



## 4-day Composing Tourney, Ohrid 2018

<https://wccc2018.com.mk/composing/#4-day-tourney>

I would like to thank all nine participants who submitted originals for this tourney, and also to all other composers who in the past four days expressed interest in this complex theme. All seven entries are good achievements, and they have all found place in the award. Nietvelt defensive motif was shown in six problems, while Schiffmann defensive motif was shown in one. As it often happens in thematic tourneys, I had to make a difficult decision about the tourney winner, choosing between some thematically striking compositions, and one, in general very ambitious, composition.

**1st Prize: Frank Richter (Germany)** – A convincing black correction, with Queen as the thematic piece. Anti-dual effect of the thematic correction, and a nice additional correction. Excellent construction, a sacrificial key, and all direct mates. *1.Tg7! (2.exf7+ Lxd6#); 1...D~ 2.Dxd4+ Txd4#; 1...Dxe6 2.De5+ Dxe5# (2.Dxd4+? Dxe5+!); 1...Dxg7 2.Lg5+ Dxg5#*

**2nd Prize: Andrey Selivanov (Russia)** – An excellent key, a thematic try, and white AUW split between the threat, the two thematic variations, and the continuation after black King's move. Regretfully, the capture of the thematic black Bishop is a rather crude way of utilizing the harmful effect of the thematic secondary defence. *1.Ld7? Sxc7!, 1.Lh5! (2.e8=T+! Kd7 3.Dg7+ Le7#); 1...Kd7 2.e8=L+! Kd8 3.Df6+ Le7#; 1...Lf~ 2.e8=D+! Txf8 3.Dxb6+ Sxb6#; 1...Lxd5 2.e8=S+! Kd7 3.Dxd5+ Ld6# (2.e8=D+? Txf8 3.Dxb6+ Lc6!)*

**3rd Prize: Valery Kopyl (Ukraine)** – A strong thematic entry, with convincing utilization of the self-pin in the thematic correction. Fine selfmate-specific harmful effects of the primary defence and of the additional correction. *1.h3! (2.hxg4+ Lxg4#); 1...S~ 2.Dh5+ Lxh5#; 1...Sxf6 2.g4+ Lxg4#; 1...Se5 2.Lxd3+ Sxd3#*

**1st Honourable Mention: Roland Baier (Switzerland)** – A nice unpinning key, and an equally nice useful effect of the primary defence. The usage of the black battery is extended to two additional variations. *1.Sd6! (2.Sc4+ Txc4#); 1...Sc~ 2.Dxg5+ Txg5#; 1...Sxe6! 2.Dg7+ Sxg7# (2.Dxg5+? Sxg5!); 1...Sxd6, Sa3 2.d4+ Txd4#; 1...Sd4 2.cxd4+ Txd4#*

**2nd Honourable Mention: Miodrag Mladenović (Serbia)** – The only secondary Schiffmann in the tourney. Nice sacrificial key, but the white play from the primary defence is repeated after 1...gxf5. *1.Tf5! (zz); 1...S~ 2.Se7+ gxf5 3.Sa6+ Lxa6#; 1...Sxd6! 2.Sf6+ gxf5 3.Se4+ fxe4#; 1...gxf5 2.Se7 S~ 3.Sa6+ Lxa6#*

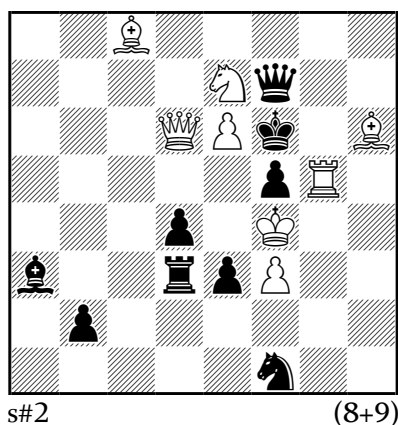
**1st Commendation: Thomas Maeder (Switzerland)** – An interesting key, emphasized by tries, that prevents a successful correction, by preparing a pin. The thematic play is similar to the 1st H.M., to which I gave advantage because of its more economical mechanism, with a single black battery. *1.Tc6?, Te6? Sxd5!, 1.Td6! (2.Txc4+ bxc4#); 1...S3~ 2.Df2+ gxf2#; 1...Sxe4! 2.Dd2+ Sxd2#*

