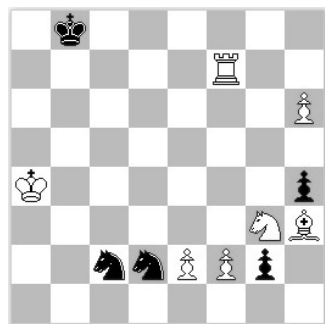


Award of Murfatlar TT9 WCCC Magdeburg 2026

Theme: The required condition was **Power Transfer type Circe** (*). Competitors may add a second condition (but not fairy units). All types of stipulations are permitted and possibly, with some fairy extra condition (without fairy units).

I was delighted to see that this tournament was a success, especially since the required condition belongs to a Romanian living in Canada. When assessing the works, I had as a benchmark the following problem published in Julias fairies:

No.1516 Cornel Păcurar &
Adrian Storișteanu
Canada
Julias fairies 2020



7+5 hs#3.5
b) Kb8→g8
Circe Power Transfer

a) 1...Sd2-d3 2.Bc8 Ka8 3.Sg3-f1 Sc2-b4! 4.Ra7+ Kb8#
(3...Sd3-b4? 4.Ra7+ Sc2-a1!)

b) 1...Sc2-c1 2.Sh1 Kh7 3.Ka3 Sd2-b3! 4.Bf5+ Kg8#
(3...Sc1-b3? 4.Bf5+ Sd2-f1!)

(C+ by Jacobi and WinChloe)

Circe-power-transfer specific dual avoidance. Function exchange of the bSs (in both play and antidual), and of wB/wR (supporting/leading role in the selfmate finale).

BK switchbacks. (Authors)

Then, we set the bar very high from the beginning (by the way, this problem has not been judged so far, unfortunately).

About **60 problems** received from the following composers (in parentheses country and number of problems):

Ioannis Kalkavouras (GR, 2.5), Allen Bell (Ireland, 2), Pierre Tritten (FR, 1), Franz Pachl & Rainer Kuhn (D, 3), Hiroachi Maeshima (JAP, 1), Mario Parrinello (Italy, 2), Juraj Lörinc (SK, 1) Dieter Werner (D, 2), D.Werner & Ralf Krätschmer (D, 8), Ralf Krätschmer (D, 1), M. Caillaud (FR, 1), Arnold Beine (D, 5), Theodoros Giakatis (GR, 1), Themis Argirakopoulos (GR, 1), Manfred Rittirsch (D, 2), Kostas Prentos (GR, 12.5), Eric Huber with or without V. Crisan (RO, 13), Axel Gilbert (FR, 1), Dirk Borst (ND, 1). Must remark the massive work from Greece!

I decided to split the ranking in two categories:

A) Proof games and **B) Others**

(*) invented by Cornel Păcurar in 2019.

The level of the tournament was high and it gave me a lot of pleasure. I congratulate all the participants for their contribution.

My ranking is here from Commendations to Prizes.

A) Proof games

Commendations (without order):

Comm – P. Tritten: 1.é3 b5 2.Qg4 Bb7 3.Q×g7 **b×f1=S** 4.Qd4 S×é3 5.Q×a7 Sc4! (Sd1?) 6.Q×b7 S×b2 7.Q×b8 **S×b8** Jacobi+

Phoenix-Pronkin S, home-base. With orthodox rules: 1.b3 a5 2.e4 a4 3.Ba6 g5 4.Bxb7 g4 5.Qxg4 Bxb7 6.bxa4 Bxe4 7.Qxe4 Rxa4 8.Qa8 Rxa8

Comm – Th. Giakatis:

Solution: 1.b4 c6 2.Bb2 Qc7 3.bxe7 cxd2 4.Bc1 gxf1=Q 5.Bg2 Qd8 6.Bc6 Qxc6 7.**exd8=S Qxd8**
Jacobi+, Schnoebelen S.

Comm – A. Beine: The unique fairy PG received.

