

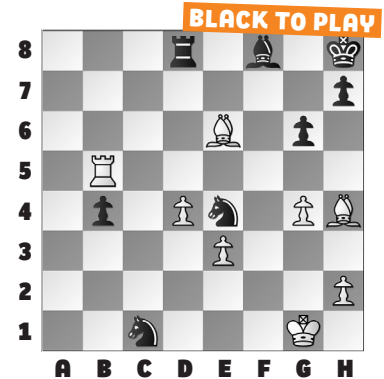
FIDE WORLD SENIOR TEAMS

This week's exercises come from the **2024 FIDE World Senior Team Championships**. Team USA won gold in the 50+ section, and Team

USA Women won silver in the 50+ and bronze in the 65+ section.

In our **example**, Black was winning until she made the risky choice of meeting White's threat on the d8-rook with the counter-threat of **45. ... Nc3??**, missing that after **46. Rb7!**, White now threatens both to capture the rook and to mate with Bh4-f6+. **46. ... Ne4** There was no way to stop mate without giving up the rook, and White went on to win in Marks – Wright, Krakow,

2024. The simplest response was 45. ... g5, pacifying White's bishop.



1. WHITE TO PLAY

2. WHITE TO PLAY

3. BLACK TO PLAY

4. WHITE TO PLAY

5. WHITE TO PLAY

6. BLACK TO PLAY

SOLUTIONS

1) 33. Rxa5+ White forces mate! **Black resigned** due to **33. ... Nxa5**

34. Rb8 mate. (Fomina – Jhunjhnuwala, R., Krakow, 2024)

2) 37. Rfh6 Another forced mate in two, but a much harder one.

Black resigned as Rh1-h5 mate is inevitable. (Arkell – Sagalchik, Krakow, 2024) **3) 27. ... Bxe5!** Black discovers an attack on the hanging f3-bishop. **28. dxe5** In the game, White played 28. Bxd5 but after

28. ... cxd5 the tempo on White's queen gives Black time to save the extra bishop. **28. ... Rxf3** winning. (Thomas – Jhunjhnuwala, S., Krakow, 2024) **4) 42. Rxh6+** White wins the queen and h-pawn for two rooks. **42. ... Qxh6** **43. Rh2** and **Black resigned** shortly. (Kennedy – Hogan, Krakow, 2024) **5)** Black's d-pawn looks dangerous. How do we stop it? **31. Rc7** Trick question! White played the passive **31. Rd1??** and after **31. ... d2** **32. Kg1** **Rd4** **33.**

Kf2 **Rxb2** **34. Ke3** **Rd3+** **35. Ke2** **Rg3** **36. Rxc4** **Rxg2+** Black reached a winning endgame. But after the correct move, White meets **31. ... d2** with **32. Rfxf7** and can force a draw by perpetual check. (Jhunjhnuwala, N. – Narva, Krakow, 2024, analysis) **6)** Should Black take on b2? **34. ... Qxe3+** No! Safest, but the point is **34. ... Qxb2+??** **35. Rc2** left Black with no time to defend the knight, and White won shortly. (Kerr – Kennedy, Krakow, 2024, analysis)