

ChessProblems.ca 2011 Series Tourney Award

Judge: Paul Răican

38 problems by 18 authors (*Alberto Armeni, Geoff Foster, Ján Golha, Harald Grubert, Jozef Holubec, Uwe Mehlhorn, Dan Meinking, Karol Mlynka, Dieter Müller, Frank Müller, Cornel Pacurar, Mečislovas Rimkus, Zoran Sibinović, Ivan Skoba, Guy Sobrecases, George P. Sphicas, Radovan Tomašević* and *Arno Tüngler*) from 10 countries (*Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Serbia, Slovakia* and *USA*) took part in the ChessProblems.ca 2011 tourney.

At first, I was a bit afraid of judging this tourney, as I do not consider myself a series-movers specialist, thus meanwhile I feverishly went through almost all topics of the ChessProblems.ca private workshops. This was an interesting experience for me because I found there some series-movers tasks of rare beauty. Moreover, the workshops have also given me the opportunity to post my own compositions, some of which are length records. This real-time online interaction between chess problem composers seems to me to be the way forward, which will gradually replace the longer (and still necessary) interaction in the case of classical, paper-based, chess problem magazines.

I will start, as usual, with some of the compositions not included in the award:

T35 (*Holubec*): ♞e7 is necessary only to avoid duals.

T40 (*Rimkus & Pacurar*): The mate positions are identical.

T42 (*Mlynka*): The Mars Mirror Circe rules are artificial. The problem can be realized with normal Mars Circe and one pawn less (White: ♖d3, ♙d4, ♜d2, ♗d7; Black: ♚e3, ♜e4, ♜e6; (4+3), ser-h# 5, C+; 1. ♚×d7 2. ♚d6 3. ♚e5 4. ♚f4 5. ♚e3 ♜f3 #

T48 (*Tomašević*): The current ideal series helpmate length record with last move made by Pawn is now 75 moves.

T49 (*Tomašević*): The current ideal series stalemate length record with last move made by Rook is now 95 moves.

T56 (*Müller & Mehlhorn*): The stipulation could be a more natural one (White: ♖e4; Black: ♚g3; (1+1), ser-xz 7, Sentinelles, C+; 1. ♖f5 2. ♗e5 3. ♗e6 4. ♗e7 5.e8=♞ 6. ♞e2 7. ♞h2(♗e2) xz).

T64 (*Meinking & Pacurar*), **T65** (*Meinking*), **T69** (*Rimkus*) and **T70** (*Pacurar*): Unexpected combinations between pieces and conditions, but the results are rather demonstrative.

I decided to split the award into two sections: **A) Artistic Section** and **B) Technical Section**, just as my predecessor Dan Meinking did last year.

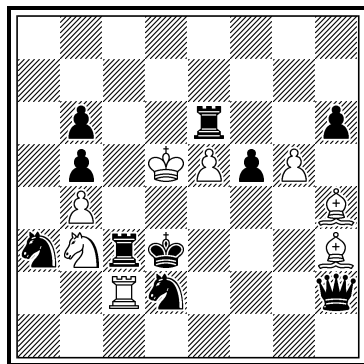
A) Artistic Section

Ivan Skoba

1st Prize

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section A



serc-!= 75

(8+10)

Madraši

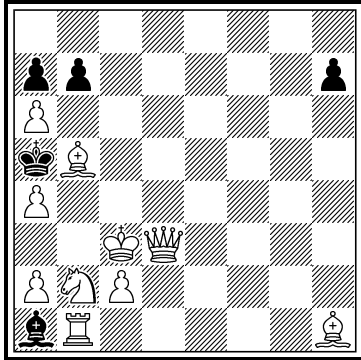
Consequent

1st Prize – T61 (Skoba): An impressive strategic problem, which combines classic fairy rules with the condition *Consequent!* An attempt to cook the problem would be the capture of ♜h6, followed by the promotion of ♗g5 to rook, which then captures ♜a3 and ♜b5. In the end, the white rook is paralyzed (e.g. at c7), however in this case the square g5 would be available for the white king. I am delighted to have had the opportunity to judge and award this work of art!

