

VRATNICA – 2022

PROVISIONAL AWARD

A thank you to Bosko Miloseski , and all the participants of this tournament.

The Director sent me the studies for evaluation, with diagrams and solutions in files word and PGN

Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Lubos Kekely (Slovakia); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Michael Pasman (Israel); Jan Timman (Netherlands); David Gurgenzidze (Georgia); Michael Schlosser (Germany); Sergey Osintsev (Russia); Leonid Topko (Ukraine); Rainer Staudte (Germany)

There are 21 studies by 11 composers from 8 countries

So, my ranking is:

STUDIES WIN



Comments : The studies of the podium, have a common denominator: the culmination in mate in the main line .In one of them, victory is achieved through the domination of minor pieces. Black's counterplay is very interesting, achieving an equality positions and stalemate. Without a doubt, they have an artistic value of a significant level

Sergey Osintsev (Russia)

1.Nd8+! [Tries lead to a draw balance of power 1.Nxd3? Rd5+! 2.Kb4 Rd4+ 3.Kc3 Rxh4=; 1.Bxd3? Rxd3! 2.Nxd3 g2=; 1.Ne5? d2 2.Be2 d1Q 3.Bxd1 Rxd1=; 1.Bg2+? Kc8! (1...Ka7? 2.Nxd3 Rxd3 3.Bxg3 e2 4.Bf2+ Kb8 5.Ne5 /g5+-) 2.Nxd3 (2.Ne5 Rh7! 3.Bxg3 d2 4.Bf3 e2 5.Bxe2 Rh1 6.Nf3 (6.Ne6 Ra1+=) 6...d1Q 7.Bxd1 Rxd1=) 2...Rxd3 3.Bh3+ Kb7! 4.Bxg3 e2 5.Bg2+ Kc8!]=] **1...Ka7** [1...Kc8 2.Nxd3 Rxd3 3.Bh3+! (3.Bxd3? g2 4.Ba6+ Kd7! 5.Bb5+ Kc8! 6.Ba6+ Kd7=) 3...Kc7 4.Ne6+ Kc6 5.Bxg3 e2 6.Bg2+ Kd7 7.Nc5++-] **2.Nc6+** [2.Nde6? d2 3.Be2 d1Q 4.Bxd1 Rxd1=] **2...Kb7 3.Nxd3** [3.Bxd3? Rxd3! 4.Nxd3 g2=] **3...Rd5+!** Preliminary check! [3...Rxd3 4.Nb4! Ra3+ 5.Kb5 e2! 6.Bg2+! (6.Bxe2? g2 7.Bf2 Rg3=) 6...Kc7 7.Nc2 Rb3+ 8.Kc4+-] **4.Ka4!** [Thematic try 4.Kb4? Rxd3! 5.Na5+ Ka7! 6.Bxg3 e2! 7.Bf2+ Ka6! 8.Bg2! (8.Bxe2= ideal stalemate with Rook pin) 8...Rd4+! 9.Bxd4 e1Q+ Position A1 with check! 10.Bc3=] **4...Rxd3! 5.Na5+!** Preliminary check! [5.Bxd3? Kxc6; 5.Nb4? Rd1! 6.Bg2+ (6.Ba6+ Kb6! 7.Bxg3 Ra1+=) 6...Ka7! 7.Bxg3 Rg1=; 5.Bxg3? e2! 6.Na5+ Kc8! 7.Bh3+ Kd8 8.Nc6+ Ke8=] **5...Ka7** [to the main line 5...Kb6 6.Bxg3 e2 7.Bf2+ Kc7 8.Bxe2+-; 5...Kc8 6.Bh3+! Kc7 7.Bxg3+-] **6.Bxg3!** [6.Bxd3? g2=] **6...e2 7.Bf2+** [7.Bxe2? Rxd3=] **7...Ka6 8.Bg2!** [8.Bxe2?= ideal stalemate with Rook pin] **8...Rd4+ 9.Bxd4 e1Q 10.Bb7#** Model mate

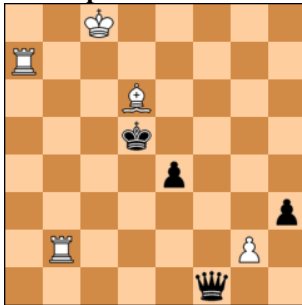
Peter S. Krug (Austria)

