



The Award of Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Give mate with a neutral piece!

The Blitz Tournament on the Julia's Fairies website was a spectacular worldwide competition! I am very surprised about the extremely high quality of the tournament's problems - in my opinion, many of these masterpieces are real candidates for the FIDE Albums!

67 problems from 35 authors from 17 countries participated in the competition:

Alain BIENABE (France), Arnold BEINE (Germany), Borislav GADJANSKI (Serbia), Dieter MULLER (Germany), Dmitry TUREVSKY (Russia), Éric HUBER (Romania), Francesco SIMONI (Italy), Geoffrey FOSTER (Australia), Georgy EVSEEV (Russia), Jacques ROTENBERG (Israel), Jaroslav STUN (Slovakia), József PASZTOR (Hungary), Julia VYSOTSKA (Latvia), Juraj BRABEC (Slovakia), Juraj LORINC (Slovakia), K. SEETHARAMAN (India), Kostas PRENTOS (USA), Lev GROLMAN (Russia), Luis Miguel MARTIN (Spain), Manfred RITTIRSCH (Germany), Mario PARRINELLO (Italy), Michael BARTH (Germany), Michal DRAGOUN (Czech rep.), Michel CAILLAUD (France), Nikola PREDRAG (Croatia), Pierre TRITTEN (France), R. GANAPATHI (India), Ryan McCracken (USA), S.K. BALASUBRAMANIAN (India), Sébastien LUCE (France), Stephan DIETRICH (Germany), Sven TROMMLER (Germany), Themis ARGIRAKOPOULOS (Greece), Václav KOTESOVEC (Czech rep.), Vlaicu CRISAN (Romania).

For me it was rather difficult to rank so many powerful compositions. I stayed true to my criteria and gave priority to content when in sufficiently beautiful and economical form.

I congratulate all my colleagues and wish them all the best for the New Year!

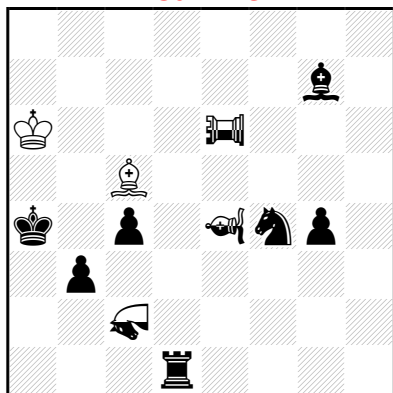
IGM PETKO A.PETKOV
International judge of FIDE

