




RESULTS: WCCI 2022-2024 Section E – Helpmates

		
1 st Place Marko Ylijoki	2nd Place Valery Gurov	3rd Place Olexandr Semenenko
39 Points	37.5 Points	36 Points
1. E083_6-1: 10 Points	1. E089_6-1: 9.5 Points	1. E077_6-2: 10 Points
2. E083_6-2: 10 Points	2. E089_6-3: 9 Points	2. E077_6-3: 9 Points
3. E083_6-3: 9 Points	3. E089_6-5: 10 Points	3. E077_6-5: 9 Points
4. E083_6-5: 10 Points	4. E089_6-6: 9 Points	4. E077_6-6: 8 Points

Other top entries:

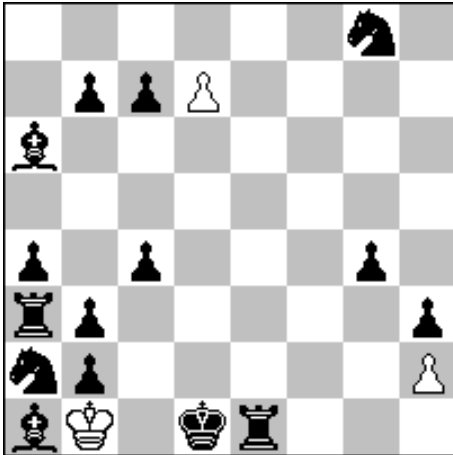
Anatoly Skripnik, E025_6-1: 10 Points

E083_6-1: 10 Points

Marko Ylijoki

1st Prize

Zoran Gavrilovski 55 JT 2022–2024



h#5.5 4 solutions (3+15) C+

6n1/1ppP4/b7/8/p1p3p1/rp5p/np5P/bK1kr3

1...d8S 2.g3 hxg3 3.h2 Sc6 4.h1R Sb4 5.Rh2 Sxa2 6.Rd2 Sc3#

1...d8B 2.Sc1 Be7 3.Kd2 Bxa3 4.Kc3 Bxb2+ 5.Kb4 Bd4 6.Ka3 Bc5#

1...d8R+ 2.Ke2+ Rd1 3.Sc1 Rd4 4.b5 Rxc4 5.Kd1 Rc3 6.Se2 Rd3#

1...d8Q+ 2.Ke2+ Qd1+ 3.Kf2 Qc1 4.Re4 Qxc4 5.Kf3 Qxc7 6.Be2 Qg3#

Allumwandlung in W1, for the first time with this length.

"*Allumwandlung*, attractive play (such as round-like dance by 3 line pieces). Three model mates after the underpromotions are "icing the cake", but even without them my decision to declare № 51 victorious was a "piece of cake".

Judge: Zoran Gavrilovski

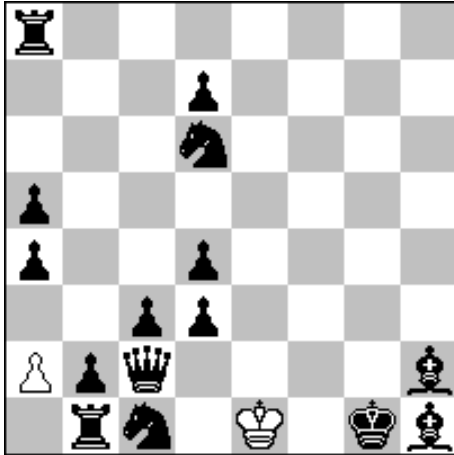
E083_6-2: 10 Points

Marko Ylijoki

"65"

1st Prize

Ilkka Sarén MT 2023



h#8.5 (2+15) C+

r7/3p4/3n4/p7/p2p4/2pp4/Ppq4b/1rn1K1kb

1...a3 2.Qg2 Kd1 3.Qb7 Ke1 4.Qb4 axb4 5.Rh8 bxa5 6.Ba8 a6 7.Sb7 a7 8.Bb8 axb8Q 9.Rh1 Qg3#

A partial list of contents:

Platzwechsel (bRa8/bBh1); corner-to-corner moves by bR (twice!) and bB; hideaway of the light-squared bB with a critical move (Ba8), followed by a line-closure (Sb7) (Cheney-Loyd); three long moves along the diagonals: 3.Qb7, 6.Ba8, 8.Bb8; two active sacrifices by black; an ambush move by the bR (5.Rh8 for 9.Rh1, after 8.Bh2-b8); and – last but not least – a slow excelsior by White.

