ne7!! Unexpected sacrifice of both the Knight and the passed pawn, but bad 6.Kd3? Kf2 7.Bd4+ Kg3 8.Nf6 g1Q=

6...Rxe7+ 7.Kf4! Rxc7 8.Bd4+ Kh2 9.Nf3# mate.

C) 3...Ra8 4.Ke2! Try: 4.Nd2? Re8+ 5.Ne7 Rxe7+ 6.Kf4 Rf7! (6...Re4+? 7.Nxe4 Kh2 8.Kf5 g1Q 9.Be5+ Kg2 10.c8Q a1Q 11.Bxa1 Qxa1 12.Qc2+ Kg1 13.Qf2#) 7.c8Q Rxf6+ 8.Kg3 Rg6+ 9.Kf4 Rf6+= perpetual check.

4...a1Q 5.Nxa1! 5.Bxa1? Re8+ 6.Ne3 Kh2! 7.c8Q Rxe3+! 8.Kxe3 g1Q+=

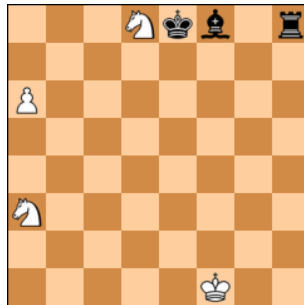
5...Re8+ 5...Kh2 6.Be5+-

6.Ne7+- e.g. 6...Rxe7+ 7.Bxe7 h2 8.Bc5# mate.

A good mate-stalemate study with an interesting game and tries. Line B) looks like the main one. Line C) looks a little weaker than the others, in the final picture of which there are extra white pieces, but the variation is necessary to understand why Black sacrifices a promoted pawn in line A). It is a pity that in the introduction there is a rough exchange of heavy pieces.

Luis Miguel González (Spain) (After V. Anufriev, 1982)

Special prize



Win

Luis Miguel González (Spain)

1.a7 Rh1+ 2.Ke2! Early 2.Kg2? (logical try) 2...Rg1+! 3.Kf3 (3.Kh2 Bd6+ 4.Kxg1 Bc5+=) 3...Ra1 4.a8Q Rxa3+=

2...Rh2+ 3.Kd1! 3.Ke1? Bb4+! 4.Kf1 Rh1+ 5.Kg2 Rg1+!=

3...Rh1+ 4.Kc2 Rh2+ 5.Kb1(c1) Rh1+ 6.Kb2! Bg7+! The Bishop is forced to check. 6...Bxa3+ 7.Ka2! Be7 8.a8Q Rh2+ 9.Kb1! Bxd8 10.Qa4+! Ke7 11.Qf4! Rh5 12.Qe4+ Kf6 13.Qd4+ Ke7 14.Qg7+-

7.Kc2! 7.Kb3 Rh3+ 8.Ka2 Rh2+ 9.Kb1 Rh1+ 10.Kc2 loss of time; 8.Ka4? (logical try) 8...Rh4+ 9.Kb5 Rh5+ 10.Ka6 Rh6+ 11.Kb7 (11.Ka5? Bc3+!) 11...Rb6+! 12.Kxb6 Bd4+=

7...Rh2+ 8.Kd1 Rh1+ 9.Ke2 Rh2+ 10.Kf1 Rh1+ 11.Kg2 Rg1+! 12.Kf3! Rf1+ The Rook moved to the f-file. **13.Ke2!** 13.Ke4? Re1+ 14.Kf4 Rf1+ 15.Kg5 Rg1+ 16.Kf5 Rf1+ 17.Kg6 Rf6+ 18.Kxg7 Ra6=

13...Rf2+! 14.Kd1! 14.Ke1? Bc3+! 15.Kxf2 Bd4+=

14...Rf1+ 15.Kc2 Rf2+ 16.Kb3! Rf3+ 17.Ka4! Rf4+ 18.Kb5! Early 18.Ka5? Bc3+!=

18...Rf5+ 19.Ka6 Rf6+ 20.Kb7? Rb6+! =, but already possible **20.Ka5!** and no Bc3+! =, The Rook inopportunistly blocked the Bishop, which ended up on the other diagonal! This is the result of a logical maneuver by the white King to move the black Rook to the f-file.

20...Rf5+ 21.Nb5! Rf1! In Anufriev's study, Black did not have such an opportunity, here the black King is protected by the white Knight from the check of the promoted Queen. The fight flares up again **22.Nc7+! Kd7! 23.Na6! Ra1+ 24.Kb5 Rb1+ 25.Kc5(c4) Rc1+ 26.Kd5(d3) Rc8 27.Nb8+ Kc7! 28.a8Q** But that's not all! The final phase of the study **28...Rxd8+ 29.Ke4!** Early 29.Ke6? Rxb8 30.Qa5+ Rb6+! = with check; 29.Kc4? Rxb8 30.Qa5+ Rb6! 31.Kc5 Bf8+=

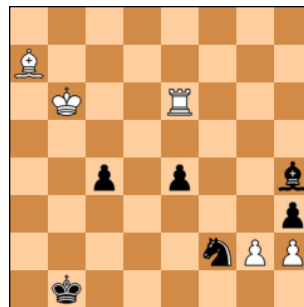
29...Re8+! 30.Kf5! Rxb8 31.Qa5+! Kc6! Logical moment: 31...Rb6 without check - the difference is in the position of the white King! 32.Qc5+ Kb7 33.Qe7++-

32.Qa6+! Kc7 33.Qc4+ Kb6 34.Qb4+ Ka7 35.Qa5+! Kb7 36.Ke6! Bf8 37.Kd7!+-

The content is the most powerful logical study of the competition. The author creatively reworked the study V. Anufriev, Georgia AT Shakhmatna Skladba, 1982 (HHdbVI#38428). Of course, A. Anufriev did the main work, but the author of the version, by adding only one minor piece in the initial position, received two additional phases: the White King's logical maneuver to shift the Bishop at the beginning, plus the King's logical choice in the final with a different set of pieces.

Michael Pisman (Israel)

1st Honorable Mention



Draw

Michael Pisman (Israel)

1.g3! 1.gxh3? c3 2.Kb5 c2 3.Be3 Nd1→ 1.g4? c3→

1...Bxg3! 2.Kc6! pawn sacrificed on g3 and white doesn't captures back. 2.Kc5? c3 3.Kd5 c2→; 2.Kb5? c3 3.Bxf2 Bxf2 4.Rxe4 c2 the white King is too far from h-pawn after the exchange of Rook and c-pawn; 2.hxg3 black forwards h-pawn and c-pawn. **2...Nd1!** now 2...c3 3.Bxf2 Bxf2 4.Rxe4 c2 5.Rb4+ Kc1= the King is close enough to h-pawn, for example 6.Kd5 Kd1 7.Rc4 c1Q 8.Rxc1+ Kxc1 9.Ke4=

3.Kd5! 3.Rxe4? c3 4.Rb4+ Ka2→ 5.hxg3 c2 6.Rc4 Kb3 7.Rxc2 Kxc2 8.Bg1 Nf2/e3 9.Kd5 Kd3→

3...c3 4.Kxe4 4.Rb6+? Kc1 5.Kxe4 Bxh2→; 4.Bd4? c2 5.Rb6+ Kc1 6.Kxe4 Kd2 7.Rc6 Bxh2 8.Kf3 Bf4/b8→

4...c2 5.Be3! Bishop sacrificed on e3 and white will not capture back. Thematic try: 5.Rb6+? Nb2! (not 5...Kc1 6.Rc6! Bxh2 7.Be3+! Nxe3 8.Kxe3=) 6.Rc6 Bxh2 7.Be3 Bd6!! 8.Kf3 h2 9.Kg2 Nd1! 10.Rb6+ Ka2 11.Ra6+ Kb3→ 5.Rc6? Bxh2→

5...Nxe3 6.Rb6+! Ka2 7.Rc6 Bf2 8.Kd3 Kb3 8...Bg1 9.Kd2! Kb3 10.Rb6+=

9.Rb6+ Ka3 10.Rc6 Kb2 11.Kd2! 11.Rb6+? Kc1→ 11.Ke2? Nd1→

11...Nf1+ 11...Bg1 12.Rb6+=

12.Kd3! Thematic try: 12.Ke2? double attack, but: 12...Bd4! 13.Rxc2+ (13.Kxf1 Bc3!→) 13...Kxc2 14.Kxf1 Kd3!→

12...c1N+ or 12...c1Q ; 12...Ne3 13.Kd2! Nf1+ 14.Kd3=

13.Rxc1 Kxc1 14.Ke2 double attack **14...Nxb2** 14...Bd4 15.Kxf1 Kd1= stalemate. 14...Bg1 15.Kxf1=14...Bc5 15.Kxf1 Kc2 16.Ke2 Kc3 17.Kf3=

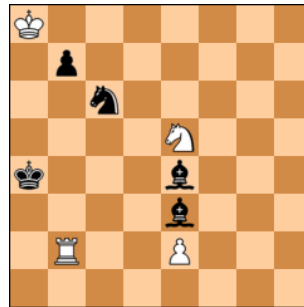
15.Kxf2 With theoretical draw. **15...Kd2** or Ng4 is also draw. **16.Kg3=**

Secondary line **1...c3 2.gxh4 c2 3.Kb7!!** not 3.Rc6? Ng4! 4.Bb8 e3 5.Bf4 e2 6.Kb7 (6.Bd2 Nxb2→) 6...e1Q→ **3...c1Q 4.Rb6+ Ka2 5.Ra6+ Kb3 6.Rb6+=** (author's comments).

White's immediate danger is the passed c-pawn, but the potential threat comes from the distant h-pawn. The white King manages to do the main work and achieve a stalemate, or winning the h-pawn, or theoretically a draw position.