———— PRIZES ————

**Michel Caillaud (France)&
Julia Vysotska (Latvia)**

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

1st Prize

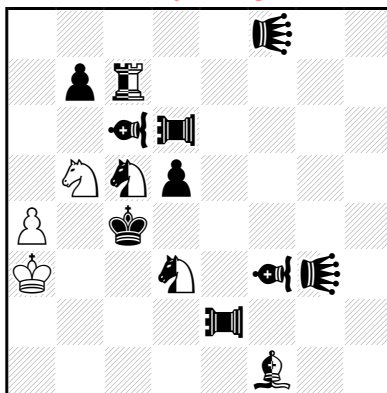


h#2 3 solutions (2+7+3)
 ♖=NAO
 ♖=PAO
 ♖=VAO

**Vlaicu Crişan
(Romania)**

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

2nd Prize

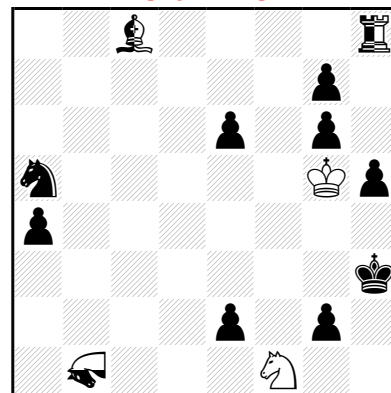


h#2 2 solutions (3+9+4)
 ♖=VAO
 ♖=Lion
 ♖=PAO

**Sven Trommler
(Germany)**

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

3rd Prize



h#2 (2+9+3)
 b) nCRb1→c6
 c) +bPc4
 ♖=Chamelrider

1st Prize - Michel Caillaud(France) & Julia Vysotska(Latvia) - This is an unique Meredith! The formation of cyclic batteries (they prepare the realization of Cyclic Zilahi!) is combined with the closing of the front battery-piece. Creating a battery, White plays on a field that is vacant after the first move of Black! This "Delayed Umnov" is also a very interesting pattern. An incredible economy of material. The problem is a true masterpiece that can not be forgotten! **I. 1.Be5 nNAe3 2.nNAG7 nPAxe4#; II. 1.Sd3 nPAf6 2.nPAf4 nVAxc2#; III. 1.Rd4 nVAf3 2.nVAd1 nNAxe6#**

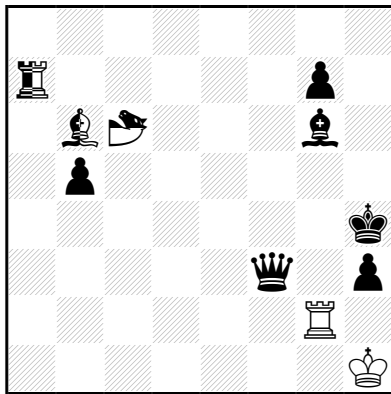
2nd Prize - Vlaicu Crişan (Romania) - Another extremely complex and beautiful problem! This is a remarkable task, demonstrating play of 5 (!!) duos of thematic pieces which change their functions: PAe2/VAc6; VAF3/PAd6; Lig3/Lif8; nSd3/nSc5; nBf1/nRc7. Very attractive critical key-moves, followed by a play of the black batteries VA/Li and PA/Li combined with checks to the white King, Bivalve theme blocks of rear neutral pieces nBf1/nRc7. Of course, the play of the masced neutral batteries nSd3/nBf1 and nSc5/nRc7 demonstrates also Zilahi-theme which is possible because of the self-pins of the neutral Ss. Speaking about the key moves, of course, we should also note that they have taken the control over the battery-pieces nRc7/nBf1 controlled in the initial position by the black Lions. **I. 1.PAh2 nRxc6 2.VAG2+ nSxc5#; II. 1.VAe8 nBxe2 2.PAd7+ nSxd3#.**

3rd Prize - Sven Trommler (Germany) - Cyclic creation of three neutral batteries with pin of the forward battery-piece on the mating-move! Without a doubt, this is the most difficult and interesting cyclical problem, in the other words - the third pearl in this tournament! Unfortunately here the move 2. nRh7 in position b) is not in charmony with the second black block-moves in the other two solutions. **a) 1.nBa6 nBxe2 2.Sc4 nBxh5 #; b) 1.nCRb3 nCRxh5 2.nRh7 nCRxe6 #; c) 1.nRe8 nRxe6 2.Sb7 nRxe2 #.**

