14th Japanese Sake Tourney Award

Theme: H#2 with the new fairy condition Back-to-Back (hereafter abbreviated as BTB). Any other fairy pieces and/or conditions are not allowed. Only computer-tested problems will be accepted. Popeye 4.69 or Winchloe is needed for testing.

Judges: Tadashi Wakashima et.al.
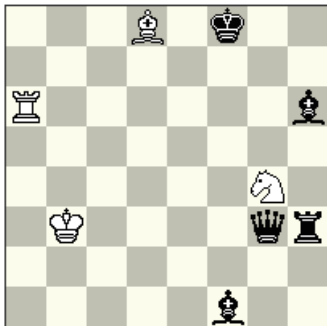
Definition

Back-to-Back (BTB): When pieces of opposite colors stand back-to-back with each other on the same file, they exchange their roles. P on the first rank cannot move. Any piece can make an en passant capture when it is given a power to move as P by BTB.

We received an amazing number of 55 entries, which is the new record for our tourney. The general standard is fairly good and we have a few outstanding problems that amply deserve a prize. Our special thanks to Thomas Maeder who implemented BTB to Popeye.

Julia Vysotska, Petko Petkov
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 1st Prize

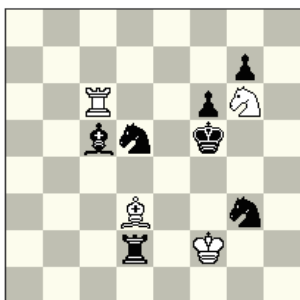H#2   4+5
b) -Bd8
BackToBack

a) 1.Be3 Sg6 + 2.Qg5 Rf6 #
(1.Bd3? Sg6+ 2.Qg5 Rf6+? but 3.Bf5+!!)
b) 1.Bd3 Sd7 + 2.Qd6 Ra8 #
(1.Be3? Sd7+ 2.Qd6 Ra8+? but 3.Ba7+!!)

A clear winner featuring BTB-specific S-pins. Dual avoidance employing BTB is an inspired embellishment. The construction is also impeccable.

Atsuo Hara
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 2nd Prize

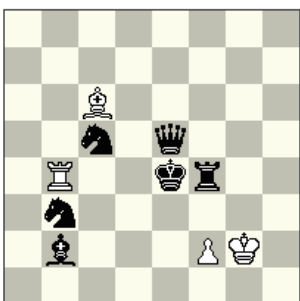

H#2   4+7
b) Kf5->f6
BackToBack

a) 1.Bc1 Rc2 2.Se2 Bh3 #
b) 1.Ra5 Ba6 2.Se3 Rf3 #

A spectacular problem with stunning visual effects. Several composers tried to show BTB-doublechecks, but this is the best. This is the first time our fellow countryman won a prize in the Japanese Sake Tourney.

Juraj Lörinc
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 3rd Prize

H#2   4+6
4 solutions
BackToBack

1.Bd4 Rd5 + 2.Bc4 Rxe5 #
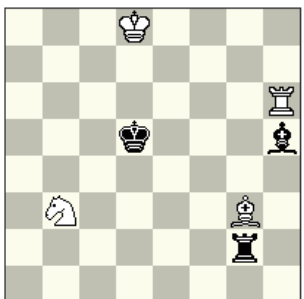1.Qd4 Be7 2.Se6 Bd5 #
1.Rf5 Bd4 2.Sd3 Bf3 #
1.Qf5 Rd5 2.Sd4 Re3 #

A cluster of BTB effects in the HOTF form. Without the repetition of W1 and the irregularity of correspondences, this would have been placed higher.

Kostas Prentos
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 4th Prize
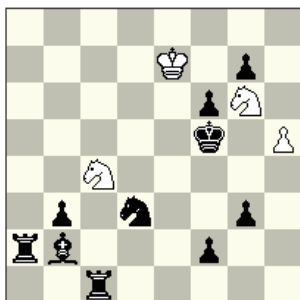

H#2   4+3
2 solutions
BackToBack

1.Kc6 Bg6 2.Bb5 Be4 #
1.Kd6 Rf4 2.Rd5 Rf6 #

A highly polished ODT with reversal of roles between wR/B and also bR/B. It's a pity the final positions are orthodox doublechecks.

