

Israel Ring Tourney: Fairies 2018

Judge: Pierre Tritten, Pézilla la Rivière – February 2020

Forty five problems were published by 20 authors in three issues: V.74 (n.3089-3106), V.75 (n.3136-3150), V.76 (n.3191-3202). With n.3193 being removed, 44 problems remained to be judged.

I favored problems with use of the fairy elements in all the solutions, and a satisfying economy. For example, I would have rewarded the 3196 if the white king was in c2 – and then the Sb2 may be removed.

Of course the harmony between the different solutions remains for me a major criterion.

I think help-selfmates and series helpmates should not be competing with fairy problems, so I divided this judgement in two distinct sections.

1. Problems without fairy pieces & conditions

1st Prize: Var. 3090 Alexandre Semenenko

A magnificent achievement in help-selfmate showing rectangular round trips of the mating pieces. The white play is superb with a placing of the white king on his mating square, an under-promotion of the pawn c7 and a sacrifice of the white queen. The harmony between the solutions is perfect and the twining subtle. Exchange of functions of the black thematic pieces, bicolored Bristol, delayed Umnov, Peri-critic maneuvers.

a) 1...♖xc4 2.♔g8 ♖c2 3.e8=♖ ♖g2 4.♔g4+ ♖xg4#

b) 1...♗xc5 2.♔f8 ♗g1 3.e8=♗ ♗h2 4.♔d6+ ♗xd6#

2nd Prize: Var. 3089 Valery Semenenko

Another very harmonious help-selfmate with two exchanges of functions, one white between rook and bishop, one being captured and the other blocking b6 and the other black between rook and bishop one crossing the board for a critical/anti-critical move, and the other intercepting. The Grimshaw on e5 allows the king-bishop battery to work after a sacrifice of the white queen. A slight difference between the solutions: on b6 the bishop controls a square of the black king, but the rook does not.

1...♗xg3 2.♖b5 ♗b8 3.♖xb6 ♖e5 4.♔f4+ ♔xf4#

1...♖xg5 2..♗c7 ♖a5 3..♗xb6 ♗e5 4.♔f5+ ♔xf5#

Honourable Mention: Var. 3093 Raffi Ruppin

Nice work showing black Turton with exchange of functions of the black thematic rook and bishop, and a sacrifice of the promoted white pawn.

1.h8=♔ ♗a2 2.♔g8 ♔b3 3.♔e6 + ♔xe6 #

1.h8=♗ ♖a5 2.♗f7 ♔b5 3.♗e5 + ♔xe5 #

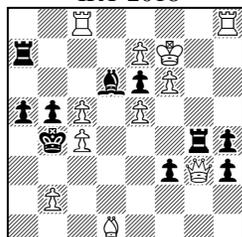
Commendation: Var. 3146 Gyorgy Bakcsi & Paz Einat

The promoted bishop makes a long round trip in order to remove the pawn c4. A problem that is both simple and very pleasant.

1.b1=♗ 2..♗c2 3..♗d1 4..♗e2 5..♗f1 6..♗h3 7..♗g4 8..♗h5 9..♗e8 10..♗d7 11..♗c8 12..♗a6 13..♗xc4

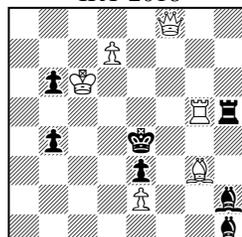
14..♗a6 15..♗c8 16..♗d7 17..♗e8 18..♗h5 19..♗g4 20..♗h3 21..♗f1 22..♗e2 23..♗d1 24..♗c2 25..♗b1 c4#

