

# Israel Ring Tourney Award: Studies 2009-2010

## Judge: Gady Costeff, San Francisco (USA)

I received 23 studies in anonymous form which took part in the tourney, 6 were cooked and a couple were completely anticipated. Perhaps there were no masterpieces but there is always something interesting about chess, at least for this judge, and as always I enjoyed exploring the ideas of the composers.

While I did my best to exercise my duties, I consider judging art to be little more than an exercise of taste, a highly suspect endeavor subject to change over time. I ask the composers for their indulgence and thank them for the pleasure they provide.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Vm.1865 Eduardo Iriarte

1. ♖c3 ♘d3 2. ♙xf8 [2...exd3 ♘e6 3. ♙c1 ♖f4+ 4. ♙xf4 stalemate]  
2... ♖f4+ 3. ♖f3 ♘e6 4. ♙a3!! only square! ♘d4+ 5. ♖e3 ♘c2+  
6. ♖d3 [minor dual 6... ♖e4] 6... ♘xa3 7. e4 (also 7.e3) wins.

Black dominates the white bishop which is then sacrificed so that white dominates the black knight. A pretty miniature with lively play including a stalemate avoidance. The minor duals at the end are unimportant.

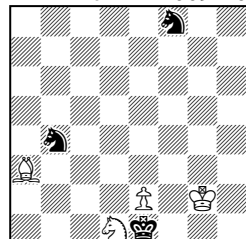
### 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Vm.1927 Jan Rusinek

1. ♖f6 ♖e3 2. ♙b6+ ♖e4 3. ♖xf4+ ♖xf4 4. d6 ♙d3+ 5. ♖xd3 ♖d5+  
6. ♖c2! tempo 6... ♖xd6 7. ♙c7 ♖e5 8. ♘xa6 ♖d5 9. ♘b4+ ♖c5  
10. ♖c3! reciprocal zugzwang and mate.

The focal theme makes an appearance with the clever reciprocal zugzwang shown with a good thematic try.

### Eduardo Iriarte

1<sup>st</sup> Prize IRT 2009-10

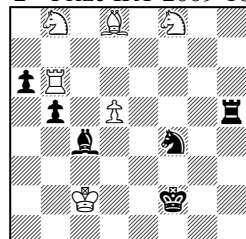


Win

4+3

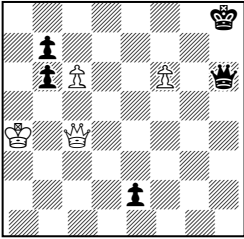
### Jan Rusinek

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize IRT 2009-10



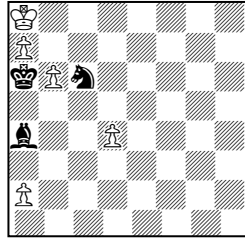
Win

6+6

**Mario Matouš**1<sup>st</sup> HM IRT 2009-10

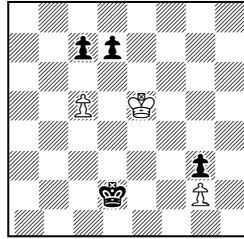
Win

4+5

**Richard Becker**1<sup>st</sup> Com IRT 2009-10

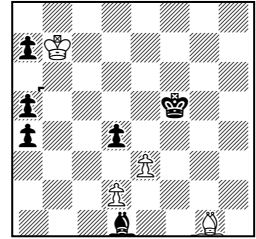
Draw

5+3

**Alain Pallier**2<sup>nd</sup> Com IRT 2009-10

Draw

3+4

**Eduardo Iriarte**3<sup>rd</sup> Com IRT 2009-10

Draw

4+6

**1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention: Vm.1868 Mario Matouš**

1.cxb7 [1.c7 b5+ 2.♖xb5 ♖g5+ 3.♗c5 ♗xc5+ 4.♔xc5 e1=♑ 5.c8=♗+ ♖h7] 1...b5+ 2.♖xb5 ♖h5+ 3.♖a6 [3.♖b6 e1=♑ 4.b8=♗+ ♗e8 5.♗bc8 ♗hg6 6.♗h4+ ♖g8] 3...e1=♑ 4.b8=♗+ ♗ee8 5.♗h4! [5.♗g4 ♗xg4 draws] 5...♗xh4 6.♗xe8+ ♖h7 7.♗f7+ ♖h6 8.♗g7+ ♖h5 9.♗h7+ ♖g5 10.♗xh4+ wins.

The ♗♗-♗♗ force is interesting and the highlight 5.Qh4! is nice.

Compare with A which has attractive play by the white king.

**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation: Vm.1869 Richard Becker**

1.b7 not 1.d5 ♖xb6 2.dxc6 ♖c7 1...♗xd4 2.a3 ♖b5 3.a4 ♖xa4 4.b8=♗+! ♖b6 5.♗c6! ♖xc6+ 6.♖b8 ♖b7 7.a8=♗+! draws.

The final under-promotion is known but here another preceding one is added.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation: Vm.1990 Alain Pallier**

1.♖f4 ♖d3 [1...d5 2.cxd6 cxd6 3.♔xg3 ♖e3 4.♔h2 d5 5.g4 is a known Moravec draw] 2.♗xg3 ♖d4 3.c6 [3.♖f4 ♖xc5 4.♖e5 d6+ 5.♖f5 d5 6.g4 ♖d6 wins] 3...d5 4.♖f3! [4.♖f4 ♖c3 5.g4 d4 6.g5 d3 7.g6 d2 8.g7 d1=♑ 9.g8=♗ ♗d6+ wins] 4...♖c5 [4...♖c3 5.♖e2] 5.♖f4 d4 6.♖f3 ♖c4 7.♖e2 ♖c3 8.♖d1 draw.