**Luis Miguel Martin
(Spain)**

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

4th Prize

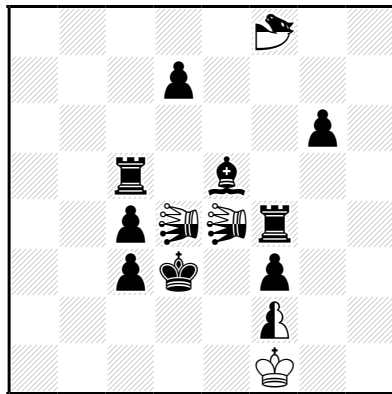


h#2 (2+6+3)
2 solutions
☞=Rose

**Juraj Lorinc (Slovakia) &
Michal Dragoun (Czech.rep.)**

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

5th Prize

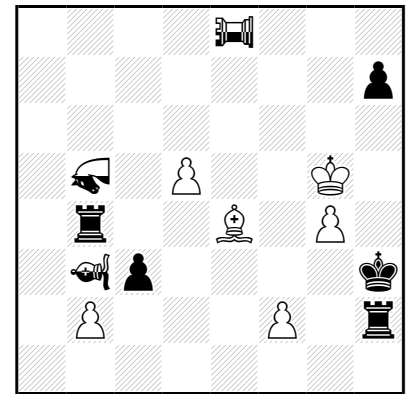


h#2 2 solutions (1+9+4)
☞=Rose
☞=Lion

**Georgy Evseev &
Lev Grolman (Russia)**

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

6th Prize



h#2 (6+5+3)
3 solutions
☞=Noctambule chinois
☞=Pao
☞=Vao

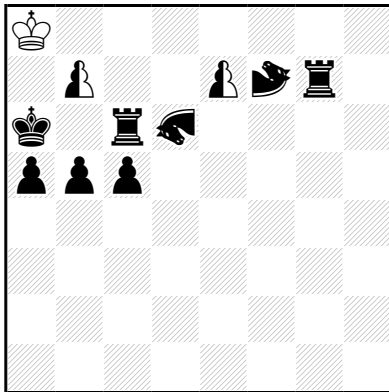
4th Prize - Luis Miguel Martin (Spain) - A notable Meredith - great illustration of the huge but still unexplored enough opportunities of the strange and beautiful fairy-piece Rose! In its neutral form, Rose is the main actor in this remarkable composition. In initial position, the nROc6 pins two black pieces: Qf3 and Bg6. Follow unpins, which are performed after a wonderful action of the neutral R and B. These pieces create "fictive batteries" nBd4/nRa4 and nRe7/nBd8 but these mechanisms do not play - they are only a "help-instruments" for the neutral Rose which gives model mates (through the double checks and pins of nRO!) after captures on d4/e7! **I. 1.nBd4 nRna4 2.Qh5 nROxd4#; II. 1.nRe7 nBd8 2.Bh5 nROxe7#**

5th Prize - Juraj Lorinc (Slovakia) & Michal Dragoun (Czech Rep.) - Also a very good problem! Here to some extent the content is similar to the previous composition. But there are also important and interesting differences, the Lions' moves on the squares d8 and h7 are very attractive - they demonstrate an ambush followed by Umnov - theme (2.Bd4&2.Re4). The finals are very beautiful mates with three pinned pieces: two black + neutral Rose! Unfortunately, here the perfect interchange of functions exist only in a play of both Lions. **I. 1.nLIg2 nLIId8+ 2.Bd4 nROxd7#; II. 1. nLIb4 nLIh7+ 2.Re4 nROxg6#**

6th Prize - Georgy Evseev & Lev Grolman (Russia) - An elegant cyclical Zilahi without battery creation, but with a block of the neutral thematic piece, that gives mate! This idea undoubtedly is very original. A very good construction but unfortunately there is no complete analogy between the first white moves. Obviously, the move 1...Kh5 (I) is not quite adequate in thematic aspect compared with the moves 1...Bh1 (II) and 1...d6 (III). **I. 1.nPAe6 Kh5 2.nNAf7 nVAxe6#; II. 1.nVAd1 Bh1 2.nPAe3 nNAXd1#; III. 1. nNAh8 d6 2.nVAg8 nPAxh8 #.**