Translation from the award:

“An astonishing single-solution helpmate, that combines deep strategy with exceptional beauty. After the forced introduction, Black must free the white from the stalemate and sacrifice a piece to the white pawn. So 2.Qb3? is out of the question; the bQ must take the longer route via g2–b7–b4. Now Black must help the pawn promote to a queen and deliver checkmate unexpectedly from the square... g3! Easier said than done! Black's Ra8 replaces the blocking piece on h1, the bishop on h1 hides on a8, cut off by the knight, while the bishop on h2 is sacrificed on the promotion square, disappearing from the diagonal. In terms of terminology, we have Black Q/B Bristol, Black R/B platzwechsel, a bishop's move from one corner to the other, excelsior, and minimal. But there is even more to admire! As the composer points out, the sum of the move lengths (1 + 4 + 1 + 7.07107 + 1 + 3 + 1.41421 + 7 + 1.41421 + 9.89949 + 1 + 2.23606 + 1 + 8.48528 + 1.41421 + 7 + 7.07107 = 65.0) celebrates Ilkka Sarén's 65 years of membership in the SSK Chess Club from 1957 until his death in 2022. All in all, an unforgettable masterpiece!”

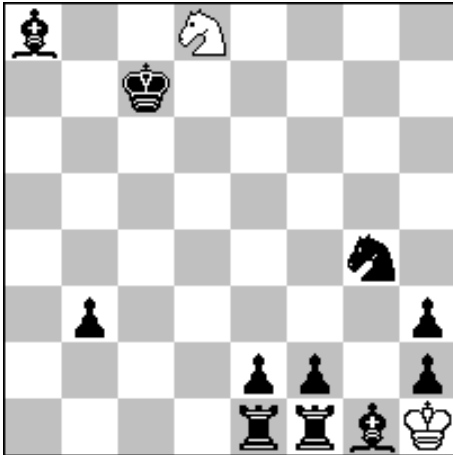
Judge: Harry Fougiaxis

E083_6-3: 9 Points

Marko Ylijoki

1st Prize

The Problemist 2023/1



h#7.5 2 solutions (2+11) C+

b2N4/2k5/8/8/6n1/1p5p/4pp1p/4rrbK

1...Sb7 2.Kc6 Sc5 3.Kd5 Sd3 4.Ke4 Sxf2+ 5.Kf3 Sxh3 6.Se3 Sxg1+ 7.Kf2+ Kxh2 8.Bf3 Sh3#

1...Sc6 2.Kb7 Se5 3.Rc1 Sxg4 4.Rc8 Sxf2 5.Kb8+ Se4 6.Ba7+ Kxh2 7.Rf7 Sc5 8.Rb7 Sa6#

White S-minimal, selfpins, unpins. Black Bristol (in 1), Kniest (in 1, on f2), line openings, Chumakov (6...Sxg1/6.Ba7 & 3...Sxg4/6.Se3).

"Excellent problem. Two very different solutions with mates in opposite corners. Great artistry and even greater technique. All the black pieces play (except pawns). Bravo, Marko!"