1.Rg5+! [1.Bd3+? Rxd3 2.Rg5+ Ke4; 1.Rxe6? Rxe6+ 2.Nxe6 f2 /h3=] **1...Kf6 2.Bd3!** [2.Kf8? Rd8+ 3.Ne8+ Rxe8+ 4.Kxe8 Re4=] **2...Rxd3 3.Nxd3 Bf7+** [3...Bf5+ 4.Kf8 Bxd3 5.Nd5+ Ke6 6.Nf4+-] **4.Kf8 f2 5.Nf4!** [5.Nxf2? Rxf2 6.Rg7 Bb3 /g6=] **5...f1Q** [5...Re5 6.Rxe5 Kxe5 7.Nd3+ Kf5 8.Nxf2+-] **6.Nfe6 Rxe6** [6...Bxe6 7.Ne8#; 6...Rg2 7.Bg7#] **7.Nd5#**

Michael Pasman (Israel)

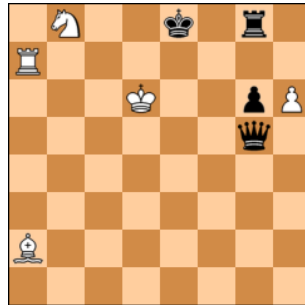
1.b6 Na3 2.Bf1! [2.Be6 Nc2! 3.Nc3 Nxb4] **2...Nc2 3.Nc3** Main B: **3...Nxb4** [Main A: 3...Ba7 4.bxa7 Nxb4 5.Nb5 Nc6+ 6.Kc7 Nxa7 7.Nd6! Nc6 8.Nxb7 Nb4 9.Nd6! (9.Na5 Ka7!) 9...Nd5+ 10.Kc6 Ne3 (10...Ne7+ 11.Kd7 Ng6 12.Kc7 Nf4 13.Bc4 Ka7 14.Nc8+ Ka8 15.Ne7 Ka7 16.Nc6+ Ka8 17.Nb4+-) 11.Bd3! Kb8 (11...Ka7 12.Nc8+) 12.Be4!+-] **4.Bg2!** [4.Kc8? Nc6! 5.Nd5 Na7+!] **4...Ba7** [4...Nc6+ 5.Bxc6 bxc6 6.Kc8; 4...Nd3 5.Kc8 Nc5 6.Nd5! Be5 7.Nb4 and Nd3] **5.Kc8! Nc6** [5...Bxb6 6.Bxb7+ Ka7 7.Nb5#] **6.Bxc6 Bxb6 7.Bxb7+ Ka7 8.Nb5#** Ideal mate with selfblock

