



**AWARD FINAL OF THE "JOHANN N. BERGER 170"  
MEMORIAL TOURNEY**

Special thanks to, Argentinian's Union of Problemists of Chess (UAPA) for having appointed me as a judge of such an important event in homage to my compatriot Johann N. Berger, also to all participants of this tourney

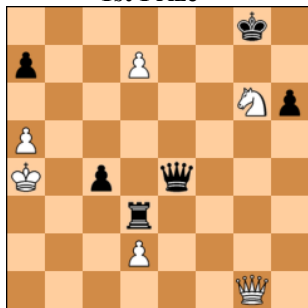
After the deadline (11-04-2015), the Director Mario G. García sent me 48 studies for the evaluation, without the names of authors, with the diagrams and the solutions in files (word and pgn).

Some studies were excluded from artistic evaluation due various technical reasons: A1) (b6-h1) (a8-b6) Important duals and A2) (d2-g2) (a1-h5) Unsound.

Considering the significant variety of topics addressed by composers, and the good artistic and technical level of the studies, this has allowed me to expand the number of prizes, mentions and accolades. Of course, the "task" of analyze, verify and evaluate in these circumstances has not been easy, but certainly very pleasant to me

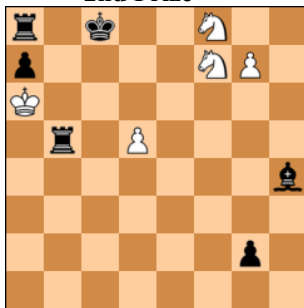
**WIN STUDIES**

**I. Akobia (+) & P. Arestov  
(Georgia - Russia)  
1st Prize**



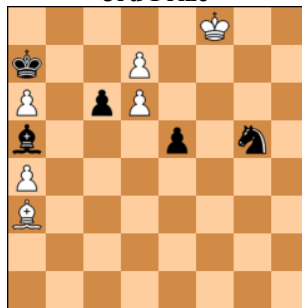
Win

**P. Arestov & A. Skripnik  
(Russia)  
2nd Prize**



Win

**Luis Miguel González  
(Spain)  
3rd Prize**



Win

#### N°10.- I. Akobia (+) & P. Arestov (Georgia - Russia)

##### 1.Ne5+!

(1.d8Q+? Rxd8 2.Ne5+ Kh8 3.Nf7+ Kh7 4.Nxd8 c3+ =.) 1...Kh7!(1...Kh8 2.Qe3!! Qxe3 3.de Rd1 4.d8Q (or 4.Nf7+ Kg7 5.d8Q Rxd8 6.Nxd8 +-) 4...Rxd8 5.Nf7+ Kg7 6.Nxd8 Kf6 7.Nc6 h5 8.Nxa7 h4 9.Nb5 h3 10.Nc3 h2 11.Ne4+ Ke5 12.Nf2(g3) =.) 2.d8Q (2.Nxd3? Qxd3 3.Qe3 Qxd7 -+.) 2...c3+ 3.Ka3!! looking ahead in 11 moves! Logical thematic try: 3.Kb3? Rxd8 4.Qxa7+ Kh8! (4...Kg8? 5.Qf7+ Kh8 6.Qf6+ +-) 5.Nf7+ Kg8 6.Nxh6+ Kh8 7.Nf7+ Kg8 8.Nxd8 cd 9.Qf7+ (or 9.Qg1+ Kf8! 10.Qf2+ Ke7!! 11.Qxd2 Ke8! zz, wtm and same try) 9...Kh8 10.Qh5+ Kg8 11.Qg5+ Kf8! 12.Qh6+!? Ke7!! 13.Qxd2 Ke8! zz, wtm 14.a6 Qb1+ 15.Ka4 Qb6! 16.Qa5 (or 16.Qd3 Qd6! 17.Qxd6 – model stalemate.) 16...Qd4+ 17.Qb4 Qa1+ 18.Kb5 Kxd8 19.Qf8+ (19.Qd6+ Kc8 20.Qc6+ Kd8 21.Qd6+ Kc8 – pos. draw) 19...Kc7 20.Qe7+ Kc8 21.Qb7+ Kd8 22.Qb8+ Kd7 23.Qb7+ Kd8 – positional draw. 3...Rxd8 4.Oxa7+ Kh8! (4...Kg8 5.Qf7+ Kh8 6.Ng6+ +-.) 5.Nf7+ Kg8 6.Nxh6+ Kh8 7.Nf7+ Kg8 8.Nxd8 cd 9.Qf7+! (9.Qg1+? Kf8! 10.Qf2+ Ke8! 11.Qxd2 Qe7+ =) (but not 11...Qf3+? 12.Kb4 Qf8+ 13.Kb5 +-) 9...Kh8 10.Oh5+ Kg8 11.Og5+ Kf8 12.Oxd2 Ke8 13.Kb3! zz, btm 13...Of5 14.Kb4! (14.Ka4? Qc5 =.) 14...Of8+ 15.Kb5! Qd6! 16.Og5! (16.Qxd6? – model stalemate.) 16...Qxd8 17.Og6+! Ke7 18.Qe4+! (18.Qg5+? Kd7 19.Qd5+ Kc7(c8) =) 18...Kd7 19.Qc6+! Ke7 20.a6 win.

Pleasant dynamic tactical play and deep thematic try are the highlights. White queen did a hardwork.

