



7rd FRME 2021

Help Mat H#3.5-n

30/09/2021 – Judge: Marcos Roland (Brazil)

Final Award

FEDERATION ROYALE MAROCAINE DES ECHECS (FRME)
7TH TOURNAMENT OF CHESS COMPOSITION – SECTION H#3,5-N
AWARD BY MARCOS MALDONADO ROLAND

First of all, I would like to thank the organizers of the 7th FRME for the confidence they placed in me to judge the increasingly popular section of long helpmates. It's an honor and also a big responsibility, which I take with the best of my capabilities, fearing they may not be sufficient given the complexity of the task.

From the Director Jamal Elbaz, I received 75 diagrams in anonymous form. I found the overall level very good, and it was a pleasure to appreciate so many beautiful compositions, although, once more, it was not an easy task to compare and select helpmates of substantial difference in length, ranging from 3,5 to 8,5 moves. I took into consideration that the technique of composing extra-long helpmates has been developing enormously in recent years, and some single-liners of 6 or more moves which could cause a big impact some years ago seem not so impressive nowadays. For instance, single-liner A51 is nice, featuring interesting tempo move and interplay, but I cannot ignore that, in the 10th Tourney Maroc Echecs, 2020, a problem with a similar scheme, but with two solutions and a half-move more, won the 2nd/3rd Prize ex-aequo.

Before I move to the ranking, I must point out that problem A72, a beautiful conception, was excluded from the award because of the illegality of the position. Also illegal is the position of the problem A14.

The number of entries was high, indeed, and certainly the majority of them are at least publishable problems, of which many are not included in this award, and I apologize in advance for any excess of subjectivity I incurred in my judgement, as well for not giving more comments about works not included.

Having said that, my ranking is as follows:

Participants :

Ivan Bryukhanov(A1);Anton Bidleň(A2,A3,A4);Alexander Pankratyev(A5,A6,A7,A40,A41,A42,A44,A47,A48,A52,A53,A54,A55,A61,A62,A63);Anatoly Kirichenko(A5,A6,A7,A47,A53,A54,A55);Pierre TRITTEN(A8);János Csák(A9);Salman Javadzade & Christer Jonsson(A10);Zoltan Labai(A11,A12);Ognian Dimitrov(A13,A14,A15);Menachem Witztum(A16);Fica Alexander(A17,A20,A27,A28);Nikita Kravtsov(A18);Karol Mlynka(A19,A60);Christer Jonsson(A21);Bosko Miloskeski(A22);Miroslav SVÍTEK(A23);NIKOLA STOLEV(A24);Gábor Tar(A25,A26);Misha Shapiro(A29,A30,A31,A32,A33);Michael Lütt(A34);Francesco SIMONI(A35);Kostas Prentos(A36,A37);V. Barsukov(A38);Antanas Vilkauskas(A39);Ivunin Alexey(A40,A41,A42,A43,A44,A45,A46,A48,A52);Vitaly MEDINTSEV(A49,A51);ANATOLY SKRIPNIK(A50);Zlatko Mihajloski(A56,A57,A58);Paul Muljadi(A59);Evgeny Gavryliv(A61,A62,A63);Viktor Yuzyuk(A64);Vladimir Ryabtsev(A65);Vladimir Evseev(A66,A67);E.Zarubin(A68);Ovidiu Crăciun(A69);Kóczyán János(A70,A71);Mykola Kolesnik & Valery Semenenko(A72);Valery GUROV(A73);Nikita Kravcov & Viktoras Paliulionis(A74,A75);Alexey Popov(A76).



1st Prize – A74 Viktoras Paliulionis(Lithuania)

1.Dc1! (Dc2/Df1/Dg4/Dd3/Dd4/Dd5?) c5 2.Kc4Kf6 3.Kd5Kf5 4.Dc4Se7#
1.Da1! (Dd2/Dh5/Dd5?)Sc5 2.Ka5Kd6 3.Kb6Se7 4.Da5Sc8#
1.Df1!(Dd3/Dh5/Dd5?)c5 2.Kb5Kd8 3.Kc6Kc8 4.Db5Se7#
1.Dd7+!(Dd6+/Dd8+?)Kf6 2.Dc7Sd2 3.Kc5Se5 4.Kd6Se4#
1.Dh5!(Dg1/Dd5?)Sd4 2.Kc5Kd8 3.Kd6Sh8 4.Dc5Sf7#

Unbelievable achievement, featuring five ideal mates, made possible by an incredible set of antidualchoicesamong several possible first moves by the black Queen, in an open board.