Richard Becker (USA)

2nd Honorable Mention



Draw

Richard Becker (USA)

The black pawn on b7 is the object of White's attack. **1.Nc4 Bd4** with an attack on Rook, otherwise 1...Bc5 2.Nd2! (2.Nb6+? Ka5 3.Nc4+ Ka6 4.Ra2+ Kb5→) 2...Bg2 3.Kxb7=

2.Nb6+ Ka5 3.Nc4+ Ka4 3...Ka6 4.Ra2+ Kb5 5.Nd6+=

4.Nb6+ Bxb6 5.Rxb6 Ka5 and the black pawn is inviolable 6.Rxb7? Nd8→; 6.Kxb7? Ne7+→

6.e3! And Rook is also inviolable! 6...Kxb6= stalemate. 6...Bf3 7.Kxb7 Ne7+ 8.e4! Bxe4+ 9.Kb8 Kxb6= stalemate.

6...Nb4 6...Bd5 7.Kxb7 Ne7+ 8.Kc7=

7.Ka7 7.Rxb7? Ka6→

7...Bd5 Black's resources to protect the pawn are inexhaustible, no 8.Rxb7? Nc6+ 9.Ka8 Nd8→

8.e4! Bxe4 9.Re6 White are ready for 9...Bc6 10.Re1 Nc2 11.Re2 Nb4 12.Re1 Nc2 13.Re2 Na3 14.Ra2 position A. 14...Ka4 15.Kb6 Kb4 16.Rb2+ Kc3 17.Rh2! =

9...Bd5! An attempt to deceive the white Rook. The logical moment, after 10.Rd6? Bc6 11.Rd1 Ba4!→ the Rook will get hit, after 10.Rb6? Bg2! 11.Rg6 Bc6 12.Rg1 Nc2 13.Rc1 Na3 14.Ra1 position A1. The trick will succeed, the white Rook is unsuccessfully located 14...Kb4 15.Rc1 (15.Kb6 Nc4+ 16.Kc7 Kc5=) 15...Nb5+ 16.Kb6 Nc3 17.Rc2 Na4+ 18.Kc7 Kb5 19.Rc1 Nc5 20.Rb1+ Ka5→

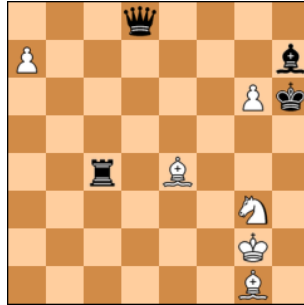
Correctly **10.Rf6!** zz **10...Bg2** White will be satisfied with the line 10...Bc6 11.Rf1 Nc2 12.Rf2 Nb4 13.Rf1=

11.Rf2 Be4 12.Rf4 12.Rf1? b6 13.Ra1+ Kb5 14.Re1 Nc6+ 15.Kb7 Bd3 (Bc2)→

12...Bd5 13.Rf6 b5 14.Ra6+! Nxa6= stalemate. A meaningful struggle for material. The author's comment is short: "Three stalemates with wK on different squares".

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

3rd Honorable Mention



Win

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

Before promoting a pawn, White gives two preliminary checks **1.Be3+! Kg7 2.Nh5+!** 2.a8Q? Qxa8 3.Nh5+ Kf8! 4.g7+ Kf7 5.Bxa8 Rh4 6.Bd5+ Kg6=

2...Kh8! 2...Kg8 3.gxh7+ Kh8 4.a8Q Qxa8 5.Bxa8 Kxh7 6.Nf4+-

3.a8Q 3.g7+? Kg8 4.a8Q Bxe4+-+

3...Qxa8 4.g7+ Another preliminary check before capturing the Queen. **4...Kg8 5.Bxa8 Rg4+** 5...Bg6 6.Bd5+ Bf7 7.Bxc4 Bxc4 8.Bd4+-

6.Kh3! Try 6.Kf3? Rxg7 7.Bd5+ Rf7+! with check! 8.Kg4 Bg6 9.Ng3 Kh7=

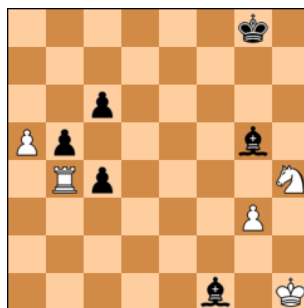
6...Rxc7 7.Bd5+ Rf7! without check! **8.Bh6! Bf5+** 8...Bg6 9.Nf6+ Kh8 10.Bxf7 Bxf7 11.Bf8+-

9.Kh4 Kh7! 10.Kg5! 10.Bxf7? Kxh6=

10...Rd7 11.Nf6+ Kh8 12.Kxf5+- 12.Nxd7? Bxd7 13.Kg6 Be8+= Participation in the game of all the pieces and pawns of both sides.

Luis Miguel González (Spain)

4th Honorable Mention



Win

Luis Miguel González (Spain)

1.a6! 1.Nf5? Bd3! 2.a6 Bxf5 3.a7 Be4+ 4.Kh2 c5 5.Rxb5 Be3 6.Rb8+ Kf7=

1...Be3 White's passed pawn is stopped, the Rook is in danger, the Knight comes to the rescue **2.Nf5! Bc5 3.Ne7+! Kg7! 4.Nxc6 c3 5.Rb3!** 5.Rg4+? Kh7! 6.Nd4 b4 7.Rh4+ Kg6 8.Nb3 c2 9.Rh2 Bd3 10.Rxc2 Bxc2 11.Nxc5 b3!=

5...b4 5...c2 6.Rc3 Bd3 7.Kh2! Kf6 8.Kh3+-

6.Nxb4 Bxb4 7.a7! 7.Rxb4? Bxa6 8.Rb3 c2 9.Rc3 Bd3=

7...c2 8.Rxb4! 8.a8Q? c1Q=

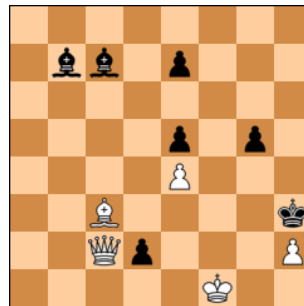
8...c1Q Preliminary checks by Rook before promoting a pawn **9.Rg4+! Kf6! 10.Rf4+ Ke5! 11.a8Q Bg2+!** playing for stalemate. 11...Bc4+ 12.Kh2 Qc2+ 13.Qg2+-

12.Kxg2 Qc6+! 13.Qxc6? stalemate, but... **13.Re4+!!** Beautiful counter sacrifice!

13...Qxe4+ 14.Qxe4+ Kxe4 and a won pawn endgame **15.Kh3 Kf5 16.Kh4+-** Of course, the sequence of unique moves can be continued (Joke according to V. Kuzmichev (+0000.10a5b7), Internet, 2009). Unfortunately, there is no thematic connection between the play before and after the 7th move, although the introduction is quite technical.

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

5th Honorable Mention



BTM Draw

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1...Ba6+ 2.Kg1 2.Kf2? Bb6+ 3.Kf3 g4#

2...Bb6+ 2...Be2 3.Ba5! Bxa5 4.Qb3+ Kh4 5.Qg3+ Kh5 6.Qh3+= with perpetual check.

3.Bd4! 3.Kh1? Be2 4.Ba5 Bf3#

3...Bxd4+ 4.Kh1 After the Bishop sacrifice and 4...Be2, White will have a “mad” Queen. **4...Be3 5.Qc8+!** Erroneously 5.Qb3? Kg4 6.Kg2 Kf4 7.Qd1 g4+- or 5.Qd1? Kh4 6.Qf3 Bf4 7.h3 Bc8 8.Kg2 g4 9.hxg4 Bxg4+-

5...e6! 5...Bxc8 stalemate; 5...Kh4 6.Qh3+ Kxh3= stalemate.

6.Qxe6+ g4 7.Qd7 7.Qd6? Be2+-; 7.Qb3? Be2 8.Qxe3+ Bf3+-+

7...Bh6 7...Bg5 8.Qh7+ Bh4 9.Qd7= positional draw.

8.Qd6! Bf4 9.Qd7! Loses check 9.Qa3+? g3! 10.Qf3 d1Q+ 11.Qxd1 g2+ 12.Kg1 Be3#

9...Bh6 10.Qd6 Bg5! 11.Qa3+! With the Bishop on g5, this check is possible, and vice versa, it is impossible 11.Qd7? Be2 12.Qh7+ Bh4+-

11...Kh4 12.Qg3+ Kh5 13.Qb3 The Queen drove away the black King and returned back, **14...Be2** will be followed by **14.Qf7+=** with a perpetual check.

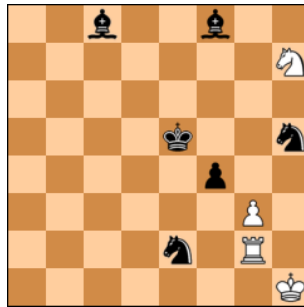
13...Bc4 14.Qa4 14.Qc2? Be2—

14...Bb5 14...Be2 will be followed by **15.Qe8+=** with a perpetual check.

15.Qb3 Bc4 16.Qa4= positional draw, **Kh4 17.Qd7 Kh3 18.Qh7+ Bh4 19.Qd7 Bg5 20.Qh7+=** positional draw. Good job by the white Queen to neutralize the pair of black Bishops and a passed pawn.

Richard Becker (USA)

Special Honorable Mention



Draw

Richard Becker (USA)

1.gxf4+! Capturing a pawn with a check on the first move? But there is an alternative erroneous capture of the Knight with check! **1.Rxe2+? Kf5 2.Rc2 (2.gxf4 Ng3+ 3.Kh2 Nxe2 4.Nxf8 Nxf4—) 2...Bb7+ 3.Kg1 Bd6 4.gxf4 Nxf4—** The game immediately forks:

A) 1...Kf5 2.Nxf8 There is an alternative **2.Rxe2? Ng3+ 3.Kh2 Nxe2** etc. **2.Kh2? Bd6 3.Rg5+ Kxf4—**

2...Nhg3+ 3.Kh2 Nf1+ 4.Kh1 Bb7 5.Ng6! zz **5...Ne3 6.Nh4+ Kxf4** The white King has an opportunity to escape from the pin **7.Kh2!** In a try after **7.Ng6+? Kf5 8.Nh4+ Ke5! 9.Kh2 Nf1+ 10.Kh1 Kf4!** white has no way to escape from the pin, the difference is in the position of the black Knight, zz. **11.Nf5 Nd2 12.Nh4 (12.Kh2 Nf3+ 13.Kh3 Neg1+—; 12.Nd4 Nxd4 13.Kg1 N4f3+ 14.Kf2 Ne4+ 15.Ke2 Nc3+—) 12...Ke3 13.Nf5+ Kd3 14.Nh4 Be4!** zz **15.Kh2 Nf1+ 16.Kh1 Ke3** etc.

