WCCI 2019-2021, Group E (Helpmates)

1. Henry Tanner 14827, *Springaren* 158, July 2021



Kb7 Pd2 d3 e2 e3 h2 Kh1 Bb1 Pd4 d5 d6 e4 e5 e6

Solution:

- 1.- dxe4 2.Kg2 exd5 3.Kh3 dxe6 4.d5 (!) e7 5.Le4 e8D 6.Lg2 Dh5# 1.- exd4 2.Kxh2 dxe5 3.Kg3 exd6 4.Kf4 d7 5.Ke5 d4+ 6.Kd6 d8D#
- 1.- Kb6 (!) 2.Lxd3 (!) exd3 3.Kg2 dxe4 4.Kf3 exd5 5.Ke4 d3+ 6.Kxd5 e4#

The wPs free the squares e4 & d5 and e5 & d6 for the bK (Kniest) and – in the Qh5# solution – the squares e4 & d5 for the bB & bP.

(PDB: Kniest: A player captures an opponent's piece on the square to which the opposing king mates; usually the king is mated there, but also check is possible.)

The wK participates in all three solutions; in the Qh5# solution it forces the move 4.d5.

Only the move Kg2 is repeated; the moves 1.- dxe4 2.- exd5 and 3.- dxe4 4.- exd5 are made by different pawns! Please also note the analogy: 5.Ke5 d4+ 6.Kd6 & 5.Ke4 d3+ 6.Kxd5.

A visual problem. I do not think that such a pawn formation has been shown before in a helpmate.

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2. Henry Tanner 1st Prize Charenton-le-Pont 2021 (RIFACE 2021, helpmates)



Kb6 Bg2 Kg4 Qd3 Re5 Bh8 Sa6 Pb7 e3 f5

Solution:

1.Re4 Bh1 (tempo) 2.Rf4 Bxb7 3.Bd4+ Kc6 4.Kf3 Ba8 (tempo) 5.Ke4 Kd6#

The theme in this TT was: tempo move into a corner. Here there are two pure (!) wB tempos to the opposing corners of the long diagonal. The judge, Michel Caillaud, wrote that he appreciated the fact that the thematic line of the wB is dynamically closed in the solution (as the bishop line is open in the diagram).

The composer would also like to note that both black rook moves are anti-Ziel moves, as the bK is going to e4.

The award was published in the internet in the summer of 2021.

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3. Henry Tanner *Tehtäväniekka* 1/2020, March 2020 dedicated to Leo Lahdenmäki 80



Ka6 Bg1 Bh1 Kg3 Re2 Ba1 Ba2 Pb3 f4 f5

Solution:

1.Bb1 Ba8 2.Bd3+ Kb7 3.Kf3 Kc6 4.Ke4 Kd6# 1.Bc3 Ba7 2.Bd2 Kb6 3.Kf2 Kc5 4.Ke3 Kc4#

There are two wB/wK Indians featuring long diagonal moves by the Bs, a further wK move along the diagonal, and analogical anticipatory blocks by the bBs.

There are plenty of wB/wK Indians, but I think the extra features make this original. Please note especially the use of four (!) bishops.

All the bishops motivated the use of this problem as a dedication problem to Mr. Leo Lahdenmäki (L for a Bishop in Finnish, German, Swedish...).

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4. Henry Tanner 6th HM *Springaren* Summer Tourney 2019



b) wKa8 \leftrightarrow bKh1 h#7

Ka8 Bf1 Pe2 g2 g4 Kh1 Pe3 f2 g5 g6 g7 h2

Solution:

a) 1.Kg1 Kb7 2.h1R! Kc6 3.Kh2 Kd5 4.Kg3 Ke4 5.Kh4 Kf3 6.Th2 (tempo) g3#

b) 1.Kb7 g3 2.Kc6 Kg2 3.Kd5 Kf3 4.h1Q+ Kxe3 5.Qe4+ Kd2 6.Qe5 e3 7.Ke4 Bg2#

King marches and various follow-my-leader moves in both solutions: on h1, h2 (twice), and g3 in a) and on g2 (twice), h1, e3 and e4 in b). Please also note the try 2.h1Q? in a).

There are not very many long helpmates with the twinning by swapping corner kings. I have found these: P1364189 (h#5), P1002858 (h#6), and P0580347 (h#7).

The award was published in the December 2019 issue of Springaren.

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5. Henry Tanner *Tehtäväniekka* 1/2019, March 2019 Dedicated to Ilkka Blom 75



Ka1 Pc5 Kb7 Pa5 b3 b4 c6 d3 d4 d5

Solution:

1.- Kb1 (tempo) 2.b2 Ka2 3.b3+ Kxb3 4.b1R+ Ka2 5.Rb6 cxb6 6.Ka6 b7 7.Kb5 b8Q+ 8.Ka4 Qb3#

A task problem: all the 15 (!) half-moves are made along, to, or from the b-file. Thus the problem was a suitable dedication problem to Mr. Blom! Follow-my-leader moves to various squares, as well as a switchback to a2.

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6. Henry Tanner *Tehtäväniekka* 2/2020, June 2020 Dedicated to Kimmo Konsala 70





Solution:

1. Kf3 Sb4 2. Ke4 Sa6 3. Kd5 Kd3 4. Kc6 Ke4 5. e5 Kf5 6. Kd5 Kg6 7. Ke6 Sc7#

Ideal-mate. Switchback by the bK. A visually unusual diagram position (d6 d7 e6 e7).

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