**2nd Commendation: Ilija Serafimović, Živojin Perović & Marko Ložajić (all Serbia)** – The self-pinning corrective move has an immediate harmful effect – Black becomes stalemated! Two additional corrections, with Grab theme. Although the play is not selfmate-specific, and the tries *1...Sxd6 2.Txd6?* and *1...Sd4 Lxd4?* are not very convincing, this interesting rendering could have been placed even higher if it had a better key. *1.Lf6! (2.Dxb5 S~#); 1...Sb~ 2.De4+ Sd3#; 1...Sxd6 2.cxd6 ~#; 1...Sd4 2.exd4 ~#; 1...Sxc3 2.e4 ~#*

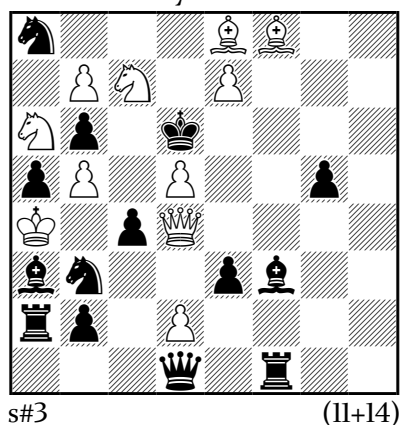
Ohrid, 7 September 2018

Ivan Denkovski

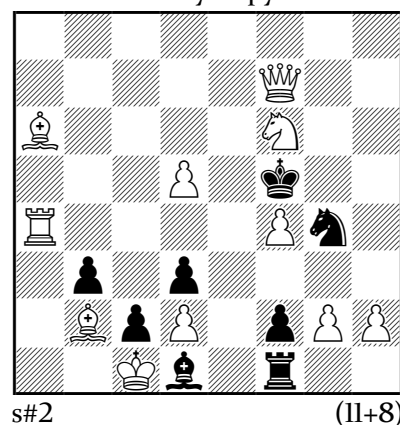
*1st Prize*  
Frank Richter



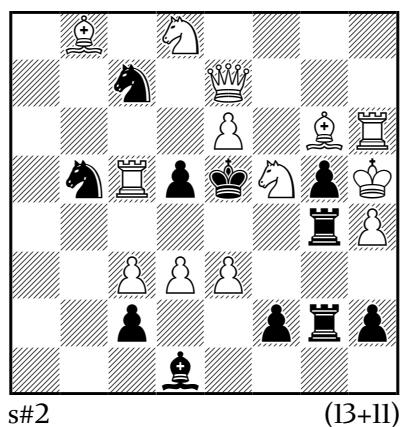
*2nd Prize*  
Andrey Selivanov



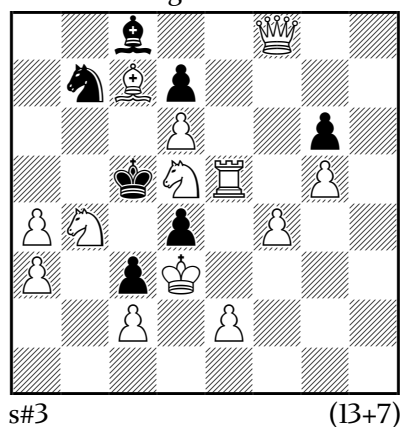
*3rd Prize*  
Valery Kopyl



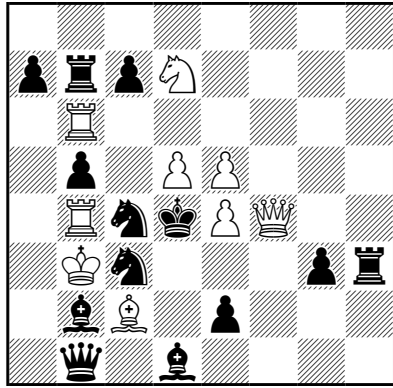
*1st Honourable Mention*  
Roland Baier



*2nd Honourable Mention*  
Miodrag Mladenović



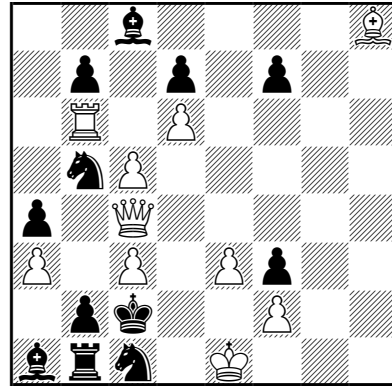
*1st Commendation*  
Thomas Maeder



s#2

(9+13)

*2nd Commendation*  
Ilija Serafimović,  
Živojin Perović &  
Marko Ložajić



s#2

(10+12)