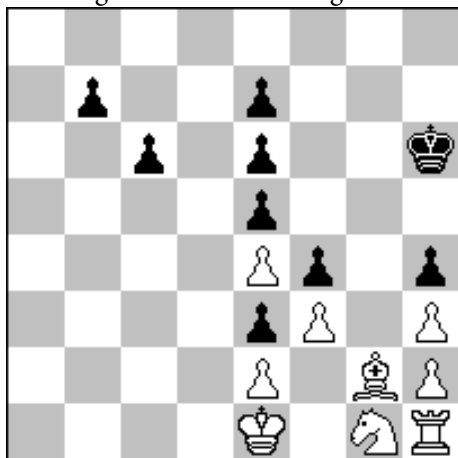
Judge: Mike Prcic

E083_6-5: 10 Points

Marko Ylijoki

5th Prize

Udo Degener 60 & Mirko Degenkolbe 64 JT 2023–2024



h#9.5* (9+9) C+

8/1p2p3/2p1p2k/4p3/4Pp1p/4P1BP/4K1NR

*1...c5 Bf1 2.c4 Bg2 3.c3 Bf1 4.c2 Bg2 5.c1S Bf1 6.Sxe2 Sxe2 7.Kg5 Sxf4 8.Kxf4 Bd3 9.Kxf3 0-0#

1...Kd1 2.b5 Kc2 3.b4 Kd3 4.b3 Kc4 5.b2 Kc5 6.b1Q Kxc6 7.Qxg1 Kd7 8.Qxh2 Kxe7 9.Qxh3 Kf6 10.Qxg2 Rxh4#

The main features are 1) in the setplay, the pendulum by the wB, the basic reason for which is to enable the mate by castling; 2) in the solution, the long march by the wK and the captures by the bQ (leading to a model mate without extra white force); 3) long marches (almost two excelsiors) by different bPs leading to different promotions. This length may be exceptional for a h# showing both the castling and non-castling.

Translation from the award:

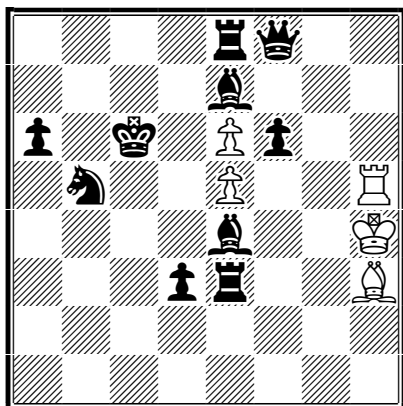
"We do not know if what is shown here already exists, but we assume that this question will be answered with a clear no. In addition to the fact that this task almost threatens (or at least challenges) the record for castling move lengths (in helpmates), the author has managed to realize the theme once with and once without white castling in two phases, which certainly sets a record in terms of move length.

In the setplay, the white king remains still for a long time, so that it can perform the castling move in the mating move. In the solution, it immediately embarks on a very long journey, almost to the upper edge of the board, to find its square. In the meantime, the promoted queen must eliminate all white pieces that block the rook's path to deliver (model!) mate on h4. This requires two black promotions. In the setplay there is underpromotion to a knight, along with the Kniest on f4. In the solution, there is even a black excelsior with queen promotion."

Judges: Udo Degener & Mirko Degenkolbe

E089_6-1: 9.5 Points

Валерий ГУРОВ (Valery GUROV)
Moscow Turney, 2023
1st Prize



h#3 2.1.1.1.1 5+10

b) Rotate 180 (a1=h8)

4rq2/4b3/p1k1Pp2/1n2P2R/4b2K/3pr2B/8/8

a)

1. ♖d5 ♜f5 2. ♖:e6 ♜g5+ 3. ♖f7 e6#

1. ♜d6 e:d6 2. ♖:d6 ♜d5+ 3. ♖e7 ♜d7#

b)

1. ♖e3 ♜c4 2. ♖:d4 ♜b5+ 3. ♖c5 d4#

1. ♜e4 d:e4 2. ♖:e4 ♜e2 3. ♖d5 ♜f3#

HOTF 2+2, ODT.

