



6th YCCC 2022
Announcement



UAE2022
FUJAIRAH

45TH WCSC & 64TH WCCC

6th Youth Chess Composing Challenge 2022

The Youth Chess Composing Challenge (YCCC) is an individual competition, open to young participants of all countries. It was established in 2016, by the Serbian Chess Problem Society, and since then it's been part of the program of the yearly World Congress of Chess Composition (WCCC).

In 2018 the Youth Committee of the World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC) was established with one of the goals to develop and promote the YCCC. Youth Committee is also planned as the body to help all young composers and trainers with information and advice.

The contact address is yccc@wfcc.ch

Rules & Themes of the 6th YCCC

The 6th YCCC 2022 **is open to all chess composers of the U23 generation (born 1999 or later)**, matching the age limit for juniors in the WFCC solving competitions (WCSC, ECSC, ISC).

This year YCCC contains two sections with certain thematic conditions. The third one is open for all kinds of compositions. Each participant may send **one entry per section. Joint works are not accepted.**

Section A – Mate in two moves

Thematic condition: "Mate in 2 moves, with all four Knights on the squares around the black King in the initial position, the Knights guarding each other, but not attacking each other (as on the two diagrams below). Participants are expected to maximize the use of the Knights in the real play (first move, threat, mate, defence), and virtual play (set-play, tries, refutations, dual-avoidance, etc). Whatever the content, it is desirable to use all four Knights in the solution."

Judge: David Shire



These positions may be rotated or translated, leaving the pieces in the same relative dispositions.

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The Albrecht collection (<http://www.schach-udo.de/dab/zwei.htm>) with more than 270.000 two-movers, contains only 6 entries with Knights arranged as in the Position 1, and only 4 out of the 6 are substantially different:

Thematic example A1

Heinz Zander

Schach-Echo, 1960

3r1b2/1pn2Q2/1PNkn3/4NP2/1P2P3/8/8/3K4



Mate in 2 moves

1. Ke1! (-) 1...Sc~ 2. Qxe6
 1...Se~ 2. Qxc7
 1...B~ 2. Qe7
 1...R~ 2. Qd7
 1...bc6 2. Sc4

Sc7,Se6 & Se5 actively play in the solution, Se6 also prevents 1.Kc2?/Ke2? while Sc6 guards two squares.

Thematic example A2

Aleksander Rohozinski

Deutsche Schachzeitung, 1942 (version)

r7/b1ppn3/2nkN3/p1N2R2/7p/5B1K/1qp5/4R1B1



Mate in 2 moves

1.Sg5? threat: 2.Sge4#/Sf7#/Sce4#
 1...Se5 2.Rf6# but: 1...Sd8!

1.Sd4? threat: 2.Se4# 1...Se~ 2.Rxd5#
 1...Sxd4 2.Bh2# 1...Sxf5 2.Sxf5#
 1...Bxc5 2.Rf6# but: 1...Se5!

1.Sg7! threat: 2.Se4#
 1...Se~ 2.Rd5# 1...Sd4 2.Bh2# 1...Sb4 2.Sb7#
 1...Sd8/Sb8 2.Se8#
 1...Sxf5 2.Sxf5# 1...Se5 2.Rf6# 1...Bxc5
 2.Bxc5#

All 4 Knights have important thematic roles: Sc5 delivers two mates; Se6 provides tries and key (and gives mate, too); both black Ss defend by unblocking, while Sc6 refutes the tries.

Thematic example A3

Peter Keirans

1.Pr. Lettländischer

Problemisten-Verein 1930

3r2r1/4bnpP/1R2nkNP/2p1N2p/7P/2Bp3B/8/6K1



Mate in 2 moves

1.Sf4! threat: 2.Sd7#
 1...Sf5+ 2.Sg4# 1...Se8+ 2.hxg8=S#
 1...Bd6 2.Sd5# 1...Bf8 2.hxg8=S#

Se5 delivers two mates, Sg6 provides key and allows two battery checks by Sg7. Do note that pinned Se6 can't be replaced by bP (1.Sf4? Bd6! 2.Sd5 ed5!)

Thematic example A4

A. Wasjutschko

1. Comm. Revista Romana de Sah 1985
(version H. Prins)

2b5/5pr1/R3pN1b/3Nkn1R/3n3p/K1Q3r1/PP3P1B/7B



Mate in 2 moves

1.Bf3? threat: 2.Qc7# 1...Bg5 **2.Sg4#** but: 1...Rg5!
1.f3? threat: 2.Qc7# 1...Rg5 2.f4# but: 1...Bg5!
1.Rg5? threat: **2.Sg4#/Qe3#/f4#** but: 1...Bxa6!
1.b3? threat: 2.Qc7# but: 1...Bc1+!
1.Kb4? threat: 2.Qc7# but: 1...Bd2!

1.Ka4! threat: 2.Qc7# 1...Bd7+ **2.Sxd7#** 1...Rg5
2.f4# (2.Qc7? **Sd6!**) 1...Bg5 **2.Sg4#** (2.Qc7?
Sd6!)

