## 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 $\mathrm{e} 4 \& \mathrm{~d} 5$ 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 Kg 2 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
$1^{\text {st }}$ 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 e 4 .

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 $\mathrm{wB} / \mathrm{wK}$ 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 $\mathrm{wB} / \mathrm{wK}$ 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
$6^{\text {th }}$ HM Springaren Summer Tourney 2019

b) $\mathrm{wKa} 8 \leftrightarrow \mathrm{bKh} 1 \mathrm{~h} \# 7$

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


Kc2 Sd3
Kg3 Pd6 d7 e6 e7

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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