

Memorial Tourney JORGE KAPROS 2024-2025

SECTION H # 2

Fifty-three entries took part in the H # 2 section of the Jorge Kapros Memorial Tourney:

Anton Bidlen – No.1 (Ka3/Ke5), No.2 (Kh8/Kd5); Christer Jonsson & Vidadi Zamanov – No.3 (Kd8/Kc2); Valery Kopyl & Vidadi Zamanov – No.4 (Kh7/Kh2); Alberto Armeni – No.5 (Kh3/Kf6), No.6 (Kd1/Kh4), No.7 (Kd7/Kf5); János Csák – No.8 (Ka5/Kg2), No.9 (Kd1/Ke4), No.10 (Kh6/Kd3); Menachem Witztum – No.11 (Kh1/Ke5); Menachem Witztum & Emanuel Navon – No.12 (Ke7/Kd4); Antonio Garofalo e Fabio Maggini – No.13 (Kf4/Kh6); Vlaicu Crisan – No.14 (Kb6/Kf5); Antonio Garofalo – No.15 (Ka6/Kh6); Alexander Fica & Zoltán Labai – No.16 (Kc6/Kf5); Jan Lipka – No.17 (Ke1/Kf4), No.18 (Kh8/Kh6); Zoltan Labai – No.19 (Kg1/Kd6); Zoltan Labai & Miroslav Svitek – No.20 (Kd1/Ke3); Maryan Kerhuel – No.21 (Ka8/Kd5); Kenneth Solja & Evgeny Gavryliv – No.22 (Kf1/Kf7); Anatoly Vasylenko & Evgeny Gavryliv – No.23 (Kd1/Kf1); Michal Dragoun – No.24 (Kh6/Kd5); Misha Shapiro – No.25 (Kh6/Kf4), No.26 (Ka8/Kf3), No.27 (Kg8/Kd8), No.28 (Kg1/Kd3); Antanas Vilkauskas – No.29 (Ka4/Kf5), No.30 (Ka2/Ke4), No.31 (Kb8/Kd5); Francesco Simoni – No.32 (Ka6/Ke4), No.33 (Kd1/Ke4); Miguel Uris & José Antonio Garzón – No.34 (Kh1/Kc4); Krzysztof Drazcowskiul – No.35 (Ka1/Kf5); Rolf Wiehagen – No.36 (Kh2/Kf3), No.37 (Kh1/Ke8), No.38 (Kc2/Kf5); Ashot Yeghiazaryan – No.39 (Ka2/Kf4), No.40 (Kc8/Ke2); Alexey Gasparyan – No.41 (Ka4/Kh8); Béla Majoros – No.42 (Kg4/Ke4), No.43 (Ke4/Kc3); Evgeny Gavryliv – No.44 (Kc6/Kd2); Nikolai Kolesnik – No.45 (Kh1/Kd2); Sven Trommler – No.46 (Ka1/Ka5), No.47 (Kd6/Ka3); Valery Gurov & Georgy Evseev – No.48 (Ke5/Kc6); Valery Gurov – No.49 (Ke8/Ke2); Victor Yuzyuk – No.50 (Kb5/Ke6), No.51 (Kb8/Kc5), No.52 (Kc8/Kb3); Mykola Vasyuchko & Mykhailo Galma – No.53 (Kg3/Kf5).

RICARDO VIEIRA'S AWARD

The first thing I want to state here is my deepest sadness when I was informed about Kapros passing away. He had told me he was under medical care, but he never mentioned how serious his health situation was.

I first met Kapros during the WCCC 2009 in Brazil. Our Argentine friends Kapros and Lois came to Rio de Janeiro and I was lucky to be in touch with them. We went to tourist attractions in the city and also talked about chess problems, of course. During the following ten years I went to Buenos Aires at least five times and I always were welcome in a very special way by him and Lois. We had nice meetings at the Club Argentino de Ajedrez (Argentine Chess Club), followed by unforgettable dinners, sometimes with the presence of Roberto Osorio.

Needless to say that I felt very much honored when I was invited by Jorge Lois to judge the H#2 section of this memorial tourney organized by UAPA.