2nd Prize – A53 Pankratyev Alexander & Kirichenko(Russie)

1.Le5Kh6 2.c6Kg5 3.Dg1+Kf5 4.Dg8Kxe4 5.Ke6Kxe3 6.Kd5Kd3 7.De6e4#
1.Ke6Kg6 2.Kd5Kf5 3.Kc6+Kxe4 4.Dc4+Kxe3 5.Ld4+Kf4 6.Kd5Kf5 7.c6e4#

Beautiful extra-long helpmate with two solutions, in which ideal mates take place after interesting interplay and annihilation of the two black “e” pawns.

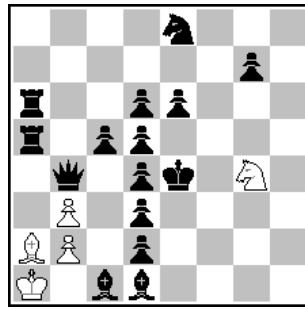
3rd Prize – A50 ANATOLY SKRIPNIK (Russia)

a) 1...Sf6 2.Tf5Lg7 3.Ke5Lh6 4.Kxf6Lg7#
b) 1...Lf6 2.Ke4Sg5+ 3.Kf5g4+ 4.Kxf6Sh7#

A perfect, charming Zilahi, with ideal mates, switchbacks by the mating pieces. Richness and simplicity!

4th Prize – Nikolai Kolenisk & Valery Semenenko

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h#4 b) wLa2=wTa2 (5+15)

- a) 1.Dc4 bxc4 2.La4 Lb3 3.dxc4 Ld1 4.Kd5 Lf3#
 b) 1.Dc3 bxc3 2.La3 Txd2 3.dxc3 Tf2 4.Kd4 Tf4#

Active sacrifices by both Black and White (delayed). Unpinning by black self-interference of a white piece with hideaway of the black unpinner piece. Square vacation for the BK with self-blocking by the removed black piece. Diagonal/orthogonal correspondence.

5th Prize – A58 Zlatko Mihajlosk

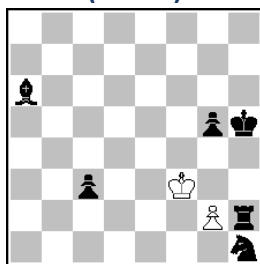
- 1...Lf7 2.Sf4Lh5! 3.Dg6!!Ka2 4.Tb8Ka3 5.Th8Kb4 6.Kg8Kc5 7.Se6+Kd6 8.Sg7+Ke7 9.Dh7Lf7#

A beautiful long single-liner, in which the “hesitating” move 3.Dg6!!, anticipating zugzwang avoidance, leaves a deep impression. Very nice interplay, ideal mate.

6th Prize

A18

Nikita Kravcov
(Russia)

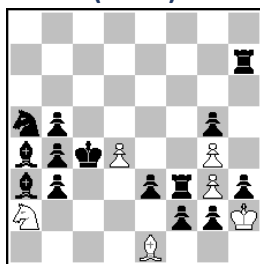


h#5 2 sol. (2+6)

1st H.M.

A16

Menachem Witztum
(Israel)

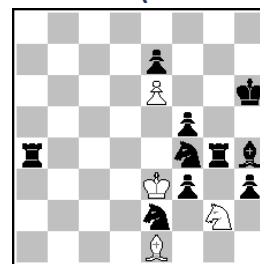


h#3,5 2 sol. (6+14)

2nd H.M.

