

Magyar Sakkvilág 2019 – Preliminary Award

First I want to thank to Péter Gyarmati for possibility to judge this traditional Hungarian tourney.

In 2019 there was published 23 originals from 16 authors from 13 countries. I verified the candidates to award for anticipations and soundness.

Study from A. Jasik (MSV 7/2019) has duals 8.Qd8 (or Qd6) Qe4+ 9.Kd1 Qb1+ 10.Ke2 Qxh1 11.Qd4+ =.

And here is my order:

Prize – Steffen Nielsen, Denmark & Martin Minski, Germany – MSV 9/2019

In a roughly balanced position white uses the cramped position of the black king in a corner in a unique way. The international well-known couple managed to play heavy figures brilliantly with the rook sacrifices on both sides. The point of the study is a beautiful move 5.Rc4! with two threats, after which white reaches the model mat. Plus there is a clear solution without long side analyzes. Excellent aesthetic experience!

Special prize – Richard Becker, USA – MSV 8/2019

Queen's long fight against dangerous black pawns. Black counterplay by minor promotion. White must get the opponent to zugzwang and not vice versa. The author developed his own stalemate idea (2nd prize, Benko JT, 2008) and added a second long variant ending with perpetual chess. Difficult composing performance!

1st honourable mention – Andrzej Jasik, Poland – MSV 11/2019

After a tight intro, an original position is created with two echo variants with underpromotions to the knights. Such ideas are still very attractive.

2nd honourable mention – Peter Krug, Austria – MSV 11/2019, nr. 650

After 3.Rh6! threatens Rf8 mate. Therefore black must sacrifice a queen with a threat to immediately promote on g1 new one. The saving of white is in a stalemate defenses - although black escapes from these, but only his eyes remain crying - two equal bishops are no longer enough to win.

1st commendation – Michael Pasman, Israel – MSV 12/2019, nr. 658

Pleasant study with more similar stalemates in side lines and also with nice finish in main line.

2st commendation – Emil Melnichenko, New Zealand – MSV 12/2019

Good utilization of weak black king in the corner. Points of work are moves 6.Bd2! and 7. d5!

3st commendation – Michal Hlinka, Slovakia & Mario Garcia, Argentina – MSV 11/25019

Award for the surprise seventh move and for the original positional draw.

Special commendation – Peter Krug, Austria – MSV 12/2019, nr. 651

New rework of known idea – especially Kozirev, sp. comm., Chavchavadze MT, 1987.