Michel Caillaud (France)
Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

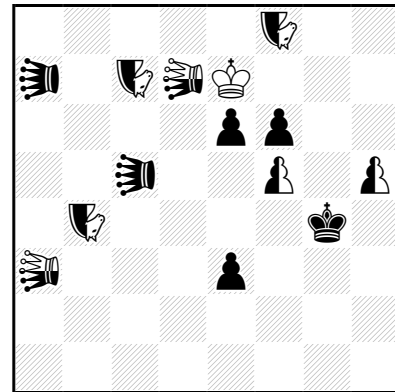
7th Prize



h#2 3 solutions (1+8+2)
♞=Mao
♞=Moa

Juraj Lorinc (Slovakia)
Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

8th Prize



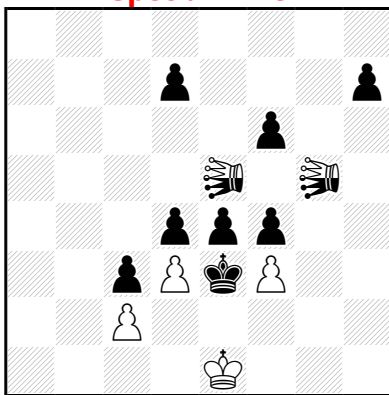
h#2 (1+6+7)
b) LEC5<->nLEd7
♞♞=LEO
♞=Nightrider

7th Prize - Michel Caillaud (France) - A curious idea - White promotes on square "b8" three pieces of a "knight type": nS, nMA and nMO! This paradoxical program is combined with 3 other neutral promotions from the nPe7! Without doubts - a remarkable task, but unfortunately the second trio of pawn-promotions (by the nPe7) is not in a strong thematic harmony with the first three promotions. **I.1.MOd8 exd8=nB 2.Rd7 b8=nS#; II. 1.Mc8 e8=nQ 2.nQd8 b8=mM#; 1.Rb6 e8=nMO 2.nMOc7+ b8=nMON#.**

8th Prize - Juraj Lorinc (Slovakia) - This mating mechanism with 2 nN paired on the same line, is well known. But here the new and very interesting moment is the play of the 2 fairy batteries with forward pieces - Leos. The check key-moves, selfblocks and Ambushes are very nice too, but in my opinion the formation of the twin here is on some degree artificial, the role of the technical nNf8 is also not quite pleasant. Probably a better version is possible? **a) 1.LExh5+nNc2 2.nLEd2+ nN7xe3#. b) 1.LExf5+ nNe8 2.nLEcc1+ nNbx6f6#.**

Mario Parrinello (Italy)
Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

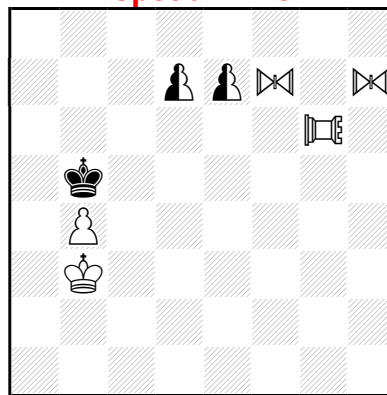
Special Prize



h#2 (4+8+2)
b) -Pf3
♞=Locust

Nikola Predrag (Croatia)
Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

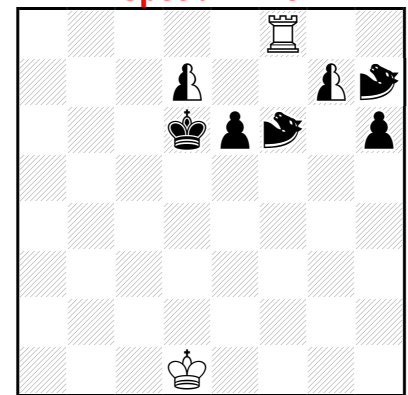
Special Prize



h#2 (5+1+2)
2 solutions
♞=Equihoppers
♞=Rook-Lion

Dmitry Turevski (Russia)
Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Special Prize



h#2 (2+5+2)
b)Pe6→e5
♞=(2,4) Leaper

Special Prize - Mario Parrinello (Italy) - A very original interpretation of theme Zilahi combined with Locust-tour and Switchback! The strategic accent here is simple, but the play is very beautiful! **a) 1.nLOxg5-h5 nLOxh7-h8 2.exf3 nLOxf6-e5#; b) 1.nLOxe5-d5 nLOxd7-d8 2.f3 nLOxf6-g5#**