Solution:

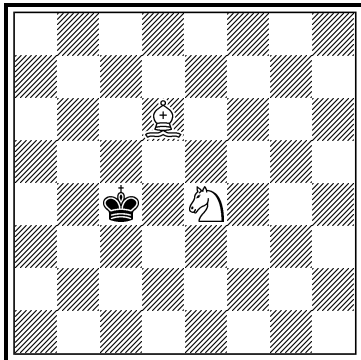
3. ♙d6 5. ♖d7 6. ♙e7 8. ♖f7 9. ♙f6 11. ♖h5 19. ♙g6
20. ♖g4! 21. ♖f3 25. ♙g2 31. ♖×a3 37. ♖f3 41. ♙g6
42. ♖g4! 43. ♖h5 51. ♙f6 53. ♖f7 54. ♙e7 56. ♖d7
57. ♙d6 59. ♖×b5 61. ♖d7 62. ♙e7 64. ♖f7 65. ♙f6
67. ♖h5 74. ♙a4 75. ♗b5 !=

Arno Tüngler
 2nd Prize
ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section A



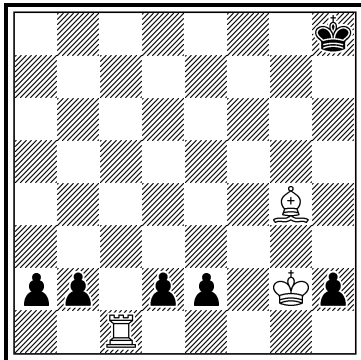
ser-h!= 30 C+ (10+5)
 Vertical Mirror Circle

Ján Golha
 Cornel Pacurar
 3rd Prize
ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section A



ser-h= 8 C+ (2+1)
 Equipollents Circle
 b) ♖c4→h1 c) ♔c4→d7
 d) ♙d6→g3

Guy Sobrecases
 Arno Tüngler
 1st Honorable Mention
ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section A



pser-hxz 6 (3+6)
 b) pser-h= 6

2nd Prize – T72 (Tüngler): Probably a move-length record for the corresponding number of total force and this type of stipulation and fairy condition. In fact, Arno was the worthy winner of the latest thematic tourney organized by Itamar Faybish (Vertical Mirror Circle - see TT7 ifaybish.com).

Solution:

4. ♜h2 5. ♜×a6 6. ♜×b5 [+♙c1] 7. ♜×a4 9. ♜×b2
 12. ♜×a2 16. ♜b6 21. ♜×b1=♙ 22. ♙×c2 [+♘f2]
 23. ♙×d3 [+♚e1] 25. ♙×h1 26. ♙f3 27. ♜h1=♚
 28. ♚×e1 29. ♚f1 30. ♜×c1=♚ + ♘d3 !=

3rd Prize – T71 (Golha & Pacurar): A very good four-corners presented with only three pieces and one condition. A problem which can be included in an introduction to the world of fairy chess!

Solutions:

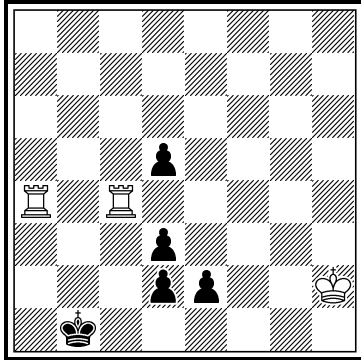
a) 1. ♜d3 2. ♜×e4 [+♘f5] 3. ♜×f5 [+♘g6] 4. ♜g5
 5. ♜h6 6. ♜×g6 [+♘f6] 7. ♜g7 8. ♜h8 ♙f8 =
 b) 1. ♜g2 2. ♜f3 3. ♜×e4 [+♘d5] 4. ♜×d5 [+♘c6]
 5. ♜×d6 [+♙d7] 6. ♜c7 7. ♜b7 8. ♜a8 ♙c8 =
 c) 1. ♜e6 2. ♜f5 3. ♜×e4 [+♘d3] 4. ♜e3 5. ♜×d3
 [+♘c3] 6. ♜c2 7. ♜b2 8. ♜a1 ♙a3 =
 d) 1. ♜d4 2. ♜×e4 [+♘f4] 3. ♜f3 4. ♜×g3 [+♙h3]
 5. ♜×f4 [+♘e5] 6. ♜g3 7. ♜h2 8. ♜h1 ♘f3 =

1st Honorable Mention – T54 (Sobrecases & Tüngler): An excellent presentation of the two genres (Parry-Series and Zug-Family) recently introduced into circulation. AUW + SQB promotions in the two phases.