#### N°12.- P. Arestov & A. Skripnik (Russia)

##### 1.Nd6+!

(1.g8Q? Rb6+ 2.Ka5 Kb7 3.Qxg2 Rxf8 =) 1...Kb8! (1...Kc7 2.Nxb5+ +-; (1...Kd8 2.g8Q Rb6+ 3.Ka5 Rxd6 4.Ne6+ +-)2.g8Q Rb6+ 3.Ka5 Rxd6 4.Ne6+!(4.Qxg2? Bd8+ 5.Ka4 Kb7 =; 4.Nd7+? Kc7 =) 4...Bd8+! (4...Kb7 5.Qf7+ +-) 5.Nxd8 g1Q!(5...Rxd5+ 6.Qxd5! g1Q 7.Qb7#.) 6.Oxg1 Rxd5+ 7.Ka6 Rd6+! (7...Rxd8 8.Qc5(Qg7)! +-) 8.Kb5! (8.Ka5? Rxd8 =) 8...a6+! (8...Rxd8 9.Qg3+ Kb7 10.Qg7+ Kc8 11.Kc6 +-) 9.Ka4!! (Thematic try: 9.Ka5? Rxd8 10.Qb6+ Kc8 11.Qc6+ Kb8 zz, wtm 12.Kb6 (12.Qb6+ Kc8 – positional draw) 12...Ra7! =.) 9...Rxd8 10.Qb6+ Kc8 11.Qc6+ Kb8 12.Ka5! zz, btm 12...Rh8 (12...Rc8 13.Qb6#) 13.Kb6! (13.Qb6(Qd6)+? Kc8 14.Qc6+ Kb8 – loss of time.) 13...Ra7 14.Qd6+ Ka8 15.Od5+ Kb8 16.Qe5 Ka8 17.Oxh8#.(17.Qd5/e4)+? Kb8 18.Qe5+ Ka8 – loss of time.)

Pleasing mutual "zugzwang" and tactical play

#### N°25.- Luis Miguel González (Spain)

##### 1.Ke7!

Ne4! 2.Bb4! (2.d8Q? Bxd8+ 3.Kxd8 Nxd6=) 2...Bb6 3.a5 Bf2! (3...Be3 4.Ke6 Bg5 5.Kf5 c5 6.Bd2 Nxd6+ 7.Kxg5 Kxa6 8.Kf6 Nb7 9.Kxe5 Kb5 10.Kd5 c4 11.Be1 Nd8 12.Kd6 Nb7+ 13.Kc7 Nc5 14.d8N+-) 4.Ke6! (4.d8Q? Bh4+ 5.Kd7 Bxd8 6.Kxd8 Nxd6=) 4...Ng5+! 5.Kf6! (5.Kf5? Nf7 6.Kg6 Nd8 7.Bd2 Bh4=) 5...Bh4 (5...Nh7+ 6.Kg7 Ng5 7.Bc5+ Bxc5 8.Kf6 Ne4+ 9.Kg6 Nxd6 10.d8Q+-) 6.Be1! Ne4+ 7.Kxe5! (7.Kf5? Nxd6+ 8.Ke6 Bd8 9.Kxd6 e4! 10.Kxc6 Kxa6 11.Kd5 e3 12.Ke4 e2 13.Ke3 Be7 14.Kxe2 Kb7 15.Kd3 Kc6 16.a6 Kb6=) 7...Nf6! 8.Bxh4 (8.d8Q? Ng4+ 9.Kf4 Bxd8 10.Kxg4 Kxa6 11.Kf5 c5=; or 8.Kf5! minor dual) 8...Nxd7+ 9.Kf5! (9.Ke6? Nc5+ 10.Ke7 Kxa6 11.Be1 Nb7 12.d7 Kb5=) 9...Kxa6 10.Bf2! (10.Bd8? c5 11.Ke6 Nf8+ 12.Ke7 Ng6+ 13.Kf7 Ne5+ 14.Ke6 Nc6 15.Bb6 c4=) 10...c5 11.Ke6 Nb8 (11...Nf8+ 12.Ke7 Ng6+ 13.Kf7 Ne5+ 14.Ke6 Nc6 15.d7+-) 12.Bxc5! (12.Be1? c4 13.Kd5 Kb5 14.Bc3 Nd7=) 12...Kxa5 13.Ba7 Nc6 14.d7! (14.Kd5? Kb5 15.d7 Nd8 16.Bd4 Nb7! =) 14...Nd8+ 15.Kd6! Kb5 16.Bd4!+ zz

Domination theme; long play leads to mutual Zugzwang, study very fine

**Jan Timman  
(Netherlands)  
1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention**



**Win**

**Harold van der Heijden  
(Netherlands)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention**



**Win**

**N°23.- Jan Timman (Netherlands)**

**1.e5!**

**1...dxe5 2.c5 Bb1 3.f3+ [3.Ne6? Be4=] 3...Kxf3 4.Ne6! (Berger) 4...Ke3 [4...fxe6 5.c6 bxc6 6.b7 Bf5 7.b8Q e4 8.Qb2 g6 9.Qg2+ Ke3 10.Kg1 Kd4 11.Qd2+ Ke5 12.Qa5+!+; 4...Ke2 5.c6 f3 6.cxb7 f2 7.b8Q f6 8.Nf4+!-+] 5.c6 f3 6.cxb7 f2 7.b8Q f6 8.b7 /Qa7) 8...f1Q 9.Qa7+ Kf3 10.Ng5+ [10.Qa3+? Bd3! 11.Ng5+ Kg4!]=] 10...fxg5 [10...Kg4 11.Qg1+!] 11.Qa3+ Ke4 [11...Bd3 12.Qf8+!] 12.Qb4+ Ke3 13.Qc3+ Ke4 [13...Bd3 14.Qxe5+!] 14.b8O Of2+ 15.Kh3 Of1+ 16.Kg4! Of4+ 17.Kh5 Oh4+ [17...Qf7+ 18.Kxg5 Qf6+ 19.Kg4 Qf4+ 20.Kh3 Qf1+ 21.Kg3 Qg1+ 22.Kh4+!] 18.Kg6 Oh6+ 19.Kf7 Ba2+ 20.Ke7! Qe6+ 21.Kd8 Qg8+ 22.Kc7+-**

