

ORGANIZED DISHARMONY THEME TOURNEY Preliminary AWARD

We apologize with the composers for the delay in publishing this award. Unfortunately, we had to replace the designated judge and I completed this award myself, in order to close the competition.

Participants:

Valerio AGOSTINI (01), Vitaly MEDINTSEV (02*, 03, 11, 12, 13, 14), Anatoly SKRIPNIK (02*), Karol MLYNKA (04, 05, 06, 26), Dan-Constantin GURGUI (07, 08), Zoltán LABAI (09), Velko ALEXANDROV (10), Michel CAILLAUD (15), Alexei OGANESYAN (16), Michal DRAGOUN (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23), Alexandre PANKRATIEV (24*), Evgeny GAVRILIV (24*), Bosko MILOSESKI (25), Menachem WITZTUM (27*, 28*, 29*), Ricardo DE MATTOS VIEIRA (27*, 28*, 29*), K.R. CHANDRASEKARAN (30), Krzysztof DRAZKOWSKI (31, 32, 33), Theodoros GIAKATIS (34), Rainer KUHN (35), Jorge J. LOIS (36*, 37*), Jorge M. KAPROS (36*, 37*, 38).

I have analysed with interest the 38 helpmates received, and I noted the presence of some original and interesting compositions.

Most of those I instead excluded adhered to the proposed theme but revealed simple contents or re-elaborations of well-known ideas (01, 04, 05, 08, 09, 13, 23, 26, 30, 31, 32, 38).

In N°35 the unpin after 1.Re5 is artificial, since the bR vacates the square e6 to move the bSf8.

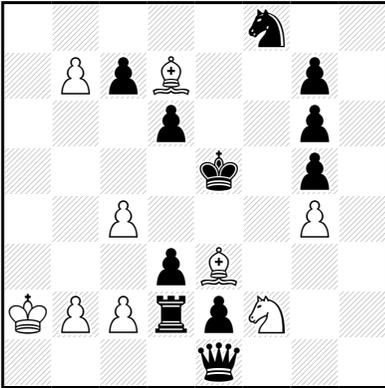
Finally, I have ruled out the following entries due to anticipations:

- 23 There are some similar problems, as the author himself correctly points out. In my opinion, this reworking, although partially original as it adheres to the proposed theme, does not justify recognition.
- 24 Anticipated by a problem of the same authors. E763, SuperProblem 2019, 2° Sp. Comm. WinChloe ID: 768720.
- 33 A familiar idea and already developed in HOTF form. V. CHEPIZHNY, Zadachi i Etyudy 2017, 2° Prize. WinChloe ID 785519. See also F. PACHL, D. MULLER, 20° Sabra, Dresde 2017, Comm. WinChloe ID: 754146.
- 34 Part a) is identical to a problem of the same author: Jubilee M. Rimkus-75 2017, HM. WinChloe ID: 726911.

That said, here is my ranking. For some problems, I report the authors' own comments, considering them well suited to illustrate the proposed ideas.

1° Prize

18 - Michal DRAGOUN



5s2/1PpB2p1/3p2p1/4k1p1/2P3P1/3pB3/KPPrpS2/4q3

h#2 (9+11) C+

4.1.1.1

1.Qc1 b8=Q 2.Q×b2+ Q×b2‡

1.Qg1 c×d3 2.Q×g4 S×g4‡

1.Se6 c3 2.Sf4 Bd4‡

1.Sh7 b8=S 2.Sf6 Sc6‡

The four solutions are connected each other in cyclical form. I feel this problem is very original and attractive: a for-fold cycle of effects in black / white play. (J)

In I. black capture of a wP with recapture mate / white promotion and mate by the promoted piece

in II. black capture of a wP with recapture mate / white guard of a square with mate by a piece, that is free after that

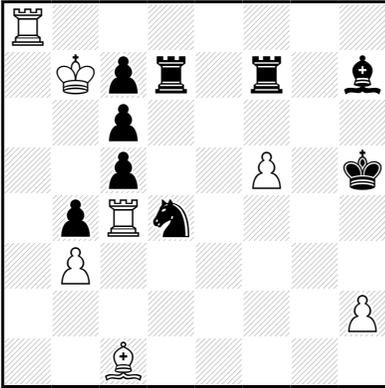
in III. black selfblock / white guard of a square with mate by a piece, that is free after that

in IV. black selfblock / white promotion and mate by the promoted piece.