Active sacrifice (black) × 2

Active sacrifice (white) × 2

Annihilation × 4

AntiZielElement (B1, flight obstruction) × 2

BK moves only × 2

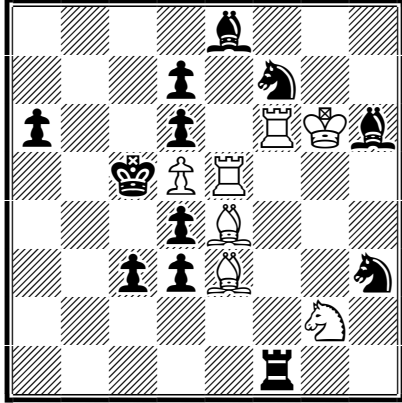
Pawn-Zajic × 2

Umnov mate (bK-wP) × 2

Zilahi

E089_6-3: 9 Points

Валерий ГУРОВ (Valery GUROV)
JT Ural Problemist 30, 2023
2nd Prize



h#3 2.1.1.1.1.1 7+12

4b3/3p1n2/p2p1RKb/2kPR3/3pB3/2ppB2n/6N1/5r2

1. ♔f2 ♕:d4+ (♖:d6?) 2. ♖:d4 ♗g5 3. ♖:e4 ♖f4#

1. ♔hg5 ♖:d6 (♕:d4+?) 2. ♖:d6 ♕f3 3. ♖:e5 ♕f4#

Active sacrifice (white) × 2

Exchange of functions (wBe3/wRf6, Active sacrifice / Mate)

Exchange of functions (wBe4/wRe5, Captured / Guard + Interfering)

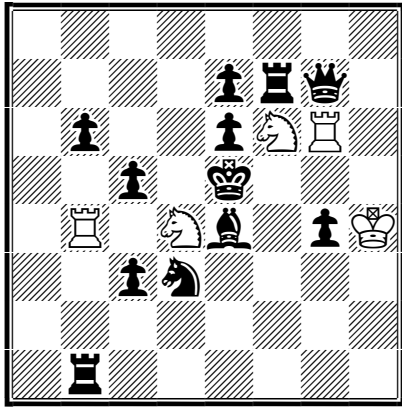
Helledie theme × 2

Mates on the same square × 2

Zilahi (extended)

E089_6-5: 10 Points

Валерий ГУРОВ (Valery GUROV)
JT Gavrilovski 55 2023
1st Prize



h#2 6.1.1.1 5+12

8/4prq1/1p2pNR1/2p1k3/1R1Nb1pK/2pn4/8/1r6

1. ♖f5 ♜d5 2.e:d5 ♜c6#

1. ♖d5 ♜f5 2.e:f5 ♜d7#

1. ♜:b4 ♜:g4 2. ♜:d4 ♜g:e4#

1. ♖:g6 ♜:b6 2. ♜:f6 ♜b:e6#

1. ♜f1 ♜b5 2. ♜f5 ♜b:e4#

1. ♜f4 ♜h5 2. ♜d5 ♜g:e6#

HOTF 2+2+2

Zilahi (1 pair)

Zilahi (extended, 2 pair)

Echo

Chumakov theme (1&2/3 paar)

3xBlock d5&f5

Mates on the same square (2&3 paar) X 2

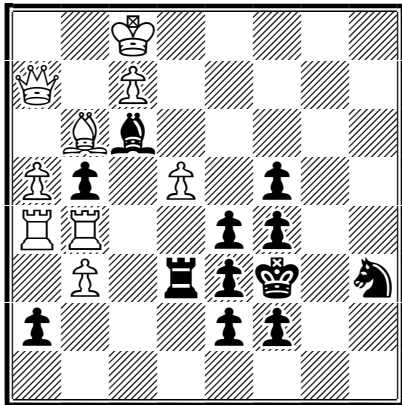
New white matrix 2wR+2wS

E089_6-6: 9 Points

Валерий ГУРОВ (Valery GUROV)

JT Feoktistov 75, 2023

1st Prize



h#3 2.1.1.1.1.1 9+12

2K5/Q1P5/1Bb5/Pp1P1p2/RR2pp2/1P1rpk1n/p3pp2/8

1. ♖:b3 ♜:e3 2. ♖a3 (♜~??) ♜d4 3. ♚:e3 ♖:a3#

1. ♜:d5 ♖:e4 2. ♜a8 (♜~??) ♜d4 3. ♚:e4 ♚:a8#

ODT

Active sacrifice (black, delayed) × 2

Active sacrifice (white, delayed) × 2

Allowing hideaway (black-black)

