

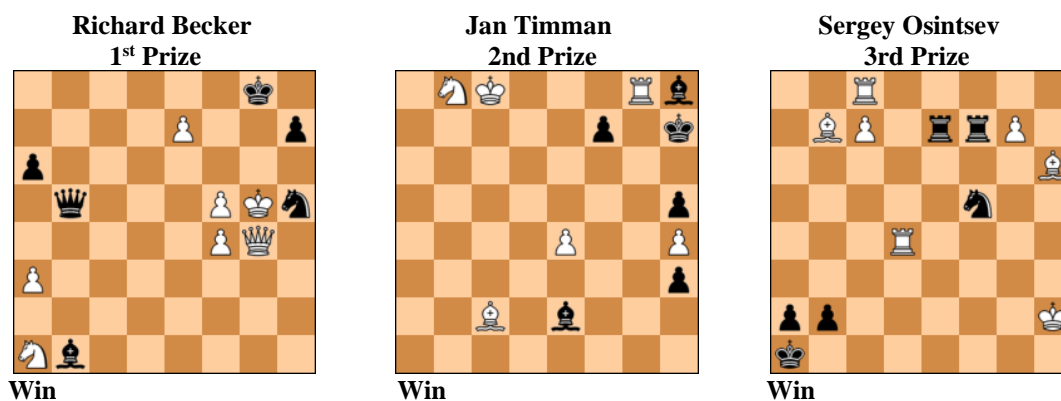
TOURNEY STRATEGEMS – 2022

PROVISIONAL AWARD

Special thanks to StrateGems magazine's chief editor, Mike Prcic, also to Franjo Vrabec responsible of the studies section, and to all participants of this tournament.

The Director sent me for evaluation 19 studies by 13 composers from 11 countries, with diagrams and solutions in PDF files

So, my ranking is:



E0427 **Richard Becker (USA)**

1.Kh6+! [1.Kxh5+? Kf7=] **1...Kh8** [1...Kf7 2.Qxh5+ Kxe7 3.Qg5+ Kd7 4.Qg7+++] **2.Qg2!** [2.Qxh5? Qc6+ 3.Kg5 Qg2+ 4.Qg4 Qe4 5.f6 Qg6+ 6.Kh4 Qxf6+ 7.Qg5 Qe6 8.Qe5+ Qxe5 9.fxe5 Bg6=] **2...Qe8**
3.Qb2+!! Choosing to keep the wP on a3 [Thematic try 3.a4? Be4! 4.Qb2+ Kg8 5.Qb3+ Kh8 6.Qc3+ Kg8 7.Qc4+ Kh8 8.Qd4+ Kg8 9.Qxe4 Ng7 10.Qd5+ Qf7 11.Qa8+ Ne8 12.Qg2+ Qg7+! (Not 12...Kh8? 13.Qb2+ Kg8 14.Qb3 Ng7 15.Kg5!+-) 13.Qxg7+ Nxg7 14.Kg5 (14.f6 Ne8 15.Nb3 Nxf6 16.Nc5 Kf7 17.Nxa6 Nd5! 18.Kg5 h5!-) 14...Kf7 15.Nb3 h6+ 16.Kxh6 Nxf5+ 17.Kg5 Nxe7 18.Nc5 a5 19.Nb7 Nd5 (or Nc8) 20.Nxa5 Nb6 (or Nc3) and the wPa4 is lost, draw] **3...Kg8** **4.Qb3+ Kh8** **5.Qc3+ Kg8** **6.Qc4+ Kh8** **7.Qd4+ Kg8** **8.Qd5+ Kh8** **9.Qg2! Be4** [9...a5 10.a4!+-] **10.Qb2+! Kg8** **11.Qb3+ Kh8** **12.Qc3+ Kg8** **13.Qc4+ Kh8** **14.Qd4+ Kg8** **15.Qxe4 Ng7** **16.Qd5+ Qf7** **17.Qa8+ Ne8** **18.Qg2+ Qg7+** [Main 18...Kh8 This defense is stronger with wP on a3 19.Qb2+ Kg8 20.Qb3 (20.Qe5? Ng7 21.Qb8+ Ne8 22.Qb3 loss of time) 20...Ng7 21.f6! White finds a way to win (Not 21.Kg5? h6+ 22.Kg4 Ne8 23.Qe6 Ng7 24.Qb3 Ne8 25.a4 Kg7 26.Qe6 Qxe6 27.fxe6 Kf6 28.Nb3 Kxe6 29.Nc5+ Kxe7 and draws due to the loss of tempo by White's a-pawn) 21...Ne8 22.f5 Nxf6 23.Qe6 Ne8 24.Nc2! Sacrifice of an f-pawn has gained a tempo for the Knight 24... 24...Ng7 25.Qxf7+ Kxf7 26.Ne3 Ne8 27.Kxh7 Nf6+ (27...Nd6 28.Kh6 Kf6 29.Kh5 Ne8 30.Kg4 Kxe7) 28.Kh6 Ng8+ 29.Kh5! (29.Kg5? Nxe7 zz 30.a4 a5 zz 31.Nc4 Nd5 32.Nxa5 Nb6 (or Nc3)=) 29...Nxe7 30.Kg5+- zugzwang with BTM] **19.Qxg7+ Nxg7** **20.Kg5 Kf7** **21.Nb3!** [21.Nc2? h6+ 22.Kxh6 Nxf5+ 23.Kg5 (23.Kh5 Kxe7!-) 23...Nxe7 zz 24.Ne3 Ke6 zz] **21...h6+** **22.Kxh6 Nxf5+** **23.Kg5 Nxe7** **24.Nc5 a5** **25.Nb7!** [25.Nb3? Nc6 26.a4 Ke6 27.f5+ Kf7=] **25...a4** **26.Nc5** wins. Logical study with 20 move foresight effect.