Some comments before the award follow:

- useless white officers (nos. 1, 22) and useless effects (no. 34 – pin of wQ and consequently pin of bB – wRc7, bBc6, bPc7 may be replaced by wPh2; wKh1-g1; wQg2-h1) were not accepted;
- no. 17 presents dual in the order of white moves in (d) and is incorrect;
- no. 23 – quantity prevailed over quality (I'd rather present a three-solution helpmate with just one of the four similar solutions, what can easily be done);
- no. 25 – bBd8 and bPb7 are useless in (b) and (c), respectively, and this means that a double twinning exists and that the correct twinning description is: b) –bBd8, bKf4-d8; c) –bPb7, bKf4-b7.
- no. 51 – P0507290 shows almost the same solutions and is a superior presentation of AUW + bK-star because, although it uses twins, there are four different pieces blocking the bK's initial square.
- some drawbacks downgraded the entries or even avoided them from being awarded: a white pawn that moves or even mates but is useless in other solutions (nos. 4, 5, 13, 15, 21, 31), lack of harmony (nos. 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 29, 31, 32, 38), weak black/white play (nos. 5, 6, 13, 15, 20, 29, 32, 42), non-ideal construction (nos. 12, 39), double checkmates (nos. 7, 10, 14, 26); some symmetry (nos. 7, 19, 30, 36, 52); two moves by the same black piece (nos. 11, 36, 42, 47); two different groups of black pieces (nos. 13, 15, 26, 37, 52); quantity overcoming quality (nos. 23, 28, 31); twinning with two modifications (no. 25); solutions that look like cooks (nos. 31, 40); repetition of moves (no. 43); solution that differs from the others (nos. 43, 53).

I decided on the following ranking:

1st Prize

Michal DRAGOUN
Czech Republic



h#2 (8+10) C+
2.1.1.1. b) wRf1=wBf1

2nd Prize

Francesco SIMONI
Italy



h#2 (6+11) C+
2.1.1.1.

1st Prize: Michal Dragoun (Czech Republic) No. 24

- a) I. 1.Kc5 Sxe7 A (Sxb6?) 2.Qc1+ Rxc1# B
- II. 1.Rf6 Rc1 B 2.Rxe6 Sxb6# (Sxe7?) C
- b) I. 1.Kxe6 Sxb6 C (Sxe7?) 2.Rh3+ Bxh3# D
- II. 1.Qc2 Bh3 D 2.Qc5 Sxe7# (Sxb6?) A

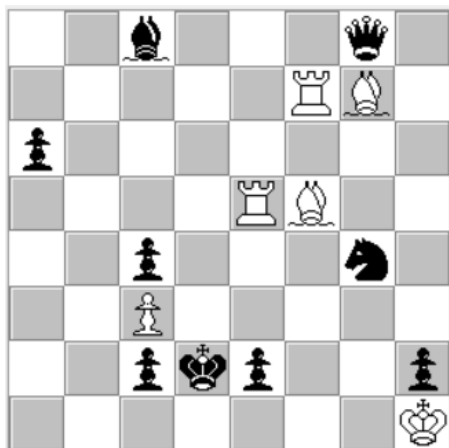
Two pairs of solutions that are connected by squares c5 and e6, each twinning position presenting one solution of each pair. In the first pair, c5 and e6 are blocked (bR/bQ), the white piece at f1 (wR/wB – Forsberg twins) guards flights and wSc8 mates. In the second pair, bK moves to the mentioned squares, wSc8 guards the original square of bK (d5) and the white piece at f1 (wR/wB) repeats the move of the first pair and mates after black active sacrifice and crosscheck (which determines the order of black moves). It is very pleasant to analyze wSc8 play: either mating or guarding d5, White must choose between squares e7 and b6 to move to. Negative effects (creation of flights by White and guard of mating squares by Black) are responsible for the right choices, which change not only in the same pair but also in the same twin position, occurring at W1 and at W2. These dual avoidances are the icing on the cake.

2nd Prize: Francesco Simoni (Italy) No. 33

- 1.Sge5 Sdf4 (Sg1? Sb4?) 2.Sf3 Sc3#
 1.Sde5 Sg1 (Sdf4? Sd4?) 2.Sd3 Sc3#

This helpmate presents indirect pins and unpins of wSs and reciprocal white play. A superficial analysis of the solutions may lead to the (wrong) conclusion that wR/bRc4 (and the consequent pin) are weasels: they seem to have been included just for the presentation of pin mates. Examining the moves and their motivations bring the correct understanding. Both bSs move to e5 in turn on their way to the final blocking square, pinning one of the wSs and avoiding the first dual possibility (which wS moves first?). However a second doubt appears: where the moving wS must go to guard a flight – f4 or b4 and g1 or d4? The presence of the pinned bR is the key for the answer, since the wrong choice unpins this bR, avoiding the mate. An unusual presentation of passive pin: fortunately it plays a very important role for the solutions. Great!

**3rd Prize
 Nikolai KOLESNIK
 Ukraine**



h#2 (6+9) C+
 2.1.1.1.

**4th Prize
 János CSÁK
 Hungary**



h#2 (8+12) C+
 2.1.1.1. b) Sf3→g3

3rd Prize: Nikolai Kolesnik (Ukraine) No. 45

- 1.Sxe5! Bg6 2.Ke3 Bh6#

Try (1.Sh6? Be4 2.Ke3 Bxh6 ?? 3.Qg5!)