Solutions:

a) 1. ♜h1=♚ + ♘f2 2. ♚g1 + ♚×g1 3. ♜e1=♚ 4. ♚a1
 5. ♜d1=♜ + ♙×d1 6. ♜b1=♙ ♙c2 xz
 b) 1. ♜d1=♜ 2. ♜e3 + ♘g3 3. ♜f5 + ♙×f5 4. ♜e1=♚
 + ♘×h2 5. ♚g1 + ♚×g1 6. ♜a1=♙ ♙b1 =

George P. Sphicas
 2nd Honorable Mention
 ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section A



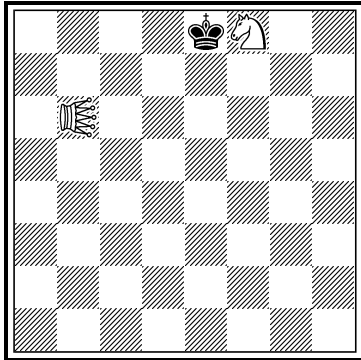
ser-hxz 15 C+ (3+5)

2nd Honorable Mention – T58 (Sphicas):
 Compared with T54 here there is only AUW, but the technical and artistic achievements are of high quality, typical for the New York composer!

Solution:

1. ♖d1=♚ 3. ♚a2 5. ♖d1=♗ 7. ♗a1 11. ♖d1=♘
 12. ♗b2 13. ♖e1=♙ 15. ♙a3 ♚ab4 xz

Geoff Foster
 3rd Honorable Mention
 ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section A



ser-h# 8 C+ (2+1)

PWC, Take & Make Chess

b) ♖b6→g6

2 Solutions

♖ = Lion

3rd Honorable Mention – T62 (Foster): Another four-corners, but.. The play in a) which begins with ♖×f8-d7 is symmetrical with the play in b) which begins with ♖e7 (and similarly one can say about a) 1. ♖e7 and b) 1. ♖×f8-d7). My feeling is that this single fault is enough to lose the platoon of prizes.

Solutions:

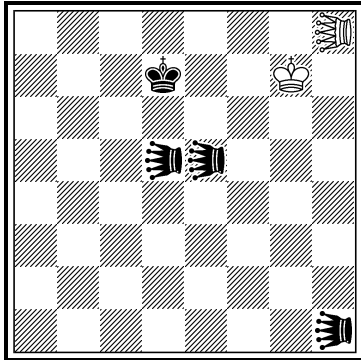
- a) 1. ♖×f8-d7 [+♘e8] 2. ♖×e8-d6 [+♘d7] 3. ♖×d7-c5 [+♘d6] 4. ♖×b6-e6 [+♗c5] 5. ♖d5 6. ♖×c5-e7 [+♗d5] 7. ♖×d6-b7 [+♘e7] 8. ♖a8 ♘c6 #

1. ♖e7 2. ♖e7×f8-e6 [+♘e7] 3. ♖×e7-d5 [+♘e6] 4. ♖×e6-d4 [+♘d5] 5. ♖×d5-c7 [+♘d4] 6. ♖b7 7. ♖×b6-g1 [+♗b7] 8. ♖h1 ♘f3 #

- b) 1. ♖×f8-d7 [+♘e8] 2. ♖×e8-d6 [+♘d7] 3. ♖×d7-e5 [+♘d6] 4. ♖×d6-e4 [+♘e5] 5. ♖×e5-f7 [+♘e4] 6. ♖g7 7. ♖×g6-b1 [+♗g7] 8. ♖a1 ♘c3 #

1. ♖e7 2. ♖×f8-e6 [+♘e7] 3. ♖×e7-f5 [+♘e6] 4. ♖×g6-d6 [+♗f5] 5. ♖e5 6. ♖×f5-d7 [+♗e5] 7. ♖×e6-g7 [+♘d7] 8. ♖h8 ♘f6 #

Mečislovas Rimkus
 4th Honorable Mention
 ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section A



ser-h# 10 C+ (2+4)

b) ♖g7→c1

♖, ♗ = Double Grasshopper

4th Honorable Mention – T53 (Rimkus): A composition which reminded me of a well known composition by Novomesky (1st Prize, 9TT CCMicroweb 2002 – ♖a1, ♙a2 (2); ♖a8, ♗b7, ♗c4 (3); ♗ = Nightrider-hopper, 2 solutions). In T53 the mates are given on the same corner, but the mating piece attacks the black king from different directions.