The point is 3.Qb2!. It is notable, also the complementary main line and the surprise is the culmination in an ending of pawns and minor pieces

E0431 Jan Timman (Netherlands)

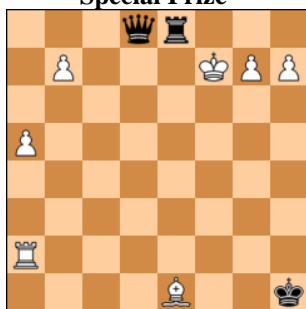
1.Rg1 Bf3 [1...Bd4 2.e5+- (2.Rh1? Bf3 3.e5+ Kg7 4.e6 Bxh1 5.e7 h2 6.e8Q Bb7+ 7.Kxb7 h1Q+=) 2...Kh8 3.e6 fxe6 4.Rh1+-; 1...Bg4+ 2.Nd7 h2 3.Rh1 Be5 4.Bd1+-] **2.e5+!** [2.Nd7? /Rf1 2...h2 3.e5+ Kh6=] **2...Kh6 3.e6!** [Try: 3.Rg5? h2 4.e6 h1Q! (4...Bb7+? 5.Kc7 h1Q 6.exf7 Bg7 7.Rg6+ Kh7 8.Rg1+! Kh6 9.Rxh1 Bxh1 10.Nd7 Bd5 11.f8Q Bxf8 12.Nxf8+-) 5.exf7 Qh3+ (1) 6.Bf5 (6.Nd7 Bb7+ 7.Kb8 (7.Kd8 Qxh4 8.f8Q+ Kxg5=) 7...Qh2+ 8.Kxb7 Qh1+ 9.Kc7 (9.Kb6 Bd4+ 10.Rc5 Bxc5+ 11.Kxc5 Qg1+ 12.Kc6 Qg2+ 13.Kc7 Qg3+ 14.Kc8 (14.Kd8 Qxh4+ 15.Ke8 Qe1+=) 14...Qc3+ 15.Kd8 Qa5+=) 9...Qh2+ 10.Kd8 Bf6+ 11.Ke8 (11.Nxf6 Qc7+ 12.Kxc7= stalemate) 11...Qe2+ 12.Re5 Bxe5 13.f8Q+ Bg7+=) 6...Bb7+! 7.Kd7 Bc8+! 8.Kxc8 Qc3+ 9.Kd7 Qd4+! 10.Ke8 Qe5+!= positional draw; or 3.Rf1? h2!= (no 3...Bd5? 4.Nc6 Bxc6 5.Rxf7 Bg7 6.Re7 Bd5 7.Ra7 h2 8.Ra6+ Bf6 9.Rxf6+ Kg7 10.Rf1+-)] **3...h2 4.exf7** [4.Rg5? h1Q 5.exf7 Qh3+= similar to try in (1)] **4...Bb7+! 5.Kxb7 hxg1R!** [5...hxg1Q?! 6.f8Q+ Qg7+ (6...Bg7 7.Qf4+-) 7.Nd7! Qxf8 8.Nxf8 Bd4 9.Ng6 Bf2 10.Kc6 Kg7 11.Kd7 Kf6 (11...Kf7 12.Ne5+ Kf6 13.Nf3+-) 12.Ke8 Bc5 13.Nf4 Bf2 14.Ng2+- procedure: the white king defends his only pawn and the knight and bishop capture the black pawn] **6.f8R!+-** [6.f8Q+? Rg7+ 7.Qxg7+ (7.Nd7= stalemate) 7...Kxg7 /Bxg7=] The interesting Black's counterplay draws attention. Both sides have the opportunity to promote a rook, which generates sequences of significant artistic value.