7...Nhg2 8.Nhg2+ Kf3 White forced black into a simple draw, but exact play is needed **9.Ne1+!** **9.Nh4+? Kf2 10.Ng6 (10.Nf5 Bd5—) 10...Bc8 11.Ne5 Bf5—**

9...Ke3 10.Ng2+ Kf2 11.Nf4! Nxf4= stalemate.

B) 1...Kxf4 2.Nxf8 There is an alternative **2.Rf2+? Kg3 3.Rxe2 Bb7+ 4.Kg1 Bc5+ 5.Kf1 Ba6—**

2...Nhg3+ 3.Kh2 Nf1+ 4.Kh1 Bb7 5.Ne6+! Now it's wrong **5.Ng6+? Ke3 6.Nh4 Be4** zz **7.Ng6 Nd2 8.Kh2 Nf3+ 9.Kh3 Bf5+ 10.Rg4 Kf2—**

5...Ke3 6.Nc5... The game branches again:

B.1) 6...Bd5 7.Ne4 Bc6 8.Rxe2+! **8.Rg4? Kf3 9.Rh4 Bd5!** zz **10.Rh3+ Kxe4 11.Kg2 Nf4+—**

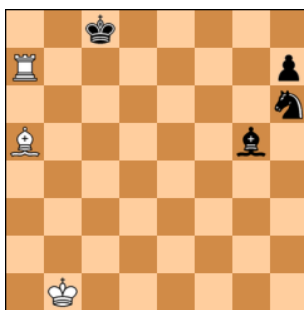
8...Kxe2 9.Kg1 Bxe4= stalemate.

B.2) 6...Bf3 7.Nd3! zz **7...Bd5 7...Kd2 8.Nf4=**

8.Nb4 Be4 9.Nd5+ Kd4 10.Nc3 Kxc3= stalemate. Seven-figure zugzwangs. The White Knight in numerous lines turns out to be superfluous (it interferes with the stalemate), but White still manages to get rid of the Knight. Nice synthesis of three famous stalemates on different squares. But this was achieved at a high price: by the rough first two moves.

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

Commendation



Win

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

Early 1.Rxh7? Be3! 2.Kc2 Bf4! 4.Kd3 Ng4 5.Ke4 Nf6+ 6.Kxf4 Nxh7= **1.Rc7+! Kb8** 1...Kd8 2.Rc5+-

2.Rxh7 Kc8 Black is in a difficult situation, he has a "bad" Knight that does not have good moves. Not 2...Bf4 3.Bb4! Kc8 4.Bf8 (loss of time 4.Bc5 Bg5 5.Bf8) 4...Nf5 5.Rf7+- or 4...Ng4 5.Rh4+

3.Rc7+! Kb8 4.Rg7! Bf4 After 4...Be3 White will involve the King in the attack 4.Kc2 Nf5 5.Rf7 Nd6 6.Bc7+-

5.Rh7! Kc8! 6.Ka2!! Wrong 6.Kc2? with a double refutation 6...Ng4! 7.Rh4 Ne3+ 8.Kd3 Nd5= or 6...Nf5! 7.Rf7 Nd4+=

6...Bg5 7.Kb3 7.Rc7+? Kb8 loss of time. **7...Nf5 8.Rc7+!** 8.Rh5? Nd4+ 9.Kc4 Ne6 10.Kd5 Nf4+= fork.

8...Kb8 9.Rf7! 9.Rc5? Nd4+ 10.Kc4 Ne6(Be7)=

9...Nd4+ 9...Nd6 10.Bc7+-

10.Kc4 Nc6 10...Ne6 11.Kd5+-

11.Bc7+! Kb7! 11...Kc8 12.Bd6(Kd5)+-

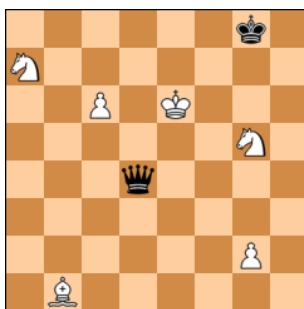
12.Rg7! 12.Bf4+? Kb6 13.Bxg5 Ne5+= fork; 12.Kd5? Ne7+! 13.Kd6 Nc8+=; 12.Kc5? Be3+! 13.Kd6 Na7! 14.Bd8+ Ka6=; 12.Bg3+? Ka6! =

12...Bf6 13.Rh7! Accurate choice of Rook retreat, error 13.Rf7? Be7! 14.Bd6 Kb6 15.Bxe7 Ne5+= fork.

13...Be7 13...Ka6 14.Kc5!+- (14.Rh6?! Kb7! 15.Rh7 loss of time) **14.Bd6!** pin **14...Kb6 15.Bxe7+**- White repeats the maneuver Rc7-Rh7, Rc7-Rg7, Rc7-Rf7 three times to worsen Black's position. Domination with good interaction of pieces.

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

Commendation



Win

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.c7? Qc4+ 2.Kd6 Qd4+ 3.Kc6 Qc4+ 4.Kb6 Qd4+ 5.Kb7 Qd5+ 6.Nc6 Qb5+ 7.Kc8 Qxb1 8.Ne6 Qa2! 9.Kd7 Qd5+= **1.Nc8!** an unexpected move that interferes with a passed pawn. Secondly, White immediately loses this Knight!

1...Qg4+ 1...Qc4+ 2.Kd7 Qd5+ 3.Nd6 Qxg5 4.Ba2+! Kh7 5.c7+-

2.Kf6 Qxc8 2...Qd4+ 3.Kg6! Qg7+ 4.Kh5 Qc7 5.Bf5 Qe5 6.g3 Qxg3 7.Kg6 Qe5 8.Be6+ Kf8 9.Bd7 Qg7+ 10.Kf5 Qc3 11.Ne6++-

3.Ba2+! 3.Bh7+? Kh8=

3...Kf8 3...Kh8 4.Nf7+ Kh7 5.Bd5! Qc7 6.Ng5+ Kh6 7.Ne6+-

4.Ne6+ Ke8! 4...Kg8 5.c7+-

5.Bc4! 5.c7? Qa6(Kd7)=; 5.Bd5? Qb8! 6.c7 Qb2+=

5...Qb8 5...Qxc6 6.Bb5! Qxb5 7.Nc7+- fork; 5...Qa8 6.Nc7+- fork; 5...Qa6!? 6.Nc7(Ng7)+!+-

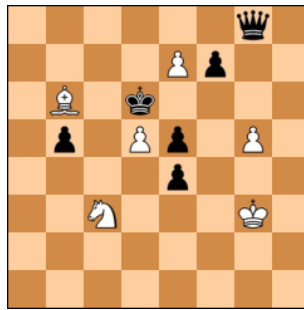
6.Bb5! 6.c7?? Qb2++;

6...Qxb5 6...Qa7!? 7.c7#; 6...Qb6 7.c7+ Qxb5 8.c8Q#

7.Nc7+ Kd8 8.Nxb5+- Domination over the black Queen.

Michael Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

Commendation



Win

Michael Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

Early 1.Nxe4+? Kxe7 2.d6+ Ke6 3.d7 Kf5! 4.Nd6+ Ke6 5.d8Q Qxd8 6.Bxd8 Kxd6 and the Bishop can't handle the pawns 7.Kf3 Kd5! 8.Ke3 b4 9.Bf6 b3= 1.e8Q? Qxg5+ 2.Kf2 Qf4+! 3.Ke1 (3.Ke2 Qf3+=) 3...Qg3+! 4.Kd2 Qd3+= The white King can't get away from checks.

1.e8N+! with check!

1...Qxe8 1...Ke7 2.Nxe4 f5 3.d6+ Kf8 4.d7 f4+ 5.Kg2! Qa2+ 6.Bf2+-

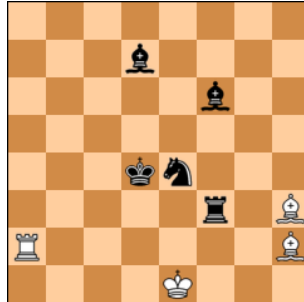
2.Nxe4+ Ke7 After 2...Kxd5 3.Nf6+ Kc6 4.Nxe8 Kxb6 Knight takes all pawns: 5.Nd6! b4 6.Nxf7 b3 7.Nxe5 b2 8.Nc4++-

3.Bc5+ Kd8 4.Nf6 Qh8 5.d6! Ke8! 6.Bb6! 6.d7+? Kd8! 7.Kg4 (7.Bb6+ Ke7 8.d8Q+ Qxd8 9.Bxd8+ Kxd8=) 7...e4! 8.Bb6+ Ke7 9.d8Q+ Qxd8 10.Bxd8+ Kxd8 11.Nxe4 b4! 12.Nc5 Ke7=

6...Kb7 7.d7 Kxb6 8.Ne8!+- Domination over the black Queen.

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

Commendation



Draw

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

1.Bg1+ 1.Bxd7? Bh4+ 2.Kd1 Nc3+—+

1...Kd3 1...Kc4 2.Bxd7 Bc3+ 3.Ke2=

2.Bf1+ 2.Ra3+? Nc3 3.Bxd7 Bh4+ 4.Bf2 Rxf2—+

2...Rxf1+! 2...Kc3 3.Ra3+ Kc2 4.Rxf3=

3.Kxf1 Bh3+ 3...Be6 4.Ra3+ Kc2 5.Ke2=

4.Rg2! 4.Ke1? Bh4+ 5.Bf2 Nxf2 6.Ra3+ Kc2 7.Ra2+ Kc3—+

4...Nd2+ **5.Kf2 Bh4+** **6.Rg3+** **Kc2** **7.Bh2 Nf1** 7...Ne4+ 8.Kf3 Nxf3 9.Bxf3=

8.Kf3 Nxf2+ **9.Kf4 Bf1** 9...Bxf3+ 10.Kxf3= double attack.