Alexandre Semenenko
1st Prize
IRT 2018



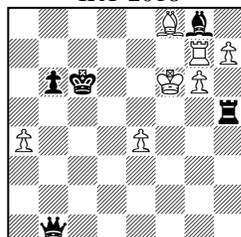
HS#3.5 b) -e5 11+10

Valery Semenenko
2nd Prize
IRT 2018



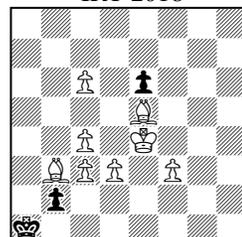
HS#3.5 2.1.1... 6+7

Raffi Ruppin
HM
IRT 2018



HS#3 2.1.1.. 7+5

G. Bakcsi & P. Einat
Com.
IRT 2018

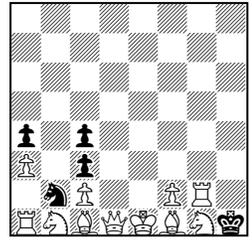


Ser-H#25 8+3

Commendation: Var. 3100 Gyorgy Bakcsi & Janos Csak

The black knight must paradoxically capture the white queen – who mates in the set play – and then a big part of the remaining white forces and finally sacrifices himself. Nice visual effect with 9 men on their departure square – homebase. Set: 1... ♖h5# 1. ♖xd1 2. ♖e3 3. ♖xf1 4. ♖d2 5. ♖xb1 6. ♖d2 7. ♖b3 8. ♖xc1 9. ♖e2 10. ♖xg1 11. ♖h3 12. ♖xf2 ♜xf2#

G. Bakcsi & J. Csak
Com. IRT 2018



Ser-H#12* 11+5

2. Problems with fairy pieces & conditions

1st Prize: 3192 Armin Geister & Daniel Papack

In each solution the white final check is given by the queen/knight battery. To prepare the mate the squares b8, b4, and e1 will be cyclically blocked by the white queen, rook, and bishop d6 (b8 to avoid Sf8-b8xa6, b4 to block the square, e1 to avoid Ka6-e1xf2). The 1st white move blocks b8, the 1st black move opens a line to allow the 2nd white block and in the same time to have the mating piece on the right color of square for the mate. The 2nd black move intercepts on a7 or b7 in order to select the right mating piece. The 3rd white block is given by the queen with check by the knight a6. The mate is given by a black battery knight/bishop or rook/rook! Interesting is to study why there is only one 1st black move.

This problem offers a breathtaking mix of originality, complexity, and logic with an intensive use of Marscirce. 1. ♖b8 ♖b6! (♖d6?, ♖f6?) 2. ♖e1 ♜b7 3. ♜b4+ ♖h7-a8xa6#

1. ♖b8 ♖e4! (♖~?) 2. ♖b4 ♜a7 3. ♜e1+ ♖g8-c8xa6#

2nd Prize: 3091 Jacques Rotenberg

Specific unpinning of black queen or knight to allow a capture on e6 (with effect of no return). The black rooks leave the rebirth square and sacrifice to allow the promoted white pawn to occupy a rebirth square of the pinning white piece and prepare a new "external" battery queen/rook or rook/queen. A superb achievement, making the best use of AntiCircé.

1. ♖g8 dxe8=♖[w♖e8->h1] 2. ♖xe6 [b♖e6->g8] ♖c1#
1. ♖de8 dxe8=♜[w♜e8->d1] 2. ♜xe6 [b♜e6->d8] ♜c2#

Special Prize: Var. 3149 Sebastien Luce

Ideal mates with chameleon echo in the 4 corners with only 4 pieces showing well unified final maneuvers.

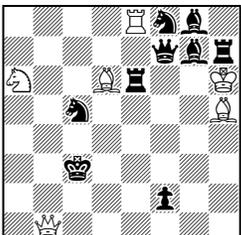
- a) 1. ♜e7 ♖d2 2. ♖e2 ♖f2 3. ♜f7 ♖f8 4. ♖e7 ♖f6 5. ♖g7 ♖d6+ 6. ♜g8 ♖f6+ 7. ♜h8 ♖g6#
- b) 1. ♜e5 ♖c1 2. ♜e4 ♖e3 3. ♜f3 ♖c3 4. ♜f2 ♖f3 5. ♖g2 ♖d3+ 6. ♜g1 ♖f3+ 7. ♜h1 ♖g3#
- c) 1. ♜d6 ♖c6 2. ♜c5 ♖c4 3. ♜b4 ♖e2 4. ♜b3 ♖c2 5. ♖b2 ♖c5+ 6. ♜a2 ♖c3+ 7. ♜a1 ♖c2#
- d) 1. ♜d5 ♖c5 2. ♜c6 ♖e1 3. ♜b6 ♖c1 4. ♖b1 ♖c6 5. ♖b7 ♖c4+ 6. ♜a7 ♖c6+ 7. ♜a8 ♖c7#