(Author)

2° Prize

19 - Michal DRAGOUN



R7/1Kpr1r1b/2p5/2p2P1k/1pRs4/1P6/7P/2B5

h#2 (7+9) C+
4.1.1.1

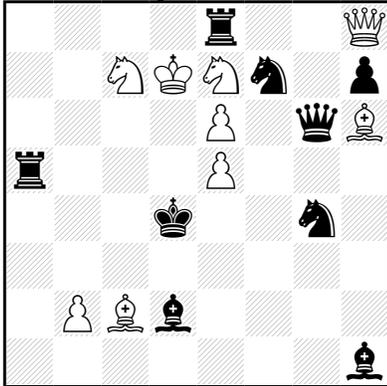
1.S×b3 Ra3 2.Sa1 Rh3‡
1.Sf3 Ra2 2.S×h2 R×h2‡
1.S×f5 Rg8 2.Sh6 Rg5‡
1.Se6 Rh8 2.Sg7 R×h7‡

A four-fold duel bS-wR, with line openings for wR, develops with four different positive arrival effects in the play of bS. (J)

I. annihilation and line-opening, II. capture of a white pawn with recapture, III. selfblock, IV. interference of the black line. (Author)

4° Prize

11 - Vitaly V. MEDINTSEV



4r2Q/2SKSs1p/4P1qB/r3P3/3k2s1/8/1PBb4/7b

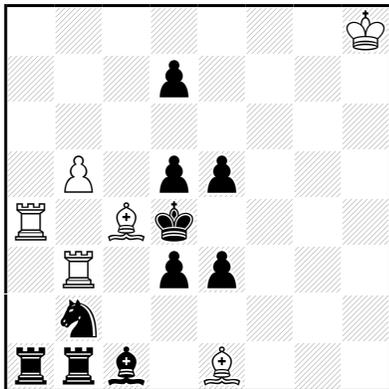
h#2 (9+9) C+
4.1.1.1

- 1.Qd3 Bf8 2.Qc4 Sf5#
- 1.Bd5 Qf8 2.Bc4 Sc6#
- 1.Rc5 b4 2.Rc4 Sb5#
- 1.Bc3 b3 2.Qxe6+ Sxe6#

A 3+1 concept of the theme. In the first three solutions, black blocks the free square c4 with three different units while white guards the free square c5 with three different units; at the same time white loses the control of one of the three initially guarded squares (e3/e5/c3), restoring it with the mating move. In the fourth solution, the free square c4 is actively guarded by wPb2 (getting involved to 'pawn double-step' effect), and the free square c5 is actively guarded by the mating unit. All four mates are model. (Author)

5° Prize

**29 - Menachem WITZTUM
Ricardo DE MATTOS VIEIRA**



7K/3p4/8/1P1pp3/R1Bk4/1R1pp3/1s6/rrb1B3

h#2 (6+10) C+
3.1.1.1

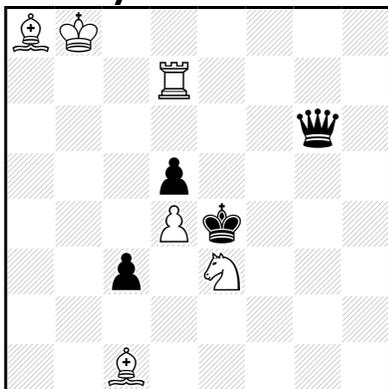
- 1.Sd1 Rc3 2.Bb2 Ba2‡
- 1.S×a4 Rb4 2.Sc5 Bb3‡
- 1.S×c4 Bb4 2.Sa3 B×a3‡

In order to take advantage of different batteries to mate on the fourth rank, the bS moves at B1, generating a different effect in each solution. (J)

- when the bS moves away (1.Sd1), both bR are interfered and the battery mates
- when the bS captures the rear / front piece of the battery (1.S:a4 / 1.S:c4), each bR is interfered in turn and new mating batteries are created. (Authors)

1° Honourable Mention

**2 - Vitaly V. MEDINTSEV
Anatoly SKRIPNIK**



BK6/3R4/6q1/3p4/3Pk3/2p1S3/8/2B5

h#2 (6+4) C+
3.1.1.1

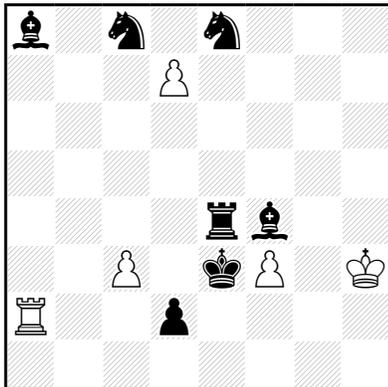
- 1.Kf4 R×d5 2.Qg3 Rf5‡
- 1.Kd3 B×d5 2.Qe4 Bc4‡
- 1.Qa6 S×d5 2.Qd3 Se7‡

Triple annihilation of bPd5 and triple self-block by bQ.