A fine and original adaptation of the study of Johann Berger

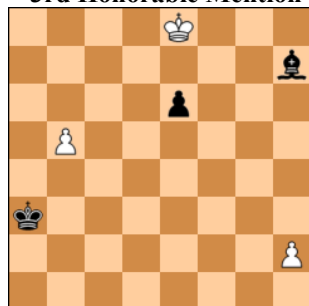
**N°5.- Harold van der Heijden (Netherlands)**

**1.Kh6!**

[1.Bxb6? Kxg7=] **1...Kg8 2.f5! exf5** [2...Nf4 e.g. 3.f6 Nd5 4.Kg6 Nf4+ 5.Kg5 Nh3+ 6.Kh6 Nf4 7.f7+ Kxf7 8.Kh7+-] **3.Bxb6** a) **3...f4** [b) 3...Nf4 4.Bd4 Ne6 (4...Nh3 e.g. 5.f3 Nf4 6.Be5 Nd3 7.f4+-) 5.Ba1! (5.Bb2? f4 6.Kh5 Nc5 7.Kg4 Nd3=; 5.Bc3 f4 6.Kh5 Nc5 7.Kg4 Ne4=) 5...f4 6.Kh5 (6.Kg6? f3! 7.Kf5 Nxc7+ 8.Bxc7 Kxc7=) 6...f3 7.Kg4 Nxc7 8.Bxc7 Kxc7 9.Kxf3+-] **4.Ba5!** [Thematic Try : 4.Bd4? Ne1! 5.Kh5 Nd3 6.f3 Nc1! 7.Kg4 Ne2 attacking the wB 8.Ba1 Kf7 9.Kf5 Kg8 10.Ke4 Kf7=] **4...f3** [4...Nh4 5.Bc3 Nf3 6.Kh5+-] **5.Bd2 Nh4 6.Kg5! Ng2 7.Bc3 Ne3 8.Bd4 Nc2 9.Bf6 Ne3 10.Kh4! Nf5+ 11.Kg4! Nxc7 12.Bxc7 Kxc7 13.Kxf3+-**

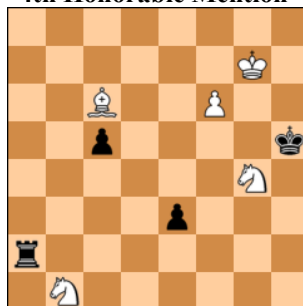
Interesting Domination of the bishop versus the knight in two lines

**Vladislav Tarasiuk  
(Ukraine)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Honorable Mention**



**Win**

**Luboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka  
(Slovakia)  
4<sup>th</sup> Honorable Mention**



**BTM Win**

## N°20.- Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine)

### 1.b6!

[1..Kd7? Bd3! 2.b6 Ba6 3.Kxe6 Kb4 4.Kd6 Kb5!]=] **1...Be4 2.Kd7!** [2.h4? Bc6+=] **2...Bd5** [2...Ka4 3.h4 Kb5 4.Kc7+] **3.Kc7!!** A) [3.h4? e5 4.Kd6 e4 5.Kxd5 e3 6.b7 e2 7.b8Q e1Q=; 3.Kd6? Kb4 4.h4 Kb5 5.Kc7 e5 6.h5 e4 7.h6 e3 8.h7 e2 9.h8Q e1Q=] **3...e5** [3...Ka4 4.h4 e5 5.h5 e4 6.h6 e3 7.h7 e2 8.h8Q e1Q 9.Qd4+ Qb4 10.Qxd5+] **4.Kd6 e4 5.Kxd5 e3 6.b7 e2 7.b8Q e1Q 8.Qg3+-**

Clear miniature, without analytical sidelines. Highlight: Kc7!! 3.h4? is good try

## N°3.- Ľuboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)

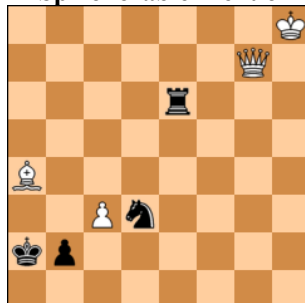
### 1...Ra7+!

[1...e2 2.f7 e1Q 3.Nf6+! Kh4 4.f8Q Qxb1 5.Qh8+ Kg3 6.Ne4+ Kg4 7.Bd7+ Kf3 8.Qh3+ Kf4 (8...Ke2 9.Nc3+-) 9.Qg3+ Kxe4 10.Qg6+-] **2.f7 Rxf7+!** [2...e2 3.Nf6+ Kh4 4.Nd2+] **3.Kxf7 e2 4.Nf6+** thanks to sacrifice of rook now square h6 is free and so: **4...Kh6 5.Ng8+! Kh7** [5...Kg5 6.Nd2+-; 5...Kh5 6.Bf3+-] **6.Be4+ Kh8 7.Kf8** or 7.Nh6 e1Q 8.Kf8 +- as main line **7...e1Q 8.Nh6** threat 9.Nf7 mate **8...Qxe4 9.Nf7+ Kh7 10.Ng5+ Kg6 11.Nxe4 c4! 12.Nec3!** [12.Nbc3? Kf5 13.Ke7 Ke5 14.Kd7 Kd4 15.Kc6 Kd3 16.Kb5 Kc2 17.Kb4 Kb2= EGTB] **12...Kf6 13.Na3! Ke5 14.Nc2!** ans now region a1-a4-e4-e1 is blocked for black king [14.Nab5? Kf4! 15.Ke7 Ke3 16.Kd6 Kd3 17.Kc5 Kc2 18.Kb4 Kb2=] **14...Kf6 15.Kg8!** and wins, for example 15.- Kg6 16.Ne3 Kf6 17.Kh7 +-. Black counterplay, gain of new queen by mate threat, finally 2 knights win against pawn by creating of blockhouse.