10.Rg7! **Kc3** 10...Be1 11.Rh7 Bd2+ 12.Kg3= 10...Bd3 11.Rg2+= double attack.

11.Rh7 Bd8 **12.Kg3=** 12.Rxf2? Bc7+— Good play in aristocratic material (no pawns). It is a pity that there are no tries 10.Rg6? and 10.Rg8? due to dual refutations.

2022.11.14

Judge Sergey Osintsev (Yekaterinburg, Russia)

Section B.1 (Win)

I have to thank once again the tournament director Mario Guido Garcia for having appointed me as judge of this section. This is the second time for me and I am grateful for the opportunity to get deeper into the world of endgame studies. Judging this tournament was particularly funny because of the quite large number of compositions (at least compared to the previous edition!). Many studies ended with a model mate: did the composers "study" my taste and knew that I appreciate artistic checkmate studies? Who knows!

I have received 33 studies to judge for section B.1 (Win studies). A total of 6 studies were joint compositions. The tournament was well populated from authors of every corner of the world, and this can only be pleasant to see. Chess composition always need more popularization and new people dedicating to! I wish to thank everyone for their creative efforts and for their dedition to this beautiful way of spending our precious time.

Five studies were excluded because they were unsound or presented clear weaknesses:

N°2 - (**f1/h8**): Cook 1. e7! With the fatal point at 8. ... Qa2+ 9. Ke5! (And not 9. Kc6, as marked in the intended solution) Qb2+ 10. Kf4 Qc1+ 11. Kg4 Qe1 12. Kh3 Qe2 13. Rg3 Qf1+ 14. Kg4 Qc4+ 15. f4 Qe6+ 16. Kf3 Kh7 17. g6+ fxg6 18. Rg5 Qc6+ 19. Kg3! Qc3+ 20. Kg2! Qc6+ 21. f3! Qc2+ 22. Kg3! and White wins.

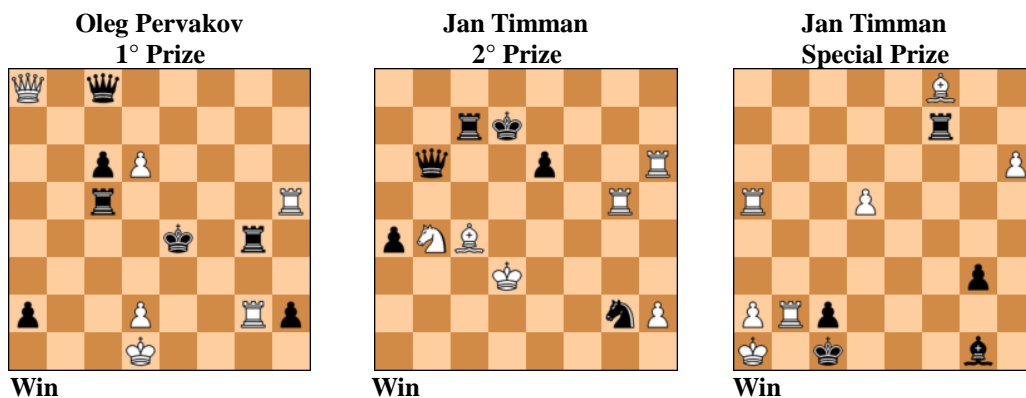
N°29- (**h1/f7**) : Dual 4. Nxf3! Qxa5 5. Bxh4 g5 6. Be1 Qd8 7. b4 a6 8. Kg2 and White's position is winning.

N°12- (**b6-b8**) : Many duals after 28th move.

N°34- (**f7/e4**) : Loss of time dual at the very first move. This is unpleasant for me, and more likely to be a cook.

N°14- (**d1/g7**) Duals 7. Ke2/Kg1/Ke1. These could be tolerable as alternative pathway duals, with an unique arrival square, but white King does not make further moves, so this looks as a major dual.

And then, my ranking. I tried to assess studies for their intrinsic quality, not considering the overall level of the tournament. According to this principle, I decided to hand out a total of three Prizes, three Honorable Mentions and six Commendations, including the special ones. This makes a total of 12 distinctions over 27 studies (not considering the five above-mentioned incorrect ones).



Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

All pieces are mutually attacked! **1.Re2+** [1.Qa4+? Kf3 2.Qb3+ Kxg2=] **1...Kd4!** **2.Qa4+ Rc4** **3.Re4+!** [3.Qa7+? c5 4.Qg7+?? Rxg7-+] **3...Rxe4** [3...Kxe4 4.Qxc4+ Kf3 5.Qf1+ Ke4 6.Qe2+ Kd4 7.Qe3+ Kc4 8.Qc3#] **4.Qa7+ Kd3!** [4...c5 5.Qg7+! Kd3 6.Qg3+ Kd4 7.Qf2+ Kd3 8.Rd5+ Rcd4 9.Qf1+ Re2 10.Qxe2#] **5.Qa3+ Kd4** **6.Qb2+!** 6.Qd6#?? [6.d7? h1Q+! 7.Rxh1 Qxd7-+] **6...Kd3** **7.d7!** **a1Q+** [7...Re1+ 8.Kxe1 Qxd7 9.Qb3+ Ke4 10.Qe3#] **8.Qxa1 h1Q+** **9.Rxh1 Qxd7** **10.Rh3+!** [10.Qa3+? Kd4 11.Qd6+?? Qxd6-+] **10...Qxh3** [10...Re3 11.Rxe3#] **11.Qa3+ Kd4** [11...Rc3 12.Qxc3#] **12.Qd6#** Model mate with two selfblocks.

All the pieces are attacking each other in the beginning, marks the Author in his first comment! What an amusing initial position. The following solution is a great technique show, with a clean struggle between heavy pieces ending in a stunning model mate, made possible by the clearance of d6 square.

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.Bb5+! [1.Rg7+? Kc8 2.Rg8+ Kd7 3.Bxe6+ Qxe6 4.Rg7+ Kc8 5.Rxc7+ Kxc7 6.Rxe6 Nf4+=] **1...Rc6!** [1...Kd6 2.Rxe6+ Kxe6 3.Rg6+ Ke5 4.Rxb6 Rh7 5.Bxa4+- Tablebase; 1...Kc8 2.Ba6+ Kd7 (2...Kb8 3.Rb5+-) 3.Rg7+ Kd6 4.Rxe6+-] **2.Bxc6+** [2.Re5? Nf4+ 3.Ke4 Qg1! 4.Bxc6+ Kd6 5.Kxf4 Qd4+ 6.Re4 Qf2+ 7.Kg5 Qf5+ 8.Kh4 Qf2+=] **2...Ke7** **3.Nd5+!** [3.Re5? Nf4+ 4.Kc4 Qf2 5.Be4 Qf1+ 6.Bd3 Qc1+ 7.Bc2 (7.Kb5 Qb2 8.Re3 a3=) 7...Qf1+ 8.Kc5 a3! 9.Nd5+ Nxd5 10.Rhx6+ Kd7 11.Rd6+ Kc7 12.Rexd5 (12.Rdx5 Qf6=) 12...Qf2+ 13.Kb4 Qf4+ 14.Kxa3 Qxd6+=; 3.Rg7+? Kf8 4.Rxg2 Qxb4 5.Rh8+ Ke7=] **3...exd5** **4.Rg7+ Kf8** **5.Rg8+!** [5.Rf7+? Kg8! 6.Rg6+ Kh8=] **5...Kxg8** **6.Bxd5+ Qe6!** **7.Kd4!!** [7.Bxe6+? Kg7=] **7...Nf4** **8.Bxe6+ Kg7** **9.Rh4!+-**

After a proper introduction, a surprising Rook sacrifice leads to a position in which every chess player would immediately capture the hanging black Queen, with check, overlooking the consequent domination of the white Rook. A clever and paradoxical preventive move allows the Rook to escape. Excellent construction for a cunning and subtle game.

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.Bg7! [1.Ra4? Kd2 2.a3 (2.Bb4+ Kd1=) 2...Rxf8 3.Rc4 Bd4 4.Rxd4+ Kc3 5.Rxc2+ Kxc2=] **1...Rxc7** [1...Kd1 2.Rab5 c1Q+ 3.Rb1 Rxg7 4.Rxc1+ Kxc1 5.Rb1+ Kc2 6.Rxg1 Rg6 7.h7 Rh6 8.Rg2+ Kc3 9.Rxc3+ Kc2 10.a4 Rxh7 11.Ka2 Rd7 12.Ka3+-] **2.Ra4 Rb7!** **3.Rxb7 g2** **4.h7 Bd4+** Play for stalemate. **5.Rxd4 g1Q** **6.h8B!** Phoenix [6.h8Q? Qxd4+ 7.Qxd4= stalemate] **6...Qg7!** **7.Rf7!** [7.Rxc7 /Bxc7? stalemate] **7...Qf6!** **8.Bg7!** [8.a3? Qf3! 9.Ka2 Qxf7 10.Be5 Qxd5+ 11.Rxd5= stalemate] **8...Qf3** **9.Bh6+!+-** [9.Rc7? Qc3+ 10.Rxc3=; 9.Rxf3?=-]

After a short introductory battle for the control of d4 square, White answers to Queen promotion with a Phoenix Bishop promotion, engaging an anti-stalemate skirmish. Then, after the frenzy movements on north-east, with multiple crazy piece offerings and consequent capture refusals, mate is unavoidable. When you arrive at the end, you can only say: "Pity that this did not keep on going a bit more!". However, I would have ended it with 8. ... Qxc7 9. Rf1# as main line.