E0436 Sergey Osintsev (Russia)

1.Ra8! [1.g8Q? Nxd4 2.Ra8 b1Q 3.c8Q Rxb7 4.Qc3+ Rb2+ 5.Qg2=; 1.Rd1+? b1Q 2.Rxb1+ axb1Q 3.Ra8+ Kb2=] **1...Re2+** [1...b1Q 2.c8Q! (2.Rd2? Rxc7 3.Raxa2+ Qxa2 4.Rxa2+ Kxa2 5.Bd5+ Kb2 6.g8Q Rh7 7.Qb8+ Kc3=) 2...Rxb7 (2...Nxd4 3.Qc3+ Qb2+ 4.Qxb2+ Kxb2 5.Rxa2+ Kxa2 6.Bd5+-; 2...Rxc7 3.Bxg7 Rxc7 4.Qc3+ Qb2+ 5.Qxb2+ Kxb2 6.Rb4+-) 3.Rd2! (3.Rxa2+? Qxa2+ 4.Rd2 Qb2 5.Rxb2 Rxb2+ 6.Kg1 Rb1+ 7.Bc1 Rxc7+ 8.Kf2 Rbb7=) 3...Nxb6 4.Raxa2+ Qxa2 5.Qc1+ Rb1 (5...Qb1 6.Qa3+) 6.Rxa2+-] **2.Bg2 Rxc2+!** [2...b1Q e.g. 3.c8Q Rxc2+ 4.Kxg2 Ne3+ 5.Bxe3 Qf1+ 6.Kg3! Qe1+ (6...Qf3+ 7.Kh4!+- Qf6+ 8.Kh5 Qe5+ 9.Bg5+-) 7.Kg4! Qe2+ (7...Rxc7+ 8.Kf5!+-) 8.Kh4+-] **3.Kxc2 Ne3+!** [3...b1Q 4.c8Q+] **4.Bxe3 Rxc7+** [4...b1Q 5.c8Q Qf1+ 6.Kg3 Qe1+ 7.Kg4 Rxc7+ 8.Kf5!+-] **5.Kh2!!** [5.Kf3? b1Q 6.c8Q Qf1+ 7.Ke4 Re7+ 8.Kd5 Qb5+ 9.Kd6 Qe5+ 10.Kc6 Re6+ 11.Kd7 Re7+ 12.Kc6 Re6+=] **5...Rxc7** [5...b1Q 6.c8Q Qh7+ 7.Bh6!! (7.Qh3? Qc2+ 8.Rd2 Qc7+ 9.Kh1 Qc1+! 10.Kh2 Qc7+ 11.Bf4! Qxf4+ 12.Kh1 Qe4+ (12...Qxd2? 13.Qf1+-) 13.Rg2=) 7...Qxh6+ 8.Qh3+-; additional thematic line 5...Rxc7 6.Kg3! (Thematic try: 6.Kg2? Rxc7 7.Rd1+ Rc1 8.Bxc1 b1Q 9.Rb8!? Position A2. 9...Qb7+ /e4= "mad" Queen followed by a stalemate) 6...Rxc7 7.Rda4! Position B. (Thematic try: 7.Rd1+? Rc1 8.Bxc1 b1Q 9.Rb8!? Position A1 (9.Rad8 Qg6+!=) 9...Qb3+ /d3= 10.Rxb3 /d3=stalemate) 7...b1Q 8.Bd4+-] **6.Rd1+** [Thematic try: 6.Rda4? error! Position B1: change of false trail and solution 6...Rc2+! 7.Kg3 b1Q 8.Bd4+ Rb2=] **6...Rc1 7.Bxc1!** [7.Rxc1+? bxc1Q 8.Bxc1 Kb1] **7...b1Q 8.Rb8!!** Under the capture with a check! Position A. [8.Rg1? Qh7+! 9.Bh6+ Kb2 10.Rg2+ Kb3= /c3=; 8.Ra7? Qc2+! 9.Rd2 Qb3=] **8...Qxb8+ 9.Bf4+ Qb1** [9...Kb2 10.Bxb8+-] **10.Be5#** Model checkmate with Queen pin and active blocking

White manages to eliminate the stalemate threat, culminating in a nice mate. The game is completed with interesting additional lines that lead to victory with trials of equal positions.