The strategy in the solutions 1) & 2) are unified: B1 - step away by bK into perspective mate net, W1 - annihilation of bPd5 by wR/wBa8, B2 - self-block by bQ, W2 - mate with line opening. In both these solutions, wS passively guards flight squares and supports the mating unit. In the 3rd solution, wS plays actively twice, including line-opening for wBc1 and performing battery mate, while bK remains on its initial square. (Authors)

3° Honourable Mention

20 - Michal DRAGOUN



b1s1s3/3P4/8/8/4rb2/2P1kP1K/R2p4/8

h#2 (5+7) C+
3.1.1.1

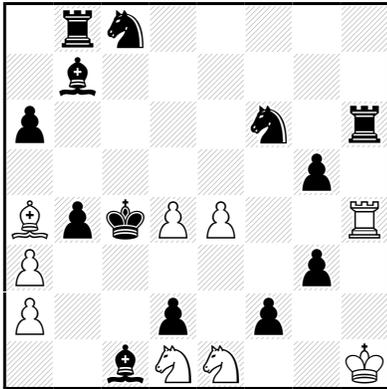
1.d1=S dxc8=Q 2.Sxc3 Qxc3#
1.d1=R dxe8=Q 2.Rd5 Qxe4#
1.d1=B d8=Q 2.Bxf3 Qd2#

Three black underpromotions and three bQ promotions.

The disharmony is developed in three different positive arrival effects in the black play: I. capture of a wP allowing mate by recapture, II. interference of a black line, III. selfblock.

4° Honourable Mention

**27 - Menachem WITZTUM
Ricardo DE MATTOS VIEIRA**



1rs5/1b6/p4s1r/6p1/BpkPP2R/P5p1/P2p1p2/2bSS2K

h#2 (9+13) C+
4.1.1.1

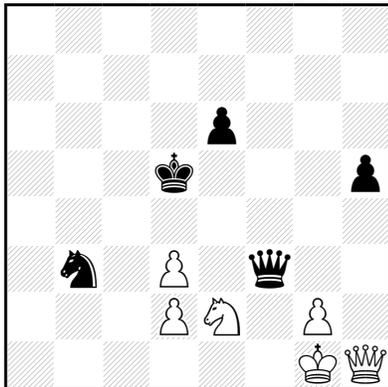
- 1.Sd5 e5 2.b3 a×b3‡
- 1.Bd5 e×d5 2.Rb5 Bb3‡
- 1.B×e4+ Sg2 2.Bd3 Sge3‡
- 1.S×e4 Bc6 2.Sc3 Se3‡

A wR must guard d4, thus black and white must work together on the b7-h1 line. Either the wP is allowed to move (by means of (i) unpin or (ii) active sacrifice of the pinner, ending both in different mates from b3) or the wP is eliminated ((i) with check that must be parried or (ii) check that must be avoided, ending both in different mates from square e3). (Authors).

A development in HOTF form, but there is a common goal in the 4 solutions: the guard on d4 by the wRh4. In two cases this occurs by annihilation of a wP and subsequent evacuation of the line; in the other two it is white who opens the line and black self-blocks the square, no longer guarded by the wP that moved. (J)

5° Honourable Mention

21 - Michal DRAGOUN



8/8/4p3/3k3p/8/1s1P1q2/3PS1P1/6KQ

h#2 (6+5) C+
3.1.1.1

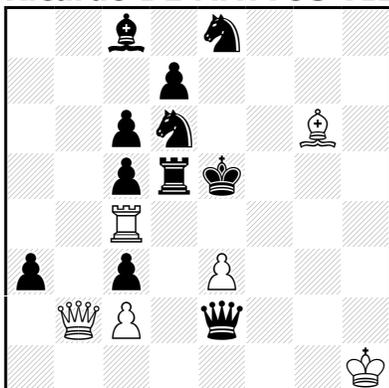
- 1.Ke5 Qh4 2.Qd5 Qf4#
- 1.Qxe2 Qh2 2.Kd4 Qd6#
- 1.Qxd3 Qh3 2.Ke4 Qxe6#