A39

Antanas
Vilkauskas (Lithuania)

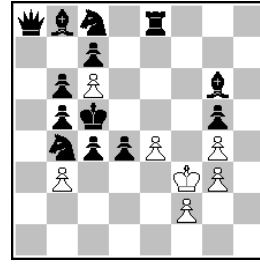


h#3,5 2 sol. (4+10)

3rd H.M.

A23

Miroslav SVÍTEK (Czech
Republic)



h#3,5 b) c6→e3 (7+13)

5th Prize – A18 Nikita Kravcov (Russia)

1.Sf2Ke3 2.Kg4Kd4 3.Th5Ke3 4.Kh4Kf3 5.Sh3g3#
1.Kg6g3 2.Th6Kg2 3.Kh5Kh2 4.Ld3Kh3 5.Lg6 g4#

Another masterpiece of simplicity, featuring charming tempo-maneuvers by the white King, nice exchange of functions between the BB and the BS, Klasi theme, model mates.

1st Honorable Mention – A16 Menachem Witztum (Israel)

1...Sxb4 2.f1=LLf2 3.Kxb4Kg1 4.Lc4Le1#
1...Lxb4 2.Tc7Sc3 3.Kxb4Kxh3 4.Tc4 Sd5#

Zilahi with delayed captures, allowing-tempo black moves.

2nd Honorable Mention – A39 Antanas Vilkauskas (Lithuania)

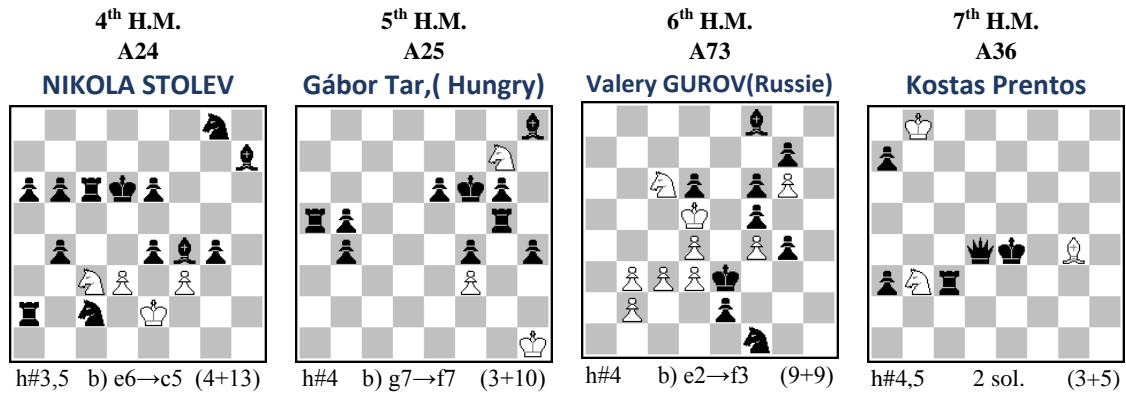
1...Sxf4 2.Kg5Kd3 3.Kxf4La5 4.Lg5Lc7#
1...Lxh4 2.Kh5Se1 3.Kxh4Kf2 4.Sh5Sxf3#

Interesting compilation of the Zilahi (with delayed captures) and Chumakov themes.

3rd Honorable Mention – A23 Miroslav SVÍTEK (Czech Republic)

a) 1...e5 2.Kd5Ke2 3.Ke4Lxc4 4.Txe5f3#
b) 1...bxc4 2.c6e5 3.Lf7Ke4 4.Lxc4exd4#

Another display of sacrifices of white unities with delayed captures, in which the delay is extended to three moves.



4th Honorable Mention – A24 NIKOLA STOLEV

- a) 1...Sxe4+ 2.Kd5d4 3.Ld6Kd3 4.Lxe4+fxe4#
 b) 1...fxe4 2.c4dxc4 3.Kc5Kd3 4.Lxe4+Sxe4#

One more Zilahi with delayed captures.