1st Honorable Mention: Var. 3102 Hubert Gockel

Original use of AMU to show a cyclic antidual. In AMU a mating move can be done only by a piece that is attacked exactly once before this move.

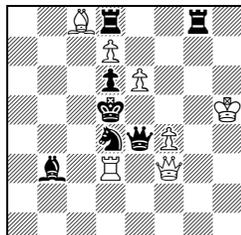
1. ♖xb6#?? illegal because ♖a6 is observed twice 1. ♖b4#?? illegal because ♖d3 is observed twice
1. ♖d4#?? illegal because ♖f5 isn't observed at all 1. ♖d6#?? illegal because ♖f8 isn't observed at all
1.exd7! [2.d8=♖#] 1... ♖xa4 2. ♖xb6# (2. ♖b4+? ♜b5!) 1... ♖xe4 2. ♖b4# (2. ♖d4+? ♜d5!)
1... ♜xf6 2. ♖d4# (2. ♜d6+? ♜xd6!) 1... ♖e6 2. ♜d6# (2. ♖xb6+? ♜c7!)

A. Geister & D. Papack
1st Prize IRT 2018



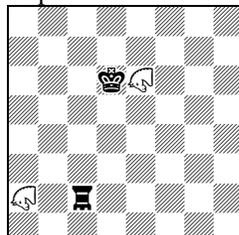
HS#3 2.1.1.. 6+9
Marscirce

Jacques Rotenberg
2nd Prize IRT 2018



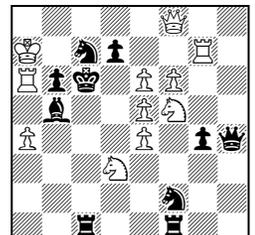
H#2 2.1.1.1 7+7
AntiCircé

Sebastien Luce
Sp. Prize IRT 2018



H#7 b) ♖a2->c3 2+2
c) shift a8-b8 d) shift a8-b7
Tireur ♖ R-G.Hopper ♖

Hubert Gockel
1st HM IRT 2018



#2 AMU 11+10

2nd Honorable Mention : Var. 3191 Armin Geister.

To achieve the goal, black must lie down the battery from "a" to the 1st rank. A funny idea, perfectly done.

Logical try 1...♙xb6+ as a (selfmate-attack) fails: 1...♙c5+ but 2.♙b2! the obstacle (the free square b2) has to be removed (safeguarding plan), in this special case with a systemic alteration, i.e. the basic plan is realized analogously: 1.♙g1! ♚h5! (1...♙f5?) 2.♙a1 ♙b3+ 3.♙b1 ♙c1 4.♙a7 ♙ah1; now the analogously executed basic plan 5.♙g5+ ♙xd2# (bPc3 not paralyzed anymore, 6.♙b2??)

Special Honorable Mention: Var. 3098 Vaclav Kotesovec

Chameleon echo in three corners. Great unity in the play and in the final positions, with some repetitions of moves however.