Pawn endgames are in some ways more difficult than other studies since much is about counting accurately. The charm of the material is harmed by the reliance on a long ♗-♖♗ database win.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation: Vm.1989 Eduardo Iriarte**

1.d3! [1.exd4 a3 2.d5 ♖e4; 1.e4+ ♖xe4 2.♖c6 d3; 1.♖c6 d3 2.♖d5 a3 3.e4+ ♖f4 4.e5 ♖b3+] 1...♖f3+ 2.e4+ [2.♖a6 ♖e4 3.exd4 a3; 2.♖c7 a3 3.e4+ ♖e5 4.♖h2+ ♖e6 5.♖g1 ♖xe4 6.♖xd4 ♖d5 7.♖f6 ♖xd3 8.♖b7 ♖b5 9.♖b8 (9.♖xa7 ♖c4 10.♖b6 a4 11.♖a5 a2)] 2...♖xe4+ 3.♖a6! ♖xd3+ [3...♖e5 4.♖b5] 4.♖xa5 ♖e4 5.♖b4! [5.♖xa4 ♖c2+ 6.♖b4 a5+ 7.♖c4 ♖b3+ 8.♖xb3 a4+; 5.♖xd4 ♖xd4 6.♖xa4 ♖c3] 5...♖c4 [5...♖c2 6.♖xd4] 6.♖f2 draw.

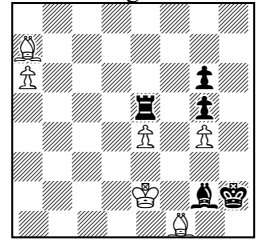
An interesting opposite colored bishop battle with many well-known motifs woven together.

I cannot award a distinction to a correction of a study that appeared elsewhere. However, I do wish to acknowledge the author of 1985 (see "Judge's note" diagram above) for correcting a study that appeared almost 20 years ago and which itself seems to have been a correction of a study that appeared in 1964(!), almost 50 years ago.

No 1985, Harrie Grondijs: 1.♖b8 ♖xf1+ [1...♖g1 2.♖xg2 ♖xe4+ 3.♖d3] 2.♖xf1 ♖h1 3.a7 ♖xe4 4.a8=R! ♖a4 [4...♖xg4 5.♖g3] 5.♖a7 ♖xg4 6.♖g3! wins.

**Harrie Grondijs**

See "Judge's note"



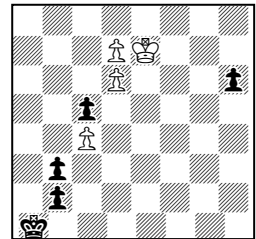
Win

6+5

A L. Salai,

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

Cesk. Sach 1999



Win

4+5

## Solution to A

1.d8=♖ b1=♖ 2.d7! b2 [2...♖e4+ 3.♖d6 b2 4.♖a5+ ♖b1 5.d8=♖] 3.♖a8+! ♖a2 4.d8=♖  
b1=♖ 5.♖h8+ ♖bb2 6.♖h1+ ♖ab1 7.♖8a8+ ♖2a2 8.♖d6! h5! [8...♖xa8 9.♖xa8+ ♖b2  
10.♖b7+ ♖c2 11.♖xb1+ ♖xb1 12.♖xc5] 9.♖xc5 h4 10.♖d4 h3 11.♖e3 ♖xh1 [11...h2  
12.♖xb1+ ♖xb1 13.♖h1+ ♖c2 14.♖xh2+] 12.♖xh1+ ♖b2 13.♖h2+ ♖b3 14.♖xa2+ ♖xa2  
15.♖f2 wins.

Studies left out of the award:

1866. An economical king hunt and good chess exercise!

1867. Dual 3.Bc5

1870. Complete anticipation by Afek, StrateGems 2005, 72685 in HHdaIV.

1871. Dual 2.b8-Q Bf3+ 3.Qb7+ Kxe8 4.Bg6+ Kd8 5.Bh5!! draws.

1984. Cook 4..Ra3+

1924. 2.Re2 is one of several duals.

1925. White stops a cavalcade of black pawns.

1926. BB-NN database win. I do not find this artistic enough for the award.

1928. A RP-Q type study. Perhaps it has some theoretical value.

1930. Cook 1..Ke4

1929. BPP-B is elegant but just a technical conversion

1984. Dual 4.Ra3

1987. Q-NN database line shows an interesting white king maneuver breaking down the black fortress. As is often the case with the database, the chosen main line ignores alternatives that offer greater resistance.

1988. N-PPP amusing positional draw.

1991. The pretty pin stalemate is not new (for example Naef, 1950, number 24777 in HHvdIV). Consequently, the author must show something new and better in the play, which is not the case here.

1986. A cute puzzle in which all 3 white knights play Nf3!

A note from tourney director, Ofer Comay: we apologize for the delay in the award, which was not caused by the judge. Please email any claims to [ofercomay@gmail.com](mailto:ofercomay@gmail.com)