

MAROC ECHECS
Février 2011
Award MT Mokhtar Kadiri 1928-1989



Section : H3,5-n#
By Christopher Jones
Bristol, 18 February 2011

I was honoured to be asked to judge the 24 sound entries in the $h\# > 3$ section of this tourney. I found the standard to be satisfactory, with 4 problems awarded Prizes. Nearly all the entries had good qualities, but so many excellent multi-solution long helpmates have been composed in recent years that single-solution problems had to be quite exceptional to make it into the award. (Nevertheless, two received Prizes!) And this recent profusion of good long helpmates also meant that some well-composed entries lacked the sense of freshness that would be required in order for them to be honoured. As ever, I am aware that there is a lot of subjectivity in my assessments and that another judge might have included some nice problems that I've omitted!

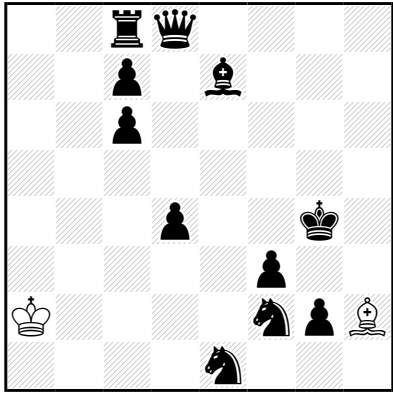
Participants :

Kenneth SOLJA (1), Anatoly SKRIPNIK (2,3), Araz ALMAMMADOV (4), Rolf WIEHAGEN (5)
, Christer JONSSON (5), Abdelaziz ONKOUD (6), Olexandr ZHUK (7,8), Vitaly Ivanovich SHEVCHENKO (7,8)
, Olexandr ZHUK (9), Harald GRUBERT (10), Jorma PITKANEN (11), Mechislovas RIMKUS (12)
, Krzysztof DRAZKOWSKI (13), Vassily G. MATEUSH (14), Ivan ANTIPIN (15), Victor ABERMAN (16)
, Harald GRUBERT (17), Vladislav NEFYODOV (18), Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC (19)
, Maksimov Alexandr (20), Alexandre PANKRATIEV (21,22), Rolf KOHRING (23), Henry TANNER (24,25)
, Tode ILIEVSKI (26) and Mihajlo MILANOVIC (27).

Pays :

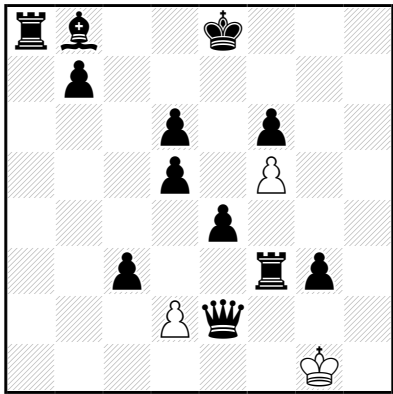
Finlande , Azerbaïdjan , Allemagne , Suède , Maroc , Pologne , États-Unis , Bosnie-Herzégovine , Russie , Serbie ,
Macédoine et Ukraine.

Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 1° Prix



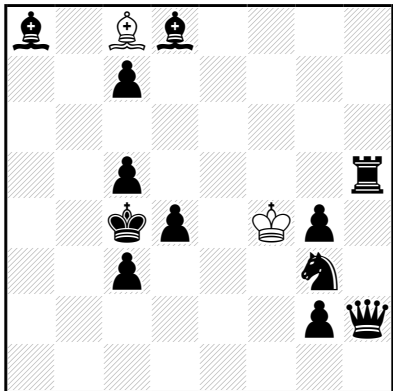
h♯6 (2+11) C+

Abdelaziz ONKOUD
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 2° Prix



h♯5 (3+12) C+

Mechislovas RIMKUS
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 3° Prix



h♯4,5 (2+12) C+

1.Dh8 F×c7 2.Dh1 Rb3 3.Th8 Rc4 4.Th3 R×d4
 5.Fh4 Ré5 6.Rg3 Rf5♯

1st.Prize No.19 (Ra2-Rg4)`. A gem! It is delightful that the only way to hide the DN is to spend 2 moves burying it at h1, and also that it is then followed twice in Bristol fashion by the TN. The DN is unable even to offer itself up for capture (1.Dd6? Fxd6...7.cxd6!) and it is a fine point that 2.Dh2 fails because it makes 5...Re5 illegal. Single-solution helpmates such as this with the Indian theme and royal battery mate are very familiar and the high honour for No.19 rests entirely on the striking impression made by the play of the DN and TN.