Solutions:

- a) 1. ♗h1-e8 2. ♖c6 3. ♗d5-h7 4. ♗e8-b7 5. ♖c5 6. ♗e5-b8 7. ♖b6 8. ♖a7 9. ♖a8 10. ♗h7-a7 ♖g8 #

- b) 1. ♗d5-c8 2. ♖c6 3. ♗c8-f5 4. ♗f5-b7 5. ♖d6 6. ♗e5-a7 7. ♖c7 8. ♖b8 9. ♖a8 10. ♗h1-b8 ♖b2 #

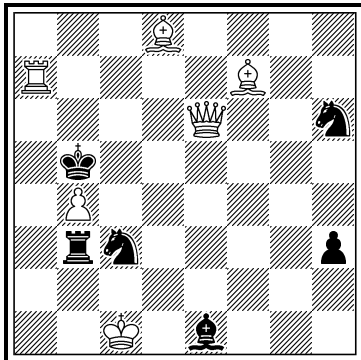
Commendations (in the order of publication):

Jozef Holubec

Commendation

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section A



ser-h= 8 (6+6)

Circe Madrasi

Commendation – T34 (Holubec): The C+ version

-♙e1, +♗e2 and ♖h3→h2 adds one promotion:

1. ♖e1=♙ 2. ♖h1=♗ 3. ♗h3 etc. Interesting stalemate position in which the S moves are forbidden.

Solution:

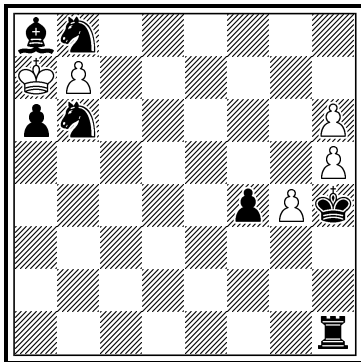
2. ♖h1=♗ 3. ♗h3 4. ♙h4 5. ♗b6 6. ♖b5 8. ♗×f7 [+♙f1]
♙×b5 [+♗g8] =

Alberto Armeni

Commendation

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section A



ser-h# 6 (5+7)

AntiCirce

Commendation – T36 (Armeni): The author has

exploited very well the rule by which a rook and a king reborn on their home-square do not lose the castling rights.

Solution:

1. ♖×g3 e.p. [♗g3→g7] 2. ♗×h5 [♗h5→e8] 3. ♗h1×h6
[♗h6→h8] 4.0-0 5. ♗h8 6. ♗g8 b7×a8=♗ [♗a8→h1]
#

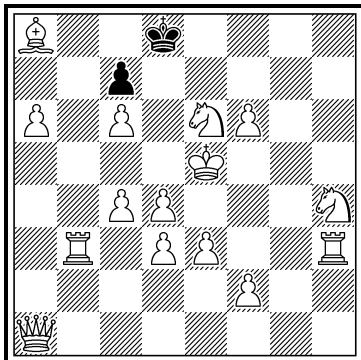
Zoran Sibinović

Ján Golha

Commendation

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section A



ser-h# 33 C+ (15+2)

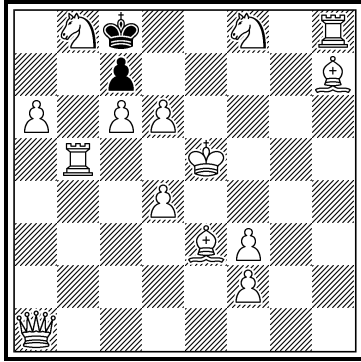
Commendation – T45 (Sibinović & Golha): From

a technical standpoint, the length of the solution is exceeded by 13 moves by a Vladimír Janál version. However, the artistic side remains: minor promotion and ideal mate.