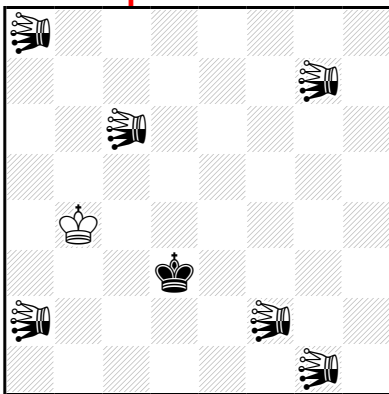
Special Prize - Nikola Predrag (Croatia) - Reciprocal mixed (neutral-white) anti-batteries nP/EQ after En-Passant captures! A wonderful cycle AB-BA, but the most interesting moment here is the "preventive anti-batteries" which stop the black moves 3.nPd5?? and 3.nPe5??. A beautiful job! **I. 1.e5 (A) Ef5 2.d5 (B) exd6 e.p.# (3.nPd5?? - illegal self-check!); II. 1.d5 (B) Eh5 2.e5 (A) dxe6 e.p.# (3.nPe5?? - illegal self-check!).**

Special Prize - Dmitri Turevski (Russia) - The neutral AUW (in h#2) is a very old theme been known since the first half of the last century. But here we see a significantly new and interesting point - preliminary closing of the "d" vertical after black key-moves. This action is related with an interesting thematic tries after which are unlocked the squares f6 and h7 respectively. **a) 1.(2,4)Lpd5 d8=nR+ 2.Ke7 g8=nS# (1.(2,4)Lpd2?); b) 1.(2,4)Lpd2 d8=nQ+ 2.Ke6 g8=nBn# (1.(2,4)Lpd5?).**

Geoffrey Foster (Australia)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Special Prize

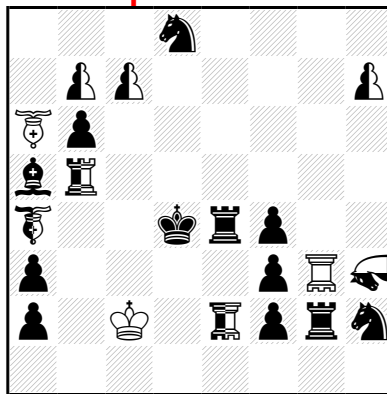


h#2 (1+1+6)
2 solutions
♟=Locust

Vaclav Kotesovec (Czech Rep.)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Special Prize

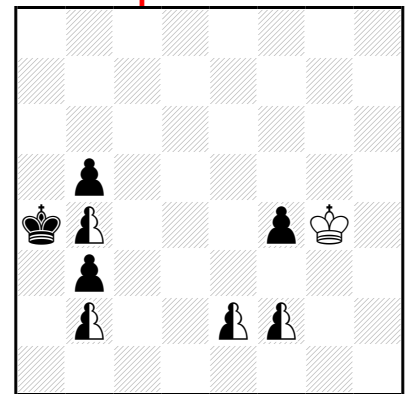


h#2 3 solutions (3+12+7)
♞=Nightriderhopper
♝♞ = Bishophopper; ♖♞ = Rookhopper

Pierre Tritten (France) & S.K.Balasubramanian (India)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Special Prize



h#2 (1+4+4)
3 solutions

Special Prize - Geoffrey Foster (Australia) - A super position with two Kings and 6 neutral Locusts! Such surprising character have also the solutions where in each phase are captured four Locusts! A wonderful finding! **I. 1.nLOxg7-g8 nLOxc6-d5+ 2.nLOxd5-e6 nLOxe6-d5#; II. 1.nLOxa2-a1 nLOxg1-h1 2.nLOxc6-b7+nLOxg7-h7#.**