b) ♔b8→g2

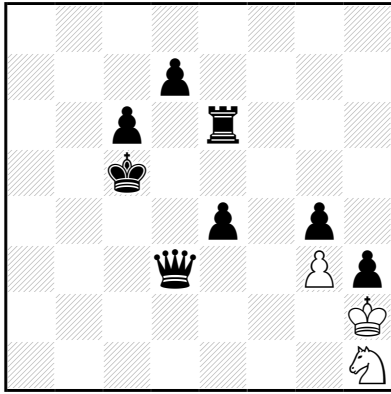
a)1.Fa7+ d4 2.é×d3 e.p.+ Rh1 3.Dé6 f×é6 4.0-0-0 é7
 5.Rb8 é×d8=D♯
 b)1.T×f5 d4 2.Té5 d×é5 3.0-0-0 é6 4.Td7 é7 5.Tç7
 é8=D♯

2nd.Prize No.6 (Rg1-Re8). I found it difficult to decide on the order in which to place this and the 3rd.Prize winner. No.6 has a small (but acceptable) amount of repetition (...Pd2>d4, 0-0-0, ...Pe6>e7) and an awkward twinning device, but the task of combining Valladao and Zilahi is convincingly achieved in two attractive phases (with nicely echoed model mates) and worthy of high honour.

1...F×g4 2.Cé4+ Rf3 3.Fg5 Ré2 4.Fé3 Rd1 5.Rd3 Fé2♯
 1...Ff5 2.Fé4 Ré5 3.Ff6+ Ré6 4.Fé5 Rd7 5.Rd5 Fé6♯

3rd.Prize No,12 (Rf4-Rc4). A more elegant problem than No,6, with nicely matching play of both RB and RN leading to pleasingly symmetrical mates, embellished by nice distant self-blocks at e4, and good strategy to clear the way for the RB. It isn't possible for this strategy to be completely matched, or for the whole of the RB's paths to be exactly mirrored, or else I might have placed this highly attractive problem one higher in the list.

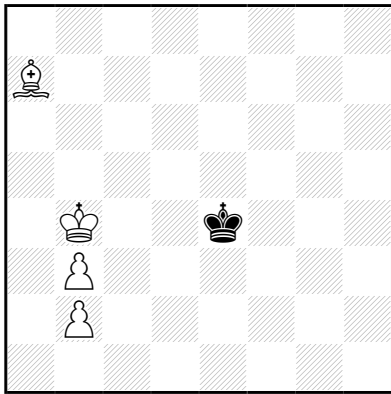
Henry TANNER
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 4° Prix



h♯6 (3+8) C+

4th.Prize No.24(Rh2-Rc5). Very nice strategy. In principle, all Black needs to do is to play D>c7 and R>d6, but, in good helpmate fashion, it turns out that the need to eliminate PBg3 and not to impede the march of the RB determines a unique, convoluted procedure that highlights the d6 square. In my opinion a strong enough single-liner to deserve a prize.

Harald GRUBERT
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 Mention d'Honneur

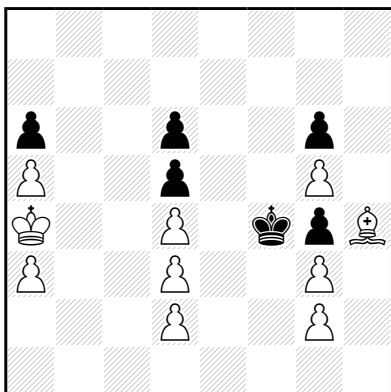


h♯5 2 solutions (4+1) C+

1.Rd5 F  3 2.R  6 F  1 3.Rb6 R  4 4.Ra5 b4+ 5.Ra4 b3  
 1.Rd3 R  5 2.R  2 b4 3.Rb3 b5 4.Ra4 b3+ 5.Ra5 Fb6  

HM No.10 (Rb4-Re4). By contrast with the 3rd.Prize winner, the routes marched by the RN here are exactly mirrored, and this Tanagra is one of the most interesting RN-solus helpmates you are ever likely to see. The only tiny flaw is the need to repeat ...b3, which dissuaded me from awarding a Prize to this little gem.