Petromir Panaiotov
1° Honorable Mention



Win

Michael Pasman
2° Honorable Mention



Win

Oleg Pervakov
Special Honorable Mention



Win

Petromir Panaiotov (Bulgaria)

1.g5 [1.Bxe7? Kxe7 2.gxf5 Nd7+ 3.Kd4 Bb6+ 4.Kd3 Nf6 5.h6 exf5 6.Nf3 Kf7 7.Nh4 Kg8 8.Nxf5 Kh7=] **1...Nd3+** **2.Kd4** [2.Kd6? Bb4+ 3.Kd7 Nc5+ 4.Kc7 Ba5+ 5.Kb8 e5 6.fxe5 Nc6+ 7.Ka8 Nxe5=] **2...Nxf4!** **3.exf4 Bb6+** [#] **4.Kc3!** [4.Kd3? Thematic try. The downside of the move is that the "d3" square is no longer available for wNd1, to protect wpf4 and "e5" square. 4...Bxg1 5.g6+ (5.Bg3 Nc6 6.Ne3 Na5 7.Nc2 Nb3=) 5...Nxc6 6.hxc6+ Kxc6 7.Bd8! e5! 8.fxe5 Kf7! 9.Bc7 (9.Nc3 Bh2! (9...Ke6? 10.Ne2 Bh2 11.Nd4+ Kd7 12.Bf6+-) 10.Bc7 Ke6 11.Kd4 Bg1+ 12.Kd3 Bh2=) 9...Ke6! 10.Nc3 Bh2! 11.Na4 Bg1! 12.Nb2 f4! 13.Ke2 Bd4 14.Nd3 Kf5 15.Kf3 Bc3=] **4...Bxg1** **5.g6+** **Nxc6** **6.hxc6+** **Kxc6** **7.Nf2!** **Bh2** [7...Kh5 8.Bg3+-] **8.Nd3** Now "d3" square is vacant, unlike the line with 4.Kd3? **8...Kh5** **9.Bf2!** [9.Bg5? Bg1! (9...Kg4? 10.Ne5+ Kh3 11.Kd3 Bg1 12.Ke2 Kg3 13.Nd7 Kg4 14.Nf6+ Kg3 15.Ne8 Bd4 16.Nc7 e5 17.Ne6 Bb2 18.Bf6 Kg4 19.Bxe5+-) 10.Ne5 Bd4+! 11.Kxd4=] **9...Kg4** **10.Ne5+!** **Kxf4** **11.Kd4!** **Bg3** [11...Kg5 12.Nf3+-] **12.Be3#** An attractive position that could easily arise in a real OTB game. Neat and logic manoeuvres lead to a charming model mate in the centerboard, otherwise Black is forced to lose a piece for direct capture or double attack. All the sequence gave me a sense of naturalness and pleasant harmony. Well done!

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Nf6+! [1.f8N+? Rxf8 2.Qh7+ Kc6-+; 1.Kxb4 a1Q] **1...Rxf6 2.f8N+!** Phoenix [2.f8Q? a1Q+ 3.Kxb4 Rxf8-+] **2...Rxf8** [2...Kc7 3.Qh7+; 2...Ke7 3.Qh7+] **3.Qh7+ Kc6 4.Qxc2+ Kb7 5.Qxa2 Rb6** [5...Rff4 6.exd6 Kxa7 7.d7+-] **6.Qc4!** [6.Qe6 Ra6+ 7.Kb5 Rb6+ 8.Kc4 Rf4+ 9.Kd3 Kxa7; 6.Qd5+ Kxa7 7.Qd4 Rfb8 8.exd6 Nf5=] **6...Kxa7** [6...Ra8 7.Qf7+] **7.Nf7! Nf5** [7...Ra8 8.Nxd6+-; 7...Rfb8 8.Nxd6+-] **8.exd6** [8.Nd8 Rxd8 9.Qc7+ Rb7 10.Qxd8 is only draw] **8...Ra8! 9.Nd8! Nxd6** [9...Rxd8 10.Qc7+ Rb7 11.Qxd8] **10.Qc7+ Nb7+ 11.Qxb7+! Rxb7 12.Nc6#** "The story of knights". 2 knights are sacrificed, one of them promoted (phoenix) and the third is last piece left and mating (ideal mate with 2 selfblocks)

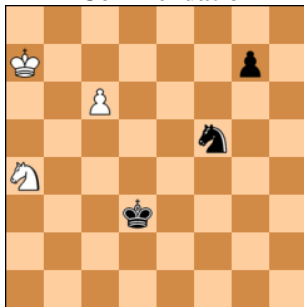
Underpromotion and consequent sacrifices bring to a model mate with a lone Knight and two black self-blocks. The final blow is eye-appealing and gives an overall good artistic impression. Pity for the unpleasant captures of technical black pawns (c2-a2), but probably in this scheme were unavoidable.

Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1.Qf4+! [1.Qg7? e1Q 2.Ra8 Qe5! 3.Qxe5 Qxb7+ 4.Kg6 Qxa8 5.Qxe6 Kg2-; 1.Qa7? f4+ 2.Kh6 Qf5!-; 1.Qc4? f4+ 2.Kh6 f3!-] **1...Kg2!** [1...Kg1 2.Qe3+ Kf1 3.Qf3+-+] **2.g4!!** [2.Qe5? f4+ 3.Kh6 e1Q 4.Qxe1 Qxe1 5.Rf8 fxg3 6.b8Q Qe3+ 7.Kg6 Qe4+ 8.Kg5 Qe3+ 9.Kf6 Qh6+! 10.Ke7 Qh4+ 11.Rf6 Kxh2-; 2.Qc7? e1Q 3.Rg8 f4+ 4.Kh6 f3 5.b8Q f2 6.Qxb1 Qxb1 7.Rf8 f1Q 8.Rxf1 Qxf1=; 2.Qd2? f4+ 3.Kh6 f3 4.g4 e5! 5.g5 e4 6.g6 e3 7.Qd4 e1Q 8.g7 Kh1! 9.g8Q e2 10.Qgd5 Qf1=] **2...e1Q** [2...fxg4+ 3.Kg7! Qb2+ (3...e1Q 4.Qxg4+ Kh1 5.Qf3+ Kg1 6.Rg8!+-) 4.Kh6! e1Q 5.Qxg4+ Kh1 6.Qf3+ Kxh2 7.Qh5+! Kg2 8.Rg8+-] **3.gxf5! Qxf5+** [3...Kh1 4.Qf3+! Kxh2 5.Qh5+-+] **4.Qxf5 Qh4+! 5.Kg7!** [Thematic try 5.Kg6? exf5 6.Rg8 Qxh2! zz 7.Kf6+ Kh1!! 8.b8Q Qxb8 9.Rxb8 f4 10.Rb1+ Kg2 11.Kf5 f3=] **5...exf5 6.Rg8! Qxh2 7.Kg6!!** zz **7...Qd6+** [7...Kh1 8.b8Q Qxb8 9.Rxb8 f4 10.Rf8+-] **8.Kh5+! Kh3 9.b8Q Qxb8 10.Rxb8 f4 11.Rb3+ Kg2 12.Kg4 +-**

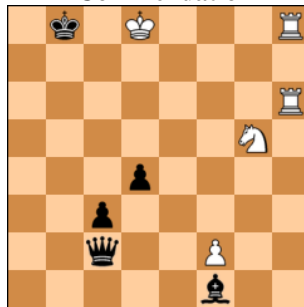
The sequence 6. Rg8! – 7. Kg6!! - 7. Kh5+! explains very well the "paradox" concept in chess composition. In the end, a Black pawn must survive to avoid perpetual check. A noteworthy manoeuvre in an open and light position.

**Peter Krug
1° Commendation**



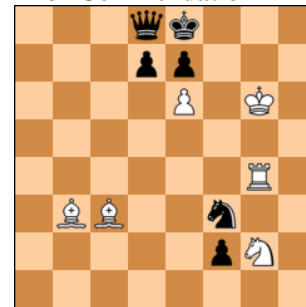
Win

**David Gurgenzidze
2° Commendation**



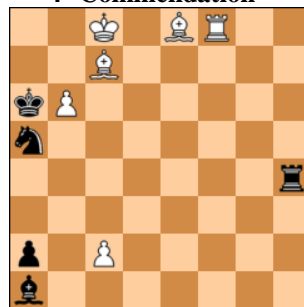
Win

**Sergey Osintsev
3° Commendation**



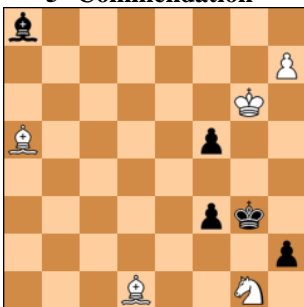
Win

**Michael Pasman
4° Commendation**



Win

**Valery Kalashnikov
5° Commendation**



Win

**Peter Krug
Special Commendation**



Win

Peter Krug (Austria)

1.c7 Nd6! [main : 1...Ne7 2.Nc5+! (2.Nb6? Kd4 3.Kb7 g5 4.Nd7 g4 5.Nf6 g3 6.Nh5 g2 7.Nf4 g1N!=) 2...Kd4 3.Ne6+ Ke5 4.Nxg7+-] **2.Kb8 Kd4 3.Nb6 Kc5** [3...g5 4.Nd7 g4 5.Nf6 g3 6.Nh5 g2 7.Nf4 g1N! 8.Ne6+!+-] **4.Nd7+ Kd4 5.Nf8 Ke5 6.Ng6+ Ke6 7.Nf4+ Ke5 8.Nd3+ Kd4 9.Ne1!!** [Thematic try : 9.Nb4? g5 10.Nc2+ Kd3!! (10...Ke4? 11.Na3 g4 12.Nc4!) 11.Na3 g4 12.Nb5 Nc8!= != compare with mainline] **9...Ke4 10.Nc2 g5 11.Na3 g4 12.Nc4!+-** !+-[try : 12.Nb5? Nc8!]=]

Well crafted Knight's Giant Leap, with almost a complete circuit: one of my favourite themes showed in a feather-weight position.