- 1.♙g2 ♙e4 2.♙b8 ♙f3 3.♙f2 ♙d3 4.♙h2 ♙c3 5.♙h1 ♙e2 6.♙e1 ♙f2 7.♙b2+ ♙f1 8.♙g1 ♙a1 9.♙f2+ ♙xf2#
- 1.♙g2 ♙f6 2.♙g4 ♙g7 3.♙h7 ♙f8 4.♙g8 ♙g7 5.♙f5+ ♙h6 6.♙f6 ♙h5 7.♙g7 ♙h1 8.♙h8 ♙h6 9.♙g6+ ♙xg6#
- 1.♙a7 ♙f6 2.♙e4 ♙f3 3.♙d5 ♙f5 4.♙c6 ♙f6 5.♙b7 ♙e6 6.♙a8 ♙d7 7.♙g7+ ♙c8 8.♙b8 ♙h8 9.♙c7+ ♙xc7#

Commendation: Var. 3147 Semion Shifrin

Popandopoulo battery in threat and two variations.

- 1.♙c1 ! [2.♙d5 + ♙e4 3.♙f6 + ♙xf6 4.♙c3 + ♙d4 5.♙d5 + ♙e4 6.♙xf6# 4...♙e5 5.♙d5 + ♙e4 6.♙xf6#] 1...♙xc1 2.♙a1 [3.♙xc1, ♙a3#] 2...♙e5 3.♙d5 + ♙e4 4.♙a8 + ♙f5 5.♙xe3 + 5...♙g5 6.♙f6# (3...♙f5 4.♙xe3 + ♙e4 5.♙a8# 4...♙g5 5.♙f6#)
- 1...♙f5 2.♙b1 + ♙e4 3.♙d2 + exd2 4.♙c3 + ♙d4 5.♙b1 + ♙e4 6.♙xd2# 4...♙e5 5.♙b1 + ♙e4 6.♙xd2#
- 1...♙xb5 2.♙xb5 + ♙e4 3.♙d6 + ♙xd6 4.♙c3 + ♙d4 5.♙b5 + ♙d5 6.♙xd6# 5...♙e4 6.♙xd6#

Commendation: Var. 3138 Semion Shifrin

Nice activity of the white queen in two pretty variations where the rook and the knight e4 help each other involuntarily for mating.

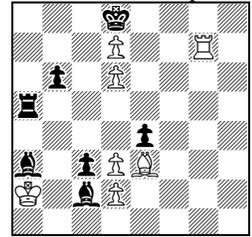
- 1.♙h1 ! zz 1...♙h2 2.♙g1 + ♙g3 3.♙e1 ♙e8 4.♙e7 ♙b8 5.♙f8 ♙b3 6.♙f5 + ♙xf5#
- 4...♙h8 5.♙e8 ♙h3 6.♙e2 + ♙xe2#

Commendation: Var. 3104 Daniel Novomesky

Mates in the four corners in similar nets with only four pieces.

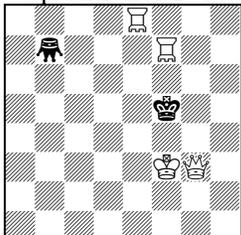
- a) 1.♙d3+ r♙xb4[+b♙a6]+ 2.♙c4+ r♙c2 3.♙b3+ r♙a1+ 4.♙a2+ r♙c2 5.♙b1+ r♙a3+ 6.♙a1 7.♙a2 ♙c3#
- b) 1.♙d7+ r♙a7 2.♙e6 3.♙d5 4.♙xd6[+w♙d7] 5.♙c7 6.♙b7+ r♙b5 7.♙a8 ♙c6#
- c) 1.♙d5+ r♙d2 2.♙xd4[+w♙d3] 3.♙e3+ r♙f1+ 4.♙f2+ r♙h2 5.♙g1 6.♙g2+ r♙g4 7.♙h1 ♙e4#
- d) 1.♙g5 2.♙e4+ r♙xg5[+b♙h7]+ 3.♙f5+ r♙f7 4.♙f6+ r♙h6 5.♙g6+ r♙g8 6.♙g7+ r♙e7 7.♙h8 ♙e5#