5th Honorable Mention – A25 Gábor Tar,(Hungry)

- a) 1.Ta6Sxe6 2.Kf5Sc7 3.Le5Se8 4.Tf6Sg7#
 b) 1.Th5Sd6 2.Kg5Sxb5 3.Lf6Sd6 4.Tf5Sf7#

Closed Crusader walks by the WS with annihilation of black pawns, model mates.

6th Honorable Mention – A73 Valery GUROV(Russie)

- a) 1.Kxf4Ke6 2.Ke3Kxf5 3.Kxd3Kf4 4.Sd2Sb4#
 b) 1.Kxd3Sd8 2.Ke3Kc4 3.Kxf4Kd3 4.Sg3Se6#

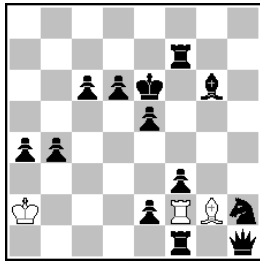
A curious conception, in which the BK allows a double white Kniest, capturing first a pawn on the square where the WK will occupy in the mate position, and then going after the square occupied by another WP. The pawns and squares are inverted from the first to the second solution, causing an exchange of the positions of the Kings in the final positions. Switchbacks of the BK.

7th Honorable Mention – A36 Kostas Prentos

- 1...Sa5 2.Tb3+Kc7 3.Df2Kd6 4.Ke3Ke5 5.Td3Sc4#
 1...Kb7 2.Te3Kc6 3.Df6+Kc5 4.Ke5Sc1 5.Te4Sd3#

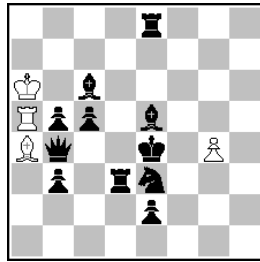
Nice pair of model echomates.

8th H.M.
A62
Aleksandr
Pankratiev&Evgeny
Gavryliv(Russie/Ukraine)



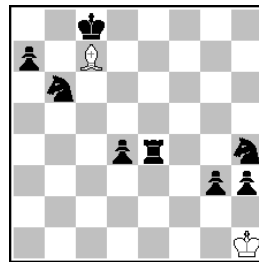
h#3,5 2 sol. (3+13)

9th H.M.
A63
Aleksandr
Pankratiev&Evgeny
Gavryliv(Russie/Ukraine)



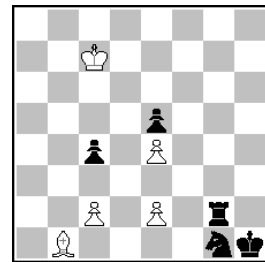
h#3,5 2 sol. (4+11)

1st Commendation
A56
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#7,5 2 sol. (2+8)

2nd Commendation
A57
Zlatko Mihajloski



h#6 (5+5)

8th Honorable Mention – A62 [Aleksandr Pankratiev&Evgeny Gavryliv\(Russie/Ukraine\)](#)

1...Lxf3 2.c5Lxe2 3.Dc6Tf4 4.Kd5Lc4#

1...Txf3 2.Te7Tg3 3.Tff7Le4 4.Kf6Txg6#

This and the next problem perform diagonal/orthogonal correspondence with model mates. Charming, but this is a very explored field. I hope it's not anticipated.

9th Honorable Mention – A63 [Aleksandr Pankratiev&Evgeny Gavryliv\(Russie/Ukraine\)](#)

1...Lxb5 2.Td2Lxc6+ 3.Kd3Ta4 4.Dc3Le4#

1...Txb5 2.Lf6TxL4+ 3.Ke5Lxc6 4.Td6Te4#

See comments on the previous problem.