David Gurgendize (Georgia)

1.Rb6+ Ka7 2.Kc7 Bg2 3.f3 Bxf3 4.Nxf3 Qe4 5.Ra8+ Qxa8 6.Rb1 Qb8+! 7.Rxb8 c2 8.Rb7+ Ka8 [8...Ka6 9.Rb6+ Ka5 10.Rc6+-] **9.Ne5!** [9.Nxd4? c1Q+ 10.Nc6 Qf4+ /Qxc6=] **9...c1Q+ 10.Nc6 Qf4+ 11.Kb6+-**

To activate the Queen in e4, guarded by f3 pawn, Black has to sacrifice his Bishop. But that's not enough: a domination trap is ready for the black Queen, after the precise 6. Rb1! Black can make a new Queen, but it's not enough to stop White's raging pieces, ready to deliver Arabian's mate.

Sergey Osintsev (Russia)

1.Kh7! [1.Kh6? Ng5 2.Rxg5 f1Q 3.Rg8+ Qf8+ 4.Rxf8+ Kxf8=] **1...Ng5+ 2.Rxg5 f1Q 3.Rg8+ Qf8 4.Rxf8+** [thematic try 4.Ba4?! Qxg8+ 5.Kxg8 Qc7! (5...Qa8? 6.exd7+ Kd8 7.Nf4 Kc7+ 8.Kf7! (8.Kg7? Qxa4 9.Ne6+ Kd6! 10.d8Q+ Kxe6=) 8...Qxa4 9.Ne6+ Kxd7 10.Nc5+- fork No.1) 6.Nf4! Kd8! (6...Qxc3? 7.exd7+ Kd8 8.Ne6# model mate) 7.exd7 Qc4+! (7...Qxf4? 8.Ba5+-) 8.Kh7! all the White pieces are under attack, but... 8...Qf7+! 9.Kh8 Qf8+!= perpetual check] **4...Kxf8 5.Nf4! Qa8!** [5...Ke8 6.Ba4!+-] **6.Bd5!** [thematic try 6.exd7? Qh1+! (6...Qe4+? 7.Ng6+-) 7.Kg6 Qc6+! (7...Qg1+? 8.Kf5 Qb1+ 9.Ke5+-) 8.Be6 (8.Kg5 Qxd7 9.Ne6+ Ke8 10.Ng7+ Kf8 11.Ne6+ Ke8= perpetual check; 8.Ne6+ Qxe6+ 9.Bxe6= stalemate) 8...Qg2+! (8...Qe4+? 9.Bf5!+-) 9.Kh5 (9.Nxg2= stalemate) 9...Qg5+! 10.Kxg5= stalemate] **6...Qa4 7.exd7 Qxd7 8.Ne6+** main line A **8...Ke8** [main line B 8...Kf7 9.Ng5+! (9.Nc7+? e6 10.Bxe6+ Qxe6=; 9.Nd8+? Ke8 10.Bc6 Kxd8=) 9...Kf8 (9...Ke8 10.Bf7+ Kf8 (10...Kd8 11.Ba5+ Kc8 12.Be6+- pin) 11.Bg7#) 10.Bf7! (10.Bg7+? Ke8 11.Bf7+ Kd8 12.Ne6+ Kc8= not pin) 10...Qf5+ (10...e6 11.Bb4+-; 10...Qd3+ 11.Bg6 Qxc3 12.Ne6#) 11.Bg6 Qxg5 12.Bg7#! model mate] **9.Bc4!** [loss of time 9.Ng7+ Kf8 10.Ne6+ Ke8] **9...Qd1** [9...Qc6 10.Bb5! Qxb5 11.Nc7+- sliding fork No.2] **10.Bb5+ Kf7 11.Ng5+ Kf8 12.Bg7#!** model mate.

Three minor pieces take advantage of a poorly placed enemy King, abandoned by his Queens who cannot find a single decent square to be useful. At the end of the struggle, comes a double model mate, consequent to each of the main lines.

Michael Pisman (Israel)

1.c4! Forcing the black rook to leave h-file [1.Bg6? Rh3= (1...Rd4) ; 1.Rf5? Rh8=] **1...Rxc4** [1...Nb7 2.Bb5+ Ka5 3.Kxb7+-] **2.Rf5 Be5!** [2...Rb4 3.Bh5 Nc4 4.Be2 Be5 5.Bxe5 Kxb6 6.Bd4+ Kc6 7.Rc5+ Kd6 8.Rxc4 Rb1 9.Ra4+-] **3.Rxe5 Rb4** [3...Rc5 4.Rxc5+-; 3...a1Q 4.Bb5#] **4.b7!** [4.Re1? Nb3=; 4.Re6? Nb7!]=] **4...Nxb7** [4...a1Q 5.Re6+-] **5.Re6+ Nd6+** [5...Ka7 6.Bb8+-] **6.Rxd6+ Ka7 7.Rd7! Ka8** [7...a1Q 8.Be5+ Ka8 9.Bxa1 Rb8+ 10.Kc7 Rxe8 (10...Rc8+ 11.Kb6 Rb8+ (11...Rxe8 12.Be5+-) 12.Ka6+-) 11.Bf6 (11.Bc3) 11...Rc8+ 12.Kb6 Rb8+ 13.Ka6+-] **8.Be5 Rb8+! 9.Bxb8 a1Q 10.Ra7+! Qxa7 11.Bc6+ Qb7+ 12.Bxb7#**

Many sacrifices to build a model mate in the corner. The final mating position is known from Umnov (1976). No matter though: the play is totally different.

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

1.Bc7+! [Prematurely 1.h8Q? hxg1Q=; logic try 1.Be1+? Kg2! 2.Nxf3 h1Q 3.Nh4+ Kf1 4.h8Q Kxe1 5.Ba4 Qg1+ 6.Kh6 Qe3+=] **1...f4 2.Bxf4+! Kxf4** [2...Kg2 3.Bxh2 Be4+ 4.Kf6 Bxh7 5.Nxf3 Be4 6.Nd2+-] **3.Nh3+ Kg3** [3...Ke3 4.h8Q Be4+ 5.Kg5 h1Q 6.Qc3+ Bd3 7.Qc5+ Kd2 8.Qb4+ Kxd1 9.Nf2+-] **4.Nf2!** [4.h8Q? h1Q 5.Qe5+ Kxh3 6.Qh5+ Kg2 7.Bxf3+ Bxf3=] **4...Kxf2 5.h8Q Kg1!** [5...Be4+ 6.Kf6 Kg1 7.Qg7+ Kf1 8.Qh6+-; 5...Kg2 6.Qxa8 h1Q 7.Bxf3+-] **6.Qa1! Be4+** [6...Kf2 7.Qd4+ Kg3 8.Qe5+ Kg2 9.Qg5+-] **7.Kf7! f2** [7...h1Q 8.Bxf3+ battery attack] **8.Be2+** battery attack **8...f1Q+! 9.Qxf1#**

A nice double-sacrificial manoeuvre to free the H-column, followed by battery play and, again, a model mate. Little, but entertaining and well-flowing. Some nice sidelines too.

Peter Krug (Austria)

1.Ne6! g1Q 2.Ng5+ Qxg5 [2...Kxh6 3.Rxh8#] **3.hxg5 axb3 4.a7 c1Q! ! 5.Rxc1 b2 6.Rh1!!** [6.Rc8? b1Q 7.a8Q Qb4+=] **6...a2 7.a8Q b1Q 8.Qg8+! Kxg8 9.h7#**

Short but dense: in a *sui generis* position, many sacrifices lead to a funny pawn checkmate in the corner, which seems to be original as the idea!

Italy , October 30, 2022

Judge : Daniele Gatti – ITALY

Section B.2 (Draw)

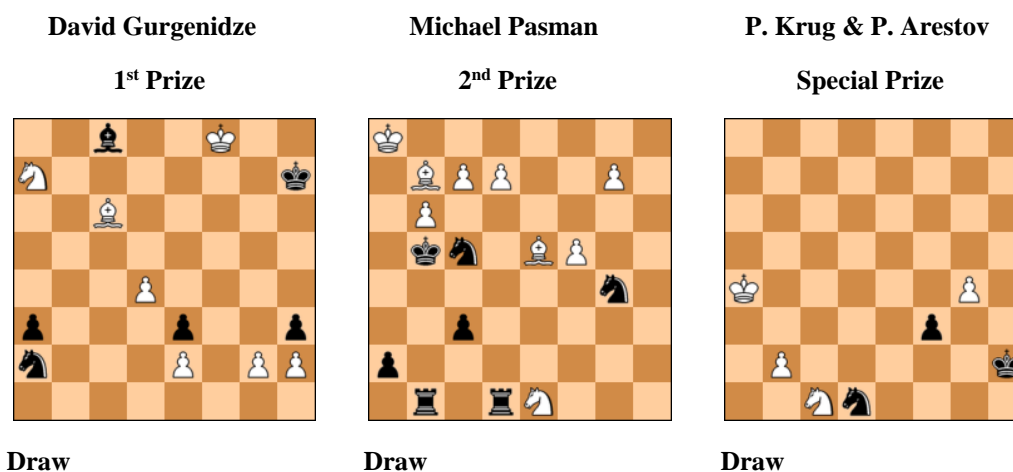
First, I would like to thank Mario Garcia for offering me to judge Section B.2, and all participants for taking part. In my opinion, the level of the studies was high.

I received 23 studies from 14 composers; I chose to include in the award 11 works.

To be fair, I should explain my preferences:

I usually prefer studies with clear-cut, elegant play, that demonstrate an interesting, original idea, rather than studies which put the emphasis on accuracy. I also appreciate attractive moves or positions, such as surprising sacrifices and unexpected stalemates.