Franjo Vrabec
Special Prize



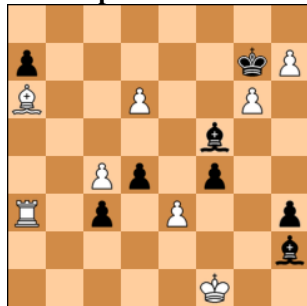
Win

Jan Rusinek
Special Prize



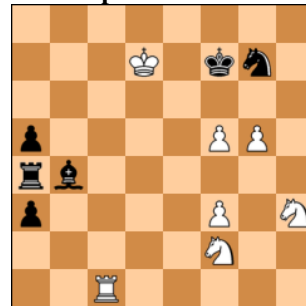
Draw

**Michael Pasman
Special Prize**



Draw

**Peter Krug
Special Prize**



Win

E0421 Franjo Vrabec (Sweden)

1.Rh2+! [1.h8Q+? Rxh8 2.gxh8Q+ Qxh8 3.a6 Qh7+ 4.Kf6 Qh8+ 5.Kf5 Qf8+ 6.Ke4 Qe7+ 7.Kd4 Qxe1=]
1...Kxh2 2.b8Q+! [2.Bg3+? Kh3 3.h8Q+ Rxh8 4.gxh8Q+ Qxh8 5.b8Q Qh5+=] **2...Qxb8 3.Bg3+! Qxg3**
 [3...Kxg3 4.g8Q+ Kf2 5.Qxe8 Qf4+ 6.Kg7 Qd4+ 7.Kg8 Qg4+ 8.Kf8 Qd4 9.Qe6 Qc3 10.a6 Kg2 11.a7+-]
4.h8R+!! [4.h8Q+? Kg1 5.g8Q (5.Qxe8 Qf4+ 6.Kg8 Qc4+ 7.Qf7 Qc8+=) 5...Rxg8 6.Qxg8 Kh1 7.Qxg3
 stalemate] **4...Rxx8 5.gxh8R+! Kg2 6.Rg8+-**

Ingenuous configuration where the stalemate is avoided through the successive rook's promotions.

E0424 Jan Rusinek (Poland)

1.Rd2! [1.Re1? Nxf2+-] **1...Nxf2! 2.Rxf2 g3!** [2...Ng2? 3.Nxg4+-] **3.Rxf4** (By sacrifices of 2 knights
 black advanced his pawn) **3...Bd6+!** [3...h2 4.Ra4+ Kb7 5.Rb4+ Ka8 6.Ra4+ Ba7 7.Nc6 Kb7 8.Rxa7+=;
 3...g2 4.Ra4+ Kb7 5.Rb4+ Ka8 6.Rxb8+] **4.Ka2!** [4.Ka4? g2 5.Rg4 h2 6.Rxg2 h1Q 7.Rd2 Qe4+-+;
 4.Kb3? g2 5.Rg4 h2 6.Rxg2 h1Q 7.Ra2+ (7.Rd2 Qb1+ 8.Kc4 Qf1+-+) 7...Kb5 8.Rb2 Bb4+-; 4.Kb2? h2
 5.Rh4 g2 6.Rxh2 g1Q 7.Rd2 Qb6+-+] **4...h2** [Or similarly: 4...g2 5.Ra4+! (5.Rg4? h2 6.Rxg2 h1Q 7.Rd2
 Bb4+-) 5...Kb5 (5...Kb7 6.Rg4 h2 7.Rxg2 h1Q 8.Rb2+ Ka6 9.Nc4 Qd5 10.Kb3=) 6.Rg4 h2 7.Rxg2 h1Q
 8.Rb2+ Ka4 9.Nc4! (9.Nd3? Qd5+-+) 9...Qd5 10.Rc2 Qf5 11.Ba1! Qxc2+ 12.Nb2+ Kb5= stalemate]
5.Ra4+! [5.Rh4? g2 6.Rxh2 g1Q 7.Rd2 Qg8+-+] **5...Kb5** [5...Kb7 6.Rh4 g2 7.Rxh2 g1Q 8.Rb2+ Ka6
 9.Nc4 Qg8 10.Kb3=] **6.Rh4 g2 7.Rxh2 g1Q 8.Rb2+ Ka4 9.Nc4!** [9.Nd3? Qg8+ 10.Ka1 Qg6+-] **9...Qg8**
10.Rc2 Qg6 11.Ba1! Qxc2+ 12.Nb2+ Kb4= stalemate