1st Commendation – A56 [Zlatko Mihajloski](#)

1...Kg1 2.Te5Kf1 3.Ta5Ke2 4.Kb7Kd3 5.Ka6Kxd4 6.Ta4+Kc5 7.Ka5Ld8 8.a6Lxb6#

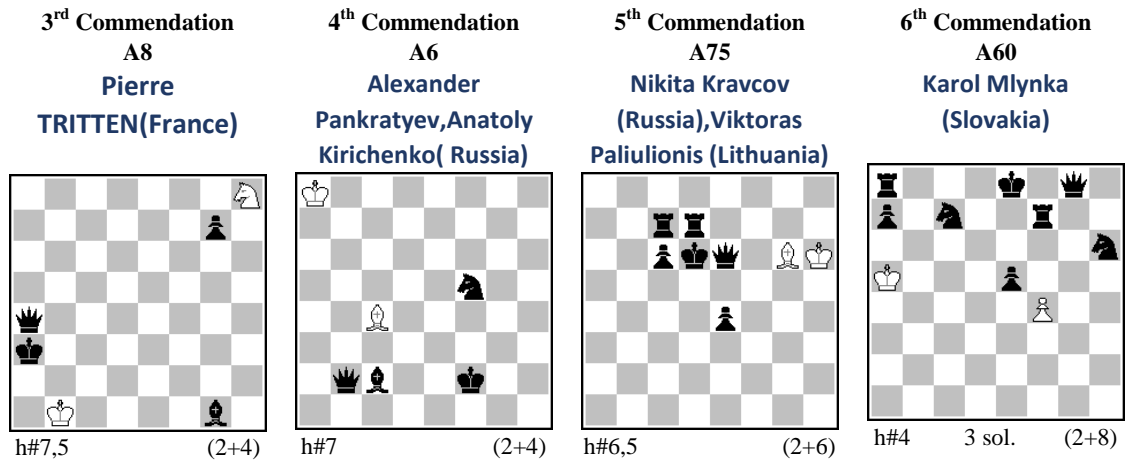
1...Ld8 2.g2+Kh2 3.Te7Kg3 4.Tb7Kf4 5.Tb8Ke5 6.Ta8Kd6 7.Kb8Kc6 8.Sc8 Lc7#

Well-constructed extra-long helpmate with two solutions. However, in my view, the interplay in both solutions is not impressive.

2nd Commendation – A57 [Zlatko Mihajloski](#)

1.Txe2Kd6 2.Txc2Kxe5 3.Te2Kf4 4.Txe4+Kg3 5.Te2Le4+ 6.Tg2+ Lxg2#

Original idea, as far as I know. Just the BR moves, annihilating some white pawns, visiting the square e2 three times, to end up being captured in the mate move.



3rd Commendation – A8 Pierre TRITTEN(France)

1...Sf7 2.g5Se5 3.g4Sf3 4.g3Sxg1 5.g2Sf3 6.g1=T+Se1 7.Tg3Ka1 8.Tb3Sc2#

The solution, involving the Excelsior path of the BP, is not hard to find, because we see from the initial diagram that all we need is a BR or a BS on b3 so that the WS will mate on c2. But the interplay, performing the Chernous theme, is charming. Ideal mate.

4th Commendation – A6 Alexander Pankratyev,Anatoly Kirichenko(Russia)

1.Sd4Ka7 2.Sb3Kb6 3.Sd2+Kc5 4.Db1Kd4 5.Ke1Ke3 6.Kd1Kf2 7.Dc1Le2#

Another long single-liner, in which the hesitating BQ move to b1, preventing zugzwang, is the highlight. Ideal mate.

5th Commendation – A75 Nikita Kravcov (Russia),Viktoras Paliulionis (Lithuania)

1...Kg5 2.c5Kf4 3.Df6+Kxe4 4.De5+Kd3 5.Kd5Le8 6.Td6LL5 7.Tcc6Lc4#

Pleasant displacement of five black unities one rank down. Nice interplay, ideal mate.

6th Commendation – A60 Karol Mlynka(Slovakia)

1.0-0-0fxe5 2.Se8e6 3.Tb7e7 4.Kb8exd8=D#
1.Td8fxe5 2.Td6exd6 3.Te7dxc7 4.Df7c8=D#
1.Dg5fxg5 2.Kf8gxh6 3.Te8h7 4.Tee7h8=D#

Attractive set of selblocking moves by black rooks and promotions to Queen of the minimal WP.

This award is open to claims for three months after publication.

Rio de Janeiro, 29th November 2021.

Marcos Maldonado Roland