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
Special Prize



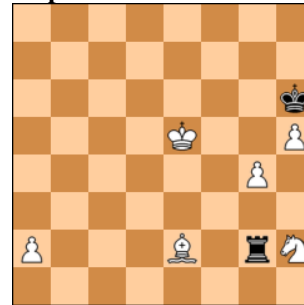
Win

Leonid Topko
Honorable Mention



Win

P. Arestov & M. Hlinka
Special Commendation



Win

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Rd2+ Ke6 [1...Kc4 e.g. 2.Rc7+ Kb3 3.Rd4+-] **2.Bc7!** [2.Re7+? Kf6! 3.Kd8 hxg2 4.Bh2 Qf5 5.Rd6+ Kg5 6.Rg7+ Kh5 7.Rxg2 e3!=; 2.Kd8? hxg2=] **2...hxg2** [2...Kf5 3.Ra5+ Kg4 4.gxh3+-] **3.Rd6+ Kf5** [3...Ke5 4.Ra5+ Kf4 5.Rd3+ Kg4 6.Rg3+ Kh4 e.g. 7.Rg6 Qc4 8.Rag5 e3 9.Rxg2 Kh5 10.R2g5+ Kh4 11.Re5 e2 12.Rge6+-] **4.Ra5+ Kg4 5.Rg6+ Kf3 6.Rf5+!** [6.Rg3+? Kf2! 7.Ra2+ Kg1 8.Bb6+ (8.Kb7 e3 9.Rxe3 Qd1! 10.Ra5 Kf2 11.Bb6 Qd7+ 12.Ka6 Qc8+ 13.Kb5 Qd7+ 14.Kb4 Qd6+ 15.Bc5 Qxc5+=) 8...Kh2 9.Rg8 e3!=] **6...Ke2 7.Rfg5 Kf2** [7...Ke1 8.Rxg2 Qf5+ 9.Kb7 Qd5+ 10.Ka7 e3 11.R2g5+-] **8.Bb6+** [8.Re6? Qc1 9.Reg6 Qf1 10.Bb6+ is only waste of time] **8...e3 9.Re6** [9.Bc5? Ke2 10.Rxg2+ Kd3=; 9.Rg4? g1Q 10.Rxg1 Qa6+ /a4=] **9...Qc4+** [9...Qa6+ 10.Kb8+-] **10.Kd7! Qd3+** [10...Qa4+ 11.Ke7+-] **11.Ke8! g1Q** [11...Qb3 12.Bxe3+-] **12.Rf6+ Ke2 13.Rxg1 Qb5+** [13...Qe4+ 14.Kd8 Qd5+ 15.Kc8 Qc4+ 16.Kb8+-; 13...Qd5 14.Rgg6 Qa8+ 15.Bd8 Qa4+ 16.Rc6+-] **14.Kd8!+-**
Original configuration of a "domination" of RRB against Q.. Very precise moves are required to avoid continuous checks and counterplay by Black with the opportune advance of his pawns.

Leonid Topko (Ukraine)

1.Bf7+! [1.Bxg8? Qf6+ 2.Kc7 Qe7+=] **1...Kf8** [1...Kd8 2.Nc6+ Kc8 3.Rc7#] **2.Nd7+ Kxf7** **3.Ne5+ Ke8** [3...Kf6 4.Rf7#; 3...Kf8 4.Ra8+ Qd8+ 5.Rxd8#] **4.Ra8+ Qd8+ 5.Rxd8+ Kxd8** **6.h7 Rf8** [6...Rh8 7.Nf7+++; 6...Re8 7.Nc6+ /g6 7...Kc8 8.Ne7+++] **7.Nxg6** [7.Nf7+? Ke8 8.Ke6 g5!]=] **7...Re8** [7...Rf6+ 8.Ke5+-] **8.Kc6!** [8.Ne5? Kc8 9.Nf7 Kb8!= 10.Kd7] **8...Re6+ 9.Kd5 /c5 9...Re8 10.Kd6!** zz **10...Kc8 11.Ne7+ Kb7 12.Ng8+-**

Entertaining game with culmination in mate and with movements that culminate in a position of zz in favor of White

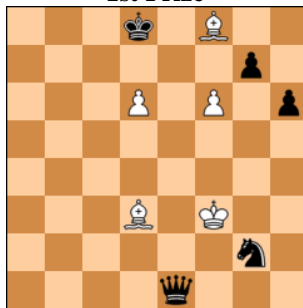
Pavel Arestov & Michal Hlinka (Russia-Slovakia)

1.g5+! Rxg5+ black canceled the double strike [1...Kxg5 2.Nf3+ Kxh5 3.Nd4+++] **2.Kd4!!** [2.Kf4? Rg2! 3.Ng4+ Kxh5 4.Nf6+ Kg6=; 2.Ke4? Rg2! 3.Ng4+ Kxh5=] **2...Rg2** black renewed the double strike **3.Ng4+ Kxh5 4.Nf6+!** [4.Kd3? Kg6! 5.a4 Kf7 6.Ne3 Rg5 7.Kc4 Ke7 8.Nd5+ Kd7 9.a5 Kc8=] **4...Kg6!** [4...Kh6 5.Bc4!; 4...Kg5 5.Ne4+!] **5.Nd5 Kf7** [5...Rxe2 6.Nf4+ Kf5 7.Nxe2+-] **6.Bh5+!** [6.Bc4? Ke8! 7.Kc5 Kd7=] **6...Kf8 7.a4 Rc2!** [7...Ra2 8.Nc3] **8.Bf3!** [8.Bg6? Rc1! zz 9.Ke5 Rc4!= 10.Nb6 Rb4 11.a5 Rb5+; 8.Bg4? Ke8 9.Nb4 Rf2! 10.Kc5 Kd8 11.Kd6 Rd2+! 12.Kc6 (12.Kc5 Kc7!)=] 12...Rd4= here the double strike is successful] **8...Ke8** [8...Rc1 9.Nc3!+-] **9.Nb4** [9.Be4? Rc1= 10.Nb4 Kd7; 9.Nc3? Kd7 10.a5 Rc1!=] **9...Rc1 10.a5 Kd7** [10...Ra1 11.a6 Kd7 12.Kc5 /Kc4+-] **11.a6+-**