Entertaining game, with a variety of lines and trials culminating in stalemates

E0432 Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Bc8! [Thematic try: 1.Bb5? c2 2.Rxa7+ Bd7 Nowotny 3.Rxd7+ Kxg6 4.h8Q c1Q+-+; or 1.exd4? c2
 2.Ra1 (2.Rc3 Bg3 3.Bb7 f3 4.Bxf3 Bxd6 5.c5 Bf4+-) 2...f3! 3.Kf2 Bf4 4.Kxf3 c1Q 5.Rxc1 Bxc1 6.c5 h2
 7.Kg2 Bf4 8.Bb7 a5+-; 1.d7? Bxd7 2.exd4 c2 3.Rc3 Bf5 4.Bc8 Bd3+ 5.Ke1 Be4 6.Kd2 f3+-] **1...c2**
2.Rxa7+ Bd7! Nowotny [2...Kxg6?? 3.Bxf5+-+] **3.Rxd7+ Kxg6 4.h8N+ Kf6** [4...Kh6 5.Rh7+! Kxh7
 6.Bf5+ Kxh8 7.Bxc2=] **5.Rf7+ Ke5** [5...Kg5 6.Rg7+ Kh4 7.Rh7+ Kg5 8.Rg7+=] **6.Ng6+ Kxd6 7.c5+**
Kd5 [7...Kc6?? 8.Ne5+ Kd5 9.Nd3+-] **8.Rd7+ Kc4 9.Rxd4+ Kc3** [9...Kxc5 10.Rc4+ Kxc4 11.Ne5+=]
10.Rd3+ Kb4 [10...Kxd3 11.Nxf4+ Bxf4 12.Bf5+ Kd2 13.Bxc2=] **11.Rd4+ Kxc5 12.Rc4+ Kxc4**
13.Ne5+ Kc3 14.Nd3 Kxd3 [14...Bg1 15.exf4 h2 16.Kg2 Kxd3 17.Bf5+ Ke3 18.Bxc2=; 14...Kd2
 15.exf4=] **15.Bf5+ Kd2** [15...Kxe3 16.Bxc2=] **16.Bxc2 fxe3** [16...Kxc2 17.exf4 Kd3 18.f5 Ke4 19.f6 Kf3
 20.f7=] **17.Bd1! Kxd1=** stalemate

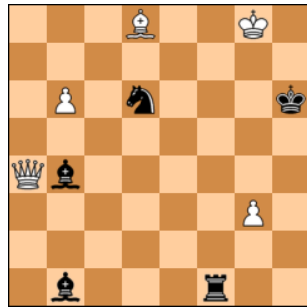
The game is dynamic, since both sides have their opportunities. Clever combination of themes

E0434 Peter Krug (Austria)

1.g6+ Kf6 [1...Kg8 2.f6 Nh5 3.Ng4 Bf8 4.Nh6+ Bxh6 5.f7+ Kg7 6.Ke7 Rf4 7.Rc8 Bg5+ 8.Nxg5 Kxg6
 9.Rg8+ Ng7 10.Rxg7+ Kxg7 11.Ne6+-] **2.Ng4+!** [Try: 2.Rc6+? Kxf5 3.Ng4 Bc3! 4.Rxc3 a2 5.Rc5+
 Kxg6 6.Rc6+ Ne6! 7.Rxe6+ Kg7! 8.Re7+ Kg6=] **2...Kxf5 3.Rc4!!** [3.Rc6 Bc3!]=] **3...a2** [3...Kxg6 4.Rc6+
 Ne6 5.Rxe6+ Kg7 6.Nf4! Bc3 7.Re7+ Kg8 (7...Kf8 8.Ng6+ Kg8 9.Nh6#) 8.Nh6+ Kh8 9.Ng6#] **4.Rf4+**
Kxg6 5.Rf6+ Kh7 [5...Kh5 6.Rh6#] **6.Ng5+ Kg8** [6...Kh8 7.Rh6+-] **7.Rf8+ Kxf8** [7...Bxf8 8.Nf6+ Kh8
 9.Nf7#] **8.Nh6 a1Q 9.Nh7#**