1.Bxf5! Re6 2.Kd3 Rd7#

Try (1.Bd7? Re4 2.Kd3 Rxd7 ?? 3.Qd5!)

A harmonic setting in which wB and wR either are captured to give a square to the bK or give they nice steps back in a bicolor bivalve procedure. Two pairs of white pieces present reciprocal play. The (at first possible) choices (1.Sh6 Be4 and 1.Be7 Re4– active sacrifice followed by white Grimshaw) fail due to a negative effect (line opening) introduced at W2. However, in the correct sequence of moves, this negative effect is not by-passed as it should be in case of dual avoidance, but eliminated by a positive one (W1 closes anticipatorily bQ’s line). Those who like to analyze helpmates beyond the real solutions do appreciate this virtual play.

4th Prize: János Csák (Hungary) No. 8

a) 1.Sxg1 Qxd4 2.Kf3 Qd5#

1.Rxf4 Sxf3 2.Kxf3 Qd5#

b) 1.Sxh1 Rxh6 2.Kg3 Rg6#

1.Bxf4 Sxg3 2.Kxg3 Rg6#

In two pairs of connected solutions, bK must move to the square already occupied by a bS. Similar (but not equal) mates will be achieved depending on the way Black and White cooperate: (i) black hideaway by anticipatory self-pin + elimination of the bS by wS combined with active sacrifice or (ii) square vacation with reciprocal capture by bS to eliminate guard over the vacated square + elimination of the black piece that controls the mating square (the same that got self-pinned in the other pair) by the very mating white piece.

1st Honourable Mention

Krzysztof DRAZCOWSKIUL

Poland



h#2

(5+11) C+

4.1.1.1.

2nd Honourable Mention

V. GUROV & G. EVSEEV

Russia



h#2

(6+12) C+

2.1.1.1.

1st Honourable Mention: Krzysztof Drazcowskiul (Poland) No. 35

1.d1=B Rf6+ 2.Kg5 Qc1#
 1.d1=S Bf6 2.Kg6 Qxc2#
 1.Re1 Qd1 2.Re5 Qf3#
 1.Rf1 Qe1 2.Rf4 Qe6#

Four mates by wQ connect two pairs of solutions. In one pair, black direct unpins of wQ are shown. In the other, two minor promotions are motivated once by direct unpin (arrival effect) and once by anticipatory line opening (departure effect) with accidental interference (arrival effect), both followed by white Grimshaw. A pleasant setting despite the small imbalance.

2nd Honourable Mention: Valery Gurov & Georgy Evseev (Russia) No. 48

1.Rxd1 Sd5 2.exd5 Rf6#
 1.Rxf1 Sc4 2.bxc4 Ba4#

In order to direct unpin wSe3, the mating pieces are captured in turn (leading to a passive Zilahi), following active sacrifices of this very wS to open the mating lines.

3rd Honourable Mention

Evgeny GAVRYLIV

Ukraine



h#2 (7+14) C+
 3.1.1.1.

4th Honourable Mention

Valery GUROV

Russia



h#2 (7+11) C+
 4.1.1.1.

3rd Honourable Mention: Evgeny Gavryliv (Ukraine) No. 44

1.Qe3 Kxd6 2.Rf2 Qxe3#
 1.Sc2 Kxb5 2.Ba2 Qxc2#
 1.Sc3 Kxb6 2.Bc1 Qxc3#

Three pairs of black pieces, each guarding a square wQ will mate from, show delayed active sacrifices (which enable three different moves by bK) and hideaways.

4th Honourable Mention: Valery Gurov (Russia) No. 49

1.Kf3 Rxh6 2.Kg4 Sf6#

- 1.Kd3 Qxa3 2.Kc4 Sxb6#
 1.Rxc3 fxe5 2.Bxe3 Sxc3#
 1.Bxf4 c4 2.Rxe3 Sxf4#

Two pairs of solutions connected by indirect batteries and mates by wS. The first pair shows reciprocal play (wP/wP, bR/bB), delayed active sacrifices and line opening for blocks at e3. The reciprocal play in the second pair refers to wQ / wR. Considering the two pairs, bR and bB are involved in passive and active sacrifices.