After tactical moves we get interesting Troitzky position

Alain Pallier  
(France)

SpHonorable Mention



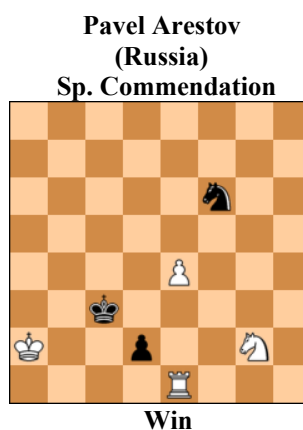
Win

## N°24.- Alain Pallier (France)

### 1.Bc2!

[Thematic Try : 1.Qa7? b1Q (1...Kb1? 2.Qd4! Kc1! (2...Rh6+? 3.Kg7 Rh3 4.Qg4 Re3 5.Qd1+ Nc1 6.Bc2+-) 3.Qg1+ Re1 4.Qg5+ Kb1 5.Qd2+-) 2.Bc2+ Kb2 3.Bxb1 Kxb1 4.Qd7 Re3! (4...Rh6+? 5.Kg7 Rg6+ 6.Kh7 Rg3 7.c4 Kc2 8.Qa4+ Kc3 9.Qa5+ Kb3 10.c5+-) 5.Qd4 Rh3+ 6.Kg7 Kc2 7.c4 Rh5!= (compare position after 5.Qd4 in the try with after 5.Qd4 : black Knight stands on d3 instead of c1.)] **1...b1Q 2.Bxb1+** [2.Qa7+? Kb2 3.Bxb1 Kxb1= see thematic try.] **2...Kxb1 3.Qg4!** [3.Qd7? Re3= as in thematic try.] **3...Re3** [3...Re1 4.c4 Kc2 5.c5+-] **4.Qd1+!** [4.Qg1+? Re1 5.Qb6+ Kc2=] **4...Nc1 5.Qd4** [5.c4? Rh3+! 6.Kg8 Rg3+ 7.Kf7 Rc3 8.Qd4 Kc2 9.c5 Nd3=] **5...Rh3+ 6.Kg8!** [6.Kg7? Kb2! 7.c4+ Rc3 8.c5 Nb3!]=] **6...Rg3+ 7.Kf7** [7.Kf8? Nb3!]=] **7...Nb3** [7...Rf3+ 8.Ke8! Kc2 9.Qe4+ /c4 9...Rd3 /Nb3 10.c4 /Qe4 10...Nb3 /Rd3 11.Qf5! Kc3 12.c5!+-] **8.Of6! Nd2 9.Oe5! Rd3! 10.Ob5+ Kc2 11.c4 Rf3+** [11...Re3 12.c5+-] **12.Kg6!** Other king moves (12.Ke7, 12.Ke8 and 12.Kg8) loose time and **12...Rg3+ 13.Kh5** [13.Kf6? Rc3! 14.c5 Ne4+=] **13...Rh3+ 14.Kg4 Rb3! 15.Of5+! Kc3 16.c5+-**

Highlights: thematic try, interesting six pieces position with many unique moves, with a main line that leads to draw, too difficult for human being...



**N°6.- Richard Becker (USA)**

**1.Qc4!**

[1.Qe1? Nhf8 =] **1...Nhf8** [1...Qe7 (Qe5) 2.Qxe6! Qxe6 3.Nc7+-] **2.c7 Nxc7+** [2...Nc5+ 3.Ka5 Qd2+ (3...Kb7 4.f4! Qg2 (4...Qf5 5.Nd6+-) 5.c8Q+ Kxc8 6.Qxc5+ Kd7 7.Qxf8+-) 4.Nc3 Nb7+ (4...Kb7 5.Qxc5+-) 5.Ka4 Qc2+ 6.Kb5 Qb2+ (6...Qf5+ 7.Qd5+-; 6...Nd6+ 7.Ka6+-) 7.Ka6 Qa1+ (Qa3+) 8.Na4 Nc5+ 9.Kb5+-] **3.Nxc7+** [3.Qxc7? Qf6+ 4.Ka5 (Nd6) 4...Qa1+=] **3...Kb8 4.Nd5 Qg6+ 5.Nb6 Qf5 6.Qc3!** [6.f4? Qe6 (Qh3) =] **6...Qe6** [6...Ng6 7.Qc6! etc.] **7.Qc2! Oh3** [7...Ng6 8.Qh2+ Ne5 9.Qxe5+! Qxe5 10.Nd7+-] **8.Qc1! Qf5** [8...Ng6 9.Qc4! Ne5 (9...Qf5 10.Qc6! etc.) 10.Qb5! Qe6 11.Qxe5+! Qxe5 12.Nd7+-] **9.Qc4! Ng6 10.Qc6! Qd3+ 11.Nc4 Qb3 12.Qd6+ Kc8 13.Nb6+** wins