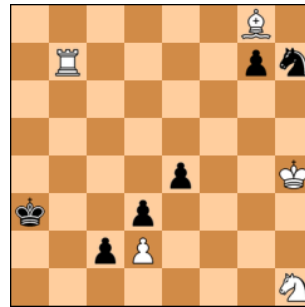
Recommended for fans of resolution. Variety of mate and an appropriate trial

P. Krug & P. Arestov
Honorable Mention



Draw

M. Hlinka & P. Arestov
Honorable Mention



Win

E0422 **Peter Krug & Pavel Arestov (Austria-Russia)**

1.Bg5+! [1.Qxb4? Bh7+ 2.Kh8 Rf8#] **1...Kxg5** [1...Kg6 2.Be7 /f4=] **2.Qxb4** [2.Qb3? Re1-+] **2...Ba2+**
3.Kg7! [3.Kh8? Rh1+ 4.Kg7 Nf5+ 5.Kf8 Rh8#] **3...Ne8+!** [3...Nf5+ 4.Kf8! =; 3...Rf7+? 4.Kh8 Rf8+
5.Kg7=] **4.Kh8!** [4.Kh7? Rh1+ 5.Qh4+ Rxh4+ 6.gxh4+ Kxh4 7.b7 Nf6+ 8.Kg6 Nd7-+] **4...Rh1+**
5.Qh4+ Rxh4+ 6.gxh4+ Kh6! [6...Kxh4?? 7.b7+-] **7.b7 Nd6! 8.h5!!** [Try: 8.b8Q? Nf7+ 9.Kg8 Ne5+!
10.Kh8 (10.Kf8 Nd7+-) 10...Ng6#; 8.b8N? /Be6+ domination to Knight 8...Nf5] **8...Nf7+ 9.Kg8 Nd8+**
10.Kh8! [10.Kf8? Nxb7-+] **10...Nxb7=** stalemate [10...Nc6 11.b8Q Nxb8= stalemate]

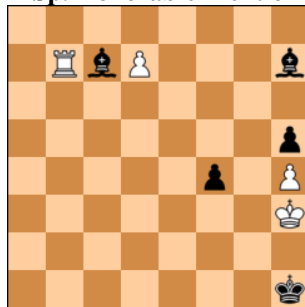
He arrives at stalemate positions, through an appropriate and interesting introduction

E0 426 **Michal Hlinka & Pavel Arestov (Slovakia-Russia)**

1.Rb3+ [1.Rc7? e3! 2.Bxh7 exd2 3.Rc3+ Kb4 4.Rxc2 d1Q 5.Bxd3 Qxh1+ 6.Kg3=] **1...Ka4 2.Rc3 e3!**
3.Bb3+ [3.dxe3 d2 4.Bb3+ Kb4 5.Bxc2 Kxc3 6.Bd1 Kd3=] **3...Kb4 4.Bxc2 e2!** [4...dxc2 5.Rxc2+-]
5.Rb3+ [5.Nf2? e1Q 6.Rb3+ Ka5 7.Ra3+ Kb4 8.Rb3+ Kc5 9.Rc3+=] **5...Kc4 6.Bxd3+** [6.Rc3+ Kb4
7.Rb3+ Kc4] **6...Kxb3 7.Bxe2 Kc2 8.d3!** [8.d4? Nf6 9.Ng3 Kc3 10.Nf5 g6=] **8...Kd2 9.Bg4!** [9.Bh5?
g5+ 10.Kg3 Nf6=; 9.Bf1? Ke3! 10.Kg3 Nf6 11.Nf2 Nh5+ 12.Kg2 Nf4+=] **9...Ke3!** [9...Kxd3 10.Bf5+-]
10.Kg3 Nf6 11.Nf2 g6 12.Bd1! [12.Bf3? g5! zz 13.Be4 Nh5+ 14.Kg2 Nf4+= 15.Kf1 Kd4=] **12...Nd5**
[12...g5 13.Bf3!+- zz] **13.Bf3** [13.Bb3? Nc3 14.Bc4 Ne2+ 15.Kg2 Nf4+=] **13...Nb4 14.Be4 Nxd3**
15.Bxd3+-