Special Prize - Vaclav Kotesovec (Czech Rep.) - A total cycle ABC-BCA-CAB, where: A is black promoted Pawn, B - promoted neutral Pawns; C - a piece which realizes a hurdle. Super difficult achieve, which deserves a prize, but in such cases the economy of material remains in the background... **I. 1.f1=BH nNhd5 2.BHh3 cxd8=nRH#; II. 1.a1=RH nBHc6 2.RHa4 b8=nNH#; III. 1.a1=NH nRHe5 2.NHe3 h8=nBH#.**

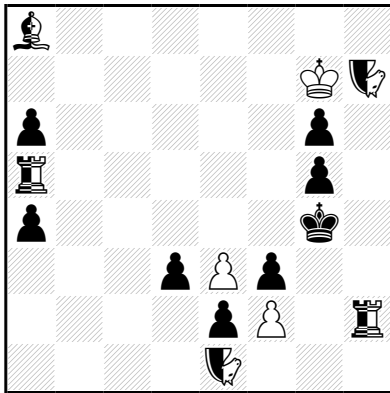
Special Prize - Pierre Tritten (France) & S.K.Balasubramanian (India) - A very nice Meredith with only 9 pieces (2 Kings +7 Pawns) which demonstrates cyclical play of 3 neutral Pawns. Despite the fact that here the mate-finals (with nQ+nQ) are known, this work deserves a prize! **I. 1.f1=nQ nQd1 2.b1=nQ nQbxb3# II. 1.b1=nQ nQe4 2.e1=nQ nQ1xb4#; III. 1.e1=nQ nQe8 2.f1=nQn nQfxb5#**

————— HONORABLE MENTIONS —————

Borislav Gadjanski (Serbia)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

1st Honorable Mention

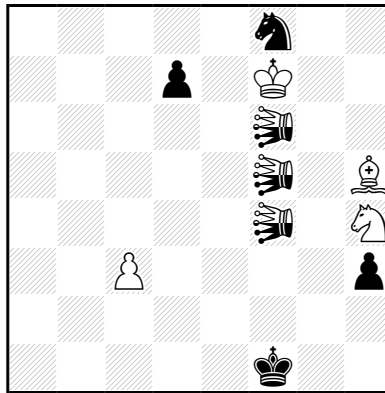


h#2 (3+8+5)
b) Pd3→f6
♞=Nightrider

Mario Parrinello (Italy)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

2nd Honorable Mention

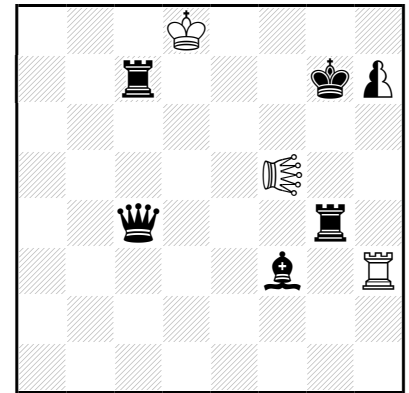


h#2 (4+4+3)
b) Pd7→b6
c) Pd7→e5
♞=Locust

Michel Caillaud (France)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

3rd Honorable Mention



h#2 (3+5+1)
3 solutions
♞=Locust

1st Honorable Mention – Borislav Gadjanski (Serbia) - Creation of reciprocal neutral batteries through a neutral Grimshaw - this is a banal idea but here we see a fresh new motive: self-pins of the mating pieces after Kniest-theme (1...nNxg5 and 1...nNxf3). Four neutral players - nRa5, nBa8, nNe1, nNh7 - play greatly, but unfortunately the fifth neutral figure – nRh2 - has only modest technical functions. **a) 1.nBd5 nNxc5 2.Kxc5 nBxf3#; b) 1.nRd5 nNxf3 2.Kxf3 nRxc5#**