Solution:

8. ♗×h3 9. ♗×h4 15. ♗×b3 17. ♗×d3 18. ♗×c4
22. ♗×a8 25. ♗×c6 26. ♗d7 28. ♗×d4 29. ♗×e3
30. ♗×f2 31. ♗f1=♙ 32. ♙f1×a6 33. ♙c8 ♗a4 #

Zoran Sibinović
Commendation
ChessProblems.ca 2011
Section A



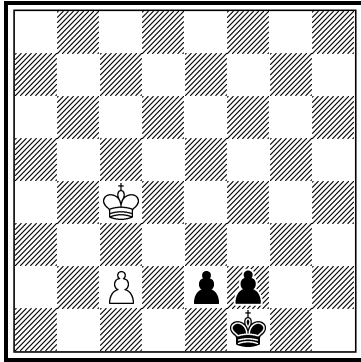
ser-h= 33 C+ (14+2)

Commendation – T46 (Sibinović): A promoted queen sacrifices at a8, which in the Retro world is named Ceriani-Frolkin theme. This artistic element was sufficient to classify this composition under Section A, because from a technical standpoint Vladimír Janál's version almost doubles the number of moves.

Solution:

5. ♖×h8 7. ♖×f8 9. ♖×h7 15. ♖×f3 19. ♖×b5 22. ♖×b8
 25. ♖×c6 26. ♖d7 28. ♗×d4 29. ♗×e3 30. ♗×f2
 31. ♗f1=♚ 32. ♚×a6 33. ♚a8 ♚×a8 =

Dan Meinking
Commendation
ChessProblems.ca 2011
Section A

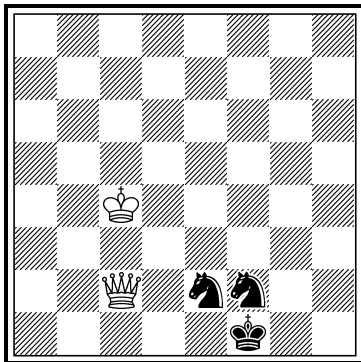


phser-a→b 16 C+ (2+3)
 (Position A)

Commendation – T57 (Meinking): This composition gives a good visual impression.

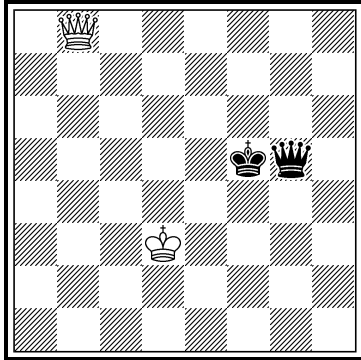
Solution:

1. ♖d5! 6. ♗c8=♚ 7. ♚h3+! ♗e1 8. ♚h1+ ♗f1=♗
 9. ♚h4+ ♗g3 10. ♚b4+ ♗f1 11. ♚b1+ ♗e1=♗
 12. ♚b5+ ♗d3 13. ♖c4! 14. ♚f5+ ♗f2 15. ♚d3+ ♗e2
 16. ♚c2 a→b



(Position B) (2+3)

Cornel Pacurar
Commendation
ChessProblems.ca 2011
Section A



psr-hs# 5 C+ (2+2)
 Isardam
 b) ♖d3→e2
 2 Solutions

Commendation – T63 (Pacurar): The checkmate position is unique, but our host found an interesting combination between the Parry-Series and Isardam rules.

Solutions:

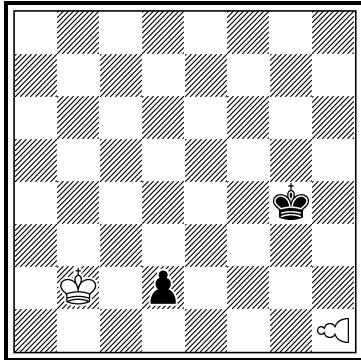
a)
 1. ♜f6 2. ♛d2 + ♔e4 3. ♛g2 + ♚e5 + 4. ♛g7 ♖f5 +
 5. ♛g5 #