Here, the main content is centred around mutual interferences (White on f3 and Black on g5), and unpinning (White on 3rd rank, and Black on 5th rank). Out of 4 Knights, Sf6 gives two mates, and Sf5 is unpinned to defend the threat. The roles of Sd5 & Sd4 are technical, but necessary.

Only two problems in the Albrecht collection use Position of Knights No.2:

Thematic example A5

Samuel M. Joseph

The Daily Graphic 1886

8/2B4B/3p4/1P1p2R1/2Nkn3/1Rn1N3/4p3/4K2Q



Mate in 2 moves

1.Qf3! (-)
1...Se~ 2.Bb6#
1...Sc5 2.Qf6#
1...Sc~ 2.Rxd5# 1...dxc4 2.Sc2#
1...Kd3 2.Rxd5# (1...Kc5 2.Bb6#)

Sc3, Se4 & Se3 actively play, Sc4 guards and is captured.

Thematic example A6

Živko Janevski

2.HM KoBulChess 2013

8/5B2/6p1/1pNn4/2Pk1pQ1/r1nN1K2/P2R4/2R5



Mate in 2 moves

Setplay: 1...Kxc4 2.Qxf4#
1...Sc7 2.Qg1#

1.Qc8! threat: **2.Se6#**
1...Ra6/Kxc4 **2.Sb3#**
1...Sc7 2.Qh8#

Both bSs pinned after 1...Kxc4 in the setplay, Sc5 & Sd5 actively play in the solution, Sd3 guards e5/c5/b4.

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Section B – Endgame study

Thematic condition: "At some point during a mating study, Black's King is on square X. The King then moves at least twice and returns to square X, where it is mated." In Example B1, King makes 10 moves (from 10th to 19th move) to return to the mating square, while Example B2 uses minimum of two moves.

Judge: Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen

Thematic example B1
Steffen Nielsen
Dansk Skak Union 2018
4r3/4k3/1B2r1p1/5p2/1pp5/P2b2P1/8/Q4nK1

White wins

1.Qg7+ Kd6 2.Qc7+ Kd5 3.Qc5+ Ke4
4.Qd4+ Kf3 5.Qf2+ Ke4 6.Qf4+ Kd5
7.Qd4+ Kc6 8.Qc5+ Kb7 9.Qc7+ **Ka6**
10.Qa7+ Kb5 11.a4+ Kc6 12.Qc7+ Kd5
13.Qc5+ Ke4 14.Qd4+ Kf3 15.Qf2+ Ke4
16.Qf4+ Kd5 17.Qd4+ Kc6 18.Qc5+ Kb7
19.Qc7+ **Ka6 (theme)** 20.Qa7# (theme)

Thematic example B2
Steffen Nielsen
3rd Prize Platov 140 MT 2021
8/p7/3Kp1Pp/7k/5P2/2b3PB/8/8

White wins

1.g7! (1. Kxe6?Kxg6 2. Bf5+ Kg7!)
1...Bxg7 2.Kxe6 Kg6 3.Bf5+ **Kh5 (theme)**
4.Kd5! a5 5.Ke4 a4 6.Kf3 a3 7.Kg2 Be5!
8.Kh3 Bxf4 9.gxf4 a2 10.Be6! a1Q
11.**Bf7# (theme)**

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Section C – All genres

This section is open for endgames and problems of any kind, length and content.

Judges: a group of experts in different genres.

How to prepare and send your entries for the 6th YCCC

All entries (not more than one per section) on diagrams, with complete solutions and possible comments, should be sent by email to the tournament director Julia Vysotska at yccc@wfcc.ch not later than **31st August 2022**.

If possible, send your endgames in pgn format.

It is very much preferable that you check the soundness of your entries with computer programs, and indicate the name of the program you had used. For majority of problems you can use a free open source **Olive** graphical front-end for Popeye chess software (<https://www.yacpdb.org/#static/olive>), developed by Dmitry Turevski.

Please, send your date of birth, place of residence, and a recent photo of good quality, together with the entries.

Workshop

Participants are encouraged to use the official email of the YCCC project yccc@wfcc.ch to ask any questions and to consult with experts, especially during the first month, till the end of July. The YCCC is a composing workshop, where young composers will be rewarded by valuable comments on their entries, and by some worthy recommendations for the future.

Prizes

The prize-giving will be during the closing ceremony of the 64th World Congress of Chess Composition in Fujairah, on 18. November 2022. The three winners of each section will receive medals and certificates. This time, **exclusively**, there will be money prizes for the most successful 6th YCCC composers **among the participants of the Fujairah Congress**. Complete awards will be published afterwards, on the Congress website.

YCCC coordinator

Marjan Kovačević

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Prize-giving ceremony of the [5th YCCC](#) during Rhodes WCCC 2021



Prize-giving ceremony of the [4th YCCC](#) during Vilnius WCCC 2019