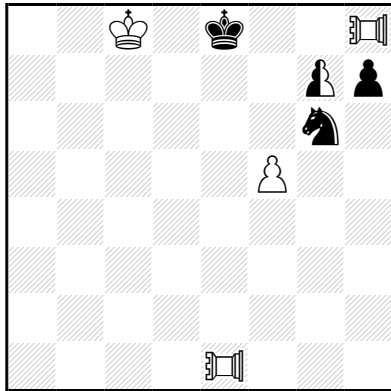
2nd Honorable Mention – Mario Parrinello (Italy) - Cyclic Zilahi realized by three neutral Locusts! Unfortunately, this play looks quite mechanical. The key-moves and the creation of twins seems also simple. A future development of this mechanism is surely possible! **a) 1.d6 nLOxd6-c6 2.nLOxc3-c2 nLOxc2-b1#; b) 1.b5 nLOxb5-a5 2.nLOxc3-d2 nLOxd2-c1#; c) 1.e4 nLOxe4-d4 2.nLOxc3-b2 nLOxb2-a1#.**


3rd Honorable Mention – Michel Caillaud - The plan here is to promote the nPh7 in nB, nQ and nLO and to give a mate. The realization of this strange program is interesting - in each phase must be blocked fields: **I.1.Bb7 Rh1 2.Bc8 h8=nLO#; II.1.Bc6 Rh6 2.Be8 h8=nQn#; III. 1.Bd5 Ke8 2.Bg8 h8=nBn#.**

Georgy Evseev (Russia)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

4th Honorable Mention

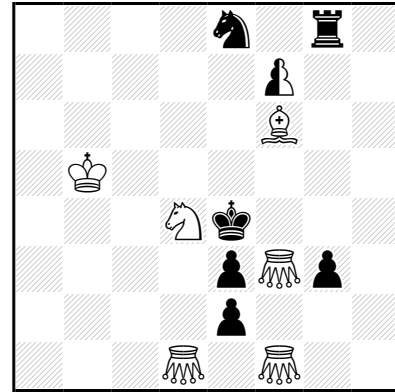



h≠2* (4+3+1)
 = Pao

Michel Caillaud (France)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

5th Honorable Mention



h≠2 2 solutions (6+6+1)
 = Grasshopper

4th Honorable Mention – Georgy Evseev (Russia) - This is not a problem of a big format, but the content is sufficiently interesting and non-standard! The mates with an use of the mixed anti-batteries nS/PA and nB/PA are possible only after black blocks - on "h6" in the set-play and on "d5" in the real solution. The moves 3.nSe7?? and 3.nBe6 are impossible because of creation of "preventive anti-batteries" nS/nPAe1 and nB/nPAe1. Unfortunately, the set-play begins with a crude technical move 1...fxg6. **1...fxg6 2.h6 g8=nS#; 1.Sf4 f6 2.Sd5 g8=nB#.**

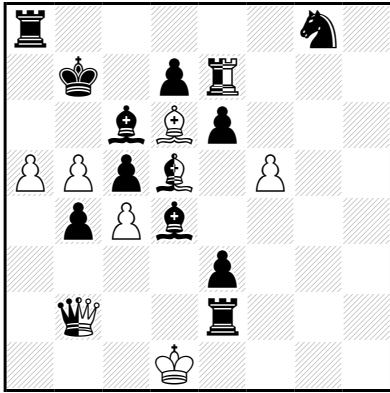
5th Honorable Mention – Michel Caillaud (France) - A nice demonstration of theme Phoenix decorated with some geometric motifs! **1.exd1=G fxe8=nG 2.Gd5 nGa4#; 1.exf1=G fxc8=nG 2.Gf4 nGg2#**

————— COMMENDATIONS (without rank) —————

Kostas Prentos (USA)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Commendation