1. ♜f4 2. ♛g3 + ♔d4 3. ♛f2 + ♚e5 4. ♛g3 ♖e4 +
 5. ♛e3 #

b)
 1. ♛d2 + ♖f3 2. ♛d5 + ♚f4 3. ♜e5 4. ♛d6 ♔e4 +
 5. ♛d4 #

1. ♛g4 + ♖f2 2. ♛d4 + ♚g3 3. ♜f4 4. ♛e5 ♖f3 +
 5. ♛e3 #

Dan Meinking
Commendation
ChessProblems.ca 2011
Section A



psr-h# 5 C+ (2+2)
 b) ♜g4→b4 c) ♜b2→g6
 ♞ = Orphan

Commendation – T66 (Meinking): Knight, Rook and Queen promotions in a pedagogic presentation.

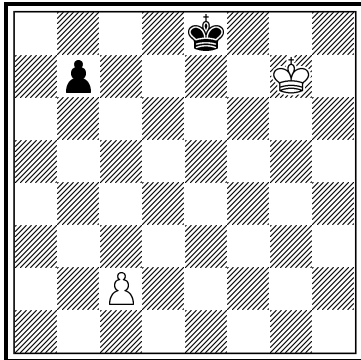
Solutions:

a) 1. ♜d1=♞ + ♔c2 2. ♞e3 + ♔d2 3. ♞f1 + ♔e2
 4. ♞g3 + ♔f2 5. ♞h3 ♞×g3 #

b) 1. ♜d1=♚ 2. ♚b1 + ♔c2 3. ♜a3 4. ♜a2 5. ♜a1
 ♞×b1 #

c) 1. ♜d1=♛ 2. ♛b1 + ♞e4 + 3. ♛g1 4. ♜h4 + ♔f5
 5. ♛g4 + ♞×g4 #

Ivan Skoba
 Arno Tüngler
Commendation
ChessProblems.ca 2011
Section A



psr-h= 12 C+ (2+2)
 Vertical Mirror Circle
 b) ♜g7→a5

Commendation – T68 (Skoba & Tüngler): Two mirrored phases using minimal artistic means.

Solutions:

a) 4. ♜×c2 [+ ♞f2] 5. ♜c1=♛ 6. ♛g1 + ♔f6 7. ♛g6
 + ♔e5 8. ♛g3 + ♔f4 9. ♛g5 + ♔f5 10. ♛g7 + ♔f6
 11. ♛c7 + ♔e6 12. ♛e7 + ♔×e7 =

b) 1. ♜b6 + ♔×b6 [+ ♞g7] 6. ♜g1=♛ + ♔c6 7. ♛b6
 + ♔d5 8. ♛b3 + ♔c4 9. ♛b5 + ♔c5 10. ♛b7 + ♔c6
 11. ♛d7 + ♔×d7 + 12. ♜d8 ♜d6 =

B) Technical Section

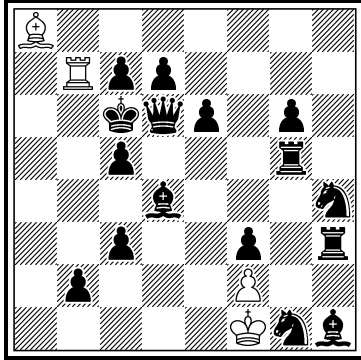
In 2011, the discovery of new move-length records, especially in special sub-categories like “last move made by Q, R, B...” was a very active process. A normal phenomenon occurs: some of the records discovered and published are broken shortly thereafter. This had also happened with some of the tasks and records included into the 2010 award. But here are the results:

Zoran Sibinović

1st-2nd Prize ex-aequo

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section B



ser-= 95

C+ (4+16)

1st-2nd Prize ex-aequo – T50 (Sibinović): A composition ‘event’, overall move length record – 95 moves – for direct series ending with ideal stalemate and last move made by Bishop. For comparison, the direct series length record with last move made by Bishop but not ending with ideal stalemate is 112 moves.