My ranking is as follows:



David Gurgenzidze (Georgia)

1.Nb5! [1.Be4+? Bf5 2.Bxf5+ Kh6 3.g4 Nc3 4.Nc6 a2 5.Nd8 Kg5 6.Nf7+ Kf4 7.Nd8 Nxe2—+] **1...Nb4 2.Be4+ Bf5 3.Bxf5+ Kh6 4.g4 a2 5.Nd6 Kg5** [5...a1Q?? 6.Nf7#] **6.Nf7+ Kf4 7.Nd8 Kg5** [7...a1Q?? 8.Ne6#] **8.Nf7+ Kh4 9.Ne5 Kg5** [9...a1Q?? 10.Nf3#] **10.Nf7+ Kf6 11.Nd6=** positional draw No **11...a1Q?? 12.Ne4#**

In this masterpiece, following very interesting play we get the position after 4...a2, thereafter white will keep threatening checkmate in optionally 4(!) different positions, so that the black pawn will never get to promote. It's very appealing to me that such a beautiful idea is demonstrated so neatly and elegantly.

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Ba6+! Nowotny-like a-file interference [Thematic try : 1.Bc6+ Kxb6 2.c8N+ Kxc6 3.Na7+ Kxd7 4.g8Q Nxe5—+; 1.c8Q a1Q+ 2.Kb8 Nxe5—+; 1.d8Q a1Q+ 2.Kb8 Nxe5—+; 1.Bxc3 a1Q+ 2.Bxa1 Rxa1+ 3.Kb8 Nxd7—+; 1.Nc2 a1Q+ 2.Nxa1 Rxa1—+] **1...Nxa6** [1...Kxa6 2.c8Q+] **2.Nc2 a1Q** [2...Nxe5 3.d8Q=] **3.Nxa1 Rxa1** [3...Nxe5 4.d8Q=] **4.Bxc3!** [4.d8Q Nxc7—+; after 4.c8Q the simplest is 4...Nxe5 5.g8Q Nc5+ 6.Kb8 Nxd7+ 7.Kc7 c2; 4.g8Q Nc5+ 5.Kb8 Nxe5—+] **4...Kxb6!** [4...Nxc7+ 5.Kb7 Rxd7 6.bxc7 Ra7+ 7.Kxa7 Rxc7+ 8.Kb8=; 4...Nc5+ 5.Bxa1 Rxa1+ 6.Kb8 Nxd7+ 7.Kb7 Nc5+ 8.Kb8=] **5.c8N+!** First knight promotion [5.c8Q Nc7+] **5...Kc6 6.Bxa1 Nc7+! 7.Kb8 Rb1+! 8.Nb6!** Nowotny-like sacrificing the promoted knight **8...Rxb6+ 9.Kc8 Na6! 10.d8N+!** Second knight promotion **10...Kd6 11.Nb7+!** [11.Nf7+? Ke7—+] **11...Ke7 12.f6+!** [12.g8Q? Rc6#] **12...Nxf6** [12...Kf7? 13.Nd8+] **13.Bxf6+ Rxf6 14.g8N+!** Third knight promotion [14.g8Q? Rc6#] **14...Kf7 15.Nxf6=** 3 knight promotions by white + phenix A beautiful study which contains three different knight promotions that avoid three different mates, along with elegant sacrifices.

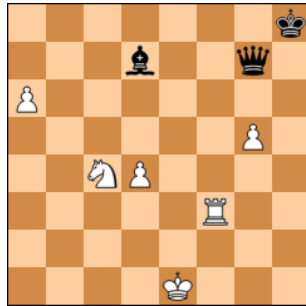
Peter Krug & Pavel Arestov (Austria-Russia)

1.Nb3! [Try : 1.Nd3? Nxb2+! 2.Nxb2 f2–+] **1...Nxb2+ 2.Kb5** [Try : 2.Kb4? f2 3.Nd2 Nd3+ 4.Kc3 (4.Kc4 Ne5+ 5.Kd4 Nxf4–+) 4...Nc5! 5.Kd4 (5.g5 Ne4+!–+) 5...Nb3+!–+ !–+] **2...f2 3.Nd2 Nd3 4.g5 Ne5 5.Kb4!!** [Try : 5.Kc5!? Kh3! 6.Kd5 Nf3 7.Nf1 Nxf5–+; Try 5.Ka4? Kh3! 6.Kb4 Kg4! 7.Kc3 Nf3! 8.Nf1 Nxf5 9.Kd2 Kf3 10.Nh2+ Kg3 not (10...Kg2 11.Ng4!) 11.Nf1+ Kg2–+] **5...Kg2 6.Ka3!! Kh3!** [6...Nf3 7.g6 Nxd2 8.g7=] **7.Ka2!!** [7.Kb2? Nc4+; Try 7.Ka4? Kg4 8.Kb4 Kf4! ! 9.Kc3 Nf3 10.Nf1 Nxf5 11.Kd2 Kf3–+] **7...Kg4** [7...Nf3 8.g6 Nxd2 9.g7 f1Q 10.g8Q =] **8.Kb2!** [8.Kb1? Nf3 9.Nf1 Nxf5–+] **8...Kxf5** [8...Nf3 9.g6! Nxd2 10.g7=; 8...Kf4 9.Kc2 Nf3 10.g6 Nxd2 11.g7 f1Q 12.g8Q=] **9.Ne4+!=**

In this delightful miniature, in order to stop the advanced black pawn, white has to make some surprising, paradoxical king moves to avoid knight forks. I especially liked 7.Ka2!!.

Andrej Jasik

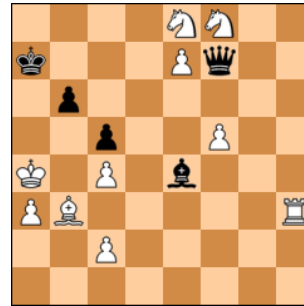
1° Honorable Mention



Draw

Michael Pasman

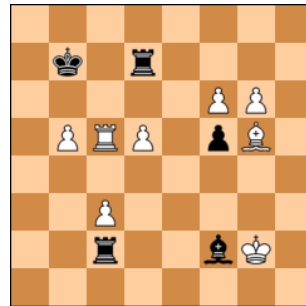
2° Honorable Mention



Draw

Michael Pasman

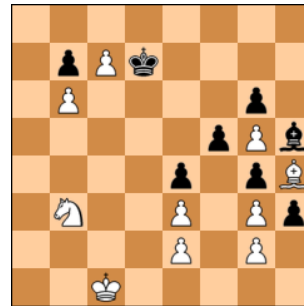
3° Honorable Mention



Draw

Daniele Gatti

Special Honorable Mention



Draw

Andrej Jasik (Poland)

1.a7 [1.Ne5? Be6 2.Rf8+ Kh7 3.g6+ Kh6 4.Re8 Qc7 5.Rxe6 Qa5+ 6.Kf1 Qa1+ 7.Ke2 Qa2+ 8.Ke3 Qxe6μ] **1...Bc6 2.Rf6** [2.Ra3? Ba8μ] **2...Bd5! 3.a8Q+!** [3.Nd6? Qxa7 4.Rh6+ Kg7 5.Nf5+ Kg8 6.Rf6 Qa2μ] **3...Bxa8 4.Ne5! Be4 5.Rd6! Bf5 6.Rf6 Be4** [6...Bh7 7.Nf7+ Kg8 8.Nh6+ Kh8 9.Nf7+=] **7.Rd6 Bh7 8.Rd7 Qf8 9.Rd8! Qxd8 10.Nf7+ Kg7 11.Nxd8=** Draw

After a nice introduction, we arrive at a positional draw, where white threatens to win the black queen with different R&S combinations, thus forcing the black bishop to go back and forth to defend.

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Nd6! [1.Nc7? Qe8+! 2.Nd7 Kb7! 3.Ba2 Bxc2+ 4.Bb3 Bxf5–+] **1...Qe8+! 2.Nd7!** [2.Nxe8? Bc6#; 2.Nb5+? Kb7 3.Ba2 Bxc2+ and Qa8 mate] **2...Bxf5!** [2...Qxd7+ 3.Nb5+=] **3.Ba2!** [3.Rd3? Bxd7+ 4.Nb5+ Ka6 5.Rxd7 Qxd7 6.Ba2 Qxe7 for example: 7.Kb3 Qe5 8.Nc3 Kb7 9.a4 Kc6 10.Nb5 Qa1 11.Nc3 Kd6 12.Nd5 Ke5 13.Nxb6 Ke4 14.a5 Ke3 15.a6 Kd2 16.Nd5 Kc1–+] **3...Bxc2+** [3...Bxd7+ 4.Kb3 Qxe7 5.Rd3=] **4.Bb3 Bf5!** Switchback **5.Bc2** [5.Nb5+? Kb7 6.Bd1 Qxd7 7.Bf3+ Ka6 8.Rh2 Qxe7–+] **5...Bxc2+ 6.Rb3 Qxd7+ 7.Nb5+ Kb7** [7...Ka6 8.e8Q=] **8.e8Q! Qxe8=** Model stalemate with selfblocks and 2 pinned pieces

After mutual sacrifices, we reach an elegant double-pin stalemate position.

Michael Pasman (Israel)

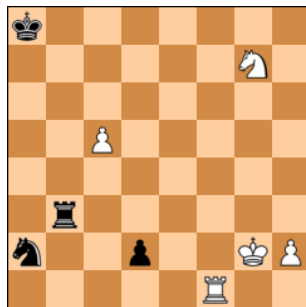
1.Rc8! [Thematic Try : 1.Rc6 Bh4+ (1...Be3+) 2.Kf3 Bxg5 3.g7 Rxd5 4.g8Q Rd3#] **1...Bc5+** [If as in 1.Rc6 line 1...Be3+ then 2.Kf3! /g3 (not 2.Kh1? Rc1+ 3.Kh2 Bxg5 4.g7 Bf4+ 5.Kg2 Rxd5 6.g8Q Rd2+ 7.Kf3 Rf1#) 2...Bxg5 3.g7 Rxd5 with rook on c8 instead of c6 - then : 4.Rb8+! (4.g8Q? Rd3#) 4...Kc7 5.Rc8+! Kb6 (5...Kd7 6.Rd8+) 6.Rb8+ Ka5 7.Ra8+ Kxb5 8.Rb8+ Ka4 9.Ra8+ with perpetual check - this is why the rook must stay on c8; 1...Kxc8 2.Kf3 Bc5 (2...Rxc3+ 3.Kxf2) 3.g7 white promotes with check] **2.Kg3 Rxc3+ 3.Kf4 Bd6+** [3...Kxc8 4.g7! Bd6+ 5.Kxf5 Rd8 6.f7!+=; 3...Rc4+ 4.Kf3! (4.Kxf5? Rxd5+)] **4.Kxf5 Rxc8** [4...Kxc8 5.g7 Rd8 6.f7!+=] **5.Ke6! Rcc7** [5...Rcd8 6.g7 Be5 7.Kxe5 Rxd5+ 8.Kf4=] **6.b6!!** [6.g7? Rxg7+] **6...Kxb6 7.g7!** [7.Be3+? Bc5 8.Bxc5+ Kxc5+] **7...Rxg7 8.Be3+!** [8.fxg7? Rxg7+] **8...Bc5** [8...Kb7 9.fxg7 Rxg7 10.Kxd6=] **9.Bxc5+ Kxc5 10.d6!** [#][10.fxg7? Rxg7+] I find the main idea, starting with the surprising 6. b6!! and culminating with 10.d6!, very appealing.