**Domination theme, with nice variations**

**N°19.- Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine)**

**1.Rb4+!**

[Try : 1.Kb5? d4 2.Ra6 d3 3.Rxd6 Kc2 4.a4 e4 5.a5 e3 6.a6 e2 7.Re6 Kb1! 8.a7 d2 9.a8Q e1Q! 10.Rb6 d1N!= (10...d1Q 11.Kc4+!+-) ] **1...Kxa3 2.Kb5 e4** [2...d4 3.Kc4 d5+ 4.Kc5 d3 5.Rb1 Ka2 6.Rd1! e4 7.Kxd5+-] **3.Rb1 Ka2 4.Rh1!** [Try : 4.Rg1? Kb3 5.Kc6 Kc4 6.Kxd6 Kd4 7.Ke6 Ke3 8.Kxd5 Kf2 9.Rh1 e3 10.Ke4 e2 11.Rh2+ Kf1 12.Kf3 e1N+!=] **4...Kb3 5.Kc6 Kc4 6.Kxd6 Kd4 7.Ke6 e3 8.Kf5 e2 9.Kf4 Kd3 10.Kf3+-**

**This study deserves a distinction due the additional tries**

**N°11.- Pavel Arestov (Russia)**

**1.Rf1!**

[1.Rg1? Nxe4 2.Ne3 Kd3 3.Nd1 Kc2 zz 4.Ne3+ Kd3 5.Nd1 Kc2=; 1.Rh1? Nxe4 2.Ne3 Nf2! (2...Kd3? 3.Nd1+-) 3.Rf1 Kd3 4.Rxf2 Kxe3 5.Rf1 Ke2=] **1...Nxe4 2.Ne3 Kd3 3.Nd1 Kc2** [3...Nc3+ 4.Nxc3 Kxc3 5.Kb1+-] **4.Rg1!** zz **4...Nf6** [4...Nc5 5.Ka3 Nd3 6.Ne3+ Kc3 7.Rg8 Nf2 8.Rd8+-; 4...Nd6 5.Ka3 Nc4+ 6.Kb4 Nb2 7.Ne3+ Kd3 8.Kb3+-] **5.Ka3! Nd5 6.Rh1!** zz [Try : 6.Rf1? Nc3 7.Ne3+ Kd3 8.Kb3 Kxe3 9.Kxc3 Ke2=] **6...Nf4** [6...Nc3 7.Ne3+! Kd3 8.Kb3! Kxe3 9.Kxc3 Ke2 10.Kc2+-] **7.Kb4!** [7.Ne3+? Kd3 8.Nd1 Kc2 loos of time] **7...Nd3+ 8.Kc4 Nb2+ 9.Nxb2 Kxb2 10.Kd3+-**

**Nice miniature!**

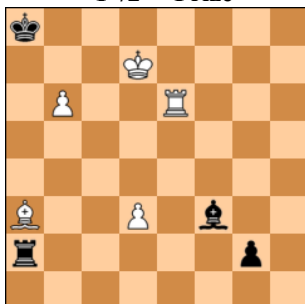
## DRAW STUDIES

**Darko Hlebec**  
(Serbia)  
1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



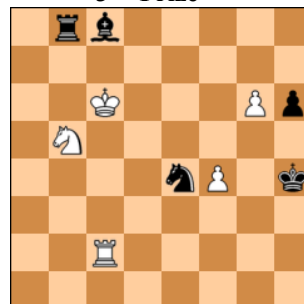
Draw

**I. Akobia (+) & P. Arestov**  
(Georgia- Russia)  
1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



Draw

**Richard Becker**  
(USA)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize



Draw

### N° 21.- Darko Hlebec (Serbia)

#### 1.Ra6+!

(1.Qxe3? f4+) 1...Kxa6 (1...Rxa6 2.Qxe3+ Rb6 (2...Kxb7 3.Nc5+=) 3.e8Q=) 2.N7c5+ Kb5 (2...Ka7 3.Qa1+ Kb8 4.Qh8+ Ka7 5.Qa1+ perpetual check) 3.Nd4+ Qxd4! (3...Ka5?? 4.Qa1+ Kb6 5.Qa6+ Kxc5 6.Nxe6+) 4.Qxd4 Rg6+ (4...Rxe7 5.fxe3=) 5.Kf4 Ng2+ 6.Kxf5 Nh4+ 7.Kxe4! (7.Kf4? Bh2+) 7...Rg4+ 8.f4! Bxd4 9.e8Q+ Phenix 9...Kc4! (9...Kxc5 10.Qc8+ Kd6 11.Qd8+=) 10.Qe6/f7 minor dual. 10...Kc3 11.Na4+! Bxa4 12.Qc4+!! (12.Qc8+? Kb2 13.Qxg4 Nf5!+) 12.Qxg4?? Bc6# 12...Kxc4 Stalemate

The study with more humour of tourney! The black has a good counterplay, then White has to find the way to surprise with a very original stalemate.

### N° 5.- Iuri Akobia (+) & Pavel Arestov (Georgia- Russia)

#### 1.Bc5!

(1.Re8+? Kb7 2.Bc5 Bc6 -) 1...Rc2! (1...Bg4? 2.Kc6! Bxe6 3.b7+ Kb8 4.Bd6 +) 2.b7+! (2.Bd4? Bg4 -+; 2.Re8+? Kb7 3.Bd4 Bc6+) 2...Kb8! (2...Kxb7 3.Rb6+ Ka7 4.Bd4 =) 3.Bd6+ Kxb7 4.Re1! (4.Rg6? Rc1 5.Bh2 Rh1+) 4...Bc6+(4...Bg4+ 5.Kd8! =) 5.Kd8! (5.Ke7? Re2+! -) 5...Re2! 6.Rb1+! ( 6.R~? Re8#) 6...Bb5!! (6...Ka6 7.Kc7 =) 7.Rxb5+ (7.Be7? Re5 -) 7...Kc6 8.Rc5+!! Thematic try: 8.Rg5? Kxd6 zz, wtm 9.d4 Re6! zz, wtm 10.Kc8 Kf6 11.Rg3 Re8+ 12.Kc7 Re7+ 13.Kc6 Rg7 -+. 8...Kxd6 9.Rg5! zz, btm 9...Ke6 10.d4! zz, btm 10...Kf6 11.Rg3! (11.Rg8? Ra2 12.Kc7 Ra7+ 13.Kb6 Rg7 -+) 11...Kf5 12.Kc7! (12.Kd7? Ke4(Kf4) -) 12...Ke4 13.Rg4+ Kf3 (13...Kf5 14.Rg3! Ke4 14.Rg4+ -positional draw) 14.Rxg2! (14.Rg8? Rd2! -) 14...Rxg2 15.d5 Ke4 16.d6 Kd5 17.d7 Rg7 18.Kc8, draw

Pleasant introduction leads to interesting rook ending with mutual zugzwang. In this study both sides play all pieces actively.