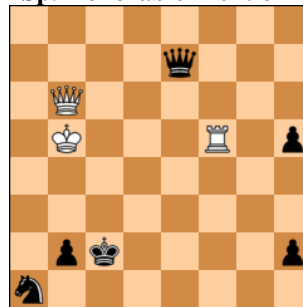
Minor piece play with precise positions of "zz" on both sides, complete with various trials

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
Sp. Honorable Mention



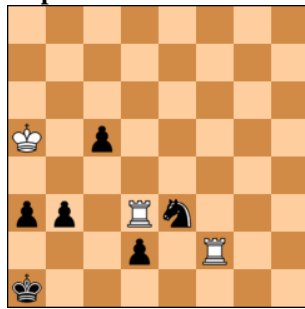
Draw

David Gurgenzidze
Sp. Honorable Mention



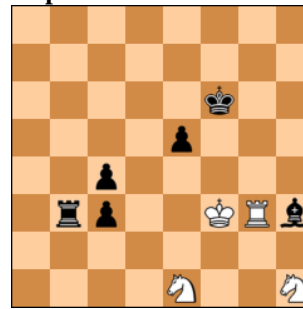
Draw

Paul Raican
Sp. Honorable Mention



Draw

Michael Pasman
Sp. Honorable Mention



Draw

E0420 **Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)**

1.Rb5 Be4 [1...Bd3 2.Rxh5 Bf1+ 3.Kg4 Be2+ 4.Kh3 as solution] **2.Rg5!** [2.Rxh5? Bc6 3.Rh7 f3 4.Rf7 Bd5+] **2...Bd3** [2...Bf3 3.d8Q! Bxd8 4.Rg1+ Kxg1= stalemate] **3.Rxh5 Be4** [3...f3 4.d8Q Bxd8 5.Kg3 Be2 6.Rf5 Kg1 7.Rxf3 Bc7+ 8.Rf4 Bd1 9.h5 Bxh5 10.Kh4=] **4.Kg4** [4.Rh6? f3+] **4...Be2+** [4...Be6+ 5.Kf3=] **5.Kh3 Bf1+** [5...Bxh5 6.d8Q Bxd8= stalemate] **6.Kg4 Be2+** **7.Kh3 f3** **8.Rf5 Kg1** **9.Rg5+!** **Kh1** **10.Rf5 Bf1+** **11.Kg4 Kg2** **12.Rc5!** [12.Rxf3? Be2+; 12.h5? f2+] **12...Bb6** **13.Rc6 Ba5** **14.Rc5 Bd8** **15.Rc8 f2** **16.Rxd8 Be2+** [16...Bb5 17.Rf8=] **17.Kg5! f1Q** **18.Rg8! Kh3** **19.d8Q=** White successfully combines his defense with stalemate traps and a draw's position.

E0423 **David Gurgenidze (Georgia)**

1.Rf2+ Kb1 **2.Rxb2+** [2.Qg6+? Ka2 3.Qg8+ Nb3 4.Qa8+ Qa3+] **2...Kxb2** **3.Ka4+ Kc1** **4.Qc5+ Nc2** [4...Qxc5= stalemate] **5.Qxe7 h1Q** **6.Qg5+ Kb1** **7.Qb5+ Ka1** **8.Qe5+ Kb1** **9.Qb5+ Kc1** **10.Qg5+ Kd1** **11.Qd5+ Qxd5=** stalemate

E0425 **Paul Raican (Romania)**

1.Rf3! [Try: 1.Rdxd2? Nc4+ 2.Ka4 Nxd2 3.Rxd2 b2 4.Rd1+ b1R! (4...b1Q? 5.Kxa3 Qxd1= stalemate) 5.Rd2 Rb2 6.Rd1+ Ka2+] **1...a2** [1...c4 2.Rxd2=] **2.Rfxe3 b2** **3.Rxd2** [3.Re2? b1Q 4.Rdxd2 Qb4+ 5.Ka6 Qxd2 6.Rxd2 c4+] **3...b1Q** **4.Rh2!** [4.Rg2? Qb4+ 5.Ka6 Kb1 6.Rg1+ Kc2 7.Rg2+ Kd1 8.Rg1+ Kd2 9.Rh3 Qe4!+] **4...Qb4+** **5.Ka6 Kb1** [5...c4 6.Ree2=] **6.Rh1+ Kc2** **7.Rh2+ Kd1** **8.Rh1+ Kd2** **9.Rg3! Qa4+** [9...c4 10.Rh2+ Kd1 11.Rg1+ Qe1 12.Rxa2=; 9...Qd4 10.Rh2+ Ke1 11.Rh1+ Kf2 12.Rgg1 Qa4+ 13.Kb6=] **10.Kb6! a1Q** **11.Rh2+ Kc1** **12.Rg1+ Qd1** **13.Rxd1+ Kxd1** **14.Rh1+=**