Daniele Gatti (Italy)

1.Kd2! [1.Nc5+? Kc8! 2.Kd2 hxg2!+; 1.Nd4? h2! 2.Nb5 h1Q+! 3.Kd2 Qa1 4.Na7 Qa5+ 5.Kc2 Qc5+ 6.Kd2 Qb4+ 7.Kc2 Qc4+ 8.Kd2 Qc5! 9.Ke1 Qc2 10.Kf2 Qc1!+] **1...h2** [second line 1...hxg2 2.Nd4! g1Q 3.Nb5! Qa1 4.Na7! Qa5+ 5.Kc2! Qc5+ 6.Kd2! Qb4+ 7.Kc2! Qc4+ 8.Kd2! Qc5 9.Ke1! Qc2 10.Kf2 Qc1 11.Kg2!]=] **2.Nc5+ Kc8 3.Nxe4 fxe4 4.Ke1 h1Q+ 5.Kf2 Qh2 6.Kf1 Qh1+ 7.Kf2 Qh2 8.Kf1 Qxh4 9.gxh4! g3 10.Ke1 Kd7 11.Kd2 Bf3 12.Ke1** [12.Kc3? Bxg2! 13.h5 gxh5 14.g6 Bh3! 15.g7 Be6 16.Kd2 g2+] **12...Bg4 13.Kd2 Be6 14.Kc3! Bh3** [14...Kd6 15.Kd4! Bf5 16.Kc3! Kc6 17.h5! gxh5 18.g6! Kd7 19.g7! Bh7 20.Kd2! h4 21.Ke1! Kc8 22.Kf1!= positional draw] **15.Kd2** [15.Kd4? Bxg2! 16.h5 gxh5 17.g6 Bh3 18.g7 Be6 19.Kxe4 g2+] **15...Bxg2 16.h5!** [16.Ke1? Bh3! 17.h5 gxh5 18.g6 Ke7 19.g7 Kf7+] **16...gxh5 17.g6 Bh3 18.g7 Be6 19.Ke1 h4 20.Kf1 h3 21.Kg1**= positional draw
Right in the very first move we see a nice try which ends with a zugzwang; the second line arrives at the same position but without the g2 pawn. This allows white to play the drawing 11.Kg2!. The first line ends with a nice positional draw.

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely

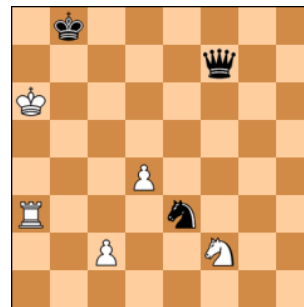
1° Comendation



Draw

P. Arestov & P. Krug

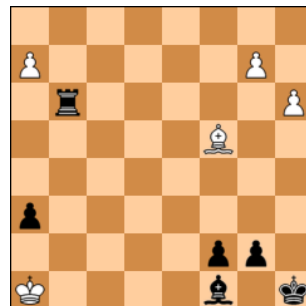
2° Comendation



Draw

Andrej Jasik

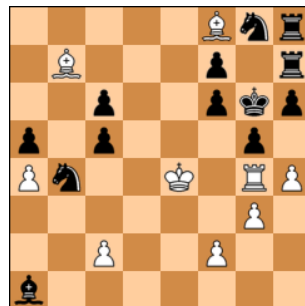
3° Comendation



Draw

Jan Timman

Special Comendation



Draw

Michal Hlinka & Lubos Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Nf5 Rd3 2.Ne3! Rxe3 3.Rf8+ Kb7 [3...Ka7 4.Rd8 Re2+ 5.Kf3 Nc3 6.h4 Rh2 7.Kg3 Re2 8.Kf3=] **4.Rd8 Re2+ 5.Kf3 a) 5...Nc1** [b) 5...Nc3 6.h3! (try : 6.h4? Kc7 7.Rd3 Kc6! zz 8.h5 Kb7! 9.Rd7+ Kb8! 10.Rd3 Kc8! 11.c6 Kc7 zz 12.h6 Rh2! 13.Kg3 Rxb6 14.Rxd2 Ne4+--+) 6...Rh2 (6...Kc7 7.Rd3= as main) 7.Kg3 Kc7 (7...Re2 8.Kf3 Kc7 9.Rd3=) 8.Rd3 Re2 9.Kf3 Kc6 10.h4! zz 10...Kc7 (10...Rh2 11.Kg3 Rh1 12.Rxd2 Ne4+ 13.Kg2=) 11.c6 Rh2 12.Kg3 Re2 13.Kf3= positional draw; 5...Rxb2 6.Ke3=] **6.h4!** [6.h3? Kc6+] **6...Kc6** [6...Kc7 7.Rd6=] **7.h5 Rh2 8.Kg3 Re2 9.Kf3=** positional draw

The difference in White's sixth move between the two main lines, along with the neat play, is noteworthy.

Pavel Arestov & Peter Krug (Russia-Austria)

1.Rb3+! [1.Rxe3? Qxf2! 2.Rb3+ Kc7 3.Rc3+ Kd6 4.Kb5 Kd5! (4...Qxd4? 5.Rd3=) 5.Rc5+ Kxd4+] **1...Kc8** [1...Ka8 2.Rxe3 Qc4+ 3.Ka5! Qxd4 (3...Qxc2 4.Re8+! Ka7 5.Re7+ Kb8 6.Ne4!)=) 4.Ra3! Qxf2 5.Kb4+!]=] **2.Rxe3** [2.Rc3+? Kd7 3.Rxe3 Qxf2+] **2...Qc4+!** [2...Qxf2 3.Rc3+ Kd7 4.Kb5! Qxd4 5.Rd3÷] **3.Ka5!** [3.Kb6? Qxd4+] **3...Qd5+!** [3...Qxd4 4.Rb3 /Nd1=] **4.Ka6!** [4.Kb4? Qxd4+ +] **4...Qxd4** [4...Qc4+ 5.Ka5= positional draw] **5.Nd1! Qxd1 6.Rc3+ Kb8** [6...Kd7 7.Rd3+=] **7.Kb5!** [7.Rb3+? Ka8!+] **7...Qd4 8.Rc4 Qb2+ 9.Ka4! Ka7 10.Rc7+** [10.Rb4? Qxc2+; 10.Ka5? Qa3+! 11.Kb5 Kb7!+] **10...Ka6 11.Rc6+! Kb7 12.Rc4 Ka7 13.Rc7+ Kb6 14.Rc3! Qxc3** stalemate[14...Qa2+ 15.Kb4=]

After White gives up his knight, we receive an interesting positional draw or alternatively, a stalemate.

Andrej Jasik (Poland)

1.Be4! (1.a8Q? Bc4 2.Bd3 Bxd3 3.Qxg2+ Kxg2 4.g8Q+ Kh2-+) (1.g8Q? g1Q 2.a8Q+ Bg2+--+) **1...Rb1+!** (1...Kh2 2.g8Q g1Q 3.Qb8+ Rxb8 4.axb8Q+ Qg3 (4...Kh3 5.Qc8+=) 5.Qxg3+ Kxg3 6.h7=) (1...Bc4?? 2.Bxg2+ Kxg2 3.a8Q+--+) **2.Bxb1** (2.Kxb1? Bd3+ 3.Bxd3 f1Q+--+) **2...Bd3!** (2...g1Q 3.a8Q+ Bg2 4.h7=) **3.h7! Bxb7** (3...f1Q 4.h8Q+ Kg1 5.Qb8=) **4.g8Q!** (4.a8Q? f1Q 5.g8Q Qxb1#) **4...Bxg8 5.a8Q f1Q** (5...Bh7 6.Qh8 f1Q 7.Qxh7+ Kg1 8.Ka2 Qf6 9.Kxa3 Qc3+ 10.Ka4=) **6.Qxg2+! Qxg2** (6...Kxg2 Stalemate) **7.Be4! Qxe4** Stalemate Nice sacrifices by both sides lead to position where black has to choose between two model stalemates.

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.h5+! Kxh5 2.Kf5 Rg7 3.Ba6! [3.Bxg7? Ne7+--; 3.f3? Ne7+ 4.Bxe7 Rhg8+] **3...Nxa6 4.f3! Ne7+ 5.Bxe7 Rhg8 6.Bf8! Rg6** [6...Be5 7.Bxg7 Bxg3 8.Rxg3 Kh4 9.Rg4+ Kh3 10.Kxf6 Re8 11.Bxh6 Re6+ 12.Kxg5 Nb4 13.Rf4 Re5+ 14.Rf5 Rxf5+ 15.Kxf5 Nxc2 16.Ke4=] **7.Bg7! R6xg7 8.c4! Bd4 9.Rh4+! gxh4 10.g4+ Rxg4 11.fxg4+ Rxg4=** stalemate

White threatens mate (like in Reti f5-h5 - Tijdschrift v.d. KNSB-1922); while black is defending, white manages to sacrifice the majority of his pieces, eventually pushing 8.c4!, after which black cannot avoid white's stalemate threat.

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Petach Tikva, Israel, October 28

Judge: Itay Richardson