Borislav Gadjanski

Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 5th Prize
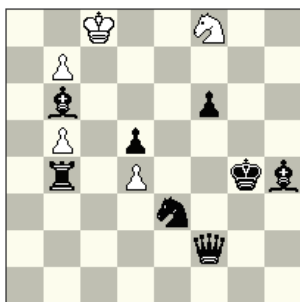

H#2   4+10

2 solutions

BackToBack

1.Sc5 ?? 2.Se4 Se3 #
1.Se5 ?? 2.Sg4 Sd6 #
1.Rc3 Sg4 + 2. e4 Se3 #
1.Bc3 Sf7   2. g4 Sd6 #

A fine strategic problem using BTB moves as a tempo motivation.

Eric Huber, Dinu-Ioan Nicula

Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 1st HM
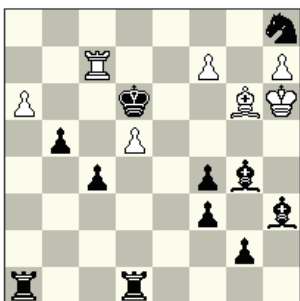

H#2   5+8

b) Sf8->e2

BackToBack

a) 1.Kf5 b7xd5 2.Bxd4 f3 #
b) 1.Kf3 b5xd5 2.Rxd4 h5 #

The mating picture is quite similar to the 2nd Prize winner. Here, batteries by Pawns are certainly appealing, but compared to that problem, the construction is less tight.

Kostas Prentos

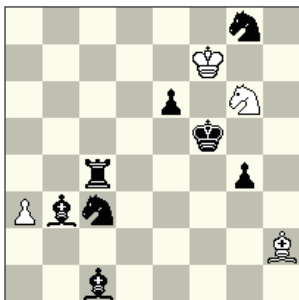Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 2nd HM

H#2   7+11

4 solutions

BackToBack

1.Rxd5 f8=B + 2.Ke6 Be7 #
1.Re1 f8=S 2.Re6 Sd7 #
1.Bd7 f8=R 2.Ke7 Re8 #
1.Kd5 f8=Q   2.Ra5 Qd6 #

A task: AUW with specific BTB mates in all solutions. The setting is rather heavy.
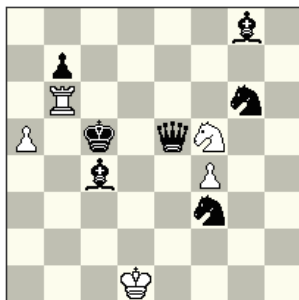
Kostas Prentos

Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 3rd HM

1.Ba2 c5 + 2.Sd5 Bd6 #
1.Sa2 c2 + 2.Re4 Se5 #

Pinning of BTB black piece by another BTB white piece. Nicely done.

H#2   4+8

2 solutions

BackToBack

Kostas Prentos

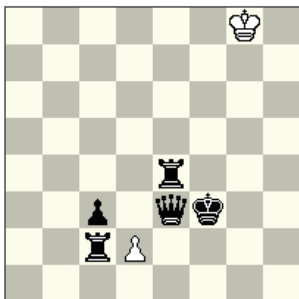Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 4th HM

1.Bd3 Sd6   2.Qd4 d5 #
1.Qe4 Se7   2.Sge5 e6 #

Anticipatory selfblock of the BTB black piece. Please note that in both solutions, black cannot capture the mating wP by B because it turns wS into B.

H#2   5+7

2 solutions

BackToBack

Luis Miguel Martín

Bern 2014 Sake Tourney 5th HM

1.Qe2 d3   2.Ke3 dxe4 #
1.Kg2 dxc3   2.Qg1 g3 #
1.Re5 d4   2.Ke4 dxe5 #
1.Rf4 dxe3   2.Rf2 exf4 #

An attractive miniature with Albino.