1.b3 g7-b2xc1=S 2.g2-g7xh8=B+ (check because of Powertransfer) S-b2xd1 3.Bb2 f6 4.bf7 (PT, no check because of m&t) Bg7 5.f8=Q (no check because of Powertransfer) b7-g2xf1=R 6.Q-f7xd8 (PT) Sc6 7.Qe6+ (PT) S-f8xe6 8.Bc1.

Prentos (Q), Pronkin (B), AUW, white homebase.

The field remains open for even more ambitious works.



Comm – K. Prentos: 1.d4 a5 2.Bd2 Ra6 3.da7 b6 4.e4 Bb7 5.Qe2 Ba8 6.eb7 d5 7.f4 Kd7 8.Qf2 Ke6 9.fxc7 Qd6 10.g4 Qf4 11.Bg2+ Kf6 12.gd7 C+, Jacobi v.o.7.5 (58935 sec) Kostas already made a longer row of white Pawns with orthodox rules.

Honorable Mentions:

HM5 – A. Bell:

1.a4 g5 2.Ra3 Bg7 3.Rd3 Bd4 4.c3 Sf6 5.Qc2 Bxf2+ 6.Kd1 O-O 7.Rxd7 Bxf1 8.Rd3 Bf5 9.e4 Qd7 10.Se2 Rc8+ 11.Rxf1 **Bxf1#**
Spectacular checkmate with Bishop.

HM4 – M. Caillaud:

1.e4 a6 2.Bxa6 b5 3.Ke2 Bb7+ 4.Kf3 **f1=Q** 5.**Qe1** Qd3+ 6.**Kd1** Qe3 7.**Bf1** Qe2+ 8.**exe2 Bc8** C+
Jacobi o.7.5 (22 hours) A switchback of wP on second rank is only possible by capturing a bQ or a bR.



A. Bell
HM3, Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



14+15 CPT PG13

M. Parrinello
HM2, Murfatlar TT9 (v)
Magdeburg 2026, section A



13+16 CTP PG11
RexInclus

K. Prentos
HM1 e.a., Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



12+16 CTP PG9

HM3 – A. Bell: 1.a4 g5 2.Ra3 Bg7 3.Rd3 Bxb2 4.Rxd7 Sf6 5.Rd5 O-O 6.Rf5 Ba2 7.Bb2 Qd3 8.Bd4 Bce6 9.c3 Rc8 10.Qb3 Bxe2+ 11.Kd1 Be1 12.Kc1 Rf8+ 13.Kb2 Bc1

Shuttle by h8 Rook enables black Bishops to exchange square colour.

HM2 – M. Parrinello: 1.a4 f6 2.Ra3 Kf7 3.Rg3 Qe8 4.e3 Ka2 5.Qh5 Kxb1 6.Ke2 Kxc1 7.Kf3 Kxf1 8.Rg6 Kc4 9.Se2+ Kf7 10.Ra1 Qd8 11.Sc1 Ke8.

bK's circuit, impostor Ra1, bQ's switchback. The first version was cooked in orthodox manner (with Stelvio). Partially tested: Stelvio has not found any solution, the first 9 moves are C+ in 1583 s, splitting the sequence 9+2 moves C+ in 1915 s.

HM1 ex aequo – K. Prentos: 1.a4 d6 2.Ra3 Qd7 3.Rd3 dxh2 4.c3 Qg4 5.Qc2 Be6 6.Rd7 h6 7.Qh7 hxd2 8.f4 dxd7 9.Kd2 hxd7. Jacobi v.o.7.5 (171970 sec)

Distant cross-captures (Pd7-d6xd2 & Ph7-h6xd2) and exchange of places between the bPd7 and bPh7.

D. Borst
HM1 e.a., Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



16+15 CPT PG9.5

HM1 ex aequo – D. Borst: 1.e3 d6 2.Qh5 Qd7 3.Se2 dh6 4.ed1 f5 5.d3 Kf7 6.Bd2 Kf6 7.Sc1 Kg5 8.d3-e2 Kh4 9.Bf3 Qd2+ 10.dxd2#

Pd2 & Pe2 exchange places, Jacobi+

These two problems classified ex-aequo make the same theme, but in different manner.