**N° 6- Richard Becker (USA)**

**1.Nd6!**

1.Kc7? Rxb5! (1...Ra8? 2.Nd6! Nxd6 3.Kxd6 transposes to main line) 2.Kxc8 Kh5 3.Rc6 (3.g7 Nf6 4.Rc6 Ng8-+) 3...Ra5 4.Kd7 (4.Kb8 Rd5-+) 4...Ra7+ 5.Ke6 (5.Ke8 Ng3 6.Kf8 Nf5-+) 5...Rg7 6.Ke5 (6.f5 Kg5-+) 6...Nf2 7.f5 Kg5 8.f6 Ng4+ **1...Nxd6 2.Kc7!** ( 2.Kxd6? Kh5 3.Ke5 (3.g7 Bg4 4.f5 Bxf5 5.Rg2 Bh7-+) 3...Kxg6 4.f5+ Kg7 5.Rc7+ Kg8! 6.Kf6 (6.Rc6 h5 7.Kf6 (Kf4) 7...Bd7!-+) 6...Rb6+ 7.Ke5 Rb5+ (Ba6, Bb7)-+ **2...Ra8 3.Kxd6 Kh5 4.Ke5** (4.g7 Bg4! 5.f5 (5.Rg2 Rg8-+; 5.Ke5 (Ke7) 5...Kg6-+) 5...Bxf5 6.Rg2 Bh7-+) **4...Kxg6 5.f5+ Kg7** (5...Bxf5 6.Rg2+=; 5...Kh5 6.Rh2+ Kg5 7.Rg2+ Kh4 8.Rh2+=) **6.Rc7+ Kh8 7.Rc6!** ( 7.Kf6? Ra6+ 8.Ke5 Ra5+ 9.Kf6 Bxf5 10.Re7 Bh7 (h5)-+) **7...Kg7 8.Rc7+ Kg8 9.Kf6!** ( 9.Rc6? h5 10.Kf4 Bd7!-+) **9...Ra6+ 10.Ke5 Ra5 11.Kf6 Bxf5 12.Re7!** (12.Rg7+? Kh8 13.Re7 Bh7 (h5)-+) **12...Kf8** (12...Bb1 13.Re8+ Kh7 14.Re7+ Kg8 15.Re8+=; 12...h5 13.Rg7+ Kf8 14.Rg5 h4 15.Rh5 Ra6+ 16.Ke5! Ra5+ 17.Kf6=) **13.Rf7+ Ke8 14.Rf8+! Kxf8** stalemate (14...Kd7 15.Rh8=)

**Gamelike and fine study. Many moves. It is necessary to understand, why b. Rook must be placed on a8 and not b8. Ideal stalemate.**

**Ľuboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka  
(Slovakia)  
Special Prize**



**Draw**

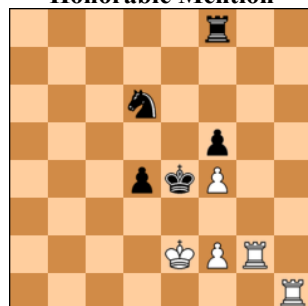
**N° 2.- Ľuboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)**

**1.Nd5!**

[1.Qxe8? Qf3 2.Bh4 Bf5+ 3.Kg8 g5! 4.Bxg5 Qg4 5.Qd8 Be4 6.Nd5 Qe6+ 7.Kf8 Ba3+ 8.Ne7 Bxe7+ 9.Bxe7 Qh6+ 10.Kf7 Bf5-+] **1...Bf5! 2.Qxf5** [2.Bg3+? Be5 3.Qxf5 Bxg3 4.Qg6 Rxe3! 5.Nxe3 Qh1+ 6.Kxg7 Qh4 7.Ng4 Nd6-+] **2...Rh8+! 3.Kg6** [3.Kxh8? g6-+] **3...Ne7+! 4.Nxe7 Rh6+ 5.Kf7!** [5.Kg5? Qg2+ 6.Qg4 Bf6-+] **5...Rf6+ 6.Qxf6 gxf6 7.Bg3+ Be5 8.Bxe5+ fxe5 9.Nd5** switchback,  
**Main A 9...Kc8 10.b6!** [10.Ke7? e4! 11.b6 Qc6 12.b7+ Kb8 13.Nf6 Qc5+ 14.Ke6 Qxc4+ 15.Ke7 Qxa6! 16.Nd7+ Kxb7 17.Nc5+ Kb6 18.Nxa6 Kxa6 19.Kd6 Kb5! 20.Kd5 a5! 21.Kxe4 Kc4!-+ ] **10...Qb8 11.b7+ Kd7 12.Nf6+ Kc6 13.e4! positional draw**  
**Main B 9...e4 10.Ke6! Kc8 11.c5 Qb8** (11...Kd8 12.c6 Qc8+ 13.Kd6 Qh3 14.c7+ Ke8 15.b6=) **12.b6 axb6** (12...Qg3 13.b7+ Kd8 14.c6=) **13.cxb6 Kd8** (13...Qh2 14.Ne7+ Kd8 15.Nc6+ Ke8 16.b7=) **14.a7!** positional Draw (14.b7? Qa7!-+)