Annihilation × 2

Exchange of functions (wRa4/wQa7, Mate / Passive guard)

Hideaway (bB+bR, sacrificial)

Kniest theme × 2

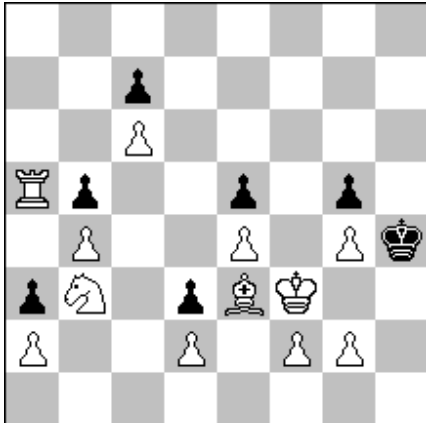
White Grimshow

E077_6-2: 10 Points

Olexandr Semenenko (Ukraine)

János Csák – 75 JT, 2024

1st Prize



H#2.5 3.1... 12+7 C+
8/2p5/2P5/Rp2p1p1/1P2P1Pk/pN1pBK2/P2P1PP1/8

1...Be3-f4 2.?? Bf4-g3 # (tempo-try)
1...Ra5-a4! 2.b5*a4 Be3-f4! 3.a4*b3 Bf4-g3 #

1...Sb3-d4 2.?? Sd4-f5 # (tempo-try)
1...Be3-b6! 2.c7*b6 Sb3-d4! 3.b6*a5 Sd4-f5 #

1...Ra5-a8 2.?? Ra8-h8 # (tempo-try)
1...Sb3-d4! 2.e5*d4 Ra5-a8! 3.d4*e3 Ra8-h8 #

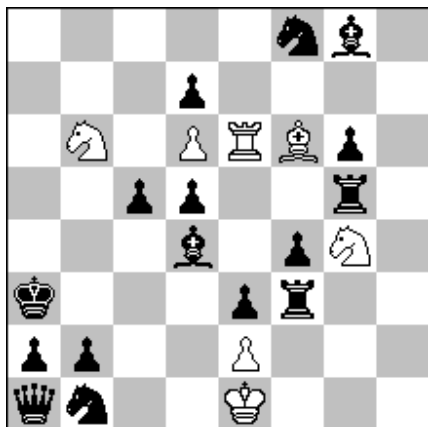
Synthesis of themes of cyclic active Zilahi, cyclic passive Zilahi and cyclic interchange of functions of three white pieces (active sacrifice – passive sacrifice – mate).

E077_6-3: 9 Points

Olexandr Semenenko (Ukraine)

The Problemist 2024

Award is not published yet



H#3 3.1... 7+16 C+

5nb1/3p4/1N1PRBp1/2pp2r1/3b1pN1/k3pr2/pp2P3/qn2K3

1.Sf8*e6 Bf6*d4 **A** 2.Se6*d4 Sg4*e3 **B** 3.Sd4-**b3** Se3-c2 #
1.Bd4*f6 Sg4*e3 **B** 2.Rf3*e3 Re6-e4 **C** 3.Re3-**b3** Re4-a4 #
1.Rg5*g4 Re6-e4 **C** 2.d5*e4 Bf6*d4 **A** 3.Bg8-**b3** Bd4*c5 #

Complex of themes of cyclic passive Zilahi, cyclic active Zilahi, cyclic interchange of functions of three white pieces (passive sacrifice – active sacrifice – mate involving active square-blocking on **b3**) and cyclic interchange of 1st and 2nd white moves (**AB** – **BC** – **CA**).