Cycle of two positive motifs in the play of the bQ:

- I. selfblock + unguard of a mating square,
- II. unguard of a mating square + allowing a bK's move by the capture of a white unit
- III. allowing of a bK's move by the capture of a white unit + selfblock. (Author)

6° Honourable Mention

**28 - Menachem WITZTUM
Ricardo DE MATTOS VIEIRA**



2b1s3/3p4/2ps2B1/2prk3/2R5/p1p1P3/1QP1q3/7K

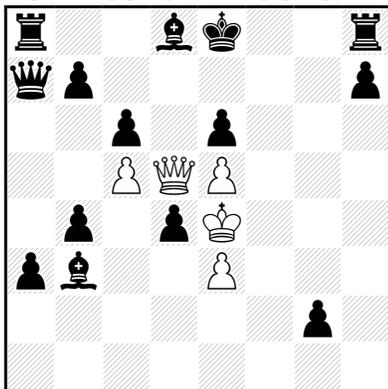
h#2 (6+11) C+
3.1.1.1

- 1.Qg4 Rxc5 2.Qe6 Qxc3#
- 1.Qf2 Qb8 2.Qf6 Re4#
- 1.Qxe3 Rxc3 2.Qf4 Re3#

Two white pieces cooperate in the three solutions. Two times with exchange of functions to pin a black piece and mate; the third to form a battery that mates with double check, while the previously pinned units can stay unnoticed. Three self-blocks of the bQ.

7° Honourable Mention

25 - Bosko MILOSESKI



r2bk2r/qp5p/2p1p3/2PQP3/1p1pK3/pb2P3/6p1/8

h#2 (5+14) C+

b) ♔e8→a4

c) ♔e8→g1

a)

1.0-0 Qd6 2.Kh8 Q×f8‡

b)

1.Ba5 Q×c6+ 2.b5 c×b6 e.p.‡

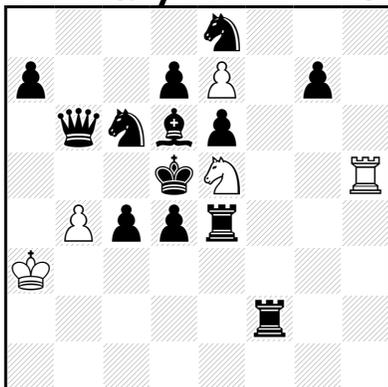
c)

1.Kh1 Q×e6 2.g1=R Qh3‡

The three twins develop respectively the themes of castling, en-passant and promotion, with all the wQ's W1 moves on the sixth rank and model mates. In summary, the Valladao theme.

8° Honourable Mention

14 - Vitaly V. MEDINTSEV



4s3/p2pP1p1/1qsbp3/3kS2R/1Pppr3/K7/5r2/8

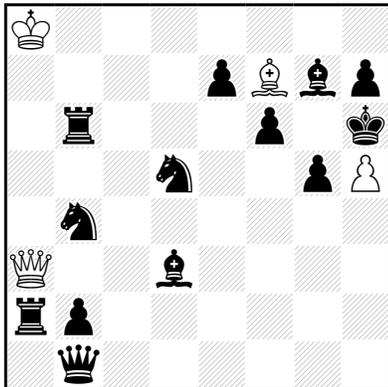
h#2 (5+13) C+
4.1.1.1

- 1.Qd8 e×d8=Q 2.S×e5 Qa8‡
- 1.Sc7 e8=Q 2.B×e5 Q×d7‡
- 1.Rf8 e×f8=Q 2.R×e5 Qf3‡
- 1.Qc5 b×c5 2.K×c5 S×d7‡

Three white promotions, that in two cases are allowed by a black sacrifice, are followed by black self-pin. In the fourth solution, again after a black sacrifice to play W1, the unit captured at B2 and the pinning unit become respectively front and rear piece of a white battery, which fires to mate.