H#2   2+5

4 solutions

BackToBack

Kostas Prentos
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation
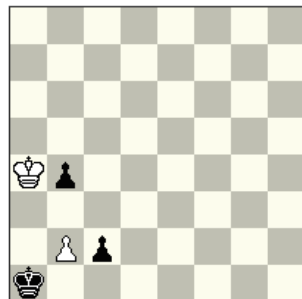

H#2   5+7
b) Kd5->d6
BackToBack

S.K. Balasubramanian, K. Seetharaman
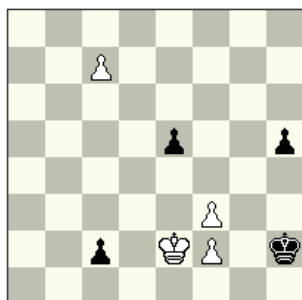Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation

H#2   2+3
2 solutions b) Pb2->c3
BackToBack
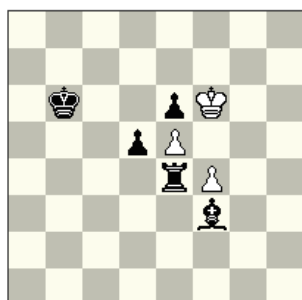
Kalyan Seetharaman
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation

H#2   4+4
b) Ke2->e3
BackToBack

Rainer Kuhn
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation
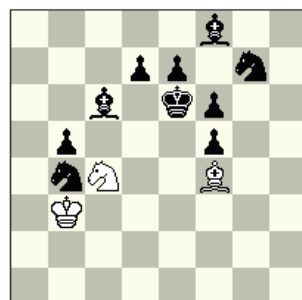

H#2   3+5
3 solutions
BackToBack

Julia Vysotska
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation
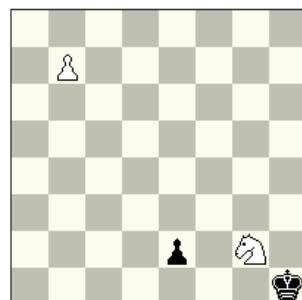

H#2   3+10
b) +bPf7
BackToBack

Norbert Geissler
Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation

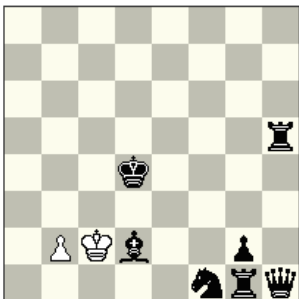H#2   2+2
2 solutions
BackToBack

Emmanuel Manolas

Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation

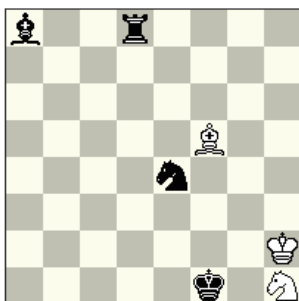H#2   2+7
b) -Rh5, c=b)-Bd2, d)=c)-
Sf1, e)=d)-Rg1
BackToBack

Hubert Gockel

Bern 2014 Sake Tourney
Commendation

H#2   3+4
2 solutions
BackToBack

Solutions

(Prentos)
1. e1=R f8=Q   2.Re5 Qd6 #
1. e1=B f8=S   2.Ba5 Sd7 #

(Seetharaman)
1. c1=Q c8=S   2.Qc7 Sh3 #
1.c1=R c8=B   2.Rg1 Bh3 #

(Vysotska)
a) 1.Sh5 Bh6   2.Bg7 Bg8 #
b) 1.Be4 Se5   2.Sc6 Sc7 #

(Balasubramanian and Seetharaman)
a) 1. c1=R Ka5   2.Rb1 a2 #
  1. c1=B b3   2.Bb2 a2 #
b) 1. c1=Q c4   2.Qc3 a2 #
  1. c1=S cxb4   2.Sb3 a2 #

(Kuhn)
1. d4 c5 +   2.Kc6 c7 #
1.Kc7 exe6 + 2.Kd8 b8=Q #
1.Kb7 exd5   2.Rd4 b8=S #

(Geissler)
1. e1=S b8=B   2.Sxg2 Bh2 #
1. e1=R b8=Q   2.Rg1 Qh2 #

(Manolas)
a) 1.Kc4 b4   2.Rc5 bxc5 #
b) 1.Bc3 b3   2.Bb2 d5 #
c) 1.Sd2 b4 2.Sb3+ d5#
d) 1.Rb1 b5 2.Rb4 d5#
e) 1.Ke4 Kd2 2.Qb1 e5#

(Gockel)
1.Sd2 Bd3   2.Rd5 Sg3 #
1.Sd6 Sg3 +   2.Bg2 Bd3 #