Henry TANNER
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 Mention d'Honneur sp  ciale

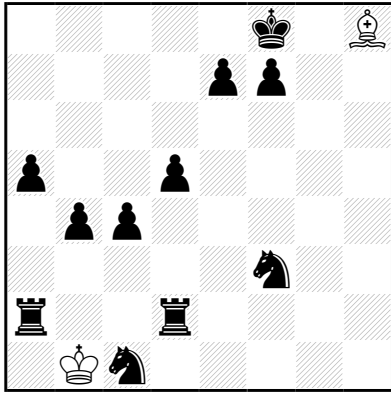


h♯11 (10+6) C+

1.Rf5 Rb3 2.R  6 R  2 3.Rd7 Rd1 4.R  6 R  2 5.Rb5 R  3
 6.Ra4 Rf4 7.Rb3 R  g4 8.R  2 Rh3 9.R  d2 g4 10.R  3 F  1
 11.Rf4 Fd2  

Special HM No.25 (Rf4-Ra4). For a long time I didn't know what to do with this problem, in a style that is a complete contrast to that of the previous problem! A sprawling, unattractive diagram with the RN in check. On the other hand, the play has the characteristics not only of a task but of an especially attractive one. the 2 Rs swap places, then the RN completes its trip back to f4. Note also the artful captures of PNg4 and PBd2. For such a mixture of the attractive and the unattractive I felt that a "special" award was necessary!

Alexandr MAKSIMOV
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 1° Recommandé

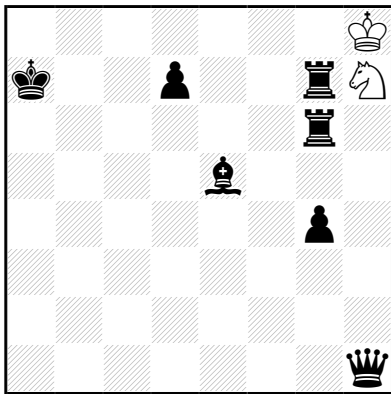


h≠7 b) ♞f3→b3 (2+11) C+

- a)
 1.é5 Fg7+ 2.Ré7 Fh6 3.Rd6 F×d2 4.Rç5 Fg5
 5.Té2 Fd8 6.Té4 Rç2 7.Rd4 Fb6‡
- b)
 1.Ré8 Fb2 2.Rd7 F×ç1 3.Rç6 F×d2 4.Rb5 R×a2
 5.Ra4 Rb1 6.Ra3 Fç3 7.a4 Fb2‡

1st. Commendation No.20 (Rb1-Rf8). I do like this sort of problem: 2 long solutions, with completely different moves and anti-identical strategic elements, albeit with a connecting thread (the need to eliminate the Td2). My reason for not placing it higher is the sense that White's play is orchestrated by impediments that have been placed on the board only in order to give White something to have to do, rather than by elements inherent in the matrix; the white strategy and play, I feel, is logistical rather than elegant.

Vassily G. MATEUSH
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 2° Recommandé

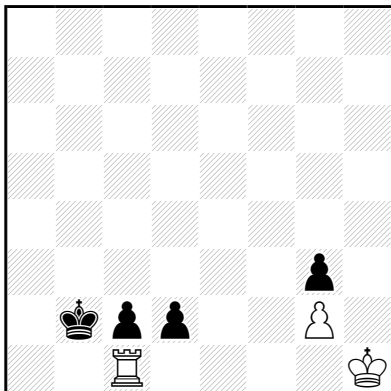


h‡4 b) ♜a7→g1 (2+7) C+

- a) 1.Da8+ Cf8 2.Fb8 C×d7 3.Ta6 Cb6 4.Tb7 Cç8‡
 b) 1.Fh2 Cf6 2.Tf7 C×g4 3.Tf1 Cf2 4.Tg2 Ch3‡

2nd. Commendation No.14 (Rh8 - Ra7/g1). Familiar mates, but nice to combine them. The twinning is acceptable and the play not too repetitious.

Alexandre PANKRATIEV
 MT Mokhtar Kadiri
 Maroc Echecs 2011
 3° Recommandé



h‡5* (3+4) C+

- 1...Té1 2.d1=T Rg1 3.Td2 Té~ 4.Rç1 Rf1 5.Rd1 Té1‡
 1.d1=C Ta1 2.ç1=T Ta3 3.Tb1 T×g3 4.Ra1 Rh2 5.Cb2 Ta3‡

3rd. Commendation No.21 (Rh1-Rb2). The looseness of the set play is only a slight detraction. Indeed, you could argue that the ease with which mate can be arranged after 4.5 moves enhances the wittiness of the precise (and very different) strategy required in 5 moves!