M. Rittirsch
5th Prize, Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



12+10 CPT PG10

K. Prentos
4th Prize, Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



12+15 CPT PG9
RexInclus

K. Prentos
3rd Prize, Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



16+13 CPT PG9.5

Prizes:

5th Prize – M. Rittirsch:

1.e3 h5 2.Bd3 Rh7 3.Bxh7 hxd1=S 4.Bxg8 Se2 5.ed1 Sf1 6.Bxe7 Sxd2 7.Bc5 Sb3 8.Bxa7 Sxc1 9.Bxc8 Sb3 10.cxb3 Qxc8

Incredible intensity of power transfer between wB and bS. At the end, the actors disappear.

Jacobi+(~51 hours)

4th Prize – K. Prentos:

1.d4 e5 2.Sd2 Be7 3.de6 exb2 4.e4 **bxc1=S** 5.Ba6 Se2 6.ef8=S Bc6 7.ed6+ Kxf8 **8.de8=S** Kg6 9.Kxe2 Qxe8+ Jacobi v.o.7.5 (102794 sec)

Three promoted Knights are captured: two of them are Schnoebelen (SS) and one is Prentos (s)

Typical proof game for the Greek composer.

3rd Prize – Kostas Prentos:

1.e4 b5 2.Bc4 Bb7 3.Bxf7+ **bf1=S** 4.d3 g5 5.Be3 Bg7 6.Bb6 **gc1=S** 7.Bc8 e6 **8.Qxc1** Qe7 9.Bd8+ Kf7 **10.Kxf1**. Jacobi v.o.7.5 (9853 sec)

Two Schnoebelen Knights (ss) help the white Bishops exchange colors. The Power Transfer condition helps a lot to make all this faster.

2nd Prize – K. Prentos:

1.c4 f5 2.Qc2 Sf6 3.cg8=Q Sc6 4.Qe4 Sxc1 5.g3 Sxa2 6.Qg2 Saxg8 7.gxc7 d6 8.Kd1 Be6 9.c8=Q Be3 10.fxe3 Qd7 11.Kc2+ Rxc8+

The author gives pertinent explanation:

Two Schnoebelen Queens (QQ). The first is rather straightforward: The black Knight, whose rebirth square is occupied by the promoted Queen on g8, moves both orthogonally and diagonally. The second uses a somewhat different method: The bBc8, whose rebirth square is occupied by the white promotee, moves orthogonally, ruling out the promotion to a Bishop, or Knight. The promotion to a Rook would expose the Ke8 to an illegal check after the move 10...Qd7. Promoting to a Queen, whose rebirth square is temporarily occupied by the wKd1, is the only choice.

K. Prentos
2nd Prize, Murfatlar TT9
Magdeburg 2026, section A



12+14 CPT PG11
RexInclus

K. Prentos
 1st Prize, Murfatlar TT9
 Magdeburg 2026, section A



10+15 CPT PG11

1st Prize – K. Prentos:

1.c4 f5 2.Qc2 Sf6 3.cg8=Q Sa6 4.Qxc7 Sxa2 5.Qb8 Sxg8 6.Ra3 Kf7
 7.Rh3 fe4 8.d3 Sxf2+ 9.Kd2 Sxf1+ 10.Kc3 Sxh2 11.Sd2 Sxb8

Partially tested with Jacobi v0.7.5:

The first 9.5 moves: {C+; 69209 sec}

The last 9.0 moves (2.0-11.0): {C+; 17071 sec}

The full length in demolition mode: Stopped at pass 97, after 244600 seconds, no solution found.

Exchange of places between bSb8 and bSg8 . The Knights capture the original and a Schnoebelen Queen on their destination squares. [author]

A very difficult theme masterfully done by Kostas.

P. Răican – International Judge of FIDE
 Tulcea, August 28