**Non standard, high original study, after tactical introduction we can see two positional draw. The first line has also an interesting try**

Luis Miguel González  
(Spain)  
Honorable Mention



BTM Draw

Andrzej Jasik  
(Poland)

Sp. Honorable Mention



Draw

N° 22.- Luis Miguel González ( Spain)

**1...d3+ 2.Kd2!**

2.Kf1? Ra8 3.Rg6 Ra1+ 4.Kg2 Rxh1 5.Rxd6 Ra1 6.Rd8 Ra3 7.Kf1 Kxf4-+; 2.Kd1? Ra8! 3.Kd2 Kd4 4.Rd1 Ne4+ 5.Ke1 Nc3 6.Rc1 Re8+ 7.Kf1 d2-+ **2...Kd4! 3.Ra1!** (3.Kc1? Ra8! 4.Rg6 Nc4 5.Kb1 d2 6.Rg3 Rb8+! 7.Ka2 Nb2 8.Rg7 d1Q 9.Rd7+ Kc3 10.Rdx1 Nxd1 11.Rxd1 Kc2-+; 3.Rh7? Nc4+! 4.Kc1 Ra8! 5.Kb1 Rb8+ 6.Ka1 d2 7.Rg1 Kc3 8.Rc7 Rd8 9.Rd1 Ra8+ 10.Kb1 Rb8+ 11.Ka1 Rb4 12.Ka2 Kc2-+) **3...Ne4+ 4.Ke1!!** ( 4.Kd1? Nc3+! 5.Kc1 (5.Kd2 Rb8! 6.Rg7 Rb2+ 7.Ke1 d2+ 8.Kf1 Rb5 9.Rd7+ Rd5-+) 5...Re8 6.Kb2 Re2+ 7.Kb3 d2 8.Rgg1 Rxf2 9.Rh1 d1Q+ 10.Raxd1+ Nxd1 11.Rxd1+ Ke4 12.Kc3 Kxf4-+; 4.Kc1? Rc8+! 5.Kb2 (5.Kd1 Rc2 6.Ra4+ Kd5 7.Rxe4 Kxe4 8.Ke1 Kxf4-+) 5...d2 6.Ra7 Nxf2 7.Rd7+ Ke3 8.Rxd2 Kxd2 9.Rxf2+ Ke3 10.Rf1 Rc4! 11.Kb3 Rxf4-+) **4...Rh8! 5.Ra4+!** (5.Rg1? Nc3! 6.Kd2 Rb8! 7.Rg7 (7.Ke1 Re8+ 8.Kf1 d2 9.Rg7 Rd8-+) 7...Rb2+ 8.Ke1 d2+ 9.Kf1 Rb5 10.Rd7+ Rd5-+) **5...Kc3** (5...Kd5 6.Rxe4! fxe4 7.Rg5+ Kc4 8.Ra5 Kc3 9.Rc5+ Kb4 10.Rd5 Ra8 11.f3 Kc3 12.fxe4 Ra1+ 13.Kf2 d2 14.e5!)=) **6.Ra3+!** (6.Rg1? Rh2! 7.Ra3+ Kc2 8.Ra2+ Kb3 9.Rd2 Kc3 10.Ra2 d2+ 11.Rxd2 Nxd2 12.Rg3+ Kc2-+) **6...Kc2** (6...Kc4 7.Rg1 Rb8 8.Ra1! Rb2 9.Rg8 Re2+ 10.Kf1 Rxf2+ 11.Kg1 d2 12.Rd8 Kb3 13.Rd4 Rf3 14.Kg2 Rxf4 15.Rf1 Rg4+ 16.Kh2 Kc3 17.Rxd2 Nxd2 18.Rxf5=) **7.f3 d2 8.Rxd2 Nxd2 9.Ra2+ Kc1 10.Rxd2 Rh1 11.Ke2 Rh2 12.Ke3! Rxd2** stalemate

Natural initial position which also can be used by the Chess player, leads to a surprising and beautiful stalemate. Interesting, with other complex analytical lines.

N° 7.- Andrzej Jasik ( Poland)

**1.Re6!**

1.Ra1? Nfd1-+**1...Nh3+ 2.Kh1!** (2.Kg2? Nf4+ 3.Kf3 Nxe6-+) **2...g2+ 3.Kxg2 Nf4+** (3...Qxg5+ 4.Kxh3=) **4.Kf2 Nd3+ 5.Kf3 e1N+!** (5...e1Q? 6.Re8+)=) **6.Rxe1!** (6.Kg4? Nf2+ 7.Kh4 Nf3+ 8.Kg3 Nce4+ 9.Kxf3 Nxe5+ 10.Kxf2 Qxd7-+) **6...Nxe1+ 7.Kf2** (7.Kf4? Nd5-+) **7...Ne4+** (7...Nd3+ 8.Kf1 Qxd7 9.f7+ Qxf7+ 10.Nxf7=) **8.Kxe1** (8.Kf1? Nxf6 9.Nf7 Nxd7 10.Nh6+ Kh8 11.Bc3 Nf3-+) **8...Nxf6 9.Nf7! Nxd7 10.Nh6+ Kh8 11.Bc3 Ne5 12.Kd1!**=

Many interesting tactical moves, leads to draw. Very chaotic position.