5th Honourable Mention

M. WITZTUM & E. NAVON

Israel



h#2 (12+10) C+
 b) -bRg6 c) -wBb6 d) -wRg4

1st Commendation

Alexey GASPARYAN

Armenia



h#2 (6+9) C+
 b) Rb3→c2 c) Ra5→c2

5th Honourable Mention: Menachem Witztum & Emanuel Navon (Israel) No. 12

- a) 1.e5 Ba7 2.Rd6 cxd6#
 b) 1.Qf5 Rf4 2.Se5 exf5#
 c) 1.Kxc5 Rg5+ 2.Kxc6 Ba4#
 d) 1.Kxe4 Bxc7 2.Kf5 Bc2#

The first pair of solutions (positions (a) and (b)) shows blocks at e5 and active sacrifices to enable battery mates preceded by steps (back or forward) by the rear piece of the battery to escape from black control (unfortunately, the motivations for the order of the black moves are not the same and, in (b), wR moves to escape from bP and also from bSe5). Each solution of the second pair appears after removing the rear piece of the white batteries (positions (c) and (d)), twinning device that are clearly part of the idea and construction of the helpmate. I'd rather (i) present just one reason for W1 in the first pair and (ii) show (a) with two solutions; (b) and (c) with one solution each. (bRg6 → h6; -bPh5; +bSf8 – twins: b) -wBb6 c) -wRg4)

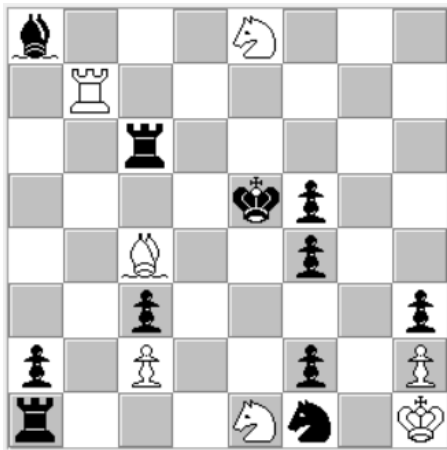
1st Commendation: Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia) No. 41

- a) 1.Bxa6 Rh3 2.Bd3! Ra8#
 b) 1.Sxc6 Rh5 2.Se5! Rc8#

c) 1.Bxb6 Rh2 2.Bf2! Rb8#

Black must carefully choose which piece to move, the cause it must open the lines of two wRs at B1 and B2. An entry that shows the twinning device as part of idea and of the construction of the helpmate. Nice.

2nd Commendation
Menachem WITZTUM
Israel



h#2 (7+11) C+
 2.1.1.1.

3rd Commendation
Sven TROMMLER
Germany



h#2 (7+8) C+
 2.1.1.1.

2nd Commendation: Menachem Witztum (Israel) No. 11

1.Sd2 Rb1 2.Se4 Sf3#
 1.Rd6 Sg2 2.Rd4 Re7#

Reciprocal play between wR and wSe1. B1 indirectly pins the mating piece (paradoxical departure effect), following indirect unpin at W1. I expected something more interesting than two moves to block a flight and I am sure the author could easily improve this.

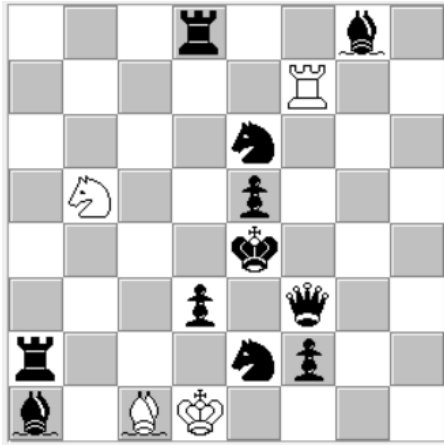
3rd Commendation: Sven Trommler (Germany) No. 47

1.Bf5 Rxf4 2.Bxc2 Sxc2#
 1.Rh5 Bxf6 2.Rxb5 Sxb5#

Black ambushes are followed by steps back by the rear pieces of white indirect batteries, ending in black active sacrifices. I think this setting would be much improved if other strategic effects were included, considering a H#2.5 or H#3.

4th Commendation
János CSÁK
Hungary

5th Commendation
Sven TROMMLER
Germany



h#2 (4+11) C+
2.1.1.1.



h#2 (5+9) C+
2.1.1.1.

4th Commendation: János Csák (Hungary) No. 9

1.S6d4 Rd7 2.Bd5 Sd6#
1.Qe3 Bb2 2.S2d4 Sc3#

Interesting white self-interferences are downgraded by different reasons for the order of the black moves.

5th Commendation: Sven Trommler (Germany) No. 46

1.f1=S Ba4 2.bxa4 Sc4#
1.e5 c4 2.bxc4 Ra4#

Interesting exchange of mating squares and active sacrifice squares. I think a move by a unique black piece at B1 would improve this setting.

Ricardo de Mattos Vieira
Rio de Janeiro Brazil
March 28th, 2025