

Tactics Tuesday

CHESSLIFE KIDS ONLINE

WORLD RAPID & BLITZ, PT. 1

This week's puzzles begin our series on the **2025 FIDE World Rapid & Blitz**. Enjoy a selection of puzzles curated by WGM Sabina Foisor.

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Today's **example** shows the importance of accurate defense. Here, 46. ... **Bf8!** had to be played. Instead, after 46. ... **Kh7??** 47. **Qh4+ Kg6** 48. **Qg4+** White forced a queen trade into a won endgame thanks to the extra Exchange. Here, play could continue: 47. **Qe2 Qg1+ 48. Kd2 Qg5+ 49. Kc2 Qg6+** when Black either has a perpetual or can advance the d-pawn with counterplay. Either way, the "passive" bishop proves itself to

be less fatal than the "active" king ended up in Robson – Isanzhulov.

BLACK TO PLAY



1.

WHITE TO PLAY



2.

WHITE TO PLAY



3.

BLACK TO PLAY



4.

WHITE TO PLAY



5.

BLACK TO PLAY



6.

BLACK TO PLAY



SOLUTIONS

1) **39. Qd4** Simple, direct, and final. The weakness on g7 can't be defended as 39. ... **Rg8** allows 40. **Rxf7+**, so **Black resigned**. (Krush – Nurgaliyeva, Doha, 2025) 2) **24. Rd7+** The double attack sets up the knight fork with **Nc4xe5+** next. (Yip – Tarasenka, Doha, 2025) 3) **16. ... Nxe2+!** Removing the defender of the f3-knight, winning a key pawn as a result. **17. Nxc2 Qxf3** and Black went on to win. (Kadric

– Caruana, Doha, 2025) 4) **33. Qa5+** Starting a mating attack with a bishop sacrifice. Or 33. **Bb6+ Kxb6** 34. **Rb3+ Kc7** 35. **Qa5+** wins with a similar motif. 33. ... **Kxb7** Note: 33. ... **Kd7** 34. **Qa4+ Kd8** 35. **Bb6+** was no safer for Black. 34. **Rb3+** and **Black resigned** due to 34. ... **Kc8** 35. **Qa6+ Kd7** 36. **Qc6+ Kd8** 37. **Rxb8** mate. (Dominguez – Cunha, Doha, 2025) 5) **33. ... Rxc5!** Removing the guard, winning two pieces and a pawn for the rook. 34. **Qxc5 Qxe4+**

35. **Ka1 Qxg4** A weak king and several unprotected pieces naturally invited tactical ideas, and Levon did not fail to convert from here. (Matera – Aronian, Doha, 2025) 6) **31. ... Bxh2+** Beautiful geometry, and a rather unusual pattern! It turns out that White has too many loose pieces, so **White resigned**. 32. **Kxh2** Or 32. **Nxh2 Rxd2** wins even faster. 32. ... **Rxd2** 33. **Nxd2 Qd6+** Black wins the knight and the game. (Sanal – Robson, Doha, 2025)