2° Commended

10 - Velko ALEXANDROV



K7/4pBbp/1r3p1k/3s2pP/1s6/Q2b4/rp6/1q6

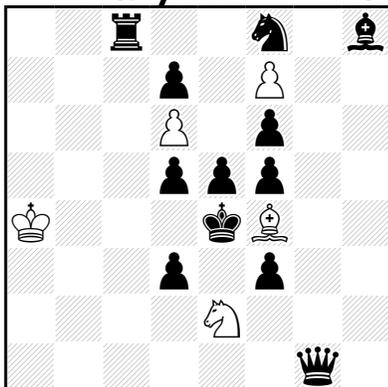
h#2 (4+13)
3.1.1.1

1.Bg6 h×g6 2.Sa6 Qh3‡
1.Ba6 Qh3 2.Qg6 h×g6‡
1.Sa6 Q×e7 2.Bf8 Q×f8‡

Three unpins of the wQ. In two cases they take place at B1, on the same square, allowing the wQ to take up position for the mating move. In the third the unpin is prepared by a black sacrifice and the black moves cannot be reversed because the piece that sacrifices itself blocks the wQ line. The inversion W1-W2 decreases the value of the problem.

3° Commended

12 - Vitaly V. MEDINTSEV



2r2s1b/3p1P2/3P1p2/3ppp2/K3kB2/3p1p2/4S3/6q1

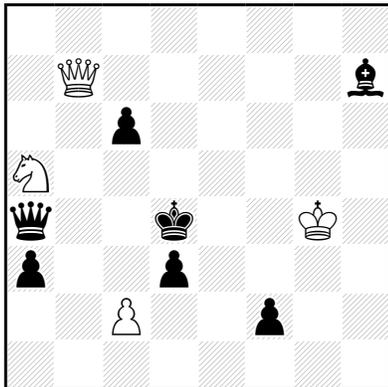
h#2 (5+12) C+
3.1.1.1

- 1.Qg8 f×g8=Q 2.f2 Qg2‡
- 1.Re8 f×e8=Q 2.d4 Qa8‡
- 1.Sh7 f8=Q 2.e×f4 Qe7‡

Three promotions to wQ are followed by slightly "naive" moves by the black pawns, in order to open the mating lines to the promoted wQ. Two times the promotions take place thanks to a black sacrifice and in the third thanks to the abandonment of the promotion square. The play that follows the two homogeneous promotions is quite simple; in the third solution there is the graceful capture of a redundant white piece. The whole is thematically flawless. (J)

4° Commended

17 - Michal DRAGOUN



8/1Q5b/2p5/S7/q2k2K1/p2p4/2P2p2/8

h#2 (4+7) C+
3.1.1.1

- 1.Qxa5 Qxh7 2.Ke3 Qxd3#
- 1.Qb3 c3+ 2.Kc5 Qxc6#
- 1.Qxc2 Sxc6+ 2.Kc3 Qb4#

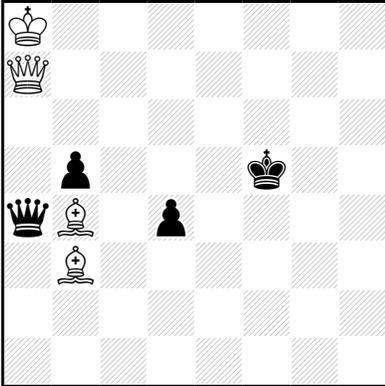
Organized: duel bQ-wQ with anticipatory check avoidance by bQ.

Disharmony: successive cumulation of positive effects in moves of the bQ: Qxa5 is only anticipatory check avoidance, Qb3 is anticipatory check avoidance + unguard of a mating square, Qxc2 is anticipatory check avoidance + unguard of a mating square + selfblock. (Author)

The self-block, additional effect of the third solution, ensures that there is no double cyclic dual avoidance and this, in my opinion, impoverishes the idea. (J)

5° Commended

36 - Jorge J. LOIS
Jorge M. KAPROS



K7/Q7/8/1p3k2/qB1p4/1B6/8/8

h#2 (4+4) C+
3.1.1.1

1.Kg6 Bd2 2.Qb4 Qf7#

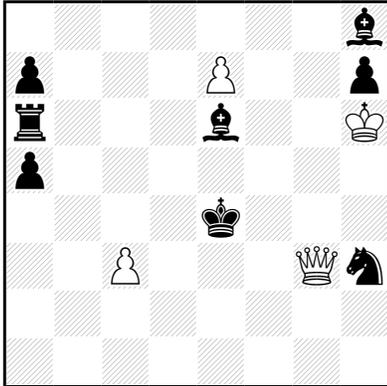
1.Kf6 Bc2 2.Qb3 Qe7#

1.Ke5 Ba5 2.Kd6 Qc7#

Three echo mates in an elegant problem with 8 pieces. In the first two solutions the bQ unpins the wQ, placing herself on the square vacated by the white piece that has just moved. In the third, instead, a white piece unpins the wQ. (J).