After the key, a miniature position that a remarkable variety of lanes and trials in the "domination" of NB against a Rook

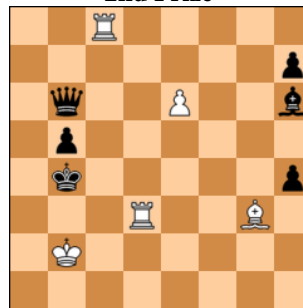
STUDIES DRAW

Michael Pasman
1st Prize



Draw

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
2nd Prize



BTM Draw

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Be7+! [Thematic try : 1.fxg7 Nh4+! 2.Kg4 Ng6! 3.g8Q Qg1+ 4.Kf5 Nh4+ 5.Kf4 Qxg8 6.Be7+ Kc8! (6...Kd7? 7.Bb5+) 7.Bxh4 Kd7! 8.Be7 Qf7+! 9.Bf5+ Kc6 10.Ke5 h5!+-] **1...Ke8 2.Bb5+!** [2.Bg6+? Kd7 3.f7 Nh4+ 4.Bxh4 Qf1+ 5.Bf2 (5.Kg3 Kxd6 6.Kg4 Ke6 7.Kg3 Qe1+ 8.Kg2 Qb4 9.Kf3 Ke5+-) 5...Qd1+ 6.Ke3 Qxd6 7.Bh4 Ke6 8.Kf3 Qb4 9.Kg2 Qa3 10.Kh2 Ke5+-] **2...Kf7 3.Bc4+ Kg6 4.f7!** [4.Bd3+ Kh5 5.fxg7 (5.f7 g5! 6.f8Q Nh4#) 5...Nh4+ 6.Bxh4 Qh1+! 7.Ke3 Qg1+-] **4...Nh4+! 5.Bxh4 Qc3+** [5...Qd1+ 6.Ke4! Qxd6 7.Bd5! White's idea is Kd-c4 and Be1-b4, black can't prevent it, for example : 7...h5 8.Kd4 Kh6 (8...Qb4+ 9.Ke5 Qf8 10.Kd4 Kf5 11.Kc4 Qc8+ 12.Kd4 g5 13.Bg3 Qf8 14.Kc4 Qa3 15.Be1 Qa6+ 16.Kb3 Qd6 17.Kc4) 9.Kc4 g5 10.Be1=] **6.Kg2!** [6.Kf2 Qd2+ /d4 7.Kf3 Qxd6] **6...Qd2+** Black captures d6 pawn and defends from f8=Q, but **7.Kh3! Qxd6 8.f8Q! Qxf8 9.Bd3+ Kf7 10.Bc4+ Ke8 11.Bb5+ Kf7 12.Bc4+ Kg6 13.Bd3+ Kh5 14.Be2+ =**

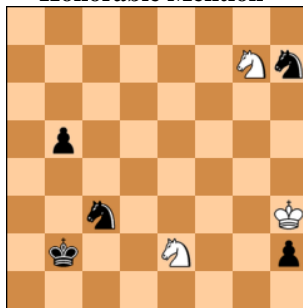
Ingenious configuration to culminate in continuous checks (presented with other schemes in various studies). The difficulties in the resolution are shown in interesting trials. The point would be the opportune moment where white allows the capture of the pawn located on d6

