

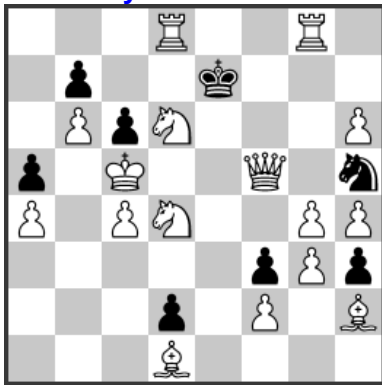
4th Theme Tourney of The Royal Moroccan Chess Federation 2022

Selfmates in 3-7 moves - Final Award - Judge: Marcin Banaszek 03.11.2022

Theme: In the solution in every mate position, the white king is on the same square and the black king is on different squares. At least two full variations are required.

I received 5 anonymous compositions on a given theme from the competition director Vidadi Zamanov. The first three awarded selfmates present a good level. I have ranked the awards as follows:

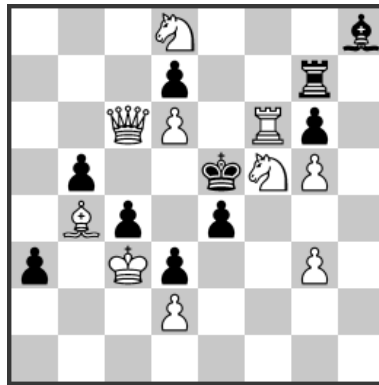
1st Prize
Sergiy Borodavkin
Gennady Koziura



S#6

16+8

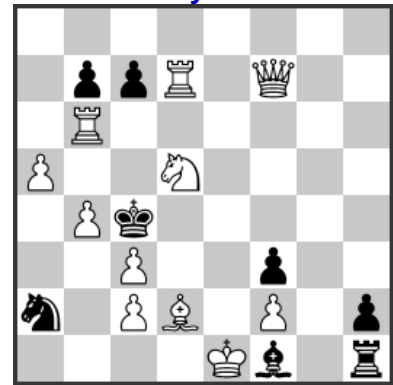
2nd Prize
Viktor Volchek
Mikhail Khrantsevich



S#3

10+10

3rd Prize
Yuri Alekseev
Aleksandr Tyunin



S#3

11+8

1st Prize - Sergiy Borodavkin & Gennady Koziura (Ukraine)

Four thematic variants with different final positions of the black king. The main role in the black play, besides the king, is played by the knight, which on the first move initiates the play on 4 squares representing half of the knight's wheel, and on the sixth move mates the white king. All four variants are united by the sacrifice of two different white pieces on the same square. Some differences in the play of the Whites make it possible to distinguish two pairs of variants that form an Adabashev synthesis (A+B). In group A there is a promotion to various white pieces on move 3 and two mates from the square e6, while in group B there are tempo positions and two mates from the square e4. The whole is enriched by a thematic try with change of three continuations. It is particularly to be appreciated that the author has chosen the more difficult way of realising the theme, namely without the use of a royal battery. Thanks to this, he achieved three model mates, both in the actual play and in the illusory play.

1. Rc8? **waiting**

1. ... Sg7 2. Qf8+ Kd7 3. Qe8+ Sxe8 4. Rg7+ Sxg7 5. Rc7+ Kd8 6. Se6+ Sxe6#

1. ... Sxg3 2. Qh7+ Kf6 3. Se8+ Ke5 4. Qe7+ Kf4 5. Sg7! Kxg4 6. Qe4 Sxe4#

1. ... Sf6 2. Qe5+ Kd7 3. Qe8+ Sxe8 4. Rg7+ Sxg7 5. Rc7+ Kd8 6. Se6+ Sxe6#

1. ... Sf4!

1. h7! **waiting**

1. ... Sg7 2. Qd7+ Kf6 3. h8=Q Ke5, Kg6 4. Sxf3+! Kf6 5. Rgf8+ Kg6 6. Qe6+ Sxe6# **A**

1. ... Sf4 2. Qf6+ Kxf6 3. h8=B+ Ke7 4. Rd7+ Kxd7 5. Rg7+ Kd8 6. Se6+ Sxe6# **A**

1. ... Sxg3 2. Qd7+ Kf6 3. Se8+ Ke5 4. Qe7+ Kf4 5. Sg7! Kxg4 6. Qe4+ Sxe4# **B**

1. ... Sf6 2. Sc8+ Kf7 3. Bxf3! d1=Q, ~ 4. Rgf8+ Kg7 5. Qg5+ Kxh7 6. Be4+ Sxe4# **B**

2nd Prize - Viktor Volchek & Mikhail Khramtsevich (Belarus)

The author cleverly combined four thematic variants with a cross of the black king in the mating move. The use of the black bishop-king battery allowed for this nice combination. In addition there is the transformation of the two white rook moves and the black correction. The thematic try play is a good enrichment.