6° Commended

15 - Michel CAILLAUD



7b/p3P2p/r3b2K/p7/4k3/2P3Qs/8/8

h≠2 (4+8) C+
3.1.1.1

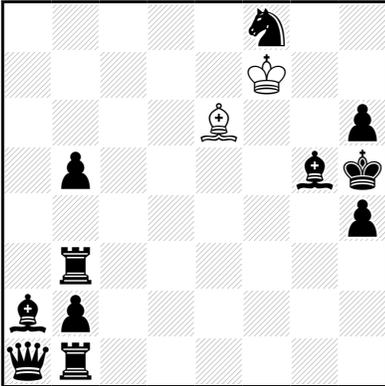
- 1.Rd6 e8=S 2.Bd5+ S×d6‡
- 1.Rc6 e8=B 2.Bf5+ B×c6‡
- 1.Bd4 e8=Q 2.Bb6 Q×e6‡

The logic that connects the solutions is that bRa6 controls mating square by the promoted piece.

In the uniform solutions, bRa6 is actively sacrificed. In the third solution, bRa6 is interfered with. (Author)

7° Commended

6 - Karol MLYNKA



5s2/5K2/4B2p/1p4bk/7p/1r6/bp6/qr6

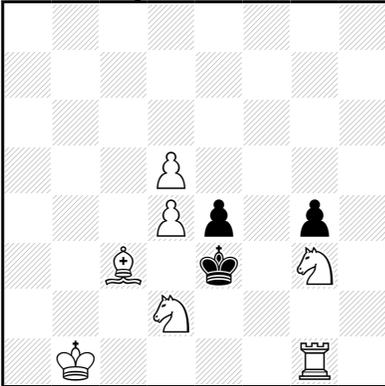
h#2 (2+11) C+
4.1.1.1

- 1.Rg1 K×f8 2.Rg4 Bf7‡
- 1.Rd1 B×b3 2.Bb1 B×d1‡
- 1.Re3 Bd5 2.Re6 Bf3‡
- 1.Rd3 Bc4 2.Rd5 Be2‡

Four model mates by a single wB in a white minimal problem.
A triple of solutions with FML, a different triple with white unpins (J).

8° Commended

3 - Vitaly V. MEDINTSEV



8/8/8/3P4/3Pp1p1/2B1k1S1/3S4/1K4R1

h≠2 (7+3) C+

b) ♞e4→f3

c) ♞e4→c7

a)

1.Kf4 Sf3 2.e×f3 Bd2‡

b)

1.Kd3 Se2 2.f×e2 Rg3‡

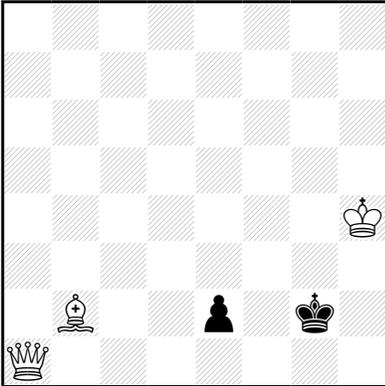
c)

1.c5 d×c5 2.Kf2 Bd4‡

We have a) & b) + c) concept. The common link is W1-W2 Umnov moves in all three phases + one move by bK into mate net in each phase. (Author)

9° Commended

7 - Dan-Constantin GURGUI



8/8/8/8/7K/8/1B2p1k1/Q7

h≠2* (3+2) C+
3.1.1.1

1...Bd4 2.Kh2 Qg1‡
1...Qf1+ 2.Kh2 Be5‡
1...Qh1+ 2.Kf2 Bd4‡

1.Kf2 Bc1 2.Ke1 Be3‡
1.Kh2 Qf1 2.e1=S Be5‡
1.Kf3 Qh1+ 2.Kf2 Bd4‡

The W1 moves of the wQ in Set Play are replied in the Actual Play, while the wB moves in Set and AP in different squares.

This award will become final one month after its publication.

Send claims by 27/01/2022 to Francesco SIMONI:

francesco.chessproblems(AT)gmail.com

Bologna, 27/12/2021

**Francesco Simoni
International Judge**