**N° 4.- Anatoly Skripnik (Russia )**

**1.R7d6!**

1.R4d6? Nc3+ 2.Kxb4 bxc5+ 3.Kc4 Rxd6 4.Rxd6+ Kg5 5.Ra6 Ne4+ **1...Rgg6 2.Rxe6** [2.Rxb6? Rxb6 3.cxb6 Rxb6 4.Kb3 Nc1+ 5.Kc2 Ne2 6.Re4 Nc3+] **2...Rxe6 3.Rd6 Nc3+ 4.Kxb4 bxc5+ 5.Ka5 Rg6 6.Re6 Kg7** [6...Kh5 7.Re3 Nd5 8.Re5+ Rg5 9.Rxg5+ Kxg5 10.Kb5=] **7.Re5 Rc6 8.Re7+ Kg8 9.Re8+ Kg7 10.Re7+ Kf6 11.Re6+ Kxe6** stalemate  
It's an original stalemate!

**N° 1.- Martin Minski ( Germany)**

**1.Kf6!**

1.Nc4? Bg8+! 2.Kf6 Bxc4+-1.Kf7? g5! 2.Sc4 g4 3.Se3 g3 4.Ke6 Kb6 5.Ke5 Ka5 6.Kf4 Kxa4 7.Kxg3 Kb3! 8.Kf2 a5 9.Ke2 a4 10.Kd2 a3+-; 1.Kd5? g5!+- **1...Bg8! 2.Kxg6 Kb6 3.Sb7!** (3.Kf6? Kxa5+-) **3...Bh7+!** switchback (3...Kxb7 4.Kf5 Kb6 5.Ke4 Ka5 6.Kd3 Kxa4 7.Kc2 Ka3 8.Kb1 a5 9.Ka1=) **4.Kf6!** switchback (4.Kxh7? Kxb7 5.Kg6 Ka6/Kb6 6.Kf5 Ka5 7.Ke4 Kxa4 8.Kd3 Kb3 9.Kd2 Kb2 10.Kd3 a5 11.Kc4 a4 12.Kb4 a3 13.Ka4 a2+-; 4.Kg5? Kxb7+-) **4...Kxb7 5.Ke5 Kb6 6.Kd4 Ka5 7.Kc3 Kxa4 8.Kb2=**

Pleasant study with some nice moves 3.Nb7! 4.Kf6! The rest is clear.

**N° 14.- Marco Campioli (Italy)**

**1...Kb4!**

1...Kb2!? 2.f6 Bf5 3.f7 Bg6 4.Ke7 Nd5+ 5.Ke6 Bxf7+ 6.Kxf7 Kc2 7.Ke6! =] **2.f6 Bf5!** (2...Nc4!? 3.Kd8! Be6 4.Ke7 Bd5 5.f7=) **3.f7 Bg6 4.Ke7!** (4.Kf8? Nd7+ 5.Kg7 Be4 6.Re3 Bd5! 7.Rxe5 Bxf7!-+) **4...Nd5+ 5.Ke6 Bxf7+ 6.Kxf7 Kc4 7.Kg6!** (7.Ke6? Kd4 8.Kf5 e4 9.Kg5 e3+) with 2 main lines :

A) **7...Kd4! 8.Kxh5 Ne3 9.Kg6!**(9.Kg5? Ke4! 10.Kf6/Kg6 Kf4-+; 9.Kh4? Nf5-) **9...Kd3** (9...Ke4 10.Kg5! =, see the main line after 11.Kg5!) **10.Kf6!** [10.Kh5? Ke2 11.Kg5 Kf2!-+] **10...Ke4** [10...Ke2 11.Kxe5=] **11.Kg5!** [11.Ke6? Kf4! 12.Rg1 e4!-+] **11...Kd3 12.Kf6** [12.Kg6? Ke2! 13.Kf6/Kg5 Kf2-+] **12...Kd4 13.Kg6!**=

B) **7...Nf4+! 8.Kf5** [8.Kg5? Kd4! 9.Ra3 Ne2 10.Kxh5 g3!-+] **8...Kd4 9.Rg1!** [9.Ra3? Ne2 10.Ra2 Ke3 11.Kxe5 g3!-+] **9...Ne2 10.Re1!** [10.Rd1+? Ke3 11.Kxe5 g3! 12.Kf5 g2 13.Kg5 Ng3! 14.Rg1 Kf2!-+; 10.Ra1?/Rb1? g3-+] **10...Ke3 11.Kxe5 g3 12.Kf5 g2 13.Kg5 Kd2! 14.Rb1!** [14.Ra1? Nc1-+] **14...Kc2** [14...Nc1 15.Rb2+ Ke1/Ke3 16.Rxg2=] **15.Re1!**=.

Interesting and original battle K+R against K + N + pawns, leading to a surprising mutual zugzwang

The initial position is not very convincing, but if it is the taste of the author, we have to accept it

Vladimir Samilo  
(Ukraine)  
S.p Commendation



Draw

N° 12.- Vladimir Samilo ( Ukraine)

**1.Bb8!** 1.e8D? Da1+ 2.De1 D:e1# or 1.K:h1? Da4(b5) -/+ **1... Ka8!** **2.e8D Db6+!** **3.K:h1** 3.Kf2? Df2#  
**3...Db1+** **4.Kh2 D:b8+** **5.D:b8 K:b8** \*poz. J.Berger - correction **6.f4!** 6.Kg3? a5! 7.f4 gf+ **6... Kc7** **7.fg!**  
7.Kg3? gf+! 8.K:f4 a5 9.Ke4 (9.h4 Kd6 10.Ke4 a5) 9... a4 11.Kd4 a3 12.K:c3 Kd6-/+ , but not 7...a5?  
8.fg a4 9.Kh4 a3 10.g3 a2= **7... a5** **8.Kg3 a4** **9.Kh4 a3** **10.g3 a2=**

Special commendation, for new nuance of famous study of J. Berger -

Salzburg , Austria 31 August of 2015

Judge : Peter Siegfried Krug