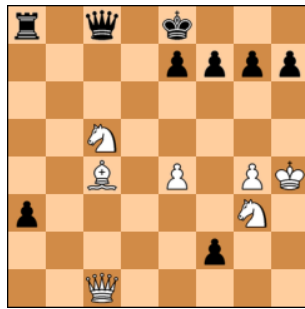
An original configuration that culminates in draw, after precise movements of the rooks. This equality also occurs in several complementary lines

E0431 **Michael Pasman (Israel)**

1.Ke4! [1.Rxh3? c2+] **1...Rb1!** [1...Bf5+ 2.Kd5 Rb1 3.Re3 c2 4.Nxc2 Rxh1 5.Nb4 Be6+ 6.Kc5 Rh8 7.Nc6 Rc8 8.Kd6 Bf5 9.Rc3 e4 10.Rxc4=] **2.Re3 Ke6** [2...c2 3.Rf3+ Ke6 4.Nxc2 Bg2 5.Ng3 to solution 5...Rc1 6.Ne3 Re1 7.Ne2 similar] **3.Ng3** [3.Kf3? Bf5 4.Rxc3 Rxe1 5.Ng3 Bd3+] **3...c2** **4.Nxc2 Bg2+** **5.Rf3 Rc1** [5...Rd1 6.Ne2 Bh1 (6...Rf1 7.Ncd4+ exd4 8.Nf4+=) 7.Ng3 Bxf3+ 8.Kxf3 Rd2 9.Ne1 c3 10.Ke3=] **6.Ne3 Re1** **7.Ne2 Rxe2=** Ideal stalemate with selfpinned pieces [7...Bh1 8.Nc3=]

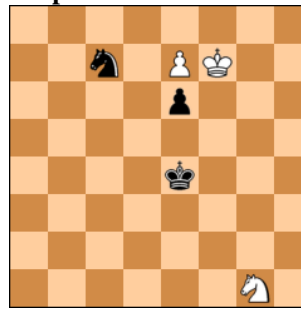
Comments: The studies 420,423 and 431 contain sequences that culminate in stalemate, with some technical and artistic differences. But all of them deserve a special distinction in this palm

**Peter Krug
Commendation**



Win

**Marcel Dore
Sp. Commendation**



Win

E0422 **Peter Krug (Austria)**

1.Nf5! [1.Nh5? Qxc5! (1...a2? 2.Nxg7+)-] 2.Bxf7+ Kf8 3.Qxc5 f1Q=; 1.Na4? Rb8=] **1...a2!** [1...Qxc5 2.Bxf7+ Kxf7 3.Qxc5 f1Q 4.Qxe7+; 1...Kf8 2.Bxf7! f1Q 3.Qxf1 Qxc5 4.Bd5+-] **2.Nxg7+ Kf8** [2...Kd8 3.Bxf7+-] **3.Nge6+! fxe6 4.Qh6+ Ke8 5.Bb5+ Kf7 6.Qxh7+ Kf8** [6...Kf6 7.Nd3+-] **7.Be8! Qxe8** [7...f1Q 8.Qh8#; 7...Kxe8 8.Qg8#] **8.Nxe6#**

E0427 **Marcel Dore (France)**

1.Nh3! [1.Ne2? e5! 2.Nc3+ Kd4 3.Nb5+ Nxb5 4.Ke6 Nc7+ /Kc5=] **1...Kf5 2.Nf2!** [2.Ng1? e5! 3.Ne2 e4 4.Nd4+ Kg4 5.Ne6 Nb5! 6.Ke8 e3 7.Kd7 e2=] **2...e5 3.Nd3 e4 4.Nc5!** [4.Nb4? e3! 5.Nc2 Ke4= (5...e2! 6.Nd4+-)] **4...e3 5.Ne6 Nb5!** [5...e2 6.Nd4+-] **6.Nd4+ Nxd4 7.e8Q e2 8.Qe3!+-**

Salta , Argentina December 2022

**Mario Guido Garcia
International Judge**