Solution:

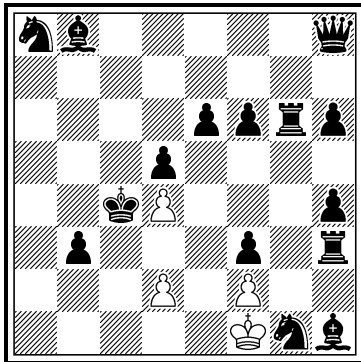
17. ♖×g5 35. ♖×g1 55. ♖×h3 56. ♖×h4 58. ♖×g6
74. ♖×h1 82. ♖×f3 83. ♖e4 86. ♗×e6 87. ♗×d7
88. ♗d8=♗ 89. ♗×c7 90. ♗×d6 91. ♗×c5 92. ♗×d4
93. ♗×c3 94. ♗×b2 95. ♗a3 =

Radovan Tomašević

1st-2nd Prize ex-aequo

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section B



ser-= 95

C+ (4+15)

1st-2nd Prize ex-aequo – T51 (Tomašević): Same stipulation and number of moves as T50, the difference being that here the last move is made by the rook. For comparison, the direct series length record with last move made by Rook but not ending with ideal stalemate is 118 moves. These two records are included in the table of records at lengthrecords.chessproblems.ca.

Solution:

10. ♖×a8 16. ♖×g6 30. ♖×g1 47. ♖×h3 48. ♖×h4
65. ♖×h1 83. ♖×f3 84. ♖e3 87. ♗×e6 89. ♗e8=♗
90. ♗×h8 91. ♗×h6 92. ♗×f6 94. ♗×b3 95. ♗×b8 =

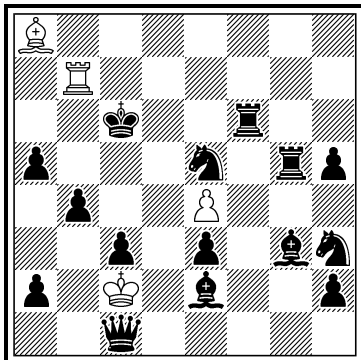
Zoran Sibinović

Ján Golha

1st Honorable Mention

ChessProblems.ca 2011

Section B



ser-= 75

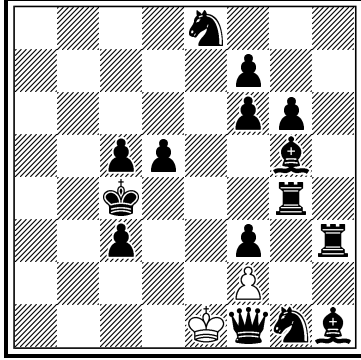
C+ (4+15)

1st Honorable Mention – T47(v) (Sibinović & Golha): This composition represents a new overall move-length record – 75 moves – for direct series ending with ideal stalemate and last move made by Pawn. Additionally, this is a new matrix, different from the classic Kemp Matrix. However, it is only distinguished with a HM because shortly after its publication Vladimír Janál discovered a slightly modified position with a solution two moves longer. For comparison, the direct series length record with last move made by Pawn but not ending with ideal stalemate is 85 moves.

Solution: *see next page.*

1. ♖×c1 4. ♖×a2 7. ♖×a5 8. ♖×b4 9. ♖×c3 11. ♖×e3
 12. ♖×e2 23. ♖×f6 37. ♖×h3 52. ♖×g5 53. ♖×h5
 69. ♖×g3 70. ♖×h2 73. ♖×e5 74. ♖d4 75. ♖e5 =

Zoran Sibinović
 2nd Honorable Mention
 ChessProblems.ca 2011
 Section B



ser-# 60

C+ (2+15)

2nd Honorable Mention – T44 (Sibinović): This composition was for a short period of time the overall length record – 60 moves – for direct series ending with ideal mate and last move made by Queen, but it was exceeded by the same Vladimír Janál by one move. Still, T44 has a supplementary artistic element: the mate is given in the middle of the chessboard (and this could be another supplementary criterion for the move-length tables of records).

Solution:

1. ♖×f1 14. ♖×f7 15. ♖×g6 17. ♖×g4 32. ♖×g1
 48. ♖×h3 50. ♖×h1 53. ♖×f3 54. ♖e2 56. ♖×g5
 57. ♖×f6 59. ♖×e8=♚ 60. ♚a4 #

Paul Răican – Tulcea, Romania
 April 2012

Many thanks to Paul for his award, which remains open for 3 months from publication and becomes final on December 15th, 2012. Please address claims of anticipation or unsoundness to Cornel Pacurar at originals@chessproblems.ca.