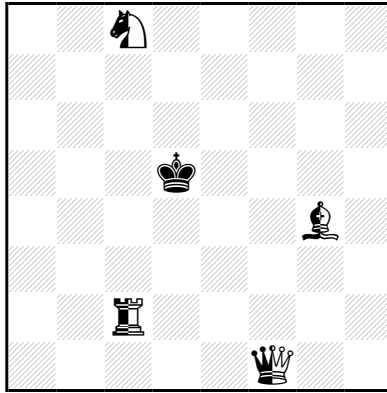


h#2 (6+11+3)
b)Ra8→a7

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Commendation

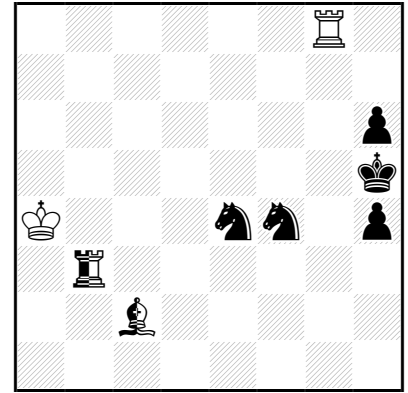


h#2 2 solutions (0+1+4)
(No w.K)

Michel Caillaud (France)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Commendation



h#2 (2+5+2)
2 solutions

Commendation – Kostas Prentos (USA) - Very interesting and difficult complex but in a bad form. I do not believe that there's impossible a significant improvement of the constructions, **a) 1.Bh8 nRh7 2.nQg7 nQxd7#; b) 1.Rh2 nBh1 2.nQg2 nQxc6#**

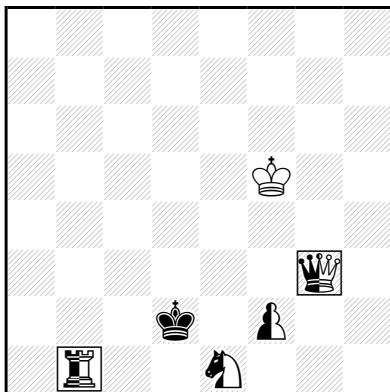
Commendation – Vlaicu Crişan (Romania) - Another small pearl! Here we see Neutral "Distant Grimshaw" (c4/f5) with line-clearance motives and ideal mates! **I. 1.nBe2 nBnc4+ 2.Kc5 nQxc4#; II. 1.n Rf2 nRf5+ 2.Ke6 nQxf5#.**



Commendation – Michel Caillaud (France) - A simple but beautiful Zilahi which has also an educational character! **I. 1.Sg2 nBd1+ 2.nRf3+ nBxf3#; II. 1.Sf6 nBnf5 2.nRb5 nRxf5#**

Éric Huber (Romania)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Commendation

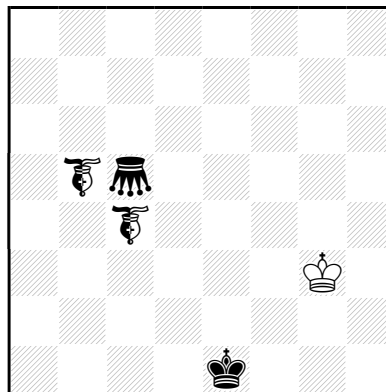




h≠2 (1+1+4)
 b)ncRb1→f1
 =Chameleon Rook
 =Chameleon Queen

Stephan Dietrich (Germany)

Christmas Blitz-Tourney JF-2012

Commendation



h≠2 2 solutions (1+2+2)
 = Grasshopper
 =Princess

Commendation – Eric Huber (Romania) - Creation of two batteries and different promotions by nPf2. **a) 1.fxe1=nCS nCb2=nCQ+ 2.nCSc2 = nCB+ nCBd3=nCR#; b) 1.Kd1 nCQf3=nCS 2.fxe1=nCB nCBd2=nCR#.**

Commendation - Stephan Dietrich (Germany) - Nice model-mates with pins of neutral Princess. **I. 1.Ga5 nPrc3+ 2.Gd2 nPxd2#; II. 1.Gc3 Kg2 2. nPr a5 nPrxc3#**

Congratulations to the winners and thanks a lot to all participants!!!



Riga – December 31th, 2012