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1...Bg7+ 2.Kc2 Qxe6 3.Bd6+ Ka5 4.Ra3+! [4.Bc7+? Ka4 5.Ra8+ Kb4 6.Bd6+ Kc4+→] **4...Kb6 5.Rb8+ Kc6 6.Ra6+ Kd5 7.Rxb5+ Ke4 8.Rb4+ Kf5** [8...Bd4 9.Rxd4+! (9.Bc5? Qxa6 10.Rxd4+ Kf5→) 9...Kxd4 10.Bc5+ from battery 10...Kd5 11.Rxe6=; 8...Kf3 9.Rf4+ Kg2 10.Rf2+! Kxf2 11.Bc5+ from battery 11...Qe3 12.Bxe3+=] **9.Rb5+ Kg6** [9...Kg4 10.Rb4+ /g5=] **10.Rg5+!** [10.Bc5? Qxa6 11.Rb6+ Qxb6 12.Bxb6 h3 13.Bg1 (13.Bc7 Kf5 14.Kd3 Be5→) 13...Kf5 14.Kd3 Kf4 15.Ke2 Kg3→] **10...Kxg5 11.Bf4+** from battery **11...Kxf4!** [11...Kf5 12.Rxe6 Kxe6 13.Kd3=] **12.Rxe6 h3 13.Kd3! h2 14.Re4+** [14.Re1? Be5 15.Ke2 Kg3→] **14...Kg5** [14...Kg3 15.Re3+ Kg2 16.Re2+ Kh3 17.Re3+ Kg4 18.Re4+=; 14...Kf5 15.Rh4=] **15.Re1=**

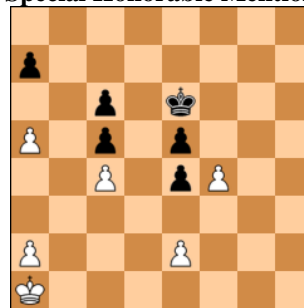
With "equivalent" material, even though Black has pawns!?. The key moves are in the deliveries of a Rook to capture the Queen and arrive at the pawn and bishop endgame against the Rook. Ingenious construction

**David Gurgendize
Honorable Mention**



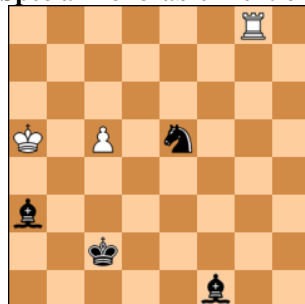
Draw

**Jan Timman
Special Honorable Mention**



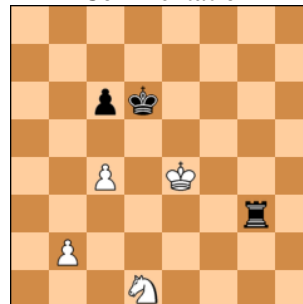
Draw

**R. Staudte & M. Schlosser
Special Honorable Mention**



Draw

**Pavel Arestov
Commentation**



Draw

David Gurgendize (Georgia)

1.Ng3 Ng5+ 2.Kxh2 b4 3.N7f5 Nf3+ [3...b3 4.Nd4=] **4.Kg2 b3 5.Kxf3 Kc1** [5...Ka2 6.Nd6 b2 7.Nge4 Nd1 8.Nd2=] **6.Ke3 b2 7.Kd3 Na4** [7...b1Q+ 8.Kxc3=] **8.Ne2+ Kb1** [8...Kd1 9.Ne3+ Ke1 10.Kc2=] **9.Nfd4** [9.Kd2? Ka1 10.Nfd4 b1Q 11.Nc2+ Kb2→] **9...Ka2 10.Kd2 b1Q 11.Nc1+ Kb2 12.Nd3+ Ka1 13.Nc2+ Ka2 14.Nc1+ Kb2 15.Nd3+=**

With four Knights the game doesn't seem simple! The objective has been achieved, because the sequence is unequivocal and finally we arrive at a position of equality of NN against Q.

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.f5+! [1.fxe5? Kxe5 2.a6 (2.Kb2 Kd4 3.Kb3 a6→) 2...Kd4 3.Kb2 Kxc4→] **1...Kxf5 2.a6!** [2.Kb2? a6!→] **2...Kf4 3.Kb2 Ke3 4.Kb3** [4.Ka3? Kd4 5.Kb3 e3 6.a3 e4 7.a4 Ke5 8.Kc2 Kf4→] **4...Kd2 5.e3!** [5.a3? Ke3 6.Ka4 Kd4 7.Kb3 (7.Ka5 Kxc4 8.a4 Kd5→) 7...e3→] **5...Kd3 6.a3! Kxe3 7.Ka4 Kd3 8.Ka5 Kxc4 9.a4 e3 stalemate** After Sedlak

An ingenious adaptation or derivation of what the author mentions. By the way, it would be to the liking of the solutionists

Rainer Staudte & M. Schlosser -Pogo+wBc5 (Germany)

