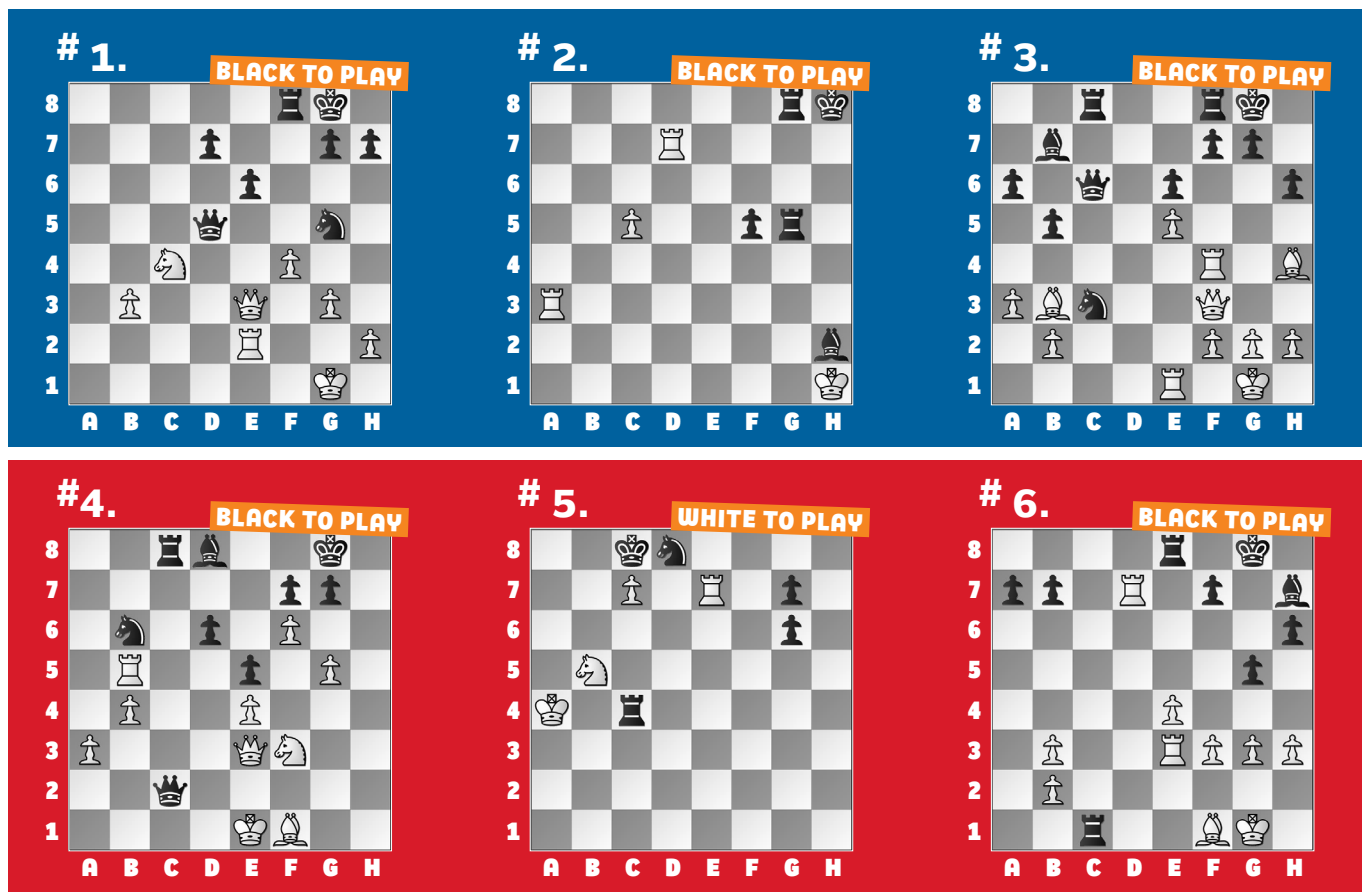
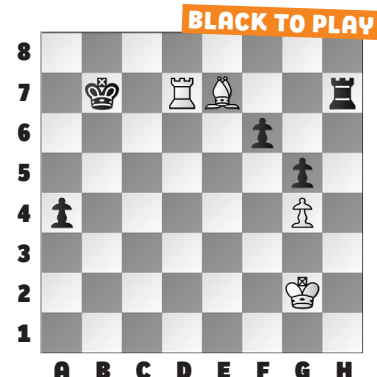


2025 FIDE GRAND SWISS, PT. 2

Today's puzzles continue our series on the **2025 FIDE Grand Swiss** and Women's Grand Swiss, with more selections by WGM Sabina Foisor.

In our **example**, Black had to make continuous threats against White's loose pieces, otherwise White could catch the a-pawn and win. The correct move was **78. ... Kc6!** when **79. Ra7** Or **79. Rd6+ Kc7** **80. Bf8 Rf7** wins back the piece. Now, **79. ... a3** **80. Ra6+ Kb5** **81. Re6 a2** **82. Bxf6 Rh6!** and Black holds! Instead, **78. ... Kc8??** allowed **79. Rd8+!** **Kc7** **80. Bxf6** when White won shortly in Fataliyeva – Girya. White has enough time to consolidate and

chase down the a-pawn. The king was not active enough!



SOLUTIONS

1) 34. ... Nh3+ Know your mating patterns! **35. Kf1 Qh1+** **36. Qg1 Qxg1** mate. (Kosteniuk – Fataliyeva, Samarkand, 2025) **2) 54. ... Rh5** Another mating pattern, when **White resigned**. Note: **54. ... Bg3** is also winning, but other bishop moves are not, as they would allow **Ra3-h3**. (Demchenko – Vedit, Samarkand, 2025) **3) 22. ... Ne2+** Winning the f4-rook, so **White resigned**. The point is that the

knight is immune, as **23. Qxe2??** Or **23. Rxe2?? Qc1+** also mates. **23. ... Qxg2** mate. Note: after moving the king, allowing **... Ne2xf4**, White could not even recapture on f4 due to the threat on g2! (Gumularz – Sarin, Samarkand, 2025) **4) 39. ... Rc3** Before White can take twice on b6. **40. Qe2** Or **40. Qd2 Qb1+** with **... Rc3-c2/c1**, pinning White's queen regardless of their next move. **40. ... Qc1+** Here, White resigned due to **41. Kf2 Rc2** or trading queens when

the f3-knight hangs. **5) 65. Ka3!** and **Black resigned**. White has too many threats: **Nb5-d6** mate and, **Nb5-a7+**, and **Re7-e8(+)**. It was easy to spot **65. Ka5?? Nc6+**, but did you see the idea of **65. Kb3 Rb4+!**, with the same fork threat? (Arjun – Demchenko, Samarkand, 2025) **6) 28. ... Bf5** With too many pins, **White resigned**. In the time it takes White to save the d7-rook, **... Bf5xh3** wins the f1-bishop and the game. (Rodshtein – Harikrishna, Samarkand, 2025).