1. Se3? **waiting**

1. ... dxc6 2. Sf7+ Rxf7 3. Re6+ Kxe6#

1. ... Rf7,R~ 2. Re6+ dxe6 3. Qxe4+ Kxe4#

1. ... a2!

1. Se7! **threat** 2. Sxg6+ Rxg6 3. Rf5+ **A** Kxf5#

1. ... dxc6 2. Sf7+ Rxf7 3. Re6+ **B** Kxe6#

1. ... Rxe7 2. Rf5+ **A** gxf5 3. Qd5+ Kxd5#

1. ... Rf7,Rh7 2. Re6+ **B** dxe6 3. Qxe4+ Kxe4#

3rd Prize - Yuri Alekseev & Aleksandr Tyunin (Russia)

The tourney theme is nicely realised by using a black rook-bishop battery. Four variants of the theme are presented uniformly and expressively. The black king receives 4 different free squares, which he is forced to enter in the second move. This is exploited by white forcing a black battery to give mate. A light and appealing play.

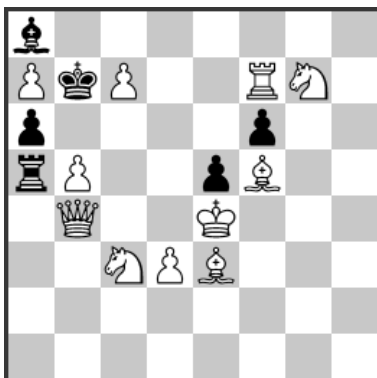
1. Re7! **threat** 2. Qf4+ Kxd5 3. c4+ Bxc4#

1. ... Sxc3 2. Sxc3+ Kd4 3. Sb5+ Bxb5#

1. ... Sxb4 2. Sxb4+ Kc5 3. Sd3+ Bxd3#

1. ... cxb6 2. Sxb6+ Kb5 3. Qc4+ Bxc4#

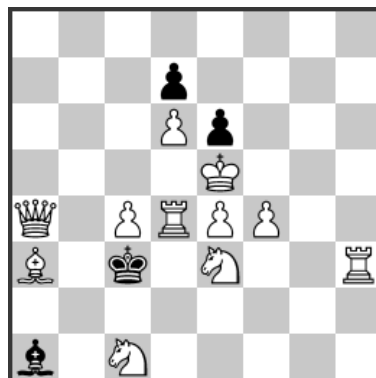
Hon. Mention **Aleksandr Tyunin**



s#3

11+6

Commendation **Aleksandr Tyunin**



s#4

11+4

Hon. Mention - Aleksandr Tyunin (Russia)

The composition shows three different thematic settings of the black king in the mating position. Two variants in which white promotes its pawn into two minor figures stand out in particular. There is also an interesting quiet variant after 1...Txa4, in which white's bishop is obscured by the knight.

1. Sa4! **threat (virtual)** 2. Qxa5 axb5 3. Qa6+ Kxa6#
1. ... axb5 2. c8=R+ **Ka6+** 3. Rc6+ Bxc6#
1. ... Rxb5 2. c8=S+ **Kc6** 3. Rc7+ Kxc7#
1. ... Rxa4 2. Qxa4 a5 3. Se6 **Kc8#**
2. ... axb5 3. Qa6+ Kxa6#

Commendation - Aleksandr Tyunin (Russia)

This work deserves to be commended for its very good key and the achievement of three thematic positions of the black king.

1. Rd2! **waiting**
1. ... Kxd2+ 2. Bb2 **threat (virtual)** 3. Rf3 **Ke1** 4. Bc3+ Bxc3#
2. ... Ke1 3. Qd1+ **Kf2** 4. Qh1 Bxb2#
1. ... Bb2 2. Qb3+ Kxd2+ 3. Qc3+ Kxc3 4. Bb4+ **Kxb4#**

Judge: Marcin Banaszek, Germany, Final Award 03.11.2022