1.c6 Nxc6+ [1...Bd6? 2.Kb6!] **2.Ka4! Kb2** [2...Be7 or Bb2 or Bc1 3.Rc8! Bg2 4.Kb5!=; 2...Bc5 Black correction 3.Rg5! (3.Rc8? Bg2! 4.Kb5 (4.Rg8 Bd5!-+) 4...Na7+!-+ fork A 5.Kxc5 Nxc8 White loses) 3...Bd4 or Ba7 or Be3 4.Rc5+! Bxc5 stalemate] **3.Rg3!** [3.Rg1? Be2! 4.Rg2 Nd4!-+] **3...Be7** [3...Bf8 4.Rb3+! (4.Rf3? Bb5+! 5.Kxb5 Nd4+! fork B) 4...Ka1 5.Re3!= (5.Rg3? Be2! (5...Ba6? 6.Rg1+!= Kb2) 6.Rg1+ Kb2 or Ka2 7.Rg2 Nd4!-+) 5...Ba6 (5...Bc4 6.Re1+ etc.) 6.Re1+ Ka2 7.Re2+ Kb1 (7...Bxe2 stalemate) 8.Rb2+ threatens Rb6 8...Kxb2 stalemate] **4.Rb3+ Ka1 5.Re3 Ba6** [5...Bh4 6.Re4! Bf2 7.Rf4!]=] **6.Re1+ Ka2 7.Re2+ Kb1 8.Rb2+** threatens Rb6 **8...Kxb2** stalemate

Known theme and presented in several studies, (BBN vs Rook). In this case, very well achieved in a miniature configuration, with notable variants and trials

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.Kd4! [1.b4? Rg4+ 2.Kd3 Ke5 3.Ne3 Rg3! 4.b5 c5 5.b6 Kf4! 6.b7 Rxe3+--+] **1...c5+** [1...Rg4+ 2.Kc3 Ke5 3.b3! c5 4.Nb2! Rg3+ 5.Kc2! Kd4 6.Na4 Rh3 7.Kb2=] **2.Ke4 Rg4+ 3.Kd3 Rd4+** [3...Ke5 4.Nc3! Rg3+ 5.Kd2 /c2 5...Rg2+ 6.Kd3! Rxb2 7.Ne4! Rb3+ 8.Kc2 Rb4 9.Kd3! Rb3+ 10.Kc2=] **4.Kc2!** [4.Kc3? Rxd1-+] **4...Rxc4+ 5.Nc3!** [5.Kd3? Rd4+ 6.Kc2 c4-+] **5...Rh4** [5...Kc6 6.b3 Rh4 7.Nb1! Kb5 8.Na3+ Kb4 9.Kb2 Rh2+ 10.Nc2+ Kb5 11.Kc3 Rh3+ 12.Kb2=] **6.Nb5+!** [6.b3? Rh2+ 7.Kd3 Kc6! 8.Kc4 Rh4+-+] **6...Kd5** [6...Kc6 7.Na3! c4 8.b3!]=] **7.b3! Rh3!** [7...Rh2+ 8.Kd3 Rh3+ 9.Kc2=] **8.Na3!** [8.Nc3+? Kc6! 9.Na4 Kb5 10.Nc3+ Kb4 11.Nd5+ Ka3-+] **8...Rg3 9.Nb5 Rg2+** [9...Kc6 10.Na3 Rh3 11.Kb2! Rf3 12.Kc2! Kd5 13.Nb5!]=] **10.Kd3!** [10.Kc3? Ra2! 11.Kd3 Kc6-+] **10...Rb2!** [10...Ra2?? 11.Nc3+-+] **11.Nc3+!** [11.Kc3? Ra2 12.b4 Ra4 13.bxc5 Kxc5 14.Nc7 Ra3+ 15.Kd2 Rf3 16.Ne6+ Kd5-+] **11...Kc6 12.Kc4 Rh2** [12...Rc2 13.b4!]=] **13.Nb1! Rh4+** [13...Rc2+ 14.Kd3! Rb2 15.Nd2 Kb5 16.Kc3 Ra2 17.Nc4! Rh2 18.Na3+=] **14.Kc3 Kd5 15.Na3! Rh3+ 16.Kc2 Kd4 17.Nb5+ Kd5 18.Na3!**=

Instructive ending, with a surprising sequence of univocal movements

Salta , Argentina February 28 , 2023

**Mario Guido García
Judge International**