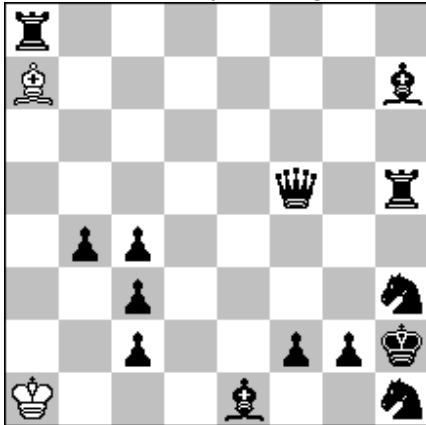
E077_6-5: 9 Points

Olexandr Semenenko (Ukraine)

Problemist of Ukraine, 2024

Dedicated to Rolf Wiehagen

Award is not published yet



h#7 2+14 C+
r7/B6b/8/5q1r/1pp5/2p4n/2p2ppk/K3b2n

1.c2-c1=R+! Ka1-a2 2.c3-c2 Ka2-b2 3.f2-f1=R! Kb2*c1 4.Be1-g3+ Kc1-d2
5.g2-g1=B! Kd2-e2 6.Sh3-f4+ Ke2*f1 7.Rh5-h3 Ba7*g1 # (MM)

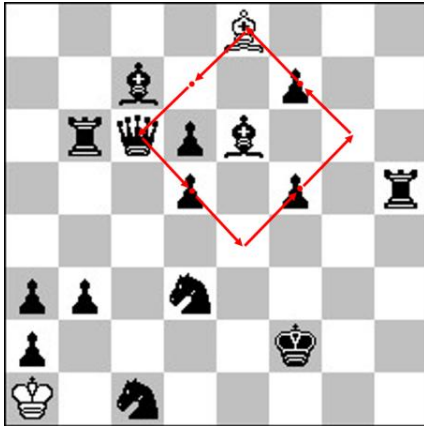
First-ever presentation of triple (!) Schnoebelen theme in a helpmate with a single line of play. Only thematic captures!

E077_6-6: 8 Points

Olexandr Semenenko (Ukraine)

The Problemist, 2024

Award is not published yet



H#7.5 2+15 C+
4B3/2b2p2/1rqpb3/3p1p1r/8/pp1n4/p4k2/K1n5

1...Be8-d7! 2.Qc6-b7 Bd7-c6 3.Kf2-e3 Bc6*d5 4.Ke3-d4 Bd5-e4
5.Kd4-c5 Be4*f5 6.Kc5-c6 Bf5-g6 7.Rh5-c5 Bg6*f7 8.Be6-d5 Bf7-e8 # (MM)

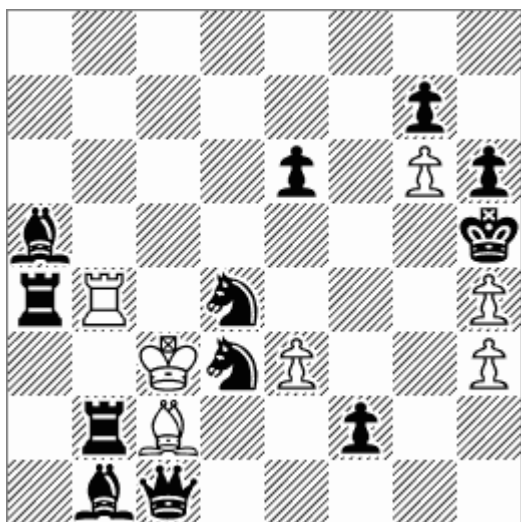
Probably for the first time in a H#, a white bishop makes an 8-move Rundlauf of geometrically regular shape.

E025_6-1: 10 Points

АНАТОЛИЙ СКРИПНИК (РОССИЯ) ANATOLY SKRIPNIK (Russia)

11-th FIDE World Cup E16- 2023

1-st prize , Gold medal



H#3 2 sol C+ 7+12

8/6p1/4p1Pp/b6k/rR1n3P/2KnP2P/1rB2p2/1bq5

1.Qc1-f1 Bc2*d3 2.Sd4-f3 Bd3-e2 3.Bb1*g6 Be2*f3 #

1.Ba5-b6 Rb4*d4 2.Sd3-e5 Rd4-d5 3.Ra4*h4 Rd5*e5 #

Check prevention (black-black) x2

Hideaway (bB)

Hideaway (bQ)

Paros theme