Armin Geister
2nd HM IRT 2018
Ded. Daniel Papack



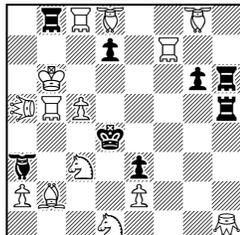
HS#5 Madrasi 7+7

Vaclav Kotesovec
Sp. HM IRT 2018



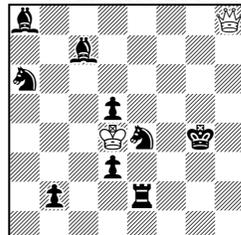
HS#9 3.1.1.. 4+2
Grasshopper ♙
Rookhopper ♖

Semion Shifrin
Com. IRT 2018



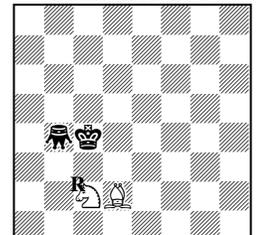
#6 14+8
Lion ♘ Grasshopper ♙
Rook/Bishop-hopper ♖/♗

Semion Shifrin
Com. IRT 2018



S#6 Maximummer 2+9

Daniel Novomesky
Com. IRT 2018



P Ser-H#7 2+2
EquipollentsCirce
b,c,d) shift a1→a5,a3,d2
Grasshopper ♙
Royal knight ♞

Special Commendation: Var. 3148 Semion Shifrin

Three variations with defenses by capture of the bishop f2 that prepare the final batteries.

1.c8=♞ ! [2.♙d4 + ♜xd4 3.♞a7 + ♜c6#]

1...♜xf2 2.♞d6 + ♞xb8 3.♞d3 + ♜xd3# 2...♜xb8 3.♞d3 + ♜xd3#

1...♞xf2 2.♞d6 + ♞xb8 3.♞f7 + ♞xf7# 2...♜xb8 3.♞f7 + ♞xf7#

1...♞xf2 2.♞g6 + ♞xe4 3.♞gf4 + ♞f5#

Special commendation: Var. 3201 Jan Golha

Three nice chameleon echo using quite an exotic mix of conditions and pieces, the play is not much unified between the solutions.

[Fairy pieces: Neutral Chinese pawn ♁, Neutral bishop-sparrow ♞, Neutral locust ♟]

1...nCPd4*c4-c5 2.nCpC5-c6[+nCpC5] nCpC5-c4 3.Kb5-a6 nBWe4-c5

4.nCpC4*c5-d5 nLd6*d5[+nBwC4] 5.nLd5*c6-b6 nBwC4-a5[+nCpA7] #

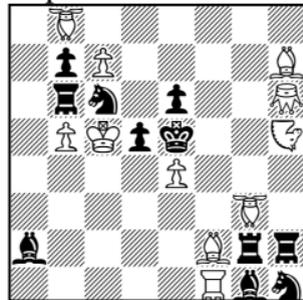
1...nCPd4-d3 2.nBWe4-d4 nCPd3-c3 3.nBwD4-d3 nLd6*d3 4.Kb5-a4[+nBwC2] nCpC4*c3-c4 5.nLd3*c4-b4 nBwC2-a3[+nCpA5] #

1...nLd6*d4 2.Kb5-c6[+nCpE5] nCpE5*e4-c5 3.Kc6-b5[+nBwD3] nBwD3-c3 4.Kb5-a5 nCpC5*c4-c5 5.nLd4*c5-b5 nBwC3-a4[+nCpA6] #

Thanks to Michael Grushko and to the team of Variantim for offering me this interesting exercise of judgement and all my congratulations to the awarded authors.

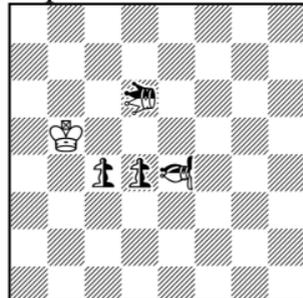
(We thank Jacques Rotenberg for the translation from French. Ed.)

Semion Shifrin Sp. Com. IRT 2018



S#3 N.rider ♞ 11+11
Rook/Bishop-Hopper ♞/♞
Grasshopper ♟

Ján Golha Sp. Com. IRT 2018



HS#4,5 3.1.1.. 1+0+4
ParrainCirce Take&Make